High-current battery monitor circuit: 0–10A, 0–10kHz, 18 bit

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### Design Description

This single-supply current sensing solution can measure a current signal in the range of ±50 mA to ±10 A across a shunt resistor. The current sense amplifier can measure shunt resistors over a wide common-mode voltage range from 0V to 75V. A fully differential amplifier (FDA) performs the single-ended to differential conversion and drives the SAR ADC differential input scale of ±5V at full data rate of 1MSPS. The values in the *component selection* section can be adjusted to allow for different current levels.

This circuit implementation is applicable in accurate voltage measurement applications such as Battery Maintenance Systems, Battery Analyzers, *Battery Testing Equipment*, *ATE*, and Remote Radio Units (RRU) in wireless base stations.

### Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sense Resistor Current</th>
<th>INA Out, Amplifier Input</th>
<th>ADC Input</th>
<th>Digital Output ADS8910B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MinCurrent = ±50mA</td>
<td>Out = ±10mV</td>
<td>VoutDif = ±21.3mV</td>
<td>233, 56310-3FDCB6-5640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MaxCurrent = ±10A</td>
<td>Out = ±2V</td>
<td>VoutDif = ±4.3V</td>
<td>1885111272210-247AE-11272210</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Supply and Reference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vs</th>
<th>Vee</th>
<th>Vref</th>
<th>Vcm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.3 V &lt;Vs &lt;5.5V</td>
<td>0V</td>
<td>5V</td>
<td>2.5V</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: The values and components in the table are illustrative and may need to be adjusted for specific applications.*
Specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Error Analysis</th>
<th>Calculated</th>
<th>Simulated</th>
<th>Measured</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transient ADC Input Settling</td>
<td>&gt; 1LSB &gt; 38µV</td>
<td>6.6µV</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noise (at ADC Input)</td>
<td>221.8µV rms</td>
<td>207.3µV rms</td>
<td>227µV rms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bandwidth</td>
<td>10.6kHz</td>
<td>10.71kHz</td>
<td>10.71kHz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Design Notes

1. Determine the shunt sense resistor value and select the current sense amplifier based on the input current range and input common mode voltage requirements. This is covered in the component selection section.

2. Determine the fully differential amplifier gain based on the current sense amplifier output, the ADC full-scale range input and the output swing specifications of the fully differential amplifier. This is covered in the component selection section.

3. Select COG capacitors to minimize distortion.

4. Use 0.1% 20ppm/°C film resistors or better for good accuracy, low gain drift, and to minimize distortion.

5. The TI Precision Labs training video series covers methods for error analysis. Review the following links for methods to minimize gain, offset, drift, and noise errors: Error and Noise.

6. The TI Precision Labs – ADCs training video series covers methods for selecting the charge bucket circuit $R_{filt}$ and $C_{filt}$. These component values are dependent on the amplifier bandwidth, data converter sampling rate, and data converter design. The values shown here will give good settling and ac performance for the amplifier, gain settings, and data converter in this example. If the design is modified, select a different RC filter. Refer to Introduction to SAR ADC Front-End Component Selection for an explanation of how to select the RC filter for best settling and ac performance.
Component Selection for Current Sense Circuit

1. Choose the Rsense resistor and find the gain for the current sense amplifier (bidirectional current).

\[ R_{\text{sh}} = \frac{V_{\text{in(max)}}}{I_{\text{load(max)}}} = \frac{100mV}{10A} = 0.01\Omega \]

\[ \pm V_{\text{out(range)}} = \pm \frac{V_{\text{ref}}}{2} = \pm \frac{5V}{2} = \pm 2.5V \]

\[ G_{\text{INA}} = \frac{\pm V_{\text{out(range)}}}{I_{\text{load(max)}} \cdot R_{\text{sh}}} = \frac{\pm 2.5V}{10A \cdot 0.01\Omega} = 25V/V \]

2. Calculate the current sense amplifier output range.

\[ V_{\text{ina(outmax)}} = G_{\text{INA}} \cdot (I_{\text{load(max)}} \cdot R_{\text{sh}}) + \frac{V_{\text{ref}}}{2} = (20V/V) \cdot (10A \cdot 0.01\Omega) + \frac{5V}{2} = 4.5V \]

\[ V_{\text{ina(outmin)}} = G_{\text{INA}} \cdot (I_{\text{load(max)}} \cdot R_{\text{sh}}) + \frac{V_{\text{ref}}}{2} = (20V/V) \cdot (-10A \cdot 0.01\Omega) + \frac{5V}{2} = 0.5V \]

3. Find ADC full-scale input range and results from step 3.

\[ \text{ADC Full--Scale Range} = \pm V_{\text{REF}} = \pm 5V \]

4. Find FDA maximum and minimum output for linear operation.

\[ 0.23V < V_{\text{out}} < 4.77V \] from THS4551 output low / high specification for linear operation

\[ V_{\text{out,FDA,max}} = 4.77V - 0.23V = 4.54V \] Differential max output

\[ V_{\text{out,FDA,min}} = -V_{\text{out,FDA,max}} = -4.54V \] Differential min output

5. Find differential gain based on ADC full-scale input range, FDA output range and results from step 3.

\[ \text{Gain} = \frac{V_{\text{out,FDA,max}} - V_{\text{out,FDA,min}}}{V_{\text{ina(outmax)}} - V_{\text{ina(outmin)}}} = \frac{4.54V - (-4.54V)}{4.5V - 0.5V} = 2.77V/V \]

\[ \text{Gain} \approx 2.15V/V \text{ for margin} \]

6. Find standard resistor values for differential gain.

\[ \text{Gain}_{\text{FDA}} = \frac{R_{f}}{R_{s}} = 2.15V/V \]

\[ \frac{R_{f}}{R_{s}} = 2.15V/V = \frac{2.15k\Omega}{1k\Omega} = 2.15V/V \]

7. Find \( R_{\text{INA}}, C_{\text{INA}} \) for cutoff frequency.

\[ C_{\text{INA}} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot \pi \cdot f_{\text{INA}} \cdot R_{\text{INA}}} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot \pi \cdot 10kHz \cdot 10k\Omega} = 1.591nF \text{ or } 1.5nF \text{ for standard value} \]

\[ f_{\text{INA}} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot \pi \cdot C_{\text{INA}} \cdot R_{f}} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot \pi \cdot 1.5nF \cdot 10k\Omega} = 10.6kHz \]
Fully Differential DC Transfer Characteristics

The following graph shows a linear output response for inputs from –10A to +10A.

AC Transfer Characteristics

The bandwidth is simulated to be 10.5kHz and the gain is 32.66dB which is a linear gain of 43V/V (G = 20·2.15V/V).
Noise Simulation

The following simplified noise calculation is provided for a rough estimate. Since the current sense amplifier INA240 is the dominant source of noise, the noise contribution of the OPA320 buffers and THS4521 is omitted in the noise estimate. We neglect resistor noise in this calculation as it is attenuated for frequencies greater than 10.6kHz.

\[
 f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi \cdot R_{\text{INA}} \cdot C_{\text{INA}}} = \frac{1}{2\pi \cdot 10\Omega \cdot 1.5\text{nF}} = 10.6\text{kHz} 
\]

\[
 E_{\text{INA}240} = e_{\text{INA}240} \cdot G_{\text{INA}} \cdot K_n \cdot f_c = (40\text{nV} / \sqrt{\text{Hz}}) \cdot (20\text{V} / \text{V}) \cdot \sqrt{1.57 \cdot 10.6\text{kHz}} = 103.2\mu\text{V} 
\]

\[
 E_{\text{RADCIN}} = E_{\text{INA}240} \cdot G_{\text{FDA}} = (103.2\mu\text{Vrms}) \cdot (2.15\text{V} / \text{V}) = 221.8\mu\text{VRms} 
\]

Note that calculated and simulated match well. Refer to Op Amps: Noise 4 for detailed theory on amplifier noise calculations, and Calculating Total Noise for ADC Systems for data converter noise.

Transient ADC Input Settling Simulation

The following simulation shows settling to a 10-A DC input signal (ADC differential input signal +4.3V). This type of simulation shows that the sample and hold kickback circuit is properly selected. Refer to Final SAR ADC Drive Simulations for detailed theory on this subject.
Design Featured Devices:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Device</th>
<th>Key Features</th>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Similar Devices</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>differential input, Vref input range 2.5V to 5V</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GainError = 0.20%, Gain = 20V/V, wide common-mode = –4V to 80V</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VosDriftMax = 1.8 µV/°C, e_n = 3.3 nV/rtHz</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>150 µV, VosDriftMax = 5 µV/C, e_n = 7 nV/rtHz</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REF5050</td>
<td>3 ppm/°C drift, 0.05% initial accuracy, 4 µVpp/V noise</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ti.com/product/REF5050">www.ti.com/product/REF5050</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.ti.com/vref">www.ti.com/vref</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) The REF5050 can be directly connected to the ADS8910B without any buffer because the ADS8910B has a built-in internal reference buffer. Also, the REF5050 has the required low noise and drift for precision SAR applications. The INA240 offers high common-mode range and low gain error in current sensing solutions. The THS4551 is commonly used in high-speed precision fully differential SAR applications as it has sufficient bandwidth to settle to charge kickback transients from the ADC input sampling. The OPA320 is required to isolate the INA240 from any residual charge kickback at the inputs of the FDA.

Design References

See Analog Engineer’s Circuit Cookbooks for TI’s comprehensive circuit library.

Link to Key Files

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