GENERAL CONCEPTS

Potentiometer configuration

The pin that corresponds to the reading of the wiper is pin B.

A and C are connected to the ends of the resistor, being pin A the initial position and C the final position.



Electric use

Variable resistor

When pins A and B or C and B are connected, the current goes through the wiper (blue line).

Depending on where in the resistor the wiper is placed, it indicates a lower resistive value than the whole resistor would (we say it is used as variable resistor or rheostat). Voltage divider

When a voltage is applied between the ends of the resistor (A and C), the current goes through the resistor, not the wiper.

The wiper sees a proportional share of the voltage applied between the ends (we say this is a Voltage Divider).

The output is a voltage, measured in V.

The output is measured in ohms.





Resistance

Total resistance (RT):

It is the resistance found between the input terminal and the wiper when the latter is positioned to give the maximum value.

Electric noise or contact resistance (Rc):

Noise is any variation in the output signal that does not correspond to a similar variation in the input signal. It appears in the contact point between the resistive element and the wiper. It is measured in Ohms.

This noise can also be measured as "contact resistance variation" (CRV), which is expressed in the percentage of change between the initial resistance and the value of the resistance after a test. It is measured statically and dynamically. ACP's potentiometers have less than 5% CRV.

ACP's standard resistive values

The standard values are as follows, although values out of range can also be studied.

100Ω	200Ω	220Ω	250Ω	470Ω	500Ω	1KΩ	2ΚΩ	2.2KΩ	2.5KΩ	4.7KΩ	5ΚΩ	10KΩ	20KΩ	22KΩ
100	200	220	250	470	500	1K	2K	2K2	2K5	4K7	5K	10K	20K	22K
25KΩ	47KΩ	50KΩ	100KΩ	200KΩ	220K	Ω 2	50KΩ	470KΩ	500KΩ	1MΩ	2MΩ	2.5MΩ	4.7MΩ	5MΩ
25K	47K	50K	100K	200K	220	()	250K	470K	500K	1M	2M	2M5	4M7	5M

Variation laws

The standard taper is linear (A). Log (B) and Antilog (C) tapers are also available, as well as special tapers according to customer's specifications. For example, a special taper can be matched with a potentiometer with detents (click effect), to guarantee a value in a specific position – see bellow.-

ACP can also provide with tapers with different slopes, with areas with constant value or jumps, according to customer's specifications.

Special tapers can be combined with physical detents to match the areas where the customer wants to guarantee a constant value with a particular angular position. This is particularly suitable in applications which can benefit from a feeling of maintained control over the position, for example, regulation of temperature or speed.



Linearity

with a straight line.

The term "linearity" implies that the real law obtained from plotting angular position vs voltage output is compared

Independent linearity (LN)

It is the maximum vertical deviation of the real law from the straight reference line chosen to best minimize the distance from the real line in any position.

It is expressed as a percentage of the total voltage applied.

In the graph below, "K" would be the maximum independent linearity and "k" the line with which the real law is compared.

Absolute Linearity (LA)

It is the maximum vertical deviation of the real law from the straight reference line that runs through specified minimum and maximum points. These points would be zero and 100% of the maximum applied voltage.

In the graph below, "H" would be the maximum absolute linearity of the real law and "h" the theoretical line with which the real line is compared. When some customers are looking for correspondence of angle and value, this is the concept to consider.





Soldering conditions (Lead free, RoHS compliant)*

	Manual soldering	Reflow soldering SMD	Flow (wave) soldering
	Soldering tools of 20W max.	Preheating temperature: Max 150°C; 60-90 s	Recommended Alloy: SnAgCu
	Maximum temperature of soldering tools: 280°C	Temperature Ramp-up: 2-3°C / s.	Preheating stage: Max 100°C; 30-60 s.
	Time: 3 s. max.	Over 220°C:<40 s.	Temperature Ramp-up:1.2-2.5°C/s.
0		Solder temperature: 240°C for 5 ± 1 s.	Max. wave temp.: 260°C for 4s., (245°C recommended)
200		Besides recommended conditions, ACP SMD potentiometers have successfully passed tests at 260°C (air temp) for 10s.	Time within $+0^{\circ}-10^{\circ}C$ of peak: 10s.
			Cooling rate: 5°C/s.

(*) For other information on soldering conditions, please, contact us.