

Current Sense

Products and Applications

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Applications Engineer

Agenda

- ✓ **TT electronics Locations**
- ✓ **Current Measurement Methods**
- ✓ **Resistor Technologies**
- ✓ **Product Introduction**
- ✓ **Design Benefits**
- ✓ **Precision Current Measurement**
- ✓ **Applications**



Fixed Resistors Manufacturing Locations

At the intersection of global and local.

Current Measurement Methods

✓ Purpose of Current Sense

- Sense / Measure current – provides a signal to inform the current monitoring circuit “how much” current is flowing.
- Protect from excessive current – provides a feedback signal to the current monitoring circuit to inform that “too much”.

✓ Competing Methods of Measurement

- Current Sense Resistors
- Current Transformers
- Transistor Rds
- Hall Effect

Current Measurement Methods

- ✓ **Current Sense Resistors**: direct
 - Advantage: Accurate direct current measurement
 - Disadvantage: Higher dissipated power, no isolation

- ✓ **Current Transformer**: indirect
 - Advantage: Isolation from high voltage, measure high currents with low loss.
 - Disadvantage: Measures AC only, susceptible to EMI

- ✓ **Transistor (Drain to Source resistance)**: direct
 - Advantage: Uses existing components, reduces part count
 - Disadvantage: Low accuracy

- ✓ **Hall Effect**: indirect
 - Advantage: Low power dissipation
 - Disadvantage: Expensive, reduced accuracy in low current range

Resistor Technologies

- **Bulk Alloy**
 - ❑ Very large cross section and low resistance range
 - ❑ Very robust surge capability

- **Foil**
 - ❑ Large cross section compared to film technologies
 - ❑ Higher resistance values, but lower surge capability as compared to metal element construction

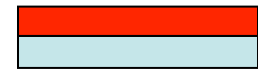
- **Thick Film** (0.000 5” – 0.002” thickness)
 - ❑ Approximately 100 x thicker than thin film technology
 - ❑ Greater surge capability but less precise

- **Thin Film** (0.000 0012” – 0.000 004” thickness)
 - ❑ High Precision
 - ❑ Least robust surge capability

Comparison of relative cross-section for resistor technologies



Bulk Alloy



Foil



Thick Film



Thin Film

 **Metal atoms**
 **Substrate material**

Product Overview

✓ BI Technologies

- Surface Mount – (Bulk Alloy) – BCS

✓ IRC

➤ AFD

- Surface Mount – (Thick Film) – LRC, LRF, LRF3W

➤ WAFT

- Surface Mount – (Bulk Alloy) – CHP, OARS, OARS XP, ULR
- Through-hole – (Bulk Alloy) – CSL, CSLS, OAR, LOB

✓ Welwyn

- Surface Mount – (Bulk Alloy) – OLV
- Through-hole – (Bulk Alloy) – 2500

Product Overview – BI technologies and Welwyn

2500 (Thin Film)

Power Rating: 1.5 Watts
Ohmic range: 0.025 to 1 Ω
TCR: 100 to 350 ppm



OLV (Bulk Alloy)

Power Rating: 1, 2, 3 Watts
Ohmic range: 0.005 to 0.050 Ω
TCR: 200 ppm



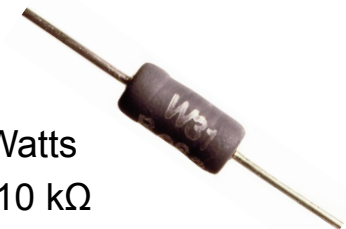
BCS8 (Bulk Alloy)

Power Rating: 8 Watts
Ohmic range: 0.5 to 10 m Ω
TCR: 50 ppm



W30 (Wirewound)

Power Rating: 1, 2, 3 Watts
Ohmic range: 0.010 to 10 k Ω
TCR: 200 ppm



Product Overview – IRC (Thick Film)

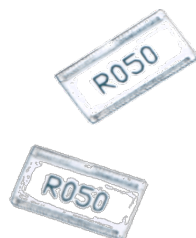
Package Sizes - 1206 (0.5 W) 2010 (1 W) 2512 (2 W) 1225 (3 W)

LRF3W

Efficient 1225 size

Ohmic range: 0.002 to 0.1 Ω

Smallest 3 Watt Package

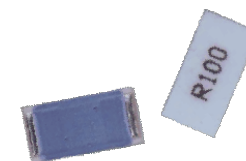


LRF

Low Range Flip Chip

Planar Construction

Ohmic range from 0.002 to 0.025 Ω

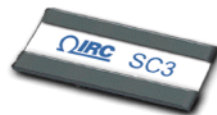


SC3

Power Rating: 3 Watts

Ohmic range: 1 to 100 k Ω

Alternative to SMT wirewound

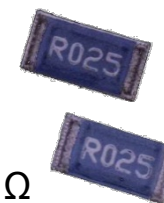


LRC

Low Range Chip

Wrap around termination

Ohmic range from 0.025 to 1 Ω



Product Overview – IRC (Bulk Alloy – Surface Mount)

OARS XP

Open Air Resistor SMD
eXtended Performance

Ohmic Range: 1 m Ω - 25 m Ω

TCR: 40 ppm and 240 ppm



OARS

Open Air Resistor SMD

Ohmic Range: 2 m Ω - 50 m Ω

TCR: 40 ppm and 240 ppm



ULR

Ultra Low Resistance

Ohmic Range: 0.5 - 10 m Ω

Tolerance: 5% and 1%

TCR: 50 ppm – 150 ppm



CHP

Cylindrical High Power

Ohmic Range: 0.1 Ω - 20 k Ω

Tolerance: 5% and 1%

TCR: 50, 150 ppm



Product Overview – IRC (Bulk Alloy – Through hole)

OAR

Open Air Resistor

Power Rating: 1, 3, and 5 Watts
Ohmic Range: 2.5 m Ω - 100 m Ω
TCR: 20 ppm (alloy)



LOB

Low Ohm (Boone)

Power Rating: 1, 3, and 5 Watts
Ohmic Range: 2.5 m Ω - 100 m Ω
TCR: 20 ppm (alloy)



CSL and CSLS

Current Sense in-Line

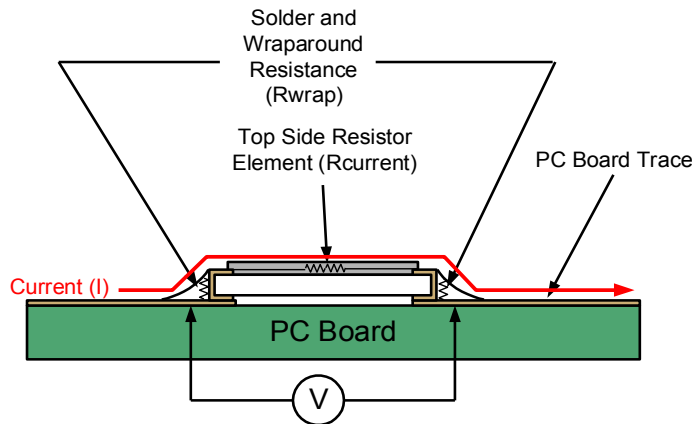
Ohmic Range: 0.25 m Ω - 2.5 m Ω
TCR: < 50 ppm



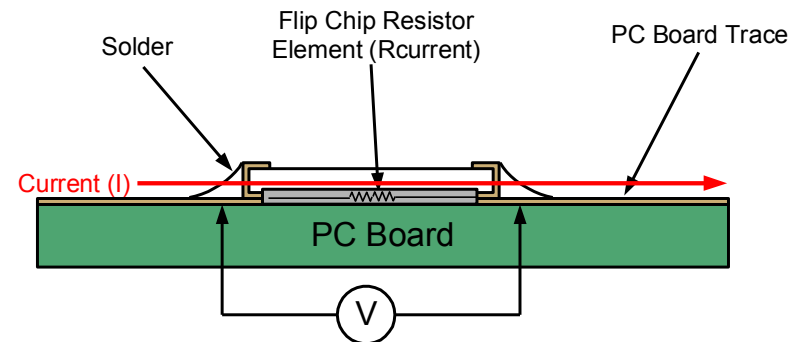
Design Benefits – Top Side v/s Flip Chip

✓ Flip Chip Benefits

- Flip chip mounting eliminates the wraparound resistance
- Planar with the PC board trace reducing inductance
- Measured voltage (V) is generated only by the current sense resistor (R_{current}) times the current (I)



$$V = I (R_{\text{current}}) + I (2R_{\text{wrap}})$$

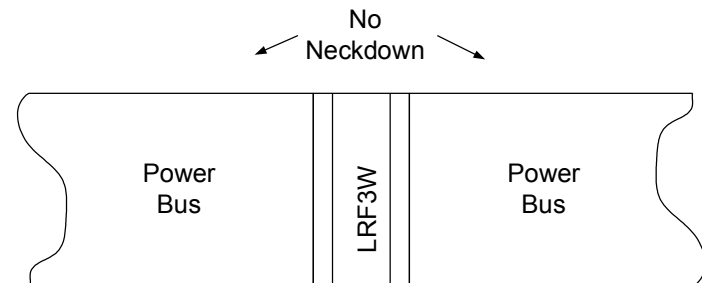
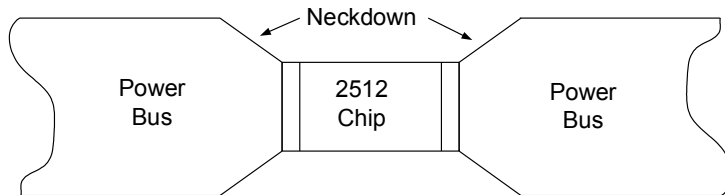


$$V = I (R_{\text{current}})$$

Design Benefits – LR Construction Advantages

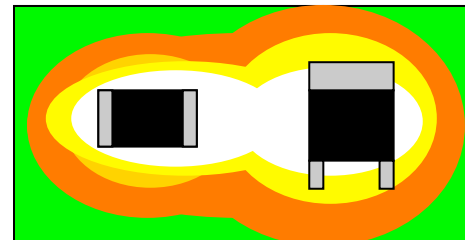
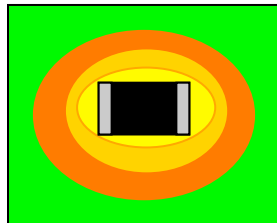
✓ LRF3W and SC3

- No Trace Neckdowns at High Current
- LRF3W Has WIDE Pads (0.25") to Accommodate Large PC Board Currents
- Solder Joint Stress – Heat generated has a shorter path to the PCB more directly, reducing stress because of TCE differences between PCB and component.



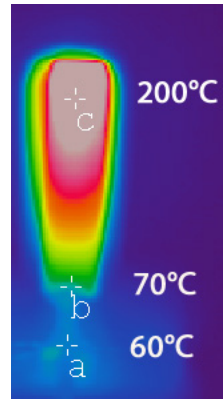
Design Benefits – PCB Heat Management

- ✓ Bulk Alloy – power capability
 - Mainly driven by circuit board design to remove heat from the solder joint.
 - Resistive Alloys are stable to over 300°C.
 - High Power can cause circuit board changes, which could be mis-diagnosed as resistor changes. For example, Solder Joint failure, board traces, plated through hole barrel failure.
 - Assuming the same power dissipation of a resistor in two different designs...

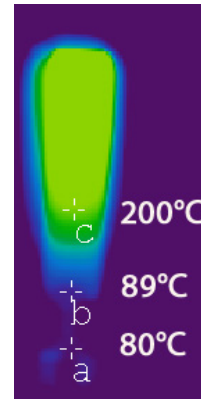


Design Benefits – PCB Heat Management

- ✓ Through-hole – Bulk alloy
- ✓ Superior thermal isolation
 - Hotspot elevated off of the board
 - Longer path to dissipate thermal energy
 - Take advantage of available air flow



OAR5 (2.94 Watts)
Side View



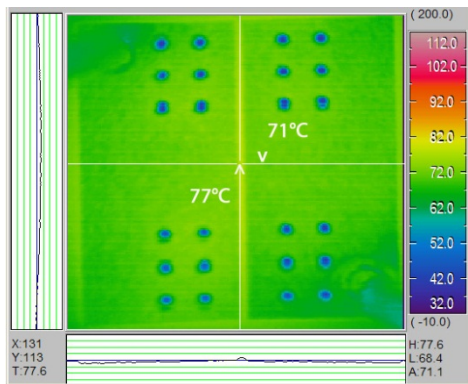
OAR5 (5.15 Watts)
Side View



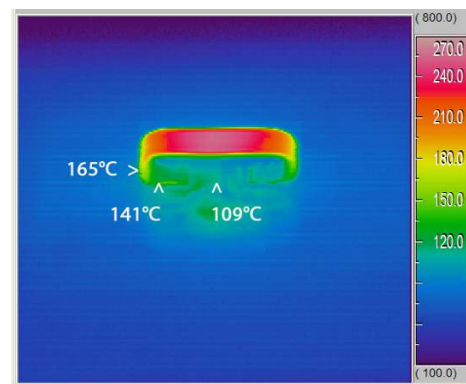
OAR5 (5.15 Watts)
Top View

Design Benefits – PCB Heat Management

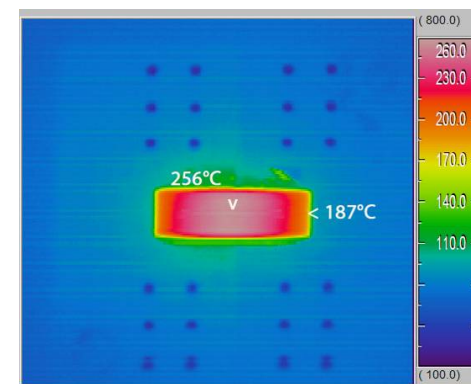
- ✓ Surface Mount – Bulk alloy
- ✓ Superior thermal isolation
 - Hotspot elevated off of the board
 - Longer path to dissipate thermal energy
 - Take advantage of available air flow



**OARS (4.5 Watts)
Back View**



**OARS (4.5 Watts)
Isometric View**

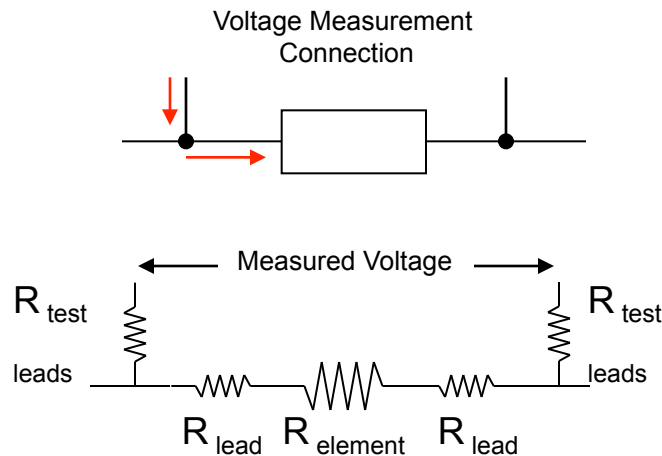


**OARS (4.5 Watts)
Top View**

Precision Current Measurement – 2 v/s 4 terminal

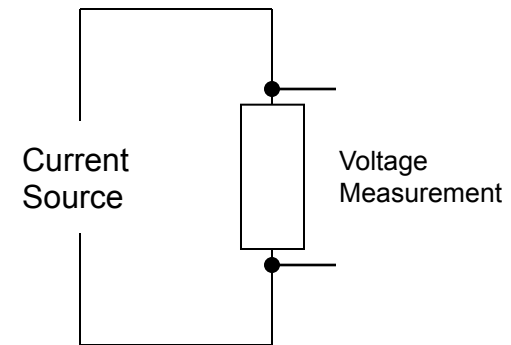
2 terminal measurement

- Low Accuracy
- Introduces additional voltage drop
- increases TCR effects through PCB traces and added lead length.



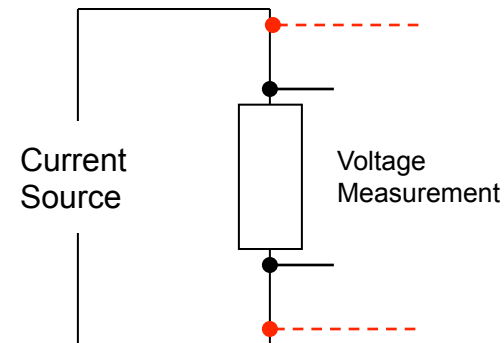
4 terminal Kelvin connection

- High Accuracy
- Removes the measured voltage drop, to improving accuracy.
- Reduces TCR effects due to connection.



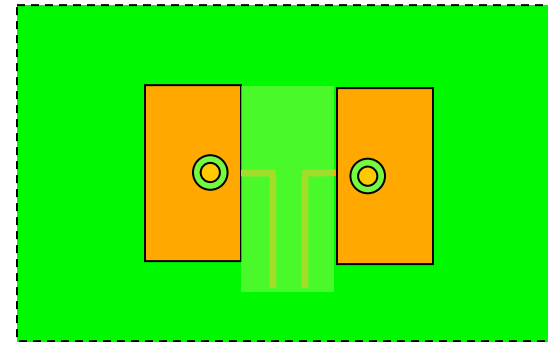
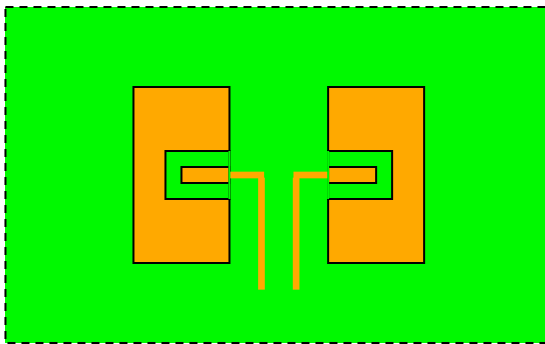
Precision Current Measurement – Challenges

- ✓ Accuracy and Repeatability – require test fixtures
 - Contact Resistance – in the milli-ohm range contact resistance becomes a more significant fraction of the measurement.
 - Variation of contact location on the component based on repeated measurements.
 - Differences in mechanical test point contacts from one test fixture to another.



Precision Current Measurement – SMD Kelvin Connections

- ✓ Modified Kelvin connection
 - High Accuracy
 - Enables a four terminal connection for a conventional surface mount component in the place of a more costly 4 terminal shunt.



Vias with copper traces on internal layers.

Applications

- ✓ Power supplies
- ✓ Motor controllers
- ✓ PWM controllers

- ✓ Purpose
 - Sense / Measure current – provides a signal to inform the current monitoring circuit “how much” current is flowing.

 - Protect from excessive current – provides a feedback signal to the current monitoring circuit to inform that “too much”.

Applications – Automotive

**Electric Power Steering
Seat Belt Pretensioner**



OARS, OARSXP



OAR



Applications

Computers

- Battery Packs - Fuel Gauging and Overcurrent Detection
- AC/DC, DC/DC Power Supplies and VRMs - Output Feedback
- Disk Drives - Motor Start-Up Current Control

Automotive

- Stereo Amplifier Output Stage Overcurrent Protection
- Lamp Out Detection - 0 Current - Lamp-out
- Fuel Pump Collision Cut-Off - Detect Air Bag Ignition
- Seat Heater – Short Detection
- Motorized Seat – Locked Rotor Detection
- Power Windows – Open/Closed Motor Shut Off

50 mV Signal

		0.5	5	10	20	30	50	Current (amps)
		0.5	0.01	0.005	0.0025	0.0015	0.001	Resistance (Ω)
Rating		0.13	0.25	0.5	1	1.35	2.5	Power (W)
Through Hole								
CSL	5							
CSLS	5							
LOB	1							
	3							
	5							
OAR	1							
	3							
	5							
Surface Mount Devices								
BCS	8							
CHP	2							
	1							
	1/2							
	1/8							
OARS	1							
	3							
OARS XP	5							
ULR B	1							
	2							
ULR G	1							
	2							
	2.5							
	3							
LRC	0.5							
LRF	0.5							
LRF3W	3							

Any Questions?

http://www.irctt.com/sales_support.aspx

