



BSI Standards Publication

Fine ceramics (advanced ceramics, advanced technical ceramics) — Methods of test for reinforcements — Determination of tensile properties of filaments at ambient temperature

National foreword

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**Fine ceramics (advanced ceramics,
advanced technical ceramics) —
Methods of test for reinforcements —
Determination of tensile properties of
filaments at ambient temperature**

*Céramiques techniques — Méthodes d'essai pour renforts —
Détermination des propriétés en traction du filament à température
ambiante*



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Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms, definitions and symbols	1
4 Principle	3
5 Apparatus	3
6 Test specimens	3
7 Test specimen preparation	3
8 Number of test specimens	5
9 Test procedure	5
9.1 Displacement rate.....	5
9.2 Determination of the gauge length.....	5
9.3 Determination of the initial cross-section area.....	5
9.4 Testing technique.....	5
9.4.1 General.....	5
9.4.2 Load cell.....	5
9.4.3 Test specimen mounting.....	5
9.4.4 Measurements.....	6
9.4.5 Test validity.....	6
10 Calculation of results	6
10.1 Tensile strength.....	6
10.1.1 Determination of maximum tensile force.....	6
10.1.2 Calculation of tensile strength.....	6
10.2 Calculation of the load train compliance, C_1	6
10.3 Strain.....	7
10.4 Young modulus.....	8
10.5 Fracture strain.....	8
11 Test report	9
Bibliography	10

Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 206, *Fine ceramics*.

Fine ceramics (advanced ceramics, advanced technical ceramics) — Methods of test for reinforcements — Determination of tensile properties of filaments at ambient temperature

1 Scope

This document specifies the conditions for the determination of tensile properties of single filaments of ceramic fibre such as tensile strength, Young modulus and fracture strain. The method applies to continuous ceramic filaments taken from tows, yarns, braids and knittings, which have strain to fracture less than or equal to 5 %.

The method does not apply to carbon fibres that exhibit nonlinear stress-strain curve. The method does not apply to checking the homogeneity of strength properties of fibres, nor to assessing the effects of volume under stress. Statistical aspects of filament failure are not included.

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.

ISO 7500-1, *Metallic materials — Calibration and verification of static uniaxial testing machines — Part 1: Tension/compression testing machines — Calibration and verification of the force-measuring system*

ISO 19634, *Fine ceramics (advanced ceramics, advanced technical ceramics) — Ceramic composites — Notations and symbols*

ISO 20501, *Fine ceramics (advanced ceramics, advanced technical ceramics) — Weibull statistics for strength data*

EN 1007-1, *Advanced technical ceramics — Ceramic composites — Methods of test for reinforcements — Part 1: Determination of size content*

EN 1007-3, *Advanced technical ceramics — Ceramic composites — Methods of test for reinforcements — Part 3: Determination of filament diameter and cross-section area*

3 Terms, definitions and symbols

For the purposes of this document, the terms, definitions and symbols given in ISO 19634 and the following apply.

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>

3.1

gauge length

L_0

initial distance between two reference points on the filament

3.2
test specimen length

L_f
initial distance between the gripped ends of the filament

3.3
initial cross-section area

A_0
initial area of the cross section of the filament within the *gauge length* (3.1)

3.4
maximum tensile force

F_m
highest recorded tensile force on the test specimen when tested to failure

3.5
tensile stress

σ
tensile force supported by the test specimen divided by the *initial cross-section area* (3.3)

3.6
tensile strength

σ_m
ratio of the maximum tensile force to the *initial cross-section area* (3.3)

3.7
longitudinal deformation

ΔL
increase of the *gauge length* (3.1) during the tensile test

3.8
total compliance

C_t
inverse of the slope in the linear part of the tensile force-displacement curve

3.9
load train compliance

C_l
ratio of the cross-head displacement excluding any test specimen contribution to the corresponding force during the tensile test

3.10
strain

ε
ratio of the *longitudinal deformation* (3.7) to the *gauge length* (3.1)

3.11
fracture strain

ε_m
strain at failure of the test specimen

3.12
Young modulus

E
slope of the linear part of the tensile stress-strain curve

3.13
elementary unit

smallest commercially available unit of a given product

Note 1 to entry: For fibre, this is usually a spool.

4 Principle

A ceramic filament is loaded in tension. The test is performed at constant displacement rate up to failure. Force and cross-head displacement are measured and recorded simultaneously. When required, the longitudinal deformation is derived from the cross-head displacement using a compliance correction.

5 Apparatus

5.1 Test machine, which shall be equipped with a system for measuring the force applied to the test specimen which shall conform to grade 1 according to ISO 7500-1. Additionally, the machine shall be equipped with a system for measuring the cross-head displacement with accuracy better than 1 μm .

5.2 Load train, in which the grips shall align the test specimen with the direction of the force. Slippage of the filament in the grips shall be prevented.

5.3 Adhesive, such as epoxy resin or sealing wax, for fixing the filament ends to the grip.

5.4 Data recording system, which, when calibrated, may be used to record force-displacement curves. The use of a digital data recording system is recommended.

6 Test specimens

Specimens with a gauge length of 25 mm shall be used to establish the force-displacement curves.

Specimens with a gauge length of 10 mm and 50 mm shall be used to determine the load train compliance, C_1 .

The tolerance on the gauge length is ± 1 mm.

7 Test specimen preparation

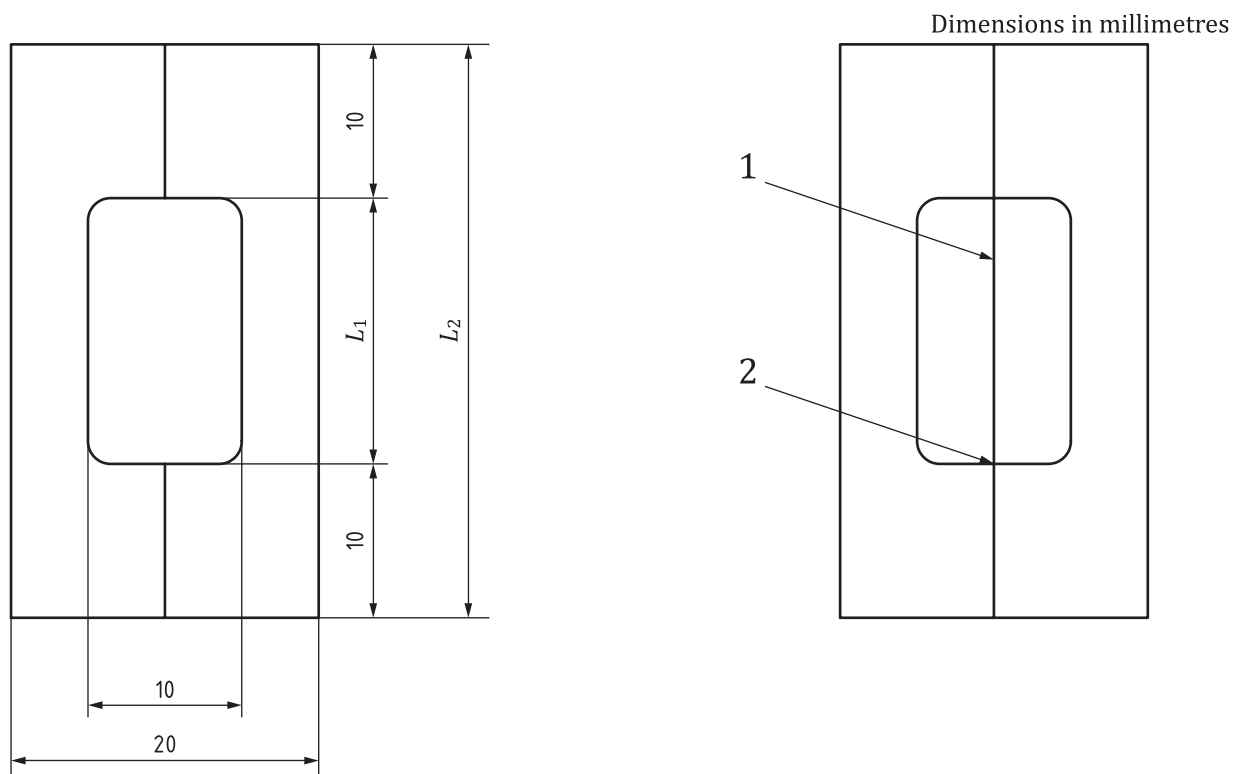
Extreme care shall be taken during test specimen preparation to ensure that the procedure is repeatable from test specimen to test specimen and to avoid handling damage.

NOTE 1 The introduction of damage during test specimen preparation may result in the weakening of the filament.

During test specimen preparation, and in particular when extracting a filament from the tow, the ratio of the amount of damaged filaments to the total number of extracted filaments should be minimized.

NOTE 2 An example of a device to prevent damage during test specimen manipulation and mounting is shown in [Figure 1](#). This test specimen preparation uses a window tab of thin paper, metal or plastic cut. The length of the window is equal to the gauge length of the filament test specimen. A suitable adhesive, such as epoxy resin, cement or sealing wax, is used for affixing the filament to the ends of the mounting tab.

NOTE 3 Another device that can be used to prevent damage during test specimen manipulation and mounting is shown in [Figure 2](#).

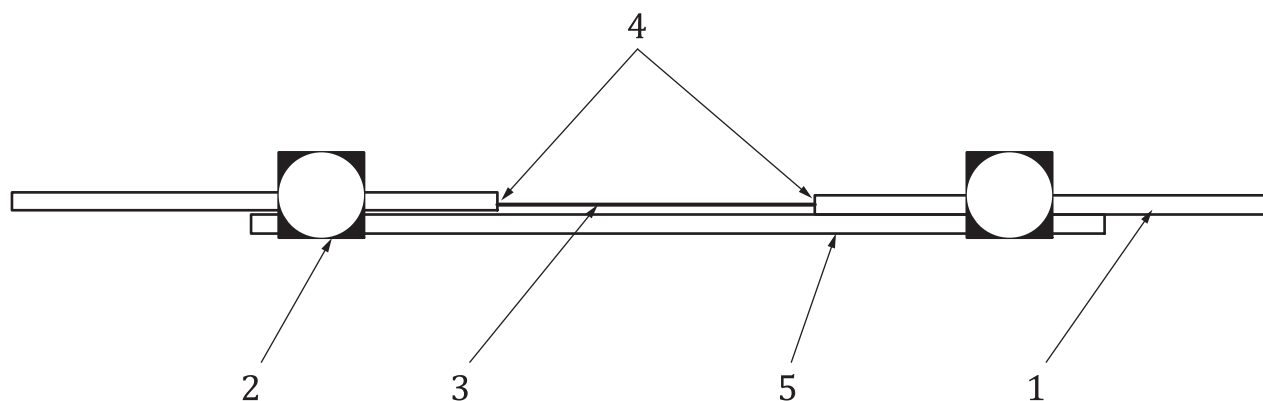


Key

- 1 filament
- 2 glue

L_1	L_2
$10 \pm 0,5$	30 ± 1
$25 \pm 0,5$	45 ± 1
$50 \pm 0,5$	70 ± 1

Figure 1 — Assembly of a test specimen



Key

- 1 alumina tubes
- 2 temporary screw attachment
- 3 test specimen
- 4 ceramic cement
- 5 alumina rod

Figure 2 — Alternative assembly of a test specimen

8 Number of test specimens

Prepare at least 20 test specimens from each elementary unit to enable 20 measurements to be made.

Removal of any size present makes it easier to prepare good specimens. The size shall be removed in accordance with EN 1007-1.

For the determination of strain-related properties, three additional tests at each gauge length of 10 mm and 50 mm are required in order to establish load train compliance, C_1 .

If a statistical evaluation is required, the number of test specimens at a gauge length of 25 mm shall be in accordance with ISO 20501.

NOTE Compliance determination is not required if only strength needs to be determined.

9 Test procedure

9.1 Displacement rate

A displacement rate that allows specimen rupture within 1 min shall be used.

The displacement rate and the loading mode shall be reported.

9.2 Determination of the gauge length

The gauge length is measured to an accuracy of $\pm 0,1$ mm.

9.3 Determination of the initial cross-section area

The initial cross-section area is measured in accordance with EN 1007-3.

NOTE In principle, the initial cross-section area is to be determined on the filament to be tested. In practice, this can be achieved by sampling the lengths to be tested from a single filament at intermittent locations and using the parts in between for cross-section measurement. This assumes that for the lengths of filament to be tested, the cross section does not vary significantly with the length.

An alternative method consists of measuring the filament cross section after fracture from a transverse cross section taken from the part of the grips still containing embedded filament. In this case, care has to be taken not to damage the filament during preparation and handling.

9.4 Testing technique

9.4.1 General

Perform the following steps in a sequential order.

9.4.2 Load cell

Zero the load cell.

9.4.3 Test specimen mounting

Mount the specimen in the load train with its longitudinal axis coinciding with that of the test machine. Care shall be taken not to induce torsional loads or surface damage to the filament. Before applying the load, i.e. with the mounting unstrained, cut or burn through both sides of the window tab at mid-gauge. If burning is used, care shall be taken to avoid exposing the specimen to the flame. As the filament is very fragile, the test specimen breaks occasionally during this step.

9.4.4 Measurements

- Set the cross-head speed.
- Record the force versus cross-head displacement curve up to failure.

9.4.5 Test validity

The following circumstances invalidate a test:

- failure to specify and record test conditions;
- any slippage in the load train as evidenced by a drop in the force/displacement curve, before reaching the maximum tensile force;
- fracture strain exceeding 5 %.

Failure exactly at the mounting tabs invalidates only the determination of the strength and strain to failure.

10 Calculation of results

10.1 Tensile strength

10.1.1 Determination of maximum tensile force

The maximum tensile force on the test specimen, F_m , is obtained from the maximum force value taken from the force versus displacement graph.

10.1.2 Calculation of tensile strength

Calculate the tensile strength using [Formula \(1\)](#):

$$\sigma_m = F_m/A_0 \quad (1)$$

where

σ_m is the filament strength, in megapascals (MPa);

F_m is the maximum tensile force, in newtons (N);

A_0 is the initial cross-section area, in square millimetres (mm²).

Calculate the error or uncertainty using [Formula \(2\)](#):

$$\Delta\sigma_m/\sigma_m = \Delta F_m/F_m + \Delta A_0/A_0 \quad (2)$$

10.2 Calculation of the load train compliance, C_l

Calculate the total compliance, C_t , for the tests performed for all the gauge lengths as the inverse slope of the linear part of the force/cross-head displacement curve. The total compliances, C_t , of all the specimens are plotted against L_0/A_0 . A best-fit line is determined by linear regression analysis of C_t versus L_0/A_0 . Determine the load train compliance, C_l , from the intercept with the ordinate axis (see [Figure 3](#)).

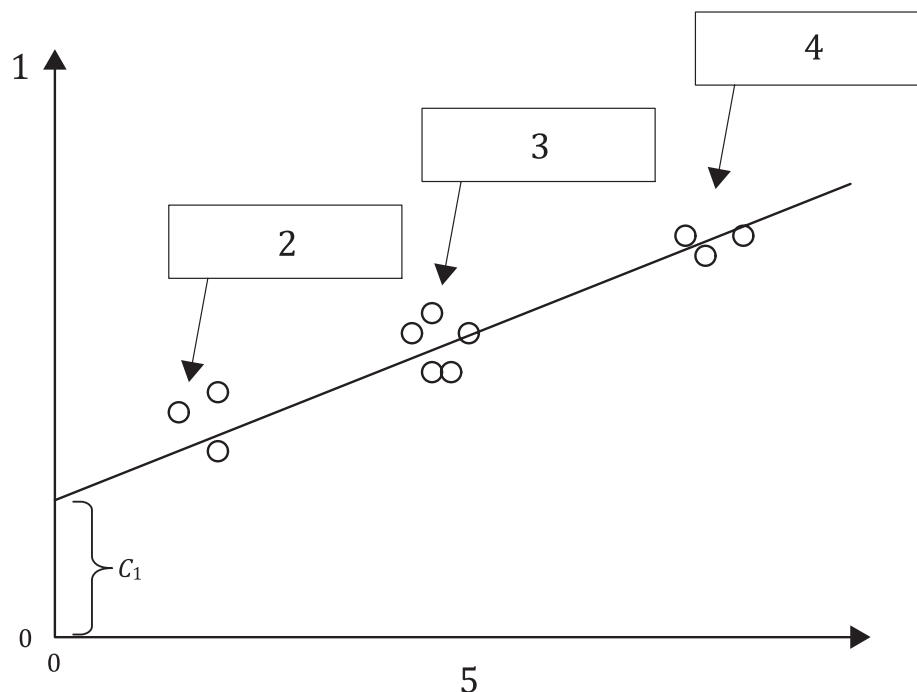
The error or uncertainty in the specimen compliance, $C = C_t - C_1$, is calculated as shown in [Formula \(3\)](#):

$$\Delta C/C = \Delta F/F + \Delta(\Delta L_0)/\Delta L_0 \quad (3)$$

where

ΔL_0 is the filament longitudinal deformation, in millimetres (mm);

F is the tensile force, in newtons (N).



Key

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | total compliance, C_t (mm/N) | 4 | $L_0 = 50$ mm |
| 2 | $L_0 = 10$ mm | 5 | L_0/A_0 (mm ⁻¹) |
| 3 | $L_0 = 25$ mm | | |

Figure 3 — Plot of total compliance, C_t , versus ratio of gauge length to initial cross-section area, L_0/A_0

10.3 Strain

Strain-related parameters (strain, fracture strain, Young modulus) can only be determined when a linear part is present in the force/cross-head displacement curve, either from the start of loading or after the initial slack has been taken up.

Calculate the strain of the test specimen using [Formula \(4\)](#):

$$\varepsilon = 10^2 F \cdot (C_t - C_1) / L_0 \quad (4)$$

where

- ε is the strain of the test specimen, in percent (%);
- F is the applied force, in newtons (N);
- C_t is the total compliance, in millimetres per newton ($\text{mm}\cdot\text{N}^{-1}$);
- C_l is the load train compliance, in millimetres per newton ($\text{mm}\cdot\text{N}^{-1}$);
- L_0 is the gauge length (equal to the test specimen length, L_f), in millimetres (mm).

Calculate the error or uncertainty in the measurement of strain using [Formula \(5\)](#):

$$\Delta\varepsilon/\varepsilon = \Delta F/F + \Delta C/C + \Delta L_0/L_0 \quad (5)$$

10.4 Young modulus

The Young modulus is given by the slope of the linear part in the stress-strain curve and calculated as shown in [Formula \(6\)](#):

$$E = \frac{L_0}{A_0} \frac{1}{(C_t - C_l)} 10^{-3} \quad (6)$$

where

- E is the Young modulus, in gigapascals (GPa);
- A_0 is the initial cross-section area, in square millimetres (mm^2);
- C_l is the load train compliance, in millimetres per newton ($\text{mm}\cdot\text{N}^{-1}$);
- C_t is the total compliance, in millimetres per newton ($\text{mm}\cdot\text{N}^{-1}$);
- L_0 is the gauge length, in millimetres (mm).

The error or uncertainty in the measurements of Young's modulus is given as shown in [Formula \(7\)](#):

$$\Delta E/E = \Delta L_0/L_0 + \Delta C/C + \Delta A_0/A_0 \quad (7)$$

10.5 Fracture strain

The fracture strain, ε_m , is calculated from [Formula \(8\)](#):

$$\varepsilon_m = 10^2 F_m(C_t - C_l)/L_0 \quad (8)$$

where

- ε_m is the fracture strain of the test specimen, in percent (%);
- F_m is the maximum tensile force, in newtons (N);
- C_t is the total compliance, in millimetres per newton ($\text{mm}\cdot\text{N}^{-1}$);
- C_l is the load train compliance, in millimetres per newton ($\text{mm}\cdot\text{N}^{-1}$);
- L_0 is the gauge length (equal to the test specimen length, L_f), in millimetres (mm).

NOTE For linear elastic behaviour up to failure, the fracture strain can be obtained from:

$$\varepsilon_m = \sigma_m / (10E)$$

where

ε_m is the fracture strain of the test specimen, in percent (%);

σ_m is the filament strength, in megapascals (MPa);

E is the Young modulus, in gigapascals (GPa).

The error or uncertainty in fracture strain is given by [Formula \(9\)](#):

$$\Delta\varepsilon_\mu/\varepsilon_\mu = \Delta F_m/F_m + \Delta C/C + \Delta L_0/L_0 \quad (9)$$

11 Test report

The test report shall contain at least the following information:

- a) the name and address of the testing establishment;
- b) the date of the test, unique identification of report and of each page, customer's and signatory's name and address;
- c) a reference to this document, i.e. determined in accordance with ISO 19630;
- d) a description of the equipment used;
- e) a complete identification of the tested filament (manufacturer, type, batch, sampling location, date of receipt, etc.);
- f) the method employed for the determination of the filament initial cross-section area;
- g) for each test specimen, the gauge length expressed in millimetres;
- h) the displacement rate;
- i) where applicable, the load train compliance and the graph of total compliance versus gauge length divided by initial cross-section area;
- j) individual values and average value of tensile strength and, where applicable, fracture strain and elastic modulus, as well as values of uncertainties;
- k) the number of tests carried out and the number of valid results obtained;
- l) details of any aspect of the experimental procedure which might influence the results, in particular for each tested length, the ratio of the number of prepared test specimens to the total number of extracted filaments;
- m) comments on the test or test results.

Bibliography

- [1] EN 843-5, *Advanced technical ceramics — Mechanical properties of monolithic ceramics at room temperature — Statistical analysis*
- [2] EN 1007-6, *Advanced technical ceramics — Ceramic composites — Methods of test for reinforcements — Part 6: Determination of tensile properties of filaments at high temperature*

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