

How to Form Strain-gage Bridges

No.	Name	Application Sample	Circuit	Output	Remarks	Bridge Box DB-120A/350A
1	1-active-gage 2-wire system Number of gages: 1	 Uniaxial stress (uniform tension/compression)		$\epsilon_o = \frac{E}{4} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$ K _s : Gage factor ε _o : Strain E: Bridge voltage ε _o : Output voltage R _g : Gage resistance R: Fixed resistance	Suitable for use under environment of less ambient temperature changes; no temperature compensation. x1 output	
2	1-active-gage 3-wire system Number of gages: 1	 Uniaxial stress (uniform tension/compression)		$\epsilon_o = \frac{E}{4} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$	No temperature compensation; thermal effect of leadwires cancelled. x1 output	
3	Dual 1-active-gage 2-wire system in series (to cancel bending strain) Number of gages: 2	 Bending Uniaxial stress (uniform tension/compression)		$\epsilon_o = \frac{E}{4} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$ R _{g1} Strain: ε ₁ R _{g2} Strain: ε ₂ $\epsilon_o = \frac{\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2}{2}$ R: Fixed resistance R = R _{g1} + R _{g2}	No temperature compensation; bending strain cancelled. x1 output	
4	Dual 1-active-gage 3-wire system in series (to cancel bending strain) Number of gages: 2	 Bending Uniaxial stress (uniform tension/compression)		$\epsilon_o = \frac{E}{4} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$ R _{g1} Strain: ε ₁ R _{g2} Strain: ε ₂ $\epsilon_o = \frac{\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2}{2}$ R: Fixed resistance R = R _{g1} + R _{g2}	No temperature compensation; bending strain cancelled; thermal effect of leadwires cancelled. x1 output	
5	Active-dummy 2-gage system Number of gages: 2	 Active gage Uniaxial stress (uniform tension/compression) Dummy gage		$\epsilon_o = \frac{E}{4} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$ K _s : Gage factor ε _o : Strain E: Bridge voltage ε _o : Output voltage R _{g1} : Strain: ε _o R _{g2} Strain: 0	Temperature compensation; thermal effect of leadwires cancelled. x1 output	
6	Orthogonal 2-active-gage system Number of gages: 2	 Uniaxial stress (uniform tension/compression)		$\epsilon_o = \frac{(1 + \nu) E}{4} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$ ν: Poisson's ratio R _{g1} , R _{g2} : Gage resistance R _{g1} Strain: ε _o R _{g2} Strain: -ν ε _o R: Fixed resistance	Temperature compensation; thermal effect of leadwires cancelled. x(1+ν) output	
7	2-active-gage system (for bending strain measurement) Number of gages: 2	 Bending stress		$\epsilon_o = \frac{E}{2} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$ R _{g1} Strain: ε _o R _{g2} Strain: -ε _o R: Fixed resistance	Temperature compensation; thermal effect of leadwires cancelled; compressive/tensile strain cancelled. x2 output	
8	Opposite side 2-active-gage 2-wire system Number of gages: 2	 Uniaxial stress (uniform tension/compression)		$\epsilon_o = \frac{E}{2} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$ R _{g1} Strain: ε _o R _{g2} Strain: ε _o R: Fixed resistance	No temperature compensation; bending strain cancelled by bonding to the front and rear. x2 output	

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9	Opposite side 2-active-gage 3-wire system Number of gages: 2	 Uniaxial stress (uniform tension/compression)		$\epsilon_o = \frac{E}{2} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$ Rg_1, \dots Strain: ϵ_o Rg_2, \dots Strain: ϵ_o R : Fixed resistance	No temperature compensation; thermal effect of leadwires cancelled; bending strain cancelled by bonding to the front and rear. x2 output	
10	4-active-gage system (for bending strain measurement) Number of gages: 4	 Bending stress		$\epsilon_o = K_s \cdot \epsilon_o \cdot E$ Rg_1, Rg_3, \dots Bending strain: ϵ_o Rg_2, Rg_4, \dots Bending strain: $-\epsilon_o$	Temperature compensation; thermal effect of leadwires cancelled; compressive/tensile strain cancelled. x4 output	
11	Orthogonal 4-active-gage system Number of gages: 4	 Uniaxial stress (uniform tension/compression)		$\epsilon_o = \frac{(1 + \nu) E}{2} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$ ν : Poisson's ratio Rg_1, Rg_3, \dots Strain: ϵ_o Rg_2, Rg_4, \dots Strain: $-\nu \epsilon_o$	Temperature compensation; thermal effect of leadwires cancelled. x2(1+ ν) output	
12	Active-dummy 4-gage system Number of gages: 4	 Active gages Uniaxial stress (uniform tension/compression) Dummy gages		$\epsilon_o = \frac{E}{2} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$ Rg_1, Rg_3, \dots Strain: ϵ_o Rg_2, Rg_4, \dots Strain: 0	Temperature compensation; thermal effect of leadwires cancelled; bending strain cancelled by bonding to the front and rear. x2 output	
13	2-active-gage system (for bending strain measurement) Number of gages: 2	 Bending stress		$\epsilon_o = \frac{E}{2} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$ Rg_1, \dots Bending strain: ϵ_o Rg_2, \dots Bending strain: $-\epsilon_o$ R : Fixed resistance	Temperature compensation; thermal effect of leadwires cancelled. x2 output	
14	4-active-gage system (for bending strain measurement) Number of gages: 4	 Bending stress		$\epsilon_o = K_s \cdot \epsilon_o \cdot E$ Rg_1, Rg_3, \dots Bending strain: ϵ_o Rg_2, Rg_4, \dots Bending strain: $-\epsilon_o$	Temperature compensation; thermal effect of leadwires cancelled. x4 output	
15	4-active-1-gage system (for mean strain measurement) Number of gages: 4	 Uniaxial stress (uniform tension/compression)		$\epsilon_o = \frac{E}{2} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$ $\epsilon_o = \frac{\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2 + \epsilon_3 + \epsilon_4}{4}$ R : Fixed resistance $Rg = R$ $R = Rg_1 = Rg_2 = Rg_3 = Rg_4$	No temperature compensation; mean strain. x1 output	

●Relation between strain and voltage

The output of a strain-gage bridge is expressed as a strain quantity ($\mu\epsilon$) or an output voltage (mV/V or $\mu V/V$) against the bridge voltage. The strain quantity and the output voltage have the following relation:

$$\epsilon_o = \frac{E}{4} K_s \cdot \epsilon_o$$

If the bridge voltage $E = 1V$ and the gage factor $K_s = 2.00$,

$$2\epsilon_o = \epsilon_o$$

Thus, a strain output is always 2 times larger than a bridge output voltage.

$$\text{e.g. } 3000\mu\epsilon \rightarrow 1500\mu V/V = 1.5mV/V$$