

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Guide for the statistical analysis of ageing test data –
Part 1: Methods based on mean values of normally distributed test results**

**Guide pour l'analyse statistique de données d'essais de vieillissement –
Partie 1: Méthodes basées sur les valeurs moyennes de résultats d'essais
normalement distribués**





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INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**GUIDE FOR THE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS
OF AGEING TEST DATA –****Part 1: Methods based on mean values
of normally distributed test results****FOREWORD**

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International Standard IEC 60493-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 112: Evaluation and qualification of electrical insulating materials and systems.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition, published in 1974, and constitutes a technical revision.

The main changes with respect to the first edition are that, besides a complete editorial revision, censored data sub-group are considered.

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

CDV	Report on voting
112/172/CDV	112/192/RVC

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 60493 series, published under the general title *Guide for the statistical analysis of ageing test data*, 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- withdrawn,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

Procedures for estimating ageing properties are described in specific test procedures, or are covered by the general documents on test procedures for ageing tests with a specific environmental stress (e.g. temperature, radiation, partial discharges).

In many cases, a certain property is determined as a function of time at different ageing stresses, and a time to failure based on a chosen end-point criterion is found at each ageing stress. A plot of time to failure versus ageing stress may be used to obtain an estimate of the time to failure for similar specimens exposed to a specified stress, or to obtain an estimate of the value of stress which will cause failure in a specified time.

The physical and chemical laws governing the ageing phenomena may often lead to the assumption that a linear relationship exists between the property examined and the ageing time at fixed ageing stresses, or between certain mathematical functions of property and ageing time, e.g. square root or logarithm. Also, there may be a linear relationship between time to failure and ageing stress, or mathematical functions of these variables.

The methods described in this part of IEC 60493 apply to such cases of linear relationship. The methods are illustrated by the example of thermal ageing wherein the case of a simple chemical process it may be assumed that the degradation obeys the Arrhenius law, i.e. the logarithm of time to failure is a linear function of the reciprocal thermodynamic temperature. Numerical examples demonstrating the use of the methods in this case are given in IEC 60216-3 [1]¹.

The calculation processes specified in this standard are based on the assumption that the data under examination are normally distributed. No test for normality of the data is specified, since the available tests are unreliable for small sample groups of data. However, the methods have been used for a considerable time without undesirable results and with no check on the normality of the data distributions.

¹ Figures in square brackets refer to the bibliography.

GUIDE FOR THE STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF AGEING TEST DATA –

Part 1: Methods based on mean values of normally distributed test results

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60493 gives statistical methods which may be applied to the analysis and evaluation of the results of ageing tests.

It covers numerical methods based on mean values of normally distributed test results.

These methods are only valid under specific assumptions regarding the mathematical and physical laws obeyed by the test data. Statistical tests for the validity of some of these assumptions are also given.

This standard deals with data from both complete test sets and censored test sets.

This standard provides data treatment based on the concept of "data sub-group" as defined in Clause 3. The validity of the coefficients used in the calculation processes to derive statistical parameters of the data groups are described in [1].

2 Normative references

None.

3 Terms, definitions and symbols

3.1 Terms and definitions

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

3.1.1

ordered data

set of data arranged in sequence so that in the appropriate direction through the sequence each member is greater than or equal to its predecessor

Note 1 to entry: "Ascending order" in this standard implies that the data is ordered in this way, the first being the smallest.

3.1.2

order-statistic

each individual value in a set of ordered data is referred to as an "order-statistic" identified by its numerical position in the sequence

3.1.3

incomplete data

ordered data, where the values above and/or below defined points are not known

3.1.4

censored data

incomplete data, where the number of unknown values is known