

1.2 MHz, 2A Synchronous Step-Down Converter

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The GX3421 is a 1.2MHz constant frequency, slope compensated current mode PWM step-down converter. The device integrates a main switch and a synchronous rectifier for high efficiency without an external Schottky diode. It is ideal for powering portable equipment that runs from a single cell lithium-Ion (Li+) battery. The GX3421 can supply 2000mA of load current from a 2.0V to 6.0V input voltage. The output voltage can be regulated as low as 0.6V. The GX3421 can also run at 100% duty cycle for low dropout operation, extending battery life in portable system. Pulse Skipping Mode operation at light loads provides very low output ripple voltage for noise sensitive applications.

The GX3421 is offered in a low profile (1mm) 5-pin, SOT package, and is available in an adjustable version and fixed output voltage of 1.2V, 1.5V and 1.8V.

APPLICATIONS

- Cellular and Smart Phones
- Microprocessors and DSP Core Supplies
- Wireless and DSL Modems
- PDAs
- MP3 Player
- Digital Still and Video Cameras
- Portable Instruments

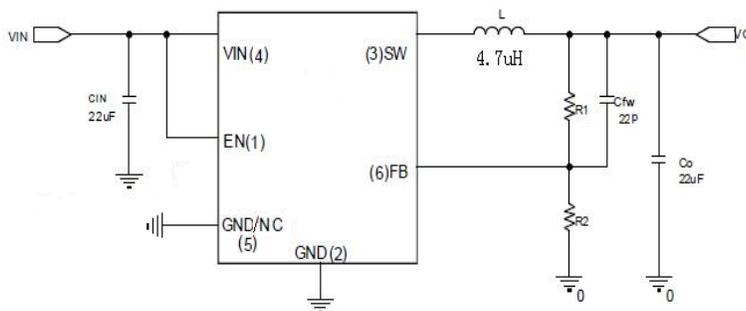
FEATURES

- High Efficiency: Up to 96%
- 1.2MHz Constant Switching Frequency
- 2000mA Output Current at $V_{IN}=3V$
- Integrated Main switch and synchronous rectifier. No Schottky Diode Required
- 2.0V to 6.0V Input Voltage Range
- 6.0V Input overvoltage protection
- Output Voltage as Low as 0.6V
- 100% Duty Cycle in Dropout
- Low Quiescent Current: 40uA
- Slope Compensated Current Mode Control for Excellent Line and Load Transient Response
- Short Circuit Protection
- Thermal Fault Protection
- $1\mu A$ Shutdown Current
- Space Saving 6-Pin SOT23 package

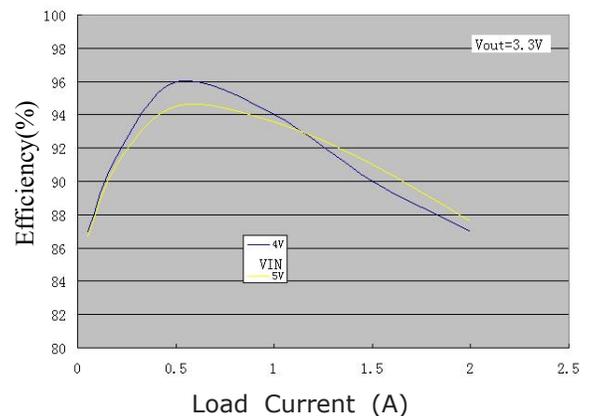
EVALUATION BOARD

Standard Demo Board	Dimensions (mm)
GX3421	60X x 60Y x 1.6Z

Typical Application



$$V_o = 0.6 \times \left(1 + \frac{R1}{R2} \right)$$



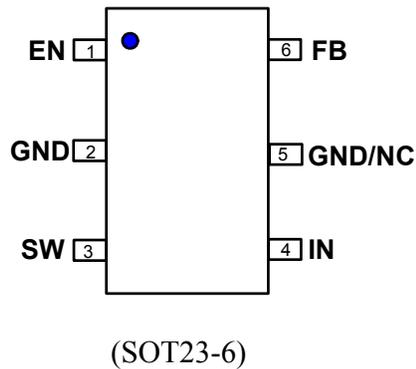
Efficiency vs Load Current

Absolute Maximum Rating (Note 1)

Input Supply Voltage -0.3V to +7.5V
 EN, V_{FB} Voltages -0.3V to V_{IN}+0.3V
 SW, V_{out} Voltages -0.3V to V_{IN}+0.3V
 Peak SW Sink and Source Current..... 2.5A

Operating Temperature Range... -40°C to +85°C
 Junction Temperature (Note2) +125°C
 Storage Temperature Range -65°C to +150°C
 Lead Temperature (Soldering, 10s)..... +300°C

Package/Order Information



Thermal Resistance (Note 3):

Package	Θ_{JA}	Θ_{JC}
SOT23-6	250°C/W	110°C/W

Note 1: Absolute Maximum Ratings are those values beyond which the life of a device may be impaired.

Note 2: T_J is calculated from the ambient temperature T_A and power dissipation P_D according to the following formula:

$$T_J = T_A + P_D \times \Theta_{JA}$$

Note 3: Thermal Resistance is specified with approximately 1 square of 1 oz copper.

Note 4: XY = Manufacturing Date Code

Electrical Characteristics (Note 5)

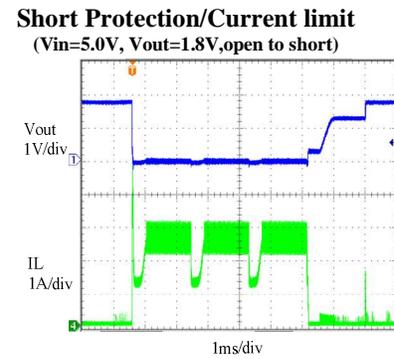
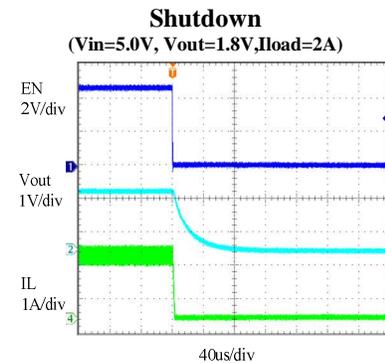
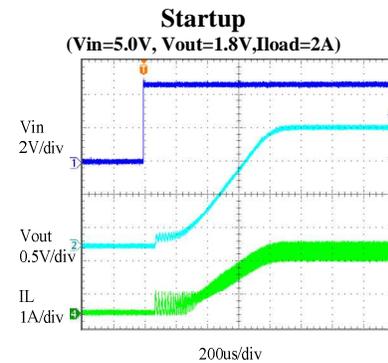
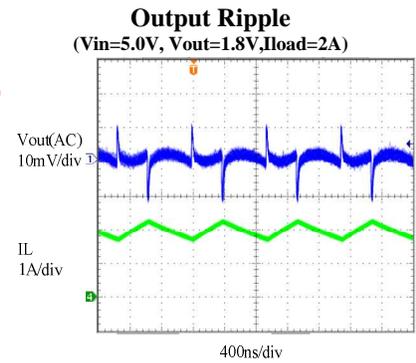
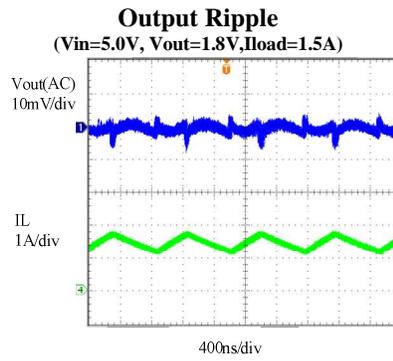
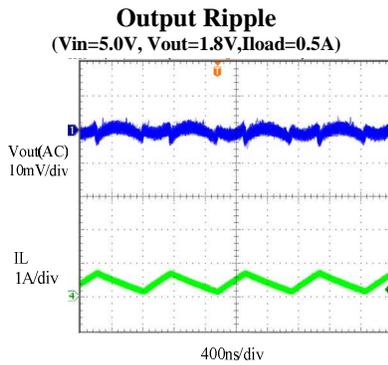
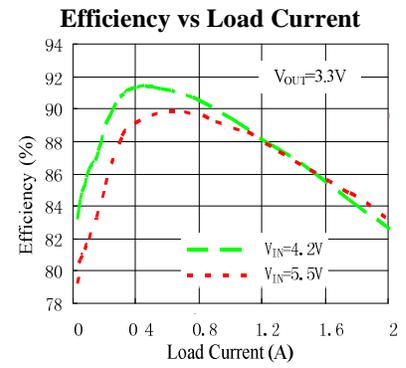
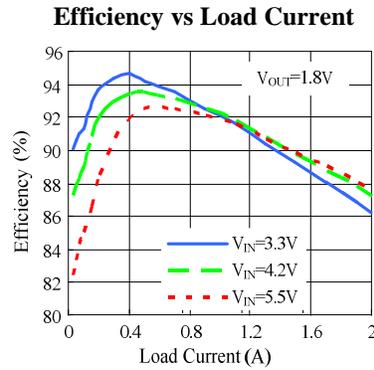
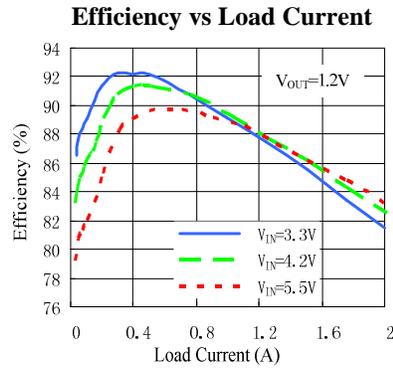
($V_{IN}=V_{EN}=3.6V$, $T_A=25^{\circ}C$, Test Circuit Figure 1, unless otherwise noted.)

Parameter	Conditions	MIN	TYP	MAX	unit
Input Voltage Range		2.5		6.0	V
UVLO Threshold			2.4		V
OVP Threshold			6.0		V
Input DC Supply Current					μA
PWM Mode	$V_{out}=90\%$, $I_{load}=0mA$		150	300	μA
PFM Mode	$V_{out}=105\%$, $I_{load}=0mA$		40	70	μA
Shutdown Mode	$V_{EN}=0V$, $V_{IN}=4.2V$		0.1	1.0	μA
Regulated Feedback Voltage	$T_A=25^{\circ}C$	0.588	0.600	0.612	V
	$T_A=0^{\circ}C \leq T_A \leq 85^{\circ}C$	0.586	0.600	0.613	V
	$T_A=-40^{\circ}C \leq T_A \leq 85^{\circ}C$	0.585	0.600	0.615	V
Reference Voltage Line Regulation	$V_{in}=2.5V$ to $5.5V$		0.04	0.40	%/V
Output Voltage Line Regulation	$V_{IN}=2.5V$ to $5.5V$		0.04	0.4	%
Output Voltage Load Regulation			0.5		%
Oscillation Frequency			1.2		MHz
On Resistance of PMOS	$I_{sw}=100mA$		0.08		Ω
ON Resistance of NMOS	$I_{sw}=-100mA$		0.06		Ω
Peak Current Limit	$V_{IN}=3V$, $V_{out}=90\%$	2			A
EN Threshold		1.5			V
EN Leakage Current			± 0.01	± 1.0	μA
SW Leakage Current	$V_{EN}=0V$, $V_{IN}=V_{sw}=5V$		± 0.01	± 1.0	μA
Thermal Shutdown			160		$^{\circ}C$

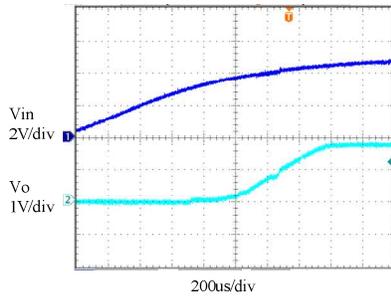
Note 5: 100% production test at $+25^{\circ}C$. Specifications over the temperature range are guaranteed by design and characterization.

Typical Performance Characteristics

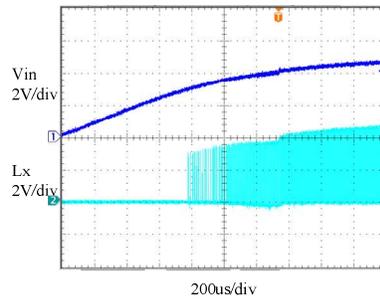
(Test Figure 1 above unless otherwise specified)



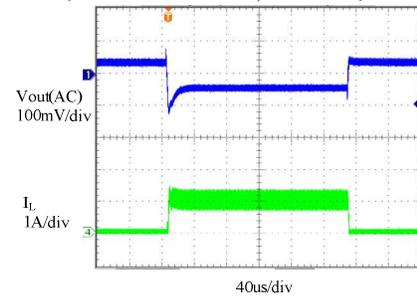
Soft Start(Vo)



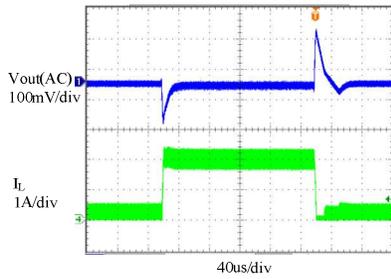
Soft Start(Lx)



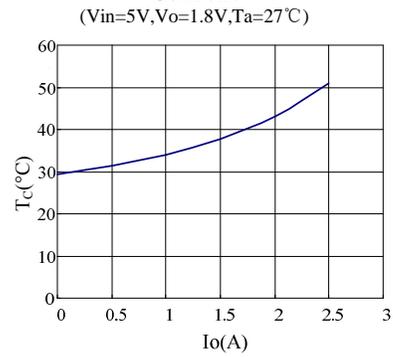
Load Transient
(Vin=5.0V, Vout=1.8V, Iload=0~1A)



Load Transient
(Vin=5.0V, Vout=1.8V, Iload=0.2~2A)



Case Temperature vs Output Current



Pin Description

PIN	NAME	FUNCTION
1	EN	Regulator Enable control input. Drive EN above 1.5V to turn on the part. Drive EN below 0.3V to turn it off. In shutdown, all functions are disabled drawing <math><1\mu\text{A}</math> supply current. Do not leave EN floating.
2	GND	Ground
3	SW	Power Switch Output. It is the Switch node connection to Inductor. This pin connects to the drains of the internal P-CH and N-CH MOSFET switches.
4	VIN	Supply Input Pin. Must be closely decoupled to GND, Pin 2, with a 22 μF or greater ceramic capacitor.
5	GND/NC	Ground Pin, NC
6	FB	Feedback Input Pin. Connect FB to the center point of the external resistor divider. The feedback threshold voltage is 0.6V.

Functional Block Diagram

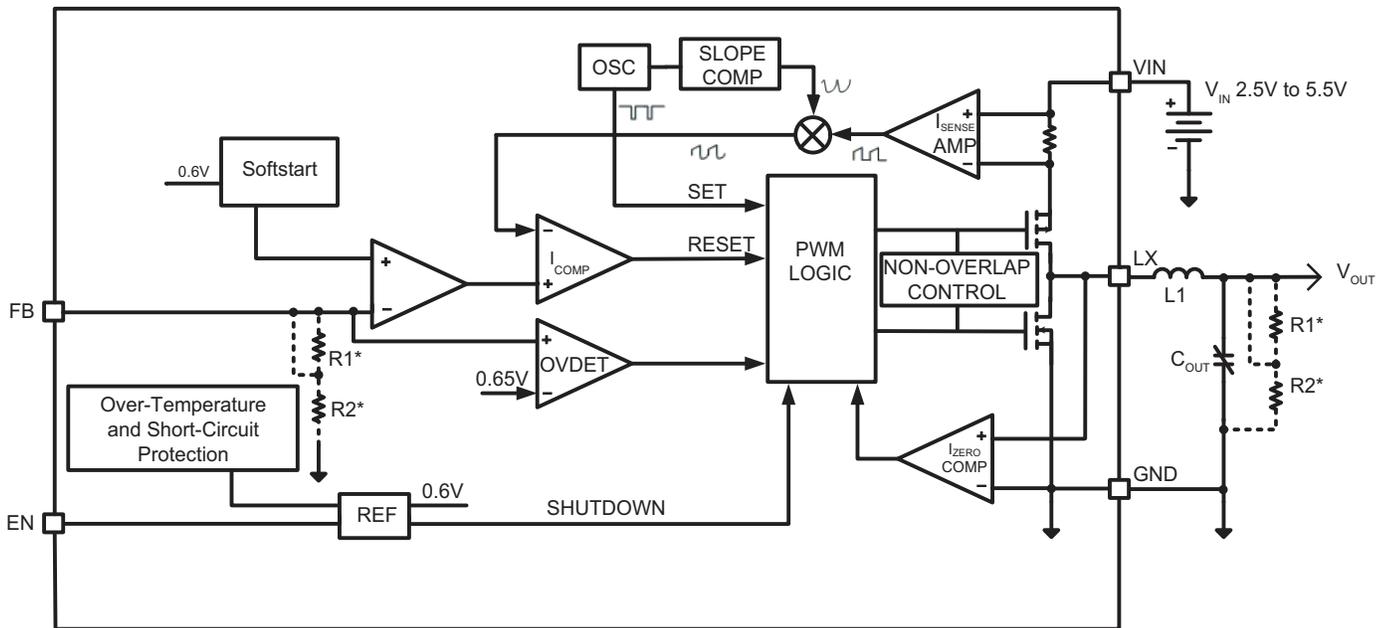


Figure 2. GX3421 Block Diagram

Operation

GX3421 is a monolithic switching mode Step-Down DC-DC converter. It utilizes internal MOSFETs to achieve high efficiency and can generate very low output voltage by using internal reference at 0.6V. It operates at a fixed switching frequency, and uses the slope compensated current mode architecture. This Step-Down DC-DC Converter supplies 1000mA output current at $V_{IN} = 3V$ with input voltage range from 2.0V to 6.0V.

Current Mode PWM Control

Slope compensated current mode PWM control provides stable switching and cycle-by-cycle current limit for excellent load and line responses and protection of the internal main switch (P-Ch MOSFET) and synchronous rectifier (N-CH MOSFET). During normal operation, the internal P-Ch MOSFET is turned on for a certain time to ramp the inductor current at each rising edge of the internal oscillator, and switched off when the peak inductor current is above the error voltage. The current comparator, I_{COMP} , limits the peak inductor current. When the main switch is off, the synchronous rectifier will be turned on immediately and stay on until either the inductor current starts to reverse, as indicated by the current reversal comparator, I_{ZERO} , or the beginning of the next clock cycle. The OVDET comparator controls output transient overshoots by turning the main switch off and keeping it off until the fault is no longer present.

Pulse Skipping Mode Operation

At very light loads, the GX3421 automatically enters Pulse Skipping Mode. In the Pulse Skipping Mode, the inductor current may reach zero or reverse on each pulse. The PWM control loop will automatically skip pulses to maintain output regulation. The bottom MOSFET is turned off by the current reversal comparator, I_{ZERO} , and the switch voltage will ring. This is discontinuous mode operation, and is normal behavior for the switching regulator.

Dropout Operation

When the input voltage decreases toward the value of the output voltage, the GX3421 allows the main switch to remain on for more than one switching cycle and increases the duty cycle^(Note 5) until it reaches 100%. The output voltage then is the input voltage minus the voltage drop across the main switch and the inductor. At low input supply voltage, the $R_{DS(ON)}$ of the P-Channel MOSFET increases, and the efficiency of the converter decreases. Caution must be exercised to ensure the heat dissipated not to exceed the maximum junction temperature of the IC.

Note 5: The duty cycle D of a step-down converter is defined as:

$$D = T_{ON} \times f_{OSC} \times 100\% \approx \frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN}} \times 100\%$$

Where T_{ON} is the main switch on time and f_{OSC} is the oscillator frequency (1.4Mhz).

Maximum Load Current

The GX3421 will operate with input supply voltage as low as 2.0V, however, the maximum load current decreases at lower input due to large IR drop on the main switch and synchronous rectifier. The slope compensation signal reduces the peak inductor current as a function of the duty cycle to prevent sub-harmonic oscillations at duty cycles greater than 50%. Conversely the current limit increases as the duty cycle decreases.

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

Setting the Output Voltage

Figure 1 above shows the basic application circuit with GX3421 adjustable output version. The external resistor sets the output voltage according to the following equation:

$$V_{OUT} = 0.6V \times \left(1 + \frac{R1}{R2}\right)$$

Table 1 Resistor select for output voltage setting

V _{OUT}	R2	R1
1.2V	100k	100k
1.5V	100k	150k
1.8V	100k	200k
2.5V	100k	316k
3.3V	100k	453k

Note: R2 Resistor must be lower than 100K.

Inductor Selection

For most designs, the GX3421 operates with inductors of 1μH to 4.7μH. Low inductance values are physically smaller but require faster switching, which results in some efficiency loss. The inductor value can be derived from the following equation:

$$L = \frac{V_{OUT} \times (V_{IN} - V_{OUT})}{V_{IN} \times \Delta I_L \times f_{OSC}}$$

Where ΔI_L is inductor Ripple Current. Large value inductors lower ripple current and small value inductors result in high ripple currents. Choose inductor ripple current approximately 35% of the maximum load current 2000mA, or $\Delta I_L = 210mA$.

For output voltages above 2.0V, when light-load efficiency is important, the minimum recommended inductor is 2.2μH. For optimum voltage-positioning load transients, choose an inductor with DC series resistance in the 50mΩ to 150mΩ range. For higher efficiency at heavy loads (above 200mA), or minimal load regulation (but some transient overshoot), the resistance should be kept below 100mΩ. The DC current rating of the inductor should be at least equal to the maximum load current plus half the ripple current to prevent core saturation (2000mA+105mA). Table 2 lists some typical surface mount inductors that meet target applications for the GX3421.

Table 2. Typical Surface Mount Inductors

Part #	L (μH)	Max DCR (mΩ)	Rated D.C. Current (A)	Size WxLxH (mm)	
Sumida CR43	1.4	56.2	2.52	4.5x4.0x3.5	
	2.2	71.2	1.75		
	3.3	86.2	1.44		
	4.7	108.7	1.15		
Sumida CDRH4D18	1.5	75	1.32	4.7x4.7x2.0	
	2.2		1.04		
	3.3		110		0.84
	4.7		162		0.84
Toko D312C	1.5	120	1.29	3.6x3.6x1.2	
	2.2	140	1.14		
	3.3	180	0.98		
	4.7	240	0.79		

Input Capacitor Selection

The input capacitor reduces the surge current drawn from the input and switching noise from the device. The input capacitor impedance at the switching frequency shall be less than input source impedance to prevent high frequency switching current passing to the input. A low ESR input capacitor sized for maximum RMS current must be used. Ceramic capacitors with X5R or X7R dielectrics are highly recommended because of their low ESR and small temperature coefficients. A 4.7μF ceramic capacitor for most applications is sufficient.

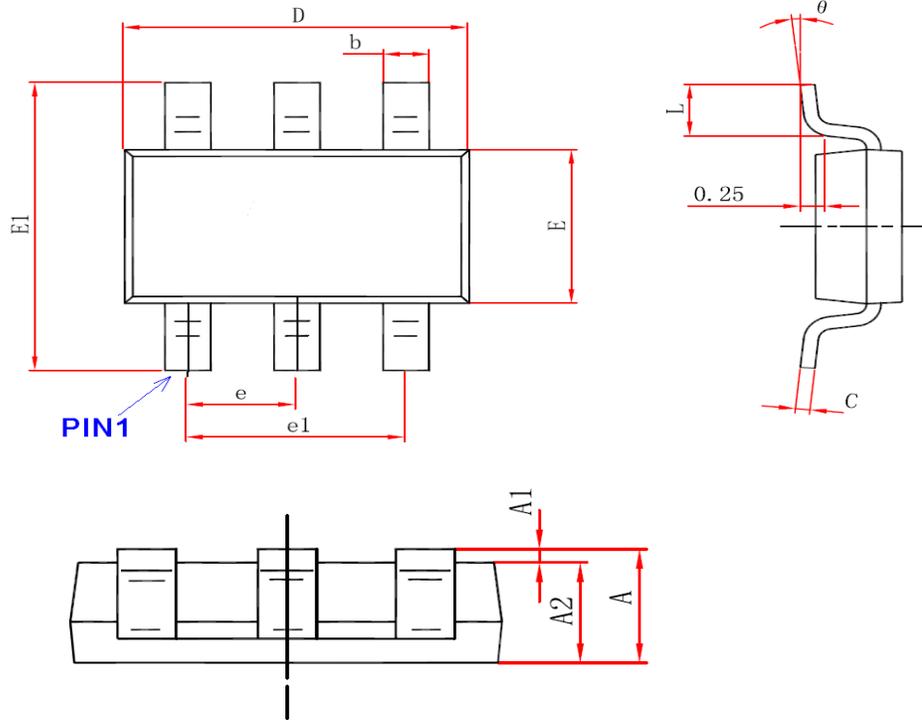
Output Capacitor Selection

The output capacitor is required to keep the output voltage ripple small and to ensure regulation loop stability. The output capacitor must have low impedance at the switching frequency. Ceramic capacitors with X5R or X7R dielectrics are recommended due to their low

ESR and high ripple current. The output ripple V_{OUT} is determined by:

$$\Delta V_{OUT} \leq \frac{V_{OUT} \times (V_{IN} - V_{OUT})}{V_{IN} \times f_{OSC} \times L} \times \left(ESR + \frac{1}{8 \times f_{osc} \times C3} \right)$$

Package Description



Symbol	Dimensions In Millimeters		Dimensions In Inches	
	Min	Max	Min	Max
A	0.700	0.900	0.028	0.035
A1	0.000	0.100	0.000	0.004
A2	0.700	0.800	0.028	0.031
b	0.350	0.500	0.014	0.020
c	0.080	0.200	0.003	0.008
D	2.820	3.020	0.111	0.119
E	1.600	1.700	0.063	0.067
E1	2.650	2.950	0.104	0.116
e	0.95 (BSC)		0.037(BSC)	
e1	1.90 (BSC)		0.075(BSC)	
L	0.300	0.600	0.012	0.024
θ	0°	8°	0°	8°

Note: Package outline exclusive of mold flash and metal burr.