

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Optical amplifiers – Test methods –**

**Part 4-1: Gain transient parameters – Two-wavelength method**

**Amplificateurs optiques – Méthodes d'essai –**

**Partie 4-1: Paramètres de gain transitoire – Méthode à deux longueurs d'onde**



## THIS PUBLICATION IS COPYRIGHT PROTECTED

Copyright © 2011 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 la CEI ou du Comité national de la CEI du pays du demandeur.

Si vous avez des questions sur le copyright de la CEI ou si vous désirez obtenir des droits supplémentaires sur cette publication, utilisez les coordonnées ci-après ou contactez le Comité national de la CEI de votre pays de résidence.

IEC Central Office  
3, rue de Varembe  
CH-1211 Geneva 20  
Switzerland  
Email: [inmail@iec.ch](mailto:inmail@iec.ch)  
Web: [www.iec.ch](http://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 corrigenda or an amendment might have been published.

- Catalogue of IEC publications: [www.iec.ch/searchpub](http://www.iec.ch/searchpub)

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 It also gives information on projects, withdrawn and replaced publications.

- IEC Just Published: [www.iec.ch/online\\_news/justpub](http://www.iec.ch/online_news/justpub)

Stay up to date on all new IEC publications. Just Published details twice a month all new publications released. Available on-line and also by email.

- Electropedia: [www.electropedia.org](http://www.electropedia.org)

The world's leading online dictionary of electronic and electrical terms containing more than 20 000 terms and definitions in English and French, with equivalent terms in additional languages. Also known as the International Electrotechnical Vocabulary online.

- Customer Service Centre: [www.iec.ch/webstore/custserv](http://www.iec.ch/webstore/custserv)

If you wish to give us your feedback on this publication or need further assistance, please visit the Customer Service Centre FAQ or contact us:

Email: [csc@iec.ch](mailto:csc@iec.ch)

Tel.: +41 22 919 02 11

Fax: +41 22 919 03 00

### A propos de la CEI

La Commission Electrotechnique Internationale (CEI) 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 CEI

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

- Catalogue des publications de la CEI: [www.iec.ch/searchpub/cur\\_fut-f.htm](http://www.iec.ch/searchpub/cur_fut-f.htm)

Le Catalogue en-ligne de la CEI vous permet d'effectuer des recherches en utilisant différents critères (numéro de référence, texte, comité d'études,...). Il donne aussi des informations sur les projets et les publications retirées ou remplacées.

- Just Published CEI: [www.iec.ch/online\\_news/justpub](http://www.iec.ch/online_news/justpub)

Restez informé sur les nouvelles publications de la CEI. Just Published détaille deux fois par mois les nouvelles publications parues. Disponible en-ligne et aussi par email.

- Electropedia: [www.electropedia.org](http://www.electropedia.org)

Le premier dictionnaire en ligne au monde de termes électroniques et électriques. Il contient plus de 20 000 termes et définitions en anglais et en français, ainsi que les termes équivalents dans les langues additionnelles. Egalement appelé Vocabulaire Electrotechnique International en ligne.

- Service Clients: [www.iec.ch/webstore/custserv/custserv\\_entry-f.htm](http://www.iec.ch/webstore/custserv/custserv_entry-f.htm)

Si vous désirez nous donner des commentaires sur cette publication ou si vous avez des questions, visitez le FAQ du Service clients ou contactez-nous:

Email: [csc@iec.ch](mailto:csc@iec.ch)

Tél.: +41 22 919 02 11

Fax: +41 22 919 03 00

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

## NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Optical amplifiers – Test methods –  
Part 4-1: Gain transient parameters – Two-wavelength method**

**Amplificateurs optiques – Méthodes d'essai –  
Partie 4-1: Paramètres de gain transitoire – Méthode à deux longueurs d'onde**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

COMMISSION  
ELECTROTECHNIQUE  
INTERNATIONALE

PRICE CODE  
CODE PRIX

ICS 33.180.30

ISBN 978-2-88912-614-9

## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
INTRODUCTION.....	5
1 Scope and object.....	6
2 Normative references.....	6
3 Terms, definitions and abbreviations.....	6
3.1 General.....	6
3.2 Terms and definitions.....	9
3.3 Abbreviated terms.....	10
4 Apparatus.....	11
5 Test specimen.....	11
6 Procedure.....	11
7 Calculations.....	12
8 Test results.....	12
Annex A (informative) Background on transient phenomenon in optical amplifiers.....	13
Annex B (informative) Slew rate effect on transient gain response.....	16
Bibliography.....	19
Figure 1 – Definitions of rise and fall times (a) in the case of a channel addition event, and (b) in the case of a channel removal event.....	7
Figure 2 – OFA transient gain response for (a) a channel removal event, and (b) a channel addition event.....	8
Figure 3 – Generic transient control measurement setup.....	11
Figure A.1 – EDFA pump control for a chain of 5 EDFAs and 4 fibre spans.....	14
Figure A.2 – EDFA spectral hole depth for different gain compression.....	15
Figure A.3 – EDFA spectral hole depth for different wavelengths.....	15
Figure B.1 – Transient gain response at various slew rates.....	17
Figure B.2 – 16 dB add/drop (rise time = 10 µsec).....	18
Figure B.3 – 16 dB add/drop (rise time = 1 000 µsec).....	18
Table 1 – Examples of add and drop scenarios for transient control measurement.....	12
Table 2 – Typical results of transient control measurement.....	12
Table B.1 – Transient gain response for various rise time and fall time (16 dB add/drop).....	17

## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

# OPTICAL AMPLIFIERS – TEST METHODS –

## Part 4-1: Gain transient parameters – Two-wavelength method

## 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 61290-4-1 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:

CDV	Report on voting
86C/956/CDV	86C/1011/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 parts of the IEC 61290 series, published under the general title *Optical amplifiers – Test methods* can be found on the IEC website.

Future standards in this series will carry the new general title as cited above. Titles of existing standards in this series will be updated at the time of the next edition.

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.

**IMPORTANT – The 'colour inside' logo on the cover page of this publication indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this document using a colour printer.**

## INTRODUCTION

This part of IEC 61290-4 is devoted to the subject of Optical Amplifiers (OAs). The technology of optical amplifiers is quite new and still emerging; hence amendments and new editions to this standard can be expected.

Each abbreviation introduced in this standard is explained in the text at least the first time it appears. However, for an easier understanding of the whole text, a list of all abbreviations used in this standard is given in 3.3.

Background information on the transient phenomenon in erbium-doped fibre amplifiers and the consequences on fibre optic systems is provided in Annex A and on slew rate effects in Annex B.

This document is a preview generated by EVS

## OPTICAL AMPLIFIERS – TEST METHODS –

### Part 4-1: Gain transient parameters – Two-wavelength method

#### 1 Scope and object

This part of IEC 61290-4 applies to erbium-doped fibre amplifiers (EDFAs) and optically amplified elementary sub-systems. It applies to OAs using active fibres (optical fibre amplifiers, OFAs), containing rare-earth dopants. These amplifiers are commercially available and widely deployed in service provider networks.

The object of this part of IEC 61290-4 is to provide the general background for EDFA transients and related parameters, and to describe a standard test method for accurate and reliable measurement of the following transient parameters:

- Channel addition/removal transient gain overshoot and transient net gain overshoot
- Channel addition/removal transient gain undershoot and transient net gain undershoot
- Channel addition/removal gain offset
- Channel addition/removal transient gain response time constant (settling time)

#### 2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application 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 61291-1, *Optical amplifiers – Part 1: Generic specification*

NOTE A list of informative references is given in the Bibliography.

#### 3 Terms, definitions and abbreviations

##### 3.1 General

When the input power to an OFA operating in saturation changes sharply, the gain of the amplifier will typically exhibit a transient response before settling back into the required gain. This response is dictated both by the optical characteristics of the active fibre within the OFA as well as the performance of the automatic gain control (AGC) mechanism.

Since a change in input power typically occurs when part of the DWDM channels within the specified transmission band are dropped or added, definitions are provided that describe a dynamic event leading to transient response. Rise and fall time definitions are shown in Figure 1.