

MINI-KLA PV I-V Curve Analyser

Now dreams become reality: I-V curve tracing of PV modules without using expensive and complex laboratory equipment. The new I-V curve analyser Mini-KLA can be handled by using only two buttons, it works automatically like a multimeter.

Settings for measuring ranges, sampling rates, I-V curve storing and downloading to a PC are optimised within the device itself. Newest technology and optimization within data tracing lead to highest comfort in user interface at an affordable price.



Description of Function

The Mini-KLA is designed as a complete measuring system for I-V curve tracing of PV modules and generators up to a maximum open-circuit voltage V_{oc} of 120 V and a maximum short-circuit current I_{sc} of 8 A. By recording solar irradiance and cell temperature (sensor Si-01TC-T) at the same time all relevant data for a calculation to Standard Test Conditions (STC) are registered. Working with the Mini-KLA is as easy as it could be. The user is led through a combination of graphical menus and has to press only two buttons.

Optimal measuring ranges are controlled automatically by measuring V_{oc} and I_{sc} of the PV module or generator before taking the I-V curve. For this module the best sampling rate is calculated out of these two values in combination with measured irradiance. So for every module type the I-V curve taken with the Mini-KLA has about 500 usable voltage-current points.

The Mini-KLA is based on the well-known principle of a capacitor load as it is used in our I-V curve analyser PV-KLA (400 V, 32 A) as well. Innovations within the I-V curve tracing led to a cheap and rugged construction without reducing accuracy.

Many technical innovations led to a compact casing and maximum portability by using only 4 batteries of mignon type. The actual state-of-charge is permanently displayed as a bargraph.

The graphical LC Display shows the I-V curve directly after finishing of the measurement. The internal 1 MBit memory can store up to 100 I-V curves with 500 measuring points each, which are buffered in switched-off mode.

A software for downloading data to PC via RS 232 is delivered with the Mini-KLA. So the user is able to work with the measured I-V curves in other programs as for example Excel.



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MINI-KLA

PV I-V Curve Analyser

Technical Data

- Basic accuracy: $\pm 0,4\%$ fsr
- Voltage ranges: 30, 60 and 120 V
- Current ranges: 4 and 8 A
- Irradiance range: 1300 W/m²
- Temperature range: - 20 to + 100 °C
- Every current and voltage range can be combined with each other
- Automatic setting of the optimal measuring rate
- Automatic setting of the optimal sampling rate
- Maximum sampling rate for one voltage-current pair: 45 ksamples/s
- Solution of the analog-to-digital converter: 12 bit, no missing codes
- Solution of the graphical LC display: 128*64 pixel
- Operational control: 2 buttons
- Power supply: 5 V, 4*battery, mignon type
- PC port: RS232 (19,2 kBaud)
- Weight (incl. batteries): 600 g

SI-01TC-T

Silicon
Solar Irradiance Sensor

Technical Data

- Silicon irradiance sensor with active temperature compensation and embedded temperature sensor
- Monocrystalline solar cell, embedded into Ethylen-Vinyl-Acetat (EVA) between glass and Tedlar
- Powder-coated aluminum case
- Calibration value of irradiance: 1 V for every 1000 W/m²
- Calibration value of temperature: 10 mV for every K
0 °C is 1,235 V

EXTEND OF SUPPLY

Standard Version

Complete Mini-KLA is delivered with the following equipment:

- Serial RS232 port
- Data cable and Windows download software for IBM compatible PC with RS232 com port
- Graphical LC display
- 4*NiNH battery (mignon size of 2500 mAh)
- Internal memory (1 MBit) for up to 100 I-V curves
- Silicon solar irradiance sensor Si-01TC-T with active temperature compensation and integrated active temperature sensor (incl. 2 m sensor cabling, uv- and heat resistant)
- Manual
- Carrying Case

Options

Same as normal version, but with following changes:

- Mini-KLA 8/16 with current ranges of 8 and 16 A, Four-wire measurement
- Other measuring ranges within the limits of 120 V and 8 A on customer request, for example 10, 20 and 40 V, 1 and 2 A

Patent pending