

LTC4211

Hot Swap Controller with Multifunction Current Control

FEATURES

- Allows Safe Board Insertion and Removal from a Live Backplane
- Controls Supply Voltages from 2.5V to 16.5V
- Programmable Soft-Start with Inrush Current Limiting, No External Gate Capacitor Required
- Faster Turn-Off Time Because No External Gate Capacitor is Required
- Dual Level Overcurrent Fault Protection
- Programmable Response Time for Overcurrent Protection (MS)
- Programmable Overvoltage Protection (MS)
- Automatic Retry or Latched Mode Operation (MS)
- High Side Drive for an External N-Channel FET
- User-Programmable Supply Voltage Power-Up Rate
- FB Pin Monitors V_{OUT} and Signals RESET
- Glitch Filter Protects Against Spurious RESET Signal

APPLICATIONS

- Electronic Circuit Breaker
- Hot Board Insertion and Removal (Either On Backplane or On Removable Card)
- Industrial High Side Switch/Circuit Breaker

DESCRIPTION

The LTC[®]4211 is a Hot Swap[™] controller that allows a board to be safely inserted and removed from a live backplane. An internal high side switch driver controls the gate of an external N-channel MOSFET for supply voltages ranging from 2.5V to 16.5V. The LTC4211 provides soft-start and inrush current limiting during the start-up period which has a programmable duration.

Two on-chip current limit comparators provide dual level overcurrent circuit breaker protection. The slow comparator trips at $V_{CC} - 50$ mV and activates in 20µs (or programmed by an external filter capacitor, MS only). The fast comparator trips at $V_{CC} - 150$ mV and typically responds in 300ns.

The FB pin monitors the output supply voltage and signals the RESET output pin. The ON pin signal turns the chip on and off and can also be used for the reset function. The MS package has FAULT and FILTER pins to provide additional functions like fault indication, autoretry or latch-off modes, programmable current limit response time and programmable overvoltage protection using an external Zener diode clamp.

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TYPICAL APPLICATION



Single Channel 5V Hot Swap Controller



4211 TA016

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS (Note 1)

Supply Voltage (V _{CC})	17V
Input Voltage	
FB, ON	0.3V to 17V
	$-0.3V$ to V _{CC} + 0.3V
TIMER	0.3V to 2V
Output Voltage	
GATE	Internally Limited (Note 3)
RESET, FAULT	0.3V to 17V

Operating Temperature Range	
LTC4211C	0°C to 70°C
LTC42111	40°C to 85°C
Storage Temperature Range	–65°C to 150°C
Lead Temperature (Soldering, 1	0 sec) 300°C

PACKAGE/ORDER INFORMATION



Consult LTC Marketing for parts specified with wider operating temperature ranges.

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS The • denotes specifications which apply over the full operating

temperature range, otherwise specifications are $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$. $V_{CC} = 5V$, unless otherwise noted. (Note 2)

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS		MIN	ТҮР	MAX	UNITS
V _{CC}	V _{CC} Supply Voltage Range			2.5		16.5	V
I _{CC}	V _{CC} Supply Current	FB = High, ON = High, TIMER = Low			1	1.5	mA
V _{LK0}	Internal V _{CC} Undervoltage Lockout	V _{CC} Low-to-High Transition	•	2.13	2.3	2.47	V
V _{LKOHST}	V _{CC} Undervoltage Lockout Hysteresis				120		mV
I _{INFB}	FB Input Current	V _{FB} = V _{CC} or GND			±1	±10	μA
I _{INON}	ON Input Current	V _{ON} = V _{CC} or GND			±1	±10	μA
I _{LEAK}	RESET, FAULT Leakage Current	$V_{\overline{\text{RESET}}} = V_{\overline{\text{FAULT}}} = 15V$, Pull-Down Device Off			±0.1	±2.5	μA
IINSENSE	SENSE Input Current	V _{SENSE} = V _{CC} or GND			±1	±10	μA
V _{CB(FAST)}	SENSE Trip Voltage (V _{CC} – V _{SENSE})	Fast Comparator Trips		130	150	170	mV
V _{CB(SLOW)}	SENSE Trip Voltage (V _{CC} – V _{SENSE})	Slow Comparator Trips		40	50	60	mV
IGATEUP	GATE Pull-Up Current	Charge Pump On, $V_{GATE} \le 0.2V$		-12.5	-10	-7.5	μA
IGATEDOWN	Normal GATE Pull-Down Current	ON Low		130	200	270	μA
	Fast GATE Pull-Down Current	FAULT Latched and Circuit Breaker Tripped or in UVLO			50		mA



ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS temperature range, otherwise specifications are $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$. $V_{CC} = 5V$, unless otherwise noted. (Note 2)

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS		MIN	ТҮР	MAX	UNITS
ΔV_{GATE}	External N-Channel Gate Drive			4.0 4.5 5.0 10 10 8		8 8 10 16 18 18	V V V V V V V
V _{GATEOV}	GATE Overvoltage Lockout Threshold			0.08	0.2	0.3	V
V _{FB}	FB Voltage Threshold	FB High to Low		1.223	1.236	1.248	V
ΔV_{FB}	FB Threshold Line Regulation	$2.5V \le V_{CC} \le 16.5V$			0.5	5	mV
V _{FBHST}	FB Voltage Threshold Hysteresis				3		mV
V _{ONHI}	ON Threshold High			1.23	1.316	1.39	V
V _{ONLO}	ON Threshold Low			1.20	1.236	1.26	V
V _{ONHST}	ON Hysteresis				80		mV
I _{FILTER}	FILTER Current	During Slow Fault Condition		-2.5	-2	-1.5	μA
		During Normal and Reset Conditions		7	10	13	μA
V _{FILTER}	FILTER Threshold	Latched Off Threshold, FILTER Low to High		1.20	1.236	1.26	V
V _{FILTERHST}	FILTER Threshold Hysteresis				80		mV
I _{TMR}	TIMER Current	Timer On, V _{TIMER} = 1V		-2.5	-2	-1.5	μA
		Timer Off, TIMER = 1.5V			3		mA
V _{TMR}	TIMER Threshold	TIMER Low to High		1.20	1.236	1.26	V
		TIMER High to Low		0.15	0.200	0.40	V
VFAULT	FAULT Threshold	Latched Off Threshold, FAULT High to Low		1.20	1.236	1.26	V
VFAULTHST	FAULT Threshold Hysteresis				50		mV
V _{OLFAULT}	Output Low Voltage	I _{FAULT} = 1.6mA			0.14	0.4	V
Volreset	Output Low Voltage	$I_{\overline{\text{RESET}}} = 1.6 \text{mA}$			0.14	0.4	V
t fault fc	FAST COMP Trip to GATE Discharging	V _{CB} = 0mV to 200mV Step			300	700	ns
t fault sc	SLOW COMP Trip to GATE Discharging	V _{CB} = 0mV to 100mV Step, 8-Pin Version or FILTER Floating	•	10	20	30	μs
		V _{CB} = 0mV to 100mV Step, 10nF at FILTER Pin to GND	•	4	6	8	ms
t _{EXT} FAULT	FAULT Low to GATE Discharging	V _{FAULT} = 5V to 0V		1	3	5	μs
t _{FILTER}	FILTER High to FAULT Latched	V _{FILTER} = 0V to 5V		2	4.5	7	μs
t _{RESET}	Circuit Breaker Reset Delay Time	ON Low to FAULT High			150	250	μs
t _{OFF}	Turn-Off Time	ON Low to GATE Off			8		μs

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

Note 2: All current into device pins are positive; all current out of device pins are negative; all voltages are referenced to ground unless otherwise specified.

Note 3: An internal Zener at the GATE pin clamps the charge pump voltage to a typical maximum operating voltage of 26V. External voltage applied to the GATE pin beyond the internal Zener voltage may damage the part. If a lower GATE pin voltage is desired, use an external Zener diode. The GATE capacitance must be <0.15 μF at maximum V_CC.























TIMER Pull-Down Current vs Temperature



V_{CB} (SLOW COMP) vs Supply Voltage



V_{OL} vs Supply Voltage



V_{CB} (SLOW COMP) vs Temperature



V_{OL} vs Temperature



V_{CB} (FAST COMP) vs Supply Voltage









SLOW COMP Response Time vs Temperature



FAST COMP Response Time vs Supply Voltage



FILTER High to FAULT Activation Time vs Temperature



FAST COMP Response Time vs Temperature



Circuit Breaker RESET Time

8 10 12 14

SUPPLY VOLTAGE (V)

16

18 20

4211 G44

vs Supply Voltage

T_A = 25°C

200

80

0 2 4 6

FILTER High to FAULT Activation Time vs Supply Voltage



Circuit Breaker RESET Time vs Temperature







LINEAR TECHNOLOGY

PIN FUNCTIONS (8-Lead Package/10-Lead Package)

RESET (Pin 1/Pin 1): An open-drain N-channel MOSFET whose source connects to GND (Pin 4/Pin 5). This pin pulls low if the voltage at the FB pin (Pin 5/Pin 6) falls below the FB pin threshold (1.236V). During the start-up cycle, the RESET pin goes high impedance at the end of the second timing cycle after the FB pin goes above the FB threshold. This pin requires an external pull-up resistor to V_{CC} . If an undervoltage lockout condition occurs, the RESET pin pulls low independently of the FB pin to prevent false glitches.

ON (Pin 2/Pin 2): An active high signal used to enable or disable LTC4211 operation. COMP1's threshold is set at 1.236V and its hysteresis is set at 80mV. If a logic high signal is applied to the ON pin ($V_{ON} > 1.316V$), the first timing cycle begins if an overvoltage condition does not exist on the GATE pin (Pin 6/Pin 7). If a logic low signal is applied to the ON pin ($V_{ON} < 1.236V$), the GATE pin is pulled low by an internal 200µA current sink. The ON pin can also be used to reset the electronic circuit breaker. If the ON pin is cycled low and then high following a circuit breaker trip, the internal circuit breaker is reset, and the LTC4211 begins a new start-up cycle.

TIMER (Pin 3/Pin 4): A capacitor connected from this pin to GND sets the LTC4211's system timing. The LTC4211's initial and second start-up timing cycles and its internal "power good" delay time are defined by this capacitor.

GND (Pin 4/Pin 5): Device Ground Connection. Connect this pin to the system's analog ground plane.

FB (Pin 5/Pin 6): The FB (Feedback) pin is an input to the COMP2 comparator and monitors the output supply voltage through an external resistor divider. If $V_{FB} < 1.236V$, the RESET pin pulls low. An internal glitch filter at COMP2's output helps prevent negative voltage transients from triggering a reset condition. If $V_{FB} > 1.239V$, the RESET pin goes high after one timing cycle.

GATE (Pin 6/Pin 7): The output signal at this pin is the high side gate drive for the external N-channel FET pass transistor.

As shown in the Block Diagram, an internal charge pump supplies a 10µA gate current and sufficient gate voltage drive to the external FET for supply voltages from 2.5V to 16.5V. The internal charge-pump and zener clamps at the GATE pin determine the gate drive voltage ($\Delta V_{GATE} = V_{GATE} - V_{CC}$). The charge pump produces a minimum 4V of ΔV_{GATE} for supplies in the range of 2.5V < V_{CC} < 4.75V. For $V_{CC} > 4.75V$, the ΔV_{GATE} is limited by zener clamp Z1 connecting between GATE and V_{CC} pins. The ΔV_{GATE} is typically at 12V and with guaranteed minimum value of 10V. For $V_{CC} > 15V$, the zener clamp Z2 sets the limitation for ΔV_{GATE} . Z2 clamps the gate voltage to ground to 26V typically. The minimum Z2's clamp voltage is 23V. This effectively sets ΔV_{GATE} to 8V minimum.

SENSE (Pin 7/Pin 8): Circuit Breaker Set Pin. With a sense resistor placed in the power path between V_{CC} and SENSE, the LTC4211's electronic circuit breaker trips if the voltage across the sense resistor exceeds the thresholds set internally for the SLOW COMP and the FAST COMP, as shown in the Block Diagram. The threshold for the SLOW COMP is $V_{CB(SLOW)} = 50$ mV, and the electronic circuit breaker trips if the voltage across the sense resistor exceeds 50mV for 20µs. The SLOW COMP delay is fixed in the S8/MS8 version and adjustable in the MS version of the LTC4211. To adjust the SLOW COMP's delay, please refer to the section on Adjusting SLOW COMP's Response Time.

Under transient conditions where large step current changes can and do occur over shorter periods of time, a second (fast) comparator instead trips the electronic circuit breaker. The threshold for the FAST COMP is set at $V_{CB(FAST)} = 150$ mV, and the circuit breaker trips if the voltage across the sense resistor exceeds 150mV for more than 300ns. The FAST COMP's delay is fixed in the LTC4211 and cannot be adjusted. To disable the electronic circuit breaker, connect the V_{CC} and SENSE pins together.

V_{CC} (Pin 8/Pin 9): This is the positive supply input to the LTC4211. The LTC4211 operates from $2.5V < V_{CC} < 16.5V$, and the supply current is typically 1mA. An internal undervoltage lockout circuit disables the device until the voltage at V_{CC} exceeds 2.3V.



PIN FUNCTIONS (8-Lead Package/10-Lead Package)

FAULT (Not available on S8/MS8, Pin 10 MS): FAULT is both an input and an output. Connected to this pin are an analog comparator (COMP6) and an open-drain N-channel FET. During normal operation, if COMP6 is driven below 1.236V, the electronic circuit breaker trips and the GATE pin pulls <u>low.</u> Typically, a 10k pull-up resistor connects to the FAULT pin. This allows the LTC4211 to begin a second timing cycle ($V_{FAULT} > 1.286$) and start-up properly. This also allows the use of the FAULT pin as a <u>status</u> output. Under normal operating conditions, the FAULT output is a logic high. Two conditions cause an active low on FAULT: (1) the LTC4211's electronic circuit breaker trips because of an output short circuit ($V_{OUT} =$

BLOCK DIAGRAM

0V) or because of a fast output overcurrent transient (FAST COMP trips circuit breaker); or (2) $V_{FILTER} > 1.236V$. The FAULT output is driven to logic low and is latched logic low until the ON pin is driven to logic low for 150µs (the t_{RESET} duration).

FILTER (Not available S8/MS8, Pin 3 MS): Overcurrent Fault Timing Pin and Overvoltage Fault Set pin. With a capacitor connected from this pin to ground, the SLOW COMP's response time can be adjusted. In the S8/MS8 version of the LTC4211, the FILTER pin is not available and the delay time from overcurrent detect to GATE OFF is fixed at 20µs.





HOT CIRCUIT INSERTION

When circuit boards are inserted into or removed from live backplanes, the supply bypass capacitors can draw huge transient currents from the backplane power bus as they charge. The transient current can cause permanent damage to the connector pins as well as cause glitches on the system supply, causing other boards in the system to reset.

The LTC4211 is designed to turn a printed circuit board's supply voltages ON and OFF in a controlled manner, allowing the circuit board to be safely inserted or removed from a live backplane. The device provides a system reset signal to indicate when board supply voltage drops below a predetermined level, as well as a dual function fault monitor.

OUTPUT VOLTAGE MONITOR

The LTC4211 uses a 1.236V bandgap reference, precision voltage comparator and an external resistor divider to monitor the output supply voltage as shown in Figure 1.

The operation of the supply monitor in normal mode is illustrated in Figure 2. When the supply voltage at the FB pin drops below its reset threshold (1.236V), the comparator COMP2 output goes high. After passing through a glitch filter, RESET is pulled low (Time Point N2). When the voltage at the FB pin rises above its reset threshold (1.239V), COMP2's output goes low and a timing cycle starts (Time Point N4). After a complete timing cycle, RESET is pulled high by the external pull-up resistor. If the FB pin rises above the reset threshold for less than a timing cycle, the RESET output remains low (Time Point N3).

As shown in Figure 5, the LTC4211's RESET pin is logic low during any undervoltage lockout condition and during the initial insertion of a PC board. Under normal operation, RESET goes to logic high at the end of the soft-start cycle only after the FB pin voltage rises above its reset threshold of 1.239V.



Figure 2. Supply Monitor Waveforms in Normal Mode







UNDERVOLTAGE LOCKOUT

The LTC4211's power-on reset circuit initializes the startup procedure and ensures the chip is in the proper state if the input supply voltage is too low. If the supply voltage falls below 2.18V, the LTC4211 is in undervoltage lockout (UVLO) mode, and the GATE pin is pulled low. Since the UVLO circuitry uses hysteresis, the chip restarts after the supply voltage rises above 2.3V and the ON pin goes high.

In addition, users can utilize the ON comparator (COMP1) or the FAULT comparator (COMP6) to effectively program a higher undervoltage lockout level. Figure 3 shows the external resistor divider at the ON pin programs the system's undervoltage lockout voltage. The system will enter the plug-in cycle after the ON pin rises above 1.316V. The resistor divider sets the circuit to turn on when V_{CC} reaches around 79% of its final value. If a different turn on V_{CC} voltage is desired change the resistor divider value accordingly. The FAULT comparator can be the alternative for external undervoltage lockout setting. If the FAULT comparator is used for this purpose, the system will wait for the input voltage to increase above the level set by the user before starting the second timing cycle. Also, if the input voltage drops below the set level in normal operating mode, the user must cycle the ON pin or V_{CC} to restart the system.



Figure 3. ON Pin Sets the Undervoltage Lockout Voltage Externally

GLITCH FILTER FOR RESET

The LTC4211 has a glitch filter to prevent $\overline{\text{RESET}}$ from generating a system reset if there are transients on the FB

pin. The relationship between glitch filter time and the feedback transient voltage is shown in Figure 4.



Figure 4. FB Comparator Glitch Filter Time vs Feedback Transient Voltage

SYSTEM TIMING

System timing for the LTC4211 is generated at the TIMER pin (see the Block Diagram). If the LTC4211's internal timing circuit is off, an internal N-channel FET connects the TIMER pin to GND. If the timing circuit is enabled, an internal 2μ A current source is then connected to the TIMER pin to charge C_{TIMER} at a rate given by Equation 1:

$$C_{\text{TIMER}}$$
 Charge - Up Rate = $\frac{2\mu A}{C_{\text{TIMER}}}$ (1)

When the TIMER pin voltage reaches COMP4's threshold of 1.236V, the TIMER pin is reset to GND. Equation 2 gives an expression for the timer period:

$$t_{\text{TIMER}} = 1.236 \text{V} \bullet \frac{\text{C}_{\text{TIMER}}}{2\mu\text{A}}$$
(2)

As a design aid, the LTC4211's timer period as a function of the C_{TIMER} using standard values from 3.3nF to $0.33\mu F$ is shown in Table 1.



Table 1. t_{TIMER} vs C_{TIMER}

CTIMER	t _{TIMER}	
0.0033µF	2.0ms	
0.0047µF	2.9ms	
0.0068µF	4.2ms	
0.0082µF	5.1ms	
0.01µF	6.2ms	
0.015µF	9.3ms	
0.022µF	13.6ms	
0.033µF	20.4ms	
0.047µF	29.0ms	
0.068µF	42.0ms	
0.082µF	50.7ms	
0.1µF	61.8ms	
0.15µF	92.7ms	
0.22µF	136ms	
0.33µF	204ms	

The C_{TIMER} value is vital to ensure a proper start-up and reliable operation. A system may not get started if a timing period is set too short in relation to the time needed for the output voltage to ramp up from zero to its rated value. Conversely, this timing period should not be excessive as an output short can occur at start-up allowing the external MOSFET to overheat. A good starting point is to set C_{TIMER} = 10nF and adjust its value accordingly to suit the specific applications.

OPERATING SEQUENCE

Power-Up, Start-Up Check and Plug-In Timing Cycle

The sequence of operations for the LTC4211 is illustrated in the timing diagram of Figure 5. When a PC board is first inserted into a live backplane, the LTC4211 first performs







a start-up check to make sure the supply voltage is above its 2.3V UVLO threshold (see Time Point 1). If the input supply voltage is valid, the gate of the external pass transistor is pulled to ground by the internal 200μ A current source connected at the GATE pin. The TIMER pin is held low by an internal N-channel pull-down transistor (see M6, LTC4211 Block Diagram) and the FILTER pin voltage is pulled to ground by an internal 10μ A current source.

Once V_{CC} and ON (the ON pin is >1.316) are valid, the LTC4211 checks to make sure that GATE is OFF (V_{GATE} < 0.2V) at Time Point 2. An internal timing circuit is enabled and the TIMER pin voltage ramps up at the rate described by Equation 1. At Time Point 3 (the timing period programmed by C_{TIMER}), the TIMER pin voltage equals V_{TMR} (1.236V). Next, the TIMER pin voltage ramps down to Time Point 4 where the LTC4211 performs two checks: (1) FILTER pin voltage is low (V_{FILTER} < 1.156V) and (2) FAULT pin voltage is high (V_{FAULT} > 1.286V). If both conditions are met, the LTC4211 begins a second timing (soft-start) cycle.

Second Timing (Soft-Start) Cycle

At the beginning of the second timing cycle (Time Point 5), the LTC4211's FAST COMP is armed and an internal 10μ A current source working with an internal charge pump provides the gate drive to the external pass transistor. An expression for the GATE voltage slew rate is given by Equation 3:

 $V_{GATE} \text{ Slew Rate, } \frac{dV_{GATE}}{dt} = \frac{10\mu A}{C_{GATE}}$ (3)

where C_{GATE} = Power MOSFET gate input capacitance (C_{ISS}).

For example, a Si4410DY (a 30V N-channel power MOSFET) exhibits an approximate C_{GATE} of 3300pF at V_{GS} = 10V. The LTC4211's GATE voltage rate-of-change (slew rate) for this example would be:

$$V_{GATE}$$
 Slew Rate, $\frac{dV_{GATE}}{dt} = \frac{10\mu A}{3300 pF} = 3.03 \frac{V}{ms}$

The inrush current being delivered to the load while the GATE is ramping is dependent on C_{LOAD} and C_{GATE} . Equation 4 gives an expression for the inrush current during the second timing cycle:

$$I_{\text{INRUSH}} = \frac{dV_{\text{GATE}}}{dt} \bullet C_{\text{LOAD}} = 10\mu\text{A} \bullet \frac{C_{\text{LOAD}}}{C_{\text{GATE}}}$$
(4)

For example, if C_{GATE} = 3300pF and C_{LOAD} = 2000µF, the inrush current charging C_{LOAD} is:

$$I_{\text{INRUSH}} = 10\mu\text{A} \bullet \frac{2000\mu\text{F}}{0.0033\mu\text{F}} = 6.06\text{A}$$
(5)

At Time Point 6, the output voltage trips COMP2's threshold, signaling an output voltage "power good" condition. At Time Point 7, RESET is asserted high, SLOW COMP is armed and the LTC4211 enters a fault monitor mode. The TIMER voltage then ramps down to Time Point 8.

Power-Off Cycle

As shown at Time Point 9, an external hard reset is initiated by pulling the ON pin low ($V_{ON} < 1.236V$). The GATE pin voltage is ramped to ground by the internal 200µA current source, discharging C_{GATE} and turning off the pass transistor. As C_{LOAD} discharges, the output voltage crosses COMP2's threshold, signaling a "power bad" condition at Time Point 10. At this point, RESET is asserted low.

SOFT-START WITH CURRENT LIMITING

During the second timing cycle, the inrush current was described by Equation 4. Note that there is a one-to-one correspondence in the inrush current to C_{LOAD} . If the inrush current is large enough to cause a voltage drop greater than 50mV across the sense resistor, an internal servo loop controls the operation of the 10µA current source at the GATE pin to regulate the load current to:

$$I_{\text{LIMIT}(\text{SOFTSTART})} = \frac{50 \text{mV}}{\text{R}_{\text{SENSE}}}$$
(6)

For example, the inrush current is limited to 5A when R_{SENSE} = 0.01 $\Omega.$



In this fashion, the inrush current is controlled and C_{LOAD} is charged up slowly during the soft-start cycle.

The timing diagram in Figure 6 illustrates the operation of the LTC4211 in a normal power-up sequence with limited inrush current as described by Equation 6. At Time Point 5, the GATE pin voltage begins to ramp indicating that the power MOSFET is beginning to charge C_{LOAD} . At Time Point 5A, the inrush current causes a 50mV voltage drop across R_{SENSE} and the internal servo loop engages, limiting the inrush current to a fixed level. At Time Point 6, the GATE pin voltage continues to ramp as C_{LOAD} charges until V_{OUT} reaches its final value. The charging current reduces, and the internal servo loop disengages. At the end of the soft-start cycle (Time Point 7), RESET is high and SLOW COMP is armed.

FREQUENCY COMPENSATION AT SOFT-START

If the external gate input capacitance (C_{ISS}) is greater than 600pF, no external gate capacitor is required at GATE to stabilize the internal current-limiting loop during soft-start. Otherwise, connect a gate capacitor between the GATE pin and ground to increase the total gate capacitance to be equal to or above 600pF. The servo loop that controls the external MOSFET during current limiting has a unity-gain frequency of about 105kHz and phase margin of 80° for external MOSFET gate input capacitances to 2.5nF.

USING AN EXTERNAL GATE CAPACITOR

The LTC4211 automatically limits the inrush current in one of two ways: by controlling the GATE pin voltage slew rate



Figure 6. Normal Power-Up Sequence (With Current Limiting in Second Timing Cycle)



or by actively limiting the inrush current. The LTC4211 uses GATE voltage slew rate limiting when C_{LOAD} is small and/or the inrush current limit is set high. If GATE voltage slew rate control is preferred with large C_{LOAD} , an external capacitor (C_{GX}) can be used from GATE to ground, as shown in Figure 7. According to Equation 3, adding C_{GX} slows the GATE voltage slew rate at the expense of slower system turn-on and turn-off time. Should this technique be used, values for C_{GX} less than 150nF are recommended.



Figure 7. Using an External Capacitor at GATE for GATE Voltage Slew Rate Control and Large C_{LOAD}

An external gate capacitor may also be useful to decrease or eliminate current spikes through the MOSFET when power is first applied. At power-up, the instantaneous input voltage step attempts to pull the MOSFET gate up through the MOSFET's drain-to-gate capacitance. If the MOSFET's C_{GS} is small, the gate can be pulled up high enough to turn on the MOSFET, thereby allowing a current spike to the output. This event occurs during the time that the LTC4211 is coming out of UVLO and getting its intelligence to hold the GATE pin low. An external capacitor attenuates the voltage to which the GATE is pulled up and eliminates the current spike. The value required is dependent on the MOSFET capacitance specifications. In typical applications, this capacitor is not required.

ELECTRONIC CIRCUIT BREAKER

The LTC4211 features an electronic circuit breaker function that protects against supply overvoltage, externallygenerated fault conditions and shorts or excessive load current conditions on the supply. If the circuit breaker trips, the GATE pin is immediately pulled to ground, the external N-channel MOSFET is quickly turned OFF and FAULT is latched low.

The circuit breaker trips whenever the voltage across the sense resistor exceeds two different levels, set by the LTC4211's SLOW COMP and FAST COMP thresholds (see Block Diagram). The SLOW COMP trips the circuit breaker if the voltage across the SENSE resistor ($V_{CC} - V_{SENSE} =$ V_{CB}) is greater than 50mV for 20µs. There may be applications where this comparator's response time is not long enough, for example, because of excessive supply voltage noise. To adjust the response time of the SLOW COMP, the MS version of the LTC4211 is chosen and a capacitor is used at the LTC4211's FILTER pin (see section on Adjusting SLOW Comp's Response Time). The FAST COMP trips the circuit breaker to protect against fast load overcurrents if the transient voltage across the sense resistor is greater than 150mV for 300ns. The response time of the LTC4211's FAST COMP is fixed.

The timing diagram of Figure 6 illustrates when the LTC4211's electronic circuit breaker is armed. After the first timing cycle, the LTC4211's FAST COMP is armed at Time Point 5. Arming FAST COMP at Time Point 5 ensures that the system is protected against a short-circuit condition during the second timing cycle after C_{LOAD} has been fully charged. At Time Point 7, SLOW COMP is armed when the internal control loop is disengaged.

The timing diagrams in Figures 8 and 9 illustrate the operation of the LTC4211 when the load current conditions exceed the thresholds of the FAST COMP ($V_{CB(FAST)} > 150$ mV) and SLOW COMP ($V_{CB(SLOW)} > 50$ mV), respectively.

RESETTING THE ELECTRONIC CIRCUIT BREAKER

Once the LTC4211's circuit breaker is tripped, FAULT is asserted low and the GATE pin is pulled to ground. The LTC4211 remains latched OFF in this fault state until the external fault is cleared. To clear the internal fault detect circuitry and to restart the LTC4211, its ON pin must be driven low ($V_{ON} < 1.236V$) for at least 150µs, after which time FAULT goes high. Toggling the ON pin from low to high ($V_{ON} > 1.316V$) initiates a restart sequence in the LTC4211. The timing diagram in Figure 10 illustrates a





Figure 8. Output Short Circuit Causes Fast Comparator to Trip the Circuit Breaker





Figure 9. Mild Overcurrent Slow Comparator Trips the Circuit Breaker After Filter Programming Period





Figure 10. Power-Up in Overcurrent, Slow Comparator Trips the Circuit Breaker

start-up sequence where the LTC4211 is powered up into a load overcurrent condition. Note that the circuit breaker trips at Time Point B and is reset at Time Point 9A.

ADJUSTING SLOW COMP'S RESPONSE TIME

The response time of SLOW COMP is adjusted using a capacitor connected from the LTC4211's FILTER pin to ground. If this pin is left unused, SLOW COMP's delay defaults to 20 μ s. During normal operation, the FILTER output pin is held low as an internal 10 μ A pull-down current source is connected to this pin by transistor M4. This pull-down current source is turned off when an overcurrent load condition is detected by SLOW COMP. During an overcurrent condition, the internal 2 μ A pull-up current source is connected to the FILTER pin by transistor M5, thereby charging C_{FILTER}. As the charge on the capacitor accumulates, the voltage across C_{FILTER}

increases. Once the FILTER pin voltage increases to 1.236V, the electronic circuit breaker trips and the LTC4211's GATE pin is switched quickly to ground by transistor M3. After the circuit breaker is tripped, M5 is turned OFF, M4 is turned ON and the 10μ A pull-down current then holds the FILTER pin voltage low.

The SLOW COMP response time from an overcurrent fault condition to when the circuit breaker trips (GATE OFF) is given by Equation 7:

$$t_{\text{SLOWCOMP}} = 1.236V \bullet \frac{C_{\text{FILTER}}}{2\mu A} + 20\mu s \tag{7}$$

For example, if $C_{FILTER} = 1000$ pF, SLOW COMP's response time = 638 μ s. As a design aid, SLOW COMP's delay time ($t_{SLOW COMP}$) versus C_{FILTER} for standard values of C_{FILTER} from 100 pF to 1000 pF is illustrated in Table 2.



C _{FILTER}	t _{slowcomp}		
100pF	82µs		
220pF	156µs		
330pF	224µs		
470pF	310µs		
680pF	440µs		
820pF	527µs		
1000pF	638µs		

Table 2. t_{SLOWCOMP} vs C_{FILTER}

SENSE RESISTOR CONSIDERATIONS

The fault current level at which the LTC4211's internal electronic circuit breaker trips is determined by a sense resistor connected between the LTC4211's V_{CC} and SENSE pins and two separate trip points. The first trip point is set by the SLOW COMP's threshold, $V_{CB(SLOW)} = 50$ mV, and occurs should a load current fault condition exist for more than 20µs. The current level at which the electronic circuit breaker trips is given by Equation 8:

$$I_{\text{TRIP}(\text{SLOW})} = \frac{V_{\text{CB}(\text{SLOW})}}{R_{\text{SENSE}}} = \frac{50\text{mV}}{R_{\text{SENSE}}}$$
(8)

The second trip point is set by the FAST COMP's threshold, $V_{CB(FAST)} = 150$ mV, and occurs during fast load current transients that exist for 300ns or longer. The current level at which the circuit breaker trips in this case is given by Equation 9:

$$I_{\text{TRIP}(\text{FAST})} = \frac{V_{\text{CB}(\text{FAST})}}{R_{\text{SENSE}}} = \frac{150\text{mV}}{R_{\text{SENSE}}}$$
(9)

As a design aid, the currents at which electronic circuit breaker trips for common values for ${\sf R}_{{\sf SENSE}}$ are shown in Table 3.

Table 0. TRIP(SLOW) at	abio of TRIP(SLOW) and TRIP(FAST) to TSENSE				
R _{SENSE}	I _{TRIP(SLOW)}	I _{TRIP(FAST)}			
0.005Ω	10A	30A			
0.006Ω	8.3A	25A			
0.007Ω	7.1A	21A			
0.008Ω	6.3A	19A			
0.009Ω	5.6A	17A			
0.01Ω	5A	15A			

Table 3. I_{TRIP(SLOW)} and I_{TRIP(FAST)} vs R_{SENSE}

For proper circuit breaker operation, Kelvin-sense PCB connections between the sense resistor and the LTC4211's V_{CC} and SENSE pins are strongly recommended. The drawing in Figure 11 illustrates the correct way of making connections between the LTC4211 and the sense resistor. PCB layout should be balanced and symmetrical to minimize wiring errors. In addition, the PCB layout for the sense resistor should include good thermal management techniques for optimal sense resistor power dissipation.

The power rating of the sense resistor should accommodate steady-state fault current levels so that the component is not damaged before the circuit breaker trips. Table 4 in the Appendix lists sense resistors that can be used with the LTC4211's circuit breaker.





CALCULATING CIRCUIT BREAKER TRIP CURRENT

For a selected R_{SENSE} value, the nominal load current that trips the circuit breaker is given by Equation 10:

$$I_{\text{TRIP(NOM)}} = \frac{V_{\text{CB(NOM)}}}{R_{\text{SENSE(NOM)}}} = \frac{50\text{mV}}{R_{\text{SENSE(NOM)}}}$$
(10)

The minimum load current that trips the circuit breaker is given by Equation 11.

$$I_{\text{TRIP}(\text{MIN})} = \frac{V_{\text{CB}(\text{MIN})}}{R_{\text{SENSE}(\text{MAX})}} = \frac{40\text{mV}}{R_{\text{SENSE}(\text{MAX})}}$$
(11)

where

$$R_{\text{SENSE(MAX)}} = R_{\text{SENSE(NOM)}} \bullet \left[1 + \left(\frac{R_{\text{TOL}}}{100} \right) \right]$$

The maximum load current that trips the circuit breaker is given in Equation 12.

$$I_{\text{TRIP}(\text{MAX})} = \frac{V_{\text{CB}(\text{MAX})}}{R_{\text{SENSE}(\text{MIN})}} = \frac{60\text{mV}}{R_{\text{SENSE}(\text{MIN})}}$$
(12)

where

$$R_{\text{SENSE(MIN)}} = R_{\text{SENSE(NOM)}} \bullet \left[1 - \left(\frac{R_{\text{TOL}}}{100} \right) \right]$$

For example:

If a sense resistor with $7m\Omega \pm 5\% R_{TOL}$ is used for current limiting, the nominal trip current $I_{TRIP(NOM)} = 7.1A$. From Equations 11 and 12, $I_{TRIP(MIN)} = 5.4A$ and $I_{TRIP(MAX)} = 9.02A$ respectively.

For proper operation and to avoid the circuit breaker tripping unnecessarily, the minimum trip current $(I_{TRIP(MIN)})$ must exceed the circuit's maximum operating load current. For reliability purposes, the operation at the maximum trip current $(I_{TRIP(MAX)})$ must be evaluated carefully. If necessary, two resistors with the same R_{TOL} can be connected in parallel to yield an $R_{SENSE(NOM)}$ value that fits the circuit requirements.

POWER MOSFET SELECTION CRITERIA

To start the power MOSFET selection process, choose the maximum drain-to-source voltage, $V_{DS(MAX)}$, and the maximum drain current, $I_{D(MAX)}$ of the MOSFET. The $V_{DS(MAX)}$ rating must exceed the maximum input supply voltage (including surges, spikes, ringing, etc.) and the $I_{D(MAX)}$ rating must exceed the maximum short-circuit current in the system during a fault condition. In addition, consider three other key parameters: 1) the required gate-source (V_{GS}) voltage drive, 2) the voltage drop across the drain-to-source on resistance, $R_{DS(ON)}$ and 3) the maximum junction temperature rating of the MOSFET.

Power MOSFETs are classified into two categories: standard MOSFETs ($R_{DS(ON)}$ specified at $V_{GS} = 10V$) and logic-level MOSFETs ($R_{DS(ON)}$ specified at $V_{GS} = 5V$). The absolute maximum rating for V_{GS} is typically $\pm 20V$ for standard MOSFETs. However, the V_{GS} maximum rating for logic-level MOSFETs ranges from $\pm 8V$ to $\pm 20V$ depending upon the manufacturer and the specific part number. The LTC4211's GATE overdrive as a function of V_{CC} is illustrated in the Typical Performance curves. Logiclevel MOSFETs are recommended for low supply voltage applications and standard MOSFETs can be used for applications where supply voltage is greater than 4.75V.

Note that in some applications, the gate of the external MOSFET can discharge faster than the output voltage when the circuit breaker is tripped. This causes a negative V_{GS} voltage on the external MOSFET. Usually, the selected external MOSFET should have a $\pm V_{GS(MAX)}$ rating that is higher than the operating input supply voltage to ensure that the external MOSFET is not destroyed by a negative V_{GS} voltage. In addition, the $\pm V_{GS(MAX)}$ rating of the MOSFET must be higher than the gate overdrive voltage. Lower $\pm V_{GS(MAX)}$ rating MOSFETs can be used with the LTC4211 if the GATE overdrive is clamped to a lower voltage. The circuit in Figure 12 illustrates the use of Zener diodes to clamp the LTC4211's GATE overdrive signal if lower voltage MOSFETs are used.







The R_{DS(ON)} of the external pass transistor should be low to make its drain-source voltage (V_{DS}) a small percentage of V_{CC}. At a V_{CC} = 2.5V, V_{DS} + V_{RSENSE} = 0.1V yields 4% error at the output voltage. This restricts the choice of MOSFETs to very low R_{DS(ON)}. At higher V_{CC} voltages, the V_{DS} requirement can be relaxed in which case MOSFET package dissipation (P_D and T_J) may limit the value of R_{DS(ON)}. Table 5 lists some power MOSFETs that can be used with the LTC4211.

For reliable circuit operation, the maximum junction temperature $(T_{J(MAX)})$ for a power MOSFET should not exceed the manufacturer's recommended value. This includes normal mode operation, start-up, current-limit and autoretry mode in a fault condition. Under normal conditions the junction temperature of a power MOSFET is given by Equation 13:

MOSFET Junction Temperature,

 $T_{J(MAX)} \le T_{A(MAX)} + \theta_{JA} \bullet P_D$ (13)

where

 $P_{D} = (I_{LOAD})^{2} \bullet R_{DS(ON)}$

 θ_{JA} = junction-to-ambient thermal resistance

 $T_{A(MAX)}$ = maximum ambient temperature

If a short circuit happens during start-up, the external MOSFET can experience a big single pulse energy. This is especially true if the applications only employed a small gate capacitor or no gate capacitor at all. Consult the safe operating area (SOA) curve of the selected MOSFET to ensure that the $T_{J(MAX)}$ is not exceeded during start-up.

USING STAGGERED PIN CONNECTORS

The LTC4211 can be used on either a printed circuit board or on the backplane side of the connector, and examples for both are shown in Figures 13 and 14. Printed circuit board edge connectors with staggered pins are recommended as the insertion and removal of circuit boards do sequence the pin connections. Supply voltage and ground connections on the printed circuit board should be wired to the edge connector's long pins or blades. Control and status signals (like RESET, FAULT and ON) passing through the card's edge connector should be wired to short length pins or blades.

PCB CONNECTION SENSE

There are a number of ways to use the LTC4211's ON pin to detect whether the printed circuit board has been fully seated in the backplane before the LTC4211 commences a start-up cycle.

The first example is shown in the schematic on the front page of this data sheet. In this case, the LTC4211 is mounted on the PCB and a 20k/10k resistive divider is connected to the ON pin. On the edge connector, R1 is wired to a short pin. Until the connectors are fully mated, the ON pin is held low, keeping the LTC4211 in an OFF state. Once the connectors are mated, the resistive divider is connected to V_{CC} , $V_{ON} > 1.316V$ and the LTC4211 begins a start-up cycle.

In Figure 13, an LTC4211 is illustrated in a basic configuration on a PCB daughter card. The ON pin is connected to V_{CC} on the backplane through a 10k pull-up resistor once the card is seated into the backplane. R2 bleeds off any potential static charge which might exist on the backplane, the connector or during card installation.

A third example is shown in Figure 14 where the LTC4211 is mounted on the backplane. In this example, a 2N2222 transistor and a pair of resistors (R4, R5) form the PCB connection sense circuit. With the card out of the chassis, Q2's base is biased to V_{CC} through R5, biasing Q2 ON and driving the LTC4211's ON pin low. The base of Q2 is also wired to a socket on the backplane connector. When a card is firmly seated into the backplane, the base of Q2 is then grounded through a short pin connection on the card. Q2 is biased OFF, the LTC4211's ON pin is pulled-up to V_{CC} and a start-up cycle begins.

In the previous three examples, the connection sense was hard wired with no processor (low) interrupt capability. As illustrated in Figure 15, the addition of an inexpensive logic-level discrete MOSFET and a couple of resistors offers processor interrupt control to the connection sense. R4 keeps the gate of M2 at V_{CC} until the card is firmly mated to the backplane. A logic low for the ON/OFF signal turns M2 OFF, allows the ON pin to pull high and turns on the LTC4211.





Figure 13. Hot Swap Controller On Daughter Board (Staggered Pin Connections)



Figure 14. Hot Swap Controller on Backplane (Staggered Pin Connections)

A more elaborate connection sense scheme is shown in Figure 16. The bases of Q1 and Q2 are wired to short pins located on opposite ends of the edge connector because the installation/removal of printed circuit cards generally requires rocking the card back and forth. When V_{CC} makes connection, the bases of transistors Q1 and Q2 are pulled high, biasing them ON. When either one of them is ON, the LTC4211's ON pin is held low, keeping the LTC4211 OFF. When both the short base connector pins

of Q1 and Q2 finally mate to the backplane, their bases are grounded, biasing the transistors OFF. The ON pin voltage is then pulled high by R3 enabling the LTC4211 and a power-up cycle begins.

A software-initiated power-down cycle can be started by momentarily driving transistor M1 with a logic high signal. This in turn will drive the LTC4211's ON pin low. If the ON pin is held low for more than 8μ s, the LTC4211's GATE pin is switched to ground.









Figure 16. Connection Sense for Rocking the Daughter Board Back and Forth



12V Hot Swap Application

Figure 17 shows a 12V, 3A hot swap application circuit. The resistor divider R1/R2 programs the undervoltage lockout externally and allows the system to start up after V_{CC} increases above 9.46V. The resistor divider R3/R4 monitors V_{OUT} and signals the RESET pin when V_{OUT} goes above 10.54V. Transient voltage suppressor Z1 and snubber network (C_X, R_X) are highly recommended to protect the 12V applications system from ringing and voltage spikes. R_G is recommended for V_{CC} > 10V and it can minimize high frequency parasitic oscillations in the power MOSFET.

AUTORETRY AFTER A FAULT

To configure the LTC4211 to automatically retry after a fault condition, the FAULT and ON pins can be connected to a pull-up resistor (R_{AUTO}) to the supply, as shown in

Figure 18. In this case, the autoretry circuitry will attempt to restart the LTC4211 with a 50% duty cycle, as shown in the timing diagram of Figure 19. To prevent overheating the external MOSFET and other components during the autoretry sequence, adding a capacitor (C_{AUTO}) to the circuit introduces an RC time constant (t_{OFF}) that adjusts the autoretry duty cycle. Equation 14 gives the autoretry duty cycle, modified by this external time constant:

Autoretry Duty Cycle
$$\approx \frac{t_{\text{TIMER}}}{t_{\text{OFF}} + 2 \bullet t_{\text{TIMER}}} \bullet 100\%$$
 (14)

where $t_{TIMER} = LTC4211$ system timing(see TIMER function) and t_{OFF} is a time needed to charge capacitor C_{AUTO} from OV to the ON pin threshold (1.316V).

For the values shown, the external RC time constant is set at 1 second, the t_{TIMER} delay equals 6.2ms and the autoretry duty cycle drops from 50% to 2.5%.









To increase the RC delay, the user may either increase C_{AUTO} or R_{AUTO} . However, increasing $C_{AUTO} > 2\mu$ F will actually limit the RC delay due to the reset sink-current capability of the FAULT pin. Therefore, in order to increase the RC delay, it is more effective to either increase R_{AUTO} or to put a bleed resistor in parallel with C_{AUTO} to GND. As an example, increasing R_{AUTO} from 1M to 3.2M decreases duty cycle to 0.8%.

HOT SWAPPING TWO SUPPLIES

Using two external pass transistors, the LTC4211 can switch two supply voltages. In some cases, it is necessary to bring up the dominant supply first during power-up but ramp them down together during the power-down phase. The circuit in Figure 20 shows how to program two different delays for the pass transistors. The 5V supply is powered up first. R1 and C3 are used to set the rise and fall times on the 5V supply. Next, the 3.3V supply ramps up with 20ms delay set by R6 and C2. On the falling edge, both supplies ramp down together because D1 and D2 bypass R1 and R6.

OVERVOLTAGE TRANSIENT PROTECTION

Good engineering practice calls for bypassing the supply rail of any analog circuit. Bypass capacitors are often placed at the supply connection of every active device, in addition to one or more large value bulk bypass capacitors per supply rail. If power is connected abruptly, the large bypass capacitors slow the rate of rise of the supply voltage and heavily damp any parasitic resonance of lead or PC track inductance working against the supply bypass capacitors.

The opposite is true for LTC4211 Hot Swap circuits mounted on plug-in cards. In most cases, there is no supply bypass capacitor present on the powered supply





Figure 20. Switching 5V and 3.3V

voltage side of the MOSFET switch. An abrupt connection, produced by inserting the board into a backplane connector, resulting in a fast rising edge applied on the supply line of the LTC4211.

Since there is no bulk capacitance to damp the parasitic track inductance, supply voltage transients excite parasitic resonant circuits formed by the power MOSFET capacitance and the combined parasitic inductance from the wiring harness, the backplane and the circuit board traces.

In these applications, there are two methods that should be applied together for eliminating these supply voltage transients: using transient voltage suppressor to clip the transient to a safe level and snubber networks. Snubber networks are series RC networks whose time constants are experimentally determined based on the board's parasitic resonance circuits. As a starting point, the capacitors in these networks are chosen to be $10 \times to 100 \times the power$ MOSFET's Coss under bias. The series resistor is a value determined experimentally and ranges from 1Ω to 50Ω , depending on the parasitic resonance circuit. For applications with supply voltages of 12V or higher the ringing and overshoot during hot-swapping or when the output is short-circuited can easily exceed the absolute maximum specification of the LTC4211. To reduce the danger, transient voltage suppressors and snubber networks are highly recommended. For applications with lower supply

voltage such as 5V, usually a snubber is adequate to reduce the supply ringing. Although, the need of a transient voltage suppressor arises for inductive and high current application. Note that in all LTC4211 5V applications schematics, transient suppressor and snubber networks have been added for protection. The transient suppressor is optional and a simple short-circuit test can be performed to determine the need of it. These protection networks should be mounted very close to the LTC4211's supply input rail using short lead lengths to minimize lead inductance. This is shown schematically in Figure 21, and a recommended layout of the transient protection devices around the LTC4211 is shown in Figure 22.



Figure 21. Placing Transient Protection Devices Close to the LTC4211's Input Rail



Figure 22. Recommended Layout for LTC4211 Protection Devices, R_{SENSE}, Power MOSFET and Feedback Network



SUPPLY OVERVOLTAGE DETECTION/ PROTECTION USING FILTER PIN

In addition to using external protection devices around the LTC4211 for large scale transient protection, low power Zener diodes can be used with the LTC4211's FILTER pin to act as a supply overvoltage detection/protection circuit on either the high side (input) or low side (output) of the external pass transistor. Recall that internal control circuitry keeps the LTC4211 GATE voltage from ramping up if V_{FILTER} > 1.156V, or when an external fault condition (V_{FILTER} > 1.236V) causes FAULT to be asserted low.

High Side (Input) Overvoltage Protection

As shown in Figure 23, a low power Zener diode can be used to sense an overvoltage condition on the input (high) side of the main 5V supply. In this example, a low bias current 1N4691 Zener diode is chosen to protect the system. Here, the Zener diode is connected from V_{CC} to the LTC4211's FILTER pin (Pin 3 MS). If the input voltage to the system is greater than 6.8V during start-up, the voltage on the FILTER pin is pulled higher than its 1.156V

threshold. As a result, the GATE pin is not allowed to ramp and the second timing cycle will not commence until the supply overvoltage condition is removed. Should the supply overvoltage condition occur during normal operation, internal control logic would trip the electronic circuit breaker and the GATE would be pulled to ground, shutting OFF the external pass transistor. If a lower supply overvoltage threshold is desired, use a Zener diode with a smaller breakdown voltage.

A timing diagram for illustrating LTC4211 operation under a high side overvoltage condition is shown in Figure 24. The start-up sequence in this case (between Time Points 1 and 2) is identical to any other start-up sequence under normal operating conditions. At Time Point 2A, the input supply voltage causes the Zener diode to conduct thereby forcing V_{FILTER} > 1.156V. At Time Point 3, FAULT is asserted low and the TIMER pin voltage ramps down. At Time Point 4, the LTC4211 checks if V_{FILTER} < 1.156V.



Figure 23. LTC4211MS High Side Overvoltage Protection Implementation





Figure 24. High Side Overvoltage Protection

FAULT is asserted low (but not latched) to indicate a startup failure. Only if the input overvoltage condition is removed before Time Point 5 does the start-up sequence resume at the second timing cycle. At this point in time, the GATE pin voltage is allowed to ramp up, FAULT is pulled to logic high and the circuit breaker is armed. Should, at any time after Time Point 5, a supply overvoltage condition develop (V_{FILTER} > 1.236V), the electronic circuit breaker will trip, the GATE will be pulled low to turn off the external MOSFET and FAULT will be asserted low and latched. This sequence is shown in detail at Time Point B.

Low Side (Output) Overvoltage Protection

A Zener diode can be used in a similar fashion to detect/ protect the system against a supply overvoltage condition on the load (or low) side of the pass transistor. In this case, the Zener diode is connected from the load to the LTC4211's FILTER pin, as shown in Figure 25. An additional diode, D1, prevents the FILTER pin from pulling low during an output short-circuit. Figure 26 illustrates the timing diagram for a low side output overvoltage condition. In this example, the LTC4211 can only sense the overvoltage supply condition after Time Point 5 and the GATE pin has













ramped up to its nominal operating value. After Time Point 5, a supply voltage fault occurs at the load and the Zener diode begins to conduct, causing V_{FILTER} to increase. At Time Point 6A, V_{FILTER} is greater than 1.236V, the circuit breaker is tripped, the GATE pin voltage is pulled to ground and FAULT is asserted low and latched.

In either case, the LTC4211 can be configured to automatically initiate a start-up sequence. Please refer to the section on AutoRetry After a Fault for additional information.

PCB Layout Considerations

For proper operation of the LTC4211's circuit breaker function, a 4-wire Kelvin connection to the sense resistors is highly recommended. A recommended PCB layout for the sense resistor, the power MOSFET and the GATE drive components around the LTC4211 is illustrated in Figure 22. In Hot Swap applications where load currents can reach 10A or more, narrow PCB tracks exhibit more resistance than wider tracks and operate at more elevated temperatures. Since the sheet resistance of 1 ounce copper foil is approximately $0.54m\Omega/square$, track resistances add up quickly in high current applications. Thus, to keep PCB track resistance and temperature rise to a minimum, PCB track width must be appropriately sized. Consult Appendix A of LTC Application Note 69 for details on sizing and calculating trace resistances as a function of copper thickness.

In the majority of applications, it will be necessary to use plated-through vias to make circuit connections from component layers to power and ground layers internal to the PC board. For 1 ounce copper foil plating, a good starting point is 1A of DC current per via, making sure the via is properly dimensioned so that solder completely fills any void. For other plating thicknesses, check with your PCB fabrication facility.



APPENDIX

Table 4 lists some current sense resistors that can be used with the circuit breaker. Table 5 lists some power MOSFETs that are available. Table 6 lists the web sites of several

manufacturers. Since this information is subject to change, please verify the part numbers with the manufacturer.

Table 4. Sense Resistor Selection Guide

CURRENT LIMIT VALUE	PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MANUFACTURER
1A	LR120601R050	0.05Ω 0.5W 1% Resistor	IRC-TT
2A	LR120601R025	0.025Ω 0.5W 1% Resistor	IRC-TT
2.5A	LR120601R020	0.02Ω 0.5W 1% Resistor	IRC-TT
3.3A	WSL2512R015F	0.015Ω 1W 1% Resistor	Vishay-Dale
5A	LR251201R010F	0.01Ω 1.5W 1% Resistor	IRC-TT
10A	WSR2R005F	0.005Ω 2W 1% Resistor	Vishay-Dale

Table 5. N-Channel Selection Guide

CURRENT LEVEL (A)	PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	MANUFACTURER
0 to 2	MMDF3N02HD	Dual N-Channel SO-8 $R_{DS(ON)} = 0.1\Omega$, C _{ISS} = 455pF	ON Semiconductor
2 to 5	MMSF5N02HD	Single N-Channel SO-8 $R_{DS(ON)} = 0.025\Omega$, $C_{ISS} = 1130 pF$	ON Semiconductor
5 to 10	MTB50N06V	Single N-Channel DD Pak $R_{DS(ON)} = 0.028\Omega, C_{ISS} = 1570 pF$	ON Semiconductor
10 to 20	MTB75N05HD	Single N-Channel DD Pak $R_{DS(ON)} = 0.0095\Omega$, $C_{ISS} = 2600pF$	ON Semiconductor

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MANUFACTURER	WEB SITE	
TEMIC Semiconductor	www.temic.com	
International Rectifier	www.irf.com	
ON Semiconductor	www.onsemi.com	
Harris Semiconductor	www.semi.harris.com	
IRC-TT	www.irctt.com	
Vishay-Dale	www.vishay.com	
Vishay-Siliconix	www.vishay.com	
Diodes, Inc.	www.diodes.com	

Table 6. Manufacturers' Web Sites



PACKAGE DESCRIPTION



* DIMENSION DOES NOT INCLUDE MOLD FLASH. MOLD FLASH

SHALL NOT EXCEED 0.006" (0.152mm) PER SIDE

* DIMENSION DOES NOT INCLUDE INTERLEAD FLASH. INTERLEAD FLASH SHALL NOT EXCEED 0.010" (0.254mm) PER SIDE



Information furnished by Linear Technology Corporation is believed to be accurate and reliable. However, no responsibility is assumed for its use. Linear Technology Corporation makes no representation that the interconnection of its circuits as described herein will not infringe on existing patent rights.

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TYPICAL APPLICATIONS

LOW COST OVERVOLTAGE PROTECTION

There is an alternative method to implementing the overvoltage protection using a resistor divider at the FILTER pin (see Figures 27 and 28). In this implementation, the SLOW COMP is NULL in Normal Mode. Only the FAST COMP circuit breaker is available and the current limit level is 150mV/R_{SENSE}. During the soft-cycle, the inrush current servo loop is at 50mV/R_{SENSE}. So, the heavy load should only turn on at/after the end of second cycle where the RESET pin goes high.







Figure 28. LTC4211MS Low Side Overvoltage Protection Implementation (In Normal Mode, SLOW COMP is Disabled, In Soft-Start Cycle, I_{SOFTSTART} is Still 50mV/R_{SENSE})

RELATED PARTS

PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS	
LTC1421	Two Channels, Hot Swap Controller	24-Pin, Operates from 3V to 12V and Supports – 12V	
LTC1422	Single Channel, Hot Swap Controller	8-Pin, Operates from 2.7V to 12V	
LT1640AL/LT1640AH	Negative Voltage Hot Swap Controller	8-Pin, Operates from –10V to –80V	
LT1641-1/LT1641-2	Positive Voltage Hot Swap Controller	8-Pin, Operates from 9V to 80V, Latch-Off/Auto Retry	
LTC1642	Single Channel, Hot Swap Controller	16-Pin, Overvoltage Protection to 33V	
LTC1644	PCI Hot Swap Controller	16-Pin, 3.3V, 5V and ±12V, 1V Precharge, PCI Reset Logic	
LTC1647	Dual Channel, Hot Swap Controller	8-Pin, 16-Pin, Operates from 2.7V to 16.5V	
LTC4230	Triple Hot Swap Controller with Multifunction Current Control	Operates from 1.7V to 16.5V	

