DEMO MANUAL DC339-A/-B
LOW DROPOUT REGULATOR

LT1762/LT1962
150mA and 300mA Low Noise Micropower LDO Regulators

DESCRIPTION
Demonstration circuits DC339-A/DC339-B are low noise micropower voltage regulators using the LT®1762 and LT1962 in the 8-lead MSOP package. These circuits are primarily used in cellular phones, voltage-controlled oscillators and RF power supplies, and as local regulators in larger systems. Their ability to tolerate a wide variety of output capacitors makes them ideal in space- and cost-sensitive systems.

Note: LTC and LT are registered trademarks of Linear Technology Corporation.

PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

$T_A = 25^\circ C$, $V_{IN} = 2.3V$, $V_{SHDN} = 5V$, $I_{LOAD} = 1mA$, $V_{OUT} = 1.22V$ (JP2 set on pins 1 and 2), unless otherwise specified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARAMETER</th>
<th>CONDITIONS</th>
<th>MIN</th>
<th>TYP</th>
<th>MAX</th>
<th>UNITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Input Voltage Range</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output Voltage (Note 1)</td>
<td>$V_{IN} = 3.5V$, JP2 On Pins 5, 6</td>
<td>1.205</td>
<td>1.220</td>
<td>1.235</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$V_{IN} = 4V$, JP2 On Pins 7, 8</td>
<td>2.455</td>
<td>2.506</td>
<td>2.571</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$V_{IN} = 4.3V$, JP2 On Pins 9, 10</td>
<td>2.936</td>
<td>3.019</td>
<td>3.103</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$V_{IN} = 5V$, JP2 On Pins 11, 12</td>
<td>3.207</td>
<td>3.300</td>
<td>3.396</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4.848</td>
<td>5.006</td>
<td>5.167</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line Regulation</td>
<td>$\Delta V_{IN} = 2.3V$ to $20V$</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>mV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiescent Current</td>
<td>$I_{LOAD} = 0$</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td>$\mu A$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Load Regulation</td>
<td>$\Delta I_{LOAD} = 1mA$ to $150mA$ (DC339-A) or $300mA$ (DC339-B)</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHDN Pin Threshold</td>
<td>On to Off</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td></td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Off to On, $I_{LOAD} = 150mA$ (DC339-A) or $300mA$ (DC339-B)</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td></td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output Voltage Noise</td>
<td>$I_{LOAD} = 150mA$ (DC339-A) or $300mA$ (DC339-B) $BW = 10Hz$ to $100kHz$</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$\mu V_{RMS}$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 1: Output voltage variations include ±1% tolerance of feedback divider network. For tighter voltage range, use lower tolerance resistors or use fixed voltage output devices.

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS AND BOARD PHOTO

LT1762 Typical Dropout Voltage

LT1762 (5V Output)
10Hz to 100kHz Output Noise

Component Side
PACKAGE AND SCHEMATIC DIAGRAMS

LT1762/LT1962 150mA/300mA Low Noise Micropower LDO Regulator

Figure 1. LT1762/LT1962 150mA/300mA Low Noise Micropower LDO Regulator
**OPERATION**

**HOOK-UP**

Solid turret terminals are provided for easy connection to supplies and test equipment. Connect a 0V to 20V, 0.5A power supply across the IN and GND terminals and the load across the OUT and GND terminals. The SHDN pin can be disconnected from IN via JP1 to allow for separate shutdown control via a secondary control line. JP2 can be used to select any of a number of common fixed output voltages, or used in conjunction with ADJ1 to create a custom output voltage using the formula:

\[
\text{ADJ1} = \frac{(V_{\text{OUT}} - 1.22V)}{4.93\mu\text{A}}
\]

**OUTPUT CAPACITOR SELECTION**

The output capacitor C3 is a 10μF X7R ceramic chip capacitor. Should a different output capacitor be desired, care must be exercised with the selection. Many ceramic capacitor dielectrics exhibit strong temperature and voltage characteristics that reduce their effective capacitance to as low as 10% to 20% of nominal over the full range. For further information, see Linear Technology Application Note 83, “Performance Verification of Low Noise, Low Dropout Regulators,” Appendix B, “Capacitor Selection Considerations,” reprinted below.

**CAPACITOR SELECTION CONSIDERATIONS**

**Bypass Capacitance and Low Noise Performance**

Adding a capacitor between the regulator’s V\text{OUT} and BYP pins lowers output noise. A good quality, low leakage capacitor is recommended. This capacitor bypasses the regulator’s reference, providing a low frequency noise pole. A 0.01μF capacitor lowers the output voltage noise to 20μV\text{RMS}. Using a bypass capacitor also improves transient response. With no bypassing and a 10μF output capacitor, a 10mA to 500mA load step settles within 1% of final value in under 100μs. With a 0.01μF bypass capacitor, the output settles within 1% for the same load step in under 10μs; total output deviation is inside 2.5%. Regulator start-up time is inversely proportional to bypass capacitor size, slowing to 15ms with a 0.01μF bypass capacitor and 10μF at the output.
**Operation**

Output Capacitance and Transient Response

The regulators are designed to be stable with a wide range of output capacitors. Output capacitor ESR affects stability, most notably with small capacitors. A 3.3µF minimum output value with ESR of 3Ω or less is recommended to prevent oscillation. Transient response is a function of output capacitance. Larger values of output capacitance decrease peak deviations, providing improved transient response for large load current changes. Bypass capacitors, used to decouple individual components powered by the regulator, increase the effective output capacitor value. Larger values of reference bypass capacitance dictate larger output capacitors. For 100pF of bypass capacitance, 4.7µF of output capacitor is recommended. With 1000pF or more of bypass capacitance, a 6.8µF output capacitor is required.

The shaded regions of Figures B1 and B2 define the regulator’s stability range. Minimum ESR needed is set by the amount of bypass capacitance used, while maximum ESR is 3Ω.

Ceramic Capacitors

Ceramic capacitors require extra consideration. They are manufactured with a variety of dielectrics, each with different behavior across temperature and applied voltage. The most common dielectrics are Z5U, Y5V, X5R and X7R. The Z5U and Y5V dielectrics provide high capacitance in a small package, but exhibit strong voltage and temperature coefficients, as shown in Figures B3 and B4. Used with a 5V regulator, a 10µF Y5V capacitor shows values as low as 1µF to 2µF over the operating temperature range. The X5R and X7R dielectrics have more stable characteristics and are more suitable for output capacitor use. The X7R type has better stability over temperature, while the X5R is less expensive and available in higher values.

Voltage and temperature coefficients are not the only problem sources. Some ceramic capacitors have a piezoelectric response. A piezoelectric device generates voltage across its terminals due to mechanical stress, similar to the way a piezoelectric accelerometer or microphone works. For a ceramic capacitor, the stress can be induced by vibrations in the system or thermal transients. The resulting voltages can cause appreciable amounts of noise, especially when a ceramic capacitor is used for noise bypassing. A ceramic capacitor produced Figure B5’s trace in response to light tapping from a pencil. Similar vibration-induced behavior can masquerade as increased output voltage noise.
OUTPUT VOLTAGE NOISE

Measuring output voltage noise can be a tricky process, further complicated by the low levels of noise inherent in a circuit such as this. Consideration must be given to regulator operating conditions, as well as the noise bandwidth of interest. Linear Technology has invested an enormous amount of time to provide accurate, relevant data to customers regarding noise performance. For further information on measuring output voltage noise, see Linear Technology Application Note 83, “Performance Verification of Low Noise, Low Dropout Regulators.”

Noise Testing Considerations

What noise bandwidth is of interest and why is it interesting? In most systems, the range of 10Hz to 100kHz is the information signal processing area of concern. Additionally, linear regulators produce little noise energy outside this region. These considerations suggest a measurement bandpass of 10Hz to 100kHz, with steep slopes at the band limits. Figure 2 shows a conceptual filter for LDO noise testing. The Butterworth sections are the key to steep slopes and flatness in the passband. The small input level requires 60dB of low noise gain to provide adequate signal for the Butterworth filters. Figure 3 details the filter scheme. The regulator under test is at the diagram’s center. A1–A3 make up a 60dB gain highpass section. A1 and A2, extremely low noise devices (<1nV/√Hz), comprise a 60dB gain stage with a 5Hz highpass input. A3 provides a 10Hz, 2nd order Butterworth highpass characteristic. The LTC®1562 filter block is arranged as a 4th order Butterworth lowpass. Its output is delivered via the 330μF-100Ω highpass network. The circuit’s output drives a thermally responding RMS voltmeter. Note that all circuit power is furnished by batteries, precluding ground loops from corrupting the measurement.

Note 1: Switching regulators are an entirely different proposition, requiring very broadband noise measurement.

Note 2: Component choice for the regulator, more critical than might be supposed, is discussed in “Capacitor Selection Considerations.”

Note 3: The choice of the RMS voltmeter is absolutely crucial to obtaining meaningful measurements. See Appendix C, Application Note 83 “Understanding and Selecting RMS Voltmeters.”
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OPERATION

Figure 2. Filter Structure for Noise Testing LDOs. Butterworth Sections Provide Appropriate Response in Desired Frequency Range

Figure 3. Implementation of Figure 2. Low Noise Amplifiers Provide Gain and Initial Highpass Shaping. LTC1562 Filter Supplies 4th Order Butterworth Lowpass Characteristic
NOTES: UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED
1. MATERIAL: FR4 OR EQUIVALENT EPOXY, 2 OZ COPPER CLAD, THICKNESS 0.062 ±0.006 TOTAL OF 2 LAYERS
2. FINISH: ALL PLATED HOLES 0.001 MIN/0.0015 MAX COPPER PLATE, ELECTRODEPOSITED TIN-LEAD COMPOSITION BEFORE REFLOW, SOLDER MASK OVER BARE COPPER (SMOBC)
3. SOLDER MASK: BOTH SIDES USING LPI OR EQUIVALENT
4. SILKSCREEN: USING WHITE NONCONDUCTIVE EPOXY INK
5. UNUSED SMD COMPONENTS SHOULD BE FREE OF SOLDER
6. FILL UP ALL VIAS WITH SOLDER
7. SCORING

### Symbol, Diameter, Number of Holes, Plated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SYMBOL</th>
<th>DIAMETER</th>
<th>NUMBER OF HOLES</th>
<th>PLATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>0.020</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>PLTD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>0.060</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>PLTD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>0.070</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>NPLTD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL HOLES</td>
<td>17</td>
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</table>