National Semiconductor

LM2931 Series Low Dropout Regulators

General Description

The LM2931 positive voltage regulator features a very low quiescent current of 1 mA or less when supplying 10 mA loads. This unique characteristic and the extremely low input-output differential required for proper regulation (0.2V for output currents of 10 mA) make the LM2931 the ideal regulator for standby power systems. Applications include memory standby circuits, CMOS and other low power processor power supplies as well as systems demanding as much as 100 mA of output current.

Designed originally for automotive applications, the LM2931 and all regulated circuitry are protected from reverse battery installations or 2 battery jumps. During line transients, such as a load dump (60V) when the input voltage to the regulator can momentarily exceed the specified maximum operating voltage, the regulator will automatically shut down to protect both internal circuits and the load. The LM2931 cannot be harmed by temporary mirror-image insertion. Familiar regulator features such as short circuit and thermal overload protection are also provided.

Fixed output of 5V is available in the plastic TO-220 power package or the popular TO-92 package. An adjustable output version, with on/off switch, is available in a 5-lead TO-220 package.

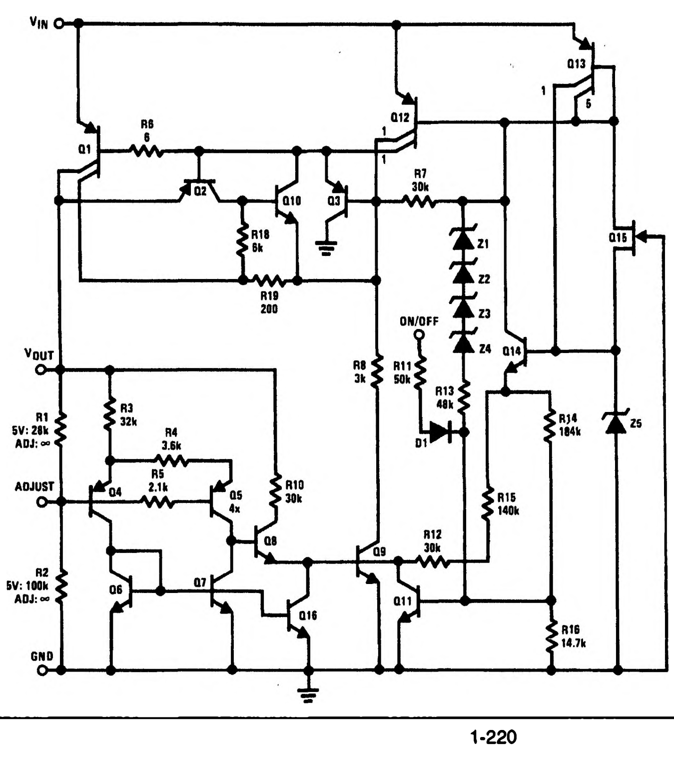
Features

- Very low quiescent current
- Output current in excess of 100 mA
- Input-output differential less than 0.6V
- Reverse battery protection
- 60V load dump protection
- −50V reverse transient protection
- Short circuit protection
- Internal thermal overload protection
- Mirror-image insertion protection
- Available in plastic TO-220 or TO-92
- Available as adjustable with TTL compatible switch
- 100% electrical burn-in in thermal limit

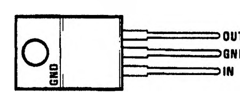
Output Voltage Options

LM2931T-5.0	5V	LM2931AT-5.0	5V
LM2931Z-5.0	5V	LM2931AZ-5.0	5V
LM2931CT	Adjustable from 3V to 26V		

Schematic and Connection Diagrams



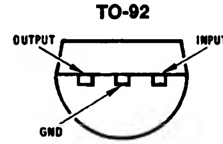
TO-220 3-Lead



Front View

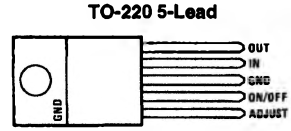
Order Number LM2931
See NS Package T03B, Z03A, T05A

TO-92



Bottom View

TO-220 5-Lead



Front View

TL/H/5254–1

Absolute Maximum Ratings

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

Input Voltage	26V
Operating Range	
Overvoltage Protection	
LM2931A, LM2931CT Adjustable	60V
LM2931	50V
Internal Power Dissipation (Note 1)	Internally Limited
Operating Temperature Range	−40°C to +85°C
Maximum Junction Temperature	125°C
Storage Temperature Range	−65°C to +150°C
Lead Temp. (Soldering, 10 seconds)	230°C

Electrical Characteristics

V_{IN} = 14V, I_O = 10 mA, T_J = 25°C (Note 1), C2 = 100 μF (unless otherwise specified)

Parameter	Conditions	LM2931A-5.0 Typ	LM2931A-5.0 Test Limit (Note 2)	LM2931A-5.0 Design Limit (Note 3)	LM2931-5.0 Typ	LM2931-5.0 Tested Limit (Note 2)	LM2931-5.0 Design Limit (Note 3)	Units Limit
Output Voltage		5	5.19 4.81			5.25 4.75		V_{MAX} V_{MIN}
	$6.0V \le V_{IN} \le 26V$, I_O 100 mA $-40°C \le T_j \le 125°C$			5.25 4.75			5.5 4.5	V_{MAX} V_{MIN}
Line Regulation	$9V \le V_{IN} \le 16V$ $6V \le V_{IN} \le 26V$	2 4	10 30		2 4	10 30		mV_{MAX} mV_{MAX}
Load Regulation	$5\ mA \le I_O \le 100\ mA$	14	50		14	50		mV_{MAX}
Output Impedance	100 mA_{DC} and 10 mA_{rms}, 100 Hz–10 kHz	200		600	200			$m\Omega_{MAX}$
Quiescent Current	$I_O \le 10$ mA, $6V \le V_{IN} \le 26V$ $-40°C \le T_j \le 125°C$ $I_O = 100$ mA, $V_{IN} = 14V$, $T_j = 25°C$	0.4 15	1.0	1.0 30 5	0.4 15	1.0	1.0	mA_{MAX} mA_{MIN} mA_{MAX} mA_{MIN}
Output Noise Voltage	10 Hz–100 kHz, C_{OUT} = 100 μF	500		1000	500			$\mu V_{rms_{MAX}}$
Long Term Stability		20		50	20			mV/1000 hr
Ripple Rejection	$f_O = 120$ Hz	80		55	80			dB_{MIN}
Dropout Voltage	$I_O = 10$ mA $I_O = 100$ mA	0.05 0.3	0.2 0.6		0.05 0.3	0.2 0.6		V_{MAX} V_{MAX}
Maximum Operational Input Voltage		33	 26		33	 26		V_{MAX} V_{MIN}
Maximum Line Transient	$R_L = 500\Omega$, $V_O \le 5.5V$, 100 ms	70	60		70	50		V_{MIN}
Reverse Polarity Input Voltage, DC	$V_O \ge -0.3V$, $R_L = 500\Omega$	−30	−15		−30	−15		V_{MIN}
Reverse Polarity Input Voltage, Transient	1% Duty Cycle, $\tau \le 100$ ms, $R_L = 500\Omega$	−80	−50		−80	−50		V_{MIN}

Note 1: To ensure constant junction temperature, low duty cycle pulse testing is used.

Note 2: Guaranteed and 100% production tested.

Note 3: Guaranteed (but not 100% production tested) over the operating temperature and input current ranges. These limits are not used to calculate outgoing quality levels.

Note 4: Thermal resistance junction-to-case (θ_{jc}) is 3°C/W; case-to-ambient is 50°C/W.

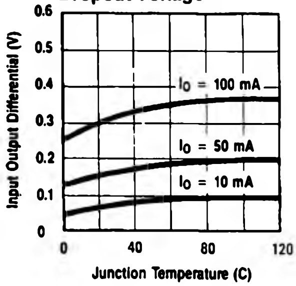
Electrical Characteristics for Adjustable LM2931CT

V_{IN} = 14V, V_{OUT} = 3V, I_O = 10 mA, T_J = 25°C (Note 1), R1 = 27k, C2 = 100 μF (unless otherwise specified)

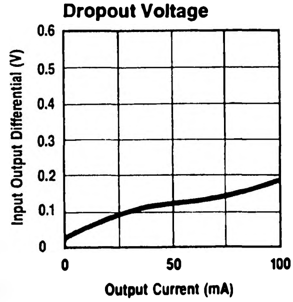
Parameter	Conditions	Typ	Tested Limit	Design Limit	Units Limit
Reference Voltage		1.20	1.26 1.14		V_{MAX} V_{MIN}
	$I_O \leq 100$ mA, $-40°C \leq T_j = \leq 125°C$, R1 = 27k Measured from V_{OUT} to Adjust Pin			1.32 1.08	V_{MAX} V_{MIN}
Output Voltage Range			24 3		V_{MAX} V_{MIN}
Line Regulation	$V_{OUT} + 0.6V \leq V_{IN} \leq 26V$	0.2	1.5		mV/V_{MAX}
Load Regulation	5 mA $\leq I_O \leq$ 100 mA	0.3	1		$\%_{MAX}$
Output Impedance	100 mA_{DC} and 10 mA_{rms}, 100 Hz–10 kHz	40			mΩ/V
Quiescent Current	I_O = 10 mA I_O = 100 mA During Shutdown R_L = 500Ω	0.4 15 0.8	1 1		mA_{MAX} mA mA_{MAX}
Output Noise Voltage	10 Hz–100 kHz	100			μV_{rms}/V
Long Term Stability		0.4			%/1000 hr
Ripple Rejection	f_O = 120 Hz	0.02			%/V
Dropout Voltage	$I_O \leq$ 10 mA I_O = 100 mA	0.05 0.3	0.2 0.6		V_{MAX} V_{MAX}
Maximum Operational Input Voltage		33	26		V_{MIN}
Maximum Line Transient	I_O = 10 mA, Reference Voltage $\leq$ 1.5V	70	60		V_{MIN}
Reverse Polarity Input Voltage, DC	$V_O \geq -0.3V$, R_L = 500Ω	−30	−15		V_{MIN}
Reverse Polarity Input Voltage, Transient	1% Duty Cycle, T $\leq$ 100 ms, R_L = 500Ω	−80	−50		V_{MIN}
On/Off Threshold Voltage On Off	V_O = 3V	 2.0 2.2	 1.2 3.25		 V_{MAX} V_{MIN}
On/Off Threshold Current		20	50		μA_{MAX}

Typical Performance Characteristics

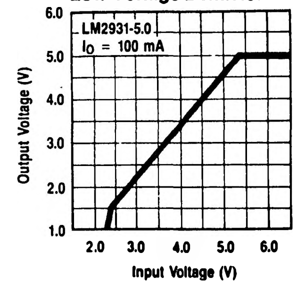
Dropout Voltage



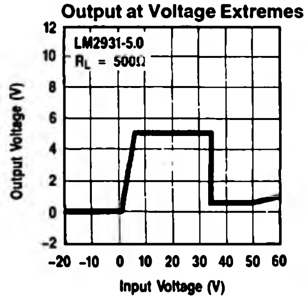
Dropout Voltage



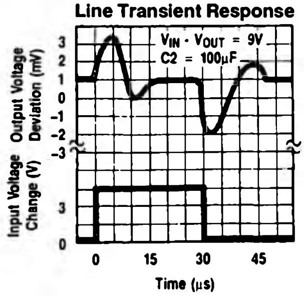
Low Voltage Behavior



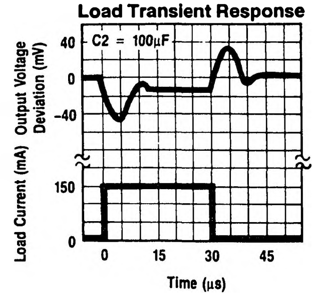
Output at Voltage Extremes



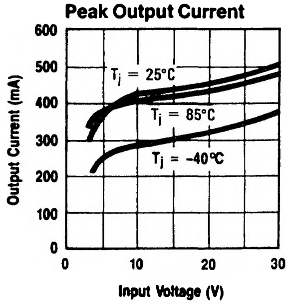
Line Transient Response



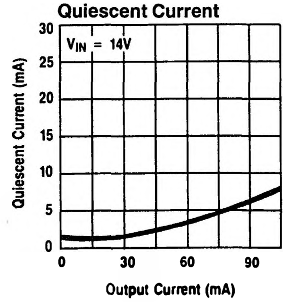
Load Transient Response



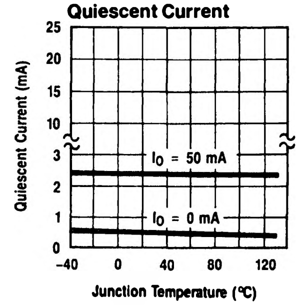
Peak Output Current



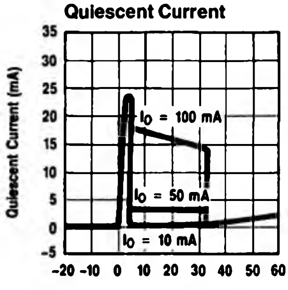
Quiescent Current



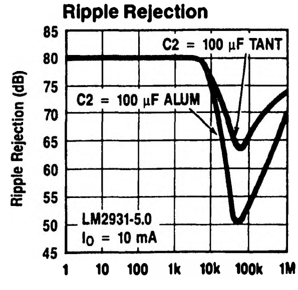
Quiescent Current



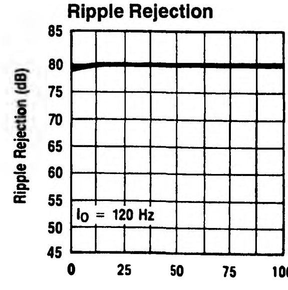
Quiescent Current



Ripple Rejection



Ripple Rejection



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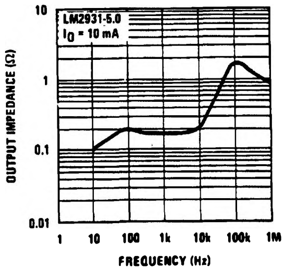
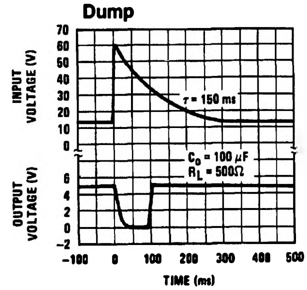
Typical Performance Characteristics (Continued)

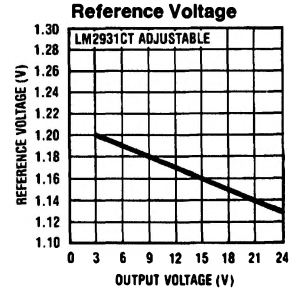
Output Impedance



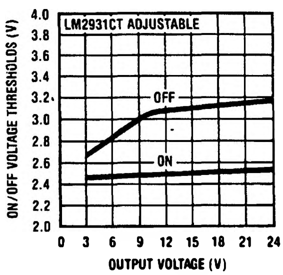
Operation During Load Dump



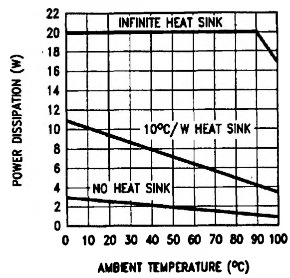
Reference Voltage



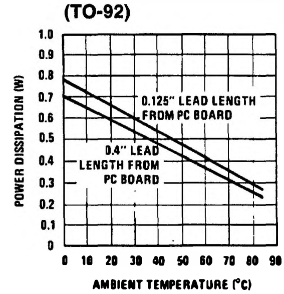
On/Off Threshold



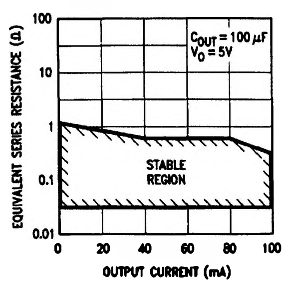
Maximum Power Dissipation (TO-220)



Maximum Power Dissipation (TO-92)

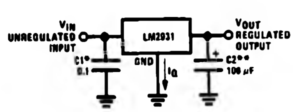


Output Capacitor ESR



TL/H/5254-3

Typical Applications

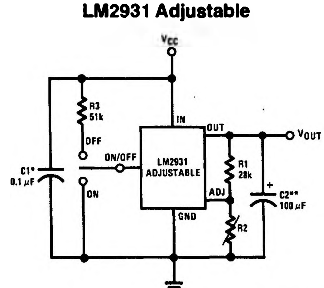


TL/H/5254-4

$$V_{OUT} = \text{Reference Voltage} \times \frac{R1 + R2}{R1}$$

Note: Using 28k for R1 will automatically compensate for errors in V_{OUT} due to the input bias current of the ADJ pin (approximately 1 μA).

LM2931 Adjustable



TL/H/5254-5

*Required if regulator is located far from power supply filter.

**C_{OUT} must be at least 100 μF to maintain stability. May be increased without bound to maintain regulation during transients. Locate as close as possible to the regulator. This capacitor must be rated over the same operating temperature range as the regulator. The equivalent series resistance (ESR) of this capacitor is critical; see curve.

Application Hints

One of the distinguishing factors of the LM2931 series regulators is the requirement of an output capacitor for device stability. The value required varies greatly depending upon the application circuit and other factors. Thus some comments on the characteristics of both capacitors and the regulator are in order.

High frequency characteristics of electrolytic capacitors depend greatly on the type and even the manufacturer. As a result, a value of capacitance that works well with the LM2931 for one brand or type may not necessary be sufficient with an electrolytic of different origin. Sometimes actual bench testing, as described later, will be the only means to determine the proper capacitor and value. Experience has shown that, as a rule of thumb, the more expensive and higher quality electrolytics generally allow a smaller value for regulator stability. As an example, while a high-quality 100 μF aluminum electrolytic covers all general application circuits, similar stability can be obtained with a tantalum electrolytic of only 47 μF. This factor of two can generally be applied to any special application circuit also.

Another critical characteristic of electrolytics is their performance over temperature. While the LM2931 is designed to operate to $-40°C$, the same is not always true with all electrolytics (hot is generally not a problem). The electrolyte in many aluminum types will freeze around $-30°C$, reducing their effective value to zero. Since the capacitance is needed for regulator stability, the natural result is oscillation (and lots of it) at the regulator output. For all application circuits where cold operation is necessary, the output capacitor must be rated to operate at the minimum temperature. By coincidence, worst-case stability for the LM2931 also occurs at minimum temperatures. As a result, in applications where the regulator junction temperature will never be less than 25°C, the output capacitor can be reduced approximately by a factor of two over the value needed for the entire temperature range. To continue our example with the tantalum electrolytic, a value of only 22 μF would probably thus suffice. For high-quality aluminum, 47 μF would be adequate in such an application.

Another regulator characteristic that is noteworthy is that stability decreases with higher output currents. This sensible fact has important connotations. In many applications, the LM2931 is operated at only a few milliamps of output current or less. In such a circuit, the output capacitor can be further reduced in value. As a rough estimation, a circuit that is required to deliver a maximum of 10 mA of output current from the regulator would need an output capacitor of only half the value compared to the same regulator required to deliver the full output current of 100 mA. If the example of the tantalum capacitor in the circuit rated at 25°C junction temperature and above were continued to include a maximum of 10 mA of output current, then the 22 μF output capacitor could be reduced to only 10 μF.

In the case of the LM2931CT adjustable regulator, the minimum value of output capacitance is a function of the output voltage. As a general rule, the value decreases with higher output voltages, since internal loop gain is reduced.

At this point, the procedure for bench testing the minimum value of an output capacitor in a special application circuit should be clear. Since worst-case occurs at minimum operating temperatures and maximum operating currents, the entire circuit, including the electrolytic, should be cooled to the minimum temperature. The input voltage to the regulator should be maintained at 0.6V above the output to keep internal power dissipation and die heating to a minimum. Worst-case occurs just after input power is applied and before the die has had a chance to heat up. Once the minimum value of capacitance has been found for the brand and type of electrolytic in question, the value should be doubled for actual use to account for production variations both in the capacitor and the regulator. (All the values in this section and the remainder of the data sheet were determined in this fashion.)

Definition of Terms

Dropout Voltage: The input-output voltage differential at which the circuit ceases to regulate against further reduction in input voltage. Measured when the output voltage has dropped 100 mV from the nominal value obtained at 14V input, dropout voltage is dependent upon load current and junction temperature.

Input Voltage: The DC voltage applied to the input terminals with respect to ground.

Input-Output Differential: The voltage difference between the unregulated input voltage and the regulated output voltage for which the regulator will operate.

Line Regulation: The change in output voltage for a change in the input voltage. The measurement is made under conditions of low dissipation or by using pulse techniques such that the average chip temperature is not significantly affected.

Load Regulation: The change in output voltage for a change in load current at constant chip temperature.

Long Term Stability: Output voltage stability under accelerated life-test conditions after 1000 hours with maximum rated voltage and junction temperature.

Output Noise Voltage: The rms AC voltage at the output, with constant load and no input ripple, measured over a specified frequency range.

Quiescent Current: That part of the positive input current that does not contribute to the positive load current. The regulator ground lead current.

Ripple Rejection: The ratio of the peak-to-peak input ripple voltage to the peak-to-peak output ripple voltage.

Temperature Stability of V_O: The percentage change in output voltage for a thermal variation from room temperature to either temperature extreme.