LMV1099 Uplink Far Field Noise Suppression & Downlink SNR Enhancing

Microphone Amplifier with Earpiece Driver

Literature Number: SNAS490C

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Uplink Far Field Noise Suppression & Downlink SNR Enhancing Microphone Amplifier with Earpiece Driver

General Description

The LMV1099 is an uplink and downlink voice intelligibility enhancing analog IC, ideally suited for mobile handsets. Uplink voice intelligibility is improved by rejecting far-field noise through a unique two-microphone solution. Downlink voice intelligibility is improved by enhancing the SNR (Signal-to-Noise Ratio) between the downlink voice and the ambient noise environment at the user's earpiece.

The LMV1099 preserves uplink near-field voice signals within close range of the microphones while rejecting far-field acoustic noise greater than 0.5m from the microphones.

The LMV1099 also enhances downlink voice intelligibility by improving near-field SNR based on the user's environment. The analog circuitry adapts dynamically to both the user's ambient noise environment as well as the downlink signal amplitude to ensure optimum SNRI (signal-to-noise ratio improvement). The downlink path also provides uplink noise attenuation through an adjustable high pass filter before the SNR enhanced downlink voice reaches the user's earpiece.

Unlike digital-based noise reduction solutions, the all-analog low power consuming LMV1099 increases both uplink and downlink voice intelligibility without DSP-type artifacts, distortions or processing delays.

Key Specifications

- 16dB (typ)
- Downlink SNRI_E
- Supply voltage range 2.7V to 5.5V
- Supply current $(V_{DD} = 3.6V)$ 3.8mA (typ)
- Shutdown current 0.06uA (typ)
- Uplink PSRR $(f = 217Hz)$ 106dB (typ)
- Downlink SNR (A-weighted) 102dB (typ)
- Downlink THD+N 0.03% (typ)
- Earpiece output power $(R_1 = 32\Omega)$ 83mW (typ)

Features

- Noise reduction without DSP-type artifacts.
- Adapting AGC (Automatic Gain Control) on ambient noise level & downlink signal strength
- Downlink adjustable noise-reducing high pass filter
- Separate Uplink & Downlink Enable Functions
- No added process delays
- Low power consumption
- Shutdown function
- Maximum AGC Limiter
- Differential inputs & outputs for noise immunity
- Earpiece amplifier
- Available in a 25-bump micro SMD

Applications

- **Mobile Handsets**
- Mobile and handheld two-way radios
- Bluetooth and other power headsets

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Block Diagram

Clean Baseband Downlink Voice

LMV1099

Downlink Signal Path

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Connection Diagrams

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Pin Descriptions

Note: Pin assignment subject to change.

Absolute Maximum Ratings (*[Note 1](#page-8-0)*)

If Military/Aerospace specified devices are required, please contact the National Semiconductor Sales Office/ Distributors for availability and specifications.

Thermal Resistance

θJA (microSMD) (*[Note 3](#page-8-0)*) 70°C/W

Soldering Information See AN-112 "microSMD Wafers Level Chip Scale Package."

Operating Ratings (*[Note 1](#page-8-0)*)

Electrical Characteristics V_{DD} = 3.6V (*[Note 2](#page-8-0)*)

Unless otherwise specified, all limits guaranteed for T_A = 25°C, V_{DD} = 3.6V, EN = V_{DD}. For Uplink tests, unless otherwise specified, preamplifier gain = 20dB, post amplifier gain = 6dB, V_{IN} = 18mV_{P-P}, f = 1kHz, R_L = 100kΩ, C_L = 4.7pF and in pass-through mode. For Downlink tests, unless otherwise specified, f = 1kHz, R_L = 32 Ω , AGC_{AV} = 0dB.

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* f_{DV} = Frequency of Downlink signal

f_{AN} = Frequency of Ambient Noise signal

 $\rm V_{\rm DV}$ = Voltage swing of Downlink signal

 V_{AN} = Voltage swing of Ambient signal

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I²C Interface Characteristics $V_{DD} = 3.3V$, 1.8V ≤ I²CV_{DD} ≤ 5.5V (*Note 1, Note 2*)

The following specifications apply for LS and HP VOLUMEGAIN = 0dB LSGAIN = 12B, HPGAIN = 0dB, EPGAIN = 0dB, R $_{\rm L}$ = 8 Ω +30μH (Loudspeaker), R_{L} = 32Ω (Headphone), R_{L} = 32Ω (Earpiece), CSET = 0.1μF, ALC disabled, f = 1kHz, unless otherwise specified. Limits apply for $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C. (Note 7).

Note 1: "*Absolute Maximum Ratings*" indicate limits beyond which damage to the device may occur, including inoperability and degradation of device reliability and/or performance. Functional operation of the device and/or non-degradation at the *Absolute Maximum* Ratings or other conditions beyond those indicated in the *Recommended Operating Conditions* is not implied. The *Recommended Operating Conditions* indicate conditions at which the device is functional and the device should not be operated beyond such conditions. All voltages are measured with respect to the ground pin, unless otherwise specified.

Note 2: *The Electrical Characteristics* tables list guaranteed specifications under the listed *Recommended Operating Conditions* except as otherwise modified or specified by the *Electrical Characteristics Conditions* and/or Notes. Typical specifications are estimations only and are not guaranteed.

 $\sf Note~3:$ The maximum power dissipation must be de-rated at elevated temperatures and is dictated by $\sf T_{JMAX}, \theta_{\sf JC},$ and the ambient temperature $\sf T_{\sf A}.$ The maximum allowable power dissipation is Ρ_{DMAX} = (Τ_{JMAX} – T_A) / θ_{JA} or the number given in the *Absolute Maximum Ratings*, whichever is lower.

Note 4: Human body model, applicable std. JESD22-A114C.

Note 5: Machine model, applicable std. JESD22-A115-A.

Note 6: Charge device model, applicable std. JESD22-C101D.

Note 7: Typical values represent most likely parametric norms at T_A = +25ºC, and at the *Recommended Operation Conditions* at the time of product characterization and are not guaranteed.

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Note 8: Datasheet min/max specification limits are guaranteed by test or statistical analysis.

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FIGURE 3. FFNS^E , NFSL^E , SNRI^E Test Circuit

FAR FIELD NOISE SUPPRESSION (FFNS^E)

For optimum noise suppression the far field noise should be in a broadside array configuration from the two microphones, see *[Figure 10](#page-19-0)*. Which means the far field sound source is equidistance from the two microphones. This configuration allows the amplitude of the far field signal to be equal at the two microphone inputs, however a slight phase difference may still exist. To simulate a real world application a slight phase delay was added to the FFNS_E test. The block diagram from Figure 3 is used with the following procedure to measure the FFNS_E.

- 1. A sine wave with equal frequency and amplitude $(25mV_{P-P})$ is applied to Mic1 and Mic2. Using a signal generator, the phase of Mic 2 is delayed by 1.1° for 1kHz, or 0.33° for 300Hz, when compared with Mic1.
- 2. Measure the output level in dBV (X)
- 3. Mute the signal from Mic2
- 4. Measure the output level in dBV (Y)
- 5. FFNS_E = Y X dB

NEAR FIELD SPEECH LOSS (NFSL^E)

For optimum near field speech preservation, the sound source should be in an endfire array configuration from the

two microphones (see *[Figure 11](#page-19-0)*). In this configuration the speech signal at the microphone closest to the sound source will have greater amplitude than the microphone further away. Additionally the signal at microphone further away will experience a phase lag when compared with the closer microphone. To simulate this, phase delay as well as amplitude shift was added to the NFSL_E test. The schematic from Figure 3 is used with the following procedure to measure the NF- $\mathsf{SL}_{\mathsf{E}}.$

- 1. A 25mV_{P-P} and 17.25mV_{P-P} (0.69*25mV_{P-P}) sine wave is applied to Mic1 and Mic2 respectively. Once again, a signal generator is used to delay the phase of Mic2 by 15.9° for 1Khz, or 4.8° for 300Hz, when compared with Mic1.
- 2. Measure the output level in dBV (X)
- 3. Mute the signal from Mic2
- 4. Measure the output level in dBV (Y)
- 5. NFSL_E = Y X dB

SINGLE TO NOISE RATIO IMPROVEMENT ELECTRICAL (SNRI^E)

The SNRI $_{\rm E}$ is the ratio of FFNS $_{\rm E}$ to NFSL $_{\rm E}$ and is defined as: ${\sf SNRI}_{\sf E}$ = ${\sf FFNS}_{\sf E}$ - ${\sf NFSL}_{\sf E}$

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Typical Performance Characteristics Unless otherwise specified, T_J = 25°C, V_{DD} = 3.6V. Uplink Path: Input Voltage = 18mV_{P-P}, f =1 kHz, pass through mode (Note 8), Pre Amp gain = 20dB, Post Amp gain = 6dB, R_L = 100kΩ, and C_{L} = 4.7pf. Downlink Path: R_{L} = 32 Ω , f = 1kHz, SNR Enhancer disabled.

THD+N vs Frequency

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THD+N vs Frequency Mic2 = 36mV, Pass Through Mode Mic2 Uplink Path

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PSRR vs Frequency V_{DD} = 5V

Input Referred, VRIPPLE = 200mVP-P Input = AC Ground, Downlink Path

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Application Data

communication system. A simplified block diagram is provided in *Figure 4*.

UPLINK FAR-FIELD NOISE REDUCTION OVERVIEW

The uplink portion of the LMV1099 is a fully analog solution to reduce the far field noise picked up by microphones in a

FIGURE 4. Simplified Block Diagram of the LMV1099 Uplink path

The output signal of the microphones is amplified by a preamplifier with adjustable gain between 12dB and 36dB. The matched signals are then routed through the Analog Noise Cancelling block which suppresses the far-field signal. The output of the analog noise cancelling processor is amplified in the post amplifier with selectable gain, 6dB or 12dB. For optimum noise and EMI immunity, the microphones have a differential connection to the LMV1099 and the uplink output is also differential. The adjustable gain functions can be controlled via I2C.

POWER SUPPLY CIRCUITS

A low drop-out (LDO) voltage regulator in the LMV1099 allows the device to be independent of supply voltage variations. The Power On Reset (POR) circuitry in the LMV1099 requires the supply voltage to rise from 0V to V_{DD} in less than 100ms. The Mic Bias output is provided as a low noise supply source for the electret microphones. The noise voltage on the Mic Bias microphone supply output pin depends on the noise voltage on the internal the reference node. The de-coupling capacitor on the V_{BFE} pin determines the noise voltage on this internal reference. This capacitor should be larger than 1nF; having a larger capacitor value will result in a lower noise voltage on the Mic Bias output.

GAIN BALANCE AND GAIN BUDGET

In systems where input signals have a high dynamic range, critical noise levels or where the dynamic range of the output voltage is also limited, careful gain balancing is essential for the best performance. Too low of a gain setting in the preamplifier can result in higher noise levels, while too high of a gain setting in the preamplifier will result in saturation of the noise cancelling processor and output stages.

The gain ranges and maximum signal levels for the different functional blocks are shown in *Figure 5*. Two examples are given as a guideline on how to select proper gain settings.

FIGURE 5. Maximum Signal Levels

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Example 1:

An application using microphones with $50mV_{p,p}$ maximum output voltage, and a baseband chip after the LMV1099 with $1.5V_{\text{p-p}}$ maximum input voltage.

For optimum noise performance, the gain of the input stage should be set to the maximum.

- 1. $50mV_{p,p} + 36dB = 3.1V_{p,p}$.
- 2. $3.1V_{p,p}$ is higher than the maximum 1.5V_{P-P} allowed for the Noise Cancelling Block (NCB). This means a gain lower than 29.5dB should be selected.
- 3. Select the nearest lower gain from the gain settings shown in *[Table 6](#page-17-0)*, 28dB is selected. This will prevent the NCB from being overloaded by the microphone. With this setting, the resulting output level of the Pre Amplifier will be $1.26V_{P-P}$.
- 4. The NCB has a gain of 0dB which will result in $1.26V_{P-P}$ at the output of the LMV1099. This level is less than the maximum level that is allowed at the input of the post amp of the LMV1099.
- 5. The baseband chip limits the maximum output voltage to 1.5 $V_{\text{P-P}}$ with the minimum of 6dB post amp gain, this results in requiring a lower level at the input of the post amp of $0.75V_{P-P}$. Now calculating this for a maximum preamp gain, the output of the preamp must be no more than 0.75 m V_{P-P} .
- 6. Calculating the new gain for the preamp will result in <23.5dB gain.
- 7. The nearest lower gain will be 22dB.

So using preamp gain = 22dB and postamp gain = 6dB is the optimum for this application.

Example 2:

An application using microphones with 10mV_{P-P} maximum output voltage, and a baseband chip after the LMV1099 with $3.3V_{\text{P-P}}$ maximum input voltage.

For optimum noise performance we would like to have the maximum gain at the input stage.

- 1. $10mV_{p-p} + 36dB = 631mV_{p-p}$.
- 2. This is lower than the maximum $1.5V_{P-P}$, so this is OK.
- 3. The NCB has a gain of 0dB which will result in $1.5V_{P-P}$ at the output of the LMV1099. This level is lower than the maximum level that is allowed at the input of the Post Amp of the LMV1099.
- 4. With a Post Amp gain setting of 6dB the output of the Post Amp will be $3V_{P-P}$ which is OK for the baseband.
- 5. The nearest lower Post Amp gain will be 6dB.

So using preamp gain $=$ 36dB and postamp gain $=$ 6dB is optimum for this application.

I 2C Compatible Interface

The LMV1099 is controlled through an I2C compatible serial interface that consists of a serial data line (SDA) and a serial clock (SCL). The clock line is uni-directional. The data line is bi-directional (open-collector) although the LMV1099 does not write to the I2C bus. The LMV1099 and the master can communicate at clock rates up to 400kHz. Figure 5 shows the I 2C Interface timing diagram. Data on the SDA line must be stable during the HIGH period of SCL. The LMV1099 is a transmit/receive slave-only device, reliant upon the master to generate the SCL signal. Each transmission sequence is framed by a START condition and a STOP condition (Figure 6). The data line is 8 bits long and is always followed by an acknowledge pulse (Figure 7).

12C Compatible Interface Power Supply Pin (I²CV_{DD})

The LMV1099 I2C interface is powered up through the l²CV_{DD} pin. The LMV1099 l²C interface operates at a voltage level set by the I^2CV_{DD} pin which can be set independent to that of the main power supply pin V_{DD} . This is ideal whenever logic levels for the I2C Interface are dictated by a microcontroller or microprocessor that is operating at a lower supply voltage than the main battery of a portable system.

I 2C Bus Format

The I2C bus format is shown in Figure 7. The START signal, the transition of SDA from HIGH to LOW while SCL is HIGH is generated, alerting all devices on the bus that a device address is being written to the bus. The 7-bit device address is written to the bus, most significant bit (MSB) first followed by the R/W bit, R/W = 0 indicates the master is writing to the slave device, R/W = 1 indicates the master wants to read data from the slave device. Set $R/W = 0$; the LMV1099 is a WRITE-ONLY device and will not respond to the $R/W = 1$. The data is latched in on the rising edge of the clock. Each address bit must be stable while SCL is HIGH. After the last address bit is transmitted, the mater device release SDA, during which time, an acknowledge clock pulse is generated by the slave device. If the LMV1099 receives the correct address, the device pulls the SDA line low, generating an acknowledge bit (ACK)

Once the master device registers the ACK bit, the 8-bit register data word is sent. Each data bit should be stable while SCL is HIGH. After the 8-bit register data word is sent, the LMV1099 sends another ACK bit. Following the acknowledgement of the last register data word, the master issues a STOP bit, allowing SDA to go high while SCL is high.

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TABLE 2. Chip Address

NOTE: The 7th Bit (B7) of the Register Data determines whether it will activate Register A or Register B.

TABLE 3. Control Registers Register Name Register Address B<6:5> B<4> B<3> B<2> B<1> B<0> Shutdown $\begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c} \hline \text{contra} & & \text{contra} & \text{contra}$ $12CV_{DD}$ sd power_on Mic mode no mode = 01 mic_sel1 mic_sel0 agc_mic_mute mute_mic2 mute_mic1
control = 01 mute_mic1 Mic Gain control | 10 | mic_post_gain | mic_pre_gain3 | mic_pre_gain2 | mic_pre_gain1 | mic_pre_gain0 EP | 11 | ep_mute | plev | ep_bypass_agc | ep_ri1 | ep_ri0

TABLE 4. Shutdown Control Register

TABLE 5. LMV1099 Microphone Mode Control Register

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* agc_mic_mute overrides mute_mic1 and mute_mic2

TABLE 6. LMV1099 Microphone Gain Control Register

TABLE 7. LMV1099 Earpiece Control Register

Shutdown Function

As part of the Powerwise™ family, the LMV1099 consumes only 0.50mA of current. In many applications the part does not need to be continuously operational. To further reduce the power consumption in the inactive period, the LMV1099 provides two individual microphone power down functions (controlled through the mode control registers B3:B4). When either one of the shutdown functions is activated the part will go into shutdown mode consuming only a few μA of supply current. Shutdown functions can be controlled via the I2C interface or a hardware pin.

SHUTDOWN VIA HARDWARE PIN

The hardware shutdown function is operated via the EN pin. In normal operation the EN pin must be at a 'high' level (V_{DD}) . Whenever a 'low' level (GND) is applied to the EN pin the part will go into shutdown mode disabling all internal circuits.

Microphone Mode Control

The LMV1099 features four Microphone modes, Noise Cancellation Mode, Mic 1 pass through, Mic 2 pass through, and (Mic1+Mic2)/2. When in Noise Cancellation mode, it is imperative that Mic 1 and Mic 2 are NOT muted. If the mute function for either microphone path is enabled, the noise cancellation circuitry will be disabled. In mic1/mic2 pass through mode the noise canceling block is bypassed, and the LMV1099 is simply used as a microphone amplifier where the microphone signal passes through the pre and post amplifier gain stages. The last mode provides an average of the two microphone pass through signals (noise cancelling block is bypassed).

The microphone input paths can be muted individually via I 2C (Mic mode control register B1:B0). To enable the mute function, set bit B2 of the microphone mode control register to 1. If B2 is set to 0, the mute function will not activate.

Signal-to-Noise Ratio Enhancer (SNR Enhancer)

The SNR Enhancer in the LMV1099 is designed to provide excellent voice intelligibility in noisy environments. The control signal for the output gain adjustment is dependent on both the level and the type of ambient noise, compared with the signal energy of the downlink voice. The system was designed to operate transparently to the user, such that the gain changes are not evident but provide excellent voice intelligibility.

National has invested considerable amount of time evaluating the acoustic effects of different ambient noise source types along with their practical SPL levels to determine optimum timing capacitor values for the proprietary downlink solution. These timing capacitor values should not be changed. We recommend using standard ceramic chip type capacitors with

a low leakage rating. Electrolytic capacitors should not be used.

The SNR enhancing circuit will analyze the various energy levels for different frequency ranges and weight the AGC's gain change accordingly such that the downlink voice will remain intelligent. The overall intent of the circuit is for the gain changes to be transparent. Great care has gone into ensuring that gain changes won't be too perceptible or obnoxious. The system with have more dynamic gain change capability at low ambient noise levels in order to respond to fast changing noise sources. At the other extreme the system will have less dynamic gain change at high ambient noise levels since the environment will constantly be affecting intelligibility.

Earpiece Control Registers

OUTPUT POWER LIMIT (PLEV)

While National has done extensive ambient SPL analysis, there will always be unusual circumstances that may cause the amplifier to be at its maximum 18dB setting. LMV1099 features an Output Voltage Limit function to limit the output power delivered to a speaker. When the SNR enhancer is active, the Output Voltage Limit works to protect the loudspeaker in conditions where a large downlink input signal is present. The Output Voltage Limit can be set to a selectable $(3.6V_{P-P}$ or 4.1V_{P-P}) output level to avoid violating the maximum power limitation of the transducer.

SNR ENHANCER BYPASS (EP_BYPASS_AGC)

The SNR enhancer can be bypassed by setting B4 of the Earpiece Control Register to 1. When the SNR enhancer is bypassed, the earpiece amplifier has a fixed 0dB gain.

EP_RI (INPUT IMPEDANCE)

The earpiece input of the LMV1099 features three input impedance options, this impedance in conjunction with the input capacitor creates a high-pass filter. The three options provide various cutoff frequencies for the high-pass filter. *Table 8* shows the respective cutoff frequencies for each of the input impedance options when using a 68nF input capacitor.

TABLE 8. Input Impedance options

Changing the input coupling capacitor will affect the filters – 3dB point through the simple RC equation shown below:

 $f = 1 / 2\pi RC$

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Microphone Placement

Because the LMV1099 is a microphone array Far Field Noise Reduction solution, proper microphone placement is critical for optimum performance. Two things need to be considered: The spacing between the two microphones and the position of the two microphones relative to near field source.

If the spacing between the two microphones is too small near field speech will be canceled along with the far field noise. Conversely, if the spacing between the two microphones is large, the far field noise reduction performance will be degraded. The optimum spacing between mic1 and mic2 is 1.5-2.5cm. This range provides a balance of minimal near field speech loss and maximum far field noise reduction. The microphones should be in line with the desired sound source 'near speech' and configured in an endfire array (see *Figure 11*) orientation from the sound source. If the 'near speech' (desired sound source) is equidistant to the source like a broadside array (see *Figure 10*) the result will be a great deal of near field speech loss.

Low-Pass Filter At The Output

At the output of the LMV1099 there is a provision to create a 1st order low-pass filter (only enabled in 'Noise Cancelling' mode). This low-pass filter can be used to compensate for the change in frequency response that results from the noise cancellation process. The change in frequency response resembles a first-order high-pass filter, and for many of the applications it can be compensated by a first-order low-pass filter with cutoff frequency between 1.5kHz and 2.5kHz.

The transfer function of the low-pass filter is derived as:

$$
H(s) = \frac{\text{Post Amplifier gain}}{sR_rC_r + 1}
$$

This low-pass filter is created by connecting a capacitor between the LPF pin and the OUT pin of the LMV1099. The value of this capacitor also depends on the selected output gain. For different gains the feedback resistance in the lowpass filter network changes as shown in .

This will result in the following values for a cutoff frequency of 2000 Hz:

TABLE 9. Low-Pass Filter Capacitor For 2kHz

A-Weighted Filter

The human ear is sensitive for acoustic signals within a frequency range from about 20Hz to 20kHz. Within this range the sensitivity of the human ear is not equal for each frequency. To approach the hearing response, weighting filters are introduced. One of those filters is the A-weighted filter.

The A-weighted filter is used in signal to noise measurements, where the wanted audio signal is compared to device noise and distortion.

The use of this filter improves the correlation of the measured values to the way these ratios are perceived by the human ear.

FIGURE 12. A-Weighted Filter

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Measuring Uplink Noise and SNR

The overall noise of the LMV1099 is measured within the frequency band from 10Hz to 22kHz using an A-weighted filter.

FIGURE 13. Noise Measurement Setup

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For the signal to noise ratio (SNR) the signal level at the output is measured with a 1kHz input signal of $18mV_{p,p}$ using an A-weighted filter. This voltage represents the output voltage of a typical electret condenser microphone at a sound pressure level of 94dB SPL, which is the standard level for these measurements. The LMV1099 is programmed for 26dB of total gain (20dB preamplifier and 6dB postamplifier) with only mic1 or mic2 used. (See also *I2C Compatible* Interface). The input signal is applied differentially between the Mic+ and Mic-. Because the part is in Pass Through mode the low-pass filter at the output of the LMV1099 is disabled.

Revision History

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Notes

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