# HEAVY ION TEST REPORT



TRAD/TI/INA226AIDGSR/2318/ESA/MMB/2308			Labège, December 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	
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# **Abbreviations and acronyms**

- DUT Device Under Test
- ESA European Space Agency
- LET Linear Energy Transfer
- SEE Single Event Effect
- SEL Single Event Latch-up
- UCL Université Catholique de Louvain
- VASCO VAcuum System for Californium Operation



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# Abstract

The main objective of this test was to evaluate the sensitivity of the INA226AIDGSR, a High-Side or Low-Side Measurement, Bi-Directional Current and Power Monitor with I<sup>2</sup>C Compatible Interface versus SEL. The irradiation was performed at TRAD with a maximum LET of 43 MeV.cm<sup>2</sup>/mg. The main conclusions are the following.

The SEL test was performed under SEL test conditions (see Table 5).

#### In SEL test configuration

Destructive event was observed with LET of 43 MeV.cm<sup>2</sup>/mg, Californium heavy ion. Following this result, the heavy ion test campaign was cancelled.



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# 1. Introduction

This report includes the test results of the heavy ion SEE test sequence carried out on the INA226AIDGSR, a High-Side or Low-Side Measurement, Bi-Directional Current and Power Monitor with I<sup>2</sup>C Compatible Interface from Texas Instruments, susceptible to show SEL induced by heavy ions.

This test was performed for ESA at TRAD. Irradiations were performed on October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023. During this test campaign, 2 samples were irradiated.

# 2. Documents

## 2.1. Applicable documents

[AD1] Technical proposal: TRAD/P/ESA/AO17950/AR/131222 Rev 0 dated 13/11/2022

## 2.2. Reference documents

- [RD1] ESCC Basic specification No. 25100 Issue 2 of October 2014
- [RD2] Datasheet: INA226 SBOS547A, by Texas Instruments dated June 2011 Revised dated August 2015

# **3.** Organization of activities

The devices were procured and delidded by TRAD. The testing board and testing software were developed by TRAD. Before the campaign the samples were checked-out and the test bench was validated with californium test at TRAD. The test campaign was performed by TRAD. The next table summarizes the responsible entity for each activity involved in this project:

1	Procurement of Test Samples	TRAD
2	Preparation of Test Samples (delidding)	TRAD
3	Preparation of Test Hardware and Test Program	TRAD
4	Samples Check out	TRAD
5	Accelerator Test	TRAD
6	Test Report	TRAD

Table 1: Organization of activities



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# 4. Parts information

## 4.1. Device description

The INA226 is a current shunt and power monitor with an  $I^2C^{M}$ - or SMBUS-compatible interface. The device monitors both a shunt voltage drop and bus supply voltage. Programmable calibration value, conversion times, and averaging, combined with an internal multiplier, enable direct readouts of current in amperes and power in watts.

The INA226 senses current on common-mode bus voltages that can vary from 0 V to 36 V, independent of the supply voltage. The device operates from a single 2.7-V to 5.5-V supply, drawing a typical of 330  $\mu$ A of supply current. The device is specified over the operating temperature range between -40°C and 125°C and features up to 16 programmable addresses on the I<sup>2</sup>C-compatible interface.

## 4.2. Identification

Part designation	INA226AIDGSR		
Manufacturer	Texas Instruments		
Part function	High-Side or Low-Side Measurement, Bi-Directional Current and Power Monitor with I <sup>2</sup> C Compatible Interface		
Table 2: Part identification			

#### Table 2: Part identification

#### 4.3. Procurement information

Package	10-VSSOP	
Date code	2318	
Lot code No.	3077783HFT	
Number of tested parts	2 irradiated samples	

#### Table 3: Part procurement information

## 4.4. Sample preparation

5 parts were delidded, 2 samples have been damaged during this operation.

A functional test was performed on delidded samples to check that devices were not degraded by the delidding operation.

Among the 3 delidded samples available for the test campaign, 2 parts were irradiated and 1 was not used.



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## 4.5. Sample pictures

#### 4.5.1. External view

The Figure 1 shows an external view of the parts. Left and right pictures are respectively the top and the bottom views of the package.

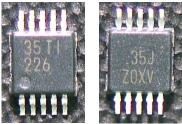


Figure 1: Pictures of the package

#### 4.5.2. Internal view

Figure 2 gives an overview of the die. Figure 3 presents a view of the internal markings observed on the die (indicated by a red rectangle on Figure 2).

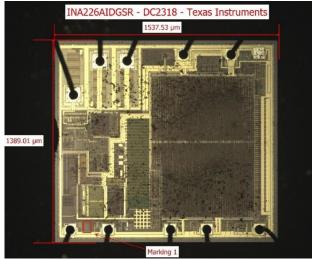


Figure 2: Picture of the internal overall view

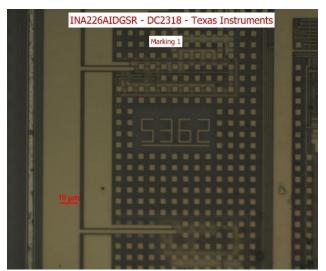


Figure 3: Picture of the die marking

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# 5. Dosimetry and irradiation facility

# 5.1. TRAD test facility

The VASCO is a vacuum chamber developed by TRAD in order to test the complete setup in vacuum with all cables length and electrical feedthroughs as used on the irradiation site. The VASCO main characteristics are: Chamber dimensions: 400x400x400mm, pressure 5.10<sup>-2</sup> mbar. Electrical feedthroughs available: 16 isolated BNC, 16 isolated SMA, 16 isolated SMB, 4 DB25, 3 HE10-40. Other possibility on request

Validation runs are performed using Californium-252 source.



Figure 4: VASCO picture

## 5.2. Beam characteristics

Californium-252 is a fissionable, transuranic radionuclide which decays by alpha particle emission with a half-life of 2.72 years.

The source emits alpha particles, fission fragments and fast neutrons. The fission fragments are used for SEE testing and these have a mean LET of 43 MeV.cm<sup>2</sup>/mg (Si) with 95% of the particles having LETs between 41 and 45 MeV.cm<sup>2</sup>/mg (Si). The mean range of the fission particles in silicon is 14.2 $\mu$ m.

## 5.3. Heating system

TRAD has developed a specific heating system to heat and regulate the temperature of the DUT. Figure 5 shows a thermal image taken during the heating calibration of the DUT, the temperature of the die was set to 125°C as shown on the picture. Californium tests were performed at 100°C and 60°C.

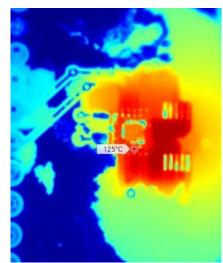


Figure 5: Thermal image of INA226AIDGSR heated to 125°C

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# 6. Test procedure and setup

## 6.1. Test method

The irradiation was performed during the validation test with Californium-252 source. This test is useful to have a first estimation of the device's sensitivity and validate all operations performed by the test bench during irradiation. Nevertheless, the fluence deposited during irradiation can be estimated but no limit is mandatory, this process is fully done with the aim of test bench validation.

## 6.2. Test principle

## 6.2.1. SEL test principle

A SEL is a permanent event that results from the activation of a parasitic thyristor structure creating low impedance conduction path in the device. The consequent high current can potentially damage the device, possibly even leading to its destruction due to overcurrent. A power cycle is required to correct this situation.

GeV is a specific equipment developed by TRAD to protect the DUT and to perform SEL characterization. The power supply is applied to the DUT through GeV which protects the DUT against over consumption. Indeed, GeV continuously monitors and records the current. A programmable threshold current is set above the nominal operating value of the supply current. During irradiations, if the current consumption exceeds the threshold during a defined "hold time", a SEL is counted and the DUT is switched off during a defined "off time". Once the event is defused, the power supply is switched ON again with the nominal current consumption expected.

Figure 6 shows a common SEL characteristic, with and without the GeV system protection.

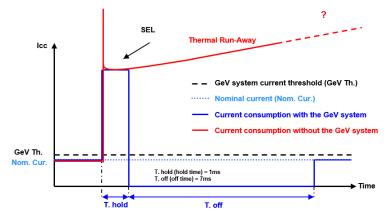


Figure 6: Common SEL characteristic

The SEL test was performed under SEL test conditions (see Table 5).

TRAD uses a dedicated system to heat and regulate the DUT temperature. The temperature is visualized and regulated from outside of the vacuum chamber during the irradiation.



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#### 6.3. Test bench description

#### 6.3.1. Test bench overview

Figure 7 provides a global view of the test bench. It is composed by:

- A computer to control the test equipment and to record the SEE.
- A test board to bias and operate the DUT (schematic is shown in Figure 8).
- A power supply for the DUT and auxiliary components.
- A GeV System to protect the DUT, detect and record SEL.

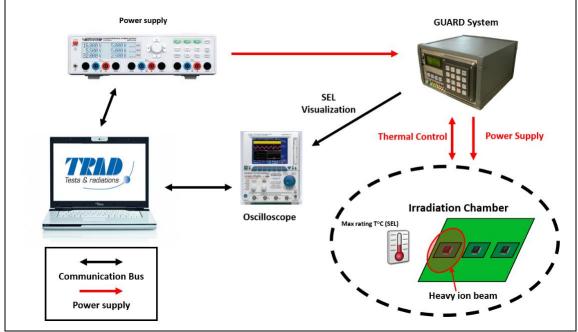


Figure 7: Test bench description



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#### 6.3.2. Test equipment identification

TEST BOARD	TRAD_CT1_I_INA226AIDGSR_VSSOP_MMB_2308		
EQUIPMENT	SM-87; AR-94; ME-70		
TEST PROGRAM INA226AID_I_DC2318_BI_V10_SEL			
Table A. Fausing ant identification			

**Table 4: Equipment identification** 

### 6.3.3. Test board description

The TRAD test board schematic referenced "TRAD/TA1/I/INA226AIDGSR/VSSOP/MMB/2308" is illustrated in Figure 8.

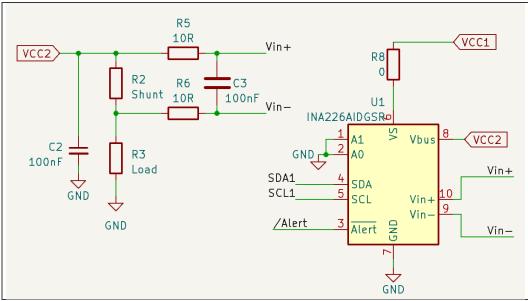


Figure 8: Test board schematic



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#### 6.3.4. Test conditions and event detection thresholds

#### SEL test

	VCC1	VCC2	
Voltage	36V 5.5V		
Inominal	3.6 mA	1.2 mA	
I <sub>threshold</sub>	150 mA	20 mA	
T <sub>hold</sub>	1 ms 1 ms		
T <sub>cut off</sub>	7 ms 7 ms		
Temperature	100°C / 60°C		

Table 5: SEL test conditions and detection thresholds

# 7. Test story

No atypical behaviour during the test to report.

# 8. Non conformance

Test sequence, test and measurement conditions were nominal.



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# 9. Results

In this chapter are presented the SEE test results.

First, test runs summary tables provides details of the runs performed during this campaign, their parameters and results.

Then, for each event type are given their corresponding LET threshold, cross section and worst cases when it is applicable.

On the cross section curves are plotted their corresponding error bars.

The following formulas is used to calculate these error bars. It can be found in ESCC Basic specification No. 25100.

$$\delta\sigma \times F = \sqrt{(\delta N events)^2 + (N events \times \frac{\delta F}{F})^2}$$

where :

- F is the fluence
- $\sigma = N_{events} / F$
- $\delta$ F/F is the uncertainty on the measured fluence (±10%).
- $\delta N_{\text{events}}$  is the variance on the measured number of events.

Assuming that SEE events are random, the probability of events follows a Poisson distribution. The variance on the number of events is calculated from the chi-square distribution for a given confidence level. In this test report, we used a confidence level of 95%.

## 9.1. Test run summary

Run	Part	Config	T°	Time (s)	SEL
1	1	SEL	100	235	Destructive event
2	2	SEL	60	281	Destructive event

Table 6: INA226AIDGSR test run table

SEE detailed results are described in the following sections.



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#### 9.2. SEL test results

#### 9.2.1. SEL LET threshold

The SEL test was performed under SEL test conditions (see Table 5).

#### In SEL test configuration

Destructive event was observed with LET of 43 MeV.cm<sup>2</sup>/mg, Californium heavy ion.

#### 9.2.1. SEL worst case

This section presents the current consumption recorded during the occurrence of a destructive event on the INA226AIDGSR.

#### In SEL test configuration

Destructive event was observed on VCC1 occurred during run No. 1.

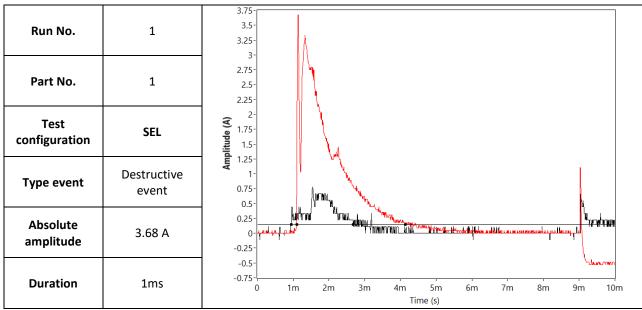


Figure 9: SEL worst case No. 1



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# **10.** Conclusion

The heavy ions test was performed on INA226AIDGSR. The aim of the test was to evaluate the sensitivity of the device versus SEL.

The SEL test was performed under SEL test configuration (see Table 5).

### In SEL test configuration

Destructive event was observed with LET of 43 MeV.cm<sup>2</sup>/mg, Californium heavy ion. Following this result, the heavy ion test campaign has been cancelled.