

BF5 Specifications

The BF5 is intended for use outdoors in natural daylight, with an unobstructed view of the horizon. Significant errors may be produced by artificial light, or if the BF5 is shaded from direct sunlight by buildings, or if there are strong reflections, from windows, for example.

The following accuracy figures give 95% confidence limits, i.e. 95% of individual readings will be within the stated limits under normal climatic conditions.

| | Accuracy and Resolution of analogue radiation outputs | | |
|---------------------------|---|-----------------------------|------------------|
| | PAR | Energy | Illuminance |
| Units | mol.m ⁻² .s ⁻¹ | W.m ⁻² | klux |
| Overall accuracy: Total | 10 mol.m ⁻² .s ⁻¹ 12% | 5 W.m ⁻² 12% | 0.600 klux 12% |
| Overall accuracy: Diffuse | 10 mol.m ⁻² .s ⁻¹ 15% | 20 W.m ⁻² 15% | 0.600 klux 15% |
| Resolution | 0.6 mol.m ⁻² .s ⁻¹ | 0.3 W.m ⁻² | 0.060 klux |
| Range | 0 - 2500 mol.m ⁻² .s ⁻¹ | 0 - 1250 W.m ⁻² | 0 - 200 klux |
| Output sensitivity | 1mV = 1 mol.m ⁻² .s ⁻¹ | 1mV = 0.5 W.m ⁻² | 1mV = 0.100 klux |
| Output range | 0 - 2500 mV | 0 - 2500 mV | 0 - 2000 mV |

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|------------------------------------|---|
| Accuracy: Sunshine hours | 10% (WMO definition) |
| Accuracy: Cosine correction | 10% of incoming radiation over 0 - 90° Zenith angle |
| Accuracy: Azimuth angle | 5% over 360 rotation |
| Temperature coefficient | 0.15 % / C typical |
| Temperature range | -20 to + 50 C, Alkaline batteries -20 to + 70 C, Lithium batteries |
| Recommended recalibration interval | 2 years |
| Response time | < 250ms |
| Spectral response | 400 - 700nm |
| Latitude capability | -90° to + 90 |
| Environmental : Sealing | IP65 (shower and dust proof) |
| Sunshine status : contact closure | No sun = open circuit Sun = short circuit to ground |
| Internal battery | 2 x 1.5V AA Alkaline batteries |
| Power requirement | 2mA, (awake), <30mA (asleep) |
| Battery lifetime | 1 year typical |

| | |
|---|---|
| Input voltage range | 1.4 - 3.6V DC, internal battery 5.0 - 15V DC, external power |
| Fuse trip point, on sunshine status signal | 0.5A, 30V self resetting (switch-closure mode) |
| Max applied voltage to sunshine status output | 0 to 24V (contact closure mode) |
| RS232 connector | 5 pin M12 |
| Signal output & power-in connector | 8 pin M12 |
| Mounting options: | Camera tripod socket, ¼" Whitworth Holes for 4 x M4 bolts at box corners |
| Size & Weight | 120mm x 122mm x 95mm, 635g |
| Heater output below 0°C | 15 W |
| Heater output above 5°C | 2W reducing to 0W at 35 C |
| Lowest snow & ice-free temperatures | -20 C at 0 m/s wind speed -10 C at 2 m/s wind speed |
| Heater: max power | 15 W at 12V DC |
| Heater: max current | 1.5A at 15V |
| Fuse: max voltage, current | 24V, 1.6A (self resetting) |
| Heater Input voltage | 12 to 15V DC |

Ordering Information

Sunshine Sensor type BF5 includes built-in heater, user manual, RS232 cable and sensor configuration software.

Note: BF5 requires connecting cables for use with SunScan Probe or data logger.

BF5 cables

SP-BF/w-05 (5m cable BF5 to bare wire).

Connects BF5 outputs to a data logger.

SP-BF-RS10 (10m RS232 extension cable).

10m weatherproof RS232 cable. IP68 M12 5-pole connector (f) to IP68 M12 5-pole connector (m). Can be connected to other SP-BF-RS10 cables.

Note: the final SP-BF-RS10 has to be connected to an SP-BF-RS01 RS232 cable.

SP-BF-RS01 (1.5m RS232 cable).

IP68 M12 5-pole connector (f) to 9-way D-connector (f). Connects BF5 to PC. Supplied as standard with BF5.

Extension cables for analogue output

EXT/8W-05 (5m extension cable) 8-way M12.

EXT/8W-10 (10m extension cable) 8-way M12.

EXT/8W-25 (25m extension cable) 8-way M12.

BF5 accessories

Cross arm type BF5-M 1m length cross arm with pole mounting bracket and BF5 levelling device. For mounting Sunshine Sensor onto weather station mast M2 or M2-Min.



For SunScan Probe accessories see SunScan data sheet.