INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

IEC 61280-2-8

First edition
2003-02

Fibre optic communication subsystem test procedures – Digital systems

Part 2-8:
Determination of low BER using Q-factor measurements

Reference number
IEC 61280-2-8:2003(E)

Publication numbering

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Commission Electrotechnique Internationale
International Electrotechnical Commission
Международная Электротехническая Комиссия

PRICE CODE U

For price, see current catalogue

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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

FIBRE OPTIC COMMUNICATION SUBSYSTEM TEST PROCEDURES – DIGITAL SYSTEMS –

Part 2-8: Determination of low BER using Q-factor measurements

FOREWORD

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International Standard IEC 61280-2-8 has been prepared by subcommittee 86C: Fibre optic systems and active devices, of IEC technical committee 86: Fibre optics.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
86C/485/FDIS	86C/505/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.

The committee has decided that the contents of this publication will remain unchanged until 2010. At this date, the publication will be

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- withdrawn;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

FIBRE OPTIC COMMUNICATION SUBSYSTEM TEST PROCEDURES – DIGITAL SYSTEMS –

Part 2-8: Determination of low BER using Q-factor measurements

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61280 specifies two main methods for the determination of low BER values by making accelerated measurements. These include the variable decision threshold method (Clause 4) and the variable optical threshold method (Clause 5). In addition, a third method, the sinusoidal interference method, is described in Annex B.

2 Definitions and abbreviated terms

2.1 Definitions

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

2.1.1
amplified spontaneous emission
ASE
impairment generated in optical amplifiers

2.1.2
bit error ratio
BER
the number bits in error as a ratio of the total number of bits

2.1.3
intersymbol interference
ISI
mutual interference between symbols in a data stream, usually caused by non-linear effects and bandwidth limitations of the transmission path

2.1.4
Q-factor
Q
ratio of the difference between the mean voltage of the 1 and 0 rails, and the sum of their standard deviation values

2.2 Abbreviations

cw	Continuous wave (normally referring to a sinusoidal wave form)
DC	Direct current
DSO	Digital sampling oscilloscope
DUT	Device under test
PRBS	Pseudo-random binary sequence