



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

CONSOLIDATED VERSION

**Photovoltaic devices -
Part 1-2: Measurement of current-voltage characteristics of bifacial photovoltaic
(PV) devices**

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| FOREWORD | 3 |
| 1 Scope | 5 |
| 2 Normative references | 5 |
| 3 Terms and definitions | 6 |
| 4 General considerations | 8 |
| 5 Apparatus | 8 |
| 5.1 General | 8 |
| 5.2 Solar simulator with adjustable irradiance levels for single-side illumination | 8 |
| 5.3 Solar simulator with adjustable irradiance levels for double-side illumination | 8 |
| 5.4 Natural sunlight | 9 |
| 5.5 Non-irradiated background | 9 |
| 5.6 Temperature sensors | 11 |
| 6 Additional I - V characterisations for bifacial devices | 11 |
| 6.1 General | 11 |
| 6.2 Determination of bifaciality | 12 |
| 6.3 Determination of the rear irradiance power gain | 13 |
| 6.3.1 General | 13 |
| 6.3.2 Outdoor rear irradiance power gain measurement | 14 |
| 6.3.3 Indoor rear irradiance power gain measurement with single-side illumination | 15 |
| 6.3.4 Indoor rear irradiance power gain measurement with double-side illumination | 17 |
| 7 I - V characterisation of bifacial PV devices in practice | 17 |
| 7.1 General | 17 |
| 7.2 I - V measurement of bifacial PV devices | 17 |
| 7.3 I - V measurement of bifacial PV devices using a reference bifacial device | 18 |
| 8 Report | 20 |
| Bibliography | 21 |
| Figure 1 – Two reference devices (described in IEC 60904-2) to measure irradiance on front and rear sides of device under test during outdoor measurements | 9 |
| Figure 2 – Scheme of a bifacial PV module and the required non-irradiated background and aperture | 10 |
| Figure 3 – Suggested points to measure the irradiance at the rear face of a PV module with 72 cells | 11 |
| Figure 4 – Front and rear-side characterization of bifaciality | 12 |
| Figure 5 – Examples of P_{\max} as a function of irradiance level on the rear side G_r (for outdoor or double-side illumination) or its one-side equivalent irradiance G_e for a device of bifaciality $\phi_{I_{SC}} = 89\%$ | 16 |
| Figure 6 – Transmittances of the device (T_{DUT}) and its encapsulant (T_{ENC}) | 18 |
| Figure 7 – Example of $P_{\max, BNPI}$ derived from the measurement of P_{\max} at STC conditions, $P_{\max, STC}$ and the $BiFi$ coefficient of the reference used in Formula (10) | 19 |

Table 1 – Maximum power, P_{\max} , measured at different rear irradiances, G_r , (double-sided with $G_f = 1\,000\text{ Wm}^{-2}$) or alternatively equivalent front irradiances, G_E , and the rear irradiance driven power gain yield, $BiFi$, derived from the slope of the linear fit on $P_{\max}(G_r)$ 16

Table 2 – Example of $P_{\max, \text{BNPI}}$ derived from the measurement at STC conditions ($G_r = 0$ and $G_f = 1\,000$) and the rear irradiance power gain obtained from the bifacial reference device, $BiFi_{\text{ref}}$ 19

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

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of bifacial photovoltaic (PV) devices**

FOREWORD

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This consolidated version of the official IEC Standard and its amendment has been prepared for user convenience.

IEC TS 60904-1-2 edition 2.1 contains the second edition (2024-11) [documents 82/2278/DTS and 82/2309/RVDTS] and its amendment 1 (2026-03) [documents 82/2552/DTS and 82/2579/RVDTS].

In this Redline version, a vertical line in the margin shows where the technical content is modified by amendment 1. Additions are in green text, deletions are in strikethrough red text. A separate Final version with all changes accepted is available in this publication.

IEC TS 60904-1-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems. It is a Technical Specification.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition published in 2019. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) The scope has been updated and refers to IEC TS 63202-3 for the measurement of non-encapsulated solar cells.
- b) The requirements for the non-uniformity of irradiance have been updated and now refer to classifications introduced in IEC 60904-9.
- c) The requirement for non-irradiated background has been revised.
- d) Spectral mismatch corrections are no longer mandatory, unless required by another standard. Spectral mismatch would have to be considered in the measurement uncertainty.
- e) The requirement regarding the calculation of bifaciality has been modified: Equivalent irradiance shall not be calculated based on the minimum bifaciality value between I_{SC} and P_{max} , but on the bifaciality of I_{SC} .

The text of this Technical Specification is based on the following documents:

| Draft | Report on voting |
|-------------|------------------|
| 82/2278/DTS | 82/2309/RVDTS |

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

The language used for the development of this Technical Specification is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs. The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at www.iec.ch/publications.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60904 series, published under the general title *Photovoltaic devices*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document and its amendment will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under webstore.iec.ch in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn, or
- revised.

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60904 describes procedures for the measurement of the current-voltage (I - V) characteristics of single junction bifacial photovoltaic devices in natural or simulated sunlight. It is applicable to encapsulated solar cells, sub-assemblies of such cells or entire PV modules. For measurements of I - V characteristics of non-encapsulated solar cells, IEC TS 63202-3 applies.

The requirements for measurement of I - V characteristics of standard (monofacial) PV devices are covered by IEC 60904-1, whereas this document describes the additional requirements for the measurement of I - V characteristics of bifacial PV devices.

This document can be applicable to PV devices designed for use under concentrated irradiation if they are measured without the optics for concentration, and irradiated using direct normal irradiance and a mismatch correction with respect to a direct normal reference spectrum is performed.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60891, *Photovoltaic devices – Procedures for temperature and irradiance corrections to measured I - V characteristics*

IEC 60904-1, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 1: Measurement of photovoltaic current-voltage characteristics*

IEC 60904-2, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 2: Requirements for photovoltaic reference devices*

IEC 60904-3, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 3: Measurement principles for terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) solar devices with reference spectral irradiance data*

IEC 60904-4, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 4: Photovoltaic reference devices – Procedures for establishing calibration traceability*

IEC 60904-7, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 7: Computation of the spectral mismatch correction for measurements of photovoltaic devices*

IEC 60904-8, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 8: Measurement of spectral responsivity of a photovoltaic (PV) device*

IEC 60904-9, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 9: Classification of solar simulator characteristics*

IEC TS 61836, *Solar photovoltaic energy systems – Terms, definitions and symbols*

IEC 62788-1-4, *Measurement procedures for materials used in photovoltaic modules – Part 1-4: Encapsulants – Measurement of optical transmittance and calculation of the solar-weighted photon transmittance, yellowness index, and UV cut-off wavelength*

Bibliography

IEC 60904-5, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 5: Determination of the equivalent cell temperature (ECT) of photovoltaic (PV) devices by the open-circuit voltage method*

IEC TS 62446-3, *Photovoltaic (PV) systems – Requirements for testing, documentation and maintenance – Part 3: Photovoltaic modules and plants – Outdoor infrared thermography*

IEC TS 63202-3:2023, *Photovoltaic cells – Part 3: Measurement of current-voltage characteristics of bifacial photovoltaic cells*
