

4A Low Quiescent Current High Efficiency Synchronous Buck Regulator

ISL78214

The ISL78214 is a high efficiency, monolithic, synchronous step-down DC/DC converter that can deliver up to 4A continuous output current from a 2.8V to 5.5V input supply. It uses a current control architecture to deliver very low duty cycle operation at high frequency with fast transient response and excellent loop stability.

The ISL78214 integrates a pair of low ON-resistance P-Channel and N-Channel internal MOSFETs to maximize efficiency and minimize external component count. The 100% duty-cycle operation allows less than 400mV dropout voltage at 4A output current. High 1MHz pulse-width modulation (PWM) switching frequency, that can be synchronization up to 4MHz with an external clock, allows the use of small external components and SYNC input enables multiple ICs to synchronize out of phase to reduce ripple and eliminate beat frequencies.

The ISL78214 can be configured for discontinuous or forced continuous operation at light load. Forced continuous operation reduces noise and RF interference while discontinuous mode provides high efficiency by reducing switching losses at light loads.

Fault protection is provided by internal hiccup mode current limiting during short circuit and overcurrent conditions, an output overvoltage comparator and over-temperature monitor circuit. A power good output voltage monitor indicates when the output is in regulation.

The ISL78214 is offered in a space saving 4x4 QFN lead free package with exposed pad lead frames for low thermal.

The ISL78214 offers a 1ms Power-Good (PG) timer at power-up. When shutdown, ISL78214 discharges the output capacitor. Other features include internal soft-start, internal compensation, overcurrent protection, and thermal shutdown.

The ISL78214 is offered in a 16 Ld 4mmx4mm QFN package with 1mm maximum height. The complete converter occupies less than 0.4in² area.

The ISL78214 is both AEC-Q100-rated and fully TS16949-compliant. The ISL78214 is rated for the automotive temperature range (-40°C to +105°C).

Features

- High Efficiency Synchronous Buck Regulator with up to 97% Efficiency
- Power-Good (PG) Output with a 1ms Delay
- 2.8V to 5.5V Supply Voltage
- 2% Output Accuracy Over-Temperature/Load/Line
- 4A Output Current
- Pin Compatible to ISL78213
- Start-up with Pre-Biased Output
- Internal Soft-Start - 1ms
- Soft-Stop Output Discharge During Disabled
- 35µA Quiescent Supply Current in PFM Mode
- Selectable Forced PWM Mode and PFM Mode
- External Synchronization up to 4MHz
- Less than 1µA Logic Controlled Shutdown Current
- 100% Maximum Duty Cycle
- Internal Current Mode Compensation
- Peak Current Limiting and Hiccup Mode Short Circuit Protection
- Over-Temperature Protection
- Small 16 Ld 4mmx4mm QFN
- Pb-Free (RoHS Compliant)
- TS16949 Compliant
- AECQ100 Tested

Applications* (see page 14)

- Automotive Power
- DC/DC POL Modules
- µC/µP, FPGA and DSP Power

Related Literature* (see page 14)

- See [AN1366](#), "ISL8014AEVAL2Z: 4A Low Quiescent Current 1MHz High Efficiency Synchronous Buck Regulator"

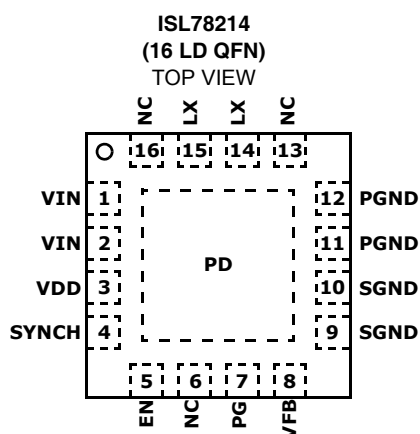
Ordering Information

PART NUMBER (Notes 1, 2, 3)	PART MARKING	TEMP. RANGE (°C)	PACKAGE (Pb-Free)	PKG. DWG. #
ISL78214ARZ	782 14ARZ	-40 to +105	16 Ld 4x4 QFN	L16.4x4

NOTES:

1. Add "-T" suffix for tape and reel. Please refer to [TB347](#) for details on reel specifications.
2. These Intersil Pb-free plastic packaged products employ special Pb-free material sets, molding compounds/die attach materials, and 100% matte tin plate plus anneal (e3 termination finish, which is RoHS compliant and compatible with both SnPb and Pb-free soldering operations). Intersil Pb-free products are MSL classified at Pb-free peak reflow temperatures that meet or exceed the Pb-free requirements of IPC/JEDEC J STD-020.
3. For Moisture Sensitivity Level (MSL), please see device information page for [ISL78214](#). For more information on MSL please see techbrief [TB363](#).

Pin Configuration



Refer to Application Note [AN1366](#) for more layout suggestions.

Pin Descriptions

PIN NUMBER	PIN NAME	DESCRIPTION
1, 2	VIN	Input supply voltage. Connect a 10µF ceramic capacitor to power ground.
3	VDD	Input supply voltage for the analog circuitry. Connect to VIN pin.
5	EN	Regulator enable pin. Enable the output when driven to high. Shut down the chip and discharge output capacitor when driven to low. Do not leave this pin floating.
7	PG	1ms timer output. At power-up or EN HI, this output is a 1ms delayed Power-Good signal for the output voltage.
4	SYNCH	Mode Selection pin. Connect to logic high or input voltage VDD for PWM mode. Connect to logic low or ground for PFM mode. Connect to an external function generator for synchronization with the negative edge trigger. Do not leave this pin floating.
14, 15	LX	Switching node connection. Connect to one terminal of the inductor.
11, 12	PGND	Power ground
9, 10	SGND	Signal ground.
8	VFB	Buck regulator output feedback. Connect to the output through a resistor divider for adjustable output voltage. For 0.8V output voltage, connect this pin to the output.
6, 13, 16	NC	No connect.
PD	Exposed Pad	The exposed pad must be connected to the SGND pin for proper electrical performance. Place as much vias as possible under the pad connecting to SGND plane for optimal thermal performance.

Typical Application

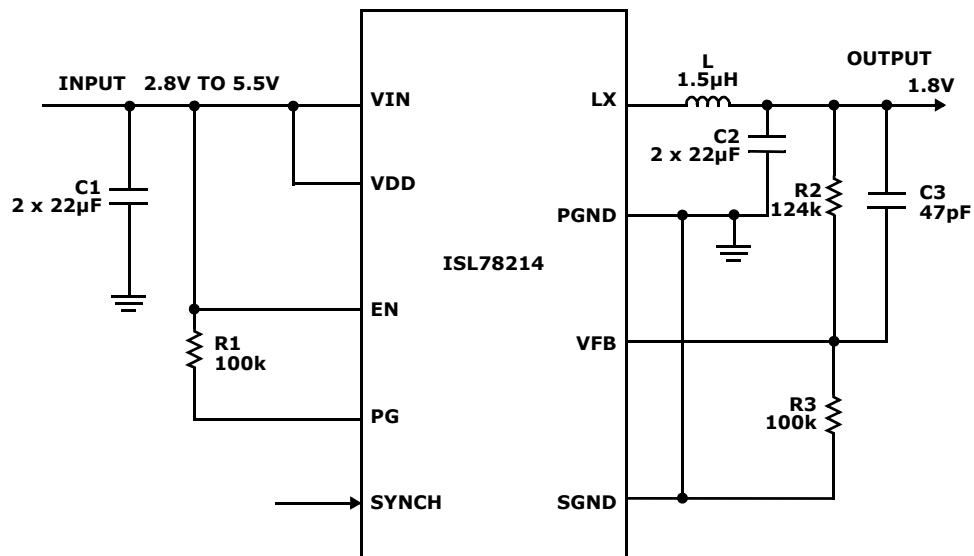


FIGURE 1. TYPICAL APPLICATION DIAGRAM

Block Diagram

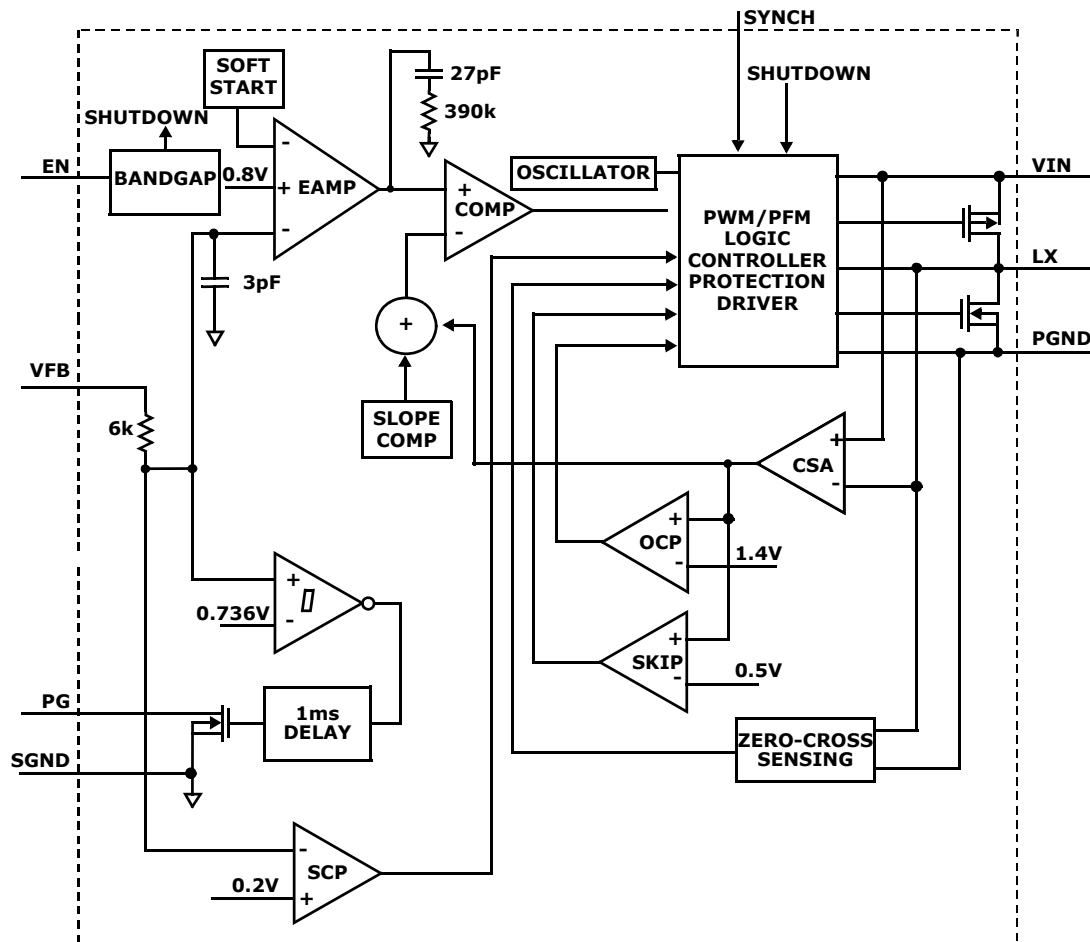


FIGURE 2. FUNCTIONAL BLOCK DIAGRAM

Absolute Maximum Ratings (Reference to GND)

VIN, VDD	-0.3V to 6V (DC) or 7V (20ms)
EN, SYNCH, PG	-0.3V to VIN + 0.3V
LX	-1.5V (100ns)/-0.3V (DC) to 6.5V (DC) or 7V (20ms)
VFB	-0.3V to 2.8V
ESD Ratings	
Human Body Model	3000V
Charged Device Model	2000V
Machine Model	250V
Latch-up	Tested and passed per JESD78A

Thermal Information

Thermal Resistance (Typical)	θ_{JA} (°C/W)	θ_{JC} (°C/W)
16 Ld QFN Package (Notes 4, 5)	39	3
Junction Temperature Range	-55°C to +125°C	
Storage Temperature Range	-65°C to +150°C	
Pb-Free Reflow Profile	see link below	
	http://www.intersil.com/pbfree/Pb-FreeReflow.asp	

Recommended Operating Conditions

VIN Supply Voltage Range	2.8V to 5.5V
Load Current Range	0A to 4A
Ambient Temperature Range	-40°C to +105°C

CAUTION: Do not operate at or near the maximum ratings listed for extended periods of time. Exposure to such conditions may adversely impact product reliability and result in failures not covered by warranty.

NOTES:

- θ_{JA} is measured in free air with the component mounted on a high effective thermal conductivity test board with "direct attach" features. See Tech Brief TB379.
- θ_{JC} , "case temperature" location is at the center of the exposed metal pad on the package underside.

Electrical Specifications

Unless otherwise noted, all parameter limits are established over the recommended operating conditions and the typical specification are measured at the following conditions unless otherwise noted: $T_A = -40^\circ\text{C}$ to $+105^\circ\text{C}$, $V_{IN} = 3.6\text{V}$, $EN = VDD$. Typical values are at $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$. **Boldface limits apply over the operating temperature range, -40°C to $+105^\circ\text{C}$.**

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	TEST CONDITIONS	MIN (Note 7)	TYP	MAX (Note 7)	UNITS
INPUT SUPPLY						
V_{DD} Undervoltage Lockout Threshold	V_{UVLO}	Rising, no load	-	2.6	2.8	V
		Falling, no load	2.15	2.35	-	V
Quiescent Supply Current	I_{VIN}	SYNCH = GND, no load at the output	-	35	-	μA
		SYNCH = GND, no load at the output and no switches switching	-	30	45	μA
		SYNCH = VDD, $F_S = 1\text{MHz}$, no load at the output	-	6.5	10	mA
Shut Down Supply Current	I_{SD}	$V_{IN} = 5.5\text{V}$, $EN = \text{low}$	-	0.1	4	μA
OUTPUT REGULATION						
Reference Voltage	V_{REF}		0.790	0.8	0.810	V
VFB Bias Current	I_{VFB}	$V_{FB} = 0.75\text{V}$	-	0.1	-	μA
Line Regulation		$V_{IN} = V_O + 0.5\text{V}$ to 5.5V (minimal 2.8V)	-	0.2	-	%/V
Soft-Start Ramp Time Cycle			-	1	-	ms
OVERCURRENT PROTECTION						
Current Limit Blanking Time	t_{OCON}		-	17	-	Clock pulses
Overcurrent and Auto Restart Period	t_{OCCOFF}		-	4	-	SS cycle
Switch Current Limit	I_{LIMIT}	(Note 6)	4.9	6.0	7.1	A
Peak Skip Limit	I_{SKIP}	(Note 6)	-	1.3	-	A
COMPENSATION						
Error Amplifier Trans-Conductance			-	20	-	$\mu\text{A/V}$

ISL78214

Electrical Specifications

Unless otherwise noted, all parameter limits are established over the recommended operating conditions and the typical specification are measured at the following conditions unless otherwise noted: $T_A = -40^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $+105^{\circ}\text{C}$, $V_{IN} = 3.6\text{V}$, $\text{EN} = \text{VDD}$. Typical values are at $T_A = +25^{\circ}\text{C}$. **Boldface limits apply over the operating temperature range, -40°C to $+105^{\circ}\text{C}$. (Continued)**

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	TEST CONDITIONS	MIN (Note 7)	TYP	MAX (Note 7)	UNITS
Trans-Resistance	RT		0.17	0.20	0.23	Ω
LX						
P-Channel MOSFET ON-Resistance		$V_{IN} = 5\text{V}$, $I_O = 200\text{mA}$	-	50	75	$\text{m}\Omega$
		$V_{IN} = 2.8\text{V}$, $I_O = 200\text{mA}$	-	70	100	$\text{m}\Omega$
N-Channel MOSFET ON-Resistance		$V_{IN} = 5\text{V}$, $I_O = 200\text{mA}$	-	50	75	$\text{m}\Omega$
		$V_{IN} = 2.8\text{V}$, $I_O = 200\text{mA}$	-	70	100	$\text{m}\Omega$
LX Maximum Duty Cycle			-	100	-	%
PWM Switching Frequency	f_S		0.80	1.0	1.20	MHz
LX Minimum On-Time		SYNCH = High	-	-	140	ns
PG						
Output Low Voltage		Sinking 1mA	-	-	0.3	V
Delay Time (Rising Edge)			0.65	1	1.35	ms
PG Pin Leakage Current		$\text{PG} = V_{IN} = 3.6\text{V}$	-	0.01	2	μA
PGOOD Rising Threshold		Percentage of regulation voltage	89	92	95	%
PGOOD Falling Threshold		Percentage of regulation voltage	85	88	91	%
PGOOD Delay Time (Falling Edge)			-	15	-	μs
EN, SYNCH						
Logic Input Low			-	-	0.4	V
Logic Input High			1.4	-	-	V
Synch Logic Input Leakage Current	I_{SYNCH}	Pulled up to 5.5V	-	0.1	4	μA
Enable Logic Input Leakage Current	I_{EN}		-	0.1	4	μA
Thermal Shutdown			-	140	-	$^{\circ}\text{C}$
Thermal Shutdown Hysteresis			-	25	-	$^{\circ}\text{C}$

NOTES:

- Limits established by characterization and are not production tested.
- Parameters with MIN and/or MAX limits are 100% tested at $+25^{\circ}\text{C}$, unless otherwise specified. Temperature limits established by characterization and are not production tested.

Typical Operating Performance

Unless otherwise noted, operating conditions are: $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$, $V_{IN} = 2.5\text{V to } 5.5\text{V}$, $EN = V_{IN}$, $SYNCH = 0\text{V}$, $L = 1.5\mu\text{H}$, $C_1 = 2 \times 22\mu\text{F}$, $C_2 = 2 \times 22\mu\text{F}$, $I_{OUT} = 0\text{A to } 4\text{A}$.

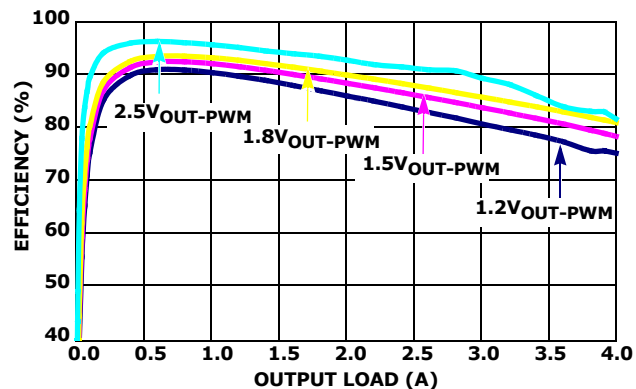


FIGURE 3. EFFICIENCY vs LOAD (1MHz 3.3 V_{IN} PWM)

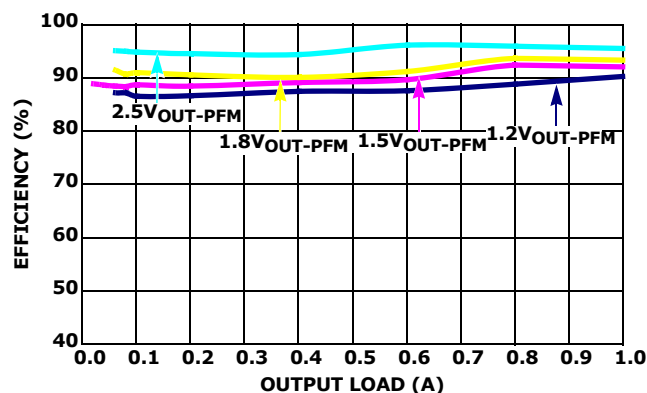


FIGURE 4. EFFICIENCY vs LOAD (1MHz 3.3 V_{IN} PFM)

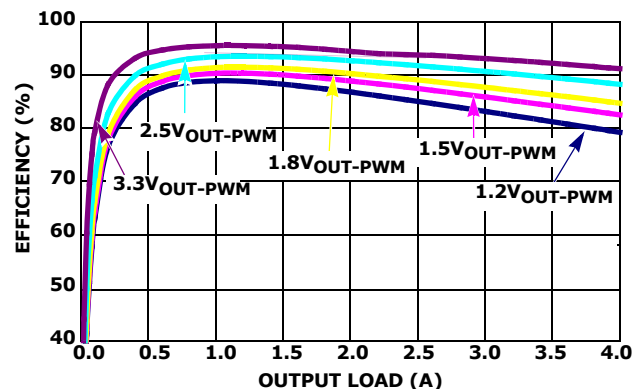


FIGURE 5. EFFICIENCY vs LOAD (1MHz 5 V_{IN} PWM)

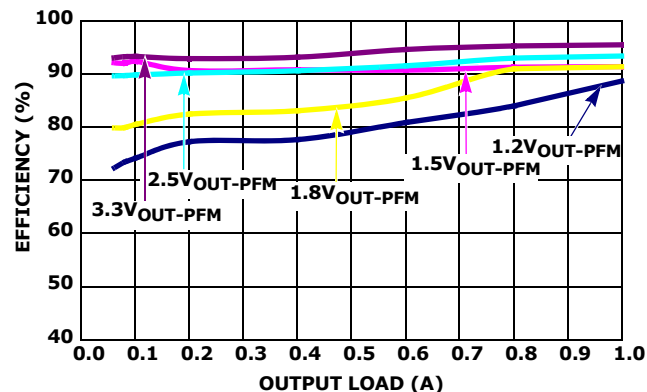


FIGURE 6. EFFICIENCY vs LOAD (1MHz 5 V_{IN} PFM)

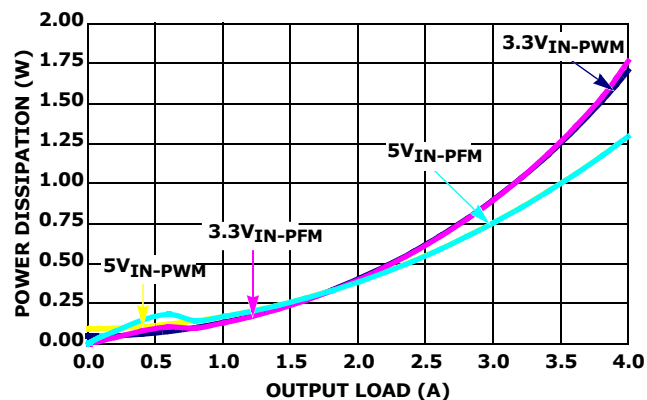


FIGURE 7. POWER DISSIPATION vs LOAD (1MHz, $V_{OUT} = 1.8\text{V}$)

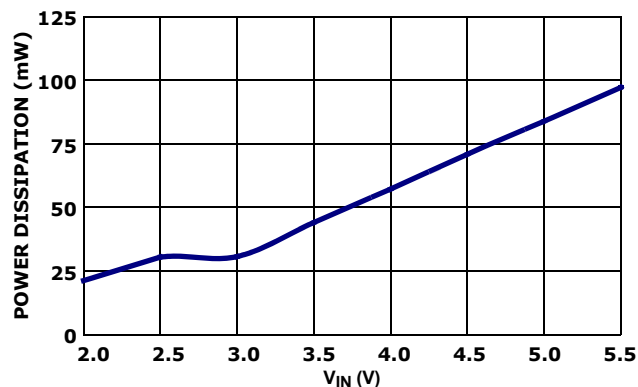


FIGURE 8. POWER DISSIPATION WITH NO LOAD vs V_{IN} (PWM $V_{OUT} = 1.8\text{V}$)

Typical Operating Performance

Unless otherwise noted, operating conditions are: $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$, $V_{IN} = 2.5\text{V to } 5.5\text{V}$, $EN = V_{IN}$, $SYNCH = 0\text{V}$, $L = 1.5\mu\text{H}$, $C_1 = 2 \times 22\mu\text{F}$, $C_2 = 2 \times 22\mu\text{F}$, $I_{OUT} = 0\text{A to } 4\text{A}$. **(Continued)**

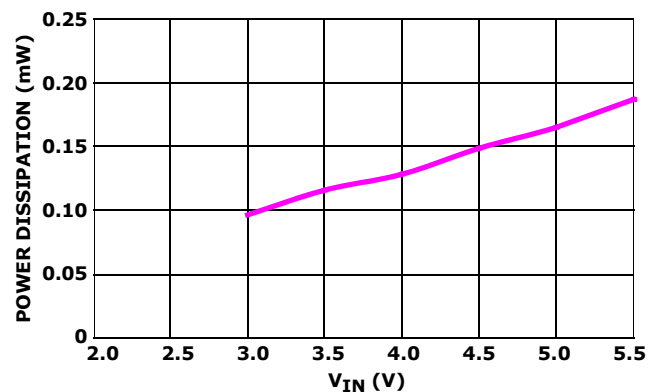


FIGURE 9. POWER DISSIPATION WITH NO LOAD vs V_{IN} (PFM $V_{OUT} = 1.8\text{V}$)

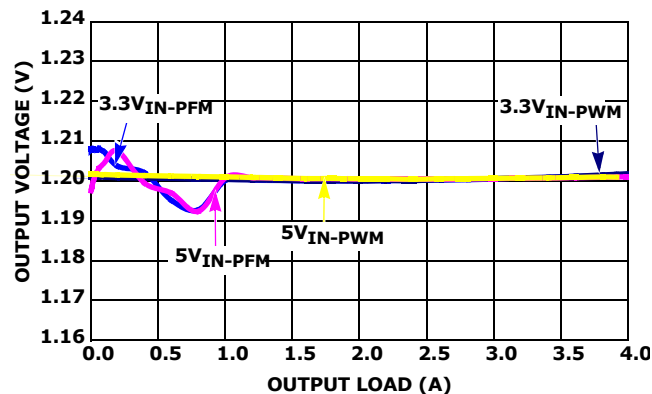


FIGURE 10. V_{OUT} REGULATION vs LOAD (1MHz, $V_{OUT} = 1.2\text{V}$)

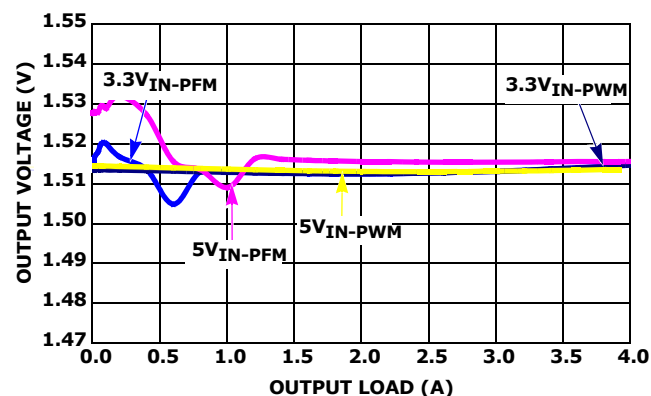


FIGURE 11. V_{OUT} REGULATION vs LOAD (1MHz, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$)

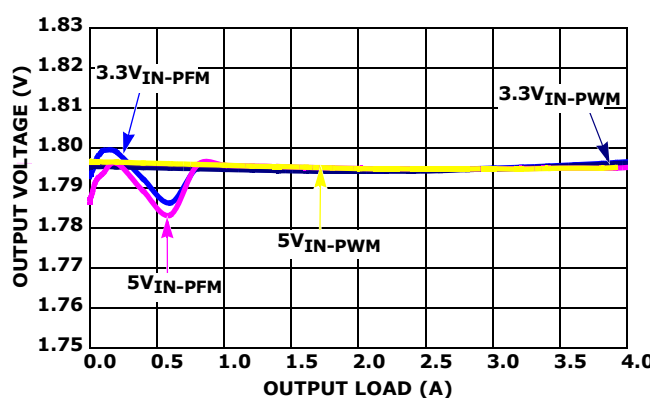


FIGURE 12. V_{OUT} REGULATION vs LOAD (1MHz, $V_{OUT} = 1.8\text{V}$)

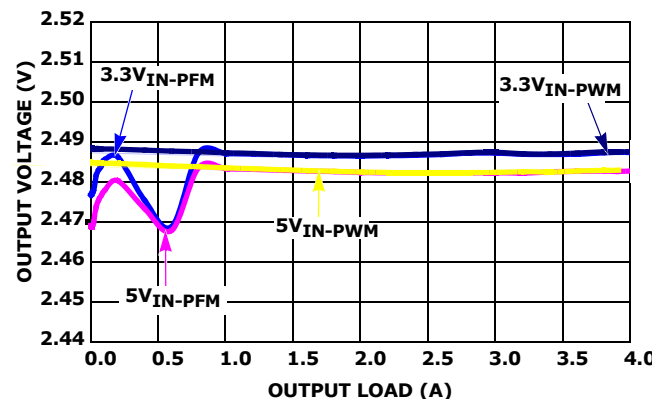


FIGURE 13. V_{OUT} REGULATION vs LOAD (1MHz, $V_{OUT} = 2.5\text{V}$)

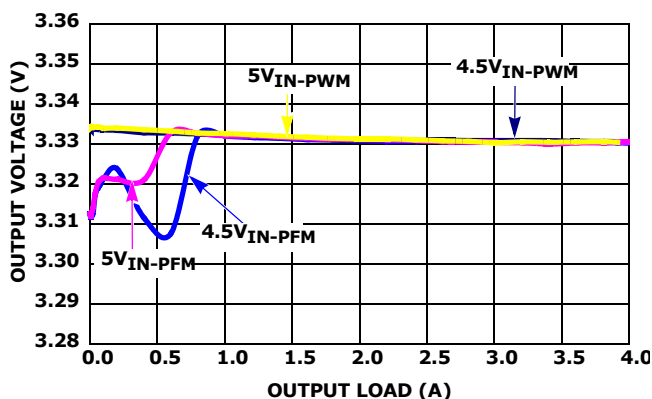


FIGURE 14. V_{OUT} REGULATION vs LOAD (1MHz, $V_{OUT} = 3.3\text{V}$)

Typical Operating Performance

Unless otherwise noted, operating conditions are: $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$, $V_{\text{VIN}} = 2.5\text{V to } 5.5\text{V}$, $\text{EN} = V_{\text{IN}}$, $\text{SYNCH} = 0\text{V}$, $L = 1.5\mu\text{H}$, $C_1 = 2 \times 22\mu\text{F}$, $C_2 = 2 \times 22\mu\text{F}$, $I_{\text{OUT}} = 0\text{A to } 4\text{A}$. **(Continued)**

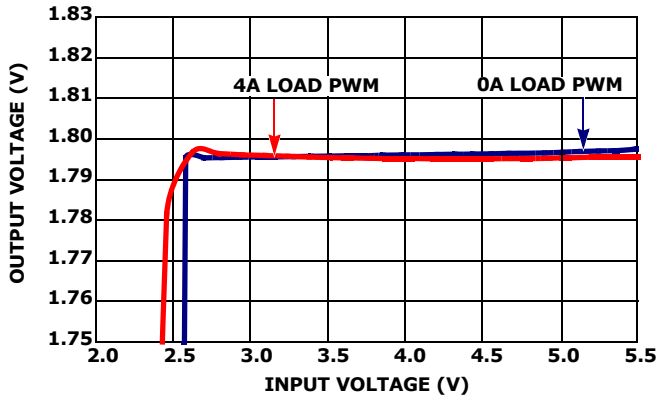


FIGURE 15. OUTPUT VOLTAGE REGULATION vs VIN (PWM $V_{\text{OUT}} = 1.8$)

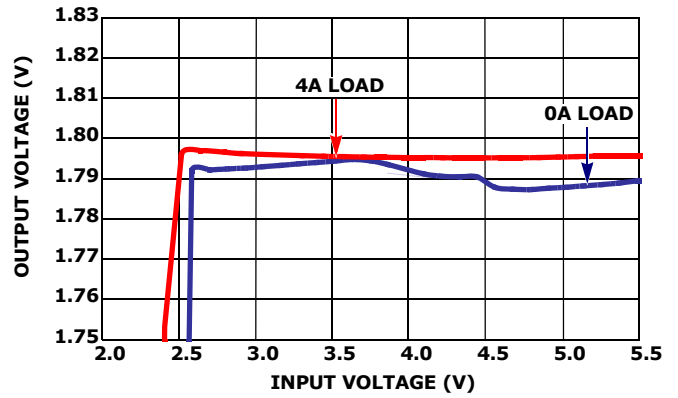


FIGURE 16. OUTPUT VOLTAGE REGULATION vs VIN (PFM $V_{\text{OUT}} = 1.8\text{V}$)

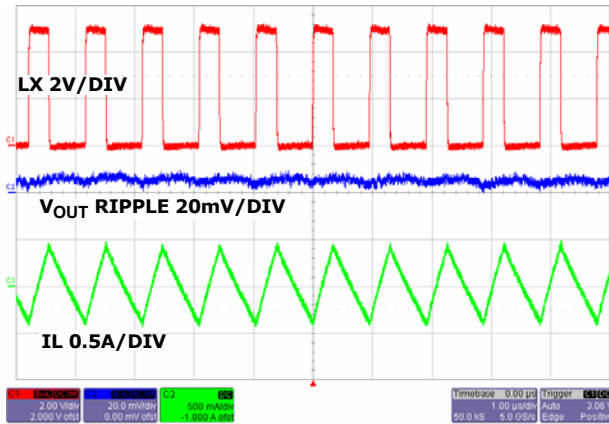


FIGURE 17. STEADY STATE OPERATION AT NO LOAD (PWM)

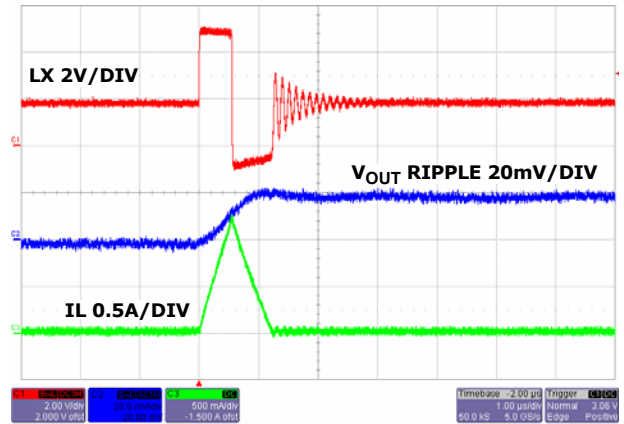


FIGURE 18. STEADY STATE OPERATION AT NO LOAD (PFM)

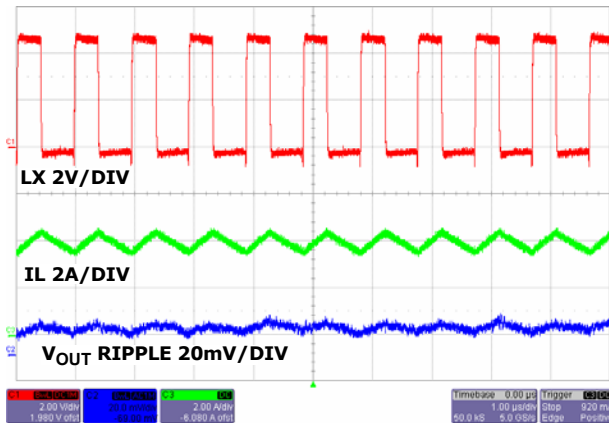


FIGURE 19. STEADY STATE OPERATION WITH FULL LOAD

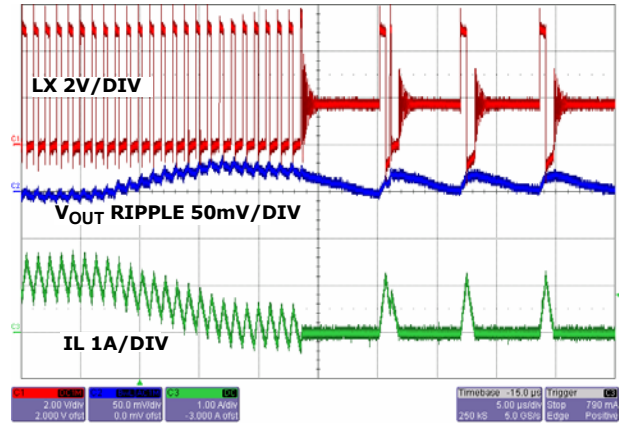


FIGURE 20. MODE TRANSITION CCM TO DCM

Typical Operating Performance

Unless otherwise noted, operating conditions are: $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$, $V_{VIN} = 2.5\text{V to } 5.5\text{V}$, $EN = V_{IN}$, $SYNCH = 0\text{V}$, $L = 1.5\mu\text{H}$, $C_1 = 2 \times 22\mu\text{F}$, $C_2 = 2 \times 22\mu\text{F}$, $I_{OUT} = 0\text{A to } 4\text{A}$. **(Continued)**

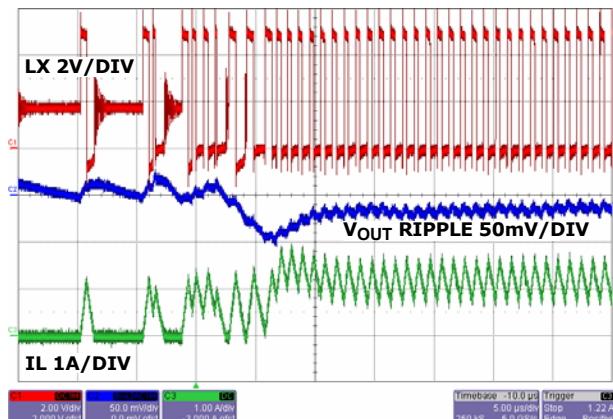


FIGURE 21. MODE TRANSITION DCM TO CCM

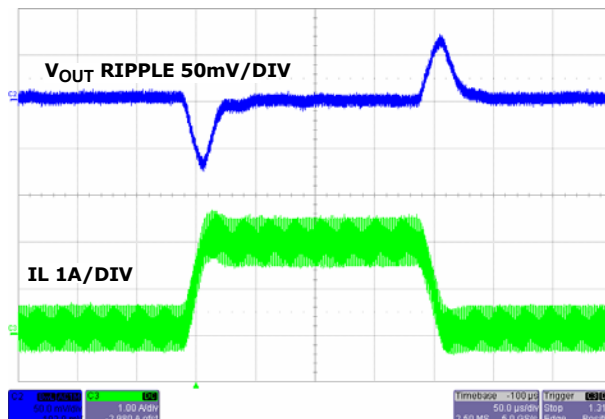


FIGURE 22. LOAD TRANSIENT (PWM)

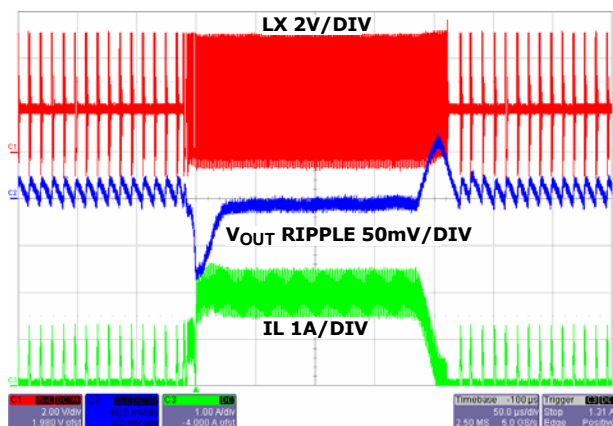


FIGURE 23. LOAD TRANSIENT (PFM)

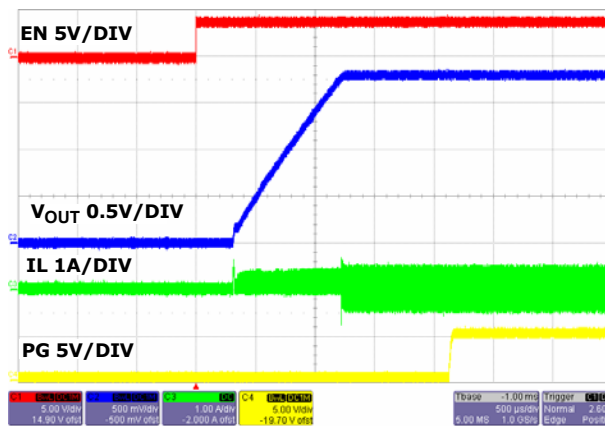


FIGURE 24. SOFT-START WITH NO LOAD (PWM)

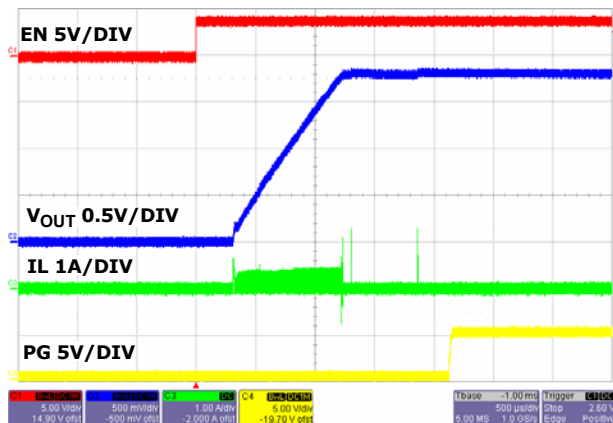


FIGURE 25. SOFT-START AT NO LOAD (PFM)

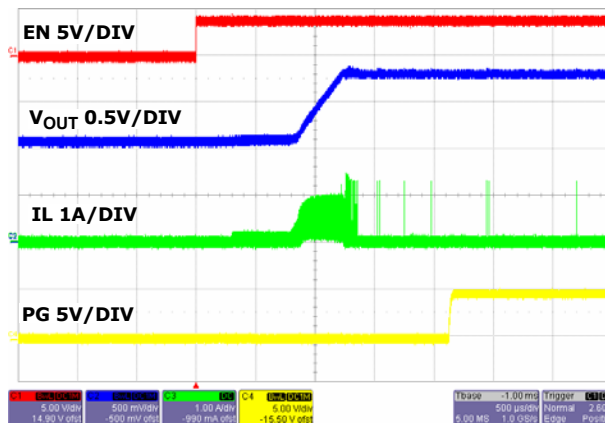


FIGURE 26. SOFT-START WITH PRE-BIASED 1V

Typical Operating Performance

Unless otherwise noted, operating conditions are: $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$, $V_{VIN} = 2.5\text{V to } 5.5\text{V}$, $EN = V_{IN}$, $SYNCH = 0\text{V}$, $L = 1.5\mu\text{H}$, $C_1 = 2 \times 22\mu\text{F}$, $C_2 = 2 \times 22\mu\text{F}$, $I_{OUT} = 0\text{A to } 4\text{A}$. **(Continued)**

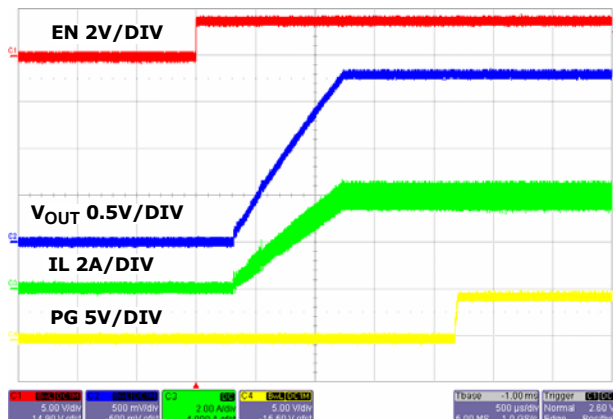


FIGURE 27. SOFT-START AT FULL LOAD

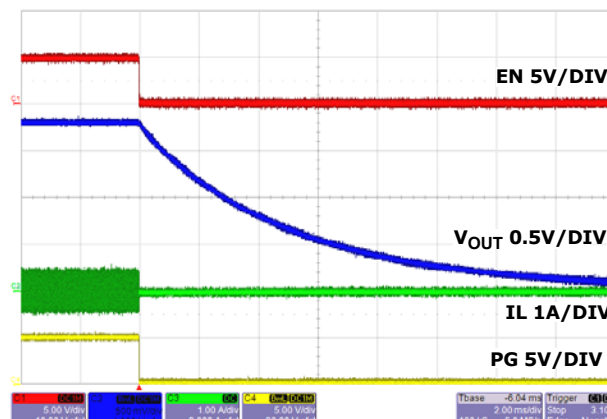


FIGURE 28. SOFT-DISCHARGE SHUTDOWN

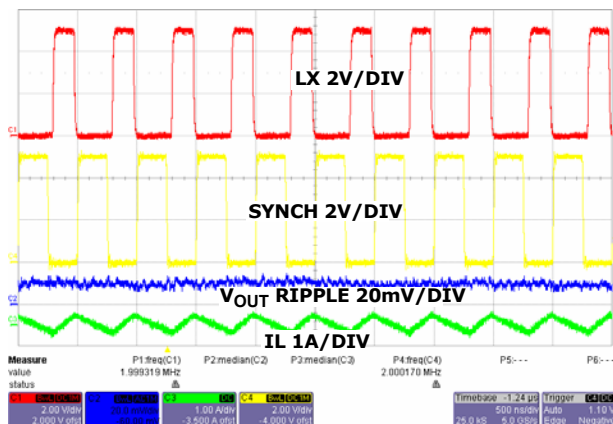


FIGURE 29. STEADY STATE OPERATION AT NO LOAD WITH FREQUENCY = 2MHz

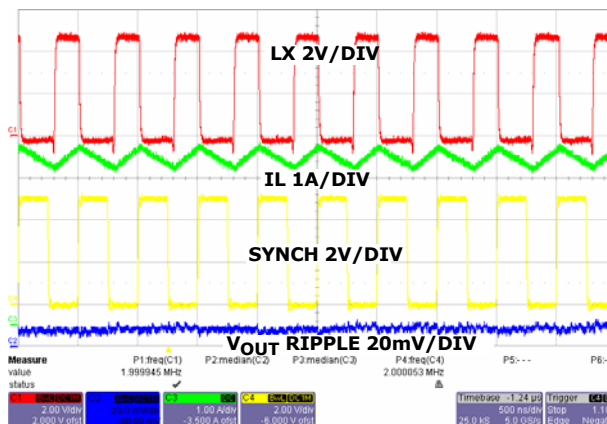


FIGURE 30. STEADY STATE OPERATION AT FULL LOAD WITH FREQUENCY = 2MHz

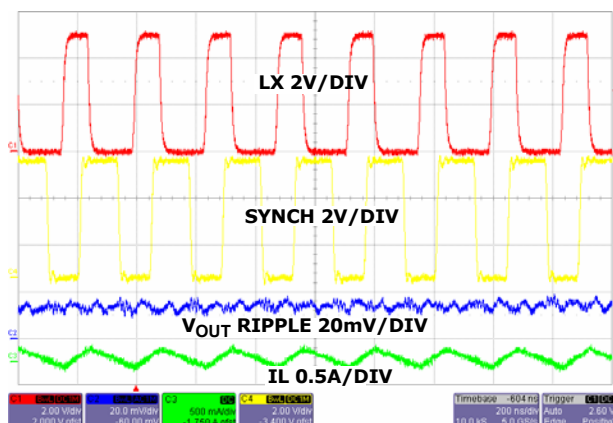


FIGURE 31. STEADY STATE OPERATION AT NO LOAD WITH FREQUENCY = 4MHz

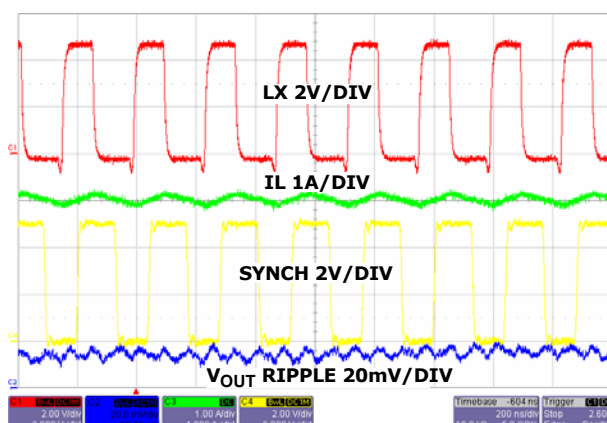


FIGURE 32. STEADY STATE OPERATION AT FULL LOAD (PWM) WITH FREQUENCY = 4MHz

Typical Operating Performance

Unless otherwise noted, operating conditions are: $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$, $V_{\text{VIN}} = 2.5\text{V to } 5.5\text{V}$, $\text{EN} = V_{\text{IN}}$, $\text{SYNCH} = 0\text{V}$, $L = 1.5\mu\text{H}$, $C_1 = 2 \times 22\mu\text{F}$, $C_2 = 2 \times 22\mu\text{F}$, $I_{\text{OUT}} = 0\text{A to } 4\text{A}$. **(Continued)**

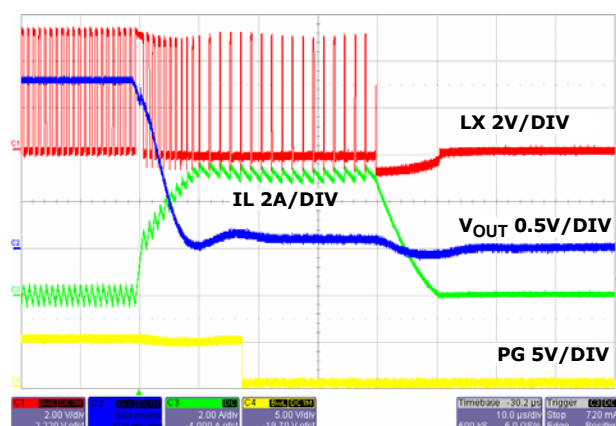


FIGURE 33. OUTPUT SHORT CIRCUIT

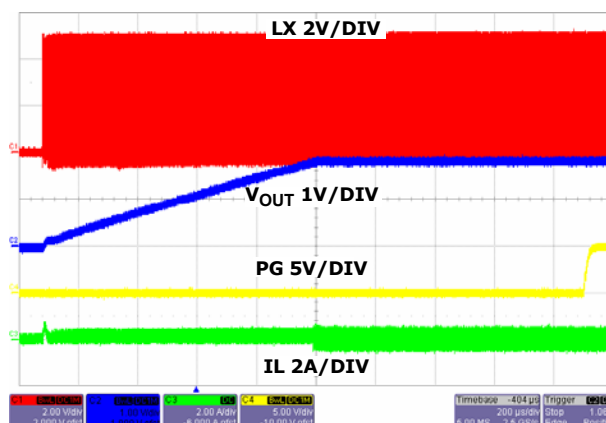


FIGURE 34. OUTPUT SHORT CIRCUIT RECOVERY

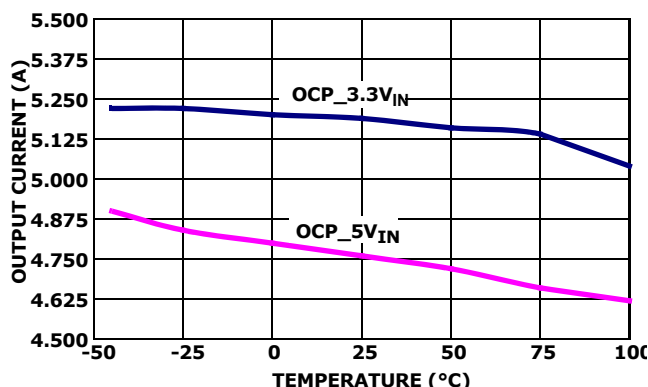


FIGURE 35. OUTPUT CURRENT LIMIT vs TEMPERATURE

Theory of Operation

The ISL78214 is a step-down switching regulator optimized for battery-powered handheld applications. The regulator operates at 1MHz fixed switching frequency under heavy load conditions to allow smaller external inductors and capacitors to be used for minimal printed-circuit board (PCB) area. At light load, the regulator reduces the switching frequency, unless forced to the fixed frequency, to minimize the switching loss and to maximize the battery life. The quiescent current when the output is not loaded is typically only 35μA. The supply current is typically only 0.1μA when the regulator is shut down.

PWM Control Scheme

Pulling the SYNCH pin HI (>2.5V) forces the converter into PWM mode, regardless of output current. The ISL78214 employs the current-mode pulse-width modulation (PWM) control scheme for fast transient response and pulse-by-pulse current limiting. Figure 2 shows the block diagram. The current loop consists of the oscillator, the PWM comparator, current sensing circuit

and the slope compensation for the current loop stability. The gain for the current sensing circuit is typically 200mV/A. The control reference for the current loops comes from the error amplifier's (EAMP) output.

The PWM operation is initialized by the clock from the oscillator. The P-Channel MOSFET is turned on at the beginning of a PWM cycle and the current in the MOSFET starts to ramp up. When the sum of the current amplifier CSA and the slope compensation (237mV/μs) reaches the control reference of the current loop, the PWM comparator COMP sends a signal to the PWM logic to turn off the P-MOSFET and turn on the N-Channel MOSFET. The N-MOSFET stays on until the end of the PWM cycle. Figure 36 shows the typical operating waveforms during the PWM operation. The dotted lines illustrate the sum of the slope compensation ramp and the current-sense amplifier's CSA output.

The output voltage is regulated by controlling the V_{EAMP} voltage to the current loop. The bandgap circuit outputs a 0.8V reference voltage to the voltage loop. The feedback signal comes from the VFB pin. The soft-start

block only affects the operation during the start-up and will be discussed separately. The error amplifier is a transconductance amplifier that converts the voltage error signal to a current output. The voltage loop is internally compensated with the 27pF and 390kΩ RC network. The maximum EAMP voltage output is precisely clamped to 1.6V.

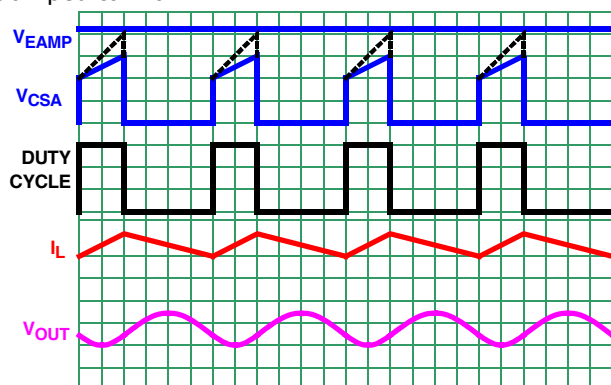


FIGURE 36. PWM OPERATION WAVEFORMS

SKIP Mode

Pulling the SYNCH pin LO (<0.4V) forces the converter into PFM mode. The ISL78214 enters a pulse-skipping mode at light load to minimize the switching loss by reducing the switching frequency. Figure 37 illustrates the skip-mode operation. A zero-cross sensing circuit shown in Figure 2 monitors the N-MOSFET current for zero crossing. When 8 consecutive cycles of the inductor current crossing zero are detected, the regulator enters the skip mode. During the eight detecting cycles, the current in the inductor is allowed to become negative. The counter is reset to zero when the current in any cycle does not cross zero.

Once the skip mode is entered, the pulse modulation starts being controlled by the SKIP comparator shown in Figure 2. Each pulse cycle is still synchronized by the PWM clock. The P-MOSFET is turned on at the clock's rising edge and turned off when the output is higher than 1.5% of the nominal regulation or when its current reaches the peak Skip current limit value. Then the inductor current is discharging to 0A and stays at zero. The internal clock is disabled and the output voltage

reduces gradually due to the load current discharging the output capacitor. When the output voltage drops to the nominal voltage, the P-MOSFET will be turned on again at the rising edge of the internal clock as it repeats the previous operations.

The regulator resumes normal PWM mode operation when the output voltage drops 1.5% below the nominal voltage.

Synchronization Control

The frequency of operation can be synchronized up to 4MHz by an external signal applied to the SYNCH pin. The falling edge on the SYNCH triggers the rising edge of the LX pulse. Make sure that the minimum ON time of the LX node is greater than 140ns.

Overcurrent Protection

The overcurrent protection is realized by monitoring the CSA output with the OCP comparator, as shown in Figure 2. The current sensing circuit has a gain of 200mV/A, from the P-MOSFET current to the CSA output. When the CSA output reaches 1.4V, which is equivalent to 5.7A for the switch current, the OCP comparator is tripped to turn off the P-MOSFET immediately. The overcurrent function protects the switching converter from a shorted output by monitoring the current flowing through the upper MOSFET.

Upon detection of an overcurrent condition, the upper MOSFET will be immediately turned off and will not be turned on again until the next switching cycle. Upon detection of the initial overcurrent condition, the overcurrent fault counter is set to 1. If, on the subsequent cycle, another overcurrent condition is detected, the OC fault counter will be incremented. If there are 17 sequential OC fault detections, the regulator will be shut down under an overcurrent fault condition. An overcurrent fault condition will result in the regulator attempting to restart in a hiccup mode within the delay of four soft-start periods. At the end of the fourth soft-start wait period, the fault counters are reset and soft-start is attempted again. If the overcurrent condition goes away during the delay of four soft-start periods, the output will resume back into regulation point after hiccup mode expires.

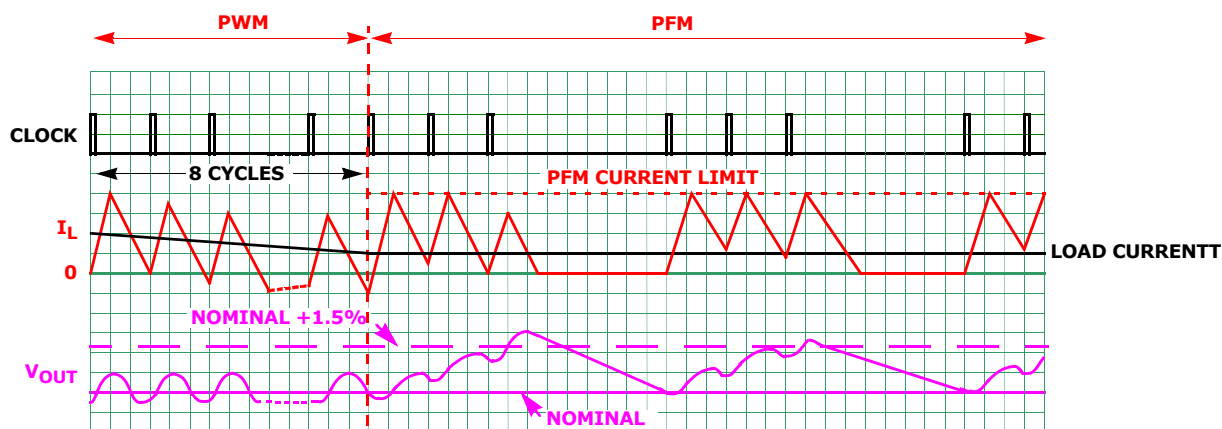


FIGURE 37. SKIP MODE OPERATION WAVEFORMS

Short-Circuit Protection

The short-circuit protection SCP comparator monitors the VFB pin voltage for output short-circuit protection. When the VFB is lower than 0.2V, the SCP comparator forces the PWM oscillator frequency to drop to 1/3 of the normal operation value. This comparator is effective during start-up or an output short-circuit event.

PG

During power-up, the open-drain power good output holds low for about 1ms after V_{OUT} reaches the regulation voltage. The PG output also serves as a 1ms delayed the Power Good signal when the pull-up resistor R_1 is installed.

UVLO

When the input voltage is below the undervoltage lock-out (UVLO) threshold, the regulator is disabled.

Soft Start-Up

The soft-start-up reduces the inrush current during the start-up. The soft-start block outputs a ramp reference to the input of the error amplifier. This voltage ramp limits the inductor current as well as the output voltage speed so that the output voltage rises in a controlled fashion. When VFB is less than 0.2V at the beginning of the soft-start, the switching frequency is reduced to 1/3 of the nominal value so that the output can start up smoothly at light load condition. During soft-start, the IC operates in the SKIP mode to support pre-biased output condition.

Enable

The enable (EN) input allows the user to control turning on or off the regulator for purposes such as power-up sequencing. When the regulator is enabled, there is typically a 600μs delay for waking up the bandgap reference and then the soft-start-up begins.

Discharge Mode (Soft-Stop)

When a transition to shutdown mode occurs or the VIN UVLO is set, the outputs discharge to GND through an internal 100Ω switch.

Power MOSFETs

The power MOSFETs are optimized for best efficiency. The ON-resistance for the P-MOSFET is typically 50mΩ and the ON-resistance for the N-MOSFET is typically 50mΩ.

100% Duty Cycle

The ISL78214 features 100% duty cycle operation to maximize the battery life. When the battery voltage drops to a level that the ISL78214 can no longer maintain the regulation at the output, the regulator completely turns on the P-MOSFET. The maximum dropout voltage under the 100% duty-cycle operation is the product of the load current and the ON-resistance of the P-MOSFET.

Thermal Shut-Down

The ISL78214 has built-in thermal protection. When the internal temperature reaches +140°C, the regulator is completely shut down. As the temperature drops to +115°C, the ISL78214 resumes operation by stepping through the soft-start.

Applications Information

Output Inductor and Capacitor Selection

To consider steady state and transient operations, ISL78214 typically uses a 1.5μH output inductor. The higher or lower inductor value can be used to optimize the total converter system performance. For example, for higher output voltage 3.3V applications, in order to decrease the inductor current ripple and output voltage ripple, the output inductor value can be increased. It is recommended to set the ripple inductor current approximately 30% of the maximum output current for optimized performance. The inductor ripple current can be expressed as shown in Equation 1:

$$\Delta I = \frac{V_O \cdot \left(1 - \frac{V_O}{V_{IN}}\right)}{L \cdot f_S} \quad (\text{EQ. 1})$$

The inductor's saturation current rating needs to be at least larger than the peak current. The ISL78214 protects the typical peak current 6A. The saturation current needs be over 7A for maximum output current application.

ISL78214 uses internal an compensation network and the output capacitor value is dependent on the output voltage. The ceramic capacitor is recommended to be X5R or X7R. The recommended X5R or X7R minimum output capacitor values are shown in Table 1.

In Table 1, the minimum output capacitor value is given for the different output voltage to make sure that the whole converter system is stable. Additional output capacitance should be added for better performances in applications where high load transient or low output ripple is required. It is recommended to check the system level performance along with the simulation model.

TABLE 1. OUTPUT CAPACITOR VALUE vs V_{OUT}

V_{OUT} (V)	C_{OUT} (μF)	L (μH)
0.8	2 x 22	1.0~2.2
1.2	2 x 22	1.0~2.2
1.5	2 x 22	1.5~3.3
1.8	2 x 22	1.5~3.3
2.5	2 x 22	1.5~3.3
3.3	2 x 22	2.2~4.7
3.6	2 x 22	2.2~4.7

Output Voltage Selection

The output voltage of the regulator can be programmed via an external resistor divider that is used to scale the output voltage relative to the internal reference voltage and feed it back to the inverting input of the error amplifier. Refer to Figure 1.

The output voltage programming resistor, R_3 , will depend on the value chosen for the feedback resistor and the desired output voltage of the regulator. The value for the feedback resistor is typically between 10k Ω and 100k Ω , as shown in Equation 2.

$$R_3 = \frac{R_2 \cdot 0.8V}{V_{OUT} - 0.8V} \quad (\text{EQ. 2})$$

If the output voltage desired is 0.8V, then R_3 is left unpopulated and R_2 is shorted. There is a leakage current from VIN to LX. It is recommended to preload the output with 10 μ A minimum. For better performance, add 47pF in parallel with R_2 (100k Ω).

Input Capacitor Selection

The main functions for the input capacitor are to provide decoupling of the parasitic inductance and to provide filtering function to prevent the switching current flowing back to the battery rail. Two 22 μ F X5R or X7R ceramic capacitors are a good starting point for the input capacitor selection.

Revision History

The revision history provided is for informational purposes only and is believed to be accurate, but not warranted. Please go to web to make sure you have the latest Rev.

DATE	REVISION	CHANGE
3/8/10	FN7551.0	Initial release.

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*For a complete listing of Applications, Related Documentation and Related Parts, please see the respective device information page on intersil.com: [ISL78214](http://www.intersil.com/ISL78214)

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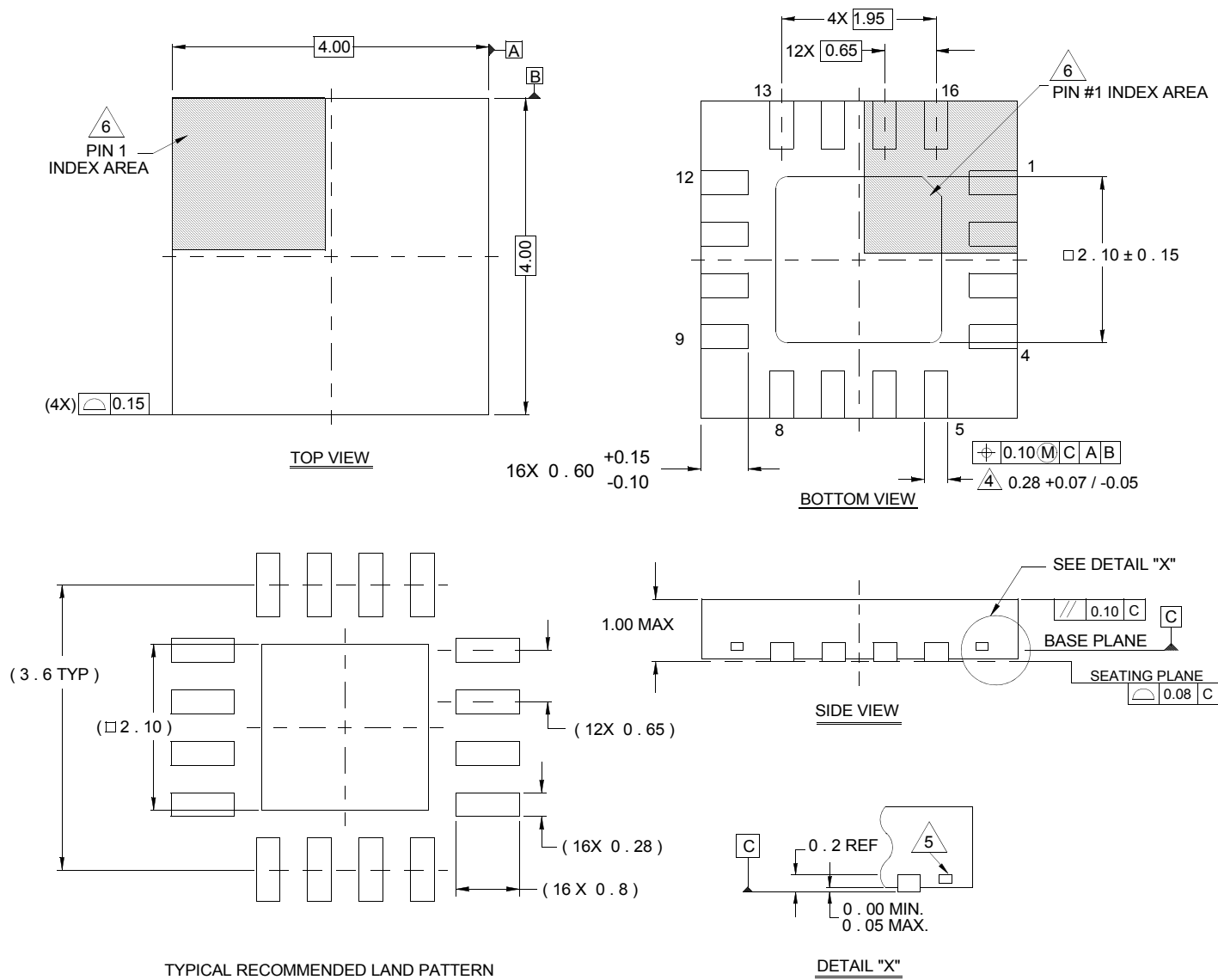
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Package Outline Drawing

L16.4x4

16 LEAD QUAD FLAT NO-LEAD PLASTIC PACKAGE

Rev 6, 02/08



NOTES:

1. Dimensions are in millimeters.
Dimensions in () for Reference Only.
2. Dimensioning and tolerancing conform to AMSE Y14.5m-1994.
3. Unless otherwise specified, tolerance : Decimal ± 0.05
4. Dimension b applies to the metallized terminal and is measured between 0.15mm and 0.30mm from the terminal tip.
5. Tiebar shown (if present) is a non-functional feature.
6. The configuration of the pin #1 identifier is optional, but must be located within the zone indicated. The pin #1 identifier may be either a mold or mark feature.