## LM22679

## 5A SIMPLE SWITCHER®, Step-Down Voltage Regulator with Adjustable Soft-Start and Current Limit

## General Description

The LM22679 series of regulators are monolithic integrated circuits which provide all of the active functions for a stepdown (buck) switching regulator capable of driving up to 5A loads with excellent line and load regulation characteristics. High efficiency ( $>90 \%$ ) is obtained through the use of a low ON-resistance N -channel MOSFET. The series consists of a fixed 5 V output and an adjustable version.
The SIMPLE SWITCHER ${ }^{\circledR}$ concept provides for an easy to use complete design using a minimum number of external components and National's WEBENCH ${ }^{\circledR}$ design tool. National's WEBENCH ${ }^{\circledR}$ tool includes features such as external component calculation, electrical simulation, thermal simulation, and Build-lt boards for easy design-in. The switching clock frequency is provided by an internal fixed frequency oscillator which operates at 500 kHz . The LM22679 series also has built in thermal shutdown and current limiting. The current limit threshold can be adjusted using an external resistor. An adjustable soft-start feature is provided by selecting an appropriate external soft-start capacitor.

## Features

- Wide input voltage range: 4.5 V to 42 V
- Internally compensated voltage mode control
- Stable with low ESR ceramic capacitors
- $100 \mathrm{~m} \Omega \mathrm{~N}$-channel MOSFET
- Output voltage options:
-ADJ (outputs as low as 1.285 V )
-5.0 (output fixed to 5 V )
- $\pm 1.5 \%$ feedback reference accuracy
- Switching frequency of 500 kHz
- $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ operating junction temperature range
- Adjustable soft-start
- Adjustable current limit
- Integrated boot diode
- Fully WEBENCH ${ }^{\circledR}$ enabled
- Step-down and inverting buck-boost applications


## Package

- TO-263 THIN (Exposed Pad)


## Applications

- Industrial Control
- Telecom and Datacom Systems
- Embedded Systems
- Automotive Telematics and Body Electronics
- Conversions from Standard $24 \mathrm{~V}, 12 \mathrm{~V}$ and 5 V Input Rails


## Connection Diagram



7-Lead Plastic TO-263 THIN Package
NS Package Number TJ7A

## Ordering Information

| Output Voltage | Order Number | Package Type | NSC Package Drawing | Supplied As |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ADJ | LM22679TJE-ADJ | TO-263 THIN Exposed Pad | TJ7A | 250 Units in Tape and Reel |
| ADJ | LM22679TJ-ADJ |  |  | 1000 Units in Tape and Reel |
| 5.0 | LM22679TJE-5.0 |  |  | 250 Units in Tape and Reel |
| 5.0 | LM22679TJ-5.0 |  |  | 1000 Units in Tape and Reel |

## Pin Descriptions

| Pin | Name | Description | Application Information |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 1 | SW | Switch pin | Attaches to the switch node |
| 2 | VIN | Source input voltage | Input to the regulator. Operates from 4.5V to 42V |
| 3 | BOOT | Bootstrap input | Provides the gate voltage for the high side NFET |
| 4 | GND | System ground | Provide good capacitive decoupling between VIN and this pin |
| 5 | IADJ | Current Limit Setting pin | A resistor attached between this pin and GND can be used to set the current limit threshold. <br> Pin can be left floating and internal setting will be default. |
| 6 | FB | Feedback pin | Inverting input to the internal voltage error amplifier. |
| 7 | SS | Soft-start pin | An external capacitor and an internal $50 \mu$ A current source set the time constant for the rise <br> of the error amplifier reference. Pin can be left floating and internal soft-start will be default. |

## Absolute Maximum Ratings

(Note 1)
If Military/Aerospace specified devices are required, please contact the National Semiconductor Sales Office/ Distributors for availability and specifications.

```
VIN to GND
43V
SS, IADJ Pin Voltage
SW to GND (Note 2)
Boot Pin Voltage
FB Pin Voltage
Power Dissipation
Power Dissipation
```

Electrical Characteristics Limits in standard type are for $\mathrm{T}_{J}=25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ only; limits in boldface type apply over the junction temperature ( $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{J}}$ ) range of $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Minimum and Maximum limits are guaranteed through test, design, or statistical correlation. Typical values represent the most likely parametric norm at $T_{A}=T_{J}=25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and are provided for reference purposes only. Unless otherwise specified: $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=12 \mathrm{~V}$.

| Symbol | Parameter | Conditions | $\begin{gathered} \text { Min } \\ (\text { Note 5) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Typ } \\ \text { (Note 4) } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Max } \\ \text { (Note 5) } \end{gathered}$ | Units |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| LM22679-5.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {FB }}$ | Feedback Voltage | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}=8 \mathrm{~V}$ to 42V | 4.925/4.9 | 5.0 | 5.075/5.1 | V |
| LM22679-ADJ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {FB }}$ | Feedback Voltage | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}=4.7 \mathrm{~V}$ to 42 V | 1.266/1.259 | 1.285 | 1.304/1.311 | V |
| All Output Voltage Versions |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{Q}}$ | Quiescent Current | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}=5 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 3.4 | 6 | mA |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ADJ }}$ | Current Limit Adjust Voltage |  | 0.65 | 0.8 | 0.9 | V |
| $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{CL}}$ | Current Limit |  | 6.0/5.75 | 7.1 | 8.4/8.75 | A |
| $\mathrm{I}_{\text {CLADJ }}$ | Current Limit Adjust | IADJ Resistor $=56.2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | 0.4 | 0.7 | 1 | A |
| $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{L}}$ | Output Leakage Current | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}=42 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{SS}$ Pin $=0 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{\text {SW }}=0 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 32 | 60 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
|  |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {SW }}=-1 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 31 | 75 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{DS} \text { (ON) }}$ | Switch On-Resistance |  |  | 0.10 | 0.14/0.2 | $\Omega$ |
| $\mathrm{f}_{0}$ | Oscillator Frequency |  | 400 | 500 | 600 | kHz |
| T OFFMIN | Minimum Off-time |  |  | 300 |  | ns |
| $\mathrm{T}_{\text {ONMIN }}$ | Minimum On-time |  |  | 100 |  | ns |
| $\mathrm{I}_{\text {BIAS }}$ | Feedback Bias Current | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}=1.3 \mathrm{~V}$ (ADJ Version Only) |  | 230 |  | nA |
| $\mathrm{I}_{\text {S }}$ | Soft-start Current |  | 30 | 50 | 70 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| $\mathrm{T}_{\text {SD }}$ | Thermal Shutdown Threshold |  |  | 150 |  | ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| $\theta_{\text {JA }}$ | Thermal Resistance | Junction to ambient temperature resistance (Note 6) |  | 22 |  | ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{W}$ |

Note 1: Absolute Maximum Ratings indicate limits beyond which damage to the device may occur, including inoperability and degradation of device reliability and/or performance. Functional operation of the device and/or non-degradation at the Absolute Maximum Ratings or other conditions beyond those indicated in the recommended Operating Ratings is not implied. The recommended Operating Ratings indicate conditions at which the device is functional and should not be operated beyond such conditions.
Note 2: The absolute maximum specification of the 'SW to GND' applies to DC voltage. An extended negative voltage limit of -10 V applies to a pulse of up to 50 ns.
Note 3: ESD was applied using the human body model, a 100 pF capacitor discharged through a $1.5 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ resistor into each pin.
Note 4: Typical values represent most likely parametric norms at the conditions specified and are not guaranteed.
Note 5: Min and Max limits are $100 \%$ production tested at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Limits over the operating temperature range are guaranteed through correlation using Statistical Quality Control (SQC) methods. Limits are used to calculate National's Average Outgoing Quality Level (AOQL).
Note 6: The value of $\theta_{\mathrm{JA}}$ for the TO-263 THIN (TJ) package of $22^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{W}$ is valid if package is mounted to 1 square inch of copper. The $\theta_{\mathrm{JA}}$ value can range from 20 to $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{W}$ depending on the amount of PCB copper dedicated to heat transfer. See application note AN-1797 for more information.

Typical Performance Characteristics Unless otherwise specified the following conditions apply: Vin = $12 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~T}_{\mathrm{J}}=25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.


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## Normalized Switching Frequency vs Temperature



30072304
Normalized Feedback Voltage vs Temperature


30072307


Feedback Bias Current vs Temperature


30072305
Normalized $\mathbf{R}_{\mathrm{DS}(\mathrm{ON})}$ vs Temperature




Typical Application Circuit and Block Diagram


FIGURE 1. 3.3V $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$ at 4.5 A

## Detailed Operating Description

The LM22679 switching regulator features all of the functions necessary to implement an efficient high voltage buck regulator using a minimum of external components. This easy to use regulator integrates a 42 V N -Channel switch with an output current capability of 5 A . The regulator control method is based on voltage mode control with input voltage feed forward. The loop compensation is integrated into the LM22679 so that no external compensation components need to be selected or utilized. Voltage mode control offers short minimum on-times allowing short duty-cycles necessary in high input voltage applications. The operating frequency is fixed at 500 kHz to allow for small external components while avoiding excessive switching losses. The output voltage can be set as low as 1.285 V with the -ADJ device. Fault protection features include current limiting and thermal shutdown. The device is available in the TO-263 THIN package featuring an exposed pad to aid thermal dissipation.
The functional block diagram with typical application of the LM22679 is shown in Figure 1.
The internal compensation of the -ADJ option of the LM22679 is optimized for output voltages up to 5 V . If an output voltage of 5 V or higher is needed, the -5.0 fixed output voltage option with an additional external resistive feedback voltage divider may also be used.

## Maximum Duty-Cycle / Dropout Voltage

The typical maximum duty-cycle is $85 \%$. This corresponds to a typical minimum off-time of 300 ns . This forced off-time is important to provide enough time for the Cboot capacitor to charge during each cycle. The lowest input voltage required to maintain operation is:

$$
V_{\mathbb{I N}}=\frac{V_{\text {OUT }}+V_{D}}{1-\left(T_{\text {OFFMIN }} \times F\right)}-V_{D}+V_{Q}
$$

Where $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{D}}$ is the forward voltage drop across the re-circulating Schottky diode and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{Q}}$ is the voltage drop across the internal power N-FET of the LM22679. The $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{DS}(\mathrm{ON})}$ of the FET is specified in the electrical characteristics section of this datasheet to calculate $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{Q}}$ according to the FET current. F is the switching frequency.

## Minimum Duty-Cycle

Besides a minimum off-time, there is also a minimum on-time which will take effect when the output voltage is adjusted very low and the input voltage is very high. Should the operation require a shorter minimum on-time than the typical 100 ns , individual switching pulses will be skipped.

$$
\mathrm{D}=\frac{\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}}{\mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{IN}}}
$$

where D is the duty-cycle.

## Current Limit

When the power switch turns on, the slight capacitance loading of the Schottky diode, D1, causes a leading-edge current spike with an extended ringing period. This spike can cause the current limit comparator to trip prematurely. A leading
edge blanking time ( $\mathrm{T}_{\text {BLK }}$ ) of 110 ns (typical) is used to avoid sampling the spike.
A key feature of the LM22679 is the ability to control the peak switch current limit. Without this feature, the peak switch current would be internally set to 7.1 A (typical) to accommodate 5A load current designs. The high current limit requires that both the inductor (which could saturate with excessively high currents) and the catch diode be able to safely handle up to 7.1A under load fault condition.

If an application requires a load current less than 5A, the peak switch current can be set to a limit just over the maximum load current with the addition of a single programming resistor. This allows the use of lower rated and more cost effective inductors and diodes. A resistance of $5.49 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ sets the current limit to typically 6.4 A (typical) peak current and $8.06 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ reduces the maximum peak current to 4.4 A (typical). For predictable control of the current limit, it is recommended to keep the peak switch current greater than 3A. For lower current applications requiring a 3 A switching regulator with adjustable current limit, the LM22673 SIMPLE SWITCHER ${ }^{\circledR}$ is recommended.


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## FIGURE 2. Peak Current Limit vs IADJ Resistor

When the switch current reaches the current limit threshold, the switch is immediately turned off and the internal switching frequency is reduced. This extends the off time of the switch to prevent a steady state high current condition. As the switch current falls below the current limit threshold, the switch current will attempt to turn on. If a load fault continues, the switch will again exceed the threshold and turn off. This will result in a low duty-cycle pulsing of the power switch to minimize the overall fault condition power dissipation.
The switching frequency will reduce (fold back) if the overload condition causes the output voltage to be 72.4\% (typical) of the adjusted output voltage.
The current limit will only protect the inductor from a runaway condition if the LM22679 is operating in its safe operating area. A runaway condition of the inductor is potentially catastrophic to the application. For every design, the safe operating area needs to be calculated. Factors in determining the safe operating area are the switching frequency, input voltage, output voltage, minimum on-time and feedback voltage during an over current condition.

As a first pass check, if the following equation holds true, a given design is considered in a safe operating area and the current limit will protect the circuit:

$$
\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }} \times \mathrm{T}_{\text {BLK }} \times \mathrm{F}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }} \times 0.724
$$

If the equation above does not hold true, the following secondary equation will need to hold true to be in safe operating area:

$$
\left(V_{\text {IN }}-V_{\text {OUT }}\right) \times T_{B L K}<\left(V_{\text {OUT }}+V_{D}\right) \times\left(\frac{1}{F}\right)-T_{B L K}
$$

If both equations do not hold true, a particular design will not have an effective current limit function which might damage the circuit during startup, over current conditions, or steady state over current and short circuit condition. Oftentimes a reduction of the maximum input voltage will bring a design into the safe operating area.

## Soft-Start

The soft-start feature allows the regulator to gradually reach the initial steady state operating point, thus reducing start-up stresses and surges. The soft-start can be adjusted by selecting an external soft-start capacitor. An internal $50 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ current source charges up the external soft-start capacitor. The generated voltage is the voltage the internal reference limits. If no external soft-start capacitor is used, there is an internal soft-start feature with $500 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ (typical) start-up time. Recommended soft-start capacitor values are between 100 nF to $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$.

## Boot Pin

The LM22679 integrates an N-channel FET switch and associated floating high voltage level shift/ gate driver. This gate driver circuit works in conjunction with an internal diode and an external bootstrap capacitor. A $0.01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ceramic capacitor connected with short traces between the BOOT pin and the SW pin is recommended to effectively drive the internal FET switch. During the off-time of the switch, the SW voltage is approximately -0.5 V and the external bootstrap capacitor is charged from the internal supply through the internal bootstrap diode. When operating with a high PWM duty-cycle, the buck switch will be forced off each cycle to ensure that the bootstrap capacitor is recharged. See the maximum duty-cycle section for more details.

## Thermal Protection

Internal Thermal Shutdown circuitry protects the LM22679 in the event the maximum junction temperature is exceeded. When activated, typically at $150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, the regulator is forced into a low power reset state. There is a typical hysteresis of 15 degrees.

## Internal Compensation

The LM22679 has an internal compensation designed for a stable loop with a wide range of external power stage components.
Insuring stability of a design with a specific power stage (inductor and output capacitor) can be tricky. The LM22679 stability can be verified over varying loads and input and output voltages using WEBENCH ${ }^{\circledR}$ Designer online circuit simulation tool at www.national.com. A quick start spreadsheet can also be downloaded from the online product folder.

The internal compensation of the -ADJ option of the LM22679 is optimized for output voltages below 5 V . If an output voltage of 5 V or higher is needed, the -5.0 option with an additional external resistor divider may also be used. The typical location of the internal compensation poles and zeros as well as the DC gain is given in Table 1. The LM22679 has internal type III compensation allowing for the use of most output capacitors including ceramics.
This information can be used to calculate the transfer function from the FB pin to the internal compensation node (input to the PWM comparator in the block diagram).

TABLE 1.

| Corners | Frequency |
| :---: | :---: |
| Pole 1 | 150 kHz |
| Pole 2 | 250 kHz |
| Pole 3 | 100 Hz |
| Zero 1 | 1.5 kHz |
| Zero 2 | 15 kHz |
| DC gain | 37.5 dB |

For the power stage transfer function the standard voltage mode formulas for the double pole and the ESR zero apply:

$$
\begin{aligned}
f_{D P} & =\frac{1}{2 \pi \sqrt{L \times C_{\text {OUT }}}} \\
f_{E S R} & =\frac{1}{2 \pi \times C_{\text {OUT }} \times E S R}
\end{aligned}
$$

The peak ramp level of the oscillator signal feeding into the PWM comparator is $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }} / 10$ which equals a gain of 20 dB of this modulator stage of the IC. The -5.0 fixed output voltage option has twice the gain of the compensation transfer function compared to the -ADJ option which is 43.5 dB instead of 37.5 dB .

Generally, calculation as well as simulation can only aid in selecting good power stage components. A good design practice is to test for stability with load transient tests or loop measurement tests. Application note AN-1889 shows how to easily perform a loop transfer function measurement with only an oscilloscope and a function generator.

## Application Information

## EXTERNAL COMPONENTS

The following design procedures can be used to design a nonsynchronous buck converter with the LM22679.

## Inductor

The inductor value is determined based on the load current, ripple current, and the minimum and maximum input voltage. To keep the application in continuous current conduction mode (CCM), the maximum ripple current, $\mathrm{I}_{\text {RIPPLE }}$, should be less than twice the minimum load current.
The general rule of keeping the inductor current peak-to-peak ripple around $30 \%$ of the nominal output current is a good compromise between excessive output voltage ripple and excessive component size and cost. Using this value of ripple current, the value of inductor, $L$, is calculated using the following formula:

$$
L=\frac{V_{\text {OUT }} \times\left(V_{\text {IN(MAX) }}-V_{\text {OUT }}\right)}{I_{\text {RIPPLE }} \times F \times V_{\text {IN(MAX })}}
$$

where $F$ is the switching frquency which is 500 kHz (typical). This procedure provides a guide to select the value of the inductor $L$. The nearest standard value will then be used in the circuit. Increasing the inductance will generally slow down the transient response but reduce the output voltage ripple amplitude. Reducing the inductance will generally improve the transient response but increase the output voltage ripple. The inductor must be rated for the peak current, $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{PK}}$, to prevent saturation. During normal loading conditions, the peak current occurs at maximum load current plus maximum ripple. Under an overload condition as well as during load transients, the peak current is limited to 7.1 A typical (8.75A maximum). This requires that the inductor be selected such that it can run at the maximum current limit and not only the steady state current.
Depending on inductor manufacturer, the saturation rating is defined as the current necessary for the inductance to reduce by $30 \%$ at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. In typical designs the inductor will run at higher temperatures. If the inductor is not rated for enough current, it might saturate and due to the propagation delay of the current limit circuitry, the power supply may get damaged.

## Input Capacitor

Good quality input capacitors are necessary to limit the ripple voltage at the VIN pin while supplying most of the switch current during on-time. When the switch turns on, the current into the VIN pin steps to the peak value, then drops to zero at turnoff. The average current into VIN during switch on-time is the load current. The input capacitance should be selected for RMS current, IRMS, and minimum ripple voltage. A good approximation for the required ripple current rating necessary is $I_{\text {RMS }}>I_{\text {OUT }} / 2$.
Quality ceramic capacitors with a low ESR should be selected for the input filter. To allow for capacitor tolerances and voltage effects, multiple capacitors may be used in parallel. If step input voltage transients are expected near the maximum rating of the LM22679, a careful evaluation of ringing and possible voltage spikes at the VIN pin should be completed. An additional damping network or input voltage clamp may be required in these cases.
Usually putting a higher ESR electrolytic input capacitor in parallel to the low ESR bypass capacitor will help to reduce excessive voltages during a line transient and will also move the resonance frequency of the input filter away from the regulator bandwidth.

## Output Capacitor

The output capacitor can limit the output ripple voltage and provide a source of charge for transient loading conditions. Multiple capacitors can be placed in parallel. Very low ESR capacitors such as ceramic capacitors reduce the output ripple voltage and noise spikes, while larger higher ESR capacitors in parallel provide large bulk capacitance for transient loading conditions. An approximation for the output voltage ripple is:

$$
\Delta \mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}=\Delta \mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{L}} \times\left(\mathrm{ESR}+\left(\frac{1}{8 \times F \times \mathrm{C}_{\text {OUT }}}\right)\right)
$$

where $\Delta I_{\mathrm{L}}$ is the inductor ripple current.

## Cboot Capacitor

The bootstrap capacitor between the BOOT pin and the SW pin supplies the gate current to turn on the N-channel MOSFET. The recommended value of this capacitor is 10 nF and should be a good quality, low ESR ceramic capacitor.
It is possible to put a small resistor in series with the Cboot capacitor to slow down the turn-on transition time of the internal N-channel MOSFET. Resistors in the range of $10 \Omega$ to $50 \Omega$ can slow down the transition time. This can reduce EMI of a switched mode power supply circuit. Using such a series resistor is not recommended for every design since it will increase the switching losses of the application and makes thermal considerations more challenging.

## Resistor Divider

For the -5.0 option no resistor divider is required for 5 V output voltage. The output voltage should be directly connected to the FB pin. Output voltages above 5 V can use the -5.0 option with a resistor divider as an alternative to the -ADJ option. This may offer improved loop bandwidth in some applications. See the Internal Compensation section for more details.
For the -ADJ option no resistor divider is required for 1.285 V output voltage. The output voltage should be directly connected to the FB pin. Other output voltages can use the -ADJ option with a resistor divider.
The resistor values can be determined by the following equations:
-ADJ option:

$$
\mathrm{R} 1=\frac{\mathrm{R} 2}{\frac{\mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{OUT}}}{\mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{FB}}}-1}
$$

-5.0 option:

$$
R 1=\frac{R 2 \times V_{F B}}{(R 2 \times 500 \mu A)+V_{O U T}-V_{F B}}
$$

Where $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{FB}}=1.285 \mathrm{~V}$ typical for the -ADJ option and 5 V for the -5.0 option


## FIGURE 3. Resistive Feedback Divider

A maximum value of $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ is recommended for the sum of R1 and R2 to keep high output voltage accuracy for the -ADJ option. A maximum of $2 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ is recommended for the -5.0 output voltage option. For the 5 V fixed output voltage option, the total internal divider resistance is typically $9.93 \mathrm{k} \Omega$.
At loads less than 5 mA , the boot capacitor will not hold enough charge to power the internal high side driver. The output voltage may droop until the boot capacitor is
recharged. Selecting a total feedback resistance to be below $3 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ will provide some minimal load and can keep the output voltage from collapsing in such low load conditions.

## Catch Diode

A Schottky type re-circulating diode is required for all LM22679 applications. Ultra-fast diodes which are not Schottky diodes are not recommended and may result in damage to the IC due to reverse recovery current transients. The near ideal reverse recovery characteristics and low forward voltage drop of Schottky diodes are particularly important diode characteristics for high input voltage and low output voltage applications common to the LM22679. The reverse recovery characteristic determines how long the current surge lasts each cycle when the N-channel MOSFET is turned on. The reverse recovery characteristics of Schottky diodes minimizes the peak instantaneous power in the switch occurring during turn-on for each cycle. The resulting switching losses are significantly reduced when using a Schottky diode. The reverse breakdown rating should be selected for the maximum $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$, plus some safety margin. A rule of thumb is to select a diode with the reverse voltage rating of 1.3 times the maximum input voltage.
The forward voltage drop has a significant impact on the conversion efficiency, especially for applications with a low output voltage. 'Rated' current for diodes varies widely from various manufacturers. The worst case is to assume a short circuit load condition. In this case the diode will carry the output current almost continuously. For the LM22679 this current can be as high as 7.1A (typical). Assuming a worst case 1V drop across the diode, the maximum diode power dissipation can be as high as 7.1 W .

## Circuit Board Layout

Board layout is critical for switching power supplies. First, the ground plane area must be sufficient for thermal dissipation purposes. Second, appropriate guidelines must be followed to reduce the effects of switching noise. Switch mode converters are very fast switching devices. In such devices, the rapid increase of input current combined with the parasitic trace inductance generates unwanted $L$ di/dt noise spikes. The magnitude of this noise tends to increase as the output current increases. This parasitic spike noise may turn into electromagnetic interference (EMI) and can also cause problems in device performance. Therefore, care must be taken in layout to minimize the effect of this switching noise.
The most important layout rule is to keep the AC current loops as small as possible. Figure 4 shows the current flow of a buck converter. The top schematic shows a dotted line which represents the current flow during the FET switch on-state. The middle schematic shows the current flow during the FET switch off-state.
The bottom schematic shows the currents referred to as AC currents. These AC currents are the most critical since current is changing in very short time periods. The dotted lines of the bottom schematic are the traces to keep as short as possible. This will also yield a small loop area reducing the loop inductance. To avoid functional problems due to layout, review the PCB layout example. Providing 5A of output current in a very low thermal resistance package such as the TO-263 THIN is challenging considering the trace inductances involved. Best results are achieved if the placement of the LM22679, the bypass capacitor, the Schottky diode and the inductor are placed as shown in the example. It is also recommended to use 2 oz copper boards or thicker to help thermal dissipation and to reduce the parasitic inductances of board traces.

It is very important to ensure that the exposed DAP on the TO-263 THIN package is soldered to the ground area of the PCB to reduce the AC trace length between the bypass capacitor ground and the ground connection to the LM22679. Not soldering the DAP to the board may result in erroneous operation due to excessive noise on the board.


FIGURE 4. Current Flow in a Buck Application

## Thermal Considerations

The two highest power dissipating components are the recirculating diode and the LM22679 regulator IC. The easiest method to determine the power dissipation within the LM22679 is to measure the total conversion losses (Pin Pout) then subtract the power losses in the Schottky diode and output inductor. An approximation for the Schottky diode loss is:

$$
P=(1-D) \times I_{\text {OUT }} \times V_{D}
$$

An approximation for the output inductor power is:

$$
\mathrm{P}=\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{OUT}}{ }^{2} \times \mathrm{R} \times 1.1,
$$

where $R$ is the $D C$ resistance of the inductor and the 1.1 factor is an approximation for the AC losses. The regulator has an exposed thermal pad to aid power dissipation. Adding several vias under the device to the ground plane will greatly reduce the regulator junction temperature. Selecting a diode with an exposed pad will aid the power dissipation of the diode. The most significant variables that affect the power dissipated by the LM22679 are the output current, input voltage and operating frequency. The power dissipated while operating near the maximum output current and maximum input voltage can be appreciable. The junction-to-ambient thermal resistance of the LM22679 will vary with the application. The most significant variables are the area of copper in the PC board, the number of vias under the IC exposed pad and the amount of forced air cooling provided. The integrity of the solder connection from the IC exposed pad to the PC board is critical. Excessive voids will greatly diminish the thermal dissipation capacity. The junction-to-ambient thermal resistance of the LM22679 TO-263 THIN package is specified in the electrical characteristics table under the applicable conditions. For more information regarding the TO-263 THIN package, refer to Application Note AN-1797 at www.national.com.

## PCB Layout Example



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## Schematic for Buck/Boost (Inverting) Application

See AN-1888 for more information on the inverting (buckboost) application generating a negative output voltage from a positive input voltage.


Physical Dimensions inches (milimeters) unless otherwise noted


## Notes

For more National Semiconductor product information and proven design tools, visit the following Web sites at:

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