
**Manipulating industrial robots —
Performance criteria and related test
methods**

*Robots manipulateurs industriels — Critères de performance et méthodes
d'essai correspondantes*



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for approval before their acceptance as International Standards by the ISO Council. In accordance with ISO/IEC Directives they are approved if two-thirds of the votes cast by the P-members of the technical committee or sub-committee are in favour, and not more than one-quarter of the total number of votes cast are negative.

International Standard ISO 9283 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 184, *Industrial automation systems and integration*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Robots for manufacturing environment*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 9283:1990 and Amendment 1:1991), of which it constitutes a technical revision.

Annex A forms an integral part of this International Standard. Annexes B and C are for information only.

Introduction

ISO 9283 is part of a series of International Standards dealing with manipulating industrial robots. Other International Standards cover such topics as safety, general characteristics, coordinate systems, terminology, and mechanical interfaces. It is noted that these International Standards are interrelated and also related to other International Standards.

ISO 9283 is intended to facilitate understanding between users and manufacturers of robots and robot systems. It defines the important performance characteristics, describes how they shall be specified and recommends how they should be tested. An example of how the test results should be reported is included in Annex C of this International Standard. The characteristics for which test methods are given in this International Standard are those considered to affect robot performance significantly.

It is intended that the user of this International Standard selects which performance characteristics are to be tested, in accordance with his own specific requirements.

The tests described in this International Standard may be applied in whole or in part, depending upon the robot type and requirements.

The core part of ISO 9283 deals with testing of individual characteristics. Specific parameters for comparison testing is dealt with in Annex A (normative) for pose-to-pose characteristics and path characteristics.

Annex B (informative) of this International Standard provides guidance for selection of tests for typical applications.

Annex C (informative) of this International Standard provides a recommended format of the test report including the minimum required information and the summary of the test results.

Manipulating industrial robots — Performance criteria and related test methods

1 Scope

This International Standard describes methods of specifying and testing the following performance characteristics of manipulating industrial robots:

- pose accuracy and pose repeatability;
- multi-directional pose accuracy variation;
- distance accuracy and distance repeatability;
- position stabilization time;
- position overshoot;
- drift of pose characteristics;
- exchangeability;
- path accuracy and path repeatability;
- path accuracy on reorientation
- cornering deviations;
- path velocity characteristics;
- minimum posing time;
- static compliance;
- weaving deviations.

This International Standard does not specify which of the above performance characteristics are to be chosen for testing a particular robot. The tests described in this International Standard are primarily intended for developing and verifying individual robot specifications, but can also be used for such purposes as prototype testing, type testing or acceptance testing.

To compare performance characteristics between different robots, as defined in this International Standard, the following parameters have to be the same: test cube sizes, test loads, test velocities, test paths, test cycles, environmental conditions.

Annex A provides parameters specific for comparison testing of pose-to-pose characteristics and path characteristics.

This International Standard applies to all manipulating industrial robots as defined in ISO 8373. However, for the purpose of this International Standard the term "robot" means manipulating industrial robot.

2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this International Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All International Standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this International Standard are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

ISO 8373:1994, *Manipulating industrial robots — Vocabulary*.

ISO 9787:1990, *Manipulating industrial robots — Coordinate systems and motions*.

ISO 9946:1991, *Manipulating industrial robots — Presentation of characteristics*.

3 Definitions

For the purpose of this International Standard, the definitions given in ISO 8373 and the following definitions apply.

3.1 cluster: Set of measured points used to calculate the accuracy and the repeatability characteristics (example shown diagrammatically in figure 8).

3.2 barycentre: For a cluster of n points, defined by their coordinates $(\bar{x}_j, \bar{y}_j, \bar{z}_j)$, the barycentre of that cluster of points is the point whose coordinates are the mean values $\bar{x}$, $\bar{y}$, and $\bar{z}$ calculated by formulae given in 7.2.1.

3.3 measuring dwell: Delay at the measurement point prior to recording data (e.g. time between control signal "in position" and the "start measuring" of the measuring device).

3.4 measuring time: Time elapsed when measurements are recorded.

4 Units

Unless otherwise stated, all dimensions are as follows:

- length in millimetres (mm)
- angle in radians or degrees (rad) or (°)
- time in seconds (s)
- mass in kilograms (kg)
- force in newtons (N)
- velocity in metres per second (m/s),
degrees per second (°/s) or
radians per second (rad/s)

5 Abbreviations and symbols

For the purposes of this International Standard, the following abbreviations and symbols apply.

5.1 Basic abbreviations

A	Accuracy
R	Repeatability
v	Variation
F	Fluctuation
d	Drift
P	Pose
D	Distance
T	Path (trajectory)
V	Velocity
W	Weaving
E	Exchangeability

5.2 Quantities

<i>a, b, c</i>	Orientation (angular components) about the <i>x, y, and z</i> -axis
<i>x, y, z</i>	Linear coordinates along the <i>x</i> -, <i>y</i> -, <i>z</i> -axis
<i>n</i>	Number of measurement cycles
<i>m</i>	Number of measurement points along the path
<i>S</i>	Standard deviation
<i>D</i>	Distance between two points
<i>l</i>	Distance between the attained pose and the barycentre of the attained poses
<i>v</i>	Path velocity
<i>AP</i>	Pose accuracy
<i>RP</i>	Pose repeatability
<i>vAP</i>	Multi-directional pose accuracy variation
<i>AD</i>	Distance accuracy
<i>RD</i>	Distance repeatability
<i>t</i>	Position stabilization time
<i>OV</i>	Position overshoot
<i>dAP</i>	Drift of pose accuracy
<i>dRP</i>	Drift of pose repeatability
<i>AT</i>	Path accuracy
<i>RT</i>	Path repeatability
<i>CR</i>	Cornering round-off error
<i>CO</i>	Cornering overshoot
<i>AV</i>	Path velocity accuracy
<i>RV</i>	Path velocity repeatability

<i>FV</i>	Path velocity fluctuation
<i>WS</i>	Weaving stroke error
<i>WF</i>	Weaving frequency error

5.3 Indices

<i>a, b, c</i>	Indicates an orientation characteristic about the <i>x</i> -, <i>y</i> -, <i>z</i> -axis
<i>x, y, z</i>	Indicates a positioning characteristic along the <i>x</i> -, <i>y</i> -, <i>z</i> -axis
<i>c</i>	Command
<i>i</i>	Indicates the <i>i</i> -th abscissa
<i>j</i>	Indicates the <i>j</i> -th cycle
<i>k</i>	Indicates the <i>k</i> -th direction
<i>h</i>	Indicates the <i>h</i> -th direction
1,2 <i>e</i>	Indicates the pose number 1,2 Corner point (edge)
<i>g</i>	Point where the robot performance falls within the specified path characteristics
<i>p</i>	Position

5.4 Other symbols

<i>C</i> ₁ to <i>C</i> ₈	Corners of the test cube
<i>E</i> ₁ to <i>E</i> ₄	Corners of the rectangular plane for the measurement of path characteristics
<i>G</i>	The barycentre of a cluster of attained poses
<i>O</i> _c	Origin of the measurement system coordinates

NOTE 1 — Further symbols are explained in the respective subclauses.

6 Performance testing conditions

6.1 Robot mounting

The robot shall be mounted in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

6.2 Conditions prior to testing

The robot shall be completely assembled and fully operational. All necessary levelling operations, alignment procedures and functional tests shall be satisfactorily completed.

The tests shall be preceded by an appropriate warm-up operation if specified by the manufacturer, except for the test of drift of pose characteristics which shall start from cold condition.

If the robot has facilities for adjustment by the user that can influence any of the tested characteristics, or if characteristics can be recorded only with specific functions (e.g. calibration facility where poses are given by off-line programming), the condition used during the test shall be specified in the test report and (where relevant for individual characteristics) shall be kept constant during each test.

6.3 Operating and environmental conditions

The performance characteristics as specified by the manufacturer and determined by the related test methods in this International Standard, are valid only under the environmental and normal operating conditions as stipulated by the manufacturer.

6.3.1 Operating conditions

The normal operating conditions used in the tests shall be as stated by the manufacturer.

Normal operating conditions include, but are not limited to, requirements for electrical, hydraulic and pneumatic power, power fluctuations and disturbances, maximum safe operating limits (see ISO 9946).

6.3.2 Environmental conditions

6.3.2.1 General

The environmental conditions used in the tests shall be as stated by the manufacturer, subject to the requirements of 6.3.2.2.

Environmental conditions include temperature, relative humidity, electromagnetic and electrostatic fields, radio frequency interference, atmospheric contaminants, and altitude limits.

6.3.2.2 Testing temperature

The ambient temperature (θ) of the testing environment should be 20° C. Other ambient temperatures shall be stated and explained in the test report. The testing temperature shall be maintained at

$(\theta \pm 2)^\circ \text{C}$

The robot and the measuring instruments should have been in the test environment long enough (preferably overnight) so that they are in a thermally stable condition before testing. They shall be protected from draughts and external thermal radiation (e.g. sunlight, heaters).

6.4 Displacement measurement principles

The measured position and orientation data ($x_j, y_j, z_j, a_j, b_j, c_j$) shall be expressed in a base coordinate system (see ISO 9787), or in a coordinate system defined by the measurement equipment.

If the robot command poses and paths are defined in another coordinate system (e.g. by off-line programming) than the measuring system, the data must be transferred to one common coordinate system. The relationship between the coordinate systems shall be established by measurement. In this case the measurement poses given in 7.2.1 shall not be used as reference positions for the transformation data. Reference and measurement points should be inside of the test cube and should be as far away from each other as possible (e.g. if P_1 to P_5 are measurement points, C_3, C_4, C_5, C_6 may be used).

For directional components of the performance criteria, the relationship between the base coordinate system and the selected coordinate system shall be stated in the test results.

The measurement point shall lie at a distance from the mechanical interface as specified by the manufacturer. The position of this point in the mechanical interface coordinate system (see ISO 9787) shall be recorded (see figure 7).

The sequence of rotation used when calculating the orientation deviation should be in a way so that the orientation can be continuous in value. This is independent if the rotation is about moving axes (navigation angles or Euler angles), or rotation about stationary axes.

Unless otherwise specified, the measurements shall be taken after the attained pose is stabilized.

6.5 Instrumentation

For path characteristics, overshoot and pose stabilization measurements, the dynamic characteristics of the data acquisition equipment (e.g. sampling rate) shall be high enough to ensure that an adequate representation of the characteristics being measured is obtained.

The measuring instruments used for the tests shall be calibrated and the uncertainty of measurement shall be estimated and stated in the test report. The following parameters should be taken into account:

- instrumentation errors;
- systematic errors associated with the method used;
- calculation errors.

The total uncertainty of measurement shall not exceed 25 % of the magnitude of the characteristic under test.

6.6 Load to the mechanical interface

All tests shall be executed with a test load equal to 100 % of rated load conditions, i.e. mass, position of centre of gravity, moments of inertia, according to the manufacturer's specification. The rated load conditions shall be specified in the test report.

To characterize robots with load dependent performances, additional optional tests can be made with the mass of rated load reduced to 10 % as indicated in table 1 or some other value as specified by the manufacturer.

When a part of the measuring instrumentation is attached to the robot, its mass and position shall be considered as part of the test load.

Figure 1 shows an example of test end effector with CG (centre of gravity) and TCP (tool centre point) offsets. The TCP is the measurement point (MP) during the test. The measurement point position shall be specified in the test report.

Table 1 - Test loads

Characteristics to be tested	Load to be used	
	100 % of rated load (X = mandatory)	The mass of rated load reduced to 10 % (O = optional)
Pose accuracy and pose repeatability	X	O
Multi-directional pose accuracy variation	X	O
Distance accuracy and distance repeatability	X	—
Position stabilization time	X	O
Position overshoot	X	O
Drift of pose characteristics	X	—
Exchangeability	X	O
Path accuracy and path repeatability	X	O
Path accuracy on reorientation	X	O
Cornering deviations	X	—
Path velocity characteristics	X	O
Minimum posing time	X	O
Static compliance	—	See clause 10
Weaving deviations	X	O

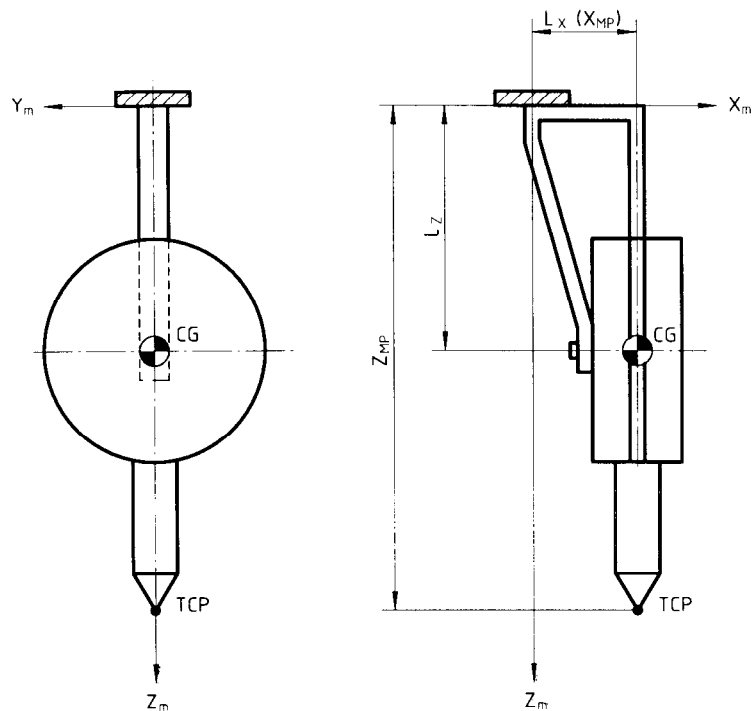


Figure 1 - An example of test end effector

6.7 Test velocities

All pose characteristics shall be tested at the maximum velocity achievable between the specified poses, i.e. with the velocity override set to 100 %, in each case. Additional tests could be carried out at 50 % and/or 10 % of this velocity.

For path characteristics, the tests shall be conducted at 100 %, 50 %, and 10 % of rated path velocity as specified by the manufacturer for each of the characteristics tested (see table 3). Rated path velocity shall be specified in the test report. The velocity specified for each test depends on the shape and size of path. The robot shall be able to achieve this velocity over at least 50 % of the length of the test path. The related performance criteria shall be valid during this time.

It shall be reported if the velocity has been specified in pose-to-pose mode or continuous path mode, if selectable.

A summary of the test velocities is given in tables 2 and 3.

Table 2 - Test velocities for pose characteristics

Characteristics to be tested	Velocity	
	100 % of rated velocity (X = mandatory)	50 % or 10 % of rated velocity (O = optional)
Pose accuracy and pose repeatability	X	O
Multi-directional pose accuracy variation	X	O
Distance accuracy and repeatability	X	O
Position stabilization time	X	O
Position overshoot	X	O
Drift of pose characteristics	X	—
Exchangeability	X	O
Minimum posing time	See clause 9 and table 20	

Table 3 - Test velocities for path characteristics

Characteristics to be tested	Velocity		
	100 % of rated path velocity (X = mandatory)	50 % of rated path velocity (X = mandatory)	10 % of rated path velocity (X = mandatory)
Path accuracy and path repeatability	X	X	X
Path accuracy on reorientation	X	X	X
Cornering deviations	X	X	X
Path velocity characteristics	X	X	X
Weaving deviations	X	X	X

6.8 Definitions of poses to be tested and paths to be followed

6.8.1 Objective

This subclause describes how five suitable positions are located in a plane placed inside a cube within the working space. It also describes test paths to be followed. When robots have a range of motion along one axis, small with respect to the other, replace the cube by a rectangular parallelepiped.

6.8.2 Location of the cube in the working space

A single cube, the corners of which are designated C_1 to C_8 (see figure 2), is located in the working space with the following requirements fulfilled:

- the cube shall be located in that portion of the working space with the greatest anticipated use;
- the cube shall have the maximum volume allowable with the edges parallel to the base coordinate system;

A figure showing the location of the cube used in the working space shall be included in the test report.

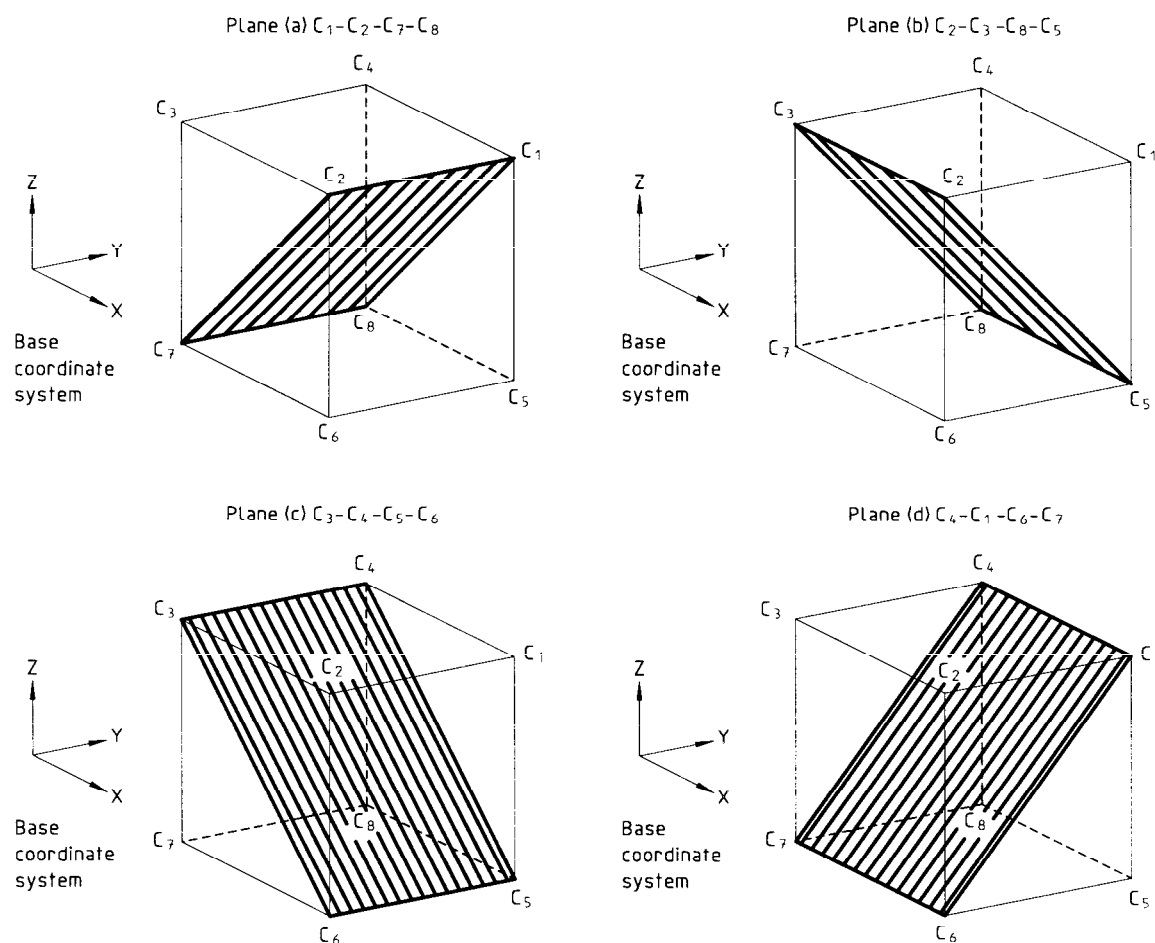


Figure 2 - Cube within the working space

6.8.3 Location of the planes to be used within the cube

One of the following planes shall be used for pose testing, for which the manufacturer has declared the values in the data sheet to be valid:

- a) $C_1 - C_2 - C_7 - C_8$
- b) $C_2 - C_3 - C_8 - C_5$
- c) $C_3 - C_4 - C_5 - C_6$
- d) $C_4 - C_1 - C_6 - C_7$

The test report shall specify which of the four planes has been tested.

6.8.4 Poses to be tested

Five measurement points are located on the diagonals of measuring plane and correspond to (P_1 to P_5) in the selected plane transformed by the axial (X_{MP}) and radial (Z_{MP}) measurement point offset. The points P_1 to P_5 are the positions for the wrist reference point of the robot.

The measurement plane is parallel to the selected plane, see figures 3 and 7.

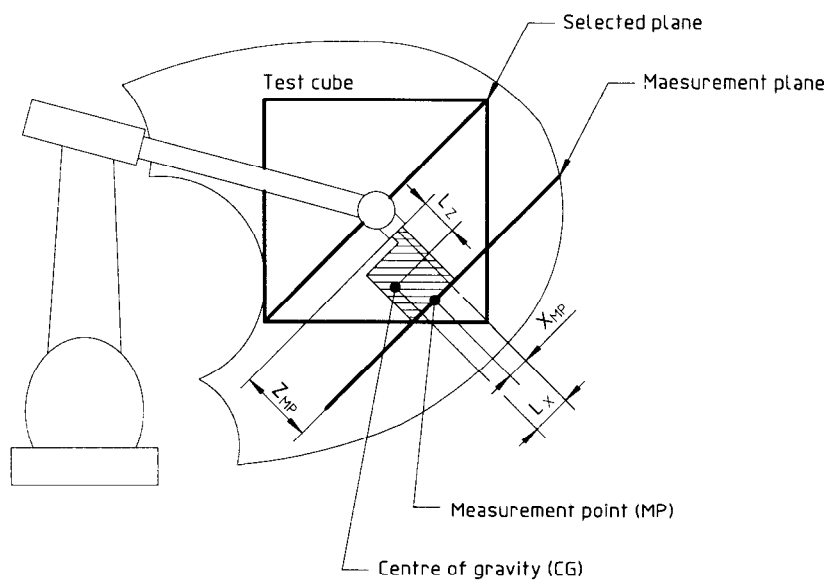
The test poses shall be specified in base coordinates (preferred) and/or joint coordinates, as specified by the manufacturer.

P_1 is the intersection of the diagonals and is the centre of the cube. The points P_2 to P_5 are located at a distance from the ends of the diagonals equal to $(10 \pm 2) \%$ of the length of the diagonal (see figure 4). If this is not possible then the nearest point chosen on the diagonal shall be reported.

The poses to be used for pose characteristics are given in table 4.

Table 4 - Poses to be used for pose characteristics

Characteristics to be tested	Poses				
	P_1	P_2	P_3	P_4	P_5
Pose accuracy and pose repeatability	X	X	X	X	X
Multi-directional pose accuracy variation	X	X	—	X	—
Distance accuracy and distance repeatability	—	X	—	X	—
Position stabilization time	X	X	X	X	X
Position overshoot	X	X	X	X	X
Drift of pose characteristics	X	—	—	—	—
Exchangeability	X	X	X	X	X



Mechanical interface coordinate system MP = TCP

Figure 3 - Selected plane and measurement plane

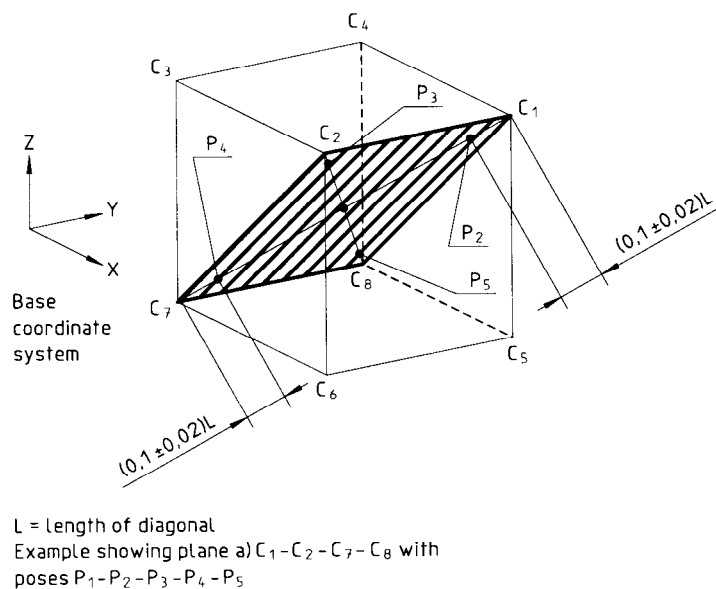


Figure 4 - Poses to be used

6.8.5 Movement requirements

All joints shall be exercised during movement between all poses.

During the test care should be taken not to exceed the manufacturing operation specification.

6.8.6 Paths to be followed

6.8.6.1 Location of the test path

The cube described in 6.8.2 shall be used.

The test path shall be located on one of the four planes shown in figure 5. For six axis robots, plane 1 shall be used unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer. For robots with less than six axes the plane to be used shall be as specified by the manufacturer.

During the measurement of the path characteristics the centre of the mechanical interface should lie in the plane selected (see figure 3), and its orientation should be kept constant to that plane.

6.8.6.2 Shapes and sizes of the test paths

Figure 6 gives an example of the position of a linear path, a rectangular path and two circular paths in one of four available test planes.

The shape of the test path should be linear or circular except for cornering deviations (see 8.5 and figure 22). If paths of other shapes are used they shall be as specified by the manufacturer and added to the test report.

For a linear path in the diagonal of the cube, the length of the path shall be 80 % of the distance between opposite corners of the selected plane. An example is the distance P_2 to P_4 in figure 6.

Another linear path P_6 to P_9 can be used for a reorientation test, described in 8.4.

For the circular path test, two different circles should be tested. See figure 6.

The diameter of the large circle shall be 80 % of the length of the side of the cube. The centre of the circle shall be P_1 .

The small circle should have a diameter of 10 % of the large circle in the plane. The centre of the circle shall be P_1 . See figure 6.

A minimum number of command poses shall be used. The number and location of the command poses and the method of programming (teach programming or numerical data entry through manual data input or off-line programming) shall be specified in the test report.

For a rectangular path, the corners are denoted E_1 , E_2 , E_3 and E_4 , each of which is at a distance from its respective corner of the plane equal to (10 ± 2) % of a diagonal of the plane. An example is shown in figure 6 in which P_2 , P_3 , P_4 and P_5 coincide with E_1 , E_2 , E_3 and E_4 respectively.

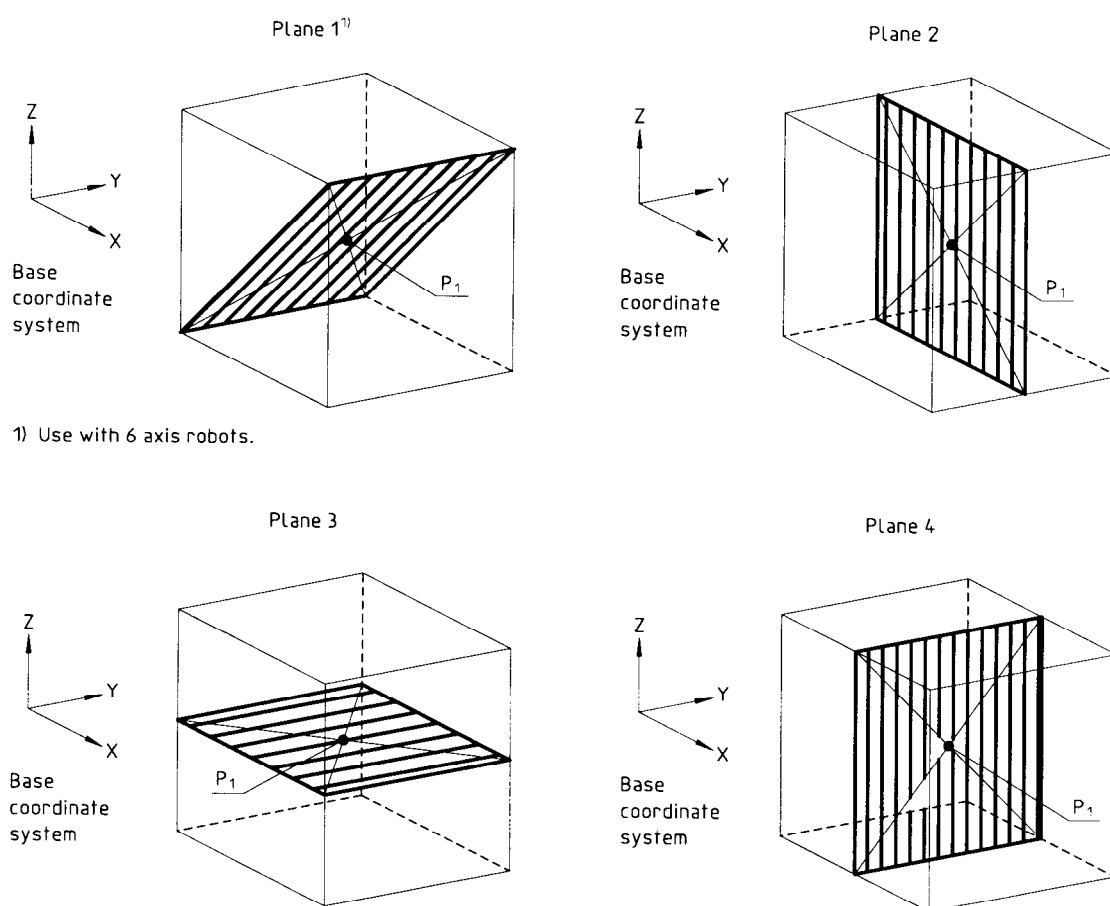


Figure 5 - Definitions of planes for location of test path

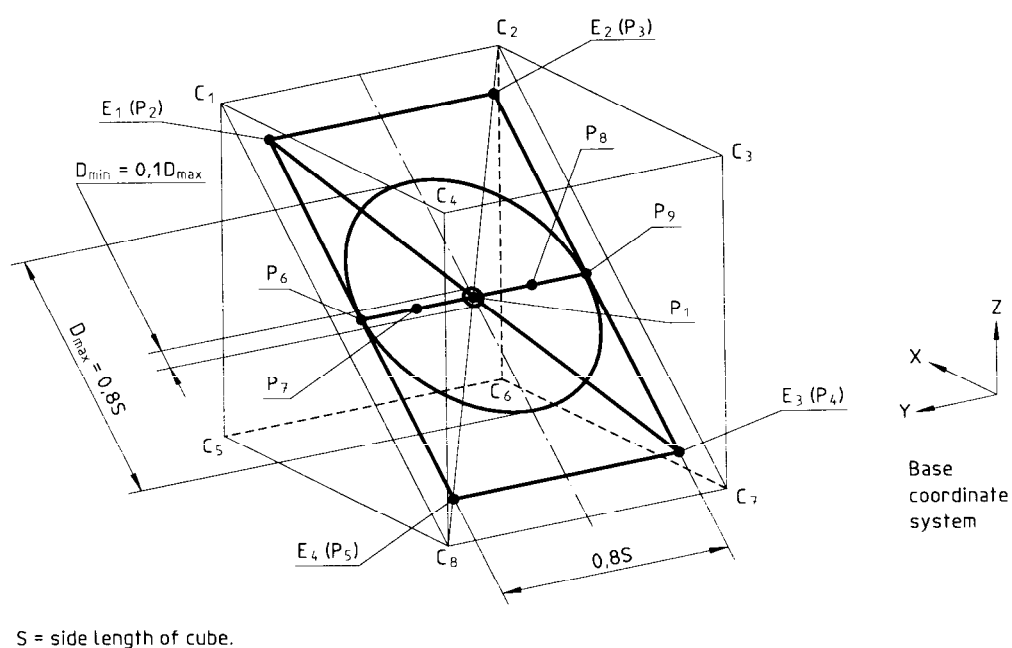


Figure 6 - Examples of test paths

6.9 Number of cycles

The number of cycles to be performed when testing each characteristic is given in table 5.

Table 5 - Number of cycles

Characteristic to be tested	Number of cycles
Pose accuracy and pose repeatability	30
Multi-directional pose accuracy variation	30
Distance accuracy and distance repeatability	30
Position stabilization time	3
Position overshoot	3
Drift of pose characteristics	Continuous cycling during 8 hours
Exchangeability	30
Path accuracy and path repeatability	10
Path accuracy on reorientation	10
Cornering deviations	3
Path velocity characteristics	10
Minimum posing time	3
Weaving deviations	3

6.10 Test procedure

The sequence of testing has no influence on the results, but it is recommended to perform position stabilization time test prior to the pose repeatability test, for determination of the measuring dwell. Tests for overshoot, pose accuracy and repeatability may be performed concurrently. The test for drift of pose characteristics shall be performed independently.

Pose characteristics shall be tested under pose-to-pose or continuous path control. Path characteristics shall be tested under path control.

The determination of the path accuracy and repeatability can be done in parallel to that of the velocity, provided that the measuring device is suitably equipped.

It is recommended that the velocity tests are performed prior to the measurement of the path accuracy and to use the identical path parameters. This ensures the usage of the correct reference quantities during determination of the path criteria.

When programming the constant path velocity, care should be taken to ensure that the velocity override control is set at 100 % and that the velocity is not automatically reduced as a result of any limitations of the robot along the path to be followed.