ISL8270MEVAL1Z Evaluation Board User Guide

The ISL8270M is a 25A step-down DC/DC power supply module with integrated digital PWM controller, synchronous power switches, an inductor and passives. Only bulk input and output capacitors are needed to finish the design. The 25A of continuous output current can be delivered without a need of airflow or a heatsink. The ISL8270M uses ChargeMode™ control architecture, which responds to a transient load within a single switching cycle.

The ISL8270MEVAL1Z evaluation board is a 3in x 4.5in 4-layer FR4 board with 2 oz. copper in all layers. This evaluation board comes with a placeholder for pin-strap resistors to adjust output voltage, switching frequency, input undervoltage (UVLO) protection threshold, and device PMBus address. More configuration such as soft-start and fault limits can be easily programmed or changed via PMBus compliant serial bus interface.

ZLUSBEVAL3Z (USB to PMBus™ adapter) is provided with this evaluation kit, which connects the evaluation board to a PC to activate the PMBus communication interface. The PMBus command set is accessed by using the PowerNavigator™ evaluation software from a PC running Microsoft Windows.

References

[ISL8270M](#) datasheet

Ordering Information

PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
ISL8270MEVAL1Z	ISL8270M Kit (EVB, ZLUSBEVAL3Z Adapter, USB Cable)

Key Features

- V_{IN} range of 4.5V to 14V, V_{OUT} adjustable from 0.6V to 5V
- Programmable V_{OUT}, margining, UV/OV, I_{OUT} limit, soft-start/stop, sequencing, and external synchronization
- Monitor: V_{IN}, V_{OUT}, I_{OUT}, temperature, duty cycle, switching frequency and faults
- ChargeMode™ control tunable with PMBus
- Mechanical switch for enable and power-good LED indicator

Recommended Equipment

- DC power supply with minimum 15V/20A sourcing capacity
- Electronic load capable of sinking current up to 25A
- Digital multimeters (DMMs)
- Oscilloscope with higher than 100MHz bandwidth

Functional Description

The ISL8270MEVAL1Z provides all circuitry required to evaluate the features of the ISL8270M. A majority of the features of the ISL8270M, such as compensation-free ChargeMode™ control, soft-start delay and ramp times, supply sequencing, and voltage margining are available on this evaluation board. For sequencing evaluation, the board can be connected to any Intersil digital module evaluation board that supports the Digital-DC™ (DDC) bus.

[Figure 1](#) shows a board image of the ISL8270MEVAL1Z evaluation board.
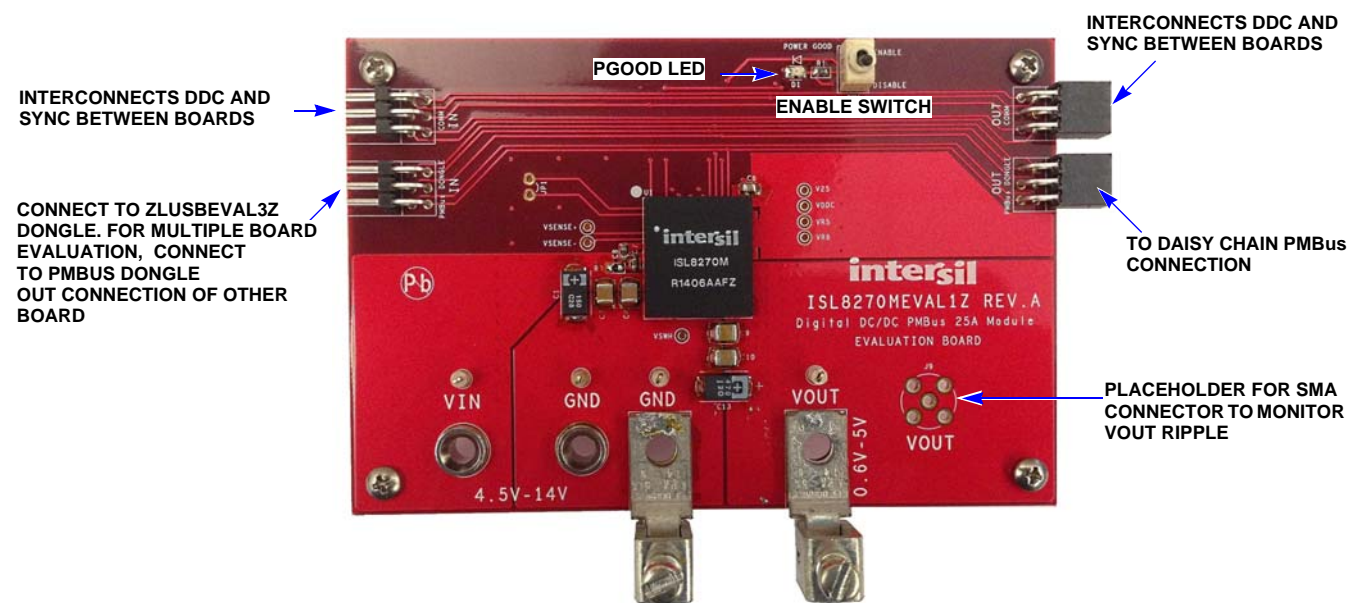

FIGURE 1. ISL8270MEVAL1Z EVALUATION BOARD IMAGE

Operation

PMBus Operation

The ISL8270M utilizes the PMBus protocol. The PMBus functionality can be controlled via ZLUSBEVAL3Z dongle from a PC running the PowerNavigator™ evaluation software in a Windows XP or Windows 7 operating systems.

Install the evaluation software from the following Intersil website: www.intersil.com/powernavigator

For board operation, connect the included ZLUSBEVAL3Z dongle to the 6-pin male connector labeled as "PMBus DONGLE IN". Connect the desired load and an appropriate power supply to the input and connect the included USB cable to the PC running the PowerNavigator™ evaluation software. Place the ENABLE switches in "DISABLE" before turning on the power.

The evaluation software allows modification of all ISL8270M PMBus parameters. The ISL8270M device on the board has been pre-configured as described in this document, but the user may modify the operating parameters through the evaluation software or by loading a predefined set-up from a configuration file. A sample "Configuration File" on page 5 is provided and can be copied to a notepad editor to make desired changes.

The ENABLE switch can then be moved to "ENABLE" and the ISL8270MEVAL1Z board can be tested. Alternately, the PMBus ON_OFF_CONFIG and OPERATION commands may be used from the PowerNavigator™ GUI.

Quick Start Guide

Pin-Strap Option

The ISL8270MEVAL1Z can be configured in pin-strap mode with standard 1% 0603 resistors. PMBus interface is not required to evaluate ISL8270M in pin-strap mode. Output voltage (V_{OUT}), switching frequency (F_{SW}), input under-voltage protection (UVLO) threshold and device PMBus address can be changed by populating recommended resistors at placeholders provided in the evaluation board. By default, the evaluation board is programmed to regulate at V_{OUT} = 1.2V, F_{SW} = 533kHz, UVLO = 4.5V, and PMBus address = 28h. Follow these steps to evaluate ISL8270M in pin-strap mode.

1. Set ENABLE switch to "DISABLE".
2. Connect Load to VOUT lug connectors (J7 and J8).
3. Connect power supply to VIN connectors (J3 and J4). Make sure power supply is not enabled when making connection.
4. Turn power supply on.
5. Set ENABLE switch to "ENABLE".
6. Measure 1.2V VOUT at probe points (TP10 and TP11).
7. Observe switching frequency of 533kHz at probe point labeled VSWH (TP1).
8. To change VOUT, disconnect board from the setup and populated 1% standard 0603 resistor at R6 placeholder location on bottom layer. Refer to the "Output Voltage Resistor Settings" table in the ISL8270M datasheet for recommended values. By default, VOUT_MAX is set 110% of V_{OUT} set by pin-strap resistor.

9. To change switching frequency, disconnect board from the set up and populated 1% standard 0603 resistor at R2 placeholder location on bottom layer. Refer to the "Switching Frequency Resistor Settings" table in the ISL8270M datasheet for recommended values.
10. To change UVLO, disconnect board from the set up and populated 1% standard 0603 resistor at R7 placeholder location on bottom layer. Refer to the "UVLO Resistor Settings" table in the ISL8270M datasheet for recommended values.

PMBus Option

ISL8270MEVAL1Z can be evaluated for all features using the provided ZLUSBEVAL3Z dongle and PowerNavigator™ evaluation software. Follow these steps to evaluate ISL8270M with PMBus option.

1. Install PowerNavigator™ software.
2. Set ENABLE switch to "DISABLE".
3. Connect Load to VOUT lug connectors (J7 and J8).
4. Connect power supply to VIN connectors (J3 and J4). Make sure power supply is not enabled when making connection.
5. Turn power supply on.
6. Connect ZLUSBEVAL3Z dongle (USB to PMBus™ adapter) to ISL8270MEVAL1Z board to the 6-pin male connector labeled as "PMBus DONGLE IN".
7. Connect supplied USB cable from computer to USB to ZLUSBEVAL3Z dongle.
8. Launch PowerNavigator™ software.
9. Set ENABLE switch to "ENABLE".
10. Monitor and configure the ISL8270MEVAL1Z board using PMBus commands in the evaluation software.
11. PowerNavigator™ tutorial videos are available at Intersil website. www.intersil.com/powernavigator
12. For sequencing via Digital-DC™ Bus (DDC) or to evaluate multiple Intersil digital power products using a single ZLUSBEVAL3Z dongle, ISL8270M can be daisy chained with other digital power evaluation boards. PMBus address can be changed by placing a 1% standard 0603 resistor at the R_4 placeholder location on the bottom layer. Refer to the "SMBus Address Resistor Selection" table in the ISL8270M datasheet for recommended values.

Thermal Considerations and Current Derating

Board layout is very critical in order to make the module operate safely and deliver maximum allowable power. To work in the high temperature environments and carry large currents, the board layout needs to be carefully designed to maximize thermal performance. To achieve this, select enough trace width, copper weight and the proper connectors.

This evaluation board is designed for running 25A at room temperature without additional cooling systems needed. However, if the output voltage is increased or the board is operated at elevated temperatures, then the available current is derated. Refer to the derated current curves in the ISL8270M datasheet to determine the maximum output current theevaluation board can supply. θ_{JA} is measured by inserting thermocouple inside the module to measure peak junction temperature.
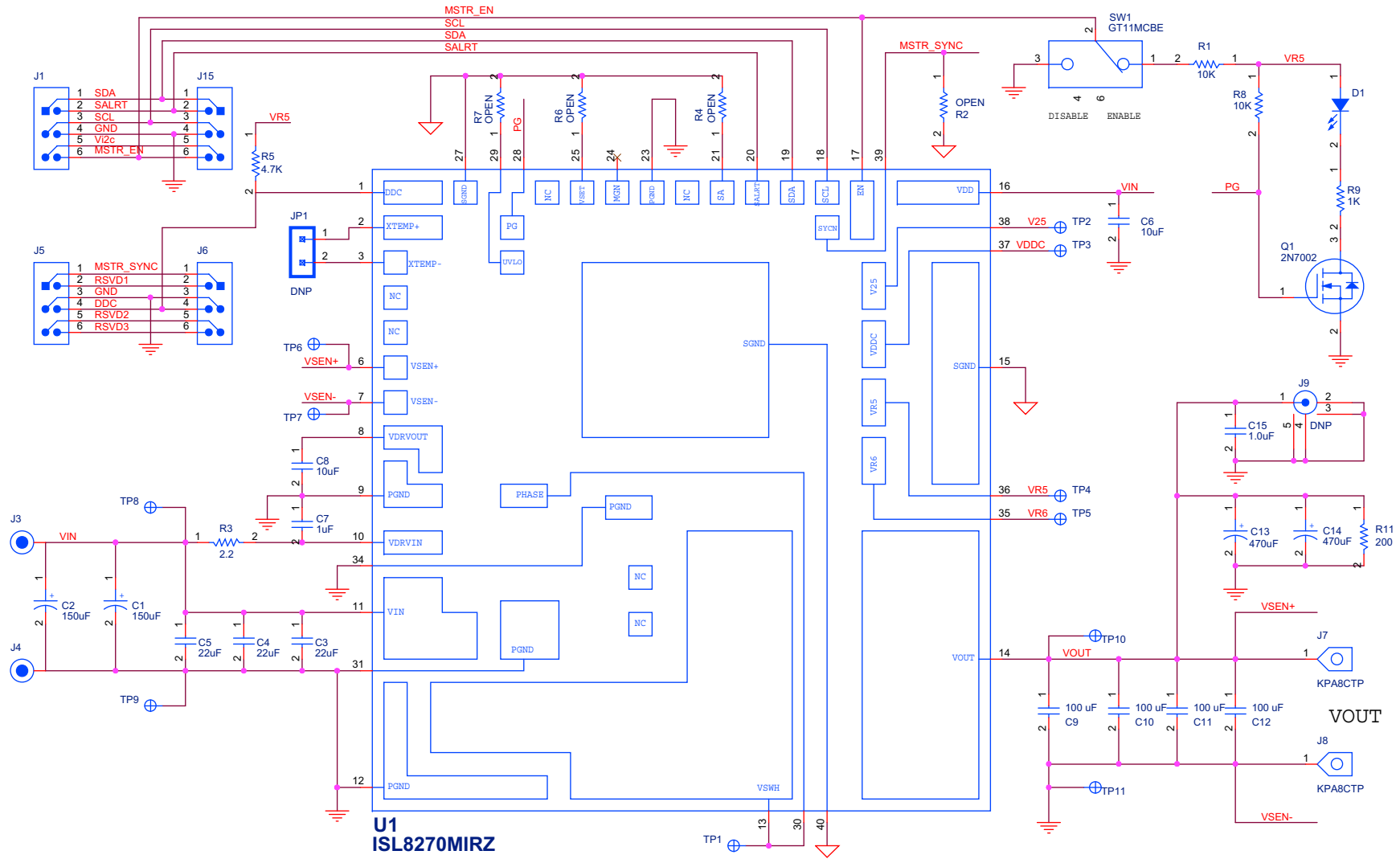
ISL8270MEVAL1Z Board Schematic

FIGURE 2. APPLICATION CIRCUIT

Bill of Materials

REFERENCE DESIGNATOR	QTY	MANUFACTURER	MANUFACTURER PART	DESCRIPTION
C7	1	MURATA	GRM188R71E105KA12D	CAP, SMD, 0603, 1µF, 25V, 10%, X7R, ROHS
C3-C5	3	MURATA	GRM32ER71E226KE15L	CAP, SMD, 1210, 22µF, 25V, 10%, X7R, ROHS
C15	1	PANASONIC	ECJ-0EB0J105K	CAP, SMD, 0402, 1µF, 6.3V, 10%, X5R, ROHS
C8	1	PANASONIC	ECJ-1VB1A106M	CAP, SMD, 0603, 10µF, 10V, 20%, X5R, ROHS
C6	1	TDK	C2012X5R1E106K	CAP, SMD, 0805, 10µF, 25V, 10%, X5R, ROHS
C9, C10, C11, C12	4	TDK	C3225X5R0J107M	CAP, SMD, 1210, 100µF, 6.3V, 20%, X5R, ROHS
C1, C2	2	SANYO/PANASONIC	16TQC150MYF	CAP-POSCAP, SMD, 7.3X4.3, 150µF, 16V, 20%, 50mΩ, ROHS
C13, C14	2	SANYO/PANASONIC	6TPF470MAH	CAP TANT 470µF 6.3V 20%
TP8, TP10	2	KEYSTONE	5000	CONN-MINI TEST PT, VERTICAL, RED, ROHS
TP9, TP11	2	KEYSTONE	5001	CONN-MINI TEST PT, VERTICAL, BLK, ROHS
J3, J4	2	KEYSTONE	575-4	CONN-JACK, MINI BANANA, 0.175 PLUG, NICKEL/BRASS, ROHS
J2, J6	2	SAMTEC	SSQ-103-02-T-D-RA	CONN-SOCKET STRIP, TH, 2X3, 2.54mm, TIN, R/A, ROHS
J1, J5	2	SAMTEC	TSW-103-08-T-D-RA	CONN-HEADER, 2X3, BRKAWY, 2.54mm, TIN, R/A, ROHS
D1	1	CHICAGO MINIATURE	CMD17-21VGC/TR8	LED, SMD, 0805, GREEN, CLEAR, 10mcd, 2.1V, 20mA, 570nm, ROHS
U1	1	INTERSIL	ISL8270MIRZ	IC-25A DIGITAL DC/DC PMBUS MODULE, 26P, QFN, ROHS
Q1	1	ON SEMICONDUCTOR	2N7002LT1G	TRANSISTOR-MOS, N-CHANNEL, SMD, SOT23, 60V, 115mA, ROHS
R5	1	YAGEO	9C06031A4701FKHFT	RES, SMD, 0603, 4.7k, 1/10W, 1%, TF, ROHS
R2, R4, R6, R7	0			RESISTOR, SMD, 0603, 0.1%, MF, DNP-PLACE HOLDER
R3	1	PANASONIC	ERJ-3RQF2R2V	RES, SMD, 0603, 2.2Ω, 1/10W, 1%, TF, ROHS
R9	1	PANASONIC	ERJ-3EKF1001V	RES, SMD, 0603, 1k, 1/10W, 1%, TF, ROHS
R1, R8	2	KOA	RK73H1JT1002F	RES, SMD, 0603, 10k, 1/10W, 1%, TF,ROHS
R11	1	PANASONIC	ERJ-8ENF2000V	RES, SMD, 1206, 200Ω, 1/4W, 1%, TF, ROHS
SW1	1	ITT CANNON	GT11MCBE	SWITCH-TOGGLE, THRU-HOLE, SPDT, 5P, ROHS
J7, J8	2	BERG/FCI	KPA8CTP	HDWARE, MTG, CABLE TERMINAL, 6-14AWG, LUG and SCREW, ROHS
J9	0	TE CONNECTIVITY	5-1814832-1	DO NOT POPULATE
JP1	0			DO NOT POPULATE
TP1-TP7	0			DO NOT POPULATE

Configuration File

Sample Configuration File for ISL8270M Module. Copy and paste (from RESTORE_FACTORY TO ### End User Store) to a notepad and save it as Confile_file_name.txt. The # symbol is used for a comment line. Following settings are already loaded to ISL8270M module as factory defaults.

RESTORE_FACTORY		# reset device to the factory setting
STORE_USER_ALL		# Clears user memory space
# VOUT Related		
VOUT_COMMAND	0x2666	# 1.2 V
VOUT_MAX	0x2a3c	# 1.32 V
VOUT_MARGIN_HIGH	0x2851	# 1.26 V
VOUT_MARGIN_LOW	0x247a	# 1.14 V
VOUT_OV_FAULT_LIMIT	0x2c28	# 1.38 V
VOUT_OV_FAULT_RESPONSE	0x80	# Disable and no retry
VOUT_OV_WARN_LIMIT	0x2a3c	# 1.32 V
VOUT_UV_WARN_LIMIT	0x228f	# 1.08 V
VOUT_UV_FAULT_LIMIT	0x20a3	# 1.02 V
VOUT_UV_FAULT_RESPONSE	0x80	# Disable and no retry
POWER_GOOD_ON	0x228f	# 1.08 V
VOUT_TRANSITION_RATE	0xba00	# 1 mV/us
VOUT_DROOP	0x0000	# 0 mV/A
VOUT_CAL_OFFSET	0x0000	# 0 mV/A
# IOUT Related		
IOUT_CAL_GAIN	0xb380	# 0.875 mV/A
IOUT_CAL_OFFSET	0x0000	# 0 A
IOUT_OC_FAULT_LIMIT	0xdbc0	# 30 A
IOUT_UC_FAULT_LIMIT	0xdc3f	# -30A
MFR_IOUT_OC_FAULT_RESPONSE	0x80	# Disable and no retry
MFR_IOUT_UC_FAULT_RESPONSE	0x80	# Disable and no retry
ISENSE_CONFIG	0x05	# 256ns Blanking time, Mid-Range
# Other Faults		
OT_FAULT_LIMIT	0xebe8	# 125 °C
OT_FAULT_RESPONSE	0x80	# Disable and no retry
OT_WARN_LIMIT	0xeb70	# 110 °C
UT_WARN_LIMIT	0xdc40	# -30 °C
UT_FAULT_LIMIT	0xe530	# -45 °C
UT_FAULT_RESPONSE	0x80	# Disable and no retry
VIN_OV_FAULT_LIMIT	0xd380	# 14 V
VIN_OV_FAULT_RESPONSE	0x80	# Disable and no retry
VIN_OV_WARN_LIMIT	0xd327	# 12.609 V
VIN_UV_WARN_LIMIT	0xca79	# 4.945 V
VIN_UV_FAULT_LIMIT	0xca40	# 4.5 V
VIN_UV_FAULT_RESPONSE	0x80	# Disable and no retry
#Enable, Timing and Sequence Related		
ON_OFF_CONFIG	0x17	# Pin Enable, Immediate Off
TON_DELAY	0xca80	# 5 ms
TON_RISE	0xca80	# 5 ms
TOFF_DELAY	0xca80	# 5 ms
TOFF_FALL	0xca80	# 5 ms
POWER_GOOD_DELAY	0xba00	# 1 ms
FREQUENCY_SWITCH	0x0215	# Sequence Disabled
SYNC_CONFIG	0x00	# Use Pin-strap for FSW setting
SEQUENCE	0x0000	# 533 kHz
# Manufacturer Related		
MFR_ID	Intersil Corp	# Example Only
MFR_MODEL	ISL8270MEVAL1Z	# Example Only
MFR_REVISION	Rev-1	# Example Only
MFR_LOCATION	Milpitas, CA	# Example Only
MFR_DATE	3/14/2014	# Example Only
MFR_SERIAL	1234	# Example Only
USER_DATA_00	Module	# Example Only
# Advance Settings		
USER_CONFIG	0x00	# Open Drain PG, XTEMP Disabled
DDC_CONFIG	0x01	# DDC rail ID = 1
DDC_GROUP	0x00000000	# All Broadcast disabled
# Loop Compensation		
ASCR_CONFIG	0x15a0100	# ASCR gain = 256, Residual = 90
STORE_USER_ALL		# Store all above settings to NVRAM
### End User Store		

Measured Data
The following data was acquired using a ISL8270MEVAL1Z evaluation board.

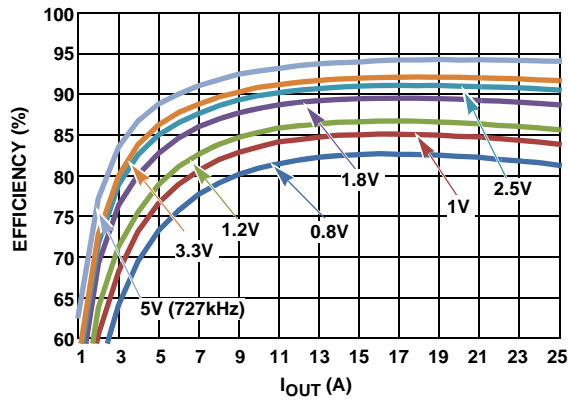
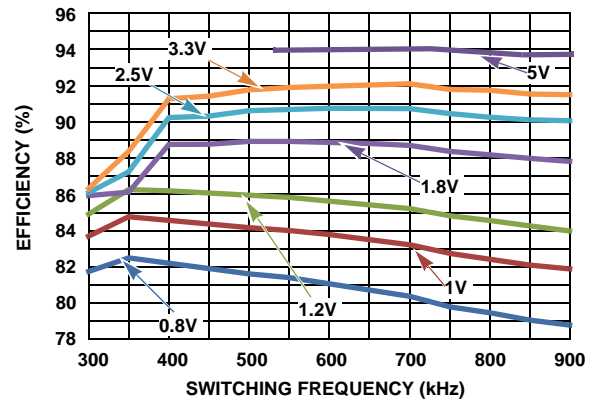FIGURE 3. EFFICIENCY vs OUTPUT CURRENT AT V_{IN} = 12V, F_{SW} = 550kHz FOR VARIOUS OUTPUT VOLTAGES

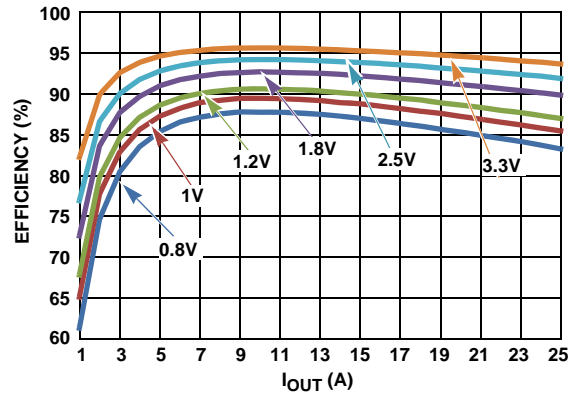FIGURE 4. EFFICIENCY vs SWITCHING FREQUENCY AT V_{IN} = 12V, I_{OUT} = 25A FOR VARIOUS OUTPUT VOLTAGES

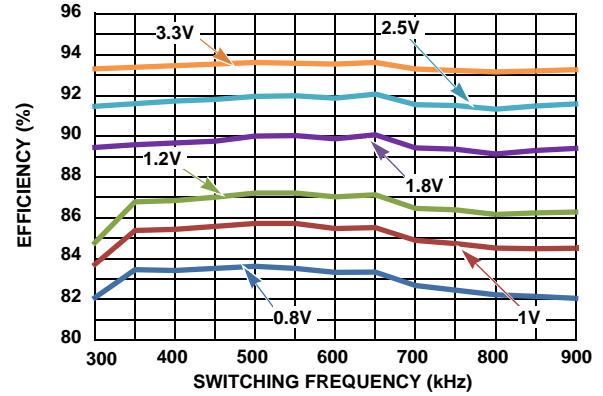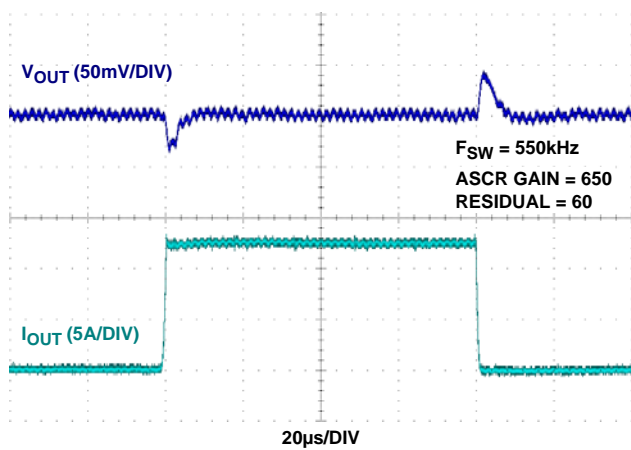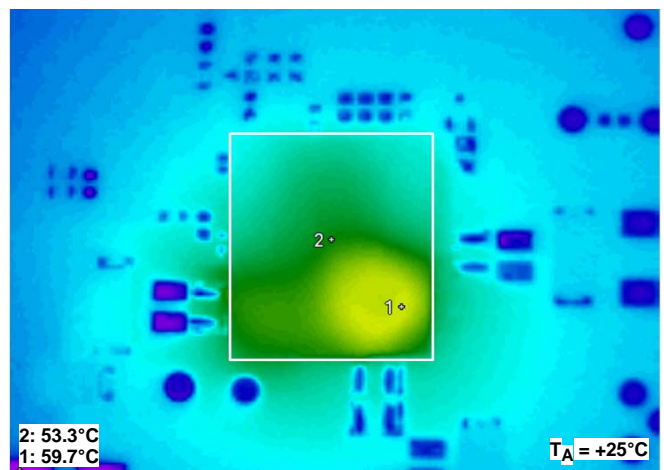FIGURE 5. EFFICIENCY vs OUTPUT CURRENT AT V_{IN} = 5V, F_{SW} = 550kHz FOR VARIOUS OUTPUT VOLTAGES

FIGURE 6. EFFICIENCY vs SWITCHING FREQUENCY AT V_{IN} = 5V, I_{OUT} = 25A FOR VARIOUS OUTPUT VOLTAGES

FIGURE 7. 1.2V TRANSIENT RESPONSE

FIGURE 8. THERMAL IMAGE, 12V$_{IN}$ to 1V$_{OUT}$, I_{OUT} = 25A, T_A = +25°C, F_{SW} = 533kHz, NO AIR FLOW

ISL8270MEVAL1Z Board Layout
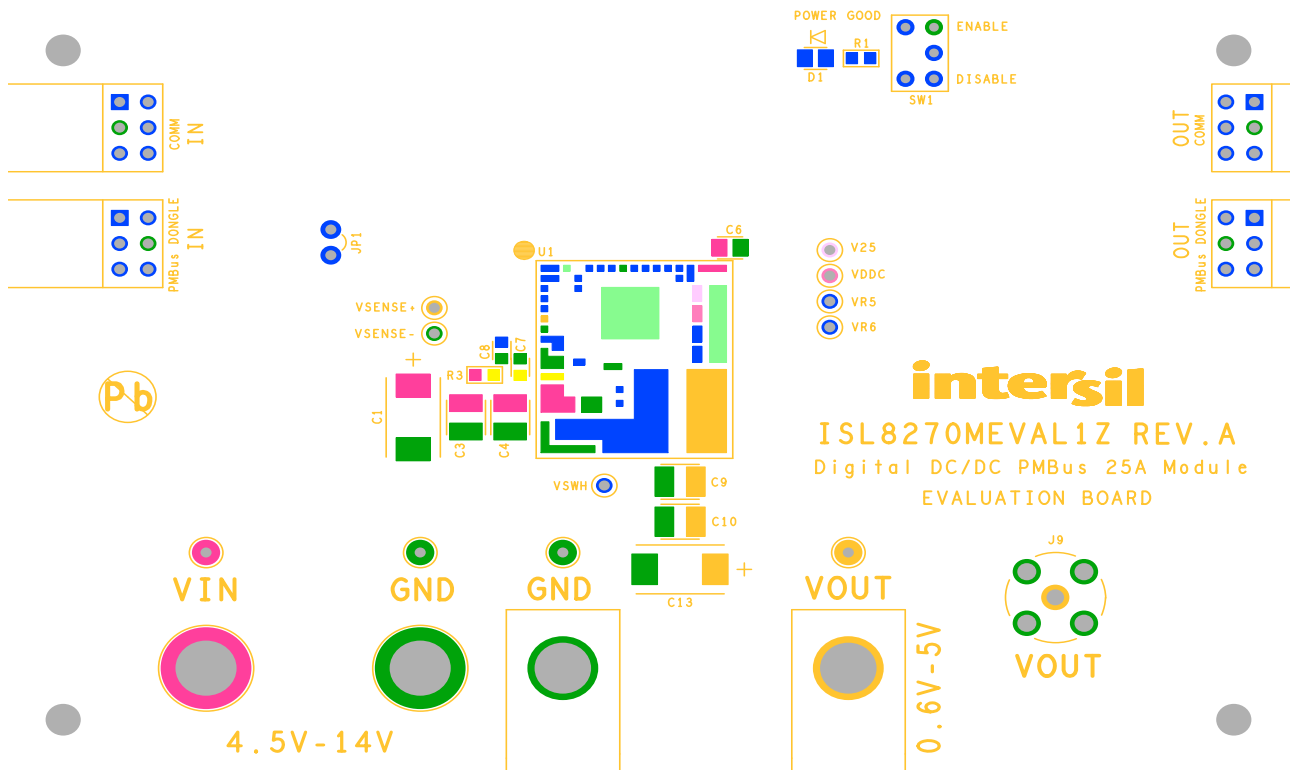
FIGURE 9. PCB - TOP SILK SCREEN
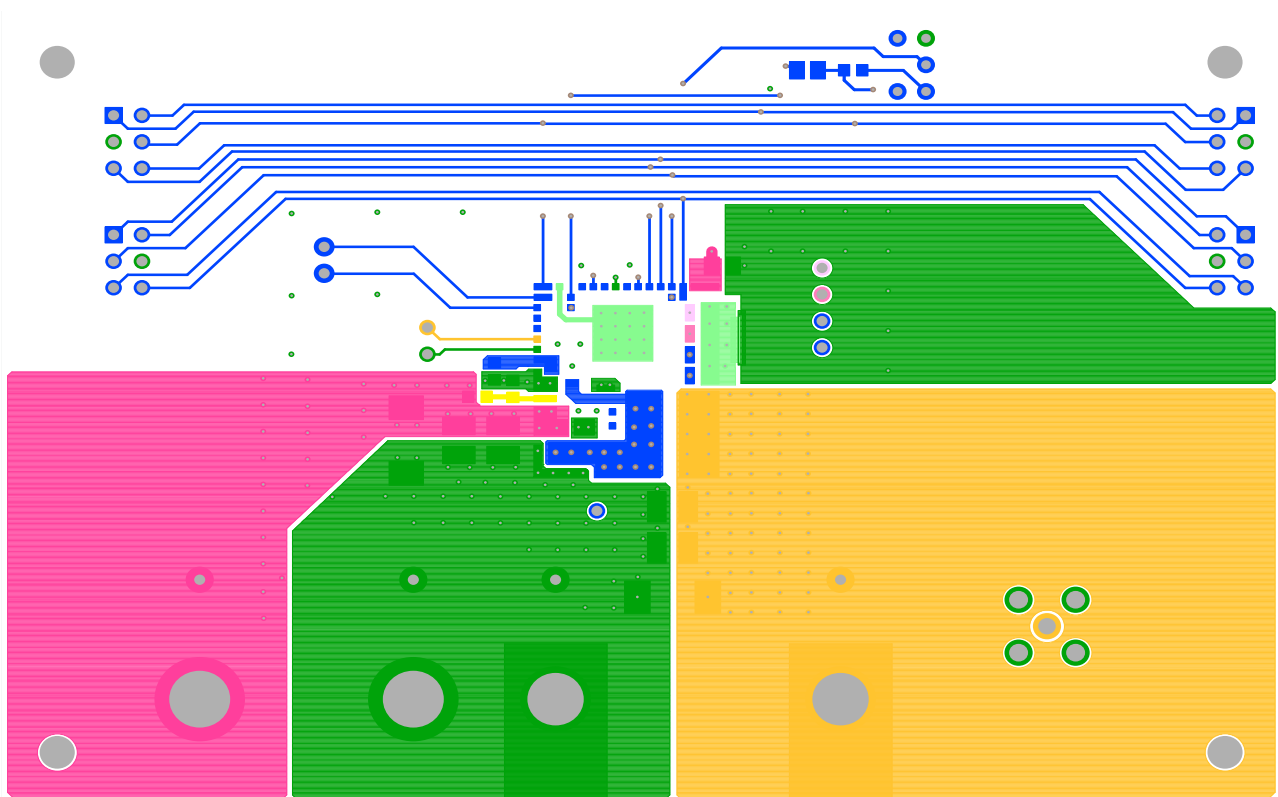
FIGURE 10. PCB - TOP LAYER

ISL8270MEVAL1Z Board Layout (Continued)

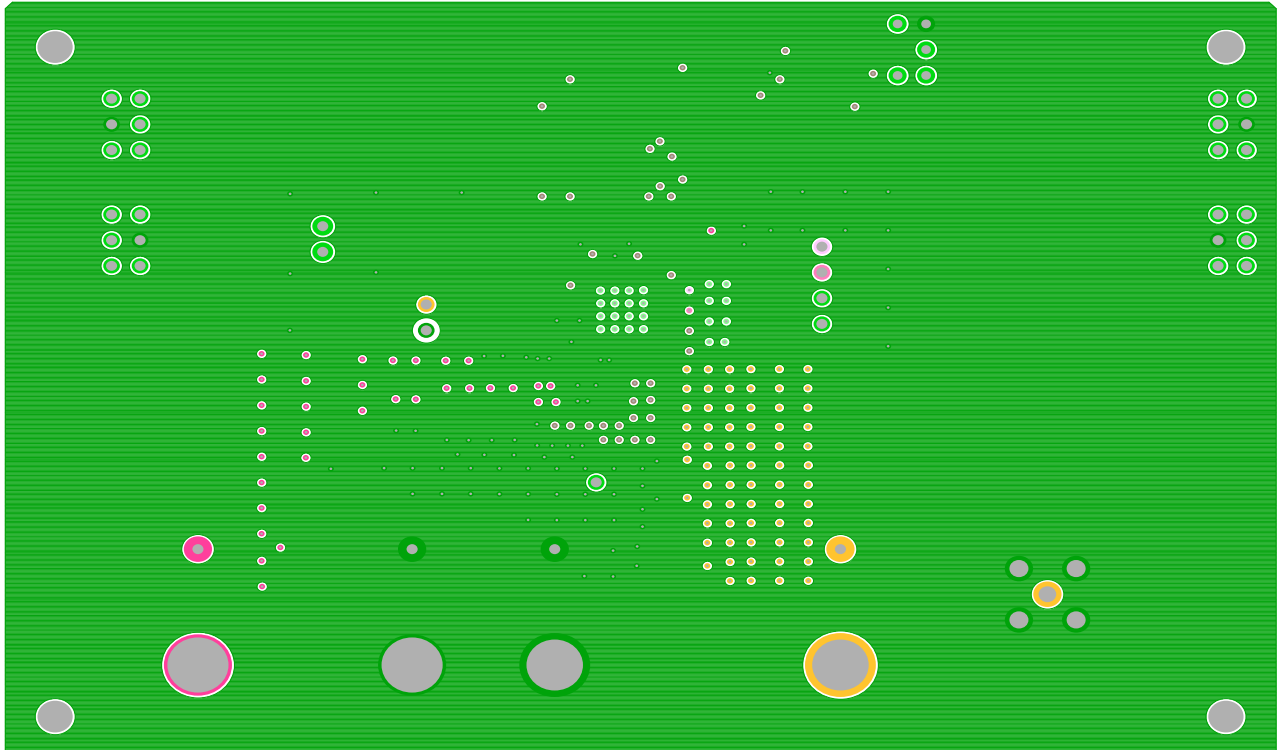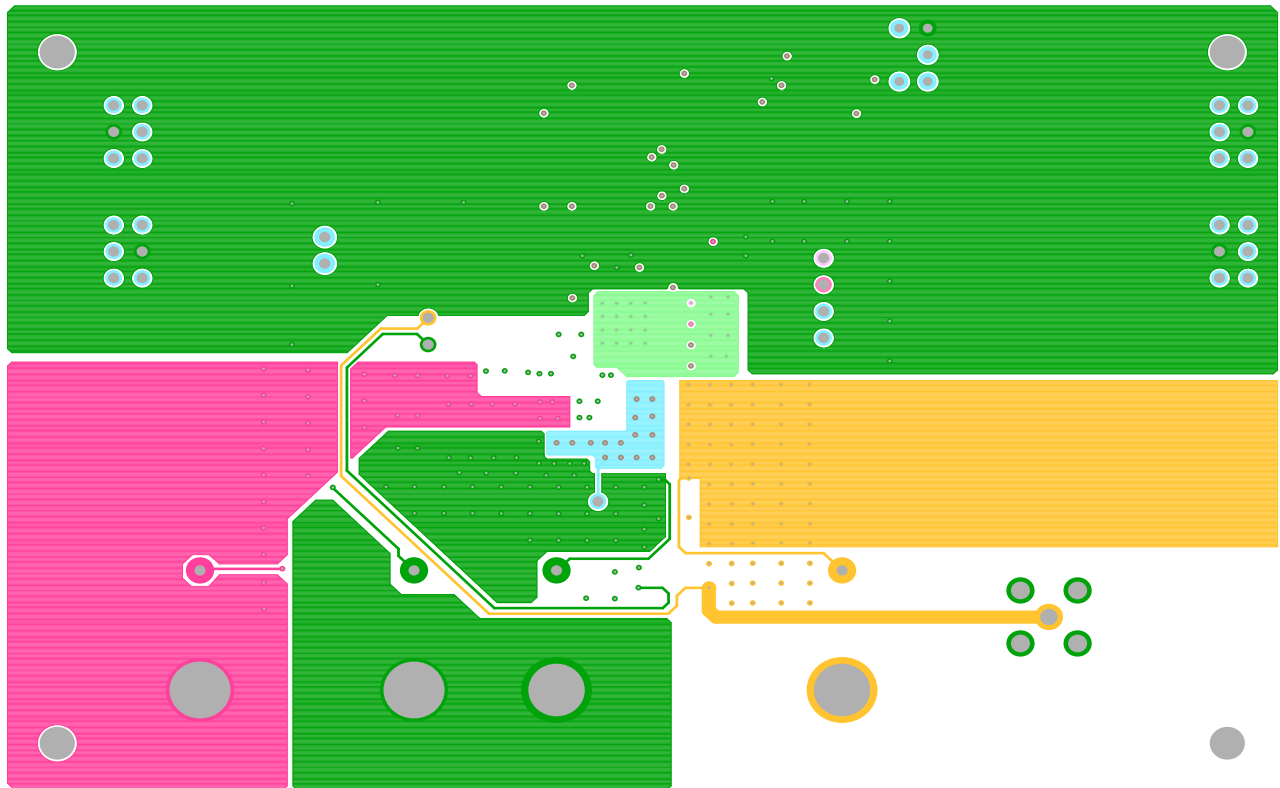**FIGURE 11. PCB - INNER LAYER - LAYER 2 (TOP VIEW)**

FIGURE 12. PCB - INNER LAYER - LAYER 3 (TOP VIEW)
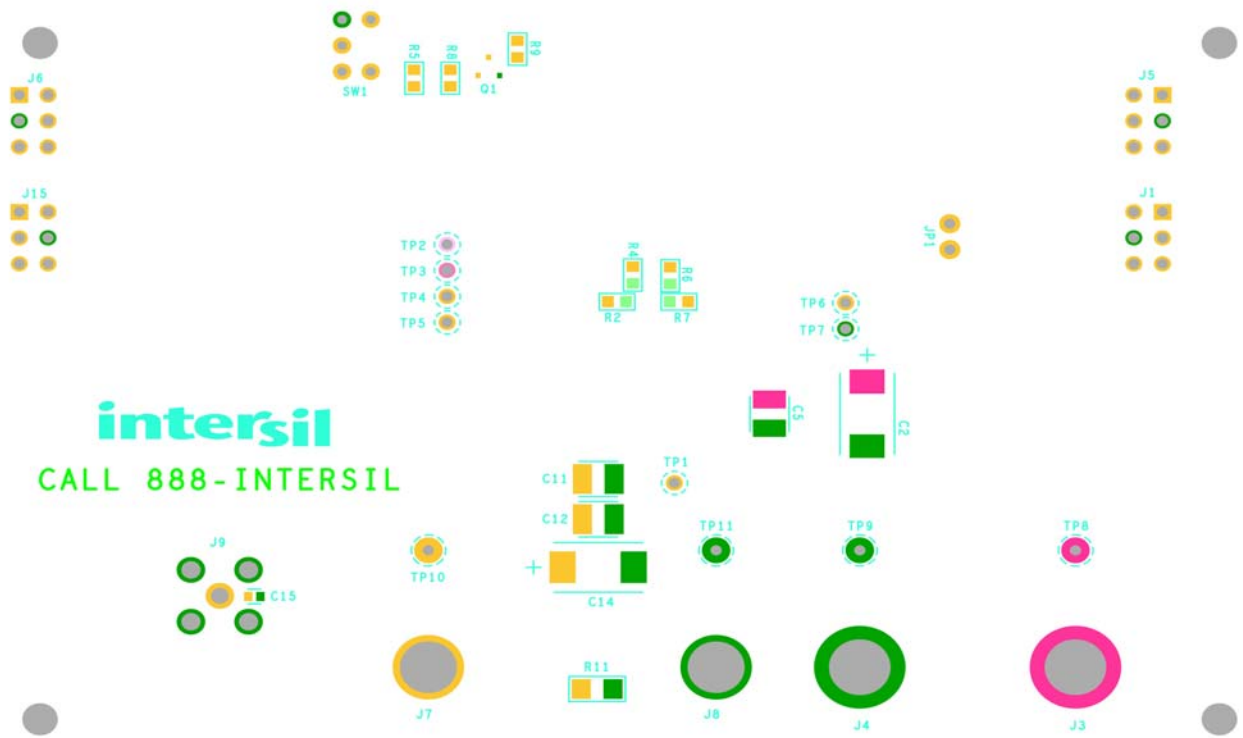
ISL8270MEVAL1Z Board Layout (Continued)

FIGURE 13. PCB - BOTTOM LAYER (BOTTOM VIEW)

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