

AP8800A

COST EFFECTIVE 28V BUCK 1W LED DRIVER

SW $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 5 & V_{\text{IN}} \ \hline \end{array}$

SOT25

(Top View)

4 SET

Description

The AP8800A is a step-down DC/DC converter designed to drive LEDs with a constant current. The device can drive up to 7 LEDs, depending on the forward voltage of the LEDs, in series from a voltage source of 8V to 28V. Series connection of the LEDs provides identical LED currents resulting in uniform brightness and eliminating the requirement for ballast resistors. The AP8800A switches at frequency up to 600kHz. This allows the use of small size external components, hence minimizing the needed PCB area.

Maximum output current of AP8800A is set via an external resistor connected between the V_{IN} and SET input pins. Dimming is achieved by applying either a DC voltage or a PWM signal at the CTRL input pin. An input voltage of 0.2V or lower at CTRL switches off the output MOSFET simplifying PWM dimming.

Features

- LED Driving Current up to 370mA
- Better than 5% Accuracy
- High Efficiency up to 95%
- Operating Input Voltage from 8V to 28V
- Simple, Versatile Solution Requiring only 4 Components
- PWM/DC Input For Dimming Control
- Built-In Output Open-Circuit Protection
- TSOT25: Available in "Green" Molding Compound (No Br, Sb) with Lead Free Finish/ RoHS Compliant
- **Totally Lead-Free & Fully RoHS Compliant (Notes 1 & 2)**
- **Halogen and Antimony Free. "Green" Device (Note 3)**

Notes: 1. No purposely added lead. Fully EU Directive 2002/95/EC (RoHS), 2011/65/EU (RoHS 2) & 2015/863/EU (RoHS 3) compliant.

- 2. See [https://www.diodes.com/quality/lead-](https://www.diodes.com/quality/lead-free/)free/ for more information about Diodes Incorporated's definitions of Halogen- and Antimony-free, "Green" and Lead-free.
	- 3. Halogen and Antimony free "Green" products are defined as those which contain <900ppm bromine, <900ppm chlorine (<1500ppm total Br + Cl) and <1000ppm antimony compounds.

Typical Applications Circuit

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Applications

MR16 Lamps

Pin Assignments

General Illumination Lamps

CTRL $\sqrt{3}$

GND \vert 2

Pin Descriptions

Functional Block Diagram

Absolute Maximum Ratings (@TA = +25°C, unless otherwise specified.)

Caution: Stresses greater than the '*Absolute Maximum Ratings*' specified above, can cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only; functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions exceeding those indicated in this specification is not implied. Device reliability can be affected by exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods of time.

 Semiconductor devices are ESD sensitive and can be damaged by exposure to ESD events. Suitable ESD precautions should be taken when handling and transporting these devices.

Recommended Operating Conditions ($@T_A = +25°C$, unless otherwise specified.)

Note: 4. Dependent on junction and ambient temperature.

Electrical Characteristics (@T_{A = +25°C, V_{IN} = 12V, unless otherwise specified.)}

Note: 5. Test condition for TSOT25: Device mounted on FR-4 PCB (25mm x 25mm 1oz copper, minimum recommended pad layout on top layer and thermal vias to bottom layer ground plane. For better thermal performance, larger copper pad for heat-sink is needed.

AP8800A

Typical Characteristics

Typical Characteristics (continued)

AP8800A Operation

The AP8800A is a hysteretic LED current switching regulator sometimes known as an equal ripple switching regulator. In normal operation, when voltage is applied at $+V_{\text{IN}}$ (See Figure 1), the AP8800A internal switch is turned on. Current starts to flow through sense resistor R_1 , inductor L1, and the LEDs. The current ramps up linearly, and the ramp rate is determined by the input voltage $+V_{IN}$, and the inductor L1 (See Figure 2).

Figure 1 Typical Configuration Figure 2 Typical Switching Waveform

This rising current produces a voltage ramp across R_{SET}. The internal circuit of the AP8800A senses the voltage across R_{SET} and applies a proportional voltage to the input of the internal comparator.

When this voltage reaches an internally set upper threshold, the internal switch is turned off. The inductor current continues to flow through RSET, L1, the LEDs and the schottky diode D1, and back to the supply rail, but it decays, with the rate of decay determined by the forward voltage drop of the LEDs and the schottky diode.

This decaying current produces a falling voltage at R_{SET}, which is sensed by the AP8800A. A voltage proportional to the sense voltage across R_{SET} is applied at the input of the internal comparator. When this voltage falls to the internally set lower threshold, the internal switch is turned on again. This switch-on-and-off cycle continues to provide the average LED current set by the sense resistor RSET, with a switching current determined by the input voltage and LED chain voltage.

In normal operation the off time is relatively constant (determined mainly by the LED chain voltage) with only the on-time varying as the input voltage changes. At duty cycles up to around 80% the ramp of the LED/switch current is very linear; however, as the duty cycle approaches 95% the LED current ramp starts to become more exponential. This has two effects:

- 1. The overall on time starts to increase lowering the overall switching frequency.
- 2. The average LED current starts to increase which may impact accuracy.

LED Current Control

With the CTRL pin left floating and the external current sense resistor, R_{SET} (greater than 0.3 Ω) is connected between V_{IN} and SET, the nominal average output current in the LEDs is:

$$
I_{LED} = \frac{V_{TH}}{R_{SET}}
$$

where V_{TH} is nominally 100mV

Inductor Selection

A 68μH inductor or higher, is recommended for most AP8800A applications with input voltage at 12V.

Figure 3 displays the resulting switching frequency with various main circuit parameters: Supply voltage, Inductor value and number of LEDs to be driven.

Figure 3 Switching Frequency vs. Supply Voltage, Inductor, and Number of LEDs

Capacitor Selection

A low ESR capacitor should be used for input decoupling, as the ESR of this capacitor appears in series with the supply source impedance and lowers overall efficiency. This capacitor has to supply the relatively high peak current to the coil and smooth the current ripple on the input supply. A minimum value of 1μF is acceptable if the DC input source is close to the device, but higher values will improve performance at lower input voltages, especially when the source impedance is high. The input capacitor should be placed as close as possible to the IC. For AC input sources a bigger capacitor $(300\mu$ F in the case of 12C AC) to guarantee the accuracy of the LED current.

For maximum stability over temperature and voltage, capacitors with X7R, X5R, or better dielectric are recommended. Capacitors with Y5V dielectric are not suitable for decoupling in this application and should **NOT** be used.

Diode Selection

For maximum efficiency and performance, the rectifier (D1) should be a fast low capacitance SBR diode with low reverse leakage at the maximum operating voltage and temperature. The recommended diode for use with this part is the SBR1A40, with a current rating above the peak coil current and a continuous current rating higher than the maximum output load current. It is very important to consider the reverse leakage of the diode when operating above +85°C. Excess leakage will increase the power dissipation in the device.

LED Current Dimming

The LED current can be dimmed in two ways;

- 1. Analog Dimming: Where a dc voltage is applied to the CTRL pin
- 2. PWM Dimming: Where a Pulse Width Modulated (PWM) signal is applied to the CTRL pin.

Analog Dimming

or

If the CTRL pin is driven by an external voltage (lower than 2.5V), the average LED current in this case is:

$$
I_{LED} = \frac{V_{CTRL}}{V_{REF}} \times \frac{V_{TH}}{R_{SET}}
$$

A DC signal from 0.3V to 2.5V applied to the CTRL pin will vary the LED current from 24% to 200% of nominal LED current. This provides an approximate 8:1 dimming range; it should be exercised when overdriving the CTRL pin to 200% of nominal LED current not to exceed the power dissipation of the package.

The graph in Figure 4 shows values of nominal average output current for 3 values of current setting resistor (R_{SET}) in the typical application circuit shown on Figure 1, for different voltages applied on the CTRL pin.

PWM Dimming

A PWM signal with a max resolution of 8bit can be applied to CTRL pin, which regulates the output current to a value below the nominal average set by resistor RSET. The PWM dimming gives a wider average LED current variation and is more accurate at lower average LED currents than by applying dc voltage to the CTRL pin to achieve average LED current dimming.

Figure 5 shows the typical PWM response of the AP8800A. An internal filter produces a rump.

Figure 5 Typical PWM Dimming Waveform

The recommended method of driving the CTRL pin and controlling the amplitude of the PWM waveform is to use a small NPN switching transistor as shown below:

Figure 6 Open Collector PWM Dimming Circuit

This scheme uses the 200k resistor between the ADJ pin and the internal voltage reference as a pull-up resistor for the external transistor eg MMBT3904.

Soft-Start

An external capacitor from the CTRL pin to ground will provide soft-start delay, by increasing the time taken for the voltage on this pin to rise to the turn-on threshold and by slowing down the rate of rise of the control voltage at the input of the comparator.

The soft-start time is 0.5ms/nF.

Fault Conditions

The AP8800A is inherently protected against open-LED conditions. If one LED becomes open circuit the device automatically stops switching and will only restart if the open-LED fault is removed.

If one or more LEDs should become shorted together then the switching frequency and duty cycle will change. If one or more LEDs get shorted together, the ramp-up time of LED current will become shorter due to there being a larger voltage across the inductor. However, the ramp-down time of the LED current will increase due to the voltage across the inductor becoming smaller.

Figure 7 below shows the AP8800A driving 3 LEDs when all 3 LEDs become shorted together. Due to the large voltage change across the inductor during both LED current ramp-up and ramp-down we see a large difference in switching frequency.

Figure 7 LED Short Fault Condition

Thermal Considerations

The graph below in Figure 8, gives details for the power derating of the AP8800AWT. This assumes the device to be mounted on a 25mm x 25mm PCB with 1oz copper standing in still air.

Figure 8 Derating Curve

Application Example

The typical application for the AP8800A is the MR16 application driving 1W rated LEDs from a 12V supply.

AP8800A Component List

Ordering Information

7 : 7" Tape & Reel

Package Outline Dimensions (All dimensions in mm.)

Please see [http://www.diodes.com/package-outlines.html fo](http://www.diodes.com/package-outlines.html)r the latest version.

TSOT25

Suggested Pad Layout

Please see [http://www.diodes.com/package-outlines.html fo](http://www.diodes.com/package-outlines.html)r the latest version.

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