Powering the NXP i.MX 6Solo, 6DualLite with the TPS65218D0 PMIC

Can you change PMICs?

Using a multi-rail power management IC (PMIC) for an applications processor is common, but typically the vendor recommends the PMIC that should be used for each processor. Even if the suggested PMIC is not ideal for the needs of the processor, often the complexity makes it difficult to swap out the PMIC for another solution. The purpose of this tech note is to show that the TPS65218D0 PMIC can provide power for the i.MX 6Solo and 6DualLite processors.

Why the TPS65218D0?

The TPS65218D0 device has an input range from 2.7 to 5.5 V, making it appropriate for system-on-module applications powered from a 3.3-V or 5-V DC supply or a Li-Ion battery. The device has four step-down converters that provide the 1.35-V and 1.325-V power rails required for the ARM® and SoC cores, the 1.35-V (or 1.5-V) rail required for DDR3L (or DDR3) memory, and a 3.3-V rail required for I/Os. A low-dropout (LDO) regulator provides 1.8-V for an SD Card, NAND Flash, and JTAG I/Os. The TPS65218D0 automatically sequences these rails in the correct power-up sequence for the i.MX 6Solo and 6DualLite processors.

How do you make the switch?

The TPS65218D0 output voltages and sequencing order are determined by an EEPROM-backed register map, which can be programmed using the BOOSTXL-TPS65218 socketed booster pack. Samples of the TPS65218D0RSLR can be programmed during the prototype phase of product development and soldered down on the TPS65218EVM-100 or the prototype PCB of the final product to evaluate the performance of the PMIC. To order pre-programmed samples of the TPS65218D0RSLR for the NXP i.MX 6Solo, 6DualLite processor that match this tech note, contact the programming services organization at ARROW.
This set-point is based on the use case where VDD_ARM LDO and VDD_SOC are enabled. LDO VDD_ARM and VDD_SOC voltages can be modified by the processor after power-on using I2C, a feature named dynamic voltage scaling (DVS or DVFS) such that VDD_ARM_IN and VDD_SOC_IN are 125 mV greater than the LDO output set-point.

The maximum current for the VDD_ARM and VDD_SOC core rails is determined from the Use case 1—dual-core Dhrystone benchmark and Typical max power sections in the AN4576 Application Note and the Maximum Supply Currents section in the IMX6SDLIEC data sheet.

LDO_2P5, LDO_1P1, and LDO_SNVS internal LDO regulators are enabled to generate voltages for all NVCC power inputs as well as the HDMI_VPH and PCIE_VPH supply voltages.

The external LDO is optional. When needed, it is controlled by an automatically sequenced GPIO of the TPS65218D0.

Table 2. Adjacent Tech Notes

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References

Texas Instruments, *TPS65218D0 Power Management for ARM® Cortex™-A8/A9 SOCs and FPGAs Data Sheet*

Texas Instruments, *Power Supply Design for NXP i.MX 6 Using the TPS65023 Application Report, SLVA943, Feb. 2018*

NXP Semiconductors, *i.MX 6Solo/6DualLite Family of Applications Processors for Industrial Products Data Sheet (IMX6SDLIEC), Rev. 8, 09/2017*

NXP Semiconductors, *i.MX 6DualLite Power Consumption Measurement Application Note (AN4576), Rev. 1, 3/2013*

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