



**SW Test Workshop**  
Semiconductor Wafer Test Workshop

**New method to measure  
CCC (Current Carrying Capability)  
of thin probe wire**



**Probe Innovation USA**  
**President Tadashi Rokkaku**

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# 1. Outline

## 1.1. General Definition of CCC :

Current in wire at definite temperature difference between wire and atmosphere

## 1.2. Conventional CCC measurement standard

Difficulty in measuring temperature of thin wire.

### Thermocouple :

Area size is too large for thin wire.

⇒ Error in heat radiation is too large.

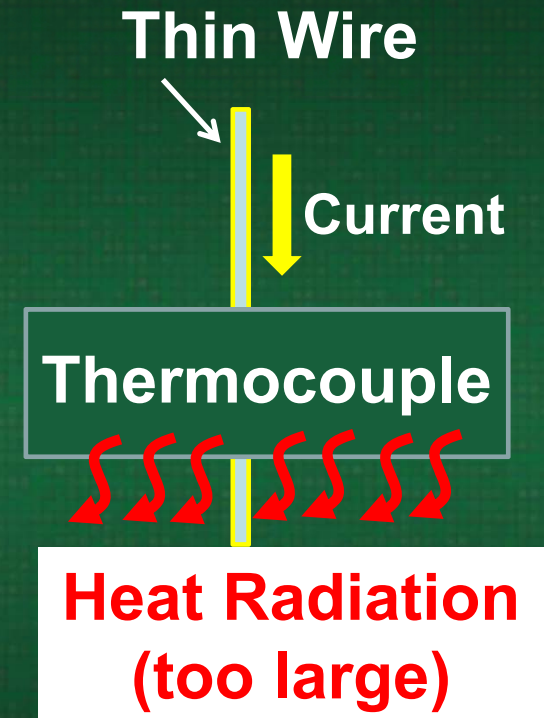


Figure 1-1 Illustration of Heat Radiation from Thermocouple

**Table 1-1 CCC evaluation standard (ISMI CCC)**

Electric Current	1.2 A	1.25 A	1.3 A	1.35 A	Standard
<b>Force Reduction rate</b>	0 %	11 %	19 %	27 %	15 % down
Depress	13 $\mu$	14 $\mu$	15 $\mu$	20 $\mu$	15 $\mu$
CCC	Pass	Pass	Fail	Fail	



**CCC :**

**Maximum Current before softening due to temperature rise**

**Very practical and useful,  
but no temperature related information**

# 1.3. New method to measure CCC of Thin Wire

## (1) Unique Temperature Measurement

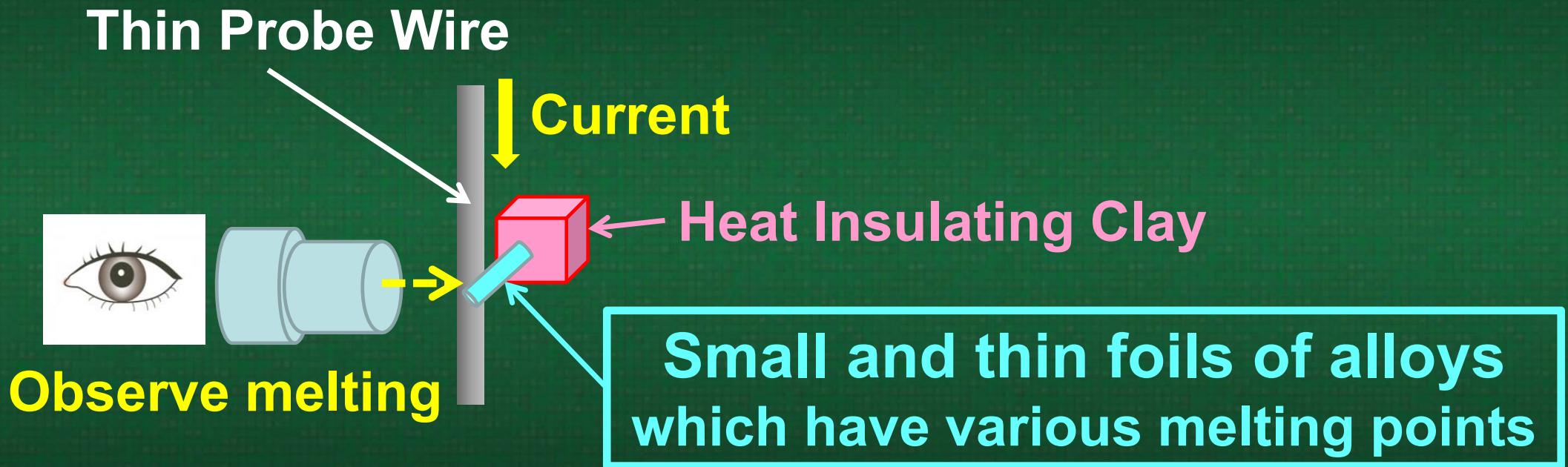


Figure 1-2 Illustration of New Method to measure Temperature of Thin Wire

(2) CCC Basic theory has been verified.

(3) Sample of Measured CCC order : (Wire Diameter = 63  $\mu$ )

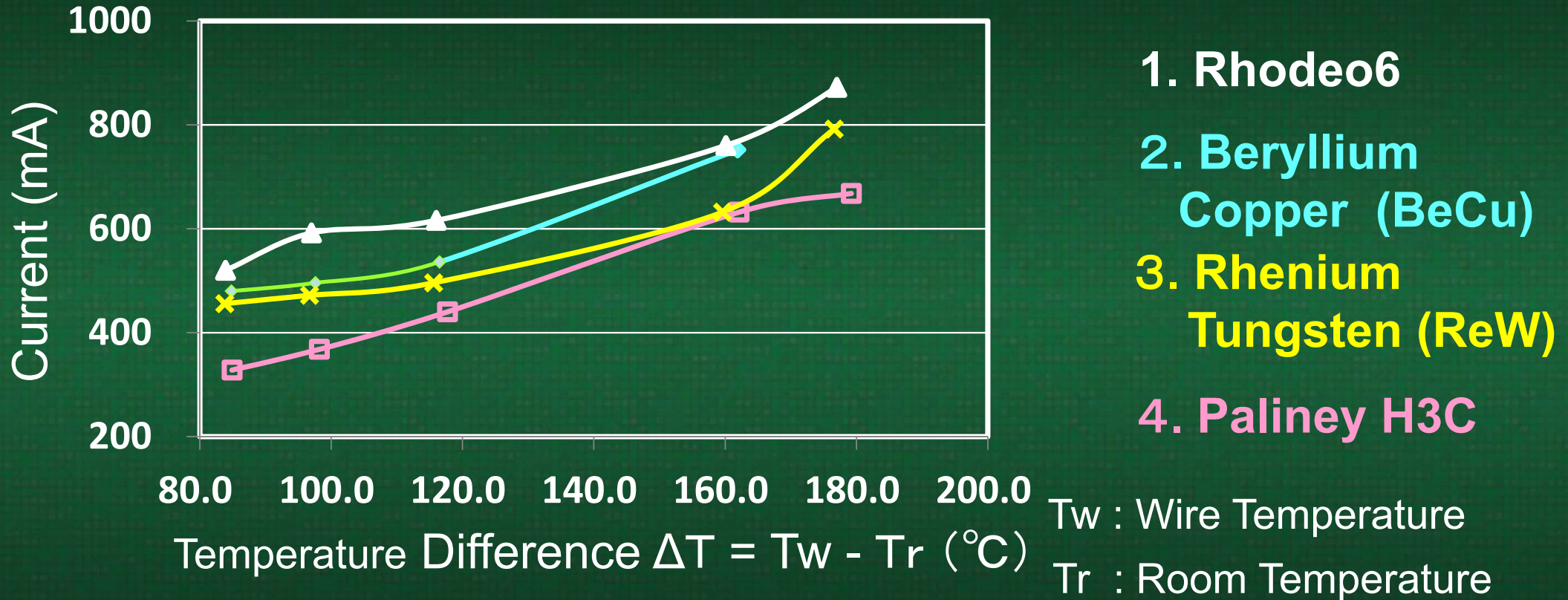


Figure 1-3 Sample of Measured CCC

## 1.4. New Discoveries through Experiments

Thinking of Solder Capped Cu-Pillar,  
availability of each probe material was checked.  
Through additional two tests new discoveries  
were made.

1) Test for Wet Property to solder

2) Electric Discharge Test

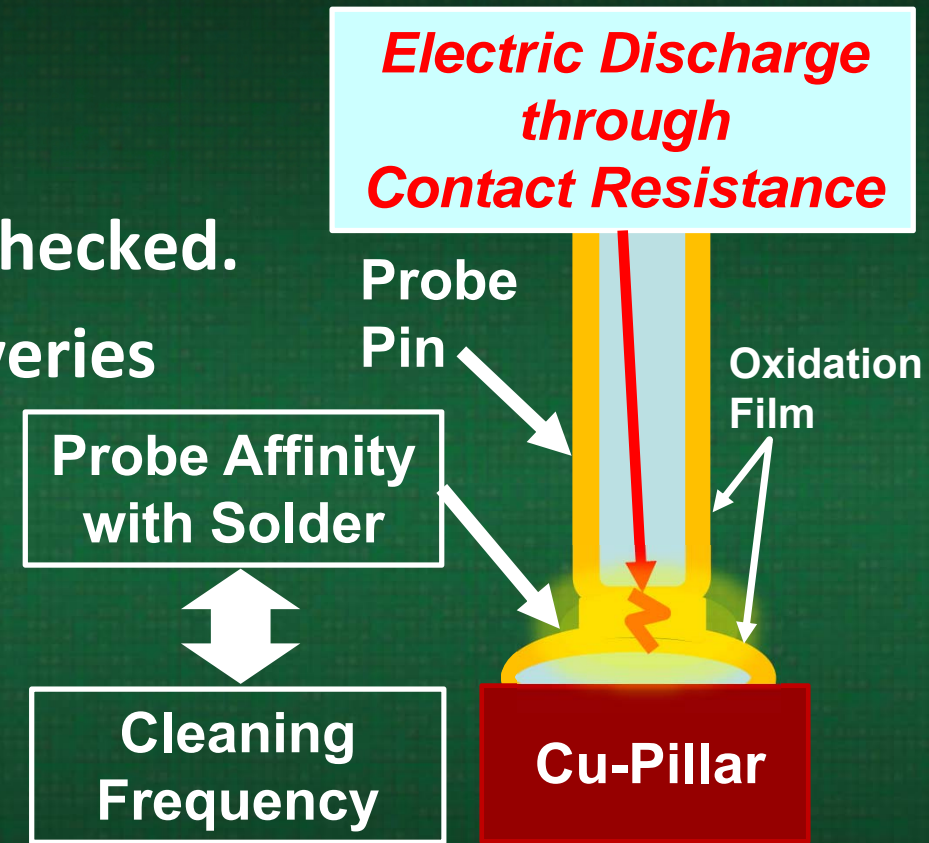


Figure 1-4 Illustration of Solder Capped Cu-Pillar

## 2. Basic Theory of CCC

### 2.1. Heat generation of conductor

$$H = UL \\ = L * I^2 * R \text{ ---(2-1)}$$

### 2.2. Heat radiation of conductor

$$q = h * S * (Ts - To) \\ \text{-----(2-2)}$$

### 2.3. Heat Balance

$H = q$   
And set  $S = L * \pi * d$   
Then (2-3) is obtained  
In next page.

Table 2-1 Symbols and contents

Symbol	Name	Dimension
H	Total heat generation	W
L	Length of heat radiation object	m
U	Heat generation per unit length	W/m
I	Current	A
R	Resistance per unit length	Ohm/m
$\rho$	Resistivity of conductor material	Ohm · m
q	Heat Flow	W
h	Heat transfer rate	W/m <sup>2</sup> /°C
S	Area of heat radiation object	m <sup>2</sup>
d	Diameter of heat radiation object	m
A	Area of conductor cross section	m <sup>2</sup>
Ts	Surface temperature of object	K
To	Neighboring temperature	K

$$I = \sqrt{h * \pi * d * (T_s - T_o) / R} \text{ ----- (2-3)}$$

Conductor resistance =  $R * L = \rho * L/A$   
Therefore Resistance per unit length

$$R = \rho / A = 4 * \rho / (\pi * d^2) \text{ -----(2-4)}$$

Substituting equation (2-4) into equation (2-3), equation (2-5) is obtained.

$$I = \sqrt{h * \pi * d * (T_s - T_o) / R}$$
$$= \pi * \sqrt{h * d^3 * (T_s - T_o) / (4\rho)} \text{ ----- (2-5)}$$



### 3. New method to measure CCC of thin wire

#### (1) CCC Measurement System

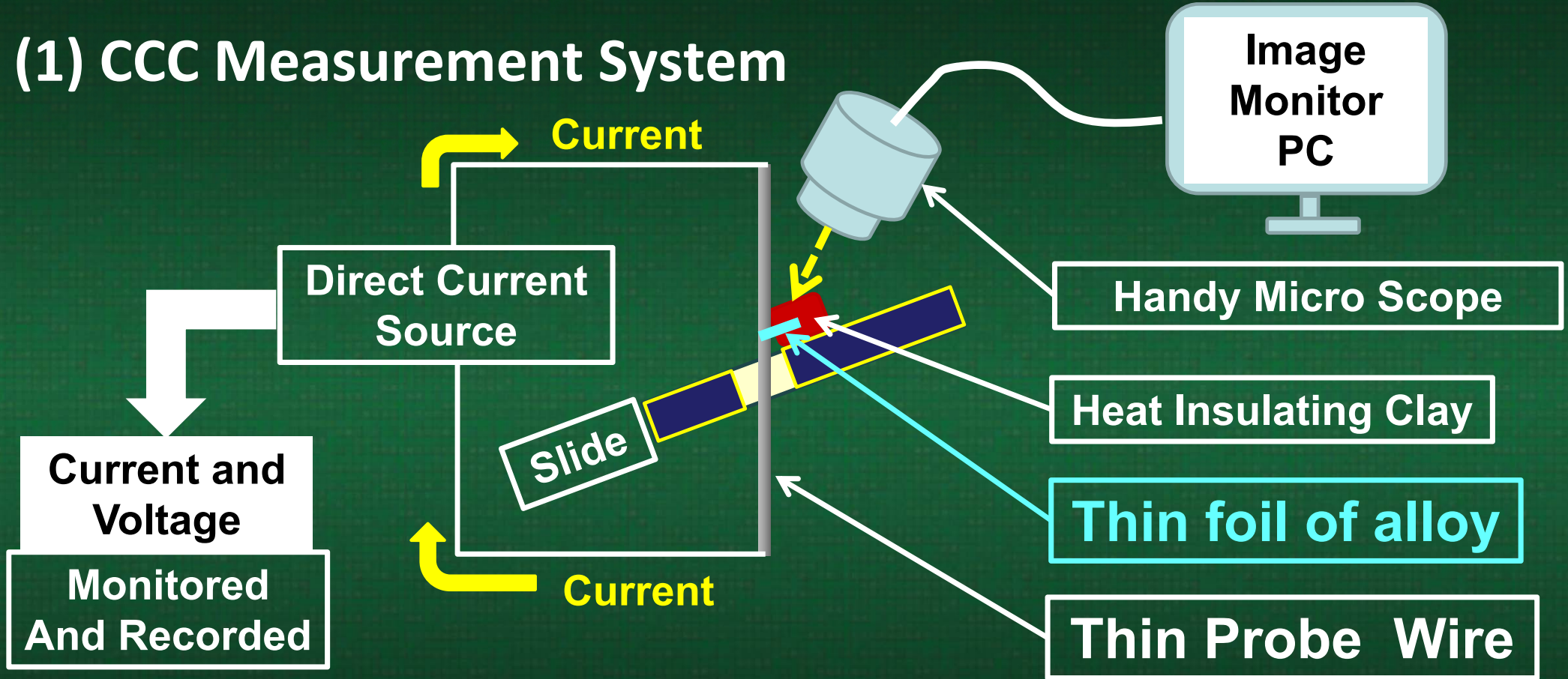
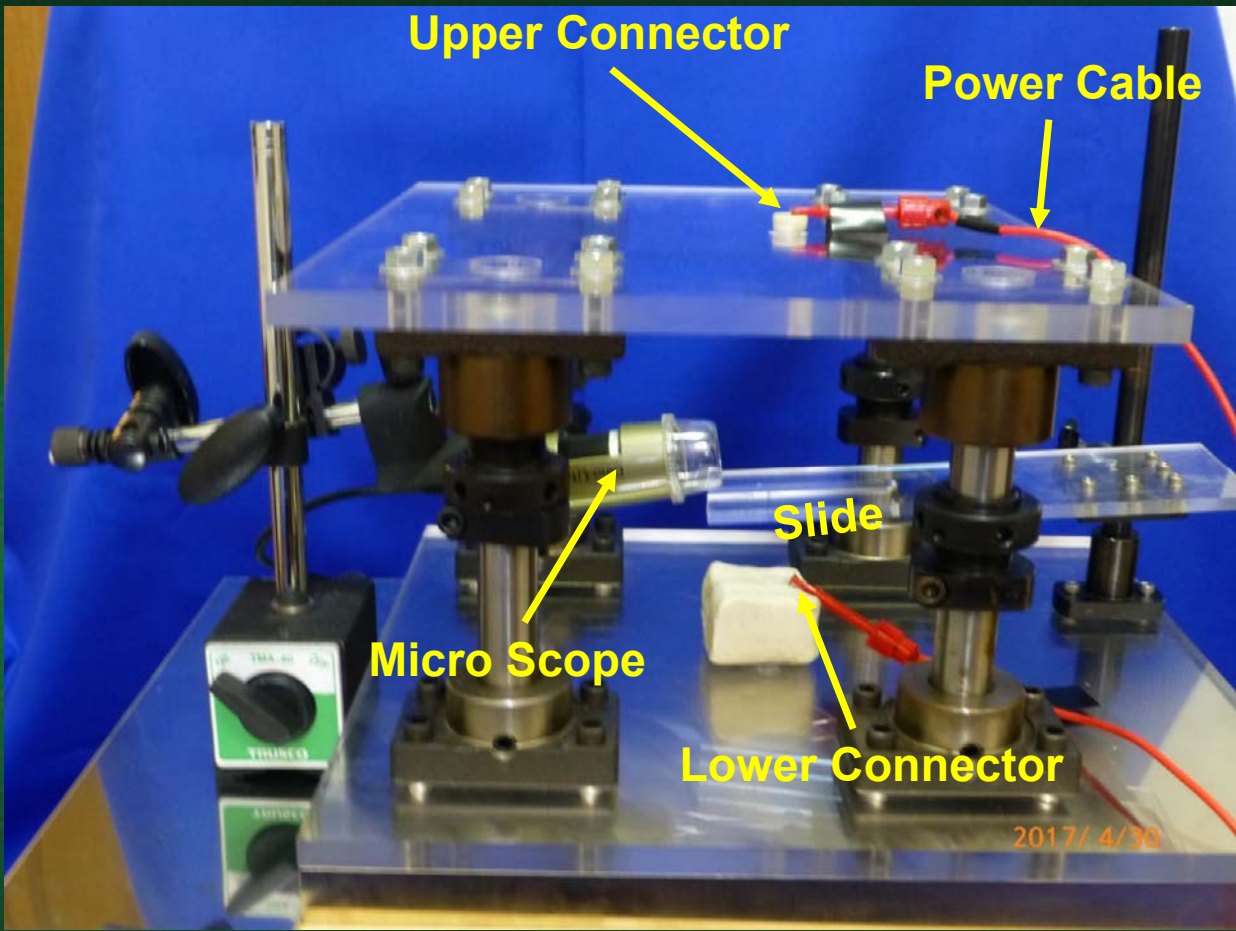


Figure 3-1 CCC of thin wire measurement System



Picture 3-1 Appearance of measurement System



Picture 3-2 DC Power Source (Kikusui PMX 18-2A)



Video 1 Foil Alloy Melting Test

## **(2) Materials Applied to the test :**

### **Wire Materials :**

Rhodo6, Beryllium Copper (BeCu), Rhenium Tungsten (ReW),  
and Paliney H3C (H3C)

### **Wire Diameter :**

2.5 mils (63  $\mu$ )

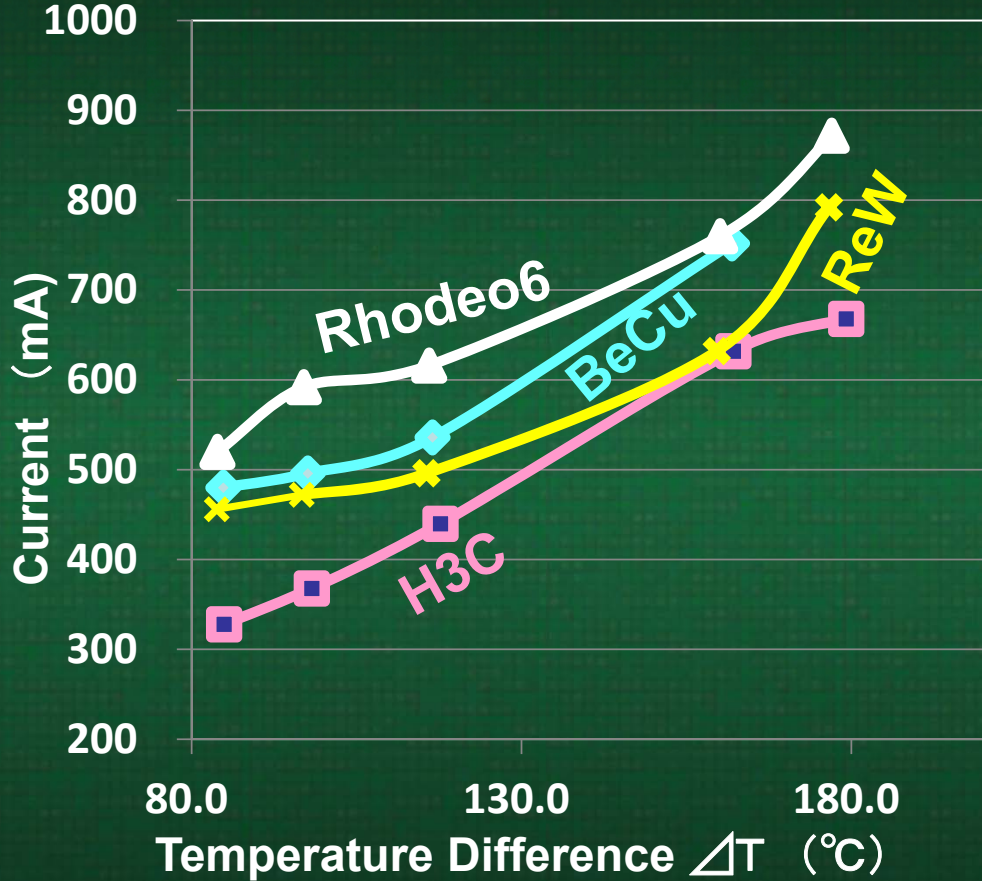
### **Wire Length :**

CCC Test : 100 mm and 150 mm

Current Resistance Test : 50 mm

# 4. Results of CCC and Resistance/Current Properties

(a) CCC (2.5 mils, 150 mm)



(b) Resistance/Current (2.5 mils, 50 mm)

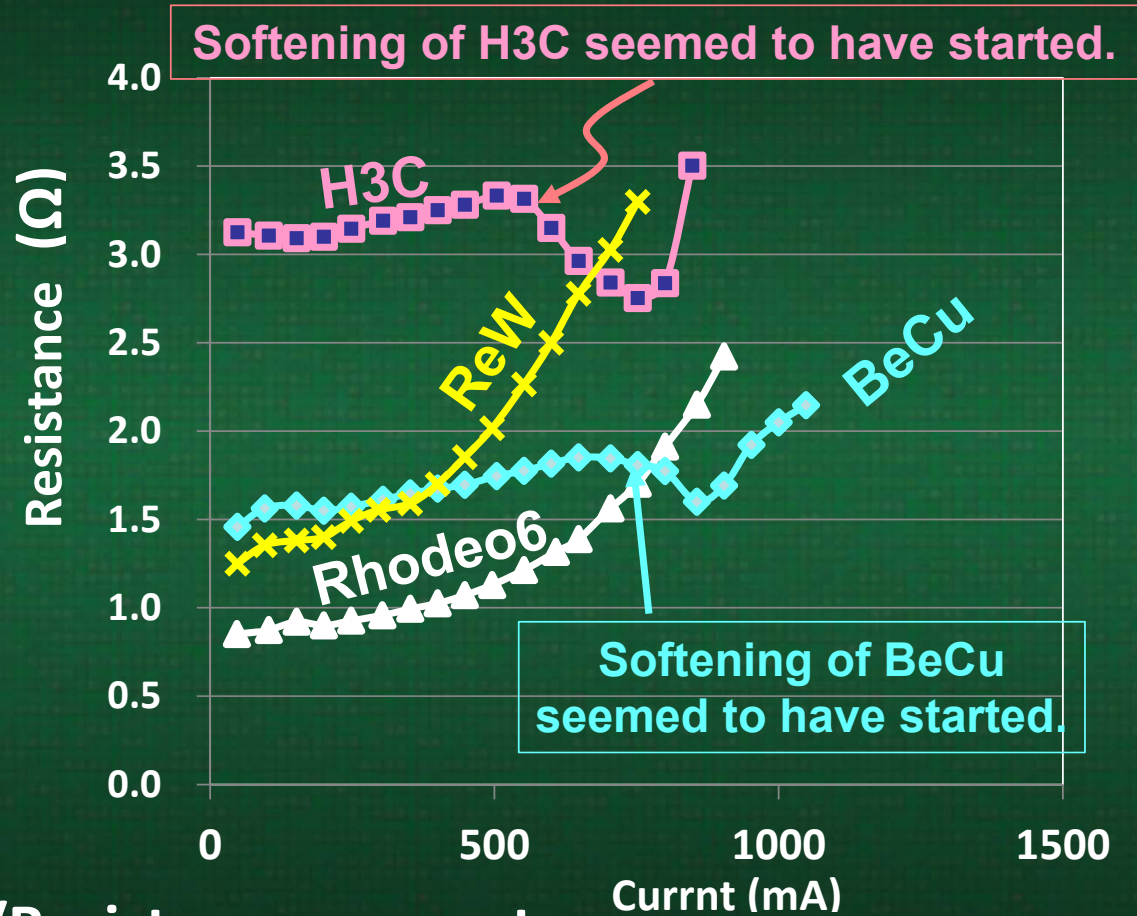


Figure 4-1 CCC and Current/Resistance property

SW Test Workshop | June 4-7, 2017

(c) CCC (Wire = 2.5 mils, Length = 100 mm)

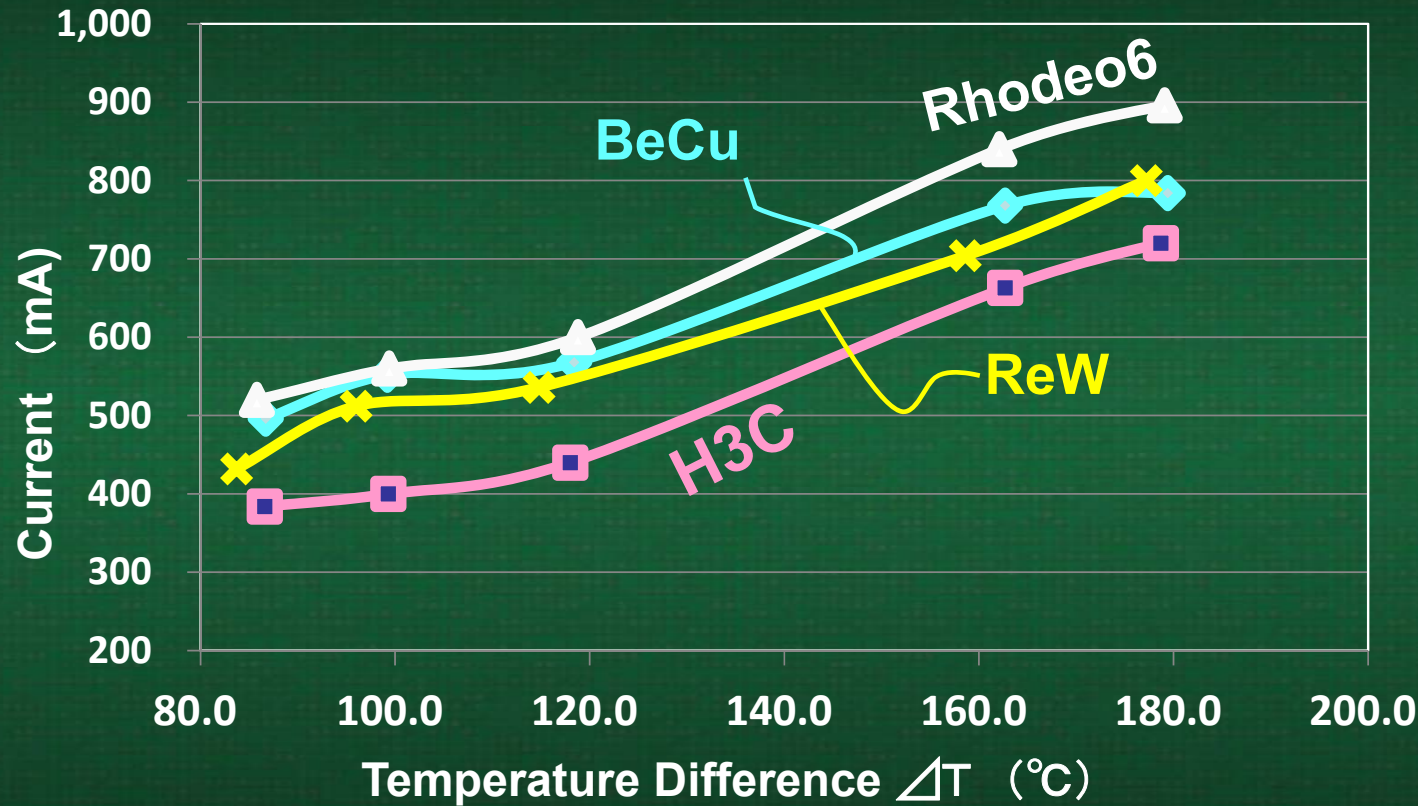
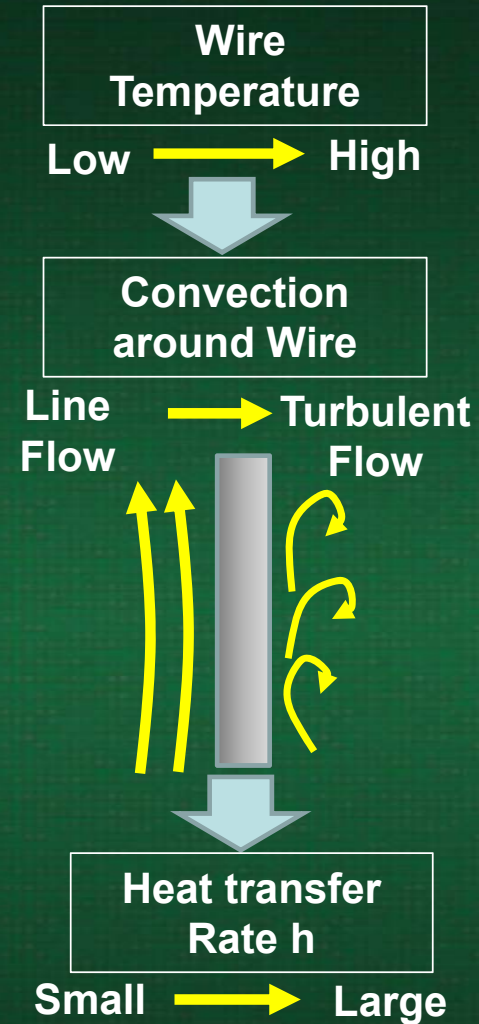
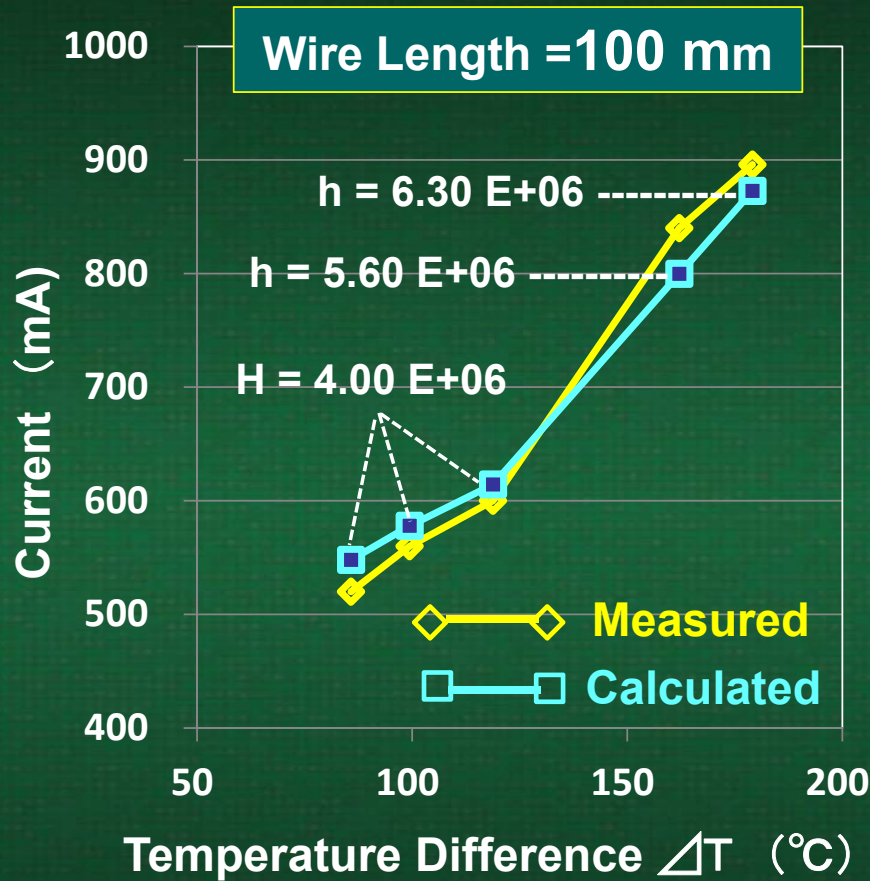
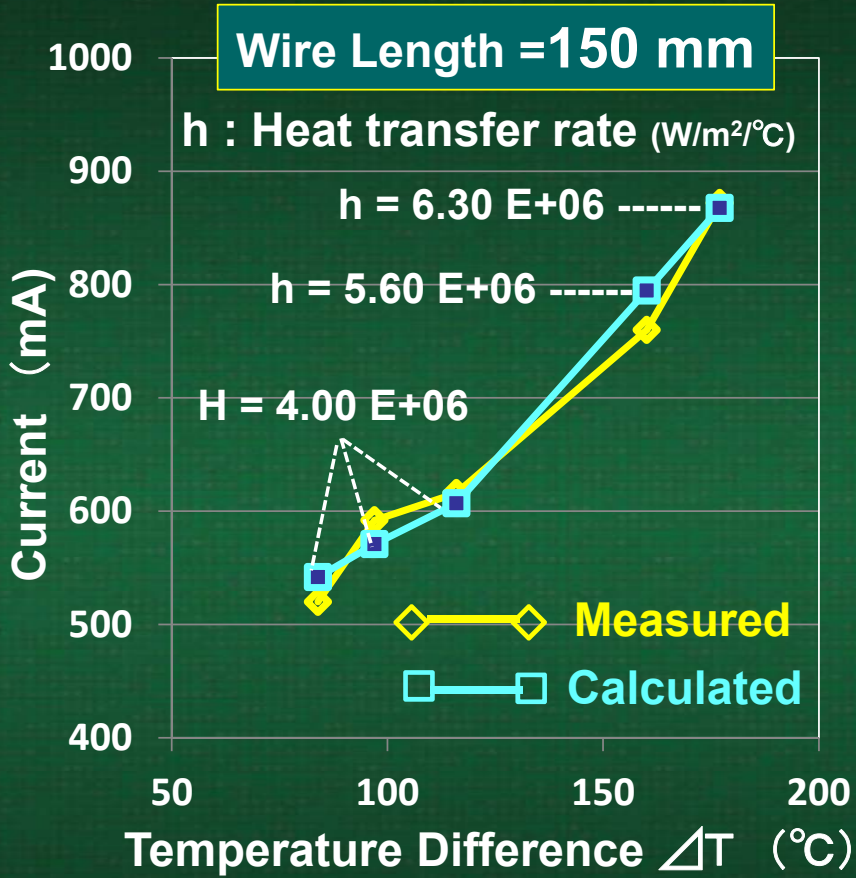


Figure 4-2 CCC (Wire D= 2.5 mils, L= 100 mm)

# 5. Verification of CCC Basic Theory



**Figure 5-1 Comparison between measured and calculated CCC data (Material = Rhodeo6, Diameter = 2.5 mils)**

**Figure 5-2 Illustration of Heat Transfer Rate Change**

## 6. New Discoveries through Experiments

Thinking of Solder Capped Cu-Pillar, availability of each probe material was checked.

Through following additional two tests, new discoveries were made.

### 1) Test for Wet Property to solder

related to affinity with solder and cleaning frequency.

### 2) Electric Discharge Test

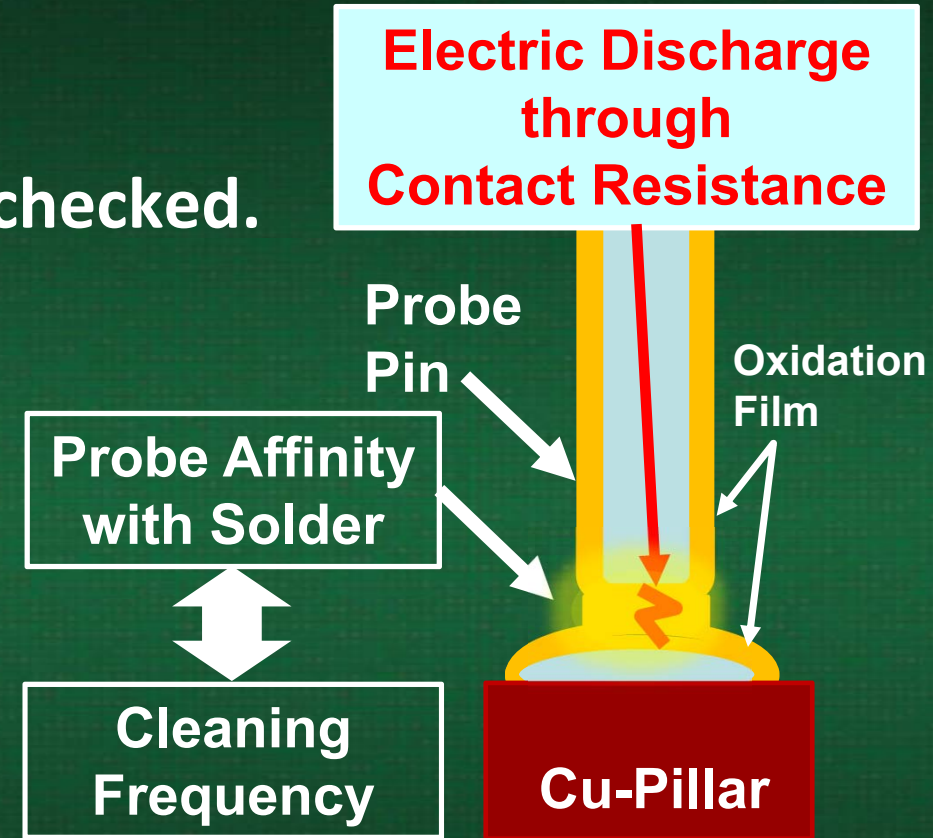


Figure 6-1 Illustration of Solder Capped Cu-Pillar

## 6.1. Test for Wet Property to solder : Solder Rubbing Test

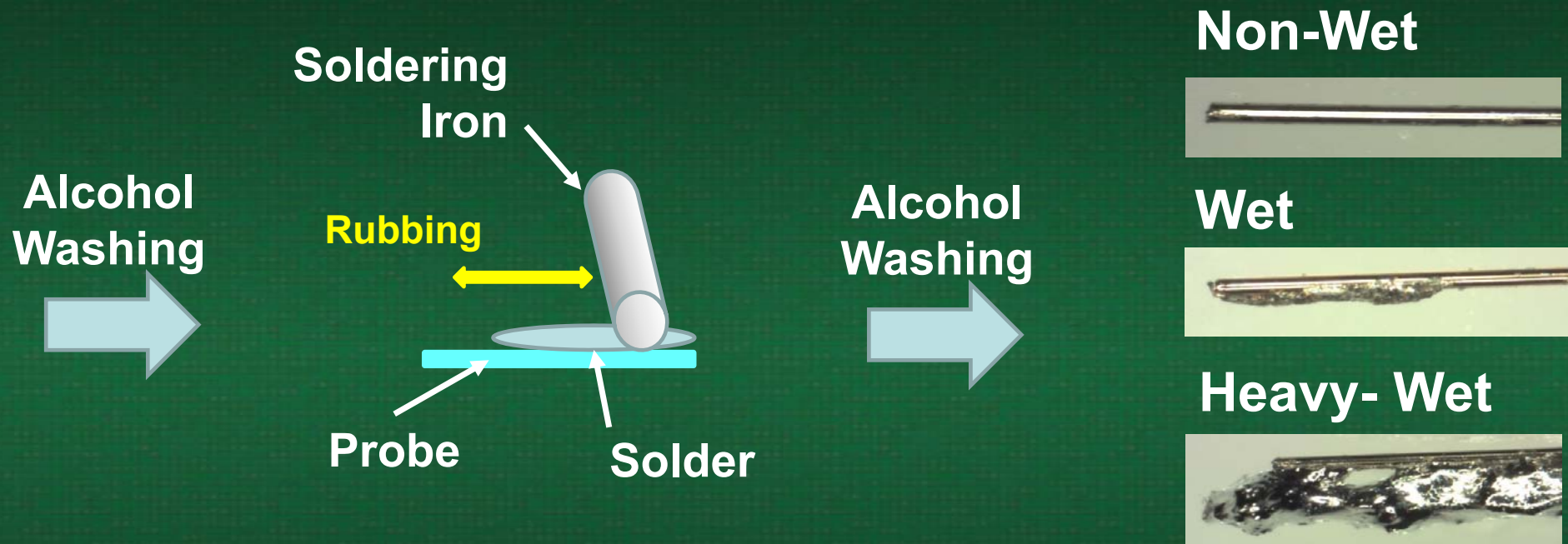

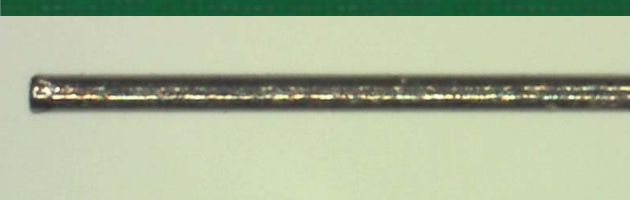

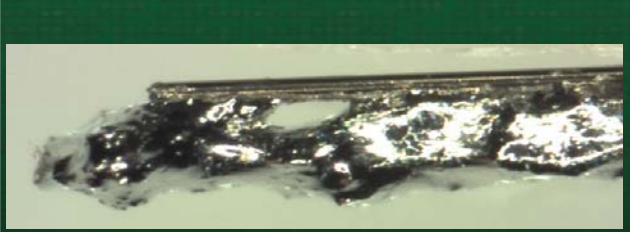


Figure 6-2 Illustration of Solder Rubbing Test

Sn/Ag solder of following contents was used : Sn 96.5%, Ag 3.5%



## Table 6-1 Tip Appearance after Solder Rubbing Test

	Appearance Photo	Property	Comment
Rhodeo6		Non-Wet	
Rhenium Tungsten		Non-Wet	
BeCu		Wet	<b>BeCu showed Wet Property.</b>
H3C		Heavy -Wet	H3C showed Heavy-Wet Property and high affinity with solder due to Silver which is contained both in H3C and solder. Through repeated contacts with solder, oxidized solder debris may easily adhere to probe tip of H3C.

## 6.2. Electric Discharge Test

This test can be another new CCC evaluation method.

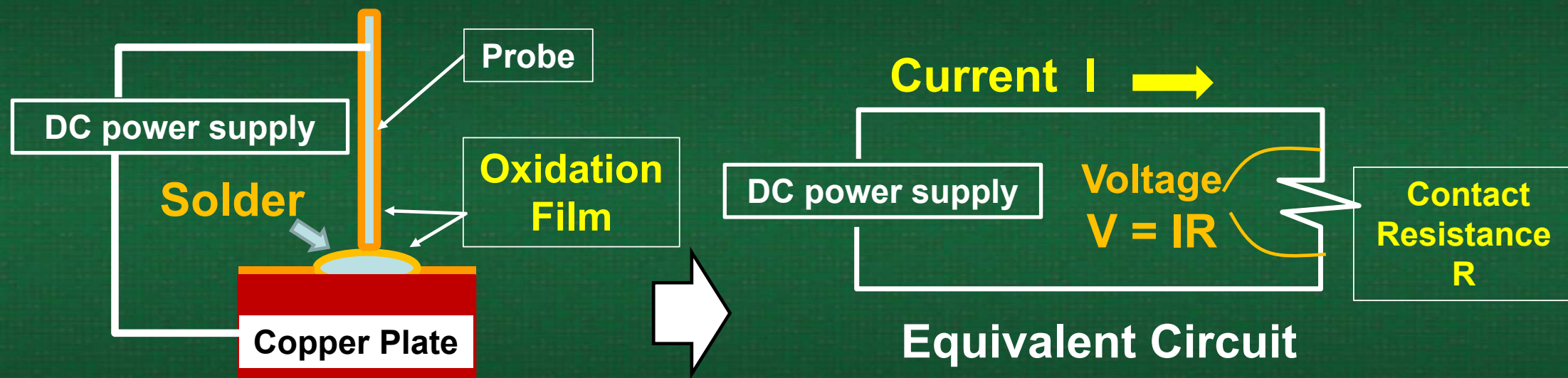
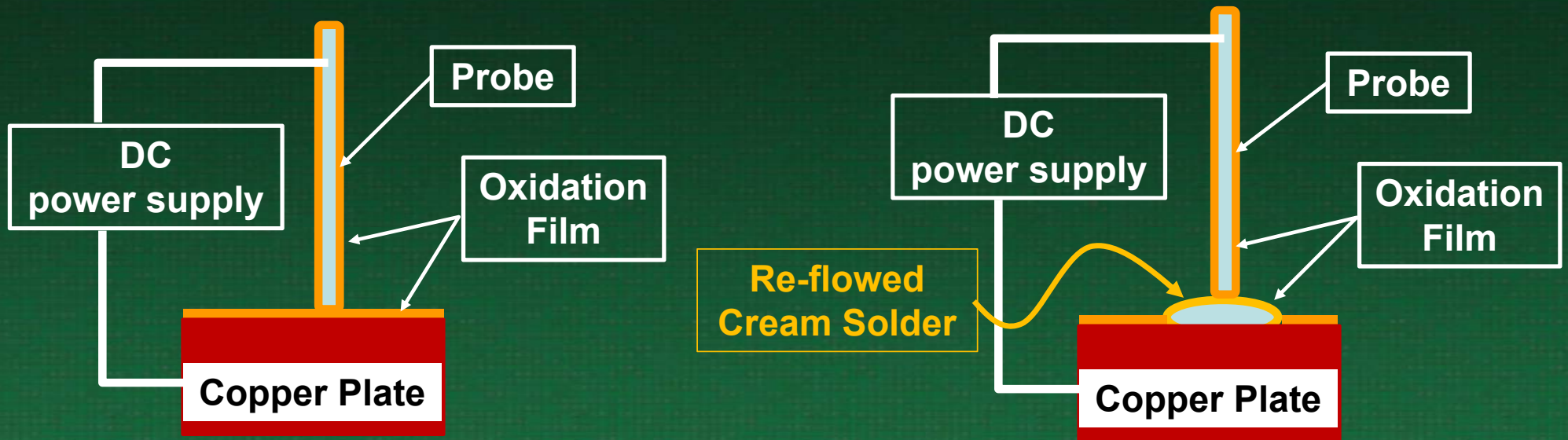


Figure 6-3 Illustration of Electric Discharge Model



(1) Case 1 : (No Solder Cap)

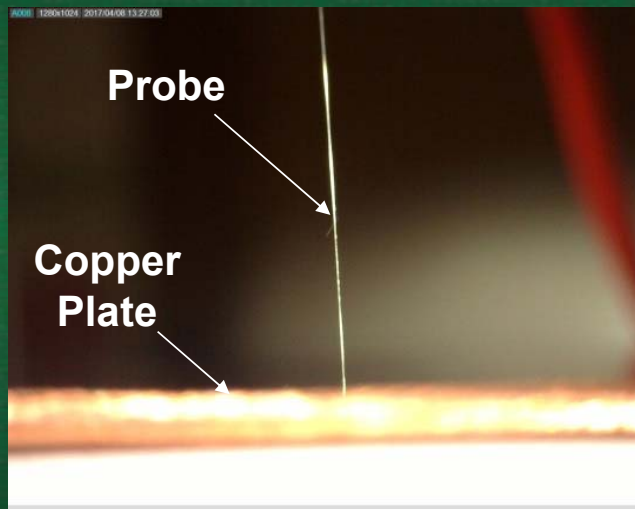
(2) Case 2 : (With Solder Cap)

Figure 6-4 Illustration of Electric Discharge Test

Table 6-2 Ingredient of Cream Solder

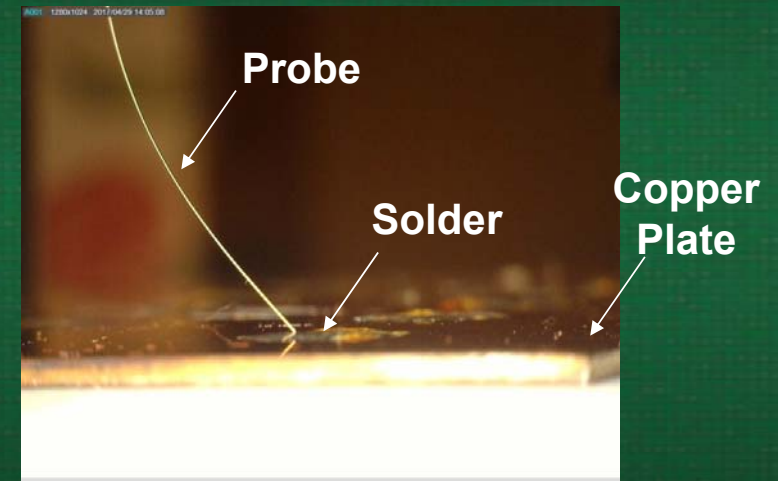
Sn	Ag	Cu	Flux
84.9 ~ 88.8 %	2.8 %	0.3 ~ 0.4 %	8 ~ 12 %

The contact resistance with solder surface was very high, and it was necessary to shift the tip contact condition to increase contact force enough to break oxidation film on solder surface.



(1) Case 1 : (No Solder Cap)

Tip Contact  
Condition Shift

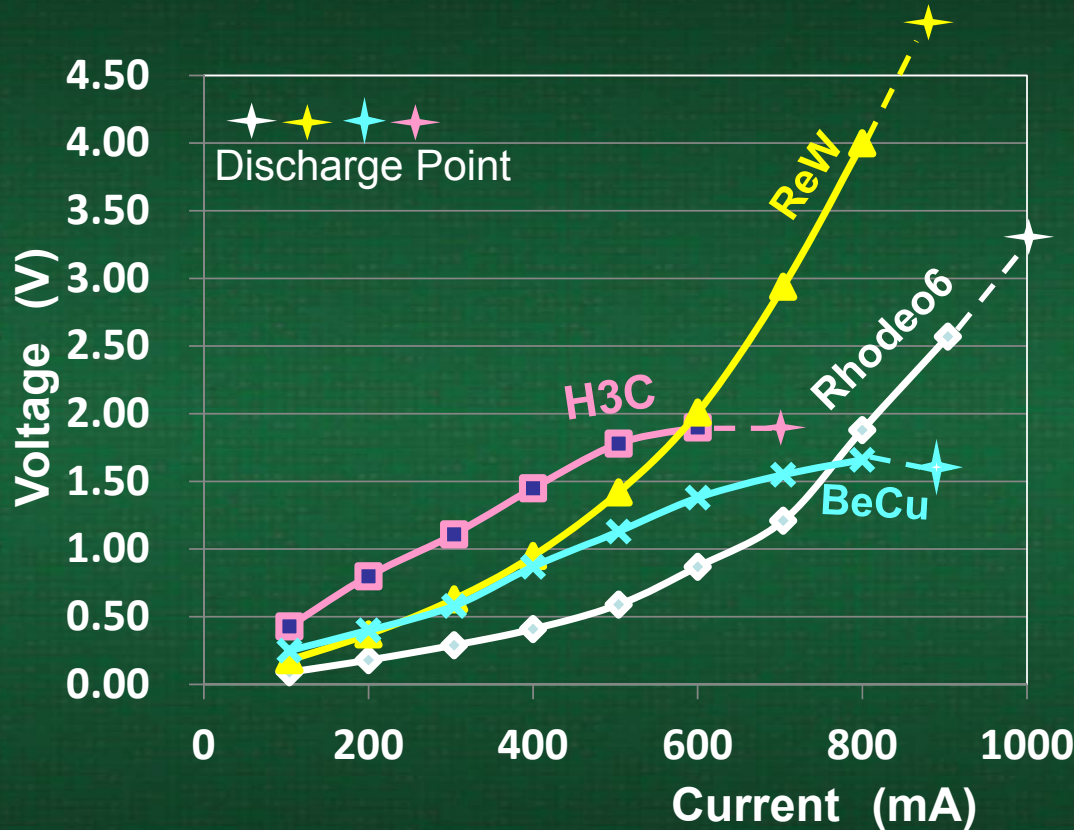


(2) Case 2 : (With Solder Cap)

Figure 6- 5 Tip Contact Condition Shift due to oxidation film on solder

## Voltage / Current before Discharge

Case 1 : (No Solder Cap)



Case 2 : (With Solder Cap)

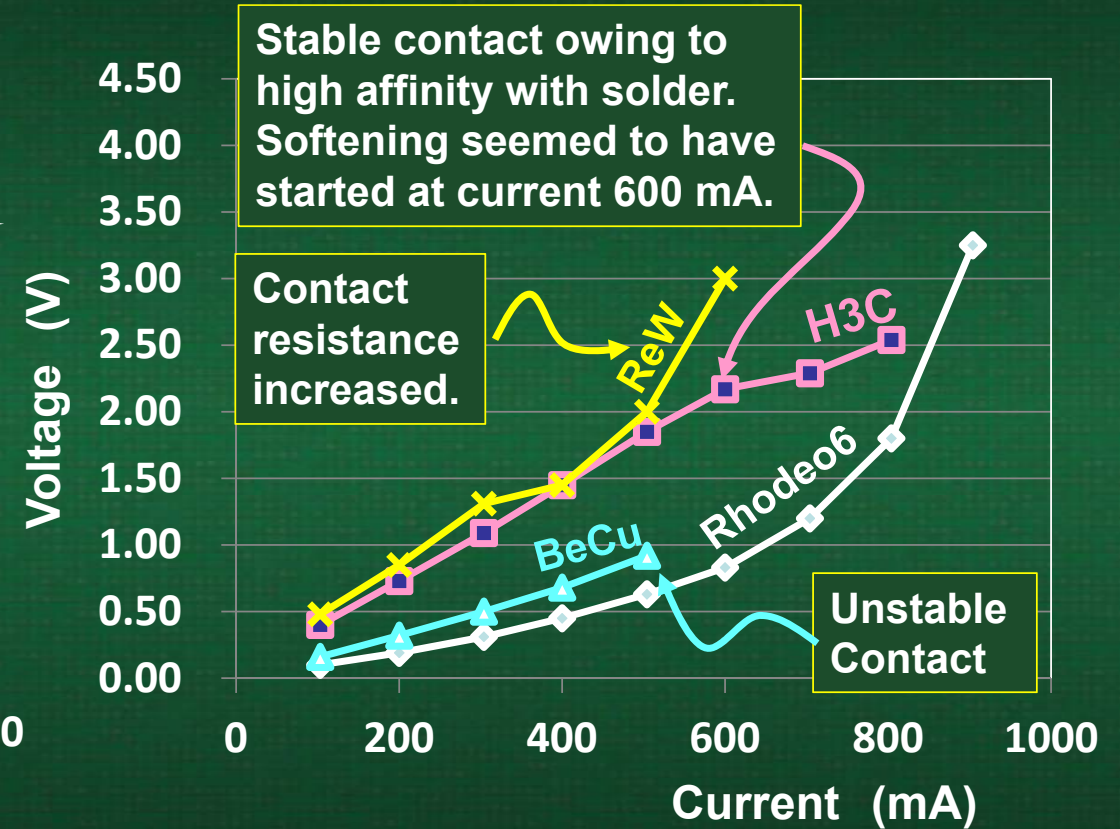
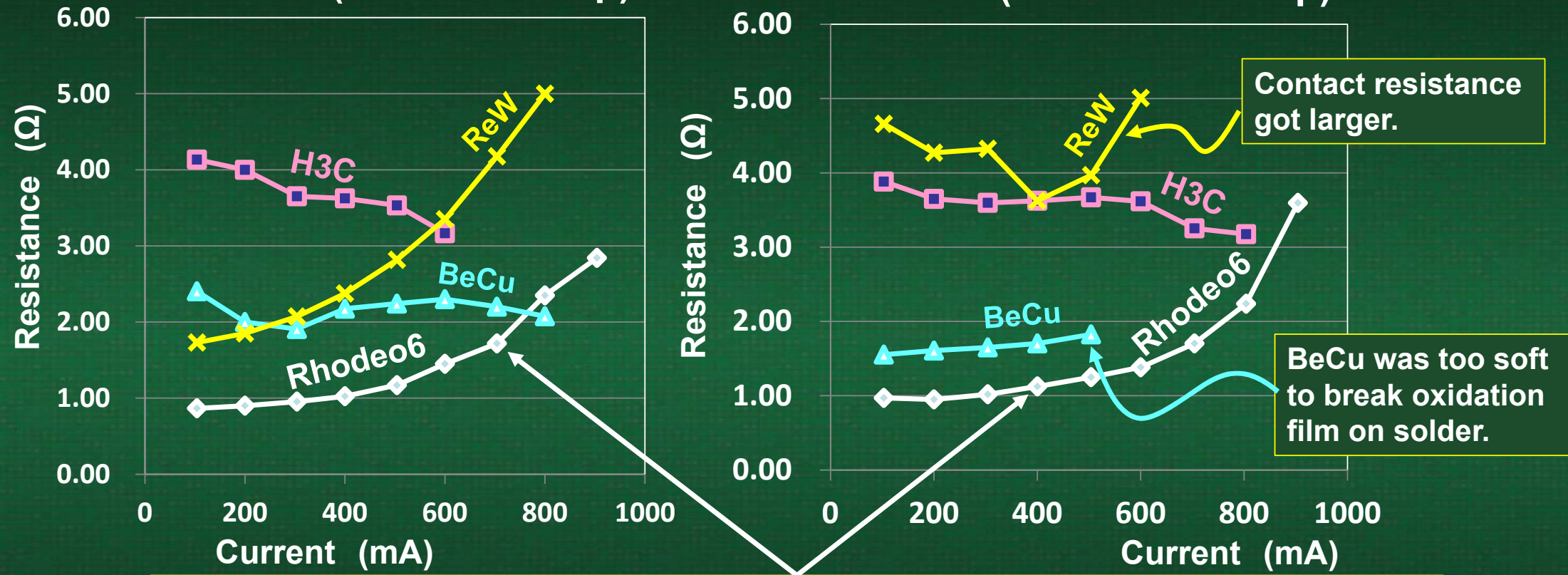


Figure 6-6 Results of Electric Discharge Test - 1

# Electric Resistance / Current before Discharge

Case 1 : (No Solder Cap)






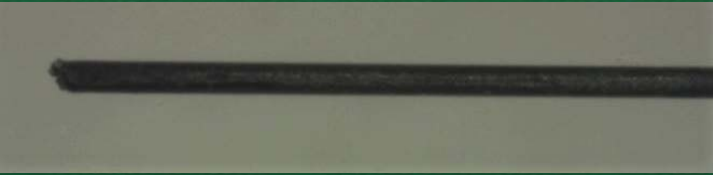
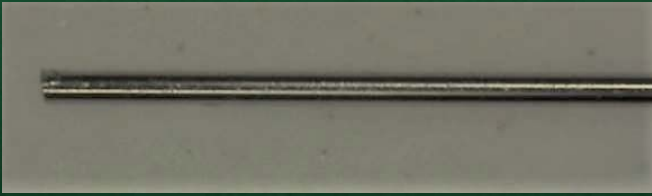

Case 2 : (With Solder Cap)



This performance of low resistance will be effective not only for power device but also for inspection of Cu-Pillar in general, including narrow pitch device.

Figure 6-7 Results of Electric Discharge Test - 2

## Table 6-3 Tip Appearance before and after Discharge (Case 1)





	Before	After Discharge	Damage
Rhodeo6			No Damage
BeCu			Oxidized & Color Changed
Rhenium Tungsten			Heavily Oxidized & Charred
H3C			Melted & Bent

# Table 6-4 Tip Appearance before and after Discharge (Case 2)

	Before	After Discharge	Damage
<b>Rhodeo6</b>		 <p>No damage at tip</p> <p>Black stains of burnt dirt</p>	<b>No Damage</b>
<b>BeCu</b>			<b>Oxidized at Tip End</b>
<b>Rhenium Tungsten</b>			<b>Heavily Oxidized</b>
<b>H3C</b>			<b>Heavily Oxidized</b>



# Table 6-5 Solder Surface Appearance before & after Discharge (Case 2)

	Before	After Discharge	Damage
Rhodeo6, BeCu	No significant difference between before and after discharge.		No Damage
Rhenium Tungsten			Lack Hole
H3C			Lack Hole

# 7. Summary

**7.1. New method to measure CCC of thin wire has been confirmed.**

**7.2. CCC Measurement results by thin foil melting method:**

**1) Order of CCC**

**Rhodo6 > Beryllium Copper > Rhenium Tungsten > Paliney H3C**

**2) As current increased, Beryllium Copper and Paliney H3C seemed to have softened, resulting in lower available CCC.**

**3) Basic Theory of CCC has been verified.**

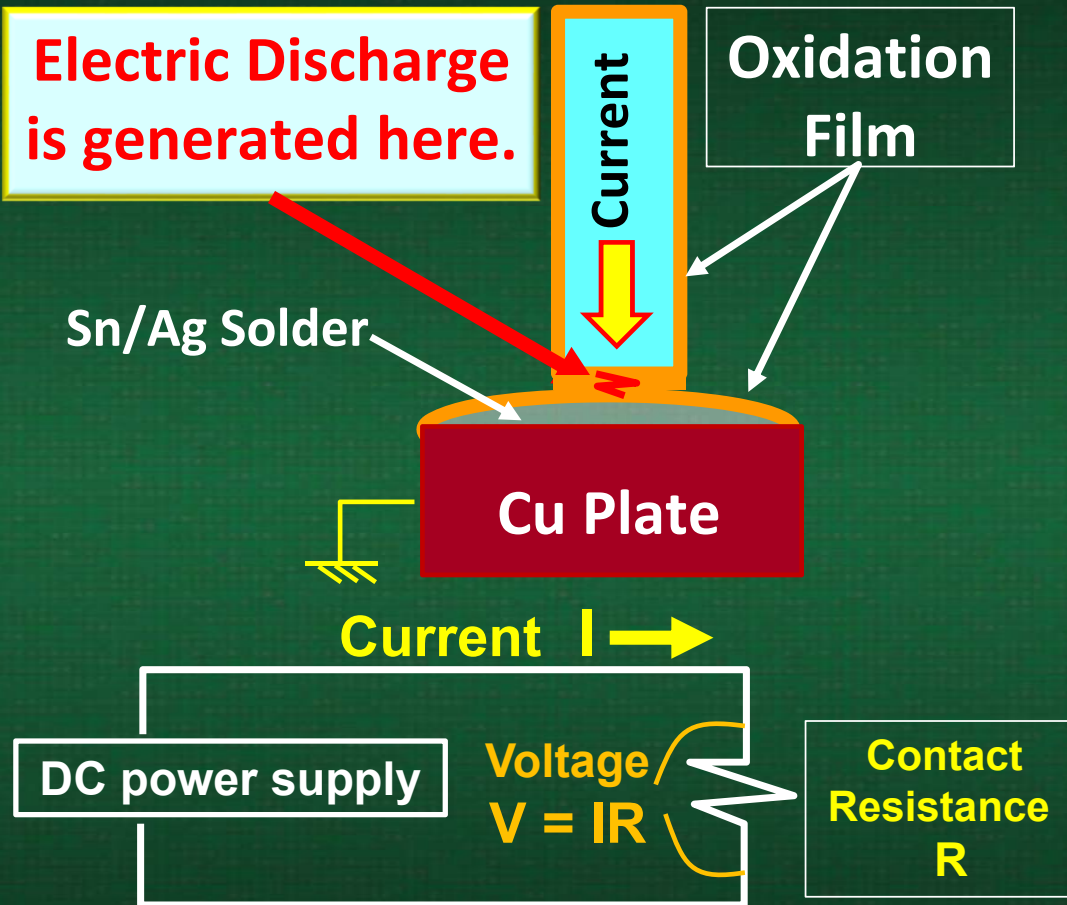
## 7.3. New Discoveries through experiments :

### [1] Test for Wet Property to Solder



Figure 7-1 Summary for Test of Wet Property to Solder

## [2] Electric Discharge Test



- Electric Discharge is generated through Contact Resistance. The larger the Contact Resistance, the larger the Discharge Energy, and the larger the Damage to Probe Tip and Solder Cap.
- Rhodeo6 showed highest current before discharge, showing no damage after discharge.
- Rhodeo6 showed lowest electric resistance, including low contact resistance.

Figure 7-2 Summary for Electric Discharge Test

## 7.4. Comparison of CCC Measurement Methods

Table 7-1 Comparison of CCC Measurement Methods

Method	Judgement Standard	Suitable Object
ISMI CCC	Force Reduction Rate Depress	Probe
<b>1<sup>st</sup> New Method Foil melting method</b>	<b>Temperature Difference</b>	<b>Probe Material</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> New Method Discharge Method</b>	<b>Current Before Electric Discharge</b>	<b>Probe and Probe Material</b>

## 7.5. Performance Comparison of Probe Materials

Table 7-2 Performance Comparison between Rhodeo6 and other materials

Material	Affinity with Solder	Oxide	Cleaning Frequency	Maximum Current before Softening or Discharge to Solder Cap	Damage on Tip or Solder Cap after Discharge
Rhodeo6	Low	No Oxide	Low	900 mA	No Damage on both Tip and Solder Cap
Non-Abrasive Cleaning Gel is available.					
Rhenium Tungsten	Low	Heavily Oxidized	High	600 mA	Tip Oxidized Lack on Solder
BeCu	High	Easily Oxidized	Abrasive Cleaning Gel or Sheet is required.	BeCu : 500 mA	BeCu : Tip Oxidized
H3C	Very High			H3C : 600 mA	H3C : Tip Oxidized, Lack on Solder

## 8. Acknowledgement

<b>Photo</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Mr. Nobuo Iwakuni</b>	<b>Mr. John Sterrett</b>
<b>Company</b>	<b>Assisted as a private position</b>	<b>Specialty Coating Systems</b>
<b>Location</b>	<b>Hiroshima, Japan</b>	<b>USA</b>
<b>Content of assist</b>	<b>Support to the experiment</b>	<b>Great Help in coating for sample development</b>