

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Letter symbols to be used in electrical technology –
Part 2: Telecommunications and electronics**

**Symboles littéraux à utiliser en électrotechnique –
Partie 2: Télécommunications et électronique**



THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED

Copyright © 2019 IEC, Geneva, Switzerland

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and microfilm, without permission in writing from either IEC or IEC's member National Committee in the country of the requester. If you have any questions about IEC copyright or have an enquiry about obtaining additional rights to this publication, please contact the address below or your local IEC member National Committee for further information.

Droits de reproduction réservés. Sauf indication contraire, aucune partie de cette publication ne peut être reproduite ni utilisée sous quelque forme que ce soit et par aucun procédé, électronique ou mécanique, y compris la photocopie et les microfilms, sans l'accord écrit de l'IEC ou du Comité national de l'IEC du pays du demandeur. Si vous avez des questions sur le copyright de l'IEC ou si vous désirez obtenir des droits supplémentaires sur cette publication, utilisez les coordonnées ci-après ou contactez le Comité national de l'IEC de votre pays de résidence.

IEC Central Office
3, rue de Varembé
CH-1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11
info@iec.ch
www.iec.ch

About the IEC

The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is the leading global organization that prepares and publishes International Standards for all electrical, electronic and related technologies.

About IEC publications

The technical content of IEC publications is kept under constant review by the IEC. Please make sure that you have the latest edition, a corrigendum or an amendment might have been published.

IEC publications search - webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform

The advanced search enables to find IEC publications by a variety of criteria (reference number, text, technical committee,...). It also gives information on projects, replaced and withdrawn publications.

IEC Just Published - webstore.iec.ch/justpublished

Stay up to date on all new IEC publications. Just Published details all new publications released. Available online and once a month by email.

IEC Customer Service Centre - webstore.iec.ch/csc

If you wish to give us your feedback on this publication or need further assistance, please contact the Customer Service Centre: sales@iec.ch.

Electropedia - www.electropedia.org

The world's leading online dictionary on electrotechnology, containing more than 22 000 terminological entries in English and French, with equivalent terms in 16 additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) online.

IEC Glossary - std.iec.ch/glossary

67 000 electrotechnical terminology entries in English and French extracted from the Terms and Definitions clause of IEC publications issued since 2002. Some entries have been collected from earlier publications of IEC TC 37, 77, 86 and CISPR.

A propos de l'IEC

La Commission Electrotechnique Internationale (IEC) est la première organisation mondiale qui élabore et publie des Normes internationales pour tout ce qui a trait à l'électricité, à l'électronique et aux technologies apparentées.

A propos des publications IEC

Le contenu technique des publications IEC est constamment revu. Veuillez vous assurer que vous possédez l'édition la plus récente, un corrigendum ou amendement peut avoir été publié.

Recherche de publications IEC - webstore.iec.ch/advsearchform

La recherche avancée permet de trouver des publications IEC en utilisant différents critères (numéro de référence, texte, comité d'études,...). Elle donne aussi des informations sur les projets et les publications remplacées ou retirées.

IEC Just Published - webstore.iec.ch/justpublished

Restez informé sur les nouvelles publications IEC. Just Published détaille les nouvelles publications parues. Disponible en ligne et une fois par mois par email.

Service Clients - webstore.iec.ch/csc

Si vous désirez nous donner des commentaires sur cette publication ou si vous avez des questions contactez-nous: sales@iec.ch.

Electropedia - www.electropedia.org

Le premier dictionnaire d'électrotechnologie en ligne au monde, avec plus de 22 000 articles terminologiques en anglais et en français, ainsi que les termes équivalents dans 16 langues additionnelles. Egalement appelé Vocabulaire Electrotechnique International (IEV) en ligne.

Glossaire IEC - std.iec.ch/glossary

67 000 entrées terminologiques électrotechniques, en anglais et en français, extraites des articles Termes et Définitions des publications IEC parues depuis 2002. Plus certaines entrées antérieures extraites des publications des CE 37, 77, 86 et CISPR de l'IEC.

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE

**Letter symbols to be used in electrical technology –
Part 2: Telecommunications and electronics**

**Symboles littéraux à utiliser en électrotechnique –
Partie 2: Télécommunications et électronique**

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

COMMISSION
ELECTROTECHNIQUE
INTERNATIONALE

ICS 01.060; 33.020

ISBN 978-2-8322-6346-4

**Warning! Make sure that you obtained this publication from an authorized distributor.
Attention! Veuillez vous assurer que vous avez obtenu cette publication via un distributeur agréé.**

CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
1 Scope.....	5
2 Normative references	5
3 Terms and definitions	5
4 Introduction to tables	5
5 Quantities and units.....	6
5.1 General concepts.....	6
5.2 Linear time-independent networks under sinusoidal conditions	20
5.2.1 General	20
5.2.2 Two-port networks	20
5.2.3 <i>n</i> -port networks.....	28
5.3 Line transmission of signals and telephony	34
5.3.1 Quantities and units in line transmission.....	34
5.3.2 Subscripts for line transmission	35
5.3.3 Quantities and units in telephony.....	36
5.3.4 Subscripts for telephony	36
5.4 Waveguide propagation	37
5.4.1 Frequency and wavelength in a waveguide.....	37
5.4.2 Characteristic and normalized impedance and admittance in general.....	38
5.4.3 Impedance and admittance at a point in a substance	39
5.4.4 Impedance and admittance at a point in vacuum.....	40
5.4.5 Impedance and admittance of a waveguide	41
5.5 Radiocommunications	42
5.5.1 General and tropospheric propagation	42
5.5.2 Ionospheric propagation	45
5.5.3 Antennas	46
5.5.4 Radio links.....	51
5.6 Optical fibre communication	53
5.7 Television	59
5.8 Dependability.....	61
5.9 Piezoelectric resonators.....	62
5.10 Semiconductor devices	68
5.11 Electroacoustics	68
Bibliography.....	73
Figure 1 – Conventions concerning signs in electric circuits.....	20
Figure 2 – Conventions for <i>n</i> -port linear networks	28
Figure 3 – Equivalent circuits of a one-port piezoelectric resonator.....	62

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

LETTER SYMBOLS TO BE USED IN ELECTRICAL TECHNOLOGY –**Part 2: Telecommunications and electronics**

FOREWORD

- 1) The International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) is a worldwide organization for standardization comprising all national electrotechnical committees (IEC National Committees). The object of 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, IEC publishes International Standards, Technical Specifications, Technical Reports, Publicly Available Specifications (PAS) and Guides (hereafter referred to as "IEC Publication(s)"). 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. 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 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 IEC National Committees.
- 3) IEC Publications have the form of recommendations for international use and are accepted by IEC National Committees in that sense. While all reasonable efforts are made to ensure that the technical content of IEC Publications is accurate, IEC cannot be held responsible for the way in which they are used or for any misinterpretation by any end user.
- 4) In order to promote international uniformity, IEC National Committees undertake to apply IEC Publications transparently to the maximum extent possible in their national and regional publications. Any divergence between any IEC Publication and the corresponding national or regional publication shall be clearly indicated in the latter.
- 5) IEC itself does not provide any attestation of conformity. Independent certification bodies provide conformity assessment services and, in some areas, access to IEC marks of conformity. IEC is not responsible for any services carried out by independent certification bodies.
- 6) All users should ensure that they have the latest edition of this publication.
- 7) No liability shall attach to IEC or its directors, employees, servants or agents including individual experts and members of its technical committees and IEC National Committees for any personal injury, property damage or other damage of any nature whatsoever, whether direct or indirect, or for costs (including legal fees) and expenses arising out of the publication, use of, or reliance upon, this IEC Publication or any other IEC Publications.
- 8) Attention is drawn to the Normative references cited in this publication. Use of the referenced publications is indispensable for the correct application of this publication.
- 9) Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this IEC Publication may be the subject of patent rights. IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

International Standard IEC 60027-2 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 25: Quantities and units.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition published in 2005. This fourth edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) former Subclauses 3.8 and 3.9 are cancelled and replaced by IEC 80000-13:2008;
- b) former Subclause 3.10, now 4.8, is revised in accordance with IEC 60050-192:2015;
- c) former Subclause 3.11, now 4.9, is revised in accordance with IEC 60050-561:2014;
- d) former Subclause 3.13, now 4.11, is revised in accordance with ISO 80000-8:2007, IEC 60050-801:1994 and IEC 60050-802:2011;
- e) technical and editorial corrections have been carried out, mainly in Subclause 4.1.
- f) tables are simplified, mainly by deleting useless columns.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
25/635/FDIS	25/640/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts in the IEC 60027 series, published under the general title *Letter symbols to be used in electrical technology*, can be found on the IEC website.

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

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

LETTER SYMBOLS TO BE USED IN ELECTRICAL TECHNOLOGY –

Part 2: Telecommunications and electronics

1 Scope

This part of IEC 60027 is applicable to telecommunications and electronics. It gives names and symbols for quantities and their units.

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 60027-1:1992, *Letter symbols to be used in electrical technology – Part 1: General*

IEC 60027-1:1992/AMD1:1997

IEC 60027-1:1992/AMD2:2005

3 Terms and definitions

No terms and definitions are listed in this document.

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

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

4 Introduction to tables

In this part of IEC 60027, complex quantities are in general denoted by underlining their symbols. However, this does not constitute a compulsory rule in applications (see IEC 60027-1).

To avoid any ambiguity, some quantity names are followed by a specific use, enclosed in angle brackets "<...>" after a comma.

When several symbols are indicated for a given quantity, the first is the preferred symbol and the others are reserve symbols, unless otherwise stated.

When several units are indicated for a given quantity, the first is the coherent SI unit, unless otherwise stated. For logarithmic ratios, the first mentioned unit is the decibel.

For quantities defined as a logarithm of the ratio of two power quantities or two root-power quantities (also known as field quantities), the submultiple decibel (dB) of the bel (B) is generally used, rather than the neper (Np). The bel is not explicitly mentioned in the tables. See IEC 60027-3 and ISO 80000-1:2009, Annex C.