

Negative Low Dropout Adjustable Regulator

General Description

The LM2991 is a low dropout adjustable negative regulator with a output voltage range between -3V to -24V. The LM2991 provides up to 1A of load current and features a \overline{On} /Off pin for remote shutdown capability.

The LM2991 uses new circuit design techniques to provide a low dropout voltage, low quiescent current and low temperature coefficient precision reference. The dropout voltage at 1A load current is typically 0.6V and a guaranteed worst-case maximum of 1V over the entire operating temperature range. The quiescent current is typically 1 mA with a 1A load current and an input-output voltage differential greater than 3V. A unique circuit design of the internal bias supply limits the quiescent current to only 9 mA (typical) when the regulator is in the dropout mode ($V_{OUT} - V_{IN} \leq 3V$).

The LM2991 is short-circuit proof, and thermal shutdown includes hysteresis to enhance the reliability of the device when inadvertently overloaded for extended periods. The LM2991 is available in 5-lead TO-220 and TO-263 packages and is rated for operation over the automotive temperature range of -40° C to $+125^{\circ}$ C. Mil-Aero versions are also available.

Features

- Output voltage adjustable from –3V to –24V, typically –2V to –25V
- Output current in excess of 1A
- Dropout voltage typically 0.6V at 1A load
- Low quiescent current
- Internal short circuit current limit
- Internal thermal shutdown with hysteresis
- TTL, CMOS compatible ON/OFF switch
- Functional complement to the LM2941 series

Applications

- Post switcher regulator
- Local, on-card, regulation
- Battery operated equipment



 $V_{OUT} = V_{REF} (1 + R2/R1)$

*Required if the regulator is located further than 6 inches from the power supply filter capacitors. A 1 µF solid tantalum or a 10 µF aluminum electrolytic capacitor is recommended.

**Required for stability. Must be at least a 10 μF aluminum electrolytic or a 1 μF solid tantalum to maintain stability. May be increased without bound to maintain regulation during transients. Locate the capacitor as close as possible to the regulator. The equivalent series resistance (ESR) is critical, and should be less than 10Ω over the same operating temperature range as the regulator.



Absolute Maximum Ratings (Note 1)

If Military/Aerospace specified devices are required, please contact the National Semiconductor Sales Office/ Distributors for availability and specifications.

Input Voltage-26V to +0.3VESD Susceptibility (Note 2)2 kVPower Dissipation (Note 3)Internally limited

Junction Temperature (T
Jmax)125°CStorage Temperature Range-65°C to +150°CLead Temperature (Soldering, 10 sec.)230°C

Operating Ratings (Note 1)

Junction Temperature Range (T_J) -40° Maximum Input Voltage (Operational)

-40°C to +125°C -26V

Electrical Characteristics

 $V_{IN} = -10V$, $V_O = -3V$, $I_O = 1A$, $C_O = 47 \ \mu$ F, R1 = 2.7 k Ω , $T_J = 25^{\circ}$ C, unless otherwise specified. **Boldface** limits apply over the entire operating junction temperature range.

Parameter	Conditions	Typical	Min	Max	Units
		(Note 4)			
Reference Voltage	$5 \text{ mA} \leq \text{I}_{\text{O}} \leq 1 \text{A}$	-1.210	-1.234	-1.186	v
	$5 \text{ mA} \leq \text{I}_{\text{O}} \leq 1\text{A},$		1 27	1 15	
	$V_{O} - 1V \ge V_{IN} \ge -26V$		-1.27	-1.15	
Output Voltago Bango		-2		-3	v
Oulput voltage Range	$V_{IN} = -26V$	-25	-24		
Line Regulation	$I_0 = 5 \text{ mA}, V_0 - 1 \text{V} \ge V_{\text{IN}} \ge -26 \text{V}$	0.004		0.04	%/V
Load Regulation	50 mA ≤ I _O ≤ 1A	0.04		0.4	%
Dropout Voltage	$I_0 = 0.1A, \Delta V_0 \leq 100 \text{ mV}$	0.1		0.2	V
				0.3	
	$I_{\rm O}$ = 1A, $\Delta V_{\rm O} \le 100 \text{ mV}$	0.6		0.8	v
				1	
Quiescent Current	I _O ≤ 1A	0.7		5	mA
Dropout Quiescent Current	$V_{IN} = V_O, I_O \le 1A$	16		50	mA
Ripple Rejection	$V_{ripple} = 1$ Vrms, $f_{ripple} = 1$ kHz, $I_0 = 5$ mA	60	50		dB
Output Noise	10 Hz – 100 kHz, I _O = 5 mA	200		450	μV
ON /OFF Input Voltage	(V _{OUT} : ON)	1.2		0.8	v
	(V _{OUT} : OFF)	1.3	2.4		
ON /OFF Input Current	$V_{\overline{ON}/OFF} = 0.8V (V_{OUT}: ON)$	0.1		10	μA
	$V_{\overline{ON}/OFF} = 2.4V (V_{OUT}: OFF)$	40		100	
Output Leakage Current	$V_{IN} = -26V, V_{\overline{ON}/OFF} = 2.4V, V_{OUT} = 0V$	60		250	μA
Current Limit	V _{OUT} = 0V	2	1.5		A

Note 1: Absolute Maximum Ratings indicate limits beyond which damage to the device may occur. Operating Ratings indicate conditions for which the device is intended to be functional, but do not guarantee specific performance limits. For guaranteed specifications and test conditions, see the Electrical Characteristics. **Note 2:** Human body model, 100 pF discharged through a 1.5 kΩ resistor.

Note 3: The maximum power dissipation is a function of T_{Jmax} , θ_{JA} and T_A . The maximum allowable power dissipation at any ambient temperature is $P_D = (T_{Jmax} - T_A)/\theta_{JA}$. If this dissipation is exceeded, the die temperature will rise above 125°C and the LM2991 will go into thermal shutdown. For the LM2991, the junction-to-ambient thermal resistance is 53°C/W for the TO-220, 73°C/W for the TO-263, and junction-to-case thermal resistance is 3°C. If the TO-263 package is used, the thermal resistance can be reduced by increasing the PC board copper area thermally connected to the package. Using 0.5 square inches of copper area, θ_{JA} is 50°C/W; with 1 square inch of copper area, θ_{JA} is 37°C/W; and with 1.6 or more square inches of copper area, θ_{JA} is 32°C/W.

Note 4: Typicals are at T_J = 25°C and represent the most likely parametric norm.

Typical Performance Characteristics





1126015







Maximum Output Current



OUTPUT CURRENT (A)

4

1126018

















ON /OFF Control Voltage







1126028

15V

 $V_0 = -12V$

 $-V_0 = -5V$

1126026

-9

50°C

Θ_{JA} = 73°C/V

1

-12 -15 -18

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Application Hints

EXTERNAL CAPACITORS

Like any low-dropout regulator, external capacitors are required to stabilize the control loop. These capacitors must be correctly selected for proper performance.

INPUT CAPACITOR

An input capacitor is required if the regulator is located more than 6 inches from the input power supply filter capacitor (or if no other input capacitor is present).

A solid Tantalum or ceramic capacitor whose value is at least 1 μ F is recommended, but an aluminum electrolytic ($\geq 10 \mu$ F) may be used. However, aluminum electrolytic types should not be used in applications where the ambient temperature can drop below 0°C because their internal impedance increases significantly at cold temperatures.

OUTPUT CAPACITOR

The output capacitor must meet the ESR limits shown in *Figure 1*, which means it must have an ESR between about 25 m Ω and 10 Ω .



FIGURE 1. Output Capacitor ESR Range

A solid Tantalum (value \geq 1 µF) is the best choice for the output capacitor. An aluminum electrolytic (\geq 10 µF) may be used if the ESR is in the stable range.

It should be noted that the ESR of a typical aluminum electrolytic will increase by as much as 50X as the temperature is reduced from 25° C down to -40° C, while a Tantalum will exhibit an ESR increase of about 2X over the same range. For this and other reasons, aluminum electrolytics should not be used in applications where low operating temperatures occur.

The lower stable ESR limit of 25 m Ω means that ceramic capacitors can not be used directly on the output of an LDO. A ceramic ($\geq 2.2 \,\mu$ F) can be used on the output if some external resistance is placed in series with it (1 Ω recommended). Di-

electric types X7R or X5R must be used if the temperature range of the application varies more than $\pm 25^{\circ}$ from ambient to assure the amount of capacitance is sufficient.

CERAMIC BYPASS CAPACITORS

Many designers place distributed ceramic capacitors whose value is in the range of 1000 pF to 0.1 μ F at the power input pins of the IC's across a circuit board. These can cause reduced phase margin or oscillations in LDO regulators.

The advent of multi-layer boards with dedicated power and ground planes has removed the trace inductance that (previously) provided the necessary "de-coupling" to shield the output of the LDO from the effects of bypass capacitors.

These capacitors should be avoided if possible, and kept as far away from the LDO output as is practical.

MINIMUM LOAD

A minimum load current of 500 μA is required for proper operation. The external resistor divider can provide the minimum load, with the resistor from the adjust pin to ground set to 2.4 k $\Omega.$

SETTING THE OUTPUT VOLTAGE

The output voltage of the LM2991 is set externally by a resistor divider using the following equation:

$$V_{OUT} = V_{REF} x (1 + R_2/R_1) - (I_{ADJ} x R_2)$$

where $V_{\text{REF}} = -1.21$ V. The output voltage can be programmed within the range of -3V to -24V, typically an even greater range of -2V to -25V. The adjust pin current is about 60 nA, causing a slight error in the output voltage. However, using resistors lower than 100 k Ω makes the error due to the adjust pin current negligible. For example, neglecting the adjust pin current, and setting R2 to 100 k Ω and V_{OUT} to -5V, results in an output voltage error of only 0.16%.

ON/OFF PIN

The LM2991 regulator can be turned off by applying a TTL or CMOS level high signal to the \overline{ON}/OFF pin. The impedance of the voltage source driving the \overline{ON}/OFF pin should be low enough to source the \overline{ON}/OFF pin input current to meet the OFF threshold voltage level, 100 μ A maximum at 2.4V.

If the \overline{ON}/OFF function is not needed, the pin should be connected to Ground. The \overline{ON}/OFF pin should not be left floating, as this is not a guaranteed operating condition.

See the Adjustable Current Sink Application, Figure 3

FORCING THE OUTPUT POSITIVE

Due to an internal clamp circuit, the LM2991 can withstand positive voltages on its output. If the voltage source pulling the output positive is DC, the current must be limited to 1.5A. A current over 1.5A fed back into the LM2991 could damage the device. The LM2991 output can also withstand fast positive voltage transients up to 26V, without any current limiting of the source. However, if the transients have a duration of over 1 ms, the output should be clamped with a Schottky diode to ground.

Typical Applications







1126010

FIGURE 3. Adjustable Current Sink



Physical Dimensions inches (millimeters) unless otherwise noted



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Notes

Notes

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