INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

ISO 4037-4

Second edition
2019-01

Radiological protection — X and gamma reference radiation for calibrating dosemeters and doserate meters and for determining their response as a function of photon energy —

Part 4: Calibration of area and personal dosemeters in low energy X reference radiation fields

Radioprotection — Rayonnements X et gamma de référence pour l'étalonnage des dosimètres et des débitmètres et pour la détermination de leur réponse en fonction de l'énergie des photons —

Partie 4: Étalonnage des dosimètres de zone et individuels dans des champs de référence X de faible énergie

Reference number
ISO 4037-4:2019(E)

ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Fax: +41 22 749 09 47
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

Published in Switzerland

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 85, *Nuclear energy, nuclear technologies and radiological protection*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Radiological protection*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 4037-4:2004), which has been technically revised.

A list of all the parts in the ISO 4037 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user’s national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

The maintenance release of this document adjusts this fourth part to the second edition of the first three parts. This includes the improvements on high voltage generators from 1996 to 2017 (e.g., the use of high frequency switching supplies providing nearly constant potential), and the spectral measurements at irradiation facilities equipped with such generators (e.g., the catalogue of X-ray spectra by Ankerhold[1]). It also incorporates all published information with the aim to adjust the requirements for the technical parameters of the reference fields to the targeted overall uncertainty of about 6 % to 10 % for the phantom related operational quantities of the International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements (ICRU)[2]. It does not change the concept of ISO 4037.

ISO 4037, focusing on photon reference radiation fields, is divided into four parts. ISO 4037-1 gives the methods of production and characterization of reference radiation fields in terms of the quantities photon fluence and air kerma free-in-air. ISO 4037-2 describes the dosimetry of the reference radiation qualities in terms of air kerma and in terms of the phantom related operational quantities of the International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements (ICRU)[2]. ISO 4037-3 describes the methods for calibrating and determining the response of dosemeters and doserate meters in terms of the operational quantities of the ICRU[2]. This document gives special considerations and additional requirements for calibration of area and personal dosemeters in low energy X reference radiation fields, which are reference fields with generating potential lower or equal to 30 kV.

The general procedures described in ISO 29661 including Amendment 1 are used as far as possible in this document. In addition, the symbols used are in line with ISO 29661.

NOTE For irradiation of the whole body, $H_p(10)$ and $H^*(10)$ are relevant for radiation protection, as long as they are closer to their limit than $H'(0,07)$ and $H_p(0,07)$. This is the case down to about 15 keV.

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1 Scope

This document gives guidelines on additional aspects of the characterization of low energy photon radiations and on the procedures for calibration and determination of the response of area and personal dose(rate)meters as a function of photon energy and angle of incidence. This document concentrates on the accurate determination of conversion coefficients from air kerma to $H_p(10)$, $H^*(10)$, $H_p(3)$ and $H'(3)$ and for the spectra of low energy photon radiations. As an alternative to the use of conversion coefficients the direct calibration in terms of these quantities by means of appropriate reference instruments is described.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 4037-1, *Radiological protection — X and gamma reference radiation for calibrating dosemeters and doserate meters and for determining their response as a function of photon energy — Part 1: Radiation characteristics and production methods*

ISO 4037-2:2019, *Radiological protection — X and gamma reference radiation for calibrating dosemeters and doserate meters and for determining their response as a function of photon energy — Part 2: Dosimetry for radiation protection over the energy ranges from 8 keV to 1,3 MeV and 4 MeV to 9 MeV*

ISO 4037-3:2019, *Radiological protection — X and gamma reference radiation for calibrating dosemeters and doserate meters and for determining their response as a function of photon energy — Part 3: Calibration of area and personal dosemeters and the measurement of their response as a function of energy and angle of incidence*

ISO/IEC Guide 98-3:2008, *Uncertainty of measurement — Part 3: Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement (GUM:1995)*

ISO 29661, *Reference radiation fields for radiation protection — Definitions and fundamental concepts*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 4037-1, ISO 29661 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp