

# Low Cost, Precision Analog Front End and Controller for Battery Test/Formation Systems

# Data Sheet **[AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf)**

# <span id="page-0-1"></span>**FEATURES**

**Integrated constant current and voltage modes with automatic switchover Charge and discharge modes Precision voltage and current measurement Integrated precision control feedback blocks Precision interface to PWM or linear power converters Fixed gain settings Current sense gain: 26 V/V (typ) Voltage sense gain: 0.8 V/V (typ) Excellent ac and dc performance Maximum offset voltage drift: 0.9 µV/°C Maximum gain drift: 3 ppm/°C Low current sense amplifier input voltage noise: 9 nV/√Hz typ Current sense CMRR: 108 dB min TTL compliant logic** 

# <span id="page-0-2"></span>**APPLICATIONS**

**Battery cell formation and testing Battery module testing**

# <span id="page-0-3"></span>**GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

The [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) is a precision analog front end and controller for testing and monitoring battery cells. A precision fixed gain instrumentation amplifier (IA) measures the battery charge/ discharge current, and a fixed gain difference amplifier (DA) measures the battery voltage (se[e Figure 1\)](#page-0-0). Internal laser trimmed resistor networks set the gains for the IA and the DA, optimizing the performance of th[e AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) over the rated temperature range. The IA gain is 26 V/V and the DA gain is 0.8 V/V.

Voltages at the ISET and VSET inputs set the desired constant current (CC) and constant voltage (CV) values. CC to CV switching is automatic and transparent to the system.

A TTL logic level input, MODE, selects the charge or discharge mode (high for charge, and low for discharge). An analog output, VCTRL, interfaces directly with the Analog Devices, Inc., [ADP1972](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf) pulse-width modulation (PWM) controller.

The [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) simplifies designs by providing excellent accuracy, performance over temperature, flexibility with functionality, and overall reliability in a space-saving package. Th[e AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) is available in an 80-lead, 14 mm  $\times$  14 mm  $\times$  1.40 mm LQFP and is rated for an operating temperature of −40°C to +85°C.

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<span id="page-0-0"></span>**Rev. 0 [Document Feedback](https://form.analog.com/Form_Pages/feedback/documentfeedback.aspx?doc=AD8451.pdf&product=AD8451&rev=0) Information furnished by Analog Devices is believed to be accurate and reliable. However, no responsibility is assumed by Analog Devices for its use, nor for any infringements of patents or other rights of third parties that may result from its use. Specifications subject to change without notice. No license is granted by implication or otherwise under any patent or patent rights of Analog Devices.** 

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3/14-Revision 0: Initial Version

# <span id="page-2-0"></span>**SPECIFICATIONS**

AVCC = +15 V, AVEE =  $-15$  V; DVCC = +5 V; T<sub>A</sub> = 25°C, unless otherwise noted.

# **Table 1.**





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# <span id="page-5-0"></span>ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

### **Table 2.**



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.

## <span id="page-5-1"></span>**THERMAL RESISTANCE**

The  $\theta_{JA}$  value assumes a 4-layer JEDEC standard board with zero airflow.

### **Table 3. Thermal Resistance**



## <span id="page-5-2"></span>**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.

# <span id="page-6-0"></span>PIN CONFIGURATION AND FUNCTION DESCRIPTIONS



### **Table 4. Pin Function Descriptions**





<span id="page-7-0"></span><sup>1</sup> N/A means not applicable.

# <span id="page-8-0"></span>TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

AVCC = +15 V, AVEE = -15 V, T<sub>A</sub> = 25°C, and R<sub>L</sub> =  $\infty$ , unless otherwise noted.

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Figure 32. Output Voltage Swing with Respect to VCLP and VCLN vs. Temperature



Figure 33. Output Voltage Swing vs. Load Resistance at Three Temperatures



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Figure 37. Output Impedance vs. Frequency

## <span id="page-15-0"></span>**REFERENCE CHARACTERISTICS**



Figure 38. Output Voltage vs. Output Current (Sourcing) over Temperature



Figure 39. Output Voltage vs. Output Current (Sinking) over Temperature



Figure 40. Source and Sink Load Regulation vs. Temperature



Figure 41. Spectral Density Voltage Noise vs. Frequency

# <span id="page-16-1"></span><span id="page-16-0"></span>THEORY OF OPERATION **OVERVIEW**

To form and test a battery, the battery must undergo charge and discharge cycles. During these cycles, the battery terminal current and voltage must be precisely controlled to prevent battery failure or a reduction in the capacity of the battery. Therefore, battery formation and test systems require a high precision analog front end to monitor the battery current and terminal voltage. The analog front end of th[e AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) includes a precision current sense fixed gain instrumentation amplifier (IA) to measure the battery current and a precision voltage sense fixed gain difference amplifier (DA) to measure the battery voltage.

Battery formation and test systems charge and discharge batteries using a constant current/constant voltage (CC/CV) algorithm. In other words, the system first forces a set constant current into or out of the battery until the battery voltage reaches a target value. At this point, a set constant voltage is forced across the battery terminals.

The [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) provides two control loops—CC loop and a CV loop—that transition automatically after the battery reaches the user defined target voltage. These loops are implemented via two precision specialty amplifiers with external feedback networks that set the transfer function of the CC and CV loops. Moreover, in the [AD8451,](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) these loops reconfigure themselves to charge or discharge the battery by toggling the MODE pin.

[Figure 42](#page-16-2) is a block diagram of the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) that illustrates the distinct sections of th[e AD8451,](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) including the IA and DA measurement blocks, and the loop filter amplifiers[. Figure 43](#page-17-1) is a block diagram of a battery formation and test system.



<span id="page-16-2"></span>Figure 42. Detailed Block Diagram

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Figure 43. Signal Path of an Li-Ion Battery Formation and Test System Using the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) 

# <span id="page-17-1"></span><span id="page-17-0"></span>**INSTRUMENTATION AMPLIFIER (IA)**

[Figure 44](#page-17-2) is a block diagram of the IA, which is used to monitor the battery current. The architecture of the IA is the classic 3-op-amp topology, similar to the Analog Devices industry-standard [AD8221](http://www.analog.com/AD8221?doc=AD8451.pdf) an[d AD620,](http://www.analog.com/AD620?doc=AD8451.pdf) with a fixed gain of 26. This architecture provides the highest achievable CMRR at a given gain, enabling high-side battery current sensing without the introduction of significant errors in the measurement. For more information about instrumentation amplifiers, see [A Designer's Guide to](http://www.analog.com/DesignGuide_In-Amps?doc=AD8451.pdf)  [Instrumentation Amplifiers](http://www.analog.com/DesignGuide_In-Amps?doc=AD8451.pdf).

# **Reversing Polarity When Charging and Discharging**

[Figure 43](#page-17-1) shows that during the charge cycle, the power converter feeds current into the battery, generating a positive voltage across the current sense resistor. During the discharge cycle, the power converter draws current from the battery, generating a negative voltage across the sense resistor. In other words, the battery current polarity reverses when the battery discharges.

In the CC control loop, this change in polarity can be problematic if the polarity of the target current is not reversed. To solve this problem, th[e AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) IA includes a multiplexer preceding its inputs that inverts the polarity of the IA gain. This multiplexer is controlled via the MODE pin. When the MODE pin is logic high (charge mode), the IA gain is noninverting, and when the MODE pin is logic low (discharge mode), the IA gain is inverting.



### <span id="page-17-2"></span>**IA Offset Option**

As shown in [Figure 44,](#page-17-2) the IA reference node is connected to the ISREFL and ISREFH pins via an internal resistor divider. This resistor divider can be used to introduce a temperature insensitive offset to the output of the IA such that it always reads a voltage higher than zero for a zero differential input. Because the output voltage of the IA is always positive, a unipolar analog-to-digital converter (ADC) can digitize it.

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When the ISREFH pin is tied to the VREF pin with the ISREFL pin grounded, the voltage at the ISMEA pin is increased by 20 mV, guaranteeing that the output of the IA is always positive for zero differential inputs. Other voltage shifts can be realized by tying the ISREFH pin to an external voltage source. The gain from the ISREFH pin to the ISMEA pin is 8 mV/V. For zero offset, tie the ISREFL and ISREFH pins to ground.

## **Battery Reversal and Overvoltage Protection**

The [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) IA can be configured for high-side or low-side current sensing. If the IA is configured for high-side current sensing (se[e Figure 43\)](#page-17-1) and the battery is connected backward, the IA inputs may be held at a voltage that is below the negative power rail (AVEE), depending on the battery voltage.

To prevent damage to the IA under these conditions, the IA inputs include overvoltage protection circuitry that allows them to be held at voltages of up to 55 V from the opposite power rail. In other words, the safe voltage span for the IA inputs extends from AVCC − 55 V to AVEE + 55 V.

# <span id="page-18-0"></span>**DIFFERENCE AMPLIFIER (DA)**

[Figure 45](#page-18-2) is a block diagram of the DA, which is used to monitor the battery voltage. The architecture of the DA is a subtractor amplifier with a fixed gain of 0.8. This gain value allows the DA to funnel the voltage of a 5 V battery to a level that can be read by a 5 V ADC with a 4.096 V reference.



<span id="page-18-2"></span>Figure 45. DA Simplified Block Diagram

The resistors that form the DA gain network are laser trimmed to a matching level better than ±0.1%. This level of matching minimizes the gain error and gain error drift of the DA while maximizing the CMRR of the DA. This matching also allows the controller to set a stable target voltage for the battery over temperature while rejecting the ground bounce in the battery negative terminal.

Like the IA, the DA can also level shift its output voltage via an internal resistor divider that is tied to the DA reference node. This resistor divider is connected to the BVREFH and BVREFL pins.

When the BVREFH pin is tied to the VREF pin with the BVREFL pin grounded, the voltage at the BVMEA pin is increased by 5 mV, guaranteeing that the output of the DA is always positive for zero differential inputs. Other voltage shifts can be realized by tying the BVREFH pin to an external voltage source. The gain from the BVREFH pin to the BVMEA pin is 2 mV/V. For zero offset, tie the BVREFL and BVREFH pins to ground.

# <span id="page-18-1"></span>**CC AND CV LOOP FILTER AMPLIFIERS**

The CC and CV loop filter amplifiers are high precision, low noise specialty amplifiers with very low offset voltage and very low input bias current. These amplifiers serve two purposes:

- Using external components, the amplifiers implement active loop filters that set the dynamics (transfer function) of the CC and CV loops.
- The amplifiers perform a seamless transition from CC to CV mode after the battery reaches its target voltage.

[Figure 46](#page-19-0) is the functional block diagram of the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) CC and CV feedback loops for charge mode (MODE logic pin is high). For illustration purposes, the external networks connected to the loop amplifiers are simple RC networks configured to form single-pole inverting integrators. The outputs of the CC and CV loop filter amplifiers are coupled to the VINT pins via an analog NOR circuit (minimum output selector circuit), such that they can only pull the VINT node down. In other words, the loop amplifier that requires the lowest voltage at the VINT pins is in control of the node. Thus, only one loop amplifier, CC or CV, can be in control of the system charging control loop at any given time.



Figure 46. Functional Block Diagram of the CC and CV Loops in Charge Mode (MODE Pin High)

<span id="page-19-0"></span>The unity-gain amplifier (VINT buffer) buffers the VINT pins and drives the VCTRL pin. The VCTRL pin is the control output of th[e AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) and the control input of the power converter. The VISET and VVSET voltage sources set the target constant current and the target constant voltage, respectively. When the CC and CV feedback loops are in a steady state, the charging current is set at

$$
I_{BAT\_SS} = \frac{V_{ISET}}{G_{IA} \times R_S}
$$

where:

 $I_{BAT\_SS}$  = is the steady state charging current.  $G<sub>IA</sub>$  is the IA gain.  $R<sub>S</sub>$  is the value of the shunt resistor.

The target voltage is set at

$$
V_{\text{BAT}\_\text{SS}} = \frac{V_{\text{VSET}}}{G_{\text{DA}}}
$$

where:

 $V_{BAT\_SS}$  = steady state battery voltage.  $G<sub>DA</sub>$  is the DA gain.

Because the offset voltage of the loop amplifiers is in series with the target voltage sources,  $V_{\text{ISET}}$  and  $V_{\text{VSET}}$ , the high precision of these amplifiers minimizes this source of error.

[Figure 47](#page-19-1) shows a typical CC/CV charging profile for a Li-Ion battery. In the first stage of the charging process, the battery is charged with a CC of 1 A. When the battery voltage reaches a target voltage of 4.2 V, the charging process transitions such that the battery is charged with a CV of 4.2 V.

The following steps describe how the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) implements the CC/CV charging profile (se[e Figure 46\)](#page-19-0). In this scenario, the battery begins in the fully discharged state, and the system has just been turned on such that  $I<sub>BAT</sub> = 0$  A at Time 0.

1. Because the voltages at the ISMEA and BVMEA pins are less than the target voltages ( $V_{\text{ISET}}$  and  $V_{\text{VSET}}$ ) at Time 0, both integrators begin to ramp, increasing the voltage at the VINT node.



<span id="page-19-1"></span>Figure 47. Representative Constant Current to Constant Voltage Transition near the End of a Battery Charging Cycle

- 2. As the voltage at the VINT node increases, the voltage at the VCRTL node rises, and the output current of the power converter, IBAT, increases (assuming that an increasing voltage at the VCRTL node increases the output current of the power converter).
- 3. When the IBAT current reaches the CC steady state value, IBAT\_SS, the battery voltage is still less than the target steady state value, V<sub>BAT\_SS</sub>. Therefore, the CV loop tries to keep pulling the VINT node up while the CC loop tries to keep it at its current voltage. At this point, the voltage at the ISMEA pin equals  $V_{\text{ISET}}$ ; therefore, the CC loop stops integrating.
- 4. Because the loop amplifiers can only pull the VINT node down due to the analog NOR circuit, the CC loop takes control of the charging feedback loop, and the CV loop is disabled.
- 5. As the charging process continues, the battery voltage increases until it reaches the steady state value,  $V_{BAT\_SS}$ , and the voltage at the BVMEA pin reaches the target voltage, V<sub>VSET</sub>.

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- 6. The CV loop tries to pull the VINT node down to reduce the charging current  $(I<sub>BAT</sub>)$  and prevent the battery voltage from rising any further. At the same time, the CC loop tries to keep the VINT node at its current voltage to keep the battery current at IBAT\_SS.
- 7. Because the loop amplifiers can only pull the VINT node down due to the analog NOR circuit, the CV loop takes control of the charging feedback loop, and the CC loop is disabled.

The analog NOR (minimum output selector) circuit that couples the outputs of the loop amplifiers is optimized to minimize the transition time from CC to CV control. Any delay in the transition causes the CC loop to remain in control of the charge feedback loop after the battery voltage reaches its target value. Therefore, the battery voltage continues to rise beyond  $V<sub>BAT</sub>$ <sub>SS</sub> until the control loop transitions; that is, the battery voltage overshoots its target voltage. When the CV loop takes control of the charge feedback loop, it reduces the battery voltage to the target voltage. A large overshoot in the battery voltage due to transition delays can damage the battery; thus, it is crucial to minimize delays by implementing a fast CC to CV transition.

[Figure 48](#page-20-1) is the functional block diagram of the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) CC and CV feedback loops for discharge mode (MODE logic pin is low). In discharge mode, the feedback loops operate in a similar manner as in charge mode. The only difference is in the CV loop amplifier, which operates as a noninverting integrator in discharge mode. For illustration purposes, the external networks connected to the loop amplifiers are simple RC networks configured to form single-pole integrators (se[e Figure 48\)](#page-20-1).

### **Compensation**

In battery formation and test systems, the CC and CV feedback loops have significantly different open-loop gain and crossover frequencies; therefore, each loop requires its own frequency compensation. The active filter architecture of the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) CC and CV loops allows the frequency response of each loop to be set independently via external components. Moreover, due to

the internal switches in the CC and CV amplifiers, the frequency response of the loops in charge mode does not affect the frequency response of the loops in discharge mode.

Unlike simpler controllers that use passive networks to ground for frequency compensation, th[e AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) allows the use of feedback networks for its CC and CV loop filter amplifiers. These networks enable the implementation of both proportional differentiator (PD) Type II and proportional integrator differentiator (PID) Type III compensators. Note that in charge mode, both the CC and CV loops implement inverting compensators, whereas in discharge mode, the CC loop implements an inverting compensator, and the CV loop implements a noninverting compensator. As a result, the CV loop in discharge mode includes an additional amplifier, VSET buffer, to buffer the VSET node from the feedback network (see [Figure 48\)](#page-20-1).

## **VINT Buffer**

The unity-gain amplifier (VINT buffer) is a clamp amplifier that drives the VCTRL pin. The VCTRL pin is the control output of the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) and the control input of the power converter (se[e Figure 46](#page-19-0) an[d Figure 48\)](#page-20-1). The output voltage range of this amplifier is bounded by the clamp voltages at the VCLP and VCLN pins such that

 $V_{VCLN}$  – 0.5 V <  $V_{VCTRL}$  <  $V_{VCLP}$  + 0.5 V

The reduction in the output voltage range of the amplifier is a safety feature that allows the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) to drive devices such as th[e ADP1972](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf) PWM controller, whose input voltage range must not exceed 5.5 V (that is, the voltage at the COMP pin of the [ADP1972](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf) must be below 5.5 V).

# <span id="page-20-0"></span>**MODE PIN, CHARGE AND DISCHARGE CONTROL**

The MODE pin is a TTL logic input that configures the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) for either charge or discharge mode. A logic low ( $V_{\text{MODE}}$  < 0.8 V) corresponds to discharge mode, and a logic high ( $V_{\text{MODE}} > 2$  V) corresponds to charge mode. Internal to the [AD8451,](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) the MODE pin toggles all single-pole, double throw (SPDT) switches in the CC and CV loop amplifiers and inverts the gain polarity of the IA.

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# <span id="page-21-0"></span>APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

This section describes how to use the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) in the context of a battery formation and test system. This section includes a design example of a small scale model of an actual system.

# <span id="page-21-1"></span>**FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTION**

The [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) is a precision analog front end and controller for battery formation and test systems. These systems use precision controllers and power stages to put batteries through charge and discharge cycles. [Figure 49](#page-21-2) shows the signal path of a simplified switching battery formation and test system using th[e AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) controller and th[e ADP1972](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf) PWM controller. For more information on th[e ADP1972,](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf) see the [ADP1972](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf) data sheet.

The [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) is suitable for systems that form and test NiCad, NiMH, and Li-Ion batteries and is designed to operate in conjunction with both linear and switching power stages.

The [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) includes the following blocks (see [Figure 42](#page-16-2) and the [Theory of Operation](#page-16-0) section for more information).

- A fixed gain IA that senses low-side or high-side battery current.
- A fixed gain DA that measures the terminal voltage of the battery.
- Two loop filter error amplifiers that receive the battery target current and voltage and establish the dynamics of the CC and CV feedback loops.
- A minimum output selector circuit that combines the outputs of the loop filter error amplifiers to perform automatic CC to CV switching.
- An output clamp amplifier that drives the VCTRL pin. The voltage range of this amplifier is limited by the voltage at the VCLP and VCLN pins such that it cannot overrange the subsequent stage. The output clamp amplifier can drive switching and linear power converters. Note that an increasing voltage at the VCTRL pin must translate to a larger output current in the power converter.
- A 2.5 V reference whose output node is the VREF pin.

A logic input pin (MODE) that changes the configuration of the controller from charge to discharge mode. A logic high at the MODE pin configures charge mode; a logic low configures discharge mode.

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# <span id="page-22-0"></span>**POWER SUPPLY CONNECTIONS**

The [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) requires two analog power supplies (AVCC and AVEE), one digital power supply (DVCC), one analog ground (AGND), and one digital ground (DGND). AVCC and AVEE power all the analog blocks, including the IA, DA, and op amps, and DVCC powers the MODE input logic. AGND provides a reference and return path for the 2.5 V reference, and DGND provides a reference and return path for the digital circuitry.

The rated absolute maximum value for AVCC − AVEE is 36 V, and the minimum operating AVCC and AVEE voltages are +5 V and −5 V, respectively. Due to the high PSRR of th[e AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) analog blocks, AVCC can be connected directly to the high current power bus (the input voltage of the power converter) without risking the injection of supply noise to the controller outputs.

A commonly used power supply combination is +15 V for AVCC, −15 V for AVEE, and +5 V for DVCC. The +15 V rail for AVCC provides enough headroom to the IA such that it can be connected in a high-side current sensing configuration. The −15 V rail for AVEE allows the DA to sense accidental reverse battery conditions (see th[e Reverse Battery Conditions](#page-22-4) section).

Connect decoupling capacitors to all the supply pins. A  $1 \mu$ F capacitor in parallel with a 0.1 µF capacitor is recommended.

## <span id="page-22-1"></span>**CURRENT SENSE IA CONNECTIONS**

For a description of the IA, see th[e Theory of Operation](#page-16-0) section, [Figure 42,](#page-16-2) an[d Figure 44.](#page-17-2) The IA fixed gain is 26.

### **Current Sensors**

Two common options for current sensors are isolated current sensing transducers and shunt resistors. Isolated current sensing transducers are galvanically isolated from the power converter and are affected less by the high frequency noise generated by switch mode power supplies. Shunt resistors are less expensive and easier to deploy.

If a shunt resistor sensor is used, a 4-terminal, low resistance shunt resistor is recommended. Two of the four terminals conduct the battery current, whereas the other two terminals conduct virtually no current. The terminals that conduct no current are sense terminals that are used to measure the voltage drop across the resistor (and, therefore, the current flowing through it) using an amplifier such as the IA of the [AD8451.](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) To interface the IA with the current sensor, connect the sense terminals of the sensor to the ISVP and ISVN pins of the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) (se[e Figure 50\)](#page-22-5).

### **Optional Low-Pass Filter**

The [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) is designed to control both linear regulators and switching power converters. Linear regulators are generally noise free, whereas switch mode power converters generate switching noise. Connecting an external differential low-pass filter between the current sensor and the IA inputs reduces the injection of switching noise into the IA (se[e Figure 50\)](#page-22-5).



<span id="page-22-5"></span>Figure 50. 4-Terminal Shunt Resistor Connected to the Current Sense IA

# <span id="page-22-2"></span>**VOLTAGE SENSE DA CONNECTIONS**

For a description of the DA, see the [Theory of Operation](#page-16-0) section[, Figure 42,](#page-16-2) and [Figure 45.](#page-18-2) The DA fixed gain is 0.8.

### <span id="page-22-4"></span>**Reverse Battery Conditions**

The output voltage of th[e AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) DA can be used to detect a reverse battery connection. A −15 V rail for AVEE allows the output of the DA to go below ground when the battery is connected backward. Therefore, the condition can be detected by monitoring the BVMEA pin for a negative voltage.

## <span id="page-22-3"></span>**BATTERY CURRENT AND VOLTAGE CONTROL INPUTS (ISET AND VSET)**

The voltages at the ISET and VSET input pins set the target battery current and voltage for the CC and CV loops. These inputs must be driven by a precision voltage source (or a digitalto-analog converter [DAC] connected to a precision reference) whose output voltage is referenced to the same voltage as the IA and DA reference pins (ISREFH/ISREFL and BVREFH/BVREFL, respectively). For example, if the IA reference pins are connected to AGND, the voltage source connected to ISET must also be referenced to AGND. In the same way, if the DA reference pins are connected to AGND, the voltage source connected to VSET must also be referenced to AGND.

In constant current mode, when the CC feedback loop is in a steady state, the ISET input sets the battery current as follows:

$$
I_{BAT\_SS} = \frac{V_{ISET}}{G_{IA} \times R_S} = \frac{V_{ISET}}{26 \times R_S}
$$

where:  $G<sub>IA</sub>$  is the IA gain.  $R<sub>S</sub>$  is the value of the shunt resistor.

In constant voltage mode, when the CV feedback loop is in steady state, the VSET input sets the battery voltage as follows:

$$
V_{BAT\_SS} = \frac{V_{VSET}}{G_{DA}} = \frac{V_{VSET}}{0.8}
$$

where  $G<sub>DA</sub>$  is the DA gain.

Therefore, the accuracy and temperature stability of the formation and test system are not only dependent on the precision of the [AD8451,](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) but also on the accuracy of the ISET and VSET inputs.

# <span id="page-23-0"></span>**LOOP FILTER AMPLIFIERS**

The [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) has two loop filter amplifiers, also known as error amplifiers (se[e Figure 49\)](#page-21-2). One amplifier is for constant current control (CC loop filter amplifier), and the other amplifier is for constant voltage control (CV loop filter amplifier). The outputs of these amplifiers are combined using a minimum output selector circuit to perform automatic CC to CV switching.

[Table 5](#page-23-3) lists the inputs of the loop filter amplifiers for charge mode and discharge mode.

### <span id="page-23-3"></span>**Table 5. Integrator Input Connections**



The CC and CV amplifiers in charge mode and the CC amplifier in discharge mode are inverting integrators, whereas the CV amplifier in discharge mode is a noninverting integrator. Therefore, the CV amplifier in discharge mode uses an extra amplifier, the VSET buffer, to buffer the VSET input pin (se[e Figure 42\)](#page-16-2). In addition, the CV amplifier in discharge mode uses the VVP0 pin to couple the signal from the BVMEA pin to the integrator.

# <span id="page-23-1"></span>**CONNECTING TO A PWM CONTROLLER (VCTRL PIN)**

The VCTRL output pin of the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) is designed to interface with linear power converters and with PWM controllers such as the [ADP1972.](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf) The voltage range of the VCTRL output pin is bound by the voltages at the VCLP and VCLN pins, as follows:

$$
V_{\textit{VCLN}} - 0.5~\mathrm{V} < V_{\textit{VCTRL}} < V_{\textit{VCLP}} + 0.5~\mathrm{V}
$$

Because the maximum rated input voltage at the COMP pin of the [ADP1972](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf) is 5.5 V, connect the clamp voltages of the output amplifier to 5 V (VCLP) and ground (VCLN) to prevent overranging of the COMP input. As an additional precaution, install an external 5.1 V Zener diode from the COMP pin to ground with a series 1 kΩ resistor connected between the VCTRL and COMP pins. Consult the [ADP1972](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf) data sheet for additional applications information.

Given the architecture of the [AD8451,](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) the controller requires that an increasing voltage at the VCTRL pin translates to a larger output current in the power converter. If this is not the case, a unity-gain inverting amplifier can be added in series with th[e AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) output to add an extra inversion.

# <span id="page-23-2"></span>**STEP-BY-STEP DESIGN EXAMPLE**

This section describes the systematic design of a 1 A battery charger/discharger using the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) controller and the [ADP1972](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf) PWM controller. The power converter used in this design is a nonisolated buck boost dc-to-dc converter. The target battery is a 4.2 V fully charged, 2.7 V fully discharged Li-Ion battery.

# **Step 1: Design the Switching Power Converter**

Select the switches and passive components of the buck boost power converter to support the 1 A maximum battery current. The design of the power converter is beyond the scope of this data sheet; however, there are many application notes and other helpful documents available from manufacturers of integrated driver circuits and power MOSFET output devices that can be used for reference.

### **Step 2: Identify the Control Voltage Range of the [ADP1972](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf)**

The control voltage range of th[e ADP1972](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf) (voltage range of the COMP input pin) is 0.5 V to 4.5 V. An input voltage of 4.5 V results in the highest duty cycle and output current, whereas an input voltage of 0.5 V results in the lowest duty cycle and output current. Because the COMP pin connects directly to the VCTRL output pin of the [AD8451,](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) the battery current is proportional to the voltage at the VCTRL pin.

For information about how to interface th[e ADP1972](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf) to the power converter switches, see th[e ADP1972](http://www.analog.com/ADP1972?doc=AD8451.pdf) data sheet.

# **Step 3: Determine the Control Voltage for the CV Loop**

The relationship between the control voltage for the CV loop (the voltage at the VSET pin), the target battery voltage, and the DA gain is as follows:

$$
CV\text{ Battery Target Voltage} = \frac{V_{VSET}}{G_{DA}} = \frac{V_{VSET}}{0.8}
$$

In charge mode, for a CV battery target voltage of 4.2 V, select a CV control voltage of 3.36 V. In discharge mode, for a CV battery target voltage of 2.7 V, select a CV control voltage of 2.16 V.

### **Step 4: Determine the Control Voltage for the CC Loop and the Shunt Resistor**

The relationship between the control voltage for the CC loop (the voltage at the ISET pin), the target battery current, and the IA gain is as follows:

$$
CC Battery Target Current = \frac{V_{ISET}}{G_{IA} \times R_S} = \frac{V_{ISET}}{26 \times R_S}
$$

The voltage across the shunt resistor is as follows:

*Shunt Resistance Voltage* = 
$$
\frac{V_{ISET}}{G_{IA}} = \frac{V_{ISET}}{26}
$$

For target current of 1 A, choosing a 20 m $\Omega$  shunt resistor results in a control voltage of 4 V.

When selecting a shunt resistor, consider the resistor style and construction. For low power dissipation applications, many temperature stable SMD styles can be soldered to a heat sink pad on a printed circuit board (PCB). For optimum accuracy, choose a shunt resistor that provides force and sense terminals. In these resistors, the battery current flows through the force terminals and the voltage drop in the resistor is read at the sense terminals.

## **Step 5: Choose the Control Voltage Sources**

The input control voltages (the voltages at the ISET and VSET pins) can be generated by an analog voltage source such as a voltage reference or by a DAC. In both cases, select a device that provides a stable, low noise output voltage. If a DAC is preferred, Analog Devices offers a wide range of precision converters. For example, the [AD5668](http://www.analog.com/AD5668?doc=AD8451.pdf) 16-bit DAC provides up to eight 0 V to 4 V sources when connected to an external 2 V reference.

To maximize accuracy, the control voltage sources must be referenced to the same potential as the outputs of the IA and DA. For example, if the IA and DA reference pins are connected to AGND, connect the reference pins of the control voltage sources to AGND.

### **Step 6: Select the Compensation Devices**

Feedback controlled switching power converters require frequency compensation to guarantee loop stability. There are many references available about how to design the compensation for such power converters. Th[e AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) provides active loop filter error amplifiers for the CC and CV control loops that can implement proportional integrator (PI), PD, and PID compensators using external passive components.

# <span id="page-25-0"></span>EVALUATION BOARD **INTRODUCTION**

<span id="page-25-1"></span>The [AD8451-EVALZ](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) evaluation board is a convenient standalone platform for evaluating the major elements of the [AD8451,](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) either as a standalone component or connected to a battery test/formation system.

In the latter configuration, th[e AD8451-EVALZ](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) operates just as it would within a system including the PWM and dc-to-dc power converter. Simply connect the current and voltage sense voltages from the system directly to the board terminus. This feature is used when setting or evaluating loop compensation using a field of passive compensation components[. Figure 51](#page-25-3) is a photograph of th[e AD8451-EVALZ.](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf)

# <span id="page-25-2"></span>**FEATURES AND TESTS**

SMA connectors provide access for input voltages to the sensitive instrumentation (IA) and difference (DA) amplifiers. ISVP and ISVN connectors are the IA inputs, and BVP and BVN are the DA inputs. These inputs accept the dc voltages from battery current and voltage measurement sources, or from a precision dc voltage source. SMA connectors ISET and VSET are available for precision dc control voltages for CC or CV battery charging voltages. SMA ISREFLO is available for applying a nonzero reference voltage to the IA. SMA VCTRL connects to the input of a dc-to-dc power converter as seen in [Figure 52.](#page-27-1) Convenient test loops are provided connecting scope probes or instruments for the remainder of the input/output.

The MODE switch selects between the charge and discharge option[. Figure 52](#page-27-1) is a schematic of th[e AD8451-EVALZ.](http://www.analog.com/AD8450?doc=AD8450.pdf) [Table 6](#page-26-1)  lists and describes the various switches and functions.

<span id="page-25-3"></span>

Figure 51. Photograph of th[e AD8451-EVALZ](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf)

### <span id="page-26-1"></span>**Table 6[. AD8451-EVALZ](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) Test Switches and Functions**



### <span id="page-26-0"></span>**EVALUATING TH[E AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) Test the Instrumentation Amplifier**

Connect the TPISVN jumper to ground, and then apply 100 mV dc to TPISVP. Measure 2.6 V at the TPISMEA output. Subtract any offset voltages from the output reading before calculating the gain.

### **20 mV Offset at IMEAS Output**

Connect a jumper from TPISVP to TPISVN to ground by using another jumper and any one of the convenient black test loops. Measure 0 V  $\pm$  2.86 mV at the TPISMEA output (that is, the IA residual offset voltage multiplied by gain). Move the ISREFLO switch to the **EXT** position, and the ISREFHI switch to the 20 mV (**EXT**) position. The output will then increase by 20 mV.

### **Test the Difference Amplifier**

Insert a shorting jumper at Header GND\_BVN. With 1 V dc applied to TPBVP, measure 0.8 V at TPBVMEA. For the most accurate gain measurement, subtract the offset voltage from the output voltage before calculating gain.

# **5 mV Offset at BVMEAS Output**

Insert jumpers in the GND\_BVP and GND\_BVN headers. Measure  $0 \text{ V } \pm 0.4 \text{ mV}$  at the TPBVMEA output (that is, the DA residual offset voltage multiplied by gain). Connect a jumper between TPBREFH and TP2.5V. The output will then increase by 5 mV.

### **CC and CV Integrator Tests**

Switches RUN\_TEST1 and RUN\_TEST2 set up the required circuit conditions to test the integrators. RUN\_TEST1 disconnects the external inputs ISET and VSET and applies 2.5 V dc from the reference, simultaneously, to both of the CC and CV.

RUN\_TEST2 has three positions: **RUN**, **TEST\_CC**, and **TEST\_CV**.

### **Loop Compensation**

The [AD8451-EVALZ](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) is suitable for use as a test platform for system loop compensation experiments. However, before installing the platform in a system, component changes are necessary. Note the four compensation networks, CC-CHARGE, CC-DISCHARGE, CV-CHARGE, and CV-DISCHARGE, located on the right-hand side of the schematic shown i[n Figure 52.](#page-27-1) To make it easier to locate these components, the configuration of these networks on the [AD8451-EVALZ](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) PCB approximates that shown in the schematic (see [Figure 52\)](#page-27-1). Each of the components locations accommodates both standard, 1206 size, surface-mount chip resistors and capacitors or leaded components inserted into the pairs of TP thru holes spanning the SM footprints. The TP holes accept the popular 0.025" test pins if leaded devices are preferred for multiple loop tests.

As shipped, CC and CV loop amplifier filters are configured as voltage followers by replacing feedback capacitors to the inverting inputs with resistors, and removing the dc coupling resistors from the IA and DA outputs. The feedback loops must be reconfigured to close the loops to operate as precision feedback loops.

Loop compensation requires knowledge of the output dc-to-dc power converter. It is assumed that the [AD8451](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) is most often used with a switching converter. The scope and breadth of this switching converter design architecture is quite broad, and a thorough discussion of all the types and variants of this type of converter is well beyond the scope of this data.

When the circuit and component details of the power converter are known, proceed with a calculation of the loop parameters and components, and the values necessary to achieve loop compensation.

Because the loop is of the type proportional/integrating (PI), a direct dc path is required from the IA and DA amplifiers to the error inputs of the CC and CV loop amplifiers. Install these resistors at the R1, R6, R7, R11, and R12 locations.

Likewise, the CC and CV amplifiers must be reconfigured from voltage followers to integrators by replacing the 0  $\Omega$  capacitors at C6, C10, C11, C19, and C24 with appropriate capacitors.

# <span id="page-27-0"></span>**SCHEMATIC AND ARTWORK**

<span id="page-27-1"></span>



Figure 53[. AD8451-EVALZ](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) Top Silkscreen



Figure 54[. AD8451-EVALZ](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) Primary Side Copper

12137-055



Figure 55[. AD8451-EVALZ S](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf)econdary Side Copper



Figure 56[. AD8451-EVALZ](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) Power Plane

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Figure 57[. AD8451-EVALZ](http://www.analog.com/AD8451?doc=AD8451.pdf) Ground Plane

# <span id="page-31-0"></span>OUTLINE DIMENSIONS



Dimensions shown in millimeters

## <span id="page-31-1"></span>**ORDERING GUIDE**



<sup>1</sup> Z = RoHS Compliant Part.

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