

Update on Revisions of Standards for Photobiological Safety of Lamps



David H. Sliney, Ph.D.



Associate Faculty, Dept. of Environmental
Health and Engineering, John Hopkins
School of Public Health (Baltimore)
Past-Director of CIE Division 6
(Biophysicist, Fallston, MD)

D Sliney 2019

1

Standards Used for Assessing the Potential Optical Hazards of Lamps

- ANSI/IESNA RP-27.1-15 (general concepts)
RP-27.2-00 (measurements)
RP-27.3-16 (lamp risk groups)
- CIE S 009/E:2002 (extended-source lamps;
based on three earlier IESNA RP-27 series)
- IEC 60825-1 (for lasers, but can be used for
SLD "point-source" assessments)

david.sliney@att.net

2

Potential Optical Radiation Hazards of Lamp Products

- Photobiological hazards from artificial sources (lamps, including LEDs) – if they exist at all, are from lengthy exposures.
 - Laser injuries from acute, momentary exposures
 - Thermal injuries
 - Skin burns from infrared, retinal burns (400-1400 nm)
 - Lamp injuries from lengthy exposures
 - Ultraviolet hazards from UV-B leakage (or UVGI)
 - Blue-light hazard – Photomaculopathy, which requires forceful staring at the source, overcoming aversion response

D Sliney 2015

3

Laser Safety and Lamp Safety Standards:

A Problem of Philosophical Approach

- CIE now working alone without IEC TC76 JTC
- IEC TC76 worked first on lasers – not lamps.
 - Many engineers who first approach lamp safety standards have already worked with laser safety standards, and this can pose a problem
 - Underlying approach for lamp safety is that most lamps are safe (and intended for viewing)
 - Underlying approach for laser safety is that most lasers are hazardous unless enclosed.

D Sliney 2019

4

A Key Point about the Photobiological Safety of Lamps

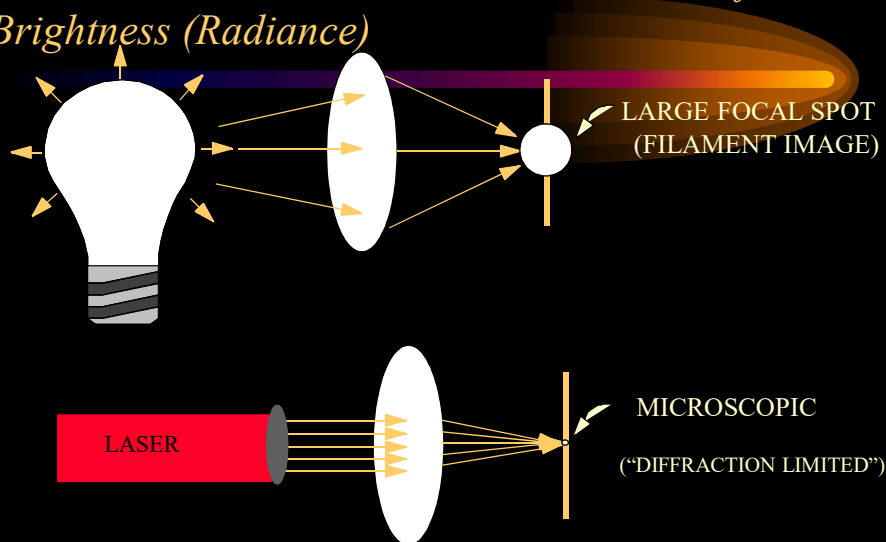
- Most lasers pose a potential hazard!
 - Generally only a thermal hazard from a momentary exposure within hazard distance.
- Almost all lamps are safe!
 - Generally it is the short-wave ultraviolet (UV-B and UV-A) that poses a potential photochemical hazard from lengthy exposures
 - Time-Weighted-Average (TWA) Exposure can be controversial in standards committee.

D Sloney 2019

5

Conventional and solid-state lamps (LEDs) are radiance limited and incoherent MPEs are given in terms of **radiance**

Lasers are much more hazardous because of Brightness (Radiance)

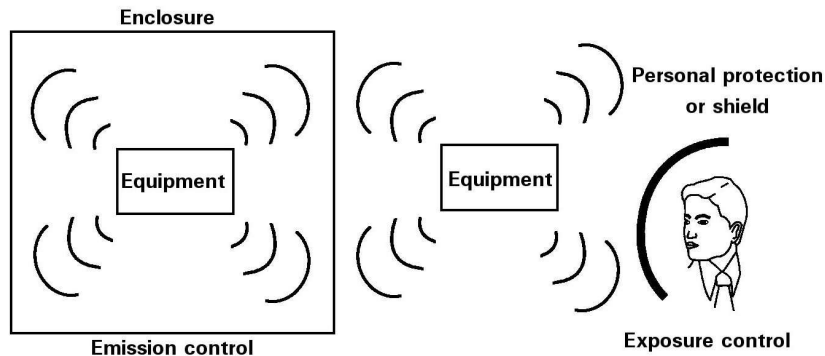


From Sloney DH and Trokel, S, 1993

David.Sloney@att.net

1992

6

Remember:**Product Safety Standards Control *Emissions* (AELs),****but****Occupational Safety Standards Control *Exposures* (MPEs)***NOTE that laser Class 1 and 2 AELs are based upon the MPEs**And Lamp RG AELs are based on MPEs for different durations at realistic exposure/viewing distances and differing skin & eye distance*

DHS 7

7

Different Measurements – Laser output power/energy – Lamp spectroradiometry

- For a laser, only the hazards at one wavelength of interest are reflected in the MPE, and competing hazard mechanisms lead to, at most, *two limits, known as "dual limits."*
- With broad-band lamp sources, at least *five* different potential hazards must be assessed (in UV, VIS, IR)
- Except for Retinal Thermal, all are for lengthy exposures (minutes to hours) – causing almost endless debates as to TWA for application

DHS 8

8

Tabulating the Limits

– Radiance (400 nm – 1400 nm)

- Laser limits are expressed as corneal **irradiance** ($\text{W}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$) and **radiant exposure** ($\text{J}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}$), and broad-band limits as **radiance** ($\text{W}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}\cdot\text{sr}^{-1}$) limits to protect the retina.
- Some laser limits may be easier to apply to a non-laser, monochromatic point-source, such as super-luminescent diodes and OFCS fiber tips, and incoherent source limits to some large-source laser displays.

DHS 9

9

Progress? Updates of the IES & CIE standards for photobiological safety of lamps and lamp systems

- Both the IESNA (ANSI) and international (CIE) standards have been undergoing a tortuous revision process in the past few years.
- IESNA/ANSI RP-27-3 standard for risk group classification of lamps was published in 2017 with new guidance on risk-assessment distances
- CIE Standard S009 (also IEC 62471) has been revised to a nearly final draft with significant changes from the 1st Edn., 2002.
 - Extensive delays due to disagreements on what spectroradiometric measurement distances should be set and what guidance on measurements should be in this basic international standard.
 - In reality few people are ever positioned (exposed) over an average day at distances less than a meter; however, for good UV signal-to-noise ratios, the earlier editions recommended a 20-cm reference measurement distance.
- Added problems relate to a widespread misunderstanding of the actual, very low risks of most of the photobiological risk groups.
 - Some groups want "zero risk," for day-long exposure at "point-blank" range!
 - Some European groups want only RG-0 as if "ionizing radiation!"

David.slney@att.net

1

10

Why the big problems in CIE JTC?

- Confusing laser safety experience as relevant to lamps – IEC TR 62471-2 drafted in IEC TC76.
 - Introduces erroneous concept of “hazard distance”
 - Suggested unprecedented labels for non-hazardous lamps in RG-1 and RG-2!
 - Inadequate presentation of time-weighted average
 - Led to over-reaction of lamp hazards – particularly in the European Community
- CIE D2 wanted detailed measurement guidance and uncertainty discussions in S009/IEC62471-1

david.sliney@att.net

1

11

Required Measurement Data

- Initially: broad-band measurements to assure that rigorous, spectroradiometric measurements are not required, or...
- Spectroradiometric Information
 - Spectral Radiant Power Distribution
 - Spectral Irradiance
 - Spectral Radiance over FOV (γ) of 11 or 100 mrad
- Source Size
- Reference Measurement Distance (20 cm default)

david.sliney@att.net

1

12

CIE Emission Limits for Risk Groups of Continuous Wave Lamps-2002

Risk	Action Spectrum	Symbol	Emission Limits			Units
			Exempt	Low Risk	Mod Risk	
Actinic UV	$S(\lambda)$	E_s	0.001	0.003	0.03	W/m^2
Near UV		E_{UVA}	10	33	100	W/m^2
Blue Light	$B(\lambda)$	L_B	100	10000	4000000	$W/(m^2 \cdot sr)$
Blue Light, small source	$B(\lambda)$	E_B	1.0*	1.0	400	W/m^2
Retinal Thermal	$R(\lambda)$	L_R	$28000/\alpha$	$28000/\alpha$	$71000/\alpha$	$W/(m^2 \cdot sr)$
Retinal Thermal, weak visual stimulus**	$R(\lambda)$	L_{IR}	$6000/\alpha$	$6000/\alpha$	$6000/\alpha$	$W/(m^2 \cdot sr)$
IR Radiation, Eye		E_{IR}	100	570	3200	W/m^2

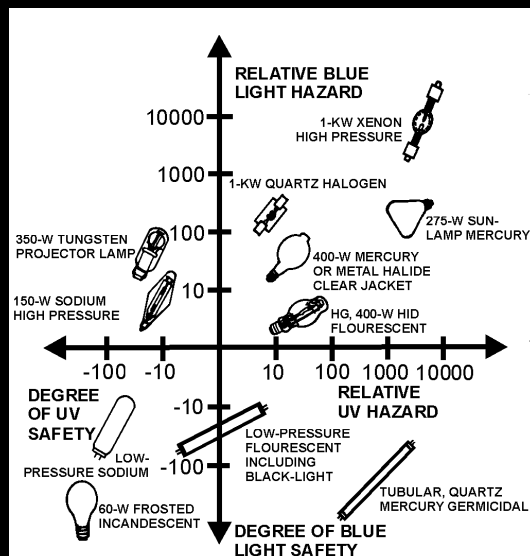
* Small source defined as one with a < 0.011 radian. Averaging field of view at 10000 s is 0.1 radian.

** Involves evaluation of non-GLS source

21-Feb-06 CIE S009:2002 13

13

Which UV and Blue-Light Hazards?



- Retinal thermal injuries common with lasers, but almost unknown from lamps.
- Only a magnified image of an arc lamp can possibly have the radiance sufficient to produce a retinal burn!
- Retinal thermal hazard evaluation is difficult (Slone, DH, , 1982)

14

General Lighting Service (GLS) – An Example of Assessment Distance

- In CIE S009 all lamps are measured at one distance, but the RG determination is based upon converting to a 500 lux illumination (as time-averaged daily exposure)



- Use $\mu\text{W}/\text{lm}$ for each of the seven hazards, etc.
- Controversial in Europe!

Lamp frosting and tube diameter traditionally was chosen to reduce luminance to $< 1 \text{ cd}/\text{cm}^2$

david.sliney@att.net

1

15

Another Issue: The Aversion Response – the reactive pupil

- A rapidly closing pupil is dealt with differently in the two different sets of limits, leading to what appear to be "discontinuities" between pulsed and CW for broad-band retinal hazard limits
 - Laser safety standards emphasize "smooth" functions and employ Class 2 at 0.25 second
 - Lamp safety standards – Risk Group 2.
- Take-home message, RG-0, RG-2, RG-3 are "safe" for BLH in all reasonably foreseeable general use!!

DHS 16

16

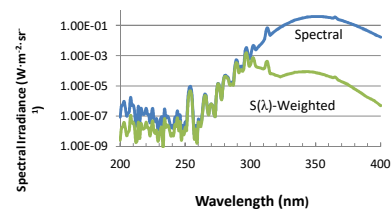
Assessment Distance – Normally is not the Measurement Distance!

- Big issue for Non-GLS lamps
- Assessment distance for **products** is normally much greater than the 20-cm measurement distance (e.g., 1-2 m for products)
- Based on **Time-Weighted Average** Exposure in 24 h
- Measurement distance – on good Signal-to-Noise Ratio

david.sliney@att.net



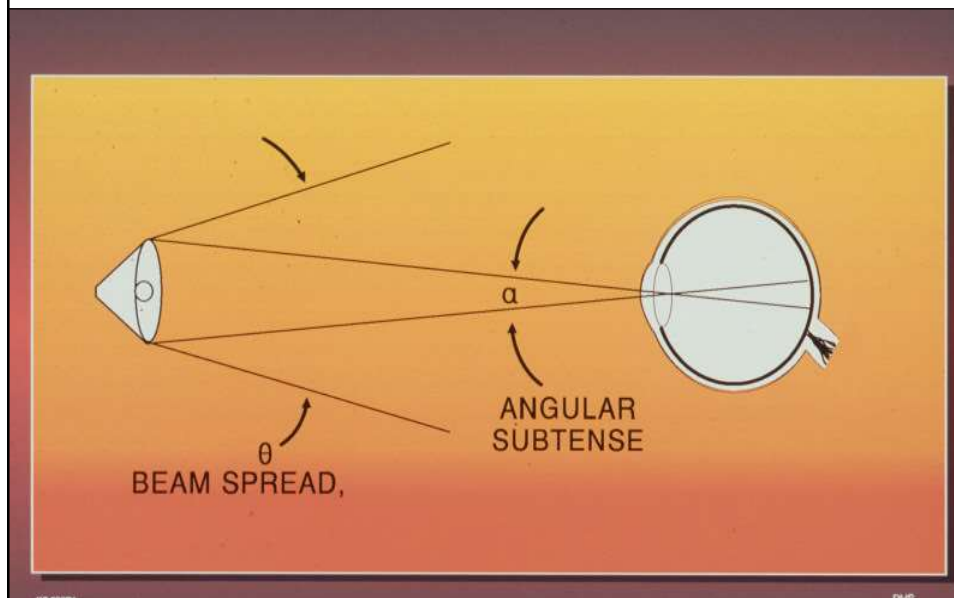
People do not view a lamp at 20 cm for long periods



20-cm Measurement distance reduces stray-light problems

17

One problem of clarification: Measurement angles - Angular subtense of the source is important for retinal hazard evaluations. (Beam spread is different)



18

Principal changes in CIE S009 stimulated by revolution in lighting

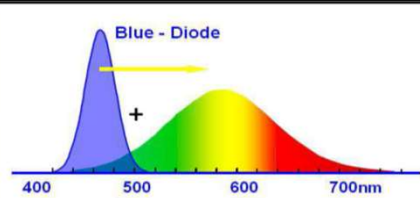
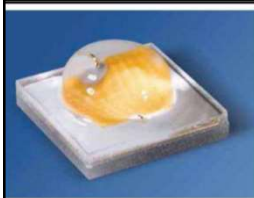
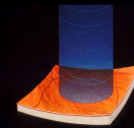
- We all know that the introduction of LEDs for general lighting service (GLS) has led to a revolution in lighting; and no UV and IR of note!
- Solid-State Lighting (SSL) offers changes in spectrum for many purposes.
- Circadian disturbances as a side-effect has been widely discussed but will not be introduced, since the “hazard/safety” aspect not relevant (?)

D Sliney 2019

19

The “Blue-Light Hazard Issue from Typical “White-Light” LEDs

A blue-(indigo-) LED Chip pumps a phosphor, with the result that the “white” illumination is a combination of the fundamental chip spectrum superimposed on the yellow fluorescence. No UV or IR to speak of is emitted.



Courtesy Osram

20

LED Chip Arrays – More Light Output, but of no real thermal hazard



21

The Impact of the Sudden Change to LED Solid-State Lighting

- Circadian rhythm disruption, since LEDs for general lighting were initially at a very high “color temperature” with a strong blue peak ~ 460 nm.
- No UV emission – good! Or....???
- No IR-A and deep red emission. Implications unknown
- Potential for flicker since current regulated.

D Sliney 2006

22

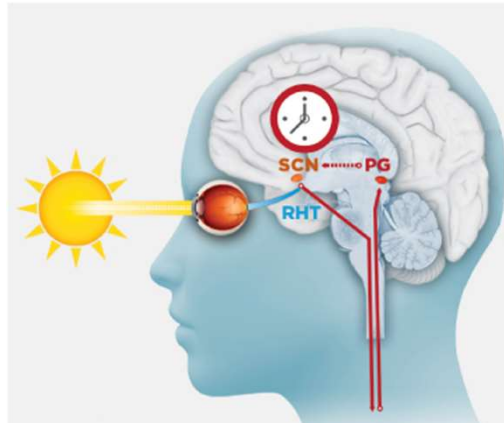
IpRGCs – Serve Important roles in Retinal Exposure to Light

- Although ipRGCs have been labeled “non-visual photoreceptors,” they play important roles in pupil constriction (improving vision) and lid elevation (reducing sky glare)!

- The relationship of retinal irradiance to radiance:

$$E_r = 0.27 L \cdot \tau \cdot d_e^2$$

...even if non-imaging



23

Once there was only natural sunlight – or fire (including candles and oil lamps

- But today – and over the last century – electrically powered lamps have dominated our nights in developed countries.
- Since the 1880s – incandescent (red-rich) lamps
- Since the 1950s – fluorescent (green-rich) lamps
 - - at least in office and commercial settings
- Since the 2010s – Solid-state lighting (SSL)
 - - --- primarily (blue-rich) LEDs
- NOTE: The ever-increasing color temperature of light sources!



24

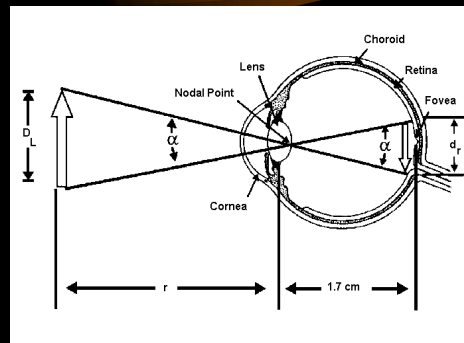
• Questions?

D Sliney 2006

25

Calculating Retinal Irradiance —for extended sources: Radiance L

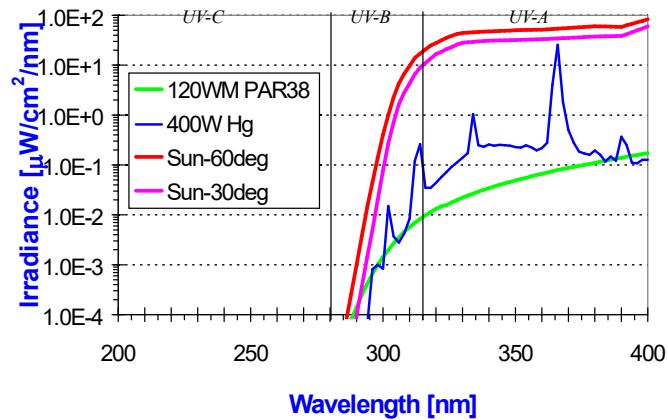
- The retinal irradiance E_r is:
- $E_r = 0.27 L \cdot \tau \cdot d_e^2$
 - where L is the radiance of the source viewed
 - in units of $\text{W} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2} \cdot \text{sr}^{-1}$
 - τ is the transmittance of the ocular media
 - d_e is the pupillary diameter in cm
- Retinal Irradiance depends upon Source RADIANCE



DHS 26

26

UV Spectral Irradiance of Sun compared with Incandescent and HID lamps at 1000 lux



From R. Bergman

27

Standards Activities and LEDs Optical Radiation Safety Standards

- Several national and international standard groups, but internationally
 - International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (www.ICNIRP.org)
 - CIE S009/IEC62471 for lamps but IEC 60825-Lasers
- In the USA
 - American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) – Threshold Limit Values (TLVs)
 - Illuminating Engineering Society of North America

D Sliney 2015

28

Quick Measurement of Radiance: *my preferred method*

- Materials and equipment
 - Irradiance meter
 - 2.2-mm aperture and mm ruler > 300 mm
 - Digital camera with manual focus and adjustable f/#, plus neutral-density D4-5 filter
(Note: It is important to find a digital camera that sees IR-A)
- Method: Darken the room, photograph the source size with light on and with rule
- Measure irradiance at 200 mm with 2.2-mm aperture in front of the source

david.sliney@att.net

1

29

Annex – A special Photobiological Hazard Ophthalmic Instruments

- So what is the impact of:
 - Standards Activities
 - Changing Exposure Guidelines
 - New light sources such as LEDs



david.sliney@att.net

30

ISO 172/SC7/WG6

- ISO 15004-2006 now up for revision
- New efforts to amend the Operating Microscope Standard and remove requirement for measurement, but the manufacturer must provide a worst-case safe exposure duration
- ISO 15752 Endoilluminators issued

david.slney@att.net

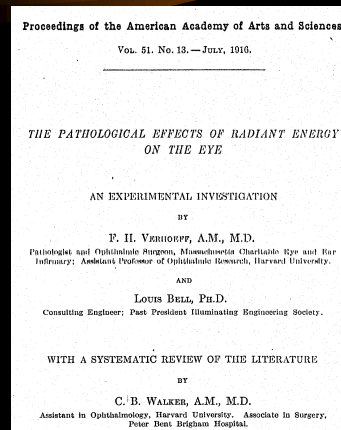
1

31

Optical Safety of Lamps— not New!

- Optical safety an issue in 1900:
 - Widmark, 1889; Birch-Hirschfeld, 1912; Verhoef & Bell, 1916
- Lamp envelope size
- Minimize thermal-burn hazard
- UV photokeratitis risks (arcs)
- Verhoeff and Bell, 1916 (185pages)
 - “...no more dangerous than steam radiators”

D Slney 2006



32