

### SC194A 1A Synchronous Buck Converter with Integrated Power Devices

## POWER MANAGEMENT

#### Description Features and Teatures

The SC194A is a synchronous step-down converter with integrated power devices. The SC194A is designed for single-cell Li-Ion battery applications, but can also be used in fixed 3.3V or 5V applications. The switching frequency is nominally set to 1MHz, allowing the use of small inductors and capacitors. The 1.3A maximum current rating of the internal MOSFET switches allows a DC output current of 1A.

The SC194A has a flexible clocking methodology that allows it to be synchronized to an external oscillator or controlled by the internal oscillator. The device can operate in either forced PWM mode or in PSAVE mode. If PSAVE mode is enabled the part will automatically enter PFM at light loads to maintain maximum efficiency across the full load range.

For noise sensitive applications, PSAVE mode can be disabled by synchronizing to an external oscillator, or pulling the SYNC/PWM pin high. Shutdown turns off all the control circuitry to achieve a typical shutdown current of 0.1μA.

- $\blacklozenge$  Up to 93% efficiency
- ◆ Output current 1A
- $\blacklozenge$  Input range 2.7V to 5.5V
- Quiescent current 17μA
- Four selectable output voltages  $\blacklozenge$
- ◆ Dynamic voltage positioning capability
- ◆ Fixed 1MHz frequency or 750kHz to 1.25MHz synchronized operation
- ◆ PSAVE operation to maximize efficiency at light loads
- Minimal external components
- ◆ Fast transient response
- ◆ 100% duty cycle in dropout
- ◆ Soft-start
- ◆ Over-temperature and short-circuit protection
- ◆ Space-saving lead-free package MLP-10, 3 x 3mm

#### Applications

- Cell phones ♦
- Wireless communication chipset power
- ◆ Personal media player
- ◆ Notebook and sub-notebook computers
- ◆ PDAs and mobile communicators
- ◆ WLAN peripherals



# **SEMTECH POWER MANAGEMENT**

### Absolute Maximum Ratings

Exceeding the specifications below may result in permanent damage to the device or device malfunction. Operation outside of the parameters specified in the Electrical Characteristics section is not recommended.



Note:

1) Calculated from package in still air, mounted to 3" x 4.5", 4 layer FR4 PCB with thermal vias under the exposed pad per JESD51 standards.

2) Tested according to JEDEC standard JESD22-A114-B.

### Electrical Characteristics

Unless otherwise noted: V<sub>IN</sub> = 3.6V, EN = V<sub>IN</sub>, SYNC/PWM = V<sub>IN</sub>, MODE = V<sub>IN</sub>, T<sub>A</sub> = -40 to 85 °C. Typical values are at T<sub>A</sub> = 25 °C.



### Electrical Characteristics (Cont.)

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### Pin Configuration



### Ordering Information



Notes:

1) Lead-free packaging only. This product is fully WEEE and RoHS compliant. 2) Available in tape and reel only. A reel contains 3000 devices.



### Marking Information





### Block Diagram



# SC194A



### POWER MANAGEMENT

#### Pin Descriptions





### Applications Information

#### SC194A Detailed Description

The SC194A is a synchronous step-down Pulse Width Modulated (PWM), DC-DC converter utilizing a 1MHz fixed-frequency current mode architecture. The device is designed to operate in a fixed-frequency PWM mode across the full load range and can enter Power Save Mode (PSAVE) utilizing Pulse Frequency Modulation (PFM) at light loads to maximize efficiency.

#### **Operation**

During normal operation the PMOS MOSFET is activated on each rising edge of the internal oscillator. Current feedback for the switching regulator uses the PMOS current path, and it is amplified and summed with the internal slope compensation network. The voltage feedback loop uses an internal feedback divider. The ontime is determined by comparing the summed current feedback and the output of the error amplifier. The period is set by the onboard oscillator or by an external clock attached to the SYNC/PWM pin.

The SC194A has an internal synchronous NMOS rectifier and does not require a Schottky diode on the LX pin.

#### Programmable Output Voltage

The SC194A has four pre-determined output voltage values which can be individually selected by the correct programming of the VID0 and VID1 pins (see Programmable Output Voltage table on Page 4). This eliminates the need for external programming resistors saving PCB area and inventory. The VID pins can be statically tied to GND or VIN for fixed output configurations or they may be driven by a microprocessor enabling the possibility of dynamic voltage adjustment for host equipment "sleep" states.

### Continuous Conduction & Oscillator Synchronization

The SC194A is designed to operate in continuous conduction, fixed-frequency mode. When the SYNC/ PWM pin is tied high the part runs in PWM mode using the internal oscillator. The part can be synchronized to an external clock by driving a clock signal into the SYNC/ PWM pin. The part synchronizes to the rising edge of the clock.

### Protection Features

The SC194A provides the following protection features:

- Thermal shutdown
- Current limit
- Over-voltage protection
- Soft-start

### Thermal Shutdown

The device has a thermal shutdown feature to protect the SC194A if the junction temperature exceeds 145°C. In thermal shutdown the on-chip power devices are disabled, tri-stating the LX output. Switching will resume when the temperature drops by 10°C. During this time if the output voltage decreases by more than 60% of its programmed value, a soft-start will be invoked.

#### Current Limit

The PMOS and NMOS power devices of the buck switcher stage are protected by current limit functions. In the case of a short to ground on the output, the part enters frequency foldback mode, that causes the switching frequency to divide by a factor determined by the output voltage. This prevents the inductor current from "staircasing".

#### Over-Voltage Protection

Over-voltage protection is provided on the SC194A. In the event of an over-voltage on the output in switcher mode, the PWM drive is disabled, tri-stating the LX output. The part will not resume switching until the output voltage has fallen below 2% of the regulation voltage.

#### Soft-Start

The soft-start mode is enabled after every shutdown cycle to limit in-rush current. In conjunction with the frequency foldback, this controls the maximum current during startup. The PMOS current limit is stepped up through seven soft-start levels to the full value by a timer driven from the internal oscillator. During soft-start, the switching frequency is stepped by 1/8, 1/4, and 1/2 of the internal oscillator frequency up to the full value, under control of three output voltage thresholds. As soon as the output voltage is within 2% of the regulation voltage, soft-start mode is disabled.

#### Power Save Mode Operation

The PSAVE mode may be selected by tying the SYNC/PWM pin to GND. Selecting PSAVE mode will enable the SC194A to automatically activate/deactivate operation at light loads maximizing efficiency across the full load range. The SC194A automatically detects the load current at which it should enter PSAVE mode. The SC194A is optimized to track maximum efficiency with respect to  $V_{\text{in}}$ .





#### Applications Information (Cont.)

In PSAVE mode  $V_{\text{out}}$  is driven from a lower level to an upper level by a switching burst. Once the upper level has been reached the switching is stopped and the quiescent current is reduced.  $V_{\text{out}}$  falls from the upper to lower levels in this low current state as the load current discharges the output capacitor. The burst-to-off period in PSAVE will decrease as the load current reduces.

The PSAVE switching burst frequency is controlled so that the inductor current ripple is similar to that in PWM mode. The minimum switching frequency during this period is limited to 650kHz.

The SC194A automatically detects when to exit PSAVE mode by monitoring  $V_{\text{out}}$ . For the SC194A to exit PSAVE mode, the load must be increased, causing  $V_{\text{out}}$  to decrease until the power save exit threshold is reached. PSAVE levels are set high to minimize the undershoot when exiting PSAVE. The lower PSAVE comparator level is set +0.7% above  $V_{\text{out}}$ , and the upper comparator level at +1.5% above  $V_{\text{out}}$ , with the exit threshold at -2% below  $V_{\text{OUT}}$ 

If PSAVE operation is required then a 22μF output capacitor must be used.



#### Power Save Operation

#### 100% Duty Cycle Operation

The 100% duty cycle mode may be selected by connecting the MODE pin high. This will allow the SC194A to maintain output regulation under low input voltage/high output voltage conditions.

In 100% duty cycle operation, as the input supply drops toward the output voltage, the PMOS on-time increases linearly above the maximum value in fixed-frequency operation until the PMOS is active continuously. Once the PMOS is switched on continuously, the output voltage tracks the input voltage minus the voltage drop across the PMOS power device and inductor according to the following relationship:

$$
V_{\text{out}} = V_{\text{in}} - I_{\text{out}} \times (R_{\text{dsp}} + R_{\text{ind}})
$$

where,



The 100% duty cycle can only operate for a programmed output voltage of 1.8V.

With an output voltage of 1.8V, 100% duty cycle mode will only be required to maintain regulation if  $V_{\text{in}}$  falls below a minimum value shown in the graph below.

#### Minimum  $V_{\text{in}}$  for Fixed Frequency Operation Vs.  $R_{\text{in}}$





#### Applications Information (Cont.)

The SC194A is designed for use with a 4.7μH inductor. The magnitude of the inductor current ripple is dependent on the inductor value and can be determined by the following equation:

$$
\Delta I_{L} = \frac{V_{\text{OUT}}}{L \times f_{\text{osc}}} \left( 1 - \frac{V_{\text{OUT}}}{V_{\text{IN}}} \right)
$$

This equation demonstrates the relationship between input voltage, output voltage, and inductor ripple current.

The inductor should have a low DCR to minimize the conduction losses and maximize efficiency. As a minimum requirement, the DC current rating of the inductor should be equal to the maximum load current plus half of the inductor current ripple as shown by the following equation:

$$
I_{L(PK)} = I_{OUT(MAX)} + \frac{\Delta I_L}{2}
$$

Final inductor selection will depend on various design considerations such as efficiency, EMI, size and cost. Table 1 lists the manufacturers of practical inductor options.

#### $C_{\text{IN}}$  Selection

The source input current to a buck converter is noncontinuous. To prevent large input voltage ripple a low ESR ceramic capacitor is required. A minimum value of 10μF should be used for sufficient input voltage filtering and a 22μF should be used for improved input voltage filtering.

#### $C_{\text{out}}$  Selection

The internal compensation is designed to work with a certain output filter corner frequency defined by the equation:

$$
f_c = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{L \times C_{\text{OUT}}}}
$$

This single pole filter is designed to operate with a minimum output capacitor value of 10μF. Larger output capacitor values will improve transient performance. If PSAVE operation is required the minimum capacitor value is 22μF.

Output voltage ripple is a combination of the voltage ripple from the inductor current charging and discharging the output capacitor and the voltage created from the inductor current ripple through the output capacitor ESR. Selecting an output capacitor with a low ESR will reduce the output voltage ripple component, as can be seen in the following equation:

$$
\Delta V_{\text{OUT(ESR)}} = \Delta I_{\text{L(ripple)}} \times \text{ESR}_{\text{COUT}}
$$

Capacitors with X7R or X5R ceramic dielectric are strongly recommended for their low ESR and superior temperature and voltage characteristics. Y5V capacitors should not be used as their temperature coefficients make them unsuitable for this application. Table 2 lists the manufacturers of recommended capacitor options.

Table 1: Recommended Inductors

Manufacturer/Part #	Value μH	<b>DCR</b> $\Omega$	<b>Saturation</b> Current A	<b>Tolerance</b> $±\%$	<b>Dimensions</b> (LxWxH) mm
<b>BI</b> Technologies HM66304R7	4.7	0.072	1.32	20	$4.7 \times 4.7 \times 3.0$
Coilcraft D01608C-472ML	4.7	0.09	1.5	20	$6.6 \times 4.5 \times 3.0$
<b>TDK</b> VLCF4018T-4R7N1R0-2	4.7	0.101	1.07	30	$4.3 \times 4.0 \times 1.8$

Table 2: Recommended Capacitors



Note: Where PSAVE operation is required 22 $\mu$ F must be used for  $C_{\text{out}}$ 



#### Applications Information (Cont.)

#### PCB Layout Considerations

Poor layout can degrade the performance of the DC-DC converter and can contribute to EMI problems, ground bounce and resistive voltage losses. Poor regulation and instability can result.

A few simple design rules can be implemented to ensure good layout:

- 1. Place the inductor and filter capacitors as close to the device as possible and use short wide traces between the power components.
- Route the output voltage feedback path away from the inductor and LX node to minimize noise and magnetic interference. 2.
- 3. Maximize ground metal on the component side to improve the return connection and thermal dissipation. Separation between the LX node and GND should be maintained to avoid coupling of switching noise to the ground plane.
- 4. Use a ground plane with several vias connecting to the component side ground to further reduce noise interference on sensitive circuit nodes.





### Typical Characteristics

#### Efficiency vs. Load Current  $V_{\text{out}} = 1.8V$



Efficiency vs. Load Current  $V_{\text{out}} = 1.2V$ 



**Efficiency vs. Input Voltage** 



Efficiency vs. Load Current  $V_{\text{out}} = 1.0V$ 

 $V_{\text{IN}}$ =3.6V PSAVE V<sub>IN</sub>=4.2V PSAVE

VIN=2.7V PSAVE

Efficiency (%)



0.0001 0.001 0.01 0.1 1

IOUT (A)

 $\begin{array}{|c|c|}\n\hline\n\vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
\hline\n3.6V PWM & & \vdots \\
\hline\n\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
\hline\n\end{array}$  $2V$ 

VIN=2.7V PWM

PWM to PSAVE Hysteresis



Efficiency vs. Load Current  $V_{\text{out}} = 1.5V$ 



# SC194A

### **POWER MANAGEMENT**

### Typical Characteristics (Cont.)



V<sub>out</sub> vs. Temperature



Quiescent Current vs. Input Voltage  $\blacksquare$  P-Channel R<sub>DSON</sub> vs. Input Voltage



 $V_{\text{out}}$  vs.  $I_{\text{out}}$ ,  $V_{\text{out}}$ =1.8V, PWM



Quiescent Current vs. Input Voltage







# Typical Characteristics (Cont.)





100% Duty Cycle Mode **PSAVE Operation** 



Condition  $V_{\text{IN}}=2.6V$ ,  $V_{\text{OUT}}=1.8V$ ,  $I_{\text{OUT}}=1.4A$ , SYNC/PWM=1.15MHz ext clock

 $\sum_{0}^{10}$  1020 1030  $V_{IN} = 3.6V$  $V_{\text{IN}} = 2.7V$ 

1040 1050

Switching Frequency (kHz)

Switching Freque

ρÓ



-50 -30 -10 10 30 50 70 90 110 130

 $T_1 = (°C)$ 

 $V_{IN} = 5.5V$ 

Time (1us/div) Condition  $V_{\text{IN}}=3.6V$ ,  $V_{\text{OUT}}=1.8V$ ,  $I_{\text{OUT}}=150\text{mA}$ , SYNC/PWM=GND

PSAVE Start up



PWM Operation





### Typical Characteristics (Cont.)

#### PWM Start-up







#### Load Transient Response PSAVE VID Code Change



Time (100us/div) Condition  $V_{\text{IN}}=3.6V$ ,  $V_{\text{OUT}}=1.8V$ ,  $I_{\text{OUT}}=1A$  to 100 mA, SYNC/PWM=GND



#### Applications Circuits

### $V_{\text{out}}$  = 1.8V with PSAVE and 100% Duty Cycle



#### Mobile Voltage Positioning for Reduced System Dissipation in "Sleep" Modes



### $V_{\text{out}}$  = 1.0V with Forced PWM and no 100% Duty Cycle





### Outline Drawing - MLP-10

