

1.8 MHz Dual 2A Integrated Switch Buck Regulator

General Description

The Micrel MIC4782 is a high efficiency dual PWM buck (step-down) regulator that provides dual 2A output current. The MIC4782 operates at 1.8MHz. A proprietary internal compensation technique allows a closed loop bandwidth of over 200kHz.

The low on-resistance internal P-Channel MOSFET of the MIC4782 allows efficiencies over 92%, reduces external components count and eliminates the need for an expensive current sense resistor.

The MIC4782 operates from 3.0V to 6.0V input and the output can be adjusted down to 0.6V. The device can operate with a maximum duty cycle of 100% for use in lowdropout conditions.

The MIC4782 is available in the exposed pad 16-pin 3mm x 3mm MLF^* with a junction operating range from -20° C to $+125^{\circ}$ C.

All support documentation can be found on Micrel's web site at: www.micrel.com.

Features

- 3.0 to 6.0V supply voltage
- 1.8MHz PWM mode
- 2A dual output
- Greater than 92% efficiency
- 100% maximum duty cycle
- Adjustable output voltage option down to 0.6V
- Ultra-fast transient response
- Ultra-small external components
- Stable with a 1µH inductor and a 4.7µF output capacitor
- Fully integrated 2A MOSFET switches
- Micro-power shutdown
- Thermal shutdown and current limit protection
- Available in a 3mm \times 3mm 16-pin MLF[®]
- -20 °C to +125°C junction temperature range

Applications

- Broadband: xDSL modems
- Automotive satellite radios
- HD STB, DVD/TV recorder
- Computer peripherals: printers and graphic cards
- FPGA/ASIC
- General point-of-load

2A, 1.8MHz Dual Buck Regulator

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Ordering Information

Note:

MLF $^{\circ}$ is a GREEN RoHS-compliant package. Lead finish is NiPdAu. Mold compound is Halogen Free.

Pin Configuration

16-Pin 3mm x 3mm MLF^Æ (YML)

Pin Description

Note:

1. Do not float Enable Input.

Absolute Maximum Ratings(1)

Operating Ratings(2)

Electrical Characteristics(4)

 $V_{IN} = V_{EN} = 3.6V$; L = 1.0µH; $C_{OUT} = 4.7\mu F$; T_A = 25°C, unless noted. **Bold** values indicate $-20^{\circ}C \le T_J \le +125^{\circ}C$.

Notes:

1. Exceeding the absolute maximum rating may damage the device.

2. The device is not guaranteed to function outside its operating rating.

3. Devices are ESD sensitive. Handling precautions recommended. Human body model, 1.5k in series with 100pF.

4. Specification for packaged product only.

Typical Characteristics

Typical Characteristics (continue)

Rdson vs. Supply Voltage 110 120 130 140 150 160 170 180 190 3 3.6 4.2 4.8 5.4 6 **SUPPLY VOLTAGE (V) Rdson (mΩ)**

Enable Threshold vs. Temperature 0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0 1.2

ENABLE THRESHOLD (V)

-20 0 20 40 60 80 100 120 **TEMPERATURE (°C)**

Functional Characteristics

Functional Diagram

MIC4782 Block Diagram

VIN1/VIN2

VIN pins (two pins for VIN1 and two pins for VIN2) provide power to the source of the internal P-Channel MOSFET along with the current limiting sensing. VIN1 pins and VIN2 pins are internally connected by antiparallel diodes. The VIN operating voltage range is from 3.0V to 6.0V. Due to the high switching speeds, a 10µF capacitor is recommended close to VIN and the power ground (PGND) for each pin for bypassing. Please refer to layout recommendations for more details.

BIAS

The bias (BIAS) provides power to the internal reference and control sections of the MIC4782. A 10Ω resistor from VIN to BIAS and a 0.1µF from BIAS to SGND are required for clean operation.

EN1/EN2

The enable pins (EN1 and EN2) provides a logic level control of the outputs 1 and 2. In the off state, supply current of the device is greatly reduced (typically <2µA). Do not drive the enable pin above the supply voltage.

FB1/FB2

The feedback pins (FB1 and FB2) provides the control path to control the outputs 1 and 2. A resistor divider connecting the feedback to the output is used to adjust the desired output voltage. The output voltage is calculated as follows:

$$
V_{OUT} = V_{REF} \times \left(\frac{R1}{R2} + 1\right)
$$

where V_{RFF} is equal to 0.6V.

A feed-forward capacitor is recommended for most designs. To reduce current draw, 10KΩ feedback resistors are recommended from the outputs to the FB pins (R1 in the equation). The large resistor value and the parasitic capacitance of the FB pin can cause a high frequency pole that can reduce the overall system phase margin. By placing a feed-forward capacitor (across R1), these effects can be significantly reduced. Feed-forward capacitance (C_{FF}) can be calculated as follows:

$$
C_{FF} = \frac{1}{2\pi \times R1 \times 200 \text{kHz}}
$$

SW1/SW2

The switch pins (SW1 and SW2) connect directly to the inductor and provide the switching current necessary to operate in PWM mode. Due to the high speed switching on these pins, the switch nodes should be routed away from sensitive nodes. These pins also connect to the cathodes of the free-wheeling diodes.

PGND1/PGND2

Power ground pins (PGND1 and PGND2) are the ground paths for the MOSFET drive current. PGND1 pin and PGND2 pin are internally connected by anti-parallel diodes. The current loop for the power ground should be as small as possible and separate from the Signal ground (SGND) loop. Refer to the layout recommendation for more details.

SGND

Signal ground (SGND) is the ground path for the biasing and control circuitry. The current loop for the signal ground should be separate from the power ground (PGND) loop. Refer to the layout recommendation for more details.

EPAD

The exposed pad on the bottom of the part must be connected to ground.

Application Information

The MIC4782 is a dual 2A PWM non-synchronous buck regulator. By switching an input voltage supply, and filtering the switched voltage through an inductor and capacitor, a regulated DC voltage is obtained. Figure 1 shows a simplified example of a non-synchronous buck converter.

Figure 1. Example of Non-synchronous Buck Converter

For a non-synchronous buck converter, there are two modes of operation; continuous and discontinuous. Continuous or discontinuous refer to the inductor current. If current is continuously flowing through the inductor throughout the switching cycle, it is in continuous operation. If the inductor current drops to zero during the off time, it is in discontinuous operation. Critically continuous is the point where any decrease in output current will cause it to enter discontinuous operation. The critically continuous load current can be calculated as follows;

$$
I_{\text{OUT}} = \frac{\left[V_{\text{OUT}} - \frac{V_{\text{OUT}}^2}{V_{\text{IN}}} \right]}{\text{fsw} \times 2 \times L}
$$

Continuous or discontinuous operation determines how we calculate peak inductor current.

Continuous Operation

Figure 2 illustrates the switch voltage and inductor current during continuous operation.

Figure 2. Continuous Operation

The output voltage is regulated by pulse width

modulating (PWM) the switch voltage to the average required output voltage. The switching can be broken up into two cycles; On and Off.

During the On-Time, Figure 3 illustrates the high-side switch is turned on, current flows from the input supply through the inductor and to the output. The inductor current is charged at the rate;

Figure 3. On-Time

To determine the total on-time, or time at which the inductor charges, the duty cycle needs to be calculated. The duty cycle can be calculated as;

$$
D = \frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN}}
$$

and the On time is;

$$
T_{ON} = \frac{D}{fsw}
$$

Therefore, peak-to-peak ripple current is;

$$
I_{pk-pk} = \frac{(V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) \times \frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN}}}{fsw \times L}
$$

Since the average peak-to-peak current is equal to the load current. The actual peak (or highest current the inductor will see in a steady-state condition) is equal to the output current plus $\frac{1}{2}$ the peak-to-peak current.

$$
I_{pk} = I_{OUT} + \frac{(V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) \times \frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN}}}{2 \times fsw \times L}
$$

Figure 4 demonstrates the off-time. During the off-time, the high-side internal P-channel MOSFET turns off. Since the current in the inductor has to discharge, the current flows through the free-wheeling Schottky diode to the output. In this case, the inductor discharge rate is (where V_D is the diode forward voltage);

$$
-\frac{\left(V_{OUT}+V_{D}\right)}{L}
$$

The total off time can be calculated as;

$$
T_{OFF} = \frac{1-D}{fsw}
$$

Figure 4. Off-Time

Discontinuous Operation

Discontinuous operation is when the inductor current discharges to zero during the off cycle. Figure 5 demonstrates the switch voltage and inductor currents during discontinuous operation.

When the inductor current (IL) has completely discharged, the voltage on the switch node rings at the frequency determined by the parasitic capacitance and the inductor value. In Figure 5, it is drawn as a DC voltage, but to see actual operation (with ringing) refer to the functional characteristics.

Figure 5. Discontinuous Operation

Discontinuous mode of operation has the advantage over full PWM in that at light loads, the MIC4782 will skip pulses as necessary, reducing gate drive losses, drastically improving light load efficiency.

Efficiency Considerations

Calculating the efficiency is as simple as measuring power out and dividing it by the power in;

Efficiency =
$$
\frac{P_{OUT}}{P_{IN}} \times 100
$$

Where input power (P_{IN}) is;

$$
P_{IN} = V_{IN} \times I_{IN}
$$

and output power (P_{OUT}) is calculated as;

$$
P_{OUT} = V_{OUT} \times I_{OUT}
$$

The Efficiency of the MIC4782 is determined by several factors.

- R_{DSON} (Internal P-channel Resistance)
- Diode conduction losses
- Inductor Conduction losses
- Switching losses

 R_{DSON} losses are caused by the current flowing through the high side P-Channel MOSFET. The amount of power loss can be approximated by;

$$
P_{SW} = R_{DSON} \times I_{OUT}^2 \times D
$$

Where D is the duty cycle.

Since the MIC4782 uses an internal P-Channel MOSFET, R_{DSON} losses are inversely proportional to supply voltage. Higher supply voltage yields a higher gate to source voltage, reducing the R_{DSON} , reducing the MOSFET conduction losses. A graph showing typical

 R_{DSON} vs. input supply voltage can be found in the typical characteristics section of this datasheet.

Diode conduction losses occur due to the forward voltage drop (V_F) and the output current. Diode power losses can be approximated as follows;

$$
P_D = V_F \times I_{OUT} \times (1 - D)
$$

For this reason, the Schottky diode is the rectifier of choice. Using the lowest forward voltage drop will help reduce diode conduction losses, and improve efficiency.

Duty cycle, or the ratio of output voltage-to-input voltage, determines whether the dominant factor in conduction losses will be the internal MOSFET or the Schottky diode. Higher duty cycles place the power losses on the high side switch, and lower duty cycles place the power losses on the Schottky diode.

Inductor conduction losses (P_L) can be calculated by multiplying the DC resistance (DCR) times the square of the output current;

$$
P_L = DCR \times I_{OUT}^2
$$

Also, be aware that there are additional core losses associated with switching current in an inductor. Since most inductor manufacturers do not give data on the type of material used, approximating core losses becomes very difficult, so verify inductor temperature rise.

Switching losses occur twice each cycle, when the switch turns on and when the switch turns off. This is caused by a non-ideal world where switching transitions are not instantaneous, and neither are currents. Figure 6 demonstrates how switching losses due to the transitions dissipate power in the switch.

Figure 6. Switching Transition Losses

Normally, when the switch is on, the voltage across the switch is low (virtually zero) and the current through the switch is high. This equates to low power dissipation. When the switch is off, voltage across the switch is high and the current is zero, again with power dissipation being low. During the transitions, the voltage across the switch (V_{S-D}) and the current through the switch (I_{S-D}) are at middle, causing the transition to be the highest instantaneous power point. During continuous mode, these losses are the highest. Also, with higher load currents, these losses are higher. For discontinuous operation, the transition losses only occur during the "off" transition since the "on" transitions there is no current flow through the inductor.

Component Selection

Input Capacitor

A 10µF ceramic is recommended on each VIN pin for bypassing. X5R or X7R dielectrics are recommended for the input capacitor. Y5V dielectrics lose most of their capacitance over temperature and are therefore, not recommended. Also, tantalum and electrolytic capacitors alone are not recommended due to their reduced RMS current handling, reliability, and ESR increases.

An additional 0.1µF is recommended close to the VIN and PGND pins for high frequency filtering. Smaller case size capacitors are recommended due to their lower ESR and ESL. Please refer to layout recommendation for proper layout of the input capacitor.

Output Capacitor

The MIC4782 is designed to be stable with a 4.7µF output capacitor. X5R or X7R dielectrics are recommended for the output capacitor. Y5V dielectrics lose most of their capacitance over temperature and are therefore not recommended.

In addition to a 4.7µF or larger value output capacitor, a small 0.1μ F is recommended close to the load for high frequency filtering. Smaller case size capacitors are recommended due to there lower equivalent series ESR and ESL.

The MIC4782 utilizes type III voltage mode internal compensation and utilizes an internal zero to compensate for the double pole roll off of the LC filter.

Inductor Selection

The MIC4782 is designed for use with a 1µH inductor. Proper selection should ensure the inductor can handle the maximum average and peak currents required by the load. Maximum current ratings of the inductor are generally given in two methods; permissible DC current and saturation current. Permissible DC current can be rated either for a 40°C temperature rise or a 10% to 20% loss in inductance. Ensure the inductor selected can handle the maximum operating current. When saturation current is specified, make sure that there is enough margin that the peak current will not saturate the inductor.

Diode Selection

Since the MIC4782 is non-synchronous, a free-wheeling diode is required for proper operation. A Schottky diode is recommended due to the low forward voltage drop and their fast reverse recovery time. The diode should be rated to be able to handle the average output current. Also, the reverse voltage rating of the diode should exceed the maximum input voltage. The lower the forward voltage drop of the diode the better the efficiency. Please refer to the layout recommendation to

minimize switching noise.

Feedback Resistors

The feedback resistor set the output voltage by dividing down the output and sending it to the feedback pin. The feedback voltage is 0.6V. Calculating the set output voltage is as follows;

$$
V_{OUT} = V_{FB} \left(\frac{R1}{R2} + 1\right)
$$

Where R1 is the resistor from V_{OUT} to FB and R2 is the resistor from FB-to-GND. The recommended feedback resistor values for common output voltages are available in the bill of materials on page 19 of this data sheet. Although the range of resistance for the FB resistors is very wide, R1 is recommended to be 10KΩ. This minimizes the parasitic capacitance effect of the FB node.

Feedforward Capacitor (CFF)

A capacitor across the resistor from the output to the feedback pin (R1) is recommended for most designs. This capacitor can give a boost to phase margin and increase the bandwidth for transient response. Also, large values of feedforward capacitance can slow down the turn-on characteristics, reducing inrush current. For maximum phase boost, C_{FF} can be calculated as follows;

$$
C_{FF} = \frac{1}{2\pi \times 200 \text{kHz} \times \text{R1}}
$$

Large values of feedforward capacitance may introduce negative FB pin voltage during load shorting, which will cause latch-off. In that case, a Schottky diode from FB pin to the ground is recommended.

Bias Filter

A small 10 Ω resistor is recommended from the input supply to the bias pin along with a small 0.1µF ceramic capacitor from bias-to-ground. This will bypass the high frequency noise generated by the violent switching of high currents from reaching the internal reference and control circuitry. Tantalum and electrolytic capacitors are not recommended for the bias, these types of capacitors lose their ability to filter at high frequencies.

Voltage Derating of Ceramic Capacitors

The capacitance of ceramic capacitors drops at high voltage. Figure 7 shows typical voltage derating curves of X5R 6.3V ceramic capacitors. At half of the rating voltage and room temperature, the capacitance of 0603 X5R capacitors can drop about 30%, while the 0805 package only drops by 5%. Therefore, 0805 package ceramic capacitors are preferred if the application voltage is close to half of the capacitor rating voltage or

higher.

Figure 7. Voltage Derating of Ceramic Capacitors

Loop Stability and Bode Analysis

Bode analysis is an excellent way to measure small signal stability and loop response in power supply designs. Bode analysis monitors gain and phase of a control loop. This is done by breaking the feedback loop and injecting a signal into the feedback node and comparing the injected signal to the output signal of the control loop. This will require a network analyzer to sweep the frequency and compare the injected signal to the output signal. The most common method of injection is the use of transformer. Figure 8 demonstrates how a transformer is used to inject a signal into the feedback network.

Figure 8. Transformer Injection

A 50Ω resistor allows impedance matching from the network analyzer source. This method allows the DC loop to maintain regulation and allow the network analyzer to insert an AC signal on top of the DC voltage. The network analyzer will then sweep the source while monitoring A and R for an A/R measurement.

The following Bode analysis show the small signal loop stability of the MIC4782, it utilizes type III compensation. This is a dominant low frequency pole, followed by two zeros and finally the double pole of the inductor capacitor filter, creating a final 20dB/decade roll off. Bode analysis gives us a few important data points; speed of response (Gain Bandwidth or GBW) and loop stability. Loop speed or GBW determines the response time to a load transient. Faster response times yield smaller voltage deviations to load steps.

Instability in a control loop occurs when there is gain and positive feedback. Phase margin is the measure of how stable the given system is. It is measured by determining how far the phase is from crossing zero when the gain is equal to 1 (0dB).

Typically for $3.6V_{IN}$ and $1.8V_{OUT}$ at 2A;

- **Phase Margin = 77.8 Degrees**
- **GBW = 229KHz**

Being that the MIC4782 is non-synchronous; the regulator only has the ability to source current. This means that the regulator has to rely on the load to be able to sink current. This causes a non-linear response at light loads. The following plot shows the effects of the pole created by the nonlinearity of the output drive during light load (discontinuous) conditions.

 $3.6V_{IN}$, $1.8V_{OUT}$ I_{OUT} = 0.1A;

- **Phase Margin=89.9 Degrees**
- **GBW= 43.7kHz**

Feed Forward Capacitor

The feedback resistors are a gain reduction block in the overall system response of the regulator. By placing a capacitor from the output to the feedback pin, high frequency signal can bypass the resistor divider, causing a gain increase up to unity gain.

The graph above shows the effects on the gain and phase of the system caused by feedback resistors and a feedforward capacitor. The maximum amount of phase boost achievable with a feedforward capacitor is graphed below.

By looking at the graph, phase margin can be affected to a greater degree with higher output voltages.

Ripple Measurements

To properly measure ripple on either input or output of a switching regulator, a proper ring in tip measurement is required. Standard oscilloscope probes come with a grounding clip, or a long wire with an alligator clip. Unfortunately, for high frequency measurements, this ground clip can pick-up high frequency noise and erroneously inject it into the measured output ripple.

The standard evaluation board accommodates a home made version by providing probe points for both the input and output supplies and their respective grounds. This requires the removing of the oscilloscope probe sheath and ground clip from a standard oscilloscope probe and wrapping a non-shielded bus wire around the oscilloscope probe. If there does not happen to be any non-shielded bus wire immediately available, then the leads from axial resistors will work. By maintaining the shortest possible ground lengths on the oscilloscope probe, true ripple measurements can be obtained.

PCB Layout Guideline

Warning!!! To minimize EMI and output noise, follow these layout recommendations.

PCB Layout is critical to achieve reliable, stable and efficient performance. A ground plane is required to control EMI and minimize the inductance in power, signal and return paths.

The following guidelines should be followed to insure proper operation of the MIC4782 converter.

IC

- Place the IC and MOSFETs close to the point of load (POL).
- Use fat traces to route the input and output power lines.
- The exposed pad (EP) on the bottom of the IC must be connected to the ground.
- Use several vias to connect the EP to the ground plane, layer 2.
- Signal and power grounds should be kept separate and connected at only one location.

Input Capacitor

- Place the input capacitor next.
- Place the input capacitors on the same side of the board and as close to the IC as possible.
- Keep both the VIN and PGND connections short.
- Place several vias to the ground plane close to the input capacitor ground terminal, but not between the input capacitors and IC pins.
- Use either X7R or X5R dielectric input capacitors. Do not use Y5V or Z5U type capacitors.
- Do not replace the ceramic input capacitor with any other type of capacitor. Any type of capacitor can be placed in parallel with the input capacitor.
- If a Tantalum input capacitor is placed in parallel with the input capacitor, it must be recommended for switching regulator applications and the operating voltage must be derated by 50%.
- In "Hot-Plug" applications, a Tantalum or Electrolytic bypass capacitor must be used to limit the overvoltage spike seen on the input supply with power is suddenly applied.
- An additional Tantalum or Electrolytic bypass input capacitor of 22µF or higher is required at the input

power connection.

Inductor

- Keep the inductor connection to the switch node (SW) short.
- Do not route any digital lines underneath or close to the inductor.
- Keep the switch node (SW) away from the feedback (FB) pin.
- To minimize noise, place a ground plane underneath the inductor.

Output Capacitor

- Use a wide trace to connect the output capacitor ground terminal to the input capacitor ground terminal.
- Phase margin will change as the output capacitor value and ESR changes. Contact the factory if the output capacitor is different from what is shown in the BOM.
- The feedback trace should be separate from the power trace and connected as close as possible to the output capacitor. Sensing a long high current load trace can degrade the DC load regulation.
- If 0603 package ceramic output capacitors are used, then make sure that it has enough capacitance at the desired output voltage. Please refer to the "Voltage Derating of Ceramic Capacitors" subsection in "Component Selection" of this data sheet for more details.

Diode

- Place the Schottky diode on the same side of the board as the IC and input capacitor.
- The connection from the Schottky diode's Anode to the input capacitors ground terminal must be as short as possible.
- The diode's Cathode connection to the switch node (SW) must be keep as short as possible.

RC Snubber

• Place the RC snubber on the same side of the board and as close to the IC as possible.

Bill of Materials

Notes:

1. AVX: www.avx.com

2. Vishay: www.vishay.com

3. Diode: www.diodes.com

4. TDK: www.tdk.com

5. Cooper: www.cooperbussmann.com

6. **Micrel, Inc: www.micrel.com**

7. Only for ultra-low noise applications.

TOP Layer

Mid-Layer 1

Mid-Layer 2

COPPER LAYER 4

Bottom Layer

Package Information

16-Pin 3mm x 3mm MLF^Æ (ML)

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