

TMF8701

Time-of-Flight Sensor

General Description

The TMF8701 is a true direct time-of-flight (ToF) sensor system in a single modular package which offers highly accurate depth accuracy detection through a sub-nanosecond light pulse and an antialiasing "stop-watch" method to measure round-trip time of pulse. It provides single zone detection of an object irrespective of the color, reflectivity and texture of the object. The single module with VCSEL emitter offers high dynamic range and operates in either a proximity mode (0 - 10 cm) or a ranging mode (10 – 60 cm) for detection sensing. The device utilizes highly sensitive SPAD detection with fast compact time-to digital converters to make high accurate distance measurement within ±5% and is capable of operation in dark environments. A built-in histogram is featured to detect cover glass and objects behind glass to select object with highest SNR while compensating for dirt and smudges on cover glass to produce artifact free measurement of multiple objects. The histogram enables greater distance between cover glass, delivers dynamic cover glass calibration and crosstalk compensation. Class 1 eye safety is also featured through the narrow sub-nanosecond (<500 ps) fast pulse 940 nm VCSEL driver. Background light noise is minimized through on-chip superior sunlight rejection filter. Data output is through a 1.8V I²C fast-mode communications interface and an integrated micro controller is featured with all algorithms included on-chip with no need for external optics.

Key Benefits & Features

The benefits and features of TMF8701, Time-of-Flight Sensor are listed below:

Figure 1: **Added Value of Using TMF8701**

Benefits	Feature
Modular package - 2.2mm x 3.6mm x 1.0mm	Small footprint fits in the mobile phone bezel
• 21° FOI	Detecting central closest objects
Time-to-Digital converter (TDC) Direct time-of-flight measurement	Within 5% of measurement (accuracy); no multi-path and no multiple object problems as for iToF
Single Photon Avalanche Photodiode (SPAD) Histogram based architecture	 Better accuracy detects reliably closest object Min. distance 1mm (black target) Max. distance 60cm
Dynamic cover glass calibration	No complex calibration
Reliable operation under demanding use cases	Compensates for dirt on glass



Benefits	Feature
Reference SPAD	Improved accuracy over temperature and life
Distance and signal quality reported	Make better decisions
Fast VCSEL driver with protection	Class 1 Eye Safe
 940μA power consumption at 10Hz (proximity mode) 26mA power consumption at 60Hz operation (distance and proximity mode) 0.26μA power-down current consumption (EN=0) 	Longer battery life

Applications

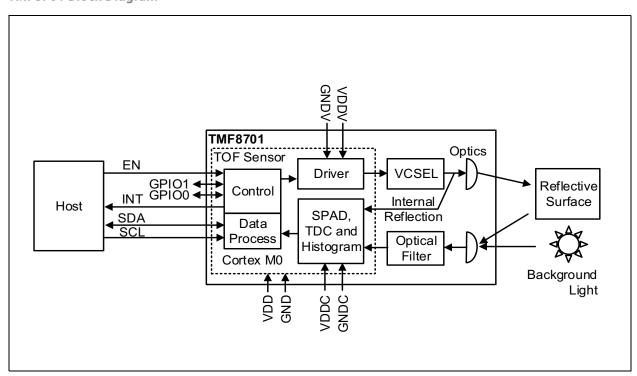
The device is ideal for use in the mobile phone market with applications including:

- Distance measurement for camera autofocus (Laser Detect Autofocus - LDAF)
- Supporting low-power system operation by enabling high-power components (i.e. 3D facial recognition) only when an object is in the detection range
- Proximity detection
- Presence detection Object detection
- Collision avoidance

Block Diagram

The functional blocks of this device are shown below:

Figure 2: TMF8701 Block Diagram



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