
Superconductivity - Part 3: Critical current measurement - DC critical current
of Ag-sheathed Bi-2212 and Bi-2223 oxide superconductors

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN 61788-3

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

March 2001

ICS 17.220;29.050

English version

Superconductivity
Part 3: Critical current measurement -
DC critical current of Ag-sheathed Bi-2212
and Bi-2223 oxide superconductors
(IEC 61788-3:2000)

Supraconductivité
Partie 3: Mesure du courant critique -
Courant critique continu des oxydes
supraconducteurs Bi-2212 et Bi-2223
avec gaine en argent
(CEI 61788-3:2000)

Supraleitfähigkeit
Teil 3: Messen des kritischen Stromes -
Kritischer Strom (Gleichstrom)
von Ag-ummantelten oxidischen Bi-2212
und Bi-2223-Supraleitern
(IEC 61788-3:2000)

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SIST EN 61788-3:2002
This European Standard was approved by CENELEC on 2000-12-01. CENELEC members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Central Secretariat or to any CENELEC member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CENELEC member into its own language and notified to the Central Secretariat has the same status as the official versions.

CENELEC members are the national electrotechnical committees of Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

CENELEC

European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
Comité Européen de Normalisation Electrotechnique
Europäisches Komitee für Elektrotechnische Normung

Central Secretariat: rue de Stassart 35, B - 1050 Brussels

Foreword

The text of document 90/80/FDIS, future edition 1 of IEC 61788-3, prepared by IEC TC 90, Superconductivity, was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and was approved by CENELEC as EN 61788-3 on 2000-12-01.

The following dates were fixed:

- latest date by which the EN has to be implemented
at national level by publication of an identical
national standard or by endorsement (dop) 2001-10-01
- latest date by which the national standards conflicting
with the EN have to be withdrawn (dow) 2003-12-01

Annexes designated "normative" are part of the body of the standard.
Annexes designated "informative" are given for information only.
In this standard, annex ZA is normative and annexes A and B are informative.
Annex ZA has been added by CENELEC.

Endorsement notice

The text of the International Standard IEC 61788-3:2000 was approved by CENELEC as a European Standard without any modification.

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Annex ZA (normative)

Normative references to international publications with their corresponding European publications

This European Standard incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to or revisions of any of these publications apply to this European Standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies (including amendments).

NOTE When an international publication has been modified by common modifications, indicated by (mod), the relevant EN/HD applies.

<u>Publication</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>EN/HD</u>	<u>Year</u>
IEC 60050-815	2000	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) Chapter 815: Superconductivity	-	-
IEC 61788-2	1999	Superconductivity Part 2: Critical current measurement - DC critical current of Nb ₃ Sn composite superconductors	EN 61788-2	1999

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INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

IEC 61788-3

First edition
2000-12

Superconductivity –

Part 3:

Critical current measurement –

DC critical current of Ag-sheathed Bi-2212

and Bi-2223 oxide superconductors

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Supraconductivité –

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Partie 3:

Mesure du courant critique –

Courant critique continu des oxydes supraconducteurs

Bi-2212 et Bi-2223 avec gaine en argent

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Commission Electrotechnique Internationale
International Electrotechnical Commission
Международная Электротехническая Комиссия

PRICE CODE

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

SUPERCONDUCTIVITY –

**Part 3: Critical current measurement –
DC critical current of Ag-sheathed Bi-2212
and Bi-2223 oxide superconductors**

FOREWORD

- 1) The IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of the IEC is to promote international co-operation on all questions concerning standardization in the electrical and electronic fields. To this end and in addition to other activities, the IEC publishes International Standards. Their preparation is entrusted to technical committees; any IEC National Committee interested in the subject dealt with may participate in this preparatory work. International, governmental and non-governmental organizations liaising with the IEC also participate in this preparation. The IEC collaborates closely with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in accordance with conditions determined by agreement between the two organizations.
- 2) The formal decisions or agreements of the IEC on technical matters express, as nearly as possible, an international consensus of opinion on the relevant subjects since each technical committee has representation from all interested National Committees.
- 3) The documents produced have the form of recommendations for international use and are published in the form of standards, technical specifications, technical reports or guides and they are accepted by the National Committees in that sense.
- 4) In order to promote international unification, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC International Standards transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional standards. Any divergence between the IEC Standard and the corresponding national or regional standard shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) The IEC provides no marking procedure to indicate its approval and cannot be rendered responsible for any equipment declared to be in conformity with one of its standards.
- 6) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this International Standard may be the subject of patent rights. The IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard IEC 61788-3 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 90: Superconductivity.

The text of this standard is based on the following documents:

FDIS	Report on voting
90/80/FDIS	90/86/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 3.

Annexes A and B are for information only.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until 2005. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed;
- withdrawn;
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this standard may be issued at a later date.

INTRODUCTION

In 1986 J.G. Bednorz and K.A. Mueller discovered that some Perovskite type Cu-containing oxides show superconductivity at temperatures far above those which metallic superconductors have shown. Since then, extensive R & D work on high-temperature oxide superconductors has been and is being made worldwide, and its application to high-field magnet machines, low-loss power transmission, electronics and many other technologies is in progress [1].¹

Fabrication technology is essential to the application of high-temperature oxide superconductors. Among high-temperature oxide superconductors developed so far, BiSrCaCu oxide (Bi-2212 and Bi-2223) superconductors have been the most successful at being fabricated into wires and tapes of practical length and superconducting properties. These conductors can be wound into a magnet to generate a magnetic field of several tesla [2]. It has also been shown that Bi-2212 and Bi-2223 conductors can substantially raise the limit of magnetic field generation by a superconducting magnet [3].

In summer 1993, VAMAS-TWA16 started working on the test methods of critical currents in Bi-oxide superconductors. In September 1997, the TWA16 worked out a guideline (VAMAS guideline) on the critical current measurement method for Ag-sheathed Bi-2212 and Bi-2223 oxide superconductors. This pre-standardization work of VAMAS was taken as the base for the IEC standard, described in the present document, on the d.c. critical current test method of Ag-sheathed Bi-2212 and Bi-2223 oxide superconductors.

The test method covered in this International Standard is intended to give an appropriate and agreeable technical base to those engineers working in the field of superconductivity technology.

The critical current of composite superconductors like Ag-sheathed Bi-oxide superconductors depends on many variables. These variables need to be considered in both the testing and the application of these materials. Test conditions such as magnetic field, temperature and relative orientation of the specimen and magnetic field are determined by the particular application. The test configuration may be determined by the particular conductor through certain tolerances. The specific critical current criterion may be determined by the particular application. It may be appropriate to measure a number of test specimens if there are irregularities in testing.

¹ The numbers in brackets refer to the bibliography.

SUPERCONDUCTIVITY –

Part 3: Critical current measurement – DC critical current of Ag-sheathed Bi-2212 and Bi-2223 oxide superconductors

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61788 covers a test method for the determination of the d.c. critical current of short and straight Ag- or Ag alloy-sheathed Bi-2212 and Bi-2223 oxide superconductors that have a monolithic structure and a shape of round wire or flat or square tape containing mono- or multicores of oxides.

This method is intended for use with superconductors that have critical currents less than 500 A and n -values larger than 5. The test is carried out with and without applying external magnetic fields. In the test of the tape specimen in magnetic fields, the magnetic fields are parallel or perpendicular to the tape surface. The test specimen is immersed either in a liquid helium bath or a liquid nitrogen bath during testing. Deviations from this test method that are allowed for routine tests and other specific restrictions are given in this standard.

Substantial parts of the test method covered in this standard are in common with, or similar to, those for Nb_3Sn composite superconductors (IEC 61788-2). Special features newly found for oxide composite superconductors may be classified into two groups. The first group is specific to oxide composite superconductors, including mechanical fragility originating from the presence of weak links, cryogen gas bubble formation, aging degradation, magnetic flux flow and creep, large anisotropy, hysteresis in critical current with magnetic field sweep, etc. The second group is due to the short length of the specimen used in the standard. A critical current measurement on such a specimen may easily pick up different voltage signals due to thermal electromotive force, inductive voltage, thermal noise, current redistribution, specimen motion relative to the holder, etc. Current transfer voltages may be present due to the short distance from a current contact to a voltage tap. Short specimen length may reduce mechanical tolerance against the Lorentz force, for example, by promoting the formation of cryogen gas bubbles within the composite.

2 Normative references

The following normative documents contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this part of IEC 61788. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply. However, parties to agreements based on this part of IEC 61788 are encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent edition of the normative document indicated below. For undated references, the latest edition of the normative document referred to applies. Members of IEC and ISO maintain registers of currently valid International Standards.

IEC 60050-815:2000, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 815: Superconductivity*

IEC 61788-2:1999, *Superconductivity. – Part 2: Critical current measurement – DC critical current of Nb_3Sn composite superconductors*