



# CAT525

## Configured Digitally Programmable Potentiometer (DPP™): Programmable Voltage Applications

### FEATURES

- Four 8-bit DPPs configured as programmable voltage sources in DAC-like applications
- Independent reference inputs
- Buffered wiper outputs
- Non-volatile NVRAM memory wiper storage
- Output voltage range includes both supply rails
- 4 independently addressable buffered output wipers
- 1 LSB accuracy, high resolution
- Serial Microwire-like interface

- Single supply operation: 2.7V - 5.5V
- Setting read-back without effecting outputs

### APPLICATIONS

- Automated product calibration
- Remote control adjustment of equipment
- Offset, gain and zero adjustments in self-calibrating and adaptive control systems
- Tamper-proof calibrations
- DAC (with memory) substitute

### DESCRIPTION

The CAT525 is a quad 8-bit digitally programmable potentiometer (DPP™) configured for programmable voltage and DAC-like applications. Intended for final calibration of products such as camcorders, fax machines and cellular telephones on automated high volume production lines and systems capable of self calibration, it is also well suited for applications where equipment requiring periodic adjustment is either difficult to access or located in a hazardous environment.

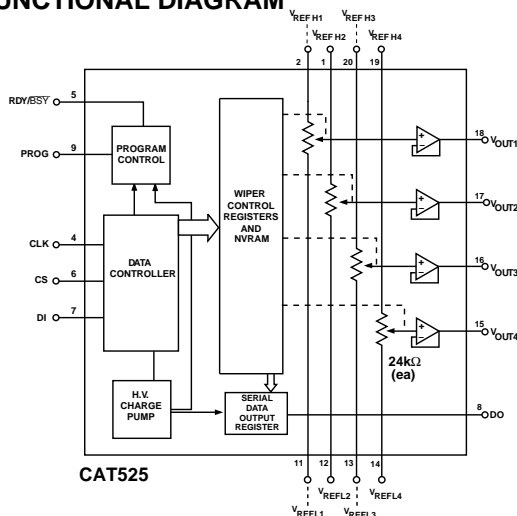
The CAT525 offers four independently programmable DPPs each having its own reference inputs and each capable of rail to rail output swing. The wipers are buffered by rail to rail op amps. Wiper settings, stored in non-volatile NVRAM memory, are not lost when the device is powered down and are automatically reinstated when power is returned. Each wiper can be dithered to

test new output values without effecting the stored settings and stored settings can be read back without disturbing the DPP's output.

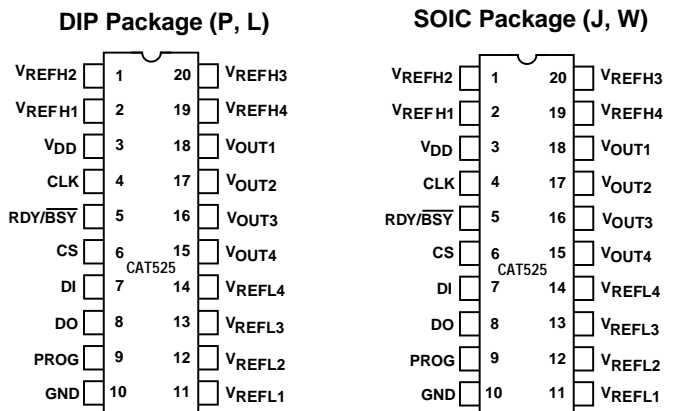
Control of the CAT525 is accomplished with a simple 3-wire, Microwire-like serial interface. A Chip Select pin allows several CAT525's to share a common serial interface and communications back to the host controller is via a single serial data line thanks to the CAT525's Tri-Stated Data Output pin. A RDY/BSY output working in concert with an internal low voltage detector signals proper operation of non-volatile NVRAM Memory Erase/Write cycle.

The CAT525 is available in the 0°C to 70°C commercial and -40°C to 85°C industrial operating temperature ranges and offered in 20-pin plastic DIP and surface mount packages.

### FUNCTIONAL DIAGRAM



### PIN CONFIGURATION



**ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS**

Supply Voltage\*  
 $V_{DD}$  to GND ..... -0.5V to +7V

Inputs  
 CLK to GND ..... -0.5V to  $V_{DD} + 0.5V$   
 CS to GND ..... -0.5V to  $V_{DD} + 0.5V$   
 DI to GND ..... -0.5V to  $V_{DD} + 0.5V$   
 RDY/BSY to GND ..... -0.5V to  $V_{DD} + 0.5V$   
 PROG to GND ..... -0.5V to  $V_{DD} + 0.5V$   
 $V_{REFH}$  to GND ..... -0.5V to  $V_{DD} + 0.5V$   
 $V_{REFL}$  to GND ..... -0.5V to  $V_{DD} + 0.5V$

Outputs  
 $D_0$  to GND ..... -0.5V to  $V_{DD} + 0.5V$   
 $V_{OUT}$  1– 4 to GND ..... -0.5V to  $V_{DD} + 0.5V$

Operating Ambient Temperature

Commercial ('C' or Blank suffix) ..... 0°C to +70°C  
 Industrial ('I' suffix) ..... -40°C to +85°C  
 Junction Temperature ..... +150°C  
 Storage Temperature ..... -65°C to +150°C  
 Lead Soldering (10 sec max) ..... +300°C

\* Stresses above those listed under Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the device. Absolute Maximum Ratings are limited values applied individually while other parameters are within specified operating conditions, and functional operation at any of these conditions is NOT implied. Device performance and reliability may be impaired by exposure to absolute rating conditions for extended periods of time.

**RELIABILITY CHARACTERISTICS**

| Symbol             | Parameter          | Min  | Max | Units | Test Method                   |
|--------------------|--------------------|------|-----|-------|-------------------------------|
| $V_{ZAP}^{(1)}$    | ESD Susceptibility | 2000 |     | Volts | MIL-STD-883, Test Method 3015 |
| $I_{LTH}^{(1)(2)}$ | Latch-Up           | 100  |     | mA    | JEDEC Standard 17             |

- NOTES:** 1. This parameter is tested initially and after a design or process change that affects the parameter.  
 2. Latch-up protection is provided for stresses up to 100mA on address and data pins from -1V to  $V_{CC} + 1V$ .

**POWER SUPPLY**

| Symbol    | Parameter               | Conditions                 | Min | Typ  | Max  | Units   |
|-----------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----|------|------|---------|
| $I_{DD1}$ | Supply Current (Read)   | Normal Operating           | —   | 400  | 600  | $\mu A$ |
| $I_{DD2}$ | Supply Current (Write)  | Programming, $V_{DD} = 5V$ | —   | 1600 | 2500 | $\mu A$ |
|           |                         | $V_{DD} = 3V$              | —   | 1000 | 1600 | $\mu A$ |
| $V_{DD}$  | Operating Voltage Range |                            | 2.7 | —    | 5.5  | V       |

**LOGIC INPUTS**

| Symbol   | Parameter                | Conditions        | Min | Typ | Max      | Units   |
|----------|--------------------------|-------------------|-----|-----|----------|---------|
| $I_{IH}$ | Input Leakage Current    | $V_{IN} = V_{DD}$ | —   | —   | 10       | $\mu A$ |
| $I_{IL}$ | Input Leakage Current    | $V_{IN} = 0V$     | —   | —   | -10      | $\mu A$ |
| $V_{IH}$ | High Level Input Voltage |                   | 2   | —   | $V_{DD}$ | V       |
| $V_{IL}$ | Low Level Input Voltage  |                   | 0   | —   | 0.8      | V       |

**LOGIC OUTPUTS**

| Symbol   | Parameter                 | Conditions                             | Min            | Typ | Max | Units |
|----------|---------------------------|--|----------------|-----|-----|-------|
| $V_{OH}$ | High Level Output Voltage | $I_{OH} = -40\mu A$                    | $V_{DD} - 0.3$ | —   | —   | V     |
| $V_{IL}$ | Low Level Output Voltage  | $I_{OL} = 1\text{ mA}, V_{DD} = +5V$   | —              | —   | 0.4 | V     |
|          |                           | $I_{OL} = 0.4\text{ mA}, V_{DD} = +3V$ | —              | —   | 0.4 | V     |

**POTENTIOMETER CHARACTERISTICS**

$V_{DD} = +2.7V$  to  $+5.5V$ ,  $V_{REFH} = V_{DD}$ ,  $V_{REFL} = 0V$ , unless otherwise specified

| Symbol      | Parameter                    | Conditions | Min | Typ       | Max            | Units            |
|-------------|------------------------------|------------|-----|-----------|----------------|------------------|
| $R_{POT}$   | Potentiometer Resistance     |            |     | 24        |                | $k\Omega$        |
|             | $R_{POT}$ to $R_{POT}$ Match |            | —   | $\pm 0.5$ | $\pm 1$        | %                |
|             | Pot Resistance Tolerance     |            |     |           | $\pm 20$       | %                |
|             | Voltage on $V_{REFH}$ pin    |            | 2.7 |           | $V_{DD}$       | V                |
|             | Voltage on $V_{REFL}$ pin    |            | 0V  |           | $V_{DD} - 2.7$ | V                |
|             | Resolution                   |            |     | 0.4       |                | %                |
| INL         | Integral Linearity Error     |            |     | 0.5       | 1              | LSB              |
| DNL         | Differential Linearity Error |            |     | 0.25      | 0.5            | LSB              |
| $R_{OUT}$   | Buffer Output Resistance     |            |     |           | 10             | $\Omega$         |
| $I_{OUT}$   | Buffer Output Current        |            |     |           | 3              | mA               |
| $TC_{RPOT}$ | TC of Pot Resistance         |            |     | 300       |                | ppm/ $^{\circ}C$ |
| $C_H/C_L$   | Potentiometer Capacitances   |            |     | 8/8       |                | pF               |

**AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

$V_{DD} = +2.7V$  to  $+5.5V$ ,  $V_{REFH} = V_{DD}$ ,  $V_{REFL} = 0V$ , unless otherwise specified

| Symbol | Parameter | Conditions | Min | Typ | Max | Units |
|--------|-----------|------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
|--------|-----------|------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|

**Digital**

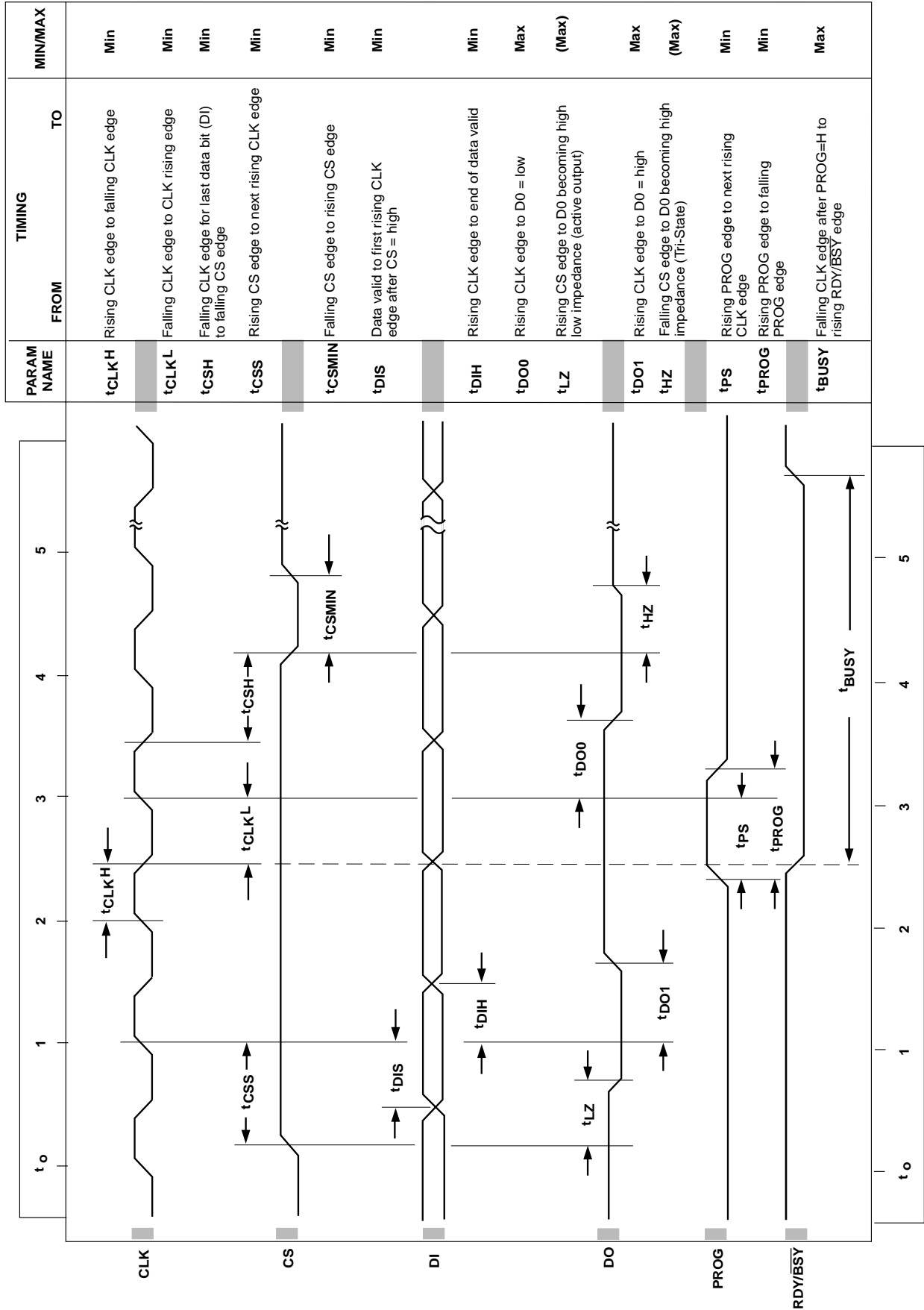
|             |                        |                               |     |     |     |     |
|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| $t_{CSMIN}$ | Minimum CS Low Time    |                               | 150 | —   | —   | ns  |
| $t_{CSS}$   | CS Setup Time          |                               | 100 | —   | —   | ns  |
| $t_{CSH}$   | CS Hold Time           | $C_L = 100pF$ ,<br>see note 1 | 0   | —   | —   | ns  |
| $t_{DIS}$   | DI Setup Time          |                               | 50  | —   | —   | ns  |
| $t_{DIH}$   | DI Hold Time           |                               | 50  | —   | —   | ns  |
| $t_{DO1}$   | Output Delay to 1      |                               | —   | —   | 150 | ns  |
| $t_{DO0}$   | Output Delay to 0      |                               | —   | —   | 150 | ns  |
| $t_{HZ}$    | Output Delay to High-Z |                               | —   | 400 | —   | ns  |
| $t_{LZ}$    | Output Delay to Low-Z  | —                             | 400 | —   | ns  |     |
| $t_{BUSY}$  | Erase/Write Cycle Time |                               | —   | 4   | 5   | ms  |
| $t_{PS}$    | PROG Setup Time        |                               | 150 | —   | —   | ns  |
| $t_{PROG}$  | Minimum Pulse Width    |                               | 700 | —   | —   | ns  |
| $t_{CLKH}$  | Minimum CLK High Time  |                               | 500 | —   | —   | ns  |
| $t_{CLKL}$  | Minimum CLK Low Time   |                               | 300 | —   | —   | ns  |
| $f_C$       | Clock Frequency        |                               | DC  | —   | 1   | MHz |

**Analog**

|          |                            |                                     |   |   |    |         |
|----------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|----|---------|
| $t_{DS}$ | DPP Settling Time to 1 LSB | $C_{LOAD} = 10 pF$ , $V_{DD} = +5V$ | — | 3 | 10 | $\mu s$ |
|          |                            | $C_{LOAD} = 10 pF$ , $V_{DD} = +3V$ | — | 6 | 10 | $\mu s$ |

- NOTES:** 1. All timing measurements are defined at the point of signal crossing  $V_{DD} / 2$ .  
2. These parameters are periodically sampled and are not 100% tested.

A. C. TIMING DIAGRAM



## PIN DESCRIPTION

| Pin | Name                         | Function                                     |
|-----|------------------------------|--|
| 1   | V <sub>REFH2</sub>           | Maximum DPP 2 output voltage                 |
| 2   | V <sub>REFH1</sub>           | Maximum DPP 1 output voltage                 |
| 3   | V <sub>DD</sub>              | Power supply positive                        |
| 4   | CLK                          | Clock input pin                              |
| 5   | RDY/ $\overline{\text{BSY}}$ | Ready/Busy output                            |
| 6   | CS                           | Chip select                                  |
| 7   | DI                           | Serial data input pin                        |
| 8   | DO                           | Serial data output pin                       |
| 9   | PROG                         | Non-volatile Memory Programming Enable Input |
| 10  | GND                          | Power supply ground                          |
| 11  | V <sub>REFL1</sub>           | Minimum DPP 1 output voltage                 |
| 12  | V <sub>REFL2</sub>           | Minimum DPP 2 output voltage                 |
| 13  | V <sub>REFL3</sub>           | Minimum DPP 3 output voltage                 |
| 14  | V <sub>REFL4</sub>           | Minimum DPP 4 output voltage                 |
| 15  | V <sub>OUT4</sub>            | DPP 4 output                                 |
| 16  | V <sub>OUT3</sub>            | DPP 3 output                                 |
| 17  | V <sub>OUT2</sub>            | DPP 2 output                                 |
| 18  | V <sub>OUT1</sub>            | DPP 1 output                                 |
| 19  | V <sub>REFH4</sub>           | Maximum DPP 4 output voltage                 |
| 20  | V <sub>REFH3</sub>           | Maximum DPP 3 output voltage                 |

CDPP/DPP addressing is as follows:

| DPP OUTPUT        | A0 | A1 |
|-------------------|----|----|
| V <sub>OUT1</sub> | 0  | 0  |
| V <sub>OUT2</sub> | 1  | 0  |
| V <sub>OUT3</sub> | 0  | 1  |
| V <sub>OUT4</sub> | 1  | 1  |

## DEVICE OPERATION

The CAT525 is a quad 8-bit configured digitally programmable potentiometer (DPP/CDPP) whose outputs can be programmed to any one of 256 individual voltage steps. Once programmed, these output settings are retained in non-volatile memory and will not be lost when power is removed from the chip. Upon power up the DPPs return to the settings stored in non-volatile memory. Each configured DPP can be written to and read from independently without effecting the output voltage during the read or write cycle. Each output can also be adjusted without altering the stored output setting, which is useful for testing new output settings before storing them in memory.

## DIGITAL INTERFACE

The CAT525 employs a 3 wire serial, Microwire-like control interface consisting of Clock (CLK), Chip Select (CS) and Data In (DI) inputs. For all operations, address and data are shifted in LSB first. In addition, all digital data must be preceded by a logic "1" as a start bit. The DPP address and data are clocked into the DI pin on the clock's rising edge. When sending multiple blocks of information a minimum of two clock cycles is required between the last block sent and the next start bit.

Multiple devices may share a common input data line by selectively activating the CS control of the desired IC. Data Outputs (DO) can also share a common line because the DO pin is Tri-States and returns to a high

impedance when not in use.

## CHIP SELECT

Chip Select (CS) enables and disables the CAT525's read and write operations. When CS is high data may be read to or from the chip, and the Data Output (DO) pin is active. Data loaded into the DPP wiper control registers will remain in effect until CS goes low. Bringing CS to a logic low returns all DPP outputs to the settings stored in non-volatile memory and switches DO to its high impedance Tri-State mode.

Because CS functions like a reset the CS pin has been desensitized with a 30 ns to 90 ns filter circuit to prevent noise spikes from causing unwanted resets and the loss of volatile data.

## CLOCK

The CAT525's clock controls both data flow in and out of the IC and non-volatile memory cell programming. Serial data is shifted into the DI pin and out of the DO pin on the clock's rising edge. While it is not necessary for the clock to be running between data transfers, the clock must be operating in order to write to non-volatile memory, even though the data being saved may already be resident in the DPP wiper control register.

No clock is necessary upon system power-up. The CAT525's internal power-on reset circuitry loads data from non-volatile memory to the DPPs without using the external clock.

As data transfers are edge triggered clean clock transitions are necessary to avoid falsely clocking data into the control registers. Standard CMOS and TTL logic families work well in this regard and it is recommended that any mechanical switches used for breadboarding or device evaluation purposes be debounced by a flip-flop or other suitable debouncing circuit.

**V<sub>REF</sub>**

V<sub>REF</sub>, the voltage applied between pins V<sub>REFH</sub> & V<sub>REFL</sub>, sets the configured DPP's Zero to Full Scale output range where V<sub>REFL</sub> = Zero and V<sub>REFH</sub> = Full Scale. V<sub>REF</sub> can span the full power supply range or just a fraction of it. In typical applications V<sub>REFH</sub> & V<sub>REFL</sub> are connected across the power supply rails. When using less than the full supply voltage be mindfull of the limits placed on V<sub>REFH</sub> and V<sub>REFL</sub> as specified in the References section of DC Electrical Characteristics.

**READY/BSY**

When saving data to non-volatile memory, the Ready/Busy output (RDY/BSY) signals the start and duration of the erase/write cycle. Upon receiving a command to store data (PROG goes high) RDY/BSY goes low and remains low until the programming cycle is complete. During this time the CAT525 will ignore any data appearing at DI and no data will be output on DO.

RDY/BSY is internally ANDed with a low voltage detector circuit monitoring V<sub>DD</sub>. If V<sub>DD</sub> is below the minimum value required for EEPROM programming, RDY/BSY will remain high following the program command indicating a failure to record the desired data in non-volatile memory.

**DATA OUTPUT**

Data is output serially by the CAT525, LSB first, via the Data Out (DO) pin following the reception of a start bit and two address bits by the Data Input (DI). DO becomes active whenever CS goes high and resumes its high impedance Tri-State mode when CS returns low. Tri-Stating the DO pin allows several 525s to share a

single serial data line and simplifies interfacing multiple 525s to a microprocessor.

**WRITING TO MEMORY**

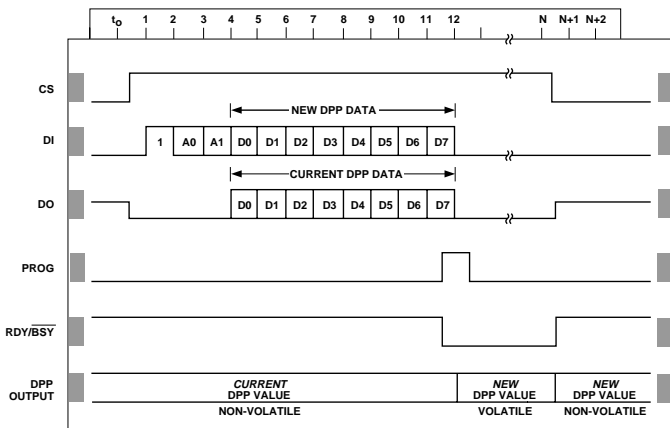
Programming the CAT525's non-volatile memory is accomplished through the control signals: Chip Select (CS) and Program (PROG). With CS high, a start bit followed by a two bit DPP address and eight data bits are clocked into the DPP wiper control register via the DI pin. Data enters on the clock's rising edge. The DPP output changes to its new setting on the clock cycle following D7, the last data bit.

Programming is accomplished by bringing PROG high sometime after the start bit and at least 150 ns prior to the rising edge of the clock cycle immediately following the D7 bit. Two clock cycles after the D7 bit the DPP control register will be ready to receive the next set of address and data bits. The clock must be kept running throughout the programming cycle. Internal control circuitry takes care of generating and ramping up the programming voltage for data transfer to the non-volatile memory cells. The CAT525's non-volatile memory cells will endure over 100,000 write cycles and will retain data for a minimum of 20 years without being refreshed.

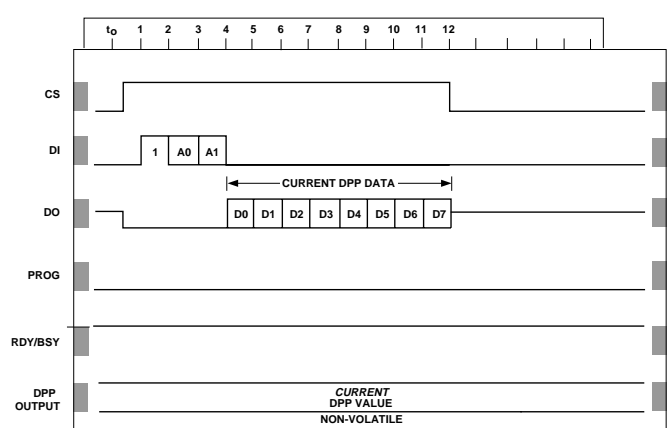
**READING DATA**

Each time data is transferred into a DPP wiper control register currently held data is shifted out via the D0 pin, thus in every data transaction a read cycle occurs. Note, however, that the reading process is destructive. Data must be removed from the register in order to be read. Figure 2 depicts a Read Only cycle in which no change occurs in the DPP's output. This feature allows  $\mu$ Ps to poll DPPs for their current setting without disturbing the output voltage but it assumes that the setting being read is also stored in non-volatile memory so that it can be restored at the end of the read cycle. In Figure 2 CS returns low before the 13<sup>th</sup> clock cycle completes. In doing so the non-volatile memory setting is reloaded into the DPP wiper control register. Since this value is the

**Figure 1. Writing to Memory**



**Figure 2. Reading from Memory**



same as that which had been there previously no change in the DPP's output is noticed. Had the value held in the control register been different from that stored in non-volatile memory then a *change would occur* at the read cycle's conclusion.

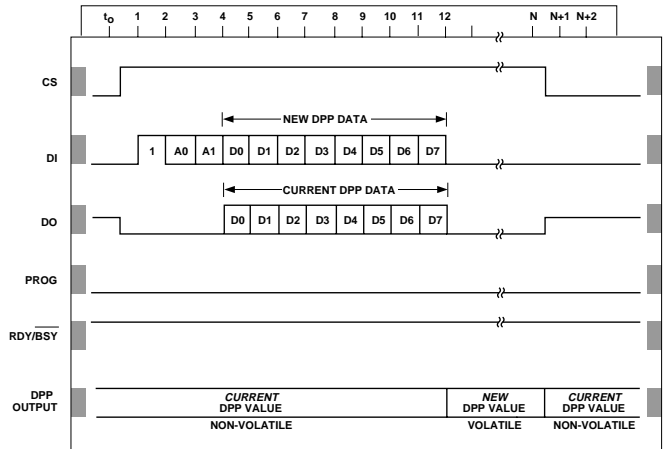
**TEMPORARILY CHANGE OUTPUT**

The CAT525 allows temporary changes in DPP's output to be made without disturbing the settings retained in non-volatile memory. This feature is particularly useful when testing for a new output setting and allows for user adjustment of preset or default values without losing the original factory settings.

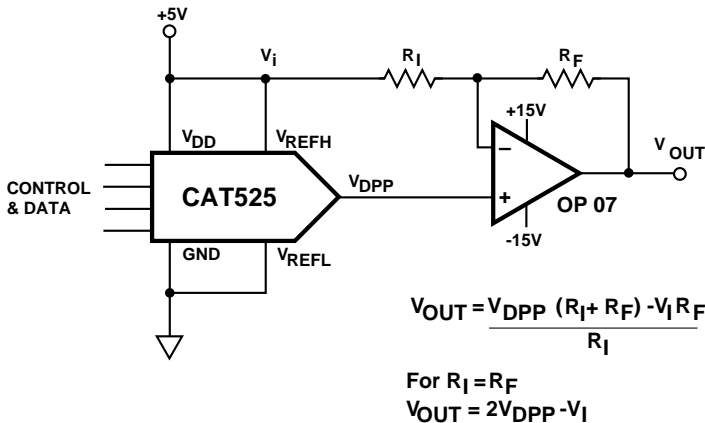
Figure 3 shows the control and data signals needed to effect a temporary output change. DPP settings may be changed as many times as required and can be made to any of the four DPPs in any order or sequence. The temporary setting(s) remain in effect long as CS remains high. When CS returns low all four DPPs will return to the output values stored in non-volatile memory.

When it is desired to save a new setting acquired using this feature, the new value must be reloaded into the DPP control register prior to programming. This is because the CAT525's internal control circuitry discards from the programming register the new data two clock cycles after receiving it if no PROG signal is received.

**Figure 3. Temporary Change in Output**

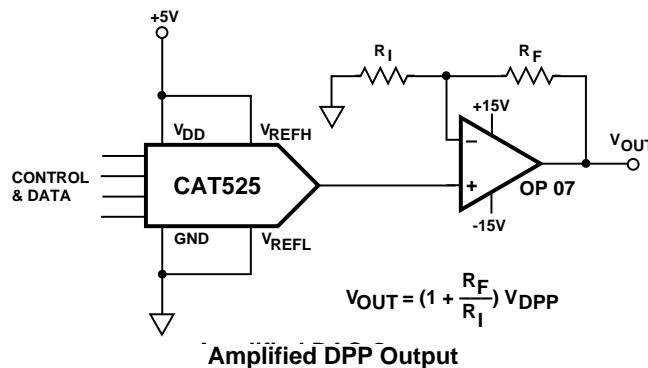


**APPLICATION CIRCUITS**

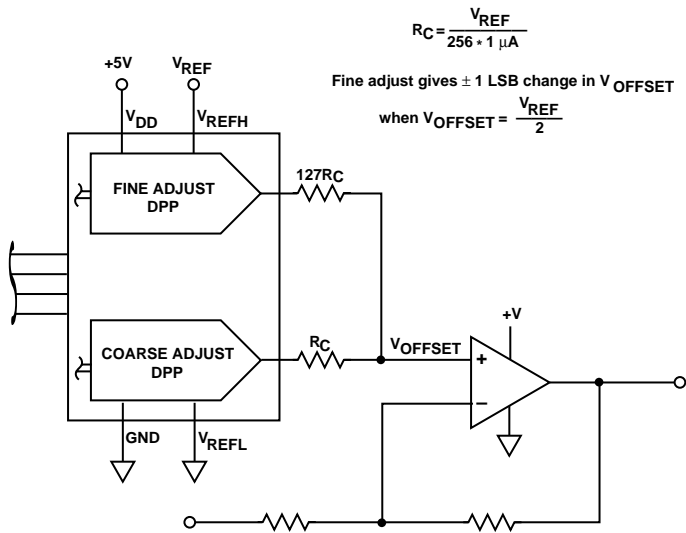


| DPP INPUT |      | DPP OUTPUT  | ANALOG OUTPUT                 |
|-----------|------|---|-------------------------------|
| MSB       | LSB  | $V_{DPP} = \frac{CODE}{255} (V_{FS} - V_{ZERO}) + V_{ZERO}$<br>$V_{FS} = 0.99 V_{REF}$<br>$V_{ZERO} = 0.01 V_{REF}$ | $V_{REF} = 5V$<br>$R_I = R_F$ |
| 1111      | 1111 | $\frac{255}{255} (.98 V_{REF}) + .01 V_{REF} = .990 V_{REF}$  | $V_{OUT} = +4.90V$            |
| 1000      | 0000 | $\frac{128}{255} (.98 V_{REF}) + .01 V_{REF} = .502 V_{REF}$  | $V_{OUT} = +0.02V$            |
| 0111      | 1111 | $\frac{127}{255} (.98 V_{REF}) + .01 V_{REF} = .498 V_{REF}$  | $V_{OUT} = -0.02V$            |
| 0000      | 0001 | $\frac{1}{255} (.98 V_{REF}) + .01 V_{REF} = .014 V_{REF}$  | $V_{OUT} = -4.86V$            |
| 0000      | 0000 | $\frac{0}{255} (.98 V_{REF}) + .01 V_{REF} = .010 V_{REF}$  | $V_{OUT} = -4.90V$            |

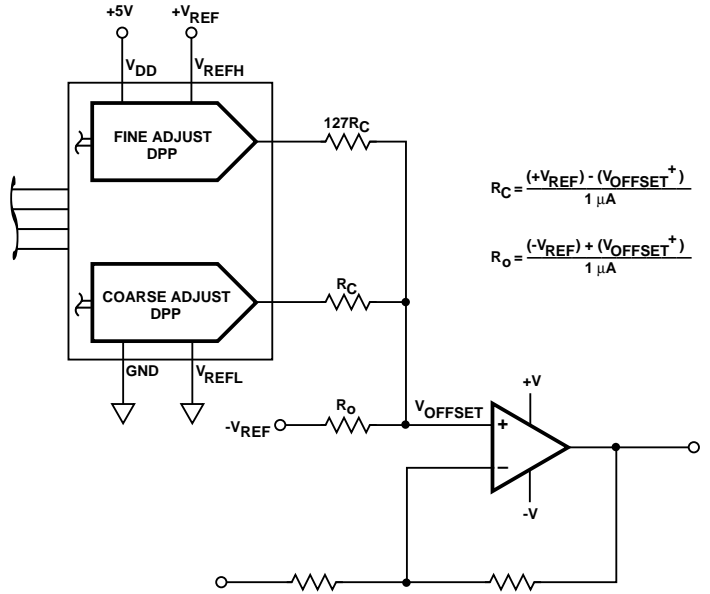
**Bipolar DPP Output**



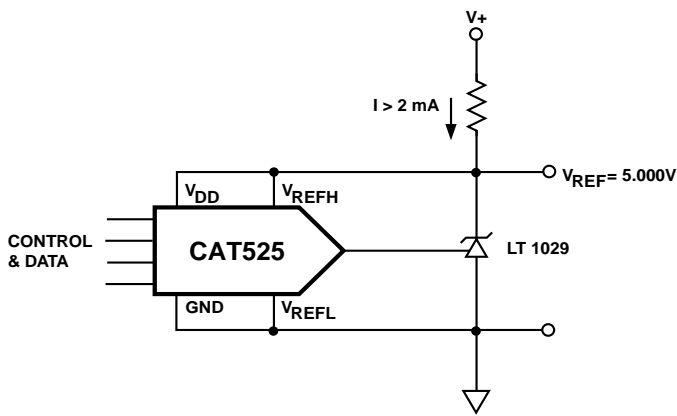
APPLICATION CIRCUITS (Cont.)



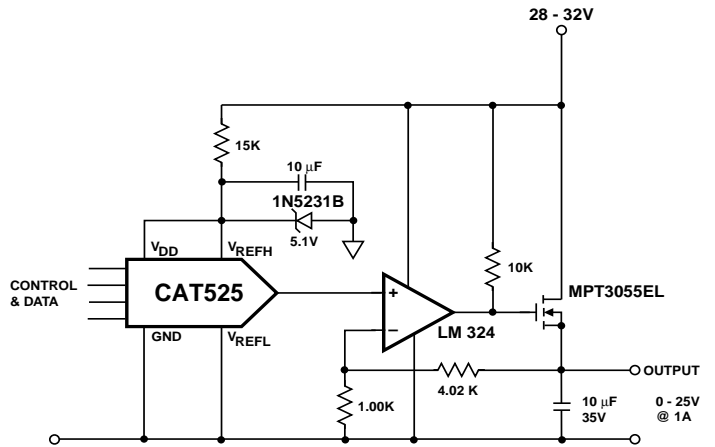
Coarse-Fine Offset Control by Averaging DPP Outputs for Single Power Supply Systems



Coarse-Fine Offset Control by Averaging DPP Outputs for Dual Power Supply Systems



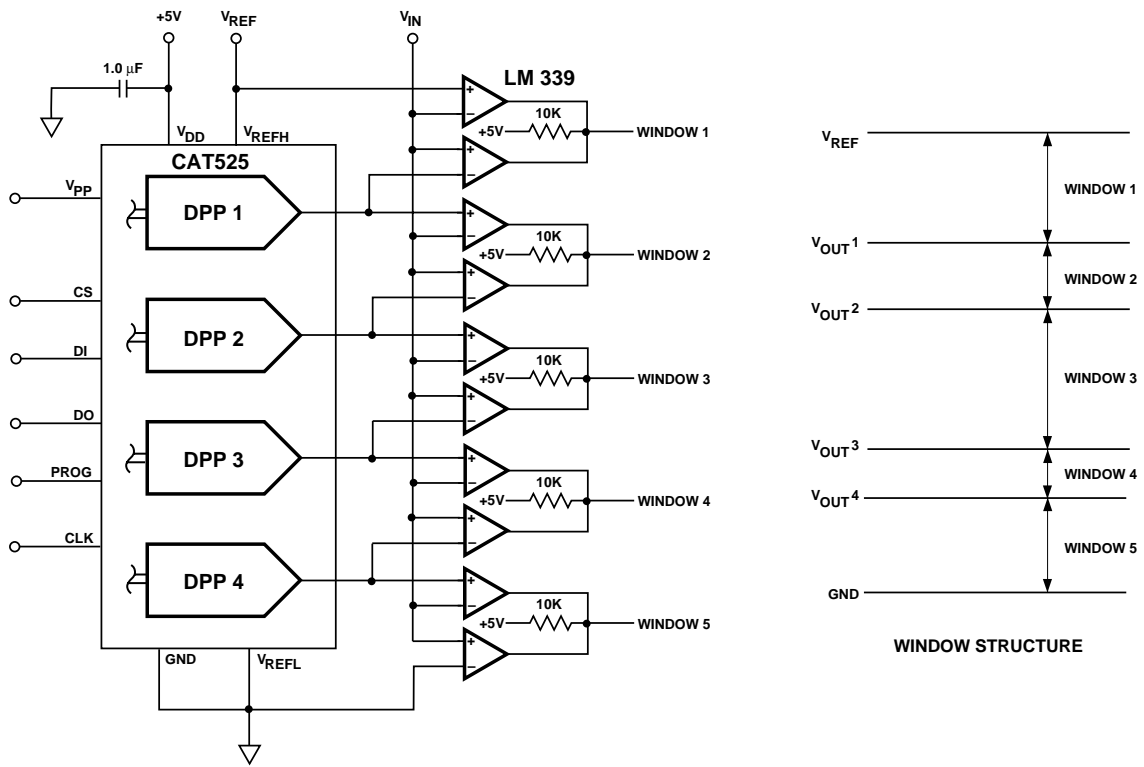
Digitally Trimmed Voltage Reference



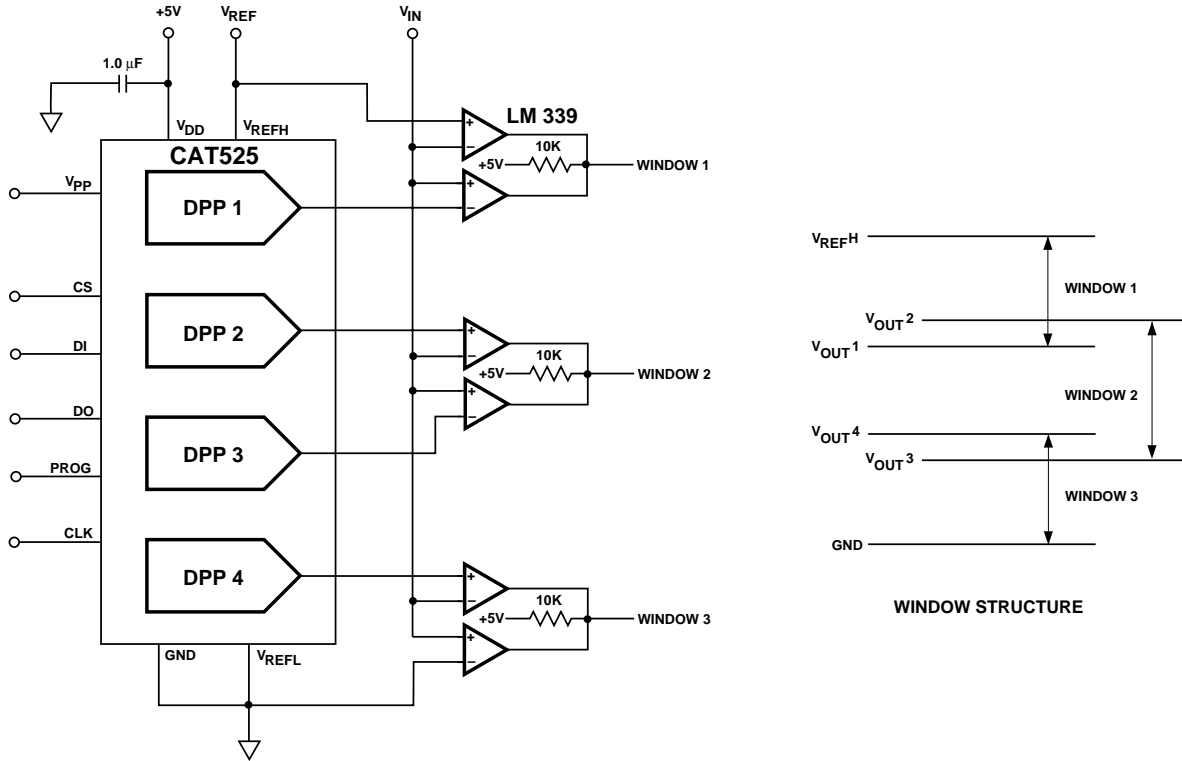
Digitally Controlled Voltage Reference



APPLICATION CIRCUITS (Cont.)

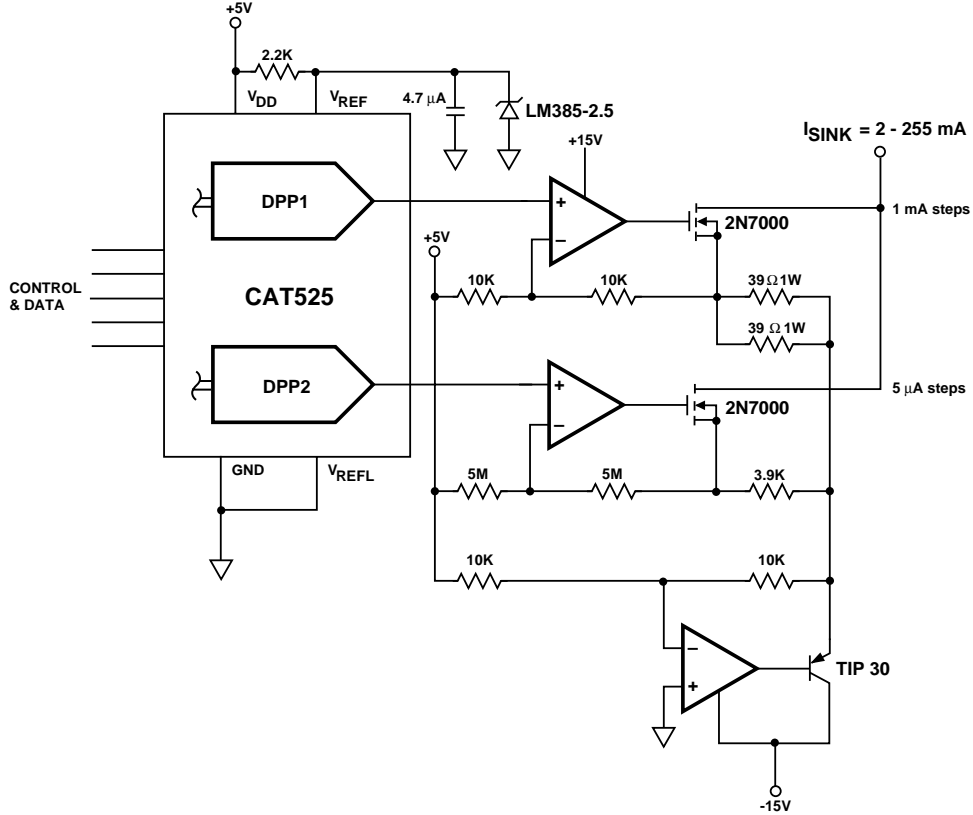


Staircase Window Comparator

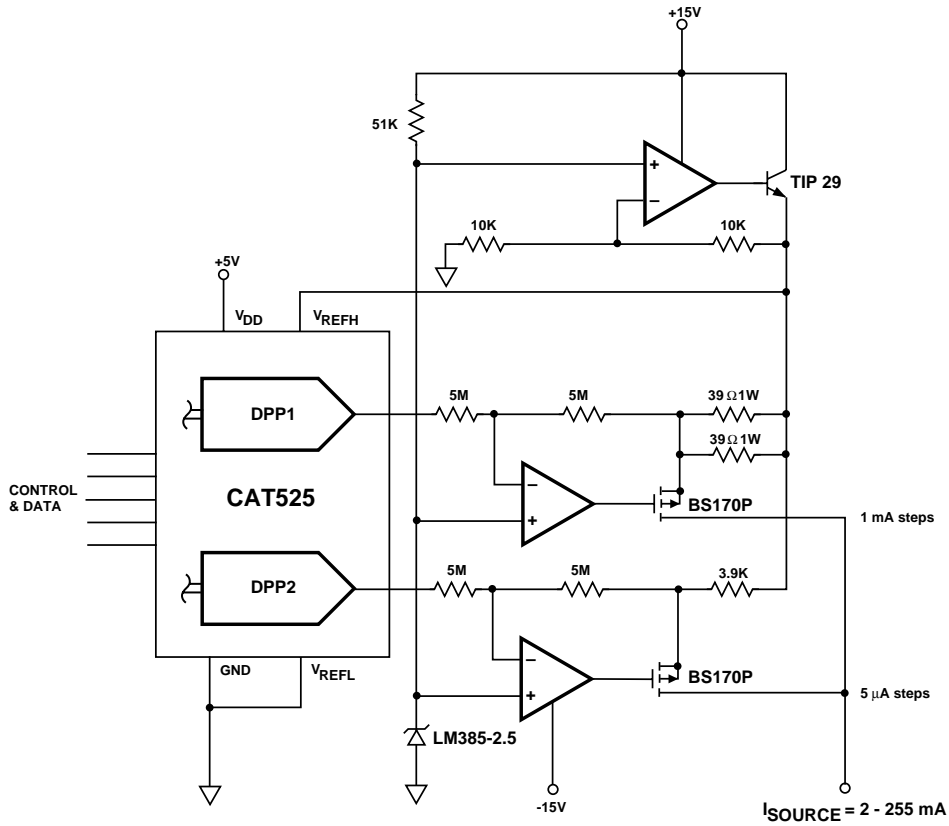


Overlapping Window Comparator

APPLICATION CIRCUITS (Cont.)

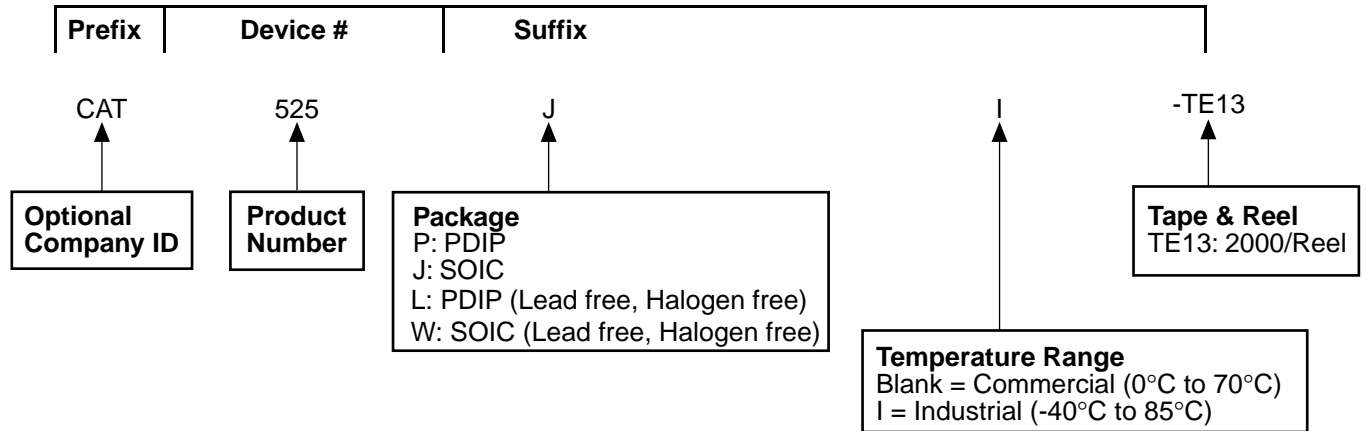


Current Sink with 4 Decades of Resolution



Current Source with 4 Decades of Resolution

**ORDERING INFORMATION**



Notes:

(1) The device used in the above example is a CAT525JI-TE13 (SOIC, Industrial Temperature, Tape & Reel)

## REVISION HISTORY

| Date      | Rev. | Reason  |
|-----------|------|---|
| 3/16/2004 | D    | Updated Potentiometer Characteristics                               |
| 7/12/2004 | E    | Updated Functional Diagram<br>Updated Potentiometer Characteristics |

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