



# IEEE Standard for Signal and Test Definition

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**IEEE Standards Coordinating Committee 20**

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IEEE Standards Coordinating Committee 20 on  
Test and Diagnosis for Electronic Systems

TM

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# **IEEE Standard for Signal and Test Definition**

Sponsor

**IEEE Standards Coordinating Committee 20 on  
Test and Diagnosis for Electronic Systems**

Approved 17 June 2010

**IEEE-SA Standards Board**

**Abstract:** This standard provides the means to define and describe signals used in testing. It also provides a set of common basic signals, built upon formal mathematical specifications so that signals can be combined to form complex signals usable across all test platforms.

**Keywords:** ATE, ATLAS, automatic test equipment, IEEE 1641, signal definitions, test definitions, test requirements, test signals, unit under test, UUT

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## Introduction

This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 1641-2010, IEEE Standard for Signal and Test Definition.

This signal and test definition (STD) standard provides the ability to unambiguously define test signals. It includes a rigorous mathematical and definitive foundation for all of its signal components. Any signal defined using this standard will be the same regardless of the equipment is used to create it. The standard supports the implementation of new technologies by providing users with the ability to describe their own signals by combining existing signals. Thus, any desired signal may be described, and there is no limit on the extensibility of signals supported by this standard.

Signals defined using this standard can be used in a programming environment of the user's choice provided that that environment fulfills the minimum requirements defined in this standard. This universality enables the user to take full advantage of modern program structures and development environments, including graphical programming environments.

This standard was developed by the Test and ATS Description Subcommittee (of the IEEE Standards Coordinating Committee 20 (SCC20) on Test and Diagnosis for Electronic Systems), which has prepared a companion guide, IEEE Std 1641.1™, to explain how to implement signal definitions and test requirements in conformance with STD.

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## Contents

1. Overview .....	1
1.1 Scope .....	1
1.2 Purpose .....	1
1.3 Application .....	1
1.4 Annexes .....	2
2. Definitions, abbreviations, and acronyms .....	2
2.1 Definitions .....	2
2.2 Abbreviations and acronyms .....	2
3. Structure of this standard .....	5
3.1 Layers .....	5
3.2 Signal Modeling Language (SML) layer .....	6
3.3 BSC layer .....	6
3.4 TSF layer .....	6
3.5 Test requirement layer .....	6
3.6 Using the layers .....	7
4. Signals and SignalFunctions .....	7
4.1 Introduction .....	7
4.2 Physical signal states .....	8
4.3 Event states .....	9
4.4 Digital stream states .....	9
5. SML layer .....	10
6. BSC layer .....	11
6.1 BSC layer base classes .....	11
6.2 General description of BSCs .....	11
6.3 SignalFunction template .....	12
7. TSF layer .....	12
7.1 TSF classes .....	13
7.2 TSF signals defined by a model .....	13
7.3 TSF signals defined by an external reference .....	16
8. Test procedure language (TPL) .....	16
8.1 Goals of the TPL .....	16
8.2 Elements of the TPL .....	16
8.3 Use of the TPL .....	17
9. Maximizing test platform independence .....	17
Annex A (normative) Signal modeling language (SML) .....	18
A.1 Use of the SML .....	18
A.2 Introduction .....	18
A.3 Physical types .....	19
A.4 Signal definitions .....	22
A.5 Pure signals .....	24
A.6 Pure signal-combining mechanisms .....	26
A.7 Pure function transformations .....	32

A.8 Measuring, limiting, and sampling signals .....	32
A.9 Digital signals .....	34
A.10 Basic component SML .....	38
A.11 Fast Fourier analysis support .....	63
Annex B (normative) Basic signal components (BSC) layer .....	65
B.1 BSC layer base classes .....	65
B.2 BSC subclasses .....	65
B.3 Description of a BSC .....	69
B.4 Physical class .....	76
B.5 PulseDefns class .....	87
B.6 SignalFunction class .....	90
Annex C (normative) Dynamic signal descriptions .....	142
C.1 Introduction .....	143
C.2 Basic classes .....	144
C.3 Dynamic signal goals and use cases .....	152
Annex D (normative) Interface definition language (IDL) basic components .....	153
D.1 Introduction .....	153
D.2 IDL BSC library .....	153
Annex E (informative) Test signal framework (TSF) for C/ATLAS .....	154
E.1 Introduction .....	154
E.2 TSF library definition in extensible markup language (XML) .....	154
E.3 Interface definition language (IDL) for the TSF for C/ATLAS .....	154
E.4 AC_SIGNAL<type: Current   Power   Voltage> .....	155
E.5 AM_SIGNAL .....	157
E.6 DC_SIGNAL<type: Voltage   Current   Power> .....	159
E.7 DIGITAL_PARALLEL .....	161
E.8 DIGITAL_SERIAL .....	163
E.9 DIGITAL_TEST .....	165
E.10 DME_INTERROGATION .....	168
E.11 DME_RESPONSE .....	171
E.12 FM_SIGNAL<type: Voltage   Power   Current> .....	174
E.13 ILS_GLIDE_SLOPE<type: Voltage   Power> .....	177
E.14 ILS_LOCALIZER<type: Power   Voltage> .....	180
E.15 ILS_MARKER .....	183
E.16 PM_SIGNAL .....	186
E.17 PULSED_AC_SIGNAL<type: Current   Power   Voltage> .....	188
E.18 PULSED_AC_TRAN<type: Voltage   Current   Power> .....	190
E.19 PULSED_DC_SIGNAL<type: Voltage   Current   Power> .....	192
E.20 PULSED_DC_GAIN<type: Voltage   Current   Power> .....	194
E.21 RADAR_TX_SIGNAL .....	196
E.22 RADAR_TX_SIGNAL<type: Current   Voltage   Power> .....	199
E.23 RANDOM_SIGNAL<type: Voltage   Current   Power> .....	200
E.24 RANDOM_NOISE .....	202
E.25 RESOLVER .....	204
E.26 RS_232 .....	207
E.27 SQUARE_WAVE<type: Current   Voltage   Power> .....	208
E.28 SSR_INTERROGATION<type: Voltage   Current   Power> .....	210
E.29 SSR_RESPONSE<type: Voltage   Current   Power> .....	213
E.30 STEP_SIGNAL .....	217
E.31 SUP_CAR_SIGNAL .....	219
E.32 SYNCHRO .....	221
E.33 TACAN .....	225

E.34 TRIANGULAR_WAVE_SIGNAL<type: Voltage   Current   Power> .....	229
E.35 VOR .....	231
Annex F (informative) Test signal framework (TSF) library for digital pulse classes .....	235
F.1 Introduction .....	235
F.2 TSF library definition in extensible markup language (XML) .....	235
F.3 Graphical models of TSFs .....	235
F.4 Pulse class family of TSFs .....	235
F.5 DTIF .....	252
Annex G (normative) Carrier language requirements .....	254
G.1 Carrier language requirements .....	254
G.2 Interface definition language (IDL) .....	254
G.3 Datatypes .....	254
G.4 Data-processing requirements .....	259
G.5 Control structures .....	263
Annex H (normative) Test procedure language (TPL) .....	265
H.1 TPL layer .....	265
H.2 Elements of the TPL .....	265
H.3 Structure of test requirements .....	265
H.4 Carrier language .....	265
H.5 Signal statements .....	265
H.6 Mapping of test statements to carrier language .....	267
H.7 Test statement definitions .....	267
H.8 Elements used in test statement definitions .....	285
H.9 Attributes with multiple properties .....	288
H.10 Transferring data in digital signals .....	292
H.11 Creating test requirements .....	296
H.12 Delimiting TPL statements .....	298
Annex I (normative) Extensible markup language (XML) signal descriptions .....	300
I.1 Introduction .....	300
I.2 XSD for BSCs .....	301
I.3 XSD for TSFs .....	302
Annex J (informative) Support for ATLAS nouns and modifiers .....	308
J.1 Signal and test definition (STD) support for ATLAS signals .....	308
J.2 STD support for ATLAS nouns .....	308
J.3 STD support for C/ATLAS noun modifiers .....	311
J.4 Support for C/ATLAS extensions .....	319
Annex K (informative) Guide for maximizing test platform independence and test application interchangeability .....	320
K.1 Introduction .....	320
K.2 Guiding principles .....	320
K.3 Best practice rules .....	320
Annex L (informative) Bibliography .....	323



# IEEE Standard for Signal and Test Definition

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## 1. Overview

### 1.1 Scope

This standard provides the means to define and describe signals used in testing. It provides a set of common basic signal definitions, built upon formal mathematical specifications, so that signals can be combined to form complex signals usable across all test platforms. The standard provides support for structural textual languages and programming language interfaces for interoperability.

### 1.2 Purpose

This standard provides a common reference for signal definitions, which may be used throughout the life cycle of a unit under test (UUT) or test system. Such a reference will in turn facilitate information transfer, test reuse, and broader application of test information—accessible through commercially available development tools.

### 1.3 Application

This signal and test definition (STD) standard provides the capability to describe and control signals, while permitting a choice of operating environment, including the choice of carrier language. STD permits signal operations to be embedded in any object-oriented environment and thus to be used by the architecture