

Wide Supply Range, Rail-to-Rail Output Instrumentation Amplifier

AD8227

FEATURES

Gain set with 1 external resistor Gain range: 5 to 1000 Input voltage goes below ground Inputs protected beyond supplies Very wide power supply range Single supply: 2.2 V to 36 V Dual supply: ±1.5 V to ±18 V Bandwidth (G = 5): 250 kHz CMRR (G = 5): 100 dB minimum (B Grade) Input noise: 24 nV/√Hz Typical supply current: 350 µA Specified temperature: −40°C to +125°C 8-lead SOIC and MSOP packages

APPLICATIONS

Industrial process controls Bridge amplifiers Medical instrumentation Portable data acquisition Multichannel systems

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The AD8227 is a low cost, wide supply range instrumentation amplifier that requires only one external resistor to set any gain between 5 and 1000.

The AD8227 is designed to work with a variety of signal voltages. A wide input range and rail-to-rail output allow the signal to make full use of the supply rails. Because the input range can also go below the negative supply, small signals near ground can be amplified without requiring dual supplies. The AD8227 operates on supplies ranging from \pm 1.5 V to \pm 18 V (2.2 V to 36 V single supply).

The robust AD8227 inputs are designed to connect to realworld sensors. In addition to its wide operating range, the AD8227 can handle voltages beyond the rails. For example, with a \pm 5 V supply, the part is guaranteed to withstand \pm 35 V at the input with no damage. Minimum as well as maximum input bias currents are specified to facilitate open wire detection.

PIN CONFIGURATION

Table 1. Instrumentation Amplifiers by Category¹

¹ See www.analog.com for the latest selection of instrumentation amplifiers.

The AD8227 is ideal for multichannel, space-constrained applications. With its MSOP package and 125°C temperature rating, the AD8227 thrives in tightly packed, zero airflow designs.

The AD8227 is available in 8-pin MSOP and SOIC packages. It is fully specified for −40°C to +125°C operation.

For a similar instrumentation amplifier with a gain range of 1 to 1000, see the [AD8226](http://www.analog.com/AD8226).

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REVISION HISTORY

5/09-Revision 0: Initial Version

SPECIFICATIONS

+Vs = +15 V, -Vs = -15 V, VREF = 0 V, TA = 25°C, G = 5, R_L = 10 kΩ, specifications referred to input, unless otherwise noted.

Table 2.

¹ The input stage uses pnp transistors, so input bias current always flows into the part.
² At high gains, the part is bandwidth limited rather than slew rate limited.
³ For G > 5, gain error specifications do not in [Input Voltage Range section for](#page-19-1) more information.

 $+V_S = 2.7 V$, $-V_S = 0 V$, $V_{REF} = 0 V$, $T_A = 25°C$, $G = 5$, $R_L = 10 k\Omega$, specifications referred to input, unless otherwise noted.

Table 3.

¹ Input stage uses pnp transistors, so input bias current always flows into the part.
² At high gains, the part is bandwidth limited rather than slew rate limited.
³ For G > 5, gain error specifications do not includ [Input Voltage Range section fo](#page-19-1)r more information.

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

Table 4.

Stresses above those listed under Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the device. This is a stress rating only; functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions above those indicated in the operational section of this specification is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

THERMAL RESISTANCE

 $θ_{JA}$ is specified for a device in free air.

Table 5.

ESD CAUTION

ESD (electrostatic discharge) sensitive device. Charged devices and circuit boards can discharge without detection. Although this product features patented or proprietary protection circuitry, damage may occur on devices subjected to high energy ESD. Therefore, proper ESD precautions should be taken to avoid performance degradation or loss of functionality.

PIN CONFIGURATION AND FUNCTION DESCRIPTIONS

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TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

T = 25°C, $V_s = \pm 15$ V, $R_L = 10$ k Ω , unless otherwise noted.

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Figure 56. Settling Time vs. Step Size, $V_S = \pm 15$ V, Dual Supply

Figure 57. Supply Current vs. Supply Voltage

THEORY OF OPERATION

Figure 58. Simplified Schematic

ARCHITECTURE

The AD8227 is based on the classic three op amp topology. This topology has two stages: a preamplifier to provide differential amplification followed by a difference amplifier that removes the common-mode voltage and provides additional amplification. [Figure 58](#page-18-1) shows a simplified schematic of the AD8227.

The first stage works as follows. To maintain a constant voltage across the bias resistor, R_B , Amplifier A1 must keep Node 3 at a constant diode drop above the positive input voltage. Similarly, Amplifier A2 keeps Node 4 at a constant diode drop above the negative input voltage. Therefore, a replica of the differential input voltage is placed across the gain setting resistor, RG. The current that flows across this resistance must also flow through the R1 and R2 resistors, creating a gained differential signal between the A2 and A1 outputs. Note that, in addition to a gained differential signal, the original common-mode signal, shifted a diode drop up, is also still present.

The second stage is a difference amplifier, composed of Amplifier A3 and the R3 through R6 resistors. This stage removes the common-mode signal from the amplified differential signal and gains it by 5.

The transfer function of the AD8227 is

$$
V_{OUT} = G \times (V_{IN^+} - V_{IN^-}) + V_{REF}
$$

where:

$$
G = 5 + \frac{80 \text{ k}\Omega}{R_G}
$$

GAIN SELECTION

Placing a resistor across the R_G terminals sets the gain of the AD8227. The gain can be calculated by referring to [Table 7](#page-18-2) or by using the following gain equation:

$$
R_G = \frac{80 \text{ k}\Omega}{G-5}
$$

Table 7. Gains Achieved Using Common Resistor Values

The AD8227 defaults to $G = 5$ when no gain resistor is used. The tolerance and gain drift of the RG resistor should be added to the specifications of the AD8227 to determine the total gain accuracy of the system. When the gain resistor is not used, gain error and gain drift are minimal.

REFERENCE TERMINAL

The output voltage of the AD8227 is developed with respect to the potential on the reference terminal. This is useful when the output signal needs to be offset to a precise midsupply level. For example, a voltage source can be tied to the REF pin to levelshift the output so that the AD8227 can drive a single-supply ADC. The REF pin is protected with ESD diodes and should not exceed either + V_S or $-V_S$ by more than 0.3 V.

For best performance, source impedance to the REF terminal should be kept below 2 Ω . As shown in [Figure 58](#page-18-1), the reference terminal, REF, is at one end of a 50 kΩ resistor. Additional impedance at the REF terminal adds to this 50 k Ω resistor and results in amplification of the signal connected to the positive input. The amplification from the additional RREF can be calculated as follows:

 $6(50 \text{ k}\Omega + R_{REF})/(60 \text{ k}\Omega + R_{REF})$

Only the positive signal path is amplified; the negative path is unaffected. This uneven amplification degrades CMRR.

INPUT VOLTAGE RANGE

Most instrumentation amplifiers have a very limited output voltage swing when the common-mode voltage is near the upper or lower limit of the part's input range. The AD8227 has very little of this limitation. See [Figure 9](#page-9-0) through [Figure 16](#page-10-0) for the input common-mode range vs. output voltage of the part.

LAYOUT

To ensure optimum performance of the AD8227 at the PCB level, care must be taken in the design of the board layout. The pins of the AD8227 are arranged in a logical manner to aid in this task.

Figure 60. Pinout Diagram

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Common-Mode Rejection Ratio over Frequency

Poor layout can cause some of the common-mode signals to be converted to differential signals before reaching the in-amp. Such conversions occur when one input path has a frequency response that is different from the other. To keep CMRR over frequency high, the input source impedance and capacitance of each path should be closely matched. Additional source resistance in the input path (for example, for input protection) should be placed close to the in-amp inputs, which minimizes the interaction of the source resistance with parasitic capacitance from the PCB traces.

Parasitic capacitance at the gain setting pins can also affect CMRR over frequency. If the board design has a component at the gain setting pins (for example, a switch or jumper), the component should be chosen so that the parasitic capacitance is as small as possible.

Power Supplies

A stable dc voltage should be used to power the instrumentation amplifier. Noise on the supply pins can adversely affect performance. See the PSRR performance curves in [Figure 23](#page-11-0) and [Figure 24](#page-11-1) for more information.

A 0.1 μF capacitor should be placed as close as possible to each supply pin. As shown in [Figure 61](#page-19-2), a 10 μF tantalum capacitor can be used farther away from the part. In most cases, it can be shared by other precision integrated circuits.

Figure 61. Supply Decoupling, REF, and Output Referred to Local Ground

References

The output voltage of the AD8227 is developed with respect to the potential on the reference terminal. Care should be taken to tie REF to the appropriate local ground.

All terminals of the AD8227 are protected against ESD. The input bias current of the AD8227 must have a return path to ground. When the source, such as a thermocouple, cannot provide a return current path, one should be created, as shown in [Figure 62.](#page-20-2)

INPUT PROTECTION

The AD8227 has very robust inputs and typically does not need additional input protection. Input voltages can be up to 40 V from the opposite supply rail. For example, with a +5 V positive supply and a −8 V negative supply, the part can safely withstand voltages from −35 V to +32 V. Unlike some other instrumentation amplifiers, the part can handle large differential input voltages even when the part is in high gain. [Figure 17](#page-10-1) through [Figure 20](#page-10-1) show the behavior of the part under overvoltage conditions.

INPUT BIAS CURRENT RETURN PATH The other AD8227 terminals should be kept within the supplies.

For applications where the AD8227 encounters voltages beyond the allowed limits, external current limiting resistors and low leakage diode clamps such as the BAV199L, the FJH1100s, or the SP720 should be used.

RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE (RFI)

RF rectification is often a problem when amplifiers are used in applications that have strong RF signals. The disturbance can appear as a small dc offset voltage. High frequency signals can be filtered with a low-pass RC network placed at the input of the instrumentation amplifier, as shown in [Figure 63.](#page-20-3) The filter limits the input signal bandwidth, according to the following relationship:

$$
FilterFrequency_{DIFF} = \frac{1}{2\pi R(2C_D + C_C)}
$$

FilterFrequency_{CM} = $\frac{1}{2\pi RC_C}$

where $C_D \geq 10 C_C$.

Figure 63. RFI Suppression

 C_D affects the differential signal and C_C affects the commonmode signal. Values of R and C_C should be chosen to minimize RFI. A mismatch between $R \times C_C$ at the positive input and $R \times C_C$ at the negative input degrades the CMRR of the AD8227. By using a value of C_D one magnitude larger than C_C , the effect of the mismatch is reduced, and performance is improved.

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION **DIFFERENTIAL DRIVE**

[Figure 64](#page-21-1) shows how to configure the AD8227 for differential output.

Figure 64. Differential Output Using an Op Amp

The differential output is set by the following equation:

 $V_{\text{DIFF_OUT}} = V_{\text{OUT+}} - V_{\text{OUT-}} = Gain \times (V_{\text{IN+}} - V_{\text{IN-}})$

The common-mode output is set by the following equation:

$$
V_{CM_OUT} = (V_{OUT+} - V_{OUT-})/2 = V_{BIAS}
$$

The advantage of this circuit is that the dc differential accuracy depends on the AD8227 and not on the op amp or the resistors. This circuit takes advantage of the AD8227's precise control of its output voltage relative to the reference voltage. Op amp dc performance and resistor matching affect the dc common-mode output accuracy. However, because common-mode errors are likely to be rejected by the next device in the signal chain, these errors typically have little effect on overall system accuracy.

Tips for Best Differential Output Performance

For best ac performance, an op amp with at least 2 MHz gain bandwidth and 1 V/μs slew rate is recommended. Good choices for op amps are the [AD8641,](http://www.analog.com/AD8641) [AD8515](http://www.analog.com/AD8515), or [AD820](http://www.analog.com/AD820).

Keep trace lengths from resistors to the inverting terminal of the op amp as short as possible. Excessive capacitance at this node can cause the circuit to be unstable. If capacitance cannot be avoided, use lower value resistors.

PRECISION STRAIN GAGE

The low offset and high CMRR over frequency of the AD8227 make it an excellent choice for bridge measurements. The bridge can be connected directly to the inputs of the amplifier (see [Figure 65\)](#page-21-2).

Figure 65. Precision Strain Gage

DRIVING AN ADC

[Figure 66](#page-22-1) shows several different methods for driving an ADC. The ADC in the [ADuC7026](http://www.analog.com/ADuC7026) microcontroller was chosen for this example because it has an unbuffered charge sampling architecture that is typical of most modern ADCs. This type of architecture typically requires an RC buffer stage between the ADC and the amplifier to work correctly.

Option 1 shows the minimum configuration required to drive a charge sampling ADC. The capacitor provides charge to the ADC sampling capacitor, and the resistor shields the AD8227 from the capacitance. To keep the AD8227 stable, the RC time constant of the resistor and capacitor needs to stay above 5 μs. This circuit is mainly useful for lower frequency signals.

Option 2 shows a circuit for driving higher frequency signals. It uses a precision op amp [\(AD8616](http://www.analog.com/AD8616)) with relatively high bandwidth and output drive. This amplifier can drive a resistor and capacitor with a much higher time constant and is, therefore, suited for higher frequency applications.

Option 3 is useful for applications where the AD8227 needs to run off a large voltage supply but drives a single-supply ADC. In normal operation, the AD8227 output stays within the ADC range, and the [AD8616](http://www.analog.com/AD8616) simply buffers it. However, in a fault condition, the output of the AD8227 may go outside the supply range of both the [AD8616](http://www.analog.com/AD8616) and the ADC. This is not an issue in the circuit, because the 10 k Ω resistor between the two amplifiers limits the current into the [AD8616](http://www.analog.com/AD8616) to a safe level.

Figure 66. Driving an ADC

OUTLINE DIMENSIONS

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