KAE-02152

1920 (H) x 1080 (V) Interline CCD Image Sensor

The KAE-02152 image sensor is a 1080p, 2/3" format Interline Transfer EMCCD that provides increased Quantum Efficiency (particularly for NIR wavelengths) without a decrease in Modulation Transfer Function (MTF) when compared to the KAE−02150.

Each of the sensor's four outputs includes both a conventional horizontal CCD register and a high gain EMCCD register. An intra−scene switchable gain feature samples each charge packet on a pixel−by−pixel basis, enabling the camera system to determine whether the charge will be routed through the normal gain output or the EMCCD output based on a user selectable threshold. This feature enables imaging in extreme low light even when bright objects are within a dark scene, allowing a single camera to capture quality images from sunlight to starlight. The device is available in two package configurations: PGA, and PGA with integrated thermoelectric cooler (TEC).

Table 1. GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS

NOTE: All Parameters are specified at $T = 0^{\circ}$ C unless otherwise noted.

ON Semiconductor®

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Figure 1. KAE−02152 Interline CCD Image Sensor

ORDERING INFORMATION

See detailed ordering and shipping information on page [2](#page-1-0) of this data sheet.

Features

- Increased QE, with 2x Improvement at 820 nm
- Intra-Scene Switchable Gain
- Wide Dynamic Range
- Low Noise Architecture
- Exceptional Low Light Imaging
- Global Shutter
- Excellent Image Uniformity and MTF
- Bayer Color Pattern and Monochrome
- PGA, or PGA with integrated TEC

Applications

- Surveillance
- Scientific Imaging
- Medical Imaging
- Intelligent Transportation

ORDERING INFORMATION

US export controls apply to all shipments of this product designated for destinations outside of the US and Canada, requiring ON Semiconductor to obtain an export license from the US Department of Commerce before image sensors or evaluation kits can be exported.

Table 2. ORDERING INFORMATION

Table 3. EVALUATION SUPPORT

See the ON Semiconductor *Device Nomenclature* document [\(TND310/D\)](http://www.onsemi.com/pub_link/Collateral/TND310-D.PDF) for a full description of the naming convention used for image sensors. For reference documentation, including information on evaluation kits, please visit our web site at [www.onsemi.com.](http://onsemi.com)

Warning

The KAE−02152−ABB−SD, KAE−02152−FBB−SD and KAE−02152−QBB−SD packages have an integrated thermoelectric cooler (TEC) and have epoxy sealed cover glass. The seal formed is non−hermetic, and may allow moisture ingress over time, depending on the storage environment.

As a result, care must be taken to avoid cooling the device below the dew point inside the package cavity, since this may result in condensation on the sensor.

For all KAE−02152 configurations, no warranty, expressed or implied, covers condensation.

DEVICE DESCRIPTION

Architecture

Dark Reference Pixels

There are 14 dark reference rows at the top and bottom of the image sensor, as well as 24 dark reference columns on the left and right sides. However, the rows and columns at the very edges should not be included in acquiring a dark reference signal, since they may be subject to some light leakage.

Active Buffer Pixels

8 unshielded pixels adjacent to any leading or trailing dark reference regions are classified as active buffer pixels. These pixels are light sensitive but are not tested for defects and non-uniformities.

Image Acquisition

An electronic representation of an image is formed when incident photons falling on the sensor plane create

electron-hole pairs within the individual silicon photodiodes. These photoelectrons are collected locally by the formation of potential wells at each photo-site. Below photodiode saturation, the number of photoelectrons collected at each pixel is linearly dependent upon light level and exposure time and non-linearly dependent on wavelength. When the photodiodes charge capacity is reached, excess electrons are discharged into the substrate to prevent blooming

ESD Protection

Adherence to the power-up and power-down sequence is critical. Failure to follow the proper power-up and power-down sequences may cause damage to the sensor. See [Power-Up and Power-Down Sequence](#page-23-0) section.

Bayer Color Filter Pattern

Figure 3. Bayer Color Filter Pattern

Sparse Color Filter Pattern

Figure 4. Sparse Color Filter Pattern

Physical Description

Pin Grid Array and Pin Description

Figure 5. PGA Package Designations (Bottom View)

Table 4. PIN DESCRIPTION

Table [4](#page-6-0). PIN DESCRIPTION (continued)

Table [4](#page-6-0). PIN DESCRIPTION (continued)

Table [4](#page-6-0). PIN DESCRIPTION (continued)

Table 5. PGA WITH INTEGRATED TEC PIN DESCRIPTION

Table [5](#page-10-0). PGA WITH INTEGRATED TEC PIN DESCRIPTION (continued)

Table [5](#page-10-0). PGA WITH INTEGRATED TEC PIN DESCRIPTION (continued)

Table [5](#page-10-0). PGA WITH INTEGRATED TEC PIN DESCRIPTION (continued)

1. Pins A03 and A05 are connected to a negative temperature coefficient thermistor

2. All TEC pins (A18, B18, C18, D18, E18, F18, G18, and H18) must be driven.

IMAGING PERFORMANCE

Table 6. TYPICAL OPERATIONAL CONDITIONS

(Unless otherwise noted, the Imaging Performance Specifications are measured using the following conditions.)

1. For monochrome sensor, only green LED used.

Table 7. SPECIFICATIONS

Table [7](#page-14-0). SPECIFICATIONS (continued)

1. Per color

2. Value is over the range of 10% to 90% of photodiode saturation.

3. The operating value of the substrate reference voltage, $\mathrm{V_{AB}}$, can be read from pin 60.

4. At 40 MHz.

5. Uses 20LOG (P_{Ne} / n_{e−T}).
6. Calculated from f_{−3dB} = 1 / 2π · R_{OUT} · C_{LOAD} where C_{LOAD} = 5 pF.

Figure 7. Total Power Dissipated on the Sensor vs. Frequency

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CURVES

Quantum Efficiency

Monochrome with Microlens

Figure 8. Monochrome QE with Microlens and No Glass

Color (Bayer RGB) with Microlens

Figure 10. Color (Bayer RGB) QE with Microlens and No Glass

Color (Sparse CFA) with Microlens

Figure 12. Color (Sparse CFA) QE with Microlens and MAR Glass

Angular Response

Horizontal – the incident light angle is varied in a plane parallel to the HCCD. Vertical − the incident light angle is varied in a plane perpendicular to the HCCD.

Monochrome with Microlens

Figure 13. Monochrome with Microlens Angle Response

Color (Bayer RGB) with Microlens

Sparse Color with Microlens

Figure 15. Sparse Color with Microlens Angle Response

Frame Rates

Figure 16. Frame Rates vs. Frequency

DEFECT DEFINITIONS

Table 8. DEFECT DEFINITIONS

1. The thresholds are defined for an operating temperature of 0°C, quad output mode, gain of 20X and a readout rate of 20 MHz. For operation at 22°C, thresholds of 30 mV for major bright pixels and 10 mV for minor bright pixels would give approximately the same numbers of defects.

2. For the color device, a bright field defective pixel deviates by 12% with respect to pixels of the same color.

3. Column and cluster defects are separated by no less than 2 good pixels in any direction (excluding single pixel defects).
4. Low exposure dark column defects are not counted at temperatures above 0°C.

OPERATION

Table 9. ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

(Absolute maximum rating is defined as a level or condition that should not be exceeded at any time per the description. If the level or the condition is exceeded, the device will be degraded and may be damaged. Operation at these values will reduce MTTF.)

Stresses exceeding those listed in the Maximum Ratings table may damage the device. If any of these limits are exceeded, device functionality should not be assumed, damage may occur and reliability may be affected.

1. Noise performance will degrade at higher temperatures.

2. T = 25°C. Excessive humidity will degrade MTF. The maximum humidity for operation is 50% for OPNs beginning with KAE−02152−ABB−SD, KAE−02152−FBB−SD, and KAE−02152−QBB−SD.

3. Total for all outputs. Maximum current is −15 mA for each output. Avoid shorting output pins to ground or any low impedance source during operation. Amplifier bandwidth increases at higher current and lower load capacitance at the expense of reduced gain (sensitivity).

Table 10. ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM VOLTAGE RATINGS BETWEEN PINS AND GROUND

1. α " denotes a, b, c or d.

2. Refer to Application Note Using Interline CCD Image Sensors in High Intensity Visible Lighting Conditions.

3. The measured value for $VSUB_{REF}$ is a diode drop higher than the recommended minimum $VSUB$ bias.

Power-Up and Power-Down Sequence

SUB and ESD power up first, then power up all other biases in any order. No pin may have a voltage less than ESD at any time. All HCCD pins must be greater than or equal to GND at all times. The SUBREF pin will not become valid until VDD23ab has been powered, therefore the SUB voltage cannot be directly derived from the SUB_{RFF} pin. The SUB pin should be at least 4 V before powering up VDD23ab or VDD23cd.

1. VDD bias pins for all four quadrants must be maintained at 15 V during operation.

2. For each image sensor the voltage output on the VSUBREF pin is programmed to be one diode drop, 0.5 V, above the nominal SUB voltage. The voltage output on VSUBREF is unique to each image sensor and may vary from 5.0 to 8.5 V. The output impedance of VSUBREF is approximately 100 k. The applied VSUB should be one diode drop lower than the VSUBREF value measured on the device, when VDD23 is at the specified voltage.

AC Operating Conditions

Table 12. CLOCK LEVELS

1. HCCD Operating Voltages. There can be no overshoot on any horizontal clock below −0.4 V: the specified absolute minimum. The H1SEM and H2SEM clock amplitudes need to be software programmable to adjust the charge multiplier gain.

2. Reset Clock Operation: The RG1, RG2, and RG3 signals must be capacitive coupled into the image sensor with a 0.01 µF to 0.1 µF capacitor. The reset clock overshoot can be no greater than 0.3 V, as shown in Figure 17, below:

Clock Capacitances

Note: The capacitance of all other HCCD pins 15 pF or less.

Figure 18. EMCCD Clock Adjustable Levels

For the EMCCD clocks, each quadrant must have independently adjustable high levels. All quadrants have a common low level of GND. The high level adjustments must be software controlled to balance the gain of the four outputs.

The reset clock drivers must be coupled by capacitors to the image sensor. The capacitors can be anywhere in the range 0.01 to $0.1 \mu F$. The damping resistor values would vary between 0 and 75 Ω depending on the layout of the circuit board.

Table 13. VCCD

1. The Vertical CCD operating voltages. The VCCD low level will be −8.0 V for operating temperatures of 0°C and above. Below 0°C the VCCD low level should be increased for optimum noise performance.

Table 14. BIAS VOLTAGES

1. Caution: Do not clock the EMCCD register while the electronic shutter pulse is high.

2. The substrate bias (SUB) should normally be kept at V_{AB} , which can be read from Pin 60. However, this value was determined from operation at 0°C, and has an approximate temperature dependence of 0.01 V/degree.

Device Identification

The device identification pin (DevID) may be used to determine which ON Semiconductor 5.5 micron pixel interline CCD sensor is being used.

Table 15. DEVICE IDENTIFICATION

1. Nominal value subject to verification and/or change during release of preliminary specifications.

2. If the Device Identification is not used, it may be left disconnected.

3. After Device Identification resistance has been read during camera initialization, it is recommended that the circuit be disabled to prevent localized heating of the sensor due to current flow through the R_DeviceID resistor.

Recommended Circuit

THEORY OF OPERATION

Image Acquisition

This image sensor is capable of detecting up to 20,000 electrons with a small signal noise floor of 1 electron all within one image. Each 5.5 µm square pixel, as shown in Figure 21 above, consists of a light sensitive photodiode and a portion of the vertical CCD (VCCD). Not shown is a microlens positioned above each photodiode to focus light away from the VCCD and into the photodiode. Each photon incident upon a pixel will generate an electron in the photodiode with a probability equal to the quantum efficiency.

The photodiode may be cleared of electrons (electronic shutter) by pulsing the SUB pin of the image sensor up to a voltage of 30 V to 40 V (VSUB_{REF} + 22 V to VSUB_{REF} $+ 28$ V) for a time of at least 1 μ s. When the SUB pin is above 30 V, the photodiode can hold no electrons, and the electrons flow downward into the substrate. When the voltage on SUB drops below 30 V, the integration of electrons in the photodiode begins. The HCCD clocks should be stopped when the electronic shutter is pulsed, to avoid having the large voltage pulse on SUB coupling into the video outputs and altering the EMCCD gain.

It should be noted that there are certain conditions under which the device will have no anti-blooming protection: when the V1T and V1B pins are high, very intense illumination generating electrons in the photodiode will flood directly into the VCCD. When the electronic shutter pulse overlaps the V1T and V1B high-level pulse that transfers electrons from the photodiode to the VCCD, then photo-electrons will flow to the substrate and not the VCCD. This condition may be desirable as a means to obtain very short integration times.

The VCCD is shielded from light by metal to prevent detection of more photons. For very bright spots of light, some photons may leak through or around the metal light shield and result in electrons being transferred into the VCCD. This is called image smear.

Image Readout

At the start of image readout, the voltage on the V1T and V1B pins is pulsed from 0 V up to the high level for at least 1 µs and back to 0 V, which transfers the electrons from the photodiodes into the VCCD. If the VCCD is not empty, then the electrons will be added to what is already in the VCCD. The VCCD is read out one row at a time. During a VCCD row transfer, the HCCD clocks are stopped. All gates of type H1 stop at the high level and all gates of type H2 stop at the low level. After a VCCD row transfer, charge packets of electrons are advanced one pixel at a time towards the output amplifiers by each complimentary clock cycle of the H1 and H2 gates.

The charge multiplier has a maximum charge handling capacity (after gain) of 20,000 electrons. This is not the average signal level. It is the maximum signal level. Therefore, it is advisable to keep the average signal level at 15,000 electrons or less to accommodate a normal distribution of signal levels. For a charge multiplier gain of 20x, no more than $15,000/20 = 750$ electrons should be allowed to enter the charge multiplier. Overfilling the charge multiplier beyond 20,000 electrons will shorten its useful operating lifetime. In addition, sending signals larger than 180-200 electrons into the EMCCD will produce images with lower signal-to-noise ratio than if they were read out of the normal floating diffusion output. See Application Note AND9244.

To prevent overfilling the charge multiplier, a non-destructive floating gate output amplifier (VOUT1) is provided on each quadrant of the image sensor as shown in Figure 22.

and VOUT3

The non-destructive floating gate output amplifier is able to sense how much charge is present in a charge packet without altering the number of electrons in that charge packet. This type of amplifier has a low charge-to-voltage conversion gain (about $6.2 \mu V/e^-$) and high noise (about 60 electrons), but it is being used only as a threshold detector, and not an imaging detector. Even with 60 electrons of noise, it is adequate to determine whether a charge packet is greater than or less than the recommended threshold of 180 electrons.

After one row has been transferred from the VCCD into the HCCD, the HCCD clock cycles should begin. After 10 clock cycles, the first dark VCCD column pixel will arrive at VOUT1. After another 24 (34 total) clock cycles, the first photo-active charge packet will arrive at VOUT1.

The transfer sequence of a charge packet through the floating gate amplifier is shown in Figure 23 below. The time steps of this sequence are labeled A through D, and are indicated in the timing diagram shown as Figure [24.](#page-29-0) The RG1 gate is pulse high during the time that the H2X gate is pulsed high. This holds the floating gate at a constant voltage so the H2X gate can pull the charge packet out of the floating gate. The RG1 pulse should be at least as wide as the H2X pulse. The H2X pulse width should be at least 12 ns. The rising edge of H2X relative to the falling edge of H1S is critical. The H2X pulse cannot begin its rising edge transition until the H1S edge is less than 0.4 V. If the H2X rising edge comes too soon then there may be some backwards flow of charge for signals above 10,000 electrons.

Note: The blue and green rectangles represent two separate charge packets. The direction of charge transfer is from right to left.

Figure 23. Charge Packet Transfer Sequence through the Floating Gate Amplifier

Figure 24. Timing Signals that Control the Transfer of Charge through the Floating Gate Amplifier

The charge packet is transferred under the floating gate on the falling edge of H2L. When this transfer takes place the floating gate is not connected to any voltage source. The presence of charge under the gate causes a change in voltage on the floating gate according to $V = Q / C$, where Q is the size of the charge packet and C is the capacitance of the floating gate. With an output sensitivity of $6.2 \mu V/e^-$, each electron on the floating gate would give a $6.2 \mu V$ change in VOUT1 voltage. Therefore if the decision threshold is to only allow charge packets of 180 electrons or less into the charge multiplier, this would correspond to $180 \times 6.2 = 1.1$ mV. If the video output is less than 1.1 mV, then the camera must set the timing of the H2SW2 and H2SW3 pins to route the charge packet to the charge multiplier. This action must take place 28 clock cycles after the charge packet was under the floating gate amplifier. The 28 clock cycle delay is to allow for pipeline delays of the A/D converter inside the analog front end. The timing generator must examine the output of the analog front end

and dynamically alter the timing on H2SW2 and H2SW3. To route a charge packet to the charge multiplier (VOUT3), H2SW2 is held at GND and H2SW3 is clocked with the same timing as H2S for that one clock cycle. To route a charge packet to the low gain output amplifier (VOUT2), H2SW3 is held at GND and H2SW2 is clocked with the same timing as H2S for that one clock cycle.

When operating the device at maximum (40 MHz) data rate, all the charge must be routed through the low gain amplifier (VOUT2). This is best accomplished with the floating gate reset (RG1) held at its high level while clocking the HCCD, and the H2X gate clocked with the same timing as H2S and H2B. During the line timing patterns L1 or L2, the RG1 gate should be clocked low. There is a diode on the sensor that sets the DC offset of the RG1 gate when it is clocked low. If the RG1 is not clocked low once per line then the RG1 DC offset will drift. This timing scheme is represented in the diagram shown below:

Figure 25. 40 MHz Floating Gate Bypass Timing

EMCCD OPERATION

Note: Charge flows from right to left.

The charge multiplication process, shown in Figure 26 above, begins at time step A, when an electron is held under the H1SEM gate. The H2BEM and H1BEM gates block the electron from transferring to the next phase until the H2SEM has reached its maximum voltage. When the H2BEM is clocked from 0 to 5 V, the channel potential under H2BEM increases until the electron can transfer from H1SEM to H2SEM. When the H2SEM gate is above 10 V, the electric field between the H2BEM and H2SEM gates gives the electron enough energy to free a second electron which is collected under H2SEM. Then the voltages on H2BEM and

H2SEM are both returned to 0 V at the same time that H1SEM is ramped up to its maximum voltage. Now the process can repeat again with charge transferring into the H1SEM gate.

The alignment of clock edges is shown in Figure [27.](#page-32-0) The rising edge of the H1BEM and H2BEM gates must be delayed until the H1SEM or H2SEM gates have reached their maximum voltage. The falling edge of H1BEM and H2BEM must reach 0 V before the H1SEM or H2SEM reach 0 V. There are a total of 1,800 charge multiplying transfers through the EMCCD on each quadrant.

Figure 27. The Timing Diagram for Charge Multiplication

The amount of gain through the EMCCD will depend on temperature and H1SEM and H2SEM voltage as shown in Figure 28. Gain also depends on substrate voltage, as shown in Figure [29,](#page-33-0) and on the input signal, as shown in Figure [30.](#page-33-0)

Note: This figure represents data from only one example image sensor, other image sensors will vary.

Figure 28. The Variation of Gain vs. EMCCD High Voltage and Temperature

Note: This figure represents data from only one example image sensor, other image sensors will vary.

Note: The EMCCD voltage was set to provide 20x gain with an input of 180 electrons.

Figure 30. EMCCD Gain vs. Input Signal

If more than one output is used, then the EMCCD high level voltage must be independently adjusted for each quadrant. This is because each quadrant will require a slightly different voltage to obtain the same gain. In addition, the voltage required for a given gain differs unpredictably from one image sensor to the next, as in Figure [31](#page-34-0). Because of this, the gain vs. voltage relationship must be calibrated for each image sensor, although within each quadrant, the H1SEM and H2SEM high level voltage should be equal.

The effective output noise of the image sensor is defined as the noise of the output signal divided by the gain. This is measured with zero input signal to the EMCCD. Figures 32 and [33](#page-35-0) show the EMCCD by itself has a very low noise that goes as the noise at gain $= 1$ divided by the gain. The EMCCD has very little clock-induced charge and does not require elaborate sinusoidal waveform clock drivers. Simple square wave clock drivers with a resistor between the driver and sensor for a small RC time constant are all that is needed. However, the pixel array may acquire spurious charge as a function of VCCD clock driver characteristics. Also, the VCCD is sensitive to hot electron luminescence emitted from the output amplifiers during image readout. These two factors limit the noise floor of the total imaging array.

Note: This figure represents data from only one example image sensor, other image sensors will vary.

Figure 32. EMCCD Output Noise vs. EMCCD Gain in Single Output Mode at −50 to 22C

Note: This figure represents data from only one example image sensor, other image sensors will vary.

Figure 33. EMCCD Output Noise vs. EMCCD Gain in Quad Output Mode at −50 to 22C

Because of these pixel array noise sources, it is recommended that the maximum gain used be 40x at 0°C, which typically gives a noise floor between 1e and 0.4e. Using higher gains will provide limited benefit and will degrade the signal to noise ratio due to the EMCCD excess noise factor. Furthermore, the image sensor is not limited by

dark current noise sources when the temperature is below 25°C. Therefore, cooling below 25°C will not provide a significant improvement to the noise floor. Lower temperatures will reduce the number of hot pixel defects observed only during image integration times longer than 1 s. Note the useful plot below:

WARNING: The EMCCD should not be operated near saturation for an extended period, as this may result in gain aging and permanently reduce the gain. It should be noted that device degradation associated with gain aging is not covered under the device warranty.

Choosing the Operating Temperature

The reasons for lowering the operating temperature are to reduce dark current noise and to reduce image defects. The average dark signal from the VCCD and photodiodes must be less than 1e in order to have a total system noise less than 1e when using the EMCCD. Figures 35 and 36 illustrate how the amount of dark signal in the VCCD is dependent on both temperature and voltage, and may be used to choose the operating temperature and VCCD clock low level voltage.

When operating in quad output mode at 0° C either –6 V or −8 V may be used for the VCCD clock low level voltage because the dark signal will be equal. But if the operating temperature is −20°C then the VCCD clock low level voltage should be set to −6 V for the lowest VCCD dark signal. For single output mode, the VCCD clock low level voltage should be set to −6 V for temperatures of −10°C or lower and −8 V for temperatures of −10°C or higher.

Note: Both are for a HCCD frequency of 20 MHz. The VCCD low level voltage is shown for each curve.

Figure 35. Dark Signal from VCCD in Quad and Single Output Modes

Figure 36. Dark Signal from VCCD in Dual Output Mode at HCCD Frequency 20 MHz

The reason for the different temperature dependencies with the VCCD low level voltage at –6 V vs. –8 V is spurious charge generation (sometimes called clock-induced charge). When the VCCD low level is at −8 V, the VCCD is accumulated with holes, which reduces the rate of dark current signal generation. However, the amount of clock induced charge is greater. At VCCD low level of −6 V, the VCCD is no longer accumulated with holes. So, clock-induced charge generation is less, but dark current is increased.

In quad output mode, the clock induced charge generated and the dark current signal are equal at $T = 0^{\circ}C$. Below $T = 0^{\circ}C$, the dark current signal is smaller than the clock induced charge, so –6 V is the best voltage. Above $T = 0$ °C, the dark current signal dominates, and −8 V is the best voltage. The dark signal stops decreasing below $T = -20^{\circ}C$ because the VCCD is detecting hot electron luminescence from the output amplifiers during image readout.

In addition to dark noise, image defects also impact the optimum operating temperature. Although the average photodiode dark current is negligible at temperatures below 20°C, as shown by Figure 37, the number of photodiode hot-pixel defects is a function of temperature and will decrease with lower temperature.

Figure 37. Photodiode Dark Current vs. Temperature

Note that the preceding figures are representative data only, and are not intended as a defect specification.

Choosing the Charge Switch Threshold

The floating gate output amplifier (VOUT1) is used to decide the routing of a pixel at the charge switch. Pixels with large signals should be routed to the normal floating diffusion amplifier at VOUT2. Pixels with small signals should be routed to the EMCCD and VOUT3. The routing of pixels is controlled by the timing on H2SW2 and H2SW3. The optimum signal threshold for that transition between VOUT2 and VOUT3 is when the signal to noise ratio (S/N) of VOUT2 is equal to the S/N of VOUT3. This signal is given by

$$
S = \sigma_T^2 \cdot \frac{G+1}{G} \qquad \qquad (eq. 1)
$$

where *G* is the EMCCD gain, *S* is the signal level, and σ_T is the total system noise on VOUT2 in the dark. For values of *G* greater than 10, the optimum signal threshold occurs when then signal equals the square of the total system noise floor σ_T . Depending on the skill of the camera designer, σ_T will range from 8 to 12 e−. If the camera has a total system noise of 10 e−, then the threshold should be set to 100 e−. However, the floating gate amplifier noise is approximately 60 e−, and so would dominate, making it preferable to set the threshold to at least 3 times the floating gate amplifier noise, or 180 e−. Sending signals larger than 180 e− into the EMCCD will produce images with lower S/N than if they were read out of the normal floating diffusion output of VOUT2. See Application Note AND9244.

TIMING DIAGRAMS

Pixel Timing

Note: The minimum time for one pixel is 50 ns.

Figure 38. Pixel Timing Pattern P1

Black Clamp, VOUT1, VOUT2, and VOUT3 Alignment at Line Start

The black level clamp should start 3 clock cycles into the line and be active for 28 clock cycles of each row. The first photoactive pixel will arrive at the VOUT1 (floating gate) output after 34 clock cycles. The first photoactive pixel will arrive at either the VOUT2 or VOUT3 after 68 clock cycles, depending on the timing of H2SW2 and H2SW3.

When in dual or quad output mode, each row must have exactly 1,036 HCCD clock cycles. The pixels arrive at

VOUT3 on the same clock cycle and exactly two rows after they would have arrived at VOUT2.Changing the number of HCCD clock cycles with introduce an offset between when pixels arrive at VOUT2 or VOUT3.

When in single mode, each row must have exactly 2,072 HCCD clock cycles. The pixels arrive at VOUT3 on the same clock cycle and exactly one row after they would have arrived at VOUT2.Changing the number of HCCD clock cycles with introduce an offset between when pixels arrive at VOUT2 or VOUT3.

Figure 39. Video Output at Each Line Start

H2L, VOUT1, VOUT2, and VOUT3 Alignment at End of Line

The last active pixel (the center column of the image), arrives at VOUT2 or VOUT3 on the 1,036th clock cycle of the HCCD. The last photoactive pixel arrives at VOUT1 34 clock cycles before VOUT2 or VOUT3. When in single

output mode, the pixels arrive at VOUT3 one line delayed from when they would have arrived at VOUT2. When in dual or quad output modes, the pixels arrive at VOUT3 two lines delayed from when they would have arrived at VOUT2.

Figure 40. Video Output at End of Each Line for Dual or Quad Output Modes

VCCD Timing

Table 16. TIMING DEFINITIONS

V1, V2, V3, V4 Alignment

Figure 41. Timing Pattern F1. VCCD Frame Timing to Transfer Charge from Photodiodes to the VCCD when Using the Bottom HCCD, Outputs A or B

Figure 42. Timing Pattern F2. VCCD Frame Timing to Transfer Charge from Photodiodes to the VCCD when Using All Four Outputs in Quad Mode

Figure 43. Line Timing L1. VCCD Line Timing to Transfer One Line of Charge from VCCD to the HCCD when Using the Bottom HCCD, Outputs A or B in Single or Dual Output Modes

Figure 44. Line Timing L2. VCCD Line Timing to Transfer One Line of Charge from VCCD to the HCCD when Using All Four Outputs in Quad Mode

Electronic Shutter

Figure 46. The State of the HCCD and EMCCD Clocks during the Frame, Line, and Electronic Shutter Timing Sequences

HCCD Timing

To reverse the direction of charge transfer in a Horizontal CCD, exchange the timing pattern of the H1B and H2B inputs of that HCCD. If a HCCD is not used, hold all of its gates at the high level.

When operating in single or dual output modes, the VDD23cd, VDD1c, and VDD1d amplifiers must still be powered. The outputs VOUT1, VOUT2, and VOUT3 for quadrants c and d may be left unloaded.

Table 17. HCCD TIMING

Image Exposure and Readout

The flowchart for image exposure and readout is shown in Figure 47. The electronic shutter timing may be omitted to obtain an exposure time equal to the image read out time. NEXP is the number of lines exposure time and NV is the number of VCCD clock cycles (row transfers).

Table 18. IMAGE EXPOSURE AND READOUT

Figure 47. The Image Readout Timing Flow Chart

Long Integrations and Readout

For extended integrations the output amplifiers need to be powered down. When powered up, the output amplifiers emit near infrared light that is sensed by the photodiodes. It will begin to be visible in images of 30 second integrations or longer.

To power down the output amplifiers set VDD1 and VSS1 to 0 V, and VDD23 to +5 V. Do not set VDD23 to 0 V during the integration of an image. During the time the VDD2 supply is reduced to $+5$ V the substrate voltage reference

output SUBV will be invalid. For cameras with long integration times, the value of SUBV will have to digitized by and ADC and stored at the time when VDD23 is +15 V. The SUB pin voltage would be set by a DAC. The HCCD and EMCCD may be continue to clock during integration. If they are stopped during integration then the EMCCD should be re-started at $+7$ V to flush out any undesired signal before increasing the voltage to charge multiplying levels.

The timing flow chart for long integration time is shown in Figure 48.

Figure 48. Timing Flow Chart for Long Integration Time

THERMOELECTRIC COOLER

As a step toward ensuring availability of high quality TECs for cooled image sensors, ON Semiconductor has adopted a dual source strategy. Fit and function have been verified equivalent. Customers may notice differences in the appearance of components.

Representative performance plots for the TEC are shown below:

Performance Plots of PGA Integrated TEC

For the performance plots below, the TEC was operated at maximum pulse width (DC mode) to maintain the cold side (sensor) temperature at 0°C, while the input signal to the EMCCD register of each or the four outputs was 20 mV, the EMCCD gain was 20X, and the horizontal clock rate was 20 MHz.

The recommended maximum input current (Imax) is 1.1 A, requiring an input voltage (Vmax) of 11.2 V, but the optimum current and voltage needed for a given temperature gradient may be lower.

Figure 49. PGA with Integrated TEC, Temperature Gradient and Required Voltage vs. Applied Current

Performance Plots of Thermistor in PGA with Integrated TEC

The thermoelectric cooler (TEC) has an on−board thermistor with $\pm 3\%$ tolerance, and 10 kΩ (Ro) at 25°C (298K, T_0). Its performance follows the equation shown below, where $T=$ temperature in K , over the range of 233 to 398 °K, $RT =$ thermistor resistance in ohms:

$$
T = \frac{1}{\left\{ (7.96 \times 10^{-4}) + (2.67 \times 10^{-4}) \times \ln(R_T) + (1.21 \times 10^{-7}) \times \left[\ln(R_T) \right]^3 \right\}}
$$

Figure 50. PGA with Integrated TEC, Thermistor Performance Plots of Thermistor in PGA with Integrated TEC

STORAGE AND HANDLING

Table 19. STORAGE CONDITIONS

1. Long-term storage toward the maximum temperature will accelerate color filter degradation.

2. T = 25°C. Excessive humidity will degrade MTF. The maximum humidity for storage is 50% for OPNs beginning with KAE−02152−ABB−SD, KAE−02152−FBB−SD, and KAE−02152−QBB−SD.

3. For the sensors with an integrated TEC, storage in a dry environment is recommended to avoid moisture ingress and possible condensation on the sensor when the device is cooled.

For information on ESD and cover glass care and cleanliness, please download the *Image Sensor Handling and Best Practices* Application Note (AN52561/D) from [www.onsemi.com.](http://onsemi.com)

For information on environmental exposure, please download the *Using Interline CCD Image Sensors in High Intensity Lighting Conditions* Application Note (AND9183/D) from [www.onsemi.com](http://onsemi.com).

For information on soldering recommendations, please download the Soldering and Mounting Techniques Reference Manual (SOLDERRM/D) from [www.onsemi.com.](http://onsemi.com)

For quality and reliability information, please download the *Quality & Reliability* Handbook (HBD851/D) from [www.onsemi.com.](http://onsemi.com)

For information on device numbering and ordering codes, please download the *Device Nomenclature* technical note (TND310/D) from [www.onsemi.com](http://onsemi.com).

For information on Standard terms and Conditions of Sale, please download [Terms and Conditions](http://www.onsemi.com/site/pdf/ONSEMI_T&C.pdf) from [www.onsemi.com.](http://onsemi.com)

MECHANICAL INFORMATION

PGA Completed Assembly (no TEC)

Notes:

- 1. Substrate is a 141-pin ceramic PGA package.
- 2. Body is black alumina.
- 3. Pins are Kovar or equivalent, plated with 1.00 microns of gold over 2.00 microns of nickel.
- 4. Wire is wedge bonded aluminum (1% Si).
- 5. Ablebond 967−1 epoxy for die attach.
- 6. No materials to obstruct the clearance through the package holes.
- 7. Exposed metal is 1.00 micron minimum gold over 2.00 micron minimum nickel.
- 8. Glass lid is Schott E263Teco, n_D 1.5231. Thickness 0.76 ± 0.05 mm.
- 9. Recommended mounting screws: 1.6 × 0.35 mm (ISO standard), 0-80 (unified fine thread standard).
- 10.See Ordering Information for Marking Code.
- 11. Pin to pin distances are measured at the pin base.
- 12.Units: mm

Figure 51. PGA Completed Assembly (1/2, no TEC)

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DIE PLACEMENT

Notes:

- 1. Die is standard thickness for 150 mm silicon wafer: 0.675 ± 0.020 mm.
- 2. Singulated die is approximately 12.910×8.500 mm, for a 50 micron saw kerf.
- 3. The optical center of the image area is at the center of the die and the center of the package.
- 4. Units: mm

Figure 52. PGA Completed Assembly (2/2, no TEC)

Clear Cover Glass for PGA (no TEC)

- Notes:
- 1. Glass Material: Schott D263T eco
- 2. Units: mm

PGA Completed Assembly with Integrated TEC

Notes:

- 1. See Ordering Information for Marking Code.
- 2. Pin to pin distances are measured at the pin base.
- 3. No material to interfere with clearance through package holes.
- 4. Units: mm

Figure 54. PGA Completed Assembly with Integrated TEC (1 of 3)

Notes:

1. Units: mm

Figure 55. PGA Completed Assembly with Integrated TEC - TEC Placement (2 of 3)

Notes:

- 1. The optical center of the image is at the center of the die and nominally at the center of the package.
- 2. Datum A− is through the center of the package holes.
- 3. Units: mm

Figure 56. PGA Completed Assembly with Integrated TEC - Die Placement (3 of 3)

Clear Cover Glass for PGA with Integrated TEC

Notes:

- 1. Substrate = Schott D263T eco
- 2. No epoxy
- 3. Units: mm

Figure 57. Clear Cover Glass for PGA with Integrated TEC

MAR Cover Glass for PGA with Integrated TEC

Notes:

- 1. Substrate = Schott D263T eco
- 2. Dust, Scratch, Inclusion Specification: 10μm maximum size in Zone A
- 3. MAR coated both sides
- 4. Spectral Transmission

− T > 98.0% 420−435 nm

− T > 99.2% 435−630 nm

- − T > 98.0% 630−680 nm
- 5. Units: mm

Cover Glass Transmissions

Figure 59. Cover Glass Transmission

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