January 1993



Fast Settling, Wideband Low-Gain Monolithic Op Amps

APPLICATIONS:

- fast, precision A/D conversion
- video distribution
- line drivers
- D/A current-to-voltage conversion
- photodiode, CCD preamps
- IF processors
- high-speed communications

DESCRIPTION:

The CLC400 is a high-speed, fast-settling operational amplifier designed for low-gain applications. Constructed using a unique, proprietary design and an advanced complementary bipolar process, the CLC400 offers performance far beyond that normally offered by ordinary monolithic op amps. In addition, unlike many other high-speed op amps the CLC400 offers both high performance and stability without the need for compensation circuitry—even at a gain of +1.

The fast 12ns settling to 0.05% and its ability to drive capacitive loads makes the CLC400 an ideal flash A/D driver. The wide bandwidth of 200MHz and the very linear phase ensure unsurpassed signal fidelity. Systems employing digital to analog converters also benefit from the use of the CLC400-especially if linearity and drive levels are important to system performance.

The CLC400 provides a simple, high-performance solution for video distribution and line driving applications. The 50mA output current and guaranteed specifications for 100 ohm loads provide ample drive capability and assured performance.

The CLC400 is available in several versions to meet a variety of requirements. A three-letter suffix determines the version:

CLC400AJP - 40°C to + 85°C 8-pin plastic DIP - 40°C to + 85°C 8-pin plastic SOIC CLC400AJE 8-pin hermetic CERDIP CLC400AIB - 40°C to + 85°C 8-pin hermetic CERDIP, MIL-STD-883, CLC400A8B - 55°C to + 125°C Level B CLC400ALC - 55°C to + 125°C dice dice qualified to Method 5008, CLC400AMC - 55°C to + 125°C MIL-STD-883, Level B

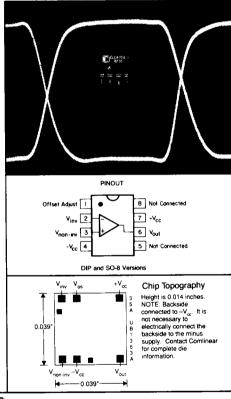
Operation

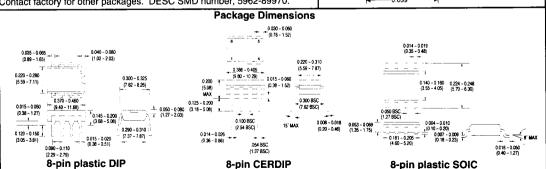
The CLC400 is based on Comlinear's proprietary op amp topology that uses current feedback instead of the usual voltage feedback. This unique design has many advantages over conventional designs (such as settling time that is relatively independent of gain), yet it is used in basically the same way (see the gain equations in Figures 1 and 2, page 4). However, an understanding of the topology will aid in achieving the best performance. The following discussion will proceed for the non-inverting gain configuration with the inverting mode analysis being very similar.

Contact factory for other packages. DESC SMD number, 5962-89970.

FEATURES:

- -3dB bandwidth of 200MHz
- 0.05% settling in 12ns
- low power, 150mW
- low distortion. -60dBc at 20MHz
- stable without compensation
- overload and short circuit protected
- ± 1 to ± 8 closed-loop gain range



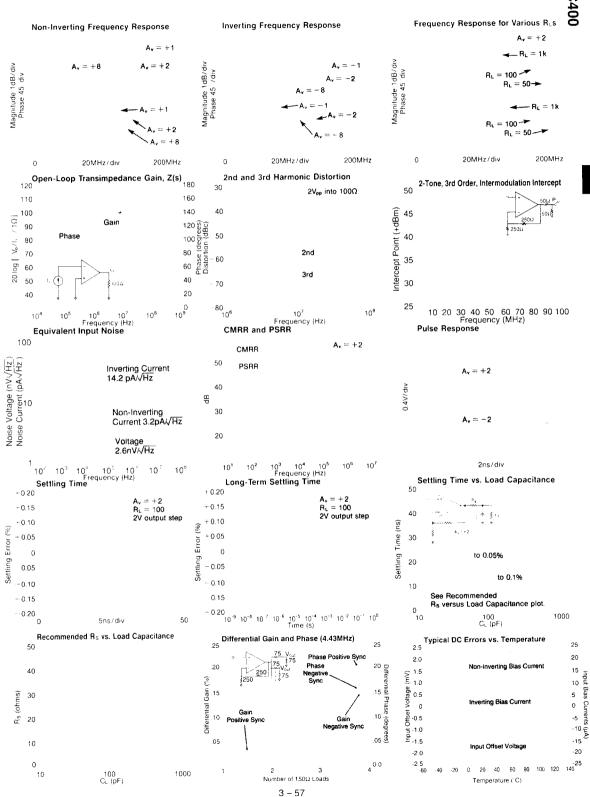


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PARAMETERS	CONDITIONS	TYP	MAX	MAX & MIN RATINGS			SYMBOL
Ambient Temperature	CLC400AJ/AI	+25°C	-40°C	+25°C	+85°C	<u> </u>	-
Ambient Temperature	CLC400A8/AM/AL	+25°C	−55°C	+25°C	+125°C	 	
FREQUENCY DOMAIN RESE †-3dB bandwidth gain flatness ¹	PONSE $V_{out} < 0.5V_{pp}$ $V_{out} < 5V_{pp}$, $A_v = +5$ $V_{out} < 0.5_{pp}$	200 50	150 35	150 35	120 35	MHz MHz	SSBW LSBW
† peaking † peaking † rolloff linear phase deviation	<40MHz >40MHz >40MHz <75MHz to 75MHz	0 0 0.6 0.2	0.4 0.7 1.0 1.0	0.3 0.5 1.0 1.0	0.4 0.7 1.3 1.2	dB dB dB °	GFPL GFPH GFR LPD
TIME DOMAIN RESPONSE rise and fall time settling time to $\pm 0.1\%$ $\pm 0.05\%$ overshoot slew rate $A_v = +2$ $A_v = -2$	0.5V step 5V step 2V step 2V step 0.5V step	1.6 6.5 10 12 0 700 1600	2.4 10 13 15 15 430	2.4 10 13 15 10 430	2.4 10 13 15 10 430	ns ns ns ns V/μs V/μs	TRS TRL TSP TS OS SR SR1
†2nd harmonic distortion †3rd harmonic distortion †3rd harmonic distortion equivalent input noise noise floor integrated noise	SPONSE 2V _{pp} , 20MHz 2V _{pp} , 20MHz >1MHz 1MHz to 200MHz	-60 -60 -157 40	-40 -50 -154 57	-45 -50 -154 57	-45 -50 -153 63	dBc dBc dBm(1Hz) μV	HD2 HD3 SNF INV
STATIC, DC PERFORMANCE *input offset voltage average temperature coefficie *input bias current average temperature coefficie *input bias current average temperature coefficie power supply rejection ratio *common mode rejection ratio *supply current	non-inverting nt inverting	2 20 10 100 10 50 50 50	±8.2 ±40 ±36 ±200 ±36 ±200 45 45 23	±5.0 	±9.0 ±40 ±20 ±100 ±30 ±100 45 45 45	mV μV/°C μΑ nA°C μΑ nA°C dB dB mA	VIO DVIO IBN DIBN IBI DIBI PSRR CMRR
MISCELLANEOUS PERFORM non-inverting input output impedance output voltage range common mode input range output current	resistance capacitance at DC no load for rated performance -40°C to +85°C -55°C to +125°C	200 0.5 0.1 ±3.5 ±2.1 ±70 ±70	>50 <2.0 <0.2 >3.0 >1.2 >35 >30	>100 <2.0 <0.2 >3.2 >2.0 >50 >50	>100 <2.0 <0.2 >3.2 >2.0 >50 >50	kΩ pF Ω V mA mA	RIN CIN RO VO CMIR IO

√ _∞ ±7∨		recommended gain range			±1 to ±8	
I _{out} output is short circuit protecte	d to			J J.	= 5	
ground, but maximum reliability will be			NOTES:			
maintained if lout does not exc	eed 70mA	*	AI, AJ	100% tested at + 2	25°C, sample at + 85°C.	
common mode input voltage	$\pm V_{cc}$	†	ÁJ	Sample tested at +		
differential input voltage	10Ÿ	Ť	Al	100% tested at + 2		
junction temperature	+ 175°C	*	A8	100% tested at + 2	25°C, -55°C, + 125°C.	
operating temperature range		t	A8		25°C, sample - 55°C, +125°C.	
Al/AJ:	- 40°C to + 85°C	*	AL,AM	100% wafer probe	tested at + 25°C to + 25°C	
A8/AM/AL:	55°C to + 125°C			min/max specificat		
storage temperature range	- 65°C to + 150°C	•	SMD	Sample tested at +	- 25°C, - 55°C, +125°C,	
lead solder duration (+ 300°C)	10 sec			•	,	
		not	e 1:	Gain flatness tests	performed from 0.1MHz.	

Comlinear reserves the right to change specifications without notice.



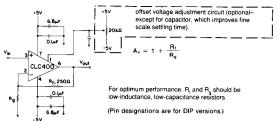


Figure 1: recommended non-inverting gain circuit

Understanding the Loop Gain

Referring to the equivalent circuit of Figure 3, any current flowing in the inverting input is amplified to a voltage at the output through the transimpedance gain shown on the plots on page 3. This Z(s) is analogous to the open-loop gain of a voltage feedback amplifier.

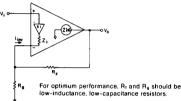


Figure 3: current feedback topology

Developing the non-inverting frequency response for the topology of Figure 3 yields:

$$\frac{V_o}{V_c} = \frac{1 + R_f / R_g}{1 - 1 / I G}$$
 Eq. (1)

where LG is the loop gain defined by,

$$LG = \frac{Z(s)}{R_f} \times \frac{1}{1 + Z_i / (R_f | + R_g)}$$
 Eq. (2)

Equation 1 has a form identical to that for a voltage feedback amplifier with the differences occurring in the LG expression, Equation 2. For an idealized treatment, set $Z_i = 0$ which results in a very simple LG = $Z(s)/R_i$ (Derivation of the transfer function for the case where $Z_i = 0$ is given in Application Note AN300-1). Using the Z(s) (open-loop transimpedance gain) plot shown on the previous page and dividing by the recommended $R_i = 250\Omega_i$, yields a large loop gain at DC. As a result, Equation 1 shows that the closed-loop gain at DC is very close to $(1 + R_i/R_g)$.

At higher frequencies, the roll-off of Z(s) determines the closed-loop frequency response which, ideally, is dependent only on $R_{\rm f}$. The specifications reported on the previous pages are therefore valid only for the specified $R_{\rm f}\!=\!250\Omega$. Increasing $R_{\rm f}$ from 250Ω will decrease the loop gain and bandwidth, while decreasing it will increase the loop gain possibly leading to inadequate phase margin and closed-loop peaking. Conversely, fixing $R_{\rm f}$ will hold the frequency response constant while the closed-loop gain can be adjusted using $R_{\rm o}$.

The CLC400 departs from this idealized analysis to the extent that the inverting input impedance is finite. With the low quiescent power of the CLC400, $Z_i\!=\!50\Omega$ leading to a drop in loop gain and bandwidth at high gain settings, as given by Equation 2. The second term in Equation 2 accounts for the division in feedback current that occurs between Z_i and $R_i||R_g$ at the inverting node of the CLC400. This decrease in bandwidth can be circumvented as described in "Increasing Bandwidth at High Gains."

DC Accuracy and Noise

Since the two inputs for the CLC400 are quite dissimilar, the noise and offset error performance differs somewhat from that of a standard differential input amplifier. Specifically, the inverting input current noise is much larger than the non-inverting current noise. Also the two input bias currents are physically unrelated rendering bias current cancellation through matching of the inverting and non-inverting pin resistors ineffective.

In Equation 3, the output offset is the algebraic sum of the equivalent input voltage and current sources that influence DC operation. Output noise is determined similarly except that a root-sum-of-squares replaces the algebraic sum. $R_{\rm s}$ is the non-inverting pin resistance.

Output Offset
$$V_o = \pm IBN \times R_s (1 + R_f/R_g) \pm VIO (1 + R_f/R_g) \pm IBI \times R_f$$
 Eq. (3)

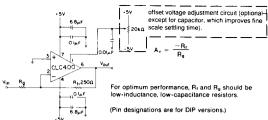


Figure 2: recommended inverting gain circuit

An important observation is that for fixed R_r , offsets as referred to the input improve as the gain is increased (divide all terms by $1+R_r/R_g$). A similar result is obtained for noise where noise figure improves as gain increases.

Selecting Between the CLC400 or CLC401

The CLC400 is intended for gains of ± 1 to ± 8 while the CLC401 is designed for gains of ± 7 to ± 50 . Optimum performance is achieved with a feedback resistor of 2500, with the CLC400 and $1.5k\Omega$ with the CLC401—this distinction may be important in transimpedance applications such as D/A buffering. Although the CLC400 can be used at higher gains, the CLC401 will provide a wider bandwidth because loop gain losses due to finite Zi are lower with the larger CLC401 feedback resistor as explained above. On the other hand, the lower recommended feedback resistance of the CLC400 minimizes the output errors due to inverting input noise and bias currents.

Increasing Bandwidth At High Gains

Bandwidth may be increased at high closed-loop gains by adjusting R_{t} and R_{g} to make up for the losses in loop gain that occur at these high gain settings due to current division at the inverting input. An approximate relationship may be obtained by holding the LG expression constant as the gain is changed from the design point used in the specifications (that is, $R_{t}=250\Omega$ and $R_{g}=250\Omega$). For the CLC400 this gives,

$$R_t = 350 - 50A_v$$
 and $R_g = \frac{350 - 50A_v}{A_v - 1}$ Eq. (4)

where A_v is the non-inverting gain. Note that with $A_v = +2$ we get the specified $R_1 = 250\Omega_v$ while at higher gains, a lower value gives stable performance with improved bandwidth.

Capacitive Feedback

Capacitive feedback should not be used with the CLC400 because of the potential for loop instability. See Application Note OA-7 for active filter realizations with the CLC400.

Offset Adjustment Pin

Pin 1 can be connected to a potentiometer as shown in Figure 1 and used to adjust the input offset of the CLC400. Full range adjustment of ±5V on pin 1 will yield a ±10mV input offset adjustment range. Pin 1 should always be bypassed to ground with a ceramic capacitor located close to the package for best settling performance.

Printed Circuit Layout

As with any high frequency device, a good PCB layout will enhance performance. Ground plane construction and good power supply bypassing close to the package are critical to achieving full performance. In the non-inverting configuration, the amplifier is sensitive to stray capacitance to ground at the inverting input. Hence, the inverting node connections should be small with minimal coupling to the ground plane. Shunt capacitance across the feedback resistor should not be used to compensate for this effect.

Parasitic or load capacitance directly on the output will introduce additional phase shift in the loop degrading the loop phase margin and leading to frequency response peaking. A small series resistor before the capacitance effectively decouples this effect. The graphs on the preceding page illustrate the required resistor value and resulting performance vs. capacitance.

Precision buffed resistors (PRP8351 series from Precision Resistive Products) with low parasitic reactances were used to develop the data sheet specifications. Precision carbon composition resistors will also yield excellent results. Standard spirally-trimmed RN55D metal film resistors will work with a slight decrease in bandwidth due to their reactive nature at high frequencies.

Evaluation PC boards (part no. 730013 for through-hole and 730027 for SOIC) for the CLC400 are available.