

Analog Fundamentals of the ECG Signal Chain

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Objectives

- Introduce Basic ECG Concepts
- Motivate the Need for TINA and SPICE Simulation for ECG Analysis
- Introduce Discrete Analog Functions of the ECG Signal Chain
- Motivate Need for Low Cost Integrated ECG Conditioning System
- Introduce the ADS1298 and Its Embedded ECG Circuitry and Functions





Analog Fundamentals of the ECG Signal Chain

- What is a Biopotential?
- What is ECG?
- The Einthoven Triangle
- Analog Lead Definitions, Derivations, and Purpose
- Modeling the Electrode Interface
- Input Filtering and Defibrillation Protection
- The INA front end
- AC vs. DC coupling
- Right Leg Drive (RLD) Amplifier Selection and Design
- The ECG Shield Drive
- Lead Off Detection
- PACE Detection
- INA post Gain + Analog Filtering
- A/D Conversion Options and Filtering
- ADS129x Introduction, Features, and Advantages







An electric potential measured between living cells







Every cell is like a little battery





Every cell is like a little battery





Every cell is like a little battery



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Biopotentials from cells — electrodes









A measure of the electrical activity of the heart





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ECG and blood pressure waves







What is ECG? **Actual ECG-normal**







ECG irregular tracings due to external artifacts







Modeling the electrode interface



Electrical characteristics include a **DYNAMIC** resistance,

capacitance, and offset voltage



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Lead I RA JA Lead III Lead II UN **Right Leg** Reference, RL

Analog Lead Derivation

ECG Einthoven Triangle, 1907

3 Body **Electrodes**, 3 Derived **Leads** = I, II, III

 $\begin{array}{rll} \textbf{LEAD I} &= \textbf{V}_{LA-RL} - \textbf{V}_{RA-RL} \\ \textbf{LEAD II} &= \textbf{V}_{LL-RL} - \textbf{V}_{RA-RL} \\ \textbf{LEAD III} &= \textbf{V}_{LL-RL} - \textbf{V}_{LA-RL} \end{array}$

Einthoven's Law

In electrocardiogram at any given instant the potential of any wave in Lead II is equal to the *sum* of the potentials in Lead I and III.





The **Wilson Central** (WCT) Provides Chest Lead Reference at Center of Einthoven Triangle





*Drawing Taken From Bioelectromagnetism, Jaako Malmivuo and Robert Plonsey





The Wilson Central is the AVERAGE potential between RA, LA, and LL





Chest Lead Signals Provide Different Information at Different Cross-Sectional Angles



Different Chest Leads Provide: *Unique ECG Signature *Enhanced Pattern Recognition *Isoelectric Point @ V₃-V₄





Augmented Leads Derived via WCT to Provide Enhanced Vector Information



✓ Each lead provides
 unique information about
 the ECG Output Signal

 ✓ Multiple Angles Give a Better Than 2-D *Picture* of the ECG Output

✓ AVR, AVL, AVF derived
 via midpoint of 2 limbs
 (resistor divider) with
 Respect to 3rd limb





Analog Lead Derivation IEC60601-2-51—Diagnostic

Table 109 - Connection of ELECTRODES for a particular LEAD

LEAD	Positive electrode	Negative ELECTRODE	
I	L	R	
II	F	R	
	F	L	
Vi (I = 16)	Ci (I = 16)	L, R, F	
-a∨R ^a	L, F	R	
aVR	R	L, F	
aVL	L	R, F	
aVF	F	R, L	
^a Other negative LEADS may be used too.			

Standards	Electrodes Needed
1 Lead	LA, RA

3 Lead	LA, RA, LL
6 Leads	LA, RA, LL
12 Leads	LA. RA. LL. V1-6



Table 110 - LEADS and their identification (nomenclature and definition)

Code 1 LEAD Nomenclature ^a	Definition ^b	Name of the LEAD
I	I = L-R	
П	II = F-R	Bipolar extremity LEADS
III	III = F-L	(Limb LEADS Einthoven)
aVR	aVR = R-(L+F)/2	Augmented LEADS Goldberger
a∨L	aVL = L-(R+F)/2	(From one of the ELECTRODES on the limbs to a REFERENCE POINT ACCORDING TO Goldberger)
a∨F	aVF = F-(L+R)/2	
V1	V1 = C1-CT	
V2	V2 = C2-CT	Unipolar chest LEADS Wilson
V3	V3 = C3-CT	From one of the ELECTRODES on the chest to the CENTRAL TERMINAL ACCORDING TO WILSON (CT) CT= (L+R+F)/3
V4	V4= C4-CT	
V5	V5 = C5-CT	
V6	V6 = C6-CT	





Different Lead Combinations Reveal Axis Deviation



Mean QRS Vector Points Toward Area of Infarction (Damage)







Different Lead Combinations Reveal Axis Deviation







ECG Input Filtering, Defibrillation Protection, and Isolation

Example: LEAD I Protection with Input Filtering







System Block Diagram



System Block Diagram







Key Features of the INA Front End

Important

Input Bias Current
Input Impedance
Input Current Noise
Input Voltage Noise
Power Consumption
DC/AC CMRR



Less Important

Input Offset Voltage
Input Offset Voltage Drift
Gain Error
Nonlinearity
PSRR

*DC Errors such as VOS are swamped out by the Offsets Introduced by the **Skin-Electrode** Contacts





Ideal Simulation Circuit with Current and Voltage Noise Sources







Simulation Showing Output-Referred Total RMS Noise vs. Bandwidth (G = 1-10)





TINA Simulations Showing Output-Referred ECG Signal (G = 1-10)





What is the MAX gain on the INA When Using a DC Removal Circuit?



(1) Electrode Offset MAX = +/- 300mV

(2) Swing of INA = V(+) - 50mV

(3) Integrator Compliance = (ECGp + ECGn + VOS + VOS_{electrode})* Gain < V_{CC} - V_{ref}





Simulation Circuit with Ideal INA and $V_{ref} = 2.5V$ as Integrator Input







ECG + Integrator Output of INA vs. Gain for $V_{ref} = 2.5V$




If it is Advantageous to Maximize Gain with a Low Noise INA up Front, Why not AC Couple?







TINA Simulation Circuit to Show AC-Coupled INA Gain Sweep





The INA Front End INA Gain = 1-1000 with $V_{REF} = 2.5V$ AC Coupled

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What is CMRR? Why is it Important in ECG?







What is CMRR? Why is it Important in ECG?







50/60Hz Common Mode Simulation Circuit with 1µF Coupling Capacitors Mismatched







Plot of CMRR vs. Frequency for .01 - .5% Coupling Capacitor Mismatch





Plot of ECG Response to 5Hz CM Input Signal (0%-.5%) CC Mismatch





Plot of ECG Response to 50/60 Hz CM Input Signal







The Right Leg Drive Amplifier



The RL Drive Amplifier Serves 2 Purposes: (1) Common Mode Bias (2) Noise Cancellation







Simulation Circuit for Response to 50/60 Hz CM Noise





The RL Drive Amplifier TINA

Simulation with NO RL Drive; CM Noise is Coupled to Output





TINA Simulation with RL Drive; Output Noise is Reduced





Analyzing the RLD Amplifier Loop



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Simulation Circuit for CMRR of RLD Loop





CMRR Plots vs. Gain in RLD Loop





RL Drive Stability Simulation Circuit





RL Drive Simulation Showing Instability in the RLD Feedback Loop







Using RLD Simulation to Compensate for 1/Beta Variation With Electrode Resistance





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RL Drive Stability Simulation Circuit of Feedback #1



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RL Drive Stability Simulation Circuit of Feedback #2



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INSTRUMENTS

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RLD Stability Circuit with Compensated Amplifier





RL Drive Stability Simulation of Separate Feedback

Paths







Compensated RLD Circuit Simulation of 1/Beta and AOL Intersection







Gain and Phase Margin Plots of Compensated RLD Amplifier





Step Response of RLD Amplifier and ECG Output









Shield drive eliminates leakage to ECG Inputs



Capacitance of cable can be 500 pF to 1.5 nF

• Isolation resistor Necessary for improved EMI/RFI filtering



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AC Stability Simulation Circuit for OPA333 as Shield Driver







AOL + 1/Beta Response of OPA333 Shield Drive and 1nF Cable Capacitance







TINA Simulation Circuit for Stabilized OPA333 Shield Driver





TINA Simulation Shows > 45 Degrees Phase Margin for OPA333 Shield Driver







Lead Off Detection



Lead Off Detection

Lead Off Differentiates a Bad Lead from an Arrythmia



•Pull up Resistors Force +IN to Comparator High When Lead is Removed

•Comparator Voltage triggers ALERT

•Lead Off Indicative of "Weak Lead"





Lead Off Detection

TINA Simulation Circuit for Lead Off Detect



TEXAS INSTRUMENTS


Lead Off Detection

TINA Simulation Results for Lead Off Detect





Pace Detection



Pace Detect

Pace Maker Pulse Specifications



a_p = Amplitude (2-700mV)

a_o = Overshoot

d_p = Pulse Width (.1-100us)

t₀ = Overshoot Time Constant (4-100ms)

Rise Time = 100us





Pace Detect

Pace Detect Circuitry in Parallel with ECG Signal Path







Pace Detect

PACE Signal Extracted From PACE + ECG Waveform



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Choice of High Gain + SAR ADC OR Low Gain + 24 bit Delta Sigma ADC



a) Using a low resolution ADC

b) Using a high resolution ADC

SAR + filter Option Results in Same Input-Referred Noise as the DC Coupled Delta-Sigma, but at what COST?





INA + Post Gain Amp With Differential Noise Source

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Noise Coupled Differentially Translates to Output





Use Filter Pro to Design a 50/60 Hz Notch





ECG Circuit with Added 50/60Hz Notch + Post Gain









Line Cycle Sampling with SAR converter on 'T' Wave at Common Frequency Multiples of 50/60Hz







Comparison of Delta Sigma ADC vs. Lower Resolution SAR ADC

Using a low resolution ADC00







Block Diagram of INA Gain, Simple RC Filter, and ADS1258



A single ADC in the MUX approach does not necessarily mean lower power due to the higher speed needed to perform MUX switching





ADS1298 Introduction



The ADS129x

The All-In-One ECG Chip







Input Amplifier Specifications for Single Channel AFE









- Noise is optimized with amplifier gain=4
- The 4uV p-p includes the crest factor of 6.6 to convert rms to pk-pk
- Noise is referred to the input









Programmable Data Rates for Low Power and High Resolution Modes

DR BITS OF CONFIG1 REGISTER	OUTPUT DATA RATE (SPS)	–3dB BANDWIDTH (Hz)	PGA GAIN = 1	PGA GAIN = 2	PGA GAIN = 3	PGA GAIN = 4	PGA GAIN = 6	PGA GAIN = 8	PGA GAIN = 12
000	32000	8398	521/5388	260/2900	173/1946	130/1403	87/917	65/692	44/483
001	16000	4193	86/1252	43/633	29/402	22/298	15/206	11/141	7/91
010	8000	2096	17/207	9/112	6/71	4/57	3/36	3/29	2/18
011	4000	1048	6.4/48.2	3.4/25.9	2.417.7	1.9/15.4	1.5/11.2	1.3/9.6	1.1/8.2
100	2000	524	4.2/29.9	2.3/15.9	1.6/11.1	1.3/9.3	1.0/7.5	0.9/6.6	0.8/5.8
101	1000	262	2.9/18.8	1.6/10.4	1.1/7.8	0.9/6.1	0.7/4.9	0.6/4.7	0.6/3.9
110	500	131	2.0/12.8	1.1/7.2	0.8/5.2	0.7/4.0	0.5/3.3	0.5/3.3	0.4/2.7

Table 3. Input-Referred Noise (μ Vrms/ μ V_{PP}) in High-Resolution Mode 5V Supply and 4V Reference

Table 4. Input-Referred Noise (μ Vrms/ μ V_{PP}) in Low-Power Mode 5V Supply and 4V Reference

DR BITS OF CONFIG1 REGISTER	OUTPUT DATA RATE (SPS)	–3dB BANDWIDTH (Hz)	PGA GAIN = 1	PGA GAIN = 2	PGA GAIN = 3	PGA GAIN = 4	PGA GAIN = 6	PGA GAIN = 8	PGA GAIN = 12
000	16000	4193	526/5985	263/2953	175/1918	132/1410	88/896	66/681	44/458
001	8000	2096	88/1201	44/619	29/411	22/280	15/191	11/139	7/83
010	4000	1048	17/208	9/103	6/62	4/52	3/37	2/25	2/16
011	2000	524	6.0/41.1	3.3/23.3	2.2/15.5	1.8/12.3	1.3/9.8	1.1/7.8	0.9/6.5
100	1000	262	4.1/27.1	2.3/14.8	1.5/10.1	1.2/8.1	0.9/6.0	0.8/5.4	0.7/4.4
101	500	131	2.9/17.4	1.6/9.6	1.1/6.6	0.9/5.9	0.7/4.3	0.6/3.4	0.5/3.2
110	250	65	2.1/11.9	1.1/6.6	0.8/4.6	0.6/3.7	0.5/3.0	0.4/2.5	0.4/2.2





MUX Selects Inputs to Front End PGA



- Normal Electrode
- Input Shorted
- RLD Input
- VDD
- TMP Sensor
 - Input Test Signal





Wilson Central Terminal



*The Same Amplifiers Used to Derive the WCT Voltage Can be Switched to Obtain the Augmented Leads







Input Amplifier and RLD Selection



*Compensation of RLD Amplifier is Based on the Gain Selected and the Number of Amplifiers in the Loop





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ADS129x

RLD Selection—8 Channel Case







ADS129x RLD with Multiple Devices



*With Multiple Devices the RLD Output Becomes the Amplified Difference Between RLD REF and the Summation of Multiple Lead Outputs



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Pace Detect







Lead Off Detection







Respiration Testing Measures the Change in Thoracic Impedance with Inhalation of O₂





*AC Current is injected into the Patient's Thorax and the Change in Voltage is Measured to Calculate Change in Impedance





Respiration Functions



Changing Phase Allows Measurement/Compensation for Complex Impedance Phase Shifts Between Modulator and Demodulator







Internal Voltage Reference

Simplified ADS129x internal reference block diagram



The Internal Band Gap Accuracy = 1% Internal REF can be Powered Down VREFP Can Be Supplied Externally





Thank You

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Questions?



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