INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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Photography and graphic technology — Extended colour encodings for digital image storage, manipulation and interchange —

Part 3:
Reference input medium metric RGB colour image encoding (RIMM RGB)

Photographie et technologie graphique — Codages par couleurs étendues pour stockage, manipulation et échange d'image numérique —

Partie 3: Codage d'image en couleurs RVB par référence d'entrée par voie métrique

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Foreword

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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).

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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.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 42, *Photography*.

This first edition of ISO 22028-3:2022 cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO/TS 22028-3:2012), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

— the Kodak IP statement has been removed;

— some references have been added, deleted, or updated;

— Annex B has been added.

A list of all parts in the ISO 22028 series can be found on the ISO website.

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.

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Introduction

This document has been developed in order to meet the industry need for a complete, fully-documented, publicly-available definition of a wide-primary scene-referred extended colour gamut red-green-blue (RGB) colour image encoding. This encoding provides a way to represent scene-referred images that does not limit the colour gamut to those colours capable of being displayed on a CRT monitor or require the use of negative RGB colourimetry coordinates.

A scene-referred extended colour gamut colour encoding is particularly desirable for professional photography applications. For example, colours captured by digital cameras, as well as conventional capture devices such as photographic film, can be outside those that can be represented within the colour gamut of a typical monitor or other types of output devices. Similarly, scene-referred images can have a larger luminance dynamic range than output-referred images since they have not been modified by a colour rendering process to fit the images to a specific output medium applying appropriate tone and colour reproduction aims. Retaining the unrendered scene-referred image data has the advantage that it preserves the option to make decisions about how a particular image is to be rendered. For example, a scene-referred image of a backlit scene can retain information about both the dark foreground region and the bright background region of the scene. This information can be used to make a properly exposed print of either the foreground region or the background region, or alternatively can be used to create an improved image by rendering the two regions differently.

By using a standard scene-referred extended colour gamut colour image encoding, images can be stored, interchanged and manipulated without restricting the image to a particular rendering intent or output device. The reference input medium metric RGB (RIMM RGB) colour encoding specified in this document meets the needs of these types of applications, as described in References [14] and [15]. An extended dynamic range version of this colour image encoding known as extended reference input medium metric RGB (ERIMM RGB), and a floating point version known as FP-RIMM RGB are also specified for use with high-dynamic range input sources. The scene-referred RIMM RGB colour image encoding is intended to be complementary to the output-referred ROMM RGB colour image encoding specified in ISO 22028-2[10]. Both colour encodings are based on the same "wide RGB" additive colour space to facilitate the development of image processing algorithms and simple colour rendering transformations to convert scene-referred RIMM RGB images to rendered output-referred ROMM RGB images.

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Photography and graphic technology — Extended colour encodings for digital image storage, manipulation and interchange —

Part 3:
Reference input medium metric RGB colour image encoding (RIMM RGB)

1   Scope

This document specifies a family of scene-referred extended colour gamut RGB colour image encodings designated as reference input medium metric RGB (RIMM RGB). Digital images encoded using RIMM RGB can be manipulated, stored, transmitted, displayed or printed by digital still picture imaging systems. Three precision levels are defined using 8-, 12- and 16-bits/channel.

An extended luminance dynamic range version of RIMM RGB is also defined, designated as extended reference input medium metric RGB (ERIMM RGB). Two precision levels of ERIMM RGB are defined using 12- and 16-bits/channel.

FP-RIMM RGB, a floating point version of RIMM RGB, defines the expression method of RIMM RGB in a floating point figure. Three precision levels of FP-RIMM RGB are defined using 16-, 32- and 64-bits/channel.

2   Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/CIE 11664-1, *Colorimetry — Part 1: CIE standard colorimetric observers*[1]

CIE Publication 15, *Colorimetry*

IEEE 754, *IEEE Standard for Floating-Point Arithmetic*

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/

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[1]   This International Standard replaces ISO/CIE 10527.

3.1
adapted white
colour stimulus that an observer who is adapted to the viewing environment would judge to be perfectly achromatic and to have a luminance factor of unity; i.e. absolute colourimetric coordinates that an observer would consider to be a perfect white diffuser

Note 1 to entry: The adapted white can vary within a scene.

3.2
additive RGB colour space
colourimetric colour space having three colour primaries (generally red, green and blue) such that CIE XYZ tristimulus values can be determined from the RGB colour space values by forming a weighted combination of the CIE XYZ tristimulus values for the individual colour primaries, where the weights are proportional to the radiometrically linear colour space values for the corresponding colour primaries

Note 1 to entry: A simple linear 3 × 3 matrix transformation can be used to transform between CIE XYZ tristimulus values and the radiometrically linear colour space values for an additive RGB colour space.

Note 2 to entry: Additive RGB colour spaces are defined by specifying the CIE chromaticity values for a set of additive RGB primaries and a colour space white point, together with a colour component transfer function.

3.3
adopted white
spectral radiance distribution as seen by an image capture or measurement device and converted to colour signals that are considered to be perfectly achromatic and to have an observer adaptive luminance factor of unity; i.e. colour signals that are considered to correspond to a perfect white diffuser

Note 1 to entry: The adopted white can vary within a scene, if such variation is supported by the imaging system.

Note 2 to entry: The adopted white is not required to be an estimate or approximation of the adapted white. For example, if a scene lit by tungsten illumination is captured using a DSC with the white balance set to D55 (daylight), the adopted white will be D55 but the adapted white will be closer to a tungsten illuminant (e.g. ISO 7589 Studio Tungsten[1] or CIE Illuminant A).

Note 3 to entry: The adopted white is not the same as the adapted white. See 3.1.

3.4
colourimetric colour space
colour space having an exact and simple relationship to CIE colourimetric values

Note 1 to entry: Colourimetric colour spaces include those defined by CIE (e.g. CIE XYZ, CIELAB, CIELUV), as well as colour spaces that are simple transformations of those colour spaces (e.g. *additive RGB colour spaces* (3.2)).

3.5
colour component transfer function
single variable, monotonic mathematical function applied individually to one or more colour channels of a *colour space* (3.10)

Note 1 to entry: Colour component transfer functions are frequently used to account for the nonlinear response of a reference device and/or to improve the visual uniformity of a colour space.

Note 2 to entry: Generally, colour component transfer functions will be nonlinear functions such as a power-law (i.e. "gamma") function or a logarithmic function. However, in some cases a linear colour component transfer function can be used.

3.6
colour encoding
generic term for a quantized digital encoding of a *colour space* (3.10), encompassing both *colour space encodings* (3.11) and *colour image encodings* (3.8)

3.7
colour gamut
solid in a *colour space* ([3.10](#)), consisting of all those colours that are either present in a specific scene, artwork, photograph, photomechanical, or other reproduction, or capable of being created using a particular output device and/or medium

3.8
colour image encoding
digital encoding of the colour values for a digital image, including the specification of a *colour space encoding* ([3.11](#)), together with any information necessary to properly interpret the colour values such as the image state, the intended image viewing environment and the reference medium

Note 1 to entry: In some cases, the intended image viewing environment will be explicitly defined for the colour image encoding. In other cases, the intended image viewing environment can be specified on an image-by-image basis using metadata associated with the digital image.

Note 2 to entry: Some colour image encodings will indicate particular reference medium characteristics, such as a reflection print with a specified density range. In other cases, the reference medium will not be applicable, such as with a scene-referred colour image encoding, or will be specified using image metadata.

Note 3 to entry: Colour image encodings are not limited to pictorial digital images that originate from an original scene, but are also applicable to digital images with content such as text, line art, vector graphics and other forms of original artwork.

3.9
colour rendering
mapping of image data representing the colour-space coordinates of the elements of a scene to output-referred image data representing the *colour space* ([3.10](#)) coordinates of the elements of a reproduction

Note 1 to entry: Colour rendering generally consists of one or more of the following:

— compensating for differences in the input and output viewing conditions;

— tone scale and gamut mapping to map the scene colours onto the dynamic range and *colour gamut* ([3.7](#)) of the reproduction;

— applying preference adjustments.

3.10
colour space
geometric representation of colours in space, usually of three dimensions

[SOURCE: CIE Publication 17.4:1987, 845-03-25]

3.11
colour space encoding
digital encoding of a *colour space* ([3.10](#)), including the specification of a digital encoding method, and a *colour space* ([3.10](#)) value range

Note 1 to entry: Multiple colour space encodings can be defined based on a single colour space where the different colour space encodings have different digital encoding methods and/or colour space value ranges. (For example, 8-bit sRGB and 10-bit e-sRGB are different colour space encodings based on a particular RGB colour space.)

3.12
colour space white point
colour stimulus to which *colour space* ([3.10](#)) values are normalized

Note 1 to entry: It is not necessary that the colour space white point correspond to the assumed adapted white point and/or the reference medium white point for a *colour image encoding* ([3.8](#)).

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3.13
image state
attribute of a *colour image encoding* ([3.8](#)) indicating the rendering state of the image data

Note 1 to entry: The primary image states defined in this document are the scene-referred image state, the original-referred image state and the output-referred image state.

3.14
luminance factor
ratio of the luminance of the surface element in the given direction to that of a perfect reflecting or transmitting diffuser identically illuminated

[SOURCE: CIE Publication 17.4:1987, 845-04-69]

3.15
observer adaptive luminance factor
ratio of the luminance of a stimulus to the luminance of a stimulus that an observer adapted to the viewing environment would interpret to be a perfect white diffuser

3.16
output-referred image state
image state ([3.13](#)) associated with image data that represents the *colour space* ([3.10](#)) coordinates of the elements of an image that has undergone *colour rendering* ([3.9](#)) appropriate for a specified real or virtual output device and viewing conditions

Note 1 to entry: When the phrase "output-referred" is used as a qualifier to an object, it implies that the object is in an output-referred image state. For example, output-referred image data are image data in an output-referred image state.

Note 2 to entry: Output referred image data are referred to the specified output device and viewing conditions. A single scene can be colour rendered to a variety of output-referred representations depending on the anticipated output viewing conditions, media limitations and/or artistic intents.

Note 3 to entry: Output-referred image data can become the starting point for a subsequent reproduction process. For example, sRGB output-referred image data are frequently considered to be the starting point for the colour re-rendering performed by a printer designed to receive sRGB image data.

3.17
scene
spectral radiances of a view of the natural world as measured from a specified vantage point in space and at a specified time

Note 1 to entry: A scene can correspond to an actual view of the natural world or to a computer-generated virtual scene simulating such a view.

3.18
scene-referred image state
image state ([3.13](#)) associated with image data that represents estimates of the *colour space* ([3.10](#)) coordinates of the elements of a scene

Note 1 to entry: When the phrase "scene-referred" is used as a qualifier to an object, it implies that the object is in a scene-referred image state. For example, scene-referred image data are image data in a scene-referred image state.

Note 2 to entry: Scene-referred image data can be determined from raw DSC image data before *colour rendering* ([3.9](#)) is performed. Generally, DSCs do not write scene-referred image data in image files, but some do so in a special mode intended for this purpose. Typically, DSCs write standard output-referred image data where colour rendering has already been performed.

Note 3 to entry: Scene-referred image data typically represents relative scene colourimetry estimates. Absolute scene colourimetry estimates can be calculated using a scaling factor. The scaling factor can be derived from additional information such as the image OECF, FNumber or ApertureValue, and ExposureTime or ShutterSpeedValue tags.

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Note 4 to entry: Scene-referred image data can contain inaccuracies due to the dynamic range limitations of the capture device, noise from various sources, quantization, optical blurring and flare that are not corrected for, and colour analysis errors due to capture device metamerism. In some cases, these sources of inaccuracy can be significant.

Note 5 to entry: The transformation from raw DSC image data to scene-referred image data depends on the relative *adopted whites* (3.3) selected for the scene and the colour space used to encode the image data. If the chosen scene adopted white is inappropriate, additional errors will be introduced into the scene-referred image data. These errors can be correctable if the transformation used to produce the scene-referred image data are known, and the *colour encoding* (3.6) used for the incorrect scene-referred image data has adequate precision and dynamic range.

Note 6 to entry: The scene can correspond to an actual view of the natural world, or be a computer-generated virtual scene simulating such a view. It can also correspond to a modified scene determined by applying modifications to an original scene to produce some different desired scene. Any such scene modifications need to leave the image in a scene-referred image state and need to be done in the context of an expected *colour rendering* (3.9) transform.

3.19
tristimulus value
amounts of the three reference colour stimuli, in a given trichromatic system, required to match the colour of the stimulus considered

[SOURCE: CIE Publication 17.4:1987, 845-03-22]

3.20
veiling glare
light, reflected from an imaging medium, that has not been modulated by the means used to produce the image

Note 1 to entry: Veiling glare lightens and reduces the contrast of the darker parts of an image.

Note 2 to entry: In CIE Publication 122[12], the veiling glare of a CRT display is referred to as ambient flare.

3.21
viewing flare
veiling glare that is observed in a viewing environment but not accounted for in radiometric measurements made using a prescribed measurement geometry

Note 1 to entry: The viewing flare is expressed as a percentage of the luminance of adapted white.

3.22
working colour space
colour space encoding (3.11) in which operations such as image edits, enhancements, or *colour rendering* (3.9) are performed

Note 1 to entry: The image state in a working colour space can change as operations are performed.

Note 2 to entry: If operations performed in a working colour space are guided by viewing the image on a medium, that medium and the associated viewing conditions become the reference for the resulting image.

4 Requirements

4.1 General

Reference input medium metric RGB (RIMM RGB) and the ERIMM and FP-RIMM associated versions of RIMM RGB are extended colour gamut RGB colour image encodings of the colourimetry of a scene-referred image, white balanced to be relative to a specified adopted white. The image colourimetry is encoded in terms of an additive RGB colour space (i.e. a colourimetric colour space) associated with a hypothetical additive colour device having a specified set of primaries and no cross-talk between the colour channels. The RIMM RGB colour image encoding has a maximum luminance value corresponding

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to 200 % of a perfect diffuse reflector (i.e. an observer adaptive luminance factor of 2,0). Extended reference input medium metric RGB (ERIMM RGB) is an extended luminance dynamic range version of RIMM RGB having a maximum observer adaptive luminance factor of about 316. The maximum luminance value of FP-RIMM RGB colour image encoding is limited only by the floating point encoding range. In RIMM RGB, ERIMM RGB and FP-RIMM RGB, the image colourimetry shall be based on flareless (or flare corrected) colourimetric measurements as described in CIE Publication 15 using the CIE 1931 standard colourimetric observer defined in ISO/CIE 11664-1.

Scene-referred image data may correspond to an actual view of the natural world, or a simulation of such a view. It may also correspond to a modified scene determined by applying modifications to an original scene. In order to be appropriate for encoding as RIMM RGB, ERIMM RGB or FP-RIMM RGB, any scene modifications shall leave the image in a scene-referred image state.

Scene-referred image data may have an associated pre-determined colour rendering transform. When an associated pre-determined colour rendering transform is present with scene-referred image data, such an intended colour rendering transform should be included in any image preview path that is used to provide subjective feedback to a user, unless

— the user has selected direct viewing of the scene-referred image and intends that modifications are to be previewed in the scene-referred state, and

— the scene-referred image data has been converted to an appropriate working colour space for manual editing and colour rendering. In this case the user may exercise the option to apply or not apply an associated pre-determined colour rendering transform, if present, when the scene-referred image data are converted to the working colour space.

EXAMPLES   Scene modifications could include removing haze from the captured image or allowing a user to manually adjust the exposure/white balance. It could also include more complex operations such as using a "dodge-and-burn" algorithm to correct over-exposed regions of a backlit scene. (This can be viewed as being analogous to "re-lighting" the scene.) Scene modifications could also include applying desired changes to the scene such as simulating a "night" scene, making grass greener to make it look healthier, or making the sky bluer to make it look clearer. However, typical colour rendering transforms will include a boost in the midtone contrast and chroma of the image. Consequently, any boost in colourfulness of the scene (e.g. making the grass greener) needs to be done with the knowledge that there may be an additional chroma boost during colour rendering.

NOTE 1   The image colourimetry of the scene-referred image can contain inaccuracies due to the dynamic range limitations of the capture device, noise from various sources, quantization, optical blurring and flare that are not corrected for, and colour analysis errors due to capture device metamerism. In some cases, these sources of inaccuracy can be significant.

Three different precision levels are defined for RIMM RGB, and shall be identified as RIMM8 RGB, RIMM12 RGB and RIMM16 RGB, for 8-, 12- and 16-bits/channel (24-, 36- and 48-bits/pixel) representations, respectively.

For extended reference input medium metric RGB (ERIMM RGB), two different precision levels are defined and shall be identified as ERIMM12 RGB and ERIMM16 RGB, for 12- and 16-bits/channel (36- and 48-bits/pixel) representations, respectively.

Floating point reference input medium metric RGB (FP-RIMM RGB) is a floating point encoded version of RIMM RGB with a linear colour component transfer function. Half-, single- or double-precision floating point numbers, which shall be as defined in IEEE 754 (requiring 48-, 96- and 192-bits/pixel, respectively), may be used in TIFF/EP files as defined in ISO 12234-2[3].

NOTE 2   RIMM RGB, ERIMM RGB or FP-RIMM RGB images are intended for use in system environments that support scene-referred images. However, they can be interchanged in environments that do not support scene-referred images if a default colour rendering transform or a full resolution standard output-referred image that is supported in the environment is associated with the scene-referred image. The TIFF/EP and JPEG 2000 file formats can use ICC profiles (See Reference [6]) to support RIMM RGB, ERIMM RGB or FP-RIMM RGB images in system environments designed to support output-referred images.

NOTE 3   The colour image encoding defined in this document conforms to the requirements defined in ISO 22028-1:2016[9], Clause 5.

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