

First edition  
2005-09-15

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## Information technology — Biometric data interchange formats —

### Part 2: Finger minutiae data

*Technologies de l'information — Formats d'échange de données  
biométriques —*

*Partie 2: Données du point caractéristique du doigt*

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Reference number  
ISO/IEC 19794-2:2005(E)



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Published in Switzerland

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<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
Foreword .....	v
Introduction .....	vi
1 Scope .....	1
2 Conformance .....	1
3 Normative references .....	1
4 Terms and definitions .....	1
5 Symbols and abbreviated terms .....	5
6 Minutiae Extraction .....	5
6.1 Principle .....	5
6.2 Minutia Type .....	5
6.3 Minutia Location .....	6
6.3.1 Coordinate System .....	6
6.3.2 Minutia Placement on a Ridge Ending (encoded as Valley Skeleton Bifurcation Point) .....	7
6.3.3 Minutia Placement on a Ridge Bifurcation (encoded as a Ridge Skeleton Bifurcation Point) .....	7
6.3.4 Minutia Placement on a Ridge Skeleton Endpoint .....	7
6.3.5 Minutia Placement on Other Minutia Types .....	8
6.4 Minutia Direction .....	8
6.4.1 Angle Conventions .....	8
6.4.2 Minutia Direction of a Ridge Ending (encoded as Valley Skeleton Bifurcation Point) .....	9
6.4.3 Minutia Direction of a Ridge Bifurcation (encoded as Ridge Skeleton Bifurcation Point) .....	9
6.4.4 Minutia Direction of a Ridge Skeleton End Point .....	9
6.5 Core and Delta Placement and Direction .....	9
6.6 Minutia Type Matching .....	10
6.7 Encoding of multibyte quantities .....	10
7 Finger Minutiae Record Format .....	11
7.1 Introduction .....	11
7.2 Record Organization .....	11
7.3 Record Header .....	11
7.3.1 Format Identifier .....	11
7.3.2 Version Number .....	11
7.3.3 Length of Record .....	11
7.3.4 Capture Equipment Certifications .....	11
7.3.5 Capture Device Type ID .....	12
7.3.6 Size of Scanned Image in X direction .....	12
7.3.7 Size of Scanned Image in Y direction .....	12
7.3.8 X (horizontal) resolution .....	12
7.3.9 Y (vertical) resolution .....	12
7.3.10 Number Of Finger Views .....	12
7.3.11 Reserved Byte .....	12
7.4 Single Finger Record Format .....	12
7.4.1 Finger Header .....	12
7.4.2 Finger Minutiae Data .....	14
7.5 Extended Data .....	14
7.5.1 Common Extended Data Fields .....	15
7.5.2 Ridge Count Data Format .....	15
7.5.3 Core and Delta Data Format .....	17
7.5.4 Zonal Quality Data .....	19
7.6 Minutia Record Format Summary .....	21

This is a preview of "ISO/IEC 19794-2:2005". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

<b>8</b>	<b>Finger Minutiae Card Format .....</b>	<b>22</b>
8.1	Normal Size Finger Minutiae Format .....	22
8.2	Compact Size Finger Minutiae Format .....	22
8.3	Number of Minutiae, Minutiae Ordering Sequence and Truncation .....	23
8.3.1	General Aspects.....	23
8.3.2	Biometric matching algorithm parameters .....	23
8.3.3	Number of Minutiae.....	23
8.3.4	Minutiae Order.....	24
8.4	Usage of additional features for the card format.....	26
8.4.1	Data objects for additional features .....	26
8.4.2	Indication of card capabilities .....	26
<b>9</b>	<b>CBEFF Format Owner and Format Types .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Annex A</b>	<b>(normative) Record Format Diagrams .....</b>	<b>28</b>
A.1	Overall Record Format .....	28
A.2	Record Header .....	28
A.3	Single Finger View Minutiae Record.....	28
A.4	Finger Minutiae Data.....	29
A.5	Extended Data .....	29
<b>Annex B</b>	<b>(normative) Fingerprint Image Quality Specifications. ....</b>	<b>30</b>
B.1	SCOPE AND PURPOSE .....	30
B.2	FINGERPRINT SCANNERS.....	30
B.2.1	Geometric Image Accuracy.....	30
B.2.2	Modulation Transfer Function.....	30
B.2.3	Signal-to-Noise Ratio.....	31
B.2.4	Gray-Scale Range of Image Data.....	31
B.2.5	Gray-scale Linearity.....	32
B.2.6	Output Gray Level Uniformity .....	32
B.3	LATENT PRINT SCANNERS .....	32
B.3.1	Geometric Image Accuracy .....	33
B.3.2	Modulation Transfer Function.....	33
<b>Annex C</b>	<b>(informative) Example Data Record .....</b>	<b>34</b>
C.1	Data .....	34
C.2	Example Data Format Diagrams .....	35
C.3	Raw Data for the Resulting Minutiae Record .....	36
<b>Annex D</b>	<b>(informative) Handling of Finger Minutiae Card Formats. ....</b>	<b>37</b>
D.1	Enrollment .....	37
D.1.1	Number of minutiae .....	37
D.1.2	Number of required finger presentations.....	37
D.2	Matching .....	37
D.2.1	Matching conditions .....	38
D.2.2	Threshold Value .....	38
D.2.3	Retry Counter .....	39
D.3	Security Aspects of Finger Minutiae Presentation to the Card .....	39
	<b>Bibliography.....</b>	<b>40</b>

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work. In the field of information technology, ISO and IEC have established a joint technical committee, ISO/IEC JTC 1.

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

The main task of the joint technical committee is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the joint technical committee are circulated to national bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the national bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO/IEC 19794-2 was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 37, *Biometrics*.

ISO/IEC 19794 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Information technology — Biometric data interchange formats*:

- *Part 1: Framework*
- *Part 2: Finger minutiae data*
- *Part 3: Finger pattern spectral data*
- *Part 4: Finger image data*
- *Part 5: Face image data*
- *Part 6: Iris image data*

The following parts are under preparation:

- *Part 7: Signature/sign behavioral data*
- *Part 8: Finger pattern skeletal data*

Vascular image data, hand geometry silhouette data, and signature/sign processed dynamic data will form the subjects of future Parts 9, 10 and 11, respectively.

## Introduction

In the interest of implementing interoperable biometric recognition systems, this part of ISO/IEC 19794 establishes a data interchange format for minutiae-based fingerprint capture and recognition equipment. Representation of fingerprint data using minutiae is a widely used technique in many application areas.

This part of ISO/IEC 19794 defines specifics of the extraction of key points (called *minutiae*) from fingerprint ridge patterns. Two types of data formats are then defined: one for general storage and transport, one for use in card-based systems; the card format has a standard and a compact expression.