

Technical documentation





**[OPA855](https://www.ti.com/product/OPA855)**

[SBOS622C](https://www.ti.com/lit/pdf/SBOS622) – JULY 2018 – REVISED JANUARY 2023

# **OPA855 8-GHz Gain Bandwidth Product, Gain of 7-V/V Stable, Bipolar Input Amplifier**

# **1 Features**

<span id="page-0-0"></span>**TEXAS** 

**INSTRUMENTS** 

- High gain bandwidth product: 8 GHz
- Decompensated, gain ≥ 7 V/V (stable)
- Low input voltage noise:  $0.98$  nV/ $\sqrt{Hz}$
- Slew rate: 2750 V/µs
- Low Input capacitance:
	- Common-mode: 0.6 pF
	- Differential: 0.2 pF
- Wide input common-mode range:
	- 0.4 V from positive supply
	- 1.1 V from negative supply
- $3 V_{\text{PP}}$  total output swing
- Supply voltage range: 3.3 V to 5.25 V
- Quiescent current: 17.8 mA
- Package: 8-pin WSON
	- Bare die (preview)
- Temperature range: -40°C to +125°C

# **2 Applications**

- [Optical time domain reflectometry \(OTDR\)](https://www.ti.com/tool/TIDA-00725)
- [3D scanner](https://www.ti.com/solution/safety-area-scanner)
- [Laser distance measurement](https://www.ti.com/solution/laser-distance-meter)
- [Solid-state scanning LIDAR](https://www.ti.com/applications/automotive/adas/overview.html)
- [Optical ToF position sensor](https://www.ti.com/solution/position-sensor)
- **[Drone vision](https://www.ti.com/solution/drone-vision)**
- [Industrial robot LIDAR](https://www.ti.com/solution/industrial-robot-sensing-module)
- [Vaccum robot LIDAR](https://www.ti.com/solution/vacuum-robot)
- Silicon photomultiplier (SiPM) buffer amplifier
- Photomultiplier tube post amplifier



**High-Speed Time-of-Flight Receiver**

# **3 Description**

The OPA855 is a wideband, low-noise operational amplifier with bipolar inputs for wideband transimpedance and voltage amplifier applications. When the device is configured as a transimpedance amplifier (TIA), the 8-GHz gain bandwidth product (GBWP) enables high closed-loop bandwidths at transimpedance gains of up to tens of kΩs.

The following graph shows the bandwidth and noise performance of the OPA855 as a function of the photodiode capacitance when the amplifier is configured as a TIA. The total noise is calculated along a bandwidth range extending from DC to the calculated frequency (*f*) on the left scale. The OPA855 package has a feedback pin (FB) that simplifies the feedback network connection between the input and the output.

The OPA855 is optimized to operate in optical time-offlight (ToF) systems where the OPA855 is used with time-to-digital converters, such as the [TDC7201](http://www.ti.com/product/TDC7201). Use the OPA855 to drive a high-speed analog-to-digital converter (ADC) in high-resolution LIDAR systems with a differential output amplifier, such as the [THS4541](http://www.ti.com/product/THS4541) or [LMH5401](http://www.ti.com/product/LMH5401).

#### **Package Information**



#### **Device Information**(3)



- (1) See the package option addendum at the end of the data sheet for all available packages.
- (2) Preview package.

(3) See the *[Device Comparison Table](#page-2-0)*.



**Photodiode Capacitance vs Bandwidth and Noise**



# **Table of Contents**





# **4 Revision History**

NOTE: Page numbers for previous revisions may differ from page numbers in the current version.



• Changed from Advance Information to Production Data (active)... [1](#page-0-0)

<span id="page-2-0"></span>

# **5 Device Comparison Table**





# <span id="page-3-0"></span>**6 Pin Configuration and Functions**



**(Top View)**



**Figure 6-2. Bare Die Package (Preview)**



#### **Table 6-1. Pin Functions**

#### **Table 6-2. Bond Pad Functions**



(1)  $I = input$ ,  $O = output$ ,  $FB = feedback$ ,  $NC = no$  connect

<span id="page-4-0"></span>

# **7 Specifications**

## **7.1 Absolute Maximum Ratings**

over operating free-air temperature range (unless otherwise noted) $(1)$ 



(1) Stresses beyond those listed under *Absolute Maximum Rating* may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only, which do not imply functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated under *Recommended Operating Condition*. Exposure to absolute-maximum-rated conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

(2) Long-term continuous output current for electromigration limits.

## **7.2 ESD Ratings**



(1) JEDEC document JEP155 states that 500-V HBM allows safe manufacturing with a standard ESD control process.

(2) JEDEC document JEP157 states that 250-V CDM allows safe manufacturing with a standard ESD control process.

# **7.3 Thermal Information**



(1) For more information about traditional and new thermal metrics, see the [Semiconductor and IC Package Thermal Metrics](https://www.ti.com/lit/pdf/SPRA953) application report.

# **7.4 Recommended Operating Conditions**

over operating free-air temperature range (unless otherwise noted)



# <span id="page-5-0"></span>**7.5 Electrical Characteristics**

at V<sub>S+</sub> = 5 V, V<sub>S–</sub> = 0 V, G = 7 V/V, R<sub>F</sub> = 453 Ω, input common-mode biased at midsupply, R<sub>L</sub> = 200 Ω, output load is referenced to midsupply, and T<sub>A</sub> = 25℃ (unless otherwise noted)



# <span id="page-6-0"></span>**7.5 Electrical Characteristics (continued)**

at V<sub>S+</sub> = 5 V, V<sub>S–</sub> = 0 V, G = 7 V/V, R<sub>F</sub> = 453 Ω, input common-mode biased at midsupply, R<sub>L</sub> = 200 Ω, output load is referenced to midsupply, and T<sub>A</sub> = 25℃ (unless otherwise noted)



(1) Current flowing into the input pin is considered negative

(2) Amplifier output saturated



# <span id="page-7-0"></span>**7.6 Typical Characteristics**



<span id="page-8-0"></span>







<span id="page-10-0"></span>

















<span id="page-14-0"></span>

# **8 Parameter Measurement Information**

The various test setup configurations for the OPA855 are shown in Figure 8-1, Figure 8-2, and Figure 8-3. When configuring the OPA855 in a gain of +39.2 V/V, feedback resistor R<sub>F</sub> was set to 953 Ω.

[Figure 7-1](#page-7-0) shows 5-dB of peaking with the amplifier in an inverting configuration of –7 V/V with the amplifier configured as shown in Figure 8-2. The 50-Ω matched termination of this circuit configuration results in the amplifier being configured in a noise gain of 5.3 V/V, which is lower than the recommended +7 V/V.



RG values depend on gain configuration









**Figure 8-3. Capacitive Load Driver Configuration**



# <span id="page-15-0"></span>**9 Detailed Description**

# **9.1 Overview**

The ultra-wide, 8-GHz gain bandwidth product (GBWP) of the OPA855, combined with the broadband voltage noise of 0.98 nV/√Hz, produces a viable amplifier for wideband transimpedance applications, high-speed data acquisition systems, and applications with weak signal inputs that require low-noise and high-gain front ends. The OPA855 combines multiple features to optimize dynamic performance. In addition to the wide, small-signal bandwidth, the OPA855 has 850 MHz of large-signal bandwidth (2  $V_{\rm PP}$ ), and a slew rate of 2750 V/µs, making the device a viable option for high-speed pulsed applications.

# **9.2 Functional Block Diagram**

The OPA855 is a classic voltage feedback operational amplifier (op amp) with two high-impedance inputs and a low-impedance output. Standard application circuits are supported, like the two basic options shown in Figure 9-1 and Figure 9-2. The resistor on the noninverting pin is used for bias current cancellation to minimize the output offset voltage. In a noninverting configuration the additional resistors on the noninverting pin add noise to the system so if SNR is critical, the resistor can be eliminated. In an inverting configuration the noninverting node is typically connected to a DC voltage, so the high-frequency noise contribution from the bias cancellation resistor can be bypassed by adding a large 1-µF capacitor in parallel to the resistor to shunt the noise. The DC operating point for each configuration is level-shifted by the reference voltage ( $V_{REF}$ ), which is typically set to midsupply in single-supply operation.  $V_{REF}$  is typically connected to ground in split-supply applications.



**Figure 9-1. Noninverting Amplifier**



**Figure 9-2. Inverting Amplifier**

<span id="page-16-0"></span>

## **9.3 Feature Description**

#### **9.3.1 Input and ESD Protection**

The OPA855 is fabricated on a low-voltage, high-speed, BiCMOS process. The internal, junction breakdown voltages are low for these small geometry devices, and as a result, all device pins are protected with internal ESD protection diodes to the power supplies as Figure 9-3 shows. There are two antiparallel diodes between the inputs of the amplifier that clamp the inputs during an overrange or fault condition.



**Figure 9-3. Internal ESD Structure**

## **9.3.2 Feedback Pin**

The OPA855 pin layout is optimized to minimize parasitic inductance and capacitance, which is a critical care about in high-speed analog design. The FB pin (pin 1) is internally connected to the output of the amplifier. The FB pin is separated from the inverting input of the amplifier (pin 3) by a no connect (NC) pin (pin 2). The NC pin must be left floating. There are two advantages to this pin layout:

- 1. A feedback resistor  $(R_F)$  can connect between the FB and IN– pin on the same side of the package (see Figure 9-4) rather than going around the package.
- 2. The isolation created by the NC pin minimizes the capacitive coupling between the FB and IN– pins by increasing the physical separation between the pins.



**Figure 9-4. RF Connection Between FB and IN– Pins**



#### **9.3.3 Wide Gain-Bandwidth Product**

[Figure 7-10](#page-8-0) shows the open-loop magnitude and phase response of the OPA855. Calculate the gain bandwidth product of any op amp by determining the frequency at which the  $A_{OL}$  is 40 dB and multiplying that frequency by a factor of 100. The open-loop response shows the OPA855 to have approximately 62° of phase-margin in a noise gain of 7 V/V. The second pole in the  $A_{OL}$  response occurs before the magnitude crosses 0 dB, and the resultant phase margin is less than 0°. This indicates instability at a gain of 0 dB (1 V/V). Amplifiers that are not unity-gain stable are known as decompensated amplifiers. Decompensated amplifiers typically have higher gain-bandwidth product, higher slew rate, and lower voltage noise, compared to a unity-gain stable amplifier with the same amount of quiescent power consumption.

Figure 9-5 shows the open-loop magnitude  $(A<sub>OL</sub>)$  of the OPA855 as a function of temperature. The results show approximately 5° of phase-margin variation over the entire temperature range in a noise gain of 7 V/V. Semiconductor process variation is the naturally occurring variation in the attributes of a transistor (Early-voltage, β, channel-length and width) and other passive elements (resistors and capacitors) when fabricated into an integrated circuit. The process variation can occur across devices on a single wafer or across devices over multiple wafer lots over time. Typically, the variation across a single wafer is tightly controlled. Figure 9-6 shows the A<sub>OL</sub> magnitude of the OPA855 as a function of process variation over time. The results show the A<sub>OL</sub> curve for the nominal process corner and the variation one standard deviation from the nominal. The simulated results show less than 2° of phase-margin difference within a standard deviation of process variation in a noise gain of 7 V/V.

One of the primary applications for the OPA855 is as a high-speed transimpedance amplifier (TIA). The lowfrequency noise gain of a TIA is 0 dB (1 V/V). At high frequencies the ratio of the total input capacitance and the feedback capacitance set the noise gain. To maximize the TIA closed-loop bandwidth, the feedback capacitance is typically smaller than the input capacitance, which implies that the high-frequency noise gain is greater than 0 dB. As a result, op amps configured as TIAs are not required to be unity-gain stable, which makes a decompensated amplifier a viable option for a TIA. *[What You Need To Know About Transimpedance Amplifiers](https://e2e.ti.com/blogs_/b/analogwire/archive/2016/05/06/what-you-need-to-know-about-transimpedance-amplifiers-part-1) [– Part 1](https://e2e.ti.com/blogs_/b/analogwire/archive/2016/05/06/what-you-need-to-know-about-transimpedance-amplifiers-part-1)* and *[What You Need To Know About Transimpedance Amplifiers – Part 2](https://e2e.ti.com/blogs_/b/analogwire/archive/2016/09/01/what-you-need-to-know-about-transimpedance-amplifiers-part-2)* describe transimpedance amplifier compensation in greater detail.





#### **9.3.4 Slew Rate and Output Stage**

In addition to wide bandwidth, the OPA855 features a high slew rate of 2750 V/µs. The slew rate is a critical parameter in high-speed pulse applications with narrow sub-10-ns pulses, such as optical time-domain reflectometry (OTDR) and LIDAR. The high slew rate of the OPA855 implies that the device accurately reproduces a 2-V, sub-ns pulse edge, as seen in [Figure 7-20](#page-10-0). The wide bandwidth and slew rate of the OPA855 make it an excellent amplifier for high-speed signal-chain front ends.

Figure 9-7 shows the open-loop output impedance of the OPA855 as a function of frequency. To achieve high slew rates and low output impedance across frequency, the output swing of the OPA855 is limited to approximately 3 V. The OPA855 is typically used in conjunction with high-speed pipeline ADCs and flash ADCs that have limited input ranges. Therefore, the OPA855 output swing range coupled with the class-leading voltage noise specification maximizes the overall dynamic range of the signal chain.



**Figure 9-7. Open-Loop Output Impedance (ZOL) vs Frequency**



# <span id="page-19-0"></span>**9.4 Device Functional Modes**

## **9.4.1 Split-Supply and Single-Supply Operation**

The OPA855 can be configured with single-sided supplies or split-supplies as shown in [Figure 10-11](#page-26-0). Splitsupply operation using balanced supplies with the input common-mode set to ground eases lab testing because most signal generators, network analyzers, spectrum analyzers, and other lab equipment typically reference inputs and outputs to ground. In split-supply operation, the thermal pad must be connected to the negative supply.

Newer systems use a single power supply to improve efficiency and reduce the cost of the extra power supply. The OPA855 can be used with a single positive supply (negative supply at ground) with no change in performance if the input common-mode and output swing are biased within the linear operation of the device. In single-supply operation, level shift the DC input and output reference voltages by half the difference between the power supply rails. This configuration maintains the input common-mode and output load reference at midsupply. To eliminate gain errors, the source driving the reference input common-mode voltage must have low output impedance across the frequency range of interest. In this case, the thermal pad must be connected to ground.

#### **9.4.2 Power-Down Mode**

The OPA855 features a power-down mode to reduce the quiescent current to conserve power. [Figure 7-23](#page-10-0) and [Figure 7-24](#page-10-0) show the transient response of the OPA855 as the  $\overline{PD}$  pin toggles between the disabled and enabled states.

The PD disable and enable threshold voltages are with reference to the negative supply. If the amplifier is configured with the positive supply at 3.3 V and the negative supply at ground, then the disable and enable threshold voltages are 0.65 V and 1.8 V, respectively. If the amplifier is configured with ±1.65 V supplies, then the threshold voltages are at  $-1$  V and 0.15 V. If the amplifier is configured with  $\pm 2.5$  V supplies, then the threshold voltages are at –1.85 V and –0.7 V.

Figure 9-8 shows the switching behavior of a typical amplifier as the  $\overline{PD}$  pin is swept down from the enabled state to the disabled state. Similarly, Figure 9-9 shows the switching behavior of a typical amplifier as the  $\overline{PD}$ pin is swept up from the disabled state to the enabled state. The small difference in the switching thresholds between the down sweep and the up sweep is caused by the hysteresis designed into the amplifier to increase immunity to noise on the  $\overline{PD}$  pin.



**(PD Pin Swept from High to Low)**



Connecting the PD pin low disables the amplifier and places the output in a high-impedance state. When the amplifier is configured as a noninverting amplifier, the feedback  $(R_F)$  and gain  $(R_G)$  resistor network form a parallel load to the output of the amplifier. To protect the input stage of the amplifier, the OPA855 uses internal, back-to-back protection diodes between the inverting and noninverting input pins as [Figure 9-3](#page-16-0) shows. In the power-down state, if the differential voltage between the input pins of the amplifier exceeds a diode voltage drop, an additional low-impedance path is created between the noninverting input pin and the output pin.

<span id="page-20-0"></span>

# **10 Application, Implementation, and Layout**

**Note**

Information in the following applications sections is not part of the TI component specification, and TI does not warrant its accuracy or completeness. TI's customers are responsible for determining suitability of components for their purposes, as well as validating and testing their design implementation to confirm system functionality.

# **10.1 Application Information**

The OPA855 offers very high-bandwidth, high slew-rate, low noise, and better than –60 dBc of distortion performance at frequencies of up to 100 MHz. These features make this device an excellent low-noise amplifier in high-speed data acquisition systems.

## **10.2 Typical Application**

Figure 10-1 shows the OPA855 configured as a transimpedance amplifier (U1) in a wide-bandwidth, optical frontend system. A second amplifier, the OPA859-Q1, configured as a unity-gain buffer (U2) sets a dc offset voltage to the [THS4520](http://www.ti.com/product/THS4520). The THS4520 is used to convert the single-ended transimpedance output of the OPA855 into a differential output signal. The THS4520 drives the input of the [ADS54J64](http://www.ti.com/product/ADS54J64), 14-bit, 1-GSPS analog-to-digital converter (ADC) that digitizes the analog signal.



## **Figure 10-1. OPA855 as a TIA in an Optical Front-End System**

#### **10.2.1 Design Requirements**

The objective is to design a low noise, wideband optical front-end system using the OPA855 as a transimpedance amplifier. The design requirements are:

- Amplifier supply voltage: 5 V
- TIA common-mode voltage: 3.8 V
- THS4520 gain:  $1$  V/V
- ADC input common-mode voltage: 1.3 V
- ADC analog differential input range:  $1.1 V_{PP}$

## **10.2.2 Detailed Design Procedure**

The closed-loop bandwidth of a transimpedance amplifier is a function of the following:

- 1. The total input capacitance  $(C_{N})$ . This total includes the photodiode capacitance, the input capacitance of the amplifier (common-mode and differential capacitance) and any stray capacitance from the PCB.
- 2. The op amp gain bandwidth product (GBWP).
- 3. The transimpedance gain  $(R_F)$ .



[Figure 10-1](#page-20-0) shows the OPA855 configured as a TIA, with the avalanche photodiode (APD) reverse biased so that the APD cathode is tied to a large positive bias voltage. In this configuration, the APD sources current into the op amp feedback loop so that the output swings in a negative direction relative to the input common-mode voltage. To maximize the output swing in the negative direction, the OPA855 common-mode voltage is set close to the positive limit; only 1.2 V from the positive supply rail. The feedback resistance  $(R_F)$  and the input capacitance  $(C_{N})$  form a zero in the noise gain that results in instability if left unchecked. To counteract the effect of the zero, a pole is inserted into the noise gain transfer function by adding the feedback capacitor  $(C_F)$ .

The *[Transimpedance Considerations for High-Speed Amplifiers Application Report](https://www.ti.com/lit/pdf/SBOA122)* discusses theories and equations that show how to compensate a transimpedance amplifier for a particular transimpedance gain and input capacitance. The bandwidth and compensation equations from the application report are available in an Excel® calculator. *[What You Need To Know About Transimpedance Amplifiers – Part 1](https://e2e.ti.com/blogs_/b/analogwire/archive/2016/05/06/what-you-need-to-know-about-transimpedance-amplifiers-part-1)* provides a link to the calculator.

The equations and calculators in the referenced application report and blog posts are used to model the bandwidth ( $f_{-3dB}$ ) and noise ( $I_{RN}$ ) performance of the OPA855 configured as a TIA. The resultant performance is shown in [Figure 10-2](#page-22-0) and [Figure 10-3.](#page-22-0) The left-side Y-axis shows the closed-loop bandwidth performance, whereas the right side of the graph shows the integrated input-referred noise. The noise bandwidth to calculate  $I_{RN}$  for a fixed R<sub>F</sub> and C<sub>PD</sub> is set equal to the f<sub>-3dB</sub> frequency. [Figure 10-2](#page-22-0) shows the amplifier performance as a function of photodiode capacitance (C<sub>PD</sub>) for R<sub>F</sub> = 6 kΩ and 12 kΩ. Increasing C<sub>PD</sub> decreases the closed-loop bandwidth. To maximize bandwidth, make sure to reduce any stray parasitic capacitance from the PCB. The OPA855 is designed with 0.8 pF of total input capacitance to minimize the effect of stray capacitance on system performance. [Figure 10-3](#page-22-0) shows the amplifier performance as a function of  $R_F$  for C<sub>PD</sub> = 1.5 pF and 2.5 pF. Increasing  $R_F$  results in lower bandwidth. To maximize the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) in an optical front-end system, maximize the gain in the TIA stage. Increasing  $R_F$  by a factor of X increases the signal level by X, but only increases the resistor noise contribution by  $\sqrt{X}$ , thereby improving SNR. Since the OPA855 is a bipolar input amplifier, increasing the feedback resistance increases the voltage offset due to the bias current and also increases the total output noise due to increased noise contributions from the amplifiers current noise.

The OPA859-Q1 configured as a unity-gain buffer drives a DC offset voltage of 3.25 V into the lower half of the THS4520. To maximize the dynamic range of the ADC, the OPA855-Q1 and OPA859-Q1 drive a differential common-mode of 3.8 V and 3.25 V respectively into the THS4520. The dc offset voltage of the buffer amplifier can be derived using Equation 1.

$$
V_{BUF\_DC} = V_{TIA\_CM} - \left(\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{V_{ADC\_DIFF\_IN}}{\left(\frac{R_F}{R_G}\right)}\right)
$$

(1)

where

- $V_{TIA~CM}$  is the common-mode voltage of the TIA (3.8 V)
- $V_{ADC\_DIFF\_IN}$  is the differential input voltage range of the ADC (1.1 V<sub>PP</sub>)
- $R_F$  and  $R_G$  are the feedback resistance (499 Ω) and gain resistance (499 Ω) of the THS4520 differential amplifier

The low-pass filter between the THS4520 and the ADC54J64 minimizes high-frequency noise and maximizes SNR. The ADC54J64 has an internal buffer that isolates the output of the THS4520 from the ADC samplingcapacitor input, so a traditional charge bucket filter is not required.

<span id="page-22-0"></span>

#### **10.2.3 Application Curves**



# **10.3 Typical Application**

There are two main approaches for current to voltage conversion. One uses a non-inverting voltage feedback amplifier in combination with a shunt resistor to first convert current and then further amplify the optical signal. The other approach configures an amplifier for transimpedance applications which combines both steps into one. Figure 10-4 shows the standard configuration for both approaches.



**Figure 10-4. Transimpedance Amplifier vs. Voltage Feedback Amplifier**

Both configurations provide a low output impedance stage which provides the ability to interface with various types of loads. However, the non-inverting option comes with a few disadvantages. TIA's input impedance is near zero, since the amplifier keeps the voltage at the inverting input node at the same potential as the non-inverting input node. While the VFB's input impedance is equal to the shunt resistor  $R<sub>L</sub>$ . In the case of the VFB amplifier, the signal response will be slowed due to a large time constant created by the shunt resistor and capacitor. Also, the linearity of the photodetector can suffer, especially for higher detector currents due to the varying voltage bias produced at the shunt resistor. And, since the voltage bias of the photodetector is no longer constant for all detector currents, the diode's internal capacitance will vary. Using a TIA, the voltage bias remains constant at the voltage set by the non-inverting node, and can provide level shifting to the signal which is especially useful for single-supply configurations.



<span id="page-23-0"></span>OPA855 offers 8 GHz of gain bandwidth, high slew-rate, and low noise which makes this device suitable for a wide range of photodetectors. Figure 10-5 shows the OPA855 configured as a transimpedance amplifier (TIA) in a wide-bandwidth, optical front-end system. Various types of optical sensors can be used as an optical input to the amplifier: photodiode (PD), avalanche photodiode (APD), Photomultiplier Tube (PMT), and Multi-Pixel Photon Counter (MPPC) or known as Solid-State Photomultiplier (SiPM). Optical detection applications have commonly used APDs, but ultra-low light source detection has been a challenge in past solutions. With technologies such as PMTs and MPPCs, their high intrinsic gain, while maintaining a fast output, requires a low noise, high-speed interface. The OPA855 can accommodate for these optical challenges and would work equally as well in these applications.



**Figure 10-5. Transimpedance Amplifier with APD or SiPM/MPPC or PMT Inputs**

Transimpedance applications require low voltage and current noise for optimal system performance. Due to its high input impedance structure, the OPA855 has a great balance between low input-referred voltage noise and current noise which is consistent over frequency. Overall, the amplifier noise should have minimal impact to the total noise of the application. We would need to examine the total input referred noise to the optical sensor.

Noise sources in optical sensors vary especially when introducing gain and photon paralleling. Optical power, gain, and applied reverse bias are the main characteristics that will affect signal to noise ratio. Standard photodiodes contribute the lowest noise at the highest quantum efficiency. Internal to photodiodes, noises sources include shot and thermal. Shot noise is a random occurrence of photodetection which arises in periods of both light and dark. Dark current is noise that occurs in the absence of an optical source which can be included with shot noise. And, thermal noise originates from the shunt resistance internal to the diode. At the lower signal levels, shot noise will dominate. Figure 10-6 shows an example of the noise sources present in a transimpedance amplifier circuit. The total TIA noise is the root sum square of each component within the system: photodiode noise, amplifier current noise, amplifier voltage noise, and feedback resistor noise.



**Figure 10-6. Photodiode and TIA Noise Model**

<span id="page-24-0"></span>

Interfacing with APDs is similar to interfacing with PIN PDs, but APDs have additional noise factors due to its internal gain. APDs have increased shot noise and the addition of a multiplication excess noise factor. Decreasing capacitance, increasing diode shunt resistance, and decreasing reverse voltage bias applied to the APD deceases noise at the expense of response time. MPPCs' total noise is comparable to APDs, but with differing noise sources. This optical sensor includes digital-like noise factors such as dark count rate, after pulsing, and optical crosstalk due to its paralleling gain cells. For PMTs, dark count rate is lower. In general, PMTs' total noise is comparable to PDs' with an internal gain comparable to APDs'. However, PMTs have the lowest quantum efficiency of the optical sensor space.

#### **10.3.1 Design Requirements**

The objective is to design a low noise, wideband optical front-end system using a diverse selection of optical sensors: PD, APD, PMT, and MPPC with the OPA855 as the TIA. The approximate design requirements for each type of photodetector are listed in Table 10-1.

<b>Sensor</b>	<b>Intrinsic Gain</b> (A/W)	Reverse Bias (V)	Input Capacitance (pF)	<b>Target</b> <b>Bandwidth (MHz)</b>	Transimpedance Gain $R_F$ (k $\Omega$ )	<b>Total Optical</b> Gain (kV/W)
PD (PIN)		30		15	100	100
<b>APD</b>	100	150		200	10	1000
<b>PMT</b>	$1 \times 10^6$	1250	50	100		$1 \times 10^6$
MPPC (SiPM)	$5 \times 10^5$	50	100	10		$5 \times 10^5$

**Table 10-1. Design Parameters**

## **10.3.2 Detailed Design Procedure**

The OPA855 is decompensated and requires a high-frequency gain of 7V/V or greater to be stable. Using the OPA855 in lower gains results in increased peaking and potential instability. Decompensated amplifiers are advantageous in TIA applications due the inherent characteristics of a TIA design. The zero and pole pair introduced by the input and feedback capacitances along with the feedback resistor increases the noise gain until it flattens out at a high gain with a magnitude shown in Equation 2.

$$
1 + \frac{C_{TOT}}{C_F} \tag{2}
$$

where

- $C<sub>TOT</sub>$  is the total input capacitance of the amplifier (includes photodetector capacitance and the commonmode and differential input capacitance of the amplifier)
- $C_F$  is the feedback capacitance of the amplifier

A decompensated amplifier allows for benefits such as increased open loop gain, increased bandwidth, increased slew rate, and lower input referred noise for the same quiescent current relative to its unity gain stable counterpart.

Similar to the concept described in [Section 10.2.2,](#page-20-0) the rise time and the internal capacitance of the photodetector will determine the closed-loop bandwidth. Both the closed-loop bandwidth and the transimpedance gain  $(R_F)$  determine the necessary gain bandwidth (GBWP) of the amplifier. Table 10-1 shows the standard photodiode characteristics based on type of photodetector. Target values such as the system bandwidth and gain were calculated using these concepts with the chosen photodiode characteristics. Detailed explanations and equations can be found in the application reports discussed in [Section 10.2.2](#page-20-0).

[Figure 10-5](#page-23-0) shows the OPA855 configured as a TIA, with the optical sensor reverse biased so that the diode cathode is tied to the positive bias voltage. A RC filter can be used at the reverse bias node as a low pass filter to eliminate high frequency noise. The internal capacitance of photodetectors will vary based on sensor type and the value of the applied reverse voltage. The setups between each sensor type will slightly differ, but the connection to the amplifier will be consistent throughout.

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The difference between each optical design comprise choosing the optimal feedback resistor to set the transimpedance gain and the optimal feedback capacitance to compensate for the additional input capacitance. With an 8 GHz GBWP, the OPA855 can accommodate very fast rise times to pair with emerging optical sensors to meet the industry's demands for faster optical detections.

The DC voltage bias at the non-inverting input of the OPA855 shown in [Figure 10-5](#page-23-0) will set the common-mode voltage which will maximize the output swing of the system in mismatched power supply configurations. The DC bias is critical to avoid clipping or saturating the output stage of the amplifier. For the later stages, a fully differential amplifier (FDA) can be used to convert single-ended signal to a differential input to drive an analog-to-digital converter (ADC) as shown in [Figure 10-1](#page-20-0). Higher order filters can be added between the FDA and ADC for system noise reduction.

Figure 10-7 shows the performance that results from the design parameters provided in [Table 10-1,](#page-24-0) and Figure 10-8 shows the general trends. Both figures depict the closed-loop bandwidth performance of the OPA855 configured as a TIA using different sensor types and gain configurations. Figure 10-7 shows the amplifier performance based on the chosen photodetector from the values provided in [Table 10-1.](#page-24-0) PMTs and MPPCs have higher intrinsic gains, but requires a wide bandwidth to compensate for its higher internal capacitance. Whereas, PDs and APDs require higher gain configurations to achieve similar output voltage levels. The OPA855 is able to provide the bandwidth to accommodate for both optical challenges. Figure 10-7 shows a generic view of the amplifier performance as a function of sensor capacitance and transimpedance gain. Increasing the feedback resistance and input capacitance, decreases the closed-loop bandwidth. Throughout the trends, the amount of change in closed-loop bandwidth is consistent in relationship of the changes in both terms. A photodiode capacitance of 1 pF and a feedback resistance of 1 kΩ results in a very high closed-loop system bandwidth of 1.1 GHz.



#### **10.3.3 Application Curves**

<span id="page-26-0"></span>



# **10.4 Power Supply Recommendations**

The OPA855 operates on supplies from 3.3 V to 5.25 V. The OPA855 operates on single-sided supplies, split and balanced bipolar supplies, and unbalanced bipolar supplies. Because the OPA855 does not feature rail-to-rail inputs or outputs, the input common-mode and output swing ranges are limited at 3.3-V supplies.



**Figure 10-11. Split and Single Supply Circuit Configuration** 



# <span id="page-27-0"></span>**10.5 Layout**

# **10.5.1 Layout Guidelines**

Achieving optimum performance with a high-frequency amplifier like the OPA855 requires careful attention to board layout parasitics and external component types. Recommendations that optimize performance include:

- **Minimize parasitic capacitance from the signal I/O pins to ac ground.** Parasitic capacitance on the output and inverting input pins can cause instability. To reduce unwanted capacitance, cut out the power and ground traces under the signal input and output pins. Otherwise, ground and power planes must be unbroken elsewhere on the board. When configuring the amplifier as a TIA, if the required feedback capacitor is less than 0.15 pF, consider using two series resistors, each of half the value of a single resistor in the feedback loop to minimize the parasitic capacitance from the resistor.
- **Minimize the distance (less than 0.25-in) from the power-supply pins to high-frequency bypass capacitors.** Use high-quality, 100-pF to 0.1-µF, C0G and NPO-type decoupling capacitors with voltage ratings at least three times greater than the amplifiers maximum power supplies. This configuration makes sure that there is a low-impedance path to the amplifiers power-supply pins across the amplifiers gain bandwidth specification. At the device pins, do not allow the ground and power plane layout to be in close proximity to the signal I/O pins. Avoid narrow power and ground traces to minimize inductance between the pins and the decoupling capacitors. The power-supply connections must always be decoupled with these capacitors. Larger (2.2-µF to 6.8-µF) decoupling capacitors that are effective at lower frequency must be used on the supply pins. Place these decoupling capacitors further from the device. Share the decoupling capacitors among several devices in the same area of the printed circuit board (PCB).
- **Careful selection and placement of external components preserves the high-frequency performance of the OPA855.** Use low-reactance resistors. Surface-mount resistors work best and allow a tighter overall layout. Never use wirewound resistors in a high-frequency application. Because the output pin and inverting input pin are the most sensitive to parasitic capacitance, always position the feedback and series output resistor, if any, as close to the output pin as possible. Place other network components (such as noninverting input termination resistors) close to the package. Even with a low parasitic capacitance shunting the external resistors, high resistor values create significant time constants that can degrade performance. When configuring the OPA855 as a voltage amplifier, keep resistor values as low as possible and consistent with load driving considerations. Decreasing the resistor values keeps the resistor noise terms low and minimizes the effect of the parasitic capacitance. However, lower resistor values increase the dynamic power consumption because  $R_F$  and  $R_G$  become part of the output load network of the amplifier.

## **10.5.2 Layout Example**







When configuring the OPA855 as a transimpedance amplifier additional care must be taken to minimize the inductance between the avalanche photodiode (APD) and the amplifier. Always place the photodiode on the same side of the PCB as the amplifier. Placing the amplifier and the APD on opposite sides of the PCB increases the parasitic effects due to via inductance. APD packaging can be quite large which often requires the APD to be placed further away from the amplifier than ideal. The added distance between the two device results in increased inductance between the APD and op amp feedback network as shown in Figure 10-13. The added inductance is detrimental to a decompensated amplifiers stability since it isolates the APD capacitance from the noise gain transfer function. The noise gain is given by Equation 3. The added PCB trace inductance between the feedback network increases the denominator in Equation 3 thereby reducing the noise gain and the phase margin. In cases where a leaded APD in a TO can is used inductance should be further minimized by cutting the leads of the TO can as short as possible.

The layout shown in Figure 10-13 can be improved by following some of the guidelines shown in Figure 10-14. The two key rules to follow are:

- Add an isolation resistor  $R_{ISO}$  as close as possible to the inverting input of the amplifier. Select the value of R<sub>ISO</sub> to be between 10 Ω and 20 Ω. The resistor dampens the potential resonance caused by the trace inductance and the amplifiers internal capacitance.
- Close the loop between the feedback elements ( $R_F$  and  $C_F$ ) and  $R_{ISO}$  as close to the APD pins as possible. This ensures a more balanced layout and reduces the inductive isolation between the APD and the feedback network.

Noise Gain = 
$$
\left(1 + \frac{Z_F}{Z_{IN}}\right)
$$
 (3)

where

- $Z_F$  is the total impedance of the feedback network.
- $Z_{IN}$  is the total impedance of the input network.



**Figure 10-13. Non-Ideal TIA Layout**



**Figure 10-14. Improved TIA Layout**



# <span id="page-29-0"></span>**11 Device and Documentation Support**

#### **11.1 Device Support**

#### **11.1.1 Development Support**

- *[LIDAR Pulsed Time of Flight Reference Design](http://www.ti.com/tool/TIDA-00663)*
- *[LIDAR-Pulsed Time-of-Flight Reference Design Using High-Speed Data Converters](http://www.ti.com/tool/TIDA-01187)*
- *[Wide Bandwidth Optical Front-end Reference Design](http://www.ti.com/tool/TIDA-00725)*

# **11.2 Documentation Support**

#### **11.2.1 Related Documentation**

For related documentation, see the following:

- Texas Instruments, *[OPA855EVM user's guide](https://www.ti.com/lit/pdf/SBOU210)*
- Texas Instruments, *[Training Video: High-Speed Transimpedance Amplifier Design Flow](https://training.ti.com/high-speed-transimpedence-amplifier-design-flow)*
- Texas Instruments, *[Training Video: How to Design Transimpedance Amplifier Circuits](https://training.ti.com/how-design-transimpedance-amplifier-circuits)*
- Texas Instruments, *[Training Video: How to Convert a TINA-TI Model into a Generic SPICE Model](https://training.ti.com/how-convert-tina-ti-model-generic-spice-model)*
- Texas Instruments, *[Transimpedance Considerations for High-Speed Amplifiers application report](https://www.ti.com/lit/pdf/SBOA122)*
- Texas Instruments, *[What You Need To Know About Transimpedance Amplifiers Part 1](https://e2e.ti.com/blogs_/b/analogwire/archive/2016/05/06/what-you-need-to-know-about-transimpedance-amplifiers-part-1)*
- Texas Instruments *[What You Need To Know About Transimpedance Amplifiers Part 2](https://e2e.ti.com/blogs_/b/analogwire/archive/2016/09/01/what-you-need-to-know-about-transimpedance-amplifiers-part-2)*

#### **11.3 Receiving Notification of Documentation Updates**

To receive notification of documentation updates, navigate to the device product folder on ti.com. In the upper right corner, click on *Alert me* to register and receive a weekly digest of any product information that has changed. For change details, review the revision history included in any revised document.

#### **11.4 Support Resources**

TI E2E™ [support forums](https://e2e.ti.com) are an engineer's go-to source for fast, verified answers and design help — straight from the experts. Search existing answers or ask your own question to get the quick design help you need.

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## **11.6 Electrostatic Discharge Caution**



This integrated circuit can be damaged by ESD. Texas Instruments recommends that all integrated circuits be handled with appropriate precautions. Failure to observe proper handling and installation procedures can cause damage.

ESD damage can range from subtle performance degradation to complete device failure. Precision integrated circuits may be more susceptible to damage because very small parametric changes could cause the device not to meet its published specifications.

## **11.7 Glossary**

[TI Glossary](https://www.ti.com/lit/pdf/SLYZ022) This glossary lists and explains terms, acronyms, and definitions.

# **12 Mechanical, Packaging, and Orderable Information**

The following pages include mechanical, packaging, and orderable information. This information is the most current data available for the designated devices. This data is subject to change without notice and revision of this document. For browser-based versions of this data sheet, refer to the left-hand navigation.



# **PACKAGING INFORMATION**



**(1)** The marketing status values are defined as follows:

**ACTIVE:** Product device recommended for new designs.

**LIFEBUY:** TI has announced that the device will be discontinued, and a lifetime-buy period is in effect.

**NRND:** Not recommended for new designs. Device is in production to support existing customers, but TI does not recommend using this part in a new design.

**PREVIEW:** Device has been announced but is not in production. Samples may or may not be available.

**OBSOLETE:** TI has discontinued the production of the device.

<sup>(2)</sup> RoHS: TI defines "RoHS" to mean semiconductor products that are compliant with the current EU RoHS requirements for all 10 RoHS substances, including the requirement that RoHS substance do not exceed 0.1% by weight in homogeneous materials. Where designed to be soldered at high temperatures, "RoHS" products are suitable for use in specified lead-free processes. TI may reference these types of products as "Pb-Free".

**RoHS Exempt:** TI defines "RoHS Exempt" to mean products that contain lead but are compliant with EU RoHS pursuant to a specific EU RoHS exemption.

Green: TI defines "Green" to mean the content of Chlorine (CI) and Bromine (Br) based flame retardants meet JS709B low halogen requirements of <=1000ppm threshold. Antimony trioxide based flame retardants must also meet the <=1000ppm threshold requirement.

**(3)** MSL, Peak Temp. - The Moisture Sensitivity Level rating according to the JEDEC industry standard classifications, and peak solder temperature.

**(4)** There may be additional marking, which relates to the logo, the lot trace code information, or the environmental category on the device.

**(5)** Multiple Device Markings will be inside parentheses. Only one Device Marking contained in parentheses and separated by a "~" will appear on a device. If a line is indented then it is a continuation of the previous line and the two combined represent the entire Device Marking for that device.

**(6)** Lead finish/Ball material - Orderable Devices may have multiple material finish options. Finish options are separated by a vertical ruled line. Lead finish/Ball material values may wrap to two lines if the finish value exceeds the maximum column width.

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#### **OTHER QUALIFIED VERSIONS OF OPA855 :**

• Automotive : [OPA855-Q1](http://focus.ti.com/docs/prod/folders/print/opa855-q1.html)

NOTE: Qualified Version Definitions:

• Automotive - Q100 devices qualified for high-reliability automotive applications targeting zero defects



**TEXAS** 

# **TAPE AND REEL INFORMATION**

**ISTRUMENTS** 





#### **QUADRANT ASSIGNMENTS FOR PIN 1 ORIENTATION IN TAPE**







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# **PACKAGE MATERIALS INFORMATION**



\*All dimensions are nominal



# **GENERIC PACKAGE VIEW**

# **DSG 8 WSON - 0.8 mm max height**

**2 x 2, 0.5 mm pitch** PLASTIC SMALL OUTLINE - NO LEAD

This image is a representation of the package family, actual package may vary. Refer to the product data sheet for package details.







# **PACKAGE OUTLINE**

# **DSG0008A WSON - 0.8 mm max height**

PLASTIC SMALL OUTLINE - NO LEAD



NOTES:

- 1. All linear dimensions are in millimeters. Any dimensions in parenthesis are for reference only. Dimensioning and tolerancing per ASME Y14.5M.
- 2. This drawing is subject to change without notice.

3. The package thermal pad must be soldered to the printed circuit board for thermal and mechanical performance.



# **EXAMPLE BOARD LAYOUT**

# **DSG0008A WSON - 0.8 mm max height**

PLASTIC SMALL OUTLINE - NO LEAD



4. This package is designed to be soldered to a thermal pad on the board. For more information, see Texas Instruments literature number SLUA271 (www.ti.com/lit/slua271).

5. Vias are optional depending on application, refer to device data sheet. If any vias are implemented, refer to their locations shown on this view. It is recommended that vias under paste be filled, plugged or tented.



# **EXAMPLE STENCIL DESIGN**

# **DSG0008A WSON - 0.8 mm max height**

PLASTIC SMALL OUTLINE - NO LEAD



NOTES: (continued)

6. Laser cutting apertures with trapezoidal walls and rounded corners may offer better paste release. IPC-7525 may have alternate design recommendations.



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