AS/NZS IEC 60825.1:2014

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AS/NZS IEC 60825.1:2014

Australian/New Zealand Standard™

# Safety of laser products

# Part 1: Equipment classification and requirements



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**AS/NZS IEC 60825.1:2014**

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee SF-019, Personal Protection Against Laser Radiation. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 2 October 2014 and on behalf of the Council of Standards New Zealand on 3 October 2014.
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The following are represented on Committee SF-019:

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Australian Dental Association
Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency
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Australian/New Zealand Standard™

# Safety of laser products

# Part 1: Equipment classification and requirements

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# PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee SF-019, Personal Protection Against Laser Radiation, to supersede AS/NZS IEC 60825.1:2011.

It is important to note that the designation of this Standard has changed; prior to 2011, this Standard was designated AS/NZS 2211.1:2004, *Safety of laser products*, Part 1: *Equipment classification, requirements and user's guide* (IEC 60825-1:2001, MOD).

Standards in the IEC 60825 series may have been adopted as either AS/NZS IEC 60825 series standards (e.g. IEC/TR 60825-14 has been adopted as AS/NZS IEC 60825.14), or AS/NZS 2211 series standards (e.g. IEC 60825-4 has been adopted as AS/NZS 2211.4).

The objectives of this Standard are as follows:

(a) To protect people from laser radiation in the wavelength range 180 nm to 1 mm by introducing a system of classification of lasers and laser products according to their degree of optical radiation hazard.

(b) To specify requirements for the manufacturer to supply information so that proper precautions can be adopted.

(c) To ensure adequate warnings are provided to individuals of hazards associated with accessible radiation from laser products through the use of labels and instructions.

(d) To reduce the possibility of injury by minimizing unnecessary accessible radiation and to give improved control of the laser radiation hazards through protective features.

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from, IEC 60825-1, Ed. 3.0 (2014), *Safety of laser products*, Part 1: *Equipment classification and requirements*.

This Standard adopts the 2013 maximum permissible exposure (MPE) limits published by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection. The MPE limits in Annex A of this Standard are more recent than the MPE limits in other earlier standards in this series, and may be used in preference.

As this Standard is reproduced from an International Standard, the following applies:

(i) In the source text 'this part of IEC 60825' should read 'this Australian/New Zealand Standard.'

(ii) A full point substitutes for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

References to International Standards should be replaced by references to Australian/New Zealand Standards, as follows:

| *Reference to International Standard* | | *Australian/New Zealand Standard* | |
|---|---|---|---|
| IEC | | AS/NZS IEC | |
| 62471 | Photobiological safety of lamps and lamp systems (all parts) | 62471 | Photobiological safety of lamps and lamp systems (series) |

Only normative references that have been adopted as Australian or Australian/New Zealand Standard have been listed.

The term 'informative' has been used in this Standard to define the application of the annex to which it applies. An 'informative' annex is only for information and guidance.

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# FOREWORD

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a new class, Class 1C, was introduced;
- the measurement condition 2 (“eye loupe” condition) was removed;
- classification of the emission of laser products below a certain radiance level that are intended to be used as replacement for conventional light sources can, as an option, be based on the IEC 62471 series;
- the accessible emission limits (AELs) for Class 1, 1M, 2, 2M and 3R of pulsed sources, particularly of pulsed extended sources, were updated to reflect the latest revision of the ICNIRP guidelines on exposure limits (accepted for publication in Health Physics 105 (3): 271 – 295; 2013, see also www.icnirp.org).

AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARD

# Safety of laser products

## Part 1:
## Equipment classification and requirements

### 1 Scope and object

IEC 60825-1 is applicable to safety of laser products emitting laser radiation in the wavelength range 180 nm to 1 mm.

Although lasers exist which emit at wavelengths less than 180 nm (within the vacuum ultraviolet), these are not included in the scope of the standard since the laser beam normally has to be enclosed in an evacuated enclosure, and, therefore, the potential optical radiation hazards are inherently minimal.

A laser product may consist of a single laser with or without a separate power supply or may incorporate one or more lasers in a complex optical, electrical, or mechanical system. Typically, laser products are used for demonstration of physical and optical phenomena, materials processing, data reading and storage, transmission and display of information, etc. Such systems have found use in industry, business, entertainment, research, education, medicine and consumer products.

Laser products that are sold to other manufacturers for use as components of any system for subsequent sale are not subject to IEC 60825-1, since the final product will itself be subject to this standard. Laser products that are sold by or for manufacturers of end products for use as repair parts for the end products are also not subject to IEC 60825-1. However, if the laser system within the laser product is operable when removed from the end product, the requirements of this Part 1 apply to the removable laser system.

NOTE 1 Operable equipment does not require a tool to prepare for operation.

Any laser product is exempt from all further requirements of this Part 1 if classification by the manufacturer of that product according to Clauses 4 and 5 shows that the emission level does not exceed the AEL (accessible emission limit) of Class 1 under all conditions of operation, maintenance, service and failure. Such a laser product may be referred to as an exempt laser product.

NOTE 2 The above exemption is to ensure that inherently safe laser products are exempt from Clauses 6,7,8 and 9.

In addition to the adverse effects potentially resulting from exposure to laser radiation, some laser equipment may also have other associated hazards, such as electricity, chemicals and high or low temperatures. Laser radiation may cause temporary visual impairment, such as dazzle and glare. Such effects depend on the task and ambient lighting level and are beyond the scope of this Part 1. The classification and other requirements of this standard are intended to address only the laser radiation hazards to the eyes and skin. Other hazards are not included within its scope.

This Part 1 describes the minimum requirements. Compliance with this Part 1 may not be sufficient to achieve the required level of product safety. Laser products may also be required to conform to the applicable performance and testing requirements of other applicable product safety standards.

NOTE 3 Other standards may contain additional requirements. For example, a Class 3B or Class 4 laser product may not be suitable for use as a consumer product.

Where a laser system forms a part of equipment which is subject to another IEC product safety standard, e.g. for medical equipment (IEC 60601-2-22), IT equipment (IEC 60950 series), audio and video equipment (IEC 60065), audio-video and IT equipment (IEC 62368-1), equipment for use in hazardous atmospheres (IEC 60079), or electric toys (IEC 62115), this Part 1 will apply in accordance with the provisions of IEC Guide 104[2)] for hazards resulting from laser radiation. If no product safety standard is applicable, then IEC 61010-1 may be applied.

For ophthalmic instruments, to ensure patient safety, ISO 15004-2 should be consulted and the principles of the limits provided there should be applied for laser radiation (see also Annex C and D).

In previous editions, light-emitting diodes (LEDs) were included in the scope of IEC 60825-1, and they may be still included in other parts of the IEC 60825 series. However, with the development of lamp safety standards, optical radiation safety of LEDs in general can be more appropriately addressed by lamp safety standards. The removal of LEDs from the scope of this Part 1 does not preclude other standards from including LEDs whenever they refer to lasers. IEC 62471 may be applied to determine the risk group of an LED or product incorporating one or more LEDs. Some other (vertical) standards may require the application of the measurement, classification, engineering specifications and labelling requirements of this standard (IEC 60825-1) to LED products.

Laser products with accessible radiance below the criteria specified in 4.4, designed to function as conventional light sources, and which satisfy the requirements specified in 4.4 may alternatively be evaluated under the IEC 62471 series of standards, "Photobiological safety of lamps and lamp systems". Such a product remains within the scope of this part of IEC 60825, except that the above-described optical radiation emission need not be considered for classification.

The MPE (maximum permissible exposure) values provided in Annex A were developed for laser radiation and do not apply to collateral radiation. However, if a concern exists that accessible collateral radiation might be hazardous, the laser MPE values may be applied to conservatively evaluate this potential hazard, or the exposure limit values in IEC 62471 should be consulted.

The MPE values in Annex A are not applicable to intentional human exposure to laser radiation for the purpose of medical or cosmetic/aesthetic treatment.

NOTE 4 Informative Annexes A to G have been included for purposes of general guidance and to illustrate many typical cases. However, the annexes are not regarded as definitive or exhaustive.

The objectives of this part of IEC 60825 are the following:

- to introduce a system of classification of lasers and laser products emitting radiation in the wavelength range 180 nm to 1 mm according to their degree of optical radiation hazard in order to aid hazard evaluation and to aid the determination of user control measures;
- to establish requirements for the manufacturer to supply information so that proper precautions can be adopted;
- to ensure, through labels and instructions, adequate warning to individuals of hazards associated with accessible radiation from laser products;
- to reduce the possibility of injury by minimizing unnecessary accessible radiation and to give improved control of the laser radiation hazards through protective features.



2) IEC Guide 104:2010, *The preparation of safety publications and the use of basic safety publications and group safety publications*

## 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.

IEC 60050 (all parts), *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary* (available at http://www.electropedia.org)

IEC 62471 (all parts), *Photobiological safety of lamps and lamp systems*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the definitions given in IEC 60050-845 as well as the following apply.

NOTE For convenience here, the definitions have been arranged in English alphabetical order. Departures from IEC 60050-845 are intentional and are indicated. In such cases, reference is made, between brackets, to the definition of Part 845 of IEC 60050, with the mention “modified”.

**3.1**
**access panel**
part of the protective housing which provides access to laser radiation when removed or displaced

**3.2**
**accessible emission**
level of radiation determined at a position and with aperture stops (when the AEL is given in units of Watts or Joules) or limiting apertures (when the AEL is given in units of $W{\cdot}m^{-2}$ or $J{\cdot}m^{-2}$) as described in Clause 5

Note 1 to entry: The accessible emission is determined where human access is considered, as specified in Definition 3.40. The accessible emission (determined during operation) is compared with the accessible emission limit (Entry 3.3) in order to determine the class of the laser product. In the body of the standard, whenever the term “emission level” is used, it is to be understood as accessible emission.

Note 2 to entry: When the beam is larger than the aperture stop, the accessible emission when given in units of watts or joules is less than the total emitted power or energy of the laser product. When the beam is smaller than the limiting aperture, the accessible emission when given in units of $W{\cdot}m^{-2}$ or $J{\cdot}m^{-2}$, i.e. as irradiance or radiant exposure averaged over the limiting aperture, is smaller than the actual irradiance or radiant exposure of the beam. See also aperture stop (3.9) and limiting aperture (3.55).

**3.3**
**accessible emission limit**
**AEL**
maximum accessible emission permitted within a particular class

Note 1 to entry: Wherever the text refers to “emission level not exceeding the AEL” or similar wording, it is implicit that the accessible emission is determined following the measurement criteria specified in Clause 5.

**3.4**
**administrative control**
safety measures of a non-engineering type such as: key supervision; safety training of personnel; warning notices; count-down procedures; and range safety controls

Note 1 to entry: These may be specified by the manufacturer (see Clause 8).

**3.5**
**angle of acceptance**
$\gamma$
plane angle within which a detector will respond to optical radiation, usually measured in radians

Note 1 to entry: This angle of acceptance may be controlled by apertures or optical elements in front of the detector (see Figures 1 and 2). The angle of acceptance is also sometimes referred to as the field of view.

Note 2 to entry: SI unit: radian.

Note 3 to entry: The angle of acceptance should not be confused with the angular subtense of the source or the beam divergence.

**3.6**
**angular subtense**
plane angle that is subtended by a circular arc, as the ratio of the length of the arc to the radius of the arc

Note 1 to entry: SI unit: radian.

Note 2 to entry: For small angles, the angular subtense of a line at a given distance is calculated by division of the line length by the distance. For large angles, the difference between the line as chord and the arc needs to be accounted for.

**3.7**
**angular subtense of the apparent source**
$\alpha$
angle subtended by an apparent source as viewed from a point in space, as shown in Figure 1

Note 1 to entry: For the case of a Gaussian irradiance profile distribution of the image of the apparent source, such as for a diffuse reflection of a $TEM_{00}$ beam, $\alpha$ is determined with the $d_{63}$ beam diameter definition (see 3.13). For non-uniform irradiance profiles or multiple sources, $\alpha$ is determined according to 4.3 d).

Note 2 to entry: SI unit: radian.

Note 3 to entry: The location and angular subtense of the apparent source depend on the viewing position in the beam (see 3.10).

Note 4 to entry: The angular subtense of an apparent source is applicable in this Part 1 only in the wavelength range from 400 nm to 1 400 nm, the retinal hazard region.

Note 5 to entry: The angular subtense of the laser source should not be confused with the divergence of the beam. The angular subtense of the laser source cannot be larger than the divergence of the beam but it is usually smaller than the divergence of the beam.

**3.8**
**aperture**
any opening in the protective housing of a laser product through which laser radiation is emitted, thereby allowing human access to such radiation

Note 1 to entry: See also limiting aperture (3.55).

**3.9**
**aperture stop**
opening serving to define the area over which radiation is measured

Note 1 to entry: See also limiting aperture (3.55).

**3.10**
**apparent source**
for a given evaluation location of the retinal hazard, real or virtual object that forms the smallest possible retinal image (considering the accommodation range of the human eye)

Note 1 to entry: The accommodation range of the eye is assumed to be variable from 100 mm to infinity. The location of the apparent source for a given viewing position in the beam is that location to which the eye accommodates to produce the most hazardous retinal irradiance condition.

Note 2 to entry: This definition is used to determine, for a given evaluation position, the location of the apparent origin of laser radiation in the wavelength range of 400 nm to 1 400 nm. In the limit of vanishing divergence, i.e. in the case of a well collimated beam, the location of the apparent source goes to infinity.

Note 3 to entry: For circular images of extended sources on the retina with Gaussian profiles, the $d_{63}$ definition can be used to determine the angular subtense of the apparent source $\alpha$.

**3.11**
**beam**
laser radiation that may be characterized by direction, divergence, diameter or scan specifications

Note 1 to entry: Scattered radiation from a non-specular reflection is not considered to be a beam.

**3.12**
**beam attenuator**
device which reduces the laser radiation to or below a specified level or by a specific fraction

**3.13**
**beam diameter**
**beam width**
$d_u$
diameter of the smallest circle which contains $u$ % of the total laser power (or energy)

Note 1 to entry: For the purpose of this standard $d_{63}$ is used.

Note 2 to entry: The beam waist is the position in the beam where the beam diameter is minimum.

Note 3 to entry: SI unit: metre.

Note 4 to entry: This definition of the beam diameter should not be used generally for the determination of the angular subtense of the apparent source $\alpha$ since the definitions are different. However, for the case of a Gaussian irradiance profile of the image of the apparent source, $d_{63}$ can be applied for the determination of the angular subtense of the apparent source $\alpha$. For non-Gaussian irradiance profiles of the image of the angular subtense of the apparent source, the method described in 4.3 d) is to be used.

Note 5 to entry: In the case of a Gaussian beam, $d_{63}$ corresponds to the point where the irradiance (radiant exposure) falls to 1/e of its central peak value.

Note 6 to entry: The second moment diameter definition (as defined in ISO 11146-1) is not appropriate to be used for beam profiles with central high irradiance peaks and a low level background, such as produced by unstable resonators in the far field: the power that passes through an aperture can be significantly underestimated when using the 2nd moment and calculating the power with the assumption of a Gaussian beam profile.

**3.14**
**beam divergence**
far field plane angle of the cone defined by the beam diameter

Note 1 to entry: If the beam diameters (see 3.13) at two points separated by a distance $r$ are $d_{63}$ and $d'_{63}$ the divergence is given by:

$$\varphi_{63} = 2 \arctan\left(\frac{d'_{63} - d_{63}}{2\,r}\right)$$

Note 2 to entry: SI unit: radian.

Note 3 to entry: The second moment divergence definition (ISO 11146-1) is not appropriate to be used for beam profiles with central high irradiance peaks and a low level background, such as produced by unstable resonators in the far field or beam profiles that show diffraction patterns caused by apertures.

**3.15**
**beam expander**
combination of optical elements which will increase the diameter of a laser beam

**3.16**
**beam path component**
optical component which lies on a defined beam path

EXAMPLE A beam steering mirror, a focusing lens or a diffuser.

**3.17**
**beam stop**
device which terminates a laser beam path

**3.18**
**Class 1 laser product**
any laser product which during operation does not permit human access to laser radiation (accessible emission, see 3.2) in excess of the AEL of Class 1 for applicable wavelengths and emission durations (see 5.3 and 4.3 e))

Note 1 to entry: See also the limitations of the classification scheme in Annex C.

Note 2 to entry: As tests for the determination of the classification of the product are limited to tests during operation, it may be the case for embedded laser products, that laser radiation above the AEL of the class of the product can become accessible during maintenance (see 6.2.1) or service when interlocks of access panels are overridden or the product is opened or disassembled.

**3.19**
**Class 1C laser product**
any laser product which is designed explicitly for contact application to the skin or non-ocular tissue and that:

– during operation ocular hazard is prevented by engineering means, i.e. the accessible emission is stopped or reduced to below the AEL of Class 1 when the laser/applicator is removed from contact with the skin or non-ocular tissue,
– during operation and when in contact with skin or non-ocular tissue, irradiance or radiant exposure levels may exceed the skin MPE as necessary for the intended treatment procedure, and
– the laser product complies with applicable vertical standards

Note 1 to entry: It is not sufficient to classify a product as Class 1C only under IEC 60825-1 without consideration of requirements specified in applicable vertical product safety standards. See also the limitations of the Classification scheme in Annex C.

Note 2 to entry: Since the emitted radiation may exceed the applicable skin MPE, the output of a Class 1C laser may be potentially hazardous to the target tissue. The definition of appropriate limitations of the emission accessible under contact conditions, for example a possible contact with the eyelids, are beyond the scope of this standard and are specified in applicable vertical standards.

Note 3 to entry: As tests for the determination of the classification of the product are limited to tests during operation, it may be the case for embedded laser products that, depending on the product, radiation above the AEL of Class 1 can become accessible during maintenance (see 6.2.1) or service when interlocks of access panels are overridden or the product is opened or disassembled.

**3.20**
**Class 1M laser product**
any laser product in the wavelength range from 302,5 nm to 4 000 nm which during operation does not permit human access to laser radiation (accessible emission, see 3.2) in excess of the AEL of Class 1 for applicable wavelengths and emission durations (see 4.3 e)), where the level of radiation is measured according to 5.3 a)

Note 1 to entry: See also the limitations of the classification scheme in Annex C.

Note 2 to entry: The output of a Class 1M laser product is potentially hazardous when viewed using telescopic optics such as a telescope or a binocular (see 5.3 a)).

Note 3 to entry: As tests for the determination of the classification of the product are limited to tests during operation, it may be the case for embedded laser products that, depending on the product, radiation above the AEL of the class of the laser product can become accessible during maintenance (see 6.2.1) or service when interlocks of access panels are overridden or the product is opened or disassembled.

**3.21**
**Class 2 laser product**
any laser product in the wavelength range from 400 nm to 700 nm which during operation does not permit human access to laser radiation (accessible emission, see 3.2) in excess of the AEL of Class 2 for applicable wavelengths and emission durations (see 5.3 c))

Note 1 to entry: See also the limitations of the classification scheme in Annex C.

Note 2 to entry: As tests for the determination of the classification of the product are limited to tests during operation, it may be the case for embedded laser products that, depending on the product, radiation above the AEL of the class of the product can become accessible during maintenance (see 6.2.1) or service when interlocks of access panels are overridden or the product is opened or disassembled.

**3.22**
**Class 2M laser product**
any laser product in the wavelength range from 400 nm to 700 nm which during operation does not permit human access to laser radiation (accessible emission, see 3.2) in excess of the AEL of Class 2 for applicable wavelengths and emission durations (see 4.3 e)), where the level of radiation is measured according to 5.3 c)

Note 1 to entry: See also the limitations of the classification scheme in Annex C.

Note 2 to entry: The output of a Class 2M laser product is potentially hazardous when viewed using telescopic optics such as a telescope or a binocular (see 5.3 c)).

Note 3 to entry: As tests for the determination of the classification of the product are limited to tests during operation, it may be the case for embedded laser products that, depending on the product, radiation above the AEL of the class of the product can become accessible during maintenance (see 6.2.1) or service when interlocks of access panels are overridden or the product is opened or disassembled.

**3.23**
**Class 3R and Class 3B laser products**
any laser product which during operation permits human access to laser radiation (accessible emission, see 3.2) in excess of the AEL of Class 1 and Class 2, as applicable, but which does not permit human access to laser radiation in excess of the AEL of Classes 3R and 3B (respectively) for any emission duration and wavelength (see 5.3 d) and 5.3 e))

Note 1 to entry: See also the limitations of the classification scheme in Annex C.

Note 2 to entry: Class 1M and Class 2M laser products may have outputs above or below the AEL of Class 3R, depending on their optical characteristics.

Note 3 to entry: As tests for the determination of the classification of the product are limited to tests during operation, it may be the case for embedded laser products that, depending on the product, radiation above the AEL of the class of the product can become accessible during service when interlocks of access panels are overridden or the product is opened or disassembled.

**3.24**
**Class 4 laser product**
any laser product which permits human access to laser radiation (accessible emission, see 3.2) in excess of the AEL of Class 3B (see 5.3 f))

Note 1 to entry: See also the limitations of the classification scheme in Annex C.

**3.25**
**collateral radiation**
any electromagnetic radiation, within the wavelength range between 180 nm and 1 mm, except laser radiation, emitted by a laser product as a result of, or physically necessary for, the operation of a laser

**3.26**
**collimated beam**
beam of radiation with very small angular divergence or convergence

**3.27**
**contact mode**
use of a laser product where the beam delivery system is in close contact with the intended target

Note 1 to entry: The beam delivery system does not need to be in “physical” contact. It can, for example, be close to the intended target provided that adequate engineering control measures are in place.

Note 2 to entry: This definition is relevant for products classified as Class 1C.

**3.28**
**continuous wave**
**CW**
laser operating with a continuous output for a duration equal to or greater than 0,25 s

Note 1 to entry: This note applies to the French language only.

**3.29**
**defined beam path**
intended path of a laser beam within the laser product

**3.30**
**demonstration laser product**
any laser product designed, manufactured, intended or promoted for purposes of demonstration, entertainment, advertising, display or artistic composition

Note 1 to entry: The term "demonstration laser product" does not apply to laser products which are designed and intended for other applications, although they may be used for demonstrating those applications.

**3.31**
**diffuse reflection**
change of the spatial distribution of a beam of radiation by scattering in many directions by a surface or medium

Note 1 to entry: A perfect diffuser destroys all correlation between the directions of the incident and emergent radiation.

[SOURCE:IEC 60050-845:1987, 845-04-47, modified – The definition has been completely reworded.]

**3.32**
**embedded laser product**
in this Part 1, a laser product which, because of engineering features limiting the accessible emission, is of a class number lower than the inherent capability of the laser incorporated

Note 1 to entry: The laser product which is incorporated in the embedded laser product is called an enclosed laser product or an enclosed laser system.

**3.33**
**emission duration**
temporal duration of a pulse, of a train or series of pulses, or of continuous operation, during which human access to laser radiation could occur as a result of operation, maintenance or servicing of a laser product

Note 1 to entry: For a single pulse, this is the duration between the half-peak power point of the leading edge and the corresponding point on the trailing edge. For a train of pulses (or subsections of a train of pulses), this is the duration between the first half-peak power point of the leading pulse and the last half-peak power point of the trailing pulse.

**3.34**
**errant laser radiation**
laser radiation which deviates from a defined or intended beam path

Note 1 to entry: Such radiation includes unwanted reflections from beam path components and deviant radiation from misaligned or damaged components.

**3.35**
**exposure duration**
duration of a pulse, or series, or train of pulses or of continuous emission of laser radiation incident upon the human body

Note 1 to entry: For a single pulse, this is the duration between the half-peak power point of the leading edge and the corresponding point on the trailing edge. For a train of pulses (or subsections of a train of pulses), this is the duration between the first half-peak power point of the leading pulse and the last half-peak power point of the trailing pulse.

**3.36**
**extended source viewing**
viewing conditions whereby the apparent source at a distance of 100 mm or more subtends an angle at the eye greater than the minimum angular subtense ($\alpha_{\text{min}}$)

Note 1 to entry: Two extended source conditions are considered in this standard when considering retinal thermal injury hazards: intermediate source and large source. They are used to distinguish sources with angular subtenses of the apparent source, $\alpha$, between $\alpha_{\text{min}}$ and $\alpha_{\text{max}}$ (intermediate sources), and greater than $\alpha_{\text{max}}$ (large sources). See also 3.82.

Note 2 to entry: Examples where the factor $C_6$ (4.3 c) and Table 9) can be larger than 1 include viewing of some diffused laser sources, diffuse reflections, some line lasers and some laser diode arrays.

**3.37**
**eye-safe**
accessible emission below the AEL of Class 1 or an exposure below the MPE for the eye for the given exposure duration

Note 1 to entry: This term is incorrectly used in some advertising material for laser emission in the wavelength range above 1 400 nm based on higher exposure limits in that wavelength range compared to the retinal hazard region. The term “eye-safe laser” may only be used to describe Class 1 laser products. Even if Class 1 can be referred to as eye-safe, if it is visible emission, short-term visual disturbances such as dazzle “flash-blindness” and after-images may still result from direct-beam viewing.

Note 2 to entry: The term “eye-safe laser” cannot be used to describe a laser based solely on output wavelength being greater than 1 400 nm, since lasers of any wavelength with sufficient output power can cause injury.

**3.38**
**fail safe**
design consideration in which failure of a component does not increase the hazard

Note 1 to entry: In the failure mode the system is rendered inoperative or the hazard is not increased.

**3.39**
**fail safe safety interlock**
interlock which in the failure mode does not defeat the purpose of the interlock

Note 1 to entry: For example, an interlock which is positively driven into the OFF position as soon as a hinged cover begins to open, or before a detachable cover is removed, and which is positively held in the OFF position until the hinged cover is closed or the detachable cover is locked in the closed position.

Note 2 to entry: For the purpose of this Part 1 a safety interlock in the OFF position terminates the beam or reduces the output to the required level. If electrical, electronic and programmable components are used, IEC 61508 or ISO 13849 may be used to evaluate the reliability of the interlock.

**3.40**
**human access**
a) ability of the human body to meet laser radiation emitted by the laser product, i.e. radiation that can be intercepted outside of the protective housing, or
b) ability of a cylindrical probe with a diameter of 100 mm and a length of 100 mm to intercept levels of radiation of Class 3B and below, or

c) ability of a human hand or arm to intercept levels of radiation above the AEL of Class 3B,

d) also, for levels of radiation within the protective housing that are equivalent to Class 3B or Class 4, ability of any part of the human body to meet hazardous laser radiation that can be reflected directly by any single introduced flat surface from the interior of the product through any opening in its protective housing

Note 1 to entry: For laser products that provide walk-in access, it is necessary to consider radiation both inside and outside of the protective housing for the determination of human access. Human access inside the protective housing can be prevented by engineering controls such as automatic detection systems.

**3.41**
**integrated radiance**
**radiance dose**
$L_\mathrm{t}$
integral of the radiance over a given exposure duration expressed as radiant energy per unit area of a radiating surface per unit solid angle of emission

Note 1 to entry: In the ICNIRP guidelines, this quantity is also referred to as radiance dose and the symbol *D* is used.

Note 2 to entry: SI unit: joule per square metre per steradian ($\mathrm{J \cdot m^{-2} \cdot sr^{-1}}$).

**3.42**
**intrabeam viewing**
all viewing conditions whereby the eye is exposed to the direct or specularly reflected laser beam in contrast to viewing of, for example, diffuse reflections

**3.43**
**irradiance**
$E$
quotient of the radiant flux $\mathrm{d}\Phi$ incident on an element of a surface by the area $\mathrm{d}A$ of that element

$$E = \frac{\mathrm{d}\Phi}{\mathrm{d}A}$$

Note 1 to entry: SI unit: watt per square metre ($\mathrm{W \cdot m^{-2}}$).

**3.44**
**laser**
any device which can be made to produce or amplify electromagnetic radiation in the wavelength range from 180 nm to 1 mm primarily by the process of controlled stimulated emission

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-845:1987, 845-04-39, modified – The definition has been completely reworded.]

**3.45**
**laser controlled area**
area where the occupancy and activity of those within is subject to control and supervision for the purpose of protection from laser radiation hazards

**3.46**
**laser energy source**
any device intended for use in conjunction with a laser to supply energy for the excitation of electrons, ions or molecules

Note 1 to entry: General energy sources such as electrical supply mains or batteries are not considered to constitute laser energy sources.

**3.47**
**laser hazard area**
area in which the exposure of the eye and/or the skin exceeds the respective maximum permissible exposure values (MPEs); see nominal ocular hazard area (3.64)

Note 1 to entry: To avoid ambiguities, information whether the hazard area is based on the eye or the skin MPEs should be added.

**3.48**
**laser product**
any product or assembly of components which constitutes, incorporates or is intended to incorporate a laser or laser system

**3.49**
**laser radiation**
all electromagnetic radiation emitted by a laser product between 180 nm and 1 mm which is produced by controlled stimulated emission

**3.50**
**laser safety officer**
one who is knowledgeable in the evaluation and control of laser hazards and has responsibility for oversight of the control of laser hazards

**3.51**
**laser system**
laser in combination with an appropriate laser energy source with or without additional incorporated components

**3.52**
**light emitting diode**
**LED**
any semiconductor p-n junction device which can be made to produce electromagnetic radiation by radiative recombination in the semiconductor in the wavelength range from 180 nm to 1 mm

Note 1 to entry: The optical radiation is produced primarily by the process of spontaneous emission, although some stimulated emission may be present.

**3.53**
**limiting angle of acceptance for evaluating retinal photochemical hazards**
$\gamma_{ph}$
plane angle over which radiation is detected and to be used for the determination of the accessible emission, or exposure level to be compared with retinal photochemical limits

Note 1 to entry: The angle $\gamma_{ph}$ is related to eye movements and is not dependent upon the angular subtense of the source. If the angular subtense of the source is larger than the specified limiting angle of acceptance $\gamma_{ph}$, the angle of acceptance $\gamma$ is limited to $\gamma_{ph}$ and the source is scanned for hotspots. If the angle of acceptance $\gamma$ is not limited to the specified level, the hazard may be over-estimated.

Note 2 to entry: If the angular subtense of the apparent source is smaller than the specified limiting angle of acceptance, the actual angle of acceptance of the measuring instrument does not affect the measured value and does not have to be limited, i.e. a regular “open” angle of acceptance radiometer set-up can be used.

Note 3 to entry: SI unit: radian.

**3.54**
**limiting angle of acceptance for evaluating thermal hazards**
$\gamma_{th}$
maximum angular subtense to be used for the evaluation of the retinal thermal hazard

Note 1 to entry: The value of the angle of acceptance $\gamma$ may vary between $\alpha_{min}$ and $\alpha_{max}$ (see 4.3 d) and 5.4.3 b) 2)).

Note 2 to entry: SI unit: radian.

**3.55**
**limiting aperture**
circular area over which irradiance and radiant exposure are averaged

**3.56**
**maintenance**
performance of those adjustments or procedures specified in user information provided by the manufacturer with the laser product, which are to be performed by the user for the purpose of assuring the intended performance of the product

Note 1 to entry: It does not include operation or service.

**3.57**
**maximum angular subtense**
$\alpha_{max}$
value of angular subtense of the apparent source above which the MPEs and AELs are independent of the source size

Note 1 to entry: The value of $\alpha_{max}$ can vary from 5 mrad to 100 mrad depending on the emission duration (see Table 9).

Note 2 to entry: SI unit: radian.

**3.58**
**maximum output**
the maximum accessible emission that is used to determine the class of the laser product

Note 1 to entry: Since the determination of the accessible emission includes, besides other conditions, considering single fault conditions (see 5.1), the maximum output may exceed the highest output during normal operation.

**3.59**
**maximum permissible exposure**
**MPE**
level of laser radiation to which, under normal circumstances, persons may be exposed without suffering adverse effects

Note 1 to entry: The MPE levels represent the maximum level to which the eye or skin can be exposed without consequential injury immediately or after a long time and are related to the wavelength of the laser radiation, the pulse duration or exposure duration, the tissue at risk and, for visible and near infra-red laser radiation in the range 400 nm to 1 400 nm, the size of the retinal image. Maximum permissible exposure levels are (in the existing state of knowledge) specified in Annex A.

Note 2 to entry: The MPE values given in Annex A are informative and are provided so that the manufacturer can calculate the NOHD, perform a risk analysis and inform the user about safe usage of the product. Exposure limits for the eye and the skin of employees in the workplace and the general public are in many countries specified in national laws. These legally-binding national exposure limits might differ from the MPEs given in the informative Annex A.

**3.60**
**medical laser product**
any laser product designed, manufactured, intended or promoted for purposes of *in vivo* diagnostic, surgical, cosmetic or therapeutic laser irradiation of any part of the human body

**3.61**
**minimum angular subtense**
$\alpha_{min}$
value of angular subtense of the apparent source above which a source is considered an extended source

Note 1 to entry: MPEs and AELs are independent of the source size for angular subtenses less than $\alpha_{min}$.

Note 2 to entry: SI unit: radian.

Note 3 to entry: $\alpha_{min}$ = 1,5 mrad.

**3.62**
**mode-locking**
regular mechanism or phenomenon, within the laser resonator, producing a train of very short (e.g. sub-nanosecond) pulses

Note 1 to entry: While this may be a deliberate feature it can also occur spontaneously as "self-mode-locking". The resulting peak powers may be significantly greater than the mean power.

**3.63**
**most restrictive position**
position in the beam where the ratio of accessible emission over AEL is maximum

Note 1 to entry: Both the accessible emission and the AEL may depend on the position of the evaluation in respect to the beam. See also 3.36.

**3.64**
**nominal ocular hazard area**
**NOHA**
area within which the beam irradiance or radiant exposure exceeds the appropriate corneal maximum permissible exposure (MPE), including the possibility of accidental misdirection of the laser beam

Note 1 to entry: If the NOHA includes the possibility of viewing through optical aids, this is termed the "extended NOHA".

**3.65**
**nominal ocular hazard distance**
**NOHD**
distance from the output aperture beyond which the beam irradiance or radiant exposure remains below the appropriate corneal maximum permissible exposure (MPE)

Note 1 to entry: If the NOHD includes the possibility of viewing through optical aids, this is termed the "extended NOHD (ENOHD)".

**3.66**
**operation**
performance of the laser product over the full range of its intended functions

Note 1 to entry: It does not include maintenance or service.

**3.67**
**photochemical hazard limit**
either an MPE or AEL which was derived to protect persons against adverse photochemical effects

Note 1 to entry: In the ultraviolet wavelength range, the photochemical hazard limit protects against adverse effects on the cornea and lens, while the retinal photochemical hazard limit, as defined in the wavelength range from 400 nm to 600 nm, protects against photoretinitis – a photochemical retinal injury from exposure to radiation.

**3.68**
**protective housing**
those portions of a laser product (including a product incorporating an embedded laser) which are designed to prevent human access to laser radiation in excess of the prescribed AEL (generally installed or assembled by a manufacturer)

Note 1 to entry: See 5.1 regarding test requirements to assess the suitability of protective housing for the prevention of human access.

**3.69**
**pulse duration**
time increment measured between the half-peak power points at the leading and trailing edges of a pulse

**3.70**
**pulsed laser**
laser which delivers its energy in the form of a single pulse or a train of pulses

Note 1 to entry: In this Part 1, the duration of a pulse is less than 0,25 s.

**3.71**
**radiance**
*L*
quantity defined by the formula

$$L = \frac{\mathrm{d}\Phi}{\mathrm{d}A \cdot \cos\theta \cdot \mathrm{d}\Omega}$$

where

d$\Phi$ is the radiant flux transmitted by an elementary beam passing through the given point and propagating in the solid angle d$\Omega$ containing the given direction;

d$A$ is the area of a section of that beam containing the given point;

$\theta$ is the angle between the normal to that section and the direction of the beam

Note 1 to entry: This definition is a simplified version of IEV 845-01-34, sufficient for the purpose of this Part 1. In cases of doubt, the IEV definition should be followed.

Note 2 to entry: SI unit: watt per square metre per steradian ($\mathrm{W \cdot m^{-2} \cdot sr^{-1}}$).

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-845:1987, 845-01-34, modified – The definition has been simplified.]

**3.72**
**radiant energy**
*Q*
time integral of the radiant flux $\Phi$ over a given duration $\Delta t$

$$Q = \int_{\Delta t} \Phi \cdot \mathrm{d}t$$

Note 1 to entry: SI unit: joule (J).

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-845:1987, 845-01-27, modified – The definition has been simplified.]

**3.73**
**radiant exposure**
*H*
at a point on a surface, the radiant energy incident on an element of a surface divided by the area of that element

$$H = \frac{\mathrm{d}Q}{\mathrm{d}A} = \int E \cdot \mathrm{d}t$$

Note 1 to entry: SI unit: joule per square metre ($\mathrm{J \cdot m^{-2}}$).

**3.74**
**radiant power**
**radiant flux**
*Φ, P*
power emitted, transferred, or received in the form of radiation

$$\Phi = \frac{dQ}{dt}$$

Note 1 to entry: SI unit: watt (W).

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-845:1987, 845-01-24]

**3.75**
**reflectance**
*ρ*
ratio of the reflected radiant power to the incident radiant power in the given conditions

Note 1 to entry: SI unit: dimensionless ratio.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-845:1987, 845-04-58, modified to refer to radiant power rather than radiant flux.]

**3.76**
**remote interlock connector**
connector which permits the connection of external controls placed apart from other components of the laser product

Note 1 to entry: See 6.4.

**3.77**
**safety interlock**
automatic device associated with each portion of the protective housing of a laser product to prevent human access to Class 3R, Class 3B or Class 4 laser radiation when that portion of the protective housing is removed, opened or displaced

Note 1 to entry: See 6.3.

**3.78**
**scanning laser radiation**
laser radiation having a time-varying direction, origin or pattern of propagation with respect to a stationary frame of reference

**3.79**
**service**
performance of those procedures or adjustments described in the manufacturer's service instructions, which may affect any aspect of the product's performance

Note 1 to entry: It does not include maintenance or operation.

**3.80**
**service panel**
access panel that is designed to be removed or displaced for service

**3.81**
**single fault condition**
any single fault that might occur in a product and the direct consequences of that fault

**3.82**
**small source**
source with an angular subtense $\alpha$ less than, or equal to, the minimum angular subtense $\alpha_{min}$

**3.83**
**specular reflection**
reflection from a surface that can be considered a beam (see 3.11), including reflections from mirrored surfaces

Note 1 to entry: This definition is intended to recognize that some reflecting surfaces, such as parabolic reflectors, may increase the hazard from an incident beam.

**3.84**
**thermal hazard limit**
either an MPE or AEL which was derived to protect persons against adverse thermal effects, as opposed to photochemical injury

**3.85**
**time base**
emission duration to be considered for classification of laser products

Note 1 to entry: See 4.3 e).

**3.86**
**tool**
screwdriver, hexagonal key or other object which may be used to operate a screw or similar fixing means

**3.87**
**transmittance**
$\tau$
ratio of the transmitted radiant flux to the incident flux in the given conditions

Note 1 to entry: SI unit: dimensionless ratio.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-845:1987, 845-04-59, modified]

**3.88**
**transmittance density**
**optical density**
*D*
logarithm to base ten of the reciprocal of the transmittance $\tau$

$D = -\log_{10} \tau$

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-845:1987, 845-04-66]

**3.89**
**visible radiation**
**light**
any optical radiation capable of causing a visual sensation directly

Note 1 to entry: In this Part 1, this is taken to mean electromagnetic radiation for which the wavelengths of the monochromatic components lie between 400 nm and 700 nm.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-845:1987, 845-01-03, modified – The note in the original definition has been replaced.]

**3.90**
**workpiece**
object intended for processing by laser radiation

# 4 Classification principles

## 4.1 General

Classification of a laser product is based on the determination of the accessible emission level (determined according to the rules specified in Clause 5) and comparison of that level with the accessible emission limit (AEL) associated with each class. For Class 1, Class 1M, Class 2, Class 2M and Class 3R, additional measurements may be necessary to determine if additional warnings are necessary (see Clause 7). Specific rules apply for the classification of a product (e.g., for Class 1C, see 5.3 b) and 4.4 for certain radiance extended source products).

Because of the wide ranges possible for the wavelength, energy content and pulse characteristics of a laser beam, the potential hazards arising in its use vary widely. It is impossible to regard lasers as a single group to which common safety limits can apply. Annex C describes the hazards associated with the classes and possible limitations (e.g. as may arise from optically aided viewing) in more detail.

## 4.2 Classification responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the manufacturer to provide correct classification of a laser product. (However, see 6.1).

## 4.3 Classification rules

The product shall be classified on the basis of that combination of output power(s) and wavelength(s) of the accessible emission (laser radiation) over the full range of capability during operation at any time after manufacture which results in its allocation to the highest appropriate class. The evaluation shall include consideration of any reasonably foreseeable single-fault condition during operation (see 5.1 regarding the application of the principles of risk analysis for the determination of which single fault is reasonably foreseeable).

A laser product can only be assigned to a particular class when it has met all of the requirements within this Part 1 for that class; for example, engineering controls, labelling and information for the user.

For laser products emitting CW laser beams, of a single wavelength, which are well collimated or are assumed to be from a small source, the classification procedure can be simplified and the following items need not be considered:

4.3 b), 4.3 c), 4.3 d), 4.3 f).

For the purpose of classification rules, the following ranking of the classes (in increasing order of ocular hazard) shall be used: Class 1, Class 1C, Class 1M, Class 2, Class 2M, Class 3R, Class 3B, Class 4.

NOTE 1 Class 1C is considered not to be an ocular hazard (similarly to Class 1), but may represent a skin hazard if used inappropriately (see also 5.3 b).

NOTE 2 For classification of a laser product as Class 1M or 2M, the use of an aperture specified as Condition 3 limits the amount of radiation that is collected by the pupil of the eye from large diameter beams. When measured under Condition 1, Class 1M and Class 2M products may have higher energy or power level than the AEL of Class 2 or Class 3R. For such laser products, a classification of 1M or 2M is appropriate.

The accessible emission limits (AELs) for Class 1 and 1M, Class 2 and 2M, Class 3R and Class 3B are given in Tables 3 to 8. The values of the correction factors used are given in Table 9 as functions of wavelength, emission duration, number of pulses and angular subtense.

a) Radiation of a single wavelength

A single wavelength laser product, with a spectral range of the emission line narrow enough so that the AELs do not change, is assigned to a class when the accessible laser radiation, measured under the conditions appropriate to that class, exceeds the AEL of all lower classes but does not exceed that of the class assigned.

b) Radiation of multiple wavelengths

1) A laser product emitting two or more wavelengths in spectral regions shown as additive for the eye in Table 1 is assigned to a class when the sum of the ratios of the accessible laser radiation (measured under the conditions appropriate to that class) to the AELs of those wavelengths is greater than unity for all lower classes but does not exceed unity for the class assigned. This rule applies also to non-laser radiation that is coincident on the retina for wavelengths between 400 nm and 1 400 nm or coincident on the aperture stop for other wavelength ranges. Therefore, the non-laser radiation shall be included for classification under this part of IEC 60825.

2) A laser product emitting two or more wavelengths not shown as additive for the eye in Table 1 is assigned to a class when the accessible laser radiation, measured under the conditions appropriate to that class, exceeds the AELs of all lower classes for at least one wavelength but does not exceed the AEL for the class assigned for any wavelength.

**Table 1 – Additivity of effects on eye and skin of radiation of different spectral regions[c]**

| Spectral region[a] | UV-C and UV-B 180 nm to 315 nm | UV-A 315 nm to 400 nm | Visible and IR-A 400 nm to 1 400 nm | IR-B and IR-C 1 400 nm to $10^6$ nm |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| UV-C and UV-B 180 nm to 315 nm | o<br>s | | | |
| UV-A 315 nm to 400 nm | | o<br>s | s | o<br>s |
| Visible and IR-A 400 nm to 1 400 nm | | s | o[b]<br>s | s |
| IR-B and IR-C 1 400 nm to $10^6$ nm | | o<br>s | s | o<br>s |

o Eye

s Skin

[a] For definitions of spectral regions, see Table D.1.

[b] Where AELs and ocular MPEs are being evaluated for time bases or exposure durations of 1 s or longer, then the additive photochemical effects (400 nm to 600 nm) and the additive thermal effects (400 nm to 1 400 nm) shall be assessed independently and the most restrictive value used.

[c] For determination of the AEL, only the additivity rules for the eye apply.

c) Radiation from extended sources

The ocular hazard from laser sources in the wavelength range from 400 nm to 1 400 nm is dependent upon the angular subtense of the apparent source $\alpha$. This dependence is expressed in the applicable AEL values by the factor $C_6$ (see Table 9), as well as in the rules for the determination of the accessible emission with a specified angle of acceptance.

NOTE 3 A source is considered an extended source when the angular subtense of the source is greater than $\alpha_{min}$, where $\alpha_{min}$ = 1,5 mrad. Most laser sources have an angular subtense $\alpha$ less than $\alpha_{min}$, and appear as an apparent "point source" (small source) when viewed from within the beam (intra-beam viewing). Indeed a circular laser beam cannot be collimated to a divergence less than 1,5 mrad if it is an extended source, thus any laser where a beam divergence of 1,5 mrad or less is specified cannot be treated as an extended source. For a small source, $\alpha$ is set to $\alpha_{min}$ = 1,5 mrad and $C_6$ = 1.

NOTE 4 For retinal thermal hazard evaluation (400 nm to 1 400 nm), the AELs for extended sources vary directly with the angular subtense of the source. For the retinal photochemical hazard evaluation (400 nm to 600 nm), for exposures greater than 1 s, the AELs do not vary directly with the angular subtense of the source. Depending on the emission duration (see 5.4.3 b) 1), a limiting angle of acceptance $\gamma_{ph}$ of 11 mrad or more is used for measurement regarding the photochemical hazard, and the relation of the limiting acceptance angle $\gamma_{ph}$ to the angular subtense $\alpha$ of the apparent source can influence the measured value.

NOTE 5 For the default condition where $C_6$ = 1, a simplified Table 3 is provided for the AEL of Class 1, 1M and a simplified Table 6 is provided for the AEL of Class 3R.

For sources subtending an angle less than or equal to $\alpha_{min}$, the AEL and MPE are independent of the angular subtense of the apparent source $\alpha$.

For classifying laser products at the most restrictive position where Condition 1 applies (see 5.4.3), the 7 × magnification of the angular subtense $\alpha$ of the apparent source may be applied to determine $C_6$, i.e. $C_6 = 7 \times \alpha / \alpha_{min}$. The expression ($7 \times \alpha$) shall be limited to $\alpha_{max}$ prior to the calculation of $C_6$. The 7 × value of $\alpha$ shall be used for the determination of $T_2$ of Table 9.

NOTE 6 For cases where $\alpha < 1{,}5$ mrad but $7 \times \alpha > 1{,}5$ mrad, the limits for $\alpha > 1{,}5$ mrad of Table 4 and 7 apply.

d) Non-uniform, non-circular or multiple apparent sources

For comparison with the thermal retinal limits, if:

- the wavelength range is from 400 nm to 1 400 nm; and
- the AEL depends on $C_6$

then if:

- the image of the apparent source does not have a uniform irradiance profile[3]; or
- the image of the apparent source consists of multiple points,

then measurements or evaluations shall be made for each of the following scenarios:

- for every single point; and
- for various assemblies of points; and
- for partial areas.

This is necessary in order to ensure that the AEL is not exceeded for each possible angle $\alpha$ subtended in each scenario. For the evaluation of assemblies of points or for partial areas, the angle of acceptance $\gamma$ is to be varied in each dimension between $\alpha_{min}$ and $\alpha_{max}$, i.e. $\alpha_{min} < \gamma < \alpha_{max}$, to determine the partial accessible emission associated with the respective scenario. For the comparison of these partial accessible emission levels with the respective AEL, the value of $\alpha$ is set equal to the angular subtense that is associated with the partial image of the apparent source.

Classification is to be based on the case where the ratio between:

- the partial accessible emission within a partial area over the angular subtense $\alpha$ of that area; and
- the corresponding AEL

is a maximum.

The angular subtense of a rectangular or linear source is determined by the arithmetic mean value of the two angular dimensions of the source. Any angular dimension that is greater than $\alpha_{max}$ or less than $\alpha_{min}$ shall be limited to $\alpha_{max}$ or $\alpha_{min}$ respectively, prior to calculating the mean.

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3 For a Gaussian beam profile (as produced by a $TEM_{00}$ beam), the angular subtense can be determined with the $d_{63}$ diameter (analogous to the beam diameter definition, see 3.13) and an analysis of partial areas is not necessary.

For the purpose of determining the angular subtense of a magnified non-circular source for Condition 1, the 7 × magnification described in c) should be applied independently for each axis prior to determining the arithmetic mean.

The photochemical limits (400 nm to 600 nm) do not depend on the angular subtense of the source, and the source is analysed with the limiting angle of acceptance specified in 5.4.3 b). For sources that are larger than the limiting angle of acceptance, the accessible emission has to be determined for the partial apparent source which produces the maximum emission value.

e) Time bases

The following time bases are used in this standard for classification:

1) 0,25 s for Class 2, Class 2M and Class 3R laser radiation in the wavelength range from 400 nm to 700 nm;
2) 100 s for laser radiation of all wavelengths greater than 400 nm except for the cases listed in 1) and 3);
3) 30 000 s for laser radiation of all wavelengths less than or equal to 400 nm and for laser radiation of wavelengths greater than 400 nm where intentional long-term viewing is inherent in the design or function of the laser product.

Every possible emission duration within the time base shall be considered when determining the classification of a product. This means that the emission level of a single pulse shall be compared to the AEL applicable to the duration of the pulse, etc. It is not sufficient to only average the emission level for the duration of the classification time base, or to merely perform the evaluation for the value of the time base without considering shorter emission durations.

NOTE 7 For a multi wavelength emission laser product with simultaneous and spatially overlapping emission in the visible and in the non-visible part of the spectrum, where the emission is assessed as additive (see Table 1), and where the visible part on its own would be classified as Class 2 or 2M or 3R and the non-visible part on its own would be classified as Class 1 or Class 1M, the time base for the assessment of the non-visible emission may be 0,25 s.

f) Repetitively pulsed or modulated lasers

The following methods shall be used to determine the class of the laser product to be applied to repetitive pulsed or modulated emissions.

As a general requirement, the accessible emission of any group of pulses (or sub-group of pulses in a train) delivered in any given time shall not exceed the AEL for that given time (see also 4.3 e) regarding considering every possible emission duration).

For all wavelengths, requirements 1) and 2) shall be assessed. In addition, for wavelengths from 400 nm to 1 400 nm, requirement 3) shall also be assessed for comparison with thermal limits. Requirement 3) does not need to be assessed for comparison with photochemical limits nor for the determination of the AEL of Class 3B.

The class (see Tables 3 to 8) is determined by applying the most restrictive of 1), 2) and, where applicable, 3).

1) The exposure from any single pulse within a pulse train shall not exceed the AEL for a single pulse ($AEL_{single.}$). For the determination of the accessible emission for an extended source, the pulse duration is used to determine $\alpha_{max}$ and the angle of acceptance $\gamma_{th}$ (see 5.4.3 b) and Table 9).
2) The average power for a pulse train of emission duration $T$ shall not exceed the power corresponding to the AEL for a single pulse of duration $T$ ($AEL_T$). For the determination of the accessible emission for an extended source, the emission duration $T$ is used to determine $\alpha_{max}$ and the angle of acceptance $\gamma_{th}$ (see 5.4.3 b) and Table 9).

   For irregular pulse patterns (including varying pulse energies), $T$ has to be varied between $T_i$ (see Table 2) and the time base. For regular pulse patterns it is sufficient to average over the time base, ($T$ is set equal to the time base).

   NOTE 8 For comparison of $AEL_T$ with $AEL_{single}$ or $AEL_{s.p.train}$, to determine which one of the criteria is most restrictive, $AEL_T$ is expressed as energy or radiant exposure and is divided by $N$ and is termed $AEL_{s.p.T}$.

3) The energy per pulse shall not exceed the AEL for a single pulse multiplied by the correction factor $C_5$.

$$\mathrm{AEL}_{\mathrm{s.p.train}} = \mathrm{AEL}_{\mathrm{single}} \times C_5$$

where

$\mathrm{AEL}_{\mathrm{s.p.train}}$ is the AEL for a single pulse in the pulse train;

$\mathrm{AEL}_{\mathrm{single}}$ is the AEL for a single pulse (Tables 3 to 8);

$N$ is the effective number of pulses in the pulse train within the assessed emission duration (when pulses occur within $T_i$ (see Table 2), $N$ is less than the actual number of pulses, see below). The maximum emission duration that needs to be considered is $T_2$ (see Table 9) or the applicable time base, whichever is shorter.

$C_5$ is only applicable to individual pulse durations equal to or shorter than 0,25 s.

If pulse duration $t \leq T_i$, then:

For a time base less than or equal to 0,25 s, $C_5 = 1,0$

For a time base larger than 0,25 s

If $N \leq 600$ $C_5 = 1,0$

If $N > 600$ $C_5 = 5\ N^{-0,25}$ with a minimum value of $C_5 = 0,4$.

If pulse duration $t > T_i$, then:

For $\alpha \leq 5$ mrad:

$C_5 = 1,0$

For 5 mrad $< \alpha \leq \alpha_{max}$:

$C_5 = N^{-0,25}$ for $N \leq 40$

$C_5 = 0,4$ for $N > 40$

For $\alpha > \alpha_{max}$:

$C_5 = N^{-0,25}$ for $N \leq 625$

$C_5 = 0,2$ for $N > 625$

Unless $\alpha > 100$ mrad, where $C_5 = 1,0$ in all cases.

If multiple pulses appear within the period of $T_i$ (see Table 2), they are counted as a single pulse to determine $N$ and the energies of the individual pulses are added to be compared to the AEL of $T_i$.

In some cases, the calculated value for $\mathrm{AEL}_{\mathrm{s.p.train}}$ may fall below the AEL that would apply for CW operation at the same peak power using the same time base. Under these circumstances, the AEL for CW operation may be used.

**Table 2 – Times below which pulse groups are summed**

| **Wavelength** nm | $T_i$ s |
|---|---|
| $400 \leq \lambda < 1\ 050$ | $5 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| $1\ 050 \leq \lambda < 1\ 400$ | $13 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| $1\ 400 \leq \lambda < 1\ 500$ | $10^{-3}$ |
| $1\ 500 \leq \lambda < 1\ 800$ | 10 |
| $1\ 800 \leq \lambda < 2\ 600$ | $10^{-3}$ |
| $2\ 600 \leq \lambda \leq 10^6$ | $10^{-7}$ |

NOTE 9 Examples of calculations are given in Annex B.

### 4.4 Laser products designed to function as conventional lamps

For laser products, except for toys, which are designed to function as conventional lamps and emit visible and near infrared optical radiation (400 nm to 1400 nm) from extended sources with angular subtense $\alpha$ greater than 5 mrad at 200 mm distance, and having total (400 nm to 1400 nm) un-weighted peak radiance levels averaged with an acceptance angle of 5 mrad not exceeding $L_T$ under operation and reasonably foreseeable single fault conditions, where

$$L_T = (1\ \mathrm{MW{\cdot}m^{-2}{\cdot}sr^{-1}})/\alpha$$

The emission may alternately be evaluated under the IEC 62471 series of standards, "Photobiological safety of lamps and lamp systems". For calculating $L_T$, the angular subtense $\alpha$ is expressed in radians and is determined at 200 mm from the closest point of human access. The value of $\alpha$ in the expression for $L_T$ is limited to values between 0,005 rad and 0,1 rad so that for sources that subtend an angle of 0,005 rad the applicable radiance criterion equals 200 $\mathrm{MW{\cdot}m^{-2}{\cdot}sr^{-1}}$, and for sources that are larger than 0,1 rad the applicable radiance criterion equals 10 $\mathrm{MW{\cdot}m^{-2}{\cdot}sr^{-1}}$.

NOTE 1 The above radiance values are not exposure limits or emission limits but are criteria to establish when the emitted radiation can be evaluated under the IEC 62471 series of standards.

NOTE 2 The optical radiation excluded from laser classification can be monochromatic.

Such a product needs to comply with and be classified according to this part of IEC 60825 except that the above-described optical radiation emission during normal operation and reasonably foreseeable single fault conditions need not be considered for classification (i.e. the above-described optical radiation emission during normal operation is not considered as accessible laser radiation). The product shall comply with the requirements of IEC 60825-1 for any laser radiation accessible during maintenance or service.

NOTE 3 If there is no laser radiation accessible from such a product during operation, other than described above that is evaluated under IEC 62471, it can be considered a Class 1 laser product.

Such a product shall be assigned a risk group under the IEC 62471 series of standards and shall contain a label stating the risk group as well as the laser product classification (including Class 1 if applicable) and applicable warnings.

Accessible laser emission with wavelengths below 400 nm or above 1 400 nm is to be considered in the classification of the product under this part of IEC 60825.

## 5 Determination of the accessible emission level and product classification

### 5.1 Tests

Tests shall take into account all errors and statistical uncertainties in the measurement process and increases in emission and degradation in radiation safety with age. Specific user requirements may impose additional tests. For additional guidance on measurements, refer to IEC/TR 60825-13.

Tests during operation shall be used to determine the classification of the product. Tests during operation, maintenance and service shall also be used as appropriate to determine the requirements for safety interlocks, labels and information for the user. The above tests shall be made under each and every reasonably foreseeable single-fault condition. However, if the emission is reduced to a level below the AEL by automatic reduction in a duration within which it is not reasonably foreseeable to have human access, then such faults need not be considered. The required reliability of the automatic reduction of the emission level to stay within a given class can be assessed on the principles of risk analyses, for instance as described in IEC 61508 where safety integrity levels (SIL) are specified. Additionally, to specify SIL levels, fault reaction times also need to be defined for the design of the automatic reduction; the target reaction time can also be based on the risk. A complete analysis according to IEC 61508 or application of IEC 61508 is not required.

Risk analysis may be used to assist in determining reasonably foreseeable single fault conditions. To determine if a single fault condition is considered as reasonably foreseeable or not, both the probability (frequency) for the fault as well as the risk for injury (probability of exposure to a level that could induce injury and severity of injury) is to be considered. The lower the risk for injury from a given fault, the "more frequent" can the fault (that would result in a given emission level) be tolerated and not be considered for classification. An acceptable mode of analysis of the probability and risk regarding failures are FMEA (failure mode and effect analysis), and the procedures described in IEC 61508.

NOTE 1 Automatic reduction includes physical limitation of the emission such as component or system failure to a safe condition. It does not include manual reduction or termination of the emission.

NOTE 2 For example, a scanning safeguard may not react fast enough to prevent emission above the AEL during the fault condition; however, this might be acceptable based on the results of a risk analysis.

NOTE 3 Classification is determined during operation, and restrictions on maintenance are then dependent upon the classification of the product.

NOTE 4 Single fault conditions can be assessed by methods other than physically inducing the fault for the test.

When assessing the suitability of protective housings for the prevention of human access to a level of energy that is equivalent to Class 4, single fault events for all reasonably foreseeable changes of direction of the beam shall be considered. The analysis shall include whether the single fault event will result in sufficient energy to degrade or destroy the protective housing. For example, when during operation or single fault condition, the introduction of robotics or other beam manipulation mechanisms, or the use of optics or workpieces would result in energy being directed onto the surface of the protective housing, one of the following shall occur:

– the single fault shall be eliminated by engineering means; or
– the protective housing material shall withstand the energy without degradation of its protective properties sufficient to allow a hazardous exposure to laser energy; or
– the fault shall be detected and emission of laser radiation through the protective housing shall be prevented before degradation can occur.

Evaluation times of the protective housing of less than 30 000 s as specified in IEC 60825-4 are not applied for the classification of the product.

NOTE 5 This is because the class is determined without considering human intervention (see 6.2.1) and, therefore, inspection of the protective housing by the user is not considered.

NOTE 6 Protective housing evaluations that consider human inspection, or intervention, can be used to establish levels of safety, or for the detection of potential degradation of the protective housing which results from reasonably unforeseeable fault events, or multiple fault events, independent of the product classification.

Optical amplifiers shall be classified using the maximum accessible total output power or energy, which may include maximum rated input power or energy. In those cases where there is no clear output power or energy limit, the maximum power or energy added by the amplifier plus the necessary input signal power or energy to achieve that condition should be used.

Tests and procedures that are equivalent to those specified in Clause 5 are acceptable.

## 5.2 Measurement of laser radiation

Measurement of laser radiation levels may be necessary to classify a laser product in accordance with 5.1. Measurements are unnecessary when the physical characteristics and limitations of the laser source place the laser product or laser installation clearly in a particular class (however, the principles given in a) to f) need to be considered).

Any measurements shall be made under the following conditions and procedures.

a) Conditions and procedures which maximize the accessible emission levels, including start-up, stabilized emission and shut-down of the laser product.

b) With all controls and settings listed in the operation, maintenance and service instructions adjusted in combination to result in the maximum accessible level of radiation. Measurements are also required with the use of accessories that may increase the radiation hazard (for example, collimating optics) which are supplied or offered by the manufacturer for use with the product and that can be added or removed without tools.

NOTE This includes any configuration of the product which it is possible to attain without using tools or defeating an interlock, including configurations and settings against which the operation and maintenance instructions contain warnings. For example, when optical elements such as filters, diffusers or lenses in the optical path of the laser beam can be removed without tools, the product must be tested in the configuration which results in the highest hazard level. The instruction by the manufacturer not to remove the optical elements cannot justify classification as a lower class. Classification is based on the engineering design of the product and cannot be based on appropriate behaviour of the user.

c) For a laser product other than a laser system, with the laser coupled to that type of laser energy source which is specified as compatible by the laser product manufacturer and which produces the maximum emission of accessible radiation from the product.

d) At points in space to which human access is possible during operation for measurement of accessible emission levels (for example, if operation may require removal of portions of the protective housing and defeat of safety interlocks, measurements shall be made at points accessible in that product configuration).

e) With the measuring instrument detector so positioned and so oriented with respect to the laser product as to result in the maximum detection of radiation by the instrument.

f) Appropriate provision shall be made to avoid or to eliminate the contribution of collateral radiation to the measurement.

### 5.3 Determination of the class of the laser product

The AELs of Class 1 and 1M are given in Tables 3 and 4, the AEL of Class 2 in Table 5, the AEL of Class 3R in Table 6 and 7, and the AEL of Class 3B in Table 8. The correction factors $C_1$ to $C_7$ and breakpoints $T_1$ and $T_2$ used in Tables 3 to 8 are defined in Table 9.

a) Classes 1 and 1M

Class 1 is applicable to the wavelength range of 180 nm to 1 mm. Class 1M is applicable to the wavelength range of 302,5 nm to 4 000 nm. For determination of the accessible emission under Condition 1 and Condition 3, see Table 10.

For wavelengths less than 302,5 nm and greater than 4 000 nm, if the accessible emission is less than or equal to the AEL of Class 1 for Condition 3, then the laser product is assigned to Class 1.

For wavelengths between 302,5 nm and 4 000 nm:

If the accessible emission is:

– less than or equal to the AEL of Class 1 for Condition 1 and Condition 3,

then the laser product is assigned to Class 1.

If the accessible emission is:

– greater than the AEL of Class 1 for Condition 1; and

– less than the AEL of Class 3B for Condition 1; and

– less than or equal to the AEL of Class 1 for Condition 3,

then the laser product is assigned to Class 1M.

NOTE 1 The reason for verifying the AEL of Class 3B is to limit the maximum power passing through an optical instrument for the case of exposure to a beam from a Class 1M laser product.

If the accessible emission exceeds the AEL of Class 3B as determined with a 3,5 mm diameter aperture placed at the closest point of human access, an additional warning regarding a potential skin hazard and/or cornea/iris hazard shall be given (see 7.13).

NOTE 2 It is possible that a Class 1 laser product with a highly diverging beam can produce high enough irradiance levels near to or in contact with the source (for instance, a fibre tip) so that skin or iris injury is possible. Corneal injury may also be possible under these conditions for wavelengths longer than 1 000 nm.

b) Class 1C

Class 1C is applicable when the laser radiation is intended to be applied in contact with the intended target and has safeguards that prevent leakage of laser radiation in excess of the AEL of Class 1. The laser product can be assigned to Class 1C only if it also complies with a set of safety requirements for Class 1C laser products that can be found in an applicable IEC vertical standard.

Laser products intended to be used in contact-mode at the human skin and non-ocular tissue can be classified Class 1C only if a standard in the IEC 60601 or IEC 60335 series applies and contains a set of safety requirements expressively attributed to Class 1C laser products. Such Class 1C laser products shall incorporate engineering controls to ensure that exposure of laser radiation to the eye is not reasonably foreseeable. Classification as Class 1C is only permitted if an applicable IEC standard exists, which specifies engineering controls to prevent emission into the surrounding space or to the eye and limits the exposure of the intended target tissue to levels that are appropriate for the intended application.

For the test of stray-light or leakage radiation the AEL of Class 1 shall not be exceeded under Condition 3 with the applicator placed at the operational distance or in contact with a diffusing white surface.

NOTE 3 Typical Class 1C laser products would include those intended for hair removal, skin wrinkle reduction and acne reduction, including those for home-use.

c) Classes 2 and 2M

Classes 2 and 2M are applicable to the wavelength range of 400 nm to 700 nm. For determination of the accessible emission under Condition 1 and Condition 3, see Table 10.

If the accessible emission exceeds the limits as required for Class 1 and for Class 1M (see item a) above), and is:

– less than or equal to the AEL of Class 2 for Condition 1 and Condition 3,

then the laser product is assigned to Class 2.

If the accessible emission exceeds the limits as required for Class 1 and for Class 1M (see item a) above), and is:

– greater than the AEL of Class 2 for Condition 1; and

– less than the AEL of Class 3B for Condition 1; and

– less than or equal to the AEL of Class 2 for Condition 3,

then the laser product is assigned to Class 2M.

NOTE 4 The reason for verifying the AEL of Class 3B is to limit the maximum power passing through an optical instrument for the case of exposure to a beam from a Class 2M laser product.

If the accessible emission exceeds the AEL of Class 3B as determined with a 3,5 mm diameter aperture placed at the closest point of human access, an additional warning regarding a potential skin hazard and/or cornea/iris hazard shall be given (see 7.13).

NOTE 5 It is possible that a Class 2 laser product with a highly diverging beam can produce high enough irradiance levels near to or in contact with the source (for instance, a fibre tip) so that skin or iris injury is possible.

Outside the wavelength range from 400 nm to 700 nm, any additional emissions of Class 2 lasers shall be below the AEL of Class 1 (see 4.3 e) for time base). Additionally, if the wavelengths are additive for the eye (see Table 1), the sum of the ratios of the accessible visible light to the AEL for Class 2 and the accessible invisible light to the AEL for Class 1 shall be less than 1.

d) Class 3R

If the accessible emission, as determined according to 5.4, for Condition 1 and Condition 3 is:

– less than or equal to the AEL of Class 3R, and
– the accessible emission determined with Condition 3 exceeds the AEL for Class 1 and Class 2, as applicable

then the laser product is assigned to Class 3R.

If the accessible emission exceeds the AEL of Class 3B as determined with a 3,5 mm diameter aperture placed at the closest point of human access, an additional warning regarding a potential skin hazard and/or cornea/iris hazard shall be given (see 7.13).

NOTE 6 It is possible that a Class 3R laser product with a highly diverging beam can produce high enough irradiance levels near to or in contact with the source (for instance, a fibre tip) so that skin or iris injury is possible. Corneal injury may also be possible under these conditions for wavelengths longer than 1 000 nm.

e) Class 3B

If the accessible emission, as determined according to 5.4:

– is less than or equal to the AEL of Class 3B for Condition 1 and Condition 3, and
– exceeds the AEL for Class 3R for Condition 1 or Condition 3, and
– exceeds the AEL for Class 1 and Class 2 for Condition 3

then the laser product is assigned to Class 3B.

f) Class 4

If the accessible emission, as determined according to 5.4, either for Condition 1 or Condition 3, exceeds the AEL for Class 3B, the product shall be assigned to Class 4.

**Table 3 – Accessible emission limits for Class 1 and Class 1M laser products and $C_6$ = 1 [a, b]**

<table>
<tr><th rowspan="2">Wavelength<br>$\lambda$<br>nm</th><th colspan="11">Emission duration $t$<br>s</th></tr>
<tr><th>$10^{-13}$ to $10^{-11}$</th><th>$10^{-11}$ to $10^{-9}$</th><th>$10^{-9}$ to $10^{-7}$</th><th>$10^{-7}$ to $5 \times 10^{-6}$</th><th>$5 \times 10^{-6}$ to $1,3 \times 10^{-5}$</th><th>$1,3 \times 10^{-5}$ to $1 \times 10^{-3}$</th><th>$1 \times 10^{-3}$ to 0,35</th><th>0,35 to 10</th><th>10 to $10^2$</th><th>$10^2$ to $10^3$</th><th>$10^3$ to $3 \times 10^4$</th></tr>
<tr><td>180 to 302,5</td><td colspan="2">$3 \times 10^{10}$ W·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="9">30 J·m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
<tr><td>302,5 to 315</td><td colspan="2" rowspan="2">$2,4 \times 10^4$ W</td><td colspan="6">Thermal hazard<br>($t \le T_1$)<br>$7,9 \times 10^{-7}$ $C_1$ J<br>Photochemical hazard<br>$7,9 \times 10^{-7}$ $C_2$ J<br>($t > T_1$)</td><td colspan="3">$7,9 \times 10^{-7}$ $C_2$ J</td></tr>
<tr><td>315 to 400</td><td colspan="6">$7,9 \times 10^{-7}$ $C_1$ J</td><td colspan="2">$7,9 \times 10^{-3}$ J</td><td>$7,9 \times 10^{-6}$ W</td></tr>
<tr><td>400 to 450</td><td rowspan="3">$3,8 \times 10^{-8}$ J</td><td colspan="3" rowspan="3">$7,7 \times 10^{-8}$ J</td><td colspan="4" rowspan="3">$7 \times 10^{-4}$ $t^{0,75}$ J</td><td>$3,9 \times 10^{-3}$ J</td><td colspan="2" rowspan="2">$3,9 \times 10^{-5}$ $C_3$ W</td></tr>
<tr><td>450 to 500</td><td>$3,9 \times 10^{-3}$ $C_3$ J<br>and [c]<br>$3,9 \times 10^{-4}$ W</td></tr>
<tr><td>500 to 700</td><td colspan="3">$3,9 \times 10^{-4}$ W</td></tr>
<tr><td>700 to 1 050</td><td>$3,8 \times 10^{-8}$ J</td><td colspan="3">$7,7 \times 10^{-8}$ $C_4$ J</td><td colspan="4">$7 \times 10^{-4}$ $t^{0,75}$ $C_4$ J</td><td colspan="3" rowspan="2">$3,9 \times 10^{-4}$ $C_4$ $C_7$ W</td></tr>
<tr><td>1 050 to 1 400 [d]</td><td>$3,8 \times 10^{-8}$ $C_7$ J</td><td colspan="4">$7,7 \times 10^{-7}$ $C_7$ J</td><td colspan="3">$3,5 \times 10^{-3}$ $t^{0,75}$ $C_7$ J</td></tr>
<tr><td>1 400 to 1 500</td><td colspan="2">$8 \times 10^5$ W</td><td colspan="4">$8 \times 10^{-4}$ J</td><td>$4,4 \times 10^{-3}$ $t^{0,25}$ J</td><td>$10^{-2}$ $t$ J</td><td colspan="3" rowspan="4">$1,0 \times 10^{-2}$ W</td></tr>
<tr><td>1 500 to 1 800</td><td colspan="2">$8 \times 10^6$ W</td><td colspan="5">$8 \times 10^{-3}$ J</td><td>$1,8 \times 10^{-2}$ $t^{0,75}$ J</td></tr>
<tr><td>1 800 to 2 600</td><td colspan="2">$8 \times 10^5$ W</td><td colspan="4">$8 \times 10^{-4}$ J</td><td>$4,4 \times 10^{-3}$ $t^{0,25}$ J</td><td rowspan="2">$10^{-2}$ $t$ J</td></tr>
<tr><td>2 600 to 4 000</td><td colspan="2">$8 \times 10^4$ W</td><td>$8 \times 10^{-5}$ J</td><td colspan="4">$4,4 \times 10^{-3}$ $t^{0,25}$ J</td></tr>
<tr><td>4 000 to $10^6$</td><td colspan="2">$10^{11}$ W·m$^{-2}$</td><td>100 J·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="5">$5\,600$ $t^{0,25}$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="3">1 000 W·m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
</table>

NOTE Laser products that meet the requirements for classification as Class 1 by satisfying measurement Condition 1 may be hazardous when used with viewing optics having greater than ×7 magnification or objective diameters greater than those specified in Table 10.

[a] For correction factors and units, see Table 9.

[b] The AELs for emission durations less than $10^{-13}$ s are set to be equal to the equivalent power or irradiance values of the AEL at $10^{-13}$ s.

[c] In the wavelength range between 450 nm and 500 nm, dual limits apply and a product's emission shall not exceed either limit applicable to the class assigned.

[d] In the wavelength range between 1 250 nm and 1 400 nm, the upper value of the AEL is limited to the AEL value for Class 3B.

**Table 4 – Accessible emission limits for Class 1 and Class 1M laser products in the wavelength range from 400 nm to 1 400 nm (retinal hazard region): extended sources [a, b, c, d, e, f]**

| Wavelength $\lambda$ nm | Emission duration $t$ s | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | $10^{-13}$ to $10^{-11}$ | $10^{-11}$ to $5 \times 10^{-6}$ | $5 \times 10^{-6}$ to $1,3 \times 10^{-5}$ | $1,3 \times 10^{-5}$ to 10 [e] | 10 to $10^2$ | $10^2$ to $10^4$ | $10^4$ to $3 \times 10^4$ |
| 400 to 700 | $3,8 \times 10^{-8}\ C_6$ J | $7,7 \times 10^{-8}\ C_6$ J | $7 \times 10^{-4}\ t^{0,75}\ C_6$ J | | 400 nm to 600 nm – Retinal photochemical hazard [d,e] | | |
| | | | | | $3,9 \times 10^{-3}\ C_3$ J using $\gamma_{ph}$ = 11 mrad | $3,9 \times 10^{-5}\ C_3$ W using $\gamma_{ph} = 1,1\ t^{0,5}$ mrad | $3,9 \times 10^{-5}\ C_3$ W using $\gamma_{ph}$ = 110 mrad |
| | | | | | *AND* [c] | | |
| | | | | | 400 nm to 700 nm – Retinal thermal hazard | | |
| | | | | | $(t \le T_2)$ $7 \times 10^{-4}\ t^{0,75}\ C_6$ J / $7 \times 10^{-4}\ C_6\ T_2^{-0,25}$ W $(t > T_2)$ | | |
| 700 to 1 050 | $3,8 \times 10^{-8}\ C_6$ J | $7,7 \times 10^{-8}\ C_4\ C_6$ J | $7 \times 10^{-4}\ t^{0,75}\ C_4\ C_6$ J | | $(t \le T_2)$ $7 \times 10^{-4}\ t^{0,75}\ C_4\ C_6$ J / $7 \times 10^{-4}\ C_4\ C_6\ T_2^{-0,25}$ W $(t > T_2)$ | | |
| 1 050 to 1 400[f] | $3,8 \times 10^{-8}\ C_6\ C_7$ J | $7,7 \times 10^{-7}\ C_6\ C_7$ J | | $3,5 \times 10^{-3}\ t^{0,75}\ C_6\ C_7$ J | $(t \le T_2)$ $3,5 \times 10^{-3}\ t^{0,75}\ C_6\ C_7$ J / $3,5 \times 10^{-3}\ C_6\ C_7\ T_2^{-0,25}$ W $(t > T_2)$ | | |

NOTE Laser products that meet the requirements for classification as Class 1 by satisfying measurement Condition 1 may be hazardous when used with viewing optics having greater than ×7 magnification or objective diameters greater than those specified in Table 10.

a For correction factors and units, see Table 9.

b The AELs for emission duration less than $10^{-13}$ s are set to be equal to the equivalent power or irradiance values of the AEL at $10^{-13}$ s.

c In the wavelength range between 400 nm and 600 nm, dual limits apply and a product's emission shall not exceed either limit applicable to the class assigned.

d The angle $\gamma_{ph}$ is the limiting measurement angle of acceptance.

e If emission durations between 1 s and 10 s are used, for wavelengths between 400 nm and 484 nm and for apparent source sizes between 1,5 mrad and 82 mrad, the dual photochemical hazard limit of $3,9 \times 10^{-3}\ C_3$ J is extended to 1 s.

f In the wavelength range between 1 250 nm and 1 400 nm, the upper value of the AEL is limited to the AEL value for Class 3B.

**Table 5 – Accessible emission limits for Class 2 and Class 2M laser products**

| **Wavelength $\lambda$** nm | **Emission duration *t*** s | **Class 2 AEL** |
|---|---|---|
| 400 to 700 | $t < 0{,}25$ | Same as Class 1 AEL |
| | $t \geq 0{,}25$ | $C_6 \times 10^{-3}$ W [a] |
| NOTE Laser products that meet the requirements for classification as Class 2 by satisfying measurement Condition 1 may be hazardous when used with viewing optics having aperture diameters greater than those specified in Table 10 (see also Annex C). | | |
| [a] For correction factor and units, see Table 9. | | |

**Table 6 – Accessible emission limits for Class 3R laser products and $C_6 = 1$ [a, b, c]**

| Wavelength $\lambda$ nm | Emission duration $t$ s: $10^{-13}$ to $10^{-11}$ | $10^{-11}$ to $10^{-9}$ | $10^{-9}$ to $10^{-7}$ | $10^{-7}$ to $5 \times 10^{-6}$ | $5 \times 10^{-6}$ to $1,3 \times 10^{-5}$ | $1,3 \times 10^{-5}$ to $1 \times 10^{-3}$ | $1 \times 10^{-3}$ to 0,35 | 0,35 to 10 | 10 to $10^3$ | $10^3$ to $3 \times 10^4$ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 180 to 302,5 | $1,5 \times 10^{11}$ W·m$^{-2}$ | | 150 J·m$^{-2}$ | | | | | | | |
| 302,5 to 315 | $1,2 \times 10^5$ W | | Thermal hazard $4 \times 10^{-6}$ $C_1$ J ($t \le T_1$)[c] / Photochemical hazard $4,0 \times 10^{-6}$ $C_2$ J ($t > T_1$)[c] | | | | | | $4,0 \times 10^{-6}$ $C_2$ J | |
| 315 to 400 | | | $4,0 \times 10^{-6}$ $C_1$ J | | | | | | $4,0 \times 10^{-2}$ J | $4,0 \times 10^{-5}$ W |
| 400 to 700 | $1,9 \times 10^{-7}$ J | $3,8 \times 10^{-7}$ J | | | ($t < 0,25$ s) $3,5 \times 10^{-3}$ $t^{0,75}$ J / $5,0 \times 10^{-3}$ W ($t \ge 0,25$ s) | | | $5,0 \times 10^{-3}$ W | | |
| 700 to 1 050 | $1,9 \times 10^{-7}$ J | $3,8 \times 10^{-7}$ $C_4$ J | | | $3,5 \times 10^{-3}$ $t^{0,75}$ $C_4$ J | | | | $2,0 \times 10^{-3}$ $C_4$ $C_7$ W | |
| 1 050 to 1 400[d] | $1,9 \times 10^{-6}$ $C_7$ J | $3,8 \times 10^{-6}$ $C_7$ J | | | | $1,8 \times 10^{-2}$ $t^{0,75}$ $C_7$ J | | | | |
| 1 400 to 1 500 | $4 \times 10^6$ W | | $4 \times 10^{-3}$ J | | | | $2,2 \times 10^{-2}$ $t^{0,25}$ J | $5 \times 10^{-2}$ $t$ J | $5,0 \times 10^{-2}$ W | |
| 1 500 to 1 800 | $4 \times 10^7$ W | | $4 \times 10^{-2}$ J | | | | | $9 \times 10^{-2}$ $t^{0,75}$ J | | |
| 1 800 to 2 600 | $4 \times 10^6$ W | | $4 \times 10^{-3}$ J | | | | $2,2 \times 10^{-2}$ $t^{0,25}$ J | $5 \times 10^{-2}$ $t$ J | | |
| 2 600 to 4 000 | $4 \times 10^5$ W | | $4 \times 10^{-4}$ J | $2,2 \times 10^{-2}$ $t^{0,25}$ J | | | | | | |
| 4 000 to $10^6$ | $5 \times 10^{11}$ W·m$^{-2}$ | | 500 J·m$^{-2}$ | $2,8 \times 10^4$ $t^{0,25}$ J·m$^{-2}$ | | | | | 5 000 W·m$^{-2}$ | |

[a] For correction factors and units, see Table 9.

[b] The AELs for emission durations less than $10^{-13}$ s are set to be equal to the equivalent power or irradiance values of the AEL at $10^{-13}$ s.

[c] For repetitively pulsed UV lasers neither limit should be exceeded.

[d] In the wavelength range between 1 250 nm and 1 400 nm, the upper value of the AEL is limited to the AEL value for Class 3B.

**Table 7 – Accessible emission limits for Class 3R laser products in the wavelength range from 400 nm to 1 400 nm (retinal hazard region): extended sources [a, b]**

| Wavelength $\lambda$ nm | Emission duration $t$ s | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **$10^{-13}$ to $10^{-11}$** | **$10^{-11}$ to $5 \times 10^{-6}$** | **$5 \times 10^{-6}$ to $1,3 \times 10^{-5}$** | **$1,3 \times 10^{-5}$ to 0,25** | **0,25 to 10** | **10 to $3 \times 10^{4}$** |
| 400 to 700 | $1,9 \times 10^{-7}\ C_6$ J | $3,8 \times 10^{-7}\ C_6$ J | ($t < 0,25$ s) $3,5 \times 10^{-3}\ t^{0,75}\ C_6$ J / ($t \geq 0,25$ s) $5,0 \times 10^{-3}\ C_6$ W | | $5,0 \times 10^{-3}\ C_6$ W | |
| 700 to 1 050 | $1,9 \times 10^{-7}\ C_6$ J | $3,8 \times 10^{-7}\ C_4\ C_6$ J | $3,5 \times 10^{-3}\ t^{0,75}\ C_4\ C_6$ J | | | ($t \leq T_2$) $3,5 \times 10^{-3}\ t^{0,75}\ C_4\ C_6$ J / ($t > T_2$) $3,5 \times 10^{-3}\ C_4\ C_6\ T_2^{-0,25}$ W |
| 1 050 to 1 400[c] | $1,9 \times 10^{-6}\ C_6\ C_7$ J | $3,8 \times 10^{-6}\ C_6\ C_7$ J | | $1,8 \times 10^{-2}\ t^{0,75}\ C_6\ C_7$ J | | ($t \leq T_2$) $1,75 \times 10^{-2}\ t^{0,75}\ C_6\ C_7$ J / ($t > T_2$) $1,75 \times 10^{-2}\ C_6\ C_7\ T_2^{-0,25}$ W |

[a] For correction factors and units, see Table 9.

[b] The AELs for emission durations less than $10^{-13}$ s are set to be equal to the equivalent power or irradiance values of the AEL at $10^{-13}$ s.

[c] In the wavelength range between 1 250 nm and 1 400 nm, the upper value of the AEL is limited to the AEL value for Class 3B.

**Table 8 – Accessible emission limits for Class 3B laser products [a]**

| Wavelength $\lambda$ nm | Emission duration $t$ s | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | $<10^{-9}$ | $10^{-9}$ to 0,25 | 0,25 to $3 \times 10^{4}$ |
| 180 to 302,5 | $3{,}8 \times 10^{5}$ W | $3{,}8 \times 10^{-4}$ J | $1{,}5 \times 10^{-3}$ W |
| 302,5 to 315 | $1{,}25 \times 10^{4}\ C_2$ W | $1{,}25 \times 10^{-5}\ C_2$ J | $5 \times 10^{-5}\ C_2$ W |
| 315 to 400 | $1{,}25 \times 10^{8}$ W | 0,125 J | 0,5 W |
| 400 to 700 | $3 \times 10^{7}$ W | 0,03 J for $t < 0{,}06$ s<br>0,5 W for $t \geq 0{,}06$ s | 0,5 W |
| 700 to 1 050 | $3 \times 10^{7}\ C_4$ W | 0,03 $C_4$ J for $t < 0{,}06\ C_4$ s<br>0,5 W for $t \geq 0{,}06\ C_4$ s | 0,5 W |
| 1 050 to 1 400 | $1{,}5 \times 10^{8}$ W | 0,15 J | 0,5 W |
| 1 400 to $10^{6}$ | $1{,}25 \times 10^{8}$ W | 0,125 J | 0,5 W |

[a] For correction factors and units, see Table 9.

The correction factors $C_1$ to $C_7$ and breakpoints $T_1$ and $T_2$ used in Tables 3 to 8 are defined in Table 9.

**Table 9 – Correction factors and breakpoints for use in AEL and MPE evaluations**

| Parameter | Spectral region nm |
|---|---|
| $C_1 = 5{,}6 \times 10^{3}\ t^{0{,}25}$ | 180 to 400 |
| $T_1 = 10^{0{,}8(\lambda - 295)} \times 10^{-15}$ s | 302,5 to 315 |
| $C_2 = 30$ | 180 to 302,5 |
| $C_2 = 10^{0{,}2(\lambda - 295)}$ | 302,5 to 315 |
| $T_2 = 10 \times 10^{[(\alpha - \alpha_{min})/98{,}5]}$ s for $\alpha_{min} < \alpha \leq 100$ mrad | 400 to 1 400 |
| $T_2 = 10$ s for $\alpha \leq 1{,}5$ mrad | 400 to 1 400 |
| $T_2 = 100$ s for $\alpha > 100$ mrad | 400 to 1 400 |
| $C_3 = 1{,}0$ | 400 to 450 |
| $C_3 = 10^{0{,}02(\lambda - 450)}$ | 450 to 600 |
| $C_4 = 10^{0{,}002(\lambda - 700)}$ | 700 to 1 050 |
| $C_4 = 5$ | 1 050 to 1 400 |
| $C_5 = 1$ [a] | 180 to 400 and 1 400 to $10^{6}$ |
| $C_5 = N^{-1/4}$ [a] | 400 to 1 400 |
| $C_6 = 1$ | 180 to 400 and 1 400 to $10^{6}$ |
| $C_6 = 1$ for $\alpha \leq \alpha_{min}$ [b] | 400 to 1 400 |
| $C_6 = \alpha / \alpha_{min}$ for $\alpha_{min} < \alpha \leq \alpha_{max}$ [b] | 400 to 1 400 |
| $C_6 = \alpha_{max} / \alpha_{min}$ for $\alpha > \alpha_{max}$ [b,c] | 400 to 1 400 |
| $C_7 = 1$ | 700 to 1 150 |
| $C_7 = 10^{0{,}018(\lambda - 1\,150)}$ | 1 150 to 1 200 |
| $C_7 = 8 + 10^{0{,}04(\lambda - 1\,250)}$ | 1 200 to 1 400 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| $\alpha_{min}$ = | 1,5 mrad | | |
| $\alpha_{max}$ = | 5 mrad | for | $t$ < 625 µs |
| | 200 $t^{0,5}$ mrad | for | 625 µs ≤ $t$ ≤ 0,25 s |
| | 100 mrad | for | $t$ > 0,25 s |
| *N* is the number of pulses contained within the applicable duration (4.3 f) and Clause A.3). | | | |

NOTE 1 There is only limited evidence about effects for exposures of less than $10^{-9}$ s for wavelengths less than 400 nm and greater than 1 400 nm. The AELs for these emission durations and wavelengths have been derived by calculating the equivalent radiant power or irradiance from the radiant power or radiant exposure applying at $10^{-9}$ s for wavelengths less than 400 nm and greater than 1 400 nm.

NOTE 2 See Table 10 for aperture stops and Table A.4 for limiting apertures.

NOTE 3 In the formulae in Tables 3 to 8 and in these notes, the wavelength is expressed in nanometres, the emission duration *t* is expressed in seconds and α is expressed in milliradians.

NOTE 4 For emission durations which fall at the cell border values (for instance 10 s) in Tables 3 to 8, the lower limit applies. Where at cell borders (i.e. not applying to explicit equations) the symbol "<" is used, this means less than or equal to. When wavelength ranges are specified, wavelength range $\lambda_1$ to $\lambda_2$ means $\lambda_1 \le \lambda < \lambda_2$.

[a] $C_5$ is only applicable to pulse durations shorter than 0,25 s. See rules to determine $C_5$ in 4.3 f).

[b] $C_6$ is only applicable for thermal retinal limits.

[c] The maximum limiting angle of acceptance $\gamma_{th}$ shall be equal to $\alpha_{max}$ (but see 4.3 c)).

## 5.4 Measurement geometry

### 5.4.1 General

Two measurement conditions are specified for the determination of the accessible emission. Condition 1 is applied for wavelengths where aided viewing of collimated beams with telescopic optics may increase the hazard. Condition 3 applies to the unaided eye. For power and energy measurement of scanned laser radiation, only Condition 3 shall be used.

For classification of laser products intended for use exclusively indoors and where intrabeam viewing with telescopic optics such as binoculars is not reasonably foreseeable, it is not required to apply Condition 1.

NOTE 1 Measurement Condition 3 also includes an evaluation of the radiation accessible for viewing with a low power magnifying glass. Viewing with higher power magnifying optics as might occur with fibre optic systems is covered in IEC 60825-2. Limitations of the classification scheme are discussed in Clause C.3, suggesting cases where additional risk analysis and warnings might be appropriate. Condition 2 was used in previous editions of this Part 1 as the "magnifying glass" condition.

The most restrictive of the applicable measurement conditions shall be applied. If the most restrictive condition is not obvious, both conditions shall be evaluated. For Classes 1M or 2M, both conditions always need to be evaluated.

The following two evaluation schemes are specified.

a) A simplified (default) method, where the test for classification is performed at a fixed distance (see Table 10) relative to a reference point which usually can be easily identified (see Table 11). For this simplified evaluation, it is not necessary to determine the angular subtense of the apparent source, as $C_6$ (see Table 9) is set equal to unity.

b) For radiation with wavelengths in the retinal hazard region of 400 nm to 1 400 nm, when the AEL is increased by a parameter $C_6$ with values greater than 1 for extended sources, it is necessary to assess the class of the product (i.e. to compare the accessible emission value with the corresponding AEL) at the most restrictive position in the beam. This second method is more complicated than the default evaluation in a) above, but, for extended sources, it can allow higher accessible emission values.

NOTE 2 The most restrictive position is in many cases not at a distance of 100 mm to the reference point used for the basic evaluation, but further away. Determination of the angular subtense of the apparent source at a distance of 100 mm from the reference point would in those cases result in an AEL which exceeds the AEL determined at the most restrictive position.

If the simplified (default) evaluation results in the desired classification, there is no need to perform the complete evaluation for extended sources (see 5.4.3), even though the actual source might be extended and the actual factor $C_6$ might be greater than 1 and the most restrictive position is different from the position as given in Table 10.

NOTE 3 If the source is a bare laser diode or if it emits a well collimated laser beam, the simplified (default) evaluation is usually the appropriate one, i.e. produces equivalent results to the extended source method as described in 5.4.3.

### 5.4.2 Default (simplified) evaluation

The default, simplified measurement distances in Table 10 are applicable:

– for sources with wavelengths less than 400 nm and larger than 1 400 nm, or

– if the factor $C_6$ is set equal to 1, or

– for the photochemical retinal limit for time base values longer than 100 s when the measurement angle of acceptance is not restricted (i.e. shall be at least as large as the angular subtense of the apparent source),

– for other limits that are neither photochemical nor thermal (i.e. do not depend on $C_6$) retinal limits (such as the AEL of Class 3B).

The distances specified in Table 10 are defined as distance from the reference points listed in Table 11.

**Table 10 – Measurement aperture diameters and measurement distances for the default (simplified) evaluation**

| | **Condition 1**<br>*applied to collimated beam where e.g. telescope or binoculars may increase the hazard*[a] | | **Condition 2**<br>*Applicable to optical fibre communication systems, see IEC 60825-2* | **Condition 3**<br>*applied to determine irradiation relevant for the unaided eye, for low power magnifiers and for scanning beams* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Wavelength**<br>nm | **Aperture stop**<br>mm | **Distance**<br>mm | | **Aperture stop/ limiting aperture**<br>mm | **Distance**<br>mm |
| < 302,5 | – | – | | 1 | 0 |
| ≥ 302,5 to 400 | 7 | 2 000 | | 1 | 100 |
| ≥ 400 to 1 400 | 50 | 2 000 | See Note 1 under 5.4.1 | 7 | 100 |
| ≥ 1 400 to 4 000 | 7 × Condition 3 | 2 000 | See Note 1 under 5.4.1 | 1 for $t \leq 0{,}35$ s<br>1,5 $t^{3/8}$ for 0,35 s < $t$ < 10 s<br>3,5 for $t \geq 10$ s ($t$ in s) | 100 |
| ≥ 4 000 to $10^5$ | – | – | | 1 for $t \leq 0{,}35$ s<br>1,5 $t^{3/8}$ for 0,35 s < $t$ < 10 s<br>3,5 for $t \geq 10$ s ($t$ in s) | 0 |
| ≥ $10^5$ to $10^6$ | – | – | | 11 | 0 |
| NOTE The descriptions below the “Condition” headings are typical cases for information only and are not intended to be exclusive. | | | | | |
| [a] Condition 1 is not applied for classification of laser products intended for use exclusively indoors and where intrabeam viewing with telescopic optics such as binocular telescopes is not reasonably foreseeable. | | | | | |

**Table 11 – Reference points for Condition 3**

| Type of product | Reference point |
|---|---|
| Semiconductor emitters (e.g. laser diodes, superluminescent diodes) | Physical location of the emitting chip |
| Scanned emission (including scanned line lasers) | Scanning vertex (pivot point of the scanning beam) |
| Line laser | Focal point of the line (vertex of the fan angle) |
| Output of fibre | Fibre tip |
| Totally diffused sources | Surface of diffuser |
| Others | Beam waist |
| For measurements under Condition 3, if the reference point is located inside of the protective housing (i.e. is not accessible) at a distance from the closest point of human access further than the measurement distance specified in Table 10, the measurement shall be carried out at the closest point of human access. For Condition 1, measurements are to be carried out at a minimum of 2 m from the closest point of human access, regardless of the location of the source. | |

### 5.4.3 Evaluation condition for extended sources

For wavelengths in the retinal hazard range (400 nm to 1 400 nm), the accessible emission and the AEL for classification shall be determined at the most restrictive position:

– when a value of $C_6$ larger than 1 is considered for determination of the AEL, or

– when a limited angle of acceptance is considered for the determination of the accessible emission for comparison with photochemical retinal limits.

The accessible emission and the AEL ($C_6$) are determined together (i.e. they are paired values) at different positions within the beam, and the values obtained for the most restrictive position are used to determine the class of the product. This implies that the accessible emission (that is compared with the AEL) and the AEL are determined for the same position within the beam, i.e. the angular subtense of the apparent source $\alpha$ (and therefore $C_6$) is determined at the position of the aperture stop that is used to determine the accessible emission. For measurement Condition 3 the measurement location is never closer than the default measurement distance from the reference point and for Condition 1, the measurement location is never closer than 2 metres from the closest point of human access to the product and is never closer than 2 metres from the small source measurement reference point. In the case where the divergence of the laser beam is less than 1,5 mrad, then the angular subtense of the apparent source $\alpha$ is smaller than $\alpha_{min}$ and the determination of the accessible emission may be performed under the conditions specified in 5.4.2.

NOTE 1 If the source is diffuse, for instance a laser beam incident on a transmissive diffuser plate, then the diffuser can be considered as the location of the apparent source and the emission pattern at the diffuser is used to determine the angular subtense of the apparent source (see 4.3 d)) for the evaluation method of non-uniform patterns).

NOTE 2 In some more complex arrangements with multiple sources or multiple focal points, it may be more appropriate to use a more elaborate technique, such as ray tracing.

NOTE 3 For laser products emitting a scanned beam, depending on the accommodation condition to image the apparent source, a scanning beam can result in the image of the apparent source being scanned across the retina, resulting in a moving apparent source. If a moving apparent source is to be accounted for in the classification, the classification of the product is based on the evaluation method described here for extended sources (in contrast to the simplified analysis where a small source is assumed to be stationary). The moving apparent source is to be evaluated as described in 4.3. d) with due consideration of the repetitive pulse nature of the accessible emission determined with the respective angle of acceptance.

a) Aperture diameters

For Condition 1 and Condition 3, for the determination of the accessible emission, as well as the angular subtense of the apparent source (both of which are to be determined at the most restrictive position in the beam), the aperture diameters and minimum measuring distances as specified in Table 10 shall be used (see Figures 1 and 2).

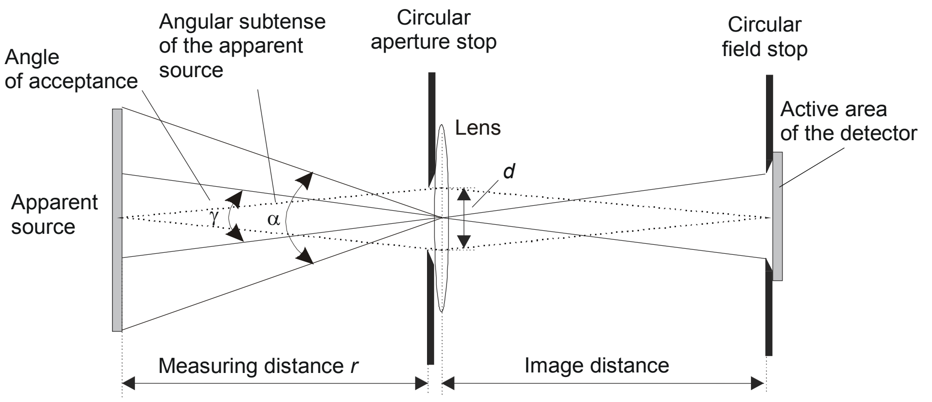
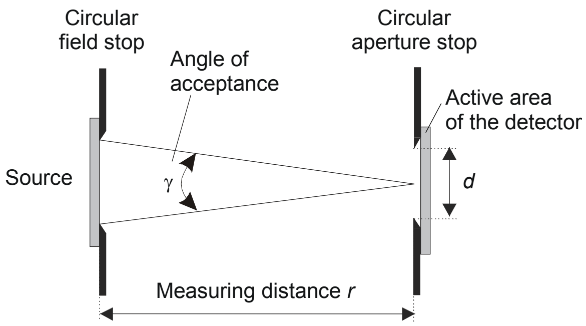



**Figure 1 – Measurement set-up to limit angle of acceptance by imaging the apparent source onto the plane of the field stop**




NOTE When the apparent source is not accessible, this set-up is not appropriate.

**Figure 2 – Measurement set-up to limit angle of acceptance by placing a circular aperture or a mask (serving as field stop) close to the apparent source**

b) Angle of acceptance

The angle of acceptance is the angle subtended by the diameter of the field stop from a point at the center of the lens in Figure 1 (for small angles), or by the ratio of the diameter of the field stop and the source-detector distance (Figure 2). Losses due to the lens have to be taken into account.

For Condition 3, the angle of acceptance for the determination of the accessible emission level shall be as stated in 1) and 2) below. For Condition 1, the angle of acceptance is determined by dividing the values given in 1) and 2) by a factor 7.

1) Photochemical retinal limits

For measurements of sources to be evaluated against the photochemical limits (400 nm to 600 nm), the limiting angle of acceptance $\gamma_{ph}$ is given in Table 12.

**Table 12 – Limiting angle of acceptance $\gamma_{ph}$**

| Emission duration<br>s | $\gamma_{ph}$ for Condition 1<br>mrad | $\gamma_{ph}$ for Condition 3<br>mrad |
|---|---|---|
| $10 < t \leq 100$ | 1,6 | 11 |
| $100 < t \leq 10^4$ | $0{,}16 \times t^{0{,}5}$ | $1{,}1 \times t^{0{,}5}$ |
| $10^4 < t \leq 3 \times 10^4$ | 16 | 110 |

If the angular subtense of the source $\alpha$ is larger than the specified limiting angle of acceptance $\gamma_{ph}$, the angle of acceptance should not be larger than the values specified for $\gamma_{ph}$. If the angular subtense of the source $\alpha$ is smaller than the specified limiting angle of acceptance $\gamma_{ph}$, the angle of acceptance shall fully encompass the source under consideration but need not, otherwise, be well defined (i.e. the angle of acceptance need not be restricted to $\gamma_{ph}$).

NOTE 5 For measurements of single sources where $\alpha < \gamma_{ph}$, it will not be necessary to measure with a specific, well-defined angle of acceptance. To obtain a well-defined angle of acceptance, the angle of acceptance can be defined by either imaging the source onto a field stop or by masking off the source – see Figures 1 and 2 respectively.

2) All other retinal limits

For measurement of radiation to be compared to retinal limits other than the photochemical limits, the angle of acceptance shall fully encompass the source under consideration (i.e. the angle of acceptance shall be at least as large as the angular subtense of the source $\alpha$). However, if $\alpha > \alpha_{max}$ the limiting angle of acceptance is $\alpha_{max}$. Within the wavelength range of 400 nm to 1 400 nm, for the evaluation of an apparent source with irregular irradiance profile of the image of the apparent source (source radiance profile), e.g. consisting of multiple points, the angle of acceptance has to be varied in the range of $\alpha_{min} \leq \gamma \leq \alpha_{max}$ (see 4.3 d)).

# 6 Engineering specifications

## 6.1 General remarks and modifications

Laser products require certain built-in safety features, depending on the class to which they have been assigned by the manufacturer. The requirements for these are given in 6.2 to 6.13. The manufacturer shall ensure that the personnel responsible for the classification of laser products and systems have received training to an appropriate level that allows them to understand the full implications of the classification scheme.

If the modification of a previously classified laser product affects any aspects of the product's performance or intended functions within the scope of this standard, the person or organization performing any such modification is responsible for ensuring the reclassification and relabelling of the laser product.

NOTE The term modification is understood to be limited to those modifications that change the classification or the conformance with this standard.

## 6.2 Protective housing

### 6.2.1 General

Each laser product shall have a protective housing which, when in place, prevents human access to laser radiation (including errant laser radiation) in excess of the AEL for Class 1, except when human access is necessary for the performance of the function(s) of the product.

When the classification of a laser product is based on the prevention of human access to a level of energy that is equivalent to Class 4 (for instance, for laser processing machines), the protective housing shall withstand exposures under reasonably foreseeable single fault conditions (see 5.1), without human intervention. If the protective housing is of a size that permits human entry, see 6.13.

Maintenance of Class 1, 1C, 1M, 2, 2M, or 3R laser products shall not permit human access to levels of laser radiation of Class 3B or Class 4. Maintenance of Class 3B laser products shall not permit human access to levels of laser radiation of Class 4.

### 6.2.2 Service

Any parts of the protective housing of a laser product (including embedded laser products) that can be removed or displaced for service and which would allow access to laser radiation in excess of the AEL assigned and are not interlocked (see 6.3) shall be secured in such a way that removal or displacement of the parts requires the use of a tool or tools.

### 6.2.3 Removable laser system

If a laser system can be removed from its protective housing and operated by simply plugging into electrical mains or a battery, the laser system shall comply with the manufacturing requirements of Clauses 6 and 7 that are appropriate to its class.

## 6.3 Access panels and safety interlocks

**6.3.1** A safety interlock shall be provided for access panels of protective housings when both of the following conditions are met:

a) the access panel is intended to be removed or displaced during maintenance or operation, and

b) the removal or displacement of the panel would give access to laser radiation levels designated by "X" in Table 13 below.

The applicability of a safety interlock is indicated by (X) in Table 13 below.

**Table 13 – Requirements for safety interlocking**

| Product class | Radiation levels that would be accessible during or after removal of access panel if there were no interlock or for overridden interlock | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1, 1M | 2, 2M | 3R | 3B | 4 |
| 1, 1M, 1C | – | – | X | X | X |
| 2, 2M | – | – | X | X | X |
| 3R | – | – | – | X | X |
| 3B | – | – | – | X | X |
| 4 | – | – | – | X | X |

Removal or opening of an interlocked panel of a Class 1, 1C, 1M, 2, or 2M laser product shall not result in emission through the opening in excess of the AEL of Class 1M, or 2M, as applicable according to the wavelength, unless the interlock is defeated after opening the panel. Removal or opening of an interlocked panel of a Class 3R, 3B, or 4 laser product shall not result in emission through the opening in excess of the AEL of Class 3R unless the interlock is defeated after opening the panel. A higher class of laser power/energy can be emitted out of the opened panel with the interlock defeated.

NOTE Emission above the AEL of the product class that is intended during operation would cause the product classification to increase. Emission above the AEL of the product class that is intended during maintenance may impact the product classification (see 6.2.1).

When a safety interlock is required, the safety interlock shall prevent access to radiation levels designated by X in Table 13 when the panel is removed. Inadvertent resetting of the interlock shall not in itself restore emission values above the applicable AEL in Table 13. These interlocks shall conform to the requirements in the applicable IEC product safety standard (see Clause 1).

The requirements of 5.1 regarding reasonably foreseeable single fault conditions also apply to safety interlocks.

**6.3.2** If a deliberate override mechanism is provided, the manufacturer shall also provide adequate instructions about safe methods of working. It shall not be possible to leave the override in operation when the access panel is returned to its normal position. An exception to this requirement is allowed if selection of a service "override" mode automatically isolates the laser beam and prevents automatic resumption of operation of the machine. This exception also requires a lockable mode selector and requires a manual override to use the beam.

The interlock circuit should nevertheless be arranged (through lock relay contacts or other technology) such that even in the override mode, if an open door is closed, it automatically returns to normal interlock operation (eliminating potential 'false safe' assumptions about the panel or door).

The interlock shall be clearly associated with a label conforming to 7.10.2. Use of the override shall give rise to a distinct visible or audible warning whenever the laser is energized or capacitor banks are not fully discharged, whether or not the access panel is removed or displaced. Visible warnings shall be clearly visible through protective eyewear specifically designed or specified for the wavelength(s) of the accessible laser radiation.

### 6.4 Remote interlock connector

Each Class 3B and Class 4 laser system shall have a remote interlock connector. When the terminals of the connector are open-circuited, the accessible radiation shall not exceed the AEL for Class 1M or Class 2M as applicable. This is not required for handheld, battery powered Class 3B laser systems.

NOTE Manufacturers can include a second interlock connector that does not require active action for starting emission, but it is not required for a product to have two connectors.

### 6.5 Manual reset

Each Class 4 laser system shall incorporate a manual reset to enable resumption of accessible Class 4 laser radiation emission after interruption of emission caused by the use of the remote interlock connector or an interruption of longer than 5 s of electrical mains power.

### 6.6 Key control

Each Class 3B and Class 4 laser system shall incorporate a key-operated master control. The key shall be removable and the laser radiation shall not be accessible when the key is removed.

NOTE In this Part 1, the term "key" includes any other control devices, such as magnetic cards, cipher combinations, computer passwords, etc.

## 6.7 Laser radiation emission warning

**6.7.1** Each Class 3R laser system in the wavelength range below 400 nm and above 700 nm and each Class 1C, Class 3B and Class 4 laser system shall satisfy the following.

**6.7.2** A warning device shall give an audible or visible signal when the laser system is switched on or if any capacitor banks of a pulsed laser are being charged or have not positively discharged. The warning device shall be fail-safe or redundant. Any visible warning device shall be clearly visible through protective eyewear specifically designed for the wavelength(s) of the emitted laser radiation. The visible warning device(s) shall be located so that viewing does not require exposure to laser radiation in excess of the AEL for Class 1M and 2M.

**6.7.3** Each operational control and laser aperture that can be separated by 2 m or more from a radiation warning device shall itself be provided with a radiation warning device. The warning device shall be clearly visible or audible to the person in the vicinity of the operational control or laser aperture.

NOTE The emission indicator requirement can be satisfied on a hand held product where the aperture and controls are close together when it incorporates a normally off, momentarily on, switch that provides a clear, tactile indication of emission.

**6.7.4** Where the laser emission may be distributed through more than one output aperture, then a visible warning device shall clearly indicate the output aperture or apertures through which laser emission can occur, in accordance with 6.7.2.

**6.7.5** For a Class 3R handheld device, a momentary switch that needs to be continually depressed to allow emission may be used in lieu of the emission indicator requirement.

## 6.8 Beam stop or attenuator

Each Class 3B and Class 4 laser system shall incorporate one or more permanently attached means of attenuation or termination of emission (e.g., beam stop, attenuator, electrical control or switch). The beam stop, switch, or attenuator shall be capable of preventing human access to laser radiation in excess of the AEL for Class 1M or Class 2M as applicable.

## 6.9 Controls

Each laser product shall have controls located so that adjustment and operation do not require exposure to laser radiation equivalent to Class 3R, Class 3B or Class 4.

## 6.10 Viewing optics

Any viewing optics, viewport or display screen incorporated in a laser product shall provide sufficient attenuation to prevent human access to laser radiation in excess of the AEL for Class 1M, and, for any shutter or variable attenuator incorporated in the viewing optics, viewport or display screen, a means shall be provided to:

a) prevent human access to laser radiation in excess of the AEL for Class 1M when the shutter is opened or the attenuation varied;
b) prevent opening of the shutter or variation of the attenuator when exposure to laser radiation in excess of the AEL for Class 1M is possible.

## 6.11 Scanning safeguard

Laser products intended to emit scanned radiation and classified on this basis, shall not, as a result of scan failure or of variation in either scan velocity or amplitude, permit human access to laser radiation in excess of the AEL for the assigned class, unless exposure of people is not reasonably foreseeable during the time interval between failure and when the scanning safeguard reduces emission to levels below the AEL of the class of the product (also see 5.1).

### 6.12 Safeguard for Class 1C products

Other than the intended exposure of the target tissue, a Class 1C product shall not permit human access to laser radiation in excess of the AEL for

a) Class 1 measured under Condition 3 and
b) Class 3B measured through a 3,5 mm aperture placed at 5 mm distance from the applicator with the applicator moving laterally

applicable for the duration of the emission following loss of contact. See IEC 61508 for guidance on performance requirements and reliability for safeguards, although a full analysis may not be necessary.

### 6.13 "Walk-in" access

If a protective housing is equipped with an access panel which provides "walk-in" access then:

a) means shall be provided so that any person inside the protective housing can prevent activation of a laser hazard that is equivalent to Class 3B or Class 4;
b) a warning device shall be situated so as to provide adequate warning of emission of laser radiation equivalent to Class 3R in the wavelength range below 400 nm and above 700 nm, or of laser radiation equivalent to Class 3B or Class 4 to any person who might be within the protective housing;
c) where “walk-in” access during operation is intended or reasonably foreseeable, emission of laser radiation that is equivalent to Class 3B or Class 4 while someone is present inside the protective housing of a Class 1, Class 2, or Class 3R product shall be prevented by engineering means.

NOTE Methods to prevent human access to radiation when persons are inside the protective housing can include pressure sensitive floor mats, infrared detectors, etc.

### 6.14 Environmental conditions

The laser product shall meet the safety requirements defined in this standard under all expected operating conditions appropriate to the intended use of the product. Factors to be considered shall include:

– climatic conditions (e.g. temperature, relative humidity);
– vibration and shock.

If no provisions are made in a specific product safety standard, the relevant subclauses of IEC 61010-1 may be applied.

NOTE Requirements related to electromagnetic compatibility are under consideration.

### 6.15 Protection against other hazards

#### 6.15.1 Non-optical hazards

The requirements of any relevant product safety standard shall be fulfilled during operation and in the event of a single fault for the following:

– electrical hazards;
– excessive (high or low) temperature;
– spread of fire from the equipment;
– sound and ultrasonics;
– harmful substances;

– explosion.

If no provisions are included in a specific product safety standard, the relevant subclauses of IEC 61010-1 may be applied.

NOTE Many countries have regulations for the control of harmful substances.

#### 6.15.2 Collateral radiation

The protective housing of laser products will normally protect against the hazards of collateral radiation (e.g. ultraviolet, visible, infrared radiation). However, if a concern exists that accessible collateral radiation might be hazardous, the laser MPE values may be applied to conservatively evaluate this hazard.

### 6.16 Power limiting circuit

If a power-control circuit is employed to limit the electrical power to the laser emitting device such that the AEL of the specified laser class is not exceeded under operation, it shall limit emission under reasonably foreseeable single fault conditions as well, including considering the temperature dependence of the device.

NOTE This typically applies to semiconductor diode lasers where a current spike may cause radiation above the AEL. The recommended operating parameters for diode lasers (e.g. current and temperature) are usually well below the gain saturation regime to ensure good spectral characteristics. Therefore a considerable increase of laser emission can occur beyond the recommended parameters.

## 7 Labelling

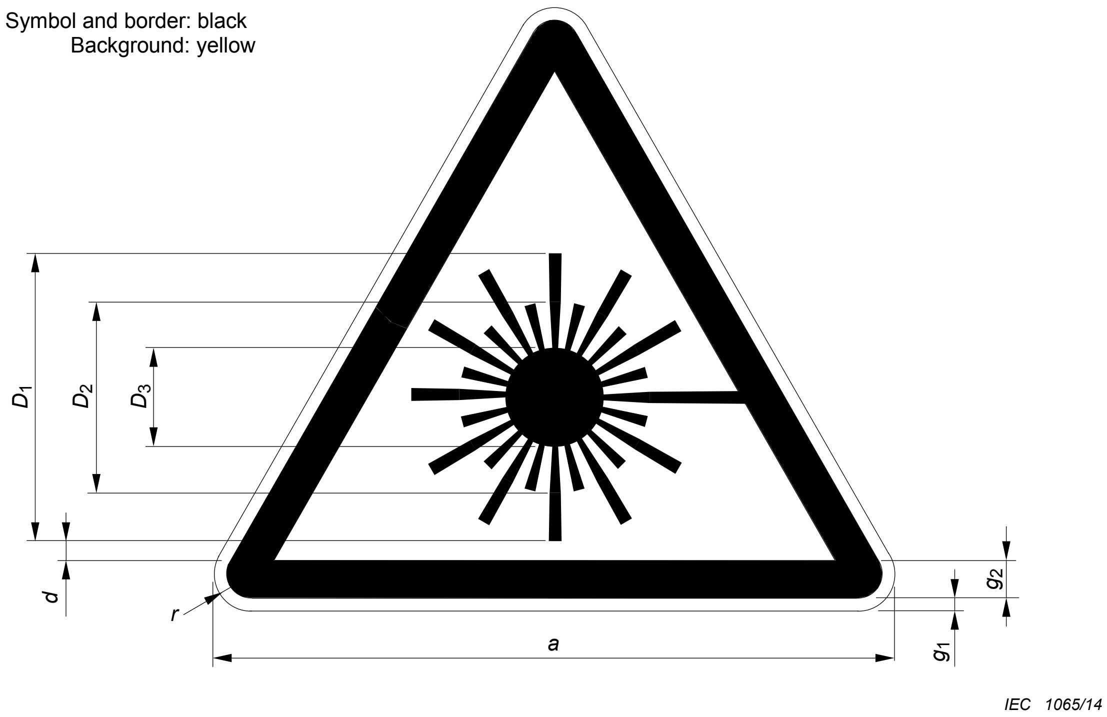
### 7.1 General

Each laser product shall carry label(s) in accordance with the requirements of the following clauses. The labels shall be durable, permanently affixed, legible, and clearly visible during operation, maintenance or service, according to their purpose. They shall be so positioned that they can be read without the necessity for human exposure to laser radiation in excess of the AEL for Class 1. Text borders and symbols shall be black on a yellow background except for Class 1, where this colour combination need not be used.

The wording of labels shown in Clause 7 is recommended but not mandatory. Other wording that conveys the same meaning (including warning labels per earlier editions of IEC 60825-1) may be substituted. Annex C provides additional information about the laser classes, assumptions and limitations.

If the size or design of the product makes labelling impractical, the label shall be included with the user information or on the package.

Direct printing or engraving of equivalent labels on the laser product or panels is acceptable.



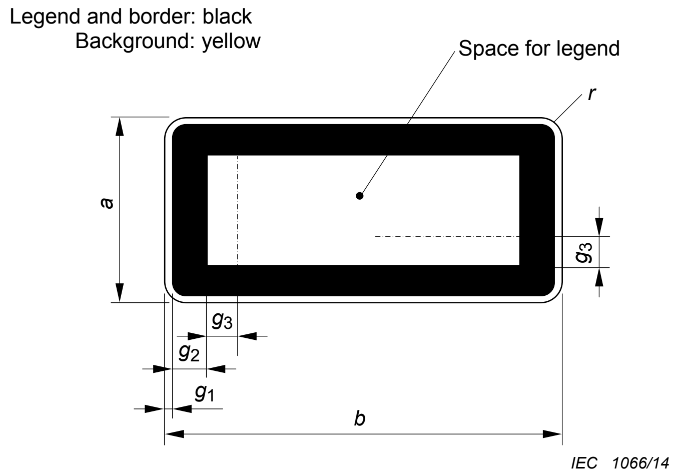

*Dimensions in millimetres*

| $a$ | $g_1$ | $g_2$ | $r$ | $D_1$ | $D_2$ | $D_3$ | $d$ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25 | 0,5 | 1,5 | 1,25 | 10,5 | 7 | 3,5 | 0,5 |
| 50 | 1 | 3 | 2,5 | 21 | 14 | 7 | 1 |
| 100 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 42 | 28 | 14 | 2 |
| 150 | 3 | 9 | 7,5 | 63 | 42 | 21 | 3 |
| 200 | 4 | 12 | 10 | 84 | 56 | 28 | 4 |
| 400 | 8 | 24 | 20 | 168 | 112 | 56 | 8 |
| 600 | 12 | 36 | 30 | 252 | 168 | 84 | 12 |
| The dimensions $D_1$, $D_2$, $D_3$, $g_1$ and $d$ are recommended values. | | | | | | | |

NOTE 1 The relationship between the greatest distance $L$ from which the label can be understood and the minimum area $A$ of the label is given by: $A = L^2/2\ 000$, where $A$ and $L$ are expressed in square metres and metres respectively. This formula applies for distance $L$ less than about 50 m.

NOTE 2 These dimensions are recommended values. As long as they are proportional to the values, the symbol and border can be of any legible size as required to suit the size of the laser product.

**Figure 3 – Warning label – Hazard symbol**




*Dimensions in millimetres*

| ***a*** × ***b*** | $g_1$ | $g_2$ | $g_3$ | ***r*** | **Minimum height of lettering** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 26 × 52 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 2 | Lettering shall be of a size which renders it legible |
| 52 × 105 | 1,6 | 5 | 5 | 3,2 | |
| 84 × 148 | 2 | 6 | 7,5 | 4 | |
| 100 × 250 | 2,5 | 8 | 12,5 | 5 | |
| 140 × 200 | 2,5 | 10 | 10 | 5 | |
| 140 × 250 | 2,5 | 10 | 12,5 | 5 | |
| 140 × 400 | 3 | 10 | 20 | 6 | |
| 200 × 250 | 3 | 12 | 12,5 | 6 | |
| 200 × 400 | 3 | 12 | 20 | 6 | |
| 250 × 400 | 4 | 15 | 25 | 8 | |
| The dimension $g_1$ is recommended. | | | | | |

NOTE 1 The relationship between the greatest distance *L* from which the label can be understood and the minimum area *A* of the label is given by: $A = L^2/2\ 000$, where *A* and *L* are expressed in square metres and metres respectively. This formula applies for distance *L* less than about 50 m.

NOTE 2 These dimensions are recommended values. The label can be of any size necessary to contain the required lettering and border. The minimum width of each border dimension $g_2$ and $g_3$ is 0,06 times the length of the shorter side of the label.

**Figure 4 – Explanatory label**

### 7.2 Class 1 and Class 1M

Except as permitted in Clause 1, each Class 1 laser product shall have affixed an explanatory label (Figure 4) bearing the words:

CLASS 1 LASER PRODUCT

Alternatively, the label illustrated in Figure 5 may be affixed to the product:

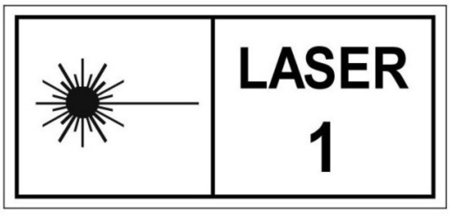



**Figure 5 – Alternative label for Class 1**

Each Class 1M laser product shall have affixed an explanatory label (Figure 4) bearing the words:

LASER RADIATION
DO NOT EXPOSE USERS OF TELESCOPIC OPTICS

CLASS 1M LASER PRODUCT

Alternatively, the label in Figure 6 may be affixed to the product:


**Figure 6 – Alternative label for Class 1M**

Instead of the above labels on the product, at the discretion of the manufacturer, the same statements may be included in the information for the user.

## 7.3 Class 1C

Each Class 1C laser product shall have affixed a warning label (Figure 3) and an explanatory label (Figure 4) bearing the words:

LASER RADIATION
FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS
CLASS 1C LASER PRODUCT

Alternatively, the label in Figure 7 may be affixed to the product:

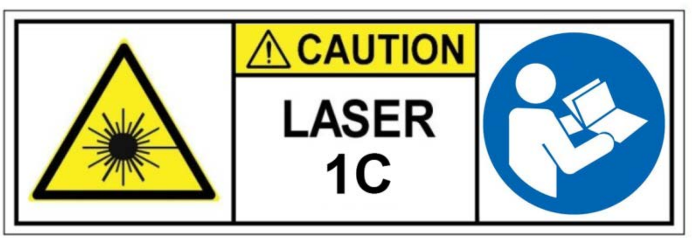



**Figure 7 – Alternative label for Class 1C**

### 7.4 Class 2 and Class 2M

Each Class 2 laser product shall have affixed a warning label (Figure 3) and an explanatory label (Figure 4) bearing the words:

LASER RADIATION
DO NOT STARE INTO BEAM

CLASS 2 LASER PRODUCT

Alternatively, the label in Figure 8 may be affixed to the product:

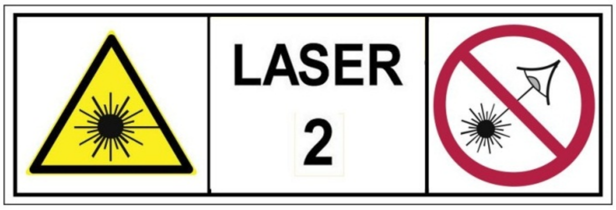



**Figure 8 – Alternative label for Class 2**

Each Class 2M laser product shall have affixed a warning label (Figure 3) and an explanatory label (Figure 4) bearing the words:

LASER RADIATION
DO NOT STARE INTO BEAM OR EXPOSE USERS OF TELESCOPIC OPTICS
CLASS 2M LASER PRODUCT

Alternatively, the label in Figure 9 may be affixed to the product:


**Figure 9 – Alternative label for Class 2M**

NOTE Users are instructed by the above labelling not to stare into the beam, i.e. to perform active protective reactions by moving the head or closing the eyes and to avoid continued intentional intrabeam viewing. See also the detailed information in Annex C.

### 7.5 Class 3R

Each Class 3R laser product shall have affixed a warning label (Figure 3) and an explanatory label (Figure 4) bearing the words:

LASER RADIATION
AVOID DIRECT EYE EXPOSURE
CLASS 3R LASER PRODUCT

NOTE Labels using AVOID EXPOSURE TO BEAM in the second line are also acceptable.

Alternatively, the label in Figure 10 may be affixed to the product:

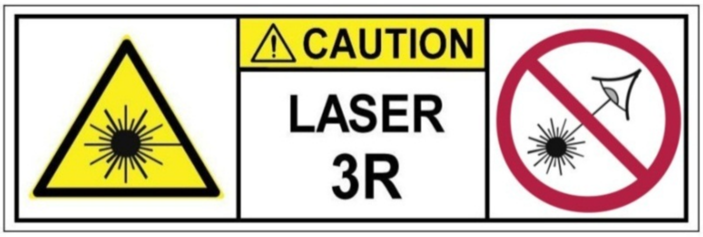



**Figure 10 – Alternative label for Class 3R**

### 7.6 Class 3B

Each Class 3B laser product shall have affixed a warning label (Figure 3) and an explanatory label (Figure 4) bearing the words:

WARNING – LASER RADIATION
AVOID EXPOSURE TO BEAM
CLASS 3B LASER PRODUCT

Alternatively, the label in Figure 11 may be affixed to the product:

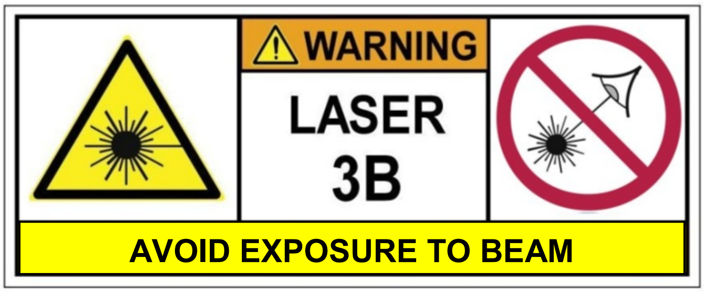



**Figure 11 – Alternative label for Class 3B**

### 7.7 Class 4

Each Class 4 laser product shall have affixed a warning label (Figure 3) and an explanatory label (Figure 4) bearing the words:

DANGER – LASER RADIATION
AVOID EYE OR SKIN EXPOSURE TO
DIRECT OR SCATTERED RADIATION
CLASS 4 LASER PRODUCT

Alternatively, the following in Figure 12 may be affixed to the product:


**Figure 12 – Alternative label for Class 4**

### 7.8 Aperture label

Each Class 3R, Class 3B and Class 4 laser product shall have affixed a label close to each aperture through which laser radiation in excess of the AEL for Class 1 or Class 2 is emitted. The label(s) shall bear the words:

LASER APERTURE

or

APERTURE FOR LASER RADIATION

or

AVOID EXPOSURE – LASER RADIATION IS
EMITTED FROM THIS APERTURE

Alternatively, the label in Figure 13 may be affixed close to the aperture:

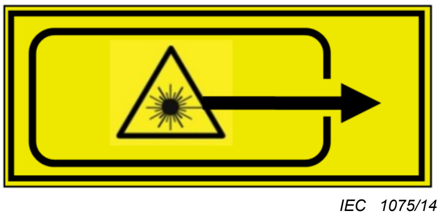



**Figure 13 – Alternative label for laser aperture**

### 7.9 Radiation output and standards information

The name and publication date of the standard to which the product was classified shall be included on the explanatory label, on the labels shown in 7.2 to 7.7 or elsewhere in close proximity on the product. Each laser product, except those of Class 1, shall be described on the explanatory label (Figure 4) or on the labels shown in 7.2 to 7.7 by a statement of the maximum output of laser radiation (see definition 3.58), the pulse duration (if appropriate) and the emitted wavelength(s). For Class 1 and Class 1M, instead of the labels on the product, the information may be contained in the information for the user.

If the information in 7.9 is incorporated into the labels in 7.2 to 7.7, it may be included within the panel with the laser class or in a separate panel below the laser class or within the descriptive wording below the laser class panel as appropriate for the size of the label.

### 7.10 Labels for access panels

#### 7.10.1 Labels for panels

Each connection and each panel of a protective housing which, when removed or displaced permits human access to laser radiation in excess of the AEL for Class 1, shall have affixed labels bearing the words (for the case of an embedded Class 1M laser, the statement instead may be included in the information for the user):

a)

CAUTION – CLASS 1M LASER RADIATION WHEN OPEN
DO NOT VIEW DIRECTLY WITH TELESCOPES

if the accessible radiation does not exceed the AEL for Class 1M where the level of radiation is measured according to 5.3 a) and 5.4;

b)

CAUTION – CLASS 2 LASER RADIATION WHEN OPEN
DO NOT STARE INTO THE BEAM

if the accessible radiation does not exceed the AEL for Class 2 where the level of radiation is measured according to 5.3 c) and 5.4;

c)

CAUTION – CLASS 2M LASER RADIATION WHEN OPEN
DO NOT STARE INTO THE BEAM OR VIEW
DIRECTLY WITH TELESCOPES

if the accessible radiation does not exceed the AEL for Class 2M where the level of radiation is measured according to 5.3 c) and 5.4;

d)

CAUTION – Class 3R LASER RADIATION WHEN OPEN
AVOID DIRECT EYE EXPOSURE

if the accessible radiation does not exceed the AEL for Class 3R;

Labels using AVOID EXPOSURE TO THE BEAM in the second line are also acceptable.

e)

WARNING – CLASS 3B LASER RADIATION WHEN OPEN
AVOID EXPOSURE TO THE BEAM

if the accessible radiation does not exceed the AEL for Class 3B;

f)

DANGER – CLASS 4 LASER RADIATION WHEN OPEN
AVOID EYE OR SKIN EXPOSURE TO
DIRECT OR SCATTERED RADIATION

if the accessible radiation exceeds the limits for Class 3B.

This information may be provided in more than one adjacent label on the product.

### 7.10.2 Labels for safety interlocked panels

Appropriate labels shall be clearly associated with each safety interlock which may be readily overridden and which would then permit human access to laser radiation in excess of the AEL of Class 1. Such labels shall be visible prior to and during interlock override and be in close proximity to the opening created by the removal of the protective housing. This label shall bear the words specified in items a) to f) of 7.10.1, as applicable, with the introduction of an additional line, positioned after the first line, with the following words:

AND INTERLOCKS DEFEATED

## 7.11 Warning for invisible laser radiation

In many cases, the wording prescribed for labels in Clause 7 includes the phrase "LASER RADIATION". If the output of the laser is outside the wavelength range from 400 nm to 700 nm, this shall be modified to read "INVISIBLE LASER RADIATION", or if the output is at wavelengths both inside and outside this wavelength range, to read "VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE LASER RADIATION".

If a product is classified on the basis of the level of visible laser radiation and also emits in excess of the AEL of Class 1 at invisible wavelengths, the label shall include the words "VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE LASER RADIATION" in lieu of "LASER RADIATION".

If the alternative labels in Figure 5 to 12 are used, the warnings for visible and invisible radiation shall be included in an additional panel positioned below or to the side of the label.

## 7.12 Warning for visible laser radiation

The wording "LASER RADIATION" for labels in Clause 7 may be modified to read "LASER LIGHT" if the output of the laser product is in the (visible) wavelength range from 400 nm to 700 nm.

## 7.13 Warning for potential hazard to the skin or anterior parts of the eye

For Class 1, 1M, 2, 2M or Class 3R, if the accessible emission exceeds the AEL of Class 3B as determined with a 3,5 mm diameter aperture placed at the closest point of human access, an additional warning shall be given on a product label and in the information for the user (see 5.3 a) for Class 1 and 1M, see 5.3 c) for Class 2 and 2M, and see 5.3 d) for Class 3R).

The following warning shall be given on the product housing and in the information for the user. Text borders and symbols shall be black on a yellow background, including for Class 1.

LASER ENERGY - EXPOSURE NEAR APERTURE MAY CAUSE BURNS

NOTE The risk of skin injury is only likely for highly divergent beams for exposure close to the aperture.

While the placement of the explanatory label for Class 1 and 1M on the product is optional (see 7.2), the above warning is not optional.

# 8 Other informational requirements

## 8.1 Information for the user

Manufacturers of laser products shall provide (or see to the provision of) user instructions or an operation manual that contains all relevant safety information. It remains the responsibility of the manufacturer to provide the safety information indicated below and to decide which additional information is relevant and, therefore, shall be provided.

NOTE 1 The information that is relevant or not relevant depends on the specific product including its intended application and may even be subject to national legislation.

The following information shall be provided as applicable:

a) Adequate instructions for proper assembly, maintenance, and safe use, including clear warnings concerning precautions to avoid possible exposure to hazardous laser radiation and description of the classification limitations, if appropriate (see Annex C for a description of the classes and possible limitations).

b) An additional warning for Class 1M and 2M laser products. This warning shall state that viewing the laser output with telescopic optical instruments (for example, telescopes and binoculars) may pose an eye hazard and thus the user should not direct the beam into an area where such instruments are likely to be used.

c) For laser radiation levels above the AEL of Class 1, a description of any radiation pattern(s) emitted from the protective housing during the performance of operation and maintenance procedures. Where applicable, this shall include a statement in appropriate units of:

   - wavelength,
   - beam divergence,
   - pulse duration and repetition rate (or description of irregular pulse pattern),
   - maximum power or energy output.

   The values shall, where appropriate, include cumulative measurement uncertainties and any expected increase in the measured quantities at any time after manufacture. Duration of pulses resulting from unintentional mode-locking need not be specified; whereas, those conditions associated with the product known to result in unintentional mode-locking shall be specified. For ultrashort pulses, the bandwidth of the radiation (i.e. the wavelength range of emission) shall be specified.

d) For embedded laser products and other incorporated laser products, information to describe the incorporated laser (see item c)). The information shall also include appropriate safety instructions to the user to avoid inadvertent exposure to hazardous laser radiation. This is particularly relevant for embedded laser products that are classified as Class 1, Class 1M, Class 2 or Class 2M but where intrabeam viewing to accessible emission levels in excess of the AELs of these classes is possible during maintenance. In this case the manufacturer shall include a warning that intrabeam viewing of the laser shall be prevented.

e) Where appropriate and relevant, the applicable MPE (see Annex A) and NOHD for Class 3B and Class 4 laser products. Since the NOHD greatly depends on the beam delivery system and optical elements placed in the beam, when this is considered as relevant, it is recommended that the different NOHD values are given for the different attachments or beam delivery systems. If there is a variable beam divergence, the NOHD could be given for some selected values of divergence. When an MPE and NOHD value is stated, the assumed exposure duration for the determination of these values shall also be stated. For collimated-beam Class 1M and Class 2M lasers, the extended NOHD (ENOHD) shall be stated, where appropriate and relevant.

NOTE 2 Specific information on the ENOHD is typically not required for collimated beams that are to be used indoors. In that case, it is usually sufficient to give the distance where the MPE can be exceeded.

f) Where appropriate, information for the selection of eye protection. This shall include the required optical density and wavelength range as well as irradiance or radiation exposure levels that might be incident on the surface of the eye protection equipment, so that resistance levels can be determined.

NOTE 3 Many countries have regulations and standards for personal protective equipment.

g) Legible reproductions (black mono tone or in the appropriate colours stated in Clause 7) of all required labels and hazard warnings to be affixed to the laser product or provided with the laser product. The corresponding position of each label affixed to the product shall be indicated or, if provided with the product, a statement that such labels could not be affixed to the product but were supplied with the product and a statement of the form and manner in which they were supplied shall be provided. If the alternative graphic labels in 7.2 through 7.8 are used on the product, their corresponding wordings shall be included in the user manual in addition to the reproduction of the graphic label.

h) A clear indication in the manual of all locations of laser apertures through which laser radiation exceeding the Class 1 AEL is emitted.

i) List of controls, adjustments and procedures for operation and maintenance, including the warning "Caution – Use of controls or adjustments or performance of procedures other than those specified herein may result in hazardous radiation exposure" (or alternatively, equivalent appropriate warnings).

j) In the case of laser products that do not incorporate the laser energy source necessary for laser emission, a statement of the compatibility requirements for a laser energy source to ensure safety.

k) For Class 1, 1M, 2, 2M and 3R an additional warning may be required (see 5.3 a), 5.3 c) and 5.3 d)). The additional warning shall be provided to ensure that, for example, users are aware of the risk of skin or corneal burns.

l) Vertical standards specify applicable requirements regarding user information for Class 1C products. Examples of relevant information, as applicable, are:

- the warning shall state that the laser output from this device may be hazardous if not used according to the user instructions;
- users shall be warned against using the device on skin areas where it is not safe, such as eye lids; and
- users shall be also warned as to the frequency of application when repeated application may pose a risk.

### 8.2 Purchasing and servicing information

Manufacturers of laser products shall provide or ensure that the following is provided.

a) In all catalogues, specification sheets and descriptive brochures, the classification of each laser product and any warning shall be stated, including those specified by 8.1 b) and 8.1 k), if appropriate.

b) To servicing dealers and distributors, and to others upon request, adequate instructions for service adjustments and service procedures for each laser product model, which include:

– clear warnings and precautions to be taken to avoid possible exposure to laser radiation above Class 1 and other hazards;

– a schedule of maintenance necessary to keep the product in compliance;

– a list of those controls and procedures which could be utilized by persons other than the manufacturer or his agents to increase accessible emission levels of radiation;

– a clear description of the location of displaceable portions of the protective housing which could allow access to laser radiation in excess of the accessible emission limits in Tables 3 to 8;

- protective procedures for service personnel; and
- legible reproductions (colour optional) of required labels and hazard warnings.

## 9 Additional requirements for specific laser products

### 9.1 Other parts of the standard series IEC 60825

For specific applications, one or another of the following parts of the IEC 60825 series may be applicable (see also Bibliography).

- IEC 60825-2, *Safety of laser products – Part 2: Safety of optical fibre communication systems (OFCS)* (provides application notes and examples);
- IEC 60825-4, *Safety of laser products – Part 4: Laser* guards (provides design and construction information for laser guards and materials especially where high power lasers are used);
- IEC 60825-12, *Safety of laser products – Part 12: Safety of free space optical communication systems used for transmission of information*

Further information may be found in:

- IEC/TR 60825-3, *Safety of laser products – Part 3: Guidance for laser displays and shows;*
- IEC/TR 60825-5, *Safety of laser products – Part 5: Manufacturer's checklist for IEC 60825-1* (suitable for use in a safety report);
- IEC/TR 60825-8, *Safety of laser products – Part 8: Guidelines for the safe use of laser beams on humans;*
- IEC/TR 60825-9, *Safety of laser products – Part 9: Compilation of maximum permissible exposure to incoherent optical radiation* (broadband sources);
- IEC/TR 60825-13, *Safety of laser products – Part 13: Measurements for classification of laser products;*
- IEC/TR 60825-14, *Safety of laser products – Part 14: A user's guide;*
- IEC 62471 (CIE S 009), *Photobiological safety of lamps and lamp systems*

### 9.2 Medical laser products

Each medical laser product shall comply with all of the applicable requirements for laser products of its class. In addition, any Class 3B or Class 4 medical and cosmetic laser product may be subject to IEC 60601-2-22.

### 9.3 Laser processing machines

Laser processing machines shall comply with applicable requirements for laser products of their class. In addition, laser processing machines may be subject to the ISO/IEC 11553 series of standards.

### 9.4 Electric toys

Electric toys that are laser products shall comply with applicable requirements for laser products of their class. In addition, these products are subject to IEC 62115.

### 9.5 Consumer electronic products

Consumer electronic products that are laser products shall comply with applicable requirements for laser products of their class. In addition, these products may be subject to IEC 60950-1 (IT equipment) or to IEC 60065 (AV equipment).

# Annex A
(informative)

# Maximum permissible exposure values

## A.1 General remarks

Accessible emission limits (AELs) are generally derived from the maximum permissible exposures (MPEs). MPEs have been included in this informative annex to provide manufacturers with additional information that can assist in evaluating the safety aspects related to the intended use of their product (such as the determination of the NOHD).

NOTE Simplified calculations may significantly underestimate the NOHD. For example, when the laser aperture is inside of a large Raleigh range, when there is an external beam waist, or when the beam profile is such that the power that passes through an aperture is underestimated when a Gaussian beam profile is assumed. In such cases, it is usually advantageous to determine the NOHD by measurements.

Maximum permissible exposure values as contained in this part of IEC 60825 are adopted from exposure limit values published by International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection. MPE values are set below known hazard levels and are based on the best available information from experimental studies. The MPE values should be used as guides in the control of exposures, for the safe design of a product and as basis for providing user information, and should not be regarded as precisely defined dividing lines between safe and dangerous levels. In any case, exposure to laser radiation should be as low as possible.

The MPEs that are given in this informative annex are informative, and should not be interpreted as legally-binding limits for the exposure of employees at the workplace or of the general public. Exposure limits for the eye and the skin of employees at the workplace and the general public are in many countries specified in national laws. These exposure limits might be different to the MPEs given in this annex.

Exposures from several wavelengths should be assumed to have an additive effect on a proportional basis of spectral effectiveness according to the MPEs of Tables A.1, A.2, A.3, A.4, and A.5 provided that the spectral regions are shown as additive by the symbols (o) for ocular and (s) for skin exposure in the matrix of Table 1. Where the wavelengths radiated are not shown as additive, the hazards should be assessed separately.

**Table A.1 – Maximum permissible exposure (MPE) for $C_6$ = 1 at the cornea expressed as irradiance or radiant exposure [a, b]**

<table>
<tr><th rowspan="2">Wavelength<br>$\lambda$<br>nm</th><th colspan="9">Exposure time $t$<br>s</th></tr>
<tr><th>$10^{-13}$ to $10^{-11}$</th><th>$10^{-11}$ to $10^{-9}$</th><th>$10^{-9}$ to $10^{-7}$</th><th>$10^{-7}$ to $5 \times 10^{-6}$</th><th>$5 \times 10^{-6}$ to $13 \times 10^{-6}$</th><th>$13 \times 10^{-6}$ to $1 \times 10^{-3}$</th><th>$1 \times 10^{-3}$ to 10</th><th>10 to $10^2$</th><th>$10^2$ to $3 \times 10^4$</th></tr>
<tr><td>180 to 302,5</td><td colspan="2" rowspan="3">$3 \times 10^{10}$ W·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="7">30 J·m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
<tr><td>302,5 to 315</td><td colspan="5">Thermal hazard [d]<br>($t \le T_1$)<br>$C_1$ J·m$^{-2}$<br>Photochemical hazard [d]<br>($t > T_1$)<br>$C_2$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="2">$C_2$ J·m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
<tr><td>315 to 400</td><td colspan="5">$C_1$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="2">$10^4$ J m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
<tr><td>400 to 450</td><td rowspan="3">$1 \times 10^{-3}$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="3" rowspan="3">$2 \times 10^{-3}$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="3" rowspan="3">18 $t^{0,75}$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td>100 J·m$^{-2}$</td><td rowspan="2">$C_3$ W·m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
<tr><td>450 to 500</td><td>100 $C_3$ J·m$^{-2}$<br>and [c]<br>10 W·m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
<tr><td>500 to 700</td><td colspan="2">10 W·m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
<tr><td>700 to 1 050</td><td>$1 \times 10^{-3}$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="3">$2 \times 10^{-3}$ $C_4$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="3">18 $t^{0,75}$ $C_4$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="2" rowspan="2">10 $C_4$ $C_7$ W·m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
<tr><td>1 050 to 1 400[e]</td><td>$1 \times 10^{-3}$ $C_7$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="4">$2 \times 10^{-2}$ $C_7$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="2">90 $t^{0,75}$ $C_7$ J·m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
<tr><td>1 400 to 1 500</td><td colspan="2">$10^{12}$ W·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="4">$10^3$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td>5 600 $t^{0,25}$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="2" rowspan="4">1 000 W·m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
<tr><td>1 500 to 1 800</td><td colspan="2">$10^{13}$ W·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="5">$10^4$ J·m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
<tr><td>1 800 to 2 600</td><td colspan="2">$10^{12}$ W·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="4">$10^3$ J·m$^{-2}$</td><td>5 600 $t^{0,25}$J·m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
<tr><td>2 600 to $10^6$</td><td colspan="2">$10^{11}$ W·m$^{-2}$</td><td>100 J·m$^{-2}$</td><td colspan="4">5 600 $t^{0,25}$ J·m$^{-2}$</td></tr>
</table>

[a] For correction factors and units, see Table 9; the exposure level that is compared with the MPE values is to be averaged over the appropriate aperture (Table A.6).

[b] The MPEs for exposure durations below $10^{-9}$ s and for wavelengths less than 400 nm and greater than 1 400 nm have been derived by calculating the equivalent irradiance from the radiant exposure limits at $10^{-9}$ s. The MPEs for exposure durations below $10^{-13}$ s are set to be equal to the equivalent irradiance values of the MPEs at $10^{-13}$ s.

[c] In the wavelength range between 450 nm and 500 nm, dual limits apply and the exposure shall not exceed either limit applicable.

[d] For repetitively pulsed UV lasers neither limit should be exceeded.

[e] In the wavelength range between 1 250 nm and 1 400 nm, the limits to protect the retina given in this table may not adequately protect the anterior parts of the eye (cornea, iris) and caution needs to be exercised. There is no concern for the anterior parts of the eye if the exposure does not exceed the skin MPE values.

**Table A.2 – Maximum permissible exposure (MPE) at the cornea for extended sources in the wavelength range from 400 nm to 1 400 nm (retinal hazard region) expressed as irradiance or radiant exposure[d]**

<table>
<tr><th rowspan="2">Wavelength<br>$\lambda$<br>nm</th><th colspan="7">Exposure time $t$<br>s</th></tr>
<tr><th>$10^{-13}$ to<br>$10^{-11}$</th><th>$10^{-11}$ to<br>$5,0 \times 10^{-6}$</th><th>$5,0 \times 10^{-6}$ to<br>$1,3 \times 10^{-5}$</th><th>$1,3 \times 10^{-5}$ to<br>10</th><th>10 to<br>$10^2$</th><th>$10^2$ to<br>$10^4$</th><th>$10^4$ to<br>$3 \times 10^4$</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="5">400 to 700</td><td rowspan="5">$1 \times 10^{-3}\ C_6\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$</td><td rowspan="5">$2 \times 10^{-3}\ C_6\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$</td><td colspan="2" rowspan="5">$18\ t^{0,75}\ C_6\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$</td><td colspan="3">400 nm to 600 nm – Retinal photochemical hazard [a]</td></tr>
<tr><td>$100\ C_3\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$<br>using<br>$\gamma_{ph}$ = 11 mrad</td><td>$1\ C_3\ \mathrm{W{\cdot}m^{-2}}$<br>using<br>$\gamma_{ph} = 1,1\ t^{0,5}$ mrad</td><td>$1\ C_3\ \mathrm{W{\cdot}m^{-2}}$<br>using<br>$\gamma_{ph}$ = 110 mrad</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">*AND* [b]</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">400 nm to 700 nm – Retinal thermal hazard</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">$(t \le T_2)$ $18\ t^{0,75}\ C_6\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$<br>$18\ C_6\ T_2^{-0,25}\ \mathrm{W{\cdot}m^{-2}}$ $(t > T_2)$</td></tr>
<tr><td>700 to 1 050</td><td>$1 \times 10^{-3}\ C_6\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$</td><td>$2 \times 10^{-3}\ C_4\ C_6\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$</td><td colspan="2">$18\ t^{0,75}\ C_4\ C_6\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$</td><td colspan="3">$(t \le T_2)$ $18\ t^{0,75}\ C_4\ C_6\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$<br>$18\ C_4\ C_6\ T_2^{-0,25}\ \mathrm{W{\cdot}m^{-2}}$ $(t > T_2)$</td></tr>
<tr><td>1 050 to 1 400[c]</td><td>$1 \times 10^{-3}\ C_6\ C_7\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$</td><td colspan="2">$2 \times 10^{-2}\ C_6\ C_7\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$</td><td>$90\ t^{0,75}\ C_6\ C_7\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$</td><td colspan="3">$(t \le T_2)$ $90\ t^{0,75}\ C_6\ C_7\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$<br>$90\ C_6\ C_7\ T_2^{-0,25}\ \mathrm{W{\cdot}m^{-2}}$ $(t > T_2)$</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">NOTE Exposure limits for some ocular tissues may be different for ophthalmic instruments – see ISO 15004-2.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">[a] The angle $\gamma_{ph}$ is the limiting measurement angle of acceptance.<br>[b] In the wavelength range between 400 nm and 600 nm, dual limits apply and the exposure must not exceed either limit applicable. Normally, photochemical hazard limits only apply for exposure durations greater than 10 s; however, for wavelengths between 400 nm and 484 nm and for apparent source sizes between 1,5 mrad and 82 mrad, the dual photochemical hazard limit of $100\ C_3\ \mathrm{J{\cdot}m^{-2}}$ should be applied for exposures greater than or equal to 1 s.<br>[c] In the wavelength range between 1 250 nm and 1 400 nm, the limits to protect the retina given in this table may not adequately protect the anterior parts of the eye (cornea, iris) and caution needs to be exercised. There is no concern for the anterior parts of the eye if the exposure does not exceed the skin MPE values.<br>[d] For exposure durations less than 0,25 s, the limits to protect the retina given in this table may not adequately protect the anterior parts of the eye (cornea, iris) and caution needs to be exercised. There is no concern for the anterior parts of the eye if the exposure does not exceed the skin MPE values.</td></tr>
</table>

**Table A.3 – Maximum permissible exposure (MPE) of Table A.1 ($C_6$ = 1) for the wavelength range from 400 nm to 1 400 nm expressed as power or energy [a, b]**

| Wavelength $\lambda$ nm | Emission duration $t$ s | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | $10^{-13}$ to $10^{-11}$ | $10^{-11}$ to $5 \times 10^{-6}$ | $5 \times 10^{-6}$ to $13 \times 10^{-6}$ | $13 \times 10^{-6}$ to 10 | 10 to $10^2$ | $10^2$ to $3 \times 10^4$ |
| 400 to 450 | | | | | $3,9 \times 10^{-3}$ J | |
| 450 to 500 | $3,8 \times 10^{-8}$ J | $7,7 \times 10^{-8}$ J | $7 \times 10^{-4}\ t^{0,75}$ J | | $3,9 \times 10^{-3}\ C_3$ J and [c] $3,9 \times 10^{-4}$ W | $3,9 \times 10^{-5}\ C_3$ W |
| 500 to 700 | | | | | $3,9 \times 10^{-4}$ W | |
| 700 to 1 050 | $3,8 \times 10^{-8}$ J | $7,7 \times 10^{-8}\ C_4$ J | $7 \times 10^{-4}\ t^{0,75}\ C_4$ J | | $3,9 \times 10^{-4}\ C_4\ C_7$ W | |
| 1 050 to 1 400[d] | $3,8 \times 10^{-8}\ C_7$ J | $7,7 \times 10^{-7}\ C_7$ J | | $3,5 \times 10^{-3}\ t^{0,75}\ C_7$ J | | |

NOTE The exposure level to be compared with the MPE expressed as power or energy is to be determined as power or energy that passes through an aperture with a diameter of 7 mm (the MPE values expressed in this table are obtained from the values of Table A.1 by multiplication with the area of an aperture with 7 mm diameter)

[a] For correction factors and units, see Table 9

[b] The MPEs for exposure durations below $10^{-13}$ s are set to be equal to the equivalent power values of the MPEs at $10^{-13}$ s.

[c] In the wavelength range between 450 nm and 500 nm, dual limits apply and the exposure must not exceed either limit applicable.

[d] In the wavelength range between 1 250 nm and 1 400 nm, the limits to protect the retina given in this table, may not adequately protect the anterior parts of the eye (cornea, iris) and caution needs to be exercised. There is no concern for the anterior parts of the eye if the exposure does not exceed the skin MPE values.

**Table A.4 – Maximum permissible exposure (MPE) of Table A.2 (extended sources) for the wavelength range from 400 nm to 1 400 nm expressed as power or energy [a, b, c, d, e, f, g]**

| Wavelength $\lambda$ nm | Emission duration $t$ s | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | $10^{-13}$ to $10^{-11}$ | $10^{-11}$ to $5 \times 10^{-6}$ | $5 \times 10^{-6}$ to $13 \times 10^{-6}$ | $13 \times 10^{-6}$ to 10 | 10 to $10^2$ | $10^2$ to $10^4$ | $10^4$ to $3 \times 10^4$ |
| 400 to 700 | $3{,}8 \times 10^{-8}\ C_6$ J | $7{,}7 \times 10^{-8}\ C_6$ J | $7 \times 10^{-4}\ t^{0{,}75}\ C_6$ J | | 400 nm to 600 nm – Retinal photochemical hazard [d, e] | | |
| | | | | | $3{,}9 \times 10^{-3}\ C_3$ J using $\gamma_{ph}$ = 11 mrad | $3{,}9 \times 10^{-5}\ C_3$ W using $\gamma_{ph} = 1{,}1\ t^{0{,}5}$ mrad | $3{,}9 \times 10^{-5}\ C_3$ W using $\gamma_{ph}$ = 110 mrad |
| | | | | | *AND* [c] | | |
| | | | | | 400 nm to 700 nm – Retinal thermal hazard | | |
| | | | | | $(t \le T_2)$ $7 \times 10^{-4}\ t^{0{,}75}\ C_6$ J / $7 \times 10^{-4}\ C_6\ T_2^{-0{,}25}$ W $(t > T_2)$ | | |
| 700 to 1 050 | $3{,}8 \times 10^{-8}\ C_6$ J | $7{,}7 \times 10^{-8}\ C_4\ C_6$ J | $7 \times 10^{-4}\ t^{0{,}75}\ C_4\ C_6$ J | | $(t \le T_2)$ $7 \times 10^{-4}\ t^{0{,}75}\ C_4\ C_6$ J / $7 \times 10^{-4}\ C_4\ C_6\ T_2^{-0{,}25}$ W $(t > T_2)$ | | |
| 1 050 to 1 400[f] | $3{,}8 \times 10^{-8}\ C_6\ C_7$ J | $7{,}7 \times 10^{-7}\ C_6\ C_7$ J | | $3{,}5 \times 10^{-3}\ t^{0{,}75}\ C_6\ C_7$ J | $(t \le T_2)$ $3{,}5 \times 10^{-3}\ t^{0{,}75}\ C_6\ C_7$ J / $3{,}5 \times 10^{-3}\ C_6\ C_7\ T_2^{-0{,}25}$ W $(t > T_2)$ | | |

NOTE 1 Exposure limits for some ocular tissues may be different for ophthalmic instruments – see ISO 15004-2.

NOTE 2 The exposure level to be compared with the MPE expressed as power or energy is to be determined as power or energy that passes through an aperture with a diameter of 7 mm (the MPE values expressed in this table are obtained from the values of Table A.2 by multiplication with the area of an aperture with 7 mm diameter).

[a] For correction factors and units, see Table 9.

[b] The MPEs for exposure durations below $10^{-13}$ s are set to be equal to the equivalent power values of the MPEs at $10^{-13}$ s.

[c] In the wavelength range between 450 nm and 600 nm, dual limits apply and the exposure shall not exceed either limit applicable.

[d] The angle $\gamma_{ph}$ is the limiting measurement angle of acceptance.

[e] If exposure times between 1 s and 10 s are used, for wavelengths between 400 nm and 484 nm and for apparent source sizes between 1,5 mrad and 82 mrad, the dual photochemical hazard limit of $3{,}9 \times 10^{-3}\ C_3$ J is extended to 1 s.

[f] In the wavelength range between 1 250 nm and 1 400 nm, the limits to protect the retina given in this table may not adequately protect the anterior parts of the eye (cornea, iris) and caution needs to be exercised. There is no concern for the anterior parts of the eye if the exposure does not exceed the skin MPE values.

[g] For exposure durations less than 0,25 s, the limits to protect the retina given in this table may not adequately protect the anterior parts of the eye (cornea, iris) and caution needs to be exercised. There is no concern for the anterior parts of the eye if the exposure does not exceed the skin MPE values.

**Table A.5 – Maximum permissible exposure (MPE) of the skin to laser radiation [a, b]**

| Wavelength $\lambda$ nm | Exposure time $t$ s | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **<$10^{-9}$** | **$10^{-9}$ to $10^{-7}$** | **$10^{-7}$ to $10^{-3}$** | **$10^{-3}$ to 10** | **10 to $10^3$** | **$10^3$ to $3 \times 10^4$** |
| 180 to 302,5 | $3 \times 10^{10}$ W·m$^{-2}$ | 30 J·m$^{-2}$ | | | | |
| 302,5 to 315 | | $C_1$ J·m$^{-2}$ ($t \leq T_1$) / $C_2$ J·m$^{-2}$ ($t > T_1$) | | | $C_2$ J·m$^{-2}$ | |
| 315 to 400 | | $C_1$ J·m$^{-2}$ | | | $10^4$ J·m$^{-2}$ | 10 W·m$^{-2}$ |
| 400 to 700 | $2 \times 10^{11}$ W·m$^{-2}$ | 200 J·m$^{-2}$ | $1,1 \times 10^4\ t^{0,25}$ J·m$^{-2}$ | | 2 000 W·m$^{-2}$ | |
| 700 to 1 400 | $2 \times 10^{11}$ $C_4$ W·m$^{-2}$ | 200 $C_4$ J·m$^{-2}$ | $1,1 \times 10^4\ C_4\ t^{0,25}$ J·m$^{-2}$ | | 2 000 $C_4$ W·m$^{-2}$ | |
| 1 400 to 1 500 | $10^{12}$ W·m$^{-2}$ | $10^3$ J·m$^{-2}$ | | 5 600 $t^{0,25}$ J·m$^{-2}$ | 1 000 W·m$^{-2}$ [c] | |
| 1 500 to 1 800 | $10^{13}$ W·m$^{-2}$ | $10^4$ J·m$^{-2}$ | | | | |
| 1 800 to 2 600 | $10^{12}$ W·m$^{-2}$ | $10^3$ J·m$^{-2}$ | | 5 600 $t^{0,25}$ J·m$^{-2}$ | | |
| 2 600 to $10^6$ | $10^{11}$ W·m$^{-2}$ | 100 J·m$^{-2}$ | 5 600 $t^{0,25}$ J·m$^{-2}$ | | | |

[a] For correction factors and units, see Table 9.

[b] There is only limited evidence about effects for exposures of less than $10^{-9}$ s. The MPEs for these exposure durations have been derived by maintaining the irradiance applying at $10^{-9}$ s.

[c] For exposed skin areas greater than 0,1 m$^2$, the MPE is reduced to 100 W·m$^{-2}$. Between 0,01 m$^2$ and 0,1 m$^2$, the MPE varies inversely proportional to the irradiated skin area.

## A.2 Limiting apertures

An appropriate aperture should be used for all measurements and calculations of exposure values. This is the limiting aperture and is defined in terms of the diameter of a circular area over which the irradiance or radiant exposure is to be averaged. Values for the limiting apertures are shown in Table A.6. When the MPE values for the retinal hazard region expressed as power or energy are used (Table A.3 or Table A.4) the exposure value is to be expressed as power or energy and determined as power or energy passing through an aperture with a diameter of 7 mm.

For repetitively pulsed laser exposures within the spectral range between 1 400 nm and $10^5$ nm, the 1 mm aperture is used for evaluating the hazard from an individual pulse; whereas the 3,5 mm aperture is applied for evaluating the MPE applicable for exposures greater than 10 s.

The values of ocular exposures in the wavelength range 400 nm to 1 400 nm are measured over a 7 mm diameter aperture (pupil). The MPE shall not be adjusted to take into account smaller pupil diameters.

**Table A.6 – Aperture diameters for measuring laser irradiance and radiant exposure**

| **Spectral region**<br>nm | **Aperture diameter for**<br>mm | |
|---|---|---|
| | **Eye** | **Skin** |
| 180 to 400 | 1 | 3,5 |
| ≥ 400 to 1 400 | 7 | 3,5 |
| ≥ 1 400 to $10^5$ | 1 for $t \leq 0{,}35$ s<br>$1{,}5\ t^{3/8}$ for $0{,}35\ \text{s} < t < 10$ s<br>3,5 for $t \geq 10$ s | 3,5 |
| ≥ $10^5$ to $10^6$ | 11 | 11 |
| NOTE For multiple pulse exposures, refer to Clause A.3. | | |

## A.3 Repetitively pulsed or modulated lasers

The following methods should be used to determine the MPE to be applied to exposures to repetitively pulsed radiation.

The exposure from any group of pulses (or sub-group of pulses in a train) delivered in any given time should not exceed the MPE for that time.

The MPE for ocular exposure for wavelengths less than 400 nm and longer than 1400 nm, as well as the MPE for skin exposure is limited by the most restrictive of requirements a) and b).

The MPE for ocular exposure for wavelengths from 400 nm to 1 400 nm is determined by using the most restrictive of requirements a), b) and c). Requirement c) applies only to the retinal thermal limits and not to the retinal photochemical limits.

a) The exposure from any single pulse within a pulse train does not exceed the MPE for a single pulse.

b) The average exposure for a pulse train of exposure duration $T$ does not exceed the MPE given in Tables A.1, A.2 and A.3 for a single pulse of exposure duration $T$. For irregular pulse patterns (including varying pulse energies), $T$ has to be varied between $T_i$ and the maximum assumed exposure duration. For regular pulse patterns it is sufficient to average over the assumed maximum exposure duration.

c) The exposure per pulse does not exceed the MPE for a single pulse multiplied by the correction factor $C_5$. $C_5$ is only applicable to individual pulse durations shorter than 0,25 s.

$$\text{MPE}_{\text{s.p.train}} = \text{MPE}_{\text{single}} \times C_5$$

where

$\text{MPE}_{\text{single}}$ is the MPE for a single pulse;

$\text{MPE}_{\text{s.p.train}}$ is the MPE for any single pulse in the pulse train.

If pulse duration $t \leq T_i$, then:

For maximum anticipated exposure duration less than or equal to 0,25 s

$C_5 = 1{,}0$

For maximum anticipated exposure duration larger than 0,25 s

If $N \leq 600$ $C_5 = 1{,}0$

If $N > 600$ $C_5 = 5 \cdot N^{-0{,}25}$ with a minimum value of $C_5 = 0{,}4$

If pulse duration $t > T_i$, then:

For $\alpha \leq 5$ mrad:

$C_5 = 1,0$

For 5 mrad $< \alpha \leq \alpha_{max}$:

$C_5 = N^{-0,25}$ for $N \leq 40$

$C_5 = 0,4$ for $N > 40$

For $\alpha > \alpha_{max}$:

$C_5 = N^{-0,25}$ for $N \leq 625$

$C_5 = 0,2$ for $N > 625$

Unless $\alpha > 100$ mrad, where $C_5 = 1,0$ in all cases.

$N$ is the effective number of pulses in the pulse train within the assessed exposure duration (when pulses occur within $T_i$ (see Table 2), $N$ is less than the actual number of pulses, see below). The maximum exposure duration that needs to be considered for the assessment is $T_2$ (see Table 9) or the anticipated exposure duration, whichever is shorter.

If multiple pulses appear within the period of $T_i$ (see Table 2) they are counted as a single pulse to determine $N$, and the radiant exposure of the individual pulses are added to be compared to the MPE of $T_i$.

## A.4 Measurement conditions

### A.4.1 General

In order to evaluate the actual exposure, the following measurement conditions should be applied.

### A.4.2 Limiting aperture

The values of radiant exposure or irradiance to be compared to the respective MPE are averaged over a circular aperture stop according to the limiting apertures of Table A.6. For ocular exposure in the wavelength range from 400 nm to 1 400 nm, a minimum measurement distance of 100 mm is used.

### A.4.3 Angle of acceptance

a) Photochemical retinal limits

For measurements of sources to be evaluated against the photochemical limits (400 nm to 600 nm), the limiting angle of acceptance $\gamma_{ph}$ is

for 10 s $< t \leq 100$ s: $\gamma_{ph} = 11$ mrad

for 100 s $< t \leq 10^4$ s: $\gamma_{ph} = 1,1\ t^{0,5}$ mrad

for $10^4$ s $< t \leq 3 \times 10^4$ s: $\gamma_{ph} = 110$ mrad

If the angular subtense of the source $\alpha$ is larger than the specified limiting angle of acceptance $\gamma_{ph}$, the angle of acceptance should not be larger than the values specified for $\gamma_{ph}$. If the angular subtense of the source $\alpha$ is smaller than the specified limiting angle of acceptance $\gamma_{ph}$, the angle of acceptance should fully encompass the source under consideration but need not otherwise be well defined (i.e. the angle of acceptance need not be restricted to $\gamma_{ph}$).

NOTE For measurements of single sources where $\alpha < \gamma_{ph}$, it will not be necessary to measure with a specific, well-defined, angle of acceptance. To obtain a well-defined angle of acceptance, the angle of acceptance can be defined by either imaging the source onto a field stop or by masking off the source – see Figures 1 and 2, respectively.

b) All other limits

For measurement of radiation to be compared with limits other than the retinal photochemical hazard limit, the angle of acceptance should fully encompass the source under consideration (i.e. the angle of acceptance should be at least as large as the angular subtense of the source $\alpha$). However, if $\alpha > \alpha_{max}$, in the wavelength range of 302,5 nm to 4 000 nm, the limiting angle of acceptance should not be larger than $\alpha_{max}$ for the thermal hazard limits. Within the wavelength range of 400 nm to 1 400 nm for thermal hazard limits, for the evaluation of an apparent source which consists of multiple points, the angle of acceptance should be in the range of $\alpha_{min} \le \gamma \le \alpha_{max}$ (see 4.3 d)).

For the determination of the MPE for sources with non-circular emission patterns, the value of the angular subtense of a rectangular or linear source is determined by the arithmetic mean of the two angular dimensions of the source. Any angular dimension that is greater than $\alpha_{max}$ or less than $\alpha_{min}$ should be limited to $\alpha_{max}$ or $\alpha_{min}$ respectively, prior to calculating the mean. The retinal photochemical hazard limits do not depend on the angular subtense of the source, and the source is measured with the angle of acceptance as specified above.

## A.5 Extended source lasers

The following corrections to the small source MPEs are restricted in most instances to viewing diffuse reflections, and, in some cases, these could apply to laser arrays, line lasers, lasers with beam waist diameters above 0,2 mm and divergence angles above 2 mrad or extended source diffused laser products.

For extended source laser radiation (for example, diffuse reflection viewing) at wavelengths from 400 nm to 1 400 nm, the thermal ocular hazard MPEs are increased by the factor $C_6$ provided that the angular subtense of the source (measured at the viewer's eye) is greater than $\alpha_{min}$, where $\alpha_{min}$ is equal to 1,5 mrad.

The correction factor $C_6$ is given by:

$$C_6 = 1 \qquad \text{for } \alpha \le \alpha_{min}$$

$$C_6 = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha_{min}} \qquad \text{for } \alpha_{min} < \alpha \le \alpha_{max}$$

$$C_6 = \frac{\alpha_{max}}{\alpha_{min}} \qquad \text{for } \alpha > \alpha_{max}$$

# Annex B
(informative)

# Examples of calculations

## B.1 Symbols used in the examples of this annex

| Symbol | Unit | Definition |
|---|---|---|
| $a$ | m | Diameter of the emergent laser beam |
| AEL | W, J, $W{\cdot}m^{-2}$ or $J{\cdot}m^{-2}$ | Accessible emission limit |
| $\alpha$ | rad | The angle subtended by an apparent source (or a diffuse reflection) as viewed at a point in space |
| $\alpha_{min}$ | rad | Minimum angle subtended by a source for which the extended source criterion applies (1,5 mrad) |
| $\alpha_{max}$ | rad | Maximum angle subtended by a source for which the extended source criterion varies linearly with source size (varies from 5 mrad to 100 mrad). |
| $C_1, C_2, \ldots, C_7$ | 1 | Correction factors (see Table 9) |
| $PRF, F$ | Hz | Pulse repetition frequency |
| $H$ | $J{\cdot}m^{-2}$ | Radiant exposure |
| $E$ | $W{\cdot}m^{-2}$ | Irradiance at a specified distance, $r$, from the apparent source |
| $H_o$ | $J{\cdot}m^{-2}$ | Emergent beam radiant exposure |
| $E_o$ | $W{\cdot}m^{-2}$ | Irradiance at zero distance from the apparent source |
| $\lambda$ | nm | Wavelength of laser radiation |
| $N$ | 1 | Number of pulses contained within an exposure duration |
| $P_o$ | W | Total radiant power (radiant flux) of a CW laser, or average radiant power of a repetitively pulsed laser |
| $P_p$ | W | Radiant power within a pulse of a pulsed laser |
| $\phi$ | rad | Divergence angle of an emergent laser beam |
| $\pi$ | 1 | The numerical constant 3,142 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| $Q$ | J | Total radiant energy of a pulsed laser |
| $t$ | s | Time duration of a single laser pulse |
| $T$ | s | Total exposure duration of a train of pulses |
| $T_1$, $T_2$ | s | Time breakpoints (see Table 9) |

## B.2 Classification of a laser product – Introduction

The examples presented in this annex illustrate the calculation procedures for classifying a laser product from measured parameters obtained by following the measurement conditions specified in this standard. Flowcharts are provided in this annex to illustrate the basic steps that may be needed to complete a classification calculation for a laser product, but not all possible laser products have been covered by these flowcharts.

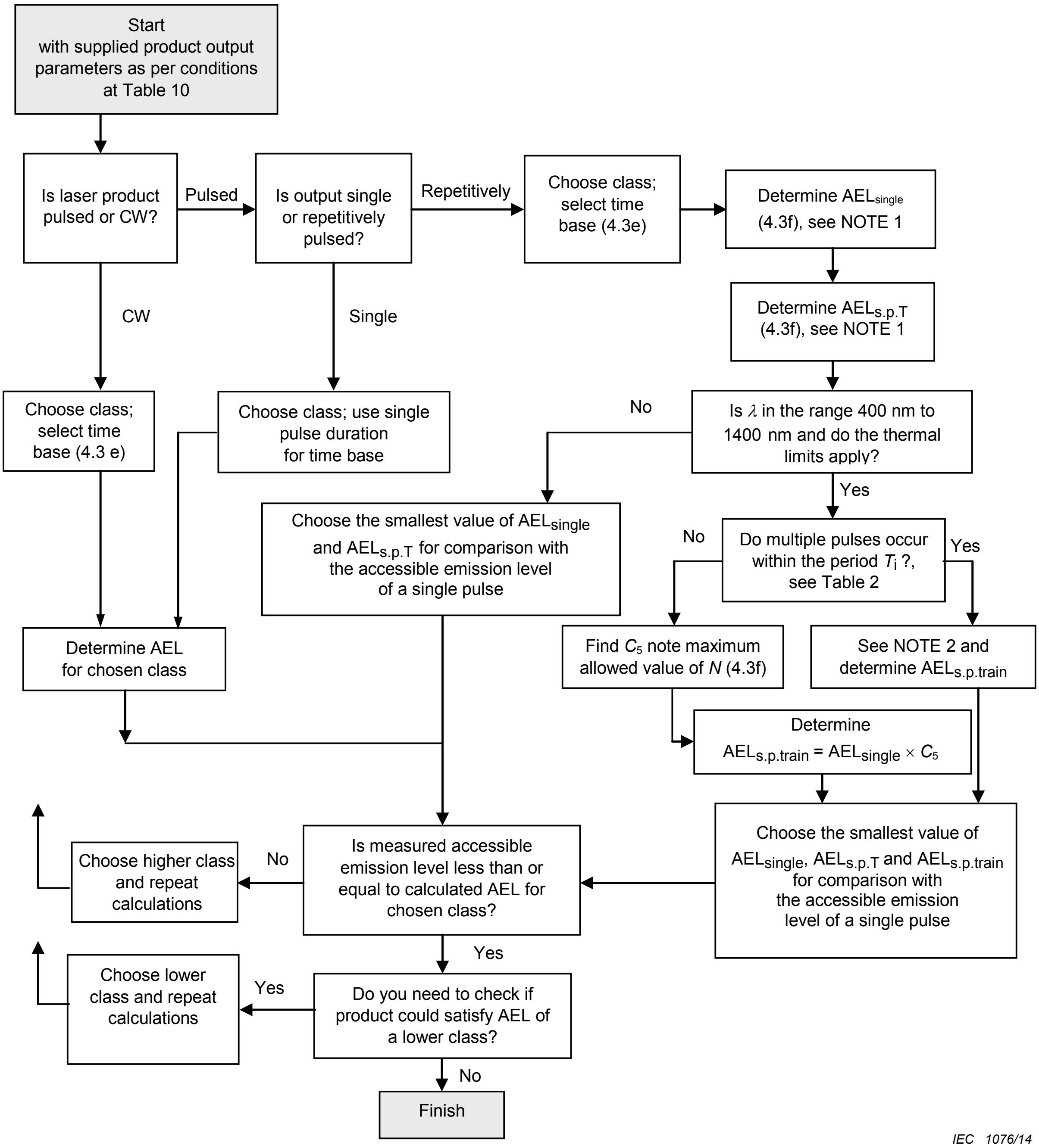
As specified in 4.2 and 4.3:

– It is the responsibility of the manufacturer or his agent to provide correct classification of a laser product. The product is classified on the basis of that combination of output power(s) and wavelength(s) of the accessible laser radiation over the full range of capability during operation at any time after manufacture, which results in its allocation to the highest appropriate class. The accessible emission limit (AELs) for Class 1,1C and 1M, Class 2 and 2M, Class 3R and Class 3B (listed in order of increasing hazard) are given in Tables 3 to 8.

– The values of the correction factors used are given in Table 9 as functions of wavelength, emission duration, number of pulses and angular subtense.

If the user modifies the laser product so that the accessible laser radiation is altered, it becomes their responsibility to ensure the product is correctly classified.

The correct classification of a laser product may involve calculating the AEL for more than one of the classes listed in 5.3 to determine the correct classification, as illustrated in Figures B.1 and B.2. Example AELs for Class 1 are presented in Figures B.3 to B.5.




NOTE 1 $AEL_{single}$ is determined on the duration of a single pulse.

$AEL_{s.p.T}$ is calculated from $AEL_T$ determined on the chosen time base, where:

If $AEL_T$ is in J or J·m$^{-2}$ then $AEL_{s.p.T} = AEL_T/N_T$ (in units of J or J·m$^{-2}$).

If $AEL_T$ is in W or W·m$^{-2}$ then $AEL_{s.p.T} = AEL_T$/PRF (in units of J or J·m$^{-2}$).

$T$ = chosen time base in seconds.

$N_T$ = number of pulses in time $T$.

NOTE 2 If multiple pulses occur within the period $T_i$, the single pulse duration is changed to $T_i$ and the new value of $AEL_{single}$ is calculated. The PRF is changed accordingly to determine the maximum allowed value of $N$ (4.3 f). The new value of $AEL_{single}$ is divided by the number of original pulses contained in the period $T_i$ before substituting the final value of $AEL_{single}$ in equation for $AEL_{s.p.train}$.

**Figure B.1 – Flowchart guide for the classification of laser products from supplied output parameters**

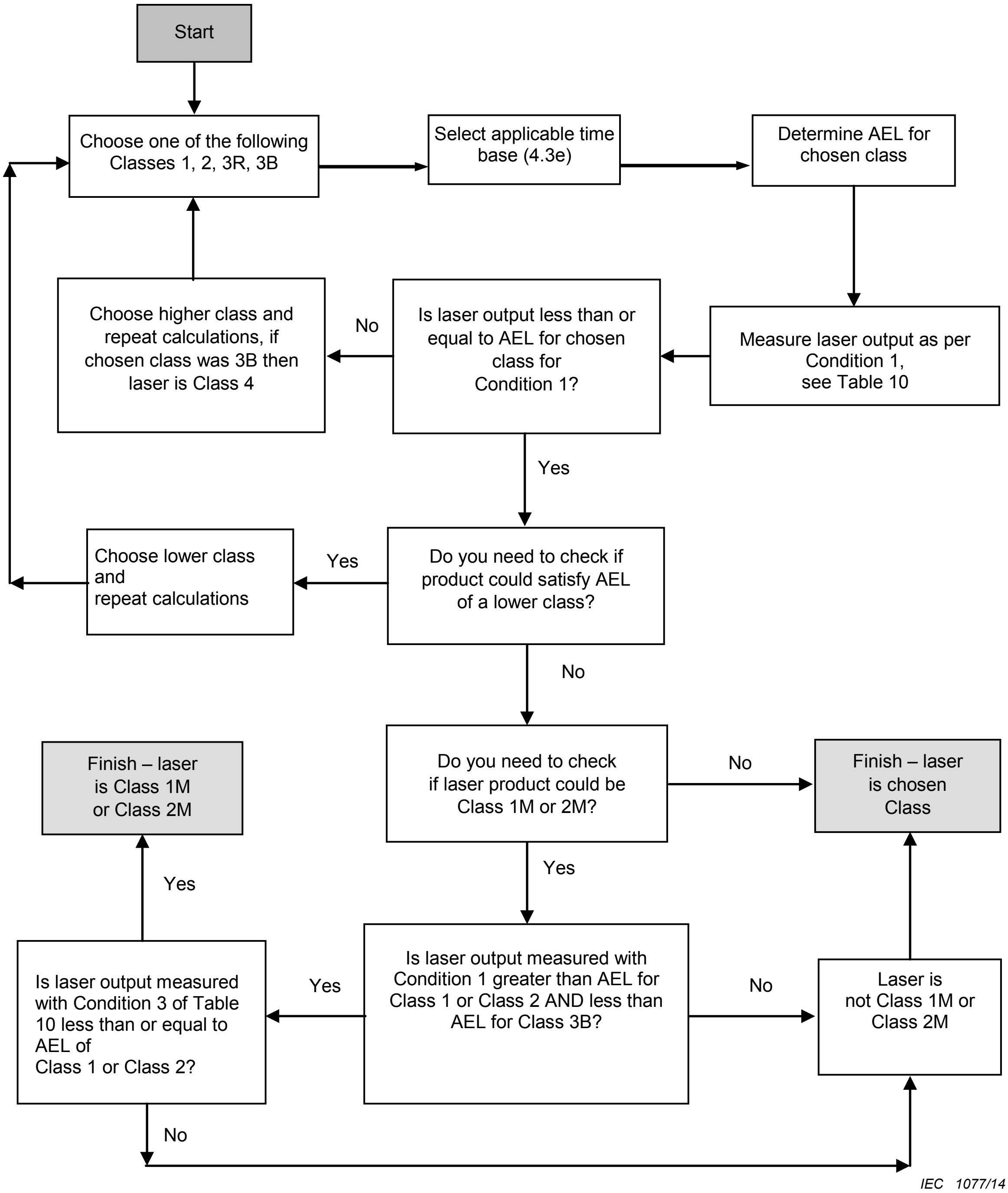



**Figure B.2 – Flowchart guide for the classification of Class 1M and Class 2M laser products**

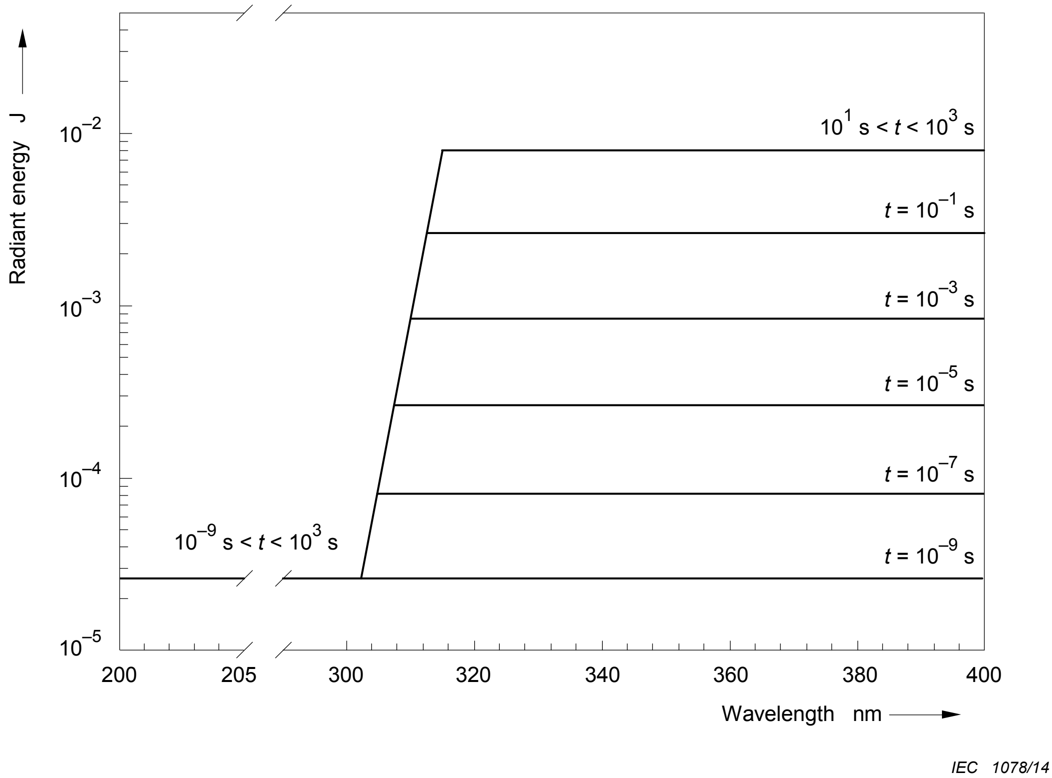



**Figure B.3 – AEL for Class 1 ultra-violet laser products for selected emission durations from $10^{-9}$ s to $10^{3}$ s**

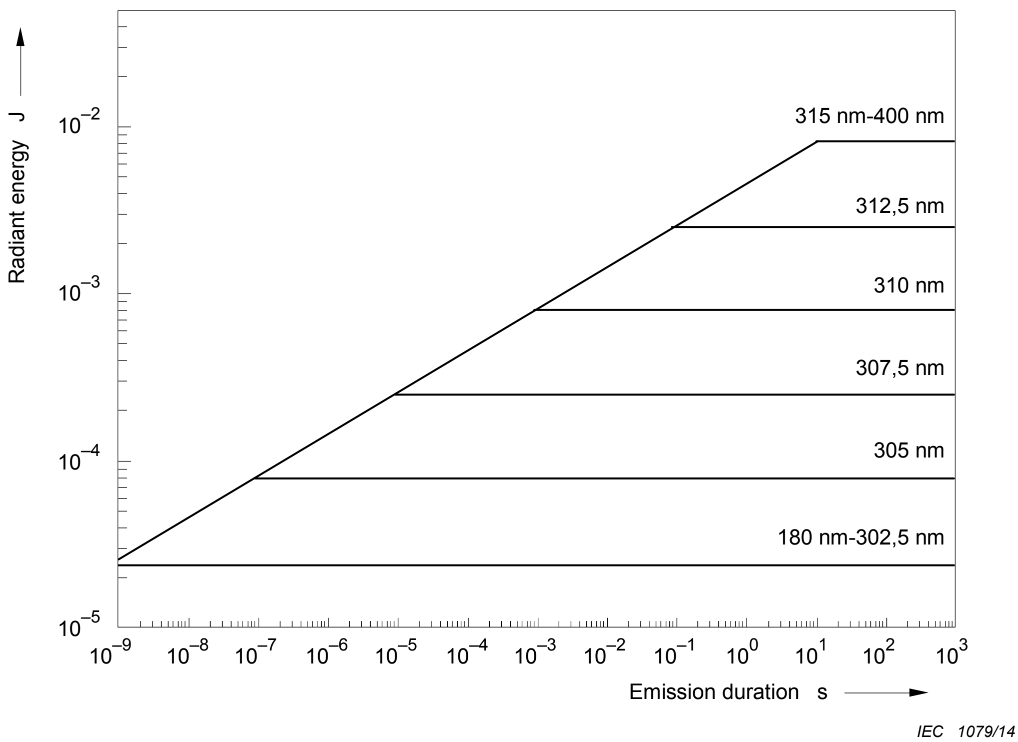



**Figure B.4 – AEL for Class 1 ultra-violet laser products for emission durations from $10^{-9}$ s to $10^{3}$ s at selected wavelengths**

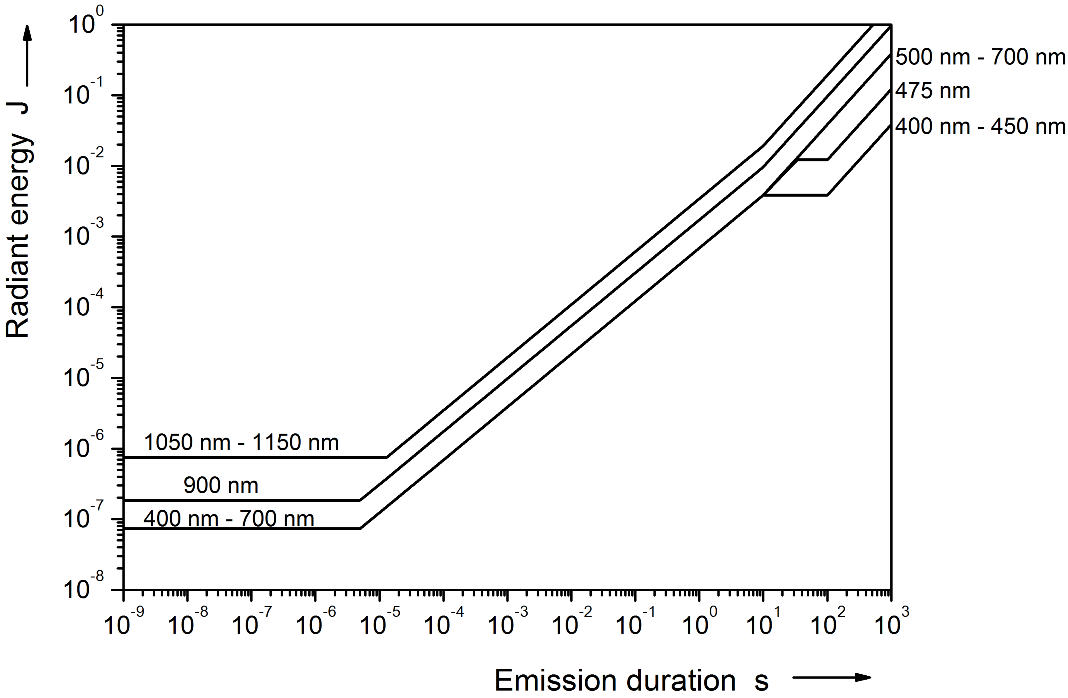



**Figure B.5 – AEL for Class 1 visible and selected infra-red laser products (case $C_6$ = 1)**

## B.3 Examples

### Example B.3.1

Classify a CW HeNe laser ($\lambda$ = 633 nm), with an output power of 50 mW, beam diameter 3 mm and beam divergence 1 mrad.

**Solution:**

From the beam characteristics it can be inferred that this is a well-collimated point source where $\alpha \leq \alpha_{\text{min}}$ = 1,5 mrad. Because of the small beam diameter and divergence angle, the full beam power will pass through a 7 mm aperture and hence measurement Conditions 1 and 3 will give the same accessible emission level. Choose a classification class and select an appropriate time base (see 4.3 e)).

Choose Class 3B and a time base of 100 s. Although the laser output is in the visible wavelength range 400 nm to 700 nm, a time base of 0,25 s is not allowed for Class 3B and intentional viewing is unlikely. For Class 3B, Table 8 gives

$$\text{AEL} = 0{,}5\ \text{W}$$

Since the laser is only emitting 50 mW, it does not exceed the AEL for Class 3B and could be classified as Class 3B. Item 4.3 a) states that the AEL for all lower classes must be exceeded, however, it may not always be obvious that the product would not satisfy the requirements of a lower classification, hence if in doubt check requirements of a lower class.

For Class 3R a time base of 0,25 s must be used for emission in the wavelength range 400 nm to 700 nm, thus from Table 6,

$$\text{AEL} = 5 \times 10^{-3}\, C_6 \text{ W}$$

From Table 9, $C_6$ = 1 for direct viewing of a well collimated beam, i.e. $\alpha \leq$ 1,5 mrad, therefore,

$$\text{AEL} = 5 \text{ mW}$$

Since laser output power is 50 mW, it exceeds the AEL for Class 3R but is less than the AEL for Class 3B and as Condition 1 and 3 are the same it cannot be Class 1M or 2M. Therefore, the laser would be classified as Class 3B.

**Example B.3.2**

A 12 mW CW diode laser ($\lambda$ = 900 nm) without a collimating lens has a beam divergence of 0,5 rad. Given the following parameters for the measurement conditions specified in Table 10, what is its classification? Assume the angular subtense $\alpha$ of the source at a measurement distance of 100 mm is less than $\alpha_{min}$.

Condition 1: < 20 µW through a 50 mm aperture stop 2 m from the laser diode chip.

Condition 3: 0,7 mW through a 7 mm aperture stop 100 mm from the laser diode chip.

**Solution:**

For such a divergent source, it is obvious that Condition 3 will be more restrictive than Condition 1.

Choose Class 1 and a 100 s time base (see 4.3 e)); thus, for a laser with a wavelength 400 nm to 1 400 nm and $\alpha \leq$ 1,5 mrad $C_6$ = 1 (see Table 9) so the AEL for Class 1 is obtained from Table 3 as follows:

$$\text{AEL} = 3{,}9 \times 10^{-4} C_4 C_7 \text{ W}$$

Where, from Table 9, $C_4 = 10^{0,002(\lambda-700)}$ = 2,51 and $C_7$ = 1. Therefore,

$$\text{AEL} = 0{,}98 \text{ mW}$$

When we compare the Condition 3 data with the AEL for Class 1 laser products the product meets the requirements for Class 1.

If the user fits a collimating lens to this laser diode, the product may need reclassifying.

Also, caution should be made that viewing this source with a fixed high power magnifier might be hazardous. The classification scope of this standard only includes hand held magnifiers up to 7x power, see Clause C.3.

**Example B.3.3**

Classify a single pulsed, frequency doubled, neodymium laser with the following output characteristics; assume both wavelengths are emitted at the same time.

Output pulse energy is 100 mJ at $\lambda$ = 1 060 nm

Output pulse energy is 25 mJ at $\lambda$ = 530 nm

Pulse duration = 25 ns

Exit aperture diameter = 5 mm

Beam divergence at each wavelength < 1 mrad

**Solution:**

The most restrictive case for this laser is if the beams are co-propagating and so the laser is classified as such. As the beams have small diameters and low divergence it is obvious that measurements taken under the conditions stated in Table 10 will yield the total energy for each wavelength. Assuming the laser can only emit one pulse in a time base of 100 s, then the duration of the pulse can be used for the exposure duration. Choosing a Class 3B laser product, Table 8 gives the AELs as:

$\lambda$ = 1 060 nm   $\mathrm{AEL}_{1\,060}$ = 0,03·$C_4$ J = 0,15 J = 150 mJ

$\lambda$ = 530 nm   $\mathrm{AEL}_{530}$ = 0,03 J = 30 mJ (as $t < 0{,}06$ s)

The rules for classifying multiple wavelengths are set out in 4.3 b) and Table 1 shows that these two wavelengths are additive at the eye.

Hence the methodology described in 4.3 b) 1) is to be used to assign the class by assessing if

$$\frac{Q_{1\,060}}{\mathrm{AEL}_{1\,060}} + \frac{Q_{530}}{\mathrm{AEL}_{530}} \leq 1$$

Substituting the appropriate values in mJ gives

$$\frac{100}{150} + \frac{25}{30} = 1{,}5$$

Since this is greater than 1 the laser product will be of higher classification.

Therefore, laser product is Class 4.

**Example B.3.4**

Classify a CW carbon dioxide laser ($\lambda$ = 10,6 µm) used for an open beam security system. Assume an average output power of 0,4 W, a beam diameter of 2 mm and a beam divergence of 1 mrad.

**Solution:**

Choose Class 3R and as intentional viewing is not expected, 4.3 e) gives a 100 s time base.

Table 9 indicates that for this wavelength $C_6$ = 1 so the Table 6 is to be used and AEL for Class 3R with $T$ = 100 s is found to be 5 000 W·m$^{-2}$. From Table 10 it is found that for this wavelength only Condition 3 is applicable and as the AEL has units of W·m$^{-2}$, it is appropriate to find the beam irradiance for Condition 3. Referring to Table 11 for the reference point for the Condition 3 measurement, it is assumed that the beam waist is within the housing and so with reference to the text at the bottom of Table 11, the irradiance is found at the nearest point of human access.

Note, Table 10 gives the limiting aperture for a 100 s exposure as 3,5 mm but the laser beam diameter is only 2 mm. In order to calculate the beam irradiance, ($E_0$ = $P_0$/area), we should use whichever is the greater of the actual beam diameter or the limiting aperture, thus

$$E_0 = \frac{P_0}{\text{area}} = \frac{4 \times 0{,}4}{\pi\left(3{,}5 \times 10^{-3}\right)^2} = 4{,}16 \times 10^4\ \text{W} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$$

This exceeds the AEL for Class 3R so a higher class needs to be assessed. Table 8 gives the AEL for Class 3B as 0,5 W; therefore, as this exceeds the total laser output power this laser is classified as Class 3B.

**Example B.3.5**

Classify a laser emitting 1 µs pulses with a pulse repetition frequency ($F$) of 500 Hz, a peak output power of 10 kW at $\lambda$ = 694 nm, beam diameter is 5 mm and beam divergence is 0,5 mrad. The angular subtense must be less than or equal to the divergence. Hence we can assume a point source with $\alpha < \alpha_{\text{min}}$ = 1,5 mrad.

Item f) of 4.3 contains details of the requirements for repetitively pulsed lasers, which are summarised below.

> For all wavelengths, requirements 1) and 2) shall be assessed. In addition, for wavelengths from 400 nm to 1 400 nm, requirement 3) shall also be assessed for comparison with thermal limits. Requirement 3) does not need to be assessed for comparison with photochemical limits.

Choose Class 3B and as intentional viewing is not expected Item 4.3 e) gives a 100 s time base.

Item 4.3 f) 3) states that if multiple pulses appear within the period of $T_i$ (see Table 2 for $T_i$) they are counted as a single pulse to determine $N$ and the radiant exposure of the individual pulses is added and compared to the AEL of $T_i$. Hence, it is necessary to confirm if multiple pulse appear within the duration $T_i$. If the period between the pulses of the laser is less than the duration $T_i$, the following must be taken into account:

Check if multiple pulses can occur within the period $T_i$ as given in Table 2. For this laser wavelength $T_i$ = 5 × $10^{-6}$ s and the actual time between pulses is $1/F$ = 2 × $10^{-3}$ s, hence multiple pulses do not occur in the period $T_i$. Following the procedure in 4.3 f):

a) Item 4.3 f) 1) consider a single pulse exposure. Table 8 gives for $t$ = 1 ×$10^{-6}$ s,

$$\text{AEL}_{\text{single}} = 0{,}03\ \text{J (as } t < 0{,}06\ \text{s)}$$

b) Item 4.3 f) 2) consider the average power for a pulse train of duration $T$. Table 8 gives the AEL for $T$ = 100 s as follows:

$$\text{AEL}_{\text{T}} = 0{,}5\ \text{W}$$

As this laser has a regular series of pulses there is no need to average for shorter durations. For convenience of comparison (see Note to Item 4.3 f) 2)) $\text{AEL}_{\text{T}}$ is converted to be relevant to a single pulse. In this case as $\text{AEL}_{\text{T}}$ has unit of W, dividing by the PRF gives the equivalent AEL energy per pulse; therefore,

$$\text{AEL}_{\text{s.p.T}} = \frac{\text{AEL}_{\text{T}}}{\text{PRF}} = \frac{0{,}5\ \text{W}}{500\ \text{Hz}} = 1 \times 10^{-3}\ \text{J}$$

c) Item 4.3 f) 3) considers the energy from a single pulse multiplied by $C_5$. That is AEL $_{\text{s.p.train}}$ = $\text{AEL}_{\text{single}} \times C_5$. According to 4.3 f) 3):

for $t < T_i$ and timebase > 0,25 s

if $N \leq 600$ $\quad$ $C_5 = 1$

$N > 600$ $\quad$ $C_5 = 5 \cdot N^{-0{,}25}$ with a minimum of 0,4.

Also $N$ is limited to the number of pulses that occur within the period $T_2$ = 10 s for $\alpha \leq \alpha_{min}$ (see Table 9). Thus, with a pulse repetition of 500 Hz, in 10 s, $N = 500 \times 10 = 5\ 000$, which is greater than 600 and so

$$C_5 = 5 \times 5\ 000^{-0,25} = 0,59.$$

Therefore:

$$AEL_{s.p.train} = 0,03 \times 0,59 \text{ J}$$

$$AEL_{s.p.train} = 0,018 \text{ J}$$

Noting that the three AELs above are all relative to a single pulse and can be compared directly to find the most restrictive. Hence the most restrictive of the three values is $AEL_{s.p.T}$ and so the AEL for Class 3B is $1 \times 10^{-3}$ J.

As the laser has a small beam diameter and low divergence the emissions measured under Conditions 1 and 3 (see Table 10) will be the same and equal to the total laser energy. The AEL (relative to pulse energy in this case) and the emission level (peak power specified) must be on the same base line, so the emission peak power must be converted to pulse energy (or vice versa).

The laser energy per pulse, $Q$, is calculated from the relationship

$$Q = (\text{peak power}) \times (\text{pulse duration})$$

$$Q = 10^4 \times 1 \times 10^{-6} = 0,01 \text{ J}$$

Since the accessible emission energy per pulse exceeds $AEL_{s.p.T}$, the laser product exceeds the AEL for Class 3B and, therefore, must be Class 4.

# Annex C
(informative)

# Description of the classes and potentially associated hazards

## C.1 General

This annex contains a description of the classes as well as potentially associated hazards.

The annex is intended as a guide for the manufacturers in their task of describing the hazards associated with the product. This annex also points out limitations of the classification scheme, i.e. situations where the generally associated meaning of the class is not appropriate.

Classification was developed to aid the user in hazard evaluation of the laser and to determine necessary user control measures. Laser classification relates to the potential hazard of the accessible laser radiation in respect to skin or eye damage and does not relate to other potential hazards such as electrical, mechanical or chemical hazards, or hazards from secondary optical radiation. The intent of classification is to recognize the increased risk of injury with increasing powers accessible above the base-line, Class 1 condition and most accurately describes the risk from potential exposures at short distances from the laser. The hazard zone can differ greatly for different lasers within one class. The potential hazard could be greatly reduced by additional user protective measures, including additional engineering controls such as protective housings.

## C.2 Description of classes

### C.2.1 Class 1

Laser products that are safe during use, including long-term direct intrabeam viewing, even when exposure occurs while using telescopic optics. Class 1 also includes high power lasers that are fully enclosed so that no potentially hazardous radiation is accessible during use (embedded laser product). Intrabeam viewing of Class 1 laser products which emit visible radiant energy may still produce dazzling visual effects, particularly in low ambient light.

The term “eye-safe” may only be used for Class 1 laser products. The term “eye-safe laser” should not be used to describe a laser, based solely on its output wavelength being greater than 1 400 nm. Lasers of any wavelength with sufficient output power can cause injury.

### C.2.2 Class 1M

Laser products that are safe, including long-term direct intrabeam viewing for the naked eye (unaided eye). The MPE can be exceeded and eye injury may occur following exposure with telescopic optics such as binoculars for a collimated beam with a diameter larger than the measurement diameter specified for Condition 3 (see Table 10).

The wavelength region for Class 1M lasers is restricted to the spectral region where most glass optical materials used in optical instruments can significantly transmit, i.e., between 302,5 nm and 4 000 nm. Intrabeam viewing of Class 1M laser products which emit visible radiant energy may still produce dazzling visual effects, particularly in low ambient light.

### C.2.3 Class 1C

Laser products that are intended for direct application of laser radiation to the skin or internal body tissues for medical, diagnostic, therapeutic or cosmetic procedures such as hair removal, skin wrinkle reduction, acne reduction. Although the emitted laser radiation may be at Class 3R, 3B or 4 levels, ocular exposures are prevented by one or more engineering means. The exposure level of the skin depends on the application, therefore this aspect is covered by vertical standards. This class was introduced in this standard because these products currently exist in the marketplace, and the control measures normally specified for Class 3B or 4 laser products are inappropriate for them. Technical committees who use Class 1C must develop the required specifications for safety in their vertical standards.

#### C.2.4 Class 2

Laser products that emit visible radiation in the wavelength range from 400 nm to 700 nm that are safe for momentary exposures but can be hazardous for deliberate staring into the beam. The time base of 0,25 s is inherent in the definition of the class and presumption is that there is very low risk of injury for momentary exposures that are somewhat longer.

The following factors contribute to precluding injury under reasonably foreseeable conditions:

- unintentional exposures would rarely reflect worst-case conditions, for example, of beam alignment with the pupil for a stabilised head, worst-case accommodation;
- the inherent safety margin in the MPE upon which the AEL is based;
- natural aversion behaviour for exposure to bright light.

For Class 2, in contrast to Class 2M, the use of optical instruments does not increase the risk of ocular injury.

However, dazzle, flash-blindness and afterimages may be caused by a beam from a Class 2 laser product, particularly under low ambient light conditions. This may have indirect general safety implications resulting from temporary disturbance of vision or from startle reactions. Such visual disturbances could be of particular concern if experienced while performing safety-critical operations such as working with machines or at height, with high voltages or driving.

Users are instructed by labelling not to stare into the beam, i.e. to perform active protective reactions by moving the head or closing the eyes and to avoid continued intentional intrabeam viewing.

#### C.2.5 Class 2M

Laser products that emit visible laser beams and are safe for short time exposure only for the naked (unaided) eye. The MPE can be exceeded and eye injury may occur following exposure with telescopic optics such as binoculars for a collimated beam with a diameter larger than the measurement diameter specified for Condition 3 (see Table 10).

However, dazzle, flash-blindness and afterimages may be caused by a beam from a Class 2M laser product, particularly under low ambient light conditions. This may have indirect general safety implications resulting from temporary disturbance of vision or from startle reactions. Such visual disturbances could be of particular concern if experienced while performing safety-critical operations such as working with machines or at height, with high voltages or driving.

Users are instructed by labelling not to stare into the beam, i.e. to perform active protective reactions by moving the head or closing the eyes and to avoid continued intentional intrabeam viewing. Labelling of Class 2M products also instructs against exposing users of telescopic optical instruments.

#### C.2.6 Class 3R

Laser products that emit radiation that can exceed the MPE under direct intrabeam viewing, but the risk of injury in most cases is relatively low. The AEL for Class 3R is limited to 5 times the AEL of Class 2 (visible laser radiation) or 5 times the AEL of Class 1 (for non-visible laser radiation). Because of the lower risk, fewer manufacturing requirements and control measures for the user (depending on national regulations) apply than for Class 3B. While Class 3R laser products are not considered intrinsically safe, the risk is limited because

– unintentional exposures would rarely reflect worst-case conditions of (e.g.) beam alignment with a large pupil and worst-case accommodation with the entire beam energy entering the eye,
– of the inherent reduction factor (safety margin) in the MPE,
– of natural aversion behaviour for exposure to bright light for the case of visible radiation and by the response to heating of the cornea for far infrared radiation.

The risk of injury increases with exposure duration, and exposure may be hazardous for ocular exposure under worst-case conditions or for intentional direct intrabeam viewing.

Due to the varying range of the risk that is associated with Class 3R lasers, the applicability of specific user controls (including administrative controls and personal eye protection) should be clearly described in the user instructions.

NOTE Compared to ocular MPE values as well as AEL values for Class 1, 1M, 2, 2M and 3R specified in the second edition of IEC 60825-1, the respective values in this third edition were decreased for some single-pulsed point sources, but increased for most repetitively pulsed sources, and also increased for most pulsed extended sources; reduction factors (safety margins) in these values were changed correspondingly. Consequently, some pulsed products that were classified as Class 3R under Edition 2 are Class 2 under Edition 3, and some pulsed products that were classified as Class 3B under Edition 2 are Class 3R under Edition 3. For the latter, there is less practical experience available regarding the risk for injury as it exists for CW sources with collimated beams with powers up to 5 mW being used for many years as alignment lasers.

Dazzle, flash-blindness and afterimages may be caused by a beam from a Class 3R laser product in the visible wavelength range (as from a Class 2 laser), particularly under low ambient light conditions. This may have indirect general safety implications resulting from temporary disturbance of vision or from startle reactions. Such visual disturbances could be of particular concern if experienced while performing safety-critical operations such as working with machines or at height, with high voltages or driving.

Class 3R lasers should only be used where direct intrabeam viewing is unlikely.

### C.2.7 Class 3B

Laser products that are normally hazardous when intrabeam ocular exposure occurs (i.e. within the NOHD) including accidental short time exposure. Viewing diffuse reflections is normally safe. Class 3B lasers which approach the AEL for Class 3B may produce minor skin injuries or even pose a risk of igniting flammable materials. However, this is only likely if the beam has a small diameter or is focussed.

NOTE There exist some theoretical (but rare) viewing conditions where viewing a diffuse reflection could exceed the MPE. For example for Class 3B lasers having powers approaching the AEL, lengthy viewing of greater than 10 s of true diffuse reflections of visible radiation and viewing at distances less than 13 cm between the diffusing surface and the cornea can exceed the MPE.

### C.2.8 Class 4

Laser products for which intrabeam viewing and skin exposure is hazardous and for which the viewing of diffuse reflections may be hazardous. These lasers also often represent a fire hazard.

### C.2.9 Note on nomenclature

“C” in Class 1C is derived from the mode of operation where laser radiation above the AEL of Class 1 can be emitted only when the applicator is in contact with (or very close to) the skin or internal body tissue.

“M” in Class 1M and Class 2M is derived from magnifying optical viewing instruments. “R” in Class 3R is derived from reduced, or relaxed, requirements: reduced requirements both for the manufacturer (e.g. no key switch, beam stop or attenuator and interlock connector required) and the user. The “B” for Class 3B has historical origins, as in a previous version of this standard (IEC 60825-1:1993), a Class 3A existed, which had a similar meaning to what is now Class 1M and Class 2M.

It should be noted that for the above descriptions, whenever “hazardous” is used or there is a reference to a high risk of injury, this hazard and risk only exists within the area around the laser where the corresponding MPE levels are exceeded. For exposure of the naked eye, this area is bounded by the NOHD, or for well collimated Class 1M and 2M viewed with binoculars or telescopes, the extended NOHD (ENOHD). It may well be that a particular (Class 3B or Class 4) laser product has a very short NOHD associated with it, so that for a particular installation or application, for personnel outside the NOHD eye protection is not necessary. Examples of such installations are scanning lasers or line lasers mounted on the ceiling of the manufacturing hall that project a pattern or line onto the workpiece in the work area below. While the power level and scan pattern could be such that the exposure in the work area is below the MPE and therefore safe, maintenance and service routines will need special consideration. For example, exposure at closer distances might be hazardous, for instance, when the user is up on a ladder cleaning an exit window. Another example is that, whilst a scan pattern might be safe, a hazard may arise if the beam reverts to the non-scanning mode. In addition, for Class 4 laser products, there is a NOHD associated with diffuse reflections (although this NOHD is likely to be quite limited in extent). The characterisation of the hazard associated with a particular laser and application is part of a risk assessment.

Classification tests are designed to be rather “worst-case” and restrictive in order to ensure that a “low-class” (e.g. Class 1) product does not present a hazard to the eye or skin even in reasonably foreseeable worst-case situations; the test conditions are designed to consider a variety of worst-case situations (see Sliney et al.). Consequently, a Class 3B or Class 4 product can still be designed in such a way that it can be considered safe for its intended use and normal operation, since the hazard only becomes accessible in worst-case situations. For instance, the product could feature a protective housing (which complies with IEC 60825-4) but fails to be an embedded Class 1 laser product because of the following reasons.

– The protective housing fails the test according to this Part 1 for an extended period (whereas for machines according to IEC 60825-4 a shorter evaluation time may be used).
– It has no top cover but would be considered safe for an environment where no persons are present above the guard.
– It does not feature an automatic detection of walk-in access. (However, in a controlled environment, this can be replaced by an organisational safety measure of individualised locks that prevent closure of the door when somebody is inside the protective housing – which does not affect the classification but represents a procedure which achieves the desired level of safety for the user).

In cases where the hazard associated with a Class 3B and Class 4 laser product is limited to within the housing, organisational safety measures may be sufficient. Similarly, for a laser system with no roof, or a situation where burn-through of the guard may occur after some longer lasting fault, organisational safety measures may be sufficient.

Other examples exist where the hazards associated with Class 3B and Class 4 lasers arise only in specific situations. For example, consider the situation in which the classification is based on an accessory such as a collimating lens applied to a highly divergent source for low level laser therapy. This product may be classified as Class 3B based on the accessory lens being screwed on, since this lens produces a potentially hazardous collimated beam. However use without the accessory being screwed on, which would result in a divergent beam, could be safe (i.e. any exposure to the eye would be below the MPE). Thus a hazard area would only exist around the laser once the accessory has been screwed on.

## C.3 Limitations of the classification scheme

Although the classification tests are in many ways rather restrictive and worst case, there are still limitations which, in rare cases, may lead to hazards beyond the hazards that are associated with the respective classes. Classification is based on three "components":

a) the AEL of the different classes;

b) the measurement requirements in terms of measurement distance, aperture diameter and angle of acceptance to reflect potential exposure conditions. These measurement requirements, for a given laser product, determine the accessible emission that is compared to the AEL to determine the class;

c) the test conditions under which the AEL and the accessible emission is determined. This would include taking account of reasonably foreseeable single fault conditions. Also operation, maintenance and service need to be distinguished. The use of accessories and different configurations of the product that can be achieved without using tools need to be considered.

Each of these three components has some implicit assumptions, so that in rare cases, where these assumptions are not met, hazards beyond the usual understanding of the class can arise. For instance, the AEL for Class 1 and 1M for long term exposure is based on the assumption of eye movements of a non-anaesthetised eye. Therefore, if prolonged ocular exposure occurs during medical procedures for an anaesthetised eye, then Class 1 and 1M laser emission may lead to potentially hazardous exposures. Also, the measurement requirements are based on assumptions and evaluations of the likelihood of exposure with certain types of optical instruments. For example, a large diameter (larger than 50 mm) collimated beam intercepted by a large telescope might be hazardous even for a Class 1 laser product. However, the probability of such an accidental ocular exposure is usually very small due to the small field of view of large telescopes. Another situation that might need to be considered is where a product is placed into a condition which is not required to be considered for classification but from which hazardous radiation might, nevertheless, become accessible. For instance, even though it is not provided by the manufacturer of the product as an accessory, a divergent beam from a Class 1M or Class 2M product could be transformed into a collimated beam with a potentially large hazard distance by attaching a collimating lens to the product. However, this would be considered as changing the product, and the person carrying out that change should re-classify the product.

Nevertheless, the manufacturer should be aware of the limitations so that it is possible to include warnings in the user manual for products. Specific examples of such potential limitations are given below (note that these limitations are only potential because it depends on the type of product if the limitations apply or not).

– Large diameter collimated beam Class 1, Class 2 or Class 3R laser products that are viewed with large telescopes.
– Highly divergent beam Class 1, Class 2 or Class 3R laser products that are viewed with magnifiers (see also Note 1 under 5.4.1 and IEC 60825-2).
– Binoculars or telescopes with magnification of less than ×7. In this case, for Condition 1, the magnification of the angular source $\alpha$ that may be applied (see 4.3 c)), or, alternatively, the reduction of the angle of acceptance (see 5.4.3 b)), should be equal to the real magnification factor, i.e. less than ×7.
– Scanning beams when viewed with telescopes.
– Intrabeam viewing at very close distances of UV-A laser radiation from Class 1 laser products can exceed the MPE for the eye for exposure durations longer than 1 000 s.
– Double fault conditions that might be likely. That is, faults where each fault on its own would not result in accessible emission above the AEL, but both faults occurring at the same time could. When these faults are expected to occur with a relatively high probability, then the probability for a double fault might be sufficiently high so that it should be considered during product design.

– The laser class may not be indicative of the hazard at locations where people are likely to be exposed to the laser beam. Consideration needs to be taken of the NOHD, especially for laser beams that are widely divergent.

## C.4 References

[1] HENDERSON, R. and SCHULMEISTER, K. *Laser Safety*, Taylor and Francis Ltd., United Kingdom, 2004

[2] SLINEY DH, MARSHALL WJ, BRUMAGE EC. Rationale for laser classification measurement conditions. *J Laser Appl*. 2007; 19(3):197-206

[3] ISO/IEC GUIDE 51:1999, *Safety aspects – Guidelines for their inclusion in standards*

# Annex D
(informative)

# Biophysical considerations

## D.1 Anatomy of the eye

Figure D.1 provides anatomical details of the human eye.

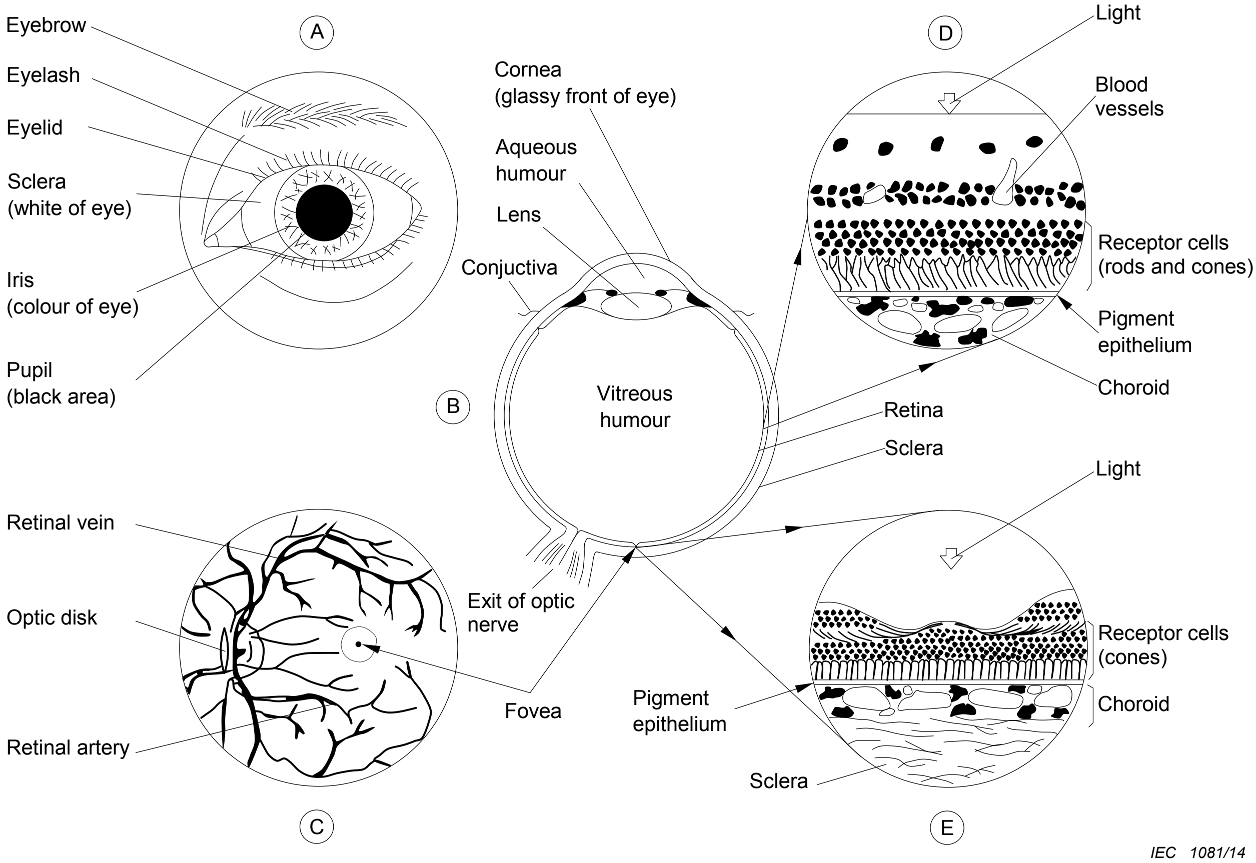



**Figure D.1 – Anatomy of the eye**

In Figure D.1, section (A) is a diagram of the external features of a left eye. The gap between the overlying lids limits the field-of-view (FOV) of the eye to an almond shape. The main features of the front of the eye are labelled.

Section (B) is a diagrammatic horizontal cross-section of a left eye. The eye is divided into two parts, the front or anterior chamber which is bounded by the cornea, the iris and the lens, and the back or posterior eye cup which is bounded by the retina and contains the gel-like vitreous humour.

Section (C) is the inside of an intact eye seen through an ophthalmoscope. This instrument directs a beam of light through the pupil and illuminates the inside of the eye and so allows it to be seen. The picture so viewed is referred to as the fundus. It looks reddish, but the major retinal vessels can be clearly seen. Other prominent features are the whitish optic disc, and the fovea. The fovea is a small depression in the retinal surface which may be more pigmented than the surrounding retina and is the area of most acute vision. The fovea is the centre of the macula; the macula is responsible for detailed vision.

Section (D) is the structure of the retina as seen in the cut surface of Figure D.1(B) but magnified several hundred times larger than life. The retina consists of a series of layers of nerve cells which overlie the photosensitive rod and cone cells; i.e. light falling on the retinal surface has to pass through the layers of nerve cells before it reaches the photosensitive cells. Underneath the layer of rods and cones is a layer of the pigment epithelium that contains a brownish black pigment melanin; and beneath this is a layer of fine blood vessels, the choriocapillaris. The final absorbing layer is the choroid, which contains both pigmented cells and blood vessels.

Section (E) is the structure of the foveal region magnified several hundred times. Here only cones are present. The nerve cells are displaced radially away from this area of most acute vision. The macular pigment, which absorbs strongly from 400 nm to 500 nm, is located in the fibre layer of Henle.

## D.2 The effects of laser radiation on biological tissue

### D.2.1 General

The mechanism by which laser radiation induces damage is similar for all biological systems and may involve interactions of heat, thermoacoustic transients, photochemical processes and non-linear effects. The degree to which any of these mechanisms is responsible for damage may be related to certain physical parameters of the irradiating source, the most important of which are wavelength, pulse duration, image size, irradiance and radiant exposure.

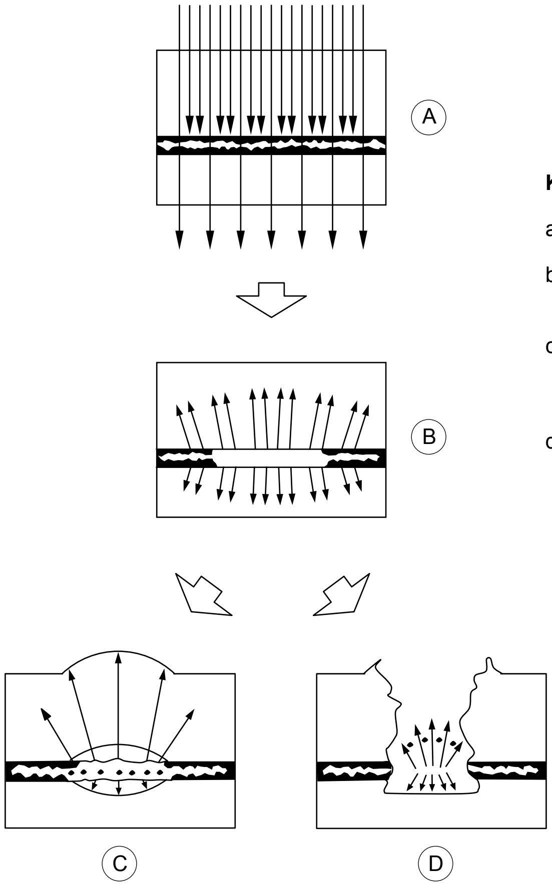
In general terms, in supra-threshold exposures, the predominating mechanism is broadly related to the pulse duration of the exposure. Thus, in order of increasing pulse duration, the predominant effects in the following time domains are:

– in nanosecond and sub-nanosecond exposures, microcavitation, acoustic transients and non-linear effects,

– from about 100 μs to several seconds, thermal effects, and,

– in excess of about 10 s, photochemical effects.

Laser radiation is distinguished from most other known types of radiation by its high radiance and beam collimation. This, together with an initial high energy content, results in excessive amounts of energy being transmitted to biological tissues. The primary event in any type of laser radiation damage to a biological system is the absorption of optical radiation by that system. Absorption occurs at an atomic or molecular level and is a wavelength specific process. Thus, it is the wavelength that determines which tissue a particular laser beam is liable to damage.




**Key**

a) Laser energy is absorbed by the system.

b) The absorbed energy produces heat which is conducted to surrounding tissues.

c) In long-pulse or CW lasers, the persistence of the thermal front gives rise to a progressively enlarging lesion.

d) In short-pulse lasers, the high power density gives rise to explosive rupture of cells and damage by physical displacement.

**Figure D.2 – Diagram of laser-induced damage in biological systems**

*Thermal effects*. When sufficient radiant energy has been absorbed by a system, its component molecules experience an increased vibration, and this is an increase in heat content. Most laser damage is due to the heating of the absorbing tissue or tissues. This thermal damage is usually confined to a limited area extending to either side of the laser energy absorbing site, and centred on the irradiating beam. Cells within this area show burn characteristics, and tissue damage primarily results from denaturation of protein. As indicated above, the occurrence of secondary damage mechanisms in laser impacts can be related to the time course of the tissue heating reaction which is directly related to the pulse duration (see Figure D.2) and the period of cooling. Thermochemical reactions occur during both the heating and cooling period, giving rise to a spot-size dependence of thermal injury. If a CW or long-pulse laser impulse is directed onto a tissue, then because of conduction, the area of the biological tissue experiencing a raised temperature is progressively increased. This spreading thermal front results in an increasing damage zone as more and more cells are raised above their thermal tolerance. The beam image size is also of great importance, as the degree of peripheral spread due to conduction is a function of the size as well as the temperature of the initial area of tissue heating. This type of thermal lesion is commonly seen on exposure to CW or long pulsed lasers, but also occurs with short pulses. For irradiated spot sizes of the order of 1 mm to 2 mm or less, the radial heat flow leads to a spot-size dependence of injury.

*Photochemical effects.* On the other hand, damaging effects can be the direct result of a photochemical process. This process is created by absorption of given light energy. Rather than releasing the energy, the species undergo a chemical reaction unique to their excited state. This photochemical reaction is believed to be responsible for damage at low levels of exposure. By this mechanism, some biological tissues such as the skin, the lens of the eye, and in particular the retina may show irreversible changes induced by prolonged exposure to moderate levels of UV radiation and short-wavelength light. Such photochemically induced changes may result in damage to a system if the duration of irradiation is excessive, or if shorter exposures are repeated over prolonged periods. Some of the photochemical reactions initiated by laser exposure may be abnormal, or exaggerations of normal processes. Photochemical reactions generally follow the Law of Bunsen and Roscoe, for duration of the order of 1 h to 3 h or less (where repair mechanisms cannot cope with the rate of damage); the threshold expressed as a radiant exposure is constant over a wide range of exposure duration. The spot-size dependence, as occurs with thermal effects due to heat diffusion, does not exist.

*Non-linear effects*. Short-pulsed high peak-power (i.e., Q-switched or mode-locked) lasers may give rise to tissue damage with a different combination of induction mechanisms. Energy is delivered to the biological target in a very short time and hence a high irradiance is produced. The target tissues experience such a rapid rise in temperature that the liquid components of their cells are converted to gas. In most cases, these phase changes are so rapid that they are explosive and the cells rupture. The pressure transients may result from thermal expansion and both may also result in shearing damage to tissues remote from the absorbing layers by bulk physical displacement. At sub-nanosecond exposures, self-focusing of the ocular media further concentrates laser energy from a collimated beam and further lowers the threshold between approximately 10 ps and 1 ns. Furthermore, other non-linear optical mechanisms appear to play a role in retinal injury in the sub-nanosecond region.

All of the above-described damage mechanisms have been shown to operate in the retina, and are reflected in the breakpoints or changes of slope in the safe exposure levels described in this standard.

### D.2.2 Hazards to the eye

A brief description of the anatomy of the eye is given in Clause D.1. The eye is specially adapted to receive and transduce optical radiation. The pathologies caused by excessive exposures are summarized in Table D.1. Thermal interaction mechanisms are shown in Figure D.2. Lasers emitting ultra-violet and far infra-red radiation represent a corneal hazard while systems emitting visible and near infra-red wavelengths will be transmitted to the retina.

Visible and near infra-red laser beams are a special hazard to the eye because the very properties necessary for the eye to be an effective transducer of light result in high radiant exposure being presented to highly pigmented tissues. The increase in irradiance from the cornea to the retina is approximately the ratio of the pupil area to that of the retinal image. This increase arises because the light which has entered the pupil is focused to a "point" on the retina. The pupil is a variable aperture but the diameter may be as large as 7 mm when maximally dilated in the young eye. The retinal image corresponding to such a pupil may be between 10 μm and 20 μm in diameter. With intra-ocular scattering and corneal aberrations considered, the increase in irradiance between the cornea and the retina is of the order of $2 \times 10^5$.

**Table D.1 – Summary of pathological effects associated with excessive exposure to light**

| CIE spectral region [a] | Eye | Skin |
|---|---|---|
| Ultra-violet C (180 nm to 280 nm) | Photokeratitis | Erythema (sunburn)<br>Accelerated skin ageing process<br>Increased pigmentation |
| Ultra-violet B (280 nm to 315 nm) | | |
| Ultra-violet A (315 nm to 400 nm) | Photochemical cataract | Pigment darkening<br>Photosensitive reactions<br>Skin burn |
| Visible (400 nm to 780 nm) | Photochemical and thermal retinal injury | |
| Infra-red A (780 nm to 1 400 nm) | Cataract, retinal burn | Skin burn |
| Infra-red B (1,4 μm to 3,0 μm) | Aqueous flare, cataract, corneal burn | |
| Infra-red C (3,0 μm to 1 mm) | Corneal burn only | |

[a] The spectral regions defined by the CIE are short-hand notations useful in describing biological effects and may not agree perfectly with spectral breakpoints in the MPE Tables A.1 to A.3.

If an increase of $2 \times 10^5$ is assumed, a 50 W·m$^{-2}$ beam on the cornea becomes $1 \times 10^7$ W·m$^{-2}$ on the retina. In this standard, a 7 mm pupil is considered as a limiting aperture as this is a worst-case condition and is derived from figures obtained from the young eye where pupillary diameters of this order have been measured. An exception to the assumption of a 7 mm pupil was applied in the derivation of exposure limits to protect against photoretinitis whilst viewing bright visible (400 nm to 700 nm) laser sources for periods in excess of 10 s. In this latter situation, a 3 mm pupil was assumed as a worst-case condition; however, a 7 mm irradiance averaging aperture for measurement was still considered appropriate due to physiological movements of the pupil in space. Hence, AELs for durations greater than 10 s are still derived for a 7 mm aperture.

If an intense beam of laser light is brought to a focus on the retina, only a small fraction of the light (up to 5 %) will be absorbed by the visual pigments in the rods and cones. Most of the light will be absorbed by the pigment called melanin contained in the pigment epithelium. (In the macular region, some energy in the 400 nm to 500 nm range will be absorbed by the yellow macular pigment.) The absorbed energy will cause local heating and will burn both the pigment epithelium and the adjacent light sensitive rods and cones. This burn or lesion may result in a loss of vision. Photochemical injuries, although non-thermal, are also localized in the pigment epithelium.

Depending on the magnitude of the exposure, such a loss of vision may or may not be permanent. A visual decrement will usually be noted subjectively by an exposed individual only when the central or foveal region of the macula is involved. The fovea, the pit in the centre of the macula, is the most important part of the retina as it is responsible for sharpest vision. It is the portion of the retina that is used "to look right at something". This visual angle subtended by the fovea is approximately equal to that subtended by the moon. If this region is damaged, the decrement may appear initially as a blurred white spot obscuring the central area of vision; however, within two or more weeks, it may change to a black spot. Ultimately, the victim may cease to be aware of this blind spot (scotoma) during normal vision. However, it can be revealed immediately on looking at an empty visual scene such as a blank sheet of white paper. Peripheral lesions will only be registered subjectively when gross retinal damage has occurred. Small peripheral lesions will pass unnoticed and may not even be detected during a systematic eye examination.

In the wavelength range from 400 nm to 1 400 nm, the greatest hazard is retinal damage. The cornea, aqueous humour, lens and vitreous humor are transparent for radiation of these wavelengths. In the case of a well-collimated beam, the hazard is virtually independent of the distance between the source of radiation and the eye, because the retinal image is assumed to be a diffraction-limited spot of around 10 μm to 20 μm diameter. In this case, assuming thermal equilibrium, the retinal zone of hazard is determined by the limiting angular subtense $\alpha_{min}$, which generally corresponds to retinal spot of approximately 25 μm in diameter.

In the case of an extended source, the hazard varies with the viewing distance between the source and the eye, because whilst the instantaneous retinal irradiance only depends on the source's radiance and on the lens characteristics of the eye, thermal diffusion of energy from larger retinal images is less efficient, leading to a retinal spot-size dependence for thermal injury which does not exist for photochemical injury (dominating only in the 400 nm to 600 nm spectral region). In addition, eye movements further spread the absorbed energy for CW laser exposures, leading to different dependencies of risk for differing retinal image sizes.

In the derivation of limits for ocular exposure in the retinal hazard region, correction factors for eye movements were only applied for viewing durations exceeding 10 s. Although physiological eye movements known as saccades do spread the absorbed energy in minimal retinal images (of the order of 25 μm or less) within the 0,1 s to 10 s time regime, the limits provide a desired added safety factor for this viewing condition. At 0,25 s, the mean retinal spot illuminated is approximately 50 μm. By 10 s, the illuminated retinal zone becomes approximately 75 μm and the added safety factor for the minimal image condition becomes 1,7 over a stabilized eye, with the spot-size dependence taken into account. By 100 s, it is rare to achieve an illuminated zone (measured at 50 % points) as small as 135 μm leading to an additional safety factor of 2,3 or more for the minimal image condition.

The data from eye-movement studies and retinal thermal injury studies were combined to derive a break-point in viewing time $T_2$ at which eye movements compensated for the increased theoretical risk of thermal injury for increased retinal exposure durations if the eye were immobilized. Because the thermal injury threshold expressed as radiant power entering the eye decreases as the exposure duration $t$ raised to the –0,25 power (i.e. a reduction of only 44 % per tenfold increase in duration), only moderate increases in the exposed retinal area will compensate for the increased risk for longer viewing times. The increasing retinal area of irradiation resulting from greater eye movements with increased viewing time takes longer to compensate for the reduced impact of thermal diffusion in larger extended sources. Thus, for increasing angular subtense $\alpha$, the break-point $T_2$ increases from 10 s for small sources to 100 s for larger sources. Beyond 100 s, there is no further increase in risk of thermal injury for small and intermediate size images. The specification of limits and measuring conditions attempt to follow these variables with some simplification leading to a conservative determination of risk. It is conservatively assumed that retinal thermal injury thresholds vary inversely with retinal image size (stabilized) between approximately 25 μm to 1 mm (corresponding to angular sizes of 1,5 mrad to 59 mrad), whilst beyond 1,7 mm (corresponding to angular sizes greater than 100 mrad), there is no spot-size dependence. $T_2$ and the constant irradiance and power limits thereafter reflect the effect of eye movements, blood flow as well as the general reduced dependence of injury threshold for longer exposure durations with respect to the time dependence of the limits. This would not apply to ophthalmic instruments; see ISO 15004-2.

For photochemically induced retinal injury, there is no spot size dependence for a stabilized image. Unlike thermal injury mechanism, the thresholds for photochemical injury are highly wavelength dependent and are exposure dose dependent, i.e. the thresholds decrease inversely with the lengthening of exposure duration. Studies of photochemical retinal injury from welding arcs subtending angles of the order of 1 mrad to 1,5 mrad showed typical lesion sizes of the order of 185 μm to 200 μm (corresponding to visual angles of 11 mrad to 12 mrad), clearly showing the influence of eye movements during fixation; these and other studies of eye movements during fixation led to the derivation of MPEs to protect against photochemical retinal injury. These studies also led to MPE irradiance to be specified as being averaged over 11 mrad for exposure durations between 10 s and 100 s. Hence, sources with an angular subtense $\alpha$ less than 11 mrad were treated equally with "point-type" sources, and the concept of $\alpha_{min}$ was extended to CW laser viewing. This approach was not strictly correct, as an irradiance measurement of an 11 mrad source is not equivalent to irradiance averaging over a field of view ($\gamma$) of 11 mrad unless the source had a rectangular ("top-hat") radiance distribution. Hence, in this edition of the standard, distinction is made between angular subtense of a source and irradiance averaging for photochemical MPE values. For viewing times in excess of approximately 30 s to 60 s, the saccadic eye motion during fixation is generally overtaken by behavioural movements determined by visual task, and it is quite unreasonable to assume that a light source would be imaged solely in the fovea for durations longer than 100 s. For this reason, the angle of acceptance $\gamma_{ph}$ is increased linearly with the square-root of *t*. The minimal angular subtense $\alpha_{min}$ correctly remains at the reference angle of 1,5 mrad for all exposure durations used in thermal retinal hazard evaluation. However, for photochemical retinal hazard assessment, the concept is actually different, as the angle $\gamma_{ph}$ is a linear angle of acceptance for the measurement of irradiance, and this is important to apply only for extended sources greater than approximately 11 mrad.

*Viewing distance.* In the case of a "point-type", diverging-beam source, the hazard increases with decreasing distance between the beam waist and the eye. The reason is that, with decreasing distance, the collected power increases, while the size of the retinal image can be assumed to remain nearly diffraction-limited for true laser sources down to a distance as close as 100 mm (due to the accommodation capabilities of the eye). The greatest hazard occurs at the shortest accommodation distance. With further reduced distance, the hazard to the unaided eye is also reduced, as there is a rapid growth of the retinal image and a corresponding reduction of the irradiance, even though more power may be collected. To simulate the risk of optically aided viewing of a collimated beam with binoculars or a telescope, the closest distance of approach of 2 m with a 50-mm aperture was assumed based upon the closest distance for clear viewing.

For the purpose of this standard, the shortest accommodation distance of the human eye is set to 100 mm at all wavelengths from 400 nm to 1 400 nm. This was chosen as a compromise, because all but a few young people and very few myopics cannot accommodate their eyes to distances of less than 100 mm. This distance may be used for the measurement of irradiance in the case of intrabeam viewing (see Table 10).

For wavelengths of less than 400 nm or more than 1 400 nm, the greatest hazard is damage to the lens or the cornea. Depending on the wavelength, optical radiation is absorbed preferentially or exclusively by the cornea or the lens (see Table D.1). For diverging-beam sources (extended or point-type) of these wavelengths, short distances between the source and the eye should be avoided.

In the wavelength range from 1 500 nm to 2 600 nm, radiation penetrates into the aqueous humour. The heating effect is therefore dissipated over a greater volume of the eye, and the MPEs are increased for exposures less than 10 s. The greatest increase in the MPEs occurs for very short pulse durations and within the wavelength range of 1 500 nm to 1 800 nm where the absorbing volume is greatest. At times greater than 10 s, heat conduction redistributes the thermal energy so that the impact of the penetration depth is no longer significant.

### D.2.3 Skin hazards

In general terms, the skin can tolerate a great deal more exposure to laser beam energy than can the eye. The biological effect of irradiation of skin by lasers operating in the visible (400 nm to 700 nm) and infra-red (greater than 700 nm) spectral regions may vary from a mild erythema to severe blisters. An ashen charring is prevalent in tissues of high surface absorption following exposure to very short-pulsed, high-peak power lasers. This may not be followed by erythema.

The pigmentation, ulceration, and scarring of the skin and damage of underlying organs may occur from extremely high irradiance. Latent or cumulative effects of laser radiation have not been found prevalent. However, some limited research has suggested that under special conditions, small regions of human tissue may be sensitized by repeating local exposures with the result that the exposure level for minimal reaction is changed and the reactions in the tissues are more severe for such low-level exposure.

In the wavelength range 1 500 nm to 2 600 nm, biological threshold studies indicate that the risk of skin injury follows a similar pattern to that of the eye. For exposures up to 10 s, the MPE is increased within this spectral range.

## D.3 MPEs and irradiance averaging

In this standard, the maximum permissible exposure (MPE) values recommended by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) have been adopted. The irradiance-averaging apertures (measurement apertures) recommended by the ICNIRP were adopted, or an additional safety factor applied by IEC TC 76. The determination and derivation of the AELs, although generally based upon the MPEs, necessitated a risk analysis and determination of reasonably foreseeable exposure conditions. The choice of measurement aperture played a role in the derivation of AELs and reflects both biophysical and physiological factors. In some cases, considerations of risk assessment and simplification of expression played a role. Table D.2 provides a summary of the factors assumed in the choice of measurement apertures. In general, the recommendations of ICNIRP were followed, or added safety factors applied.

**Table D.2 – Explanation of measurement apertures applied to the eye MPEs**

| **Spectral band $\lambda$** nm | **Exposure duration** $t$ | **Aperture diameter** mm | **Comments and rationale for aperture diameter** |
|---|---|---|---|
| 180 to 400 | All $t$ | 1 mm | Scatter in corneal epithelium and in stratum corneum leads to 1 mm; assumption of no movement of exposed tissue for continuous exposure conditions is applied by IEC. However, ICNIRP recommends 3,5 mm for lengthy exposures due to eye movements |
| 400 to 600 photochemical | $t > 10$ s | 3 mm in derivation of MPE, but 7 mm used for measurements | Lateral motion of 3-mm diameter pupil in space to produce 7-mm aperture averaging for CW exposures applicable for photochemical injury mechanism |
| 400 to 1 400 thermal | All $t$ | 7 mm | Diameter of dilated pupil and lateral motion in CW exposures |
| $1\,400 \leq \lambda < 10^5$ | $t < 0{,}35$ s | 1 mm | Thermal diffusion in stratum corneum and epithelial tissues |
| | $0{,}35\text{ s} < t < 10$ s<br>$t > 10$ s | $1{,}5 \times t^{3/8}$ mm<br>3,5 mm | Greater thermal diffusion and movement of target tissue relative to beam after 0,35 s |
| $10^5 \leq \lambda \leq 10^6$ | All $t$ | 11 mm | Aperture to be greater than diffraction limit (i.e., approximately 10×) for accurate measurements |

## D.4 Reference documents

[1] HENDERSON, R. and SCHULMEISTER, K.: *Laser Safety*, Taylor and Francis Ltd., Bristol United Kingdom, 2003 2004

[2] *ICNIRP guidelines on limits of exposure to laser radiation of wavelengths between 180 nm and 1,000 µm*. Health Physics 105(3): 271-295, 2013

[3] NESS, J., ZWICK, H.A., STUCK, B.E., LUND, D.J., MOLCHANY, J.A. and SLINEY, D.H.: *Retinal image motion during deliberate fixation: implications to laser safety for long duration viewing*. Health Phys. 78(2):131-142, 2000

[4] ROACH, W.P., JOHNSON, P.E. and ROCKWELL, B.A.*: Proposed maximum permissible exposure limits for ultrashort laser pulses*, Health Phys. 76(4):349-354, 1999

[5] SCHULMEISTER, K., STUCK, B.E., LUND, D.J. and SLINEY, D.H. *Review of thresholds and recommendations for revised exposure limits for laser and optical radiation for thermally induced retinal injury*. Health Phys.*;* 100(2):210-220, 2011

[6] SLINEY, D.H. and WOLBARSHT, M.L.: *Safety with Lasers and Other Optical Sources,* New York, Plenum Publishing Corp., 1980

[7] SLINEY, D., ARON-ROSA, D., DELORI, F., FANKHAUSER, F., LANDRY, R., MAINSTER, M., MARSHALL, J., RASSOW, B., STUCK, B., TROKEL, S., WEST, T.M. and WOLFFE, M.: *Adjustment of guidelines for exposure of the eye to optical radiation from ocular instruments: statement of a task group of the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection*, Applied Optics, 44(11): 2162-2176, 2005

[8] United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); World Health Organization (WHO); International Radiation Protection Association (IRPA): *Environmental Health Criteria No. 23: Lasers and Optical Radiation*, Geneva, WHO, 1982

# Annex E
(informative)

# MPEs and AELs expressed as radiance

## E.1 Background

For large extended sources, it may be easier to analyze potential retinal hazards by using the radiance of the source. This annex is to provide users with a single table and graphs of maximum permitted radiances based on the AELs for Class 1 and Class 1M and corresponding MPE values in the retinal hazard wavelength region of 400 nm to 1 400 nm for viewing conditions where the angular subtense of the apparent source is assumed to be larger than $\alpha_{max}$. By the law of conservation of radiance, all extended sources that are diffused and emitting below the radiance level specified in Table E.1 or on Figure E.1 cannot exceed Class 1 accessible emission limits (AELs) regardless of the optics placed in front of a diffused source.

## E.2 Radiance values

The radiance values in Table E.1 are based upon the IEC/ICNIRP MPE levels. As MPEs are generally expressed in terms of radiant exposure ($J{\cdot}m^{-2}$) or irradiance ($W{\cdot}m^{-2}$), it was necessary to convert the MPE values to radiance ($W{\cdot}m^{-2}{\cdot}sr^{-1}$). The radiance values are then plotted as a function of wavelength (see Clause E.3.)

Table E.1 presents radiance permissible exposure values as a function of wavelength for a 100 s exposure duration where $\alpha$ subtends an angle of greater than or equal to 100 mrad. The most restrictive limits, photochemical or thermal, are listed. Retinal photochemical hazard limits are in italics style.

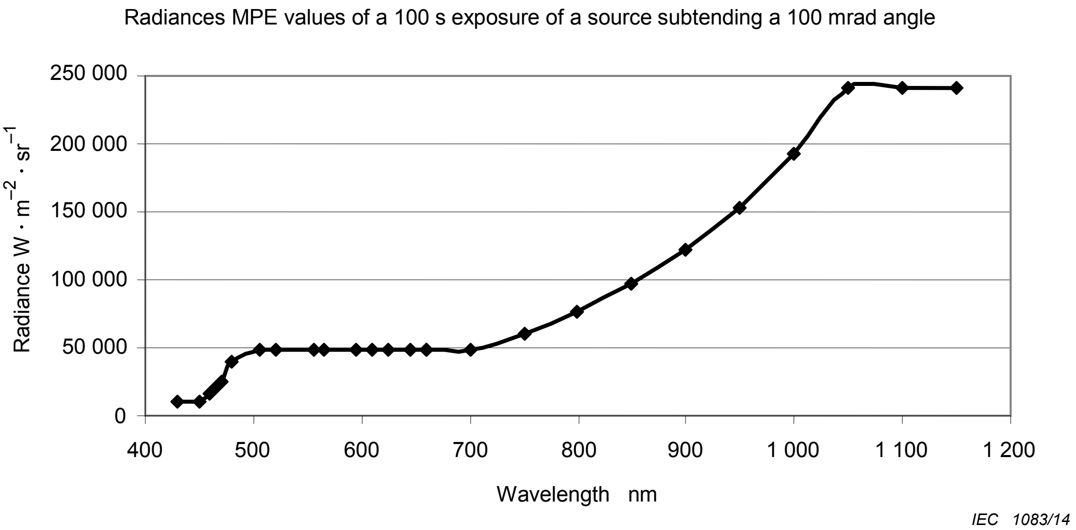



**Figure E.1 – Radiance as a function of wavelength**

**Table E.1 – Maximum radiance of a diffused source for Class 1**

| **Wavelength** nm | **Radiance** $W \cdot m^{-2} \cdot sr^{-1}$ | **Radiance** $W \cdot cm^{-2} \cdot sr^{-1}$ |
|---|---|---|
| 430 | *10 000* | *1,00* |
| 450 | *10 000* | *1,00* |
| 460 | *15 848* | *1,58* |
| 465 | *19 952* | *2,00* |
| 470 | *25 119* | *2,51* |
| 480 | *39 811* | *3,98* |
| 505 | 48 316 | 4,83 |
| 520 | 48 316 | 4,83 |
| 555 | 48 316 | 4,83 |
| 565 | 48 316 | 4,83 |
| 595 | 48 316 | 4,83 |
| 610 | 48 316 | 4,83 |
| 625 | 48 316 | 4,83 |
| 645 | 48 316 | 4,83 |
| 660 | 48 316 | 4,83 |
| 660 | 48 316 | 4,83 |
| 700 | 48 316 | 4,83 |
| 750 | 60 826 | 6,08 |
| 800 | 76 576 | 7,66 |
| 850 | 96 403 | 9,64 |
| 900 | 121 365 | 12,14 |
| 950 | 152 789 | 15,28 |
| 1 000 | 192 350 | 19,24 |
| 1 050 | 241 580 | 24,16 |
| 1 100 | 241 580 | 24,16 |
| 1 150 | 241 580 | 24,16 |
| Figures in italics indicate retinal photochemical hazard limits. | | |

## E.3 Rationale

The radiance values are calculated using IEC/ICNIRP MPE levels. As MPEs are generally expressed in terms of radiant exposure ($J \cdot m^{-2}$) or irradiance ($W \cdot m^{-2}$), it is necessary to convert the MPE values to radiance ($W \cdot m^{-2} \cdot sr^{-1}$). The radiance values are then plotted as a function of wavelength.

For MPEs expressed as irradiance, the following method to calculate radiance was used. Radiance is defined as:

$$L = \frac{\mathrm{d}\,\Phi}{\mathrm{d}\Omega \cdot \mathrm{d}A \cdot \cos\theta} \quad \text{(E.1)}$$

where $\Phi$ is the radiant power, $\Omega$ is a unit of solid angle with the vertex at the measurement plane of the irradiance, and $A$ is the area over which irradiance is defined. MPEs are frequently expressed in terms of irradiance, which is defined as

$$E = \frac{\mathrm{d}\Phi}{\mathrm{d}A} \tag{E.2}$$

Substituting Equation E.2 into Equation E.1 yields radiance as a function of irradiance:

$$L = \frac{\mathrm{d}E}{\mathrm{d}\Omega \cdot \cos\theta} \tag{E.3}$$

We need to find the solid angle $\Omega$ and viewing angle $\theta$. Substituting the following equation for $\Omega$:

$$\Omega = \frac{\pi\alpha^2}{4} \tag{E.4}$$

and assuming the worst-case viewing angle where $\theta$ = 0° (the viewer is looking directly into the beam), Equation E.3 reduces to

$$L = \frac{4E}{\pi\alpha^2} \tag{E.5}$$

For MPEs expressed as radiant exposure a slightly different method was used. Radiant exposure is defined as

$$H = \frac{\mathrm{d}Q}{\mathrm{d}A} \tag{E.6}$$

where $Q$ is radiant energy expressed in Joules. Dividing by time yields

$$\frac{H}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{\mathrm{d}Q}{\mathrm{d}A \cdot \mathrm{d}t} \tag{E.7}$$

As radiant power is expressed as

$$\Phi = \frac{\mathrm{d}Q}{\mathrm{d}t} \tag{E.8}$$

Equation E.8 can be substituted into Equation E.7, yielding

$$\frac{H}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{\mathrm{d}\Phi}{\mathrm{d}A} \tag{E.9}$$

Returning to Equation E.1, we substitute equation E.9 to yield

$$L = \frac{\mathrm{d}H}{\mathrm{d}\Omega \cdot \mathrm{d}t \cdot \cos\theta} \tag{E.10}$$

Again substituting equation E.4 and assuming the worst-case scenario of $\theta = 0°$, we obtain

$$L = \frac{4H}{\pi\alpha^2 t} \tag{E.11}$$

For the calculations, we assumed a worst-case scenario of a 100 mrad angular subtense for an exposure duration of 100 s. The results are listed in Table E.1 and plotted in Figure E.1.

# Annex F
(informative)

## Summary tables

Table F.1 summarizes the physical quantities referred to in this Part 1, and gives the unit (and the symbol for the unit) used for each of them. The definitions of the SI base units are taken from ISO 80000-1. The units and symbols are taken from IEC 60027-1. Table F.2 summarizes the manufacturer's requirements.

**Table F.1 – Summary of the physical quantities used in this Part 1**

| Quantity | Name of unit | Unit symbol | Definition |
|---|---|---|---|
| Length | metre | m | The metre is the length of the path travelled by light in vacuum during a time interval of 1/299 792 458 of a second |
| | millimetre | mm | $10^{-3}$ m |
| | micrometre | μm | $10^{-6}$ m |
| | nanometre | nm | $10^{-9}$ m |
| Area | square metre | $m^2$ | 1 $m^2$ |
| Mass | kilogram | kg | The mass equal to the mass of the international prototype of the kilogram |
| Time | second | s | The duration of 9 192 631 770 periods of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state caesium-133 atom |
| Frequency | hertz | Hz | The frequency of a periodic phenomenon equal to one cycle per second |
| Plane angle | radian | rad | The plane angle between two radii of a circle which cut off on the circumference an arc equal in length to the radius |
| | milliradian | mrad | $10^{-3}$ rad |
| Solid angle | steradian | sr | The solid angle which, having its vertex in the centre of a sphere, cuts off an area of the surface of the sphere equal to that of a square with sides of length equal to the radius of the sphere |
| Force | newton | N | 1 $m \cdot kg \cdot s^{-2}$ |
| Energy | joule | J | 1 $N \cdot m$ |
| Radiant exposure | joule per square metre | $J \cdot m^{-2}$ | 1 $J \cdot m^{-2}$ |
| Integrated radiance | joule per square metre per steradian | $J \cdot m^{-2} \cdot sr^{-1}$ | 1 $J \cdot m^{-2} \cdot sr^{-1}$ |
| Power | watt | W | 1 $J \cdot s^{-1}$ |
| | milliwatt | mW | $10^{-3}$ W |
| Irradiance | watt per square metre | $W \cdot m^{-2}$ | 1 $W \cdot m^{-2}$ |
| Radiance | watt per square metre per steradian | $W \cdot m^{-2} \cdot sr^{-1}$ | 1 $W \cdot m^{-2} \cdot sr^{-1}$ |
| NOTE For convenience, multiples and submultiples of units have been included where appropriate. | | | |

**Table F.2 – Summary of manufacturer's requirements** *(1 of 2)*

| Requirements | Classification | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| subclause | Class 1* | Class 1M | Class 2 | Class 2M | Class 3R | Class 3B | Class 4 |
| Description of hazard class Annex C | Safe under reason-ably foreseeable conditions | As for Class 1 except may be hazardous if user employs optics | Low power; eye protection normally afforded by aversion & active responses | As for Class 2 except may be more hazardous if user employs optics | Direct intrabeam viewing may be hazardous | Direct intrabeam viewing normally hazardous | High power; diffuse reflections may be hazardous |
| Protective housing 6.2 | | Required for each laser product; limits access necessary for performance of functions of the products | | | | | |
| Safety interlock in protective housing 6.3 | Designed to prevent removal of the panel until accessible emission values are below that for Class 3R | | | | Designed to prevent removal of the panel until accessible emission values are below that for Class 3B or 3R for some products | | |
| Remote Interlock 6.4 | Not required | | | | | Permits easy addition of external interlock in laser installation. Not required for some products in Class 3B | |
| Manual Reset 6.5 | Not required | | | | | | Requires manual reset if power interrupted or remote interlock is actuated |
| Key control 6.6 | Not required | | | | | Laser inoperative when key is removed | |
| Emission warning device 6.7 | Not required | | | | Gives audible or visible warning when laser is switched on or if capacitor bank of pulsed laser is being charged. For Class 3R, only applies if invisible radiation is emitted | | |
| Attenuator 6.8 | Not required | | | | | Gives means to temporarily block beam | |
| Control locations 6.9 | Not required | | | | Controls so located that there is no danger of exposure to AEL above Classes 1 or 2 when adjustments are made | | |
| Viewing optics 6.10 | Not required | | Emission from all viewing systems shall be below Class 1M AEL | | | | |
| Scanning 6.11 | Scan failure shall not cause product to exceed its classification | | | | | | |

**Table F.2** *(2 of 2)*

<table>
<tr><th>Requirements<br>subclause</th><th colspan="7">Classification</th></tr>
<tr><th></th><th>Class 1</th><th>Class 1M</th><th>Class 2</th><th>Class 2M</th><th>Class 3R</th><th>Class 3B</th><th>Class 4</th></tr>
<tr><td>Class label<br>7.2 to 7.7</td><td colspan="2">Required wording</td><td colspan="5">Figures 3 and 4 and required wording</td></tr>
<tr><td>Aperture label<br>7.8</td><td colspan="4">Not required</td><td colspan="3">Specified wording required</td></tr>
<tr><td>Radiation output label<br>7.9</td><td>Not required</td><td colspan="6">Required wording</td></tr>
<tr><td>Standards information label<br>7.9</td><td colspan="2">Required on product or in information to user</td><td colspan="5">Required wording</td></tr>
<tr><td>Service access label<br>7.10.1</td><td>Not required</td><td colspan="6">Required as appropriate to the class of accessible radiation</td></tr>
<tr><td>Override interlock label<br>7.10.2</td><td colspan="7">Required under certain conditions as appropriate to the class of laser used</td></tr>
<tr><td>Wavelength range label<br>7.10 and 7.12</td><td colspan="7">Required for certain wavelength ranges</td></tr>
<tr><td>Burn hazard label<br>7.13</td><td colspan="5">Required wording when AE at closest point of human access (3.5mm aperture) exceeds AEL of Class 3B</td><td colspan="2">Not applicable</td></tr>
<tr><td>User information<br>8.1</td><td colspan="7">Operation manuals shall contain instructions for safe use. Additional requirements apply for Class 1M and Class 2M</td></tr>
<tr><td>Purchasing and service information<br>8.2</td><td colspan="7">Promotion brochures shall specify product classification; service manuals shall contain safety information</td></tr>
<tr><td>Medical products<br>9.2</td><td colspan="5">Not required</td><td colspan="2">For the safety of medical laser products, IEC 60601-2-22 may be applied.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="8">*NOTE This table is intended to provide a convenient summary of requirements. See text of this standard for complete requirements. Due to the specific concept of Class 1C, the requirements for Class 1C laser products are not included in this table; in this Part 1, mostly generic requirements are specified; product type specific requirements are defined in vertical standards.</td></tr>
</table>

# Annex G
(informative)

## Overview of associated parts of IEC 60825

The associated parts of IEC 60825 are intended for use in conjunction with the basic standard IEC 60825-1. Each part covers a defined scope and provides additional normative and informative guidance to enable the manufacturer and user to correctly classify and use the product in a safe manner by taking account of the particular conditions of use and competence/training of the operator/user. The information covered may include rationale, examples, clarification, methods, labelling, and any additional limits and requirements. See Table G.1.

**Table G.1 – Overview of additional data in associated parts of IEC 60825**

| Part No. | Type | Description | Product designer | Product supplier | Product user | Safety critical component supplier | Test methods | Hazard assessment | Related standards |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Standard | Equipment classification and requirements | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| 2 | Standard | Safety of optical fibre communication systems (provides application notes and examples) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| 3 | Technical report | Guidance for laser displays and shows | No | No | Yes | No | No | Yes | |
| 4 | Standard | Laser guards (also addresses ability of high-power lasers to remove guard material) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| 5 | Technical report | Manufacturer's checklist for IEC 60825-1 (suitable for use in a safety report) | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | No | No | |
| 6 | Technical specification (withdrawn) | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | Technical specification (withdrawn) | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | Technical report | Guidelines for the safe use of medical laser equipment | No | No | Yes | No | No | No | IEC 60601-2-22 |
| 9 | Technical report | Compilation of maximum permissible exposure to incoherent optical radiation (broadband sources) | No | No | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | IEC 62471 |
| 10 | Technical report (withdrawn) | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | Standard | Safety of free space optical communication systems used for transmission of information | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| 13 | Technical report | Measurements for classification of laser products | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |
| 14 | Technical report | A user's guide | No | Yes | Yes | No | No | Yes | |
| 17 | Technical report | Safety aspects for use of passive optical components and optical cables in high power optical fibre communication systems | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | |

NOTE This table is intended to provide an indication of content – see text of the particular standard for complete requirements. Some parts listed above may be under discussion by working groups and may not be formally published.

# Bibliography


IEC 60027-1, *Letter symbols to be used in electrical technology – Part 1: General*

IEC 60065, *Audio, video and similar apparatus – Safety requirements*

IEC 60079 (all parts), *Explosive atmospheres*

IEC 60079-0:2011, *Explosive atmospheres – Part 0: Equipment – General requirements*

IEC 60204-1, *Safety of machinery – Electrical equipment of machines – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 60601-2-22, *Medical electrical equipment - Part 2-22: Particular requirements for basic safety and essential performance of surgical, cosmetic, therapeutic and diagnostic laser equipment*

IEC 60825-2, *Safety of laser products – Part 2: Safety of optical fibre communication systems (OFCS)*

IEC/TR 60825-3, *Safety of laser products – Part 3: Guidance for laser displays and shows*

IEC 60825-4, *Safety of laser products – Part 4: Laser guards*

IEC/TR 60825-5, *Safety of laser products – Part 5: Manufacturer's checklist for IEC 60825-1*

IEC/TR 60825-8, *Safety of laser products – Part 8: Guidelines for the safe use of laser beams on humans*

IEC/TR 60825-9, *Safety of laser products – Part 9: Compilation of maximum permissible exposure to incoherent optical radiation*

IEC 60825-12, *Safety of laser products – Part 12: Safety of free space optical communication systems used for transmission of information*

IEC/TR 60825-13, *Safety of laser products – Part 13: Measurements for classification of laser products*

IEC/TR 60825-14, *Safety of laser products – Part 14: A user's guide*

IEC 60950 (all parts), *Information technology equipment – Safety*

IEC 61010-1, *Safety requirements for electrical equipment for measurement, control, and laboratory use – Part 1: General requirements*

IEC 61508 (all parts), *Functional safety of electrical/electronic/programmable electronic safety-related systems*

IEC 62115, *Electric toys – Safety*

IEC 62368-1, *Audio/video, information and communication technology equipment – Part 1: Safety requirements*

IEC/ISO 11553 (all parts), *Safety of machinery — Laser processing machines*

IEC/ISO 11553-1, *Safety of machinery – Laser processing machines – Part 1: General safety requirements*

ISO 11146-1, *Lasers and laser-related equipment – Test methods for laser beam widths, divergence angles and beam propagation ratios – Part 1: Stigmatic and simple astigmatic beams*

ISO 12100, *Safety of machinery – General principles for design – Risk assessment and risk reduction*

ISO 13694, *Optics and optical instruments – Lasers and laser-related equipment – Test methods for laser beam power (energy) density distribution*

ISO 13849 (all parts), *Safety of machinery – Safety-related parts of control systems*

ISO 15004-2:2007, *Ophthalmic instruments – Fundamental requirements and test methods – Part 2: Light hazard protection*

ISO 80000-1, *Quantities and units – Part 1: General*

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