

SBOS211A - MARCH 2002

# Precision LOGARITHMIC AND LOG RATIO AMPLIFIER

### **FEATURES**

- EASY-TO-USE COMPLETE LOG RATIO FUNCTION
- OUTPUT AMPLIFIERS FOR SCALING AND SIGNAL LOSS INDICATION
- HIGH ACCURACY: 0.15% FSO Total Error Over 6 Decades
- WIDE INPUT DYNAMIC RANGE:
   6 Decades, 1nA to 1mA
- **LOW QUIESCENT CURRENT: 1.25mA**
- SO-14 PACKAGE

### **APPLICATIONS**

- ONET, OPTICAL POWER METERS
- LOG, LOG RATIO COMPUTATION:
   Communication, Analytical, Medical, Industrial,
   Test, General Instrumentation
- PHOTODIODE SIGNAL COMPRESSION AMP
- ANALOG SIGNAL COMPRESSION IN FRONT OF A/D CONVERTER
- ABSORBANCE MEASUREMENT
- OPTICAL DENSITY MEASUREMENT

### DESCRIPTION

The LOG102 is a versatile integrated circuit that computes the logarithm or log ratio of an input current relative to a reference current.

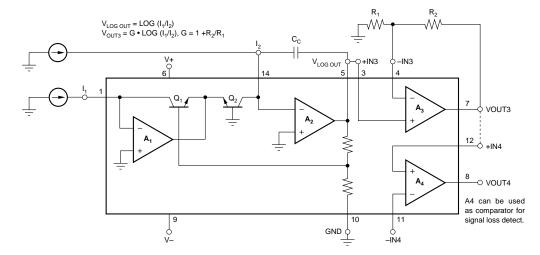
The LOG102 is tested over a wide dynamic range of input signals. In log ratio applications, a signal current can be generated by a photodiode, and a reference current from a resistor in series with a precision external voltage reference.

A3 and A4 are identical, uncommitted op amps that can be used for a variety of functions, such as filtering, offsetting, adding gain or as a comparator to detect loss of signal.

The output signal at  $V_{LOG\,OUT}$  is trimmed to 1V per decade of input current. It can be scaled with an output amplifier, either A3 or A4.

Low dc offset voltage and temperature drift allow accurate measurement of low-level signals over a wide environmental temperature range. The LOG102 is specified over the temperature range, 0°C to +70°C, with operation over -40°C to +85°C.

NOTE: U.S. Patent Pending.





Please be aware that an important notice concerning availability, standard warranty, and use in critical applications of Texas Instruments semiconductor products and disclaimers thereto appears at the end of this data sheet.



#### ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS(1)

| Supply Voltage, V+ to V             | 36\/                    |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
|                                     |                         |
| Input Voltage                       | V- (-0.5) to V+ (+0.5V) |
| Input Current                       | ±10mA                   |
| Output Short-Circuit <sup>(2)</sup> | Continuous              |
| Operating Temperature               | 40°C to +85°C           |
| Storage Temperature                 | 55°C to +125°C          |
| Junction Temperature                | +150°C                  |
| Lead Temperature (soldering, 10s)   | +300°C                  |

NOTES: (1) Stresses above these ratings may cause permanent damage. Exposure to absolute maximum conditions for extended periods may degrade device reliability. (2) Short circuit to ground, one amplifier per package.

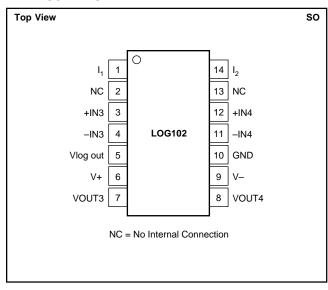


### **ELECTROSTATIC DISCHARGE SENSITIVITY**

This integrated circuit can be damaged by ESD. Texas Instruments recommends that all integrated circuits be handled with appropriate precautions. Failure to observe proper handling and installation procedures can cause damage.

ESD damage can range from subtle performance degradation to complete device failure. Precision integrated circuits may be more susceptible to damage because very small parametric changes could cause the device not to meet its published specifications.

### **PIN DESCRIPTION**



#### **PACKAGE/ORDERING INFORMATION**

| PRODUCT   | PACKAGE-LEAD | PACKAGE<br>DESIGNATOR <sup>(1)</sup> | SPECIFIED<br>TEMPERATURE<br>RANGE | PACKAGE<br>MARKING | ORDERING<br>NUMBER      | TRANSPORT<br>MEDIA, QUANTITY     |
|-----------|--------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| LOG102AID | SO-14<br>"   | D<br>"                               | 0°C to +70°C                      | LOG102A<br>"       | LOG102AID<br>LOG102AIDR | Rails, 58<br>Tape and Reel, 2500 |

NOTES: (1) For the most current specifications and package information, refer to our web site at www.ti.com.

### **ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

**Boldface** limits apply over the specified temperature range,  $T_A = 0^{\circ}C$  to +70°C. At  $T_A$  = +25°C,  $V_S$  = ±5V,  $R_L$  = 10k $\Omega$ , unless otherwise noted.

|  |                          | LOG102AID |                        |      |  |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|------------------------|------|--|
| PARAMETER                                      | CONDITION                | MIN       | TYP                    | MAX  |  |
| CORE LOG FUNCTION                              |                          |           |                        |      |  |
| I <sub>IN</sub> /V <sub>LOG OUT</sub> Equation |                          |           | $V_O = \log (I_1/I_2)$ |      |  |
| LOG CONFORMITY ERROR(1)                        |                          |           |                        |      |  |
| Initial  | 1nA to 100μA (5 decades) |           | 0.04                   | ±0.3 |  |
|  | 1nA to 1mA (6 decades)   |           | 0.15                   |      |  |
| over Temperature                               | 1nA to 100μA (5 decades) |           | 0.0002                 |      |  |
|  | 1nA to 1mA (6 decades)   |           | 0.002                  |      |  |

| over Temperature                          | 1nA to 100µA (5 decades)<br>1nA to 1mA (6 decades) |                    | 0.0002<br>0.002 |      | %/°C<br>%/°C       |
|---|--|--------------------|-----------------|------|--------------------|
| GAIN <sup>(2)</sup>                       |  |                    |                 |      |                    |
| Initial Value                             | 1nA to 100μA (5 decades)                           |                    | 1               |      | V/decade           |
| Gain Error                                | 1nA to 100μA (5 decades)                           |                    | 0.15            | ±1   | %                  |
| vs Temperature                            | T <sub>MIN</sub> to T <sub>MAX</sub>               |                    | 0.025           | 0.05 | %/°C               |
| INPUT, A1 and A2                          |  |                    |                 |      |                    |
| Offset Voltage                            |  |                    | ±0.3            | ±1.5 | mV                 |
| vs Temperature                            | T <sub>MIN</sub> to T <sub>MAX</sub>               |                    | ±2              |      | μ <b>۷/</b> °C     |
| vs Power Supply (PSRR)                    | $V_{S} = \pm 4.5 V \text{ to } \pm 18 V$           |                    | 5               | 50   | μV/V               |
| Input Bias Current                        |  |                    | ±5              |      | pA                 |
| vs Temperature                            | T <sub>MIN</sub> to T <sub>MAX</sub>               | Doubles Every 10°C |                 |      |                    |
| Voltage Noise                             | f = 10Hz to $10kHz$                                |                    | 3               |      | μVrms              |
|   | f = 1kHz   |                    | 30              |      | nV/√ <del>Hz</del> |
| Current Noise                             | f = 1kHz   |                    | 4               |      | fA/√ <del>Hz</del> |
| Common-Mode Voltage Range (Positive)      |  | (V+) - 2           | (V+) - 1.5      |      | V                  |
| (Negative)                                |  | (V-) + 2           | (V-) + 1.2      |      | V                  |
| CMRR                                      |  | 90                 | 105             |      | dB                 |
| OUTPUT, A2 (V <sub>LOGOUT</sub> )         |  |                    |                 |      |                    |
| Output Offset, V <sub>OSO</sub> , Initial |  |                    | ±3              | ±55  | mV                 |



(V-) + 1.2

 $T_{\mbox{\scriptsize MIN}}$  to  $T_{\mbox{\scriptsize MAX}}$ 

 $V_S = \pm 5V$  Supplies

**μV**/°C

V

mΑ

UNITS

% %

25

(V+) - 1.5

±18

vs Temperature

Short-Circuit Current

Full-Scale Output (FSO)

### **ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (Cont.)**

**Boldface** limits apply over the specified temperature range,  $T_A = 0^{\circ}C$  to  $+70^{\circ}C$ .

At T<sub>A</sub> = +25°C, V<sub>S</sub> =  $\pm 5$ V, R<sub>L</sub> = 10k $\Omega$ , unless otherwise noted.

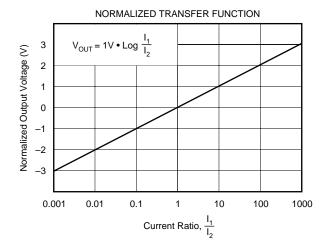
|  |   | LOG102AID       |   |   |  |  |
|--|---|-----------------|---|---|--|--|
| PARAMETER  | CONDITION   | MIN             | TYP   | MAX   | UNITS  |  |
| TOTAL ERROR <sup>(3)(4)</sup><br>Initial   | $\begin{array}{c} \textbf{I}_1 \text{ or } \textbf{I}_2 \text{ remains fixed while other varies} \\ & \text{min to max} \\ \textbf{I}_1 \text{ or } \textbf{I}_2 = 1 \text{mA} \\ \textbf{I}_1 \text{ or } \textbf{I}_2 = 100 \mu \text{A} \\ \textbf{I}_1 \text{ or } \textbf{I}_2 = 10 \mu \text{A} \\ \textbf{I}_1 \text{ or } \textbf{I}_2 = 1 \mu \text{A} \\ \textbf{I}_1 \text{ or } \textbf{I}_2 = 100 \text{nA} \\ \textbf{I}_1 \text{ or } \textbf{I}_2 = 10 \text{nA} \\ \textbf{I}_1 \text{ or } \textbf{I}_2 = 1 \text{nA} \\ \textbf{I}_1 \text{ or } \textbf{I}_2 = 1 \text{nA} \end{array}$ |                 |   | ±55<br>±30<br>±25<br>±20<br>±25<br>±30<br>±37 | mV<br>mV<br>mV<br>mV<br>mV<br>mV                   |  |
| vs Temperature   | $I_1$ or $I_2 = 1 \text{ImA}$ $I_1$ or $I_2 = 100 \mu \text{A}$ $I_1$ or $I_2 = 100 \mu \text{A}$ $I_1$ or $I_2 = 10 \mu \text{A}$ $I_1$ or $I_2 = 10 \text{OnA}$ $I_1$ or $I_2 = 10 \text{nA}$ $I_1$ or $I_2 = 10 \text{nA}$ $I_1$ or $I_2 = 10 \text{nA}$   |                 | ±0.4<br>±0.07<br>±0.07<br>±0.07<br>±0.07<br>±0.07<br>±0.4 | 137   | mV/°C<br>mV/°C<br>mV/°C<br>mV/°C<br>mV/°C<br>mV/°C |  |
| vs Supply  | $\begin{aligned} I_1 & \text{ or } I_2 = 1 \text{ mA} \\ I_1 & \text{ or } I_2 = 100 \mu \text{A} \\ I_1 & \text{ or } I_2 = 10 \mu \text{A} \\ I_1 & \text{ or } I_2 = 10 \mu \text{A} \\ I_1 & \text{ or } I_2 = 100 \text{ nA} \\ I_1 & \text{ or } I_2 = 100 \text{ nA} \\ I_1 & \text{ or } I_2 = 10 \text{ nA} \\ I_1 & \text{ or } I_2 = 10 \text{ nA} \end{aligned}$  |                 | ±0.15<br>±0.15<br>±0.25<br>±0.2<br>±0.2<br>±0.15<br>±0.25 |   | mV/V<br>mV/V<br>mV/V<br>mV/V<br>mV/V<br>mV/V       |  |
| FREQUENCY RESPONSE, core log <sup>(5)</sup>  |   |                 |   |   |  |  |
| BW, 3dB<br>$I_2 = 10nA$<br>$I_2 = 1\mu A$<br>$I_2 = 10\mu A$<br>$I_2 = 1mA$<br>Step Response   | $C_C$ = 4500pF<br>$C_C$ = 150pF<br>$C_C$ = 150pF<br>$C_C$ = 50pF  |                 | 0.1<br>38<br>40<br>45                                     |   | kHz<br>kHz<br>kHz<br>kHz                           |  |
| Increasing $I_2 = 1\mu A$ to 1mA (3 decade) $I_2 = 100nA$ to 1 $\mu A$ (1 decade) $I_2 = 10nA$ to 100nA (1 decade) Decreasing                                    | $C_C$ = 150pF<br>$C_C$ = 150pF<br>$C_C$ = 150pF   |                 | 11<br>7<br>110  |   | μs<br>μs<br>μs                                     |  |
| $I_2 = 1 \text{mA}$ to $1 \mu \text{A}$ (3 decade)<br>$I_2 = 1 \mu \text{A}$ to $100 \text{nA}$ (1 decade)<br>$I_2 = 100 \text{nA}$ to $10 \text{nA}$ (1 decade) | $C_C$ = 150pF<br>$C_C$ = 150pF<br>$C_C$ = 150pF   |                 | 45<br>20<br>550   |   | μs<br>μs<br>μs                                     |  |
| OP AMPS, A3 AND A4 Input Offset Voltage vs Temperature vs Power Supply Input Bias Current <sup>(5)</sup> Input Offset Current Input Voltage Range                | $T_{MIN}$ to $T_{MAX}$ $V_S = \pm 4.5 \text{V}$ to $\pm 18 \text{V}$  | (V–)            | ±175<br>± <b>2</b><br>10<br>-10<br>±0.5                   | ±750<br>50<br>(V+) - 1.5                      | μV<br>μ <b>V/°C</b><br>μV/V<br>nA<br>nA<br>V       |  |
| Common-Mode Rejection Input Noise, f = 0.1Hz to 10Hz f = 1kHz Open Loop Voltage Gain Gain-Bandwidth Product Slew Rate  | G = 1, 2.5V step  |                 | 86<br>1<br>28<br>88<br>1.4<br>0.5                         |   | dB<br>μVp-p<br>nV/√Hz<br>dB<br>MHz<br>V/μs         |  |
| Settling Time, 0.01% Rated Output Short-Circuit Current -I <sub>SC</sub> /+I <sub>SC</sub>   | G = 1, 2.5V Step, $C_L$ =100pF<br>$V_S$ = 5V, $R_L$ = 10kΩ  | (V-) + 1.5      | 16<br>-36/+60   | (V+) - 0.9                                    | μs<br>V<br>mA                                      |  |
| POWER SUPPLY Operating Range Quiescent Current   | V <sub>S</sub><br>I <sub>O</sub> = 0  | ±4.5            | 1.25  | ±18<br>2                                      | V<br>mA  |  |
| <b>TEMPERATURE RANGE</b> Specified Range, $T_{MIN}$ to $T_{MAX}$ Operating Range Storage Range Thermal Resistance, $\theta_{IA}$                                 |   | 0<br>-40<br>-40 |   | 70<br>+85<br>+125                             | ပ<br>့<br>ပ  |  |
| SO-14  |   |                 | 100   |   | °C/W   |  |

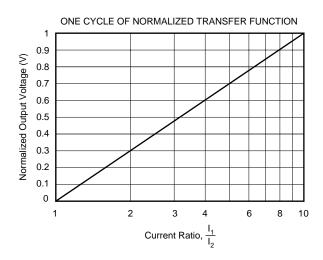
NOTES: (1) Log Conformity Error is peak deviation from the best-fit straight line of  $V_O$  versus Log  $(I_1/I_2)$  curve expressed as a percent of peak-to-peak full-scale (2) Output core log function is trimmed to 1V output per decade change of input current. (3) Worst-case Total Error for any ratio of  $I_1/I_2$ , is the largest of the two errors, when  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  are considered separately. (4) Total  $I_1 + I_2$  should be kept below 1.1mA on  $\pm 5V$  supply. (5) Bandwidth (3dB) and transient response are a function of both the compensation capacitor and the level of input current. (6) Positive conventional current flows into input terminals.

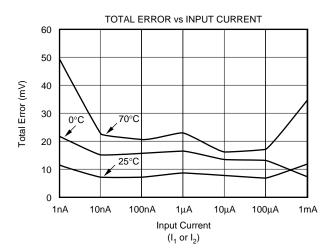


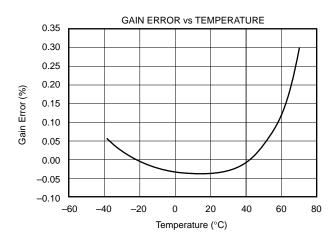
### **TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

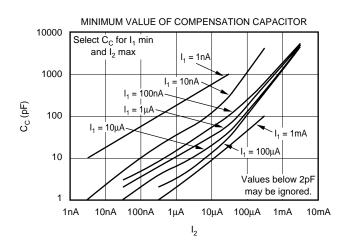
At  $T_A$  = +25°C,  $V_S$  = ±5V,  $R_L$  = 10k $\Omega$ , unless otherwise noted.

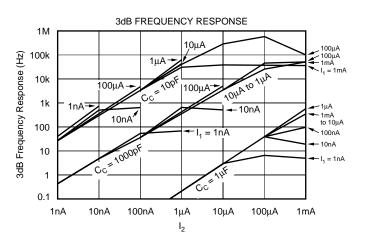








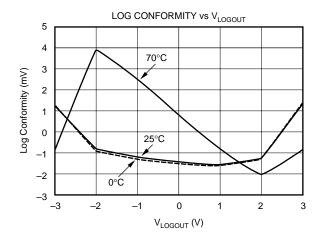


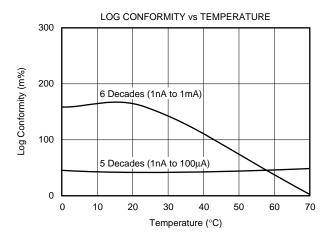


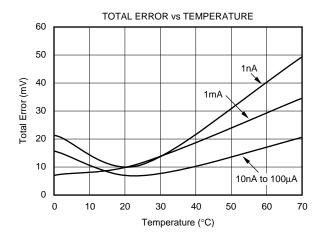


### **TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS (Cont.)**

At  $T_A$  = +25°C,  $V_S$  = ±5V,  $R_L$  = 10k $\Omega$ , unless otherwise noted.









### APPLICATION INFORMATION

The LOG102 is a true logarithmic amplifier that uses the base-emitter voltage relationship of bipolar transistors to compute the logarithm, or logarithmic ratio of a current ratio. With two uncommitted on-chip operational amplifiers, the LOG102 provides design flexibility and simplicity.

Figure 1 shows the basic connections required for operation of the LOG102 with a gain factor. In order to reduce the influence of lead inductance of power supply lines, it is recommended that each supply be bypassed with a  $10\mu F$  tantalum capacitor in parallel with a 1000pF ceramic capacitor, as shown in Figure 1. Connecting the capacitors as close to the LOG102 as possible will contribute to noise reduction as well.

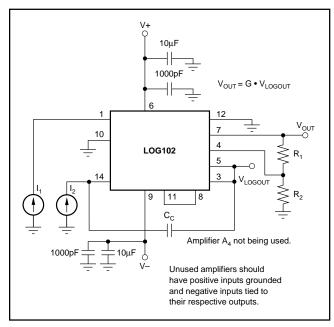


FIGURE 1. Basic Connections with Output Gain Factor of the LOG102.

#### INPUT CURRENT RANGE

To maintain specified accuracy, the input current range of the LOG102 should be limited from 1nA to 1mA. Input currents outside of this range may compromise LOG102 performance. Input currents larger than 1mA result in increased nonlinearity. An absolute maximum input current rating of 10mA is included to prevent excessive power dissipation that may damage the logging transistor.

On  $\pm 5V$  supplies the total input current (I<sub>1</sub> + I<sub>2</sub>) is limited to 1.1mA. Due to compliance issues internal to the LOG102, to accommodate larger total input currents, supplies should be increased.

Currents smaller than 1nA will result in increased errors due the input bias currents of op amps  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  (typically 5pA). The input bias currents may be compensated for, as shown in Figure 2. The input stages of the amplifiers have FET inputs, with input bias current doubling every 10°C, which makes the nulling technique shown practical only where the temperature is fairly stable.

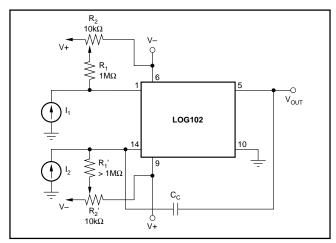


FIGURE 2. Bias Current Nulling.

#### SETTING THE REFERENCE CURRENT

When the LOG102 is used to compute logarithms, either  $I_1$  or  $I_2$  can be held constant and becomes the reference current to which the other is compared.

V<sub>LOGOUT</sub> is expressed as:

$$V_{LOGOUT} = (1V) \cdot \log (I_1/I_2)$$
 (1)

 $I_{REF}$  can be derived from an external current source (such as shown in Figure 3), or it may be derived from a voltage source with one or more resistors. When a single resistor is used, the value may be large depending on  $I_{REF}$ . If  $I_{REF}$  is 10nA and +2.5V is used:

$$R_{REF} = 2.5V/10nA = 250M\Omega$$

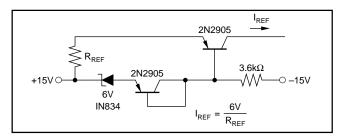


FIGURE 3. Temperature Compensated Current Source.

A voltage divider may be used to reduce the value of the resistor (as shown in Figure 4). When using this method, one must consider the possible errors caused by the amplifier's input offset voltage. The input offset voltage of amplifier  $A_1$  has a maximum value of 1.5mV, making  $V_{REF}$  a suggested value of 100mV.

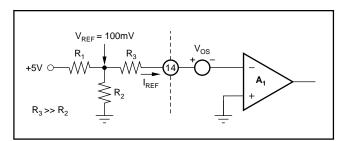


FIGURE 4. T Network for Reference Current.



Figure 5 shows a low-level current source using a series resistor. The low offset op-amp reduces the effect of the LOG102's input offset voltage.

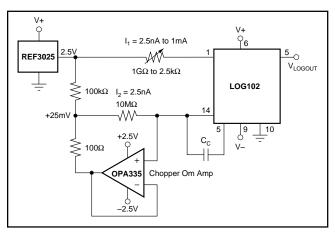


FIGURE 5. Current Source with Offset Compensation.

### **FREQUENCY RESPONSE**

The 3dB frequency response of the LOG102 is a function of the magnitude of the input current levels and of the value of the frequency compensation capacitor. See Typical Characteristic Curves for details.

The frequency response curves are shown for constant DC  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  with a small signal AC current on one of them.

The transient response of the LOG102 is different for increasing and decreasing signals. This is due to the fact that a log amp is a nonlinear gain element and has different gains at different levels of input signals. Smaller input currents require greater gain to maintain full dynamic range, and will slow the frequency response of the LOG102.

### FREQUENCY COMPENSATION

Frequency compensation for the LOG102 is obtained by connecting a capacitor between pins 5 and 14. The size of the capacitor is a function of the input currents, as shown in the Typical Characteristic Curves (Minimum Value of Compensation Capacitor). For any given application, the smallest value of the capacitor which may be used is determined by the maximum value of  $I_2$  and the minimum value of  $I_1$ . Larger values of  $C_C$  will make the LOG102 more stable, but will reduce the frequency response.

In an application, highest overall bandwidth can be achieved by detecting the signal level at  $V_{\text{OUT}}$ , then switching in appropriate values of compensation capacitors.

As seen on front page diagram, the voltage output of  $V_{LOGOUT}$  can be scaled by increasing or decreasing the resistor ratio connected to pins 4 and 7. The gain, G, can be set according to the following equation:

$$G = 1 + R_2/R_1$$
 (2)

#### **NEGATIVE INPUT CURRENTS**

The LOG102 will function only with positive input currents (conventional current flow into pins 1 and 14). In situations where negative input currents are needed, the circuits in Figures 6, 7, 8, and 9, may be used.

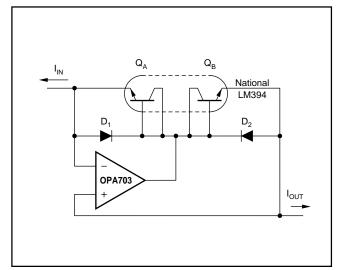


FIGURE 6. Current Inverter/Current Source.

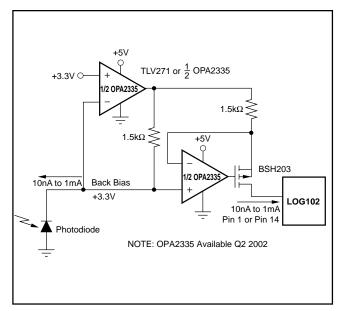


FIGURE 7. Precision Current Inverter/Current Source.

#### **VOLTAGE INPUTS**

The LOG102 gives the best performance with current inputs. Voltage inputs may be handled directly with series resistors, but the dynamic input range is limited to approximately three decades of input voltage by voltage noise and offsets. The transfer function of equation (14) applies to this configuration.



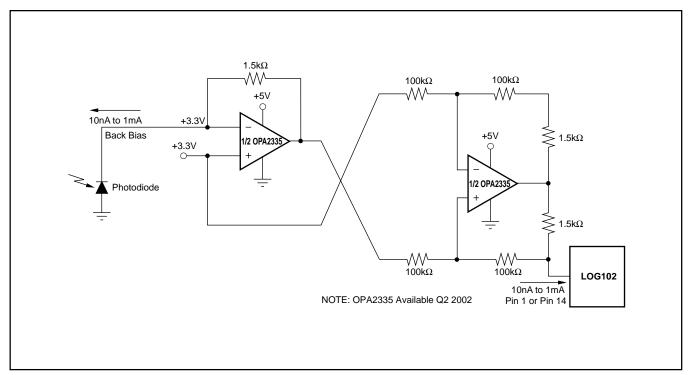


FIGURE 8. Precision Current Inverter/Current Source.

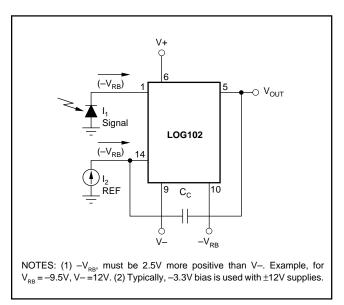


FIGURE 9. Reverse Biased Photodiode Using Pin 10 on LOG102.

### **APPLICATION CIRCUITS**

### **LOG RATIO**

One of the more common uses of log ratio amplifiers is to measure absorbance. A typical application is shown in Figure 10.

Absorbance of the sample is  $A = \log \lambda_1 / \lambda_1$  (3)

If  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  are matched  $A \propto (1V) \log I_1/I_2$  (4)

### DATA COMPRESSION

In many applications the compressive effects of the logarithmic transfer function are useful. For example, a LOG102 preceding a 12-bit Analog-to-Digital (A/D) converter can produce the dynamic range equivalent to a 20-bit converter.

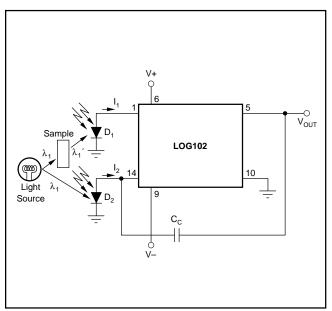


FIGURE 10. Absorbance Measurement.



### **INSIDE THE LOG102**

Using the base-emitter voltage relationship of matched bipolar transistors, the LOG102 establishes a logarithmic function of input current ratios. Beginning with the base-emitter voltage defined as

$$V_{BE} = V_T \ln \frac{I_C}{I_S}$$
 where:  $V_T = \frac{kT}{q}$  (1)

k = Boltzman's constant = 1.381 • 10<sup>-23</sup>

T = Absolute temperature in degrees Kelvin

q = Electron charge =  $1.602 \cdot 10^{-19}$  Coulombs

I<sub>C</sub> = Collector current

I<sub>S</sub> = Reverse saturation current

From the circuit in Figure 11, we see that

$$V_{L} = V_{BE_1} - V_{BE_2} \tag{2}$$

Substituting (1) into (2) yields

$$V_{L} = V_{T_{1}} \ln \frac{I_{1}}{I_{S_{1}}} - V_{T_{2}} \ln \frac{I_{2}}{I_{S_{2}}}$$
 (3)

If the transistors are matched and isothermal and  $V_{TI} = V_{T2}$ , then (3) becomes:

$$V_{L} = V_{T_{1}} \left[ ln \frac{l_{1}}{l_{S}} - ln \frac{l_{2}}{l_{S}} \right]$$
 (4)

$$V_L = V_T \ln \frac{I_1}{I_2}$$
 and since (5)

$$ln x = 2.3 log_{10} x$$
 (6)

$$V_{L} = n V_{T} \log \frac{I_{1}}{I_{2}}$$
 (7)

where 
$$n = 2.3$$
 (8)

also

$$V_{OUT} = V_{L} \frac{R_{1} + R_{2}}{R1}$$
 (9)

$$=\log\frac{l_1}{l_2}\tag{10}$$

or 
$$V_{OUT} = \frac{R_1 + R_2}{R1} n V_T \log \frac{I_1}{I_2}$$
 (11)

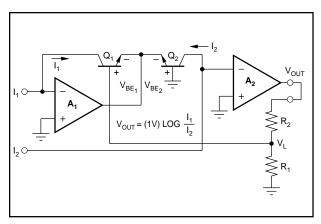


FIGURE 11. Simplified Model of Log Amplifier.

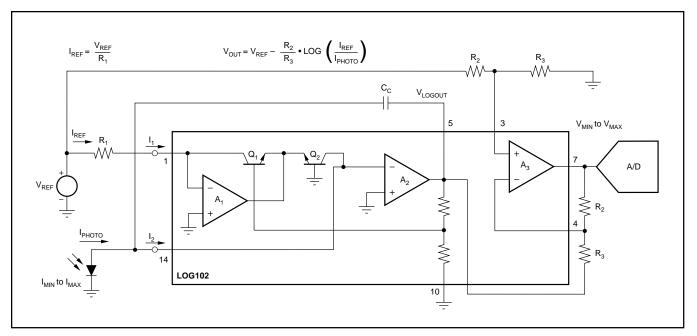
It should be noted that the temperature dependance associated with  $V_T = kT/q$  is internally compensated on the LOG102 by making  $R_1$  a temperature sensitive resistor with the required positive temperature coefficient.

## USING A LARGER REFERENCE VOLTAGE REDUCES OFFSET ERRORS

Using a larger reference voltage to create the reference current minimizes errors due to the LOG102's input offset voltage. Maintaining an increasing output voltage as a function of increasing photodiode current is also important in many optical sensing applications. All zeros from the A/D converter output represent zero or low scale photodiode current. Inputting the reference current into  $I_1$ , and designing

 $I_{REF}$  such that it is as large or larger than the expected maximum photodiode current is accomplished using this requirement. The LOG102 configured with the reference current connecting  $I_1$  and the photodiode current connecting to  $I_2$  is shown in Figure 12.  $A_3$  is configured as a level shifter with inverting gain and is used to scale the photodiode current directly into the A/D input voltage range.

The wide dynamic range of the LOG102 is useful for measuring avalanche photodiode current (APD) (see Figure 13).



 $FIGURE\ 12.\ Technique\ for\ Using\ Full-Scale\ Reference\ Current\ Such\ that\ V_{OUT}\ Increases\ with\ Increasing\ Photodiode\ Current.$ 

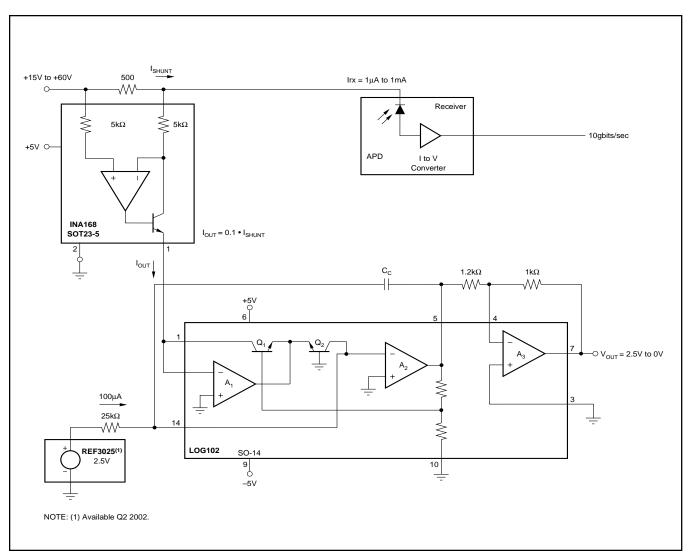


FIGURE 13. High Side Shunt for Avalanche Photodiode (APD) Measures 3-Decades of APD Current.



### **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

### TRANSFER FUNCTION

The ideal transfer function is:

$$V_{OUT} = 1V \cdot log I_1/I_2$$
 (5)

Figure 14 shows the graphical representation of the transfer over valid operating range for the LOG102.

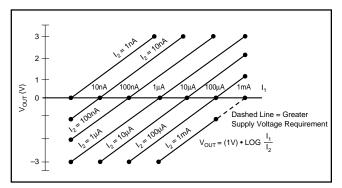


FIGURE 14. Transfer Function with Varying I2 and I1.

### **ACCURACY**

Accuracy considerations for a log ratio amplifier are somewhat more complicated than for other amplifiers. This is because the transfer function is nonlinear and has two inputs, each of which can vary over a wide dynamic range. The accuracy for any combination of inputs is determined from the total error specification.

#### **TOTAL ERROR**

The total error is the deviation (expressed in mV) of the actual output from the ideal output of  $V_{OUT} = 1V \cdot \log(I_1/I_2)$ . Thus,

$$V_{OUT (ACTUAL)} = V_{OUT (IDEAL)} \pm Total Error.$$
 (5)

It represents the sum of all the individual components of error normally associated with the log amp when operated in the current input mode. The worst-case error for any given ratio of  $I_1/I_2$  is the largest of the two errors when  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  are considered separately; and is shown in Table I. Temperature can affect total error.

| l <sub>2</sub>                    | I <sub>1</sub> (maximum error) <sup>(1)</sup> |                 |               |  |
|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------|---------------|--|
| (maximum<br>error) <sup>(1)</sup> | 10nA<br>(30mV)                                | 100nA<br>(25mV) | 1μΑ<br>(20mV) |  |
| 100nA<br>(25mV)                   | 30mV  | 25mV            | 25mV          |  |
| 1μΑ<br>(20mV)                     | 30mV  | 25mV            | 20mV          |  |
| 10μA<br>(25mV)                    | 30mV  | 25mV            | 25mV          |  |

NOTE: (1) Maximum errors are in parenthesis.

TABLE I.  $I_1/I_2$  and Maximum Errors.

#### **ERRORS RTO AND RTI**

As with any transfer function, errors generated by the function itself may be Referred-to-Output (RTO) or Referred-to-Input (RTI). In this respect, log amps have a unique property:

Given some error voltage at the log amp's output, that error corresponds to a constant percent of the input regardless of the actual input level.

#### LOG CONFORMITY

For the LOG102, log conformity is calculated the same as linearity and is plotted  $\rm I_1/I_2$  on a semi-log scale. In many applications, log conformity is the most important specification. This is true because bias current errors are negligible (1pA compared to input currents of 1nA and above) and the scale factor and offset errors may be trimmed to zero or removed by system calibration. This leaves log conformity as the major source of error.

Log conformity is defined as the peak deviation from the best fit straight line of the  $V_{OUT}$  versus log  $(I_1/I_2)$  curve. This is expressed as a percent of ideal full-scale output. Thus, the nonlinearity error expressed in volts over m decades is:

$$V_{OUT\ (NONLIN)} = 1V/dec \cdot 2Nm\ V$$
 (6)

where N is the log conformity error, in percent.

### INDIVIDUAL ERROR COMPONENTS

The ideal transfer function with current input is:

$$V_{OUT} = (1V) \bullet \log \frac{I_1}{I_2}$$
 (7)

The actual transfer function with the major components of error is:

$$V_{OUT} = (1V) (1 \pm \Delta K) \log \frac{I_1 - I_{B1}}{I_2 - I_{B2}} \pm 2Nm \pm V_{OS OUT}$$
 (8)

The individual component of error is:

 $\Delta K$  = gain accuracy (0.3%, typ), as specified in specification table.

 $I_{B1}$  = bias current of  $A_1$  (5pA, typ)

 $I_{B2}$  = bias current of  $A_2$  (5pA, typ)

N = log conformity error (0.04%, 0.15%, typ)

0.04% for n = 5, 0.15% for n = 6

 $V_{OS,OUT}$  = output offset voltage (1mV, typ)

n = number of decades over which N is specified:

Example: what is the error when

$$I_1 = 1\mu A$$
 and  $I_2 = 100nA$  (9)

$$V_{OUT} = (1 \pm 0.003) \log \frac{10^{-6} - 5 \cdot 10^{-12}}{10^{-7} - 5 \cdot 10^{-12}} \pm (2)(0.0004) 5 \pm 0.3 \text{mV}$$

$$\approx 1.003 \log \frac{10^{-6}}{10^{-7}} + 0.004 + 0.003 \tag{10}$$

$$= 1.003 (1) + 0.004 + 0.0003$$
 (11)

$$= 1.0073V$$
 (12)

Since the ideal output is 1.000V, the error as a percent of reading is

% error = 
$$\frac{0.0073}{1} \bullet 100\% = 0.73\%$$
 (13)

For the case of voltage inputs, the actual transfer function is

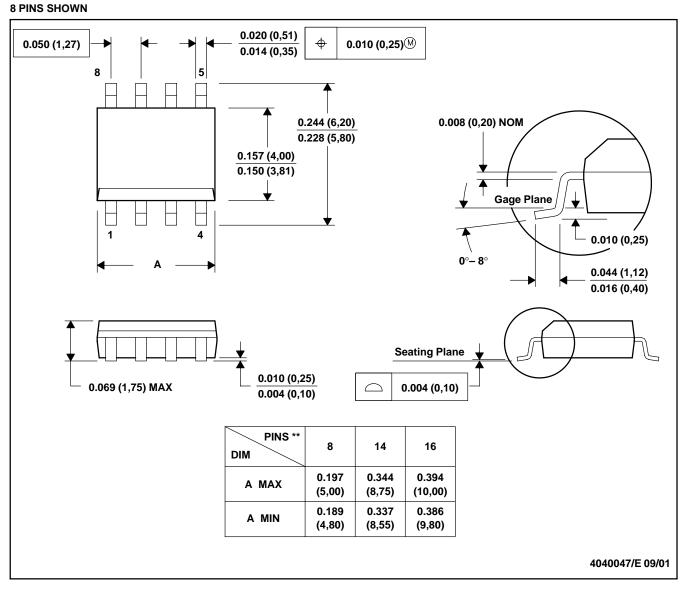
$$V_{OUT} = (1V)(1 \pm \Delta K) log \frac{\frac{V_1}{R_1} - I_{B_1} \pm \frac{E_{OS_1}}{R_1}}{\frac{V_2}{R_2} - I_{B_2} \pm \frac{E_{OS_2}}{R_2}} \pm 2Nn \pm V_{OSOUT}$$
(14)

Where  $\frac{E_{OS1}}{R_1}$  and  $\frac{E_{OS2}}{R_2}$  are considered to be zero for large values of resistance from external input current sources.



### D (R-PDSO-G\*\*)

### PLASTIC SMALL-OUTLINE PACKAGE



NOTES: A. All linear dimensions are in inches (millimeters).

B. This drawing is subject to change without notice.

C. Body dimensions do not include mold flash or protrusion, not to exceed 0.006 (0,15).

D. Falls within JEDEC MS-012

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Mailing Address:

Texas Instruments
Post Office Box 655303
Dallas, Texas 75265

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