

# Photodiode as current source

## Student Group

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**Photodiode as current source**

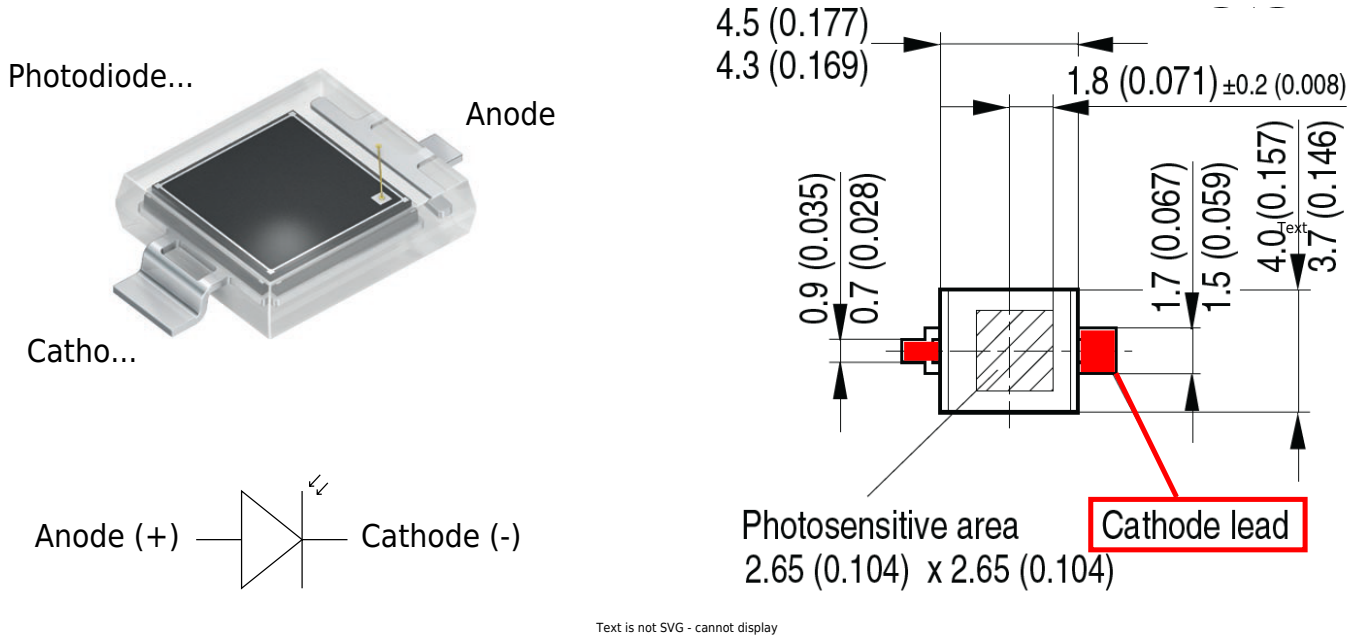


Fig. 1: Inverting Op-Amp: Photodiode BPW 34 S



Fig. 2: Inverting Op-Amp: Diagramms of BPW 34 S

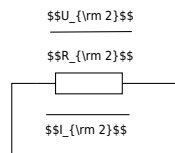


Fig. 3: Inverting Op-Amp: Photo Diode as current source

$$U_{\text{DD}} = 10\text{ V}, \quad U_{\text{SS}} = -10\text{ V}$$

We are assuming a well-lit room with an illuminance of 300 lx, lit by a white LED. White light is a mixture of many wavelengths across the visible spectrum, roughly 380 to 780 nm. For a typical white LED, the spectrum usually comes from a blue LED chip with a peak around 450 nm, plus a broader phosphor emission that spreads across green, yellow, and red wavelengths. For an easier calculation, we take a mean value of 500 nm which is close to the peak value of the blue LED and 300 lx for the illumination. (500 nm is in reality a greenish light and not blue)

The graph in [figure 2](#) shows that the photodiode sensitivity at 500 nm is only 30%. The maximum current (100%) at 300 lx is 30  $\mu\text{A}$ .

We can now estimate the current we would expect from the photodiode at 300 lx:

$$I_1 = 30\ \mu\text{A} * 0.3 = 9\ \mu\text{A}$$

$$I_1 \approx 10\ \mu\text{A}$$

30% of 30  $\mu\text{A}$  is roughly 10  $\mu\text{A}$ .

**We will assume a current of 10  $\mu\text{A}$  at 300 lx for our calculations.**

Complete the arrows in the circuit diagram in [figure 3](#).

Calculate  $R_2$  so that  $U_{\text{OUT}} = 5\text{ V}$  at 300 lx. Take a resistor from the E6 series that is as close as possible to the calculated value.

Also enter the values for  $I_1$ ,  $I_2$ ,  $U_2$  and  $U_{\text{OUT}}$ .

$$I_1$$

$$I_2$$

$$U_2$$

$$U_{OUT}$$

$$R_2$$

What value would you expect for  $U_D$  in figure 3 and why?

$$U_D$$

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