

Step-Down DC/DC Controller TLE 6389

P DSO 14 3 8 9 11 1

1 Overview

1.1 Features

- Input voltage range from < 5V up to 60V
- Output voltage: 5V fixed or adjustable (7V to 15V)
- Output voltage accuracy: 3%
- Output current up to 2.3A
- 100% maximum duty cycle
- Less than 120 μ A quiescent current at low loads¹⁾
- 2µA max. shutdown current at device off (TLE 6389-2 GV)
- Fixed 360kHz switching frequency
- Frequency synchronization input for external clocks
- Current Mode control scheme
- Integrated output under voltage Reset circuit
- On chip low battery detector (on chip comparator)
- Automotive temperature range -40°C to 150 °C
- Green Product (RoHS compliant)
- AEC qualified

 $¹$ dependend on external components</sup>

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1.2 Short functional description

The TLE 6389 step-down DC-DC switching controllers provide high efficiency over loads ranging from 1mA up to 2.5A. A unique PWM/PFM control scheme operates with up to a 100% duty cycle, resulting in very low dropout voltage. This control scheme eliminates minimum load requirements and reduces the supply current under light loads to 120µA, depending on dimensioning of external components. In addition the adjustable version TLE6389-2 GV can be shut down via the Enable input reducing the input current to <2µA. The TLE 6389 step-down controllers drive an external P-channel MOSFET, allowing design flexibility for applications up to 12.5W of output power. A high switching frequency and operation in continuous-conduction mode allow the use of tiny surfacemount inductors. Output capacitor requirements are also reduced, minimizing PC board area and system costs. The output voltage is preset at 5V (TLE6389-2 GV50 and TLE6389-3 GV50) and adjustable for the TLE6389-2 GV. The version TLE6389-2 GV50 features a reset function with a threshold between 4.5V and 4.8V, including a small hysteresis of typ. 50mV. In the version TLE6389-3 GV50 the device incorporates a reset with a typ. 1V hysteresis. Input voltages of all TLE 6389 can be up to 60V.

TLE 6389

2 Absolute Maximum Ratings (cont'd)

¹⁾ ESD susceptibility HBM according to EIA/JESD 22-A 114B.

²⁾ ESD susceptibility CDM according to JESD 22-C101.

- *Note: Stresses above the ones listed here may cause permanent damage to the device. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.*
- *Note: Integrated protection functions are designed to prevent IC destruction under fault conditions described in the data sheet. Fault conditions are considered as "outside" normal operating range. Protection functions are not designed for continuous repetitive operation.*

3 Operating Range

 $1)$ A too high PMOS on+off delay might cause an instable output voltage

Note: Within the functional range the IC operates as described in the circuit description. The electrical characteristics are specified within the conditions given in the related electrical characteristics table.

4 Electrical Characteristics

5V < V_{VS} < 48V; -40°C < T_{j} < 150°C;

 $5V < V_{VS} < 48V$; $-40^{\circ}C < T_{j} < 150^{\circ}C$;

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 $5V < V_{VS} < 48V$; $-40^{\circ}C < T_j < 150^{\circ}C$;

 $5V < V_{VS} < 48V$; $-40^{\circ}C < T_{j} < 150^{\circ}C$;

All voltages with respect to ground; positive current defined flowing into the pin; unless otherwise specified

¹⁾ The device current measurements for I_{VS} and I_{FB} exclude MOSFET driver currents.

2) Not subject to production test - specified by design

³⁾ For $4V < V_{VS} < 6V$: $V_{GBRV} \approx 0V$.

5 Typical Performance Characteristics

Current consumption I_{VS} vs. temperature T_i at enabled device and V_{VS} =13.5V

Current consumption I_{VS} vs. temperature T_j at enabled device and V_{VS} =48V

Current consumption I_{VOUT} vs. temperature ${\mathsf T}_{\mathsf j}$ at enabled device and ${\mathsf V}_{\mathsf{V}\mathsf{OUT}}\mathsf{=5.5V}$

Current consumption I_{VOUT} vs. temperature ${\mathsf T}_{\mathsf j}$ at enabled device and $\mathsf{V}_{{\mathsf{V}\mathsf{OUT}}}$ =10V(-2GV)

Internal oscillator frequency $f_{\rm OSC}$ vs. temperature T_i

Peak current limit threshold voltage V_{LIM} vs. temperature T_i

Gate driver supply V_{VS} - V_{BDS} vs. temperature T_i

Output voltage V_{VOUT} vs. temperature T_j in PFM mode $(V_{VS} = 24V, I_{Load} = 15mA, -3GV50)$

Lower Reset threshold $V_{VOUT, RT}$ vs. temperature T_i (-3GV50)

Lower Reset threshold $V_{FB, RT}$ vs. temperature T_i (-2GV)

Internal pull up resistors R_{RO} and R_{SO} vs. temperature T_i (-3GV50)

Lower Sense threshold $V_{SI, low}$ vs. temperature T_i

On resistance of SI_GND switch R_{SW} vs. temperature T_i

0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1.0 1.25 1.5 1.75 I LOAD A V_{OUT} V 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 TLE 6389-2 GV50 $R_{\text{SENSE}} = 50 \text{m}\Omega$ V_{VS} = 13.5V
App. Circuit Fig. 3

Output Current vs. Load Current, TLE6389-3 GV50

Output Voltage vs. Load Current, TLE6389-2 GV50

Output Voltage vs Load Current

6 Detailed circuit description

In the following, some internal blocks of the TLE6389 are described in more detail. For the right choice of the external components please refer to the section application information.

6.1 PFM/PWM Step-down regulator

To meet the strict requirements in terms of current consumption demanded by all Bodyand 42V PowerNet applications a special PFM (Pulse Frequency Modulation) - PWM (Pulse Width Modulation) control scheme for highest efficiency is implemented in the TLE 6389 regulators. Under light load conditions the output voltage is able to increase slightly and at a certain threshold the controller jumps into PFM mode. In this PFM operation the PMOS is triggered with a certain on time (depending on input voltage, output voltage, inductance- and sense resistor value) whenever the buck output voltage decreases to the so called WAKE-threshold. The switching frequency of the step down regulator is determined in the PFM mode by the load current. It increases with increasing load current and turns finally to the fixed PWM frequency at a certain load current depending on the input voltage, current sense resistor and inductance. The diagram below shows the buck regulation circuit of the TLE 6389 .

Figure 1 Buck control scheme

The TLE 6389 uses a slope-compensated peak current mode PWM control scheme in which the feedback or output voltage of the step down circuit and the peak current of the current through the PMOS are compared to form the OFF signal for the external PMOS.

The ON-trigger is set periodically by the internal oscillator when acting in PWM mode and is given by the output of the WAKE-comparator when operating in PFM mode. The Multiplexer (MUX) is switched by the output of the MODE-detector which distinguishes between PFM and PWM by tracking the output voltage (goto PFM) and by tracking the gate trigger frequency (goto PWM). In PFM mode the peak current limit is reduced to prevent overshoots at the output of the buck regulator. In order to avoid a gate turn off signal due to the current peak caused by the parasitic capacitance of the catch diode the blanking filter is necessary. The blanking time is set internally to 200ns and determines (together with the PMOS turn on and turn off delay) the minimum duty cycle of the device. In addition to the PFM/PWM regulation scheme an overvoltage lockout and thermal protection are implemented to guarantee safe operation of the device and of the supplied application circuit.

6.2 Battery voltage sense

To detect undervoltage conditions at the battery a sense comparator block is available within the TLE 6389. The voltage at the SI input is compared to an internal reference of typ. 1.25V. The output of the comparator drives a NMOS structure giving a low signal at SO as soon as the voltage at SI decreases below this threshold. In the 5V fixed version an internal pull up resistor is connected from the drain of the NMOS to the output of the buck converter, in the variable version SO is open drain.

The sense in voltage divider can be switched to high impedance by a low signal at the SI ENABLE to avoid high current consumption to GND (TLE6389-2 GV50 and TLE6389-3 GV50 only).

Of course the sense comparator can be used for any input voltage and does not have to be used for the battery voltage sense only.

6.3 Undervoltage Reset

The output voltage is monitored continuously by the internal undervoltage reset comparator. As soon as the output voltage decreases below the thresholds given in the characteristics the NPN structure pulls RO low (latched). In the 5V fixed version an internal pull up resistor is connected from the collector of the NPN to the output of the buck converter, in the variable version RO is open collector.

At power up RO is kept low until the output voltage has reached its reset threshold and stayed above this threshold for the power on reset delay time.

7 Application information

Note: The following information is given as a hint for the implementation of the device only and shall not be regarded as a description or warranty of a certain functionality, condition or quality of the device.

7.1 General

The TLE 6389 step-down DC-DC controllers are designed primarily for use in Automotive applications where high input voltage range requirements have to be met. Using an external P-MOSFET and current-sense resistor allows design flexibility and the improved efficiencies associated with high-performance P-channel MOSFETs. The unique, peak current-limited, PWM/PFM control scheme gives these devices excellent efficiency over wide load ranges, while drawing around 100µA current from the battery under no load condition. This wide dynamic range optimizes the TLE 6389 for automotive applications, where load currents can vary considerably as individual circuit blocks are turned on and off to conserve energy. Operation to a 100% duty cycle allows the lowest possible dropout voltage, maintaining operation during cold cranking. High switching frequencies and a simple circuit topology minimize PC board area and component costs.

7.2 Typical application circuits

Figure 2 Application circuit TLE6389-2 GV50 and TLE6389-3 GV50

Figure 3 Application circuit TLE6389-2 GV

7.3 Output voltage at adjustable version - feedback divider

The output voltage is sensed either by an internal voltage divider connected to the VOUT pin (TLE6389-2 GV50 and TLE6389-3 GV50, fixed 5V versions) or an external divider from the Buck output voltage to the FB pin (TLE6389-2 GV, adjustable version). Pin VOUT has to be connected always to the Buck converter output regardless of the selected output voltage for the -2GV version.

To determine the resistors of the feedback divider for the desired output voltage V_{OUT} at the TLE6389-2 GV select R_{FB2} between 5kΩ and 500kΩ and obtain R_{FB1} with the following formula:

$$
R_{\text{FB1}} = R_{\text{FB2}} \cdot \left(\frac{V_{\text{OUT}}}{V_{\text{FB, th}}} - 1\right)
$$

 V_{FB} is the threshold of the error amplifier with its value of typical 1.25V which shows that the output voltage can be adjusted in a range from 1.25V to 15V. However the integrated Reset function will only be operational if the output voltage level is adjusted to >7V. Also the current consumption will be increased in PFM mode in the range between 1.25V and 7V.

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7.4 SI_Enable

Connecting SI_ENABLE to 5V causes SI_GND to have low impedance. Thus the SI comparator is in operation and can be used to monitor the battery voltage. SO output signal is valid. Connecting SI ENABLE to GND causes SI GND to have high impedance. Thus the SI comparator is not able to monitor the battery voltage. SO output signal is invalid.

7.5 Battery sense comparator - voltage divider

The formula to calculate the resistor divider for the sense comparator is basically the same as for the feedback divider in section before. With the selected resistor R_{S12} , the desired threshold of the input voltage $V_{\text{IN, UV}}$ and the lower sense threshold $V_{\text{SL, low}}$ the resistor R_{S11} is given to:

$$
R_{SI1} = R_{SI2} \cdot \left(\frac{V_{IN, UV}}{V_{SI, low}} - 1\right)
$$

For high accuracy and low ohmic resistor divider values the On-resistance of the SI GND NMOS (typ. 100Ω) has to be added to R_{SI2}.

7.6 Undervoltage reset - delay time

The diagram below shows the typical behavior of the reset output in dependency on the input voltage V_{IN} , the output voltage V_{VOUT} or V_{FB} .

Figure 4 Reset timing

7.7 100% duty-cycle operation and dropout

The TLE 6389 operates with a duty cycle up to 100%. This feature allows to operate with the lowest possible drop voltage at low battery voltage as it occurs at cold cranking. The MOSFET is turned on continuously when the supply voltage approaches the output voltage level, conventional switching regulators with less than 100% duty cycle would fail in that case.

The drop- or dropout voltage is defined as the difference between the input and output voltage levels when the input is low enough to drop the output out of regulation. Dropout depends on the MOSFET drain-to-source on-resistance, the current-sense resistor and the inductor series resistance. It is proportional to the load current:

$$
V_{drop} = I_{LOAD} \cdot (R_{DS(ON)PMOS} + R_{SENSE} + R_{INDUCTANCE})
$$

7.8 SYNC Input and Frequency Control

The TLE 6389's internal oscillator is set for a fixed PWM switching frequency of 360kHz or can be synchronized to an external clock at the SYNC pin. When the internal clock is used SYNC has to be connected to GND. SYNC is a negative-edge triggered input that allows synchronization to an external frequency ranging between 270kHz and 530kHz. When SYNC is clocked by an external signal, the converter operates in PWM mode until the load current drops below the PWM to PFM threshold. Thereafter the converter continues operation in PFM mode.

7.9 Shutdown Mode

Connecting ENABLE to GND places the TLE6389-2 GV in shutdown mode. In shutdown, the reference, control circuitry, external switching MOSFET, and the oscillator are turned off and the output falls to 0V. Connect ENABLE to voltages higher than 4.5V for normal operation. As this input operates analog the voltage applied at this pin should have a slope of 0.5V/3µs to avoid undefined states within the device.

7.10 Buck converter circuit

A typical choice of external components for the buck converter circuit is given in figure [2](#page-26-0) and [3.](#page-27-0) For basic operation of the buck converter the input capacitors C_{IN1} , C_{IN2} , the driver supply capacitor C_{BDS} , the sense resistor R_{SENSE} , the PMOS device, the catch diode D1, the inductance L1 and the output capacitor C_{OUT} are necessary. In addition for low electromagnetic emission a Pi-filter at the input and/or a small resistor in the path between GDRV and the gate of the PMOS may be necessary.

7.10.1 Buck inductance (L1) selection in terms of ripple current:

The internal PWM/PFM control loop includes a slope compensation for stable operation in PWM mode. This slope compensation is optimized for inductance values of 47µH and Sense resistor values of 47m Ω for the 5V output voltage versions. When choosing an inductance different from 47µH the Sense resistor has to be changed also:

$$
\frac{R_{\text{SENSE}}}{L1} = (0.5...1,0) \times 10^3 \frac{\Omega}{H}
$$

Increasing this ratio above 1000 Ω/H may result in sub harmonic oscillations as wellknown for peak current mode regulators without integrated slope compensation.

To achieve the same effect of slope compensation in the adjustable voltage version also the inductance in µH is given by

$$
\left(2.0\times10^{-4}\cdot\frac{\text{H}}{\text{V}\Omega}\cdot\text{V}_{\text{OUT}}\cdot\text{R}_{\text{SENSE}}\right)
$$

The inductance value determines together with the input voltage, the output voltage and the switching frequency the current ripple which occurs during normal operation of the step down converter. This current ripple is important for the all over ripple at the output of the switching converter.

$$
\Delta I = \frac{(V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) \cdot V_{OUT}}{f_{SW} \cdot V_{IN} \cdot L1}
$$

In this equation f_{sw} is the actual switching frequency of the device, given either by the internal oscillator or by an external source connected to the SYNC pin. When picking finally the inductance of a certain supplier (Epcos, Coilcraft etc.) the saturation current has to be considered. The saturation current value of the desired inductance has to be higher than the maximum peak current which can appear in the actual application.

7.10.2 Determining the current limit

The peak current which the buck converter is able to provide is determined by the peak current limit threshold voltage V_{LIM} and the sense resistor R_{SENSE} . With a maximum peak current given by the application ($I_{PEAK, PWM} = I_{LOAD} + 0.5\Delta I$) the sense resistor is calculated to

$$
R_{\text{SENSE}} = \frac{V_{\text{LIM}}}{2 \cdot I_{\text{PEAK, PWM}}}
$$

The equation above takes account for the foldback characteristic of the current limit as shown in the Fig. 'Output Voltage vs. Load Current' on page 24/25 by introducing a factor of 2. It must be assured by correct dimensioning of R_{SENSE} that the load current doesn't reach the foldback part of the characteristic curve.

7.10.3 PFM and PWM thresholds

The crossover thresholds PFM to PWM and vice versa strongly depend on the input voltage V_{IN} , the Buck converter inductance L1, the sense resistor value R_{SENSE} and the turn on and turn off delays of the external PMOS.

For more details on the PFM to PWM and PWM to PFM thresholds please refer to the application note "TLE6389 - Determining PFM/PWM current thresholds".

7.10.4 Buck output capacitor (C_{OUT}) selection:

The choice of the output capacitor effects straight to the minimum achievable ripple which is seen at the output of the buck converter. In continuous conduction mode the ripple of the output voltage can be estimated by the following equation:

$$
V_{Ripple} = \Delta I \cdot \left(R_{ESRCOUT} + \frac{1}{8 \cdot f_{SW} \cdot C_{OUT}}\right)
$$

From the formula it is recognized that the ESR has a big influence in the total ripple at the output, so low ESR tantalum capacitors are recommended for the application.

One other important thing to note are the requirements for the resonant frequency of the output LC-combination. The choice of the components L and C have to meet also the specified range given in section [3](#page-8-0) otherwise instabilities of the regulation loop might occur.

7.10.5 Input capacitor (C_{IN1}) selection:

At high load currents, where the current through the inductance flows continuously, the input capacitor is exposed to a square wave current with its duty cycle $V_{\text{OUT}}/V_{\text{I}}$. To prevent a high ripple to the battery line a capacitor with low ESR should be used. The maximum RMS current which the capacitor has to withstand is calculated to:

$$
I_{RMS} = I_{LOAD} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN}}} \cdot \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{\Delta I}{2 \cdot I_{LOAD}}\right)^2}
$$

For low ESR an e.g. Al-electrolytic capacitance in parallel to an ceramic capacitance could be used.

7.10.6 Freewheeling diode / catch diode (D1)

For lowest power loss in the freewheeling path Schottky diodes are recommended. With those types the reverse recovery charge is negligible and a fast hand over from freewheeling to forward conduction mode is possible. Depending on the application (12V battery systems) 40V types could be also used instead of the 60V diodes. Also for high temperature operation select a Schottky-diode with low reverse leakage.

A fast recovery diode with recovery times in the range of 30ns can be also used if smaller junction capacitance values (smaller spikes) are desired.

7.10.7 Buck driver supply capacitor (C_{BDS})

The voltage at the ceramic capacitor is clamped internally to 7V, a ceramic type with a minimum of 220nF and voltage class 16V would be sufficient.

7.10.8 Input pi-filter components for reduced EME

At the input of Buck converters a square wave current is observed causing electromagnetical interference on the battery line. The emission to the battery line consists on one hand of components of the switching frequency (fundamental wave) and its harmonics and on the other hand of the high frequency components derived from the current slope. For proper attenuation of those interferers a π -type input filter structure is recommended which is built up with inductive and capacitive components in addition to the Input caps C_{IN1} and C_{IN2} . The inductance can be chosen up to the value of the Buck converter inductance, higher values might not be necessary, the additional capacitance should be a ceramic type in the range up to 100nF.

Inexpensive input filters show due to their parasitrics a notch filter characteristic, which means basically that the low pass filter acts from a certain frequency as a high pass filter and means further that the high frequency components are not attenuated properly. To slower down the slopes at the gate of the PMOS switch and get down the emission in the high frequency range a small gate resistor can be put between GDRV and the PMOS gate.

7.10.9 Frequency compensation

The external frequency compensation pin should be connected via a 2.2nF (\geq 10V) ceramic capacitor and a 680 Ω (1/8W) resistor to GND. This node should be kept free from switching noise.

7.11 Components recommendation - overview

7.12 Layout recommendation

The most sensitive points for Buck converters - when considering the layout - are the nodes at the input, output and the gate of the PMOS transistor and the feedback path.

For proper operation and to avoid stray inductance paths the external catch diode, the Buck inductance and the input capacitor C_{IN1} have to be connected as close as possible to the PMOS device. Also the GDRV path from the controller to the MosFet has to be as short as possible. Best suitable for the connection of the cathode of the catch diode and one terminal of the inductance would be a small plain located next to the drain of the PMOS.

The GND connection of the catch diode must be also as short as possible. In general the GND level should be implemented as surface area over the whole PCB as second layer, if necessary as third layer. The feedback path has to be well grounded also, a ceramic capacitance might help in addition to the output cap to avoid spikes.

To obtain the optimum filter capability of the input pi-filter it has to be located also as close as possible to the input. To filter the supply input of the device (VS) the ceramic cap should be connected directly to the pin.

As a guideline an EMC optimized application board / layout is available.

8 Package Outlines

Figure 5 Outline PG-DSO-14-1 (Plastic Green Dual Small Outline)

Green Product (RoHS compliant)

To meet the world-wide customer requirements for environmentally friendly products and to be compliant with government regulations the device is available as a green product. Green products are RoHS-Compliant (i.e Pb-free finish on leads and suitable for Pb-free soldering according to IPC/JEDEC J-STD-020).

9 Revision History

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