		Devices Connected/Referenced	
		AD8065	High Performance, 145 MHz <i>FASTFET™</i> Op Amp
<b>Circuits from the Lab</b> <sup>™</sup> Reference Circuits	analog, mixed-signal, and RF design challenges. For more information and/or support, visit www.analog.com/CN0272.	Δ1 184 / 5	Precision, Selectable Gain, Fully Differential Funnel Amp
		AD9629-20	12-Bit, 20 MSPS, 1.8 V ADC
			Ultralow Noise, LDO XFET® 2.5 V Voltage Reference with Current Sink and Source

# 2 MHz Bandwidth PIN Photodiode Preamp with Dark Current Compensation

## **EVALUATION AND DESIGN SUPPORT**

**Circuit Evaluation Boards** 

CN-0272 Circuit Evaluation Board (EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ)
System Demonstration Platform (EVAL-SDP-CB1Z)

**Design and Integration Files** 

**Schematics, Layout Files, Bill of Materials** 

#### **CIRCUIT FUNCTION AND BENEFITS**

The circuit shown in Figure 1 is a high speed photodiode signal conditioning circuit with dark current compensation. The system converts current from a high speed silicon PIN photodiode and drives the inputs of a 20 MSPS analog-to-digital converter (ADC). This combination of parts offers spectral sensitivity from 400 nm to 1050 nm with 49 nA of photocurrent sensitivity, a dynamic range of 91 dB, and a bandwidth of 2 MHz. The signal conditioning circuitry of the system consumes only 40 mA of current from the  $\pm 5$  V supplies making this configuration suitable for portable high speed, high resolution light intensity applications, such as pulse oximetry.

Other suitable applications for this circuit are as an analog optoisolator. It can also be adapted to applications that require larger bandwidth and less resolution such as adaptive speed control systems.

This circuit note discusses the design steps needed to optimize the circuit shown in Figure 1 for a specific bandwidth including stability calculations, noise analysis, and component selection considerations.

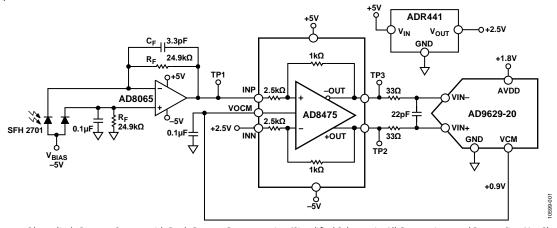


Figure 1. Photodiode Preamp System with Dark Current Compensation (Simplified Schematic: All Connections and Decoupling Not Shown)

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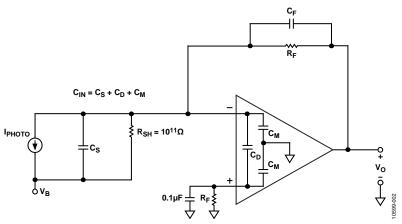


Figure 2. Wideband Photodiode Preamp Equivalent Circuit for AC and Noise Analysis

#### **CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION**

#### **Component Selection**

Photodiodes are high impedance sensors used to detect the intensity of light. Photodiodes do not have internal gain but can operate at much higher light levels than other light detectors.

Photodiodes operate either with zero bias (photovoltaic mode) or with a reverse bias (photoconductive mode). The most precise linear operation is obtained in the photovoltaic mode, while higher switching speeds are realizable when the diode is operated in the photoconductive mode at the expense of linearity. Under these reverse bias conditions, a small amount of current called dark current flows even when there is no illumination. The dark current error can be cancelled using a second photodiode of the same type in the noninverting input of the op amp as is shown in Figure 1.

Three factors influence the response time of a photodiode

- The charge collection time of the carriers in the depleted region of the photodiode
- The charge collection time of the carriers in the undepleted region of the photodiode
- The RC time constant of the diode circuit combination

Because the junction capacitance is dependent on the diffused area of the photodiode and the applied reverse bias, faster rise times are obtained with smaller diffused area photodiodes and larger applied reverse biases. The junction capacitance for the SFH 2701 PIN photodiode used in the CN-0272 circuit note is 3 pF typical, 5 pF maximum for 0 V bias. The typical capacitance is 2 pF for 1 V reverse bias and 1.7 pF for 5 V reverse bias. Measurements in the circuit were all taken with a reverse bias of 5 V.

Figure 2 shows an I/V converter with an electrical model of a photodiode. The basic transfer function is

$$V_{OUT} = \frac{I_{PHOTO} \times R_F}{1 + sC_F R_F}$$

Where  $I_{PHOTO}$  is the output current of the photodiode, and the parallel combination of  $R_{\text{F}}$  and  $C_{\text{F}}$  sets the signal bandwidth. Ideally, all of the output current from the photodiode passes through  $R_{\text{F}}$ , but all op amps have input bias currents that introduce errors on the output. Op amps with picoamps of input bias current and low input offset voltages are preferred to minimize the error. The AD8065 has only 2 pA of input bias current and only 400  $\mu V$  of input offset voltage.

The circuit is designed to have a full scale output of 5 V with a maximum photodiode current of 200  $\mu A$ . This determines the value of the feedback resistor to be

$$R_F = 5 \text{ V}/200 \, \mu\text{A} = 24.9 \, \text{k}\Omega$$

The stable bandwidth attainable with this preamp is a function of  $R_{\rm F}$ , the gain bandwidth product of the amplifier (65 MHz), and the total capacitance at the amplifier's summing junction,  $C_{\rm IN}$ . For this circuit, the SFH 2701 diode (OSRAM Opto Semiconductors GmbH) has a maximum capacitance of  $C_D=5$  pF. The AD8065 common-mode input capacitance is  $C_M=2.1$  pF, and the differential-mode input capacitance is  $C_D=4.5$  pF. Therefore, the total input capacitance is  $C_{\rm IN}=11.6$  pF.

It can be shown that the signal bandwidth resulting in a  $45^{\circ}$  phase margin,  $f_{(45)}$ , is defined by

$$f_{(45)} = \sqrt{\frac{f_{CR}}{2\pi \times R_F \times C_{IN}}} = \sqrt{\frac{65 \text{ MHz}}{2\pi \times 24.9 \text{ k}\Omega \times 11.6 \text{ pF}}}$$
= 5.7 MHz

Because the maximum attainable bandwidth is larger than the intended bandwidth, the AD8065 is a good candidate for the application, which is largely due to its large ratio of  $f_{CR}$  to  $C_{IN}$ .

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 $R_{\rm F}$  and  $C_{\rm IN}$  produce a pole in the loop transfer function of the amplifier that can result in peaking and instability (see Figure 3). Adding  $C_{\rm F}$  creates a zero in the loop transfer function that compensates for the effect of the pole and reduces the signal bandwidth.

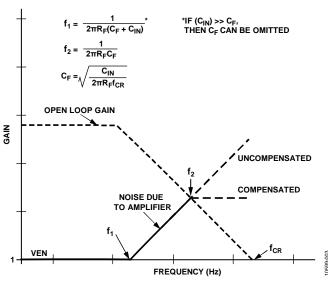


Figure 3. Compensation for Input Capacitance

The value of  $C_F$  that produces 2 MHz of bandwidth with the selected value of  $R_F$  is

$$C_F = \frac{1}{2\pi R_F f_2} = \frac{1}{2\pi \times 24.9 \text{ k}\Omega \times 2 \text{ MHz}} = 3.3 \text{ pF}$$

To determine if 3.3 pF is enough capacitance to stabilize the system, calculate the amount of capacitance needed to obtain 45° of phase margin. The value of  $C_F$  that produces  $f_{(45)}$  can be shown as

$$\begin{split} C_F &= \sqrt{\frac{C_{IN}}{2\pi \times R_F \times f_{CR}}} = \sqrt{\frac{11.6 \text{ pF}}{2\pi \times 24.9 \text{ k}\Omega \times 65 \text{ MHz}}} \\ &= 1.1 \text{ pF} \end{split}$$

Because the intended value of 3.3 pF is larger than the minimum value of 1.1 pF, the system is stable because increasing the capacitance increases the amount of phase margin.

#### **Noise Analysis**

Now that the components are selected, how much resolution is needed to convert the signal must be determined. As in most noise analyses, only the key contributors need to be identified. Noise sources combine in an RSS manner; therefore, any single noise source that is at least three-to-four times larger than any of the others dominates.

In the case of the photodiode preamp, the dominant sources of output noise are the input voltage noise of the op amp and the feedback resistor noise. The input current noise of the FET-input op amp is negligible. The shot noise of the photodiode (caused by reverse bias) is negligible because of the filtering effect of the shunt capacitance.

The resistor noise is calculated using the Johnson noise formula.

$$V_{R_E}RTO = \sqrt{4kTR_F \times 1.57 f_2} = 36 \,\mu\text{V rms}$$

where

k is Boltzmann's constant (1.38  $\times$  10<sup>-23</sup>J/K).

*T* is the absolute temperature in Kelvin.

The factor of 1.57 converts the approximate single-pole bandwidth into the equivalent noise bandwidth.

Note that the 0.1  $\mu F$  capacitor on the positive input of the preamp eliminates the high frequency noise produced by the second  $R_F$  resistor used to cancel the effects of bias current.

The primary source of output noise is due to the input voltage noise and the high frequency noise gain peaking that occurs between  $f_1$  and  $f_{CR}$ . If it is assumed that the output noise is constant over the entire range of frequencies and the maximum value for the ac noise gain is used, then

$$V_N RTO = V_N \left( 1 + \frac{C_{IN}}{C_F} \right) \sqrt{1.57 f_2} = 56 \,\mu\text{V rms}$$

where  $V_N$  is the input voltage noise of the amplifier (7 nV/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$ ).

The total rms noise referred to the output is then the RSS value of the two components

Total RTO Noise = 
$$\sqrt{(36)^2 + (56)^2} = 67 \,\mu\text{V} \text{ rms}$$

The total output dynamic range of the preamp can be calculated by dividing the full scale output signal (5 V) by the total output rms noise (67  $\mu$ V rms) and converting it to decibels, yielding approximately 97 dB.

Dynamic Range = 
$$20 \log(5 \text{ V/67 } \mu\text{V})$$
) = 97 dB

#### **ADC Selection**

Because the amount of noise output by the amplifier is known the maximum number of bits that can be resolved can now be calculated by dividing the full scale output by the rms noise.

Total RMS LSBs = 
$$5 \text{ V}/67 \mu\text{V} = 74,627$$

The number of rms LSBs can be converted into effective resolution.

*Effective Resolution* = 
$$log_2(74,627) = 16.19$$
 Bits

Noise-free code resolution can be obtained by subtracting 2.7 bits from effective resolution.

Depending on the end application, 13 bits may be more resolution than is actually needed. Because the intended application does not require this amount of resolution, it has been confirmed that the system meets the design requirements with 12 bits.

If the LSB size (in current) is smaller than the amount of dark current, as mentioned earlier, the dark current can be canceled using a second photodiode of the same type in the noninverting input of the op amp. For example, if 16 bits of resolution is needed, the amount of photocurrent detected is

$$I_{LSB} = \frac{I_{PHOTO}}{2^{N}} = \frac{200 \,\mu\text{A}}{2^{16}} = 3 \,\text{nA}$$

Since the maximum amount of dark current that flows in the SFH 2701 is specified at 5 nA, dark current compensation is needed in a 16-bit design.

This application uses a 12-bit ADC; therefore, the LSB size is 49 nA, and it does not require dark current compensation.

If the bandwidth is 2 MHz, a reasonable guideline is to select an ADC with a sampling rate 10 times greater or more. This means the ideal ADC must sample at a rate of 20 MSPS with 12 bits of resolution.

The AD9629-20 is a good candidate because it is a 20 MSPS ADC with 12 bits of resolution. However, it requires differential inputs, and the 5 V p-p single-ended signal must be converted to a 2 V p-p differential signal. This is easily accomplished by using the AD8475 differential funnel amplifier, which simplifies the single-ended-to-differential conversion, and provides commonmode level shifting and precision attenuation.

The AD8475 has only a 500  $\mu V$  maximum output offset, a 10  $nV/\sqrt{Hz}$  differential output noise, and -112 dB total harmonic distortion plus noise (THD + N).

The AD8475 can support a maximum output voltage of 2 V p-p up to 10 MHz, which is well within the design requirement of 2 MHz.

The gain of the AD8475 was determined by the analog input span of the AD9629-20 (2 V p-p) and the full scale output of the AD8065 (5 V p-p).

$$Gain = 2 \text{ V p-p/5 V p-p} = 0.4$$

An on-chip, common-mode voltage of 0.9 V is included in the AD9629-20 and is available from the VCM pin. This pin drives the VOCM pin of the AD8475 with the common-mode voltage of 0.9 V.

It is important to include the noise contribution of the AD8475 in this system. This is calculated by first multiplying the output noise of the AD8065 (67  $\mu V$  rms) by the gain of the AD8475 to get the contribution due to the AD8065.

Noise at AD8475 Output due to Noise of AD8065 =  $0.4 \times 67 \mu V \text{ rms} = 27 \mu V \text{ rms}$ 

The output noise due to the AD8475 is calculated by multiplying the output noise density  $(10nV/\sqrt{Hz})$  by the square root of the bandwidth set by the output filter.

Output Filter 
$$BW = \frac{1}{2\pi RC} = \frac{1}{2\pi \times 66 \Omega \times 22 \text{pF}} = 110 \text{ MHz}$$

Noise at AD8475 Output After Filter =

$$10 \text{ nV/}\sqrt{\text{Hz}} \times \sqrt{(1.57 \times 110 \text{ MHz})} = 131 \text{ }\mu\text{V rms}$$

The total noise at the output of the AD8475 after the filter is calculated by taking the RSS value of the two components is

Total Noise = 
$$\sqrt{(27)^2 + (131)^2}$$
 = 134 µV rms

With the noise contribution of the AD8475 incorporated into the calculations, the number of bits that can be resolved can be confirmed, and the total dynamic range can be calculated.

Total RMS LSBs = 
$$5 \text{ V}/134 \text{ \mu V} = 37,313$$
  
Effective Resolution =  $\log_2(37,313) = 15.19 \text{ Bits}$   
Noise-Free Code Resolution = Effective Resolution -  $2.7 \text{ Bits}$   
=  $15.19 \text{ Bits} - 2.7 \text{ Bits}$   
=  $12.49 \text{ Bits}$ 

Dynamic Range =  $20 \log(5 \text{ V}/134 \mu\text{V})) = 91 \text{ dB}$ 

#### **Test Results**

A laser diode was used to drive the D1 photodiode and generate a current. Photodiode D2 is used for dark current compensation and is covered with an optically opaque epoxy (EPO-TEK\* 320) to prevent output current from D2 when D1 is excited.

By forcing the photodiode to drive a larger than expected current, the approximate maximum rise and fall time of the AD8065 was 72 ns (see Figure 4).

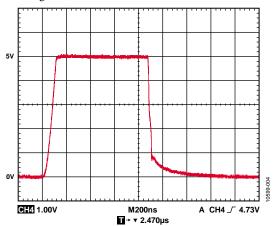


Figure 4. Pulse Response by Overdriving the Photodiode

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A more realistic rise and fall time of the system can be measured by moving the position of the laser diode so that it does not overdrive the photodiode current beyond 200  $\mu A.$  Figure 5 shows the measured rise and fall time of the AD8065 to be 282 ns and 290 ns, respectively. It is important to note that there is no ringing after the laser diode has turned off in both test cases because there is sufficient phase margin.

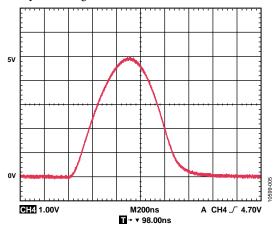


Figure 5. Pulse Response of Laser Diode

Now that the response of the system to a pulse of bright light has been tested, how the system responds to high speed changes in light intensity can be tested. An Agilent 33250A function generator was used to drive a laser diode with a 2 MHz sine wave. Figure 6 shows that the output of the AD8065 was able to successfully detect the small changes in light intensity, and Figure 7 shows a screenshot of the CN0272 Evaluation Software successfully receiving conversion data from the AD9629-20 ADC and plotting the data in a chart.

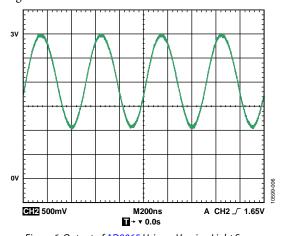


Figure 6. Output of AD8065 Using a Varying Light Source

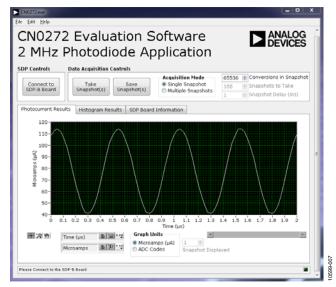


Figure 7. Screenshot of CN0272 Evaluation Software Digitizing a 2 MHz Varying Light Source

A complete design support package for this circuit note can be found at http://www.analog.com/CN0272-DesignSupport.

# **Applications in Pulse Oximetry**

A pulse oximeter is a medical device used for continuously measuring the percentage of hemoglobin (Hgb) saturated with oxygen and the pulse rate of a patient. Hemoglobin carrying oxygen (oxyhemoglobin) absorbs light in the infrared region (940 nm) of the spectrum; hemoglobin that is not carrying oxygen (deoxyhemoglobin) absorbs visible red light (650 nm). The percentage of oxygen in the body is determined by calculating the ratio between these two intensities of light.

In a pulse oximeter, two LEDs (one emitting red light and the other emitting infrared light) are rapidly and sequentially excited by two current sources and a photodiode is used to detect the intensity of the light from the LEDs. The circuit shown in Figure 1 can be synchronized with an LED current sink circuit, such as the CN-0125, to capture the light from each LED as it transmits through the tissue

#### **COMMON VARIATIONS**

The components selected were optimized for noise and cost; however, other combinations can be substituted.

Other suitable dual supply amplifiers are the ADA4817-1 and ADA4637-1. If single supply operation is required, the AD8605 or the AD8615 are suggested. These amplifiers all have less than 2 pA of input bias current, less than 400  $\mu V$  of input offset, and more than 10 MHz of unity-gain bandwidth products.

For applications requiring 100 MHz of bandwidth or greater, such as adaptive speed control, the combination of the ADA4817-1 *FastFET* amplifier, the ADA4932-1 low power differential ADC driver, and the 12-bit, 210 MSPS AD9634-210 ADC are suggested.

The ADA4817-1 has a high gain bandwidth product of 400 MHz and extremely small input capacitance of 1.4 pF. This makes the amplifier ideal for wideband transimpedance applications.

The ADA4932-1 driver can maintain 2 V p-p outputs up to 360 MHz, which is sufficient for the AD9634-210 ADC.

#### **CIRCUIT EVALUATION AND TEST**

This circuit uses the EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ circuit board and the EVAL-SDP-CB1Z SDP-B System Demonstration Platform controller board. The two boards have 120-pin mating connectors, allowing for the quick setup and evaluation of the performance of the circuit. The EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ board contains the circuit to be evaluated, as described in this note, and the SDP-B controller board is used with the CN0272 Evaluation Software to capture the data from the EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ circuit board.

#### **Equipment Needed**

The following equipment is needed:

- A PC with a USB port and Windows® XP (32 bit), Windows Vista®, or Windows® 7
- The EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ circuit board
- The EVAL-SDP-CB1Z SDP-B controller board
- The CN-0272 SDP Evaluation Software
- The EVAL-CFTL-6V-PWRZ dc power supply or equivalent 6 V/1 A bench supply
- A light source between 400 nm to 1050 nm

#### **Getting Started**

Load the evaluation software by placing the CN0272 evaluation software into the CD drive of the PC. Using **My Computer**, locate the drive that contains the evaluation software.

### **Functional Block Diagram**

See Figure 1 for the circuit block diagram and the EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ-PADSSchematic-RevC.pdf file for the complete circuit schematic. This file is contained in the CN-0272 Design Support Package.

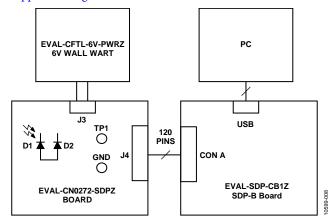


Figure 8. Test Setup Block Diagram

#### Setup

Connect the 120-pin connector on the EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ circuit board to the CON A connector on the EVAL-SDP-CB1Z controller board (SDP-B). Use nylon hardware to firmly secure the two boards, using the holes provided at the ends of the 120-pin connectors. With power to the supply off, connect a 6 V power supply to the +6 V and GND pins on the board. If available, a 6 V wall wart can be connected to the barrel connector on the board and used in place of the 6 V power supply. Connect the USB cable supplied with the SDP-B board to the USB port on the PC. Do not connect the USB cable to the Mini-USB connector on the SDP-B board at this time.

#### Test

Apply power to the 6 V supply (or wall wart) connected to the EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ circuit board. Launch the evaluation software and connect the USB cable from the PC to the Mini-USB connector on the SDP-B board.

Once USB communications are established, the SDP-B board can be used to send, receive, and capture parallel data from the EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ board.

Figure 9 shows a photo of the EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ evaluation board connected to the SDP board. Information regarding the SDP-B board can be found in the SDP-B User Guide.

Note that photodiode D2 is used for dark current compensation and is covered with an optically opaque epoxy (EPO-TEK 320) to prevent output current from D2 when D1 is excited.

Information and details regarding test setup and calibration, and how to use the evaluation software for data capture can be found in the CN-0272 Software User Guide.

Circuit Note CN-0272



Figure 9. EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ Evaluation Board Connected to the EVAL-SDP-CB1Z SDP-B Board

# **Connectivity for Prototype Development**

The EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ evaluation board is designed to use the EVAL-SDP-CB1Z SDP-B board; however, any microprocessor can be used to interface to the parallel peripheral interface (PPI) of the AD9629-20. In order for another controller to be used with the EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ evaluation board, software must be developed by a third party.

There are existing interposer boards that can be used to interface to the Altera and Xilinx field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs). The BeMicro SDK board from Altera can be used with the BeMicro SDK/SDP interposer using Nios Drivers. Any Xilinx evaluation board that features the FMC connector can be used with the FMC-SDP Interposer board.

300-66

#### **LEARN MORE**

CN-0272 Design Support Package:

http://www.analog.com/CN0272-DesignSupport

SDP-B User Guide

Ardizzoni, John. *A Practical Guide to High-Speed Printed-Circuit-Board Layout*, Analog Dialogue 39-09, September 2005.

Kester, Walt, Wurcer, Scott, Kitchin, Chuck. *High Impedance Sensors*, Practical Design Techniques for Sensor Signal Conditioning, Section 5, 1999.

MT-004 Tutorial, *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly Aspects of ADC Input Noise—Is No Noise Good Noise?* Analog Devices.

MT-031 Tutorial, *Grounding Data Converters and Solving the Mystery of "AGND" and "DGND"*, Analog Devices.

MT-035, *Op Amp Inputs, Outputs, Single-Supply, and Rail-to-Rail Issues*, Analog Devices.

MT-036 Tutorial, *Op Amp Output Phase-Reversal and Input Over-Voltage Protection*, Analog Devices.

MT-068 Tutorial, *Difference and Current Sense Amplifiers*, Analog Devices.

MT-101 Tutorial, Decoupling Techniques, Analog Devices.

CN-0125, High Precision, Low Power, Low Cost Pulse Oximeter Infrared and Red Current Sinks Using the ADA4505-2 10 µA Zero Input Crossover Distortion Op Amp, ADR1581 Precision Shunt Voltage Reference, and ADG1636 Dual SPDT Switches, Analog Devices.

DiffAmpCalc™: Differential Amplifier Calculator

Analog Photodiode Wizard

**Analog Devices Pulse Oximetry Products** 

SFH-2701 PIN Photodiode, OSRAM Opto Semiconductors GmbH

Photodiode Characteristics and Applications, Application Note, OSI Optoelectronics, 12525 Chadron Ave, Hawthorne, CA 90250

#### **Data Sheets and Evaluation Boards**

CN-0272 Circuit Evaluation Board (EVAL-CN0272-SDPZ)

System Demonstration Platform (EVAL-SDP-CB1Z)

AD8065 Datasheet

AD8475 Datasheet

ADR441 Datasheet

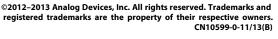
AD9629-20 Datasheet

#### **REVISION HISTORY**

11/13—Rev. A to Rev. B	
Changes to Figure 3	3
Changes to Figure 7	5
12/12—Rev. 0 to Rev. A	
Changes to Test Section	6

11/12—Revision 0: Initial Version

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