

LMP2234 Quad Micropower, 1.6V, Precision, Operational Amplifier with CMOS Input

General Description

The LMP2234 is a quad micropower precision amplifier designed for battery powered applications. The 1.6 to 5.5V operating supply voltage range and quiescent power consumption of only 50 μW extend the battery life in portable systems. The LMP2234 is part of the LMP® precision amplifier family. The high impedance CMOS input makes it ideal for instrumentation and other sensor interface applications.

The LMP2234 has a maximum offset voltage of 150 μV and 0.3 μV/°C offset drift along with low bias current of only ±20 fA. These precise specifications make the LMP2234 a great choice for maintaining system accuracy and long term stability.

The LMP2234 has a rail-to-rail output that swings 15 mV from the supply voltage, which increases system dynamic range. The common mode input voltage range extends 200 mV below the negative supply, thus the LMP2234 is ideal for ground sensing in single supply applications.

The LMP2234 is offered in 14-Pin SOIC and TSSOP packages.

Features

(For $V_S = 5V$, Typical unless otherwise noted)

Applications

- Precision instrumentation amplifiers
- Battery powered medical instrumentation
- High impedance sensors
- Strain gauge bridge amplifier
- Thermocouple amplifiers

Typical Application

Absolute Maximum Ratings (Note [1](#page-5-0))

If Military/Aerospace specified devices are required, please contact the National Semiconductor Sales Office/ Distributors for availability and specifications.

Operating Ratings (Note [1](#page-5-0))

5V AC Electrical Characteristics (Note [4\)](#page-5-0) Unless otherwise specified, all limits are guaranteed for T_A = 25°C, V+ = 5V, V− = 0V, V_{CM} = V_O = V+/2, and R_L > 1 MΩ. **Boldface** limits apply at the temperature extremes.

3.3V DC Electrical Characteristics (Note [4](#page-5-0)) Unless otherwise specified, all limits are guaranteed for T_A = 25°C, V+ = 3.3V, V⁻ = 0V, V_{CM} = V_O = V+/2, and R_L > 1 MΩ. Boldface limits apply at the temperature extremes.

3.3V AC Electrical Characteristics (Note [4](#page-5-0)) Unless otherwise is specified, all limits are guaranteed for T_A = 25°C, V+ = 3.3V, V⁻ = 0V, V_{CM} = V_O = V+/2, and R_L > 1 MΩ. **Boldface** limits apply at the temperature extremes.

2.5V DC Electrical Characteristics (Note [4\)](#page-5-0) Unless otherwise specified, all limits are guaranteed for T_A = 25°C, V+ = 2.5V, V− = 0V, V_{CM} = V_O = V+/2, and R_L > 1MΩ. **Boldface** limits apply at the temperature extremes.

2.5V AC Electrical Characteristics (Note [4\)](#page-5-0) Unless otherwise specified, all limits are guaranteed for $T_{\sf A}$ = 25°C, V+ = 2.5V, V− = 0V, V_{CM} = V_O = V+/2, and R_L > 1MΩ. **Boldface** limits apply at the temperature extremes.

f

1.8V AC Electrical Characteristics (Note [4\)](#page-5-0) Unless otherwise is specified, all limits are guaranteed for T_A = 25°C, V+ = 1.8V, V− = 0V, V_{CM} = V_O = V+/2, and R_L > 1 MΩ. **Boldface** limits apply at the temperature extremes.

5 www.national.com

LMP2234 Quad **LMP2234 Quad**

׀

Note 1: Absolute Maximum Ratings indicate limits beyond which damage may occur. Operating Ratings indicate conditions for which the device is intended to be functional, but specific performance is not guaranteed. For guaranteed specifications and test conditions, see the Electrical Characteristics.

Note 2: Human Body Model, applicable std. MIL-STD-883, Method 3015.7. Machine Model, applicable std. JESD22-A115-A (ESD MM std. of JEDEC)

Field-Induced Charge-Device Model, applicable std. JESD22-C101-C (ESD FICDM std. of JEDEC).

Note 3: The maximum power dissipation is a function of T_{J(MAX)}, θ_{JA}. The maximum allowable power dissipation at any ambient temperature is P_D = (T_{J(MAX)} – T_A)/ θ_{JA}. All numbers apply for packages soldered directly onto a PC Board.

Note 4: Electrical Table values apply only for factory testing conditions at the temperature indicated. Factory testing conditions result in very limited self-heating of the device such that T_J = T_A. No guarantee of parametric performance is indicated in the electrical tables under conditions of internal self-heating where T_J > ${\sf T_A}.$ Absolute Maximum Ratings indicate junction temperature limits beyond which the device may be permanently degraded, either mechanically or electrically. **Note 5:** Typical values represent the most likely parametric norm as determined at the time of characterization. Actual typical values may vary over time and will also depend on the application and configuration. The typical values are not tested and are not guaranteed on shipped production material.

Note 6: All limits are guaranteed by testing, statistical analysis or design.

Note 7: The short circuit test is a momentary open loop test.

Connection Diagram

Ordering Information

Typical Performance Characteristics Unless otherwise Specified: $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C, V_S = 5V, V_{CM} = V_S/2, where V_S = V+ - V−

20203409

7 www.national.com

20203405

TCVOS Distribution 25 $V_S = 1.8V$ $V_{CM} = V_S/2$
-40°C $\le T_A \le 125$ °C 20 PERCENTAGE (%) 15 10 $\sqrt{5}$ $2 \t2.5$ $\mathsf{TCV}_{\mathsf{OS}}\left(\mathsf{\mu}\mathsf{V}\mathsf{/}^{\circ}\mathsf{C}\right)$ 20203469 **Offset Voltage vs. V_{CM}** 250 $V_S = 3.3V$ 150 40° C 25° C ⊥↓∣ $V_{\text{OS}}(\mu\text{V})$ 50 85° C $|\mathbf{f}|$ 125° C -50 -150 -250 -0.2 0.2 0.6 $\mathbf{1}$ 1.4 $1.8\,$ $2.2\,$ $2.6\,$ $\boldsymbol{3}$ $V^{\text{CM}}(V)$ 20203465 **Offset Voltage vs. V_{CM}** 250 $V_S = 1.8V$ 150 -40°C 25°C $V_{\text{OS}}(W)$ 50 85°C -50 - 1 $125^\circ C$

20203472

20203464

 $V^{\text{CM}}(V)$

.
-40°C 40 25° C 20 $\mathbf 0$ 85°C -20 125°C -40
1.5 $\overline{2}$ 4.5 2.5 $\overline{\mathbf{3}}$ 3.5 $\overline{4}$ $\,$ 5 $\,$ 5.5 SUPPLY VOLTAGE (V) 20203470 **0.1 Hz to 10 Hz Voltage Noise UNDIV** $Vs = 2.5V$ $Vcm = Vs/2$ $1 s/DIV$ 20203434 **0.1 Hz to 10 Hz Voltage Noise** $Vs = 5V$ $Vcm = Vs/2$ $1 s/DIV$ 20203431

Offset Voltage vs. Supply Voltage

 $V_{CM} = 0V$

100

80

60

Input Bias Current vs. V_{CM}

Sourcing Current vs. Supply Voltage

20203421

Phase Margin vs. Capacitive Load

20203424

20203426

20203429

20203423

Small Signal Step Response

20203425

13 www.national.com

Application Information LMP2234

The LMP2234 is a quad CMOS precision amplifier that offers low offset voltage, low offset voltage drift, and high gain while consuming less than 10 μA of supply current per channel.

The LMP2234 is a micropower op amp, consuming only 36 μA of current. Micropower op amps extend the run time of battery powered systems and reduce energy consumption in energy limited systems. The guaranteed supply voltage range of 1.8V to 5.5V along with the ultra-low supply current extend the battery run time in two ways. The extended power supply voltage range of 1.8V to 5.5V enables the op amp to function when the battery voltage has depleted from its nominal value down to 1.8V. In addition, the lower power consumption increases the life of the battery.

The LMP2234 has input referred offset voltage of only ± 150 μV maximum at room temperature. This offset is guaranteed to be less than ±230 μV over temperature. This minimal offset voltage along with very low TCV_{OS} of only 0.3 μ V/°C typical allows more accurate signal detection and amplification in precision applications.

The low input bias current of only ±20 fA gives the LMP2234 superiority for use in high impedance sensor applications. Bias current of an amplifier flows through source resistance of the sensor and the voltage resulting from this current flow appears as a noise voltage on the input of the amplifier. The low input bias current enables the LMP2234 to interface with high impedance sensors while generating negligible voltage noise. Thus the LMP2234 provides better signal fidelity and a higher signal-to-noise ratio when interfacing with high impedance sensors.

National Semiconductor is heavily committed to precision amplifiers and the market segments they serve. Technical support and extensive characterization data is available for sensitive applications or applications with a constrained error budget.

The operating voltage range of 1.8V to 5.5V over the extensive temperature range of −40°C to 125°C makes the LMP2234 an excellent choice for low voltage precision applications with extensive temperature requirements.

The LMP2234 is offered in the 14-pin TSSOP and 14-pin SOIC package. These small packages are ideal solutions for area constrained PC boards and portable electronics.

TOTAL NOISE CONTRIBUTION

The LMP2234 has very low input bias current, very low input current noise, and low input voltage noise for micropower amplifiers. As a result, this amplifier makes a great choice for circuits with high impedance sensor applications.

shows the typical input noise of the LMP2234 as a function of source resistance at $f = 1$ kHz where:

- \bullet e_n denotes the input referred voltage noise
- \bullet $\,$ $\,$ $\rm e_{i}$ is the voltage drop across source resistance due to input referred current noise or $e_i = R_{S^*}$ i_n
- e_t shows the thermal noise of the source resistance
- e_{ni} shows the total noise on the input.

Where:

$$
e_{ni} = \sqrt{e_n^2 + e_i^2 + e_t^2}
$$

The input current noise of the LMP2234 is so low that it will not become the dominant factor in the total noise unless source resistance exceeds 300 MΩ, which is an unrealistically high value. As is evident in *Figure 1*, at lower R_S values, total noise is dominated by the amplifier's input voltage noise. Once R_S is larger than 100 k Ω , then the dominant noise factor becomes the thermal noise of R_S. As mentioned before, the current noise will not be the dominant noise factor for any practical application.

FIGURE 1. Total Input Noise

VOLTAGE NOISE REDUCTION

The LMP2234 has an input voltage noise of 60 nV \sqrt{Hz} . While this value is very low for micropower amplifiers, this input voltage noise can be further reduced by placing multiple amplifiers in parallel as shown in *[Figure 2](#page-15-0)*. The total voltage noise on the output of this circuit is divided by the square root of the number of amplifiers used in this parallel combination. This is because each individual amplifier acts as an independent noise source, and the average noise of independent sources is the quadrature sum of the independent sources divided by the number of sources. For N identical amplifiers, this means:

REDUCED INPUT VOLTAGE NOISE =
$$
\frac{1}{N} \sqrt{e_{n1}^2 + e_{n2}^2 + \dots + e_{nN}^2}
$$

= $\frac{1}{N} \sqrt{Ne_n^2} = \frac{\sqrt{N}}{N} e_n$
= $\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} e_n$

MP2234 Quad **LMP2234 Quad**

Figure 2 shows a schematic of this input voltage noise reduction circuit using the LMP2234. Typical resistor values are: R _G = 10Ω, R _F = 1 kΩ, and R _O = 1 kΩ.

FIGURE 2. Noise Reduction Circuit

PRECISION INSTRUMENTATION AMPLIFIER

Measurement of very small signals with an amplifier requires close attention to the input impedance of the amplifier, the gain of the signal on the inputs, and the gain on each input of the amplifier. This is because the difference of the input signal on the two inputs is of interest and the common signal is considered noise. A classic circuit implementation that is used is an instrumentation amplifier. Instrumentation amplifiers have a finite, accurate, and stable gain. They also have extremely high input impedances and very low output impedances. Finally they have an extremely high CMRR so that the amplifier can only respond to the differential signal. A typical instrumentation amplifier is shown in *Figure 3*.

FIGURE 3. Instrumentation Amplifier

There are two stages in this amplifier. The last stage, the output stage, is a differential amplifier. In an ideal case the two amplifiers of the first stage, the input stage, would be configured as buffers to isolate the inputs. However they cannot be connected as followers because of mismatch in amplifiers. That is why there is a balancing resistor between the two. The product of the two stages of gain will give the gain of the instrumentation amplifier. Ideally, the CMRR should be infinite. However the output stage has a small non-zero common mode gain which results from resistor mismatch.

In the input stage of the circuit, current is the same across all resistors. This is due to the high input impedance and low input bias current of the LMP2234.

GIVEN:
$$
I_{R_1} = I_{R_{11}}
$$
 (1)

By Ohm's Law:

$$
V_{O1} - V_{O2} = (2R_1 + R_{11}) I_{R_{11}}
$$

= (2a + 1)R₁₁ • I_{R₁₁}
= (2a + 1) V_{R₁₁} (2)

However:

$$
V_{R_{11}} = V_1 - V_2
$$
 (3)

So we have:

$$
V_{O1} - V_{O2} = (2a+1)(V_1 - V_2)
$$
 (4)

Now looking at the output of the instrumentation amplifier:

$$
V_0 = \frac{KR_2}{R_2} (V_{02} - V_{01})
$$

= -K (V_{01} - V_{02}) (5)

Substituting from *Equation 4*:

$$
V_{O} = -K (2a + 1) (V_{1} - V_{2})
$$
 (6)

This shows the gain of the instrumentation amplifier to be:

$$
-K(2a+1)
$$

Typical values for this circuit can be obtained by setting: $a = 12$ and $K = 4$. This results in an overall gain of −100.

SINGLE SUPPLY STRAIN GAUGE BRIDGE AMPLIFIER

Strain gauges are popular electrical elements used to measure force or pressure. Strain gauges are subjected to an unknown force which is measured as the deflection on a previously calibrated scale. Pressure is often measured using the same technique; however this pressure needs to be converted into force using an appropriate transducer. Strain gauges are often resistors which are sensitive to pressure or to flexing. Sense resistor values range from tens of ohms to several hundred kilo-ohms. The resistance change which is a result of applied force across the strain gauge might be 1% of its total value. An accurate and reliable system is needed to measure this small resistance change. Bridge configurations offer a reliable method for this measurement.

Bridge sensors are formed of four resistors, connected as a quadrilateral. A voltage source or a current source is used across one of the diagonals to excite the bridge while a voltage detector across the other diagonal measures the output voltage.

Bridges are mainly used as null circuits or to measure differential voltages. Bridges will have no output voltage if the ratios of two adjacent resistor values are equal. This fact is used in null circuit measurements. These are particularly used in feedback systems which involve electrochemical elements or human interfaces. Null systems force an active resistor, such as a strain gauge, to balance the bridge by influencing the measured parameter.

Often in sensor applications at lease one of the resistors is a variable resistor, or a sensor. The deviation of this active element from its initial value is measured as an indication of change in the measured quantity. A change in output voltage represents the sensor value change. Since the sensor value change is often very small, the resulting output voltage is very small in magnitude as well. This requires an extensive and very precise amplification circuitry so that signal fidelity does not change after amplification.

Sensitivity of a bridge is the ratio of its maximum expected output change to the excitation voltage change.

Figure 4(a) shows a typical bridge sensor and *Figure 4*(b) shows the bridge with four sensors. R in *Figure 4*(b) is the nominal value of the sense resistor and the deviations from R are proportional to the quantity being measured.

FIGURE 4. Bridge Sensor

Instrumentation amplifiers are great for interfacing with bridge sensors. Bridge sensors often sense a very small differential signal in the presence of a larger common mode voltage. Instrumentation amplifiers reject this common mode signal.

[Figure 5](#page-17-0) shows a strain gauge bridge amplifier. In this application one of the LMP2234 amplifiers is used to buffer the LM4140A's precision output voltage. The LM4140A is a precision voltage reference. The other three amplifiers in the LMP2234 are used to form an instrumentation amplifier. This instrumentation amplifier uses the LMP2234's high CMRR and low V_{OS} and TCV_{OS} to accurately amplify the small differential signal generated by the output of the bridge sensor. This amplified signal is then fed into the ADC121S021 which is a 12-bit analog to digital converter. This circuit works on a single supply voltage of 5V.

FIGURE 5. Strain Gauge Bridge Amplifier

PORTABLE GAS DETECTION SENSOR

Gas sensors are used in many different industrial and medical applications. They generate a current which is proportional to the percentage of a particular gas sensed in an air sample. This current goes through a load resistor and the resulting voltage drop is measured. Depending on the sensed gas and sensitivity of the sensor, the output current can be in the order of tens of microamperes to a few milliamperes. Gas sensor datasheets often specify a recommended load resistor value or they suggest a range of load resistors to choose from.

Oxygen sensors are used when air quality or oxygen delivered to a patient needs to be monitored. Fresh air contains 20.9% oxygen. Air samples containing less than 18% oxygen are considered dangerous. Oxygen sensors are also used in industrial applications where the environment must lack oxygen. An example is when food is vacuum packed. There are two main categories of oxygen sensors, those which sense oxygen when it is abundantly present (i.e. in air or near an oxygen tank) and those which detect very small traces of oxygen in ppm.

Figure 6 shows a typical circuit used to amplify the output signal of an oxygen detector. The LMP2234 makes an excellent choice for this application as it draws only 36 µA of current and operates on supply voltages down to 1.8V. This application detects oxygen in air. The oxygen sensor outputs a known current through the load resistor. This value changes with the amount of oxygen present in the air sample. Oxygen sensors usually recommend a particular load resistor value

or specify a range of acceptable values for the load resistor. Oxygen sensors typically have a life of one to two years. The use of the micropower LMP2234 means minimal power usage by the op amp and it enhances the battery life. Depending on other components present in the circuit design, the battery could last for the entire life of the oxygen sensor. The precision specifications of the LMP2234, such as its very low offset voltage, low TCV_{OS} , low input bias current, low CMRR, and low PSRR are other factors which make the LMP2234 a great choice for this application.

FIGURE 6. Precision Oxygen Sensor

Notes

THE CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT ARE PROVIDED IN CONNECTION WITH NATIONAL SEMICONDUCTOR CORPORATION ("NATIONAL") PRODUCTS. NATIONAL MAKES NO REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES WITH RESPECT TO THE ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS PUBLICATION AND RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE CHANGES TO SPECIFICATIONS AND PRODUCT DESCRIPTIONS AT ANY TIME WITHOUT NOTICE. NO LICENSE, WHETHER EXPRESS, IMPLIED, ARISING BY ESTOPPEL OR OTHERWISE, TO ANY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS IS GRANTED BY THIS DOCUMENT.

TESTING AND OTHER QUALITY CONTROLS ARE USED TO THE EXTENT NATIONAL DEEMS NECESSARY TO SUPPORT NATIONAL'S PRODUCT WARRANTY. EXCEPT WHERE MANDATED BY GOVERNMENT REQUIREMENTS, TESTING OF ALL PARAMETERS OF EACH PRODUCT IS NOT NECESSARILY PERFORMED. NATIONAL ASSUMES NO LIABILITY FOR APPLICATIONS ASSISTANCE OR BUYER PRODUCT DESIGN. BUYERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR PRODUCTS AND APPLICATIONS USING NATIONAL COMPONENTS. PRIOR TO USING OR DISTRIBUTING ANY PRODUCTS THAT INCLUDE NATIONAL COMPONENTS, BUYERS SHOULD PROVIDE ADEQUATE DESIGN, TESTING AND OPERATING SAFEGUARDS.

EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN NATIONAL'S TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE FOR SUCH PRODUCTS, NATIONAL ASSUMES NO LIABILITY WHATSOEVER, AND NATIONAL DISCLAIMS ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY RELATING TO THE SALE AND/OR USE OF NATIONAL PRODUCTS INCLUDING LIABILITY OR WARRANTIES RELATING TO FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, MERCHANTABILITY, OR INFRINGEMENT OF ANY PATENT, COPYRIGHT OR OTHER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHT.

LIFE SUPPORT POLICY

NATIONAL'S PRODUCTS ARE NOT AUTHORIZED FOR USE AS CRITICAL COMPONENTS IN LIFE SUPPORT DEVICES OR SYSTEMS WITHOUT THE EXPRESS PRIOR WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND GENERAL COUNSEL OF NATIONAL SEMICONDUCTOR CORPORATION. As used herein:

Life support devices or systems are devices which (a) are intended for surgical implant into the body, or (b) support or sustain life and whose failure to perform when properly used in accordance with instructions for use provided in the labeling can be reasonably expected to result in a significant injury to the user. A critical component is any component in a life support device or system whose failure to perform can be reasonably expected to cause the failure of the life support device or system or to affect its safety or effectiveness.

National Semiconductor and the National Semiconductor logo are registered trademarks of National Semiconductor Corporation. All other brand or product names may be trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective holders.

Copyright© 2008 National Semiconductor Corporation

For the most current product information visit us at www.national.com

National Semiconductor Americas Technical Support Center Email: support@nsc.com Tel: 1-800-272-9959

National Semiconductor Europe Technical Support Center Email: europe.support@nsc.com German Tel: +49 (0) 180 5010 771 English Tel: +44 (0) 870 850 4288

National Semiconductor Asia Pacific Technical Support Center Email: ap.support@nsc.com

National Semiconductor Japan Technical Support Center Email: jpn.feedback@nsc.com