

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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## Programming languages — APL

*Languages de programmation — APL*

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## 0 INTRODUCTION

APL stands for **A Programming Language**. It is a notation invented by K. E. Iverson in the late 1950s for the description of algorithms, and expanded on and made into the programming system *APL\360* by Iverson and his colleagues Adin Falkoff, Larry Breed, Dick Lathwell, and Roger Moore in the mid-1960s.

Throughout this document

- the term “this standard” is understood to mean “this International Standard”;
- the words “chapter”, “section” and “subsection” are understood to mean “clause”, “subclause” and “sub-subclause”, respectively.

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## 1 SCOPE AND FIELD OF APPLICATION

This standard defines the programming language APL and the environment in which APL programs are executed. Its purpose is to facilitate interchange and promote portability of APL programs and programming skills.

This standard specifies the syntax and semantics of APL programs and the characteristics of the environment in which APL programs are executed.

It also specifies requirements for conformance to this standard, including the publication of values and characteristics of implementation properties so that conforming implementations can be meaningfully compared.

This standard does not specify:

implementation properties that are likely to vary with the particular equipment or operating system used;

required values for implementation limits such as APL workspace size or numeric precision;

the data structures used to represent APL objects;

the facilities available through shared variables.

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## 2 REFERENCES

ISO 2375 : 1985, *Data processing — Procedure for registration of escape sequences*.

ISO 2382-15 : 1985, *Data processing — Vocabulary — Part 15: Programming languages*.

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