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**Optical fibres –
Part 1–43: Measurement methods and test procedures– Numerical aperture
measurement**

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	4
1 Scope.....	6
2 Normative references.....	6
3 Overview of method.....	6
4 Reference test method.....	7
5 Apparatus.....	8
5.1 Input system	8
5.1.1 Light source.....	8
5.1.2 Input optics	8
5.1.3 Fibre input end support and alignment.....	8
5.1.4 Cladding mode stripper	8
5.2 Output system and detection	8
5.2.1 General	8
5.2.2 Technique 1 – Angular scan (see Figure 2).....	9
5.2.3 Technique 2 – Angular scan (see Figure 3).....	10
5.2.4 Technique 3 – Scan of the spatial field pattern (see Figure 4)	10
5.2.5 Technique 4 – Inverse far-field measurement (see Figure 5, applicable to subcategory A4d fibres).....	12
6 Sampling and specimens	13
6.1 Specimen length	13
6.2 Specimen endface.....	13
7 Procedure	13
8 Calculations	13
8.1 Far-field versus maximum theoretical value	13
8.2 Threshold intensity angle, θ_k	14
8.3 Numerical aperture, NA_{ff}	14
8.4 Calculating far-field intensity pattern when using Technique 3	15
8.5 Calculating NA when using Technique 4	15
9 Results.....	15
9.1 Information available with each measurement.....	15
9.2 Information available upon request	16
10 Specification information.....	16
Annex A (informative) Mapping NA measurement to alternative lengths	17
A.1 Introductory remark	17
A.2 Mapping long length NA_{ff} measurement to short length NA_{ff} measurement.....	17
Annex B (normative) Product specific default values for NA measurement.....	18
B.1 Introductory remark	18
B.2 Table of default values used in NA measurement for multimode products	18
Figure 1 – Representative refractive index profile for a graded index multimode fibre	7
Figure 2 – Technique 1 – Angular scan	9
Figure 3 – Technique 2 – Angular scan	10
Figure 4 – Technique 3 – Scan of the spatial field pattern	11

Figure 5 – Technique 4 – Inverse far-field method	13
Figure 6 – Example of a far-field NA measurement	14
Figure 7 – Sample output of an A4d fibre measured using Technique 4.....	15
Table B.1 – Default values for parameters used in the far-field NA measurement of multimode fibres	18

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OPTICAL FIBRES –

**Part 1–43: Measurement methods and test procedures–
Numerical aperture measurement**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 60793-1-43 has been prepared by subcommittee 86A: Fibres and cables, of IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2001, and constitutes a technical revision.

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

- expansion of the scope to include A1, A2, A3 and A4 multimode fibre categories;
- addition of measurement parameters of sample length and threshold values, product specific to the variables that are now found in the product specifications;
- a new Annex B entitled "Product specific default values for NA measurement";
- addition of a new Technique 4 for measuring NA of A4d fibres;

- a new Annex A entitled "Mapping NA measurement to alternative lengths" that gives a mapping function to correlate shorter sample length measurements to the length suggested in the reference test method Na_{ff} .

This International Standard is to be used in conjunction with IEC 60793-1-1, IEC 60793-1-21 and IEC 60793-1-22.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

CDV	Report on voting
86A/1566/CDV	86A/1622/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60793 series, published under the general title *Optical fibres*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

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OPTICAL FIBRES –

Part 1–43: Measurement methods and test procedures– Numerical aperture measurement

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60793 establishes uniform requirements for measuring the numerical aperture of optical fibre, thereby assisting in the inspection of fibres and cables for commercial purposes.

The numerical aperture (NA) of categories A1, A2, A3 and A4 multimode fibre is an important parameter that describes a fibre's light-gathering ability. It is used to predict launching efficiency, joint loss at splices, and micro/macrobending performance.

The numerical aperture is defined by measuring the far-field pattern (NA_{ff}). In some cases the theoretical numerical aperture (NA_{th}) is used in the literature, which can be determined from measuring the difference in refractive indexes between the core and cladding. Ideally these two methods should produce the same value.

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 60793-1-1, *Optical fibres – Part 1-1: Measurement methods and test procedures – General and guidance*

IEC 60793-1-21, *Optical fibres – Part 1-21: Measurement methods and test procedures – Coating geometry*

IEC 60793-1-22, *Optical fibres – Part 1-22: Measurement methods and test procedures – Length measurement*

IEC 60793-2-10, *Optical fibres – Part 2-10: Product specifications – Sectional specification for category A1 multimode fibres*

IEC 60793-2-20, *Optical fibres – Part 2-20: Product specifications – Sectional specification for category A2 multimode fibres*

IEC 60793-2-30, *Optical fibres – Part 2-30: Product specifications – Sectional specification for category A3 multimode fibres*

IEC 60793-2-40, *Optical fibres – Part 2-40: Product specifications – Sectional specification for category A4 multimode fibres*