

**Weber-Fechner law in CIE 230:2019 for threshold colour differences of surface colours and two ranges  $0,2 \leq L_r \leq 1$  and  $1 \leq L_r \leq 5$**

The *Weber-Fechner* law describes the lightness  $L_r^*$  as *logarithmic* function of  $L_r$ . The *Stevens* law describes the lightness  $L_{CIELAB}^*$  as *potential* function of  $L_r=Y/5$ . IEC 61966-2-1 uses a similar potential function  $L_{IEC}^* = m L_r^{1/2,4}$ .

The *Weber-Fechner* law is equivalent to the linear equation:  $\Delta L_r = c_i L_r \ (i=0,1)$  [1]

Integration leads to the logarithmic equation:  $L_r^* = k_i \log(L_r) \ (i=0,1)$  [2]

Derivation leads for  $\Delta L_r^* = 1$  to the linear equation:  $L_r / \Delta L_r = k_i \ (k_0=46, k_1=63)$  [3]

For colours in offices the **standard contrast range** is 25:1=90:3,6.

**Table 1: CIE tristimulus value  $Y$ , luminance  $L$ , and lightnesses  $L^*$**

Colour (matte)	Tristimulus value	office luminance	relative luminance	CIE lightness	relative lightness
<i>(contrast)</i> <b>(25:1=90:3,6)</b>	$Y$	$L$ [cd/m <sup>2</sup> ]	$L_r$ $=L/L_u$	$L_{CIELAB}^*$ $\sim m L_r^{1/2,4}$	$L_r^*$ $=k \log(L_r)$
White W (paper)	90 =18*5	142 =28,2*5	5	94 =50+44	44 = $k_1 \log(5)$
Grey Z (paper)	18	28,2	1	50	0 = $k_0 \log(1)$
Black N (paper)	3,6 =18/5	5,6 28,2/5	0,2	18 50-32	-32 = $k_0 \log(0,2)$

For the two lightness ranges it is  $k_0=-32/\log(0,2)=-46$  and  $k_1=44/\log(5)=63$ .