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Superconductivity - Part 23: Residual resistance ratio measurement - Residual resistance ratio of cavity-grade Nb superconductors

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This standard includes the English version of the European Standard.

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EN IEC 61788-23

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English Version

**Superconductivity - Part 23: Residual resistance ratio
measurement - Residual resistance ratio of cavity-grade Nb
superconductors
(IEC 61788-23:2024)**

Supraconductivité - Partie 23: Mesurage du rapport de
résistance résiduelle - Rapport de résistance résiduelle des
supraconducteurs de Nb à cavités
(IEC 61788-23:2024)

Supraleitfähigkeit - Teil 23: Messung des
Restwiderstandsverhältnisses - Restwiderstandsverhältnis
von hochreinen Nb-Supraleitern für Kavitäten
(IEC 61788-23:2024)

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EN IEC 61788-23:2024 (E)**European foreword**

The text of document 90/515/FDIS, future edition 3 of IEC 61788-23, prepared by IEC/TC 90 "Superconductivity" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN IEC 61788-23:2024.

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IEC 61788-4 NOTE Approved as EN IEC 61788-4

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Annex ZA
(normative)**Normative references to international publications
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<u>Publication</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>EN/HD</u>	<u>Year</u>
IEC 60050-815	-	International Electrotechnical Vocabulary - Part 815: Superconductivity	-	-



IEC 61788-23

Edition 3.0 2024-05

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



Superconductivity –

Part 23: Residual resistance ratio measurement – Residual resistance ratio of cavity-grade Nb superconductors

Supraconductivité –

Partie 23: Mesurage du rapport de résistance résiduelle – Rapport de résistance résiduelle des supraconducteurs de Nb à cavités





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IEC 61788-23

Edition 3.0 2024-05

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

NORME INTERNATIONALE



**Superconductivity –
Part 23: Residual resistance ratio measurement – Residual resistance ratio of
cavity-grade Nb superconductors**

**Supraconductivité –
Partie 23: Mesurage du rapport de résistance résiduelle – Rapport de résistance
résiduelle des supraconducteurs de Nb à cavités**

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD	4
INTRODUCTION	6
1 Scope	7
2 Normative references	7
3 Terms and definitions	7
4 Principle	8
5 Measurement apparatus	9
5.1 Mandrel or base plate	9
5.2 Cryostat and support of mandrel or base plate	9
6 Specimen preparation	10
7 Data acquisition and analysis	11
7.1 Data acquisition hardware	11
7.2 Resistance (R_1) at room temperature	11
7.3 Residual resistance (R_2) just above the superconducting transition	12
7.4 Validation of the residual resistance measurement	13
7.5 Residual resistance ratio	13
8 Uncertainty of the test method	13
9 Test report	14
9.1 General	14
9.2 Test information	14
9.3 Specimen information	14
9.4 Test conditions	14
9.5 RRR value	14
Annex A (informative) Additional information relating to the measurement of RRR	15
A.1 Considerations for specimens and apparatus	15
A.2 Considerations for specimen mounting orientation	16
A.3 Alternative methods for increasing temperature of specimen above superconducting transition temperature	16
A.3.1 General	16
A.3.2 Heater method	16
A.3.3 Controlled methods	16
A.4 Other test methods	16
A.4.1 General	16
A.4.2 Measurement of resistance versus time	17
A.4.3 Comparison of ice point and room temperature	17
A.4.4 Extrapolation of the resistance to 4,2 K	17
A.4.5 Use of magnetic field to suppress superconductivity at 4,2 K	18
A.4.6 AC techniques	18
Annex B (informative) Uncertainty considerations	19
B.1 Overview	19
B.2 Definitions	19
B.3 Consideration of the uncertainty concept	20
B.4 Uncertainty evaluation example for IEC TC 90 standards	22
Annex C (informative) Uncertainty evaluation for resistance ratio measurement of Nb superconductors	24

C.1 Evaluation of uncertainty.....	24
C.1.1 Room temperature measurement uncertainty.....	24
C.1.2 Cryogenic measurement uncertainty	25
C.1.3 Estimation of uncertainty for typical experimental conditions.....	27
C.2 Inter-laboratory comparison summary	28
Bibliography.....	29
 Figure 1 – Relationship between temperature and resistance near the superconducting transition.....	8
Figure A.1 – Determination of the value of R_2 from a resistance versus time plot.....	17
Figure C.1 – Graphical description of the uncertainty of regression related to the measurement of R_2	27
 Table B.1 – Output signals from two nominally identical extensometers	20
Table B.2 – Mean values of two output signals	20
Table B.3 – Experimental standard deviations of two output signals.....	21
Table B.4 – Standard uncertainties of two output signals	21
Table B.5 – Coefficients of variation of two output signals.....	21
Table C.1 – Uncertainty of measured parameters	27
Table C.2 – RRR values obtained by inter-laboratory comparison using liquid helium	28

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION**SUPERCONDUCTIVITY –****Part 23: Residual resistance ratio measurement –
Residual resistance ratio of cavity-grade Nb superconductors****FOREWORD**

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IEC 61788-23 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 90: Superconductivity. It is an International Standard.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition published in 2021. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- a) The principle is changed to represent the present test method.

The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
90/515/FDIS	90/519/RVD

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

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INTRODUCTION

High-purity niobium is the chief material used to make superconducting radio-frequency cavities. Similar grades of niobium can be used in the manufacture of superconducting wire. Procurement of raw materials and quality assurance of delivered products often use the residual resistance ratio (RRR) to specify or assess the purity of a metal. RRR is defined for non-superconducting metals as the ratio of electrical resistance measured at room temperature (293 K) to the resistance measured for the same specimen at low temperature (~4,2 K). The low-temperature value is often called the residual resistance. Higher purity is associated with higher values of RRR.

Niobium presents special problems due to its transformation to a superconducting state at ~9 K, so DC electrical resistance is effectively zero below this temperature. The definition above would then yield an infinite value for RRR. This document describes a test method to determine the residual resistance value by using a plot of the resistance to temperature as the test specimen is gradually warmed through the superconducting transition in the absence of an applied magnetic field. This results in a determination of the residual resistance at just above superconducting transition, ~10 K, from which RRR is subsequently determined.

International Standards also exist to determine the RRR of superconducting wires. In contrast to superconducting wires, which are usually a composite of a superconducting material and a non-superconducting material and the RRR value is representative of only the non-superconducting component, here the entire specimen is composed of superconducting niobium. Frequently, niobium is procured as a sheet, bar or rod, and not as a wire. For such forms, test specimens will likely be a few millimetres in the dimensions transverse to electric current flow. This difference is significant when making electrical resistance measurements, since niobium samples will likely be much longer than that for the same length-to-diameter ratio as a wire, and higher electrical current can be required to produce sufficient voltage signals. Guidance for sample dimensions and electrical connections is provided in Annex A. Test apparatus should also take into consideration aspects such as the orientation of a test specimen relative to the liquid helium surface, accessibility through ports on common liquid helium dewars, design of current contacts, and minimization of thermal gradients over long specimen lengths. These aspects distinguish this document from similar wire standards.

Other test methods have been used to determine RRR. Some methods use a measurement at a temperature other than 293 K for the high resistance value. Some methods use extrapolations at 4,2 K in the absence of an applied magnetic field for the low resistance value. Other methods use an applied magnetic field to suppress superconductivity at 4,2 K. A comparison between this document and some other test methods is presented in Annex A. Note that systematic differences of up to 10 % are produced by these other methods, which is larger than the target uncertainty of this document. It is therefore important to apply this document or the appropriate corrections listed in Annex A according to the test method used.

Whenever possible, this test method should be transferred to vendors and collaborators who also perform RRR measurements. To promote consistency, the results of inter-laboratory comparisons are described in Clause C.2.

SUPERCONDUCTIVITY –

Part 23: Residual resistance ratio measurement – Residual resistance ratio of cavity-grade Nb superconductors

1 Scope

This part of IEC 61788 addresses a test method for the determination of the residual resistance ratio (RRR), r_{RRR} , of cavity-grade niobium. This method is intended for high-purity niobium grades with $150 < r_{RRR} < 600$. The test method is valid for specimens with rectangular or round cross-section, cross-sectional area greater than 1 mm^2 but less than 20 mm^2 , and a length not less than 10 nor more than 25 times the width or diameter.

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.

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