November 2012

SG1577 Dual Synchronous DC/DC Controller

Features

FAIRCHILD SEMICONDUCTOR

- Integrated Two Sets of MOSFET Drivers
- Two Independent PWM Controllers
- Constant Frequency Operation: Free-running Fixed Frequency Oscillator Programmable: 60 kHz to 320 kHz
- Wide Range Input Supply Voltage: 8~15 V
- Programmable Output as Low as 0.7 V
- Internal Error Amplifier Reference Voltage: 0.7 V ±1.5%
- Two Soft-Start / EN Functions
- Programmable Over-Current Protection (OCP)
- 30 V HIGH Voltage Pin for Bootstrap Voltage
- Output Over-Voltage Protection (OVP)
- SOP 20-Pin

Applications

- CPU and GPU Vcore Power Supply
- Power Supply Requiring Two Independent Outputs

Description

The SG1577 is a high-efficiency, voltage-mode, dualchannel, synchronous DC/DC PWM controller for two independent outputs. The two channels are operated out of phase. The internal reference voltage is trimmed to 0.7 V ±1.5%. It is connected to the error amplifier's positive terminal for voltage feedback regulation. The soft-start circuit ensures the output voltage can be gradually and smoothly increased from zero to its final regulated value. The soft-start pin can also be used for chip-enable function. When two soft-start pins are grounded, the chip is disabled and the total operation current can be reduced to under 0.55 mA. The fixedfrequency is programmable from 60 kHz to 320 kHz. The Over-Current Protection (OCP) level can be programmed by an external current sense resistor. It has two integrated sets of internal MOSFET drivers. SG1577 is available in the 20-pin SOP package.

Ordering Information

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Pin Configuration

Figure 4. SOP-20 Pin Configuration (Top View)

Pin Definitions

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Absolute Maximum Ratings

Stresses exceeding the absolute maximum ratings may damage the device. The device may not function or be operable above the recommended operating conditions and stressing the parts to these levels is not recommended. In addition, extended exposure to stresses above the recommended operating conditions may affect device reliability. The absolute maximum ratings are stress ratings only. All voltage values, except differential voltages, are given with respect to the network ground terminal. Stresses beyond those listed under "absolute maximum ratings" may cause permanent damage to the device.

Recommended Operating Conditions

The Recommended Operating Conditions table defines the conditions for actual device operation. Recommended operating conditions are specified to ensure optimal performance to the datasheet specifications. Fairchild does not recommend exceeding them or designing to absolute maximum ratings.

Notes:

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1. Not test in production, 30 pcs sample.

2. When V_{DL} falls less than 2 V relative to V_{DH} rising to 2 V.

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Functional Description

The SG1577 is a dual-channel voltage-mode PWM controller. It has two sets of synchronous MOSFET driving circuits. The two channels are running 180 degrees out of phase. The following descriptions highlight the advantages of the SG1577 design.

Soft-Start

An internal startup current (10 µA) flows out of SS/EN pin to charge an external capacitor. During the startup sequence, SG1577 isn't enabled until the SS/ENB pin is higher than 1.2 V. From 1.2 V to $(1.2 + 1.6 \times D_{ON})$ $D_{ON~MAX}$) V, PWM duty cycle gradually increases following SS/ENB pin voltage to bring output rising. After $(1.2 + 1.6 \times D_{ON} / D_{ONMAX})$ V, the soft-start period ends and SS/ENB pin continually goes up to 4.8 V. When input power is abnormal, the external capacitor on SS pin is shorted to ground and the chip is disabled.

 $T_{\text{SOFFSTART}} = C_{\text{SSENB}} \times 1.6 \times D_{\text{ON}} / D_{\text{ON_MAX}} / I_{\text{SOURCE}}$ (1)

Over-Current Protection (OCP)

Over-current protection is implemented by sensing the voltage drop across the drain and the source of external high-side MOSFET. Over-current protection is triggered when the voltage drop on external high-side MOSFET's RDS(ON) is greater than the programmable current limit voltage threshold. 120 µA flowing through an external resistor between input voltage and the CLP pin sets the threshold of current limit voltage. When over-current condition is true, the system is protected against the cycle-by-cycle current limit. A counter counts a series of over-current peak values to eight cycles; the soft-start capacitor is discharged by a 1 µA current until the voltage on SS pin reaches 1.2 V. During the discharge period, the high-side driver is turned off and the low-side driver is turned on. Once the voltage on SS/ENB pin is under 1.2 V, the normal soft-start sequence is initiated and the 10 µA current charges the soft-start capacitor again.

$$
I_{L(OCP)} = \left[(R_{SENSE} \times I_{OCSET} + V_{OFFSET}) / R_{DS(ON)} - (V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) \times V_{OUT} / (f_{OSC} \times L_{OUT} \times V_{IN} \times 2) \right]
$$
 (2)

where, V OFFSET (=10 mV) is the offset voltage contributed by the internal OCP comparator.

Design Notes

 V_{CC} noise/spike affects the offset voltage of the OCP comparator Figure 23 shows the $V_{\text{OFFSET 1/2}}$ vs. V_{CC} variation curve, which is a simulation result by IC internal circuitry. Calculate the OCP variation between V_{CC} =12 V and V_{CC} =4 V. For Ch1 or Ch2, V_{OFFSET} / $R_{DS(ON)}$ = 172 mV / 9 m Ω = 19 A is affected. V_{CC}>10 V is the recommended range; lower, and the comparator's offset voltage is large.

Prevent CLN Noise in SG1577

To prevent noise/spike on CLN from affecting OCP judgment, SG1577 internal has a 500 ns blanking time to filter out this noise/spike on CLN at each turn-on cycle and counts for eight cycles of CLP>CLN, then OCP is asserted.

Figure 23. V_{OFFSET1/2} vs. VCC

Error Amplifier

The IN1 and IN2 pins are connected to the corresponding internal error amplifier's inverting input and the outputs of the error amplifiers are connected to the corresponding COMP1 and COMP2 pins. The COMP1 and COMP2 pins are available for control-loop compensation externally. Non-inverting inputs are internally tied to a fixed $0.7 \vee \pm 1.5\%$ reference voltage.

Oscillator Operation

The SG1577 has a frequency-programmable oscillator. The oscillator is running at 60 kHz when the RT pin is floating. The oscillator frequency can be adjusted from 60 kHz up to 320 kHz by an external resistor R_{RT} between RT pin and the ground. The oscillator generates a sawtooth wave that has 90% rising duty. Sawtooth wave voltage threshold is from 1.2 V to 2.8 V. The frequency of oscillator can be programmed by the following equation:

$$
f_{\rm OSC}, RT(kHz) = 60kHz + 8522 / R_{RT}(k\Omega)
$$
\n(3)

Output Driver

The high-side gate drivers need an external bootstrapping circuit to provide the required boost voltage. The highest gate driver's output (15 V is the allowed) on high-side and low-side MOSFETs forces external MOSFETs to have the lowest $R_{DS(ON)}$, which results in higher efficiency.

Over-Temperature Protection (OTP)

The device is over-temperature protected. When chip temperature is over 150° C, the chip enters tri-state (high-side driver is turned off). The hysteresis is 20° C.

Type II Compensation Design (for Output Capacitors with High ESR)

SG1577 is a voltage-mode controller; the control loop is a single voltage feedback path, including an error amplifier and PWM comparator, as shown in Figure 24. To achieve fast transient response and accurate output regulation, an adequate compensator design is necessary. A stable control loop has a 0 dB gain crossing with -20 dB/decade slope and a phase margin greater than 45°.

Figure 24. Closed Loop

1. Modulator Frequency Equations

The modulator transfer function is the small-signal transfer function of $V_{\text{OUT}}/V_{E/A}$. This transfer function is dominated by a DC gain and the output filter (L_0 and C_0) with a double-pole frequency at f_{LC} and a zero at FESR. The DC gain of the modulator is the input voltage (V_{IN}) divided by the peak-to-peak oscillator voltage V_{RAMP} (=1.6 V). The first step is to calculate the complex conjugate poles contributed by the LC output filter. The output LC filter introduces a double pole, -40 dB / decade gain slope above its corner resonant frequency, and a total phase lag of 180°. The resonant frequency of the LC filter expressed as:

$$
f_{P(LC)} = \frac{1}{2\pi \times \sqrt{L_0 \times C_0}}
$$
 (4)

The next step of compensation design is to calculate the ESR zero. The ESR zero is contributed by the ESR associated with the output capacitance. Note that this requires that the output capacitor should have enough ESR to satisfy stability requirements. The ESR zero of the output capacitor is expressed as:

$$
f_{Z(ESR)} = \frac{1}{2\pi \times C_0 \times ESR}
$$
 (5)

2. Compensation Frequency Equations

The compensation network consists of the error amplifier and the impedance networks Z_c and Z_f , as Figure 24 shows.

 2π \times R₂ \times (C₁ // C₂) $f_{P2} = \frac{1}{2}$ 2×1411 42 P2 $=\frac{}{2\pi\times R_2\times}$ π

Figure 26 shows the DC-DC converter gain vs. frequency. The compensation gain uses external impedance networks ZC and Zf to provide a stable, high-bandwidth loop.

High crossover frequency is desirable for fast transient response, but often jeopardizes the system stability. To cancel one of the LC filter poles, place the zero before the LC filter resonant frequency. Place the zero at 75% of the LC filter resonant frequency. Crossover frequency should be higher than the ESR zero, but less than 1/5 of the switching frequency. The second pole should be placed at half the switching frequency.

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Layout Considerations

Layout is important in high-frequency switching converter design. If designed improperly, PCB can radiate excessive noise and contribute to converter instability.

Place the PWM power stage components first. Mount all the power components and connections in the top layer with wide copper areas. The MOSFETs of buck, inductor, and output capacitor should be as close to each other as possible to reduce the radiation of EMI due to the high-frequency current loop. If the output capacitors are placed in parallel to reduce the ESR of capacitor, equal sharing ripple current should be considered. Place the input capacitor near the drain of high-side MOSFET. In multi-layer PCB, use one layer as power ground and have a separate control signal ground as the reference for all signals. To avoid the signal ground being affected by noise and have best load regulation, it should be connected to the ground terminal of output.

Follow the below guidelines for best performance:

- 1 A two-layer printed circuit board is recommended.
- 2 Use the bottom layer of the PCB as a ground plane and make all critical component ground connections through vias to this layer.
- 3 Keep the metal running from the CLNx terminal to the output inductor short.
- 4 Use copper-filled polygons on the top (and bottom, if two-layer PCB) circuit layers for the CLN node.
- 5 The small-signal wiring traces from the DLx and DHx pins to the MOSFET gates should be kept short and wide enough to easily handle the several amps of drive current.
- 6 The critical, small-signal components include any bypass capacitors (SMD-type of capacitors applied at VCC and SSx/ENB pins), feedback components (resistor divider), and compensation components (between INx and COMPx pins). Position those

components close to their pins with a local, clear GND connection or directly to the ground plane.

- 7 Place the bootstrap capacitor near the BSTx and CLNx pins.
- 8 The resistor on the RT pin should be near this pin and the GND return should be short and kept away from the noisy MOSFET's GND (which is short together with IC's PGND pin to GND plane on back side of PCB).
- 9 Place the compensation components close to the INx and COMPx pins.
- 10 The feedback resistors for both regulators should be located as close as possible to the relevant INx pin with vias tied straight to the ground plane as required.
- 11 Minimize the length of the connections between the input capacitors, CIN, and the power switchers (MOSFETs) by placing them nearby.
- 12 Position both the ceramic and bulk input capacitors as close to the upper MOSFET drain as possible and make the GND returns (from the source of lower MOSFET to V_{IN} capacitor GND) short.
- 13 Position the output inductor and output capacitors between the upper MOSFET and lower MOSFET and the load.
- 14 AGND should be on the clearer plane and kept away from the noisy MOSFET GND.
- 15 PGND should be short, together with MOSFET GND, then through vias to GND plane on the bottom of PCB.
- 16 Prevent spike happen on CLN pin a proper snubber circuit for CLN and GND is recommend.

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