

LTC6404

600MHz, Low Noise, High Precision Fully Differential Input/Output Amplifier/Driver

FEATURES

- ⁿ **Fully Differential Input and Output**
- ⁿ **Low Noise: 1.5nV/√Hz RTI**
- Very Low Distortion: **LTC6404-1 (2VP-P , 10MHz): –91dBc LTC6404-2 (2VP-P , 10MHz): –96dBc LTC6404-4 (2VP-P , 10MHz): –101dBc**
- ⁿ **Closed-Loop –3dB Bandwidth: 600MHz**
- ⁿ **Slew Rate: 1200V/μs (LTC6404-4)**
- Adjustable Output Common Mode Voltage
- Rail-to-Rail Output Swing
- Input Range Extends to Ground
- Large Output Current: 85mA (Typ)
- \blacksquare DC Voltage Offset < 2mV (Max)
- **E** Low Power Shutdown
- Tiny 3mm \times 3mm \times 0.75mm 16-Pin QFN Package

APPLICATIONS

- Differential Input A/D Converter Driver
- Single-Ended to Differential Conversion/Amplification
- Common Mode Level Translation
- Low Voltage, Low Noise, Signal Processing

DESCRIPTION

The LTC® 6404 is a family of AC precision, very low noise, low distortion, fully differential input/output amplifiers optimized for 3V, single supply operation.

The LTC6404-1 is unity-gain stable. The LTC6404-2 is designed for closed-loop gains greater than or equal to 2V/V. The LTC6404-4 is designed for closed-loop gains greater than or equal to 4V/V. The LTC6404 closed-loop bandwidth extends from DC to 600MHz. In addition to the normal unfiltered outputs (OUT⁺ and OUT⁻), the LTC6404 has a built-in 88.5MHz differential single-pole lowpass filter and an additional pair of filtered outputs (OUTF⁺, OUTF⁻). An input referred voltage noise of 1.5nV/ \sqrt{Hz} make the LTC6404 able to drive state-of-the-art 16-/18-bit ADCs while operating on the same supply voltage, saving system cost and power. The LTC6404 is characterized, and maintains its performance for supplies as low as 2.7V and can operate on supplies up to 5.25V. It draws only 27.3mA, and has a hardware shutdown feature which reduces current consumption to 250μA.

The LTC6404 family is available in a compact 3mm \times 3mm 16-pin leadless QFN package and operates over a –40°C to 125°C temperature range.

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TYPICAL APPLICATION

LTC6404-4 Distortion vs Frequency

6404f

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ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS **(Note 1)**

PIN CONFIGURATION

ORDER INFORMATION

Consult LTC Marketing for parts specified with wider operating temperature ranges. *The temperature grade is identified by a label on the shipping container. Consult LTC Marketing for information on non-standard lead based finish parts.

For more information on lead free part marking, go to: http://www.linear.com/leadfree/

For more information on tape and reel specifications, go to: http://www.linear.com/tapeandreel/

LT**CO4U4 IDC CLCC I ISICHL CHHISHCTCISTICS** The \bullet denotes the specifications which apply over LTC6404 DC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

the full operating temperature range, otherwise specifications are at T_A = 25°C. V⁺ = 3V, V⁻ = 0V, V_{CM} = V_{OCM} = V_{ICM} = Mid-Supply, **VSHDN = OPEN, RL = OPEN, RBAL = 100k (See Figure 1). For the LTC6404-1: R^I = 100Ω, RF = 100Ω. For the LTC6404-2: R^I = 100Ω,** $R_F = 200\Omega$. For the LTC6404-4: $R_I = 100\Omega$, $R_F = 402\Omega$, unless otherwise noted. V_S is defined (V⁺ – V⁻). V_{OUTCM} = (V_{OUT}⁺ + V_{OUT}⁻)/2. V_{ICM} is defined $(V_{\text{IN}}^+ + V_{\text{IN}}^-)/2$. V_{OUTDIFF} is defined $(V_{\text{OUT}}^+ - V_{\text{OUT}}^-)$. $V_{\text{INDIFF}} = (V_{\text{INP}} - V_{\text{INM}})$

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LT**CO4U4-T HC CLCCTRICHL CHHISHCTCHISTICS** The \bullet denotes the specifications which apply over the full operating temperature range, otherwise specifications are at T_A = 25°C. V⁺ = 3V, V⁻ = 0V, V_{CM} = V_{OCM} = V_{ICM} = Mid-Supply, $V_{\overline{\text{SHDN}}}$ = OPEN, R_I = 100 Ω , R_F = 100 Ω , R_L = 200 Ω (See Figure 2) unless otherwise noted. V_S is defined (V⁺ – V⁻). LTC6404-1 AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

 $V_{\text{OUTCM}} = (V_{\text{OUT}} + V_{\text{OUT}})/2$. V_{ICM} is defined as $(V_{\text{IN}} + V_{\text{IN}})/2$. V_{OUTDIFF} is defined as $(V_{\text{OUT}} - V_{\text{OUT}})$. $V_{\text{INDIFF}} = (V_{\text{INP}} - V_{\text{INM}})$.

LI CO4U4-Z ITC CLCC ITSICHL CHHISHCLICISITICS The \bullet denotes the specifications which apply LTC6404-2 AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

over the full operating temperature range, otherwise specifications are at T_A = 25°C. V⁺ = 3V, V⁻ = 0V, V_{CM} = V_{OCM} = V_{ICM} = Mid-Supply, $V_{\overline{\text{SHDN}}}$ = OPEN, R_I = 100 Ω , R_F = 200 Ω , R_L = 200 Ω (See Figure 2) unless otherwise noted. V_S is defined (V⁺ – V⁻). $V_{\text{OUTCM}} = (V_{\text{OUT}} + V_{\text{OUT}})/2$. V_{ICM} is defined as $(V_{\text{IN}} + V_{\text{IN}})/2$. V_{OUTDIFF} is defined as $(V_{\text{OUT}} - V_{\text{OUT}})$. $V_{\text{INDIFF}} = (V_{\text{INP}} - V_{\text{INM}})$.

LTC6404-4 AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS The \bullet denotes the specifications which apply over the full operating temperature range, otherwise specifications are at $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C. V⁺ = 3V, V⁻ = 0V, V_{CM} = V_{OCM} = V_{ICM} = Mid-Supply, $V_{\overline{\text{SHDN}}}$ = OPEN, R_I = 100 Ω , R_F = 402 Ω , R_L = 200 Ω (See Figure 2) unless otherwise noted. V_S is defined (V⁺ – V⁻).

 $V_{\text{OUTCM}} = (V_{\text{OUT}} + V_{\text{OUT}})/2$. V_{ICM} is defined as $(V_{\text{IN}} + V_{\text{IN}})/2$. V_{OUTDIFF} is defined as $(V_{\text{OUT}} - V_{\text{OUT}})$. $V_{\text{INDIFF}} = (V_{\text{INP}} - V_{\text{INM}})$.

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Note 1: Stresses beyond those listed under Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the device. Exposure to any Absolute Maximum Rating condition for extended periods may affect device reliability and lifetime.

Note 2: The inputs IN^+ , IN^- are protected by a pair of back-to-back diodes. If the differential input voltage exceeds 1.4V, the input current should be limited to less than 10mA. Input pins (IN+, IN⁻, V_{OCM} and $\overline{\text{SHDN}}$) are also protected by steering diodes to either supply. If the inputs should exceed either supply voltage, the input current should be limited to less than 10mA.

Note 3: A heat sink may be required to keep the junction temperature below the absolute maximum rating when the output is shorted indefinitely. Long-term application of output currents in excess of the absolute maximum ratings may impair the life of the device.

Note 4: The LTC6404C/LTC6404I are guaranteed functional over the operating temperature range –40°C to 85°C. The LTC6404H is guaranteed functional over the operating temperature range –40°C to 125°C.

Note 5: The LTC6404C is guaranteed to meet specified performance from 0°C to 70°C. The LTC6404C is designed, characterized, and expected to meet specified performance from -40° C to 85 $^{\circ}$ C but is not tested or QA sampled at these temperatures. The LTC6404I is guaranteed to meet specified performance from -40° C to 85 $^{\circ}$ C. The LTC6404H is quaranteed to meet specified performance from -40° C to 125 $^{\circ}$ C.

Note 6: Input bias current is defined as the average of the input currents flowing into Pin 6 and Pin 15 (IN⁻ and IN⁺). Input offset current is defined as the difference of the input currents flowing into Pin 15 and Pin 6 $(I_{OS} = I_B^+ - I_B^-)$

Note 7: Input common mode range is tested using the test circuit of Figure 1 by measuring the differential gain with a \pm 1V differential output with V_{IGM} = mid-supply, and with V_{IGM} at the input common mode range limits listed in the Electrical Characteristics table, verifying the differential gain has not deviated from the mid-supply common mode input case by more than 1%, and the common mode offset (V_{OSCM}) has not deviated from the zero bias common mode offset by more than ±15mV (LTC6404-1), ±20mV (LTC6404-2) or ±40mV (LTC6404-4).

The voltage range for the output common mode range is tested using the test circuit of Figure 1 by applying a voltage on the V_{OCM} pin and testing at both mid-supply and at the Electrical Characteristics table limits to verify that the the common mode offset (V_{OSCM}) has not deviated by more than ±15mV (LTC6404-1), ±20mV (LTC6404-2) or ±40mV (LTC6404-4). **Note 8:** Input CMRR is defined as the ratio of the change in the input common mode voltage at the pins IN⁺ or IN⁻ to the change in differential input referred voltage offset. Output CMRR is defined as the ratio of the change in the voltage at the V_{OCM} pin to the change in differential input referred voltage offset. These specifications are strongly dependent on feedback ratio matching between the two outputs and their respective inputs, and is difficult to measure actual amplifier performance. (See "The Effects of Resistor Pair Mismatch" in the Applications Information section of this data sheet. For a better indicator of actual amplifier performance independent of feedback component matching, refer to the PSRR specification.

Note 9: Differential power supply rejection (PSRR) is defined as the ratio of the change in supply voltage to the change in differential input referred voltage offset. Common mode power supply rejection (PSRRCM) is defined as the ratio of the change in supply voltage to the change in the common mode offset, $V_{\text{OUTCM}} - V_{\text{OCM}}$.

Note 10: This parameter is pulse tested. Output swings are measured as differences between the output and the respective power supply rail.

Note 11: This parameter is pulse tested. Extended operation with the output shorted may cause junction temperatures to exceed the 125°C limit and is not recommended. See Note 3 for more details.

Note 12: Since the LTC6404 is a voltage feedback amplifier with low output impedance, a resistive load is not required when driving an ADC. Therefore, typical output power is very small. In order to compare the LTC6404 with amplifiers that require 50Ω output loads, output swing of the LTC6404 driving an ADC is converted into an "effective" OIP3 as if the LTC6404 were driving a 50Ω load.

Note 13: The capacitors used to set the filter pole might have up to $\pm 15\%$ variation. The resistors used to set the filter pole might have up to $\pm 12\%$ variation.

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LTC6404-1 TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Temperature

Active Supply Current vs Supply Voltage and Temperature

Supply Current vs SHDN Pin Voltage and Temperature

Differential Voltage Offset (Input Referred) vs Temperature

SHDN Supply Current vs Supply Voltage and Temperature

Small-Signal Frequency Response

LTC6404-1 TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

LTC6404-1 TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Voltage Noise Density vs Frequency

LTC6404-1 Noise Figure vs Frequency

LTC6404-2 TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Common Mode Voltage Offset (Input Referred) vs Temperature

SHDN Pin Current vs SHDN Pin Voltage and Temperature

Active Supply Current vs Supply Voltage and Temperature

Supply Current vs SHDN Pin Voltage and Temperature

Differential Voltage Offset (Input Referred) vs Temperature

SHDN Supply Current vs Supply Voltage and Temperature

Small-Signal Frequency Response

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LTC6404-2 TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

LTC6404-2 TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Voltage Noise Density vs Frequency

LTC6404-2 Noise Figure vs Frequency

LTC6404-4 TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

0.7

Common Mode Voltage Offset (Input Referred) vs Temperature

5 REPRESENTATIVE UNITS V_{CM} = V_{OCM} = MID-SUPPLY
V_S = 3V

TEMPERATURE (°C) –75 Ω (mA) 0.1 0.2 $\overset{\sim}{\equiv} 0.3$ –50 –25 0 25 50 75 100 125 150 64044 G02 0.4 0.5 0.6 $V_S = 2.7V$ $V_S = 3V$ $V_S = 5V$

Active Supply Current vs Supply Voltage and Temperature

Shutdown Supply Current vs

 $V_{CM} = V_{OCM} = MID-SUPPLY$

Temperature

Differential Voltage Offset (Input Referred) vs Temperature

SHDN Supply Current vs Supply Voltage and Temperature

Small-Signal Frequency Response

V_{CM} = V_{OCM} =
MID-SUPPLY $\overline{\text{SHDN}} = \text{V}^+$

 $\boldsymbol{0}$

 Ω

30 35 40

V_{SUPPLY} (V)

1 2 4

 $\frac{1}{2}$

3 5

 $T_A = 125$ °C $T_A = 105^{\circ}C$ $\overrightarrow{T_A} = 90^{\circ}$ C $T_A = 75$ °C $T_A = 50^{\circ}$ C $T_A = 25$ °C $T_A = -10$ °C $T_A = -45$ °C $T_A = -60$ °C

64044 G05

–50 –25 0 25 50 75 100 125 150

 -75 -50 -25

–50

–40

–30

–20 –10 0

50

20

10

30 40

V_{OSCM} (mV)

LTC6404-4 TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

LTC6404-4 TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

PIN FUNCTIONS

SHDN (Pin 1): When SHDN is floating or directly tied to V + , the LTC6404 is in the normal (active) operating mode. When Pin 1 is pulled a minimum of 2.1V below V⁺, the LTC6404 enters into a low power shutdown state. See Applications Information for more details.

V + , V– (Pins 2, 10, 11 and Pins 3, 9, 12): Power Supply Pins. Three pairs of power supply pins are provided to keep the power supply inductance as low as possible to prevent degradation of amplifier 2nd harmonic performance. See the Layout Considerations section for more detail.

V_{OCM} (Pin 4): Output Common Mode Reference Voltage. The voltage on $V_{\Omega CM}$ sets the output common mode voltage level (which is defined as the average of the voltages on the OUT⁺ and OUT[–] pins). The V_{OCM} pin is the midpoint of an internal resistive voltage divider between the supplies, developing a (default) mid-supply voltage potential to maximize output signal swing. In general, the V_{OCM} pin can be overdriven by an external voltage reference capable of driving the input impedance presented by the V_{OCM} pin. On the LTC6404-1, the V_{OCM} pin has a input resistance of approximately 23.5k to a mid-supply

PIN FUNCTIONS

potential. On the LTC6404-2, the V_{OCM} pin has a input resistance of approximately 14k. On the LTC6404-4, the $V_{\Omega CM}$ pin has a input resistance of approximately 7k. The V_{OCM} pin should be bypassed with a high quality ceramic bypass capacitor of at least 0.01μF, (unless you are using split supplies, then connect directly to a low impedance, low noise ground plane) to minimize common mode noise from being converted to differential noise by impedance mismatches both externally and internally to the IC.

NC (Pins 5, 16): No Connection. These pins are not connected internally.

OUT⁺, OUT⁻ (Pins 7, 14): Unfiltered Output Pins. Besides driving the feedback network, each pin can drive an additional 50Ω to ground with typical short-circuit current limiting of ± 65 mA. Each amplifier output is designed to drive a load capacitance of 10pF. This basically means the amplifier can drive 10pF from each output to ground or 5pF differentially. Larger capacitive loads should be decoupled with at least 25 Ω resistors in series with each output. For long-term device reliability, it is recommended

that the continuous (DC + AC_{RMS}) output current be limited to under 50mA.

OUTF⁺ , OUTF– (Pins 8, 13): Filtered Output Pins. These pins have a series 50Ω resistor connected between the filtered and unfiltered outputs and three 12pF capacitors. Both OUTF⁺ and OUTF⁻ have 12pF to V⁻, plus an additional 12pF differentially between OUTF⁺ and OUTF⁻. This filter creates a differential lowpass frequency response with a –3dB bandwidth of 88.5MHz. For long-term device reliability, it is recommended that the continuous (DC + ACRMS) output current be limited to under 40mA.

IN⁺ , IN– (Pins 15, 6): Noninverting and Inverting Input Pins of the Amplifier, Respectively. For best performance, it is highly recommended that stray capacitance be kept to an absolute minimum by keeping printed circuit connections as short as possible, and if necessary, stripping back nearby surrounding ground plane away from these pins.

Exposed Pad (Pin 17): Tie the pad to V– (Pins 3, 9, and 12). If split supplies are used, do not tie the pad to ground.

BLOCK DIAGRAM

Figure 2. AC Test Circuit (–3dB BW testing)

Functional Description

The LTC6404 is a small outline, wide band, low noise, and low distortion fully-differential amplifier with accurate output phase balancing. The LTC6404 is optimized to drive low voltage, single-supply, differential input 14-bit to 18-bit analog-to-digital converters (ADCs). The LTC6404's output is capable of swinging rail-to-rail on supplies as low as 2.7V, which makes the amplifier ideal for converting ground referenced, single-ended signals into DC level-shifted differential signals in preparation for driving low voltage, single-supply, differential input ADCs. Unlike traditional op amps which have a single output, the LTC6404 has two outputs to process signals differentially. This allows for two times the signal swing in low voltage systems when compared to single-ended output amplifiers. The balanced differential nature of the amplifier also provides even-order harmonic distortion cancellation, and less susceptibility to common mode noise (e.g., power supply noise). The LTC6404 can be used as a single-ended input to differential output amplifier, or as a differential input to differential output amplifier.

The LTC6404's output common mode voltage, defined as the average of the two output voltages, is independent of the input common mode voltage, and is adjusted by applying a voltage on the V_{OCM} pin. If the pin is left open, there is an internal resistive voltage divider that develops a potential halfway between the V⁺ and V⁻ pins. Whenever this pin is not hard tied to a low impedance ground plane, it is recommended that a high quality ceramic capacitor is used to bypass the $V_{\Omega CM}$ pin to a low impedance ground plane (See Layout Considerations in this document). The LTC6404's internal common mode feedback path forces accurate output phase balancing to reduce even order harmonics, and centers each individual output about the potential set by the V_{OCM} pin.

$$
V_{OUTCM} = V_{OCM} = \frac{V_{OUT}^{+} + V_{OUT}^{-}}{2}
$$

The outputs (OUT⁺ and OUT–) of the LTC6404 are capable of swinging rail-to-rail. They can source or sink up to approximately 65mA of current.

Additional outputs (OUTF⁺ and OUTF⁻) are available that provide filtered versions of the OUT⁺ and OUT⁻ outputs. An on-chip single pole RC passive filter band limits the filtered outputs to a –3dB frequency of 88.5MHz. The user has a choice of using the unfiltered outputs, the filtered outputs, or modifying the filtered outputs to adjust the frequency response by adding additional components.

In applications where the full bandwidth of the LTC6404 is desired, the unfiltered outputs (OUT⁺ and OUT⁻) should be used. The unfiltered outputs OUT⁺ and OUT⁻ are designed to drive 10pF to ground (or 5pF differentially). Capacitances greater than 10pF will produce excess peaking, and can be mitigated by placing at least 25 Ω in series with each output pin.

Input Pin Protection

The LTC6404's input stage is protected against differential input voltages which exceed 1.4V by two pairs of backto-back diodes connected in anti-parallel series between IN⁺ and IN– (Pins 6 and 15). In addition, the input pins have steering diodes to either power supply. If the input pair is overdriven, the current should be limited to under 10mA to prevent damage to the IC. The LTC6404 also has steering diodes to either power supply on the V_{OCM} and SHDN pins (Pins 4 and 1), and if forced to voltages which exceed either supply, they too, should be current-limited to under 10mA.

SHDN Pin

If the SHDN pin (Pin 1) is pulled 2.1V below the positive supply, circuitry is activated which powers down the LTC6404. The pin will have the Thevenin equivalent impedance of approximately 66kΩ to V⁺. If the pin is left unconnected, an internal pull-up resistor of 150k will keep the part in normal active operation. Care should be taken to control leakage currents at this pin to under 1μA to prevent inadvertently putting the LTC6404 into shutdown. In shutdown, all biasing current sources are shut off, and the output pins, OUT⁺ and OUT⁻, will each appear as open collectors with a non-linear capacitor in parallel and steering diodes to either supply. Because of the non-linear capacitance, the outputs still have the ability to sink and source small amounts of transient current if driven by significant voltage transients. The inputs $(IN⁺,)$ and IN–) appear as anti-parallel diodes which can conduct

if voltage transients at the input exceed 1.4V. The inputs also have steering diodes to either supply. The turn-on and turn-off time between the shutdown and active states is typically less than 1μs.

General Amplifier Applications

As levels of integration have increased and correspondingly, system supply voltages decreased, there has been a need for ADCs to process signals differentially in order to maintain good signal to noise ratios. These ADCs are typically supplied from a single supply voltage which can be as low as 3V (2.7V min), and will have an optimal common mode input range near mid-supply. The LTC6404 makes interfacing to these ADCs easy, by providing both single-ended to differential conversion as well as common mode level shifting. The front page of this data sheet shows a typical application. Referring to Figure 1, the gain to V_{OUTDIFF} from V_{INM} and V_{INP} is:

$$
V_{\text{OUTDIFF}} = V_{\text{OUT}} + -V_{\text{OUT}} - \approx \frac{R_F}{R_I} \bullet (V_{\text{INP}} - V_{\text{INM}})
$$

Note from the above equation, the differential output voltage $(V_{\text{OUT}}{}^+ - V_{\text{OUT}}{}^-)$ is completely independent of input and output common mode voltages, or the voltage at the common mode pin. This makes the LTC6404 ideally suited for pre-amplification, level shifting and conversion

of single ended signals to differential output signals to drive differential input ADCs.

Effects of Resistor Pair Mismatch

In the circuit of Figure 3, it is possible the gain setting resistors will not perfectly match. Assuming infinite open loop gain, the differential output relationship is given by the equation:

$$
V_{\text{OUTDIFF}} = V_{\text{OUT}} + V_{\text{OUT}} = \frac{R_{\text{F}}}{R_{\text{I}}} \cdot V_{\text{INDIFF}} + V_{\text{INCIM}} - \frac{\Delta \beta}{\beta_{\text{AVG}}} \cdot V_{\text{OCM}}
$$

where:

$$
\beta_{AVG} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{R_{11}}{R_{11} + R_{F1}} + \frac{R_{12}}{R_{12} + R_{F2}} \right)
$$

 R_F is the average of R_{F1} , and R_{F2} , and R_I is the average of R_{11} , and R_{12} .

 β_{AVG} is defined as the average feedback factor (or gain) from the outputs to their respective inputs:

 $\Delta\beta$ is defined as the difference in feedback factors:

$$
\Delta \beta = \frac{R_{12}}{R_{12} + R_{F2}} - \frac{R_{11}}{R_{11} + R_{F1}}
$$

Figure 3. Basic Differential Amplifier with Feedback Resistor Pair Mismatch

 V_{INCM} is defined as the average of the two input voltages V_{INB} and V_{INM} (also called the source-referred input common mode voltage):

$$
V_{INCM} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot (V_{INP} + V_{INM})
$$

and V_{INDIFF} is defined as the difference of the input voltages:

$$
V_{INDIFF} = V_{IMP} - V_{INM}
$$

When the feedback ratios mismatch $(\Delta \beta)$, common mode to differential conversion occurs.

Setting the differential input to zero ($V_{\text{INDIFF}} = 0$), the degree of common mode to differential conversion is given by the equation:

$$
V_{\text{OUTDIFF}} = V_{\text{OUT}} + -V_{\text{OUT}} - \frac{\Delta \beta}{\beta_{\text{AVG}}} \bigg|_{V_{\text{INDIFF}}} = 0
$$

In general, the degree of feedback pair mismatch is a source of common mode to differential conversion of both signals and noise. Using 1% resistors or better will mitigate most problems, and will provide about 34dB worst-case of common mode rejection. Using 0.1% resistors will provide about 54dB of common mode rejection. A low impedance ground plane should be used as a reference for both the input signal source, and the V_{OCM} pin. A direct short of V_{OCM} to this ground or bypassing the V_{OCM} with a high quality 0.1μF ceramic capacitor to this ground plane, will further prevent common mode signals from being converted to differential.

There may be concern on how feedback ratio mismatch affects distortion. Distortion caused by feedback ratio mismatch using 1% resistors or better is negligible. However, in single supply level shifting applications where there is a voltage difference between the input common mode voltage and the output common mode voltage, resistor mismatch can make the apparent voltage offset of the amplifier appear higher than specified.

The apparent input referred offset induced by feedback ratio mismatch is derived from the following equation:

 $V_{OSDIFF(APPARENT)} \approx (V_{ICM} - V_{OCM}) \cdot \Delta \beta$

Using the LTC6404-1 in a single supply application on a single 5V supply with 1% resistors, and the input common mode grounded, with the $V_{\Omega CM}$ pin biased at mid-supply, the worst-case DC offset can induce 25mV of apparent offset voltage. With 0.1% resistors, the worst case apparent offset reduces to 2.5mV.

Input Impedance and Loading Effects

The input impedance looking into the V_{IND} or V_{IMM} input of Figure 1 depends on whether the sources V_{IMP} and V_{INM} are fully differential. For balanced input sources $(V_{\text{IMP}} = -V_{\text{INM}})$, the input impedance seen at either input is simply:

$$
R_{\text{INP}} = R_{\text{INM}} = R_{\text{I}}
$$

For single ended inputs, because of the signal imbalance at the input, the input impedance increases over the balanced differential case. The input impedance looking into either input is:

$$
R_{\text{IND}} = R_{\text{INM}} = \frac{R_{\text{I}}}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{R_{\text{F}}}{R_{\text{I}} + R_{\text{F}}}\right)\right)}
$$

Input signal sources with non-zero output impedances can also cause feedback imbalance between the pair of feedback networks. For the best performance, it is recommended that the source's output impedance be compensated for. If input impedance matching is required by the source, R1 should be chosen (see Figure 4):

$$
R_1 = \frac{R_{INM} \cdot R_S}{R_{INM} - R_S}
$$
\n
$$
\begin{array}{ccc}\n1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
\hline\n1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
\hline\n2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
\hline\n3 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
\hline\n4 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
\hline\n5 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\
\hline\n6 & 1005EN & 50 \text{ THAT R1} & R_{INM} = R_S \\
\hline\n7 & 1005EN & 50 \text{ THAT R1} & R_{INM} = R_S \\
\hline\n8 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n9 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n1 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n1 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n1 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n1 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n2 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n2 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n3 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n3 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n4 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n4 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n4 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n5 & 1005EN & 70 \text{ BALANCE R1} & R_S \\
\hline\n\end{array}
$$

According to Figure 4, the input impedance looking into the differential amp (R_{INM}) reflects the single ended source case, thus:

$$
R_{INM} = \frac{R_I}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{R_F}{R_I + R_F}\right)\right)}
$$

R2 is chosen to balance R1 \parallel R_S:

$$
R_2 = \frac{R_1 \cdot R_S}{R_1 + R_S}
$$

 V_{CM} $\cdot \left(\frac{R}{R} \right)$ $\text{CM} \cdot \left(\frac{R_F}{R_F + 1} \right)$

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Input Common Mode Voltage Range

 $V_{ICM} = \frac{V_{IN}^+ + V_{IN}^-}{2} \approx V_{OCM} \cdot \left(\frac{R}{R}\right)$ $V_{\text{ICM}} = \frac{V_{\text{IN}} + V_{\text{IN}}}{2} \approx V_{\text{OCM}} \cdot \left(\frac{R_{\text{I}}}{R_{\text{I}} + R} \right)$

 λ

 $=\frac{V_{IN}^+ + V_{IN}^-}{2} \approx$

2

 $+ + V_{\rm in}$

The LTC6404's input common mode voltage (V_{ICM}) is defined as the average of the two input voltages, $\mathsf{V_{\text{IN}}}^+$, and V_{IN} . It extends from V⁻ to 1.4V below V⁺. The operating input common mode range depends on the circuit configuration (gain), V_{OCM} and V_{CM} (Refer to Figure 5). For fully differential input applications, where $V_{\text{IMP}} = -V_{\text{INM}}$, the common mode input voltage is approximately:

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With singled ended inputs, there is an input signal component to the input common mode voltage. Applying only V_{IMP} (setting V_{INM} to zero), the input common voltage is approximately:

$$
V_{ICM} = \frac{V_{IN}^+ + V_{IN}^-}{2} \approx V_{OCM} \cdot \left(\frac{R_I}{R_I + R_F}\right) + V_{CM} \cdot \left(\frac{R_F}{R_F + R_I}\right) + \frac{V_{INP}}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{R_F}{R_F + R_I}\right)
$$

Output Common Mode Voltage Range

The output common mode voltage is defined as the average of the two outputs:

$$
V_{OUTCM} = V_{OCM} = \frac{V_{OUT}^{+} + V_{OUT}^{-}}{2}
$$

The V_{OCM} pin sets this average by an internal common mode feedback loop which internally forces $V_{\text{OUT}}{}^{+} = -V_{\text{OUT}}{}^{-}$. The output common mode range extends from 1.1V above V⁻ to 1V below V⁺ (see the Electrical Characteristics table for the LTC6404-4 output common mode voltage range). The V_{OCM} pin sits in the middle of a voltage divider which sets the default mid-supply open circuit potential.

Figure 5. Circuit for Common Mode Range

In single supply applications, where the LTC6404 is used to interface to an ADC, the optimal common mode input range to the ADC is often determined by the ADC's reference. If the ADC makes a reference available for setting the input common mode voltage, it can be directly tied to the $V_{\Omega CM}$ pin, but must be capable of driving the input impedance presented by the V_{OCM} as listed in the Electrical Characteristics Table. This impedance can be assumed to be connected to a mid-supply potential. If an external reference drives the V_{OCM} pin, it should still be bypassed with a high quality 0.01μF or larger capacitor to a low impedance ground plane to filter any thermal noise and to prevent common mode signals on this pin from being inadvertently converted to differential signals.

Output Filter Considerations and Use

Filtering at the output of the LTC6404 is often desired to provide either anti-aliasing or improved signal to noise ratio. To simplify this filtering, the LTC6404 includes an additional pair of differential outputs (OUTF⁺ and OUTF⁻) which incorporate an internal lowpass filter network with a –3dB bandwidth of 88.5MHz (Figure 6).

These pins each have a DC output impedance of 50Ω . Internal capacitances are 12pF to V⁻ on each filtered output, plus an additional 12pF capacitor connected differentially between the two filtered outputs. This resistor/capacitor combination creates filtered outputs that look like a series $50Ω$ resistor with a 36pF capacitor shunting each filtered output to AC ground, providing a –3dB bandwidth of

Figure 6. LTC6404 Internal Filter Topology Bandwidth (2 External Resistors)

88.5MHz, and a noise bandwidth of 139MHz. The filter cutoff frequency is easily modified with just a few external components. To increase the cutoff frequency, simply add 2 equal value resistors, one between OUT⁺ and OUTF⁺ and the other between OUT– and OUTF– (Figure 7). These resistors, in parallel with the internal 50Ω resistor, lower the overall resistance and therefore increase filter bandwidth. For example, to double the filter bandwidth, add two external 50 Ω resistors to lower the series filter resistance to 25 Ω . The 36pF of capacitance remains unchanged, so filter bandwidth doubles. Keep in mind, the series resistance also serves to decouple the outputs from load capacitance. The unfiltered outputs of the LTC6404 are designed to drive 10pF to ground or 5pF differentially, so care should be taken to not lower the effective impedance between OUT⁺ and OUTF⁺ or OUT⁻ and OUTF⁻ below 25 Ω .

To decrease filter bandwidth, add two external capacitors, one from OUTF⁺ to ground, and the other from OUTF– to ground. A single differential capacitor connected between OUTF⁺ and OUTF⁻ can also be used, but since it is being driven differentially it will appear at each filtered output as a single-ended capacitance of twice the value. To halve the filter bandwidth, for example, two 36pF capacitors could be added (one from each filtered output to ground). Alternatively, one 18pF capacitor could be added between the filtered outputs, again halving the filter bandwidth. Combinations of capacitors could be used as well; a three

Figure 7. LTC6404 Filter Topology Modified for 2x Filter

capacitor solution of 12pF from each filtered output to ground plus a 12pF capacitor between the filtered outputs would also halve the filter bandwidth (Figure 8).

Figure 8. LTC6404 Filter Topology Modified for 1/2x Filter **Bandwidth (3 External Capacitors)**

Noise Considerations

The LTC6404's input referred voltage noise is on the order of 1.5nV/√Hz. Its input referred current noise is on the order of 3pA/√Hz. In addition to the noise generated by the amplifier, the surrounding feedback resistors also contribute noise. A noise model is shown in Figure 9. The output noise generated by both the amplifier and the feedback components is governed by the equation:

$$
e_{no} = \sqrt{\frac{e_{ni} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{R_F}{R_I}\right)^2 + 2 \cdot \left(I_n \cdot R_F\right)^2 + 2 \cdot \left(I_n \cdot R_F\right)^2 + 2 \cdot e_{nRF}^2}
$$

A plot of this equation, and a plot of the noise generated by the feedback components for the LTC6404 is shown in Figure 10.

Figure 9. Noise Model of the LTC6404

Figure 10. LTC6404-1 Output Spot Noise vs Spot Noise Contributed by Feedback Network Alone

The LTC6404's input referred voltage noise contributes the equivalent noise of a 140 Ω resistor. When the feedback network is comprised of resistors whose values are less than this, the LTC6404's output noise is voltage noise dominant (See Figure 10.):

$$
e_{no} \approx e_{ni} \cdot \left(1 + \frac{R_F}{R_I}\right)
$$

Feedback networks consisting of resistors with values greater than about 200 Ω will result in output noise which is resistor noise and amplifier current noise dominant.

$$
e_{n0} \approx \sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{\left(l_n \cdot R_F\right)^2 + \left(1 + \frac{R_F}{R_I}\right) \cdot 4 \cdot k \cdot T \cdot R_F}
$$

Lower resistor values (<100 Ω) always result in lower noise at the penalty of increased distortion due to increased loading of the feedback network on the output. Higher resistor values (but still less than 400 $Ω$) will result in higher output noise, but improved distortion due to less loading on the output. The optimal feedback resistance for the LTC6404 runs between 100Ω to 400Ω. Higher resistances are not recommended.

The differential filtered outputs OUTF⁺ and OUTF⁻ will have a little higher spot noise than the unfiltered outputs (due to the two 50 Ω resistors which contribute 0.9nV/ \sqrt{Hz} each), but actually will provide superior Signal-to-Noise in noise bandwidths exceeding 139MHz due to the noise-filtering function the filter provides.

Layout Considerations

Because the LTC6404 is a very high speed amplifier, it is sensitive to both stray capacitance and stray inductance. Three pairs of power supply pins are provided to keep the power supply inductance as low as possible to prevent degradation of amplifier 2nd Harmonic performance. It is critical that close attention be paid to supply bypassing. For single supply applications (Pins 3, 9 and 12 grounded) it is recommended that 3 high quality 0.1μF surface mount ceramic bypass capacitor be placed between pins 2 and 3, between pins 11and 12, and between pins10 and 9 with direct short connections. Pins 3, 9 and 10 should be tied directly to a low impedance ground plane with minimal routing. For dual (split) power supplies, it is recommended that at least two additional high quality, 0.1μF ceramic capacitors are used to bypass pin V^+ to ground and V^- to ground, again with minimal routing. For driving large loads (<200 Ω), additional bypass capacitance may be needed for optimal performance. Keep in mind that small geometry (e.g. 0603) surface mount ceramic capacitors have a much higher self resonant frequency than do leaded capacitors, and perform best in high speed applications.

Any stray parasitic capacitances to ground at the summing junctions IN⁺, and IN⁻ should be kept to an absolute minimum even if it means stripping back the ground plane away from any trace attached to this node. This becomes especially true when the feedback resistor network uses resistor values >400Ω in circuits with $R_F = R_1$. Excessive peaking in the frequency response can be mitigated by adding small amounts of feedback capacitance (0.5pF to 2pF) around R_{F} . Always keep in mind the differential nature of the LTC6404, and that it is critical that the load impedances seen by both outputs (stray or intended) should be as balanced and symmetric as possible. This will help preserve the natural balance of the LTC6404, which minimizes the generation of even order harmonics, and preserves the rejection of common mode signals and noise.

It is highly recommended that the V_{OCM} pin be either hard tied to a low impedance ground plane (in split supply applications), or bypassed to ground with a high quality ceramic capacitor whose value exceeds 0.01μF. This will help stabilize the common mode feedback loop as well as prevent thermal noise from the internal voltage divider and

other external sources of noise from being converted to differential noise due to divider mismatches in the feedback networks. It is also recommended that the resistive feedback networks be comprised of 1% resistors (or better) to enhance the output common mode rejection. This will also prevent $V_{\Omega CM}$ referred common mode noise of the common mode amplifier path (which cannot be filtered) from being converted to differential noise, degrading the differential noise performance.

Feedback factor mismatch has a weak effect on distortion. Using 1% or better resistors should prevent mismatch from impacting amplifier linearity. However, in single supply level shifting applications where there is a voltage difference between the input common mode voltage and the output common mode voltage, resistor mismatch can make the apparent voltage offset of the amplifier appear worse than specified.

In general, the apparent input referred offset induced by feedback factor mismatch is given by the equation:

 $V_{OSDIFF(APPARENT)} \approx (V_{INCM} - V_{OCM}) \cdot \Delta \beta$ where

$$
\Delta \beta = \frac{R_{12}}{R_{12} + R_{F2}} - \frac{R_{11}}{R_{11} + R_{F1}}
$$

Interfacing the LTC6404 to A/D Converters

The LTC6404's rail-to-rail output and fast settling time make the LTC6404 ideal for interfacing to low voltage, single supply, differential input ADCs. The sampling process of ADCs create a sampling glitch caused by switching in the sampling capacitor on the ADC front end which momentarily "shorts" the output of the amplifier as charge is transferred between the amplifier and the sampling cap. The amplifier must recover and settle from this load transient before this acquisition period ends for a valid representation of the input signal. In general, the LTC6404 will settle much more quickly from these periodic load impulses than from a 2V input step, but it is a good idea to either use the filtered outputs to drive the ADC (Figure 11 shows an example of this), or to place a discrete R-C filter network between the differential unfiltered outputs of the LTC6404 and the input of the ADC to help absorb the charge transfer required during the ADC sampling process. The capacitance of the filter network serves as a charge reservoir to provide high frequency charging during the sampling process, while the two resistors of the filter network are used to dampen and attenuate any charge kickback from the ADC. The selection of the R-C time constant is trial and error for a given ADC, but the following guidelines are recommended: Choosing too large of a resistor in the decoupling network (leaving insufficient settling time)

Figure 11. Interfacing the LTC6404-1 to a High Speed 105Msps ADC

will create a voltage divider between the dynamic input impedance of the ADC and the decoupling resistors. Choosing too small of a resistor will possibly prevent the resistor from properly damping the load transient caused by the sampling process, prolonging the time required for

settling. 16-bit applications typically require a minimum of 11 R-C time constants. It is recommended that the capacitor chosen have a high quality dielectric (for example, C0G multilayer ceramic).

PACKAGE DESCRIPTION

RELATED PARTS

