

# Demystifying Noise - KWIK Labs

Ed Mullins, Principal Applications Engineer

# Low-Frequency Noise Demo

## 0.1 Hz to 10 Hz Demo

- ▶ In this demo we are going to estimate-simulate-measure the 0.1 Hz to 10 Hz noise for three different amplifiers:
  - LT1782 – a low power opamp
  - ADA4077 – a low noise opamp
  - ADA4522 – a low noise, zero-drift opamp
- ▶ **Estimate noise from the data sheet** information
- ▶ Perform a **noise simulation** with LTSpice
- ▶ Use the ADALM2000 + demo board and **measure the noise**
- ▶ **Compare** our measured results to our estimated results
- ▶ We will use the Network Analyzer feature of the ADALM2000 to measure the actual filter response from 1 Hz to 100 Hz

## Signal Chain Designer Demo

- ▶ **Simulate** the circuit on Signal Chain Designer + Filter Wizard and compare the results

# Hardware for the Demo

- ▶ **Laptop**

- ▶ **ADALM2000**

- ▶ **Cables**

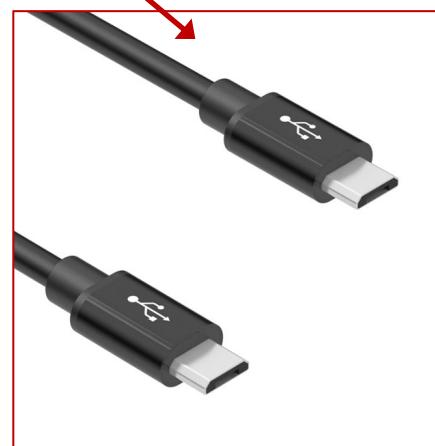
- ADALM2000 comes with a USB-Micro male to USB-A male cable.
- If using ADALM2000 *cable* in kit need your own USB-Micro male to USB-A female connection for most modern PCs.
- Or use your own USB-Micro male to USB-Micro male cable for most modern PCs.

- ▶ **Noise Demo Board & one jumper**

Has This

Need This

Or This



# Software for the Demo

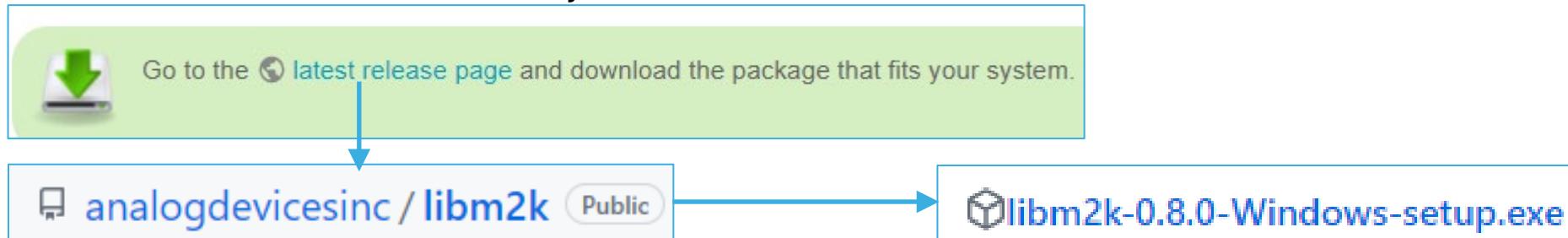
## ▶ Scopy

- Download and Install Software for Scope, Power Supplies, etc. control of ADALM2000
- For Windows download & install: *Installer for latest release (Windows 64/32-bit)*



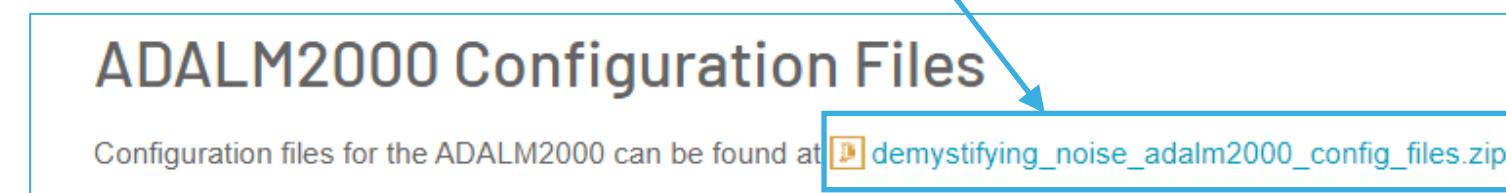
## ▶ Libm2k

- Download and Install C++ Library for interface to ADALM2000



## ▶ Low Frequency Noise KWIK Lecture + Lab

- Download Config Files:

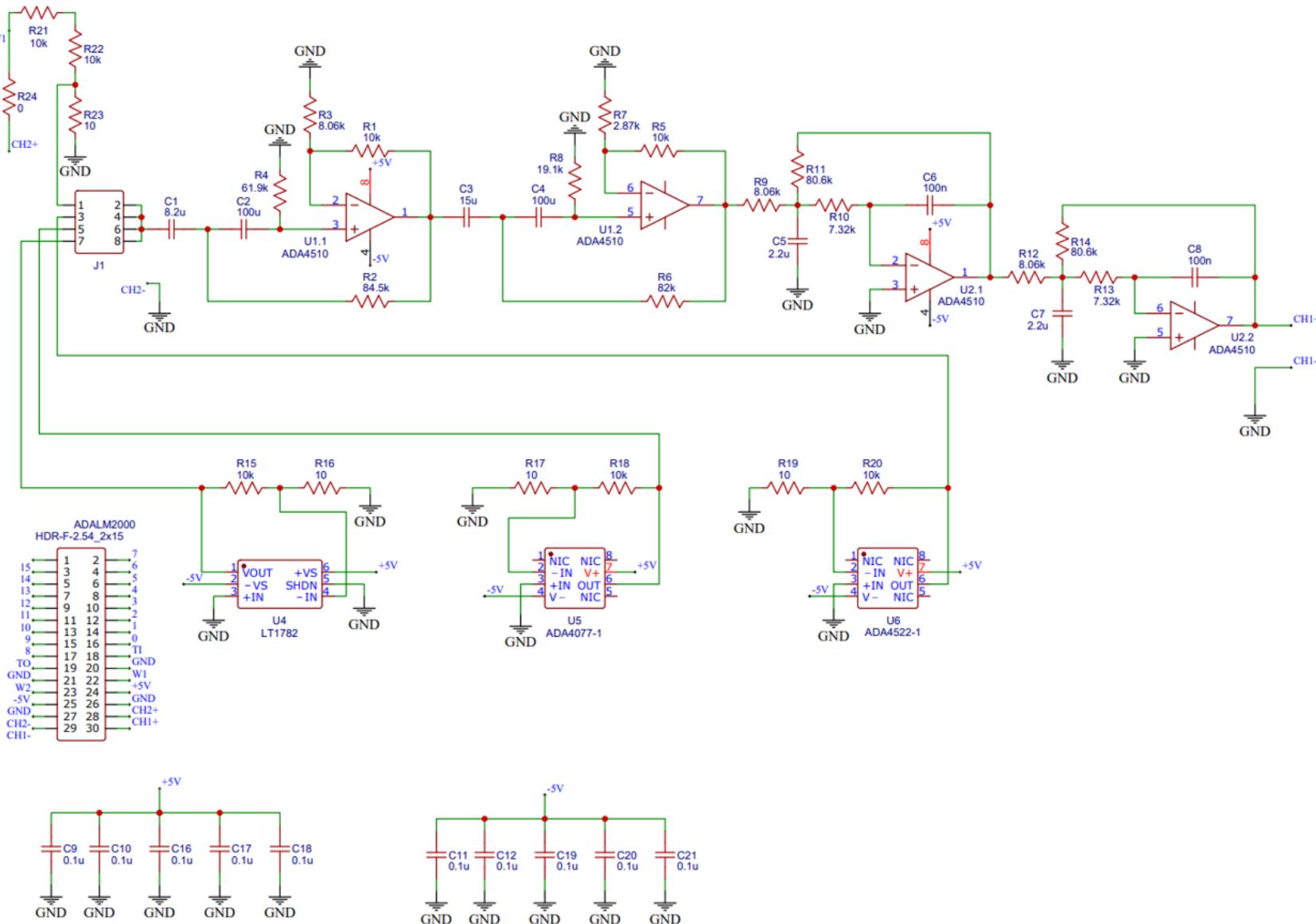


# The Setup

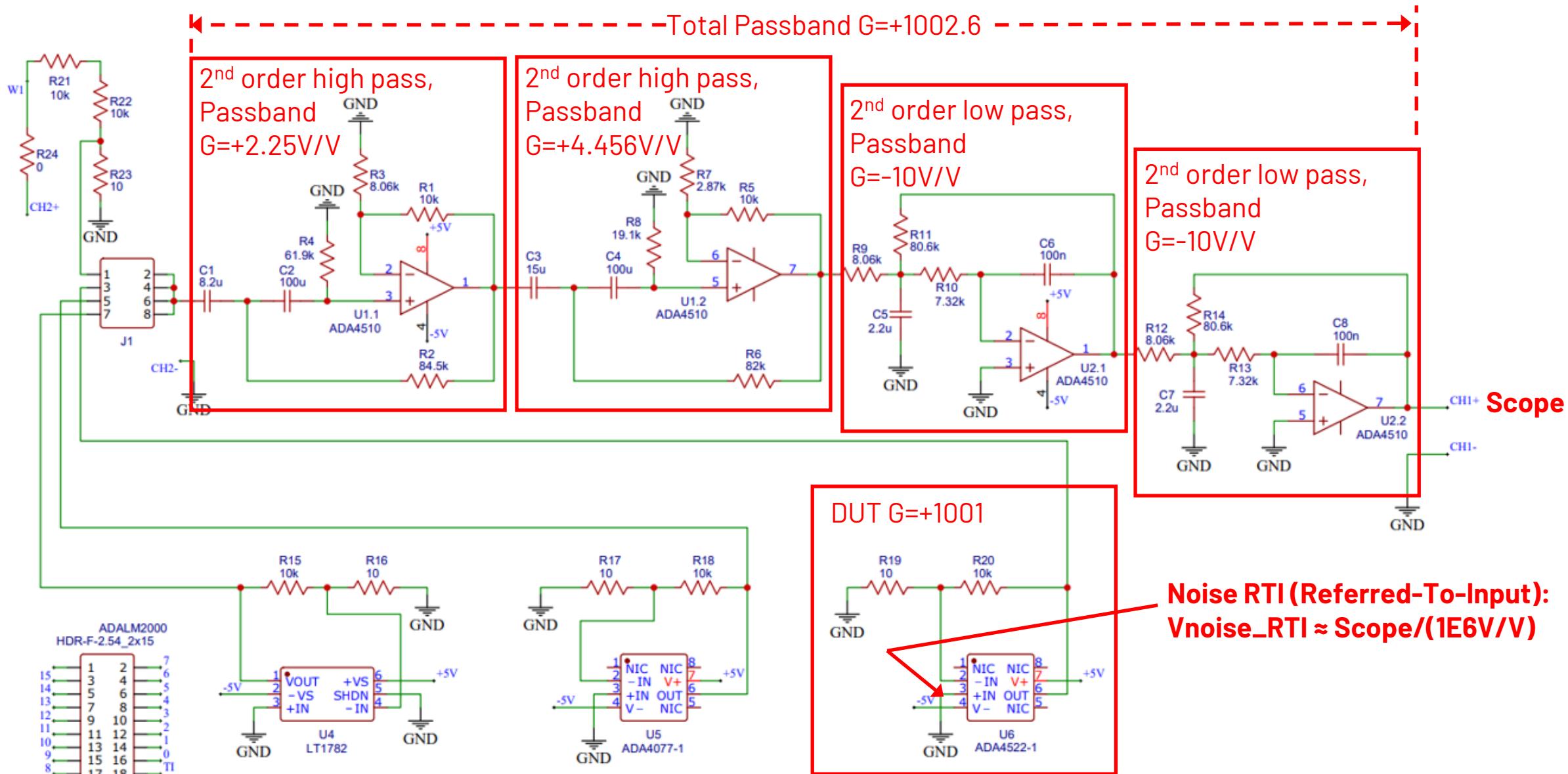


+ You!

# 0.1 Hz to 10 Hz Demo Board Schematic



# 0.1 Hz to 10 Hz Demo Board Explanation

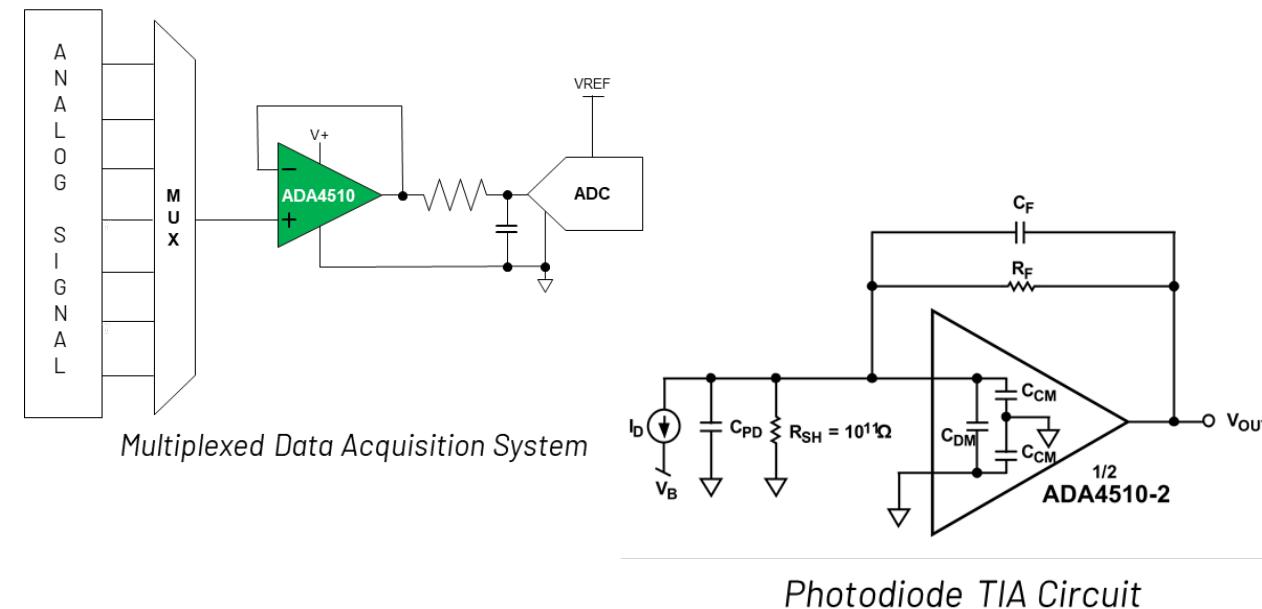


## Key Features:

- Low Offset Voltage:  **$\pm 5\mu\text{V}$**  typ.,  **$\pm 20\mu\text{V}$**  max
- Low Offset Voltage Drift:  **$0.5\mu\text{V}/^\circ\text{C}$**  max
- Low Noise:  **$5\text{nV}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$**  @ 1kHz and  **$1.0\mu\text{Vp-p}$**  typ. from 0.1 to 10Hz
- Wide GBW:  **$10.4\text{MHz}$**  typ.
- Fast Slew Rate:  **$19\text{V}/\mu\text{s}$**  typ.
- Low Input Bias Current:  **$10\text{pA}$**  max
- Heavy Capacitive Load Drive Capability:  $1\text{nF}$
- Integrated EMI Filter

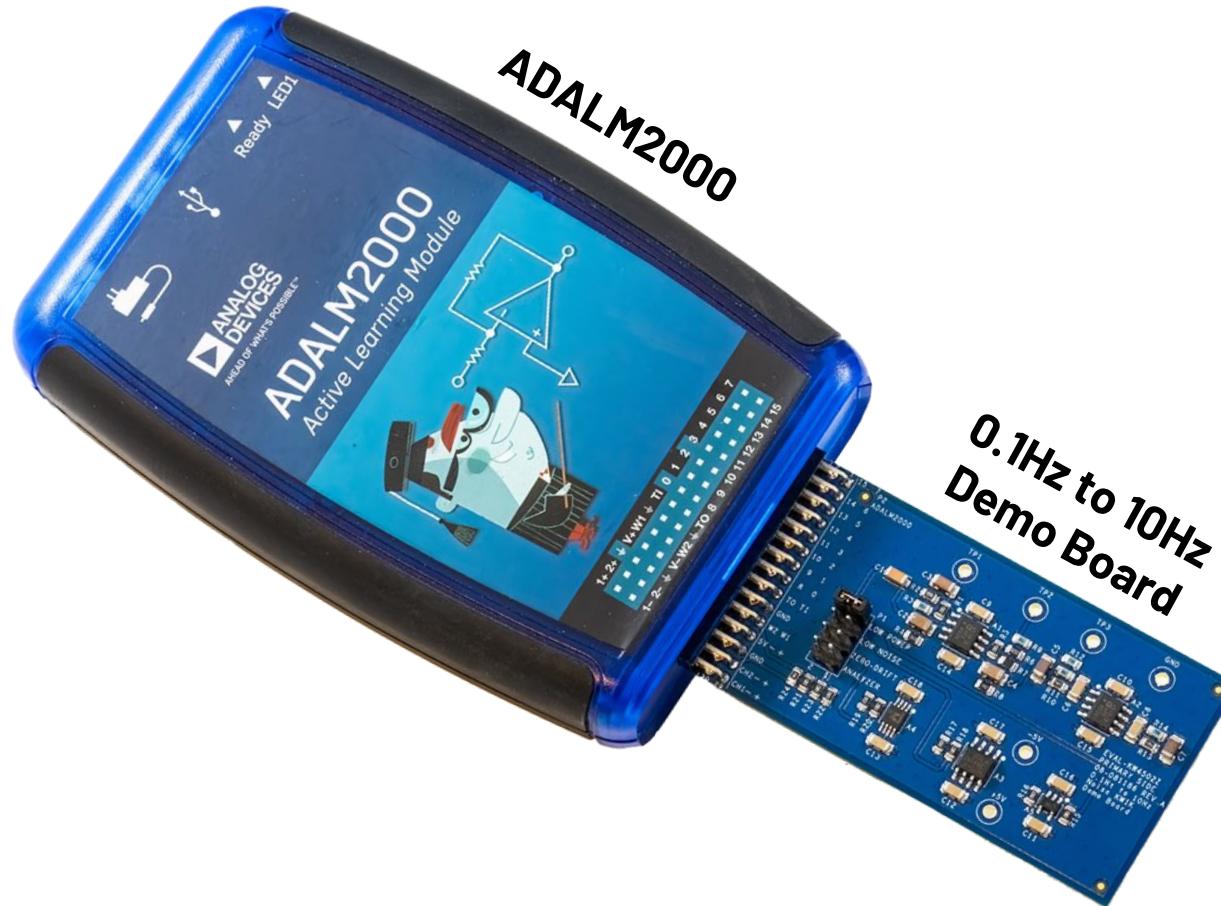
## Key Applications:

- Mux-Compatible
- Precision Instrumentation
- Data acquisition systems
- Multipole filters

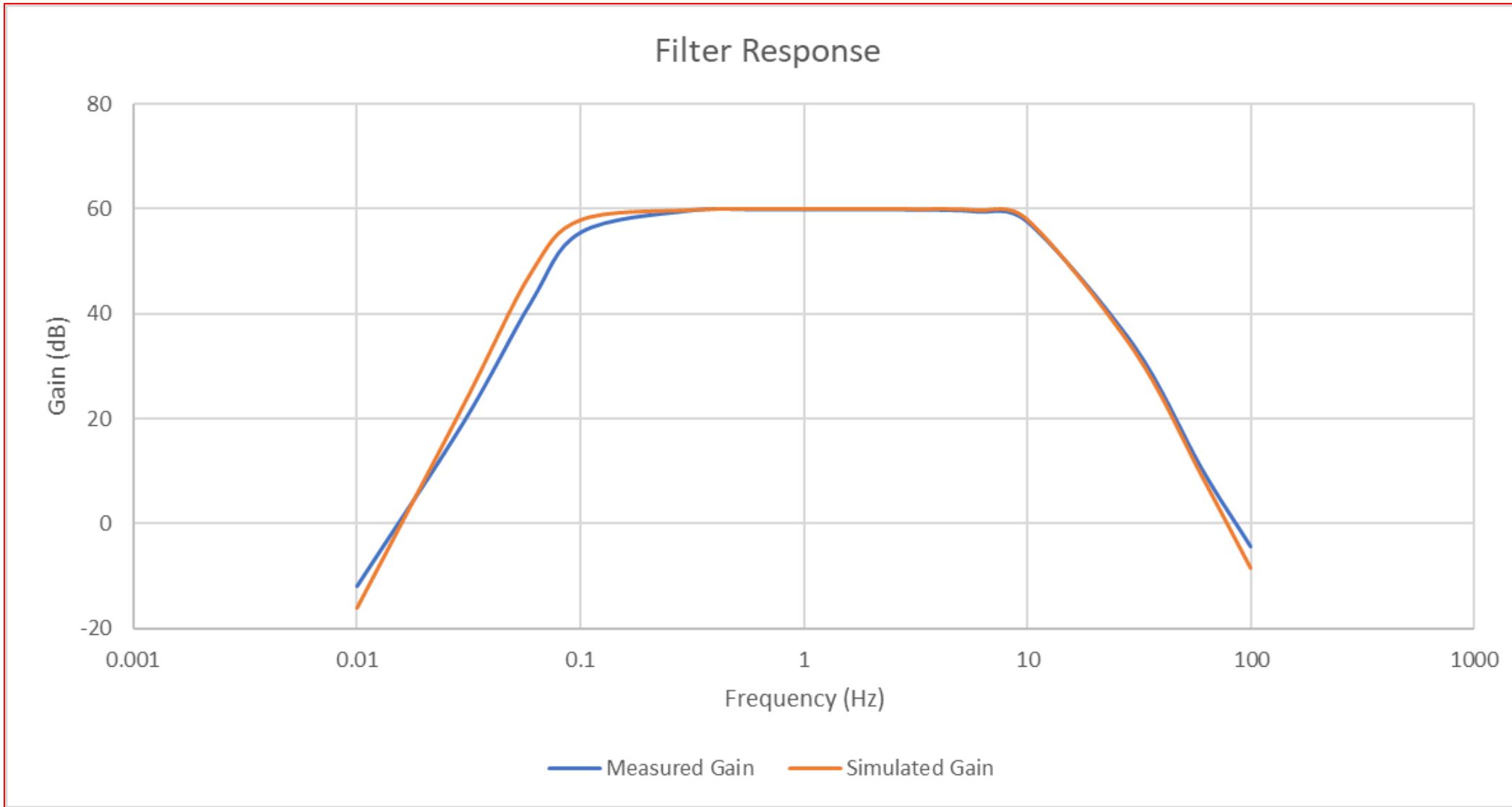


	ADA4510	Competitor
Offset Voltage (Max)	<b><math>20\mu\text{V}</math></b>	$25\mu\text{V}$
1/f Noise	<b><math>1.0\mu\text{Vp-p}</math></b>	$1.3\mu\text{Vp-p}$
Voltage Noise Density	<b><math>5\text{nV}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}</math></b>	$5.5\text{nV}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$

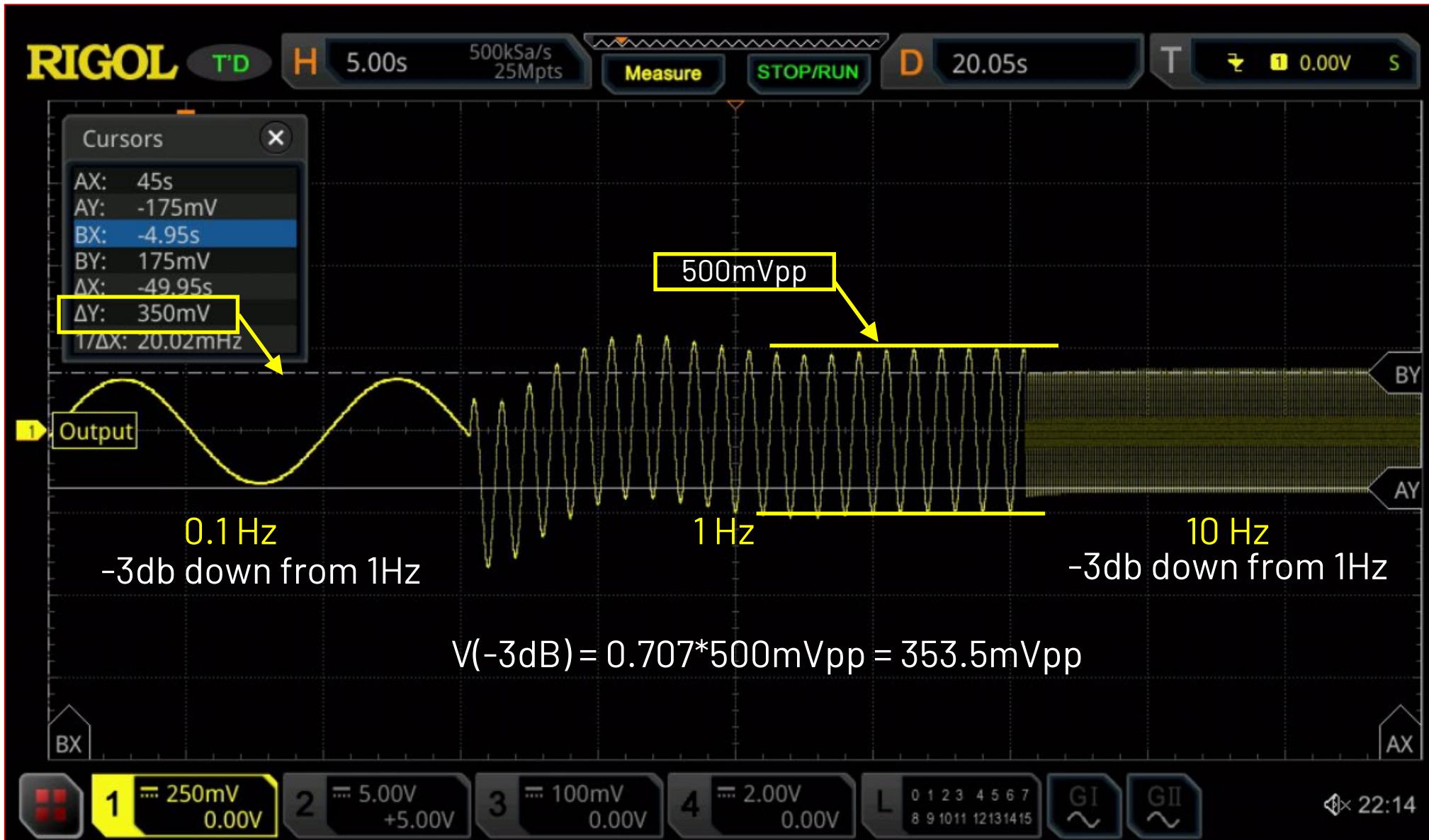
# 0.1 Hz to 10 Hz Demo Board



# 0.1 Hz to 10 Hz Demo Board Verification Results



# 0.1 Hz to 10 Hz Demo Board Verification Results



# 0.1 Hz to 10 Hz Demo

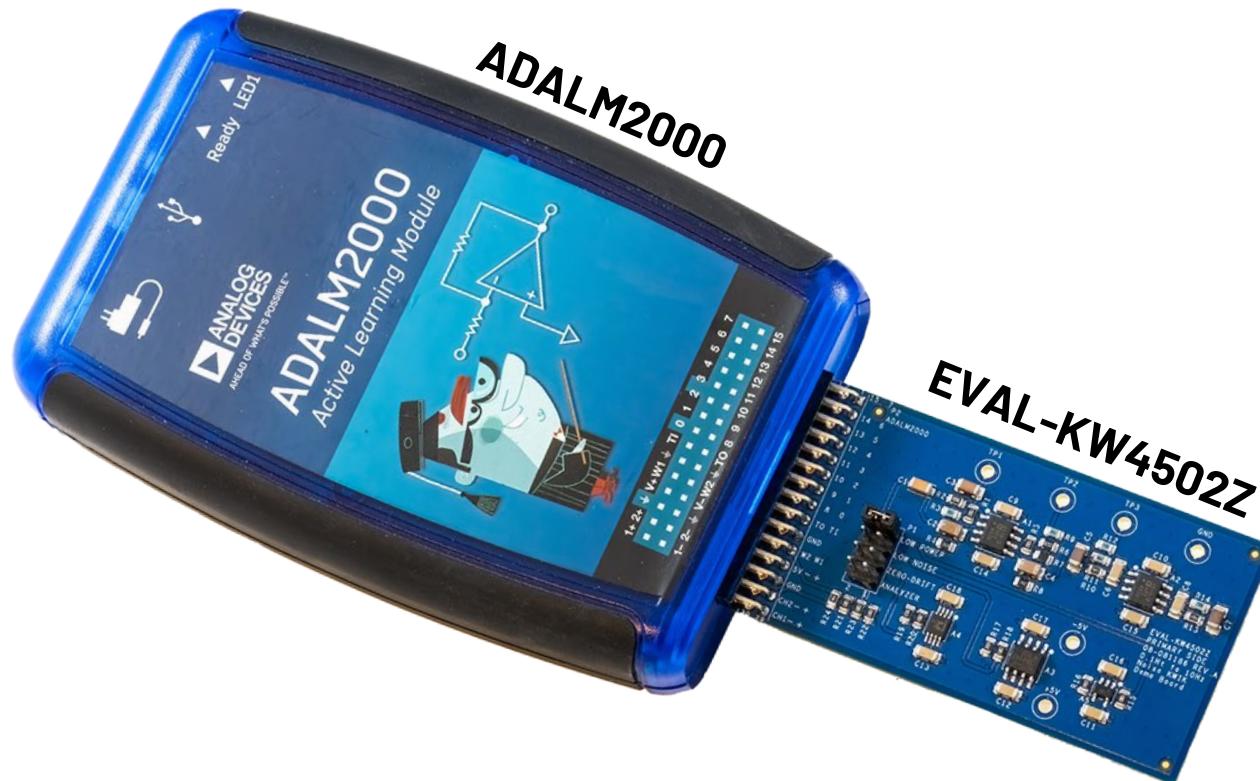
- ▶ In this demo we are going to estimate the 0.1 Hz to 10 Hz noise for three different amplifiers
  - LT1782 – a low power opamp
  - ADA4077 – a low noise, bipolar opamp
  - ADA4522 – a low noise, zero-drift opamp
- ▶ We will compare the estimate to the data sheet information
- ▶ We will use the ADALM2000 + demo board and measure the noise
- ▶ We will compare our measured results to our estimated results
- ▶ We will use the Network Analyzer feature of the ADALM2000 to measure the filter response from 1 Hz to 100 Hz

# 0.1 Hz to 10 Hz Noise KWIK LAB Step-by-Step Guide

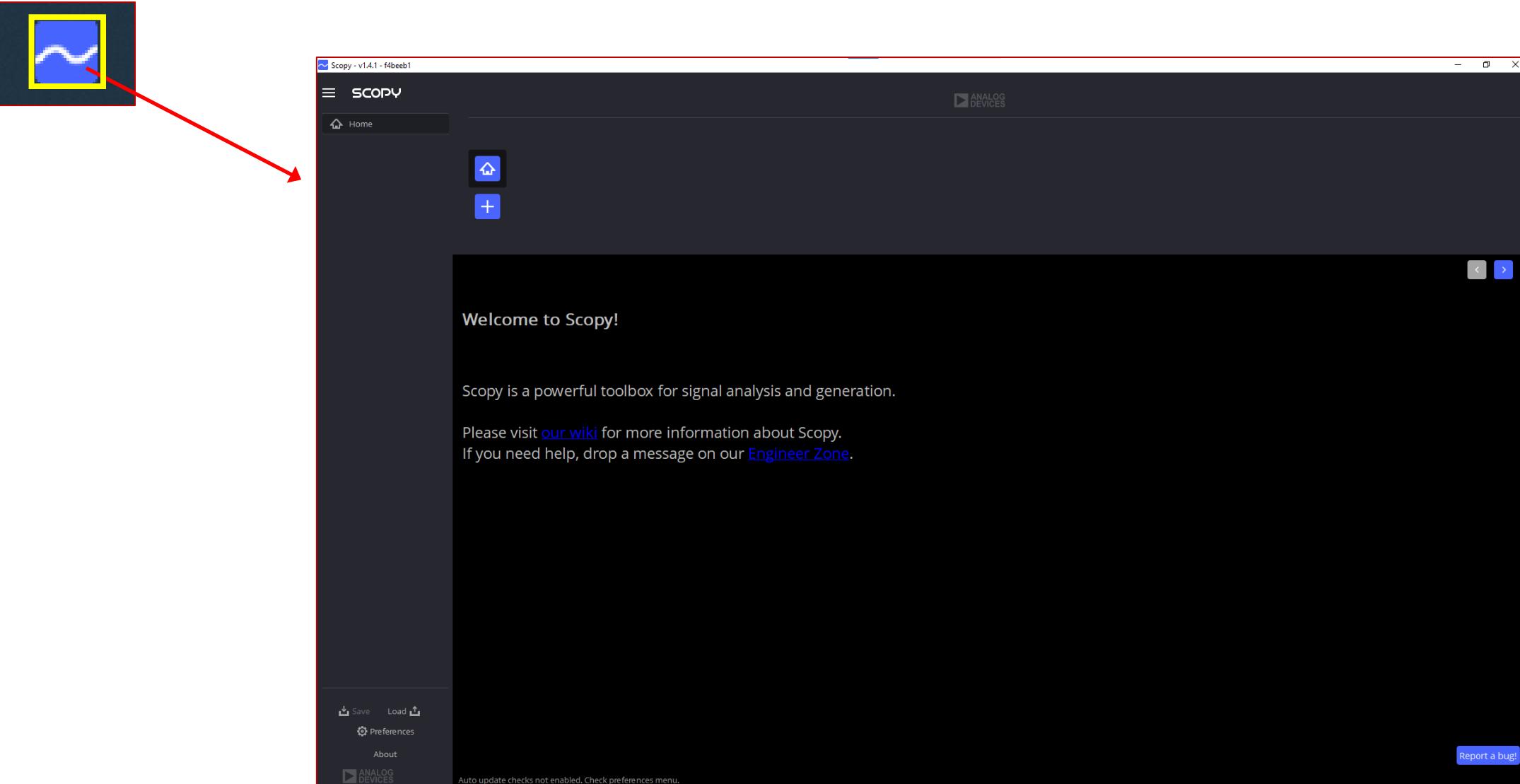
# Physically Connect PCB to ADALM2k

## Using EVAL-KW4502Z:

- ✓ Carefully align pins and insert firmly.
- ✓ Note PCB connector is not keyed, and PCB must be connected as shown!
- ✓ ADALM2000 should be powered off when connecting or disconnecting the PCB.



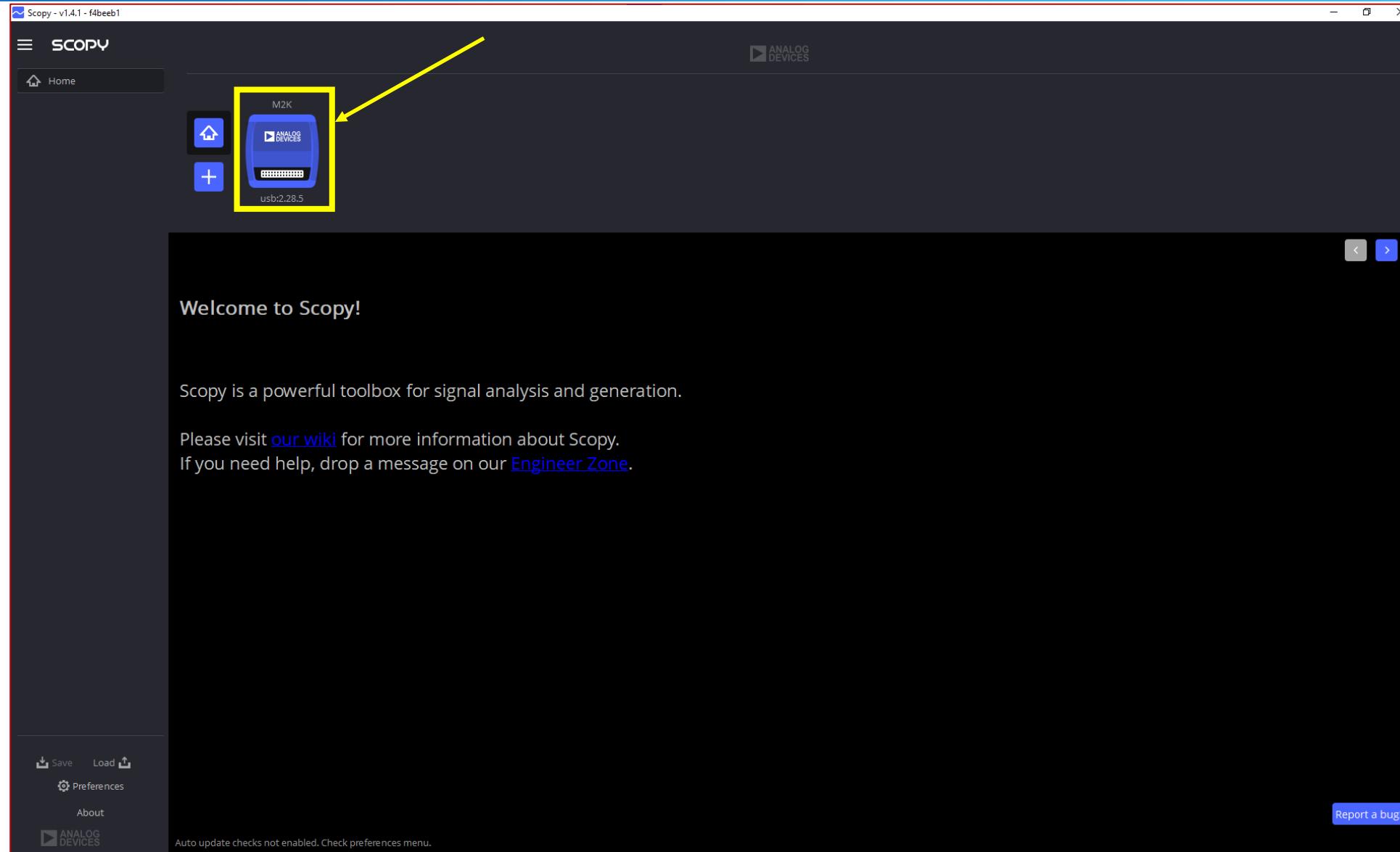
# Launch the Scopy Software



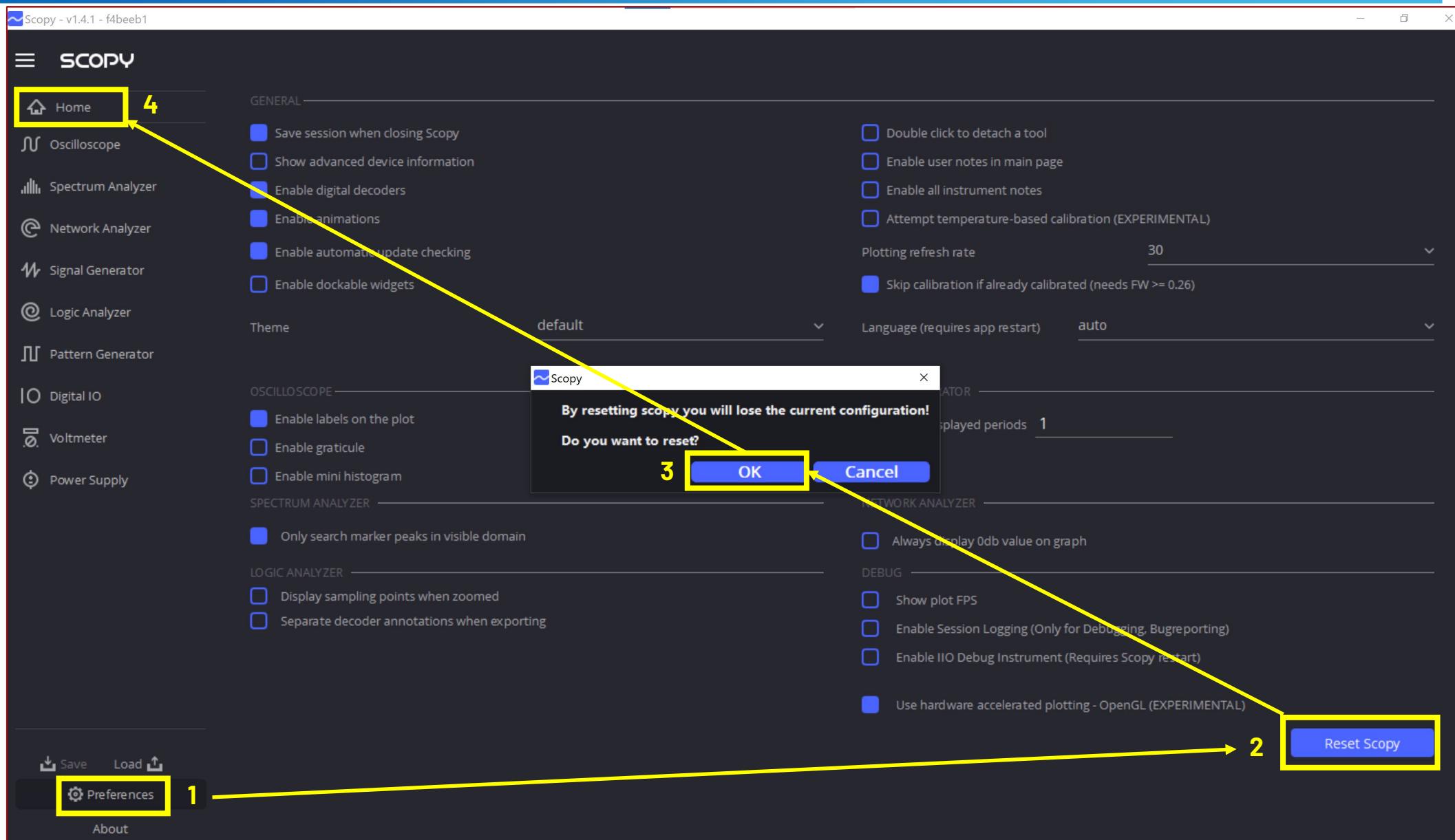
# Physically Connect the ADALM2k to the Laptop



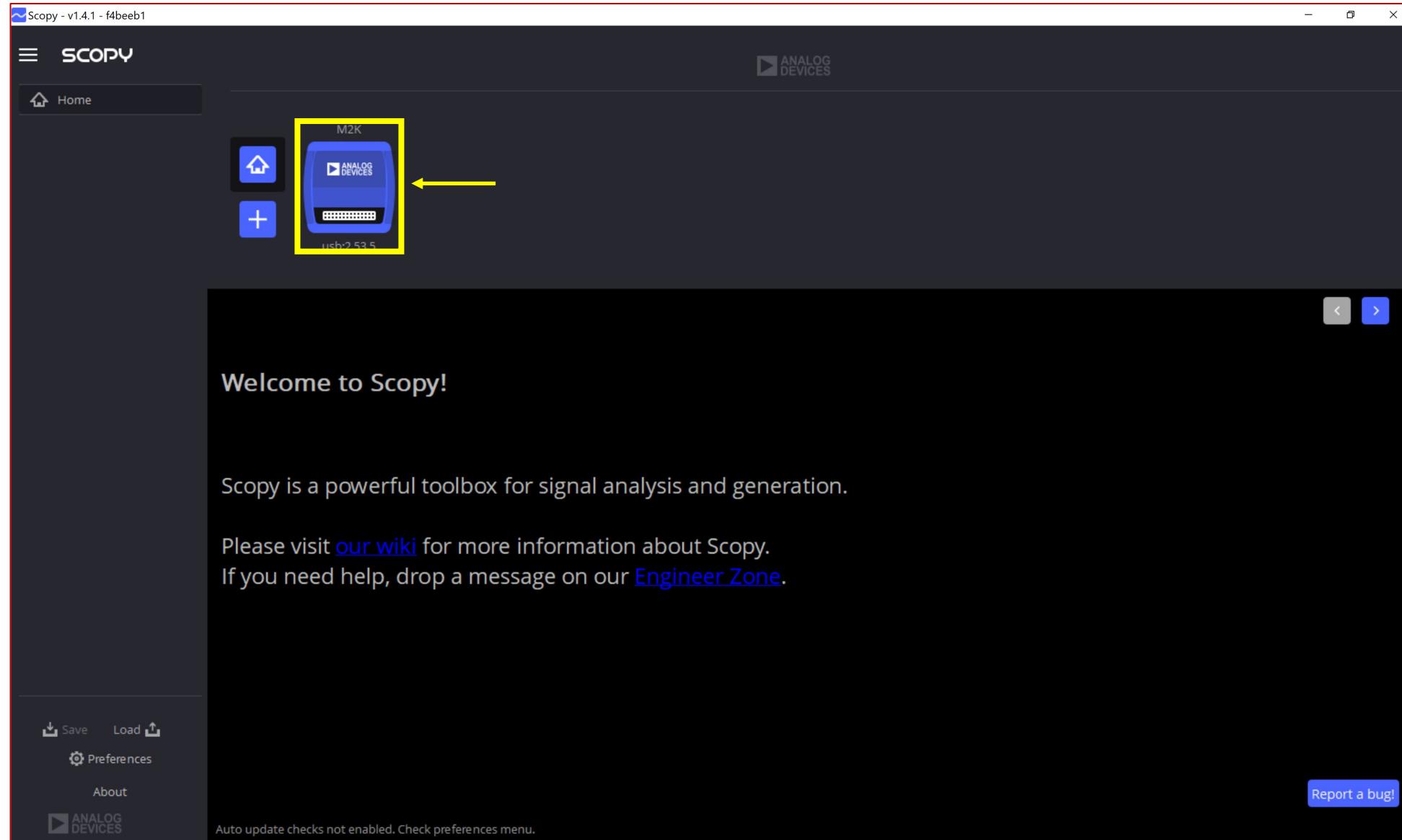
# Click on the “M2K” Icon



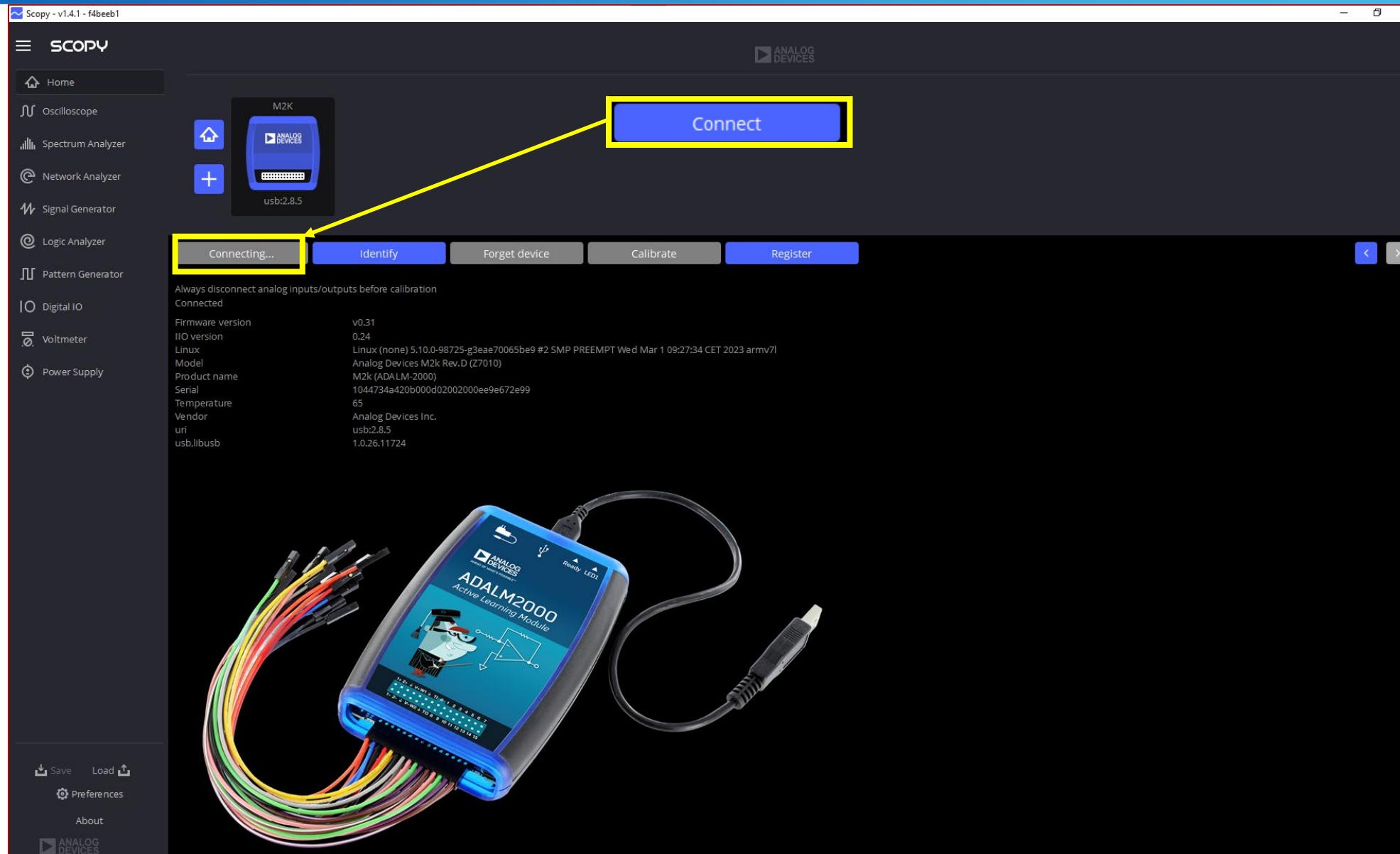
# Reset Scopy to Factory Defaults...1,2,3



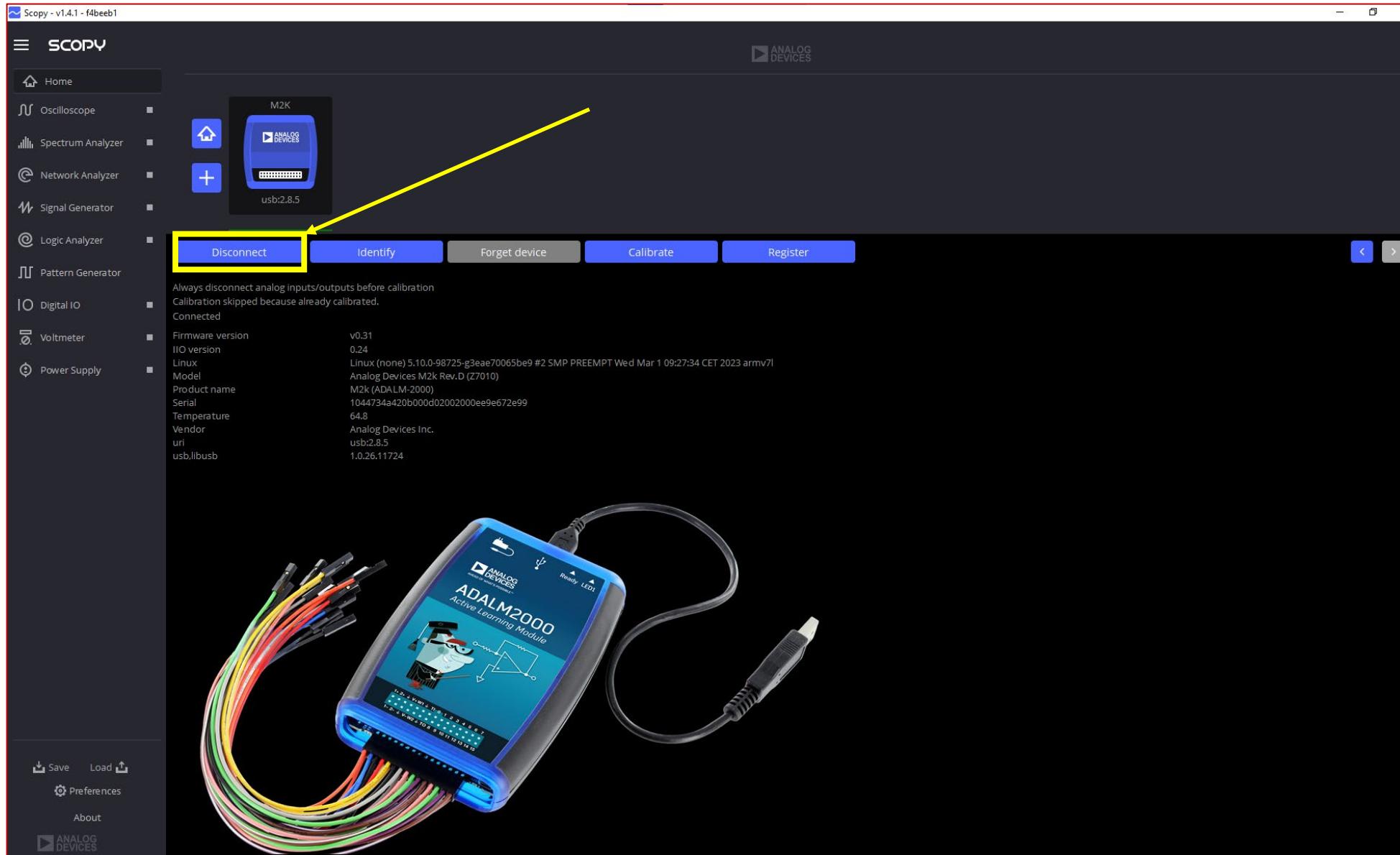
# Click "M2K" Icon!



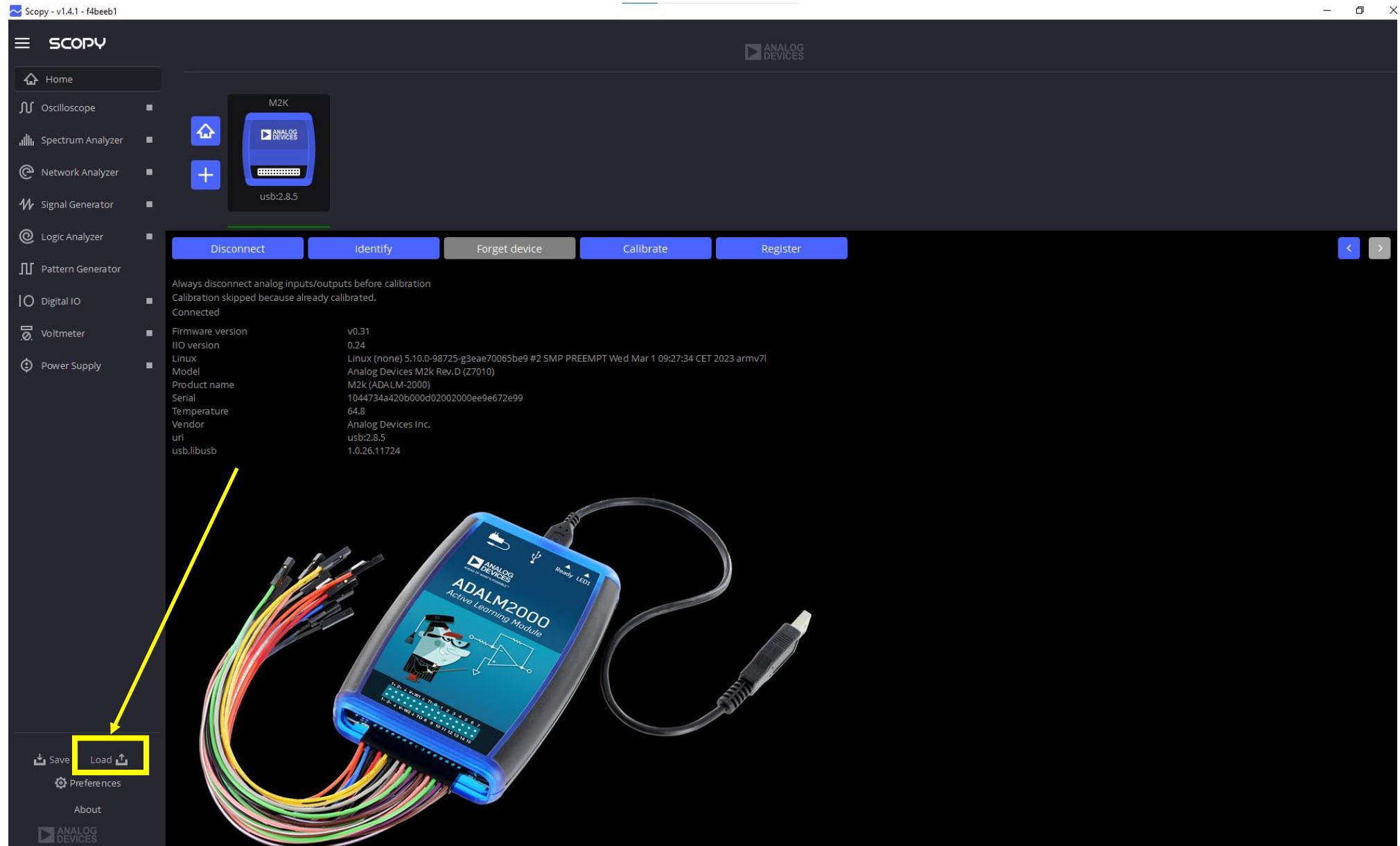
# Click “Connect” & ADALM2k will Begin Connecting



# Successful Connection Looks Like This



# Load the Config Files

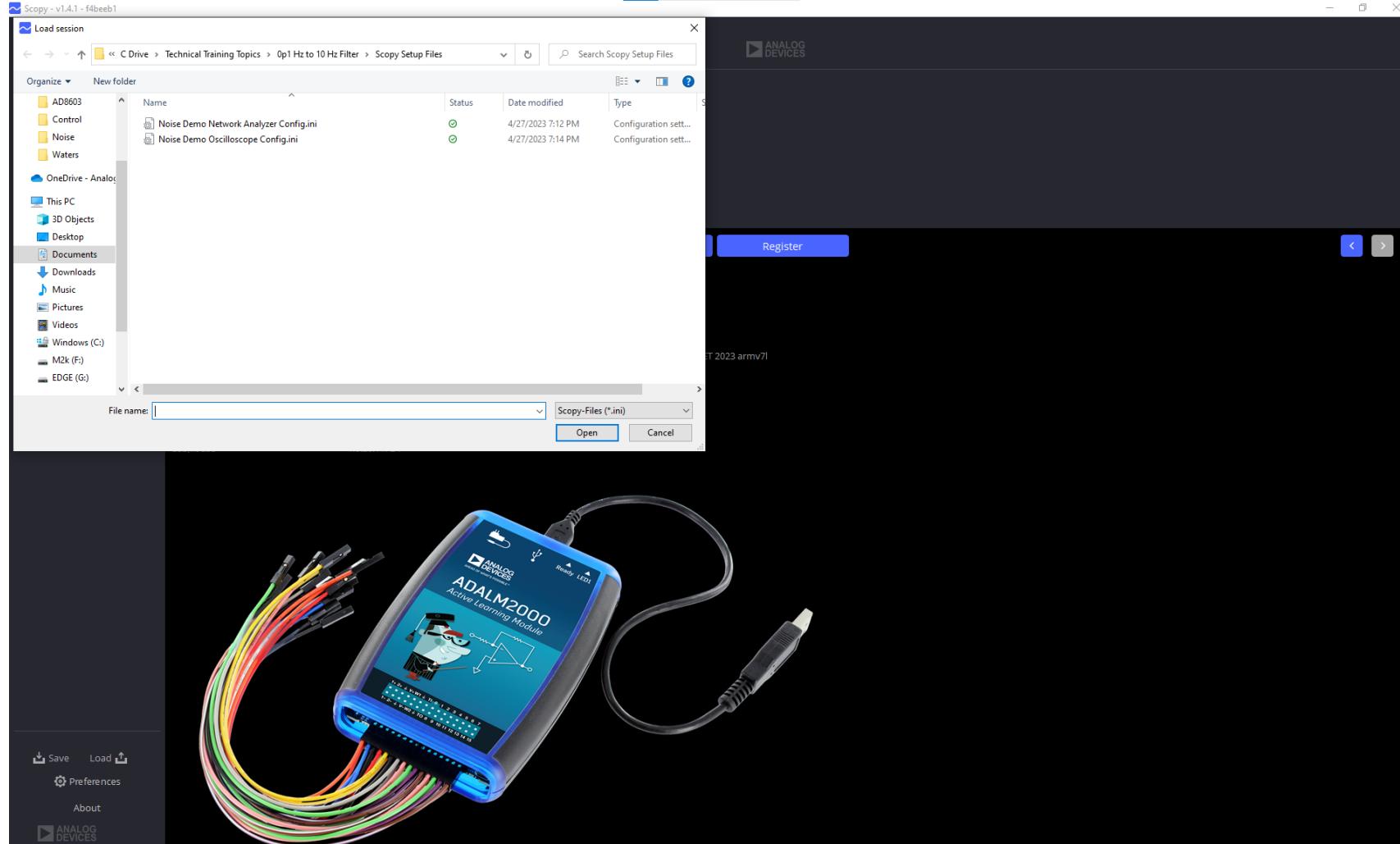


# Navigate to the Config File Location

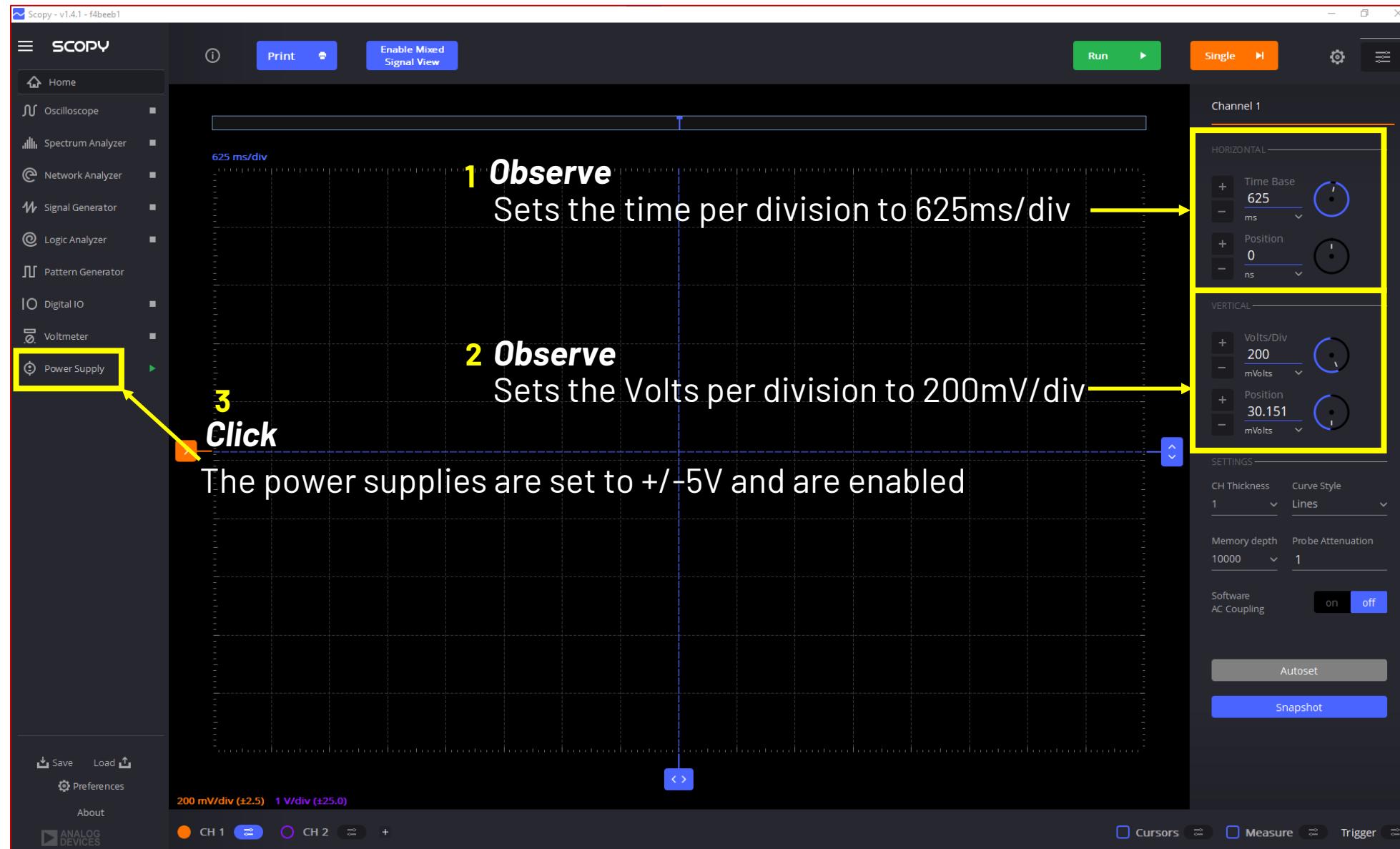


Scopy ini

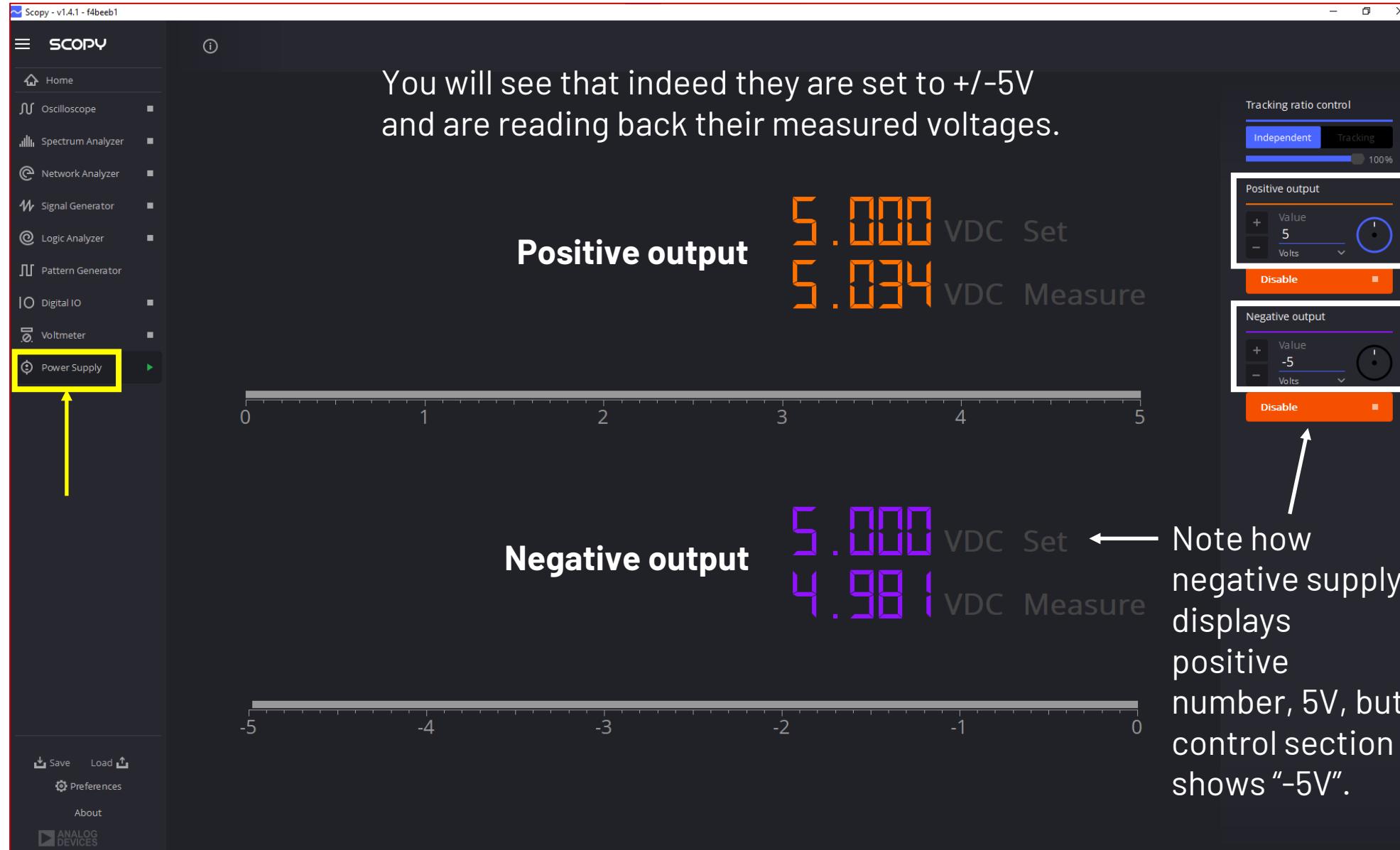
Noise Demo Oscilloscope Config.ini



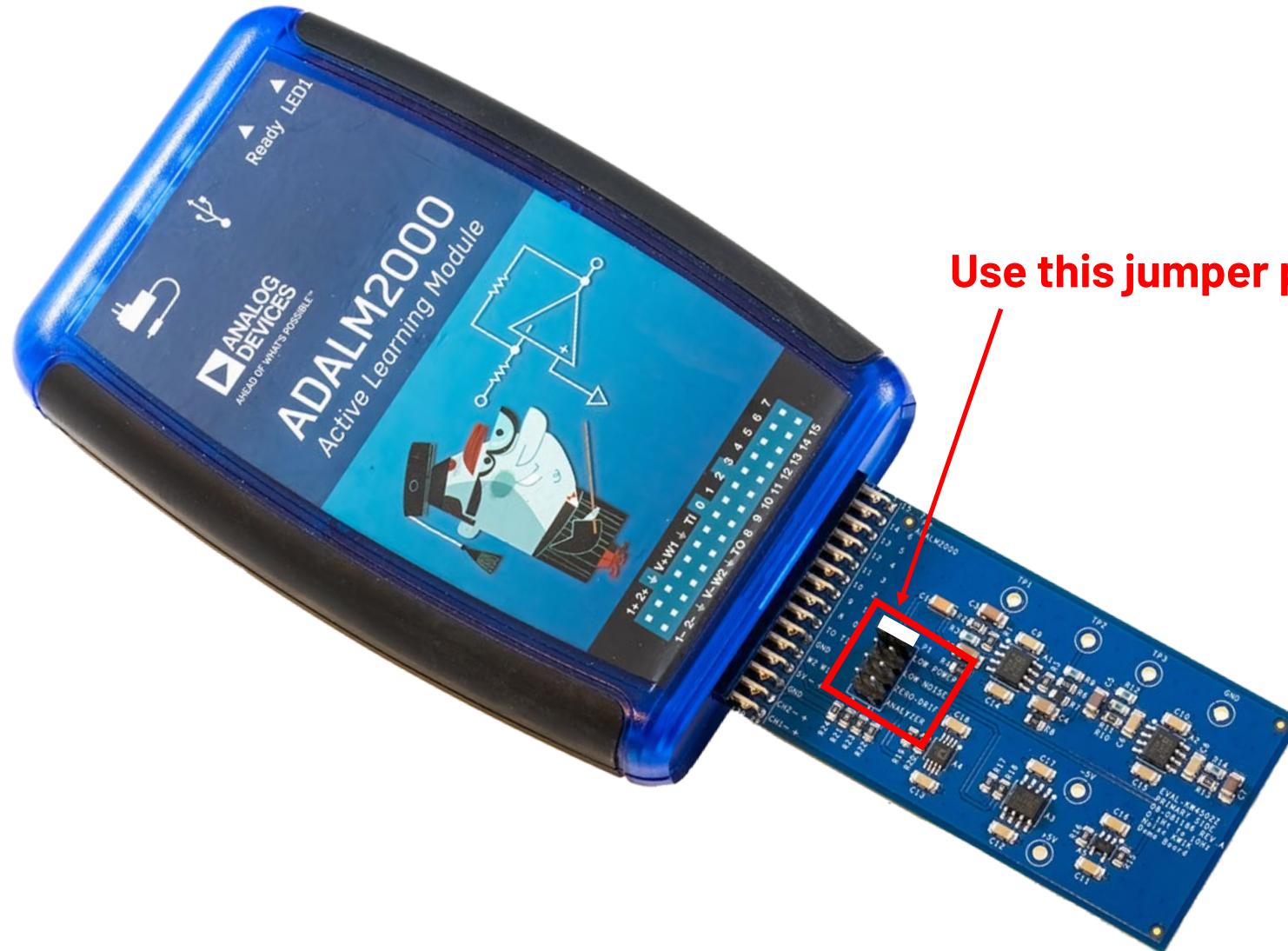
# After Loading the Config.ini File



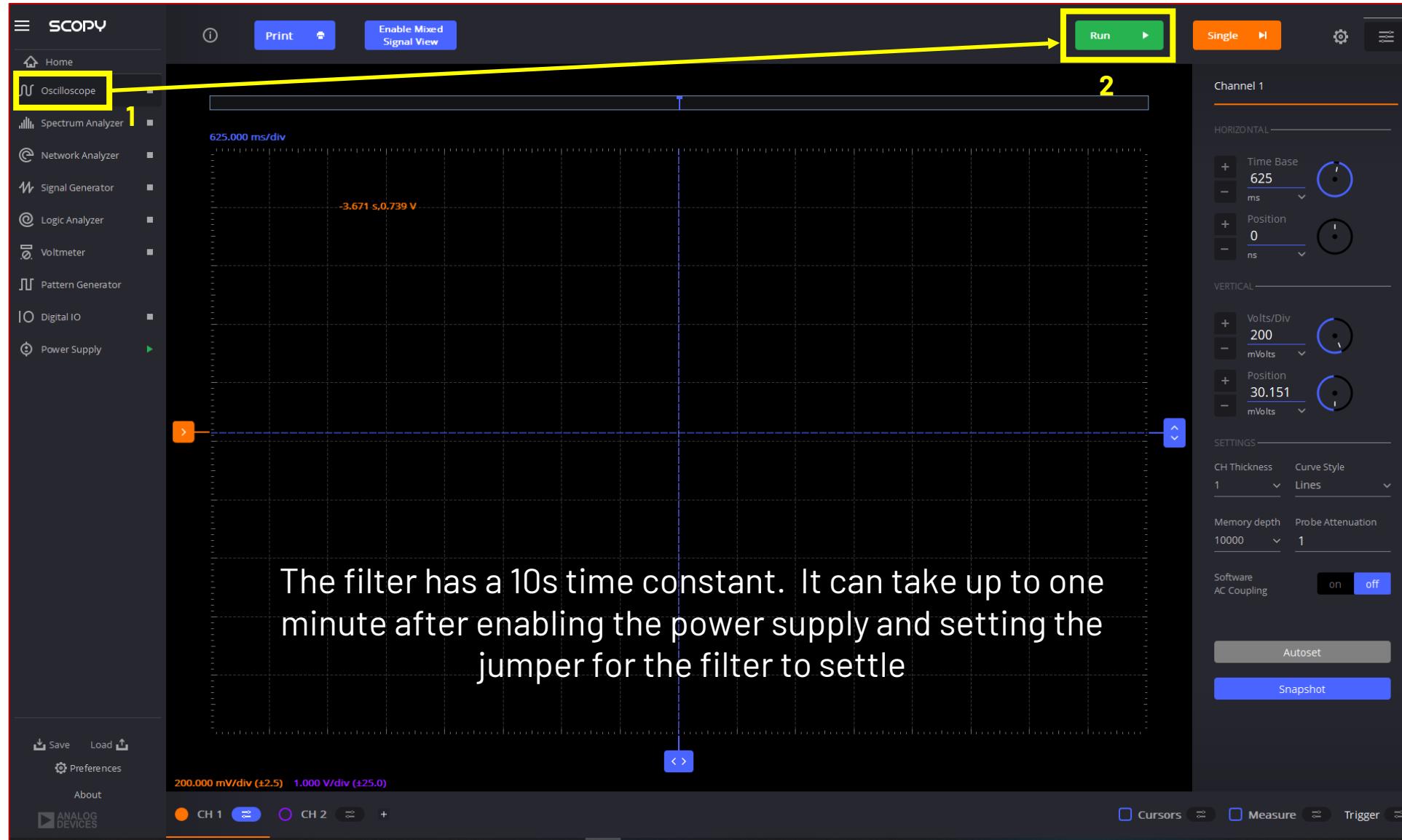
# If You Click on the Power Supply **Label** only



# Set the Jumper to “Low Power”

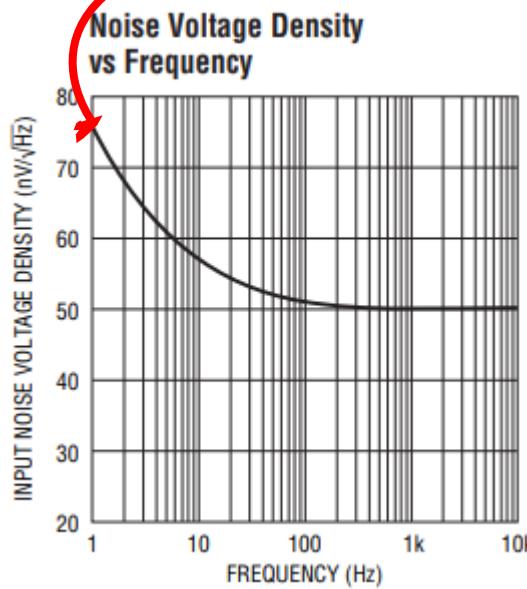


# Select “Oscilloscope” Label & click Green “Run” Button



# Let's Estimate the 1/f Noise for the LT1782

While the filter is settling, let's take a minute to estimate the low frequency noise:



From the data sheet curve, we can estimate the 1Hz 1/f noise at 75nV/SQRT-Hz.

We will integrate from 0.1 Hz to 10 Hz.

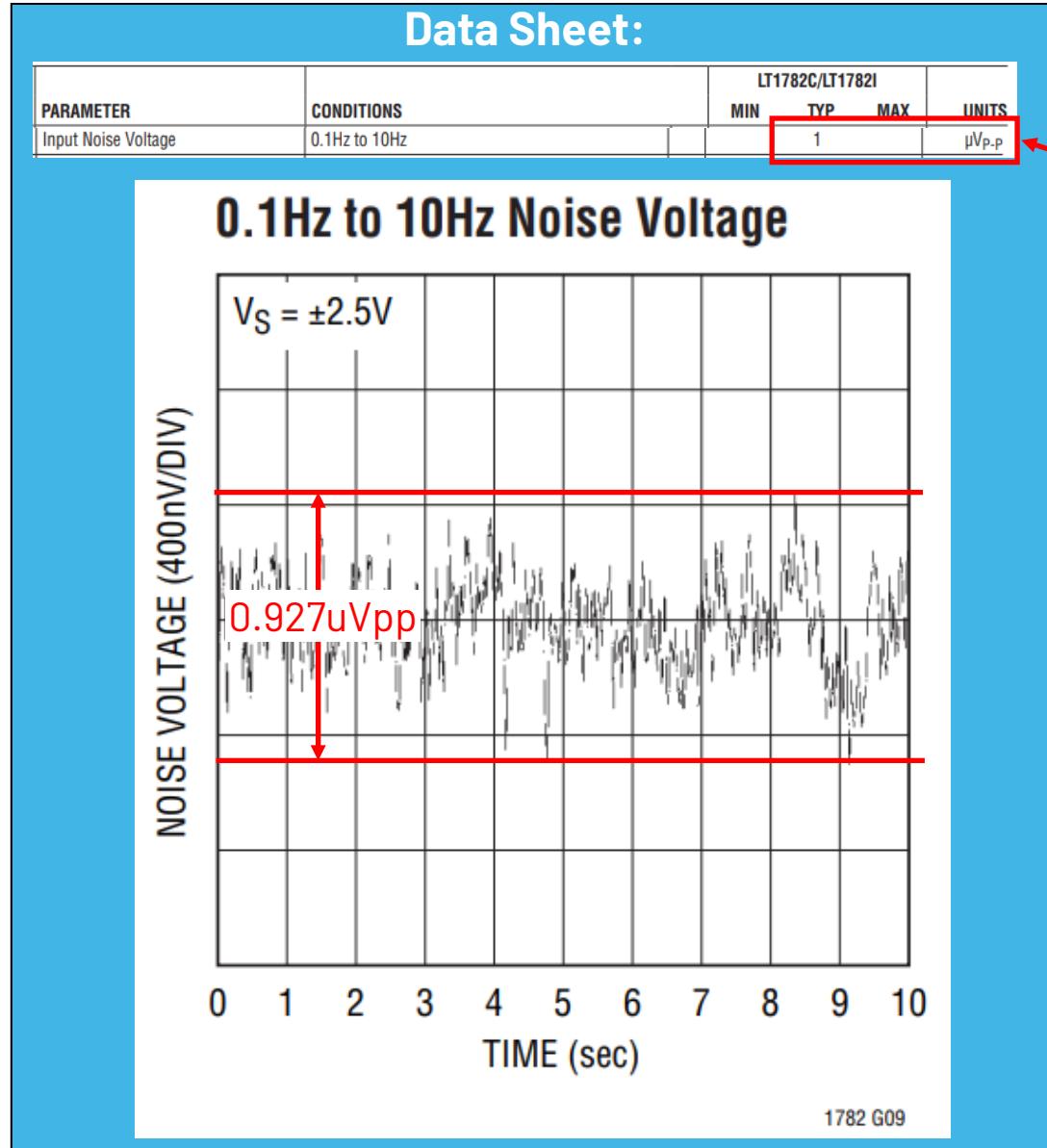
Calculation:

$$V_{\frac{1}{f}} = 6.6 \times e_{1Hz} \times \sqrt{\ln\left(\frac{f_{HIGH}}{f_{LOW}}\right)} = 6.6 \times 75e^{-9} \times \sqrt{\ln\left(\frac{10}{0.1}\right)} = 1.06 \mu V_{PP}$$

Annotations:

- V<sub>rms</sub> to V<sub>pp</sub> points to the factor  $e_{1Hz}$ .
- V<sub>rms</sub> points to the term  $\sqrt{\ln\left(\frac{f_{HIGH}}{f_{LOW}}\right)}$ .
- Noise Spectral Density @1Hz points to the value 75e<sup>-9</sup>.

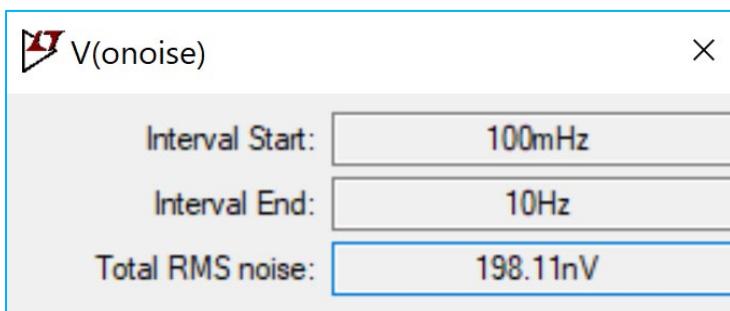
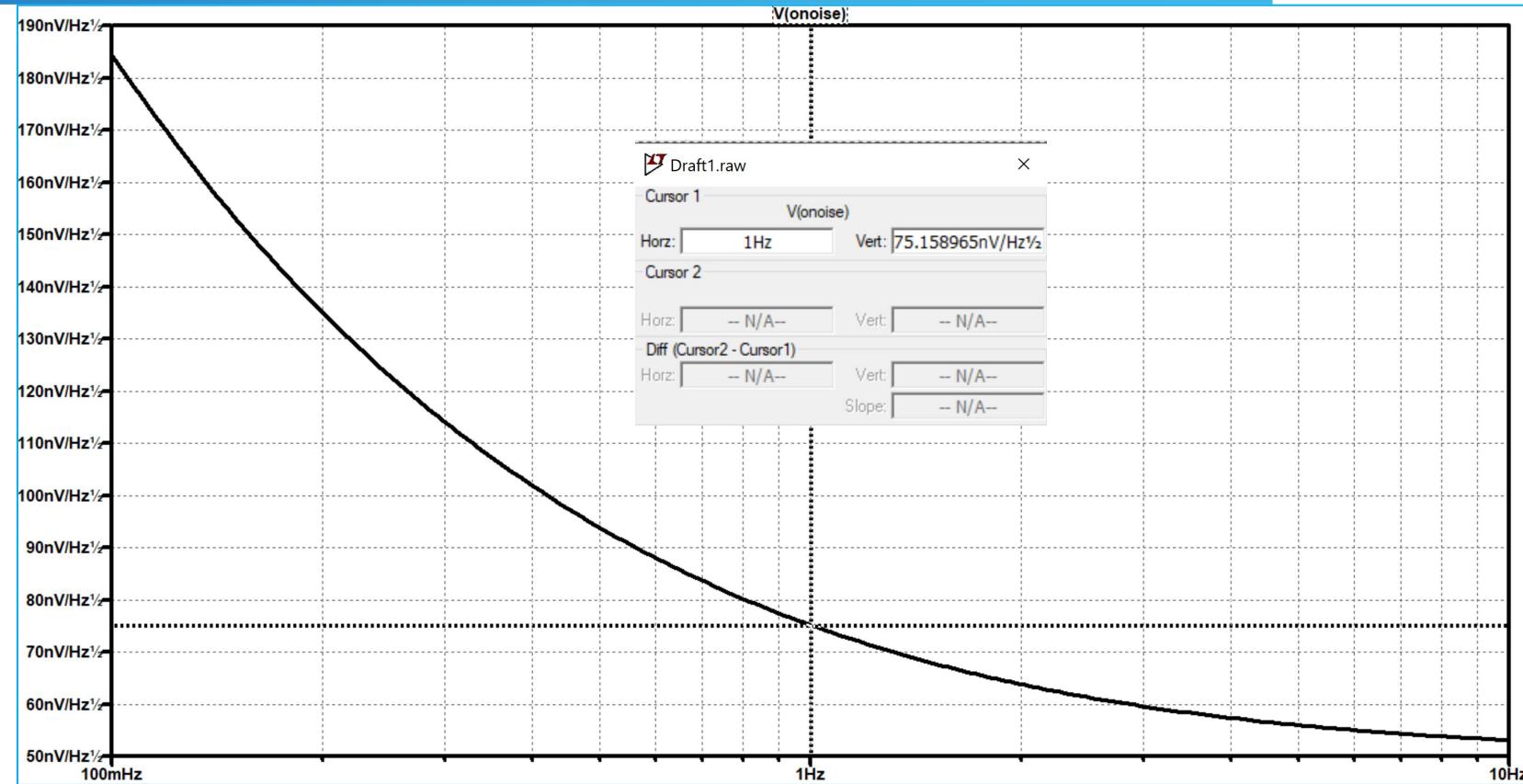
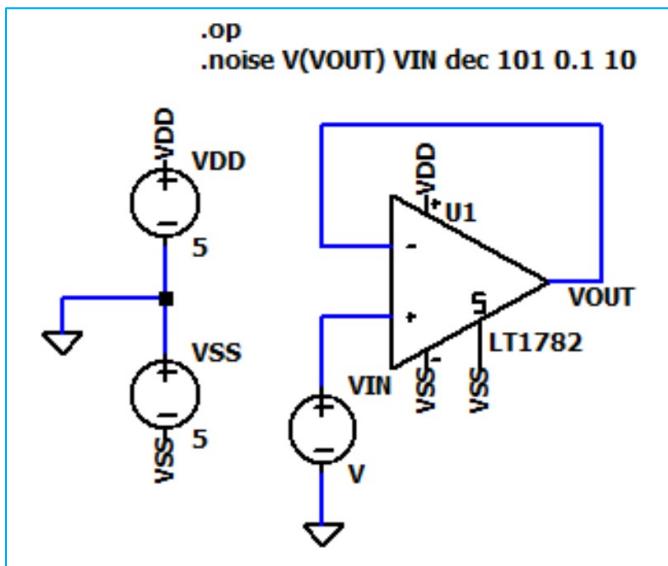
# Let's Compare our Estimate to the LT1782 Datasheet



**Estimate:**

$$V_{\frac{1}{f}} = 6.6 \times e_{1Hz} \times \sqrt{\ln\left(\frac{f_{HIGH}}{f_{LOW}}\right)} = 6.6 \times 75e^{-9} \times \sqrt{\ln\left(\frac{10}{0.1}\right)} = 1.06 \mu V_{PP}$$

# LT1782 Noise Analysis in LTspice



$$V_{noise\_pp} = 198.11\text{nV}_{rms} * \sqrt{6.6} = 1.3\mu\text{V}_{pp}$$

# Enable Measurements



# Typical Result for the Low Power Device

The Low Power device, LT1782, Vnoise\_RTI = 1.356/1E6 = 1.356uVpp



# Comparison LT1782 Noise

	Datasheet	Hand Calculation	LTspice	ADALM2000 Measure
$V_{noise\ pp\ RTI}$	1 $\mu$ Vpp	1.06 $\mu$ Vpp	1.3 $\mu$ Vpp	1.356 $\mu$ Vpp
$V_{noise\ RMS\ RTI}$	n.a.	161nVrms	198nVrms	227nVrms

## Conclusion:

Datasheet is a bit optimistic for this particular device.

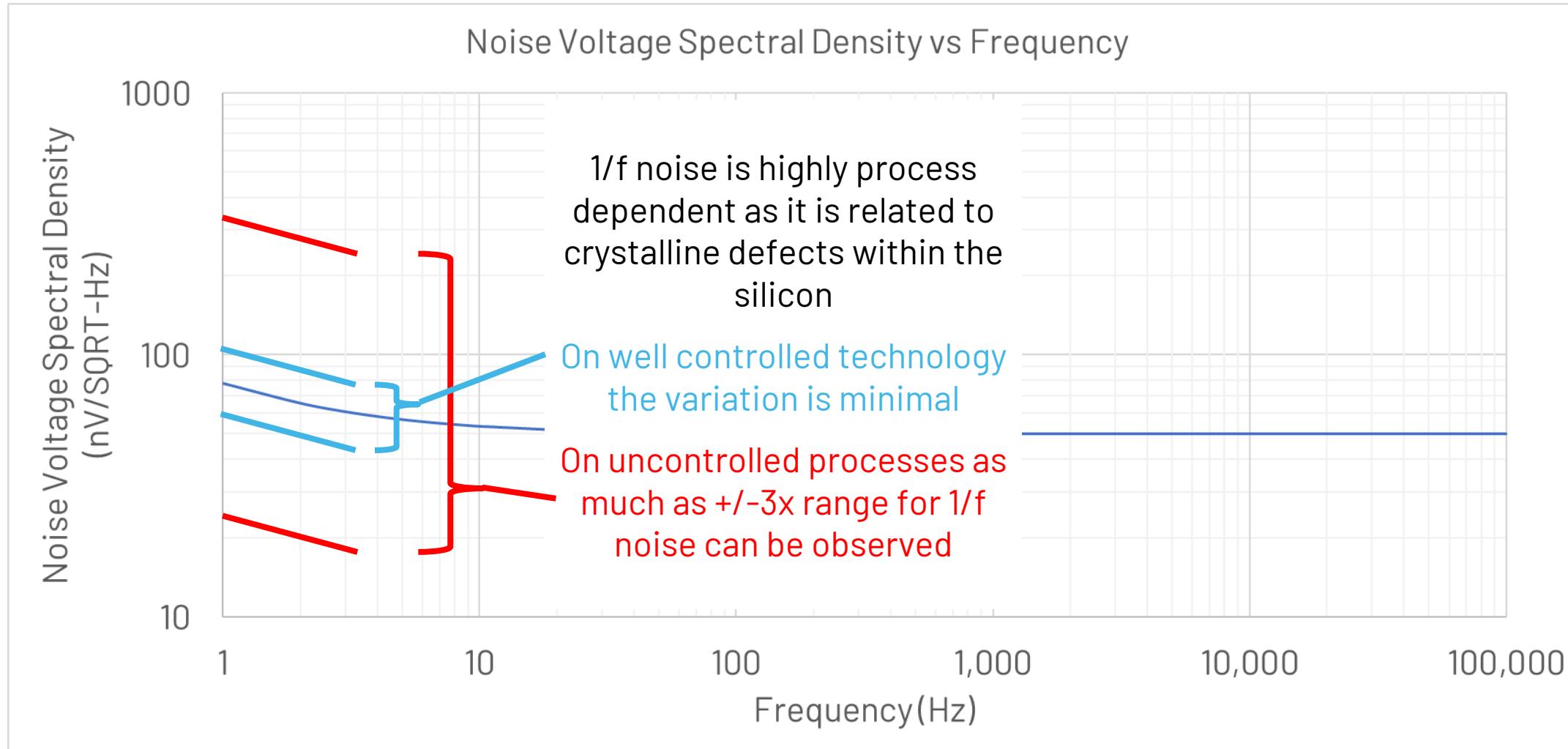
Hand Calculations match the data sheet closely.

LTS defense model matches the measured result.

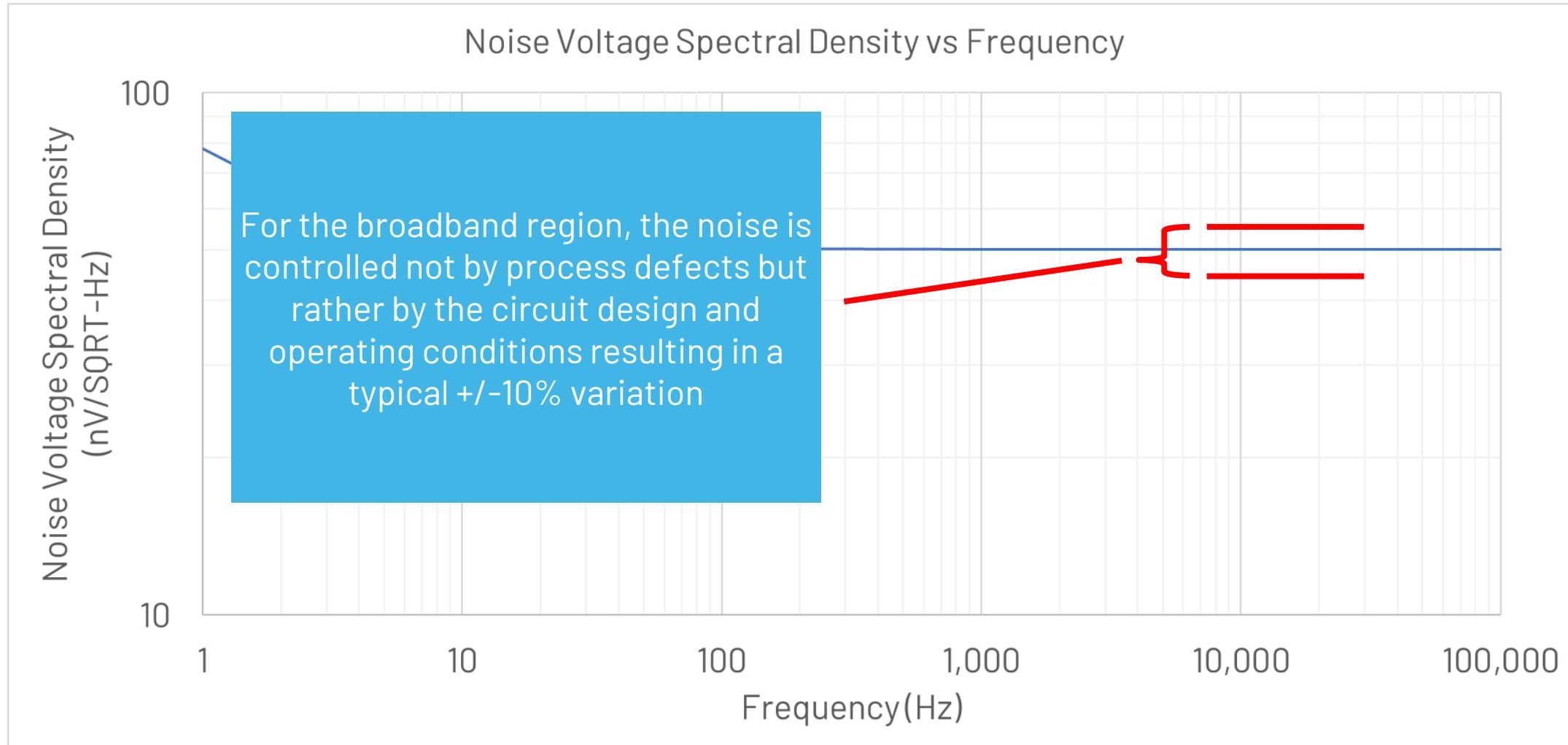


*What reasons might the data sheet be more optimistic than our measured results?*

# What to Expect if Only a Typical Value is Given?



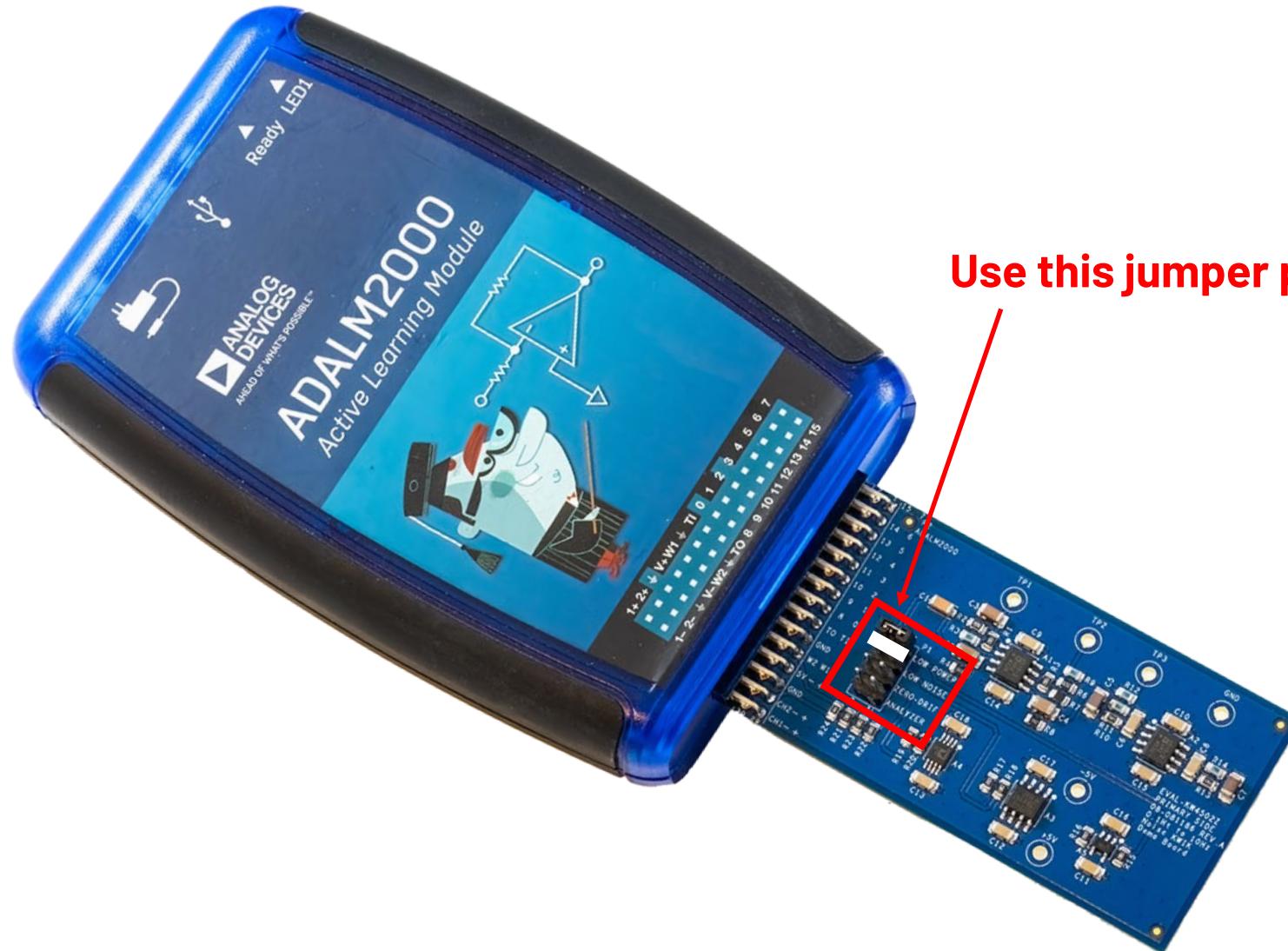
# What to Expect if Only a Typical Value is Given?



Source:

Art Kay, Operational Amplifier Noise Techniques and Tips for Analyzing and Reducing Noise, Boston, Newnes/Elsevier, 2012

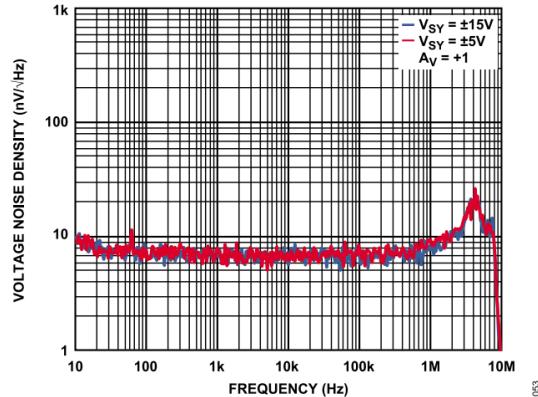
# Set the Jumper to “Low Noise”



Use this jumper position

# Let's Estimate the 1/f Noise for the ADA4077

While the filter is settling, let's take a minute to estimate the low frequency noise



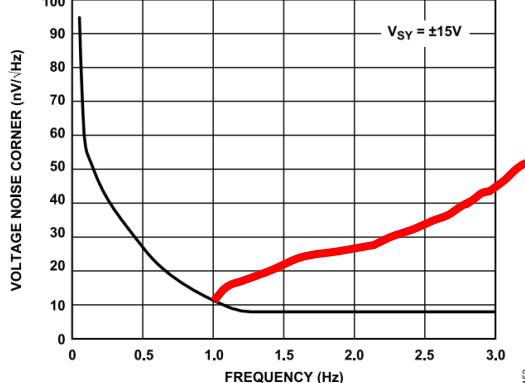
From the data sheet curve, we can estimate the 1Hz 1/f noise at 13nV/SQRT-Hz.

We will integrate from 0.1 Hz to 10 Hz.

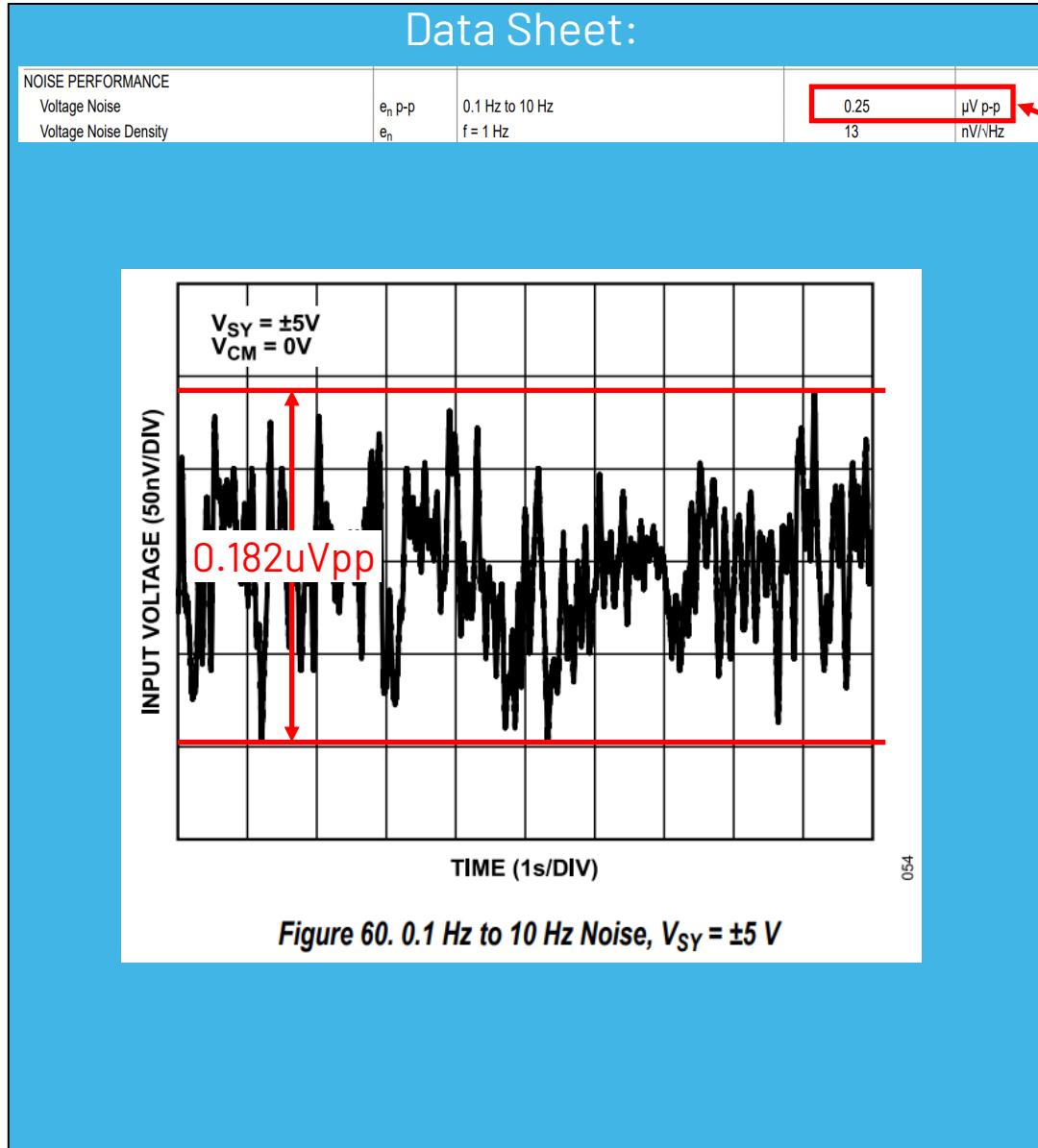
Calculation:

$$V_{\frac{1}{f}} = 6.6 \times e_{1\text{Hz}} \times \sqrt{\ln\left(\frac{f_{HIGH}}{f_{LOW}}\right)} = 6.6 \times 13e^{-9} \times \sqrt{\ln\left(\frac{10}{0.1}\right)} = 0.18\mu V_{PP}$$

↑      ↓      ↑  
Vrms      to      Vrms      Noise Spectral  
to      Vpp      Density @1Hz



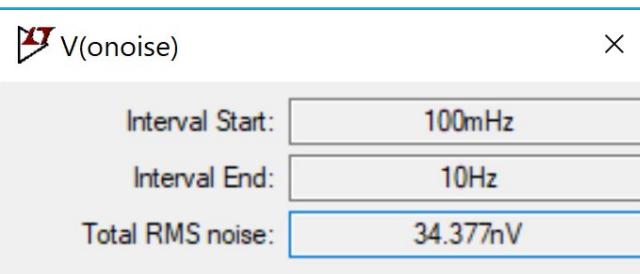
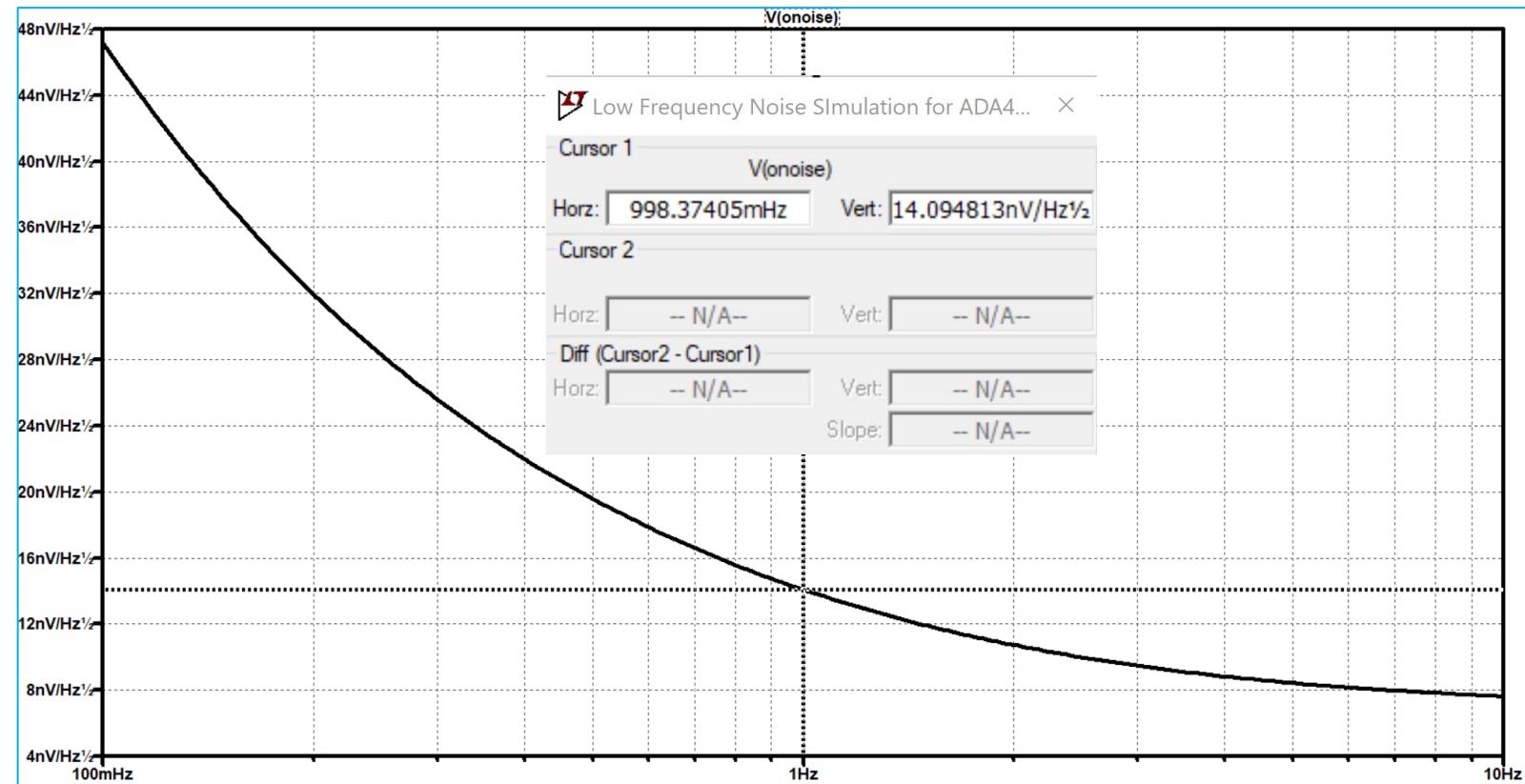
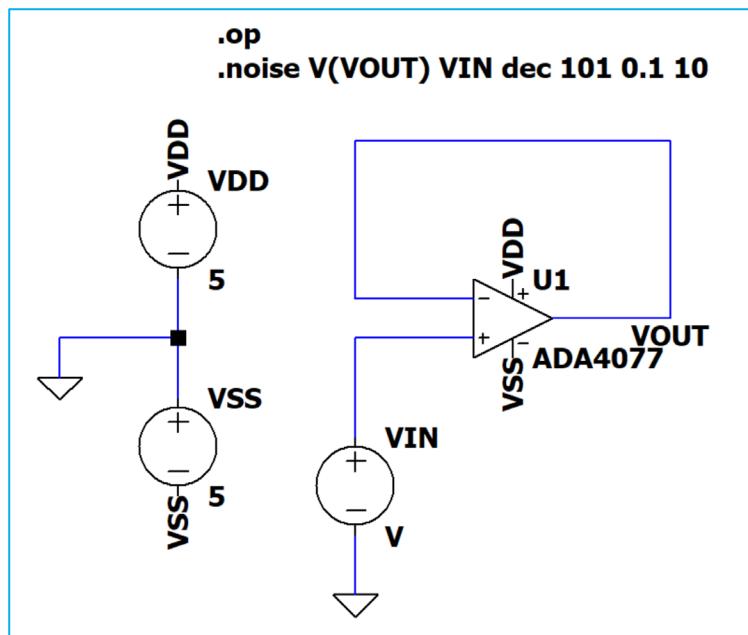
# Let's Compare our Estimate to the ADA4077 Datasheet



Estimate:

$$V_{\frac{1}{f}} = 6.6 \times e_{1\text{Hz}} \times \sqrt{\ln\left(\frac{f_{HIGH}}{f_{LOW}}\right)} = 6.6 \times 13e^{-9} \times \sqrt{\ln\left(\frac{10}{0.1}\right)} = 0.18 \mu\text{V}_{PP}$$

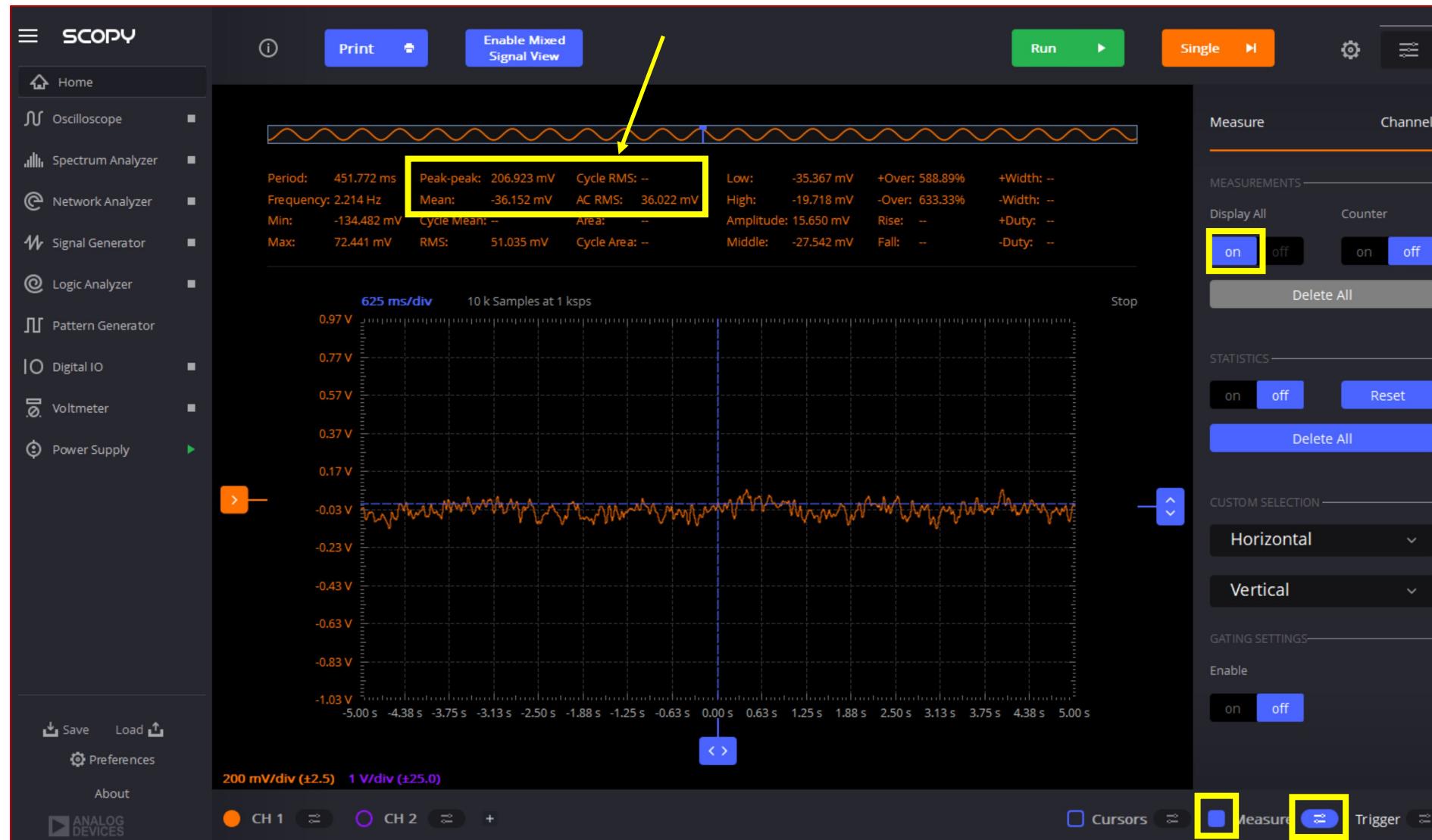
# ADA4077 Noise Analysis in LTspice



$$V_{noise\_pp} = 34.377\text{nVrms} * \sqrt{6.6} = 227\text{nVpp}$$

# Typical Result for the Low Noise Device

The Low Noise device, ADA4077, Vnoise\_RTI = 206.9mVpp/1E6 = 0.207uVpp



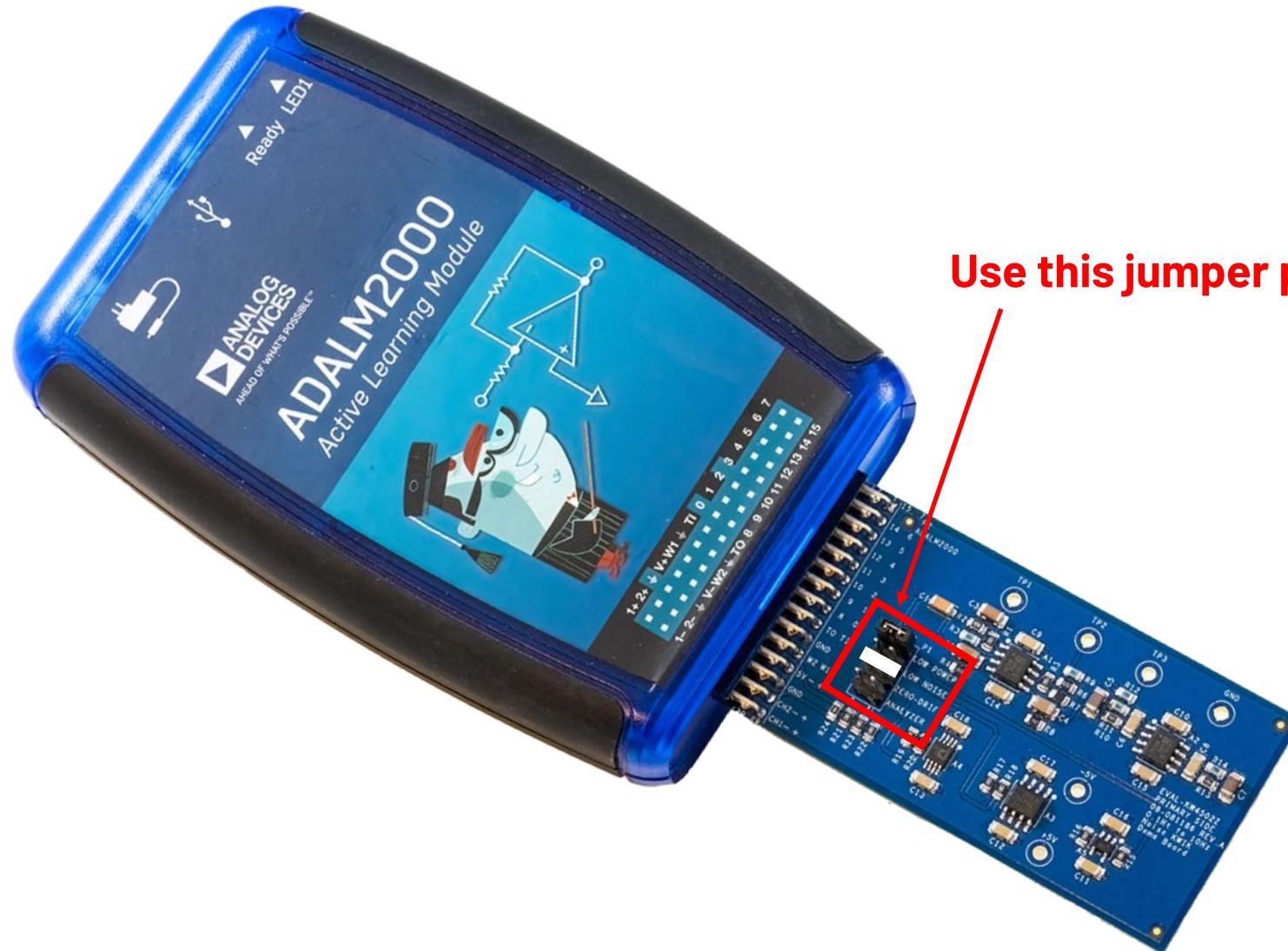
# Comparison ADA4077 Noise

	Datasheet	Hand Calculation	LTspice	ADALM2000 Measured
$V_{noise \text{ pp RTI}}$	<b>0.25μVpp</b>	<b>0.18μVpp</b>	<b>0.227μVpp</b>	<b>0.207uVpp</b>
$V_{noise \text{ RMS RTI}}$	n.a.	<b>27nVrms</b>	<b>34nVrms</b>	<b>36nVrms</b>

## Conclusion:

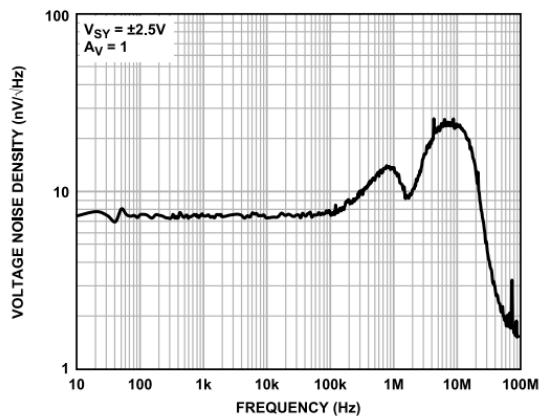
Datasheet, Hand Calculations, LTSpice and Measured Results closely match.

# Set the Jumper to “Zero-Drift”



# Let's Estimate the 1/f Noise for the ADA4522

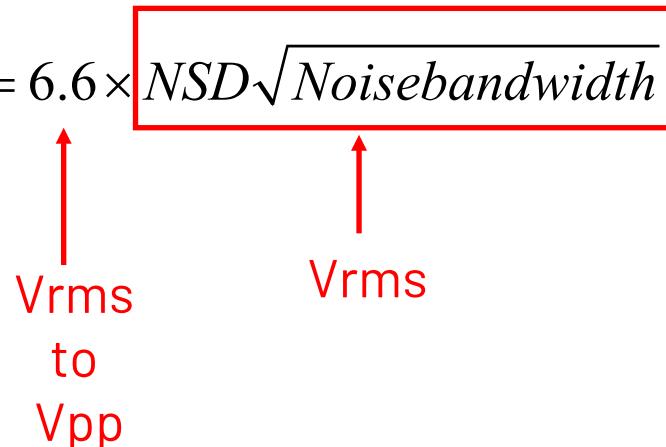
**While the filter is settling, let's take a minute to estimate the low frequency noise**



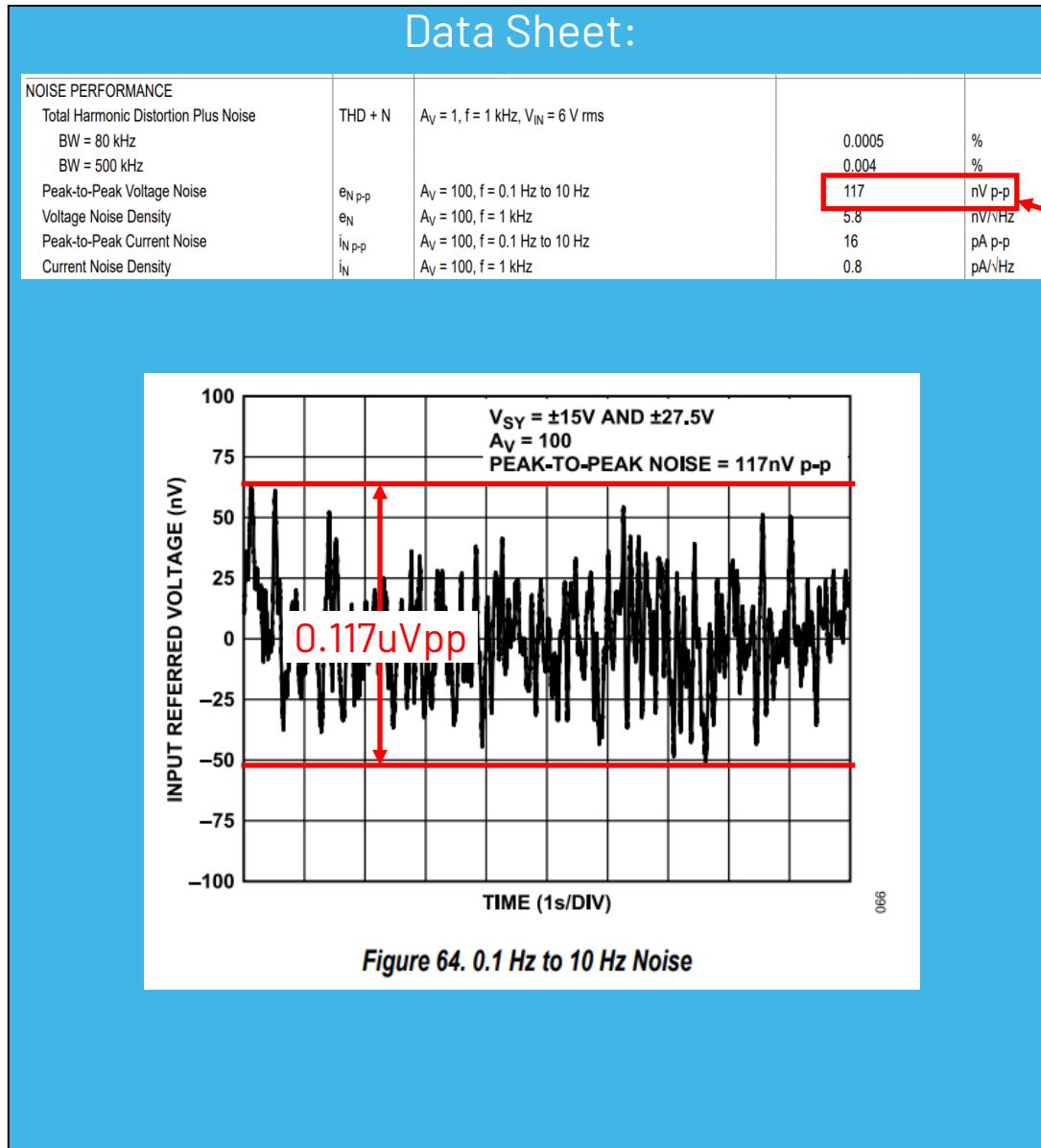
Because the ADA4522 is a Zero-Drift device, it has no 1/f noise, so we must calculate the broadband noise from 0.1 Hz to 10 Hz using  $5.8\text{nV/SQRT-Hz}$ . We will use a noise bandwidth of 10 Hz.

Calculation:

$$V_n = 6.6 \times \boxed{NSD \sqrt{\text{Noisebandwidth}}} = 6.6 \times 5.8e^{-9} \sqrt{10} = 0.12 \mu V_{PP}$$



# Let's Compare our Estimate to the ADA4522 Datasheet



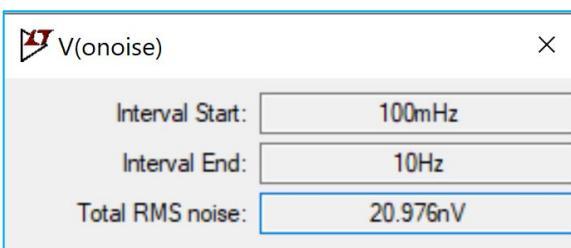
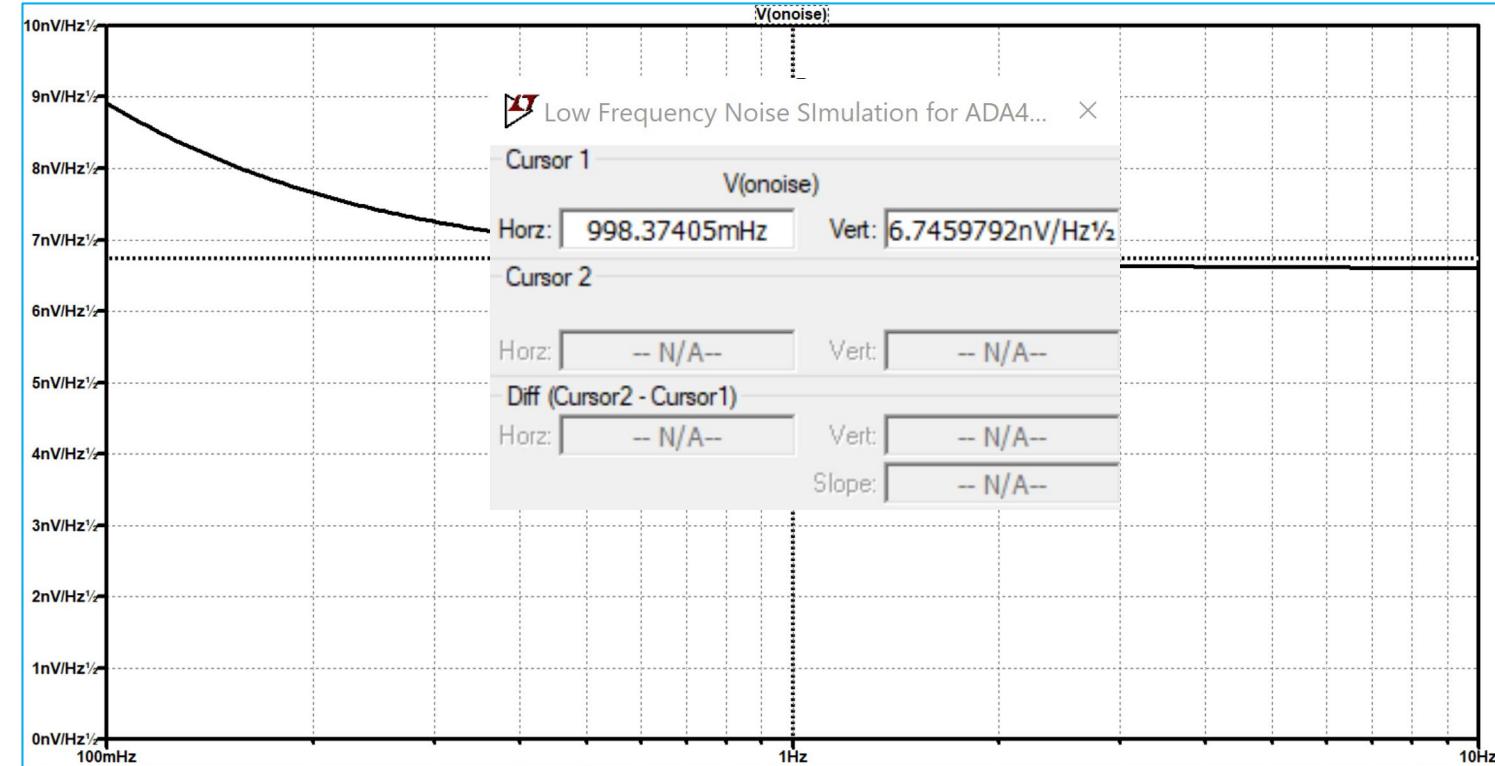
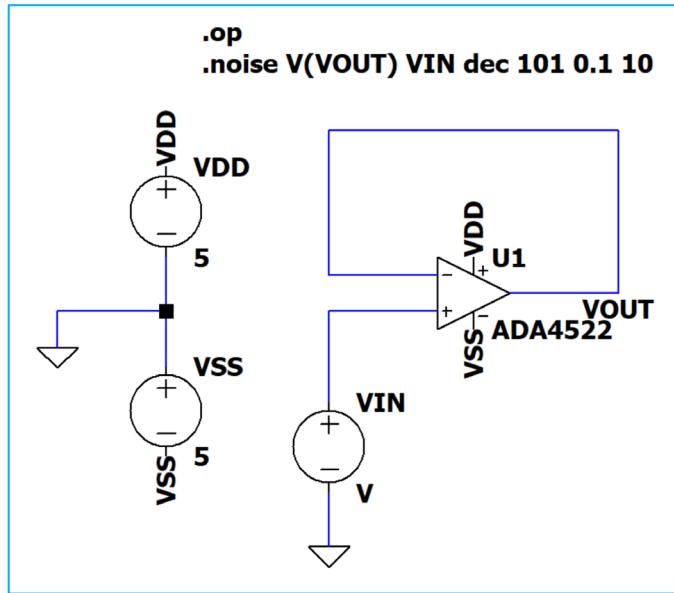
Estimate:

$$V_n = 6.6 \times NSD \sqrt{Noisebandwidth} = 6.6 \times 5.8 e^{-9} \sqrt{10} = 0.12 \mu V_{PP}$$

# ADA4522 Noise Analysis in LTspice

[1782noise.asc](#)

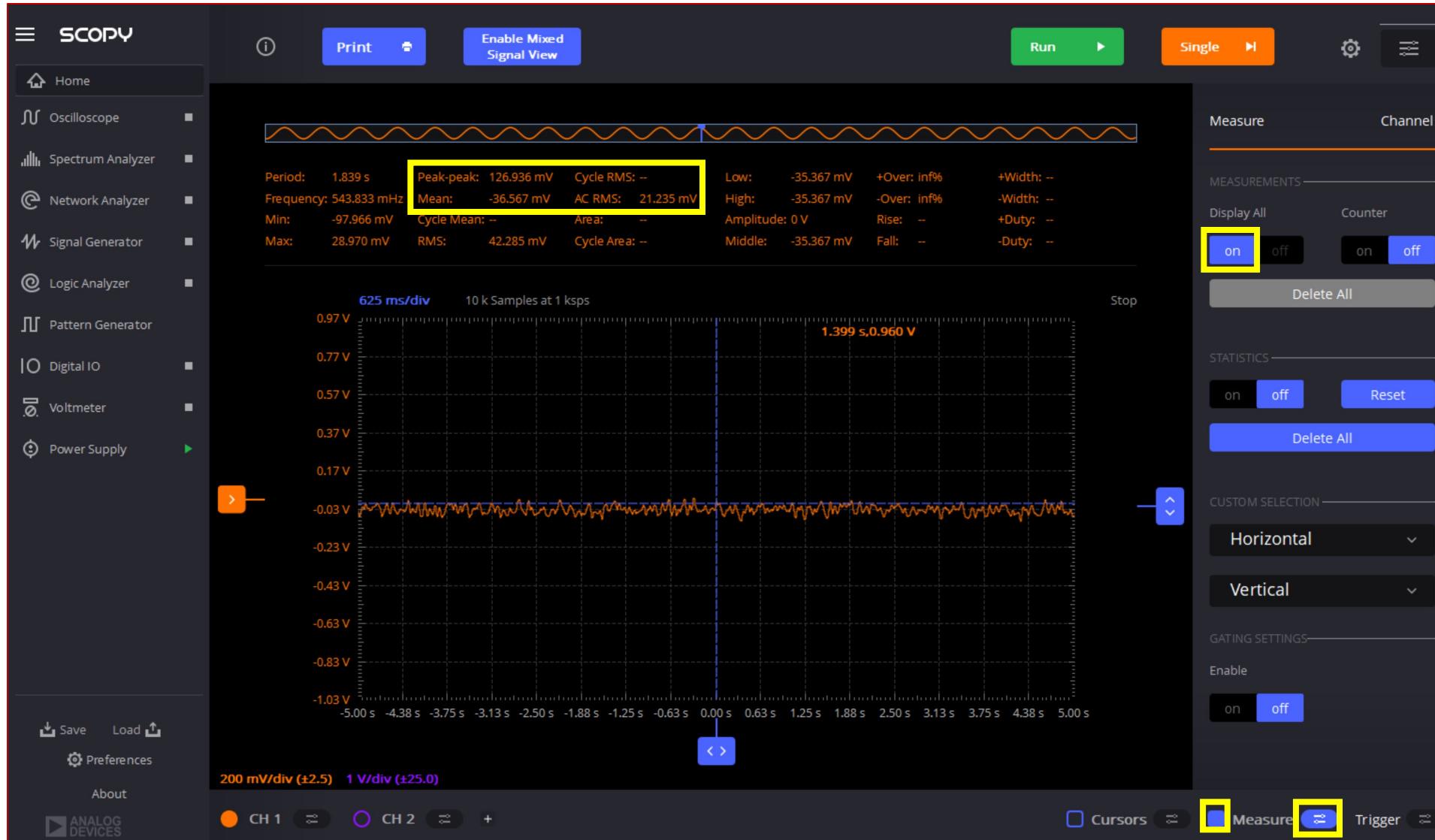
 ANALOG  
DEVICES  
AHEAD OF WHAT'S POSSIBLE™



$$V_{noise\_pp} = 20.976\text{nV}_{rms} * \sqrt{6.6} = 138\text{nV}_{pp}$$

# Typical Result for the Zero-Drift Device

The Zero-Drift device, ADA4522, Vnoise\_RTI = 127mVpp/1E6 = 127nVpp



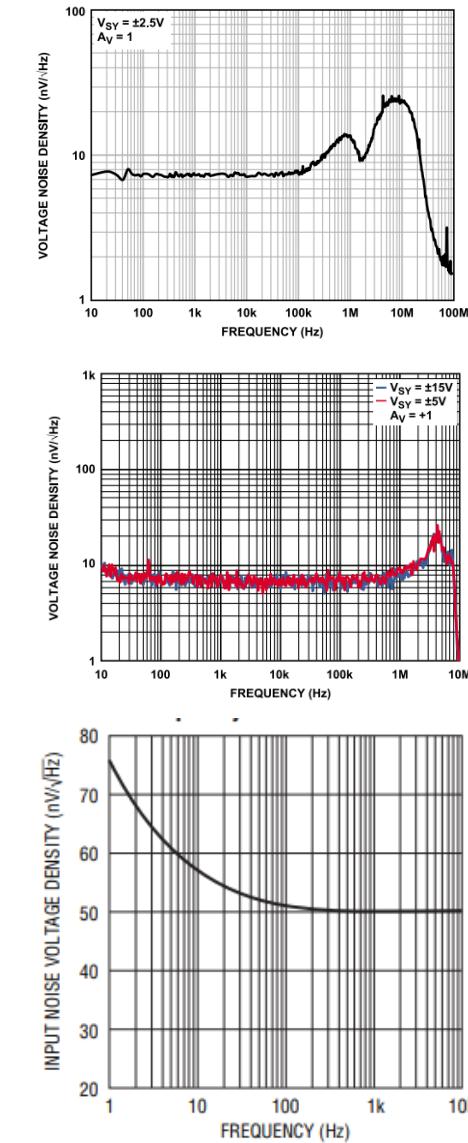
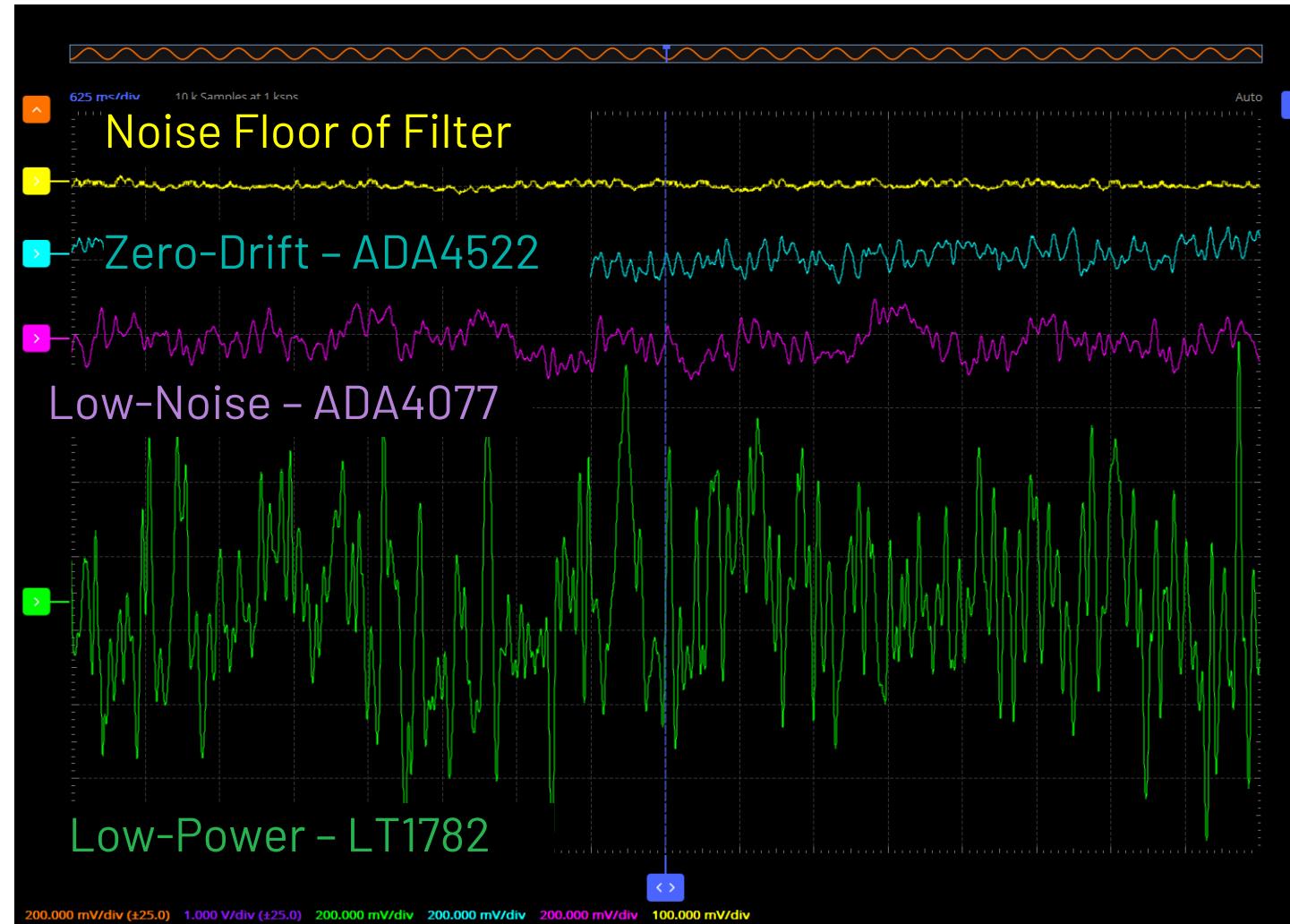
# Comparison ADA4522 Noise

	Datasheet	Hand Calc,	LTspice	ADALM2000 Meas.
$V_{noise\ pp\ RTI}$	<b>0.117<math>\mu</math>Vpp</b>	<b>0.12<math>\mu</math>Vpp</b>	<b>0.138<math>\mu</math>Vpp</b>	<b>0.127<math>\mu</math>Vpp</b>
$V_{noise\ RMS\ RTI}$	n.a.	<b>18nVrms</b>	<b>21nVrms</b>	<b>21nVrms</b>

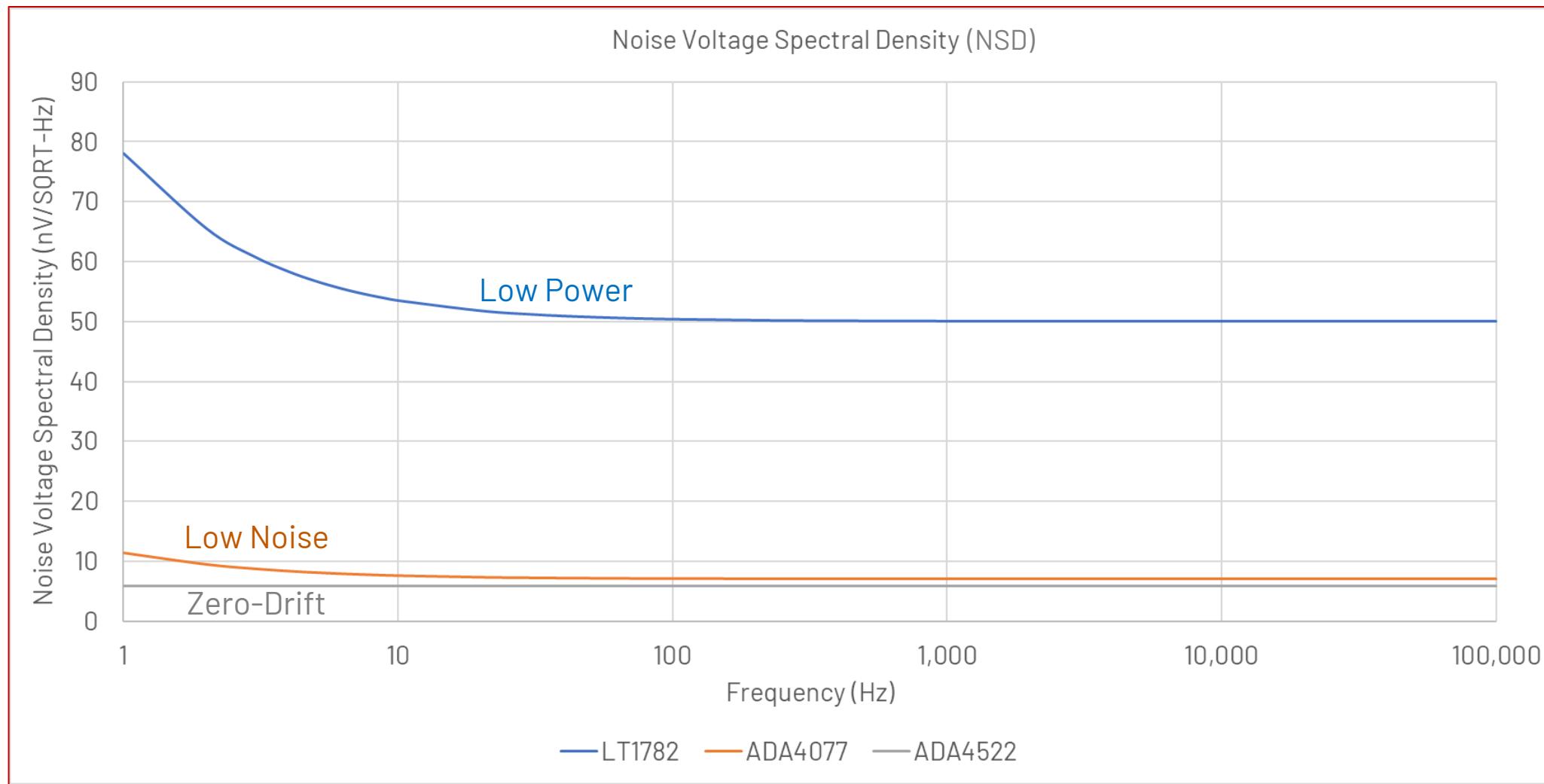
## Conclusion:

Datasheet, Hand Calculations, LTSpice and Measured Results closely match.

# Results Summary

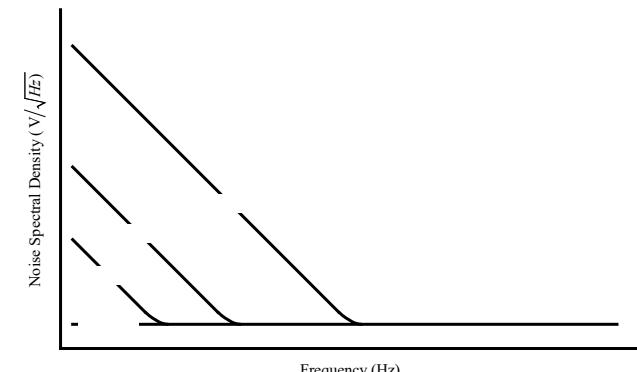
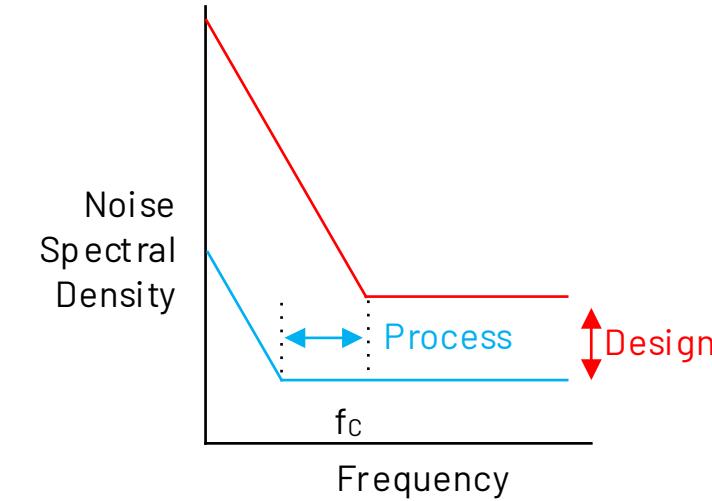
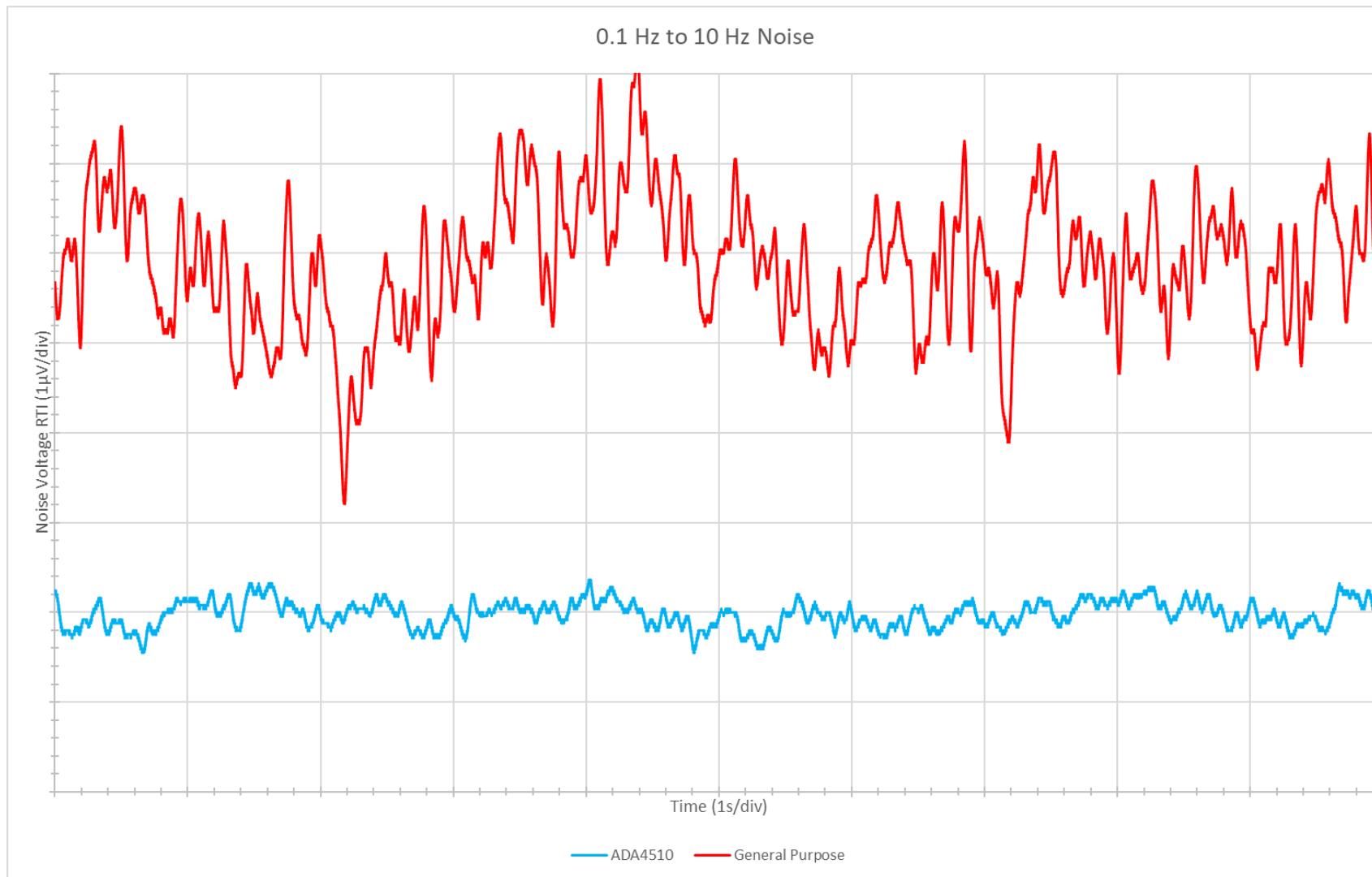


# Recap - NSD for all three Opamps Included in this Demo



# Recap - Low Frequency Noise Comparison

## Low Noise Technology vs Standard Technology

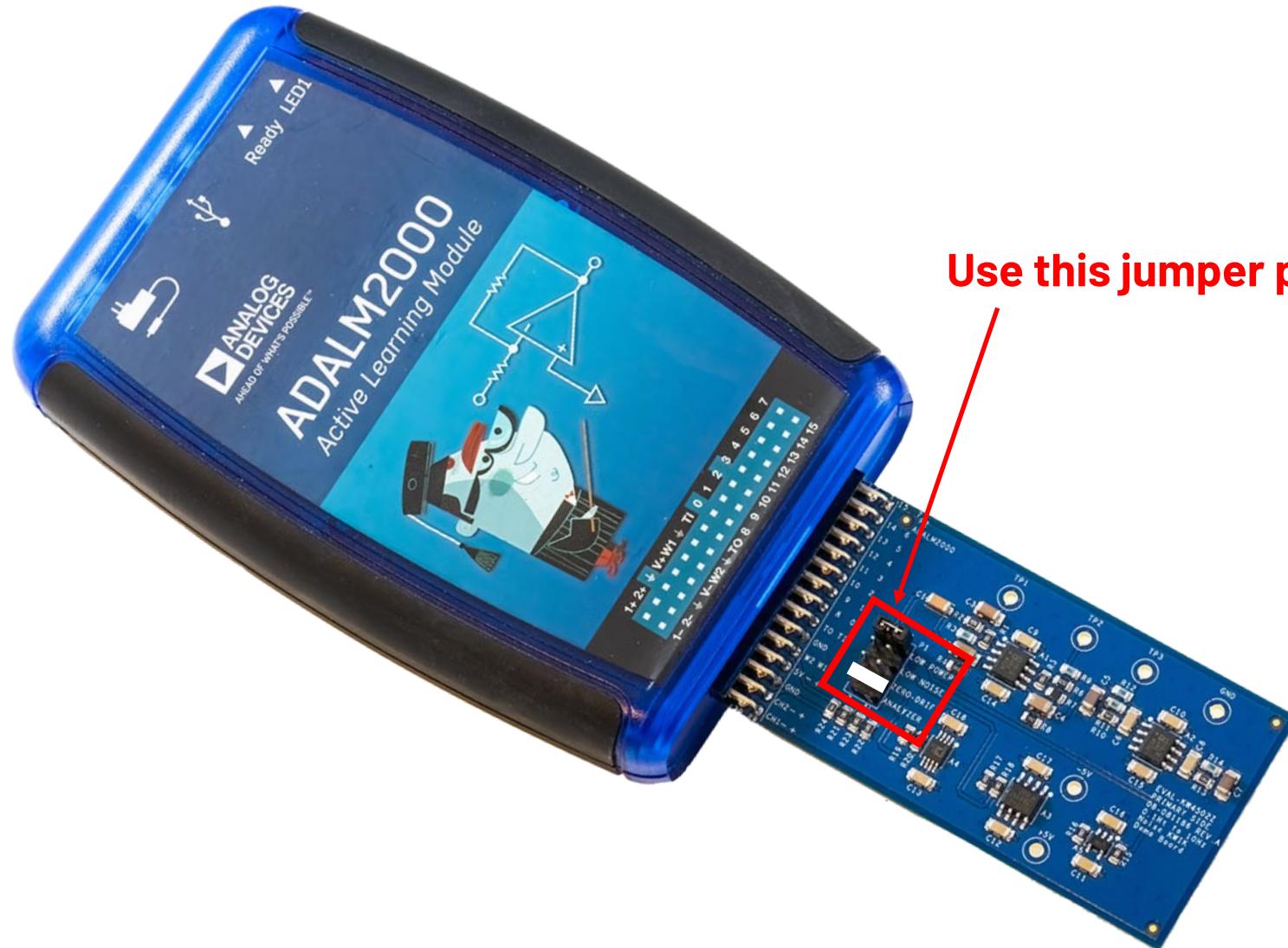


# Op Amp Process vs Noise and other Key Specs

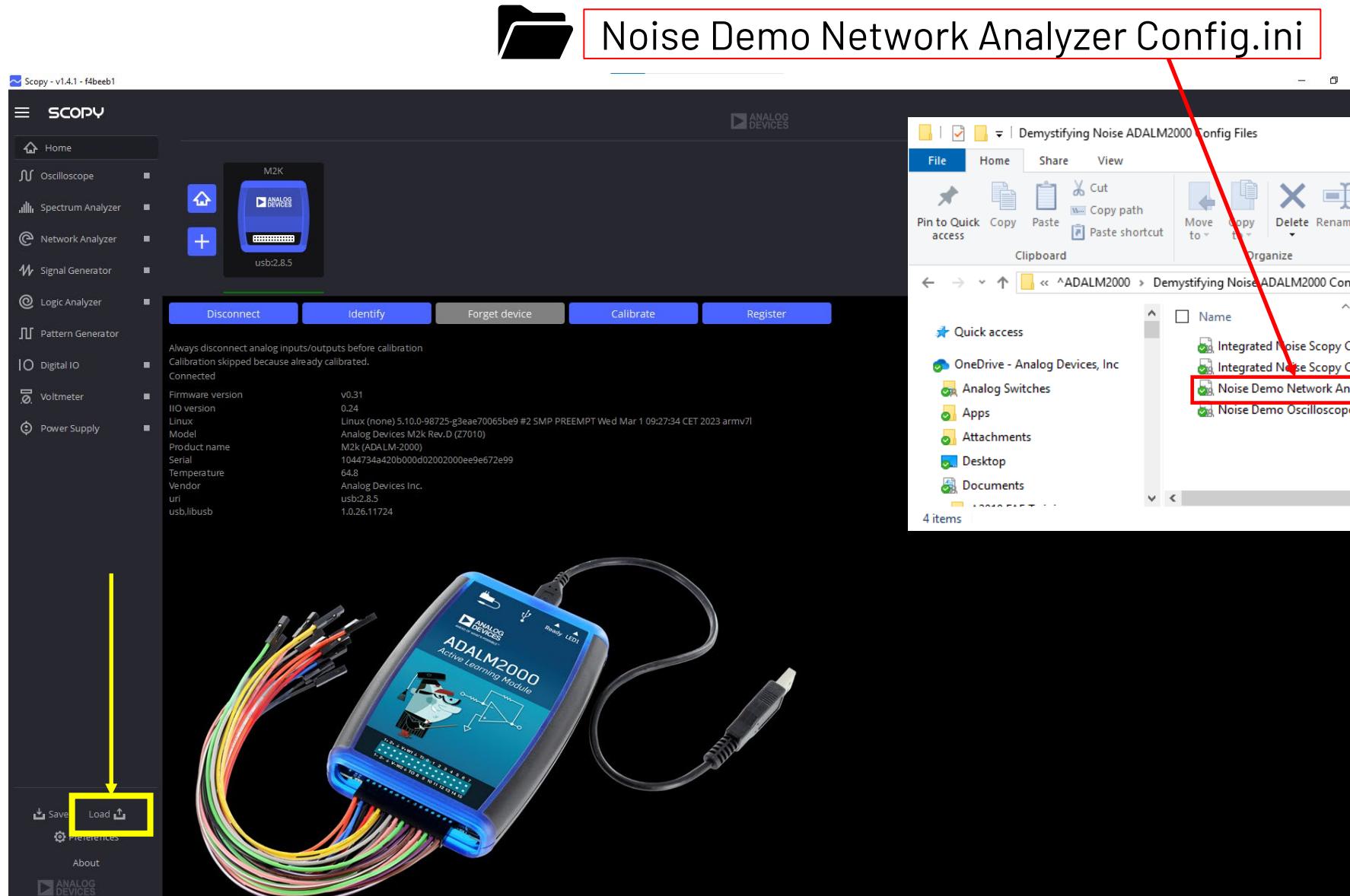
- ▶ **Bipolar Amplifiers:** Lowest Broadband Noise, Lowest 1/f corner frequency.
- ▶ **JFET Amplifiers:** Next to lowest 1/f corner frequency, ultra low input bias currents, high slew rates.
- ▶ **CMOS Amplifiers:** Highest 1/f corner frequency, low power, low input bias currents.
- ▶ **Zero-Drift Amplifiers:** CMOS technology, eliminates the 1/f noise by switching techniques, excellent performance in very low frequency applications, higher distortion than their non-Zero Drift counterparts, chopping noise and can have intermodulation effects with the input signal, as well as the ADC sample rate. Analog Devices offers the lowest noise Zero-Drift amplifiers in the market.

Let's use the Network Analyzer  
Feature of the ADALM2000 to  
Measure the Filter Response

# Set the Jumper to “Network Analyzer”



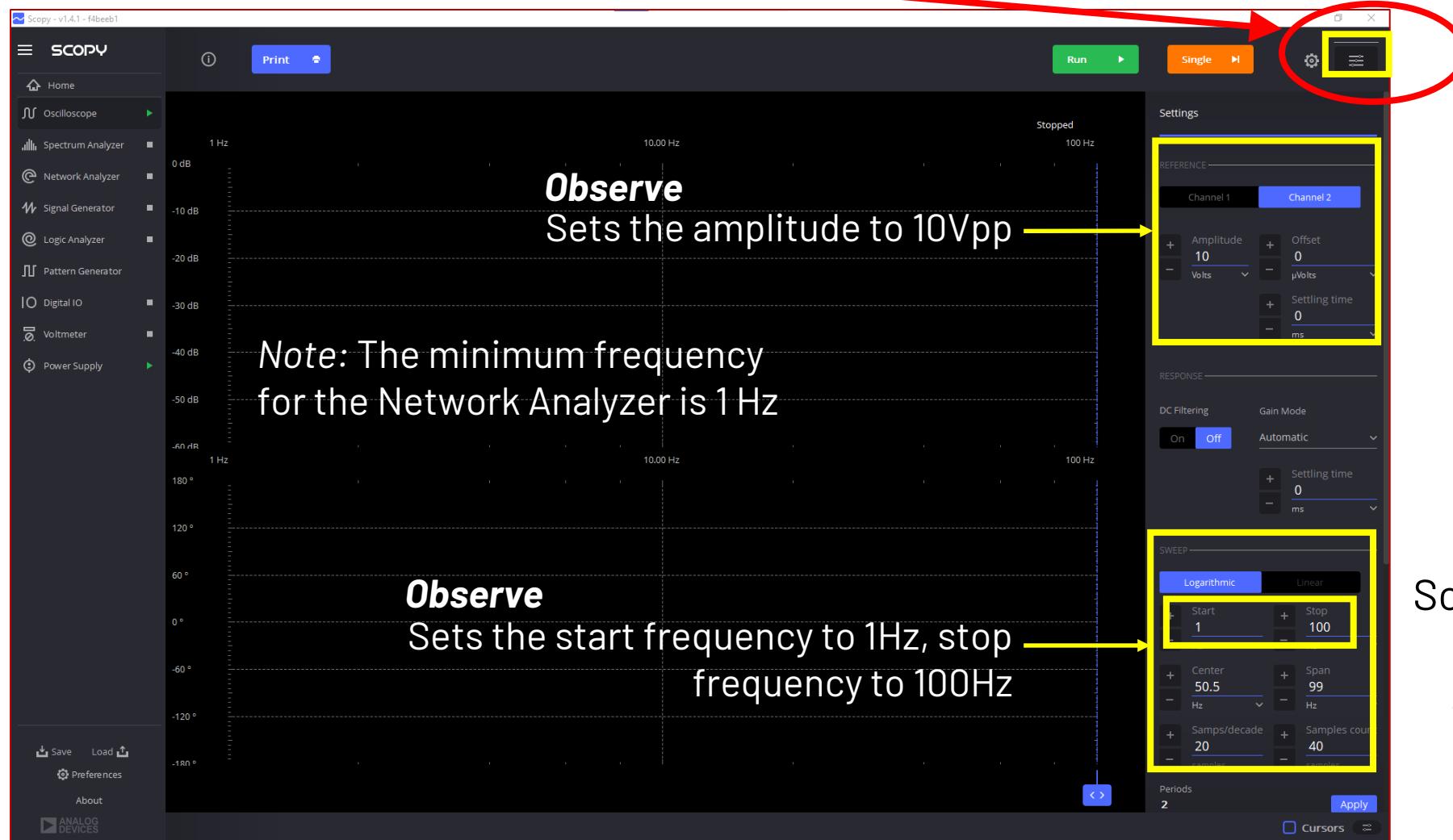
# Load the Config Files



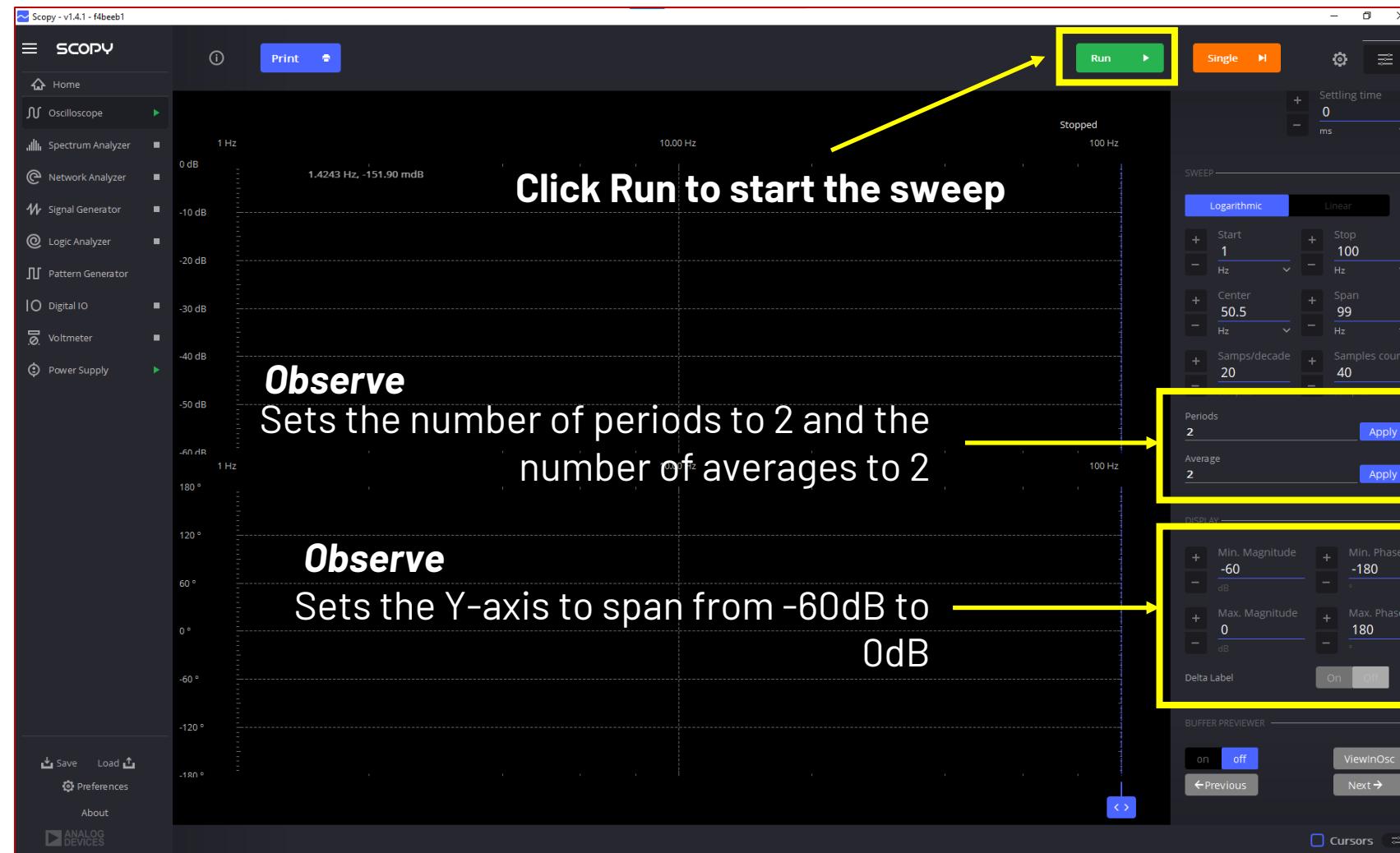
# The Network Analyzer Panel is Opened and Configured



# Click [Here](#) to see the Relevant Settings

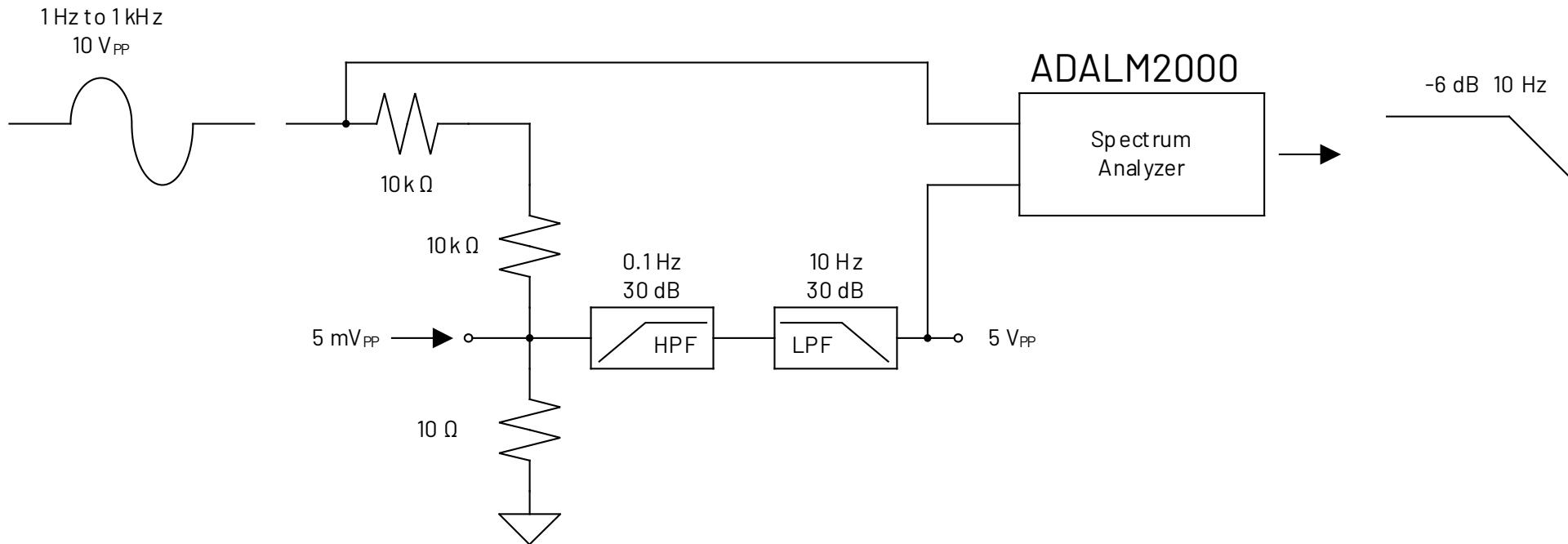


# Scroll Down to See Additional Config Settings



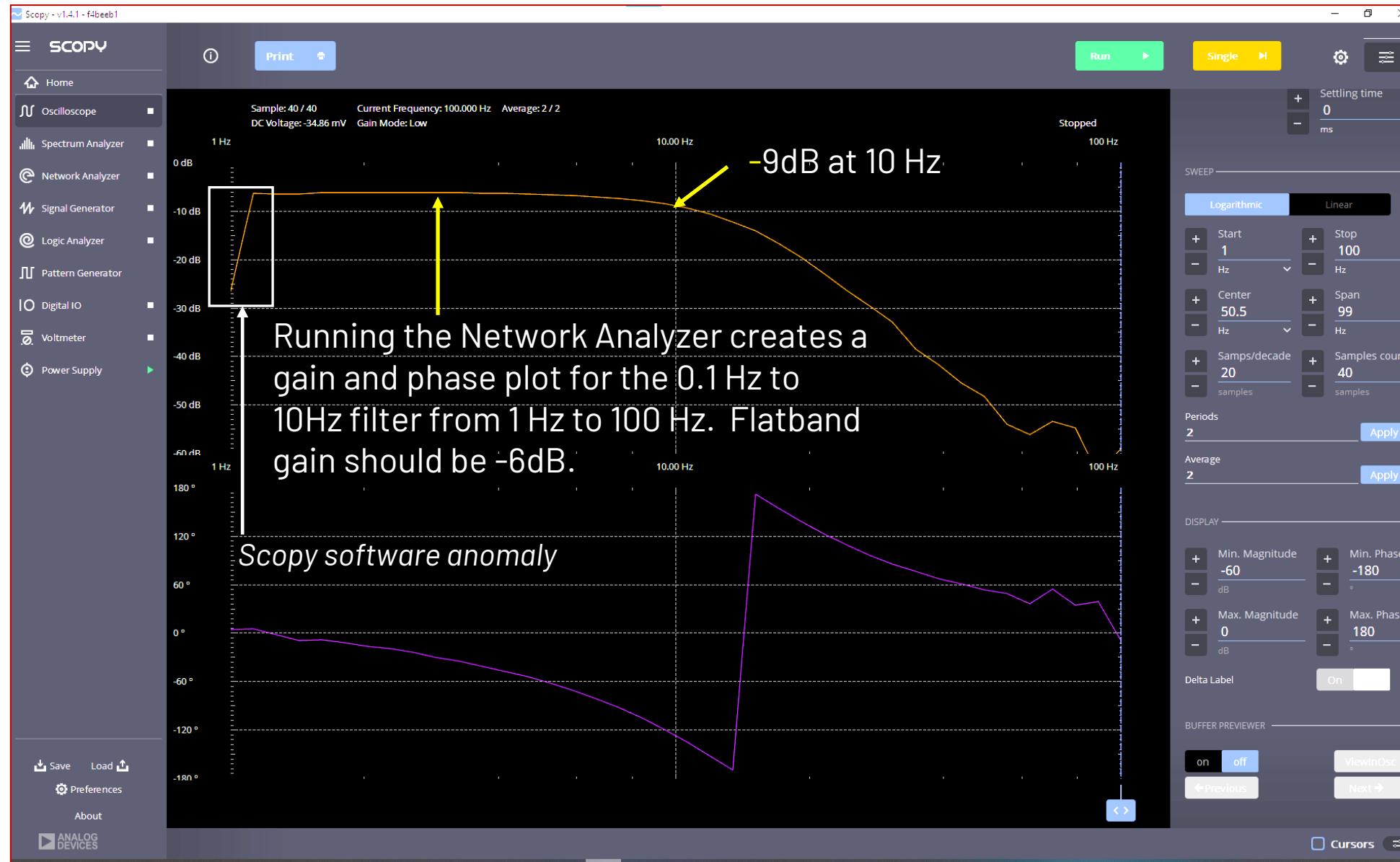
Scroll down on right side if "Sweep" settings are not shown.

# What Do We Expect to See?



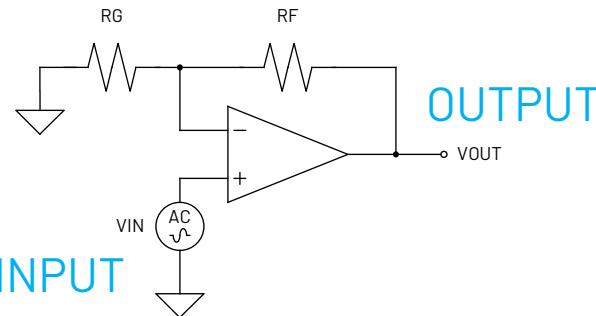
We are applying a 10 V<sub>PP</sub> sinewave at the input, dividing it by 2000,  
multiplying by 60dB (1000) and measuring the ratio → -6 dB

# Typical Result for the Network Analyzer Demo

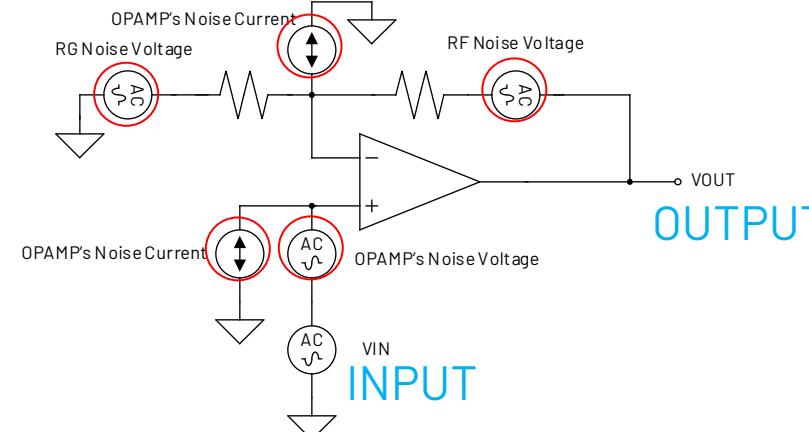


# Total Integrated Noise KWIK Lab Step-by-Step Guide

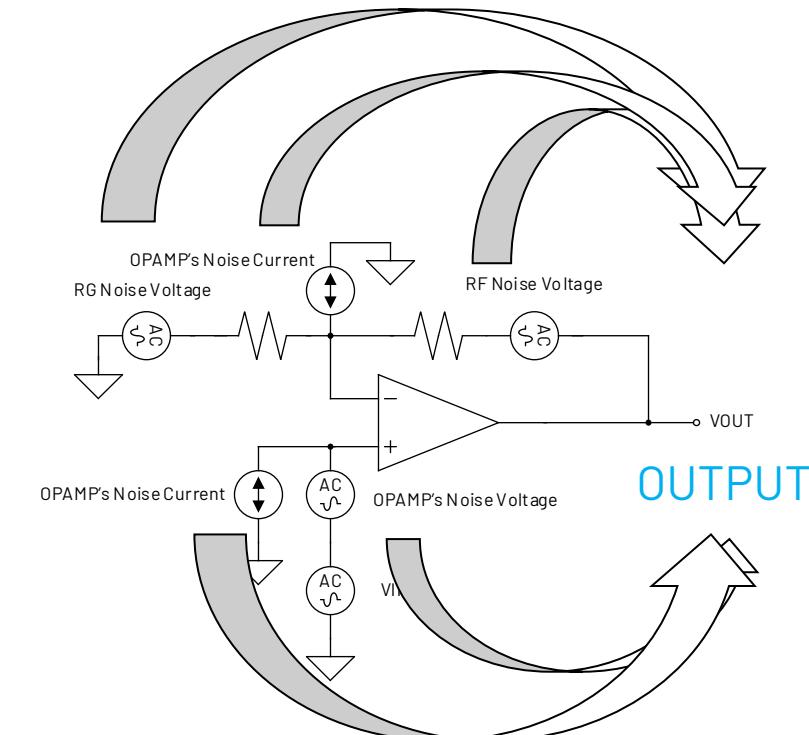
# Estimate the Noise



1. Start with your circuit



2. Add the noise sources

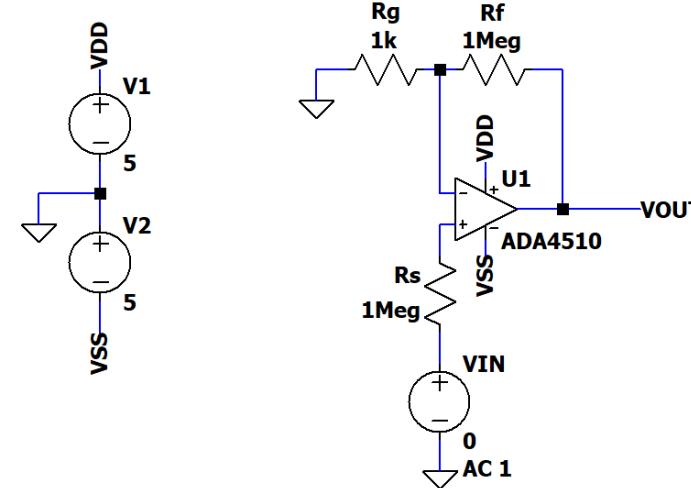


3. Refer the noise sources to  
the output

# Noise Bandwidth and Noise Sources

## ► Identify the noise Bandwidth

- ADA4510 configured in G = 1001
  - Small-signal bandwidth =  $10.4\text{Mhz}/1001 = 10.4\text{kHz}$
  - Noise bandwidth =  $10.4\text{Khz} * 1.57 = 16.3\text{kHz}$



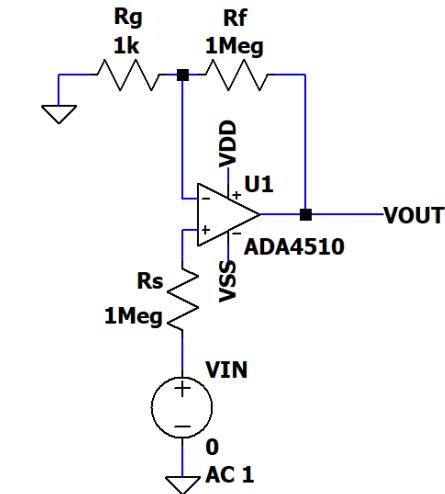
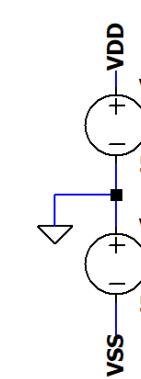
## ► Identify each noise source:

- $R_g = 1\text{k} \rightarrow 4\text{nV/SQRT-Hz}$
- $R_f = 1\text{M} \rightarrow 127\text{nV/SQRT-Hz}$
- $R_s = 1\text{M} \rightarrow 127\text{nV/SQRT-Hz}$
- ADA4510  $\rightarrow V_n = 5\text{nV/SQRT-Hz} (@16.3\text{kHz})$
- ADA4510  $\rightarrow I_{n-} = 200\text{fA/SQRT-Hz} (@16.3\text{kHz})$
- ADA4510  $\rightarrow I_{n+} = 200\text{fA/SQRT-Hz} (@16.3\text{kHz})$

# Refer to the Output

## ► Refer each Noise Source to the Output:

- $R_g = 1k \rightarrow 4nV/\text{SQRT-Hz} * 1000 = 4\mu V/\text{SQRT-Hz}$  (RTO)
- $R_f = 1M \rightarrow 127nV/\text{SQRT-Hz} * 1 = 127nV/\text{SQRT-Hz}$  (RTO)
- $R_s = 1M \rightarrow 127nV/\text{SQRT-Hz} * 1001 = 127\mu V/\text{SQRT-Hz}$  (RTO)
- ADA4510  $\rightarrow V_n = 5nV/\text{SQRT-Hz} (@16.3kHz) * 1001 = 5\mu V/\text{SQRT-Hz}$  (RTO)
- ADA4510  $\rightarrow I_{n-} = 200fA/\text{SQRT-Hz} (@16.3kHz) * 1M = 200nV/\text{SQRT-Hz}$  (RTO)
- ADA4510  $\rightarrow I_{n+} = 200fA/\text{SQRT-Hz} (@16.3kHz) * 1M * 1001 = 200\mu V/\text{SQRT-Hz}$  (RTO)



Sum the NSD at the output:

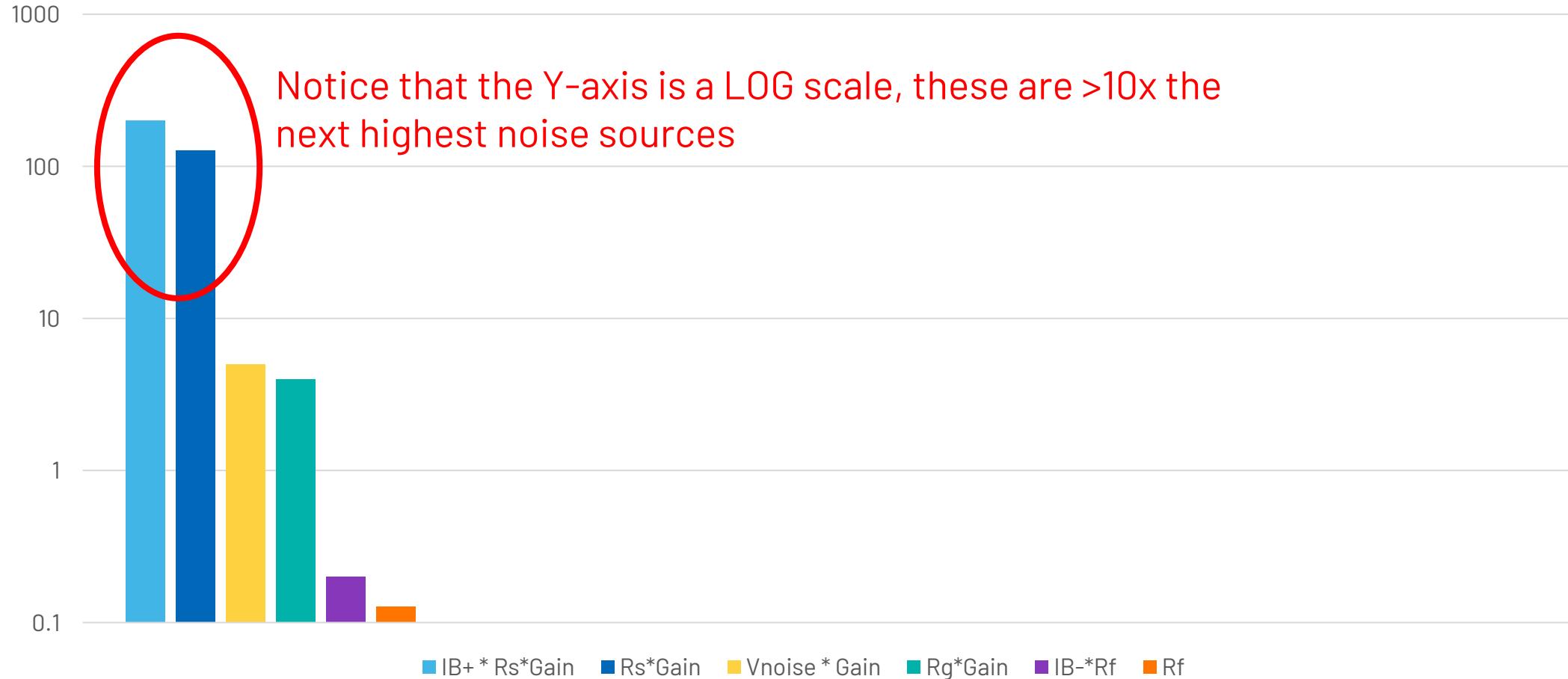
$$V_{OUT_{NSD@16.3kHz}} = \sqrt{(4\mu V / \sqrt{Hz})^2 + (127nV / \sqrt{Hz})^2 + (127\mu V / \sqrt{Hz})^2 + (5\mu V / \sqrt{Hz})^2 + (200nV / \sqrt{Hz})^2 + (200\mu V / \sqrt{Hz})^2} = 237\mu V / \sqrt{Hz}$$

Estimate the Total Noise:

$$V_{OUT_{TOTALNOISE_{VPP}}} = 6.6 \times 237\mu V / \sqrt{Hz} \times \sqrt{16.3kHz} = 200mV_{PP}$$

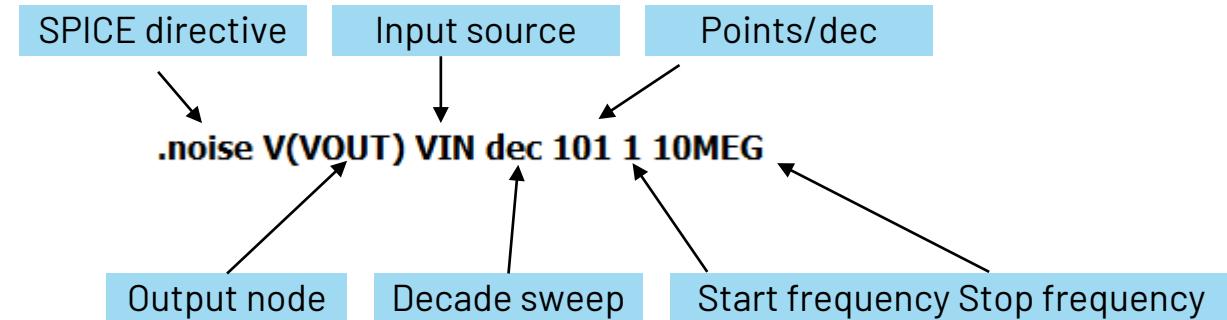
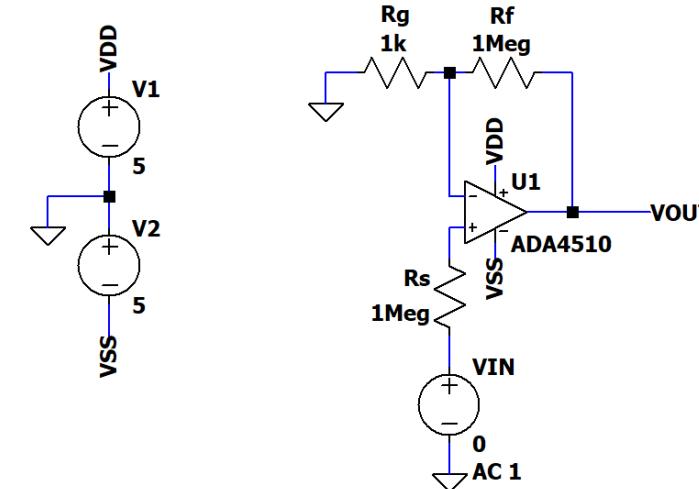
# Identify Dominant Noise Sources

Output Noise Spectral Density Pareto Chart

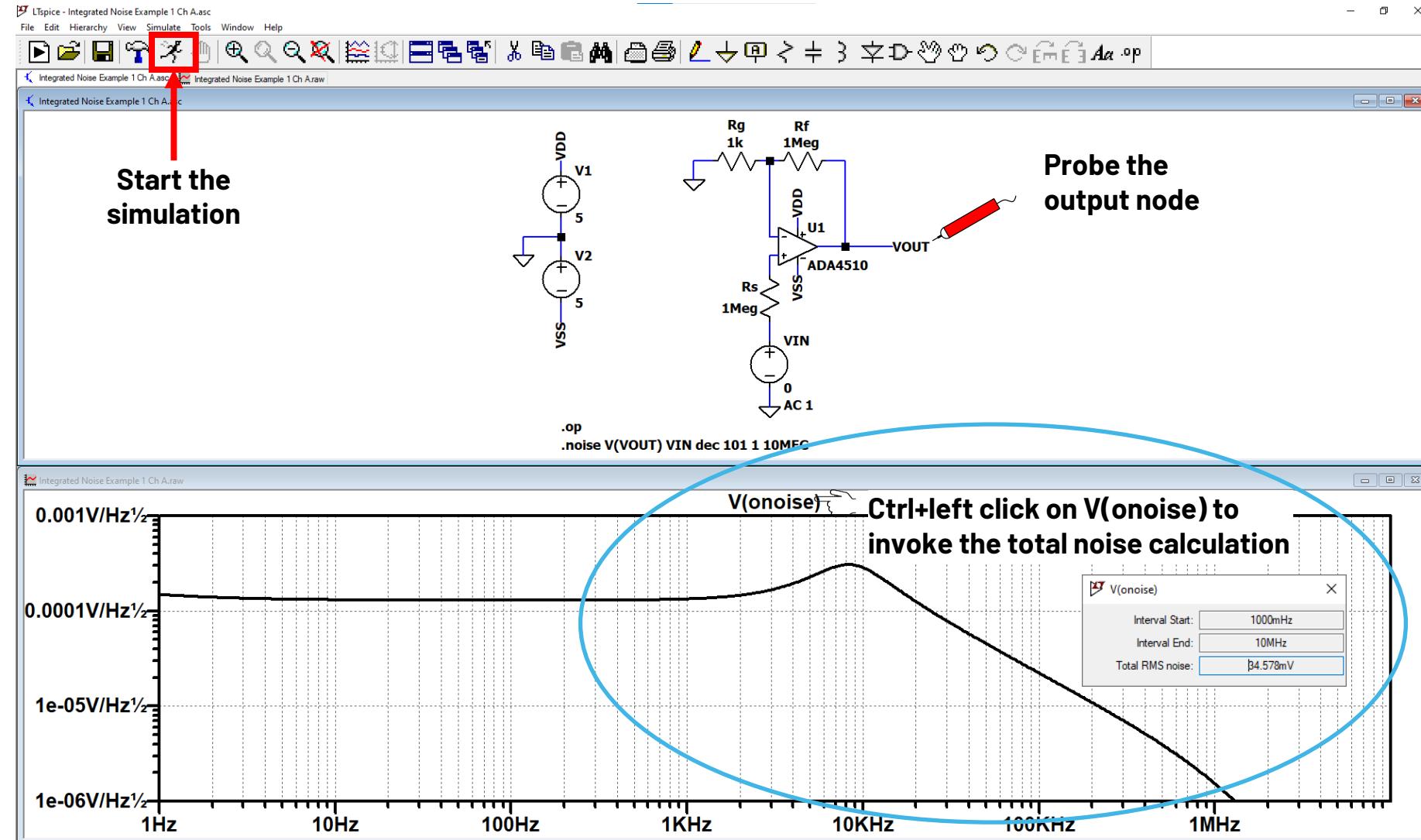


# Simulating Noise in LTSpice

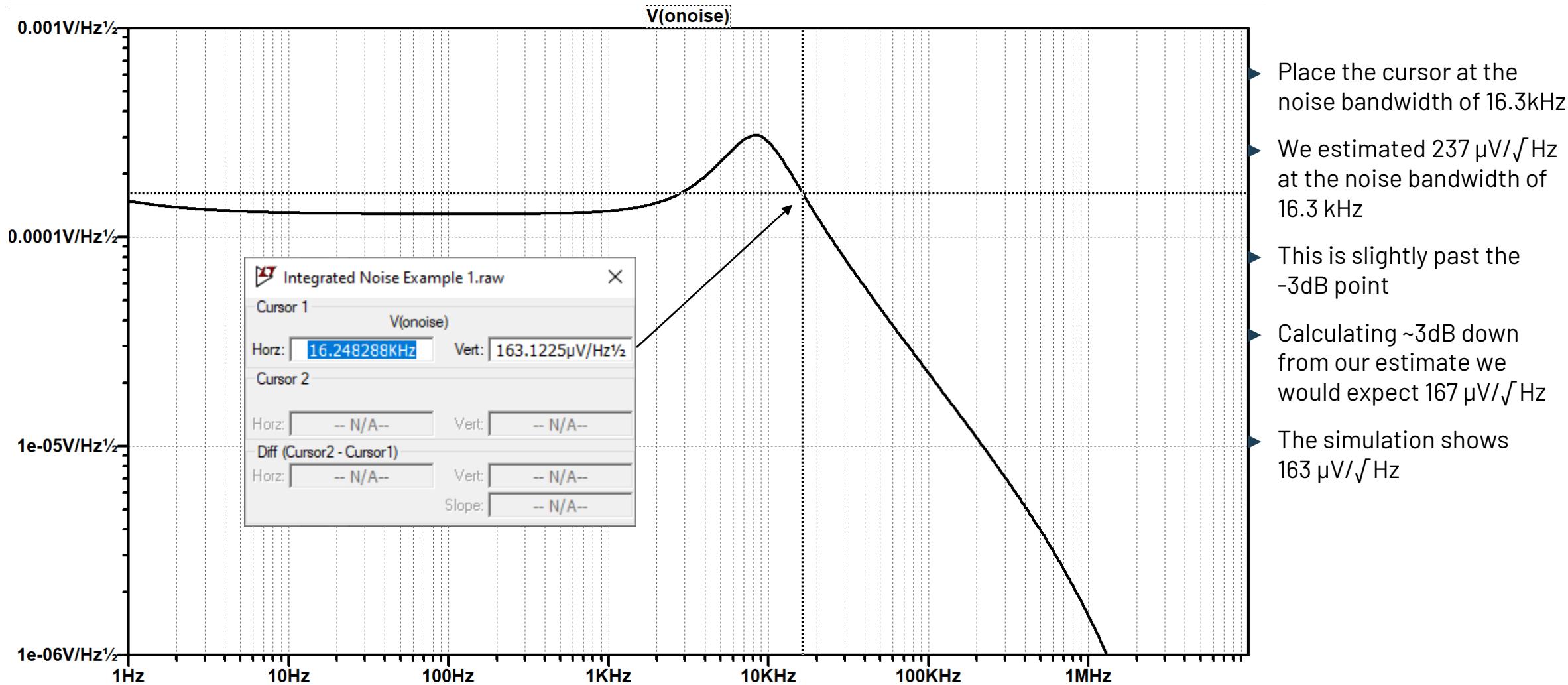
- ▶ Add the .noise command as a SPICE directive with the listed arguments:
  - Output: The **node** where you want to examine the **output referred noise**
  - Input: The **source** where you want to examine the **input referred noise**
  - Type of sweep: octave, decade, linear or list
  - Number of points: per octave, per decade, etc
  - Start Frequency: Lowest frequency in the sweep in Hz
  - Stop Frequency: Highest frequency in the sweep in Hz



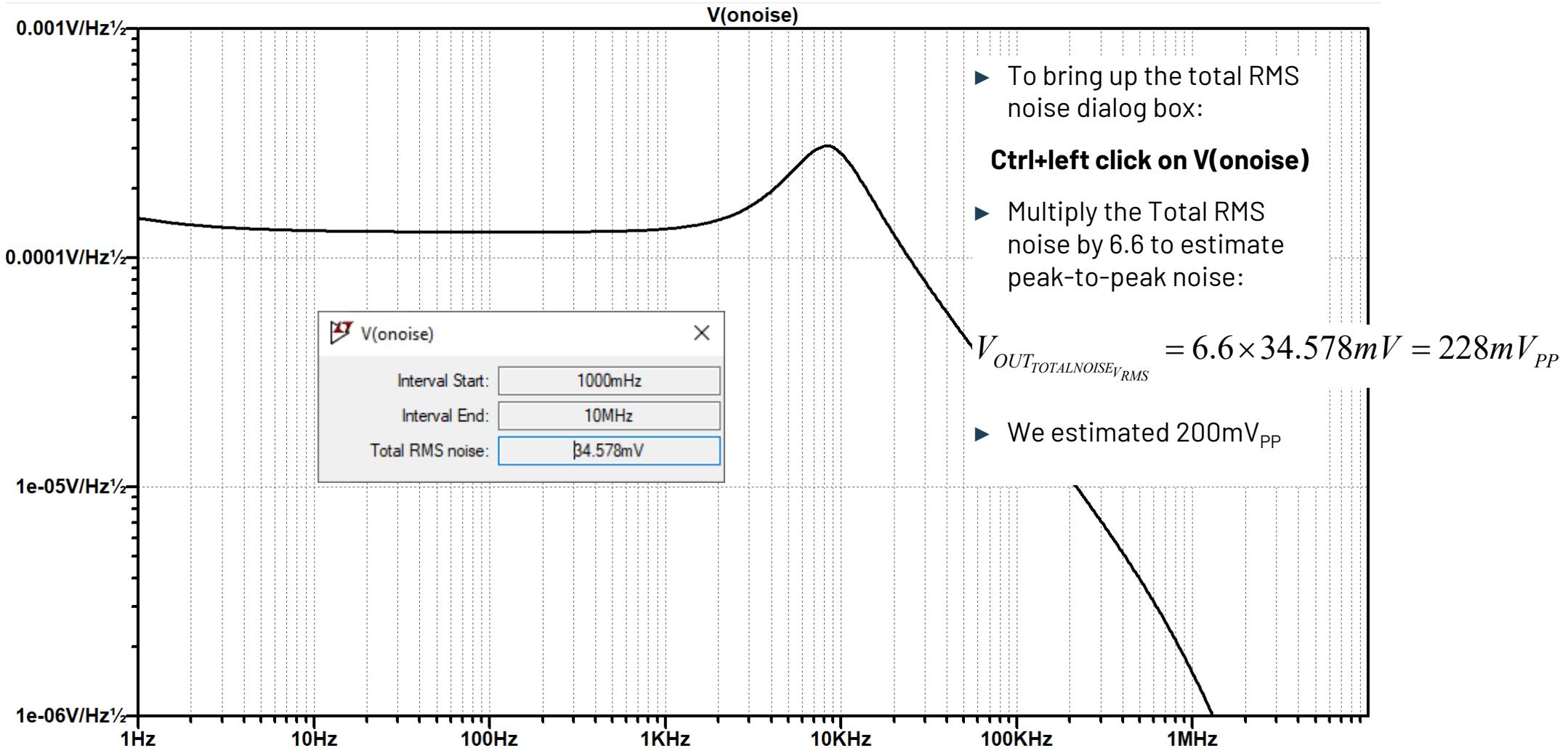
# Simulating Noise in LTSpice



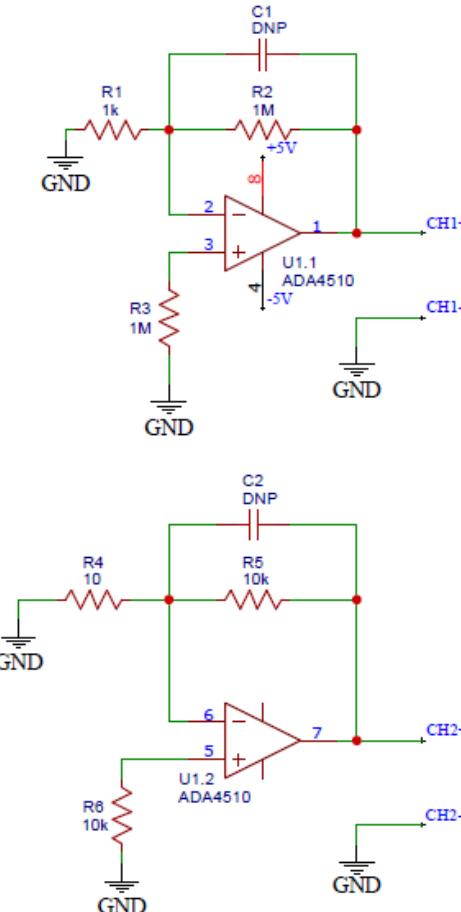
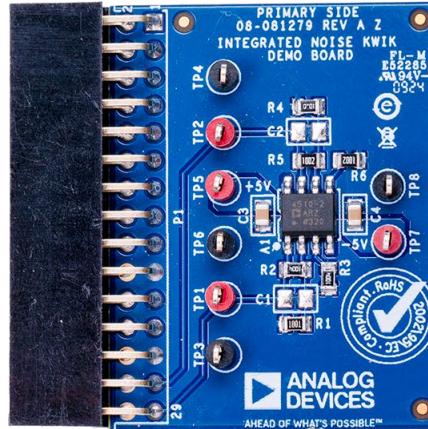
# Output Referred Noise Spectral Density



# Total Noise



# Integrated Noise Demo Board Schematic



# Physically Connect PCB to ADALM2k



Using EVAL-KW4501Z

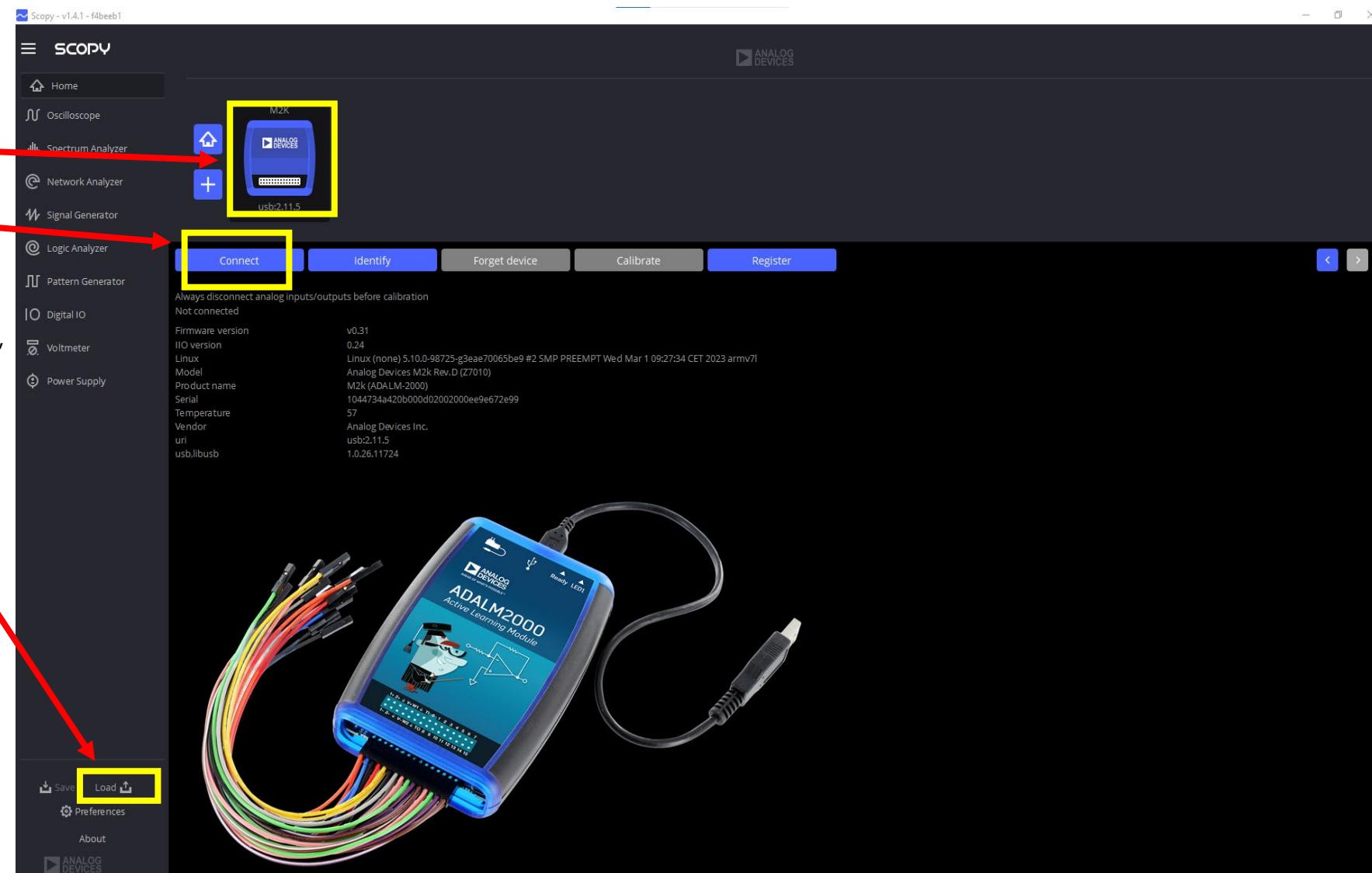
Carefully align pins and insert firmly

ADALM2000 should be powered off when connecting or disconnecting the PCB

# Launch Scopy and Load Config File

- ▶ Connect the ADALM2000 to your laptop and launch Scopy
- ▶ Click on the M2K icon
- ▶ Click connect
- ▶ Once connected click on load and load the file named:

**"Integrated Noise Scopy Config Ch A.ini"**



# Let's Have a Look at the Total Noise

► Click "Run" to start the oscilloscope



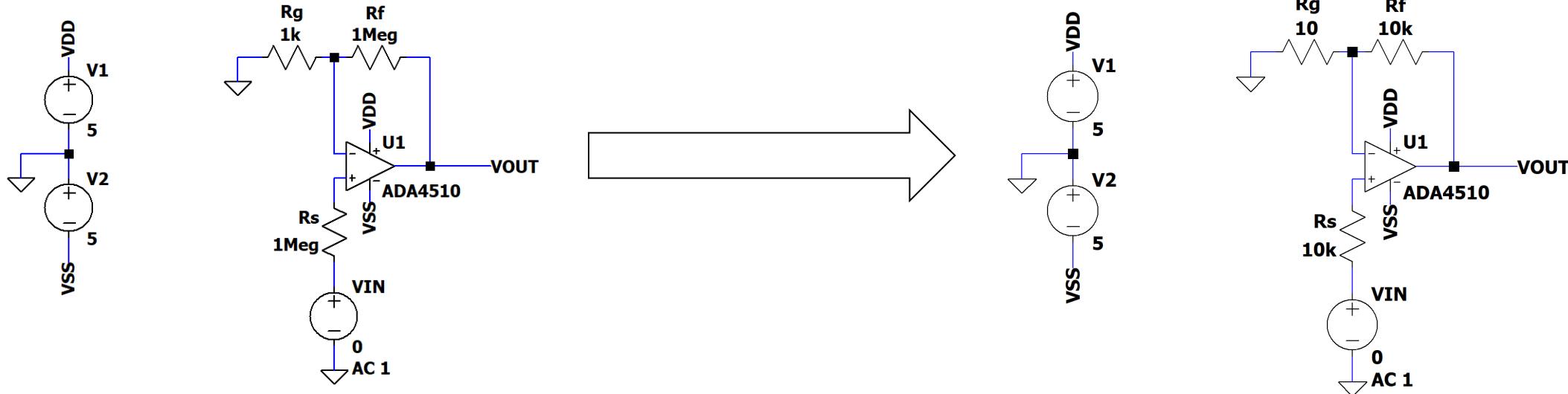
# Review the Result...is it about what you expected?



- ▶ You can click the stop button and look at the peak-to-peak measurement
- ▶ Try running and stopping a few times...you will notice some variation in the result...this is the nature of noise
- ▶ If your result seems too high, you might be picking up external noise (the circuit has very high impedances and is in a high gain) try moving the board or rotating it to reduce any external interference 😊

# Reducing the Noise

- In the previous example we saw that the dominant sources of noise were the IB+ noise current multiplied by the source impedance multiplied by the gain and the voltage noise of the source resistance multiplied by the gain
- Let's reduce all the impedance values by 100, keeping the same gain, but with less noise contribution from IB+ and Rs



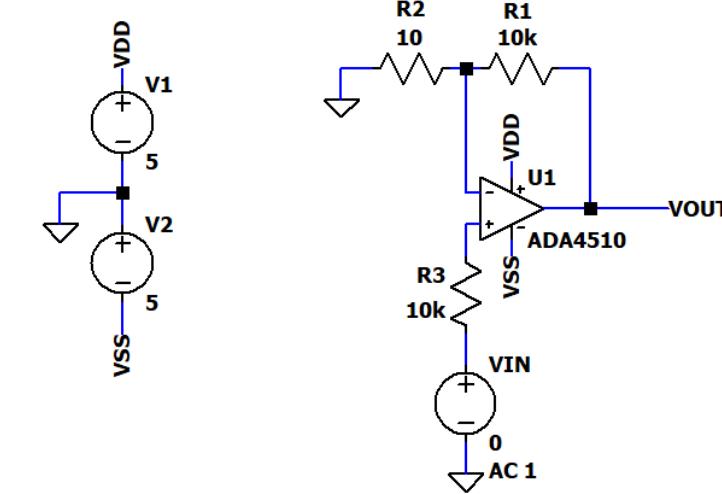
# Example for a Simple Non-Inverting Amplifier

## ► Identify the noise Bandwidth

- ADA4510 configured in  $G = 1001$ 
  - Small-signal bandwidth =  $10.4\text{Mhz}/1001 = 10.4\text{kHz}$
  - Noise bandwidth =  $10.4\text{Khz} * 1.57 = 16.3\text{kHz}$

## ► Identify each noise source:

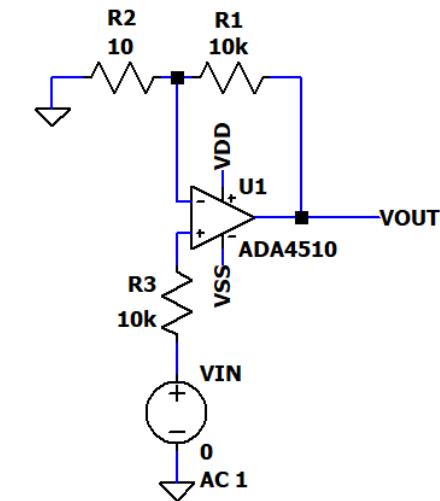
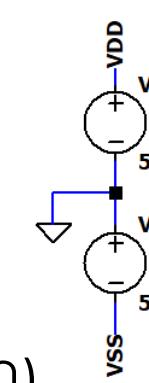
- $R_g = 10 \rightarrow 0.4\text{nV/SQRT-Hz}$
- $R_f = 10k \rightarrow 12.7\text{nV/SQRT-Hz}$
- $R_s = 1k \rightarrow 12.7\text{nV/SQRT-Hz}$
- ADA4510  $\rightarrow V_n = 5\text{nV/SQRT-Hz} (@16.3\text{kHz})$
- ADA4510  $\rightarrow I_{n-} = 200\text{fA/SQRT-Hz} (@16.3\text{kHz})$
- ADA4510  $\rightarrow I_{n+} = 200\text{fA/SQRT-Hz} (@16.3\text{kHz})$



# Example for a Simple Non-Inverting Amplifier

## ► Refer each Noise Source to the Output:

- $R_g = 10 \rightarrow 0.4\text{nV}/\text{SQRT-Hz} * 1000 = 0.4\mu\text{V}/\text{SQRT-Hz}$  (RTO)
- $R_f = 10\text{k} \rightarrow 12.7\text{nV}/\text{SQRT-Hz} * 1 = 12.7\text{nV}/\text{SQRT-Hz}$  (RTO)
- $R_s = 10\text{k} \rightarrow 12.7\text{nV}/\text{SQRT-Hz} * 1001 = 12.7\mu\text{V}/\text{SQRT-Hz}$  (RTO)
- ADA4510  $\rightarrow V_n = 5\text{nV}/\text{SQRT-Hz} (@16.3\text{kHz}) * 1001 = 5\mu\text{V}/\text{SQRT-Hz}$  (RTO)
- ADA4510  $\rightarrow I_{n-} = 200\text{fA}/\text{SQRT-Hz} (@16.3\text{kHz}) * 10\text{k} = 2\text{nV}/\text{SQRT-Hz}$  (RTO)
- ADA4510  $\rightarrow I_{n+} = 200\text{fA}/\text{SQRT-Hz} (@16.3\text{kHz}) * 10\text{k} * 1001 = 2\mu\text{V}/\text{SQRT-Hz}$  (RTO)



Sum the NSD at the output:

$$V_{OUT_{NSD@16.3kHz}} = \sqrt{(0.4\mu\text{V}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}})^2 + (12.7\text{nV}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}})^2 + (12.7\mu\text{V}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}})^2 + (5\mu\text{V}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}})^2 + (2\text{nV}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}})^2 + (2\mu\text{V}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}})^2} = 14\mu\text{V}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$$

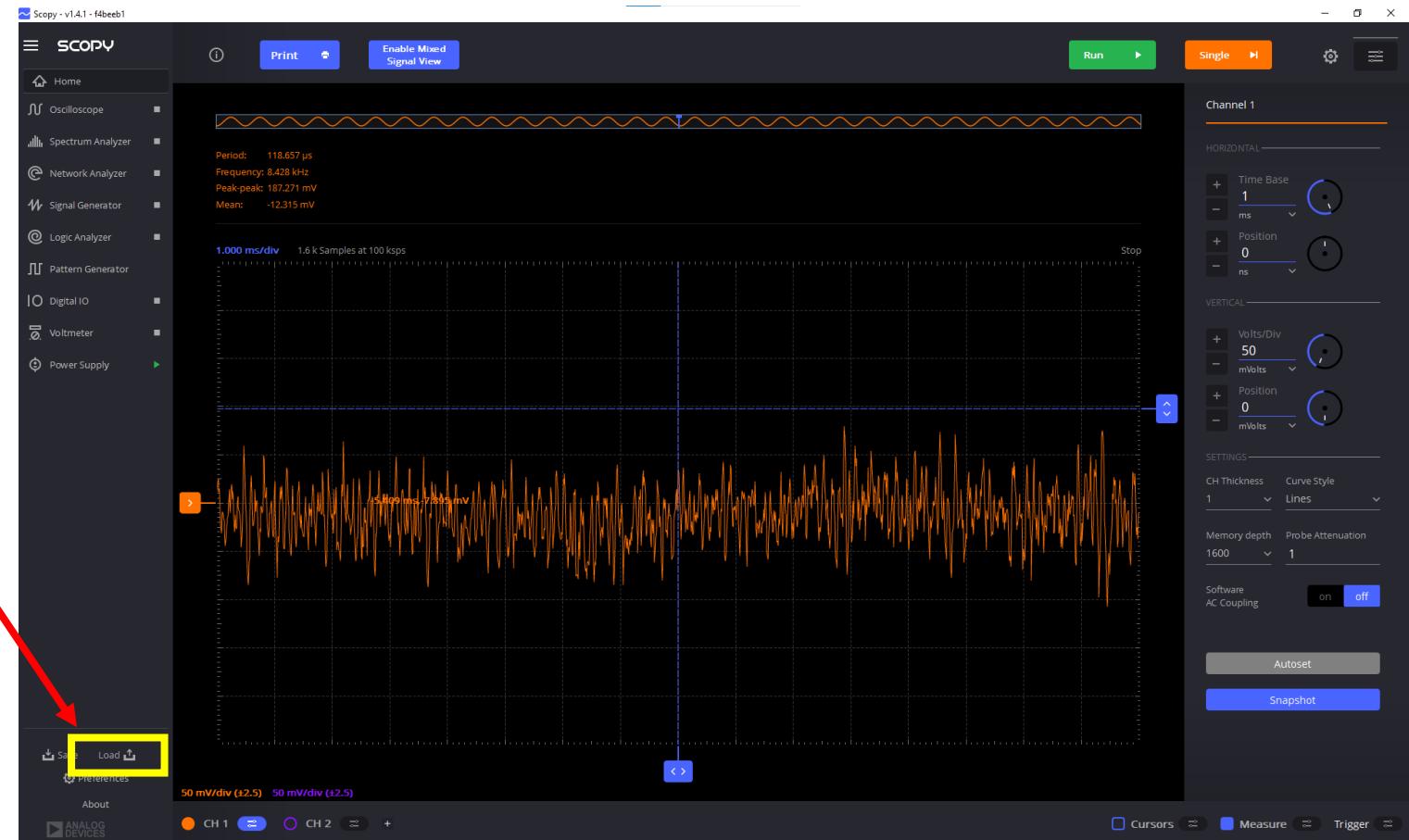
Estimate the Total Noise:

$$V_{OUT_{TOTALNOISEVPP}} = 6.6 \times 14\mu\text{V}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}} \times \sqrt{16.3\text{kHz}} = 12mV_{PP}$$

# Load Config File

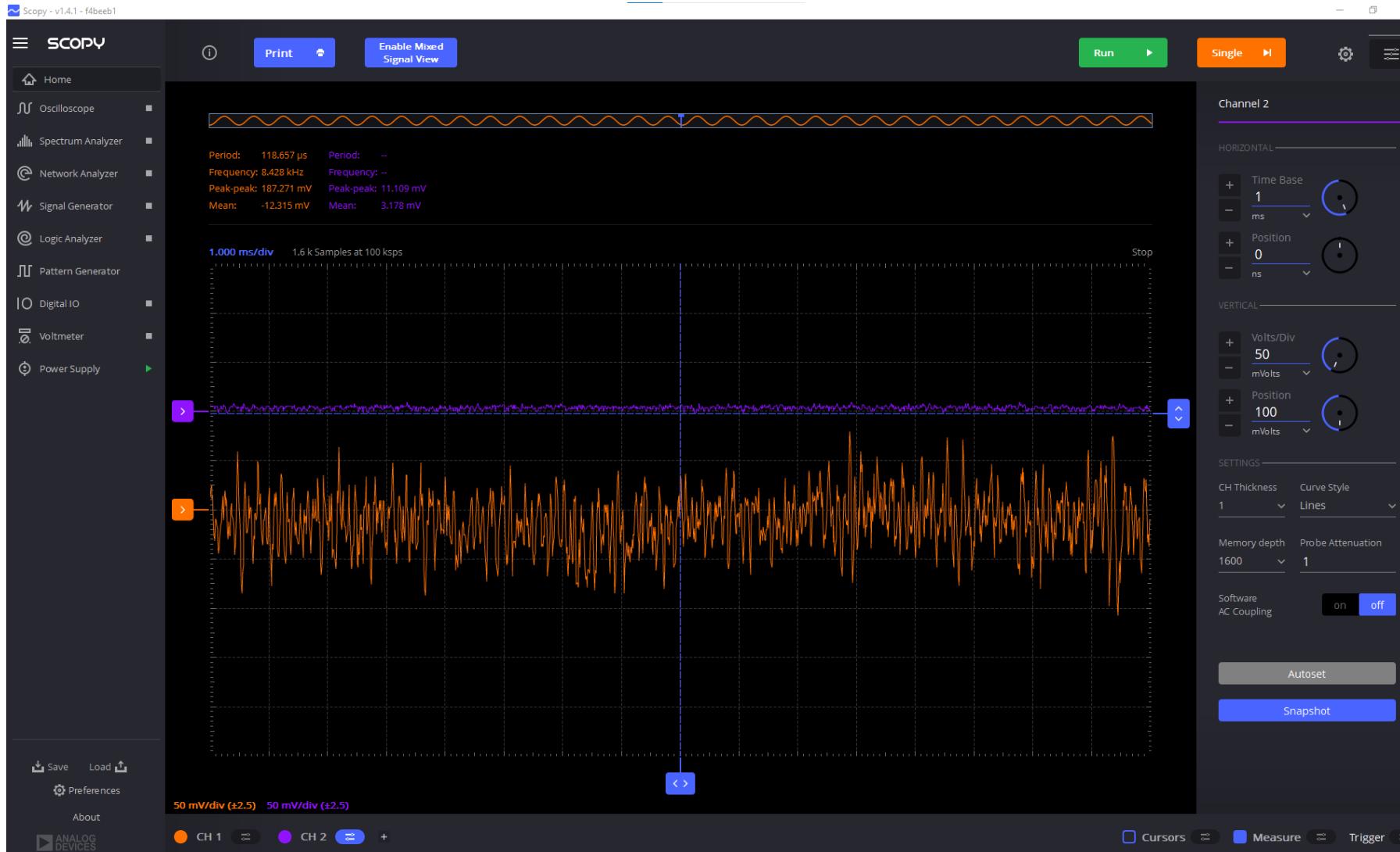
- ▶ Load the file named:

**"Integrated Noise Scopy Config Ch B.ini"**



# Let's Have a Look at the Total Noise

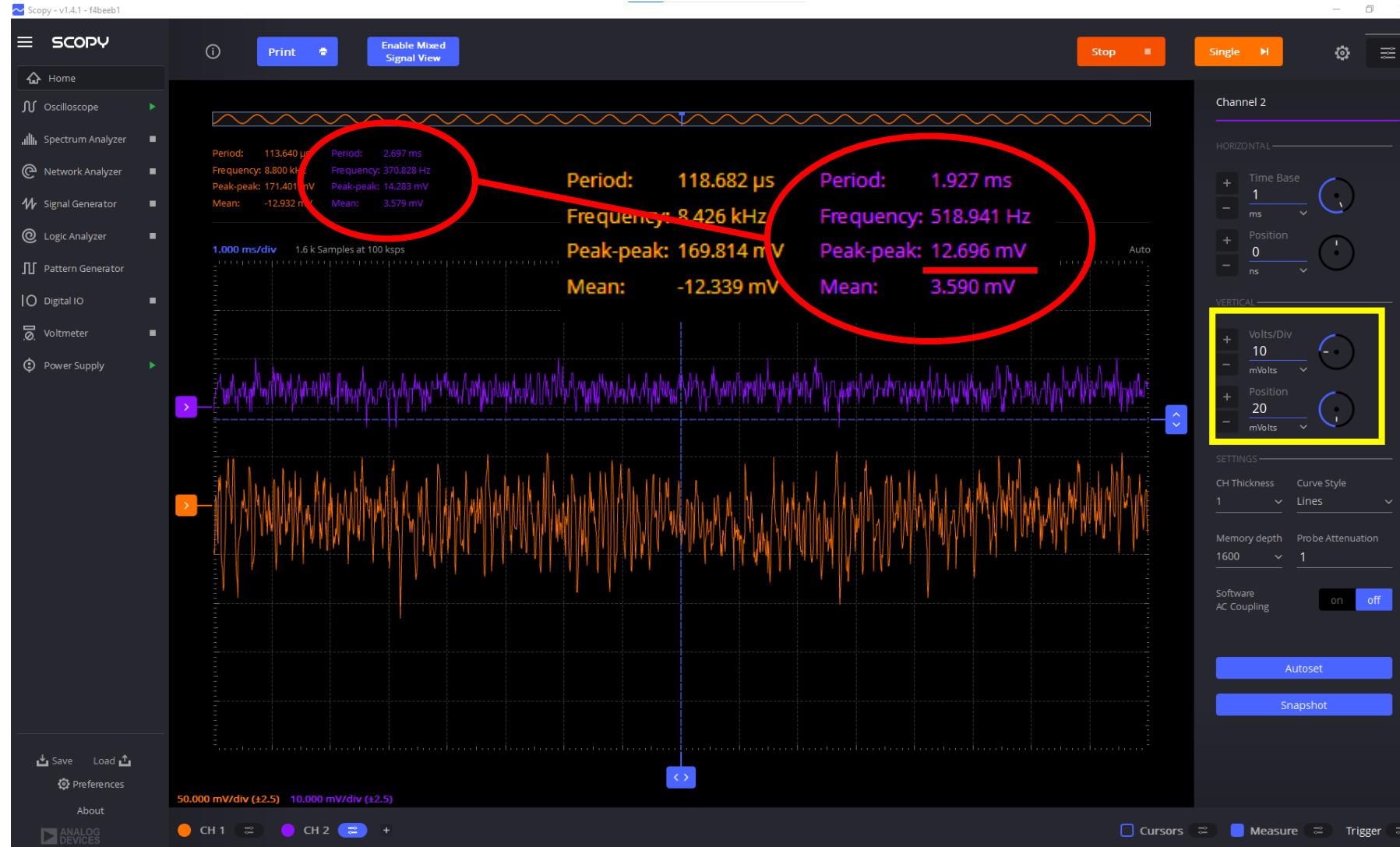
► Click "Run" to start the oscilloscope



- Click "Run" to start the oscilloscope
- Notice both Ch1 and Ch2 are on the same scale
- You see how much the noise is reduced

# Let's Zoom In and Measure

► Click "Run" to start the oscilloscope



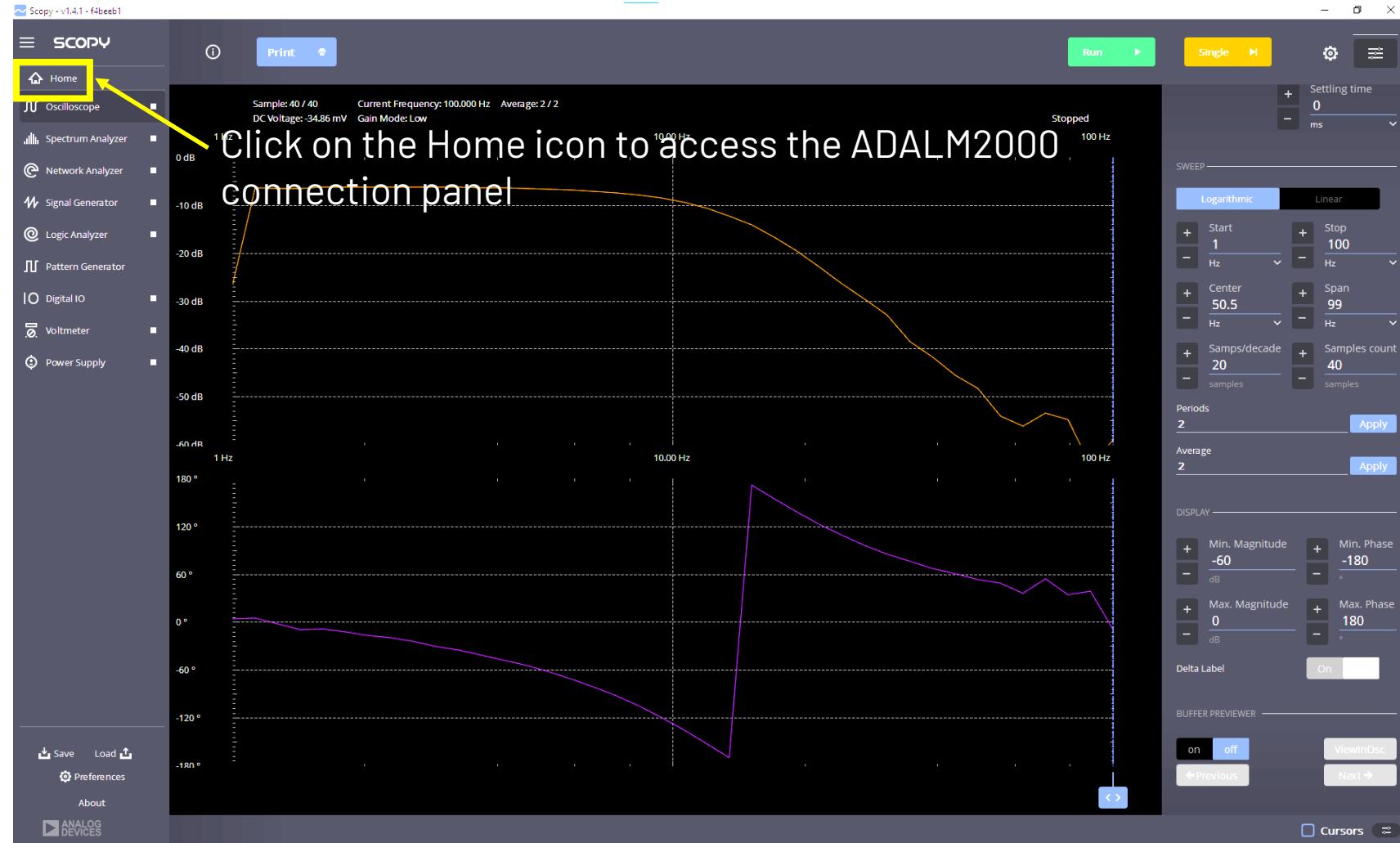
- Change Ch 2 to 10mV/Div
- Change Ch2 Position to 20mV
- Measure the peak-to-peak noise

# Shutting Down

# Shutting Down



# Shutting Down



# Click on the Disconnect Button



# Thank You!