100 fA

17 MHz

1.15 mA

1.30 mA



# LMV791/LMV792 17 MHz, Low Noise, CMOS Input, 1.8V Operational Amplifiers with Shutdown

### **General Description**

The LMV791 (Single) and the LMV792 (Dual) low noise, CMOS input operational amplifiers offer a low input voltage noise density of 5.8 nV/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$  while consuming only 1.15 mA (LMV791) of quiescent current. The LMV791 and LMV792 are unity gain stable op amps and have gain bandwidth of 17 MHz. The LMV791/ LMV792 have a supply voltage range of 1.8V to 5.5V and can operate from a single supply. The LMV791/LMV792 each feature a rail-to-rail output stage capable of driving a 600 $\Omega$  load and sourcing as much as 60 mA of current.

The LMV791 family provides optimal performance in low voltage and low noise systems. A CMOS input stage, with typical input bias currents in the range of a few femtoAmperes, and an input common mode voltage range which includes ground make the LMV791 and the LMV792 ideal for low power sensor applications. The LMV791 family has a built-in enable feature which can be used to optimize power dissipation in low power applications.

The LMV791/LMV792 are manufactured using National's advanced VIP50 process and are offered in a 6-pin TSOT23 and a 10-pin MSOP package respectively.

### **Features**

(Typical 5V supply, unless otherwise noted)

- Input referred voltage noise 5.8 nV/√Hz
- Input bias current
- Unity gain bandwidth
- Supply current per channel enable mode
  \_\_\_\_ LMV791
  \_\_\_\_ LMV792
- Supply current per channel in shutdown mode 0.02 μA
  - Rail-to-rail output swing
- @ 10 kΩ load25 mV from rail— @ 2 kΩ load45 mV from rail
- Guaranteed 2.5V and 5.0V performance
- Total harmonic distortion
  0.01% @1 kHz, 600Ω
- Temperature range -40°C to 125°C

# Applications

- Photodiode amplifiers
- Active filters and buffers
- Low noise signal processing
- Medical Instrumentation
- Sensor interface applications

# **Typical Application**



Photodiode Transimpedance Amplifier



Input Referred Voltage Noise vs. Frequency

### Absolute Maximum Ratings (Note 1)

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

ESD Tolerance (Note 2)	
Human Body Model	2000V
Machine Model	200V
Charge-Device Model	1000V
V <sub>IN</sub> Differential	±0.3V
Supply Voltage (V+ – V⁻)	6.0V
Input/Output Pin Voltage	V+ +0.3V, V0.3V
Storage Temperature Range	–65°C to 150°C
Junction Temperature (Note 3)	+150°C

Soldering Information	
Infrared or Convection (20 sec)	235°C
Wave Soldering Lead Temp (10 sec)	260°C
Operating Ratings (Note 1)	
Temperature Range (Note 3)	$-40^\circ C$ to $125^\circ C$
Supply Voltage (V+ – V-)	
$-40^{\circ}C \le T_A \le 125^{\circ}C$	2.0V to 5.5V
$0^{\circ}C \leq T_{A} \leq 125^{\circ}C$	1.8V to 5.5V
Package Thermal Resistance ( $\theta_{JA}$ (Note 3))	
6-Pin TSOT23	170°C/W
10-Pin MSOP	236°C/W

# 2.5V Electrical Characteristics

Unless otherwise specified, all limits are guaranteed for  $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ ,  $V^+ = 2.5V$ ,  $V^- = 0V$ ,  $V_{CM} = V^+/2 = V_O$ ,  $V_{EN} = V^+$ . **Boldface** limits apply at the temperature extremes.

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions		Min	Тур	Max	Units	
				(Note 5)	(Note 4)	(Note 5)		
V <sub>os</sub>	Input Offset Voltage				0.1	±1.35 <b>±1.65</b>	mV	
TC V <sub>OS</sub>	Input Offset Voltage Temperature Drift	LMV791 (Note 6)			-1.0			
		LMV792 (Note 6)			-1.8		μν/℃	
I <sub>B</sub>	Input Bias Current	V <sub>CM</sub> = 1.0V (Notes 7, 8)	–40°C ≤ T <sub>A</sub> ≤ 85 °C		0.05	1 25	- 4	
			–40°C ≤ T <sub>A</sub> ≤ 85 °C		0.05	1 <b>100</b>	рА	
I <sub>OS</sub>	Input Offset Current	V <sub>CM</sub> = 1.0V (Note 8)			10		fA	
CMRR	Common Mode Rejection Ratio	$0V \le V_{CM} \le 1.4V$		80 <b>75</b>	94		dB	
PSRR	Power Supply Rejection Ratio	$2.0V \le V^+ \le 5.5V, V_{CM} = 0V$		80 <b>75</b>	100		dB	
		$1.8V \le V^+ \le 5.5V, V_{CM} = 0V$		80	98			
CMVR	Common Mode Voltage Range	CMRR ≥ 60 dB		-0.3		1.5	.,	
		CMRR ≥ 55 dB		-0.3		1.5	V	
A <sub>VOL</sub>	Open Loop Voltage Gain	V <sub>OUT</sub> = 0.15V to 2.2V, LMV791		85	98			
		$R_{LOAD} = 2 k\Omega$ to V+/2		80				
		LMV792		82 <b>78</b>	92		dB	
		V <sub>OUT</sub> = 0.15V to 2.2V		88	110			
		$R_{LOAD} = 10 \text{ k}\Omega \text{ to } V^{+/2}$	2	84				
V <sub>OUT</sub>	Output Voltage Swing High	$R_{I,OAD} = 2 k\Omega$ to V+/2			25	75		
						82		
R <sub>LOAD</sub> =		$R_{LOAD} = 10 \text{ k}\Omega \text{ to V}$ +/2	2		20	65		
		$R_{LOAD} = 2 \text{ k}\Omega \text{ to V}^+/2$				71	mV from	
	Output Voltage Swing Low				30	75 <b>78</b>	either rail	
		$R_{LOAD} = 10 \text{ k}\Omega \text{ to V}^+/2$			15	65 <b>67</b>		

<u> </u>	<b>–</b> .				-			
Symbol	Parameter	Conditions		Min	Тур	Max	Units	
				(Note 5)	(Note 4)	(Note 5)		
I <sub>OUT</sub>	Output Current	Sourcing to V-		35	47			
		V <sub>IN</sub> = 200 mV (Note 9	)	28			m۸	
		Sinking to V+		7	15		1117	
		V <sub>IN</sub> = -200 mV (Note	9)	5				
I <sub>S</sub>	Supply Current per Amplifier	Enable Mode	LMV791		0.95	1.30		
		V <sub>EN</sub> ≥ 2.1V				1.65	m۸	
			LMV792		1.1	1.50	ША	
			per channel			1.85		
		Shutdown Mode, V <sub>EN</sub>	< 0.4		0.02	1		
		per channel				5	μΑ	
SR	Slew Rate	A <sub>V</sub> = +1, Rising (10%	to 90%)		8.5		1//110	
		A <sub>V</sub> = +1, Falling (90% to 10%)			10.5		v/µs	
GBW	Gain Bandwidth				14		MHz	
e <sub>n</sub>	Input Referred Voltage Noise Density	f = 1 kHz			6.2		nV/√Hz	
i <sub>n</sub>	Input Referred Current Noise Density	f = 1 kHz			0.01		pA/√Hz	
t <sub>on</sub>	Turn-on Time				140		ns	
t <sub>off</sub>	Turn-off Time				1000		ns	
V <sub>EN</sub>	Enable Pin Voltage Range	Enable Mode		2.1	2 to 2.5		V	
		Shutdown Mode			0 to 0.5	0.4	v	
I <sub>EN</sub>	Enable Pin Input Current	Enable Mode V <sub>EN</sub> = 2.5V (Note 7)			1.5	3		
		Shutdown Mode V <sub>EN</sub> = 0V (Note 7)			0.003	0.1	μΑ	
THD+N	Total Harmonic Distortion + Noise	$f = 1 \text{ kHz}, A_V = 1, R_{LOAD} = 600\Omega$			0.01		%	

### **5V Electrical Characteristics**

Unless otherwise specified, all limits are guaranteed for  $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ ,  $V^+ = 5V$ ,  $V^- = 0V$ ,  $V_{CM} = V^+/2 = V_O$ ,  $V_{EN} = V^+$ . **Boldface** limits apply at the temperature extremes.

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions		Min	Тур	Max	Units
				(Note 5)	(Note 4)	(Note 5)	
V <sub>os</sub>	Input Offset Voltage				0.1	±1.35	mV
						±1.65	
TC $V_{OS}$	Input Offset Voltage Temperature Drift	LMV791 (Note 6)			-1.0		
		LMV792 (Note 6)			-1.8		μν/ Ο
I <sub>B</sub>	Input Bias Current	V <sub>CM</sub> = 2.0V	–40°C ≤ T₄ ≤ 85°C		0.1	1	
		(Notes 7, 8)				25	-
			–40°C ≤ T <sub>A</sub> ≤ 125°C		0.1	1	рА
						100	
l <sub>os</sub>	Input Offset Current	V <sub>CM</sub> = 2.0V	•		10		fA
		(Note 8)					
CMRR	Common Mode Rejection Ratio	$0V \leq V_{ou} \leq 3.7V$		80	100		-10
				75			uв
PSRR	Power Supply Rejection Ratio	$2.0V \le V^+ \le 5.5V$ , $V_{CM} = 0V$		80	100		
				75			dB
		$1.8V \le V^+ \le 5.5V, V_{CM} = 0V$		80	98		
CMVR	Common Mode Voltage Range	CMRR ≥ 60 dB		-0.3		4	V
		CMRR ≥ 55 dB		-0.3		4	v

LMV791/LMV792

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A <sub>VOL</sub>	Open Loop Voltage Gain	$V_{OUT} = 0.3V$ to 4.7V, B <sub>1.04D</sub> = 2 kO to V <sup>+</sup> /2	LMV791	85 <b>80</b>	97		
			LMV792	82	89		-
			-	78			dB
		$V_{OUT} = 0.3V$ to 4.7V,		88	110		
		$R_{I,OAD} = 10 \text{ k}\Omega \text{ to } V^{+/2}$	2	84			
V <sub>OUT</sub>	Output Voltage Swing High	$R_{LOAD} = 2 \text{ k}\Omega \text{ to V}^+/2$			35	75	
			2		25	65	4
		$R_{LOAD} = 10 \text{ ks} 2 \text{ to } \sqrt{7}$	2		23	71	
	Output Voltage Swing Low	$R_{LOAD} = 2 \text{ k}\Omega \text{ to V+/2}$	LMV791		42	75 <b>78</b>	mV from either rail
			LMV792		45	80 <b>83</b>	
		$R_{LOAD} = 10 \text{ k}\Omega \text{ to V} + /2$	2		20	65 <b>67</b>	1
	Output Current	Sourcing to V-		45	60		
001		V <sub>IN</sub> = 200 mV (Note 9)		37			- mA
		Sinking to V+		10	21		
		V <sub>IN</sub> = -200 mV (Note 9)		6			
I <sub>s</sub>	Supply Current per Amplifier	Enable Mode	LMV791		1.15	1.40	
		V <sub>EN</sub> ≥ 4.6V				1.75	mA
			LMV792		1.30	1.70	
			per channel			2.05	
		Shutdown Mode (V <sub>EN</sub>	≤ 0.4V)		0.14	1 5	μA
SR	Slew Rate	A <sub>V</sub> = +1, Rising (10%	to 90%)	6.0	9.5		
		$A_v = +1$ , Falling (90%)	to 10%)	7.5	11.5		- V/μs
GBW	Gain Bandwidth				17		MHz
e <sub>n</sub>	Input Referred Voltage Noise Density	f = 1 kHz			5.8		nV/√Hz
i <sub>n</sub>	Input Referred Current Noise Density	f = 1 kHz			0.01		pA/√Hz
t <sub>on</sub>	Turn-on Time				110		ns
t <sub>off</sub>	Turn-off Time				800		ns
V <sub>EN</sub>	Enable Pin Voltage Range	Enable Mode		4.6	4.5 to 5		V
		Shutdown Mode			0 to 0.5	0.4	v
I <sub>EN</sub>	Enable Pin Input Current	Enable Mode $V_{EN} = 5$	.0V		5.6	10	
					0.005	0.0	- μΑ
		Snutaown Mode V <sub>EN</sub> = 0V (Note 7)			0.005	0.2	
THD+N	Total Harmonic Distortion + Noise	$f = 1 \text{ kHz}, A_V = 1, R_{LOAD} = 600\Omega$			0.01		%

Note 1: Absolute Maximum Ratings indicate limits beyond which damage to the device 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 the test conditions, see the Electrical Characteristics Tables.

Note 2: Human Body Model is 1.5 k $\Omega$  in series with 100 pF. Machine Model is  $0\Omega$  in series with 200 pF

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

Note 4: Typical values represent the parametric norm at the time of characterization.

Note 5: Limits are 100% production tested at 25°C. Limits over the operating temperature range are guaranteed through correlations using the statistical quality control (SQC) method.

Note 6: Offset voltage average drift is determined by dividing the change in V<sub>OS</sub> by temperature change.

Note 7: Positive current corresponds to current flowing into the device.

Note 8: This parameter is guaranteed by design and/or characterization and is not tested in production.

Note 9: The short circuit test is a momentary test, the short circuit duration is 1.5 ms.

# **Connection Diagrams**





# **Ordering Information**

Package	Part Number	Package Marking	Transport Media	NSC Drawing	
	LMV791MK	1k Units Tape and Reel		MKOGA	
6-PIN 150123	LMV791MKX	ASTA	3k Units Tape and Reel	IVITUOA	
	LMV792MM	4704	1k Units Tape and Reel		
10-PIII WISOP	LMV792MMX	AVSA	3.5k Units Tape and Reel	MUDIUA	

# **Typical Performance Characteristics** Unless otherwise specified, $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ , $V^- = 0$ , $V^+ = Supply Voltage = 5V$ , $V_{CM} = V^+/2$ , $V_{EN} = V^+$ .

Supply Current vs. Supply Voltage (LMV792)

### Supply Current vs. Supply Voltage (LMV791)



















V<sub>OS</sub> (mV)



#### Supply Current vs. Enable Pin Voltage (LMV791)



Supply Current vs. Enable Pin Voltage (LMV792)



Slew Rate vs. Supply Voltage





















Input Bias Current vs. V<sub>CM</sub>



Sinking Current vs. Supply Voltage



Sinking Current vs. Output Voltage



20116854



#### Positive Output Swing vs. Supply Voltage



Positive Output Swing vs. Supply Voltage



Negative Output Swing vs. Supply Voltage



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Negative Output Swing vs. Supply Voltage



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Negative Output Swing vs. Supply Voltage





THD+N vs. Peak-to-Peak Output Voltage (VOUT)



**Time Domain Voltage Noise** 



THD+N vs. Peak-to-Peak Output Voltage (VOUT)



THD+N vs. Frequency 0.006 0.005 = 600Ω R 1111 0.004 THD+N (%) = 100 kΩ RL 0.003 0.002 1.2V 0.6V 0.001 = 0.9 V<sub>PP</sub> o. 0 L 10 100 1k 10k 100k FREQUENCY (Hz) 20116874



Open Loop Gain and Phase with Resistive Load



20116873











Phase Margin vs. Capacitive Load (Stability)



Small Signal Transient Response, A<sub>V</sub> = +1



Phase Margin vs. Capacitive Load (Stability)



20116845



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Input Common Mode Capacitance vs.  $V_{CM}$ 





20116856

# **Application Information**

#### ADVANTAGES OF THE LMV791/LMV792

#### Wide Bandwidth at Low Supply Current

The LMV791 and LMV792 are high performance op amps that provide a unity gain bandwidth of 17 MHz while drawing a low supply current of 1.15 mA. This makes them ideal for providing wideband amplification in portable applications. The enable and shutdown feature can also be used to design more power efficient systems that offer wide bandwidth and high performance while consuming less average power.

#### Low Input Referred Noise and Low Input Bias Current

The LMV791/LMV792 have a very low input referred voltage noise density (5.8 nV/ $\sqrt{Hz}$  at 1 kHz). A CMOS input stage ensures a small input bias current (100 fA) and low input referred current noise (0.01 pA/ $\sqrt{Hz}$ ). This is very helpful in maintaining signal fidelity, and makes the LMV791 and LMV792 ideal for audio and sensor based applications.

#### Low Supply Voltage

The LMV791 and the LMV792 have performance guaranteed at 2.5V and 5V supply. The LMV791 family is guaranteed to be operational at all supply voltages between 2.0V and 5.5V, for ambient temperatures ranging from  $-40^{\circ}$ C to  $125^{\circ}$ C, thus utilizing the entire battery lifetime. The LMV791 and LMV792 are also guaranteed to be operational at 1.8V supply voltage, for temperatures between 0°C and 125°C. This makes the LMV791 family ideal for usage in low-voltage commercial applications.

#### **RRO and Ground Sensing**

Rail-to-rail output swing provides maximum possible dynamic range at the output. This is particularly important when operating at low supply voltages. An innovative positive feedback scheme is used to boost the current drive capability of the output stage. This allows the LMV791 and the LMV792 to source more than 40 mA of current at 1.8V supply. This also limits the performance of the LMV791 family as comparators, and hence the usage of the LMV791 and the LMV792 in an open-loop configuration is not recommended. The input common-mode range includes the negative supply rail which allows direct sensing at ground in single supply operation.

#### **Enable and Shutdown Features**

The LMV791 family is ideal for battery powered systems. With a low supply current of 1.15 mA and a shutdown current of 140 nA typically, the LMV791 and LMV792 allow the designer to maximize battery life. The enable pin of the LMV791 and the LMV792 allows the op amp to be turned off and reduce its supply current to less than 1  $\mu$ A. To power on the op amp the enable pin should be higher than V+ - 0.5V, where V+ is the positive supply. To disable the op amp, the enable pin voltage should be less than V- + 0.5V, where V- is the negative supply.

#### Small Size

The small footprint of the LMV791 and the LMV792 package saves space on printed circuit boards, and enables the design of smaller electronic products, such as cellular phones, pagers, or other portable systems. Long traces between the signal source and the opamp make the signal path susceptible to noise. By using a physically smaller LMV791 and LMV792 package, the opamp can be placed closer to the signal source, reducing noise pickup and increasing signal integrity.

#### CAPACITIVE LOAD TOLERANCE

The LMV791 and LMV792 can directly drive 120 pF in unitygain without oscillation. The unity-gain follower is the most sensitive configuration to capacitive loading. Direct capacitive loading reduces the phase margin of amplifiers. The combination of the amplifier's output impedance and the capacitive load induces phase lag. This results in either an underdamped pulse response or oscillation. To drive a heavier capacitive load, the circuit in *Figure 1* can be used.

In *Figure 1*, the isolation resistor  $R_{ISO}$  and the load capacitor  $C_{L}$  form a pole to increase stability by adding more phase margin to the overall system. The desired performance depends on the value of  $R_{ISO}$ . The bigger the  $R_{ISO}$  resistor value, the more stable  $V_{OUT}$  will be. Increased  $R_{ISO}$  would, however, result in a reduced output swing and short circuit current.





FIGURE 1. Isolation of C<sub>L</sub> to Improve Stability

# INPUT CAPACITANCE AND FEEDBACK CIRCUIT ELEMENTS

The LMV791 family has a very low input bias current (100 fA) and a low 1/f noise corner frequency (400 Hz), which makes it ideal for sensor applications. However, to obtain this performance a large CMOS input stage is used, which adds to the input capacitance of the op-amp, C<sub>IN</sub>. Though this does not affect the DC and low frequency performance, at higher frequencies the input capacitance interacts with the input and the feedback impedances to create a pole, which results in lower phase margin and gain peaking. This can be controlled by being selective in the use of feedback resistors, as well as by using a feedback capacitance, C<sub>F</sub>. For example, in the inverting amplifier shown in Figure 2, if C<sub>IN</sub> and C<sub>F</sub> are ignored and the open loop gain of the op amp is considered infinite then the gain of the circuit is  $-R_2/R_1$ . An op amp, however, usually has a dominant pole, which causes its gain to drop with frequency. Hence, this gain is only valid for DC and low frequency. To understand the effect of the input capacitance coupled with the non-ideal gain of the op amp, the circuit needs to be analyzed in the frequency domain using a Laplace transform.



FIGURE 2. Inverting Amplifier

For simplicity, the op amp is modelled as an ideal integrator with a unity gain frequency of  $A_0$ . Hence, its transfer function (or gain) in the frequency domain is  $A_0$ /s. Solving the circuit equations in the frequency domain, ignoring  $C_F$  for the moment, results in an expression for the gain shown in *Equation 1*.

$$\frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN}}(s) = \frac{-R_2/R_1}{\left[1 + \frac{s}{\left(\frac{A_0 R_1}{R_1 + R_2}\right)} + \frac{s^2}{\left(\frac{A_0}{C_{IN} R_2}\right)}\right]}$$
(1)

It can be inferred from the denominator of the transfer function that it has two poles, whose expressions can be obtained by solving for the roots of the denominator and are shown in *Equation 2*.

$$P_{1,2} = \frac{-1}{2C_{IN}} \left[ \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2}\right)^2 - \frac{4A_0C_{IN}}{R_2}} \right]$$
(2)

*Equation 2* shows that as the values of R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are increased, the magnitude of the poles, and hence the bandwidth of the amplifier, is reduced. This theory is verified by using different values of R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> in the circuit shown in *Figure 1* and by comparing their frequency responses. In *Figure 3* the frequency responses for three different values of R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are shown. When both R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are 1 kΩ, the response is flattest and widest; whereas, it narrows and peaks significantly when both their values are changed to 10 kΩ or 30 kΩ. So it is advisable to use lower values of R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> to obtain a wider and flatter response. Lower resistances also help in high sensitivity circuits since they add less noise.



FIGURE 3. Gain Peaking Caused by Large R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>

A way of reducing the gain peaking is by adding a feedback capacitance  $C_F$  in parallel with  $R_2$ . This introduces another pole in the system and prevents the formation of pairs of complex conjugate poles which cause the gain to peak. *Figure 4* shows the effect of  $C_F$  on the frequency response of the circuit. Adding a capacitance of 2 pF removes the peak, while a capacitance of 5 pF creates a much lower pole and reduces the bandwidth excessively.



FIGURE 4. Gain Peaking Eliminated by C<sub>F</sub>

#### AUDIO PREAMPLIFIER WITH BANDPASS FILTERING

With low input referred voltage noise, low supply voltage and low supply current, and a low harmonic distortion, the LMV791 family is ideal for audio applications. Its wide unity gain bandwidth allows it to provide large gain for a wide range of frequencies and it can be used to design a preamplifier to drive a load of as low as  $600\Omega$  with less than 0.01% distortion. Two amplifier circuits are shown in Figure 5 and Figure 6. *Figure 5* is an inverting amplifier, with a 10 k $\Omega$  feedback resistor,  $R_2$ , and a 1k $\Omega$  input resistor,  $R_1$ , and hence provides a gain of -10. Figure 6 is a non-inverting amplifier, using the same values of R1 and R2, and provides a gain of 11. In either of these circuits, the coupling capacitor C<sub>C1</sub> decides the lower frequency at which the circuit starts providing gain, while the feedback capacitor  $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{F}}$  decides the frequency at which the gain starts dropping off. Figure 7 shows the frequency response of the inverting amplifier with different values of C<sub>E</sub>.



#### FIGURE 5. Inverting Audio Preamplifier



FIGURE 6. Non-inverting Audio Preamplifier



FIGURE 7. Frequency Response of the Inverting Audio Preamplifier

#### TRANSIMPEDANCE AMPLIFIER

CMOS input op amps are often used in transimpedance applications as they have an extremely high input impedance. A transimpedance amplifier converts a small input current into a voltage. This current is usually generated by a photodiode. The transimpedance gain, measured as the ratio of the output voltage to the input current, is expected to be large and wideband. Since the circuit deals with currents in the range of a few nA, low noise performance is essential. The LMV791/ LMV792 are CMOS input op amps providing wide bandwidth and low noise performance, and are hence ideal for transimpedance applications.

Usually, a transimpedance amplifier is designed on the basis of the current source driving the input. A photodiode is a very common capacitive current source, which requires transimpedance gain for transforming its miniscule current into easily detectable voltages. The photodiode and amplifier's gain are selected with respect to the speed and accuracy required of the circuit. A faster circuit would require a photodiode with lesser capacitance and a faster amplifier. A more sensitive circuit would require a sensitive photodiode and a high gain. A typical transimpedance amplifier is shown in *Figure 8*. The output voltage of the amplifier is given by the equation  $V_{OUT} = -I_{IN}R_F$ . Since the output swing of the amplifier is limited,  $R_F$  should be selected such that all possible values of  $I_{IN}$  can be detected.

The LMV791/LMV792 have a large gain-bandwidth product (17 MHz), which enables high gains at wide bandwidths. A rail-to-rail output swing at 5.5V supply allows detection and amplification of a wide range of input currents. A CMOS input stage with negligible input current noise and low input voltage noise allows the LMV791/LMV792 to provide high fidelity amplification for wide bandwidths. These properties make the LMV791/LMV792 ideal for systems requiring wide-band transimpedance amplification.



FIGURE 8. Photodiode Transimpedance Amplifier

As mentioned earlier, the following parameters are used to design a transimpedance amplifier: the amplifier gain-bandwidth product,  $A_0$ ; the amplifier input capacitance,  $C_{CM}$ ; the photodiode capacitance,  $C_D$ ; the transimpedance gain required,  $R_F$ ; and the amplifier output swing. Once a feasible  $R_F$  is selected using the amplifier output swing, these numbers can be used to design an amplifier with the desired transimpedance gain and a maximally flat frequency response.

An essential component for obtaining a maximally flat response is the feedback capacitor,  $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{F}}.$  The capacitance seen at the input of the amplifier, CIN, combined with the feedback capacitor, R<sub>F</sub>, generate a phase lag which causes gain-peaking and can destabilize the circuit. CIN is usually just the sum of C<sub>D</sub> and C<sub>CM</sub>. The feedback capacitor C<sub>F</sub> creates a pole,  $f_{\mathsf{P}}$  in the noise gain of the circuit, which neutralizes the zero in the noise gain,  $f_7$ , created by the combination of  $R_F$  and  $C_{IN}$ . If properly positioned, the noise gain pole created by C<sub>r</sub> can ensure that the slope of the gain remains at 20 dB/decade till the unity gain frequency of the amplifier is reached, thus ensuring stability. As shown in Figure 9, fp is positioned such that it coincides with the point where the noise gain intersects the op amp's open loop gain. In this case,  $f_P$  is also the overall 3 dB frequency of the transimpedance amplifier. The value of C<sub>F</sub> needed to make it so is given by Equation 3. A larger value of C<sub>F</sub> causes excessive reduction of bandwidth, while a smaller value fails to prevent gain peaking and instability.

$$C_{F} = \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 + 4\pi R_{F} C_{IN} A_{0}}}{2\pi R_{F} A_{0}}$$
(3)



FIGURE 9. C<sub>F</sub> Selection for Stability

Calculating C<sub>F</sub> from *Equation 3* can sometimes return unreasonably small values (<1 pF), especially for high speed applications. In these cases, its often more practical to use the circuit shown in *Figure 10* in order to allow more reasonable values. In this circuit, the capacitance C<sub>F</sub>' is (1+ R<sub>B</sub>/R<sub>A</sub>) time the effective feedback capacitance, C<sub>F</sub>. A larger capacitor can now be used in this circuit to obtain a smaller effective capacitance.

For example, if a  $C_F$  of 0.5 pF is needed, while only a 5 pF capacitor is available,  $R_B$  and  $R_A$  can be selected such that  $R_B/R_A$  = 9. This would convert a  $C_F{}'$  of 5 pF into a  $C_F$  of 0.5 pF. This relationship holds as long as  $R_A$  <<  $R_F$ .



FIGURE 10. Obtaining Small C<sub>F</sub> from large C<sub>F</sub>'

#### LMV791 AS A TRANSIMPEDANCE AMPLIFIER

The LMV791 was used to design a number of amplifiers with varying transimpedance gains and source capacitances. The gains, bandwidths and feedback capacitances of the circuits created are summarized in *Table 1*. The frequency responses are presented in *Figure 11* and *Figure 12*. The feedback capacitances are slightly different from the formula in *Equation 3*, since the parasitic capacitance of the board and the feedback resistor  $R_F$  had to be accounted for.

LMV791/LMV792

TABLE 1.						
C <sub>IN</sub>	C <sub>F</sub>	3 dB Frequency				
50 pF	1.5 pF	350 kHz				
100 pF	2.0 pF	250 kHz				
200 pF	3.0 pF	150 kHz				
50 pF	4.5 pF	1.5 MHz				
100 pF	6.0 pF	1 MHz				
200 pF	9.0 pF	700 kHz				
	CIN        50 pF        100 pF        200 pF        50 pF        200 pF        200 pF        200 pF	TABLE 1.      C <sub>IN</sub> C <sub>F</sub> 50 pF    1.5 pF      100 pF    2.0 pF      200 pF    3.0 pF      50 pF    4.5 pF      100 pF    6.0 pF      200 pF    9.0 pF				



FIGURE 11. Frequency Response for  $A_{TI} = 470000$ 





# HIGH GAIN WIDEBAND TRANSIMPEDANCE AMPLIFIER USING THE LMV792

The LMV792, dual, low noise, wide bandwidth, CMOS input op amp IC can be used for compact, robust and integrated solutions for sensing and amplifying wide-band signals obtained from sensitive photodiodes. One of the two op amps available can be used to obtain transimpedance gain while the other can be used for amplifying the output voltage to further enhance the transimpedance gain. The wide bandwidth of the op amps (17 MHz) ensures that they are capable of providing high gain for a wide range of frequencies. The low input referred noise (5.8 nV//Hz) allows the amplifier to deliver an output with a high SNR (signal to noise ratio). The small MSOP-10 footprint saves space on printed circuit boards and allows ease of design in portable products.

The circuit shown in *Figure 13*, has the first op amp acting as a transimpedance amplifier with a gain of 47000, while the second stage provides a voltage gain of 10. This provides a total transimpedance gain of 470000 with a -3 dB bandwidth of about 1.5 MHz, for a total input capacitance of 50 pF. The frequency response for the circuit is shown in *Figure 14* 



FIGURE 13. 1.5 MHz Transimpedance Amplifier, with  $A_{TI}$  = 470000



FIGURE 14. 1.5 MHz Transimpedance Amplifier Frequency Response

#### SENSOR INTERFACES

The low input bias current and low input referred noise of the LMV791 and LMV792 make them ideal for sensor interfaces. These circuits are required to sense voltages of the order of a few  $\mu V$ , and currents amounting to less than a nA, and hence the op amp needs to have low voltage noise and low input bias current. Typical applications include infra-red (IR) thermometry, thermocouple amplifiers and pH electrode buffers. Figure 15 is an example of a typical circuit used for measuring IR radiation intensity, often used for estimating the temperature of an object from a distance. The IR sensor generates a voltage proportional to I, which is the intensity of the IR radiation falling on it. As shown in Figure 15, K is the constant of proportionality relating the voltage across the IR sensor  $(V_{IN})$  to the radiation intensity, I. The resistances  $R_A$ and R<sub>B</sub> are selected to provide a high gain to amplify this voltage, while C<sub>F</sub> is added to filter out the high frequency noise.





# Physical Dimensions inches (millimeters) unless otherwise noted



# Notes

LMV791/LMV792

# Notes

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Ethernet	www.national.com/ethernet	Packaging	www.national.com/packaging			
Interface	www.national.com/interface	Quality and Reliability	www.national.com/quality			
LVDS	www.national.com/lvds	Reference Designs	www.national.com/refdesigns			
Power Management	www.national.com/power	Feedback	www.national.com/feedback			
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