
Določanje največje prostorsko povprečene specifične hitrosti absorpcije (SAR) v človeškem telesu zaradi brezžičnih komunikacijskih naprav, 100 MHz do 10 GHz - 4. del: Splošne zahteve za uporabo metode končnih elementov za izračun SAR

Determining the peak spatial-average specific absorption rate (SAR) in the human body from wireless communication devices, 100 kHz to 10 GHz - Part 4: General requirements for using the finite element method for SAR calculations

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TITLE:

Determining the peak spatial-average specific absorption rate (SAR) in the human body from wireless communication devices, 100 kHz to 10 GHz - Part 4: General requirements for using the finite element method for SAR calculations

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CONTENTS

0		
1	CONTENTS.....	2
2	FOREWORD.....	5
3	INTRODUCTION	8
4	1 Scope.....	9
5	2 Normative references.....	9
6	3 Terms and definitions.....	9
7	4 Abbreviated terms	10
8	5 Finite element method.....	10
9	5.1 Description.....	10
10	5.2 Requirements on the implementation of the FEM	11
11	6 SAR calculation and averaging	11
12	6.1 General	11
13	6.2 SAR averaging.....	12
14	6.2.1 General	12
15	6.2.2 Evaluation of psSAR aligned with a Cartesian mesh on an FEM mesh	12
16	6.2.3 Homogeneous psSAR calculation	13
17	6.2.4 Consideration of different tissue types in one averaging volume	13
18	6.3 Power scaling	13
19	6.4 Reporting peak spatial-average SAR and whole-body average SAR.....	14
20	6.5 Referencing peak spatial-average SAR and whole-body average SAR	14
21	7 Considerations for the uncertainty evaluation.....	14
22	7.1 General	14
23	7.2 Uncertainty due to device positioning, mesh density, and simulation parameters.....	15
24	7.2.1 General	15
25	7.2.2 Mesh convergence.....	15
26	7.2.3 Open boundary conditions.....	16
27	7.2.4 Power budget	17
28	7.2.5 Convergence of the aligned psSAR sampling.....	17
29	7.2.6 Dielectric parameters of the phantom or body model	17
30	7.3 Uncertainty and validation of the developed computational model of the DUT	18
31	7.3.1 General	18
32	7.3.2 Uncertainty of the DUT model ($d \geq \lambda/2$ or $d \geq 200$ mm).....	18
33	7.3.3 Uncertainty of the DUT model ($d < \lambda/2$ and $d < 200$ mm)	20
34	7.3.4 Model validation.....	22
35	7.4 Uncertainty budget.....	22
36	8 Code verification	23
37	8.1 General	23
38	8.1.1 Rationale	23
39	8.1.2 Code performance verification	24
40	8.1.3 Canonical benchmarks	24
41	8.2 Code performance verification.....	24
42	8.2.1 Propagation in a rectangular waveguide.....	24
43	8.2.2 Planar dielectric boundaries	28
44	8.2.3 Open boundary conditions.....	30
45	8.3 Weak patch test.....	31
46		

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47	8.3.1	General	31
48	8.3.2	Free-space weak patch test.....	31
49	8.3.3	Dielectric-layer weak patch test.....	36
50	8.4	Verification of the psSAR calculation	39
51	8.4.1	Aligned psSAR averaging algorithm	39
52	8.4.2	Homogeneous psSAR averaging algorithm.....	39
53	8.5	Canonical benchmarks.....	39
54	8.5.1	Mie sphere.....	39
55	8.5.2	Generic dipole	40
56	8.5.3	Microstrip line terminated with open boundary conditions	41
57	8.5.4	psSAR calculation SAM phantom / generic phone.....	41
58	8.5.5	Setup for system performance check.....	42
59	Annex A (informative)	Fundamentals of the finite element method.....	44
60	A.1	General	44
61	A.2	Model boundary value problem.....	44
62	A.3	Galerkin weak form	45
63	A.4	Finite element approximation	45
64	A.5	Considerations for using FEM	46
65	Annex B (informative)	File format for field and SAR data	47
66	Annex C (informative)	Analytical solution for error calculation in weak patch-test	
67		problems	48
68	C.1	Generation of control mesh and FEM field values.....	48
69	C.2	Free-space weak patch test.....	48
70	C.3	Dielectric-layer weak patch test.....	48
71	Annex D (normative)	Supplemental files and their checksums	51
72	Bibliography		52
73			
74	Figure 1 – Aligned rectangular waveguide and locations of the sample points E_{01} , E_{10} ,		
75	E_{11} , E_{12} and E_{21} at which the E_x components are recorded		27
76	Figure 2 – Waveguide filled half with free-space (green) and half with dielectric (blue).....		28
77	Figure 3 – Weak patch test arrangement: a free-space cube with edge length L		
78	illuminated by a plane wave.....		32
79	Figure 4 – Dielectric-layer weak patch test arrangement.....		36
80	Figure 5 – Geometry of the microstrip line		41
81	Figure 6 – Geometry of the setup for the system performance check according to [20]		43
82			
83	Table 1 – Budget of the uncertainty contributions of the computational algorithm and		
84	of the rendering of the test-setup or simulation-setup.....		15
85	Table 2 – Budget of the uncertainty of the developed model of the DUT		20
86	Table 3 – Overall assessment uncertainty budget for the simulation results		23
87	Table 4 – Results of the evaluation of the numerical dispersion characteristics to be		
88	reported.....		27
89	Table 5 – Results of the evaluation of the numerical reflection coefficient to be		
90	reported; frequency range is indicated for each value to be reported		30
91	Table 6 – Guiding parameters for coarse and fine mesh generation for the weak patch		
92	test 33		
93	Table 7 – Results of the evaluation of the error measures on the control mesh for the		
94	weak patch test for the lowest order		35

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95	Table 8 – Results of the evaluation of the error measures on the control mesh for the	
96	weak patch test for the second lowest order.....	35
97	Table 9 – Results of the evaluation of the error measures on the control mesh for the	
98	weak patch test for the third lowest order	35
99	Table 10 – Guiding parameters for coarse and fine mesh generation for the dielectric-	
100	layered weak patch test	37
101	Table 11 – Results of the evaluation of error measures on the control mesh for the	
102	dielectric-layered weak patch test for the lowest order	38
103	Table 12 – Results of the evaluation of error measures on the control mesh for the	
104	dielectric-layered weak patch test for the second lowest order.....	38
105	Table 13 – Results of the evaluation of error measures on the control mesh for the	
106	dielectric-layered weak patch test for the third lowest order	38
107	Table 14 – Results of the SAR evaluation of the Mie sphere	40
108	Table 15 – Results of the dipole evaluation.....	40
109	Table 16 – Results of the microstrip line evaluation.....	41
110	Table 17 – 1 g and 10 g psSAR for the SAM phantom exposed to the generic phone for	
111	1 W accepted power as specified in [19].....	42
112	Table 18 – Dielectric parameters of the setup (Table 1 of [20])	42
113	Table 19 – Mechanical parameters of the setup (Table 1 and Table 2 of [20]).....	43
114	Table 20 – 1 g and 10 g psSAR normalized to 1 W accepted power and feed-point	
115	impedance (Table 3 and Table 4 of [20])	43

116

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DETERMINING THE PEAK SPATIAL-AVERAGE SPECIFIC ABSORPTION RATE (SAR) IN THE HUMAN BODY FROM WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES, 100 KHZ TO 10 GHZ –

Part 4: General requirements for using the finite element method for SAR calculations

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International Standard IEC/IEEE 62704-4 has been prepared by IEC technical committee TC 106: Methods for the assessment of electric, magnetic and electromagnetic fields associated with human exposure, in cooperation with International Committee on Electromagnetic Safety of the IEEE Standards Association, under the IEC/IEEE Dual Logo Agreement.

This publication is published as an IEC/IEEE Dual Logo standard.

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

- a) specification of a SAR averaging algorithm for the calculation of the psSAR from computational results for arbitrarily shaped homogeneous phantoms, which avoids inconsistencies with respect to the algorithm for SAR averaging algorithm specified in IEC/IEEE 62209-1528:2020 for measurement methods;
- b) provision of SHA-256 checksums for all supplemental files.

This standard contains attached files in the form of CAD models and reference results described in Annex B. Download links and checksums for these files can be found in Annex D.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
106/###/FDIS	106/###/RVD

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

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts in the IEC/IEEE 62704 series, published under the general title *Determining the peak spatial-average specific absorption rate (SAR) in the human body from wireless communications devices, 100 kHz to 10 GHz*, can be found on the IEC website.

Future documents in this series will carry the new general title as listed in the preceding paragraph. Titles of existing documents in this series will be updated at the time of the next edition.

The IEC technical committee and IEEE technical committee have decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site 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.

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217

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INTRODUCTION

219 Finite element methods have reached a level of maturity that allows their application in
220 specific absorption rate (SAR) assessment of professional-use and consumer-use wireless
221 communication devices. In the recent past, SAR compliance assessment for small
222 transmitters was performed almost exclusively using measurements. Some wireless
223 communication devices are used in situations where laboratory SAR assessment is extremely
224 complex or not possible at all. The benefits of consensus standards to users and regulators
225 include standardized and accepted protocols, verification and validation techniques,
226 benchmark data, reporting format and means for estimating the overall assessment
227 uncertainty in order to produce valid, repeatable, and reproducible data.

228 The purpose of this document is to specify computational techniques and models to determine
229 peak spatial-average specific absorption rates (SAR). SAR will be determined by applying
230 finite element method computations of the electromagnetic field conditions produced by
231 wireless communication devices in models of the human anatomy. Intended users of this
232 document are (but are not limited to) wireless communication device manufacturers, service
233 providers for wireless communication that are required to certify that their products comply
234 with the applicable SAR limits, and government agencies.

235 Several methods described in this document are based on techniques specified in
236 IEC/IEEE 62704-1:2025.

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DETERMINING THE PEAK SPATIAL-AVERAGE SPECIFIC ABSORPTION RATE (SAR) IN THE HUMAN BODY FROM WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES, 100 KHZ TO 10 GHZ –

Part 4: General requirements for using the finite element method for SAR calculations

1 Scope

This part of IEC/IEEE 62704 describes the concepts, techniques, and limitations of the finite element method (FEM) and specifies models and procedures for verification, validation and uncertainty assessment for the FEM when used for determining the peak spatial-average specific absorption rate (psSAR) in phantoms or anatomical models. It recommends and provides guidance on the modelling of wireless communication devices, and provides benchmark data for simulating the SAR in such phantoms or models.

This document does not recommend specific SAR limits because these are found elsewhere (e.g. in IEEE Std C95.1 [1]¹ or in the guidelines published by the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) [2]).

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.

IEC/IEEE 62209-1528:2020, *Measurement Procedure for the Assessment of Specific Absorption Rate of Human Exposure to Radio Frequency Fields From Hand-Held and Body-Mounted Wireless Communication Devices: Human models, instrumentation, and procedures (Frequency range of 4 MHz to 10 GHz)*

IEC/IEEE 62704-1:2025, *Determining the peak spatial-average specific absorption rate (SAR) in the human body from wireless communications devices, 100 kHz to 10 GHz – Part 1: General requirements for using the finite-difference time-domain (FDTD) method for SAR calculations*

3 Terms and definitions

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

ISO, IEC, and IEEE maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <https://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEEE Dictionary Online: available at <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/browse/standards/dictionary>

¹ Numbers in square brackets refer to the Bibliography.

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3.1**mesh**

<finite-difference time-domain method> discrete representation of the simulation model as a set of voxels in a regular three-dimensional Cartesian arrangement

Note 1 to entry: In the scientific literature, the mesh is often referred to as a "grid."

[SOURCE: IEC/IEEE 62704-1:2025, 3.17, modified – The specific context "<finite-difference time-domain method>" has been added.]

3.2**mesh**

<finite element method> discrete representation of the simulation model as a set of tetrahedral elements in an irregularly three-dimensional arrangement

Note 1 to entry: In the scientific literature, the mesh is often referred to as a "grid."

3.3**element**

smallest three-dimensional part of a mesh

EXAMPLE A voxel or a tetrahedron.

3.4**subregion**

spatially limited three-dimensional region within a computational domain

4 Abbreviated terms

ASCII American Standard Code for Information Interchange

BVP boundary value problem

DoF degrees of freedom

DUT device under test

FDTD finite-difference time-domain

FEM finite element method

PDE partial differential equation

PEC perfect electric conductor

PMC perfect magnetic conductor

psSAR peak spatial-average specific absorption rate

SAR specific absorption rate

SI international system of units

TVFE tangential vector finite elements

5 Finite element method**5.1 Description**

This document describes applications of the finite element method (FEM) to calculate the specific absorption rate (SAR). Reasons for using FEM include its proven track record in a broad range of electromagnetic applications, and its ability to use an unstructured, usually tetrahedral, mesh that conforms to complicated geometries, employing arbitrarily small elements where needed and larger elements elsewhere.

Multiple ways exist to solve Maxwell's equations with FEM. Implementations can be based on field quantities or on potential quantities, and may be formulated using either the weighted

residual method or the variational method [3], [4]. The weighted residual method starts directly from the partial differential equation (PDE) of the boundary value problem, whereas the variational method starts from the variational representation of the boundary value problem. All implementations have the following in common:

- a) They are based on PDEs, not on integral equations. The PDEs are derived from Maxwell's equations augmented by proper boundary conditions in order to frame a well-defined boundary value problem on a finite computational domain.
- b) The size of the computational domain is finite. Radiation towards infinity is implemented through an open boundary condition on its outer boundaries. Radiated fields outside the domain can be computed by integrating over a boundary that encloses the radiating structure.
- c) After applying excitations and boundary conditions and discretizing the computational domain into a mesh, the derived PDE is transformed into a matrix equation in which the matrix is large, sparse, and banded. "Large" is a consequence of having a large number of unknowns, several per element on a large mesh. "Sparse" and "banded" are consequences of the fact that all interactions are formulated as local interactions.
- d) In the limit of infinitesimally small elements, the solution approaches the exact solution of the PDE.

Annex A contains more information on FEM, along with references to literature and a discussion of its limitations. Clause 8 describes a set of tests is described that shall be used to verify whether a particular implementation of FEM is correct and sufficiently accurate to be used for SAR calculations.

This document refers to Nédélec elements of the first kind, which are polynomially exact up to order 0 ($H_0(\text{curl})$ or edge elements) as lowest order; up to order 1 ($H_1(\text{curl})$ elements) as second lowest order; and up to order 2 ($H_2(\text{curl})$ elements) as third lowest order [5]. If an implementation of the FEM is applied with one of these orders, the respective parts of the code verification shall be executed with this order.

5.2 Requirements on the implementation of the FEM

The implementation of the FEM shall follow the definition in 5.1. Moreover, it shall implement SAR calculation and averaging according to Clause 6. The implementation of the FEM shall be verified according to Clause 8.

6 SAR calculation and averaging

6.1 General

The local specific absorption rate (SAR) in a location in tissue is given in Formula (1):

$$SAR = \frac{\sigma E^2}{2\rho} \quad (1)$$

where ρ is the mass density of the tissue, E is the magnitude of the electric field vector, and σ is the electric conductivity. Since the local SAR can vary strongly with position, the quantity of interest is often the peak spatial-average SAR averaged over a cubical volume.

NOTE The spatial-average SAR (sSAR) is averaged over a specified mass with a specified volume, e.g. 1 g or 10 g of tissue in the shape of a cube as required by FCC and [1], [2].

6.2 SAR averaging

6.2.1 General

The objective of the methods to evaluate the psSAR described here is to yield results that correspond to the methods and definitions of Subclause 6.3 of IEC/IEEE 62704-1:2025, which describes the computation of the psSAR a) in cubical volumes aligned with a rectangular mesh (6.2.2) and b) in cubical volumes following the orientation of the surfaces of arbitrarily shaped phantoms filled with homogeneous tissue simulant (6.2.3). Depending on the phantom or body model or on the application, one of these two algorithms shall be applied to calculate the psSAR using FEM simulations within this document.

NOTE An example of a phantom filled with homogeneous tissue simulant is the SAM phantom specified in IEC/IEEE 62209-1528:2020. Its surface follows the shape of a human head.

6.2.2 Evaluation of psSAR aligned with a Cartesian mesh on an FEM mesh

6.2.2.1 General

Since the algorithm for the computation of the psSAR in cubical volumes aligned with the mesh in IEC/IEEE 62704-1:2025 is specified for rectilinear meshes with varying mesh step, the vector components of the electric fields, the conductivity, and the mass density of the finite element mesh shall be resampled on a Cartesian mesh. The resampling is carried out with increasingly fine mesh steps until convergence of the dissipated power is reached in the regions where local SAR maxima are located. In order to reduce the computation time for the iterative resampling and SAR averaging, subregions with local SAR maxima are identified in a pre-scan. In these subregions, the psSAR is then calculated according to Subclauses 6.3.1 (aligned) or 6.3.2 (homogeneous) of IEC/IEEE 62704-1:2025. The maximum psSAR of all subregions shall be reported as the psSAR maximum together with its interpolation uncertainty.

The following steps shall be carried out to resample the geometry and the power density in a set of regions around local SAR maxima for the application of the SAR averaging algorithms of IEC/IEEE 62704-1:2025.

- a) Specify an orientation of a rectilinear mesh relative to the coordinate system of the FEM mesh considering the relevant features of the model; this orientation shall align with surface planes or conducting planes of the phantom or of the DUT.
- b) Iteratively resample the geometry and local SAR distribution in the rectilinear mesh and evaluate psSAR at each iteration until convergence is achieved (see 6.2.2.2).
- c) Report the highest psSAR of all subregions together with its interpolation uncertainty.

6.2.2.2 Calculation of the aligned psSAR on an iteratively refined rectangular mesh

The aligned psSAR according to 6.3.1 IEC/IEEE 62704-1:2025 shall be evaluated on a rectilinear mesh that encompasses a region around a local SAR maximum with individual equidistant mesh steps for each axis. Each mesh cell is assigned the local distribution of the dissipated power, the conductivity, and the mass density.

- a) The mass density for each mesh cell shall be assigned by nearest-neighbour interpolation of the mass density distribution of the tetrahedral mesh.
- b) The conductivity for each mesh cell shall be assigned by nearest-neighbour interpolation of the mass density distribution of the tetrahedral mesh.
- c) In the mesh cells that have a mass density different from zero, the dissipated power density is calculated by evaluating the electric field of the finite element mesh in the centre of the mesh cell of the rectilinear mesh.
- d) The initial mesh step length Δ_0 for each axis of the rectilinear mesh shall be calculated in accordance with Formula (2):