

# Practical Temperature Measurements



# Agenda

- ✿ **Background, history**
- ✿ Mechanical sensors
- ✿ Electrical sensors
  - ✿ Optical Pyrometer
  - ✿ RTD
  - ✿ Thermistor, IC
  - ✿ Thermocouple
- ✿ Summary & Examples

# What is Temperature?

- ✿ A scalar quantity that determines the direction of heat flow between two bodies
- ✿ A statistical measurement
- ✿ A **difficult** measurement
- ✿ A mostly empirical measurement

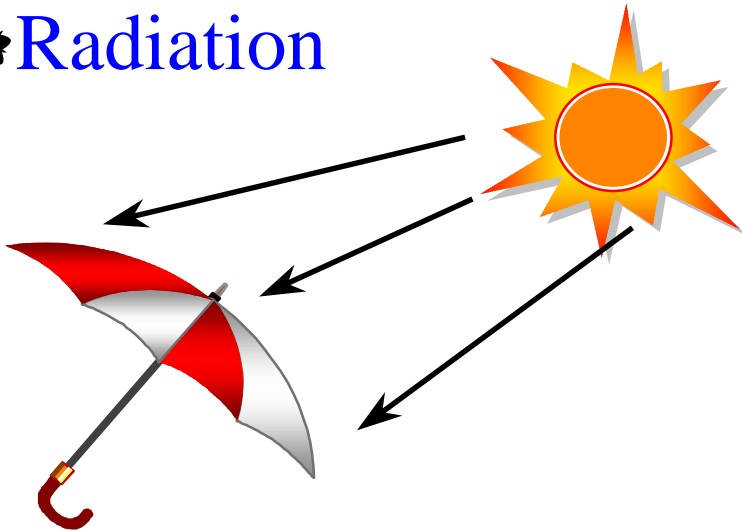
# How is heat transferred?

## ✿ Conduction

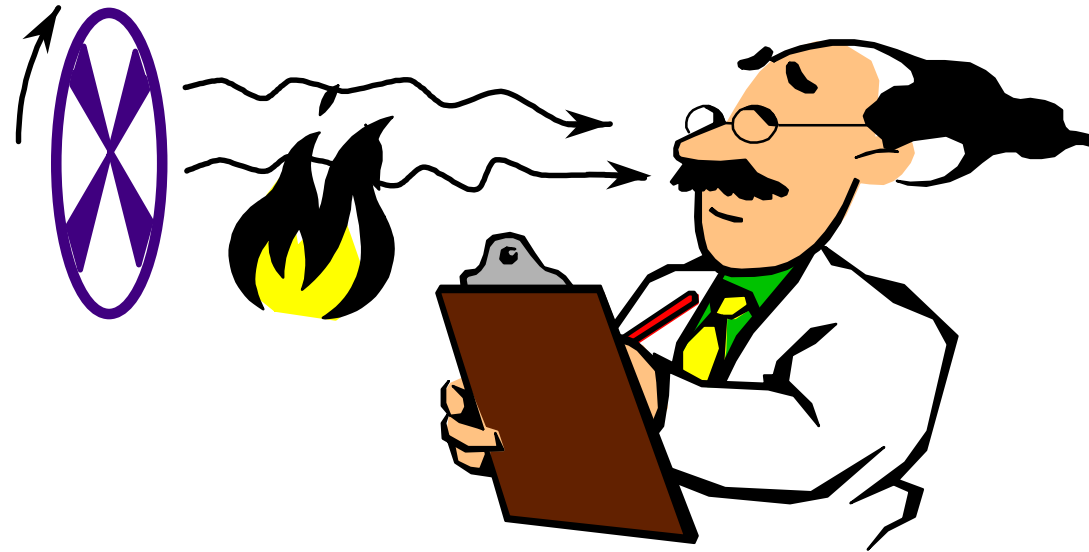
- ✿ Metal coffee cup



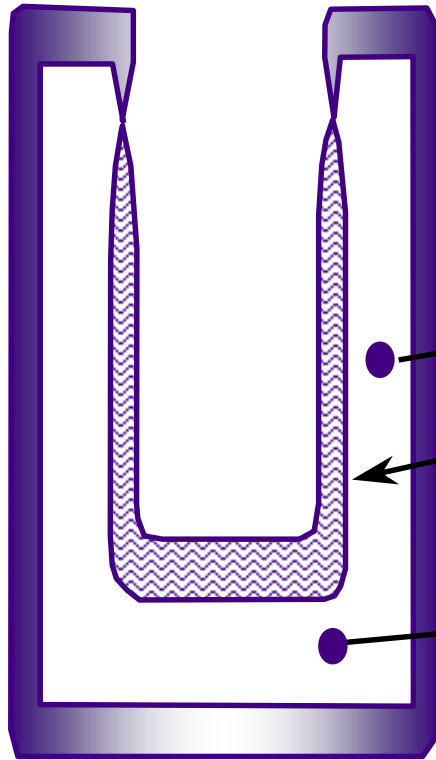
## ✿ Radiation



## ✿ Convection

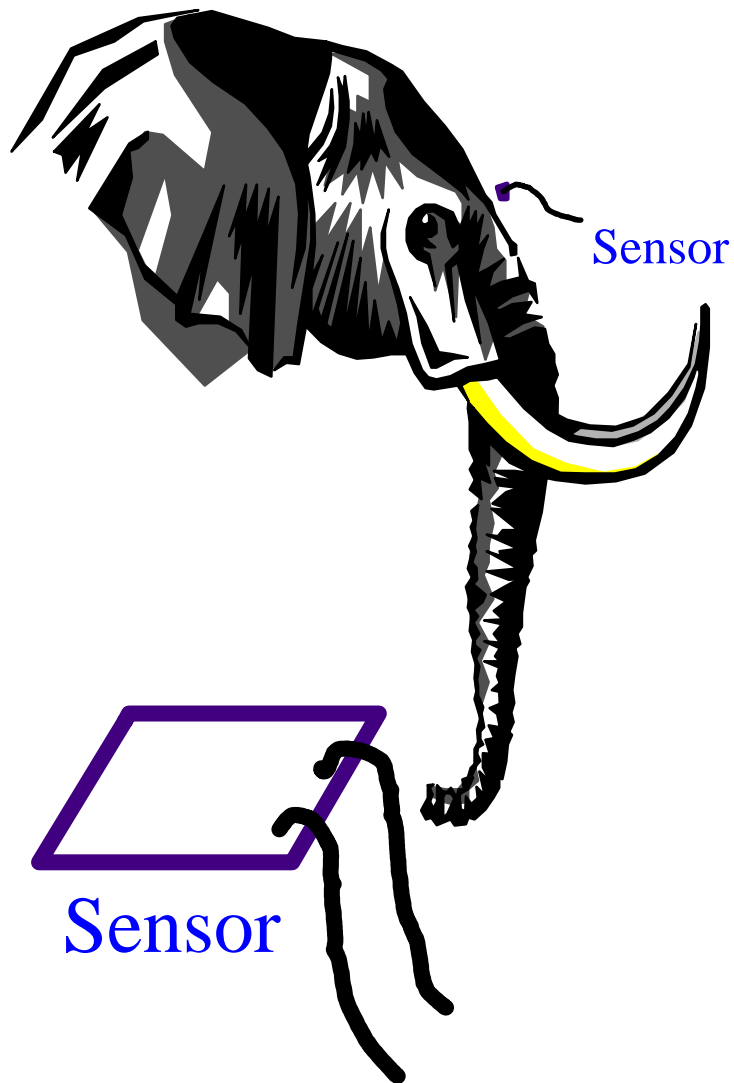


# The Dewar



- ✿ Glass is a poor conductor
- ✿ Gap reduces conduction
- ✿ Metallization reflects radiation
- ✿ Vacuum reduces convection

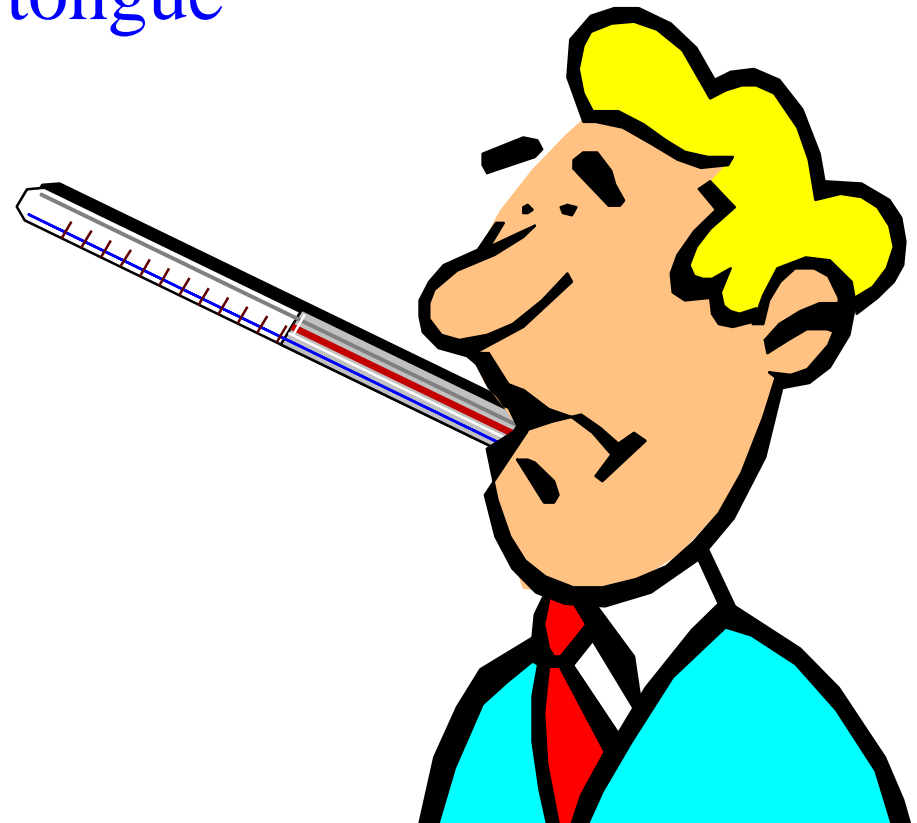
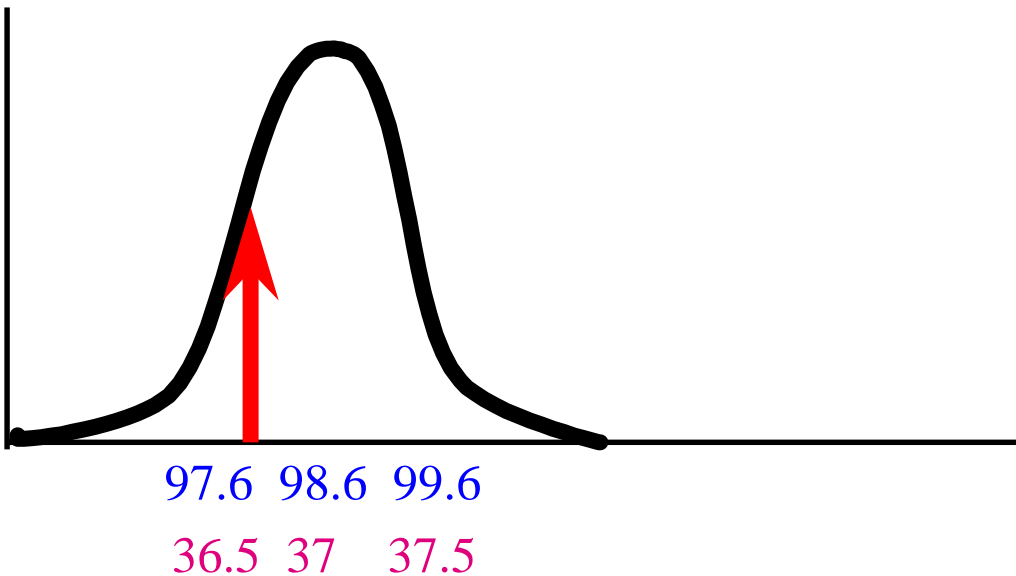
# Thermal Mass



- \* Don't let the measuring device change the temperature of what you're measuring.
- \* Response time =
  - \*  $f\{\text{Thermal mass}\}$
  - \*  $f\{\text{Measuring device}\}$

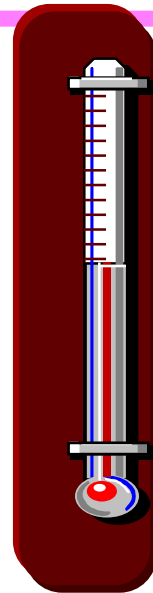
# Temperature errors

- ✿ What is YOUR normal temperature?
- ✿ Thermometer accuracy, resolution
- ✿ Contact time
- ✿ Thermal mass of thermometer, tongue
- ✿ Human error in reading



# History of temperature sensors

\* 1600 ad

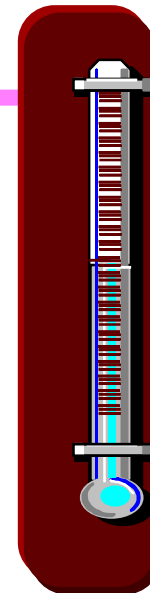


12  
1

\* Early  
thermometers

- \* Not repeatable
- \* No good way to calibrate

\* 1700 ad



96  
0

\* Fahrenheit

- \* Instrument Maker
- \*  $12 \times 8 = 96$  points
- \* Hg: Repeatable
- \* One standard scale

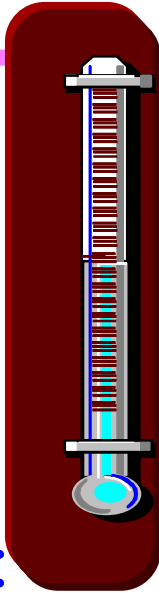
\* Galileo: First  
temp. sensor

- \* pressure-sensitive
- \* not repeatable



## The 1700's: Standardization

✿ 1700 ad



0

100

100

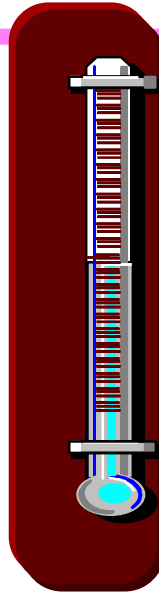
0

✿ Celsius:

✿ Common,  
repeatable  
calibration reference  
points

✿ "Centigrade"  
scale

✿ 1800 ad

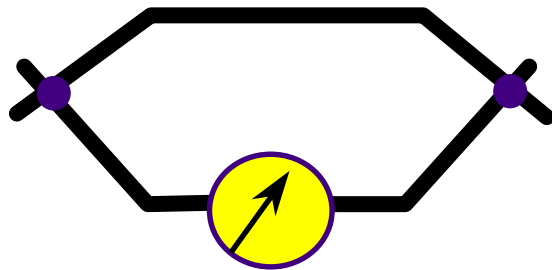


✿ Thomson effect  
✿ Absolute zero

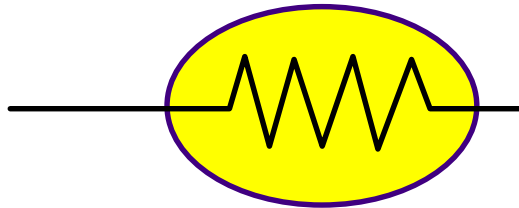
# 1821: It was a very good year

✿ 1800 ad

✿ 1900 ad



✿ The Seebeck  
effect

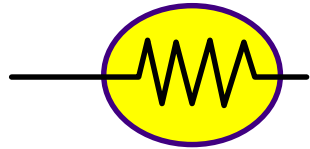


✿ Davy: The RTD

✿ Pt 100  $\Omega$  @ 0 deg.C

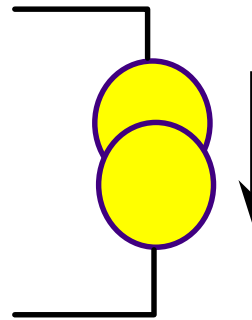
## The 1900's: Electronic sensors

✿ 1900 ad



✿ Thermistor

✿ 2000 ad



✿ 1 uA/K

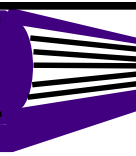
✿ IC sensor

✿ IPTS 1968

✿ IPTS 1990

✿ "Degree Kelvin">>> "kelvins"

✿ "Centigrade">>> " Celsius"



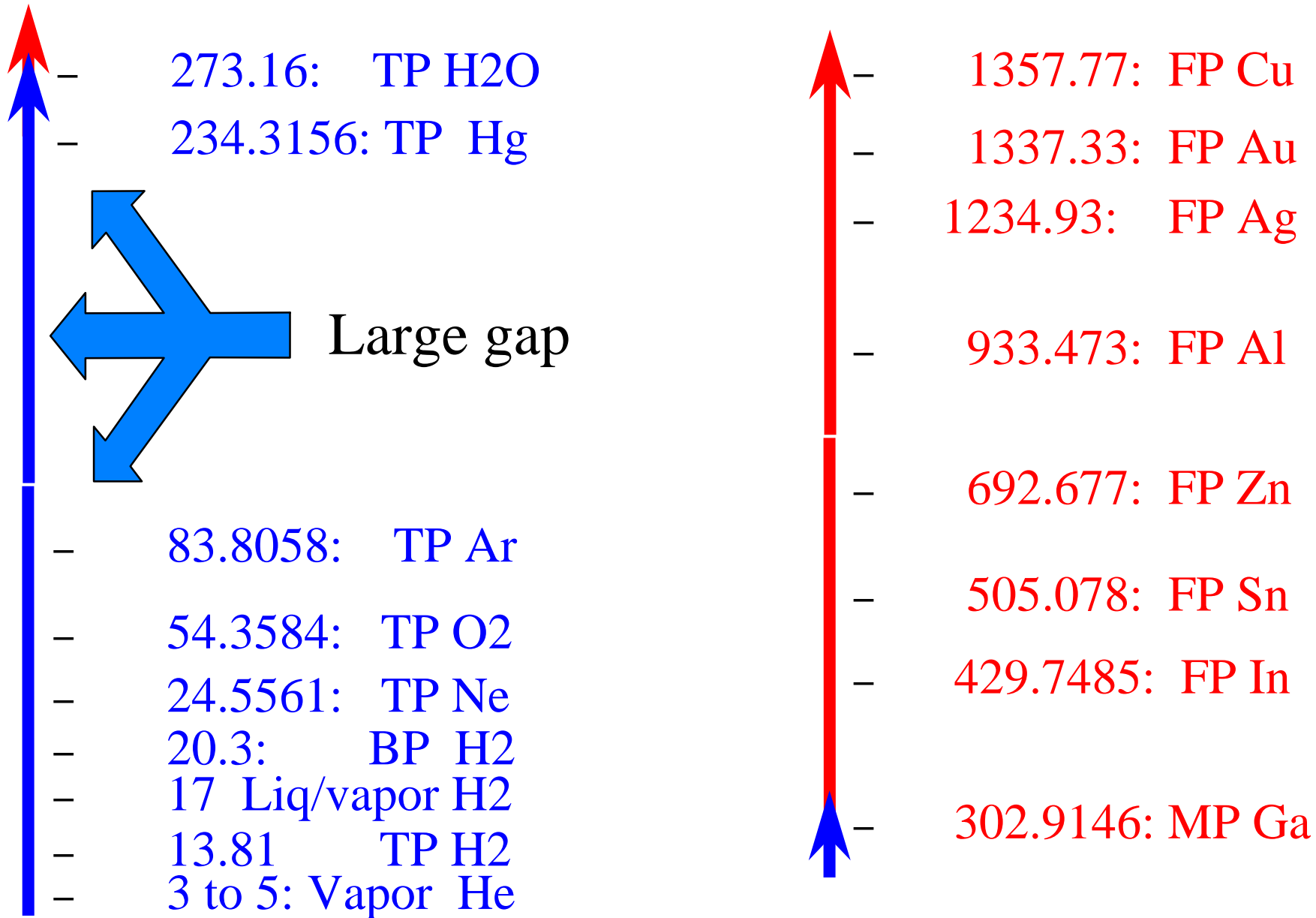
# Temperature scales

Absolute zero	Freezing point H <sub>2</sub> O	Boiling point H O <sub>2</sub>
-273.15 * Celsius	0	100
0 * Kelvin	273.15	373.15
-459.67 * Fahrenheit	32	212
0 * Rankine	427.67	671.67

\* "Standard" is "better":

- \* Reliable reference points
- \* Easy to understand

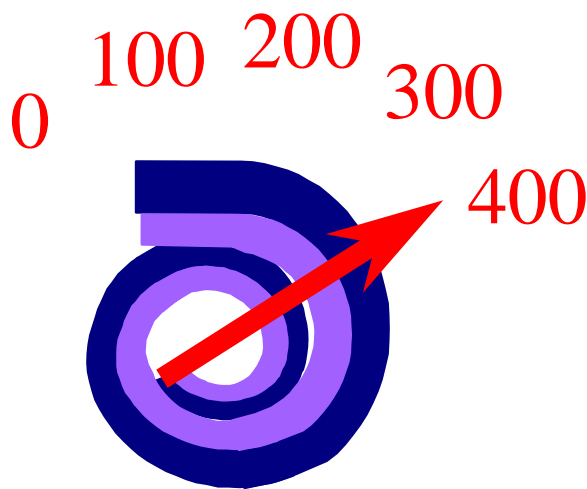
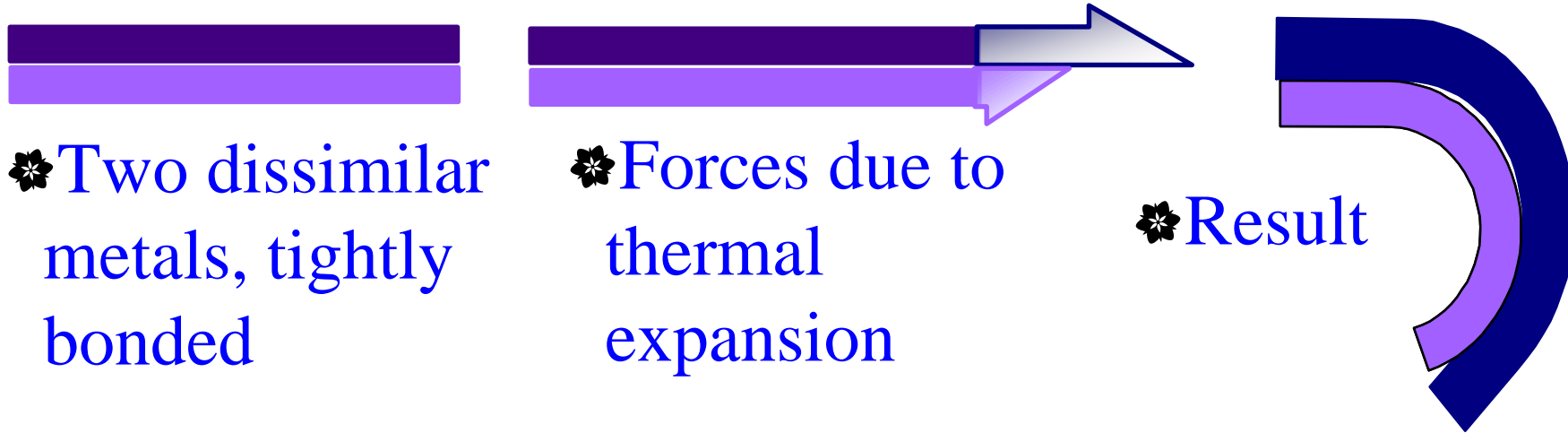
# IPTS '90: More calibration points



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- ✿ Electrical sensors
  - ✿ Optical Pyrometer
  - ✿ RTD
  - ✿ Thermistor, IC
  - ✿ Thermocouple
- ✿ Summary & Examples

## Bimetal thermometer

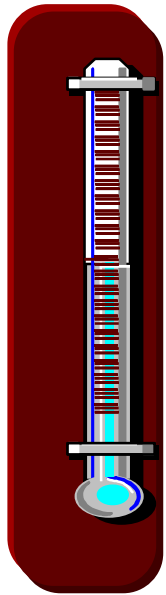


### \*Bimetallic thermometer

- \* Poor accuracy
- \* Hysteresis

\*Thermal expansion causes big problems in other designs:

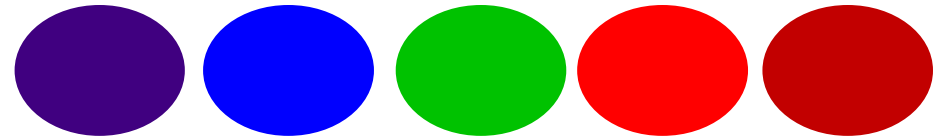
- \* IC bonds
- \* Mechanical interference



100

0

## Liquid thermometer; Paints



### \* Thermally-sensitive paints

- \* Irreversible change
- \* Low resolution
- \* Useful in hard-to-measure areas

### \* Liquid-filled thermometer

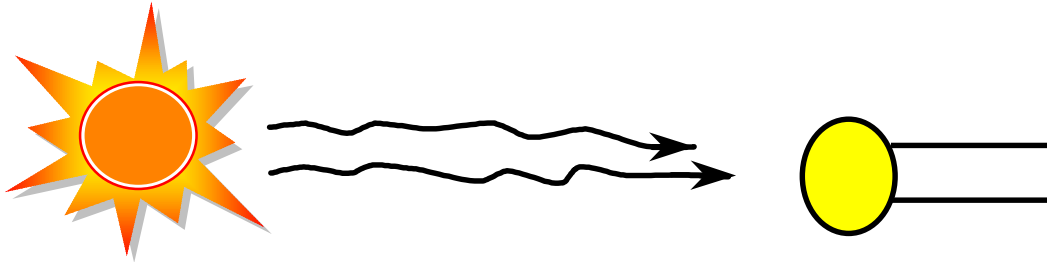
- \* Accurate over a small range
- \* Accuracy & resolution =  $f(\text{length})$
- \* Range limited by liquid
- \* Fragile
- \* Large thermal mass
- \* Slow



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  - ✿ **Optical**
  - ✿ **Pyrometer**
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# Optical Pyrometer

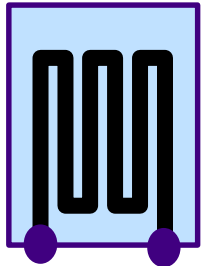


- \* Infrared Radiation-sensitive
- \* Photodiode or photoresistor
- \*  $\text{Accuracy} = f\{\text{emissivity}\}$
- \* Useful @ very high temperatures
- \* Non-contacting
- \* Very expensive
- \* Not very accurate

# Agenda

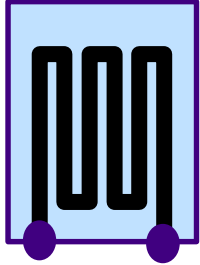
- ✿ Background, history
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# Resistance Temperature Detector



- \* Most accurate & stable
- \* Good to 800 degrees Celsius
- \*  $\text{Resistance} = f\{\text{Absolute } T\}$
- \* Self-heating a problem
- \* Low resistance
- \* Nonlinear

# RTD Equation



\*  $R = 100 \text{ Ohms @ } 0^\circ \text{ C}$

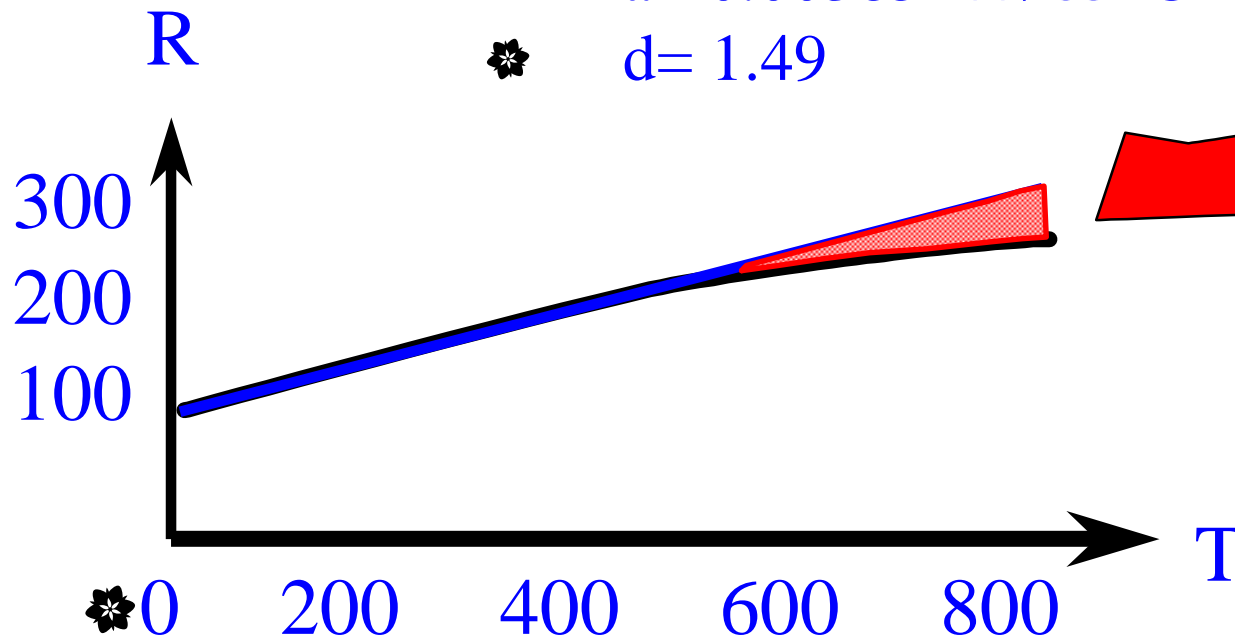
\* Callendar-Van Deusen Equation:

For  $T > 0^\circ \text{C}$ : \*  $R = R_0(1 + aT) - R_0(ad(.01T)(.01T - 1))$

\*  $R_0 = 100 \Omega @ 0^\circ \text{ C}$

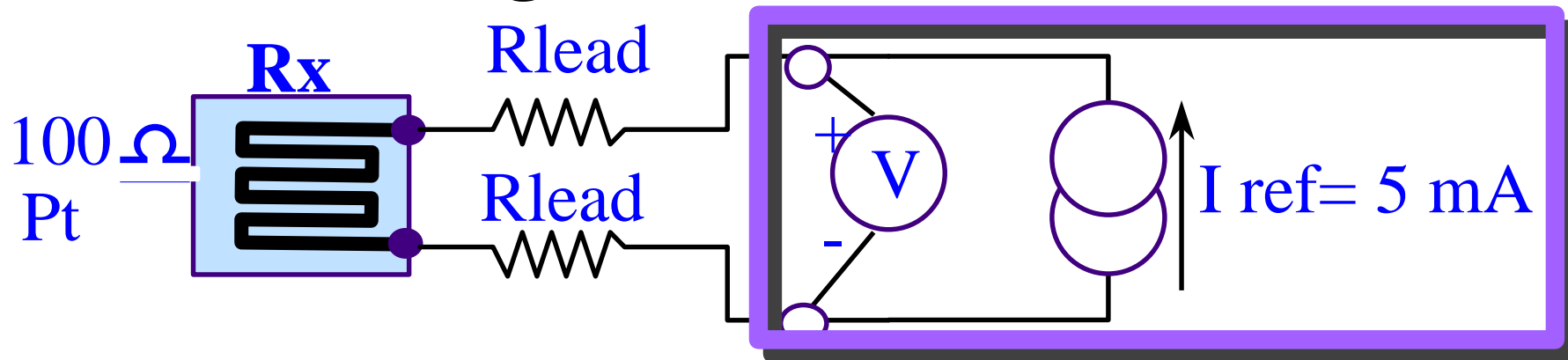
\*  $a = 0.00385 \Omega / \Omega^\circ \text{ C}$  for Pt

\*  $d = 1.49$



Nonlinearity

# Measuring an RTD: 2-wire method



✿  $R = I_{ref} * (R_x + 2 * R_{lead})$

✿ Error =  $2 \Omega / .385 = \text{more than } 5 \text{ degrees C for } 1 \text{ ohm } R_{lead}!$

✿ Self-heating:

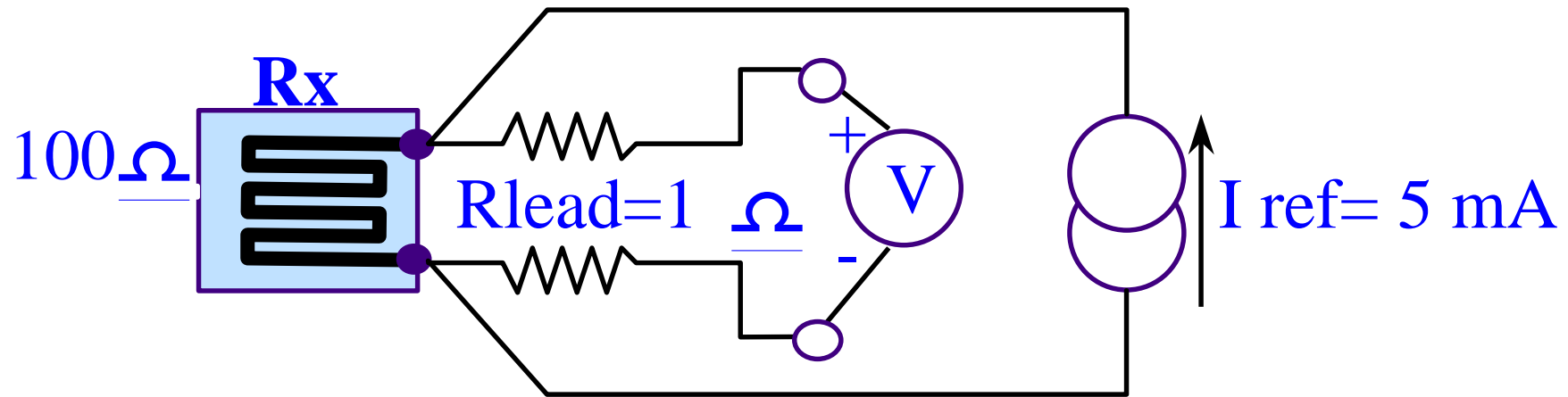
✿ For 0.5 V signal,  $I = 5 \text{ mA}$ ;  $P = .5 * .005 = 2.5 \text{ mwatts}$

✿ @ 1 mW/deg C, Error = 2.5 deg C!

✿ Moral: Minimize  $I_{ref}$ ; Use 4-wire method

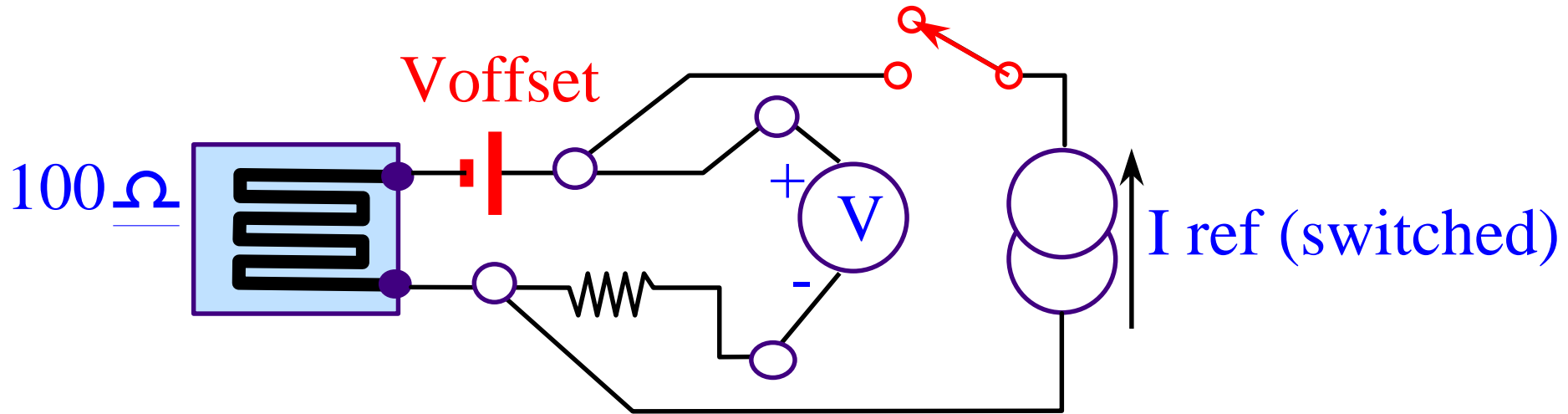
✿ If you must use 2-wire, NULL out the lead resistance

## The 4-Wire technique



- \*  $R = I_{ref} * R_x$ 
  - \* Error not a function of R in source or sense leads
  - \* No error due to *changes* in lead R
- \* Twice as much wire
- \* Twice as many scanner channels
- \* Usually slower than 2-wire

# Offset compensation



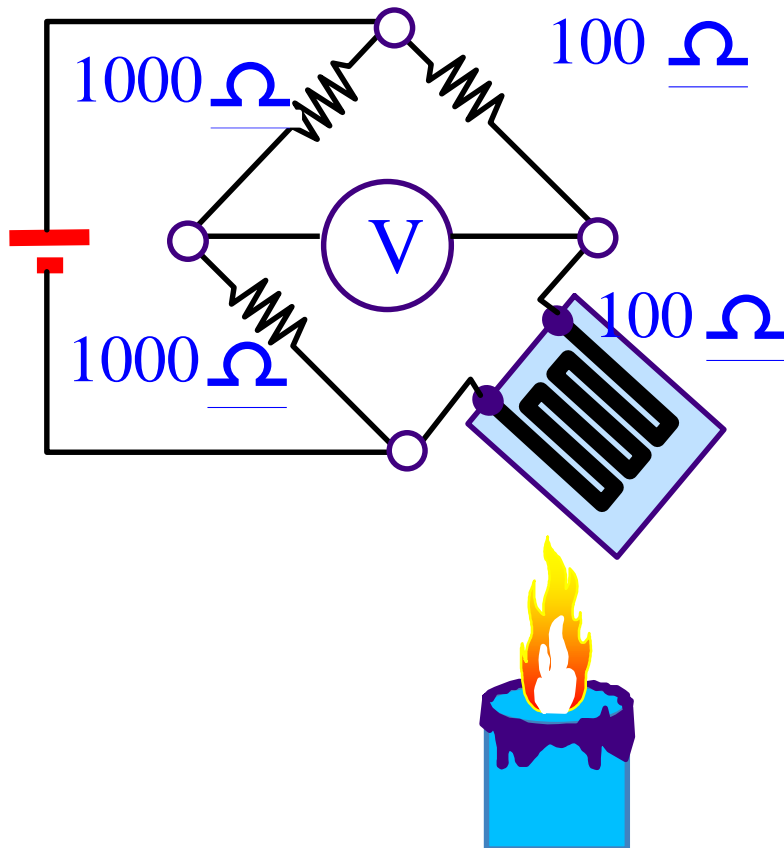
## \*Eliminates thermal voltages

- \* Measure  $V$  without  $I$  applied
- \* Measure  $V$  *With*  $I$  applied

$$R = \frac{\Delta V}{\Delta I}$$

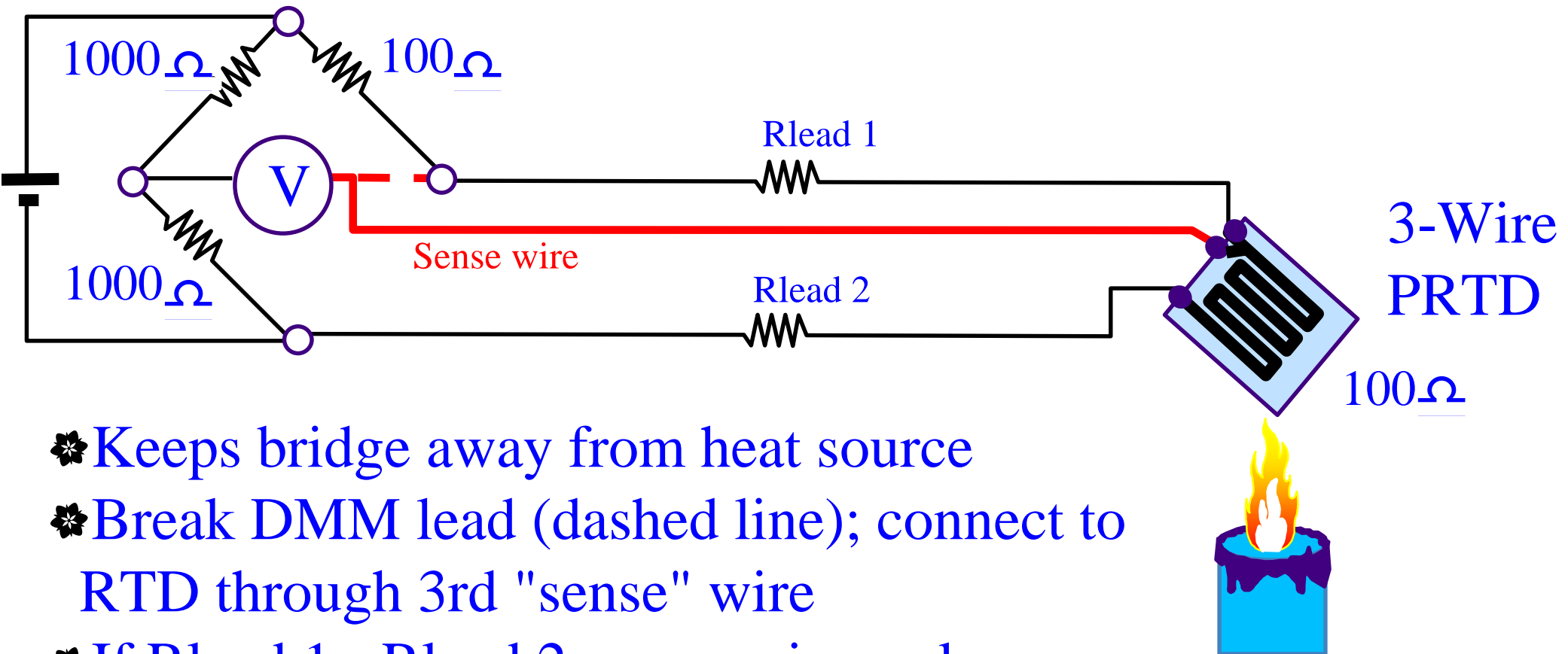


## Bridge method



- \* High resolution (DMM stays on most sensitive range)
- \* Nonlinear output
- \* Bridge resistors too close to heat source

## 3-Wire bridge

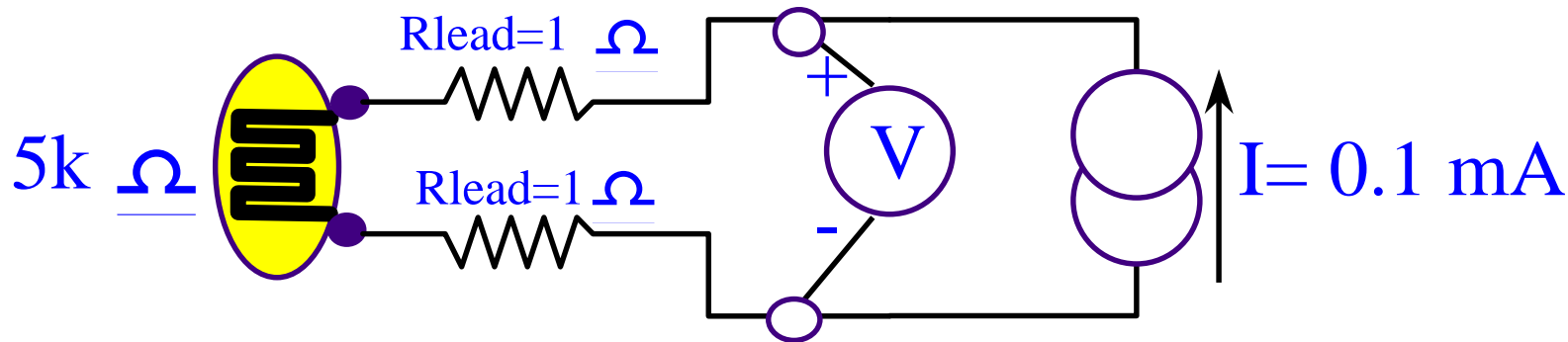


- \* Keeps bridge away from heat source
- \* Break DMM lead (dashed line); connect to RTD through 3rd "sense" wire
- \* If  $R_{\text{lead 1}} = R_{\text{lead 2}}$ , sense wire makes error small
- \* Series resistance of sense wire causes no error

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# Electrical sensors: Thermistor



✿ Hi-Z; Sensitive:  $5\ k\ \Omega$  @  $25^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $\Delta R = 4\%/^\circ\text{C}$

✿ Limited range

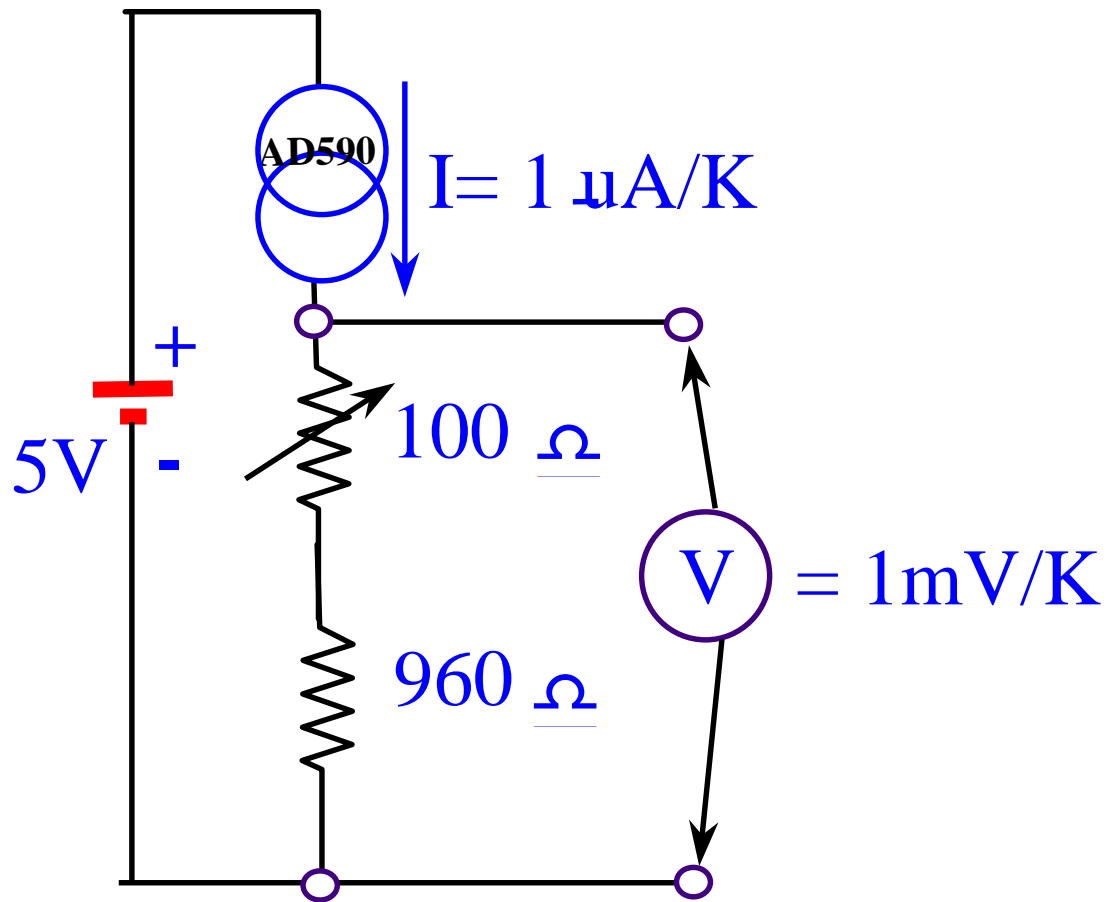
✿ 2-Wire method:  $R = I * (R_{thmr} + 2 * R_{lead})$

✿ Lead R Error =  $2\ \Omega / 400 = 0.005\ ^\circ\text{C}$

✿ Low thermal mass: High self-heating

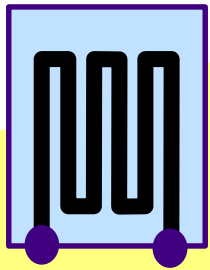
✿ Very nonlinear

## I.C. Sensor



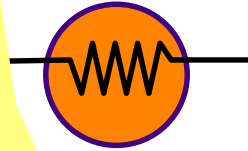
- ✿ High output
- ✿ Very linear
- ✿ Accurate @ room ambient
- ✿ **Limited range**
- ✿ Cheap

## Summary: Absolute T devices



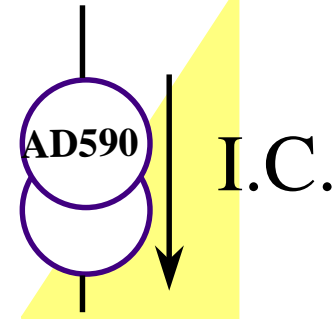
RTD

- ✿ Most accurate
- ✿ Most stable
- ✿ Fairly linear
- ✿ Expensive
- ✿ Slow
- ✿ Needs I source
- ✿ Self-heating
- ✿ 4-wire meas.



Thermistor

- ✿ High output
- ✿ Fast
- ✿ 2-wire meas.
- ✿ Very nonlinear
- ✿ Limited range
- ✿ Needs I source
- ✿ Self-heating
- ✿ Fragile



I.C.

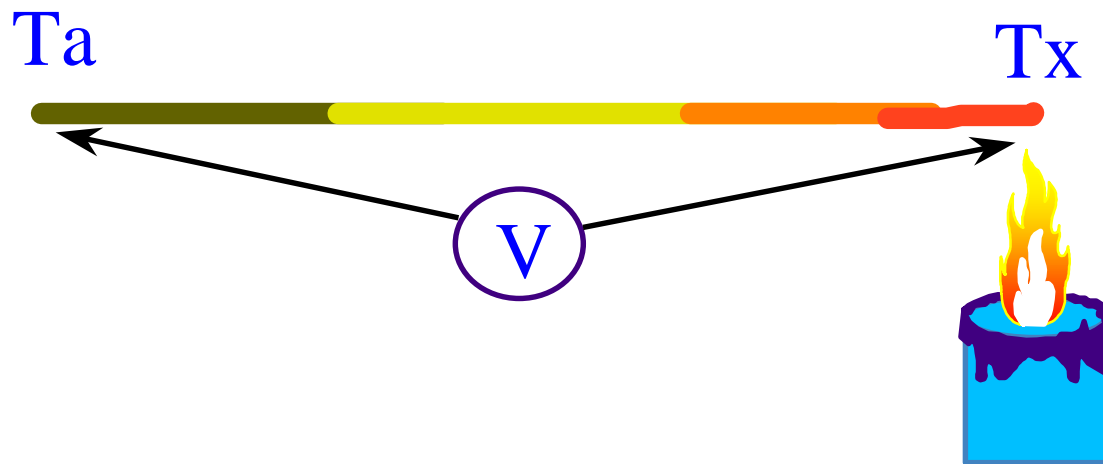
- ✿ High output
- ✿ Most linear
- ✿ Inexpensive
- ✿ Limited variety
- ✿ Limited range
- ✿ Needs V source
- ✿ Self-heating

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# Thermocouples

## The Gradient Theory



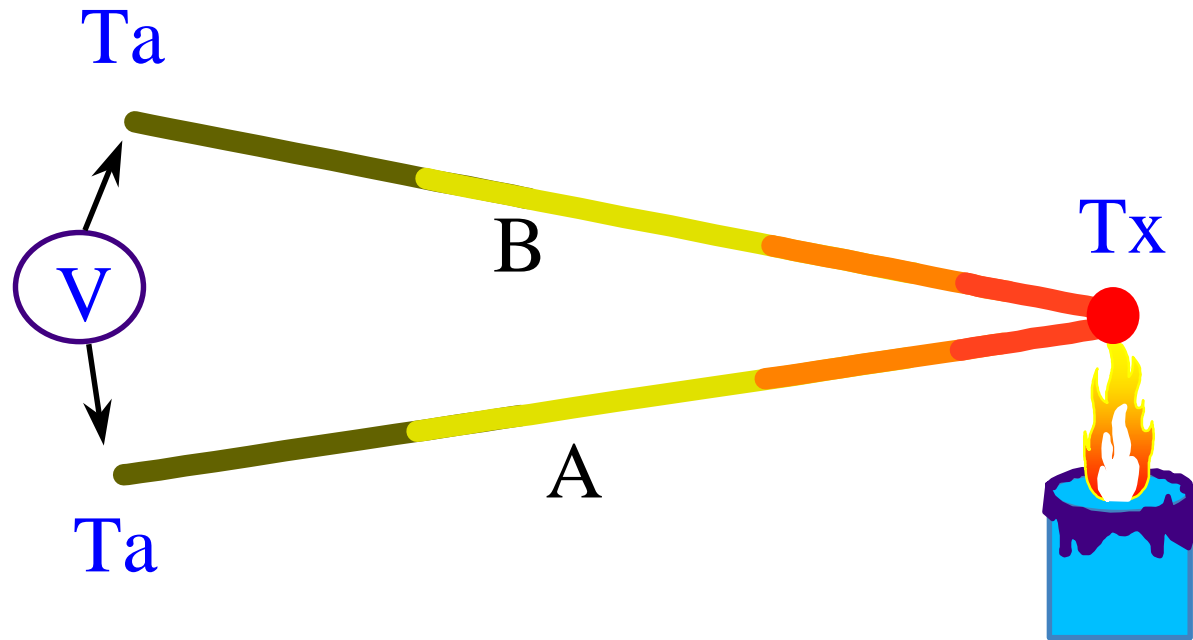
✿ The WIRE is the sensor, not the junction

✿ The Seebeck coefficient ( $e$ ) is a function of temperature

$$V = \int_{T_a}^{T_x} e(T) dT$$



# Making a thermocouple

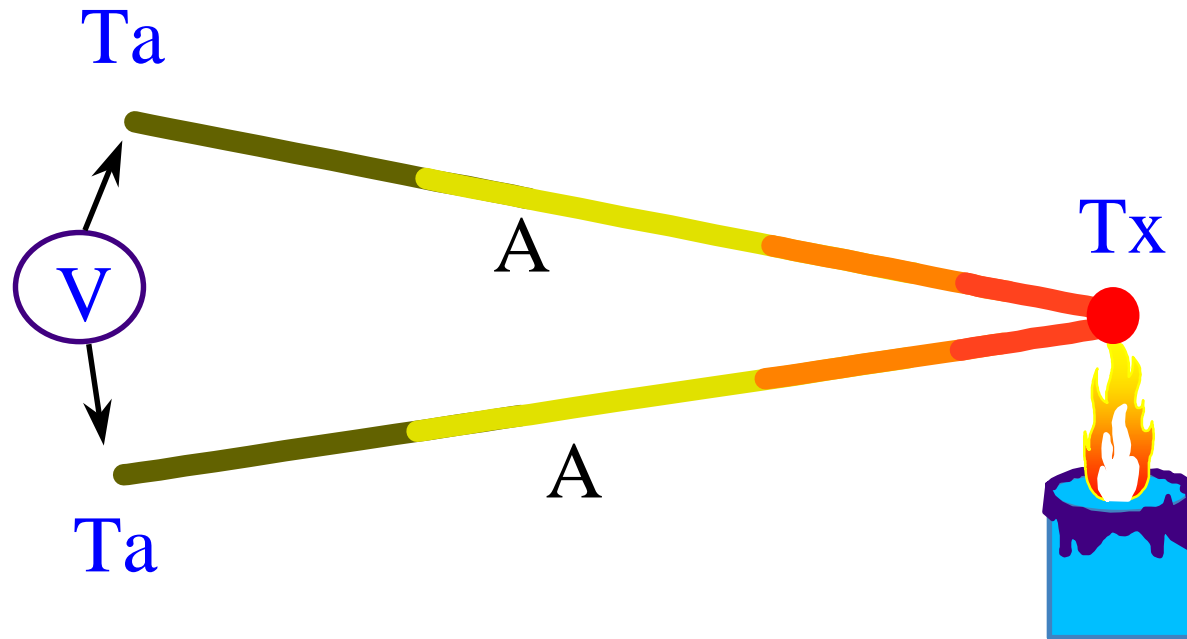


✿ Two wires make a thermocouple

✿ Voltage output is nonzero if metals are not the same

$$V = \int_{T_a}^{T_x} e_A dT + \int_{T_x}^{T_a} e_B dT$$

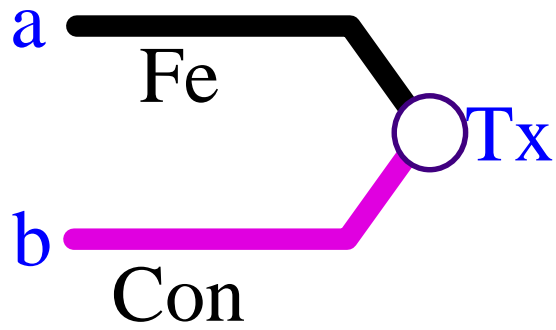
## Gradient theory also says...



✿ If wires are the same type, or if there is one wire, and both ends are at the same temperature, output= Zero.

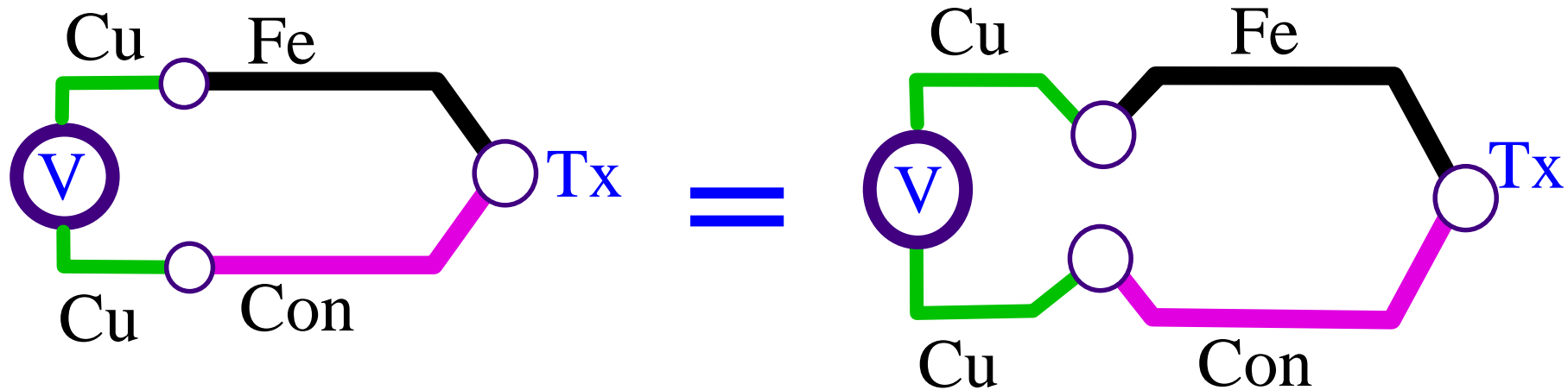
$$V = \int_{T_a}^{T_x} e_A dT + \int_{T_x}^{T_a} e_A dT = 0$$

Now try to measure it:



\* Theoretically,  
 $V_{ab} = f\{T_x - T_{ab}\}$

\* But, try to measure it with a DMM:

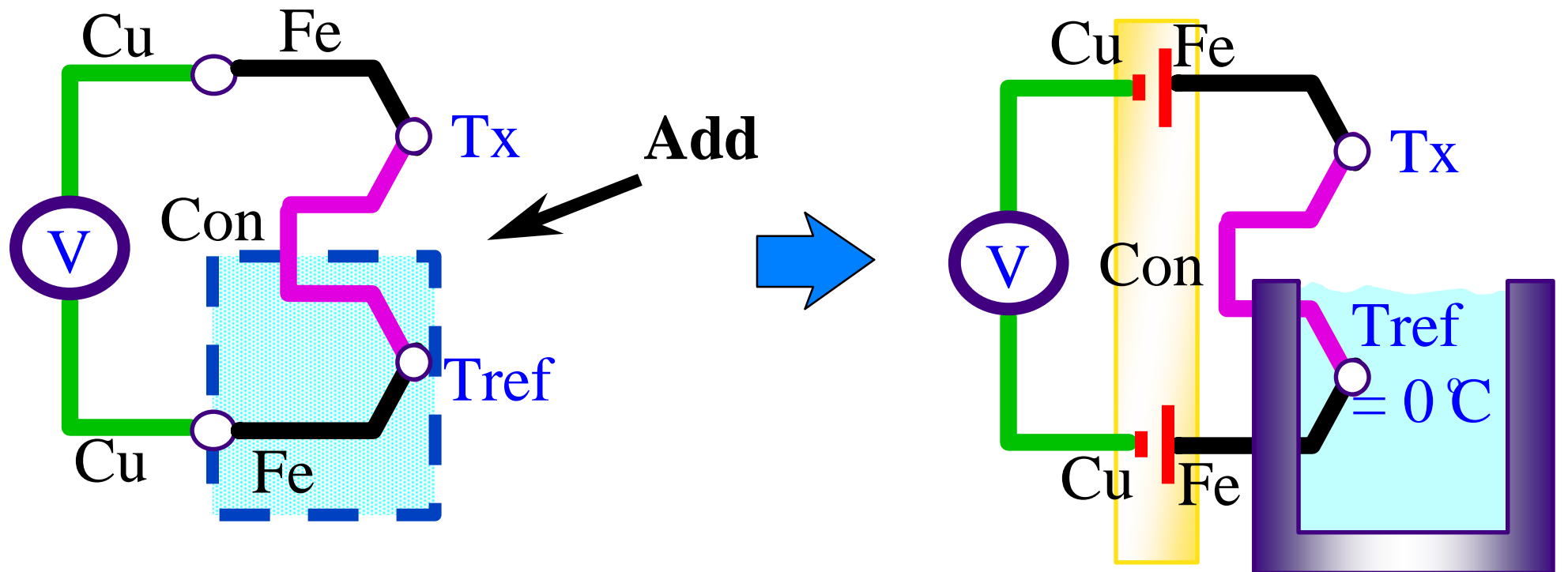


\* Result: 3 unequal junctions, all at unknown temperatures

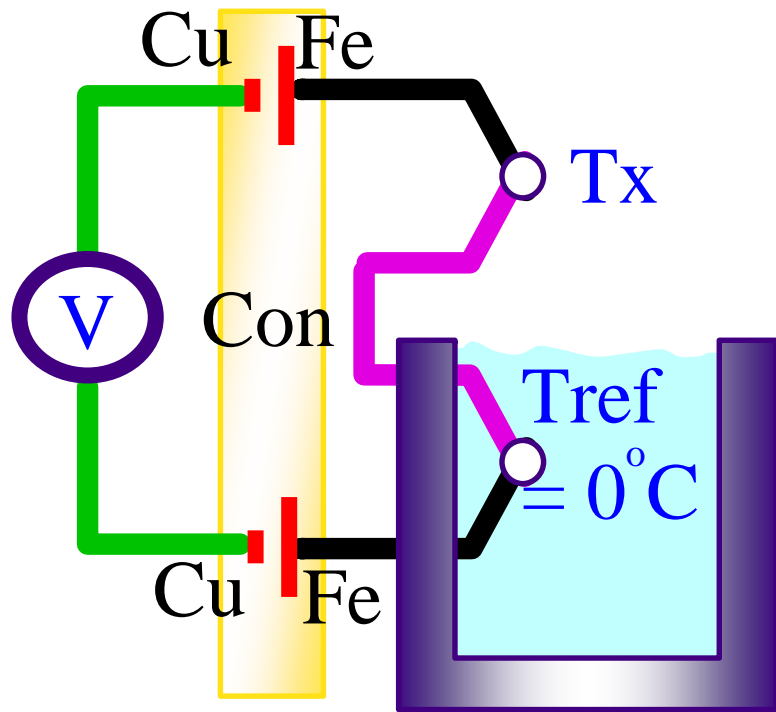
## Solution: Reference Thermocouple

- \*Problems: a) 3 different thermocouples,  
b) 3 unknown temperatures

- \*Solutions: a) Add an opposing thermocouple  
b) Use a known reference temp.



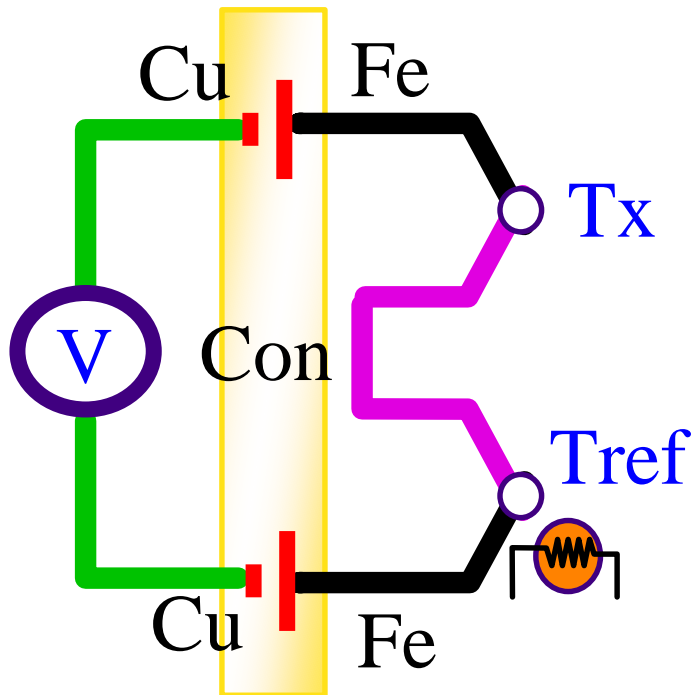
## The Classical Method



- ✿ If both Cu junctions are at same T, the two "batteries" cancel
- ✿ Tref is an ice bath (sometimes an electronic ice bath)
- ✿ All T/C tables are referenced to an ice bath
- ✿  $V = f\{T_x - T_{ref}\}$

✿ Question: How can we eliminate the ice bath?

## Eliminating the ice bath



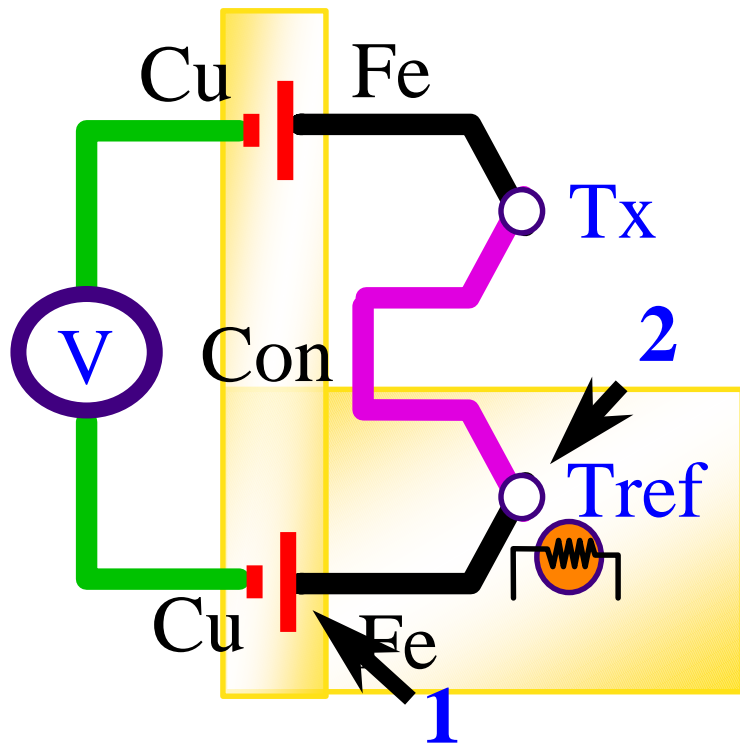
✿ Don't force  $T_{ref}$  to icepoint, just measure it

✿ Compensate for  $T_{ref}$  mathematically:

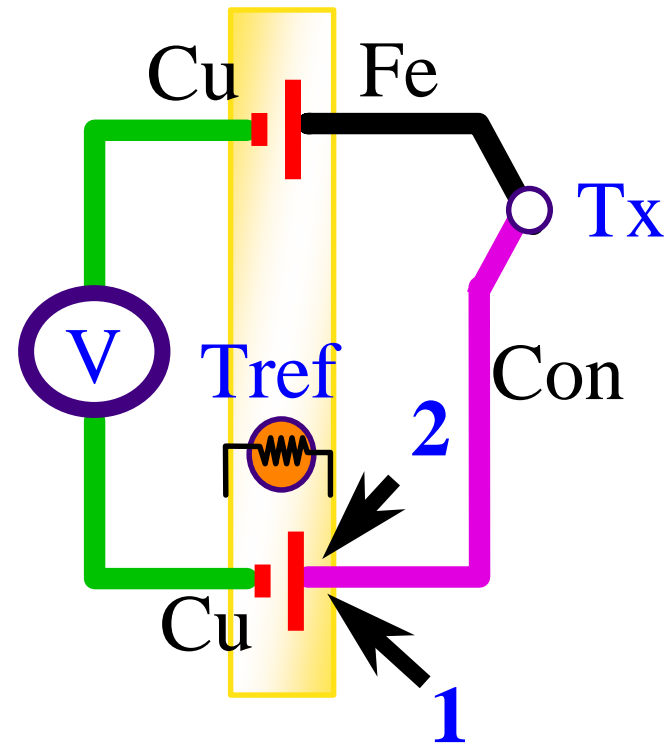
$$V = f\left\{ T_x \left| \begin{array}{c} - T_{ref} \\ T_{ice} \end{array} \right| \right\}$$

✿ If we know  $T_{ref} \left| \begin{array}{c} \\ T_{ice} \end{array} \right|$ , we can compute  $T_x$ .

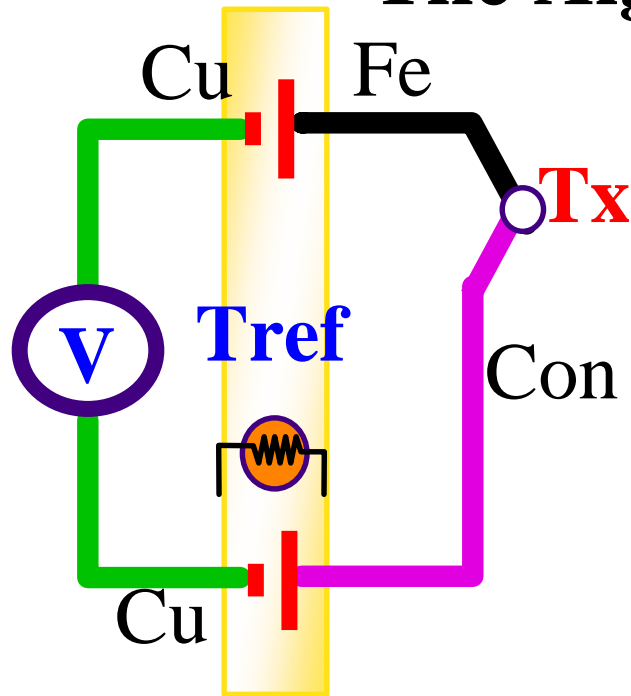
# Eliminating the second T/C



- \*Extend the isothermal block
- \*If isothermal,  $V_1 - V_2 = 0$

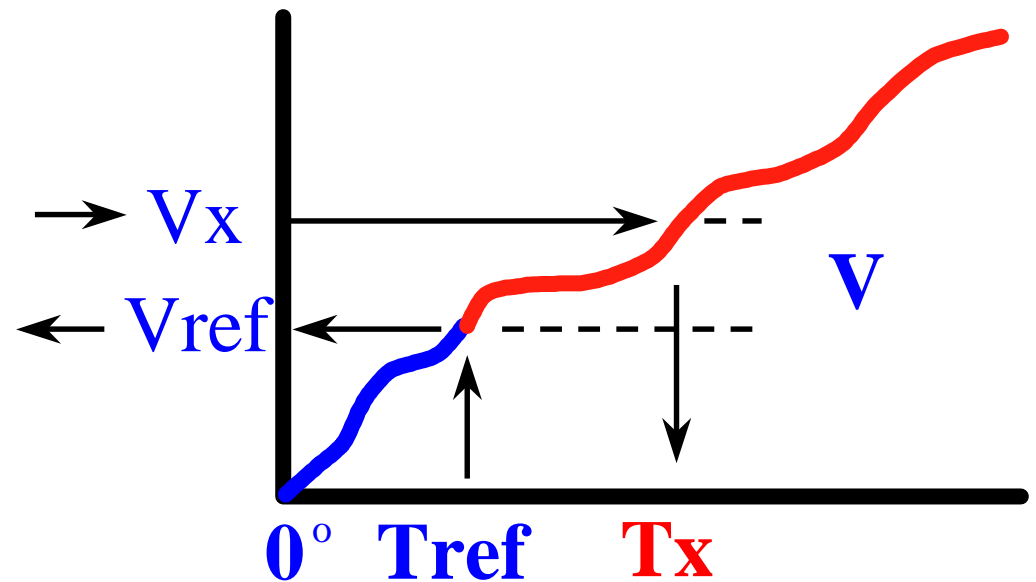


## The Algorithm for one T/C



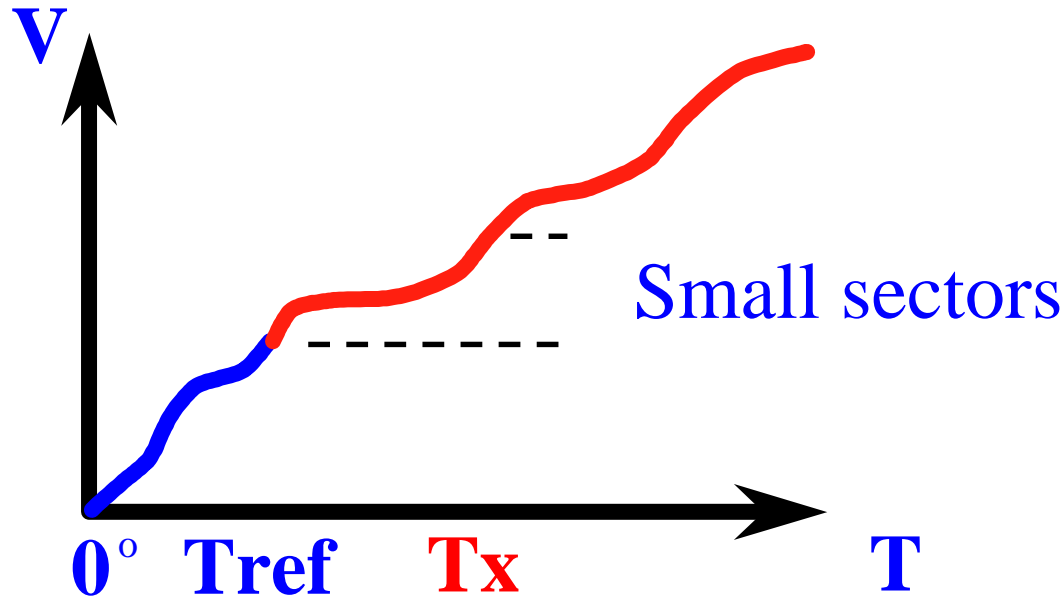
- \* Measure  $T_{ref}$ : RTD, IC or thermistor
- \*  $T_{ref} \Rightarrow V_{ref}$  @  $0^\circ\text{C}$  for Type J(Fe-C)
- \* Know  $V$ , Know  $V_{ref}$ : Compute  $V_x$
- \* Solve for  $T_x$  using  $V_x$

Compute  
 $V_x = V + V_{ref}$



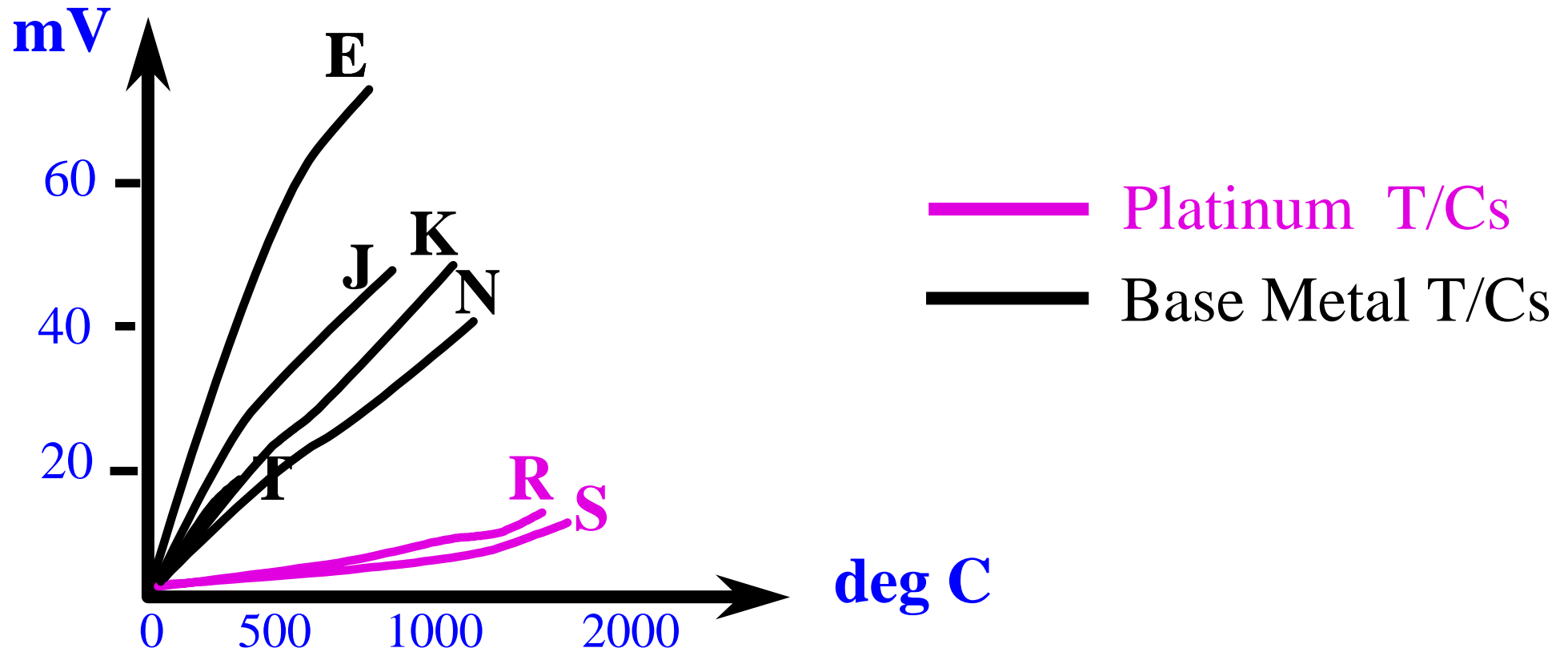


# Linearization



- ✿ Polynomial:  $T = a_0 + a_1 V + a_2 V^2 + a_3 V^3 + \dots + a_9 V^9$
- ✿ Nested (faster):  $T = a_0 + V(a_1 + V(a_2 + V(a_3 + \dots)))$
- ✿ Small sectors (faster):  $T = T_0 + bV + cV^2$
- ✿ Lookup table: Fastest, most memory

## Common Thermocouples



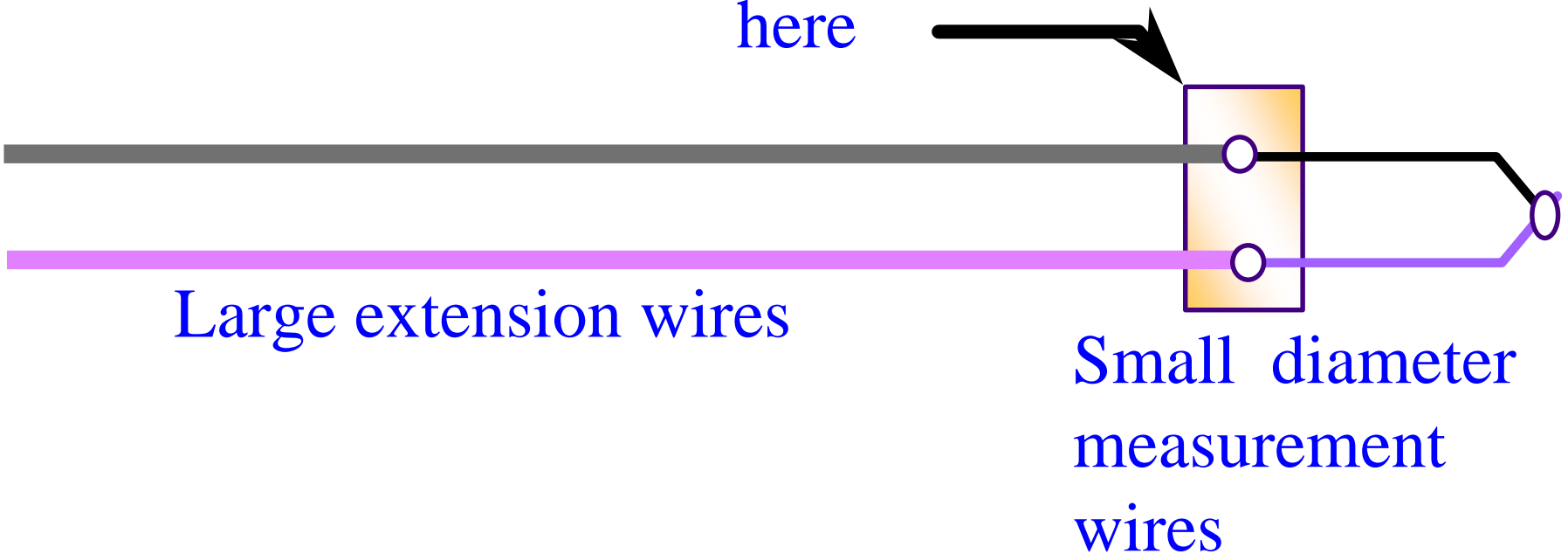
✿ All have Seebeck coefficients in MICROvolts/deg.C

## Common Thermocouples

Type	Metals	Seebeck Coeff: $\mu\text{V}/\text{C}$	
J	Fe-Con	50	✿ Microvolt output is a tough measurement
K	Ni-Cr	40	
T	Cu-Con	38	✿ Type "N" is fairly new.. more rugged and higher temp. than type K, but still cheap
S	Pt/Rh-Pt	10	
E	Ni/Cr-Con	59	
N	Ni/Cr/Si-Ni/Si	39	

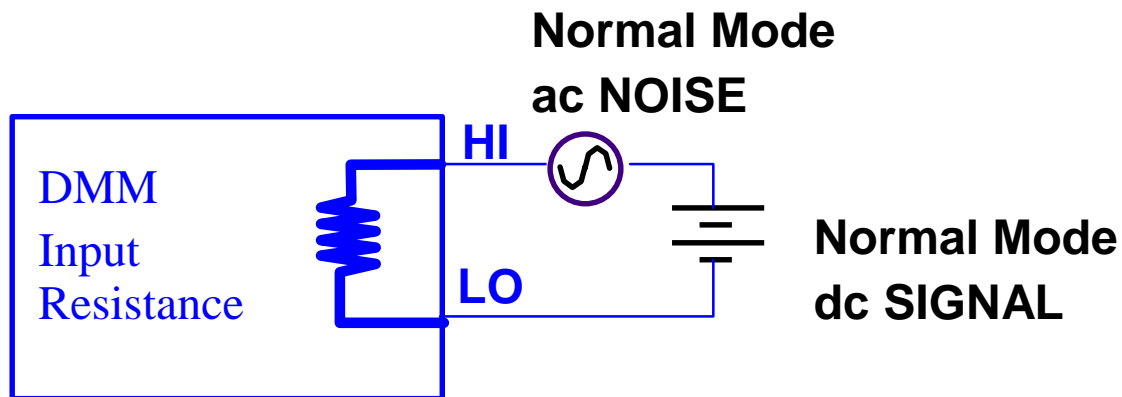
## Extension Wires

\*Possible problem  
here

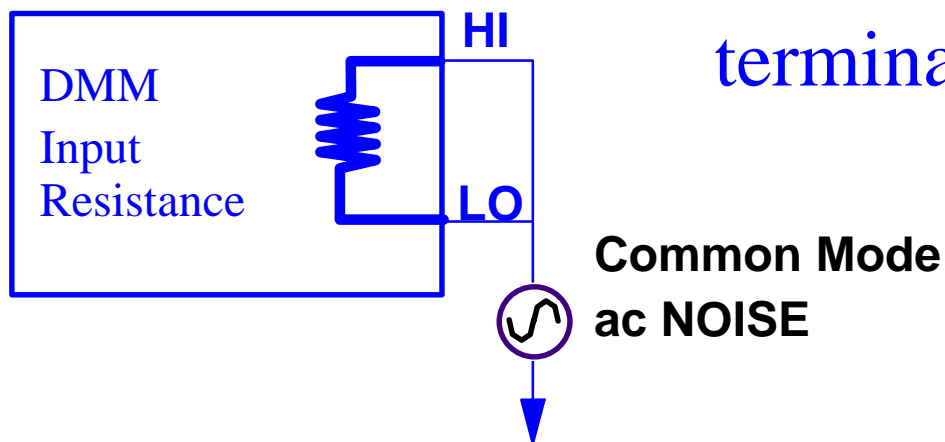


- \*Extension wires are cheaper, more rugged, but **not exactly the same characteristic curve as the T/C.**
- \*Keep extension/TC junction near room temperature
- \*Where is most of the signal generated in this circuit?

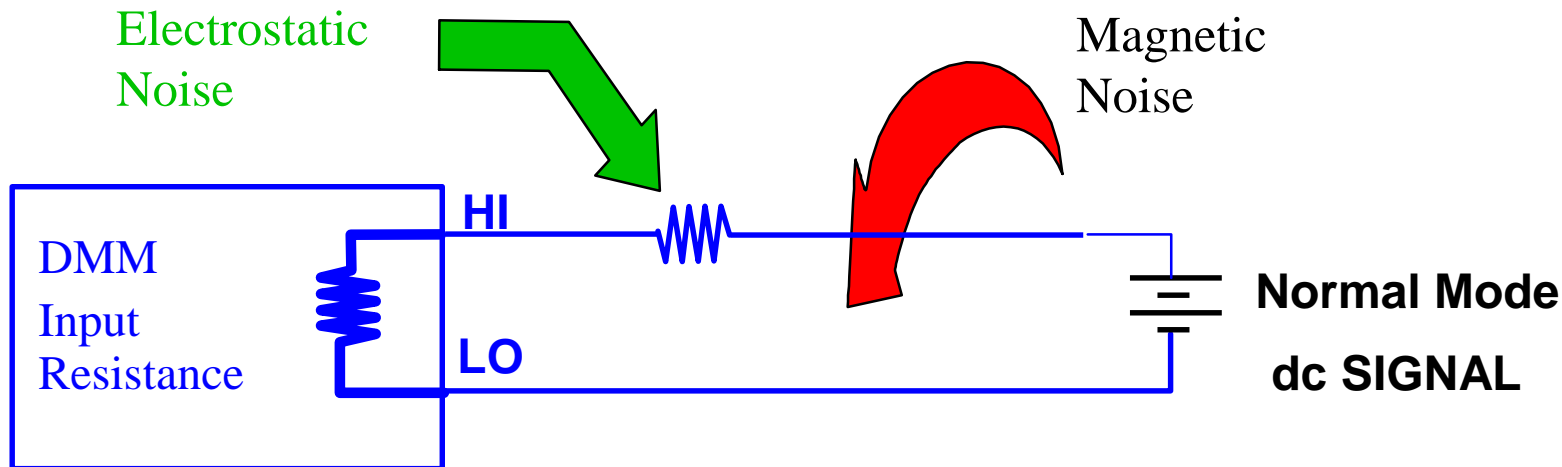
## Noise: DMM Glossary



- ✿ Normal Mode: In series with input
- ✿ Common Mode: Both HI and LO terminals driven equally

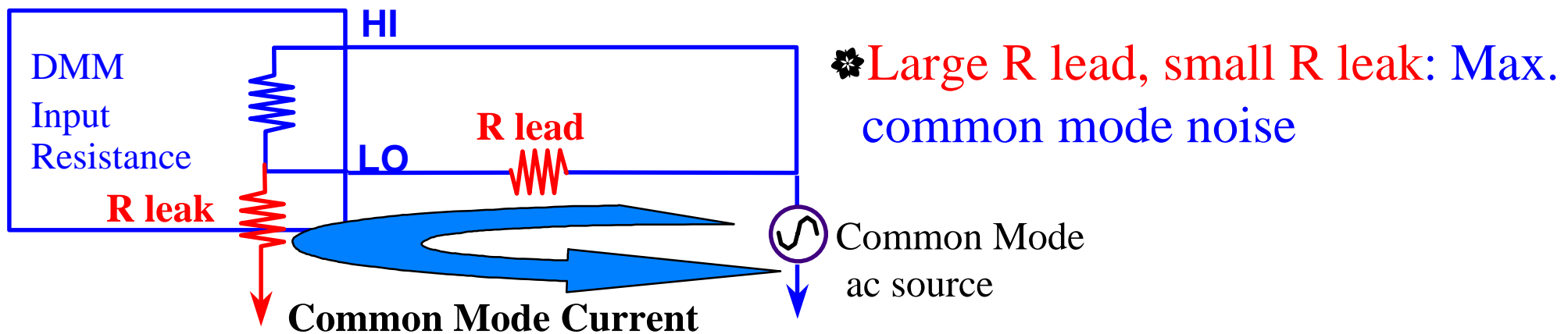


# Generating noise

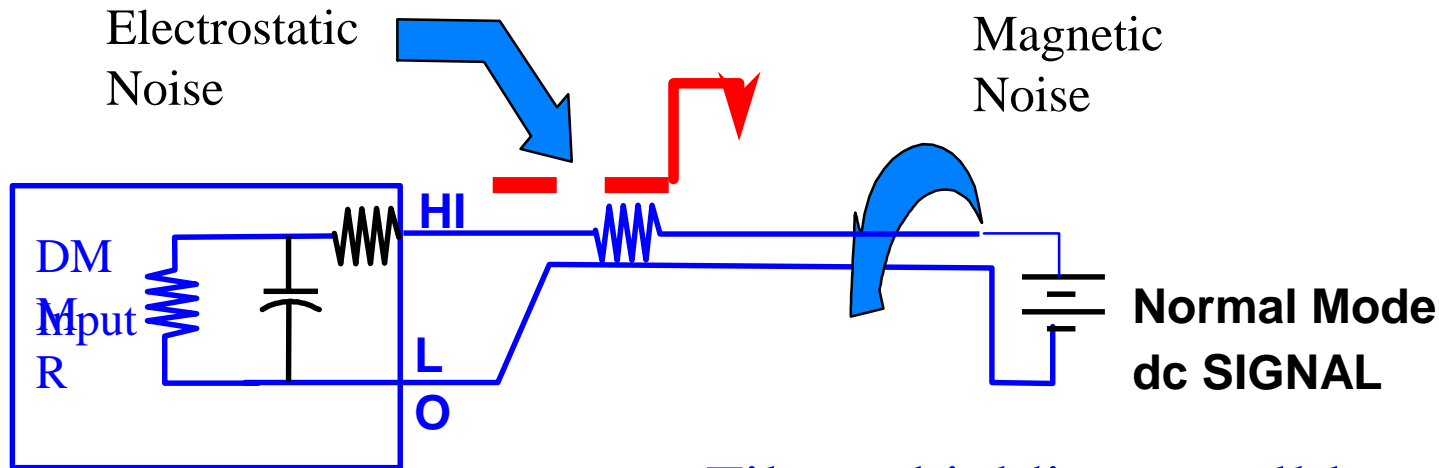


✿ Large surface area, high  $R_{lead}$ : Max. static coupling

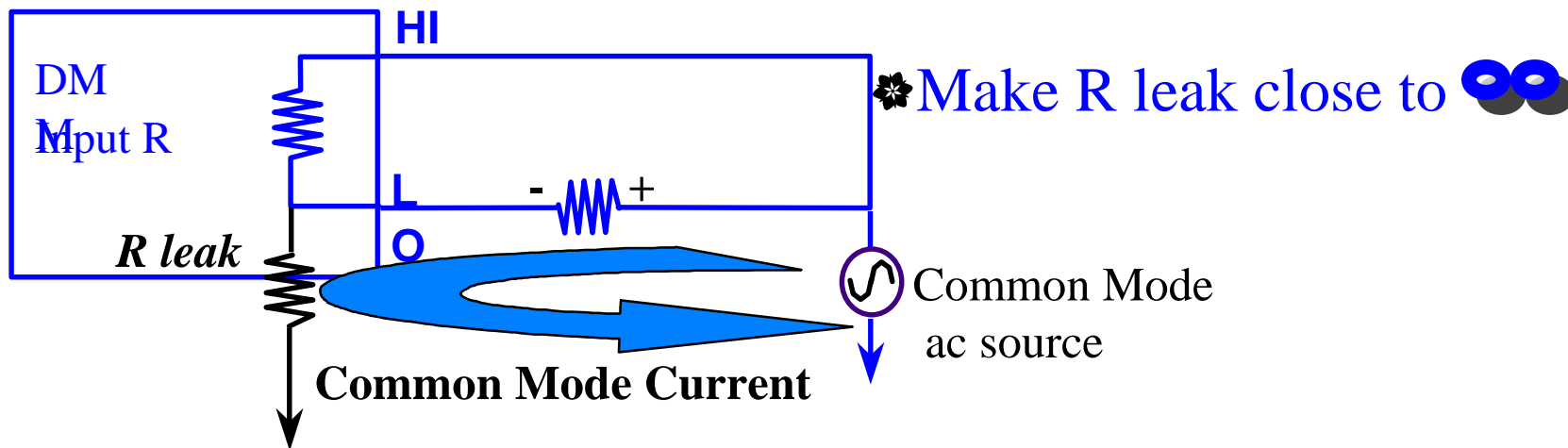
✿ Large loop area: Max. magnetic coupling



# Eliminating noise

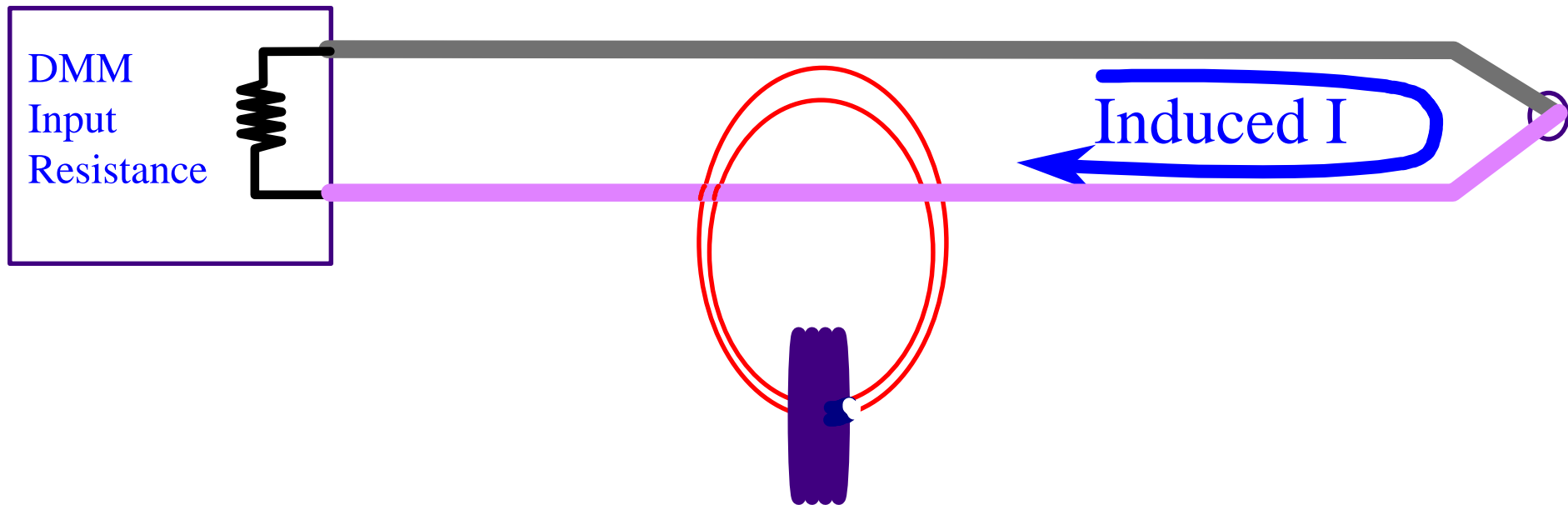


\*Filter, shielding, small loop area  
(Caution: filter slows down the measurement)



# Magnetic Noise

## \*Magnetic coupling

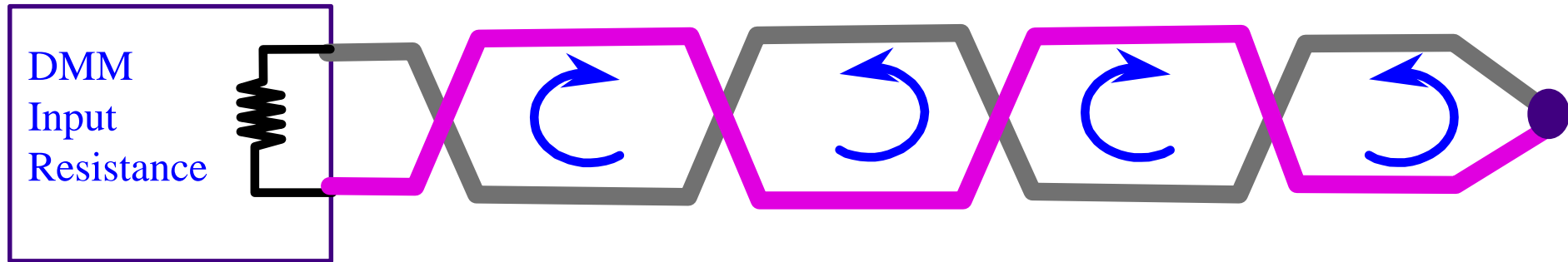


- \*Minimize area
- \*Twist leads
- \*Move away from strong fields



## Reducing Magnetic Noise

✿ Equal and opposite induced currents

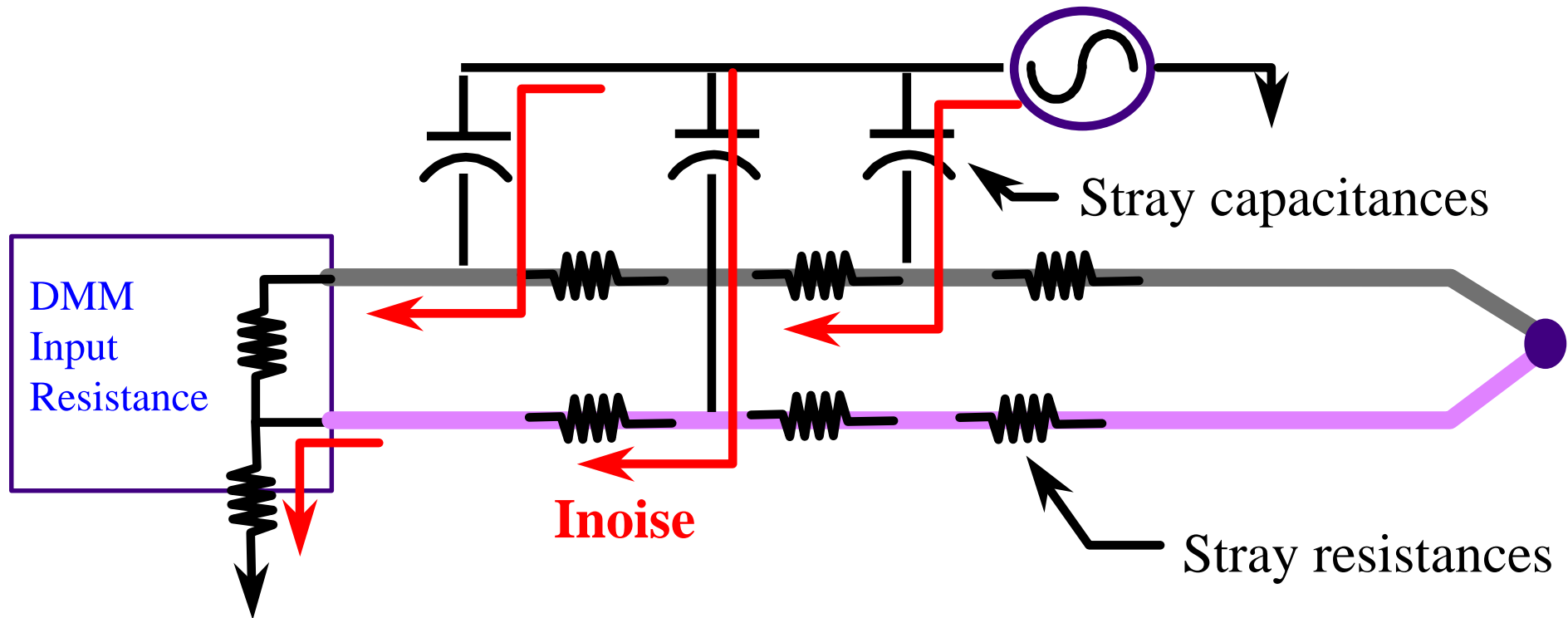


✿ Even with twisted pair:

- ✿ Minimize area
- ✿ Move away from strong fields

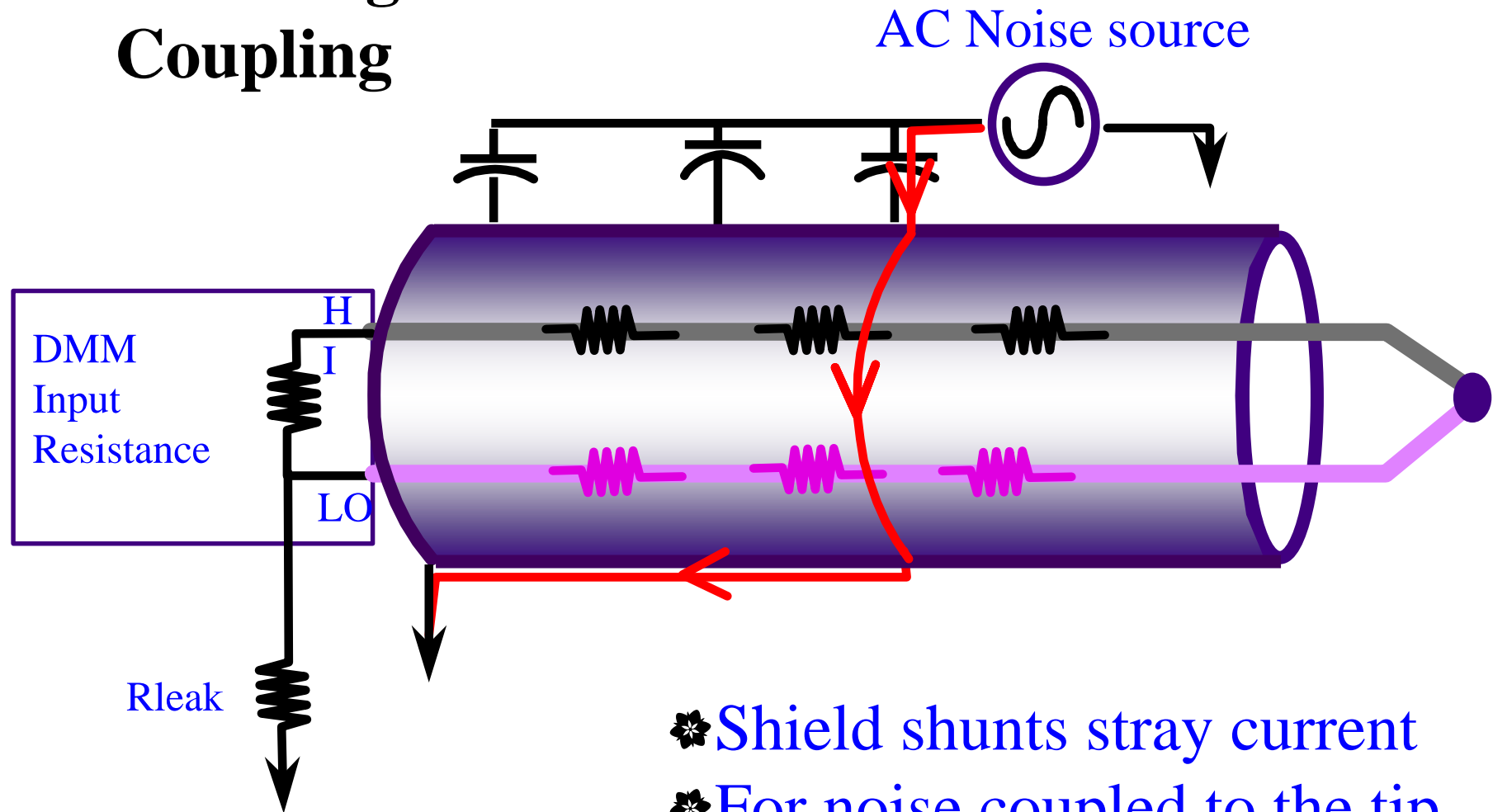
## Electrostatic noise

AC Noise  
source



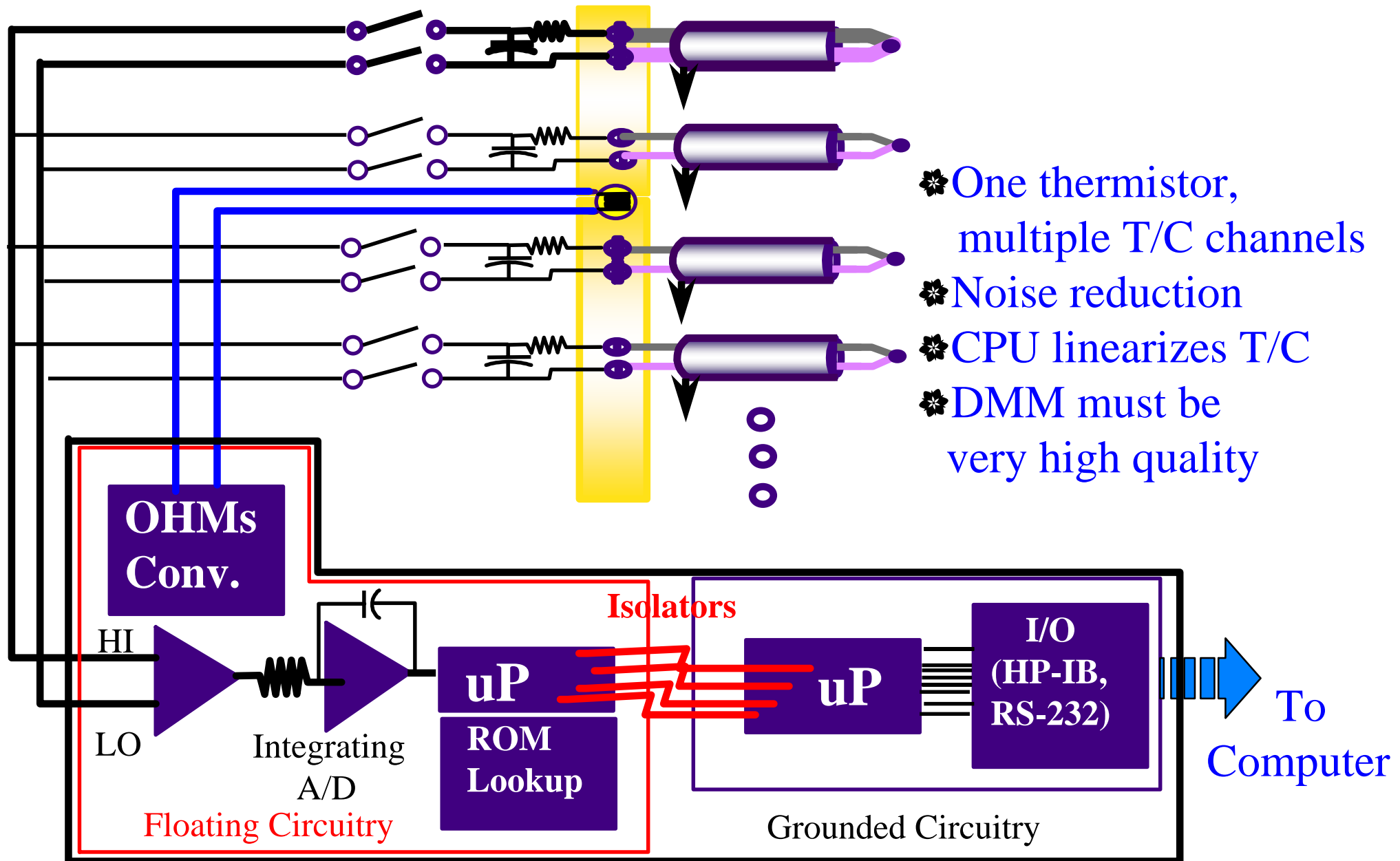
- \* Stray capacitance causes I noise
- \* DMM resistance to ground is important

# Reducing Electrostatic Coupling

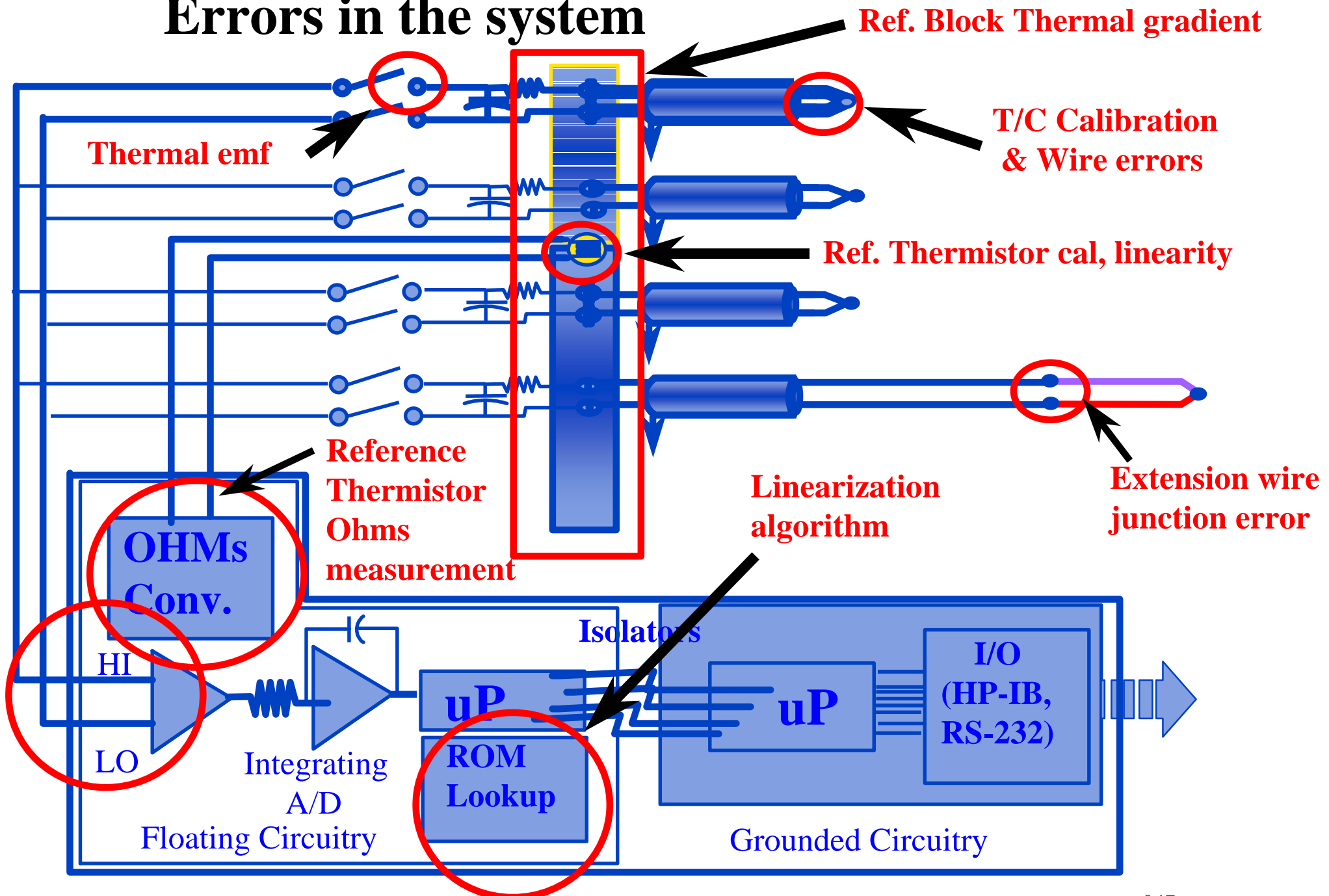


- ✿ Shield shunts stray current
- ✿ For noise coupled to the tip, R<sub>leak</sub> is still important

# A scanning system for T/Cs



# Errors in the system



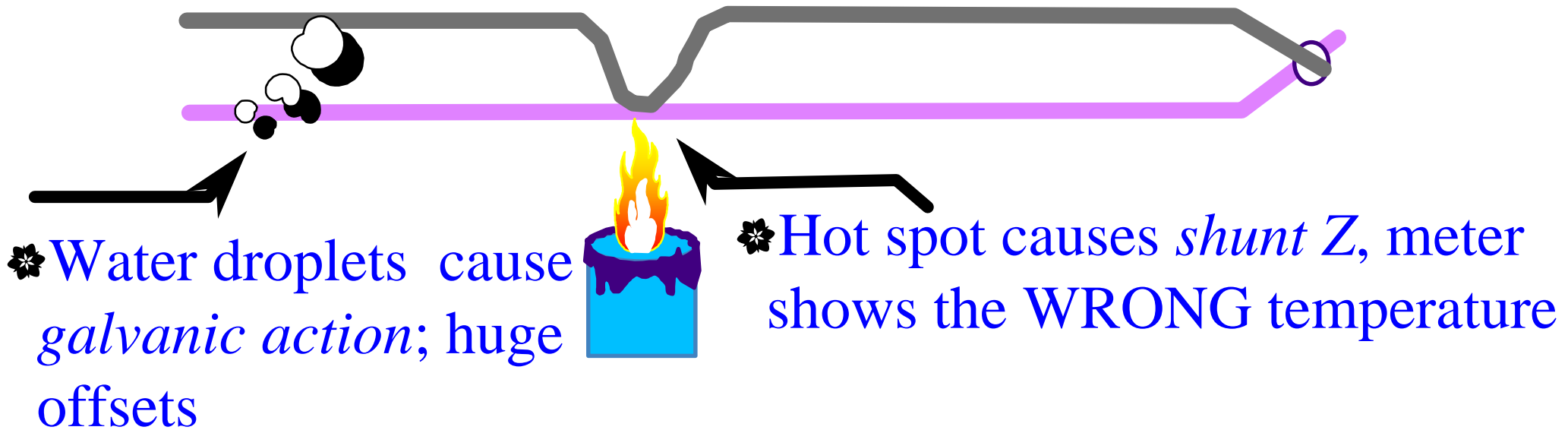


## Physical errors

- ✿ Shorts, shunt impedance
- ✿ Galvanic action
- ✿ Decalibration

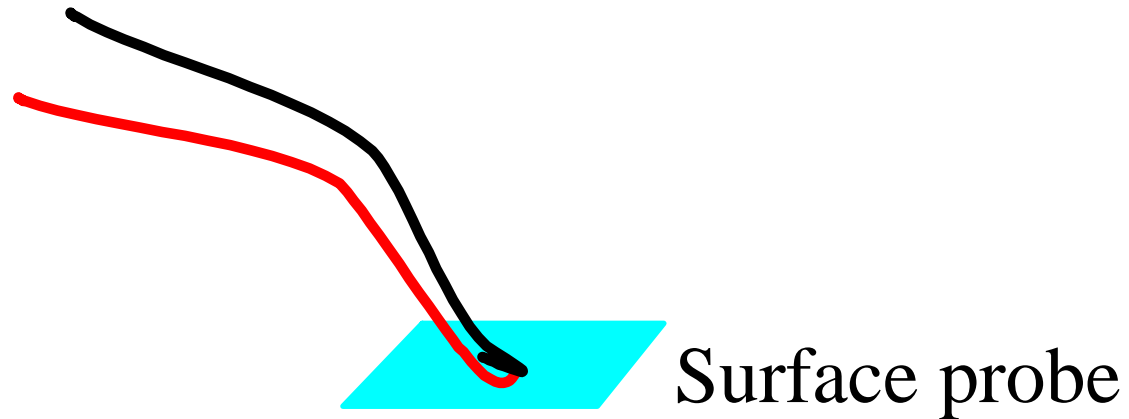
- ✿ Sensor accuracy
- ✿ Thermal contact
- ✿ Thermal shunting

## Physical Errors



- ✿ Exceeding the T/C's range can cause permanent offset
- ✿ Real T/C's have absolute accuracy of 1 deg C @ 25C:  
Calibrate often and take care

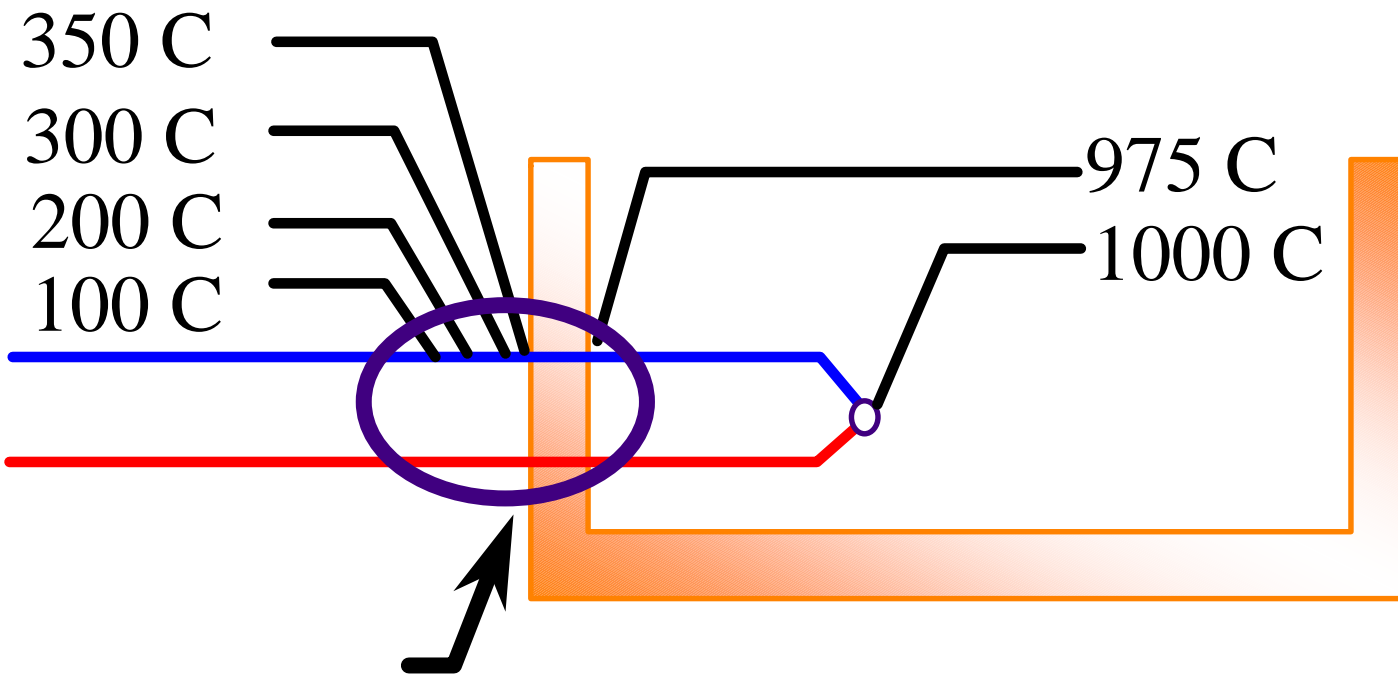
## Physical error: Thermal contact



- \*Make sure thermal mass is much smaller than that of object being measured



## Physical errors: Decalibration



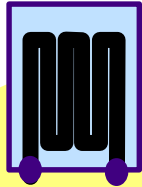
This section  
produces the  
*ENTIRE* signal

- ✿ Don't exceed  $T_{max}$  of T/C
- ✿ Temp. cycling causes work-hardening, decalibration
- ✿ Replace the GRADIENT section

# Agenda

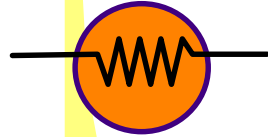
- ✿ Background, history
- ✿ Mechanical sensors
- ✿ Electrical sensors
  - ✿ Optical Pyrometer
  - ✿ RTD
  - ✿ Thermistor, IC
  - ✿ Thermocouple
- ✿ **Summary & Examples**

# The basic 4 temperature sensors



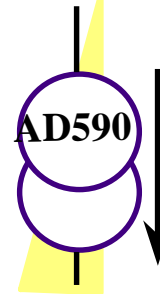
RTD

- \* Most accurate
- \* Most stable
- \* Fairly linear
- \* Expensive
- \* Slow
- \* Needs I source
- \* Self-heating
- \* 4-wire meas.



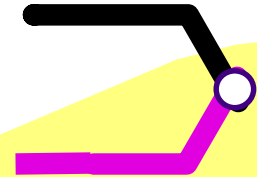
Thermistor

- \* High output
- \* Fast
- \* 2-wire meas.
- \* Very nonlinear
- \* Limited range
- \* Needs I source
- \* Self-heating
- \* Fragile



I.C.

- \* High output
- \* Most linear
- \* Cheap
- \* Limited variety
- \* Limited range
- \* Needs V source
- \* Self-heating



Thermocouple

- \* Wide variety
- \* Cheap
- \* Wide T. range
- \* No self-heating
- \* Hard to measure
- \* Relative T. only
- \* Nonlinear
- \* Special connectors

**Absolute temperature sensors**



## Summary

- ✿ Innovation by itself is not enough...  
you must develop standards
- ✿ Temperature is a very difficult,  
mostly empirical measurement
- ✿ Careful attention to detail is required

## Examples

### *Measurement*

- \* Photochemical process control:
- \* Flower petal:
- \* Molten glass:
- \* Induction furnace:
- \* 100 degree Heat aging oven:

### *Sensor*

- \* RTD (most accurate)
- \* Thermistor  
(lowest thermal mass)
- \* Optical pyrometer  
(hi temp, no contact)
- \* RTD (if  $<800^{\circ}\text{C}$ ); or T/C  
(Beware magnetic I noise)
- \* Any of the 4 sensors