

ACT8931A Rev 3, 29-Nov-12

Advanced PMU for Rockchip RK2928/RK2926 Processors

FEATURES

- **Three Step-Down DC/DC Converters**
- **Four Low-Dropout Linear Regulators**
- **Integrated ActivePathTM Charger**
- **I 2C TM Serial Interface**
- **Advanced Enable/Disable Sequencing Controller**
- **Minimal External Components**
- **Tiny 5×5mm TQFN55-40 Package** − **0.75mm Package Height**
	- − **Pb-Free and RoHS Compliant**

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The ACT8931A is a complete, cost effective, highlyefficient ActivePMU™ power management solution, optimized for the unique power, voltagesequencing, and control requirements of the

TYPICAL APPLICATION DIAGRAM

Rockchip RK2928/RK2926 processors. It is ideal for a wide range of high performance portable handheld applications such as tablet or pad devices. This device integrates the ActivePathTM complete battery charging and management system with seven power supply channels.

This device features three step-down DC/DC converters and four low-noise, low-dropout linear regulators, along with a complete battery charging solution featuring the advanced ActivePath system-power selection function.

The three DC/DC converters utilize a highefficiency, fixed-frequency (2MHz), current-mode PWM control architecture that requires a minimum number of external components. Two DC/DCs are capable of supplying up to 1100mA of output current, while the third supports up to 1200mA. All four low-dropout linear regulators are highperformance, low-noise regulators that supply up to 320mA of output current.

The ACT8931A is available in a compact, Pb-Free and RoHS-compliant TQFN55-40 package.

Innovative PowerTM ActivePMUTM and ActivePathTM are trademarks of Active-Semi. I 2C TM is a trademark of NXP.

- 1 - www.active-semi.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FUNCTIONAL BLOCK DIAGRAM

ORDERING INFORMATION

 $@:$ All Active-Semi components are RoHS Compliant and with Pb-free plating otherwise specified.

~: Standard product options are listed in this table. Contact factory for custom options. Minimum order quantity is 12,000 units.

3: To select V_{STBYx} as the output regulation voltage for REGx, drive VSEL to logic high. V_{STBYx} can be set by software via I²C interface. Refer to appropriate sections of this datasheet for V_{STBYx} setting.

PIN CONFIGURATION

TOP VIEW

Thin - QFN (TQFN55-40)

PIN DESCRIPTIONS

PIN DESCRIPTIONS CONT'D

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS[|]

|: Do not exceed these limits to prevent damage to the device. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for long periods may affect device reliability.

I ²C INTERFACE ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(V_{VSYS} = 3.6V, T_A = 25°C, unless otherwise specified.)

Figure 1:

I ²C Compatible Serial Bus Timing

GLOBAL REGISTER MAP

0: Default values of ACT8931AQJ633.

2: All bits are automatically cleared to default values when the input power is removed or falls below the system UVLO.

REGISTER AND BIT DESCRIPTIONS

Table 1:

Global Register Map

 $@:$ Valid only when CHGIN UVLO Threshold<V_{CHGIN}<CHGIN OVP Threshold.

SYSTEM CONTROL ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(V_{VSYS} = 3.6V, T_A = 25°C, unless otherwise specified.)

 \circledcirc : PWRHLD, VSEL are logic inputs.

2: nLBO, nPBSTAT, nIRQ, nRSTO are open drain outputs.

3: Typical value shown. Actual value may vary from (T-1ms) x 88% to T x 112%, where T = 130ms.

STEP-DOWN DC/DC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

 $(V_{VP1} = V_{VP2} = V_{VP3} = 3.6V$, $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C, unless otherwise specified.)

 \odot : V_{NOM} refers to the nominal output voltage level for V_{OUT} as defined by the Ordering Information section.

2: IMAX Maximum Output Current.

LOW-NOISE LDO ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

 $(V_{INL} = 3.6V, C_{OUT4} = C_{OUT5} = C_{OUT6} = C_{OUT7} = 3.3 \mu F, LOWIQ[] = [0], T_A = 25°C$, unless otherwise specified.)

 \odot : V_{NOM} refers to the nominal output voltage level for V_{OUT} as defined by the Ordering Information section.

2: IMAX Maximum Output Current.

3: Dropout Voltage is defined as the differential voltage between input and output when the output voltage drops 100mV below the regulation voltage (for 3.1V output voltage or higher)

¢: LDO current limit is defined as the output current at which the output voltage drops to 95% of the respective regulation voltage.

ActivePathTM CHARGER ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(V_{CHGIN} = 5.0V, T_A = 25°C, unless otherwise specified.)

ActivePathTM CHARGER ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS CONT'D

(V_{CHGIN} = 5.0V, T_A = 25°C, unless otherwise specified.)

 $\textcircled{1}: R_{ISET} (kΩ) = 2336 × (1V/I_{CHG} (mA)) - 0.205$

(V_{VSYS} = 3.6V, T_A = 25°C, unless otherwise specified.)

nPBIN Startup Sequence

PWRHLD Startup Sequence

REG1, 2, 3 MOSFET Resistance

REG4, 5, 6, 7 Output Voltage vs. Output Current

Charger Current vs. Battery Voltage 100 90 Charger Current (mA) 80 Charger Current (mA) 70 60 50 40 30 $_{CHGIN} = 5V$ 20

Charger Current vs. Battery Voltage

SYSTEM CONTROL INFORMATION

Interfacing with the Rockchip RK2928/RK2926 Processors

The ACT8931A is optimized for use in applications using the Rockchip RK2928/RK2926 processors, supporting both the power domains as well as the signal interface for these processors.

While the ACT8931A supports many possible configurations for powering a processor, one of the most common configurations is detailed in this datasheet. In general, this document refers to the ACT8931A pin names and functions. However, in cases where the description of interconnections between these devices benefits by doing so, both

the ACT8931A pin names and the Rockchip RK2928/RK2926 processors pin names are provided. When this is done, the Rockchip RK2928/RK2926 pin names are located after the ACT8931A pin names, and are italicized and located inside parentheses. For example, OUT1 (IO) refers to ACT8931A's OUT1 pin, identifying that it is connected to the Rockchip RK2928/RK2926's IO power domain.

Table 2:

ACT8931A and Rockchip RK2928/RK2926 Power Domains

Table 3:

ACT8931A and Rockchip RK2928/RK2926 Power Modes

Table 4:

ACT8931A and RK2928/RK2926 Signal Interface

SYSTEM CONTROL INFORMATION

Control Signals

Enable Inputs

The ACT8931A features a variety of control inputs, which are used to enable and disable outputs depending upon the desired mode of operation. PWRHLD is a logic input, while nPBIN is a unique, multi-function input.

nPBIN Multi-Function Input

ACT8931A features the nPBIN multi-function pin, which combines system enable/disable control with a hardware reset function. Select either of the two pin functions by asserting this pin, either through a direct connection to GA, or through a 50kΩ resistor to GA, as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2:

nPBIN Input

Warm/Cold Manual Reset Function

The second major function of the nPBIN input is to provide warm and cold manual reset function. To manually reset the processors, drive nPBIN directly to GA through a low impedance (less than 2.5kΩ). An internal timer detects the duration of the manual reset event.

Short Press/Warm Reset

When the manual reset button is pressed for less than 130ms, ACT8931A commences a warm reset operation where nRSTO immediately asserts low, then remains asserted low until the manual reset button is released for 130ms.

Long Press / Cold Reset (Power Cycle)

When the manual reset button is pressed for more than 130ms, ACT8931A commences a power cycle routine in which case all regulators are turned off and then turned back on after reset button is released with all the registers reloaded to default values. When the ACT8931A turns on again, it stays enabled for 260ms, the PWRHLD need to be asserted during this time so that the system remains powered, otherwise the ACT8931A

automatically shuts down.

nPBSTAT Output

nPBSTAT is an open-drain output that reflects the state of the nPBIN input; nPBSTAT is asserted low whenever nPBIN is asserted, and is high-Z otherwise. This output is typically used as an interrupt signal to the processors, to initiate a software-programmable routine such as operating mode selection or to open a menu. Connect nPBSTAT to an appropriate supply voltage (typically OUT1) through a 10kΩ or greater resistor.

nRSTO Output

nRSTO is an open-drain output which asserts low upon startup or when manual reset is asserted via the nPBIN input. When asserted on startup, nRSTO remains low until reset time-out period expires after OUT1 reaches its power-OK threshold. When asserted due to manual-reset, nRSTO immediately asserts low, then remains asserted low until the nPBIN input is de-asserted and the reset time-out period expires.

Connect a 10kΩ or greater pull-up resistor from nRSTO to an appropriate voltage supply (typically OUT1).

nIRQ Output

nIRQ is an open-drain output that asserts low any time an interrupt is generated. Connect a 10kΩ or greater pull-up resistor from nIRQ to an appropriate voltage supply. nIRQ is typically used to drive the interrupt input of the system processors.

Many of the ACT8931A's functions support interrupt-generation as a result of various conditions. These are typically masked by default, but may be unmasked via the I^2C interface. For more information about the available fault conditions, refer to the appropriate sections of this datasheet.

Note that under some conditions a false interrupt may be generated upon initial startup. For this reason, it is recommended that the interrupt service routine check and validate nSYSLEVMSKI 1 and nFLTMSK[] bits before processing an interrupt generated by these bits. These interrupts may be validated by nSYSSTATI 1, OKI 1 bits.

Push-Button Control

The ACT8931A is designed to initiate a system enable sequence when the nPBIN multi-function input is asserted. Once this occurs, a power-on sequence commences, as described below. The power-on sequence must complete and the microprocessor must take control (by asserting

PWRHLD) before nPBIN is de-asserted. If the microprocessor is unable to complete its power-up routine successfully before the user releases the push-button, the ACT8931A automatically shuts the system down. This provides protection against accidental or momentary assertions of the pushbutton. If desired, longer "push-and-hold" times can be implemented by simply adding an additional time delay before asserting PWRHLD.

Control Sequences

The ACT8931A features a variety of control sequences that are optimized for supporting system enable and disable sequences of Rockchip RK2928/RK2926 application processors.

Enabling/Disabling Sequence

A typical enable sequence is initiated whenever the following conditions occurs:

- 1) nPBIN is asserted low via 50KΩ resistance, or
- 2) A valid input voltage is present at CHGIN[®]

The enable sequence begins by enabling REG1.

When the first regulator (REG1) reaches its power-OK threshold, nRSTO is asserted low, resetting the microprocessor. When REG1 reaches its power-OK threshold for $2ms^{\circ}$, REG2 and REG3 are enabled. If REG1 is above its power-OK threshold when the reset timer expires, nRSTO is de-asserted, allowing the microprocessor to begin its boot sequence. REG4, REG5, REG6 and REG7 can be enabled or disabled by I^2C after system powers up.

During the boot sequence, the microprocessor must assert PWRHLD, holding the regulators to ensure that the system remains powered after nPBIN is released.

As with the enable sequence, a typical disable sequence is initiated when the user presses the push-button, which interrupts the processors via the nPBSTAT output. The actual disable sequence is completely software-controlled, but typically involved initiating various "clean-up" processes before finally set MSTROFF[] bit to 1 to shut the system down.

Figure 3:

Enable/Disable Sequence

 $\mathbb O$: Typical value shown, actual delay time may vary from (T-1ms) x 88% to T x 112%, where T is the typical delay time setting. 2: Applicable only for ACT8931AQJ6##.

FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTION

I ²C Interface

The ACT8931A features an I^2C interface that allows advanced programming capability to enhance overall system performance. To ensure compatibility with a wide range of system processors, the I^2C interface supports clock speeds of up to 400kHz ("Fast-Mode" operation) and uses standard I^2C commands. I^2C write-byte commands are used to program the ACT8931A, and I^2C read-byte commands are used to read the ACT8931A's internal registers. The ACT8931A always operates as a slave device, and is addressed using a 7-bit slave address followed by an eighth bit, which indicates whether the transaction is a read-operation or a write-operation, [1011011x].

SDA is a bi-directional data line and SCL is a clock input. The master device initiates a transaction by issuing a START condition, defined by SDA transitioning from high to low while SCL is high. Data is transferred in 8-bit packets, beginning with the MSB, and is clocked-in on the rising edge of SCL. Each packet of data is followed by an "Acknowledge" (ACK) bit, used to confirm that the data was transmitted successfully.

For more information regarding the I^2C 2-wire serial interface, go to the NXP website: http://www.nxp.com.

Voltage Monitor and Interrupt

Programmable System Voltage Monitor

The ACT8931A features a programmable systemvoltage monitor, which monitors the voltage at VSYS and compares it to a programmable threshold voltage. The programmable voltage threshold is programmed by SYSLEV[3:0], as shown in Table 5.

SYSLEV[] is set to 3.0V by default. There is a 200mV rising hysteresis on SYSLEV[] threshold such that V_{VSYS} needs to be 3.2V(typ) or higher in order to power up the IC.

The nSYSSTAT[] bit reflects the output of an internal voltage comparator that monitors V_{VSYS} relative to the SYSLEV[] voltage threshold, the value of nSYSTAT[] = 1 when V_{VSYS} is lower than the SYSLEV[] voltage threshold, and nSYSTAT[] = 0 when V_{VSYS} is higher than the SYSLEV[] voltage threshold. Note that the SYSLEV[] voltage threshold is defined for falling voltages, and that the comparator produces about 200mV of hysteresis at VSYS. As a result, once V_{VSYS} falls below the SYSLEV threshold, its voltage must increase by more than about 200mV to clear that condition.

After the IC is powered up, the ACT8931A responds in one of two ways when the voltage at VSYS falls 1) If $nSYSMODE$ [] = 1 (default case), when system voltage level interrupt is unmasked $(nSYSLEVMSKI$]=1) and V_{VSYS} falls below the programmable threshold, the ACT8931A asserts nIRQ, providing a software "under-voltage alarm". The response to this interrupt is controlled by the CPU, but will typically initiate a controlled shutdown sequence either or alert the user that the battery is low. In this case the interrupt is cleared when V_{VSYS} rises up again above the SYSLEV rising threshold and $nSYSSTAT$] is read via $I²C$.

2) If nSYSMODE[] = 0, when V_{VSYS} falls below the programmable threshold the ACT8931A shuts down, immediately disabling all regulators. This option is useful for implementing a programmable "undervoltage lockout" function that forces the system off when the battery voltage falls below the SYSLEV threshold voltage. Since this option does not support a controlled shutdown sequence, it is generally used as a "fail-safe" to shut the system down when the battery voltage is too low.

Table 5:

SYSLEV Falling Threshold

Precision Voltage Detector

The LBI input connects to one input of a precision voltage comparator, which can be used to monitor a system voltage such as the battery voltage. An external resistive-divider network can be used to set voltage monitoring thresholds, as shown in Functional Block Diagram. The output of the comparator is present at the nLBO open-drain output.

Thermal Shutdown

The ACT8931A integrates thermal shutdown protection circuitry to prevent damage resulting from excessive thermal stress, as may be encountered under fault conditions. This circuitry disables all regulators if the ACT8931A die temperature exceeds 160°C, and prevents the regulators from being enabled until the IC temperature drops by 20°C (typ).

STEP-DOWN DC/DC REGULATORS

General Description

The ACT8931A features three synchronous, fixedfrequency, current-mode PWM step down converters that achieve peak efficiencies of up to 97%. REG1 and REG2 are capable of supplying up to 1100mA of output current, while REG3 supports up to 1200mA. These regulators operate with a fixed frequency of 2MHz, minimizing noise in sensitive applications and allowing the use of small external components.

100% Duty Cycle Operation

Each regulator is capable of operating at up to 100% duty cycle. During 100% duty-cycle operation, the high-side power MOSFET is held on continuously, providing a direct connection from the input to the output (through the inductor), ensuring the lowest possible dropout voltage in battery powered applications.

Synchronous Rectification

REG1, REG2, and REG3 each feature integrated nchannel synchronous rectifiers, maximizing efficiency and minimizing the total solution size and cost by eliminating the need for external rectifiers.

Soft-Start

When enabled, each output voltages tracks an internal 400us soft-start ramp, minimizing input current during startup and allowing each regulator to power up in a smooth, monotonic manner that is independent of output load conditions.

Compensation

Each buck regulator utilizes current-mode control and a proprietary internal compensation scheme to simultaneously simplify external component selection and optimize transient performance over its full operating range. No compensation design is required; simply follow a few simple guidelines described below when choosing external components.

Input Capacitor Selection

The input capacitor reduces peak currents and noise induced upon the voltage source. A 4.7uF ceramic capacitor is recommended for each regulator in most applications.

Output Capacitor Selection

For most applications, 22μ F ceramic output capacitors are recommended for REG1, REG2 and REG3.

Despite the advantages of ceramic capacitors, care must be taken during the design process to ensure stable operation over the full operating voltage and temperature range. Ceramic capacitors are available in a variety of dielectrics, each of which exhibits different characteristics that can greatly affect performance over their temperature and voltage ranges.

Two of the most common dielectrics are Y5V and X5R. Whereas Y5V dielectrics are inexpensive and can provide high capacitance in small packages, their capacitance varies greatly over their voltage and temperature ranges and are not recommended for DC/DC applications. X5R and X7R dielectrics are more suitable for output capacitor applications, as their characteristics are more stable over their operating ranges, and are highly recommended.

Inductor Selection

REG1, REG2, and REG3 utilize current-mode control and a proprietary internal compensation scheme to simultaneously simplify external component selection and optimize transient performance over their full operating range. These devices were optimized for operation with 2.2µH inductors, although inductors in the 1.5 μ H to 3.3 μ H range can be used. Choose an inductor with a low DC-resistance, and avoid inductor saturation by choosing inductors with DC ratings that exceed the maximum output current by at least 30%.

Configuration Options

Output Voltage Programming

By default, each regulator powers up and regulates to its default output voltage. Output voltage is selectable by setting VSEL pin that when VSEL is low, output voltage is programmed by VSET1[] bits, and when VSEL is high, output voltage is programmed by VSET2[] bits. However, once the system is enabled, each regulator's output voltage may be independently programmed to a different value, typically in order to minimize the power consumption of the microprocessor during some operating modes. Program the output voltages via the I^2C serial interface by writing to the regulator's VSET1[] register if VSEL is low or VSET2[] register if VSEL is high as shown in Table 6.

Enable / Disable Control

During normal operation, each buck may be enabled or disabled via the I^2C interface by writing to that regulator's ON[] bit. The regulator accept rising or falling edge of ON[] bit as on/off signal. To enable the regulator, clear ON[] to 0 first then set to

1. To disable the regulator, set ON[] to 1 first then clear it to 0.

REG1, REG2, REG3 Turn-on Delay

Each of REG1, REG2 and REG3 features a programmable Turn-on Delay which help ensure a reliable qualification. This delay is programmed by DELAY[2:0], as shown in Table 7.

Table 7:

REGx/DELAY[] Turn-On Delay

Operating Mode

By default, REG1, REG2, and REG3 each operate in fixed-frequency PWM mode at medium to heavy loads, while automatically transitioning to a proprietary power-saving mode at light loads in order to maximize standby battery life. In applications where low noise is critical, force fixedfrequency PWM operation across the entire load current range, at the expense of light-load efficiency, by setting the MODE[] bit to 1.

OK[] and Output Fault Interrupt

Each DC/DC features a power-OK status bit that can be read by the system microprocessor via the

Table 6:

REGx/VSET[2:0] 000 | 001 | 010 | 011 | 100 | 101 | 110 | 111 **000** 0.600 0.800 1.000 1.200 1.600 2.000 2.400 3.200 **001** 0.625 0.825 1.025 1.250 1.650 2.050 2.500 3.300 **010** 0.650 0.850 1.050 1.300 1.700 2.100 2.600 3.400 **011** 0.675 0.875 1.075 1.350 1.750 2.150 2.700 3.500 **100** 0.700 0.900 1.100 1.400 1.800 2.200 2.800 3.600 **REGx/VSET[5:3]**

REGx/VSET[] Output Voltage Setting

 $I²C$ interface. If an output voltage is lower than the power-OK threshold, typically 7% below the programmed regulation voltage, that regulator's OK[] bit will be 0.

If a DC/DC's nFLTMSK[] bit is set to 1, the ACT8931A will interrupt the processors if that DC/DC's output voltage falls below the power-OK threshold. In this case, nIRQ will assert low and remain asserted until either the regulator is turned off or back in regulation, and the OK[] bit has been read via I^2C .

PCB Layout Considerations

High switching frequencies and large peak currents make PC board layout an important part of stepdown DC/DC converter design. A good design minimizes excessive EMI on the feedback paths and voltage gradients in the ground plane, both of which can result in instability or regulation errors.

Step-down DC/DCs exhibit discontinuous input current, so the input capacitors should be placed as close as possible to the IC, and avoiding the use of via if possible. The inductor, input filter capacitor, and output filter capacitor should be connected as close together as possible, with short, direct, and wide traces. The ground nodes for each regulator's power loop should be connected at a single point in a star-ground configuration, and this point should be connected to the backside ground plane with multiple via. The output node for each regulator should be connected to its corresponding OUTx pin through the shortest possible route, while keeping sufficient distance from switching nodes to prevent noise injection. Finally, the exposed pad should be directly connected to the backside ground plane using multiple via to achieve low electrical and thermal resistance.

I 2C TM is a trademark of NXP.

101 0.725 0.925 1.125 1.450 1.850 2.250 2.900 3.700 **110** 0.750 0.950 1.150 1.500 1.900 2.300 3.000 3.800 **111** | 0.775 | 0.975 | 1.175 | 1.550 | 1.950 | 2.350 | 3.100 | 3.900

LOW-NOISE, LOW-DROPOUT LINEAR REGULATORS

General Description

REG4, REG5, REG6, and REG7 are low-noise, low-dropout linear regulators (LDOs) that supply up to 320mA. Each LDO has been optimized to achieve low noise and high-PSRR, achieving more than 65dB PSRR at frequencies up to 10kHz.

Output Current Limit

Each LDO contains current-limit circuitry featuring a current-limit fold-back function. During normal and moderate overload conditions, the regulators can support more than their rated output currents. During extreme overload conditions, however, the current limit is reduced by approximately 30%, reducing power dissipation within the IC.

Compensation

The LDOs are internally compensated and require very little design effort, simply select input and output capacitors according to the guidelines below.

Input Capacitor Selection

Each LDO requires a small ceramic input capacitor to supply current to support fast transients at the input of the LDO. Bypassing each INL pin to GA with 1μ F. High quality ceramic capacitors such as X7R and X5R dielectric types are strongly recommended.

Output Capacitor Selection

Each LDO requires a 3.3uF ceramic output capacitor for stability. For best performance, each output capacitor should be connected directly between the output and GA pins, as close to the output as possible, and with a short, direct connection. High quality ceramic capacitors such as X7R and X5R dielectric types are strongly recommended.

Configuration Options

Output Voltage Programming

By default, each LDO powers up and regulates to its default output voltage. Once the system is enabled, each output voltage may be independently programmed to a different value by writing to the regulator's VSET[] register via the I^2C serial interface as shown in Table 6.

Enable / Disable Control

During normal operation, each LDO may be enabled or disabled via the I^2C interface by writing to that LDO's ON[] bit. The regulator accept rising or falling edge of ON[] bit as on/off signal. To enable the regulator, clear ON[] to 0 first then set to 1. To disable the regulator, set ON[] to 1 first then clear it to 0.

REG4, REG5, REG6, REG7 Turn-on Delay

Each of REG4, REG5, REG6 and REG7 features a programmable Turn-on Delay which help ensure a reliable qualification. This delay is programmed by DELAY[2:0], as shown in Table 7.

Output Discharge

Each of the ACT8931A's LDOs features an optional output discharge function, which discharges the output to ground through a 1.5 kΩ resistance when the LDO is disabled. This feature may be enabled or disabled by setting DIS[]; set DIS[] to 1 to enable this function, clear DIS[] to 0 to disable it.

Low-Power Mode

Each of ACT8931A's LDOs features a LOWIQI I bit which, when set to 1, reduces the LDO's quiescent current by about 16%, saving power and extending battery lifetime.

OK[] and Output Fault Interrupt

Each LDO features a power-OK status bit that can be read by the system microprocessor via the interface. If an output voltage is lower than the power-OK threshold, typically 11% below the programmed regulation voltage, the value of that regulator's OK[] bit will be 0.

If a LDO's nFLTMSK[] bit is set to 1, the ACT8931A will interrupt the processors if that LDO's output voltage falls below the power-OK threshold. In this case, nIRQ will assert low and remain asserted until either the regulator is turned off or back in regulation, and the OK[1 bit has been read via I^2C .

PCB Layout Considerations

The ACT8931A's LDOs provide good DC, AC, and noise performance over a wide range of operating conditions, and are relatively insensitive to layout considerations. When designing a PCB, however, careful layout is necessary to prevent other circuitry from degrading LDO performance.

A good design places input and output capacitors as close to the LDO inputs and output as possible, and utilizes a star-ground configuration for all regulators to prevent noise-coupling through ground. Output traces should be routed to avoid close proximity to noisy nodes, particularly the SW

nodes of the DC/DCs.

REFBP is a noise-filtered reference, and internally has a direct connection to the linear regulator controller. Any noise injected onto REFBP will directly affect the outputs of the linear regulators, and therefore special care should be taken to ensure that no noise is injected to the outputs via REFBP. As with the LDO output capacitors, the REFBP bypass capacitor should be placed as close to the IC as possible, with short, direct connections to the star-ground. Avoid the use of via whenever possible. Noisy nodes, such as from the DC/DCs, should be routed as far away from REFBP as possible.

ActivePathTM CHARGER

General Description

The ACT8931A features an advanced battery charger that incorporates the patent-pending ActivePath architecture for system power selection. This combination of circuits provides a complete, advanced battery-management system that automatically selects the best available input supply, manages charge current to ensure system power availability, and provides a complete, highaccuracy (±0.5%), thermally regulated, full-featured single-cell linear Li+ charger that can withstand input voltages of up to 12V.

ActivePath Architecture

The ActivePath architecture performs three important functions:

- 1) System Configuration Optimization
- 2) Input Protection
- 3) Battery-Management

System Configuration Optimization

The *ActivePath* circuitry monitors the state of the input supply, the battery, and the system, and automatically reconfigures itself to optimize the power system. If a valid input supply is present, ActivePath powers the system from the input while charging the battery in parallel. This allows the battery to charge as quickly as possible, while supplying the system. If a valid input supply is not present, ActivePath powers the system from the battery. Finally, if the input is present and the system current requirement exceeds the capability of the input supply, ActivePath allows system power to be drawn from both the battery and the input supply.

Input Protection

Input Over-Voltage Protection

The ActivePath circuitry features input over-voltage protection circuitry. This circuitry disables charging when the input voltage exceeds the voltage set by OVPSET[\vert] as shown in Table 8, but stands off the input voltage in order to protect the system. Note that the adjustable OVP threshold is intended to provide the charge cycle with adjustable immunity against upward voltage transients on the input, and is not intended to allow continuous charging with input voltages above the charger's normal operating voltage range. Independent of the OVPSET[] setting, the charge cycle is not allowed to resume until the input voltage falls back into the charger's normal operating voltage range (i.e. below 6.0V).

In an input over-voltage condition this circuit limits $V_{V{\text{SYS}}}$ to 4.6V, protecting any circuitry connected to VSYS from the over-voltage condition, which may exceed this circuitry's voltage capability. This circuit is capable of withstanding input voltages of up to 12V.

Table 8:

Input Over-Voltage Protection Setting

Input Supply Overload Protection

The ActivePath circuitry monitors and limits the total current drawn from the input supply to a value set by the ACIN and CHGLEV inputs, as well as the resistor connected to ISET. Drive ACIN to a logiclow for "USB Mode", which limits the input current to either 100mA, when CHGLEV is driven to a logiclow, or 450mA, when CHGLEV is driven to a logichigh. Drive ACIN to a logic-high for "AC-Mode", which limits the input current to 2A, typically.

Input Under Voltage Lockout

If the input voltage applied to CHGIN falls below 3.5V (typ), an input under-voltage condition is detected and the charger is disabled. Once an input under-voltage condition is detected, a new charge cycle will initiate when the input exceeds the undervoltage threshold by at least 500mV.

Battery Management

The ACT8931A features a full-featured, intelligent charger for Lithium-based cells, and was designed specifically to provide a complete charging solution with minimum system design effort.

The core of the charger is a CC/CV (Constant-Current/Constant-Voltage), linear-mode charge controller. This controller incorporates current and voltage sense circuitry, an internal 70mΩ power MOSFET, thermal-regulation circuitry, a fullfeatured state machine that implements charge control and safety features, and circuitry that eliminates the reverse blocking diode required by conventional charger designs.

The charge termination voltage is highly accurate (±0.5%), and features a selection of charge safety time-out periods that protect the system from operation with damaged cells. Other features

include pin-programmable fast-charge current and one current-limited nSTAT output that can directly drive LED indicator or provide a logic-level status signal to the host microprocessor.

Dynamic Charge Current Control (DCCC)

The ACT8931A's ActivePath charger features dynamic charge current control (DCCC) circuitry, which acts to ensure that the system remains powered while operating within the maximum output capability of the power adapter. The DCCC circuitry continuously monitors V_{VSYS} , and if the voltage at VSYS drops by more than 200mV, the DCCC circuitry automatically reduces charge current in order to prevent V_{VSYS} from continuing to drop.

Charge Current Programming

The ACT8931A's ActivePath charger features a flexible charge current-programming scheme that combines the convenience of internal charge current programming with the flexibility of resistor based charge current programming. Current limits and charge current programming are managed as a function of the ACIN and CHGLEV pins, in combination with RISET, the resistance connected to the ISET pin.

ACIN is a logic input that configures the current-limit of ActivePath's linear regulator as well as that of the battery charger. ACIN features a precise 1.2V logic threshold, so that the input voltage detection threshold may be adjusted with a simple resistive voltage divider. This input also allows a simple, lowcost dual-input charger switch to be implemented with just a few, low-cost components.

When the voltage at ACIN is above the 1.2V threshold, the charger operates in "AC-Mode" with a charge current programmed by RISET, and the RISET is given by:

 R_{ISET} (kΩ) = 2336 × (1V/I_{CHG} (mA)) - 0.205

With a given R_{ISFT} then charge current will reduce 5 times when CHGLEV is driven low.

When ACIN is below the 1.2V threshold, the charger operates in "USB-Mode", with a maximum CHGIN input current and charge current defined by the CHGLEV input; 450mA, if CHGLEV is driven to a logic-high, or 100mA, if CHGLEV is driven to a

logic-low.

The ACT8931A's charge current settings are summarized in Table 9.

Note that the actual charge current may be limited to a current lower than the programmed fast charge current due to the ACT8931A's internal thermal regulation loop. See the Thermal Regulation section for more information.

Charger Input Interrupts

In order to ease input supply detection and eliminate the size and cost of external detection circuitry, the charger has the ability to generate interrupts based upon the status of the input supply. This function is capable of generating an interrupt when the input is connected, disconnected, or both. An interrupt is generated any time the input supply is connected when INSTAT[] bit is set to 1 and the INCONI 1 bit is set to 1, and an interrupt is generated any time the input supply is disconnected when INSTAT[] bit is set to 1 and the INDIS[] bit is set to 1.

INDAT[] indicates the status of the CHGIN input supply. A value of 1 indicates that a valid CHGIN input (CHGIN UVLO Threshold<V_{CHGIN}<CHGIN OVP Threshold) is present, a value of 0 indicates a valid input is not present.

When an interrupt is generated by the input supply, reading the INSTAT[] returns a value of 1. INSTAT [] is automatically cleared to 0 upon reading. When no interrupt is generated by the input supply, reading the INSTAT[] returns a value $of $0$$

When responding to an Input Status Interrupt, it is often useful to know the state of the ACIN input. For example, in a dual-input charger application knowing the state of the ACIN input can identify which type of input supply has been connected. The state of the ACIN input can be read at any time by reading the ACINSTAT[] bit, where a value of 1 indicates that the voltage at ACIN is above the 1.2V threshold (indicating that a wall-cube has been attached), and a value of 0 indicates that the voltage is below this threshold (indicating that ACIN input is not valid and USB supply input is selected).

Table 9:

ACIN and CHGLEV Inputs

Innovative PowerTM ActivePMUTM and ActivePathTM are trademarks of Active-Semi. I 2C TM is a trademark of NXP.

Figure 4:

Typical Li+ charge profile and ACT8931A charge states

A: PRECONDITION State B: FAST-CHARGE State C: TOP-OFF State D: END-OF-CHARGE State

Charge-Control State Machine

PRECONDITION State

A new charging cycle begins with the PRECONDITION state, and operation continues in this state until V_{BAT} exceeds the Precondition Threshold Voltage. When operating in PRECONDITION state, the cell is charged at 10% of the programmed maximum fast-charge constant current, I_{CHG} .

Once VBAT reaches the Precondition Threshold Voltage, the state machine jumps to the FAST-CHARGE state. If VBAT does not reach the Precondition Threshold Voltage before the Precondition Time-out period expires, then the state machine jumps to the TIME-OUT-FAULT state in order to prevent charging a damaged cell. See the Charge Safety Timers section for more information.

FAST-CHARGE State

In the FAST-CHARGE state, the charger operates in constant-current (CC) mode and regulates the charge current to the current set by RISET. Charging continues in CC mode until VBAT reaches the charge termination voltage (V_{TERM}), at which point the statemachine jumps to the TOP-OFF state. If V_{BAT} does not reach VTERM before the total time out period expires then the state-machine will jump to the "EOC" state and will re-initiate a new charge cycle after 32ms "relax". See the Current Limits and Charge Current Programming sections for more information about setting the maximum charge current.

TOP-OFF State

In the TOP-OFF state, the cell charges in constantvoltage (CV) mode. In CV mode operation, the charger regulates its output voltage to the 4.20V charge termination voltage, and the charge current is naturally reduced as the cell approaches full charge. Charging continues until the charge current drops to END-OF-CHARGE current threshold, at which point the state machine jumps to the END-OF-CHARGE (EOC) state.

If the state-machine does not jump out of the TOP-OFF state before the Total-Charge Time-out period expires, then the state machine jumps to the EOC state and will re-initiate a new charge cycle if V_{BAT} falls below termination voltage 205mV (typ). For more information about the charge safety timers. see the Charging Safety Times section.

END-OF-CHARGE (EOC) State

In the END-OF-CHARGE (EOC) state, the charger presents a high-impedance to the battery, minimizing battery current drain and allowing the cell to "relax". The charger continues to monitor the cell voltage, and re-initiates a charging sequence if the cell voltage drops to 205mV (typ) below the charge termination voltage.

SUSPEND State

The state-machine jumps to the SUSPEND state any time the battery is removed, and any time the input voltage either falls below the CHGIN UVLO threshold or exceeds the OVP threshold. Once none of these conditions are present, a new charge cycle initiates.

A charging cycle may also be suspended manually by setting the SUSPEND[] bit. In this case, initiate a new charging sequence by clearing SUSPEND[] to 0

State Machine Interrupts

The charger features the ability to generate interrupts when the charger state machine transitions, based upon the status of the CHG_ bits. Set CHGEOCIN[] bit to 1 and CHGSTAT[] bit to 1 to generate an interrupt when the charger state machine goes into the END-OF-CHARGE (EOC) state. Set CHGEOCOUT[] bit to 1 and CHGSTAT[] bit to 1 to generate an interrupt when the charger state machine exits the EOC state.

CHGDAT[] indicates the status of the charger state machine. A value of 1 indicates that the charger state machine is in END-OF-CHARGE state, a value of 0 indicates the charger state machine is in other states.

When an interrupt is generated by the charger state machine, reading the CHGSTAT[] returns a value of 1. CHGSTATI I is automatically cleared to 0 upon reading. When no interrupt is generated by the charger state machine, reading the CHGSTAT[] returns a value of 0.

For additional information about the charge cycle. CSTATE[1:0] may be read at any time via I^2C to determine the current charging state.

Table 10: Charging Status Indication

Thermal Regulation

The charger features an internal thermal regulation loop that monitors die temperature and reduces charging current as needed to ensure that the die temperature does not exceed the thermal regulation threshold of 110°C. This feature protects against excessive junction temperature and makes the device more accommodating to aggressive thermal designs. Note, however, that attention to good thermal designs is required to achieve the fastest possible charge time by maximizing charge current.

Charge Safety Timers

The charger features programmable charge safety timers which help ensure a safe charge by detecting potentially damaged cells. These timers are programmable via the PRETIMO[1:0] and TOTTIMO[1:0] bits, as shown in Table 11 and Table 12. Note that in order to account for reduced charge current resulting from DCCC operation in thermal regulation mode, the charge time-out periods are extended proportionally to the reduction in charge current. As a result, the actual safety period may exceed the nominal timer period.

Charger Timer Interrupts

The charger features the ability to generate interrupts based upon the status of the charge timers. Set the TIMRPRE[] bit to 1 and TIMRSTAT[] bit to 1 to generate an interrupt when the Precondition Timer expires. Set the TIMRTOT[] bit to 1 and TIMRSTAT[] bit to 1 to generate an interrupt when the Total-Charge Timer expires.

TIMRDAT[] indicates the status of the charge timers. A value of 1 indicates a precondition timeout or a total charge time-out occurs, a value of 0 indicates other cases.

When an interrupt is generated by the charge timers, reading the TIMRSTAT[] returns a value of 1. TIMRSTAT[] is automatically cleared to 0 upon reading. When no interrupt is generated by the charge timers, reading the TIMRSTATI I returns a value of 0.

Table 11: PRECONDITION Safety Timer Setting

Table 12: Total Safety Timer Setting

Charge Status Indicator

The charger provides a charge-status indicator output, nSTAT. nSTAT is an open-drain output which sinks current when the charger is in an active-charging state, and is high-Z otherwise. nSTAT features an internal 8mA current limit, and is capable of directly driving a LED without the need of a current-limiting resistor or other external circuitry. To drive an LED, simply connect the LED between nSTAT pin and an appropriate supply, such as VSYS. For a logic-level charge status indication, simply connect a resistor from nSTAT to an appropriate voltage supply.

Table 13:

Charging Status Indication

Reverse-Current Protection

The charger includes internal reverse-current protection circuitry that eliminates the need for blocking diodes, reducing solution size and cost as well as dropout voltage relative to conventional battery chargers. When the voltage at CHGIN falls below VBAT, the charger automatically reconfigures its power switch to minimize current drawn from the battery.

Battery Temperature Monitoring

In a typical application, the TH pin is connected to the battery pack's thermistor input, as shown in Figure 6. The charger continuously monitors the temperature of the battery pack by injecting a

 102μ A (typ) current into the thermistor (via the TH pin) and sensing the voltage at TH. The voltage at TH is continuously monitored, and charging is suspended if the voltage at TH exceeds either of the internal V_{THH} and V_{THL} thresholds of 0.5V and 2.51V, respectively.

The net resistance (from TH to GA) required to cross the thresholds are given by:

102uA × RNOM × kHOT = $0.5V \rightarrow$ RNOM × kHOT ≈ 5kΩ

102µA × RNOM × kCOLD = 2.51V \rightarrow RNOM × kCOLD ≈ 25kΩ

where RNOM is the nominal thermistor resistance at room temperature, and kHOT and kCOLD represent the ratios of the thermistor's resistance at the desired hot and cold thresholds, respectively, to the resistance at 25°C.

Battery Temperature Interrupts

In order to ease detecting the status of the battery temperature, the charger features the ability to generate interrupts based upon the status of the battery temperature. Set the TEMPOUT[] bit to 1 and TEMPSTAT[] bit to 1 to generate an interrupt when battery temperature goes out of the valid temperature range. Set the TEMPIN[] bit to 1 and TEMPSTAT[] bit to 1 to generate an interrupt when battery temperature returns to the valid range.

TEMPDAT[] indicates the status of the battery temperature. A value of 1 indicates the battery temperature is inside of the valid range, a value of 0 indicates the battery is outside of the valid range.

When an interrupt is generated by the battery temperature event, reading the TEMPSTAT[] returns a value of 1. TEMPSTAT[] is automatically cleared to 0 upon reading. When no interrupt is generated by the battery temperature event, reading the TEMPSTAT[] returns a value of 0.

Figure 6:

Simple Configuration

TQFN55-40 PACKAGE OUTLINE AND DIMENSIONS

REVISION HISTORY

Active-Semi, Inc. reserves the right to modify the circuitry or specifications without notice. Users should evaluate each product to make sure that it is suitable for their applications. Active-Semi products are not intended or authorized for use as critical components in life-support devices or systems. Active-Semi, Inc. does not assume any liability arising out of the use of any product or circuit described in this datasheet, nor does it convey any patent license.

Active-Semi and its logo are trademarks of Active-Semi, Inc. For more information on this and other products, contact sales@active-semi.com or visit http://www.active-semi.com.

 Φ active-semi is a registered trademark of Active-Semi.