



SSL2129AT

Dimmable LED controller IC

Rev. 2 — 23 October 2012

Product data sheet

1. General description

The SSL2129AT is a high-voltage Integrated Circuit (IC) for driving LED lamps in general lighting applications.

The main benefits of this IC include:

- Small Printed-Circuit Board (PCB) footprint and compact solution
- High efficiency (up to 95 %) for non-dimmable high power factor solutions
- High power factor (>0.9)
- Ease of integration and many protection features
- Low electronic Bill Of Material (BOM)
- Mains phase-cut dimmable using external components
- Highly flexible IC for use in buck, buck/boost and flyback modes
- Single inductor used for non-isolated configurations because of internal demagnetization detection and dV/dt supply

The IC range has been designed to start up directly from the HV supply using an internal high-voltage current source. An internal clamp limits the supply voltage.

2. Features and benefits

- LED controller IC for driving strings of LEDs or high-voltage LED modules from a rectified mains supply
- Controller provides power-efficient boundary conduction mode of operation with:
 - ◆ No reverse recovery losses in freewheel diode
 - ◆ Zero-Current Switching (ZCS) for switch turn-on
 - ◆ Zero-voltage or valley switching for switch turn-off
 - ◆ Minimal required inductance value and size
- Fast transient response through cycle-by-cycle current control:
 - ◆ No over or undershoots in the LED current
- Simple high input power factor solution (>0.9)
- Internal Protection features:
 - ◆ UnderVoltage LockOut (UVLO)
 - ◆ Leading-Edge Blanking (LEB)
 - ◆ OverCurrent Protection (OCP)
 - ◆ Internal OverTemperature Protection (OTP)



- ◆ Brownout protection
- Mains phase cut dimmable LED driver solution:
 - ◆ Supports both leading and trailing-edge dimmers
 - ◆ Easy external temperature protection with a single NTC
 - ◆ Open output protection using external components
 - ◆ Compatible with wall switches with built-in indication light during standby
- IC lifetime easily matches or surpasses LED lamp lifetime
- Input current distributed evenly over the phase, reducing required output capacitor size and bleeder dissipation

3. Applications

The SSL2129AT is intended for mains dimmable compact LED lamps for single mains input voltages. Mains input voltages include 100 V, 120 V and 230 V (AC). The external components determine the power range.

4. Quick reference data

Table 1. Quick reference data

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
V_{CC}	supply voltage	operating range	8	-	14	V
$I_{CC(INT)}$	internal supply current	normal operation	-	1.3	-	mA
V_{HV}	voltage on pin HV		-	-	600	V
V_{DRAIN}	voltage on pin DRAIN		-0.4	-	600	V
f_{conv}	conversion frequency		-	100	-	kHz
$V_{o(DRIVER)max}$	maximum output voltage on pin DRIVER	$V_{CC} > V_{CC(startup)}$	9	10.5	12	V

5. Ordering information

Table 2. Ordering information

Type number	Package		
	Name	Description	Version
SSL2129AT	SO8	plastic small package outline body; 8 leads; body width 3.9 mm	SOT96-1

6. Block diagram

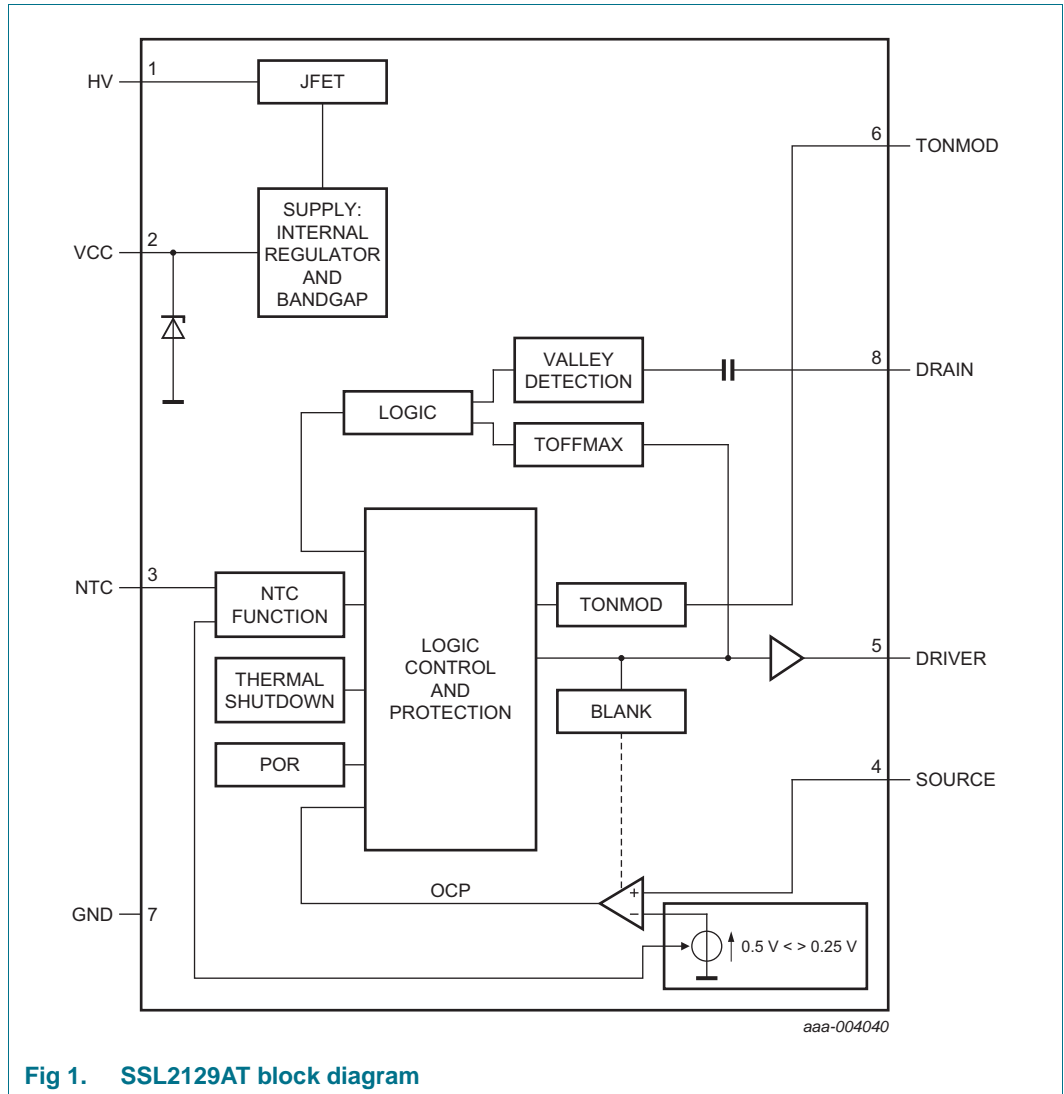
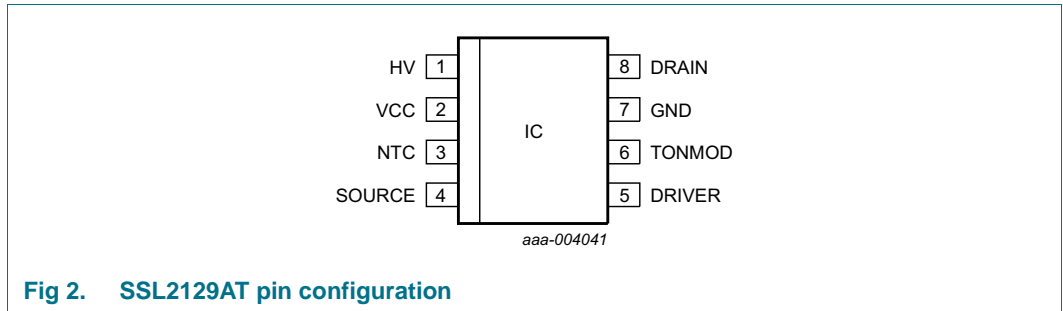


Fig 1. SSL2129AT block diagram

7. Pinning information

7.1 Pinning



7.2 Pin description

Table 3. Pin description

Symbol	Pin	Description
HV	1	high-voltage supply pin
VCC	2	supply voltage
NTC	3	temperature protection input
SOURCE	4	low-side external switch
DRIVER	5	driver output
TONMOD	6	on time modulation input
GND	7	ground
DRAIN	8	high-side external switch

8. Functional description

8.1 Introduction

The SSL2129AT is a controller IC solution for small form factor mains phase-cut dimmable LED lamps in isolated and non-isolated applications.

8.2 Converter operation

The converter in the SSL2129AT is a Boundary Conduction Mode (BCM), peak current controlled system. See [Figure 3](#) for the basic application diagram. See [Figure 4](#) for the waveforms.

This converter type operates at the boundary between continuous and discontinuous mode. Energy is stored in inductor L each period that the switch is on. The inductor current I_L is zero when the MOSFET is switched on. The amplitude of the current build-up in L is proportional to the voltage drop over the inductor and the time that the MOSFET switch is on. When the MOSFET is switched off, the energy in the inductor is released towards the output. The current then falls at a rate proportional to the value of V_{OUT} . The LED current I_{LED} depends on the peak current through the inductor (SSL2129AT controlled) and on the dimmer angle while it is optimized for a high-power factor. A new cycle is started once the inductor current I_L is zero. This quasi-resonant operation results in higher efficiency.

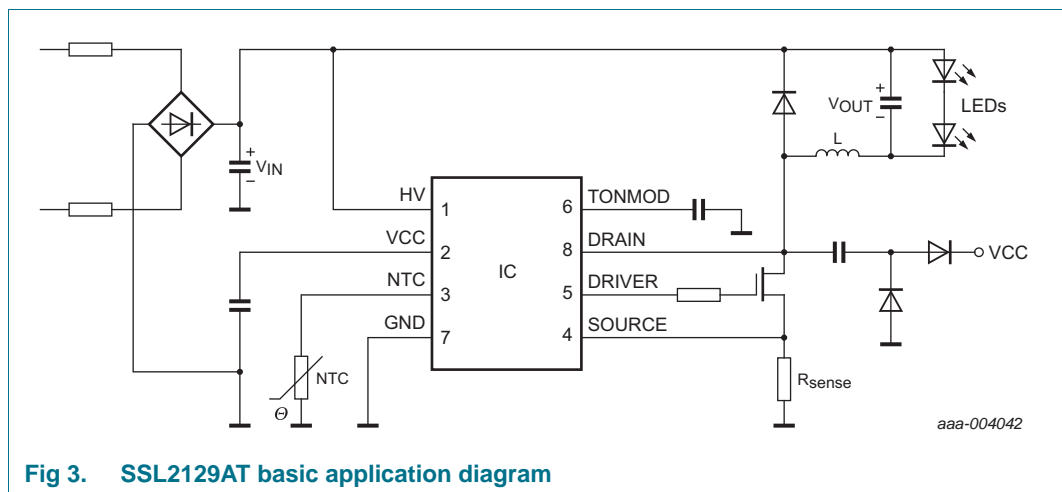


Fig 3. SSL2129AT basic application diagram

8.3 Driver pin

The SSL2129AT is equipped with a driver output for controlling an external switch. The voltage on the driver output pin is increased towards $V_{O(DRIVER)max}$ to open the switch during the first cycle (t_0 to t_1). The voltage on the driver output pin is pulled down towards a low level from the start of the secondary stroke until the next cycle starts (t_0 to t_{00}). During transition from low to high and back, there is a controlled switching slope steepness. This controlled condition limits the high frequency radiation from the circuit to the surrounding area. The switching slope can be controlled further using an external resistor between IC and gate.

At the lowest VCC voltage ($V_{CC(stop)}$), the voltage of the driver is $V_{O(DRIVER)min}$.

8.4 Valley detection

A new cycle is started when the primary switch is switched on (see Figure 4). In the following sections, “on” represents the conductive state and off the non-conductive state.

Following time t_1 , when the peak current is detected on the SOURCE pin, the switch is turned off and the secondary stroke starts at t_2 . When the secondary stroke is completed with the coil current at t_3 equaling zero, the drain voltage starts to oscillate at approximately the $V_{IN} - V_{OUT}$ level. The peak to peak amplitude equals $2 \times V_{OUT}$. In tapped buck topology, this amplitude is multiplied by the ratio of the windings.

A special feature, called valley detection is an integrated part of the SSL2129AT circuitry. Dedicated built-in circuitry connected to the DRAIN pin, senses when the voltage on the drain of the switch has reached its lowest value. The next cycle is then started at t_{00} and as a result the capacitive switching losses are reduced. A valley is detected and accepted when both the frequency of the oscillations and the voltage swing are within the range specified (f_{ring} and $\Delta V_{vrec(min)}$) for detection. $\Delta V_{vrec(min)}$ is the voltage differential between the HV (pin) in and the DRAIN pin. If a valid valley is not detected, the secondary stroke is continued until the maximum off-time ($t_{off(high)}$) is reached, then the next cycle is started.

A series resistance can be included at the drain sensing pin for flyback mode to remove the high-frequency ringing caused by the transformer leakage inductance.

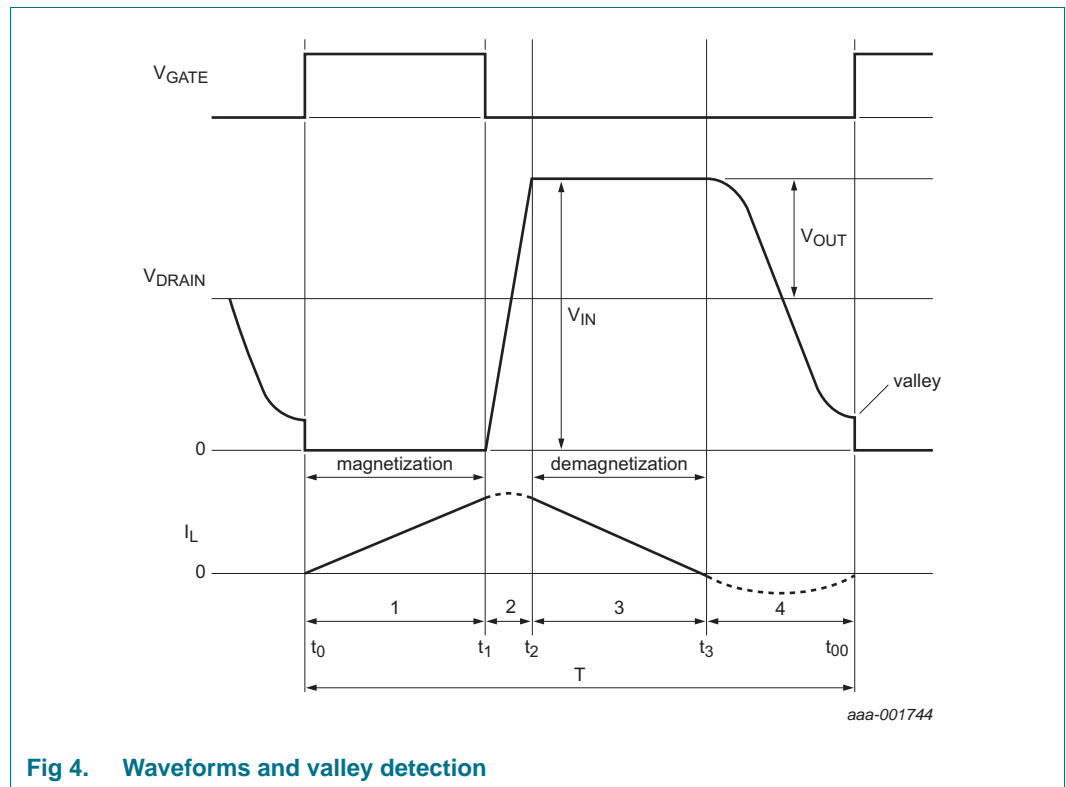


Fig 4. Waveforms and valley detection

8.5 Protective features

The IC has the following protective features:

- UnderVoltage LockOut (UVLO)
- Leading-Edge Blanking (LEB)
- OverCurrent Protection (OCP)
- Internal OverTemperature Protection (OTP)
- Brownout protection
- LED overtemperature control and protection
- An optional output OverVoltage Protection circuit is implemented using external components and the NTC pin.

The internal OTP and LED over temperature protections are safe-restart protections. The IC halts, causing V_{CC} to fall lower than $V_{CC(stop)}$, and instigates start-up. When V_{CC} drops lower than $V_{CC(rst)}$, the IC resets the latch protection mode. Switching starts only when no fault condition exists.

8.5.1 UnderVoltage LockOut (UVLO)

When the voltage on the VCC pin $< V_{CC(stop)}$, the IC stops switching. An attempt is then made to restart by supplying V_{CC} from the HV pin voltage.

8.5.2 Leading-Edge Blanking (LEB)

To prevent false detection of the short-winding or overcurrent, a blanking time following switch-on is implemented. When the MOSFET switch turns on there can be a short current spike due to capacitive discharge of voltage over the drain and source. During the LEB time (t_{leb}), the spike is disregarded.

8.5.3 OverCurrent Protection (OCP)

The SSL2129AT contains a highly accurate peak current detector. It triggers when the voltage on the SOURCE pin reaches the peak level $V_{th(ocp)SOURCE}$. The current through the switch is sensed using a resistor connected to the SOURCE pin. The sense circuit is activated following LEB time t_{leb} . As the LED current is half the peak current (by design), it automatically provides protection for maximum LED current during operation. There is a propagation delay $t_{d(ocp-swoff)}$ between overcurrent detection and the actual closure of the switch. Due to the delay, the actual peak current is slightly higher than the OCP level set by the resistor in series to the SOURCE pin.

8.5.4 OverTemperature Protection (OTP)

When the internal OTP function is triggered at a certain IC temperature ($T_{th(act)otp}$), the converter stops operating. The OTP safe-restart protection and the IC restarts again with switching resuming when the IC temperature drops below $T_{th(rel)otp}$.

8.5.5 Brownout protection

Brownout protection is designed to limit the lamp power when the input voltage drops close to the output voltage level. Since the input power has to remain constant, the input current would otherwise increase to a level that is too large for the input circuitry. In the SSL2129AT, there is a maximum limit on the on-time of switch $t_{on(high)}$.

In buck mode, the rate of current rise in the coil during the on-phase is proportional to the difference between input voltage and output voltage. Therefore, the peak current cannot be reached before $t_{on(high)}$ and as a result the average output current to the LEDs is reduced.

8.6 t_{on} control

The $t_{on(high)}$ can be lowered by connecting a capacitor to the TONMOD pin. The external capacitor is charged during the primary stroke with I_{TONMOD} . If the V_{TONMOD} level is reached before the $t_{on(high)}$ time, the switch is turned off and the secondary stroke starts. When a capacitor is not connected to the pin, V_{TONMOD} is reached quickly. Shorter than the minimum limit of 1 μ s. In this case or when the TONMOD pin is grounded, the internal time constant, $t_{on(high)}$ determines the maximum on-time. This function is used to control the converter operation over the mains cycle which enables the design of a mains dimmable driver.

8.7 VCC supply

The SSL2129AT can be supplied using three methods:

- Under normal operation, the voltage swing on the DRAIN pin is rectified using external components providing current towards the VCC pin
- At start-up, there is an internal current source connected to the HV pin. The current source provides internal power until an external current on the VCC pin provides the supply.
- Using an auxiliary winding, the voltage can be rectified and connected to the VCC pin.

The IC starts up when the voltage at the VCC pin is higher than $V_{CC(startup)}$. The IC locks out (stops switching) when the voltage at the VCC pin is lower than $V_{CC(stop)}$. The hysteresis between the start and stop levels allows the IC to be supplied by a buffer capacitor until the external supply is settled. The SSL2129AT has an internal V_{CC} clamp, which is an internal active Zener (or shunt regulator). This internal active Zener limits the voltage on the supply VCC pin to the maximum value of V_{CC} . If the maximum current of the supply minus the current consumption of the IC (determined by the load on the gate drivers), is lower than the maximum value of I_{DD} no external Zener diode is needed in the supply circuit.

8.7.1 VCC regulator

During supply dips, the input voltage can drop too low to supply the required IC current. Under these conditions, if the VCC voltage drops lower than $V_{CC(swon)reg}$ level, a second regulator is started. Its function is to fill in the required supply current which the external supply does not deliver. It prevents the IC going into UVLO. When the VCC voltage is higher than $V_{CC(swon)reg}$ level, the regulator is turned off.

8.8 NTC functionality

The NTC pin can be used as a control method for LED thermal protection.

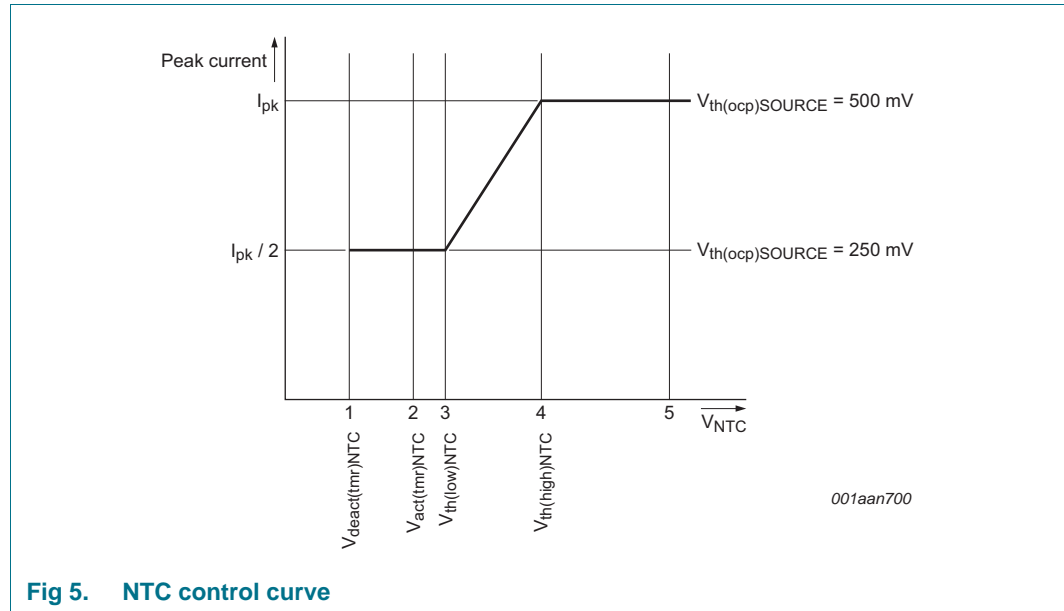


Fig 5. NTC control curve

When the voltage on the NTC pin is higher than $V_{th(high)NTC}$, see [Figure 5 \(4\)](#), the converter delivers nominal output current. When the voltage is lower than this level, the peak current is gradually reduced until $V_{th(low)NTC}$ is reached, see [Figure 5 \(3\)](#). The peak current is now half the peak current of nominal operation. When $V_{act(tmr)NTC}$ is passed, see [Figure 5 \(2\)](#), a timer starts to run to distinguish between the following situations:

- If the low-level $V_{deact(tmr)NTC}$ is not reached within time $t_{to(deact)NTC}$ [Figure 5 \(1\)](#), LED overtemperature is detected. The IC stops switching and attempts to restart from the HV pin voltage. Restart takes place when the voltage on NTC pin is higher than $V_{th(high)NTC}$, see [Figure 5 \(4\)](#). It is assumed that the reduction in peak current did not result in a lower NTC temperature and LED OTP is activated.
- If the low-level $V_{deact(tmr)NTC}$ is reached within the time $t_{to(deact)NTC}$ [Figure 5 \(1\)](#), it is assumed that the pin is pulled down externally. The restart function is not triggered. Instead, the output current is reduced to zero. The output current rises again when the voltage is higher than $V_{deact(tmr)NTC}$.

8.8.1 Soft-start function

The NTC pin can be used to make a soft start function. During switch-on, the level on the NTC pin is low. By connecting a capacitor (in parallel with the NTC resistor), a time constant can be defined. The time constant causes the level on the NTC pin to increase slowly. When passing level $V_{th(low)NTC}$ [Figure 5 \(3\)](#), the convertor starts with half of the maximum current. The output current slowly increases to maximum when $V_{th(high)NTC}$ [Figure 5 \(4\)](#) is reached.

8.9 Mains dimmer compatibility

The SSL2129AT provides mains dimmer compatibility using dynamic t_{on} control. This control is used to shape an input current waveform to provide the most effective current to load the dimmer over most of the mains cycle. In the dimmed position, the output current is controlled both by the conductive phase of the dimmer and the slope current control of the TONMOD function. An additional advantage of this method is a high-power factor.

The additional dimming range is achieved by modulating the charge current of the capacitor connected to the TONMOD pin.

9. Limiting values

Table 4. Limiting values

In accordance with the Absolute Maximum Rating System (IEC 60134).

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Max	Unit
General					
SR	slew rate	on pin DRAIN	-5	+5	V/ns
P _{tot}	total power dissipation	SO8 package	-	0.6	W
T _{amb}	ambient temperature		-40	+125	°C
T _j	junction temperature		-40	+150	°C
T _{stg}	storage temperature		-55	+150	°C
Voltages					
V _{CC}	supply voltage	continuous [1]	-0.4	+14	V
V _{DRAIN}	voltage on pin DRAIN		-0.4	+600	V
V _{HV}	voltage on pin HV	current limited	-0.4	+600	V
V _{SOURCE}	voltage on pin SOURCE	current limited	-0.4	+5.2	V
V _{NTC}	voltage on pin NTC	current limited	-0.4	+5.2	V
Currents					
I _{DD}	supply current	on pin VCC	-	20	mA
V _{ESD}	electrostatic discharge voltage	human body model; (for all pins except DRAIN and HV)	[2] -2	+2	kV
		human body model for DRAIN and HV	-1	+1	kV
		charged device [3]	-500	+500	V

[1] An internal clamp sets the supply voltage and current limits.

[2] Human body model: equivalent to discharging a 100 pF capacitor through a 1.5 kΩ series resistor.

[3] Charged device model: equivalent to charging the IC up to 1 kV and the subsequent discharging of each pin down to 0 V over a 1 Ω resistor.

10. Thermal characteristics

Table 5. Thermal characteristics

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Typ	Unit
R _{th(j-a)}	thermal resistance from junction to ambient	in free air; PCB: 2 cm × 3 cm; 2-layer; 35 μm Cu per layer	159	K/W
		in free air; PCB: JEDEC 2s2p	89	K/W
Ψ _{j-top}	thermal resistance from junction to top	top package temperature measured at the warmest point on top of the case	0.49	K/W

11. Characteristics

Table 6. Characteristics

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
f_{conv}	conversion frequency		-	100	-	kHz
High-voltage						
$I_{leak(DRAIN)}$	leakage current on pin DRAIN	$V_{DRAIN} = 600\text{ V}$	-	-	10	μA
$I_{leak(HV)}$	leakage current on pin HV	$V_{HV} = 600\text{ V}$	-	-	30	μA
Supply						
V_{CC}	supply voltage	operating range	[1] 8	-	14	V
$V_{CC(startup)}$	start-up supply voltage		11	12	13	V
$V_{CC(stop)}$	stop supply voltage		8	9	10	V
$V_{CC(hys)}$	hysteresis of supply voltage	between $V_{CC(startup)}$ and $V_{CC(stop)}$	2	-	4.5	V
$V_{CC(rst)}$	reset supply voltage		4.5	5	5.5	V
$V_{CC(swon)reg}$	regulator switch-on supply voltage		8.75	9.25	9.75	V
$V_{CC(swoff)reg}$	regulator switch-off supply voltage		9.5	10	10.5	V
$V_{CC(reg)hys}$	regulator supply voltage hysteresis	$V_{CC(swoff)reg} - V_{CC(swon)reg}$	0.3	-	-	V
$V_{CC(regswon-stop)}$	supply voltage difference between regulator switch-on and stop	$V_{CC(swon)reg} - V_{CC(stop)}$	0.3	-	-	V
Consumption						
$I_{stb(HV)}$	standby current on pin HV	during start-up or in protection; $V_{HV} = 100\text{ V}$	300	350	400	μA
$I_{CC(INT)}$	internal supply current	normal operation	-	1.3	-	mA
Capability						
$I_{sup(high)HV}$	high supply current on pin HV	Standby: $V_{HV} = 40\text{ V}$; $V_{CC} < V_{CC(stop)}$	1	1.3	1.6	mA
		Regulator on: $V_{HV} = 40\text{ V}$; $V_{CC} < V_{CC(swon)reg}$ after start-up	2	2.3	2.6	mA
Current						
$V_{th(ocp)SOURCE}$	overcurrent protection threshold voltage on pin SOURCE	$\Delta V/\Delta t = 0.1\text{ V}/\mu\text{s}$	480	500	520	mV
		$\Delta V/\Delta t = 0.1\text{ V}/\mu\text{s}$; $V_{NTC} = 0.325\text{ V}$	230	250	270	mV
$t_{d(ocp-swoff)}$	delay time from overcurrent protection to switch-off	$\Delta V/\Delta t = 0.1\text{ V}/\mu\text{s}$	-	75	100	ns
t_{leb}	leading edge blanking time	overcurrent protection	260	300	340	ns
Valley detection						
$(\Delta V/\Delta t)_{vrec}$	valley recognition voltage change with time	on pin DRAIN	-30	-20	-10	$\text{V}/\mu\text{s}$
f_{ring}	ringing frequency		[2] 200	550	1000	kHz
$\Delta V_{vrec(min)}$	minimum valley recognition voltage difference	voltage drop on pin DRAIN	15	20	25	V
$t_{d(vrec-swon)}$	valley recognition to switch on delay time		-	100	-	ns

Table 6. Characteristics ...continued

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
Brownout detection						
$V_{th(TONMOD)}$	threshold voltage on pin TONMOD		3.75	4	4.25	V
$I_{offset(TONMOD)}$	offset current on pin TONMOD		-37	-43	-48	μ A
$t_{on(high)}$	high on-time		12.5	15	17.5	μ s
Driver (pin DRIVER)						
$I_{source(DRIVER)}$	source current on pin DRIVER	1.5 ms maximum; $V_{DRIVER} = 2$ V	-	-0.195	-	A
$I_{sink(DRIVER)}$	sink current on pin DRIVER	20 μ s maximum; $V_{DRIVER} = 2$ V	-	0.28	-	A
		20 μ s maximum; $V_{DRIVER} = 10$ V	-	0.46	-	A
$V_{o(DRIVER)max}$	maximum output voltage on pin DRIVER	$V_{CC} > V_{CC(startup)}$	9	10.5	12	V
$V_{o(DRIVER)min}$	minimum output voltage on pin DRIVER	$V_{CC} = V_{CC(stop)}$	6.5	7.5	8.5	V
NTC functionality						
$V_{th(high)NTC}$	high threshold voltage on pin NTC		0.47	0.5	0.53	V
$V_{th(low)NTC}$	low threshold voltage on pin NTC		0.325	0.35	0.375	V
$V_{act(tmr)NTC}$	timer activation voltage on pin NTC		0.26	0.3	0.325	V
$V_{deact(tmr)NTC}$	timer deactivation voltage on pin NTC		0.17	0.2	0.23	V
$t_{to(deact)NTC}$	deactivation time-out time on pin NTC		33	46	59	μ s
$I_{offset(NTC)}$	offset current on pin NTC		-	-47	-	μ A
Temperature protection						
$T_{th(act)otp}$	overtemperature protection activation threshold temperature		160	170	180	$^{\circ}$ C
$T_{th(rel)otp}$	overtemperature protection release threshold temperature		90	100	110	$^{\circ}$ C

[1] The maximum operating voltage at VCC can exceed 14 V.

[2] This parameter is not tested during production, by design it is guaranteed

12. Application information

An LED driver with the SSL2129AT can be a buck, tapped buck or flyback converter operating in BCM (see [Figure 7](#)). The tapped buck option offers the advantage of larger duty factor and less peak current through the MOSFET switch, resulting in higher efficiency and higher converter ratio. The recommended voltage swing on the DRAIN pin is limited by the $\Delta V_{vrec(min)}$ parameter. With a tapped buck configuration, this limitation is overcome enabling lower output voltages.

It is recommended for 230 V applications that a TVS is placed after the rectifier bridge to limit maximum voltage over the bus. In mains dimmable solutions, the bus voltage can become substantially higher than the nominal mains voltage without clamping because of line resonance and rectification. This can destroy the electrolytic capacitors, IC or MOSFET. Open string protection can be added using the auxiliary winding voltage to pull-down the NTC pin voltage. In addition, the TVS prevents voltage spikes due to for example lighting surges.

Further information can be found in the *SSL2129AT application note*.

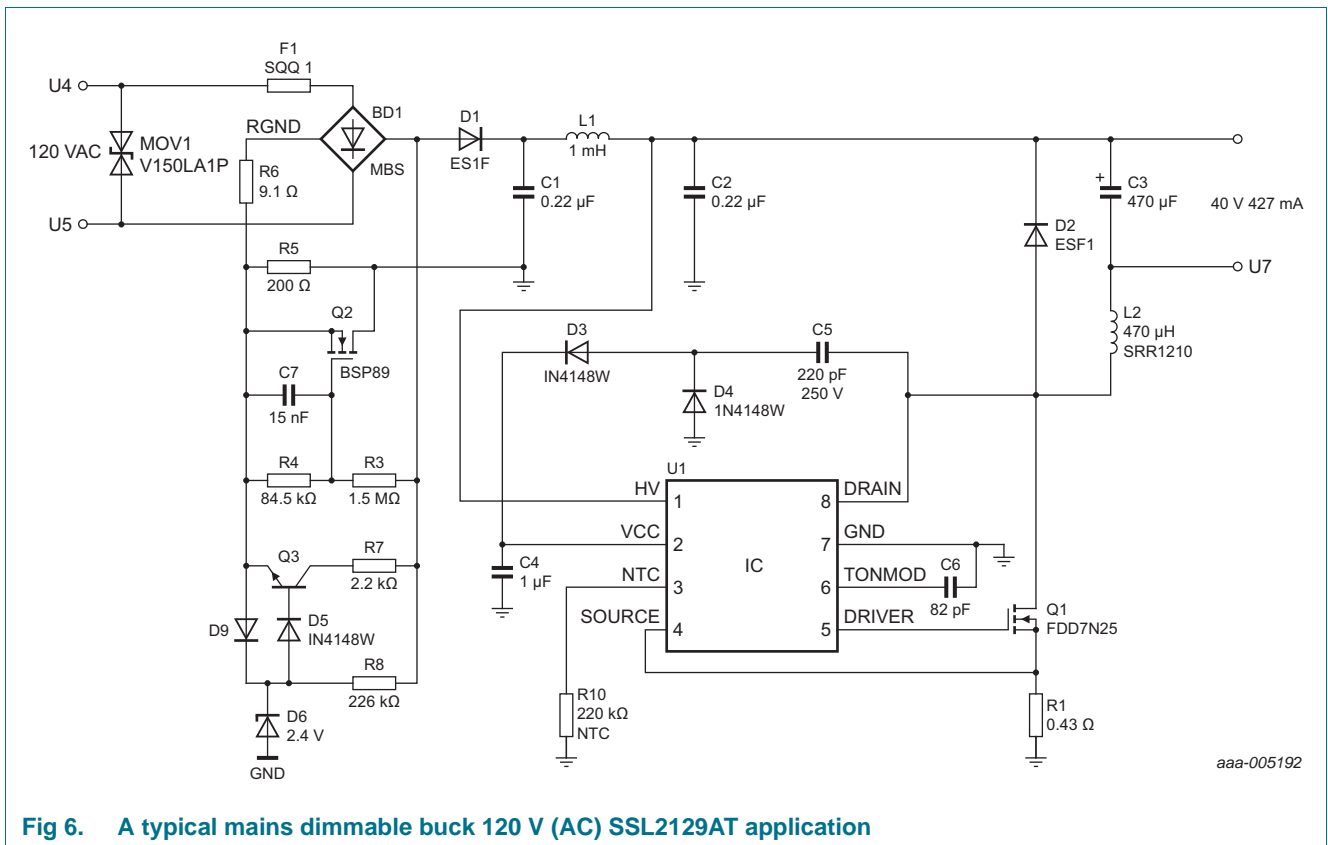


Fig 6. A typical mains dimmable buck 120 V (AC) SSL2129AT application

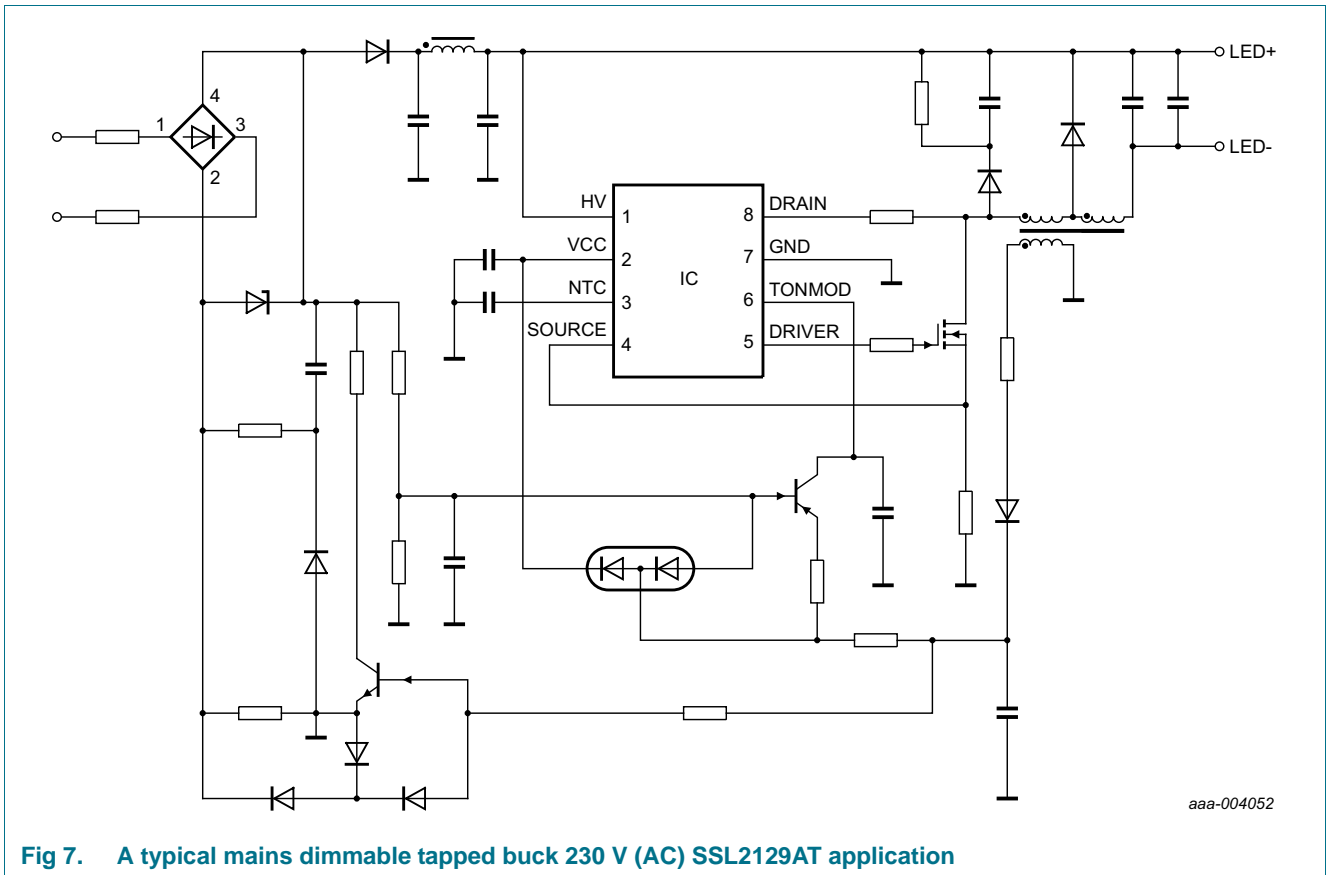


Fig 7. A typical mains dimmable tapped buck 230 V (AC) SSL2129AT application

13. Package outline

SO8: plastic small outline package; 8 leads; body width 3.9 mm

SOT96-1

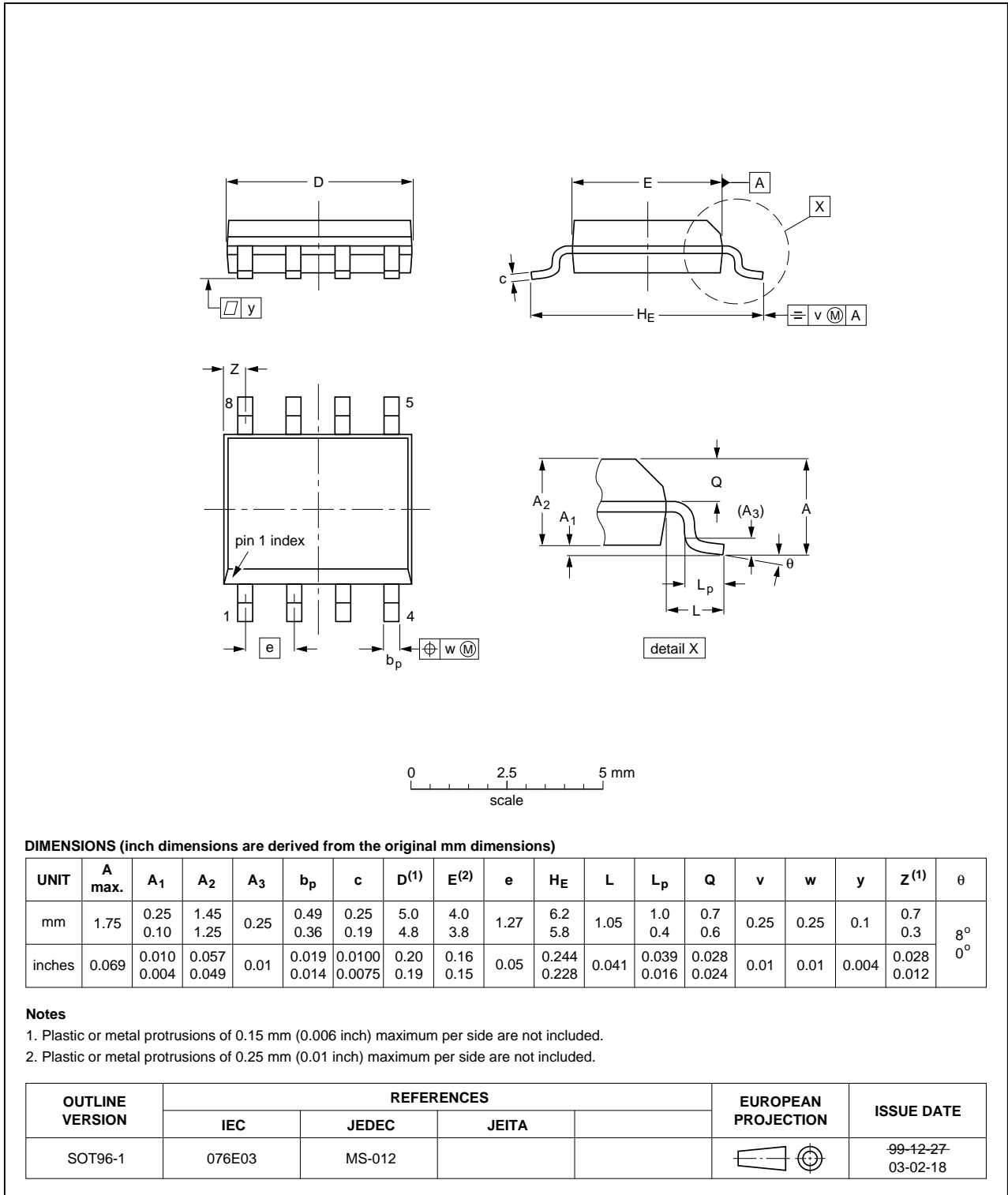


Fig 8. Package outline SOT96-1 (SOT8)

14. Abbreviations

Table 7. Abbreviations

Acronym	Description
BCM	Boundary Conduction Mode
LEB	Leading-Edge Blanking
LED	Light Emitting Diode
MOSFET	Metal-Oxide Semiconductor Field-Effect Transistor
OCP	OverCurrent Protection
OTP	OverTemperature Protection
PCB	Printed-Circuit Board
PWM	Pulse-Width Modulation
TVS	Transient Voltage Suppression
UVLO	UnderVoltage LockOut
ZCS	Zero-Current Switching

15. Revision history

Table 8. Revision history

Document ID	Release date	Data sheet status	Change notice	Supersedes
SSL2129AT v.2	20121023	Product data sheet	-	SSL2129AT v.1
SSL2129AT v.1	20120810	Product data sheet	-	-

16. Legal information

16.1 Data sheet status

Document status ^{[1][2]}	Product status ^[3]	Definition
Objective [short] data sheet	Development	This document contains data from the objective specification for product development.
Preliminary [short] data sheet	Qualification	This document contains data from the preliminary specification.
Product [short] data sheet	Production	This document contains the product specification.

[1] Please consult the most recently issued document before initiating or completing a design.

[2] The term 'short data sheet' is explained in section "Definitions".

[3] The product status of device(s) described in this document may have changed since this document was published and may differ in case of multiple devices. The latest product status information is available on the Internet at URL <http://www.nxp.com>.

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