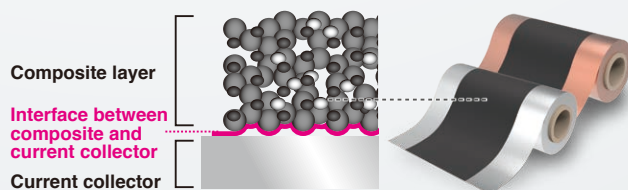# Quantifying composite layer resistance and interface resistance in Li-ion battery electrode sheets

Accelerating the evolution of LIBs

The RM2610 isolates and quantifies composite layer resistance and interface resistance* in positive- and negative-electrode sheets used in lithium-ion batteries. Those values are helping LIBs to evolve and improve.

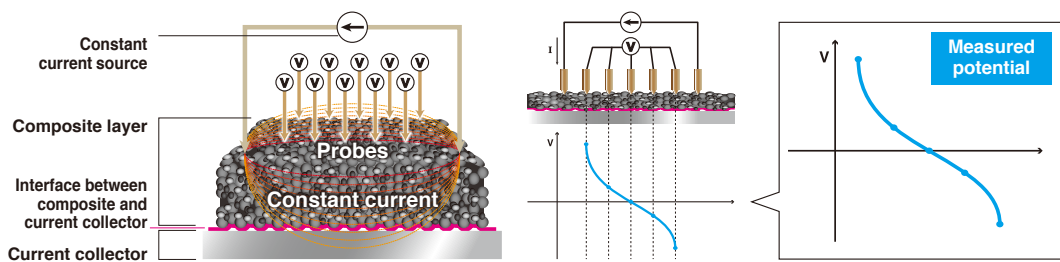*Contact resistance between the collector and composite layer

Electrode sheet diagram

Composite layer

Interface between composite and current collector

Current collector

CE

Isolating and calculating composite layer resistivity and interface resistance using inverse problem analysis

STEP 1

Acquire the observed potential

The RM2610 applies a constant current to the electrode sheet and measures the potential distribution occurring on the surface at multiple points.

Constant current source

Composite layer

Interface between composite and current collector

Current collector

Probes

Constant current

Measured potential

STEP 2

Perform modeling and obtain the calculated potential

Next, the RM2610 models the electrode sheet and computes the potential occurring on its surface.
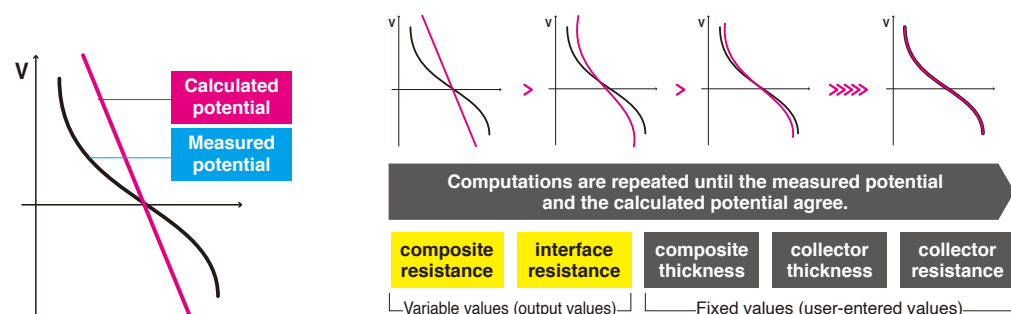
composite resistance | composite thickness

interface resistance

collector resistance | collector thickness

Calculated potential
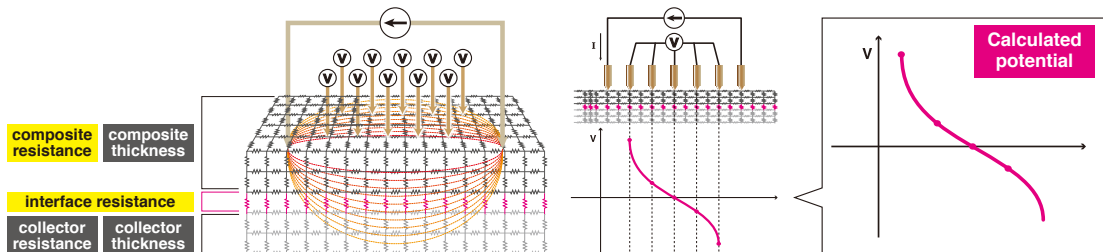
STEP 3

Repeatedly compute the calculated potential

Using composite resistance and interface resistance as variables, the RM2610 repeatedly computes the calculated potential until it agrees with the observed potential. Once the observed potential and calculated potential agree, the resulting variables are output.

Calculated potential

Measured potential

Computations are repeated until the measured potential and the calculated potential agree.

| composite resistance | interface resistance | composite thickness | collector thickness | collector resistance |

Variable values (output values) — Fixed values (user-entered values)

The calculated potential is computed while varying the variables.

LIBs are expected to evolve and improve

Accelerating development
by quantifying the invisible quantity of resistance


Example measurements

Able to check the resistance difference in the different composite sheet
Verify the uniformity of an electrode sheet

Sample: Positive electrode	
Type	Positive electrode (lithium cobalt oxide)
Substrate	Aluminum foil (15 µm) with a volume resistivity of 2.7E-06 Ω cm
Active material	$LiCoO_2$
Weight	110.2 g / m^2
Overall thickness	92.1 µm
Density	2.95 g / cm^3

Measurement results: Measuring 6 locations on electrode sheet

electrode sheets
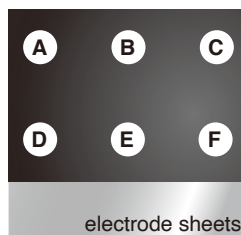
Measurement location	Composite resistivity [Ω cm]	Interface resistance [Ω cm^2]
A	4.926E+00	1.583E+00
B	4.894E+00	1.824E+00
C	5.182E+00	1.647E+00
D	4.938E+00	1.390E+00
E	4.750E+00	1.433E+00
F	5.312E+00	1.147E+00

Sample: Positive electrode	
Type	Positive electrode (NMC 1:1:1)
Substrate	Aluminum foil (15 µm) with a volume resistivity of 2.7E-06 Ω cm
Active material	NMC 1:1:1
Weight	102.1 g / m^2
Overall thickness	54.8 µm
Density	2.75 g / cm^3

Measurement results: Measuring 6 locations on electrode sheet

electrode sheets
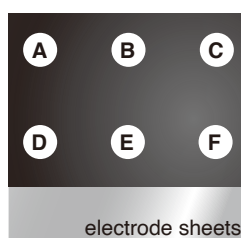
| Measurement location	Composite resistivity [Ω cm]	Interface resistance [Ω cm^2]
A	1.291E+01	1.357E+01
B	1.222E+01	1.964E+01
C	1.274E+01	2.554E+01
D	1.269E+01	1.180E+01
E	1.361E+01	1.980E+01
F	1.315E+01	2.066E+01

Example uses

Visualizing variations in composite layer resistance and interface resistance caused by differences in materials, composition, and manufacturing conditions
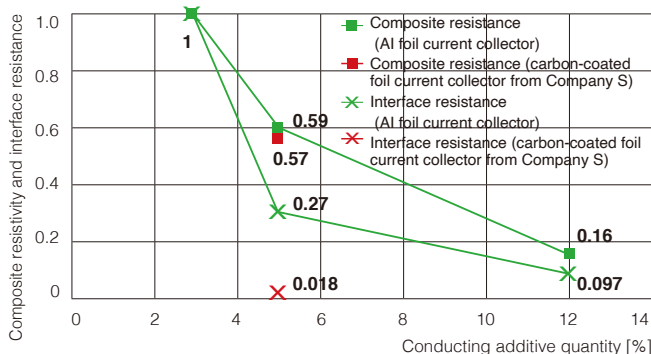
Ascertain the appropriate conducting additive quantity in order to lower interface resistance.
Gauge the effect of carbon-coated foil on interface resistance.

Referring to the graph, you can see how changing the conducting additive quantity changes composite resistivity and interface resistance. You can also see how interface resistance changes depending on whether carbon-coated film is present. Finally, you can see that composite resistivity and interface resistance are being isolated and calculated separately based on the fact that the composite resistivity remains the same regardless of whether or not carbon-coated film is present.
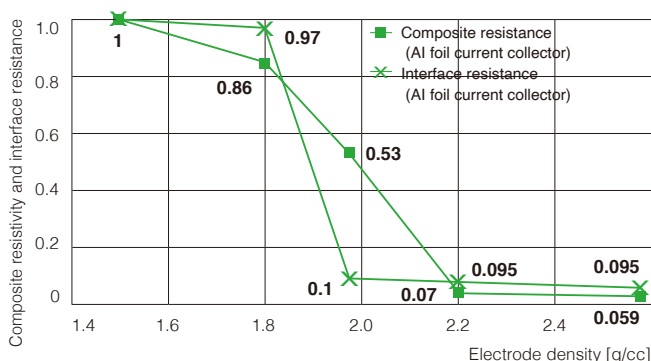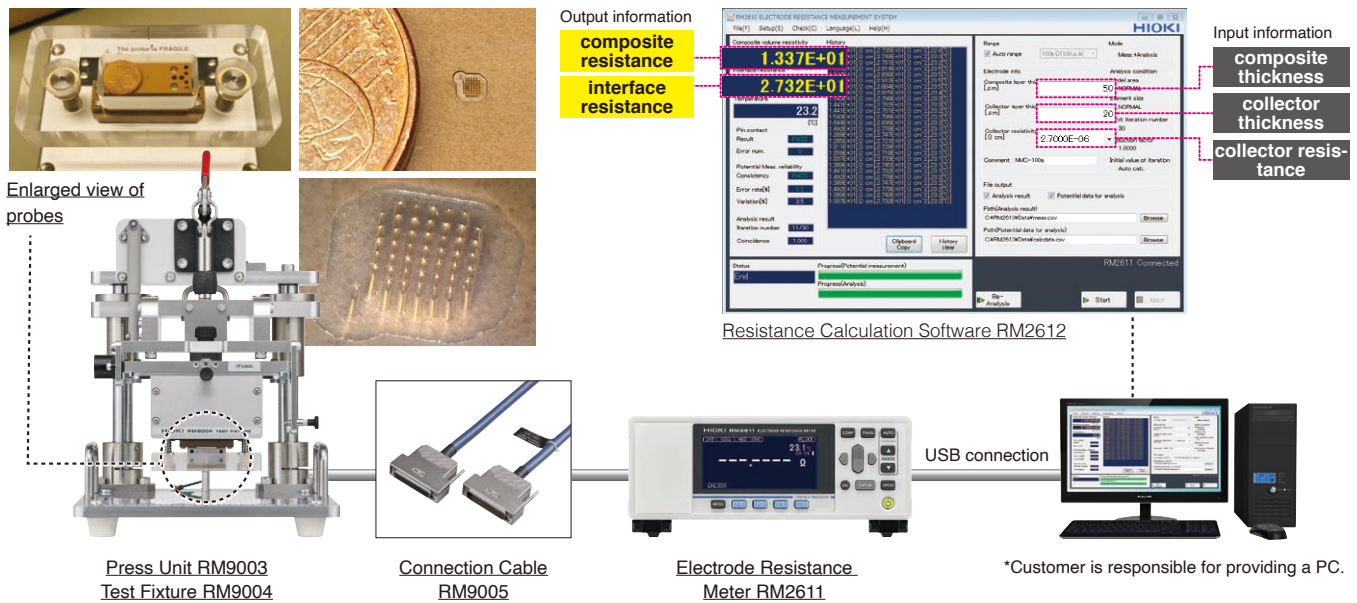

Analyze the effects of electrode density on interface resistance.

This graph illustrates the results of measuring an electrode while changing the press pressure to vary the electrode density. Although both the volume resistivity of the composite layer and interface resistance decrease as the press pressure and electrode density rise, the interface resistance drops precipitously after a certain point. The roughly constant value after that decline is useful in determining the optimal value.

*The top and bottom graphs indicate relative composite resistivity and interface resistance values, where a value of 1 indicates the composite resistivity and interface resistance at a conducting additive quantity of 3% or an electrode density of 1.5 g/cc, respectively.

*Please verify the usefulness of the calculated output values by measuring your own samples.

Electrode Resistance Measurement System RM2610: System components

Output information

composite resistance 1.337E+01

interface resistance 2.732E+01

Input information

composite thickness

collector thickness

collector resistance

Enlarged view of probes

Resistance Calculation Software RM2612

USB connection

Press Unit RM9003
Test Fixture RM9004

Connection Cable RM9005

Electrode Resistance Meter RM2611

*Customer is responsible for providing a PC.

Pre-work inspection

You can verify the state of the probes using the probe check board.

User interface

Move the cursor to a parameter to view guidance including a description and valid setting range.

Locking mechanism designed for safety

Pull the lock lever toward you to allow the probes to be lowered. This design keeps the probes from being lowered inadvertently.

Option

For routine maintenance of probe

MAINTENANCE TOOL RM9006

Digital microscope, blower, cleaning film set

Specifications

Measurement target	Positive and negative electrode sheets for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries
Measurement parameters	Composite resistivity [Ωcm] Interface resistance (contact resistance) between the composite layer and current collector [Ωcm²]
Computation method	Inverse problem analysis of potential distribution using the finite volume method
Information necessary for computation	• Composite layer thickness [μm] (for 1 side) • Current collector thickness [μm] • Current collector volume resistivity [Ωcm]
Measurement time	• Contact check + potential measurement: Approx. 30 s • Calculation: Approx. 35 s (On a PC with Intel core i5-7200U CPU) * The measurement time depends on the measurement target and the processing capacity of the PC.

Measurement current	1 μA (min.) to 10 mA (max.)
Number of probes	46
Recommended PC specifications	CPU: 4 or more threads RAM: 8 GB or greater (4 GB required) Operating system: Windows 7 Pro (64-bit), Windows 8 Pro (64-bit), Windows 10 Pro (64-bit)
Temperature measurement function	Measures temperature near the test fixture
Accessories	Temperature Probe Z2001, USB cable, USB license key, probe check board, power cord, user manual, Fuses
Option	FUSE SET Z5056 1.6A/250V Fuse set of 5 RM2611

*The RM2611 Electrode Resistance Meter requires regular calibration. For more information about calibration, please contact your HIOKI distributor