LM137/LM337
3-Terminal Adjustable Negative Regulators

General Description
The LM137/LM337 are adjustable 3-terminal negative voltage regulators capable of supplying in excess of −1.5A over an output voltage range of −1.2V to −37V. These regulators are exceptionally easy to apply, requiring only 2 external resistors to set the output voltage and 1 output capacitor for frequency compensation. The circuit design has been optimized for excellent regulation and low thermal transients. Further, the LM137 series features internal current limiting, thermal shutdown and safe-area compensation, making them virtually blowout-proof against overloads.

The LM137/LM337 serve a wide variety of applications including local on-card regulation, programmable-output voltage regulation or precision current regulation. The LM137/LM337 are ideal complements to the LM117/LM317 adjustable positive regulators.

Features
- Output voltage adjustable from −1.2V to −37V
- 1.5A output current guaranteed, −55˚C to +150˚C
- Line regulation typically 0.01% /V
- Load regulation typically 0.3%
- Excellent thermal regulation, 0.002% /W
- 77 dB ripple rejection
- Excellent rejection of thermal transients
- 50 ppm/˚C temperature coefficient
- Temperature-independent current limit
- Internal thermal overload protection
- P* Product Enhancement tested
- Standard 3-lead transistor package
- Output is short circuit protected

LM137 Series Packages and Power Capability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Device</th>
<th>Package</th>
<th>Rated Power Dissipation</th>
<th>Design Load Current</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LM137/337</td>
<td>TO-3 (K)</td>
<td>20W</td>
<td>1.5A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TO-39 (H)</td>
<td>2W</td>
<td>0.5A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LM337</td>
<td>TO-220 (T)</td>
<td>15W</td>
<td>1.5A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SOT-223 (MP)</td>
<td>2W</td>
<td>1A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Typical Applications

Adjustable Negative Voltage Regulator

Full output current not available at high input-output voltages

\[-V_{\text{OUT}} = -1.26V \left(1 + \frac{R_2}{R_1}\right) + \left(-V_{\text{ADJ}} \times R_2\right)\]

1C1 = 1 µF solid tantalum or 10 µF aluminum electrolytic required for stability

*2C2 = 1 µF solid tantalum is required only if regulator is more than 4" from power-supply filter capacitor

Output capacitors in the range of 1 µF to 10000 µF of aluminum or tantalum electrolytic are commonly used to provide improved output impedance and rejection of transients

Comparison between SOT-223 and D-Pak (TO-252) Packages

Scale 1:1
### Absolute Maximum Ratings (Notes 4, 1)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>LM37</th>
<th>LM37</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Power Dissipation</td>
<td>Internally Limited</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Input-Output Voltage Differential</td>
<td>40V</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Junction Temperature Range</td>
<td>LM137 -55˚C to +150˚C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LM337 0˚C to +125˚C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage Temperature</td>
<td>-65˚C to +150˚C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead Temperature (Soldering, 10 sec.)</td>
<td>300˚C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic Package (Soldering, 4 sec.)</td>
<td>260˚C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESD Rating</td>
<td>2k Volts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Electrical Characteristics

(Note 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
<th>LM137</th>
<th>LM137</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Line Regulation</td>
<td>$T_j = 25˚C, 3V \leq</td>
<td>V_{IN} − V_{OUT}</td>
<td>\leq 40V (Note 2) $</td>
<td>0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Load Regulation</td>
<td>$T_j = 25˚C, 10 mA \leq I_{OUT} \leq I_{MAX}$</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermal Regulation</td>
<td>$T_j = 25˚C, 10 ms Pulse $</td>
<td>0.002</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>%/W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment Pin Current</td>
<td>$10 mA \leq I_L \leq I_{MAX}$</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>µA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment Pin Current Charge</td>
<td>$3.0V \leq</td>
<td>V_{IN} − V_{OUT}</td>
<td>\leq 40V, $</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference Voltage</td>
<td>$T_j = 25˚C (Note 3) $</td>
<td>-1.225</td>
<td>-1.250</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line Regulation</td>
<td>$3V \leq</td>
<td>V_{IN} − V_{OUT}</td>
<td>\leq 40V, (Note 3)</td>
<td>-1.200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Load Regulation</td>
<td>$10 mA \leq I_{OUT} \leq I_{MAX}, P \leq P_{MAX}$</td>
<td>-1.213</td>
<td>-1.250</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature Stability</td>
<td>$T_{MIN} \leq T_j \leq T_{MAX}$</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Load Current</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>V_{IN} − V_{OUT}</td>
<td>\leq 40V$</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Limit</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>V_{IN} − V_{OUT}</td>
<td>\leq 15V$</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ripple Rejection Ratio</td>
<td>$V_{OUT} = -10V, f = 120 Hz, C_{OUT} = 10 µF$</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>dB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-Term Stability</td>
<td>$T_j = 125˚C, 1000 Hours$</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermal Resistance, Junction to Case</td>
<td>$H$ Package $T_j = 25˚C$</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>°C/W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermal Resistance, Junction to Ambient (No Heat Sink)</td>
<td>$H$ Package $T_j = 25˚C$</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>°C/W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$K$ Package $T_j = 25˚C$</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>°C/W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$T$ Package $T_j = 25˚C$</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>°C/W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note 1:** Unless otherwise specified, these specifications apply -55˚C ≤ $T_j$ ≤ +150˚C for the LM137, 0˚C ≤ $T_j$ ≤ +125˚C for the LM337, $V_{IN} − V_{OUT}$ = 5V, and $I_{OUT}$ = 0.1A for the TO-39 package and $I_{OUT}$ = 0.5A for the TO-3, SOIC-23 and TO-220 packages. Although power dissipation is internally limited, these specifications are applicable for power dissipations of 2W for the TO-39 and SOIC-23 (see Application Hints), and 20W for the TO-3, and TO-220. $I_{MAX}$ is 1.5A for the TO-3, SOIC-23 and TO-220 packages, and 0.2A for the TO-39 package.

**Note 2:** Regulation is measured at constant junction temperature, using pulse testing with a low duty cycle. Changes in output voltage due to heating effects are covered under the specification for thermal regulation. Load regulation is measured on the output pin at a point 1⁄8" below the base of the TO-3 and TO-39 packages.

**Note 3:** Selected devices with tightened tolerance reference voltage available.

**Note 4:** Refer to RETS137H drawing for LM137H or RETS137K drawing for LM137K military specifications.
Thermal Regulation

When power is dissipated in an IC, a temperature gradient occurs across the IC chip affecting the individual IC circuit components. With an IC regulator, this gradient can be especially severe since power dissipation is large. Thermal regulation is the effect of these temperature gradients on output voltage (in percentage output change) per Watt of power change in a specified time. Thermal regulation error is independent of electrical regulation or temperature coefficient, and occurs within 5 ms to 50 ms after a change in power dissipation. Thermal regulation depends on IC layout as well as electrical design. The thermal regulation of a voltage regulator is defined as the percentage change of $V_{OUT}$, per Watt, within the first 10 ms after a step of power is applied. The LM137's specification is 0.02%/W, max.

In Figure 1, a typical LM137's output drifts only 3 mV (or 0.03% of $V_{OUT} = -10V$) when a 10W pulse is applied for 10 ms. This performance is thus well inside the specification limit of 0.02%/W x 10W = 0.2% max. When the 10W pulse is ended, the thermal regulation again shows a 3 mV step at the LM137 chip cools off. Note that the load regulation error of about 8 mV (0.08%) is additional to the thermal regulation error. In Figure 2, when the 10W pulse is applied for 100 ms,
Thermal Regulation (Continued)

the output drifts only slightly beyond the drift in the first 10 ms, and the thermal error stays well within 0.1% (10 mV).

![Thermal Regulation Graph]

Connection Diagrams

**TO-3 Metal Can Package**
- Case is Input
- Bottom View
  - Order Number LM137K/883
  - See NS Package Number K02C
  - Order Number LM337K STEEL
  - See NS Package Number K02A

**TO-39 Metal Can Package**
- Case is Input
- Bottom View
  - Order Number LM137H, LM137H/883 or LM337H
  - See NS Package Number H03A

**TO-220 Plastic Package**
- Front View
  - Order Number LM337T
  - See NS Package Number T03B

**3-Lead SOT-223**
- Front View
  - Order Number LM337IMP
  - Package Marked N02A
  - See NS Package Number MA04A

Application Hints

When a value for $\theta_{J-A}$ is found using the equation shown, a heatsink must be selected that has a value that is less than or equal to this number.

**HEATSINKING SOT-223 PACKAGE PARTS**

The SOT-223 ("MP") packages use a copper plane on the PCB and the PCB itself as a heatsink. To optimize the heat sinking ability of the plane and PCB, solder the tab of the package to the plane.

Figures 3, 4 show the information for the SOT-223 package. Figure 4 assumes a $\theta_{J-A}$ of 75˚C/W for 1 ounce copper and 51˚C/W for 2 ounce copper and a maximum junction temperature of 125˚C.
Application Hints (Continued)

Please see AN1028 for power enhancement techniques to be used with the SOT-223 package.

Typical Applications

Adjustable Lab Voltage Regulator

Current Regulator

Negative Regulator with Protection Diodes

*When $C_2$ is larger than 20 µF, $D_1$ protects the LM137 in case the input supply is shorted

**When $C_2$ is larger than 10 µF and $-V_{OUT}$ is larger than $-25$ V, $D_2$ protects the LM137 if the output is shorted

Full output current not available at high input-output voltages

*The 10 µF capacitors are optional to improve ripple rejection

DS009072-9

DS009071-11

DS009077-13

DS009067-30

DS009067-33

DS009067-9

DS009067-13

DS009067-32

DS009067-11
Typical Applications (Continued)

−5.2V Regulator with Electronic Shutdown*

Minimum output ≅ −1.3V when control input is low

Adjustable Current Regulator

\[ I_{OUT} = \left( \frac{1.5V}{RT} \right) \pm 15\% \text{ adjustable} \]
Typical Performance Characteristics (K Steel and T Packages)

Load Regulation

Current Limit

Adjustment Current

Dropout Voltage

Temperature Stability

Minimum Operating Current

Ripple Rejection

Ripple Rejection

Ripple Rejection

Output Impedance

Line Transient Response

Load Transient Response
Physical Dimensions inches (millimeters) unless otherwise noted

Metal Can Package (H)
Order Number LM137H, LM137H/883 or LM337H
NS Package Number H03A
Physical Dimensions  inches (millimeters) unless otherwise noted (Continued)

3-Lead SOT-223 Package
Order Number LM337IMP
NS Package Number M04A
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