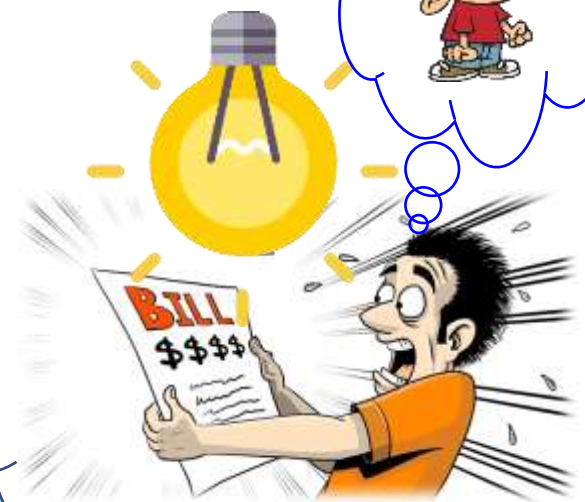


The art of meter testing on site

When I was young, I
was scared of the dark.
Now when I see my
electricity bill, I am
scared of the lights

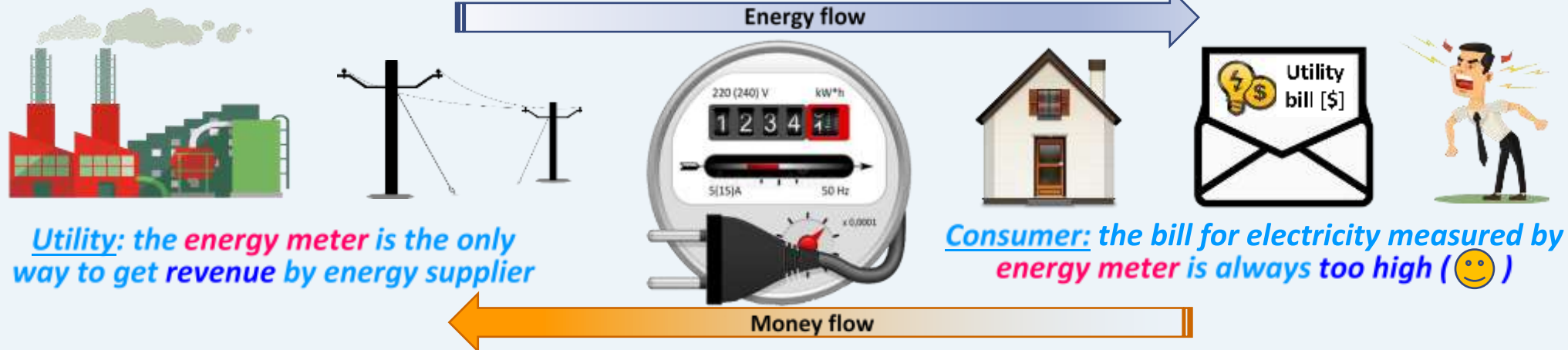


Why test on site? The utility wants to receive full payment for the services it provides. The customer wants to be billed fairly to get the lowest bill possible. This set of infographics is to facilitate the understanding of the need to test electricity meters and practically show how testing should be done. Intended for technicians, engineers, students, utilities staff and all interested in reliable energy measurement. Many definitions and examples are simplified to get clear way of reliable test results obtaining. Although the author tried to avoid errors, they can probably be found in the content, hence any comments are welcomed.

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Why electricity meter should be tested



energy meter is a legally agreed tool for settlements between the supplier and the consumer warranted by law and international standards

Conclusion: energy meter must be **checked** for compliance with applicable standards to ensure **reliable energy measurements**

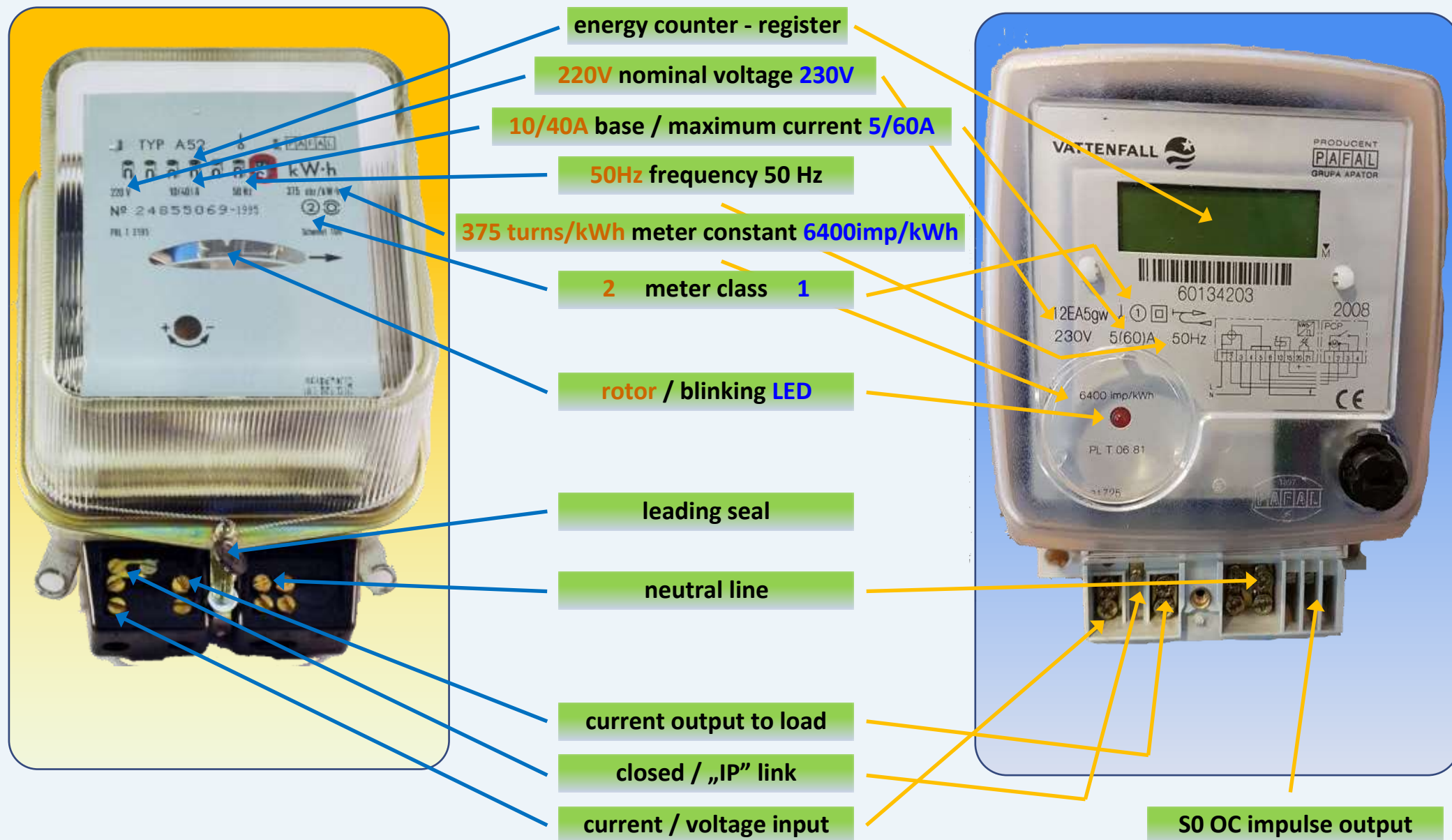
Who, where, why, when and how often should test the energy meters?*)

Who	Where	Why	When	How often
Manufacturer	Production line	Manufacturing quality	During production	As often as manufacturing process requires
	Manufacturer lab	Accuracy compliance with standards	Before delivery	At least one time
Electric Utility or Laboratory or legitimate company	Utility Lab	Prove accuracy and functionality	Before installation	At least one time
	On site	Prove proper installation and measurements	During installation	Every time
	On site / Lab	Prove accuracy and functionality	Consumer complaint	Every time
	On site / Lab	Prove accuracy and functionality	Suspected theft of energy	Every time
	On site	Maintenance to ensure proper functioning	Periodic *)	- electromechanical (Ferraris) meters every 8, 16, 20 years - electronic meters every 8 years - large load consumers every 1, 2, 8 years, depends on power flow

*) time period can vary because of country law regulations

	SINGLE PHASE	THREE PHASE
Electromechanical Ferraris Analog	 <p>Ordinary meter</p>  <p>Two tariffs meter</p>	 <p>Ordinary meter</p>  <p>Two tariffs meter</p>
Electronic Static	 <p>Ordinary meter</p>  <p>Rail mounted meter</p>  <p>Prepaid meter</p>	 <p>4-quadrant meter</p>  <p>P & Q maximum demand meter</p>  <p>Smart 4-quadrant meter</p>  <p>Rail mounted meter</p>  <p>Prepaid meter</p>

Electricity meter parts and parameters



Energy meter constant: value expressing the relation between the energy registered by the meter and the corresponding value of the test output: number of **revolutions (rev)** of rotor (disk) for electromechanical, number of **pulses (imp)** (LED blinks) for static meters or pulses on electric output.

Can be expressed as:

rev/kWh (rev/kvarh, rev/kVAh) or **rev/Wh** or **Wh/rev** for electromechanical meters (rev=revolution, turn)

imp/kWh (imp/kvarh, imp/kVAh) or **imp/Wh** or **Wh/imp** for static meters (imp=pulse)

What is the time of revolution for? At known power, we can visually check correct operation of the electricity meter



Dependencies between constants expressed in different units, pulse frequency and revolution (pulse) time *)

Constant, time and frequency calculation		OUTPUT VALUE				
		C [imp/kWh]	C [imp/Wh]	C [Wh/imp]	Freq.[Hz]@power[kW]	Time[s]@power[kW]
INPUT VALUE	C [imp/kWh]	=	$\frac{C}{1000}$	$\frac{1000}{C}$	$\frac{P \times C}{3600}$	$\frac{3600}{P \times C}$
	375	375	0.375	2.6667	0.2396Hz	4.1739s
	C [imp/Wh]	$C \times 1000$	=	$\frac{1}{C}$	$\frac{P \times C \times 1000}{3600}$	$\frac{3600}{P \times C \times 1000}$
	0.375	375	0.375	2.6667	0.2396Hz	4.1739s
	C [Wh/imp]	$\frac{1000}{C}$	$\frac{1}{C}$	=	$\frac{P \times 1000}{C \times 3600}$	$\frac{C \times 3600}{P \times 1000}$
	2.6667	375	0.375	2.6667	0.2396Hz	4.1739s
	Freq.[Hz]@power[kW]	$\frac{f \times 3600}{P}$	$\frac{f \times 3600}{P \times 1000}$	$\frac{P \times 1000}{f \times 3600}$	=	$\frac{1}{f}$
	0.2396Hz	375	0.375	2.6667	0.2396Hz	4.1739s
	Time[s]@power[kW]	$\frac{3600}{P \times T}$	$\frac{3600}{P \times T \times 1000}$	$\frac{P \times T \times 1000}{3600}$	$\frac{1}{T}$	=
	4.1739s	375	0.375	2.6667	0.2396Hz	4.1739s

*) example values are calculated for:

- meter constant $C=375$ imp/kWh;

- power flow: $P = U \times I \times PF$ for $U=230V$, $I=10A$, $PF=1 \rightarrow P = 230V \times 10A \times 1 = 2300W = 2.3kW$

All examples are calculated for:

- Meter constant $C[\text{imp/kWh}]=375\text{imp/kWh}$
- CT ratio $K_I=1000\text{A}/5\text{A}=200$
- PT ratio $K_U=15000\text{V}/100\text{V}=150$
- Secondary current $I_S=3.5\text{A}$
- Secondary voltage $U_S=99.5\text{V}$
- Power factor $\text{PF}=0.8$

Secondary side power P_S

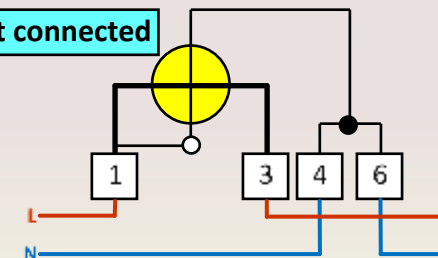
$$P_S = U_S \times I_S \times \text{PF}$$

EXAMPLE: SECONDARY SIDE

$$P_S = 99.5\text{V} \times 3.5\text{A} \times 0.8 = 278.6\text{W}$$

$$\text{METER CONSTANT } C = 375\text{IMP/KWH}$$

Direct connected



Primary side power P_P

$$P_P = U_S \times I_S \times \text{PF} \times K_I$$

and primary meter constant C_P

$$C_P = \frac{C}{K_I}$$

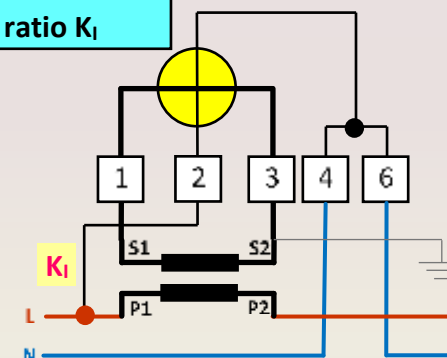
EXAMPLE: PRIMARY SIDE

$$P_P = 99.5\text{V} \times 3.5\text{A} \times 0.8 \times 200 = 55.72\text{kW}$$

PRIMARY METER CONSTANT :

$$C_P = 375\text{IMP/KWH} / 200 = 1.875\text{IMP/KWH}$$

CT connected
ratio K_I



Primary side power P_P

$$P_P = U_S \times I_S \times \text{PF} \times K_I \times K_U$$

and primary meter constant C_P

$$C_P = \frac{C}{K_I \times K_U}$$

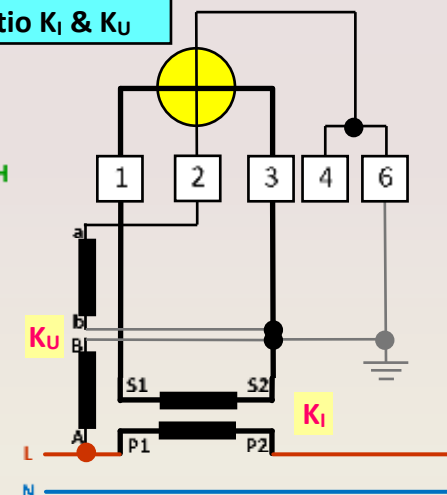
EXAMPLE: PRIMARY SIDE

$$P_P = 99.5\text{V} \times 3.5\text{A} \times 0.8 \times 200 \times 150 = 8358\text{kW}$$

PRIMARY METER CONSTANT :

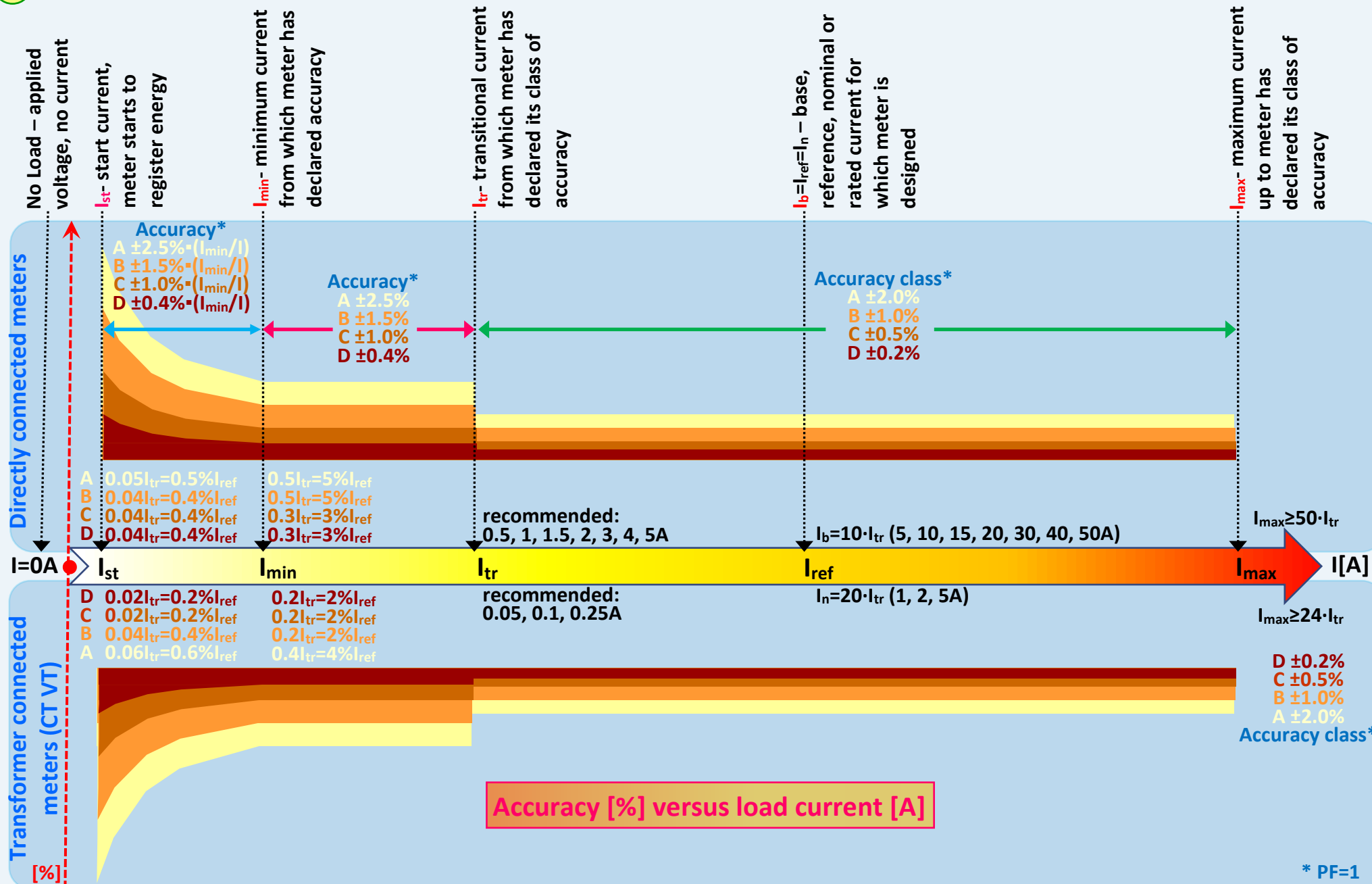
$$C_P = 375\text{IMP/KWH} / (200 \times 150) = 0.0125\text{IMP/KWH}$$

CT / PT connected
ratio K_I & K_U



Conclusion: pay attention to the **primary** and **secondary** meter constant and voltage K_U and current K_I transformers ratio; very big error result during calibration, can be caused by taking wrong meter constant into account!

Energy meter accuracy and load range



Definition: reference conditions are used, when determining all errors, including the initial intrinsic error. Reference conditions allow to compare results of tests by elimination of influence quantities, which can change the meter accuracy.



Additional error caused by influence quantities out of reference range

Quantity	Reference value	Reference tolerance	Influence range	Influence limit ^{*)}
Ambient temperature	23°C	± 2°C	5°C to 30°C	~ 0.5 of class
Voltage	Nominal (eg. 230V)	± 1% (227.7V to 232.3VV)	± 10% (207V to 253V)	~ 0.5 of class
Frequency	50Hz or 60Hz	± 0.3% (49.85...50.15Hz)	± 2% (49...52Hz)	~ 0.5 of class
Phase sequence	L1-L2-L3	L1-L2-L3	L1-L3-L2	~ 1.0 of class
Waveform	Pure sinus	THD < 2%	10%	~ 0.5 of class
Phase angle U&I	According to PF	± 2°	---	---
Voltage unbalance	For symmetric load	± 2%	---	---
Current unbalance	For symmetric load	± 1% or ± 2%	---	---

^{*)} limit is simplified value of accuracy for meter class at load point

Maximum permissible error (MPE) for testing energy meter on site

Reference conditions usually are in Laboratory and very seldom during measurements performed on site. To get acceptable meter error limit on site, we can assume, that influence quantities are in their range so the composite error is a square root of squared influence limits sum:

$$e_{MPE} = \sqrt{e_{class}^2 + e_{temp}^2 + e_{volt}^2 + e_{freq}^2 + e_{wave}^2} = \sqrt{1^2 + 0.5^2 + 0.5^2 + 0.5^2 + 0.5^2} = \sqrt{2} = 1.41 \approx 1.5 \dots 2$$

Conclusion: there is no reference conditions during measurements on site! To get error limit for result evaluation, we can take as a “rule of thumb”, the **doubled** accuracy of meter for tested load point and we can assume, that the meter is working correctly if result is lower than this value.

Simply methods to check meter, however not very accurate. Checking means meter error evaluation

Energy meter error: value expressing the relation between the energy registered by the meter and true value of energy - expressed in [%]:

$$\varepsilon = \frac{E_m - E_{ref}}{E_{ref}} \times 100\% \text{ where:}$$





ε – meter under test error

E_m – energy registered by meter under test

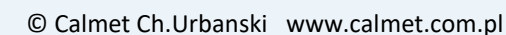
E_{ref} – true (reference) value of energy



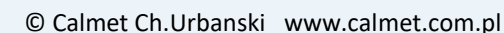
Testing methods

time & known load	time & known power	time & ammeter / voltmeter	Specialized tester - reference meter
			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - disconnect all electrical equipment in your home - connect one device with known power from nameplate eg. electric heater 2000W=2kW - switch the device ON 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - connect ammeter if you have access to the cable close to energy meter - connect voltmeter to any socket in home - in the absence of a voltmeter, use the nominal voltage value eg. 230V 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - connect current clamp to the cable close to energy meter - connect voltage cables to the voltage - use push button or scanning head to count turns or pulses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - use nominal power in calculations P=2kW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - readout the power consumption from meter P=3470W=3.47kW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calculate the power as: P=U*I P=5.1A * 227V = 1157.7W=1.158kW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - power, voltage and current are shown on display
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - by stopwatch (or mobile phone) measure time (T[s]) of N (eg.10) rotor turns (or LED blinks); eg. T=241.2s 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - by stopwatch (or mobile phone) measure time (T[s]) of N (eg.100) LED blinks; eg. T=10.3s 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - by stopwatch (or mobile phone) measure time (T[s]) of N (eg.10) rotor turns (or LED blinks); eg./T=84s 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - set the measurement time eg. 10s
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - readout meter constant C[imp/kWh]; eg. 75turns/kWh or 6400imp/kWh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - readout meter constant C[imp/kWh]; eg. 10000imp/kWh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - readout meter constant C[imp/kWh]; eg. 375turns/kWh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - set the meter constant in the tester
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calculate the nominal time of N turns (blinks) at power P: $T_N = \frac{3600}{C \times P} \times N$; eg. $T_N = \frac{3600}{75 \times 2} \times 10 = 240s$ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calculate the nominal time of N turns (blinks) at power P: $T_N = \frac{3600}{C \times P} \times N$; eg. $T_N = \frac{3600}{10000 \times 3.47} \times 100 = 10.4s$ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calculate the nominal time of N turns (blinks) at power P: $T_N = \frac{3600}{C \times P} \times N$; eg. $T_N = \frac{3600}{375 \times 1.158} \times 10 = 82.9s$ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - all calculations are made automatically
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calculate error as: $\varepsilon = \frac{T - T_N}{T_N} \times 100\%$ $\varepsilon = \frac{241.2 - 240}{240} \times 100\% = 0.5\%$ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calculate error as: $\varepsilon = \frac{T - T_N}{T_N} \times 100\%$ $\varepsilon = \frac{10.3 - 10.4}{10.4} \times 100\% = -0.96\%$ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - calculate error as: $\varepsilon = \frac{T - T_N}{T_N} \times 100\%$ $\varepsilon = \frac{84 - 82.9}{24082.9} \times 100\% = 1.33\%$ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the error is calculated automatically $\varepsilon = -0.780\%$
- compare ε with meter class: if $\varepsilon \leq \text{class} \rightarrow$ meter is OK'; if $2 * \text{class} > \varepsilon > \text{class} \rightarrow$ meter seems to be OK' (method is not accurate); if $\varepsilon > 2 * \text{class} \rightarrow$ meter should be tested in professional way			

On Line means, that electricity meter is in normal operation during test, connected to the power network, at the current load



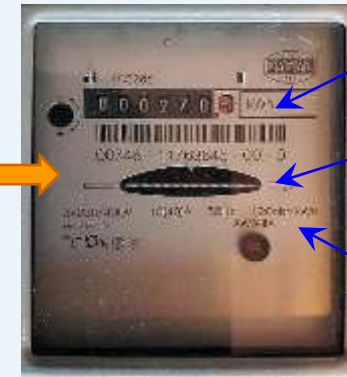
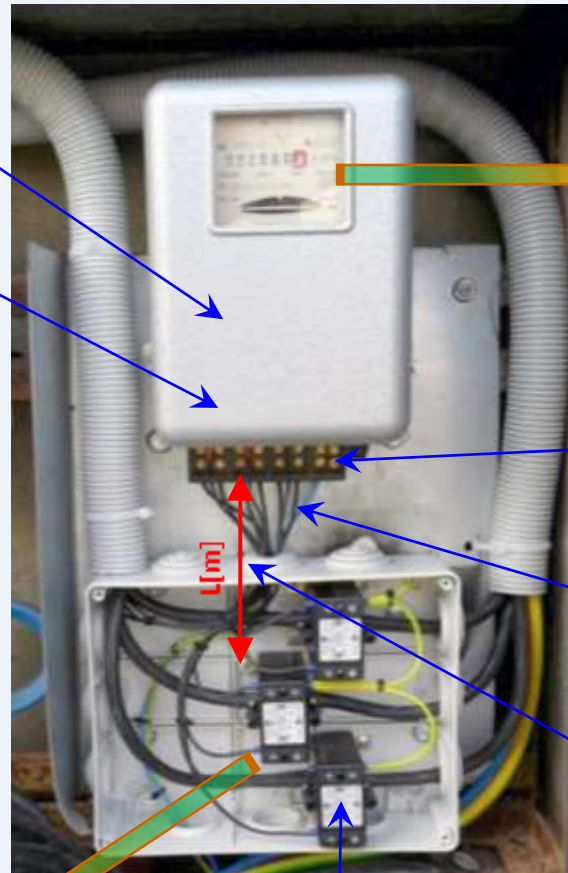
Off Line means, that electricity meter is **unconnected** from power network and is powered by single or 3-phase source → calibrator



Meter error greater than class requirement in whole or part range of load

Internal break in voltage or current circuit

- missed or wrong CT / PT label;
- not readable ratio factor;
- too small or too high power [VA] (for 25% to 120% of rated load);
- CT (PT) is out of accuracy class (ratio and phase shift error);
- too long or too thin wires (burden problem);
- too high or too low primary current against typical load in the network.



Damaged register or wrong gear

Rotor friction

Wrong or not readable meter constant

- lack of contact, unscrewed screw;
- opened "IP link", "close link".

- interchanged voltage cables;
- changed beginning with the end for current;
- current phase connected to wrong voltage phase (transformer meters);
- lack of neutral cable;

Too long or too thin cables for current from CT (burden problem)

CT assembled in opposite way to current flow

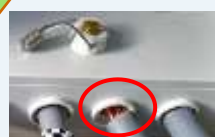
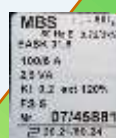
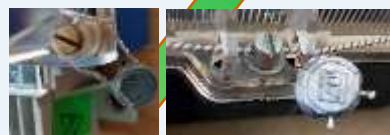
Conclusion: whole installation must be tested to ensure reliable energy measurements

Energy meter. What to test? Testing sequence

12

Installation checking

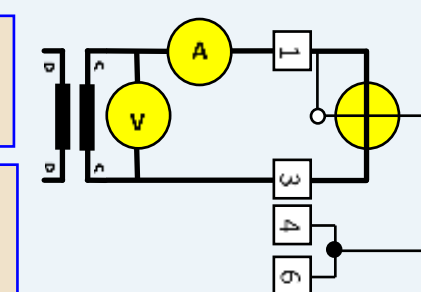
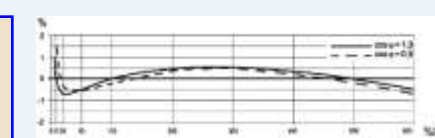
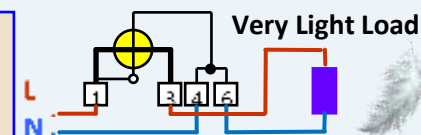
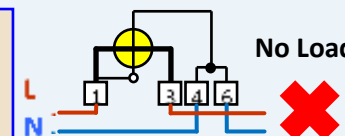
- 1 Meter as found (value of register, photo)
Is it working? (rotor moving, LED flashing)
- 2 Meter name plate (meter type, accuracy class, $I_{TR}(I_B)$, I_{MAX} , meter constant)
- 3 Leading seals condition (certification and installation)
- 4 Current & voltage transformers ratio (CT / PT ratio)
- 5 Wiring condition (isolation, breaks)
- 6 Connection verification:
 - phase association
 - phase sequence L1L2L3 <-> L1L3L2
 - CT / PT polarity
 - vector diagram
 - values of U, I, ϕ , Freq., P, Q, S in each phase



Conclusion: installation and electricity meter must be tested in proper queue to enable reliable energy measurements

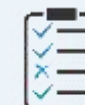
Testing

- 7 No load test (creep test) (applied voltage, load disconnected eg. by circuit breaker, no current flow)
- 8 Startup current (minimal current at which rotor starts moving or LED blinking)
- 9 Meter constant test (register or dial test) to prove that rotor turns or LED blink corresponds with register
- 10 Accuracy test – meter error (at customer load – ON LINE or at load by PHANTOM LOAD)
- 11 CT/PT burden test (to check wiring and CT/PT power [VA])
- 12 CT/PT ratio and phase shift error test (to check correct labeling and operation)



Results

- 13 Meter as left (value of register, photo)
Is it working? (rotor moving, LED flashing)
- 14 Report (customer data, meter data, results, conclusion)



Two ways of testing meter on site:

On Line means, that electricity meter is in normal operation during test, connected to the power network, at the current load existing on site

No load test (creep test) - can be performed by moving circuit breakers to the **OFF** position

Accuracy test - can be performed only for the load, which is at the moment in power network; the load can be changed by switching **ON / OFF** electrical devices:



400 – 2000W



100 – 400W



800 – 2000W



100 – 4000W



25 – 200W



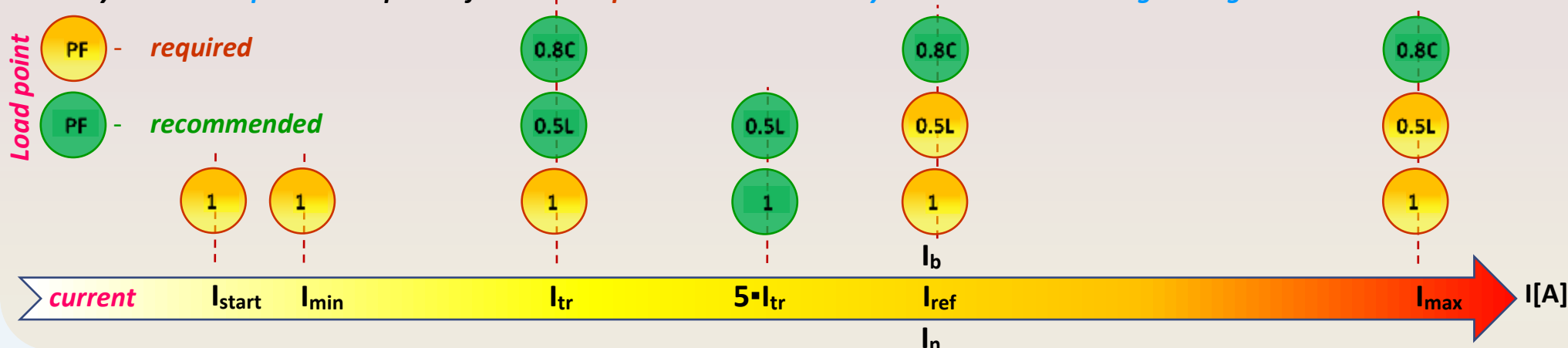
70 (unheated) – 1800W



20 – 100W

Off Line means, that electricity meter is **unconnected** from power network and it is powered by single or 3-phase source → with load set by calibrator or phantom load

Accuracy test – load points and power factor PF **required** and additionally **recommended** during testing



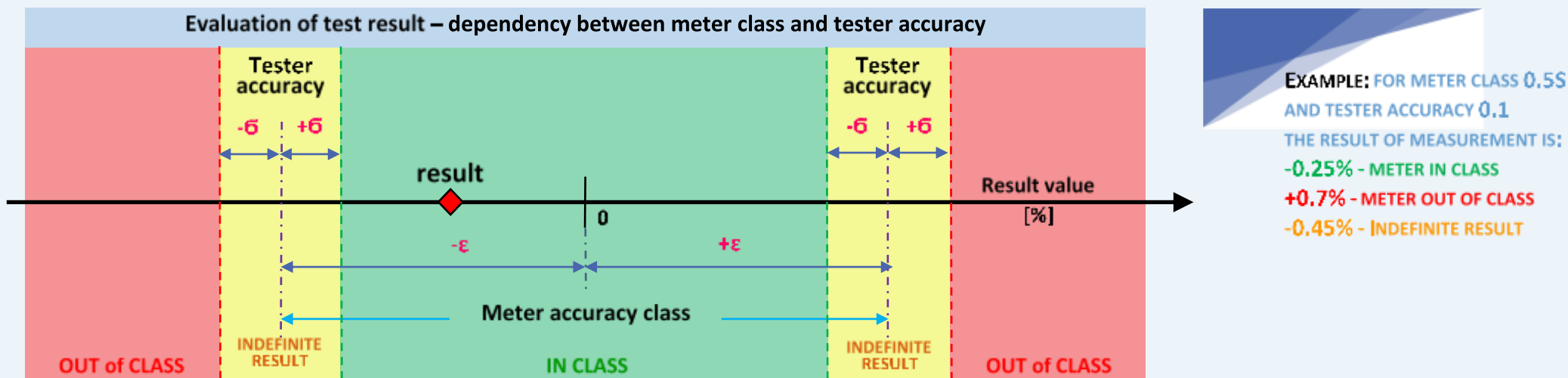
Conclusion: only by means of phantom load or calibrator, we can test energy meter in **whole range of loads** during measurements on site!

Only tester with proper accuracy can give valuable result of electricity meter calibration

Definitions:

Electricity meter accuracy class: an index, which corresponds to meter accuracy in reference conditions; usually value in [%] – ϵ

Portable working standard – energy meter tester accuracy: accuracy in % – δ

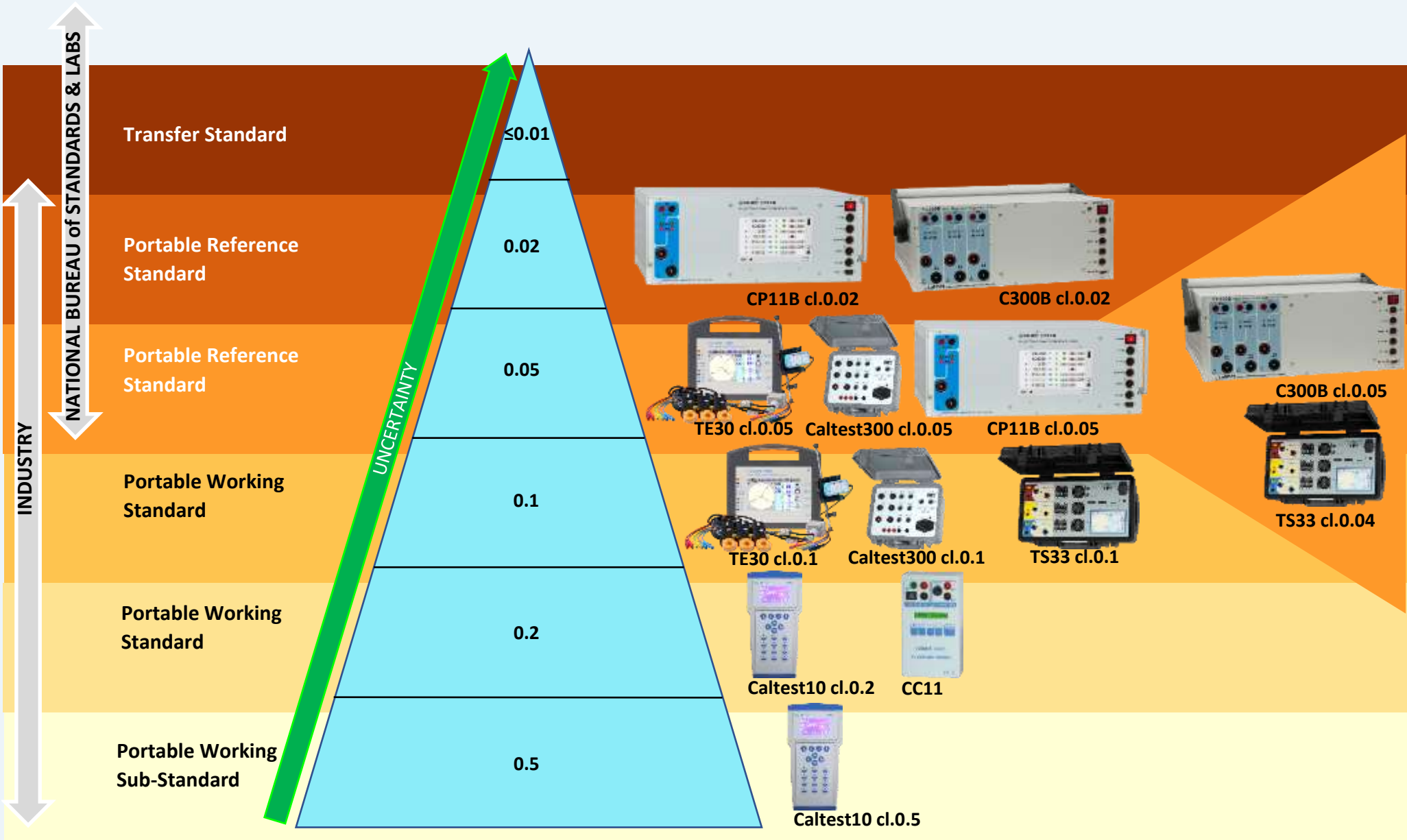


Conclusion: tester should have a few times greater accuracy than meter; if tester accuracy is 10 to 5 times better, all results can be treated as defined

Electricity meter installation configuration and meter requirements

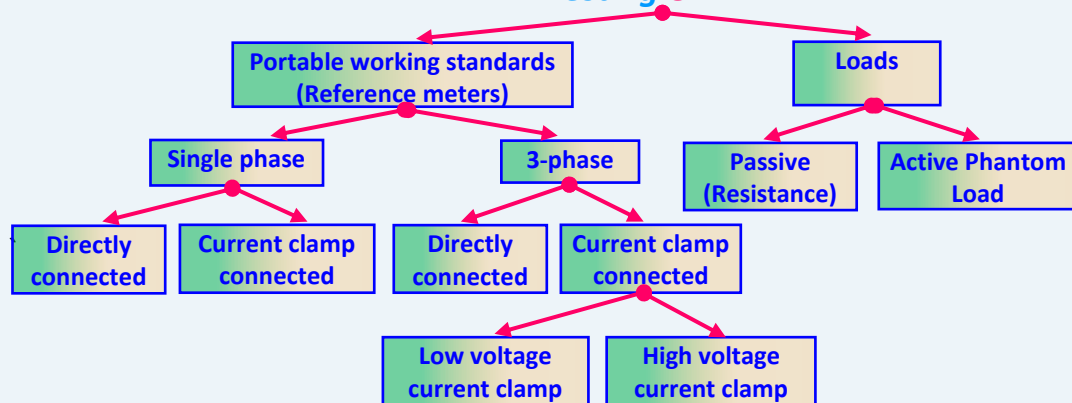
Voltage level	Configuration description and power flow	Minimum meter accuracy class	Recommended tester accuracy
Low voltage	Direct measurement	2 / A	0.2% ...0.4%
Low voltage	CT measurement	1 / B	0.1%...0.2%
High voltage	CT & PT measurement for power < 2MW	1 / B	0.05%...0.1%
High voltage	CT & PT measurement for power 2MW – 10MW	0.5S / C	0.05%...0.1%
High voltage	CT & PT measurement for power > 10MW	0.2S / D	0.02%...0.04%

Accuracy pyramid of Portable Working Standards
for Electricity Meter Testing

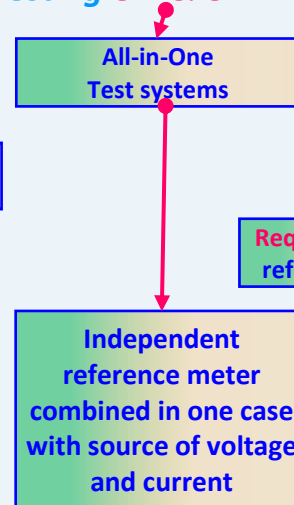


Energy meter test equipment

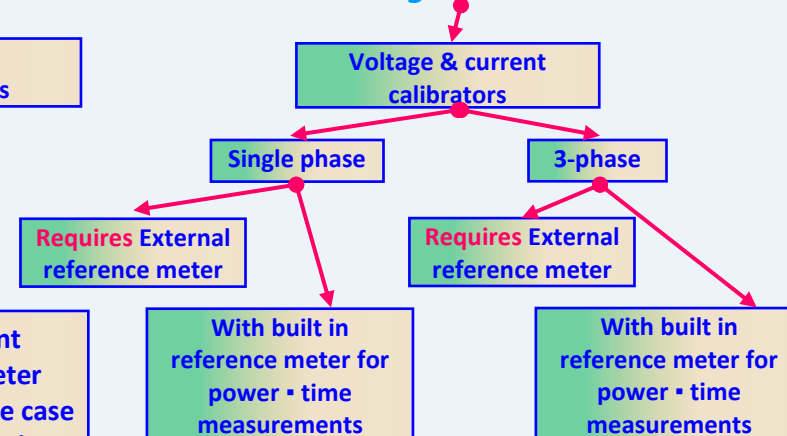
Testing ON LINE



Testing ON & OFF LINE

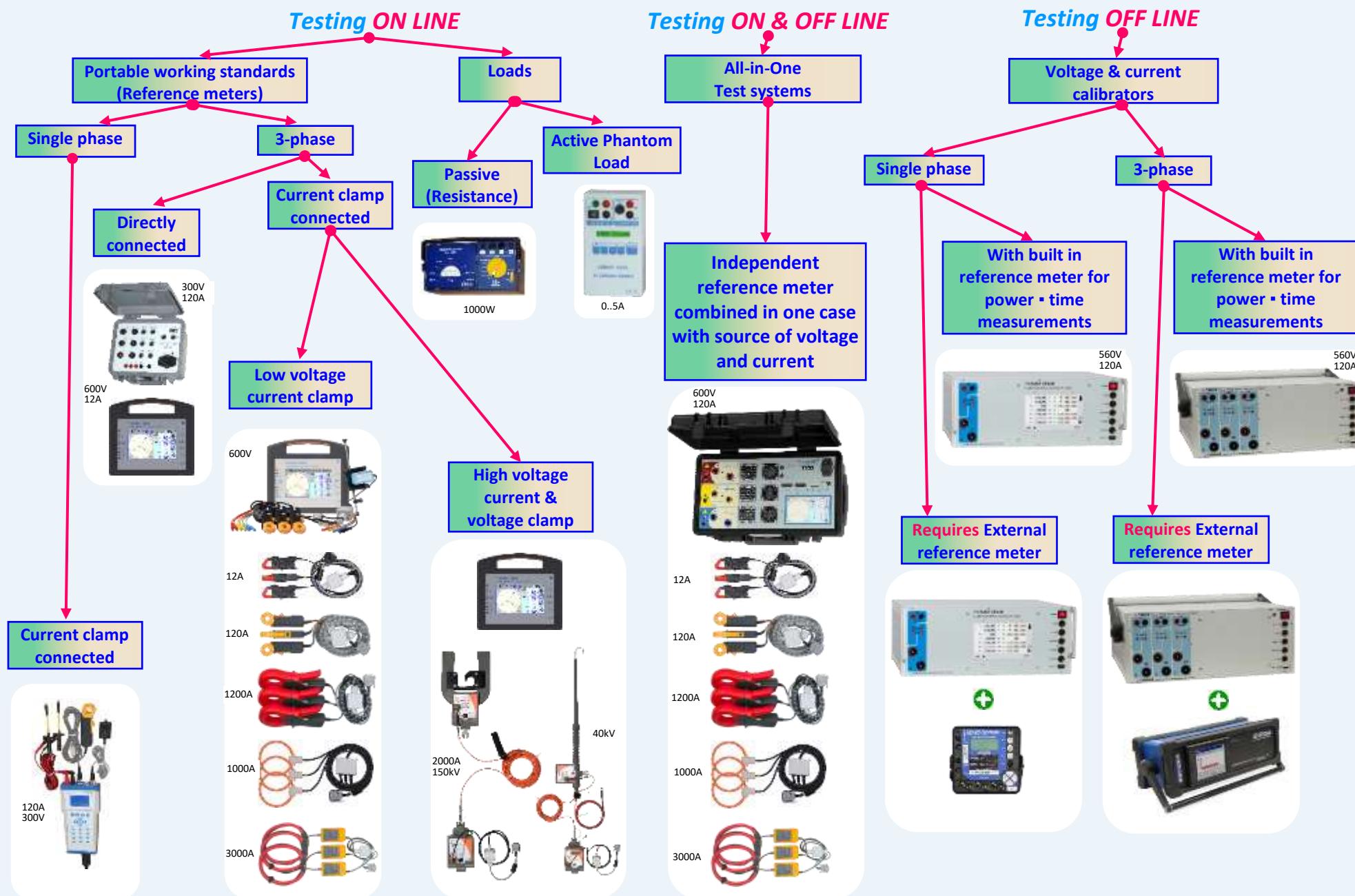


Testing OFF LINE



Basic parameters

Reference meter		Voltage & current source	
Input voltage	50mV ... 400V (Line – Neutral)	Output voltage range	40V ... 400V
Voltage accuracy	0.02% ... 0.2%	Voltage output power	>15VA per phase
Input current: / Accuracy:	-	Voltage setting accuracy	< 0.5%
- direct connection	1mA ... 12A / 0.02% ... 0.2%	Output current range	1mA ... 120A
- current clamp connection	10mA ... 3000A / 0.2% ... 1%	Current output power	>30VA per phase
Power / energy accuracy:	-	Current setting accuracy	< 0.5%
- direct connection	0.02% ... 0.2%	Frequency range	45Hz ... 65Hz
- current clamp connection	0.2% ... 1%	Frequency resolution	0.01Hz
Frequency	45Hz ... 65Hz	Waveform	Pure sinus, THD<0.5%
Measured parameters	U, I, φ , Frq, PF, P, Q, S, E	Phase shift setting / resolution	0° ... $\pm 360^\circ$ / 0.1°
Operating temperature	-10°C ... +50°C	Phase shift between voltages	0° ... $\pm 360^\circ$
Storage temperature	-20°C ... +60°C	Operating temperature	-10°C ... +50°C
Protection class	Min. IP30	Storage temperature	-20°C ... +60°C



Standard deviation (s) – shows dispersion of a set of results from average value

calculated by formula: $s = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (\varepsilon_i - \bar{\varepsilon})^2}{N-1}}$ where: ε_i – individual result, $\bar{\varepsilon}$ – average value of results: $\bar{\varepsilon} = (\sum_{i=1}^N \varepsilon_i) / N$, N – number of results.

$\bar{\varepsilon}$	-0.133%	No	ε_i
		1	-0.162
		2	-0.124
s	0.016%	3	-0.111

Practical meaning: let's analyse example of 3 results: 1.0%, 4.0%, -5.0%. The average is $\bar{\varepsilon} = 0\%$, so it seems, that meter has very small error. But standard deviation is $s=2.65\%$, so results have big dispersion and meter doesn't work correctly.

Conclusion: the standard deviation for at least 3 measurements, should be lower than class of tester to achieve reliable result. Analysis of only average value of result can lead to wrong conclusions.

CT/PT burden test – each current (CT) or voltage transformer (PT) has limited output power [VA] and accuracy in specified load range (25% - 100%) of secondary side. Overload or underload can lead to increased measurement error. Testing consists in power consumption measurement on secondary side of transformer. Because usually measurements are made close to meter, the length of connection wires between CT/PT and fuse resistance for PT should be taken into account.

Wires resistance calculation if the CT/PT burden is out of nominal range, there is additional measurement error. Resistance R_w and power loss S_l can be calculated by formula:

$$R_w [\Omega] = \frac{\rho_{cu} [\Omega \times mm^2 / m] \times l [m]}{S [mm^2]} \quad \rho_{cu} = \frac{0.0175 \Omega \times mm^2}{m} \quad \text{and } S_l [VA] = I^2 [A] \times R_w [\Omega]$$

Practical example: let's analyse example of CT connected by 2 copper wires length 20m (total 2 x 20m=40m) with cross-section 2.5mm², at nominal current 5A.

$$R_w = \frac{0.0175 \times 40}{2.5} = 0.28 \Omega \quad \text{and } S_l = 5^2 \times 0.28 = 7 VA$$

Practical example: – screen shot shows burden test result for CT 600/5A and nominal power $S_n=30VA$:

U – secondary side voltage

I – secondary current

φ – phase shift primary / secondary

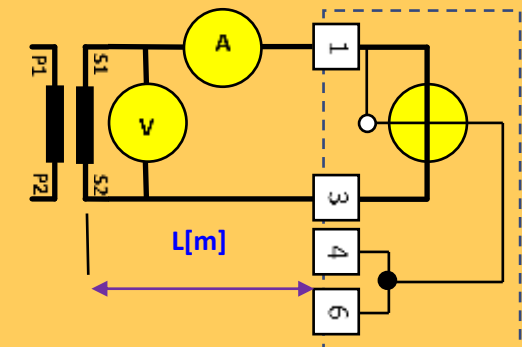
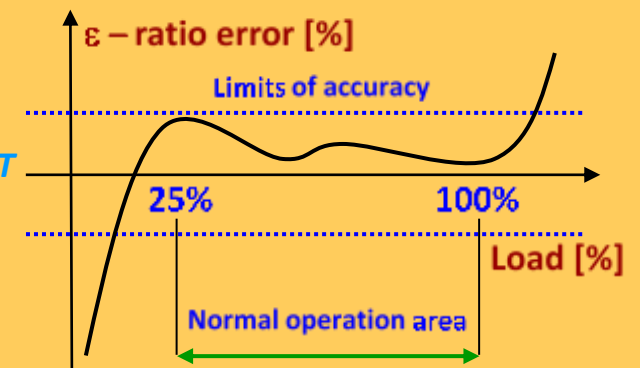
PF – power factor

S – apparent power at secondary side

% S_n – percent of used nominal CT power

$S@n$ – power that would be at nominal current

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> L1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> L2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> L3	n: 3
I _{sn} : 5A	5A	5A	
S _n : 30VA	30VA	30VA	
U: 4.00347 V	4.50032 V	5.49942 V	
I: 4.00029 A	4.50045 A	4.99990 A	
φ : -0.126 °	0.025 °	0.011 °	
PF: 1.00000	1.00000	1.00000	
S: 18.1914 VA	23.008 VA	30.8964 VA	
% S_n : 60.638 %	76.693 %	102.988 %	
S@n: 28.4199 VA	28.3993 VA	30.8976 VA	

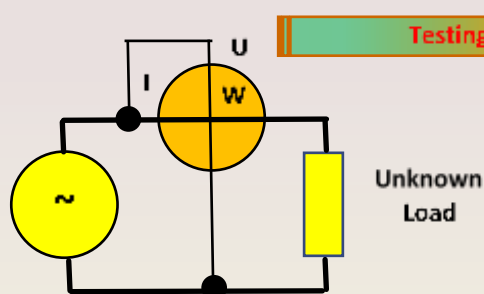


In L3, the nominal power of the transformer is exceeded. In L1 & L2 power is in limits.

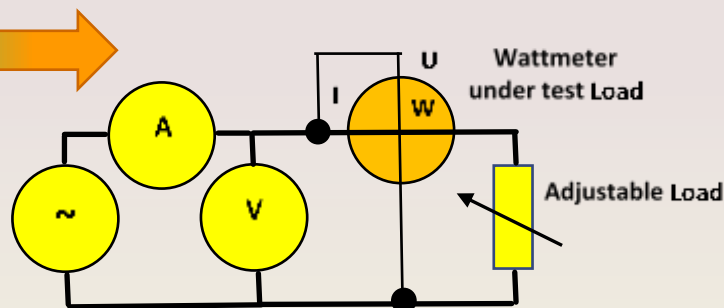
Conclusion: improper system installation with CT/PT can cause unpredicted decreasing of accuracy in electricity measurement.

Wattmeter (Electricity meter) calibration requires high power load in traditional method

Typical wattmeter application. In this circuit we can measure unknown load.



For wattmeter calibration we need voltmeter, ammeter and adjustable or exactly known high power load.



By changing the Load, we can compare calculated Power $P=U \cdot I \cdot \cos(\varphi)$ (U =voltmeter readout, I =ammeter readout, for resistive load $\cos(\varphi)=1$) with result shown by Wattmeter and then calculate the error.

EXAMPLE: REQUIRED LOAD POWER

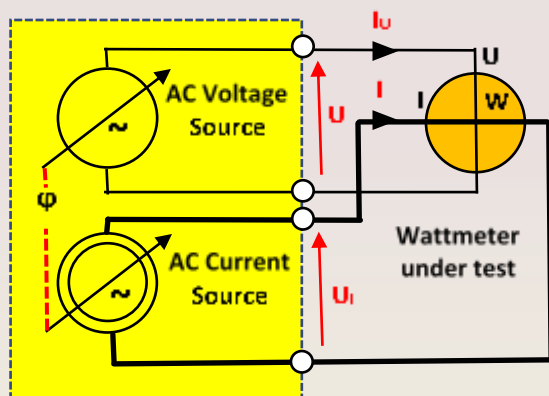
CALIBRATION POINT:

$U=230V$, $I=10A$, $\cos(\varphi)=1$

$P=230 \cdot 10 \cdot 1 = 2300W = 2.3kW!!!$

SOLUTION

Power calibrator consists of separate, programmable voltage source and current source with adjustable phase shift between them



The voltage input of Wattmeter is connected to the programmable AC Voltage Source. The input resistance of the Wattmeter is relatively high (hundreds of $k\Omega$ to $M\Omega$), so only a few mA is required and voltage source power is: $P_U = U \cdot I_U$ (few tenths of VA).

We can also apply the phase shift φ between voltage and current and we can test Wattmeter for all values of $\cos\varphi$ or power factor.

The current input of Wattmeter is connected to the programmable AC Current Source. The resistance of this input is relatively low (a few $m\Omega$), so the voltage drop is very low (parts of volt). The power required from current source is: $P_I = U_I \cdot I$ (few tenths of VA).

EXAMPLE: REQUIRED CALIBRATOR POWER

WATTMETER UNDER TEST:

UP TO 3kW, VOLTAGE RANGE 300V

R_{U1} - INPUT RESISTANCE 100k Ω

CURRENT RANGE 10A

R_{I1} - INPUT RESISTANCE 0.1 Ω

TESTING LOAD POINT:

$U=230V$, $I=10A$, $\cos(\varphi)=1 \rightarrow P=2.3kW$

POWER REQUIRED FROM CALIBRATOR:

$P_U = U \cdot I_U = U \cdot (U/R_{U1}) = 230V \cdot (230V/100k\Omega) = 0.53VA$

$P_I = U_I \cdot I = I \cdot R_{I1} \cdot I = 10A \cdot 0.1\Omega \cdot 10A = 10VA$

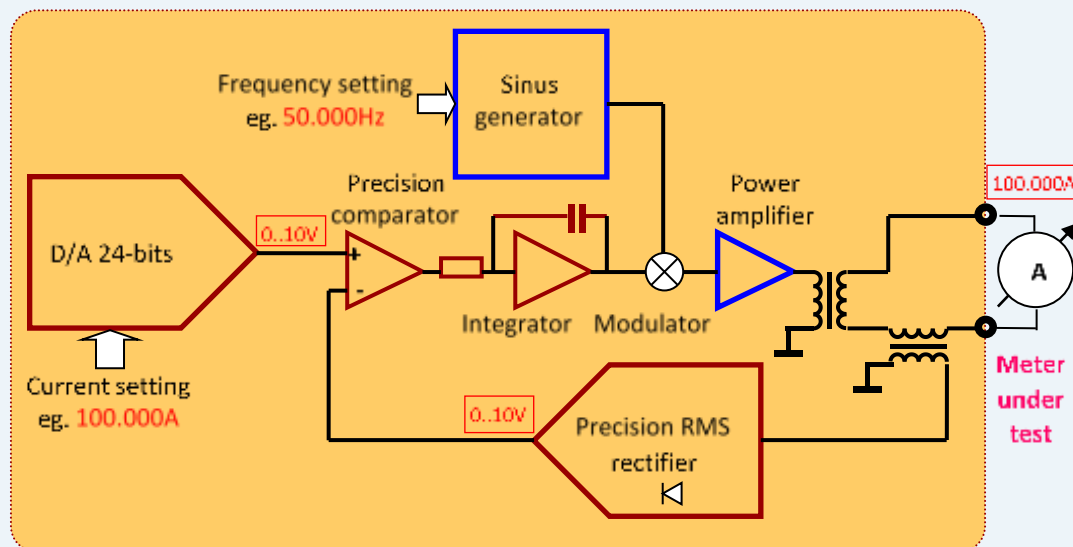
CALIBRATOR CAN SIMULATE 2.3kW BY USING ONLY 0.53VA FOR VOLTAGE AND 10VA FOR CURRENT !!!

Conclusion: Power Calibrator simulate the power and doesn't require high power delivery from network

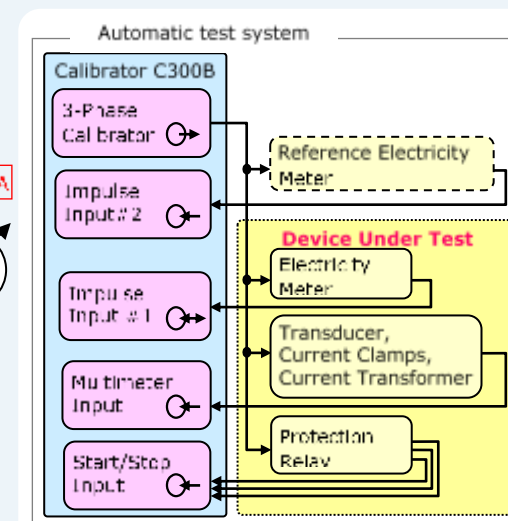
3-phase power calibrator – general principle of operation



Energy meter test set



Simplified diagram of power calibrator – one current channel



Calibrator as automatic test system

The C300B 3-phase power calibrator is controlled via RS232/USB interface by means of dedicated Calpro300 PC software. All settings are transferred to the C300B to get required output signal values.

The idea of calibrator is presented on base of one current channel of C300B. The set value of frequency is transferred to the sinus generator, and set value of current (eg. 100.000A) is transferred from computer to calibrator, and then to precision, 24 bits, digital to analog converter D/A, which converts it to the voltage in range 0...10V. At the same time, the sinusoidal signal from generator, through modulator is delivered to the power amplifier and then current transformer, which delivers output current to the calibrator terminals. The output current is controlled by second, precision current transformer. Signal from this transformer is rectified (RMS - root mean square) to the DC on level 0..10V. This DC voltage is compared with set value of voltage from D/A and result of comparison - drives integrator, which control modulator of sinusoidal signal. In this way is realised feedback for precision control of calibrator output value and output value doesn't depend on load change or time or temperature and is stable in defined as accuracy limits. So the meter under test see exactly set value.

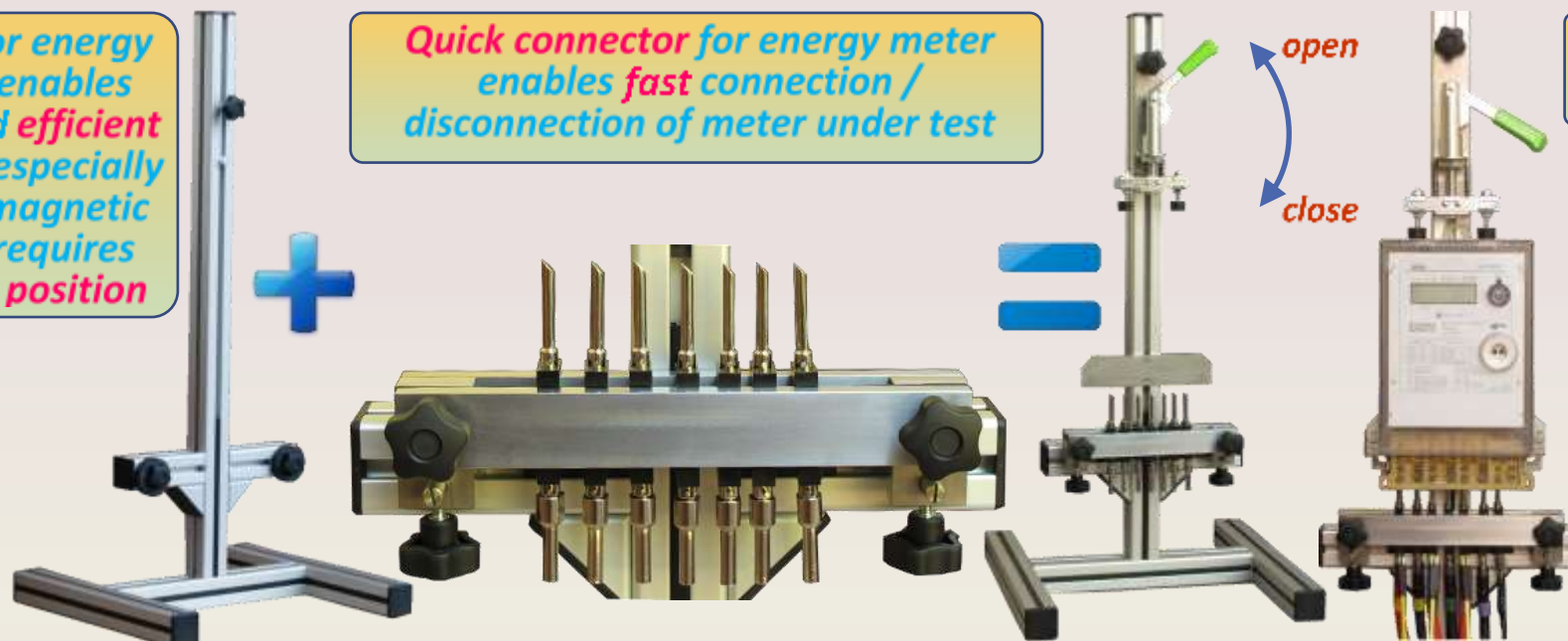
For example the set value of **100.000A** is converted by D/A and then it is stabilized at the output with accuracy $\pm 0.02\%$, what means **100.000A \pm 0.020A**. So the user, who set and see on display **100.000A**, get for sure, the output signal between **99.980A 100.020A**, which fits into accuracy class of calibrator.

The value of internal signals (0..10V) from D/A or RMS does not any matter for user, because the adjustment of calibrator, during process of it calibration, is made by measure the output value by higher level reference standard against set value in calibrator by PC software.

Conclusion: Power Calibrator is a precision source of AC voltage and current, **set value** is at the output

Stand for energy meter enables easy and efficient testing, especially electromagnetic meter requires vertical position

Quick connector for energy meter enables fast connection / disconnection of meter under test



Meter ready for testing

Energy meter have to be prepared for quick connector. ALL screws must be tightened to the end



Properly tightened screws



Bolts tightened in half



Unscrewed screws



screw

Contact bar

Improper connection can cause connector heating, especially for high current



Conclusion: stand with quick connector speeds up the testing process, however requires proper meter under test terminals preparation!



Why is the cable resistance important?
The current flowing through cable makes voltage drop, power loss and cable heating

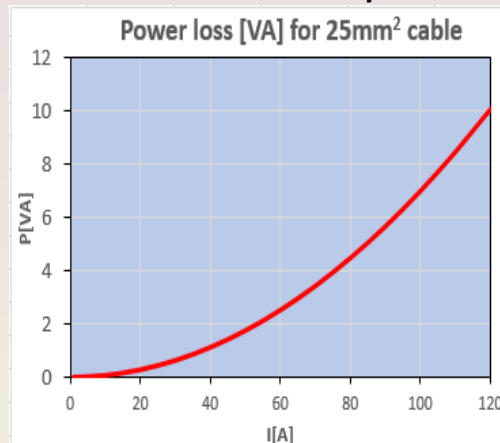
How to calculate resistance

$$R[\Omega] = \frac{\rho_{cu} \left| \frac{\Omega \cdot \text{mm}^2}{\text{m}} \right| \cdot l[\text{m}]}{S[\text{mm}^2]}$$

$$\rho_{cu} = 0.0175 \frac{\Omega \cdot \text{mm}^2}{\text{m}}$$

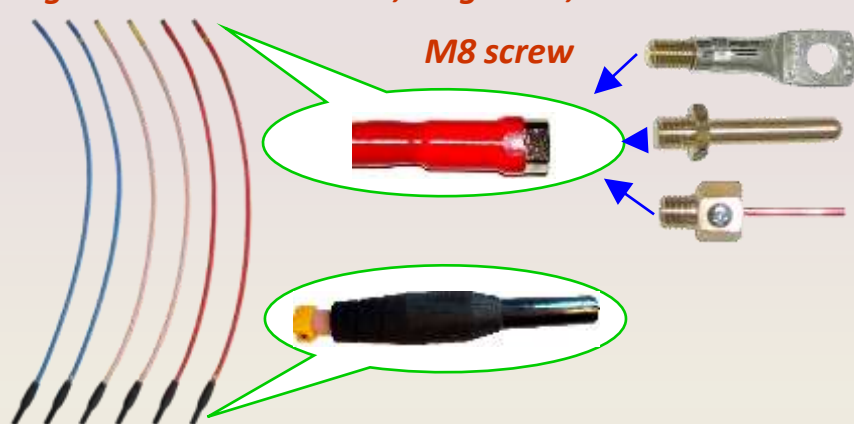
Warning! Use only safe and undamaged wires with 4 mm safety plugs!
The recommended length is 2m – 3m and thickness (cross section) 1mm² for voltage cables up to 10A and 2.5mm² for current cables to 30A

1m cable resistance and power loss in dependency on cable cross section and maximum current



Cross section [mm ²]	1m resistance [mΩ]	Maximum current [A]	Power loss [VA] at max current
1	17.50	19	6.32
1.5	11.67	24	6.72
2.5	7.00	32	7.17
4	4.38	43	9.09
6	2.92	54	8.51
10	1.75	73	9.33
16	1.09	98	10.50
25	0.70	128	11.47

High current 120A cables, length 1m, S=25mm²



Typical safety current cables length 2m, cross section 2.5mm² resistance 15mΩ



Typical safety voltage cables length 2m, cross section 1mm² resistance 35mΩ. For voltage stackable plugs are recommended

Conclusion: The length of cables should be minimized and cross section maximized, especially for high currents

Accessories for laboratory cables with 4 mm safety plugs allows easy and fast meter connection

Wide crocodile terminal

- max wire diameter – \varnothing 30mm
- working voltage 1000V
- working current 34A
- contact resistance 10m Ω



Banana plug - terminal

- working voltage 1000V
- working current 20A
- contact resistance 2m Ω



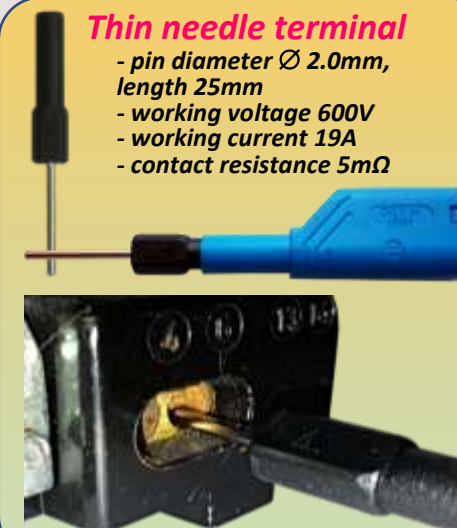
Fork terminal

- working voltage 1000V
- working current 20A
- contact resistance 2m Ω



Thin needle terminal

- pin diameter \varnothing 2.0mm, length 25mm
- working voltage 600V
- working current 19A
- contact resistance 5m Ω



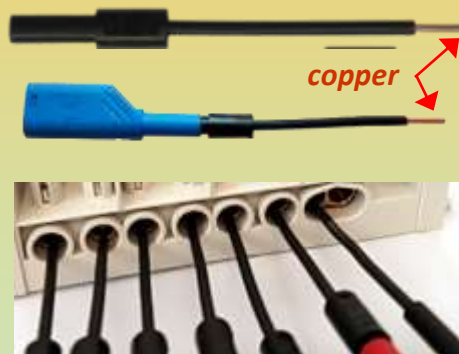
Long crocodile terminal

- length – 157mm
- working voltage 1000V
- working current 20A
- contact resistance 50m Ω



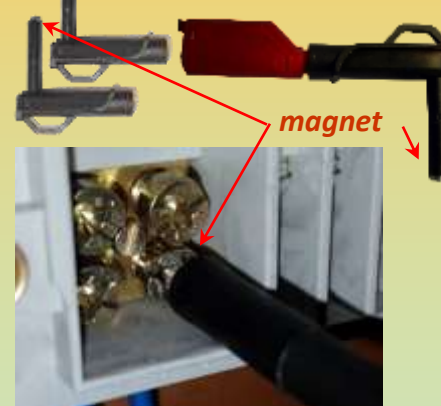
Long copper wire terminal

- length – 130mm, \varnothing 1.8mm
- working voltage 1000V
- working current 32A
- contact resistance 10m Ω



Magnetic terminal

- working voltage 1000V
- working current 10A
- contact resistance 10m Ω



Thick needle terminal

- pin diameter \varnothing 3.5mm, length 25mm
- working voltage 600V
- working current 30A
- contact resistance 2m Ω



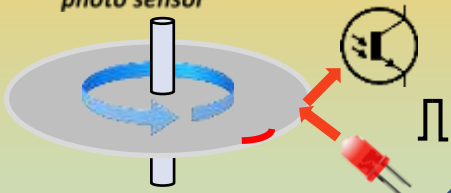
Conclusion: only professional accessories allow for safe and secure connection to the electricity meter and thus a reliable measurement

Getting proper pulses is essential for **automatic** electricity meter testing



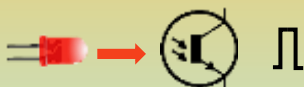
Inductive energy meter

- disk with **red** or black mark
- photo head with LED lamp and photo sensor



Electronic energy meter

- **red, green** or **infrared** LED blinking or LCD segment flashing
- photo head with photo sensor



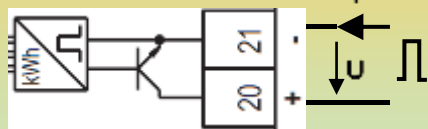
Electronic and Inductive energy meter

- manual push – button and pulse generation

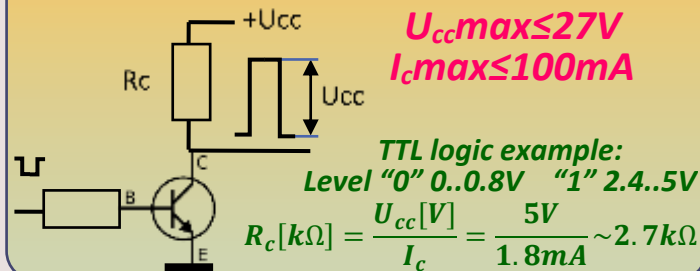


Electronic and Inductive energy meter

- 50 standard electric pulse



Open collector pulse output + external Rc



Frequency of pulse output

$$f_{imp}[Hz] = \frac{P_{3-phase}[W] \cdot C[imp/kWh]}{3600 \cdot 1000}$$

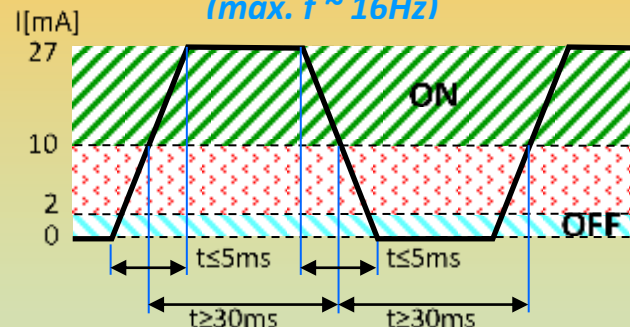
EXAMPLE: PULSE FREQUENCY

$$P=230V \cdot 10A \cdot 3=6900W$$

METER CONSTANT C=375IMP/KWH

$$f = \frac{6900 \cdot 375}{3600 \cdot 1000} = 0.72Hz$$

Timing and levels for S0 standard (max. f ~ 16Hz)



Example pulse inputs



Conclusion: proper setting of scanning head to get pulses of appropriate level for tester, allows reliable error measurement

Current clamps and Rogowski coils enables easy current measurement without breaking electrical circuit

120A current clamps

- max. wire diameter – \varnothing 15mm
- typical accuracy 0.2% of measured value in range 0.1A..120A
- length of cable 2m



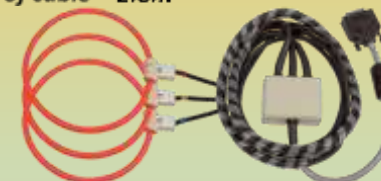
1200A current clamps

- max. wire diameter – \varnothing 52mm
- typical accuracy 0.2% of measured value in range 0.3A..1200A
- length of cable 2m



30/300/3000A current clamps

- max. wire diameter – \varnothing ~150mm
- typical accuracy 1% of measured value in range 0.3A..30A / 3A..300A / 30A..3000A
- length of cable – 2.8m



Influence of cable position on current clamps accuracy

- ⊗ - the best position
- ⊙ - acceptable position
- ⊗ - avoid this position

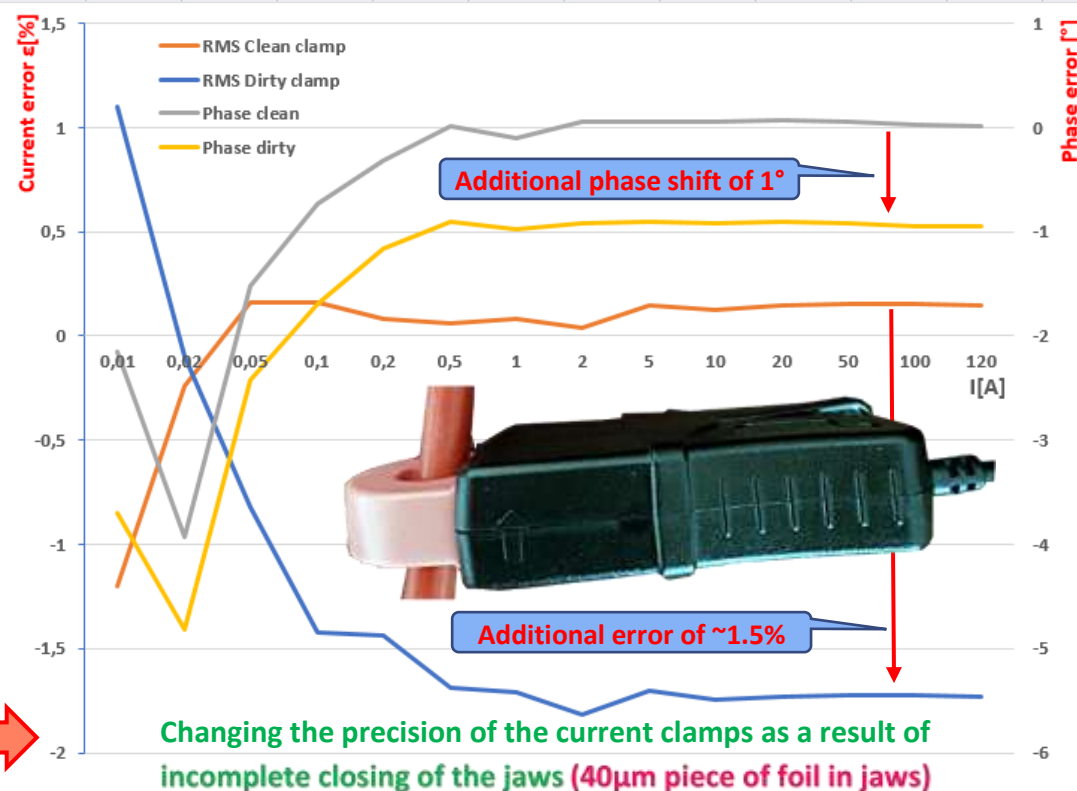


Keep clamps jaws surface clean of dust and grease, protect from scratches



Example of cleanliness influence on clamps accuracy. The dust (dirty surface) is simulated as a small piece of foil 40µm thick.

Keep clamps exactly and symmetrical closed



Conclusion: take care about current clamps because the proper use has influence on final error of measurements

Meter testing – How to make creep test – no load test. Time calculation and result interpretation



**No one
wants to
pay for
unused
electricity**

Definition: the disk of a electromechanical meter may move, either forward or backward, when all load is disconnected. In the same way, LED can flash without any load. According to the standards, in meter with only test voltage applied, disk can't make more than **1 full turn** or LED can't blink more than **1 time** in defined or calculated period of time. Such test is called **creep or no load test**.

Testing time calculation

$$\tau[\text{min}] \geq \frac{a \cdot 10^6}{C \left[\frac{\text{imp}}{\text{kWh}} \right] \cdot m \cdot U_n[\text{V}] \cdot I_{\text{max}}[\text{A}]}$$

where:

$\tau[\text{min}]$ - minimum waiting time for pulse or disk rotation

a - coefficient dependent on accuracy class - see table

$C[\text{imp/kWh}]$ - meter constant

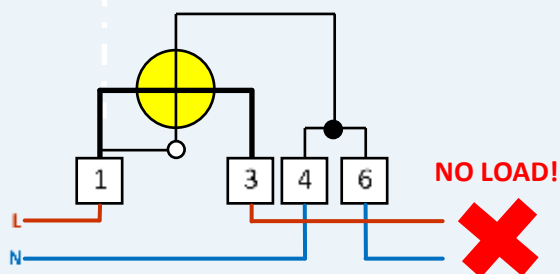
m - number of metering elements:

- 1 -> single phase,
- 2 -> 3 phase, 3 wires,
- 3 -> 3 phase, 4 wires

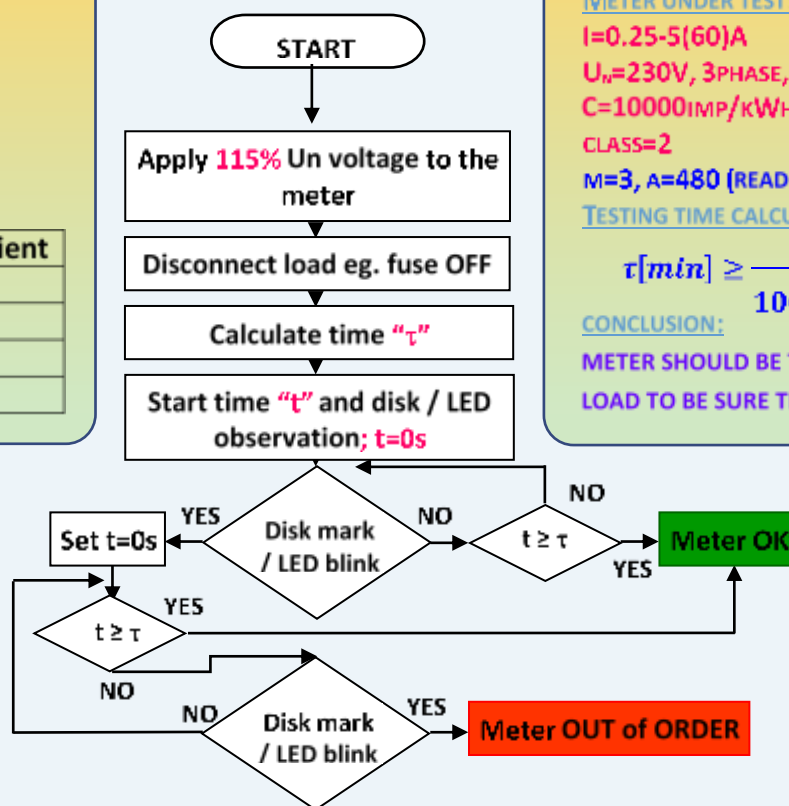
U_n - nominal voltage

I_{max} - maximum current

Meter class	"a" coefficient
0.2S	900
0.5S, 1	600
2	480
3	300



How to test



Example

EXAMPLE: REQUIRED NO LOAD TIME TESTING

METER UNDER TEST:

$I=0.25-5(60)\text{A}$

$U_n=230\text{V}$, 3PHASE, 4WIRES

$C=10000\text{IMP/kWh}$

CLASS=2

$M=3$, $A=480$ (READOUT FROM TABLE)

TESTING TIME CALCULATION

$$\tau[\text{min}] \geq \frac{480 \cdot 10^6}{10000 \frac{\text{imp}}{\text{kWh}} \cdot 3 \cdot 230\text{V} \cdot 60\text{A}} = 1.16\text{min}$$

CONCLUSION:

METER SHOULD BE TESTED AT LEAST 1.16MIN (~70s) AT NO LOAD TO BE SURE THAT IT WORKS CORRECTLY

Conclusion: stopped meter under no load conditions is essential for reliable energy settlement



Electricity distributor wants to count every piece (even very small) of used energy!

Definition: the starting current (I_{st}) is the lowest value of current, specified by the manufacturer, at which the meter should register electrical energy at unity power factor and, for poly-phase meters, with balanced load. It is allowed, that below I_{st} meter stops to measure energy.

The test consists in calculation expecting time between 2 pulses or 1 disk turn $\tau[s]$ and then checking if in extended by 50% time, meter generates pulse or disk make 1 turn.

EXAMPLE: ESTIMATED TIME FOR PULSE IN STARTING CURRENT TEST

METER UNDER TEST:

$I = 0.25-5(60)A$

$U_n = 230V$, 3PHASE, 4WIRES

$C = 10000 \text{ imp/kWh}$

CLASS=2

$M=3$, $I_{st} = 0.5\% \cdot 5A = 0.025A$

ONE PULSE (DISK TURN) TIME CALCULATION

$$\tau[s] = \frac{3.6 \cdot 10^6}{10000 \frac{\text{imp}}{\text{kWh}} \cdot 3 \cdot 230V \cdot 0.025A} = 20.87s$$

CONCLUSION:

ASSUMING 50% METER ERROR, IN MAXIMUM $1.5 \cdot \tau$ TIME ($1.5 \cdot 20.87s = 31.3s$), METER DISK SHOULD MAKE 1 FULL TURN OR GENERATE PULSE.

$$\tau[s] = \frac{3.6 \cdot 10^6}{C \left[\frac{\text{imp}}{\text{kWh}} \right] \cdot m \cdot U_n[V] \cdot I_{st}[A]}$$

where:

$\tau[s]$ - expecting time between pulses or disk one turn time at I_{st} current

$C[\text{imp/kWh}]$ - meter constant

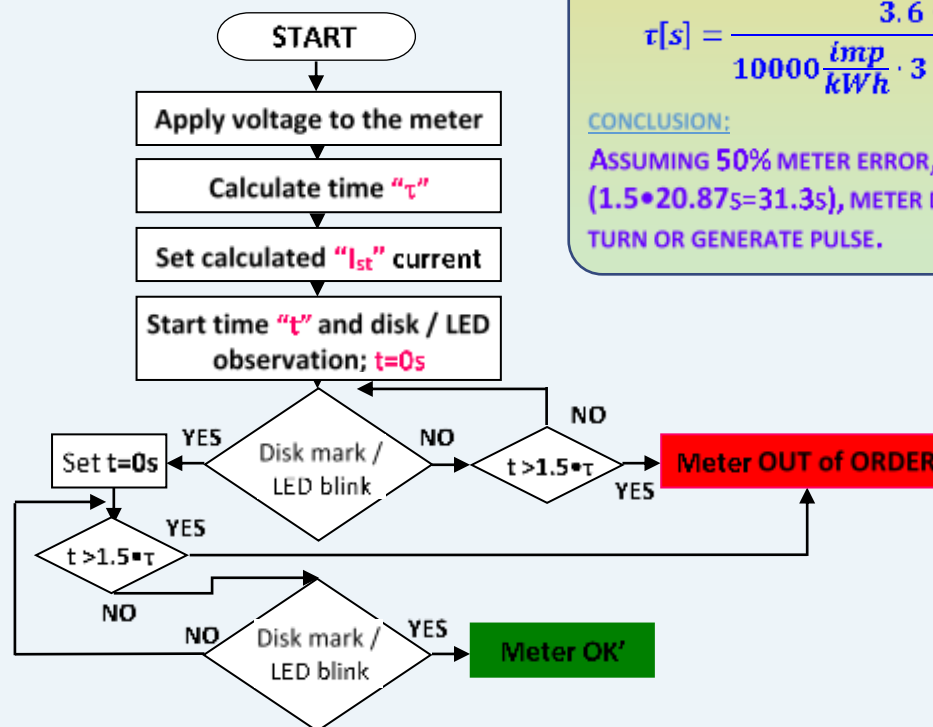
m - number of metering elements:

- 1 -> single phase,
- 2 -> 3 phase, 3 wires,
- 3 -> 3 phase, 4 wires

U_n - nominal voltage

I_{st} - starting current - as % of I_b or I_n - see table:

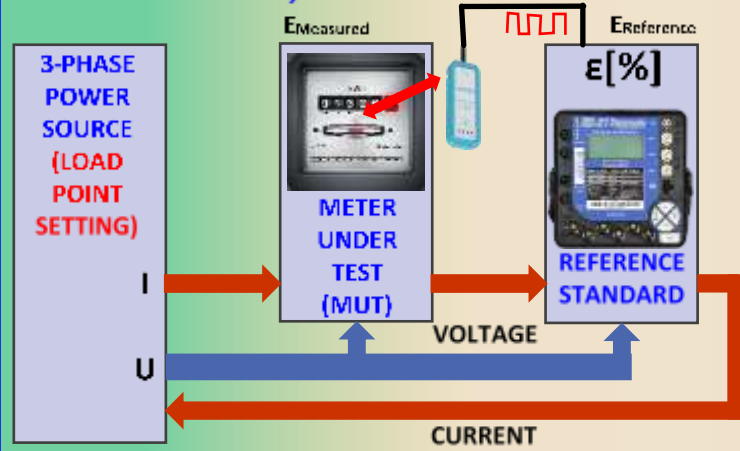
Meter class	Directly connected	CT connected
0.2S	-	0.1%
0.5S	-	0.1% (0.2%)
1	0.4%	0.2%
2	0.5%	0.3%
3	1%	0.5%
A	0.5%	0.6%
B	0.4%	0.4%
C	0.4%	0.2%



Conclusion: testing starting current of meter is obligatory test point to get reliable energy measurement

Principle of electricity meter testing

$$\varepsilon[\%] = \frac{E_{\text{Measured}} - E_{\text{Reference}}}{E_{\text{Reference}}} \cdot 100\%$$



Definition: energy meter testing (MUT) by energy comparison method consists in counting pulses from MUT and calculation of measured energy as:

$$E_{\text{Measured}}[\text{kWh}] = \frac{N[\text{pulses or turns number}]}{C[\text{imp/kWh}](\text{meter constant})}$$

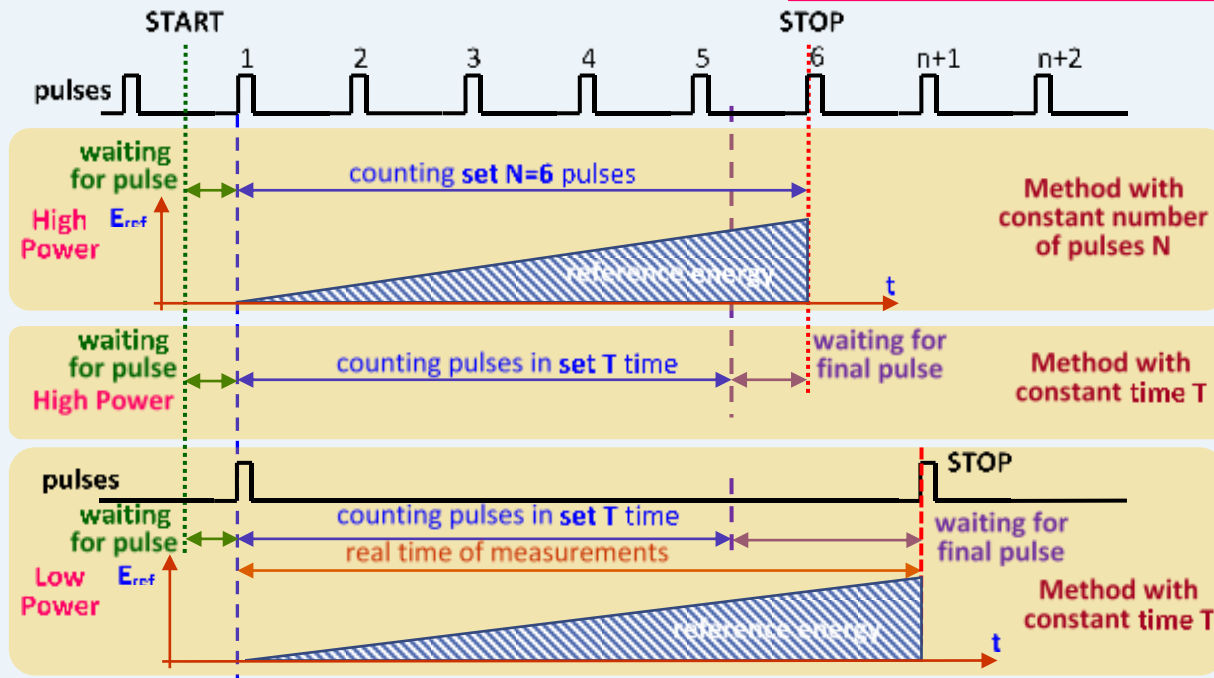
and then compare it with, reference value measured by special, at least 5 times more accurate standard meter ($E_{\text{Reference}}$).

Example: counted were 500 pulses by meter with constant 375 turns/kWh.

The measured energy is:

$$E_{\text{Measured}} = \frac{500}{375} \text{ kWh} = 1.333 \text{ kWh}$$

The test consists in: waiting for the first pulse, counting N number of pulses or waiting set T time and then waiting for final pulse. By the time of counting is measured reference energy and then compared with meter under test



pro:

- exactly known number of pulses

con:

- different number of pulses for different load to keep reasonable low time of test
- decision how many pulses to enter

pro:

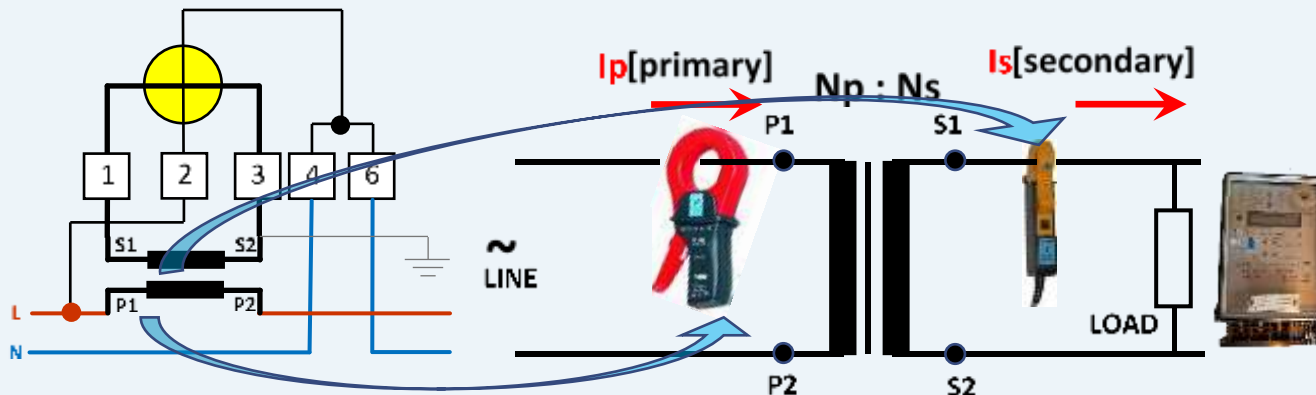
- time can be independent from load and can be constant for all loads
- system have to automatically wait for at least two pulses
- setting eg. 20s covers almost all typical cases of testing

con:

- unknown number of counted pulses

Conclusion: all methods of electricity meter error testing consist of counting pulses and time they occurred

CT/PT ratio test **idea**; small ratio and phase shift error are essential for reliable measurement



The test method is based on **primary current** measurement by means of current clamps from 0.1A to 3000A and **secondary current** measurement directly or also by means of clamps in 10mA to 10A range.

$$\delta I = \frac{\frac{N_p}{N_s} \cdot I_s - I_p}{I_p}$$

The **ratio error** is given by equation, where:

δI – current transformer error [%]

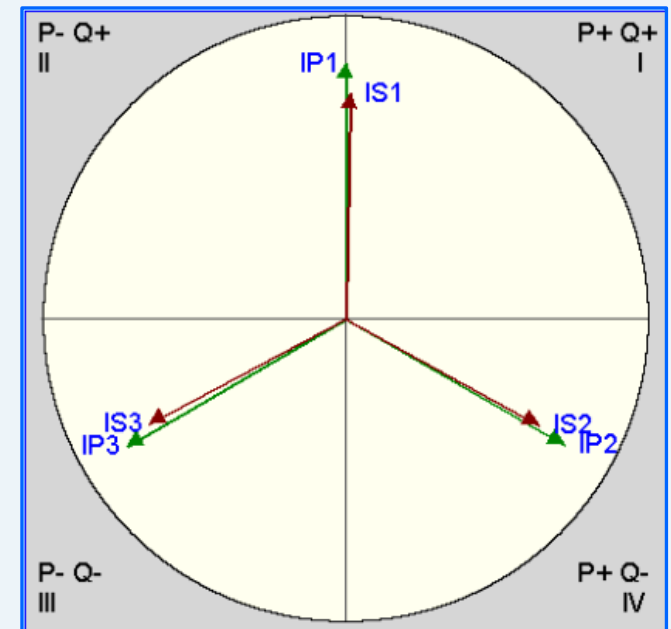
N_p – number of primary turns

N_s – number of secondary turns

N_p / N_s – nominal CT ratio

I_p – primary current

I_s – secondary current



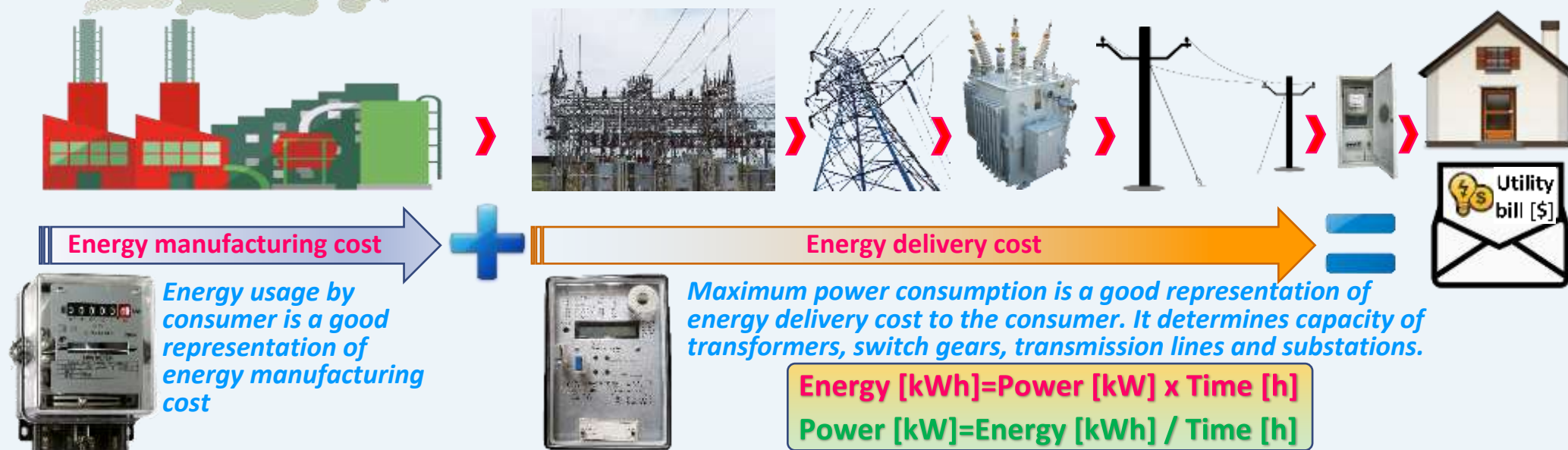
Item	L1	L2	L3
Ratio	1.000%	1.000%	1.000%
Ip	300A	300A	300A
Is	5A	5A	5A
Ip1s	200.982 A	199.994 A	248.994 A
Is	5.00041 A	3.35015 A	4.09987 A
φ	0.008 °	0.181 °	0.126 °
Ip1s	58.9915	58.6972	60.9762
δ	-0.014 %	-0.507 %	1.801 %
δs	0.000 %	0.000 %	0.000 %

Example results of CT 300/5A test:

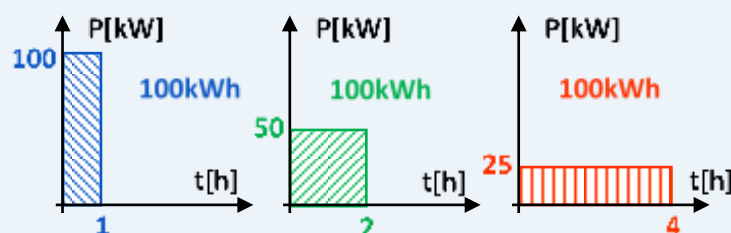
- phase shift error [°]
- ratio error in [%]

Vector diagram shows proper connection and phasing of CT

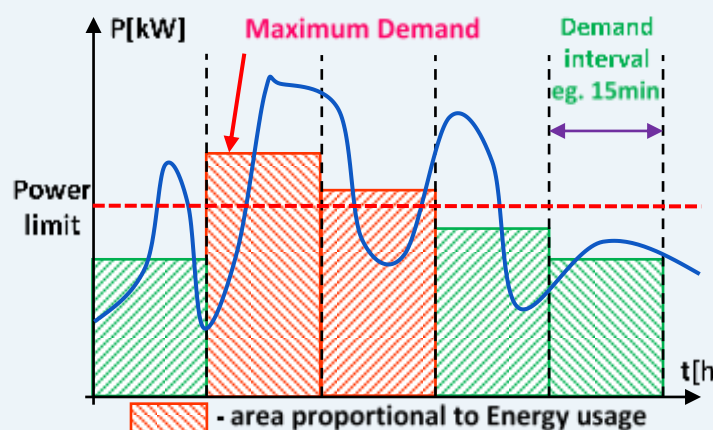
Expected value of ratio error is $\delta I = 0\%$ and phase shift error $\phi = 0^\circ$



Demand definition: maximum rate of energy transfer demanded by the consumer equal to the maximum power averaged in certain time, usually 15min. Calculated as **energy** used in defined period of time **divided** by this **time**.



Example: three of customers have the same energy usage 100kWh but the first has the highest power demand 100kW, compare with the third customer, which has 25kW only. Energy usage is settled by typical energy meter and readiness of power delivery by demand meter.



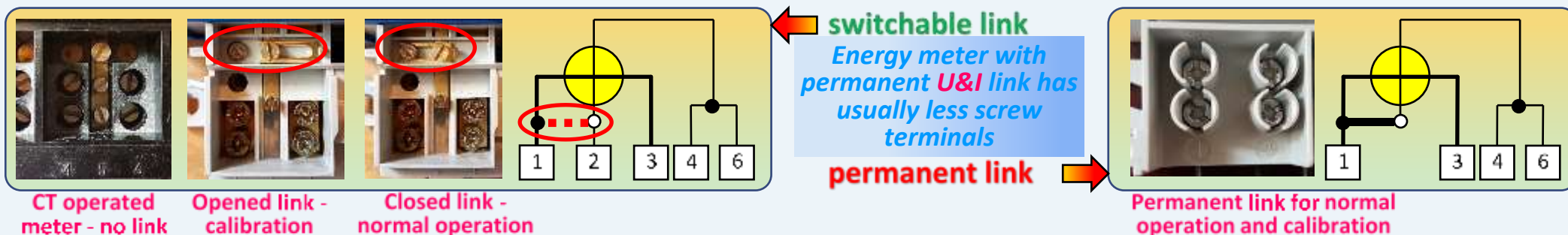
Demand is measured by interval of time, usually 15min (5, 10, 30, 60min). The highest value of averaged through time power is the maximum demand, which can be compared with the power limit set in contract between utility and consumer. The typical billing period is 1 month and crossing the limits cause penalties paid by consumer.

Smart meter has usually function of maximum demand metering built in

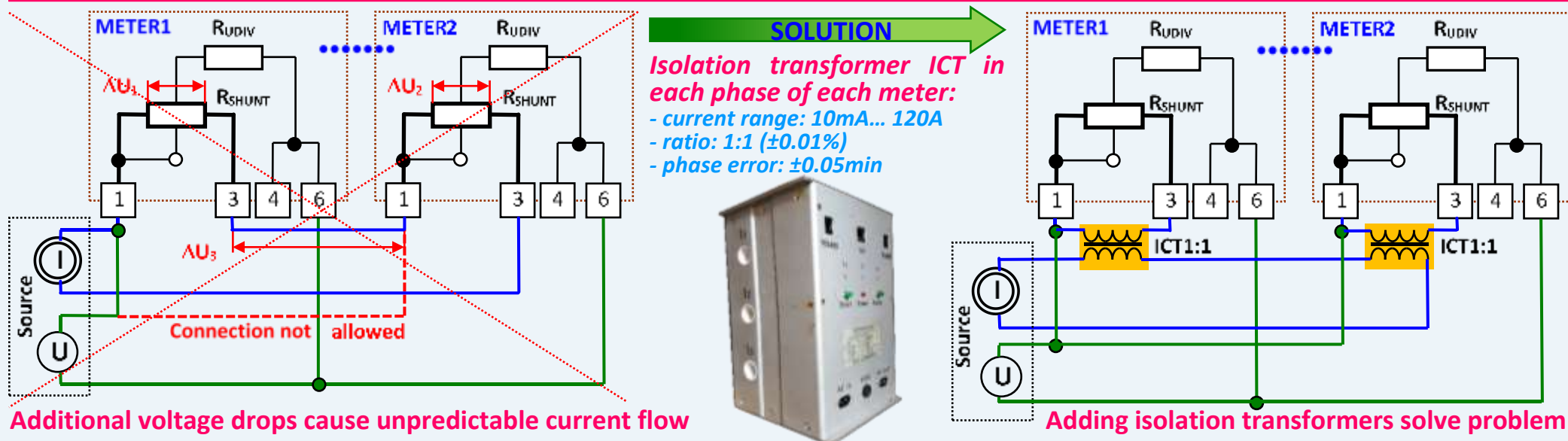
Conclusion: maximum demand influences on installation cost and can be a major component in electricity bill

IP-link definition: permanent or disconnectable connection between phase voltage and current input in electricity meter, used during adjustment and calibration. Almost all of older meters and all CT operated meters have possibility to open link. Increased number of new electronic meters has permanent connection between U & I inputs because of:

- lower production cost of meter using resistive shunts for current measurements in whole current meters;
- additional protection against electricity thieves.



Permanent IP-link has a great influence on accuracy, when we test more than one meter simultaneously

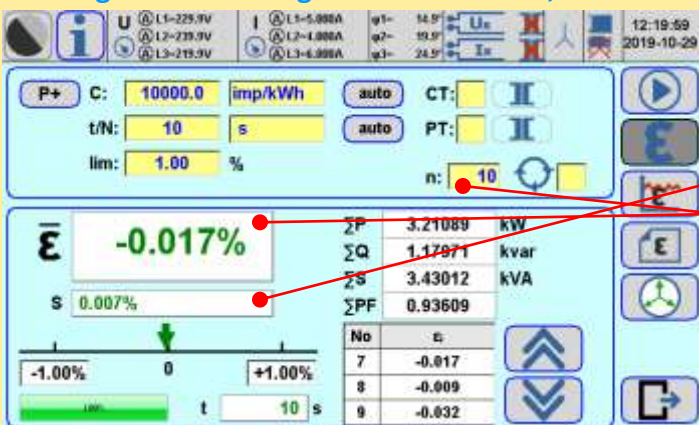


Conclusion: special isolation transformers ICT(1:1) should be used for testing more than one meter with permanent IP - link



Meter parameters:
 $U_n=230V$ $I_n=5A$
 $C=10000\text{imp/kWh}$
 class 1

Testing results: average error $\bar{\epsilon}=-0.017\%$, standard deviation $s=0.007\%$



Standard deviation (s) – shows dispersion of a set of results from average value calculated by

formula: $s = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (\epsilon_i - \bar{\epsilon})^2}{N-1}}$ where:

ϵ_i - individual result

$\bar{\epsilon}$ – average value of results: $\bar{\epsilon} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \epsilon_i}{N}$

N – number of results.

Number of measurements N should be between 3 to 10, the more the better, however achieving more results takes more time

Remark: some Reference Meters have built in average error and standard deviation calculation, in other case, they should be calculated manually



Reference Meter:
 Accuracy: $\delta = \pm 0.04\%$
 (taken from manufacturer data sheet)
 [absolute extended uncertainty under confidence level of 95%]

Uncertainty of measurement is the doubt that exists about the result of any measurement. There are two types of uncertainty: Type A (statistical - u_A) and Type B - u_B (eg. taken from device data sheet or calibration certificate). The uncertainty can be calculated by formulas: $u_A = \frac{s}{\sqrt{N}}$ $u_B = \frac{\delta}{\sqrt{3}}$. Combined standard uncertainty is given by: $u_C = \sqrt{u_A^2 + u_B^2}$ and expanded uncertainty $U = k \times u_C$ where k is coverage factor, which tell us ($k=2$), that 95% of results are in spread $\pm 2 \times s$

Practical example (see above):

$\bar{\epsilon}=-0.017\%$, $s=0.007\%$, $N=10$ so

$u_A = \frac{0.007}{\sqrt{10}} = 0.0022$ and $u_B = \frac{0.04}{\sqrt{3}} = 0.0231$
 what gives:

$$U = 2 \times \sqrt{0.0022^2 + 0.0231^2} = 0.046$$

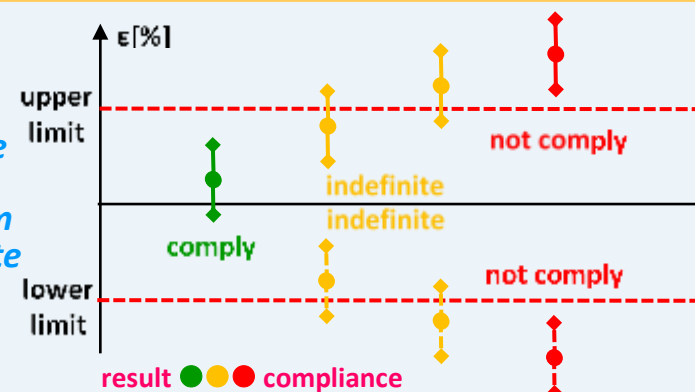
The meter error can be expressed as:

$\epsilon = -0.017\% \pm 0.046\%$

[extended uncertainty under confidence level of 95%]

Steps to uncertainty evaluation:

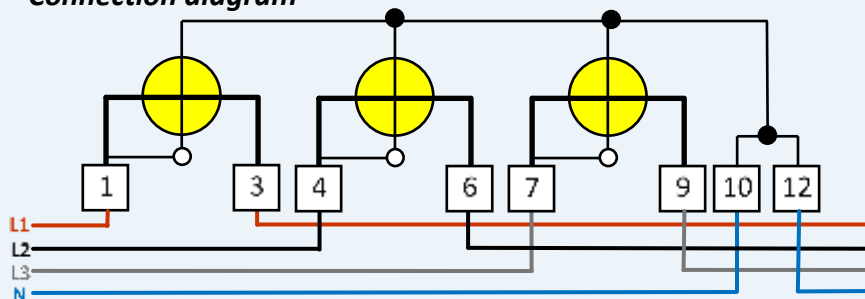
1. carry out the error measurements (3 to 10 results)
2. readout or calculate average value of error and standard deviation
3. get Reference Meter accuracy from its data sheet or calibration certificate
4. calculate expanded uncertainty
5. check compliance of result with specification



Conclusion: uncertainty evaluation is easy task aided by modern measuring instruments

Reference connection and testing results of three phase, active energy meter

Connection diagram



Current load point for Energy Meter test

	L1	L2	L3	
U:	229.996 V	239.994 V	219.997 V	f: 50.000 Hz
U ₀ :	407.056 V	398.439 V	389.854 V	U _Σ : 17.3387 V
I:	5.00021 A	4.00003 A	5.99982 A	I _Σ : 2.44911 A
φ:	14.932 °	19.911 °	24.937 °	
PF:	0.96623	0.94022	0.90677	Σ: 0.93607
sin:	0.25767	0.34055	0.42163	Σ: 0.3674
tgφ:	0.26668	0.36220	0.46498	Σ: 0.3674
Φ _Σ :	0.000 °	120.007 °	-120.018 °	U _Σ : L123
P:	1.11119 kW	902.600 W	1.19688 kW	Σ: 21067 kW
Q:	296.330 var	326.9 var	556.523 var	Σ: 7978 kvar
S:	1.15003 kVA	918.4 VA	1.31994 kVA	Σ: 31995 kVA

Voltage:
U1~230V
U2~240V
U3~220V

Current:
I1~5A
I2~4A
I3~6A

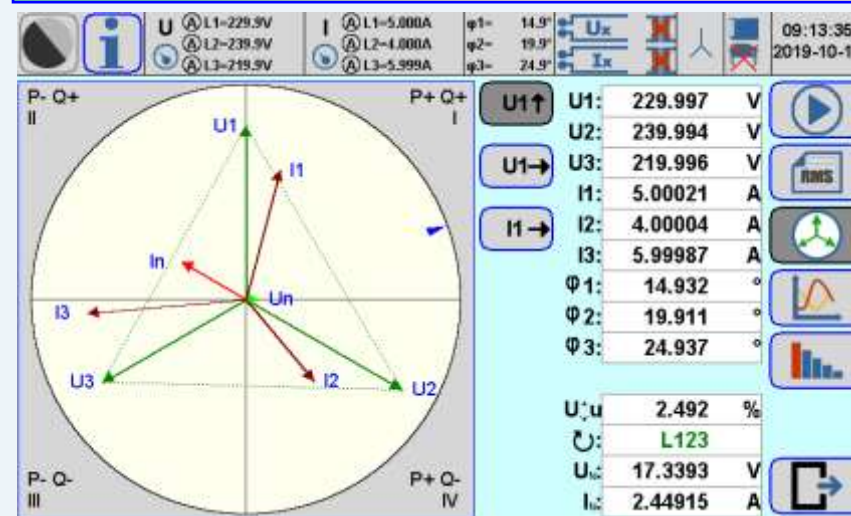
Phase shift:
φ1~15°
φ2~20°
φ3~25°

Phase shift U-U:
U1-2~120° U1-3~-120°

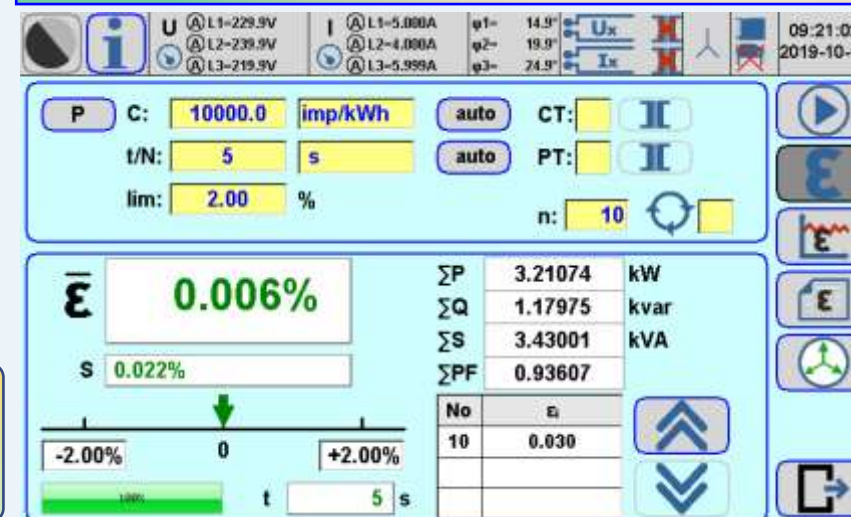
Vector rotation:
Correct L123

The **initial assessment** of the installation, consists in checking whether the basic parameters are within the **typical limits**:
Voltage: $U_{nominal} \pm 20\%$, Current: $I_{min} < I < I_{max}$, φ : $0... \pm 60^\circ$, $\angle U-U$: 120° or $-120^\circ \pm 10^\circ$, Rotation: L123, meter Error: $\pm 5\%$

Vector diagram: positive sequence U1 ⇒ U2 ⇒ U3



Error test result at load point

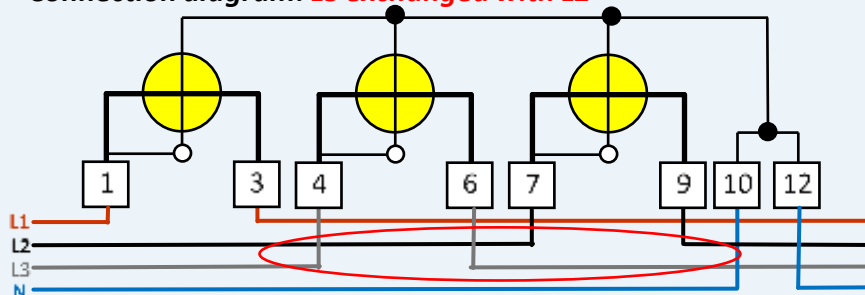


Conclusion: knowledge of expected results makes troubleshooting more easy

Meter testing – typical meter installation errors recognizing

Phase L3 exchanged with phase L2 – negative vector rotation

Connection diagram: L3 exchanged with L2



Load



Current load point for Energy Meter test

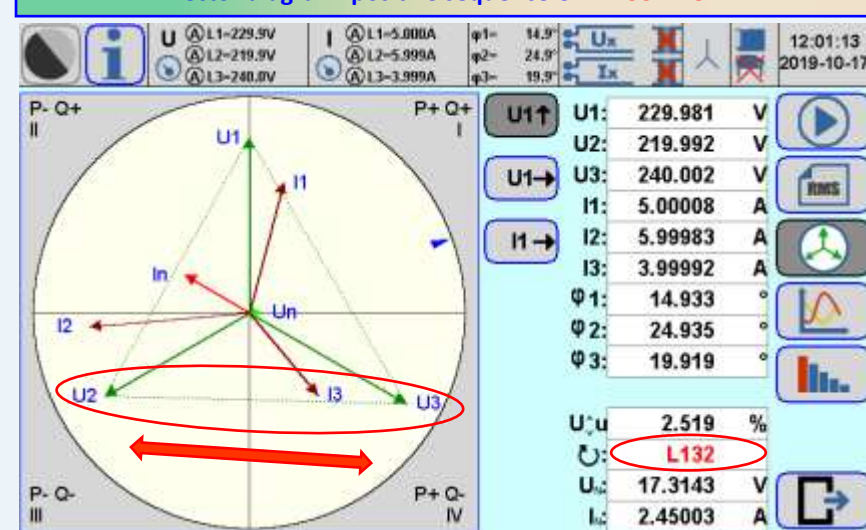
	L1	L2	L3	
U:	229.980 V	219.992 V	239.999 V	f: 50.000 Hz
U ₀ :	389.743 V	398.457 V	407.123 V	U ₀ : 17.3193 V
I:	5.00006 A	5.99981 A	3.99989 A	I ₀ : 2.44881 A
φ:	14.946 °	24.935 °	19.919 °	
PF:	0.96617	0.90678	0.94017	Σ: 0.93604
sinφ:	0.25791	0.42160	0.34069	Σ: 0.34407
tgφ:	0.26695	0.46493	0.36237	Σ: 0.36758
Φ _{tot} :	0.000 °	-120.006 °	120.010 °	Σ: 0.21042 kW
P:	1.11101 kW	1.19687 kW	902.541 W	Σ: 1.0010 kvar
Q:	296.579 var	556.4 var	327.052 var	Σ: 3.180 kVA
S:	1.14992 kVA	1.291 kVA	959.972 VA	

Phase shift U-U:
U1-2~120° U1-3~120°

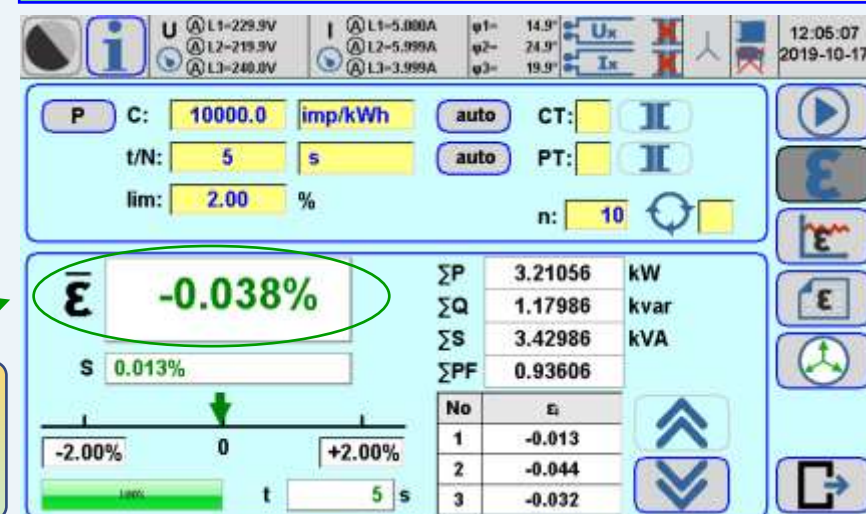
Vector rotation:
Negative L132

The phase exchange does not have a big influence for the energy meter error, however it can introduce additional error value on accuracy class level. It also makes problems with result interpretation and can be source of mistakes in the future.

Vector diagram: positive sequence U1 ⇒ U3 ⇒ U2



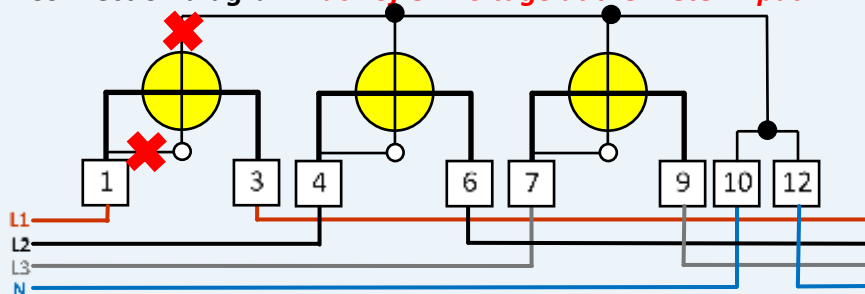
Error test result at load point



Conclusion: it is recommended to reset the connection to positive L123 phase sequence

Lack of one voltage at the meter input

Connection diagram: lack of U1 voltage at the meter input



Load



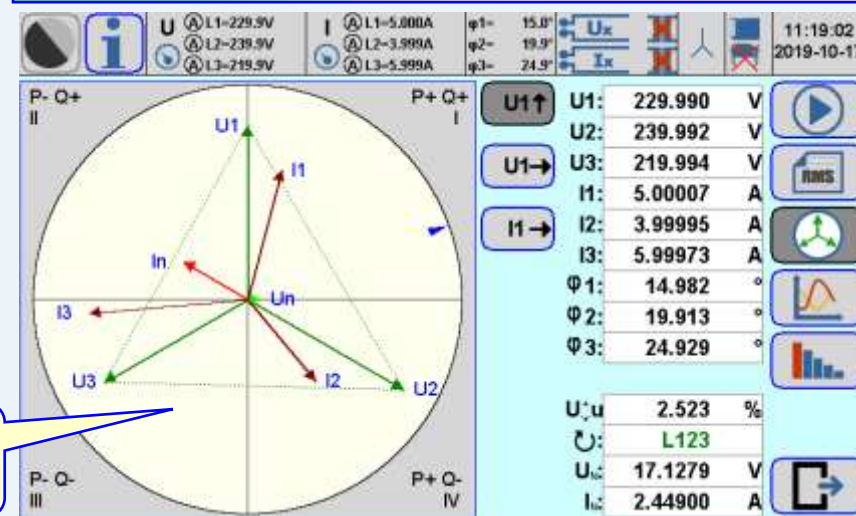
Current load point for Energy Meter test

	L1	L2	L3	
U:	229.990 V	239.994 V	219.996 V	50.000 Hz
U ₀ :	407.148 V	398.461 V	389.733 V	U ₀ : 17.1274 V
I:	5.00009 A	3.99994 A	5.99966 A	I ₀ : 2.44901 A
φ:	14.982 °	19.912 °	24.929 °	
PF:	0.96601	0.94021	0.90683	Σ: 0.93602
sin:	0.25852	0.34058	0.42149	Σ: 0.34420
tgφ:	0.26761	0.36223	0.46479	Σ: 0.36773
φ _{av} :	0.000 °	120.054 °	-119.959 °	Σ: 0.000 °
P:	1.11088 kW	902.571 W	1.19693 kW	Σ: 3.21038 kW
Q:	297.285 var	326.942 var	556.323 var	Σ: 1.18055 kvar
S:	1.14997 kVA	959.963 VA	1.31990 kVA	Σ: 3.42983 kVA

All values, measured at available meter inputs are correct

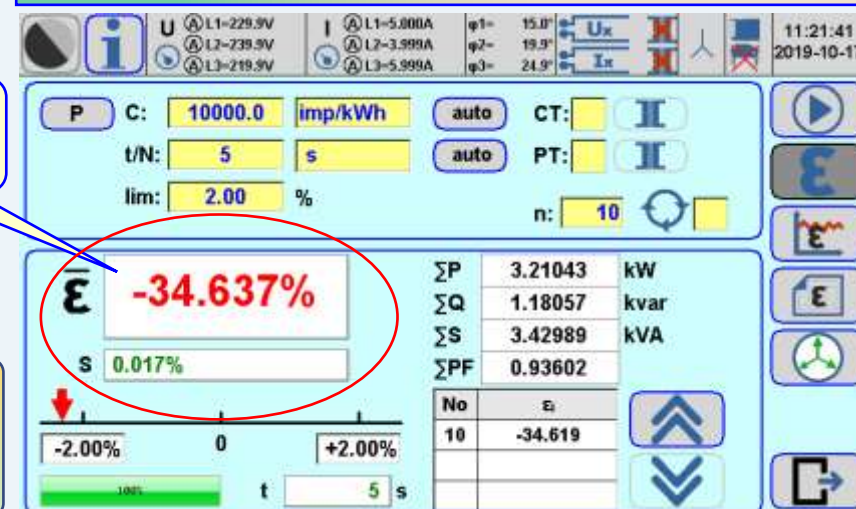
The lack of voltage can be caused by: wrong or improper connection, opened close link, internal connection break inside the meter, internal voltage divider failure. As a power is $P=U(=0) \times I \times \cos(\varphi)$, it causes lack (- sign) of about 1/3 of power for symmetrical load.

Vector diagram: positive sequence U1 ⇒ U2 ⇒ U3



Vector and phase sequence are correct

Error test result at load point

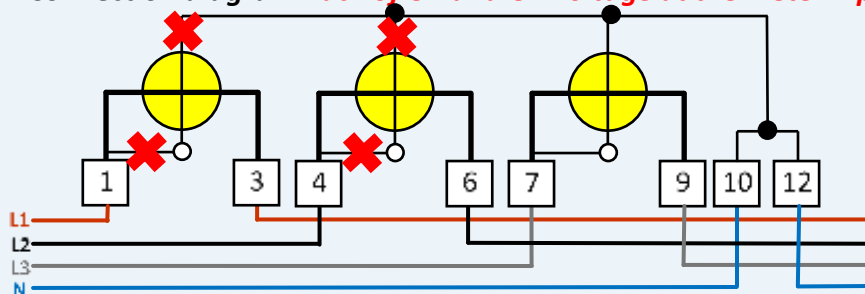


There is high value of error

Conclusion: if the value of error is on **-33% ±10%** level, it is possible, that one of the voltages is not applied to the meter properly

Lack of two voltages at the meter input

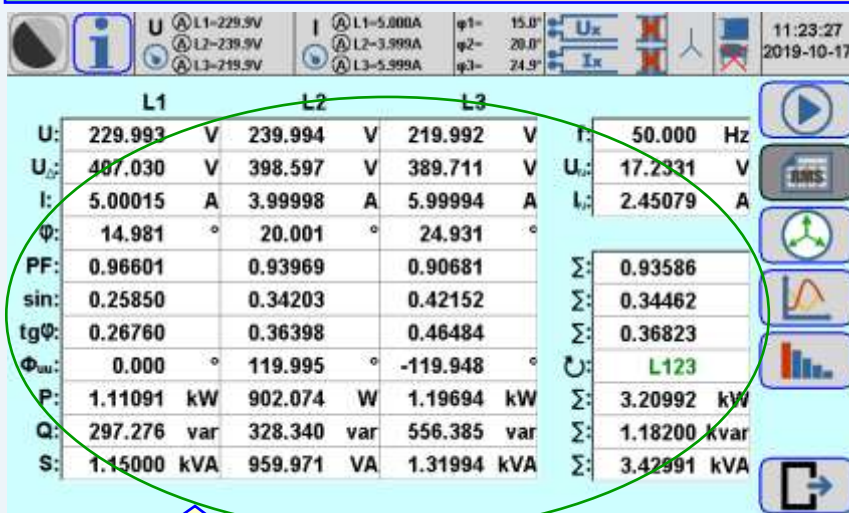
Connection diagram: **lack of U1 and U2 voltage at the meter input**



Load



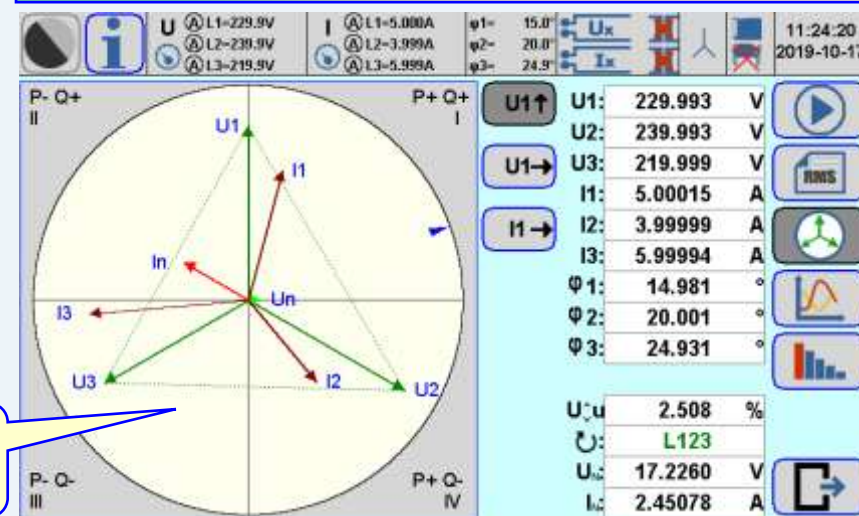
Current load point for Energy Meter test



All values, measured at available meter inputs are correct

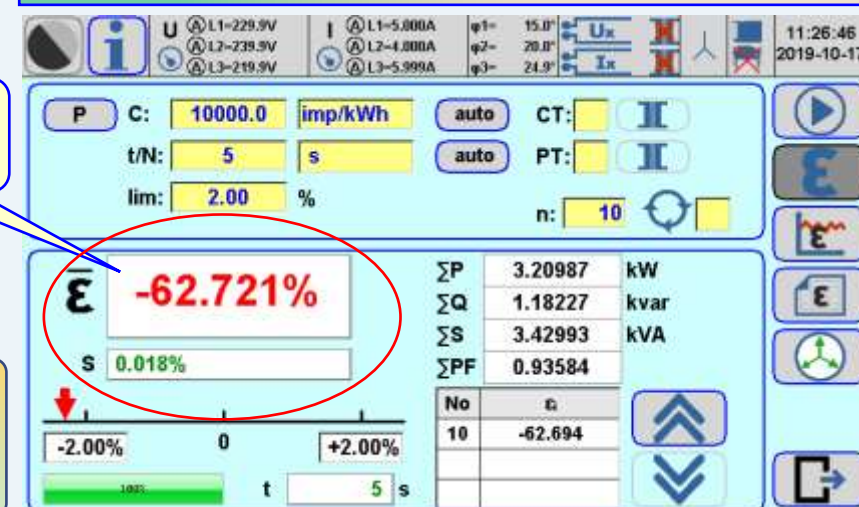
The lack of voltages can be caused by: wrong or improper connection, opened close link, internal connection break inside the meter, internal voltage divider failure. As a power is $P=U(=0) \times I \times \cos(\varphi)$, it causes lack (- sign) of about 2/3 of power for symmetrical load.

Vector diagram: positive sequence U1 ⇒ U2 ⇒ U3



Vector and phase sequence are correct

Error test result at load point



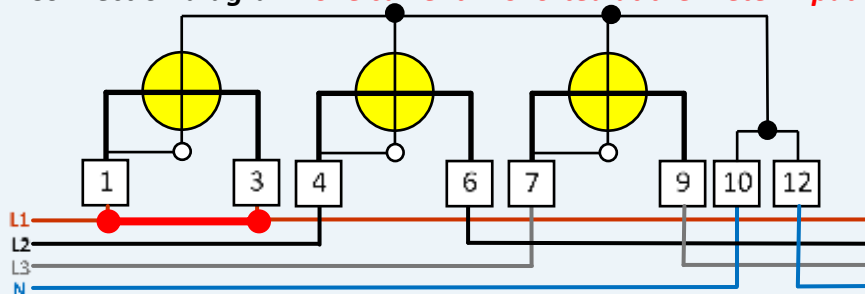
There is high value of error

Conclusion: if the value of error is on **-66% ±20%** level, it is possible, that two of the voltages are not applied to the meter properly

Meter testing – typical meter installation errors recognizing

One current shorted at the meter input

Connection diagram: one current I1 shorted at the meter input



Load



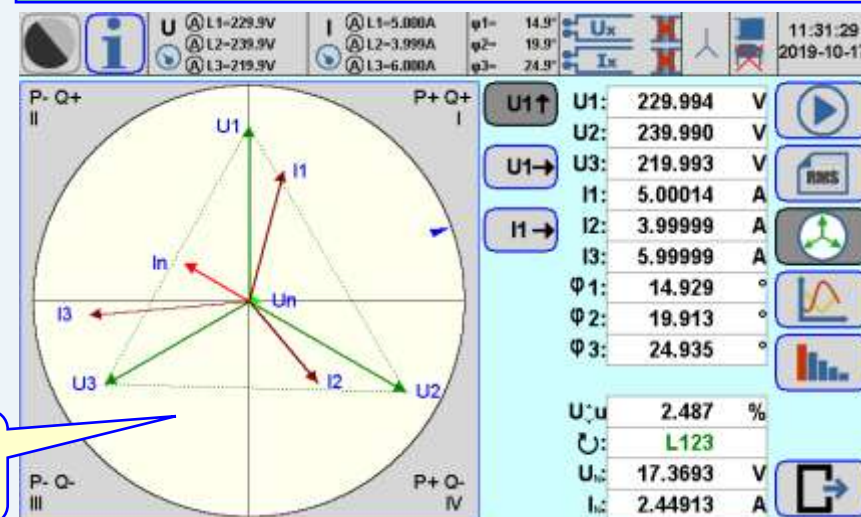
Current load point for Energy Meter test

L1			L2			L3					
U:	229.993	V	239.989	V	219.993	V	50.000	Hz			
U _L :	407.017	V	398.462	V	389.849	V	U ₀ :	17.3685	V		
I:	5.00013	A	3.99998	A	6.00002	A	I ₀ :	2.44917	A		
φ:	14.929	°	19.914	°	24.935	°	Σ:	0.93607			
PF:	0.96625		0.94020		0.90678		Σ:	0.34395			
sinφ:	0.25762		0.34062		0.42159		Σ:	0.36744			
tgφ:	0.26662		0.36228		0.46493		Σ:	3.21064	kW		
φ _{avg} :	0.000	°	119.991	°	-120.018	°	Σ:	1.17972	kvar		
P:	1.11118	kW	902.546	W	1.19692	kW	Σ:	3.42991	kVA		
Q:	296.258	var	326.974	var	556.488	var					
S:	1.14999	kVA	959.950	VA	1.31996	kVA					

All values, measured at available meter inputs are correct

The current can be shorted by energy thieves, wrong connection, internal current transformer or shunt failure. As a power is $P = U \times I (=0) \times \cos(\varphi)$, it causes lack (- sign) of about 1/3 of power for symmetrical load.

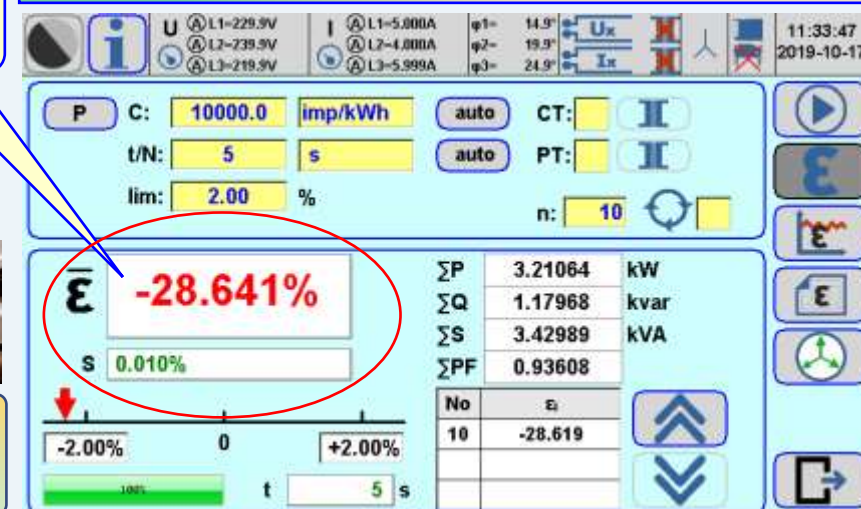
Vector diagram: positive sequence $U1 \Rightarrow U2 \Rightarrow U3$



Vector and phase sequence are correct

There is high value of error

Error test result at load point

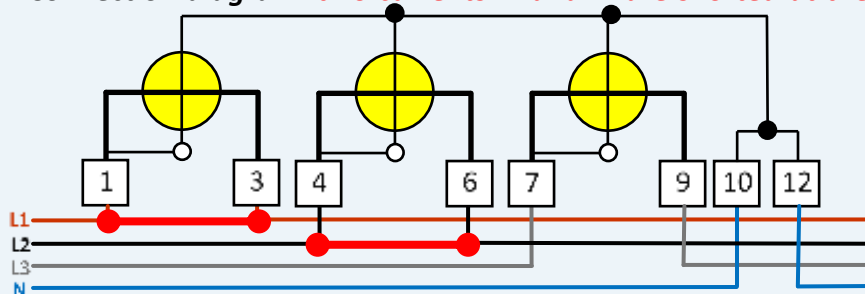


Conclusion: if the value of error is on **-33% ±10%** level, it is possible, that one of the currents is not flowing through the meter properly

Meter testing – typical meter installation errors recognizing

Two currents shorted at the meter input

Connection diagram: two currents I1 and I2 are shorted at the meter



Load



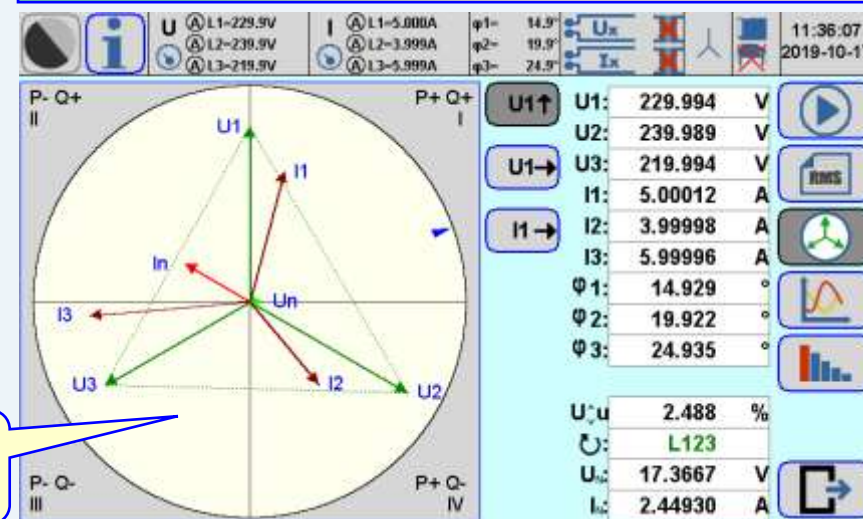
Current load point for Energy Meter test

L1			L2			L3					
U:	229.994	V	239.990	V	219.994	V	50.000	Hz			
U ₀ :	407.020	V	398.465	V	389.850	V	U ₀ :	17.3685	V		
I:	5.00012	A	4.00001	A	5.99999	A	I:	2.44929	A		
φ:	14.929	°	19.922	°	24.935	°					
PF:	0.96625		0.94016		0.90679		Σ:	0.93606			
sinφ:	0.25762		0.34074		0.42159		Σ:	0.34398			
tgφ:	0.26662		0.36243		0.46492		Σ:	0.36748			
φ _{avg} :	0.000	°	119.992	°	-120.017	°	Σ:				
P:	1.11118	kW	902.515	W	1.19692	kW	Σ:	3.21062	kW		
Q:	296.259	var	327.098	var	556.478	var	Σ:	1.17984	kvar		
S:	1.15000	kVA	959.963	VA	1.31996	kVA	Σ:	3.42992	kVA		

All values, measured at available meter inputs are correct

The current can be shorted by energy thieves, wrong connection, internal current transformer or shunt failure. As a power is $P = U \times I (=0) \times \cos(\varphi)$, it causes lack (- sign) of about 2/3 of power for symmetrical load.

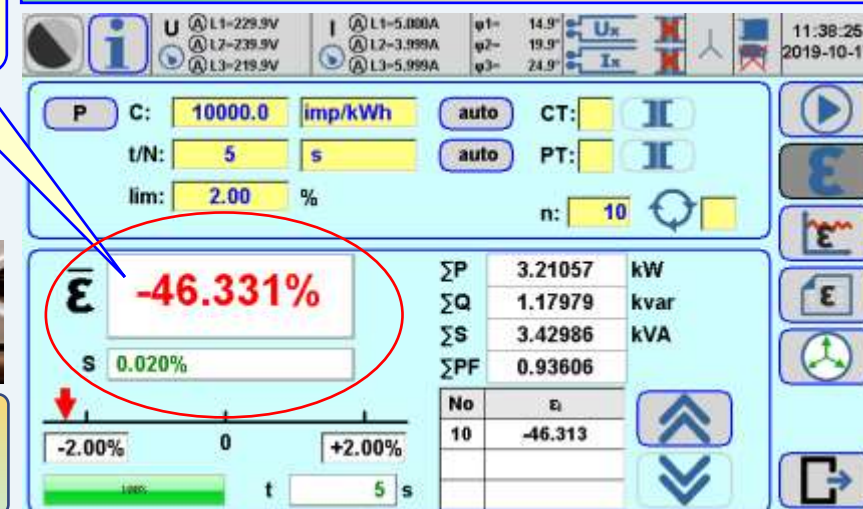
Vector diagram: positive sequence U1 ⇒ U2 ⇒ U3



Vector and phase sequence are correct

There is high value of error

Error test result at load point

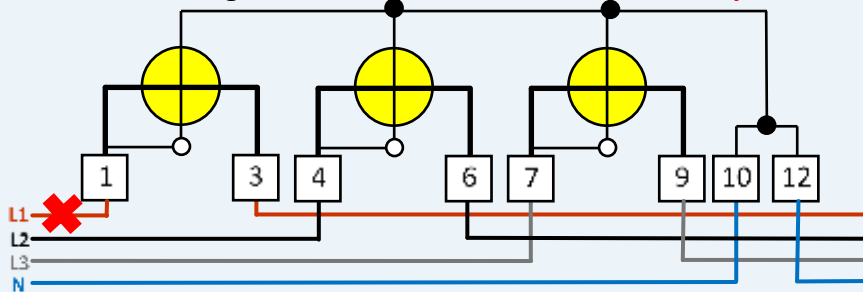


Conclusion: if the value of error is on **-66% ±20%** level, it is possible, that two of the currents are not flowing through the meter properly

Meter testing – typical meter installation errors recognizing

One current is not flowing through the meter input

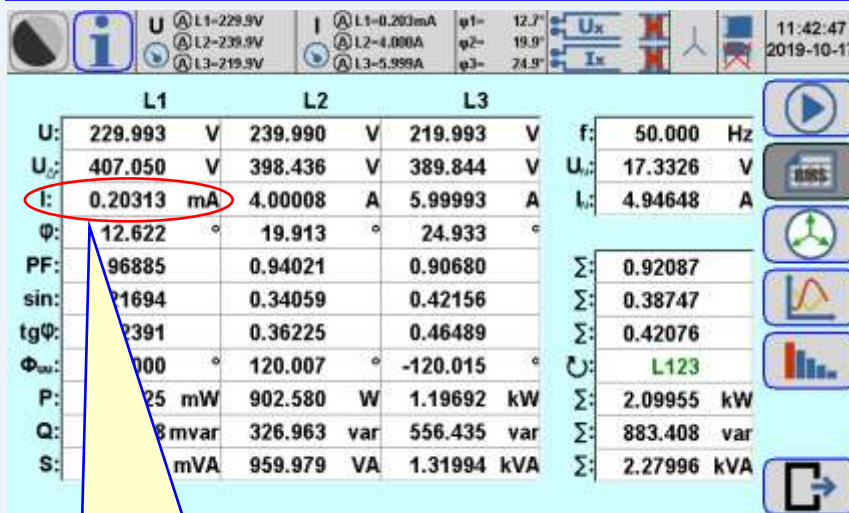
Connection diagram: **one current $I_1=0$ at the meter input**



Load



Current load point for Energy Meter test



The current I_1 in phase L1 is very small

The current can be low because of lack of load, break in connection or wrong installation. As a power is $P=U \times I(=0) \times \cos(\varphi)$, it causes lack of about 1/3 of power for symmetrical load, however power is measured correctly.

Vector and phase sequence is incomplete, lack of I_1

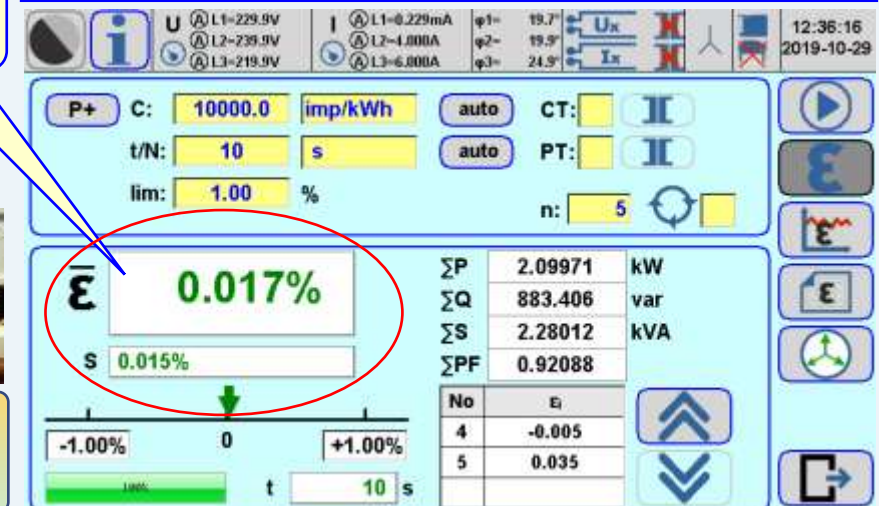
The value of meter error is OK'

Isolated!

Vector diagram: positive sequence $U_1 \Rightarrow U_2 \Rightarrow U_3$



Error test result at load point

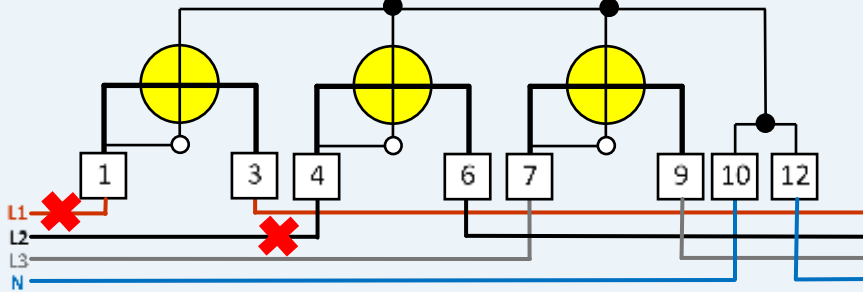


Conclusion: if the value of one of currents is extremely low, it is possible, that there is break in current connection. Low value of error do not guarantee, that measurement system works correctly.

Meter testing – typical meter installation errors recognizing

Two currents are not flowing through the meter input

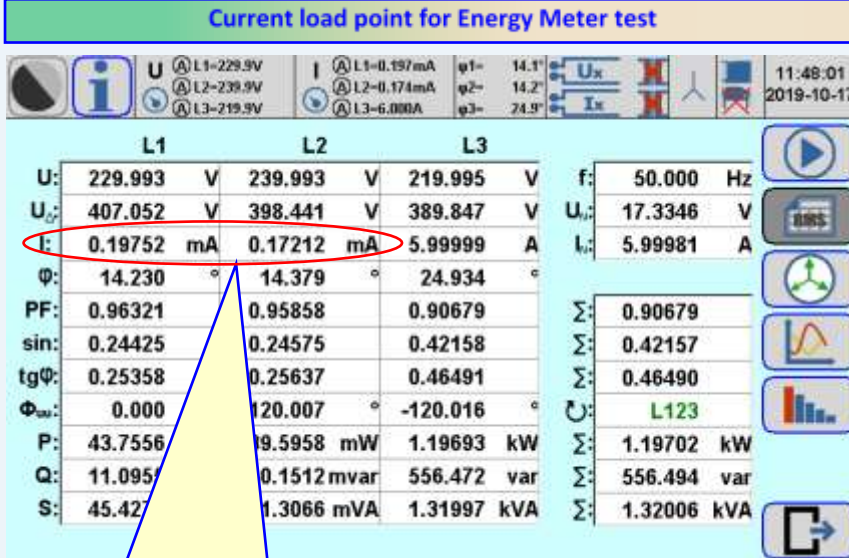
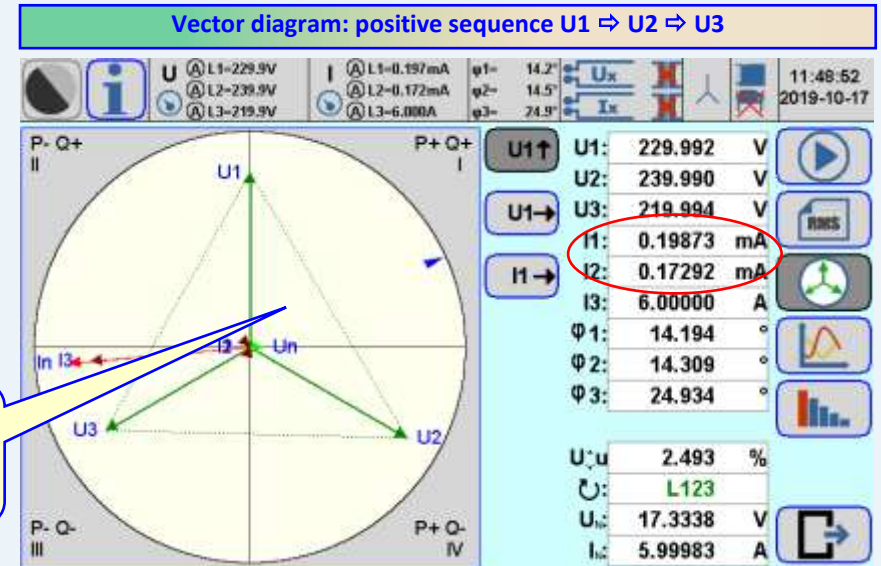
Connection diagram: two currents I1~0 and I2~0 at the meter input



Load

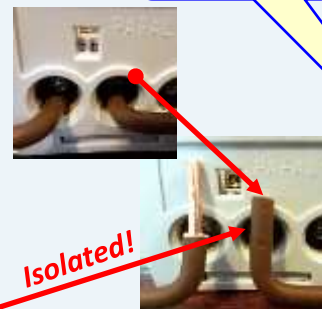


Vector and phase sequence is incomplete, lack of I1 and I2

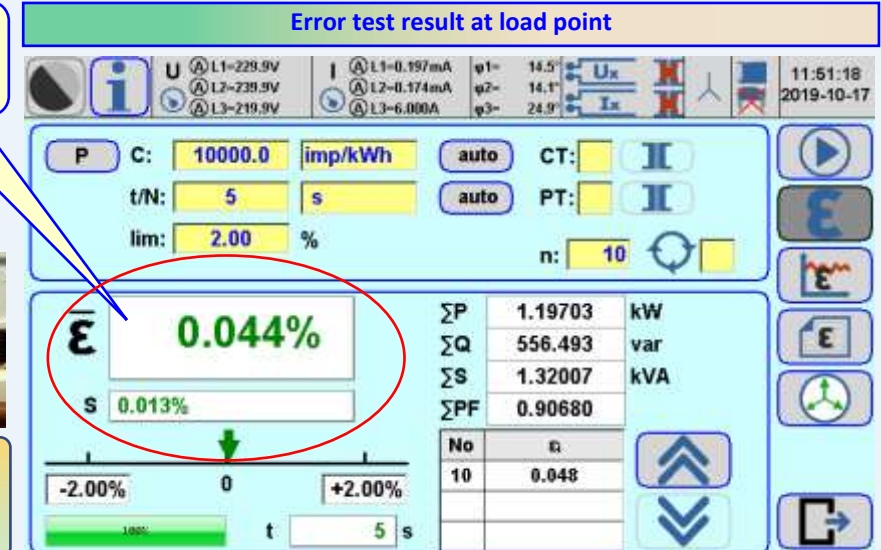


The currents I1 and I2 in phase L1 and L2 are very small

Isolated!



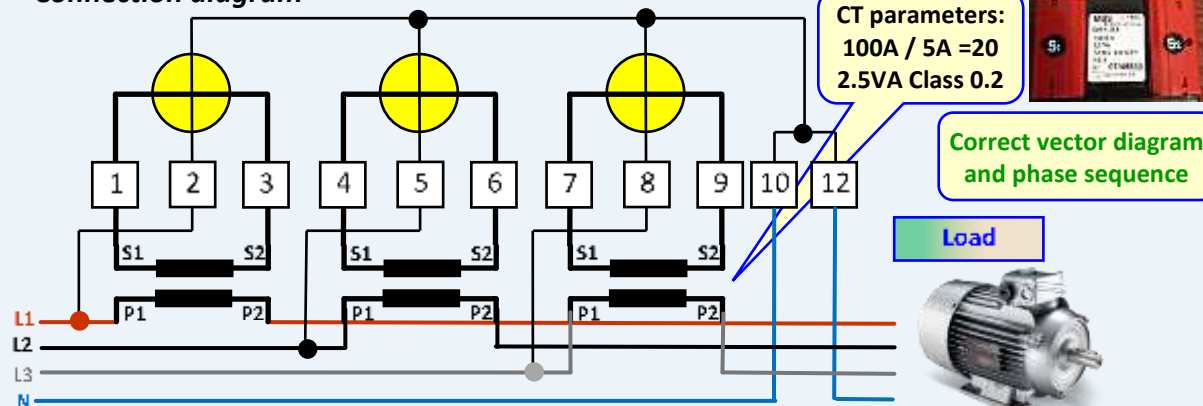
The current can be low because of lack of load, break in connection or wrong installation. As a power is $P = U \times I (=0) \times \cos(\varphi)$, it causes lack of about 2/3 of power for symmetrical load, however power is measured correctly.



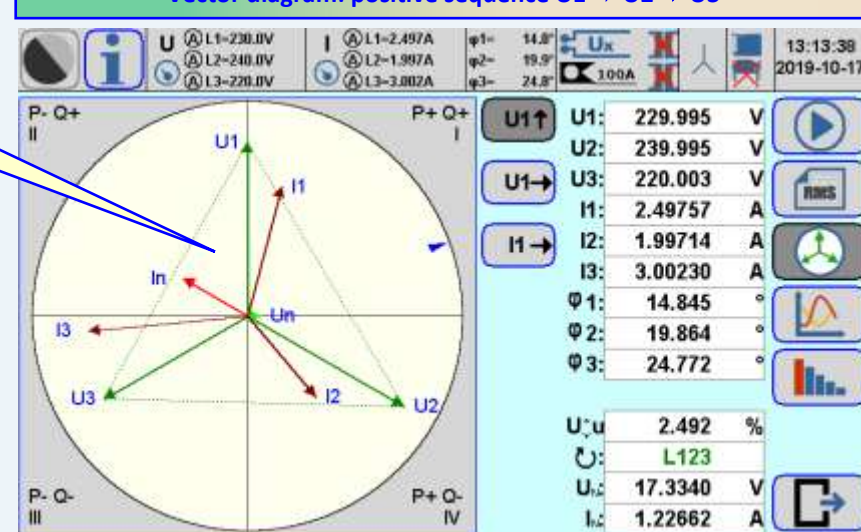
Conclusion: if the value of one or more currents is extremely low, it is possible, that there is break in current connection

Reference connection and results for CT connected, active energy meter – secondary side testing

Connection diagram



Vector diagram: positive sequence $U_1 \Rightarrow U_2 \Rightarrow U_3$



Current load point for Energy Meter test (current is measured on secondary side by clamps)

L1	L2	L3	f	U ₀
U: 229.996 V	239.997 V	220.004 V	50.000 Hz	17.3379 V
U ₀ : 407.056 V	398.448 V	389.863 V		
I: 2.49756 A	1.99713 A	3.00232 A		
φ: 14.845°	19.863°	24.772°		
PF: 0.96662	0.94051	0.90798		
sin: 0.25621	0.33977	0.41900		
tgφ: 0.26505	0.36127	0.46146		
Φ _{un} : 0.000°	120.006°	-120.019°		
P: 555.255 W	450.789 W	599.744 W		
Q: 147.171 var	162.856 var	276.760 var		
S: 574.428 VA	479.305 VA	660.522 VA		

Voltage:
U1~230V
U2~240V
U3~220V

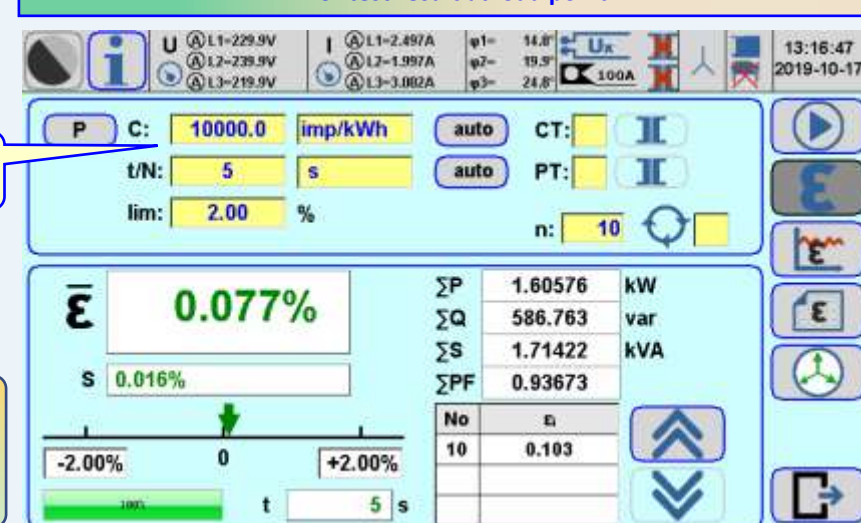
Current:
Secondary Primary
I1 ~2.5A 50A
I2 ~2A 40A
I3 ~3A 60A

Phase shift:
φ1~15°
φ2~20°
φ3~25°

Vector rotation:
Correct L123

Secondary meter constant

Error test result at load point

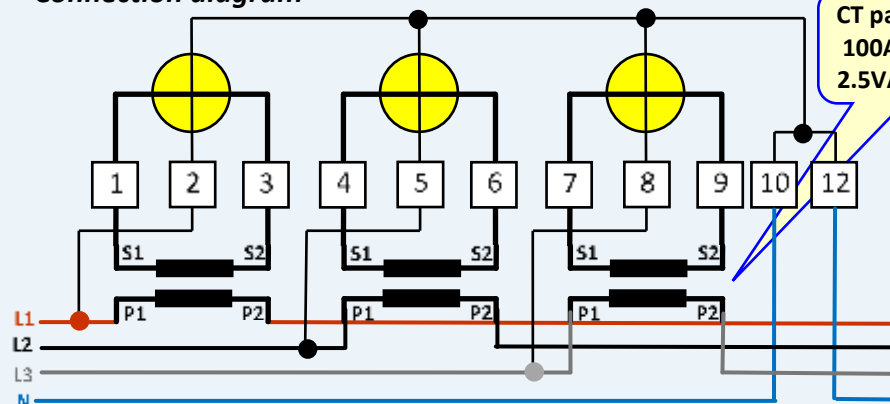


The initial assessment of the installation, consists in checking whether the basic parameters are within the typical limits:
Voltage: $U_{nominal} \pm 20\%$, Current: $I_{min} < I < I_{max}$, $\phi: 0 \dots \pm 60^\circ$, $\angle U-U: 120^\circ$ or $-120^\circ \pm 10^\circ$, Rotation: L123, meter Error: $\pm 5\%$

Conclusion: knowledge of expected results makes troubleshooting more easy

Reference connection and results for CT connected, active energy meter – primary side testing

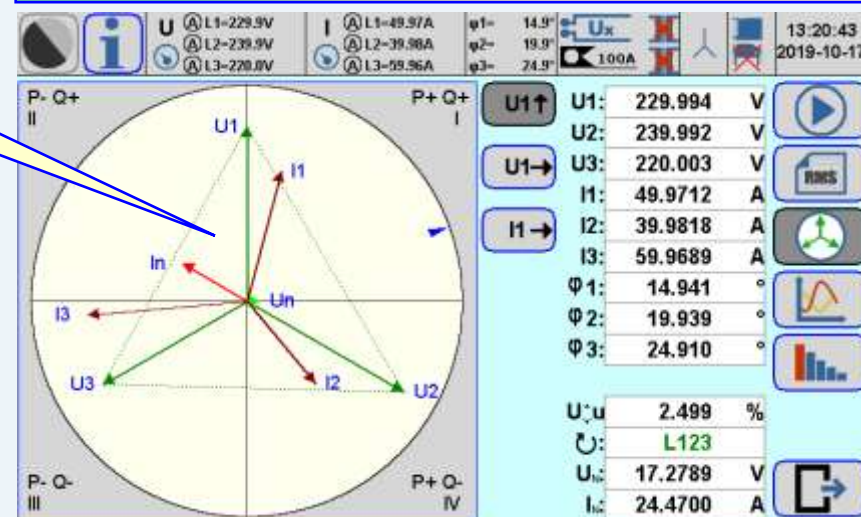
Connection diagram



CT parameters:
100A / 5A =20
2.5VA Class 0.2

Correct vector diagram
and phase sequence

Load

Vector diagram: positive sequence $U1 \Rightarrow U2 \Rightarrow U3$ 

Current load point for Energy Meter test (current is measured on
primary side by clamps)

Voltage:
U1~230V
U2~240V
U3~220V

L1	L2	L3	f	U _u
U: 229.991 V	239.989 V	220.001 V	50.000 Hz	17.2808 V
U _u : 407.072 V	398.440 V	389.829 V		
I: 49.9711 A	39.9820 A	59.9687 A		
φ: 14.940°	19.939°	24.909°		
PF: 0.96619	0.94006	0.90698		
sin: 0.25781	0.34101	0.42118		
tgφ: 0.26683	0.36276	0.46438		
Φ _u : 0.000°	120.019°	-120.005°		
P: 11.1044 kW	9.02007 kW	11.9659 kW		
Q: 2.96300 kvar	3.27210 kvar	5.55668 kvar		
S: 11.4929 kVA	9.59524 kVA	13.1932 kVA		

Current:

Primary Secondary

I1 50A ~2.5A
I2 40A ~2A
I3 60A ~3A

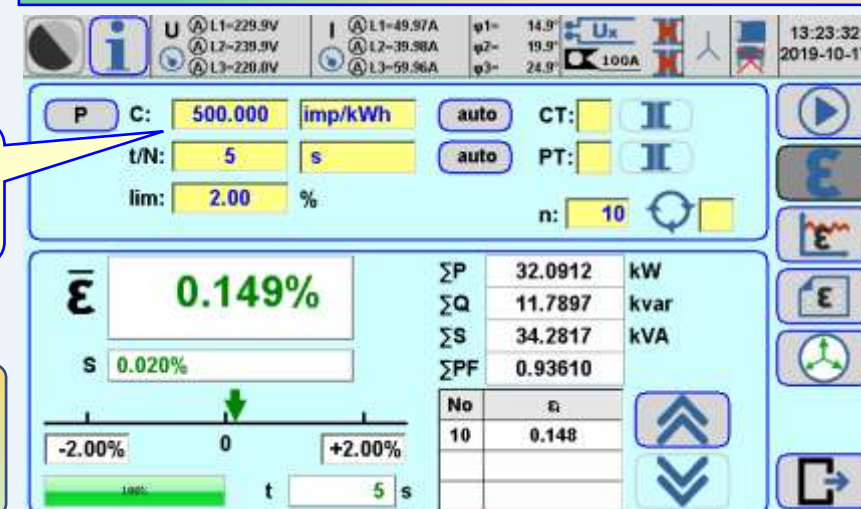
Phase shift:

φ1~15°
φ2~20°
φ3~25°

Primary meter
constant =
meter constant
/ CT ratio

Vector rotation:
Correct L123

Error test result at load point



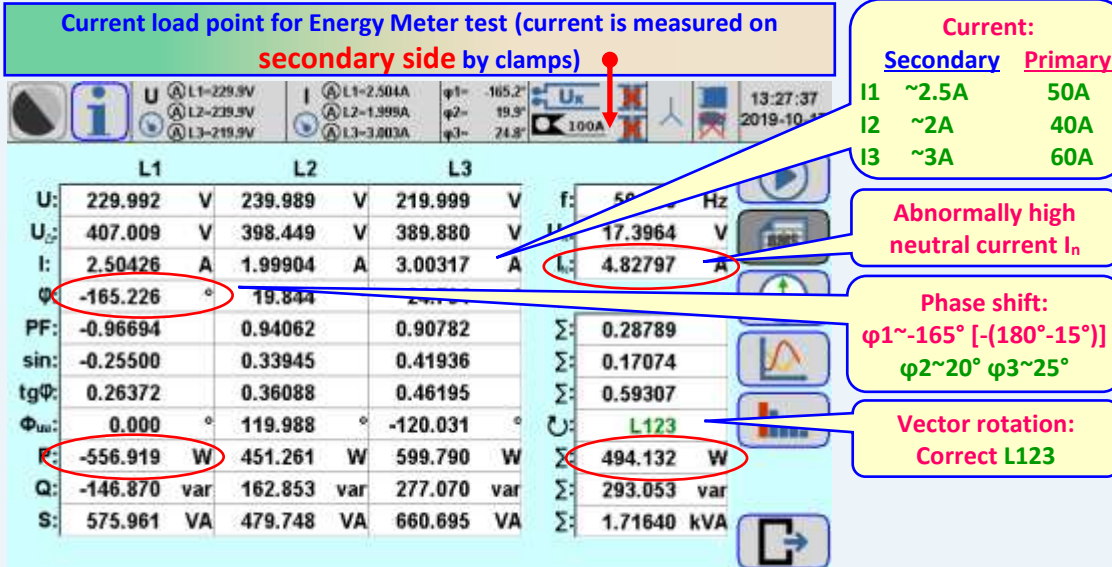
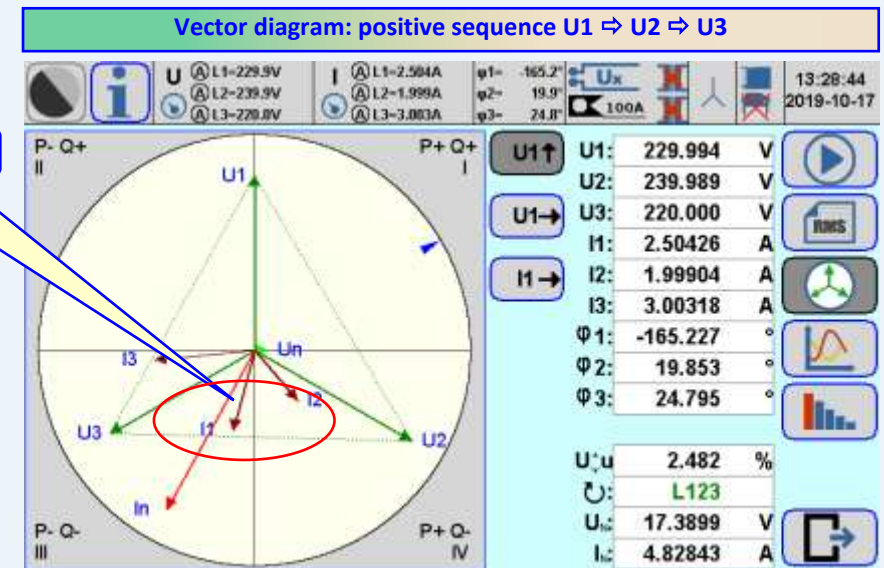
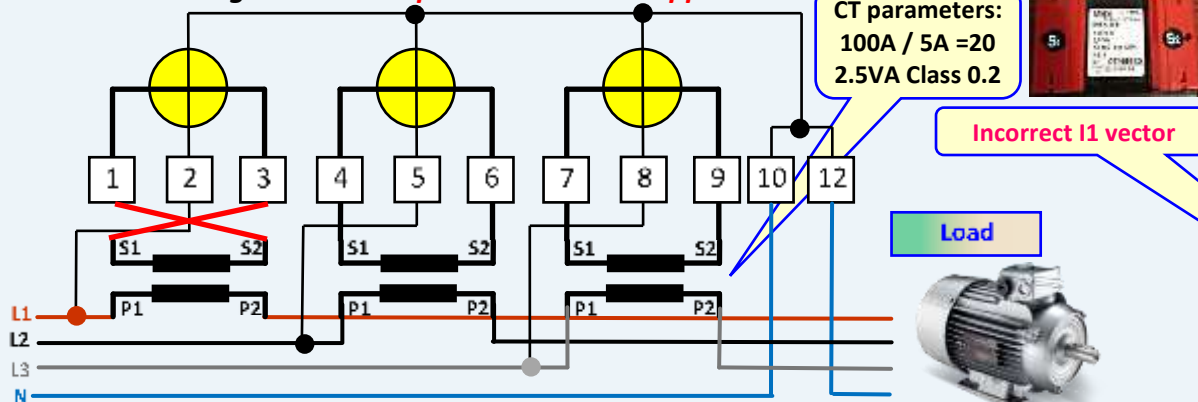
The initial assessment of the installation, consists in checking whether the basic parameters are within the typical limits:

Voltage: $U_{nominal} \pm 20\%$, Current: $20\% I_{nom} < I < 100\% I_{nom}$ (I_{nom} – nominal CT primary current), ϕ : $0... \pm 60^\circ$, $\angle U-U$: 120° or $-120^\circ \pm 10^\circ$, Rotation: L123, meter Error: $\pm 5\%$

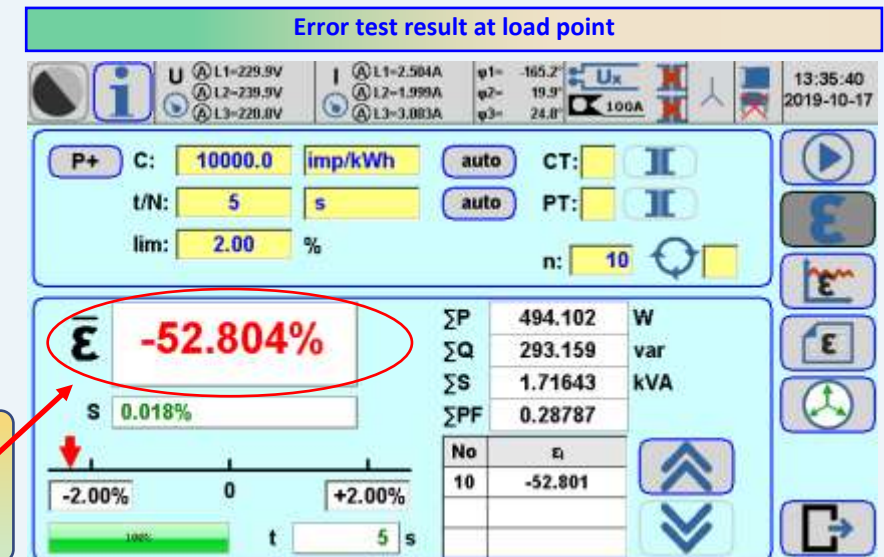
Conclusion: knowledge of expected results makes troubleshooting more easy

Phase L1 CT outputs S1 and S2 swapped, active energy meter – secondary side testing

Connection diagram: **CT1 outputs S1 and S2 swapped**



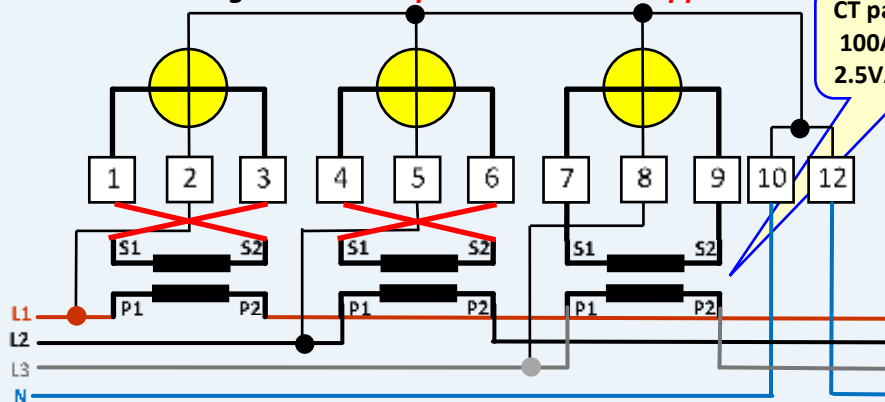
There can be a few reasons of secondary current 180° shift: CT outputs swapped, CT inputs swapped, wrong direction on cable assembly. The active power in L1 phase has "-" sign, what causes that only 1/3 of power is counted by energy meter for symmetrical load. This can cause error on -66% level



Conclusion: if the value of error is on -66% ±20% level, it is possible, that one of the CT's is not connected properly

Phase L1, L2 CT outputs S1 and S2 swapped, active energy meter – secondary side testing

Connection diagram: CT1 outputs S1 and S2 swapped

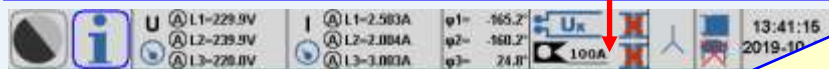


Incorrect I1 and I2 vector

Load



Current load point for Energy Meter test (current is measured on secondary side by clamps)



Current:

Secondary Primary

I1 ~2.5A 50A
I2 ~2A 40A
I3 ~3A 60A

Abnormally high neutral current I_n

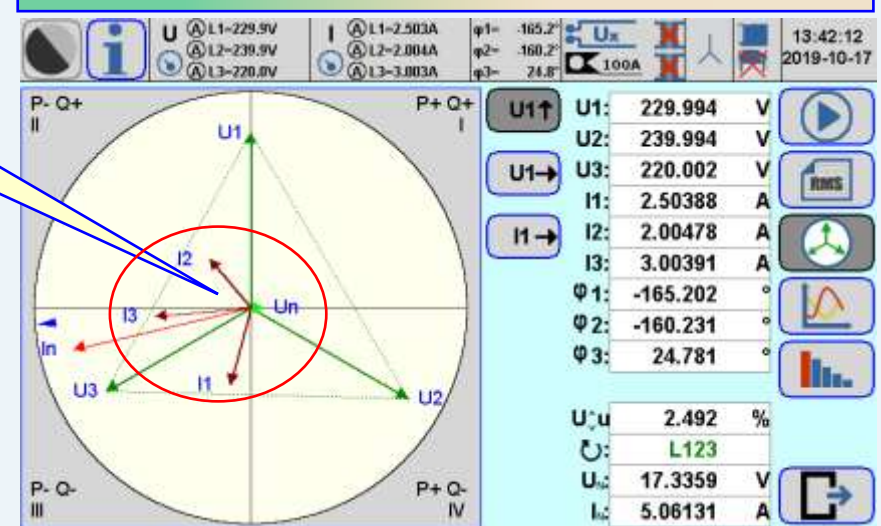
Phase shift:

φ1~-165° [-(180°-15°)]
φ2~-160° [-(180°-20°)]
φ3~25°

Vector rotation:
Correct L123

Negative total active power

Vector diagram: positive sequence U1 → U2 → U3



Error test result at load point

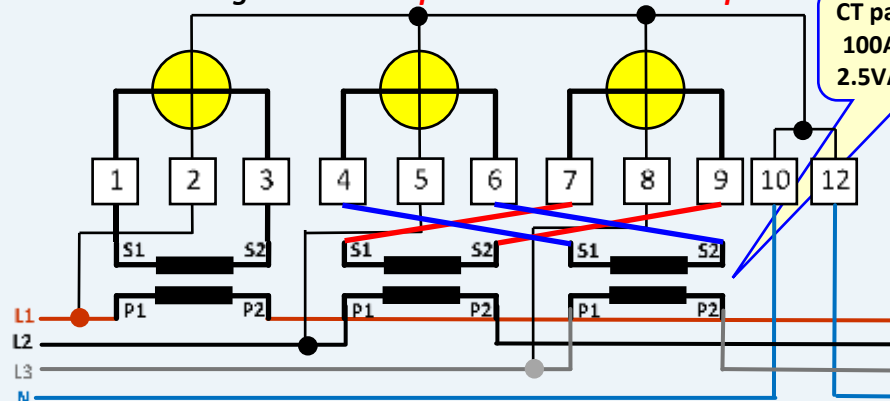
No pulses
to test active energy
meter error

There can be a few reasons of secondary current 180° shift: CT outputs swapped, CT inputs swapped, wrong direction on cable assembly. The active power in L1 and L2 phases have "-" sign, what causes, that total power counted by energy meter is negative for symmetrical load. This makes error test impossible because of pulses lack.

Conclusion: if there is no pulses from meter under test, it is possible, that two of the CT's are not connected properly

CT of L2 connected to L3 and L3 to L2, active energy meter – secondary side testing

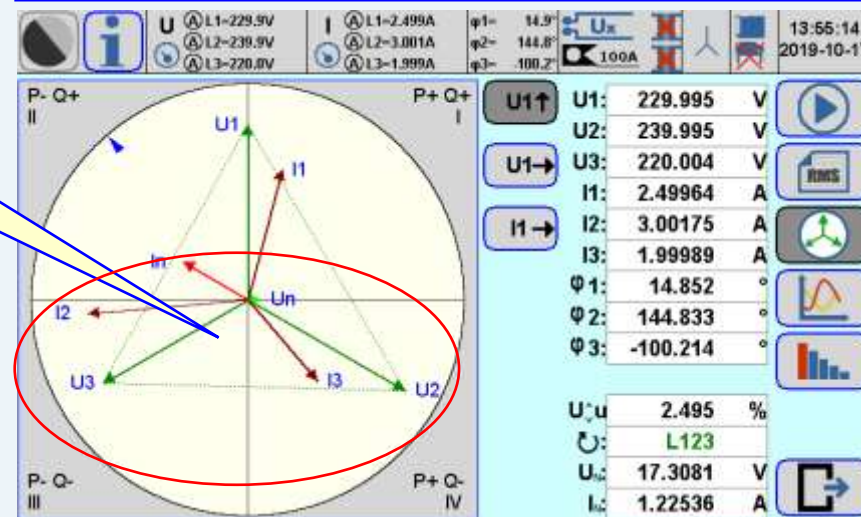
Connection diagram: CT2 outputs connected to L3 inputs



CT parameters:
100A / 5A =20
2.5VA Class 0.2

Incorrect I2 and I3 vector
with reference to voltage

Load

Vector diagram: positive sequence $U_1 \Rightarrow U_2 \Rightarrow U_3$ 

Current load point for Energy Meter test (current is measured on
secondary side by clamps)

	L1	L2	L3	
U:	229.996 V	239.996 V	220.004 V	f: 50.00 Hz
U _φ :	407.056 V	398.449 V	389.860 V	U _φ : 17.3337 V
I:	2.49962 A	3.00174 A	1.99990 A	I _φ : 1.22491 A
φ:	14.853°	144.818°	-100.199°	
PF:	0.96659	-0.81732	-0.17706	Σ: -0.06398
sin:	0.25633	0.57618	-0.98420	Σ: 0.07458
tgφ:	0.26519	-0.70495	5.55844	Σ: -1.16567
Φ _{tot} :	0.000°	120.006°	-120.017°	U _φ : L123
P:	555.692 W	-588.806 W	-77.9058 W	Σ: -111.019 W
Q:	147.365 var	415.081 var	-433.035 var	Σ: 129.412 var
S:	574.901 VA	720.407 VA	439.987 VA	Σ: 1.73530 kVA

Current:

	Secondary	Primary
I1	~2.5A	50A
I2	~3A	40A
I3	~2A	60A

Phase shift:

φ1~15°
φ2~120°+25°=145°
φ3~-120°+20°=-100°

Vector rotation:
Correct L123

Negative total active
power

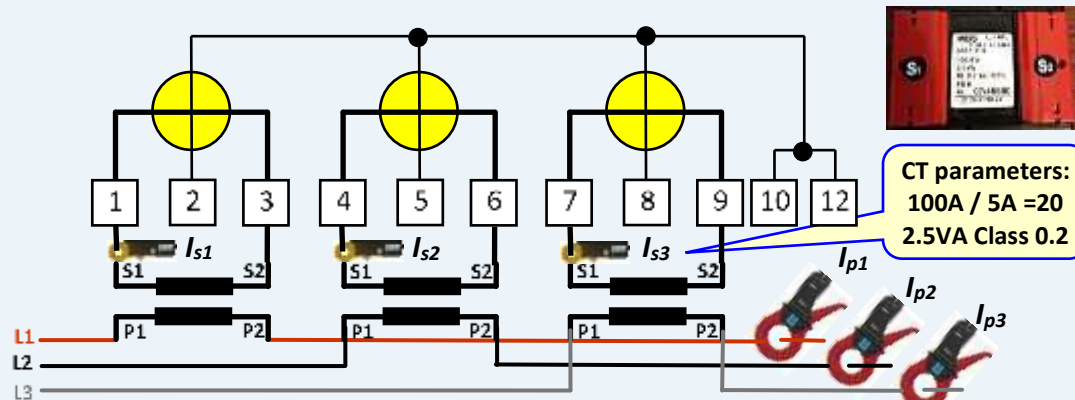
Error test result at load point

No pulses
to test active energy
meter error

Wrong CT outputs (inputs) connection to different phases can cause unpredicted results. Lack of meter under test pulses and wrong vector diagram enables to find out the reason.

Conclusion: if there is no pulses from meter under test, it is possible, that two or more CT outputs are not connected properly

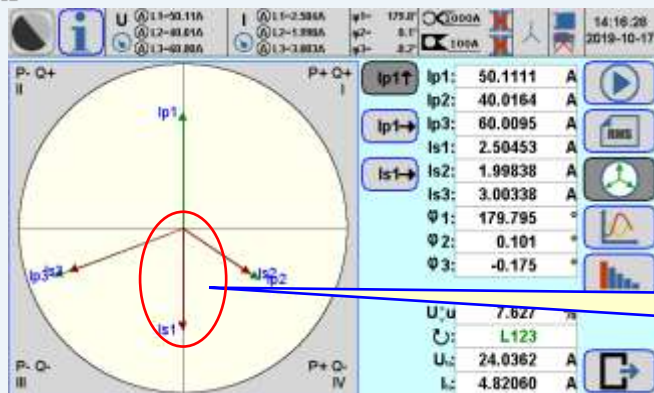
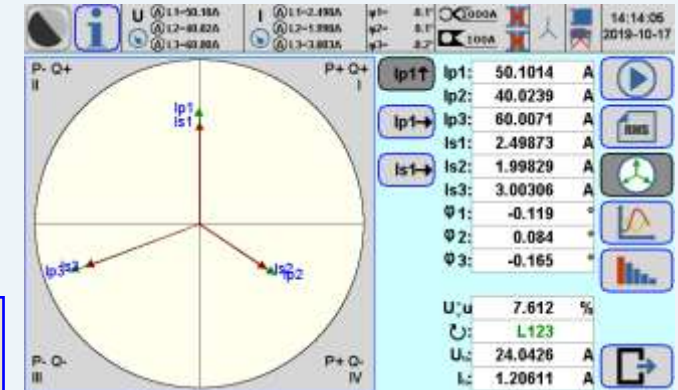
CT's testing for correct connection with two sets of 3 current clamps




10mA – 100A clamp

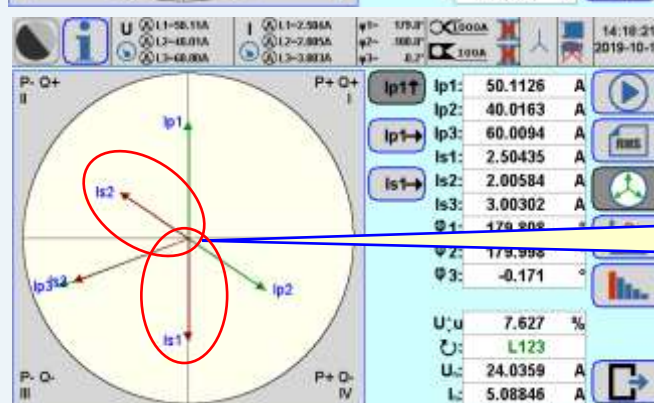
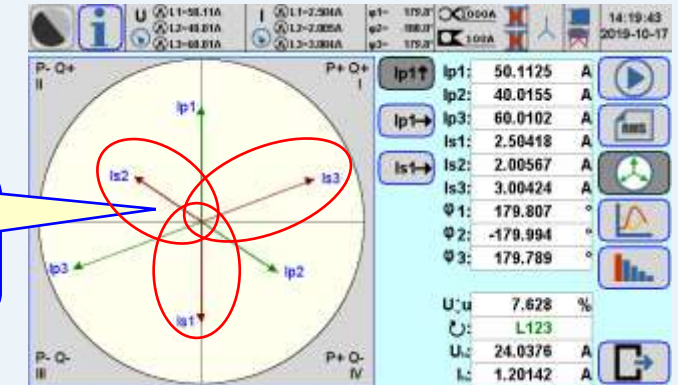

0.1A – 1000A clamp

Correct vector diagram.
Primary and secondary
currents are in phase



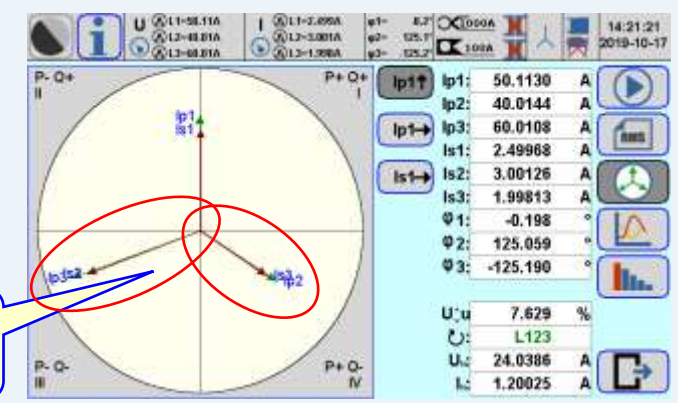
Current I_{s1} is rotated
by 180°

All three currents I_{s1} ,
 I_{s2} and I_{s3} are rotated
by 180°



Current I_{s1} and I_{s2} are
rotated by 180°

Current I_{s2} is
swapped with I_{s3}



Conclusion: two sets of three current clamps allows for easy CT connection testing

Interesting standards, recommendations, articles and www sites

IEC Standards (<https://www.iec.ch>)

IEC 60050 International electrotechnical vocabulary (IEV)

IEC 62052 - 11 Electricity metering equipment (a.c.) - General requirements, tests and test conditions – Part 11: Metering Equipment

IEC 62053 - 11 Electricity metering equipment (a.c.) - Particular requirements – Part 11: Electromechanical meters for active energy class 0.5, 1 and 2

IEC 62053 - 12 Electricity metering equipment (a.c.) - Particular requirements – Part 12: Electromechanical meters for reactive energy class 2 and 3

IEC 62053 - 21 Electricity metering equipment (a.c.) - Particular requirements – Part 21: Static meters for active energy class 1 and 2

IEC 62053 - 22 Electricity metering equipment (a.c.) - Particular requirements – Part 22: Static meters for active energy class 0.2 S and 0.5 S

IEC 62053 - 23 Electricity metering equipment (a.c.) - Particular requirements – Part 23: Static meters for reactive energy class 2 and 3

IEC 62053 - 24 Electricity metering equipment (a.c.) - Particular requirements – Part 24: Static meters for apparent energy class 1 and 2

IEC 60044-1 Instrument transformers – Part 1: Current transformer

IEC 60044-2 Instrument transformers – Part 2: Inductive voltage transformer

IEC 60736 Testing equipment for electrical energy meters

IEC 62057-1 (draft) Test equipment, techniques and procedures for electrical energy meters - Part 1: Stationary Meter Test Units

IEC 62057-2 (draft) Test equipment, techniques and procedures for electrical energy meters - Part 2: Portable test equipment and test procedure for electricity meters and electricity meter installations

European Standards (<https://www.cenelec.eu/>)

EN 50470 - 1 Electricity metering equipment (a.c.) – General requirements - Part 1: Tests and test conditions for metering equipment class A, B and C

EN 50470 - 2 Electricity metering equipment (a.c.) – Particular requirements – Part 2: Electromechanical meters for active energy class A and B

EN 50470 - 3 Electricity metering equipment (a.c.) – Particular requirements – Part 3: Static meters for active energy class A, B and C control

Indian Standards (<https://bis.gov.in/>)

IS-14697 Specification for AC Static Transformer operated Watt Hour & VAR-Hour meters (class 0.5S)

IS 12346 Testing equipment for AC electrical energy meters

IS 15707 Testing, evaluation, installation & maintenance of AC Electricity Meters-Code of Practice

OIML recommendation (<https://www.oiml.org/en/>)

OIML 46-1/-2 Active electrical energy meters. Part 1: Metrological and technical requirements Part 2: Metrological controls and performance tests

NPL publication (<https://www.npl.co.uk/>)

No.11 The beginners guide to uncertainty of measurement

Canadian Standards (<https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/mc-mc.nsf/eng/home>)

LMB-EG-07 Specifications for Approval of Type of Electricity Meters, Instrument Transformers and Auxiliary Devices

PE-E-03 Procedures for the verification and reverification of electricity meters

Testing Equipment manufacturers

Applied Precision - Slovakia (<https://www.appliedp.com>)

Calmet Ltd – Poland (<https://www.calmet.com.pl/en>)

Clou – China (<https://clouglobal.com>)

EMH Energie Messtechnik GmbH – Germany (<https://emh.eu>)

Emsyst – Bulgaria (<https://emsyst.com>)

Geny – China (<https://www.genymetertestequipment.com/electricity-meter-test-systems/>)

Meter test Ltd – Poland (<http://www.meter-test-equipment.com/en/>)

MTE Meter test equipment AG – Switzerland (<https://www.mte.ch>)

Radian Research – USA (<http://www.radianresearch.com/>)

ZERA GmbH – Germany (<https://www.zera.de>)