

NCR420Z / NCR421Z

150 mA LED driver in SOT223

Rev. 1 — 4 February 2019

Product data sheet

1. Product profile

1.1. General description

LED driver consisting of resistor-equipped NPN transistor with two diodes on one chip in a medium power SOT223 (SC73) plastic package.

Table 1. Product overview

Type number	Package	
	Nexperia	JEITA
NCR420Z	SOT223	SC-73
NCR421Z	SOT223	SC-73

1.2. Features and benefits

- Stabilized output current of 10 mA without external resistor
- Stabilized output current adjustable up to 150 mA when an external resistor is used
- High current accuracy at supply voltage variation
- Low voltage overhead of 1.4 V
- Reduces component count and board space
- High power dissipation of 1250 mW
- Supply voltage up to 40 V
- Digital PWM input up to 10 kHz frequency for NCR421Z
- AEC-Q101 qualified

1.3. Applications

- Constant current LED driver
- Generic constant current source
- Automotive applications (for example: interior lighting, dash board, instrumentation, number plate light)
- Increase stabilized output current by paralleling drivers

1.4. Quick reference data

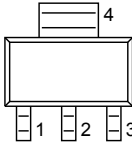
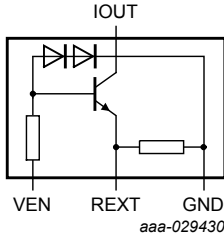
Table 2. Quick reference data

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
V _{EN}	enable voltage					
	NCR420Z		-	-	40	V
	NCR421Z		-	-	4.5	V
V _{out}	output voltage		-	-	40	V
I _{out}	stabilized output current					
	NCR420Z	V _{out} = 1.4 V; V _{EN} = 24 V	[1] 9	10	11	mA
	NCR421Z	V _{out} = 1.4 V; V _{EN} = 3.3 V	[1] 9	10	11	mA

[1] Pulse test: t_p ≤ 300 μs; δ ≤ 0.02

2. Pinning information

Table 3. Pinning

Pin	Symbol	Description	Simplified outline	Symbol
1	VEN	enable voltage		
2	REXT	external resistor		
3	GND	ground		
4	IOUT	output current		

3. Ordering information

Table 4. Ordering information

Type number	Package		
	Name	Description	Version
NCR420Z	SC-73	plastic surface-mounted package with increased heatsink; 4 leads	SOT223
NCR421Z	SC-73	plastic surface-mounted package with increased heatsink; 4 leads	SOT223

4. Marking

Table 5. Marking codes

Type number	Marking code
NCR420Z	CR420Z
NCR421Z	CR421Z

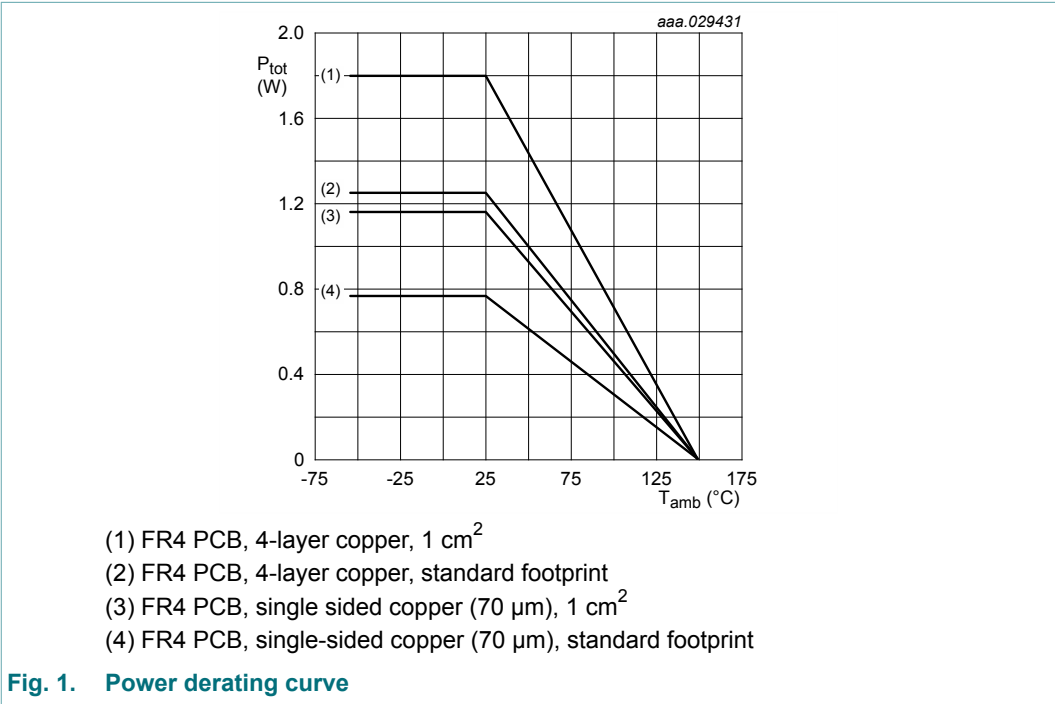
5. Limiting values

Table 6. Limiting values

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

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions		Min	Max	Unit
I _{out}	stabilized output current if external resistor is used			-	200	mA
V _{EN}	enable voltage					
	NCR420Z			-	40	V
	NCR421Z			-	4.5	V
V _{out}	output voltage			-	40	V
V _R	reverse voltage		[1]	-	0.5	V
P _{tot}	total power dissipation	T _{amb} ≤ 25 °C	[2]	-	765	mW
			[3]	-	1160	mW
			[4]	-	1250	mW
			[5]	-	1800	mW
T _j	junction temperature			-	150	°C
T _{amb}	ambient temperature			-55	150	°C
T _{stg}	storage temperature			-65	150	°C

- [1] Between all terminals.
- [2] Device mounted on an FR4 Printed-Circuit Board (PCB), single-side copper (70 μm), tin-plated and standard footprint.
- [3] Device mounted on an FR4 Printed-Circuit Board (PCB), single-side copper (70 μm), tin-plated; mounting pad for collector 1 cm².
- [4] Device mounted on an FR4 Printed-Circuit Board (PCB), 4-layer copper, tin-plated and standard footprint.
- [5] Device mounted on an FR4 Printed-Circuit Board (PCB), 4-layer copper, tin-plated; mounting pad for collector 1 cm².

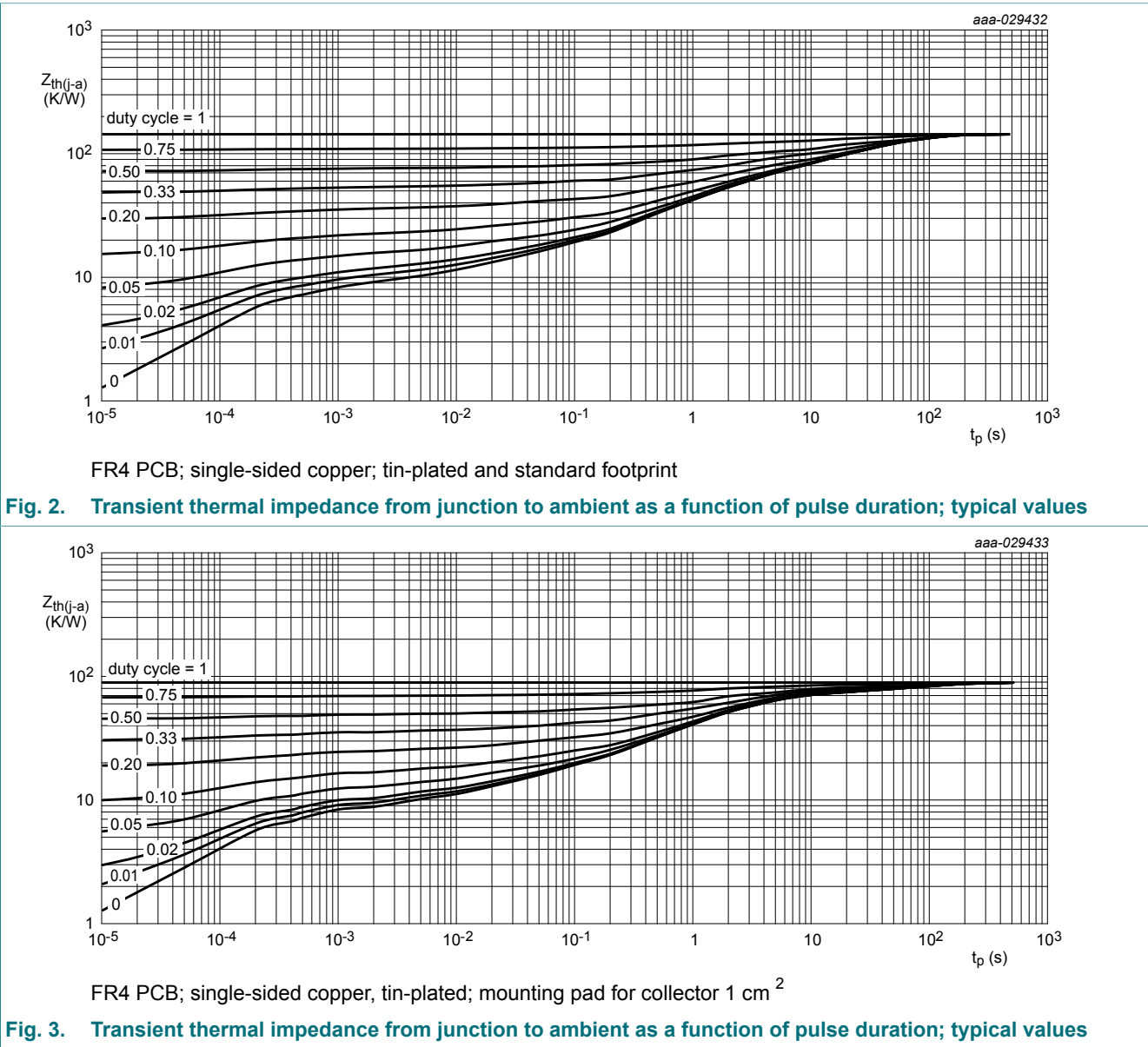


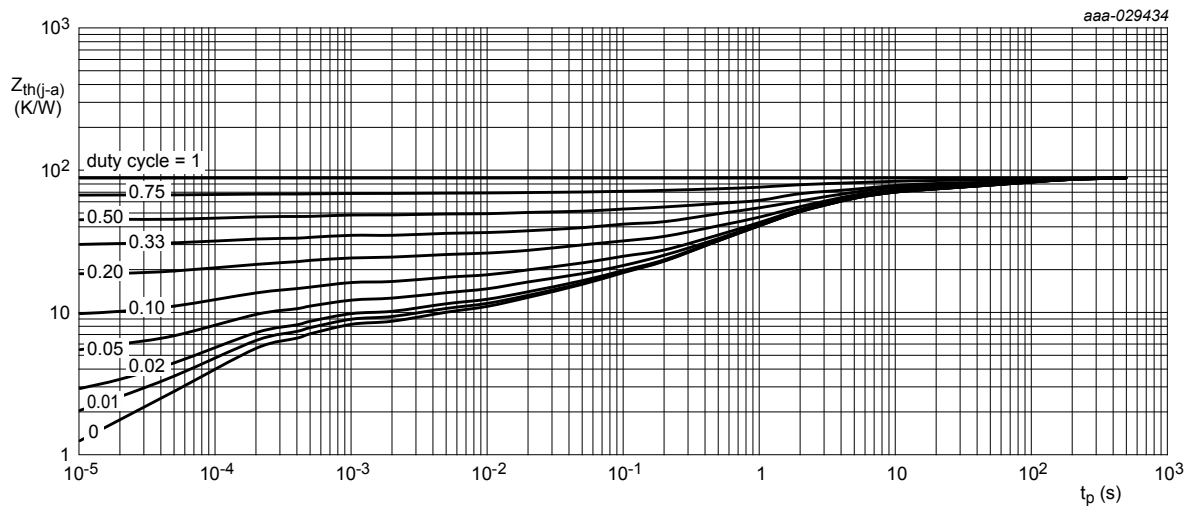
6. Thermal characteristics

Table 7. Thermal characteristics

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions		Min	Typ	Max	Unit
$R_{th(j-a)}$	thermal resistance from junction to ambient	in free air	[1]	-	-	164	K/W
			[2]	-	-	108	K/W
			[3]	-	-	100	K/W
			[4]	-	-	70	K/W
$R_{th(j-sp)}$	thermal resistance from junction to solder point			-	-	27	K/W

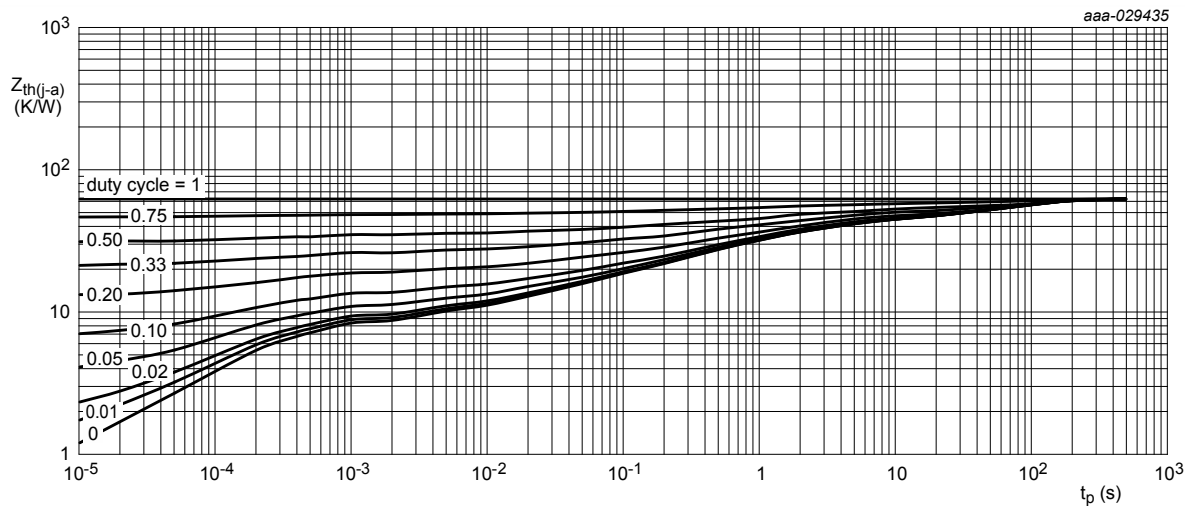
- [1] Device mounted on an FR4 PCB, single-sided copper (70 μm), tin-plated and standard footprint.
- [2] Device mounted on an FR4 PCB, single-sided copper (70 μm), tin-plated; mounting pad for collector 1 cm².
- [3] Device mounted on an FR4 PCB, 4-layer copper, tin-plated and standard footprint.
- [4] Device mounted on an FR4 PCB, 4-layer copper, tin-plated; mounting pad for collector 1 cm².





FR4 PCB; 4-layer copper; tin-plated and standard footprint

Fig. 4. Transient thermal impedance from junction to ambient as a function of pulse duration; typical values



FR4 PCB; 4-layer copper, tin-plated; mounting pad for collector 1 cm²

Fig. 5. Transient thermal impedance from junction to ambient as a function of pulse duration; typical values

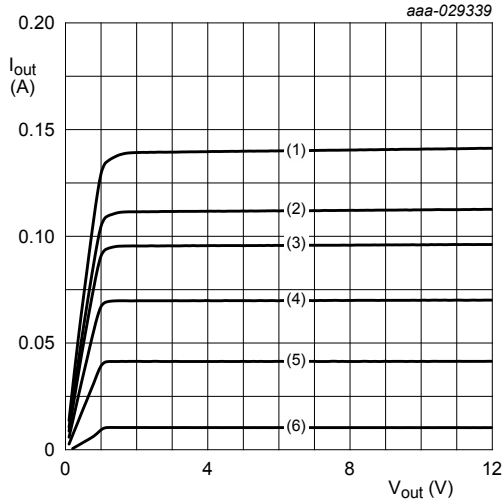
7. Characteristics

Table 8. Characteristics

$T_{amb} = 25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ unless otherwise specified.

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions		Min	Typ	Max	Unit
$V_{(BR)CEO}$	collector-emitter breakdown voltage	$I_C = 1\text{ mA}$; $I_B = 0\text{ A}$		40	-	-	V
h_{FE}	DC current gain	$V_{CE} = 1\text{ V}$; $I_C = 50\text{ mA}$	[1]	200	350	-	
R_{int}	internal resistor	$I_{Rint} = 10\text{ mA}$		85	95	105	Ω
V_{Rint}	voltage drop at internal resistor R_{int}	$I_{out} = 10\text{ mA}$	[1]	0.85	0.95	1.05	V
I_{EN}	enable current						
	NCR420Z	$V_{EN} = 24\text{ V}$	[1]	-	1.2	-	mA
	NCR421Z	$V_{EN} = 3.3\text{ V}$	[1]	-	1.2	-	mA
R_B	bias resistor						
	NCR420Z			-	20	-	k Ω
	NCR421Z			-	1.5	-	k Ω
I_{out}	stabilized output current						
	NCR420Z	$V_{EN} = 24\text{ V}$; $V_{out} = 1.4\text{ V}$	[1]	9	10	11	mA
	NCR421Z	$V_{EN} = 3.3\text{ V}$; $V_{out} = 1.4\text{ V}$	[1]	9	10	11	mA
I_{out}	stabilized output current						
	NCR420Z at $R_{ext} = 5.1\text{ }\Omega$	$V_{EN} = 24\text{ V}$; $V_{out} > 2\text{ V}$	[1]	-	150	-	mA
	NCR421Z at $R_{ext} = 5.1\text{ }\Omega$	$V_{EN} = 3.3\text{ V}$; $V_{out} > 2\text{ V}$	[1]	-	150	-	mA
$V_{out, min}$	lowest sufficient output voltage overhead: $V_{out} = V_{CC} - V_{LED}$	$I_{out} > 10\text{ mA}$		-	1.4	-	V
$\Delta I_{out}/(I_{out} \times \Delta T_{amb})$	stabilized output current change over ambient temperature						
	NCR420Z	$V_{EN} = 24\text{ V}$; $V_{out} > 2\text{ V}$	[1]	-	-0.27	-	%/K
	NCR421Z	$V_{EN} = 3.3\text{ V}$; $V_{out} > 2\text{ V}$	[1]	-	-0.27	-	%/K
$\Delta I_{out}/(I_{out} \times \Delta V_{CC})$	stabilized output current change over supply voltage						
	NCR420Z	$V_{EN} = 24\text{ V}$; $V_{out} > 2\text{ V}$	[1]	-	1	-	%/V
	NCR421Z	$V_{EN} = 3.3\text{ V}$; $V_{out} > 2\text{ V}$	[1]	-	1	-	%/V

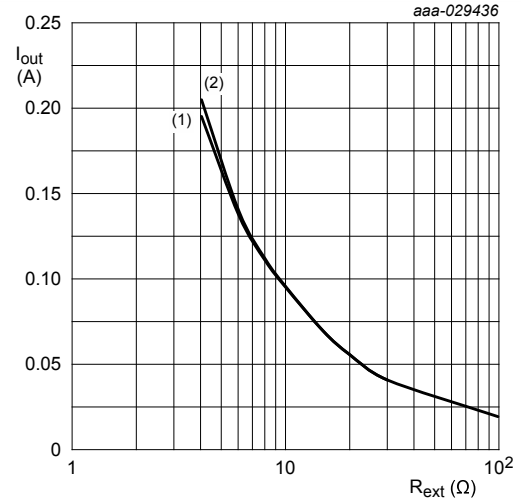
[1] Pulse test: $t_p \leq 300\text{ }\mu\text{s}$; $\delta \leq 0.02$.



$V_{EN} = 40 \text{ V}$; $T_{amb} = 25 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

- (1) $R_{ext} = 6 \text{ } \Omega$
- (2) $R_{ext} = 8 \text{ } \Omega$
- (3) $R_{ext} = 10 \text{ } \Omega$
- (4) $R_{ext} = 15 \text{ } \Omega$
- (5) $R_{ext} = 30 \text{ } \Omega$
- (6) $R_{ext} = \text{open}$

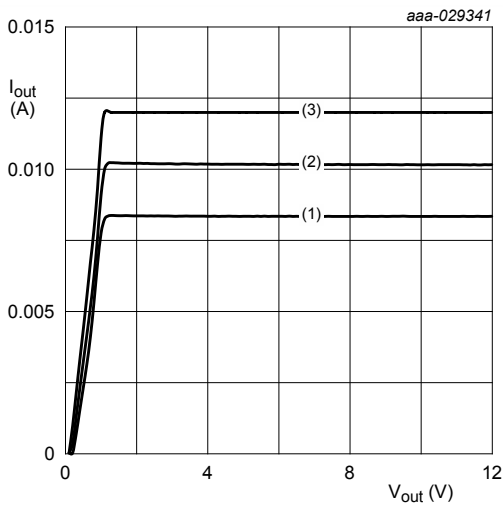
Fig. 6. NCR420Z: Output current as a function of output voltage; typical values



$V_{EN} = 40 \text{ V}$; $T_{amb} = 25 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

- (1) $V_{out} = 1.4 \text{ V}$
- (2) $V_{out} = 5.4 \text{ V}$

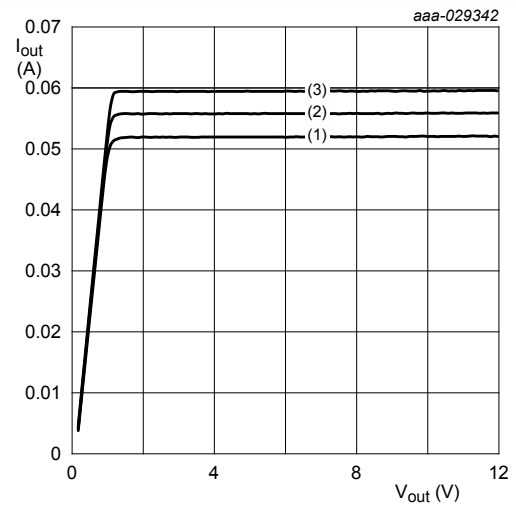
Fig. 7. NCR420Z: Output current as a function of external resistor; typical values



$V_{EN} = 40 \text{ V}$; $R_{ext} = \text{open}$

- (1) $T_{amb} = 85 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
- (2) $T_{amb} = 25 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
- (3) $T_{amb} = -40 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

Fig. 8. NCR420Z: Output current as a function of output voltage; typical values



$V_{EN} = 40 \text{ V}$; $R_{ext} = 20 \text{ } \Omega$

- (1) $T_{amb} = 85 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
- (2) $T_{amb} = 25 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
- (3) $T_{amb} = -40 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

Fig. 9. NCR420Z: Output current as a function of output voltage; typical values

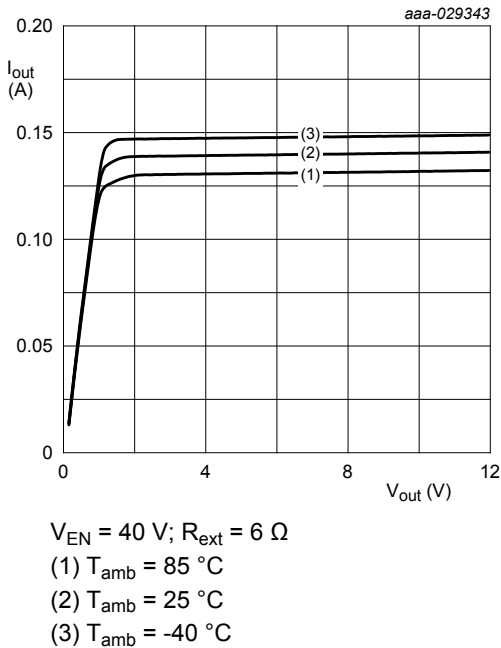


Fig. 10. NCR420Z: Output current as a function of output voltage; typical values

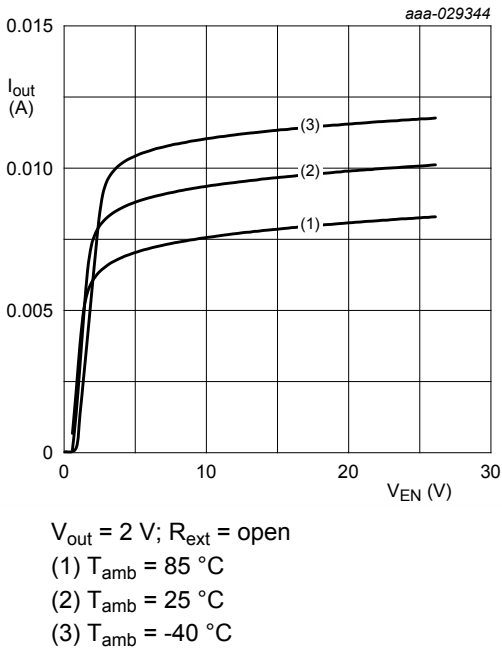


Fig. 11. NCR420Z: Output current as a function of enable voltage; typical values

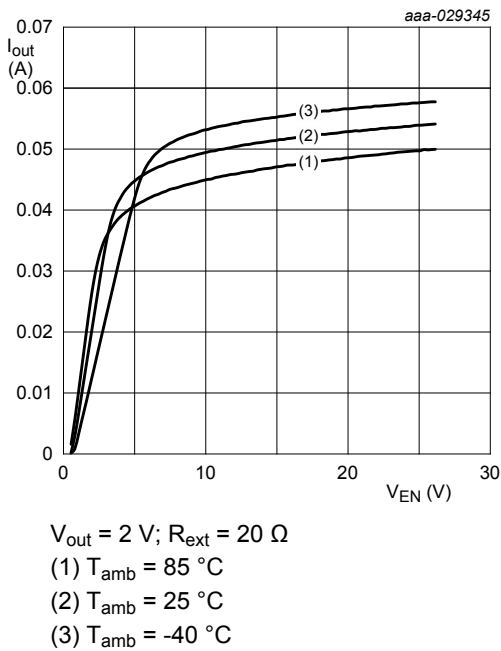


Fig. 12. NCR420Z: Output current as a function of enable voltage; typical values

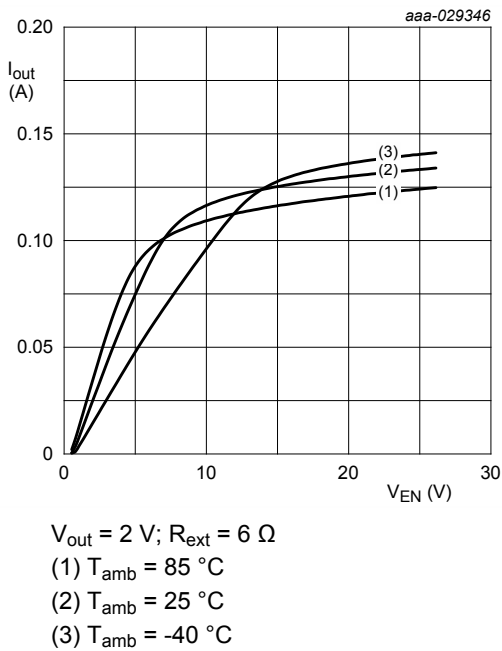
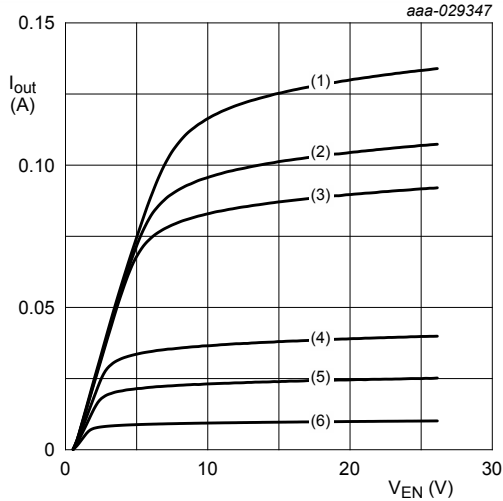


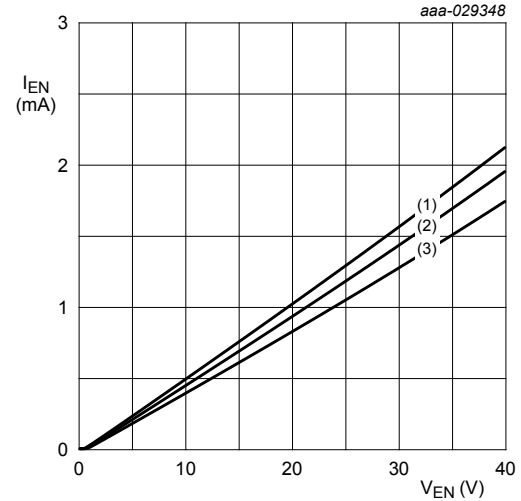
Fig. 13. NCR420Z: Output current as a function of enable voltage; typical values



$V_{out} = 2 \text{ V}$; $T_{amb} = 25 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

- (1) $R_{ext} = 6 \text{ } \Omega$
- (2) $R_{ext} = 8 \text{ } \Omega$
- (3) $R_{ext} = 10 \text{ } \Omega$
- (4) $R_{ext} = 30 \text{ } \Omega$
- (5) $R_{ext} = 60 \text{ } \Omega$
- (6) $R_{ext} = \text{open}$

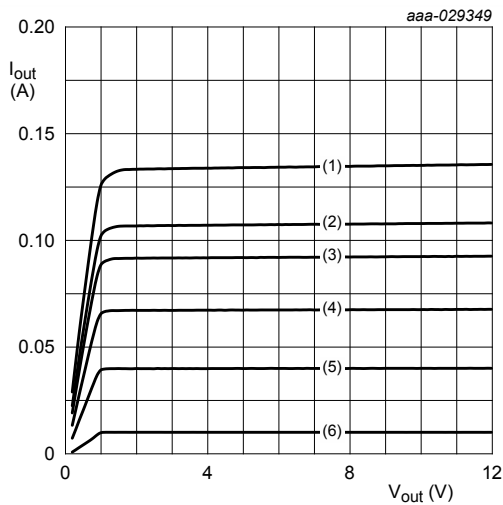
Fig. 14. NCR420Z: Output current as a function of enable voltage; typical values



$I_{out} = 0 \text{ A}$; $R_{ext} = \text{open}$

- (1) $T_{amb} = 85 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
- (2) $T_{amb} = 25 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
- (3) $T_{amb} = -40 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

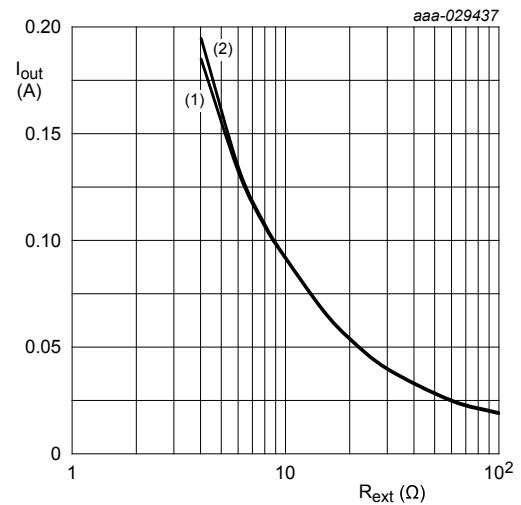
Fig. 15. NCR420Z: Enable current as a function of enable voltage; typical values



$V_{EN} = 3.3 \text{ V}$; $T_{amb} = 25 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

- (1) $R_{ext} = 6 \text{ } \Omega$
- (2) $R_{ext} = 8 \text{ } \Omega$
- (3) $R_{ext} = 10 \text{ } \Omega$
- (4) $R_{ext} = 15 \text{ } \Omega$
- (5) $R_{ext} = 30 \text{ } \Omega$
- (6) $R_{ext} = \text{open}$

Fig. 16. NCR421Z: Output current as a function of output voltage; typical values



$V_{EN} = 3.3 \text{ V}$; $T_{amb} = 25 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

- (1) $V_{out} = 1.4 \text{ V}$
- (2) $V_{out} = 5.4 \text{ V}$

Fig. 17. NCR421Z: Output current as a function of external resistor; typical values

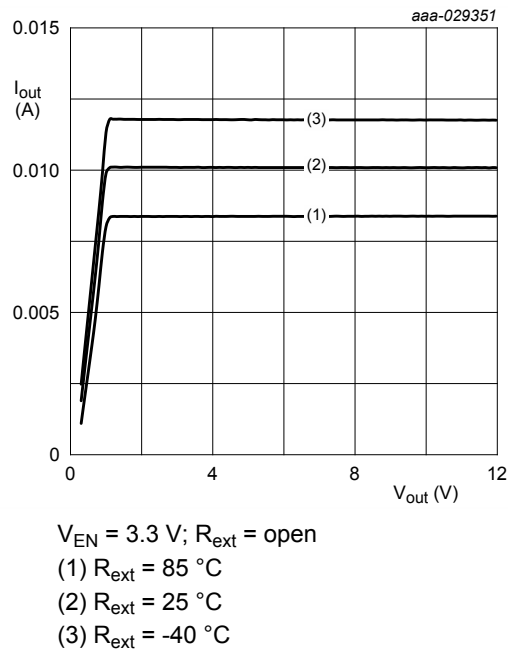


Fig. 18. NCR421Z: Output current as a function of output voltage; typical values

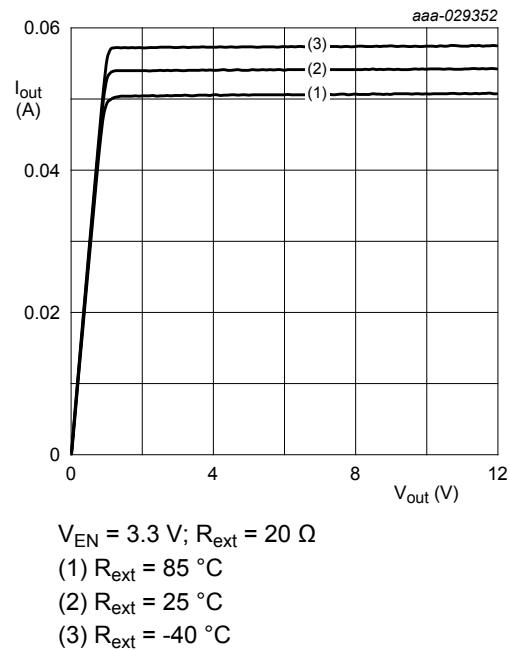


Fig. 19. NCR421Z: Output current as a function of output voltage; typical values

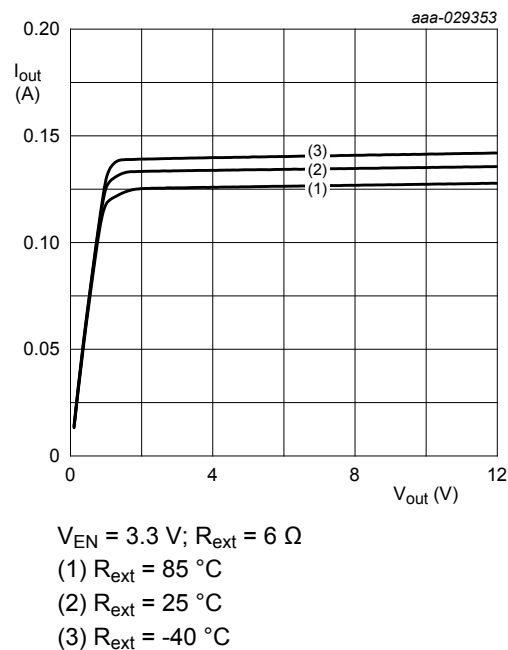


Fig. 20. NCR421Z: Output current as a function of output voltage; typical values

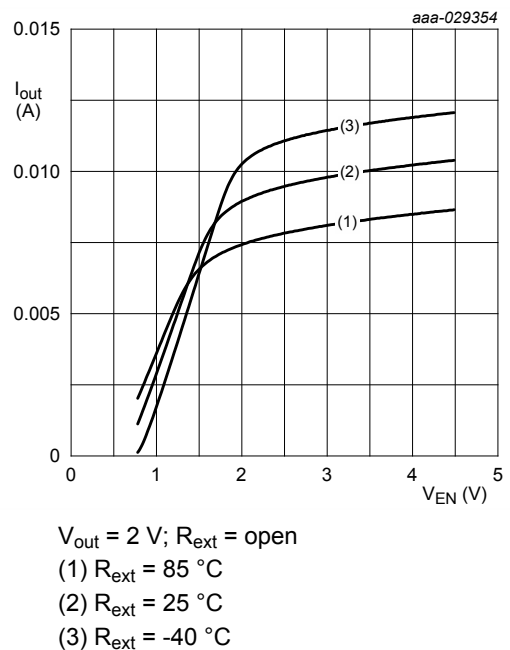
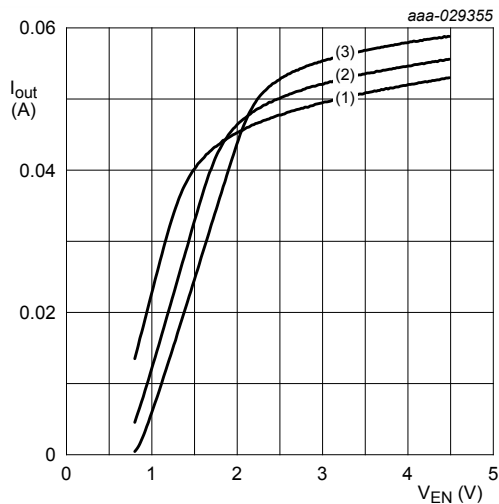


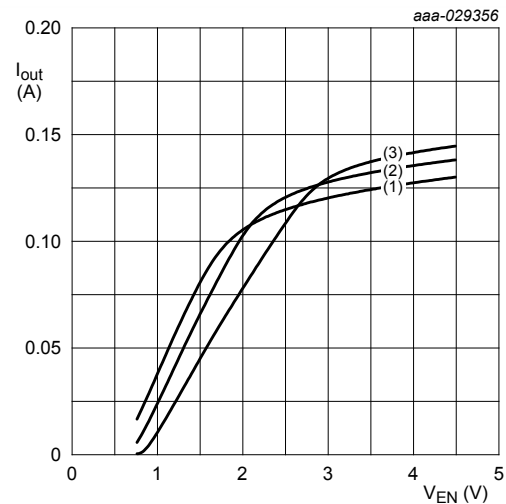
Fig. 21. NCR421Z: Output current as a function of enable voltage; typical values



$V_{out} = 2\text{ V}$; $R_{ext} = 20\ \Omega$

- (1) $R_{ext} = 85^{\circ}\text{C}$
- (2) $R_{ext} = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$
- (3) $R_{ext} = -40^{\circ}\text{C}$

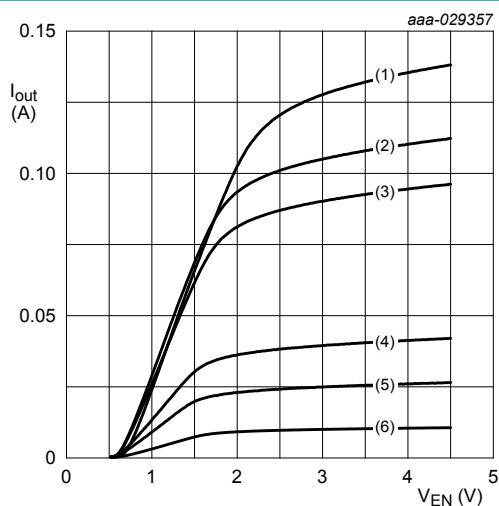
Fig. 22. NCR421Z: Output current as a function of enable voltage; typical values



$V_{out} = 2\text{ V}$; $R_{ext} = 6\ \Omega$

- (1) $R_{ext} = 85^{\circ}\text{C}$
- (2) $R_{ext} = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$
- (3) $R_{ext} = -40^{\circ}\text{C}$

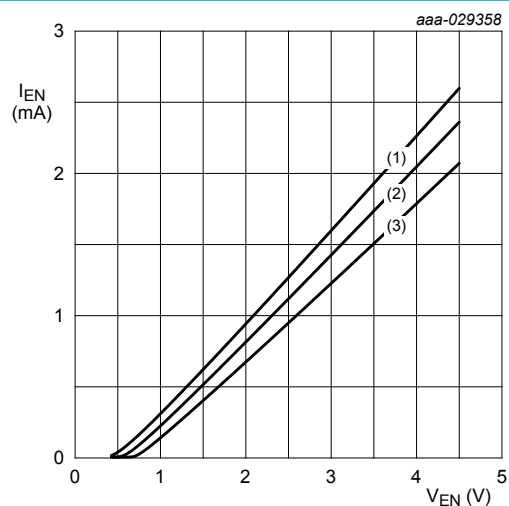
Fig. 23. NCR421Z: Output current as a function of enable voltage; typical values



$V_{out} = 2\text{ V}$; $T_{amb} = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$

- (1) $R_{ext} = 6\ \Omega$
- (2) $R_{ext} = 8\ \Omega$
- (3) $R_{ext} = 10\ \Omega$
- (4) $R_{ext} = 30\ \Omega$
- (5) $R_{ext} = 60\ \Omega$
- (6) $R_{ext} = \text{open}$

Fig. 24. NCR421Z: Output current as a function of enable voltage; typical values



$I_{out} = 0\text{ A}$; $R_{ext} = \text{open}$

- (1) $T_{amb} = 85^{\circ}\text{C}$
- (2) $T_{amb} = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$
- (3) $T_{amb} = -40^{\circ}\text{C}$

Fig. 25. NCR421Z: Enable current as a function of enable voltage; typical values

8. Application information

Figure 26 shows a typical application circuit for an LED driver. The constant current ensures a constant brightness in all LEDs. The output current can be adjusted between 10 mA and 150 mA by connecting resistor R_{ext} . Figures 7 and 17 give a first indication for choosing the external resistor R_{ext} . The minimum input voltage is given by voltage drop at the LED's V_{LED} and the maximum is governed by the maximum power dissipation

$$V_{LED} + V_{out, min} < V_{CC} < P_{tot} / I_{out} + V_{LED}$$

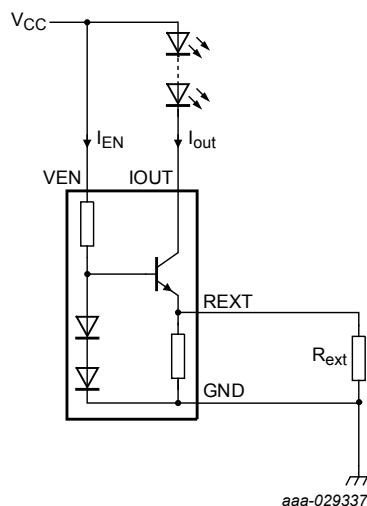


Fig. 26. LED driver application diagram

NCR421Z can be used for PWM dimming or on/off function by driving the VEN pin. The enable voltage depends on the drive current, see Figure 23. Figure 27 shows a typical application where VEN is driven via a micro directly. To control more than one NCR421Z devices by one microcontroller output, a shift register (for example 74AHC(T)594PW) can be used.

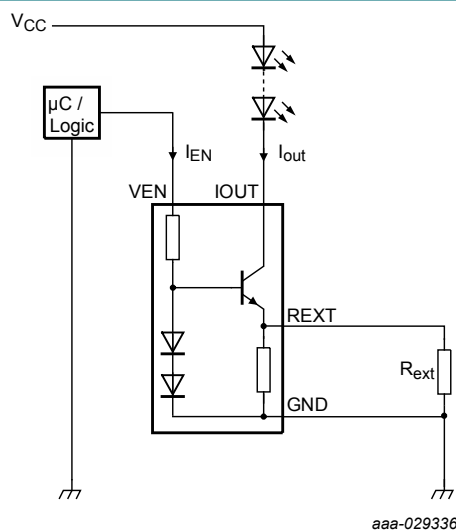


Fig. 27. Application diagram: PWM dimming function

To safely drive currents that are above the limits of the NCR42xZ, two or more devices can be parallel connected as illustrated in Figure 28. When choosing the same values for the external resistors, the drive current splits equally and the capability of handling excess power is doubled. Both, NCR420Z and NCR421Z can be used in this configuration.

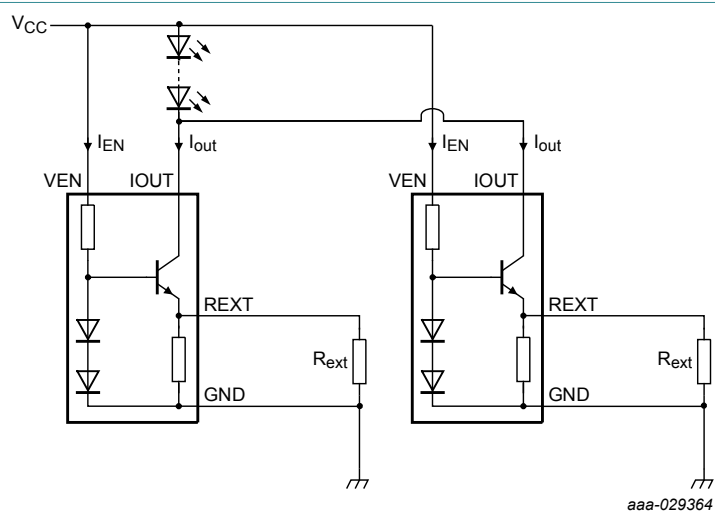


Fig. 28. Application diagram: Parallelization

9. Package outline

Table 9. Package outline

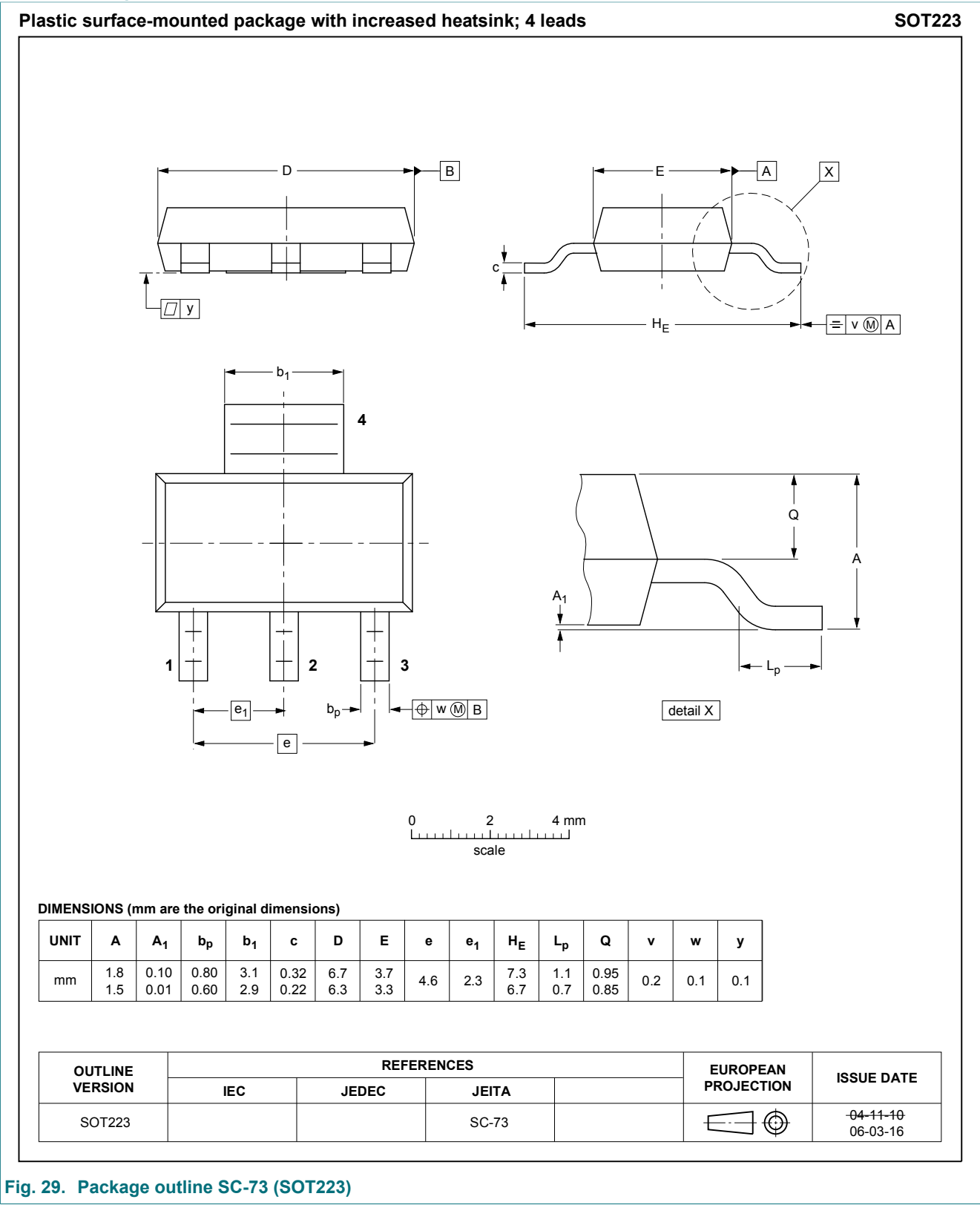
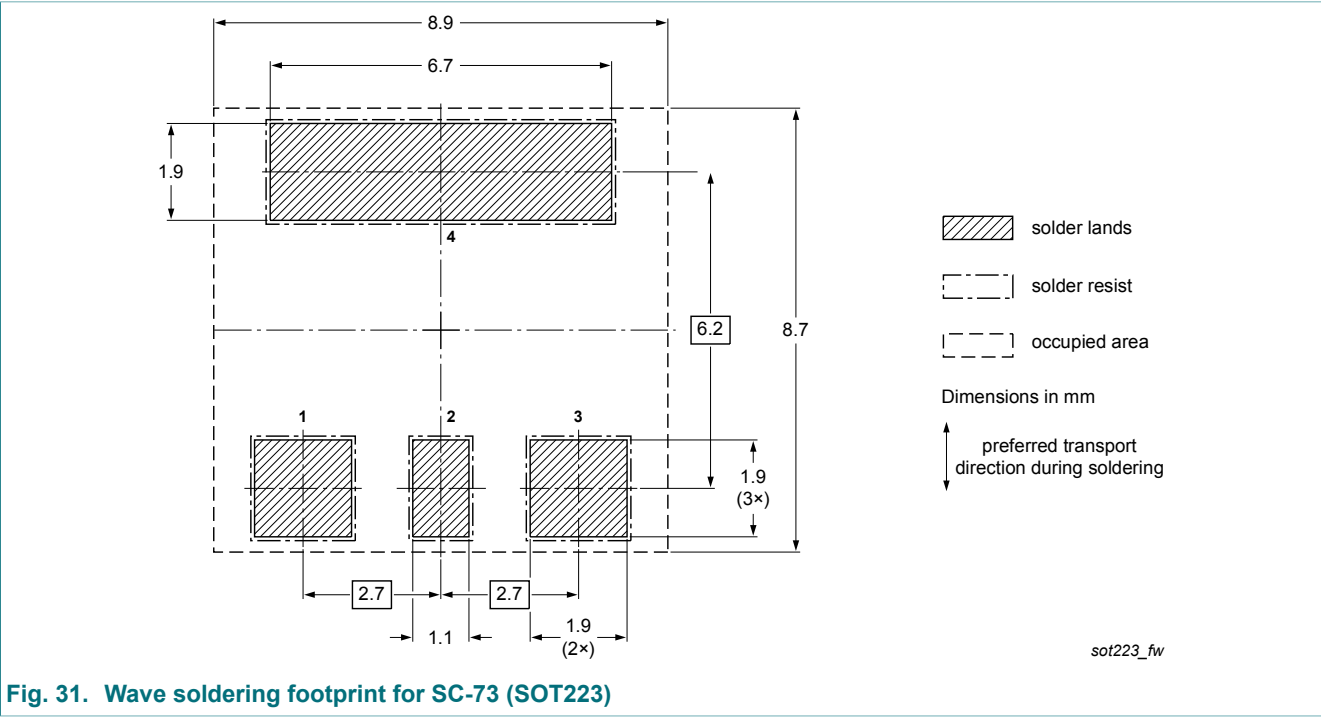
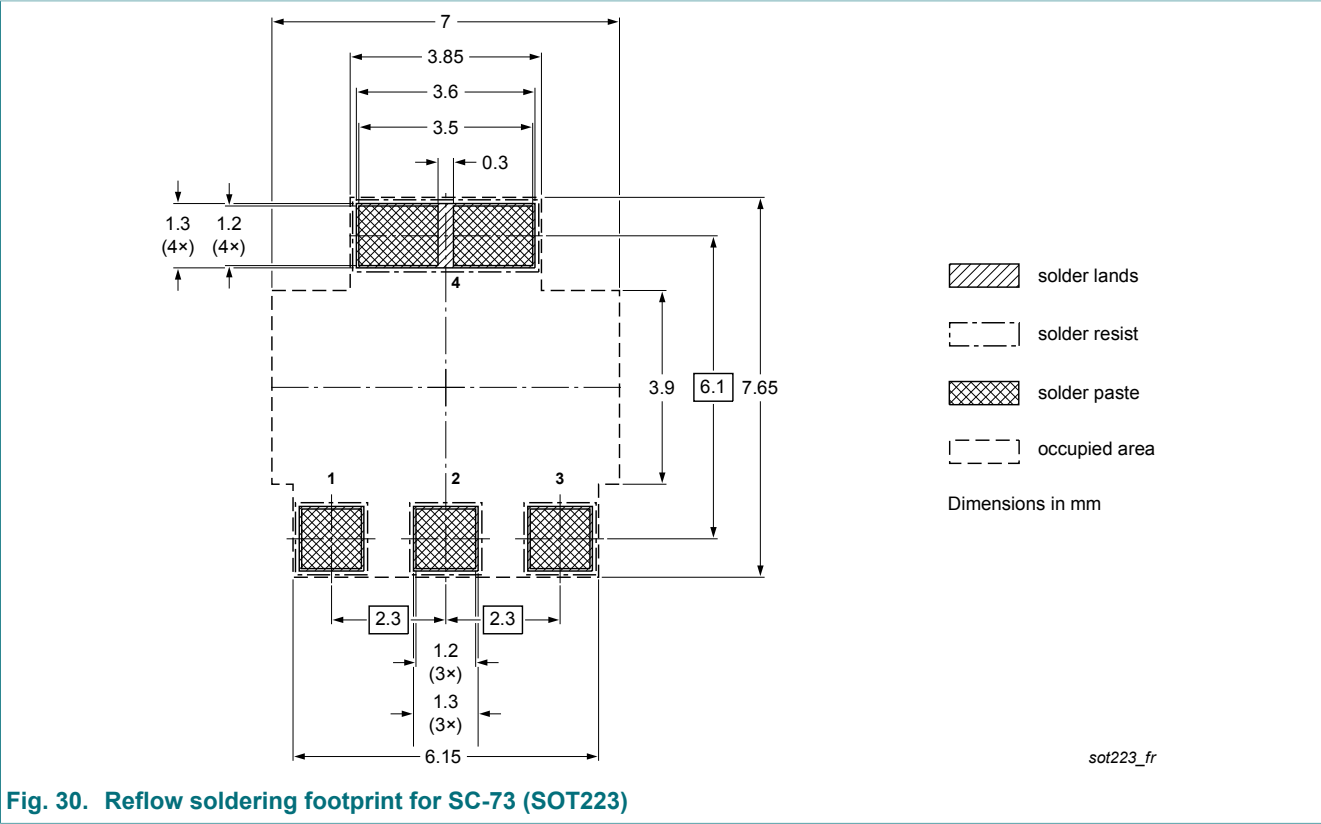


Fig. 29. Package outline SC-73 (SOT223)

10. Soldering

Table 10. Soldering



11. Revision history

Table 11. Revision history

Document ID	Release date	Data sheet status	Change notice	Supersedes
NCR420Z_NCR421Z v.1	20190204	Product data sheet	-	-

12. Legal information

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 <https://www.nexperia.com>.

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