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School of Printing
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rochester, New York

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MASTER'S THESIS

This is to certify that the Master's Thesis of

Brian Philippsen

with a major in Printing Technology has been approved by the Thesis Committee as satisfactory for the thesis requirement for the Master of Science degree at the convocation of

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THE EFFECTS ON HUE RESULTING FROM BLACK
OVERPRINTING IN HALFTONE REPRODUCTIONS

by

Brian Philippsen

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of Master of Science in the
School of Printing in the College of Graphic Arts and
Photography of the Rochester Institute of Technology

May, 1985

Thesis Advisor: Dr. J. Silver

Title of Thesis: THE EFFECTS ON HUE RESULTING FROM
BLACK OVERPRINTING IN HALFTONE REPRODUCTIONS

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ABSTRACT

A type of black printer that only existed in theory is now being applied in the printing industry. The process which makes use of this black printer is known as gray-component replacement.

Developed from the extension of the undercolor removal process, the use of gray-component replacement in printing halftone reproductions is said to result in numerous technical and cost benefits. When used to the maximum, the process eliminates one of the three process color inks in a given unit area and prints black ink from highlight to shadow.

A problem can result from the use of this process as it applies a greater amount of an opaque black ink in combination with selectively transparent colored inks. Where this black ink overprints one or more of the three colored inks there will be an increase in unwanted absorption and a decrease in the wanted absorption. The result of such overprinting will be the alteration of the reflectance curve of the reproduction as compared to the original with the result being a shift in hue.

An experiment was performed to demonstrate the principles. Several tint patches were printed with the

only difference between each patch being the location of black ink overprinting within the tint.

It could be seen by visual analysis that a hue shift did occur. Sample tint patches were analyzed by means of a spectrophotometer to objectively describe the visual results.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

A theoretical concept of the black printer that was developed some time ago is now being put to use within the printing industry. Referred to by several names including Achromatics, Achromatic Color Reproduction, Polychromatic Color Removal and Gray Component Replacement, the process allows the use of a greater amount of black ink in lithographic reproductions.

The response from industry since the introduction of the process has shown that it may become a standard. It has been predicted that by 1987 80% of the printing industry will be using this process.¹

The developing interest is due to the numerous technical and cost benefits that the process is said to provide. Some of the benefits cited are increased tolerance ranges for process ink balance and register, increased color reproduction stability in gray tones and colors with high neutral components.² Other benefits are said to be better detail, reduced ink consumption, improved drying and reduced use of spray powder.

Studies are being conducted to determine the degree

to which these stated benefits are valid, however more investigation needs to take place to examine the real implications of putting this theoretical black printer into practice. In order to contribute to that knowledge, this research investigated the effects on hue resulting from the overprinting of one or more of the three subtractive inks with black ink in a halftone reproduction.

SIGNIFICANCE AND BACKGROUND

As the last addition to the three color process, the black printer was to serve four main functions:³

(1) To make the control of the other three colors less critical as to color balance.

(2) To produce denser blacks and better shadow detail than the three colors alone can produce.

(3) To substitute a relatively inexpensive black ink for a part of the more costly colored inks.

(4) In high-speed wet printing, to reduce the piling up of several inks which do not print satisfactorily on top of one another.

While the black printer was to assist in these manners its inclusion into the original three color process created two complicating factors. Initially the inclusion of the black printer created the situation where there was no single combination of the four inks

that would produce a given color. When using only the three process inks there is only one combination that will yield the same color. With the addition of a fourth element all but the saturated colors can be reproduced with a minimum amount of the three colored inks and a maximum of black; vice versa, or by any combination between these two extremes.

Secondly, the methods of color separation were developed for the three color reproduction process, therefore the addition of a fourth color required a means of reducing the percent coverage of the three colored inks in order to accommodate the black. Failure to do so would result in the trend towards a dark reproduction with degraded colors as the use of black was increased.

During its development there were two concepts of the black printer and how they should be combined with the three colored inks.⁴ The first type of black printer would carry the maximum amount of black ink and be combined with not more than two of the three subtractive colors in any one unit area. The second type of black printer would carry only enough black ink to increase the range of neutral grays. Of these two concepts it was the first type of black printer that was considered the "ideal".⁵ This black printer would be a record of the "gray-component" of an original with gray-component being

defined as the amount of the least predominate printing ink in a unit area of a color corrected, three color reproduction. It was this concept that provided the foundations for what was to develop into the process of gray-component replacement.

Complex filtration and masking procedures would be required to produce the first type of black printer. It was realized at the time that the only simple and effective method of producing the ideal black printer would be by electronic means, using a scanning machine.⁶ For these reasons it was the second type of black printer which was developed for industry use. Referred to as a skeleton black printer its function was to supplement the three colored inks in order to cover ink imbalances and to provide the densities required in the darkest areas of the reproduction. This fixed condition on the black printer permitted the continued use of the three color separation method without any modification as to the determination of each separation. Figure 1 illustrates how the skeleton black printer only begins when the overprints of the three colored inks have reached their maximum density.

Nevertheless, interest in achieving the first type of black printer continued but some means had to be devised to handle the increased amount of black ink. Once the black printer became larger than a skeleton image it

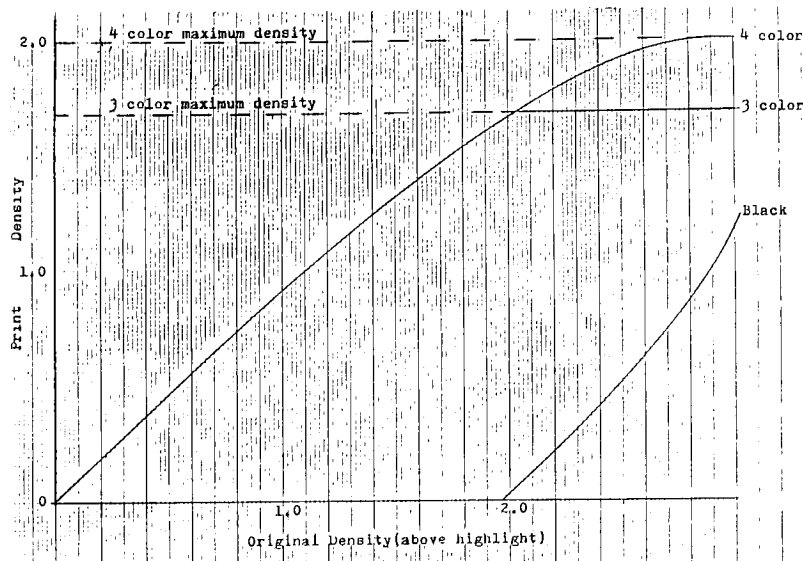


Figure 1

was necessary to decrease the color densities of the other colors where black was to be printed, otherwise the densities of the grays would be too high resulting in a dark reproduction.

Another factor that had to be considered was that in four color overprinting, paper, ink and press conditions will limit the total dot area that can be printed in any one unit area if proper trapping is to be achieved.⁷ Therefore if the coverage of the black printer was to be extended a means of accommodating it had to be formulated. The process that accomplished this is known as undercolor removal (UCR).

UCR is the process of reducing by some degree the dot areas of the yellow, magenta, and cyan printing in the darker neutral areas and replacing them with the appropriate amount of black. This is possible as three color

gray is reduced in proportional amounts, maintaining the gray balance but producing a lighter gray.⁸ The black is increased in these areas to exactly compensate for the yellow, magenta, and cyan removed with the net effect being to extend the gray-component that already exists in a more efficient manner than three color gray.

Figure 2 illustrates the effects of UCR where black ink has begun to print at a lower density and the three color density has been reduced accordingly.

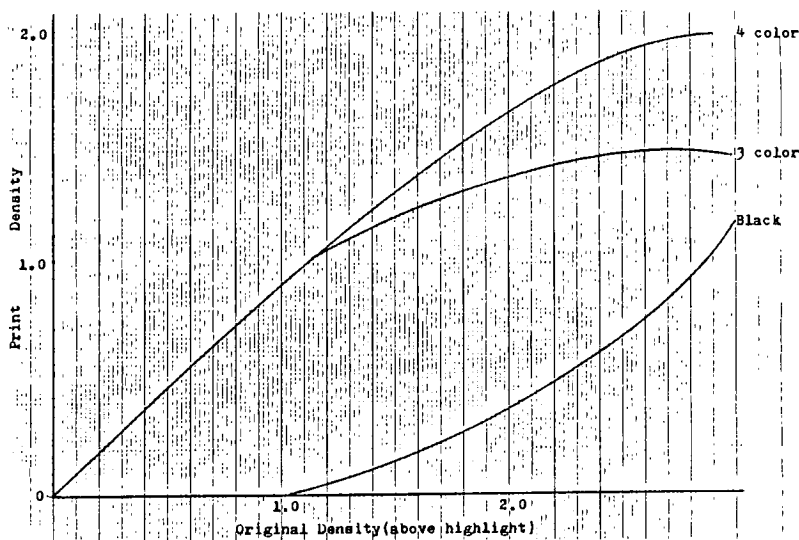


Figure 2

The idea of printing black and no more than two of the colored inks in a unit area as suggested by Yule⁹ was further developed by Hardy and Wurzburg¹⁰ and Tobias.¹¹ Tobias made reference to the fact that within a three printing ink system, such as yellow, magenta and cyan, one

can define the entire chromaticity gamut of that system when the inks are taken two at a time, i.e., yellow and magenta, magenta and cyan, yellow and cyan. The addition of a third color to the combination does not alter the chromaticity gamut available from the binary mixture but rather alters the grayness of it.¹² In theory then, gray resulting from the common reflectances of the three colored inks could be entirely derived from the black ink.

Although the theory to make full use of the first type of black printer had developed, the means of implementing it was still under investigation. It was not until the recent developments in electronic scanning equipment that the means of generating the necessary separations was possible. The method that enabled this was an extension of the undercolor removal process. The limitation of UCR to the neutral areas alone was removed permitting undercolor removal to be performed throughout the entire tonal range.

When the process of undercolor removal was developing the defined term was not restricted to mean its application in the shadow areas only.¹³ However, due to its limited use in these areas the understood definition also became limited. Thus it was necessary to select a new term for the process of extended undercolor removal. The term that will be used is gray-component replacement (GCR).¹⁴

Gray-component replacement, as the present state of the art, is the removal of the least predominate colored ink after color correction; the reduction in dot size of the two remaining colors in a proportion such that the hue is maintained; and the computation and addition of the amount of black necessary to provide the gray of the original hue. Figure 3 illustrates the GCR process whereby the maximum amount of black has been used. In this case three color gray has been reintroduced where black has reached its maximum density.

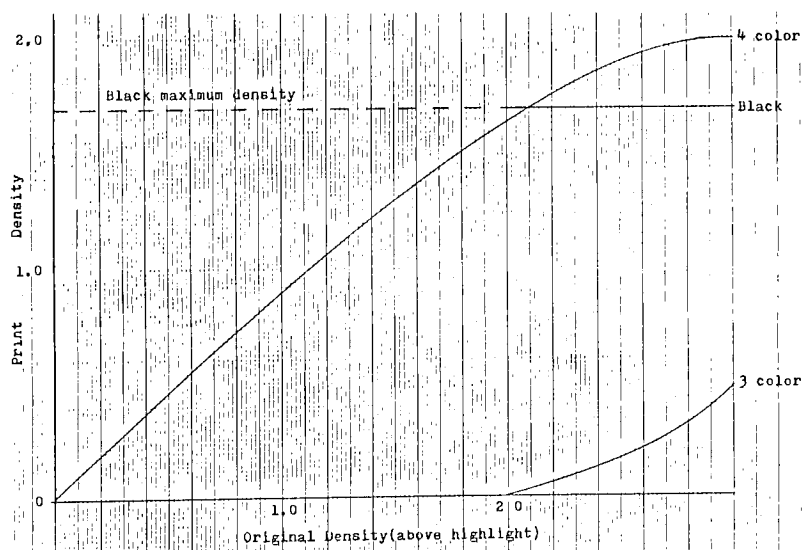


Figure 3

FOOTNOTES FOR CHAPTER ONE

¹Dr. A. Ghany Saleh, "Investigation Into the Application of Achromatic Synthesis to the Printing Industry," TAGA Proceedings, 36 (1984), p. 151.

²Dr. E. Jung, "Programmed and Complementary Color Reduction," TAGA Proceedings, 36 (1984), p. 136.

³J.A.C. Yule, Principles of Color Reproduction (New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1967), p. 282.

⁴J.A.C. Yule, "Theory of Subtractive Color Photography: III. Four-Color Process and the Black Printer," Journal of the Optical Society of America, 30 (1940), p. 322.

⁵Ibid., p. 324.

⁶J.A.C. Yule, "Color Correction and the Black Printer," TAGA Proceedings, 1 (1949), n.p.

⁷M.F. Southworth, Color Separation Techniques, 2d ed. (Livonia, NY: Graphic Arts Publishing, 1979), p. 92.

⁸M.F. Southworth, "Undercolor Removal (UCR)," The Quality Control Scanner, 2(7), p. 3.

⁹J.A.C. Yule, "Theory of Subtractive Color Photography," p. 324.

¹⁰A.C. Hardy, and F.L. Wurzburg Jr., "Color Correction in Color Printing," Journal of the Optical Society of America, 38 (1948), pp. 300-307.

¹¹P.E. Tobias, "A Color Correction Process," TAGA Proceedings, 6 (1954), pp. 85-90.

¹²Ibid., p. 86.

¹³A. Johnson, "Practical Implementation of Optimum Colour Reproduction," The Journal of Photographic Science 32 (1984), p. 147.

¹⁴F. Sigg, and P. Cost, "On Second Thought, Let's Call It 'Gray-Component Replacement'", T & E Center Newsletter, 12(4) (1984), p. 5.

CHAPTER TWO

BACKGROUND THEORY

The process of reproducing a color original by half-tone lithography rests upon the use of three selectively transparent inks, each of which absorbs one third of the visible spectrum and transmits the other two thirds of the visible spectrum. The visible spectrum is that portion of the electromagnetic spectrum extending from approximately 380 nanometers to 750 nanometers. For the sake of simplicity the visible spectrum has been divided into three equal bands: a blue band ranging from 400 to 500 nanometers; a green band ranging from 500 to 600 nanometers; and a red band ranging from 600 to 700 nanometers.

Due to the transparent qualities of the three inks two inks can be overprinted yet still permit the transmission of the one band that is not absorbed by either ink. Black ink, however, is opaque and functions to absorb all three bands. When black overprints any of the other three inks it will absorb the band or bands that would otherwise be transmitted and prevent the inks from absorbing their respective bands.

It is the presence of the three bands, in various proportions, that ultimately results in the sensation of color. Color has three qualities or attributes: hue, chroma and value. Hue is the quality that is under investigation.

Hue is a visual sensation according to which an area appears to be similar to one, or to proportions of two, of the perceived colors red, yellow, orange, green, blue and purple.¹ For the purposes of this study hue will be defined as the single or combined reflectances from one or more of the process inks and in excess of the common reflectances of all inks present in a given unit area. A unit area will be defined as a location in a halftone reproduction where there is a maximum of one dot present from each of the process inks used to reproduce that halftone. The size of any unit area is determined by the screen ruling of the halftone.

The three process color inks, yellow, magenta and cyan, are used to control the amount reflected by the blue, green and red bands respectively. Where a percentage of yellow ink has been printed the blue band will be absorbed by the same amount. Magenta absorbs the green band and in the same manner as cyan absorbs the red band. Where these inks are present in varying proportions, varying amounts of each band will be absorbed. The light which is not

absorbed is reflected and a hue will be observable.

Though these concepts are based on ideal inks the principles may still be applied to real inks.

The difference between real inks and ideal inks is that real inks have certain deficiencies. Real inks, unlike ideal inks, do not completely absorb the one band they were designed to nor do they transmit the remaining two bands equally. For example, a typical cyan ink transmits more of the blue band than it transmits the green band. Magenta ink is considered to be the most deficient as it transmits much more of the red band than it transmits of the blue band. Yellow ink, on the other hand, is considered to be the closest to an ideal ink, transmitting the green and red bands nearly equal.

The reflectance curves of a halftone reproduction will consist of three horizontal lines, one in each band of the visible spectrum. Due to the inability of the lithographic process to vary the ink film thickness of each printer across a unit area the reflectance curves of the reproduction is an average of those reflectance curves that would be present in the same unit area of the original (Figure 4). One can illustrate the effect on the reflectance curves of a unit area of a reproduction by the introduction of black ink. If one started with a 10% tint of yellow, magenta and cyan, printed beside one another,

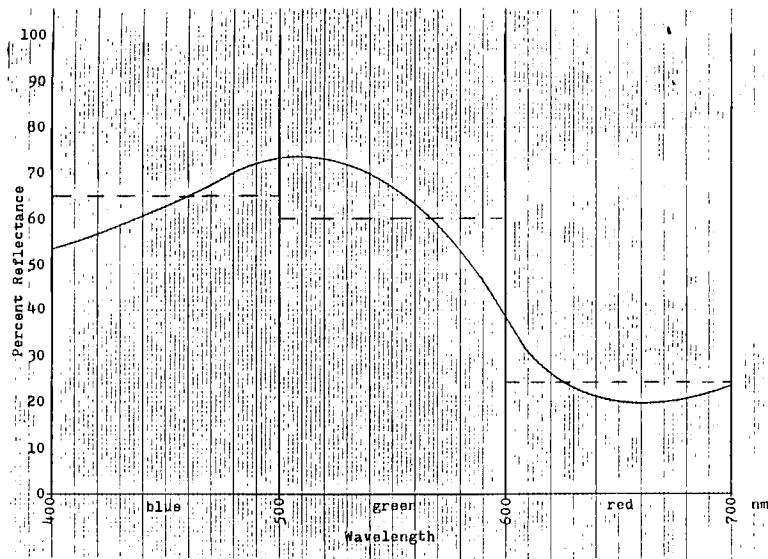


Figure 4

the reflectance curve of a unit area would be as illustrated in Figure 5.

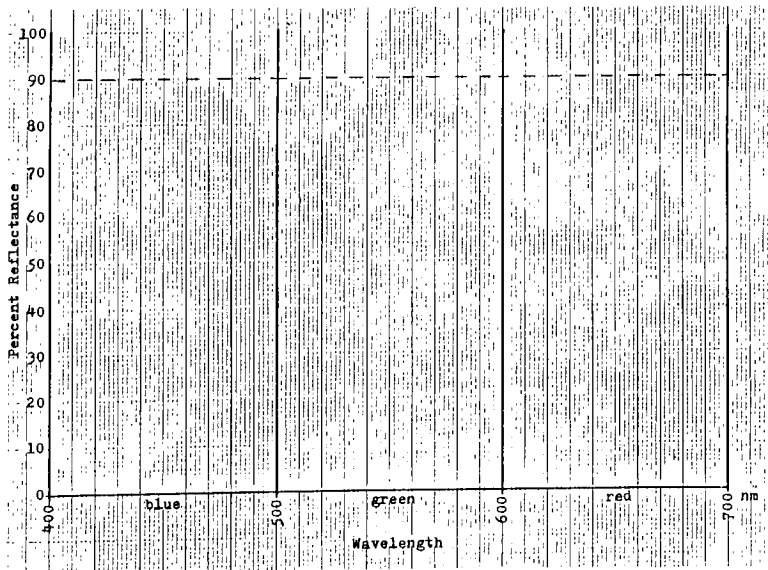


Figure 5

Each ink would absorb 10% of its respective band and transmit the remaining 90% with the visual result being a light gray. Once a 10% black tint is added to the three color tint, with no overprinting of any of the other inks, an additional 10% of each band will be absorbed with the result being close to a medium gray (Figure 6).

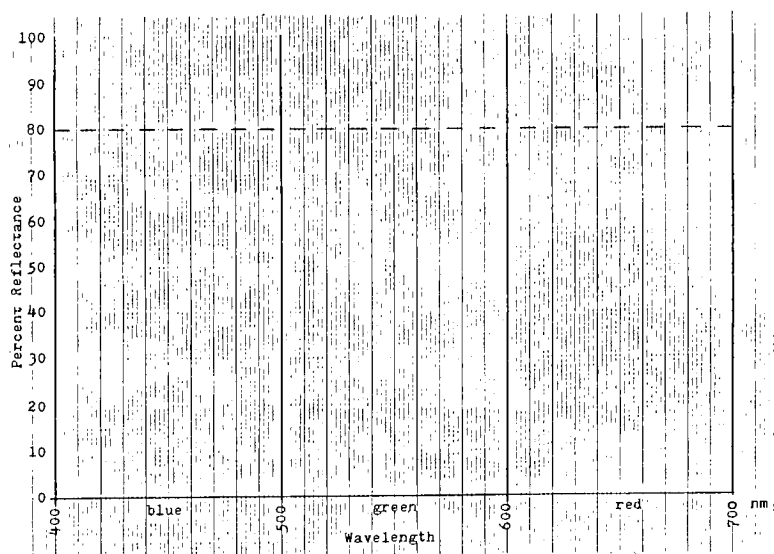


Figure 6

If this black is allowed to overprint the cyan dot by 50%, then the ability of cyan to absorb the red band has been reduced from 10% to 5%. Thus theoretically the hue of the unit area should shift slightly to the red band (Figure 7). If this procedure is repeated with the magenta dot there should be a shift to the green band and black overprinted the yellow dot should result in a shift to the blue band. Theoretically the greater the overprint, the greater the resulting shift in hue will be.

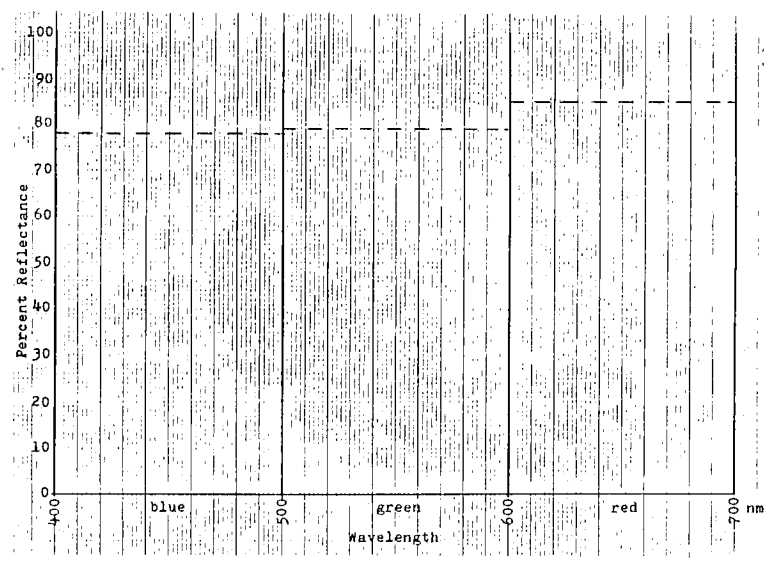


Figure 7

As the amount of black ink used in halftone reproductions increases, as in gray-component replacement, there is a greater possibility of unwanted overprinting of the three colored inks with black ink.

The result of such overprinting would be the absorption of a band or bands that would otherwise be reflected and a reduction in absorption of the bands that should be absorbed. In the highlight to middletone sections of a reproduction this condition would arise from misregister between the black printer and the other three colors. From the middletones to the shadows, however, this overprinting must take place.

FOOTNOTES FOR CHAPTER TWO

¹F.W. Billmeyer Jr., and M. Saltzman, Principles of Color Technology, 2d ed (New York: John Wiley and Sons, 1981), p. 186.

CHAPTER THREE

HYPOTHESIS

The use of gray-component replacement or any degree of undercolor removal results in the use of black ink to print a halftone reproduction. It was the experimental objective of this study to demonstrate that the inclusion of an opaque black ink into a system of selectively transparent inks will result in a hue shift when this black ink is overprinted one or more of the transparent inks in a given unit area. The hue shift can be predicted by determining the color or colors of those inks which have been overprinted by the black ink.

CHAPTER FOUR

LITERATURE REVIEW

The literature dealing with the four color process of lithographic printing largely overlooks the black printer. Such literature emphasizes the theory of the three subtractive process inks and their application in practice. Those few sources that did address the black printer have formed the foundation upon which this research is based. The most significant of these is Yule^{1,2,3} in which the development of the ideas of gray-component replacement can be traced.

In his chapter on moiré patterns and screen angles, Yule makes reference to the problems encountered when overprinting the other process colors with black:

One interesting consequence of this is that printing a black halftone over a neutral three-color gray (composed of yellow, magenta and cyan) can make it slightly greenish or pinkish depending on the register of the dots.⁴

Yule made further reference to the black printer and the affects encountered with screen angles but he does not develop the reasons for the shifts in color.

FOOTNOTES FOR CHAPTER FOUR

¹J.A.C. Yule, "Theory of Subtractive Color Photography: II. Four-Color Process and the Black Printer," Journal of the Optical Society of America, 30, 1940, pp. 322-331.

²J.A.C. Yule, "Color Correction and the Black Printer," TAGA Proceedings, 1, 1949, n.p.

³J.A.C. Yule, Principles of Color Reproduction (New York: John Wiley & Sons, 1967), pp. 282-304.

⁴Ibid., p. 342.

CHAPTER FIVE

METHODOLOGY

The following methodology was used to test the proposed hypothesis of this research project.

A layout was prepared for the imposition of twelve, one inch square tint patches. These were positioned equal distance from each other towards the center of the sheet and close to the lead edge of the paper. This was done to minimize the number of inking keys that would have to be set across the image area and to ensure the best possible register.

A 10% 50-line positive tint was generated on a scanner. The dot configuration was square and angled at 45 degrees. This positive tint film was then contacted to produce a negative tint. The positive tint film was used for positioning purposes while the negative tint film was used to expose the printing plates.

Using the positive tint film as a key the position of each color within each tint was determined. The negative tint film was then positioned using these keys.

The variation in the location of the black printer was achieved by varying the location of the black negative

tint relative to the three color positive tint key. The overprint was adjusted visually so as to achieve approximately 50% overprint in one series of tint patches and approximately 75% in a second series of tint patches.

The tint patches can be identified as follows:

- A: Four colors, yellow, magenta, cyan and black, printed with no color overprinted with black.
- B: Four colors printed with black overprinted cyan approximately 50%.
- C: Four colors printed with black overprinted yellow approximately 75%.
- D: Four colors printed with black overprinted magenta approximately 50%.
- E: Four colors printed with black to have overprinted cyan approximately 75%, however this tint did not produce the desired results on press and therefore was not considered in the analysis.
- F: Four colors printed with black overprinted yellow approximately 50%.
- G: Four colors printed with black overprinted magenta approximately 75%.
- H: Three colors, yellow, magenta and black, printed with no color overprinted with black.
- I: Three colors printed with black overprinted magenta approximately 75%.

- J: Three colors printed with black overprinted yellow approximately 75%.
- K: Three colors printed with black overprinted magenta approximately 50%.
- L. Three colors printed with black overprinted yellow approximately 50%.

The tints patches A to G were printed by the four color process with A, as a neutral gray, representing the standard by which the tint patches B to G were compared. The tint patches H to L are to simulate the GCR process with only two process colors and black being present. Tint patch H, as an orangish-red, represents the standard by which the tint patches I to L were compared.

Included with the tint patches were color bars to monitor reflection densities and the trap achieved by the black ink. A color bar was run at the trail edge of the image for the purposes of the pressman.

The negative flats were then used to make final film positives which in turn were used to produce a positive Chromalin proof. The Cromalin proof was used to ensure the desired overprint results were being obtained. Negative working plates were made from the original negative flats.

The images were printed during three consecutive press runs. Yellow and cyan were printed during the first run. During the second run the magenta was printed.

After an hour and a half the black was printed during the third run.

From the press run samples were selected and analyzed. A sample from that press run is included in Appendix B. This, however, is not the sample used to generate the data for this research project.

CHAPTER SIX

DATA ANALYSIS

The analysis used in this experiment was designed to illustrate the effect on the average reflectance curves of a unit area in a halftone reproduction resulting from overprinting with black ink.

The samples selected from the press run were analyzed by a spectrophotometer which generated the full reflectance curve of the sample analyzed. The samples not only included the tint patches but also solid ink patches and the paper upon which the tint patches were printed. From the full reflectance curves the average reflectance curve for each band was constructed by determining the value of each fifth wavelength and dividing the sum of these by 20. The resultant was the average percent reflectance of each band.

The numerical data is presented in Tables 1 to 14. The average reflectance curves are presented as Figures 8 to 24. The full reflectance curves, from which the averages were derived, are presented as Figures 25-41 in Appendix A.

REFLECTANCE VALUES FOR EVERY FIFTH WAVELENGTH AND OVERALL AVERAGES FOR EACH BAND
 SAMPLES: PAPER WITH MAGNESIUM OXIDE AS THE REFERENCE MATERIAL (P₁) AND PAPER WITH
 THE PAPER AS THE REFERENCE MATERIAL

BLUE BAND			GREEN BAND			RED BAND		
Samples:	P ₁	P ₂	Samples:	P ₁	P ₂	Samples:	P ₁	P ₂
	<u>nm</u>	<u>%R</u>		<u>nm</u>	<u>%R</u>		<u>nm</u>	<u>%R</u>
	400	91		500	89		600	88
	405	90		505	89		605	88
	410	90		510	90		610	88
	415	90		515	90		615	88
	420	90		520	90		620	88
	425	90		525	90		625	88
	430	90		530	90		630	88
	435	90		535	90		635	88
	440	90		540	90		640	87
	445	90		545	89		645	87
	450	90		550	89		650	88
	455	90		555	89		655	88
	460	90		560	89		660	88
	465	90		565	89		665	88
	470	90		570	88		670	88
	475	90		575	88		675	88
	480	90		580	88		680	88
	485	90		585	88		685	88
	490	89		590	88		690	88
	495	89		595	88		695	88
Total:	1809	1814	Total:	1781	1817	Total:	1758	1817
Average:	$\div 20$	91%	Average:	$\div 20$	89%	Average:	$\div 20$	88%
								91%

TABLE 1

REFLECTANCE VALUES FOR EVERY FIFTH WAVELENGTH AND OVERALL AVERAGES FOR EACH BAND
 SAMPLES: SOLID YELLOW (Y) AND SOLID BLACK (BK)

BLUE BAND			GREEN BAND			RED BAND		
Samples:	\bar{Y}	$\frac{BK}{\%R}$	Samples:	\bar{Y}	$\frac{BK}{\%R}$	Samples:	\bar{Y}	$\frac{BK}{\%R}$
nm			nm			nm		
400	10	9	500	12	6	600	30	6
405	9	9	505	16	6	605	30	6
410	9	8	510	19	6	610	30	6
415	8	8	515	23	6	615	30	6
420	8	7	520	26	6	620	30	6
425	7	7	525	28	6	625	30	6
430	7	7	530	29	6	630	30	6
435	7	7	535	30	6	635	30	6
440	7	7	540	30	6	640	30	7
445	7	7	545	30	6	645	30	7
450	7	7	550	30	6	650	31	7
455	7	7	555	30	6	655	31	7
460	7	7	560	30	6	660	30	8
465	7	7	565	30	6	665	30	8
470	7	7	570	30	6	670	31	8
475	7	7	575	30	6	675	31	8
480	8	6	580	30	6	680	32	8
485	9	6	585	30	6	685	32	9
490	9	6	590	30	6	690	33	9
495	10	6	595	30	6	695	34	9
Total:	157	141	Total:	543	120	Total:	615	143
Average:	8%	7%	Average:	27%	6%	Average:	31%	7%
				÷ 20	÷ 20		÷ 20	÷ 20

TABLE 2

REFLECTANCE VALUES FOR EVERY FIFTH WAVELENGTH AND OVERALL AVERAGES FOR EACH BAND
 SAMPLES: SOLID CYAN (PB) AND SOLID MAGENTA (PR)

BLUE BAND			GREEN BAND			RED BAND		
Samples:	PB	PR	Samples:	PB	PR	Samples:	PB	PR
nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R
400	20	15	500	23	8	600	6	17
405	20	14	505	22	7	605	6	20
410	21	14	510	22	7	610	6	22
415	21	13	515	21	7	615	6	24
420	21	13	520	20	7	620	6	25
425	22	13	525	19	7	625	6	26
430	22	13	530	18	6	630	7	26
435	23	13	535	17	6	635	7	27
440	24	13	540	15	6	640	7	27
445	25	13	545	14	6	645	7	27
450	25	12	550	13	6	650	8	28
455	25	12	555	11	6	655	8	28
460	25	12	560	10	6	660	9	28
465	25	11	565	9	6	665	9	28
470	25	10	570	8	6	670	9	28
475	25	10	575	8	6	675	9	28
480	25	9	580	7	6	680	9	29
485	24	9	585	7	7	685	9	29
490	24	8	590	7	10	690	10	30
495	24	8	595	7	14	695	10	30
Total:	466	235	Total:	278	141	Total:	153	527
	÷20	÷20		÷20	÷20		÷20	÷20
Average:	23%	12%	Average:	14%	7%	Average:	8%	26%

TABLE 3

REFLECTANCE VALUES FOR EVERY FIFTH WAVELENGTH AND OVERALL AVERAGES FOR EACH BAND
 TINT PATCHES: "A" YELLOW (A_y) AND "A" YELLOW PLUS BLACK (A_yb)

	BLUE BAND			GREEN BAND			RED BAND		
	Tint:	$\frac{A}{Y}$	$\frac{A}{Yb}$	Tint:	$\frac{A}{Y}$	$\frac{A}{Yb}$	Tint:	$\frac{A}{Y}$	$\frac{A}{Yb}$
	nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R
400	82	82	71	500	84	71	600	91	78
405	82	82	70	505	85	72	605	91	78
410	82	82	70	510	87	74	610	92	78
415	82	82	70	515	89	76	615	92	79
420	81	81	70	520	90	77	620	92	79
425	81	81	69	525	91	78	625	91	79
430	81	81	69	530	91	78	630	91	78
435	81	81	69	535	91	78	635	91	78
440	81	81	69	540	92	79	640	91	78
445	81	81	69	545	92	79	645	91	78
450	81	81	69	550	91	78	650	91	78
455	81	81	69	555	91	78	655	91	79
460	81	81	69	560	91	78	660	92	79
465	81	81	69	565	91	78	665	92	79
470	81	81	69	570	91	78	670	92	79
475	81	81	69	575	91	78	675	92	79
480	81	81	69	580	91	78	680	92	79
485	81	81	69	585	91	78	685	93	80
490	81	81	69	590	91	78	690	93	80
495	82	82	70	595	91	78	695	92	80
Total:	1625	1385	1802	1542	1833	1575			
Average:	$\frac{\div 20}{81\%}$	$\frac{\div 20}{69\%}$	$\frac{\div 20}{90\%}$	$\frac{\div 20}{77\%}$	$\frac{\div 20}{92\%}$	$\frac{\div 20}{79\%}$			

TABLE 4

REFLECTANCE VALUES FOR EVERY FIFTH WAVELENGTH AND OVERALL AVERAGES FOR EACH BAND
 TINT PATCHES: "A" FOUR COLOR AND "B" FOUR COLOR WITH BLACK OVERPRINTED CYAN APPROX. 50%

	BLUE BAND		GREEN BAND		RED BAND	
	Tint: A	B	Tint: A	B	Tint: A	B
	nm	%R	nm	%R	nm	%R
400	58	57	500	59	600	63
405	58	57	505	60	605	64
410	58	57	510	61	610	65
415	58	57	515	62	615	66
420	58	56	520	63	620	66
425	58	56	525	63	625	66
430	58	56	530	63	630	66
435	58	56	535	62	635	66
440	59	56	540	61	640	66
445	59	57	545	61	645	67
450	59	57	550	60	650	67
455	59	57	555	59	655	67
460	59	57	560	58	660	68
465	59	56	565	58	665	68
470	59	56	570	57	670	68
475	58	56	575	57	675	68
480	58	55	580	57	680	68
485	58	55	585	58	685	68
490	58	55	590	59	690	68
495	58	55	595	60	695	68
Total:	1167	1124	Total:	1198	Total:	1333
Average:	58%	56%	Average:	60%	Average:	67%
				÷20		÷20
				60%		68%
						1365
						÷20
						68%

TABLE 6

REFLECTANCE VALUES FOR EVERY FIFTH WAVELENGTH AND OVERALL AVERAGES FOR EACH BAND
 TINT PATCHES: "A" FOUR COLOR AND "C" FOUR COLOR WITH BLACK OVERPRINTED YELLOW APPROX. 75%

<u>BLUE BAND</u>			<u>GREEN BAND</u>			<u>RED BAND</u>		
Tint:	<u>A</u>	<u>C</u>	Tint:	<u>A</u>	<u>C</u>	Tint:	<u>A</u>	<u>C</u>
nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R
400	58	63	500	59	63	600	63	62
405	58	63	505	60	63	605	64	63
410	58	63	510	61	63	610	65	65
415	58	63	515	62	63	615	66	65
420	58	63	520	63	63	620	66	66
425	58	63	525	63	63	625	66	66
430	58	63	530	63	63	630	66	66
435	58	63	535	62	62	635	66	66
440	59	64	540	61	61	640	66	66
445	59	64	545	61	61	645	67	67
450	59	64	550	60	60	650	67	67
455	59	64	555	59	59	655	67	67
460	59	64	560	58	58	660	68	67
465	59	64	565	58	57	665	68	68
470	59	64	570	47	57	670	68	68
475	58	63	575	47	57	675	68	68
480	58	63	580	47	57	680	68	68
485	58	63	585	48	59	685	68	68
490	58	62	590	49	59	690	68	68
495	58	62	595	60	61	695	68	68
Total:	1167	1265	Total:	1198	1208	Total:	1333	1439
Average:	58%	63%	Average:	60%	60%	Average:	67%	66%

TABLE 7

REFLECTANCE VALUES FOR EVERY FIFTH WAVELENGTH AND OVERALL AVERAGES FOR EACH BAND
 TINT PATCHES: "A" FOUR COLOR AND "D" FOUR COLOR WITH BLACK OVERPRINTED MAGENTA APPROX. 50%

BLUE BAND			GREEN BAND			RED BAND		
Tint:	<u>A</u>	<u>D</u>	Tint:	<u>A</u>	<u>D</u>	Tint:	<u>A</u>	<u>D</u>
nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R
400	58	62	500	59	64	600	63	65
405	58	62	505	60	46	605	64	65
410	58	62	510	61	67	610	65	66
415	58	62	515	62	68	615	66	66
420	58	62	520	63	69	620	66	66
425	58	62	525	63	69	625	66	66
430	58	62	530	63	69	630	66	66
435	58	62	535	62	68	635	66	66
440	59	63	540	61	67	640	66	66
445	59	63	545	61	67	645	67	66
450	59	63	550	60	66	650	67	67
455	59	64	555	59	65	655	67	67
460	59	64	560	58	64	660	68	68
465	59	64	565	58	64	665	68	68
470	59	63	570	57	63	670	68	68
475	58	63	575	57	63	675	68	68
480	58	63	580	57	63	680	68	68
485	58	63	585	58	63	685	68	68
490	58	63	590	59	64	690	68	68
495	58	63	595	60	64	695	68	68
Total:	1167	1255	Total:	1198	1313	Total:	1333	1336
Average:	58%	63%	Average:	60%	66%	Average:	67%	67%

TABLE 8

REFLECTANCE VALUES FOR EVERY FIFTH WAVELENGTH AND OVERALL AVERAGES FOR EACH BAND
 TINT PATCHES: "A" FOUR COLOR AND "G" FOUR COLOR WITH BLACK OVERPRINTED MAGENTA APPROX. 75%

<u>BLUE BAND</u>			<u>GREEN BAND</u>			<u>RED BAND</u>		
Tint:	<u>A</u>	<u>G</u>	Tint:	<u>A</u>	<u>G</u>	Tint:	<u>A</u>	<u>G</u>
nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R
400	58	60	500	59	63	600	63	63
405	58	60	505	60	64	605	64	63
410	58	60	510	61	65	610	65	63
415	58	60	515	62	66	615	66	63
420	58	60	520	63	67	620	66	63
425	58	60	525	63	67	625	66	64
430	58	60	530	63	67	630	66	64
435	58	60	535	62	67	635	66	64
440	59	61	540	61	65	640	66	64
445	59	61	545	61	66	645	67	64
450	59	61	550	60	65	650	67	64
455	59	61	555	59	64	655	67	64
460	59	62	560	58	64	660	68	64
465	59	62	565	58	63	665	68	65
470	59	61	570	57	62	670	68	65
475	58	61	575	57	61	675	68	65
480	58	61	580	57	61	680	68	65
485	58	61	585	58	61	685	68	65
490	58	61	590	59	62	690	68	65
495	58	62	595	60	62	695	68	65
Total:	1167	1215	Total:	1198	1277	Total:	1333	1282
Average:	58%	61%	Average:	60%	64%	Average:	67%	64%

TABLE 9

REFLECTANCE VALUES FOR EVERY FIFTH WAVELENGTH AND OVERALL AVERAGES FOR EACH BAND
 TINT PATCHES: "A" FOUR COLOR AND "F" FOUR COLOR WITH BLACK OVERPRINTED YELLOW APPROX. 50%

	BLUE BAND		GREEN BAND		RED BAND	
	Tint: A	F	Tint: A	F	Tint: A	F
nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	nm	%R
400	58	64	500	59	600	63
405	58	64	505	60	605	64
410	58	64	510	62	610	65
415	58	64	515	62	615	66
420	58	64	520	63	620	66
425	58	64	525	63	625	66
430	58	64	530	63	630	66
435	58	64	535	62	635	66
440	59	65	540	61	640	66
445	59	65	545	61	645	67
450	59	65	550	60	650	67
455	59	65	555	59	655	67
460	59	65	560	58	660	68
465	59	65	565	58	665	68
470	59	65	570	57	670	68
475	58	64	575	57	675	68
480	58	64	580	57	680	68
485	58	64	585	58	685	70
490	58	64	590	59	690	70
495	58	64	595	60	695	70
Total:	1167	1287	Total:	1198	Total:	1333
	÷20	÷20		÷20		÷20
Average:	58%	64%	Average:	60%	Average:	67%
				62%		68%

TABLE 10

REFLECTANCE VALUES FOR EVERY FIFTH WAVELENGTH AND OVERALL AVERAGES FOR EACH BAND
 TINT PATCHES: "H" THREE COLOR AND "I" THREE COLOR WITH BLACK OVERPRINTED MAGENTA APPROX. 75%

<u>BLUE BAND</u>			<u>GREEN BAND</u>			<u>RED BAND</u>		
Tint:	<u>H</u>	<u>I</u>	Tint:	<u>H</u>	<u>I</u>	Tint:	<u>H</u>	<u>I</u>
<u>nm</u>	<u>%R</u>	<u>%R</u>	<u>nm</u>	<u>%R</u>	<u>%R</u>	<u>nm</u>	<u>%R</u>	<u>%R</u>
400	65	65	500	63	64	600	75	72
405	64	63	505	64	65	605	76	73
410	64	63	510	66	66	610	77	73
415	63	63	515	67	68	615	78	73
420	63	63	520	68	69	620	78	74
425	63	63	525	69	69	625	78	74
430	63	63	530	69	69	630	78	74
435	63	63	535	69	69	635	78	74
440	63	62	540	69	70	640	78	74
445	63	62	545	69	70	645	79	74
450	62	62	550	69	69	650	79	74
455	62	62	555	69	69	655	79	74
460	62	62	560	69	69	660	79	74
465	62	62	565	68	69	665	79	74
470	62	62	570	68	69	670	79	74
475	61	62	575	68	69	675	80	75
480	61	62	580	69	69	680	80	75
485	61	62	585	70	70	685	80	75
490	61	62	590	71	70	690	80	75
495	62	63	595	73	70	695	80	75
Total:	1251	1251	Total:	1367	1372	Total:	1570	1480
Average:	63%	63%	Average:	68%	69%	Average:	79%	74%

TABLE 11

REFLECTANCE VALUES FOR EVERY FIFTH WAVELENGTH AND OVERALL AVERAGES FOR EACH BAND
 TINT PATCHES: "H" THREE COLOR AND "J" THREE COLOR BLACK OVERPRINTED YELLOW APPROX. 75%

BLUE BAND			GREEN BAND			RED BAND		
Tint:	H	J	Tint:	H	J	Tint:	H	J
nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R
400	63	66	500	62	64	600	74	71
405	63	66	505	63	64	605	75	73
410	62	66	510	65	65	610	76	74
415	62	66	515	66	65	615	77	75
420	62	66	520	67	66	620	77	75
425	62	66	525	68	66	625	77	75
430	62	66	530	68	66	630	77	75
435	62	66	535	68	66	635	77	76
440	61	66	540	68	66	640	77	76
445	61	66	545	68	66	645	77	76
450	61	66	550	68	66	650	77	76
455	61	65	555	68	66	655	77	76
460	61	65	560	68	65	660	77	76
465	61	65	565	67	65	665	77	76
470	61	65	570	67	65	670	78	77
475	60	64	575	67	65	675	79	77
480	60	64	580	68	66	680	79	77
485	60	64	585	69	66	685	79	77
490	60	64	590	70	68	690	79	77
495	61	64	595	72	70	695	79	77
Total:	1226	1306	Total:	1347	1316	Total:	1549	1512
Average:	61%	65%	Average:	67%	66%	Average:	77%	76%
				÷20	÷20		÷20	÷20

TABLE 12

REFLECTANCE VALUES FOR EVERY FIFTH WAVELENGTH AND OVERALL AVERAGES FOR EACH BAND
 TINT PATCHES: "H" THREE COLOR AND "K" THREE COLOR WITH BLACK OVERPRINTED MAGENTA APPROX. 50%

BLUE BAND			GREEN BAND			RED BAND		
Tint:	<u>H</u>	<u>K</u>	Tint:	<u>H</u>	<u>K</u>	Tint:	<u>H</u>	<u>K</u>
nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R
400	63	64	500	62	63	600	74	72
405	63	64	505	64	65	605	74	73
410	63	63	510	65	66	610	76	73
415	63	63	515	66	67	615	77	74
420	62	63	520	67	68	620	77	74
425	62	62	525	67	69	625	78	74
430	62	62	530	68	69	630	78	74
435	62	62	535	68	69	635	78	74
440	62	62	540	68	70	640	78	74
445	62	62	545	68	70	645	78	74
450	62	62	550	68	69	650	78	74
455	62	62	555	68	69	655	78	74
460	61	62	560	68	69	660	78	74
465	61	62	565	68	69	665	78	75
470	6k	62	570	67	69	670	79	75
475	6k	61	575	68	69	675	79	75
480	60	61	580	68	69	680	79	75
485	60	61	585	69	70	685	79	75
490	60	62	590	71	71	690	79	75
495	61	62	595	72	71	695	79	75
Total:	1233	1230	Total:	1350	1371	Total:	1550	1484
Average:	÷20	÷20	Average:	÷20	÷20	Average:	÷20	÷20
	62%	62%		68%	69%		78%	74%

TABLE 13

REFLECTANCE VALUES FOR EVERY FIFTH WAVELENGTH AND OVERALL AVERAGES FOR EACH BAND
 TINT PATCHES: "H" THREE COLOR AND "L" THREE COLOR WITH BLACK OVERPRINTED YELLOW APPROX. 50%

BLUE BAND			GREEN BAND			RED BAND		
Tint:	H	L	Tint:	H	L	Tint:	H	L
nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R	nm	%R	%R
400	63	66	500	62	64	600	74	73
405	63	66	505	63	65	605	75	74
410	62	66	510	65	66	610	76	75
415	62	66	515	66	66	615	77	76
420	62	65	520	67	67	620	77	76
425	62	65	525	68	67	625	77	76
430	62	65	530	68	67	630	77	77
435	62	65	535	68	67	635	77	77
440	61	65	540	68	67	640	77	77
445	61	65	545	68	67	645	77	77
450	61	65	550	68	67	650	77	77
455	61	65	555	68	67	655	77	77
460	61	65	560	68	67	660	77	77
465	61	65	565	67	67	665	77	77
470	61	64	570	67	67	670	78	78
475	60	64	575	67	67	675	79	78
480	60	64	580	68	67	680	79	78
485	60	63	585	69	68	685	79	78
490	60	63	590	70	69	690	79	78
495	61	63	595	72	71	695	79	78
Total:	1226	1293	Total:	1347	1340	Total:	1549	1545
Average:	61%	65%	Average:	67%	67%	Average:	77%	77%

TABLE 14

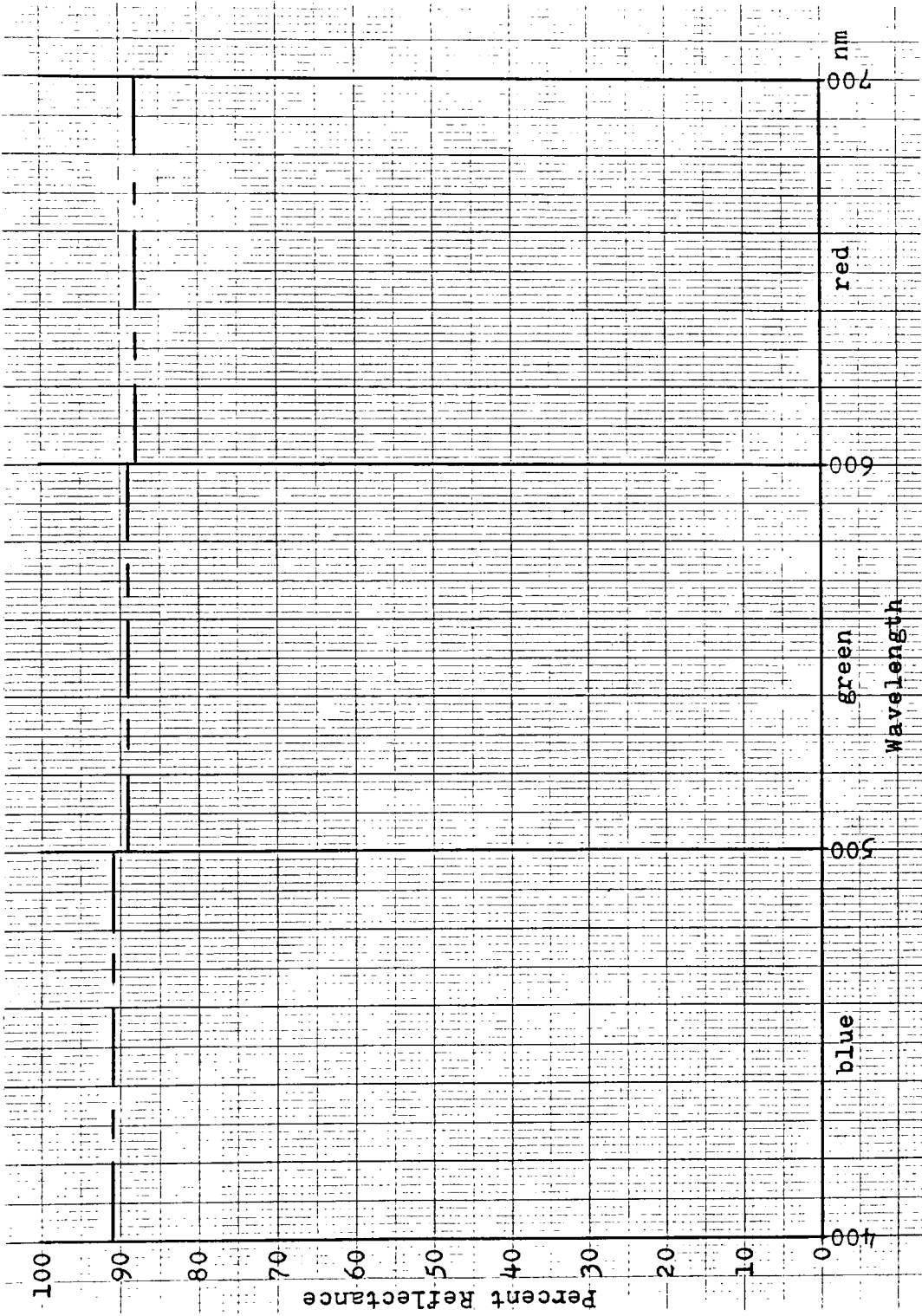


Figure 8. Average reflectance curve of the paper with Magnesium Oxide as the reference material.

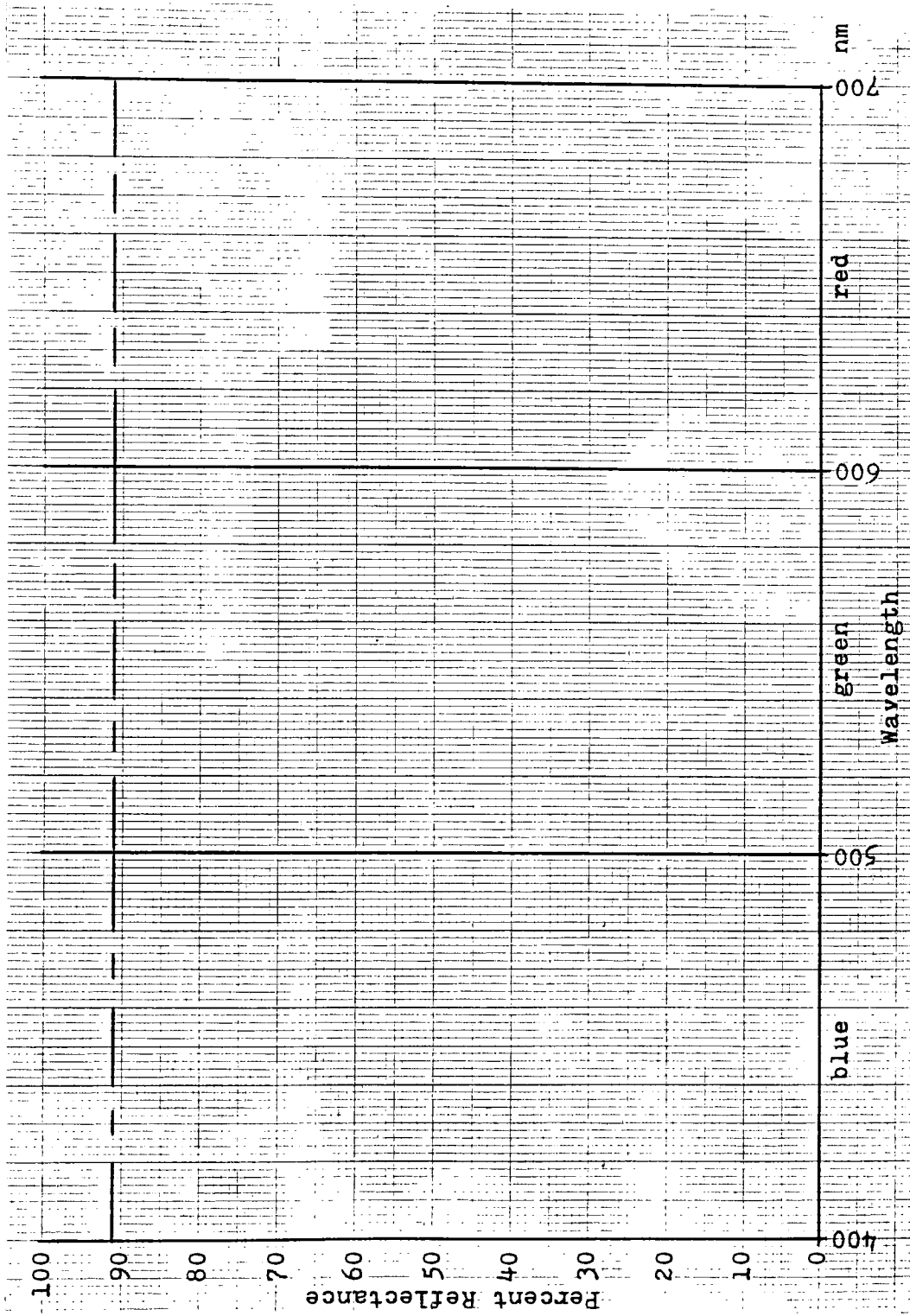


Figure 9. Average reflectance curve of the paper with paper as the reference material.

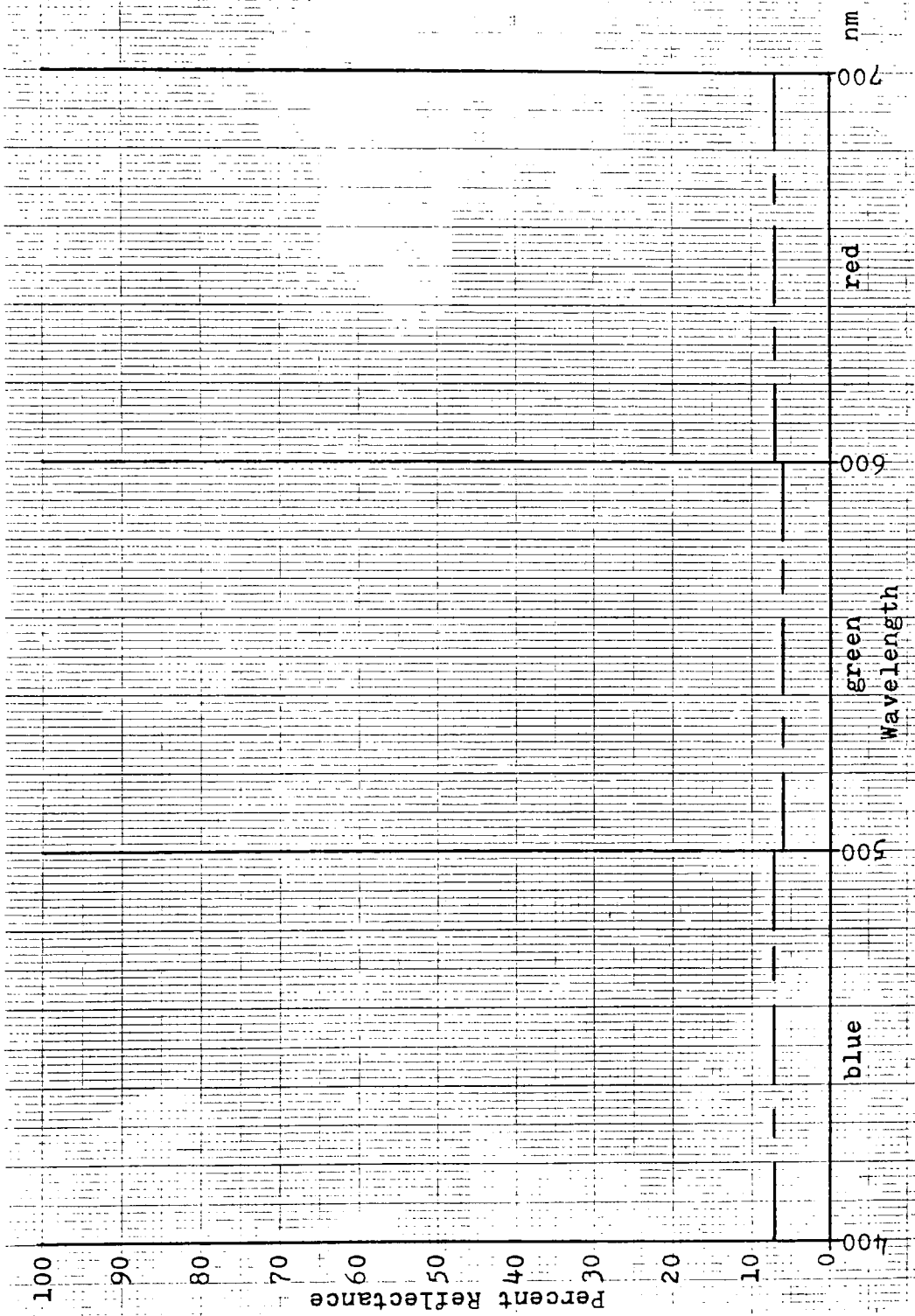


Figure 10. Average reflectance curve of solid black.

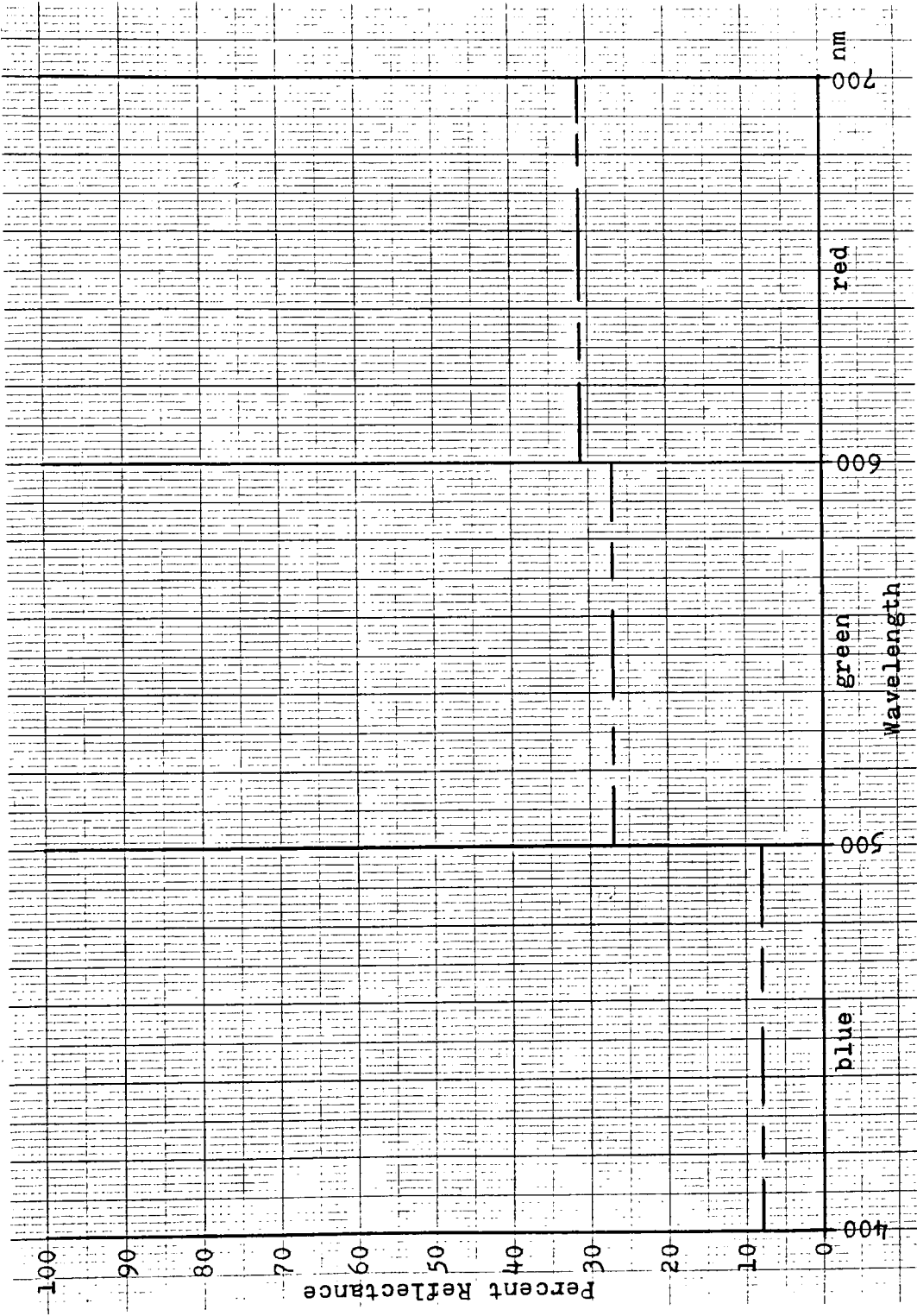


Figure 11. Average reflectance curve of solid yellow.

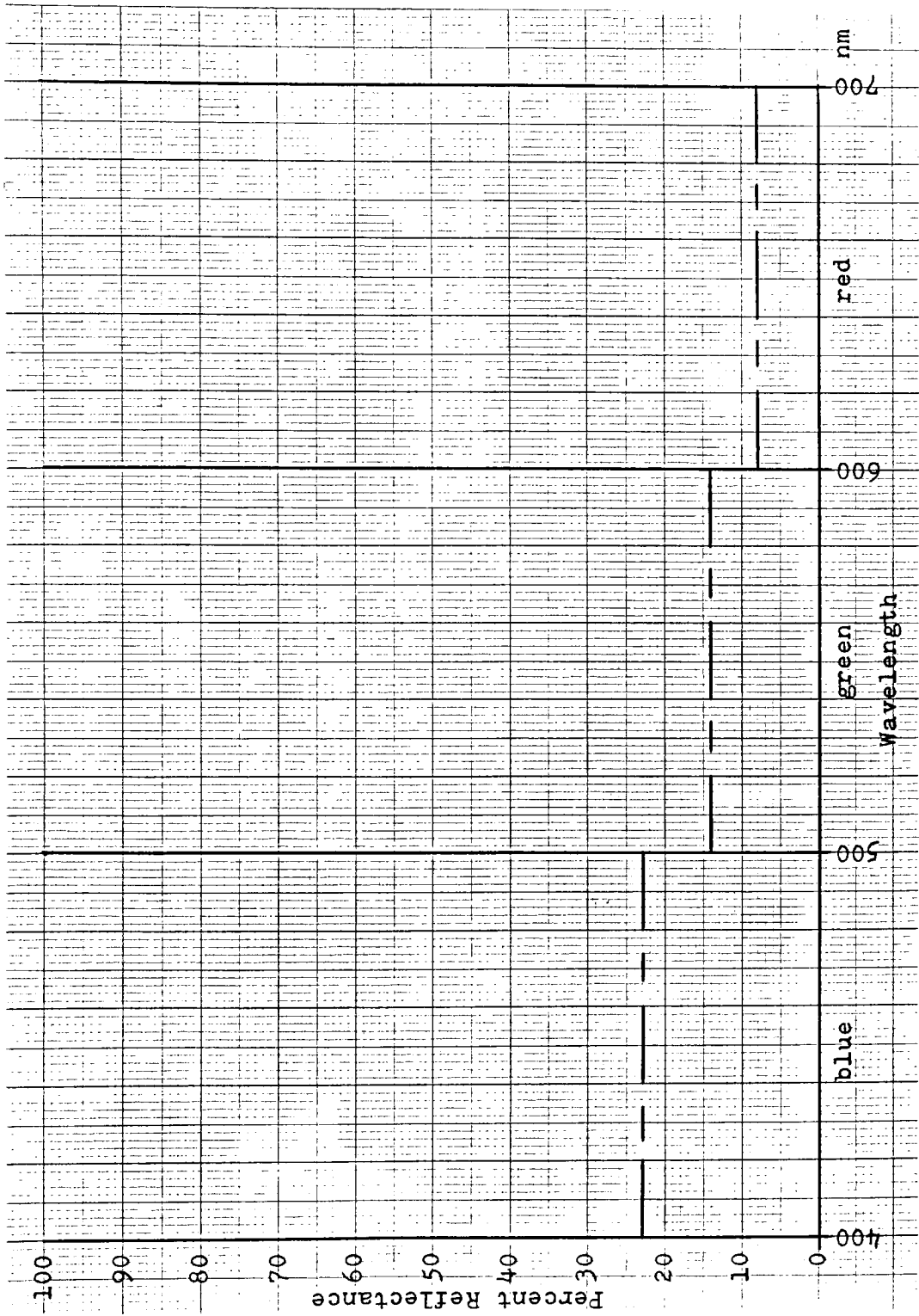


Figure 12. Average reflectance curve of solid cyan.

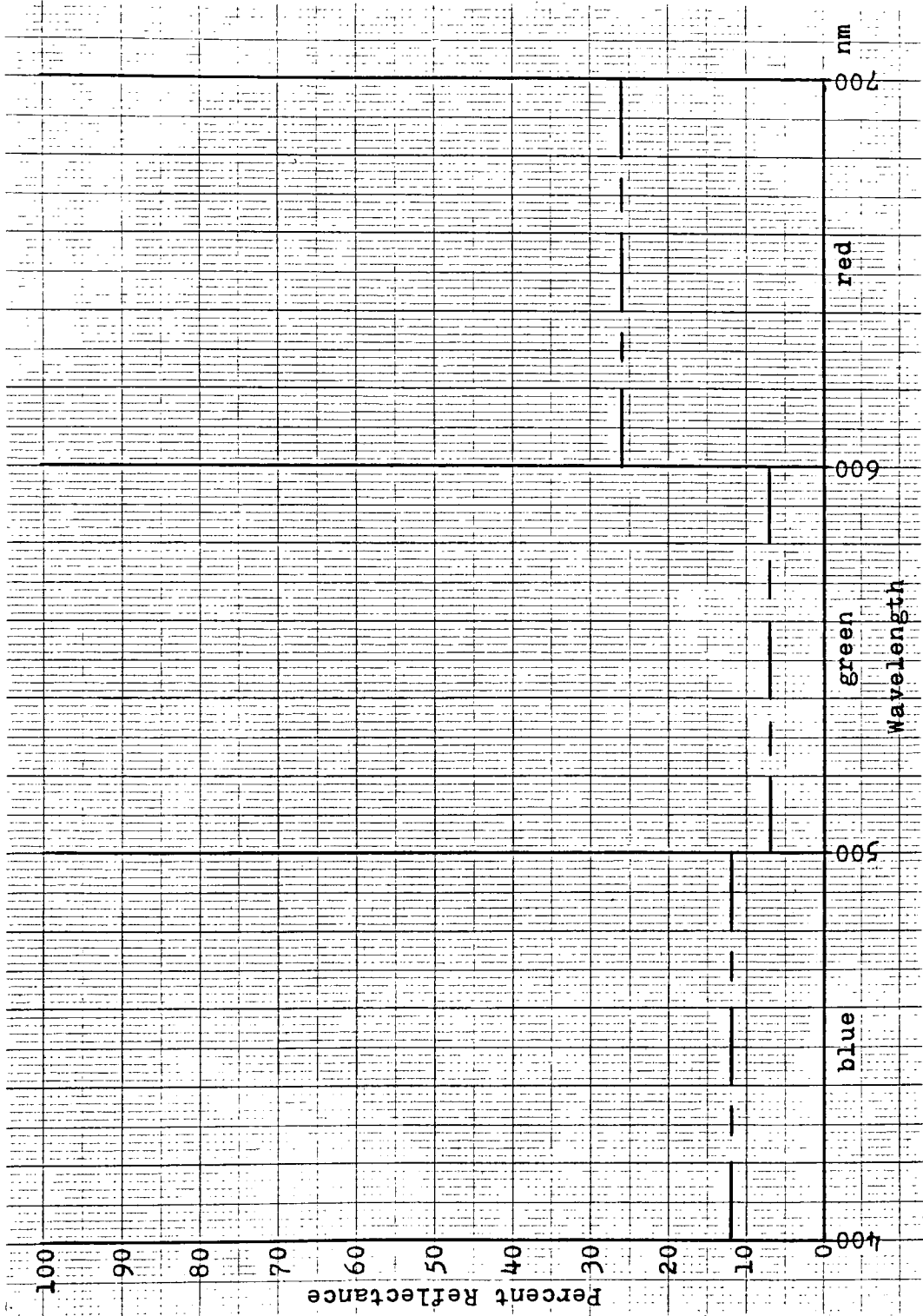


Figure 13. Average reflectance curve of solid magenta.

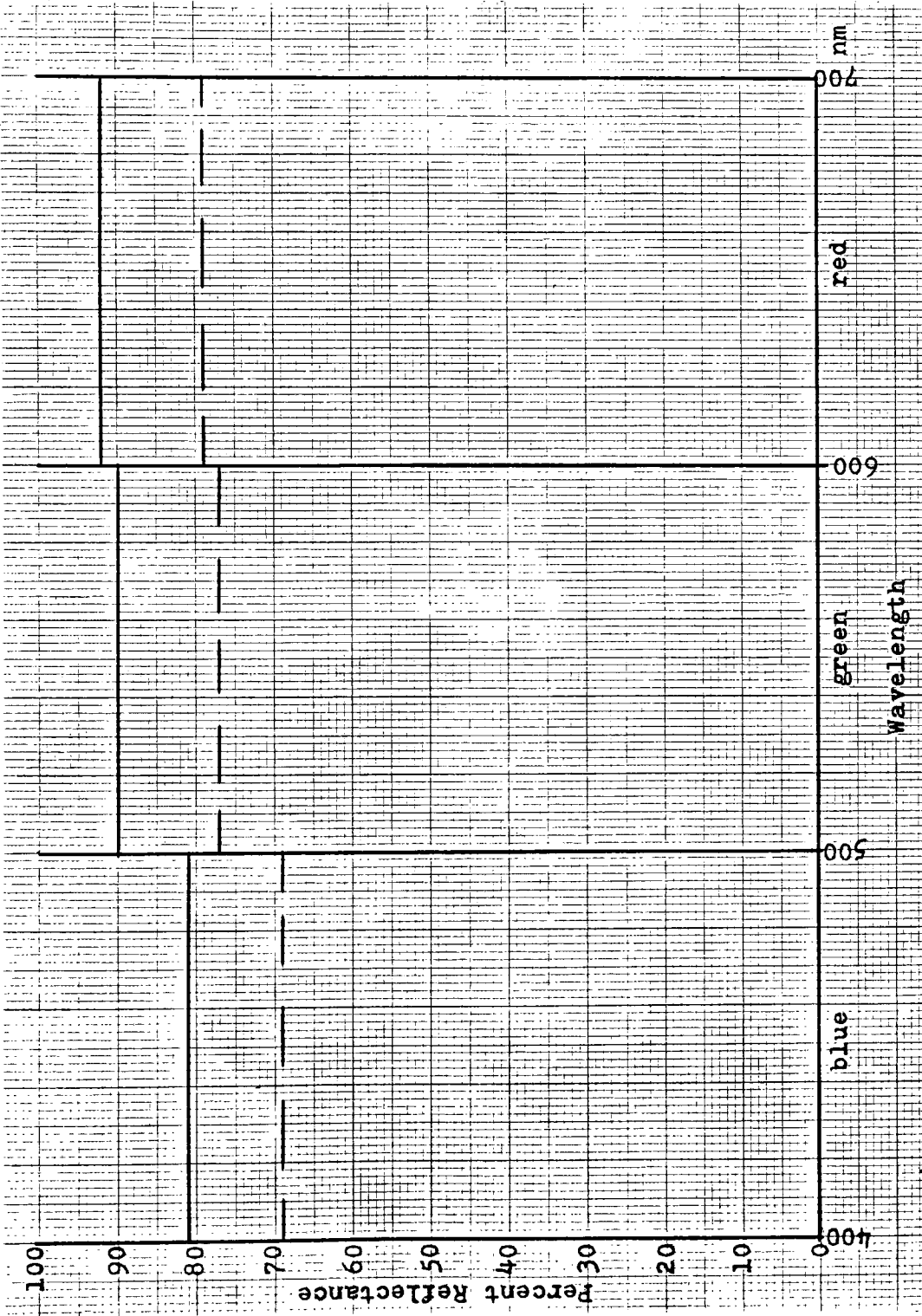


Figure 14. Average reflectance curves of tint patches "A", yellow (solid line) and "A", yellow plus black (broken line).

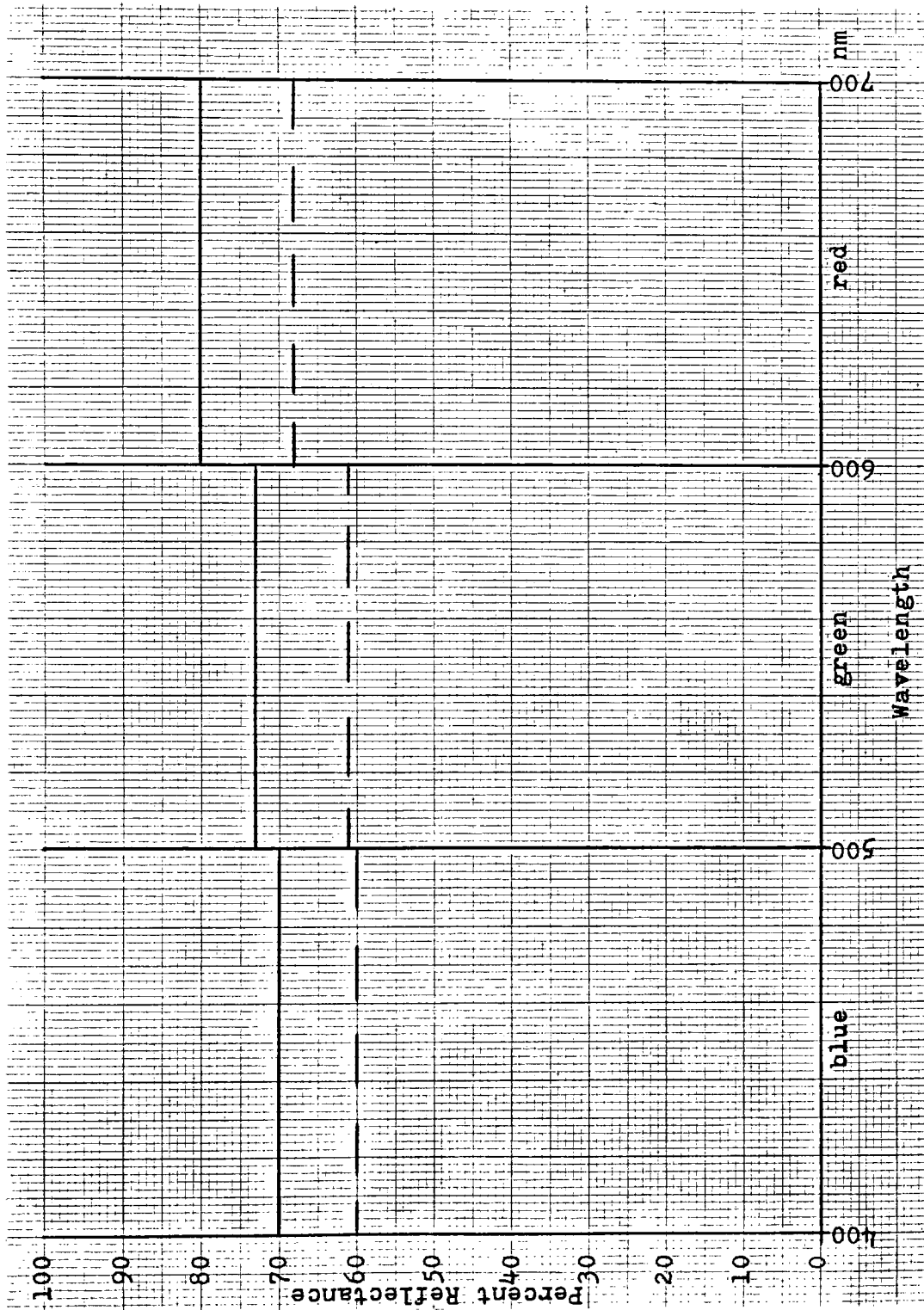


Figure 15. Average reflectance curves of tint patches "A", three color (solid line) and "A", four color (broken line).

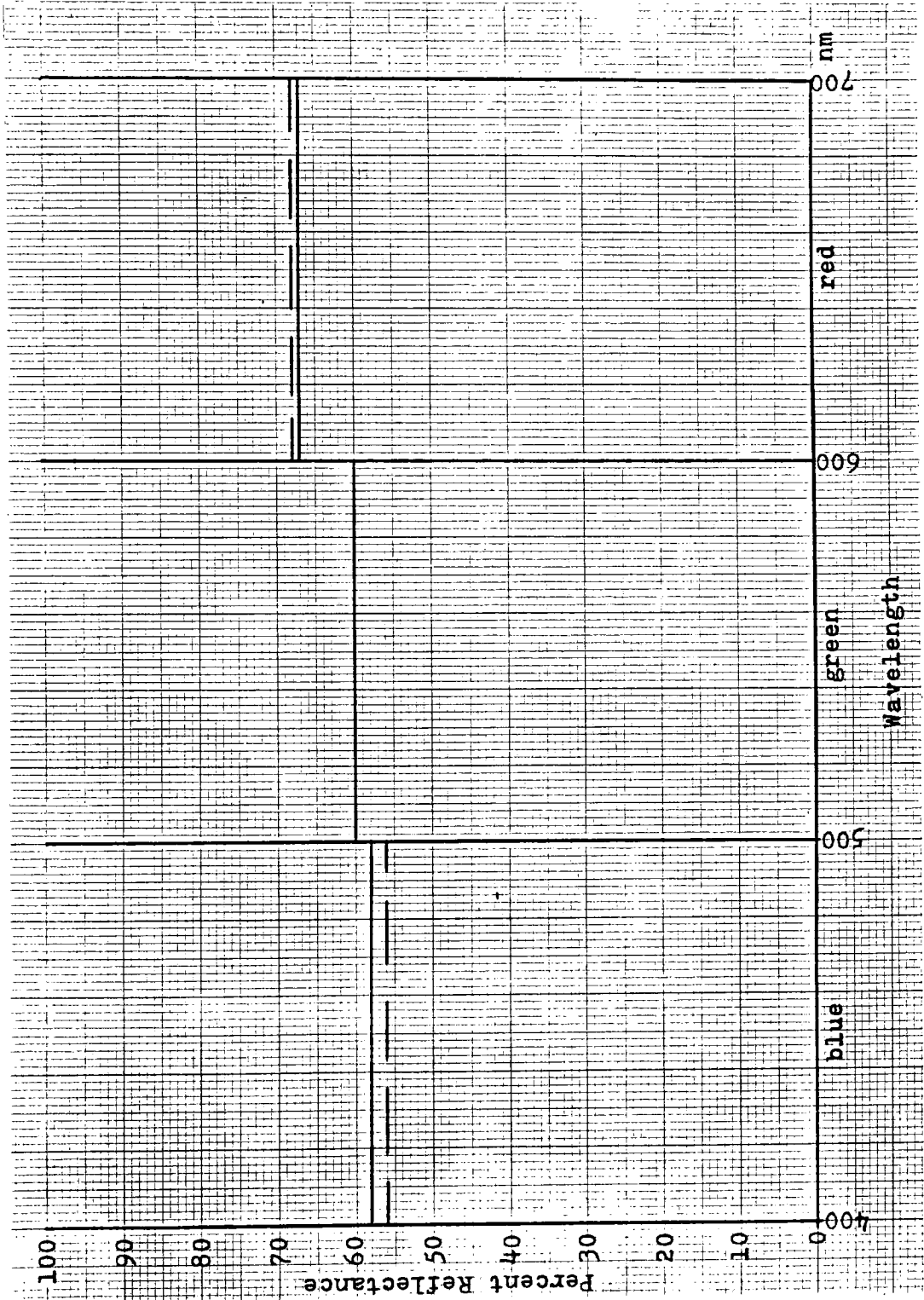


Figure 16. Average reflectance curves of tint patches "A", four color (solid line) and "B", four color with black overprinted cyan approximately 50% (broken line).

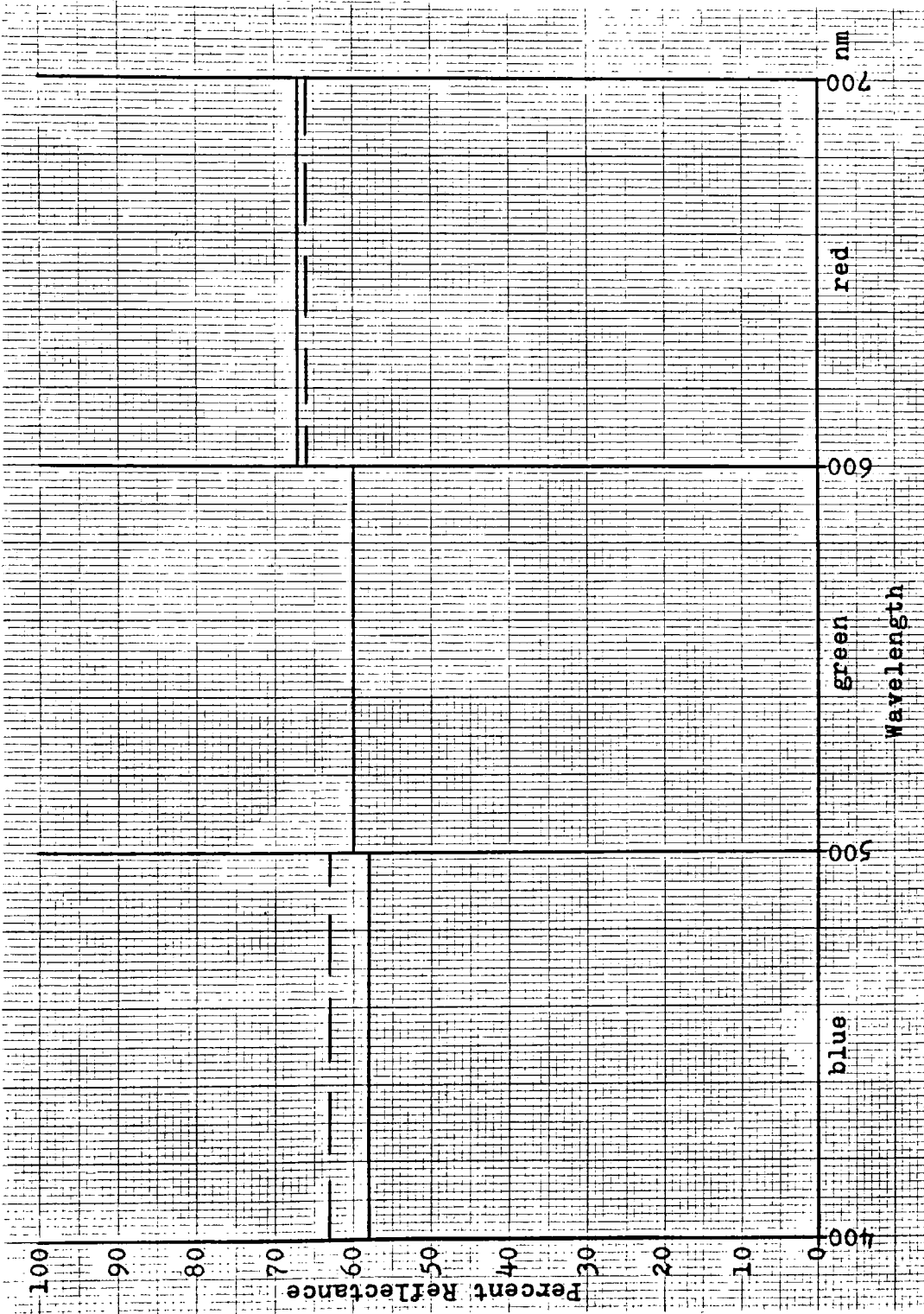


Figure 17. Average reflectance curves of tint patches "A", four color (solid line) and "C", four color with black overprinted yellow approximately 75% (broken line).

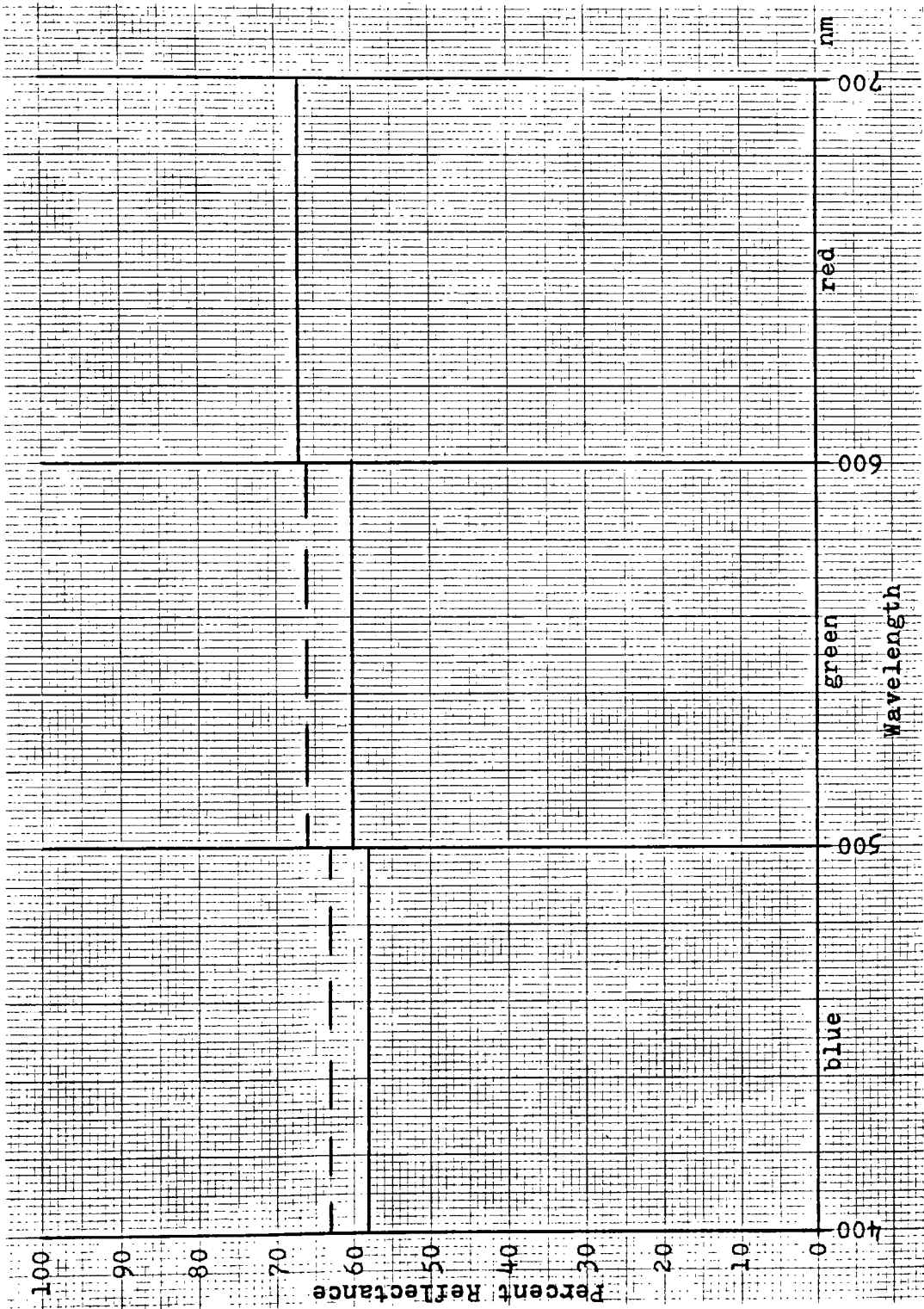


Figure 18. Average reflectance curves of four color patches "A", four color (solid line) and "D", four color with black overprinted magenta approximately 50% (broken line).

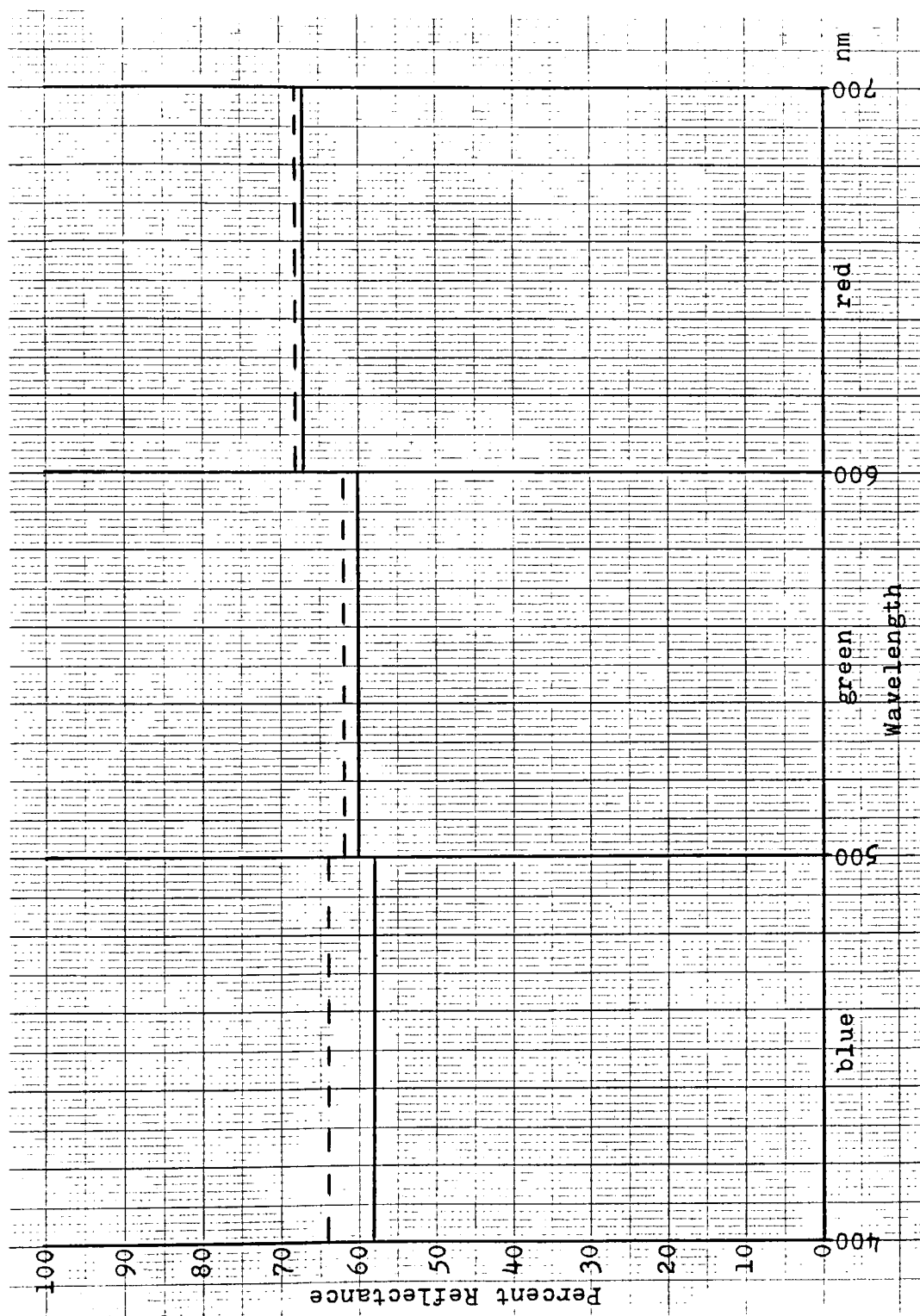


Figure 19. Average reflectance curves of tint patches "A", four color (solid line) and "F", four color with black overprinted yellow approximately 50% (broken line).

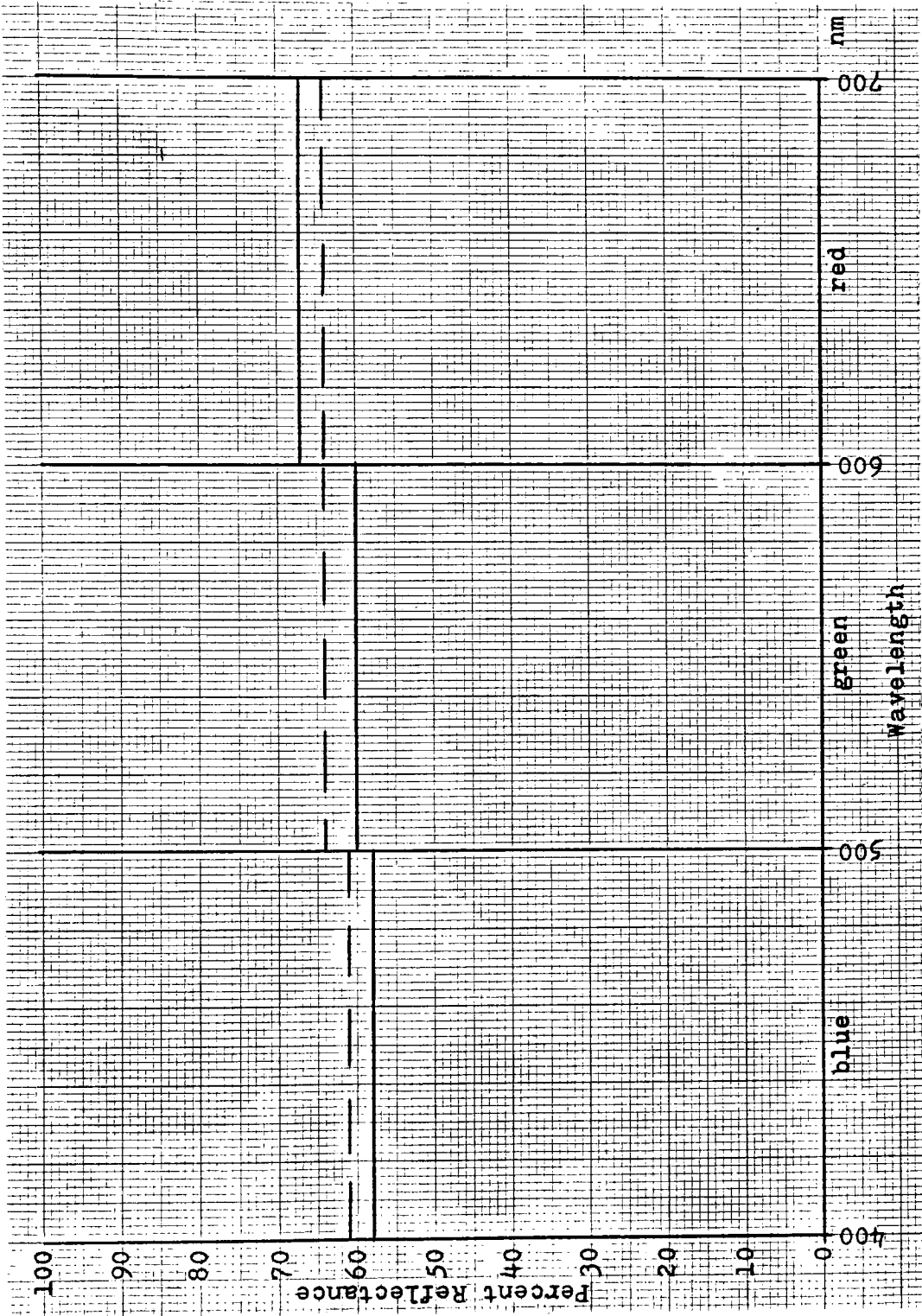


Figure 20. Average reflectance curves of tint patches "A", four color (solid line) and "G", four color with black overprinting magenta approximately 75% (broken line).

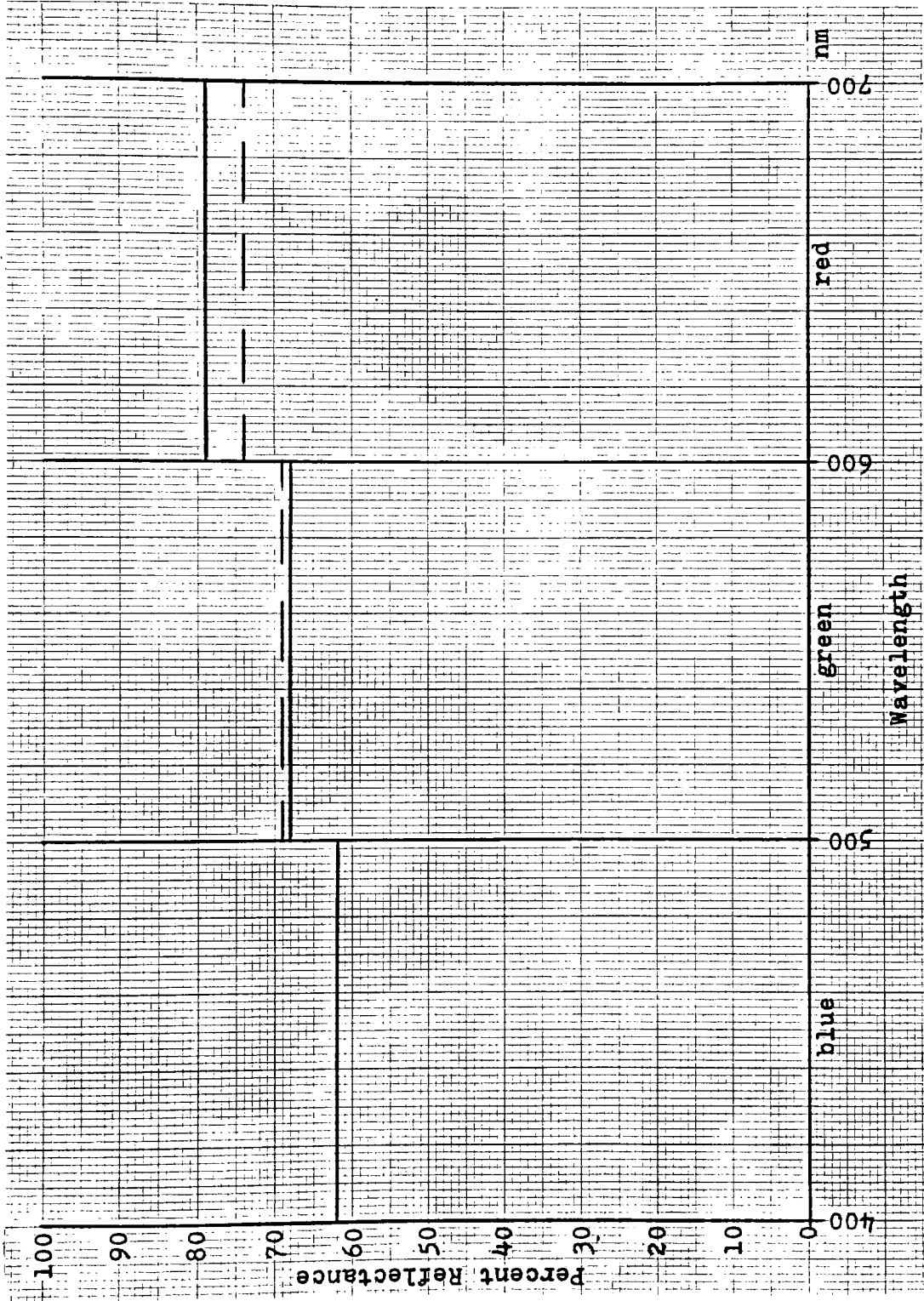


Figure 21. Average reflectance curves of tint patches "H", three color (solid line) and "I", three color with black overprinted magenta approximately 75% (broken line).

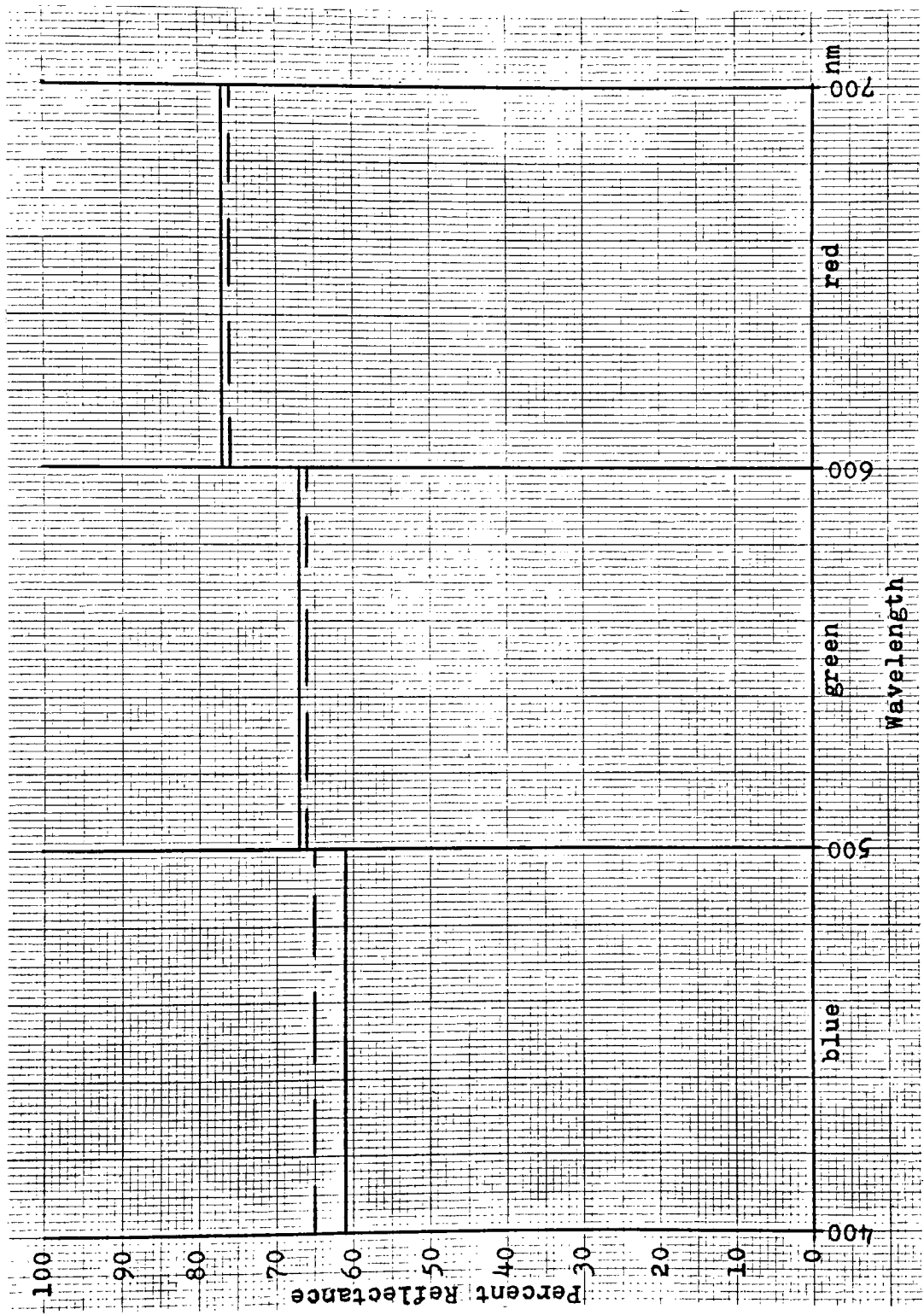


Figure 22. Average reflectance curves of tint patches "H", three color (solid line) and "J", three color with black overprinted yellow approximately 75% (broken line).

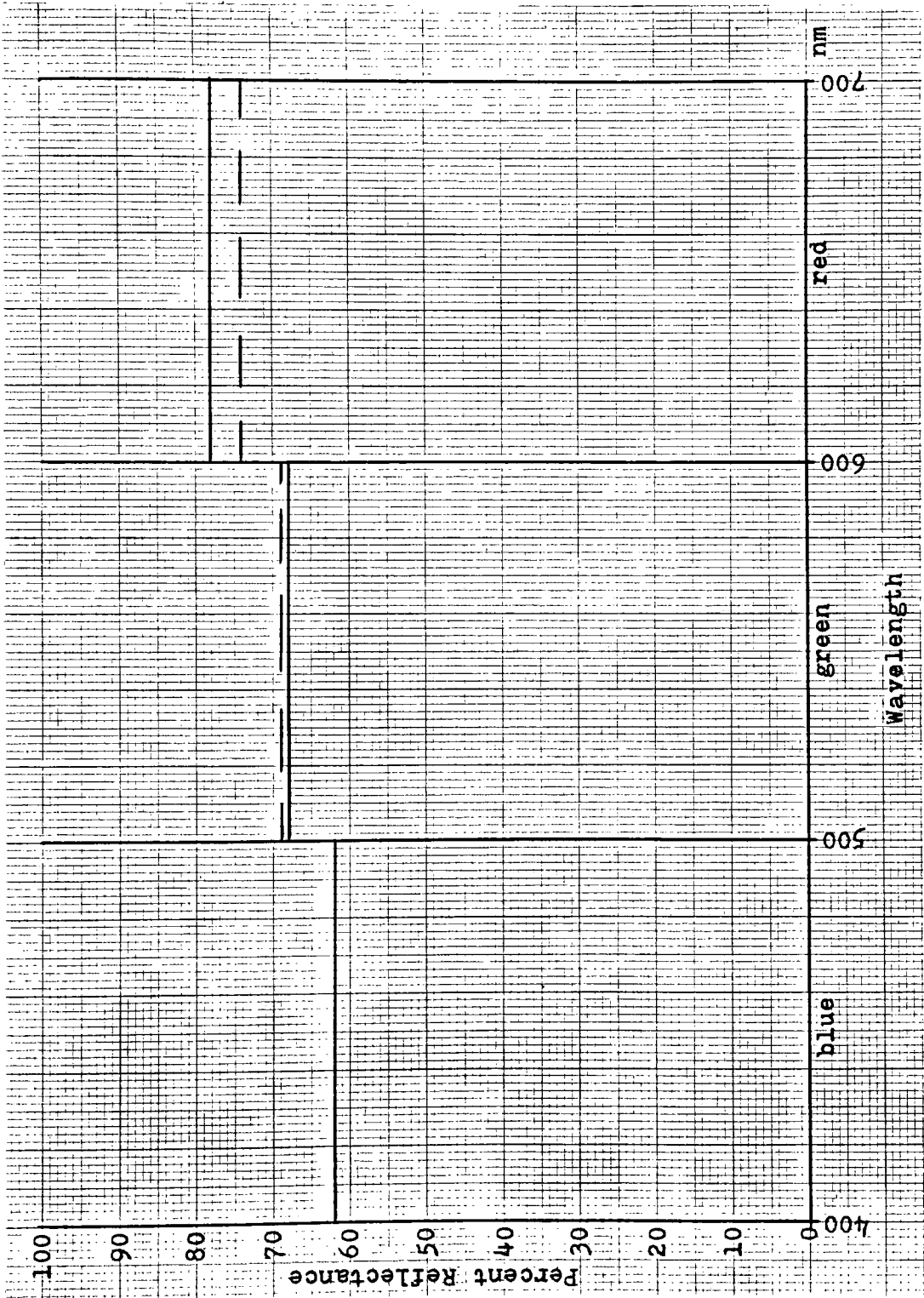


Figure 23. Average reflectance curves of tint patches "H", three color (solid line) and "K", three color with black overprinted magenta approximately 50% (broken line).

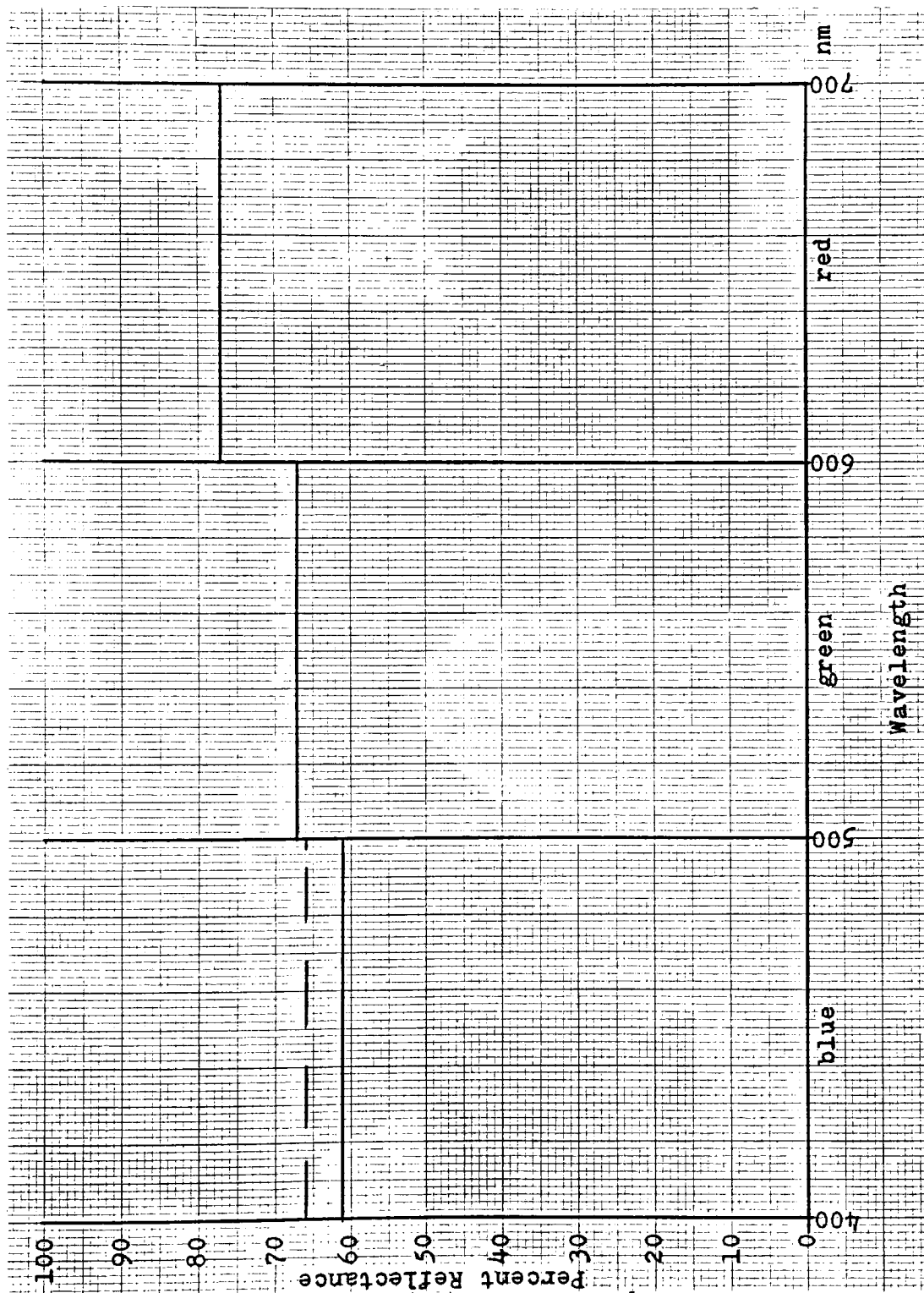


Figure 24. Average reflectance curves of tint patches "H", three color (solid line) and "L", three color with black overprinted yellow approximately 50% (broken line).

CHAPTER SEVEN

DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

The results of black overprinting in halftone reproductions were as expected with hue shifts between the tint patches visually apparent. The direction of the hue shifts also occurred as expected. Overprinting yellow with black leads to a hue shift to the blue band. The overprinting of magenta with black leads to a hue shift to the green band and the overprinting of cyan leads to a hue shift to the red band. These results can be seen from the average reflectance curves in Figures 16 to 20.

The hue shifts occurring are a combination of the increased reflectance in one band and a decrease in reflectance in the other two bands. There were also two factors that influenced some of the results of this research. Firstly, when the paper was analyzed against magnesium oxide by the spectrophotometer, the resulting curve showed a higher reflectance in the blue band relative to the green band, and a higher reflectance of the green band relative to the red band (Figures 8 and 25). Secondly, the overprinting of magenta with black caused the expected increase in the reflectance of the green band and a

decrease in the reflectance of the red band, but an increase in the reflectance of the blue band (Figures 18 and 20).

This increased blue reflectance is probably due to two factors, one; that the paper has a higher reflectance in the blue band and two; the magenta ink absorbs a high percentage of the blue band (Figure 13). Therefore, overprinting magenta with black not only decreases the ability of the magenta ink to absorb the green band but also decreases the ability of magenta to absorb the blue band. The result of these two factors is an increased reflectance in the blue band as well as the green band when magenta is overprinted with black.

Another observation made was that a decrease in the reflectance of the green band did not occur when black overprinted yellow or cyan (Figures 16 and 17). This is probably due to the fact that overprinting yellow or cyan within a tint patch leads to a change in the full reflectance curve of the patches, but the change (Figures 33 and 34) in the green band averages out to the same value as in a tint with no overprint.

The only results that could not be explained are those from the spectrophotometric analysis of tint patch F (Figure 19). In this case black overprinted yellow by approximately 50% and although there was an increase in the reflectance of the blue band there was also an

increase in reflectance of the green band and the red band. This sample was reanalyzed at a later date but produced the same results. Although the cause of this was not determined, the shift in hue was as expected with a greater increase in the reflectance of the blue band relative to the increase in reflectance of the green band and red band.

It was observed from the two different processes, four color and three color, that the hue shifts in the four color tint patches shifted towards one of the full bands, blue, green or red. The three color tint patches, however, shifted to one of the complimentary colors, yellow or magenta (Figures 21-24). Since tint patches using cyan were not included, this observation is not conclusive.

Finally, it was found that the spectrophotometer was not recording the complete reflectance of the three bands. This was determined by making a spectrophotometric analysis of the paper against the paper (Figure 26). The results of this analysis should have been a full reflectance curve close to 100% reflectance. Instead, a curve was produced close to 90% reflectance.

This, however, did not present a problem as this was a comparative study between average reflectance curves and not absolute values. The values themselves are 10% less than what they should be.

CHAPTER EIGHT

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The observations made on the basis of the hypothesis were as expected. It can be concluded from this research that the overprinting with black of one or more of the three process colors in a halftone reproduction results in a hue shift. This is due to the fact that the overprint reduces an ink's ability to absorb the band it is suppose to, and also reduces the ink's ability to transmit those bands that it does not absorb.

The extent to which the hue shifts occur is dependent upon the amount of overprint by the black ink, the deficiencies of the inks used in the reproduction, and the paper upon which the reproduction is printed. It is also evident that the hue shifts that occur vary depending upon the number of inks used in the reproduction.

Hue shifts resulting in the highlight to middletone areas of a reproduction are most likely to be caused by misregister between the black printer and the other colors while hue shifts occurring in the middletone to shadow areas result from the increased coverage of black and process color inks.

It has been demonstrated that the increased use of black ink in printing halftone reproductions results in a hue shift. This problem was kept to a minimum when the black printer was used only in the shadow areas to extend the density range of the reproduction.

However, when black is printed at a lower density, as in the case of undercolor removal, or printed from highlight to shadow as in the case of gray-component replacement, the problems of hue shifts are increased. The extent to which these hue shifts are critical depends upon the nature of the final printed product. The process of extreme UCR or GCR would not be recommended for fine art reproductions or for high quality commercial printing. The process would be most useful where facsimile reproduction is not required and where a wide variation is acceptable.

CHAPTER NINE

RECOMMENDATION FOR FURTHER STUDY

As suggested in the introduction to this research, further investigation must take place to determine the implications of using the process of gray-component replacement. Given the conclusions of this research, there are related studies that can be undertaken:

(1) Investigation of the effects on hue from using standard screen angles for each color and varying the register between the black printer and the other process colors.

(2) Using different degrees of gray-component replacement, repeat the above experiment.

(3) Using different degrees of gray-component replacement and varying the register between the black printer and the other process colors, investigate the effects on hue in actual reproduction images such as fine art reproductions and typical commercial printing.

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APPENDIX A
FULL REFLECTANCE CURVES OF TINT
PATCHES AND OTHER SAMPLES

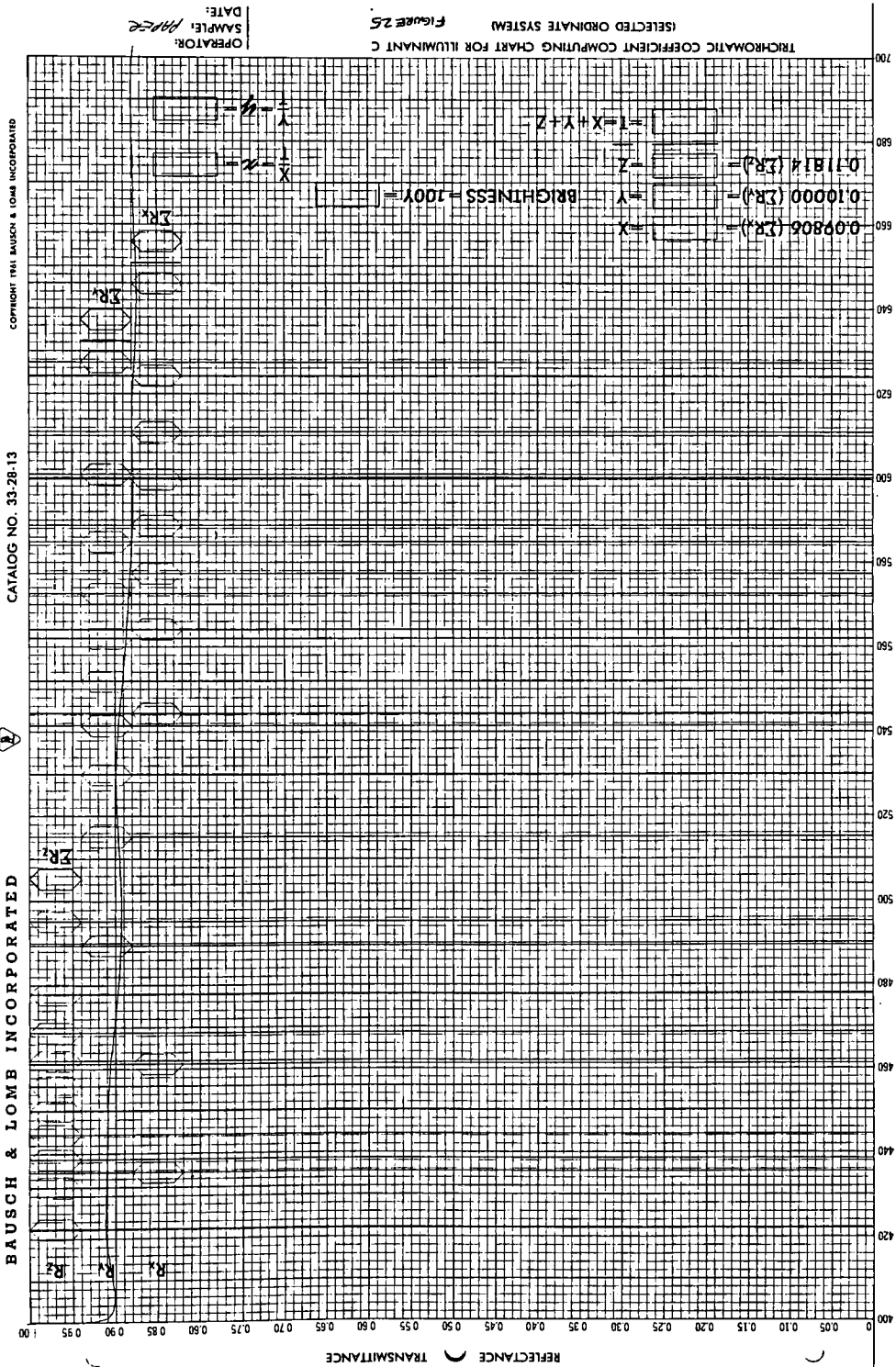


Figure 25. Full reflectance curve of the paper with Magnesium Oxide as the reference material.

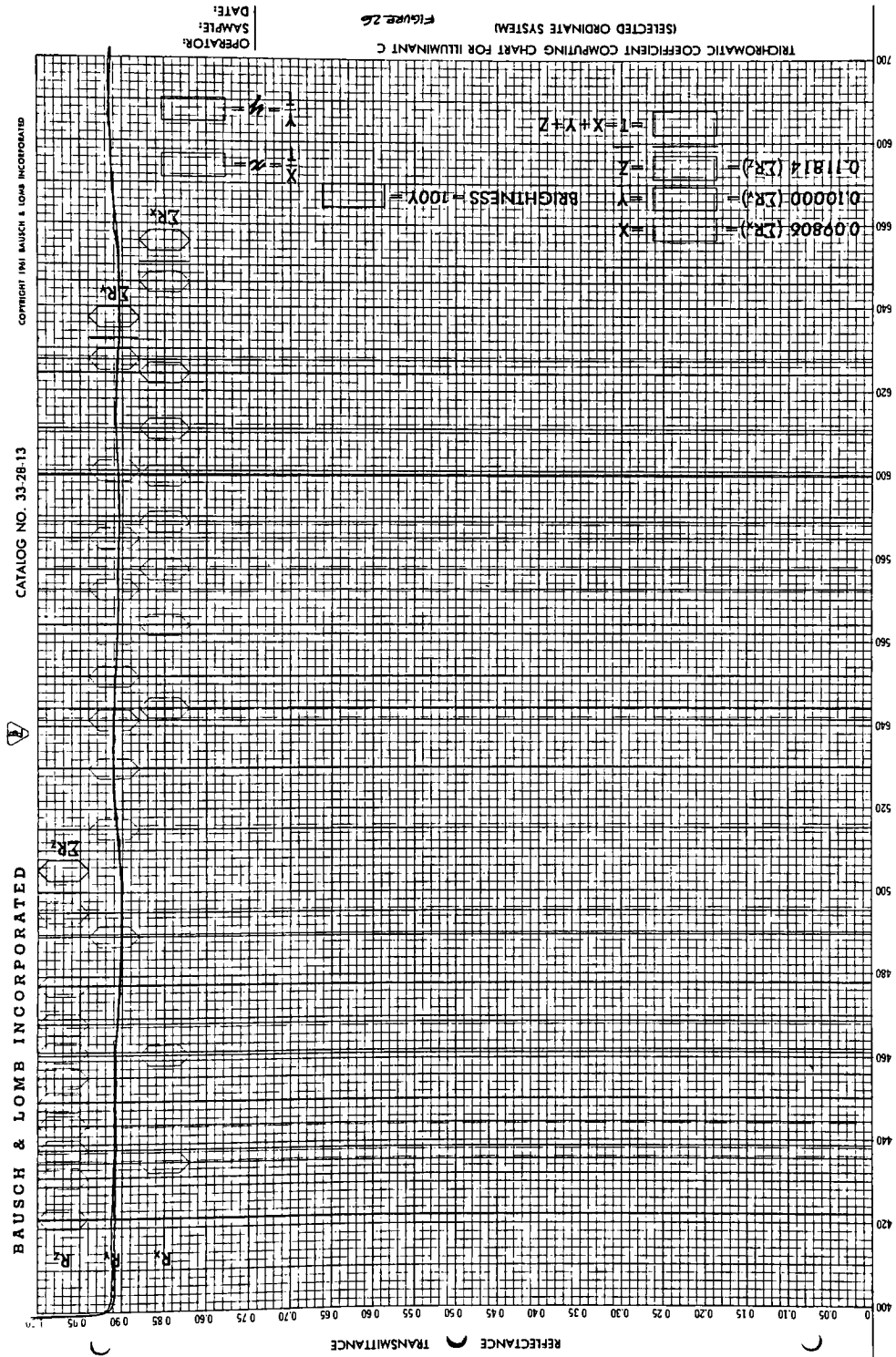


Figure 26. Full reflectance curve of the paper with the paper as the reference material.

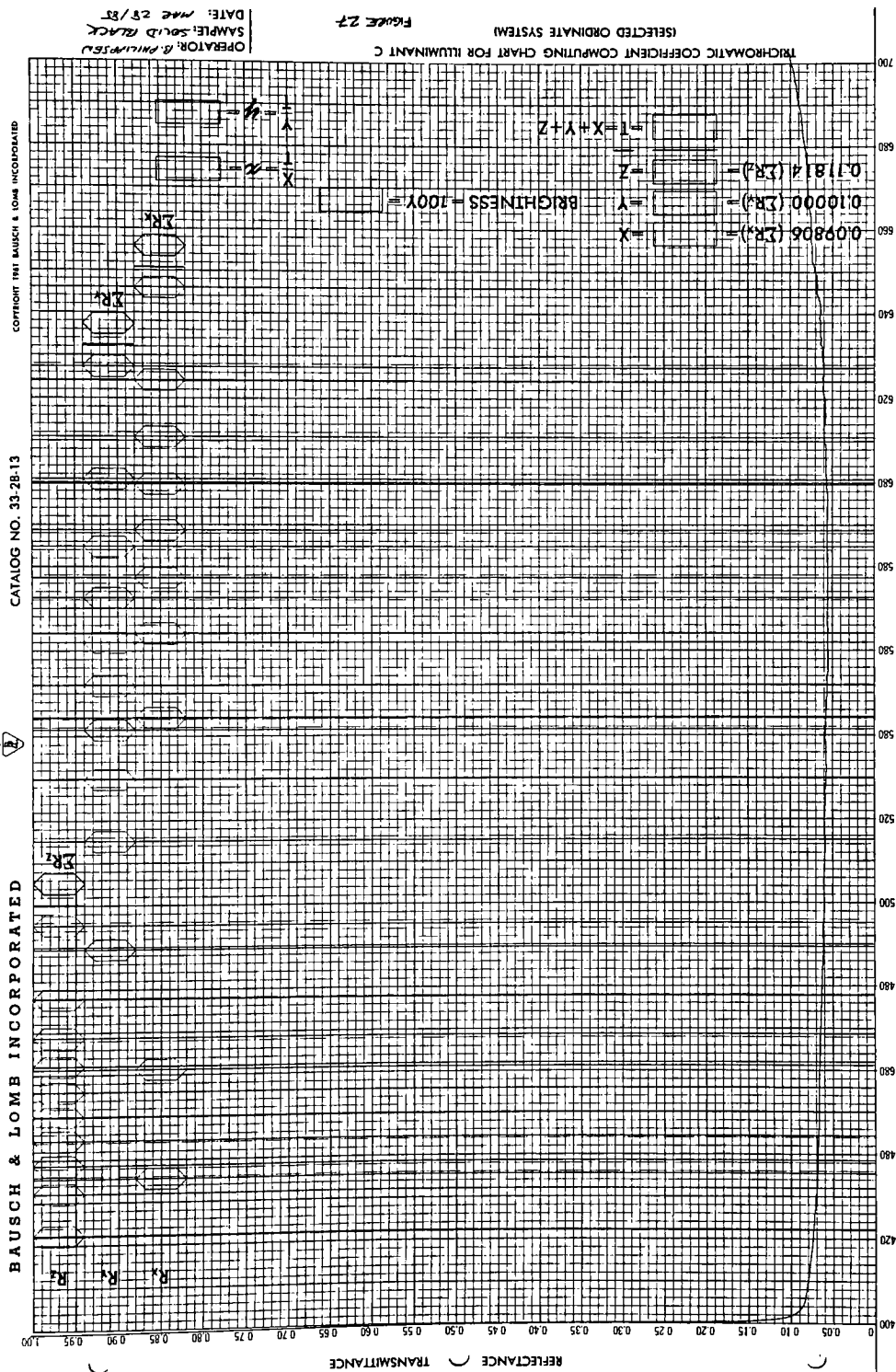


Figure 27. Full reflectance curve of solid black.

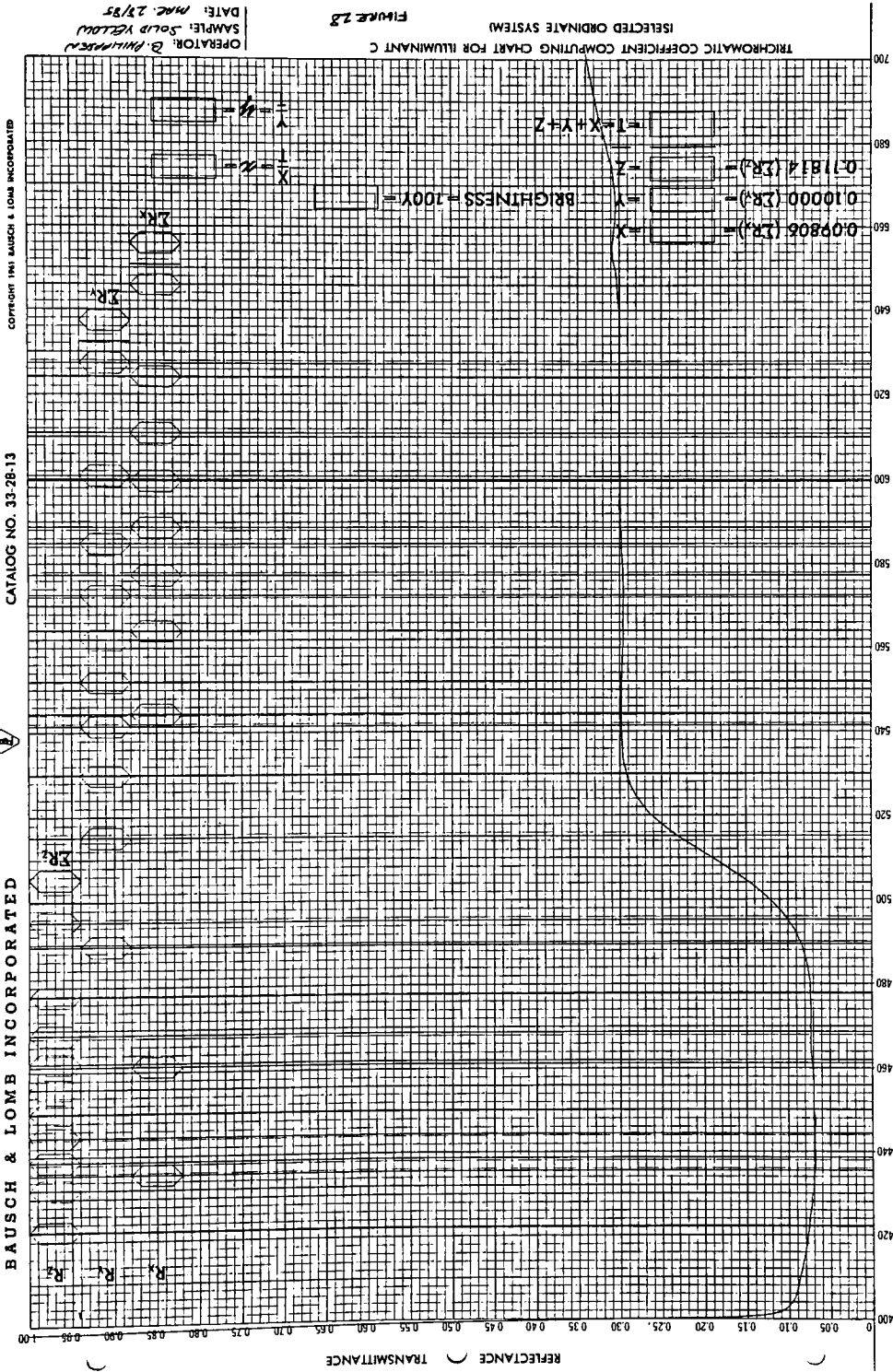


Figure 28. Full reflectance curve of solid yellow.

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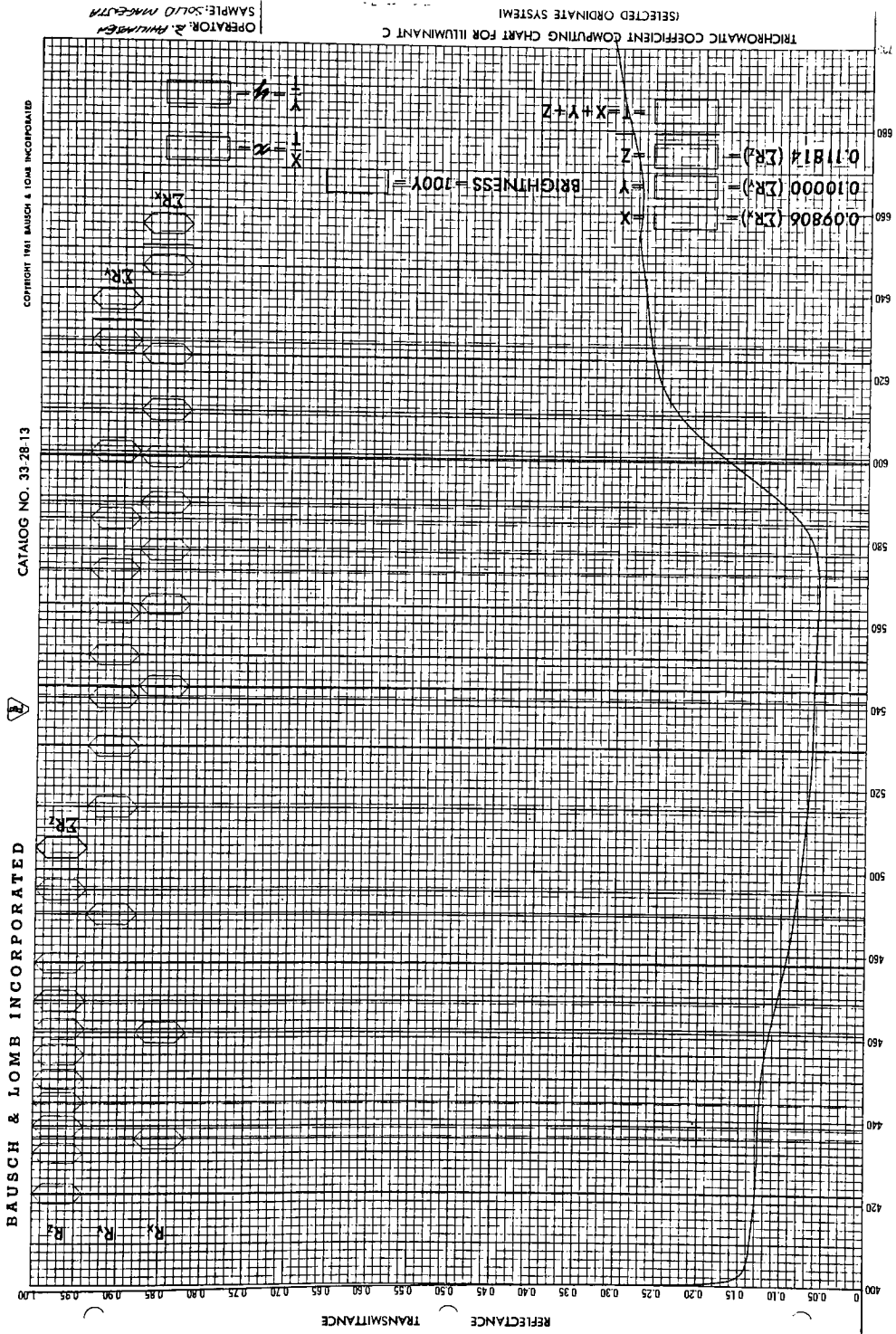


Figure 30. Full reflectance curve of solid magenta.

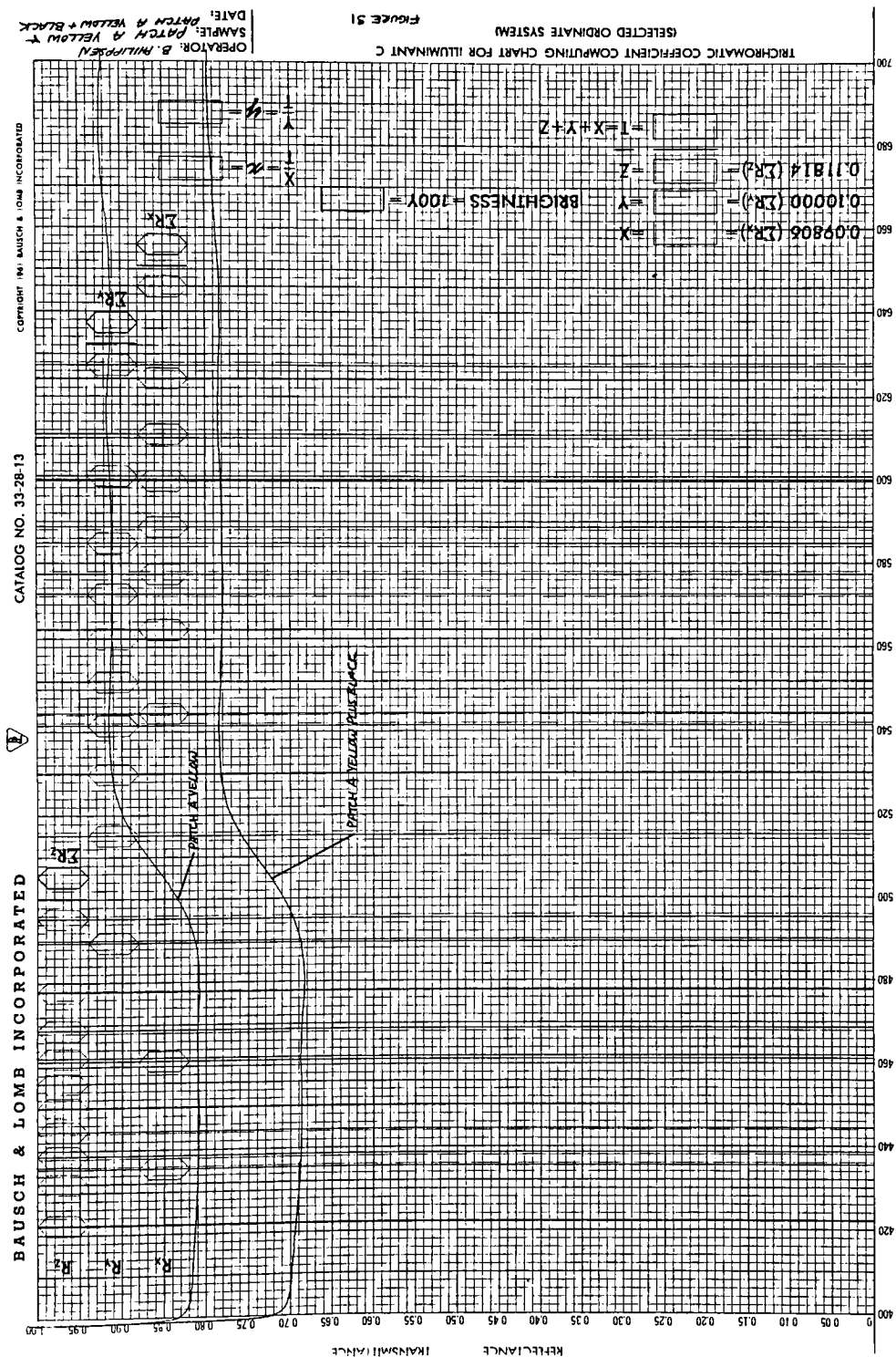


Figure 31. Full reflectance curve of tint patches "A", yellow and "A", yellow plus black.

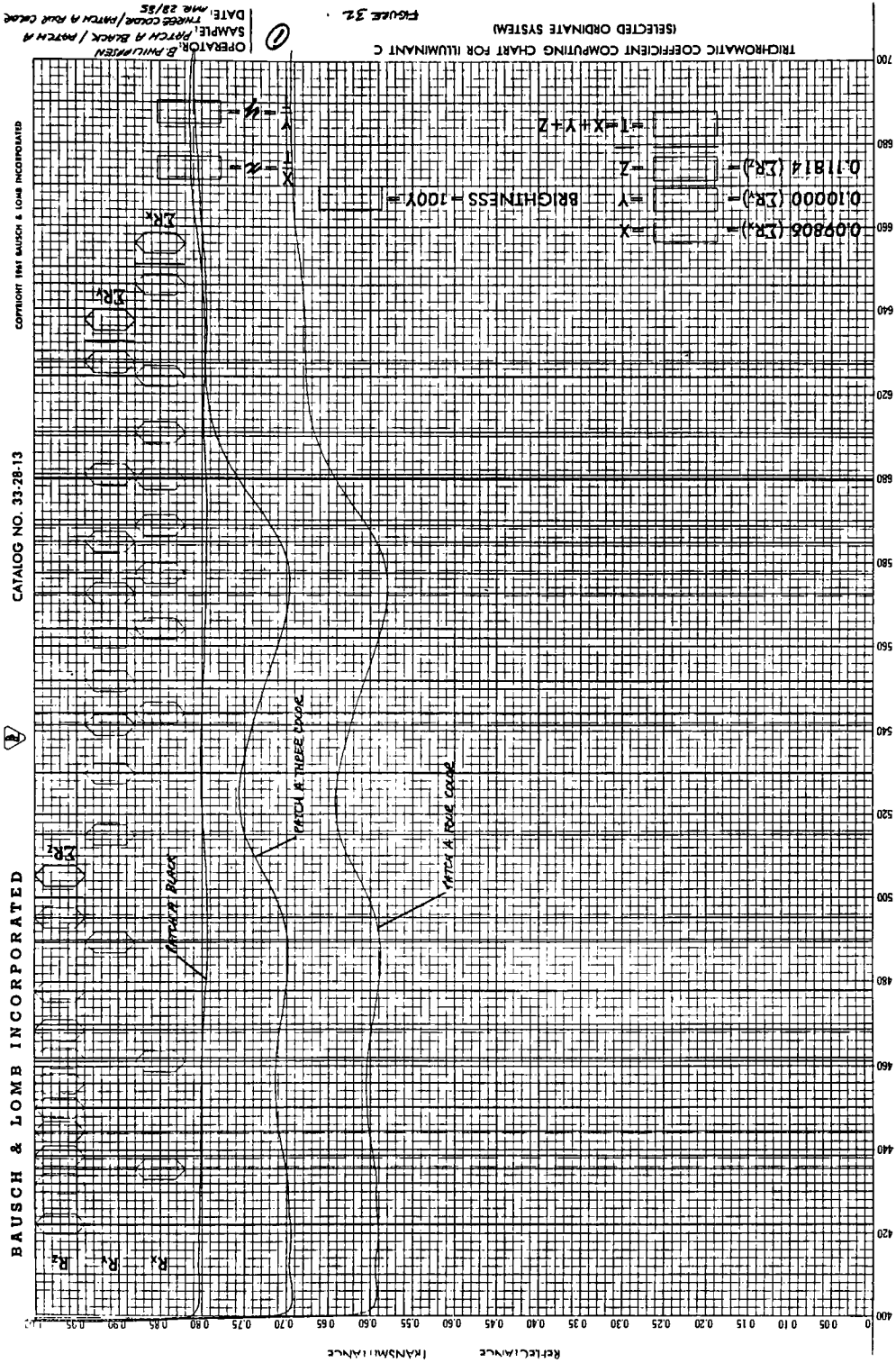


Figure 32. Full reflectance curves of tint patches "A", three color and "A", four color.

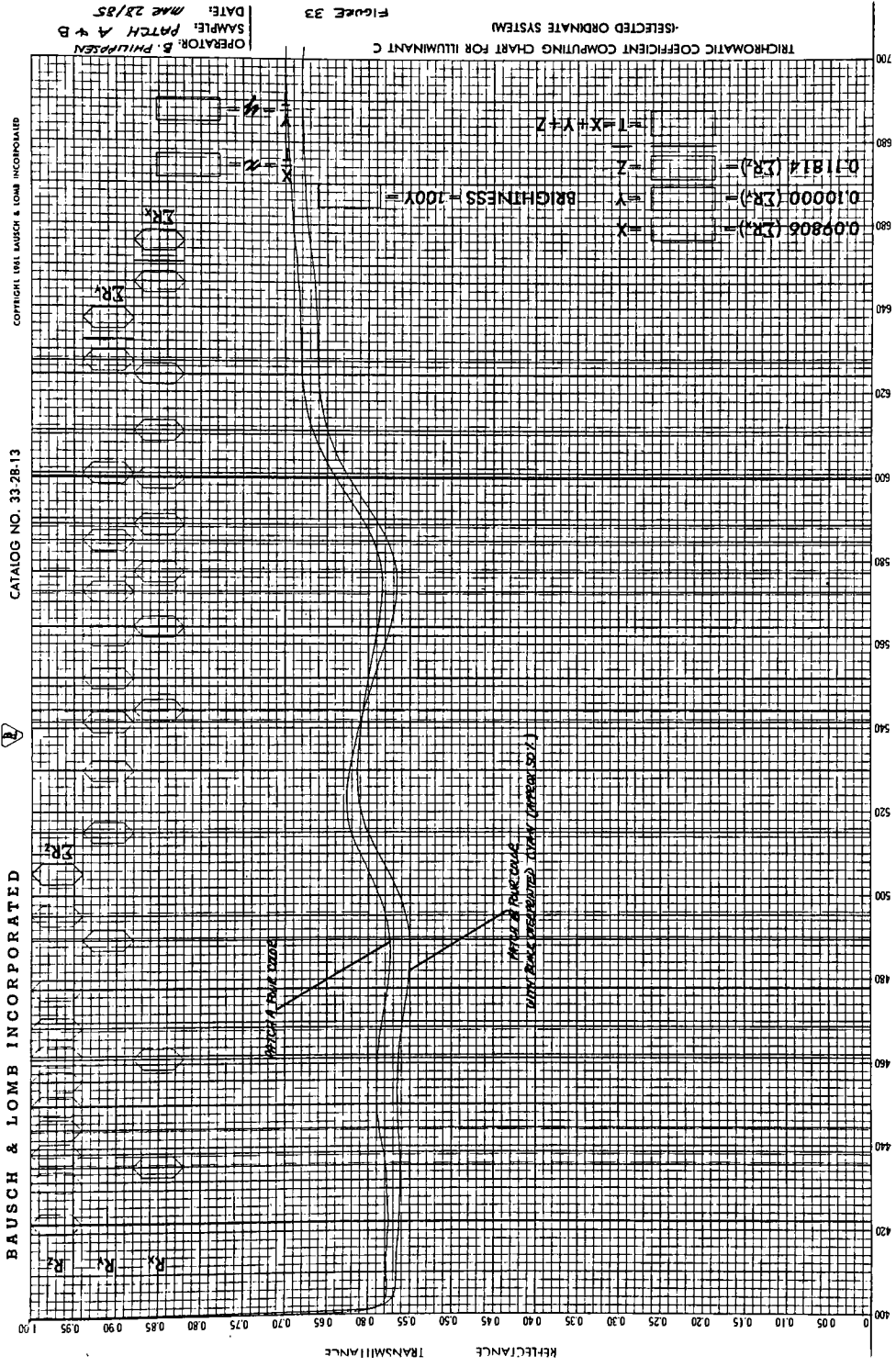


Figure 33. Full reflectance curves of tint patches "A", four color and "B", four color with black overprinting cyan approximately 50%.

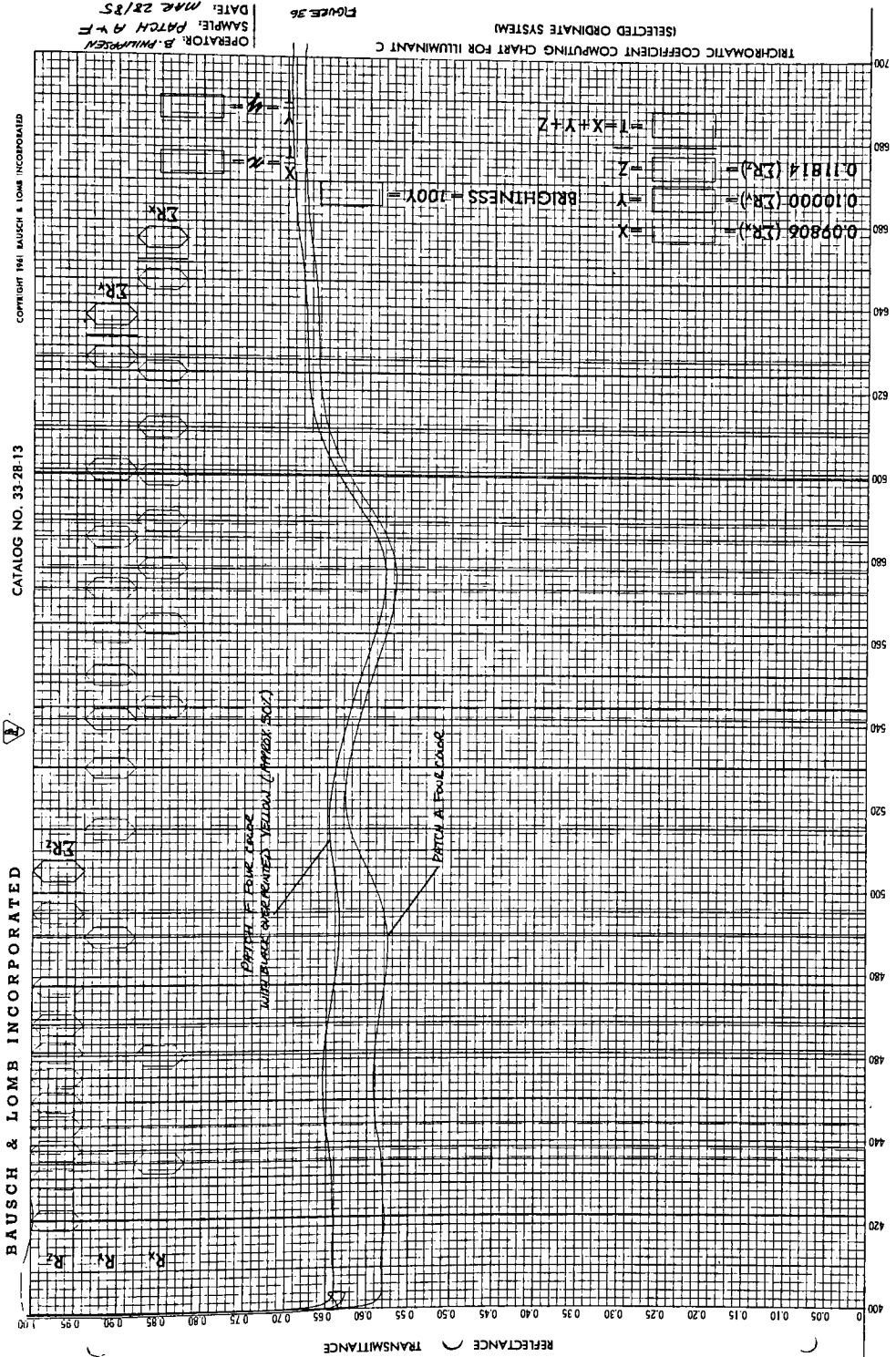


Figure 36. Full reflectance curves of tint patches "A", four color and "F", four color with black overprinted yellow approximately 50%.

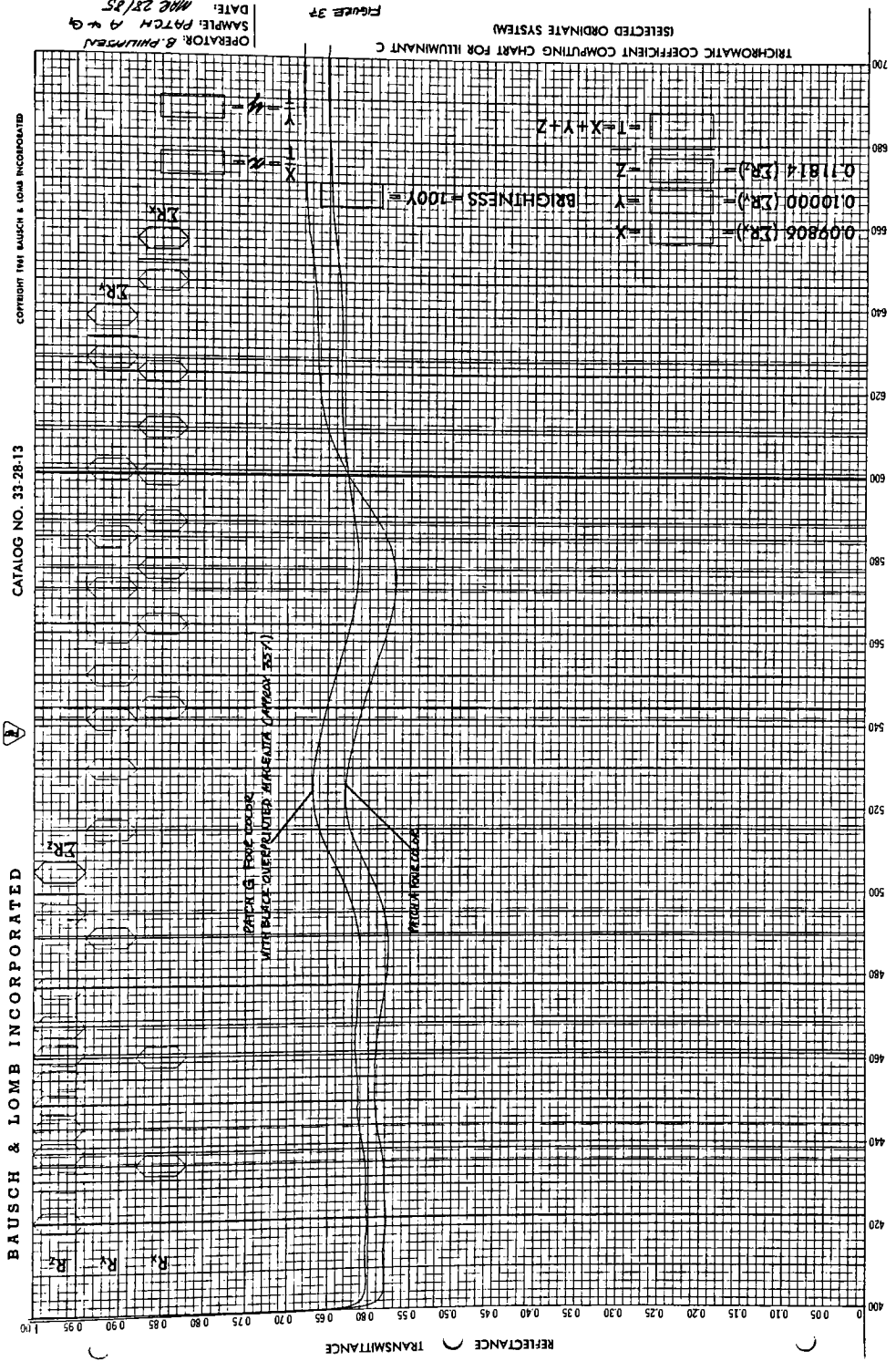


Figure 37. Full reflectance curves of tint patches "A", four color and "G", four color with black overprinted magenta approximately 75%.

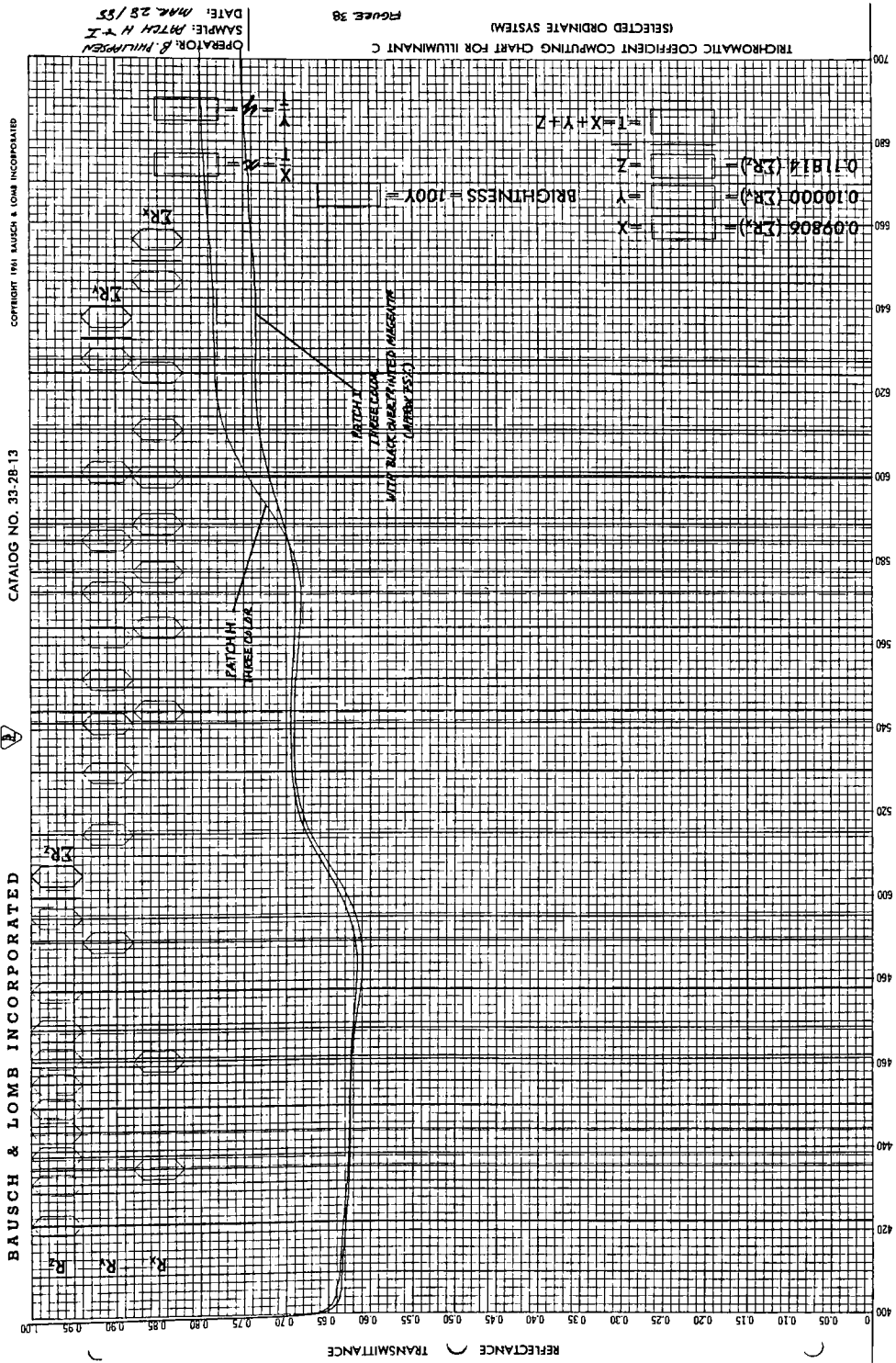


Figure 38. Full reflectance curves of tint patches "H", three color and "I", three color with black overprinted magenta approximately 75%.

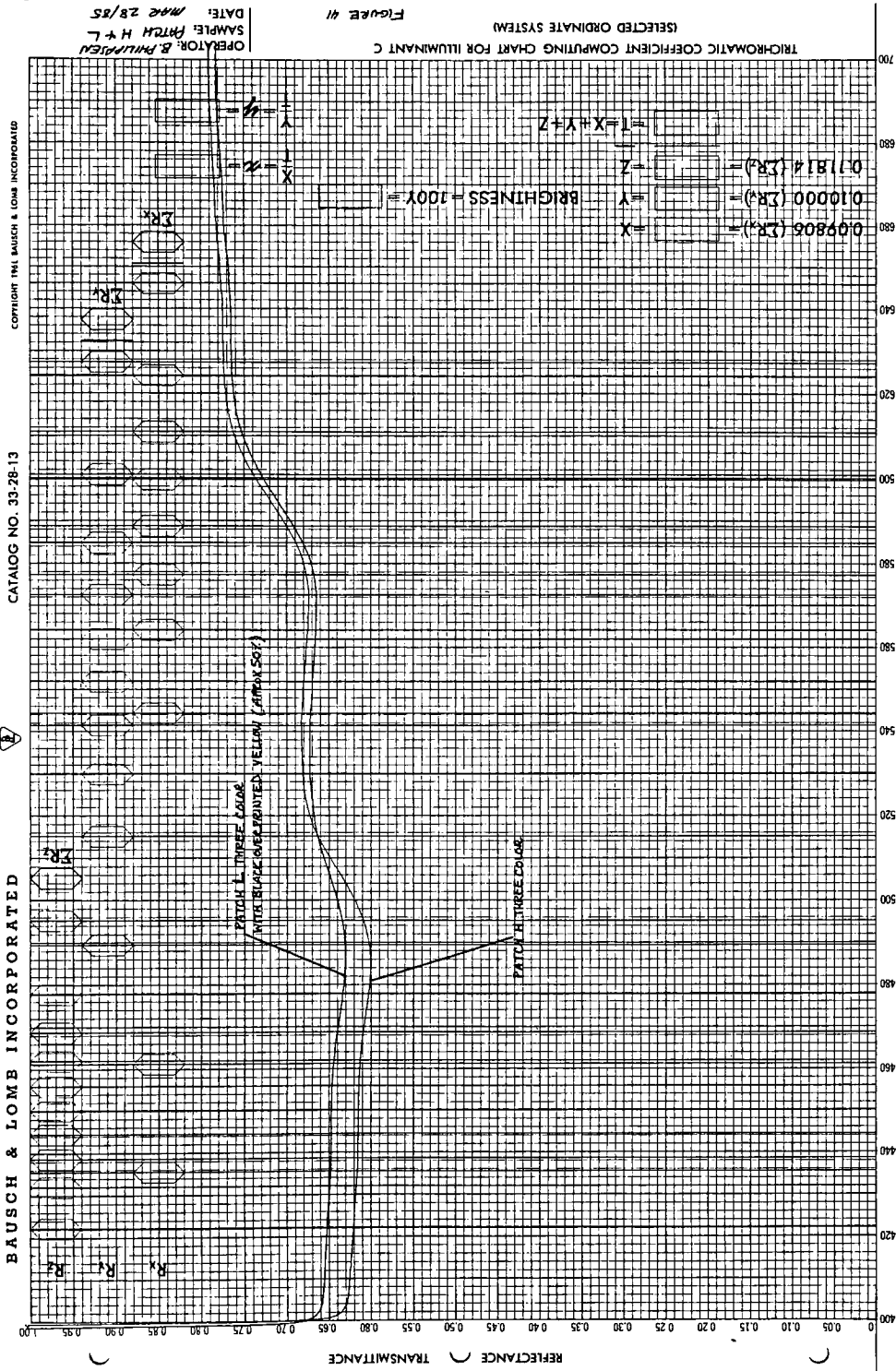
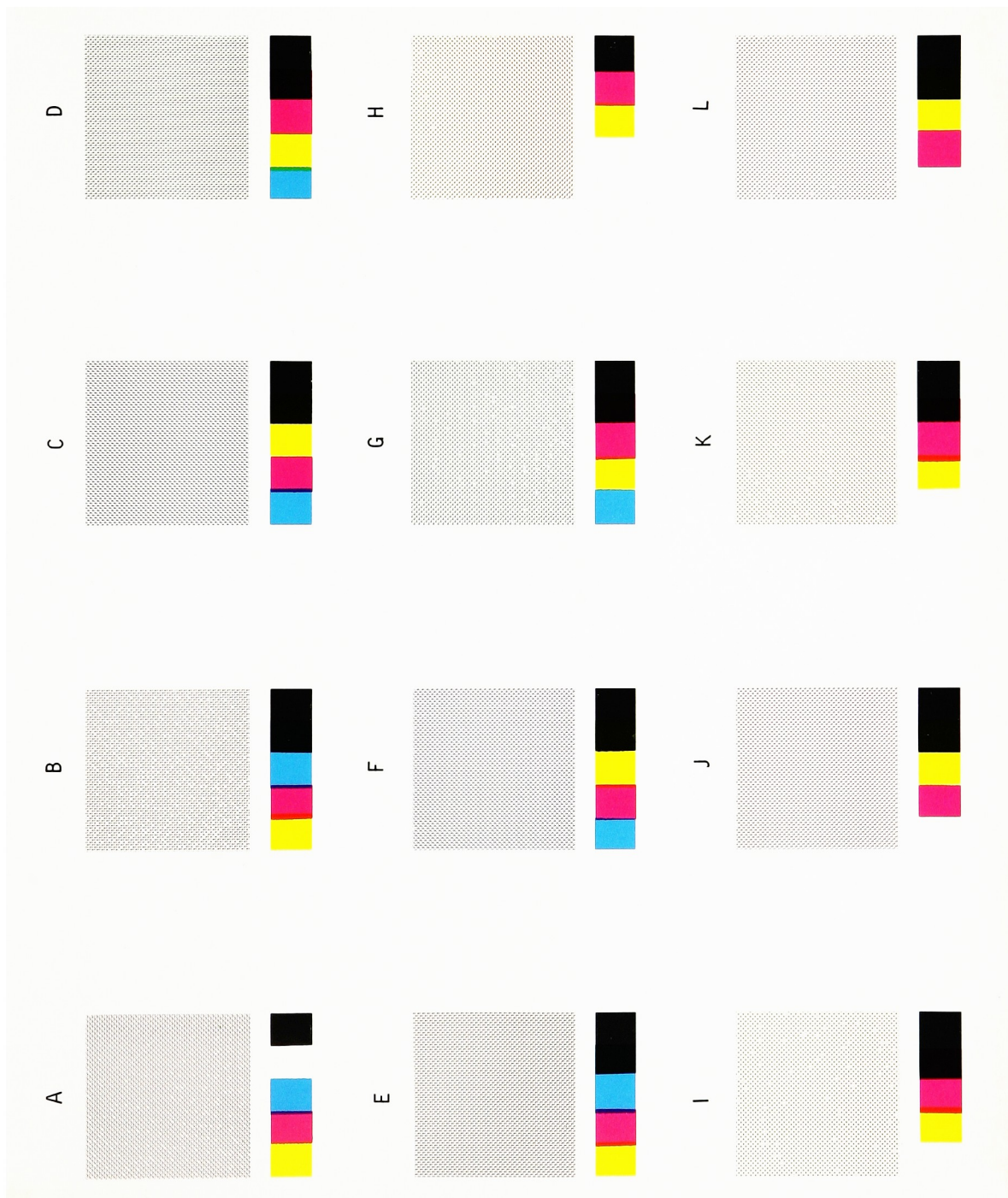


Figure 41. Full reflectance curves of tint patches "H", three color and "L", three color with black overprinted yellow approximately 50%.

APPENDIX B
PRINTED SAMPLE FROM EXPERIMENT

THESIS PROJECT: THE EFFECTS ON HUE RESULTING FROM
BLACKDOT OVERLAP IN HALFTONE REPRODUCTIONS



APPENDIX C

EQUIPMENT

Crosfield 640I Scanner

Douthitt Vacuum Frame

Carlson LI-44 Integrator

DuPont ATM 2 Cromalin Machine

28" x 40" Heidelberg SORSZ Press

Macbeth RD514 Reflection Densitometer

Bausch and Lomb 505 Spectrophotometer

APPENDIX D

MATERIALS

DuPont CSC-4 Film for 10%, 50 Line
Positive Tint

Fuji FT-21 Film for 10%, 50 Line
Negative Tint

DuPont Positive Cromalin

Fuji FPN Plates

Paper: 19" x 25" Barber-Ellis Extracote
Gloss 100 lb.

Inks: Sinclair & Valentine, Kolith Process
Yellow; YL 201320

Sinclair & Valentine, Kolith Process
Magenta No. 3; RL 203489

Sinclair & Valentine, Kolith Process
Cyan; BL 201324

Canadian Fine Color, Quadraset
Prointensity Black; 5617505