

Instrumentation Amplifier

Data Sheet **[AMP01](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)**

FEATURES

Low offset voltage: 50 µV maximum Very low offset voltage drift: 0.3 µV/°C maximum Low noise: 0.12 µV p-p (0.1 Hz to 10 Hz) Excellent output drive: ±10 V at ±50 mA Capacitive load stability: up to 1 µF Gain range: 0.1 to 10,000 Excellent linearity: 16-bit at G = 1000 High CMR: 125 dB minimum (G = 1000) Low bias current: 4 nA maximum Can be configured as a precision op amp Output-stage thermal shutdown Available in die form

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The [AMP01](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)¹ is a monolithic instrumentation amplifier designed for high-precision data acquisition and instrumentation applications. The design combines the conventional features of an instrumentation amplifier with a high current output stage. The output remains stable with high capacitance loads (1 µF), a unique ability for an instrumentation amplifier. Consequently, th[e AMP01 c](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)an amplify low level signals for transmission through long cables without requiring an output buffer. The output stage can be configured as a voltage or current generator.

Input offset voltage is very low $(20 \mu V)$, which generally eliminates the external null potentiometer. Temperature

changes have minimal effect on offset; TCV_{IOS} is typically $0.15 \mu V$ ^oC. Excellent low frequency noise performance is achieved with a minimal compromise on input protection. The bias current is very low, less than 10 nA over the military temperature range. High common-mode rejection of 130 dB, 16-bit linearity at a gain of 1000, and 50 mA peak output current are achievable simultaneously. This combination takes the instrumentation amplifier one step further towards the ideal amplifier.

Low Noise, Precision

AC performance complements the superb dc specifications. The [AMP01](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf) slews at 4.5 V/µs into capacitive loads of up to 15 nF, settles in 50 µs to 0.01% at a gain of 1000, and boasts a healthy 26 MHz gain bandwidth product. These features make th[e AMP01](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf) ideal for high speed data acquisition systems.

The gain is set by the ratio of two external resistors over a range of 0.1 to 10,000. A very low gain temperature coefficient of 10 ppm/°C is achievable over the whole gain range. Output voltage swing is guaranteed with three load resistances: 50 $Ω$, 500 Ω, and 2 kΩ. Loaded with 500 Ω, the output delivers ±13.0 V minimum. A thermal shutdown circuit prevents destruction of the output transistors during overload conditions.

The [AMP01 c](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)an also be configured as a high performance operational amplifier. In many applications, th[e AMP01](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf) can be used in place of op amp/power buffer combinations.

FUNCTIONAL BLOCK DIAGRAM

1 Protected under U.S. Patents 4,471,321 and 4,503,381.

Rev. F [Document Feedback](https://form.analog.com/Form_Pages/feedback/documentfeedback.aspx?doc=AMP01.pdf&product=AMP01&rev=F)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

REVISION HISTORY

1/2017—Rev. D to Rev. E

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

 $V_s = \pm 15$ V, $R_s = 10$ kΩ, $R_L = 2$ kΩ, $T_A = 25$ °C, unless otherwise noted.

Table 1.

¹ V_{los} and V_{oos} nulling have minimal effect on TCV_{los} and TCV_{oos}, respectively.
² Refer to th[e Common-Mode Rejection s](#page-18-0)ection.

 $V_S = ±15$ V, R_S = 10 kΩ, R_L = 2 kΩ, T_A = 25°C, −25°C ≤ T_A ≤ +85°C for E and F grades, 0°C ≤ T_A ≤ 70°C for G grade, unless otherwise noted.

Table 2.

¹ Sample tested.
² V_{los} and V_{oos} nulling has minimal effect on TCV_{los} and TCV_{oos}, respectively.
³ Refer to th[e Common-Mode Rejection s](#page-18-0)ection.

$\rm V_S$ = ± 15 V, $\rm R_S$ = 10 kΩ, $\rm R_L$ = 2 kΩ, $\rm T_A$ = 25°C, unless otherwise noted.

Table 3.

¹ Guaranteed by design.
² Gain temperature coefficient does not include the effects of gain and scale resistor temperature coefficient match.
³ −55℃ ≤ T_A ≤ +125℃ for A and B grades, −25℃ ≤ T_A ≤ +85℃ for E and F

Vs = ±15 V, Rs = 10 kΩ, RL = 2 kΩ, T_A = 25°C, unless otherwise noted.

Table 4.

¹ Guaranteed by design.

DICE CHARACTERISTICS

WAFER TEST LIMITS [\(AMP01NBC\)](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)

 $V_s = \pm 15$ V, R_s = 10 kΩ, R_L = 2 kΩ, T_A = 25°C, unless otherwise noted. Electrical tests are performed at wafer probe to the limits shown. Due to variations in assembly methods and normal yield loss, yield after packaging is not guaranteed for standard product dice. Consult the factory to negotiate specifications based on dice lot qualification through sample lot assembly and testing.

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

Table 6.

¹ Se[e Table 7 f](#page-9-3)or maximum ambient temperature rating and derating factor

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

THERMAL RESISTANCE

 θ_{JA} is specified for the worst-case conditions, that is, a device soldered in a circuit board for surface-mount packages.

Table 7. Thermal Resistance

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 CONFIGURATIONS AND FUNCTION DESCRIPTIONS

Table 8. 18-Lead CERDIP Pin Function Descriptions

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Figure 8. Output Offset Voltage Change vs. Supply Voltage

14335-031

Figure 30. Positive Supply Current vs. Temperature

THEORY OF OPERATION **INPUT AND OUTPUT OFFSET VOLTAGES**

Instrumentation amplifiers have independent offset voltages associated with the input and output stages. Still, temperature variations cause offset shifts regardless of initial zero adjustments. Systems with auto-zero correct for offset errors, rendering initial adjustment unnecessary. However, many high gain applications do not have auto-zero. For such applications, both offsets can be nulled, which has minimal effect on TCV_{IOS} and TCV_{00S}.

The input offset component is directly multiplied by the amplifier gain, whereas output offset is independent of gain. Therefore, at low gain, output offset errors dominate, whereas at high gain, input offset errors dominate. The overall offset voltage, V_{OS} , referred to the output (RTO) is calculated as follows:

$$
V_{OS} (RTO) = (V_{IOS} \times G) + V_{OOS} \tag{1}
$$

where:

 V_{IOS} is the input offset voltage specification. Voos is the output offset voltage specification. G is the amplifier gain.

Input offset nulling alone is recommended with amplifiers having fixed gain above 50. Output offset nulling alone is recommended when gain is fixed at 50 or below.

In applications requiring both initial offsets to be nulled, the input offset is nulled first by short circuiting R_G , then the output offset is nulled with the short removed.

The overall offset voltage drift, TCV_{OS}, referred to the output is a combination of input and output drift specifications. Input offset voltage drift is multiplied by the amplifier gain, G, and summed with the output offset drift:

$$
TCV_{OS} (RTO) = (TCV_{IOS} \times G) + TCV_{OOS}
$$
 (2)

where:

 TCV_{IOS} is the input offset voltage drift.

TCV_{00S} is the output offset voltage specification.

Frequently, the amplifier drift is referred back to the input (RTI), which is then equivalent to an input signal change:

$$
TCV_{OS} (RTI) = TCV_{IOS} \frac{TCV_{OOS}}{G}
$$
 (3)

For example, the maximum input referred drift of an [AMP01EX](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf) set to $G = 1000$ becomes,

$$
TCV_{OS} (RTI) = 0.3 \,\mu\text{V}/^{\circ}\text{C} + \frac{100 \,\mu\text{V}/^{\circ}\text{C}}{1000} = 0.4 \,\mu\text{V}/^{\circ}\text{C}
$$
max

INPUT BIAS AND OFFSET CURRENTS

Input transistor bias currents are additional error sources that can degrade the input signal. Bias currents flowing through the signal source resistance appear as an additional offset voltage. Equal source resistance on both inputs of an instrumentation amplifier (IA) minimizes offset changes due to bias current variations with signal voltage and temperature. However, the difference between the two bias currents, the input offset current, produces a nontrimmable error. The magnitude of the error is the offset current times the source resistance.

A current path must always be provided between the differential inputs and analog ground to ensure correct amplifier operation. Floating inputs, such as thermocouples, must be grounded close to the signal source for best common-mode rejection.

GAIN

The [AMP01 u](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)ses two external resistors for setting voltage gain over the range of 0.1 to 10,000. The magnitudes of the scale resistor, R_S, and the gain set resistor, R_G, are related by the formula $G = 20 \times R_s/R_s$, where G is the selected voltage gain (see [Figure 32\)](#page-17-4).

Figure 32. Basi[c AMP01 C](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)onnections for Gains of 0.1 to 10,000

The magnitude of Rs affects linearity and output referred errors. Circuit performance is characterized using $R_s = 10 \text{ k}\Omega$ when operating on ± 15 V supplies and driving a ± 10 V output. R_s can be reduced to 5 k Ω in many applications, particularly when operating on ±5 V supplies, or if the output voltage swing is limited to \pm 5 V. Bandwidth is improved with R_S = 5 k Ω , increasing the common-mode rejection by approximately 6 dB at low gain. Reducing the value below 5 k Ω can cause instability in some circuit configurations and usually has no advantage. High voltage gains between 2 and 10,000 require very low values of R_G. For R_S = 10 k Ω and A_V = 2000, R_G = 100 Ω ; this value is the practical lower limit for R_G. Below 100 Ω, mismatch of wire bond and resistor temperature coefficients (TCs) introduce significant gain TC errors. Therefore, for gains above 2000, R_G must be kept constant at 100 Ω and R_S increased. The maximum gain of 10,000 is obtained with Rs set to 50 k Ω .

Metal film or wire wound resistors are recommended for best results. The absolute values and TCs are not too important, only the ratiometric parameters.

AC amplifiers require good gain stability with temperature and time, but dc performance is unimportant. Therefore, low cost metal film types with TCs of 50 ppm/°C are usually adequate for R_s and R_G. Realizing the full potential of the offset voltage and gain stability of the [AMP01 r](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)equires precision metal film or wire wound resistors. Achieving a 15 ppm/°C gain TC at all gains requires Rs and RG temperature coefficient matching to 5 ppm/°C or better.

Gain accuracy is determined by the ratio accuracy of R_s and R_G combined with the gain equation error of th[e AMP01](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf) (0.6% maximum for A and E grades).

All instrumentation amplifiers require attention to layout so that thermocouple effects are minimized. Thermocouples formed between copper and dissimilar metals can destroy the TCV_{OS} performance of the [AMP01,](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf) which is typically 0.15 µV/°C. Resistors themselves can generate thermoelectric EMFs when mounted parallel to a thermal gradient. Vishay resistors are recommended because a maximum value for thermoelectric generation is specified. However, where thermal gradients are low and gain TCs of 20 ppm to 50 ppm are sufficient, generalpurpose metal film resistors can be used for R_G and R_S.

COMMON-MODE REJECTION

Ideally, an instrumentation amplifier responds only to the difference between the two input signals and rejects commonmode voltages and noise. In practice, there is a small change in output voltage when both inputs experience the same commonmode voltage change; the ratio of these voltages is called the common-mode gain. Common-mode rejection (CMR) is the logarithm of the ratio of differential-mode gain to commonmode gain, expressed in dB. CMR specifications are normally measured with a full-range input voltage change and a specified source resistance unbalance.

The current feedback design used in the [AMP01 i](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)nherently yields high common-mode rejection. Unlike resistive feedback designs, typified by the 3-op-amp IA, the CMR is not degraded by small resistances in series with the reference input. A slight but trimmable output offset voltage change results from resistance in series with the reference input.

The common-mode input voltage range (CMVR) for linear operation can be calculated from the formula,

$$
CMVR = \pm \left(IVR - \frac{|V_{OUT}|}{2G} \right) \tag{4}
$$

where:

IVR is the data sheet specification for the input voltage range. V_{OUT} is the maximum output signal.

G is the chosen voltage gain.

For example, at 25°C, IVR is specified as ±10.5 V minimum with \pm 15 V supplies. Using a \pm 10 V maximum swing output and substituting the figures in Equation 4 simplifies the formula to

$$
CMVR = \pm \left(10.5 - \frac{5}{G}\right) \tag{5}
$$

For all gains greater than or equal to 10, CMVR is ± 10 V minimum; at gains below 10, CMVR is reduced.

ACTIVE GUARD DRIVE

Rejection of common-mode noise and line pickup can be improved by using shielded cable between the signal source and the IA. Shielding reduces pickup, but increases input capacitance, which in turn degrades the settling-time for signal changes. Furthermore, any imbalance in the source resistance between the inverting and noninverting inputs, when capacitively loaded, converts the common-mode voltage into a differential voltage. This effect reduces the benefits of shielding. AC common-mode rejection is improved by bootstrapping the input cable capacitance to the input signal, a technique called guard driving. This technique effectively reduces the input capacitance. A single guard-driving signal is adequate at gains above 100 and must be the average value of the two inputs. The value of the external gain resistor, RG, is split between two resistors, R_{G1} and R_{G2} ; the center tap provides the required signal to drive the buffer amplifier (see [Figure 34\)](#page-19-1).

GROUNDING

The majority of instruments and data acquisition systems have separate grounds for analog and digital signals. Analog ground can also be divided into two or more grounds that are tied together at one point, usually the analog power-supply ground. In addition, the digital and analog grounds can be joined, normally at the analog ground pin on the analog-to-digital converter (ADC). Following this basic grounding practice is essential for good circuit performance (see [Figure 35\)](#page-19-2).

Mixing grounds causes interactions between digital circuits and the analog signals. Because the ground returns have finite resistance and inductance, hundreds of millivolts can be developed between the system ground and the data acquisition components. Using separate ground returns minimizes the current flow in the sensitive analog return path to the system

14335-034

ground point. Consequently, noisy ground currents from logic gates do not interact with the analog signals.

Inevitably, two or more circuits are joined together with their grounds at differential potentials. In these situations, the differential input of an instrumentation amplifier, with its high CMR, can accurately transfer analog information from one circuit to another.

SENSE AND REFERENCE TERMINALS

The sense terminal completes the feedback path for the instrumentation amplifier output stage and is normally connected directly to the output. The output signal is specified with respect to the reference terminal, which is normally connected to analog ground.

Figure 34[. AMP01 E](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)valuation Circuit Showing Guard-Drive Connection

Figure 35. Basic Grounding Practice

If heavy output currents are expected and the load is situated some distance from the amplifier, voltage drops due to track or wire resistance cause errors. Voltage drops are particularly troublesome when driving 50 Ω loads. Under these conditions, the sense and reference terminals can be used to remote sense the load, as shown i[n Figure 36.](#page-20-1) This method of connection puts the $I \times R$ drops inside the feedback loop and virtually eliminates the error. An unbalance in the lead resistances from the sense and reference pins does not degrade CMR, but does change the output offset voltage. For example, a large unbalance of 3 Ω changes the output offset by only 1 mV.

DRIVING 50 Ω LOADS

Output currents of 50 mA are guaranteed into loads of up to 50 Ω and 26 mA into 500 Ω. In addition, the output is stable and free from oscillation even with a high load capacitance. The combination of these unique features in an instrumentation amplifier allows low level transducer signals to be conditioned and directly transmitted through long cables in voltage or current form. Increased output current brings increased internal dissipation, especially with 50 Ω loads. For this reason, the power-supply connections are split into two pairs; Pin 10 and Pin 13 connect to the output stage only, and Pin 11 and Pin 12 provide power to the input and following stages. Dual supply pins allow dropper resistors to be connected in series with the output stage so excess power is dissipated outside the package. Additional decoupling is necessary between Pin 10 and Pin 13 to ground to maintain stability when dropper resistors are used. [Figure 37 s](#page-20-2)hows a complete circuit for driving 50 Ω loads.

AMP01 Data Sheet

HEATSINKING

To maintain high reliability, the die temperature of any IC must be kept as low as practicable, preferably below 100°C. Although most [AMP01 a](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)pplication circuits produce very little internal heat—little more than the quiescent dissipation of 90 mW some circuits raise that to several hundred milliwatts (for example, the 4 mA to 20 mA current transmitter application; see [Figure 40\)](#page-22-1). Excessive dissipation causes thermal shutdown of the output stage, thus protecting the device from damage. A heatsink is recommended in power applications to reduce the die temperature.

Several appropriate heatsinks are available; the Thermalloy 6010B is especially easy to use and is inexpensive. Intended for dual-in-line packages, the heatsink can be attached with a cyanoacrylate adhesive. This heatsink reduces the thermal resistance between the junction and ambient environment to approximately 80°C/W. Junction (die) temperature can then be calculated by using the following relationship:

$$
P_d = \frac{T_I - T_A}{\theta_{JA}}
$$

where:

 P_d is the internal dissipation of the device. T_I is the junction temperature. T_A is the ambient temperature. θ_{JA} is the thermal resistance from junction to ambient.

OVERVOLTAGE PROTECTION

Instrumentation amplifiers invariably sit at the front end of instrumentation systems where there is a high probability of exposure to overloads. Voltage transients, failure of a transducer, or removal of the amplifier power supply while the signal source is connected can destroy or degrade the performance of an unprotected amplifier. Although it is impractical to protect an IC internally against connection to power lines, it is relatively easy to provide protection against typical system overloads.

The [AMP01 i](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)s internally protected against overloads for gains of up to 100. At higher gains, the protection is reduced and some external measures may be required. Limited internal overload protection is used so that noise performance is not significantly degraded.

[AMP01 n](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)oise level approaches the theoretical noise floor of the input stage, which is $4 \frac{N}{\sqrt{Hz}}$ at 1 kHz when the gain is set at 1000. Noise is the result of shot noise in the input devices and Johnson noise in the resistors. Resistor noise is calculated from the values of R_G (200 Ω at a gain of 1000) and the input protection resistors (250 Ω). Active loads for the input transistors contribute less than 1 nV/√Hz of noise. The measured noise level is typically 5 nV/ \sqrt{Hz} .

Diodes across the input transistor's base-emitter junctions, combined with 250 Ω input resistors and R_G, protect against differential inputs of up to ± 20 V for gains of up to 100. The diodes also prevent avalanche breakdown that degrade the I_B and I_{OS} specifications. Decreasing the value of R_G for gains above 100 limits the maximum input overload protection to ±10 V.

External series resistors can be added to guard against higher voltage levels at the input, but resistors alone increase the input noise and degrade the signal-to-noise ratio, especially at high gains.

Protection can also be achieved by connecting back to back 9.1 V Zener diodes across the differential inputs. This technique does not affect the input noise level and can be used down to a gain of 2 with minimal increase in input current. Although voltage-clamping elements look like short circuits at the limiting voltage, the majority of signal sources provide less than 50 mA, producing power levels that are easily handled by low power Zener diodes.

Simultaneous connection of the differential inputs to a low impedance signal above 10 V during normal circuit operation is unlikely. However, additional protection involves adding 100 Ω current-limiting resistors in each signal path prior to the voltage clamp, the resistors increase the input noise level to just 5.4 nV/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$ (refer to [Figure 38\)](#page-21-3).

Input components, whether multiplexers or resistors, should be carefully selected to prevent the formation of thermocouple junctions that would degrade the input signal.

Figure 38. Input Overvoltage Protection for Gains of 2 to 10,000

POWER SUPPLY CONSIDERATIONS

Achieving the rated performance of precision amplifiers in a practical circuit requires careful attention to external influences. For example, supply noise and changes in the nominal voltage directly affect the input offset voltage. A PSR of 80 dB means that a change of 100 mV on the supply produces a 10 μ V input offset change. Consequently, care must be taken in choosing a power source with low output noise, good line and load regulation, and good temperature stability.

APPLICATIONS CIRCUITS

Figure 39. High Compliance Bipolar Current Source with 13-Bit Linearity

Figure 41. Adding Two Transistors Increases Output Current to ±1 A Without Affecting the Quiescent Current of 4 mA; Power Bandwidth is 60 kHz

Figure 43. A Differential Input Instrumentation Amplifier with Differential Output Replaces a Transformer in Many Applications; Output Drives a 600 Ω Load at Low Distortion (0.01%)

Figure 45. Inverting Operational Amplifier Configuration has Excellent Linearity over the Gain Range 1 to 1000, Typically 0.005%; Offset Voltage Drift at Unity Gain is Improved over the Drift in the Instrumentation Amplifier Configuration

Figure 46. Stability with Large Capacitive Loads Combined with High Output Current Capability Make th[e AMP01 I](https://www.analog.com/AMP01?doc=AMP01.pdf)deal for Line Driving Applications; Offset Voltage Drift Approaches the TCV_{IOS} Limit (0.3 μ V/°C)

Figure 47. Noise Test Circuit (0.1 Hz to 10 Hz)

Figure 48. Settling Time Test Circuit

AMP01 Data Sheet

Figure 49. Instrumentation Amplifier with Auto-Zero

OUTLINE DIMENSIONS

Wide Body (RW-20)

Dimensions shown in millimeters and (inches)

ORDERING GUIDE

1 Standard military drawing available for the 5962-8863001VA, 5962-88630023A, and 5962-8863002VA.

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Rev. F | Page 29 of 29