

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION



Utility-interconnected photovoltaic inverters – Test procedure for low voltage ride-through measurements



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Utility-interconnected photovoltaic inverters – Test procedure for low voltage ride-through measurements

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

ICS 27.160

ISBN 978-2-8322-2957-6

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD	4
1 Scope	6
2 Normative references	6
3 Terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviations	6
3.1 Terms, definitions and symbols	6
3.2 Abbreviations	8
4 Test circuit and equipment	9
4.1 General	9
4.2 Test circuit	9
4.3 Test equipment	9
4.3.1 Measuring instruments	9
4.3.2 DC source	10
4.3.3 Short-circuit emulator	10
4.3.4 Converter based grid simulator	13
5 Test	13
5.1 Test protocol	13
5.2 Test curve	15
5.3 Test procedure	16
5.3.1 Pre-test	16
5.3.2 No-load test	16
5.3.3 Tolerance	16
5.3.4 Load test	17
6 Assessment criteria	17
Annex A (informative) Circuit faults and voltage drops	18
A.1 Fault types	18
A.2 Voltage drops	20
A.2.1 General	20
A.2.2 Three-phase short-circuit fault	20
A.2.3 Two-phase short-circuit fault with ground	21
A.2.4 Two-phase short-circuit fault without ground	22
A.2.5 Single-phase short-circuit fault with ground	23
Annex B (informative) Determination of critical performance values in LVRT testing	24
B.1 General	24
B.2 Drop depth ratio	24
B.3 Ride-through time	24
B.4 Reactive current	24
B.5 Active power	25
Bibliography	26
Figure 1 – Testing circuit diagram	9
Figure 2 – Short-circuit emulator	11
Figure 3 – Converter device example	13
Figure 4 – LVRT curve example	16
Figure 5 – Tolerance of voltage drop	17

Figure A.1 – Grid fault diagram	20
Figure A.2 – Diagram of voltage vector for three-phase short-circuit fault	20
Figure A.3 – Diagram of voltage vector of two-phase (BC) short-circuit fault with ground	21
Figure A.4 – Diagram of voltage vector of two-phase (BC) short-circuit fault	22
Figure A.5 – Diagram of voltage vector of single-phase (A) short-circuit fault with ground	23
Figure B.1 – Determination of reactive current output	25
Figure B.2 – Determination of active power recovery	25
Table 1 – Accuracy of measurements	10
Table 2 – Fault type and switch status	12
Table 3 – Test specification for LVRT (indicative)	14
Table A.1 – Short-circuit paths for different fault types	18
Table A.2 – Amplitude and phase changes in three-phase short-circuit fault	21
Table A.3 – Amplitude and phase changes in two-phase (BC) short-circuit fault with ground	22
Table A.4 – Amplitude and phase changes in two-phase (BC) short-circuit fault	22
Table A.5 – Amplitude and phase changes in single-phase (A) short-circuit fault with ground	23

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**UTILITY-INTERCONNECTED PHOTOVOLTAIC INVERTERS –
TEST PROCEDURE FOR LOW VOLTAGE
RIDE-THROUGH MEASUREMENTS**

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Technical specifications are subject to review within three years of publication to decide whether they can be transformed into International Standards.

IEC TS 62910, which is a technical specification, has been prepared by IEC technical committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems.

The text of this technical specification is based on the following documents:

Enquiry draft	Report on voting
82/884/DTS	82/1005/RVC

Full information on the voting for the approval of this technical specification 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 the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

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UTILITY-INTERCONNECTED PHOTOVOLTAIC INVERTERS – TEST PROCEDURE FOR LOW VOLTAGE RIDE-THROUGH MEASUREMENTS

1 Scope

This Technical Specification provides a test procedure for evaluating the performance of Low Voltage Ride-Through (LVRT) functions in inverters used in utility-interconnected PV systems.

The technical specification is most applicable to large systems where PV inverters are connected to utility HV distribution systems. However, the applicable procedures may also be used for LV installations in locations where evolving LVRT requirements include such installations, e.g. single-phase or 3-phase systems.

The assessed LVRT performance is valid only for the specific configuration and operational mode of the inverter under test. Separate assessment is required for the inverter in other factory or user-settable configurations, as these may cause the inverter LVRT response to behave differently.

The measurement procedures are designed to be as non-site-specific as possible, so that LVRT characteristics measured at one test site, for example, can also be considered valid at other sites.

This technical specification is for testing of PV inverters, though it contains information that may also be useful for testing of a complete PV power plant consisting of multiple inverters connected at a single point to the utility grid. It further provides a basis for utility-interconnected PV inverter numerical simulation and model validation.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 61400-21:2008, *Wind turbines – Part 21: Measurement and assessment of power quality characteristics of grid connected wind turbines*

3 Terms, definitions, symbols and abbreviations

3.1 Terms, definitions and symbols

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

3.1.1

drop depth

magnitude of voltage drop during a fault or simulated fault, as a percentage of the nominal supply voltage

3.1.2

double drop

sudden decline of the nominal voltage to a value below 90 % of the voltage of PCC, followed after a short time by a voltage recovery, which happened twice. Voltage changes which do not

reduce the voltage to below 90 % of the voltage of PCC are not considered to be voltage drops

3.1.3

equipment under test

EUT

EUT indicates the equipment on which these tests are performed and refers to the utility-interconnected PV inverter. During test period, EUT is connected with PV simulator instead of real PV modules on the DC side, while AC side is connected with grid

3.1.4

IT system

IT power system has all live parts isolated from earth or one point connected to earth through an impedance. The exposed-conductive-parts of the electrical installation are earthed independently or collectively or to the earthing of the system

[SOURCE: IEC 60364-1:2005, 312.2.3]

3.1.5

I_q

output reactive current of EUT

3.1.6

low voltage ride through

LVRT

capability of an inverter to continue generating power to connected loads during a limited duration loss or drop of grid voltage

3.1.7

maximum MPP voltage

maximum voltage at which the EUT can convert its rated power under MPPT conditions

[SOURCE: EN 50530:2010]

3.1.8

maximum power point tracking

MPPT

control strategy of operation at maximum power point or nearby

3.1.9

minimum MPP voltage

minimum voltage at which the EUT can convert its rated power under MPPT conditions

[SOURCE: EN 50530:2010]

3.1.10

N_{EUT}

access point of the EUT during the test

3.1.11

P_N

rated power of EUT

3.1.12

point of common coupling

PCC

point of a power supply network, electrically nearest to a particular load, at which other loads are, or may be, connected

Note 1 to entry: These loads can be either devices, equipment or system, or distinct customer's installations.

Note 2 to entry: In some applications, the term "point of common coupling" is restricted to public networks.

[SOURCE: IEC 60050-161:1990, 161-07-15]

3.1.13

proportionality constant K

K-factor

voltage support of EUT in accordance with the voltage drops. The K-factor is to be specified by the EUT manufacturer.

3.1.14

PV array simulator

simulator that has I-V characteristics equivalent to a PV array

3.1.15

PV simulator MPP voltage

$U_{MPP, PVS}$

MPP voltage of the setting PV curve that is provided by the PV simulator

3.1.16

S_{EUT}

apparent short-circuit power at N_{EUT}

3.1.17

single drop

sudden decline of the nominal voltage to a value below 90 % of the voltage of PCC, followed after a short time by a voltage recovery, which happened once. Voltage changes which do not reduce the voltage to below 90 % of the voltage of PCC are not considered to be voltage drops

3.1.18

Z_{grid}

grid short-circuit impedance value of the MP1 (see Figure 1)

3.1.19

Z_i

impedance value between the fault point and PCC

3.1.20

Z_p

impedance value between the fault point and EUT

3.2 Abbreviations

AC	alternating current
A/D	analog to digital
DC	direct current
HV	high voltage
LV	low voltage
MV	middle voltage
RMS	root mean square

4 Test circuit and equipment

4.1 General

The circuits and equipment described in this clause are developed to allow tests that simulate the full range of anticipated grid faults, including:

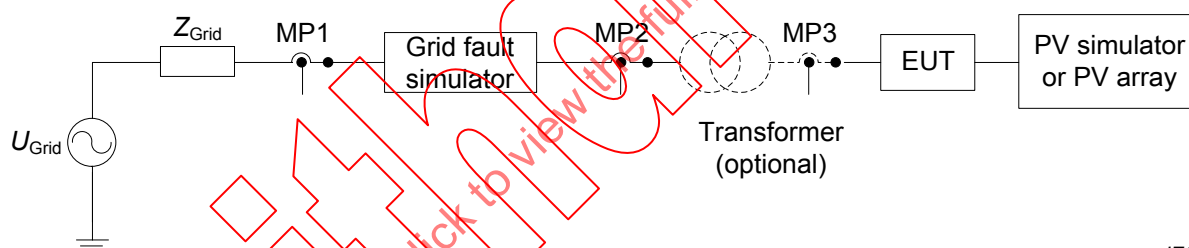
- Single phase to ground fault (any phase).
- Two phase isolated fault, between any two phases.
- Two phase grounded fault, involving any two phases.
- Three phase short-circuit fault.

A full discussion of these faults and the resulting impact on voltage magnitude and phase angles is included in Annex A.

The short circuit emulator and grid simulator described in 4.3.3 and 4.3.4 are informative examples and are not intended to restrict design flexibility. Other designs may be used to achieve equivalent test functionality.

4.2 Test circuit

The LVRT test circuit includes a DC source, the EUT, a grid fault simulator and the grid. A PV simulator (or PV array) provides input energy for the EUT. The output of the EUT is connected to the grid via a grid fault simulator, as shown in Figure 1.



IEC

NOTE MP1 is the measurement point between the grid and the grid fault simulator; MP2 is the measurement point at the high voltage side of the transformer; MP3 is the measurement point at the low voltage side of the transformer.

Figure 1 – Testing circuit diagram

4.3 Test equipment

4.3.1 Measuring instruments

Waveforms shall be measured by a device with memory function, for example, a storage or digital oscilloscope, or a high speed data acquisition device. Accuracy of the oscilloscope or data acquisition system should be at least 0,2 % of full scale. The analogue to A/D of the measurement device shall have at least 12 bit resolution (in order to maintain the required measurement accuracy).

Voltage transducers (or voltage transformers) and current transducers (or current transformers) are the required sensors for measurement. The accuracy of the transducers should be 0,5 % of full scale or better. It is necessary to select the transducer measuring range depending on the normal value of the signal to be measured. The selected measuring range shall not exceed 150 % of the normal value of the measured signal. The transducer accuracy requirements are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 – Accuracy of measurements

Measurement device	Accuracy
Data acquisition device	0,2 % full scale
Voltage transducer	0,5 % full scale
Current transducer	0,5 % full scale

4.3.2 DC source

A PV array, PV array simulator or controlled DC source with PV characteristics may be used as the DC power source to supply input energy for the LVRT test. As the EUT input source, the DC power source shall be capable of supplying the EUT maximum input power and other power levels during the test, at minimum and maximum input operating voltages of the EUT.

The PV simulator should emulate the current/voltage characteristic of the PV module or PV array for which the EUT is designed. The response time of a PV simulator should not be longer than the MPP tracking response time of EUT.

For a EUT under test without galvanic isolation between the DC side and AC side, the output of the PV simulator shall not be earthed.

The equivalent capacitance between the output of the PV simulator and earth should be as low as possible in order to minimize the impact on the EUT.

A PV array used as the EUT input source shall be capable of matching the EUT input power levels specified by the test conditions. It is necessary to select a period of time in which the solar irradiance is stable and does not vary by more than 5 % during the test.

4.3.3 Short-circuit emulator

As part of the grid simulator device, the short-circuit emulator is used to create the voltage drops due to short-circuits between the two or three phases, or between one or two phases to ground, via the impedance network Z_1 and Z_2 as shown in the test device layout in Figure 2.

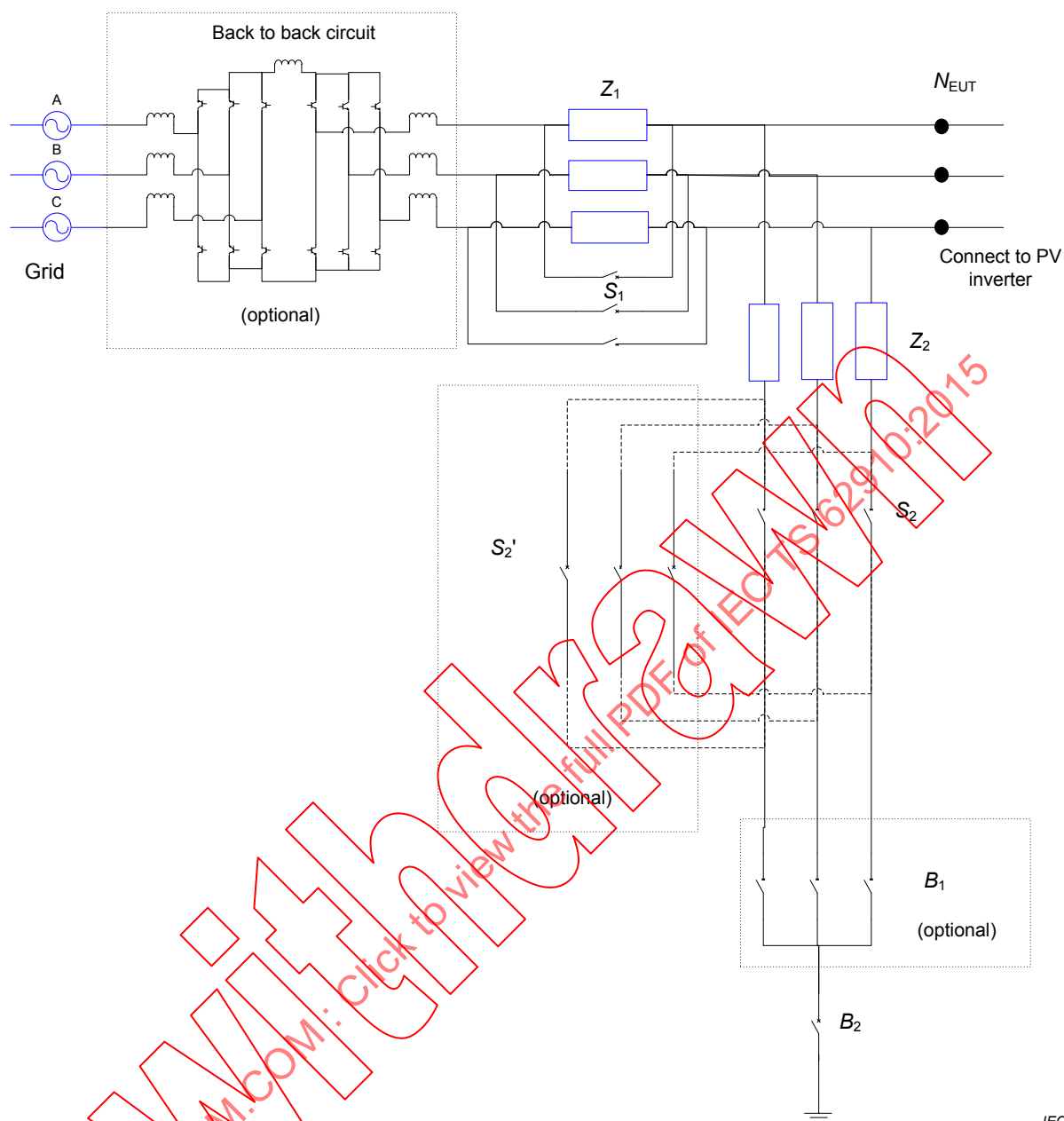


Figure 2 – Short-circuit emulator

The impedance Z_1 is used to limit the effect of the short circuit on the utility service that powers the test circuit. The sizing of Z_1 shall therefore account for all test sequences to be performed and limit the short-circuit current taken from the grid to values that do not cause an excessive reduction of the grid voltage. Considering an acceptable voltage reduction of at most 5 % when performing the test, the minimum value of Z_1 shall be at least $20 \times Z_{\text{Grid}}$, where Z_{Grid} is the grid short-circuit impedance measured at the test circuit connection point.

To ensure that the test is realistic, however, the apparent short-circuit power (S_{EUT}) available at the EUT connection node N_{EUT} should be at least equal to $3 \times P_n$, where P_n is the rated power of the EUT (minimum value $S_{\text{EUT}} > 3 \times P_n$, recommended $S_{\text{EUT}} = 5$ to $6 \times P_n$). This means that during the short-circuit tests, the contribution of current through Z_1 and Z_2 from the grid remains dominant compared to the current contributed by the EUT. In this way, the inverter current does not create a significant voltage rise for the duration of the test relative to the no-load drop.

The two conditions described above define the minimum and maximum limits of Z_1 . The two conditions combined also define the limit criteria for the choice of a grid infrastructure suitable for performing the test with the impedance circuit. If the grid infrastructure cannot meet the above requirements, an alternative test circuit utilizing a back-to-back converter is allowed, as shown in Figure 2 and may be added to reduce the grid short-circuit impedance Z_{Grid} .

Generally, the X/R value of inductor Z_1 and Z_2 for the short-circuit emulator may close to the transmission line impedance values for different countries and regions. It is also appropriate that the inductive impedances Z_1 and Z_2 should be characterised by an X/R ratio equal to at least 3, in order to reproduce the typical minimum values of X/R found in HV as well as MV power lines.

NOTE 1 X: Equivalent impedance of inductor.

NOTE 2 R: Equivalent resistance of inductor.

A bypass connection (Switch S_1) of Z_1 is usually used to prevent overheating of the impedance Z_1 before and after the execution of each test sequence.

The voltage drop is created by connecting the impedance Z_2 by the switch S_2 . If the voltage drop is required to be created twice in a short period (for double drop tests), a parallel switch S_2' is normally used. The value of $Z_2/(Z_1+Z_2+Z_{\text{Grid}})$ shall be adjusted to the required voltage magnitudes. For example, when the required voltage magnitude is 50 % of the rated voltage, the value of $Z_2/(Z_1+Z_2+Z_{\text{Grid}})$ should be about 0,5.

The switch S_2 shall be able to accurately control the time between connection and disconnection of Z_2 for single phase, two-phase or three-phase tests. If the phase of switch S_2 cannot be independently controlled, the serial switch B_1 may be used to choose the fault phase. B_2 is used to select whether the fault is to earth or not. All switches may be either mechanical circuit breakers or power electronic devices.

The status of switch B_1 and B_2 should be set before performing the test. The status of switches corresponding to fault types is shown in Table 2.

The test report shall specify the values of impedances Z_1 and Z_2 , the related X/R ratio, and a description of the circuit used. In addition, the grid short-circuit power available at the voltage level at which the test is performed shall be documented.

The status of switches and fault types are shown in Table 2.

Table 2 – Fault type and switch status

Fault type	Switch status			
	Phase A of B_1	Phase B of B_1	Phase C of B_1	B_2
Phase A to ground	Closed	Open	Open	Closed
Phase B to ground	Open	Closed	Open	Closed
Phase C to ground	Open	Open	Closed	Closed
Phase A and B to ground	Closed	Closed	Open	Closed
Phase B and C to ground	Open	Closed	Closed	Closed
Phase C and A to ground	Closed	Open	Closed	Closed
Phase A and B	Closed	Closed	Open	Open
Phase B and C	Open	Closed	Closed	Open
Phase C and A	Closed	Open	Closed	Open
Phase A, B and C	Closed	Closed	Closed	–

During the period of voltage drop, S_1 should be opened first. S_2 should be closed after S_1 is opened. The time interval between the above two actions shall be very short.

During the period of voltage recovery, S_2 should be opened first. S_1 should be closed after S_2 is opened. The time interval between the above two actions shall be very short.

4.3.4 Converter based grid simulator

The test circuit mentioned in 4.3.3 is recommended for simulation of grid faults. However, if the test conditions cannot be met, an alternative test circuit utilizing a back-to-back converter is allowed, as shown in Figure 3.

The test circuit essentially comprises a voltage source with a low internal resistance combined with broadband amplifiers (linear or forced switching type) capable of faithfully reproducing three sinusoidal voltages with controlled harmonic content, and adjustable amplitude, fundamental frequency and phase relationship within broad margins.

When the converter is used, it shall meet the following requirements:

- It shall be capable of independently controlling the three phases in terms of amplitude and phase angle.
- It shall incorporate impedances Z_A , Z_B and Z_C , that can be adjusted in order to reproduce the ohmic and inductive components of short-circuit impedances that are typical of the grid.
- It shall be capable of reproducing the phase voltages and relative phase angles that occur on the LV side of transformers in the event of each of the various fault types. (See Annex A for the vector representations for each fault).

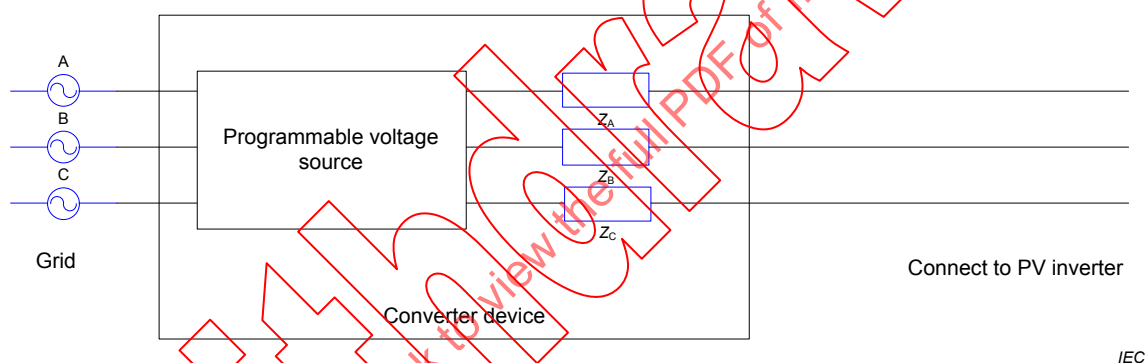


Figure 3 – Converter device example

If the programmable voltage source is a bi-directional, controlled output voltage type and is capable of replicating the influence of short-circuit impedances typical of the grid, the impedances Z_A , Z_B , Z_C may be omitted.

5 Test

5.1 Test protocol

The LVRT test protocol is designed to verify that the EUT responds appropriately to voltage drops (due to grid faults). During the test, the EUT shall demonstrate that it can:

- Appropriately detect the simulated fault.
- Ride through the event and continue operation as specified in the applicable curves.
- Not suffer any damage from the event.

NOTE The required levels of active power and reactive power output during the voltage drop period may differ depending on the country local codes.

The response to the voltage drop specified in Table 3 shall be recorded over the EUT operating period with two output power ranges:

- between $0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$;

b) above $0,9 P_n$;

and with two fault conditions:

c) three-phase drop;

d) two-phase drop or single-phase drop.

The tests should be carried out at least twice at each test point listed in Table 3.

Table 3 – Test specification for LVRT (indicative) (1 of 2)

Drop times	Drop depth ^b	Drop phase ^c	EUT output conditions ^d
Single drop	A_1	Three-phase	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
		Two-phase	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
		Two-phase to ground	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
		Single-phase to ground	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
	...	Three-phase	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
		Two-phase	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
		Two-phase to ground	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
		Single-phase to ground	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
		Three-phase	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
		Two-phase	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
		Two-phase to ground	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
		Single-phase to ground	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
	A_n	Three-phase	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
		Two-phase	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
		Two-phase to ground	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)
		Single-phase to ground	Full load (above $0,9 P_n$)
			Part load ($0,1 P_n$ and $0,3 P_n$)

Table 3 (2 of 2)

Drop times	Drop depth ^b	Drop phase ^c	EUT output conditions ^d	
Double drop ^a	A ₁	Three-phase	Full load (above 0,9 P _n)	
			Part load (0,1 P _n and 0,3 P _n)	
		Two-phase	Full load (above 0,9 P _n)	
			Part load (0,1 P _n and 0,3 P _n)	
		Two-phase to ground	Full load (above 0,9 P _n)	
			Part load (0,1 P _n and 0,3 P _n)	
		Single-phase to ground	Full load (above 0,9 P _n)	
			Part load (0,1 P _n and 0,3 P _n)	
	...	Three-phase	Full load (above 0,9 P _n)	
			Part load (0,1 P _n and 0,3 P _n)	
		Two-phase	Full load (above 0,9 P _n)	
			Part load (0,1 P _n and 0,3 P _n)	
		Two-phase to ground	Full load (above 0,9 P _n)	
			Part load (0,1 P _n and 0,3 P _n)	
		Single-phase to ground	Full load (above 0,9 P _n)	
			Part load (0,1 P _n and 0,3 P _n)	
		A _n	Three-phase	Full load (above 0,9 P _n)
				Part load (0,1 P _n and 0,3 P _n)
			Two-phase	Full load (above 0,9 P _n)
				Part load (0,1 P _n and 0,3 P _n)
	Two-phase to ground		Full load (above 0,9 P _n)	
			Part load (0,1 P _n and 0,3 P _n)	
	Single-phase to ground		Full load (above 0,9 P _n)	
			Part load (0,1 P _n and 0,3 P _n)	

^a Double drop test may be required in some countries or regions. For devices under test not being required for double drop test, above testing points can be omitted.

^b Drop depth is the residual voltage during the LVRT testing period which can be decided according to the requirement specified by different countries or regions (See Clause B.2 for drop depth ratio calculation).

^c Drop phase can be decided according to the requirement specified by different countries or regions; the value of two-phase voltage should be line voltage.

^d The test should be carried out under specified K-factor provided by local manufacture.

5.2 Test curve

The LVRT response characteristic shall meet the requirements of the LVRT curve specified by different countries and regions as needed. An example LVRT curve is shown in Figure 4.

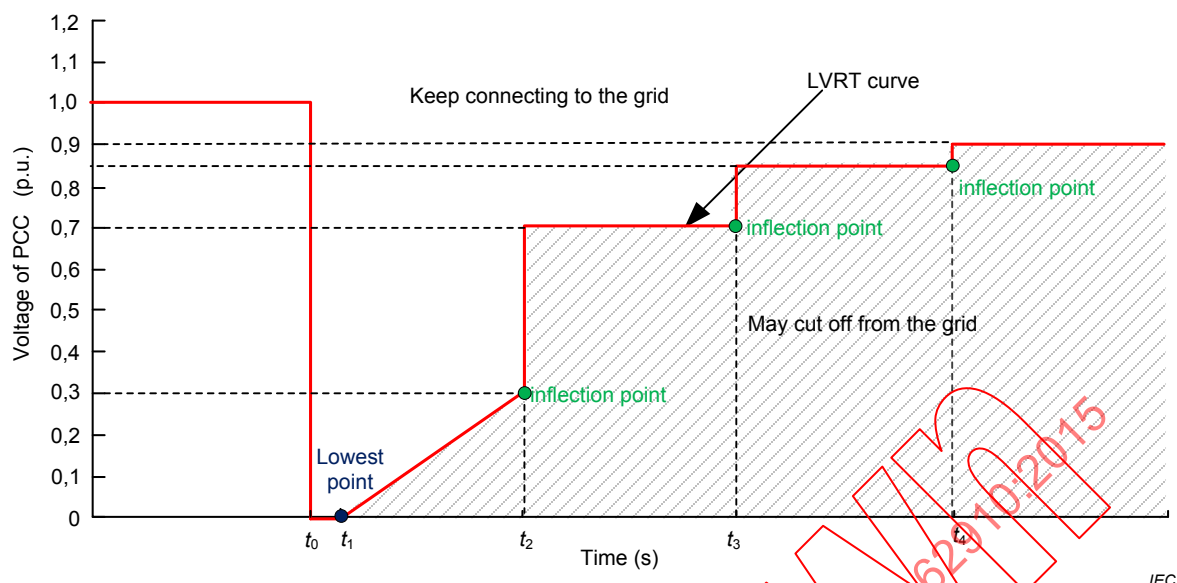


Figure 4 – LVRT curve example

The example curve shows that the EUT should keep operating during operating conditions indicated in the area above the LVRT curve. Specifically, the EUT should keep operating for $(t_1 - t_0)$ seconds without disconnecting from the grid when the interconnection voltage drops to 0 % of rated voltage; for $(t_2 - t_0)$ seconds when the voltage drops to 30 % of rated voltage; and for $(t_3 - t_0)$ seconds when the voltage drops to 70 % of rated voltage. The EUT should disconnect from the grid during operating conditions indicated within the shaded areas.

The example shows two types of points on the LVRT curve: the lowest point and the inflection point. Tests shall be carried out at both types of points.

5.3 Test procedure

5.3.1 Pre-test

Prior to the fault simulation tests, the EUT should run in normal operating mode. The selected LVRT curve should be used to identify voltage drop points, including the lowest point and the inflection point, as well as other random points in the curve. Selection of the drop time should follow the requirement of the applicable country or region.

5.3.2 No-load test

Prior to the load test, adjust the fault emulator to simulate symmetrical and asymmetrical voltage drops without EUT connection, and validate that the measured results are as intended. This step ensures that the amplitude of voltage and drop duration can match the requirements in Figure 5.

5.3.3 Tolerance

The tolerances for drop depth and duration during the no-load test shall reference the requirement of Figure 6 in IEC 61400-21:2008, and not exceed the values shown in Figure 5.

The tolerance for voltage magnitude is ± 5 % of rated voltage for the period before and during the voltage drop. The tolerance for voltage magnitude is ± 10 % of rated voltage during the period after voltage is recovered. The tolerances shall be measured between 0 and +5 % of rated voltage for the lowest point and the inflection point under no-load conditions.

The duration of each voltage drop is determined according to the requirements of the applicable LVRT curve. The tolerance range for both drop duration and rise time prefers 40 ms.

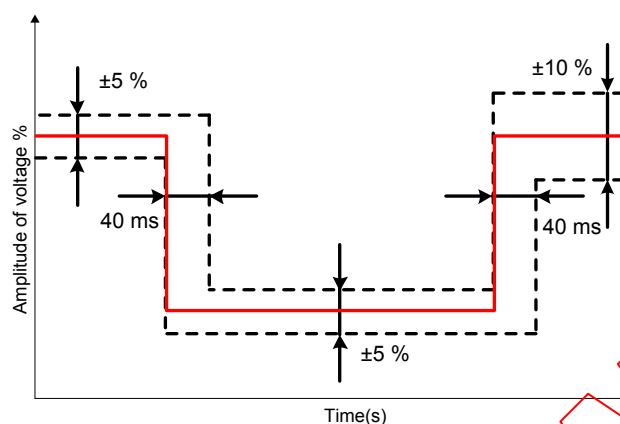


Figure 5 – Tolerance of voltage drop

5.3.4 Load test

Tests under load shall be carried out after the no-load test results successfully meet the performance requirements. The parameters of the grid fault simulator should be consistent with the no-load test.

With the EUT connected to the grid fault simulator device and the PV simulator(or PV array), the output power should be set to $(0,1 \sim 0,3)P_n$ and above $0,9P_n$ separately. Additional load tests at other power levels should be performed as determined by the specific country or regional requirements.

During the LVRT test, MP1, MP2, and MP3 (shown in Figure 1) shall be selected as the test points for measuring and recording the values of voltage and current.

The waveform and data of the measured voltage and current at the measuring points shall be recorded by the data acquisition device from time *A* prior to the voltage drop to time *B* after the subsequent voltage rise.

For “*A*” and “*B*”, specific data should be determined by different countries or regions.

6 Assessment criteria

The various assessment criteria is determined by the requirements of the different countries or regions. The characteristics and performance criteria for utilization are shown in Annex B, and can be referenced by a local user.

Annex A (informative)

Circuit faults and voltage drops

A.1 Fault types

The grid faults of high voltage power transmission line are commonly divided into four different types: single-phase grounded fault, two-phase short circuit fault, two-phase grounded fault, and three-phase short circuit fault. The most common one is the single-phase grounded fault, which accounting for over 90 % of the total number of the faults.

Considering the different fault phases, the short circuit paths for all types of fault are shown in Table A.1.

Table A.1 – Short-circuit paths for different fault types

Type No.	Short circuit type	Equivalent diagram	Mathematical formulae
1	Single-phase (A) short circuit grounded fault		$V_{fa} = 0$ $I_{fa} \neq 0$ $I_{fb} = I_{fc} = 0$
2	Single-phase (B) short circuit grounded fault		$V_{fb} = 0$ $I_{fb} \neq 0$ $I_{fa} = I_{fc} = 0$
3	Single-phase (C) short circuit grounded fault		$V_{fc} = 0$ $I_{fc} \neq 0$ $I_{fa} = I_{fb} = 0$
4	Two-phase (AB) short circuit isolated fault		$V_{fa} = V_{fb} \neq 0$ $I_{fc} = 0$ $I_{fa} + I_{fb} = 0$

Type No.	Short circuit type	Equivalent diagram	Mathematical formulae
5	Two-phase (BC) short circuit isolated fault		$V_{fb} = V_{fc} \neq 0$ $I_{fa} = 0$ $I_{fb} + I_{fc} = 0$
6	Two-phase (CA) short circuit isolated fault		$V_{fa} = V_{fc} \neq 0$ $I_{fb} = 0$ $I_{fa} + I_{fc} = 0$
7	Two-phase (AB) short circuit grounded fault		$V_{fa} = V_{fb} = 0$ $I_{fc} = 0$ $I_{fa} + I_{fb} \neq 0$
8	Two-phase (BC) short circuit grounded fault		$V_{fb} = V_{fc} = 0$ $I_{fa} = 0$ $I_{fb} + I_{fc} \neq 0$
9	Two-phase (CA) short circuit grounded fault		$V_{fa} = V_{fc} = 0$ $I_{fb} = 0$ $I_{fa} + I_{fc} \neq 0$
10	Three-phase short-circuit fault		$V_{fa} = V_{fb} = V_{fc} = 0$ $I_{fa} + I_{fb} + I_{fc} = 0$

NOTE 1 V_{fa} , V_{fb} and V_{fc} mean fault voltage of phase A, phase B and phase C at fault point separately.

NOTE 2 I_{fa} , I_{fb} and I_{fc} mean fault current of phase A, phase B and phase C at fault point separately.

NOTE 3 Type No. 1, 2, 3, 7, 8 and 9 are not applicable for IT system.

A.2 Voltage drops

A.2.1 General

When a fault occurs, the voltage amplitude in the faulted phase should be decreased. When a fault occurs between two phases, the phase angle should be changed on inverter output side. Due to the different types of line-transformer connections, the magnitude and phase of inverter AC voltage will vary. Figure A.1 shows the circuit topology under the fault condition.

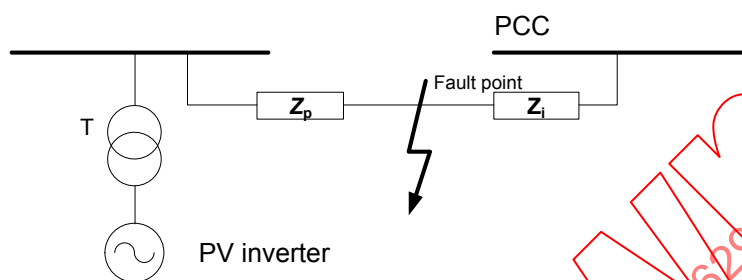


Figure A.1 – Grid fault diagram

As indicated in Table A.1, the value of fault phase voltage at the fault point is zero. (If the grid fault type is two-phase short circuit fault without ground, the line voltage between two fault phases should be zero.) Because PCC is the common connection point of the infinite grid, Z_i between the fault point and PCC could be treated as infinite. The voltage drop amplitude and phase deviation in PV inverter AC side have been determined by the value of Z_p and type of transformer.

The transformer “T” represents the voltage and phase transformation being equivalent to all the transformers between the fault point and the PV inverter, because one or more transformers are connected. The equivalent transformer “T” has only two types-Y/Y or Y/Δ. In order to simplify the analysis, the transformer windings could be considered as one of two types, Yn/Yn12 and Δ/Yn11, with a ratio of 1.

NOTE 1 In this test specification, the example circuit is a three-phase system with floating neutral point and no electrical loads.

NOTE 2 For other system types, the short circuit schematic diagram may be different from the example.

A.2.2 Three-phase short-circuit fault

Figure A.2 illustrates the change in inverter AC voltage magnitude and phase when a three-phase short-circuit fault occurs:

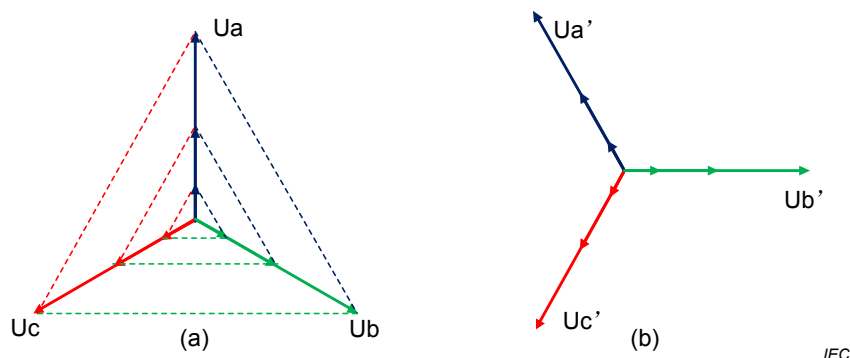


Figure A.2 – Diagram of voltage vector for three-phase short-circuit fault

Figure A.2(a) shows the angle and phase state with a Yn/Yn12 transformer connection. Figure A.2(b) shows the angle and phase state with a Δ /Yn11 transformer connection. The corresponding relationship between the fault phase and the other two phases is shown in the following Table A.2.

Table A.2 – Amplitude and phase changes in three-phase short-circuit fault

Residual voltage of fault phase %	With the Yn/Yn12 transformer						With the Δ /Yn11 transformer					
	Phase A		Phase B		Phase C		Phase A		Phase B		Phase C	
	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.
100	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	30	1	30	1	30
50	0,5	0	0,5	0	0,5	0	0,5	30	0,5	30	0,5	30
20	0,2	0	0,2	0	0,2	0	0,2	30	0,2	30	0,2	30
0	0	–	0	–	0	–	0	–	0	–	0	–

NOTE Am. means amplitude and Ph. means the initial phase.

A.2.3 Two-phase short-circuit fault with ground

There are three possible two-phase short-circuit earth faults, depending on the fault phases. Taking the two-phase (BC) short circuit fault with ground for example, the change in inverter AC voltage amplitudes and phases are shown below.

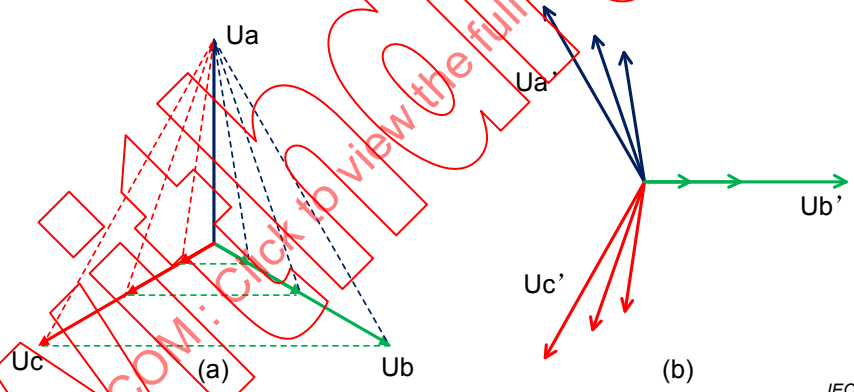


Figure A.3 – Diagram of voltage vector of two-phase (BC) short-circuit fault with ground

Figure A.3(a) shows the angle and phase state with a Yn/Yn12 transformer connection. Figure A.3(b) shows the angle and phase state with a Δ /Yn11 transformer connection. The corresponding relationship between the faulted phases and the other phases is shown in the following Table A.3.

Table A.3 – Amplitude and phase changes in two-phase (BC) short-circuit fault with ground

Residual voltage of fault phase %	With the Yn/Yn12 transformer						With the Δ/Yn11 transformer					
	Phase A		Phase B		Phase C		Phase A		Phase B		Phase C	
	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.
100	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	30	1	30	1	30
50	1	0	0,5	0	0,5	0	0,76	19	0,5	30	0,76	41
20	1	0	0,2	0	0,2	0	0,64	9	0,2	30	0,64	51
0	1	0	0	–	0	–	0,58	0	0	–	0,58	60

NOTE Am. means amplitude and Ph. means the initial phase.

A.2.4 Two-phase short-circuit fault without ground

There are three possible two-phase short-circuit faults (without ground), depending on the faulted phases. Taking the two-phase (BC) short circuit fault for example, the change in inverter AC voltage amplitudes and phases are shown below:

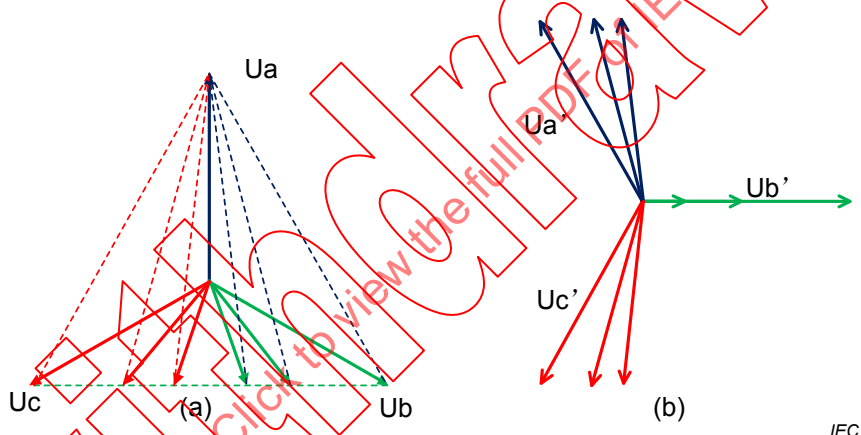


Figure A.4 – Diagram of voltage vector of two-phase (BC) short-circuit fault

Figure A.4(a) shows the angle and phase state with a Yn/Yn12 transformer connection. Figure A.4 (b) shows the angle and phase state with a Δ/Yn11 transformer connection. The corresponding relationship between the faulted phases and the other phases is shown in the following Table A.4.

Table A.4 – Amplitude and phase changes in two-phase (BC) short-circuit fault

Residual voltage of fault phase %	With the Yn/Yn12 transformer						With the Δ/Yn11 transformer					
	Phase A		Phase B		Phase C		Phase A		Phase B		Phase C	
	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.	Am.	Ph.
100	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	30	1	30	1	30
50	1	0	0,66	19	0,66	-19	0,9	16	0,5	30	0,9	44
20	1	0	0,53	41	0,53	-41	0,87	7	0,2	30	0,87	53
0	1	0	0,5	60	0,5	-60	0,866	0	0	-	0,866	60

NOTE Am. means amplitude and Ph. means the initial phase.