



Improving Traceability of Fluorescence Calibrations to Practical Colorimetric Applications



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National Research
Council Canada

Conseil national
de recherches Canada

Canada

Traceability

Property of the result of a measurement whereby it can be related to stated references, usually national or international standards, by an ***unbroken chain of comparisons*** all having ***stated uncertainties***
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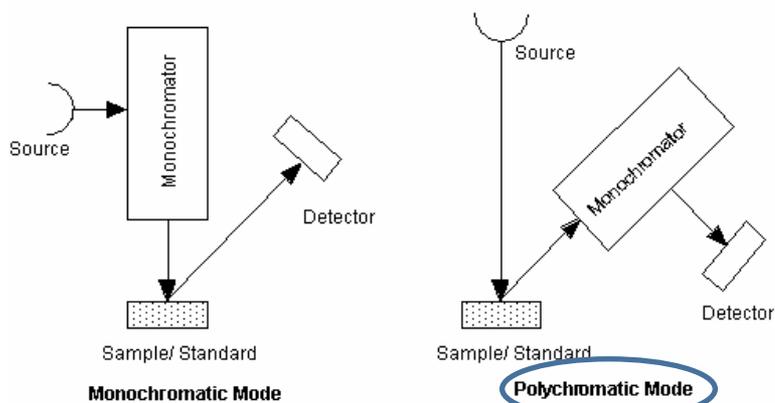
Traceable calibrations must have ***stated uncertainties*** and a ***“traceability chain”***



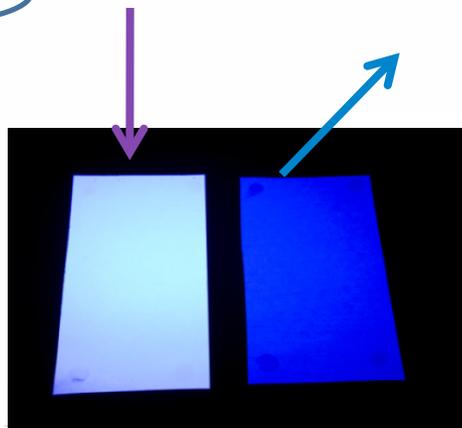
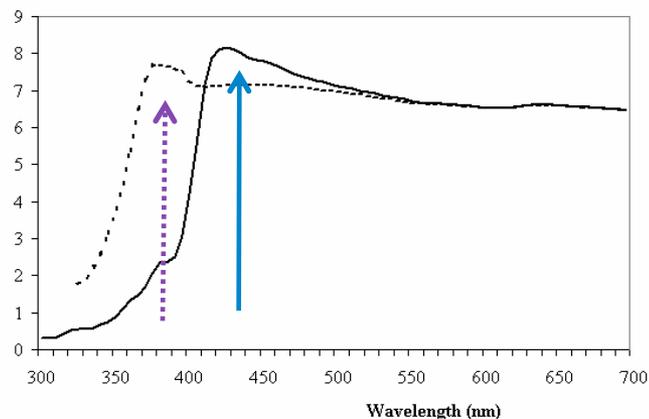
Fluorescence Instrumentation

Conventional Spectrophotometer

One Monochromator Methods



Fluorescent Sample Mono vs Poly mode



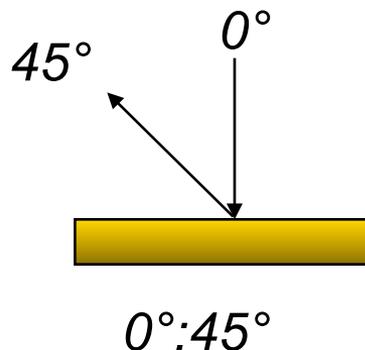
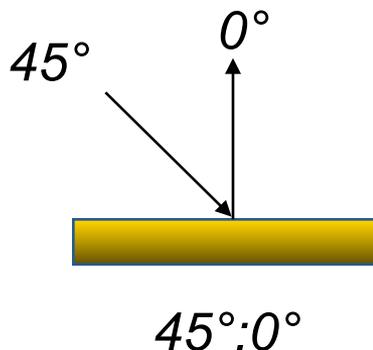
Mono mode:
Meaningless
colorimetric results!!



CIE Reflectance Geometries

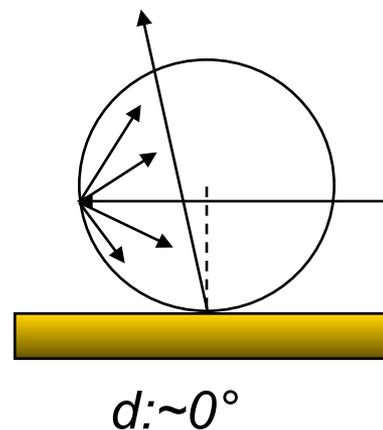
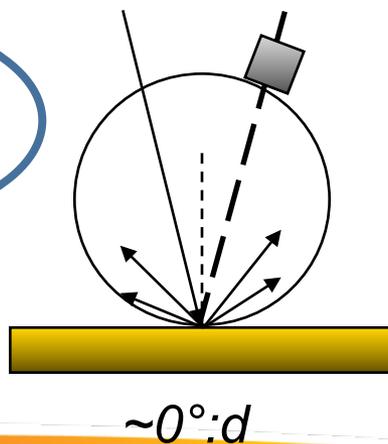
Illumination/ Viewing

Bidirectional



ASTM E1164:
Obtaining
Spectrometric
Data for Object-
Color Evaluation

Hemispherical



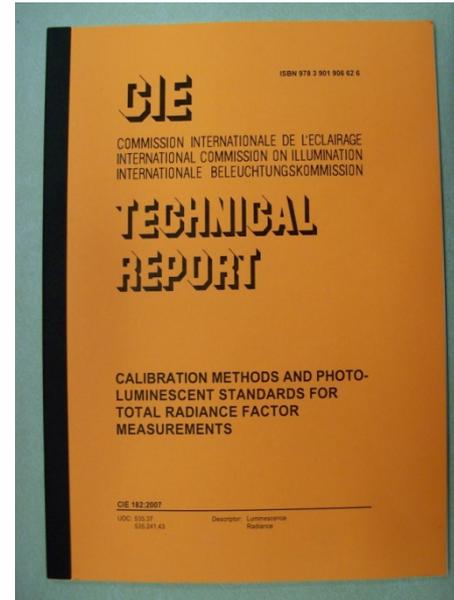
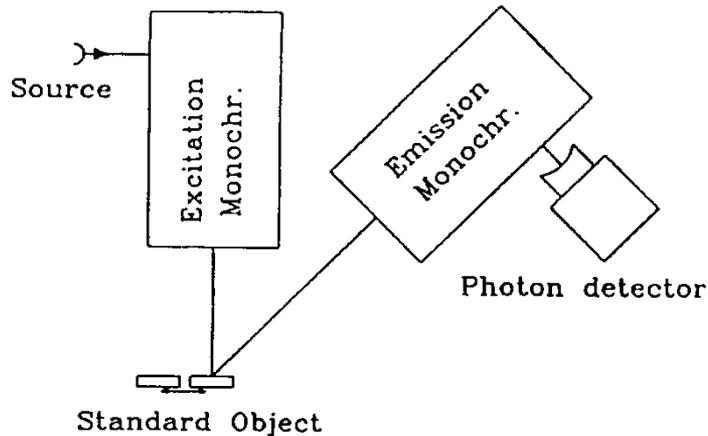
**Practical
Colorimetry:**
Recommended for
samples
exhibiting
directionality, e.g.
paper (ISO 2469),
textiles (AATCC)



Reference Documents

Measurement of Fluorescent Colour: CIE Standards

CIE 182:2007



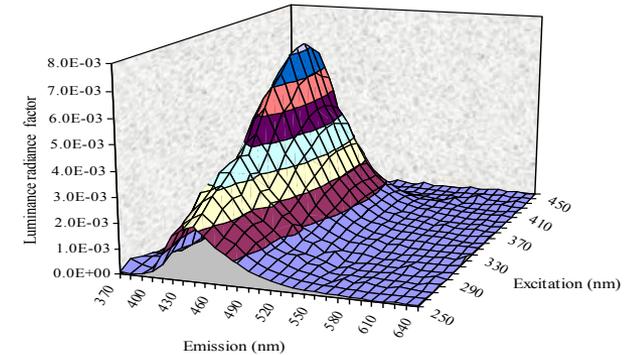
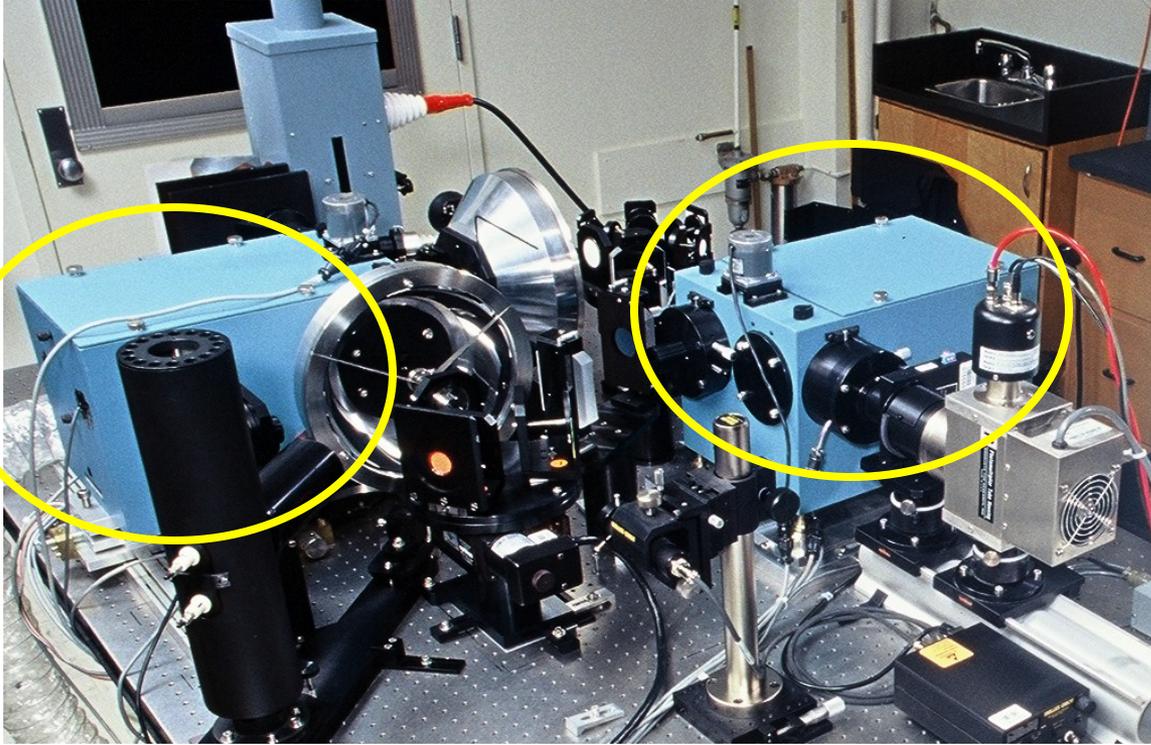
*Calibration
Methods and
Photoluminescent
Standards for Total
Radiance Factor
Measurements*

Highest Accuracy:

- Two-monochromator method
- 45:0 or 0:45 geometry is preferable



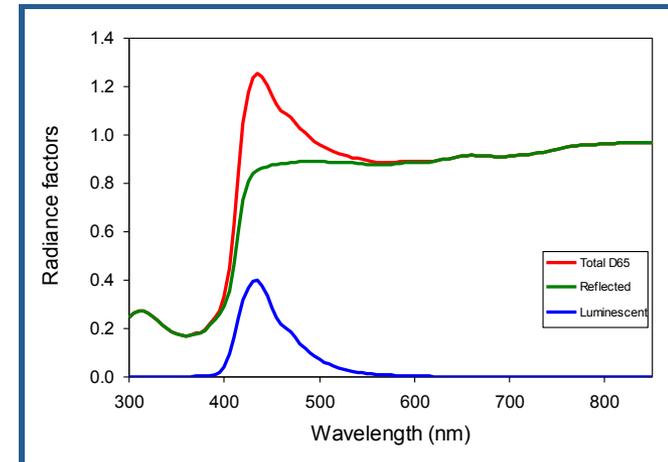
NRC Reference Spectrofluorimeter



- Based on two-monochromator method

- **Measurement geometry: $45^\circ\text{a}/0^\circ$**

J. Zwinkels et al., *Applied Optics*, **36**, 892-902 (1997)



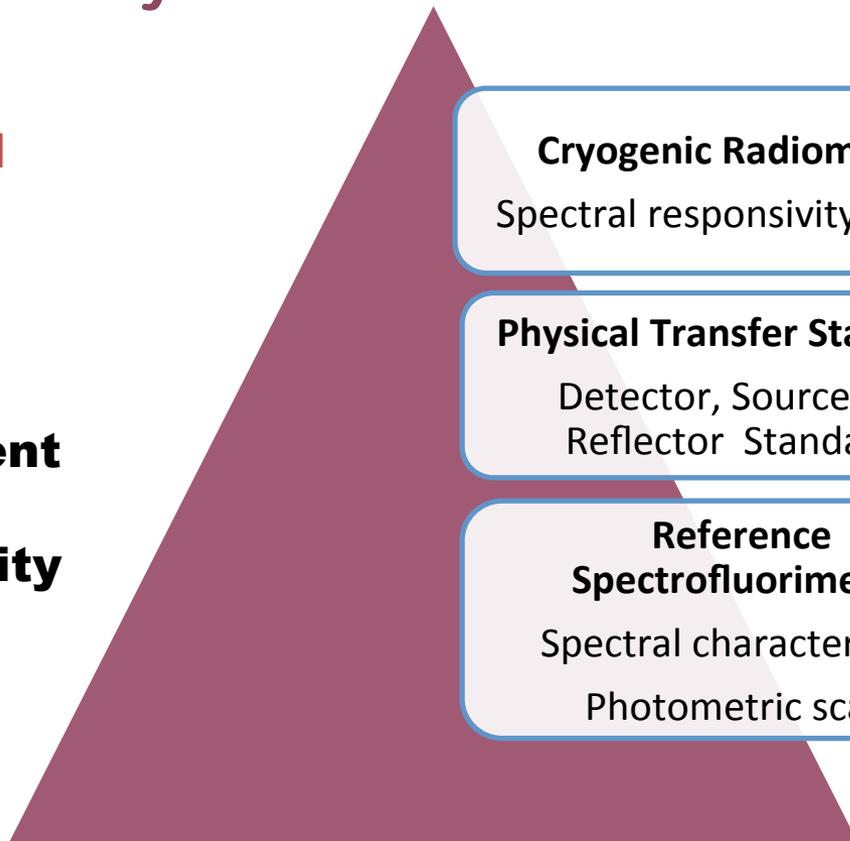
Traceability of Fluorescence

Linking Fluorescence Measurements to SI Radiometric Scales – Physical Transfer Standards (PTS)

**All PTS:
Calibrated
for 45:0
Geometry**



**Fluorescent
samples :
Traceability
to 45:0
geometry**



Cryogenic Radiometer
Spectral responsivity [A/W]



**SI:
CCPR Key
Comparisons**

Physical Transfer Standards
Detector, Source and
Reflector Standards



**Instrument
Calibration**

**Reference
Spectrofluorimeter**
Spectral characteristics
Photometric scale

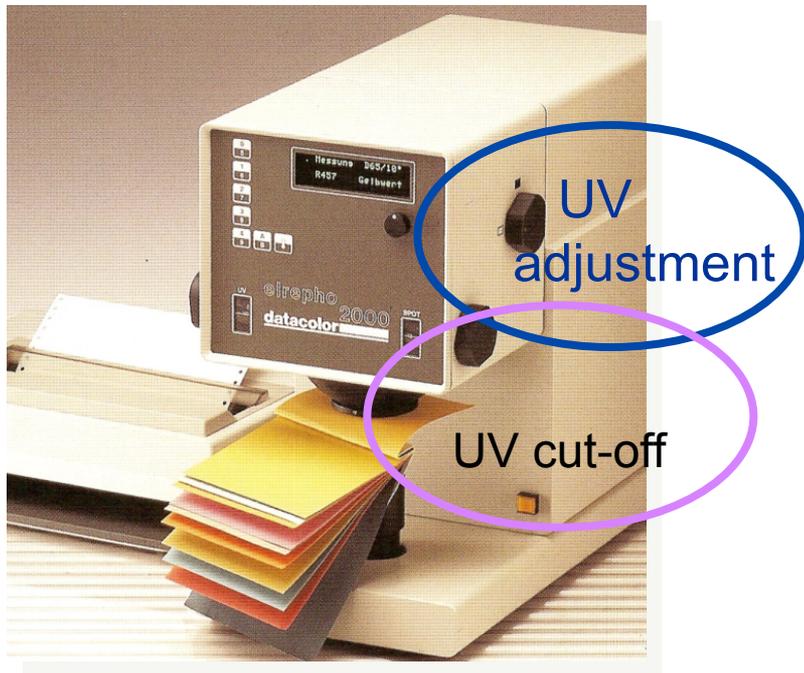


**Fluorescent
sample
calibration:
Color quantities,
quantum yields**



Practical Fluorescence Colorimetry

One monochromator Poly mode



Sphere geometry
d:0 (paper applications)
de:8 or di:8 (textile applications)

Instrument calibration with calibrated transfer standards:

Photometric scale: non-fluorescent
Colorimetric scale: fluorescent

1 point - UV adjustment →
One colorimetric quantity
e.g. **D65 whiteness**

Traceability requirements:

Standard is similar to test sample →

- Same excitation/emission
- Same measurement geometry



Effect of Measurement Geometry

Bispectral (45:0 or 0:45)

- CIE Reference geometry for fluorescence measurements
- Gives **spectral radiance factor** ←
- Source SPD does not change with sample emission
- Design of reference instruments for calibrating fluorescent standards

Sphere (d:0, de:8, di:8)

- CIE recommended geometries for general colorimetry
- Gives **spectral reflectance factor** ←
- Source SPD is altered by sample emission – *Spectral sphere error*
- Design of commercial instruments commonly used for measuring fluorescent samples: paper, textiles

Traceability Issue: transfer of scale
Need for Geometric Correction ←

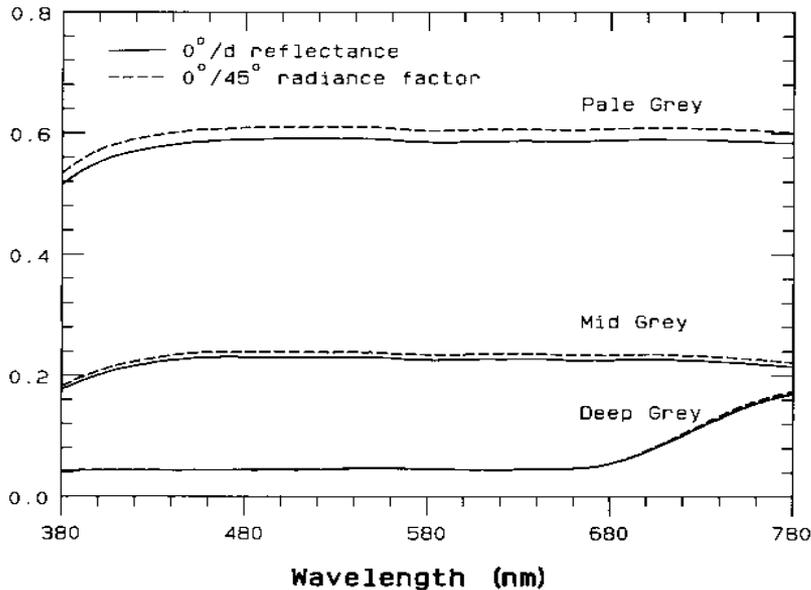


Geometric Correction

General reflecting material

- Sample dependent
- Wavelength independent

BCRA grey tiles



$$R(\text{de}:0) = \alpha R(45:0)$$

α = geometric correction factor

Magnitude of Correction:

- White reflectance standards: $\alpha = 0.985$
- BCRA grey tiles: $\alpha = 0.965$
- Non-fluorescent white paper: $\alpha = 0.985$

Fluorescent reflecting material

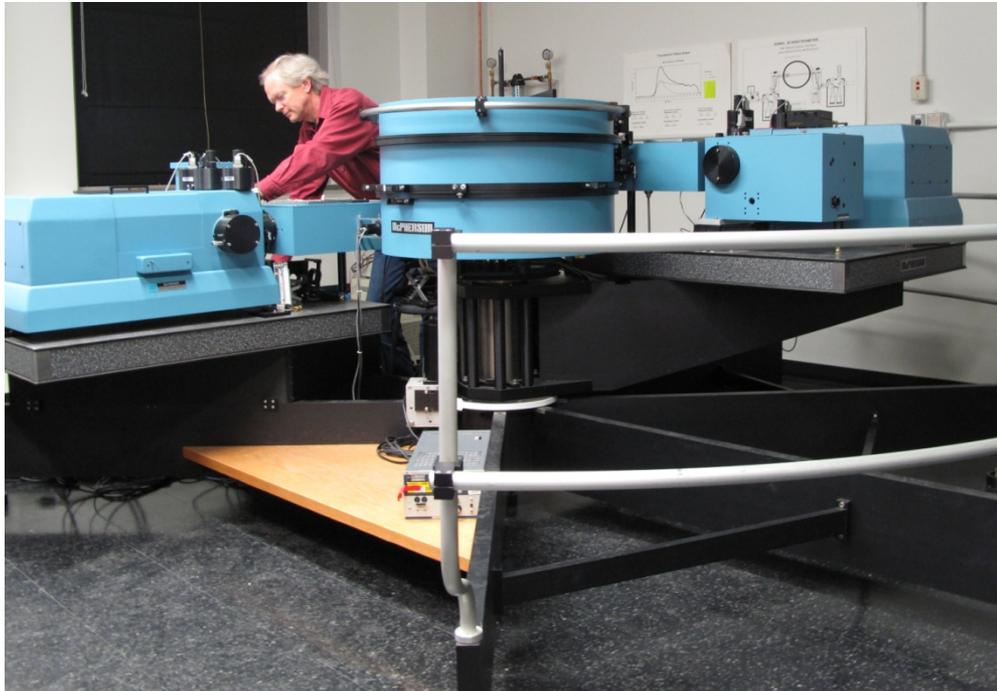
Q. Do reflected and fluorescent components have the same correction?



NRC Goniospectrofluorimeter (GSF)

Gonio – variable angles of incidence and detection

Donated to NRC in 2009 by 3M Co.
Complements the NRC Reference Spectrofluorimeter



Gonio- spectral fluorescence:

Spectral range: 300- 850 nm

Spectral bandpass: 5 nm

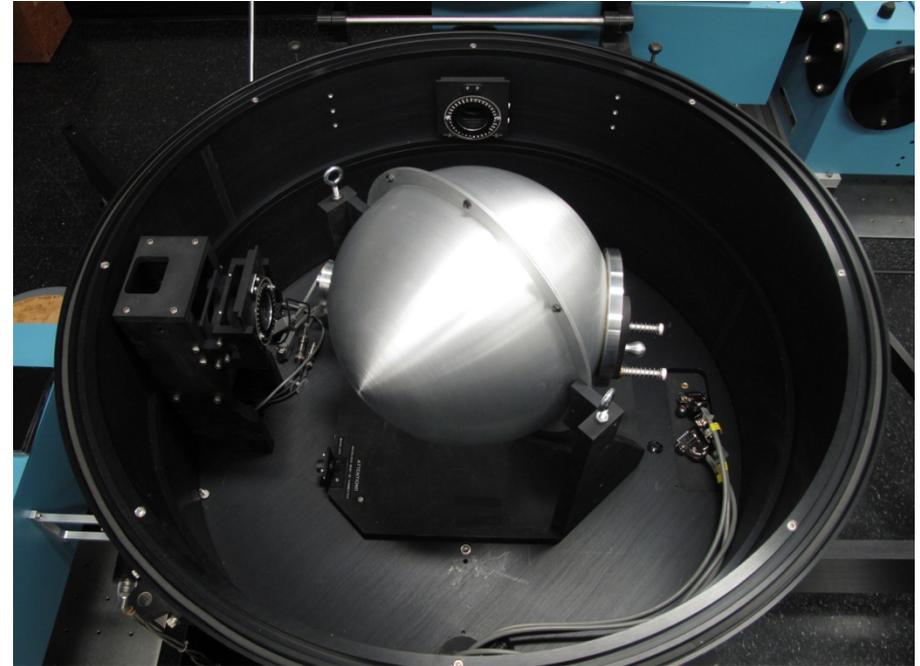
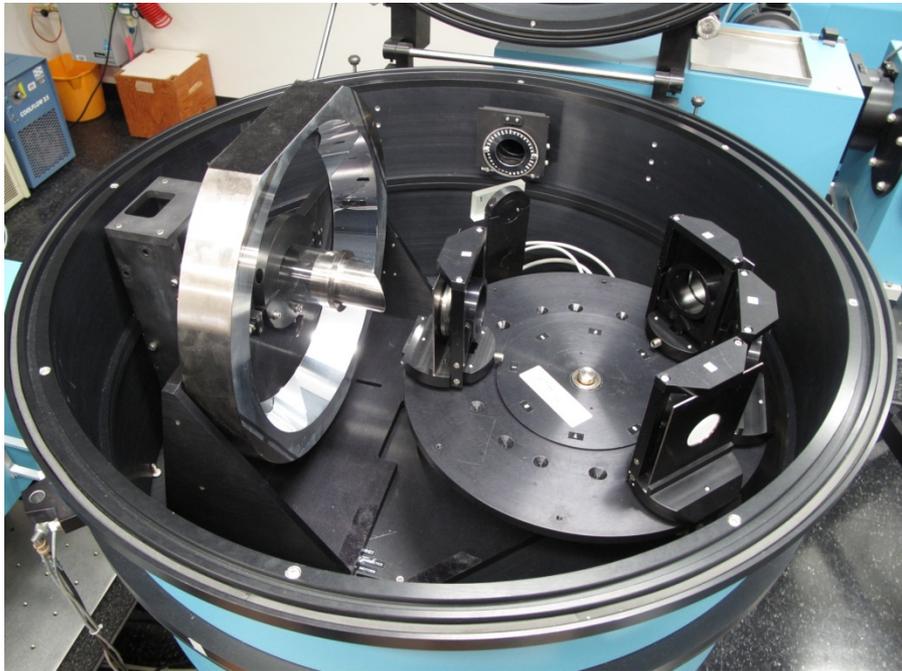
Incidence: 0° to 90°

Viewing: 22° to 180°

Sample beam: 25 mm diam.

Several Measurement Geometries

Bidirectional reflectance/
fluorescence (45a:0)



Hemispherical reflectance/
fluorescence (sphere)

Extension to Other Geometries: Gonio- and Sphere

Motivation:

Research Optical Properties of Materials

- Gonio-characteristics of fluorescent white standards

New Calibration Services

- Gonio-apparent fluorescent materials (security, decorative materials)

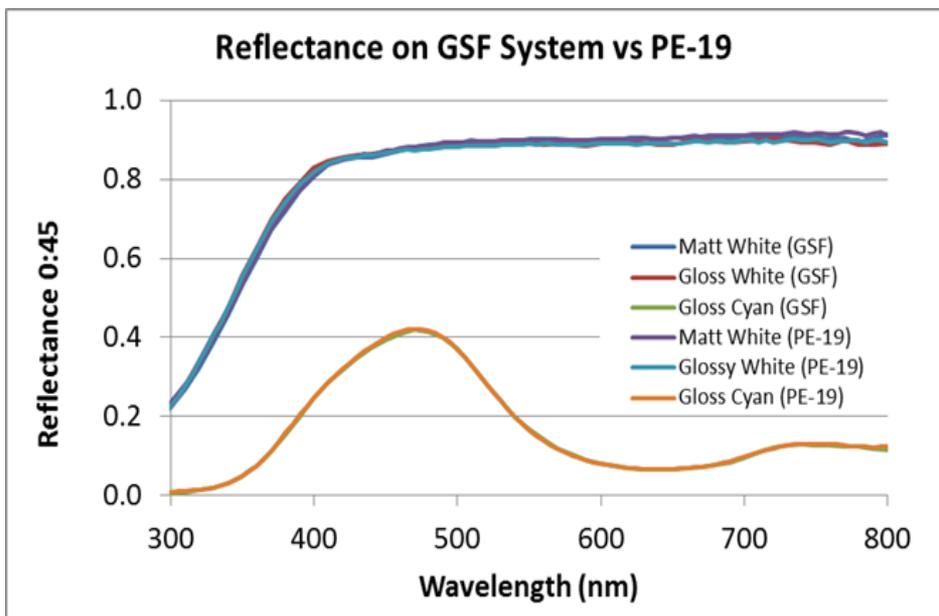
Improved Traceability

- Study **geometric dependence: primary c.f. transfer calibrations**
 - Reference measurements: bidirectional geometry (45:0) c.f.
 - Commercial instruments & Standard Test Methods (ISO, ASTM, AATCC) : sphere geometry (d:0, de:8, di:8).



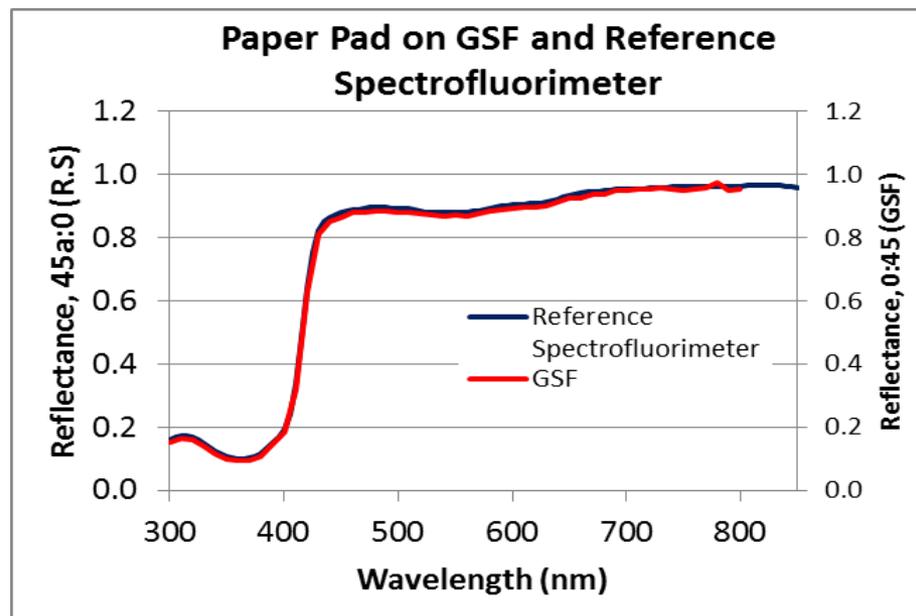
Validation of GSF– Reflected component (45:0 geometry)

Non-fluorescent tiles



c.f. PE-19 , 0:45a geometry

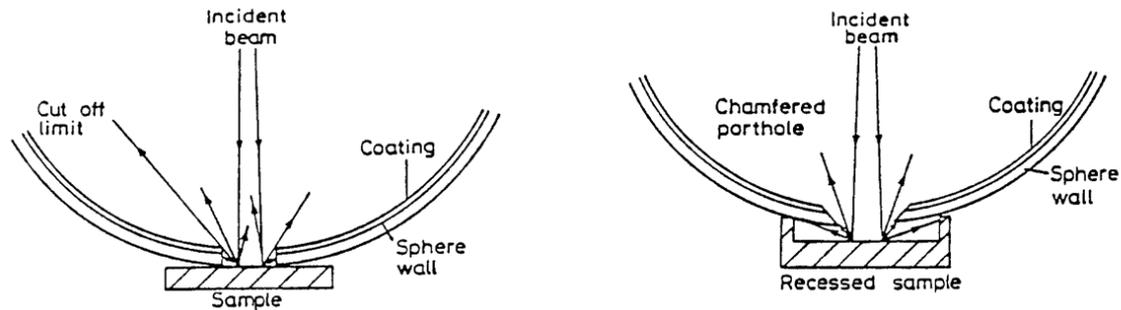
Fluorescent paper pad



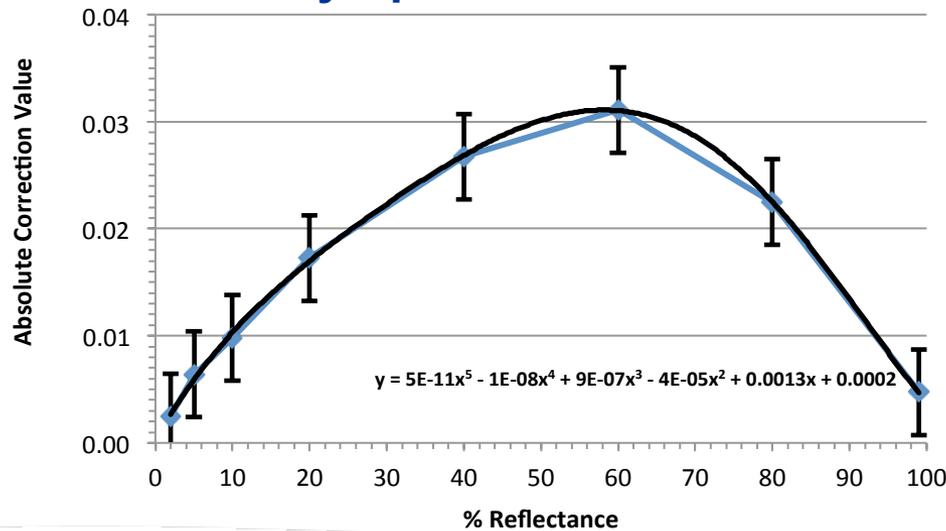
c.f. NRC Reference spectrofluorimeter,
45a:0 geometry



Sphere Errors – Sample recess



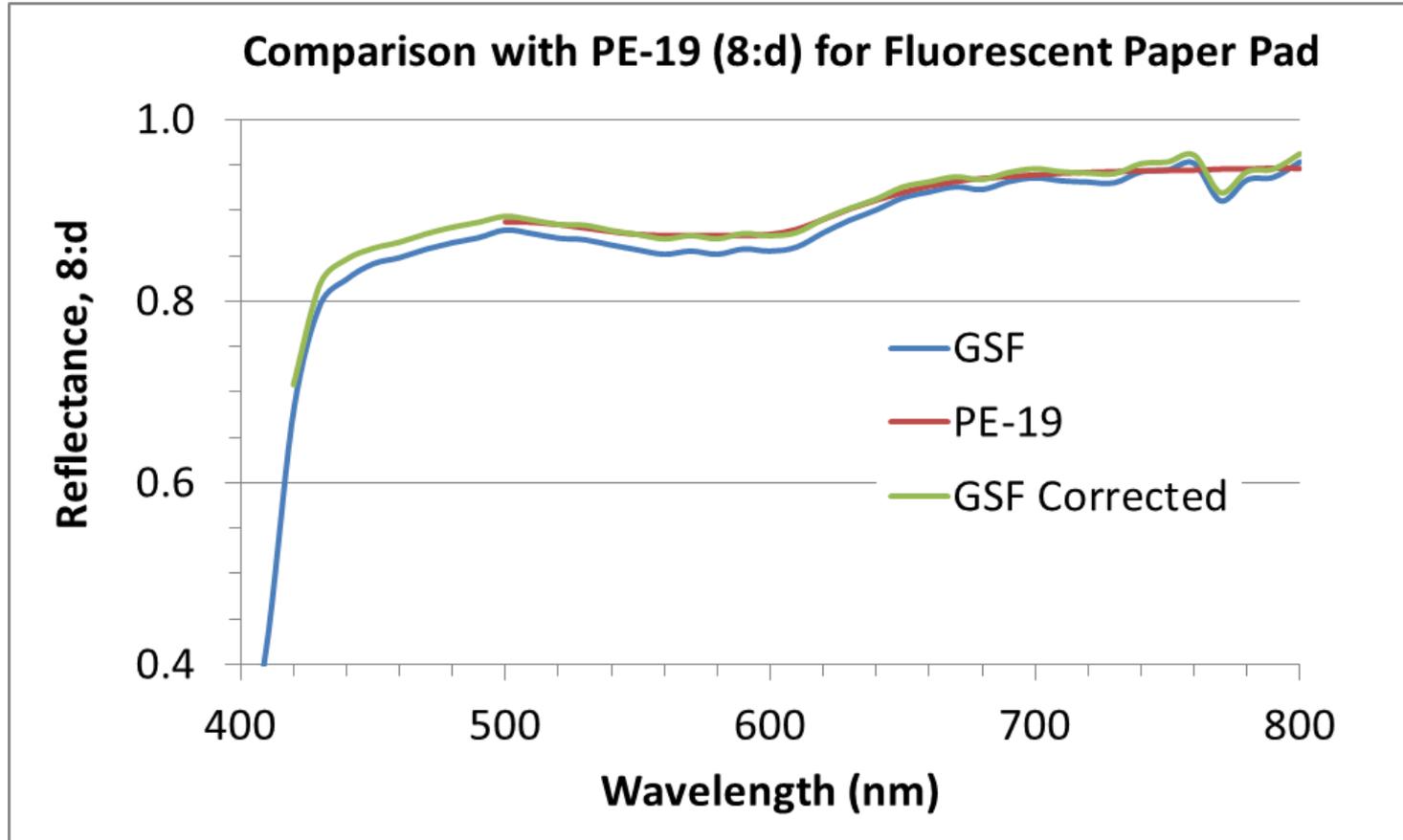
Grey Spectralon Correction curve



PTFE sphere
accessory (!
~6 mm thick)

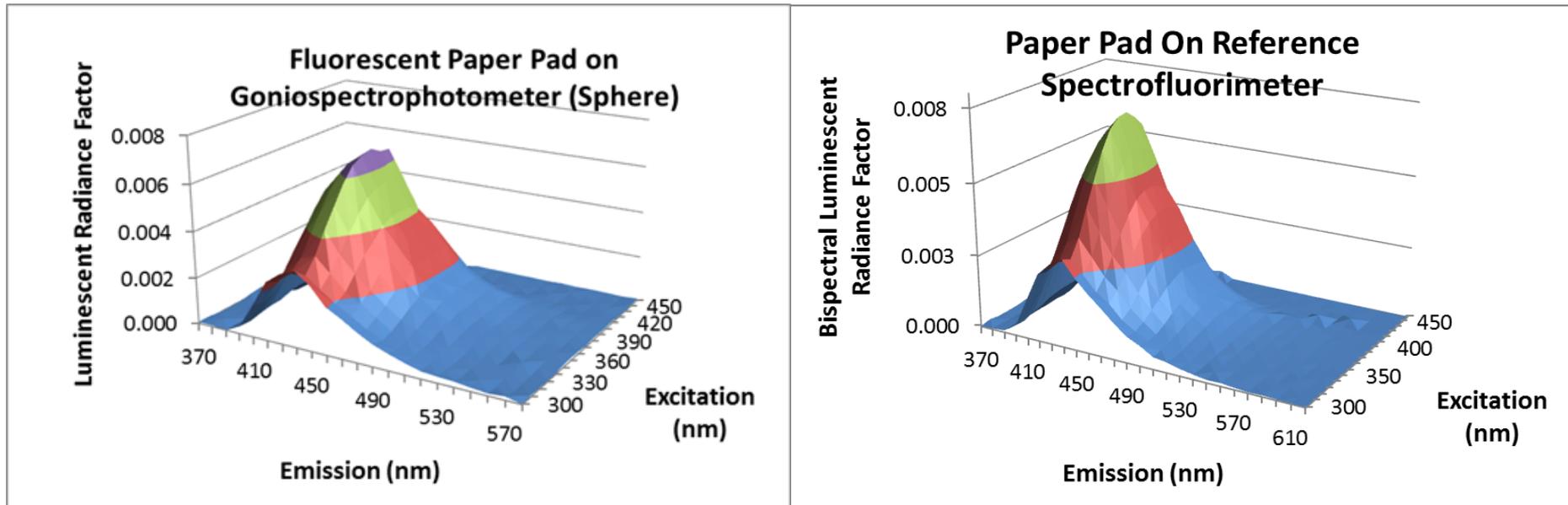


Validation of GSF – Reflected component (8:d geometry)



Bispectral Fluorescence Results Sphere vs 45:0 geometry - Preliminary

Fluorescent White Paper Pad



Sphere

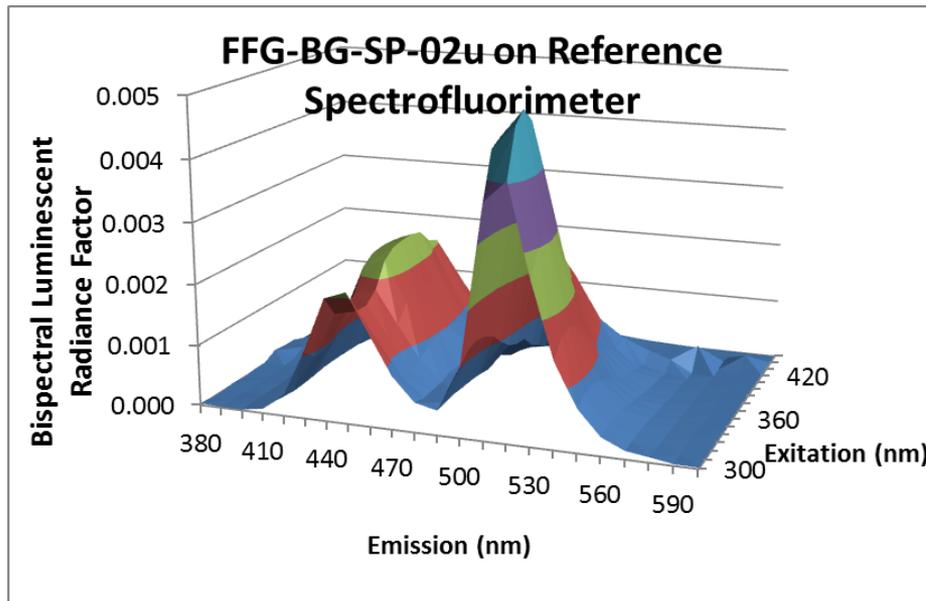
45a:0



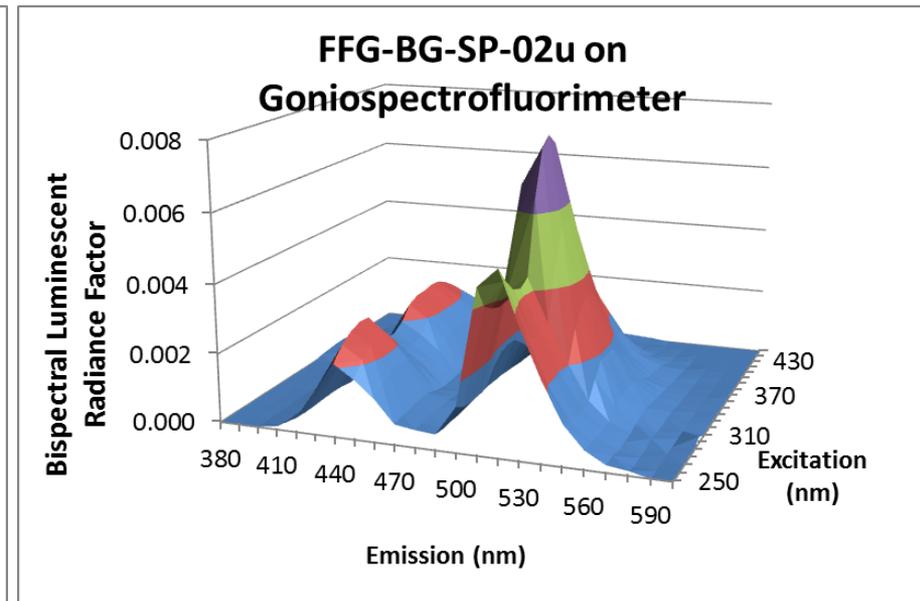
Bispectral Fluorescence Results

45:0 vs Sphere geometry - Preliminary

Fluorescent Blue-Green Spectralon



45a:0



Sphere



Conclusions

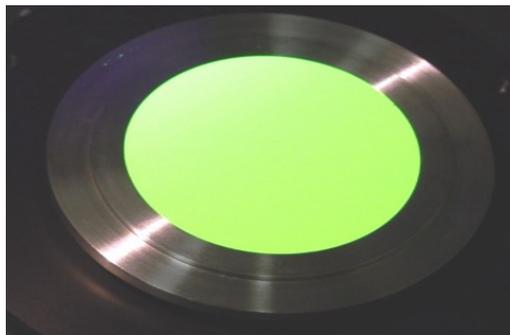
- Traceability issues in fluorescence colorimetry
 - CIE reference (45:0) vs. practical (sphere) geometries
- Status of NRC Goniospectrofluorimeter validation
 - 45:0 measurements
 - sphere measurements
- Study of geometric dependence of fluorescence
 - Preliminary results
- Next steps to improve traceability:
 - Further characterize / correct sphere measurements
 - Single-beam substitution error
 - Spectral sphere error
 - Complete validation/ uncertainty budget





Thank you

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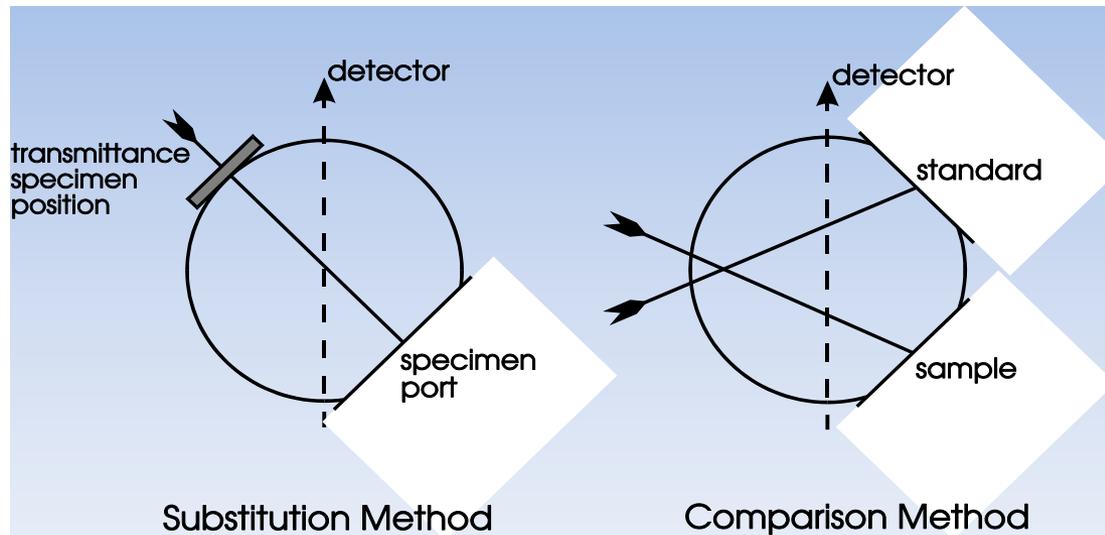
NRC Fluorescence Measurements

Table 2. Uncertainty Budget for the **Total** Radiance Factors of Fluorescent Reflecting Materials Measured on NRC Reference Spectrofluorimeter in the Visible Range

Uncertainty Component	Type	Relative Standard Uncertainty	Uncertainty Contribution	Typical ($\lambda = 450 \text{ nm}$; D65 illuminant)
Wavelength Scale ¹	B	$u(\lambda) = 0.1 \text{ nm}$	$u(\lambda) (\partial\beta_T / \partial\lambda)$	0.0008
Bandpass ²	B	0.03% at peak	$f(\partial^2\beta_T / \partial^2\lambda)$	Negligible
Linearity and Photometric Accuracy ³	B	<0.2%	$\text{Abs}(0.002\beta_T(1-\beta_T))$	0.00054
Polarization ⁴	B			Negligible
Stray Light ⁵	B	<0.0006	$0.0006 / \beta_T$	0.0005
Temperature ($\Delta T = 1.0 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) ⁶	B	0.018 nm/ $^\circ\text{C}$	$0.02u(\lambda) (\partial\beta_T / \partial\lambda)$	0.00002
Long Term System Stability ⁷	B	<0.2% per year	$(\beta_{T,\text{MAX}} \ominus \beta_{T,\text{MIN}}) / \sqrt{12}$	0.00005
45°:0° Reflectance Scale ⁸	B	$u(\beta_R) = 0.00265$	$0.0023\beta_R$	0.0020
45°:0° Luminescent Scale ⁹	B	$u(\beta_L) = 0.005$	$0.005\beta_L$	0.00167
Luminescent Measurement Reproducibility ¹⁰	A	$u_S(\beta_L)$	$(\beta_{L,\text{MAX}} \ominus \beta_{L,\text{MIN}}) / \sqrt{12}$	0.00085
Reflectance Measurement Reproducibility ¹¹	A	$u_S(\beta_R)$	$(\beta_{R,\text{MAX}} \ominus \beta_{R,\text{MIN}}) / \sqrt{12}$	0.0017
			Combined standard uncertainty	0.0034
			Coverage Factor, k	2
			Expanded Uncertainty, ($k = 2$)	0.0068



Substitution vs Comparison



Substitution (single-beam sphere) - simpler design and improved sensitivity; subject to **photometric scale error dependent on difference in reflectivities of sample and standard**

Comparison (double-beam sphere) - comparison standard remains fixed in position; dynamic compensation prevents changes in sphere efficiency for measurements of sample and reflectance standard at specimen port



Single-beam Substitution Error

- *Change in the sphere efficiency (spectral transmittance) when sample or standard are present*
- - both the reflected and emitted power from the sample change the average sphere wall reflectance.
- In a double-beam instrument, this error is corrected for measurement of **non-fluorescent samples** by use of use of “dummy port” – ratio sample or standard signal to fixed (non-fluorescent) comparison sample at dummy port.
- For **NRC sphere-based fluorescence measurements** , to correct for this error:
 - Need to measure and correct for change in sphere efficiency due to reflected and emitted components, separately.



Geometric Correction

Fluorescent reflecting material

Do reflected and fluorescent components have the same correction?

ISO TC6 (Paper, pulps and board)

Initially: correction was applied to the **total radiance factor data**, i.e. assumed reflected and fluorescent components – SAME

Current practice: correction is applied to **reflected component only**

Other issues that need to be resolved:

Who should carry out this geometric correction?

- the standardizing lab or the secondary lab?

- **ISO TC6:** the secondary labs (ALs) make necessary correction

