

General Description

The LA8200 is a voltage mode, step-down DC-DC controller with a built in 250mA driver for P-channel MOSFET. It utilizes PWM control scheme that switches with 300KHz fixed frequency. This device includes a reference voltage source, error amplifier, oscillation circuit, and etc.

The input voltage range of LA8200 is from 3.6V to 23V, and provides adjustable output voltage range from $0.8V$ to V_{IN} for customers in application.

The LA8200 provides an enable function that can be controlled by external logic signal. It also provides excellent regulation during line or load transient due to the fast transient response. Other features of thermal protection, current limit and short circuit protection are also included.

The LA8200 can operate with a maximum duty cycle of 100% for use in low drop-out conditions, and stable with low ESR output ceramic capacitors to attain space-saving applications.

The package is available in a standard SOP-8L.

v **Features**

- Adjustable Output Voltage from 0.8V to V_{IN}
- Operating Input Voltage up to 23V
- Oscillation Frequency: 300KHz
- 250mA P-Channel MOSFET Driver
- External ON/OFF Control Function
- Low Shutdown Current: 1uA
- Current Limit and Thermal Protection
- Short Circuit Protection
- No External Compensation Required
- Stable With Low ESR Output Ceramic Capacitor
- SOP-8L Package
- All Products meet Rohs Standard

v **Applications**

- Broadband Communication Device
- LCD TV / Monitor
- Storage Device
- Wireless Application

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LA8200 *300KHz Step-Down DC-DC Controller*

v **Absolute Maximum Ratings**

These are stress ratings only and functional operation is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum ratings for prolonged time periods may affect device reliability. All voltages are with respect to ground.

v **Recommended Operating Conditions**

These are conditions under which the device functions but the specifications might not be guaranteed. For guaranteed specifications and test conditions, please see the *Electrical Specifications*.

v **Package Information**

v **Electrical Specifications**

 $V_{IN}=12V$, V_{OUT} set to 3.3V, $I_{LOAD}=0.2A$, $T_A=25^{\circ}C$, unless otherwise noted.

v **Typical Performance Characteristics**

 V_{IN} =12V, V_{OUT} set to 3.3V, T_A =25°C, unless otherwise noted.

Feedback Voltage vs. Input Voltage Feedback Voltage vs. Temperature

Ambient Temperature (ºC)

v **Application Information**

Output Voltage Programming

This device develops a band-gap between the feedback pin and ground pin. Therefore, the output voltage can be formed by R1 and R2. Use 1% metal film resistors for the lowest temperature coefficient and the best stability. Select lower resistor value to minimize noise pickup in the sensitive feedback pin, or higher resistor value to improve efficiency.

The output voltage is given by the following formula:

 $V_{OUT} = V_{FB} x (1 + R1/R2)$ where $V_{FB} = 0.8V$

Short Circuit Protection

This device includes short circuit protection. When the output is shorted to ground, the protection circuit will be triggered and force the oscillation frequency down to approximately 50KHz. The oscillation frequency will return to the normal value once the output voltage or the feedback voltage rises above 0V.

Current Limit Setting

This device reserves OCSET pin to set the switching peak current limit. In general, the peak current must be 1.5 times of the continuous output current. It can be calculated as below:

$$
I_{PK} = (I_{OCSET} \times R_{OCSET}) / R_{DS(ON)}
$$

Where:

I_{PK}: Peak Current Limit IOCSET; OCSET Pin Bias Current R_{DS(ON)}; External P-MOSFET On-Resistance

Delay Start-up

The following circuit uses the EN pin to provide a time delay between the input voltage is applied and the output voltage comes up. As the instant of the input voltage rises, the charging of capacitor C_{DELAY} pulls the EN pin low, keeping the device off. Once the capacitor voltage rises above the EN pin threshold voltage, the device will start to operate.

For example, setting at V_{IN} =12V, R_{DELAY}=100KΩ, C_{DELAY} =0.1uF. The start-up delay time can be calculated as below:

$$
V_C = V_{IN} x (1 - e^{T/\tau}) > V_{EN}
$$

$$
T > 1.147 \text{mS}
$$

Where:

 V_C is Capacitor Voltage

 V_{FN} = 1.3V (Typ.); EN Pin Threshold Voltage

 $T =$ Delay Time

 $τ = R_{DELAY}$ x C_{DELAY}

This feature is useful in situations where the input power source is limited in the amount of current it can deliver. It allows the input voltage to rise to a higher voltage before the device starts operating.

Snubber Circuit

The simple RC snubber is used for voltage transient and ringing suppression. The high frequency ringing and voltage overshooting at the SW pin is caused by fast switching transition and resonating circuit parasitical elements in the power circuit. It maybe generates EMI and interferes with circuit performance.

Reserve a snubber circuit in the PC board is preferred to damp the ringing due to the parasitical capacitors and inductors of layout. The following circuit is a simple RC snubber:

Choose the value of RC network by the following procedure:

- (1) Measure the voltage ringing frequency (f_R) of the SW pin.
- (2) Find a small capacitor and place it across the SW pin and the GND pin to damp the ringing frequency by half.
- (3) The parasitical capacitance (C_{PAR}) at the SW pin is 1/3 the value of the added capacitance above. The parasitical inductance (L_{PAR}) at the SW pin is:

$$
L_{PAR}=\frac{1}{(\ 2\pi\!f_R\)^2\times C_{PAR}}
$$

(4) Select the value of C_{SNUB} that should be more than $2-4$ times the value of C_{PAR} but must be small enough so that the power dissipation of R_{SNUB} is kept to a minimum. The power rating of R_{SNUB} can be calculated by following formula:

$$
P_{\text{RSNUB}} = C_{\text{SNUB}} \times V_{\text{IN}}^2 \times f_{\text{S}}
$$

(5) Calculate the value of R_{SNUB} by the following formula and adjust the value to meet the expectative peak voltage.

$$
R_{\text{SNUB}} = 2\pi \times f_R \times L_{\text{PAR}}
$$

Thermal Considerations

Thermal protection limits total power dissipation in this device. When the junction temperature reaches approximately 150° C, the thermal sensor signals the shutdown logic turning off this device. The thermal sensor will turn this device on again after the IC's junction temperature cools by 25°C. For continuous operation, do not exceed the maximum operation junction temperature 125°C.

Layout Considerations

PC board layout is very important, especially for switching regulators of high frequencies and large peak currents. A good layout minimizes EMI on the feedback path and provides best efficiency. The following layout guides should be used to ensure proper operation of this device.

(1) The power charge path that consists of the external P-MOSFET, inductor, and GND trace should be kept wide and as short as possible.

(2) The power discharge path that consists of the external diode, inductor, and GND trace should be kept wide and as short as possible.

(3) The feedback path of voltage divider should be close to the FB pin and keep noisy traces away; also keep them separate using grounded copper.

(4) The input capacitors should be close to the regulator, P-MOSFET, and rectifier diode. The output capacitors should be close to the load.

Component Selection

1. Inductor Selection

The conduction mode of power stage depends on input voltage, output voltage, output current, and the value of the inductor. Select an inductor to maintain this device operating in continuous conduction mode (CCM). The minimum value of inductor can be determined by the following procedure.

(1) Calculate the minimum duty ratio:

$$
D_{(MIN)} = \frac{V_{OUT} + I_{LOAD} \times R_L + V_F}{V_{IN(MAX) - I_{LOAD} \times R_{DS(ON)} + V_F} = \frac{T_{ON}}{T_S}
$$

Where R_1 is the DC resistance of the inductor, V_F is the forward voltage of the diode, $R_{DS(ON)}$ is the ON resistance of the MOSFET, and Ts is the switching period.

This formula can be simplified to

$$
D_{(MIN)} = \frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN(MAX)}} = \frac{T_{ON}}{T_S} \quad ; \quad 0 \leq D \leq I
$$

(2) Define a value of minimum current that is approximately 10%~30% of full load current to maintain continuous conduction mode, usually referred to as the critical current (I_{CRIT}) .

$I_{CRIT} = \delta \times I_{LOAD}$; $\delta = 0.1 - 0.3$

(3) Calculate the inductor ripple current $(\triangle I_L)$. In steady state conditions, the inductor ripple current increase, $(\triangle I_L+)$, during the ON time and the current decrease, $(\triangle I_L-)$, during the OFF time must be equal.

(4) Calculate the minimum value of inductor use maximum input voltage. That is the worst case condition because it gives the maximum $\triangle I_L$.

$$
L \geq \frac{[V_{IN(MAX)} - I_{LOAD} \times (R_{DS ON)} + R_L) - V_{OUT}] \times D_{MIN}}{\Delta L \times fs}
$$

This formula can be simplified to

$$
L \ge \frac{(V_{IN(MAX)} - V_{OUT}) \times D_{(MIN)}}{\Delta L \times fs}
$$

The higher value inductor results in lower output ripple current and ripple voltage. It also reduces the conduction loss. But higher value inductor requires larger physical size and price.

(5) Calculate the inductor peak current and choose a suitable inductor to prevent saturation.

$$
I_{L(PEAK)} = I_{LOAD} + \frac{\Delta I_L}{2}
$$

Coil inductors and surface mount inductors are all available. The surface mount inductors can reduce the board size but they are more expensive and its larger DC resistance results in more conduction loss. The power dissipation is due to the DC resistance can be calculated as below:

$$
P_{D_INDUCTOR} = I_{LOAD}^{2} \times R_{L}
$$

2. Output Rectifier Diode Selection

The rectifier diode provides a current path for the inductor current when the P-MOSFET turns off. The best solution is Schottky diode, and some parameters about the diode must be take care as below:

(1) The forward current rating of diode must be higher than the continuous output current.

(2) The reverse voltage rating of diode must be higher than the maximum input voltage.

(3) The lower forward voltage of diode will reduce the conduction loss.

(4) The faster reverse recovery time of diode will reduce the switching loss, but it is very small compared to conduction loss.

(5) The power dissipation can be calculated by the forward voltage and output current for the time that the diode is conducting.

$$
P_{D_DIODE} = I_{LOAD} \times V_F \times (1 - D)
$$

3. Output Capacitor Selection

The functions of the output capacitor are to store energy and maintain the output voltage. The low ESR (Equivalent Series Resistance) capacitors are preferred to reduce the output ripple voltage $(\triangle V_{\text{OUT}})$ and conduction loss. The output ripple voltage can be calculated as below:

$$
\Delta V_{OUT} = \Delta I_L \times (ESR_cov\tau + \frac{1}{8 \times fs \times Cov\tau})
$$

(1) When low ESR ceramic capacitor is used as output capacitor, the output ripple voltage due to the ESR can be ignored results in all the output ripple voltage is due to the capacitance. Choose suitable capacitors must define the expectative value of output ripple voltage first.

The minimum capacitance can be determined by the switching frequency, the output ripple current, and the expectative output ripple voltage. The above formula can be simplified to:

$$
C_{\text{OUT}(\text{MIN})} \geq \frac{\Delta L}{8 \times f s \times \Delta \text{V}_{\text{OUT}}}
$$

Besides, the compensation components must be used to stabilize the control loop in some applications, such as using a 470pF ceramic capacitor across the high side resistor of the output voltage divider.

(2) The ESR of the aluminum electrolytic or tantalum output capacitor is an important parameter to determine the output ripple voltage. But the manufacturers usually do not specify ESR in the specifications. Assuming the capacitance is enough results in the output ripple voltage is due to the capacitance can be ignored. the ESR should be limited to achieve the expectative output ripple voltage. The maximum ESR can be calculated as below:

$$
ESR_covT \leq \frac{\Delta V_{OUT}}{\Delta I_L}
$$

Choose the output capacitance by the average value of the RC product as below:

$$
C_{OUT} \approx \frac{50 \sim 80 \times 10^{-6}}{ESR_cov}
$$

(3) The ESR and the ripple current results in power dissipation in the capacitor. It will increase the internal temperature. Usually, the capacitors' manufacturers specify ripple current ratings and should not be exceeded to prevent excessive temperature shorten the life time. Choose a smaller inductor causes higher ripple current which maybe result in the capacitor overstress. The RMS ripple current flowing through the output capacitor and power dissipation can be calculated as below:

$$
I_{RMS}_cov\tau = \frac{\Delta I_L}{\sqrt{I2}} = \Delta I_L \times 0.289
$$

$$
P_{D_COUT} = (I_{RMS_COUT})^2 \times ESR_COUT
$$

(4) Besides, the capacitor's ESL (Equivalent Series Inductance) maybe causes ringing in the low MHz region. Choose low ESL capacitors, limiting lead length of PCB and capacitor, and parallel connecting several smaller capacitors to replace with a larger one will reduce the ringing phenomenon.

4. Input Capacitor Selection

The input capacitor is required to supply current to the regulator and maintain the DC input voltage. Low ESR capacitors are preferred those provide the better performance and the less ripple voltage.

(1) The input capacitors need an adequate RMS current rating. It can be calculated by following formula and should not be exceeded.

$$
I_{RMS_CIN} = I_{LOAD(MAX)} \times \sqrt{D \times (1-D)}
$$

This formula has a maximum at $V_{IN}=2V_{OUT}$. That is the worst case and the above formula can be simplified to:

$$
I_{RMS} _ \mathit{CIN} = \frac{I_{LOAD(MAX)}}{2}
$$

Therefore, choose a suitable capacitor at input whose ripple current rating must greater than half of the maximum load current.

(2) The input ripple voltage $(\triangle V_{IN})$ mainly depends on the input capacitor's ESR and its capacitance. Assuming the input current of the regulator is constant, the required input capacitance for a given input ripple voltage can be calculated as below:

$$
C_{IN} = \frac{I_{LOAD(MAX)} \times D \times (1 - D)}{fs \times (\Delta V_{IN} - I_{LOAD(MAX)} \times ESR__{CIN})}
$$

If using aluminum electrolytic or tantalum input capacitors, parallel connecting a 0.1uF ceramic capacitor as close to the IN pin of regulator as possible. If using ceramic capacitor, make sure the capacitance is enough to prevent the excessive input ripple current.

(3) The power dissipation of input capacitor causes a small conduction loss can be calculated as below:

$$
P_{D_CIN} = (I_{RMS_CIN})^2 \times ESR_CN
$$

5. MOSFET Selection

This device is designed to drive P-channel power MOSFET, and provide a gate driver current that is approximately 250mA. The gate voltage (V_{GATE}) is approximately equal V_{IN} when the V_{GATE} pulls high level to result power MOSFET turns off. Therefore, choose a suitable power MOSFET whose $|V_{DS}|$ and $|V_{GS}|$ must higher than the maximum input voltage.

The selection of power MOSFET size requires knowing the conduction loss (DC loss) and switching loss (AC loss) in the application. The switching loss is related to the MOSFET's capacitance, size, and switching frequency. The conduction loss is related to the MOSFET's size that is proportional to $R_{DS(ON)}$. Therefore, the power dissipation of the MOSFET can be calculated by the following formula:

$$
P_D = P_{AC} + P_{DC}
$$

= $(P_{SW} + P_{GATE} + P_{COS}) + (P_{RDSON})$

$$
; P_{SW} = [V_{IN} \times I_{LOAD} \times (t_r + t_f) \times f_S]/2
$$

- ; $P_{GATE} = V_{GATE} \times Q_g \times f_s$
- $(P\cos\left(\cos\left(\frac{N}{2}\right)\right)$
- ; $P_{RDSON} = (I_{LOAD} + \Delta I_L/12)^2 \times R_{DS(ON)} \times D$

Where tr and tf are the switching times for the power MOSFET, Qg is the total gate charge, and Coss is the output capacitance.

The other important parameter is the continuous drain-current (I_D) . Choose a power MOSFET with a maximum continuous drain-current rating higher than the peak current limit.

v **Evaluation Board Layout**

v **Evaluation Board Schematic**

LA8200

v **Bill of Materials**

VIN=12V, VOUT=3.3V, IOUT=5A

LA8200 *300KHz Step-Down DC-DC Controller*

v **Package Outline**

SOP-8L

NOTICE

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