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**Cinematography — Photoelectric  
output factor of photographic-type  
audio-level test films — Measurement  
and calibration**

*Cinématographie — Facteur de sortie photoélectrique des films  
d'essai de niveau sonore de type optique — Mesurage et étalonnage*



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# Contents

Page

|                                                        |          |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Foreword .....                                         | iv       |
| <b>1 Scope .....</b>                                   | <b>1</b> |
| <b>2 Normative references .....</b>                    | <b>1</b> |
| <b>3 Terms, definitions, and symbols .....</b>         | <b>1</b> |
| <b>4 Method of measurement .....</b>                   | <b>2</b> |
| <b>5 Method of calibration .....</b>                   | <b>2</b> |
| 5.1 DC method .....                                    | 2        |
| 5.2 AC method .....                                    | 2        |
| <b>6 Calibration procedure .....</b>                   | <b>2</b> |
| <b>7 Calibrating reproducer .....</b>                  | <b>2</b> |
| <b>Annex A (normative) DC and AC calibration .....</b> | <b>6</b> |

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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](http://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](http://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 meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: Foreword - Supplementary information

The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 36, *Cinematography*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 7832:1987), of which it constitutes a minor revision.

# Cinematography — Photoelectric output factor of photographic-type audio-level test films — Measurement and calibration

## 1 Scope

This International Standard specifies a method of measuring and calibrating the photoelectric output factor of single channel analogue photographic-type audio-level test films in all gauges, using a calibrating sound reproducer. It is applicable to both variable area- and variable density-type sound records with a silver audio track.

It also specifies the performance of a calibrating audio reproducer.

Calibrated audio-level test films are employed to measure the precise output level of photographic sound reproducers and the photoelectric output factor of different sound records. They are also employed to establish a reference level on a standard program level meter, should that be appropriate for the installation in use.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 2939, *Cinematography — Picture image area on 35 mm motion-picture release prints — Position and dimensions*

ISO 4243, *Cinematography — Picture image area and photographic sound record on 16 mm motion-picture release prints — Positions and dimensions*

ISO 6025, *Cinematography — Analogue photographic sound test films, 35 mm and 16 mm — Specifications*

## 3 Terms, definitions, and symbols

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

### 3.1 voltage outputs

$V_1$ ,  $V_2$ ,  $V_3$ ,  $V_4$

output voltage levels from the calibrating sound reproducer, measured at a point in the circuitry where the voltage relationship to the amplitude of the sound record is essentially linear

### 3.2 maximum photoelectric output MPO

voltage difference obtained between full illumination of the photoelectric receptor by the scanning beam and complete occulting of the scanning beam, as defined by  $V_1$  and  $V_4$  in [Figures 1](#) and [2](#)

### 3.3 peak-to-peak voltage PV

voltage difference observed for a sound level test film between the maximum output at the crest of a sine wave (+ peak) and the minimum output at the trough of a sine wave (−peak), as defined by  $V_2$  and  $V_3$  in [Figures 1](#) and [2](#)

### 3.4 photoelectric output factor POF

ratio of the PV from the film, as defined in 3.3, to the maximum output of the reproducer when reproducing an audio level test film on a calibrating reproducer, as defined in 3.2

Note 1 to entry: An ideal test film would have a photoelectric output factor of 1,0 which is a theoretical value that cannot be obtained in photographic sound recording due to sound track image density, base density, and fog density.

## 4 Method of measurement

4.1 The photoelectric output factor shall be measured on a calibrating reproducer, as described in Clause 7, with the required instrumentation arranged in accordance with Annex A and Figures 3 and 4.

4.2 The signal frequencies of the test film shall be as specified in ISO 6025.

## 5 Method of calibration

Two alternative methods of calibration are given.

### 5.1 DC method

Calibration is carried out by comparing the steady-state values of full scanning beam illumination on the phototransducer with complete occultation (see Figure 1 and A.2).

### 5.2 AC method

Calibration is carried out by means of an occulting shutter interrupting the scanning beam illumination on the photoelectric transducer, the shutter operating at the same nominal frequency as that of the audio-level test film (see Figure 2 and A.3).

## 6 Calibration procedure

Calibration requires electrical measurements, which show the peak-to-peak voltage output obtained, using a true-peak reading voltmeter, when running an audio-level test film through a calibrating reproducer. This voltage is expressed as a percentage of the maximum output of the reproducer.

6.1 With the calibrating reproducer conforming to ISO 2939 or ISO 4243 and with no film in the reproducer, measure the voltage difference between  $V_1$  and  $V_4$ , as defined in 3.2.

6.2 With the audio-level test film running through the calibrating reproducer, measure the peak-to-peak voltage difference between  $V_2$  and  $V_3$ , as defined in 3.3.

6.3 Calculate the photoelectric output factor (POF) of the audio-level test film using Formula (1):

$$\text{POF} = \frac{\text{PV}}{\text{MPO}} \quad (1)$$

## 7 Calibrating reproducer

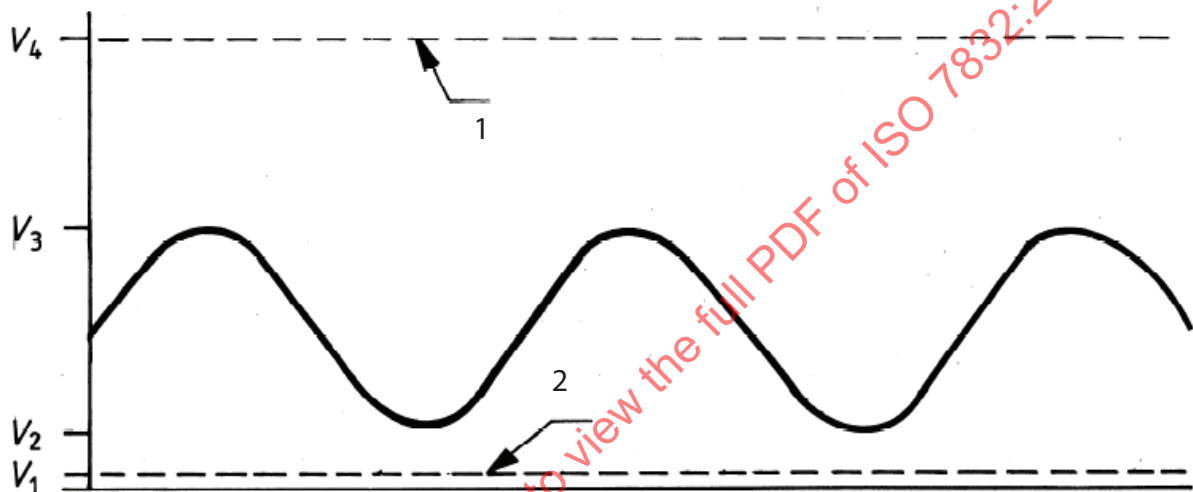
7.1 The calibrating reproducer shall comply with the flutter specification of ISO 6025 for the audio-level test film being calibrated.

**7.2** The location, azimuth, and focus of the scanning beam shall be aligned using the appropriate photographic test film.

**7.3** The width of the scanning beam at the film plane shall be within 1 % of the nominal value specified in ISO 2939 or ISO 4243.

**7.4** Uniformity of illumination across the width of the scanning beam, together with the point-to-point photon efficiency of the phototransducer, shall be constant within  $\pm 5\%$  when using a snake track test film.

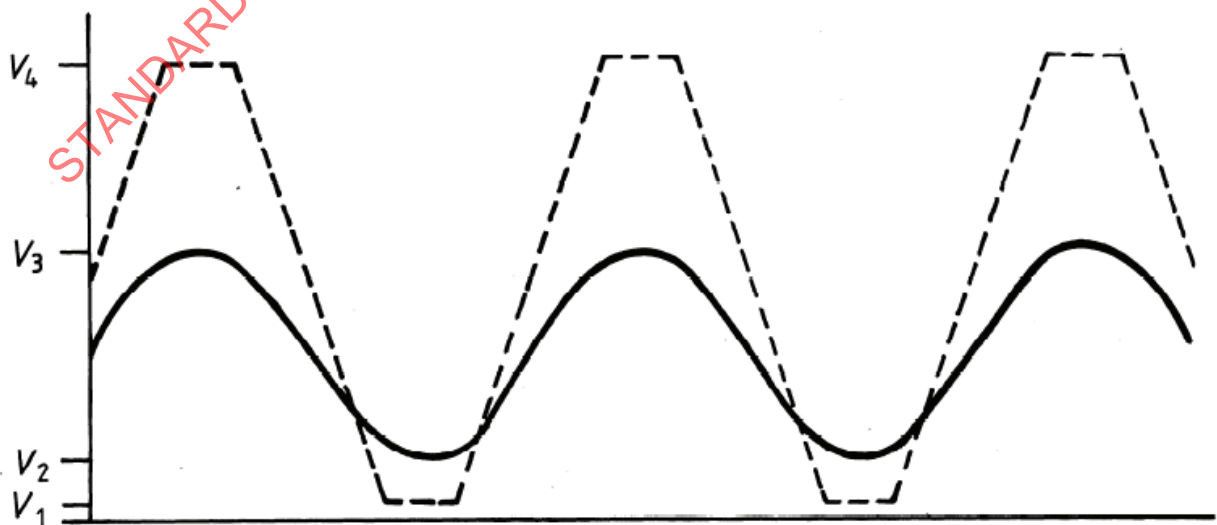
**NOTE** The use of calculated corrections to avoid errors is not permitted.



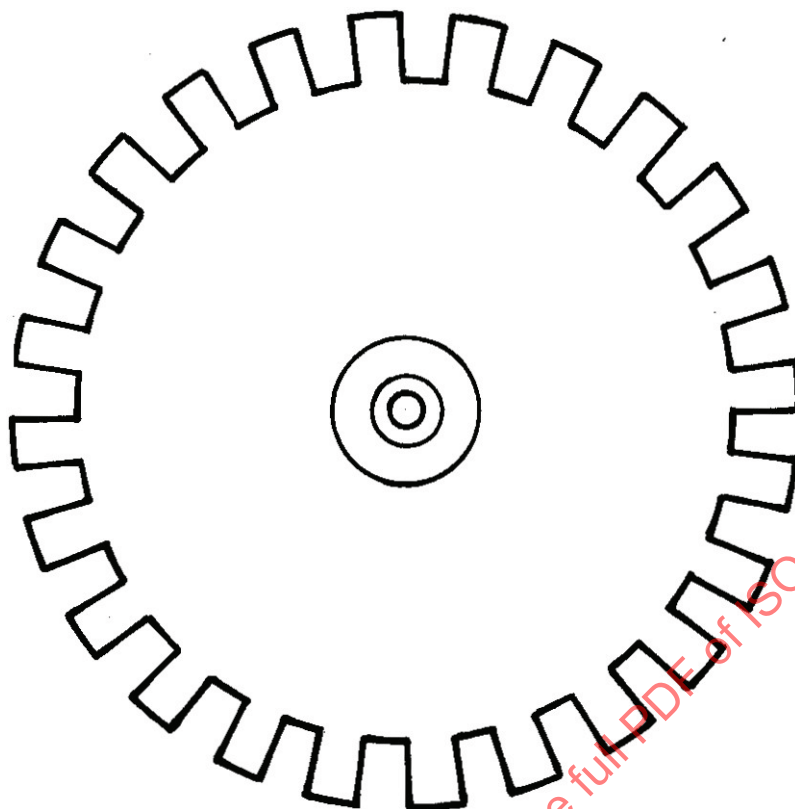
**Key**

- 1 full illumination (without film)
- 2 no illumination

**Figure 1 — Calibration waveforms — DC method**



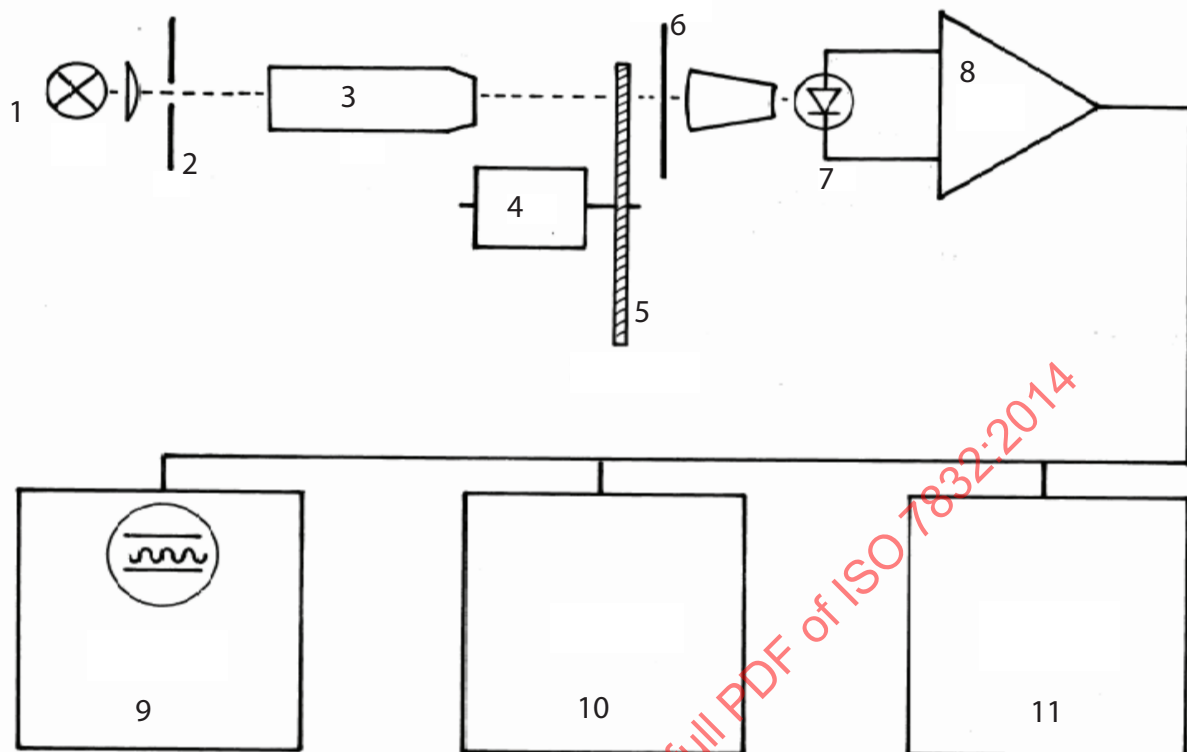
**Figure 2 — Calibration waveforms — AC method**



NOTE This shutter wheel is designed to give equal on-and-off durations and may be conveniently driven by any small DC motor. The shutter, containing 24 elements as shown, generates a 400 Hz tone at 1 000 r/min and a 1 000 Hz tone at 2 500 r/min.

**Figure 3 — Shutter wheel**



**Key**

- |   |                                |    |                                          |
|---|--------------------------------|----|------------------------------------------|
| 1 | exciter lamp                   | 7  | cell                                     |
| 2 | slit                           | 8  | operational amplifier (DC)               |
| 3 | lens                           | 9  | oscilloscope with DC response            |
| 4 | motor                          | 10 | peak reading AC voltmeter                |
| 5 | shutter wheel (AC method only) | 11 | electronic DC voltmeter (DC method only) |
| 6 | film plane                     |    |                                          |

**Figure 4 — Equipment required to establish photoelectric output factor**