

3.5MHz, 500mA Step-down Regulator with Integrated Inductor

POWER MANAGEMENT

Features

- Input Voltage 2.9V to 5.5V
- Output Voltage 0.8V to 3.3V
- Output current capability 500mA
- Internal inductor
- 15 programmable output voltages
- Fast transient response
- Temperature range -40 to +85°C
- Oscillator frequency 3.5MHz
- 100% duty cycle capability
- Quiescent current 11mA typ
- Shutdown current 0.1µA typ
- Internal soft-start
- Over-voltage protection
- Current limit and short circuit protection
- Over-temperature protection
- Under-voltage lockout
- Floating control pin protection
- MLPQ-13 2.5 x 3.0 x 1.0 (mm) package
- Lead-free and halogen-free
- WEEE and RoHS compliant

Applications

- Optical modules, GN1157B, GN1599 etc
- Set top boxes
- Telecommunication equipment
- Power rails demand small voltage ripple and compact size

Description

The SC202F is a high efficiency 500mA step-down regulator that includes an integrated inductor inside the package. The input voltage range makes it ideal for battery operated applications with space limitations. The SC202F operates at a fixed 3.5MHz switching frequency in normal PWM (Pulse-Width Modulation) mode. The SC202F also includes fifteen programmable output voltage settings that can be selected using the four control pins, eliminating the need for external feedback resistors. The output voltage can be fixed to a single setting or dynamically switched between different levels. Pulling all four control pins low disables the output.

The SC202F provides several protection features to safeguard the device under stressed conditions. These include short circuit protection, over-temperature protection, under-voltage lockout, and soft-start to control in-rush current. These features, coupled with the small 2.5 x 3.0 x 1.0 (mm) package, make the SC202F a versatile device ideal for step-down regulation in products needing high efficiency and a small PCB footprint.

Typical Application Circuit





Pin Configuration



Marking Information



Ordering Information

Device	Package
SC202FMLTRT ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	MLPQ-13 — 2.5 x 3.0
SC202FEVB	Evaluation Board

Notes:

- (1) Available in tape and reel only. A reel contains 3,000 devices.
- (2) Lead-free packaging only. Device is WEEE and RoHS compliant and halogen-free.

Table 1 – Output Voltage Settings

		•		5
CTL3	CTL2	CTL1	CTL0	Vout
0	0	0	0	Off
0	0	0	1	0.80
0	0	1	0	1.00
0	0	1	1	1.20
0	1	0	0	1.40
0	1	0	1	1.50
0	1	1	0	1.60
0	1	1	1	1.80
1	0	0	0	2.3
1	0	0	1	2.35
1	0	1	0	2.00
1	0	1	1	2.4
1	1	0	0	2.45
1	1	0	1	2.8
1	1	1	0	3.00
1	1	1	1	3.30



Absolute Maximum Ratings

IN (V)0.3 to +6.0
LX Voltage (V)
Other Pins (V)0.3 to $V_{_{\rm IN}}$ + 0.3
Output Short Circuit to GND Continuous
ESD Protection Level $^{(1)}(kV)$

Recommended Operating Conditions

Input Voltage Range (V)	+2.9 to +5.5
Operating Temperature Range (°C)	-40 to +85

Thermal Information

Thermal Resistance, Junction to $Ambient^{\scriptscriptstyle(2)}(^{\circ}C/W).\ldots.58$
Junction Temperature Range (°C)40 to +150
Storage Temperature Range (°C)65 to +150

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

NOTES:

(1) Tested according to JEDEC standard JESD22-A114-B.

(2) Calculated from package in still air, mounted to 3 x 4.5 (in), 4 layer FR4 PCB per JESD51 standards.

Electrical Characteristics

Unless otherwise specified: V_{IN} = 3.6V, C_{IN} = 4.7 μ F, C_{OUT} = 10 μ F, V_{OUT} = 2.0V, $T_{J(MAX)}$ = 125°C, T_A = -40 to +85 °C. Typical values are T_A = +25 °C

Parameter	Symbol	Condition	Min	Тур	Max	Units
Output Voltage Range	V _{out}		0.8		3.3 (1)	V
Output Voltage Tolerance	V _{OUT_TOL}	I _{out} =200mA	-2.0		2.0	%
Line Regulation	$\Delta V_{LINEREG}$	$2.9 \le V_{IN} \le 5.5V, I_{OUT} = 200mA$		0.3		%/V
Load Regulation	$\Delta V_{LOADREG}$	200mA ≤ I _{out} ≤ 500mA		-1		%/A
Output Current Capability	I _{out}		500			mA
Current Limit Threshold	ILIMIT		800		1300	mA
Foldback Current Limit	I _{FB_LIM}	I _{LOAD} > I _{LIMIT}		150		mA
		Rising V _{IN}			2.9	V
Under-Voltage Lockout	V _{UVLO}	Hysteresis		200		mV
Quiescent Current	Ι _Q	No switching, I _{out} = 0mA		11		mA
Shutdown Current	I _{sD}	V _{CTL 0-3} = 0V		0.1	1.0	μΑ
Output Leakage Current	I _{out}	Into OUT pin		0.1	1.0	μΑ
High Side Switch Resistance ⁽²⁾	R _{DSON_P}	I _{out} = 100mA		250		
Low Side Switch Resistance ⁽³⁾	R _{dson_n}	I _{out} = 100mA		350		mΩ
Switching Frequency	f _{sw}		2.8	3.5	4.2	MHz



Electrical Characteristics (continued)

Parameter	Symbol	Condition	Min	Тур	Max	Units
Soft-Start	t _{ss}	$V_{OUT} = 90\%$ of final value		100	500	μs
Thermal Shutdown	T _{ot}	Rising temperature		160		°C
Thermal Shutdown Hysteresis	T _{HYST}			20		°C
Logic Inputs - CTL0, CTL1, CTL2, and CTL3						
Input High Voltage	V _{IH}		1.6			V
Input Low Voltage	V _{IL}				0.4	V
Input High Current	I _{IH}	$V_{CTL 0-3} = V_{IN}$	-2.0		5.0	μΑ
Input Low Current	I _{IL}	V _{CTL 0-3} = GND	-2.0		2.0	μA

Notes

(1) Maximum output voltage is limited to VIN if the input is less than 3.3V.

(2) Measured from IN to LX.

(3) Measured from LX to GND.



Typical Characteristics

 $C_{IN} = 4.7 \mu$ F, $C_{OUT} = 10 \mu$ F, $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C unless otherwise noted.



Efficiency vs Load, Vin=4.2V



Efficiency vs Load, Vin=5.5V





Load Regultation, Vin=4.2V



Load Regulation, Vin=5.5V





Typical Characteristics (continued)



Output Voltage vs Temperature





5Vin, 2Vout, 3.5MHz, Vout Ripple



Switching Frequency vs Temperature



Soft Start, Heavy Load 4 Steps Current Limit, Vout Ramp to Regulation



VID Transition (CTL2 Low_High_Low)





Typical Characteristics (continued)

VID Transition: Voltage Rise, CTL2 Low to High



Approaching 100 % Duty Cycle Operation Vin=3.7V, Vout=3.3V Heavy Load



Short Circuit Protection:Current Limit for 32 Cycles then to Foldback I-Limit





VID Transition - Voltage Fall, CTL2 High to Low





Recovery From Short Circuit: Operating with Foldback I-Limit Ramp up Vout to Regulation





Pin Descriptions

Pin	Pin Name	Pin Function
1, 2, 3	LX	Switching node sense pin — for test purposes only.
4	SNS	Output sense pin — connect to output capacitor for proper sensing of output voltage.
5	CTL3	Control bit 3 — see Table 1, page 2, for decoding. This pin has a weak pull-down resistor (> $1M\Omega$) in place at reset that is removed when CTL3 is pulled above the logic high threshold.
6	CTL0	Control bit 0 — see Table 1, page 2, for decoding. This pin has a weak pull-down resistor (> $1M\Omega$) in place at reset that is removed when CTL0 is pulled above the logic high threshold.
7	CTL1	Control bit 1 — see Table 1, page 2, for decoding. This pin has a weak pull-down resistor (> $1M\Omega$) in place at reset that is removed when CTL1 is pulled above the logic high threshold.
8	CTL2	Control bit 2 — see Table 1, page 2, for decoding. This pin has a weak pull-down resistor (> $1M\Omega$) in place at reset that is removed when CTL2 is pulled above the logic high threshold.
9	IN	Input power supply pin — connect a bypass capacitor from this pin to GND.
10	GND	Ground reference and power ground for the SC202F.
11, 12, 13	OUT	Regulator output pin — connect a 10μ F ceramic capacitor to this pin for proper filtering.



Block Diagram



A = pins 1, 2, 3 B = pins 11, 12, 13



Applications Information

General Description

The SC202F is a synchronous step-down PWM (Pulse Width Modulated) DC-DC regulator utilizing a 3.5MHz fixed-frequency voltage-mode architecture and an internal 1 μ H inductor. The device is designed to operate in fixed-frequency PWM mode. Two capacitors are the only external components required — one for input decoupling and one for output filtering. The output voltage is programmable, eliminating the need for external programming resistors. Loop compensation is also internal, eliminating the need for external components to control stability.

Programmable Output Voltage

The SC202F has 15 fixed output voltage levels which can be individually selected by programming the CTL control pins (CTL3-0 — see Table 1 on page 2 for settings). The device is disabled whenever all four CTL pins are pulled low and enabled whenever at least one of the CTL pins is pulled high. This configuration eliminates the need for a dedicated enable pin. Each CTL pin is internally pulled down via $1M\Omega$ if V_{IN} is below 1.5V or if the voltage on the control pin is below the input high voltage. This ensures that the output is disabled when power is applied if there are no inputs to the CTL pins. Each weak pull-down is disabled whenever its pin is pulled high and remains disabled until all CTL pins are pulled low.

The output voltage can be set using different approaches. If a static output voltage is required, the CTL pins can be tied to either IN or GND to set the desired voltage whenever power is applied at IN. If enable control is required, each CTL pin can be tied to either GND or to a microprocessor I/O line to create the desired control code whenever the control signal is forced high. This approach is equivalent to using the CTL pins collectively as a single enable pin. A third option is to connect each of the four CTL pins to individual microprocessor I/O lines. Any of the 15 output voltages can be programmed using this approach. If only two output voltages are needed, the CTL pins can be combined in a way that will reduce the number of I/O lines to 1, 2, or 3, depending on the control code for each desired voltage. Other CTL pins could be hard-wired to GND or IN. This option allows dynamic voltage adjustment for systems that reduce the supply voltage when entering sleep states. Note that applying all zeros to the CTL pins when changing the output voltage will temporarily disable the device, so it is important to avoid this combination when dynamically changing levels.

Adjustable Output Voltage Selection

If an output voltage other than one of the 15 programmable settings is needed, an external resistor divider network can be added to the SC202F to adjust the output voltage setting. This network scales the output based on the resistor ratio and the programmed output setting. The resistor values can be determined using the equation

$$V_{\text{OUT}} = V_{\text{SET}} \times \left[\frac{R_{\text{FB1}} + R_{\text{FB2}}}{R_{\text{FB2}}} \right] + I_{\text{SNS}} \times R_{\text{FB1}}$$

where V_{OUT} is the desired output voltage, V_{SET} is the voltage setting selected by the CTL pins, R_{FB1} is the resistor between the output capacitor and the SNS pin, R_{FB2} is the resistor between the SNS pin and ground, and I_{SNS} is the leakage current into the SNS pin during normal operation. The current into the SNS pin is typically 1µA, so the last term of the equation can be neglected if the current through R_{FB2} is much larger than 1µA. Selecting a resistor value of 10k Ω or lower will simplify the design. If I_{SNS} is neglected and R_{FB2} is fixed, R_{FB1} can be determined using the equation

$$\boldsymbol{R}_{\text{FB1}} = \boldsymbol{R}_{\text{FB2}} \times \frac{\boldsymbol{V}_{\text{OUT}} - \boldsymbol{V}_{\text{SET}}}{\boldsymbol{V}_{\text{SET}}}$$

Inserting resistance in the feedback loop will adversely affect the system's transient performance if feed-forward capacitance is not included in the circuit. The circuit in Figure 1 illustrates how the resistor divider and feedforward capacitor can be added to the SC202F schematic. The value of feed-forward capacitance needed can be determined using the equation

$$C_{FF} = 4 \times 10^{-6} \times \frac{V_{SET} (V_{OUT} - 0.5)^2}{R_{FB1} (V_{OUT} - V_{SET}) (V_{SET} - 0.5)^2}$$





Figure 1 – Application Circuit with External Resistors

To simplify the design, it is recommended to program the output setting to 1.0V, use resistor values smaller than $10k\Omega$, and include a feed-forward capacitance calculated with the previous equation. If the output voltage is set to 1.0V, the previous equation reduces to

$$C_{\text{FF}} = 8 \times 10^{-6} \times \frac{(V_{\text{OUT}} - 0.5)^2}{R_{\text{FB1}}(V_{\text{OUT}} - 1)}$$

Example:

An output voltage of 1.3V is desired, but this is not a programmable option. What external component values for Figure 1 are needed?

Solution: To keep the circuit simple, set $R_{_{FB2}}$ to $10k\Omega$ so current into the SNS pin can be neglected and set the CTL3-0 pins to 0010 (1.0V setting). The necessary component values for this situation are

$$R_{\text{FB1}} = R_{\text{FB2}} \times \frac{V_{\text{OUT}} - V_{\text{SET}}}{V_{\text{SET}}} = 3k\Omega$$

$$C_{FF} = 8 \times 10^{-6} \times \frac{(V_{OUT} - 0.5)^2}{R_{FB1}(V_{OUT} - 1)} = 5.69 nF$$

PWM Operation

In order to start up from pre-charged output voltage, SC202F does not allow inductor current to go negative in soft start stage, refer to the soft start waveforms in the Typical Characteristics page. When the output voltage exceeds 90% of the set point, determined by the CTLx combinations, the device will enter fixed 3.5MHz PWM operation. An internal synchronous NMOS rectifier turns on complementary to the top PMOSFET.

100% Duty Cycle Operation

The duty cycle (percentage of time PMOS is active) increases as VIN decreases to maintain output voltage regulation. As the input voltage approaches the programmed output voltage, the duty cycle approaches 100% (PMOS always on) and the device enters a pass through mode until the input voltage increases or the load decreases enough to allow PWM switching to resume.

Protection Features

The SC202F provides the following protection features:

- Soft-Start Operation
- Over-Voltage Protection
- Current Limit
- Thermal Shutdown
- Under-Voltage Lockout

Soft Start with Current Limit

The soft-start sequence is activated after a CTL code transition from an all zeros code to a non-zero code enables the start up process. From the beginning of a start-up process, the internal reference start-up takes typically 50µs, then PMOS current limit is stepped through four levels: 25%, 40%, 60%, and 100%. Each step is maintained for typically 75µs. A complete 4 steps start-up period could take 350µs. Before VOUT reaches 90%, the inductor current is not allowed to go negative. The inductor current is confined between different current limit levels, 25%, 40%, 60%, or 100% to zero.

As VOUT reaches 90% of the target value, the device will transition into a fixed 3.5MHz operation allowing inductor current in both directions.

Due to current limit operation, if the load is heavy or the output capacitor is large, the soft start process may experience all 4 current limit steps before reaching 90% target voltage. This will make the soft start time long. If the load is light and output capacitor is small, the device may only need the first current limit step, reaching 90% of target, and transition into PWM operation. This makes the soft



start time shorter.

Over-Voltage Protection

Over-voltage protection ensures the output voltage does not rise to a level that could damage its load. When V_{OUT} exceeds the regulation voltage by 15%, the PWM drive is disabled. Switching does not resume until V_{OUT} has fallen below the regulation voltage by 2%.

Current Limit

The SC202F switching stage is protected by a current limit function. If the output load exceeds the PMOS current limit for 32 consecutive switching cycles, the device enters fold-back current limit mode and the output current is limited to approximately 150mA. Under these conditions, the output voltage will be the product of I_{FB-LIM} and the load resistance. The load must fall below I_{FB-LIM} for the device to exit fold-back current limit mode. This function makes the device capable of sustaining an indefinite short circuit on its output under fault conditions.

Thermal Shutdown

The SC202F has a thermal shutdown feature to protect the device if the junction temperature exceeds 160°C. During thermal shutdown, the PMOS and NMOS switches are both disabled, tri-stating the LX output. When the junction temperature drops by the hysteresis value (20°C), the device goes through the soft-start process and resumes normal operation.

Under-Voltage Lockout

UVLO (Under-Voltage Lockout) activates when the supply voltage drops below the falling UVLO threshold. This prevents the device from entering an ambiguous state in which regulation cannot be maintained. Hysteresis of approximately 200mV is included to prevent chattering near the threshold.

C_{out} Selection

The internal voltage loop compensation in the SC202F limits the minimum output capacitor value to 10μ F. This is due to its influence on the loop crossover frequency, phase margin, and gain margin. Increasing the output

capacitor above this minimum value will reduce the crossover frequency and provide greater phase margin.

Capacitors with X7R or X5R ceramic dielectric are recommended for their low ESR and superior temperature and voltage characteristics. Y5V capacitors should not be used as their temperature coefficients make them unsuitable for this application.

In addition to ensuring stability, the output capacitor serves other important functions. This capacitor determines the output voltage ripple — as capacitance increases, ripple voltage decreases. It also supplies current during a large load step for a few switching cycles until the control loop responds (typically 3 switching cycles). Once the loop responds, regulation is restored and the desired output is reached. During the period prior to PWM operation resuming, the relationship between output voltage and output capacitance can be approximated using the equation

$$C_{OUT} = \frac{3 \times \Delta I_{LOAD}}{V_{DROOP} \times f}$$

This equation can be used to approximate the minimum output capacitance needed to ensure voltage does not droop below an acceptable level. For example, a load step from 50mA to 400mA requiring droop less than 50mV would require the minimum output capacitance to be

$$C_{_{OUT}}=\frac{3\!\times\!0.4}{0.05\!\times\!3.5\!\times\!10^6}=6.0\mu F$$

In this example, using a standard 10μ F capacitor would be adequate to keep voltage droop less than the desired limit. Note that if the voltage droop limit were decreased from 50mV to 25mV, the output capacitance would need to be increased to at least 12μ F (twice as much capacitance for half the droop). Capacitance will decrease from the nominal value when a ceramic capacitor is biased with a DC current, so it is important to select a capacitor whose value exceeds the necessary capacitance value at the programmed output voltage. Check the manufacturer's capacitance vs. DC voltage graphs when selecting an



output capacitor to ensure the capacitance will be adequate.

Table 2 lists the manufacturers of recommended output capacitor options.

Manufacturer Part Number	Value (μF)	Туре	Rated Voltage (VDC)	Dimensions LxWxH (mm) Case Size	
Murata GRM188R60J106ME47D	10±20%	X5R	6.3	1.6x0.8x0.8 0603	
Murata GRM21BR60J106K	10±10%	X5R	6.3	2.0x1.25x1.25 0805	
Taiyo Yuden JMK107BJ106MA-T	10±20%	X5R	6.3	1.6x0.8x0.8 0603	
TDK C1608X5R0J106MT	10±20%	X5R	6.3	1.6x0.8x0.8 0603	

Table 2 — Recommended Output Capacitors

C_{IN} Selection

The SC202F input source current will appear as a DC supply current with a triangular ripple imposed on it. To prevent large input voltage ripple, a low ESR ceramic capacitor is required. A minimum value of 4.7μ F should be used. It is important to consider the DC voltage coefficient characteristics when determining the actual required value. For example, a 10μ F, 6.3V, X5R ceramic capacitor with 5V DC applied may exhibit a capacitance as low as 4.5μ F. The value of required input capacitance is estimated by determining the acceptable input ripple voltage and calculating the minimum value required for C_{IN} using the equation

$$\mathbf{C}_{\text{IN}} = \frac{\frac{V_{\text{OUT}}}{V_{\text{IN}}} \left(1 - \frac{V_{\text{OUT}}}{V_{\text{IN}}}\right)}{\left(\frac{\Delta V}{I_{\text{OUT}}} - \text{ESR}\right) \mathbf{f}}$$

The input voltage ripple is at maximum level when the input voltage is twice the output voltage (50% duty cycle scenario).

The input capacitor provides a low impedance loop for the edges of pulsed current drawn by the PMOS switch. Low ESR/ESL X5R ceramic capacitors are recommended for this function. To minimize stray inductance, the capacitor should be placed as closely as possible to the IN and GND pins. Table 3 lists recommended input capacitor options from different manufacturers.

Table 3 — Recommended Input Capacitors

Manufacturer Part Number	Value (µF)	Туре	Rated Voltage (VDC)	Dimensions LxWxH (mm) Case Size
Murata GRM188R60J475K	4.7±10%	X5R	6.3	1.6x0.8x0.8 0603
Murata GRM188R60J106K	10±10%	X5R	6.3	1.6x0.8x0.8 0603
Taiyo Yuden JMK107BJ475KA	4.7±10%	X5R	6.3	1.6x0.8x0.8 0603
TDK C1608X5R0J475KT	4.7±10%	X5R	6.3	1.6x0.8x0.8 0603

PCB Layout Considerations

The layout diagram in Figure 3 shows a recommended PCB top-layer for the SC202F and supporting components. Specified layout rules must be followed since the layout is critical for achieving the performance specified in the Electrical Characteristics table. Poor layout can degrade the performance of the DC-DC converter and can contribute to EMI problems, ground bounce, and resistive voltage losses. Poor regulation and instability can also result.

The following guidelines are recommended for designing a PCB layout:

- C_{IN} should be placed as close to the IN and GND pins as possible. This capacitor provides a low impedance loop for the pulsed currents present at the buck converter's input. Use short wide traces to minimize trace impedance. This will also minimize EMI and input voltage ripple by localizing the high frequency current pulses.
- 2. C_{OUT} should be connected as closely as possible to the OUT pin.
- 3. Use a ground plane referenced to the GND pin. Use several vias to connect to the component side ground to further reduce noise and interference on sensitive circuit nodes.
- 4. Route the output voltage feedback/sense trace



(connected to the SNS pin) away from the LX node as shown in Figure 2 to minimize noise and magnetic interference.

- 5. Minimize the resistance from the OUT and GND pins to the load. This will reduce errors in DC regulation due to voltage drops in the traces.
- 6. The two smaller exposed pads on this package should not be connected to any traces. The area beneath these two pads must be kept clear so that they do not make electrical contact with any traces, including ground.



Figure 2 — Recommended PCB Layout



Outline Drawing — MLPQ-13





Land Pattern — MLPQ-13



- 2. THIS LAND PATTERN IS FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY. CONSULT YOUR MANUFACTURING GROUP TO ENSURE YOUR COMPANY'S MANUFACTURING GUIDELINES ARE MET.
- 3. LAND PATTERNS (SOLDER PADS) NOT REQUIRED FOR SMALLER EXPOSED PADS.
- 4. DO NOT PLACE EXPOSED TRACES OR VIAS UNDER SMALLER EXPOSED PADS.



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Contact Information

Semtech Corporation Power Management Products Division 200 Flynn Road, Camarillo, CA 93012 Phone: (805) 498-2111 Fax: (805) 498-3804

www.semtech.com