Overview

The LA4906 is a BTL two-channel power amplifier for use in car audio systems. It uses a signal-following switching technique in the power supply for the amplifier output stage and a newly-developed nonlinear amplifier that features nonlinear characteristics in the signal system. These features hold increases in the number of external components to a minimum, and reduce power dissipation (and thus heat generation) in the practical operating region to about 1/2 that of earlier class B amplifier ICs. This can contribute significantly to miniaturization and weight reduction in the heat sink and to reduction of the heat generated within the end product case.

Features

• Power dissipation reduced by 50% (for music at average power levels, as compared to earlier Sanyo products)
• The number of required signal-following switching circuits has been reduced to just one circuit for two channels, reducing the number of external components.
• The output is a pure analog signal; no switching noise whatsoever appears on the output lines.
• Uses a single-voltage power supply from 8 to 18 V.
• Provides a full range of built-in protection circuits, including shorting of output pin to $V_{CC}$, shorting of output pin to ground, overvoltage, and thermal shutdown protection.
• Built-in standby switch
• Clipping detection function

Specifications

Maximum Ratings at $T_a = 25^\circ C$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
<th>Ratings</th>
<th>Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maximum supply voltage</td>
<td>$V_{CC \ max 1}$</td>
<td>With no signal, $t = 1 \ minute$</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$V_{CC \ max 2}$</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum output current</td>
<td>$I_{O \ Peak}$</td>
<td>Per channel</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allowable power dissipation</td>
<td>$P_{d \ max}$</td>
<td>With an arbitrarily large heat sink</td>
<td>37.5</td>
<td>W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating temperature</td>
<td>$T_{opr}$</td>
<td></td>
<td>–35 to +85</td>
<td>°C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage temperature</td>
<td>$T_{stg}$</td>
<td></td>
<td>–40 to +150</td>
<td>°C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: 1. Set $V_{CC}$ and $R_L$ to be in the range where $P_{d \ max}$ does not exceed 37.5 W.
2. The overvoltage protection circuit operates at $V_{CC} = 26$ V or higher.
LA4906

### Operating Conditions at \( T_a = 25^\circ \text{C} \)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
<th>Ratings</th>
<th>Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recommended supply voltage</td>
<td>( V_{CC} )</td>
<td>( V_{CC} = 13.2 \text{ V} )</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allowable operating voltage range</td>
<td>( V_{CC _op} )</td>
<td>( V_{CC} )</td>
<td>8 to 16</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended load resistance</td>
<td>( R_L )</td>
<td>( R_L = 4 \text{ \Omega} )</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>( \text{\Omega} )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended load resistance range</td>
<td>( R_{L _op} )</td>
<td>( R_L )</td>
<td>2 to 4</td>
<td>( \text{\Omega} )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Set \( V_{CC} \) and \( R_L \) to be in the range where \( P_d \_\text{max} \) does not exceed 37.5 W.

### Operating Characteristics at \( T_a = 25^\circ \text{C} \), \( V_{CC} = 13.2 \text{ V} \), \( R_L = 4 \text{ \Omega} \), \( f = 1 \text{ kHz} \), \( R_G = 600 \text{ \Omega} \), in the recommended circuit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
<th>Ratings</th>
<th>Unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quiescent current drain ( I_{CCD} )</td>
<td>( R_L = \infty ), ( V_{IN} = 0 )</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standby current ( I_{st} )</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voltage gain ( V_G )</td>
<td>( V_O = 0 \text{ dBm} )</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total harmonic distortion ( \text{THD} )</td>
<td>( P_O = 1 \text{ W} ), LPF = 30 kHz</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output power ( P_O )</td>
<td>( \text{THD} = 10 % ), ( R_L = 4 \text{ \Omega} )</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>( \text{THD} = 10 % ), ( R_L = 2 \text{ \Omega} )</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output noise voltage ( V_{NO} )</td>
<td>( R_G = 0 ), LPF = 20 Hz to 20 kHz</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ripple rejection ratio ( SVRR )</td>
<td>( R_G = 0 ), ( V_{CCR} = 0 \text{ dBm} ), LPF = 20 Hz to 20 kHz</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel separation ( \text{CH sep} )</td>
<td>( R_G = 10 \text{ \Omega} ), ( V_O = 0 \text{ dBm} ), LPF = 20 Hz to 20 kHz</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Input resistance ( R_i )</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output offset voltage ( V_{N _offset} )</td>
<td>( R_G = 0 )</td>
<td>( -200 )</td>
<td>( +200 )</td>
<td>mV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standby on voltage ( V_{STH _AMP} )</td>
<td>AMP = on, applied through a 10 k( \Omega ) resistor</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clipping detect off current ( I_{DOFF} )</td>
<td>( \text{THD} = 1 % )</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clipping detect on current ( I_{DON} )</td>
<td>( \text{THD} = 10 % )</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Technologies for Increased Efficiency Used in the LA4906

- Signal-following switching technique
  The LA4906 uses a switching regulator for the power supply for the amplifier output stage. The LA4906 significantly reduces power dissipation by having the switching regulator output voltage follow the signal. Also, the LA4906 restricts the number of switching regulators required to just one circuit even though it implements a BTL 2-channel amplifier by using the switching regulator in combination with the nonlinear amplifier described below. (See Figure 1.)

- Nonlinear amplifier
  The LA4906 adopts a nonlinear amplifier, which has the nonlinear characteristics shown in Figure 2, in the signal system. The LA4906 dispenses with the lower side switching regulator by using a low 2 V as the midpoint voltage instead of the 1/2 VCC used in normal amplifiers.

  This nonlinear amplifier is basically formed from a differential amplifier that has a symmetrical negative feedback circuit. Although the BTL output stage positive and reverse phase output waveforms have a half-wave waveform that, when referenced to ground, is expanded and compressed as shown in Figure 3, the combined output waveform at the load terminals is identical to that of earlier products.

![Figure 1 Overview Block Diagram](image1)

![Figure 2 Nonlinear Amplifier Input/Output Characteristics](image2)

![Figure 3 Output Waveforms](image3)

![Figure 4 Power Dissipation Comparison with Earlier Sanyo Products](image4)
Pin Voltages (At V_CC = 13.2 V, with 5 V applied to STBY through a 10 kΩ resistor, using a digital voltmeter)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pin No.</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pin</td>
<td>IN2</td>
<td>Pre-GND</td>
<td>IN1</td>
<td>BEEP</td>
<td>PWR-GND 1</td>
<td>-OUT1</td>
<td>+OUT1</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pin voltage (V)</td>
<td>1.36</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.36</td>
<td>1.36</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pin No.</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>13</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pin</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>V_CC</td>
<td>V_CC(SW)</td>
<td>SW OUT1</td>
<td>SW OUT2</td>
<td>SW E</td>
<td>SE B</td>
<td>SW - GND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pin voltage (V)</td>
<td>3.92</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>3.73</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pin No.</th>
<th>17</th>
<th>18</th>
<th>19</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>21</th>
<th>22</th>
<th>23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pin</td>
<td>+OUT2</td>
<td>-OUT2</td>
<td>PWR - GND2</td>
<td>D, C</td>
<td>STAND-BY</td>
<td>DDL OUT</td>
<td>ON-TIME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pin voltage (V)</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>3.21</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. External component descriptions

C1 and C2
- Input capacitors. A value of 2.2 µF is recommended for these capacitors. Note that the low-frequency area characteristics can be adjusted by changing $f_L$, which is determined by the values of C1 and C2. However, due to impulse (pop) noise considerations, the value of C1 and C2 should not exceed 3.3 µF when C4 is 22 µF.

C3
- Beep amplifier input capacitor. A value the same as that of C1 and C2 is used. If the beep function is not used, connect the beep input to PRE-GND through C3.

C4
- Set the amplifier turn-on time. A value of 22 µF is recommended. (This will result in a turn-on time of about 0.7 second.) The on time is proportional to the value of this capacitor, and any value may be used. However, due to impulse (pop) noise considerations, a value of 22 µF or larger should be used.

C5, C6, C7, and C8
- Oscillation prevention capacitors. Polyester film (Mylar) capacitors with good temperature characteristics must be used. (These are used together with R1, R2, R3, and R4.) We recommend values of 0.1 µF or higher for these capacitors since the stability will differ somewhat depending on the printed circuit board layout actually used.

C9
- Decoupling capacitor (ripple filter)

C10
- Power-supply capacitor

C11
- Oscillation prevention capacitor for the switching regulator. A value of 1500 pF is recommended.

C12
- Switching regulator output smoothing capacitor. The LA4906 adopts a self-excited switching regulator technique. The value of this capacitor must be optimized, since it influences both the self-excitation stability and the regulator efficiency. We recommend using a 2.2-µF 25-V OS (Organic Semiconductor) capacitor with a low series resistance and good temperature characteristics. Note that for the same reason a 2.2-Ω 1/2-W resistor should be used for the associated resistor R6.

R5
- Standby switch current limiter resistor. A value of 10 kΩ is recommended. (When the voltage applied to the standby switch is in the range 3 to 13.2 V.) Note that this resistor cannot be removed from this circuit.
See the “Standby Function” section elsewhere in this document.

**TR1**
- External switching transistor. The 2SD1668 (rank S) is recommended.
  - If the application supports a load resistance $RL$ of 4 $\Omega$, a 2SD1667 (rank S) may be used. A heat sink must be provided for this transistor, as well as for the IC itself.

**D1**
- Flywheel diode used to absorb energy from the coil. The SB40-05J, which is a Schottky barrier diode with a low $VF$, is recommended.
  - If the application supports a load resistance $RL$ of 4 $\Omega$, an SB10-05A2 may be used. No heat sink is necessary for this diode, as well as for the IC itself.

**L1**
- The Tokin Co., Ltd.-made HP-022Z [180 $\mu$H] (or the HP-011Z [200 $\mu$H] for 4-$\Omega$ applications) is recommended.

### 2. IC internal characteristics and other notes

**Switching regulator**
- The LA4906 includes a signal-following self-excited switching regulator to reduce power dissipation. The self-excitation frequency with no input signal is about 100 kHz.
- To avoid spurious signal interference within the end product case, it is desirable to separate the tuner block from the amplifier block by as far as possible. When designing the printed circuit board pattern, make the lines associated with the switching regulator external components as short and as wide as possible.
- To prevent degradation of the LA4906 characteristics, separate the switching regulator external components from the IC inputs (the input block pattern, the input capacitors, and the beep amplifier capacitor) by at least 1.5 cm.

**Standby function**
- Pin 21 is the standby switching pin. The amplifier is turned on by applying a voltage of over 3 V to pin 21 through an external resistor (R1).
- If the standby switch applied voltage will exceed 13.2 V, then the current flowing into pin 5 must be held to under 500 $\mu$A. Use the following formula to determine the value of R1 that meets this condition.

$$R1 = \frac{applied \text{ voltage} - 1.4 \text{ V}}{500 \mu A} - 10 \text{ k}\Omega$$

**BEEP pin (pin 4)**
- If the BEEP pin is used, use the smallest value of R102 (see figure) possible (but note that this value must be under 100 $\Omega$) to prevent degradation of the IC’s output noise voltage ($V_{NO}$) characteristics.

**Protection circuits**
- The LA4906 includes an on-chip thermal protection circuit to prevent destruction of or damage to the IC if abnormal heating occurs. If, due to an inadequate heat sink or other reason, the IC junction temperature ($Tj$) reaches or exceeds 160°C, the output is gradually attenuated by the operation of the thermal protection circuit.
- The overvoltage protection circuit operates if the $V_{CC}$ voltage exceeds 20 V.
- While the LA4906 includes a power supply/ground short protection circuit, it does not include a load shorting protection circuit. The idea behind this design is that the thermal shutdown protection circuit will protect the IC itself if the load is shorted. However, since a load short will also cause temperature increases in the external transistor and coil, care is required in handling this case.

**Other notes**
- Pin 22 is not connected electrically to any other points within the package.
**LA4906**

- **Output power, \( P_O \) – \( W \)
- **Channel separation, \( \text{CHsep} \) – dB
- **Ripple rejection ratio, \( \text{SVRR} \) – dB
- **Power dissipation, \( P_d \) – \( W \)
- **Output noise voltage, \( V_{NO} \) – mV rms
- **Supply voltage, \( V_{CC} \) – V
- **Input frequency, \( f \) – Hz
- **Input resistance, \( R_g \) – \( \Omega \)
- **Ripple frequency, \( f_R \) – Hz

**Using a 1-\( \mu \)F power-supply capacitor**

Calculate \( \text{SVRR} \) from the following formula:

\[
\text{SVRR} = 20 \log \left( \frac{V_O}{V_{CCR}} \right)
\]

- **Current drain, \( I_{CC} \) – A
- **Power dissipation, \( P_d \) – \( W \)
- **Both channels operating**
- **\( V_{CC} = 13.2\) V, \( R_L = 4 \) \( \Omega \), \( f_r = 100\) Hz**
- **Using a 1-\( \mu \)F power-supply capacitor**
- **\( P_d \) for the IC itself**
- **\( P_d \) for the external transistor**

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With VST applied to pin 21 through a 10-kΩ resistor:

- The time until the amplifier turns on after VST is applied.

### Graphs:

- **$P_d - P_o$**
  - Power dissipation vs. output power for both channels operating.
  - Two graphs showing power dissipation as a function of output power.

- **$f_{osc} - V_{CC}$**
  - Regulator oscillator frequency vs. supply voltage.
  - Graph showing frequency variation with supply voltage.

- **$P_o - T_a$**
  - Output power vs. ambient temperature for both channels operating.
  - Graphs showing output power at different ambient temperatures.

- **$V_N - V_{ST}$**
  - Output pin voltage vs. applied standby pin voltage.
  - Graph showing output voltage changes with different standby voltages.

- **$THD - T_a$**
  - Total harmonic distortion vs. ambient temperature for both channels operating.
  - Graphs representing distortion levels at various temperatures.

- **$Amp\, On\, time - C_4$**
  - Amplifier on time vs. capacitor value C4.
  - Graph illustrating on time changes with varying capacitor values.
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