

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Superconductivity –
Part 21: Superconducting wires – Test methods for practical superconducting
wires – General characteristics and guidance**

**Supraconductivité –
Partie 21: Fils supraconducteurs – Méthodes d’essai pour fils supraconducteurs
à usage pratique – Caractéristiques générales et lignes directrices**



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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

SUPERCONDUCTIVITY –**Part 21: Superconducting wires –
Test methods for practical superconducting wires –
General characteristics and guidance**

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61788-21 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 90: Superconductivity.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
90/353/FDIS	90/354/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.

A list of all the parts in the IEC 61788 series, published under the general title *Superconductivity*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

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- withdrawn,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

INTRODUCTION

Superconducting (SC) wires are a central and often enabling technology of many important industrial products. Consensus-based standards for SC wires greatly facilitate the creation of procurement specifications, design and engineering of components, certification of quality, description of operating devices, and generalization of use in industrial technologies.

This part of IEC 61788 is ranked as a first priority for both producers and users of superconducting technology: It provides the measurement methods and test procedures for properties critical to use. Adherence to normative information assists the development of commercial markets and the distribution of products. Standardization in this regard is meant to provide common access to, and unarguable reference information about, characteristics that are most important for superconductor-based technologies.

This part of IEC 61788 includes the measurement principles and measurement techniques together with the relevant terminology and definitions. Specifications of SC wire products take into account the function of the different components of SC wires to meet operational needs, maintain operational (superconducting) conditions, and accommodate mechanical forces and strains. The various forms of SC wire products distributed by manufacturers incorporate these aspects to varying degrees, depending on the superconducting materials used and the intended operating conditions/environment. Design and engineering of devices that use SC wire products take into account the unique properties of SC wires during operation. The general features of practical SC wires are described in IEC TR 61788-20 in terms of simple general characteristics to assist in the specification and use of superconducting wire products. Testing, certification, and quality control apply the relevant standard test methods to SC wires, which are specified in this part of IEC 61788.

SUPERCONDUCTIVITY –

Part 21: Superconducting wires – Test methods for practical superconducting wires – General characteristics and guidance

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61788 specifies the test methods used for validating the mechanical, electrical, and superconducting properties of practical SC wires. A wire is considered as being practical if it can be procured in sufficiently continuous lengths under ordinary commercial transactions to build devices. Conductors made of multiple wires, such as cables, are not included in the scope of this part of IEC 61788. Extension of the discussions in this part of IEC 61788 beyond practical SC wires is not intended, even though referenced documents include aspects outside of this scope.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60050 (all parts), *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary*. Available from: <http://www.electropedia.org>

IEC 61788-1, *Superconductivity – Part 1: Critical current measurement – DC critical current of Nb-Ti composite superconductors*

IEC 61788-2, *Superconductivity – Part 2: Critical current measurement – DC critical current of Nb₃Sn composite superconductors*

IEC 61788-3, *Superconductivity – Part 3: Critical current measurement – DC critical current of Ag- and/or Ag alloy-sheathed Bi-2212 and Bi-2223 oxide superconductors*

IEC 61788-4, *Superconductivity – Part 4: Residual resistance ratio measurement – Residual resistance ratio of Nb-Ti composite superconductors*

IEC 61788-5, *Superconductivity – Part 5: Matrix to superconductor volume ratio measurement – Copper to superconductor volume ratio of Cu/Nb-Ti composite superconducting wires*

IEC 61788-6, *Superconductivity – Part 6: Mechanical properties measurement – Room temperature tensile test of Cu/Nb-Ti composite superconductors*

IEC 61788-8, *Superconductivity – Part 8: AC loss measurements – Total AC loss measurement of round superconducting wires exposed to a transverse alternating magnetic field at liquid helium temperature by a pickup coil method*

IEC 61788-10, *Superconductivity – Part 10: Critical temperature measurement – Critical temperature of composite superconductors by a resistance method*

IEC 61788-11, *Superconductivity – Part 11: Residual resistance ratio measurement – Residual resistance ratio of Nb₃Sn composite superconductors*