DMM PC-TOOL User's Manual

Ver 3.0 / 2025-07-12 by ZDD

1. Main Panel

1.1 Connect DMM via MeterCare USB-GPIB card with 2 temperature sensors.



It is recommended to set a larger timeout value. When the timeout value is close to the response time of the DMM, timeout may occur more easily due to certain uncertain factors.

1.2 Connect DMM via a Prologix compatible GPIB-USB card with 2 temperature sensors.

The DMM port here should be that of a Prologix compatible GPIB-USB card, as it is a COM port, the parameters should be set correctly.



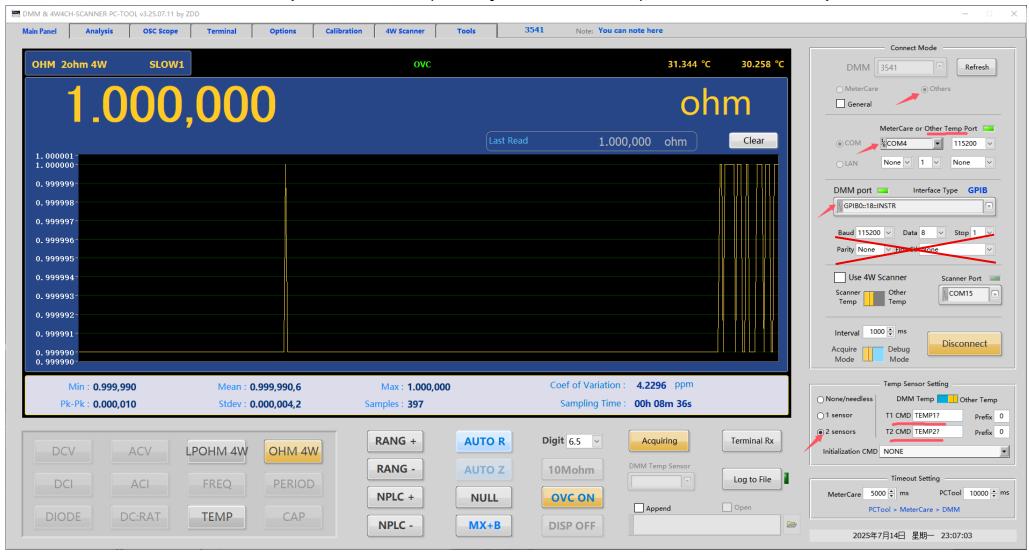
1.3 Connect DMM via a Prologix compatible GPIB card without temperature sensor.



1.4 Connect DMM via Prologix compatible GPIB card, and connect other temperature sensor to PC.



1.5 Connect DMM via other VISA-compatible GPIB card (similarly for USB or TCP/IP), and connect other temperature sensor to PC.



1.6 Connect DMM via RS232 port, and connect other temperature sensor to PC.

The serial port parameters under the DMM port must be configured to match the RS232 parameters of the DMM.

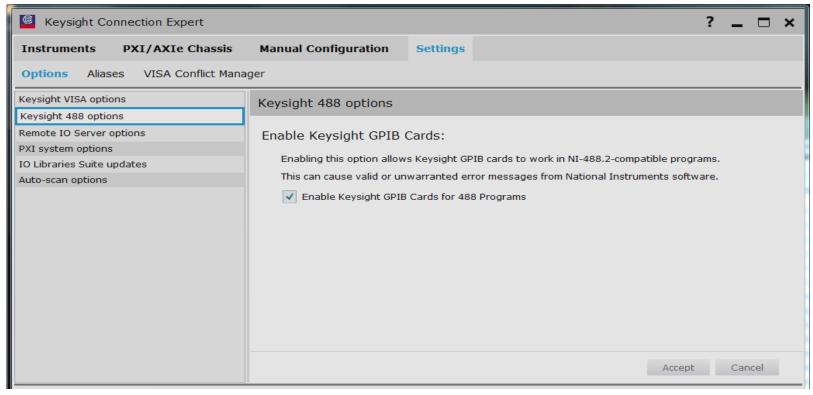


If it is not a serial port, such as USB, LAN, and other GPIB adapter cards, you may need to install the IVI driver to see the corresponding VISA standard port in the DMM port drop-down box.

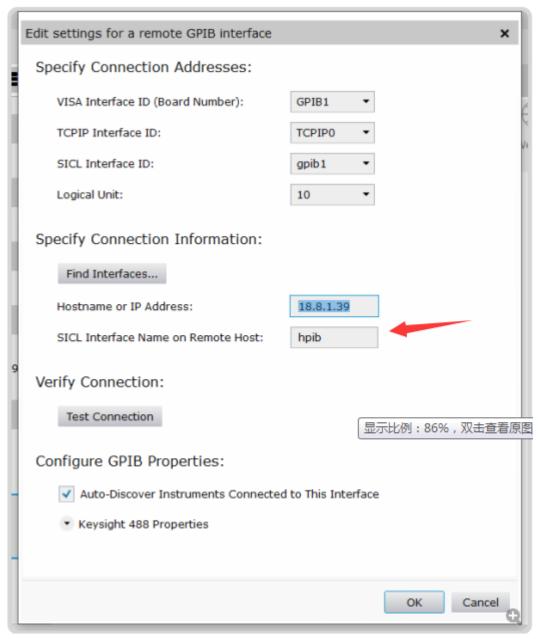
So far, the confirmed compatible GPIB cards include:

- Agilent/Keysight 82357 USB/GPIB cards (needs to install Keysight IO Libraries Suite)
- Keysight E5810 LAN/GPIB gateway (needs to install Keysight IO Libraries Suite)
- NI (National Instruments) GPIB-USB cards (needs to install NI-488.2 driver)
- CONTEC GPIB cards (needs to install GPLV (GPIB Labview Version) runtime library and driver)
- · ADLINK GPIB cards

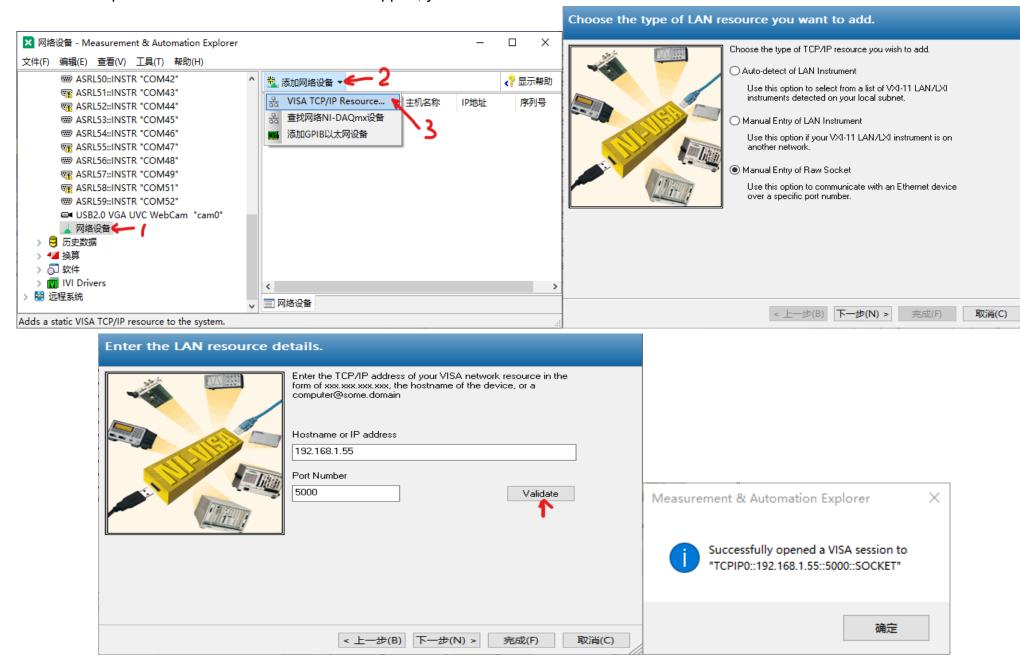
If use Agilent/Keysight 82357 USB/GPIB cards, or Keysight E5810 LAN/GPIB gateway, please check the options shown in the picture below in the settings, click "Accept" and restart your PC. Connect the DMM through the GPIB card and turn it on. Then select the GPIB port number corresponding to the DMM in the DMM port drop-down box.

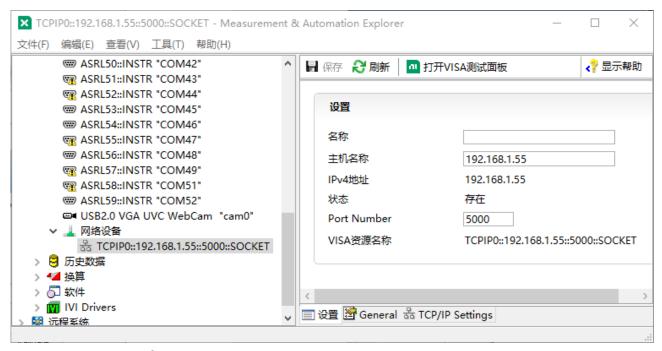


If use E5810, and you can find the device on the web page, you need to set it up as shown below to find the port address in the DMM port drop-down box.

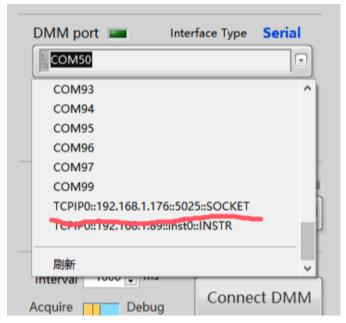


If it is TCP/IP protocol but there is no VISA driver support, you can use NI-MAX to add it to the network device and it can be used.





When the TCP/IP resource is created successfully, it will be shown in the DMM port drop-down box. As shown below.



1.7 Temperature Sensor Settings

1) Sensor Selection:

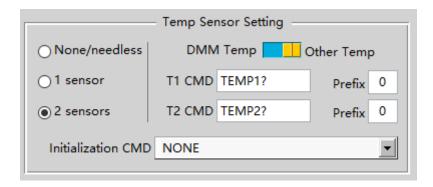
- o Choose **None**, **1**, or **2** sensors based on your hardware.
- Note: Only one temperature sensor device (one communication port) is supported per software instance, with max two temperature channels support.

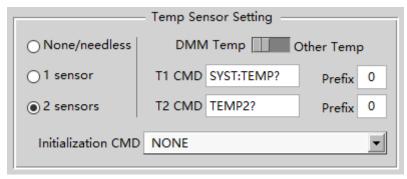
2) Command & Prefix Configuration:

- Enter the correct temperature read command and prefix length.
- Example: If the returned data format is "TMP:+23.0", the prefix is "TMP:
 ", and the length should be 4.

3) DMM Built-in Sensor:

 If your DMM has an integrated sensor (e.g., Keysight 34461A), you can select "DMM Temp", and T1 CMD: SYST:TEMP?





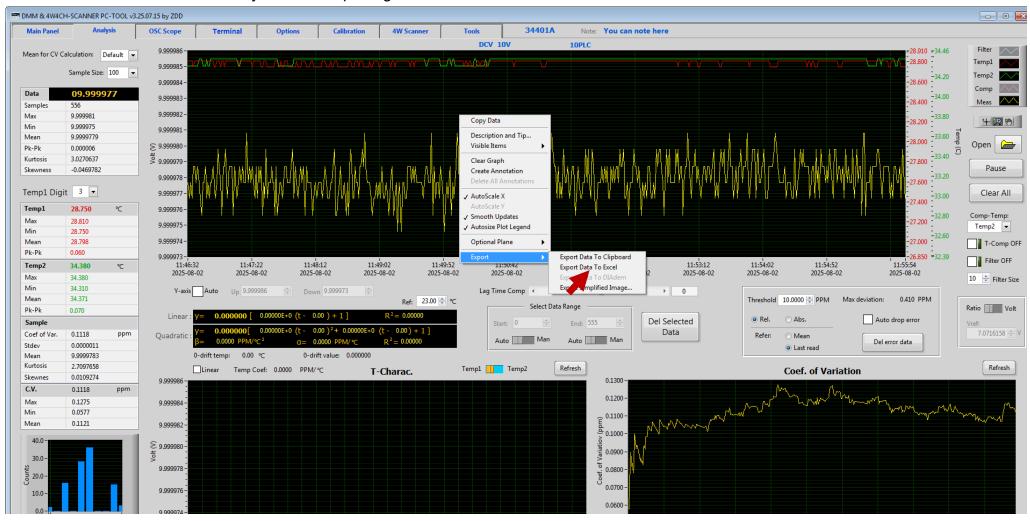
2. Analysis

2.1 Waveform Export & Import

1) Exporting Waveform Data:

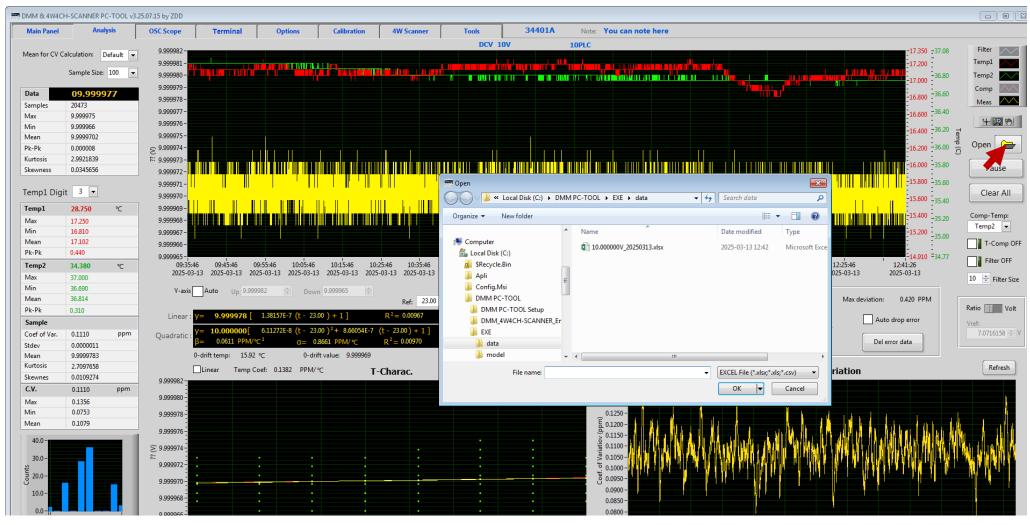
Right-click in the waveform window and select "Export" -> "Export Data To Excel" to save the waveform data.

 For Better Resolution: Before exporting, increase the data digit (adjust the "Digit" option of the main panel). This helps maintain closer fidelity when re-importing the waveform later.



2) Importing Waveform Data:

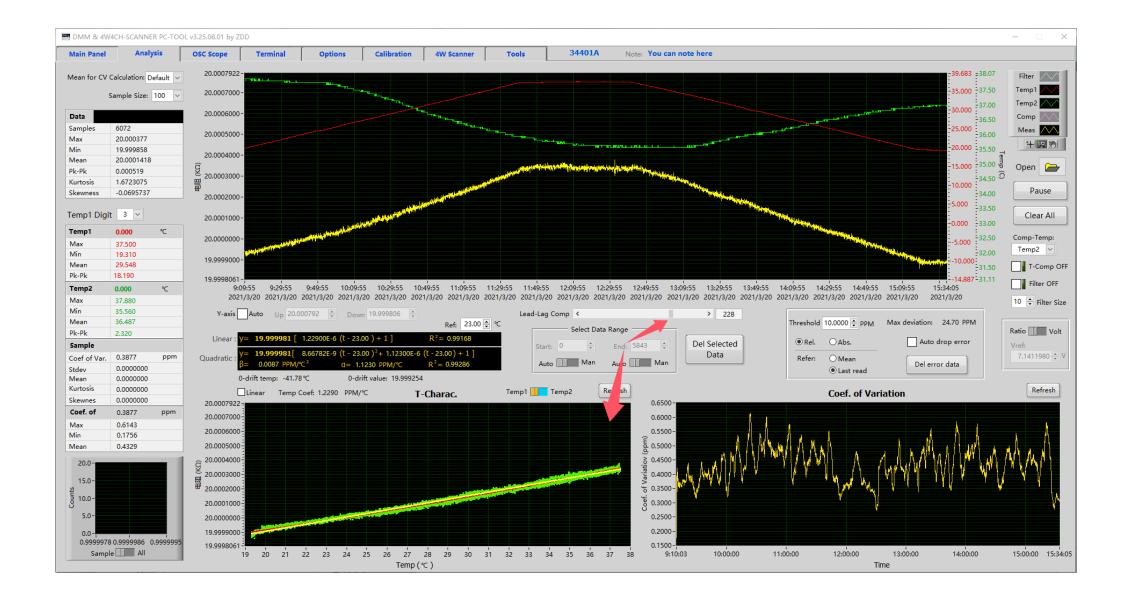
Click the "Open" button to import data file (.xlsx; .xls; .csv). Ensure the imported data matches the expected structure for accurate reconstruction.



2.2 Lead-Lag Compensation

By adjusting the "**Lead-Lag Comp**" slider position, the system's lead or lag compensation can be fine-tuned, particularly for temperature measurement applications. Comparing the two figures below, you can clearly see the effect of compensation.





2.3 Delete Error Data

1) Relative Value-Based Rejection

• Reference Options:

- o Mean: Compares the measurement against the average.
- Last read: Compares the measurement against the last read.

Rejection Criteria:

The measurements will be removed if their deviation from the selected reference exceed preset threshold.

2) Absolute Value-Based Rejection

• Condition Options:

- o >: Rejects data exceeding the setting threshold.
- <: Rejects data falling below the setting threshold.

Rejection Criteria:

The measurements will be removed if they satisfy the selected inequality condition relative to the preset threshold.

3) Auto drop error

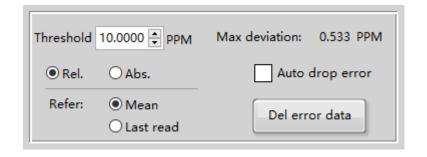
When enabled, this feature automatically discards data points during acquisition that meet either of the following outlier criteria:

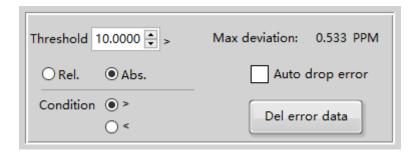
Relative Value-Based Rejection

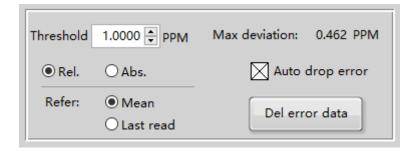
- o Compares measurements against either:
 - ✓ Mean
 - √ Last read
- o Discards data if deviation exceeds the preset threshold

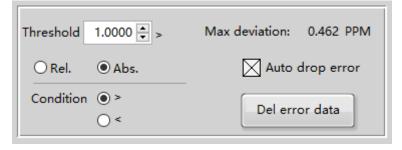
Absolute Value-Based Rejection

- o Discards data when:
 - √ Measurement > Preset threshold (if ">" selected)
 - √ Measurement < Preset threshold (if "<" selected)
 </p>









2.4 Select Data Range

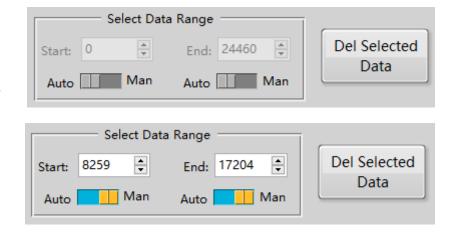
Users can define analysis or deletion ranges through two intuitive methods:

1) Mouse Drag Selection

Click and drag directly on the plot to visually select a continuous data range.

Data Panel Selection

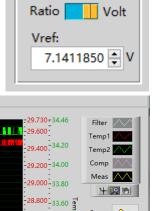
Precisely specify ranges by entering Start/End values.

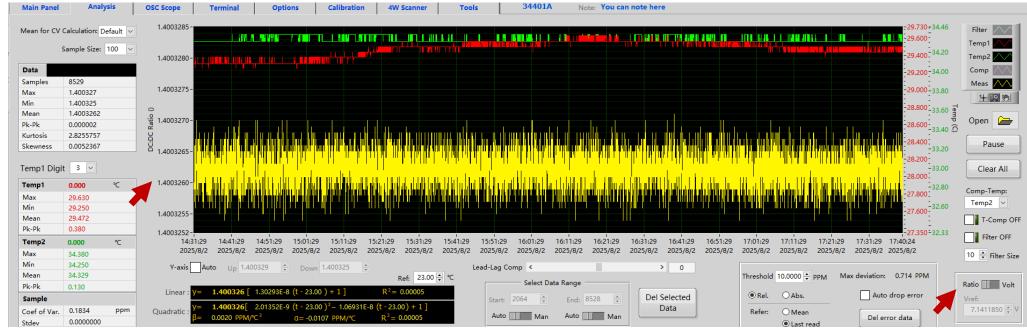


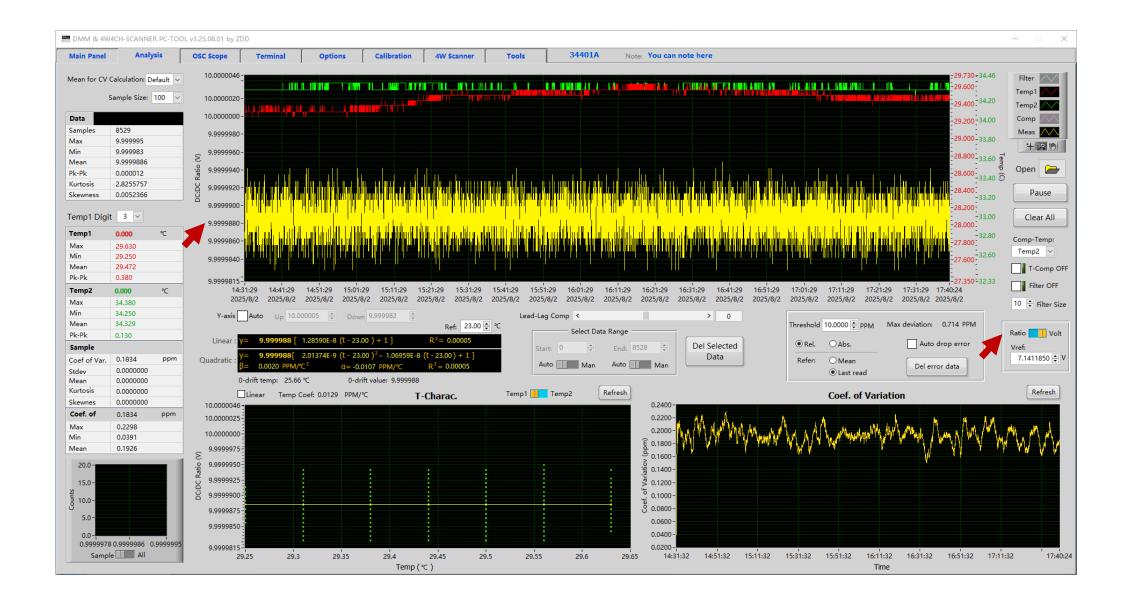
2.5 DCV Ratio to Volt

Enter the reference voltage value in the "Vref:" input field Set the "Ratio-Volt" toggle switch to:

- Ratio position: Displays raw ratio measurement.
- Volt position: Converts and displays actual voltage value.

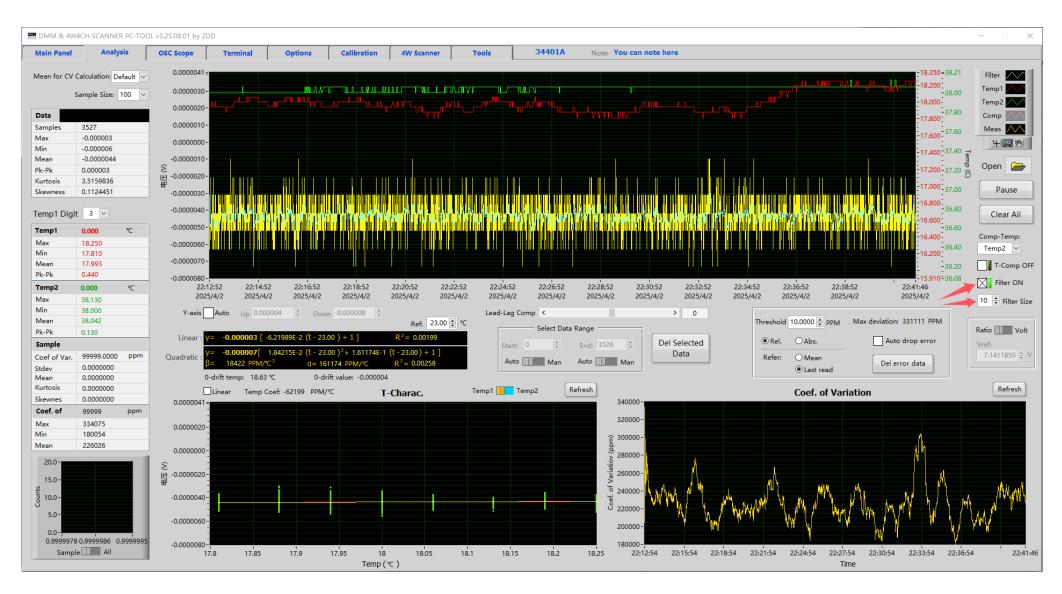






2.6 Filter & Temp Compensation

Check **ON** or **OFF** the "Filter" checkbox to switch filter function on or off.
 By increasing/decreasing the filter size, one can enhance/reduce the filtering effect accordingly:



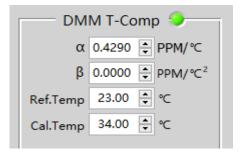
2) DMM Temp Compensation

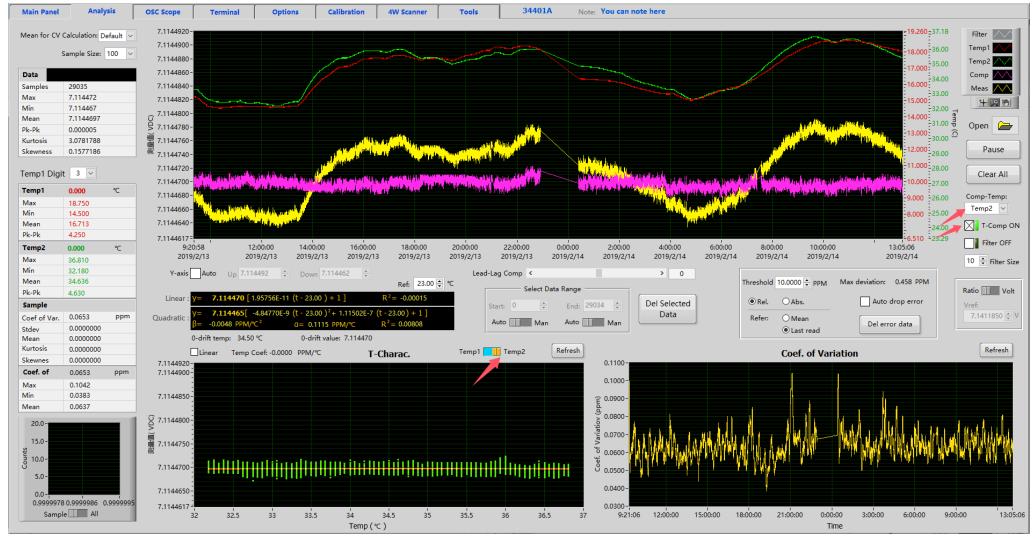
• Set DMM Temperature Drift Parameters:

- Enter the DMM's temperature drift parameters in the Options tab.
- o Alternatively, pre-configure these parameters in the tc.ini file.

• Enable Temperature Compensation:

- o In the Analysis tab, select the compensation temperature (Temp1 or Temp2).
- Check T-Comp ON to activate the temperature compensation function.

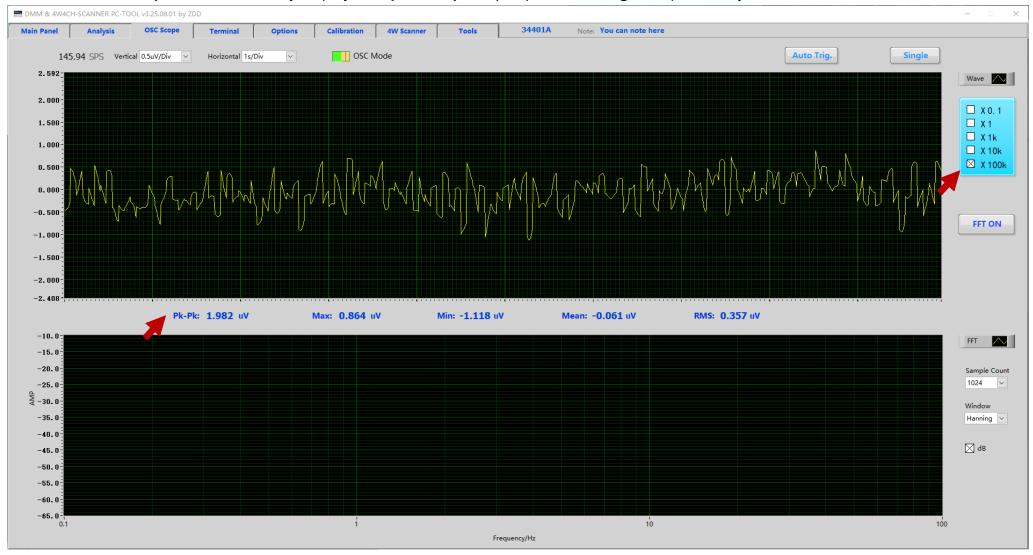




3. OSC Scope

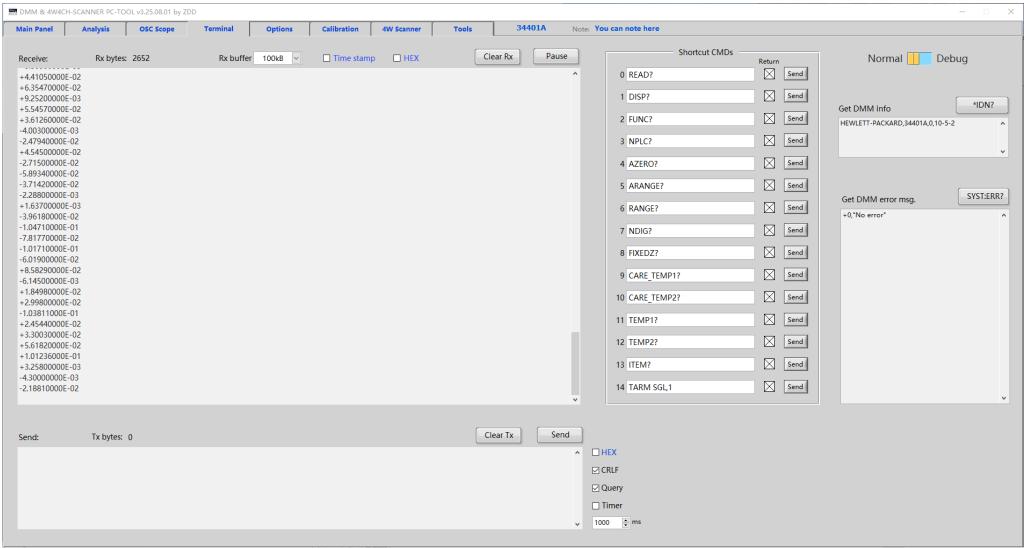
This oscilloscope function is primarily used as a temporary substitute for a physical oscilloscope when measuring **low-frequency noise** with a **noise amplifier**.

Select actual Amplifier Gain, directly displays the peak-to-peak (P-P) noise voltage for quick analysis.



4. Terminal

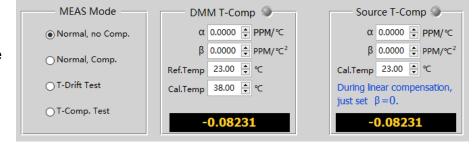
The terminal primarily serves debugging purposes. When the "Normal-Debug" switch is set to "Debug" mode. Multiple shortcut commands are available for efficient debugging operations.



5. Options

5.1 MEAS Mode

- **Normal, no Comp.:** It is a direct measurement, and all data does not undergo any temperature compensation processing.
- Normal, Comp.: It means to perform temperature compensation on the measured data according to the temperature drift coefficient and the actual temperature of the DMM. Note that if the temperature coefficient of the table is quadratic, then the α must correspond to the Ref.Temp.

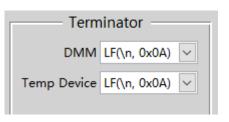


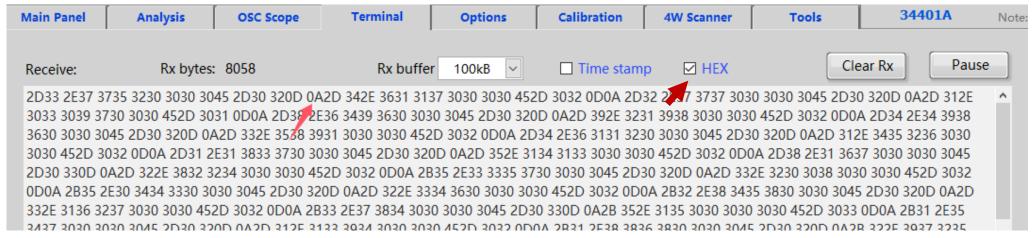
- **T-Drift Test:** It is to measure the temperature drift of DMM.
 - It is best to fix the temperature sensor somewhere inside the DMM. Otherwise, if the position changes, the temperature coefficient will be different and compensation will not be possible.
 - The temperature compensation of the source is turned on, and the temperature sensor corresponding to **Temp1.** If the temperature drift of the source can be ignored during the measurement process (for example, the temperature change is very small or the temperature drift itself is very small), you can fill in the α and β of the source with 0. It's the same as **Normal**, **no Comp.** mode.
 - Under normal circumstances, the temperature drift of the DMM can be measured by cold starting the machine, some previous data can be removed during fitting.
- **T-Comp. Test:** Verifying the Effectiveness of Temperature Drift Compensation.
 - Be sure to use 2 temperature sensors. **Temp1** measures the source temperature, and **Temp2** measures the DMM temperature. If the temperature drift coefficients of both the DMM and the source are correct, the compensated curve should be a straight horizontal line with a temperature drift coefficient close to 0.00. If the source temperature drift is unknown, α and β can be entered as 0. In this case, the compensated curve's drift for **Temp1** will be the source's drift.
 - If only 1 temperature sensor is used, use the same read command for both **Temp1** and **Temp2**, measuring only the DMM temperature. Enter 0 for the α and β of source, or use **Normal**, **Comp.** mode for measurement. If the DMM's temperature drift coefficient is correct, the compensated curve can be used to determine whether the source has drifted.

5.2 Terminator character

Refer to the DMM and temperature device manuals to ensure the output terminator matches that of the this **DMM PC-TOOL**.

You can use a serial port assistant or this DMM PC-TOOL in **Debug** mode to view the output terminator (hexadecimal display).

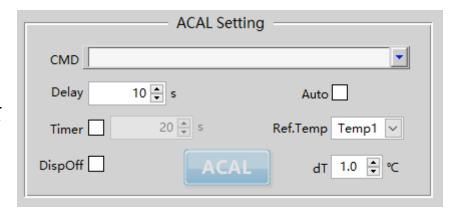




5.3 ACAL Setting

- CMD: Select ACAL command.
- Delay: Time required to execute ACAL command.
- Timer: Scheduled execution of ACAL command.
- DispOff: If checked, turn off the display after execution of ACAL command.
- Auto: Automatically execute ACAL command based on the change (dT) of the Ref. Temp.

You can click the **ACAL** button to directly execute the ACAL command.



5.4 DMM Configurable Selection

If the DMM supports configurable remote commands, you can select "Configurable", or select "Read ONLY".

When selecting "Read ONLY" mode, the Function, Range and NPLC must match the DMM's current settings, otherwise, the DMM PC-TOOL may display incorrect data.

In addition to the initialization commands in the configuration file, you can enter any temporary configuration commands in the "Initial Command" input box. One command per line, or separate commands with ";" (if supported by the DMM).



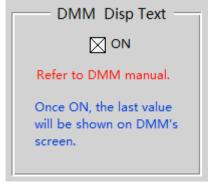
Digit 7.5

5.5 DMM Disp Text

If the DMM supports display text commands, enable the checkbox to show the last measured value on the DMM's screen.

For example, with an HP34401A (6.5-digit DMM), you can:

- Set the digit to 7.5 in the "Main Panel"
- Enable this checkbox, the DMM will then display values with 7.5-digit resolution on its screen.



5.6 3458 Backup

This function uses the undocumented MREAD command to read the HP3458A DMM non-volatile, battery backed calibration or data NVRAM chips. When backup finished, it saves a bin file and a text summary file in "data" directory, named as follows:

CALM3458_YYYY-MM-DD_hhmmss.bin CALM3458_YYYY-MM-DD_hhmmss.txt



5.7 MX+B Setting

The DMM PC-TOOL provides **MX+B** measurement capability for DMMs that lack this native function. To use this feature:

- Configure your parameters and units here
- Enable MX+B in the Main Panel

Key advantages:

- Supports up to 10 preset MX+B parameter sets
- Allows for quick and convenient configuration



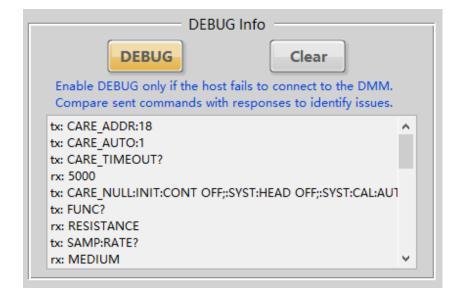
MX+B Setting M: 0.9999999 Preset: 2 Save B: -0.0000011 Note: 10A Current 10mR Unit: A

5.8 DEBUG Info

Troubleshooting DMM Connection Issues:

- Enable **DEBUG** mode in Options before connecting to the DMM.
- All sent commands and received data will be displayed in the DEBUG Info text box.
- Compare the commands with their corresponding responses to identify where the problem occurs.

Note: Do not enable DEBUG mode when the DMM is connected and acquiring data normally, as this will significantly reduce operational efficiency.



5.9 Registration

Software Features & Limitations:

- Free to Use: All offline functionalities, Terminal when connected via Debug mode.
- Trial Period: Data acquisition and calibration functions can be used free for 30 minutes per session.

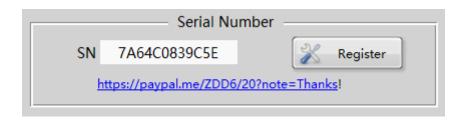
To unlock unlimited usage of all features, including data acquisition and calibration capabilities, please purchase a registration code.

Pricing Options:

- \$20 USD (Payable via clicking the PayPal payment link)
- ¥100 CNY (Payable via WeChat Pay or Alipay QR code)

Registration Process:

- After payment, please email your purchase details and device SN to: 1739687470@qq.com
- We will verify your payment and email the registration code to you
- Click the "Register" button in the software
- Enter the registration code in the pop-up window to complete activation





6. Calibration

Supported Models: 34401A, 34420A, DMM4040, DMM4050.

If other DMM uses **identical calibration commands** to the 34401A, select "**34401A**" as the DMM model, and proceed with calibration. Unsupported selections will **silently ignore** calibration operations.

1) Unsecure

Enter the correct password to disable protection.

2) Zero Calibration

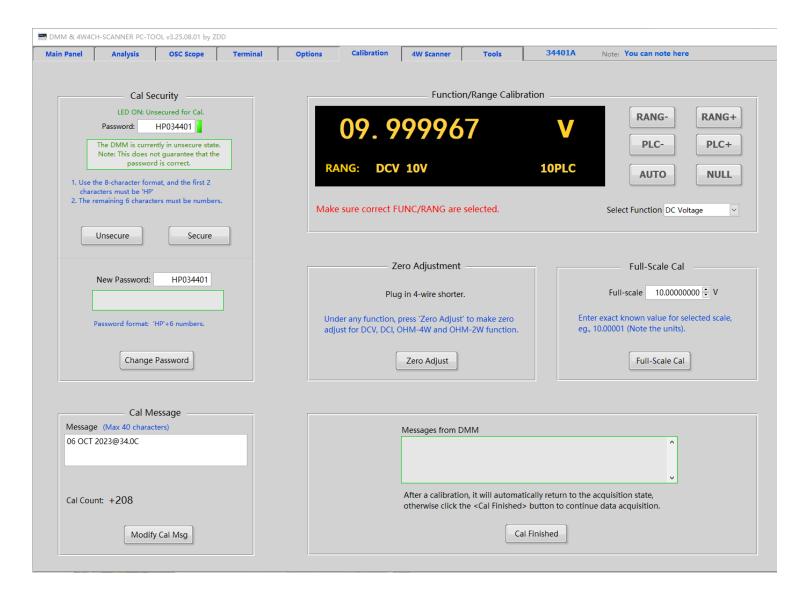
Perform first by plugging in 4-wire shorter.

3) Full-Scale Calibration

Execute separately for each range/function.

4) Secure

Re-enable protection after calibration.



7. 4-Channel 4-Wire Scanner

7.1 Communication Protocol

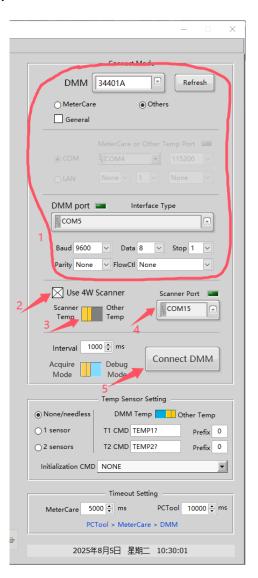
This software supports compatible 4-channel scanners that adhere to the following communication protocol:

COM port parameter: 115200bps, 8N1

Command:	Action:
SCAN_RLY:01	Select Channel 1 (Scanner must reply)
SCAN_RLY:02	Select Channel 2 (Scanner must reply)
SCAN_RLY:03	Select Channel 3 (Scanner must reply)
SCAN_RLY:04	Select Channel 4 (Scanner must reply)
SCAN_TEMP:01	Read Scanner's Temp1
SCAN_TEMP:02	Read Scanner's Temp2

7.2 Connection Steps:

- 1) Configure DMM Settings
 - Set the correct connection method (e.g., GPIB, USB, TCPIP, RS232)
 - o Specify port parameters (baud rate, address, etc.)
- 2) Enable Scanner Functionality
 - Check the "Use 4W Scanner" option
- 3) Assign Scanner Port
 - Select the scanner's port number (e.g., COM15)
- 4) Establish Connection
 - Click "Connect DMM" to initialize communication



7.3 4-Wire Scanner Configuration Guide:

1) Channel Selection

- Select the active channel number (1–4) in the 4W Scanner tab.
- For reference measurements (Enable Use Ref):
 - o Reference source must connect to CH1 (fixed requirement).
 - Enter the reference source's calibrated value in the Ref input box.

2) Timing Settings

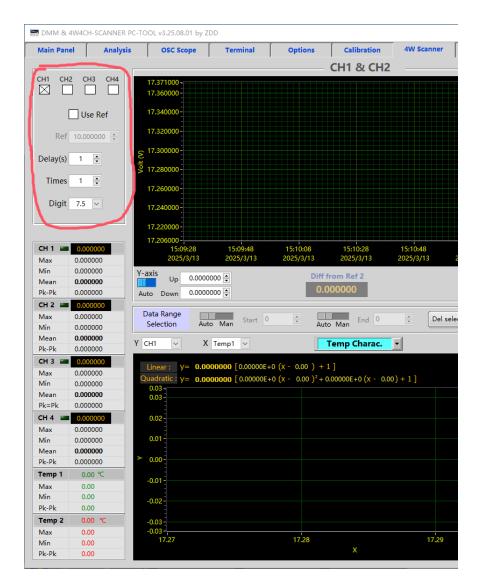
- Delay Time (0–10s):
 - o Defines the wait time after channel switching.
 - o Example: Set to 2s for stable relay settling.

3) Sampling Configuration

- Times (Sampling Count):
 - o Number of readings per acquisition (e.g., 10).
 - The average value is used as the final result.

4) Digit

Select the digits for measurement results.



8. Tools

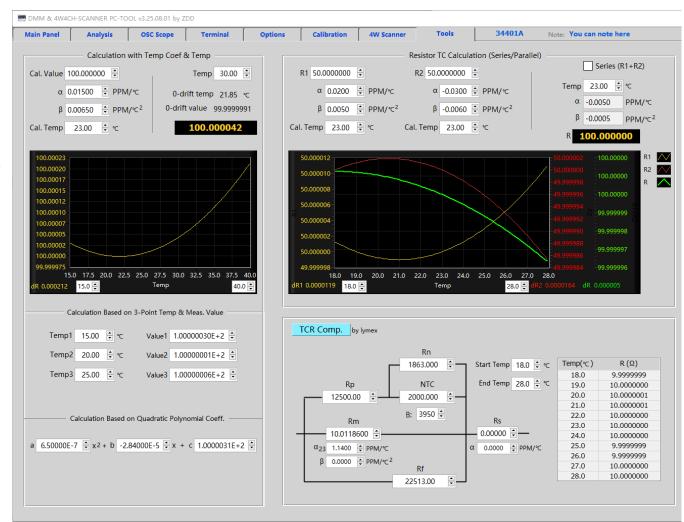
This tool can perform the following calculations related to temperature drift parameters:

- 1) Predict Value at Specific Temperature:
 Calculate the predicted value of a component (e.g., resistor) at a given temperature based on its temperature coefficient parameters.
- 2) Temperature Drift Calculation for Series/Parallel Resistors:

Compute the effective temperature coefficient for resistors connected in series or parallel, considering their individual temperature coefficient parameters and values.

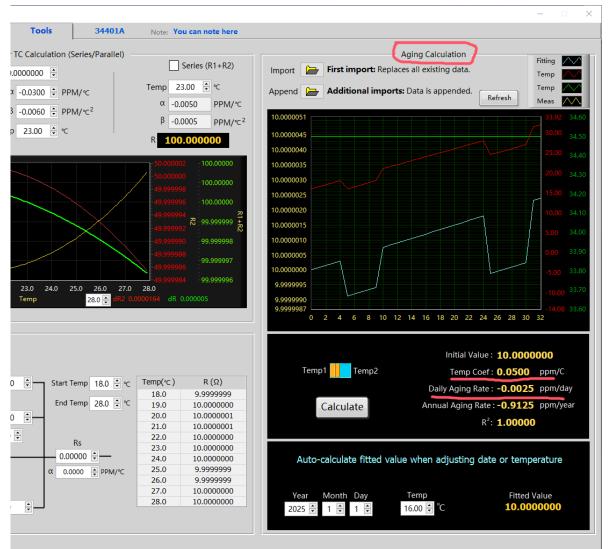
3) Temperature Compensation for Known Resistors:

Determine the optimal resistors (values and temperature coefficient parameters) required to compensate for the temperature drift of main resistor, achieving a near-zero overall drift.



4) Aging Calculation:

- Import one data file, or append more data files for aging calculation.
- The data files should be (CSV, Excel) format that logged or exported by this DMM PC-TOOL.
- You can select Temp1 or Temp2 for temperature drift coefficient calculation.
- The results: Initial Value, Temp Coef., Daily Aging Rate, Annual Aging Rate, and R².
- Also, you can adjust the date or temperature to calculate the fitting value according to the Initial Value, Temp Coef., and Daily Aging Rate got above.



9. Trouble Shooting

1) Issue Description:

If the exported waveform data does not display correctly when reimported, it may be caused by incorrect system **date and time format settings**, resulting in incompatible data formatting.

Solution:

Please adjust the system's **date/time format** as shown in the illustration right to ensure proper export and import functionality.

