12-Bit, Multiplying D/A Converter

The AD7541 is a monolithic, low cost, high performance, 12-bit accurate, multiplying digital-to-analog converter (DAC).

Intersil's wafer level laser-trimmed thin-film resistors on CMOS circuitry provide true 12-bit linearity with TTL/CMOS compatible operation.

Special tabbed-resistor geometries (improving time stability), full input protection from damage due to static discharge by diode clamps to V+ and ground, large IOUT1 and IOUT2 bus lines (improving superposition errors) are some of the features offered by Intersil AD7541.

Features

- 12-Bit Linearity 0.01%
- Pretrimmed Gain
- Low Gain and Linearity Tempcos
- Full Temperature Range Operation
- Full Input Static Protection
- TTL/CMOS Compatible
- +5V to +15V Supply Range
- 20mW Low Power Dissipation
- Current Settling Time 1µs to 0.01% of FSR
- Four Quadrant Multiplication

Pinout

Functional Block Diagram

NOTE: Switches shown for digital inputs “High”.

Part Number Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PART NUMBER</th>
<th>NONLINEARITY</th>
<th>TEMP. RANGE (°C)</th>
<th>PACKAGE</th>
<th>PKG. NO.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AD7541JN</td>
<td>0.02% (11-Bit)</td>
<td>0 to 70</td>
<td>18 Ld PDIP</td>
<td>E18.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD7541KN</td>
<td>0.01% (12-Bit)</td>
<td>0 to 70</td>
<td>18 Ld PDIP</td>
<td>E18.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Absolute Maximum Ratings**

- **Supply Voltage (V+ to GND):** +17V
- **VREF:** ±25V
- **Digital Input Voltage Range:** V+ to GND
- **Output Voltage Compliance:** -100mV to V+

**Operating Conditions**

- **Temperature Range:** 0°C to 70°C

**CAUTION**: Stresses above those listed in “Absolute Maximum Ratings” may cause permanent damage to the device. This is a stress only rating and operation of the device at these or any other conditions above those indicated in the operational sections of this specification is not implied.

**NOTE:**

1. θJA is measured with the component mounted on a low effective thermal conductivity test board in free air. See Tech Brief TB379 for details.

**Thermal Information**

- **θJA (°C/W):**
  - PDIP Package: 80
  - Maximum Junction Temperature: 150°C
  - Maximum Storage Temperature: -65°C to 150°C
  - Maximum Lead Temperature (Soldering 10s): 300°C

**Electrical Specifications**

- **V+ = +15V, VREF = +10V, VOUT1 = VOUT2 = 0V, TA = 25°C, Unless Otherwise Specified**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARAMETER</th>
<th>TEST CONDITIONS</th>
<th>TA = 25°C</th>
<th>TA MIN-MAX</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MIN</td>
<td>TYP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SYSTEM PERFORMANCE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution</td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonlinearity</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>-10V ≤ VREF ≤ +10V</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>K</td>
<td>VOUT1 = VOUT2 = 0V</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monotonicity</td>
<td></td>
<td>Guaranteed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain Error</td>
<td></td>
<td>-10V ≤ VREF ≤ +10V</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output Leakage Current (Either Output)</td>
<td>VOUT1 = VOUT2 = 0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DYNAMIC CHARACTERISTICS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power Supply Rejection</td>
<td>V+ = 14.5V to 15.5V</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output Current Settling Time</td>
<td>To 0.1% of FSR</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feedthrough Error</td>
<td>VREF = 20Vp-p, 10kHz All Digital Inputs Low</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REFERENCE INPUTS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Input Resistance</td>
<td>All Digital Inputs High IOUT1 at Ground</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANALOG OUTPUT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voltage Compliance</td>
<td>Both Outputs, See Maximum Ratings (Note 7)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output Capacitance</td>
<td>COUT1 All Digital Inputs High See Figure 7 (Note 6)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COUT2 All Digital Inputs Low See Figure 7 (Note 6)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COUT1 All Digital Inputs Low See Figure 7 (Note 6)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COUT2 All Digital Inputs High See Figure 7 (Note 6)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output Noise (Both Outputs)</td>
<td>See Figure 6</td>
<td>Equivalent to 10kΩ Johnson Noise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Definition of Terms

**Nonlinearity:** Error contributed by deviation of the DAC transfer function from a “best fit straight line” function. Normally expressed as a percentage of full scale range. For a multiplying DAC, this should hold true over the entire VREF range.

**Resolution:** Value of the LSB. For example, a unipolar converter with n bits has a resolution of LSB = (VREF)/2^N. A bipolar converter of N bits has a resolution of LSB = (VREF)/2^(N-1). Resolution in no way implies linearity.

**Settling Time:** Time required for the output function of the DAC to settle to within 1/2 LSB for a given digital input stimulus, i.e., 0 to Full Scale.

**Gain Error:** Ratio of the DAC’s operational amplifier output voltage to the nominal input voltage value.

**Feedthrough Error:** Error caused by capacitive coupling from VREF to output with all switches OFF.

**Output Capacitance:** Capacitance from IOUT1, and IOUT2 terminals to ground.

**Output Leakage Current:** Current which appears on IOUT1, terminal when all digital inputs are LOW or on IOUT2 terminal when all inputs are HIGH.

Detailed Description

The AD7541 is a 12-bit, monolithic, multiplying D/A converter. A highly stable thin film R-2R resistor ladder network and NMOS SPDT switches form the basis of the converter circuit. CMOS level shifters provide low power TTL/CMOS compatible operation. An external voltage or current reference and an operational amplifier are all that is required for most voltage output applications. A simplified equivalent circuit of the DAC is shown on page 1, (Functional Diagram). The NMOS SPDT switches steer the ladder leg currents between IOUT1 and IOUT2 buses which must be held at ground potential. This configuration maintains a constant current in each ladder leg independent of the input code. Converter errors are further eliminated by using wider metal interconnections between the major bits and the outputs. Use of high threshold switches reduces the offset (leakage) errors to a negligible level.

Each circuit is laser-trimmed, at the wafer level, to better than 12-bits linearity. For the first four bits of the ladder, special trim-tabbed geometries are used to keep the body of the resistors, carrying the majority of the output current, undisturbed. The resultant time stability of the trimmed circuits is comparable to that of untrimmed units.
The level shifter circuits are comprised of three inverters with a positive feedback from the output of the second to first (Figure 1). This configuration results in TTL/COMS compatible operation over the full military temperature range. With the ladder SPDT switches driven by the level shifter, each switch is binary weighted for an “ON” resistance proportional to the respective ladder leg current. This assures a constant voltage drop across each switch, creating equipotential terminations for the 2R ladder resistor, resulting in accurate leg currents.

**Typical Applications**

**General Recommendations**

Static performance of the AD7541 depends on $I_{OUT1}$ and $I_{OUT2}$ (pin 1 and pin 2) potentials being exactly equal to GND (pin 3).

The output amplifier should be selected to have a low input bias current (typically less than 75nA), and a low drift (depending on the temperature range). The voltage offset of the amplifier should be nulled (typically less than ±200µV).

The bias current compensation resistor in the amplifier’s non-inverting input can cause a variable offset. Non-inverting input should be connected to GND with a low resistance wire.

Ground-loops must be avoided by taking all pins going to GND to a common point, using separate connections.

The V+ (pin 16) power supply should have a low noise level and should not have any transients exceeding +17V.

Unused digital inputs must be connected to GND or V+ for proper operation.

A high value resistor (~1MΩ) can be used to prevent static charge accumulation, when the inputs are open-circuited for any reason.

When gain adjustment is required, low tempco (approximately 50ppm/°C) resistors or trim-pots should be selected.

**Unipolar Binary Operation**

The circuit configuration for operating the AD7541 in unipolar mode is shown in Figure 2. With positive and negative $V_{REF}$ values the circuit is capable of 2-Quadrant multiplication. The “Digital Input Code/Analog Output Value” table for unipolar mode is given in Table 1. A Schottky diode (HP5082-2811 or equivalent) prevents $I_{OUT1}$ from negative excursions which could damage the device. This precaution is only necessary with certain high speed amplifiers.

**Zero Offset Adjustment**
1. Connect all digital inputs to GND.
2. Adjust the offset zero adjust trimpot of the output operational amplifier for 0V ±0.5mV (Max) at $V_{OUT}$.

**Gain Adjustment**
1. Connect all digital inputs to $V_{DD}$.
2. Monitor $V_{OUT}$ for a $-V_{REF} (1 - 1/2^{12})$ reading.
3. To increase $V_{OUT}$, connect a series resistor, (0Ω to 250Ω), in the $I_{OUT1}$ amplifier feedback loop.
4. To decrease $V_{OUT}$, connect a series resistor, (0Ω to 250Ω), between the reference voltage and the $V_{REF}$ terminal.

**TABLE 1. CODE TABLE - UNIPOLAR BINARY OPERATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIGITAL INPUT</th>
<th>ANALOG OUTPUT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>111111111111</td>
<td>$-V_{REF} (1 - 1/2^{12})$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100000000001</td>
<td>$-V_{REF} (1/2 + 1/2^{12})$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100000000000</td>
<td>$-V_{REF}/2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>011111111111</td>
<td>$-V_{REF} (1/2 - 1/2^{12})$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000000000001</td>
<td>$-V_{REF} (1/2^{12})$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000000000000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bipolar (Offset Binary) Operation**

The circuit configuration for operating the AD7541 in the bipolar mode is given in Figure 3. Using offset binary digital input codes and positive and negative reference voltage values Four-Quadrant multiplication can be realized. The “Digital Input Code/Analog Output Value” table for bipolar mode is given in Table 2.
A “Logic 1” input at any digital input forces the corresponding ladder switch to steer the bit current to \( I_{OUT1} \) bus. A “Logic 0” input forces the bit current to \( I_{OUT2} \) bus. For any code the \( I_{OUT1} \) and \( I_{OUT2} \) bus currents are complements of one another. The current amplifier at \( I_{OUT2} \) changes the polarity of \( I_{OUT2} \) current and the transconductance amplifier at \( I_{OUT1} \) output sums the two currents. This configuration doubles the output range of the DAC. The difference current resulting at zero offset binary code, (MSB = “Logic 1”, All other bits = “Logic 0”), is corrected by using an external resistive divider, from \( V_{REF} \) to \( I_{OUT2} \).

**Offset Adjustment**
1. Adjust \( V_{REF} \) to approximately +10V.
2. Set R4 to zero.
3. Connect all digital inputs to “Logic 1”.
4. Adjust \( I_{OUT1} \) amplifier offset zero adjust trim pot for 0V ±0.1mV at \( I_{OUT2} \) amplifier output.
5. Connect a short circuit across R2.
6. Connect all digital inputs to “Logic 0”.
7. Adjust \( I_{OUT2} \) amplifier offset zero adjust trim pot for 0V ±0.1mV at \( I_{OUT1} \) amplifier output.
8. Remove short circuit across R2.
9. Connect MSB (Bit 1) to “Logic 1” and all other bits to “Logic 0”.
10. Adjust R4 for 0V ±0.2mV at \( V_{OUT} \).

**Gain Adjustment**
1. Connect all digital inputs to \( V_{DD} \).
2. Monitor \( V_{OUT} \) for a \( -V_{REF} (1 - 1/2^{11}) \) volts reading.
3. To increase \( V_{OUT} \), connect a series resistor, (0Ω to 250Ω), in the \( I_{OUT1} \) amplifier feedback loop.
4. To decrease \( V_{OUT} \), connect a series resistor, (0Ω to 250Ω), between the reference voltage and the \( V_{REF} \) terminal.

**TABLE 2. CODE TABLE - BIPOLAR (OFFSET BINARY) OPERATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIGITAL INPUT</th>
<th>ANALOG OUTPUT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>111111111111</td>
<td>(-V_{REF} (1 - 1/2^{11}))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100000000001</td>
<td>(-V_{REF} (1/2^{11}))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100000000000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>011111111111</td>
<td>(V_{REF} (1/2^{11}))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000000000001</td>
<td>(V_{REF} (1 - 1/2^{11}))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>000000000000</td>
<td>(V_{REF})</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FIGURE 3. BIPOLAR OPERATION (4-QUADRANT MULTIPLICATION)**

NOTE: R1 and R2 should be 0.01%, low-TCR resistors.
Test Circuits

FIGURE 4. NONLINEARITY TEST CIRCUIT

FIGURE 5. POWER SUPPLY REJECTION TEST CIRCUIT

FIGURE 6. NOISE TEST CIRCUIT
Dynamic Performance

The dynamic performance of the DAC, also depends on the output amplifier selection. For low speed or static applications, AC specifications of the amplifier are not very critical. For high-speed applications slew-rate, settling-time, openloop gain and gain/phase-margin specifications of the amplifier should be selected for the desired performance.

The output impedance of the AD7541 looking into $I_{OUT1}$ varies between 10kΩ ($R_{FEEDBACK}$ alone) and 5kΩ ($R_{FEEDBACK}$ in parallel with the ladder resistance).

Similarly the output capacitance varies between the minimum and the maximum values depending on the input code. These variations necessitate the use of compensation capacitors, when high speed amplifiers are used.

A capacitor in parallel with the feedback resistor (as shown in Figure 10) provides the necessary phase compensation to critically damp the output.

A small capacitor connected to the compensation pin of the amplifier may be required for unstable situations causing oscillations. Careful PC board layout, minimizing parasitic capacitances, is also vital.
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INDEX AREA

NOTES:

1. Controlling Dimensions: INCH. In case of conflict between English and Metric dimensions, the inch dimensions control.


3. Symbols are defined in the “MO Series Symbol List” in Section 2.2 of Publication No. 95.

4. Dimensions A, A1 and L are measured with the package seated in JEDEC seating plane gauge GS-3.

5. D, D1, and E1 dimensions do not include mold flash or protrusions. Mold flash or protrusions shall not exceed 0.010 inch (0.25mm).

6. E and \( e_A \) are measured with the leads constrained to be perpendicular to datum \( C \).

7. \( e_B \) and \( e_C \) are measured at the lead tips with the leads unconstrained. \( e_C \) must be zero or greater.

8. B1 maximum dimensions do not include dambar protrusions. Dambar protrusions shall not exceed 0.010 inch (0.25mm).

9. N is the maximum number of terminal positions.

10. Corner leads (1, N, N/2 and N/2 + 1) for E8.3, E16.3, E18.3, E28.3, E42.6 will have a B1 dimension of 0.030 - 0.045 inch (0.76 - 1.14mm).