

# MAX4238/MAX4239

# Ultra-Low Offset/Drift, Low-Noise, Precision SOT23 Amplifiers

## General Description

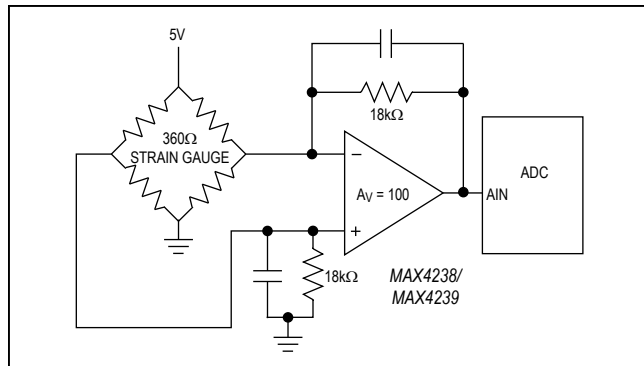
The MAX4238/MAX4239 are low-noise, low-drift, ultra-high precision amplifiers that offer near-zero DC offset and drift through the use of patented autocorrelating zeroing techniques. This method constantly measures and compensates the input offset, eliminating drift over time and temperature and the effect of 1/f noise. Both devices feature rail-to-rail outputs, operate from a single 2.7V to 5.5V supply, and consume only 600µA. An active-low shutdown mode decreases supply current to 0.1µA.

The MAX4238 is unity-gain stable with a gain-bandwidth product of 1MHz, while the decompensated MAX4239 is stable with  $A_V \geq 10V/V$  and a GBWP of 6.5MHz. The MAX4238/MAX4239 are available in 8-pin narrow SO, 6-pin TDFN and SOT23 packages.

## Applications

- Thermocouples
- Strain Gauges
- Electronic Scales
- Medical Instrumentation
- Instrumentation Amplifiers

## Typical Application Circuit



## Benefits and Features

- DC Performance Ideal for High-Precision Sensor Interface
  - Ultra-Low, 0.1µV Offset Voltage
    - 2.0µV (max) at +25°C
    - 2.5µV (max) at -40°C to +85°C
    - 3.5µV (max) at -40°C to +125°C
  - Low 10nV/°C Drift
  - Low Noise: 1.5µV<sub>P-P</sub> from DC to 10Hz
  - 150dB  $AV_{OL}$ , 140dB PSRR, 140dB CMRR
  - High Gain-Bandwidth Product
    - 1MHz (MAX4238)
    - 6.5MHz (MAX4239)
  - Ground-Sensing Input
  - Rail-to-Rail Output ( $R_L = 1k\Omega$ )
- Low Power Consumption Reduces System Power
  - Single 2.7V to 5.5V Supply Voltage Range
  - 600µA Supply Current
  - 0.1µA Shutdown Mode

Pin Configurations appear at end of data sheet.

## Ordering Information

PART	PIN-PACKAGE	TOP MARK
MAX4238AUT-T	6 SOT23	AZZZ
MAX4238AUT/V+T	6 SOT23	—
MAX4238ASA	8 SO	—
MAX4238ATT+T	6 TDFN-EP*	+ANG
MAX4239AUT-T	6 SOT23	ABAA
MAX4239AUT/V+T	6 SOT23	—
MAX4239ASA	8 SO	—
MAX4239ATT+T	6 TDFN-EP*	+ANH

**Note:** All devices are specified over the -40°C to +125°C operating temperature range.

+Denotes a lead(Pb)-free/RoHS-compliant package.

\*EP = Exposed paddle.

V denotes an automotive-qualified part.

## Selector Guide

PART	MINIMUM STABLE GAIN	GAIN BANDWIDTH (MHz)
MAX4238	1V/V	1
MAX4239	10V/V	6.5

**Absolute Maximum Ratings**

Power-Supply Voltage (V<sub>CC</sub> to GND).....6V  
 All Other Pins .....(V<sub>GND</sub> - 0.3V) to (V<sub>CC</sub> + 0.3V)  
 Output Short-Circuit Duration  
 (OUT shorted to V<sub>CC</sub> or GND) ..... Continuous  
 Continuous Power Dissipation (T<sub>A</sub> = +70°C)  
 6-Pin Plastic SOT23  
 (derate 9.1mW/°C above +70°C) .....727mW  
 8-Pin Plastic SO (derate 5.88mW/°C above +70°C)...471mW  
 6-Pin TDFN-EP (derate 18.2mW above +70°C) .....1454mW

Operating Temperature Range..... -40°C to +125°C  
 Junction Temperature ..... +150°C  
 Storage Temperature Range ..... -65°C to +150°C  
 Lead Temperature (soldering, 10s) ..... +300°C  
 Soldering Temperature (reflow)  
 Lead(Pb)-Free Packages ..... +260°C  
 Packages Containing Lead..... +240°C

*Stresses beyond those listed under "Absolute Maximum Ratings" may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only, and functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated in the operational sections of the specifications is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.*

**Electrical Characteristics**

(2.7V ≤ V<sub>CC</sub> ≤ 5.5V, V<sub>CM</sub> = V<sub>GND</sub> = 0V, V<sub>OUT</sub> = V<sub>CC</sub>/2, R<sub>L</sub> = 10kΩ connected to V<sub>CC</sub>/2,  $\overline{\text{SHDN}}$  = V<sub>CC</sub>, T<sub>A</sub> = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Input Offset Voltage	V <sub>OS</sub>	(Note 1)		0.1	2	μV
Long-Term Offset Drift				50		nV/1000hr
Input Bias Current	I <sub>B</sub>	(Note 2)		1		pA
Input Offset Current	I <sub>OS</sub>	(Note 2)		2		pA
Peak-to-Peak Input Noise Voltage	e <sub>nP-P</sub>	R <sub>S</sub> = 100Ω, 0.01Hz to 10Hz		1.5		μV <sub>P-P</sub>
Input Voltage-Noise Density	e <sub>n</sub>	f = 1kHz		30		NV/√Hz
Common-Mode Input Voltage Range	V <sub>CM</sub>	Inferred from CMRR test	V <sub>GND</sub> - 0.1		V <sub>CC</sub> - 1.3	V
Common-Mode Rejection Ratio	CMRR	-0.1V ≤ V <sub>CM</sub> ≤ V <sub>CC</sub> - 1.3V (Note 1)	120	140		dB
Power-Supply Rejection Ratio	PSRR	2.7V ≤ V <sub>CC</sub> ≤ 5.5V (Note 1)	120	140		dB
Large-Signal Voltage Gain	A <sub>VOL</sub>	0.05V ≤ V <sub>OUT</sub> ≤ V <sub>CC</sub> - 0.05V (Note 1)	R <sub>L</sub> = 10kΩ	125	150	dB
		0.1V ≤ V <sub>OUT</sub> ≤ V <sub>CC</sub> - 0.1V (Note 1)	R <sub>L</sub> = 1kΩ	125	145	
Output Voltage Swing	V <sub>OH</sub> /V <sub>OL</sub>	R <sub>L</sub> = 10kΩ	V <sub>CC</sub> - V <sub>OH</sub>	4	10	mV
			V <sub>OL</sub>	4	10	
		R <sub>L</sub> = 1kΩ	V <sub>CC</sub> - V <sub>OH</sub>	35	50	
			V <sub>OL</sub>	35	50	
Output Short-Circuit Current		To either supply	40		mA	
Output Leakage Current		0 ≤ V <sub>OUT</sub> ≤ V <sub>CC</sub> , SHDN = GND (Note 2)	0.01	1	μA	
Slew Rate		V <sub>CC</sub> = 5V, C <sub>L</sub> = 100pF, V <sub>OUT</sub> = 2V step	MAX4238	0.35		V/μs
			MAX4239	1.6		
Gain-Bandwidth Product	GBWP	R <sub>L</sub> = 10kΩ, C <sub>L</sub> = 100pF, measured at f = 100kHz	MAX4238	1		MHz
			MAX4239	6.5		
Minimum Stable Closed-Loop Gain		R <sub>L</sub> = 10kΩ, C <sub>L</sub> = 100pF, phase margin = 60°	MAX4238	1		V/V
			MAX4239	10		

**Electrical Characteristics (continued)**

( $2.7V \leq V_{CC} \leq 5.5V$ ,  $V_{CM} = V_{GND} = 0V$ ,  $V_{OUT} = V_{CC}/2$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$  connected to  $V_{CC}/2$ ,  $\overline{SHDN} = V_{CC}$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Maximum Closed-Loop Gain		$R_L = 10k\Omega$ , $C_L = 100pF$ , phase margin = $60^\circ$	MAX4238	1000		V/V
			MAX4239	6700		
Settling Time		-1V step	0.1% (10 bit)	0.5		ms
			0.025% (12 bit)	1.0		
			0.006% (14 bit)	1.7		
			0.0015% (16 bit)	2.3		
Overload Recovery Time		$A_V = 10$ (Note 4)	0.1% (10 bit)	3.3		ms
			0.025% (12 bit)	4.1		
			0.006% (14 bit)	4.9		
			0.0015% (16 bit)	5.7		
Startup Time		$A_V = 10$	0.1% (10 bit)	1.8		ms
			0.025% (12 bit)	2.6		
			0.006% (14 bit)	3.4		
			0.0015% (16 bit)	4.3		
Supply Voltage Range	$V_{CC}$	Inferred by PSRR test	2.7		5.5	V
Supply Current	$I_{CC}$	SHDN = $V_{CC}$ , no load, $V_{CC} = 5.5V$		600	850	$\mu A$
		SHDN = GND, $V_{CC} = 5.5V$		0.1	1	
Shutdown Logic-High	$V_{IH}$		2.2			V
Shutdown Logic-Low	$V_{IL}$				0.8	V
Shutdown Input Current		$0V \leq V_{SHDN} \leq V_{CC}$		0.1	1	$\mu A$

## Electrical Characteristics

( $2.7V \leq V_{CC} \leq 5.5V$ ,  $V_{CM} = GND = 0V$ ,  $V_{OUT} = V_{CC}/2$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$  connected to  $V_{CC}/2$ ,  $\overline{SHDN} = V_{CC}$ ,  $T_A = -40^\circ C$  to  $+125^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.) (Note 5)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Input Offset Voltage	$V_{OS}$	(Note 1)	$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$			2.5	$\mu V$
			$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+125^\circ C$			3.5	
Input Offset Drift	$TCV_{OS}$	(Note 1)			10		$nV/^\circ C$
Common-Mode Input Voltage Range	$V_{CM}$	Inferred from CMRR test		$V_{GND} - 0.05$		$V_{CC} - 1.4$	V
Common-Mode Rejection Ratio	CMRR	$V_{GND} - 0.05V \leq V_{CM} \leq V_{CC} - 1.4V$ (Note 1)	$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$	115			dB
			$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+125^\circ C$	90			
Power-Supply Rejection Ratio	PSRR	$2.7V \leq V_{CC} \leq 5.5V$ (Note 1)		120			dB
Large-Signal Voltage Gain	$A_{VOL}$	$R_L = 10k\Omega$ , $0.1V \leq V_{OUT} \leq V_{CC} - 0.1V$ (Note 1)	$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$	125			dB
			$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+125^\circ C$	95			
		$R_L = 1k\Omega$ (Note 1)	$0.1V \leq V_{OUT} \leq V_{CC} - 0.1V$ , $T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$	120			dB
			$0.2V \leq V_{OUT} \leq V_{CC} - 0.2V$ , $T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+125^\circ C$	80			
Output Voltage Swing	$V_{OH}/V_{OL}$	$R_L = 10k\Omega$	$V_{CC} - V_{OH}$			20	mV
			$V_{OL}$			20	
		$R_L = 1k\Omega$	$V_{CC} - V_{OH}$			100	
			$V_{OL}$			100	
Output Leakage Current		$0V \leq V_{OUT} \leq V_{CC}$ , $\overline{SHDN} = GND$ (Note 3)				2	$\mu A$
Supply Voltage Range	$V_{CC}$	Inferred by PSRR test		2.7		5.5	V
Supply Current	$I_{CC}$	$\overline{SHDN} = V_{CC}$ , no load, $V_{CC} = 5.5V$				900	$\mu A$
		$\overline{SHDN} = GND$ , $V_{CC} = 5.5V$				2	
Shutdown Logic-High	$V_{IH}$			2.2			V
Shutdown Logic-Low	$V_{IL}$					0.7	V
Shutdown Input Current		$0V \leq V_{\overline{SHDN}} \leq V_{CC}$				2	$\mu A$

**Note 1:** Guaranteed by design. Thermocouple and leakage effects preclude measurement of this parameter during production testing. Devices are screened during production testing to eliminate defective units.

**Note 2:**  $IN+$  and  $IN-$  are gates to CMOS transistors with typical input bias current of 1pA. CMOS leakage is so small that it is impractical to test and guarantee in production. Devices are screened during production testing to eliminate defective units.

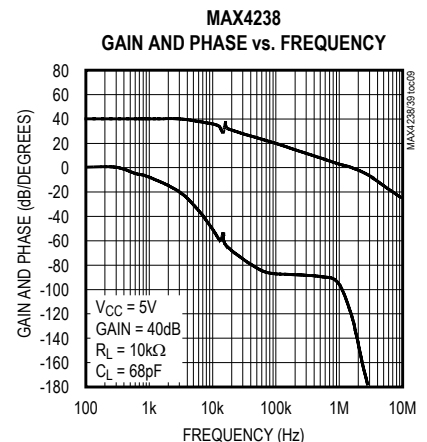
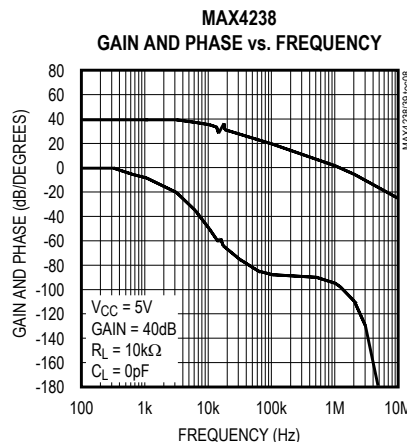
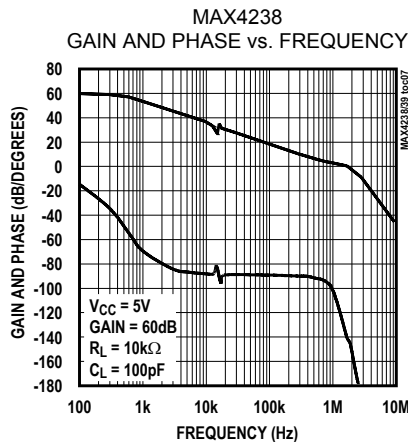
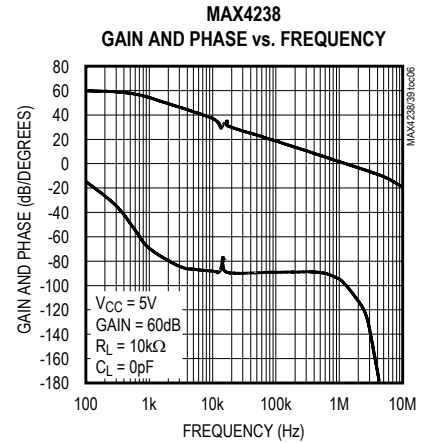
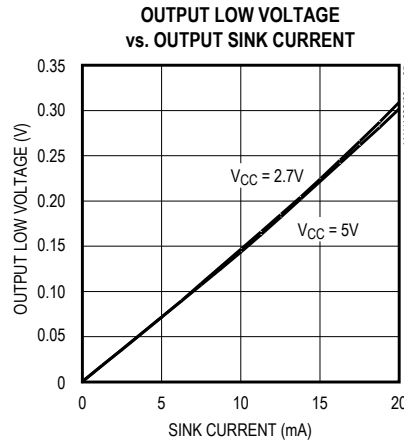
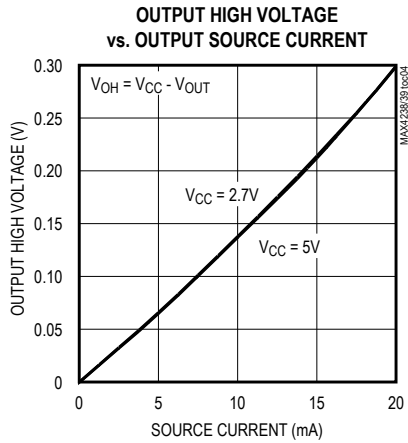
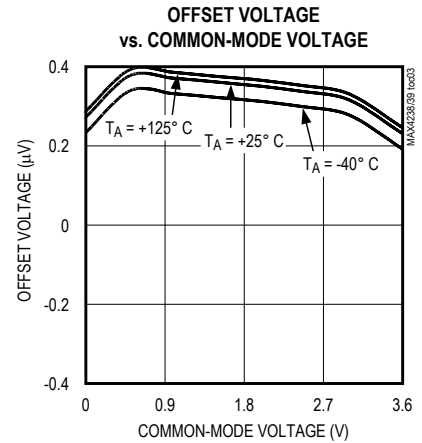
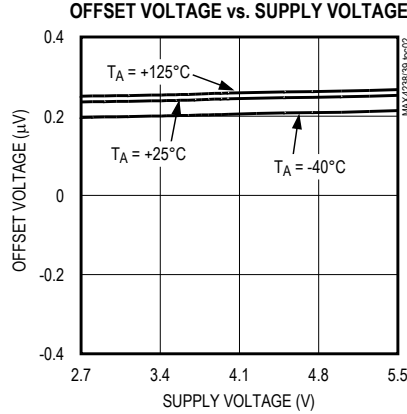
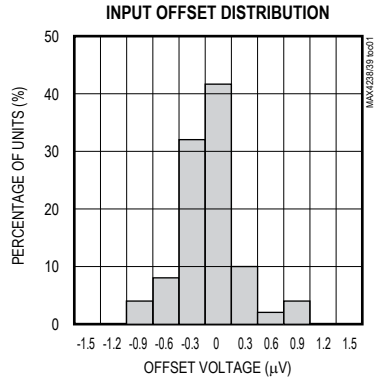
**Note 3:** Leakage does not include leakage through feedback resistors.

**Note 4:** Overload recovery time is the time required for the device to recover from saturation when the output has been driven to either rail.

**Note 5:** Specifications are 100% tested at  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted. Limits over temperature are guaranteed by design.

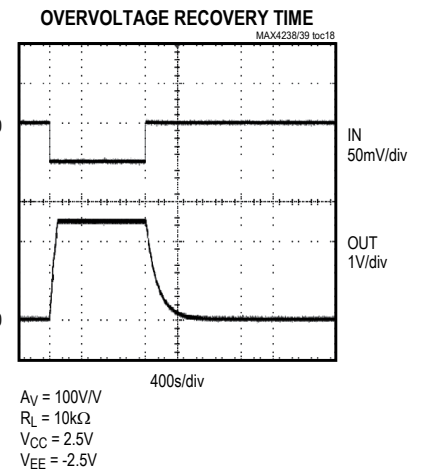
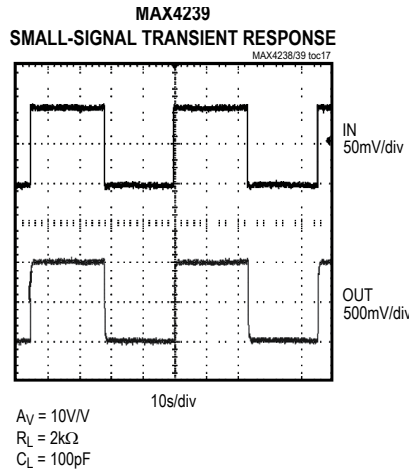
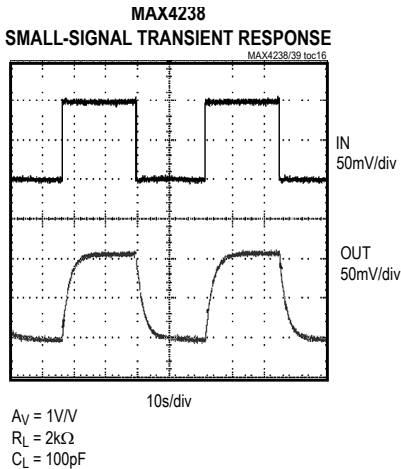
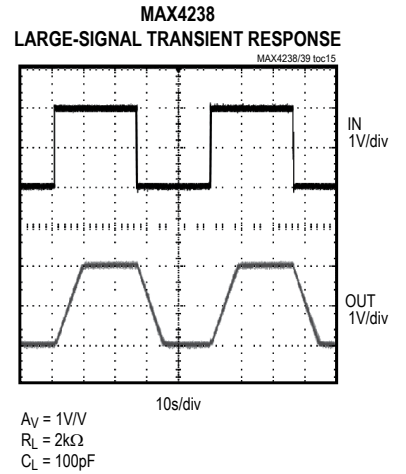
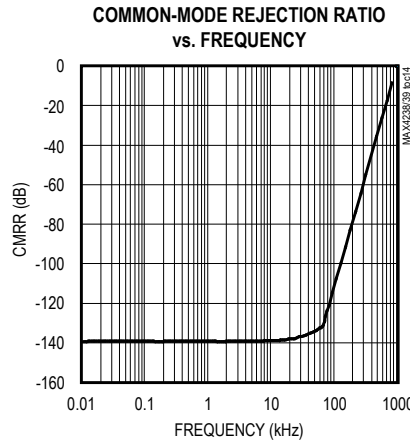
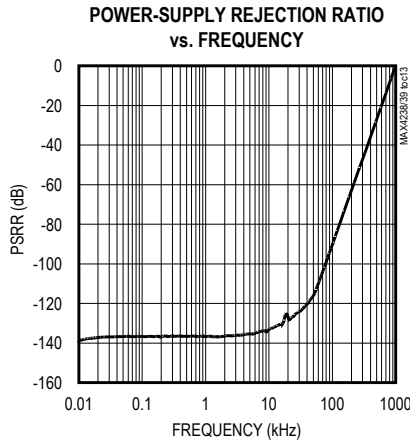
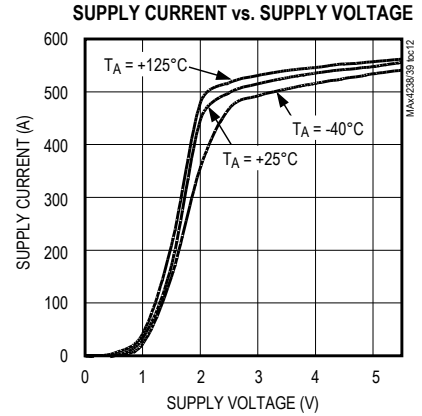
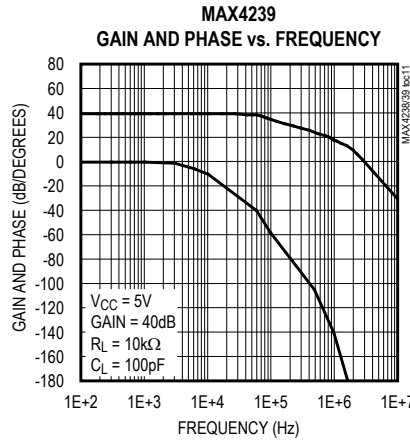
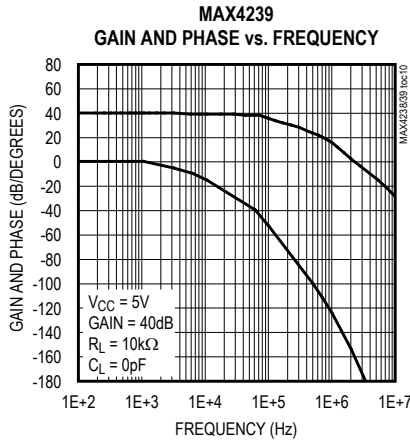
Typical Operating Characteristics

( $V_{CC} = 5V$ ,  $V_{CM} = 0V$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$  connected to  $V_{CC}/2$ ,  $\overline{SHDN} = V_{CC}$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)



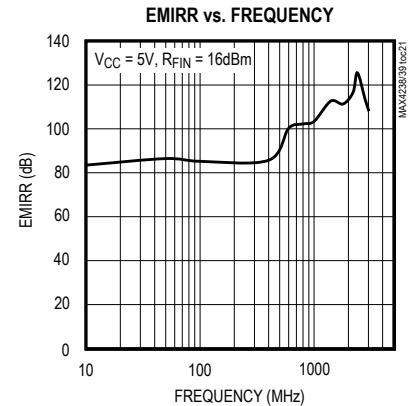
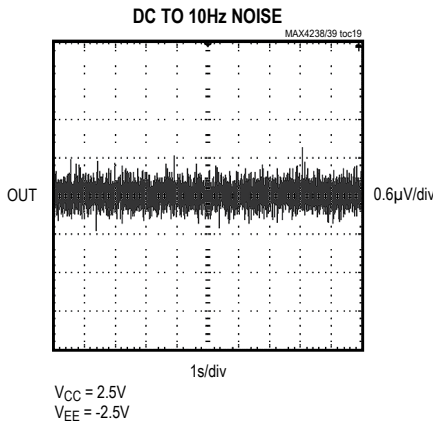
Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

( $V_{CC} = 5V$ ,  $V_{CM} = 0V$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$  connected to  $V_{CC}/2$ ,  $\overline{SHDN} = V_{CC}$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)



Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

( $V_{CC} = 5V$ ,  $V_{CM} = 0V$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$  connected to  $V_{CC}/2$ ,  $\overline{SHDN} = V_{CC}$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)



Pin Description

PIN			NAME	FUNCTION
TDFN	SOT23	SO		
1	1	6	OUT	Amplifier Output
2	2	4	GND	Ground
3	3	3	IN+	Noninverting Input
4	4	2	IN-	Inverting Input
5	5	1	$\overline{SHDN}$	Shutdown Input. Active-low shutdown, connect to $V_{CC}$ for normal operation.
6	6	7	$V_{CC}$	Positive Power Supply
—	—	5, 8	N.C.	No Connection. Not internally connected.
—	—	—	EP	Exposed Pad (TDFN only). Connect EP to GND.

Detailed Description

The MAX4238/MAX4239 are high-precision amplifiers that have less than 2.5µV of input-referred offset and low 1/f noise. These characteristics are achieved through a patented autozeroing technique that samples and cancels the input offset and noise of the amplifier. The pseudorandom clock frequency varies from 10kHz to 15kHz, reducing intermodulation distortion present in chopper-stabilized amplifiers.

Offset Error Sources

To achieve very low offset, several sources of error common to autozero-type amplifiers need to be considered. The first contributor is the settling of the sampling capacitor. This type of error is independent of input-source impedance, or the size of the external gain-setting resistors. Maxim uses a patented design technique to avoid large changes in the voltage on the sampling capacitor to reduce settling time errors.

The second error contributor, which is present in both autozero and chopper-type amplifiers, is the charge injection from the switches. The charge injection appears as current spikes at the input, and combined with the impedance seen at the amplifier’s input, contributes to input offset voltage. Minimize this feedthrough by reducing the size of the gain-setting resistors and the input-source impedance. A capacitor in parallel with the feedback resistor reduces the amount of clock feedthrough to the output by limiting the closed-loop bandwidth of the device.

The design of the MAX4238/MAX4239 minimizes the effects of settling and charge injection to allow specification of an input offset voltage of 0.1µV (typ) and less than 2.5µV over temperature (-40°C to +85°C).

1/f Noise

1/f noise, inherent in all semiconductor devices, is inversely proportional to frequency. 1/f noise increases 3dB/octave and dominates amplifier noise at lower frequencies. This noise appears as a constantly changing voltage in series with any signal being measured. The MAX4238/MAX4239 treat 1/f noise as a slow varying offset error, inherently canceling the 1/f noise.

**Output Overload Recovery**

Autozeroing amplifiers typically require a substantial amount of time to recover from an output overload. This is due to the time it takes for the null amplifier to correct the main amplifier to a valid output. The MAX4238/MAX4239 require only 3.3ms to recover from an output overload (see *Electrical Characteristics* and *Typical Operating Characteristics*).

**Shutdown**

The MAX4238/MAX4239 feature a low-power (0.1µA) shutdown mode. When  $\overline{\text{SHDN}}$  is pulled low, the clock stops and the device output enters a high-impedance state. Connect  $\overline{\text{SHDN}}$  to  $V_{CC}$  for normal operation.

**Applications Information**

**Minimum and Maximum Gain Configurations**

The MAX4238 is a unity-gain stable amplifier with a gain-bandwidth product (GBWP) of 1MHz. The MAX4239 is decompensated for a GBWP of 6.5MHz and is stable with a gain of 10V/V. Unlike conventional operational amplifiers, the MAX4238/MAX4239 have a maximum gain specification. To maintain stability, set the gain of the MAX4238 between  $A_V = 1000V/V$  to  $1V/V$ , and set the gain of the MAX4239 between  $A_V = 6700V/V$  and  $10V/V$ .

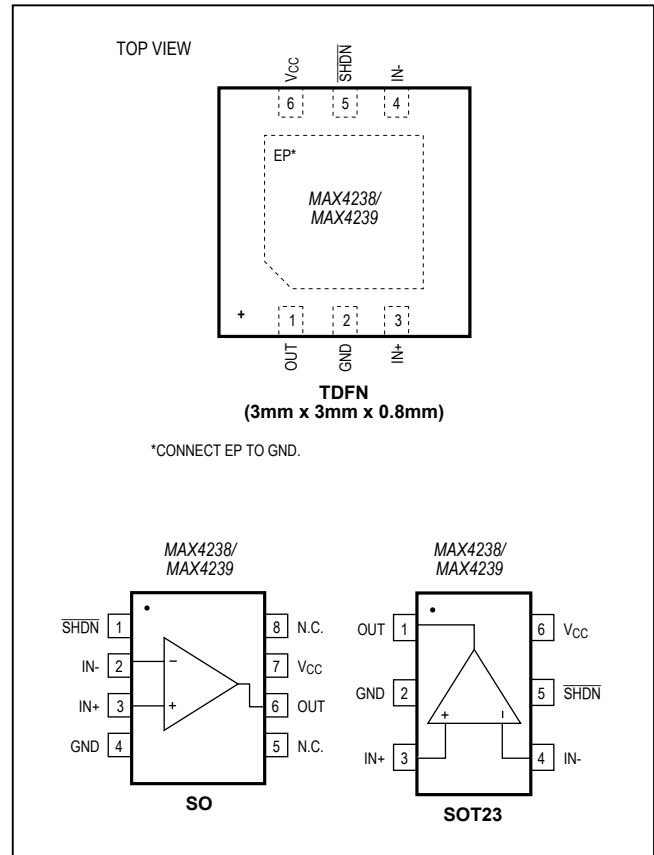
**ADC Buffer Amplifier**

The low offset, fast settling time, and 1/f noise cancellation of the MAX4238/MAX4239 make these devices ideal for ADC buffers. The MAX4238/MAX4239 are well suited for low-speed, high-accuracy applications, such as strain gauges (see *Typical Application Circuit*).

**Error Budget Example**

When using the MAX4238/MAX4239 as an ADC buffer, the temperature drift should be taken into account when determining the maximum input signal. With a typical offset drift of 10nV/°C, the drift over a 10°C range is 100nV. Setting this equal to 1/2LSB in a 16-bit system yields a full-scale range of 13mV. With a single 2.7V supply, an acceptable closed-loop gain is  $A_V = 200$ . This provides sufficient gain while maintaining headroom.

**Pin Configurations**



**Chip Information**

PROCESS: BiCMOS

**Package Information**

For the latest package outline information and land patterns (footprints), go to [www.maximintegrated.com/packages](http://www.maximintegrated.com/packages). Note that a "+", "#", or "-" in the package code indicates RoHS status only. Package drawings may show a different suffix character, but the drawing pertains to the package regardless of RoHS status.

PACKAGE TYPE	PACKAGE CODE	OUTLINE NO.	LAND PATTERN NO.
6 SOT23	U6F-6	<a href="#">21-0058</a>	<a href="#">90-0175</a>
8 SO	S8-4	<a href="#">21-0041</a>	<a href="#">90-0096</a>
6 TDFN-EP	T633+2	<a href="#">21-0137</a>	<a href="#">90-0058</a>



## Revision History

REVISION NUMBER	REVISION DATE	DESCRIPTION	PAGES CHANGED
2	5/06	—	—
3	8/11	Added MAX4238 and MAX4239 automotive-qualified parts	1
4	1/14	Updated the <i>Typical Operating Characteristics</i>	7
5	5/15	Added the <i>Benefits and Features</i> section	1
6	9/15	Deleted duplicate graph and updated scale	7

For pricing, delivery, and ordering information, please contact Maxim Direct at 1-888-629-4642, or visit Maxim Integrated's website at [www.maximintegrated.com](http://www.maximintegrated.com).

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