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**Road vehicles — Multidimensional  
measurement and coordinate systems  
definition**

*Véhicules routiers — Mesurage multidimensionnel et définition des  
systèmes de coordination*

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 22, *Road Vehicles*, Subcommittee SC 36, *Safety aspects and impact testing*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

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## Introduction

This document provides a unified method to handle and process various types of multidimensional displacement sensors for use in crash dummies and automotive crash testing. The content covers existing sensors and dummies, but the document also offers a generic method to handle future new dummies and/or sensors.

Multidimensional measurement systems are used in crash dummies (ATD, or anthropomorphic test device) to monitor the position of dummy features (e.g. ribs, abdomen, etc.) for injury assessment. The dummy feature position is typically expressed in an orthogonal coordinate system which is fixed to the thoracic spine of the dummy, see [Annex A](#). The systems covered in this document are an assembly of one distance sensor and one or two angle sensors, the axes of which are organised in a (rotating) spherical coordinate system, see [Figure C.1](#). Other 2- and 3-dimensional position measurement systems are outside the scope of this document. Although in this document a suit of ATD's and their features are discussed to explain the methodology, its scope is not limited to these examples and can be applied to any other ATD and its features.

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# Road vehicles — Multidimensional measurement and coordinate systems definition

## 1 Scope

This document defines the measurement coordinate systems and presents the protocol to determine the sensor offsets to the chosen coordinate system. Finally, the method is presented how to process the sensor spherical coordinate system data to calculate the position of a dummy feature in three-dimensional space in the defined local orthogonal coordinate system.

## 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

## 3 Terms and definitions

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

ISO and IEC maintain terminology databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1

#### **multidimensional measurement system**

system that measures spatial position of a crash dummy feature (e.g. rib, abdomen, etc.) with respect to a defined reference feature (e.g. dummy spine) and its local coordinate system origin.

Note 1 to entry: Examples of multidimensional sensors and applications are given in the NOTES of [Figure 1](#), [Figure 2](#) and [Figure 3](#).

### 3.2

#### **radius**

distance between the centre of rotation at spine interface and centre of rotation at feature interface (e.g. dummy rib)

Note 1 to entry: The parameter radius ( $R$ ) is associated with the ISO MME Code DC for Distance, ISO/TS 13499<sup>[2]</sup>.

### 3.3

#### **sensor Y-angle**

angle of the multidimensional sensor along Y-axis with respect to local orthogonal coordinate system

Note 1 to entry: The positive rotation direction is defined following SAE sign convention right hand rule.

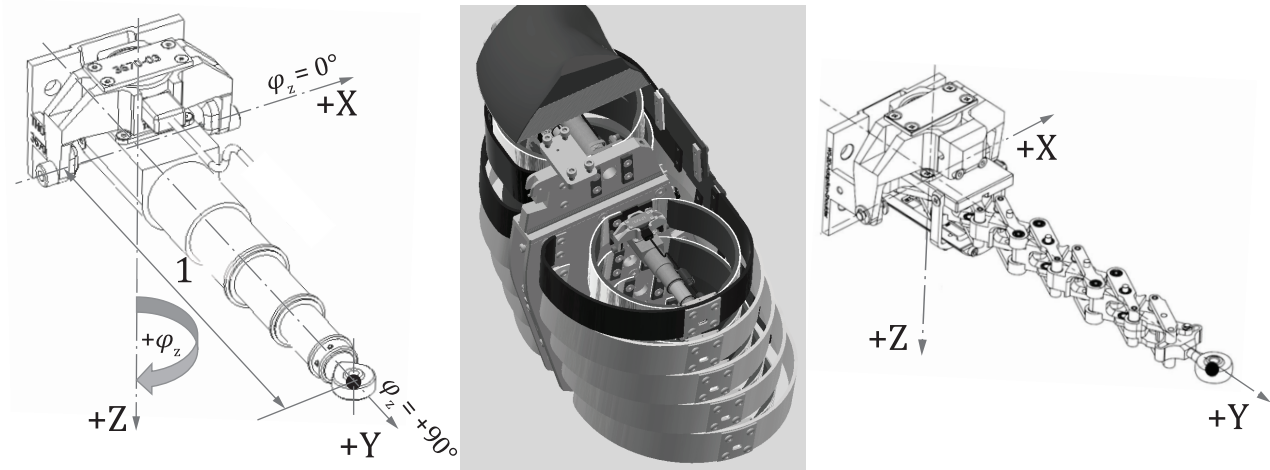
### 3.4

#### **sensor Z-angle**

angle of the multidimensional sensor along Z-axis with respect to local orthogonal coordinate system

Note 1 to entry: The positive rotation direction is defined following SAE sign convention right hand rule.

Note 2 to entry: Examples of the angle definitions are given in the NOTES of [Figure 1](#), [Figure 2](#) and [Figure 3](#).

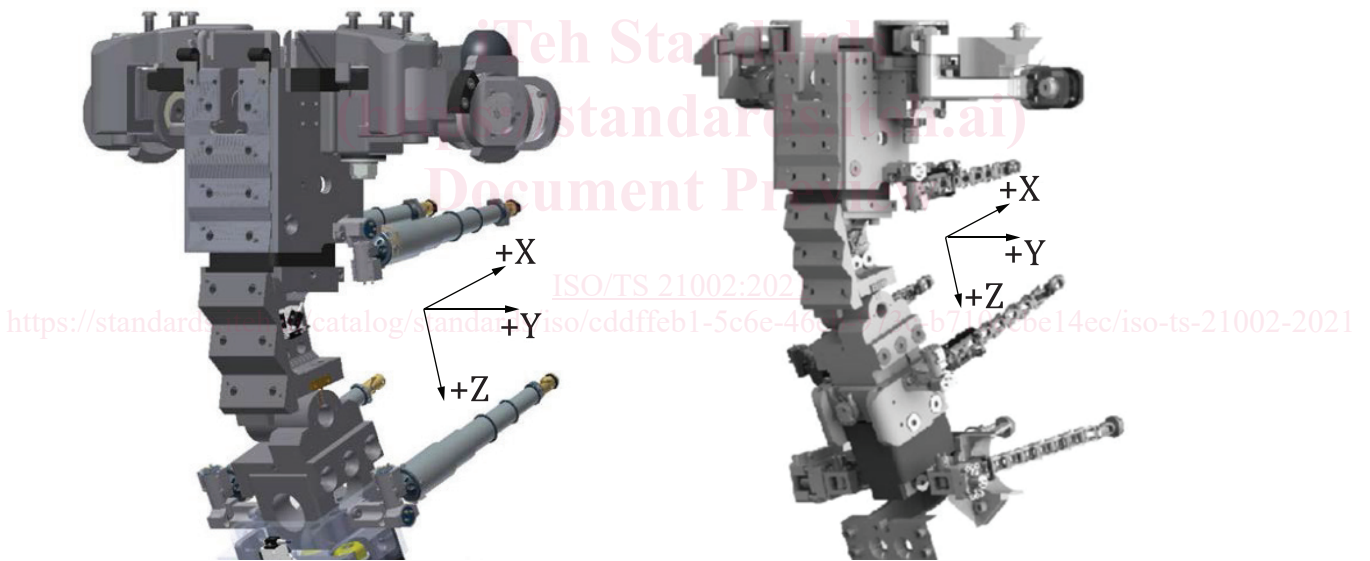


**Key**

1 radius,  $R_i$

NOTE Two examples for WorldSID application are shown: left image 2D IR-TRACC, right image S-Track.

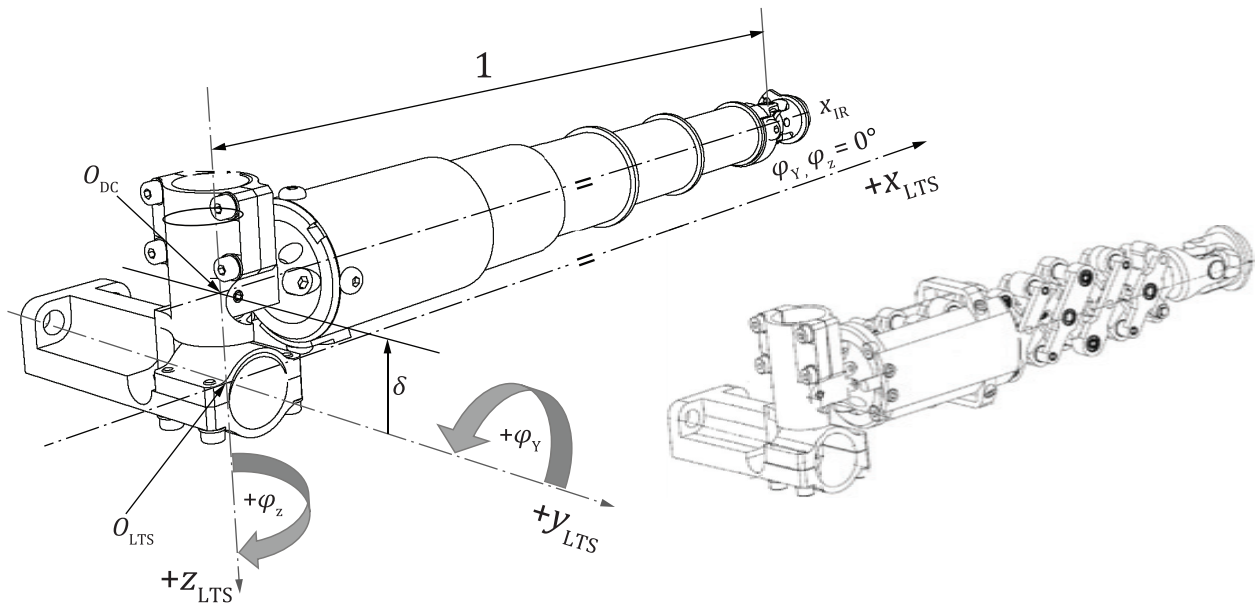
**Figure 1 — Two-dimensional sensor mounted in right-hand side WorldSID 50M dummy**



NOTE Two examples for THOR application are show: left image IR-TRACC, right image S-Track.

**Figure 2 — Three-dimensional sensors mounted in THOR 50M right-hand view and global coordinate system.**



**Key**

1 radius,  $R_i$

NOTE Two informative examples for THOR application are shown: left image 3D IR-TRACC, right image 3D S-Track).

**Figure 3 — Three-dimensional sensors for THOR lower right-hand thorax and their local orthogonal coordinate system**

### 3.5 zero-position

condition of multidimensional sensor when mounted by the spine interface and the distance sensor is aligned with (parallel to) the local orthogonal coordinate system axes and the feature interface is fixed at an accurately defined distance from the coordinate system origin

Note 1 to entry: By definition the angles of the multidimensional position sensor are zero.

### 3.6 zero-position fixture

tool to set up a multidimensional position sensor in its *zero-position* (3.5)

Note 1 to entry: A zero-position fixture has accurately machined reproducible mountings to simulate the dummy spine and the feature mountings. These sensor mountings of the fixture are accurately positioned in (2D- and 3D) space such that the sensor is in its zero-position condition, called position 0 (position zero). The fixture has additional mounting positions for the feature interface, which are translated from zero position over a defined distance in a direction perpendicular to the distance sensor axis and parallel to at least one of the local orthogonal coordinate system axes.

Note 2 to entry: The fixture is considered adequately accurate if the overall dimensional tolerance stack ups of the sensor mountings are within  $\pm 0,3\text{mm}$  in all directions.

Note 3 to entry: Examples of 2D and 3D zero-position fixtures are given in [Annex B](#).

Note 4 to entry: The zero-position fixtures are used in subsequent steps of the zero-position verification procedure:

- to find the offset of the sensors with respect to the local orthogonal coordinate system;
- to remove offsets (by adjustment or compensation in a data acquisition system);
- to check if sensor offsets are removed with a live data acquisition system;

- d) to check sensor polarities with respect to global orthogonal coordinate system;
- e) to check if calculations for coordinate system transformation are reproducing the design positions of the fixture in 2D or 3D space. See paragraph 7 and [Annex B](#).

**3.7  
offset angle**

output in degrees of the angle sensor(s) when the multidimensional position sensor is in its *zero-position* (3.5) condition

Note 1 to entry: If the angle sensor has a positive offset according to the local orthogonal coordinate system, the offset angle is defined positive.

**3.8  
orientation angle**

correction angle for multidimensional sensors that can be mounted in sensor orientation for left hand and right-hand side impact operation, as well as for frontal impact operation

Note 1 to entry: Typically the two-dimensional sensors can be mounted in various orientations inside the dummy. In side impact dummies the sensors can be set up for left hand and right-hand impact (even simultaneously), and the Q10 child dummies can be set up for both frontal and lateral impacts.

Note 2 to entry: The two-dimensional sensors can be oriented inside the dummy with a rotated coordinate system about the Z-axis. The orientation angle can be implemented in Data Acquisition Systems Z-angle data channels as a fixed offset to correct for a rotated coordinate system, see [Table 1](#).

**Table 1 — Orientation angle definition per orientation in the dummy**

	Sensor orientation for impact operation		
	Left Lateral	Frontal	Right Lateral
Orientation angle	-90°	0°	+90°

**3.9  
reference angle**

orientation angle minus the *offset angle* (3.7)

Note 1 to entry: Calculate the reference angle with [Formula \(1\)](#).

$$\varphi_{REF} = \varphi_{ORIENT} - \varphi_{OSZ} \tag{1}$$

Note 2 to entry: The reference angle can be used with data acquisition systems that can handle only one fixed offset parameter, see example in [Figure 4](#).



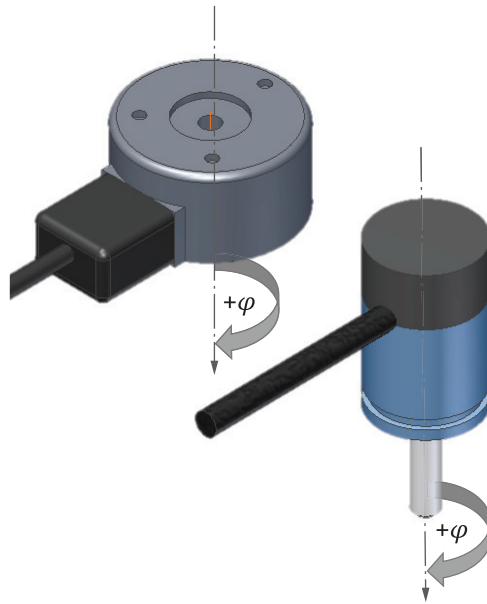


Figure 5 — Positive polarity for angle sensors

4 Symbols

Table 3 — List of symbols

Parameter	Symbol	Unit	Definition/description	Application
X-axis	$x$	-	Global orthogonal coordinate system X-axis	
Y-axis	$y$	-	Global orthogonal coordinate system Y-axis	
Z-axis	$z$	-	Global orthogonal coordinate system Z-axis	
Origin of local orthogonal coordinate systems	$O_{UTS}$	-	Origin upper thoracic spine	
	$O_{LTS}$	-	Origin lower thoracic spine	
	$O_{LS}$	-	Origin lumbar spine	
	$O_{DC}$	-	Origin distance sensor	
	$x_{UTS}$	-	Local X-axis upper thoracic spine	3D-THOR
	$y_{UTS}$	-	Local Y-axis upper thoracic spine	3D-THOR
	$z_{UTS}$	-	Local Z-axis upper thoracic spine	3D-THOR
	$x_{DC}$	-	Distance sensor axis	3D-THOR
	$y_{DC}$	-	Position sensor Y-pivot axis	3D-THOR
	$z_{DC}$	-	Position sensor Z-pivot axis	3D-THOR
	$x_{LTS}$	-	Local X-axis lower thoracic spine	3D-THOR
	$y_{LTS}$	-	Local Y-axis lower thoracic spine	3D-THOR
	$z_{LTS}$	-	Local Z-axis lower thoracic spine	3D-THOR
	$x_{LS}$	-	Local X-axis lumbar spine	3D-THOR
	$y_{LS}$	-	Local Y-axis lumbar spine	3D-THOR
	$z_{LS}$	-	Local Z-axis lumbar spine	3D-THOR

Table 3 (continued)

Parameter	Symbol	Unit	Definition/description	Application
Distance Distance position 0 Distance position 1 Distance position 2	$D$ $D_{ZERO}$ $D_{P1}$ $D_{P2}$	mm	Design distance on zero-position fixture from 2D sensor origin to rib interface centre in position-0, position-1, position-2	2D
Distance positions ZERO-L, ZERO-R, PZL, PZR, PYL, PYR PYZL, PYZR	$D_{ZERO}$ $D_{PZ}$ $D_{PY}$ $D_{PYZ}$	mm	Design distance on zero-position fixture from origin $O_{UTS}$ , $O_{LTS}$ , or $O_{LS}$ to rib interface centre in position ZERO, position PZ (L and R), position PY (L and R), position PYZ (L and R)	3D
Z-angle Angle position 0 Angle position 1 Angle position 2	$\theta_Z$ $\theta_{Z ZERO}$ $\theta_{Z1}$ $\theta_{Z2}$	degrees	Design Z-angles on zero-position fixture 2D sensor origin to rib interface centre in zero-position, position-1, position-2	2D
Y-angle positions ZERO-L, ZERO-R, PZL PZR, PYL, PYR PYZL, PYZR	$\theta_Y$ $\theta_{Y ZERO}$ $\theta_{Y PZ}$ $\theta_{Y PY}$ $\theta_{Y PYZ}$	degrees	Design Y-angles on zero-position fixture origin $O_{UTS}$ , $O_{LTS}$ , or $O_{LS}$ to rib interface centre in position ZERO, position PZ (L and R), position PY (L and R), position PYZ (L and R)	3D
Z-angle positions ZERO-L, ZERO-R, PZL PZR, PYL, PYR PYZL, PYZR	$\theta_Z$ $\theta_{Z ZERO}$ $\theta_{Z PZ}$ $\theta_{Z PY}$ $\theta_{Z PYZ}$	degrees	Design Z-angles on zero-position fixture origin $O_{UTS}$ , $O_{LTS}$ , or $O_{LS}$ to rib interface centre in position ZERO, position +Z, position +Y, position PYZ (L and R)	3D
Calibration range	$d_E$	mm	Distance between starting and end point of displacement calibration	
Distance sensor output	$U_{DC}$	V, LSB	Distance sensor output	
Tubes-IN output	$U_{DC IN}$	V, LSB	Output at certain displacement with all floating tubes pushed IN	IR-TRACC only
Tubes-OUT output	$U_{DC OUT}$	V, LSB	Output at certain displacement with all floating tubes pushed OUT	IR-TRACC only
Linearization exponent	$EXP$	[-]	Optimized linearization exponent	IR-TRACC only
Linearized voltage	$U_{LIN}$	$V_{LIN}$ $LSB_{LIN}$	IR-TRACC output to power of exponent; calculated parameter	IR-TRACC only
Distance sensor calibration factor	$C_{DC}$	mm/V and mm/LSB mm/ $V_{LIN}$ mm/LSB $_{LIN}$	linear sensor mm displacement per output IR-TRACC mm displacement per linearized output	Ratiometric sensor IR-TRACC
Distance sensor sensitivity	$S_{DC}$	V/mm and LSB/mm $V_{LIN}$ /mm and LSB $_{LIN}$ /mm	linear sensor output per mm displacement IR-TRACC linearized output per mm displacement	Ratiometric sensor IR-TRACC
Angle sensor calibration factor	$C_{ANY}$ $C_{ANZ}$	degrees/V/V degrees/LSB	Angle sensor degrees rotation at 1V output per 1V excitation or degree rotation per digital output	

Table 3 (continued)

Parameter	Symbol	Unit	Definition/description	Application
Angle sensor sensitivity	$S_{ANY}$ $S_{ANZ}$	V/V/degrees LSB/degrees	Angle sensor output per degree rotation at 1V excitation or digital output per degree	
Angle sensor polarity	$P$	[-]	The value can be either +1 or -1	2D-3D
Distance sensor Pos0 output	$U_{DC0}$	V, LSB	Distance sensor average output at zero position on Zeroing Fixture	2D-3D
Distance sensor Pos0 output tubes-IN	$U_{DC0 IN}$	V, LSB	Distance sensor output at zero position tubes IN	IR-TRACC
Distance sensor Pos0 output tubes-OUT	$U_{DC0 OUT}$	V, LSB	Distance sensor output at zero position tubes OUT	IR-TRACC
Distance sensor Pos1 output	$U_{DC1}$	V, LSB	Distance sensor output at position 1	2D
Distance Sensor Pos2 output	$U_{DC2}$	V, LSB	Distance sensor output at position 2	2D
Distance sensor output position PY	$U_{DC PY}$	V, LSB	Distance sensor output at position PY	3D
Distance sensor output position PZ	$U_{DC PZ}$	V, LSB	Distance sensor output at position PZ	3D
Distance sensor output position PYZ	$U_{DC PYZ}$	V, LSB	Distance sensor output at position PYZ	3D
Radius	$R$ $R_0$ $R_i$	mm	Distance from $O_{DC}$ to rib interface rotation centre, see Figure 3. Distance sensor output in mm at $t_0$ , at $t_i$ .	2D 3D
Radius Pos0	$R_{IO}$	mm	Radius at zero position on zeroing fixture calculated using average IN-OUT output	2D-3D
Radius Pos0 tubes-IN	$R_{IN}$	mm	Radius at zero position calculated using tubes IN output	IR-TRACC
Radius Pos0 tubes-OUT	$R_{OUT}$	mm	Radius at zero position calculated using tubes OUT output	IR-TRACC
Radius Pos0	$R_{ZERO}$	mm	Radius at zero-position	2D-3D
Radius Pos1	$R_1$		Radius at position-1	2D
Radius Pos2	$R_2$		Radius at position-2	2D
Radius PY	$R_{PY}$		Radius at position PY	3D
Radius PZ	$R_{PZ}$		Radius at position PZ	3D
Radius PYZ	$R_{PYZ}$		Radius at position PYZ	3D
Excitation	$U_{EX}$	V	Excitation voltage angle sensor during zero-position verification	
Y-angle sensor output	$U_{ANY}$	V, LSB	Y-axis angle sensor voltage	3D
Z-angle sensor output	$U_{ANZ}$	V, LSB	Z-axis angle sensor voltage	
Z-Angle output 0 (ZERO)	$U_{ANZ0}$	V, LSB	Z-Angle sensor average output at position-0 (ZERO)	2D & 3D
Z-Angle output 0-Near	$U_{ANZ NEAR}$	V, LSB	Z-Angle sensor output at position-0 pull Near (3D away from spine)	2D & 3D
Z-Angle output 0-Far	$U_{ANZ FAR}$	V, LSB	Z-Angle sensor output at position-0 pull Far (3D towards spine)	2D & 3D