Linear Thermistor Components and Probes

Linear Response Components

For applications requiring thermistors with linear response to temperature change, OMEGA offers linear components. These unique devices consist of a thermistor composite for temperature sensing and an external resistor composite for linearizing.

Thermistor composites 44018 and 44019 each contain two thermistors packaged in a single sensor (Figures 1A & 1B). Thermistor composite 44020 contains three thermistors packaged in a single sensor (Figure 1C).

Resistor composites for use with 44018 and 44019 thermistor composites consist of two metal film resistors of the size shown in Figure 2. Resistor composites for use with the 44020 thermistor composite consist of three of the same type metal film resistors.

Linear components are manufactured with different values for different temperature ranges. When they are connected in networks shown in Figures 3 and 4, they produce a varying voltage or resistance which is linear with temperature.

One of the basic network manifestations is a voltage divider as in Figure 3A for components other than #44212, and as shown in Figure 3B for component #44212. The area within the dashed lines represents the thermistor composite. The network hookup for linear resistance versus temperature is shown in Figure 4A for linear components except #44212, and in Figure 4B for #44212.

Linear Voltage vs. Temperature

\[
E_{\text{out}} = E_{\text{in}} \cdot \frac{R}{R + R_0}
\]

where \(E_{\text{out}}\) is the voltage drop across \(R\). If \(R\) is a thermistor, and \(E_{\text{out}}\) is plotted versus temperature, the total curve will be essentially non-linear and of a general “S” shape, with linear or nearly linear portions near the ends and in the center.

Following is a description of why these networks produce linear information. The equation for a voltage divider network, consisting of \(R\) and \(R_0\) in series, is:

If \(R\) is modified by the addition of other thermistors and resistors, linearity of the center section of the curve, where sensitivity is greatest, can be extended to cover a wide range of temperatures. This section follows the general equation for a straight line, \(y = mx + b\) or in terms of a linear component:

For Voltage Mode

\[E_{\text{out}} = \pm MT + b\]

where \(M\) is slope in volts/°T, \(T\) is temperature in °C or °F, and \(b\) is the value of \(E_{\text{out}}\) when \(T = 0°\)

For Resistance Mode

\[R_1 = MT + b\]

where \(M\) is slope in ohms/°T, \(T\) is temperature in °C or °F, and \(b\) is the value of the total network resistance, \(R_t\), in ohms when \(T = 0°\)

Figure 1A
Thermistor Composite 44018

Figure 1B
Thermistor Composite 44019

Figure 1C
Thermistor Composite 44020

Figure 2
Metal Film Resistor

Figure 3A
Negative Slope

Figure 3B
Positive Slope

Note: Model 5830 precision benchtop thermometer includes linearized circuitry, refer to section M.

Figure 4A

For Voltage Mode

\[E_{\text{out}} = \pm MT + b\]

For Resistance Mode

\[R_1 = MT + b\]

Figure 4B

\[R_1 = \frac{R_1 \times RL_1}{RL_1 - R_1}\]
Sensitivity is 400 times greater than an IC thermocouple. Thermistor values as high as 30 mV/°C are common. In addition, output voltage can be applied to a recorder or digital voltmeter to produce a precise, sensitive, direct reading thermometer.

**Multiplexing**

The 44018 thermistor composite is used in four of the linear components. The part that changes in each component is the resistor composite, which determines the temperature range. Therefore, the 44018 thermistor composite can be used over the entire -30 to 100°C temperature range by simply changing resistor composites. Its accuracy and interchangeability over the full range is ±0.15°C. It is not mandatory that OMEGA® resistor composites be used with the 44018 thermistor composite. Any 0.1% resistors of the proper values and with a temperature coefficient of 30 PPM or less may be substituted. In other situations, it is frequently desirable to have thermistor composite temperature sensors at more than one location. When this is required, it is not necessary to have a separate resistor composite for each thermistor composite. It is possible to multiplex any number of thermistor composites through a single resistor composite for greater design flexibility:

Linear Thermistor Components are manufactured under U.S. and Canadian Patents.

### Component Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>°C</th>
<th>°F</th>
<th>°C</th>
<th>°F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Linear Components Kit Model No.</td>
<td>44201</td>
<td>44201</td>
<td>44202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>0 to 100°C</td>
<td>32 to 212°F</td>
<td>-5 to 45°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermistor Composite Model No.</td>
<td>44018</td>
<td>44018</td>
<td>44301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resistor Composite Model No.</td>
<td>44302</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resistor Composite Values</td>
<td>$R_1 = 3200 , \Omega$, $R_2 = 6250 , \Omega$</td>
<td>$R_1 = 5700 , \Omega$, $R_2 = 12000 , \Omega$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermistor Accuracy &amp; Interchangeability</td>
<td>±0.15°C</td>
<td>±0.27°F</td>
<td>±0.15°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$E_0$ Positive Slope</td>
<td>$E_{out} = (+0.0053483 , Ein) , T +0.13493 , Ein$</td>
<td>$E_{out} = (+0.00297127 , Ein) , T +0.03985 , Ein$</td>
<td>$E_{out} = (+0.0056846 , Ein) , T +0.194142 , Ein$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$E_0$ Negative Slope</td>
<td>$E_{out} = (-0.0053483 , Ein) , T +0.86507 , Ein$</td>
<td>$E_{out} = (-0.00297127 , Ein) , T +0.96015 , Ein$</td>
<td>$E_{out} = (-0.0056846 , Ein) , T +0.805858 , Ein$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resistance Mode</td>
<td>$R_t = (-17.115) , T +2768.23$</td>
<td>$R_t = (-9.508) , T +3072.48$</td>
<td>$R_t = (-32.402) , T +4593.39$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ein MAX.</em></td>
<td>2.0 Volts</td>
<td>3.5 Volts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>$I_T$ MAX.</em></td>
<td>625 µA</td>
<td>615 µA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**<em>Load Resistance Minimum R.L.</em></td>
<td>3 MΩ</td>
<td>10 MΩ</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linearity Deviation</td>
<td>±0.216°C</td>
<td>±0.388°F</td>
<td>±0.065°C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* $Ein$ MAX. and *$I_T$ MAX. values have been assigned to control thermistor self-heating errors so they do not enlarge the component error band: i.e., the sum of the linearity deviation plus the probe tolerances. The values were assigned using a thermistor dissipation constant of 8MW/°C in stirred oil. If better heat-sink methods are used or if an enlargement of the error band is acceptable, $Ein$ MAX. and $I_T$ MAX values may be exceeded without damage to the thermistor probe.

**See Figure 1, example 1 on typical linear component application page.**

† Kit includes thermistor composite and resistors.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Linear Components Kit Model No.</th>
<th>°C</th>
<th>°F</th>
<th>°C</th>
<th>°F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thermistor Composite Model No.</td>
<td>44018</td>
<td>44018</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>-30 to 50°C</td>
<td>-22 to 122°F</td>
<td>-2 to 38°C</td>
<td>+30 to 100°F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermistor Composite Model No.</td>
<td>44303</td>
<td>44304</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resistor Composite Model No.</td>
<td>44303</td>
<td>44304</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range</td>
<td>-30 to 50°C</td>
<td>-22 to 122°F</td>
<td>-2 to 38°C</td>
<td>+30 to 100°F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Composite Values

- **R1** = 18,700 Ω
- **R2** = 35,250 Ω

### Thermistor Accuracy & Interchangeability

- **Eout** = **E0** Positive Slope
  - Eout = (+0.0067966 Ein) T +0.34893 Ein
  - Eout = (+0.00377588 Ein) T +0.228102 Ein
- **Eout** = **E0** Negative Slope
  - Eout = (-0.0067966 Ein) T +0.65107 Ein
  - Eout = (-0.00377588 Ein) T +0.771898 Ein

### Thermistor Accuracy & Interchangeability

- **Rt** = (-127.096) T +12175
- **Rt** = (-70.608) T +14435
- **Rt** = (-32.1012) T +5173.8
- **Rt** = (-17,834) T +5173.8

### Linearity Deviation

- ±0.16°C ±0.29°F ±0.03°C ±0.055°F
- ±0.15°C ±0.27°F ±0.15°C ±0.27°F

The maximum error at any point is the algebraic sum of the thermistor manufacturing tolerances, plus linearity deviation, a fixed network behavior. Condition “A” is the worst case linearity deviation of ±0.15°C and may occur with the ±0.1% resistors supplied. Condition “B” exists when the three resistors are within ±0.02% of nominal, which reduces linearity deviation to ±0.08°C.

Note: The time required for a thermistor composite to indicate 63% of a newly impressed temperature is one second in “well stirred” oil and ten seconds in free, still air.

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**Ein MAX.**

- 3.0 Volts
- 4.0 Volts

**IT MAX.**

- 475 µA
- 685 µA

**Load Resistance Minimum R.L.**

- 10 MΩ
- 10 MΩ

### Linearity Deviation

- ±0.15°C (condition A)**
- ±0.27°F (A)
- ±0.08°C (condition B)**
- ±0.15°F (B)
Typical Linear Component Applications

Example 1:
To measure and record on a 100 mV recorder temperature in the range 30 to 40°C.
1. Select Part number 44202 (temperature range -5° to +45°C)
   basic equation \( E_{out1} = (-0.0056846 \, E_{in}) \, T + 0.805858 \, E_{in} \)
2. Calculate \( E_{in} \) for 10°C equal to 100 mV
   \[
   (E_{out}, @30°C - E_{out1} @ 40°C) = 100 \, mV
   \]
   \[
   [(-0.0056846 \, E_{in}) \, 30°C + 0.805858 \, E_{in}] - [(-0.0056846 \, E_{in}) \, 40°C + 0.805858 \, E_{in}] = 100 \, mV
   \]
   \[
   0.056846 \, E_{in} = 100 \, mV
   \]
   \[
   E_{in} = 1.7591 \, Volts
   \]
3. Using the Linear network as two legs of a Wheatstone bridge add the two additional legs,
   \( R_3 \) and \( R_4 \) so that \( E_{out} = 0 \) when \( T = 30°C \). (See Figure 1.) \( R_3 \) and \( R_4 \) are calculated from five known conditions.
   (1) The voltage drop across \( R_4 \) (\( E_{R4} \)) should equal \( E_{out1} \) at 30°C for \( E_{out2} \) to equal zero.
   (2) \( E_{in} = 1.7591 \, Volts \)
   (3) 1000 ohms ≤ \( R_3 + R_4 \) ≤ 5000 ohms. (If \( R_3 + R_4 \) is less than 1 K, excessive battery drain may occur.
If \( R_3 + R_4 \) is more than 5 K, some degradation of linearity will occur.)
   (4) \( E_{R4} = E_{in} \, R_4 \, R_3 + R_4 \)
   (5) \( E_{out1} = -0.0056846 \, (1.7591 \, Volts) \, (+30°C) + 0.805858 \, (1.7591 \, Volts) = 1.1180 \, Volts \)
   \( E_{R4} = E_{out1} = E_{R4} = \frac{E_{in} \, R_4}{R_3 + R_4} \) and let us choose \( R_3 + R_4 = 1000 \, ohms \).
   Solve for \( R_3 \) and \( R_4 \)
   \[
   \frac{1.1180}{R_3 + 100-R_4} \left( \frac{R_4}{R_3 + R_4} \right) \right) = 1.1180 \]
   \[
   R_3 = 364.45 \, ohms
   \]
   \[
   R_4 = 635.55 \, ohms
   \]
4. Apply \( E_{out} \) to the recorder input terminals and the result is a direct reading 10°C full scale thermometer.

Example 2:
To make a 4 digit 100 mV sensitivity digital voltmeter into a direct reading differential thermometer whose ambient range is -30 to 40°C;
1. Select Part number 44203 (temperature range -30 to 50°C)
   basic equation \( E_{out} = (-0.0067966 \, E_{in}) \, T + 0.65107 \, E_{in} \)
2. Calculate \( E_{in} \) so that 10 mV equals one degree C. (This is done so that the Digital Volt Meter will read directly in temperature with 0.01°C readability)
   \[
   (E_{out}, @ -30°C - E_{out}, @ +40°C) = 0.700 \, Volts
   \]
   \[
   [(-0.0067966 \, E_{in})(-30) + 0.65107 \, E_{in}] - [(-0.0067966 \, E_{in})(40) + 0.65107 \, E_{in}] = 0.700
   \]
   \[
   0.47576 \, E_{in} = 0.700
   \]
   \[
   E_{in} = 1.4713 \, Volts
   \]
3. Connect two linear networks (#44203) as shown in Fig. 2.
4. Apply \( E_{out} \) to the Digital Volt Meter input terminals for a direct reading differential thermometer.

Example 3:
To make a 2-wire system from a 3-wire system using any Linear component:
1. For voltage mode, connect \( R_2 \) to the thermistor composite. (See Figure 3.) This unit can function as the temperature sensor and be located remote from the signal conditioning circuit by up to distance “D”.
2. The resistance mode differs from the voltage mode only by removal of the power source. (See Figure 4.)
3. Acceptable distance “D” varies according to the temperature range. Using #22 wire “D” may be as follows without loss of accuracy in both 2-wire and 3-wire systems. Where distance “D” is greater than indicated, heavier gauge wire may be used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Temperature Range</th>
<th>Distance “D”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 to 100°C</td>
<td>100 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-5 to 45°C</td>
<td>300 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-30 to 50°C</td>
<td>300 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+30 to 100°C</td>
<td>300 ft.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Example 4:
Multiplexing to connect any number of thermistor composites to a single signal conditioning circuit. (See Figure 5.) Multiplexing can be accomplished much more easily with a two-wire system, such as shown in Figure 5.

Lead Colors:
Green: Common to T1 & T2
Brown: T1  Red: T2