

ISL68201

Single-Phase R4 Digital Hybrid PWM Controller with PMBus/SMBus/I²C and PFM

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The [ISL68201](#) is a single-phase, synchronous buck PWM controller featuring the Renesas proprietary R4™ Technology. It supports a wide 4.5V to 24V input voltage range and a wide 0.5V to 5.5V output range. Integrated LDOs provide controller bias voltage, allowing for single supply operation. The ISL68201 includes a PMBus/SMBus/I²C interface for device configuration and telemetry (V_{IN}, V_{OUT}, I_{OUT}, and temperature) and fault reporting.

The Renesas proprietary R4 control scheme has extremely fast transient performance, accurately regulated frequency control, and all internal compensation. An efficiency enhancing PFM mode can be enabled to greatly improve light-load efficiency. The ISL68201's serial bus allows for easy R4 loop optimization, resulting in fast transient performance over a wide range of applications, including all ceramic output filters.

The ISL68201 has four 8-bit configuration pins, which provide very flexible configuration options (frequency, V_{OUT}, R4 gain, etc.) without the need for built-in NVM memory. This results in a design flow that closely matches traditional analog controllers, while still offering the design flexibility and feature set of a digital PMBus/SMBus/I²C interface. The ISL68201 also features remote voltage sensing and completely eliminates any potential difference between remote and local grounds. This improves regulation and protection accuracy. A precision enable input is available to coordinate the start-up of the ISL68201 with other voltage rails, especially useful for power sequencing.

Applications

- High efficiency and high density POL digital power
- FPGA, ASIC, and memory supplies
- Data center: servers, storage systems
- Wired infrastructure: routers, switches, and optical networking
- Wireless infrastructure: base stations

Related Literature

For a full list of related documents, visit our website

- [ISL68201](#) product page

Features

- Renesas proprietary [R4 Technology](#)
 - Linear control loop for optimal transient response
 - Variable frequency and duty cycle control during load transient for fastest possible response
 - Inherent voltage feed-forward for wide range input
- Input voltage range: 4.5V to 24V
- Output voltage range: 0.5V to 5.5V
- ±0.5% DAC accuracy with remote sense
- Support all ceramic solutions
- Integrated LDOs for single input rail solution
- SMBus/PMBus/I²C compatible, up to 1.25MHz
- 256 boot-up voltage levels with a configuration pin
- Eight switching frequency options from 300kHz to 1.5MHz
- PFM operation option, compatible with ISL99140 for improved light-load efficiency
- Start-up into precharged load
- Precision enable input to set higher input UVLO and power sequence as well as fault reset
- Power-good monitor for soft-start and fault detection
- Comprehensive fault protection for high system reliability
 - Over-temperature protection
 - Output overcurrent and short-circuit protection
 - Output overvoltage and undervoltage protection
 - Open remote sense protection
- Compatible with 5V or 3.3V PWM input DrMOS or Smart Power Stage (SPS)
- Compatible with [PowerNavigator](#) software

TABLE 1. SINGLE-PHASE R4 DIGITAL HYBRID PWM CONTROLLER OPTIONS

| PART NUMBER | INTEGRATED DRIVER | PWM OUTPUT | PMBus/SMBus/I ² C INTERFACE | COMPATIBLE DEVICES |
|-------------|-------------------|------------|--|--|
| ISL68200 | Yes | No | Yes | Discrete MOSFETs or Dual Channel MOSFETs |
| ISL68201 | No | Yes | Yes | Renesas Power Stages: ISL99140, ISL99227, ISL99125B, ISL99135B Renesas Drivers: ISL6596, ISL6609, ISL6627, ISL6622, ISL6208 |

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Typical Applications Circuits

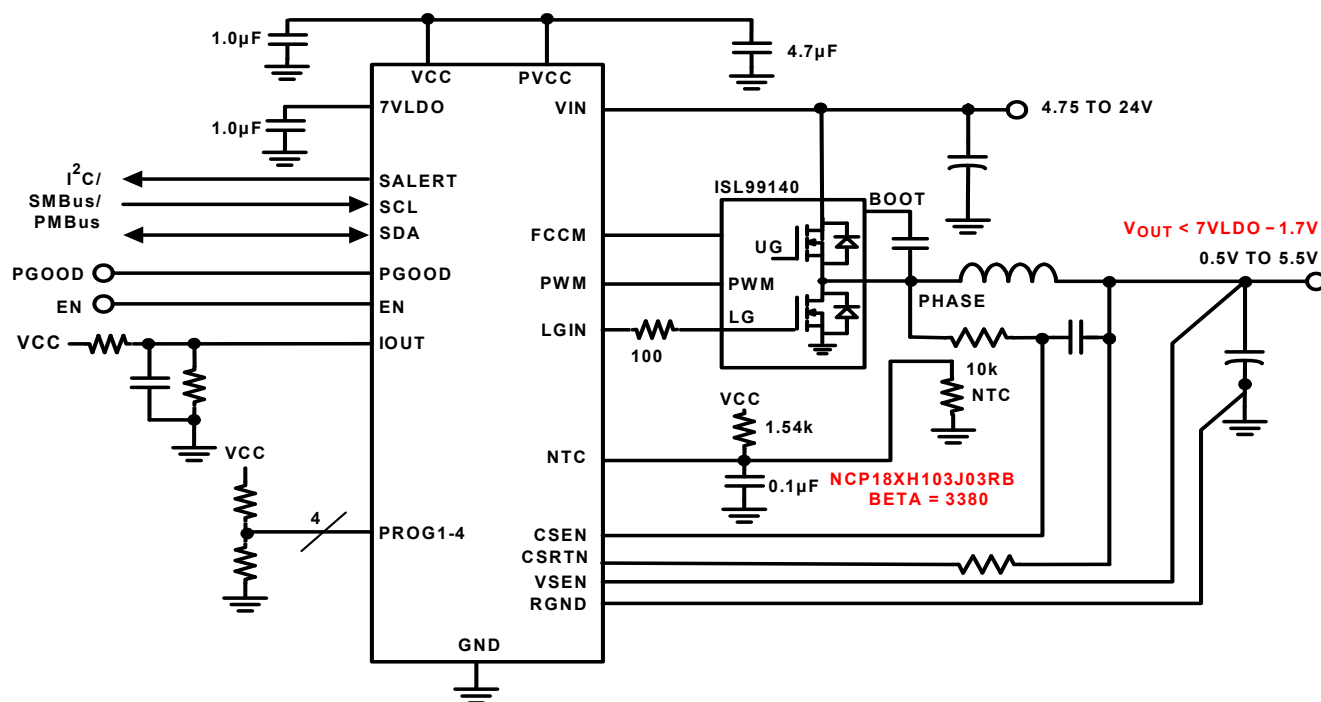


FIGURE 1. WIDE RANGE INPUT AND OUTPUT APPLICATIONS

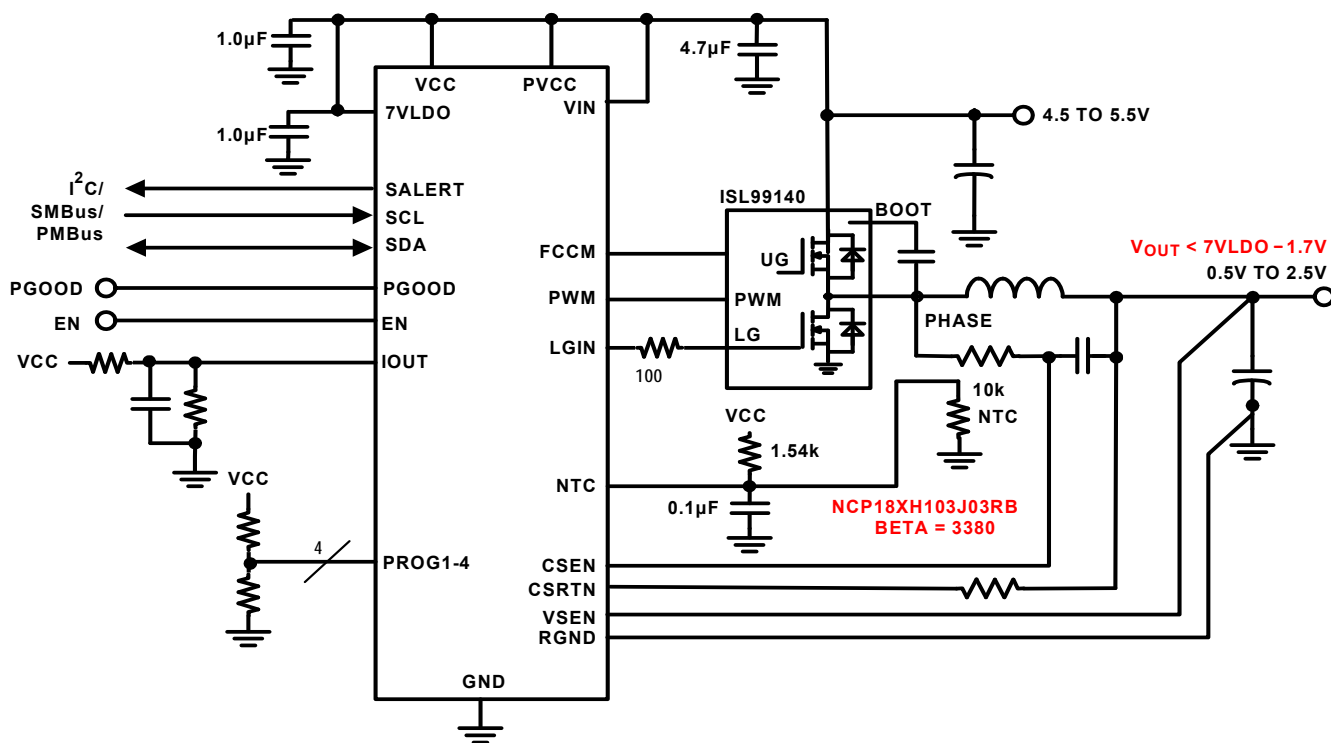


FIGURE 2. 5V INPUT APPLICATION

Block Diagram

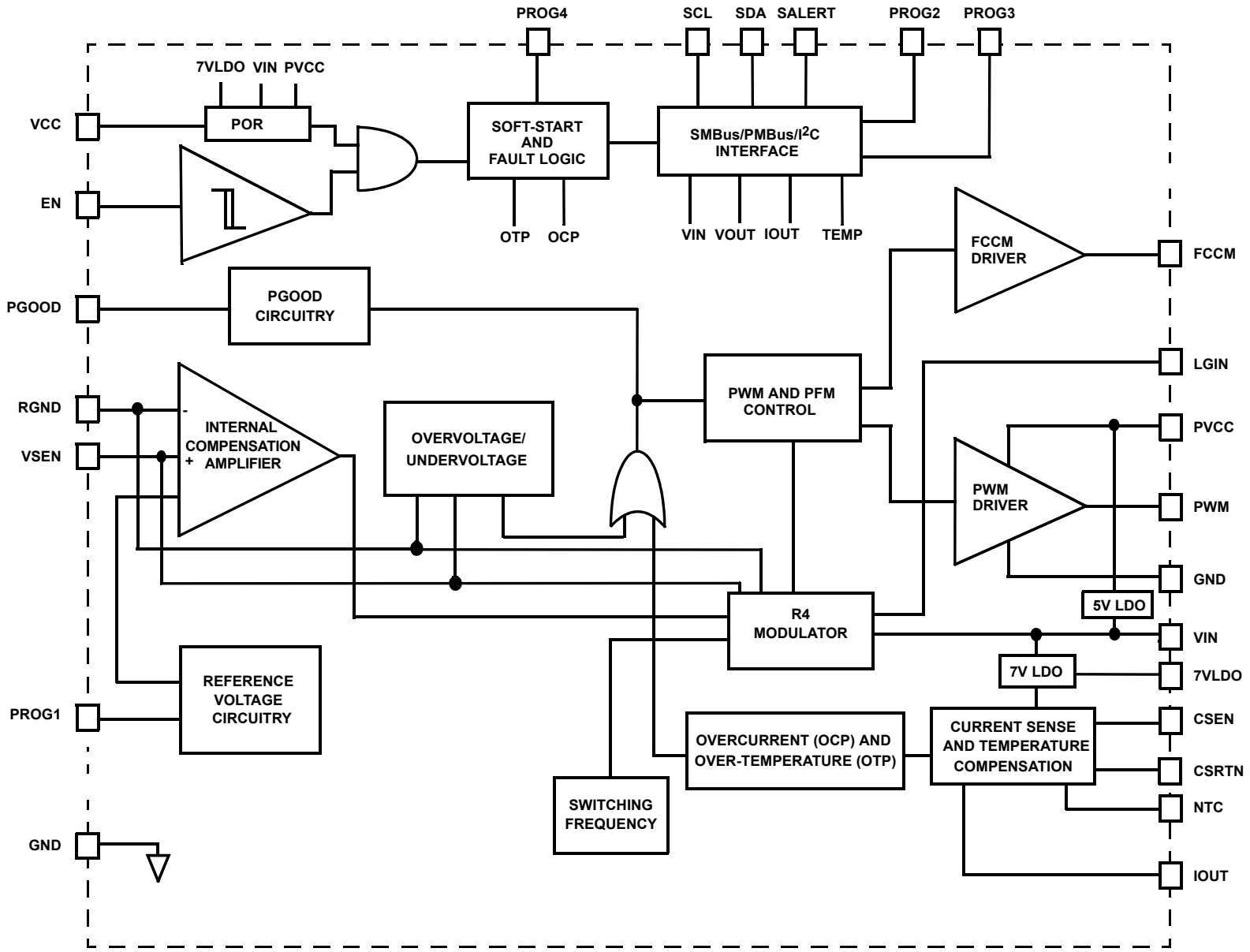


FIGURE 3. ISL68201 SIMPLIFIED FUNCTIONAL BLOCK DIAGRAM

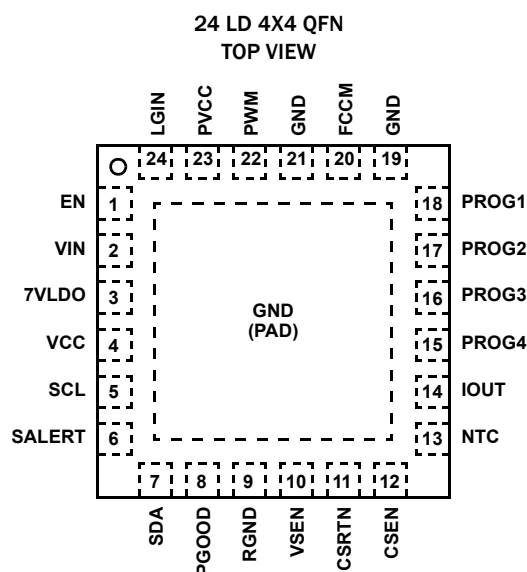
Ordering Information

| PART NUMBER (Notes 2, 3) | PART MARKING | TEMP RANGE (°C) | TAPE AND REEL (UNITS) (Note 1) | PACKAGE (RoHS Compliant) | PKG. DWG. # |
|-----------------------------|--|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| ISL68201IRZ | ISL 68201I | -40 to +85 | - | 24 Ld 4x4 QFN | L24.4x4C |
| ISL68201IRZ-T | ISL 68201I | -40 to +85 | 6k | 24 Ld 4x4 QFN | L24.4x4C |
| ISL68201IRZ-T7A | ISL 68201I | -40 to +85 | 250 | 24 Ld 4x4 QFN | L24.4x4C |
| ISL68201IRZ-TK | ISL 68201I | -40 to +85 | 1k | 24 Ld 4x4 QFN | L24.4x4C |
| ISL68201-99125DEMO1Z | 16A Demo Board with On-Board Transient | | | | |
| ISL68201-99135DEMO1Z | 20A Demo Board with On-Board Transient | | | | |
| ISL68201-99140DEMO1Z | 35A Demo Board with On-Board Transient | | | | |

NOTES:

1. Refer to [TB347](#) for details about reel specifications.
2. These 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). 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), see the [ISL68201](#) product information page. For more information about MSL, see [TB363](#).

Pin Configuration



Functional Pin Descriptions

| PIN NUMBER | SYMBOL | DESCRIPTION |
|------------|--------|--|
| 1 | EN | Precision enable input. Pulling EN above the rising threshold voltage initiates the soft-start sequence, while pulling EN below the failing threshold voltage suspends the Voltage Regulator (VR) operation. |
| 2 | VIN | Input voltage pin for the R4 loop and LDOs (5V and 7V). Place a high quality low ESR ceramic capacitor (1.0μF, X7R) in close proximity to the pin. An external series resistor is not advised. |
| 3 | 7VLDO | 7V LDO from VIN biases the current sensing amplifier. Place a high quality low ESR ceramic capacitor (1.0μF, X7R, 10V+) in close proximity to the pin. |
| 4 | VCC | Logic bias supply that should be connected to PVCC rail externally. Place a high quality low ESR ceramic capacitor (1μF, X7R) from this pin to GND. |
| 5 | SCL | Synchronous clock signal input of SMBus/PMBus/I ² C. |
| 6 | SALERT | Output pin for transferring the active low signal driven asynchronously from the VR controller to the SMBus/PMBus. |
| 7 | SDA | I/O pin for transferring data signals between the SMBus/PMBus/I ² C host and VR controller. |

Functional Pin Descriptions (Continued)

| PIN NUMBER | SYMBOL | DESCRIPTION |
|------------|--------|--|
| 8 | PGOOD | Power-good, open-drain indicator output. |
| 9 | RGND | This pin monitors the negative rail of the regulator output. Connect to ground at the point of regulation. |
| 10 | VSEN | This pin monitors the positive rail of the regulator output. Connect to the point of regulation. |
| 11 | CSRTN | This pin monitors the negative flow of output current with a series resistor and for overcurrent protection and telemetry. The series resistor sets the current gain and should be within 40Ω and 3.5kΩ. |
| 12 | CSEN | This pin monitors the positive flow of output current for overcurrent protection and telemetry. |
| 13 | NTC | Input pin for the temperature measurement. Connect this pin through an NTC thermistor (10kΩ, $\beta \sim 3380$) and a decoupling capacitor ($\sim 0.1\mu\text{F}$) to GND, and a resistor (1.54kΩ) to VCC of the controller. The voltage at this pin is inversely proportional to the VR temperature. |
| 14 | IOUT | Output current monitor pin. An external resistor sets the gain and an external capacitor provides the averaging function; an external pull-up resistor to VCC is recommended to calibrate the no load offset. See "IOUT Calibration" on page 19 . |
| 15 | PROG4 | Programming pin for Modulator (R4) RR impedance and output slew rate during Soft-Start (SS) and Dynamic VID (DVID). It also sets AV gain multiplier to 1x or 2x and determines the AV gain on PROG3. |
| 16 | PROG3 | Programming pin for ultrasonic PFM operation, fault behavior, switching frequency, and R4 (AV) control loop gain. |
| 17 | PROG2 | Programming pin for PWM/PFM mode, temperature compensation, and serial bus (SMBus/PMBus/I ² C) address. |
| 18 | PROG1 | Programming pin for boot-up voltage. |
| 19, 21 | GND | Ground pin, connect directly to system ground plane. |
| 20 | FCCM | Output signal low to work with DrMOS ISL99140 for diode emulation in PFM mode; signal high for PWM mode. |
| 22 | PWM | PWM output and is compatible with 3.3V or 5V PWM input external driver, DrMOS, or Smart Power Stage. |
| 23 | PVCC | Output of the 5V LDO and input for the LGATE and UGATE MOSFET driver circuits. Place a high quality low ESR ceramic capacitor (4.7μF or higher, X7R) in close proximity to the pin. |
| 24 | LGIN | Low-side gate signal input to complete the internal FLL loop. A 100Ω series impedance from low-side gate drive signal to this pin is required. |
| PAD | GND | Return of logic bias supply VCC. Connect directly to the system ground plane with at least four vias. |

Absolute Maximum Ratings

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| VCC, PVCC, VSEN | -0.3V to +7.0V |
| Input Voltage, VIN | +27V |
| 7VLD0 | -0.3V to GND, 7.75V |
| All Other Pins | -0.3V to GND, VCC + 0.3V |
| ESD Rating | |
| Human Body Model (Tested per JS-001-2010) | 2.5kV |
| Machine Model (Tested per JESD22-A115C) | 200V |
| Charge Device Model (Tested per JS-002-2014) | 1kV |
| Latch-Up (Tested per JESD78D, Class 2, Level A) | ±100mA at +125°C |

Thermal Information

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Thermal Resistance (Typical) | θ_{JA} (°C/W) | θ_{JC} (°C/W) |
| 24 Ld QFN (Notes 4, 5) | 39 | 2.5 |
| Junction Temperature Range | -55°C to +150°C | |
| Storage Temperature | -65°C to +150°C | |
| Pb-Free Reflow Profile | see TB493 | |

Recommended Operating Conditions

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Ambient Temperature Range | -40°C to +85°C |
| Wide Range Input Voltage, VIN, Figure 1 | 4.75V to 24V |
| 5V Application Input Voltage, VIN, VCC, PVCC, Figure 2 | 4.5V to 5.5V |

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 [TB379](#).
- For θ_{JC} , the "case temp" location is the center of the exposed metal pad on the package underside.

Electrical Specifications All typical specifications $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$, $V_{CC} = 5\text{V}$. **Boldface limits apply across the operating temperature range, -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise stated.**

| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | TEST CONDITIONS | MIN (Note 6) | TYP | MAX (Note 6) | UNIT |
|---|--------------------|---|-----------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|------|
| V _{CC} AND PVCC | | | | | | |
| V _{CC} Input Bias Current | I _{VCC} | EN = 5V, V _{CC} = 5V, f _{SW} = 500kHz, DAC = 1V | | 14 | 16.5 | mA |
| | | EN = 0V, V _{CC} = 5V | | 14 | 16.5 | mA |
| PVCC Input Bias Current | I _{PVCC} | EN = 5V, V _{CC} = 5V, f _{SW} = 500kHz, DAC = 1V | | 2 | | mA |
| | | EN = 0V, V _{CC} = 5V | | | 1.0 | mA |
| V _{CC} AND V _{IN} POR THRESHOLD | | | | | | |
| V _{CC} , PVCC Rising POR Threshold Voltage | | | | 4.2 | 4.35 | V |
| V _{CC} , PVCC Falling POR Threshold Voltage | | | 3.80 | 3.95 | 4.15 | V |
| V _{IN} , 7VLDO Rising POR Threshold Voltage | | | | 4.2 | 4.35 | V |
| V _{IN} , 7VLDO Falling POR Threshold Voltage | | | 3.80 | 3.95 | 4.15 | V |
| ENABLE INPUT | | | | | | |
| EN High Threshold Voltage | V _{ENTHR} | | 0.81 | 0.84 | 0.87 | V |
| EN Low Threshold Voltage | V _{ENTHF} | | 0.71 | 0.76 | 0.81 | V |
| DAC ACCURACY | | | | | | |
| DAC Accuracy (T _A = 0 °C to +85 °C) | | 2.5V < DAC ≤ 5.5V | -0.5 | | 0.5 | % |
| | | 1.6V < DAC ≤ 2.5V | -0.75 | | 0.75 | % |
| | | 1.2V < DAC ≤ 1.6V | -10 | | 10 | mV |
| | | 0.5V ≤ DAC ≤ 1.2V | -8 | | 8 | mV |
| DAC Accuracy (T _A = -45 °C to +85 °C) | | 2.5V < DAC ≤ 5.5V | -0.75 | | 0.75 | % |
| | | 1.6V < DAC ≤ 2.5V | -1.0 | | 1.0 | % |
| | | 1.2V < DAC ≤ 1.6V | -11 | | 11 | mV |
| | | 0.5V ≤ DAC ≤ 1.2V | -9 | | 9 | mV |
| CHANNEL FREQUENCY | | | | | | |
| 300kHz Configuration | | PWM mode | 260 | 300 | 335 | kHz |
| 400kHz Configuration | | PWM mode | 345 | 400 | 450 | kHz |

Electrical Specifications All typical specifications $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$, $V_{CC} = 5\text{V}$. **Boldface limits apply across the operating temperature range, -40°C to $+85^\circ\text{C}$, unless otherwise stated. (Continued)**

| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | TEST CONDITIONS | MIN (Note 6) | TYP | MAX (Note 6) | UNIT |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---|-----------------|-------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 500kHz Configuration | | PWM mode | 435 | 500 | 562 | kHz |
| 600kHz Configuration | | PWM mode | 510 | 600 | 670 | kHz |
| 700kHz Configuration | | PWM mode | 610 | 700 | 790 | kHz |
| 850kHz Configuration | | PWM mode | 730 | 850 | 950 | kHz |
| 1000kHz Configuration | | PWM mode | 865 | 1000 | 1120 | kHz |
| 1500kHz Configuration | | PWM mode | 1320 | 1500 | 1660 | kHz |
| SOFT-START AND DYNAMIC VID | | | | | | |
| Soft-Start and DVID Slew Rate | | | 0.0616 | 0.078 | 0.096 | mV/ μs |
| | | | 0.13 | 0.157 | 0.18 | mV/ μs |
| | | | 0.25 | 0.315 | 0.37 | mV/ μs |
| | | | 0.53 | 0.625 | 0.70 | mV/ μs |
| | | | 1.05 | 1.25 | 1.40 | mV/ μs |
| | | | 2.10 | 2.50 | 2.80 | mV/ μs |
| | | | 4.20 | 5.00 | 5.60 | mV/ μs |
| | | | 8.60 | 10.0 | 10.9 | mV/ μs |
| Soft-Start Delay from Enable High | | Excluding 5.5ms POR timeout. See Figures 21 and 22 | 140 | 200 | 260 | μs |
| REMOTE SENSE | | | | | | |
| Bias Current of VSEN and RGND Pins | | | | | 250 | μA |
| Maximum Differential Input Voltage | | | 6.0 | | | V |
| POWER-GOOD | | | | | | |
| PGOOD Pull-Down Impedance | R_{PG} | PGOOD = 5mA sink | | 10 | 50 | Ω |
| PGOOD Leakage Current | I_{PG} | PGOOD = 5V | | | 1.0 | μA |
| LDOs | | | | | | |
| 5V LDO Regulation | | $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$, load = 50mA | 4.85 | 5.00 | 5.15 | V |
| 5V Dropout | | $V_{IN} = 4.75\text{V}$, load = 50mA | 4.45 | | | V |
| 5V LDO Current Capability | | | 125 | | | mA |
| 7V LDO Regulation | | 250 μA load | 7.2 | 7.4 | 7.5 | V |
| 7V Dropout | | $V_{IN} = 4.75\text{V}$, 250 μA load | 4.50 | | | V |
| 7V LDO Current Capability | | Not recommended for external use | 2 | | | mA |
| CURRENT SENSE | | | | | | |
| Average OCP Trip Level | I_{OC_TRIP} | | 82 | 100 | 123 | μA |
| Short-Circuit Protection Threshold | | | | 130 | | % I_{OCP} |
| Sensed Current Tolerance | | | 74 | 78 | 83 | μA |
| Sensed Current Tolerance | | | 35 | 38 | 42 | μA |
| Maximum Common-Mode Input Voltage | | 7VLD0 = 7.4V | 5.7 | | | V |
| | | $V_{CC} = PV_{CC} = 7VLD0 = 4.5\text{V}$ | 2.8 | | | V |

Electrical Specifications All typical specifications $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$, $V_{CC} = 5\text{V}$. **Boldface limits apply across the operating temperature range, -40°C to $+85^\circ\text{C}$, unless otherwise stated. (Continued)**

| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | TEST CONDITIONS | MIN (Note 6) | TYP | MAX (Note 6) | UNIT |
|--|--------------------|--|-----------------|-------|-----------------|---------------|
| FAULT PROTECTION | | | | | | |
| UVP Threshold Voltage | | Latch | 68 | 74 | 80 | % DAC |
| Start-Up OVP Threshold Voltage | | $0\text{V} \leq V_{\text{BOOT}} \leq 1.08\text{V}$ | 1.10 | 1.15 | 1.25 | V |
| | | $1.08\text{V} < V_{\text{BOOT}} \leq 1.55\text{V}$ | 1.58 | 1.65 | 1.75 | V |
| | | $1.55\text{V} < V_{\text{BOOT}} \leq 1.85\text{V}$ | 1.88 | 1.95 | 2.05 | V |
| | | $1.85\text{V} < V_{\text{BOOT}} \leq 2.08\text{V}$ | 2.09 | 2.15 | 2.25 | V |
| | | $2.08\text{V} < V_{\text{BOOT}} \leq 2.53\text{V}$ | 2.56 | 2.65 | 2.75 | V |
| | | $2.53\text{V} < V_{\text{BOOT}} \leq 3.33\text{V}$ | 3.36 | 3.45 | 3.6 | V |
| | | $3.33\text{V} < V_{\text{BOOT}} \leq 5.5\text{V}$ | 5.52 | 5.65 | 5.85 | V |
| Start-Up OVP Hysteresis | | | | 100 | | mV |
| OVP Rising Threshold Voltage | V_{OVRTH} | $0.5 \leq \text{DAC} \leq 5.5$ | 114 | 120 | 127 | % DAC |
| OVP Falling Threshold Voltage | V_{OVFTH} | $0.5 \leq \text{DAC} \leq 5.5$ | 96 | 100 | 108 | % DAC |
| Over-Temperature Shutdown Threshold | | $\text{READ_TEMP} = 72\text{h}$ | 20 | 22.31 | 26 | % VCC |
| Over-Temperature Shutdown Reset Threshold | | $\text{READ_TEMP} = 8\text{Eh}$ | 25 | 27.79 | 30 | % VCC |
| SMBus/PMBus/I²C | | | | | | |
| Signal Input Low Voltage | | | | | 1 | V |
| Signal Input High Voltage | | | 1.6 | | | V |
| Signal Output Low Voltage | | 4mA pull-up current | | | 0.4 | V |
| DATE, ALERT # Pull-Down Impedance | | | | 11 | 50 | Ω |
| CLOCK Maximum Speed | | | 1.25 | | | MHz |
| CLOCK Minimum Speed | | | | | 0.05 | MHz |
| Telemetry Update Rate | | | | 108 | | μs |
| Timeout | | | 25 | 30 | 35 | ms |
| PMBus Accessible Timeout from All Rails' POR | | See Figure 21 | | 5.5 | 6.5 | ms |

NOTE:

6. Compliance to datasheet limits is assured by one or more methods: production test, characterization, and/or design.

Operation

The following sections provide a detailed description of the ISL68201 operation.

IC Supplies

The ISL68201 has four bias pins: VIN, 7VLDO, PVCC, and VCC. The PVCC and 7VLDO voltage rails are 5V LDO and 7.4V LDO supplied by VIN, respectively, while the VCC pin needs to connect to the PVCC rail externally to be biased. For 5V input applications, all these pins should be tied together and biased by a 5V supply. Because the VIN pin voltage information is used by the R4 Modulator loop, the user CANNOT bias VIN with a series resistor. In addition, the VIN pin CANNOT be biased independently from other rails.

Enable and Disable

The IC is disabled until the 7VLDO, PVCC, VCC, VIN, and EN pins increase above their respective rising threshold voltages and the typical 5.5ms timeout (worst case = 6.5ms) expires, as shown in Figures 21 and 22 on page 22. The controller becomes disabled when the 7VLDO, PVCC, VCC, VIN, or EN pins drop below their respective falling POR threshold voltages.

The precision threshold EN pin allows the user to set a precision input UVLO level with an external resistor divider, as shown in Figure 4. For 5V input applications or wide range input applications, the EN pin can directly connect to VCC, as shown in Figure 5. If an external enable control signal is available and is an open-drain signal, a pull-up impedance (100k or higher) can be used.

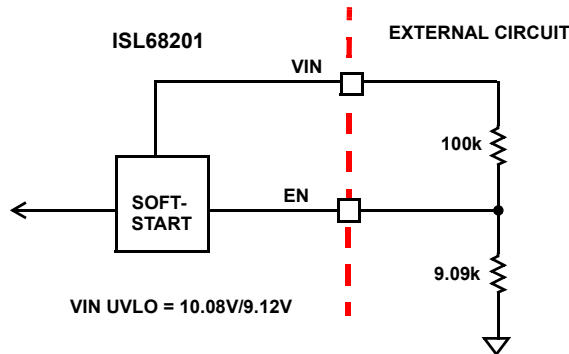


FIGURE 4. INPUT UVP CONFIGURATION

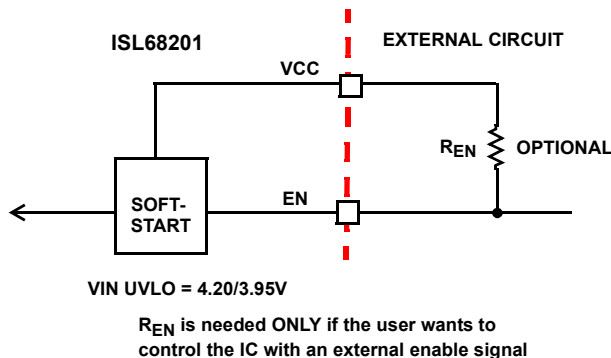


FIGURE 5. 5V INPUT OR WIDE RANGE INPUT CONFIGURATION

In addition, based on the ON_OFF_CONFIG [02h] setting, the IC can be enabled or disabled by the serial bus command “OPERATION [01h]” and/or EN pin. See Table 11 on page 25 for more details.

Resistor Reader

The ISL68201 offers four programming pins to customize their regulator specifications. The details of these pins are summarized in Table 2, followed by the detailed description of resistor reader operation.

TABLE 2. DEFINITION OF PROG PINS

| PIN | BIT | NAME | DESCRIPTION |
|-------|-------|--------------------------|---|
| PROG1 | [7:0] | BOOT-UP VOLTAGE | Sets output boot-up voltage, 256 different options: 0, 0.5V to 5.5V (see Table 7) |
| PROG2 | [7:7] | PWM/PFM | Enables PFM mode or forced PWM. |
| | [6:5] | Temperature Compensation | Adjusts NTC temperature compensation: OFF, +5, +15, +30 °C. |
| | [4:0] | ADDR | Sets serial bus 32 different addresses (see Table 10). |
| PROG3 | [7:7] | USPFM | Ultrasonic (25kHz clamp) PFM enable |
| | [6:6] | Fault Behavior | OCF fault behavior: Latch, infinite 9ms retry |
| | [5:3] | f _{SW} | Sets switching frequency (f _{SW}). |
| | [2:0] | R4 Gain | Sets error amplifier gain (AV). |
| PROG4 | [7:5] | RAMP_RATE | Sets soft-start and DVID ramp rate. |
| | [4:3] | RR | Selects RR impedance for R4 loop. |
| | [2:2] | AVMLTI | Selects AV gain multiplier (1x or 2x) |
| | [1:0] | Not Used | |

Renesas has developed a high resolution ADC using a technique with a simple 1%, 100ppm/K or better temperature coefficient resistor divider. The same type of resistors are preferred so that it has similar change over temperature. In addition, the divider is compared to the internal divider off V_{CC} and GND nodes and therefore must refer to V_{CC} and GND pins, not through any RC decoupling network.

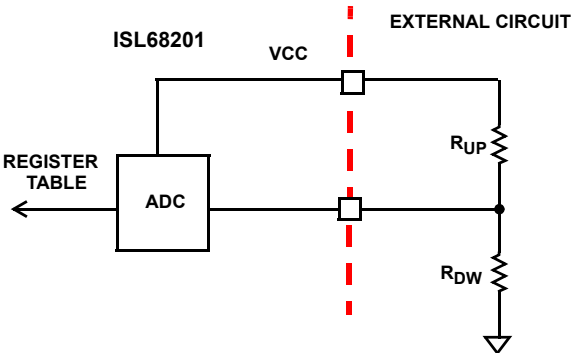


FIGURE 6. SIMPLIFIED RESISTOR DIVIDER ADC

The R_{UP} and R_{DW} values for a particular parameter set can be found using the PowerNavigator GUI. Data for corresponding registers can be read out using the serial PMBus command (DC to DF). **Note:** The case of 10k Ω R_{UP} or R_{DW} is the same as 0k Ω R_{UP} or R_{DW} .

TABLE 3. PROG 1 RESISTOR READER EXAMPLE

| PROG1 (DC) | R_{UP} (k Ω) | R_{DW} (k Ω) | V_{OUT} (V) |
|------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| 00h | Open | 0 | 0.797 |
| 20h | Open | 21.5 | 0.852 |
| 40h | Open | 34.8 | 0.898 |
| 60h | Open | 52.3 | 0.953 |
| 80h | Open | 75 | 1.000 |
| A0h | Open | 105 | 1.047 |
| C0h | Open | 147 | 1.102 |
| E0h | Open | 499 | 1.203 |
| 1Fh | 0 | Open | 1.352 |
| 3Fh | 21.5 | Open | 1.500 |
| 5Fh | 34.8 | Open | 1.797 |
| 7Fh | 52.3 | Open | 2.500 |
| 9Fh | 75 | Open | 3.000 |
| BFh | 105 | Open | 3.297 |
| DFh | 147 | Open | 5.000 |
| FFh | 499 | Open | 0.000 |

TABLE 4. PROG 2 RESISTOR READER EXAMPLE

| PROG2 (DD) | R_{UP} (k Ω) | R_{DW} (k Ω) | PWM/PFM | TEMP COMP | PM_ADDR (7-BIT) |
|------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------------|
| 00h | Open | 0 | Enabled | 30 | 60h |
| 20h | Open | 21.5 | Enabled | 15 | 60h |
| 40h | Open | 34.8 | Enabled | 5 | 60h |
| 60h | Open | 52.3 | Enabled | OFF | 60h |
| 80h | Open | 75 | Disabled | 30 | 60h |
| A0h | Open | 105 | Disabled | 15 | 60h |
| C0h | Open | 147 | Disabled | 5 | 60h |
| E0h | Open | 499 | Disabled | OFF | 60h |
| 1Fh | 0 | Open | Enabled | 30 | 7F |
| 3Fh | 21.5 | Open | Enabled | 15 | 7F |
| 5Fh | 34.8 | Open | Enabled | 5 | 7F |
| 7Fh | 52.3 | Open | Enabled | OFF | 7F |
| 9Fh | 75 | Open | Disabled | 30 | 7F |
| BFh | 105 | Open | Disabled | 15 | 7F |
| DFh | 147 | Open | Disabled | 5 | 7F |
| FFh | 499 | Open | Disabled | OFF | 7F |

TABLE 5. PROG 3 RESISTOR READER EXAMPLE

| PROG3 (DE) | R_{UP} (k Ω) | R_{DW} (k Ω) | ULTRASONIC PFM | FAULT BEHAVIOR | f_{SW} (kHz) | R4 GAIN | |
|------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------|----|
| | | | | | | 1x | 2x |
| 00h | Open | 0 | Disabled | Retry | 300 | 42 | 84 |
| 20h | Open | 21.5 | Disabled | Retry | 700 | 42 | 84 |
| 40h | Open | 34.8 | Disabled | Latch | 300 | 42 | 84 |
| 60h | Open | 52.3 | Disabled | Latch | 700 | 42 | 84 |
| 80h | Open | 75 | Enabled | Retry | 300 | 42 | 84 |
| A0h | Open | 105 | Enabled | Retry | 700 | 42 | 84 |
| C0h | Open | 147 | Enabled | Latch | 300 | 42 | 84 |
| E0h | Open | 499 | Enabled | Latch | 700 | 42 | 84 |
| 1Fh | 0 | Open | Disabled | Retry | 600 | 1 | 2 |
| 3Fh | 21.5 | Open | Disabled | Retry | 1500 | 1 | 2 |
| 5Fh | 34.8 | Open | Disabled | Latch | 600 | 1 | 2 |
| 7Fh | 52.3 | Open | Disabled | Latch | 1500 | 1 | 2 |
| 9Fh | 75 | Open | Enabled | Retry | 600 | 1 | 2 |
| BFh | 105 | Open | Enabled | Retry | 1500 | 1 | 2 |
| DFh | 147 | Open | Enabled | Latch | 600 | 1 | 2 |
| FFh | 499 | Open | Enabled | Latch | 1500 | 1 | 2 |

TABLE 6. PROG 4 RESISTOR READER EXAMPLE

| PROG4 (DF) | R_{UP} (k Ω) | R_{DW} (k Ω) | SS RATE (mV/ μ s) | RR (k Ω) | AVMLTI |
|------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|--------|
| 00h | Open | 0 | 1.25 | 200 | 1x |
| 20h | Open | 21.5 | 2.5 | 200 | 1x |
| 40h | Open | 34.8 | 5 | 200 | 1x |
| 60h | Open | 52.3 | 10 | 200 | 1x |
| 80h | Open | 75 | 0.078 | 200 | 1x |
| A0h | Open | 105 | 0.157 | 200 | 1x |
| C0h | Open | 147 | 0.315 | 200 | 1x |
| E0h | Open | 499 | 0.625 | 200 | 1x |
| 1Fh | 0 | Open | 1.25 | 800 | 2x |
| 3Fh | 21.5 | Open | 2.5 | 800 | 2x |
| 5Fh | 34.8 | Open | 5 | 800 | 2x |
| 7Fh | 52.3 | Open | 10 | 800 | 2x |
| 9Fh | 75 | Open | 0.078 | 800 | 2x |
| BFh | 105 | Open | 0.157 | 800 | 2x |
| DFh | 147 | Open | 0.315 | 800 | 2x |
| FFh | 499 | Open | 0.625 | 800 | 2x |

Soft-Start

The ISL68201-based regulator has four periods during soft-start, as shown in [Figure 7 on page 12](#). When the EN pin reaches above its enable threshold, after a 5.5ms timeout (worst case = 6.5ms) of bias supplies, the controller begins the first soft-start ramp after a fixed soft-start delay period t_{D1} as shown in [Figures 21 and 22 on page 22](#). The output voltage reaches the boot-up voltage (V_{BOOT}) at a fixed slew rate in period t_{D2} . Then, the controller regulates the output voltage at V_{BOOT} for another period t_{D3} until SMBus/PMBus/I²C sends a new V_{OUT} command. If the V_{OUT} command is valid, the ISL68201 initiates the ramp until the voltage reaches the new $V_{OUT_COMMAND}$ voltage in period t_{D4} . The soft-start time is the sum of the four periods, as shown in [Equation 1](#).

$$t_{SS} = t_{D1} + t_{D2} + t_{D3} + t_{D4} \quad (\text{EQ. 1})$$

t_{D1} is a fixed delay with a typical value of 200 μ s. t_{D3} is determined by the time to obtain a new valid $V_{OUT_COMMAND}$ voltage from SMBus/PMBus/I²C bus. If the $V_{OUT_COMMAND}$ is valid before the output reaches the boot-up voltage, the output turns around to respond to the new $V_{OUT_COMMAND}$ code.

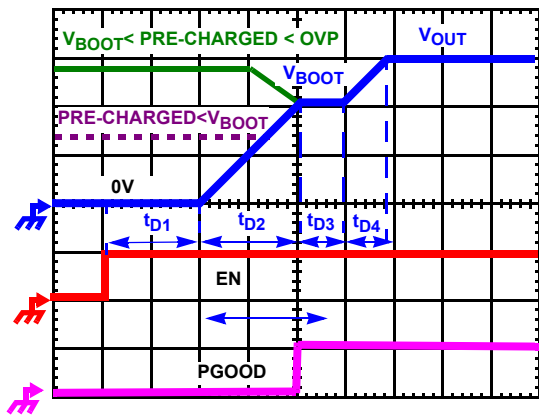


FIGURE 7. SOFT-START WAVEFORMS

During t_{D2} and t_{D4} , the ISL68201 digitally controls the DAC voltage change. The ramp time t_{D2} and t_{D4} can be calculated based on [Equations 2 and 3](#), after the slew rate is set by the PROG4 pin.

$$t_{D2} = \frac{V_{BOOT}}{\text{RAMP_RATE}} (\mu\text{s}) \quad (\text{EQ. 2})$$

$$t_{D4} = \frac{V_{OUT} - V_{BOOT}}{\text{RAMP_RATE}} (\mu\text{s}) \quad (\text{EQ. 3})$$

The ISL68201 supports precharged start-up, which initiates the first PWM pulse until the internal reference (DAC) reaches the precharged level at RAMP_RATE , programmed by PROG4 or D5[2:0]. When the precharged level is below V_{BOOT} , the output walks up to the V_{BOOT} at RAMP_RATE and releases PGOOD at $t_{D1} + t_{D2}$. When the precharged output is above V_{BOOT} but below OVP, it walks down to V_{BOOT} at RAMP_RATE and then releases PGOOD at $t_{D1} + t_{D2}$, in which t_{D2} is defined in [Equation 4](#) and is longer than a normal start-up.

$$t_{D2} = \frac{V_{\text{PRECHARGED}}}{\text{RAMP_RATE}} + \frac{V_{\text{PRECHARGED}} - V_{BOOT}}{\text{RAMP_RATE}} (\mu\text{s}) \quad (\text{EQ. 4})$$

The ISL68201 supports precharged load start-up to the maximum V_{OUT} of 5.5V with sufficient boot capacitor charge. For an extended precharged load, the boot capacitor discharges to “ $V_{CC} - V_{OUT} - V_D$ ” by the high-side drive circuits’ standby current. For instance, during an extended 4V precharged load, the boot capacitor reduces to a less-than-1V boot capacitor voltage, which is insufficient to power up the VR; in this case, it is recommended to let the output drop below 2.5V with an external bleed resistor before issuing another soft-start command.

Boot-Up Voltage Programming

An 8-bit pin PROG1 is dedicated for the boot-up voltage programmability, which offers 256 options 0V and 0.5V to 5.5V, as in [Table 7](#). The most popular boot-up voltage levels are placed on the tie-low spots (0h, 20h, 40h, 60h, 80h, A0h, C0h, E0h) and the tie-high spots (1Fh, 3Fh, 5Fh, 7Fh, 9Fh, BFh, DFh, FFh) for easy programming, as summarized in [Table 3](#). A 0V boot-up voltage is considered as “OFF,” the driver is in tri-state and the internal DAC sets to 0V.

In addition, if the $V_{OUT_COMMAND}$ (21h) is executed successfully 5.5ms (typically, worst 6.5ms) after VCC POR and before Enable, it overrides the boot-up voltage set by the PROG1 pin.

TABLE 7. PROG1 8-BIT (BOOT-UP VOLTAGE)

| BINARY CODE | HEX CODE | V_{BOOT} (V) | VOUT COMMAND CODE (HEX) | DELTA FROM PREVIOUS CODE (mV) |
|-------------|----------|----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 00000000 | 0 | 0.7969 | 66 | |
| 00000001 | 1 | 0.5000 | 40 | |
| 00000010 | 2 | 0.5078 | 41 | 7.8125 |
| 00000011 | 3 | 0.5156 | 42 | 7.8125 |
| 00000100 | 4 | 0.5234 | 43 | 7.8125 |
| 00000101 | 5 | 0.5313 | 44 | 7.8125 |
| 00000110 | 6 | 0.5391 | 45 | 7.8125 |
| 00000111 | 7 | 0.5469 | 46 | 7.8125 |
| 00001000 | 8 | 0.5547 | 47 | 7.8125 |
| 00001001 | 9 | 0.5625 | 48 | 7.8125 |
| 00001010 | A | 0.5703 | 49 | 7.8125 |
| 00001011 | B | 0.5781 | 4A | 7.8125 |
| 00001100 | C | 0.5859 | 4B | 7.8125 |
| 00001101 | D | 0.5938 | 4C | 7.8125 |
| 00001110 | E | 0.6016 | 4D | 7.8125 |
| 00001111 | F | 0.6094 | 4E | 7.8125 |
| 00010000 | 10 | 0.6172 | 4F | 7.8125 |
| 00010001 | 11 | 0.6250 | 50 | 7.8125 |
| 00010010 | 12 | 0.6328 | 51 | 7.8125 |

TABLE 7. PROG1 8-BIT (BOOT-UP VOLTAGE) (Continued)

| BINARY CODE | HEX CODE | V _{BOOT} (V) | VOUT COMMAND CODE (HEX) | DELTA FROM PREVIOUS CODE (mV) |
|-------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 00010011 | 13 | 0.6406 | 52 | 7.8125 |
| 00010100 | 14 | 0.6484 | 53 | 7.8125 |
| 00010101 | 15 | 0.6563 | 54 | 7.8125 |
| 00010110 | 16 | 0.6641 | 55 | 7.8125 |
| 00010111 | 17 | 0.6719 | 56 | 7.8125 |
| 00011000 | 18 | 0.6797 | 57 | 7.8125 |
| 00011001 | 19 | 0.6875 | 58 | 7.8125 |
| 00011010 | 1A | 0.6953 | 59 | 7.8125 |
| 00011011 | 1B | 0.7031 | 5A | 7.8125 |
| 00011100 | 1C | 0.7109 | 5B | 7.8125 |
| 00011101 | 1D | 0.7188 | 5C | 7.8125 |
| 00011110 | 1E | 0.7266 | 5D | 7.8125 |
| 00011111 | 1F | 1.3516 | AD | |
| 00100000 | 20 | 0.8516 | 6D | |
| 00100001 | 21 | 0.7344 | 5E | 7.8125 |
| 00100010 | 22 | 0.7422 | 5F | 7.8125 |
| 00100011 | 23 | 0.7500 | 60 | 7.8125 |
| 00100100 | 24 | 0.7578 | 61 | 7.8125 |
| 00100101 | 25 | 0.7656 | 62 | 7.8125 |
| 00100110 | 26 | 0.7734 | 63 | 7.8125 |
| 00100111 | 27 | 0.7813 | 64 | 7.8125 |
| 00101000 | 28 | 0.7891 | 65 | 7.8125 |
| 00101001 | 29 | 0.7969 | 66 | 7.8125 |
| 00101010 | 2A | 0.8047 | 67 | 7.8125 |
| 00101011 | 2B | 0.8125 | 68 | 7.8125 |
| 00101100 | 2C | 0.8203 | 69 | 7.8125 |
| 00101101 | 2D | 0.8281 | 6A | 7.8125 |
| 00101110 | 2E | 0.8359 | 6B | 7.8125 |
| 00101111 | 2F | 0.8438 | 6C | 7.8125 |
| 00110000 | 30 | 0.8516 | 6D | 7.8125 |
| 00110001 | 31 | 0.8594 | 6E | 7.8125 |
| 00110010 | 32 | 0.8672 | 6F | 7.8125 |
| 00110011 | 33 | 0.8750 | 70 | 7.8125 |
| 00110100 | 34 | 0.8828 | 71 | 7.8125 |
| 00110101 | 35 | 0.8906 | 72 | 7.8125 |
| 00110110 | 36 | 0.8984 | 73 | 7.8125 |
| 00110111 | 37 | 0.9063 | 74 | 7.8125 |
| 00111000 | 38 | 0.9141 | 75 | 7.8125 |
| 00111001 | 39 | 0.9219 | 76 | 7.8125 |

TABLE 7. PROG1 8-BIT (BOOT-UP VOLTAGE) (Continued)

| BINARY CODE | HEX CODE | V _{BOOT} (V) | VOUT COMMAND CODE (HEX) | DELTA FROM PREVIOUS CODE (mV) |
|-------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 00111010 | 3A | 0.9297 | 77 | 7.8125 |
| 00111011 | 3B | 0.9375 | 78 | 7.8125 |
| 00111100 | 3C | 0.9453 | 79 | 7.8125 |
| 00111101 | 3D | 0.9531 | 7A | 7.8125 |
| 00111110 | 3E | 0.9609 | 7B | 7.8125 |
| 00111111 | 3F | 1.5000 | C0 | |
| 01000000 | 40 | 0.8984 | 73 | |
| 01000001 | 41 | 0.9688 | 7C | 7.8125 |
| 01000010 | 42 | 0.9766 | 7D | 7.8125 |
| 01000011 | 43 | 0.9844 | 7E | 7.8125 |
| 01000100 | 44 | 0.9922 | 7F | 7.8125 |
| 01000101 | 45 | 1.0000 | 80 | 7.8125 |
| 01000110 | 46 | 1.0078 | 81 | 7.8125 |
| 01000111 | 47 | 1.0156 | 82 | 7.8125 |
| 01001000 | 48 | 1.0234 | 83 | 7.8125 |
| 01001001 | 49 | 1.0313 | 84 | 7.8125 |
| 01001010 | 4A | 1.0391 | 85 | 7.8125 |
| 01001011 | 4B | 1.0469 | 86 | 7.8125 |
| 01001100 | 4C | 1.0547 | 87 | 7.8125 |
| 01001101 | 4D | 1.0625 | 88 | 7.8125 |
| 01001110 | 4E | 1.0703 | 89 | 7.8125 |
| 01001111 | 4F | 1.0781 | 8A | 7.8125 |
| 01010000 | 50 | 1.0859 | 8B | 7.8125 |
| 01010001 | 51 | 1.0938 | 8C | 7.8125 |
| 01010010 | 52 | 1.1016 | 8D | 7.8125 |
| 01010011 | 53 | 1.1094 | 8E | 7.8125 |
| 01010100 | 54 | 1.1172 | 8F | 7.8125 |
| 01010101 | 55 | 1.1250 | 90 | 7.8125 |
| 01010110 | 56 | 1.1328 | 91 | 7.8125 |
| 01010111 | 57 | 1.1406 | 92 | 7.8125 |
| 01011000 | 58 | 1.1484 | 93 | 7.8125 |
| 01011001 | 59 | 1.1563 | 94 | 7.8125 |
| 01011010 | 5A | 1.1641 | 95 | 7.8125 |
| 01011011 | 5B | 1.1719 | 96 | 7.8125 |
| 01011100 | 5C | 1.1797 | 97 | 7.8125 |
| 01011101 | 5D | 1.1875 | 98 | 7.8125 |
| 01011110 | 5E | 1.1953 | 99 | 7.8125 |
| 01011111 | 5F | 1.7969 | E6 | |
| 01100000 | 60 | 0.9531 | 7A | |

TABLE 7. PROG1 8-BIT (BOOT-UP VOLTAGE) (Continued)

| BINARY CODE | HEX CODE | V _{BOOT} (V) | VOUT COMMAND CODE (HEX) | DELTA FROM PREVIOUS CODE (mV) |
|-------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 01100001 | 61 | 1.2031 | 9A | 7.8125 |
| 01100010 | 62 | 1.2109 | 9B | 7.8125 |
| 01100011 | 63 | 1.2188 | 9C | 7.8125 |
| 01100100 | 64 | 1.2266 | 9D | 7.8125 |
| 01100101 | 65 | 1.2344 | 9E | 7.8125 |
| 01100110 | 66 | 1.2422 | 9F | 7.8125 |
| 01100111 | 67 | 1.2500 | A0 | 7.8125 |
| 01101000 | 68 | 1.2578 | A1 | 7.8125 |
| 01101001 | 69 | 1.2656 | A2 | 7.8125 |
| 01101010 | 6A | 1.2734 | A3 | 7.8125 |
| 01101011 | 6B | 1.2813 | A4 | 7.8125 |
| 01101100 | 6C | 1.2891 | A5 | 7.8125 |
| 01101101 | 6D | 1.2969 | A6 | 7.8125 |
| 01101110 | 6E | 1.3047 | A7 | 7.8125 |
| 01101111 | 6F | 1.3125 | A8 | 7.8125 |
| 01110000 | 70 | 1.3203 | A9 | 7.8125 |
| 01110001 | 71 | 1.3281 | AA | 7.8125 |
| 01110010 | 72 | 1.3359 | AB | 7.8125 |
| 01110011 | 73 | 1.3438 | AC | 7.8125 |
| 01110100 | 74 | 1.3516 | AD | 7.8125 |
| 01110101 | 75 | 1.3594 | AE | 7.8125 |
| 01110110 | 76 | 1.3672 | AF | 7.8125 |
| 01110111 | 77 | 1.3750 | B0 | 7.8125 |
| 01111000 | 78 | 1.3828 | B1 | 7.8125 |
| 01111001 | 79 | 1.3906 | B2 | 7.8125 |
| 01111010 | 7A | 1.3984 | B3 | 7.8125 |
| 01111011 | 7B | 1.4063 | B4 | 7.8125 |
| 01111100 | 7C | 1.4141 | B5 | 7.8125 |
| 01111101 | 7D | 1.4219 | B6 | 7.8125 |
| 01111110 | 7E | 1.4297 | B7 | 7.8125 |
| 01111111 | 7F | 2.5000 | 140 | |
| 10000000 | 80 | 1.0000 | 80 | |
| 10000001 | 81 | 1.4375 | B8 | 7.8125 |
| 10000010 | 82 | 1.4453 | B9 | 7.8125 |
| 10000011 | 83 | 1.4531 | BA | 7.8125 |
| 10000100 | 84 | 1.4609 | BB | 7.8125 |
| 10000101 | 85 | 1.4688 | BC | 7.8125 |
| 10000110 | 86 | 1.4766 | BD | 7.8125 |
| 10000111 | 87 | 1.4844 | BE | 7.8125 |

TABLE 7. PROG1 8-BIT (BOOT-UP VOLTAGE) (Continued)

| BINARY CODE | HEX CODE | V _{BOOT} (V) | VOUT COMMAND CODE (HEX) | DELTA FROM PREVIOUS CODE (mV) |
|-------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 10001000 | 88 | 1.4922 | BF | 7.8125 |
| 10001001 | 89 | 1.5000 | C0 | 7.8125 |
| 10001010 | 8A | 1.5078 | C1 | 7.8125 |
| 10001011 | 8B | 1.5156 | C2 | 7.8125 |
| 10001100 | 8C | 1.5234 | C3 | 7.8125 |
| 10001101 | 8D | 1.5313 | C4 | 7.8125 |
| 10001110 | 8E | 1.5391 | C5 | 7.8125 |
| 10001111 | 8F | 1.5469 | C6 | 7.8125 |
| 10010000 | 90 | 1.5547 | C7 | 7.8125 |
| 10010001 | 91 | 1.5625 | C8 | 7.8125 |
| 10010010 | 92 | 1.5703 | C9 | 7.8125 |
| 10010011 | 93 | 1.5781 | CA | 7.8125 |
| 10010100 | 94 | 1.5859 | CB | 7.8125 |
| 10010101 | 95 | 1.5938 | CC | 7.8125 |
| 10010110 | 96 | 1.6016 | CD | 7.8125 |
| 10010111 | 97 | 1.6094 | CE | 7.8125 |
| 10011000 | 98 | 1.6172 | CF | 7.8125 |
| 10011001 | 99 | 1.6250 | D0 | 7.8125 |
| 10011010 | 9A | 1.6328 | D1 | 7.8125 |
| 10011011 | 9B | 1.6406 | D2 | 7.8125 |
| 10011100 | 9C | 1.6484 | D3 | 7.8125 |
| 10011101 | 9D | 1.6563 | D4 | 7.8125 |
| 10011110 | 9E | 1.6641 | D5 | 7.8125 |
| 10011111 | 9F | 3.0000 | 180 | |
| 10100000 | A0 | 1.0469 | 86 | |
| 10100001 | A1 | 1.6719 | D6 | 7.8125 |
| 10100010 | A2 | 1.6797 | D7 | 7.8125 |
| 10100011 | A3 | 1.6875 | D8 | 7.8125 |
| 10100100 | A4 | 1.6953 | D9 | 7.8125 |
| 10100101 | A5 | 1.7031 | DA | 7.8125 |
| 10100110 | A6 | 1.7109 | DB | 7.8125 |
| 10100111 | A7 | 1.7188 | DC | 7.8125 |
| 10101000 | A8 | 1.7266 | DD | 7.8125 |
| 10101001 | A9 | 1.7344 | DE | 7.8125 |
| 10101010 | AA | 1.7422 | DF | 7.8125 |
| 10101011 | AB | 1.7500 | E0 | 7.8125 |
| 10101100 | AC | 1.7578 | E1 | 7.8125 |
| 10101101 | AD | 1.7656 | E2 | 7.8125 |
| 10101110 | AE | 1.7734 | E3 | 7.8125 |

TABLE 7. PROG1 8-BIT (BOOT-UP VOLTAGE) (Continued)

| BINARY CODE | HEX CODE | V _{BOOT} (V) | VOUT COMMAND CODE (HEX) | DELTA FROM PREVIOUS CODE (mV) |
|-------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 10101111 | AF | 1.7813 | E4 | 7.8125 |
| 10110000 | B0 | 1.7891 | E5 | 7.8125 |
| 10110001 | B1 | 1.7969 | E6 | 7.8125 |
| 10110010 | B2 | 1.8047 | E7 | 7.8125 |
| 10110011 | B3 | 1.8125 | E8 | 7.8125 |
| 10110100 | B4 | 1.8203 | E9 | 7.8125 |
| 10110101 | B5 | 1.8281 | EA | 7.8125 |
| 10110110 | B6 | 1.8359 | EB | 7.8125 |
| 10110111 | B7 | 1.9141 | F5 | 78.125 |
| 10111000 | B8 | 1.9922 | FF | 78.125 |
| 10111001 | B9 | 2.0703 | 109 | 78.125 |
| 10111010 | BA | 2.1484 | 113 | 78.125 |
| 10111011 | BB | 2.2266 | 11D | 78.125 |
| 10111100 | BC | 2.3047 | 127 | 78.125 |
| 10111101 | BD | 2.3828 | 131 | 78.125 |
| 10111110 | BE | 2.4609 | 13B | 78.125 |
| 10111111 | BF | 3.2969 | 1A6 | |
| 11000000 | C0 | 1.1016 | 8D | |
| 11000001 | C1 | 2.4688 | 13C | 7.8125 |
| 11000010 | C2 | 2.4766 | 13D | 7.8125 |
| 11000011 | C3 | 2.4844 | 13E | 7.8125 |
| 11000100 | C4 | 2.4922 | 13F | 7.8125 |
| 11000101 | C5 | 2.5000 | 140 | 7.8125 |
| 11000110 | C6 | 2.5078 | 141 | 7.8125 |
| 11000111 | C7 | 2.5156 | 142 | 7.8125 |
| 11001000 | C8 | 2.5234 | 143 | 7.8125 |
| 11001001 | C9 | 2.6016 | 14D | 78.125 |
| 11001010 | CA | 2.6797 | 157 | 78.125 |
| 11001011 | CB | 2.7578 | 161 | 78.125 |
| 11001100 | CC | 2.8359 | 16B | 78.125 |
| 11001101 | CD | 2.9141 | 175 | 78.125 |
| 11001110 | CE | 2.9922 | 17F | 78.125 |
| 11001111 | CF | 3.0703 | 189 | 78.125 |
| 11010000 | D0 | 3.1484 | 193 | 78.125 |
| 11010001 | D1 | 3.2266 | 19D | 78.125 |
| 11010010 | D2 | 3.2813 | 1A4 | 54.6875 |
| 11010011 | D3 | 3.2891 | 1A5 | 7.8125 |
| 11010100 | D4 | 3.2969 | 1A6 | 7.8125 |
| 11010101 | D5 | 3.3047 | 1A7 | 7.8125 |

TABLE 7. PROG1 8-BIT (BOOT-UP VOLTAGE) (Continued)

| BINARY CODE | HEX CODE | V _{BOOT} (V) | VOUT COMMAND CODE (HEX) | DELTA FROM PREVIOUS CODE (mV) |
|-------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 11010110 | D6 | 3.3125 | 1A8 | 7.8125 |
| 11010111 | D7 | 3.3203 | 1A9 | 7.8125 |
| 11011000 | D8 | 3.3281 | 1AA | 7.8125 |
| 11011001 | D9 | 3.4063 | 1B4 | 78.125 |
| 11011010 | DA | 3.4844 | 1BE | 78.125 |
| 11011011 | DB | 3.5625 | 1C8 | 78.125 |
| 11011100 | DC | 3.6406 | 1D2 | 78.125 |
| 11011101 | DD | 3.7188 | 1DC | 78.125 |
| 11011110 | DE | 3.7969 | 1E6 | 78.125 |
| 11011111 | DF | 5.0000 | 280 | |
| 11100000 | E0 | 1.2031 | 9A | |
| 11100001 | E1 | 3.8750 | 1F0 | 78.125 |
| 11100010 | E2 | 3.9531 | 1FA | 78.125 |
| 11100011 | E3 | 4.0313 | 204 | 78.125 |
| 11100100 | E4 | 4.1094 | 20E | 78.125 |
| 11100101 | E5 | 4.1875 | 218 | 78.125 |
| 11100110 | E6 | 4.2656 | 222 | 78.125 |
| 11100111 | E7 | 4.3438 | 22C | 78.125 |
| 11101000 | E8 | 4.4219 | 236 | 78.125 |
| 11101001 | E9 | 4.5000 | 240 | 78.125 |
| 11101010 | EA | 4.5781 | 24A | 78.125 |
| 11101011 | EB | 4.6563 | 254 | 78.125 |
| 11101100 | EC | 4.7344 | 25E | 78.125 |
| 11101101 | ED | 4.8125 | 268 | 78.125 |
| 11101110 | EE | 4.8906 | 272 | 78.125 |
| 11101111 | EF | 4.9688 | 27C | 78.125 |
| 11110000 | F0 | 4.9766 | 27D | 78.125 |
| 11110001 | F1 | 4.9844 | 27E | 78.125 |
| 11110010 | F2 | 4.9922 | 27F | 78.125 |
| 11110011 | F3 | 5.0000 | 280 | 78.125 |
| 11110100 | F4 | 5.0078 | 281 | 78.125 |
| 11110101 | F5 | 5.0156 | 282 | 78.125 |
| 11110110 | F6 | 5.0234 | 283 | 78.125 |
| 11110111 | F7 | 5.0313 | 284 | 78.125 |
| 11111000 | F8 | 5.1094 | 28E | 78.125 |
| 11111001 | F9 | 5.1875 | 298 | 78.125 |
| 11111010 | FA | 5.2656 | 2A2 | 78.125 |
| 11111011 | FB | 5.3438 | 2AC | 78.125 |
| 11111100 | FC | 5.4219 | 2B6 | 78.125 |

TABLE 7. PROG1 8-BIT (BOOT-UP VOLTAGE) (Continued)

| BINARY CODE | HEX CODE | V _{BOOT} (V) | V _{OUT} COMMAND CODE (HEX) | DELTA FROM PREVIOUS CODE (mV) |
|-------------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 11111101 | FD | 5.4922 | 2BF | 70.3125 |
| 11111110 | FE | 5.5000 | 2C0 | 7.8125 |
| 11111111 | FF | 0 | 0 | |

As shown in [Table 7](#), one step is $2^{-7} = 7.8125\text{mV}$; some selections are higher than one step from adjacent codes. However, the resolution is $\pm 7.8125\text{mV}$ around the popular voltage regulation points, as in [Table 3 on page 11](#), for fine-tuning purposes. For finer than 7.8125mV tuning, place a large ratio resistor divider on the VSEN pin between the output (V_{OUT}) and RGND for positive offset or V_{CC} for negative offset, as shown in [Figure 8](#).

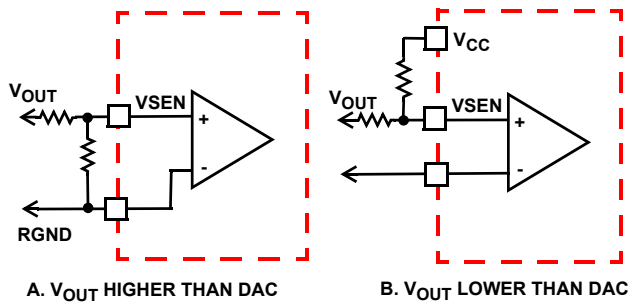


FIGURE 8. EXTERNAL PROGRAMMABLE REGULATION

Current Sensing

The ISL68201 supports inductor DCR sensing, or resistive sensing techniques, and senses current continuously for fast response. The current sense amplifier uses the CSEN and CSRTN inputs to reproduce a signal proportional to the inductor current, I_L . The sense current, I_{SEN} , is proportional to the inductor current and is used for current reporting and overcurrent protection.

The input bias current of the current sensing amplifier is typically 10s of nA. Less than $15\text{k}\Omega$ input impedance connected to CSEN pin is preferred to minimize the offset error, that is, use a larger C value (select $0.22\mu\text{F}$ to $1\mu\text{F}$ instead of $0.1\mu\text{F}$ when needed). In addition, the current sensing gain resistor connected to CSRTN pin should be within 40Ω to $3.5\text{k}\Omega$.

INDUCTOR DCR SENSING

An inductor's winding is characteristic of a distributed resistance, as measured by the Direct Current Resistance (DCR) parameter. A simple R-C network across the inductor extracts the DCR voltage, as shown in [Figure 9](#).

The voltage on the capacitor V_C , can be shown to be proportional to the inductor current I_L , as in [Equation 5](#).

$$V_C(s) = \frac{\left(s \cdot \frac{L}{DCR} + 1\right) \cdot (DCR \cdot I_L)}{(s \cdot RC + 1)} \quad (\text{EQ. 5})$$

If the R-C network components are selected so that the R-C time constant ($= R \cdot C$) matches the inductor time constant ($= L/DCR$), the voltage across the capacitor V_C is equal to the voltage drop

across the DCR. With the internal low-offset current amplifier, the capacitor voltage V_C is replicated across the sense resistor R_{ISEN} . Therefore, the current out of the CSRTN pin, I_{SEN} , is proportional to the inductor current.

[Equation 6](#) shows that the ratio of the inductor current to the sensed current, I_{SEN} , is driven by the value of the sense resistor and the DCR of the inductor.

$$I_{SEN} = I_L \cdot \frac{DCR}{R_{ISEN}} \quad (\text{EQ. 6})$$

The inductor DCR value increases as the temperature increases. Therefore, the sensed current increases as the temperature of the current sense element increases. To compensate for the temperature effect on the sensed current signal, the integrated temperature compensation function of the ISL68201 should be used. The integrated temperature compensation function is described in ["Thermal Monitoring and Compensation" on page 18](#).

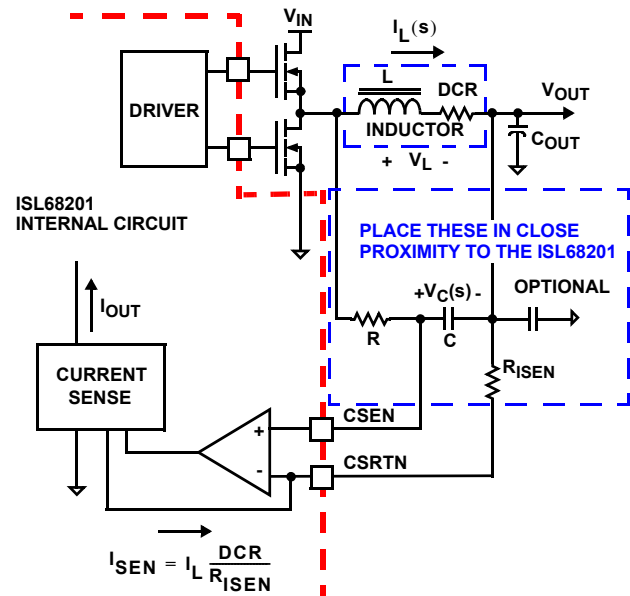


FIGURE 9. DCR SENSING CONFIGURATION

RESISTIVE SENSING

For accurate current sense, a dedicated current-sense resistor, R_{SENSE} , in series with each output inductor, can serve as the current sense element (see [Figure 10](#)). This technique, however, reduces overall converter efficiency due to the additional power loss on the current sense element R_{SENSE} .

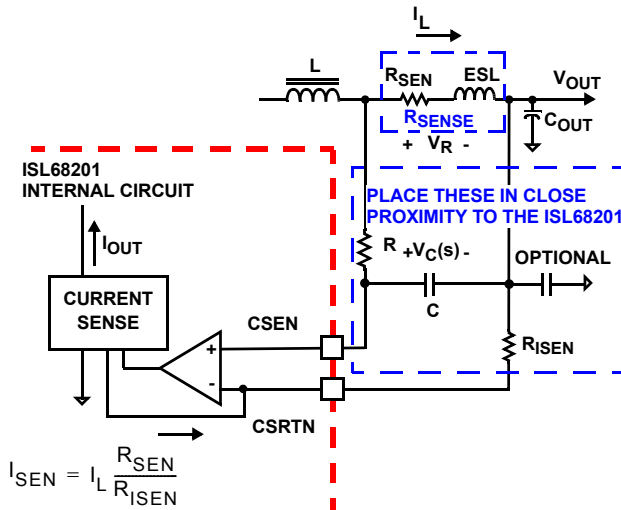


FIGURE 10. SENSE RESISTOR IN SERIES WITH INDUCTORS

A current sensing resistor has a distributed parasitic inductance, known as Equivalent Series Inductance (ESL) parameter, typically less than 1nH. A simple R-C network across the current-sense resistor extracts the R_{SEN} voltage, as shown in [Figure 10 on page 17](#).

The voltage on the capacitor V_C , can be shown to be proportional to the inductor current I_L , see [Equation 7](#).

$$V_C(s) = \frac{\left(s \cdot \frac{ESL}{R_{SEN}} + 1\right) \cdot (R_{SEN} \cdot I_L)}{(s \cdot RC + 1)} \quad (\text{EQ. 7})$$

If the R-C network components are selected so that the RC time constant matches the ESL- R_{SEN} time constant ($R \cdot C = ESL/R_{SEN}$), the voltage across the capacitor V_C is equal to the voltage drop across the R_{SEN} , that is, proportional to the inductor current. As an example, a typical 1mΩ sense resistor can use $R = 348\Omega$ and $C = 820\text{pF}$ for the matching. [Figures 11 and 12](#) show the sensed waveforms without and with matching RC when using resistive sense.

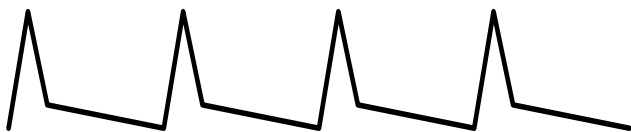


FIGURE 11. VOLTAGE ACROSS R WITHOUT RC



FIGURE 12. VOLTAGE ACROSS C WITH MATCHING RC

[Equation 8](#) shows that the ratio of the inductor current to the sensed current, I_{SEN} , is driven by the value of the sense resistor and the R_{ISEN} .

$$I_{SEN} = I_L \cdot \frac{R_{SEN}}{R_{ISEN}} \quad (\text{EQ. 8})$$

L/DCR OR ESL/ R_{SEN} MATCHING

[Figure 13](#) shows the expected load transient response waveforms if L/DCR or ESL/ R_{SEN} is matching the R-C time constant. When the load current has a square change, the IOUT pin voltage (V_{IOUT}) without a decoupling capacitor also has a square response. However, there is always some PCB contact impedance of current sensing components between the two current sensing points; it hardly accounts into the L/DCR or ESL/ R_{SEN} matching calculation. Fine tuning the matching is done in the board level to improve overall transient performance and system reliability.

If the R-C timing constant is too large or too small, $V_C(s)$ does not accurately represent real-time output current and worsens the overcurrent fault response. [Figure 14](#) shows the IOUT pin transient voltage response when the R-C timing constant is too small. V_{IOUT} sags excessively upon load insertion and may create a system failure or early overcurrent trip. [Figure 15](#) shows the transient response when the R-C timing constant is too large. V_{IOUT} is sluggish in reaching its final value. The excessive delay on current sensing does not provide a fast OCP response and reduces system reliability.

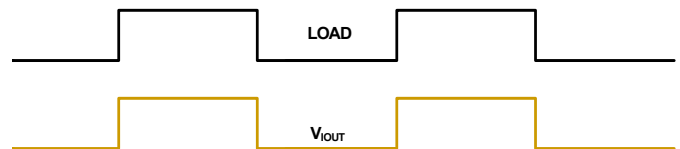


FIGURE 13. DESIRED LOAD TRANSIENT RESPONSE WAVEFORMS

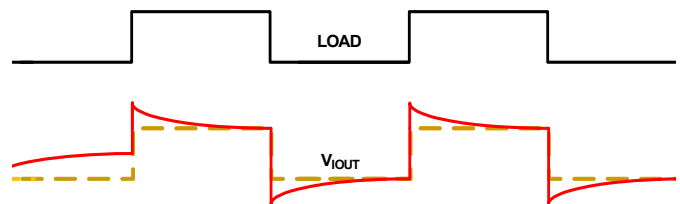


FIGURE 14. LOAD TRANSIENT RESPONSE WHEN R-C TIME CONSTANT IS TOO SMALL

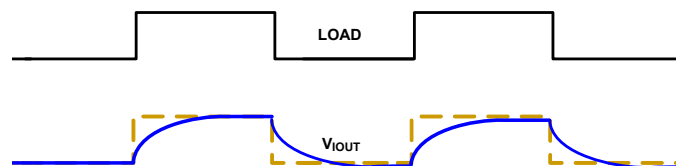


FIGURE 15. LOAD TRANSIENT RESPONSE WHEN R-C TIME CONSTANT IS TOO LARGE

Note that the integrated thermal compensation applies to the DC current, but not the AC current; therefore, the peak current seen by the controller increases as the temperature decreases and can potentially trigger an OCP event. To overcome this issue, the RC should be over-matching L/DCR at room temperature by $(-40^\circ\text{C} + 25^\circ\text{C}) \cdot 0.385\%/^\circ\text{C} = +25\%$ for -40°C operation.

Thermal Monitoring and Compensation

The thermal monitoring function block diagram is shown in [Figure 16 on page 18](#). One NTC resistor should be placed close to the respective power stage of the voltage regulator VR to sense the operational temperature, and pull-up resistors are needed to form the voltage dividers for the NTC pin. As the temperature of the power stage increases, the resistance of the NTC reduces, resulting in the reduced voltage at the NTC pin. [Figure 18 on page 18](#) shows the TM voltage over the temperature for a typical design with a recommended 10kΩ NTC (P/N: NCP15XH103J03RC from Murata, $\beta = 3380$) and 1.54kΩ resistor RTM. It is recommended to use those resistors for accurate temperature compensation because the internal thermal digital code is developed based on these two components. If a different value is used, the temperature coefficient must be close to 3380 and RTM must be scaled accordingly. For instance, if NTC = 20kΩ ($\beta = 3380$), then RTM should be $20\text{k}\Omega/10\text{k}\Omega \times 1.54\text{k}\Omega = 3.08\text{k}\Omega$.

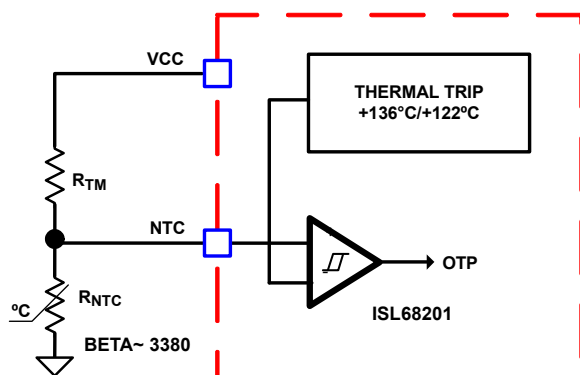


FIGURE 16. BLOCK DIAGRAM OF THERMAL MONITORING AND PROTECTION

The ISL68201 supports inductor DCR sensing, or resistive sensing techniques. The inductor DCR has a positive temperature coefficient, which is about $+0.385\%/^{\circ}\text{C}$. Because the voltage across the inductor is sensed for the output current information, the sensed current has the same positive temperature coefficient as the inductor DCR. To obtain the correct current information, the ISL68201 uses the voltage at the NTC pin and “TCOMP” register to compensate the temperature impact on the sensed current. The block diagram of this function is shown in [Figure 17](#).

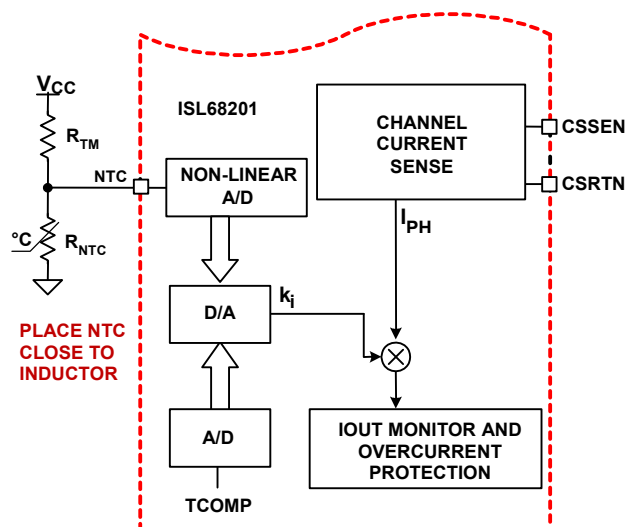


FIGURE 17. BLOCK DIAGRAM OF INTEGRATED TEMPERATURE COMPENSATION

When the NTC is placed close to the current sense component (inductor), the temperature of the NTC tracks the temperature of the current sense component. Therefore, the NTC pin voltage can be used to obtain the temperature of the current sense component. Because the NTC could pick up noise from phase node, a 0.1 μ F ceramic decoupling capacitor is recommended on the NTC pin in close proximity to the controller.

Based on the V_{CC} voltage, the ISL68201 converts the NTC pin voltage to a digital signal for temperature compensation. With the nonlinear A/D converter of the ISL68201, the NTC digital signal is linearly proportional to the NTC temperature. For accurate temperature compensation, the ratio of the NTC voltage to the NTC temperature of the practical design should be similar to that in Figure 18.

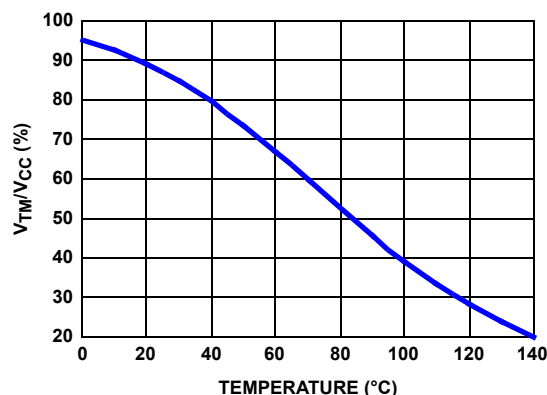


FIGURE 18. THE RATIO OF TM VOLTAGE TO NTC TEMPERATURE WITH RECOMMENDED PART

Because the NTC attaches to the PCB, but not directly to the current sensing component, it inherits high thermal impedance between the NTC and the current sensing element. The “TCOMP” register values can be used to correct the temperature difference between the NTC and the current sense component. As shown in [Figure 19](#), the NTC should be placed in proximity to the output rail; DO NOT place it close to the MOSFET side, which generates much more heat.

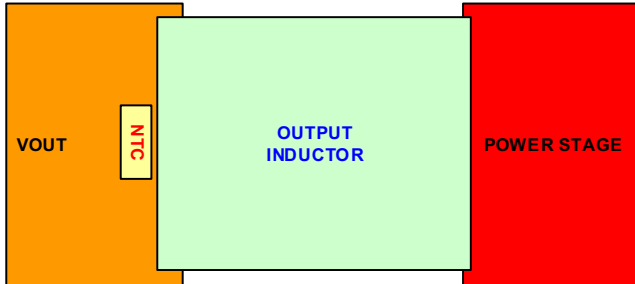


FIGURE 19. RECOMMENDED PLACEMENT OF NTC

The ISL68201 multiplexes the “TCOMP” value with the NTC digital signal to obtain the adjustment gain to compensate the temperature impact on the sensed channel current. The compensated current signal is used for I_{OUT} and overcurrent protection functions. Use the TCOMP “OFF” code to disable thermal compensation when the current sensing element is the resistor or smart power stage (internally thermal compensated) that has little thermal drifting.

TABLE 8. TCOMP VALUES

| D1h | TCOMP (°C) | D1h | TCOMP (°C) |
|-----|------------|-----|------------|
| 0h | 30 | 2h | 5 |
| 1h | 15 | 3h | OFF |

The thermal compensation design procedure for inductor current sensing is summarized as follows:

1. Properly choose the voltage divider for the NTC pin to match the NTC voltage vs temperature curve with the recommended curve in [Figure 18 on page 18](#).
2. Operate the actual board under the full load and the desired airflow condition.
3. After the board reaches the thermal steady state (often takes 15 minutes), record the temperature (T_{CSC}) of the current sense component (inductor) and the voltage at NTC and VCC pins.
4. Use [Equation 9](#) to calculate the resistance of the NTC, and find out the corresponding NTC temperature T_{NTC} from the NTC datasheet or using [Equation 10](#), where β is equal to 3380 for recommended NTC.

$$R_{NTC}(at\ T_{NTC}) = \frac{V_{TM} \times R_{TM}}{V_{CC} - V_{TM}} \quad (EQ. 9)$$

$$T_{NTC} = \frac{\beta}{\ln\left(\frac{R_{NTC}(at\ T_{NTC})}{R_{NTC}(at\ 25^{\circ}C)}\right) + \frac{\beta}{298.15}} - 273.15 \quad (EQ. 10)$$

5. Choose a number close to the result as in [Equation 11](#) for the “TCOMP” register.

$$T_{COMP} = T_{CSC} - T_{NTC} \quad (EQ. 11)$$

6. Operate the actual board under full load again.
7. Record the IOUT pin voltage as V1 immediately after the output voltage is stable with the full load. Record the IOUT pin voltage as V2 after the VR reaches the thermal steady state.
8. If the IOUT pin voltage increases over 10mV as the temperature increases (that is, $V2 - V1 > 10mV$), reduce the “TCOMP” value. If the IOUT pin voltage decreases over 10mV as the temperature increases (that is, $V1 - V2 > 10mV$), increase the “TCOMP” value. The “TCOMP” value can be adjusted through the serial bus for easy thermal compensation optimization.

IOUT Calibration

The current flowing out of the IOUT pin is equal to the sensed average current inside ISL68201. A resistor is placed from the IOUT pin to GND to generate a voltage, which is proportional to the load current and the resistor value, as shown in [Equation 12](#):

$$\begin{aligned} R_{IOUT} &= \frac{2.5V \times R_{ISEN}}{63.875A \times R_X} = \frac{2.5V \times \left(\frac{R_X \times I_{OCP}}{100\mu A}\right)}{63.875A \times R_X} \\ &= \frac{2.5V \times I_{OCP}}{63.875A \times 100\mu A} = \frac{25V \times I_{OCP}}{63.875A} \text{ k}\Omega \end{aligned} \quad (EQ. 12)$$

where V_{IOUT} is the voltage at the IOUT pin, R_{IOUT} is the resistor between the IOUT pin and GND, I_{LOAD} is the total output current of the converter, R_{ISEN} is the sense resistor connected to the CSRTN pin, and R_X is the DC resistance of the current sense element, either the DCR of the inductor or R_{SENSE} depending on the sensing method. Scale the R_{IOUT} resistor to ensure that the voltage at the IOUT pin is typically 2.5V at 63.875A load current. The I_{OUT} voltage is linearly digitized every 108 μ s and stored in the READ_IOUT register (8Ch).

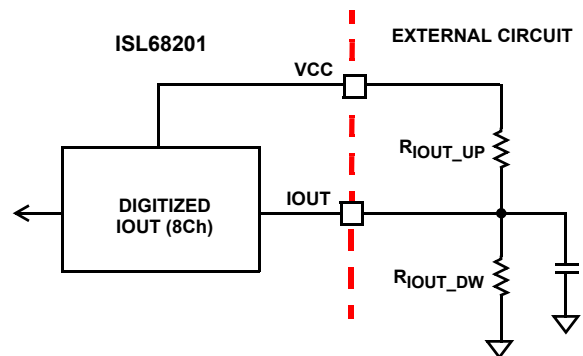


FIGURE 20. IOUT NO LOAD OFFSET CALIBRATION

Place a small capacitor between IOUT and GND to reduce the noise impact and provide averaging, > 200 μ s (typically).

To deal with layout and design variation of different platforms, the ISL68201 is intentionally trimmed to negative at no load, thus, an offset can easily be added to calibrate the digitized I_{OUT} reading (8Ch). Hence, the analog vs digitized current slope is set

by the equivalent impedance of $R_{IOUT_UP}/R_{IOUT_DW} = R_{IOUT}$ (as in [Figure 20](#)); the slope of the ideal curve should set to $1A/A$ with 0A offset.

For a precision digital I_{OUT} , follow the fine-tuned procedure below. Steps 1 to 5 must be completed before Step 6.

1. Properly tune L/DCR or ESL/R_{SEN} matching as shown on [page 17](#) over the range of temperature operation. +25% over-matching L/DCR at room temperature is needed for -40°C operation.
2. Properly complete thermal compensation as shown in [“Thermal Monitoring and Compensation” on page 18](#).
3. Finalize the R_{ISEN} resistor to set OCP for overall operating conditions and board variations as shown in [“Overcurrent and Short-Circuit Protection” on page 20](#).
4. Collect no load I_{OUT} current with sufficient prototypes and determine the mean of no load I_{OUT} current.
5. The pull-up impedance on IOUT pin should be “VCC/IOUT_NO_LOAD”. For instance, a mean of -2.5μA I_{OUT} at 0A load needs $R_{IOUT_UP} = 2M\Omega$.
6. Start with the value below and then fine-tune the R_{IOUT_DW} value until the average slope of various boards equals $1A/A$.

$$R_{IOUT_DW} = \frac{R_{IOUT_UP} \times R_{IOUT}}{R_{IOUT_UP} - R_{IOUT}} \quad (EQ. 13)$$

Fault Protection

The ISL68201 provides high system reliability with many fault protections, as summarized in [Table 9](#).

TABLE 9. FAULT PROTECTION SUMMARY

| FAULT | DESCRIPTION | FAULT ACTION |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| Input UVLO | VIN pin UVLO; or set by EN pin with an external divider for a higher level. See Figures 4 and 5 . | Shut down and recover when $V_{IN} > UVLO$ |
| Bias UVLO | VCC, PVCC, 7VLD0 UVLO | Shut down and recover when Bias > UVLO |
| Start-Up OVP | Higher than V_{BOOT} . See Electrical Specifications on page 7 . | Latch OFF, reset by V_{CC} or toggling enable (including EN pin and/or OPERATION command based on the ON_OFF_CONFIG setting) |
| Output OVP | Rising = 120%; Falling = 100% | |
| Output UVP | 74% of V_{OUT} , Latch OFF | |
| Output OCP | Average OCP = 100μA with 128μs blanking time. | Latch OFF (reset by V_{CC} or toggling enable including EN pin and/or OPERATION command based on the ON_OFF_CONFIG setting), or retry every 9ms; option is programmable by PROG3 or D3[0] |
| Short-Circuit Protection | Peak OCP = 130% of Average OCP with 50ns filter. | |
| OTP | Rising = 22.31%VCC (~+136°C); Falling = 27.79%VCC (~+122°C). | Shut down above +136°C and recover when temperature drops below +122°C |

The UVLO and OTP faults respond to the current state with hysteresis, output OVP and output UVP faults are latch events, and output OCP and output short-circuit faults can be latch or retry events depending upon the PROG3 or D3[0] setting. All fault latch events can be reset by VCC cycling, toggling the Enable pin and/or the serial bus OPERATION command based on the ON_OFF_CONFIG setting, while the OCP retry event has a hiccup time of 9ms and the regulator can be recovered when the fault is removed.

OVERVOLTAGE PROTECTION

The OVP fault detection circuit triggers after the voltage between VSEN+ and VSEN- is above the rising overvoltage threshold. When an OVP fault is declared, the controller latches off and the PGOOD pin asserts low. The fault remains latched and can be reset by V_{CC} cycling or toggling EN pin and/or the serial bus OPERATION command based on the ON_OFF_CONFIG setting.

Although the controller latches off in response to an OVP fault, the LGATE gate-driver output retains the ability to toggle the low-side MOSFET on and off, in response to the output voltage transversing the OVP rising and falling thresholds. The LGATE gate driver turns on the low-side MOSFET to discharge the output voltage, protecting the load. The LGATE gate driver turns off the low-side MOSFET when the sensed output voltage is lower than the falling overvoltage threshold (typically 100%). If the output voltage rises again, the LGATE driver turns on the low-side MOSFET again when the output voltage is above the rising overvoltage threshold (typically 120%). By doing so, the IC protects the load when there is a consistent overvoltage condition.

In addition to normal operation OVP, 5.5ms (typically, worst case = 6.5ms) after all rails (VCC, PVCC, 7VLD0, VIN) POR and before the end of soft-start, the start-up OVP circuits are enabled to protect against an OVP event, while the OVP level is set higher than V_{BOOT} . See Electrical Specifications on [page 7](#).

UNDERVOLTAGE PROTECTION

The UVP fault detection circuit triggers when the output voltage is below the undervoltage threshold (typically 74% of DAC). When a UVP fault is declared, the controller latches off, forcing the LGATE and UGATE gate-driver outputs low, and the PGOOD pin asserts low. The fault remains latched and can be reset by V_{CC} cycling or toggling the EN pin and/or the serial bus OPERATION command based on the ON_OFF_CONFIG setting.

OVERCURRENT AND SHORT-CIRCUIT PROTECTION

The average Overcurrent Protection (OCP) is triggered when the internal current out of the IOUT pin goes above the fault threshold (typically 100μA) with 128μs blanking time. It also has a fast (50ns filter) secondary overcurrent protection whose threshold is +30% above average OCP. This protects inductor saturation from a short-circuit event and provides a more robust power train and system protection. When an OCP or short-circuit fault is declared, the controller latches off, forcing the LGATE and UGATE gate-driver outputs low, or retries with a hiccup time of 9ms. The fault response is programmable by PROG3 or D3[0]. However, the latched off event can be reset by V_{CC} cycling, toggling the EN pin, and/or the serial bus OPERATION command based on the ON_OFF_CONFIG setting.

[Equation 14](#) provides a starting point to set a preliminary OCP trip point, in which IOCP is the targeted OCP trip point and DI (as in [Equation 15](#)) is the peak-to-peak inductor ripple current.

$$R_{ISEN1} = \frac{R_x \times I_{OCP}}{100 \mu A} \quad (\text{EQ. 14})$$

$$R_{ISEN2} = \frac{R_x \times \left(\frac{\Delta I}{2} + I_{OCP} \right)}{100 \mu A \times (100\% + 30\%)}$$

$$R_{ISEN} = \text{MAX} (R_{ISEN1}, R_{ISEN2})$$

To deal with layout and PCB contact impedance variation, follow the fine-tuning procedure below for a more precise OCP. Steps 1 to 3 must be completed before Step 4.

1. Properly tune L/DCR or ESL/R_{SEN} matching as shown on [page 17](#) over the range of temperature operation. +25% over-matching L/DCR at room temperature is needed for -40 °C operation.
2. Properly complete thermal compensation as shown in ["Thermal Monitoring and Compensation" on page 18](#).
3. Collect OCP trip points (IOCP_MEASURED) with sufficient prototypes and determine the mean for overall operating conditions and board variations.
4. Change R_{ISEN} by IOCP_TARGETED/IOCP_MEASURED percentage to meet the targeted OCP.

Note that if the inductor peak-to-peak current is higher or closer to 30%, the +30% threshold could be triggered instead of the average OCP threshold. However, the fine-tuning procedure can still be used.

OVER-TEMPERATURE PROTECTION

As shown in [Figure 16 on page 18](#), there is a comparator with hysteresis to compare the NTC pin voltage to the threshold set. When the NTC pin voltage is lower than 22.31% of the V_{CC} voltage (typically +136 °C), it triggers Over-Temperature Protection (OTP) and shuts down the ISL68201. When the NTC pin voltage is above 27.79% of the V_{CC} voltage (typically +122.4 °C), the ISL68201 resumes normal operation. When an OTP fault is declared, the controller forces the LGATE and UGATE gate-driver outputs low.

PGOOD Monitor

The PGOOD pin indicates when the converter is capable of supplying regulated voltage. If there is a fault condition of a rail's (VCC, PVCC, 7VLDO, or VIN) UVLO, output Overcurrent (OCP), Overvoltage (OVP), Undervoltage (UVP), or Over-Temperature (OTP), PGOOD is asserted low. Note that the PGOOD pin is an undefined impedance with insufficient V_{CC} (typically <2.5V).

PFM Mode Operation

In PFM mode, programmable by PROG2 or serial bus D0[0:0], the switching frequency is dramatically reduced to minimize the switching loss and significantly improve light-load efficiency. The ISL68201 can enter and exit PFM mode seamlessly as the load changes. The PFM mode is only compatible with the ISL99140 DrMOS with SMOD input by connecting to ISL68201's FCCM output pin. Incompatible power stages should operate in PWM mode.

SMBus, PMBus, and I²C Operation

The ISL68201 features SMBus, PMBus, and I²C with 32 programmable addresses through the PROG2 pin, while SMBus/PMBus includes an Alert# line (SALERT) and Packet Error Check (PEC) to ensure data properly transmitted. The telemetry update rate is 108μs (typically). The supported SMBus/PMBus/I²C addresses are summarized in [Table 10](#). The 7-bit format address does not include the last bit (write and read): 40-47h, 60-67h, and 70-7Fh.

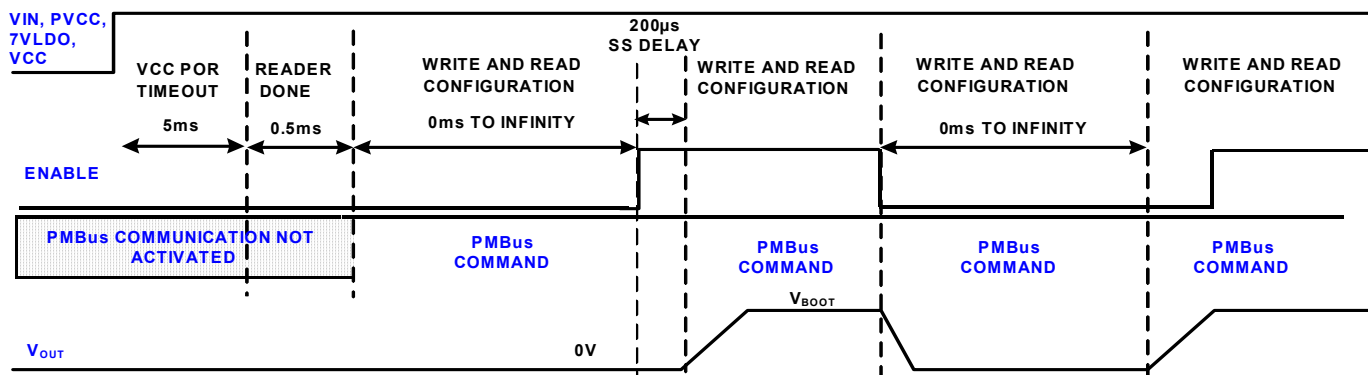
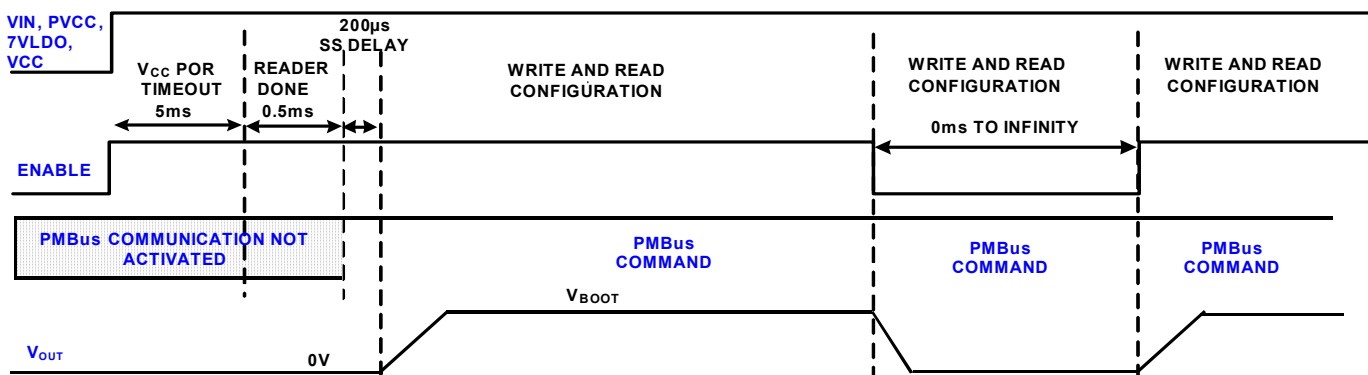
SMBus/PMBus/I²C allows users to program the registers as in [Table 11](#), except for SMBus/PMBus/I²C addresses, 5.5ms (typically, worst 6.5ms) after all rails (VCC, PVCC, 7VLDO, and VIN) above POR. [Figures 21](#) and [22](#) show the initialization timing diagram for the serial bus with different states of the EN (Enable) pin.

For proper operation, users should follow the SMBus, PMBus, and I²C protocol, as shown in [Figure 23 on page 23](#). Note that the STOP (P) bit is NOT allowed before the repeated START condition when reading the contents of the register.

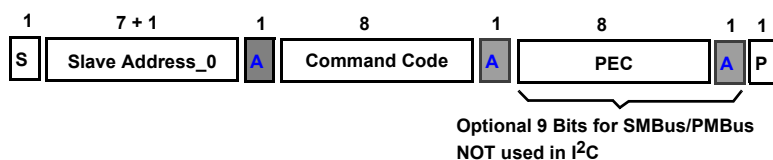
When the device's serial bus is not used, ground the device's SCL, SDA, and SALERT pins and do not connect them to the bus.

TABLE 10. SMBus/PMBus/I²C 7-BIT FORMAT ADDRESS (HEX)

| 7-BIT ADDRESS | 7-BIT ADDRESS | 7-BIT ADDRESS |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 40 | 63 | 76 |
| 41 | 64 | 77 |
| 42 | 65 | 78 |
| 43 | 66 | 79 |
| 44 | 67 | 7A |
| 45 | 70 | 7B |
| 46 | 71 | 7C |
| 47 | 72 | 7D |
| 60 | 73 | 7E |
| 61 | 74 | 7F |
| 62 | 75 | |

FIGURE 21. SIMPLIFIED SMBus/PMBus/I²C INITIALIZATION TIMING DIAGRAM WITH ENABLE LOWFIGURE 22. SIMPLIFIED SMBus/PMBus/I²C INITIALIZATION TIMING DIAGRAM WITH ENABLE HIGH

1. Send Byte Protocol



Example command: 03h Clear Faults
(This will clear all of the bits in Status Byte for the selected Rail)

S: Start Condition
A: Acknowledge ("0")
N: Not Acknowledge ("1")
W: Write ("0")
R: Read ("1")
RS: Repeated Start Condition
R: Read ("1")
PEC: Packet Error Checking
P: Stop Condition

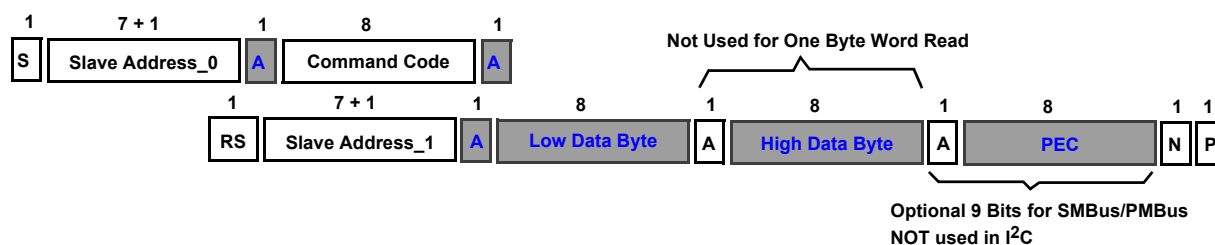
Acknowledge or DATA from Slave, ISL68201

2. Write Byte/Word Protocol



Example command: D0h ENABLE_PFM (one word, High Data Byte, and ACK are not used)

3. Read Byte/Word Protocol

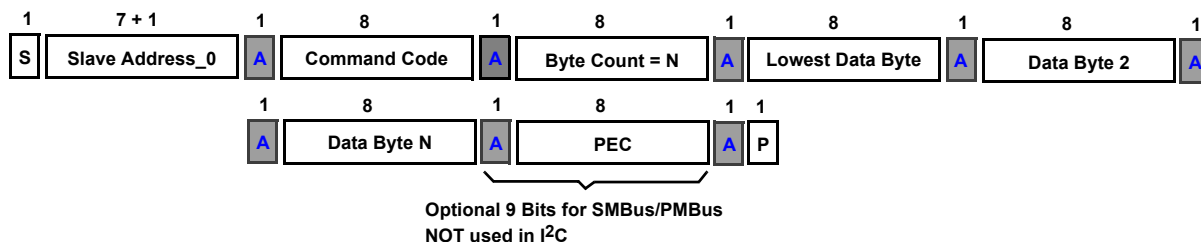


Example command: 8B READ_VOUT (Two words, read voltage of the selected rail).

NOTE: That all Writable commands are read with one byte word protocol.

STOP (P) bit is NOT allowed before the repeated START condition when "reading" contents of a register.

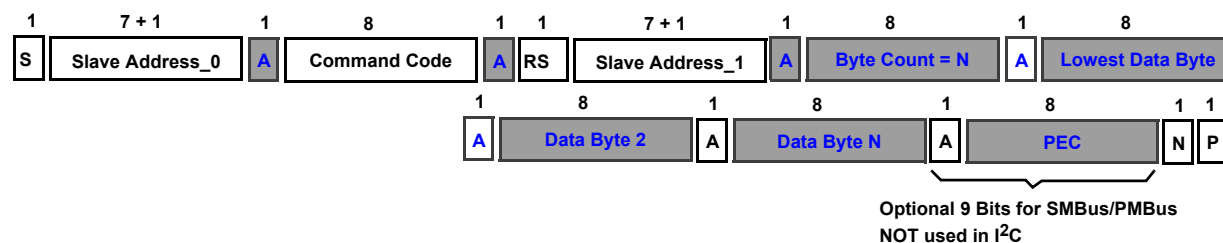
4. Block Write Protocol



Example command: ADh IC_DEVICE_ID (2 Data Byte)

FIGURE 23. SMBus/PMBus/I²C COMMAND PROTOCOL

5. Block Read Protocol



Example command: 8B READ_VOUT (Two words, read voltage of the selected rail).

NOTE: That all Writable commands are read with one byte word protocol.

STOP (P) bit is NOT allowed before the repeated START condition when “reading” contents of a register.

6. Group Command Protocol - No more than one command can be sent to the same Address

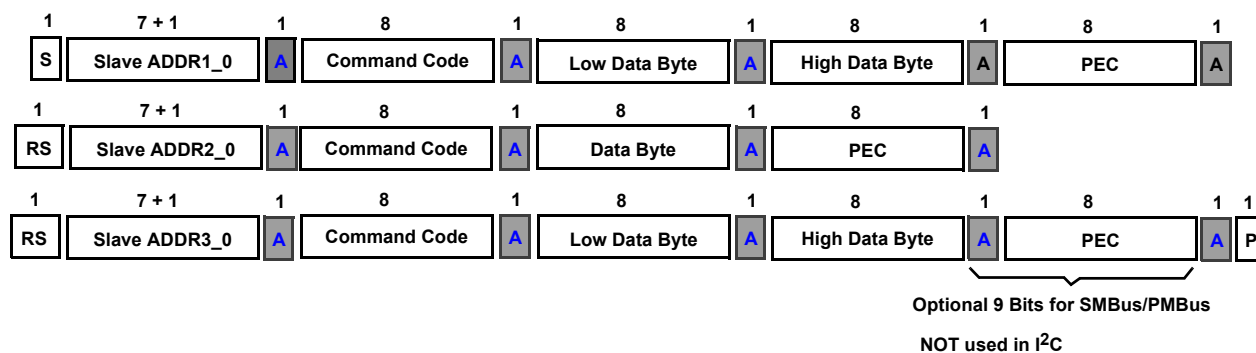


FIGURE 24. SMBus/PMBus/I²C COMMAND PROTOCOL

TABLE 11. SMBus, PMBus, AND I²C SUPPORTED COMMANDS

| COMMAND CODE | ACCESS | WORD LENGTH (BYTE) | DEFAULT VALUE | COMMAND NAME | DESCRIPTION |
|--------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------|------------------|---|
| 01h[7:0] | R/W | ONE | 80h | OPERATION | VR Enable (depending upon ON_OFF_CONFIG configuration): Bit[7]: 0 = OFF (0-F); 1 = ON (80-8Fh) Bit[6:4] = 0 Bit[3:0] = Don't care |
| 02h[7:0] | R/W | ONE | 1Fh | ON_OFF_CONFIG | Configure VR Enabled by OPERATION and/or EN pin: Bit[7:5] = 0 Bit[4] = 1 Bit[3] = OPERATION command Enable 0h = OPERATION command has no control on VR 1h = OPERATION command can turn ON/OFF VR Bit[2] = CONTROL pin Enable 0h = EN Pin has no control on VR 1h = EN pin can turn ON/OFF VR Bit[1] = 1 Bit[0] = 1 Bit[3:2] = 00b = 13h (ALWAYS ON) Bit[3:2] = 01b = 17h (EN controls VR) Bit[3:2] = 10b = 1Bh (OPERATION controls VR) Bit[3:2] = 11b = 1Fh (EN and OPERATION control VR) |
| 03h | SEND BYTE | N/A | | CLEAR_FAULTS | Clear faults in status registers |
| 20h[7:0] | R | ONE | 19h | VOUT_MODE | Set host format of V _{OUT} command. Always Linear Format: N = -7 |
| 21h[2:0] | R/W | TWO | PROG1[7:0] | VOUT_COMMAND | Set output voltage HEX Code = DEC2HEX(ROUND(V _{OUT} /2 ⁻⁷)) |
| 24h[15:0] | R/W | TWO | VBOOT+500mV | VOUT_MAX | Set maximum output voltage that VR can command (DAC ≤ VOUT_MAX). Linear Format. N = -7 HEX Code = DEC2HEX(ROUNDUP(VOUT_MAX/ 2 ⁻⁷)) |
| 33h[15:0] | R/W | TWO | PROG3[5:3] | FREQUENCY_SWITCH | Set VR Switching Frequency (In Linear Format) Support 8 options (N = 0): 12Ch = 300kHz; 190h = 400kHz; 1F4h = 500kHz 258h = 600kHz; 2BCh = 700kHz; 352h = 850kHz 3E8h = 1MHz; 5DCh = 1.5MHz* * Very high frequency is not recommended for very high duty cycle applications as the boot capacitor does not have enough time to be charged due to low LGATE ON time. |
| 78h[8:0] | R | ONE | | STATUS_BYTE | Fault Reporting; Bit7 = Busy Bit6 = OFF (Reflect current state of operation and ON_OFF_CONFIG registers as well as VR Operation) Bit5 = OVP Bit4 = OCP Bit3 = 0 Bit2 = OTP Bit1 = Bus communication error Bit0 = NONE OF ABOVE (OUTPUT UVP, VOUT_COMMAND > VOUT_MAX, or VOUT OPEN SENSE) |
| 88h[15:0] | R | TWO | | READ_VIN | Input Voltage (N = -4, Max = 31.9375V) VIN (V) = HEX2DEC(88 hex data - E000h) * 0.0625V |
| 8Bh[15:0] | R | TWO | | READ_VOUT | VR Output Voltage, Resolution = 7.8125mV = 2 ⁻⁷ VOUT (V) = HEX2DEC(8B hex data) * 2 ⁻⁷ |
| 8Ch[15:0] | R | TWO | | READ_IOUT | VR Output Current (N = -3, IMAX = 63.875A) IOUT (A) = HEX2DEC(8C hex data-E800) * 0.125A when IOUT pin voltage = 2.5V at 63.875A load. |

TABLE 11. SMBus, PMBus, AND I²C SUPPORTED COMMANDS (Continued)

| COMMAND CODE | ACCESS | WORD LENGTH (BYTE) | DEFAULT VALUE | COMMAND NAME | DESCRIPTION |
|--------------|---------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---|
| 8Dh[15:0] | R | TWO | | READ_TEMP | VR Temperature $TEMP (^{\circ}C) = 1 / (\ln[Rup * \text{HEX2DEC}(8D \text{ hex data})] / (511 - \text{HEX2DEC}(8D \text{ hex data}) / RNTC(at +25^{\circ}C)] / \text{Beta} + 1 / 298.15) - 273.15$ |
| 98h[7:0] | R | ONE | 02h | PMBUS_REVISION | Indicates PMBus Revision 1.2 |
| AD[15:0] | BLOCK R | TWO | 8201h | IC_DEVICE_ID | ISL68201 Device ID |
| AE[15:0] | BLOCK R | TWO | 0003h | IC_DEVICE_REVISION | ISL68201 Device Revision |
| D0[0:0] | R/W | ONE | PROG2[7:7] | ENABLE_PFM | PFM OPERATION 0h = PFM Enabled (DCM at light load) 1h = PFM Disabled (always CCM mode) |
| D1[1:0] | R/W | ONE | PROG2[6:5] | TEMP_COMP | Thermal Compensation: 0h = 30°C; 01h = 15°C; 02h = 5°C; 03h = OFF |
| D2[0:0] | R/W | ONE | PROG3[7:7] | ENABLE_ULTRASONIC | Ultrasonic PFM Enable 0h = 25kHz Clamp Disabled 1h = 25kHz Clamp Enabled |
| D3[0:0] | R/W | ONE | PROG3[6:6] | OCF_BEHAVIOR | Set latch or infinite retry for OCF fault: 0h = Retry every 9ms; 01 = Latch-OFF |
| D4[2:0] | R/W | ONE | PROG3[2:0] | AV_GAIN | R4 AV GAIN (PROG4, AV Gain Multiplier = 2x) 0h = 84; 1h = 73; 2h = 61; 3h = 49 4h = 38; 5h = 26; 6h = 14; 7h = 2 R4 AV GAIN (PROG4, AV Gain Multiplier = 1x) 0h = 42; 1h = 36.5; 2h = 30.5; 3h = 29.5 4h = 19; 5h = 13; 6h = 7; 7h = 1 |
| D5[2:0] | R/W | ONE | PROG4[7:5] | RAMP_RATE | Soft-Start and Margining DVID Rate (mV/μs) 0h = 1.25; 1h = 2.5; 2h = 5; 3h = 10; 4h = 0.078; 5h = 0.157 6h = 0.315; 7h = 0.625; |
| D6[1:0] | R/W | ONE | PROG4[4:3] | SET_RR | Set RR 0h = 200k; 01h = 400k; 02h = 600k; 03h = 800k |
| DC[7:0] | R | ONE | | READ_PROG1 | Read PROG1 |
| DD[7:0] | R | ONE | | READ_PROG2 | Read PROG2 |
| DE[7:0] | R | ONE | | READ_PROG3 | Read PROG3 |
| DF[7:0] | R | ONE | | READ_PROG4 | Read PROG4 |

NOTE: Serial bus communication is valid 5.5m (typically, worst 6.5ms) after V_{CC}, V_{IN}, 7VLD0, and PVCC above POR. The telemetry update rate is 108μs.

R4 Modulator

The R4 modulator is an evolutionary step in R3 technology. Like R3, the R4 modulator is a linear control loop and variable frequency control during load transients to eliminate beat frequency oscillation at the switching frequency and maintains the benefits of current-mode hysteretic controllers. In addition, the R4 modulator reduces regulator output impedance and uses accurate referencing to eliminate the need for a high-gain voltage amplifier in the compensation loop. The result is a topology that can be tuned to voltage-mode hysteretic transient speed while maintaining a linear control model and removes the need for any compensation. This greatly simplifies the regulator design for customers and reduces external component cost.

STABILITY

The removal of compensation derives from the R4 modulator's lack of need for high DC gain. In traditional architectures, high DC gain is achieved with an integrator in the voltage loop. The integrator introduces a pole in the open-loop transfer function at low frequencies. That, combined with the double-pole from the output L/C filter, creates a three pole system that must be compensated to maintain stability.

Classic control theory requires a single-pole transition through unity gain to ensure a stable system. Current-mode architectures (includes peak, peak-valley, current-mode hysteric, R3, and R4) generate a zero at or near the L/C resonant point, effectively canceling one of the system's poles. The system still contains two poles, one of which must be canceled with a zero before unity gain crossover to achieve stability.

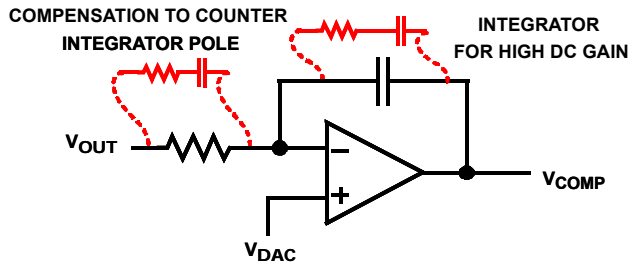


FIGURE 25. CLASSICAL INTEGRATOR ERROR-AMPLIFIER CONFIGURATION

Figure 25 illustrates the classic integrator configuration for a voltage loop error amplifier. While the integrator provides the high DC gain required for accurate regulation in traditional technologies, it also introduces a low-frequency pole into the control loop. Figure 26 shows the open-loop response that results from the addition of an integrating capacitor in the voltage loop. The compensation components found in Figure 25 are necessary to achieve stability.

Because R4 does not require a high-gain voltage loop, the integrator can be removed, reducing the number of inherent poles in the loop to two. The current-mode zero continues to cancel one of the poles, ensuring a single-pole crossover for a wide range of output filter choices. The result is a stable system with no need for compensation components or complex equations to properly tune the stability.

Figure 27 shows the R4 error amplifier that does not require an integrator for high DC gain to achieve accurate regulation. The result to the open loop response can be seen in Figure 28.

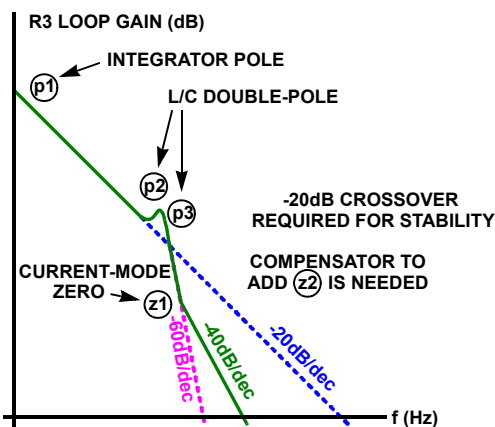


FIGURE 26. UNCOMPENSATED INTEGRATOR OPEN-LOOP RESPONSE

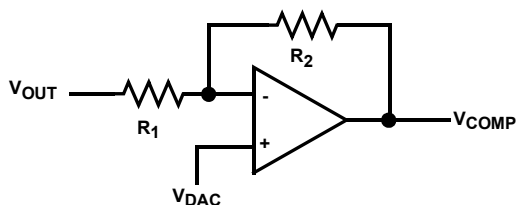


FIGURE 27. NON-INTEGRATED R4 ERROR-AMPLIFIER CONFIGURATION

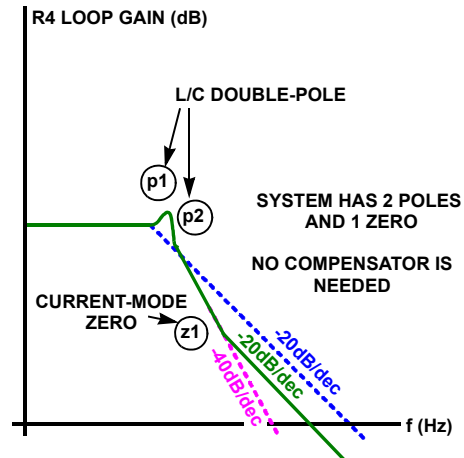


FIGURE 28. UNCOMPENSATED R4 OPEN-LOOP RESPONSE

TRANSIENT RESPONSE

In addition to requiring a compensation zero, the integrator in traditional architectures also slows system response to transient conditions. The change in COMP voltage is slow in response to a rapid change in output voltage. If the integrating capacitor is removed, COMP moves as quickly as V_{OUT} , and the modulator immediately increases or decreases switching frequency to recover the output voltage.

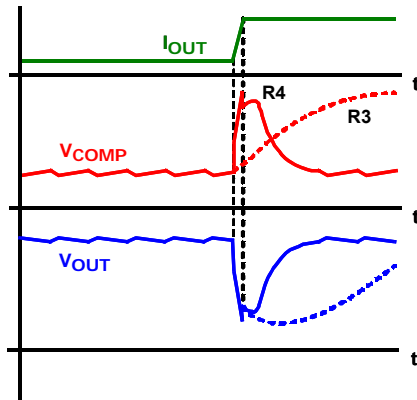


FIGURE 29. R3 vs R4 IDEALIZED TRANSIENT RESPONSE

The dotted red and blue lines in Figure 29 represent the time delayed behavior of V_{OUT} and V_{COMP} in response to a load transient when an integrator is used. The solid red and blue lines illustrate the increased response of R4 in the absence of the integrator capacitor.

To optimize transient response and improve phase margin for very wide range applications, the ISL68201 integrates selectable AV and RR options that move the DC gain and $z1$ point, as shown in Figure 28. However, the defaulted AV gain of 42 and RR of 200k Ω can cover many cases and provides sufficient gain and phase margin. For some extreme cases, lower AV gain and bigger RR values are needed to provide a better phase margin and improve transient ringback. The optimal choice AV and RR can be obtained by simple monitoring transient response when adjusting AV and RR values through the serial bus.

General Application Design Guide

This design guide provides a high-level explanation of the steps necessary to design a single-phase buck converter. It is assumed that the reader is familiar with many of the basic skills and techniques referenced in the following. In addition to this guide, complete reference designs that include schematics, bills of materials, and example board layouts are provided.

Output Filter Design

The output inductors and the output capacitor bank together to form a low-pass filter responsible for smoothing the pulsating voltage at the phase nodes. The output filter also must provide the transient energy until the regulator can respond. The output filter limits the system transient response, because it has a low bandwidth compared to the switching frequency. The output capacitor must supply or sink load current while the current in the output inductors increases or decreases to meet the demand.

In high-speed converters, the output capacitor bank is usually the most costly (and often the largest) part of the circuit. Output filter design begins with minimizing the cost of this part of the circuit. The critical load parameters in choosing the output capacitors are the maximum size of the load step, ΔI ; the load current slew rate, di/dt ; and the maximum allowable output voltage deviation under transient loading, ΔV_{MAX} . Capacitors are characterized according to their capacitance, ESR, and ESL (equivalent series inductance).

At the beginning of the load transient, the output capacitors supply all of the transient current. The output voltage initially deviates by an amount approximated by the voltage drop across the ESL. As the load current increases, the voltage drop across the ESR increases linearly until the load current reaches its final value. The capacitors selected must have sufficiently low ESL and ESR so that the total output voltage deviation is less than the allowable maximum. Neglecting the contribution of inductor current and regulator response, the output voltage initially deviates by an amount, as shown in [Equation 15](#):

$$\Delta V \approx \Delta I \cdot ESR + \frac{ESL}{L_{OUT}} \cdot V_{IN} + \frac{1}{C_{OUT}} \cdot \frac{\Delta I}{8 \cdot N \cdot f_{SW}} \quad (EQ. 15)$$

$$\Delta I = \frac{V_{OUT} \cdot (1 - D)}{L_{OUT} \cdot f_{SW}}$$

The filter capacitor must have sufficiently low ESL and ESR so that $\Delta V < \Delta V_{MAX}$.

Most capacitor solutions rely on a mixture of high-frequency capacitors with relatively low capacitance in combination with bulk capacitors having high capacitance but limited high-frequency performance. Minimizing the ESL of the high-frequency capacitors allows them to support the output voltage as the current increases. Minimizing the ESR of the bulk capacitors allows them to supply the increased current with less output voltage deviation. The ESR of the bulk capacitors also creates the majority of the output voltage ripple. As the bulk capacitors sink and source the inductor AC ripple current, a voltage develops across the bulk capacitor ESR equal to $I_{L(P-P)}(ESR)$.

Thus, after the output capacitors are selected, the maximum allowable ripple voltage, $V_{P-P(MAX)}$, determines the lower limit on the inductance, as shown in [Equation 16](#).

$$L_{OUT} \geq ESR \cdot \frac{V_{OUT} \cdot (V_{IN} - V_{OUT})}{f_{SW} \cdot V_{IN} \cdot V_{P-P(MAX)}} \quad (EQ. 16)$$

Because the capacitors are supplying a decreasing portion of the load current while the regulator recovers from the transient, the capacitor voltage becomes slightly depleted. The output inductors must be capable of assuming the entire load current before the output voltage decreases more than ΔV_{MAX} . This places an upper limit on inductance.

[Equation 17](#) gives the upper limit on L for cases when the trailing edge of the current transient causes a greater output to voltage deviation than the leading edge. [Equation 18](#) addresses the leading edge. Normally, the trailing edge dictates the selection of L because duty cycles are usually less than 50%. Nevertheless, both inequalities should be evaluated, and L should be selected based on the lower of the two results. In [Equations 17](#) and [18](#), L is the per-channel inductance and C is the total output capacitance.

$$L_{OUT} \leq \frac{2 \cdot C \cdot V_{OUT}}{(\Delta I)^2} [\Delta V_{MAX} - (\Delta I \cdot ESR)] \quad (EQ. 17)$$

$$L_{OUT} \leq \frac{1.25 \cdot C}{(\Delta I)^2} [\Delta V_{MAX} - (\Delta I \cdot ESR)] (V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) \quad (EQ. 18)$$

Input Capacitor Selection

The input capacitors are responsible for sourcing the AC component of the input current flowing into the upper MOSFETs. Their RMS current capacity must be sufficient to handle the AC component of the current drawn by the upper MOSFETs, which is related to duty cycle and the number of active phases. The input RMS current can be calculated with [Equation 19](#).

$$I_{IN, RMS} = \sqrt{(D - D^2) \cdot I_O^2 + \frac{D}{12} \cdot (\Delta I)^2} \quad (EQ. 19)$$

Use [Figure 30 on page 29](#) to determine the input capacitor RMS current requirement given the duty cycle, maximum sustained output current (I_O), and the ratio of the per-phase peak-to-peak inductor current ($I_{L(P-P)}$) to I_O . Select a bulk capacitor with a ripple current rating that minimizes the total number of input capacitors required to support the RMS current calculated. The voltage rating of the capacitors should also be at least 1.25 times greater than the maximum input voltage.

Low capacitance, high-frequency ceramic capacitors are needed in addition to the bulk capacitors to suppress leading and falling edge voltage spikes. The result of the high current slew rates produced by the upper MOSFETs turn on and off requires low ESL ceramic capacitors, which should be placed as close as possible to each upper MOSFET drain to minimize board parasitic impedances and maximize noise suppression.

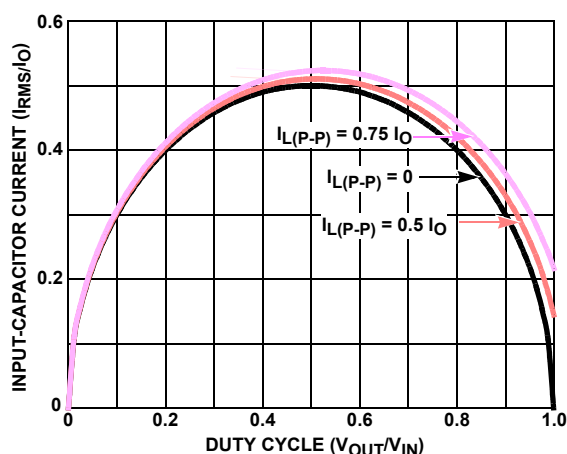


FIGURE 30. NORMALIZED INPUT-CAPACITOR RMS CURRENT vs DUTY CYCLE FOR SINGLE-PHASE CONVERTER

Design and Layout Considerations

To ensure a first pass design, the schematics design must be done correctly with correct pinout and net names, and the board must be carefully laid out.

As a general rule, power layers should be close together, either on the top or bottom of the board, with the weak analog or logic signal layers on the opposite side of the board or internal layers. The ground-plane layer should be in between power layers and the signal layers to provide shielding, often the layer below the top and the layer above the bottom should be the ground layers.

The two sets of components in a DC/DC converter are the power components and the small signal components. The power components are the most critical because they switch large amounts of energy. The small signal components connect to sensitive nodes or supply critical bypassing current and signal coupling.

The power components should be placed first. These include MOSFETs, input and output capacitors, and the inductor. Keeping the distance between the power train and the control IC short helps keep the gate drive traces short. These drive signals include the LGATE, UGATE, GND, PHASE, and BOOT.

When placing MOSFETs, keep the source of the upper MOSFETs and the drain of the lower MOSFETs as close as thermally possible. Input high-frequency capacitors should be placed close to the drain of the upper MOSFETs and the source of the lower MOSFETs. Place the output inductor and output capacitors between the MOSFETs and the load. Place high frequency output decoupling capacitors (ceramic) as close as possible to the decoupling target, making use of the shortest connection paths to any internal planes. Place the components in such a way that the area under the IC has less noise traces with high dV/dt and di/dt , such as gate signals, phase node signals, and VIN plane.

Tables 12 and 13 provide a design and layout checklist that the designer can reference.

TABLE 12. DESIGN AND LAYOUT CHECKLIST

| PIN NAME | NOISE SENSITIVITY | DESCRIPTION |
|------------|-------------------|--|
| EN | YES | There is an internal 1 μ s filter. Decoupling the capacitor is NOT needed, but if needed, use a low time constant one to avoid too large a shutdown delay. |
| VIN | YES | Place 16V+ X7R 1 μ F in close proximity to the pin and the system ground plane. |
| 7VLDO | YES | Place 10V+ X7R 1 μ F in close proximity to the pin and the system ground plane. |
| VCC | YES | Place X7R 1 μ F in close proximity to the pin and the system ground plane. |
| SCL, SDA | YES | 50kHz to 1.25MHz signal when the SMBus, PMBus, or I ² C is sending commands. Pairing up with SALERT and routing carefully back to SMBus, PMBus or I ² C master. 20 mils spacing within SDA, SALERT, and SCL; and more than 30 mils to all other signals. Refer to the SMBus, PMBus or I ² C design guidelines and place proper terminated (pull-up) resistance for impedance matching. Tie them to GND when not used. |
| SALERT | NO | Open-drain and high dv/dt pin during transitions. Route it in the middle of SDA and SCL. Tie it to GND when not used. |
| PGOOD | NO | Open-drain pin. Tie it to GND when not used. |
| RGND, VSEN | YES | Differential pair routed to the remote sensing points with sufficient decoupling ceramics capacitors and not across or go above/under any switching nodes (BOOT, PHASE, UGATE, LGATE) or planes (VIN, PHASE, VOUT) even though they are not in the same layer. At least 20 mils spacing from other traces. DO NOT share the same trace with CSRTN. |
| CSRTN | YES | Connect to the output rail side of the output inductor or current sensing resistor pin with a series resistor in close proximity to the pin. The series resistor sets the current gain and should be within 40 Ω and 3.5k Ω . Decoupling ($\sim 0.1\mu$ F/X7R) on the output end (not the pin) is optional and might be required for long sense trace and a poor layout (see Figures 9 and 10). |
| CSEN | YES | Connect to the phase node side of the output inductor or current sensing resistor pin with L/DCR or ESL/R_{SEN} matching network in close proximity to CSEN and CSRTN pins. Differentially routing back to the controller with at least 20 mils spacing from other traces. Should NOT cross or go above/under the switching nodes [BOOT, PHASE, UGATE, LGATE], and power planes (VIN, PHASE, VOUT) even though they are not in the same layer. |

TABLE 12. DESIGN AND LAYOUT CHECKLIST (Continued)

| PIN NAME | NOISE SENSITIVITY | DESCRIPTION |
|----------|-------------------|--|
| NTC | YES | Place an NTC 10k (Murata, NCP15XH103J03RC, $\beta = 3380$) in close proximity to the output inductor's output rail, not close to MOSFET side (see Figure 19); the return trace should be 20 mils away from other traces. Place 1.54k Ω pull-up and decoupling capacitor (typically 0.1 μ F) in close proximity to the controller. The pull-up resistor should be exactly tied to the same point as VCC pin, not through an RC filter. If not used, connect this pin to VCC. |
| IOUT | YES | Scale R so that the IOUT pin voltage is 2.5V at 63.875A load. Place R and C in general proximity to the controller. The time constant of RC should be sufficient as an averaging function (>200 μ s) for the digital IOUT. An external pull-up resistor to VCC placeholder is recommended to cancel IOUT offset at 0A load. See " IOUT Calibration " on page 19 . |
| PROG1-4 | NO | The resistor divider must be referenced to VCC pin and the system ground (GND); they can be placed anywhere. DO NOT use decoupling capacitors on these pins. |
| GND | YES | Directly connect to a low noise area of the system ground. The GND PAD should use at least four vias. Separate analog ground and power ground with a 0 Ω resistor is highly NOT recommended. |
| FCCM | NO | DO NOT place it across or under external components of the controller. Keep it at least 20 mils away from sensitive nodes. |
| PWM | NO | DO NOT place it across or under external components of the controller. Keep it at least 20 mils away from any other traces. |
| LGIN | NO | Keep it at least 20 mils away from sensitive nodes. A series 100 Ω resistor to low-side gate signal is required for noise attenuation. |
| PVCC | YES | Place X7R 4.7 μ F in proximity to the PVCC pin and the system ground plane. |

TABLE 13. TOP LAYOUT TIPS

| NUMBER | DESCRIPTION |
|--------|---|
| 1 | The layer next to controller (top or bottom) should be a ground layer. Separate analog ground and power ground with a 0 Ω resistor is highly NOT recommended. Directly connect GND PAD to low noise area of the system ground with at least four vias. |
| 2 | Never place controller and its external components above or under VIN plane or any switching nodes. |
| 3 | Never share CSRTN and VSEN on the same trace. |
| 4 | Place the input rail decoupling ceramic capacitors closely to the high-side FET on the same layer as possible. Never use only one via and a trace connect the input rail decoupling ceramics capacitors; must connect to VIN and GND planes. |
| 5 | Place all decoupling capacitors in close proximity to the controller and the system ground plane. |
| 6 | Connect remote sense (VSEN and RGND) to the load and ceramic decoupling capacitors nodes; never run this pair above or below switching noise plane. |
| 7 | Always double check critical component pinout and their respective footprints. |

Voltage Regulator Design Materials

To support VR design and layout, Renesas also developed a set of tools and evaluation boards, as listed in [Table 14](#) and [Ordering Information](#) on [page 5](#). Contact the local office or field [support](#) for the latest available information.

TABLE 14. AVAILABLE DESIGN ASSISTANCE MATERIALS

| ITEM | DESCRIPTION |
|------|---|
| 1 | SMBus/PMBus/I ² C communication tool with the PowerNavigator GUI. |
| 2 | Evaluation board schematics in OrCAD format and layout in Allegro format. See Ordering Information on page 5 for details. |

Revision History

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

| DATE | REVISION | CHANGE |
|--------------|----------|--|
| Jul 12, 2018 | FN8696.5 | Updated Ordering information table by adding tape and reel options to table and updating Note 1. Updated Equation 10. Removed About Intersil section and updated disclaimer. |
| Oct 17, 2017 | FN8696.4 | Updated Pin 11 and 12 descriptions on page 6. |
| Sep 25, 2017 | FN8696.3 | Updated LGIN pin description. Updated Figure 4, changed "10.2V/9.24V" to "10.08V/9.12V". Updated 3Fh R_{UP} value in Table 3. Replaced entire paragraph on page 11. Added units to $R = 348\Omega$ on page 17 above Figure 11. On page 28 last sentence in paragraph in left column changed " $I_{C(P-P)}$ " to " $I_{L(P-P)}$ ". |
| Aug 29, 2017 | FN8696.2 | For Figures 1 and 2 on page 3, added a resistor to the CSRTN circuit. On page 1, updated the Related Literature section to current standards. Added three demonstration boards to the Ordering Information table on page 5. Removed Table 15 on page 30 because the demonstration board information is in the Ordering Information section. |
| Mar 7, 2016 | FN8696.1 | Removed unreleased parts from Table 1. |
| Mar 2, 2016 | FN8696.0 | Initial release |

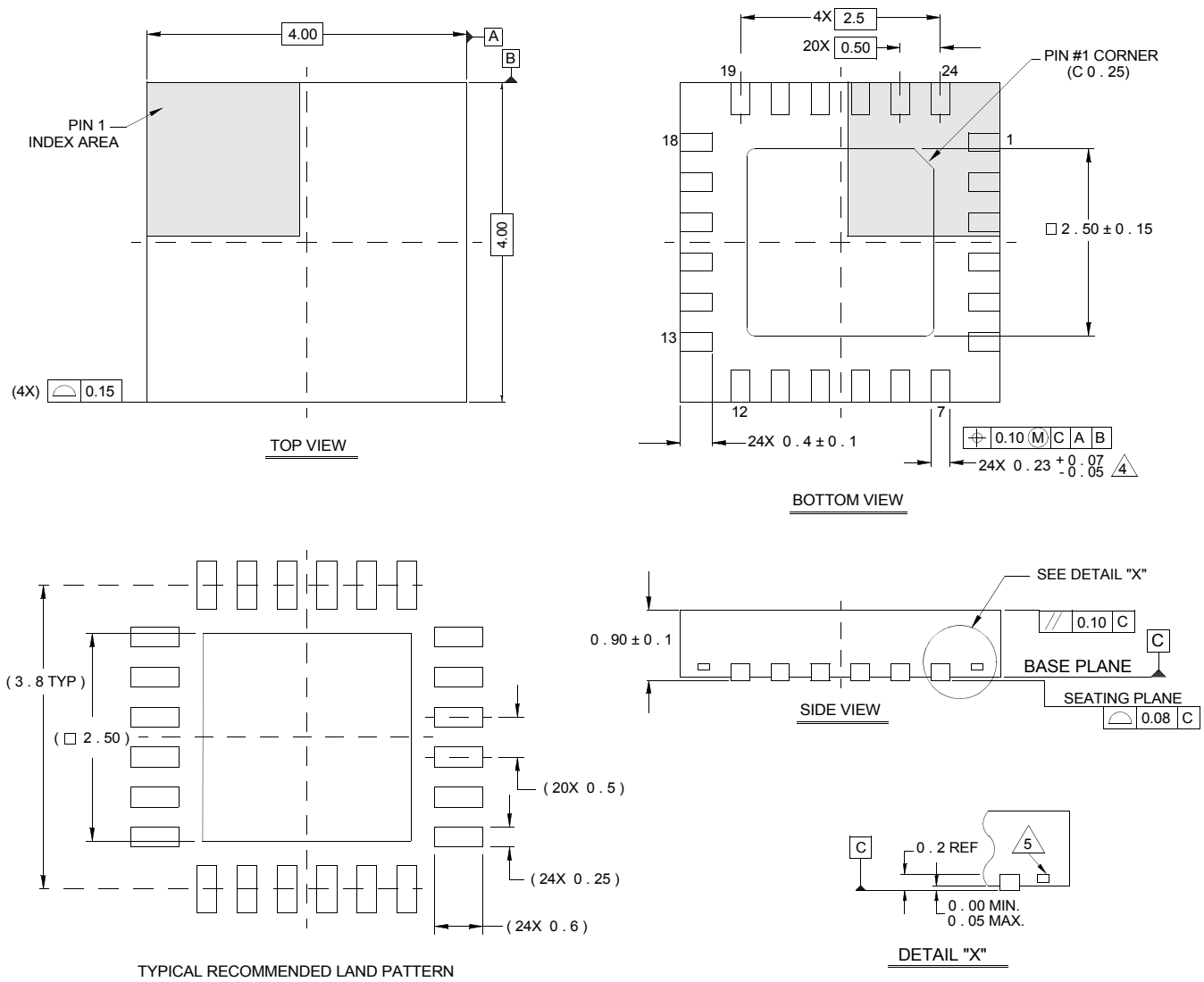
Package Outline Drawing

L24.4x4C

24 LEAD QUAD FLAT NO-LEAD PLASTIC PACKAGE

Rev 2, 10/06

For the most recent package outline drawing, see [L24.4x4C](#).



NOTES:

- Dimensions are in millimeters.
Dimensions in () for Reference Only.
- Dimensioning and tolerancing conform to AMSE Y14.5m-1994.
- Unless otherwise specified, tolerance: Decimal ± 0.05
- Dimension b applies to the metallized terminal and is measured between 0.15mm and 0.30mm from the terminal tip.
- Tiebar shown (if present) is a non-functional feature.
- 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.

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