

Low Power, Single Resistor Gain Programmable, Micropower Precision Instrumentation Amplifier

FEATURES

- Supply Current: 530 μ A Max
- Meets IEC 1000-4-2 Level 4 ESD Tests with Two External 5k Resistors
- Single Gain Set Resistor: $G = 1$ to 10,000
- Gain Error: $G = 10$, 0.4% Max
- Input Offset Voltage Drift: 0.3 μ V/ $^{\circ}$ C Max
- Gain Nonlinearity: $G = 10$, 20ppm Max
- Input Offset Voltage: 40 μ V Max
- Input Bias Current: 250pA Max
- PSRR at $A_V = 1$: 103dB Min
- CMRR at $A_V = 1$: 90dB Min
- Wide Supply Range: $\pm 2.3V$ to $\pm 18V$
- 1kHz Voltage Noise: 10nV/ \sqrt{Hz}
- 0.1Hz to 10Hz Noise: 0.28 μ V_{P-P}
- Available in 8-Pin PDIP and SO Packages

APPLICATIONS

- Bridge Amplifiers
- Strain Gauge Amplifiers
- Thermocouple Amplifiers
- Differential to Single-Ended Converters
- Differential Voltage to Current Converters
- Data Acquisition
- Battery-Powered and Portable Equipment
- Medical Instrumentation
- Scales

DESCRIPTION

March 2000

The LT[®]1168 is a micropower, precision instrumentation amplifier that requires only one external resistor to set gains of 1 to 10,000. The low voltage noise of 10nV/ \sqrt{Hz} (at 1kHz) is not compromised by low power dissipation (350 μ A typical for $\pm 15V$ supplies). The wide supply range of $\pm 2.3V$ to $\pm 18V$ allows the LT1168 to fit into a wide variety of industrial as well as battery-powered applications.

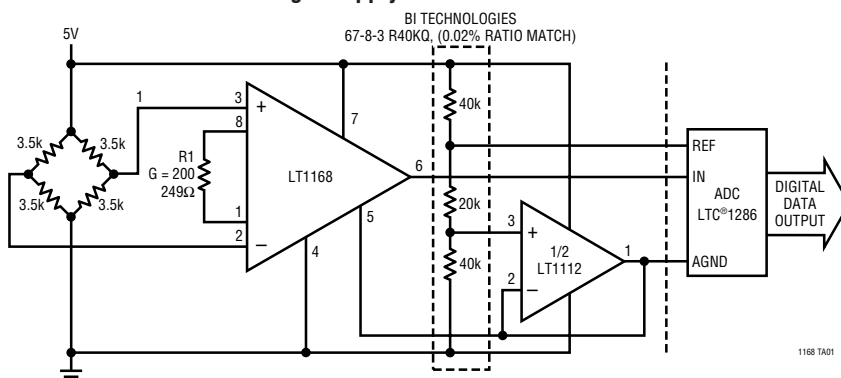
The high accuracy of the LT1168 is due to a 20ppm maximum nonlinearity and 0.4% max gain error ($G = 10$). Previous monolithic instrumentation amps cannot handle a 2k load resistor whereas the nonlinearity of the LT1168 is specified for loads as low as 2k. The LT1168 is laser trimmed for very low input offset voltage (40 μ V max), drift (0.3 μ V/ $^{\circ}$ C), high CMRR (90dB, $G = 1$) and PSRR (103dB, $G = 1$). Low input bias currents of 250pA max are achieved with the use of superbeta processing. The output can handle capacitive loads up to 1000pF in any gain configuration while the inputs are ESD protected up to 13kV (human body). The LT1168 with two external 5k resistors passes the IEC 1000-4-2 level 4 specification.

The LT1168 is a pin-for-pin improved second source for the AD620 and INA118. The LT1168, offered in 8-pin PDIP and SO packages, requires significantly less PC board area than discrete op amp resistor designs. These advantages make the LT1168 the most cost effective solution for precision instrumentation amplifier applications.

LT, LTC and LT are registered trademarks of Linear Technology Corporation.

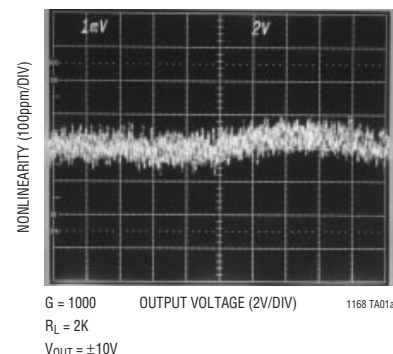
TYPICAL APPLICATION

Single Supply* Pressure Monitor



*See Theory of Operation section

Gain Nonlinearity



ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

(Note 1)

Supply Voltage	±20V
Differential Input Voltage (Within the Supply Voltage)	±40V
Input Voltage (Equal to Supply Voltage)	±20V
Input Current (Note 2)	±20mA
Output Short-Circuit Duration (Note 3)	Indefinite
Operating Temperature Range (Note 4) ..	-40°C to 85°C
Specified Temperature Range	
LT1168AC/LT1168C (Note 5)	-40°C to 85°C
LT1168AI/LT1168I	-40°C to 85°C
Storage Temperature Range	-40°C to 150°C
Lead Temperature (Soldering, 10 sec)	300°C

PACKAGE/ORDER INFORMATION

TOP VIEW

N8 PACKAGE
8-LEAD PDIP

S8 PACKAGE
8-LEAD PLASTIC SO

T_{JMAX} = 150°C, θ_{JA} = 130°C/W (N8)
T_{JMAX} = 150°C, θ_{JA} = 190°C/W (S8)

ORDER PART NUMBER

LT1168ACN8
LT1168ACS8
LT1168AIN8
LT1168AIS8
LT1168CN8
LT1168CS8
LT1168IN8
LT1168IS8

S8 PART MARKING

1168A	1168
1168AI	1168I

Consult factory for Military grade parts.

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

T_A = 25°C. V_S = ±15V, V_{CM} = 0V, R_L = 10k unless otherwise noted.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS (Note 6)	LT1168AC/LT1168AI			LT1168C/LT1168I			UNITS
			MIN	TYP	MAX	MIN	TYP	MAX	
G	Gain Range	G = 1 + (49.4k/R _G)	1		10k	1		10k	
	Gain Error	G = 1 G = 10 (Note 7) G = 100 (Note 7) G = 1000 (Note 7)		0.008 0.04 0.04 0.08	0.02 0.4 0.5 0.5		0.015 0.05 0.05 0.08	0.03 0.5 0.6 0.6	% % % %
	Gain Nonlinearity (Notes 7, 8)	V _O = ±10V, G = 1 V _O = ±10V, G = 10 and 100 V _O = ±10V, G = 1000		2 10 20	6 20 40		3 15 25	10 25 60	ppm ppm ppm
		V _O = ±10V, G = 1, R _L = 2k V _O = ±10V, G = 10 and 100, R _L = 2k V _O = ±10V, G = 1000, R _L = 2k		4 20 40	15 40 75		5 30 50	20 60 90	ppm ppm ppm
V _{OSt}	Total Input Referred Offset Voltage	V _{OSt} = V _{Osi} + V _{Oso} /G							
V _{Osi}	Input Offset Voltage	G = 1000, V _S = ±5V to ±15V		15	40		20	60	μV
V _{Oso}	Output Offset Voltage	G = 1, V _S = ±5V to ±15V		40	200		50	300	μV
I _{OS}	Input Offset Current			90	300		100	450	pA
I _B	Input Bias Current			40	250		80	500	pA
e _n	Input Noise Voltage, RTI	0.1Hz to 10Hz, G = 1 0.1Hz to 10Hz, G = 1000		2.00 0.28			2.00 0.28		μV _{p-p} μV _{p-p}
	Input Noise Voltage Density, RTI	f ₀ = 1kHz		10	15		10	15	nV/√Hz
	Output Noise Voltage Density, RTI	f ₀ = 1kHz (Note 9)		165	220		165	220	nV/√Hz
i _n	Input Noise Current	f ₀ = 0.1Hz to 10Hz		5			5		pA _{p-p}
	Input Noise Current Density	f ₀ = 10Hz		74			74		fA/√Hz
R _{IN}	Input Resistance	V _{IN} = ±10V	300	1000		200	1000		GΩ

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$, $V_S = \pm 15\text{V}$, $V_{CM} = 0\text{V}$, $R_L = 10\text{k}$ unless otherwise noted.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS (Note 6)	LT1168AC/LT1168AI			LT1168C/LT1168I			UNITS
			MIN	TYP	MAX	MIN	TYP	MAX	
$C_{IN(DIFF)}$	Differential Input Capacitance	$f_0 = 100\text{kHz}$		1.6			1.6		pF
$C_{IN(CM)}$	Common Mode Input Capacitance	$f_0 = 100\text{kHz}$		1.6			1.6		pF
V_{CM}	Input Voltage Range	$G = 1$, Other Input Grounded $V_S = \pm 2.3\text{V to } \pm 5\text{V}$ $V_S = \pm 5\text{V to } \pm 18\text{V}$	$-V_S + 1.9$ $-V_S + 1.9$		$+V_S - 1.2$ $+V_S - 1.4$	$-V_S + 1.9$ $-V_S + 1.9$		$+V_S - 1.2$ $+V_S - 1.4$	V V
CMRR	Common Mode Rejection Ratio	1k Source Imbalance, $V_{CM} = 0\text{V to } \pm 10\text{V}$ $G = 1$ $G = 10$ $G = 100$ $G = 1000$		90 106 120 126	95 115 135 140		85 100 110 120	95 115 135 140	dB dB dB dB
PSRR	Power Supply Rejection Ratio	$V_S = \pm 2.3\text{V to } \pm 18\text{V}$ $G = 1$ $G = 10$ $G = 100$ $G = 1000$		103 122 131 135	108 128 145 150		100 118 126 130	108 128 145 150	dB dB dB dB
I_S	Supply Current	$V_S = \pm 2.3\text{V to } \pm 18\text{V}$		350	530		350	530	μA
V_{OUT}	Output Voltage Swing	$R_L = 10\text{k}$ $V_S = \pm 2.3\text{V to } \pm 5\text{V}$ $V_S = \pm 5\text{V to } \pm 18\text{V}$	$-V_S + 1.1$ $-V_S + 1.2$		$+V_S - 1.2$ $+V_S - 1.3$	$-V_S + 1.1$ $-V_S + 1.2$		$+V_S - 1.2$ $+V_S - 1.3$	V V
I_{OUT}	Output Current		20	27		20	27		mA
BW	Bandwidth	$G = 1$ $G = 10$ $G = 100$ $G = 1000$		400 200 13 1			400 200 13 1		kHz kHz kHz kHz
SR	Slew Rate	$G = 1$, $V_{OUT} = \pm 10\text{V}$	0.3	0.5		0.3	0.5		$\text{V}/\mu\text{s}$
	Settling Time to 0.01%	10V Step $G = 1$ to 100 $G = 1000$		30 200			30 200		μs μs
REFIN	Reference Input Resistance			60			60		$\text{k}\Omega$
I_{REFIN}	Reference Input Current	$V_{REF} = 0\text{V}$		18			18		μA
V_{REF}	Reference Voltage Range		$-V_S + 1.6$		$+V_S - 1.6$	$-V_S + 1.6$		$+V_S - 1.6$	V
A_{VREF}	Reference Gain to Output			1 ± 0.0001			1 ± 0.0001		

The ● denotes the specifications which apply over the $0^\circ\text{C} \leq T_A \leq 70^\circ\text{C}$ temperature range. $V_S = \pm 15\text{V}$, $V_{CM} = 0\text{V}$, $R_L = 10\text{k}$ unless otherwise noted.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS (Note 6)		LT1168AC			LT1168C			UNITS
				MIN	TYP	MAX	MIN	TYP	MAX	
	Gain Error	$G = 1$ $G = 10$ (Note 7) $G = 100$ (Note 7) $G = 1000$ (Note 7)	● ● ● ●		0.01 0.40 0.45 0.50	0.03 1.5 1.6 1.7		0.012 0.500 0.550 0.600	0.04 1.6 1.7 1.8	% % % %
	Gain Nonlinearity (Notes 7, 8)	$V_{OUT} = \pm 10\text{V}$, $G = 1$ $V_{OUT} = \pm 10\text{V}$, $G = 10$ and 100 $V_{OUT} = \pm 10\text{V}$, $G = 1000$	● ● ●		2 7 25	15 30 60		3 10 30	20 35 80	ppm ppm ppm
G/T	Gain vs Temperature	$G < 1000$ (Note 7)	●		100	200		100	200	ppm/ $^\circ\text{C}$

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS The ● denotes the specifications which apply over the 0°C ≤ T_A ≤ 70°C temperature range. V_S = ±15V, V_{CM} = 0V, R_L = 10k unless otherwise noted.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS (Note 6)	LT1168AC			LT1168C			UNITS	
			MIN	TYP	MAX	MIN	TYP	MAX		
V _{OSt}	Total Input Referred Offset Voltage	V _{OSt} = V _{OStI} + V _{OStO} /G								
V _{OStI}	Input Offset Voltage	V _S = ±5V to ±15V	●	18	60		23	80	μV	
V _{OStH}	Input Offset Voltage Hysteresis	(Notes 7, 10)	●	3.0			3.0		μV	
V _{OStO}	Output Offset Voltage	V _S = ±5V to ±15V	●	60	380		70	500	μV	
V _{OStOH}	Output Offset Voltage Hysteresis	(Notes 7, 10)	●	30			30		μV	
V _{OStI} /T	Input Offset Drift (RTI)	(Note 9)	●	0.05	0.3		0.06	0.4	μV/°C	
V _{OStO} /T	Output Offset Drift	(Note 9)	●	0.7	3		0.8	4	μV/°C	
I _{OSt}	Input Offset Current		●	100	400		120	550	pA	
I _{OSt} /T	Input Offset Current Drift		●	0.3			0.4		pA/°C	
I _B	Input Bias Current		●	65	350		105	600	pA	
I _B /T	Input Bias Current Drift		●	1.4			1.4		pA/°C	
V _{CM}	Input Voltage Range	G = 1, Other Input Grounded V _S = ±2.3V to ±5V V _S = ±5V to ±18V	●	-V _S + 2.1	+V _S - 1.3	-V _S + 2.1	+V _S - 1.3		V	
			●	-V _S + 2.1	+V _S - 1.4	-V _S + 2.1	+V _S - 1.4		V	
CMRR	Common Mode Rejection Ratio	1k Source Imbalance, V _{CM} = 0V to ±10V G = 1 G = 10 G = 100 G = 1000	●	88	92		83	92	dB	
			●	100	110		97	110	dB	
			●	115	120		113	120	dB	
			●	117	135		114	135	dB	
PSRR	Power Supply Rejection Ratio	V _S = ±2.3V to ±18V G = 1 G = 10 G = 100 G = 1000	●	102	115		98	115	dB	
			●	123	130		118	130	dB	
			●	127	135		124	135	dB	
			●	129	145		126	145	dB	
I _S	Supply Current	V _S = ±2.3V to ±18V	●		390	615		390	615	μA
V _{OUT}	Output Voltage Swing	R _L = 10k V _S = ±2.3V to ±5V V _S = ±5V to ±18V	●	-V _S + 1.4	+V _S - 1.3	-V _S + 1.4	+V _S - 1.3		V	
			●	-V _S + 1.6	+V _S - 1.5	-V _S + 1.6	+V _S - 1.5		V	
I _{OUT}	Output Current		●	16	21		16	21	mA	
SR	Slew Rate	G = 1, V _{OUT} = ±10V	●	0.25	0.48		0.25	0.48	V/μs	
V _{REF}	Voltage Range	(Note 9)	●	-V _S + 1.6	+V _S - 1.6	-V _S + 1.6	+V _S - 1.6		V	

The ● denotes the specifications which apply over the -40°C ≤ T_A ≤ 85°C temperature range. V_S = ±15V, V_{CM} = 0V, R_L = 10k unless otherwise noted. (Note 8)

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS (Note 6)	LT1168AI			LT1168I			UNITS
			MIN	TYP	MAX	MIN	TYP	MAX	
	Gain Error	G = 1	●	0.014	0.04		0.015	0.05	%
		G = 10 (Note 7)	●	0.600	1.9		0.700	2.0	%
		G = 100 (Note 7)	●	0.600	2.0		0.700	2.1	%
		G = 1000 (Note 7)	●	0.600	2.1		0.700	2.2	%
G _N	Gain Nonlinearity (Notes 7, 8)	V _O = ±10V, G = 1	●	3	20		5	25	ppm
		V _O = ±10V, G = 10 and 100	●	10	35		15	40	ppm
		V _O = ±10V, G = 1000	●	30	70		35	100	ppm
G/T	Gain vs Temperature	G < 1000 (Note 7)	●	100	200		100	200	ppm/°C

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The ● denotes the specifications which apply over the $-40^{\circ}\text{C} \leq T_A \leq 85^{\circ}\text{C}$ temperature range. $V_S = \pm 15\text{V}$, $V_{\text{CM}} = 0\text{V}$, $R_L = 10\text{k}$ unless otherwise noted. (Note 5)

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS (Note 6)	LT1168AI			LT1168I			UNITS	
			MIN	TYP	MAX	MIN	TYP	MAX		
V_{OST}	Total Input Referred Offset Voltage	$V_{\text{OST}} = V_{\text{OSI}} + V_{\text{OSO}}/G$								
V_{OSI}	Input Offset Voltage	●	20	75		25	100		μV	
V_{OSIH}	Input Offset Voltage Hysteresis	(Notes 7, 10) ●	3.0			3.0			μV	
V_{OSO}	Output Offset Voltage	●	180	500		200	600		μV	
V_{OSOH}	Output Offset Voltage Hysteresis	(Notes 7, 10) ●	30			30			μV	
V_{OSI}/T	Input Offset Drift (RTI)	(Note 9) ●	0.05	0.3		0.06	0.4		$\mu\text{V}/^{\circ}\text{C}$	
V_{OSO}/T	Output Offset Drift	(Note 9) ●	0.8	5		1	6		$\mu\text{V}/^{\circ}\text{C}$	
I_{OS}	Input Offset Current	●	110	550		120	700		pA	
I_{OS}/T	Input Offset Current Drift	●	0.3			0.3			$\text{pA}/^{\circ}\text{C}$	
I_{B}	Input Bias Current	●	120	500		220	800		pA	
I_{B}/T	Input Bias Current Drift	●	1.4			1.4			$\text{pA}/^{\circ}\text{C}$	
V_{CM}	Input Voltage Range	$V_S = \pm 2.3\text{V to } \pm 5\text{V}$	● $-V_S + 2.1$	$+V_S - 1.3$		$-V_S + 2.1$	$+V_S - 1.3$		V	
		$V_S = \pm 5\text{V to } \pm 18\text{V}$	● $-V_S + 2.1$	$+V_S - 1.4$		$-V_S + 2.1$	$+V_S - 1.4$		V	
CMRR	Common Mode Rejection Ratio	1k Source Imbalance, $V_{\text{CM}} = 0\text{V to } \pm 10\text{V}$ G = 1 G = 10 G = 100 G = 1000	●	86	90		81	90		dB
			●	98	105		95	105		dB
			●	114	118		112	118		dB
			●	116	133		112	133		dB
PSRR	Power Supply Rejection Ratio	$V_S = \pm 2.3\text{V to } \pm 18\text{V}$ G = 1 G = 10 G = 100 G = 1000	●	100	112		95	112		dB
			●	120	125		115	125		dB
			●	125	132		120	132		dB
			●	128	140		125	140		dB
I_{S}	Supply Current	●	420	650		420	650		μA	
V_{OUT}	Output Voltage Swing	$V_S = \pm 2.3\text{V to } \pm 5\text{V}$	● $-V_S + 1.4$	$+V_S - 1.3$		$-V_S + 1.4$	$+V_S - 1.3$		V	
		$V_S = \pm 5\text{V to } \pm 18\text{V}$	● $-V_S + 1.6$	$+V_S - 1.5$		$-V_S + 1.6$	$+V_S - 1.5$		V	
I_{OUT}	Output Current	●	15	20		15	20		mA	
SR	Slew Rate	●	0.22	0.41		0.22	0.42		$\text{V}/\mu\text{s}$	
V_{REF}	Voltage Range	(Note 9) ●	$-V_S + 1.6$	$+V_S - 1.6$		$-V_S + 1.6$	$+V_S - 1.6$		V	

Note 1: Absolute Maximum Ratings are those values beyond which the life of a device may be impaired.

Note 2: If the input voltage exceeds the supplies, the input current should be limited to less than 20mA.

Note 3: A heat sink may be required to keep the junction temperature below absolute maximum.

Note 4: The LT1168AC/LT1168C are guaranteed functional over the operating temperature range of -40°C and 85°C .

Note 5: The LT1168AC/LT1168C are guaranteed to meet specified performance from 0°C to 70°C . The LT1168AC/LT1168C are designed, characterized and expected to meet specified performance from -40°C and 85°C but are not tested or QA sampled at these temperatures. The LT1168AI/LT1168I are guaranteed to meet specified performance from -40°C to 85°C .

Note 6: Typical parameters are defined as the 60% of the yield parameter distribution.

Note 7: Does not include the tolerance of the external gain resistor R_G .

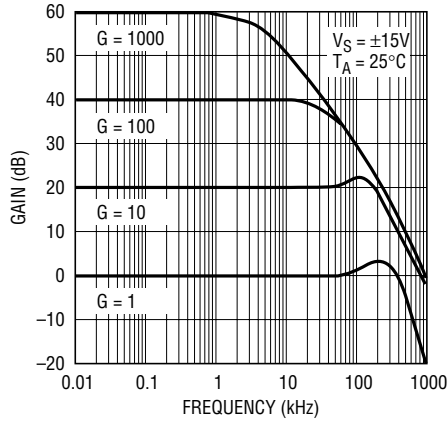
Note 8: This parameter is measured in a high speed automatic tester that does not measure the thermal effects with longer time constants. The magnitude of these thermal effects are dependent on the package used, heat sinking and air flow conditions.

Note 9: This parameter is not 100% tested.

Note 10: Hysteresis in offset voltage is created by package stress that differs depending on whether the IC was previously at a higher or lower temperature. Offset voltage hysteresis is always measured at 25°C , but the IC is cycled to 85°C I-grade (or 70°C C-grade) or -40°C I-grade (0°C C-grade) before successive measurement. 60% of the parts will pass the typical limit on the data sheet.

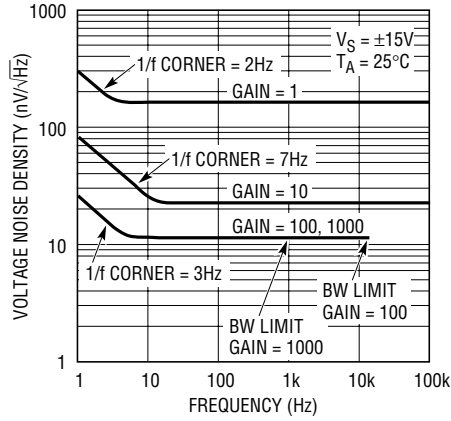
TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Gain vs Frequency



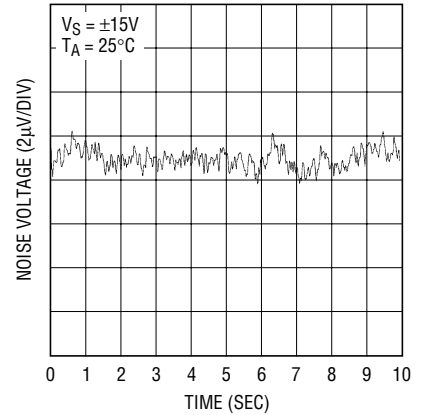
LT1168 • G02

Voltage Noise Density vs Frequency



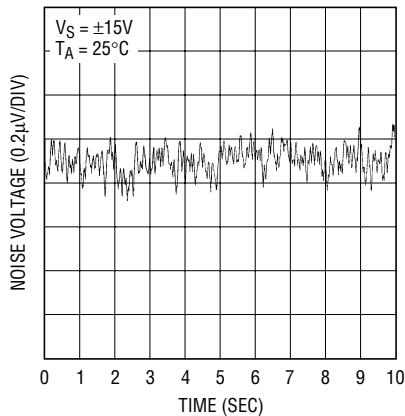
LT1168 • G01

0.1Hz to 10Hz Noise Voltage, G = 1



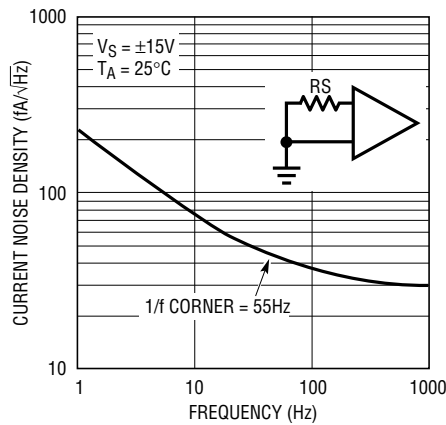
1168 G11

0.1Hz to 10Hz Noise Voltage, RTI G = 1000



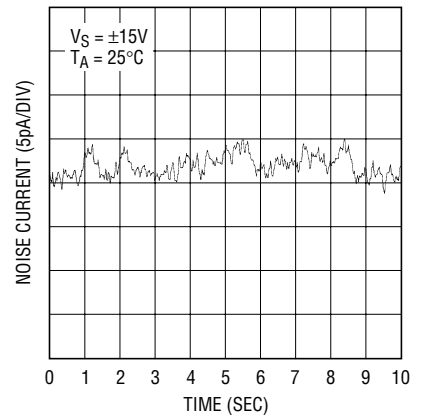
1168 G12

Current Noise Density vs Frequency



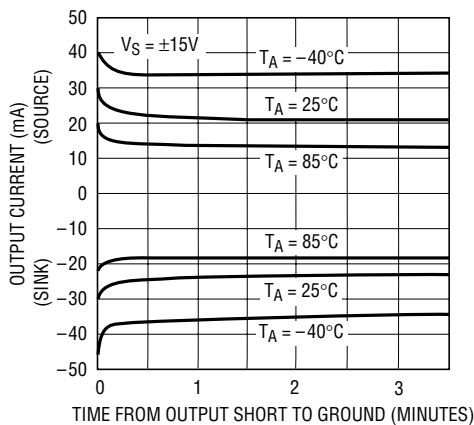
1168 G13

0.1Hz to 10Hz Current Noise



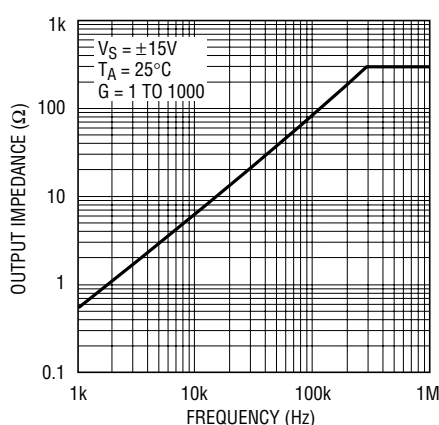
1168 G14

Short-Circuit Current vs Time



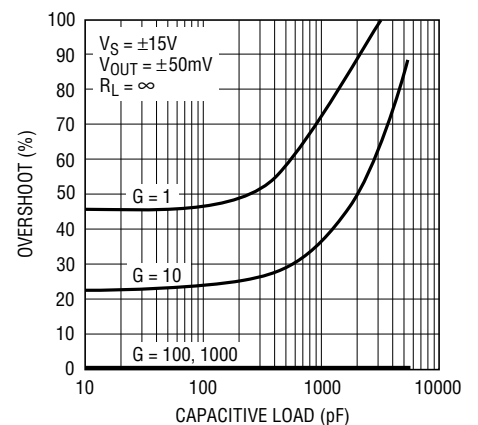
1168 G15

Output Impedance vs Frequency



1168 G17

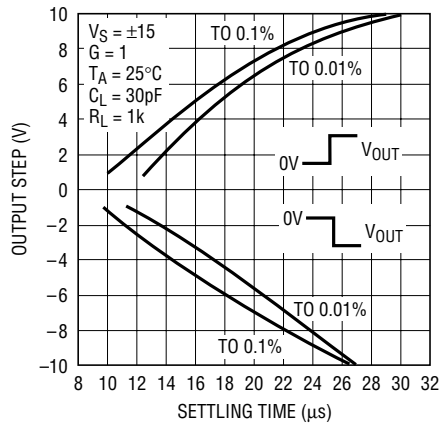
Overshoot vs Capacitive Load



1168 G16

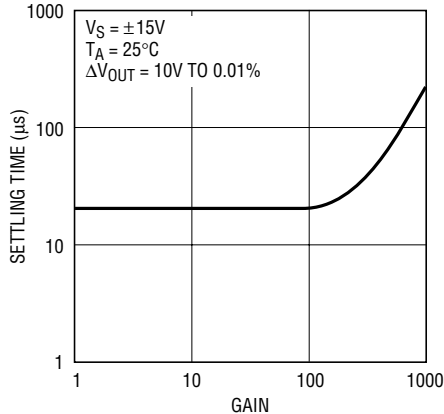
TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Settling Time vs Step Size



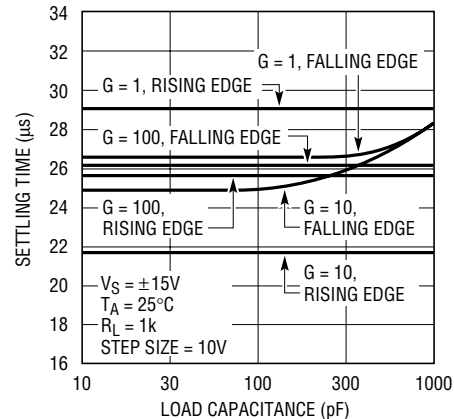
1168 G19

Settling Time vs Gain



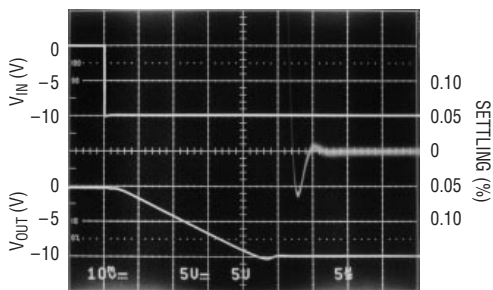
1168 G18

Settling Time (0.1%) vs Load Capacitance



1168 G25

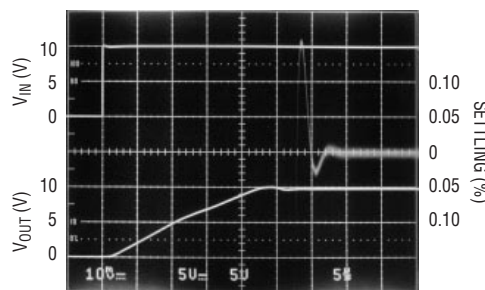
Falling Edge Settling Time (0.10%)



1168 G29

$t = 0$
 $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$
 $V_S = \pm 15\text{V}$
 $R_L = 2\text{k}$
 $C_L = 15\text{pF}$

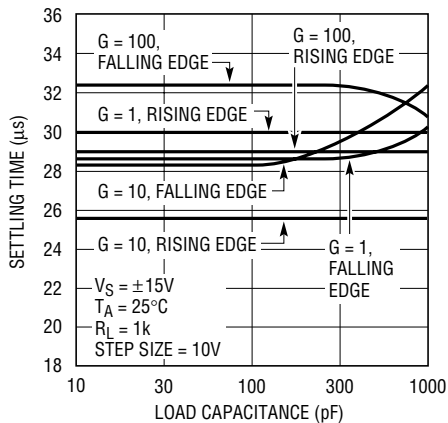
Rising Edge Settling Time (0.10%)



1168 G28

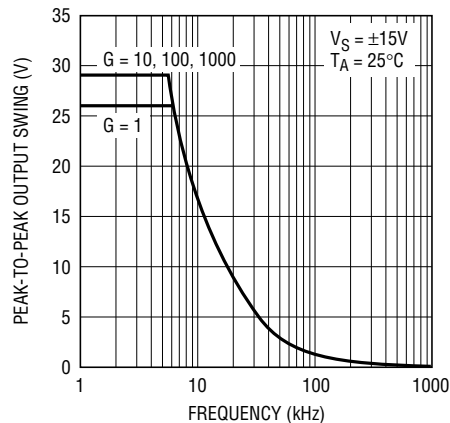
$t = 0$
 $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$
 $V_S = \pm 15\text{V}$
 $R_L = 2\text{k}$
 $C_L = 15\text{pF}$

Settling Time (0.01%) vs Load Capacitance



1168 G26

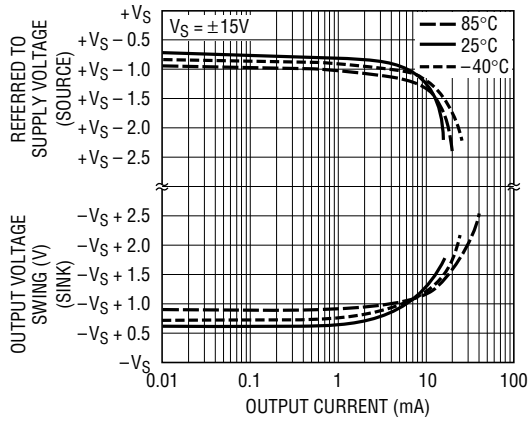
Undistorted Output Swing vs Frequency



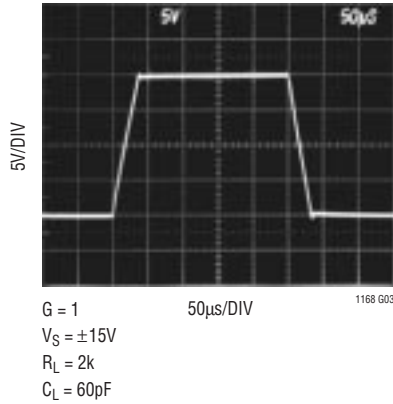
1168 G31

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

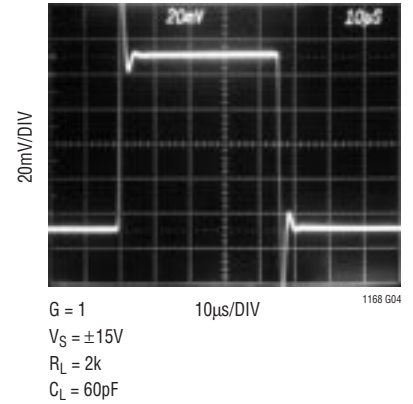
Output Voltage Swing vs Load Current



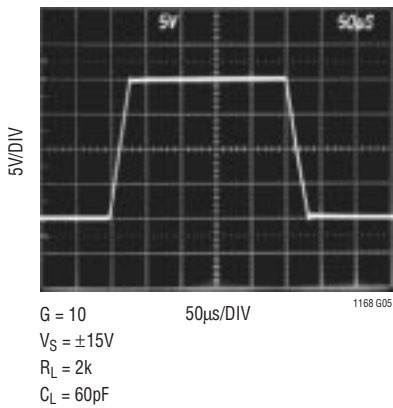
Large-Signal Transient Response



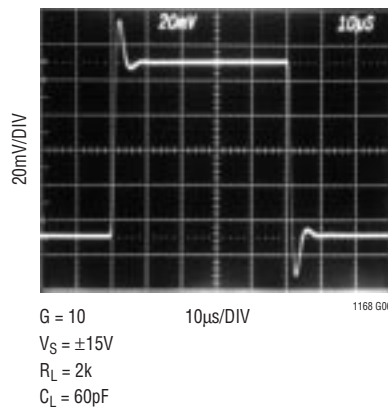
Small-Signal Transient Response



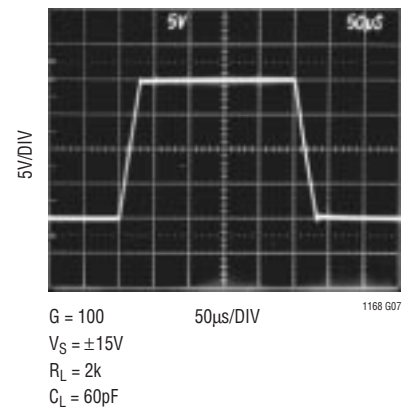
Large-Signal Transient Response



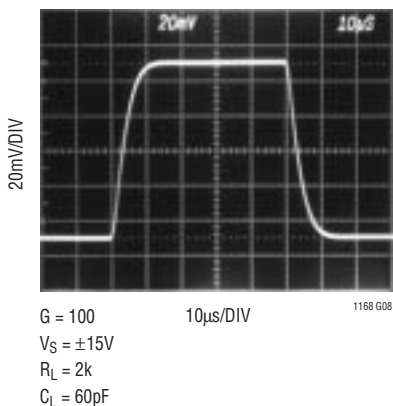
Small-Signal Transient Response



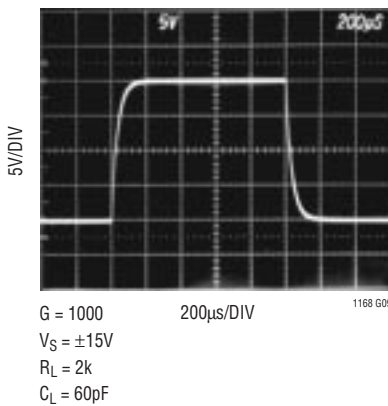
Large-Signal Transient Response



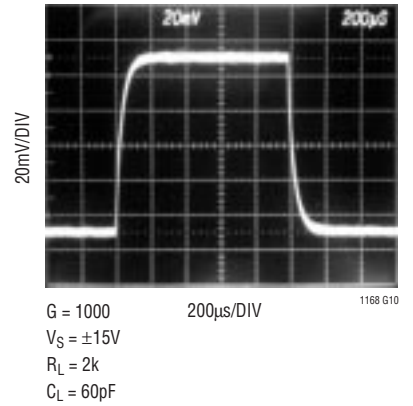
Small-Signal Transient Response



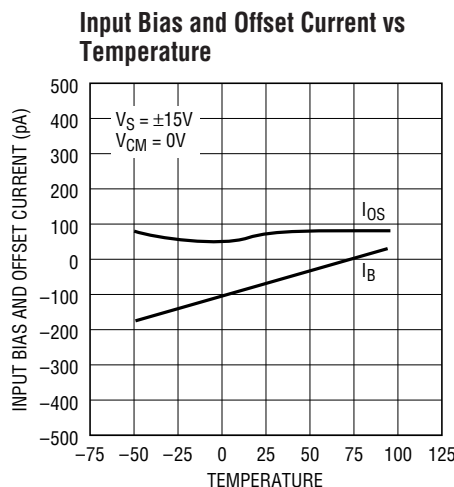
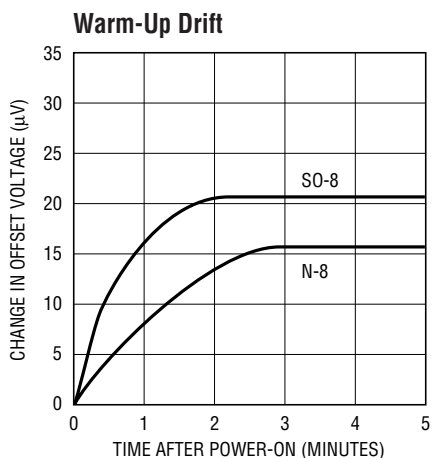
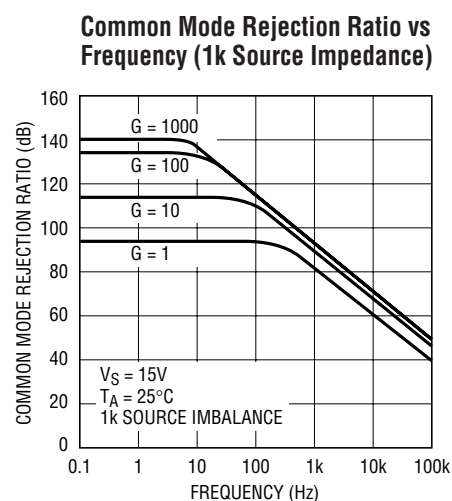
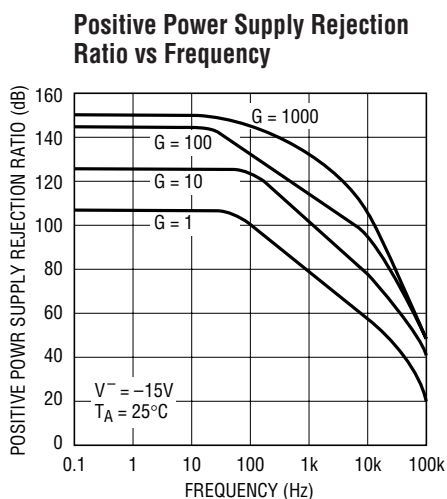
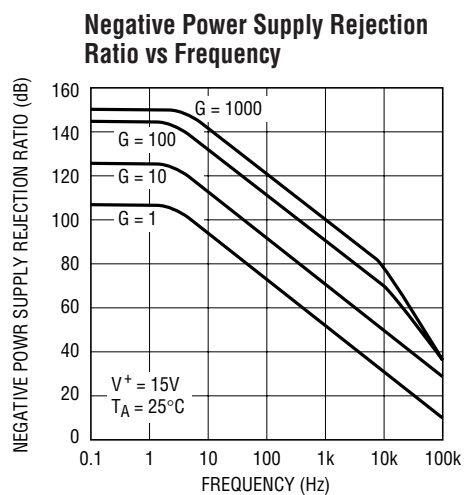
Large-Signal Transient Response



Small-Signal Transient Response



TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS



BLOCK DIAGRAM

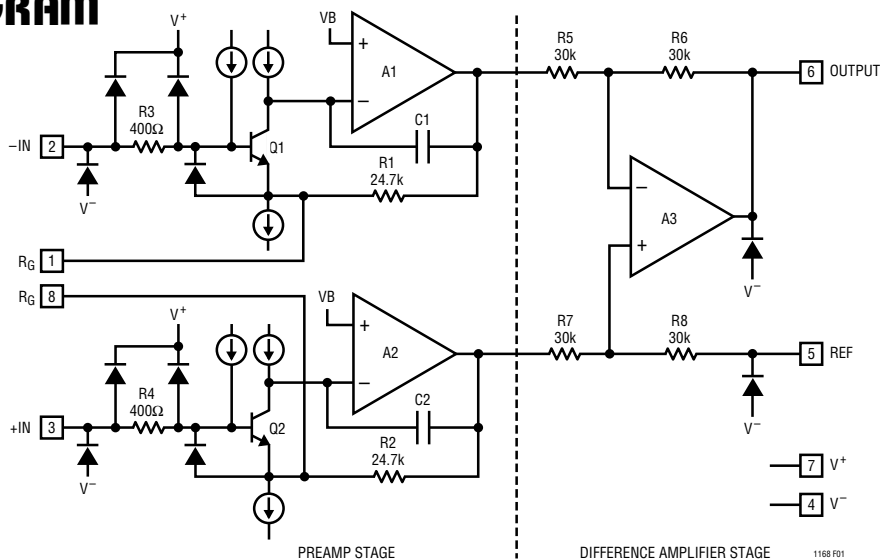


Figure 1. Block Diagram

THEORY OF OPERATION

The LT1168 is a modified version of the three op amp instrumentation amplifier. Laser trimming and monolithic construction allow tight matching and tracking of circuit parameters over the specified temperature range. Refer to the block diagram (Figure 1) to understand the following circuit description. The collector currents in Q1 and Q2 are trimmed to minimize offset voltage drift, thus assuring a high level of performance. R1 and R2 are trimmed to an absolute value of 24.7k to assure that the gain can be set accurately (0.6% at G = 100) with only one external resistor R_G. The value of R_G in parallel with R1 (R2) determines the transconductance of the preamp stage. As R_G is reduced for larger programmed gains, the transconductance of the input preamp stage increases to that of the input transistors Q1 and Q2. This increases the open-loop gain when the programmed gain is increased, reducing the input referred gain related errors and noise. The input voltage noise at gains greater than 50 is determined only by Q1 and Q2. At lower gains the noise of the difference amplifier and preamp gain setting resistors increase the noise. The gain bandwidth product is determined by C1, C2 and the preamp transconductance which increases with programmed gain. Therefore, the bandwidth does not drop proportionally with gain.

The input transistors Q1 and Q2 offer excellent matching, which is inherent in NPN bipolar transistors, as well as picoampere input bias current due to superbeta processing. The collector currents in Q1 and Q2 are held constant due to the feedback through the Q1-A1-R1 loop and Q2-A2-R2 loop which in turn impresses the differential input voltage across the external gain set resistor R_G. Since the current that flows through R_G also flows through R1 and R2, the ratios provide a gained-up differential voltage, $G = (R1 + R2)/R_G$, to the unity-gain difference amplifier A3. The common mode voltage is removed by A3, resulting in a single-ended output voltage referenced to the voltage on the REF pin. The resulting gain equation is:

$$G = (49.4k\Omega/R_G) + 1$$

solving for the gain set resistor gives:

$$R_G = 49.4k\Omega/(G - 1)$$

Table 1 shows appropriate 1% resistor values for a variety of gains.

Table 1

DESIRED GAIN	R _G	CLOSEST 1% VALUE	RESULTANT GAIN
1	Open	Open	1
2	49400	49900	1.99
5	12350	12400	4.984
10	5488.89	5490	9.998
20	2600	2610	19.927
50	1008.16	1000	50.4
100	498.99	499	99.998
200	248.24	249	199.394
500	99	100	495
1000	49.95	49.4	1001

Input and Output Offset Voltage

The offset voltage of the LT1168 has two components: the output offset and the input offset. The total offset voltage referred to the input (RTI) is found by dividing the output offset by the programmed gain (G) and adding it to the input offset. At high gains the input offset voltage dominates, whereas at low gains the output offset voltage dominates. The total offset voltage is:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total input offset voltage (RTI)} \\ = \text{input offset} + (\text{output offset}/G) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Total output offset voltage (RTO)} \\ = (\text{input offset} \cdot G) + \text{output offset} \end{aligned}$$

Reference Terminal

The reference terminal is one end of one of the four 30k resistors around the difference amplifier. The output voltage of the LT1168 (Pin 6) is referenced to the voltage on the reference terminal (Pin 5). Resistance in series with the REF pin must be minimized for best common mode rejection. For example, a 6Ω resistance from the REF pin to ground will not only increase the gain error by 0.02% but will lower the CMRR to 80dB.

Single Supply Operation

For single supply operation, the REF pin can be at the same potential as the negative supply (Pin 4) provided the output of the instrumentation amplifier remains inside the specified operating range and that one of the inputs is at least 2.5V above ground. The barometer application later

THEORY OF OPERATION

in this data sheet is an example that satisfies these conditions. The resistance R_b from the bridge transducer to ground sets the operating current for the bridge and also has the effect of raising the input common mode voltage. The output of the LT1168 is always inside the specified range since the barometric pressure rarely goes low enough to cause the output to rail (30.00 inches of Hg corresponds to 3.000V). For applications that require the output to swing at or below the REF potential, the voltage on the REF pin can be level shifted. An op amp is used to buffer the voltage on the REF pin since a parasitic series resistance will degrade the CMRR. The application in the front of this data sheet, Single Supply Pressure Monitor, is an example.

Output Offset Trimming

The LT1168 is laser trimmed for low offset voltage so that no external offset trimming is required for most applications. In the event that the offset needs to be adjusted, the circuit in Figure 2 is an example of an optional offset adjust circuit. The op amp buffer provides a low impedance to the REF pin where resistance must be kept to minimum for best CMRR and lowest gain error.

Input Bias Current Return Path

The low input bias current of the LT1168 (250pA) and the high input impedance (200G Ω) allow the use of high impedance sources without introducing additional offset voltage errors, even when the full common mode range is

required. However, a path must be provided for the input bias currents of both inputs when a purely differential signal is being amplified. Without this path the inputs will float to either rail and exceed the input common mode range of the LT1168, resulting in a saturated input stage. Figure 3 shows three examples of an input bias current path. The first example is of a purely differential signal source with a 10k Ω input current path to ground. Since the impedance of the signal source is low, only one resistor is needed. Two matching resistors are needed for higher impedance signal sources as shown in the second example. Balancing the input impedance improves both common mode rejection and DC offset.

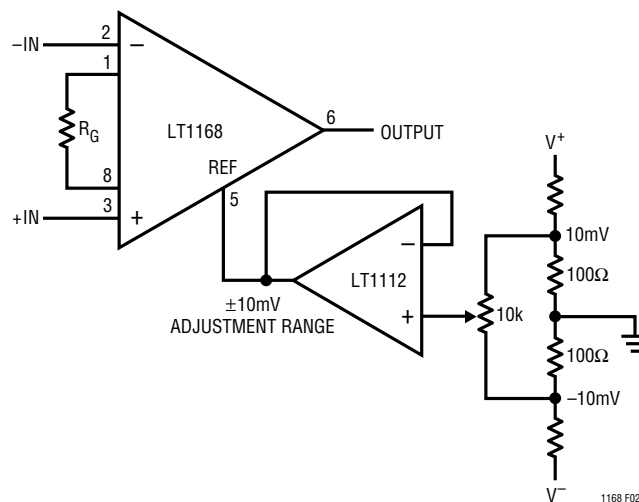


Figure 2. Optional Trimming of Output Offset Voltage

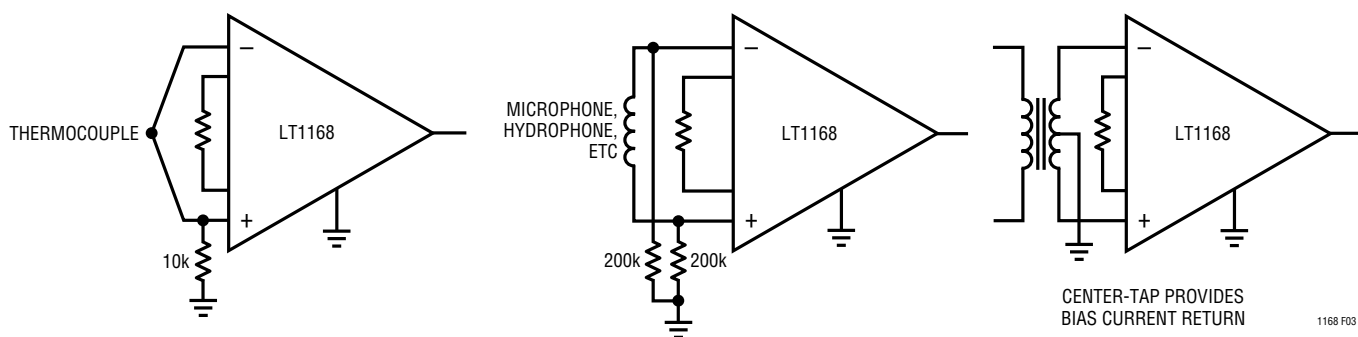


Figure 3. Providing an Input Common Mode Current Path

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

The LT1168 is a low power precision instrumentation amplifier that requires only one external resistor to accurately set the gain anywhere from 1 to 1000. The LT1168 is trimmed for critical DC parameters such as gain error (0.04%, $G = 10$), input offset voltage ($40\mu\text{V}$, R_{TI}), CMRR (90dB min, $G = 1$) and PSRR (103dB min, $G = 1$). These trims allow the amplifier to achieve very high DC accuracy. The LT1168 achieves low input bias current of just 250pA (max) through the use of superbeta processing. The output can handle capacitive loads up to 1000pF in any gain configuration and the inputs are protected against ESD strikes up to $\pm 13\text{kV}$ (human body).

Input Protection

The LT1168 can safely handle up to $\pm 20\text{mA}$ of input current in an overload condition. Adding an external 5k input resistor in series with each input allows DC input fault voltage up to $\pm 100\text{V}$ and improves the ESD immunity to $\pm 8\text{kV}$ (contact) and $\pm 15\text{kV}$ (air discharge), which is the IEC 1000-4-2 level 4 specification. If lower value input resistors must be used, a clamp diode from the positive supply to each input will maintain the IEC 1000-4-2 specification to level 4 for both air and contact discharge. A 2N4393 drain/source to gate is a good low leakage diode for use with 1k resistors, see Figure 4. The input resistors should be carbon and not metal film or carbon film.

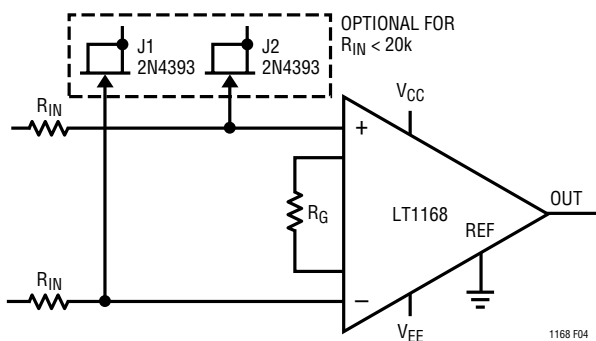


Figure 4. Input Protection

RFI Reduction

In many industrial and data acquisition applications, instrumentation amplifiers are used to accurately amplify small signals in the presence of large common mode voltages or high levels of noise. Typically, the sources of

these very small signals (on the order of microvolts or millivolts) are sensors that can be a significant distance from the signal conditioning circuit. Although these sensors may be connected to signal conditioning circuitry, using shielded or unshielded twisted-pair cabling, the cabling may act as antennae, conveying very high frequency interference directly into the input stage of the LT1168.

The amplitude and frequency of the interference can have an adverse effect on an instrumentation amplifier's input stage by causing an unwanted DC shift in the amplifier's input offset voltage. This well known effect is called RFI rectification and is produced when out-of-band interference is coupled (inductively, capacitively or via radiation) and rectified by the instrumentation amplifier's input transistors. These transistors act as high frequency signal detectors, in the same way diodes were used as RF envelope detectors in early radio designs. Regardless of the type of interference or the method by which it is coupled into the circuit, an out-of-band error signal appears in series with the instrumentation amplifier's inputs.

To significantly reduce the effect of these out-of-band signals on the input offset voltage of instrumentation amplifiers, simple lowpass filters can be used at the inputs. This filter should be located very close to the input pins of the circuit. An effective filter configuration is illustrated in Figure 5, where three capacitors have been added to the inputs of the LT1168. Capacitors $C_{\text{XCM}1}$ and $C_{\text{XCM}2}$ form lowpass filters with the external series resistors $R_{\text{S}1,2}$ to any out-of-band signal appearing on each of the input traces. Capacitor C_{XD} forms a filter to reduce any unwanted signal that would appear across the input traces. An added benefit to using C_{XD} is that the circuit's AC common mode rejection is not degraded due to common mode capacitive imbalance. The differential mode and common mode time constants associated with the capacitors are:

$$t_{\text{DM(LPF)}} = (2)(R_{\text{S}})(C_{\text{XD}})$$

$$t_{\text{CM(LPF)}} = (R_{\text{S}1,2})(C_{\text{XCM}1,2})$$

Setting the time constants requires a knowledge of the frequency, or frequencies of the interference. Once this frequency is known, the common mode time constants can be set followed by the differential mode time constant.

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

To avoid any possibility of inadvertently affecting the signal to be processed, set the common mode time constant an order of magnitude (or more) larger than the differential mode time constant. Set the common mode time constants such that they do not degrade the LT1168 inherent AC CMR. Then the differential mode time constant can be set for the bandwidth required for the application. Setting the differential mode time constant close to the sensor's BW also minimizes any noise pickup along the leads. To avoid any possibility of common mode to differential mode signal conversion, match the common mode time constants to 1% or better. If the sensor is an RTD or a resistive strain gauge, then the series resistors $R_{S1,2}$ can be omitted, if the sensor is in proximity to the instrumentation amplifier.

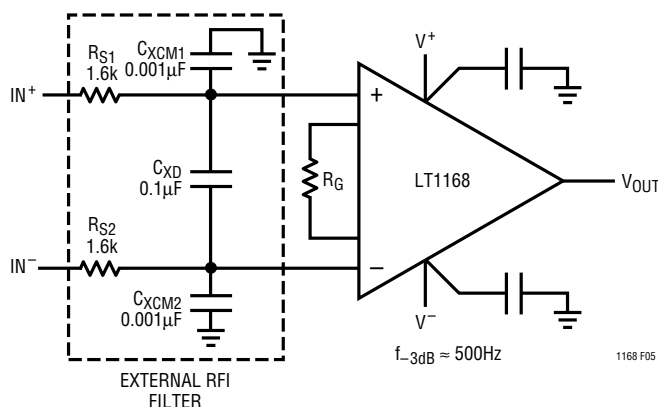


Figure 5. Adding a Simple RC Filter at the Inputs to an Instrumentation Amplifier is Effective in Reducing Rectification of High Frequency Out-of-Band Signals

Nerve Impulse Amplifier

The LT1168's low current noise makes it ideal for EMG monitors that have high source impedances. Demonstrating the LT1168's ability to amplify low level signals, the circuit in Figure 6 takes advantage of the amplifier's high gain and low noise operation. This circuit amplifies the low level nerve impulse signals received from a patient at Pins 2 and 3. R_G and the parallel combination of R_3 and R_4 set a gain of ten. The potential on LT1168's Pin 1 creates a ground for the common mode signal. C_1 was chosen to maintain the stability of the patient ground. The LT1168's high CMRR ensures that the desired differential signal is amplified and unwanted common mode signals are attenuated. Since the DC portion of the signal is not important, R_6 and C_2 make up a 0.3Hz highpass filter. The AC signal at LT1168's Pin 5 is amplified by a gain of 101 set by $R_7/R_8 + 1$. The parallel combination of C_3 and R_7 form a lowpass filter that decreases this gain at frequencies above 1kHz. The ability to operate at $\pm 3V$ on $350\mu A$ of supply current makes the LT1168 ideal for battery-powered applications. Total supply current for this application is 1.05mA. Proper safeguards, such as isolation, must be added to this circuit to protect the patient from possible harm.

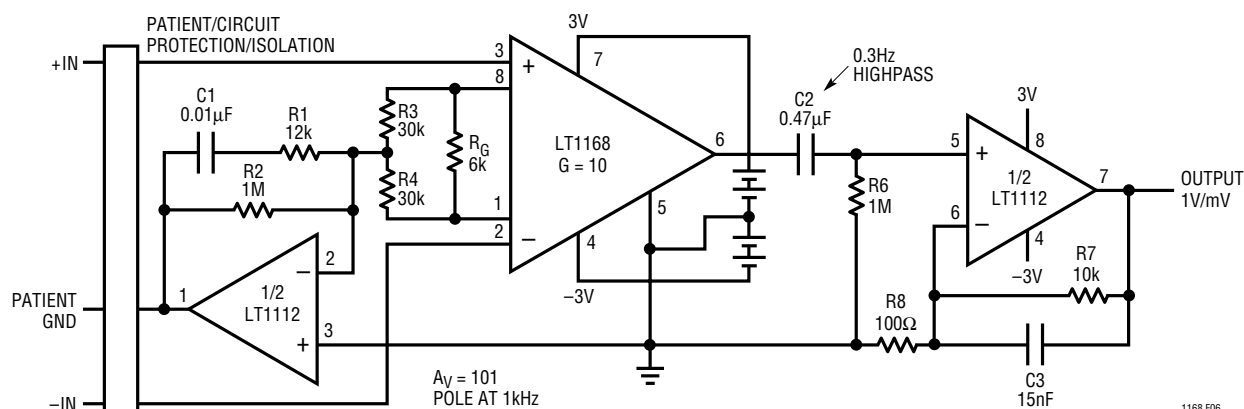


Figure 6. Nerve Impulse Amplifier

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

Low I_B Favors High Impedance Bridges, Lowers Dissipation

The LT1168's low supply current, low supply voltage operation and low input bias currents allow it to fit nicely into battery-powered applications. Low overall power dissipation necessitates using higher impedance bridges. The single supply pressure monitor application, Figure 7, shows the LT1168 connected to the differential output of

a 3.5k bridge. The picoampere input bias currents keep the error caused by offset current to a negligible level. The LT1112 level shifts the LT1168's reference pin and the ADC's analog ground pins above ground. The LT1168's and LT1112's combined power dissipation is still less than the bridge's. This circuit's total supply current is just 2.2mA.

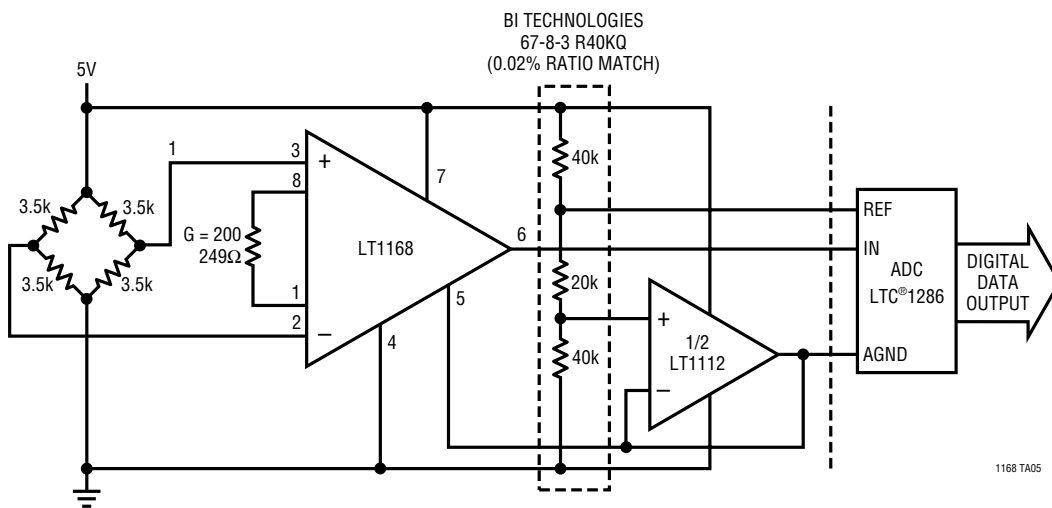
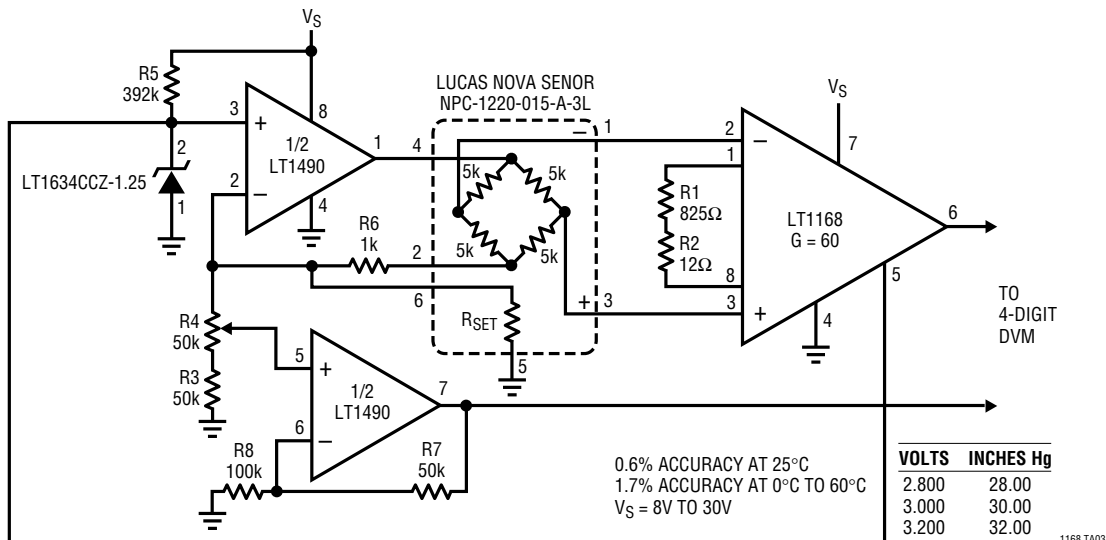


Figure 7. Single Supply Pressure Monitor

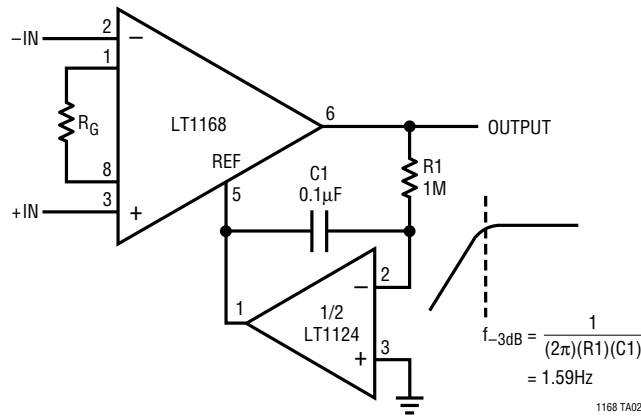
TYPICAL APPLICATIONS

Single Supply Barometer

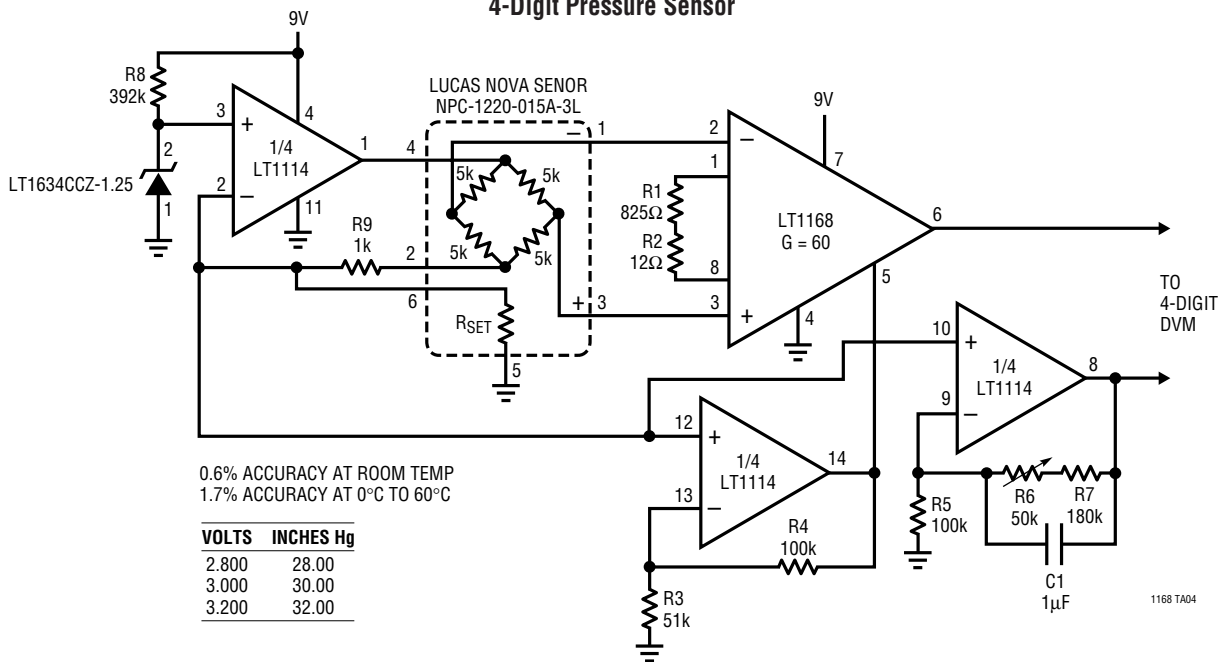


TYPICAL APPLICATIONS

AC Coupled Instrumentation Amplifier



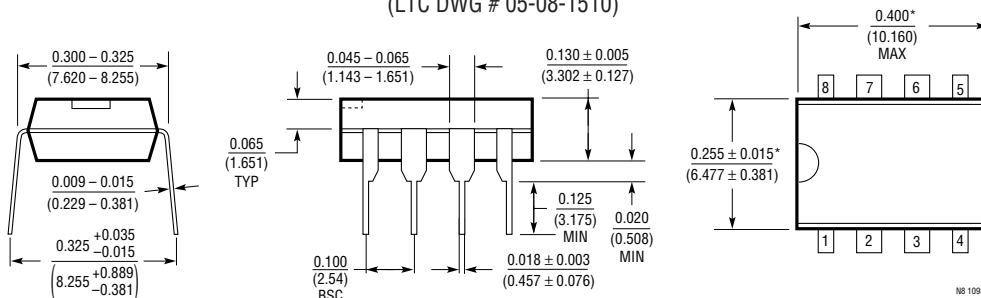
4-Digit Pressure Sensor



PACKAGE DESCRIPTION

Dimensions in inches (millimeters) unless otherwise noted.

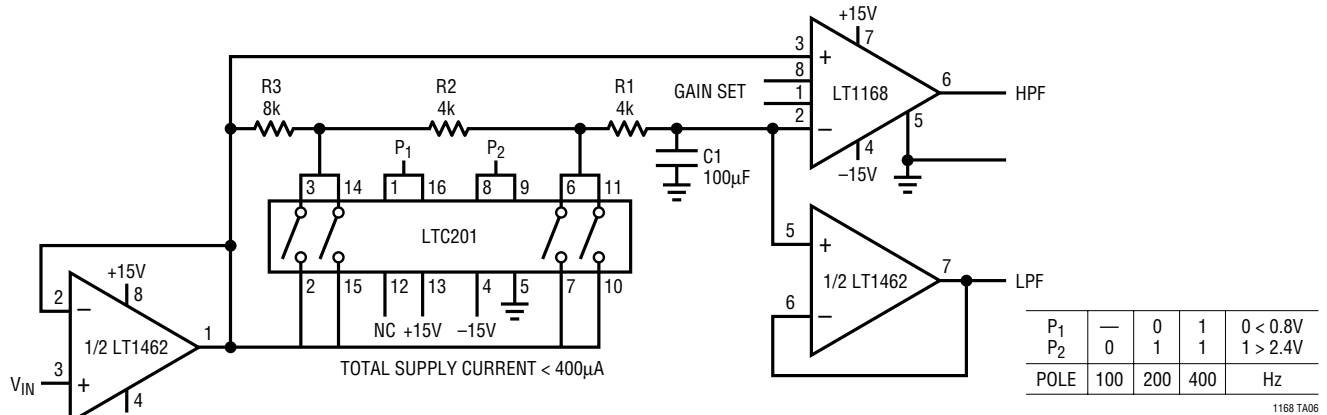
N8 Package 8-Lead PDIP (Narrow 0.300) (LTC DWG # 05-08-1510)



*THESE DIMENSIONS DO NOT INCLUDE MOLD FLASH OR PROTRUSIONS.
MOLD FLASH OR PROTRUSIONS SHALL NOT EXCEED 0.010 INCH (0.254mm)

TYPICAL APPLICATION

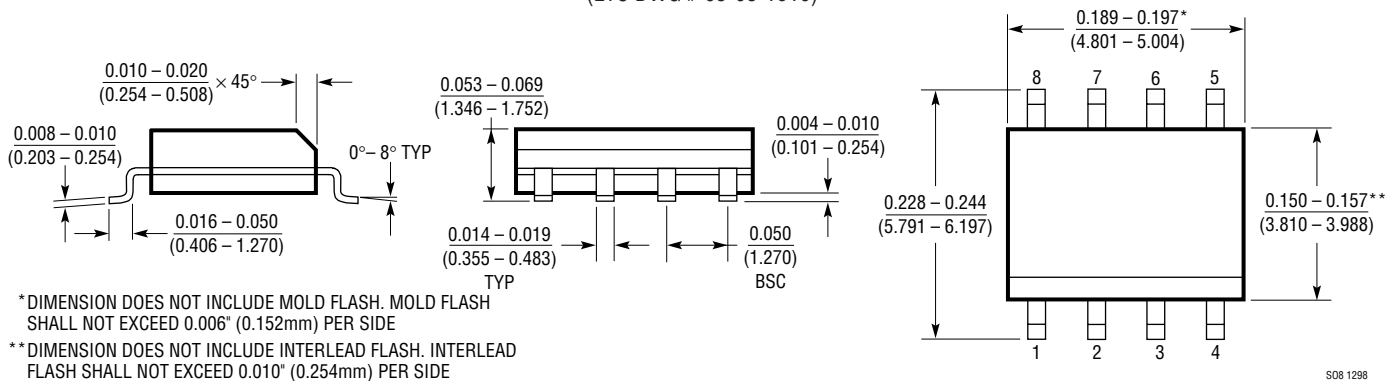
Programmable Audio HPF/LPF with "Pop-Less" Switching



PACKAGE DESCRIPTION

Dimensions in inches (millimeters) unless otherwise noted.

S8 Package
8-Lead Plastic Small Outline (Narrow 0.150)
(LTC DWG # 05-08-1610)



RELATED PARTS

PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS
LTC1100	Precision Chopper-Stabilized Instrumentation Amplifier	G = 10 or 100, V _{OS} = 10µV, I _B = 50pA
LT1101	Precision, Micropower, Single Supply Instrumentation Amplifier	G = 10 or 100, I _S = 105µA
LT1102	High Speed, JFET Instrumentation Amplifier	G = 10 or 100, Slew Rate = 30V/µs
LT1167	Single Resistor Programmable Precision Instrumentation Amplifier	Lower Noise than LT1168, e _N = 7.5nV/√Hz