
**Mechanical vibration — Vibrotactile
perception thresholds for the
assessment of nerve dysfunction —**

Part 2:

**Analysis and interpretation of
measurements at the fingertips**

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*Vibrations mécaniques — Seuils de perception vibrotactile pour
l'évaluation des troubles neurologiques —*
*Partie 2: Analyse et interprétation des mesures obtenues à la pulpe
des doigts*

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Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviated terms	1
3.1 Terms and definitions	1
3.2 Symbols and abbreviated terms	3
4 Treatment of vibrotactile perception thresholds	3
4.1 General	3
4.2 Mean value of repeated measurements	4
4.3 Test/retest variability of threshold measurements	4
4.4 Treatment of unresolved errors	5
4.5 Treatment of suspected increase in test/retest variability	5
5 Calculation of threshold shift	5
5.1 General	5
5.2 Relative threshold shift	5
5.3 Reference threshold shift	6
5.4 Mean value of threshold shift	6
5.5 Tactogram	6
5.6 Consistency of threshold shifts	7
5.7 Mean mechanoreceptor population threshold shift	8
6 Interpretation of vibrotactile perception thresholds and threshold shifts	8
6.1 General	8
6.2 Measurement error and statistical significance of observed VPTs	9
6.3 Measurement error and statistical significance of relative threshold shifts	9
6.4 Vibrotactile perception thresholds for healthy persons	9
6.5 Deviations from the VPTs of healthy persons	9
6.6 Physiological and clinical implications of changes in VPTs	10
Annex A (informative) Vibrotactile perception thresholds for healthy persons	11
Annex B (informative) Implications of changes in vibration perception thresholds	19
Bibliography	24

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).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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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 108, *Mechanical vibration, shock and condition monitoring*, Subcommittee SC 4, *Human exposure to mechanical vibration and shock*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 13091-2:2003), which has been technically revised.

[ISO 13091-2:2021](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html)

[The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:](http://standards.iteh.ai/iso-13091-2-2021)

- The contents of [Annex A](#) have been updated to include studies of the vibrotactile perception thresholds of healthy persons published since the first edition of the standard.
- The Bibliography has been updated to include the studies listed in [Annex A](#).

A list of all parts in the ISO 13091 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.

Introduction

Early detection of peripheral neuropathies in the upper extremities, which are often manifest as changes in tactile function and hence changes in mechanoreceptor acuity, is of considerable interest. Such neuropathies can occur as a result of disease, or of exposure to chemical or physical, neurotoxic agents. With a suitable choice of measurement conditions, as provided in ISO 13091-1, separate responses from the slow-adapting type 1 (SAI) and fast-adapting types 1 and 2 (FAI and FAII) mechanoreceptor populations can be determined by using vibrotactile stimulation at different frequencies.

This document defines the analysis and interpretation of vibrotactile thresholds measured at the fingertips according to the provisions of ISO 13091-1. Procedures for describing statistically significant changes in vibrotactile perception thresholds are provided for the situation in which the threshold is determined on a single occasion, as well as when the threshold is determined repeatedly.

This edition of ISO 13091-2 contains an updated analysis of the vibrotactile perception thresholds for healthy males and females and provides reference thresholds for all frequencies specified in ISO 13091-1.

Values for the vibrotactile perception thresholds of healthy persons, applicable to thresholds determined according to the provisions of ISO 13091-1, are given in [Annex A](#).

The implications of observed changes in vibrotactile perception thresholds are considered in [Annex B](#).

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