

Current (± 250 mA) (for EcoLog XL)

DT006



The Current (± 250 mA) sensor is an Ampere meter, measuring current values between -250 and $+250$ mA. It is a differential sensor, capable of measuring both direct and alternate current and is ideal for use in a wide range of experiments in Physics and Chemistry.

The sensor is housed in the Fourier Systems plastic sensor case, and has two durable banana plugs for easy connection.

Typical Experiments

- EMF and Internal Resistance
- V-I Characteristics of a Wire, a Light Bulb and a Diode
- Resistance of a Wire – Ohm's Law
- Series and Parallel Circuits

How it Works

The Current sensor should be wired in series with the circuit.

Inside the sensor is a resistor of 1Ω . According to Ohm's Law, the voltage measured on that resistor will be exactly the current in the resistor. The measured voltage passes an amplifier unit and is adjusted to the range of $0-5$ V, which is the range accepted by the Analog-Digital converter. The proper result is then recorded into the data logger's memory.

Sensor Specification

Range:	±250 mA
Input Current:	AC or DC
Accuracy:	±3 % over entire range
Resolution:	500 µA
Default Sample Rate:	10 samples per second
Input Resistance:	1 Ω
Maximum Input Current:	1.7 A


Technical Notes

- Short the two leads of the Current (±250 mA) sensor before connecting it to the data logger sensor inputs.
- For accurate measurements connect its negative input (black) to the power source negative input (ground).



Calibration

The Current (±250 mA) sensor requires no calibration.

Using the Current (±250 mA) Sensor with EcoLog XL and EcoLab Software


1. Connect EcoLog XL to the computer.
2. Connect the Current sensor to the EcoLog XL's sensor input (starting from I/O-1). The sensor is automatically recognized by the EcoLab software.
3. If EcoLog XL is running in one of its stand-alone modes, press the **Stop**  button on the EcoLog XL front panel.
4. Launch EcoLab.
5. In the **Setup** window deactivate the internal sensors by clicking the button next to the sensors' icon and program the EcoLog XL's sample rate and the recording time.

To begin online recording


1. Click **Run**  on the main toolbar.
2. EcoLab automatically opens a graph window displaying the data in real-time, plotting it on the graph as it is recorded.
3. You can stop recording at any time by clicking **Stop**  on the toolbar.

To conduct remote recording

For remote logging it is necessary to send the setting to EcoLog XL before disconnecting from the computer.



1. In the Setup window deactivate the internal sensors by clicking the button next to the sensors' icon and program the EcoLog XL's sample rate and the recording time.
2. Click **Send Setup**  on the main tool bar, wait until you will see the following message on the EcoLog XL screen:

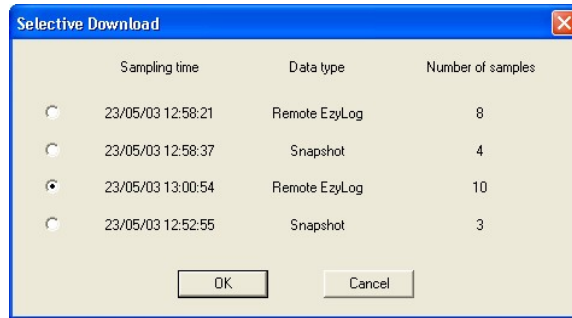
Remote logging
Waiting for Go

3. Disconnect the EcoLog XL from the computer, place the EcoLog XL at the desired recording location and press the **Go**  button on the EcoLog XL front panel.

To download data that was recorded offline

EcoLog XL always stores the last four experiments. To download data that was recorded offline, or while EcoLog XL was not connected to the computer:

1. Connect the EcoLog XL to the computer and if EcoLog XL is collecting data, click **Stop**  to end collecting and to return to the main menu.
2. Launch EcoLab.
3. Click **Download**  on the main toolbar to open the **Selective Download** dialog:



The dialog contains details of the stored experiments: the starting time and date, the logging mode and the number of samples taken.

4. Click an option to select the experiment you wish to download, and then click **OK**. This will start the Post-experiment Data Transfer communication mode. Once the transfer is complete, the data will be displayed automatically in the graph window and in the table window.

An Example of using the Current (± 250 mA) Sensor

Ohm's Law

The potential difference between the terminals of a resistance is proportional to the current through the resistance. The graph of the Voltage vs. Current is a straight line and its slope is the resistance. See screenshot below:

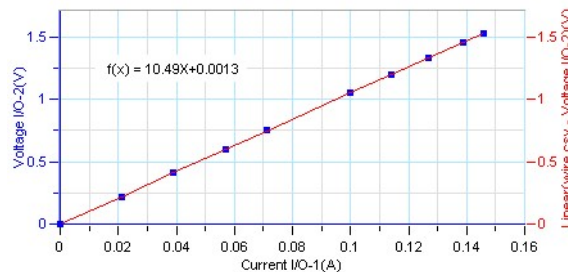


Figure 1: Voltage vs. Current

Technical Support

Please contact Fourier technical support as follows:

Web: http://www.fourier-sys.com/support_support.html

Email: support@fourier-sys.com

Consult the FAQs before contacting technical support:

http://www.fourier-sys.com/support_faq.html



Copyright and Warranty

All standard Fourier Systems sensors carry a one-year warranty, which states that for a period of twelve months after the date of delivery to you, it will be substantially free from significant defects in materials and workmanship.

This Warranty does not cover breakage of the product caused by misuse or abuse.

This Warranty does not cover Fourier Systems consumables such as electrodes, batteries, EKG stickers, cuvettes and storage solutions or buffers.