



**SLOVENSKI STANDARD**  
**oSIST prEN IEC 60793-1-22:2023**  
**01-oktober-2023**

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**Optična vlakna - 1-22. del: Merilne metode in postopki preskušanja - Merjenje dolžine**

Optical fibres - Part 1-22: Measurement methods and test procedures - Length measurement

Lichtwellenleiter - Teil 1-22: Messmethoden und Prüfverfahren - Längenmessung

Fibres optiques - Partie 1-22: Méthodes de mesure et procédures d'essai - Mesure de la longueur

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**ICS:**

33.180.10 (Optična) vlakna in kabli Fibres and cables

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUBMITTED FOR CENELEC PARALLEL VOTING <b>Attention IEC-CENELEC parallel voting</b> The attention of IEC National Committees, members of CENELEC, is drawn to the fact that this Committee Draft for Vote (CDV) is submitted for parallel voting. The CENELEC members are invited to vote through the CENELEC online voting system.	<input type="checkbox"/> NOT SUBMITTED FOR CENELEC PARALLEL VOTING

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TITLE:  
**Optical fibres - Part 1-22: Measurement methods and test procedures - Length measurement**

PROPOSED STABILITY DATE: 2027

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**OPTICAL FIBRES –****Part 1-22: Measurement methods and test procedures –  
Length measurement**

## 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.
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- 5) 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 60793-1-22 has been prepared by subcommittee 86A: Fibres and cables, of IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2001. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) Inclusion of category C single mode fibres in Table 1
- b) Inclusion of a new informative Annex F on Brillouin frequency shift test method

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

FDIS	Report on voting
86A/687/FDIS	86A/726/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 2.

Annexes A, B, C, D and E form an integral part of this standard.

101 IEC 60793-1-2X consists of the following parts, under the general title: Optical fibres:

- 102 • Part 1-20: Measurement methods and test procedures – Fibre geometry
- 103 • Part 1-21: Measurement methods and test procedures – Coating geometry
- 104 • Part 1-22: Measurement methods and test procedures – Length measurement

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

- 107 • reconfirmed;
- 108 • withdrawn;
- 109 • replaced by a revised edition, or
- 110 • amended.

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## INTRODUCTION

115 Publications in the IEC 60793-1 series concern measurement methods and test procedures as  
116 they apply to optical fibres.

117 Within the same series several different areas are grouped, as follows:

- IEC 60793-1-20 to IEC 60793-1-29: Measurement methods and test procedures for dimensions
- IEC 60793-1-30 to IEC 60793-1-39: Measurement methods and test procedures for mechanical characteristics
- IEC 60793-1-40 to IEC 60793-1-49: Measurement methods and test procedures for transmission and optical characteristics
- IEC 60793-1-50 to IEC 60793-1-59: Measurement methods and test procedures for environmental characteristics.
- IEC 60793-1-60 to IEC 60793-1-69: Measurement methods and test procedures for polarization-maintaining fibres.

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## OPTICAL FIBRES –

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### Part 1-22: Measurement methods and test procedures –

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### Length measurement

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## 123 1 Scope

124 This part of IEC 60793 establishes uniform requirements for measuring the length and elongation  
125 of optical fibre (typically within cable).

126 The length of an optical fibre is one of the most fundamental values and shall be known for the  
127 evaluation of transmission characteristics such as losses and bandwidths.

128 In addition, informative Annex F has been added to determine the tensile strain applied to a  
129 fibre. It uses Brillouin reflectometry (BOTDR) or so-called Brillouin analysis (BOTDA), which  
130 are single-sided and double-sided methods respectively.

## 131 2 Normative references

132 The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For  
133 dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of  
134 the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

135 IEC 60793-1-40, *Optical fibres – Part 1-40: Measurement methods and test procedures –*  
136 *Attenuation*

137 IEC 60793-1-42, *Optical fibres – Part 1-42: Measurement methods and test procedures –*  
138 *Chromatic dispersion*

139 IEC 60794-1-1, *Optical fibre cables – Part 1-1: Generic specification – General*

## 140 3 Terms and definitions

141 For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

142 ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following  
143 addresses:

- 144 • IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- 145 • ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

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## 150 4 Overview of method

151 This standard gives five methods for measuring length, which are presented in the following  
152 table 1.

153 **Table 1 – Measurement methods**

Method	Characteristics covered	Fibre category(ies) covered
A Delay measuring	Length	All A1, B, and C
B Backscattering	Length	All A1, B, and C
C Fibre elongation <sup>a</sup>	Fibre elongation <sup>c</sup>	A1, B1 <sup>b</sup> , and C
D Mechanical	Length	All
E Phase shift	Length	All A1, B, and C
<p><sup>a</sup> The measurement of fibre elongation, method C, is part of several measurement methods for fibres and fibre optic cables, such as those in IEC 60794-1-1.</p> <p><sup>b</sup> This measurement is applicable unreservedly to type B single-mode fibres. For type A1 multimode fibres, take particular care when interpreting the results because the results of this measurement may be influenced by interfering modal effects, for example, due to the occurrence of non-longitudinal stresses on the fibre. Application of the measurement to A2 to A4 multimode fibres is under consideration.</p> <p><sup>c</sup> In addition, informative Annex F has been added to determine the tensile strain applied to a fibre. It uses Brillouin reflectometry (BOTDR) or so-called Brillouin analysis (BOTDA), which are single-sided and double-sided methods respectively.</p>		

154

155 Information common to all measurements is contained in clauses 2 to 8. Information on specific  
156 application appears in annexes A, B, C, D, and E for methods A, B, C, D and E, respectively.

### 157 4.1 Method A – Delay measuring

158 The delay measuring method applies to measurements of the fibre length by the measurement  
159 of the propagation time of an optical pulse or a pulse train on the basis of a known value of the  
160 group index of the fibre.

161 Alternatively, this method is suitable for measuring the group index of a fibre of known length.  
162 Therefore, in practice this fibre length measurement method is calibrated against a known  
163 length of fibre of the same type.

### 164 4.2 Method B – Backscattering

165 The backscattering method, which is a single-sided measurement, uses an optical time domain  
166 reflectometer (OTDR), and measures the optical power backscattered from different points in  
167 the fibre to the beginning of the fibre.

### 168 4.3 Method C – Fibre elongation

169 This measurement method describes a procedure for determining the fibre elongation. It does  
170 not measure absolute strain, but instead measures the changes in strain from one loading  
171 condition to another.

#### 172 4.4 Method D – Mechanical length

173 This measurement method describes a procedure for determining the fibre length by winding a  
174 fibre around a fixed diameter calibrated wheel that rotates. The length is determined by the  
175 number of revolutions of the wheel.

#### 176 4.5 Method E – Phase shift

177 The phase shift method describes a procedure for determining the fibre length. The length is  
178 determined from the phase shift that occurs when a predetermined modulation frequency  $f_{\max}$   
179 is applied.

180 .

#### 181 4.6 Reference test method

182 The reference test method (RTM), which shall be the one used to settle disputes, varies  
183 depending on whether the fibre is cabled or not, such as

- 184 – uncabled fibre: method D;
- 185 – length of fibre within cable: method B;
- 186 – elongation of fibre within cable: method C;
- 187 – elongation of uncabled fibre: method C;

### 188 5 Apparatus

189 Annexes A, B, C, D, and E include layout drawings and other equipment requirements for each  
190 of the methods A, B, C, D and E, respectively.

### 191 6 Sampling and specimens

192 See the appropriate annex A, B, C, D or E for specific requirements. General requirements  
193 follow.

194 Prepare a flat end face, perpendicular to the fibre axis, at the input and output ends of each  
195 specimen for measurements based on optical delay measurements.

### 196 7 Procedure

197 See the appropriate annex A, B, C, D or E for specific requirements.

### 198 8 Calculations

199 See the appropriate annex A, B, C, D or E for specific requirements.

### 200 9 Results

201 The following information shall be provided with each measurement:

- 202 – date and title of measurement;
- 203 – identification and description of specimen, including whether fibre or cable;
- 204 – specimen length, or elongation;
- 205 – measurement method used: A, B, C, D or E;
- 206 – other results, as required by the appropriate annex, A, B, C, D or E.

207 The following information shall be available upon request:

- 208 – description of measurement apparatus arrangement;
- 209 – type and wavelength of measurement source;
- 210 – launch conditions;
- 211 – details of computation technique;
- 212 – date of latest calibration of equipment.

213 See annexes A, B, C, D and E for any additional information that shall be available upon  
214 request.

## 215 **10 Specification information**

216 The detail specification shall specify the following information:

- 217 – type of fibre (or cable) to be measured;
- 218 – failure or acceptance criteria;
- 219 – information to be reported;
- 220 – deviations to the procedure that apply.

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## Annex A (normative)

### Requirements specific to method A – Delay measuring

#### 229 **A.1 General**

230 Use this method to measure the length of optical fibre by itself, or installed in cable. If the  
231 specimen is a fibre in a cable, determine the value of group index  $N$  under conditions applicable  
232 to the specimen under measurement (for example, tension, temperature). This is done by  
233 inverting equation (A.1) and the measurements on a specimen with a known length.

#### 234 **A.2 Principle**

235 An optical pulse travelling through an optical fibre with length  $L$  and average group index  $N$   
236 experiences a travelling/delay time,  $\Delta t$ :

$$237 \quad \Delta t = \frac{NL}{C} \quad (A.1)$$

238 where

239  $\Delta t$  is the time delay;

240  $N$  is the average group index;

241  $C$  is the velocity of light in vacuum.

242 If  $N$  is known, the measurement of  $\Delta t$  gives  $L$ . On the other hand, the measurement of  $\Delta t$  gives  
243 the value of  $N$  when  $L$  is known.

#### 244 **A.3 Apparatus**

##### 245 **A.3.1 Two techniques**

246 There are two techniques for measuring the propagation time of an optical pulse:

- 247 – time measurement of the transmitted pulse ( $\Delta t$  measured);
- 248 – time measurement of the reflected pulse ( $2\Delta t$  measured).

249 See figures A.1 and A.2 for two different arrangements corresponding to the two techniques  
250 applying a sampling oscilloscope.

251 Instead of the sampling oscilloscope, backscattering equipment, or a counter with separate  
252 start/stop gate and averaging capability (for example, at least  $10^4$  counts), can be used.