## 15 A microBUCK ${ }^{\circledR}$ SiC401A/B Integrated Buck Regulator with Programmable LDO

## DESCRIPTION

The Vishay Siliconix SiC401A/B an advanced stand-alone synchronous buck regulator featuring integrated power MOSFETs, bootstrap switch, and a programmable LDO in a space-saving PowerPAK MLP55-32L pin packages.
The SiC401A/B is capable of operating with all ceramic solutions and switching frequencies up to 1 MHz . The programmable frequency, synchronous operation and selectable power-save allow operation at high efficiency across the full range of load current. The internal LDO may be used to supply 5 V for the gate drive circuits or it may be bypassed with an external 5 V for optimum efficiency and used to drive external n-channel MOSFETs or other loads. Additional features include cycle-by-cycle current limit, voltage soft-start, under-voltage protection, programmable over-current protection, soft shutdown and selectable power-save. The Vishay Siliconix SiC401A/B also provides an enable input and a power good output.

| PRODUCT SUMMARY |  |
| :--- | :---: |
| Input Voltage Range | 3 V to 17 V |
| Output Voltage Range | 0.6 V to 5.5 V |
| Operating Frequency | 200 kHz to 1 MHz |
| Continuous Output Current | 15 A |
| Peak Efficiency | $93 \%$ |
| Package | PowerPAK MLP55-32L |

## FEATURES

- High efficiency > 93 \%
- 15 A continuous output current capability
- Integrated bootstrap switch
- Programmable 200 mA LDO with bypass logic
- Temperature compensated current limit


RoHS COMPLANT halogen FREE

- All ceramic solution enabled
- Pseudo fixed-frequency adaptive on-time control
- Programmable input UVLO threshold
- Independent enable pin for switcher and LDO
- Selectable ultra-sonic power-save mode (SiC401A)
- Selectable power-save mode (SiC401B)
- Programmable soft-start and soft-shutdown
- $1 \%$ internal reference voltage
- Power good output
- Over-voltage and under-voltage protections
- Material categorization: For definitions of compliance please see www.vishay.com/doc?99912


## APPLICATIONS

- Notebook, desktop and server computers
- Digital HDTV and digital consumer applications
- Networking and telecommunication equipment
- Printers, DSL, and STB applications
- Embedded applications
- Point of load power supplies


## TYPICAL APPLICATION CIRCUIT AND PACKAGE OPTIONS



Typical Application Circuit for SiC401A/B (PowerPAK MLP5x5-32L)

## FUNCTIONAL BLOCK DIAGRAM



SiC401A/B Functional Block Diagram

## PIN CONFIGURATION



SiC401A/B Pin Configuration (Top View)

| PIN DESCRIPTION |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Pin Number | Symbol | Description |
| 1 | FB | Feedback input for switching regulator used to program the output voltage - connect to an external resistor divider from $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}$ to $\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{GND}}$. |
| 2 | $V_{\text {OUT }}$ | Switcher output voltage sense pin - also the input to the internal switch-over between $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\text {LDO }}$. The voltage at this pin must be less than or equal to the voltage at the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ pin. |
| 3 | $V_{\text {DD }}$ | Bias supply for the IC - when using the internal LDO as a bias power supply, $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ is the LDO output. When using an external power supply as the bias for the IC, the LDO output should be disabled. |
| 4, 30, PAD 1 | $\mathrm{A}_{\text {GND }}$ | Analog ground |
| 5 | FBL | Feedback input for the internal LDO - used to program the LDO output. Connect to an external resistor divider from $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ to $\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{GND}}$. |
| 6, 9 to 11, PAD 2 | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ | Input supply voltage |
| 7 | SS | The soft start ramp will be programmed by an internal current source charging a capacitor on this pin. |
| 8 | BST | Bootstrap pin - connect a capacitor of at least 100 nF from BST to LX to develop the floating supply for the high-side gate drive. |
| 12, 14 | NC | No connection |
| 13 | LXBST | LX Boost - connect to the BST capacitor. |
| 23 to 25, PAD3 | LX | Switching (phase) node |
| 15 to 22 | $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GND}}$ | Power ground |
| 26 | $\mathrm{P}_{\text {GOOD }}$ | Open-drain power good indicator - high impedance indicates power is good. An external pull-up resistor is required. |
| 27 | ILIM | Current limit sense pin - used to program the current limit by connecting a resistor from $\mathrm{L}_{\text {LIM }}$ to LXS. |
| 28 | LXS | LX sense - connects to $\mathrm{R}_{\text {ILIM }}$ |
| 29 | EN/PSV | Enable/power save input for the switching regulator - connect to $A_{G N D}$ to disable the switching regulator, connect to $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ to operate with power-save mode and float to operate in forced continuous mode. |
| 31 | $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{ON}}$ | On-time programming input - set the on-time by connecting through a resistor to $\mathrm{A}_{\mathrm{GND}}$ |
| 32 | ENL | Enable input for the LDO - connect ENL to $A_{G N D}$ to disable the LDO. Drive with logic signal for logic control, or program the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathbb{I N}} U V L O$ with a resistor divider between $\mathrm{V}_{\mathbb{I N}}$, ENL, and $A_{G N D}$. |

## ORDERING INFORMATION

| Part Number | Package | Marking (Line 1: P/N) |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SiC401ACD-T1-GE3 | PowerPAK MLP55-32L | SiC401A |  |
| SiC401BCD-T1-GE3 | PowerPAK MLP55-32L | SiC401B |  |
| SiC401DB | Reference board |  |  |

Format
LINE 1: P/N
LINE 2: Siliconix logo + Lot code + ESD symbol
LINE 3: Factory code + Year code + Work week code

| ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS ( $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{A}}=25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, unless otherwise noted) |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Electrical Parameter | Conditions | Limits | Unit |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ | to $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GND}}$ | - 0.3 to + 20 | V |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ | to $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ | - 0.4 max. |  |
| LX | to $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GND}}$ | -0.3 to +20 |  |
| LX (Transient < 100 ns ) | to $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GND}}$ | - 2 to + 20 |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ | to $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GND}}$ | - 0.3 to + 6 |  |
| EN/PSV, P ${ }_{\text {GOOD }}$, $\mathrm{I}_{\text {LIM }}$ | Reference to $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GND}}$ | -0.3 to $+\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}+0.3\right)$ |  |
| $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{ON}}$ | to $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GND}}$ | -0.3 to $+\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}-1.5\right)$ |  |
| BST | to LX | -0.3 to +6 |  |
|  | to $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GND}}$ | -0.3 to + 25 |  |
| ENL |  | - 0.3 to $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ |  |
| $\mathrm{A}_{\text {GND }}$ to $\mathrm{P}_{\text {GND }}$ |  | -0.3 to +0.3 |  |
| Temperature |  |  |  |
| Maximum Junction Temperature |  | 150 | ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| Storage Temperature |  | - 65 to 150 |  |
| Power Dissipation |  |  |  |
| Junction to Ambient Thermal Impedance ( $\left.\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{thJA}}\right)^{(\mathrm{b})}$ | IC Section | 50 | ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{W}$ |
| Maximum Power Dissipation | Ambient Temperature $=25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | 3.4 | W |
|  | Ambient Temperature $=10{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | 1.3 |  |
| ESD Protection |  |  |  |
|  | HBM | 2 | kV |

Stresses beyond those listed under "Absolute Maximum Ratings" may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only, and functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated in the operational sections of the specifications is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating/conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

| RECOMMENDED OPERATING CONDITIONS (all voltages referenced to GND = 0 V ) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Parameter | Symbol | Min. | Typ. | Max. | Unit |
| Input Voltage | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ | 3 |  | 17 | V |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ to $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GND}}$ |  | 3 |  | 5.5 |  |
| Output Voltage | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ | 0.6 |  | 5.5 |  |
| Temperature |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ambient Temperature | - 40 to 85 |  |  |  | ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |

ELECTRICAL SPECIFICATIONS

| Parameter | Symbol | Test Conditions Unless Specified $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~T}_{\mathrm{A}}=+25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for typ., $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+85^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for min. and max., $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{J}}=<125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, typical application circuit | Min. | Typ. | Max. | Unit |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Input Power Supplies |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Input Supply Voltage | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ |  | 3 |  | 17 | V |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ |  | 3 |  | 5.5 |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ UVLO Threshold ${ }^{(a)}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {UVLO }}$ | Sensed at ENL pin, rising | 2.4 | 2.6 | 2.95 |  |
|  |  | Sensed at ENL pin, falling | 2.23 | 2.4 | 2.57 |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ UVLO Hysteresis | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {UVLO, }}$ HYS |  |  | 0.25 |  |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {DD }}$ UVLO Threshold | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {UVLO }}$ | Measured at $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ pin, rising | 2.5 |  | 3 |  |
|  |  | Measured at $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ pin, falling | 2.4 |  | 2.9 |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ UVLO Hysteresis | V UVLO, HYS |  |  | 0.2 |  |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ Supply Current | $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{N}}$ | ENL, EN/PSV $=0 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {IN }}=17 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 10 | 20 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
|  |  | Standby mode; ENL= V ${ }_{\text {DD }}$, EN/PSV $=0 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 130 |  |  |
| $V_{\text {DD }}$ Supply Current | $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ | ENL, EN/PSV $=0 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 190 | 300 |  |
|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{SiC}_{401 \mathrm{~A}}, \mathrm{EN} / \mathrm{PSV}=\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}, \text { no load } \\ \left(\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{SW}}=25 \mathrm{kHz}\right), \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}>0.6 \mathrm{~V}^{(\mathrm{b})} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |  | 0.3 |  | mA |
|  |  | SiC401B, EN/PSV = $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$, no load, $V_{F B}>0.6 V^{(b)}$ |  | 0.7 |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{SW}}=250 \mathrm{kHz}, \\ \text { EN/PSV = floating, no load }{ }^{(\mathrm{b})} \end{gathered}$ |  | 9 |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{SW}}=250 \mathrm{kHz}, \\ & \mathrm{EN} / \mathrm{PSV}=\text { floating, no load }{ }^{(\mathrm{b})} \end{aligned}$ |  | 5.5 |  |  |
| FB On-Time Threshold |  | Static $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ and load | 0.594 | 0.600 | 0.606 | V |
| Frequency Range | $\mathrm{f}_{\text {Sw }}$ | Continuous mode operation |  |  | 1000 | kHz |
|  |  | Minimum $\mathrm{f}_{\text {SW }}$, (SiC401A only) |  | 25 |  |  |
| Bootstrap Switch Resistance |  |  |  | 10 |  | $\Omega$ |
| Timing |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| On-Time | $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{ON}}$ | Continuous mode operation $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}=12 \mathrm{~V}$, $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{SW}}=300 \mathrm{kHz}, \mathrm{R}_{\text {ton }}=133 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | 999 | 1110 | 1220 | ns |
| Minimum On-Time ${ }^{(\mathrm{b})}$ | $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{ON}, \mathrm{min} \text {. }}$ |  |  | 80 |  |  |
| Minimum Off-Time ${ }^{(b)}$ | $\mathrm{t}_{\text {OFF, min. }}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 250 |  |  |
|  |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=3 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 370 |  |  |
| Soft Start |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Soft Start Current ${ }^{(b)}$ | $\mathrm{I}_{\text {S }}$ |  |  | 3 |  | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| Soft Start Voltage ${ }^{(b)}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{S S}$ | When $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ reaches regulation |  | 1.5 |  | V |
| Analog Inputs/Outputs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ Input Resistance | $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{IN}}$ |  |  | 500 |  | k $\Omega$ |
| Current Sense |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Zero-Crossing Detector Threshold Voltage | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {Sense-th }}$ | LX-P ${ }_{\text {GND }}$ | -3 |  | + 3 | mV |
| Power Good |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Power Good Threshold | PG_V $\mathrm{V}_{\text {TH_UPPER }}$ | Upper limit, $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}>$ internal 600 mV reference |  | $\pm 20$ |  | \% |
|  | PG_V ${ }_{\text {TH_LOWER }}$ | Lower limit, $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}<$ internal 600 mV reference |  | -10 |  |  |
| Start-Up Delay Time (between PWM enable and $\mathrm{P}_{\text {GOOD }}$ high) | $P G_{-} T_{d}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{C}_{\text {SS }}=10 \mathrm{nF}$ |  | 12 |  | ms |
|  |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{C}_{\text {SS }}=10 \mathrm{nF}$ |  | 7 |  |  |
| Fault (noise-immunity) Delay Time ${ }^{\text {(b) }}$ | PG_ICC |  |  | 5 |  | $\mu \mathrm{s}$ |
| Leakage Current | PG_ILK |  |  |  | 1 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| Power Good On-Resistance | PG_R ${ }_{\text {DS_ON }}$ |  |  | 10 |  | $\Omega$ |
| Fault Protection |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Valley Current Limit | ILIM | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {DD }}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{R}_{\text {ILIM }}=3945, \mathrm{~T}_{\mathrm{J}}=0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | 12.75 | 15 | 17.25 | A |
|  |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=3.3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{R}_{\text {ILIM }}=3945$ |  | 13.5 |  |  |
| ILIM Source Current |  |  |  | 10 |  | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |

## ELECTRICAL SPECIFICATIONS

| Parameter | Symbol | Test Conditions Unless Specified $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~T}_{\mathrm{A}}=+25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for typ., $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+85^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for min. and max., $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{J}}=<125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, typical application circuit | Min. | Typ. | Max. | Unit |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ILIM Comparator Offset Voltage | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ILM-LK }}$ | With respect to $\mathrm{A}_{\text {GND }}$ | -10 | 0 | + 10 | mV |
| Output Under-Voltage Fault | V ${ }_{\text {OUV_Fault }}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}$ with respect to Internal 600 mV reference, 8 consecutive clocks |  | -25 |  | \% |
| Smart Power-Save Protection Threshold Voltage ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | PSave_VTH | $V_{F B}$ with respect to internal 600 mV |  | + 10 |  |  |
| Over-Voltage Protection Threshold |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}$ with respect to internal 600 mV |  | + 20 |  |  |
| Over-Voltage Fault Delay ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | tov-Delay |  |  | 5 |  | $\mu \mathrm{s}$ |
| Over Temperature Shutdown ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | $\mathrm{T}_{\text {Shut }}$ | $10^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ hysteresis |  | 150 |  | ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| Logic Inputs/Outputs |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Logic Input High Voltage | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IH}}$ |  | 1 |  |  | V |
| Logic Input Low Volatge | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IL}}$ |  |  |  | 0.4 |  |
| EN/PSV Input for P-Save Operation ${ }^{(b)}$ |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}$ | 2.2 |  | 5 |  |
| EN/PSV Input for Forced Continuous Operation ${ }^{(b)}$ |  |  | 1 |  | 2 |  |
| EN/PSV Input for Disabling Switcher |  |  | 0 |  | 0.4 |  |
| EN/PSV Input Bias Current | $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{EN}}$ |  | -10 |  | + 10 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| ENL Input Bias Current | $\mathrm{I}_{\text {ENL }}$ |  |  | 8 | 15 |  |
| FBL, FB Input Bias Current | FBL_ILK |  | -1 |  | +1 |  |
| Linear Dropout Regulator |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FBL ${ }^{\text {(b) }}$ | V LDO ACC |  |  | 0.75 |  | V |
| LDO Current Limit | LDO_IIIM | Short-circuit protection, $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{DD}}<0.75 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 65 |  | mA |
|  |  | Start-up and foldback, $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}$, $0.75<V_{D D}<90 \%$ of final $V_{D D}$ value |  | 115 |  |  |
|  |  | Operating current limit, $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}$, $V_{D D}>90 \%$ of final $V_{D D}$ value | 135 | 200 |  |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {LDO }}$ to $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ Switch-over Threshold ${ }^{(d)}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {LDO-BPS }}$ |  | -130 |  | + 130 | mV |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {LDO }}$ to $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ Non-switch-over Threshold ${ }^{(d)}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {LDO-NBPS }}$ |  | - 500 |  | + 500 |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {LDO }}$ to $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ Switch-over Resistance | $\mathrm{R}_{\text {LDO }}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}=5 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 2 |  | $\Omega$ |
| LDO Drop Out Voltage ${ }^{(e)}$ |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { From } \mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }} \text { to } \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}, \\ \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=+5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{VLDO}}=100 \mathrm{~mA} \end{gathered}$ |  | 1.2 |  | V |

Notes:
a. $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN UVLO }}$ is programmable using a resistor divider from $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ to ENL to $\mathrm{A}_{G N D}$. The ENL voltage is compared to an internal reference.
b. Typical value measured on standard evaluation board.
c. SiC401A/B has first order temperature compensation for over current. Results vary based upon the PCB thermal layout
d. The switch-over threshold is the maximum voltage diff erential between the $\mathrm{V}_{\text {LDO }}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ pins which ensures that $\mathrm{V}_{\text {LDO }}$ will internally switch-over to $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$. The non-switch-over threshold is the minimum voltage diff erential between the $\mathrm{V}_{\text {LDO }}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ pins which ensures that $\mathrm{V}_{\text {LDO }}$ will not switch-over to $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$.
e. The LDO drop out voltage is the voltage at which the LDO output drops $2 \%$ below the nominal regulation point.

## ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS



Effiency/Power Loss vs. Load P-Save ( $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=3.3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC401B}$ )


Effiency/Power Loss vs. Load P-Save
( $\left.\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~B}\right)$


Effiency/Power Loss vs. Load FCM
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~B}\right)$


Effiency/Power Loss-P-Save vs. FCM $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=3.3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~B}\right)$


Effiency/Power Loss-P-Save vs. FCM $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~B}\right)$


Effiency/Power Loss-P-Save
( $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {IN }}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \operatorname{SiC401B}$ )

## ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS



Load Regulation - FCM
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~B}\right)$


Load Regulation - P-Save
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC401B}\right)$


Switching Frequency - P-Save Mode vs. FCM
( $\left.\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC401B}\right)$


Load Regulation - FCM
$\left(V_{D D}=3.3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC401B}\right)$


Load Regulation - P-Save
$\left(V_{D D}=3.3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC401B}\right)$


Switching Frequency - P-Save vs. FCM
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=3.3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC401B}\right)$

## ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS



Load Regulation vs. Temperature - FCM
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~B}\right)$


Load Regulation vs. Temperature - P-Save $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC401B}\right)$


Effiency Variation with $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ - P-Save
$\left(V_{D D}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {IN }}=12 \mathrm{~V}, L=2.2 \mu \mathrm{H}(4.6 \mathrm{~m} \Omega)\right.$ for $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}=2.5 \mathrm{~V}, 3.3 \mathrm{~V}$ and $\left.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~B}\right)$


Load Regulation vs. Temperature - P-Save $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=3.3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC401B}\right)$


Load Regulation vs. Temperature - FCM ( $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=3.3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC401B}$ )


Efficiensy/Power Loss vs. P-Save
( $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC401B}$ )

## ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS



Effiency/Power Loss vs. Load - P-Save
( $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=3.3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC401A}$ )


Effiency/Power Loss - P-Save vs. FCM $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {IN }}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \operatorname{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A}\right)$


Effiency/Power Loss vs. Load - P-Save
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \operatorname{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A}\right)$


Effiency/Power Loss - P-Save vs. FCM $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=3.3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A}\right)$


Effiency/Power Loss - P-Save
( $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {IN }}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \operatorname{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A}$ )


Load Regulation - P-Save
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A}\right)$

## ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS



Load Regulation vs. Temperature - P-Save
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC401A}\right)$


Time(1ms/div)
Start-up - EN/PSV
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\text {OUT }}=0 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~B}\right)$


Load Regulation vs. Temperature - P-Save
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A}\right)$

Time( $50 \mu \mathrm{~s} / \mathrm{div}$ )
Shutdown-EN/PSV
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=5 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{SiC401B}\right)$

## ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS



Start-up (Pre-Bias) - EN/PSV
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\text {OUT }}=0 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{SiC401B}\right)$


Power-Save Mode
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=0 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A}\right)$


Time (10 $/$ s/div)
Transient Response - P-Save Load Rising
$\left(V_{D D}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {IN }}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=0 \mathrm{~A}\right.$ to $\left.11 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~B}, \mathrm{dV} / \mathrm{dt}=1 \mathrm{~A} / \mu \mathrm{s}\right)$


Power-Save Mode
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\text {OUT }}=0 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~B}\right)$


Forced Continuous Mode
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=15 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{SiC401B}\right)$


Transient Response - P-Save Load Falling
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {IN }}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\text {OUT }}=11 \mathrm{~A}\right.$ to $\left.0 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{SiC401B}, \mathrm{dV} / \mathrm{dt}=1 \mathrm{~A} / \mu \mathrm{S}\right)$

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS


Transient Response - FCM
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {IN }}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\text {OUT }}=0 \mathrm{~A}\right.$ to $\left.11 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~B}, \mathrm{dV} / \mathrm{dt}=1 \mathrm{~A} / \mu \mathrm{s}\right)$


Transient Response - P-Save Load Rising
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {IN }}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\text {OUT }}=0 \mathrm{~A}\right.$ to $\left.11 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{~d} / \mathrm{dt}=1 \mathrm{~A} / \mu \mathrm{s}\right)$


Over Current Protection-Under Voltage Prodection ( $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SiC401B}$ )


Over Temperature Shutdown at $133.4^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$
$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\text {OUT }}=0 \mathrm{~A}\right.$, LDO Mode, SiC401B $)$


## Transient Response - P-Save Load Falling

$\left(V_{D D}=5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {IN }}=12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\text {OUT }}=11 \mathrm{~A}\right.$ to $\left.0 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{~d} / \mathrm{dt}=1 \mathrm{~A} / \mu \mathrm{S}\right)$

## OPERATIONAL DESCRIPTION

## Device Overview

The $\operatorname{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{B}$ is a step down synchronous DC/DC buck converter with integrated power MOSFETs and a 200 mA capable programmable LDO. The device is capable of 15 A operation at very high efficiency. A space saving $5 \times 5$ (mm) 32-pin package is used. The programmable operating frequency of up to 1 MHz enables optimizing the configuration for PCB area and efficiency.
The buck controller uses a pseudo-fixed frequency adaptive on-time control. This control method allows fast transient igponse which permits the use of smaller output capacitors.

## Input Voltage Requirements

The $\mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{B}$ requires two input supplies for normal operation: $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$. $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ operates over a wide range from 3 V to 17 V . $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ requires a 3 V to 5.5 V supply input that can be an external source or the internal LDO configured to supply 3 V to 5.5 V from $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$.

## Power Up Sequence

When the SiC401A/B uses an external power source at the $V_{D D}$ pin, the switching regulator initiates the start up when $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}, \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$, and EN/PSV are above their respective thresholds. When EN/PSV is at logic high, $V_{D D}$ needs to be applied after $\mathrm{V}_{I N}$ rises. It is also recommended to use a $10 \Omega$ resistor between an external power source and the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ pin. To start up by using the EN/PSV pin when both $V_{D D}$ and $V_{I N}$ are above their respective thresholds, apply EN/PSV to enable the start-up process. For $\mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{B}$ in self-biased mode, refer to the LDO section for a full description.

## Shutdown

The $\mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{B}$ can be shut-down by pulling either $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ or EN/PSV below its threshold. When using an external power source, it is recommended that the $V_{D D}$ voltage ramps down before the $\mathrm{V}_{I N}$ voltage. When $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ is active and EN/PSV at logic low, the output voltage discharges into the $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ pin through an internal FET.

## Pseudo-Fixed Frequency Adaptive On-Time Control

The PWM control method used by the $\operatorname{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{B}$ is pseudo- fixed frequency, adaptive on-time, as shown in figure 1. The ripple voltage generated at the output capacitor ESR is used as a PWM ramp signal. This ripple is used to trigger the on-time of the controller.


Figure 1 - Output Ripple and PWM Control Method
The adaptive on-time is determined by an internal one- shot timer. When the one-shot is triggered by the output ripple, the device sends a single on-time pulse to the high- side MOSFET. The pulse period is determined by $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$; the period is proportional to output voltage and inversely proportional to input voltage. With this adaptive on-time arrangement, the device automatically anticipates the on-time needed to regulate $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ for the present $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ condition and at the selected frequency.
The advantages of adaptive on-time control are:

- Predictable operating frequency compared to other variable frequency methods.
- Reduced component count by eliminating the error amplifier and compensation components.
- Reduced component count by removing the need to sense and control inductor current.
- Fast transient response - the response time is controlled by a fast comparator instead of a typically slow error amplifier.
- Reduced output capacitance due to fast transient response.


## One-Shot Timer and Operating Frequency

The one-shot timer operates as shown in figure 2. The FB Comparator output goes high when $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}$ is less than the internal 600 mV reference. This feeds into the gate drive and turns on the high-side MOSFET, and also starts the one-shot timer. The one-shot timer uses an internal comparator and a capacitor. One comparator input is connected to $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$, the other input is connected to the capacitor. When the on-time begins, the internal capacitor charges from zero volts through a current which is proportional to $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$. When the capacitor voltage reaches $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$, the on-time is completed and the high-side MOSFET turns off.


Figure 2 - On-Time Generation
This method automatically produces an on-time that is proportional to $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ and inversely proportional to $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$. Under steady-state conditions, the switching frequency can be determined from the on-time by the following equation.

$$
\mathrm{fsw}_{\mathrm{S}}=\frac{\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}}{\mathrm{toN} \times \mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}}
$$

The SiC401A/B uses an external resistor to set the ontime which indirectly sets the frequency. The on-time can be programmed to provide operating frequency up to 1 MHz using a resistor between the $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{ON}}$ pin and ground. The resistor value is selected by the following equation.

$$
R_{\text {ton }}=\frac{k}{25 \mathrm{pF} \times \mathrm{fsw}}
$$

The constant, $k$, equals 1 , when $V_{D D}$ is greater than 3.6 V . If $V_{D D}$ is less than 3.6 V and $\mathrm{V}_{I N}$ is greater than $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}-1.75\right) \times 10$, $k$ is shown by the following equation.

$$
\mathrm{k}=\frac{\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}-1.75\right) \times 10}{\mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}}
$$

The maximum RTON value allowed is shown by the following equation.

$$
R_{\text {ton_MAX }}=\frac{\text { VIN_MIN }^{2}}{15 \mu \mathrm{~A}}
$$

## $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ Voltage Selection

The switcher output voltage is regulated by comparing $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ as seen through a resistor divider at the FB pin to the internal 600 mV reference voltage, see figure 3.


Figure 3 - Output Voltage Selection

Note that this control method regulates the valley of the output ripple voltage, not the DC value. The DC output voltage $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ is offset by the output ripple according to the following equation.

$$
\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}=0.6 \times\left(1+\frac{\mathrm{R}_{1}}{\mathrm{R}_{2}}\right)+\left(\frac{\mathrm{V}_{\text {RIPPLE }}}{2}\right)
$$

When a large capacitor is placed in parallel with $\mathrm{R} 1\left(\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{TOP}}\right)$ $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ is shown by the following equation.

$$
\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}=0.6 \times\left(1+\frac{\mathrm{R}_{1}}{\mathrm{R}_{2}}\right)+\left(\frac{\mathrm{V}_{\text {RIPPLE }}}{2}\right) \times \sqrt{\frac{1+\left(\mathrm{R}_{1} \omega \mathrm{C}_{\text {TOP }}\right)^{2}}{1+\left(\frac{\mathrm{R}_{2} \times \mathrm{R}_{1}}{\mathrm{R}_{2}+\mathrm{R}_{1}} \omega \mathrm{C}_{\text {TOP }}\right)^{2}}}
$$

## Enable and Power-Save Inputs

The EN/PSV input is used to enable or disable the switching regulator. When EN/PSV is low (grounded), the switching regulator is off and in its lowest power state. When off, the output of the switching regulator soft-discharges the output into a $15 \Omega$ internal resistor via the $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ pin. When EN/PSV is allowed to float, the pin voltage will float to $33 \%$ of the voltage at $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$. The switching regulator turns on with power-save disabled and all switching is in forced continuous mode.
When EN/PSV is high (above $44 \%$ of the voltage at $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ ), the switching regulator turns on with power-save enabled. The SiC401A/B P-Save operation reduces the switching frequency according to the load for increased efficiency at light load conditions.

## Forced Continuous Mode Operation

The $\mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{B}$ operates the switcher in FCM (Forced Continuous Mode) by floating the EN/PSV pin (see figure 4). In this mode one of the power MOSFETs is always on, with no intentional dead time other than to avoid crossconduction. This feature results in uniform frequency across the full load range with the trade-off being poor efficiency at light loads due to the high-frequency switching of the MOSFETs. DH is gate signal to drive upper MOSFET. DL is lower gate signal to drive lower MOSFET


Figure 4 - Forced Continuous Mode Operation

## Ultrasonic Power-Save Operation (SiC401A)

The SiC401A provides ultrasonic power-save operation at light loads, with the minimum operating frequency fixed at slightly under 25 kHz . This is accomplished by using an internal timer that monitors the time between consecutive high-side gate pulses. If the time exceeds $40 \mu \mathrm{~s}$, DL drives high to turn the low-side MOSFET on. This draws current from $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}$ through the inductor, forcing both $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}$ to fall. When $V_{F B}$ drops to the 600 mV threshold, the next DH (the drive signal for the high side FET) on-time is triggered. After the on-time is completed the high-side MOSFET is turned off and the low-side MOSFET turns on. The low-side MOSFET remains on until the inductor current ramps down to zero, at which point the low-side MOSFET is turned off.
Because the on-times are forced to occur at intervals no greater than $40 \mu \mathrm{~s}$, the frequency will not fall far below 25 kHz . Figure 5 shows ultrasonic power-save operation.


After the $40 \mu$ s time-out, DL drives high if $V_{F B}$ has not reached the FB threshold.

## Power-Save Operation (SiC401B)

The SiC401B provides power-save operation at light loads with no minimum operating frequency. With power-save enabled, the internal zero crossing comparator monitors the inductor current via the voltage across the low-side MOSFET during the off-time. If the inductor current falls to zero for 8 consecutive switching cycles, the controller enters MOSFET on each subsequent cycle provided that the power-save operation. It will turn off the low-side MOSFET on each subsequent cycle provided that the current crosses zero. At this time both MOSFETs remain off until $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}$ drops to the 600 mV threshold. Because the MOSFETs are off, the load is supplied by the output capacitor.
If the inductor current does not reach zero on any switching cycle, the controller immediately exits power-save and returns to forced continuous mode.
Figure 6 shows power-save operation at light loads.


Figure 6 - Power-Save Mode

## Smart Power-Save Protection

Active loads may leak current from a higher voltage into the switcher output. Under light load conditions with power-save enabled, this can force $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ to slowly rise and reach the over-voltage threshold, resulting in a hard shut-down. Smart power-save prevents this condition. When the FB voltage exceeds $10 \%$ above nominal, the device immediately disables power-save, and DL drives high to turn on the low-side MOSFET. This draws current from $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ through the inductor and causes $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}$ to fall. When $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}$ drops back to the 600 mV trip point, a normal $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{ON}}$ switching cycle begins. This method prevents a hard OVP shut-down and also cycles energy from $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ back to $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$. It also minimizes operating power by avoiding forced conduction mode operation. Figure 7 shows typical waveforms for the Smart Power Save feature.

Figure 5 - Ultrasonic Power-Save Operation


Figure 7-Smart Power-Save

## SmartDrive ${ }^{\text {TM }}$

For each DH pulse, the DH driver initially turns on the high side MOSFET at a lower speed, allowing a softer, smooth turn-off of the low-side diode. Once the diode is off and the LX voltage has risen 0.5 V above $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GND}}$, the SmartDrive circuit automatically drives the high-side MOSFET on at a rapid rate. This technique reduces switching losses while maintaining high efficiency and also avoids the need for snubbers for the power MOSFETs.

## Current Limit Protection

The device features programmable current limiting, which is accomplished by using the $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{DS}-\mathrm{ON}}$ of the lower MOSFET for current sensing. The current limit is set by $\mathrm{R}_{\text {ILIM }}$ resistor. The $R_{\text {ILIM }}$ resistor connects from the $I_{\text {LIM }}$ pin to the LXS pin which is also the drain of the low-side MOSFET. When the low-side MOSFET is on, an internal $\sim 10 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ current flows from the $\mathrm{I}_{\text {LIM }}$ pin and through the $\mathrm{R}_{\text {ILIM }}$ resistor, creating a voltage drop across the resistor. While the low-side MOSFET is on, the inductor current flows through it and creates a voltage across the $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{DS} \text {-ON }}$. The voltage across the MOSFET is negative with respect to ground. If this MOSFET voltage drop exceeds the voltage across $\mathrm{R}_{\text {ILIM }}$, the voltage at the $\mathrm{I}_{\text {LIM }}$ pin will be negative and current limit will activate. The current limit then keeps the low-side MOSFET on and will not allow another high-side on-time, until the current in the low-side MOSFET reduces enough to bring the $\mathrm{I}_{\text {LIM }}$ voltage back up to zero. This method regulates the inductor valley current at the level shown by $\mathrm{l}_{\text {LIM }}$ in figure 8.


Figure 8 - Valley Current Limit
Setting the valley current limit to 15 A results in a peak inductor current of 15 A plus peak ripple current. In this situation, the average (load) current through the inductor is 15 A plus one-half the peak-to-peak ripple current.
The internal $10 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ current source is temperature compensated at 4100 ppm in order to provide tracking with the $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{DS}-\mathrm{ON}}$.
The $R_{\text {ILIM }}$ value is calculated by the following equation.
$R_{\text {ILIM }}=263 \times$ I $_{\text {LIM }} \times\left[0.112 \times\left(5 \mathrm{~V}-\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}\right)+1\right]$
When selecting a value for $\mathrm{R}_{\text {IIIM }}$ be sure not to exceed the absolute maximum voltage value for the $\mathrm{I}_{\text {LIM }}$ pin. Note that because the low-side MOSFET with low $R_{D S-O N}$ is used for current sensing, the PCB layout, solder connections, and PCB connection to the LX node must be done carefully to obtain good results. R RIIM should be connected directly to LXS (pin 28).

## Soft-Start of PWM Regulator

SiC401A/B has a programmable soft-start time that is controlled by an external capacitor at the SS pin. After the controller meets both UVLO and EN/PSV thresholds, the controller has an internal current source of $3 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ flowing through the SS pin to charge the capacitor. During the start up process (figure 9), $50 \%$ of the voltage at the SS pin is used as the reference for the FB comparator. The PWM comparator issues an on-time pulse when the voltage at the FB pin is less than $40 \%$ of the SS pin. As a result, the output voltage follows the SS voltage. The output voltage reaches and maintains regulation when the soft start voltage is $\geq 1.5 \mathrm{~V}$. The time between the first LX pulse and $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ reaching regulation is the soft-start time ( $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{SS}}$ ). The calculation for the soft-start time is shown by the following equation.

$$
\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{SS}}=\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{SS}} \times \frac{1.5 \mathrm{~V}}{3 \mu \mathrm{~A}}
$$

The voltage at the SS pin continues to ramp up and eventually equals $64 \%$ of $V_{D D}$. After the soft start completes, the FB pin voltage is compared to an internal reference of 0.6 V . The delay time between the $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ regulation point and $P_{\text {GOOD }}$ going high is shown by the following equation.

$$
\mathrm{t}_{\text {PGOOD-DELAY }}=\frac{\mathrm{C}_{S S} \times\left(0.64 \times \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}-1.5 \mathrm{~V}\right)}{3 \mu \mathrm{~A}}
$$



Figure 9 - Soft-start Timing Diagram

## Pre-Bias Start-Up

The SiC401A/B can start up normally even when there is an existing output voltage present. The soft start time is still the same as normal start up (when the output voltage starts from zero). The output voltage starts to ramp up when $40 \%$ of the voltage at SS pin meets the existing FB voltage level. Pre-bias startup is achieved by turning off the lower gate when the inductor current falls below zero. This method prevents the output voltage from discharging.

## Power Good Output

The $P_{\text {GOOD }}$ (power good) output is an open-drain output which requires a pull-up resistor. When the voltage at the FB pin is $10 \%$ below the nominal voltage, $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GOOD}}$ is pulled low. It is held low until the output voltage returns above - $8 \%$ of nominal.
$\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GOOD}}$ will transition low if the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}$ pin exceeds $+20 \%$ of nominal, which is also the over-voltage shutdown threshold. $P_{G O O D}$ also pulls low if the EN/PSV pin is low when $V_{D D}$ is present.

## Output Over-Voltage Protection

Over-voltage protection becomes active as soon as the device is enabled. The threshold is set at $600 \mathrm{mV}+20 \%$ ( 720 mV ). When $\mathrm{V}_{\text {FB }}$ exceeds the OVP threshold, DL latches high and the low-side MOSFET is turned on. DL remains high and the controller remains off, until the EN/PSV input is toggled or $V_{D D}$ is cycled. There is a $5 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ delay built into the OVP detector to prevent false transitions. $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GOOD}}$ is also low after an OVP event.

## Output Under-Voltage Protection

When $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}$ falls $25 \%$ below its nominal voltage (falls to 450 mV ) for eight consecutive clock cycles, the switcher is shut off and the DH and DL drives are pulled low to tristate the MOSFETs. The controller stays off until EN/PSV is toggled or $V_{D D}$ is cycled.

## $V_{D D}$ UVLO, and POR

UVLO (Under-Voltage Lock-Out) circuitry inhibits switching and tri-states the $D H / D L$ drivers until $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ rises above 3 V . An internal POR (Power-On Reset) occurs when $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ exceeds 3 V , which resets the fault latch and a soft-start counter cycle begins which prepares for soft-start. The SiC401A/B then begins a soft-start cycle. The PWM will shut off if $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ falls below 2.4 V .

## LDO Regulator

SiC401A/B has an option to bias the switcher by using an internal LDO from $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$. The LDO output is connected to $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ internally. The output of the LDO is programmable by using external resistors from the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ pin to $\mathrm{A}_{G N D}$ (see figure 10). The feedback pin (FBL) for the LDO is regulated to 750 mV .


Figure 10- LDO Output Voltage Selection
The LDO output voltage is set by the following equation.

$$
\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{LDO}}=750 \mathrm{mV} \times\left(1+\frac{\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{LDO} 1}}{\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{LDO} 2}}\right)
$$

A minimum capacitance of $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ referenced to $A_{G N D}$ is normally required at the output of the LDO for stability.
Note that if the LDO voltage is set lower than 4.5 V , the minimum output capacitance for the LDO is $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}$.

## LDO ENL Functions

The ENL input is used to enable/disable the internal LDO. When ENL is a logic low, the LDO is off. When ENL is above the $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ UVLO threshold, the LDO is enabled and the switcher is also enabled if the EN/PSV and VDD are above their threshold. The table below summarizes the function of ENL and EN/PSV pins.

| EN/PSV | ENL | LDO | Switcher |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Disabled | Low, $<0.4 \mathrm{~V}$ | Off | Off |
| Enabled | Low, $<0.4 \mathrm{~V}$ | Off | On |
| Disabled | $1 \mathrm{~V}<$ High $<2.6 \mathrm{~V}$ | On | Off |
| Enabled | $1 \mathrm{~V}<$ High $<2.6 \mathrm{~V}$ | On | Off |
| Disabled | High, $>2.6 \mathrm{~V}$ | On | Off |
| Enabled | High, $>2.6 \mathrm{~V}$ | On | On |

The ENL pin also acts as the switcher under-voltage lockout for the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ supply. When $\mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{B}$ is self-biased from the LDO and runs from the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ power source only, the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ UVLO
feature can be used to prevent false UV faults for the PWM output by programming with a resistor divider at the $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$, ENL and $A_{G N D}$ pins. When $\operatorname{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{B}$ has an external bias voltage at $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ and the ENL pin is used to program the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ UVLO feature, the voltage at FBL needs to be higher than 750 mV to force the LDO off.
Timing is important when driving ENL with logic and not implementing $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ UVLO. The ENL pin must transition from high to low within 2 switching cycles to avoid the PWM output turning off. If ENL goes below the $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ UVLO threshold and stays above 1 V , then the switcher will turn off but the LDO will remain on.

## LDO Start-up

Before start-up, the LDO checks the status of the following signals to ensure proper operation can be maintained.

1. ENL pin
2. $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{LDO}}$ output

When the ENL pin is high and VIN is above the UVLO point, the LDO will begin start-up. During the initial phase, when the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ voltage (which is the LDO output voltage) is less than 0.75 V , the LDO initiates a current-limited start-up (typically 65 mA ) to charge the output capacitors while protecting from a short circuit event. When $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ is greater than 0.75 V but still less than $90 \%$ of its final value (as sensed at the FBL pin), the LDO current limit is increased to $\sim 115 \mathrm{~mA}$. When $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ has reached $90 \%$ of the final value (as sensed at the FBL pin), the LDO current limit is increased to $\sim 200 \mathrm{~mA}$ and the LDO output is quickly driven to the nominal value by the internal LDO regulator. It is recommended that during LDO start-up to hold the PWM switching off until the LDO has reached $90 \%$ of the final value. This prevents overloading the current-limited LDO output during the LDO start-up.
Due to the initial current limitations on the LDO during power up (figure 11), any external load attached to the $V_{D D}$ pin must be limited to less than the start up current before the LDO has reached $90 \%$ of its final regulation value.


## LDO Switch-Over Poeration

The $\mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{B}$ includes a switch-over function for the LDO. The switch-over function is designed to increase efficiency by using the more efficient DC/DC converter to power the LDO output, avoiding the less efficient LDO regulator when possible. The switch-over function connects the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ pin directly to the $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ pin using an internal switch. When the switch-over is complete the LDO is turned off, which results in a power savings and maximizes efficiency. If the LDO
output is used to bias the $\mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{B}$, then after switch-over the device is self-powered from the switching regulator with the LDO turned off.
The switch-over starts 32 switching cycles after $\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{GOOD}}$ output goes high. The voltages at the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ pins are then compared; if the two voltages are within $\pm 300 \mathrm{mV}$ of each other, the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ pin connects to the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}$ pin using an internal switch, and the LDO is turned off. To avoid unwanted switch-over, the minimum difference between the voltages for $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ should be $\pm 500 \mathrm{mV}$.
It is not recommended to use the switch-over feature for an output voltage less than $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ UVLO threshold since the $\mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{B}$ is not operational below that threshold.

## Switch-Over MOSFET Parasitic Diodes

The switch-over MOSFET contains parasitic diodes that are inherent to its construction, as shown in figure 12. If the voltage at the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}$ pin is higher than $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$, then the respective diode will turn on and the current will flow through this diode. This has the potential of damaging the device. Therefore, $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ must be less than $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}}$ to prevent damaging the device.


Figure 12 - Switch-over MOSFET Parasitic Diodes

## Design Procedure

When designing a switch mode supply the input voltage range, load current, switching frequency, and inductor ripple current must be specified.
The maximum input voltage ( $\mathrm{V}_{\mathbb{I N} \text { max. }}$ ) is the highest specified input voltage. The minimum input voltage ( $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ min.) is determined by the lowest input voltage after evaluating the voltage drops due to connectors, fuses, switches, and PCB traces.
The following parameters define the design:

- Nominal output voltage ( $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}$ )
- Static or DC output tolerance
- Transient response
- Maximum load current (lout)

There are two values of load current to evaluate - continuous load current and peak load current. Continuous load current relates to thermal stresses which drive the selection of the inductor and input capacitors. Peak load current determines instantaneous component stresses and filtering requirements such as inductor saturation, output capacitors, and design of the current limit circuit.
The following values are used in this design:

- $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V} \pm 10 \%$
- $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}=1.5 \mathrm{~V} \pm 4 \%$
- $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{SW}}=300 \mathrm{kHz}$
- Load = 15 A max.


## Frequency Selection

Selection of the switching frequency requires making a trade-off between the size and cost of the external filter components (inductor and output capacitor) and the power conversion efficiency.
The desired switching frequency is 300 kHz which results from using component selected for optimum size and cost.
A resistor ( $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{tON}}$ ) is used to program the on-time (indirectly setting the frequency) using the following equation.

$$
R_{\text {ton }}=\frac{\mathrm{k}}{25 \mathrm{pFxfsw}}
$$

To select $R_{t O N}$, use the maximum value for $V_{I N}$, and for $t_{O N}$ use the value associated with maximum $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$.

$$
\text { toN }=\frac{V_{\text {OUT }}}{V_{\text {INmax. }} x f_{\text {SW }}}
$$

Substituting for $\mathrm{R}_{\text {toN }}$ results in the following solution.
$R_{t O N}=133.3 \mathrm{k} \Omega$, use $R_{\mathrm{tON}}=130 \mathrm{k} \Omega$.

## Inductor Selection

In order to determine the inductance, the ripple current must first be defined. Low inductor values result in smaller size but create higher ripple current which can reduce efficiency. Higher inductor values will reduce the ripple current/voltage and for a given DC resistance are more efficient. However, larger inductance translates directly into larger packages and higher cost. Cost, size, output ripple, and efficiency are all used in the selection process.
The ripple current will also set the boundary for $P_{\text {Save }}$ operation. The switching will typically enter $\mathrm{P}_{\text {Save }}$ mode when the load current decreases to $1 / 2$ of the ripple current. For example, if ripple current is 4 A then $\mathrm{P}_{\text {Save }}$ operation will typically start for loads less than 2 A . If ripple current is set at $40 \%$ of maximum load current, then $\mathrm{P}_{\text {Save }}$ will start for loads less than $20 \%$ of maximum current.
The inductor value is typically selected to provide a ripple current that is between $25 \%$ to $50 \%$ of the maximum load current. This provides an optimal trade-off between cost, efficiency, and transient performance.
During the on-time, voltage across the inductor is $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}-\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}\right)$. The equation for determining inductance is shown next.

$$
\mathrm{L}=\frac{\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}-\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}\right) \times \mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{ON}}}{\mathrm{I}_{\text {RIPPLE }}}
$$

## Example

In this example, the inductor ripple current is set equal to $30 \%$ of the maximum load current. Thus ripple current will be
$30 \% \times 15 \mathrm{~A}$ or 4.5 A . To find the minimum inductance needed, use the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ and $\mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{ON}}$ values that correspond to $V_{\text {INmax }}$.

$$
\mathrm{L}=\frac{(13.2-1.5) \times 379 \mathrm{~ns}}{4.5 \mathrm{~A}}=0.99 \mu \mathrm{H}
$$

A slightly larger value of $1 \mu \mathrm{H}$ is selected. This will decrease the maximum $\mathrm{I}_{\text {RIPPLE }}$ to 4.43 A .
Note that the inductor must be rated for the maximum DC load current plus $1 / 2$ of the ripple current.
The ripple current under minimum $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ conditions is also checked using the following equations.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { ton_VINmin. }=\frac{25 \mathrm{pF} \times \mathrm{R}_{\text {tON }} \times \mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}}{\mathrm{V}_{\text {INmin. }}}=451 \mathrm{~ns} \\
& \text { IRIPPLE }=\frac{\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}-V_{\text {OUT }}\right) \times \text { tON }}{\mathrm{L}} \\
& \text { IRIPPLE_VINmin. }=\frac{(10.8-1.5) \times 451 \mathrm{~ns}}{1 \mu \mathrm{H}}=4.19 \mathrm{~A}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Capacitor Selection

The output capacitors are chosen based upon required ESR and capacitance. The maximum ESR requirement is controlled by the output ripple requirement and the DC tolerance. The output voltage has a $D C$ value that is equal to the valley of the output ripple plus $1 / 2$ of the peak-to-peak ripple.
A change in the output ripple voltage will lead to a change in DC voltage at the output.
The design goal for output voltage ripple is $3 \%$ of 1.5 V or 45 mV . The maximum ESR value allowed is shown by the following equations.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{ESR}_{\text {max } .}=\frac{V_{\text {RIPPLE }}}{I_{\text {RIPPLEmax. }}}=\frac{45 \mathrm{mV}}{4.43 \mathrm{~A}} \\
& \mathrm{ESR}_{\text {max } .}=10.2 \mathrm{~m} \Omega
\end{aligned}
$$

The output capacitance is usually chosen to meet transient requirements. A worst-case load release, from maximum load to no load at the exact moment when inductor current is at the peak, determines the required capacitance. If the load release is instantaneous (load changes from maximum to zero in $<1 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ ), the output capacitor must absorb all the inductor's stored energy. This will cause a peak voltage on the capacitor according to the following equation.

$$
\text { CoUT_min. }=\frac{\mathrm{L}\left(\text { lout }+\frac{1}{2} \times \text { IRIPPLEmax. }\right)^{2}}{\left(\mathrm{~V}_{\text {PEAK }}\right)^{2}-\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}\right)^{2}}
$$

Assuming a peak voltage $\mathrm{V}_{\text {PEAK }}$ of 1.65 V ( 150 mV rise upon load release), and a 15 A load release, the required capacitance is shown by the next equation.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Cout_min. }=\frac{1 \mu \mathrm{H}\left(10+\frac{1}{2} \times 4.43\right)^{2}}{(1.65)^{2}-(1.5)^{2}} \\
& \text { Cout_min. }=316 \mu \mathrm{~F}
\end{aligned}
$$

During the load release time, the voltage cross the inductor is approximately $-\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$. This causes a down-slope or falling $\mathrm{di} / \mathrm{dt}$ in the inductor. If the load dl/dt is not much faster than the dl/dt of the inductor, then the inductor current will tend to track the falling load current. This will reduce the excess inductive energy that must be absorbed by the output capacitor; therefore a smaller capacitance can be used.
The following can be used to calculate the needed capacitance for a given $\mathrm{dl}_{\text {LOAD }} / \mathrm{dt}$.
Peak inductor current is shown by the next equation.
$I_{\text {LPK }}=I_{\text {max. }}+1 / 2 \times I_{\text {RIPPLEmax }}$.
$\mathrm{I}_{\text {LPK }}=10+1 / 2 \times 4.43=12.215 \mathrm{~A}$

$$
\text { Rate of change of load current }=\frac{\mathrm{d} \mathrm{l}_{\text {LOAD }}}{\mathrm{dt}}
$$

$I_{\text {max. }}=$ maximum load release $=15 \mathrm{~A}$

$$
C_{\text {OUT }}=I_{\text {LPK }} \times \frac{L \times \frac{l_{\text {LPK }}}{V_{\text {OUT }}}-\frac{I_{\text {max. }}}{d_{\text {IOAD }}} \times \mathrm{dt}}{2\left(V_{\text {PK }}-V_{\text {OUT }}\right)}
$$

## Example

$$
\frac{\mathrm{d}_{\mathrm{LOAD}}}{\mathrm{dt}}=\frac{2.5 \mathrm{~A}}{1 \mu \mathrm{~s}}
$$

This would cause the output current to move from 15 A to 0 A in $4 \mu \mathrm{~s}$, giving the minimum output capacitance requirement shown in the following equation.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { COUT }=12.215 \times \frac{1 \mu \mathrm{H} \times \frac{12.215}{1.5}-\frac{10}{2.5} \times 1 \mu \mathrm{~s}}{2(1.65-1.5)} \\
& \text { COUT }=169 \mu \mathrm{~F}
\end{aligned}
$$

Note that $\mathrm{C}_{\text {OUT }}$ is much smaller in this example, $169 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ compared to $316 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ based on a worst case load release. To meet the two design criteria of minimum $316 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ and maximum $10.2 \mathrm{~m} \Omega$ ESR, select one capacitor of $330 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ and $9 \mathrm{~m} \Omega$ ESR.

## Stability Considerations

Unstable operation is possible with adaptive on-time controllers, and usually takes the form of double-pulsing or ESR loop instability.
Double-pulsing occurs due to switching noise seen at the FB input or because the FB ripple voltage is too low. This causes the FB comparator to trigger prematurely after the 250 ns minimum off-time has expired. In extreme cases the noise can cause three or more successive on-times. Doublepulsing will result in higher ripple voltage at the output, but in
most applications it will not affect operation. This form of instability can usually be avoided by providing the FB pin with a smooth, clean ripple signal that is at least $10 \mathrm{mVp}-\mathrm{p}$, which may dictate the need to increase the ESR of the output capacitors. It is also imperative to provide a proper PCB layout as discussed in the Layout Guidelines section.
Another way to eliminate doubling-pulsing is to add a small ( $\sim 10 \mathrm{pF}$ ) capacitor across the upper feedback resistor, as shown in figure 13. This capacitor should be left unpopulated until it can be confirmed that double-pulsing exists. Adding the $\mathrm{C}_{\text {TOP }}$ capacitor will couple more ripple into FB to help eliminate the problem. An optional connection on the PCB should be available for this capacitor.


Figure 13 - Capacitor Coupling to FB Pin
ESR loop instability is caused by insufficient ESR. The details of this stability issue are discussed in the ESR Requirements section. The best method for checking stability is to apply a zero-to-full load transient and observe the output voltage ripple envelope for overshoot and ringing. Ringing for more than one cycle after the initial step is an indication that the ESR should be increased.

## ESR Requirements

A minimum ESR is required for two reasons. One reason is to generate enough output ripple voltage to provide $10 \mathrm{mVp}-\mathrm{p}$ at the FB pin (after the resistor divider) to avoid double-pulsing.
The second reason is to prevent instability due to insufficient ESR. The on-time control regulates the valley of the output ripple voltage. This ripple voltage is the sum of the two voltages. One is the ripple generated by the ESR, the other is the ripple due to capacitive charging and discharging during the switching cycle. For most applications the minimum ESR ripple voltage is dominated by the output capacitors, typically SP or POSCAP devices. For stability the ESR zero of the output capacitor should be lower than approximately one-third the switching frequency. The formula for minimum ESR is shown by the following equation.

$$
\mathrm{ESR}_{\min .}=\frac{3}{2 \times \pi \times \text { COUT } \times \mathrm{fSW}}
$$

## Using Ceramic Output Capacitors

When the system is using high ESR value capacitors, the feedback voltage ripple lags the phase node voltage by $90^{\circ}$. Therefore, the converter is easily stabilized. When the system is using ceramic output capacitors, the ESR value is normally too small to meet the above ESR criteria. As a result, the feedback voltage ripple is $180^{\circ}$ from the phase node and behaves in an unstable manner. In this application it is necessary to add a small virtual ESR network that is composed of two capacitors and one resistor, as shown in figure 14.


Figure 14 - Virtual ESR Ramp Current
The ripple voltage at FB is a superposition of two voltage sources: the voltage across $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{L}}$ and output ripple voltage. They are defined in the following equations.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& V_{C L}=\frac{I_{L} \times D C R(s \times L / D C R+1)}{S \times R_{L} \times C_{L}+1} \\
& \Delta V_{\text {OUT }}=\frac{\Delta I_{L}}{8 C \times f_{s W}}
\end{aligned}
$$

Figure 15 shows the magnitude of the ripple contribution due to $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{L}}$ at the FB pin.


Figure 15 - FB Voltage by $C_{L}$ Voltage
It is shown by the following equation.

$$
V F B_{C L}=V_{C L} \times \frac{\left(R_{1} / / R_{2}\right) \times S \times C_{C}}{\left(R_{1} / / R_{2}\right) \times S \times C_{C}+1}
$$

Figure 16 shows the magnitude of the ripple contribution due to the output voltage ripple at the FB pin.


Figure 16 - FB Voltage by Output Voltage
It is shown by the following equation.

$$
\mathrm{VFB} \Delta \mathrm{~V}_{\text {OUT }}=\Delta \mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }} \times \frac{\mathrm{R}_{2}}{\mathrm{R}_{1} / / \frac{1}{\mathrm{~S} \times \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{C}}}+\mathrm{R}_{2}}
$$

The purpose of this network is to couple the inductor current ripple information into the feedback voltage such that the feedback voltage has $90^{\circ}$ phase lag to the switching node similar to the case of using standard high ESR capacitors. This is illustrated in figure 17.


Figure 17 - FB Voltage in Phasor Diagram
The magnitude of the feedback ripple voltage, which is dominated by the contribution from $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{L}}$, is controlled by the value of $R_{1}, R_{2}$ and $C_{C}$. If the corner frequency of $\left(R_{1} / / R_{2}\right) x$ $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{C}}$ is too high, the ripple magnitude at the FB pin will be smaller, which can lead to double-pulsing. Conversely, if the corner frequency of $\left(R_{1} / / R_{2}\right) \times C_{C}$ is too low, the ripple magnitude at FB pin will be higher. Since the $\operatorname{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{B}$ regulates to the valley of the ripple voltage at the FB pin, a high ripple magnitude is undesirable as it significantly impacts the output voltage regulation. As a result, it is desirable to select a corner frequency for $\left(\mathrm{R}_{1} / / \mathrm{R}_{2}\right) \times \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{C}}$ to achieve enough, but not excessive, ripple magnitude and phase margin. The component values for $R_{1}, R_{2}$, and $C_{C}$ should be calculated using the following procedure.
Select $C_{L}$ (typical 10 nF ) and $R_{L}$ to match with $L$ and DCR time constant using the following equation.

$$
R_{L}=\frac{L}{D C R \times C_{L}}
$$

Select $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{C}}$ by using the following equation.

$$
\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{C}} \approx \frac{1}{\mathrm{R}_{1} / / \mathrm{R}_{2}} \times \frac{3}{2 \times \pi \times \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{Sw}}}
$$

The resistor values ( $\mathrm{R}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{R}_{2}$ ) in the voltage divider circuit set the $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ for the switcher. The typical value for $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{C}}$ is from 10 pF to 1 nF .

## Dropout Performance

The output voltage adjustment range for continuous conduction operation is limited by the fixed 250 ns (typical) minimum off-time of the one-shot. When working with low input voltages, the duty-factor limit must be calculated using worst-case values for on and off times.
The duty-factor limitation is shown by the next equation.

$$
\text { DUTY }=\frac{\operatorname{tON}(\text { min. })}{\operatorname{tON}(\min .) \times \operatorname{tOFF}(\text { max. })}
$$

The inductor resistance and MOSFET on-state voltage drops must be included when performing worst-case dropout duty-factor calculations.

## System DC Accuracy (V ${ }_{\text {OUT }}$ Controller)

Three factors affect $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ accuracy: the trip point of the FB error comparator, the ripple voltage variation with line and load, and the external resistor tolerance. The error comparator offset is trimmed so that under static conditions it trips when the feedback pin is $600 \mathrm{mV}, 1 \%$.
The on-time pulse from the $\mathrm{SiC} 401 \mathrm{~A} / \mathrm{B}$ in the design example is calculated to give a pseudo-fixed frequency of 300 kHz . Some frequency variation with line and load is expected. This variation changes the output ripple voltage. Because adaptive on-time converters regulate to the valley of the output ripple, $1 / 2$ of the output ripple appears as a DC regulation error. For example, if the output ripple is 50 mV with VIN $=6 \mathrm{~V}$, then the measured DC output will be 25 mV above the comparator trip point.
If the ripple increases to 80 mV with $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=17 \mathrm{~V}$, then the measured DC output will be 40 mV above the comparator trip. The best way to minimize this effect is to minimize the output ripple.
The use of 1 \% feedback resistors may result in up to $1 \%$ error. If tighter DC accuracy is required, $0.1 \%$ resistors should be used.
The output inductor value may change with current. This will change the output ripple and therefore will have a minor effect on the DC output voltage. The output ESR also affects the output ripple and thus has a minor effect on the DC output voltage.

## Switching Frequency Variation

The switching frequency varies with load current as a result of the power losses in the MOSFETs and DCR of the inductor. For a conventional PWM constant-frequency converter, as load increases the duty cycle also increases slightly to compensate for IR and switching losses in the MOSFETs and inductor. An adaptive on-time converter must also compensate for the same losses by increasing the effective duty cycle (more time is spent drawing energy from $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ as losses increase). The on-time is essentially constant for a given $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{OUT}} / \mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ combination, to offset the losses the offtime will tend to reduce slightly as load increases. The net effect is that switching frequency increases slightly with increasing load.

## SIC401 (2) (3) EVALUATION REF BOARD



Evaluation Board Schematic

## BILL OF MATERIALS

| Qty. | Ref. Designator | PCB Footprint | Value | Voltage | Description | Part Number | Manufacturer |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3 | C6, C11, C14 | SM0603 | $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 50 V | CAP, 0.1 ¢F, $50 \mathrm{~V}, 0603$ | Generic Component |  |
| 3 | C10, C20, C22 | 593D | $68 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 20 V | 68 ¢F TAN, 20 V, 593D, 20 \% | 593D686X0020D2TE3 |  |
| 1 | C12 | Radial | $150 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 35 V | CAP, Radial, $150 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 35 \mathrm{~V}$ | EU-FM1V151 |  |
| 1 | C13 | SM0402 | $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 50 V | CAP, $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 50 \mathrm{~V}, 0402$ | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | C21 | SM1206 | $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 16 V | $10 \mu$ F, 16 V.X7R.B, 1206 | Generic Component |  |
| 3 | C16, C17, C18 | SM593D | $330 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 6.3 V | $330 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 6.3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{D}$ | 593D337X06R3E2 |  |
| 2 | C25, C30 | SM0402 | 68 pF | 50 V | CAP, $68 \mathrm{pF}, 50 \mathrm{~V}, 0402$ | Generic Component |  |
| 2 | C26, C27 | SM0805 | $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 10 V | $4.7 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 10 \mathrm{~V}, 0805$ | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | C28 | SM0402 | $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 10 V | CAP, $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 10 \mathrm{~V}, 0402$ | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | C15 | SM1210 | $2.2 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ | 35 V | CAP, $2.2 \mu \mathrm{~F}, 35 \mathrm{~V}, 1210$ | GMK325BJ225MN |  |
| 1 | C29 | SM0603 | 3.3 nF | 25 V | CAP, CER, $22 \mathrm{nF}, 25 \mathrm{~V}$ | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | L1 | IHLP4040 | $1 \mu \mathrm{H}$ | 0 | $1 \mu \mathrm{H}$ | IHLP4040DZER1R0M01 |  |
| 4 | M1, M2, M3, M4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Nylonon Standoff | 8834 |  |
| 8 | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { P1, P2, P6, P7, P8, } \\ \text { P9, P10, P11 } \end{gathered}$ | Terminal | 0 | 0 | Test Points | 1573-3 |  |
| 1 | R7 | SM0603 | $0 \Omega$ | 50 V | Res, $0 \Omega$ | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | R8 | SM0603 | 3.92 K | 50 V | Res, 12.4K, 0603 | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | R10 | SM0603 | 5.11K | 50 V | Res, $5.11 \mathrm{~K}, 0603$ | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | R13 | SM0402 | $100 \Omega$ | 50 V | $100 \mathrm{R}, 50 \mathrm{~V}, 0402$ | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | R14 | SM0402 | $0 \Omega$ | 50 V | $100 \mathrm{R}, 50 \mathrm{~V}, 0402$ | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | R15 | SM0603 | 10K | 50 V | Res, 10K, $50 \mathrm{~V}, 0603$ | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | R23 | SM0603 | 7.15K | 50 V | Res, $5.11 \mathrm{~K}, 0603$ | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | R30 | SM0603 | 130K | 50 V | Res, 69.8K, 0603 | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | R39 | SM0402 | $0 \Omega$ | 50 V | $0 \mathrm{R}, 50 \mathrm{~V}, 0402$ | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | R52 | SM0603 | $0 \Omega$ | 50 V | RES, 31.6K, $50 \mathrm{~V}, 0603$ | Generic Component |  |
| 1 | U1 | PowerPAK <br> MLP55-32L | 0 | 0 | 15A micro BUCK integrated Buck Regulator with Programmable LDO | SiC401ACD-T1-GE3/ <br> SiC401BCD-T1GE3 |  |
| 4 | B1, B2, B3, B4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | BANANA JACK | 575-4 |  |

## PACKAGE DIMENSIONS



| Dim. | Millimeters |  |  | Inches |  |  | Note |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Min. | Nom. | Max. | Min. | Nom. | Max. |  |
| A | 0.70 | 0.75 | 0.80 | 0.027 | 0.029 | 0.031 |  |
| A1 | 0.00 | - | 0.05 | 0.00 | - | 0.002 | 8 |
| A2 | 0.20 ref. |  |  | 0.008 ref. |  |  |  |
| b | 0.20 | 0.25 | 0.30 | 0.078 | 0.098 | 0.110 | 4 |
| D | 5.00 BSC |  |  | 0.196 BSC |  |  |  |
| E | 0.50 BSC |  |  | 0.019 BSC |  |  |  |
| E | 5.00 BSC |  |  | 0.196 BSC |  |  |  |
| L | 0.35 | 0.40 | 0.45 | 0.013 | 0.015 | 0.017 |  |
| N | 32 |  |  | 32 |  |  | 3 |
| Nd | 8 |  |  | 8 |  |  | 8 |
| Ne | 8 |  |  | 8 | 3 |  |  |


| Dim. | Millimeters |  |  | Inches |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Min. | Nom. | Max. | Min. | Nom. | Max. |  |  |  |
| D2-1 | 3.43 | 3.48 | 3.53 | 0.135 | 0.137 | 0.139 |  |  |  |
| D2-2 | 1.00 | 1.05 | 1.10 | 0.039 | 0.041 | 0.043 |  |  |  |
| D2-3 | 1.00 | 1.05 | 1.10 | 0.039 | 0.041 | 0.043 |  |  |  |
| D2-4 | 1.92 | 1.97 | 2.02 | 0.075 | 0.077 | 0.079 |  |  |  |
| D2-5 | 0.36 |  |  | 0.014 |  |  |  |  |  |
| E2-1 | 3.43 | 3.48 | 3.53 | 0.135 | 0.137 | 0.139 |  |  |  |
| E2-2 | 1.61 | 1.66 | 1.71 | 0.063 | 0.065 | 0.067 |  |  |  |
| E2-3 | 1.43 | 1.48 | 1.53 | 0.056 | 0.058 | 0.060 |  |  |  |
| E2-4 | 0.45 |  |  |  |  | 0.018 |  |  |  |

Note:

1. Use millimeters as the primary measurement.
2. Dimensioning and tolerances conform to ASME Y1 4.5M-1994.
3. N is the number of terminals

Nd is the number of terminals in X -direction and
Ne is the number of terminals in Y -direction.
4. Dimensions applies to plated terminal and is measured between 0.20 mm and 0.25 mm from terminal tip.
5. The pin \#1 identifier must be existed on the top surface of the package by using indentation mark or other feature of package body.
6. Exact shape and size of this feature is optional.
7. Package warpage max. 0.08 mm .
8. Applied only for terminals.

[^0]
## PowerPAK ${ }^{\circledR}$ MLP55-32L CASE OUTLINE



Top View


Side View
Bottom View

| DIM | MILLIMETERS |  |  | INCHES |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | MIN. | NOM. | MAX. | MIN. | NOM. | MAX. |
| A | 0.80 | 0.85 | 0.90 | 0.031 | 0.033 | 0.035 |
| $\mathrm{A1}{ }^{(8)}$ | 0.00 | - | 0.05 | 0.000 | - | 0.002 |
| A2 | 0.20 REF. |  |  | 0.008 REF. |  |  |
| $\mathrm{b}^{(4)}$ | 0.20 | 0.25 | 0.30 | 0.078 | 0.098 | 0.011 |
| D | 5.00 BSC |  |  | 0.196 BSC |  |  |
| Q | 0.50 BSC |  |  | 0.019 BSC |  |  |
| E | 5.00 BSC |  |  | 0.196 BSC |  |  |
| L | 0.35 | 0.40 | 0.45 | 0.013 | 0.015 | 0.017 |
| $\mathrm{N}^{(3)}$ | 32 |  |  | 32 |  |  |
| Nd(3) | 8 |  |  | 8 |  |  |
| $\mathrm{Ne}^{(3)}$ | 8 |  |  | 8 |  |  |
| D2-1 | 3.43 | 3.48 | 3.53 | 0.135 | 0.137 | 0.139 |
| D2-2 | 1.00 | 1.05 | 1.10 | 0.039 | 0.041 | 0.043 |
| D2-3 | 1.00 | 1.05 | 1.10 | 0.039 | 0.041 | 0.043 |
| D2-4 | 1.92 | 1.97 | 2.02 | 0.075 | 0.077 | 0.079 |
| E2-1 | 3.43 | 3.48 | 3.53 | 0.135 | 0.137 | 0.139 |
| E2-2 | 1.61 | 1.66 | 1.71 | 0.063 | 0.065 | 0.067 |
| E2-3 | 1.43 | 1.48 | 1.53 | 0.056 | 0.058 | 0.060 |
| ECN: T-08957-Rev. A, 29-Dec-08 DWG: 5983 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Notes

1. Use millimeters as the primary measurement.
2. Dimensioning and tolerances conform to ASME Y14.5M. - 1994.
3. $N$ is the number of terminals.

Nd is the number of terminals in X -direction and Ne is the number of terminals in Y -direction.
4. Dimension $b$ applies to plated terminal and is measured between 0.20 mm and 0.25 mm from terminal tip.
5. The pin \#1 identifier must be existed on the top surface of the package by using indentation mark or other feature of package body.
6. Exact shape and size of this feature is optional.
7. Package warpage max. 0.08 mm .
8. Applied only for terminals.

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