



**POLITECNICO**  
**MILANO 1863**



# ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS

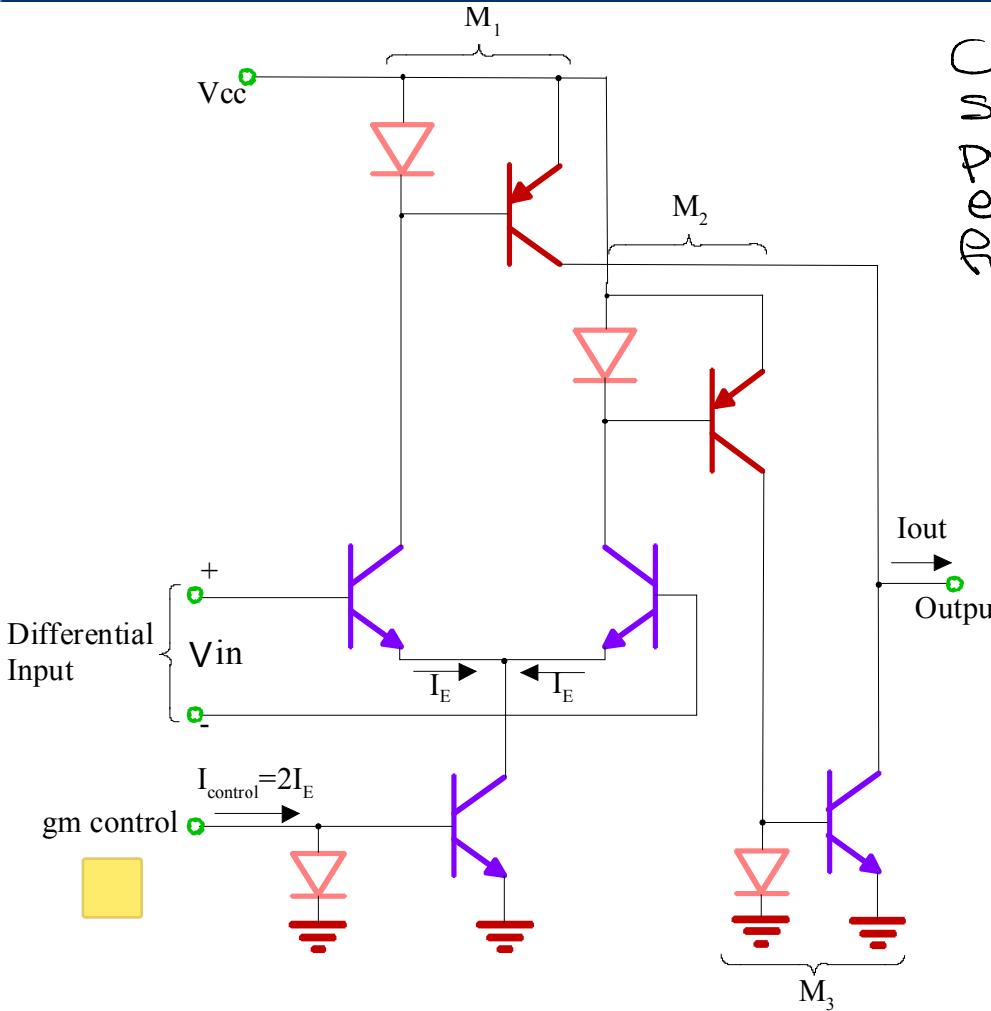
2021-22 academic year  
prof. Franco ZAPPA



- Operational Transconductance Amplifier (OTA)
- Isolation amplifier (ISO)
- ~~Norton amplifier~~



# OTA, Operational Transconductance Amplifier



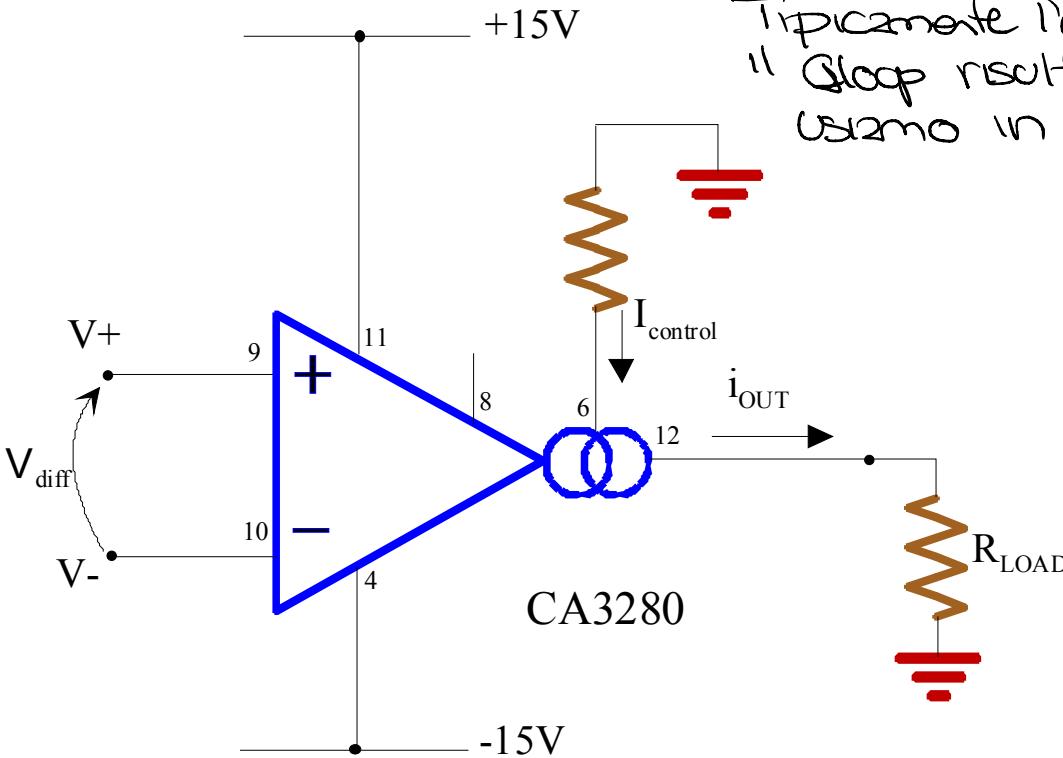
Ci sono capacità presenti nel sistema ma visto che le resistenze o praticamente tutti noi sono a  $\lambda_{gm}$  e quindi i poli sono tutti ad estrema frequenza.

$$g_m = \frac{dI_{OUT}}{dV_{diff}} = \frac{dI_{OUT}}{d(V_+ - V_-)} = \frac{I_E}{kT/q}$$

- both inputs be high impedance (like VOA)
- output be current (like Norton)
- transconductance gain ( $I_{out}/V_{diff}$ ) adjustable through a pin!



# OTA: external connections



$$i_{out} = G_m(I_{control}) \cdot v_{diff} = \frac{I_{control}}{kT/q} \cdot v_{diff} = \frac{I_{control}}{25mV} \cdot v_{diff}$$

## Advantages:

all low-impedance nodes

wide bandwidth

$$f_{pole} = 1/2\pi C_{LOAD} R_{LOAD}$$

## Disadvantages:

no infinite gain

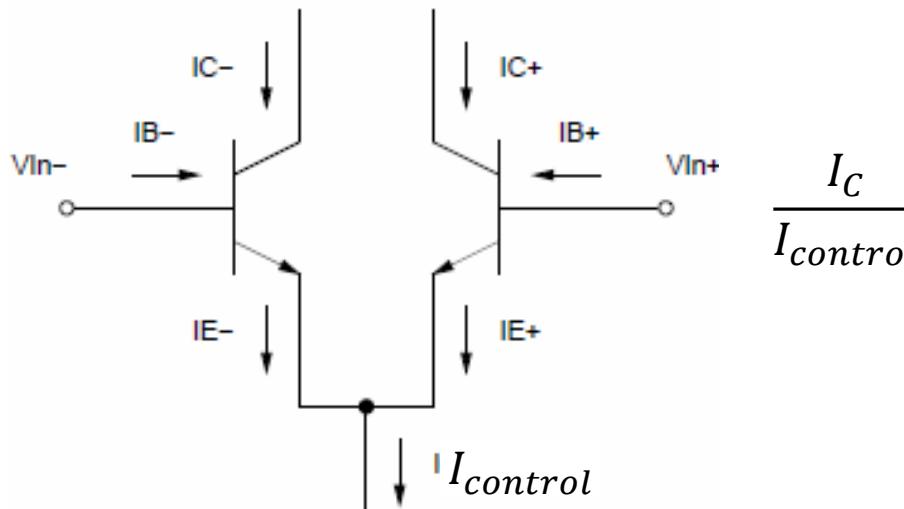
no "VIRTUAL GROUND"

it is used open-loop



# OTA: standard input stage

$$I_{out} = I_{C+} - I_{C-} = I_{control} \cdot \tanh \frac{V_{diff}}{2 \cdot kT/q}$$

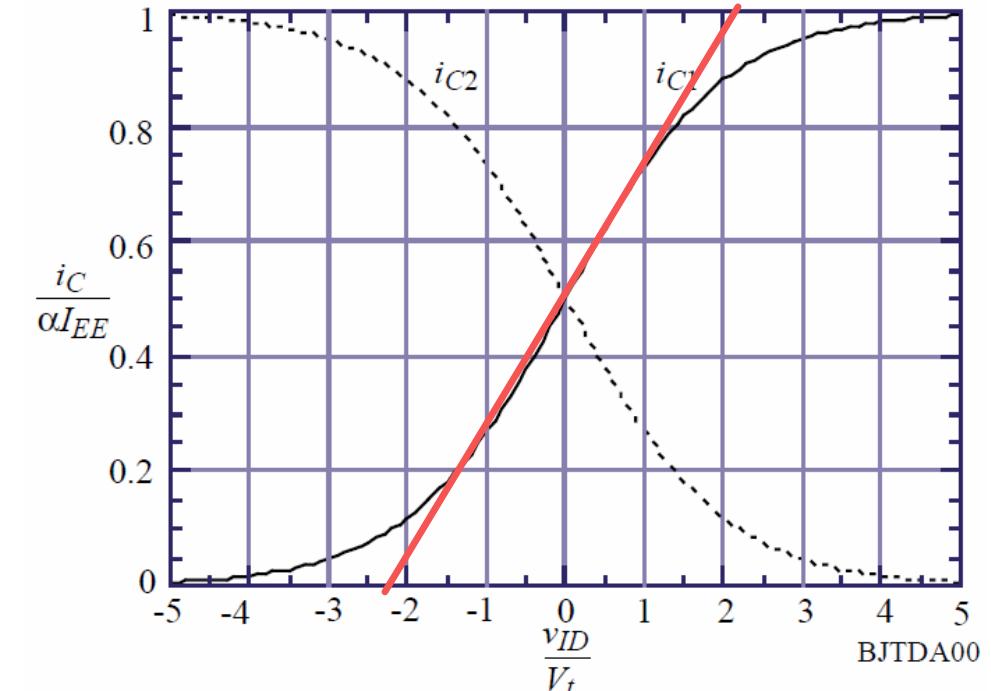


$$\frac{I_C}{I_{control}}$$

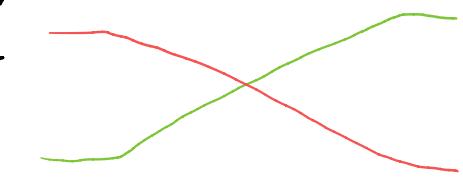
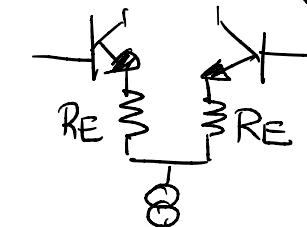
The transconductance is anything but constant !!!

$$g_m = \frac{I_{control}}{2 \cdot kT/q} \cdot \operatorname{sech}^2 \frac{V_{diff}}{2 \cdot kT/q}$$

L'OTA e' lineare solo per piccole tensioni differenziali (ordine delle centinaia mV)



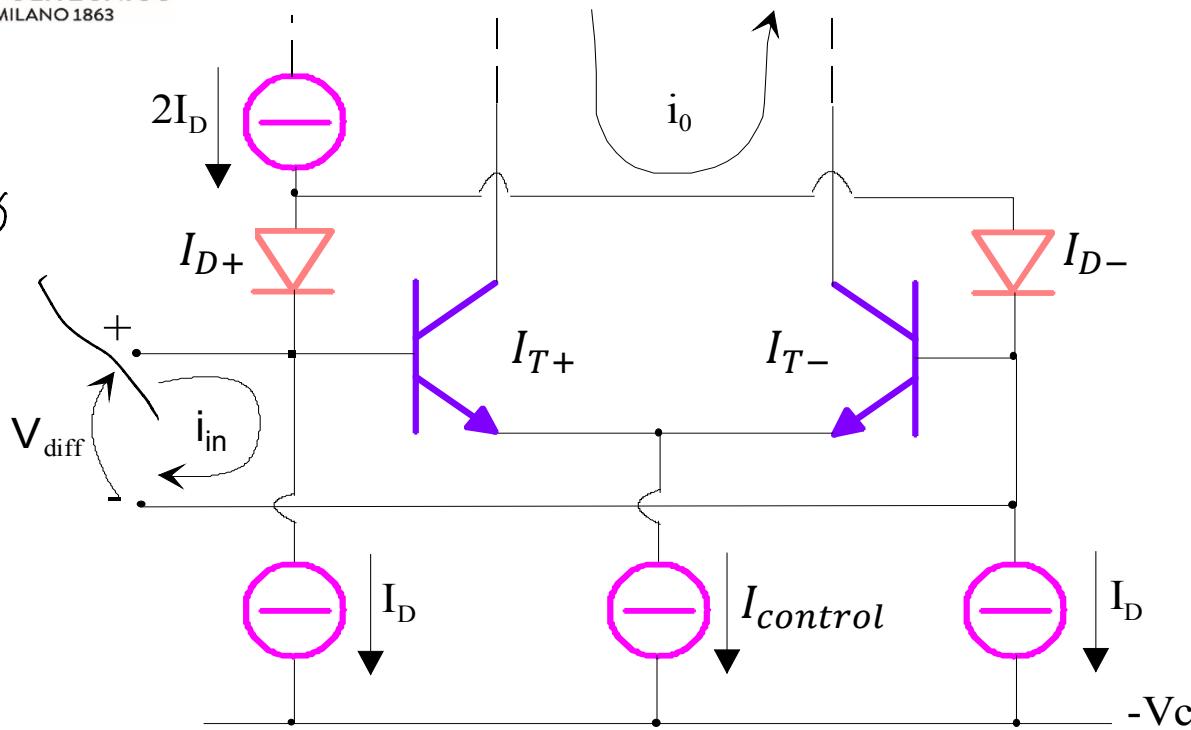
Se voglio lo stage + lineare uso la topologia





# OTA: improved dynamics and linearity

$i_{in} = \emptyset$



H2 usato no slide de no no (No no seguito)

Translinear principle:  $I_{D+} \cdot I_{T+} = I_{D-} \cdot I_{T-}$

Node currents:  $I_{D+} = I_D - I_{in}$      $I_{D-} = I_D + I_{in}$

Output signal current:  $I_{out} = I_{T+} - I_{control} = I_{control} - I_{T-}$

$$I_{in} = I_D - I_{D+} = -(I_D - I_{D-})$$

Now there is an input current !!!

$$I_{in} = I_{D-} - I_{D+} = I_+ - I_-$$

But the out/in relationship is linear!!!

$$I_{out} = I_{C+} - I_{C-} = \frac{I_{control}}{I_d} \cdot I_{in}$$

where  $|I_{in}| < I_d$



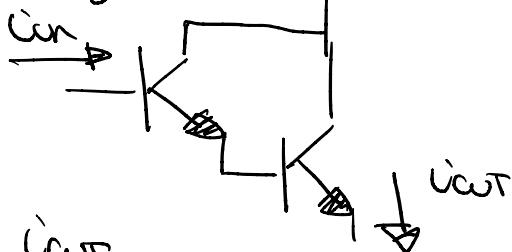
# Example of OTA application: voltage-controlled low-pass filter

È IN FEEDBACK Ma forse come avevamo detto che non l'avevamo usato perché il Gloop è piccolo. Tuttavia qua lo usiamo perché aumentiamo Gloop.

i.e.  $f_{pole}(V_c)$

L'OTA da in uscita una corrente e io voglio in uscita una corrente

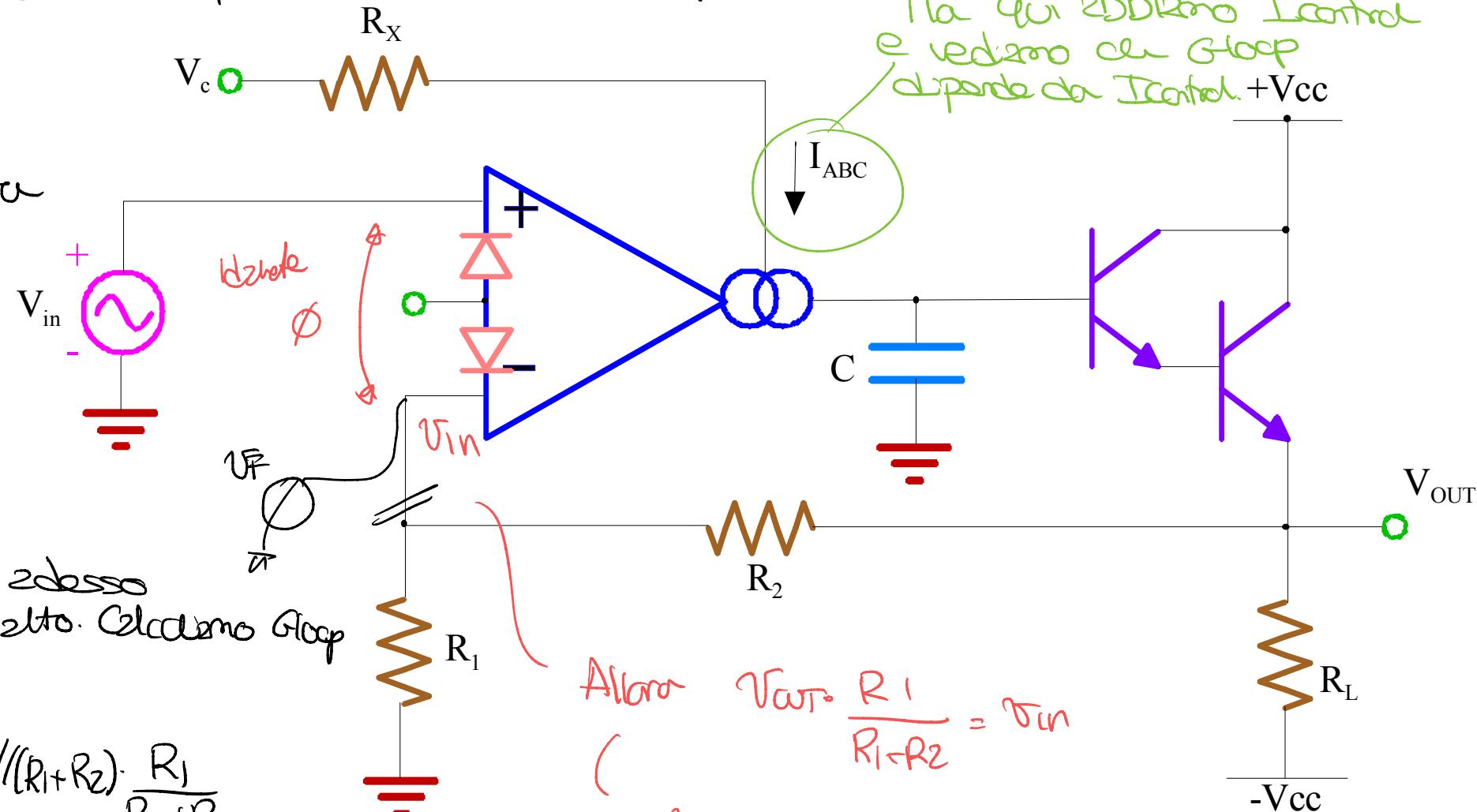
Allora uso un transistor Darlington



$$\frac{I_{out}}{I_{in}} = (\beta + 1)^2$$

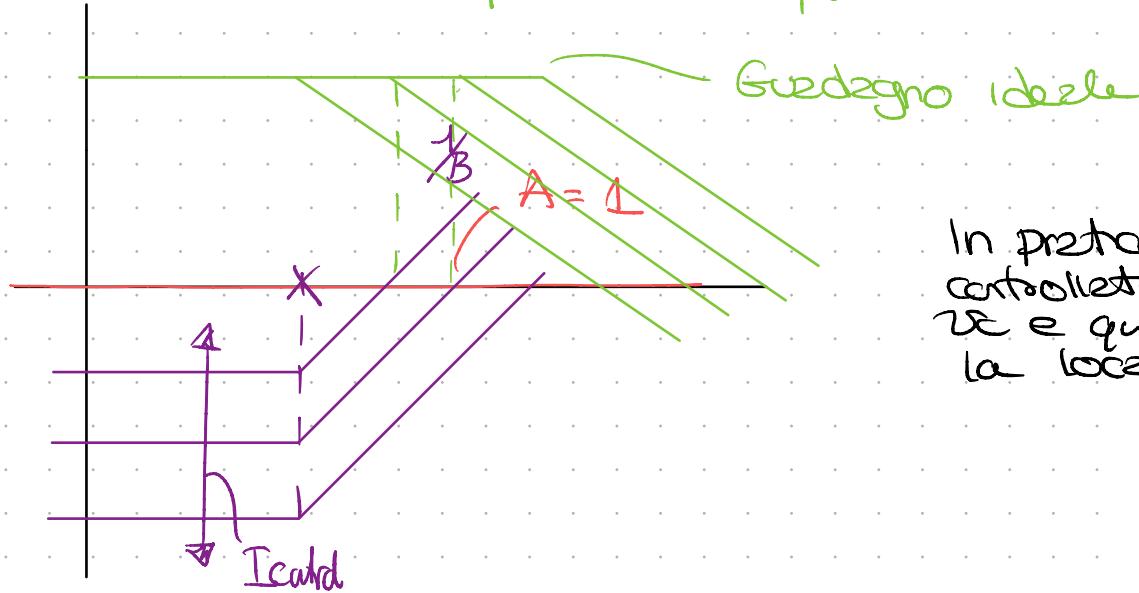
così vediamo  
posso dire che il Gloop è alto. Calcoliamo Gloop

$$\begin{aligned} Gloop &= V_F \cdot g_m \cdot (\beta + 1)^2 \cdot R_L / (R_1 + R_2) \cdot \frac{R_1}{R_1 + R_2} \\ &= \frac{I_{control}}{25mV} \cdot 10000 \cdot 1k\Omega \cdot \frac{10k}{11k} \ggg 1 \end{aligned}$$



Tra qui abbiamo  $I_{control}$   
e vediamo che Gloop  
dipende da  $I_{control} + V_{cc}$

Considero tutto il circuito come B tranne il pezzo di filo da va da R121 -



Grazie

In pratica ho un passo basso  
controllato perché tramite la tensione  
 $V_o$  e quindi controllo passo varia  
la locuzione del polo



## Data-sheet CA3280:

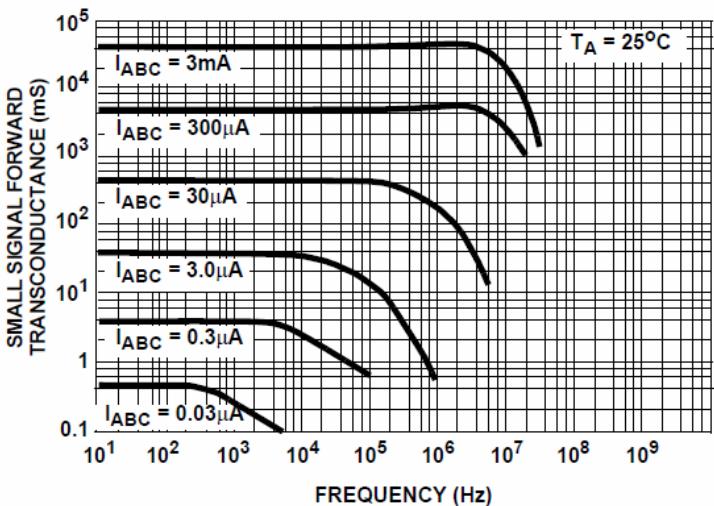


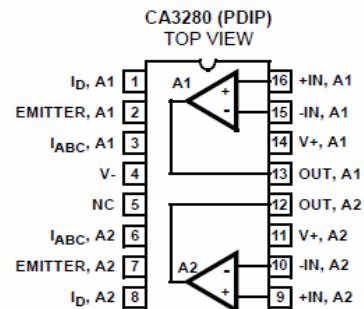
FIGURE 11. AMPLIFIER GAIN vs FREQUENCY

**Dual, 9MHz, Operational Transconductance Amplifier (OTA)**

The CA3280 and CA3280A types consist of two variable operational amplifiers that are designed to substantially reduce the initial input offset voltage and the offset voltage variation with respect to changes in programming current. This design results in reduced "AGC thump," an objectionable characteristic of many AGC systems. Interdigitation, or crosscoupling, of critical portions of the circuit reduces the amplifier dependence upon thermal and processing variables.

The CA3280 has all the generic characteristics of an operational voltage amplifier except that the forward transfer characteristics is best described by transconductance rather than voltage gain, and the output is current, not voltage. The magnitude of the output current is equal to the product of transconductance and the input voltage. This type of operational transconductance amplifier was first introduced in 1969, and it has since gained wide acceptance as a gateable, gain controlled building block for instrumentation and audio applications, such as linearization of transducer outputs, standardization of widely changing signals for data processing, multiplexing, instrumentation amplifiers operating from the nanopower range to high current and high speed comparators.

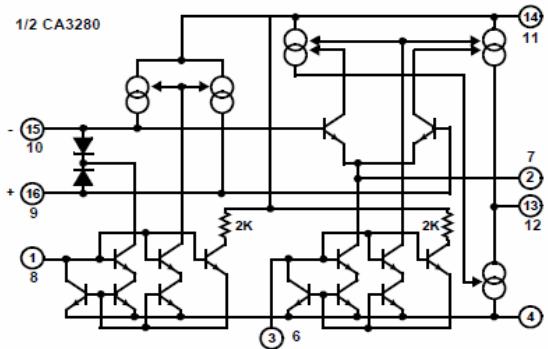
For additional application information on this device and on OTAs in general, please refer to Application Notes: AN6818, AN6668, and AN6077.

**Pinout****Features**

- Low Initial Input Offset Voltage: 500 $\mu$ V (Max) (CA3280A)
- Low Offset Voltage Change vs  $I_{ABC}$ : <500 $\mu$ V (Typ) for All Types
- Low Offset Voltage Drift: 5 $\mu$ V/ $^{\circ}$ C (Max) (CA3280A)
- Excellent Matching of the Two Amplifiers for All Characteristics
- Internal Current-Driven Linearizing Diodes Reduce the External Input Current to an Offset Component
- Flexible Supply Voltage Range . . . . .  $\pm$ 2V to  $\pm$ 15V

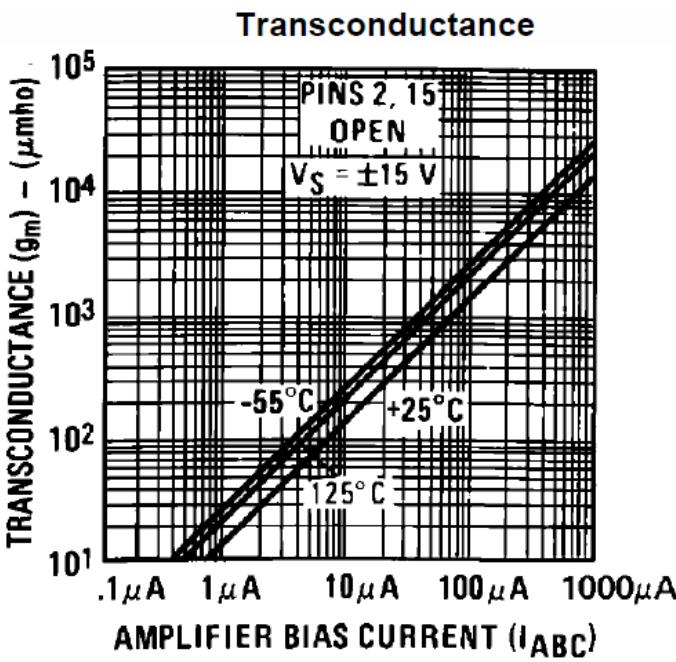
**Applications**

- Voltage Controlled Amplifiers
- Voltage Controlled Oscillators
- Multipliers
- Demodulators
- Sample and Hold
- Instrumentation Amplifiers
- Function Generators
- Triangle Wave-to-Sine Wave Converters
- Comparators
- Audio Preamplifier

**Functional Diagram**



# Data-sheet LM13700:



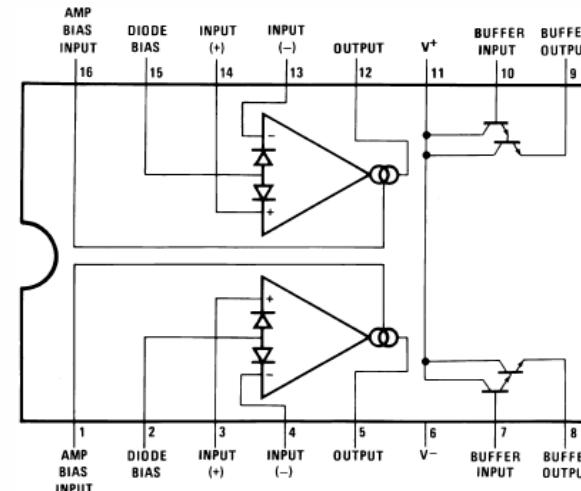
## FEATURES

- $g_m$  Adjustable over 6 Decades
- Excellent  $g_m$  Linearity
- Excellent Matching between Amplifiers
- Linearizing Diodes
- High Impedance Buffers
- High Output Signal-to-Noise Ratio

## APPLICATIONS

- Current-Controlled Amplifiers
- Current-Controlled Impedances
- Current-Controlled Filters
- Current-Controlled Oscillators
- Multiplexers
- Timers
- Sample-and-Hold circuits

## Connection Diagram



## DESCRIPTION

The LM13700 series consists of two current controlled transconductance amplifiers, each with differential inputs and a push-pull output. The two amplifiers share common supplies but otherwise operate independently. Linearizing diodes are provided at the inputs to reduce distortion and allow higher input levels. The result is a 10 dB signal-to-noise improvement referenced to 0.5 percent THD. High impedance buffers are provided which are especially designed to complement the dynamic range of the amplifiers. The output buffers of the LM13700 differ from those of the LM13600 in that their input bias currents (and hence their output DC levels) are independent of  $I_{ABC}$ . This may result in performance superior to that of the LM13600 in audio applications.

Figure 1. PDIP and SOIC Packages-Top View  
See Package Number D0016A or NFG0016E



# ISO, Isolation Amplifier

Non ci devono essere  
fili di collegamento  
tra input  
e output.

## Requirements:

- isolated input and output stages
- double power supply
- galvanic isolation

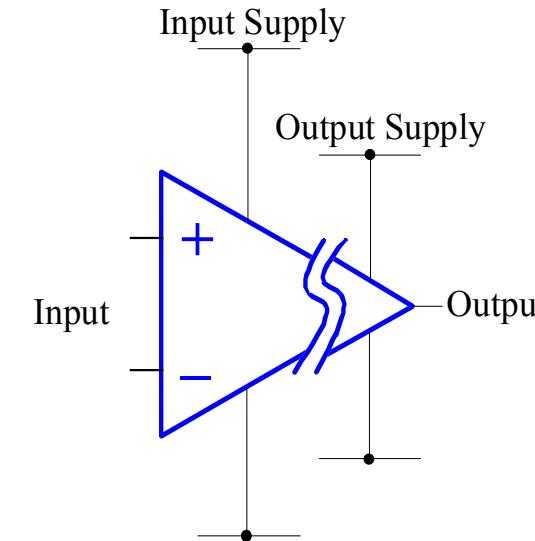
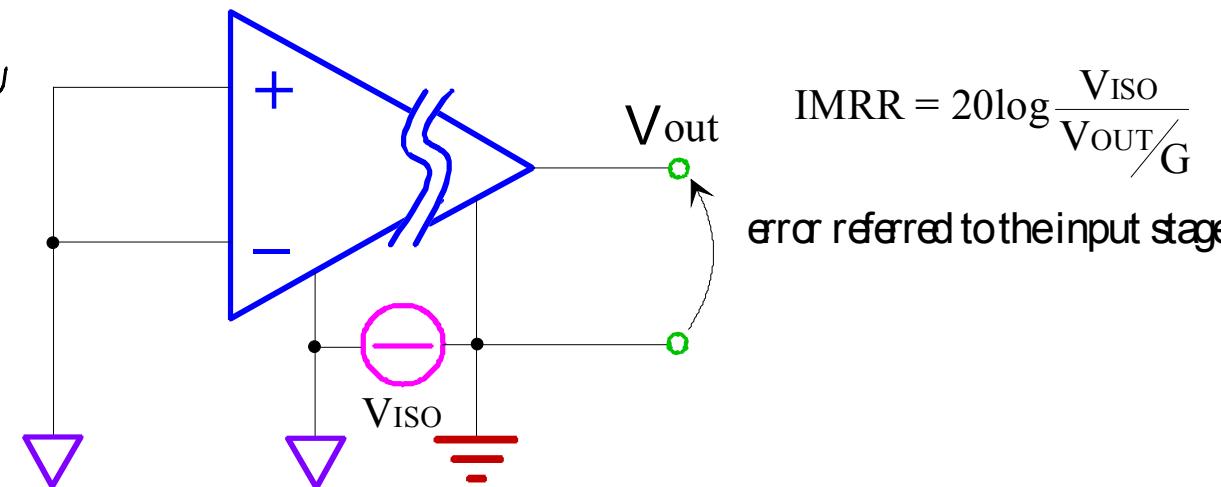


Figure of Merit:

**Isolation Mode Rejection Ratio**

Idealmente vorremmo che  
per qualche  $V_{ISO}$  la  $V_{out}$  è 0V



$$IMRR = 20 \log \frac{V_{ISO}}{V_{OUT/G}}$$

error referred to the input stage

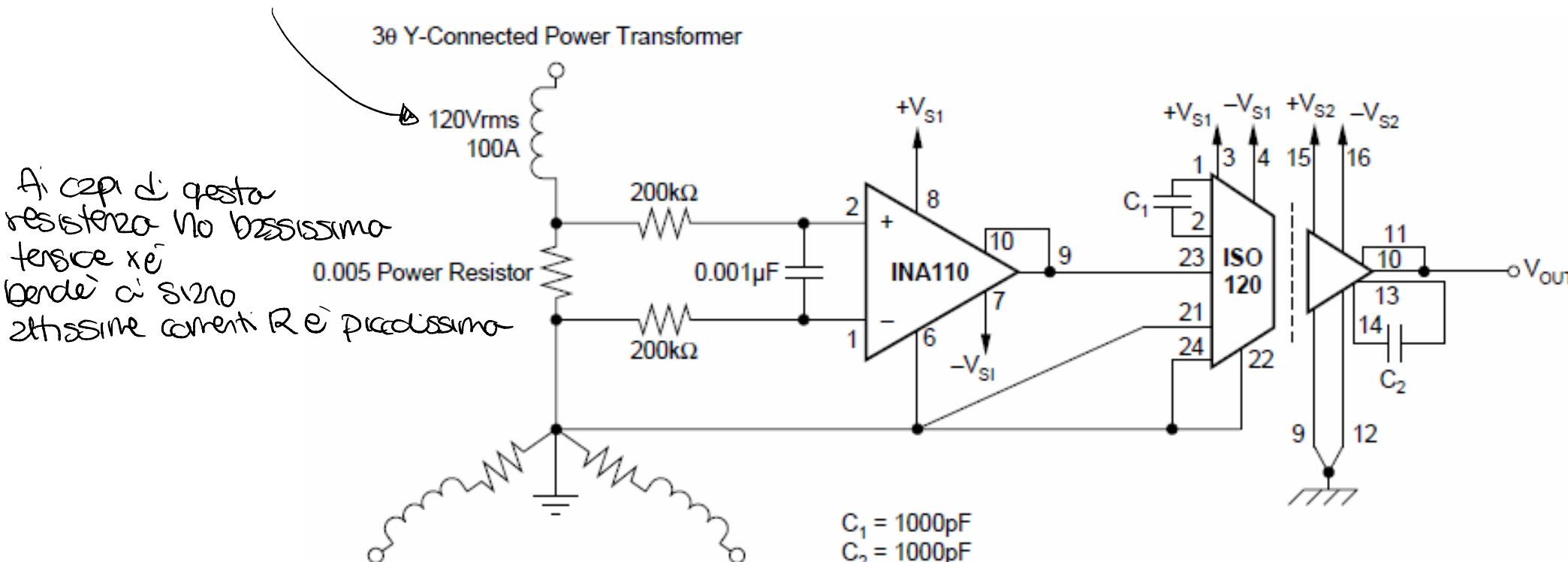
Nella rete  $V_{ISO}$   
genererà una variazione  
possiamo misurare un  
fattore di merito



# ISO, example of application

è un motore trifase  
montato a stella

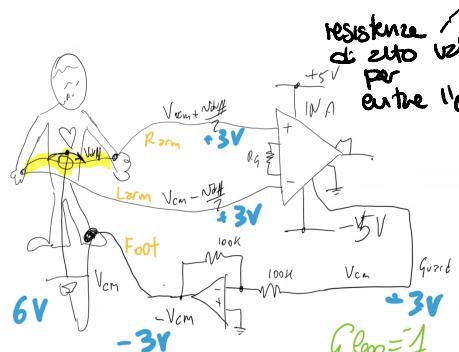
## Isolated powerline monitor



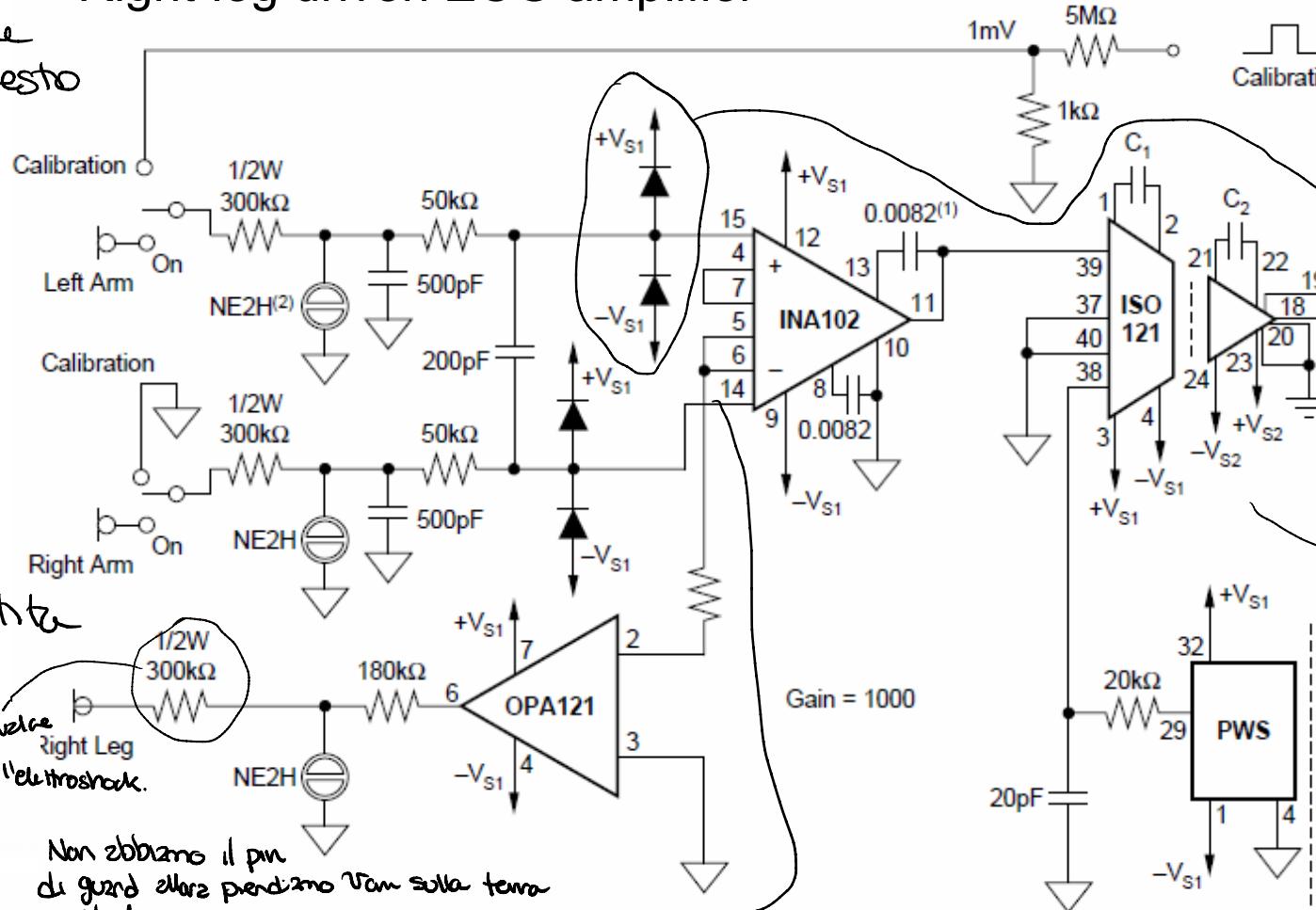


# ISO, example of application

No prendiamo il segnale  
dai 2 bracci ma questo  
segnale differenziale  
potrebbe avere una  
common mode che  
mi fa scattare l'INA  
altrimenti potrei perdere  
il pin di guardia  
Usare un OP2mp  
e staccarlo al piede  
così quel OPAMP  
fornisce la tensione  
di common mode invertita  
così la elimino



## Right-leg driven ECG amplifier



NOTE: (1) All capacitor values in  $\mu\text{F}$  unless otherwise noted. Diodes are IN4148. (2) NE2H: Neon bulb, max striking voltage  $95\text{V}_{\text{AC}}$ .

Ma quello detto a  
sinistra non funziona  
Perché Gloop è troppo  
piccolo, allora tolgo  
la R di retroazione  
sull'OPAMP così auto  
Gloop.

Questi diodi servono  
per fare sì che l'eletrostatic  
discharge venga scaricata  
a terra.

Iso per avere  
separazione galvanica tra  
paciente e elaborazione  
successiva del segnale

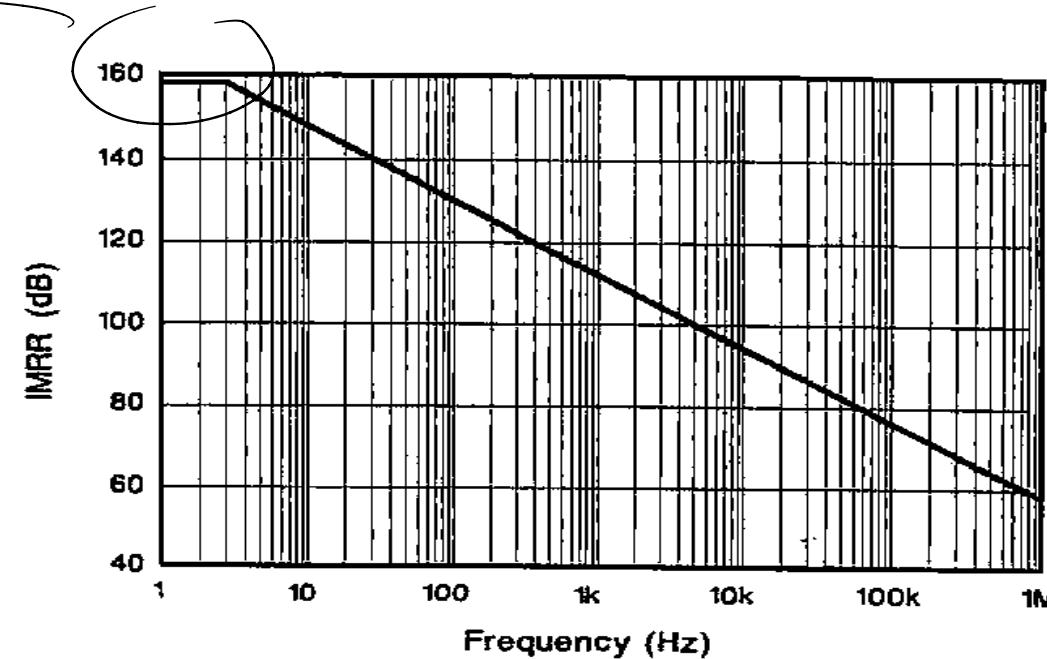


# ISO: techniques

POLITECNICO  
MILANO 1863

La resistenza dell' ISO è molto alta ma solo per  
frequenze molto basse.

IMRR frequency dependance



Transient Immunity: ISO122 TI < 1000V/ms

Isolation techniques:  
Optical  
Magnetic  
Capacitive



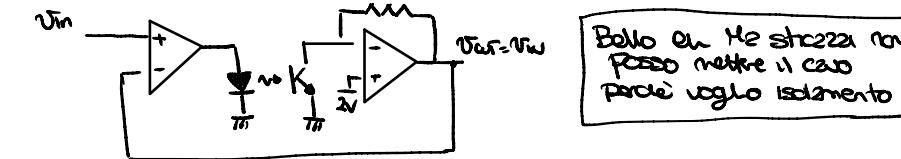
# ISO: optical coupling

Esempi di come sono fatti questi ISO.

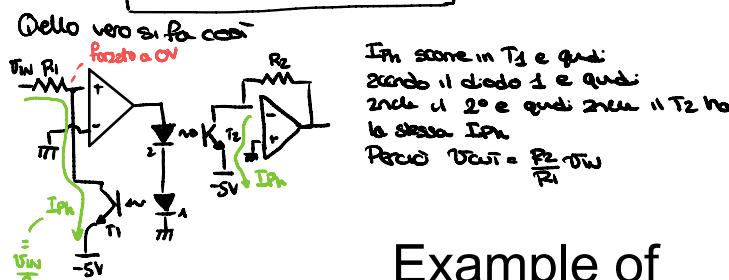
Questo perché ho diverse variazioni di  
Capisco quindi che se comando il  
diodo in tensione questo non va  
bene.

Dunque comando il Diodo in  
corrente. Ma anche in questo caso non  
va bene perché tra comando diversi  
la curva di comune non va bene.

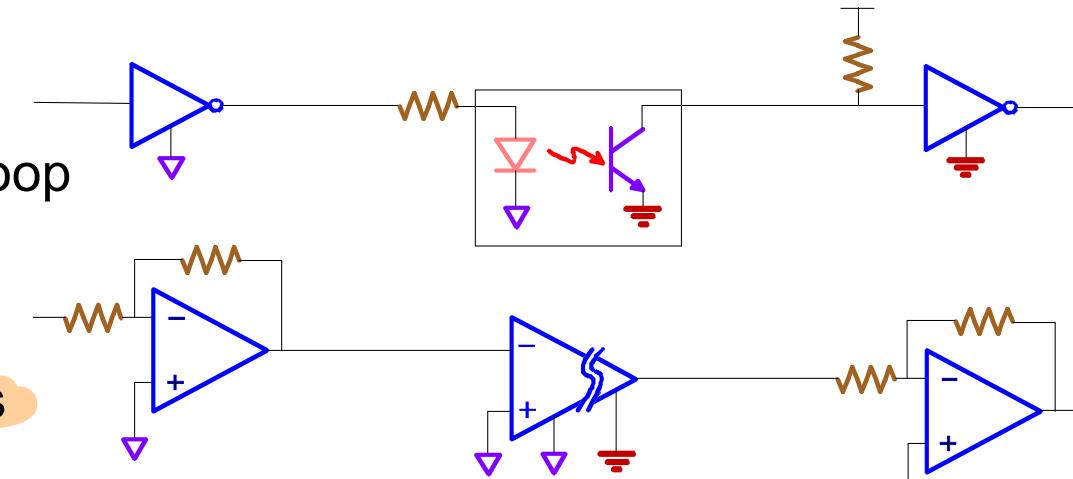
Perciò posso usare la non idealità  
dell'op-amp per eliminare la sua  
non idealità. Questo risulta però usando 2 optoisolatori.



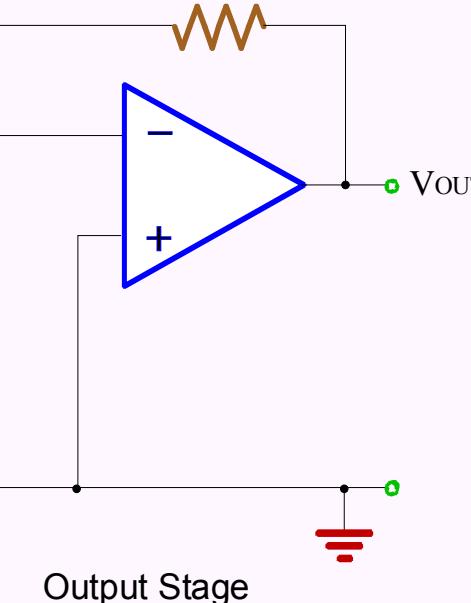
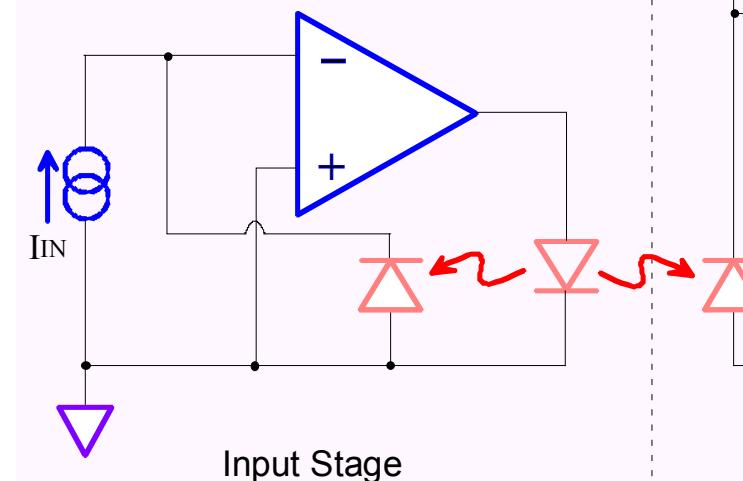
Bollo eh Ma stacca non  
posso mettere il cavo  
perché voglio isolamento



Example of  
optical coupling  
for analog signals:



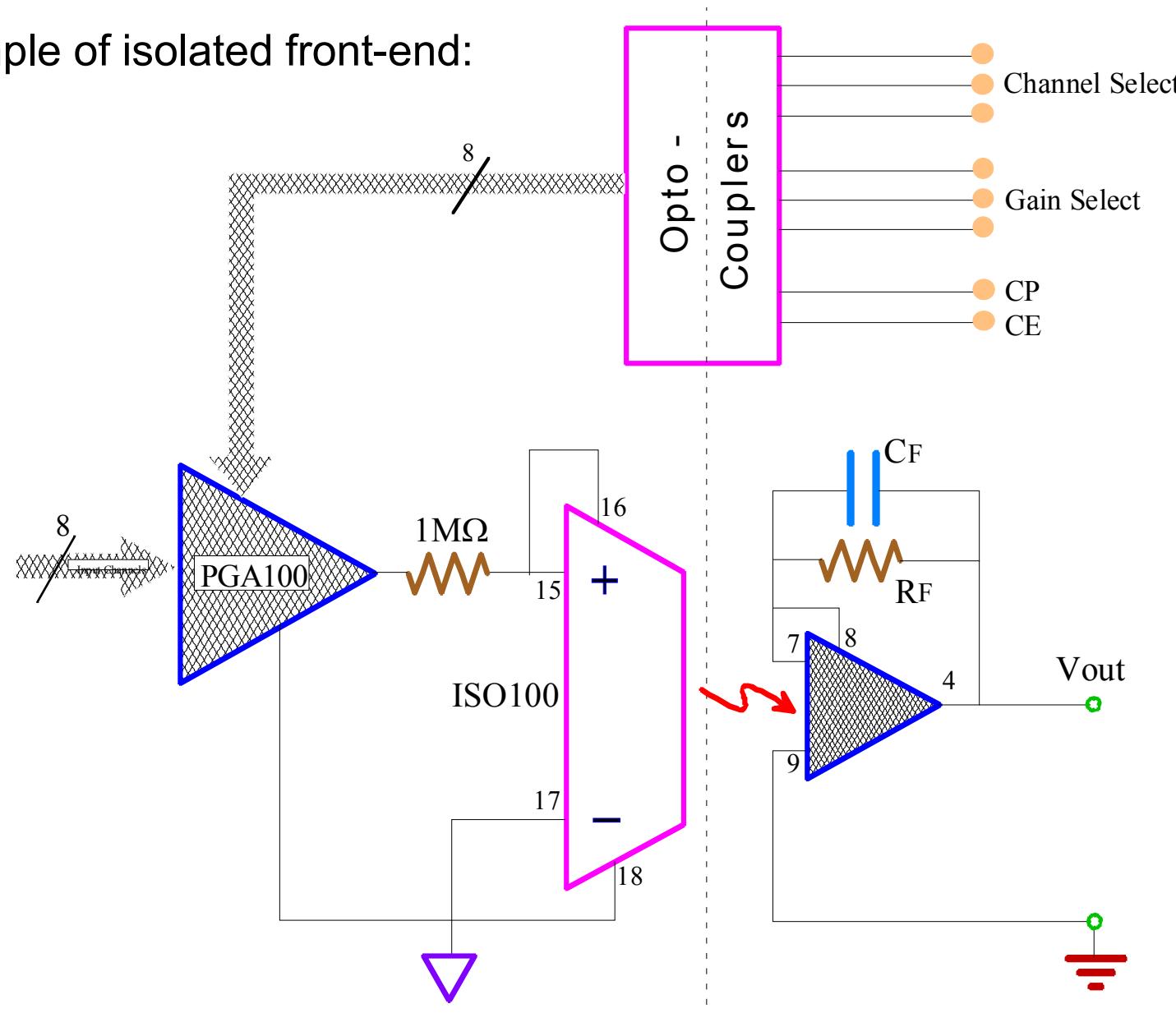
ISO100  
3650  
3652





# ISO: optical coupling

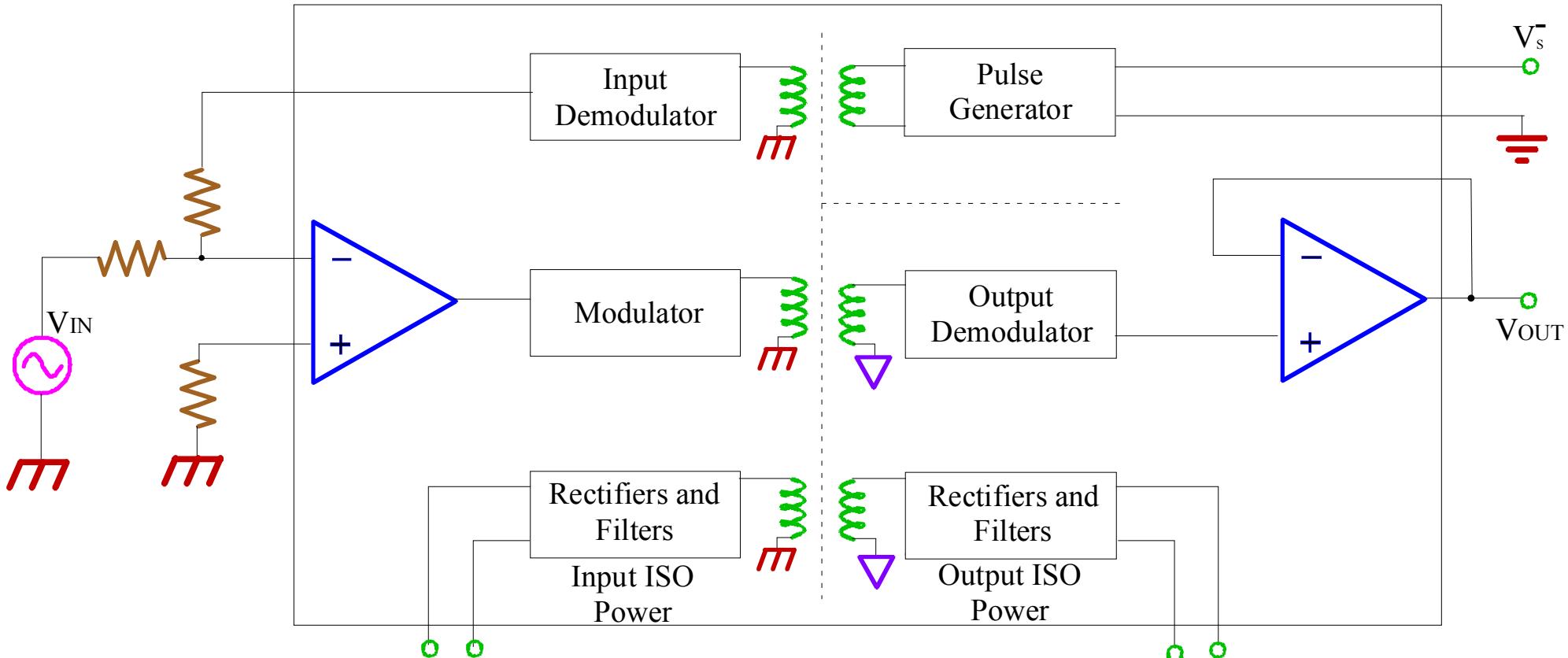
Example of isolated front-end:





# ISO: magnetic coupling

Hybrid and compact transformers with  
modulation/demodulation techniques are needed



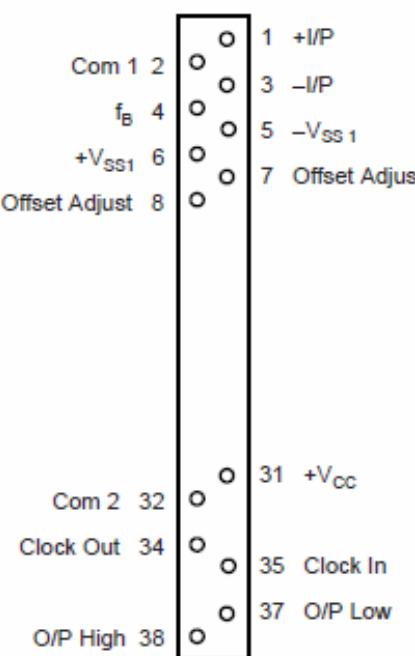
3656

ISO212



## Data-sheet:

Bottom View

Low Cost, Two-Port Isolated, 1500Vrms  
ISOLATION AMPLIFIER

## FEATURES

- 12-BIT ACCURACY
- 2.5mA (typ) QUIESCENT CURRENT
- LOW PROFILE (LESS THAN 0.5" HIGH)
- SMALL FOOTPRINT
- EXTERNAL POWER CAPABILITY ( $\pm 8V$  at 5mA)
- "MASTER/SLAVES" SYNCHRONIZATION CAPABILITY
- INPUT OFFSET ADJUSTMENT
- LOW POWER (53mW)
- SINGLE 10V TO 15V SUPPLY OPERATION

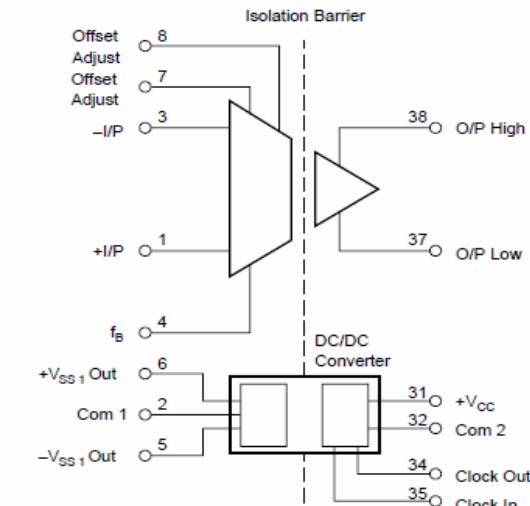
## APPLICATIONS

- INDUSTRIAL PROCESS CONTROL:  
Transducer Channel Isolator for Thermocouples, RTDs, Pressure Bridges, Flow Meters
- 4mA TO 20mA LOOP ISOLATION
- MOTOR AND SCR CONTROL
- GROUND LOOP ELIMINATION
- ANALYTICAL MEASUREMENTS
- POWER PLANT MONITORING
- DATA ACQUISITION/TEST EQUIPMENT ISOLATION
- MULTIPLEXED SYSTEMS WITH CHANNEL TO CHANNEL ISOLATION

## DESCRIPTION

The ISO212P signal isolation amplifier is a member of a series of low-cost isolation products from Burr-Brown. The low-profile SIL plastic package allows PCB spacings of 0.5" to be achieved, and the small footprint results in efficient use of board space.

To provide isolation, the design uses high-efficiency, miniature toroidal transformers in both the signal and power paths. An uncommitted input amplifier and an isolated external bipolar supply ensure the majority of input interfacing or conditioning needs can be met. The ISO212P accepts an input voltage range of  $\pm 5V$  for single 15V supply operation or  $\pm 3.0V$  for single 10V supply operation.

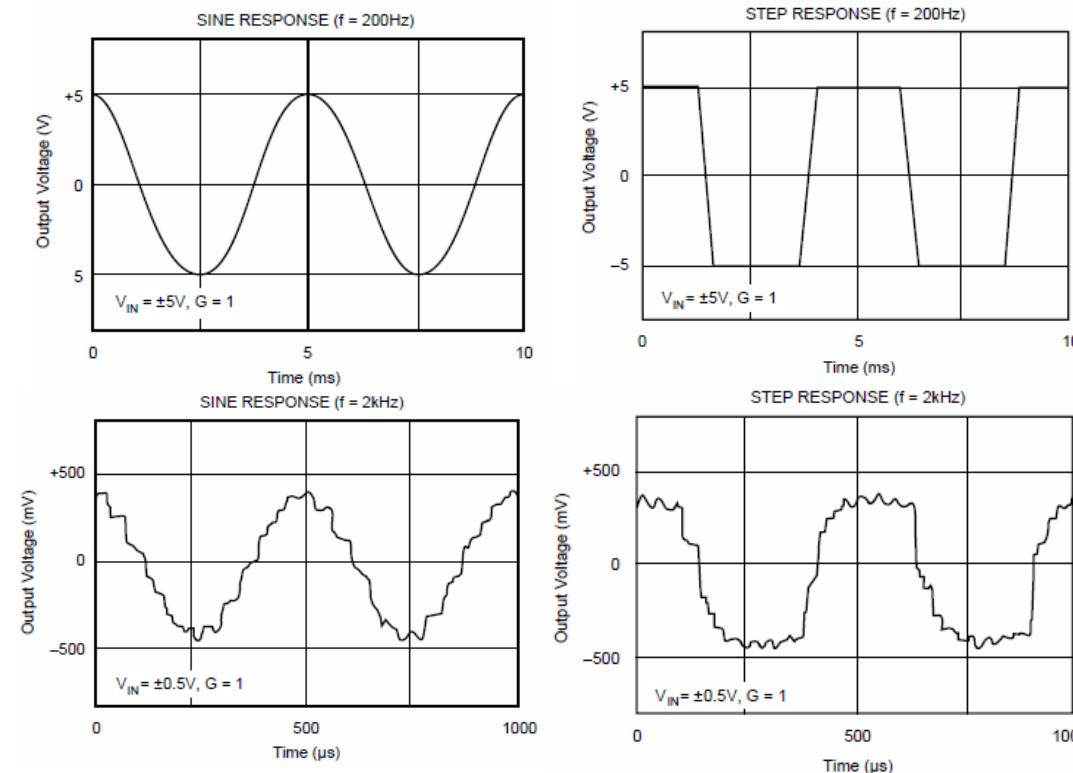




# ISO: magnetic coupling

## Disadvantages:

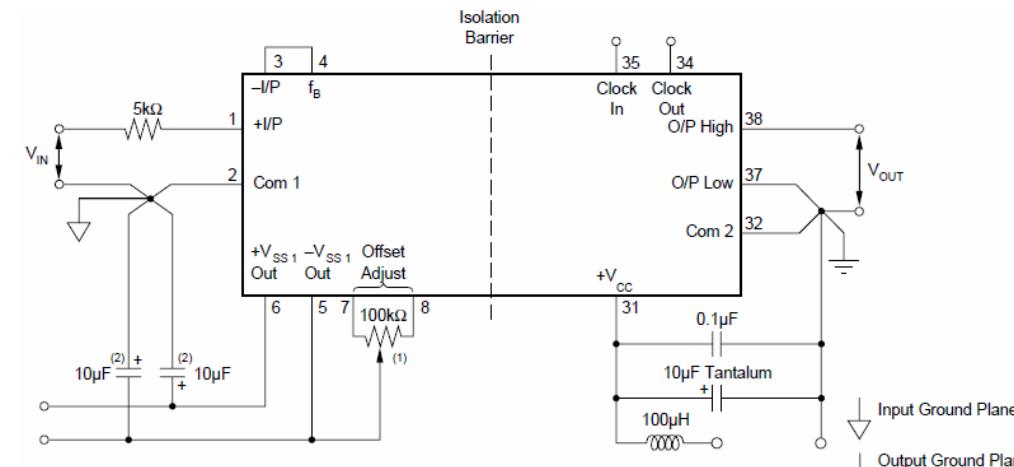
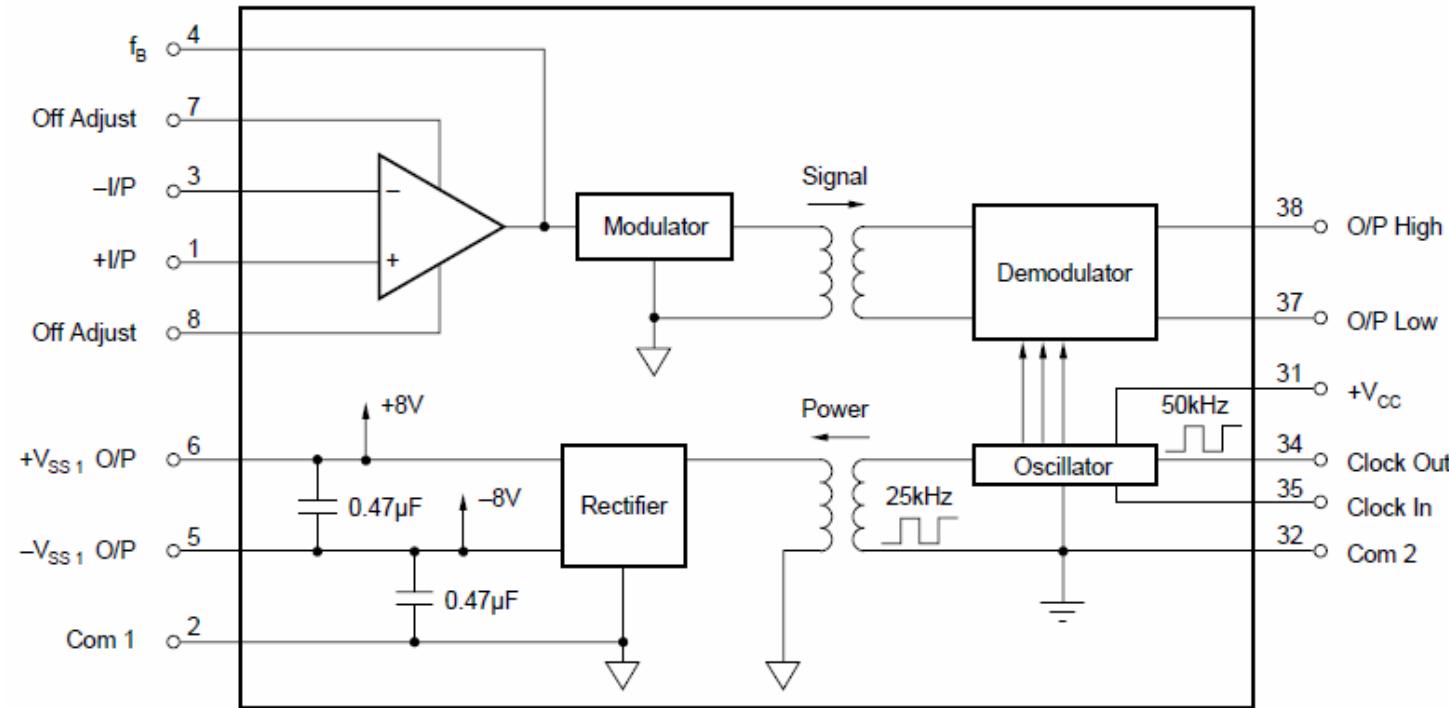
residual modulation ripple  
bulkiness





# ISO: magnetic coupling

**Advantages:**  
self-bias

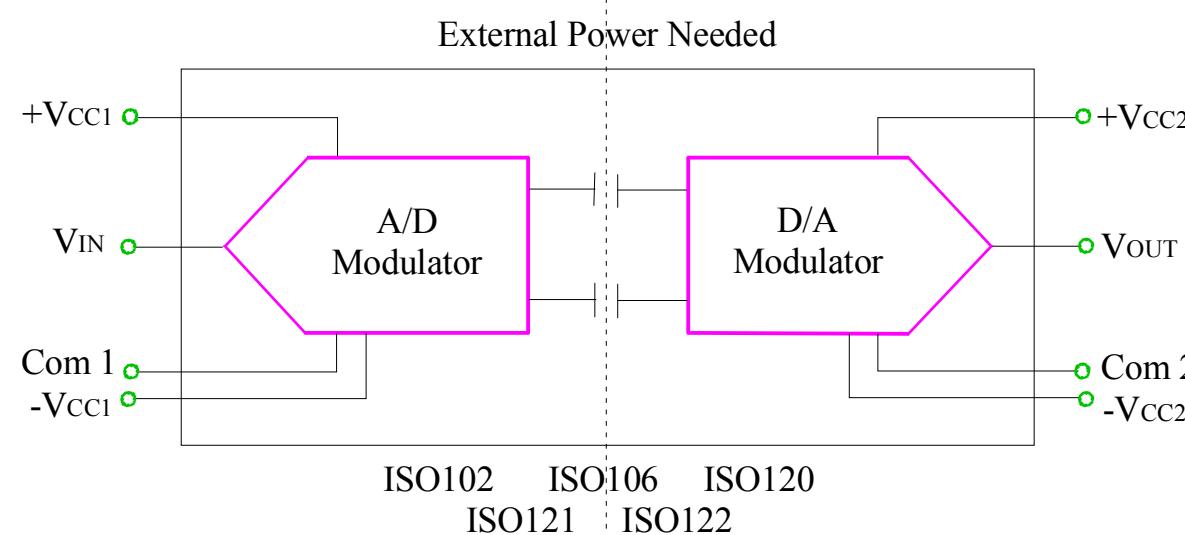


NOTES: (1) Optional voltage offset adjust components.  
(2) 10µF decoupling to be used with external loads connected.

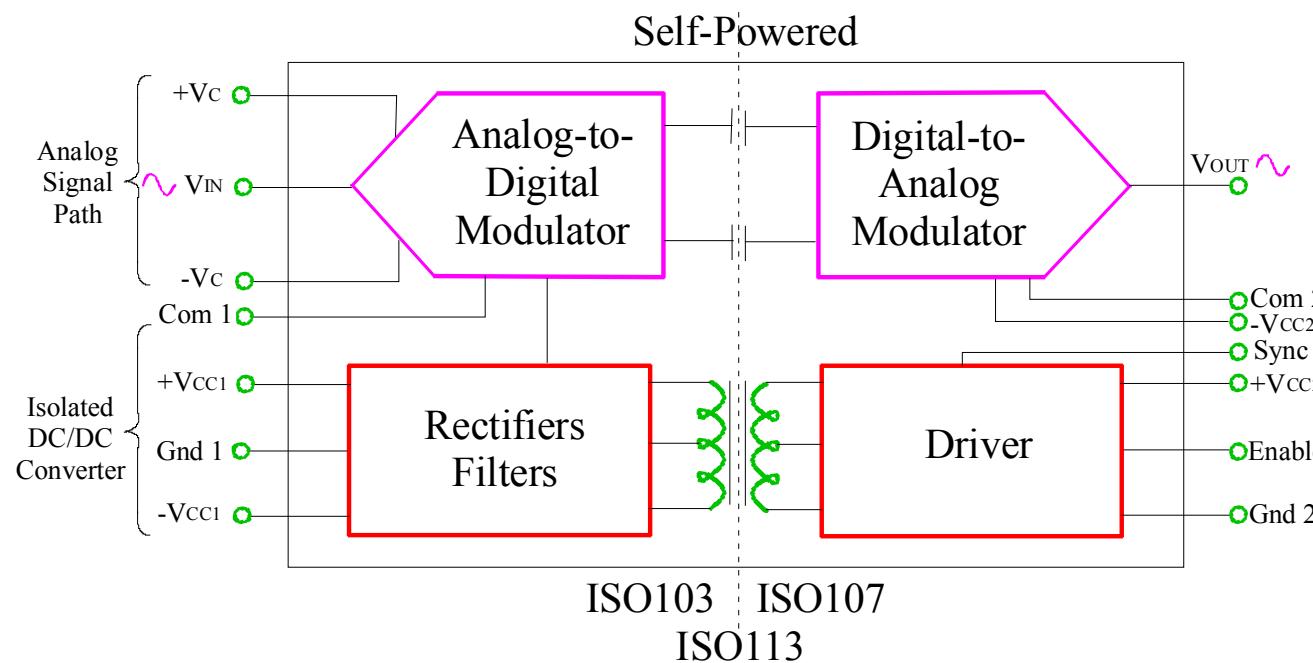


# ISO: capacitive coupling

Frequency or duty-cycle  
modulation/demodulation



On-chip generation  
of the power supply  
Of the other side





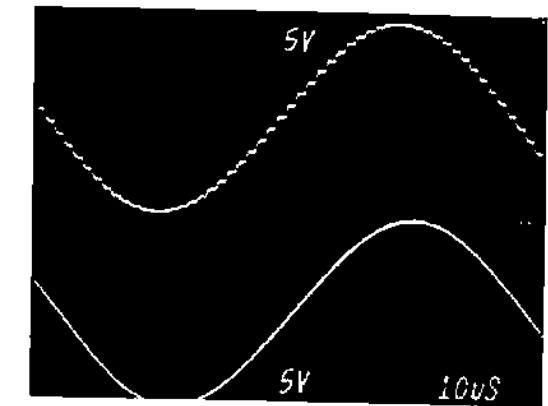
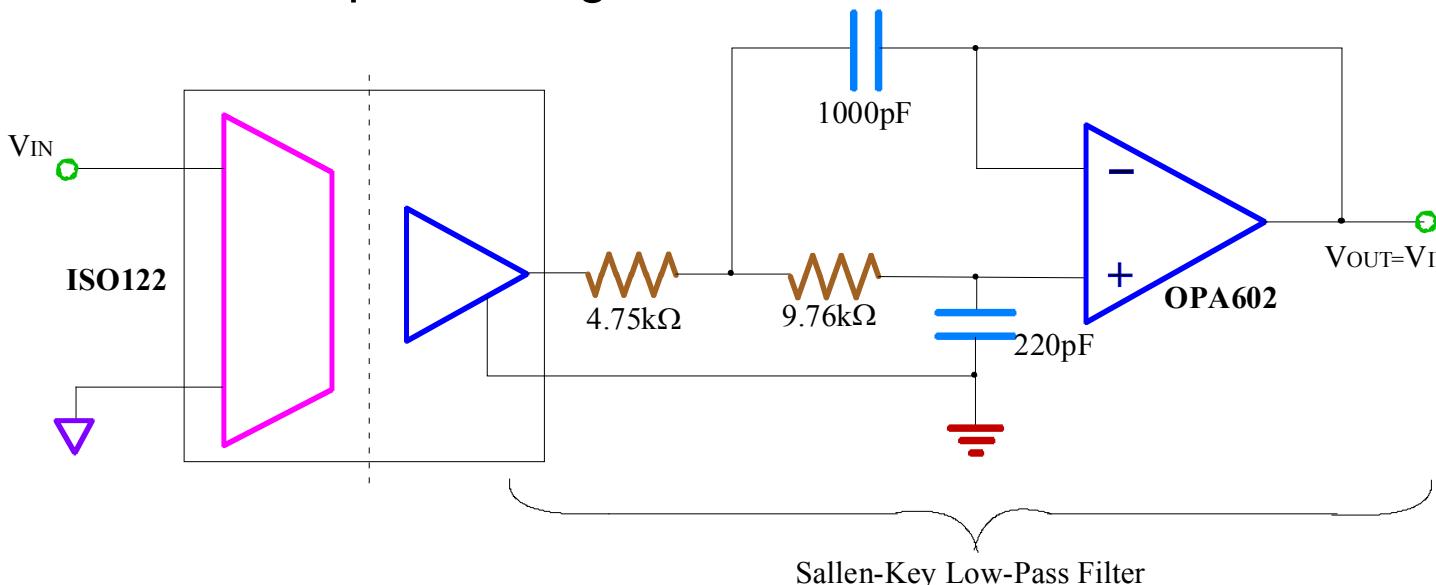
# ISO: capacitive coupling

## Disadvantages:

- residual modulation ripple
- residual ADC/DAC quantization errors
- bulkiness

**ISO122 Unfiltered vs Filtered Output**

Need of output filtering:



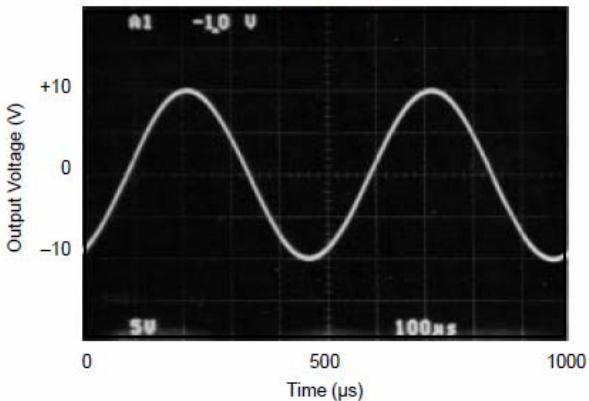


# ISO

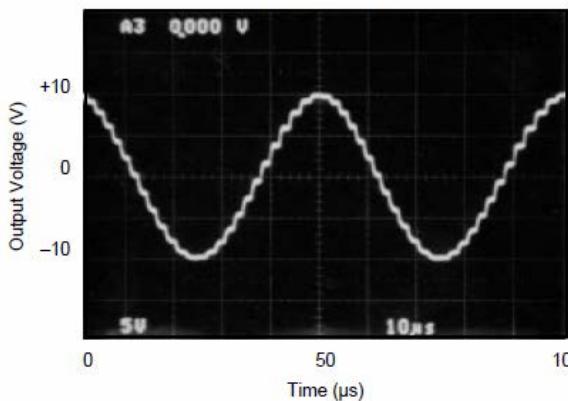
POLITECNICO  
MILANO 1863

## Data-sheet ISO120:

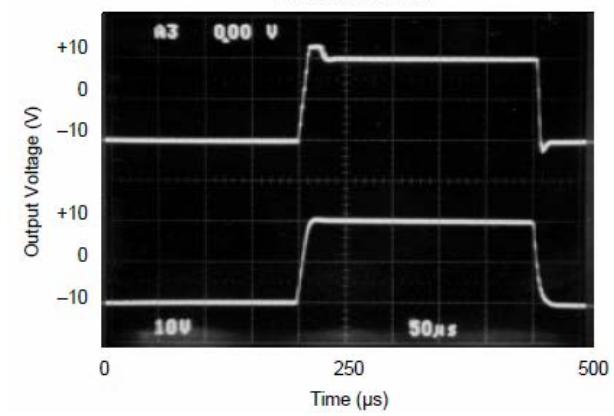
SINE RESPONSE  
(f = 2kHz, C<sub>2</sub> = 0)



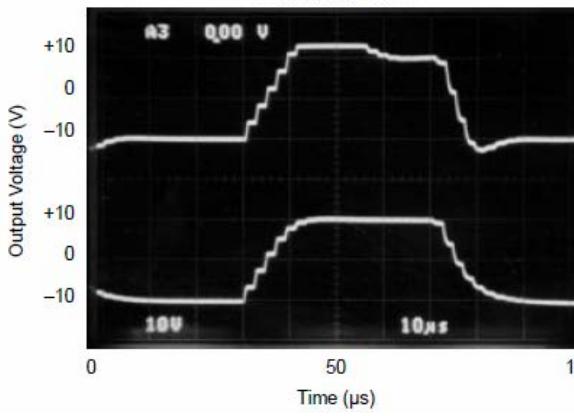
SINE RESPONSE  
(f = 20kHz, C<sub>2</sub> = 0)



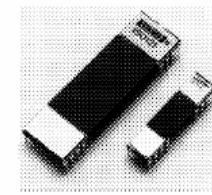
STEP RESPONSE



STEP RESPONSE



BURR-BROWN®  
**BB**



ISO120  
ISO121

## Precision Low Cost ISOLATION AMPLIFIER

### FEATURES

- 100% TESTED FOR PARTIAL DISCHARGE
- ISO120: Rated 1500Vrms
- ISO121: Rated 3500Vrms
- HIGH IMR: 115dB at 60Hz
- USER CONTROL OF CARRIER FREQUENCY
- LOW NONLINEARITY:  $\pm 0.01\%$  max
- BIPOLE OPERATION:  $V_o = \pm 10V$
- 0.3"-WIDE 24-PIN HERMETIC DIP, ISO120
- SYNCHRONIZATION CAPABILITY
- WIDE TEMP RANGE:  $-55^{\circ}C$  to  $+125^{\circ}C$  (ISO120)

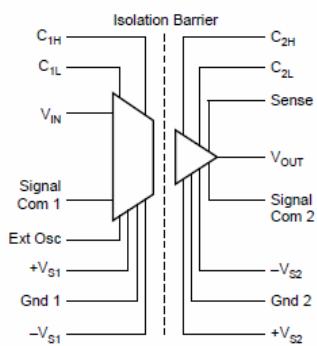
### APPLICATIONS

- INDUSTRIAL PROCESS CONTROL: Transducer Isolator for Thermocouples, RTDs, Pressure Bridges, and Flow Meters, 4mA to 20mA Loop Isolation
- GROUND LOOP ELIMINATION
- MOTOR AND SCR CONTROL
- POWER MONITORING
- ANALYTICAL MEASUREMENTS
- BIOMEDICAL MEASUREMENTS
- DATA ACQUISITION
- TEST EQUIPMENT

### DESCRIPTION

The ISO120 and ISO121 are precision isolation amplifiers incorporating a novel duty cycle modulation-demodulation technique. The signal is transmitted digitally across a 2pF differential capacitive barrier. With digital modulation the barrier characteristics do not affect signal integrity, which results in excellent reliability and good high frequency transient immunity across the barrier. Both the amplifier and barrier capacitors are housed in a hermetic DIP. The ISO120 and ISO121 differ only in package size and isolation voltage rating.

These amplifiers are easy to use. No external components are required for 60kHz bandwidth. With the addition of two external capacitors, precision specifications of  $0.01\%$  max nonlinearity and  $150\mu V/{^{\circ}C}$  max  $V_{os}$  drift are guaranteed with 6kHz bandwidth. A power supply range of  $\pm 4.5V$  to  $\pm 18V$  and low quiescent current make these amplifiers ideal for a wide range of applications.





- Different OpAmps for different applications
- Need to properly understand application requirements and OpAmp specs

Now it's time to go digital

Next lesson: **9 – Sampling**