

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE

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**Photovoltaic system performance –  
Part 1: Monitoring**

**Performances des systèmes photovoltaïques –  
Partie 1: Surveillance**



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# NORME INTERNATIONALE

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**Photovoltaic system performance –  
Part 1: Monitoring**

**Performances des systèmes photovoltaïques –  
Partie 1: Surveillance**

INTERNATIONAL  
ELECTROTECHNICAL  
COMMISSION

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## PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM PERFORMANCE –

### Part 1: Monitoring

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International Standard IEC 61724-1 has been prepared by IEC technical committee 82: Solar photovoltaic energy systems.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition, published in 2017. This edition constitutes a technical revision.

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

- Monitoring of bifacial systems is introduced.
- Irradiance sensor requirements are updated.
- Soiling measurement is updated based on new technology.
- Class C monitoring systems are eliminated.
- Various requirements, recommendations and explanatory notes are updated.

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

FDIS	Report on voting
82/1904/FDIS	82/1925/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.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available at [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications](http://www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications).

A list of all parts in the IEC 61724 series, published under the general title *Photovoltaic system performance*, can be found on the IEC website.

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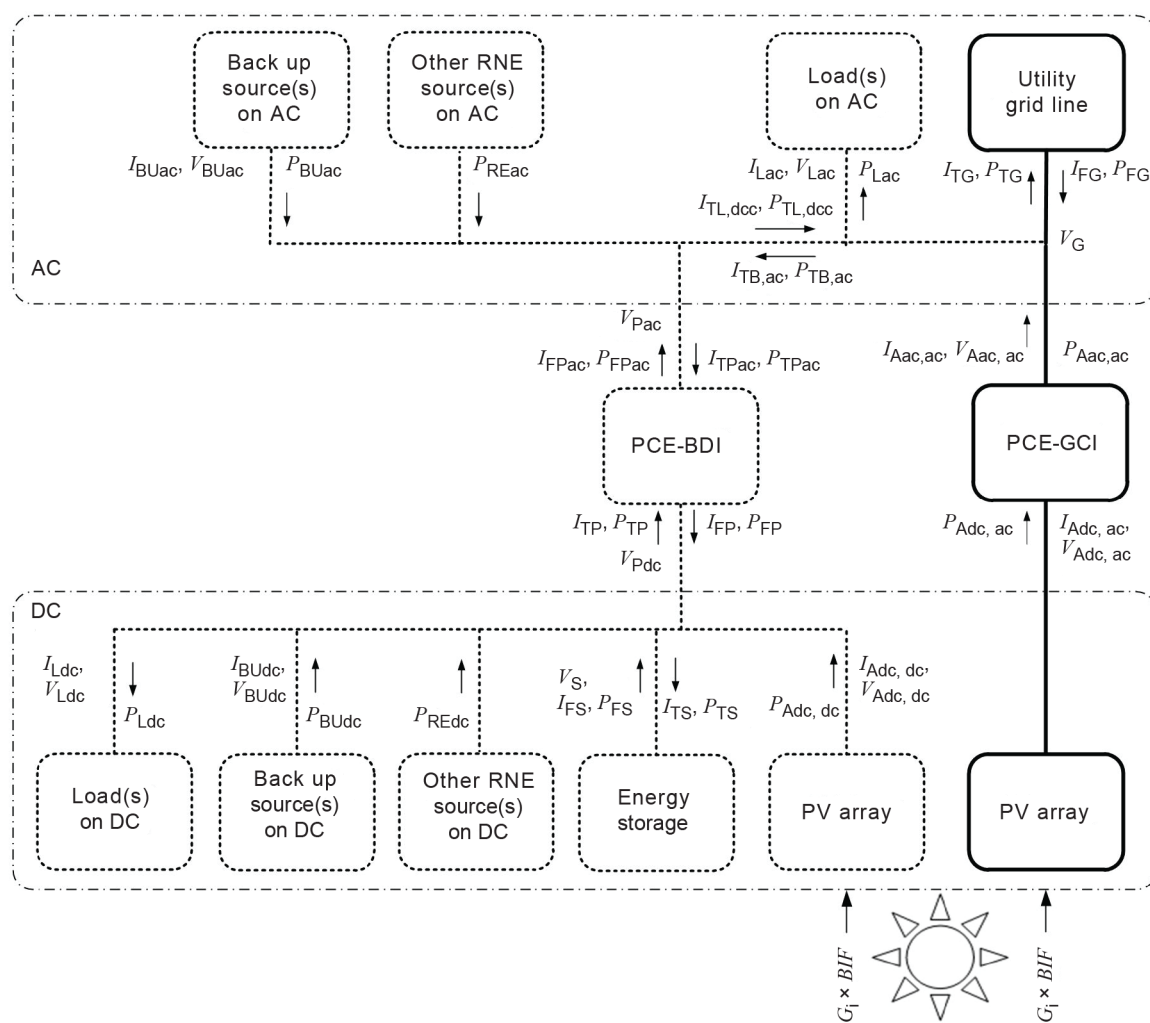
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## INTRODUCTION

This document defines classes of photovoltaic (PV) performance monitoring systems and serves as guidance for monitoring system choices.

Figure 1 illustrates major elements comprising different PV system types. The main clauses of this document are written for grid-connected systems without local loads, energy storage, or auxiliary sources, as shown by the bold lines in Figure 1. Annex E includes some details for systems with additional components.

The PV array may include both fixed-axis and tracker systems and both flat-plate and concentrator systems.



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### Key

RNE: renewable energy

PCE: power conditioning equipment

BDI: bi-directional inverter

GCI: grid-connected inverter

Bold lines denote simple grid-connected system without local loads, energy storage, or auxiliary sources.

**Figure 1 – Possible elements of PV systems**

The purposes of a performance monitoring system are diverse and could include comparing performance to design expectations and guarantees as well as detecting and localizing faults.

For comparing performance to design expectations and guarantees, the focus should be on system-level data and consistency between prediction and test methods.

For detecting and localizing faults there should be greater resolution at sub-levels of the system and an emphasis on measurement repeatability and correlation metrics.

The monitoring system should be adapted to the PV system's size and user requirements. In general, larger PV systems should have more monitoring points and higher accuracy sensors than smaller and lower-cost PV systems.

# PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM PERFORMANCE –

## Part 1: Monitoring

### 1 Scope

This part of IEC 61724 outlines terminology, equipment, and methods for performance monitoring and analysis of photovoltaic (PV) systems. It also serves as a basis for other standards which rely upon the data collected.

### 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 60050-131, *International Electrotechnical Vocabulary (IEV) – Part 131: Circuit theory*

IEC 60904-2, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 2: Requirements for photovoltaic reference devices*

IEC 60904-5, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 5: Determination of the equivalent cell temperature (ECT) of photovoltaic (PV) devices by the open-circuit voltage method*

IEC 60904-7, *Photovoltaic devices – Part 7: Computation of the spectral mismatch correction for measurements of photovoltaic devices*

IEC 61215 (all parts), *Terrestrial photovoltaic (PV) modules – Design qualification and type approval*

IEC 61557-12, *Electrical safety in low voltage distribution systems up to 1 000 V AC and 1 500 V DC – Equipment for testing, measuring or monitoring of protective measures – Part 12: Power metering and monitoring devices (PMD)*

IEC TS 61724-2, *Photovoltaic system performance – Part 2: Capacity evaluation method*

IEC TS 61724-3, *Photovoltaic system performance – Part 3: Energy evaluation method*

IEC TS 61836, *Solar photovoltaic energy systems – Terms, definitions and symbols*

IEC 62053-22, *Electricity metering equipment – Particular requirements – Part 22: Static meters for AC active energy (classes 0,1S, 0,2S and 0,5S)*

IEC 62670-3, *Photovoltaic concentrators (CPV) – Performance testing – Part 3: Performance measurements and power rating*

IEC 62817:2014, *Photovoltaic systems – Design qualification of solar trackers*

ISO/IEC Guide 98-1, *Uncertainty of measurement – Part 1: Introduction to the expression of uncertainty in measurement*