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Water quality — Determination of turbidity —

Part 2: Semi-quantitative methods for the assessment of transparency of waters

Qualité de l'eau — Détermination de la turbidité —

*Partie 2: Méthodes semi-quantitatives pour l'évaluation de la
transparence des eaux*



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Foreword

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This first edition of ISO 7027-2, together with ISO 7027-1:2016, cancels and replaces ISO 7027:1999, which has been technically revised.

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Introduction

Turbidity in waters is caused by the presence of undissolved and/or colloidal matter and small organisms (for example bacteria, phyto- and zooplankton) present in the water. Turbidity changes the lighting conditions in surface waters by absorption and scattering of the light and thus influences the trophic status of these waters. For the indicative assessment of the lighting conditions of waters or the transparency of the water, semi-quantitative methods can be used (Reference [2]).

Measurements of transparency can be affected by the presence of dissolved light-absorbing substances (substances imparting colour) as well as by particles (such as sediments).

In semi-quantitative methods such as the determination of transparency depth by Secchi disc, reflections on the water surface can cause interferences. These are often dependent on the light and wind conditions.

NOTE Results of a field study for the validation of this document is given in [Annex B](#).