

Evaluating the **AD5141** Digital Potentiometer

FEATURES

Full featured evaluation board in conjunction with low voltage digiPOT motherboard (EVAL-MB-LV-SDZ)
 Various test circuits
 Various ac/dc input signals
 PC control via a separately purchased system demonstration platform (**SDP-B** or **SDP-S**)
 PC software for control

PACKAGE CONTENTS

EVAL-AD5141DBZ board
EVAL-MB-LV-SDZ motherboard
 CD that includes

Self-installing software that allows users to control the board and exercise all functions of the device
 Electronic version of the **AD5141** data sheet
 Electronic version of the **UG-473** user guide

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

This user guide describes the evaluation board for evaluating the **AD5141**—a quad-channel, 256-position, nonvolatile memory, digital potentiometer. With versatile programmability, the **AD5141** allows multiple modes of operation, including read/write access in the RDAC and EEMEM registers, increment/decrement of resistance, resistance changes in ± 6 dB scales, wiper setting read-back, and extra EEMEM for storing user-defined information, such as memory data for other components or a lookup table.

The **AD5141** supports a dual-supply ± 2.25 V to ± 2.75 V operation and a single-supply 2.3 V to 5.5 V operation, making the device suitable for battery-powered applications and many other applications. In addition, the **AD5141** can be configured as a versatile I²C or SPI serial interface. The **EVAL-AD5141DBZ** can operate in single-supply or dual-supply mode and incorporates an internal power supply from the USB.

Complete specifications for the **AD5141** part can be found in the **AD5141** data sheet, which is available from Analog Devices, Inc., and should be consulted in conjunction with this user guide when using the evaluation board.

EVAL-AD5141DBZ WITH MOTHERBOARD AND **SDP-S**



Figure 1. Digital Picture of Evaluation Board with Low Voltage DigiPOT Motherboard and System Demonstration Platform

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REVISION HISTORY

11/12—Revision 0: Initial Version

EVALUATION BOARD HARDWARE

POWER SUPPLIES

The EVAL-MB-LV-SDZ motherboard supports using single and dual power supplies.

The [EVAL-AD5141DBZ](#) evaluation board can be powered either from the SDP port or externally by the J1 and J2 connectors, as described in Table 1.

All supplies are decoupled to ground using 10 μ F tantalum and 0.1 μ F ceramic capacitors.

Table 1. Maximum and Minimum Voltages of the Connectors

Connector No.	Label	Voltage
J1-1	VDD	Analog positive power supply, V_{DD} . Single supply from 2.3 V to 5.5 V. Dual supply from 2.25 V to 2.75 V.
J1-2	AGND	Analog ground.
J1-3	VSS	Analog negative power supply, V_{SS} . Dual supply from -2.25 V to -2.75 V.
J2-1	VLOGIC	Digital supply, from 1.8 V to V_{DD} .
J2-2	DGND	Digital ground.

Link Options

Several link and switch options are incorporated in the EVAL-MB-LV-SDZ motherboard and should be set up before using the board. Table 2 describes the positions of the links to control the evaluation board via the SDP board using a PC. The functions of these link options are described in detail in Table 3 through Table 11.

Table 2. Link Options Setup for SDP Control (Default)

Link No.	Option
A5	+3V3
A11	3.3 V
A12	AGND

Linear Gain Setting Mode

The linear gain setting mode pin can be controlled directly by Jumper A5. If the jumper is placed in Position A, the AD5141 powers up in potentiometer mode, and the linear gain setting mode can be controlled by software. If the jumper is placed in Position B, the part powers up in linear gain setting mode, loading independent values for each resistor string— R_{AW} and R_{WB} . The jumper cannot be placed in potentiometer mode again unless the jumper is manually placed in Position A.

Table 3. Link Functions

Link No.	Power Supply	Options
A5	V_{LOGIC}	This link selects one of the following as the digital supply: +3V3 (3.3 V from SDP). VLOGIC EXT (external supply from the J2 connector).
A11	V_{DD}	This link selects one of the following as the positive power supply: +5 V (5 V from SDP). 3V3 (3.3 V from SDP). VDD (external supply from the J1 connector).
A12	V_{SS}	This link selects one of the following as the negative power supply: AGND. EXTVSS (external supply from the J1 connector).

AC Signal Attenuation

The RDAC can be used to attenuate an ac signal, which must be provided externally using the AC_INPUT connector, as shown in Figure 3.

Depending on the voltage supply rails and the dc offset voltage of the ac signal, various configurations can be used as described in Table 8 and Table 9.

Table 8. AC Signal Attenuation Daughter Board Links

Link	Options	Description
A6	B	Connects Terminal A to A1
A7	B	Connects Terminal W to W1
A8	B	Connects Terminal B to B1
A1	IN	Closes feedback loop of second op amp in the AD8618

The signal attenuation is defined in Equation 2.

$$Attenuation (dB) = 20 \times \log \left(\frac{R_{WB1} + R_W}{R_{AB}} \right) \quad (2)$$

where:

R_W is the wiper resistance.

R_{AB} is the end-to-end resistance value.

R_{WB1} is the resistor between the W1 and B1 terminals.

Table 9. AC Signal Attenuation Link Motherboard Links

Voltage Supply	Maximum AC Signal Amplitude	Link	Options	Conditions
Single	V_{DD}	A9	AC+	No dc offset voltage; the ac signal is outside the voltage supply rails due to the dc offset voltage; or the dc offset voltage $\neq V_{DD}/2$. ¹
			AC	All other conditions.
		A10	BIAS	Use in conjunction with the AC+ link.
Dual	V_{DD}/V_{SS}	A9	GND	All other conditions.
			AC+	The ac signal is outside the voltage supply rails due to the dc offset voltage; the dc offset voltage $\neq 0 V$. ¹
		A10	AC	All other conditions.
Dual	V_{DD}/V_{SS}	A10	GND	Use in conjunction with the AC+ link.
			VSS	All other conditions.

¹ Recommended to ensure optimal total harmonic distortion (THD) performance.

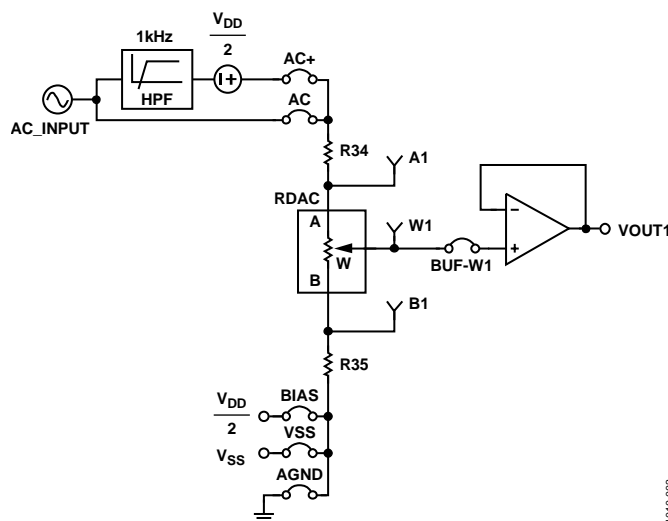


Figure 3. AC Signal Attenuator

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Signal Amplifier

The RDAC can be operated as an inverting or noninverting signal amplifier supporting linear or pseudologarithmic gains. Table 10 and Table 11 show the available configurations.

The noninverting amplifier with linear gain is shown in Figure 4, and the gain is defined in Equation 3.

$$G = 1 + \frac{R_{WB}}{R_{AW}} \quad (3)$$

where:

R_{WB} is the code loaded for the R_{WB} resistance.

R_{AW} is the code loaded for the R_{AW} resistance.

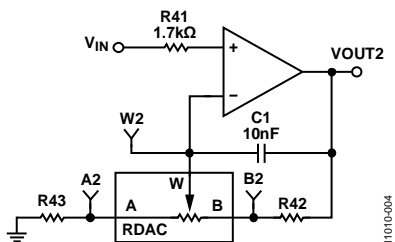


Figure 4. Linear Noninverting Amplifier

R43 and R42 can be used to set the maximum and minimum gain limits.

The noninverting amplifier with pseudologarithmic gain is shown in Figure 5, and the gain is defined in Equation 4.

$$G = 1 + \frac{RDAC}{256 - RDAC} \quad (4)$$

where:

$RDAC$ is the code loaded in the RDAC.

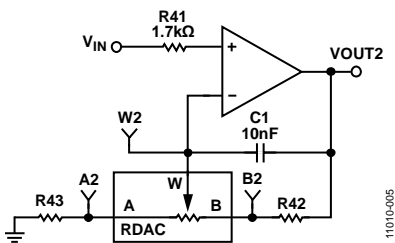


Figure 5. Pseudologarithmic Noninverting Amplifier

R43 and R42 can be used to set the maximum and minimum gain limits.

The inverting amplifier with linear gain is shown in Figure 6, and the gain is defined in Equation 5.

Note that the input signal, V_{IN} , must be negative.

$$G = -\frac{R_{WB}}{R_{AW}} \quad (5)$$

where:

R_{WB} is the code loaded for the R_{WB} resistance.

R_{AW} is the code loaded for the R_{AW} resistance.

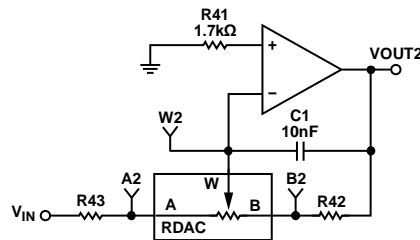


Figure 6. Linear Inverting Amplifier

R43 and R42 can be used to set the maximum and minimum gain limits.

Table 10. Amplifier Selection Daughter Board Link Options

Link	Options	Description
A6	A	Connects Terminal A to A2
A7	A	Connects Terminal W to W2
A8	A	Connects Terminal B to B2
A1	OUT	Open short circuit for the AD8618

The inverting amplifier with pseudologarithmic gain is shown in Figure 7, and the gain is defined in Equation 6.

$$G = -\frac{RDAC}{256 - RDAC} \quad (6)$$

where:

$RDAC$ is the code loaded in the RDAC.

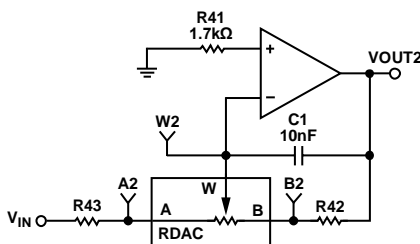


Figure 7. Pseudologarithmic Inverting Amplifier

R43 and R42 can be used to set the maximum and minimum gain limits.

Table 11. Amplifier Selection Motherboard Link Options

Amplifier	Gain	Linear Setting Gain Mode Enabled	Link	Label
Noninverting	Linear	Yes	A7 A6 A8	LIN N-INV N-INV
	Pseudologarithmic	No	A7 A6 A8	LOG N-INV N-INV
Inverting	Linear	Yes	A7 A6 A8	LIN INV INV
	Pseudologarithmic	No	A7 A6 A8	LOG INV INV

EVALUATION BOARD SOFTWARE

INSTALLING THE SOFTWARE

The [EVAL-AD5141DBZ](#) kit includes a CD containing the evaluation board software. The software is compatible with Windows® XP, Windows Vista, and Windows 7 (both 32 bits and 64 bits).

Install the software before connecting the [SDP board](#) to the USB port of the PC to ensure that the SDP board is recognized when it is connected to the PC.

To install the software,

1. Start the Windows operating system and insert the CD into the CD-ROM drive.
2. The installation software opens automatically. If it does not open automatically, run the **setup.exe** file from the CD.
3. After the installation is complete, power up the evaluation board as described in the Power Supplies section.
4. Connect the [EVAL-AD5141DBZ](#) and EVAL-MB-LV-SDZ to the SDP board, and then connect the SDP board to the PC using the USB cable included with the SDP board.
5. When the software detects the evaluation board, follow the instructions that appear to finalize the installation.

To run the program, do the following:

1. Click **Start > All Programs > Analog Devices > AD5141 > AD5141 Eval Board**. To uninstall the program, click

Start > Control Panel > Add or Remove Programs > AD5141 Eval Board.

2. If the SDP board is not connected to the USB port when the software is launched, a connectivity error displays (see Figure 8). Simply connect the evaluation board to the USB port of the PC, wait a few seconds, click **Rescan**, and follow the instructions.

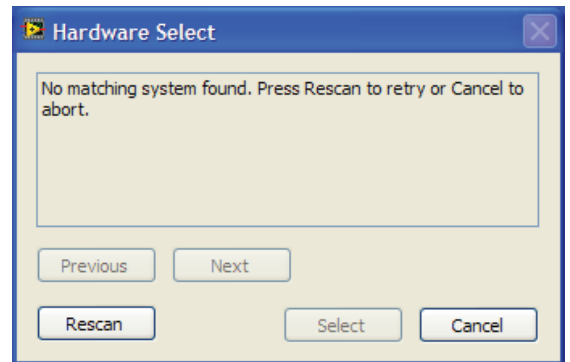


Figure 8. Pop-Up Window Error

The main window of the [EVAL-AD5141DBZ](#) software then opens, as shown in Figure 9.

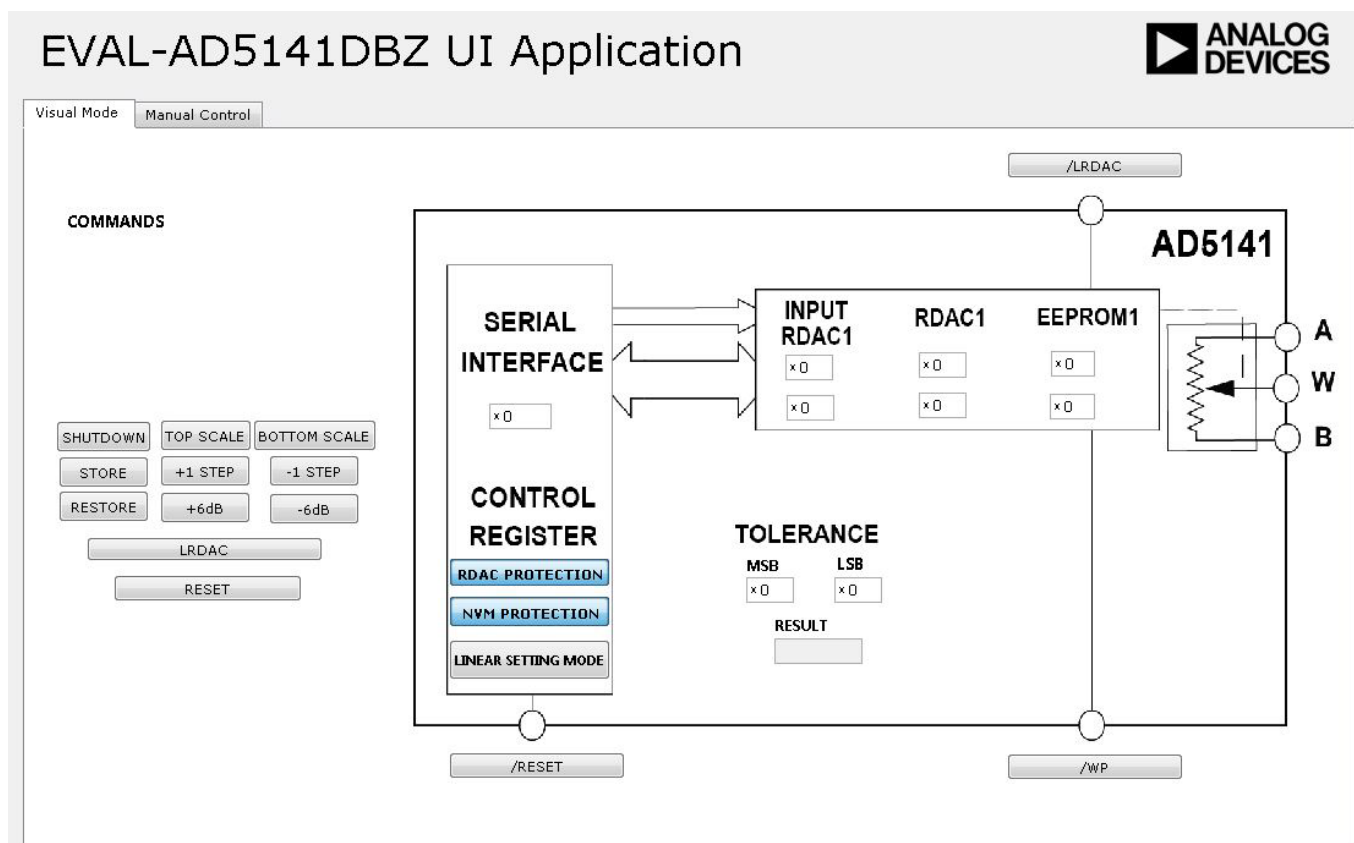


Figure 9. EVAL-AD5141DBZ Software Main Window

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SOFTWARE OPERATION

The main window of the [EVAL-AD5141DBZ](#) software has two tabs, **Visual Mode** and **Manual Control**.

Visual Mode

The **Visual Mode** tab is divided into the following sections: **ALL CHANNELS COMMANDS**, **INDIVIDUAL CHANNEL COMMANDS**, and a block diagram that contains boxes for changing the control register values and buttons and for controlling the hardware pins.

The **ALL CHANNELS COMMANDS** section allows you to send quick commands directly to the [AD5141](#).

The **INDIVIDUAL CHANNEL COMMANDS** section allows you to send quick commands to only specific channels of the [AD5141](#).

The block diagram allows you to update the control register status. Each register value can be easily updated by changing the

value in its respective block within the diagram. In addition, buttons are available that allow you to change the level of some hardware pins.

Manual Mode

The **Manual Mode** tab, as shown in Figure 10, allows you to customize an I²C data-word by manually switching the scroll bars from 0 to 1 or from 1 to 0, as desired, and then clicking **SEND DATA**.

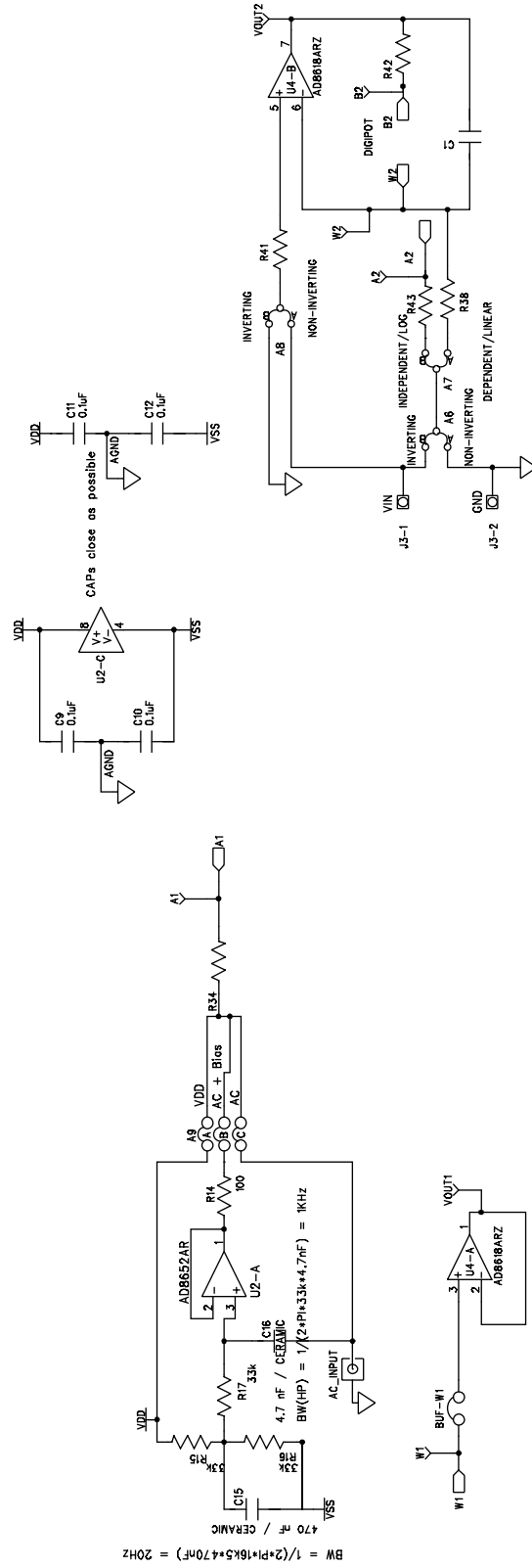


Figure 10. Manual Mode

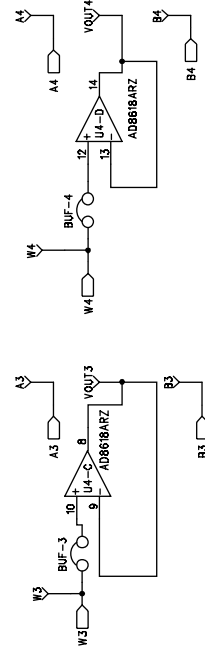
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Figure 11. SDP Connector and Power Supply

DAC + FLOATING DAC + BW



INVERTING AND NON-INVERTING WITH LINEAR AND PSEUDO-LOG GAIN



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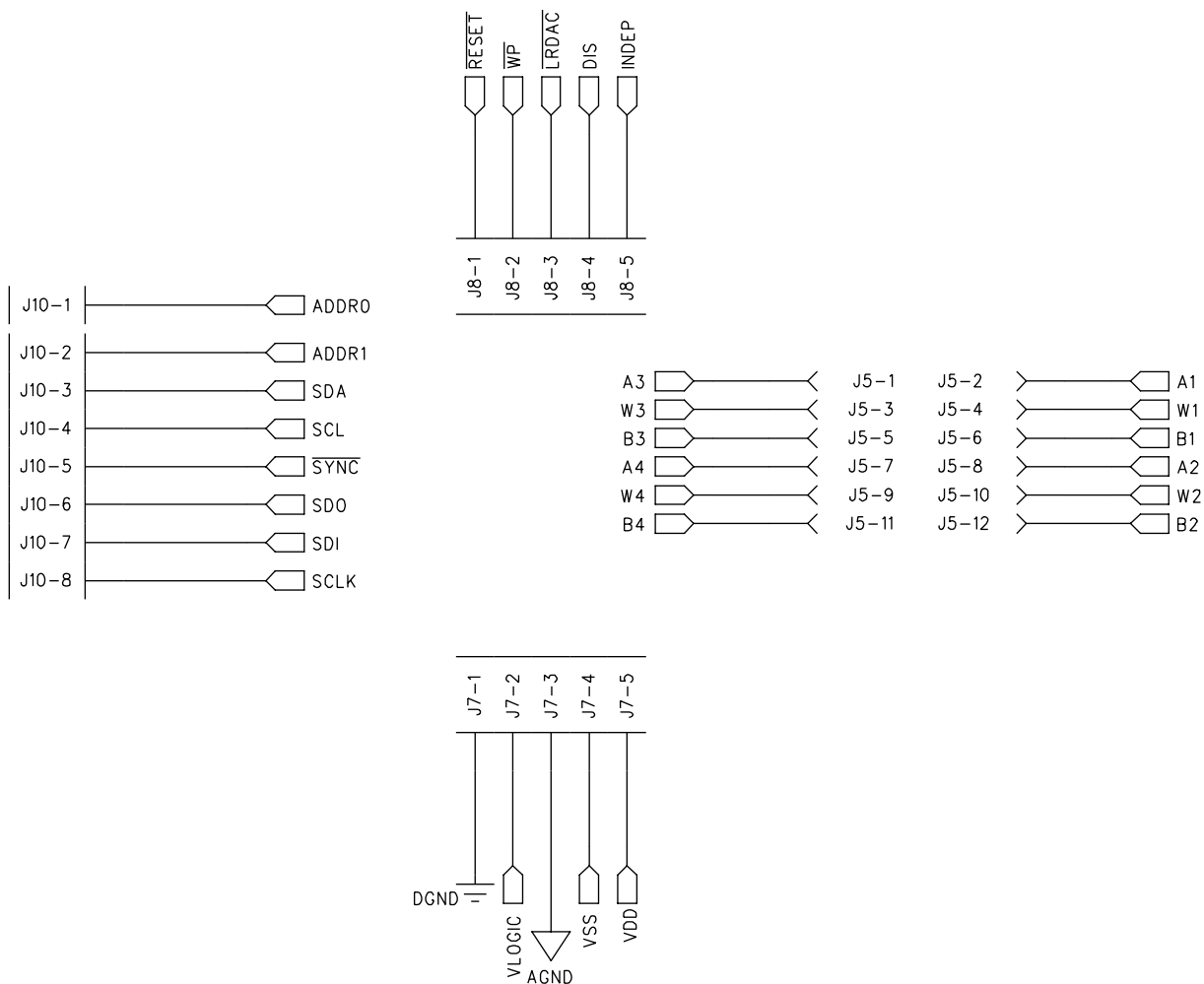


Figure 13. Schematic of Connectors to Daughter Board

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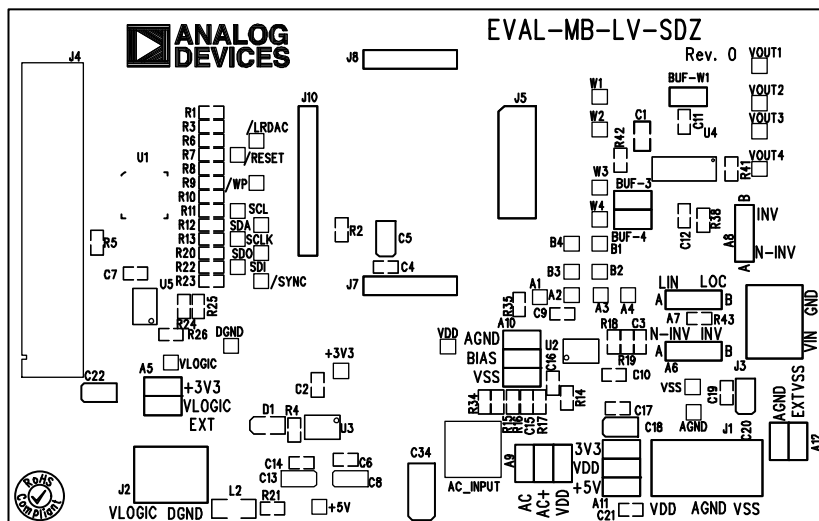


Figure 14. Component Side View of Motherboard

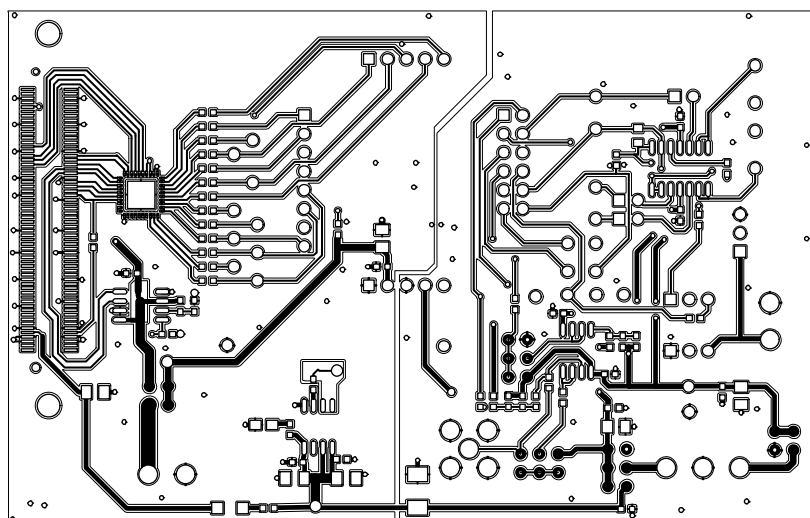


Figure 15. Component Placement Drawing of Motherboard

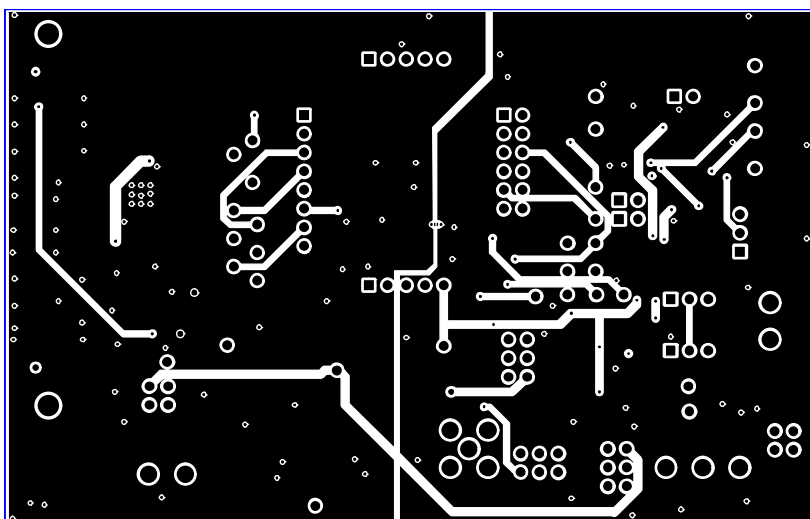


Figure 16. Layer 2 Side PCB Drawing of Motherboard

DAUGHTER BOARD

11010-016

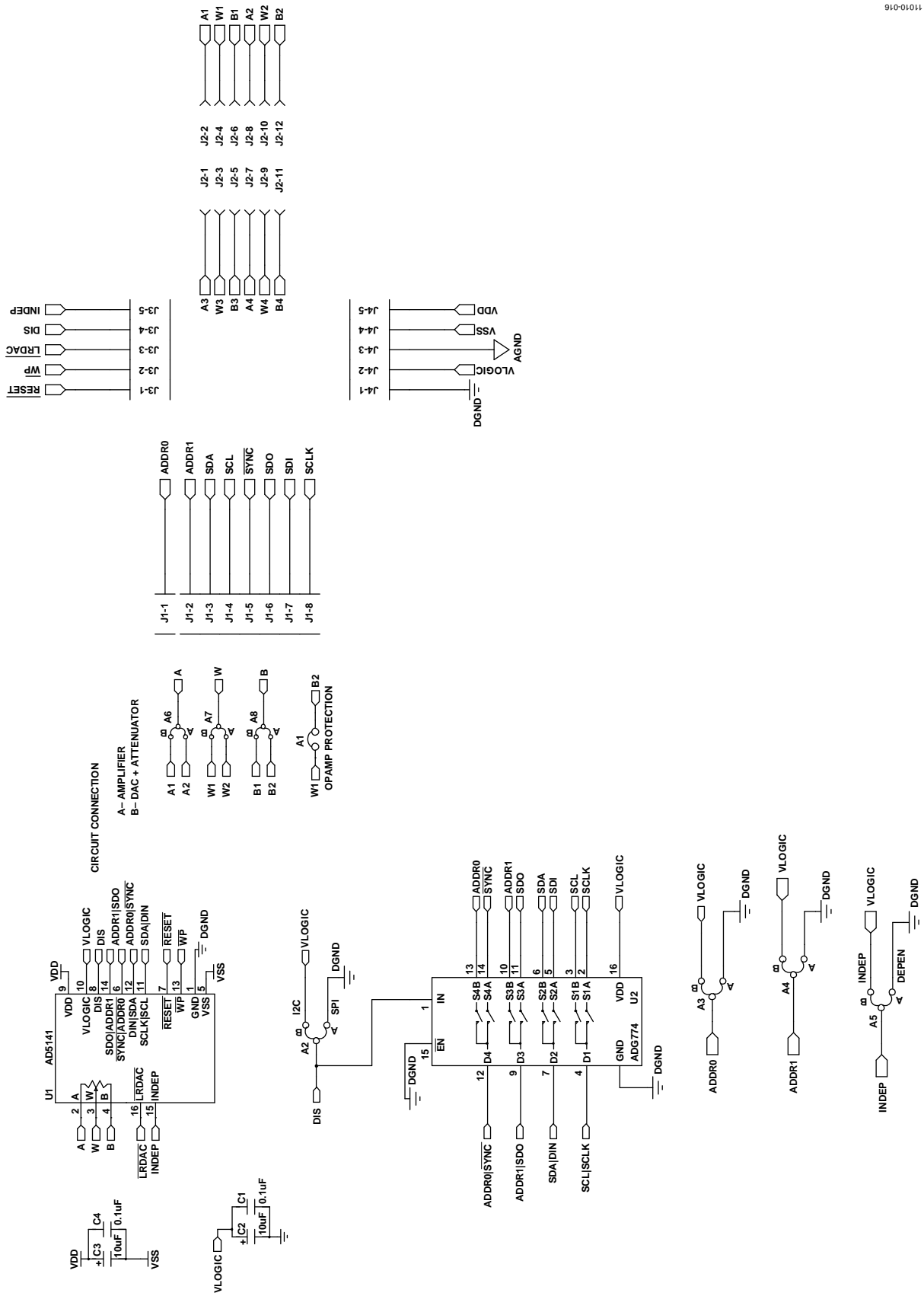


Figure 17. Schematic of Daughter Board

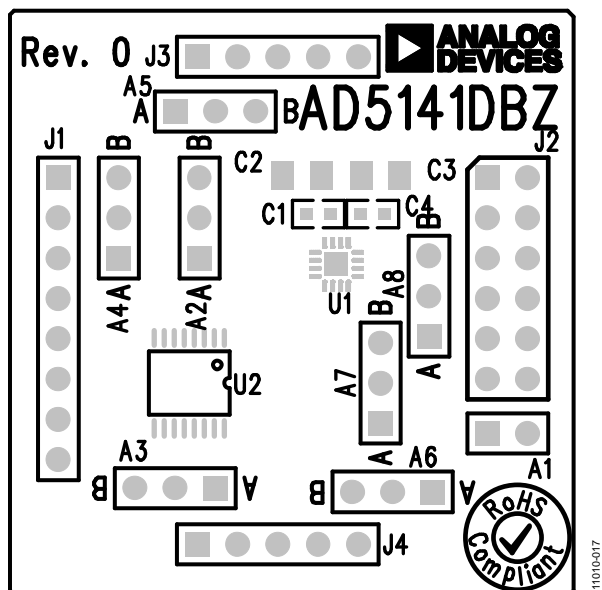


Figure 18. Component Side View of Daughter Board

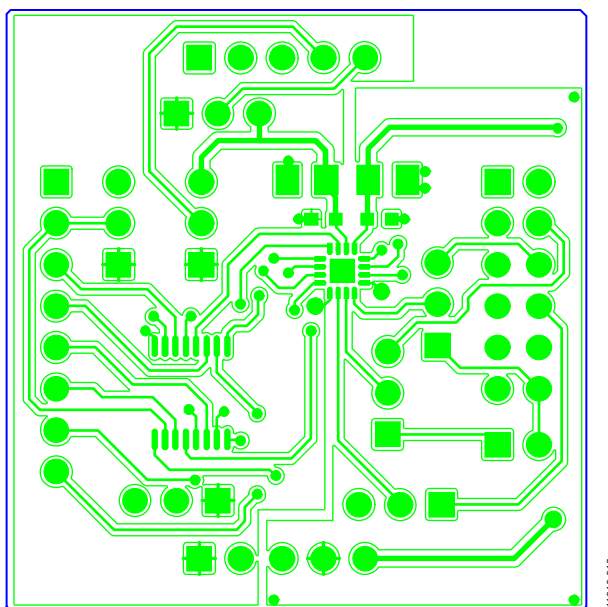


Figure 19. Component Placement Drawing of Daughter Board

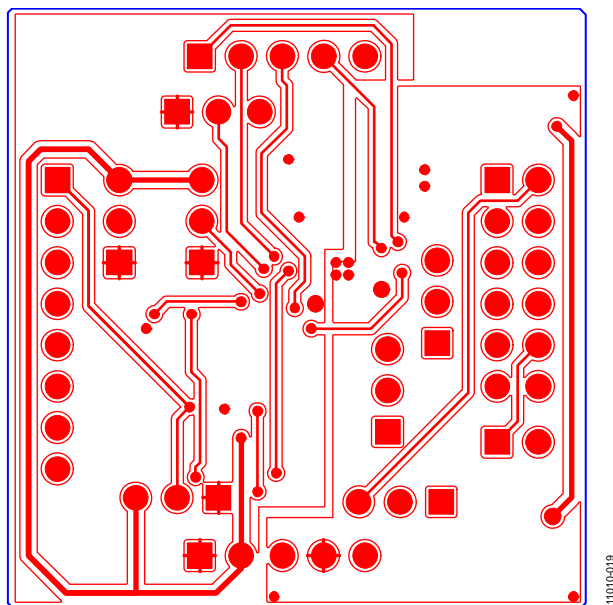


Figure 20. Layer 2 Side PCB Drawing of Daughter Board

ORDERING INFORMATION

BILL OF MATERIALS

Table 12. Motherboard

Qty	Reference Designator	Description	Supplier ¹ /Part Number
3	BUF-3, BUF-4, BUF-W1	2-pin (0.1" pitch) header and shorting shunt	FEC 1022247 and 150411
3	A6, A7, A8	3-pin SIL header and shorting link	FEC 1022248 and 150410
5	A5, A9, A10, A11, A12	6-pin (3 × 2), 0.1" header and shorting block	FEC 672014 and 150411 (36-pin strip)
1	J1	3-pin terminal block (5 mm pitch)	FEC 151790
2	J7, J8	4-pin SIL header	FEC 1098035
1	J4	Receptacle, 0.6 mm, 120-way	Digi-Key H1219-ND
1	J10	8-pin in-line header; 100 mil centers	FEC 1098038
1	J5	12-pin (2 × 6), 0.1" pitch header	FEC 1098051
2	J2, J3	2-pin terminal block (5 mm pitch)	FEC 151789
17	R1, R3, R6, R7, R8, R9, R10, R11, R12, R13, R20, R22, R23, R34, R35, R42, R43	SMD resistor, 0 Ω, 0.01, 0603	FEC 9331662
1	R2	SMD resistor, 2.2 kΩ, 0.01, 0603	FEC 1750676
1	R41	SMD resistor, 1.7 kΩ, 1%, 0603	FEC 1170811
1	R21	Resistor, surge, 1.6 Ω, 1%, 0603	FEC 1627674
1	R38	SMD resistor, 2.7 kΩ, 1%, 0603	FEC 1750678
1	R14	SMD resistor, 100 Ω, 1%, 0603	FEC 9330364
1	R4	SMD resistor, 1 kΩ, 0.01, 0603	FEC 9330380
3	R5, R25, R26	SMD resistor, 100 kΩ, 1%, 0603	FEC 9330402
5	R15, R16, R17, R18, R19	SMD resistor, 33 kΩ, 1%, 0603	FEC 9331034
1	C1	SMD capacitor, 100 nF, 10%, 0805	FEC 1650863
8	C4, C9, C10, C11, C12, C17, C19, C21	SMD capacitor, 0.1 μF, ±10%, 0603	FEC 1759122
4	C2, C6, C7, C14	SMD capacitor, 0.1 μF, ±10%, 0603	FEC 3019482
2	C8, C13	SMD capacitor, 10 μF, ±10%	FEC 197130
4	C18, C20, C22, C5	Capacitor, 10 μF, ±20%	FEC 1190107
2	C3, C15	Capacitor, 470 nF, ±10%, 0603	FEC 1414037
1	C16	Capacitor, 4.7 nF, ±10%, 0603	FEC 1414642
1	C34	Capacitor, 4.7 nF, ±20%	FEC 1432350
1	L2	Inductor, SMD, 600Z	FEC 9526862
1	D1	Green SMD LED	FEC 5790852
1	U1	Two-port level translating bus switch	ADG3247BCPZ
1	U2	Dual op amp	AD8652ARZ
1	U3	Precision low dropout voltage regulator	ADP3303ARZ-3.3
1	U4	Operational amplifier	AD8618ARZ
1	U5	I ² C serial EEPROM 64k 2.5 V MSOP-8	FEC 1331335
18	LRDAC, RESET, SYNC, WP, A1, A2, A3, A4, AGND, B1, VOUT_C1, VOUT_C2, VOUT3, VOUT4, W1, W2, W3, W4	Terminal, PCB, black, PK100, test point	FEC 8731128
5	+3.3V, +5V, EXT_VDD, VLOGIC, EXT_VSS	Terminal, PCB, red, PK100, test point	FEC 8731144

¹ FEC refers to Farnell Electronic Component Distributors; Digi-Key refers to Digi-Key Corporation.

Table 13. Daughter Board

Qty	Reference Designator	Description	Supplier ¹ /Part Number
1	U1	256-position digital potentiometer	AD5141BCPZ10
1	U2	Low voltage quad SPDT switch	ADG774BRQZ
1	A1	2-pin SIL header and shorting link	FEC 1022247 and 150411
7	A2, A3, A4, A5, A6, A7, A8	3-pin SIL header and shorting link	FEC 1022248 and 150410
2	C2, C3	6.3 V tantalum capacitor (Case A), 10 μ F, \pm 20%	FEC 1190107
2	C1, C4	50 V, X7R ceramic capacitor, 0.1 μ F, \pm 10%	FEC 1759122
1	J1	Header, 2.54 mm, PCB, 1 \times 8-way	FEC 1766172
1	J2	12-pin (2 \times 6), 0.1" pitch header	FEC 1804099
2	J3, J4	5-pin SIL header	FEC 1929016

¹ FEC refers to Farnell Electronic Component Distributors.

NOTES

I²C refers to a communications protocol originally developed by Philips Semiconductors (now NXP Semiconductors).

**ESD Caution**

ESD (electrostatic discharge) sensitive device. Charged devices and circuit boards can discharge without detection. Although this product features patented or proprietary protection circuitry, damage may occur on devices subjected to high energy ESD. Therefore, proper ESD precautions should be taken to avoid performance degradation or loss of functionality.

Legal Terms and Conditions

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