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Forensic sciences - Part 4: Interpretation (ISO 21043-4:2025)

Táto norma obsahuje anglickú verziu európskej normy.

This standard includes the English version of the European Standard.

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Criminalistique - Partie 4: Interprétation (ISO 21043-4:2025)

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EN ISO 21043-4:2025 (E)

Contents	Page
European foreword.....	3

European foreword

This document (EN ISO 21043-4:2025) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 272 "Forensic sciences" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 419 "Forensic Science Processes" the secretariat of which is held by NEN.

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ISO 21043-4

Forensic sciences — Part 4: Interpretation

*Criminalistique —
Partie 4: Interprétation*

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ISO 21043-4:2025(en)



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Contents		Page
Foreword.....		iv
Introduction.....		v
1	Scope.....	1
2	Normative references.....	1
3	Terms and definitions.....	1
4	General requirements.....	1
5	Questions and propositions.....	2
5.1	Questions.....	2
5.1.1	General.....	2
5.1.2	Types of questions.....	2
5.1.3	Classification, including identification.....	2
5.1.4	Quantification.....	2
5.1.5	Question of source.....	3
5.1.6	Reconstruction.....	3
5.2	Addressing the question with either investigative or evaluative interpretation.....	4
5.2.1	General.....	4
5.2.2	Investigative interpretation.....	4
5.2.3	Evaluative interpretation.....	4
6	Types of opinions.....	4
6.1	General.....	4
6.2	Likelihood ratios.....	5
6.3	Categorical opinions.....	5
6.4	Explanations.....	5
6.5	Estimations.....	5
7	Assigning probabilities.....	6
7.1	General.....	6
7.2	Statistical-model-based assignment of probabilities.....	6
7.3	Human-based assignment of probabilities.....	6
8	Expression of the opinion.....	6
8.1	General.....	6
8.2	Quantitative expression of opinion.....	6
8.3	Qualitative expression of opinion.....	7
8.4	Categorical opinions.....	7
Annex A (informative) Likelihood ratio.....		8
Annex B (informative) Examples of opinion scales.....		9
Annex C (informative) Examples of interpretation.....		11
Bibliography.....		14

ISO 21043-4:2025(en)**Foreword**

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ISO 21043-4:2025(en)

Introduction

This document is part of a series of includes the different components of the forensic process from scene to courtroom. Other parts of the ISO 21043 series are:

- ISO 21043-1;
- ISO 21043-2;
- ISO 21043-3;
- ISO 21043-5.

[Annexes A, B](#) and [C](#) are given for information only.

Forensic sciences —

Part 4: Interpretation

1 Scope

This document specifies requirements and provides recommendations for the interpretation of observations to reach opinions that answer questions that are relevant for decision making in investigations or legal proceedings. This document states requirements that are applicable to all forensic disciplines. This document states requirements that apply when the opinion is based directly on human judgement and when the opinion is based on interpretation through a statistical model. This document is applicable to interpretation that occurs at a scene, within a facility, or within a judicial setting.

This document establishes requirements designed to safeguard the process for the interpretation of observations including the use of either statistical models or human judgement, to address alternative propositions based on the questions asked by the customer.

Interpretation is not necessary and the requirements of this document do not apply if the observations resulting from the analysis directly answer the relevant question.

EXAMPLE In analytical chemistry, substances are often identified or classified. Provided that the applied analytical methods are not limited in selectivity or sensitivity for the given question, the observations can lead to a direct statement of the name of the substance (identification) or a type of material (classification). This is not considered interpretation for the purposes of this document.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 21043-1, *Forensic sciences — Part 1: Vocabulary*

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