

### FEATURES

- Filterless Class-D amplifier with  $\Sigma$ - $\Delta$  modulation**
- Automatic level control (ALC) improves dynamic range and prevents clipping**
- 3 W into 3  $\Omega$  load and 1.4 W into 8  $\Omega$  load at 5.0 V supply with <10% total harmonic distortion (ALC off)**
- 700 mW into 8  $\Omega$  load at 4.2 V supply (ALC 80%)**
- 93% efficiency at 5.0 V, 1.4 W into 8  $\Omega$  speaker**
- >93 dB signal-to-noise ratio (SNR)**
- Single-supply operation from 2.5 V to 5.5 V**
- 20 nA ultralow shutdown current**
- Short-circuit and thermal protection**
- Available in 9-ball, 1.5 mm  $\times$  1.5 mm WLCSP**
- Pop-and-click suppression**
- Built-in resistors reduce board component count**
- Default fixed 18 dB or user-adjustable gain setting**

### APPLICATIONS

- Mobile phones
- MP3 players
- Portable gaming
- Portable electronics
- Educational toys

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The SSM2317 is a fully integrated, high efficiency, Class-D audio amplifier. It is designed to maximize performance for mobile phone applications. The application circuit requires a minimum of external components and operates from a single 2.5 V to 5.5 V

supply. It is capable of delivering 3 W of continuous output power with <1% THD + N driving a 3  $\Omega$  load from a 5.0 V supply.

The SSM2317 features a high efficiency, low noise modulation scheme that does not require any external LC output filters. The modulation continues to provide high efficiency even at low output power. It operates with 93% efficiency at 1.4 W into 8  $\Omega$  or 85% efficiency at 3 W into 3  $\Omega$  from a 5.0 V supply and has an SNR of >93 dB. Spread-spectrum pulse density modulation is used to provide lower EMI radiated emissions compared with other Class-D architectures.

Automatic level control (ALC) can be activated to suppress clipping and improve dynamic range. This feature only requires one external resistor tied to GND via the VTH pin and an activation voltage on the ALC\_EN pin.

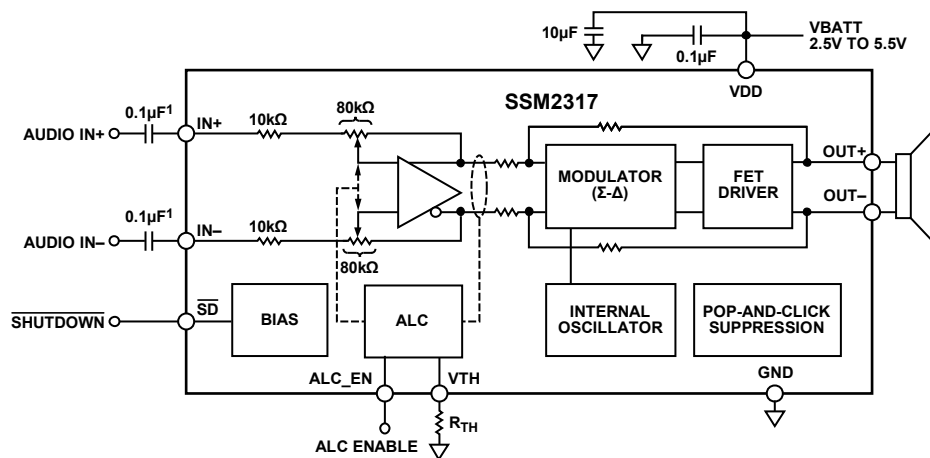
The SSM2317 has a micropower shutdown mode with a typical shutdown current of 20 nA. Shutdown is enabled by applying a logic low to the  $\overline{SD}$  pin.

The device also includes pop-and-click suppression circuitry. This minimizes voltage glitches at the output during turn-on and turn-off, reducing audible noise on activation and deactivation.

The default gain of the SSM2317 is 18 dB, but users can reduce the gain by using a pair of external resistors (see the Gain section).

The SSM2317 is specified over the commercial temperature range of  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $+85^{\circ}\text{C}$ . It has built-in thermal shutdown and output short-circuit protection. It is available in a 9-ball, 1.5 mm  $\times$  1.5 mm wafer level chip scale package (WLCSP).

### FUNCTIONAL BLOCK DIAGRAM



<sup>1</sup> INPUT CAPACITORS ARE OPTIONAL IF INPUT DC COMMON-MODE VOLTAGE IS APPROXIMATELY  $V_{DD}/2$ .

Figure 1.

### Rev. A

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## REVISION HISTORY

### 6/08—Rev. 0 to Rev. A

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Changes to Figure 1 .....               | 1  |
| Changes to Table 2.....                 | 5  |
| Changes to Figure 17 and Figure 18..... | 9  |
| Changes to Figure 39 and Figure 40..... | 13 |
| Changes to Ordering Guide .....         | 17 |

### 3/08—Revision 0: Initial Version

## SPECIFICATIONS

$V_{DD} = 5.0\text{ V}$ ,  $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $R_L = 8\ \Omega + 33\ \mu\text{H}$ , ALC = off, unless otherwise noted.

Table 1.

| Parameter  | Symbol              | Conditions  | Min    | Typ  | Max            | Unit          |
|--|---------------------|---|--------|--|----------------|---------------|
| <b>DEVICE CHARACTERISTICS</b>                                      |                     |   |        |  |                |               |
| Output Power   | $P_O$               | $R_L = 8\ \Omega$ , THD = 1%, $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , 20 kHz BW, $V_{DD} = 5.0\text{ V}$  |        | 1.42   |                | W             |
|  |                     | $R_L = 8\ \Omega$ , THD = 1%, $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , 20 kHz BW, $V_{DD} = 3.6\text{ V}$  |        | 0.72   |                | W             |
|  |                     | $R_L = 8\ \Omega$ , THD = 10%, $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , 20 kHz BW, $V_{DD} = 5.0\text{ V}$ |        | 1.77   |                | W             |
|  |                     | $R_L = 8\ \Omega$ , THD = 10%, $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , 20 kHz BW, $V_{DD} = 3.6\text{ V}$ |        | 0.91   |                | W             |
|  |                     | $R_L = 4\ \Omega$ , THD = 1%, $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , 20 kHz BW, $V_{DD} = 5.0\text{ V}$  |        | 2.53   |                | W             |
|  |                     | $R_L = 4\ \Omega$ , THD = 1%, $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , 20 kHz BW, $V_{DD} = 3.6\text{ V}$  |        | 1.27   |                | W             |
|  |                     | $R_L = 4\ \Omega$ , THD = 10%, $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , 20 kHz BW, $V_{DD} = 5.0\text{ V}$ |        | 3.16 <sup>1</sup>  |                | W             |
|  |                     | $R_L = 4\ \Omega$ , THD = 10%, $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , 20 kHz BW, $V_{DD} = 3.6\text{ V}$ |        | 1.59   |                | W             |
|  |                     | $R_L = 3\ \Omega$ , THD = 1%, $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , 20 kHz BW, $V_{DD} = 5.0\text{ V}$  |        | 3.11 <sup>1</sup>  |                | W             |
|  |                     | $R_L = 3\ \Omega$ , THD = 1%, $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , 20 kHz BW, $V_{DD} = 3.6\text{ V}$  |        | 1.55   |                | W             |
|  |                     | $R_L = 3\ \Omega$ , THD = 10%, $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , 20 kHz BW, $V_{DD} = 5.0\text{ V}$ |        | 3.89 <sup>1</sup>  |                | W             |
|  |                     | $R_L = 3\ \Omega$ , THD = 10%, $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , 20 kHz BW, $V_{DD} = 3.6\text{ V}$ |        | 1.94   |                | W             |
|  |                     | Efficiency  | $\eta$ | $P_O = 1.4\text{ W}$ , $8\ \Omega$ , $V_{DD} = 5.0\text{ V}$ |                | 93            |
| Total Harmonic Distortion + Noise                                  | THD + N             | $P_O = 1\text{ W}$ into $8\ \Omega$ , $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , $V_{DD} = 5.0\text{ V}$     |        | 0.02   |                | %             |
|  |                     | $P_O = 0.5\text{ W}$ into $8\ \Omega$ , $f = 1\ \text{kHz}$ , $V_{DD} = 3.6\text{ V}$   |        | 0.02   |                | %             |
| Input Common-Mode Voltage Range                                    | $V_{CM}$            |   | 1.0    |  | $V_{DD} - 1.0$ | V             |
| Common-Mode Rejection Ratio  | CMRR <sub>GSM</sub> | $V_{CM} = 2.5\text{ V} \pm 100\text{ mV}$ at 217 Hz, output referred                    |        | 57   |                | dB            |
| Average Switching Frequency  | $f_{SW}$            |   |        | 280  |                | kHz           |
| Differential Output Offset Voltage                                 | $V_{OOS}$           | Gain = 18 dB  |        | 2.0  |                | mV            |
| <b>POWER SUPPLY</b>  |                     |   |        |  |                |               |
| Supply Voltage Range   | $V_{DD}$            | Guaranteed from PSRR test   | 2.5    |  | 5.5            | V             |
| Power Supply Rejection Ratio                                       | PSRR                | $V_{DD} = 2.5\text{ V}$ to $5.0\text{ V}$ , dc input floating                           | 70     | 85   |                | dB            |
|  | PSRR <sub>GSM</sub> | $V_{RIPPLE} = 100\text{ mV}$ at 217 Hz, inputs ac grounded, $C_{IN} = 0.1\ \mu\text{F}$ |        | 60   |                | dB            |
| Supply Current (Typically, 170 $\mu\text{A}$ Increase with ALC On) | $I_{SY}$            | $V_{IN} = 0\text{ V}$ , no load, $V_{DD} = 5.0\text{ V}$                                |        | 3.6  |                | mA            |
|  |                     | $V_{IN} = 0\text{ V}$ , no load, $V_{DD} = 3.6\text{ V}$                                |        | 3.2  |                | mA            |
|  |                     | $V_{IN} = 0\text{ V}$ , no load, $V_{DD} = 2.5\text{ V}$                                |        | 2.7  |                | mA            |
|  |                     | $V_{IN} = 0\text{ V}$ , load = $8\ \Omega + 33\ \mu\text{H}$ , $V_{DD} = 5.0\text{ V}$  |        | 3.7  |                | mA            |
|  |                     | $V_{IN} = 0\text{ V}$ , load = $8\ \Omega + 33\ \mu\text{H}$ , $V_{DD} = 3.6\text{ V}$  |        | 3.3  |                | mA            |
|  |                     | $V_{IN} = 0\text{ V}$ , load = $8\ \Omega + 33\ \mu\text{H}$ , $V_{DD} = 2.5\text{ V}$  |        | 2.8  |                | mA            |
| Shutdown Current   | $I_{SD}$            | $\overline{SD} = \text{GND}$  |        | 20   |                | nA            |
| <b>GAIN CONTROL</b>  |                     |   |        |  |                |               |
| Closed-Loop Gain   | Gain                |   |        | 18   |                | dB            |
| Differential Input Impedance                                       | $Z_{IN}$            | $\overline{SD} = V_{DD}$  |        | 10   |                | k $\Omega$    |
|  |                     | $\overline{SD} = \text{GND}$  |        | 10   |                | k $\Omega$    |
| <b>SHUTDOWN CONTROL</b>  |                     |   |        |  |                |               |
| Input Voltage High   | $V_{IH}$            | $I_{SY} \geq 1\text{ mA}$   |        | 1.2  |                | V             |
| Input Voltage Low  | $V_{IL}$            | $I_{SY} \leq 300\text{ nA}$   |        | 0.5  |                | V             |
| Wake-Up Time   | $t_{WU}$            | $\overline{SD}$ rising edge from GND to $V_{DD}$  |        | 28   |                | ms            |
| Shutdown Time  | $t_{SD}$            | $\overline{SD}$ falling edge from $V_{DD}$ to GND                                       |        | 5  |                | $\mu\text{s}$ |
| Output Impedance   | $Z_{OUT}$           | $\overline{SD} = \text{GND}$  |        | >100   |                | k $\Omega$    |

# SSM2317

| Parameter             | Symbol | Conditions   | Min | Typ | Max | Unit          |
|-----------------------|--------|--|-----|-----|-----|---------------|
| NOISE PERFORMANCE     |        |  |     |     |     |               |
| Output Voltage Noise  | $e_n$  | $V_{DD} = 3.6\text{ V}$ , $f = 20\text{ Hz to }20\text{ kHz}$ , inputs are ac grounded, gain = 18 dB, A-weighted |     | 72  |     | $\mu\text{V}$ |
| Signal-to-Noise Ratio | SNR    | $P_O = 1.4\text{ W}$ , $R_L = 8\ \Omega$   |     | 93  |     | dB            |

<sup>1</sup> Although the SSM2317 has good audio quality above 3 W, continuous output power beyond 3 W must be avoided due to device packaging limitations.

## ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

Absolute maximum ratings apply at  $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ , unless otherwise noted.

Table 2.

| Parameter                            | Rating                                      |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Supply Voltage                       | 6 V   |
| Input Voltage                        | $V_{DD}$                                    |
| Common-Mode Input Voltage            | $V_{DD}$                                    |
| Continuous Output Power              | 3 W   |
| Storage Temperature Range            | $-65^\circ\text{C}$ to $+150^\circ\text{C}$ |
| Operating Temperature Range          | $-40^\circ\text{C}$ to $+85^\circ\text{C}$  |
| Junction Temperature Range           | $-65^\circ\text{C}$ to $+165^\circ\text{C}$ |
| Lead Temperature (Soldering, 60 sec) | $300^\circ\text{C}$                         |
| ESD Susceptibility                   | 4 kV  |

Stresses above those listed under Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the device. This is a stress rating only; functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions above those indicated in the operational section of this specification is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

## THERMAL RESISTANCE

$\theta_{JA}$  is specified for the worst-case conditions, that is, a device soldered in a circuit board for surface-mount packages.

Table 3. Thermal Resistance

| Package Type                  | PCB  | $\theta_{JA}$ | $\theta_{JB}$ | Unit                      |
|-------------------------------|------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| 9-Ball, 1.5 mm × 1.5 mm WLCSP | 1S0P | 162           | 39            | $^\circ\text{C}/\text{W}$ |
|                               | 2S0P | 76            | 21            | $^\circ\text{C}/\text{W}$ |

## ESD CAUTION



**ESD (electrostatic discharge) sensitive device.** Charged devices and circuit boards can discharge without detection. Although this product features patented or proprietary protection circuitry, damage may occur on devices subjected to high energy ESD. Therefore, proper ESD precautions should be taken to avoid performance degradation or loss of functionality.

## PIN CONFIGURATION AND FUNCTION DESCRIPTIONS

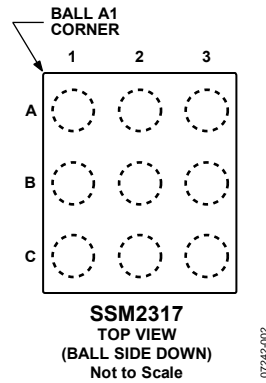


Figure 2. Pin Configuration

Table 4. Pin Function Descriptions

| Pin No. | Mnemonic               | Description  |
|---------|------------------------|--|
| 1A      | IN <sup>-</sup>        | Inverting Input.   |
| 1B      | IN <sup>+</sup>        | Noninverting Input.  |
| 1C      | GND                    | Ground.  |
| 2A      | $\overline{\text{SD}}$ | Shutdown Input. Active low digital input.                        |
| 2B      | ALC_EN                 | Automatic Level Control Enable Input. Active high digital input. |
| 2C      | VDD                    | Power Supply.  |
| 3A      | VTH                    | Variable Threshold.  |
| 3B      | OUT <sup>-</sup>       | Inverting Output.  |
| 3C      | OUT <sup>+</sup>       | Noninverting Output.   |

# TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

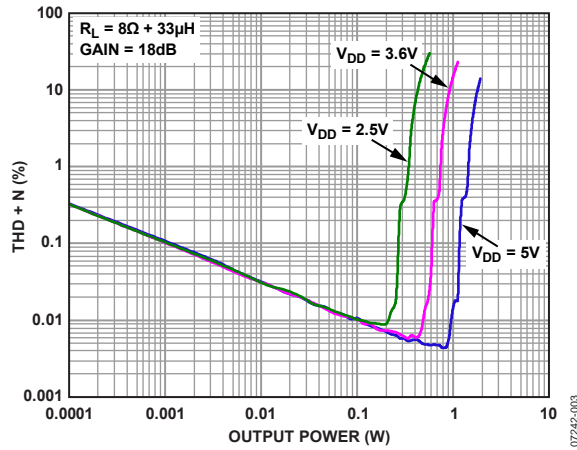


Figure 3. THD + N vs. Output Power into  $8\ \Omega + 33\ \mu\text{H}$ , Gain = 18 dB

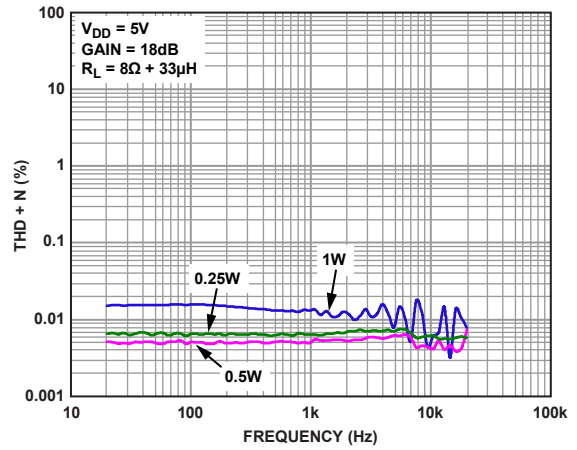


Figure 6. THD + N vs. Frequency,  $V_{DD} = 5\ \text{V}$ ,  $R_L = 8\ \Omega + 33\ \mu\text{H}$ , Gain = 18 dB

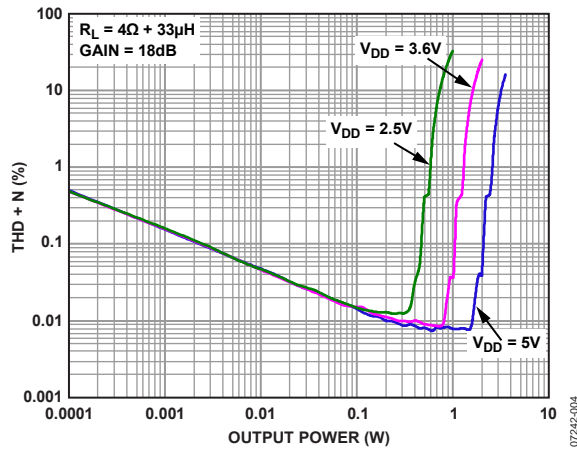


Figure 4. THD + N vs. Output Power into  $4\ \Omega + 33\ \mu\text{H}$ , Gain = 18 dB

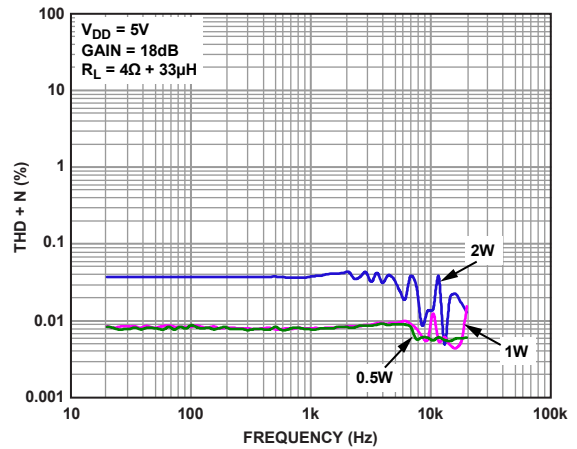


Figure 7. THD + N vs. Frequency,  $V_{DD} = 5\ \text{V}$ ,  $R_L = 4\ \Omega + 33\ \mu\text{H}$ , Gain = 18 dB

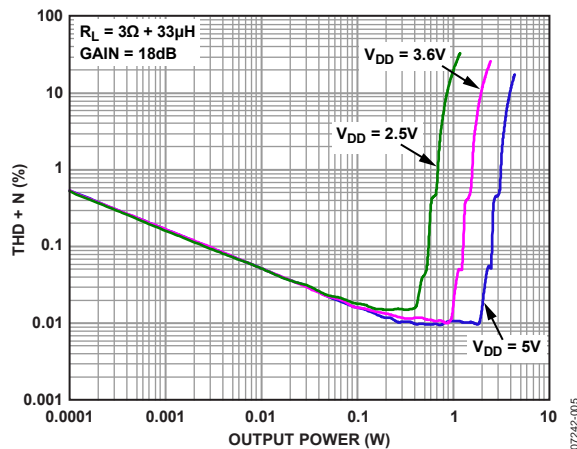


Figure 5. THD + N vs. Output Power into  $3\ \Omega + 33\ \mu\text{H}$ , Gain = 18 dB

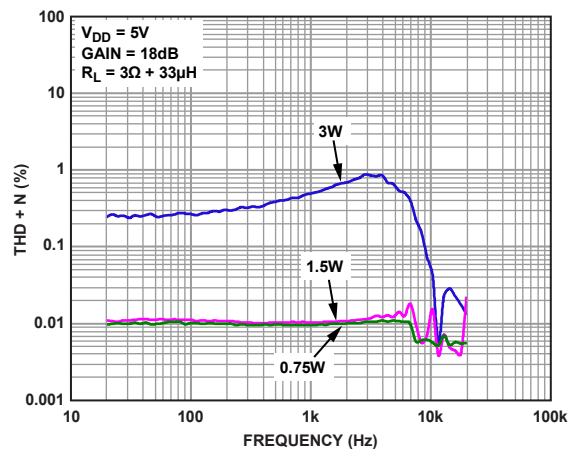


Figure 8. THD + N vs. Frequency,  $V_{DD} = 5\ \text{V}$ ,  $R_L = 3\ \Omega + 33\ \mu\text{H}$ , Gain = 18 dB

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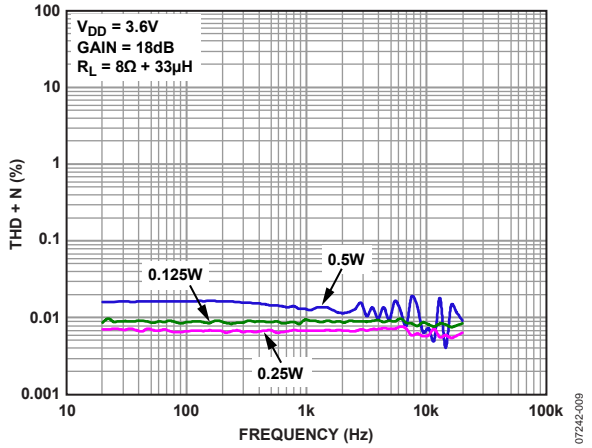


Figure 9. THD + N vs. Frequency,  $V_{DD} = 3.6V$ ,  $R_L = 8\Omega + 33\mu H$ , Gain = 18 dB

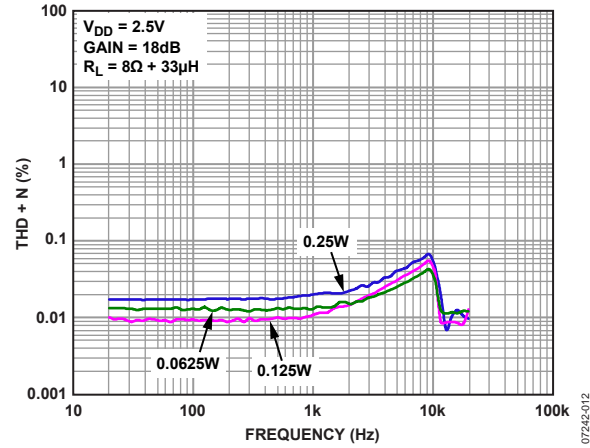


Figure 12. THD + N vs. Frequency,  $V_{DD} = 2.5V$ ,  $R_L = 8\Omega + 33\mu H$ , Gain = 18 dB

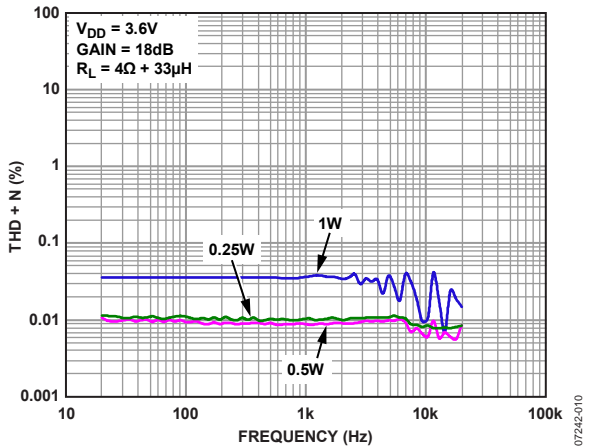


Figure 10. THD + N vs. Frequency,  $V_{DD} = 3.6V$ ,  $R_L = 4\Omega + 33\mu H$ , Gain = 18 dB

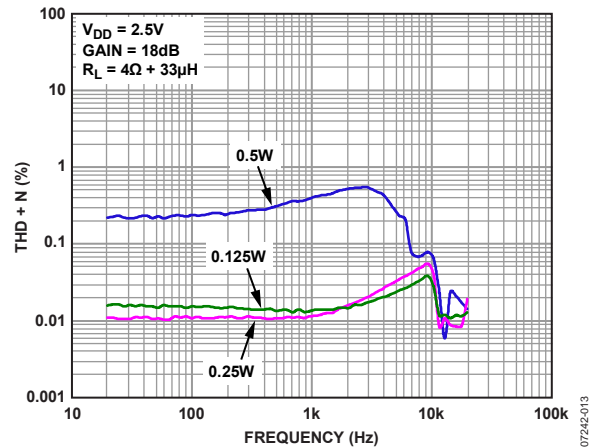


Figure 13. THD + N vs. Frequency,  $V_{DD} = 2.5V$ ,  $R_L = 4\Omega + 33\mu H$ , Gain = 18 dB

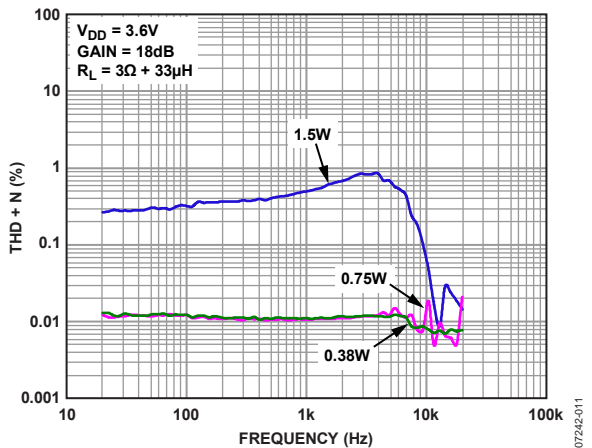


Figure 11. THD + N vs. Frequency,  $V_{DD} = 3.6V$ ,  $R_L = 3\Omega + 33\mu H$ , Gain = 18 dB

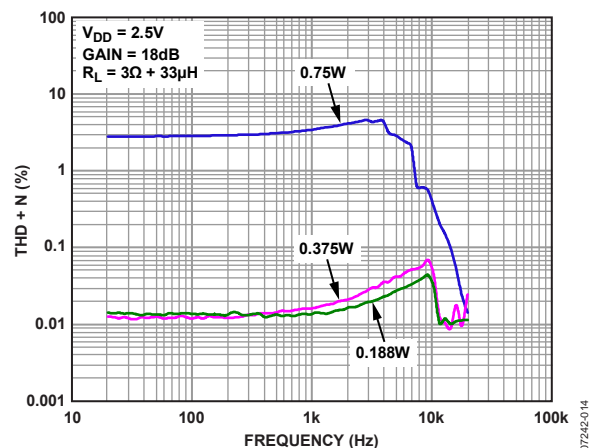


Figure 14. THD + N vs. Frequency,  $V_{DD} = 2.5V$ ,  $R_L = 3\Omega + 33\mu H$ , Gain = 18 dB



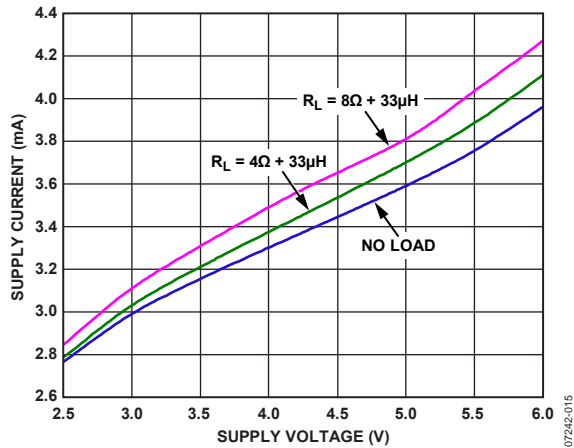


Figure 15. Supply Current vs. Supply Voltage

07242-015

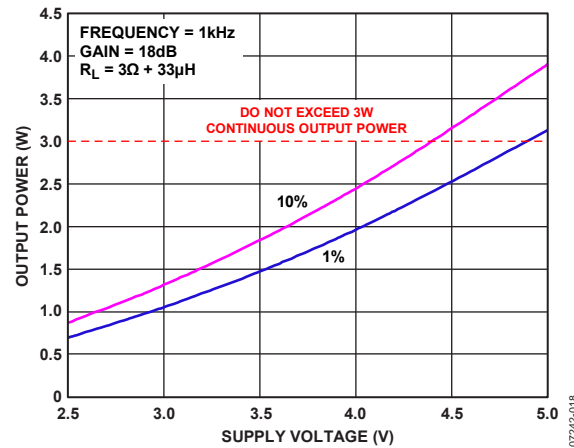


Figure 18. Maximum Output Power vs. Supply Voltage,  $R_L = 3\Omega + 33\mu\text{H}$ , Gain = 18 dB

07242-018

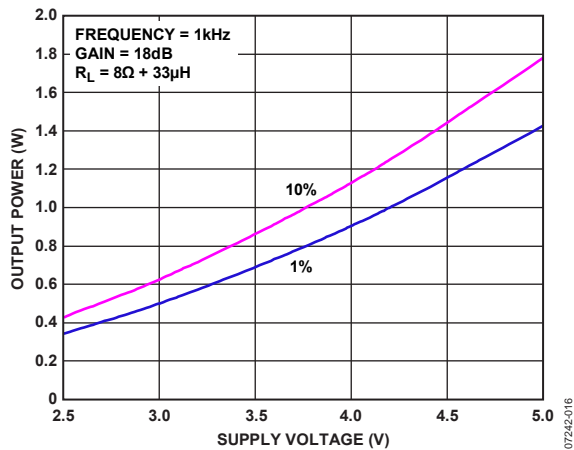


Figure 16. Maximum Output Power vs. Supply Voltage,  $R_L = 8\Omega + 33\mu\text{H}$ , Gain = 18 dB

07242-016

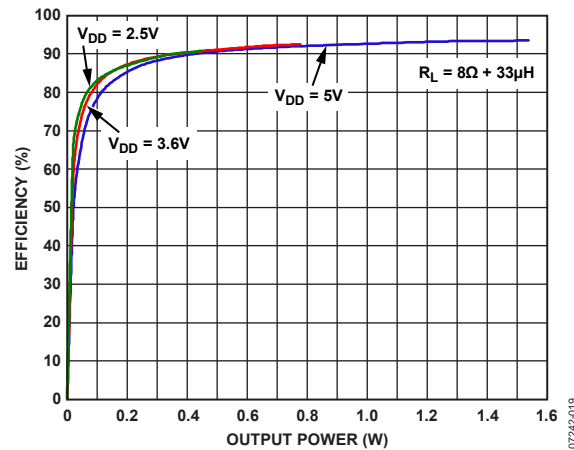


Figure 19. Efficiency vs. Output Power into  $8\Omega + 33\mu\text{H}$

07242-019

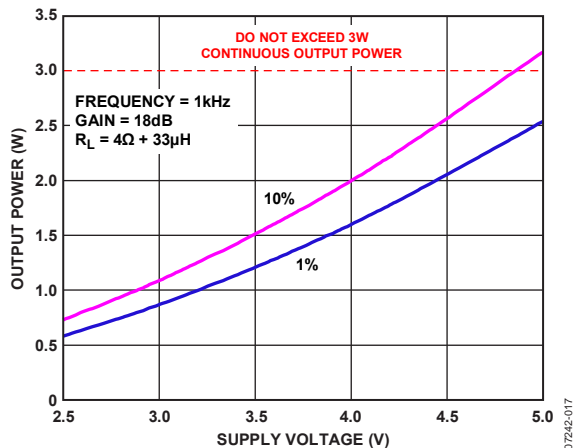


Figure 17. Maximum Output Power vs. Supply Voltage,  $R_L = 4\Omega + 33\mu\text{H}$ , Gain = 18 dB

07242-017

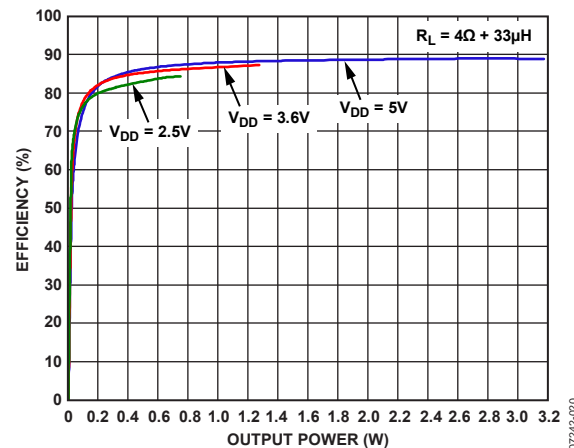


Figure 20. Efficiency vs. Output Power into  $4\Omega + 33\mu\text{H}$

07242-020

# SSM2317

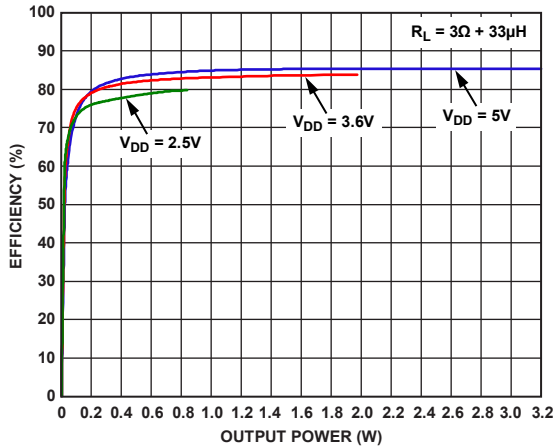


Figure 21. Efficiency vs. Output Power into  $3\Omega + 33\mu\text{H}$

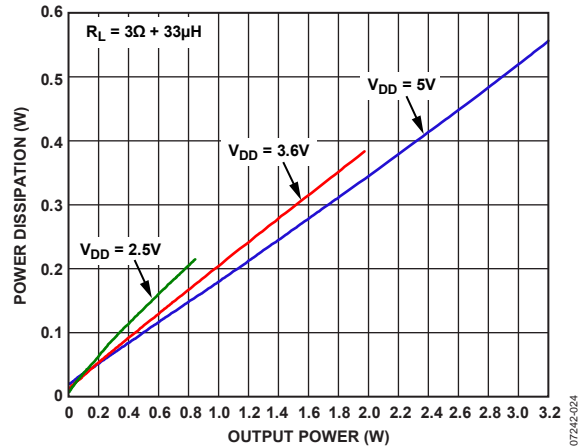


Figure 24. Power Dissipation vs. Output Power into  $3\Omega + 33\mu\text{H}$

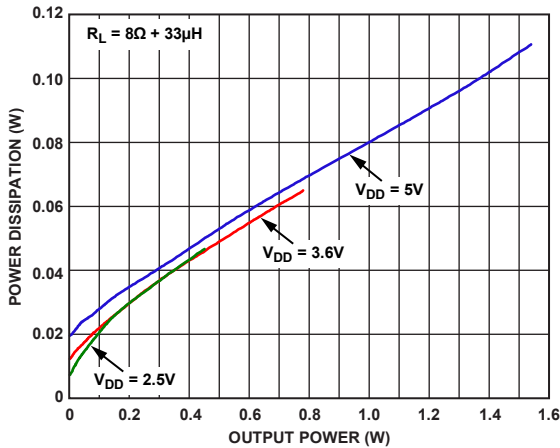


Figure 22. Power Dissipation vs. Output Power into  $8\Omega + 33\mu\text{H}$

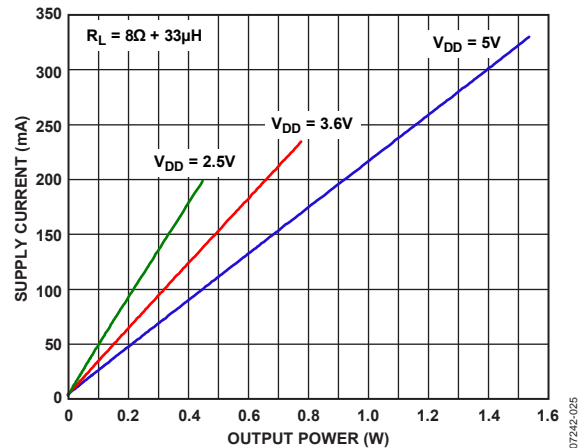


Figure 25. Supply Current vs. Output Power into  $8\Omega + 33\mu\text{H}$

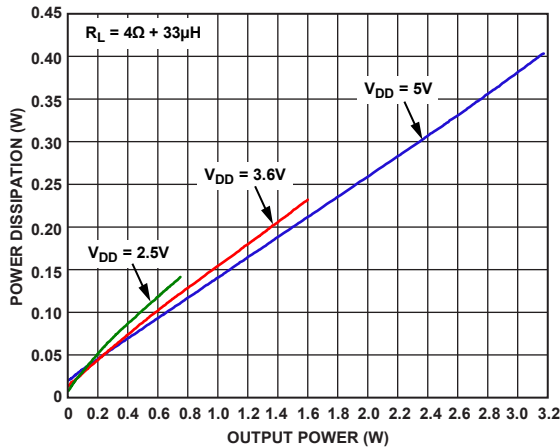


Figure 23. Power Dissipation vs. Output Power into  $4\Omega + 33\mu\text{H}$

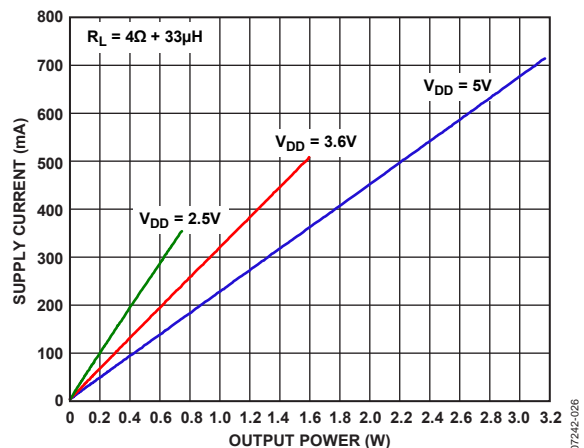


Figure 26. Supply Current vs. Output Power into  $4\Omega + 33\mu\text{H}$

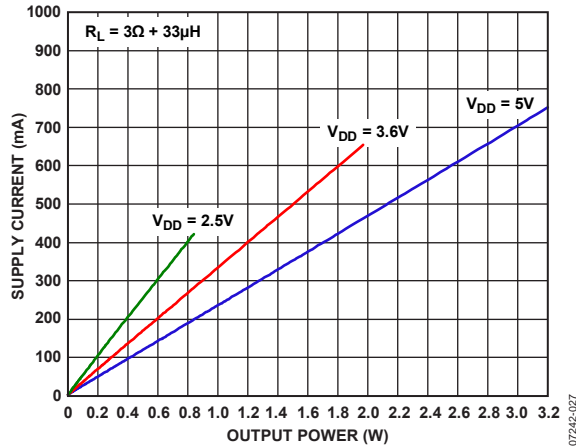


Figure 27. Supply Current vs. Output Power into  $3\Omega + 33\mu\text{H}$

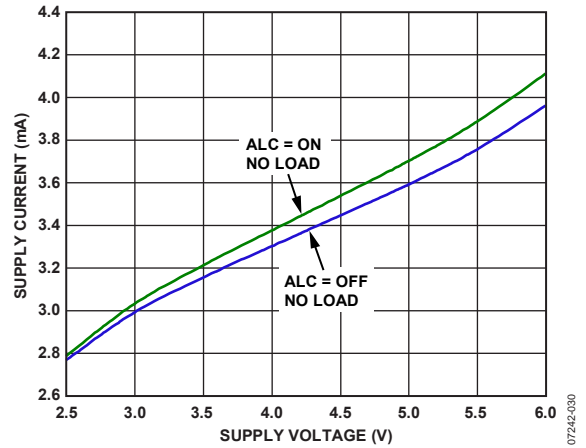


Figure 30. Supply Current vs. Supply Voltage, ALC Contribution

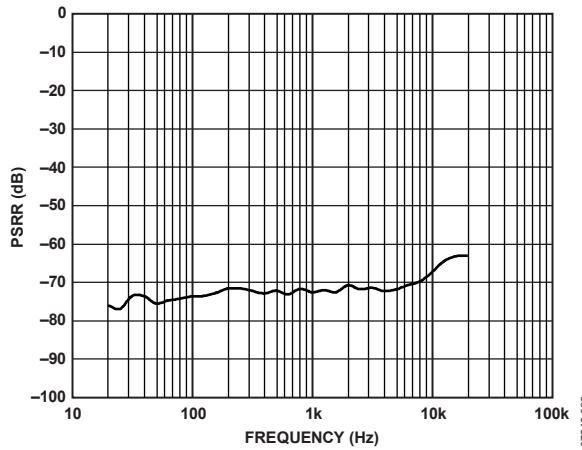


Figure 28. Power Supply Rejection Ratio vs. Frequency

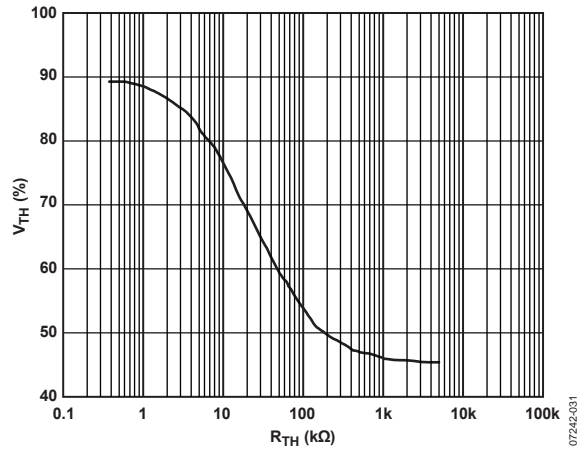


Figure 31.  $V_{TH}$  vs.  $R_{TH}$

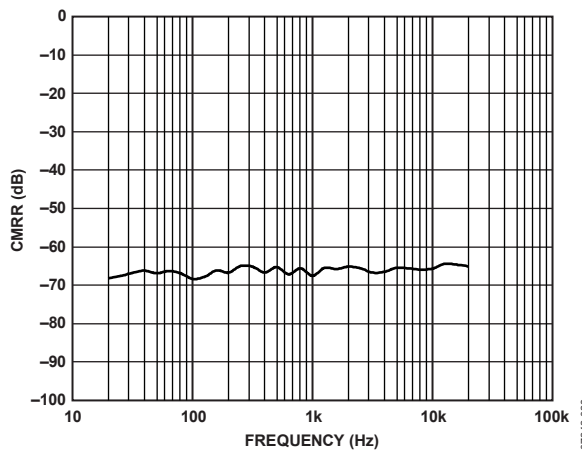


Figure 29. Common-Mode Rejection Ratio vs. Frequency

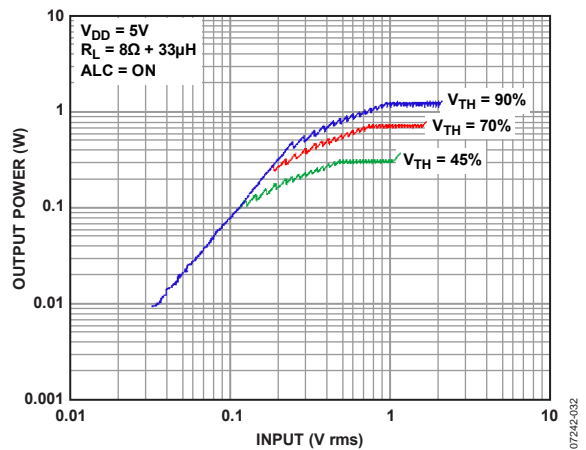


Figure 32. Input/Output Characteristic,  $V_{DD} = 5\text{V}$ , ALC = On

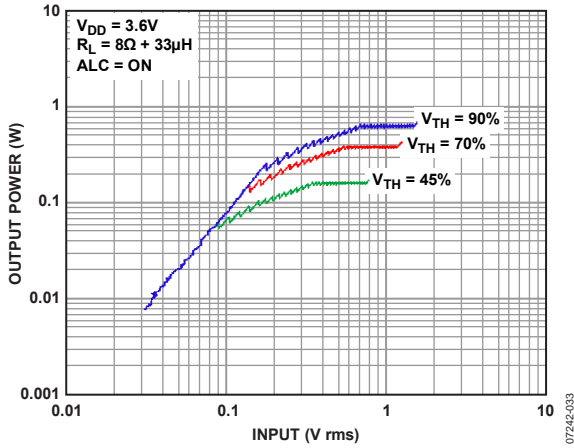


Figure 33. Input/Output Characteristic,  $V_{DD} = 3.6V$ ,  $ALC = On$

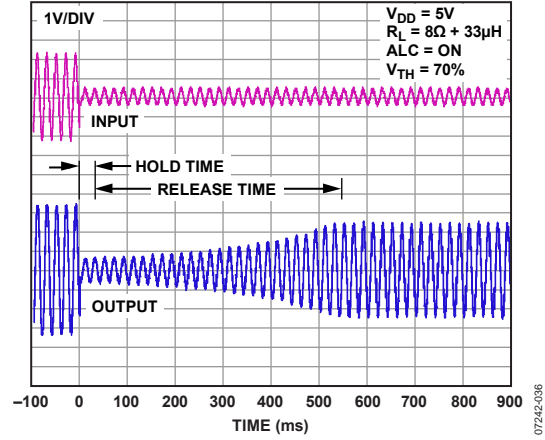


Figure 36. Release Waveform

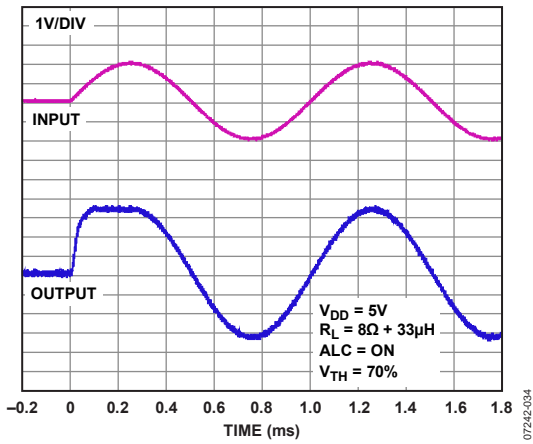


Figure 34. Attack Waveform, 1 kHz Sine Wave

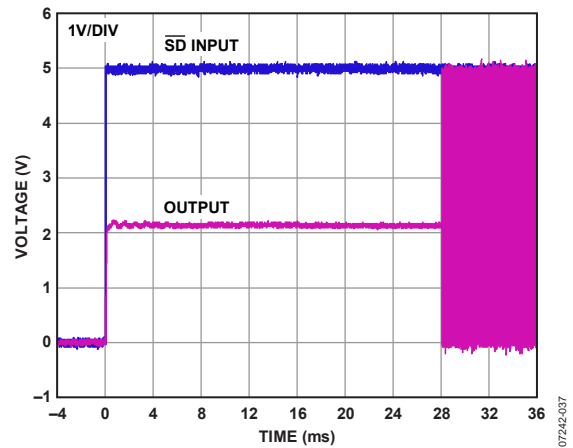


Figure 37. Turn-On Response

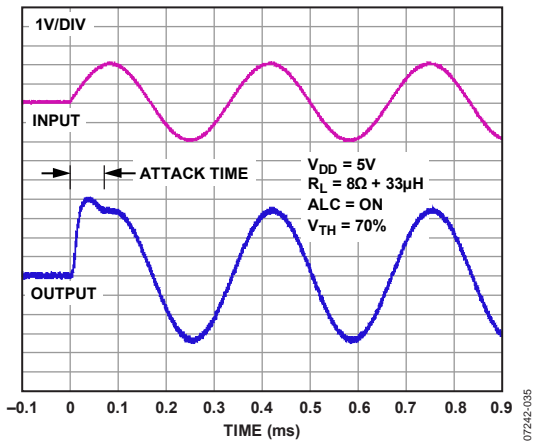


Figure 35. Attack Waveform, 3 kHz Sine Wave

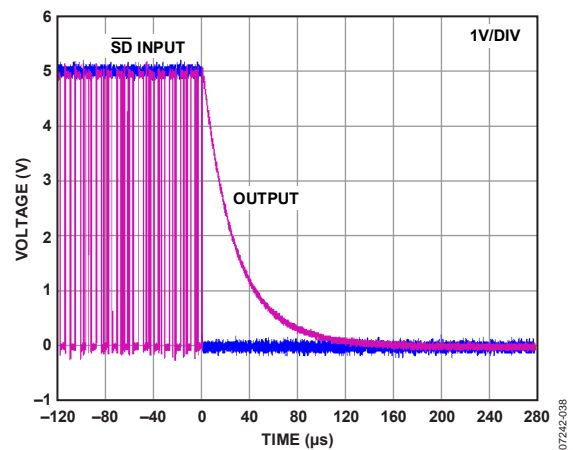
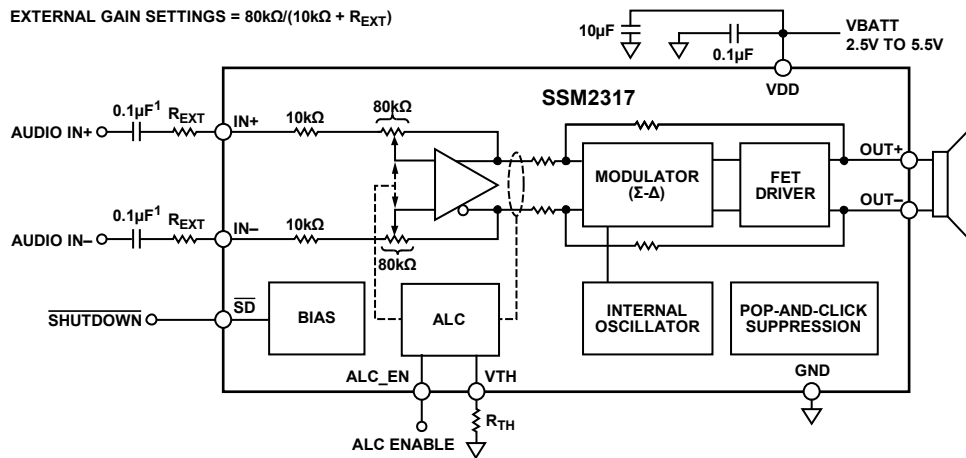


Figure 38. Turn-Off Response

# TYPICAL APPLICATION CIRCUITS



<sup>1</sup> INPUT CAPACITORS ARE OPTIONAL IF INPUT DC COMMON-MODE VOLTAGE IS APPROXIMATELY  $V_{DD}/2$ .

Figure 39. Differential Input Configuration, User-Adjustable Gain

07242-038

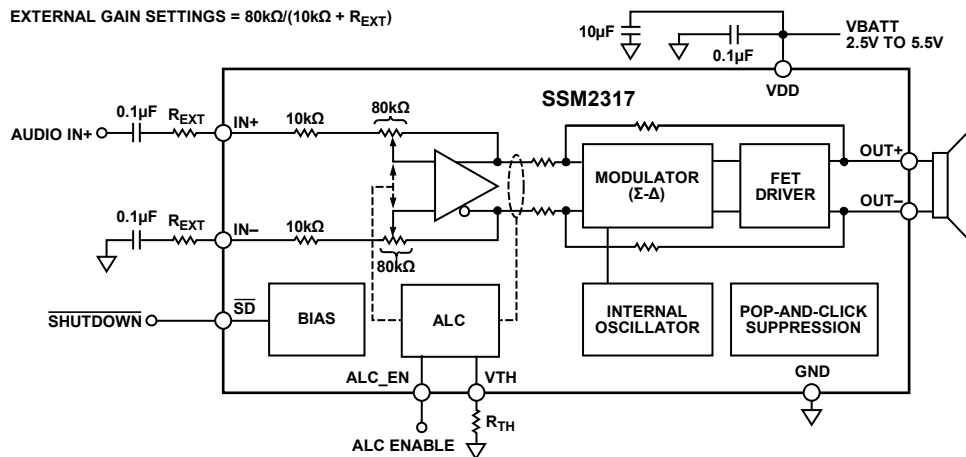


Figure 40. Single-Ended Input Configuration, User-Adjustable Gain

07242-040

## THEORY OF OPERATION

### OVERVIEW

The SSM2317 mono Class-D audio amplifier features a filterless modulation scheme that greatly reduces the external components count, conserving board space and, thus, reducing systems cost. The SSM2317 does not require an output filter but instead relies on the inherent inductance of the speaker coil and the natural filtering of the speaker and human ear to fully recover the audio component of the square wave output. Most Class-D amplifiers use some variation of pulse-width modulation (PWM), but the SSM2317 uses a  $\Sigma$ - $\Delta$  modulation to determine the switching pattern of the output devices, resulting in a number of important benefits.  $\Sigma$ - $\Delta$  modulators do not produce a sharp peak with many harmonics in the AM frequency band, as pulse-width modulators often do.  $\Sigma$ - $\Delta$  modulation provides the benefits of reducing the amplitude of spectral components at high frequencies, that is, reducing EMI emission that might otherwise be radiated by speakers and long cable traces. Due to the inherent spread spectrum nature of  $\Sigma$ - $\Delta$  modulation, the need for oscillator synchronization is eliminated for designs incorporating multiple SSM2317 amplifiers.

The SSM2317 also offers protection circuits for overcurrent and temperature protection.

### GAIN

The SSM2317 has a default gain of 18 dB that can be reduced by using a pair of external resistors with a value calculated as follows:

$$\text{External Gain Settings} = 80 \text{ k}\Omega / (10 \text{ k}\Omega + R_{EXT})$$

### POP-AND-CLICK SUPPRESSION

Voltage transients at the output of the audio amplifiers can occur when shutdown is activated or deactivated. Voltage transients as low as 10 mV can be heard as an audio pop in the speaker. Clicks and pops can also be classified as undesirable audible transients generated by the amplifier system and, therefore, as not coming from the system input signal. Such transients can be generated when the amplifier system changes its operating mode. For example, the following can be sources of audible transients: system power-up/power-down, mute/unmute, input source change, and sample rate change. The SSM2317 has a pop-and-click suppression architecture that reduces these output transients, resulting in noiseless activation and deactivation.

### OUTPUT MODULATION DESCRIPTION

The SSM2317 uses three-level,  $\Sigma$ - $\Delta$  output modulation. Each output can swing from GND to VDD and vice versa. Ideally, when no input signal is present, the output differential voltage is 0 V because there is no need to generate a pulse. In a real-world situation, there are always noise sources present. Due to this constant presence of noise, a differential pulse is generated, when required, in response to this stimulus. A small amount of current flows into the inductive load when the differential pulse is generated.

However, most of the time, output differential voltage is 0 V, due to the Analog Devices, Inc., patented three-level,  $\Sigma$ - $\Delta$  output modulation. This feature ensures that the current flowing through the inductive load is small.

When the user wants to send an input signal, an output pulse is generated to follow the input voltage. The differential pulse density is increased by raising the input signal level. Figure 41 depicts three-level,  $\Sigma$ - $\Delta$  output modulation with and without input stimulus.

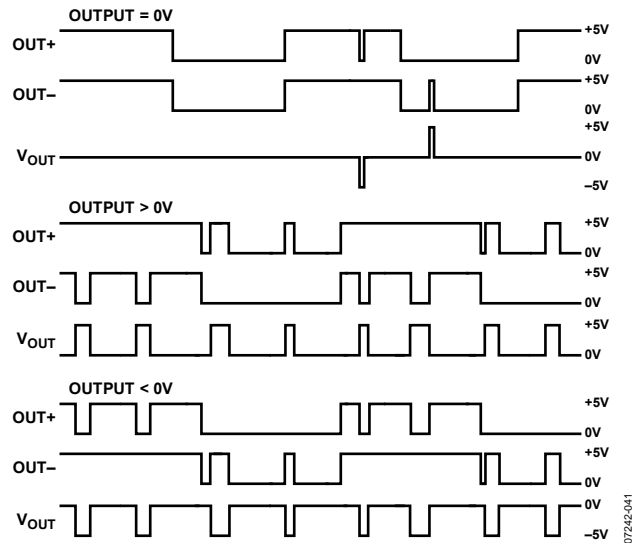


Figure 41. Three-Level,  $\Sigma$ - $\Delta$  Output Modulation With and Without Input Stimulus

### LAYOUT

As output power continues to increase, care must be taken to lay out PCB traces and wires properly among the amplifier, load, and power supply. A good practice is to use short, wide PCB tracks to decrease voltage drops and minimize inductance. Ensure that track widths are at least 200 mil for every inch of track length for lowest DCR, and use 1 oz or 2 oz of copper PCB traces to further reduce IR drops and inductance. A poor layout increases voltage drops, consequently affecting efficiency. Use large traces for the power supply inputs and amplifier outputs to minimize losses due to parasitic trace resistance.

Proper grounding guidelines help improve audio performance, minimize crosstalk between channels, and prevent switching noise from coupling into the audio signal. To maintain high output swing and high peak output power, the PCB traces that connect the output pins to the load and supply pins should be as wide as possible to maintain the minimum trace resistances. It is also recommended that a large ground plane be used for minimum impedances.

In addition, good PCB layouts isolate critical analog paths from sources of high interference. Separate high frequency circuits (analog and digital) from low frequency circuits.

Properly designed multilayer PCBs can reduce EMI emission and increase immunity to the RF field by a factor of 10 or more,

compared with double-sided boards. A multilayer board allows a complete layer to be used for the ground plane, whereas the ground plane side of a double-sided board is often disrupted with signal crossover.

If the system has separate analog and digital ground and power planes, place the analog ground plane underneath the analog power plane, and, similarly, place the digital ground plane underneath the digital power plane. There should be no overlap between analog and digital ground planes or analog and digital power planes.

### INPUT CAPACITOR SELECTION

The SSM2317 does not require input coupling capacitors if the input signal is biased from 1.0 V to  $V_{DD} - 1.0$  V. Input capacitors are required if the input signal is not biased within this recommended input dc common-mode voltage range, if high-pass filtering is needed, or if a single-ended source is used. If high-pass filtering is needed at the input, the input capacitor and the input resistor of the SSM2317 form a high-pass filter whose corner frequency is determined by the following equation:

$$f_c = 1 / \{2\pi \times (10 \text{ k}\Omega + R_{EXT}) \times C_{IN}\}$$

The input capacitor can significantly affect the performance of the circuit. Not using input capacitors degrades both the output offset of the amplifier and the dc PSRR performance.

### PROPER POWER SUPPLY DECOUPLING

To ensure high efficiency, low total harmonic distortion (THD), and high PSRR, proper power supply decoupling is necessary. Noise transients on the power supply lines are short-duration voltage spikes. Although the actual switching frequency can range from 10 kHz to 100 kHz, these spikes can contain frequency components that extend into the hundreds of megahertz. The power supply input needs to be decoupled with a good quality low ESL, low ESR capacitor, usually of around 4.7  $\mu$ F. This capacitor bypasses low frequency noises to the ground plane. For high frequency transient noises, use a 0.1  $\mu$ F capacitor as close as possible to the VDD pin of the device. Placing the decoupling capacitor as close as possible to the SSM2317 helps maintain efficient performance.

### AUTOMATIC LEVEL CONTROL (ALC)

Automatic level control (ALC) is a function that automatically adjusts amplifier gain to generate desired output amplitude with reference to a particular input stimulus. The primary motivation for the use of ALC is to protect an audio power amplifier or speaker load from the damaging effects of clipping or current overloading. This is accomplished by limiting the amplifier's output amplitude upon reaching a preset threshold voltage. A less intuitive benefit of ALC is that it makes sound sources with a wide dynamic range more intelligible by boosting low level signals yet limits very high level signals.

Figure 42 shows input vs. output and gain characteristics of ALC that is implemented in the SSM2317.

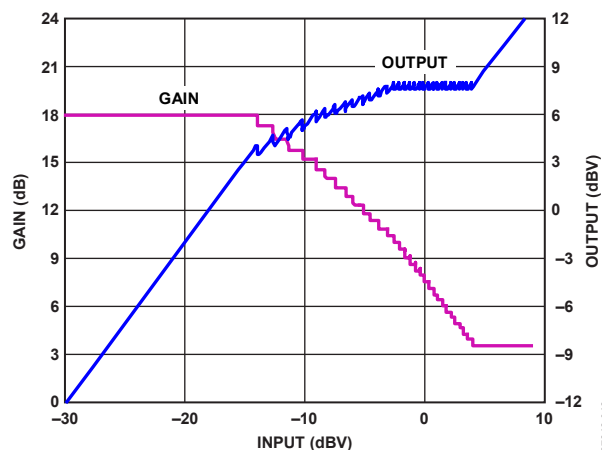


Figure 42. Input/Output Characteristic and Gain

When the input level is small and below the ALC threshold value, the gain of the amplifier stays at 18 dB. When the input exceeds the ALC threshold value, the ALC begins to gradually reduce the gain from 18 dB to 3.5 dB.

### OPERATING MODES

The ALC implemented on SSM2317 has two operating modes: compression and limiting. At the time the ALC is triggered for medium level input, the ALC is in compression mode. In this mode, an increase of the output signal is 1/3 of the increase of the input signal. For example, if the input signal increases by 3 dB, the ALC reduces the amplifier gain by 2 dB and thus the output signal only increases by 1 dB.

As the input signal becomes very large, the ALC transitions into limiting operation mode. In this mode, the output stays at a given threshold level,  $V_{TH}$ , even if the input signal grows larger. For example, when a large input signal increases by 3 dB, the ALC reduces the amplifier gain by 3 dB and thus the output increases 0 dB. When the amplifier gain is reduced to 3.5 dB, ALC cannot further reduce the gain and the output increases again. To avoid potential speaker damage, the maximum input signal should not be large enough to exceed the maximum attenuation (3.5 dB) of the limiting operational mode.

### ATTACK TIME, HOLD TIME, AND RELEASE TIME

When the amplifier input exceeds a preset threshold, ALC reduces amplifier gain rapidly until its output settles to a target level. This gain level is maintained for a certain period. If the input does not exceed the threshold again, ALC increases the gain gradually. The attack time is the time taken to reduce the gain from maximum to minimum. The hold time is the time to sustain the reduced gain. The release time is the time taken to increase the gain from minimum to maximum. These times are shown in Table 5.

Table 5. Attack, Hold, and Release Times

| Time         | Duration (ms) |
|--------------|---------------|
| Attack Time  | 0.1           |
| Hold Time    | 35            |
| Release Time | 550           |

## OUTPUT THRESHOLD

The maximum output amplitude threshold ( $V_{TH}$ ) during the limiting mode can be changed from 90% to 45% of  $V_{DD}$  by having an external resistor,  $R_{TH}$ , between the  $V_{TH}$  pin and GND. Shorting the  $V_{TH}$  pin to GND sets  $V_{TH}$  to 90% of  $V_{DD}$ . Leaving the  $V_{TH}$  pin unconnected sets  $V_{TH}$  to 45% of  $V_{DD}$ . The relation of  $R_{TH}$  to  $V_{TH}$  is shown by the following equation:

$$V_{TH} = 0.9 \times \frac{50 \text{ k}\Omega + R_{TH}}{50 \text{ k}\Omega + 2 \times R_{TH}} \times V_{DD}$$

Maximum output power is derived from  $V_{TH}$  by the following equation:

$$P_{OUT} = \frac{\left(\frac{V_{TH}}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2}{R_{SP}}$$

where  $R_{SP}$  is the speaker impedance.

Figure 43 shows the relationship between the  $R_{TH}$  value and  $V_{TH}$ . Figure 44 shows the relationship between the maximum output power and the  $R_{TH}$  value.

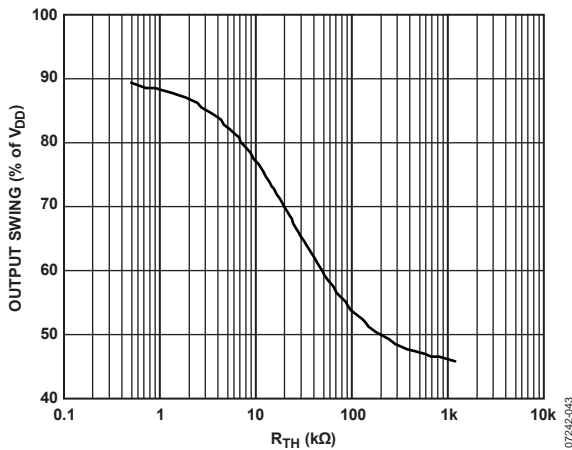


Figure 43. Output Threshold ( $V_{TH}$ ) vs.  $R_{TH}$

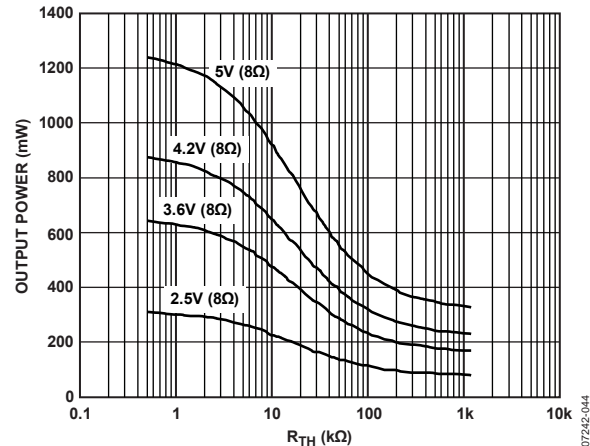


Figure 44. Maximum Output Power vs.  $R_{TH}$

## ENABLE/DISABLING ALC

The ALC function is enabled when the  $ALC\_EN$  pin is set to  $V_{DD}$ . The ALC function can be enabled and disabled during amplifier operation. As a result of enabling ALC,  $I_{SY}$  increases by 100  $\mu A$  and there is less than 50  $\mu A$  source current from the  $V_{TH}$  pin to GND via  $R_{TH}$ . When ALC is disabled, the source current is 0  $\mu A$  and the  $V_{TH}$  pin is tied to GND.





**SSM2317**

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