

Terminology

Term	Symbol	Definition
Rated AC Voltage	V_{rms}	Maximum continuous sinusoidal AC voltage (< 5% total harmonic distortion) which may be applied to the component under continuous operating conditions at 25 °C
Rated DC Voltage	V_{dc}	Maximum continuous DC voltage (< 5 % ripple) which may be applied to the component under continuous operating conditions at 25 °C
Supply Voltage	V	The voltage by which the system is designated and to which certain operating characteristics of the system are referred; $V_{rms} = 1,1 \times V$
Leakage Current	I_{dc}	The current passing through the varistor at V_{dc} and at 25 °C or at any other specified temperature
Varistor Voltage	V_n	Voltage across the varistor measured at a given reference current I_n
Reference Current	I_n	Reference current = 1 mA DC
Clamping Voltage Protection Level	V_c	The peak voltage developed across the varistor under standard atmospheric conditions, when passing an 8/20 μ s class current pulse
Class Current	I_c	A peak value of current which is 1/10 of the maximum peak current for 100 pulses at two per minute for the 8/20 pulse
Voltage Clamping Ratio	V_c/V_{app}	A figure of merit measure of the varistor clamping effectiveness as defined by the symbols V_c/V_{app} , where ($V_{app} = V_{rms}$ or V_{dc})
Jump Start Transient	V_{jump}	The jump start transient results from the temporary application of an overvoltage in excess of the rated battery voltage. The circuit power supply may be subjected to a temporary overvoltage condition due to the voltage regulation failing or it may be deliberately generated when it becomes necessary to boost start the car.
Rated Single Pulse Transient Energy	W_{max}	Energy which may be dissipated for a single 10/1000 μ s pulse of a maximum rated current, with rated AC voltage or rated DC voltage also applied, without causing device failure
Load Dump Transient	WLD	Load Dump is a transient which occurs in automotive environment. It is an exponentially decaying positive voltage which occurs in the event of a battery disconnect while the alternator is still generating charging current with other loads remaining on the alternator circuit at the time of battery disconnect.
Rated Peak Single Pulse Transient Current	I_{max}	Maximum peak current which may be applied for a single 8/20 μ s pulse, with rated line voltage also applied, without causing device failure
Rated Transient Average Power Dissipation	P	Maximum average power which may be dissipated due to a group of pulses occurring within a specified isolated time period, without causing device failure at 25 °C
Capacitance	C	Capacitance between two terminals of the varistor measured at 1 kHz
Non-linearity Exponent	α	A measure of varistor nonlinearity between two given operating currents, I_n and I_1 , as described by $I = k V \exp(a)$, where : - k is a device constant, - $I_1 < I < I_n$ and - $a = \log(I_1 / I_n) / \log(V_1 / V_n) = 1 / \log(V_1 / V_n)$, where : - I_n is reference current (1 mA) and V_n is varistor voltage - $I_1 = 10 I_n$, V_1 is the voltage measured at I_1
Response Time	t_r	The time lag between application of a surge and varistor's "turn-on" conduction action
Varistor Voltage Temperature Coefficient	TC	$(V_n \text{ at } 85^\circ\text{C} - V_n \text{ at } 25^\circ\text{C}) / (V_n \text{ at } 25^\circ\text{C}) \times 60^\circ\text{C} \times 100$
Insulation Resistance	IR	Minimum resistance between shorted terminals and varistor surface
Isolation Voltage		The maximum peak voltage which may be applied under continuous operating conditions between the varistor terminations and any conducting mounting surface
Operating Temperature		The range of ambient temperature for which the varistor is designed to operate continuously as defined by the temperature limits of its climatic category
Climatic Category	LCT/UCT/DHD	UCT = Upper Category Temperature - the maximum ambient temperature for which a varistor has been designed to operate continuously, LCT = Lower Category Temperature - the minimum ambient temperature at which a varistor has been designed to operate continuously DHD = Dump Heat Test Duration
Storage Temperature		Storage temperature range without voltage applied
Current/Energy Derating		Derating of maximum values when operated above UCT (85 °C)