

Dual Single-Phase PWM Controller for CPU and GPU Core Power Supply

General Description

The RT8172A is a dual single-phase PWM controller with integrated MOSFET drivers, compliant with Intel IMVP7 Pulse Width Modulation Specification to support both CPU core and GPU core power. This part adopts G-NAVP™ (Green-Native AVP), which is Richtek's proprietary topology derived from finite DC gain compensator in constant on-time control mode. The G-NAVP™ makes this part an easy setting PWM controller to meet all Intel AVP (Active Voltage Positioning) mobile CPU/GPU requirements. The RT8172A uses SVID interface to control an 8-bit DAC for output voltage programming. The built-in high accuracy DAC converts the received VID code into a voltage value ranging from 0V to 1.52V with 5mV step voltage. The system accuracy of the controller can reach 0.8%. The RT8172A operates in continuous conduction mode or diode emulation mode, according to the SVID command. The maximum efficiency can reach up to 90% in different operating modes according to different load conditions. The droop function (load line) can be easily programmed by setting the DC gain of the error amplifier. With proper compensation, the load transient response can achieve optimized AVP performance.

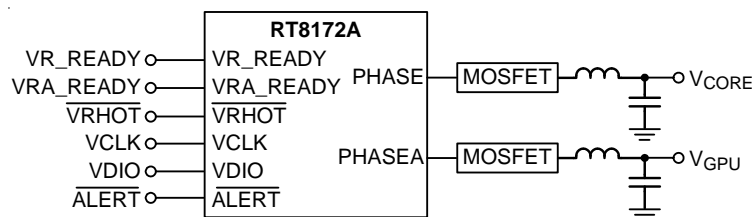
The output voltage transition slew rate is set via the SVID interface. The RT8172A supports both DCR and sense resistor current sensing. The RT8172A provides VR_READY and thermal throttling output signals for IMVP7 CPU and GPU core. This part also features complete fault protection functions including over-voltage, under-voltage, negative-voltage, over-current and thermal shutdown.

The RT8172A is available in the WQFN-40L 5x5 small footprint package.

Features

- Dual Single-Phase PWM Controller for CPU Core and GPU Core Power
- IMVP7 Compatible Power Management States
- Serial VID Interface
- G-NAVP™ Topology
- AVP for CPU VR Only
- 0.5% DAC Accuracy
- 0.8% System Accuracy
- Differential Remote Voltage Sensing
- Built-in ADC for Platform Programming
 - ▶ SETINI/SETINIA for CPU/GPU Core VR Initial Startup Voltage
 - ▶ TMPMAX to Set Platform Maximum Temperature
 - ▶ ICCMAX/ICCMAXA for CPU/GPU Core VR Maximum Current
- Power Good Indicator : VR_READY/VRA_READY for CPU/GPU Core Power
- Thermal Throttling Indicator : $\overline{\text{VRHOT}}$
- Diode Emulation Mode at Light Load Condition
- Fast Line/Load Transient Response
- Switching Frequency up to 1MHz per Phase
- OVP, UVP, NVP, OTP, UVLO, OCP
- RoHS Compliant and Halogen Free

Simplified Application Circuit



Applications

- IMVP7 Intel CPU/GPU Core Power Supply
- Laptop Computers
- AVP Step-Down Converter

Ordering Information

RT8172A

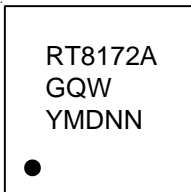
- └ Package Type
QW : WQFN-40L 5x5 (W-Type)
- └ Lead Plating System
G : Green (Halogen Free and Pb Free)

Note :

Richtek products are :

- ▶ RoHS compliant and compatible with the current requirements of IPC/JEDEC J-STD-020.
- ▶ Suitable for use in SnPb or Pb-free soldering processes.

Marking Information



RT8172AGQW : Product Number

YMDNN : Date Code

Pin Configurations

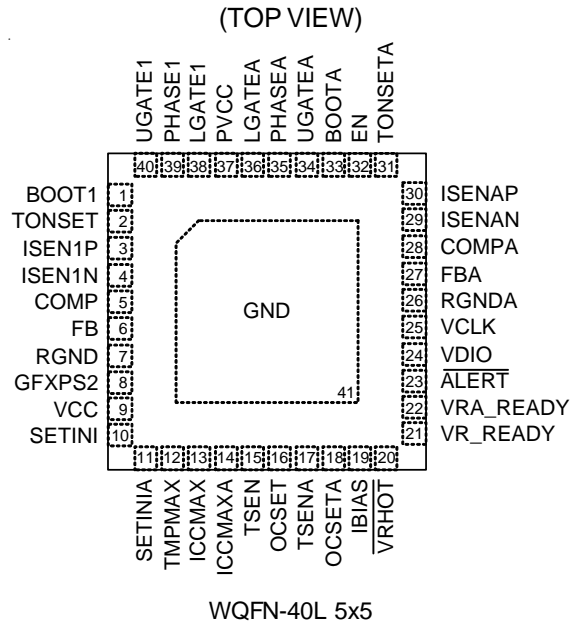


Table 1. IMVP7/VR12 Compliant VID Table

VID7	VID6	VID5	VID4	VID3	VID2	VID1	VID0	H1	H0	VDAC Voltage
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.000
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0.250
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0.255
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	3	0.260
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	0.265
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	5	0.270
0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	6	0.275
0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	7	0.280
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	8	0.285
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	9	0.290
0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	A	0.295
0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	B	0.300
0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	C	0.305
0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	D	0.310
0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	E	0.315
0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	F	0.320
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.325
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0.330
0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	0.335
0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	3	0.340
0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	4	0.345
0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	5	0.350
0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	6	0.355
0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	7	0.360
0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	8	0.365
0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	9	0.370
0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	A	0.375
0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	B	0.380
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	C	0.385
0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	D	0.390
0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	E	0.395
0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	F	0.400
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0.405
0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0.410
0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0.415

VID7	VID6	VID5	VID4	VID3	VID2	VID1	VID0	H1	H0	DAC Voltage
0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	0.420
0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	4	0.425
0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	5	0.430
0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	6	0.435
0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	2	7	0.440
0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	8	0.445
0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	9	0.450
0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	A	0.455
0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	B	0.460
0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	C	0.465
0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	2	D	0.470
0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	E	0.475
0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	2	F	0.480
0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0.485
0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	3	1	0.490
0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	3	2	0.495
0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	3	3	0.500
0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	4	0.505
0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	3	5	0.510
0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	3	6	0.515
0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	3	7	0.520
0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	8	0.525
0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	3	9	0.530
0	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	3	A	0.535
0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	3	B	0.540
0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	3	C	0.545
0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	3	D	0.550
0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	3	E	0.555
0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	F	0.560
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0.565
0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	0.570
0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	2	0.575
0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	4	3	0.580
0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	4	0.585
0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	4	5	0.590

VID7	VID6	VID5	VID4	VID3	VID2	VID1	VID0	H1	H0	DAC Voltage
0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	4	6	0.595
0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	4	7	0.600
0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	8	0.605
0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	9	0.610
0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	4	A	0.615
0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	4	B	0.620
0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	4	C	0.625
0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	4	D	0.630
0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	4	E	0.635
0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	4	F	0.640
0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	0.645
0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	5	1	0.650
0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	5	2	0.655
0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	5	3	0.660
0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	5	4	0.665
0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	5	5	0.670
0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	5	6	0.675
0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	5	7	0.680
0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	5	8	0.685
0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	5	9	0.690
0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	5	A	0.695
0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	5	B	0.700
0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	5	C	0.705
0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	5	D	0.710
0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	5	E	0.715
0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	5	F	0.720
0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0.725
0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	6	1	0.730
0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	6	2	0.735
0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	6	3	0.740
0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	6	4	0.745
0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	6	5	0.750
0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	6	6	0.755
0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	6	7	0.760
0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	6	8	0.765
0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	6	9	0.770

VID7	VID6	VID5	VID4	VID3	VID2	VID1	VID0	H1	H0	DAC Voltage
0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	6	A	0.775
0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	6	B	0.780
0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	6	C	0.785
0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	6	D	0.790
0	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	6	E	0.795
0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	6	F	0.800
0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	7	0	0.805
0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	7	1	0.810
0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	7	2	0.815
0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	7	3	0.820
0	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	7	4	0.825
0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	7	5	0.830
0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	7	6	0.835
0	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	7	7	0.840
0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	7	8	0.845
0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	7	9	0.850
0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	7	A	0.855
0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	7	B	0.860
0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	7	C	0.865
0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	7	D	0.870
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	7	E	0.875
0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	F	0.880
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0.885
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	8	1	0.890
1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	8	2	0.895
1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	8	3	0.900
1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	8	4	0.905
1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	8	5	0.910
1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	8	6	0.915
1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	8	7	0.920
1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8	8	0.925
1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	8	9	0.930
1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	8	A	0.935
1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	8	B	0.940
1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	8	C	0.945
1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	8	D	0.950

VID7	VID6	VID5	VID4	VID3	VID2	VID1	VID0	H1	H0	DAC Voltage
1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	8	E	0.955
1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	8	F	0.960
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	9	0	0.965
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	9	1	0.970
1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	9	2	0.975
1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	9	3	0.980
1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	9	4	0.985
1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	9	5	0.990
1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	9	6	0.995
1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	9	7	1.000
1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	9	8	1.005
1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	9	9	1.010
1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	9	A	1.015
1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	9	B	1.020
1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	9	C	1.025
1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	9	D	1.030
1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	9	E	1.035
1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	9	F	1.040
1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	A	0	1.045
1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	A	1	1.050
1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	A	2	1.055
1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	A	3	1.060
1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	A	4	1.065
1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	A	5	1.070
1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	A	6	1.075
1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	A	7	1.080
1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	A	8	1.085
1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	A	9	1.090
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	A	A	1.095
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	A	B	1.100
1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	A	C	1.105
1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	A	D	1.110
1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	A	E	1.115
1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	A	F	1.120
1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	B	0	1.125
1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	B	1	1.130

VID7	VID6	VID5	VID4	VID3	VID2	VID1	VID0	H1	H0	DAC Voltage
1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	B	2	1.135
1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	B	3	1.140
1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	B	4	1.145
1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	B	5	1.150
1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	B	6	1.155
1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	B	7	1.160
1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	B	8	1.165
1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	B	9	1.170
1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	B	A	1.175
1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	B	B	1.180
1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	B	C	1.185
1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	B	D	1.190
1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	B	E	1.195
1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	B	F	1.200
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	C	0	1.205
1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	C	1	1.210
1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	C	2	1.215
1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	C	3	1.220
1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	C	4	1.225
1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	C	5	1.230
1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	C	6	1.235
1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	C	7	1.240
1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	C	8	1.245
1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	C	9	1.250
1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	C	A	1.255
1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	C	B	1.260
1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	C	C	1.265
1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	C	D	1.270
1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	C	E	1.275
1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	C	F	1.280
1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	D	0	1.285
1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	D	1	1.290
1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	D	2	1.295
1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	D	3	1.300
1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	D	4	1.305
1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	D	5	1.310

VID7	VID6	VID5	VID4	VID3	VID2	VID1	VID0	H1	H0	DAC Voltage
1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	D	6	1.315
1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	D	7	1.320
1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	D	8	1.325
1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	D	9	1.330
1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	D	A	1.335
1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	D	B	1.340
1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	D	C	1.345
1	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	D	D	1.350
1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	D	E	1.355
1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	D	F	1.360
1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	E	0	1.365
1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	E	1	1.370
1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	E	2	1.375
1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	E	3	1.380
1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	E	4	1.385
1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	E	5	1.390
1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	E	6	1.395
1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	E	7	1.400
1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	E	8	1.405
1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	E	9	1.410
1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	E	A	1.415
1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	E	B	1.420
1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	E	C	1.425
1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	E	D	1.430
1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	E	E	1.435
1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	E	F	1.440
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	F	0	1.445
1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	F	1	1.450
1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	F	2	1.455
1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	F	3	1.460
1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	F	4	1.465
1	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	F	5	1.470
1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	F	6	1.475
1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	F	7	1.480
1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	F	8	1.485

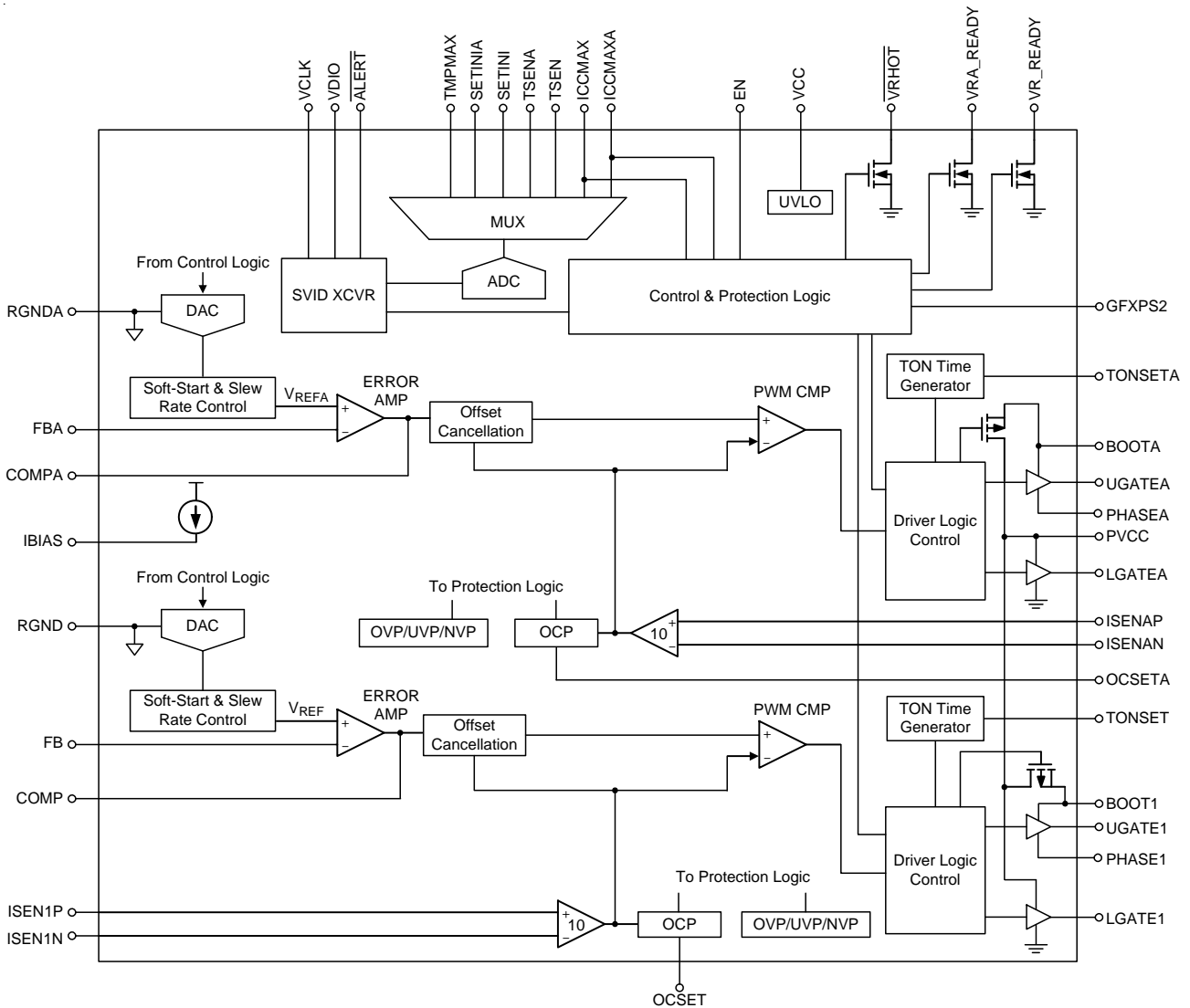
VID7	VID6	VID5	VID4	VID3	VID2	VID1	VID0	H1	H0	DAC Voltage
1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	F	9	1.490
1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	F	A	1.495
1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	F	B	1.500
1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	F	C	1.505
1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	F	D	1.510
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	F	E	1.515
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	F	F	1.520

Functional Pin Description

Pin No.	Pin Name	Pin Function
1	BOOT1	CPU VR Bootstrap Supply for High-Side Gate Driver. This pin powers the high-side MOSFET drivers. Connect this pin to the PHASE1 pin with a bootstrap capacitor.
2	TONSET	Single-Phase CPU VR On-Time Setting Pin. Connect this pin to V_{IN} with a resistor to set ripple size in PWM mode.
3	ISEN1P	Positive Current Sense Input of CPU VR.
4	ISEN1N	Negative Current Sense Input of CPU VR.
5	COMP	CPU VR Compensation Node. This pin is the output of the error amplifier.
6	FB	CPU VR Feedback Voltage Input. This pin is the inverting input node of the error amplifier.
7	RGND	Return Ground for CPU VR. This pin is the inverting input node for differential remote voltage sensing.
8	GFXPS2	Set Pin for GPU VR Operation Mode. Logic-high on this pin will force the GPU VR to enter DCM.
9	VCC	Controller Power Supply Input. Connect this pin to GND via a ceramic capacitor larger than $1\mu\text{F}$.
10	SETINI	ADC Input for Single-Phase CPU VR VBOOT Voltage Setting.
11	SETINIA	ADC Input for Single-Phase GPU VR VBOOT Voltage Setting.
12	TMPMAX	ADC Input for Single-Phase CPU VR Maximum Temperature Setting.
13	ICCMAX	ADC Input for Single-Phase CPU VR Maximum Current Setting.
14	ICCMAXA	ADC Input for Single-Phase GPU VR Maximum Current Setting.
15	TSEN	Thermal Monitor Sense Input Pin for CPU VR.
16	OCSET	Single-Phase CPU VR Over-Current Protection Threshold Setting. Connect a resistive voltage divider from VCC to ground, and connect the joint of the voltage divider to the OCSET pin. The voltage, V_{OCSET} , at this pin sets the over current threshold, I_{LIMIT} , for CPU VR.
17	TSENA	Thermal Monitor Sense Input for GPU VR.
18	OCSETA	Single-Phase GPU VR Over-Current Protection Threshold Setting. Connect a resistive voltage divider from VCC to ground, and connect the joint of the voltage divider to the OCSETA pin. The voltage, V_{OCSETA} , at this pin sets the over-current threshold, I_{LIMIT} , for GPU VR.
19	IBIAS	Internal Bias Current Setting. Connect a $53.6\text{k}\Omega$ resistor from this pin to GND to set the internal bias current.
20	$\overline{\text{VRHOT}}$	Thermal Monitor Output (Active-Low).
21	VR_READY	CPU VR Voltage Ready Indicator. This pin has an open-drain output.
22	VRA_READY	GPU VR Voltage Ready Indicator. This pin has an open-drain output.
23	$\overline{\text{ALERT}}$	Alert Line of SVID Interface (active low). This pin has an open drain output.
24	VDIO	Data Transmission Line of SVID Interface.
25	VCLK	Clock Signal Line of SVID Interface.
26	RGNDA	Return Ground for Single-Phase GPU VR. This pin is the inverting input node for differential remote voltage sensing.

Pin No.	Pin Name	Pin Function
27	FBA	GPU VR Feedback Voltage Input. This pin is the inverting input node of the error amplifier.
28	COMPA	Single-Phase GPU VR Compensation Node. This pin is the output of the error amplifier.
29	ISENAN	Negative Current Sense Input of Single-Phase GPU VR.
30	ISENAP	Positive Current Sense Input of Single-Phase GPU VR.
31	TONSETA	Single-Phase GPU VR On-Time Setting. Connect this pin to VIN with a resistor to set ripple size in PWM mode.
32	EN	Voltage Regulator Enable Signal Input Pin.
33	BOOTA	GPU VR Bootstrap Supply for High-Side Gate Driver. This pin powers the high-side MOSFET drivers. Connect this pin to the PHASEA pin with a bootstrap capacitor.
34	UGATEA	High-Side Gate Driver of GPU VR. This pin drives the high-side MOSFET of GPU VR.
35	PHASEA	Switch Node of GPU VR. This pin is the return node of the high-side MOSFET driver for GPU VR. Connect this pin to the joint of the Source of high-side MOSFET, Drain of the low-side MOSFET, and the output inductor.
36	LGATEA	Low-Side Gate Driver of GPU VR. This pin drives the low side MOSFET of GPU VR.
37	PVCC	MOSFET Driver Power Supply Pin. Connect this pin to GND via a ceramic capacitor larger than 1 μ F.
38	LGATE1	Low-Side Gate Driver of CPU VR. This pin drives the low-side MOSFET of CPU VR.
39	PHASE1	Switch Node of CPU VR. This pin is the return node of the high-side driver for CPU VR. Connect this pin to the joint of the Source of high-side MOSFET, Drain of the low-side MOSFET, and the output inductor.
40	UGATE1	High-Side Gate Driver of CPU VR. This pin drives the high-side MOSFET of CPU VR.
41 (Exposed Pad)	GND	Ground of Low-Side MOSFET Driver. The exposed pad must be soldered to a large PCB and connected to GND for maximum power dissipation.

Function Block Diagram



Operation

The RT8172A adopts the G-NAVPTM (Green Native AVP) which is Richtek's proprietary topology derived from finite DC gain of EA amplifier with current mode control, making it easy to set the droop to meet all Intel CPU requirements of AVP (Adaptive Voltage Positioning).

The RT8172A adopts the G-NAVP™ controller, which is one type of current mode constant on-time control with DC offset cancellation. The approach not only can improve DC offset problem for increasing system accuracy but also can have fast transient response for saving BOM. For the RT8172A, when current feedback signal reaches comp signal to generate an on-time width to achieve PWM modulation.

TON GEN

Generate the UGATEx pulse according to the phase control signal from the loop control protection logic.

SVID XCVR Interface

- ▶ The interface that receive the SVID signal from CPU and sent the relative signals to Loop Control Protection logic to execute the action by CPU.
- ▶ The SVID logic that control the ADC timing.

Control & Protection Logic

- ▶ The registers that save the pin setting data from ADC output
- ▶ The control logic also generate the digital code of the VID that relative to VSET.
- ▶ Control the on phase of PWM and the on time interval of PWM according to PWMCMP output.
- ▶ Control the power on sequence.
- ▶ Control the protection behavior.
- ▶ Control the operational phase number.

Offset Cancellation

Cancel the current/voltage ripple issue to get the accurate VSEN.

UVLO

Detect the VCC voltage and issue POR signal as VCC is high enough.

DAC

Generate a analog signal according the digital code generated by Control Logic.

Soft-Start & Slew Rate Control

Control the Dynamic VID slew rate of VSET according to the SetVID fast or SetVID slow.

Absolute Maximum Ratings (Note 1)

- PVCC, VCC to GND ----- -0.3V to 6.5V
- RGNDx to GND ----- -0.3V to 0.3V
- TONSETx to GND ----- -0.3V to 28V
- Other Pins ----- -0.3V to (V_{CC} + 0.3V)
- BOOTx to PHASEx ----- -0.3V to 6.5V
- PHASEx to GND
 - DC ----- -3V to 28V
 - <20ns ----- -8V to 32V
- UGATEx to PHASEx
 - DC ----- -0.3V to (BOOTx – PHASEx)
 - <20ns ----- -5V to 7.5V
- LGATEx to GND
 - DC ----- -0.3V to (PVCC + 0.3V)
 - <20ns ----- -2.5V to 7.5V
- Power Dissipation, P_D @ T_A = 25°C
 - WQFN–40L 5x5 ----- 3.63W
- Package Thermal Resistance (Note 2)
 - WQFN–40L 5x5, θ_{JA} ----- 27.5°C/W
 - WQFN–40L 5x5, θ_{JC} ----- 6°C/W
- Junction Temperature ----- 150°C
- Lead Temperature (Soldering, 10 sec.) ----- 260°C
- Storage Temperature Range ----- -65°C to 150°C
- ESD Susceptibility (Note 3)
 - HBM (Human Body Model) ----- 2kV
 - MM (Machine Model) ----- 200V

Recommended Operating Conditions (Note 4)

- Supply Voltage, V_{CC} ----- 4.5V to 5.5V
- Input Voltage, V_{IN} ----- 5V to 25V
- Junction Temperature Range ----- -40°C to 125°C
- Ambient Temperature Range ----- -40°C to 85°C

Electrical Characteristics

(V_{CC} = 5V, T_A = 25°C, unless otherwise specified)

Parameter	Symbol	Test Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
Supply Input						
Input Voltage Range	V _{CC} /V _{PVCC}	V _{EN} = 1.05V, Not Switching	4.5	5	5.5	V
	V _{IN}	Battery Input Voltage	5	--	25	
Supply Current (V _{CC} + PVCC)	I _{VCC} + I _{PVCC}	V _{EN} = 1.05V, Not Switching	--	12	20	mA
Supply Current (TONSETx)	I _{TONSETx}	V _{FB} = 1V, V _{IN} = 12V, R _{TON} = 100kΩ	--	110	--	μA

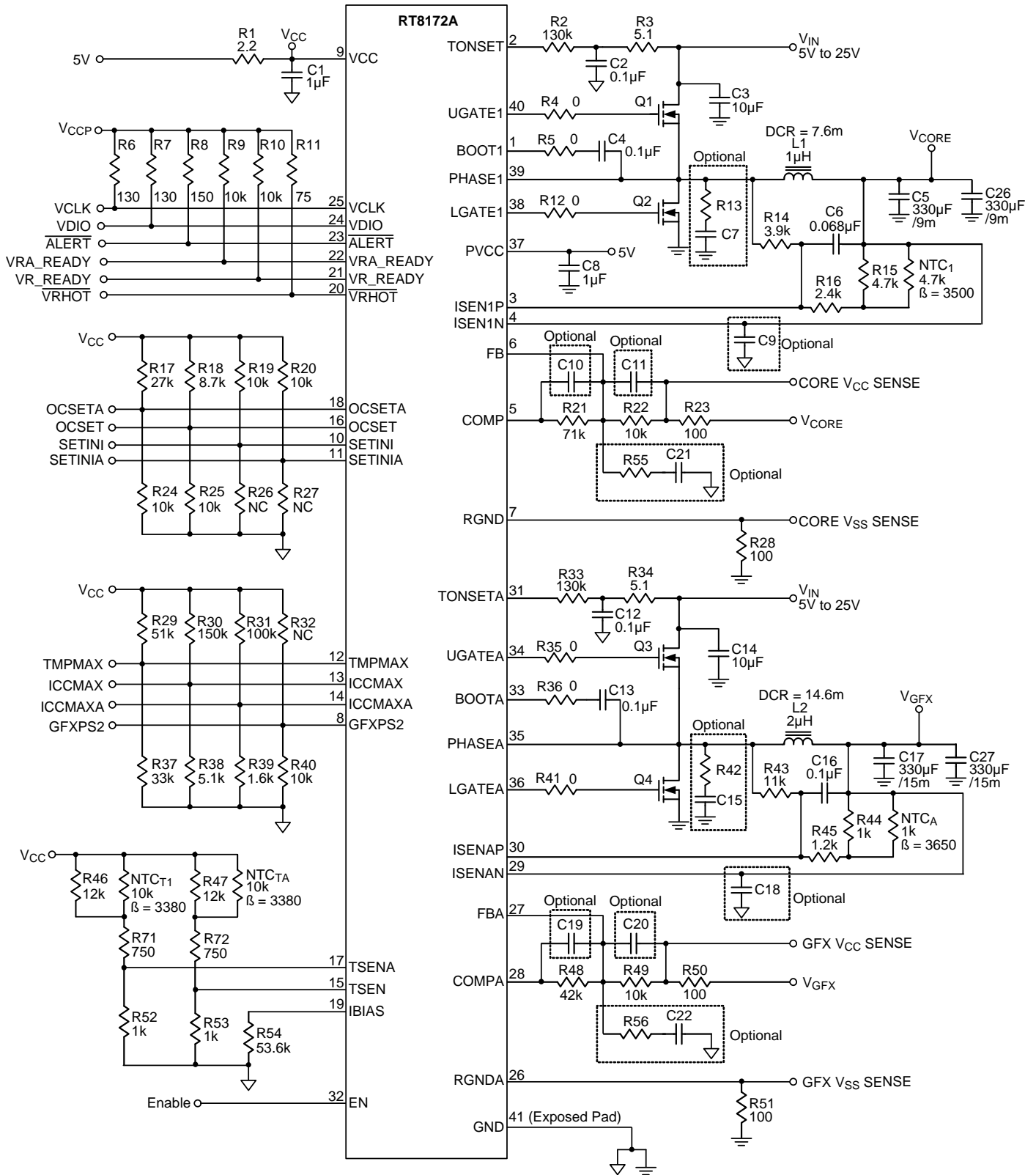
Parameter	Symbol	Test Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
Shutdown Current (PVCC + VCC)	I _{VCC_SHDN} + I _{PVCC_SHDN}	V _{EN} = 0V	--	--	5	μA
Shutdown Current (TONSETx)	I _{TONSETx_SHDN}	V _{EN} = 0V	--	--	5	μA
TON Setting						
TONSETx Voltage	V _{TONSETx}	I _{RTON} = 80μA, V _{FBx} = 1V	0.95	1.075	1.2	V
On-Time	t _{ON}	I _{RTON} = 80μA, V _{FBx} = 1V	315	350	385	ns
TONSETx Input Current Range	I _{RTON}	V _{FBx} = 1.1V	25	--	280	μA
Minimum Off-Time	T _{OFF_MIN}		--	350	--	ns
GFX VR Forced DEM						
GFXPS2x Enable Threshold	V _{GFXPS}		4.3	--	--	V
GFXPS2x Disable Threshold	V _{GFXPS}		--	--	0.7	V
References and System Output Voltage						
DAC Accuracy (PS0/PS1)	V _{FBx}	VID _{SVID} Setting = 1.000V to 1.520V OFS _{SVID} Setting = 0V	-0.5	0	0.5	%VID
		VID _{SVID} Setting = 0.800V to 1.000V OFS _{SVID} Setting = 0V	-5	0	5	mV
		VID _{SVID} Setting = 0.500V to 0.800V OFS _{SVID} Setting = 0V	-8	0	8	
		VID _{SVID} Setting = 0.250V to 0.500V OFS _{SVID} Setting = 0V	-8	0	8	
		VID _{SVID} Setting = 1.100V OFS _{SVID} Setting = -0.640V to 0.635V	-10	0	10	
SETINix Voltage	V _{SETINix}	V _{INI_CORE} = 0V, V _{INI_GFX} = 0V	0	0.3125	0.5125	V
		V _{INI_CORE} = 0.9V, V _{INI_GFX} = 0.9V	0.7375	0.9375	1.1375	
		V _{INI_CORE} = 1V, V _{INI_GFX} = 1V	1.3625	1.5625	1.7625	
		V _{INI_CORE} = 1.1V, V _{INI_GFX} = 1.1V	2.6125	--	5	
IBIAS Pin Voltage	V _{IBIAS}	R _{IBIAS} = 53.6kΩ	2.09	2.14	2.19	V
Dynamic VID Slew Rate	SR _{DVID}	SetVID Slow	2.5	3.125	3.75	mV/μs
		SetVID Fast	10	12.5	15	
Error Amplifier						
DC Gain	A _{DC}	R _L = 47kΩ (Note5)	70	80	--	dB
Gain-Bandwidth Product	GBW	C _{LOAD} = 5pF (Note5)	--	10	--	MHz
Slew Rate	SR _{COMP}	C _{LOAD} = 10pF (Gain = -4, R _{LOAD_COMP} = 47kΩ, V _{COMPx} = 0.5V to 3V)	--	5	--	V/μs
Output Voltage Range	V _{COMP}	R _L = 47kΩ	0.5	--	3.6	V
MAX Source/Sink Current	I _{COMP}	V _{COMP} = 2V	--	250	--	μA
Impedance of FBx	R _{FBx}		1	--	--	MΩ

Parameter	Symbol	Test Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit	
Current Sense Amplifier							
Input Offset Voltage	V _{OFS_CSA}		-1	--	1	mV	
Impedance of Neg. Input	R _{ISEN_xN}		1	--	--	MΩ	
Impedance of Pos. Input	R _{ISEN_xP}		1	--	--	MΩ	
Current Sense Differential Input Range	V _{CSDIx}	V _{FBx} = 1.1V, V _{CSDIx} = V _{ISEN_xP} - V _{ISEN_xN}	-50	--	100	mV	
Current Sense DC Gain (Loop)	A _I	V _{FBx} = 1.1V, -30mV < V _{CSDIx} < 50mV	--	10	--	V/V	
V _{ISEN} Linearity	V _{ISEN_ACC}	V _{DAC} = 1.1V -30mV < V _{ISEN_IN} < 50mV	-1	--	1	%	
Gate Driver							
High-Side Driver Source	R _{UGATE_xsr}	V _{BOOTx} - V _{PHASEx} = 5V V _{BOOTx} - V _{UGATEx} = 0.1V	--	1	--	Ω	
High-Side Driver Sink	R _{UGATE_xsk}	V _{UGATEx} = 0.1V	--	1	--	Ω	
Low-Side Driver Source	R _{LGATE_xsr}	PVCC = 5V, PVCC - V _{LGATEx} = 0.1V	--	1	--	Ω	
Low-Side Driver Sink	R _{LGATE_xsk}	V _{LGATEx} = 0.1V	--	0.5	--	Ω	
Internal Boot Charging Switch On-Resistance	R _{BOOTx}	PVCC to BOOTx	--	30	--	Ω	
Zero Current Detection Threshold	V _{ZCD_TH}	V _{ZCD_TH} = GND - V _{PHASEx}	--	10	--	mV	
Protection							
Under-Voltage Lockout Threshold	V _{UVLO}	VCC Falling edge	4.04	4.24	--	V	
Under-Voltage Lockout Hysteresis	ΔV _{UVLO}		--	100	--	mV	
Over-Voltage Protection Threshold	V _{OVP}	Respect to V _{OUT_MAX} SVID, with 1μs filter time	100	150	200	mV	
Under-Voltage Protection Threshold	V _{UVP}	V _{UVP} = V _{ISEN_xN} - V _{REFx} , 0.8V < V _{REFx} < 1.52V, with 3μs filter time	-350	-300	-250	mV	
Negative-Voltage Protection Threshold	V _{NVP}	V _{NVP} = V _{ISEN_xN} - GND	-100	-50	--	mV	
Current Sense Gain for Over-Current Protection	A _{OC}	V _{OCSET} = 2.4V, V _{ISEN_xP} - V _{ISEN_xN} = 50mV	--	48	--	V/V	
Logic Inputs							
EN Input Voltage	Logic-High	V _{IH}	With respect to 1V, 70%	0.7	--	--	V
	Logic-Low	V _{IL}	With respect to 1V, 30%	--	--	0.3	
Leakage Current of EN				-1	--	1	μA
VCLK, VDIO Input Threshold Voltage		V _{IH}	With respect to Intel Spec.	0.65	--	--	V
		V _{IL}	With respect to Intel Spec.	--	--	0.45	
Leakage Current of VCLK, VDIO		I _{LEAK_IN}		-1	--	1	μA

Parameter	Symbol	Test Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
ALERT						
ALERT Low Voltage	$\overline{V_{ALERT}}$	$\overline{I_{ALERT_SINK}} = 4\text{mA}$	--	--	0.4	V
VR Ready						
VRx_READY Low Voltage	V_{VRx_READY}	$I_{VRx_READY_SINK} = 4\text{mA}$	--	--	0.4	V
VRx_READY Delay	t_{VRx_READY}	$V_{ISEN_{xN}} = V_{BOOT}$ to V_{VRx_READY} high	70	100	160	μs
Thermal Throttling						
VRHOT Output Voltage	$\overline{V_{VRHOT}}$	$\overline{I_{VRHOT_SINK}} = 40\text{mA}$	--	0.4	--	V
High Impedance Output						
\overline{ALERT} , $\overline{VRx_READY}$, \overline{VRHOT}	I_{LEAK_OUT}		-1	--	1	μA
Temperature Zone						
TSEN Threshold for Tmp_Zone [7] transition	V_{TSENx}	100°C	--	1.8725	--	V
TSEN Threshold for Tmp_Zone [6] transition		97°C	--	1.8175	--	V
TSEN Threshold for Tmp_Zone [5] transition		94°C	--	1.7625	--	V
TSEN Threshold for Tmp_Zone [4] transition		91°C	--	1.7075	--	V
TSEN Threshold for Tmp_Zone [3] transition		88°C	--	1.6525	--	V
TSEN Threshold for Tmp_Zone [2] transition	V_{TSENx}	85°C	--	1.5975	--	V
TSEN Threshold for Tmp_Zone [1] transition		82°C	--	1.5425	--	V
TSEN Threshold for Tmp_Zone [0] transition		75°C	--	1.4875	--	V
Update Period	t_{TSEN}		--	1600	--	μs
ADC						
Latency	t_{LAT}		--	--	400	μs
Digital Code of ICCMAX	$C_{ICCMAX1}$	$V_{ICCMAX} = 0.637\text{V}$	29	32	35	decimal
	$C_{ICCMAX2}$	$V_{ICCMAX} = 1.2642\text{V}$	61	64	67	decimal
	$C_{ICCMAX3}$	$V_{ICCMAX} = 2.5186\text{V}$	125	128	131	decimal
Digital Code of ICCMAXA	$C_{ICCMAXA1}$	$V_{ICCMAXA} = 0.1666\text{V}$	5	8	11	decimal
	$C_{ICCMAXA2}$	$V_{ICCMAXA} = 0.3234\text{V}$	13	16	19	decimal
	$C_{ICCMAXA3}$	$V_{ICCMAXA} = 0.637\text{V}$	29	32	35	decimal
Digital Code of TMPMAX	$C_{TMPMAX1}$	$V_{TMPMAX} = 1.6758\text{V}$	82	85	88	decimal
	$C_{TMPMAX2}$	$V_{TMPMAX} = 1.9698\text{V}$	97	100	103	decimal
	$C_{TMPMAX3}$	$V_{TMPMAX} = 2.4598\text{V}$	122	125	128	decimal

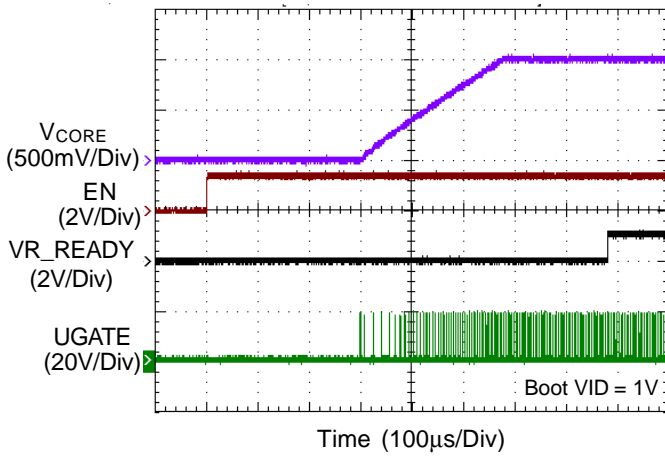
- Note 1.** Stresses beyond those listed “Absolute Maximum Ratings” may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only, and functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated in the operational sections of the specifications is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions may affect device reliability.
- Note 2.** θ_{JA} is measured at $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ on a high effective thermal conductivity four-layer test board per JEDEC 51-7. θ_{JC} is measured at the exposed pad of the package.
- Note 3.** Devices are ESD sensitive. Handling precaution is recommended.
- Note 4.** The device is not guaranteed to function outside its operating conditions.
- Note 5.** Guaranteed by design.

Typical Application Circuit

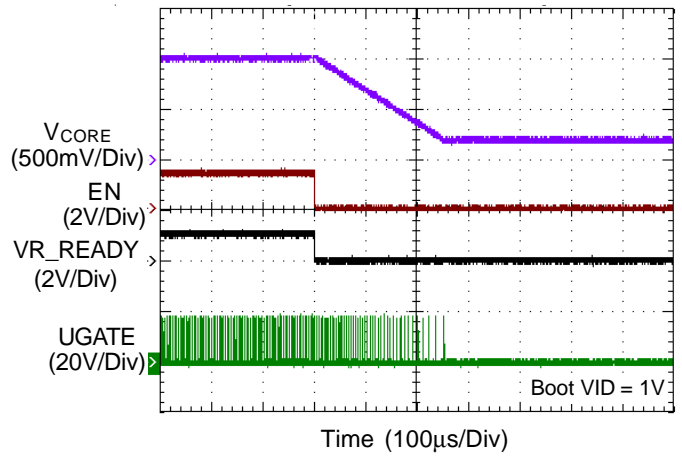


Typical Operating Characteristics

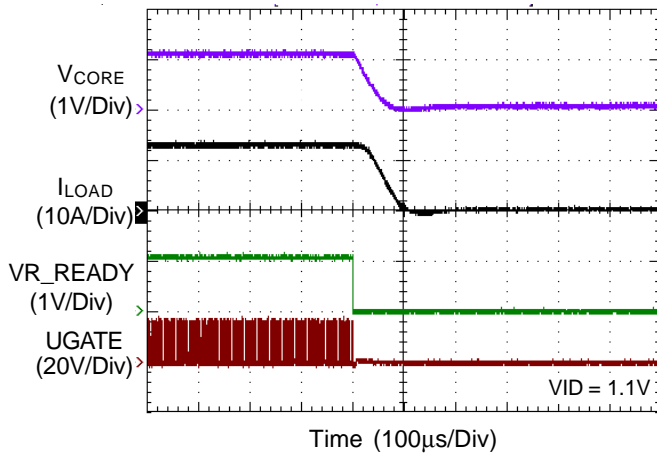
CORE VR Power On from EN



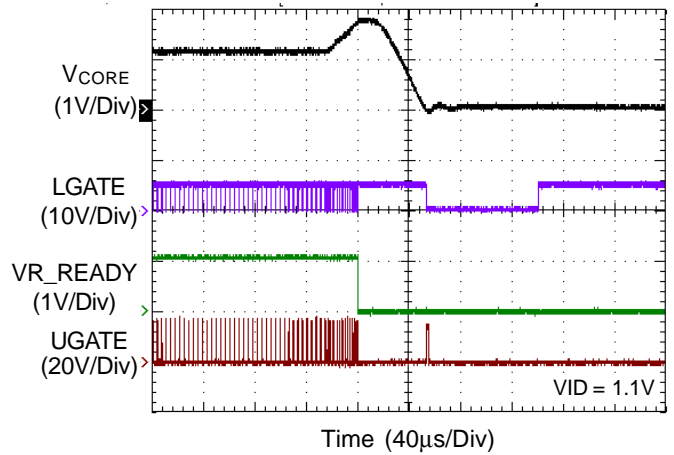
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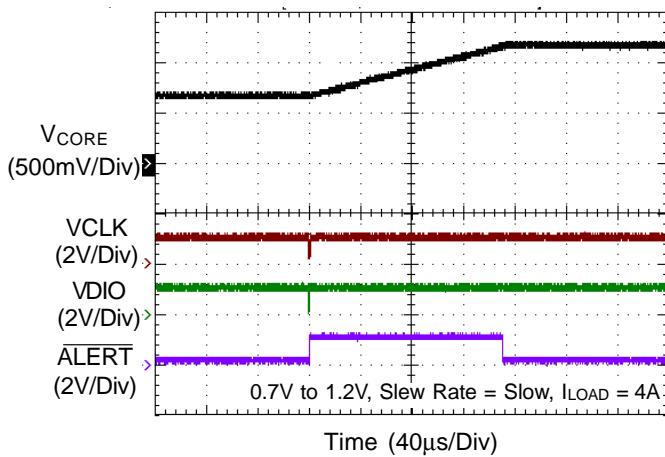
CORE VR OCP



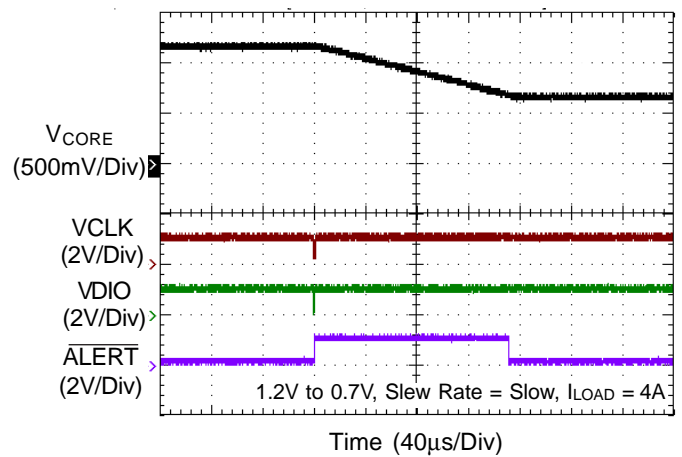
CORE VR OVP and NVP



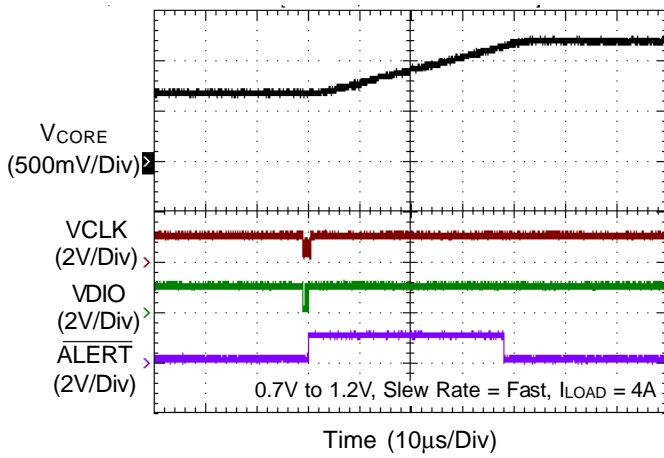
CORE VR Dynamic VID Up



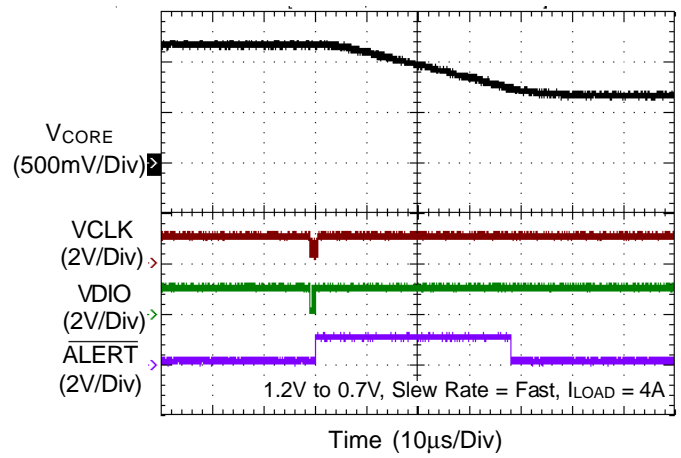
CORE VR Dynamic VID Down



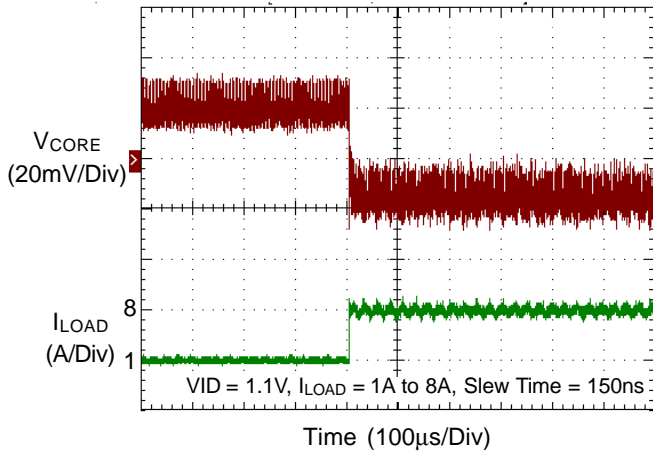
CORE VR Dynamic VID Up



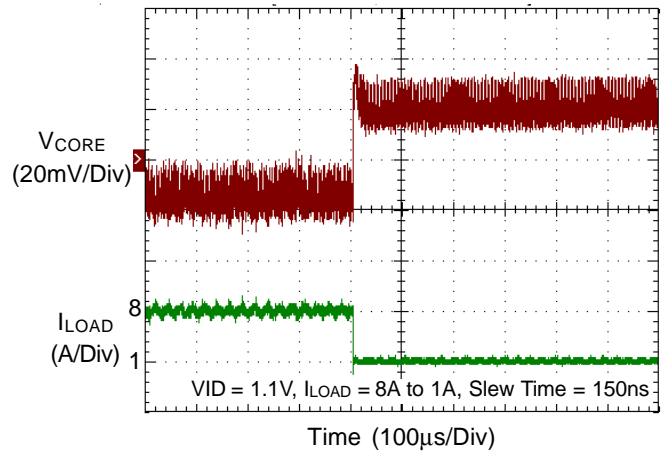
CORE VR Dynamic VID Down



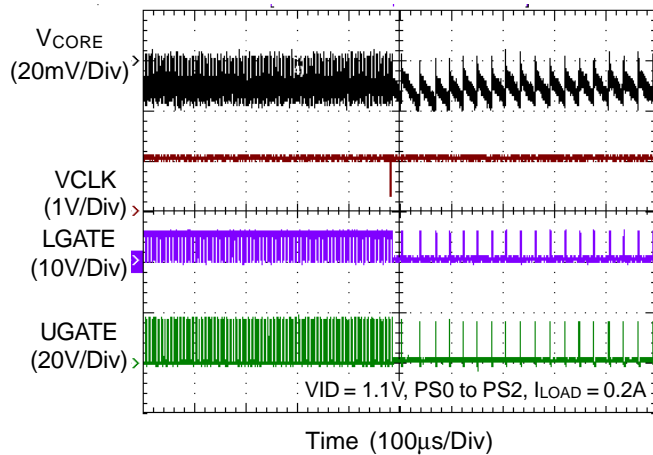
CORE VR Load Transient



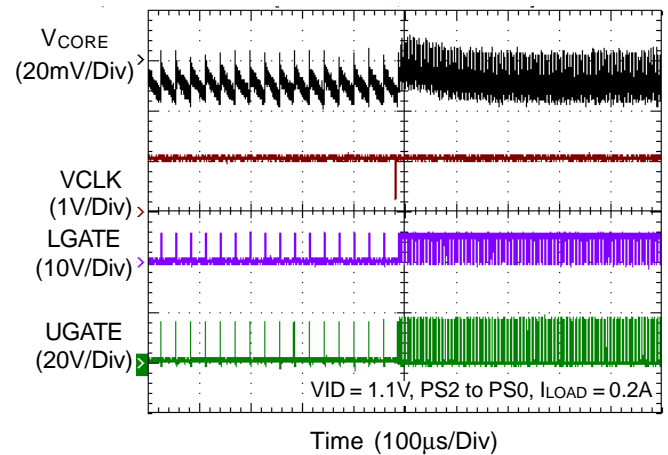
CORE VR Load Transient



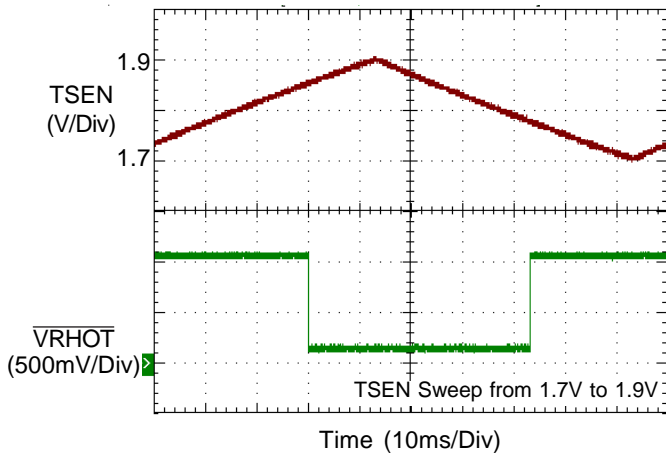
CORE VR Mode Transition



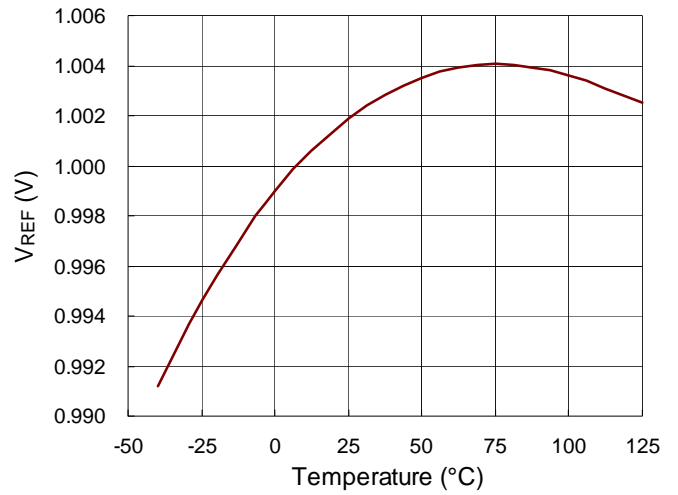
CORE VR Mode Transition



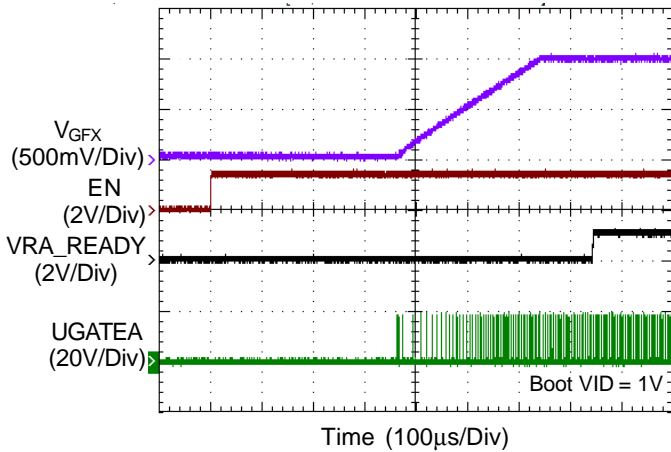
CORE VR Thermal Monitoring



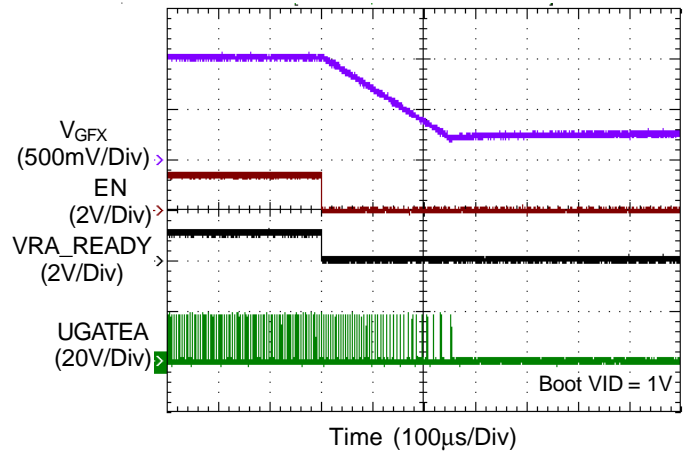
CORE VR V_{REF} vs. Temperature



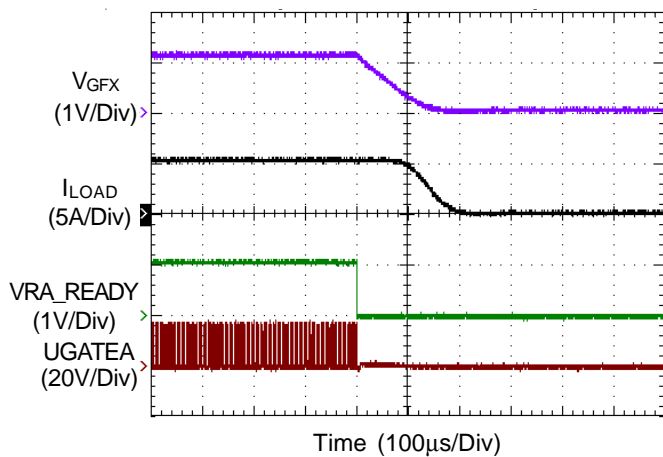
GFX VR Power On from EN



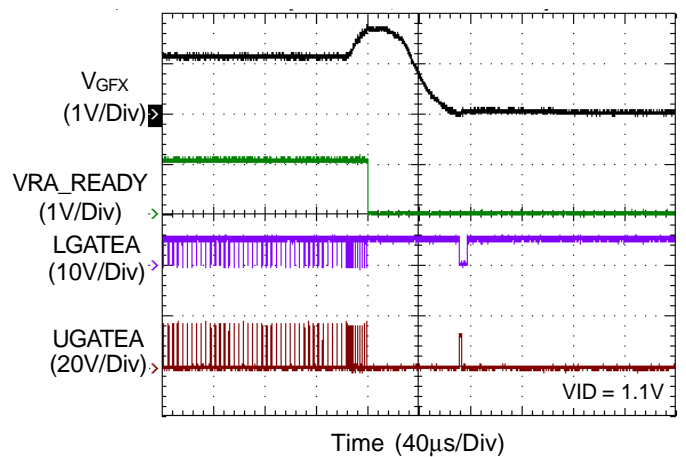
GFX VR Power Off from EN



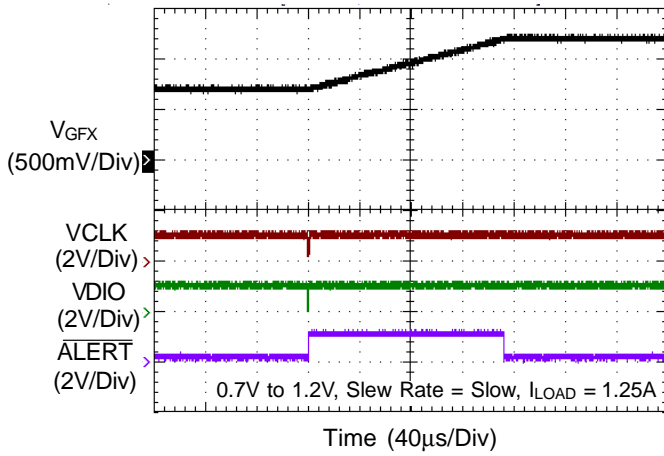
GFX VR OCP



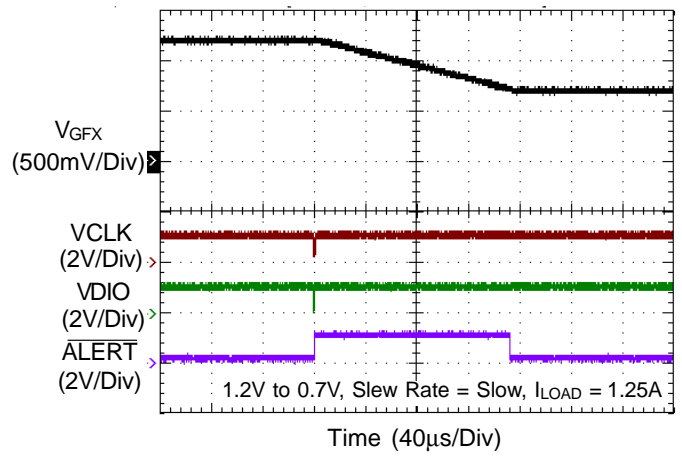
GFX VR OVP and NVP



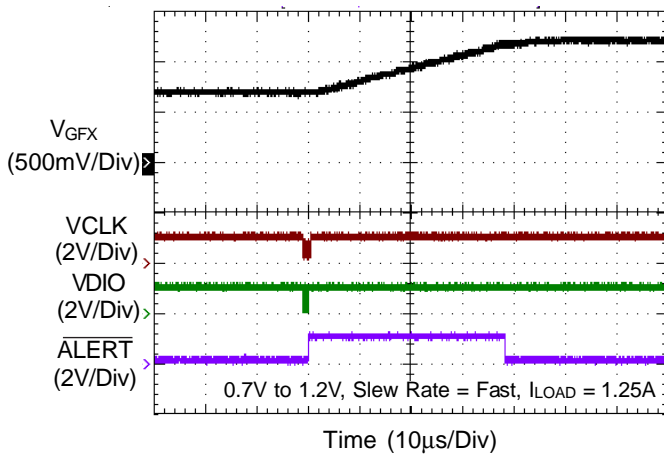
GFX VR Dynamic VID



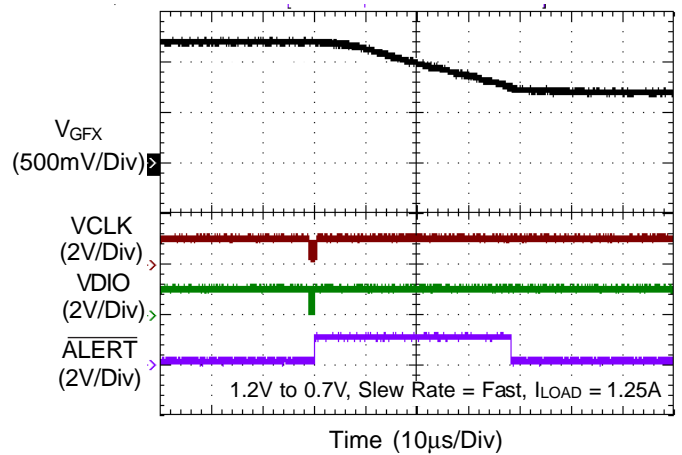
GFX VR Dynamic VID



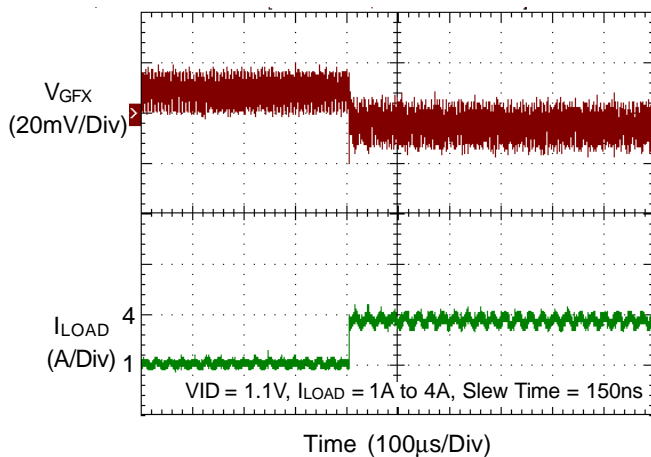
GFX VR Dynamic VID



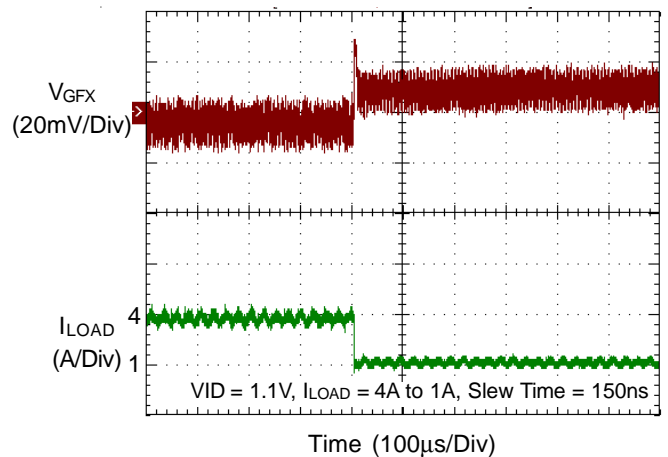
GFX VR Dynamic VID



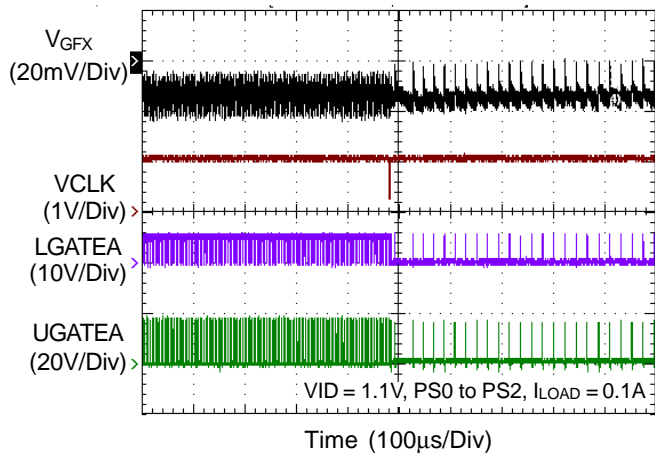
GFX VR Load Transient



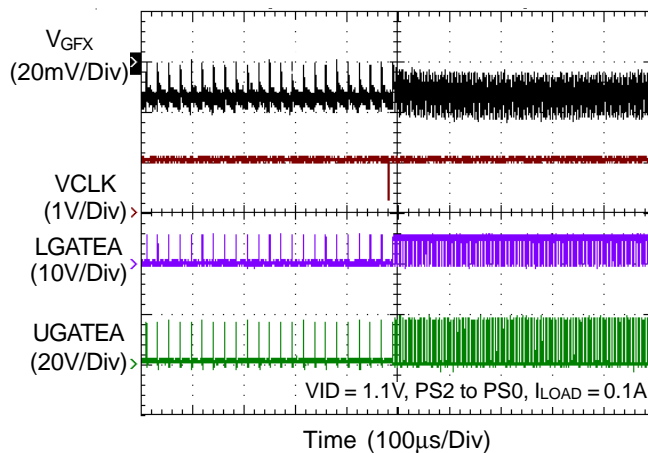
GFX VR Load Transient



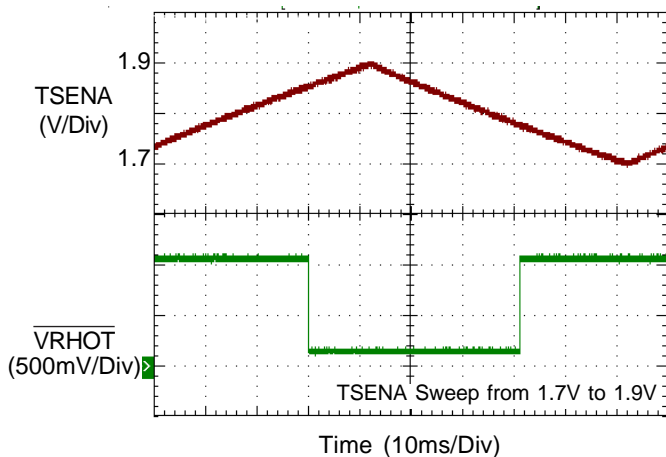
GFX VR Mode Transition



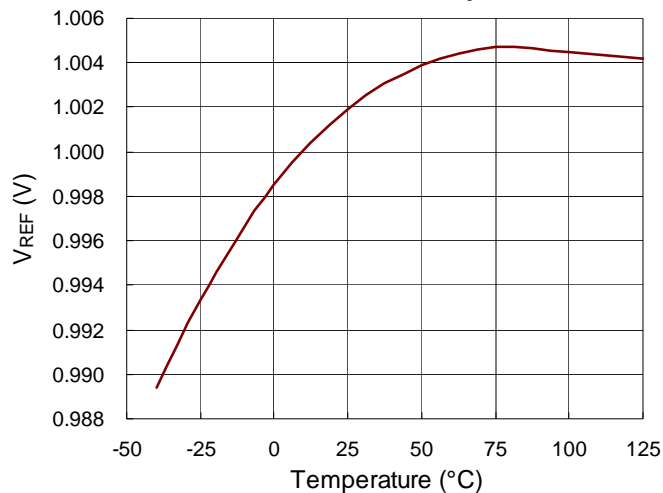
GFX VR Mode Transition



GFX VR Thermal Monitoring



GFX VR V_{REF} vs. Temperature



Application Information

The RT8172A is a VR12/IMVP7 compliant, dual single-phase synchronous Buck PWM controller for the CPU CORE VR and GFX VR. The gate drivers are embedded to facilitate PCB design and reduce the total BOM cost. A serial VID (SVID) interface is built-in in the RT8172A to communicate with Intel VR12/IMVP7 compliant CPU.

The RT8172A adopts G-NAVP™ (Green Native AVP), which is Richtek's proprietary topology derived from finite DC gain compensator, making it an easy setting PWM controller to meet AVP requirements. The load-line can be easily programmed by setting the DC gain of the error amplifier. The RT8172A has fast transient response due to the G-NAVP™ commanding variable switching frequency.

The G-NAVP™ topology also represents a high efficiency system with green power concept. With the G-NAVP™ topology, the RT8172A becomes a green power controller with high efficiency under heavy load, light load, and very light load conditions. The RT8172A supports mode transition function between CCM and DEM. These different operating states allow the overall power system to have low power loss. By utilizing the G-NAVP™ topology, the operating frequency of RT8172A varies with output voltage, load and VIN to further enhance the efficiency even in CCM.

The built-in high accuracy DAC converts the SVID code ranging from 0.25V to 1.52V with 5mV per step. The differential remote output voltage sense and high accuracy DAC allow the system to have high output voltage accuracy. The RT8172A supports VR12/IMVP7 compatible power management states and VID on-the-fly function. The power management states include DEM in PS2/PS3 and Forced-CCM in PS1/PS0. The VID on-the-fly function has three different slew rates : Fast, Slow and Decay. The RT8172A integrates a high accuracy ADC for platform setting functions, such as no-load offset and over current level. The controller supports both DCR and sense-resistor current sensing. The RT8172A provides VR ready output signals of both CORE VR and GFX VR. It also features complete fault protection functions including over voltage, under-voltage, negative-voltage, over-current and under-voltage lockout. The RT8172A is available in the WQFN-40L 5x5 small foot print package.

Design Tool

To help users reduce efforts and errors caused by manual calculations, a user-friendly design tool is now available on request. This design tool calculates all necessary design parameters by entering user's requirements. Please contact Richtek's representatives for details.

Serial VID (SVID) Interface

SVID is a three-wire serial synchronous interface defined by Intel. The three wire bus includes VDIO, VCLK and $\overline{\text{ALERT}}$ signals. The master (Intel's VR12/IMVP7 CPU) initiates and terminates SVID transactions and drives the VDIO, VCLK, and $\overline{\text{ALERT}}$ during a transaction. The slave (RT8172A) receives the SVID transactions and acts accordingly.

Standard Serial VID Command

Code	Commands	Master Payload Contents	Slave Payload Contents	Description
00h	not supported	N/A	N/A	N/A
01h	SetVID_Fast	VID code	N/A	Set new target VID code, VR jumps to new VID target with controlled default “fast” slew rate 12.5mV/μs.
02h	SetVID_Slow	VID code	N/A	Set new target VID code, VR jumps to new VID target with controlled default “slow” slew rate 3.125mV/μs.
03h	SetVID_Decay	VID code	N/A	Set new target VID code, VR jumps to new VID target, but does not control the slew rate. The output voltage decays at a rate proportional to the load current
04h	SetPS	Byte indicating power states	N/A	Set power state
05h	SetRegADR	Pointer of registers in data table	N/A	Set the pointer of the data register
06h	SetReg DAT	New data register content	N/A	Write the contents to the data register
07h	GetReg	Pointer of registers in data table	Specified Register Contents	Slave returns the contents of the specified register as the payload
08h - 1Fh	not supported	N/A	N/A	N/A

Data and Configuration Register

Index	Register Name	Description	Access	Default
00h	Vendor ID	Vendor ID, default 1Eh.	RO, Vendor	1Eh
01h	Product ID	Product ID.	RO, Vendor	65h
02h	Product Revision	Product Revision.	RO, Vendor	01h
05h	Protocol ID	SVID Protocol ID.	RO, Vendor	01h
06h	VR_Capability	Bit mapped register, identifies the SVID VR capabilities and which of the optional telemetry register are supported.	RO, Vendor	81h
10h	Status_1	Data register containing the status of VR.	R-M, W-PWM	00h
11h	Status-2	Data register containing the status of transmission.	R-M, W-PWM	00h
12h	Temperature Zone	Data register showing temperature zone that have been entered.	R-M, W-PWM	00h
15h	Output_Current	Data register showing direct ADC conversion of averaged output current.	R-M, W-PWM	00h
1Ch	Status_2_lastread	The register contains a copy of the status_2.	R-M, W-PWM	00h
21h	ICC_Max	Data register containing the maximum ICC of platform supports. Binary format in Amp, IE 64h = 100A.	RO, Platform	--
22h	Temp_Max	Data register containing the temperature max the platform supports. Binary format in °C, IE 64h = 100°C Only for CORE VR	RO, Platform	--
24h	SR-Fast	Data register containing the capability of fast slew rate the platform can sustains. Binary format in mV/μs, IE 0Ah = 10mV/μs.	RO	0Ah
25h	SR-Slow	Data register containing the capability of slow slew rate. Binary format in mV/μs IE 02h = 2.5mV/μs.	RO	02h
30h	VOUT_Max	The register is programmed by the master and sets the maximum VID.	RW, Master	FBh
31h	VID Setting	Data register containing currently programmed VID.	RW, Master	00h
32h	Power State	Register containing the current programmed power state.	RW, Master	00h
33h	Offset	Set offset in VID steps.	RW, Master	00h
34h	Multi VR Config	Bit mapped data register which configures multiple VRs behavior on the same bus.	RW, Master	00h
35h	Pointer	Scratch pad register for temporary storage of the SetRegADR pointer register.	RW, Master	30h

Notes :

RO = Read Only

RW = Read/Write

R-M = Read by Master

W-PWM = Write by PWM only

Vendor = hard coded by VR vendor

Platform = programmed by platform

Master = programmed by the master

PWM = programmed by the VR control IC

Power Ready Detection and Power On Reset (POR)

During start-up, the RT8172A detects the voltage on the voltage input pins : VCC and EN. When $V_{CC} > V_{UVLO}$, the RT8172A will recognize the power state of system to be ready (POR = high) and wait for enable command at EN pin. After POR = high and $EN > V_{ENTH}$, the RT8172A will enter start-up sequence for both CORE VR and GFX VR. If the voltage on any voltage pin drops below POR threshold (POR = low), the RT8172A will enter power down sequence and all the functions will be disabled. SVID will be invalid within 300µs after chip becomes enabled. All the protection latches (OVP, OCP, UVP, OTP) will be cleared only after POR = low. EN = low will not clear these latches.

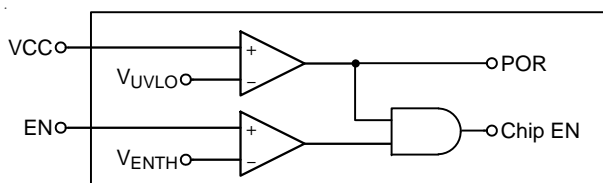


Figure 3. Power Ready Detection and Power On Reset (POR)

Precise Reference Current Generation

The RT8172A includes extensive analog circuits inside the controller. These analog circuits need very precise reference voltage/current to drive these analog devices. The RT8172A will auto-generate a 2.14V voltage source at IBIAS pin, and a 53.6kΩ resistor is required to be connected between IBIAS and analog ground. Through this connection, the RT8172A generates a 40µA current from IBIAS pin to analog ground and this 40µA current will be mirrored inside the RT8172A for internal use. Other types of connection or other values of resistance applied at the IBIAS pin may cause failure of the RT8172A's analog circuits. Thus a 53.6kΩ resistor is the only recommended component to be connected to the IBIAS pin. The resistance accuracy of this resistor is recommended to be at least 1%.

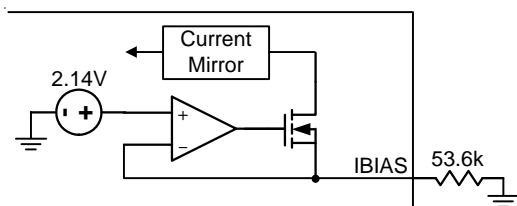


Figure 4. IBIAS Setting

ICCMAX, ICCMAXA and TMPMAX

The RT8172A provides ICCMAX, ICCMAXA and TMPMAX pins for platform users to set the maximum level of output current or VR temperature: ICCMAX for CORE VR maximum current, ICCMAXA for GFX VR maximum current, and TMPMAX for CORE VR maximum temperature.

To set ICCMAX, ICCMAXA and TMPMAX, platform designers should use resistive voltage dividers on these three pins. The current of the divider should be several milli-Amps to avoid noise effect. The three items share the same algorithms : the ADC divides 5V into 255 levels. Therefore, $LSB = 5/255 = 19.6mV$, which means 19.6mV applied to ICCMAX pin equals to 1A setting. For example, if a platform designer wants to set TMPMAX to 120°C, the voltage applied to TMPMAX should be $120 \times 19.6mV = 2.352V$. The ADC circuit inside these three pins will decode the voltage applied and store the maximum current/temperature setting into ICC_MAX and Temp_Max registers. The ADC monitors and decodes the voltage at these three pins only after EN = high. If EN = low, the RT8172A will not take any action even when the VR output current or temperature exceeds its maximum setting at these ADC pins. The maximum level settings at these ADC pins are different from over-current protection or over-temperature protection. That means, these maximum level setting pins are only for platform users to define their system operating conditions and these messages will only be utilized by the CPU.

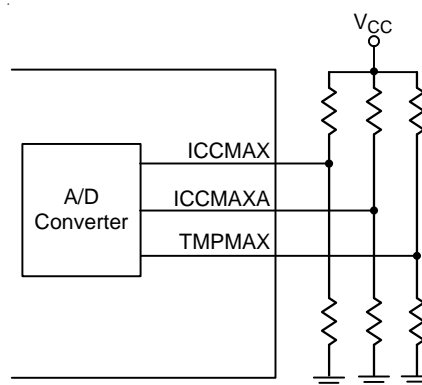


Figure 5. ADC Pins Setting

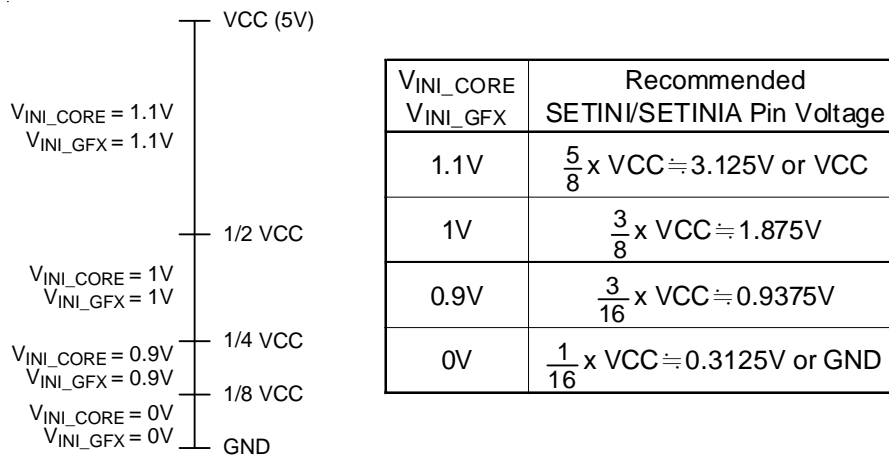


Figure 6. SETINI and SETINIA Pin Voltage Setting

V_{INI_CORE} and V_{INI_GFX} Setting

The initial start-up voltage (V_{INI_CORE}, V_{INI_GFX}) of the RT8172A can be set by platform users through SETINI and SETINIA pins. Voltage divider circuit is recommended to be applied to the SETINI and SETINIA pins. The V_{INI_CORE}/V_{INI_GFX} relate to SETINI/SETINIA pin voltage setting as shown in Figure 6. Recommended voltage setting at the SETINI and SETINIA pins are also shown in Figure 6.

Start Up Sequence

The RT8172A utilizes internal soft-start sequence which strictly follows Intel VR12/IMVP7 start-up sequence specifications. After POR = high and EN = high, a 300µs delay is needed for the controller to determine whether all the power inputs are ready for entering start-up sequence. If pin voltage of SETINI/SETINIA is zero, the output voltage of CORE/GFX VR is programmed to stay at 0V. If pin voltage of SETINI/SETINIA is not zero, VR output voltage will ramp up to initial boot voltage (V_{INI_CORE}, V_{INI_GFX}) after both POR = high and EN = high. After the output voltage of CORE/GFX VR reaches target initial boot voltage, the controller will keep the output voltage at the initial boot voltage and wait for the next SVID commands. After the RT8172A receives valid VID code (typically SetVID_Slow command), the output voltage will ramp up/down to the

target voltage with specified slew rate.

After the output voltage reaches the target voltage, the RT8172A will send out VR_READY signal to indicate the power state of the RT8172A is ready. The VR_READY circuit is an open-drain structure so a pull-up resistor is recommended for connecting to a voltage source.

Power Down Sequence

Similar to the start up sequence, the RT8172A also utilizes a soft shutdown mechanism during turn-off. After POR = low, the internal reference voltage (positive terminal of compensation EA) starts ramping down with 3.125mV/µs slew rate, and output voltage will follow the reference voltage to 0V. After output voltage drops below 0.2V, the RT8172A shuts down and all functions are disabled. The VR_READY will be pulled down immediately after POR = low.

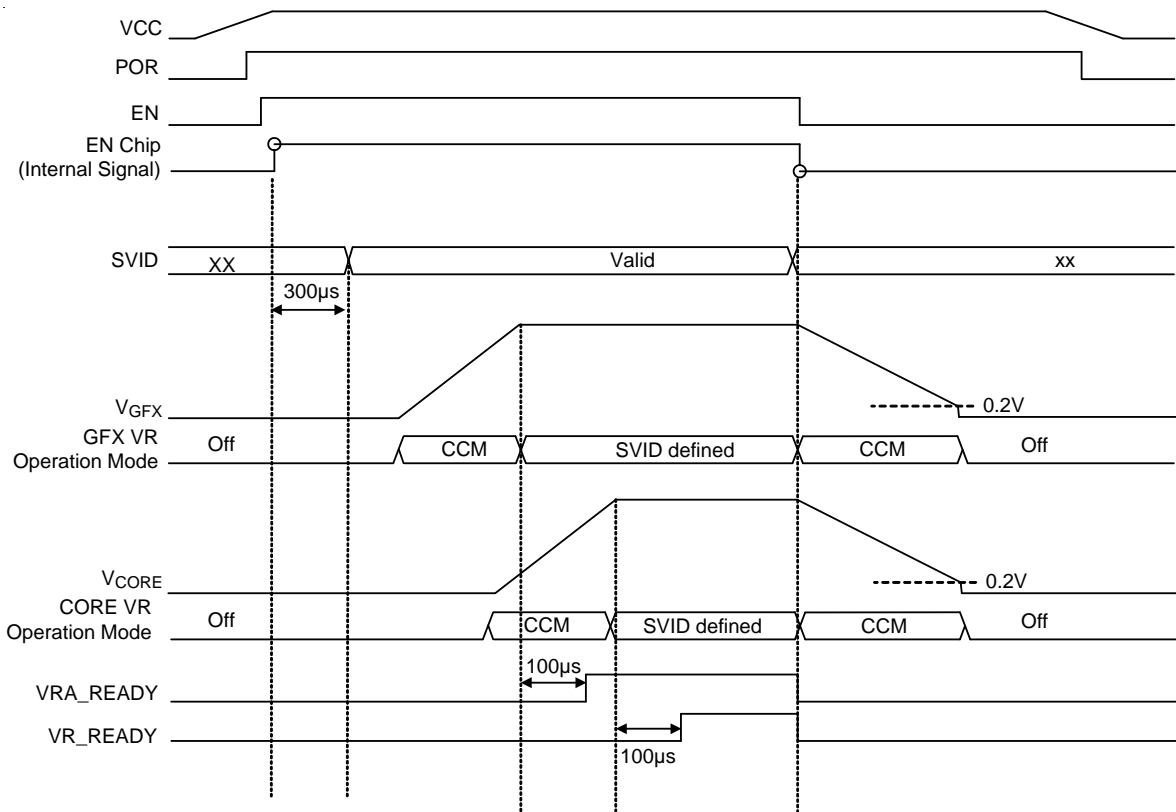


Figure 7 (a). Power Sequence for RT8172A ($V_{INL_CORE} = V_{INL_GFX} = 0V$)

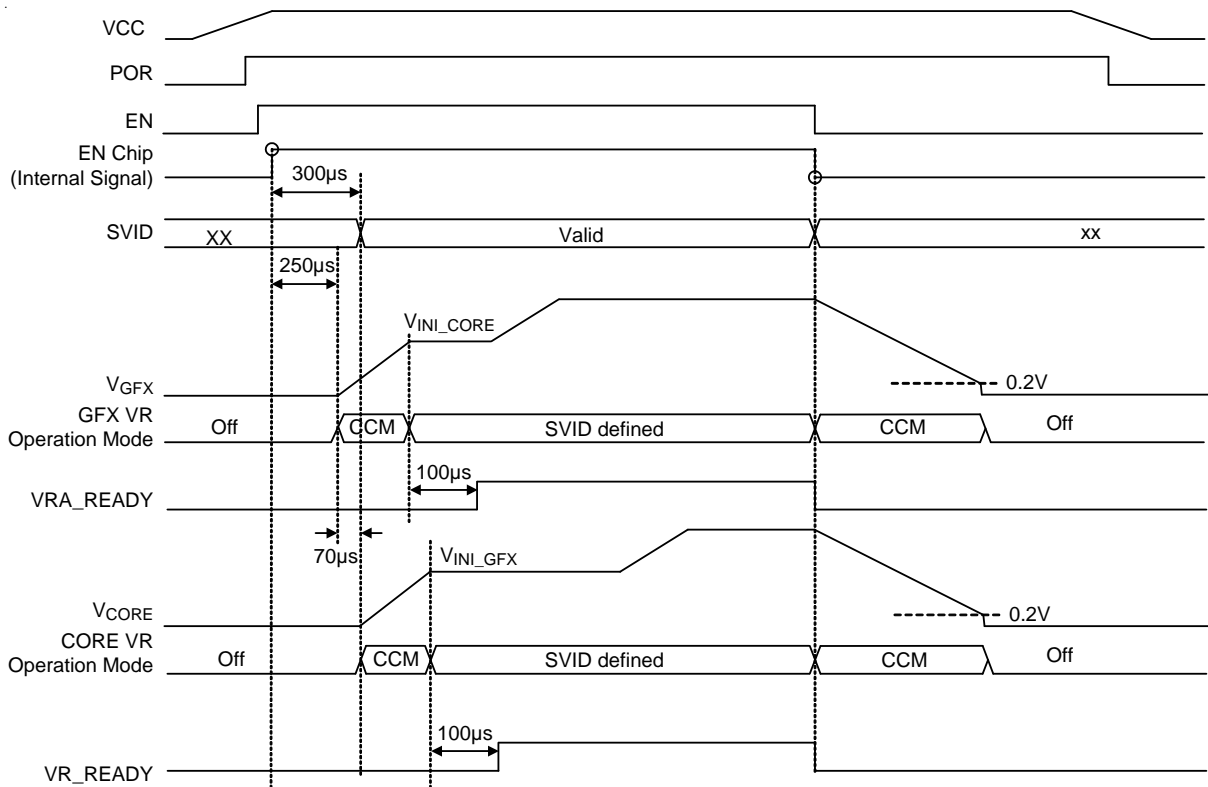


Figure 7 (b). Power Sequence for RT8172A ($V_{INL_CORE} \neq 0, V_{INL_GFX} \neq 0V$)

Disable GFX VR : Before EN = High

GFX VR enable or disable is determined by the internal circuitry that monitors the ISENAN voltage during start up. Before EN= high, GFX VR detects whether the voltage of ISENAN is higher than “VCC – 1V” to disable GFX VR. The unused driver pins can be connected to GND or left floating.

GFX VR Forced-DEM Function Enable : After VRA_Ready = High

The GFX VR's forced-DEM function can be enabled or disabled with GFXPS2 pin. The RT8172A detects the voltage of GFXPS2 for forced-DEM function. If the voltage at GFXPS2 pin is higher than 4.3V, the GFX VR operates in forced-DEM. If this voltage is lower than 0.7V, the GFX VR follows SVID power state command.

Loop Control

Both CORE and GFX VR adopt Richtek's proprietary G-NAVP™ topology. G-NAVP™ is based on the finite-gain valley current mode with CCRCOT (Constant Current Ripple Constant On Time) topology. The output voltage, V_{CORE} or V_{GFX}, will decrease with increasing output load current. The control loop consists of PWM modulator with power stage, current sense amplifier and error amplifier as shown in Figure 8.

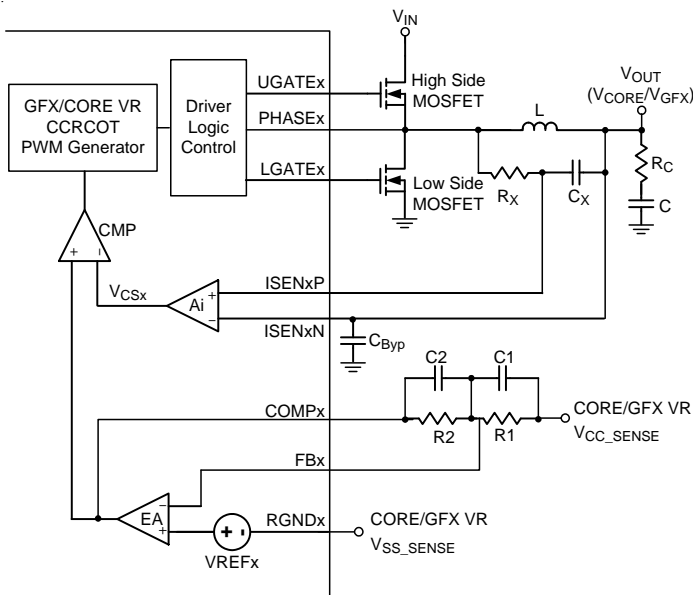


Figure 8. Simplified Schematic for Droop and Remote Sense in CCM

Similar to the valley current mode control with finite compensator gain, the high side MOSFET on-time is determined by the CCRCOT PWM generator. When load current increases, V_{CS} increases, the steady state COMP voltage also increases which makes the output voltage decrease, thus achieving AVP.

Droop Setting (with Temperature Compensation)

It's very easy to achieve the Active Voltage Positioning (AVP) by properly setting the error amplifier gain due to the native droop characteristics. The target is to have

$$V_{OUT} = V_{REFx} - I_{LOAD} \times R_{DROOP} \tag{1}$$

Then solving the switching condition V_{COMPx} = V_{CSx} in Figure 8 yields the desired error amplifier gain as

$$A_V = \frac{R_2}{R_1} = \frac{A_i \times R_{SENSE}}{R_{DROOP}} \tag{2}$$

where A_i is the internal current sense amplifier gain and R_{SENSE} is the current sense resistance. If no external sense resistor is present, the DCR of the inductor will act as R_{SENSE}. R_{DROOP} is the resistive slope value of the converter output and is the desired static output impedance.

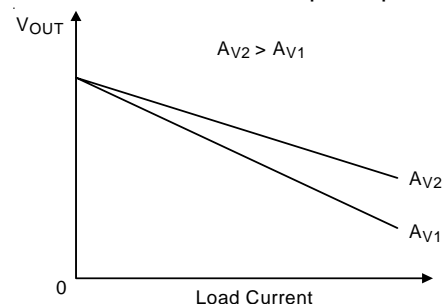


Figure 9. Error Amplifier Gain (Av) Influence on V_{OUT} Accuracy

Since the DCR of inductor is temperature dependent, it affects the output accuracy in high temperature conditions. Temperature compensation is recommended for the lossless inductor DCR current sense method. Figure 10 shows a simple but effective way of compensating the temperature variations of the sense resistor using an NTC thermistor placed in the feedback path.

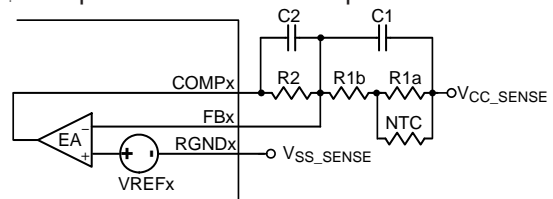


Figure 10. Loop Setting with Temperature Compensation

Usually, R1a is set to equal R_{NTC} (25°C), while R1b is selected to linearize the NTC's temperature characteristic. For a given NTC, the design would be to obtain R1b and R2 and then C1 and C2. According to (2), to compensate the temperature variations of the sense resistor, the error amplifier gain (A_V) should have the same temperature coefficient with R_{SENSE}. Hence

$$\frac{A_{V, HOT}}{A_{V, COLD}} = \frac{R_{SENSE, HOT}}{R_{SENSE, COLD}} \quad (3)$$

From (2), we can have A_V at any temperature (T) as

$$A_{V, T} = \frac{R2}{R1a // R_{NTC, T} + R1b} \quad (4)$$

The standard formula for the resistance of NTC thermistor as a function of temperature is given by :

$$R_{NTC, T} = R_{NTC, 25} e^{\left\{ \beta \left[\left(\frac{1}{T+273} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{298} \right) \right] \right\}} \quad (5)$$

where R_{NTC, 25} is the thermistor's nominal resistance at room temperature, β (beta) is the thermistor's material constant in Kelvins, and T is the thermistor's actual temperature in Celsius.

The DCR value at different temperatures can be calculated using the equation below :

$$DCR_T = DCR_{25} \times [1 + 0.00393 \times (T - 25)] \quad (6)$$

where 0.00393 is the temperature coefficient of copper. For a given NTC thermistor, solving (4) at room temperature (25°C) yields

$$R2 = A_{V, 25} \times (R1b + R1a // R_{NTC, 25}) \quad (7)$$

where A_{V, 25°C} is the error amplifier gain at room temperature obtained from (2). R1b can be obtained by substituting (7) to (3),

$$R1b = \frac{\frac{R_{SENSE, HOT}}{R_{SENSE, COLD}} \times (R1a // R_{NTC, HOT}) - (R1a // R_{NTC, COLD})}{\left(1 - \frac{R_{SENSE, HOT}}{R_{SENSE, COLD}} \right)} \quad (8)$$

Loop Compensation

Optimized compensation of the CORE VR allows for best possible load step response of the regulator's output. A type-I compensator with one pole and one zero is adequate for a proper compensation. Figure 10 shows the compensation circuit. It was previously mentioned that to determine the resistive feedback components of error amplifier gain, C1 and C2 must be calculated for the compensation. The target is to achieve constant resistive output impedance over the widest possible frequency range.

The pole frequency of the compensator must be set to compensate the output capacitor ESR zero :

$$f_p = \frac{1}{2 \times \pi \times C \times R_C} \quad (9)$$

where C is the capacitance of the output capacitor and R_C is the ESR of the output capacitor. C2 can be calculated as follows :

$$C2 = \frac{C \times R_C}{R2} \quad (10)$$

The zero of compensator has to be placed at half of the switching frequency to filter the switching-related noise. Such that,

$$C1 = \frac{1}{(R1b + R1a // R_{NTC, 25^\circ C}) \times \pi \times f_{SW}} \quad (11)$$

TON Setting

High frequency operation optimizes the application by trading off efficiency due to higher switching losses with smaller component size. This may be acceptable in ultra-portable devices where the load currents are lower and the controller is powered from a lower voltage supply. Low frequency operation offers the best overall efficiency at the expense of component size and board space. Figure 11 shows the on-time setting circuit. Connect a resistor (R_{TONSETx}) between V_{IN} and TONSETx to set the on-time of UGATE_x :

$$t_{ONx} (V_{REFx} < 1.2V) = \frac{28 \times 10^{-12} \times R_{TONSETx}}{V_{IN} - V_{REFx}} \quad (12)$$

where t_{ONx} is the UGATE_x turn on period, V_{IN} is the input voltage of converter, and V_{REFx} is the internal reference voltage.

When V_{REFx} is larger than 1.2V, the equivalent switching frequency may be over the maximum design range, making it unacceptable. Therefore, the VR implements a pseudo-constant-frequency technology to avoid this disadvantage of CCRCOT topology. When V_{REFx} is larger than 1.2V, the on-time equation will be modified to :

$$t_{ONx} (V_{REFx} \geq 1.2V) = \frac{23.33 \times 10^{-12} \times R_{TONSETx} \times V_{REFx}}{V_{IN} - V_{REFx}} \quad (13)$$

On-time translates roughly to switching frequencies. The on-times guaranteed in the Electrical Characteristics are influenced by switching delays in external high side MOSFET. Also, the dead-time effect increases the effective on-time, reducing the switching frequency. It occurs only in CCM during dynamic output voltage transitions when the inductor current reverses at light or negative load currents. With reversed inductor current, PHASEx goes high earlier than normal, extending the on-time by a period equal to the high side MOSFET rising dead time.

For better efficiency of the given load range, the maximum switching frequency is suggested to be :

$$f_{S(MAX)}(kHz) = \frac{1}{t_{ON} - t_{HS-Delay}} \times \frac{V_{REFx(MAX)} + I_{LOAD(MAX)} \times [R_{ON_LS-FET} + DCR - R_{DROOP}]}{V_{IN(MAX)} + I_{LOAD(MAX)} \times [R_{ON_LS-FET} - R_{ON_HS-FET}]} \quad (14)$$

where $f_{S(MAX)}$ is the maximum switching frequency, $t_{HS-Delay}$ is the turn on delay of high side MOSFET, $V_{REFx(MAX)}$ is the maximum application DAC voltage of application, $V_{IN(MAX)}$ is the maximum application input voltage, $I_{LOAD(MAX)}$ is the maximum load of application, R_{ON_LS-FET} is the low side MOSFET $R_{DS(ON)}$, R_{ON_HS-FET} is the high side MOSFET $R_{DS(ON)}$, DCR_L is the inductor DCR, and R_{DROOP} is the load line setting.

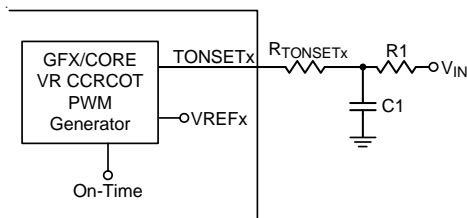


Figure 11. On-Time Setting with RC Filter

Differential Remote Sense Setting

The CORE/GFX VR includes differential, remote-sense inputs to eliminate the effects of voltage drops along the PC board traces, CPU internal power routes and socket contacts. The CPU contains on-die sense pins CORE/GFX V_{CC_SENSE} and V_{SS_SENSE} . Connect $RGNDx$ to CORE/GFX V_{SS_SENSE} . Connect FBx to CORE/GFX V_{CC_SENSE} with a resistor to build the negative input path of the error amplifier. The precision voltage reference V_{REFx} is referred to $RGND$ for accurate remote sensing.

Current Sense Setting

The current sense topology of the CORE/GFX VR is continuous inductor current sensing. Therefore, the controller can be less noise sensitive. Low offset amplifiers are used for loop control and over current detection. The internal current sense amplifier gain (A_I) is fixed to be 10. The $ISENxP$ and $ISENxN$ denote the positive and negative input of the current sense amplifier.

Users can either use a current sense resistor or the inductor's DCR for current sensing. Using inductor's DCR allows higher efficiency as shown in Figure 12. To let

$$\frac{L}{DCR} = R_X \times C_X \quad (15)$$

then the transient performance will be optimum. For example, choose $L = 0.36\mu H$ with $1m\Omega$ DCR and $C_X = 100nF$, to yields for R_X :

$$R_X = \frac{0.36\mu H}{1m\Omega \times 100nF} = 3.6k\Omega \quad (16)$$

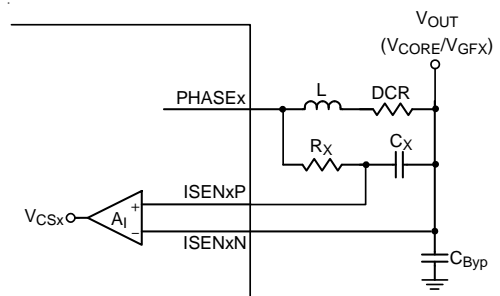


Figure 12. Lossless Inductor Sensing

Considering the inductance tolerance, the resistor R_X has to be tuned on board by examining the transient voltage. If the output voltage transient has an initial dip below the minimum load line requirement with a slow recovery, R_X is too small. Vice versa, if the resistance is too large the output voltage transient will only have a small initial dip and the recovery will be too fast, causing a ring-back.

Using current-sense resistor in series with the inductor can have better accuracy, but the efficiency is a trade-off. Considering the equivalent inductance (L_{ESL}) of the current sense resistor, a RC filter is recommended. The RC filter calculation method is similar to the above-mentioned inductor DCR sensing method.

Operation Mode Transition

The RT8172A supports operation mode transition function in CORE/GFX VR for the SetPS command of Intel's VR12/IMVP7 CPU. The default operation mode of the RT8172A's CORE/GFX VR is PS0, which is CCM operation. The other operation mode is PS2 (DEM operation).

After receiving SetPS command, the CORE/GFX VR will immediately change to the new operation state. When VR receives SetPS command of PS2 operation mode, the VR operates as a DEM controller.

If VR receives dynamic VID change command (SetVID), VR will automatically enter PS0 operation mode. After output voltage reaches target voltage, VR will stay at PS0 state and ignore former SetPS command. Only by re-sending SetPS command after SetVID command will VR be forced into PS2 operation state again.

Thermal Monitoring and Temperature Reporting

CORE/GFX VR provides thermal monitoring function via sensing TSEN pin voltage. Through the voltage divider resistors R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_{NTC} , the voltage of TSEN will be proportional to VR temperature. When VR temperature rises, the TSENx voltage also rises. The ADC circuit of VR monitors the voltage variation at TSENx pin from 1.47V to 1.89V with 55mV resolution, and this voltage is decoded into digital format and stored into the Temperature Zone register.

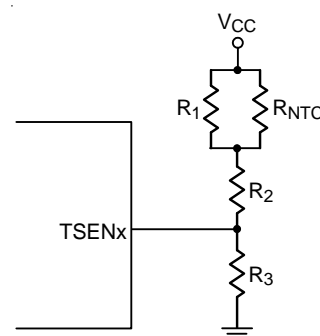


Figure 13. Thermal Monitoring Circuit

To meet Intel's VR12/IMVP7 specification, platform users have to set the TSEN voltage to meet the temperature variation of VR from 75% to 100% VR max temperature. For example, if the VR max temperature is 100°C, platform users have to set the TSEN voltage to be 1.4875V when VR temperature reaches 75°C and 1.8725V when VR temperature reaches 100°C. Detailed voltage setting versus temperature variation is shown in Table 2. Thermometer code is implemented in the Temperature Zone register.

Table 2. Temperature Zone Register

		Comparator Trip Points Temperatures Scaled to maximum = 100% Voltage Represents Assert bit Minimum Level					
VRHOT	SVID Thermal Alert	b5	b4	b3	b2	b1	b0
		100%	97%	94%	91%	88%	85%
		1.855V	1.8V	1.745V	1.69V	1.635V	1.58V
						1.525V	1.47V

TSEN Pin Voltage	Temperature_Zone Register Content
$1.855 \leq V_{TSEN}$	1111_1111
$1.800 \leq V_{TSEN} \leq 1.835$	0111_1111
$1.745 \leq V_{TSEN} \leq 1.780$	0011_1111
$1.690 \leq V_{TSEN} \leq 1.725$	0001_1111
$1.635 \leq V_{TSEN} \leq 1.670$	0000_1111
$1.580 \leq V_{TSEN} \leq 1.615$	0000_0111
$1.525 \leq V_{TSEN} \leq 1.560$	0000_0011
$1.470 \leq V_{TSEN} \leq 1.505$	0000_0001
$V_{TSEN} < 1.470$	0000_0000

The RT8172A supports two temperature reporting, \overline{VRHOT} (hardware reporting) and \overline{ALERT} (software reporting), to fulfill VR12/IMVP7 specification. \overline{VRHOT} is an open-drain structure which sends out active-low \overline{VRHOT} signals. When TSEN voltage rises above 1.855V (100% of VR temperature), the \overline{VRHOT} signal will be set to low. When TSEN voltage drops below 1.8V (97% of VR temperature), the \overline{VRHOT} signal will be reset to high. When TSEN voltage rises above 1.8V (97% of VR temperature), The RT8172A will update the bit1 data from 0 to 1 in the Status_1 register and assert \overline{ALERT} . When TSEN voltage drops below 1.745V (94% of VR temperature), VR will update the bit1 data from 1 to 0 in the Status_1 register and assert \overline{ALERT} .

The temperature reporting function for the GFX VR can be disabled by pulling TSENA pin to VCC in case the temperature reporting function for the GFX VR is not used or the GFX VR is disabled. When the GFX VR's temperature reporting function is disabled, the RT8172A will reject the SVID command of getting the Temperature_Zone register content of the GFX VR. However, note that the temperature reporting function for the CORE VR is always active. CORE VR's temperature reporting function can not be disabled by pulling TSEN pin to VCC.

Over-Current Protection

The CORE/GFX VR compares a programmable current limit set point to the voltage from the current sense amplifier output for Over-Current Protection (OCP). The voltage applied to OCSETx pin defines the desired peak current limit threshold I_{LIMIT} :

$$V_{OCSET} = 48 \times I_{LIMIT} \times R_{SENSE} \tag{17}$$

Connect a resistive voltage divider from VCC to GND, with the joint of the resistive divider connected to OCSETx pin as shown in Figure 14. For a given R_{OC2} , then

$$R_{OC1} = R_{OC2} \times \left(\frac{V_{CC}}{V_{OCSET}} - 1 \right) \tag{18}$$

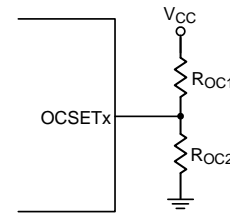


Figure 14. OCP Setting without Temperature Compensation

The current limit is triggered when inductor current exceeds the current limit threshold I_{LIMIT} , defined by V_{OCSET} . The driver will be forced to turn off UGATE until the over-current condition is cleared. If the over-current condition remains valid for 15 PWM cycles, VR will trigger OCP latch. Latched OCP forces both UGATE and LGATE to go low. When OCP is triggered in one of VRs, the other VR will enter into soft shutdown sequence. The OCP latch mechanism will be masked when $VRx_READY = low$, which means that only the current limit will be active when V_{OUT} is ramping up to initial voltage (or V_{REFx}).

If inductor DCR is used as the current sense component, then temperature compensation is recommended for protection under all conditions. Figure 15 shows a typical OCP setting with temperature compensation.

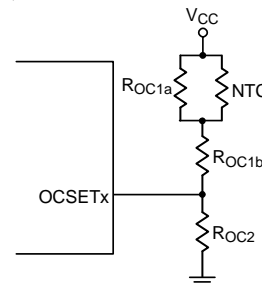


Figure 15. OCP Setting with Temperature Compensation

Usually, R_{OC1a} is selected to be equal to the thermistor's nominal resistance at room temperature. Ideally, V_{OCSET} is assumed to have the same temperature coefficient as R_{SENSE} (Inductor DCR) :

$$\frac{V_{OCSET, HOT}}{V_{OCSET, COLD}} = \frac{R_{SENSE, HOT}}{R_{SENSE, COLD}} \tag{19}$$

According to the basic circuit calculation, V_{OCSET} can be obtained at any temperature :

$$V_{OCSET, T} = V_{CC} \times \frac{R_{OC2}}{R_{OC1a} // R_{NTC, T} + R_{OC1b} + R_{OC2}} \quad (20)$$

Re-write (19) from (20), to get V_{OCSET} at room temperature

$$\frac{R_{OC1a} // R_{NTC, COLD} + R_{OC1b} + R_{OC2}}{R_{OC1a} // R_{NTC, HOT} + R_{OC1b} + R_{OC2}} = \frac{R_{SENSE, HOT}}{R_{SENSE, COLD}} \quad (21)$$

$$V_{OCSET, 25} = V_{CC} \times \frac{R_{OC2}}{R_{OC1a} // R_{NTC, 25} + R_{OC1b} + R_{OC2}} \quad (22)$$

Solving (21) and (22) yields R_{OC1b} and R_{OC2}

$$R_{OC2} = \frac{\alpha \times R_{EQU, HOT} - R_{EQU, COLD} + (1 - \alpha) \times R_{EQU, 25}}{\frac{V_{CC}}{V_{OCSET, 25}} \times (1 - \alpha)} \quad (23)$$

$$R_{OC1b} = \frac{(\alpha - 1) \times R_2 + \alpha \times R_{EQU, HOT} - R_{EQU, COLD}}{(1 - \alpha)} \quad (24)$$

where $\alpha =$

$$\frac{R_{SENSE, HOT}}{R_{SENSE, COLD}} = \frac{DCR_{25} \times [1 + 0.00393 \times (T_{HOT} - 25)]}{DCR_{25} \times [1 + 0.00393 \times (T_{COLD} - 25)]} \quad (25)$$

$$R_{EQU, T} = R_{OC1a} // R_{NTC, T} \quad (26)$$

Over-Voltage Protection (OVP)

The over-voltage protection circuit of CORE/GFX VR monitors the output voltage via the ISENxN pin. The supported maximum operating VID of VR ($V_{(MAX)}$) is stored in the Vout_Max register. Once V_{ISENxN} exceeds " $V_{(MAX)} + 200mV$ ", OVP is triggered and latched. VR will try to turn on low-side MOSFETs and turn off high-side MOSFETs to protect CPU. When OVP is triggered by the one of the VRs, the other VR will enter soft shutdown sequence. A 1 μ s delay is used in OVP detection circuit to prevent false trigger.

Negative-Voltage Protection (NVP)

During OVP latch state, both CORE/GFX VRs also monitor ISENxN pin for negative voltage protection. Since the OVP latch will continuously turn on low-side MOSFET of VR, VR may suffer negative output voltage. Therefore, when the voltage of ISENxN drops below $-0.05V$ after triggering OVP, VR will turn off low-side MOSFETs while high-side MOSFETs remain off. The NVP function will be active only after OVP is triggered.

Under-Voltage Protection (UVP)

Both CORE/GFX VR implement Under-Voltage Protection (UVP). If ISENxN is less than V_{REFX} by $300mV + V_{OFFSET}$, VR will trigger UVP latch. The UVP latch will turn off both high-side and low-side MOSFETs. When UVP is triggered by one of the VRs, the other VR will enter into soft shutdown sequence. The UVP mechanism is masked when $VRx_READY = low$.

Under-Voltage Lockout (UVLO)

During normal operation, if the voltage at the VCC pin drops below UVLO falling edge threshold, both VR will trigger UVLO. The UVLO protection forces all high-side MOSFETs and low-side MOSFETs off to turn off.

Inductor Selection

The switching frequency and ripple current determine the inductor value as follows :

$$L_{MIN} = \frac{V_{IN} - V_{OUT}}{I_{Ripple(MAX)}} \times t_{ON} \quad (27)$$

where t_{ON} is the UGATE turn on period.

Higher inductance induces less ripple current and hence higher efficiency. However, the tradeoff is a slower transient response of the power stage to load transients. This might increase the need for more output capacitors, thus driving up the cost. Find a low-loss inductor having the lowest possible DC resistance that fits in the allotted dimensions. The core must be large enough not to be saturated at the peak inductor current.

Output Capacitor Selection

Output capacitors are used to obtain high bandwidth for the output voltage beyond the bandwidth of the converter itself. Usually, the CPU manufacturer recommends a capacitor configuration. Two different kinds of output capacitors can be found, bulk capacitors closely located to the inductors and ceramic output capacitors in close proximity to the load. Latter ones are for mid-frequency decoupling with very small ESR and ESL values while the bulk capacitors have to provide enough stored energy to overcome the low-frequency bandwidth gap between the regulator and the CPU.

Thermal Considerations

For continuous operation, do not exceed absolute maximum junction temperature. The maximum power dissipation depends on the thermal resistance of the IC package, PCB layout, rate of surrounding airflow, and difference between junction and ambient temperature. The maximum power dissipation can be calculated by the following formula :

$$P_{D(MAX)} = (T_{J(MAX)} - T_A) / \theta_{JA}$$

where $T_{J(MAX)}$ is the maximum junction temperature, T_A is the ambient temperature, and θ_{JA} is the junction to ambient thermal resistance.

For recommended operating condition specifications, the maximum junction temperature is 125°C. The junction to ambient thermal resistance, θ_{JA} , is layout dependent. For WQFN-40L 5x5 packages, the thermal resistance, θ_{JA} , is 27.5°C/W on a standard JEDEC 51-7 four-layer thermal test board. The maximum power dissipation at $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ can be calculated by the following formula :

$$P_{D(MAX)} = (125^\circ\text{C} - 25^\circ\text{C}) / (27.5^\circ\text{C}/\text{W}) = 3.63\text{W for WQFN-40L 5x5 package}$$

The maximum power dissipation depends on the operating ambient temperature for fixed $T_{J(MAX)}$ and thermal resistance, θ_{JA} . The derating curve in Figure 16 allows the designer to see the effect of rising ambient temperature on the maximum power dissipation.

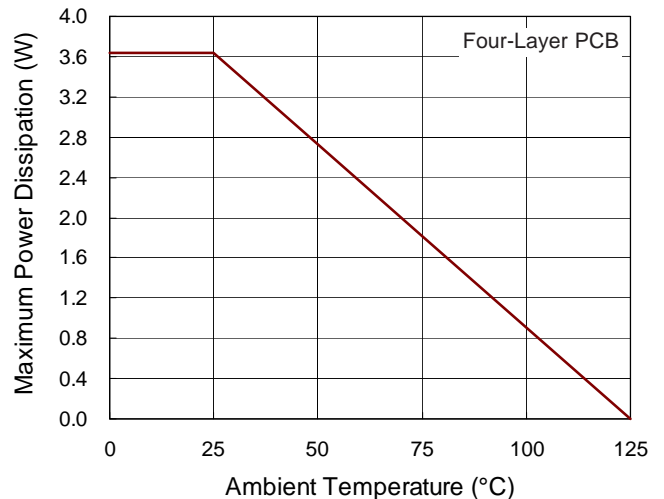


Figure 16. Derating Curve of Maximum Power Dissipation

Layout Consideration

Careful PC board layout is critical to achieving low switching losses and clean, stable operation. The switching power stage requires particular attention. If possible, mount all of the power components on the top side of the board with their ground terminals flushed against one another. Follow these guidelines for optimum PC board layout :

- ▶ Keep the high current paths short, especially at the ground terminals.
- ▶ Keep the power traces and load connections short. This is essential for high efficiency.
- ▶ When trade-offs in trace lengths must be made, it's preferable to allow the inductor charging path to be made longer than the discharging path.
- ▶ Place the current sense component close to the controller. ISENxP and ISENxN connections for current limit and voltage positioning must be made using Kelvin sense connections to guarantee the current sense accuracy. The PCB trace from the sense nodes should be parallel to the controller.
- ▶ Route high-speed switching nodes away from sensitive analog areas (COMPx, FBx, ISENxP, ISENxN, etc...)

- ▶ Special attention should be paid in placing the DCR current sensing components. The DCR current sensing capacitor and resistors must be placed close to the controller.
- ▶ The capacitor connected to the ISEN1N/ISENAN for noise decoupling is optional and it should also be placed close to the ISEN1N/ISENAN pin.
- ▶ The NTC thermistor should be placed physically close to the inductor for better DCR thermal compensation.