
**Materials used as cigarette papers,
filter plug wrap and filter joining
paper, including materials having a
discrete or oriented permeable zone
and materials with bands of differing
permeability — Determination of air
permeability**

*Matériaux utilisés comme papier à cigarettes, pour le gainage des
filtres et comme papier manchette, y compris les matériaux possédant
une zone perméable discrète ou orientée et les matériaux à bandes de
perméabilité diverses — Détermination de la perméabilité à l'air*

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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).

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For an explanation of 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 www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 126, *Tobacco and tobacco products*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Physical and dimensional tests*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 2965:2009), which has been technically revised. The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows.

- Use of a 0,30 cm² test piece holder has been allowed for measurement of small paper areas.
- [Formula \(E.3\)](#) has been corrected.

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

Measurements of air permeability of materials used as cigarette papers have been made for many years. The methods have required development and change because of the changing nature of the paper products and changes in the magnitude of their air permeability.

This method has been developed with the technical resources of Cooperation Centre for Scientific Research Relative to Tobacco (CORESTA).

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Materials used as cigarette papers, filter plug wrap and filter joining paper, including materials having a discrete or oriented permeable zone and materials with bands of differing permeability — Determination of air permeability

1 Scope

This document specifies a method for the determination of air permeability (AP).

It is applicable to materials used as cigarette papers, filter plug wrap and filter joining paper, including materials having an oriented permeable zone or discrete permeable zones where the measured permeability is in excess of $10 \text{ cm}^3 \cdot (\text{min}^{-1} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2})$ at 1 kPa. In addition, it is applicable to banded cigarette papers, with bands of a width of at least 4 mm.

NOTE For an estimate of the air permeability of materials outside the scope of this document, see Note 3 in 5.1.2 and 7.6.1.4.

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 187, *Paper, board and pulps — Standard atmosphere for conditioning and testing and procedure for monitoring the atmosphere and conditioning of samples*

ISO 3402, *Tobacco and tobacco products — Atmosphere for conditioning and testing*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions 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>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

air permeability

AP

air flow, measured in cubic centimetres per minute, passing through 1 cm^2 surface of the test piece at a measuring pressure (3.2) of 1,00 kPa

Note 1 to entry: The air permeability units are $\text{cm}^3 \cdot (\text{min}^{-1} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2})$ at 1 kPa.

3.2

measuring pressure

difference in pressure between the two faces of the test piece during the measurement

3.3

leakage

air flow unintentionally aspirated from the surrounding atmosphere or escaping into it through the sealing surface of the test piece holder and elsewhere

3.4

**paper with uniformly distributed permeability
standard paper**

paper with natural *air permeability* (3.1) only

3.5

paper with oriented permeable zone

paper that has a continuous zone of higher *air permeability* (3.1) obtained through perforation

3.6

paper with discrete permeable zone

paper that has higher *air permeability* (3.1) obtained through perforation in discrete areas

3.7

banded paper

paper with bands of different *air permeability* (3.1)

Note 1 to entry: Papers of this type normally have bands with permeability significantly lower than that of the base paper.

3.8

special paper

paper with modified *air permeability* (3.1)

Note 1 to entry: Papers of this type include those defined in 3.5, 3.6 and 3.7.

4 Principle

A test piece is held in a suitable device. A pressure difference is applied across the test piece. The resultant air flow through the test piece is measured.

The principle of measurement is illustrated in [Figure 1](#).

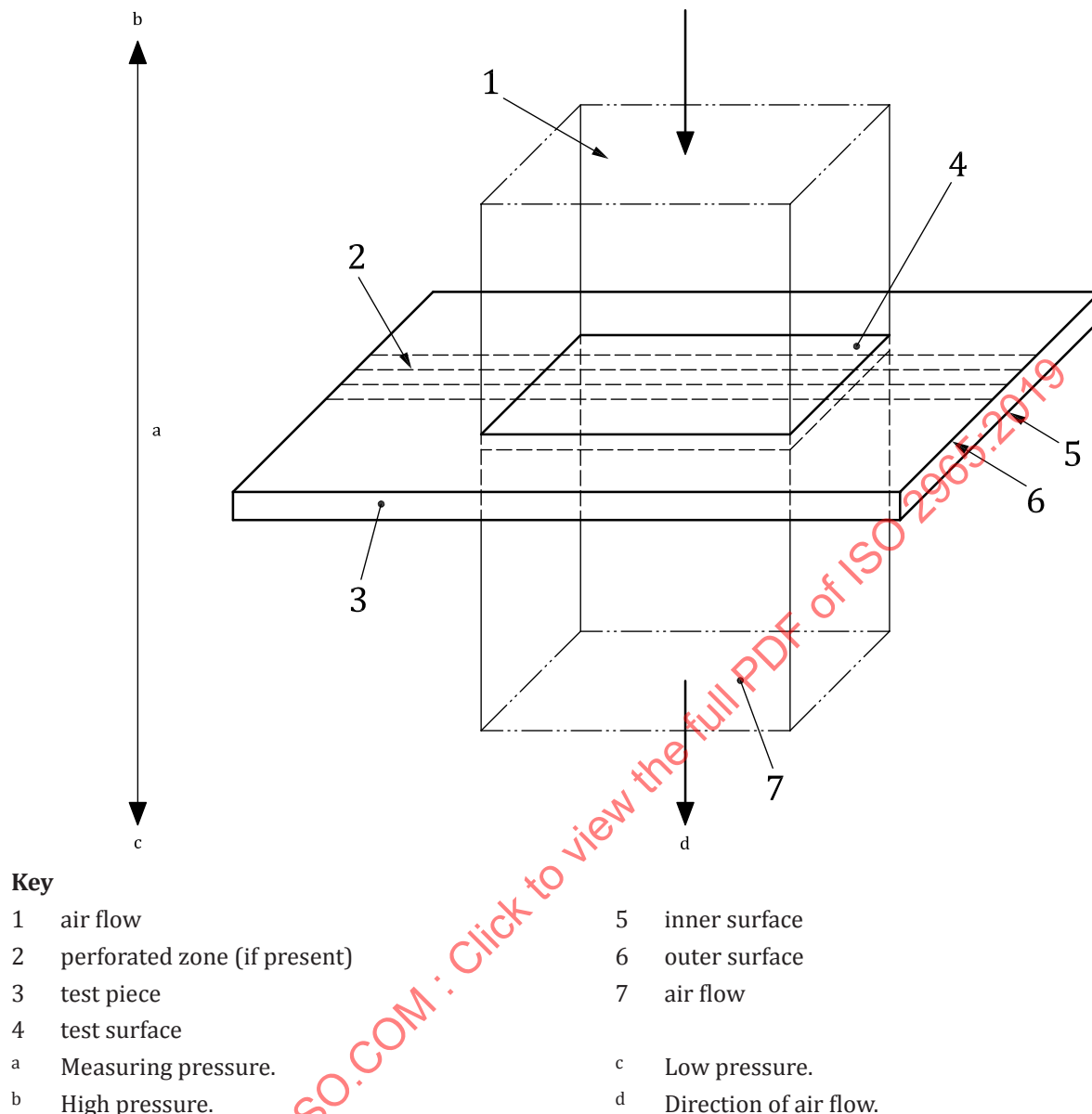


Figure 1 — Principle of measurement

The air flow through the test piece may be produced by applying a positive or negative pressure to one side of the test piece. The direction of air flow through the test piece shall be that which would occur when the sample is used in the finished product, where known, i.e. from the outside face towards the inside face.

If the air flow is produced by a positive pressure, the apparatus used should incorporate a filter which protects the test sample from contamination by oil, water and particles.

NOTE 1 With certain materials, the air flow through the test piece can exhibit a nonlinear relationship with the applied measuring pressure. Thus, the air flow through the test piece is determined at two different measuring pressures to establish whether the air flow/measuring pressure relationship across the paper is linear or nonlinear. If it is nonlinear, a second measurement of air flow is recorded at a measuring pressure of 0,25 kPa to fully characterize the material.

NOTE 2 Depending upon whether the air flow is measured up-stream or down-stream of the test piece, a difference of approximately 1 % of the air flow can exist either side of the theoretical value at the centre of the test piece.

5 Apparatus

5.1 Test piece holder, for clamping the test piece, free from leaks.

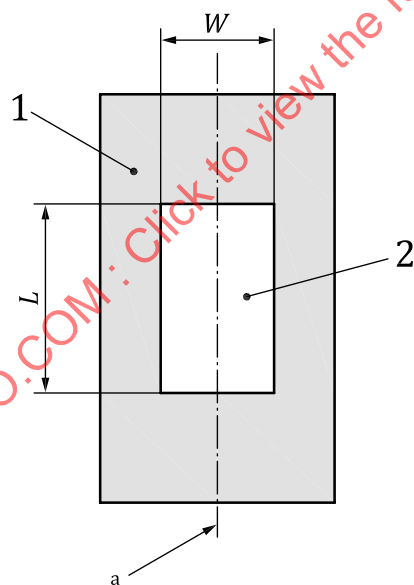
5.1.1 For papers with uniformly distributed permeability and those with oriented or discrete permeable zones: the test piece holder has a rectangular surface area of $2,00 \text{ cm}^2 \pm 0,02 \text{ cm}^2$ with corner radii no greater than 0,1 cm. The long side, L , shall have a length of $2,000 \text{ cm} \pm 0,005 \text{ cm}$ (see [Figure 2](#)).

5.1.2 For bands of differing permeability and small areas of uniform permeability: the test piece holder has a rectangular surface area of $0,30 \text{ cm}^2 \pm 0,01 \text{ cm}^2$. The short side shall have a length of $2,00 \text{ mm} \pm 0,05 \text{ mm}$ [see [7.5.6](#) and [Figure 3 d](#)]. This test piece holder shall be used for the measurement of the air permeability of bands or if the area to be tested cannot be measured with the test piece holder provided in [5.1.1](#) while keeping the required minimum distances to paper edges or areas of different permeability provided in [7.5.2](#) to [7.5.6](#). In all other cases the $2,00 \text{ cm}^2$ test piece holder ([5.1.1](#)) shall be used.

NOTE 1 The positioning of the test piece holder on the test piece differs for different types of papers (see [7.5](#) and [Figures 2](#) and [3](#)).

NOTE 2 Small test piece areas, requiring the use of the $0,30 \text{ cm}^2$ test piece holder, can occur for the measurement of the air permeability for cigarette papers or papers taken from cigarettes with a circumference of less than 16 mm.

NOTE 3 An estimate of the air permeability of other speciality papers, outside the scope of this document, can be required. In this case, specialized test piece holders with different surface areas might be necessary.



Key

- 1 test piece
- 2 test surface of test piece holder
- L long side of the test surface (see [5.1.1](#))
- W width of the test surface
- a Centreline of test piece.

Figure 2 — Positioning of test pieces for materials with uniformly distributed permeability

5.2 Pneumatic controller, to produce an air flow at a given but adjustable measuring pressure.

5.3 Pressure gauge, suitable for measuring pressure differences to at least 0,001 kPa, having a relative error of no more than 2 % of the measured value within the measuring range.

5.4 Flow meter, suitable for measuring the air flow with a relative error no greater than 5 % of the measured value within the measuring range.

5.5 Conditioning enclosure, capable of maintaining the conditions given in ISO 187 (but see 7.3).

6 Sampling

Take a sample that is representative, on a statistical basis, of the population to be characterized.

Samples shall be free of visible defects and creases that may impair measurement performance.

7 Procedure

7.1 General

Since the air flow/measuring pressure relationship of many papers is not linear, this procedure should be followed closely to allow proper comparison of results. If it is necessary to deviate from this procedure in any way (for example, to use a non-standard size of test piece holder or to modify the positioning of the test piece holder, due to sample dimensions), then this shall be noted in the test report [see 7.5 and Clause 10 d)].

7.2 Leak check of the test piece holder

Follow the procedure given in Annex A. Perform a leak check daily, prior to use.

Air leaks between the mating faces of the test piece holder shall not be greater than $2,0 \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$.

Some users require determination of the effect of surface leakage through particular papers that contribute to the measured flow. In this case, if a value for leakage with the test piece in place is required, the procedure given in Annex C may be used. This should be determined and referred to in the test report.

7.3 Preparation of test pieces

Select at random from the sample, taken in accordance with Clause 6, the number of test pieces required for the test plus an additional three test pieces to be used as described in 7.6.1.3.

If necessary, make the test pieces suitable for testing (cut to the required dimensions, eliminate folds, seams, etc.).

Condition the test pieces, prior to measurement, in a conditioning enclosure set in accordance with ISO 187. Samples shall be held such that the conditioning air has free access to all their surfaces.

In laboratories unable to use the conditions given in ISO 187, the conditions given in ISO 3402 may be used. In this case, a note shall be included with the test report.

Complete sample bobbins, where it is not possible to expose all surfaces to the conditioning atmosphere, might require an extended period of conditioning. The time required should be determined by practice and experience.

The period of time for conditioning is not given in this document but the period of time retained should be reported with the results.

7.4 Calibration

Calibrate the instrument using the calibration standards and procedure referred to in [Annex B](#).

7.5 Insertion of a test piece

7.5.1 General

All papers shall be placed in the test piece holder so that the measuring air will flow from the outside face towards the inside face of the paper as it is applied in the construction of the finished product, where this is known.

The positioning of the test pieces in the test piece holder is illustrated in [Figures 2](#) and [3](#) (see also [5.1](#)).

When the minimum distances to paper edges, edges of permeable zones or areas of different air permeability cannot be kept with the 2,00 cm² test piece holder, the 0,30 cm² test piece holder of [5.1.2](#) shall be used and the minimum distances as provided in [7.5.2](#) to [7.5.6](#) shall apply. If even for the 0,30 cm² test piece holder these minimum distances cannot be kept for technical reasons, this shall be referred to in the test report.

7.5.2 Materials with uniformly distributed permeability

Place the test piece in such a way that, if possible, the centre of the smaller dimension, W , of the test surface is at the centre of the width of the test piece (see [Figure 2](#)).

7.5.3 Materials with a narrow and oriented permeable zone

The permeable zone shall be oriented along, and parallel to, the direction of the 2 cm length of the test surface [see [Figure 3 a](#)].

The edges of the permeable zone shall not be less than 1 mm from the edges of the test surface. Ideally, the test piece should extend over each edge of the test surface by at least 3 mm. If, for technical reasons, this cannot be achieved (i.e. the specimen under study is less than 16 mm total width or the permeable zone is less than 4 mm from one edge of the sample), this shall be referred to in the test report.

7.5.4 Materials with an extended and oriented permeable zone

The test piece shall be placed so that the test surface covers the maximum possible width of the permeable zone [see [Figure 3 b](#)].

Ideally, the dimension L of the test surface shall extend at least 1 mm outside the edges of the permeable zone and the sample should extend over each edge of the test surface by at least 3 mm. Where this cannot be achieved (for example, due to sample dimensions), this shall be referred to in the test report.

7.5.5 Materials with discrete permeable zones

The test piece shall be oriented to expose the greatest possible number of the permeable zones within the measurement surface area of the test piece holder [see [Figure 3 c](#)].

Ideally, the 2 cm dimension of the test surface shall extend at least 1 mm outside the edges of the permeable zones and the sample should extend over each edge of the test surface by at least 3 mm. Where this cannot be achieved (for example, due to sample dimensions), this shall be referred to in the test report.

7.5.6 Materials with bands of different air permeability

For measurement of the permeability of the bands, a 0,30 cm² test piece holder shall be used.

7.6.1.3 If further characterization of the material is required because it is believed that the air flow/measuring pressure relationship is nonlinear, perform the following test for air flow/measuring pressure relationships on three additional test pieces.

Set up, in turn, measuring pressures of 0,25 kPa and 1,00 kPa across the test material, without moving the test material. Record the corresponding air flows Q_1 and Q_2 (in cubic centimetres per minute) across the test material. Calculate the ratio Y using [Formula \(1\)](#):

$$Y = Q_1 / Q_2 \times 1,0 / 0,25 \quad (1)$$

Repeat the above procedure on two other test pieces and calculate the mean of the three values obtained for the value Y . If the mean value of Y does not deviate by more than 2 % from the value 1,00 (in practice if it is no greater than 1,02), the air flow/measuring pressure relationship is **linear**. Otherwise, the relationship is referred to as **nonlinear**.

If the test material has been shown to have a nonlinear air flow/measuring pressure relationship, the measurement of air flow at a single measuring pressure is considered inadequate to characterize the material. The air flow may be determined using the second measuring pressure of 0,25 kPa.

Further information is given in [Annex D](#).

7.6.1.4 Materials that exhibit a linear relationship and have a permeability of less than $10 \text{ cm}^3 \cdot (\text{min}^{-1} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2})$ at 1 kPa may be re-measured in order to obtain an estimate of permeability using:

- a test piece holder with a single larger test surface area,
- a test piece holder containing multiple areas that perform simultaneous measurements of the standard single $2,00 \text{ cm}^2$ rectangular test surface area, each with dimensions described in [5.1](#), and
- a measuring pressure of 2,0 kPa.

In this case, the method gives only the estimation of permeability.

7.6.2 Measurement of strips

Make 10 consecutive measurements with a minimum distance of 20 mm between measurements.

7.6.3 Measurement of spills (papers recovered from manufactured products)

Make 10 measurements comprising single measurements on each of 10 spills. Ensure that the overlap seam is not included in the test surface. Spills taken from manufactured products with a circumference of less than 16 mm may require the use of the $0,30 \text{ cm}^2$ measurement head described in [5.1.2](#).

8 Expression of results

The determination of the value of air permeability shall be the mean value from the individual measurements (see [7.6.2](#) and [7.6.3](#)).

NOTE If a test piece holder with multiple test surfaces is used as described in [7.6.1.4](#), it is understood that the measurement obtained is already an average of the number of test surfaces used in the test piece holder. In addition, care is to be taken in the interpretation of r and R (see [9.1](#) and [9.2](#)) when using these test piece holders.

The air permeability, AP , is expressed in cubic centimetres per minute per square centimetre measured at 1 kPa. Using a test surface of area 2 cm^2 , it is given by [Formula \(2\)](#):

$$AP = Q / 2 \quad (2)$$

where Q is the numerical value of the air flow, in cubic centimetres per minute, passing through the test piece.

In practice, Q is not measured at precisely 1 kPa and a normalization procedure to correct to 1 kPa is required. In addition, other test piece holders, with areas other than 2 cm^2 may have been used (see [7.6.1.4](#)) and a correction for this is then also required.

The general equation is as given in [Formula \(3\)](#):

$$AP = \frac{Q}{A} \times \frac{p}{\Delta p} \quad (3)$$

where

p is the numerical value of the measuring pressure (1 kPa);

A is the numerical value of the surface area, in square centimetres, of the test piece subjected to testing;

Δp is the actual measuring pressure, in kilopascals, across the two sides of the test piece.

9 Precision

9.1 Repeatability

The difference between two single results found on matched test samples by one operator using the same apparatus within the shortest feasible time interval will exceed the repeatability value, r , on average not more than once in 20 cases in the normal and correct operation of the method.

9.2 Reproducibility

Single results on matched test samples reported by two laboratories will differ by more than the reproducibility value, R , on average not more than once in 20 cases in the normal and correct operation of the method.

NOTE In practice, better values for reproducibility are obtained when identical experimental conditions are used between client and supplier (in particular, when common standards are used).

9.3 Results of an interlaboratory study (Study 1)

An interlaboratory study was conducted in 1994, involving 24 laboratories and six samples of cigarette papers, filter plug wrap and filter joining paper. This study also included samples having an oriented permeable zone. The study showed that when these papers are measured in accordance with this method, the following values for repeatability, r , and reproducibility, R , were obtained.

Table 1 — Repeatability and reproducibility limits for Study 1

Mean air permeability [cm ³ ·(min ⁻¹ ·cm ⁻²) at 1 kPa]	Repeatability limit <i>r</i>	Reproducibility limit <i>R</i>
26,9	2,37	6,01
49,2	4,15	8,37
221	17,4	26,3
1 334	96,6	133
2 376	281 ^a	326
21 449	1 182	2 077
^a See 9.4.		

For the purpose of calculating *r* and *R*, one test result is defined as the mean value obtained from 10 measurements from a single paper strip or the mean value obtained from 10 separate paper spills removed from manufactured products.

The values for *r* and *R* given in Table 1 may only be valid for the particular papers used. It is not practical, in the context of collaborative studies, to conduct repeat tests on the same test piece. Therefore, the inhomogeneity in the test pieces contributes to the within-laboratory variance. This situation was referred to in ISO 5725:1986¹⁾ as quoted below.

*“When tests have to be performed on solid materials that cannot be homogenized (such as metals, rubber or textile fabrics) and when the tests cannot be repeated on the same test piece, inhomogeneity in the test material will form an essential component of the precision of the measurement and the idea of identical material no longer holds good. Precision experiments can still be carried out, but the values of *r* and *R* may only be valid for the particular material used and should be quoted as such. A more universal use of *r* and *R* will be acceptable only if it can be demonstrated that the values do not differ significantly between material produced at different times or by different producers. This would require a more elaborate experiment than has been considered in this International Standard.”*

From the data obtained in the collaborative experiment, it is possible to estimate the within-laboratory component of variance with the day-to-day and strip-to-strip components of variance removed. This within-laboratory component of variance can then be used to derive alternative values for repeatability. These and the corresponding values for reproducibility are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 — Alternative repeatability and reproducibility limits for Study 1

Mean air permeability [cm ³ ·(min ⁻¹ ·cm ⁻²) at 1 kPa]	Repeatability limit <i>r</i>	Reproducibility limit <i>R</i>
26,9	1,57	5,72
49,2	3,12	7,89
221	11,7	22,9
1 334	45,2	95,1
2 376	249 ^a	297
21 449	519	1 773
^a See 9.4.		

These values have been adjusted to be equivalent to values that might have been obtained from a similar analysis of the mean of 10 readings replicated within a single strip.

1) Withdrawn and replaced by ISO 5725-1 to ISO 5725-6.

9.4 Statistical discussion of r and R results for Study 1

From the results of the analysis shown in [Tables 1](#) and [2](#) it can be seen that, in general, both r and R , when compared as a percentage of their mean value, are highest for the lower permeability papers, with a tendency for r and R , when expressed as a percentage of the mean, to decrease as the mean permeability increases.

However, the paper with footnote a in [Tables 1](#) and [2](#) exhibits results that do not conform to this trend. Examination of [Table 1](#) shows that the high value of R % for this paper (when compared to the other papers) is entirely due to the high value of the within-laboratory variability for this paper. There is no evidence to suggest that the between-laboratory variability is any higher for this paper (in terms of the percentage of the mean) than for any of the other papers tested in this study.

This was confirmed in the analysis by the within- and between-laboratory standard deviations. The values of the within-laboratory percentage standard deviation of the mean display the same pattern as the values of r % (as expected) but the values for between-laboratory percentage standard deviation of the mean, do not indicate an unexpectedly high value for this paper.

The results for this paper demonstrate that the values for r and R obtained from this study may only be applicable to the papers tested in this study.

9.5 Results of an interlaboratory study (Study 2)

A second interlaboratory study was conducted in 2005 to estimate the r and R values for special cigarette and tipping papers, having artificially induced permeability by means of oriented, extended or discrete zones of perforation and banded papers. This study also included standard (naturally permeable) cigarette and plug wrap papers, allowing comparison with the results previously obtained. For each paper type, one measurement is the average of 10 individual readings made at different positions on one strip of the paper. Five replicate measurements were made on different days using a new sample selected from each paper type.

Table 3 — Repeatability and reproducibility limits for Study 2 — Papers with low permeability

Sample description	Mean AP	Repeatability limit	Reproducibility limit	r	R
	[cm ³ ·(min ⁻¹ ·cm ⁻²) at 1 kPa]	r	R	as a percentage of mean AP	
Banded cigarette paper	5,52	3,97	5,13	71,92	92,93
Naturally permeable cigarette paper	31,75	3,30	3,70	10,45	11,72
Cigarette paper with extended permeable zone	99,00	8,78	17,66	8,87	17,84
	202,00	9,02	13,78	4,46	6,82
Cigarette paper with discrete permeable zones	341,79	34,46	40,18	10,08	11,76
	744,30	48,61	67,56	6,53	9,08
Filter joining paper	1 013,90	44,42	73,02	4,38	7,20
	3 709,80	141,00	533,08	3,80	14,37
Filter plug wrap	11 171,14	1 423,69	1 782,06	12,74	15,95

The values for r and R given in [Table 3](#) may only be valid for the particular papers used. It is not practical, in the context of collaborative studies, to conduct repeat tests on the same test piece. Therefore, the inhomogeneity in the test pieces contributes to the within-laboratory and between-laboratory variances.

In an attempt to minimize the impact of the sample variability, a second interlaboratory test was conducted. For each paper type, one measurement is the average of 10 individual readings made at different positions on one strip of the paper. In this case, each laboratory measured a selected sample

of each paper type on five different days. The sample was selected and marked so that each replicate measurement could be made at an identical position to the first measurement. Hence, within each laboratory, the samples used for each replicate were nominally identical and hence the r values obtained for each paper type were much lower than those obtained in the initial study.

On a routine basis, a sample should not be measured more than once at the same position because of the risk of sample damage. However, for this test, special instructions and care were applied to avoid such damage, thus allowing the sample variation between replicates to be minimized.

The results of this second interlaboratory study are given in [Table 4](#).

NOTE Banded cigarette paper was excluded from this type of trial because of the difficulties experienced when attempting to measure this paper several times at one position on the paper.

Table 4 — Repeatability and reproducibility limits for Study 2 — All papers

Sample description	Mean AP	Repeatability limit	Reproducibility limit	r and R	
	[cm ³ ·(min ⁻¹ ·cm ⁻²) at 1 kPa]	r	R	as a percentage of mean AP	
Naturally permeable cigarette paper	30,99	0,49	1,47	1,58	4,74
Cigarette paper with extended permeable zone	100,37	1,04	18,18	1,04	18,11
	208,69	2,92	45,96	1,40	22,02
Cigarette paper with discrete permeable zones	347,89	6,49	17,50	1,87	5,03
	754,35	13,46	42,23	1,78	5,60
Filter joining paper	1 006,50	9,28	26,85	0,92	2,67
	3 718,39	38,16	475,68	1,03	12,79
Filter plug wrap	10 710,06	122,91	833,22	1,15	7,78

9.6 Statistical discussion of r and R results for Study 2

According to the results of the analysis shown in [Table 3](#), in general, both r and R , when compared as a percentage of their mean value, are highest for the lower permeability papers, with a tendency for r and R , when expressed as a percentage of the mean, to decrease as the mean permeability increases. Filter plug wrap and low permeability, discrete zone cigarette paper are exceptions to this trend.

From the analysis of the results of the second study, shown in [Table 4](#), the r values, expressed as a percentage of the mean permeability value, are seen to be approximately 1 % for all papers. This value is closer to the actual repeatability of the method (but still includes some component of sample variability due to differences in AP along a sample strip).

The R values show considerable differences between paper types. These results indicate that a major proportion of the within-laboratory variation seen in [Table 3](#) is due to the permeability variability between samples of the same type of paper. Further, the between-laboratory values support this view and show that some papers (particularly cigarette papers with extended permeable zones and high permeability filter joining paper) show a high variability between the samples measured at different laboratories.

NOTE For these series of interlaboratory studies, all samples of one paper type were taken from one bobbin and were randomized before being distributed for the trial. Hence, all laboratories are expected to receive nominally identical samples. High R values indicate larger sample-to-sample variability between the laboratories and hence a larger variability within the sample bobbin.

Sample-to-sample and within-sample variability can thus be seen to have a significant influence on the within- and between-laboratory variabilities for the measured AP and, as such, reinforces that the

results quoted in [Table 3](#), and the R results in [Table 4](#), may only be directly applicable to the actual samples measured.

10 Test report

The test report shall show the method used and the results obtained. It shall also mention any operating conditions not specified in this document, or regarded as optional, as well as any circumstances that may have influenced the results.

The test report shall include all details required for complete identification of the sample. Specifically, the test report shall contain the following:

- a) date of sampling and sampling method;
- b) identification and full description of the material tested, stating the properties (such as nature, width) of samples having oriented zone permeability;
- c) date of testing;
- d) precise and full measuring conditions (particularly if blowing or sucking has been used), the size and orientation of the test piece holder and any deviations from this document or any events that are likely to have affected the results;
- e) the conditioning atmosphere and period of time for conditioning;
- f) barometric pressure at the time of testing;
- g) results in air permeability (AP) units [$\text{cm}^3 \cdot (\text{min}^{-1} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2})$ at 1 kPa];
- h) elementary statistics relating to the results:
 - number of measurements;
 - mean and standard deviation values.

Annex A (normative)

Leak testing of test piece holder

A.1 General

The performance testing of instruments for measuring air permeability of materials used as cigarette papers, filter plug wrap and filter joining paper (including materials having an oriented permeable zone) shall be conducted in accordance with manufacturers' instructions.

However, this annex describes a general test for assessing the value of any leakage (see 3.3) of air between the mating faces of the test piece holder assembly.

A.2 Procedure

Seal the air flow path to the atmosphere from the test piece holder assembly.

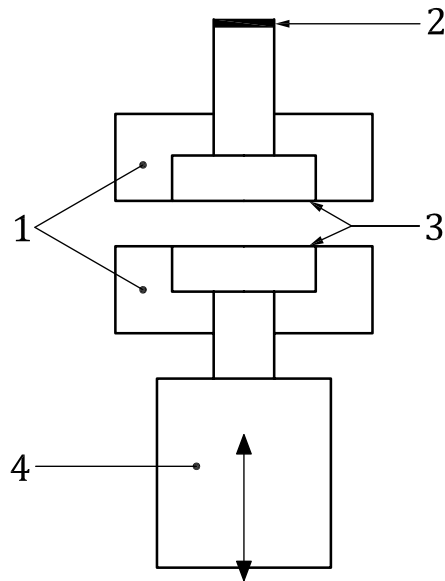
Operate the instrument in the normal manner to make an air permeability measurement ensuring that no sample has been placed between the mating faces of the test piece holder clamp assembly.

Record the leakage rate as indicated by the instrument. The mating faces of the test piece holder clamp assembly shall create a seal, such that an air flow measurement of no greater than $2 \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$ is recorded.

Repeat this procedure five times. If any value is greater than $2 \text{ cm}^3 \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$, the clamp assembly is deemed to be defective.

The readings shall be noted and reported with results of each test.

The principle of measuring the test piece holder clamp assembly leakage is illustrated in [Figure A.1](#).

**Key**

- 1 test piece holder
- 2 sealed air flow path to atmosphere
- 3 sealing faces
- 4 air flow measuring device

Figure A.1 — Leak testing of test piece holder

Annex B (normative)

Calibration of air permeability standards and air permeability measuring instruments

B.1 Essential properties of calibration standards

Air permeability calibration standards are used to calibrate measuring instruments for the determination of air permeability of materials used as cigarette papers, filter plug wrap and filter joining paper (including materials having discrete or oriented permeable zones and materials with bands of differing permeability).

The calibration standard shall have a known and repeatable value of air flow as measured at the exit of the standard, when subjected to a specified (1 kPa) static measuring pressure. The air flow/measuring pressure relationship of the standard shall remain constant and shall be largely unaffected by changing atmospheric conditions.

The calibration standard shall be inscribed with the value of air flow, at 1 kPa, corrected and, where necessary, compensated to the standard conditions of 22 °C and 1 013 hPa, quoted to a minimum accuracy of 0,5 %.

NOTE 1 Compensation for the effects of atmospheric pressure will be necessary if the calibration standard has a nonlinear air flow/measuring pressure relationship.

NOTE 2 The linearity of a calibration standard can be confirmed by measuring the air flow at a measuring pressure of approximately 0,75 kPa and 1,25 kPa. A standard is considered to be linear when factor k [see [Formula \(D.6\)](#)] is greater than 0,95.

NOTE 3 See [Annex E](#) for guidance on the compensation of nonlinear standards.

The precise construction of these calibration standards depends upon the design of the air permeability meter in which they are to be used.

The calibration standards shall be supplied with unique serial numbers and a traceable certificate of calibration (see [B.4](#)).

B.2 Procedure for calibration of standards

B.2.1 General

The laboratory testing atmosphere shall be controlled in accordance with ISO 187. In laboratories unable to use the conditions given in ISO 187, the conditions 22 °C $\pm$ 1 °C and (60 $\pm$ 2) % RH given in this document and ISO 3402 may be used. The conditions used shall be stated in the certificate of calibration supplied with the standard.

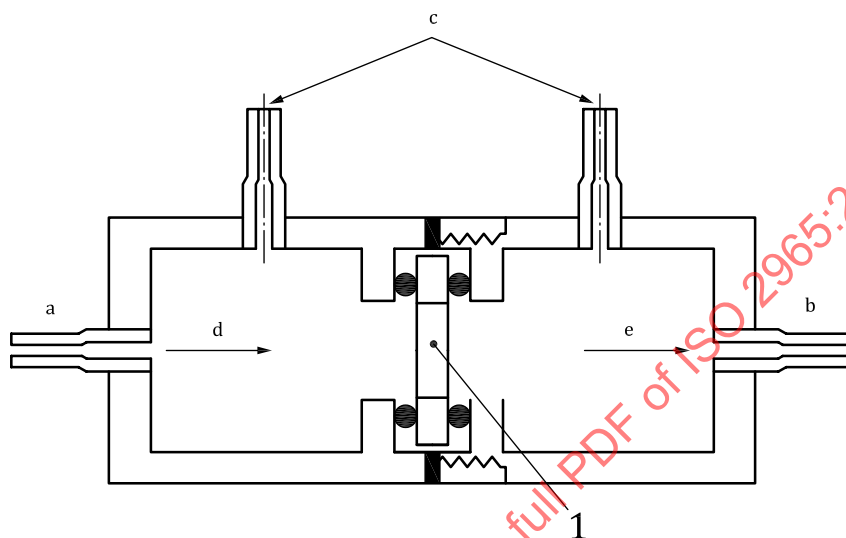
The standard shall be held in a calibration test holder, the mechanical arrangement of which shall not alter the characteristics of the standard.

The air flow through the calibration standard may be produced by applying a positive or negative pressure, for blowing or sucking instruments respectively, to one side of the calibration holder. The direction of air flow through the calibration standard shall be that which would occur when it is used to calibrate an air permeability measuring instrument.

The ambient atmospheric conditions and the air flow, temperature and pressure shall be measured at the exit of the calibration holder containing the standard. Depending upon the type and operation of gas calibrator employed and the intrinsic properties of the calibration standard, appropriate mathematical corrections shall be applied to correct the air flow to the standard conditions of 22 °C and 1 013 hPa.

NOTE Correction and compensation of the air flow is discussed in [Annex E](#).

A schematic diagram of a typical calibration holder is shown in [Figure B.1](#).



Key

- 1 calibration standard
- a High pressure.
- b Low pressure.
- c Measuring pressure.
- d Air in.
- e Air out.

Figure B.1 — Apparatus for calibration of standards (schematic)

B.2.2 Method 1

The air flow shall be adjusted such that a constant measuring pressure of $1,000 \text{ kPa} \pm 0,005 \text{ kPa}$ is applied across the calibration standard. Using a gas calibrator that does not generate a systematic influence on the flow measurement, measure the air flow at the exit of the standard and the temperature and pressure of the air in the calibrator.

Repeat this procedure five times with each calibration standard to be calibrated. The value to be ascribed to the calibration standard shall be the mean of the five air flows at standard conditions.

B.2.3 Method 2

Adjust the air flow such that a constant measuring pressure is maintained, in turn, at 5 % to 10 % above 1 kPa and at 5 % to 10 % below 1 kPa. At each point, the corresponding measuring pressure across the calibration standard shall be recorded to the nearest 0,005 kPa. Using a gas calibrator that does not generate a systematic influence on the air flow measurement, measure the air flow at the exit of the standard and the temperature and pressure of the air in the calibrator.

A minimum of two measurements shall be made at each air flow setting. The value to be ascribed to the calibration standard is the interpolated value of air flow at standard conditions when the measuring pressure across the standard is at 1,000 kPa.

B.3 Calibration of instruments

B.3.1 General

The calibration and performance testing of instruments for measuring the air permeability of materials used as cigarette papers, filter plug wrap and filter joining paper (including materials having an oriented permeable zone) should be conducted in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions.

B.3.2 Principle

To obtain the best accuracy, the instrument shall be calibrated over its specified range of measurement. Calibration shall be undertaken at measurement values corresponding to individual transducing elements used to achieve the instrument's measurement range.

B.3.3 Procedure

Follow the procedure given in the instrument manufacturer's instructions. A typical procedure is as follows.

- Install the calibration standard and allow it to equilibrate to the temperature of the measuring air.
- Connect a reference manometer into the measuring circuit to monitor the measuring pressure applied across the calibration standard. The maximum relative error of the reference manometer shall be less than 0,5 % for any measured value.
- Establish an approximate measuring pressure within the range of $1,0 \text{ kPa} \pm 0,1 \text{ kPa}$ across the calibration standard.
- Adjust the instrument's measurement system to display the exact value indicated on the reference manometer.
- Disconnect the reference manometer and seal the connection point.
- Adjust the measuring pressure across the calibration standard to $1,000 \text{ kPa} \pm 0,005 \text{ kPa}$ and adjust the instrument's measurement system to display the value inscribed on the calibration standard.
- Repeat the above step for each of the calibration standards.
- Return the instrument to its measurement mode and make an air permeability measurement on each of the calibration standards to check that the measurement is within the tolerances of calibration of the calibration standards and the measurement specification of the instrument.

B.4 Calibration certificate

Each air permeability calibration standard shall be supplied with a calibration certificate that gives the unique reference number and assigned value for the standard. Additionally, the calibration certificate shall include information concerning the conditions of calibration and any calculations made in correcting or compensating the measured air flow to the assigned value (under standard atmospheric conditions).

The certificate shall include all information necessary for the user to identify and apply the calibration standard, including (but not limited to) the following:

- ambient temperature, relative humidity and atmospheric pressure at the time of calibration;
- the air flow, gas temperature and pressure at the exit to the standard;
- the measuring pressure across the standard at the time of calibration;
- the assigned (corrected and/or compensated) value of volumetric air flow;

- the measuring pressure at which the assigned value applies;
- the standard atmospheric conditions to which the assigned air flow has been corrected;
- the correction and compensation formulae used with full explanation of any symbols used;
- the date of calibration;
- calibration technician's identification/name.

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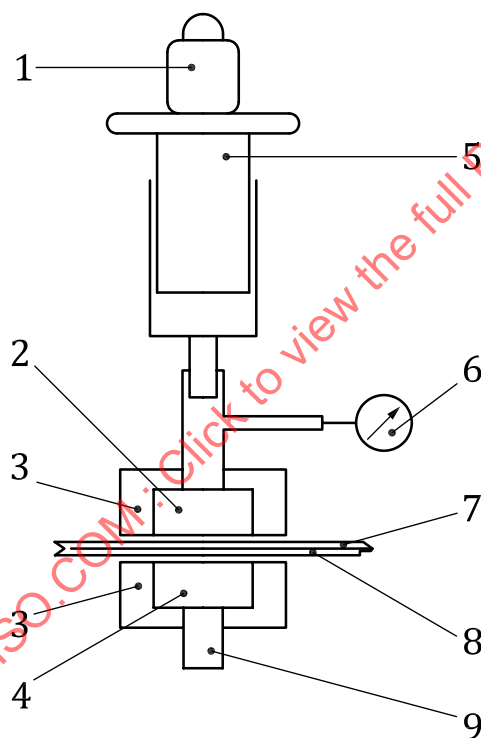
Annex C (informative)

Determination of relevant surface leakage of test piece in the test piece holder

C.1 General

Surface leakage is aspirated from the surrounding atmosphere or escapes into it, unintentionally, past the sealing surface of the test piece holder.

The principle of measurement of relevant surface leakage is illustrated in [Figure C.1](#).



Key

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 applied weight | 6 pressure-measuring device |
| 2 inlet cavity | 7 test material |
| 3 test piece holder | 8 non-permeable membrane |
| 4 outlet cavity | 9 outlet orifice |
| 5 syringe | |

Figure C.1 — Principle of measurement of surface leakage

10.1 Procedure

Determination of the relevant surface leakage can be carried out as follows.

- Connect a calibrated syringe to the inlet side of the test piece holder.

- Connect a manometer to the junction of the syringe and the inlet side of the test piece holder, ensuring that all connections are air-tight.
- Insert a sample of the test material to be measured and a non-permeable membrane covering the whole test area, including the sealing surfaces, in the test piece holder. Ensure that the test material faces the inlet cavity of the test piece holder. The non-permeable membrane ensures that only that part of the total leak relevant to the determination of air permeability is considered.
- Close the test piece holder and weight the syringe to apply a measuring pressure of approximately 1 kPa to the upper cavity of the test piece holder.
- Measure the leakage flow by timing the change in position of the piston in the syringe. A suitable length of time should be chosen such that an accurate assessment of surface leakage is possible.
- The measuring pressure at the inlet side of the test piece holder should be monitored throughout this time and should remain close to 1 kPa.
- Any change in measuring pressure may indicate unacceptable resistance in the syringe, in which case the test should be repeated.

NOTE This test can also be performed omitting the non-permeable membrane and sealing the outlet of the test piece holder.

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