

Features and Benefits

- Low R_{DS(ON)} outputs
- Automatic current decay mode detection/selection
- Mixed and Slow current decay modes
- Synchronous rectification for low power dissipation
- Internal UVLO
- Crossover-current protection
- 3.3 and 5 V compatible logic supply
- Thermal shutdown circuitry
- Short-to-ground protection
- Shorted load protection
- Five selectable step modes: full, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{8}$, and $\frac{1}{16}$

Package:



Description

The A4988 is a complete microstepping motor driver with built-in translator for easy operation. It is designed to operate bipolar stepper motors in full-, half-, quarter-, eighth-, and sixteenth-step modes, with an output drive capacity of up to 35 V and $\pm 2 \text{ A}$. The A4988 includes a fixed off-time current regulator which has the ability to operate in Slow or Mixed decay modes.

The translator is the key to the easy implementation of the A4988. Simply inputting one pulse on the STEP input drives the motor one microstep. There are no phase sequence tables, high frequency control lines, or complex interfaces to program. The A4988 interface is an ideal fit for applications where a complex microprocessor is unavailable or is overburdened.

During stepping operation, the chopping control in the A4988 automatically selects the current decay mode, Slow or Mixed. In Mixed decay mode, the device is set initially to a fast decay for a proportion of the fixed off-time, then to a slow decay for the remainder of the off-time. Mixed decay current control results in reduced audible motor noise, increased step accuracy, and reduced power dissipation.

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Typical Application Diagram



Description (continued)

Internal synchronous rectification control circuitry is provided to improve power dissipation during PWM operation. Internal circuit protection includes: thermal shutdown with hysteresis, undervoltage lockout (UVLO), and crossover-current protection. Special power-on sequencing is not required. The A4988 is supplied in a surface mount QFN package (ES), 5 mm \times 5 mm, with a nominal overall package height of 0.90 mm and an exposed pad for enhanced thermal dissipation. It is lead (Pb) free (suffix –T), with 100% matte tin plated leadframes.

Selection Guide

Part Number	Package	Packing	
A4988SETTR-T	28-contact QFN with exposed thermal pad	1500 pieces per 7-in. reel	

Absolute Maximum Ratings

Characteristic	Symbol	Notes	Rating	Units
Load Supply Voltage	V _{BB}		35	V
Output Current	I _{OUT}		±2	А
Logic Input Voltage	V _{IN}		-0.3 to 5.5	V
Logic Supply Voltage	V _{DD}		-0.3 to 5.5	V
VBBx to OUTx			35	V
Sense Voltage	V _{SENSE}		0.5	V
Reference Voltage	V _{REF}		5.5	V
Operating Ambient Temperature	T _A	Range S	-20 to 85	°C
Maximum Junction	T _J (max)		150	°C
Storage Temperature	T _{stg}		-55 to 150	°C



Functional Block Diagram





Characteristics	Symbol	Test Conditions	Min.	Typ. ²	Max.	Units
Output Drivers	1	1	I	1	1	1
Load Supply Voltage Range	V _{BB}	Operating	8	_	35	V
Logic Supply Voltage Range	V _{DD}	Operating	3.0	_	5.5	V
	R _{DSON}	Source Driver, I _{OUT} = –1.5 A	-	320	430	mΩ
Output On Resistance		Sink Driver, I _{OUT} = 1.5 A	-	320	430	mΩ
Redy Diado Forward Voltago	V _F	Source Diode, I _F = -1.5 A	-	_	1.2	V
Body Diode Forward Voltage		Sink Diode, I _F = 1.5 A	_	_	1.2	V
Motor Supply Current		f _{PWM} < 50 kHz	-	_	4	mA
	^I BB	Operating, outputs disabled	_	_	2	mA
Logic Cumply Current	I _{DD}	f _{PWM} < 50 kHz	-	_	8	mA
		Outputs off	-	_	5	mA
Control Logic			I			
Logic Input Voltage	V _{IN(1)}		V _{DD} ×0.7	-	-	V
Logic input voltage	V _{IN(0)}		-	_	V _{DD} ×0.3	V
Logic Input Current	I _{IN(1)}	$V_{IN} = V_{DD} \times 0.7$	-20	<1.0	20	μA
	I _{IN(0)}	$V_{IN} = V_{DD} \times 0.3$	-20	<1.0	20	μA
	R _{MS1}	MS1 pin	_	100	-	kΩ
Microstep Select	R _{MS2}	MS2 pin	-	50	_	kΩ
	R _{MS3}	MS3 pin	-	100	-	kΩ
Logic Input Hysteresis	V _{HYS(IN)}	As a % of V _{DD}	5	11	19	%
Blank Time	t _{BLANK}		0.7	1	1.3	μs
Fixed Off Time	t _{OFF}	OSC = VDD or GND	20	30	40	μs
		$R_{OSC} = 25 \text{ k}\Omega$	23	30	37	μs
Reference Input Voltage Range	V _{REF}		0	_	4	V
Reference Input Current	I _{REF}		-3	0	3	μA
	err _i	V _{REF} = 2 V, %I _{TripMAX} = 38.27%	-	-	±15	%
Current Trip-Level Error ³		V _{REF} = 2 V, %I _{TripMAX} = 70.71%	-	-	±5	%
		V _{REF} = 2 V, %I _{TripMAX} = 100.00%	-	_	±5	%
Crossover Dead Time	t _{DT}		100	475	800	ns
Protection	·	•	·			
Overcurrent Protection Threshold	I _{OCPST}		2.1	_	-	A
Thermal Shutdown Temperature	T _{TSD}		-	165	-	°C
Thermal Shutdown Hysteresis	T _{TSDHYS}		-	15	-	°C
VDD Undervoltage Lockout	V _{DDUVLO}	V _{DD} rising	2.7	2.8	2.9	V
VDD Undervoltage Hysteresis	V _{DDUVLOHYS}		-	90	-	mV

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS¹ at $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$, $V_{BB} = 35$ V (unless otherwise noted)

¹For input and output current specifications, negative current is defined as coming out of (sourcing) the specified device pin.

²Typical data are for initial design estimations only, and assume optimum manufacturing and application conditions. Performance may vary for individual units, within the specified maximum and minimum limits.

 $^{3}V_{\text{ERR}} = [(V_{\text{REF}}/8) - V_{\text{SENSE}}] / (V_{\text{REF}}/8).$



THERMAL CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristic	Symbol	Test Conditions*	Value	Units
Package Thermal Resistance	$R_{\theta JA}$	Four-layer PCB, based on JEDEC standard	32	°C/W

*Additional thermal information available on Allegro Web site.



Power Dissipation versus Ambient Temperature

