

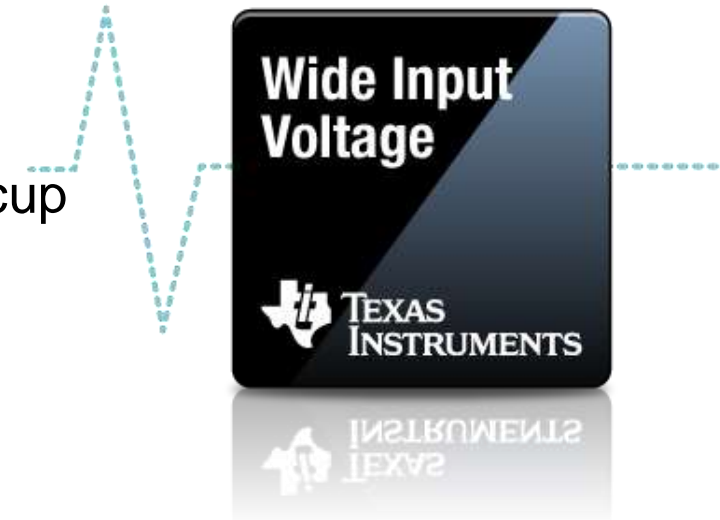


# Bucks: What are all these features?

**Buck Switching Regulators**  
**Katelyn Wighorn**

# Summary

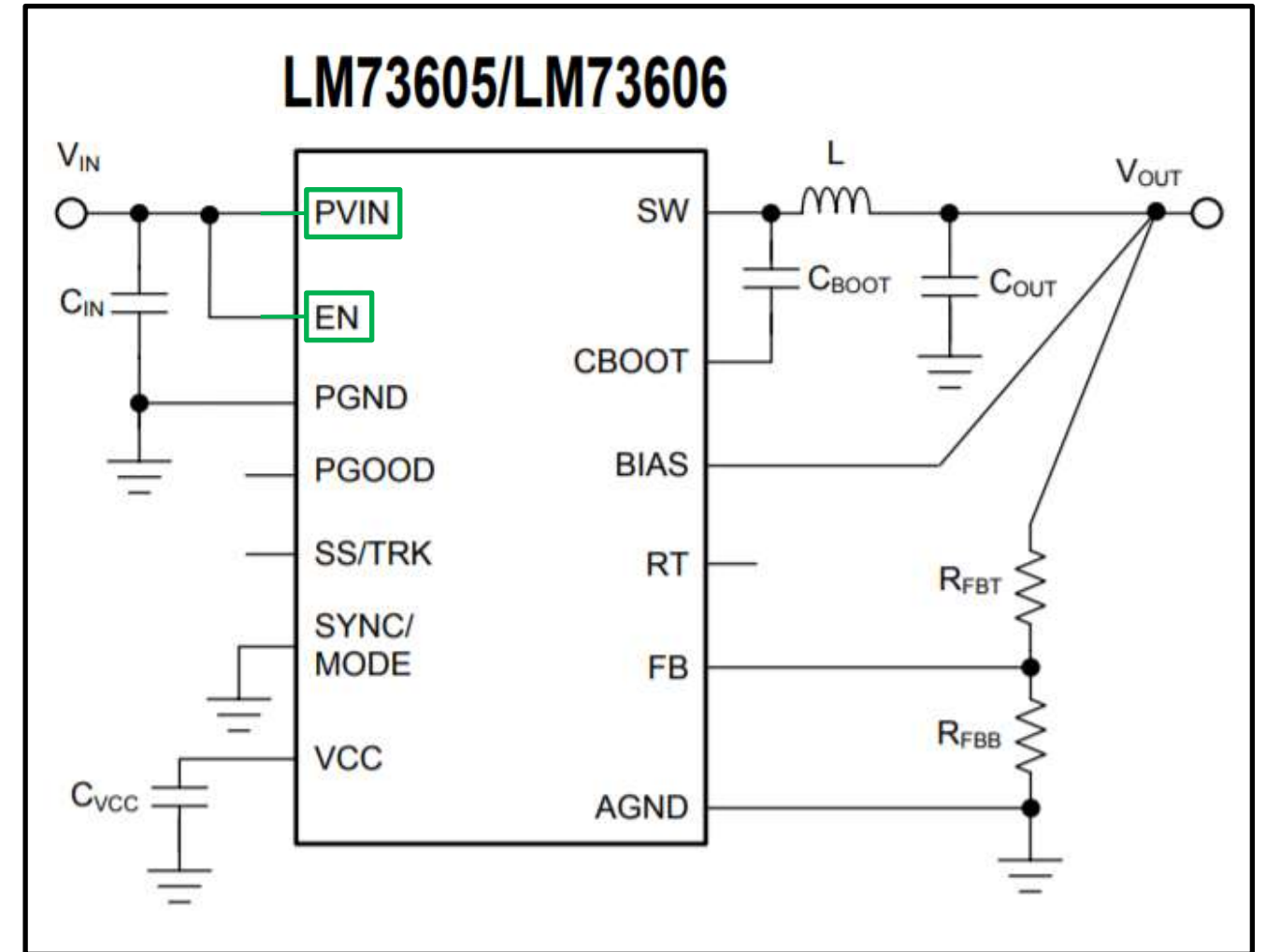
- Monitor Operating Voltages
  - EN/UVLO
  - RESET/PGOOD
  - Soft Start
- 2) Operation Considerations
  - Operation over  $I_{OUT}$ : PFM, Auto Freq. Foldback, Current Limit & Hiccup
  - Operation over  $V_{IN}$ : Dropout, Freq Foldback
  - Light-load efficiency and calculations:  $I_q$
- 3) EMI
  - Package and Pinout
  - Spread Spectrum Feature





# Basic Features: EN/UVLO, Soft Start, Reset/PGOOD

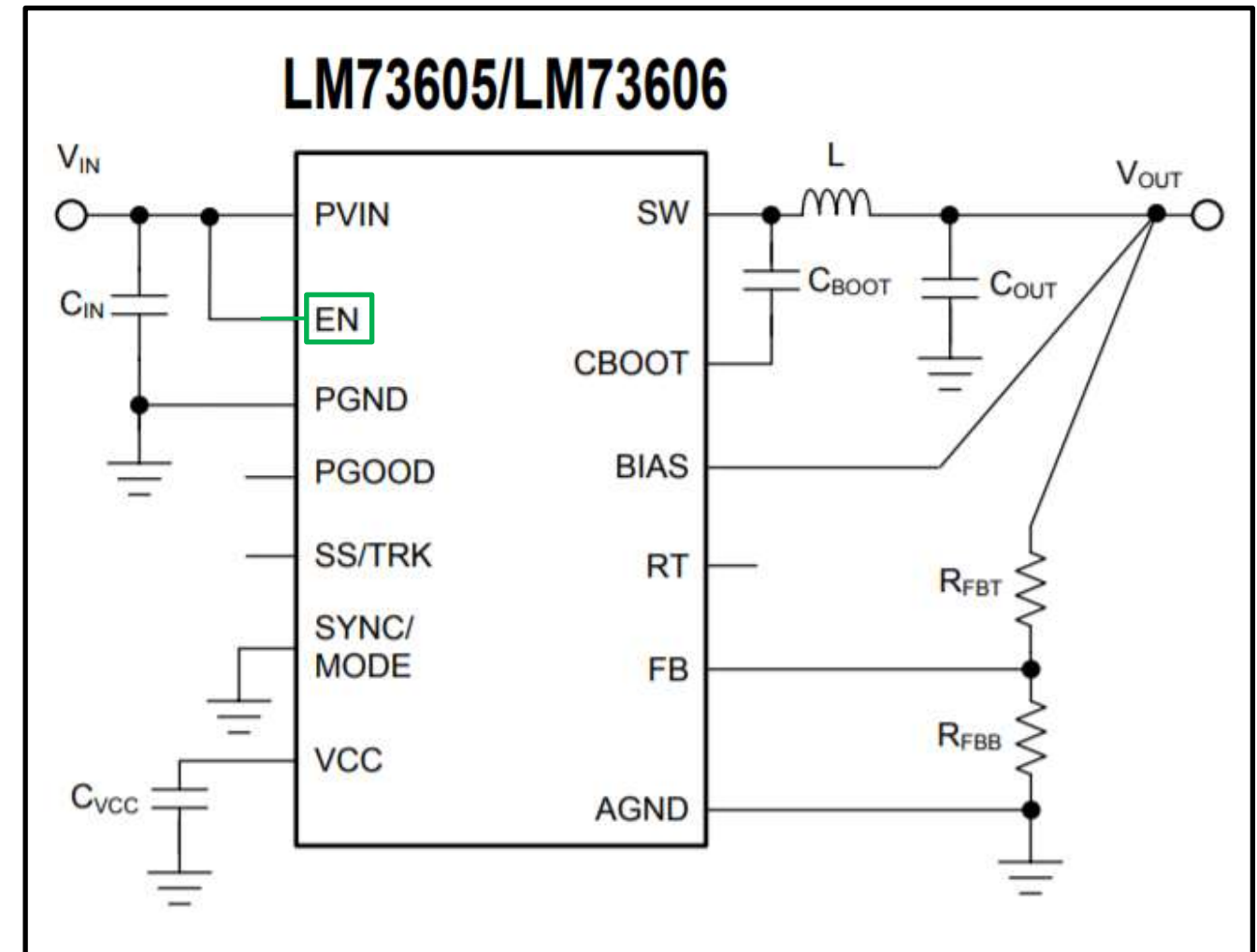
- **UVLO** – Disables IC at Under-Voltage Conditions
- Many types of UVLO may be featured in your converter/controller:
  - Internal LDO UVLO
    - Correlates with VIN Min spec
  - VIN UVLO – Use EN and resistors
    - Discussed in next slide





# ENABLE

- **EN** - Used to enable and disable IC
- Options:
  - Connect EN to VIN to turn on the converter/controller when power is applied
  - Connect EN to VIN through a resistor divider to utilize UVLO
  - Connect EN to a controlled signal to externally sequence power-on of the IC.



# ENABLE/UVLO Example

- EN Threshold for VOUT = 1.25V<sub>Max</sub>
- VIN = 36V
- UVLO<sub>Desired</sub> = 12V

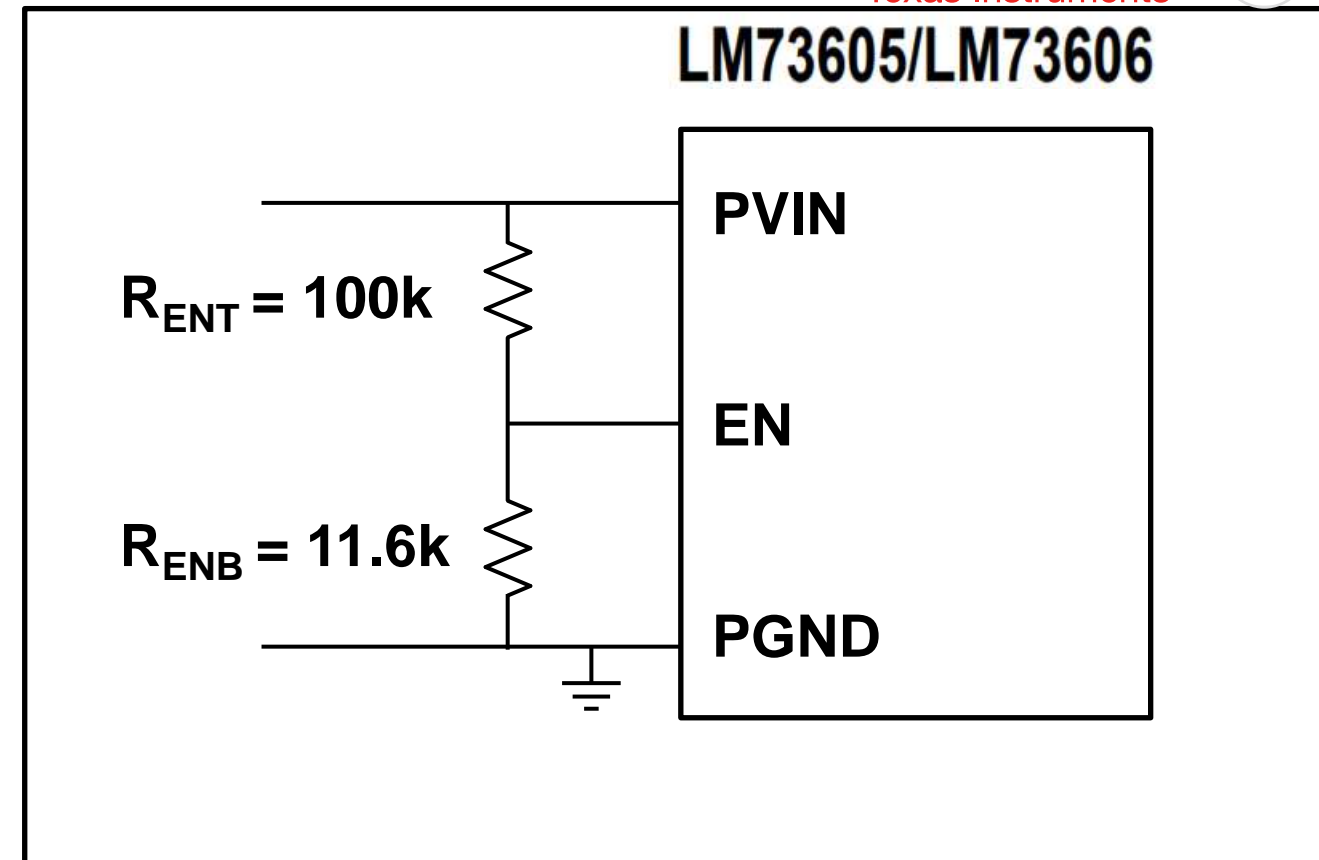
- Choose R<sub>ENT</sub>=100k
- Calculate R<sub>ENB</sub> from datasheet
  - V<sub>EN\_VOUT\_H</sub> = 1.25V
  - V<sub>IN\_ON\_H</sub> = 12V

- Larger resistance decreases power loss in resistors
- Smaller resistance decreases noise susceptibility

$$R_{ENB} = \frac{V_{EN\_VOUT\_H}}{V_{IN\_ON\_H} - V_{EN\_VOUT\_H}} R_{ENT}$$

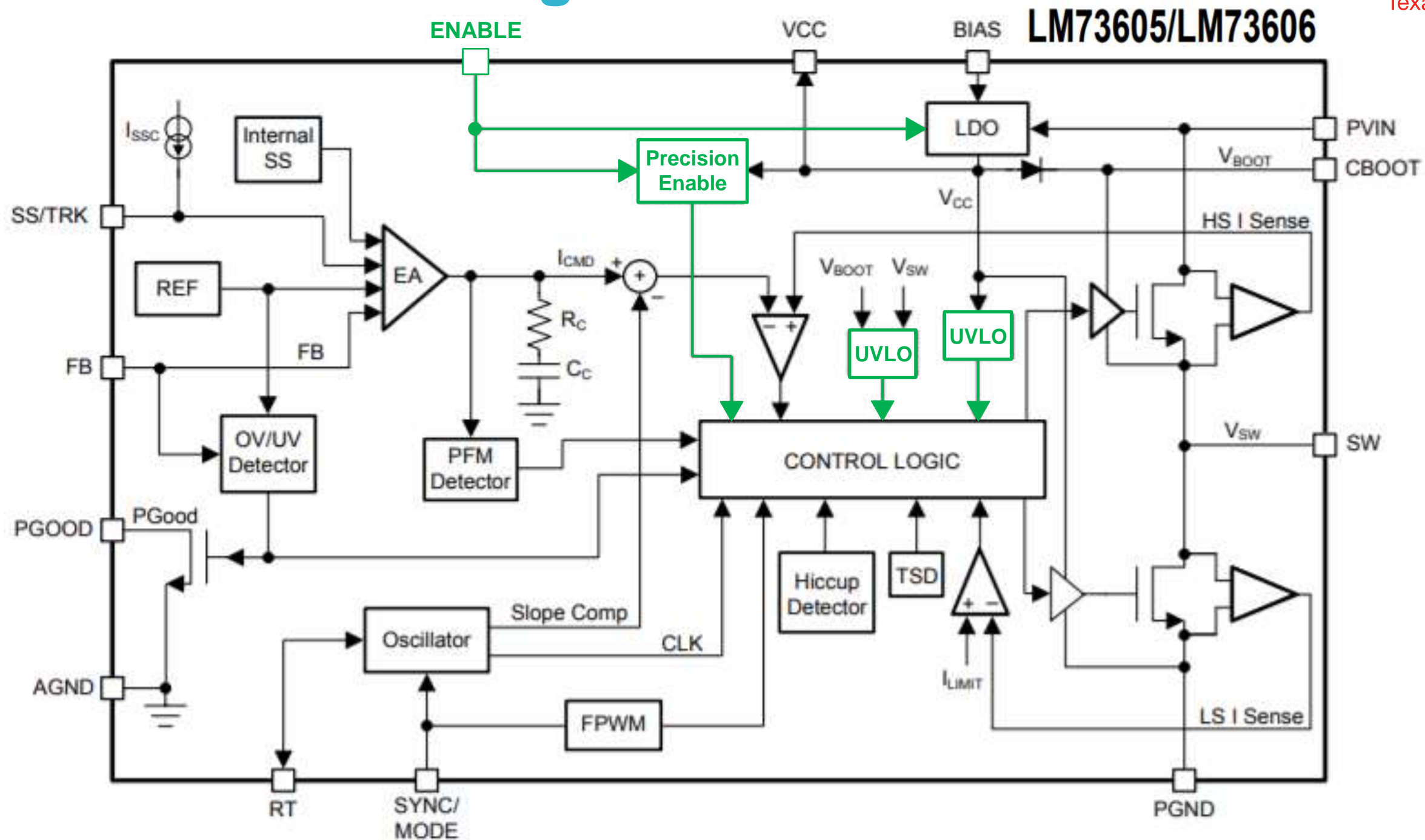
- $R_{ENB} = \frac{1.25}{12 - 1.25} * 100k$

- R<sub>ENB</sub>=11.6k



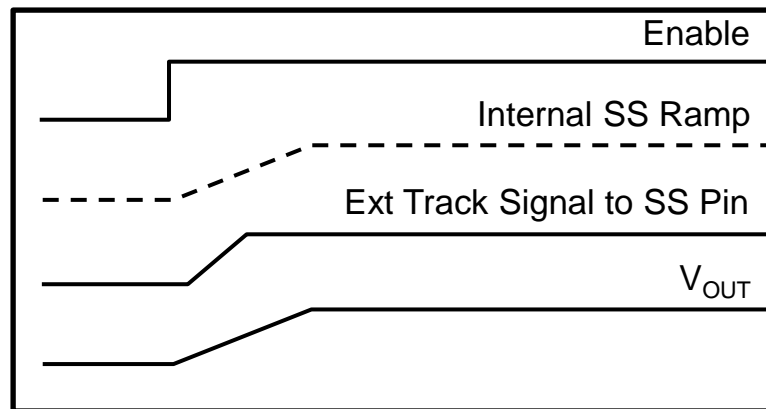
ENABLE (EN PIN)						
V <sub>EN_VCC_H</sub>	Enable input high level for V <sub>CC</sub> output	V <sub>EN</sub> rising	1.15	V		
V <sub>EN_VCC_L</sub>	Enable input low level for V <sub>CC</sub> output	V <sub>EN</sub> falling	0.3	V		
V <sub>EN_VOUT_H</sub>	Enable input high level for V <sub>OUT</sub>	V <sub>EN</sub> rising	1.14	1.196	1.25	V
V <sub>EN_VOUT_HYS</sub>	Enable input hysteresis for V <sub>OUT</sub>	V <sub>EN</sub> falling hysteresis	-100			mV
I <sub>LKG_EN</sub>	Enable input leakage current	V <sub>EN</sub> = 2 V	1.4	200		nA

# EN/UVLO in Block Diagram

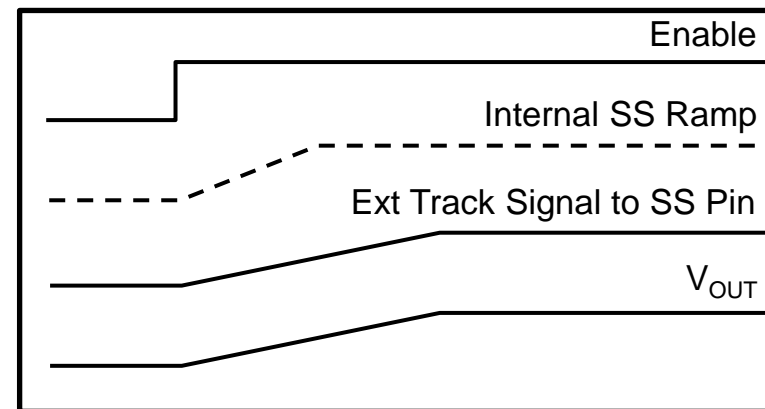


# Soft Start

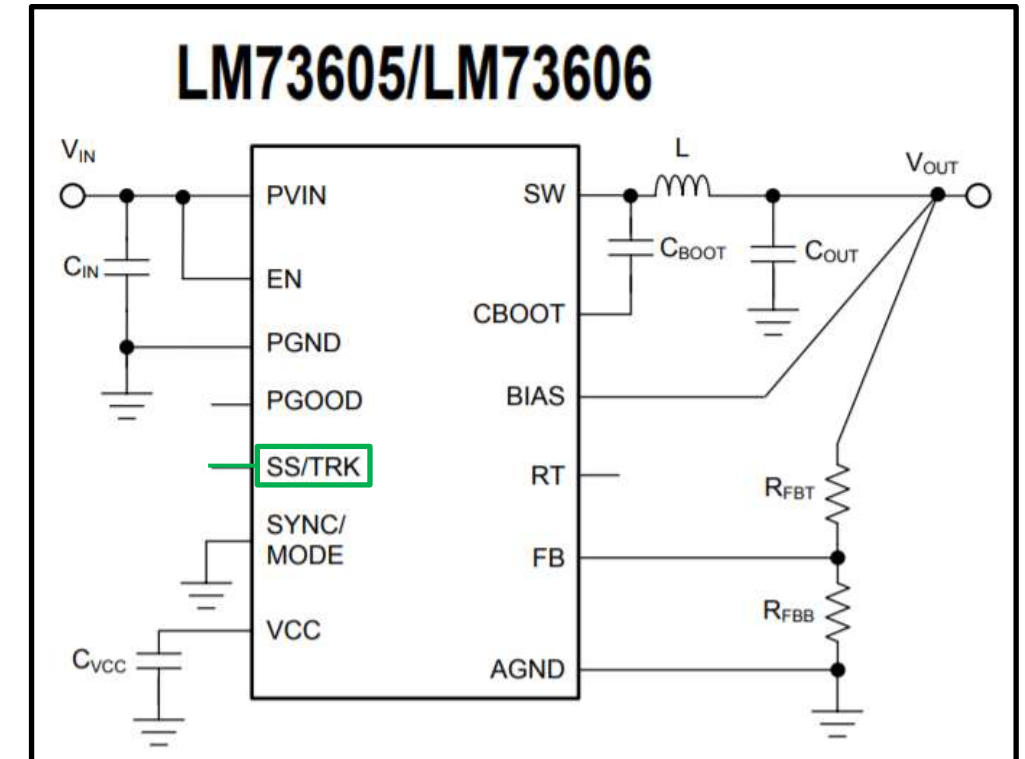
- Soft start limits peak inrush current at startup
- Internal Soft Start
  - Leave SS pin floating
- External Soft Start
  - Connect capacitor
  - Larger capacitor  $\rightarrow$  Slower rise-time



Fast Ramp – Internal SS



Slow Ramp – External SS





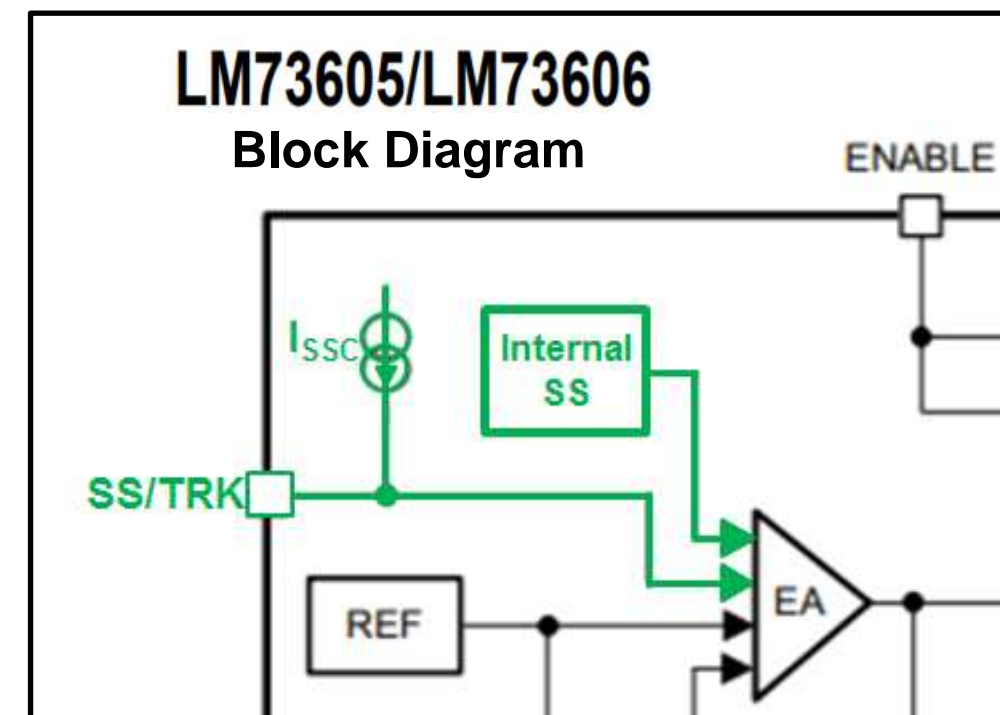
# Soft Start Example

- $V_{IN} = 12V$
- Desired rise time = 50ms (>internal soft start)
- Check datasheet – find equation:  $C_{SS} = I_{SSC} * t_{SS}$
- $I_{SSC} = 2\mu A$
- $t_{SS} = 50ms$  desired
- $C_{SS} = 100nF$

$$C_{SS} = I_{SSC} * t_{SS} \quad (12)$$

where

- $C_{SS}$  = soft-start capacitor value (F)
- $I_{SSC}$  = soft-start charging current (A)
- $t_{SS}$  = desired soft-start time (s)

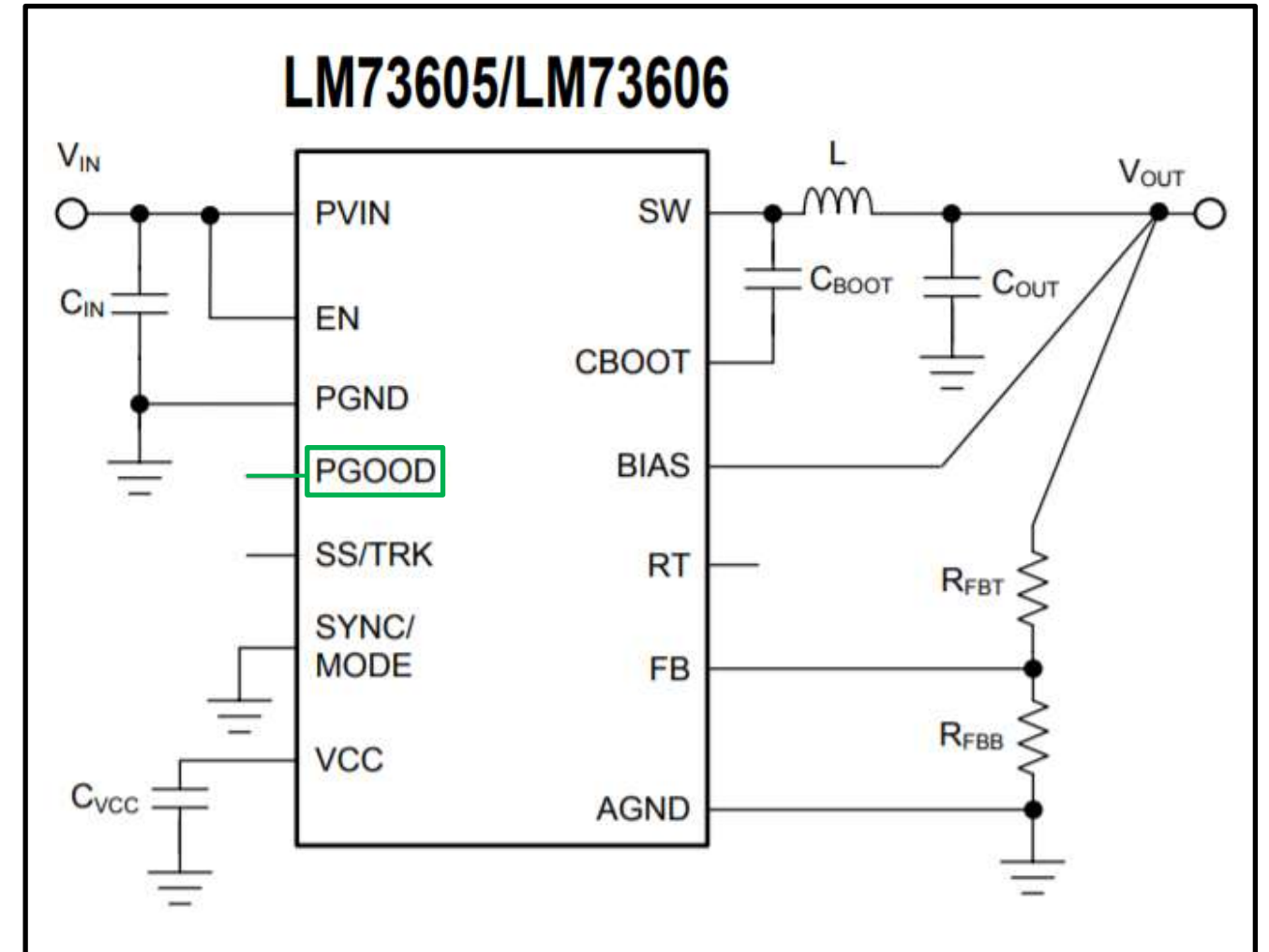


Or derive the equation with datasheet specs

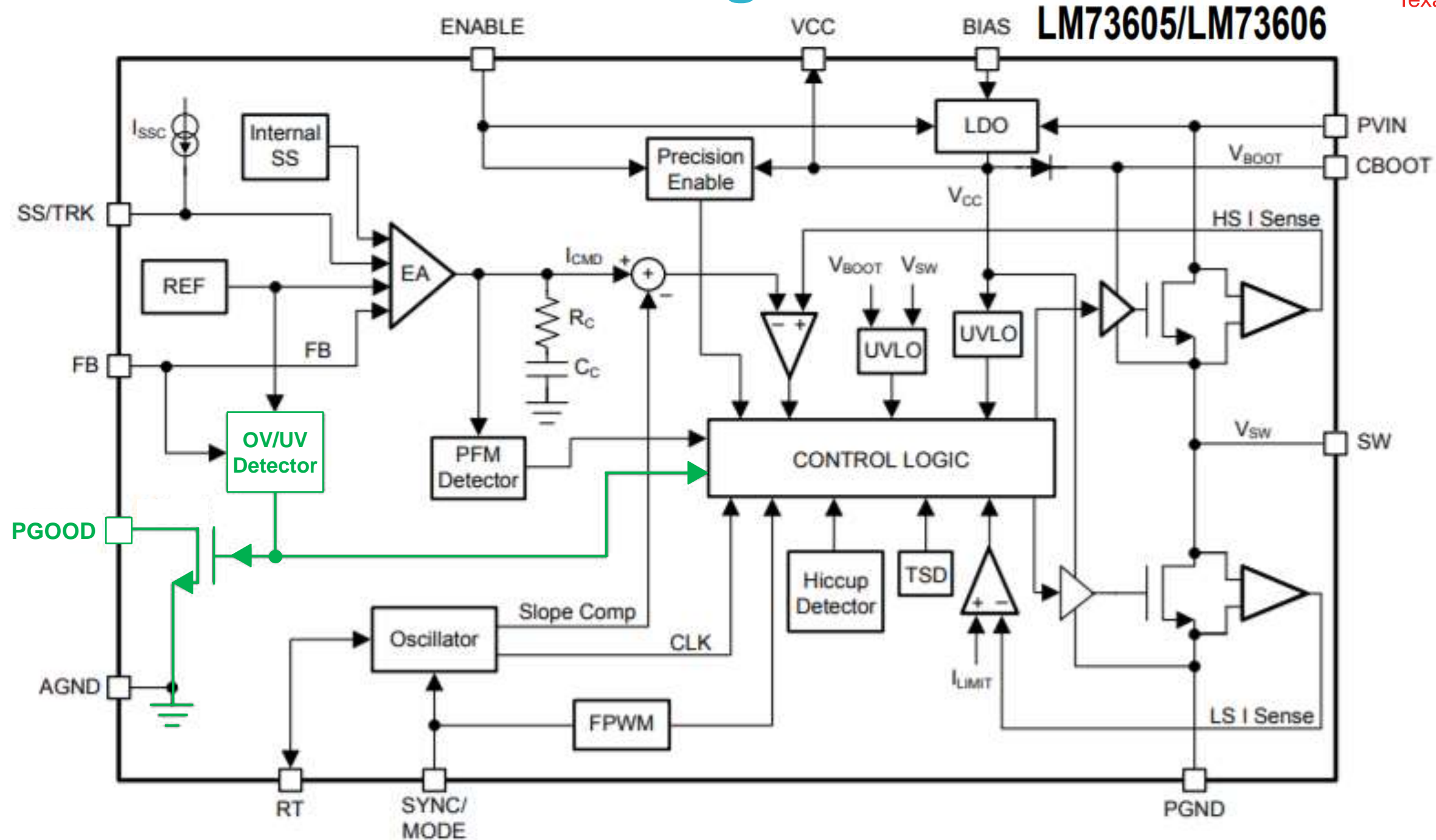
SOFT START (SS/TRK PIN)					
$t_{SS}$	Internal soft-start time	$C_{SS} = OPEN$ , from EN rising edge to PGOOD rising edge	3.5	6.3	ms
$I_{SSC}$	Soft-start charge current		1.8	2	2.2 $\mu A$
$R_{SSD}$	Soft-start discharge resistance	UVLO, TSD, OCP, or EN = 0		1	k $\Omega$
VOLTAGE REFERENCE (FB PIN)					
$V_{FB}$	Feedback voltage	PWM mode	0.987	1.006	1.017 V

# RESET/PGOOD

- **RESET/PGOOD** - Used to signal when the output of the converter/controller is at the desired level
- Prevents false RESET flags with:
  - Hysteresis
  - Glitch Protection
- Connect to external circuitry to signify when it is okay to rely on this regulated voltage



# RESET/PGOOD in Block Diagram





# Advanced Features:

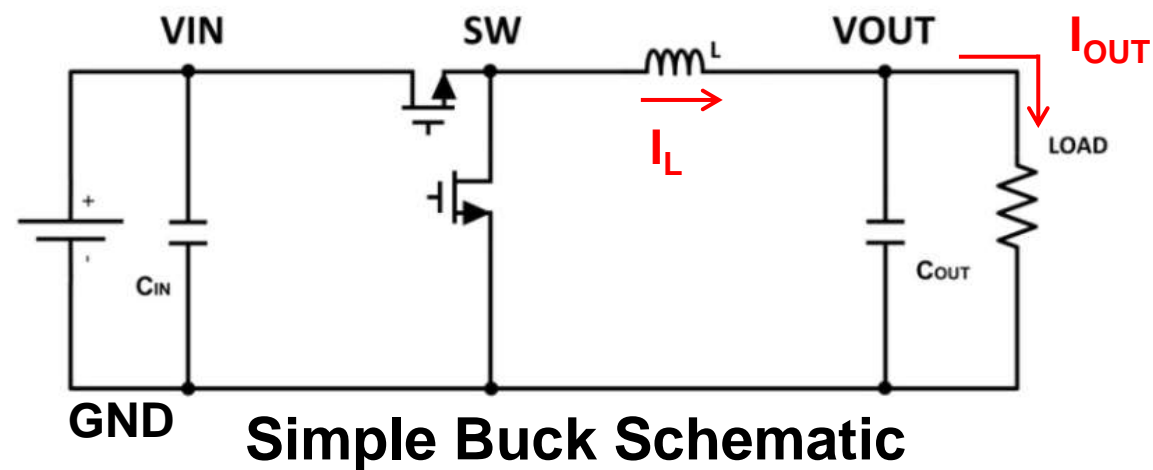
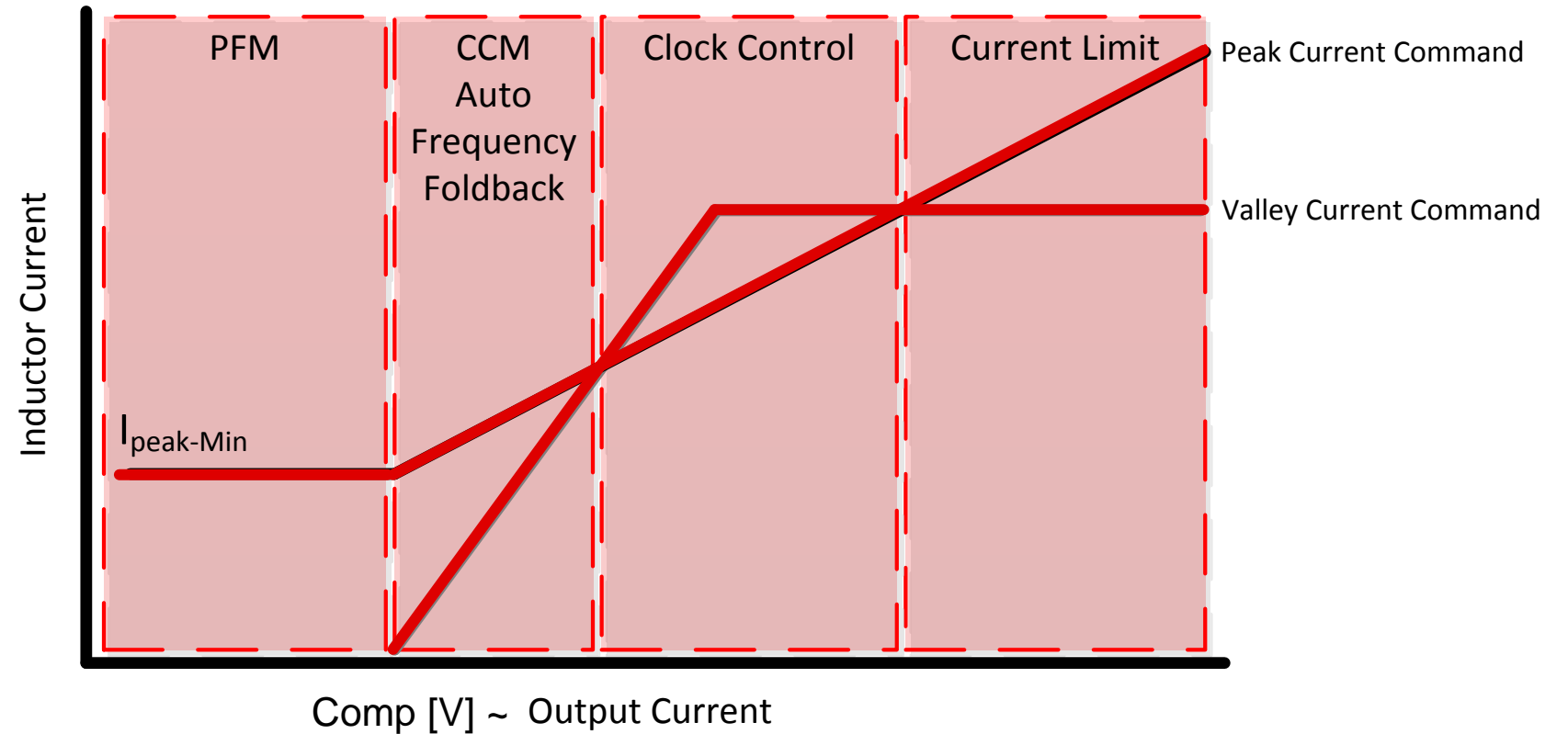
**PFM, Automatic Frequency Foldback,  
Clock Control, Current Limit, Hiccup**



# Comp Curve

- Rules of Operation

- 1. Inductor current ( $I_L$ ) will not go above Peak Current Command in normal operation
- 2.  $I_L$  will always drop to at least Valley Current Command

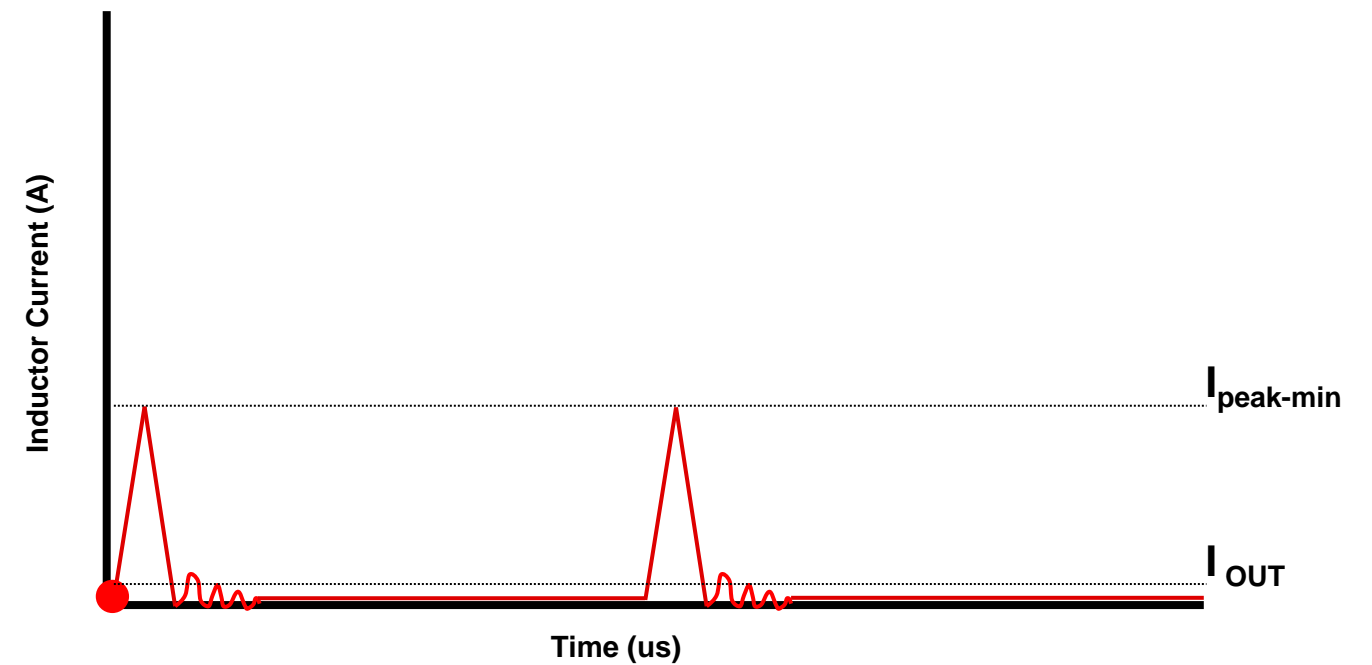
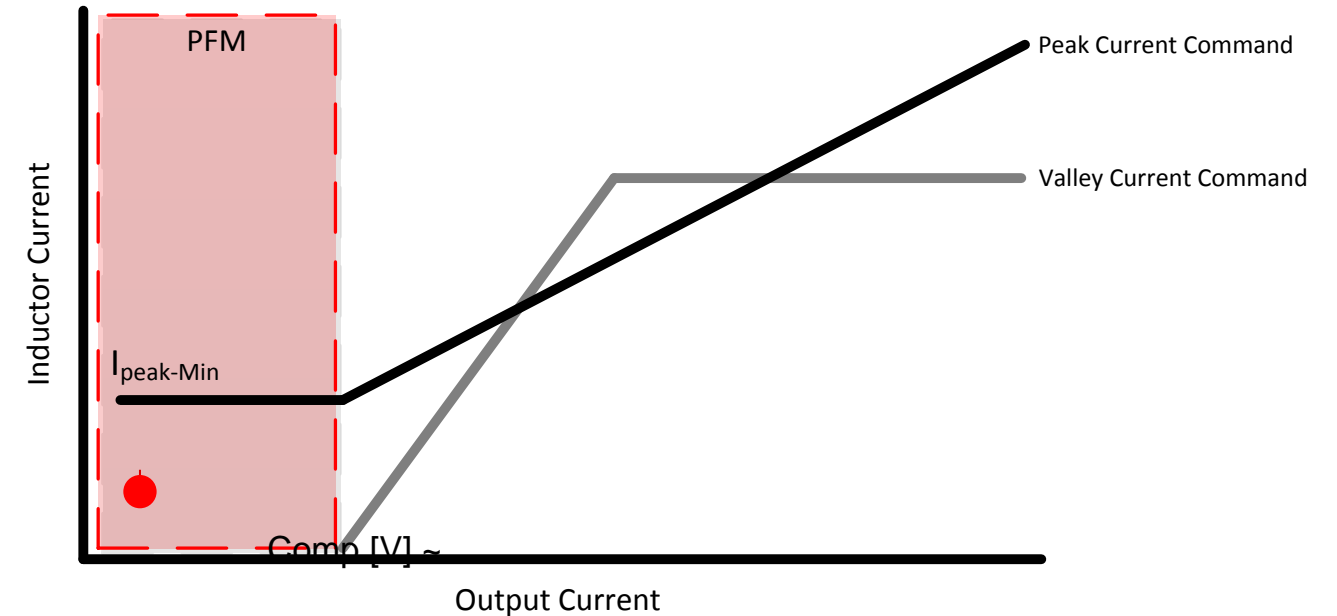


Simple Buck Schematic



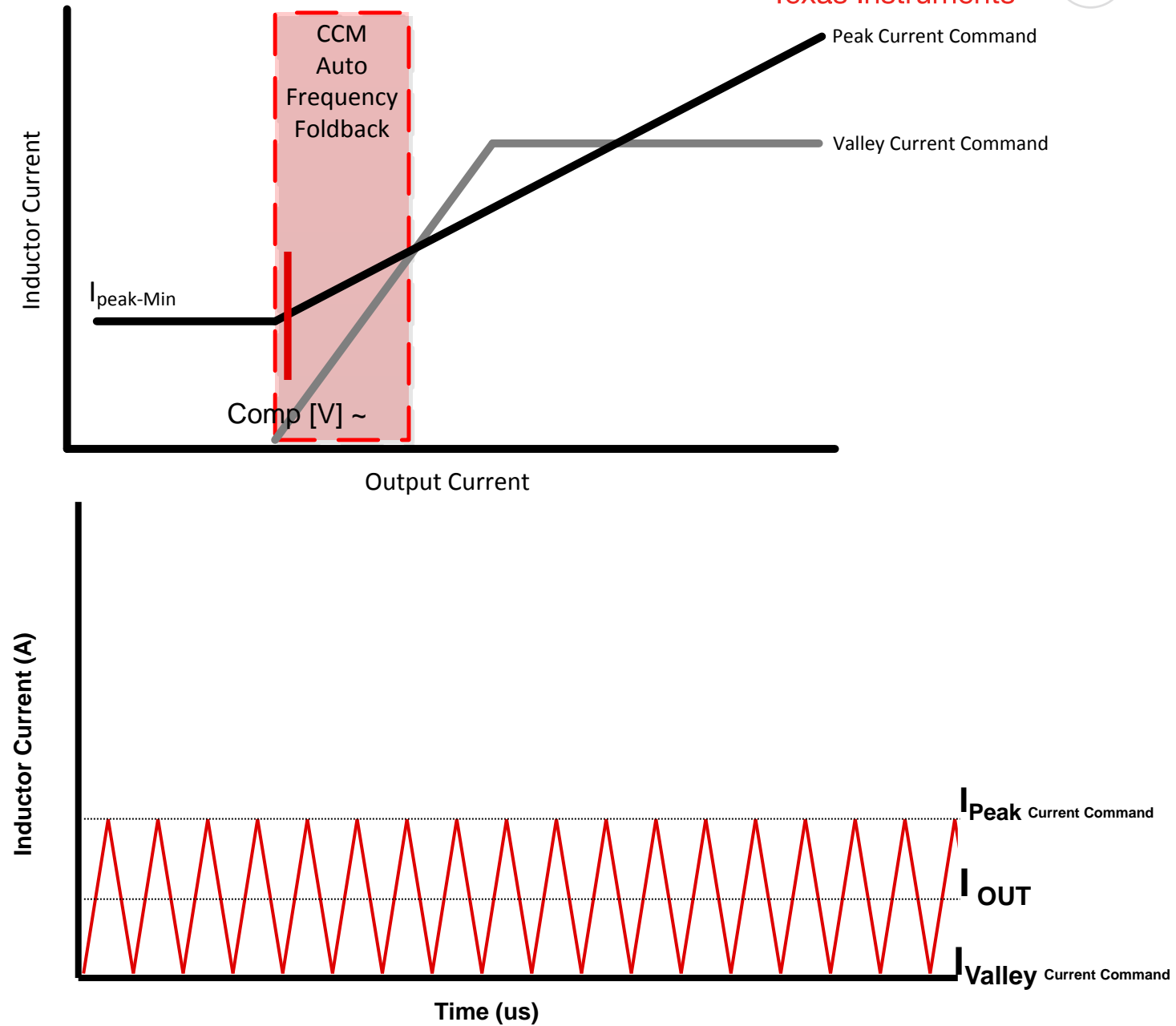
# PFM

- Light load
- SW is HIGH (HS FET ON, LS FET OFF)
  - Current goes up to  $I_{\text{peak-min}}$
- SW is LOW (HS FET OFF, LS FET ON)
  - Current goes down to 0A
- SW is OFF (HS and LS FETs OFF)
  - DCM Ringing
- Start next switch when FB ( $V_{\text{OUT}}$ ) hits low threshold
- DCM Pulse frequency increases as  $I_{\text{OUT}}$  increases
- Good light load efficiency



# CCM Auto Frequency Foldback

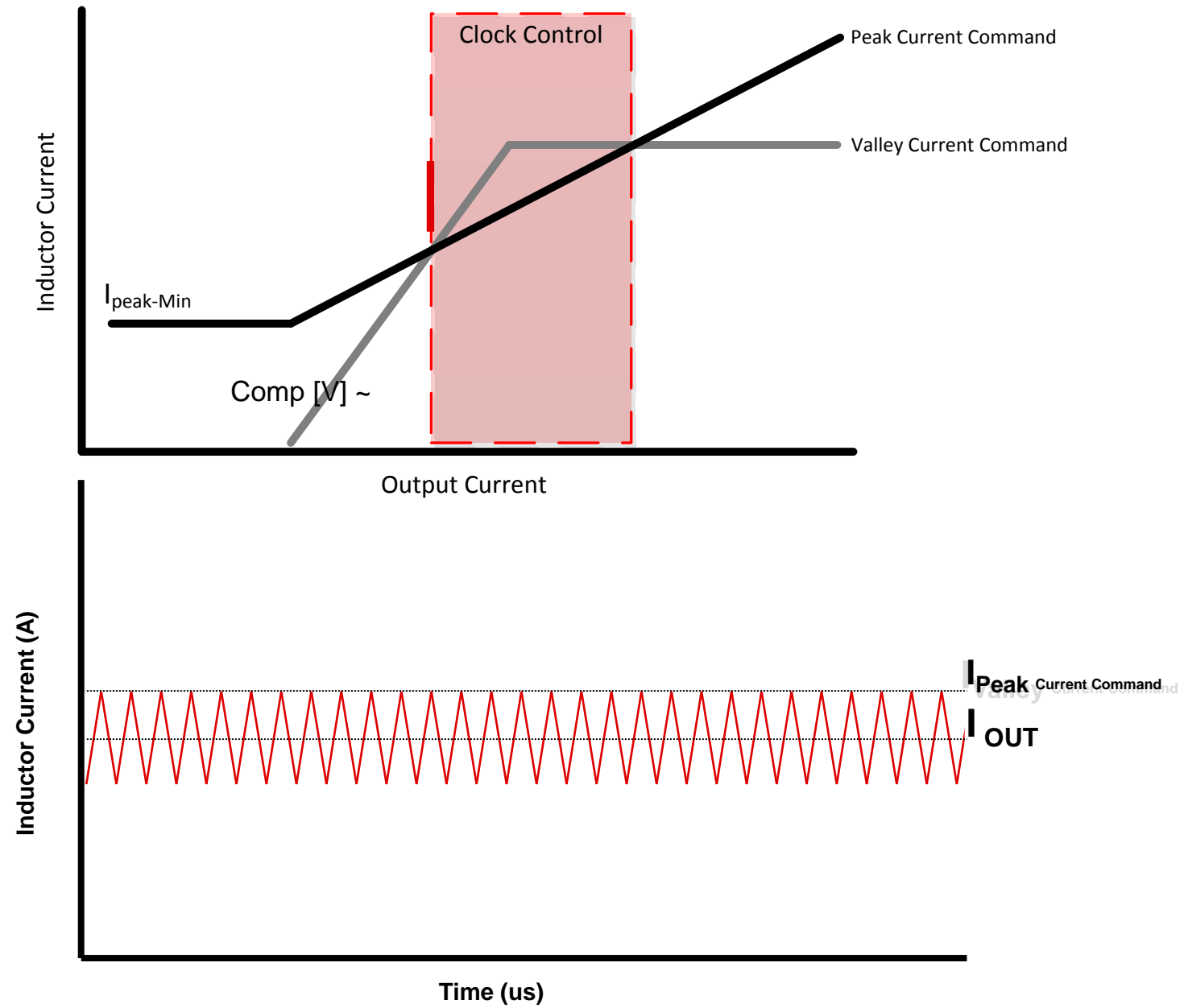
- SW is HIGH until Inductor Current hits Peak Current Command
- SW is LOW until  $I_L$ :
  - Reaches Valley Current Command
  - Or goes below Valley Current Command
  
- Auto foldback improves efficiency with lower switching frequency



# Clock Control

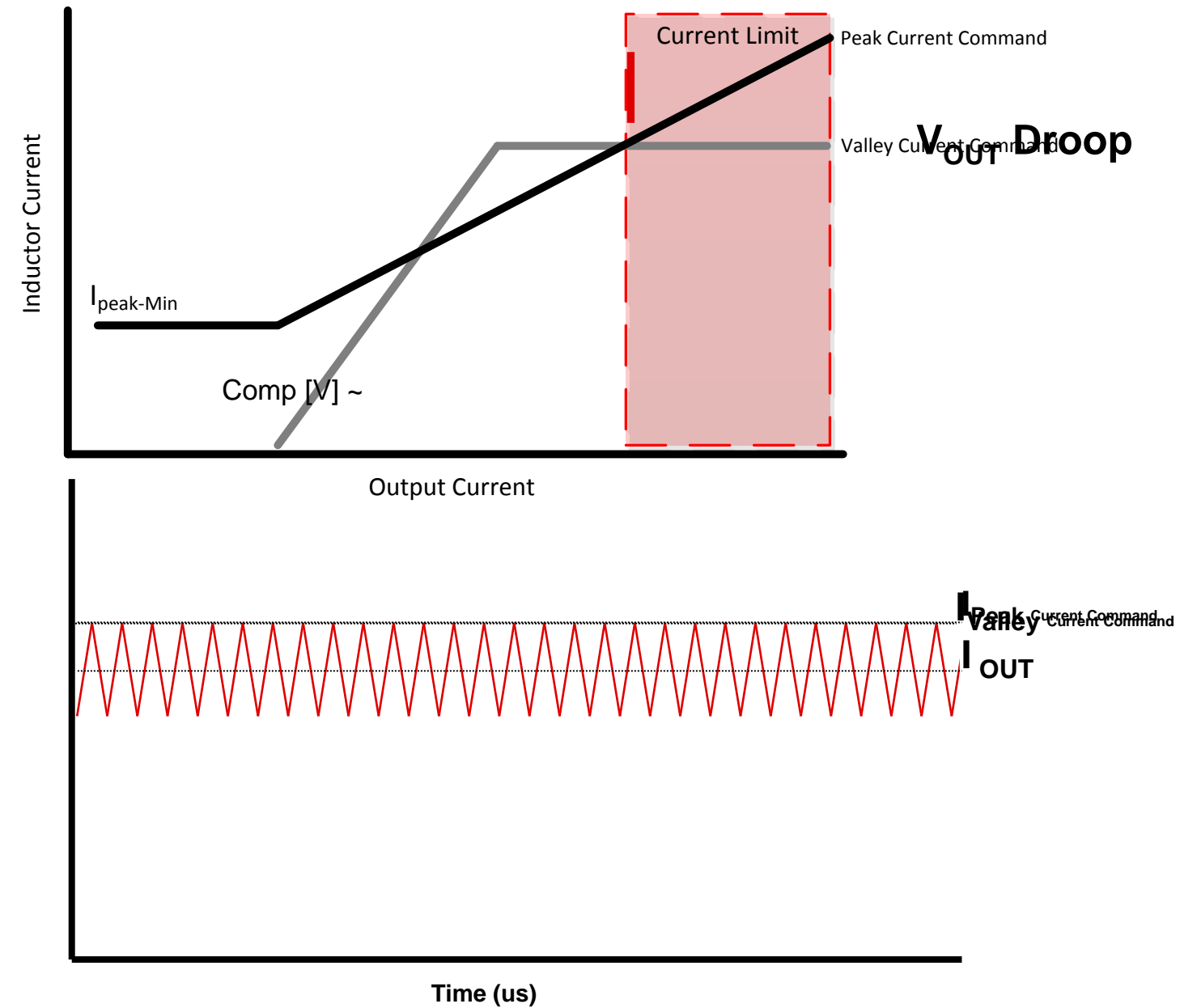
- SW is HIGH until Inductor Current hits Peak Current Command
- SW is LOW for time set by Clock

- Constant Frequency



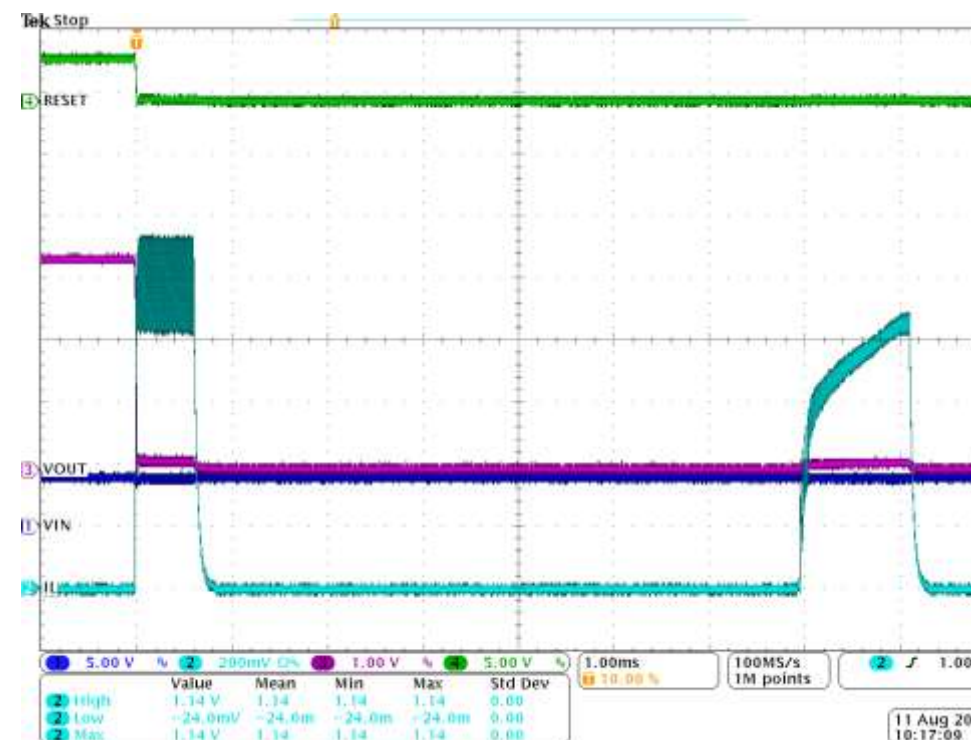
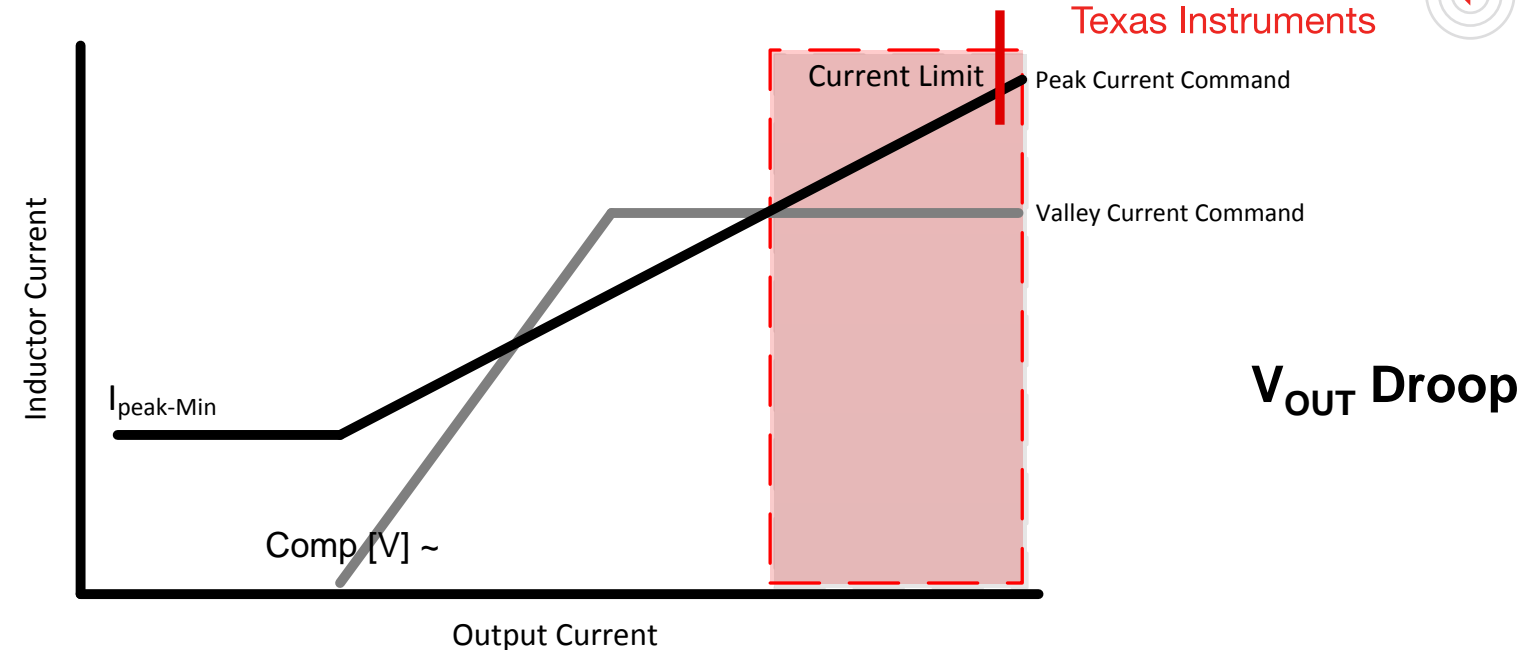
# Current Limit Operation

- SW is HIGH until Inductor Current hits Peak Current Command
- SW is LOW for time set by Clock
- If IL has not reached Valley Current Command, SW will stay LOW until it does.
- Frequency folds back
  - Limits current
  - $V_{OUT}$  Droops – used to trigger hiccup



# Hiccup Operation

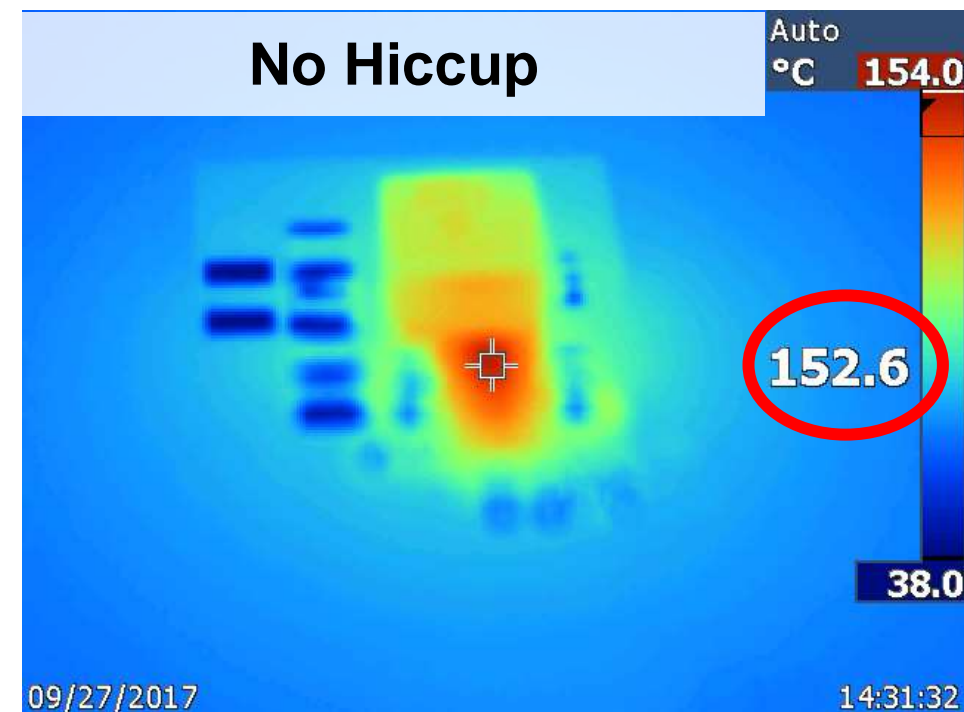
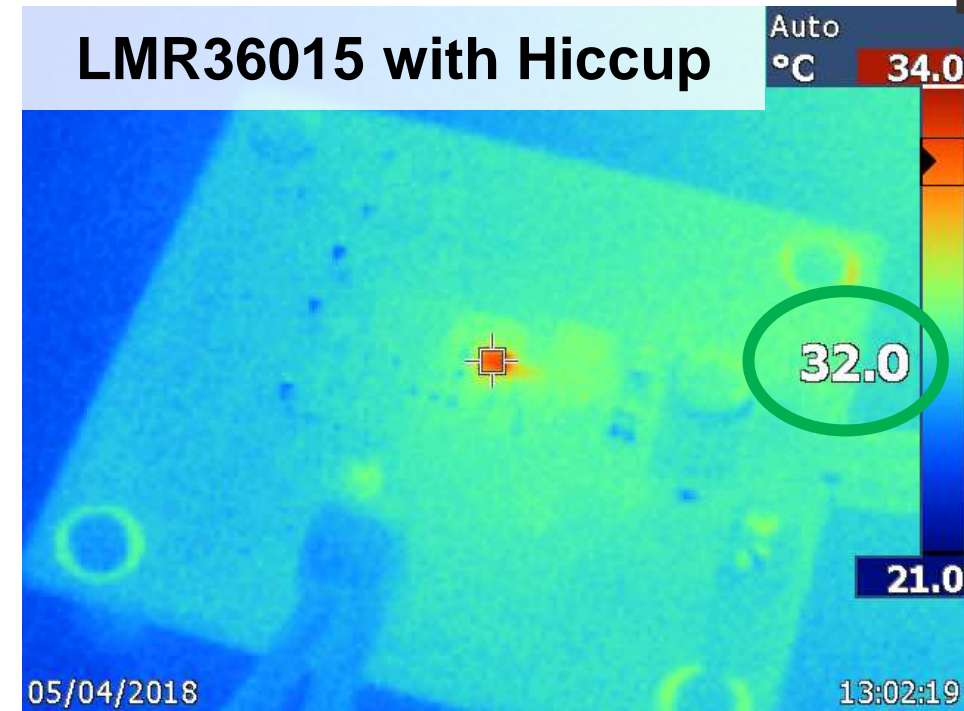
- Hiccup
- Disables converter when  $V_{OUT}$  droop detected
  - Usually  $\sim 40\% V_{OUT\_NOM}$
  - See datasheet
- Tries again after set time
  - Usually 10's of ms
  - See datasheet



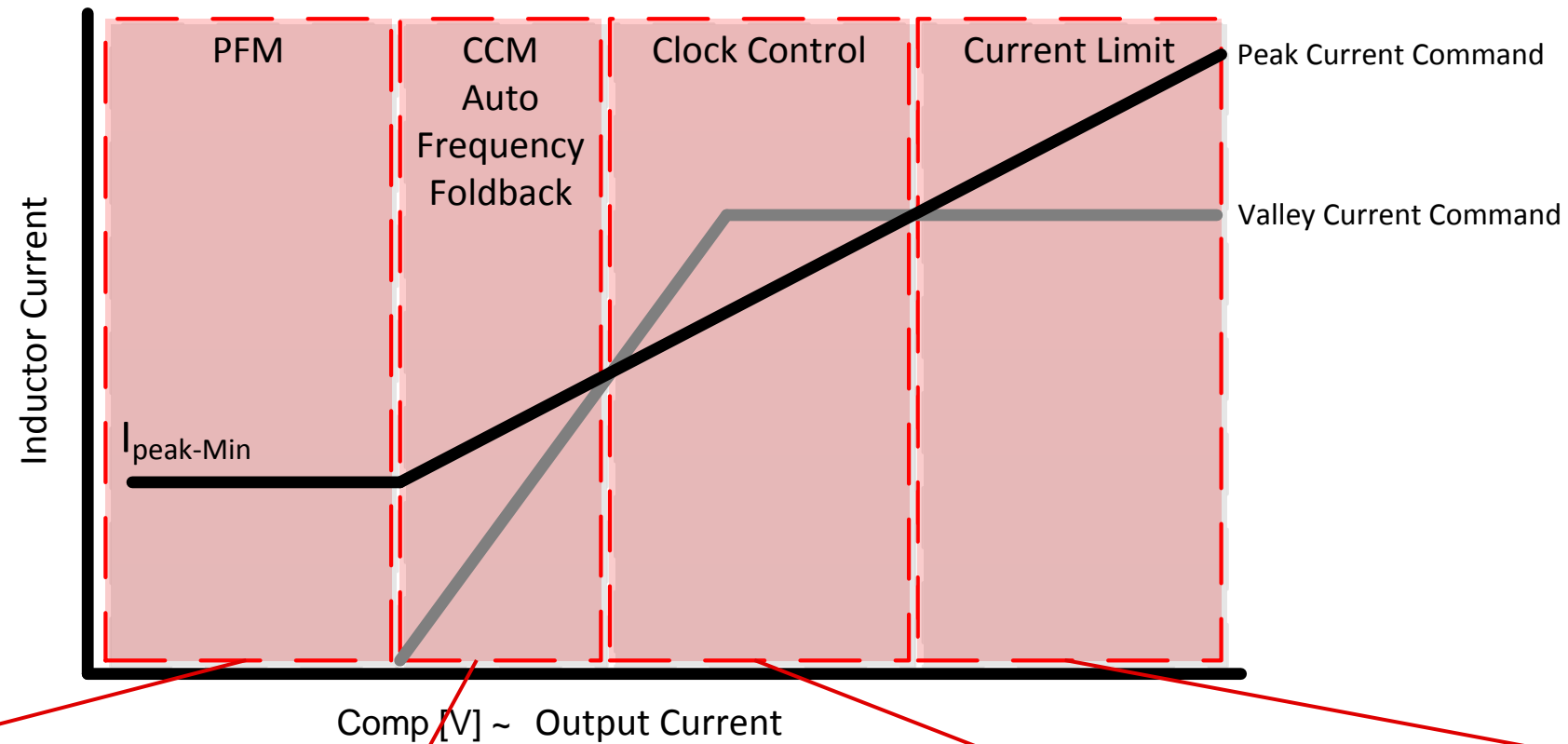


# Hiccup vs No Hiccup

- Advantage of Hiccup
  - Reduces power consumption during short circuit
  - Reduces heat during short circuit



# Benefits and Drawbacks of each Region



- + Good light load efficiency
- Higher ripple on VOUT

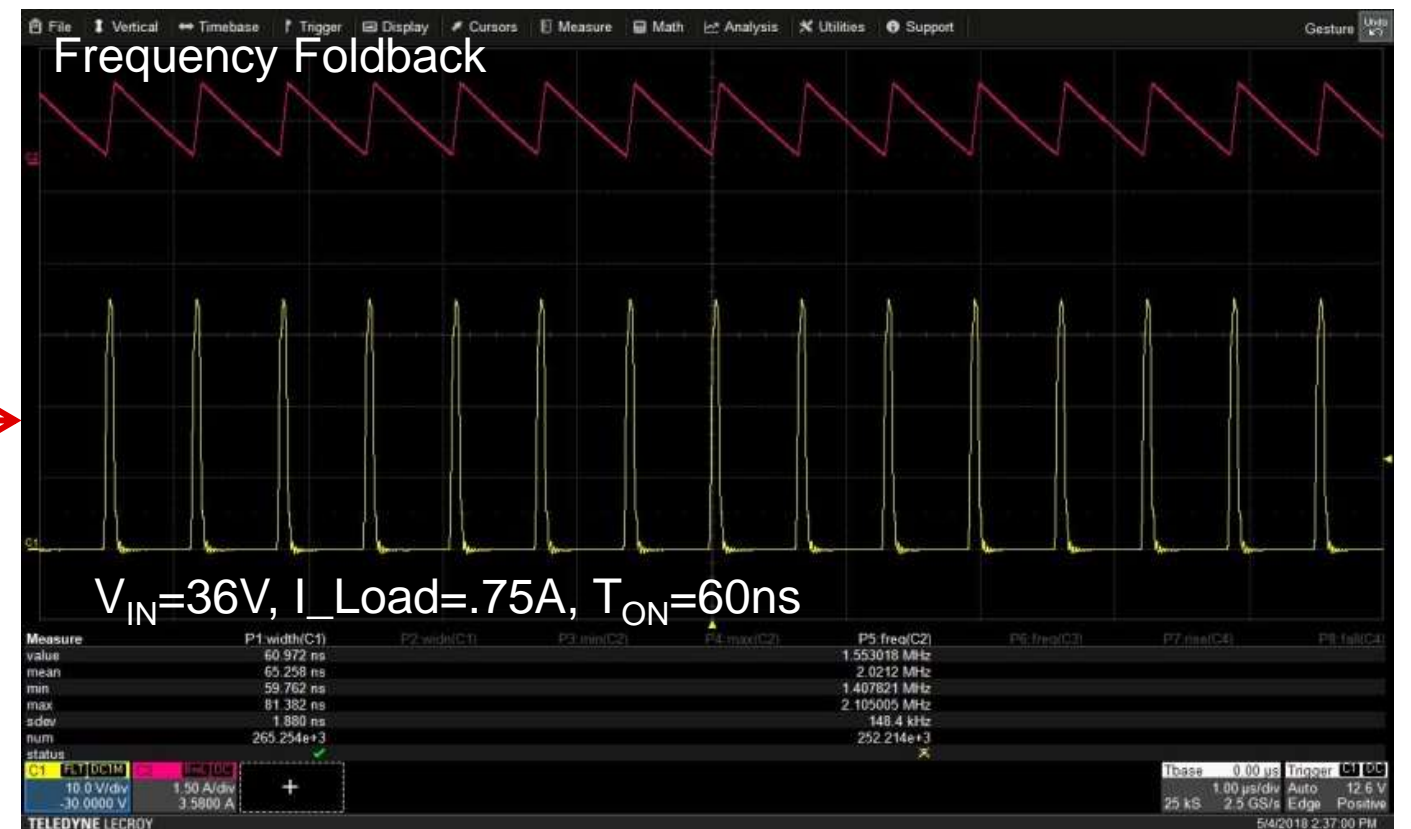
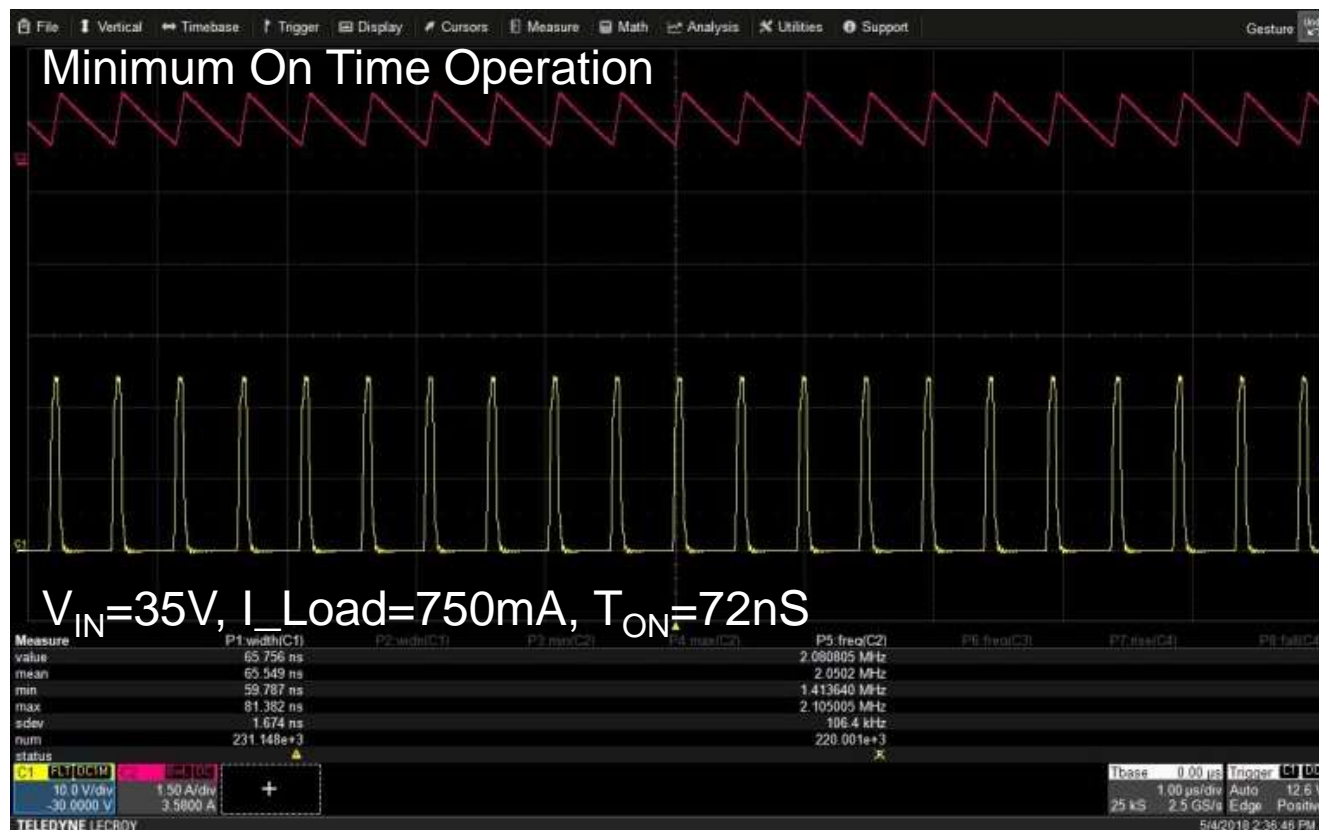
- + Higher efficiency when folding back
- + Can have constant frequency at higher  $I_L$  based on design

- “Normal Operation”
- + Constant Frequency

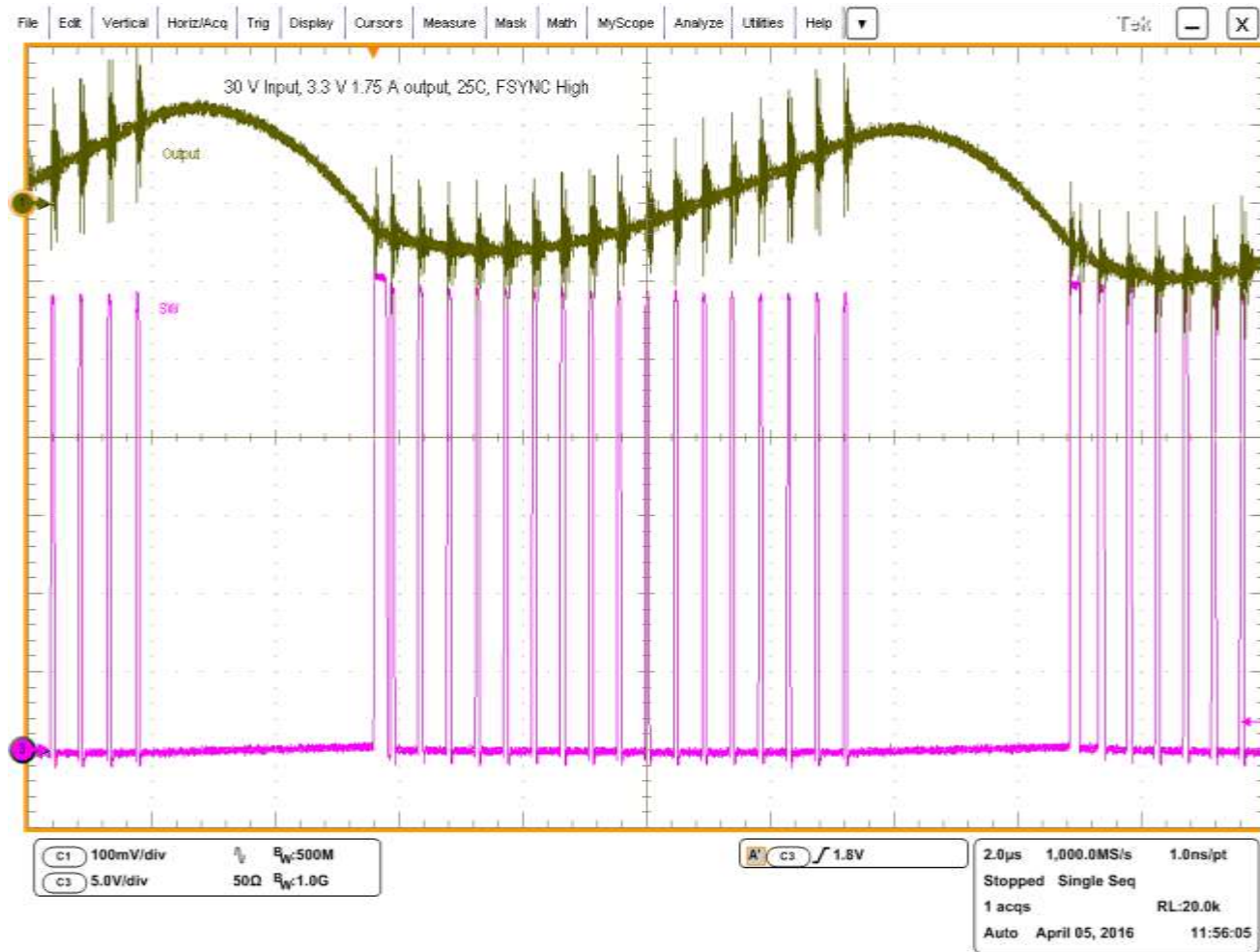
- + Protects device
- Will enter hiccup if VOUT droops to datasheet value

# Frequency Foldback Example

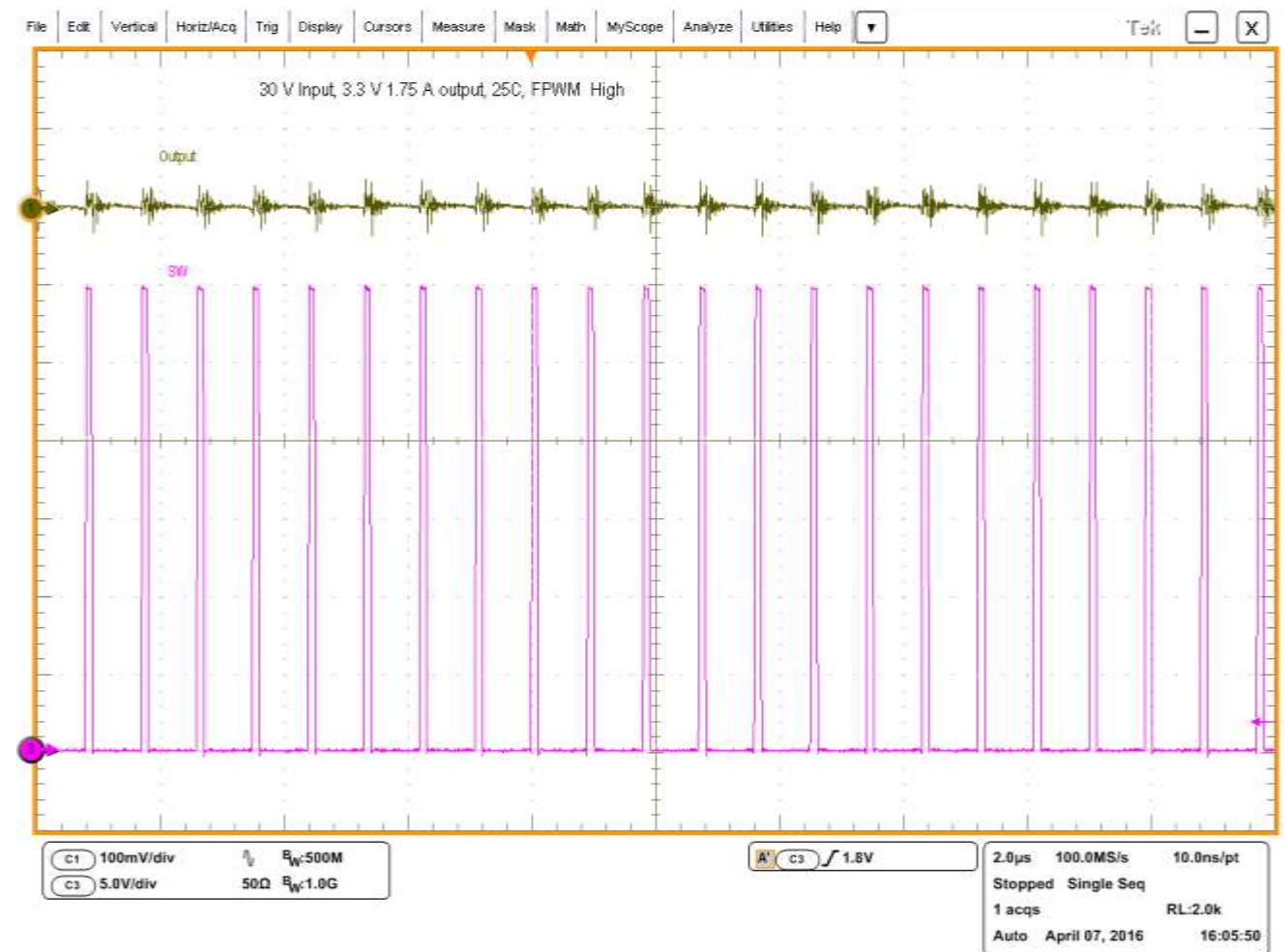
- $V_{IN} = (T_S \times V_{OUT})/t_{ON}$
- LMR33630:
  - $T_S=500\text{ns}$ ;  $V_{OUT}= 5\text{V}$ ;  $T_{ON\_MIN}(\text{typ})=72\text{ns}$
  - $V_{IN} = (T_S \times V_{OUT})/t_{ON} = (500\text{ns} \times 5\text{V})/72\text{ns} = 35\text{V}$



# Not All switchers are equal: High-VIN output ripple



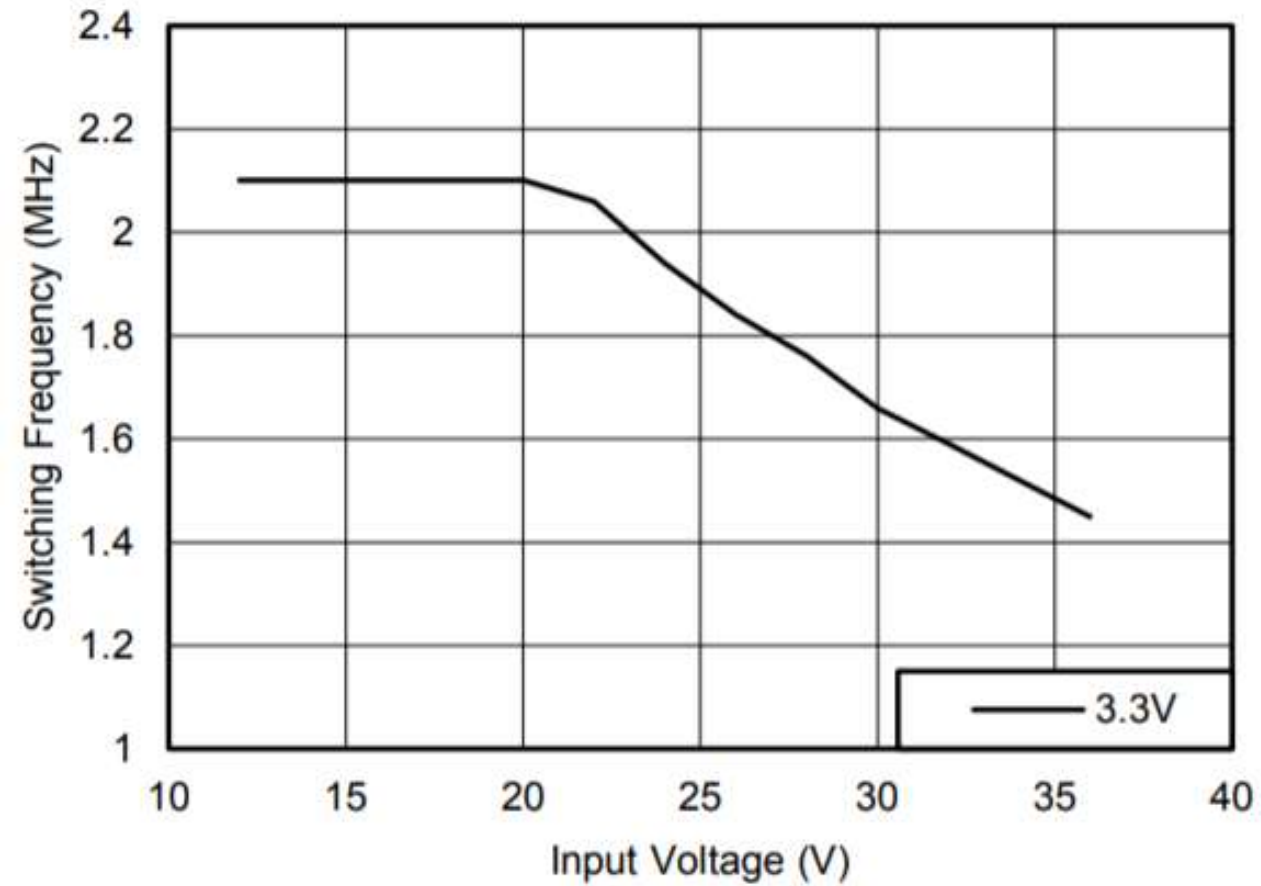
Competitor has +/-100mV output ripple for high-VIN operation



LM53635 Has smooth frequency foldback at high input voltage.

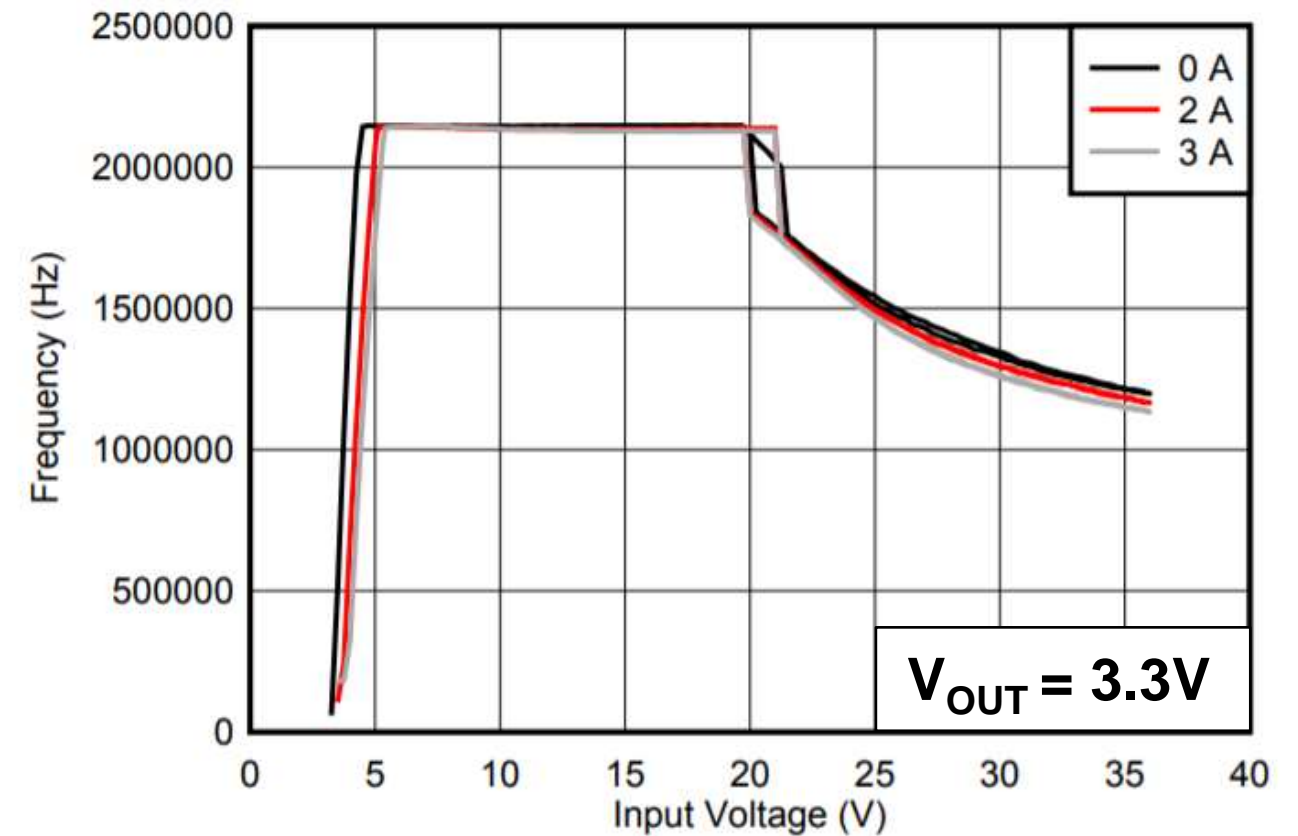


## LMR33630



Foldback by sensing  
T<sub>ON</sub>, hits T<sub>ON\_MIN</sub>

## LM53602



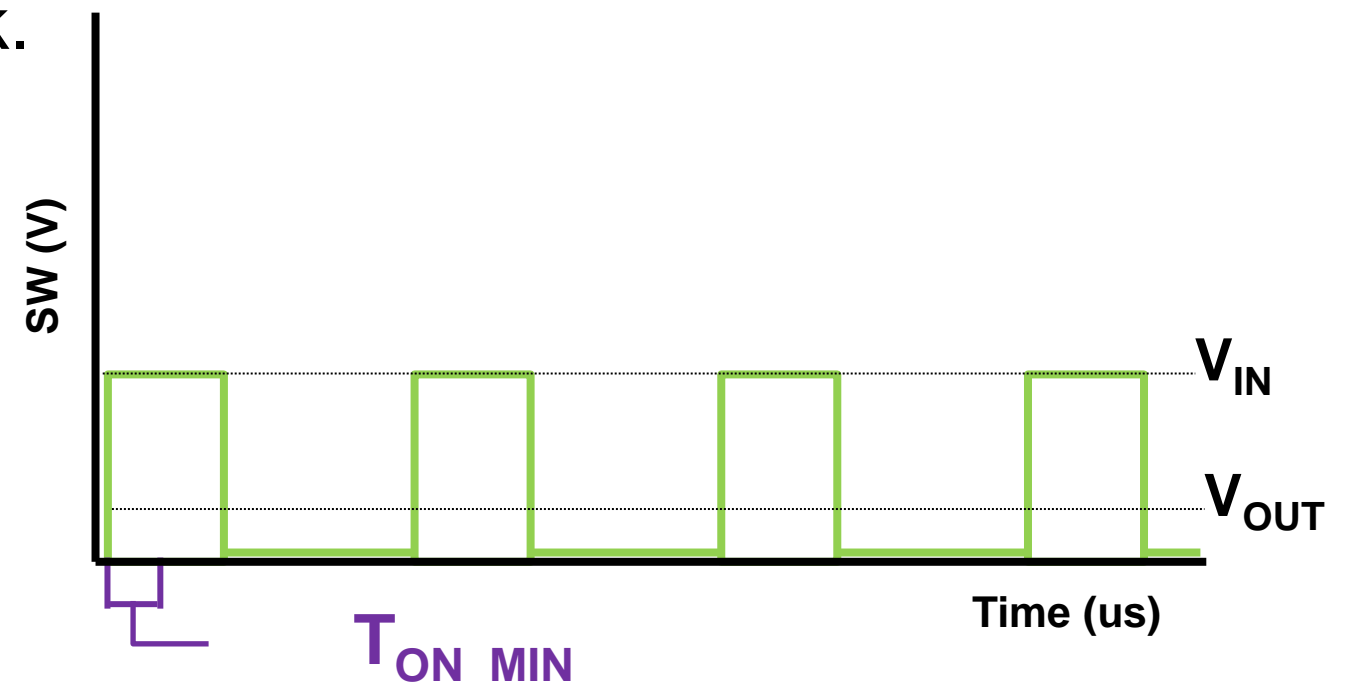
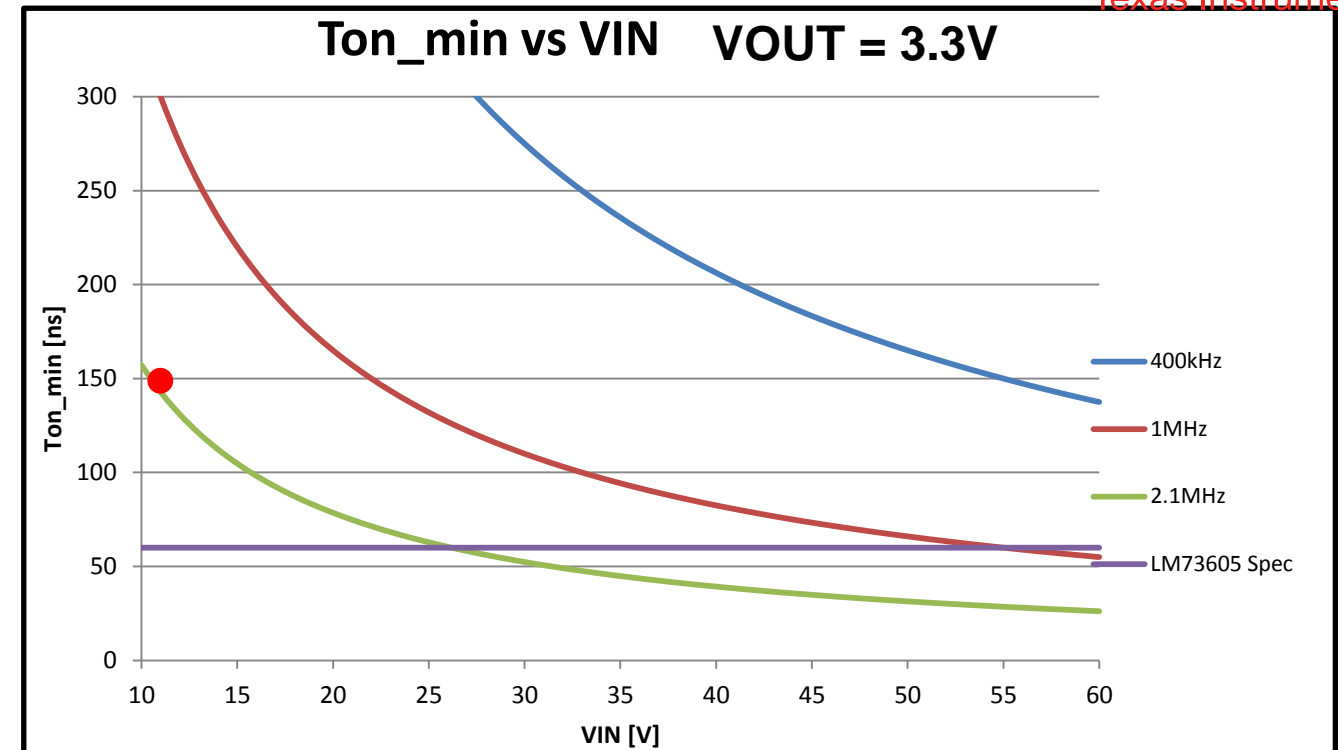
Foldback by sensing  
V<sub>IN</sub>, avoids T<sub>ON\_MIN</sub>



# $T_{ON\_MIN}$ Frequency Foldback

- As  $V_{IN}$  Increases:
  - Duty Cycle Decreases
  - $T_{ON}$  reduces
- $T_{ON}$  will eventually need to go below  $T_{ON\_MIN}$  (spec'd in datasheet)
- The IC cannot switch HIGH for shorter than  $T_{ON\_MIN}$  so the frequency folds back.
  - Duty cycle reduces
  - $V_{OUT}$  remains the same
  - $T_{ON\_MIN}$  is not violated

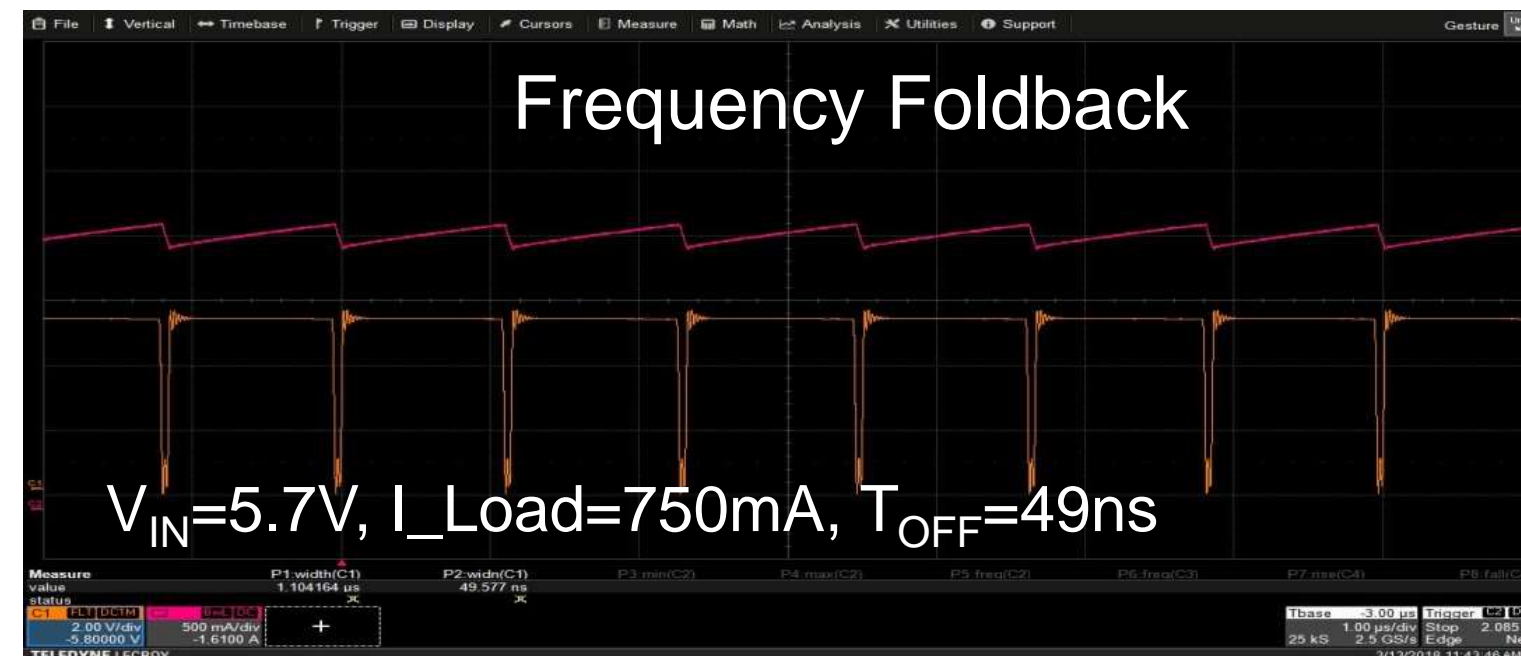
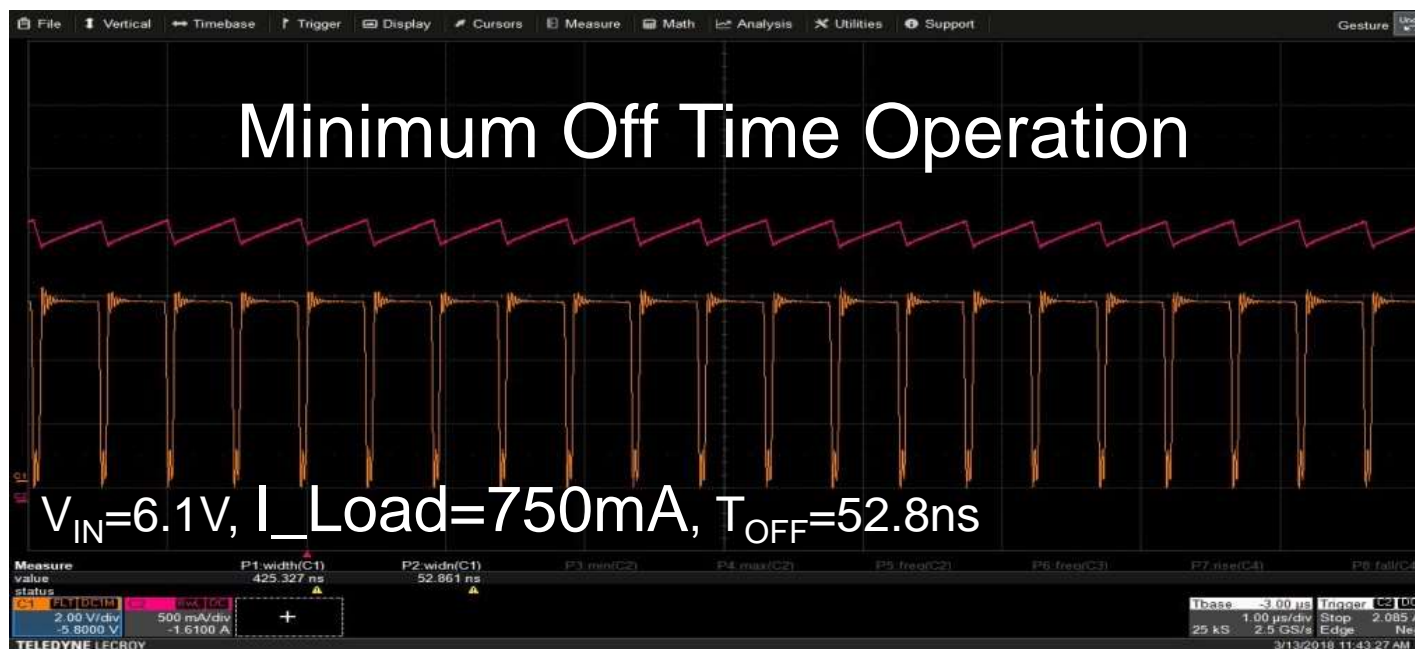
Note\* Heavy Load Helps!



# Key Features for Automotive: Dropout

- $V_{IN-Min} = (V_{IN} \times D_{MAX}) - (R_{DS\_ON} \times I_{IN}) - (R_{DCR} \times I_{L\_RMS})$
- $V_{OUT} = (V_{IN} \times D_{MAX})$
- $5V/0.98 = V_{IN\_MIN\_FSW} = 5.10V$

– There is significant variation between the calculated value of frequency fold-back and the actual value of frequency fold-back. We recommend providing sufficient margin as necessary.





# Understanding Quiescent Current Specifications

# Key Features for Automotive: Low-Iq

- Always-on automotive applications require power even when car is off
  - Body electronics (keyless entry)
  - Cluster, Infotainment (keep-alive MCU)
- These applications requires very low no-load operating current ( $I_q$ )
- OEMs set standards for  $I_q$  at module level
  - Sometimes  $< 100\mu\text{A}$
- Suppliers will want per DC/DC  $I_q$ 's in  $10\mu\text{A}$  to  $40\mu\text{A}$  range



# Key Features for Automotive: Low-Iq

## LMR33630 SIMPLE SWITCHER® 3.8-V to 36-V, 3-A Synchronous Step-Down Voltage Converter

### 1 Features

- Configured for Rugged Industrial Applications
  - Input Voltage Range: 3.8 V to 36 V
  - Output Voltage Range: 1 V to 24 V
  - Output Current: 3 A
  - Peak-Current-Mode Control
  - Short Minimum On-Time of 70 ns
  - Frequency: 400 kHz, 1.4 MHz, 2.1 MHz
  - Junction Temperature Range –40°C to +125°C
- Integration Simplifies Design and Reduces Size
  - Integrated Synchronous Rectification
  - Integrated Compensation Network
- Best-in-Class Power Dissipation
  - >91% Efficiency at Full Load
  - Low Shutdown Quiescent Current of 5  $\mu$ A
  - Low Operating Quiescent Current of 24  $\mu$ A
- Flexible System Interface
  - Power-Good Flag and Precision Enable
- Create a Custom Design Using the LMR33630 with the [WEBENCH® Power Designer](#)

### 2 Applications

- Motor Drive Systems: Drones, AC Inverters, VF Drives, Servos
- Factory and Building Automation Systems: PLC CPU, HVAC Control, Elevator Control
- General Purpose Wide  $V_{IN}$  Power Supplies

### 3 Description

The LMR33630 SIMPLE SWITCHER® regulator is an easy-to-use, synchronous, step-down DC/DC converter that delivers best-in-class efficiency for rugged industrial applications. The LMR33630 is capable of driving up to 3 A of load current from an input of up to 36 V. The LMR33630 provides high light load efficiency and output accuracy in a very small solution size. Features such as a power-good flag and precision enable provide both flexible and easy-to-use solutions for a wide range of applications. The LMR33630 automatically folds back frequency at light load to improve efficiency. Integration eliminates most external components and provides a pinout designed for simple PCB layout. Protection features include thermal shutdown, input undervoltage lockout, cycle-by-cycle current limit, and hiccup short-circuit protection. The LMR33630 is available in an 8-pin HSOIC package.

#### Device Information<sup>(1)</sup>

PART NUMBER	PACKAGE	BODY SIZE (NOM)
LMR33630	HSOIC (8)	5.00 mm × 4.00 mm

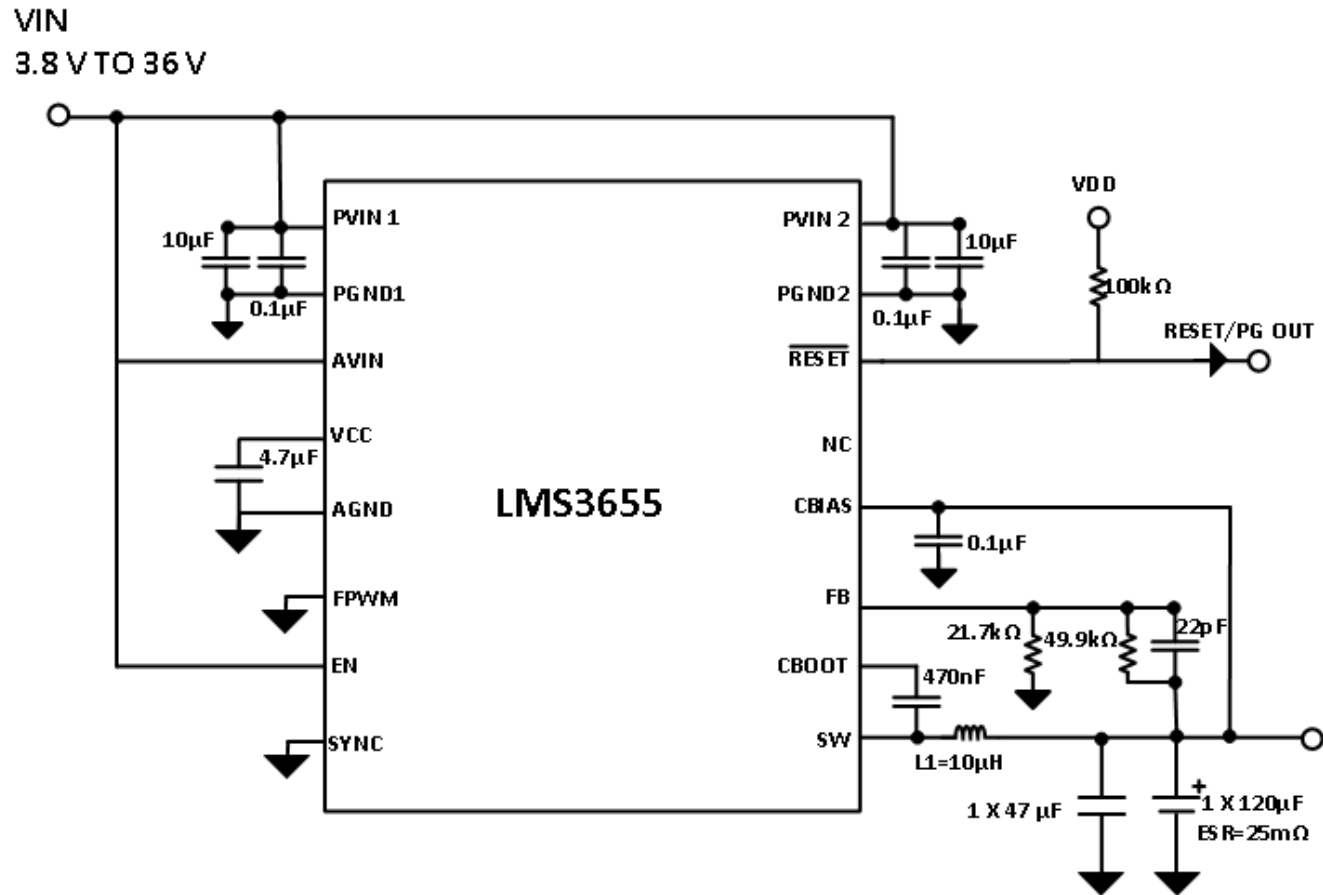
(1) For all available packages, see the orderable addendum at the end of the data sheet.

## Three Measurements for Quiescent Current:

- Shut Down Current
  - Part disabled; Enable tied to GND.
- Non-Switching Iq
  - Part enabled, feedback tied high. This value can be found in the EC table, and is traditionally measured open loop on the ATE.
- Switching Iq
  - Also known as operating quiescent current or no load input current.



# Calculating Operating $I_Q$ Based on EC Table

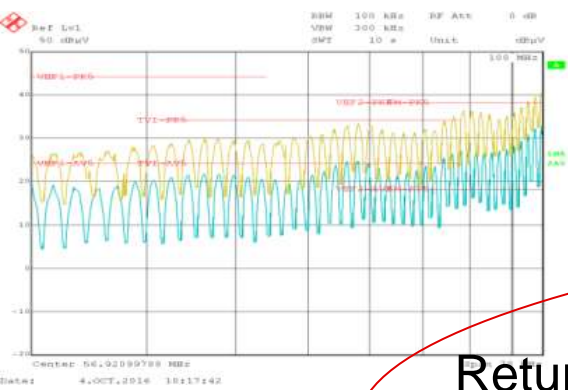


- $I_{Q-SW} = I_Q + I_{EN} + (I_B + I_{DIV}) \times (V_{OUT} / (n_{eff} \times V_{IN}))$ 
  - $I_{Q-SW} = I_{VIN}$  = No Load Current
  - $I_Q = I_{Q-NON-SW}$  = Current Drawn at Input Pin
  - $I_{EN}$  = Current Drawn at Enable Pin
  - $I_B$  = Current Drawn at Bias Pin
  - $I_{DIV}$  = Current Drawn at Feedback Divider
  - $n_{eff}$  = Light Load Efficiency
- Example (LMS3655):
  - $I_{Q-SW} = I_{VIN} = 23.2\mu A$
  - $I_Q = I_{Q-NON-SW} = 7.5\mu A$
  - $I_B = 32\mu A$
  - $I_{DIV} = 0\mu A$  (Fixed Output Variant)
  - $n_{eff} = .85$



# Wide Input Converters: EMI Optimized

# What makes a low EMI Buck

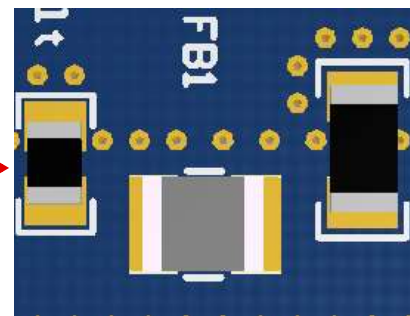


SW node capacitive coupling to the environment

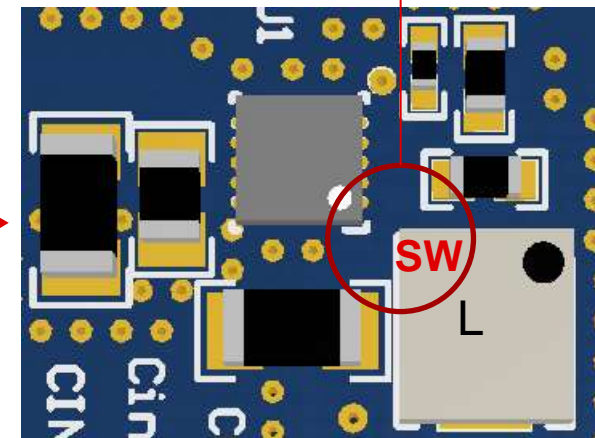
Return path of coupling is over Input wires  
-> Now it's source of the Common Mode Noise



Input cable



Low pass

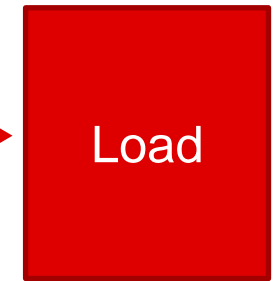


$C = 7fF$

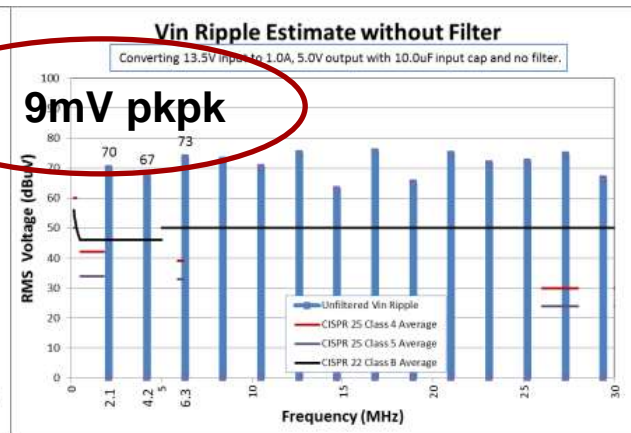
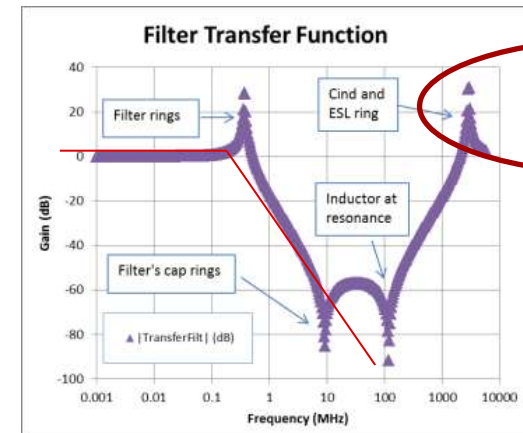
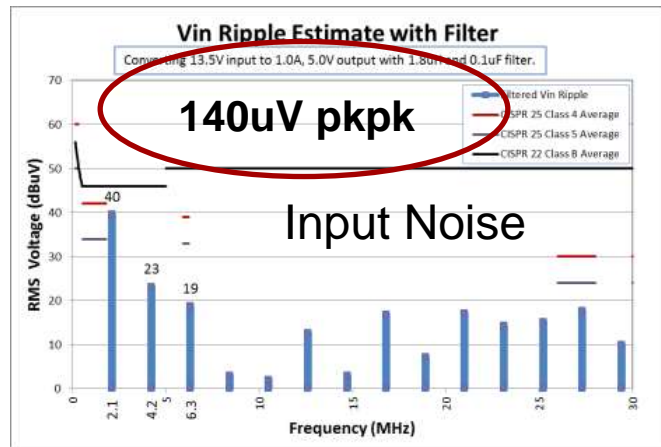
SW  
 $dV/dt$

Near E-Field  
coupling

Output cable



Output Noise



Examples:  
1mV pkpk on PCB trace

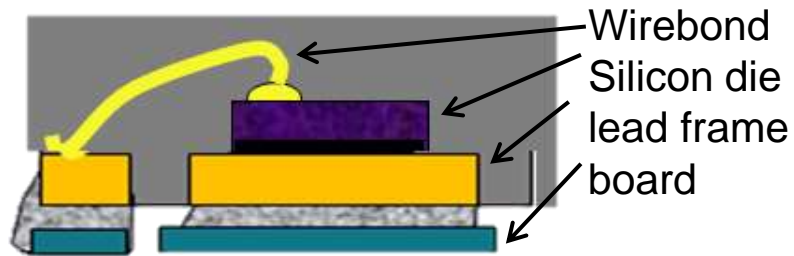
140uV pkpk with unshielded Cable similar to CISPR

-12dB/Oct -40dB/Dec

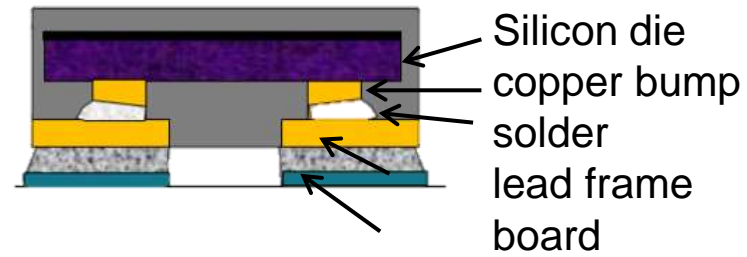


# EMI Optimization: Hot Rod Package

Standard wirebond QFN package



Flip chip on lead frame QFN



Die is flipped and placed directly onto the lead frame

Minimize EMI through:

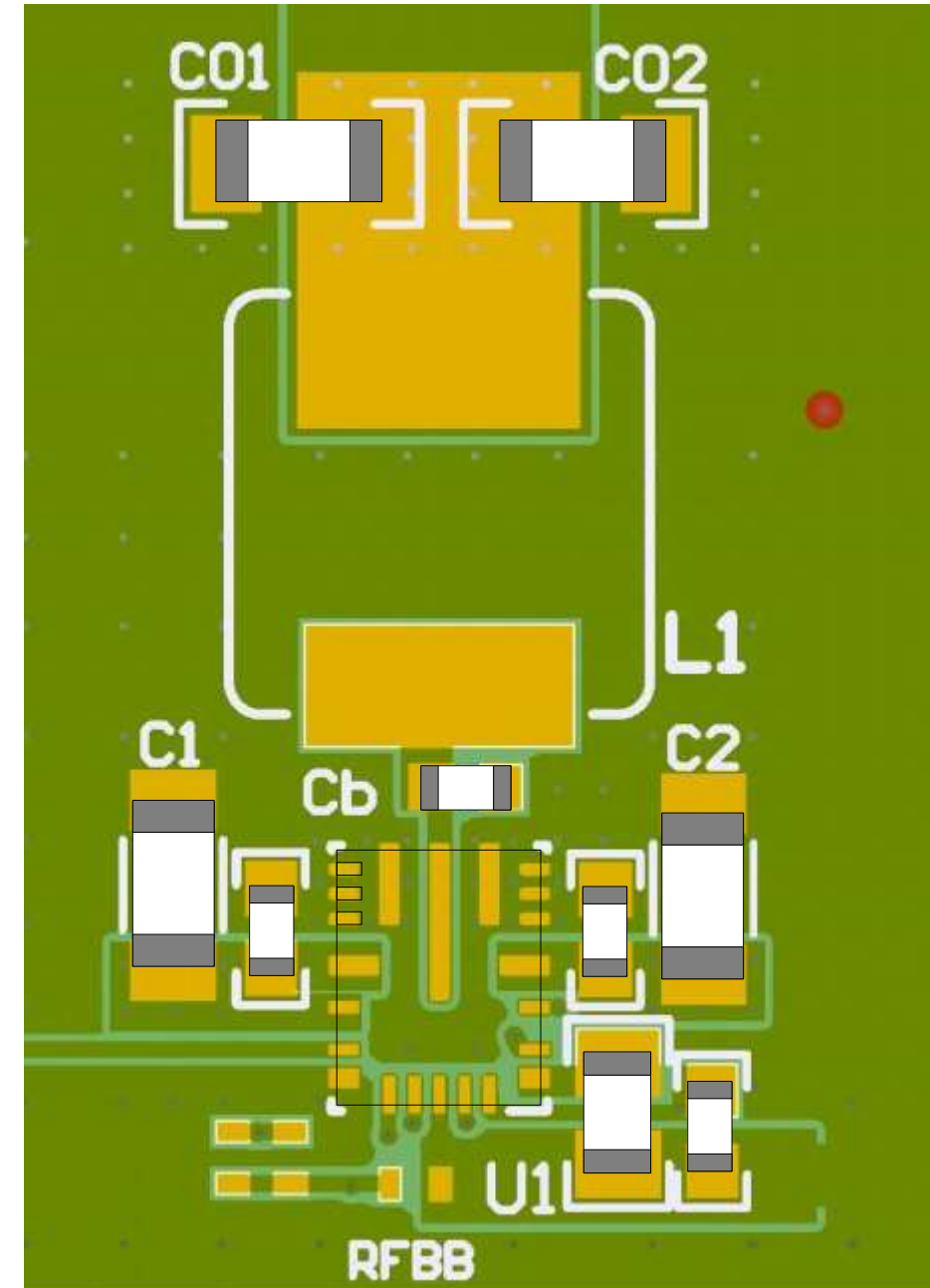
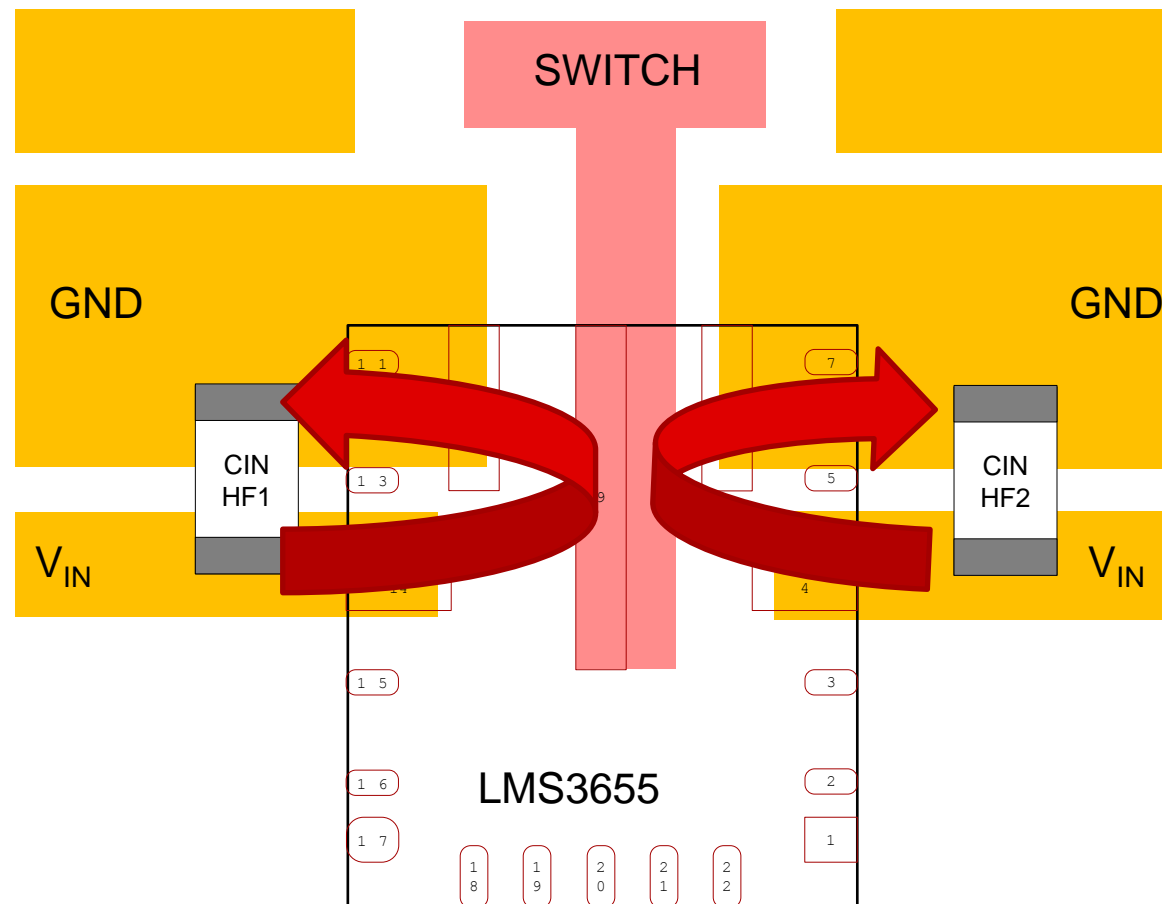
1. **No-wirebond VSON packaging**
2. Symmetric pinout
3. Spread spectrum feature



# EMI Optimization: Symmetric Pinout

Minimize EMI through:

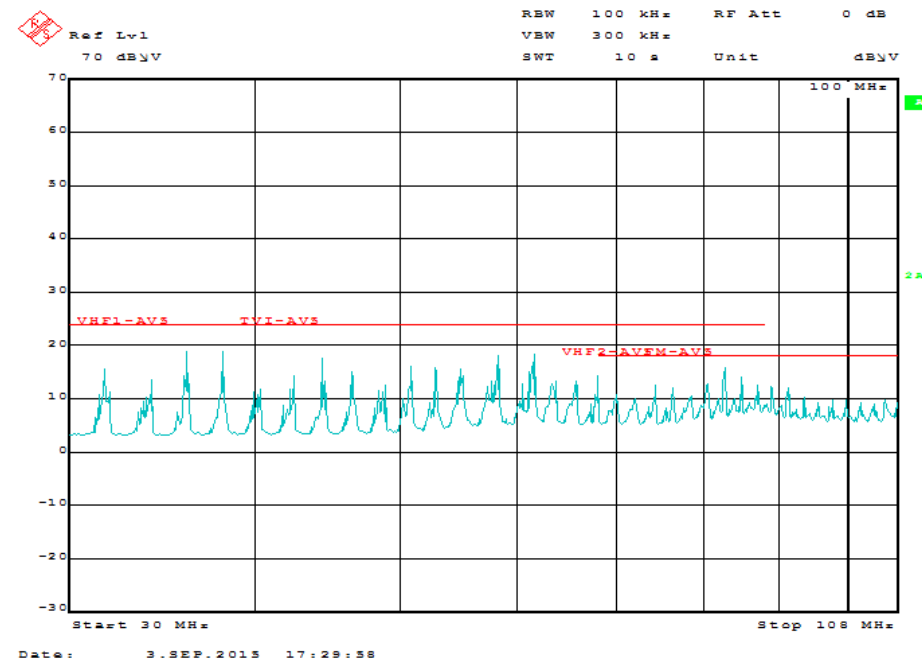
1. No-wirebond VSON packaging
- 2. Symmetric pinout**
3. Spread spectrum feature



# EMI Optimization: Spread Spectrum Feature

Minimize EMI through:

1. No-wirebond VSON packaging
2. Symmetric pinout
3. **Spread spectrum feature**



LMS3655 without spread spectrum



LMS3655 with spread spectrum

Spread spectrum makes it easier to design and meet OEM standards for conducted and radiated EMI

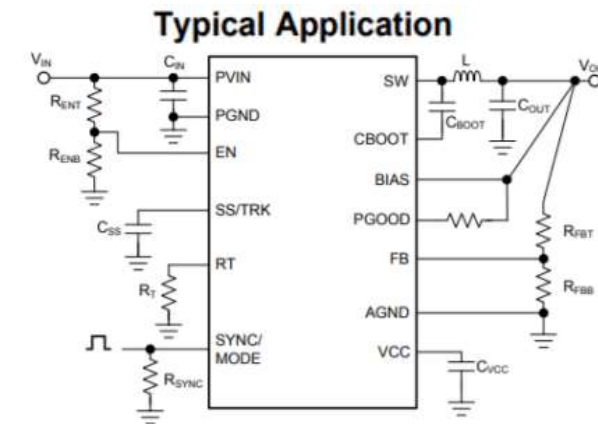




# Design Tools

# Design Tools

- WEBENCH
  - Every part in our portfolio is on WEBENCH
- Tina/PSpice
  - Every part in our portfolio has simulation files
- Design Guidelines
  - Every datasheet has an example circuit and design details
  - Every IC has an EVM
- Debugging
  - E2E



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# Understanding, measuring, and reducing output noise in DC/DC switching regulators

**Practical tips for output noise reduction**

**Katelyn Wiggernhorn, Applications Engineer, Buck Switching Regulators**

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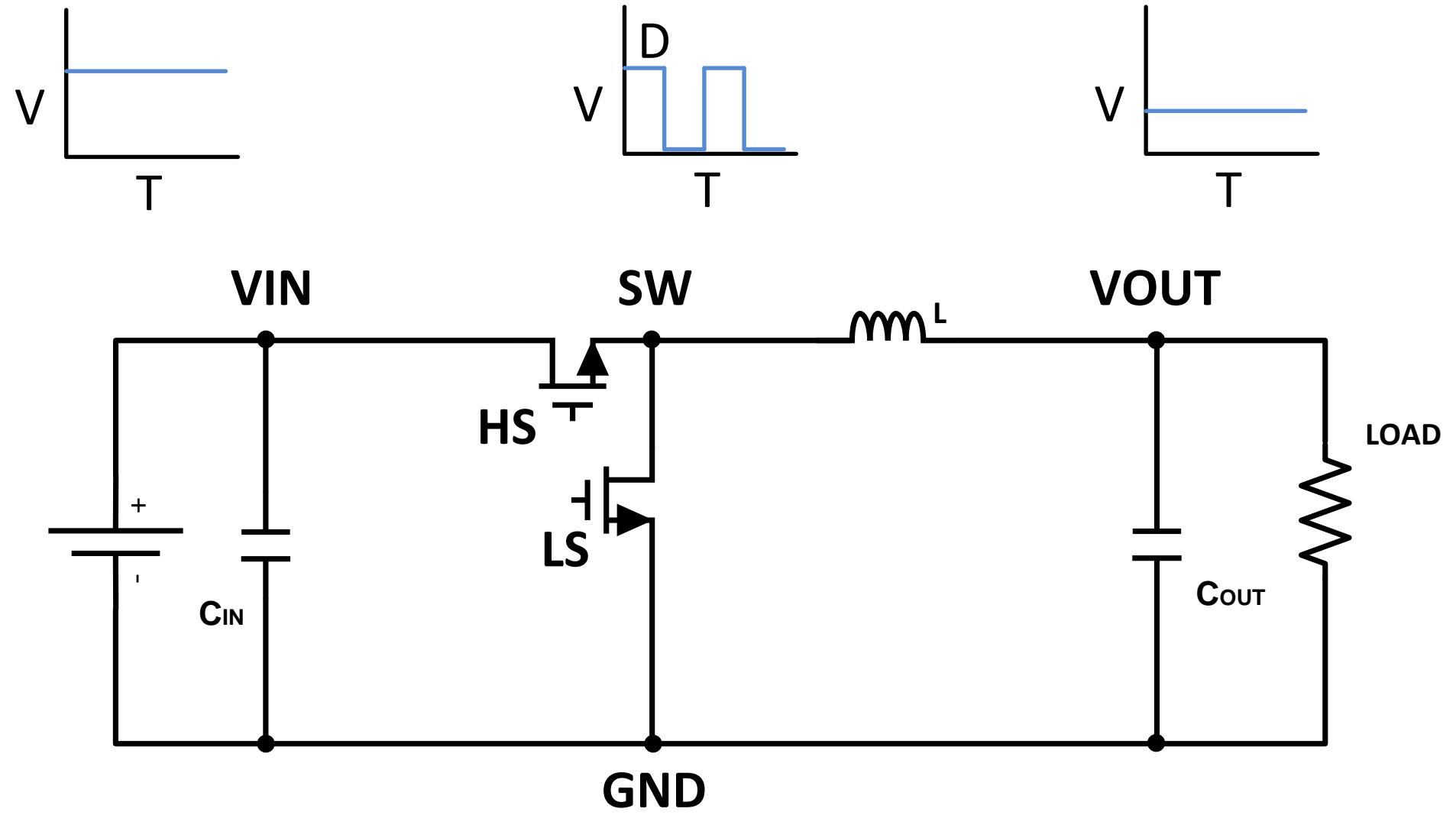
# Detailed agenda

- **Understanding the Noise Sources**
  - DC/DC converter operation overview
  - Noise components (high frequency vs low frequency)
  - Relevant parasitic elements in the circuit
- **Measuring Noise**
  - What is “real” vs “fake” noise
  - Examples of measurement techniques (good vs. bad)
- **Reducing Noise (high frequency and low frequency)**
  - Layout techniques and comparison (good vs. bad)
  - Passive component selection and placement
  - Filtering techniques and examples



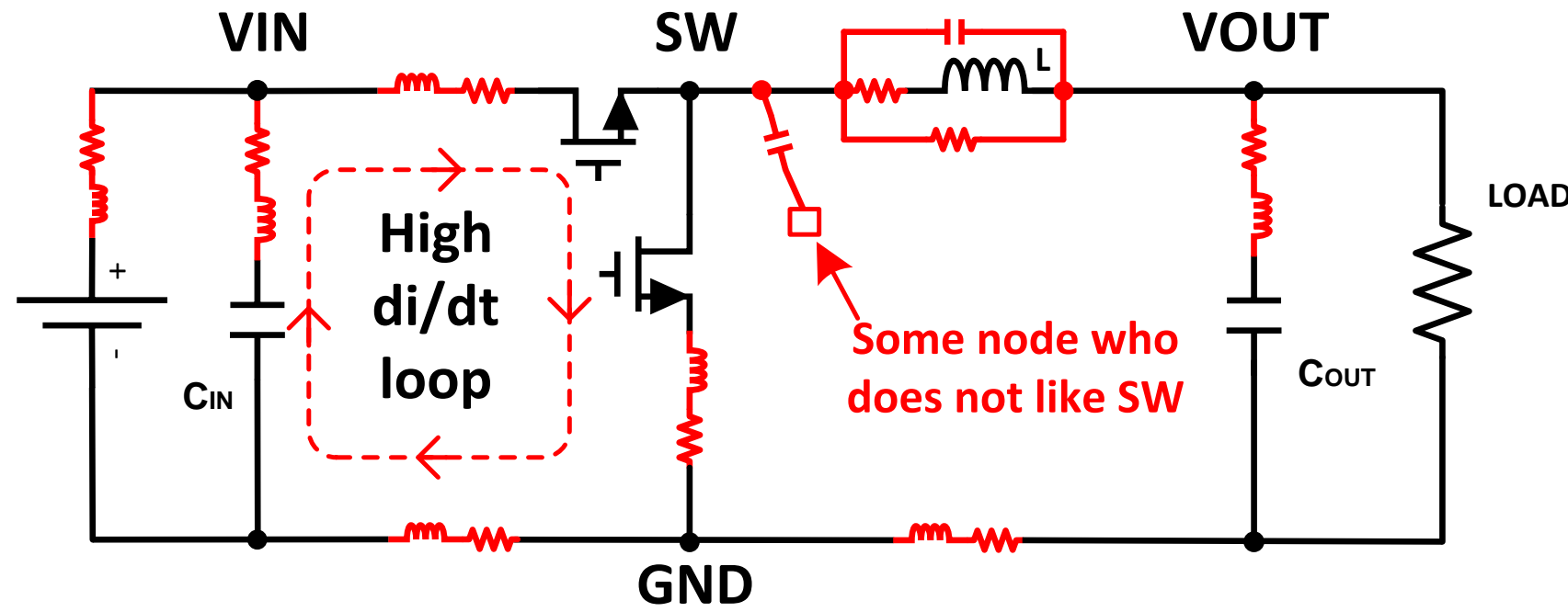
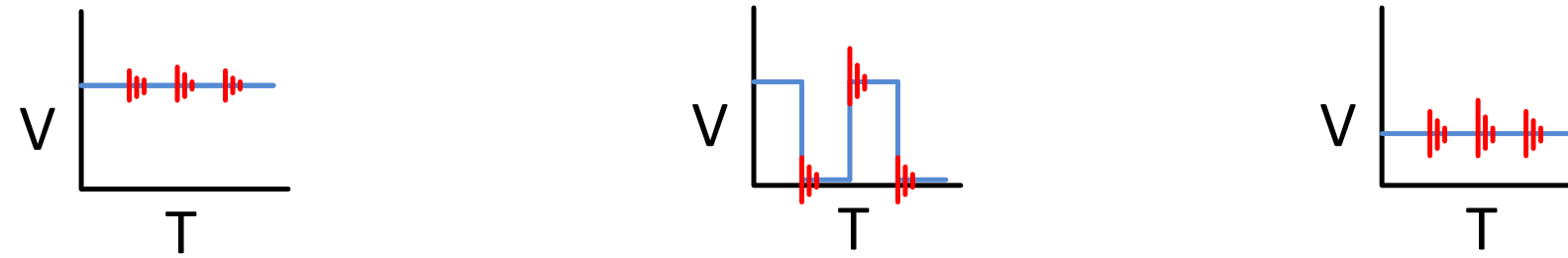
# Understanding the sources of noise

# The buck regulator



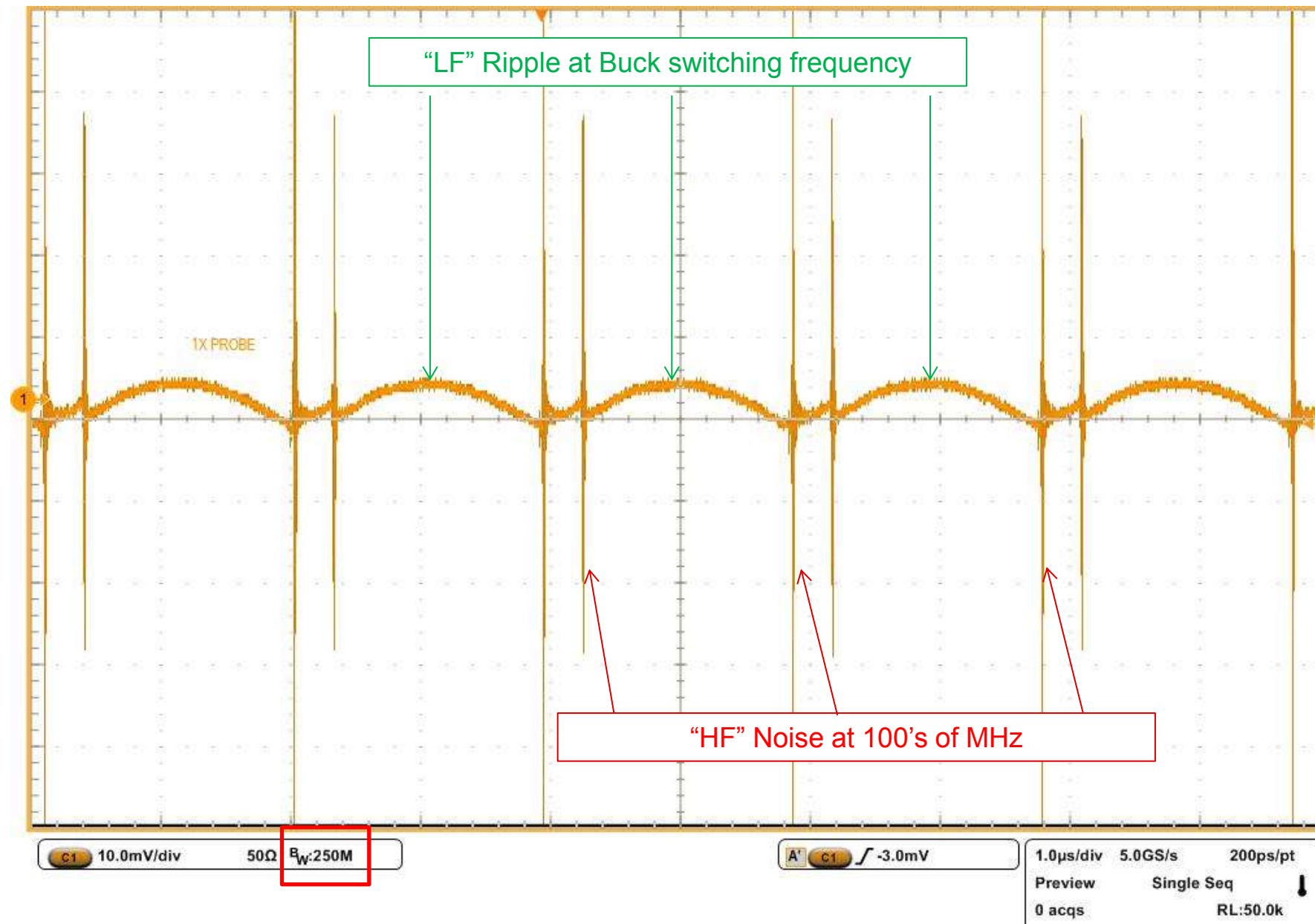
Understanding → Measuring → Reducing Noise

# Less ideal buck regulator



“Free” components in red

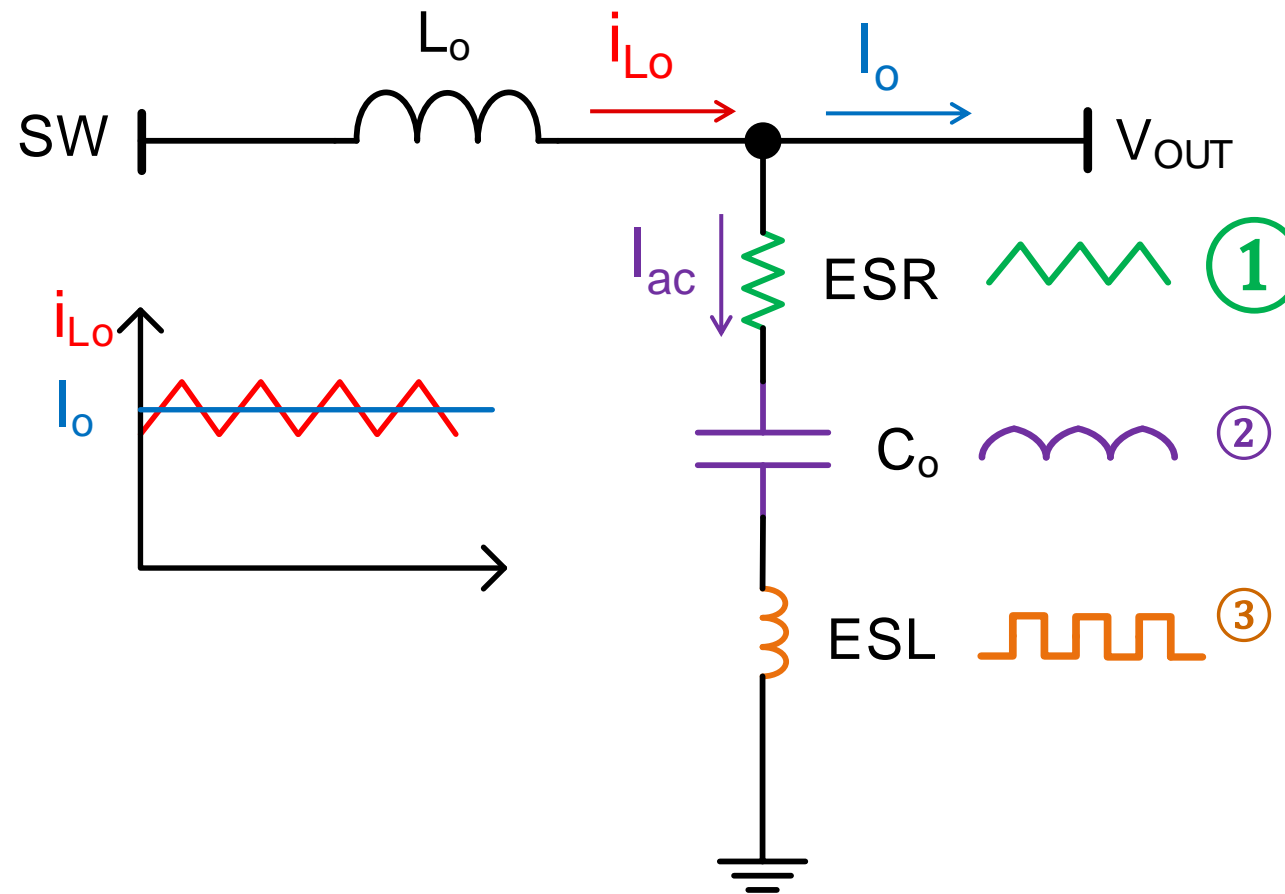
# Output ripple and noise (example)



Understanding → Measuring → Reducing Noise

# LF ripple origin

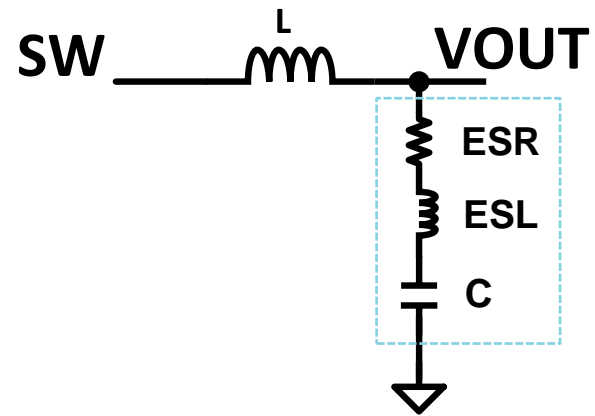
- Result of the inductor ripple current and output capacitor impedance



$$\text{Total LF Ripple} = \textcircled{1} + \textcircled{2} + \textcircled{3}$$



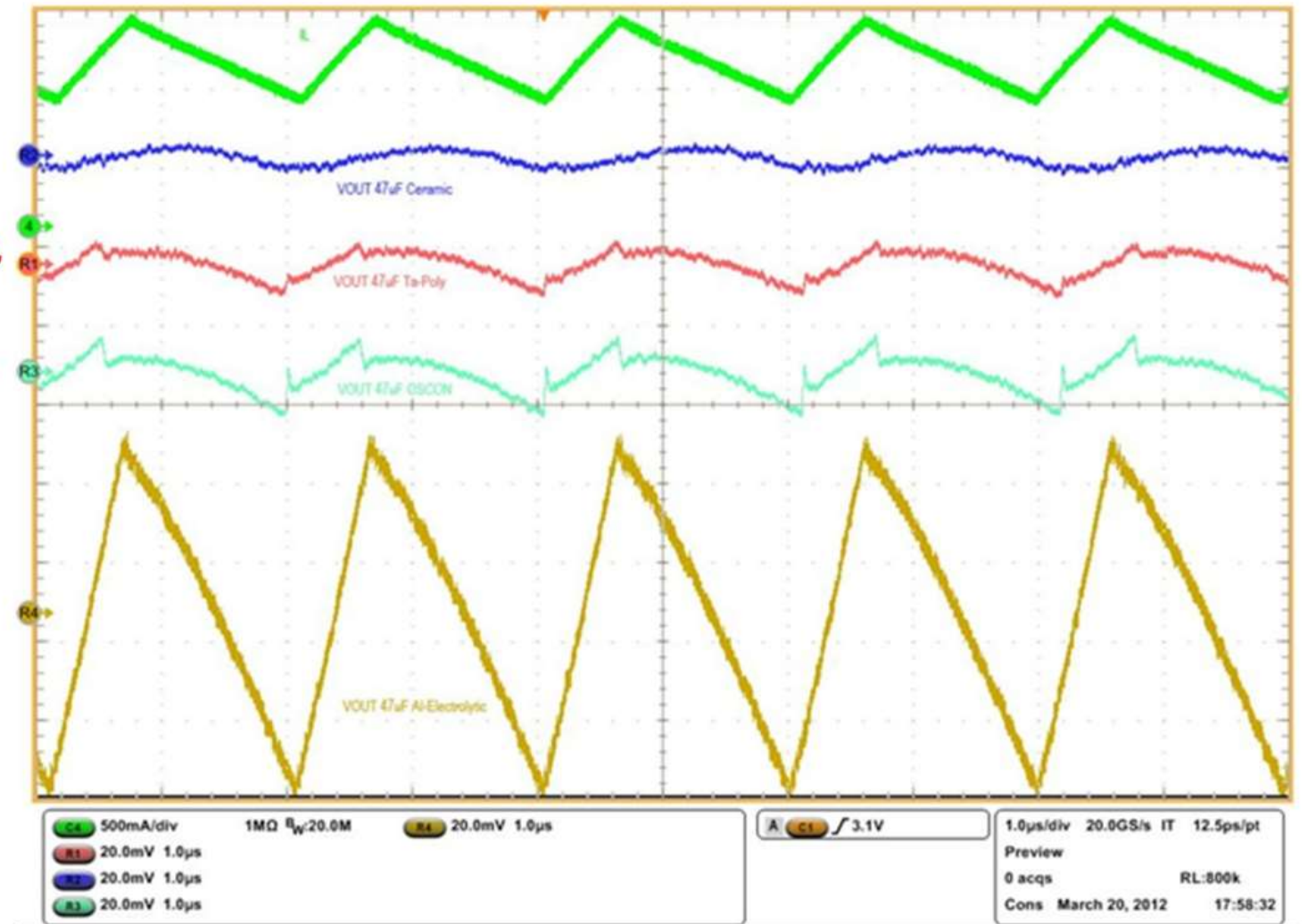
# LF ripple with different capacitor types



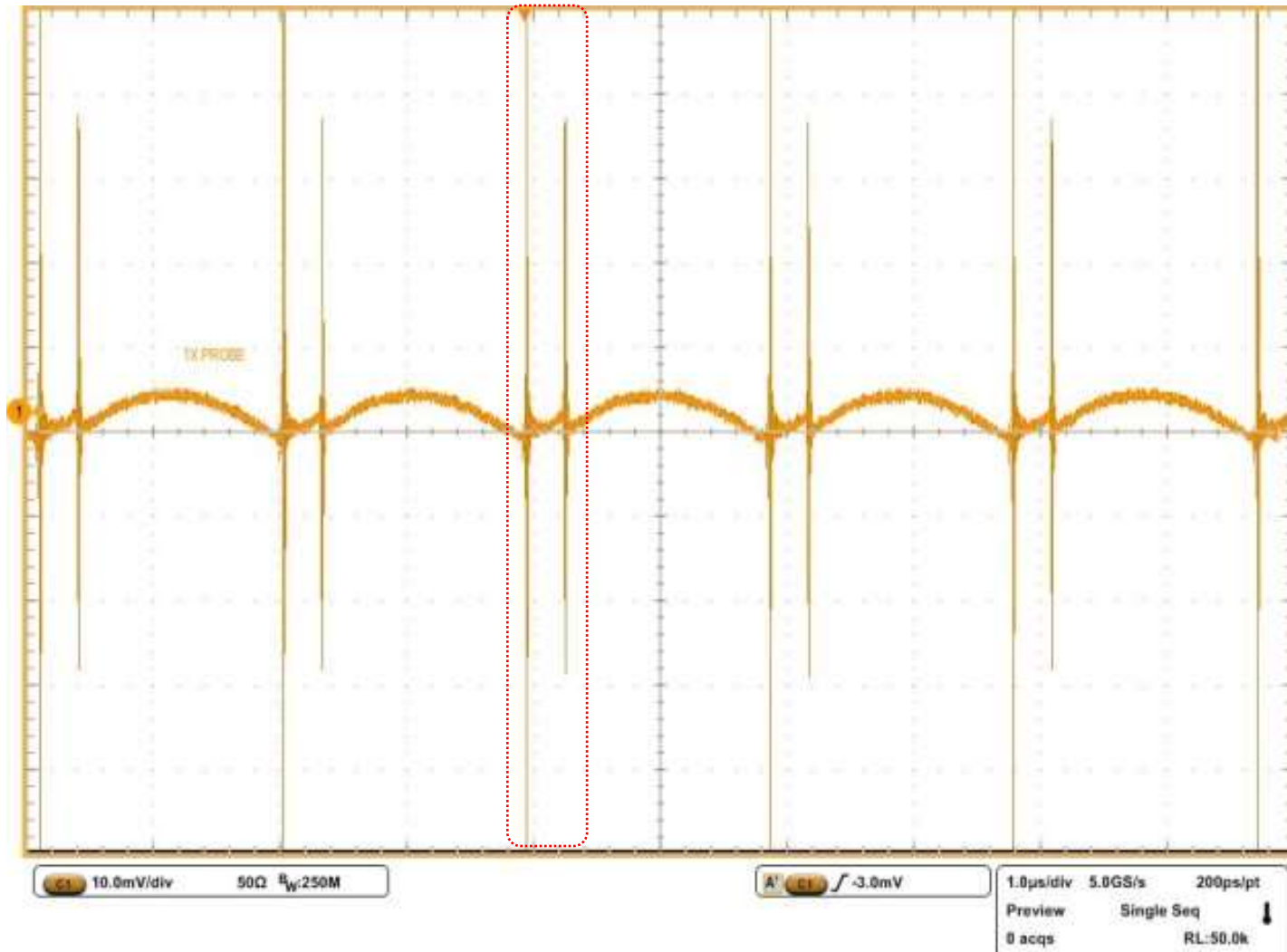
“47 $\mu$ F” Capacitor

- Inductor ripple current
- VOUT RIPPLE Ceramic cap (C dominated, low ESR low ESL)
- VOUT RIPPLE Tantalum cap (medium ESR, some ESL)
- VOUT RIPPLE OSCON cap (medium ESR, some more ESL)
- VOUT RIPPLE Aluminum Electrolytic cap (ESR dominated)

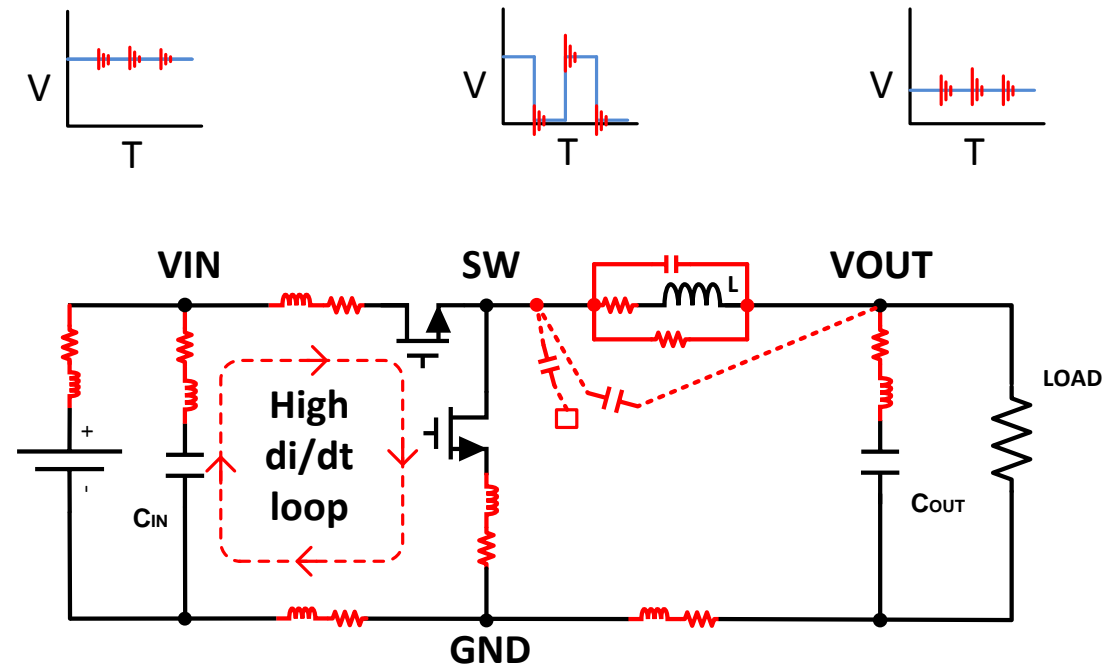
Each capacitor above is 47 $\mu$ F.  
The difference is the chemistry



# HF noise origin

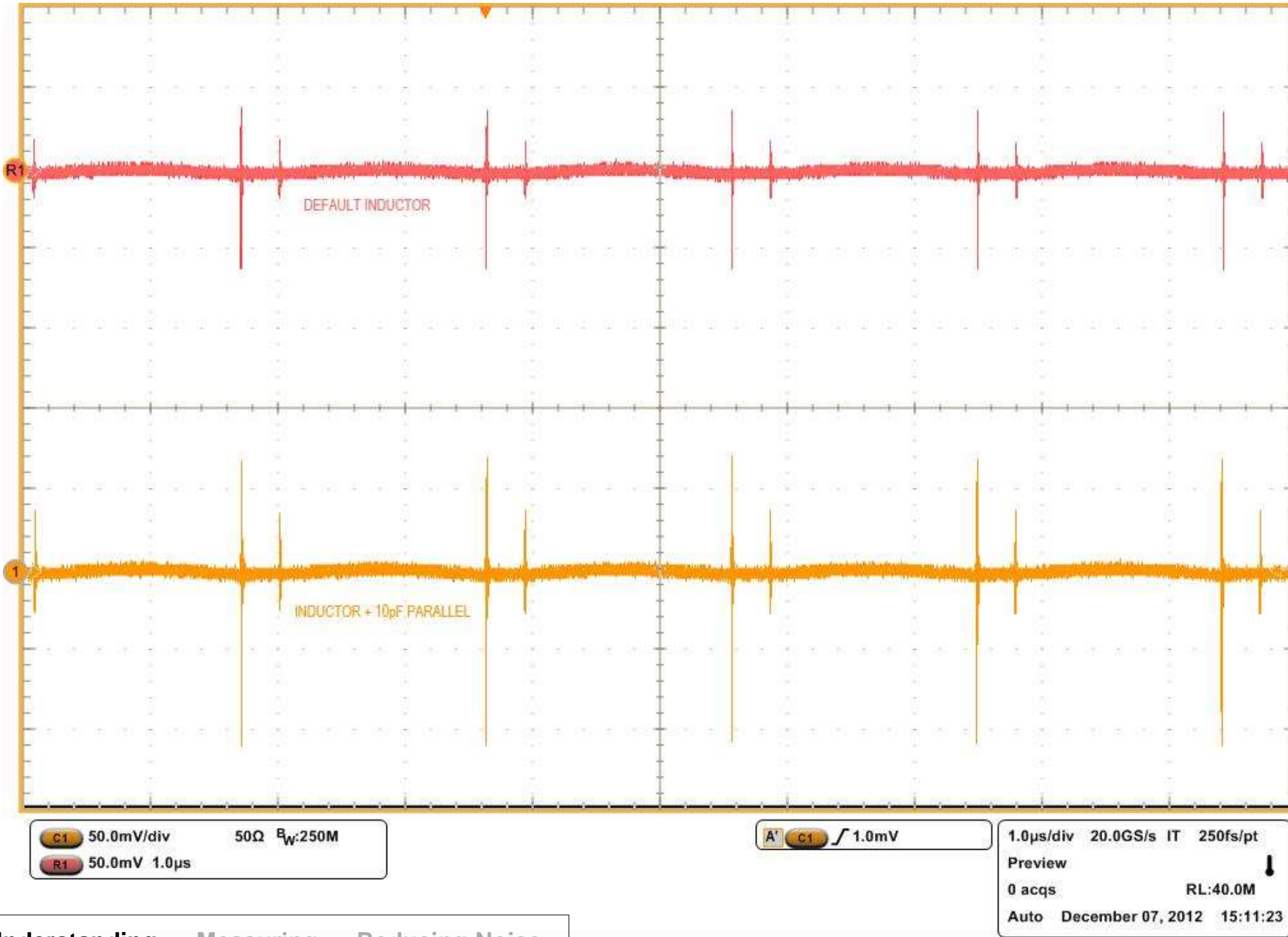


- Who is generating the noise?
  - High  $di/dt$  current loop and any inductance in its path
  - Noise appears on the SW node as ringing at each edge

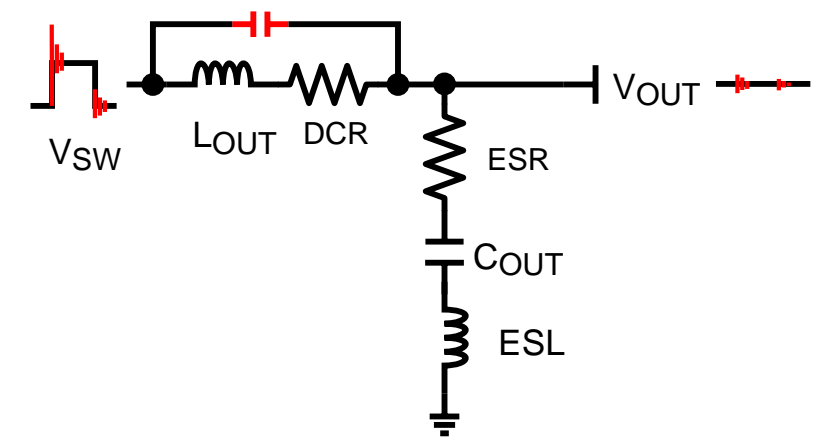


- How is the ringing coupled to the output?
  - Parasitic capacitance
    - Across the inductor (could be a few 10's of pF)
    - Between overlapping copper areas on the PCB

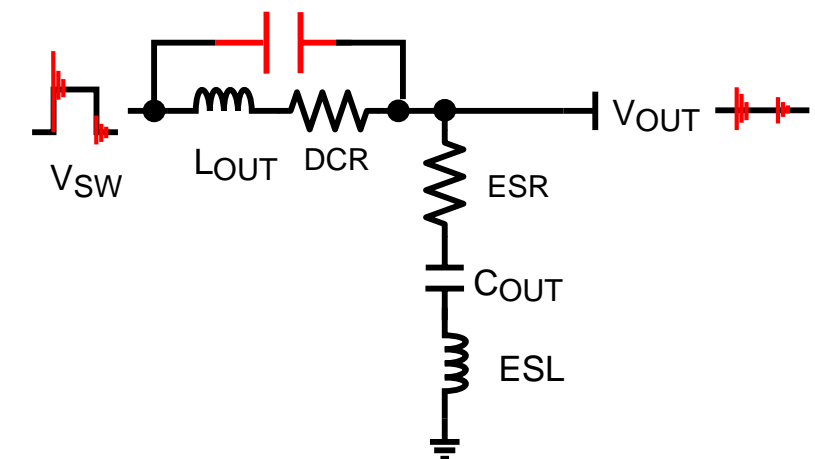
# HF noise vs inductor parasitic capacitance



Inductor A



Inductor B



Understanding → Measuring → Reducing Noise

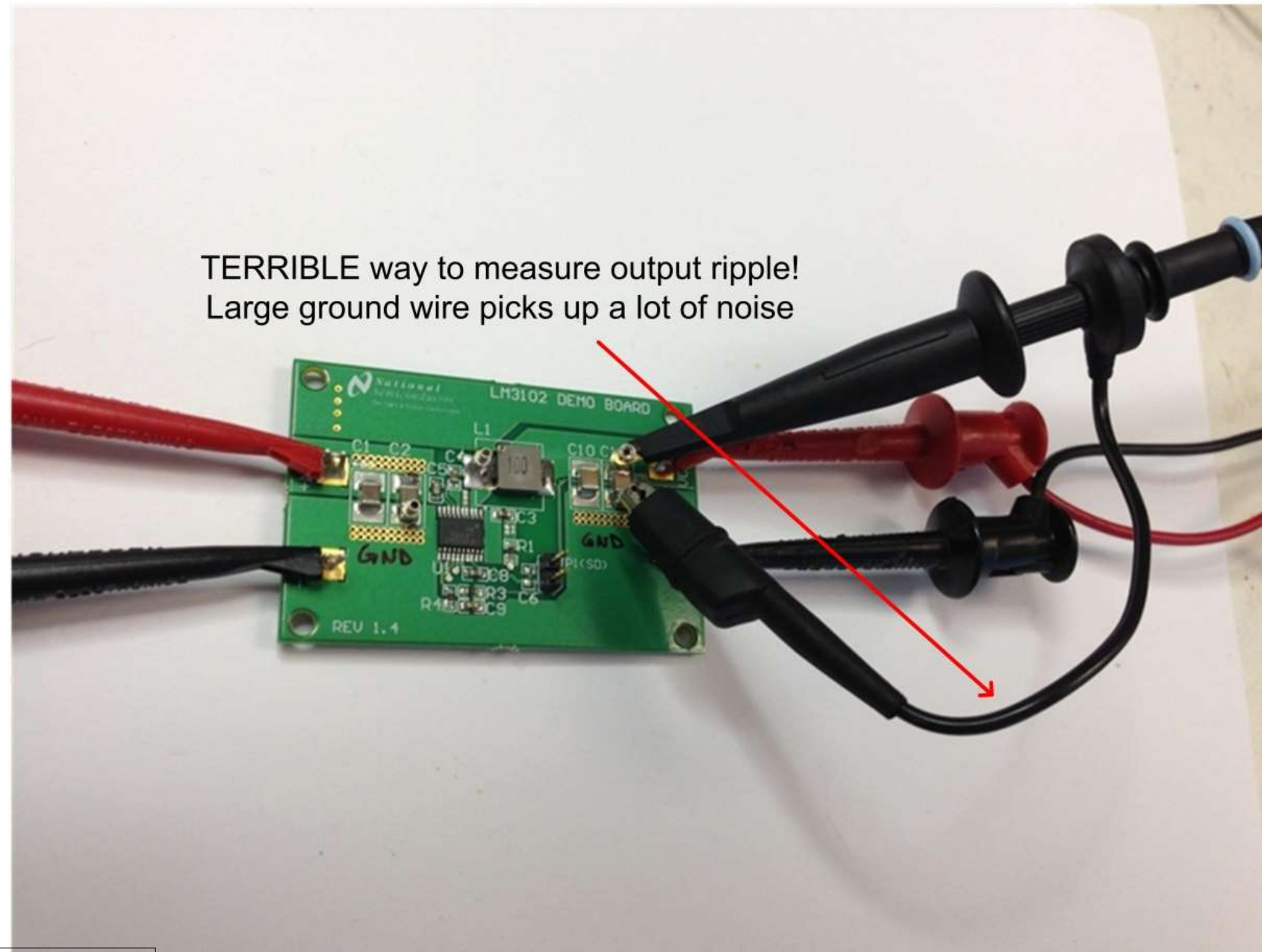
# Measuring noise

# Measuring noise

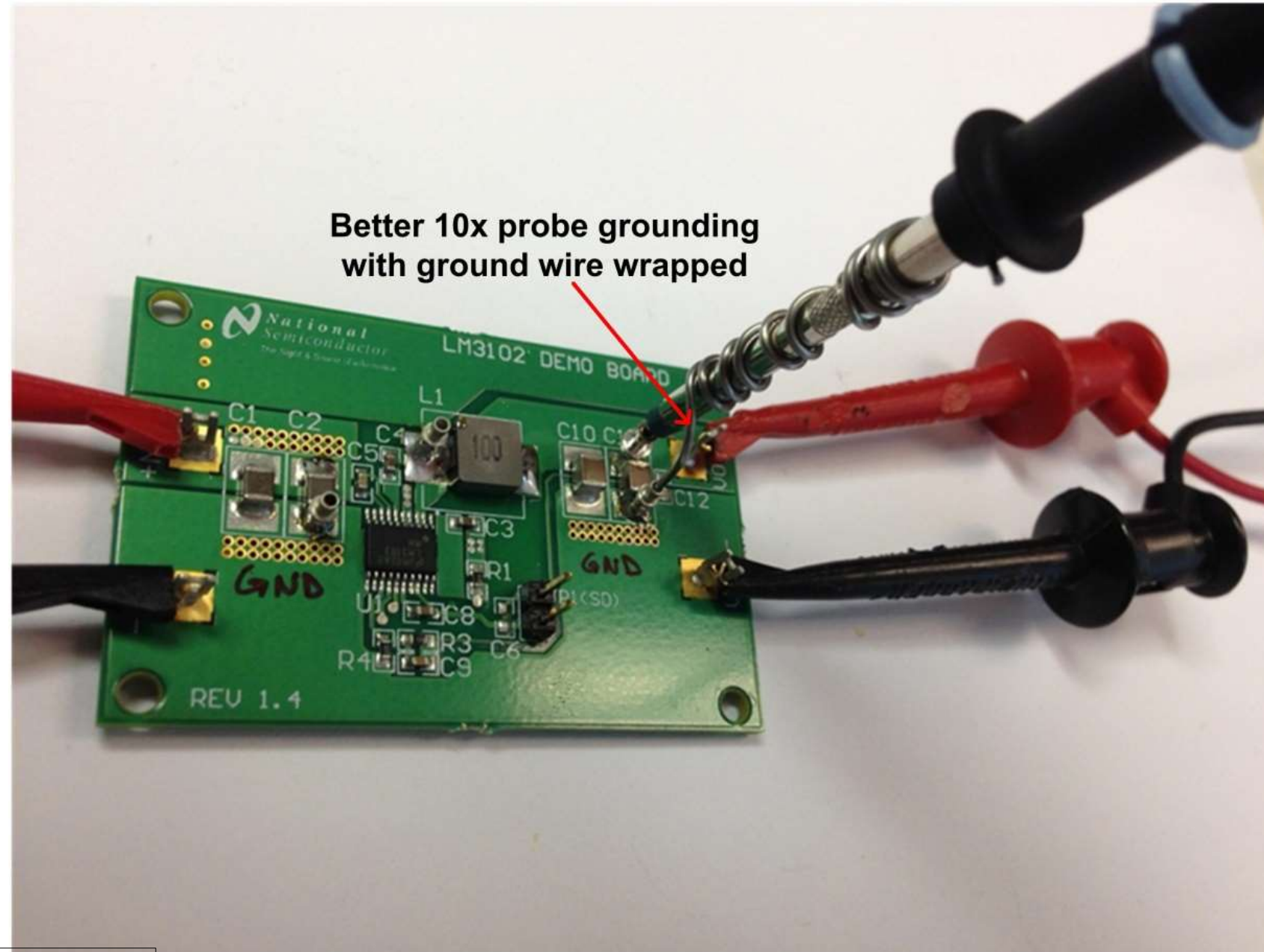
- Before we explore ways/tools for reducing the output noise, let's make sure we are measuring it properly.
- Improper measurement techniques can result in exaggerated output noise.
- Exaggerated output noise measurements can result in overly conservative “methods” for fixing it.
- It is important to know the “real” amount of noise before we start reducing it.



# BAD Measurement (example)

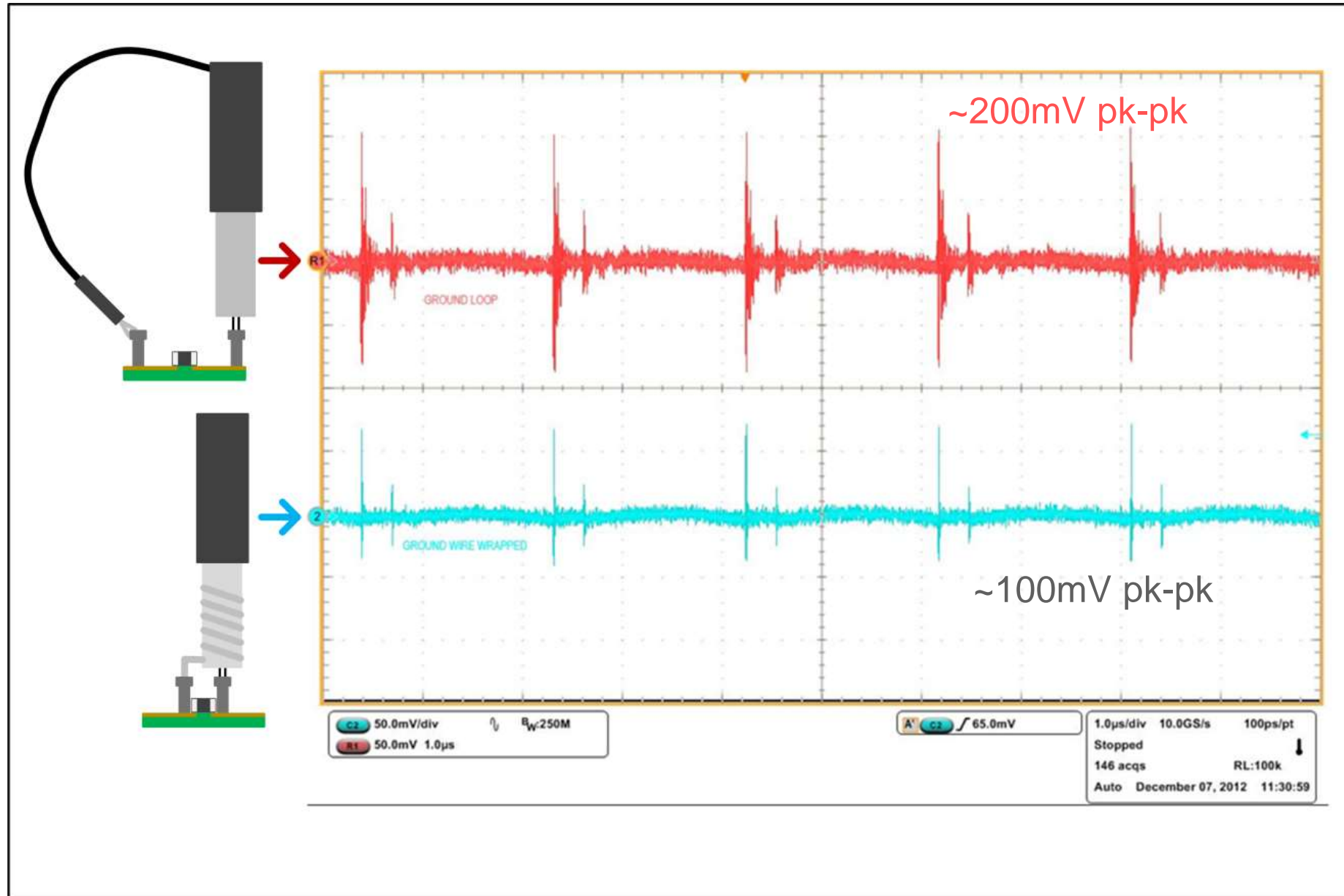


# Improved measurement (example)



Better 10x probe grounding with ground wire wrapped

# Comparison



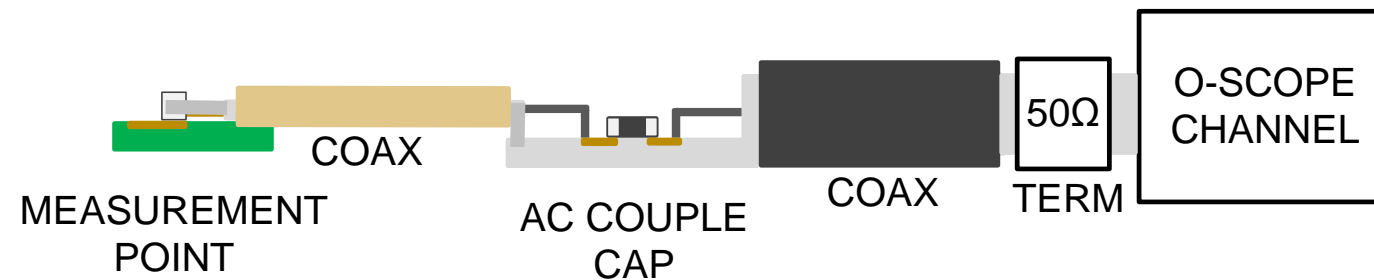
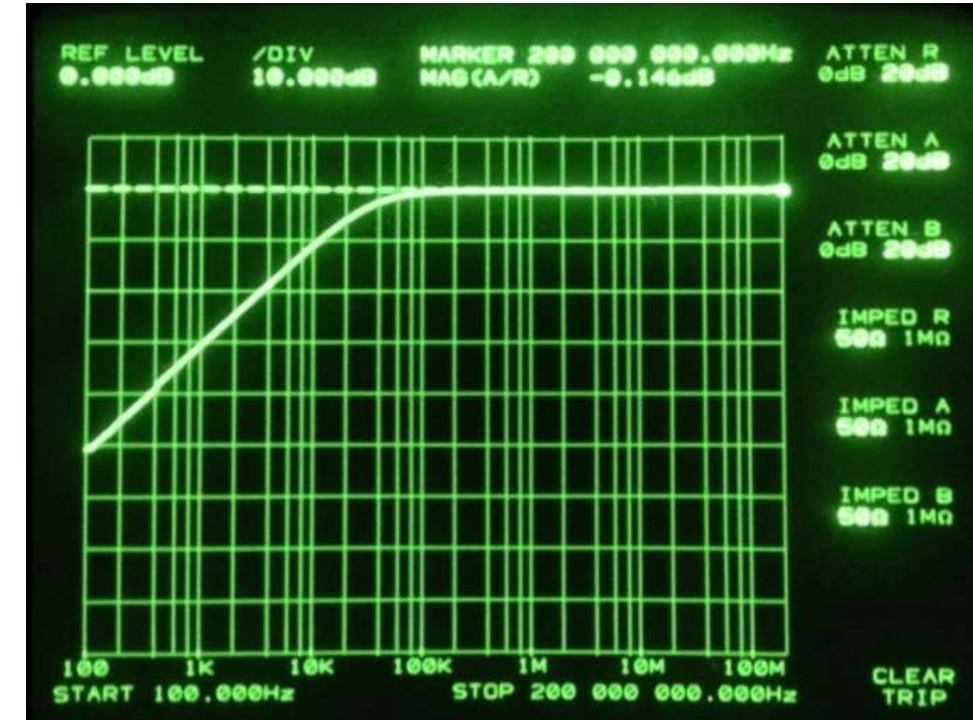
~2x difference in measured noise!

The circuit is exactly the same.  
The difference is the measurement technique.



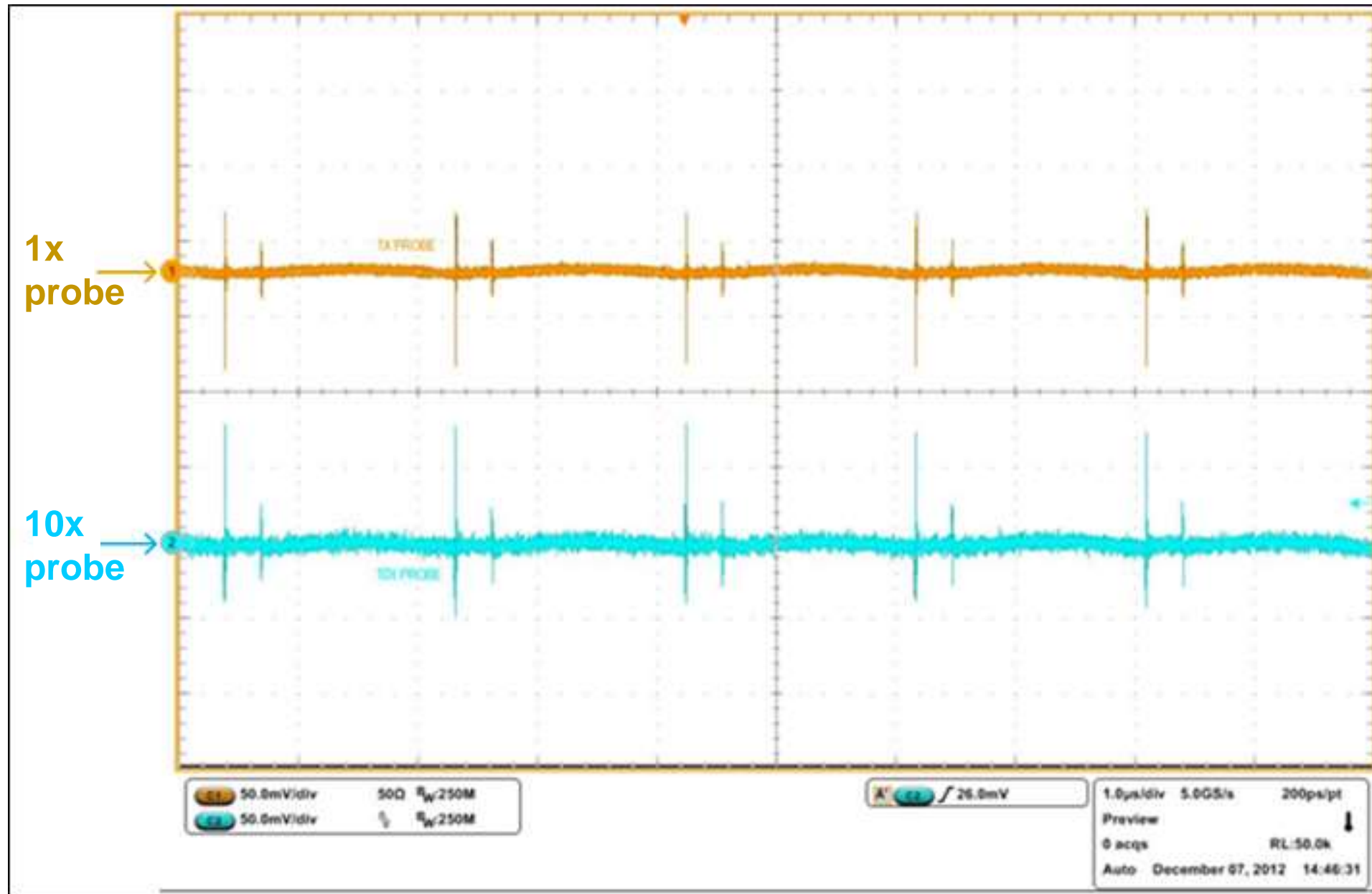
# Making a 1x probe (example)

- Short coax cable soldered to the output
- 0.1 $\mu$ F coupling capacitor
- 50 $\Omega$  termination



- Probe frequency response
- High pass filter with cutoff frequency at 31.8kHz. OK for most modern switchers with loaded output.
- Probe OK for 250MHz scope BW

# Advantage of 1x probe



Cleaner reading  
Can zoom to 1mV/div for sub 1mV measurements

Fuzzy due to the scope vertical sensitivity limitations of a 10x probe. Cannot zoom below 10mV/div



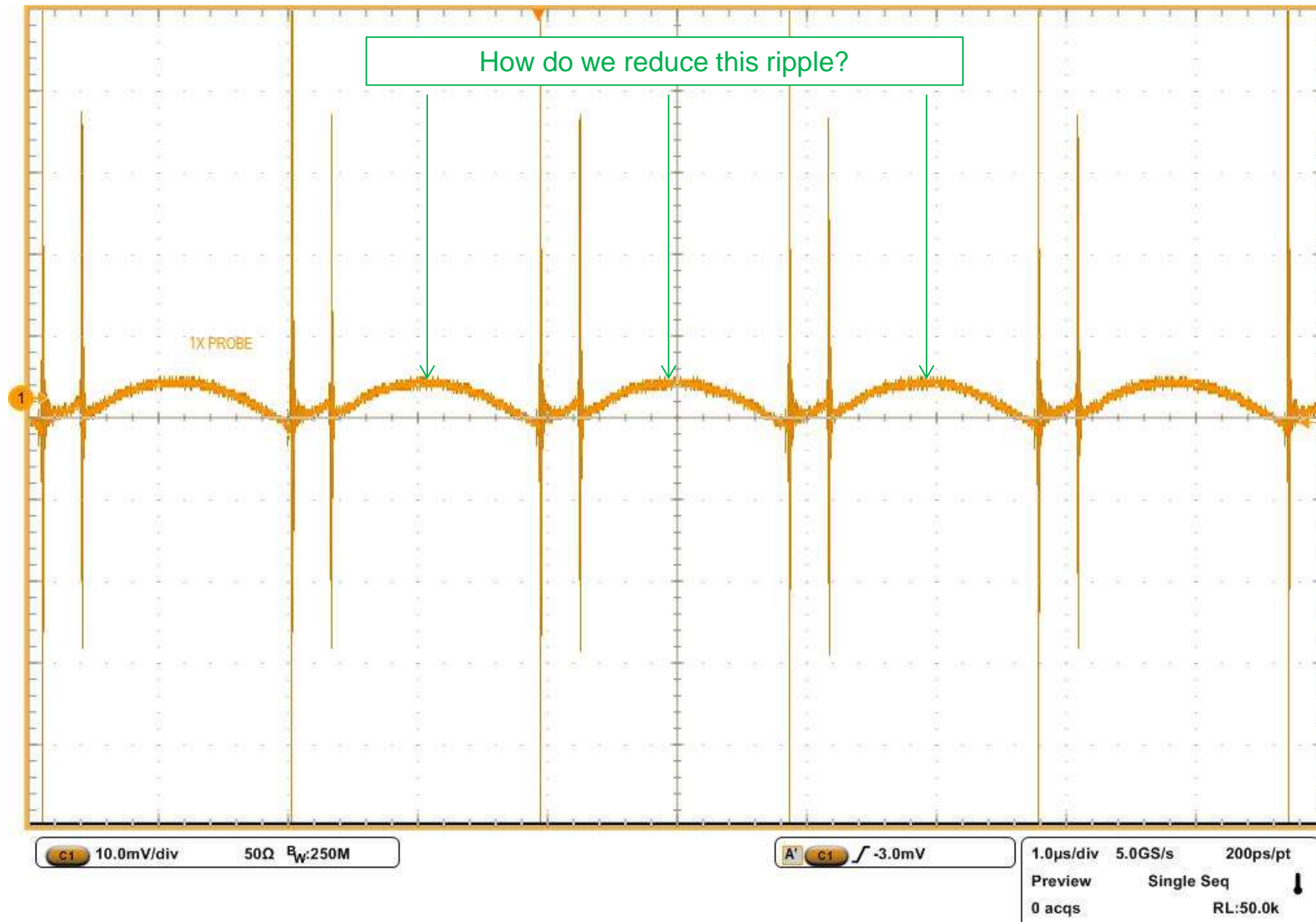
# Reducing noise

# Reducing noise - toolbox

- LF Ripple
  - Inductor vs Switching Frequency
  - Output capacitor
  - Post filtering
- HF Noise
  - Component placement
  - Component selection (with attention to packaging parasitics)
  - PCB routing and stack-up
  - Filtering
    - Input filters (conducted EMI)
    - Output filters (small HF capacitors)

# LF ripple reduction

# LF ripple reduction



Understanding → Measuring → Reducing Noise

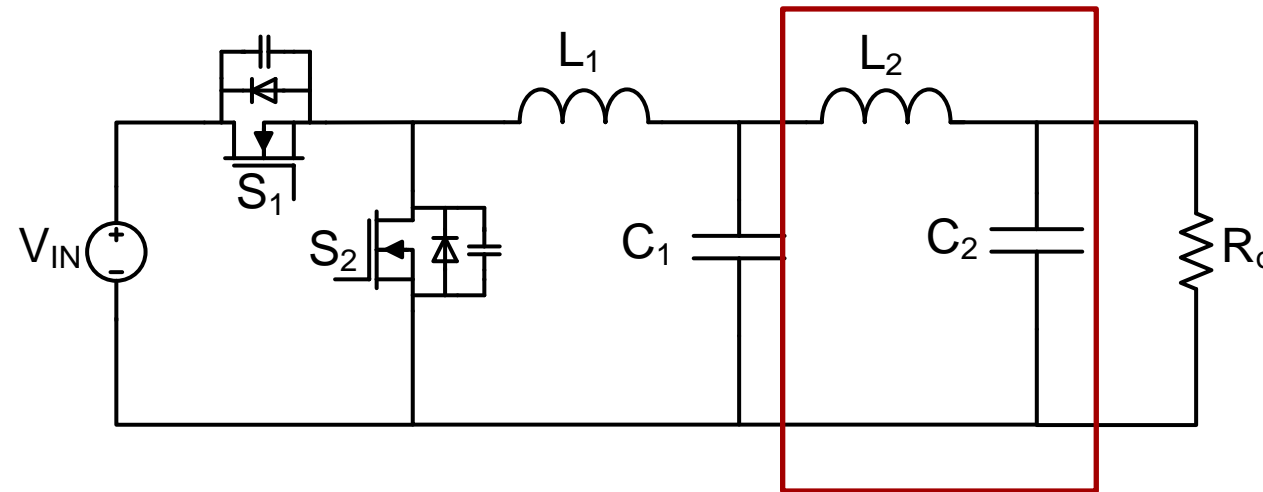
# LF ripple – switching frequency and inductance

- We understand that the LF ripple is a function of the inductor ripple current and the output capacitor(s) impedance.
- We can:
  - **Lower the ripple current**
    - For the same inductor, increase the switching frequency
      - Tradeoff: increased switching losses
    - For the same switching frequency, increase the inductance
      - Tradeoff: increased solution size
  - **Lower the capacitor impedance**
    - Use low ESR and low ESL capacitors
      - Tradeoff: perhaps cost
    - Use multiple capacitors in parallel
      - Tradeoff: cost, board space



# LF ripple – second stage filter

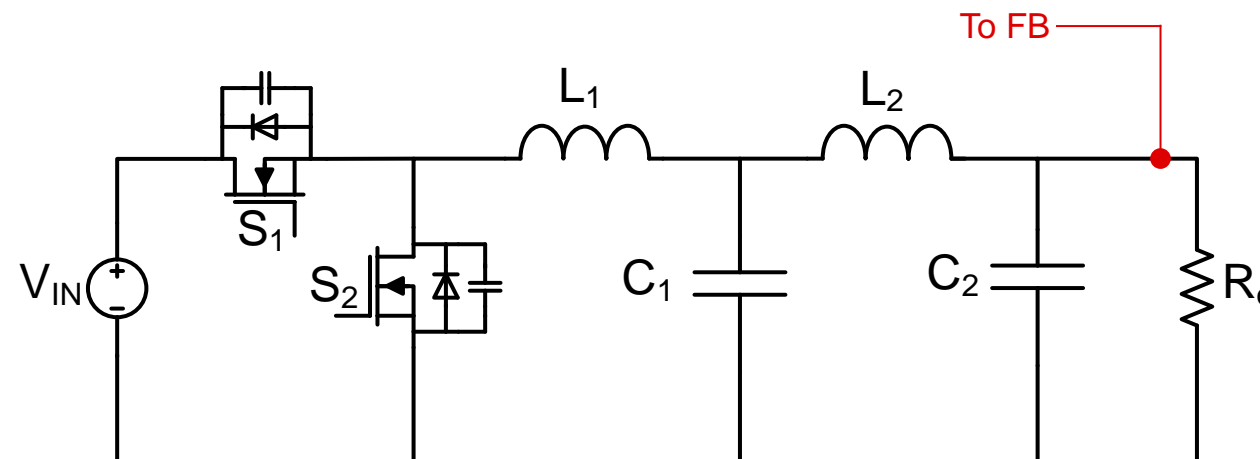
- Certain applications, such as test and measurement, are sensitive to the voltage ripple and routinely require very low output voltage ripple, such as 0.1%.
- To attain this level of attenuation it is required to add another pair of L and C to the output of a buck regulator as shown in the image below.



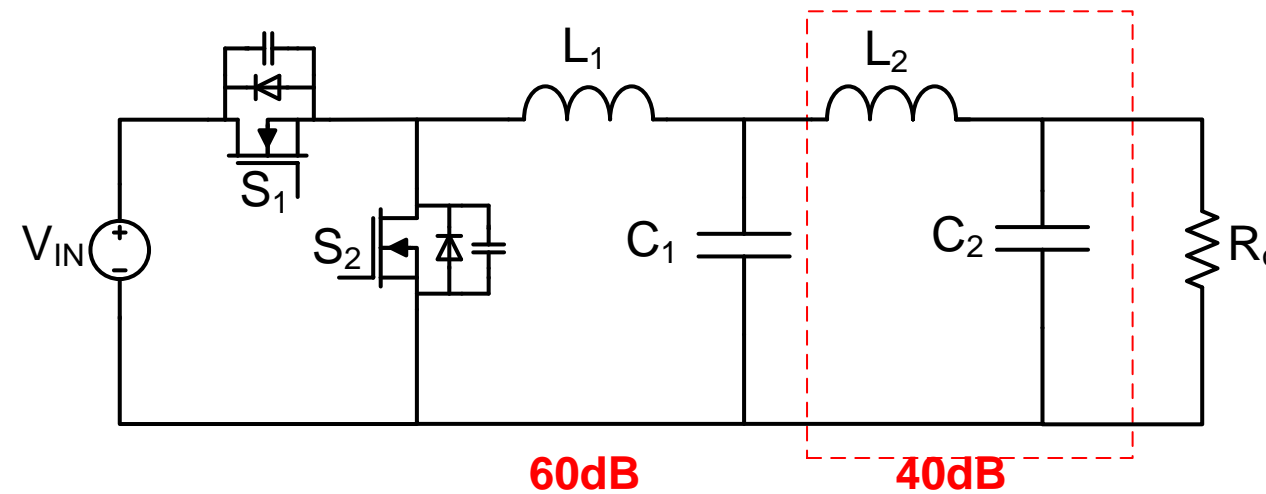
Buck with a second-stage LC filter

# Second stage filter and output sense

- Common concern is how to position the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage filter – before or after the feedback (VO<sub>UT</sub>) sense point.
- **Assumption:** The second stage filter should be placed after the VO<sub>UT</sub> sensing point to avoid instabilities.
- **Reality:** Regardless of the connection the filter still interacts with the original output capacitance and there is resonance created.
- Connecting the filter before the VO<sub>UT</sub> sense:
  - allows us to account for it in the stability review
  - there is no load regulation penalty – resistive drop is compensated by the sense.



# Second stage filter – component calculations

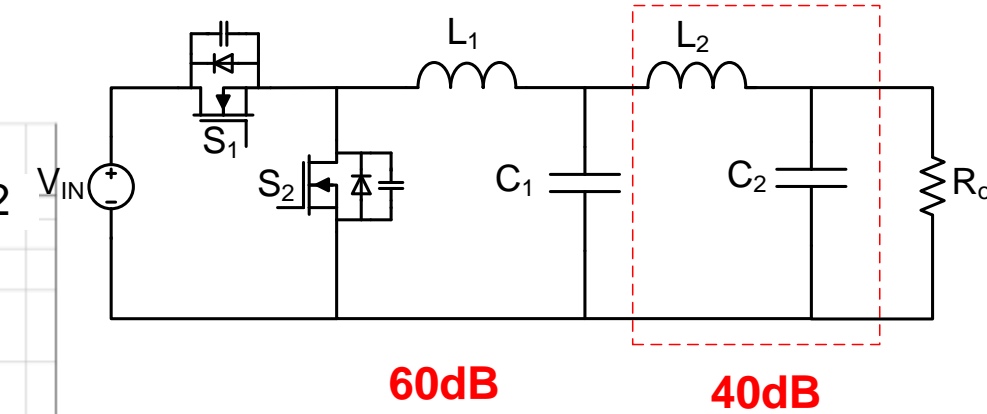
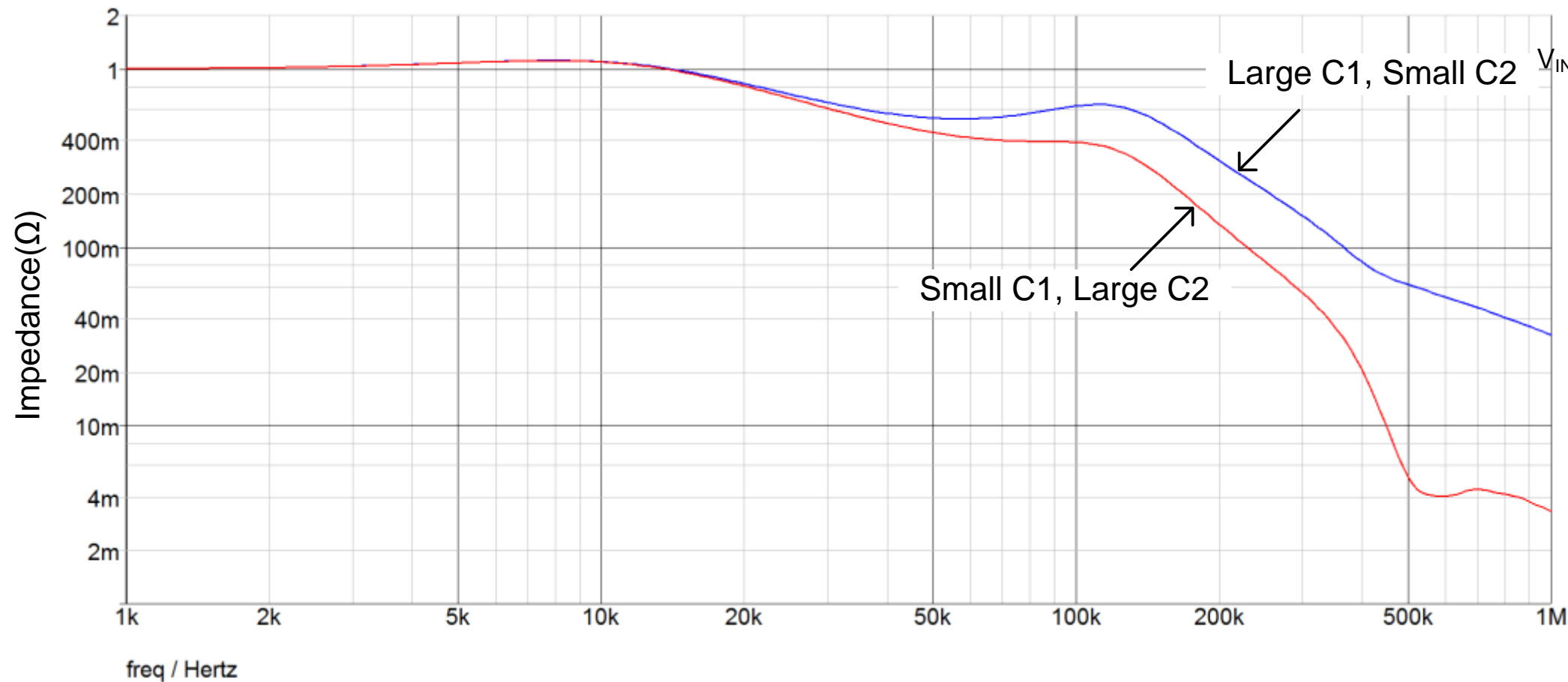


Buck with a second-stage LC filter

- Improper design of the second stage filter could make the converter unstable.
- Two objectives
  1. Attenuation
  2. Loop stability

# Second stage filter – component calculations

- To ensure low impedance and to make sure the filter doesn't affect the loop substantially, the ratio of first stage (C1) to second stage capacitance (C2) is set to 1:10
- The value of the secondary inductor is then chosen for the remainder 40dB attenuation.



Steps:

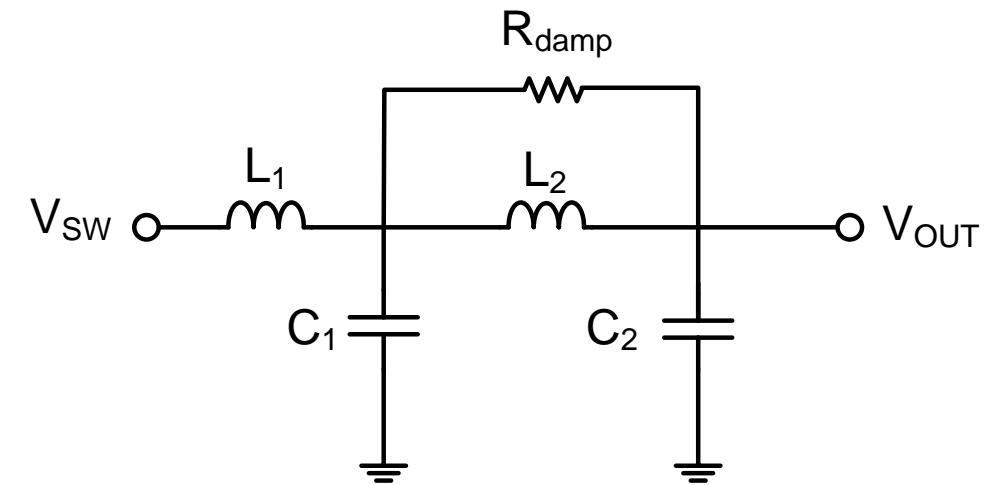
1. Calculate  $L_1$  (usually based on ripple current)
2. Calculate  $C_1$  based on the 1<sup>st</sup> stage attenuation
3. Set  $C_2$  to be 10 x  $C_1$
4. Calculate  $L_2$  based on the 2<sup>nd</sup> stage attenuation

# Second stage filter – Q and damping

- There may be a need to add a damping resistor in parallel with the inductor



High Q results in low phase margin



Placing the resistor parallel to the inductor damps the Q



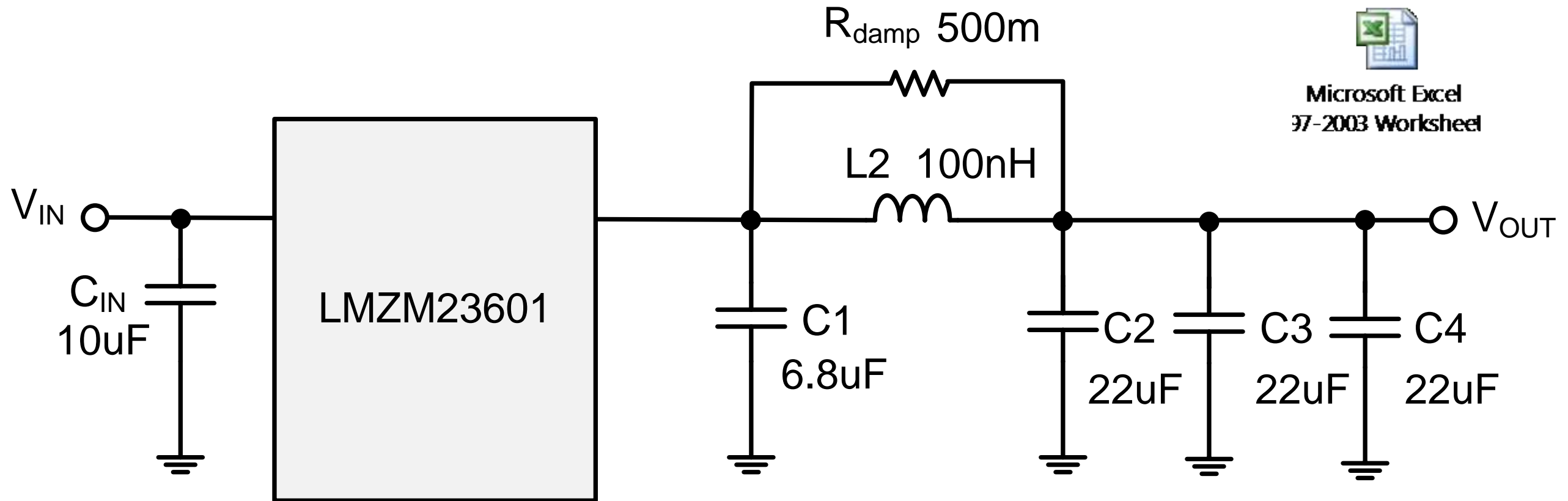
# Second stage filter – choosing $R_{damp}$ and $L2$

- LMZM23601 with second stage filter.

Filter Calculator with Equations



Microsoft Excel  
97-2003 Worksheet

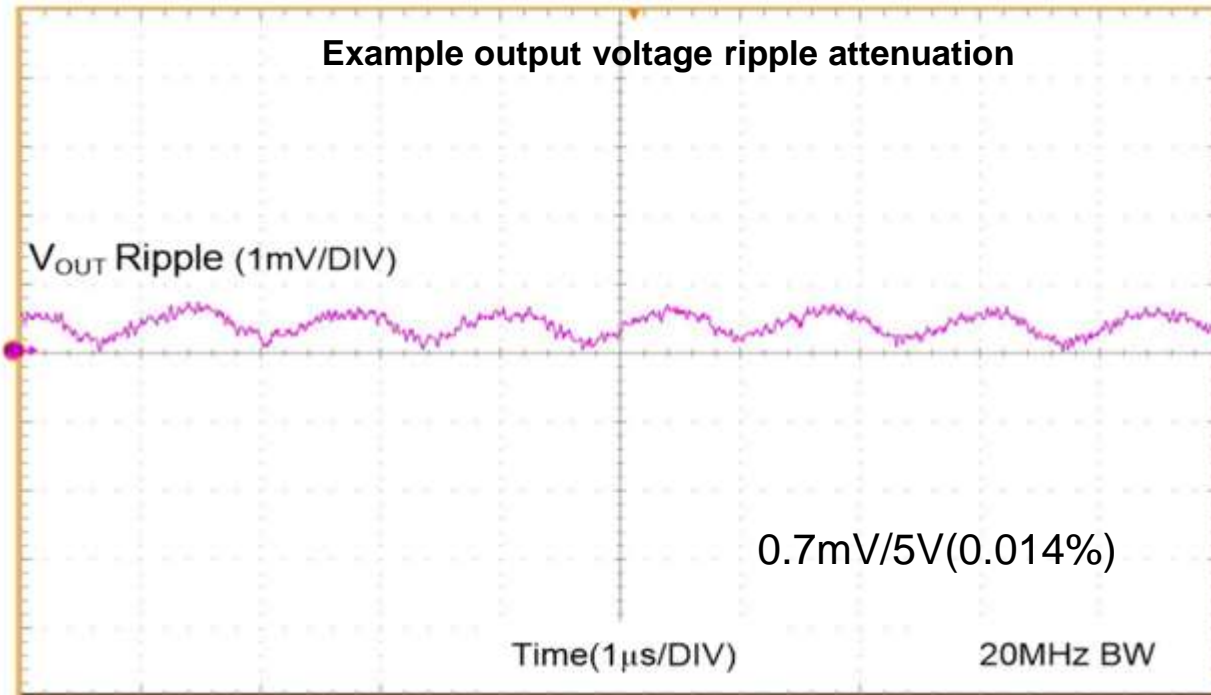


LMZM23601 with a second-stage filter

# Second stage filter - results

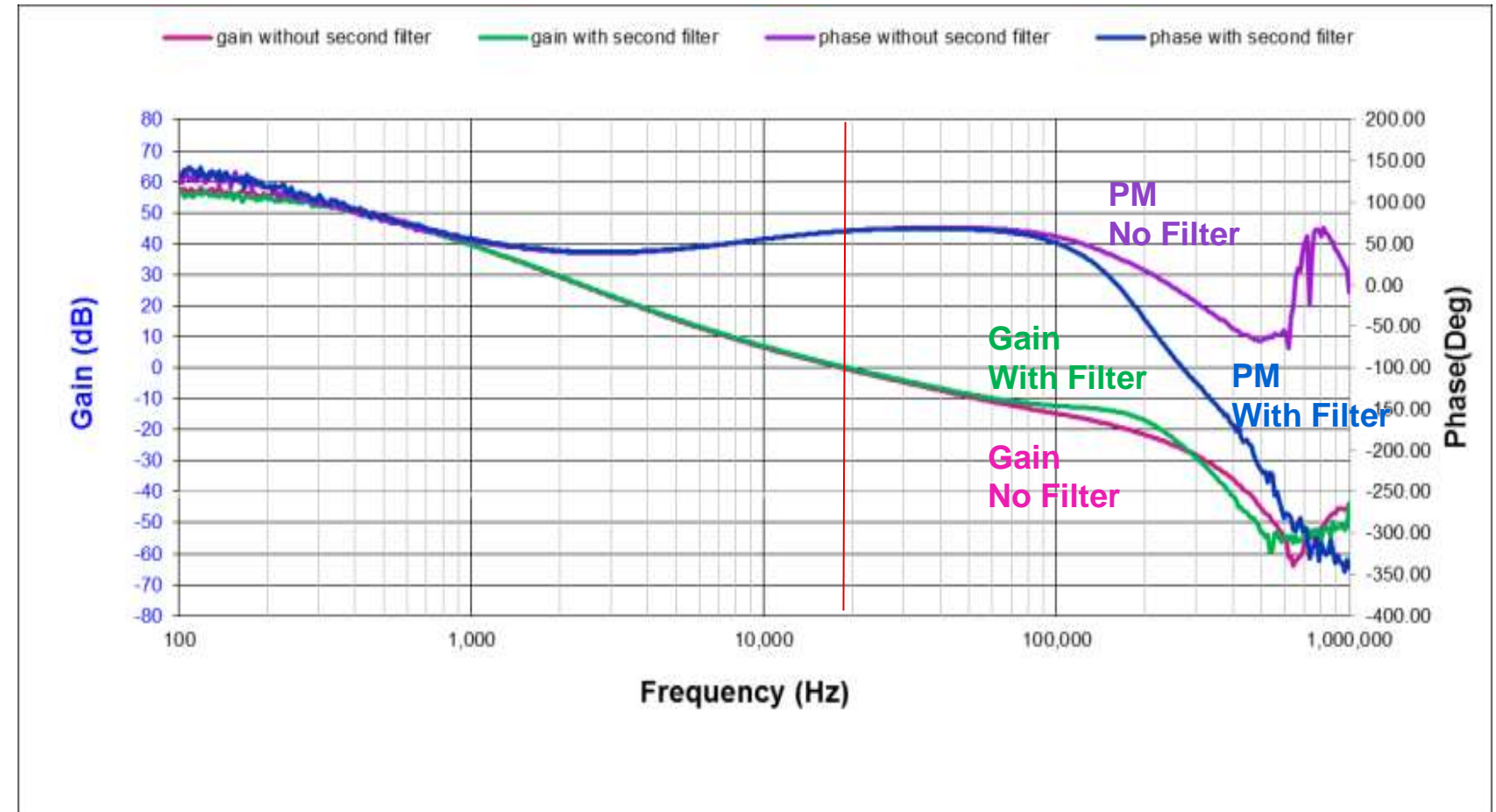
- LMZM23601 with second stage filter.

## Attenuation



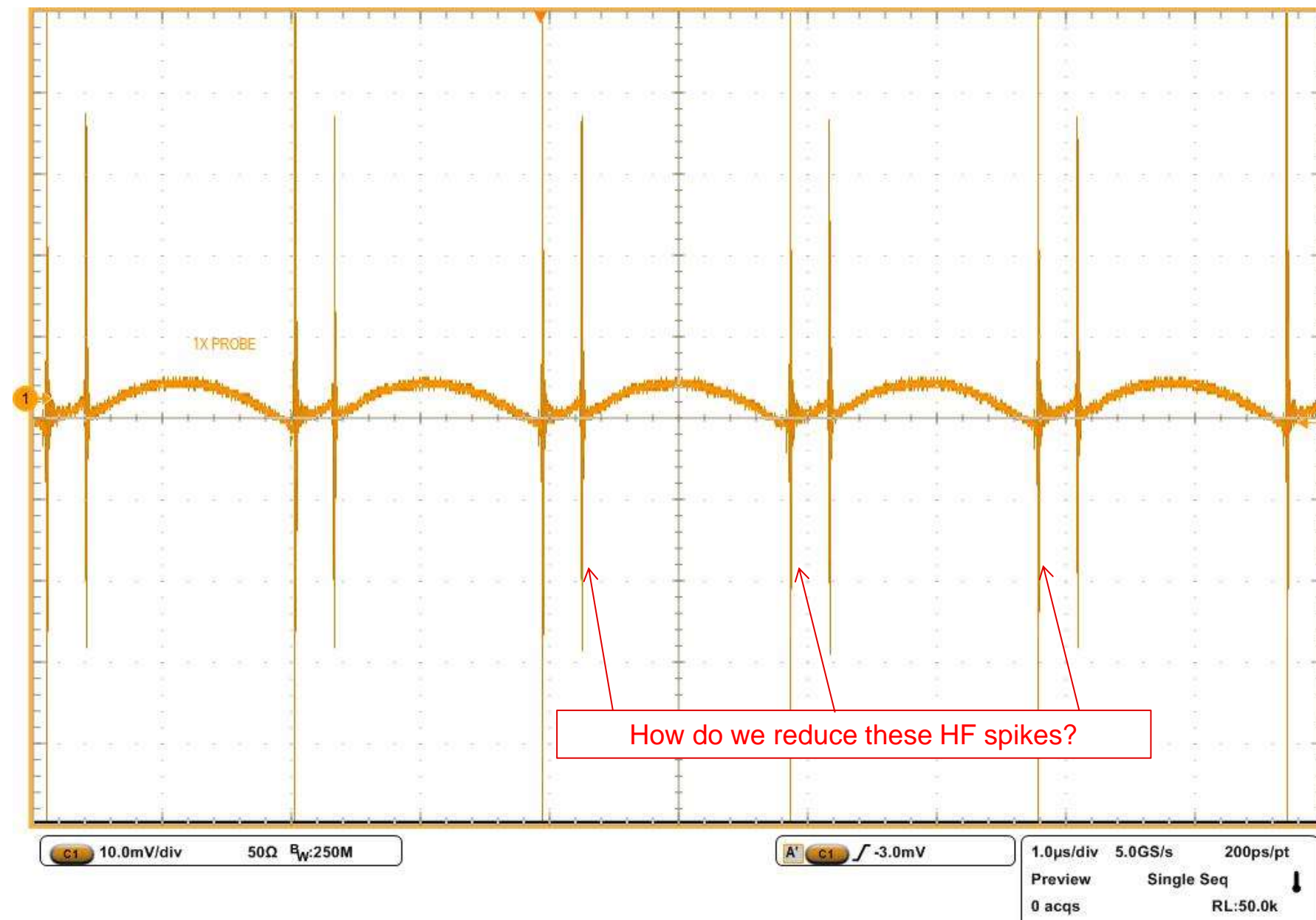
## Stability

Bode plot with and without the second-stage filter



# HF noise reduction

# HF noise reduction



How do we reduce these HF spikes?

Understanding → Measuring → Reducing Noise

# HF noise reduction – component placement

- First step is to optimize (minimize) the area of the **high di/dt loop**.
- For Buck, the high di/dt loop is formed by the input capacitor and the power MOSFETs (switches).
  - Input capacitor as close as possible to IC = Smaller loop area
  - Smaller loop area = Lower ringing on SW node
  - Lower ringing on SW node = Lower output noise
- So first step = optimize input capacitor placement for Buck

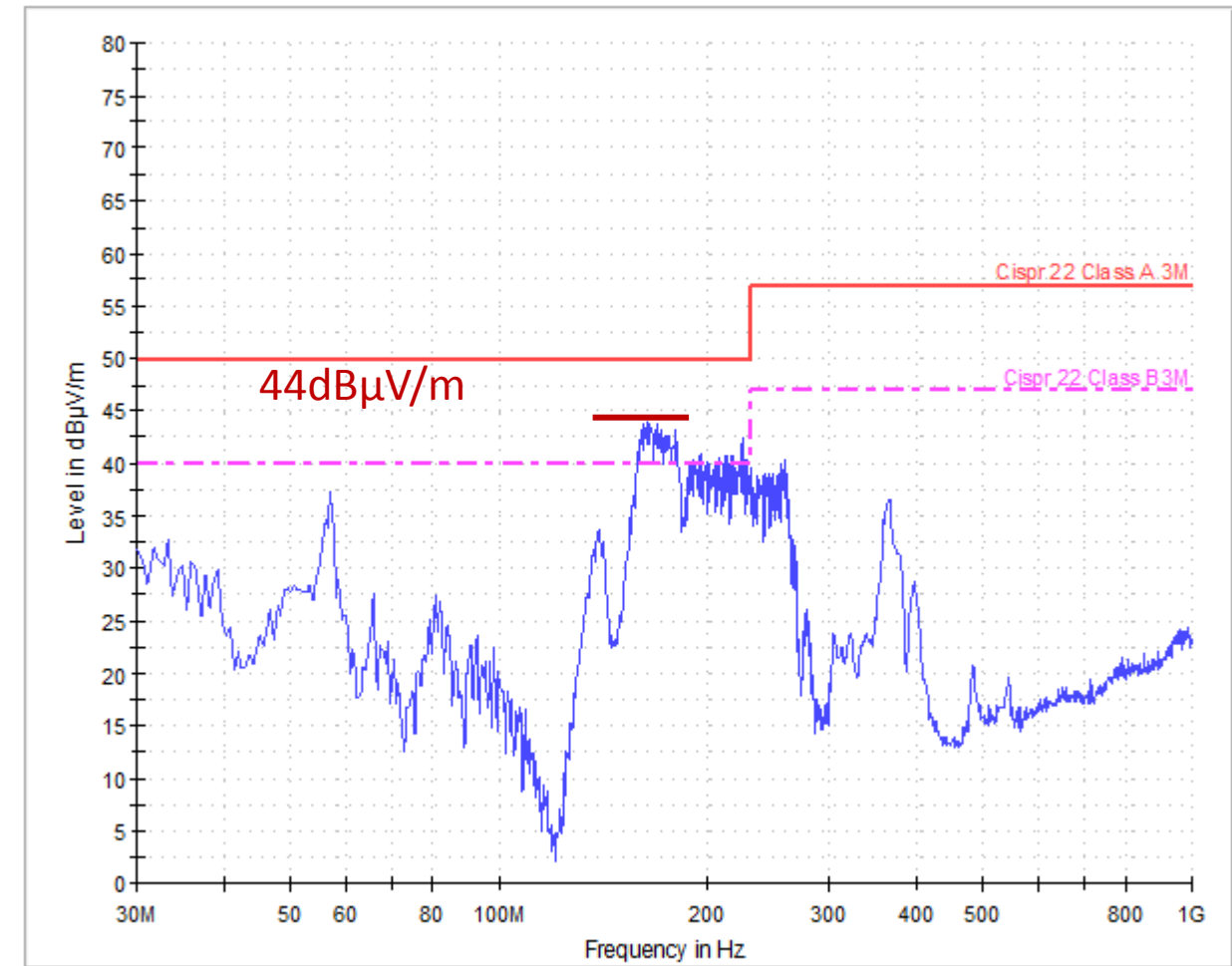
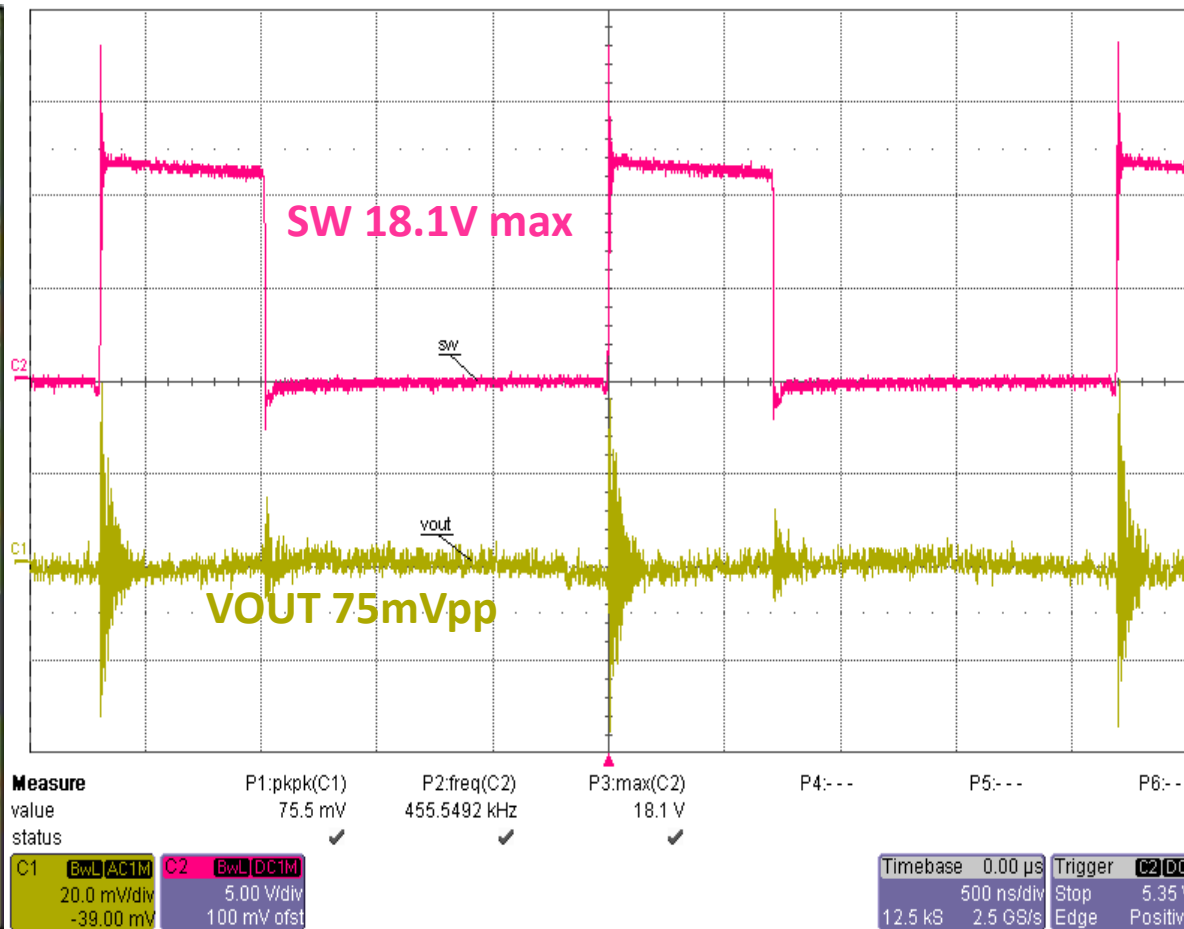
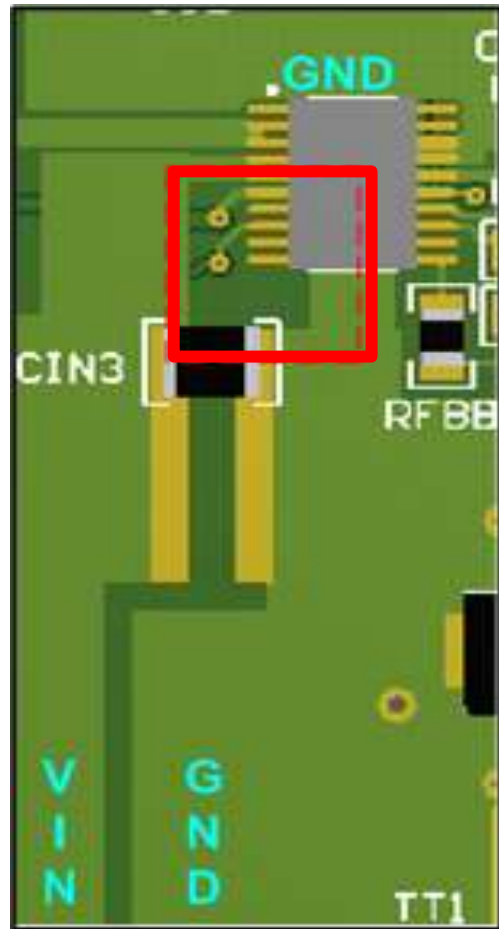


# HF noise reduction – component placement

- For a Buck converter...
  - The **INPUT cap** position affects the **OUTPUT noise!**
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# High di/dt capacitor placement - example

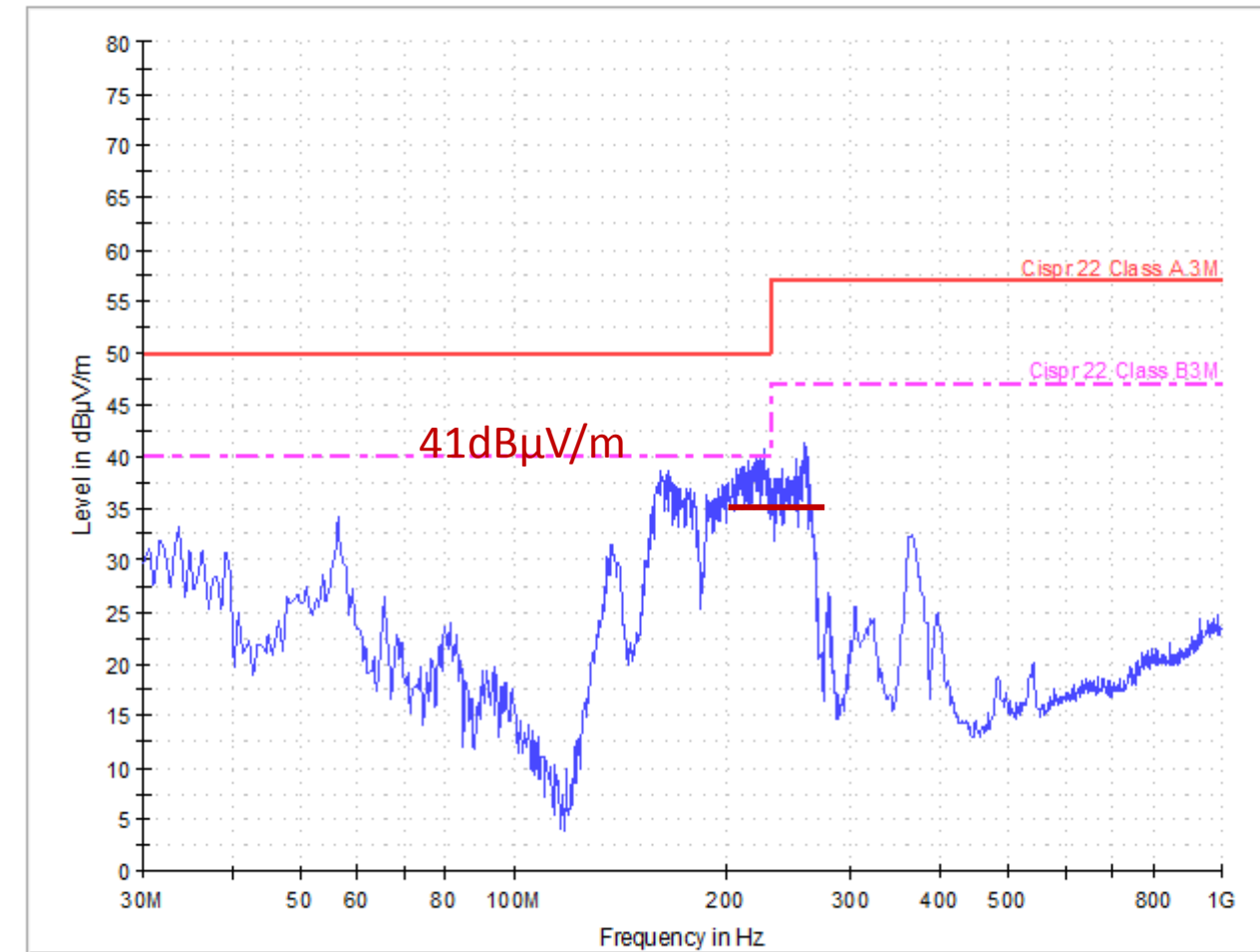
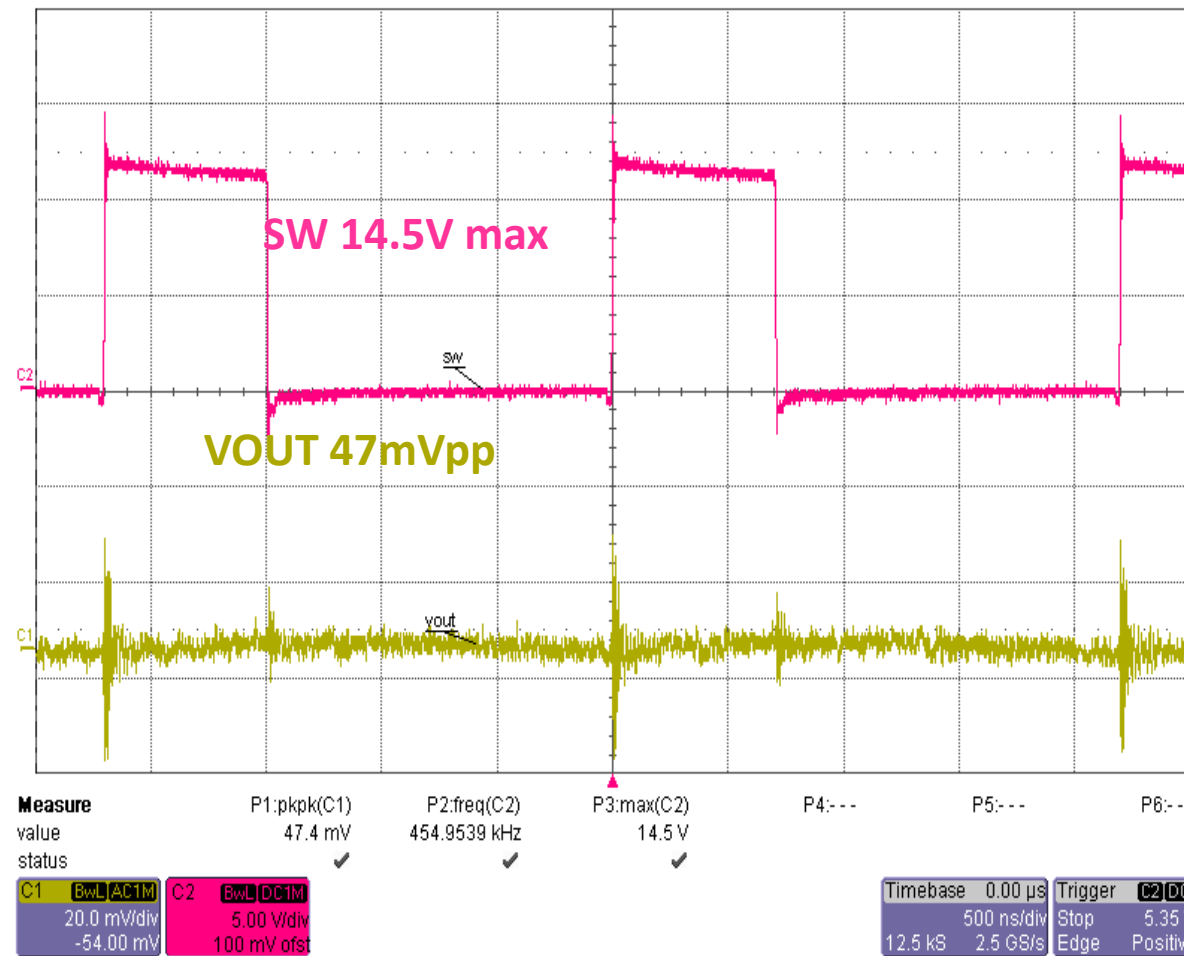
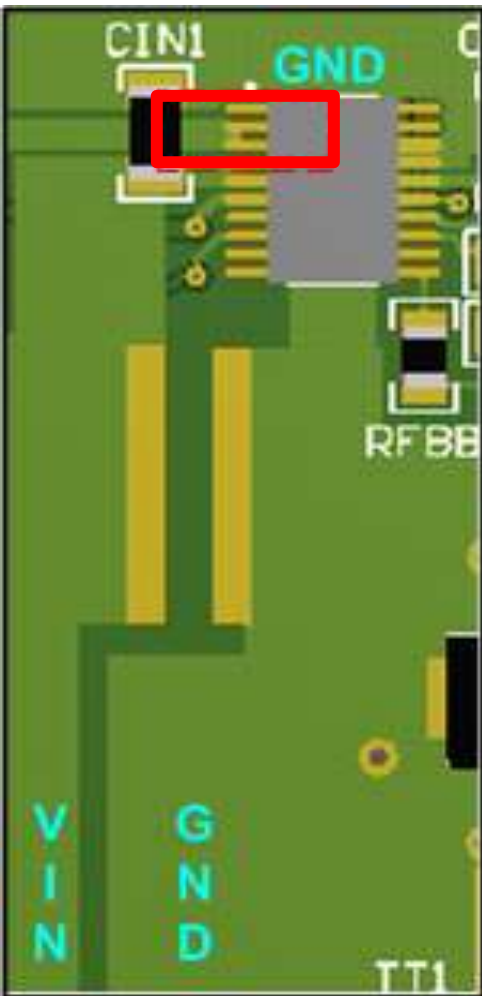
- Buck Regulator comparison with Cin location
- 12V input, 3.3V output, 2A Buck



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# High di/dt capacitor placement - example

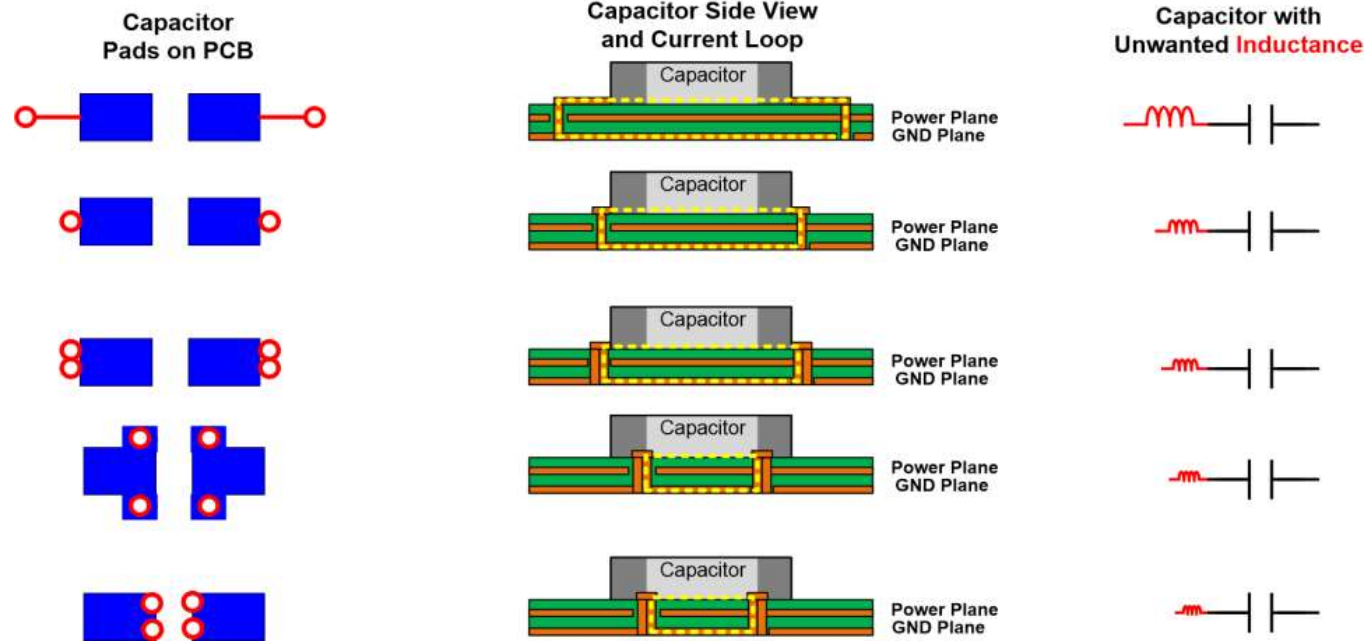
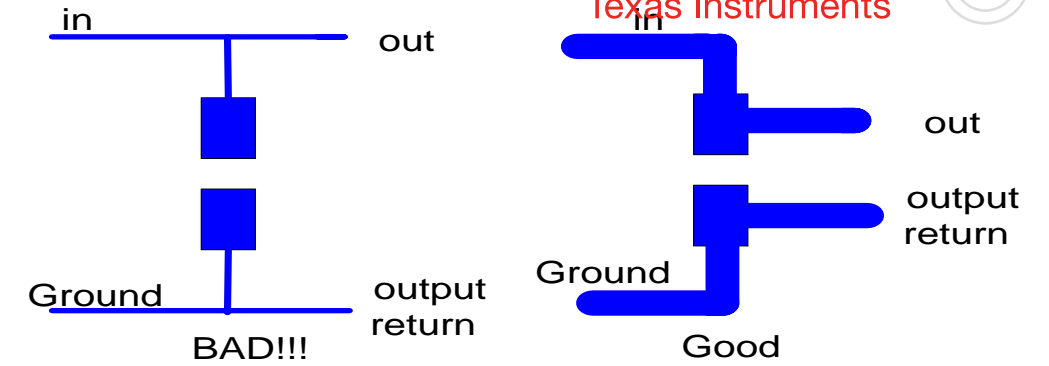
- Buck Regulator comparison with Cin location (2 times smaller loop area)
- 12V input, 3.3V output, 2A Buck



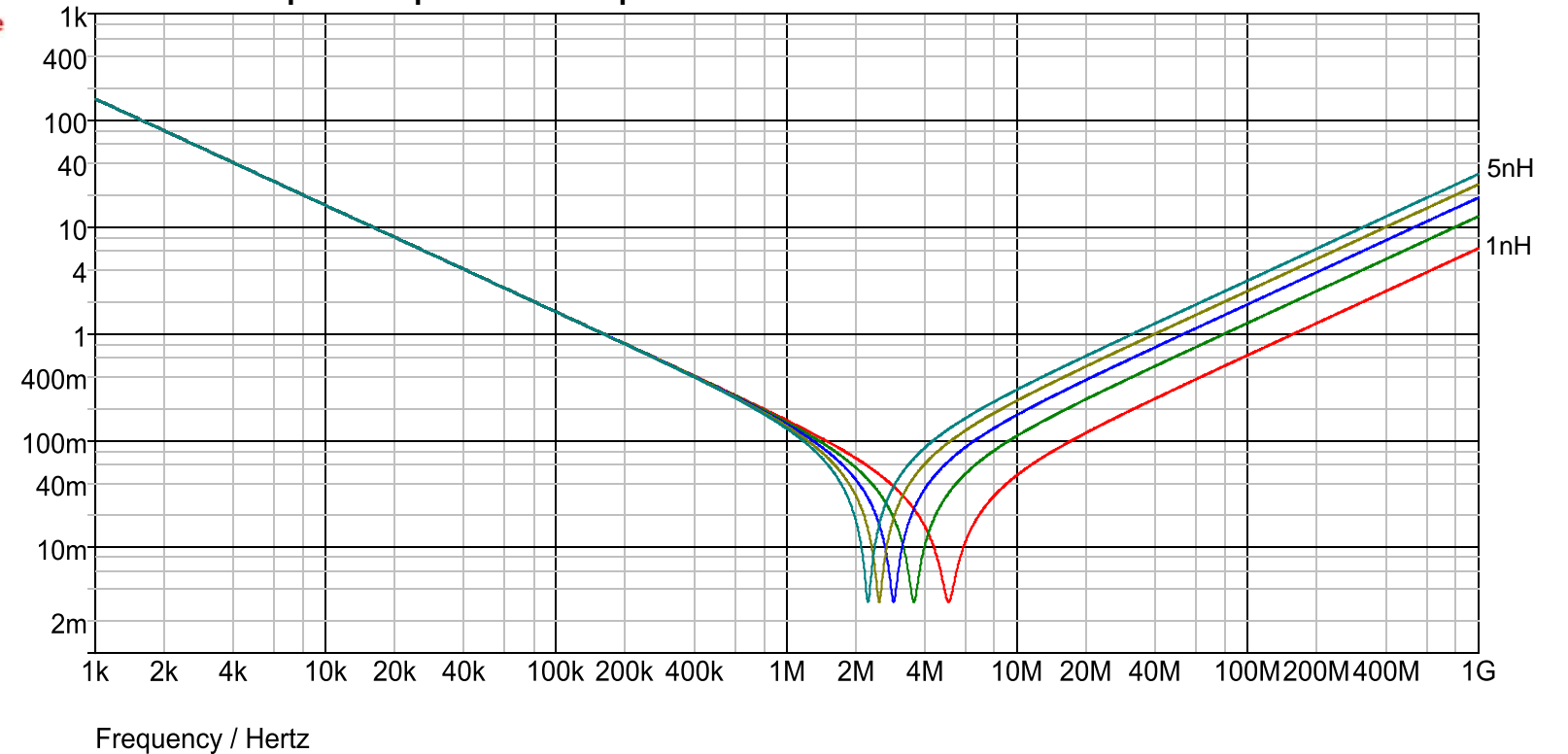
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# Bypass capacitor routing - example

- Place bypass capacitors on same side of board as component being decoupled
- Locate as close to pin as possible
- Keep trace width thick and short



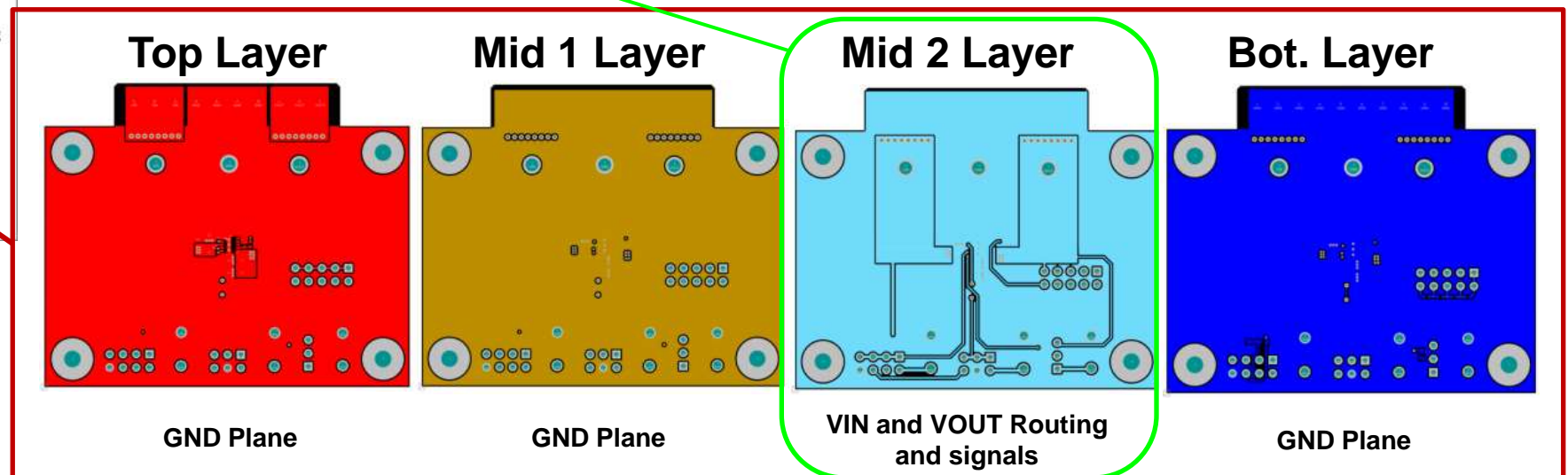
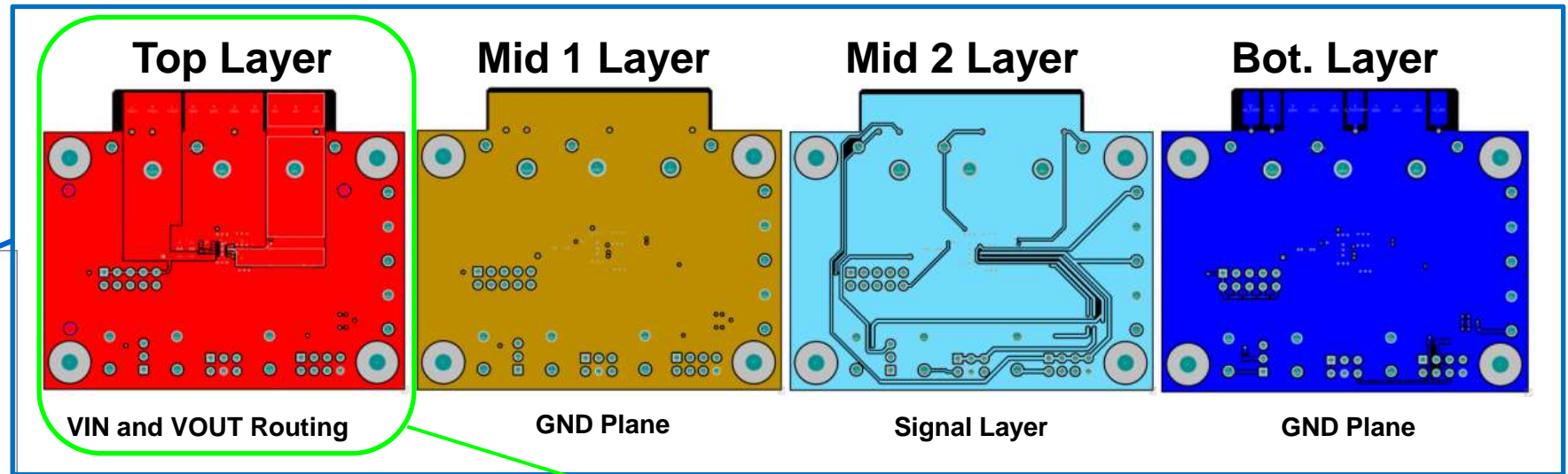
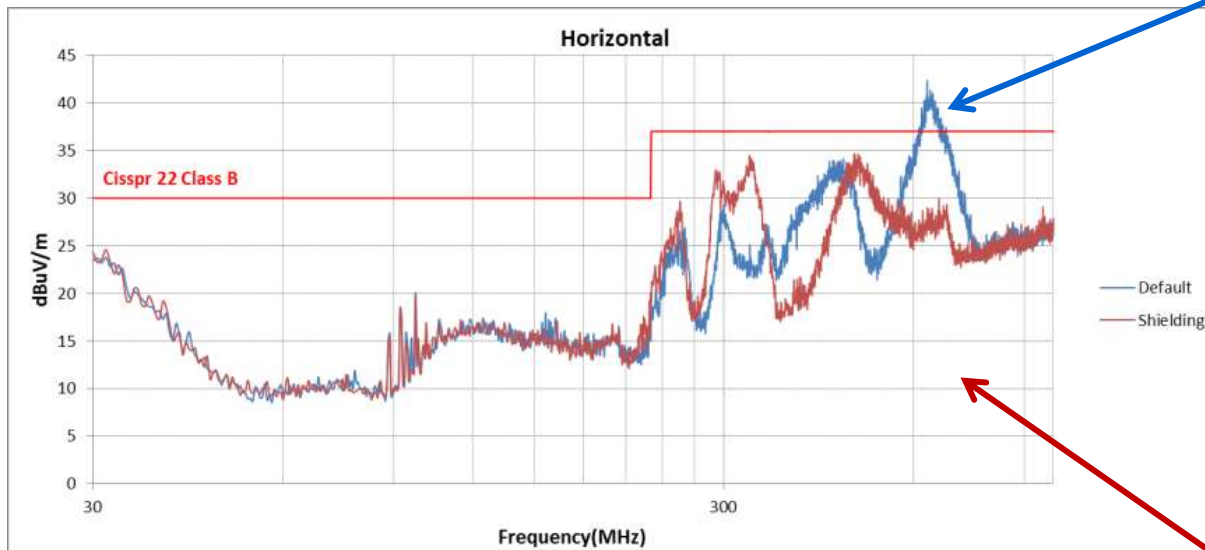
1 $\mu$ F Capacitor Impedance With Various ESL





# HF noise reduction – board layout tricks

## Shielding



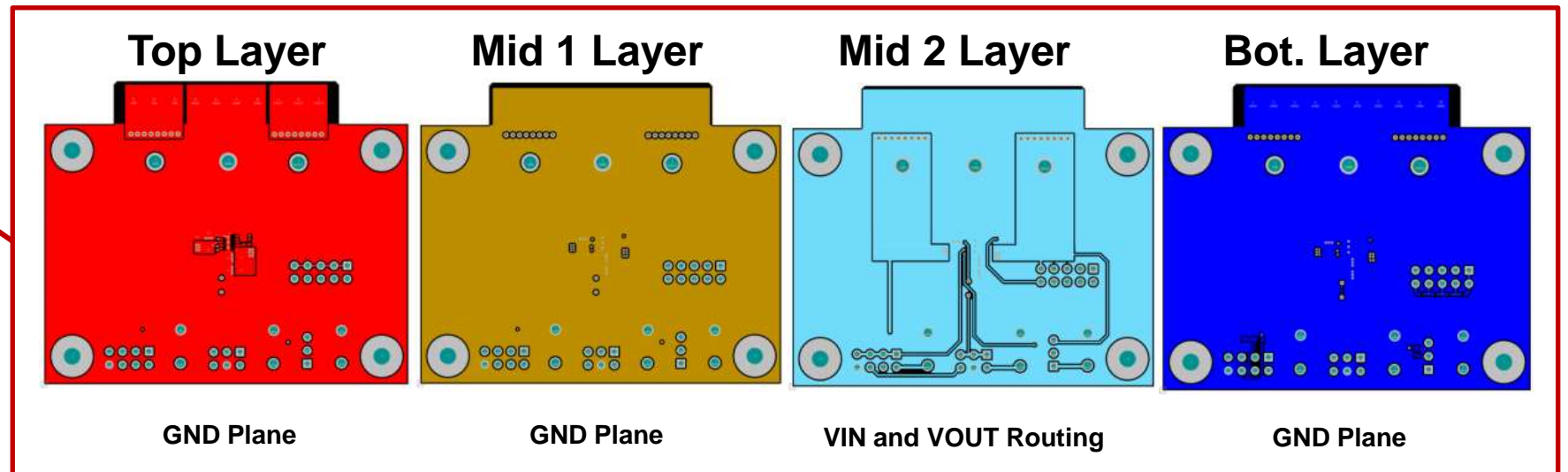
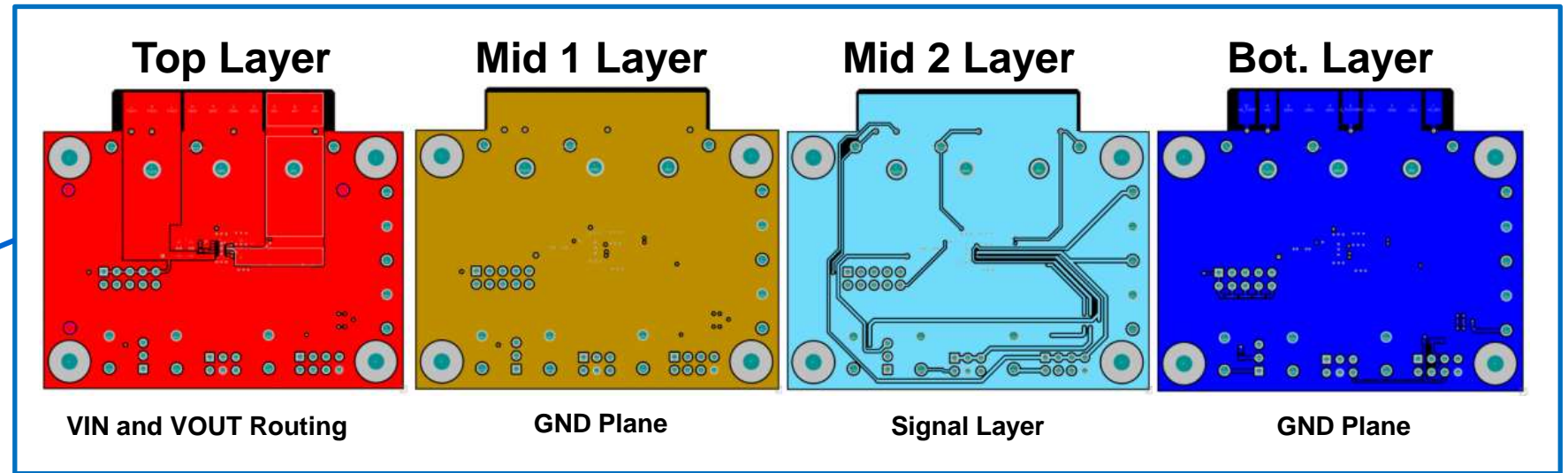
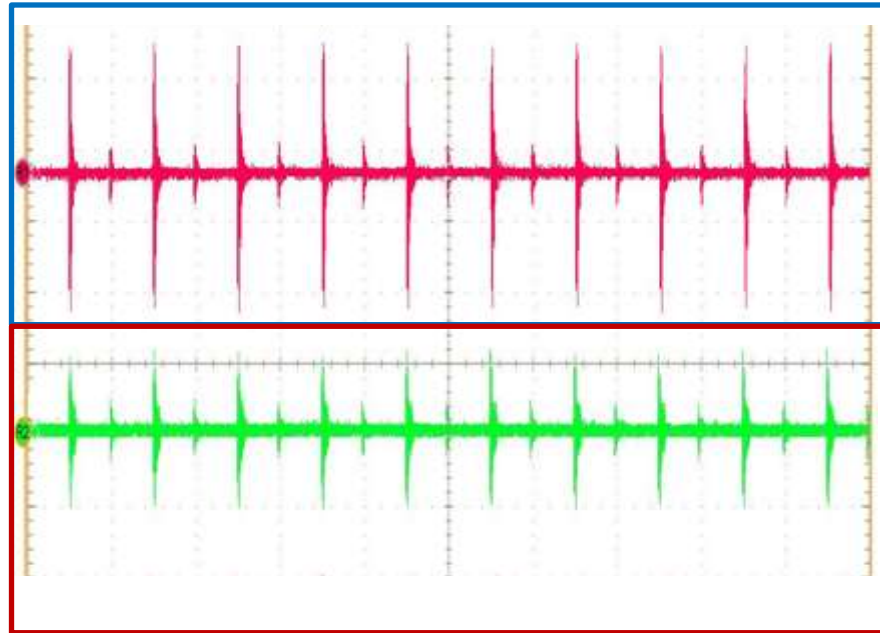
- Same BOM!
- Different stackup
  - Shielding the input (noisy) and output lines
  - Fail by ~5dB vs Pass by ~2dB

Understanding → Measuring → Reducing Noise



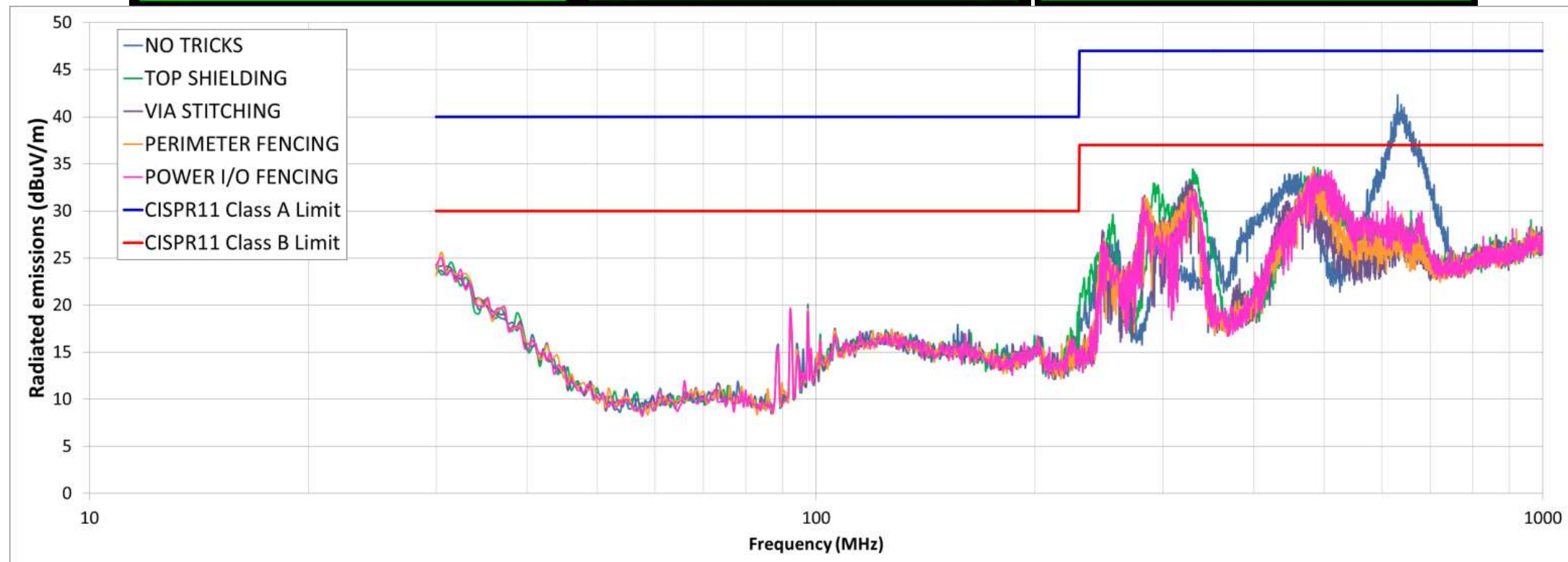
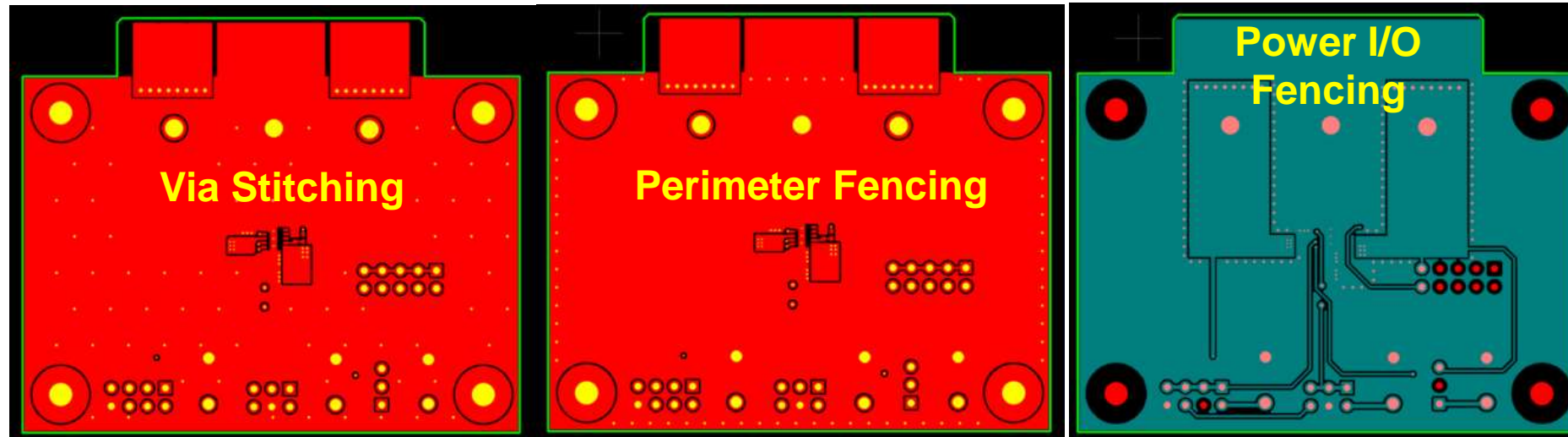
# HF noise reduction – board layout tricks

Shielding

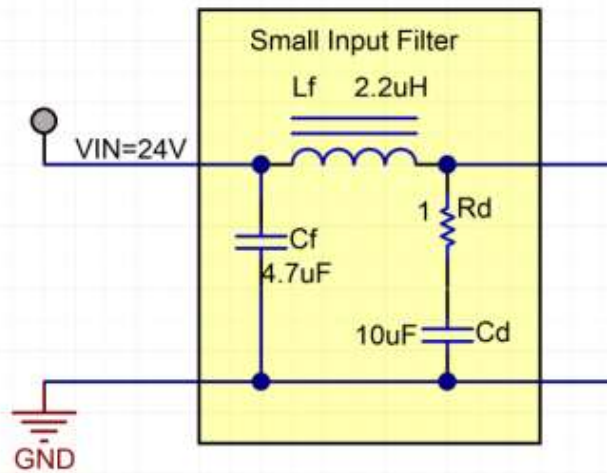


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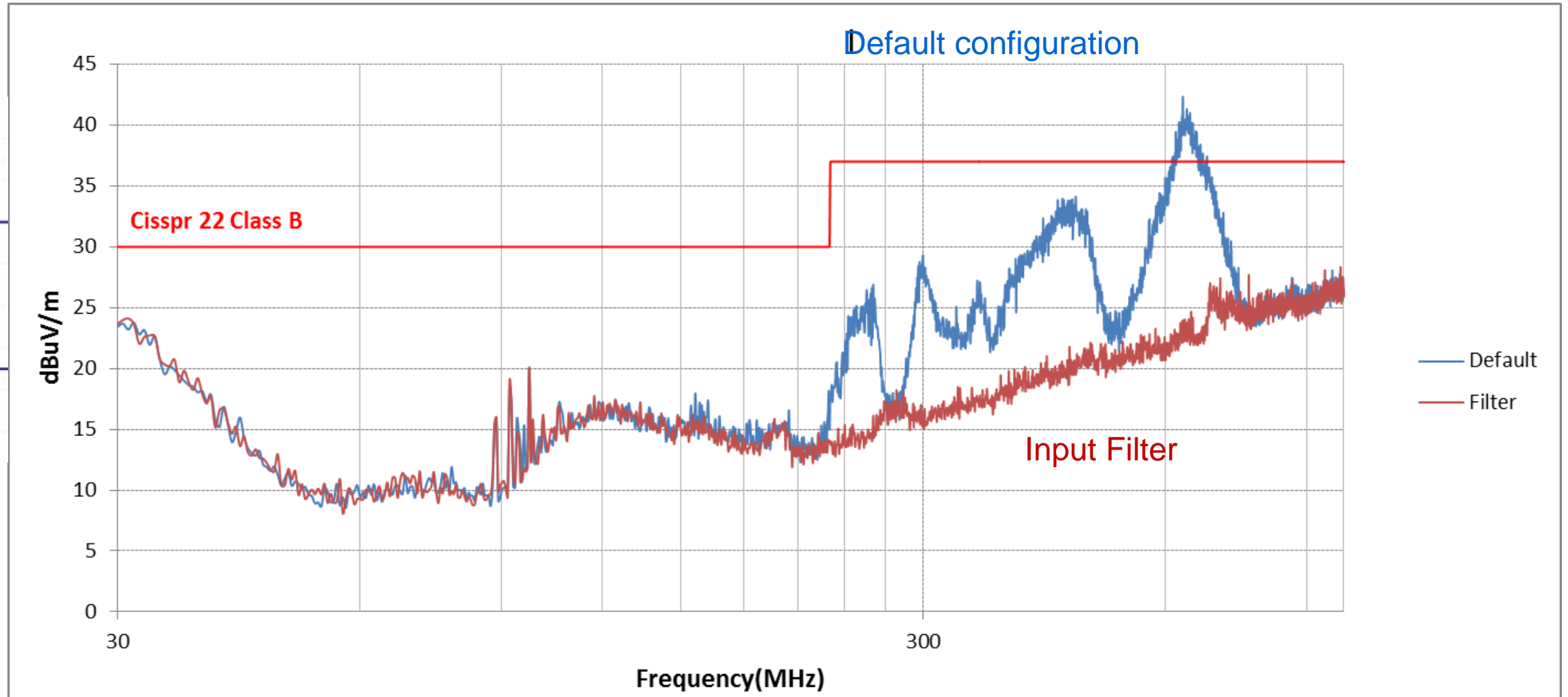
# HF noise reduction – board layout tricks



# Conducted EMI filter and radiated EMI performance

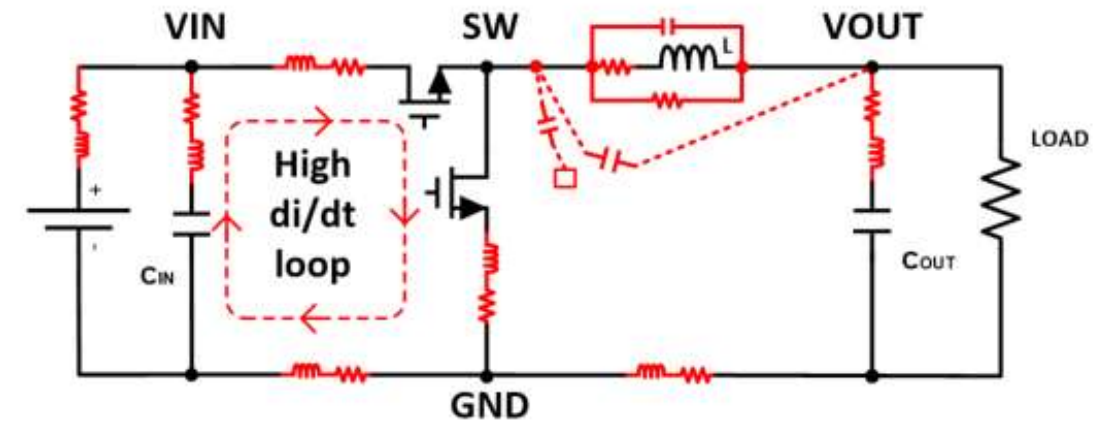


Calculator



# HF noise reduction – package level parasitics

- Some packaging options are better for reducing inductance in the high di/dt loop.
- Power module packages can integrate a high frequency bypass capacitor.
- IC Pinout and Construction Matters

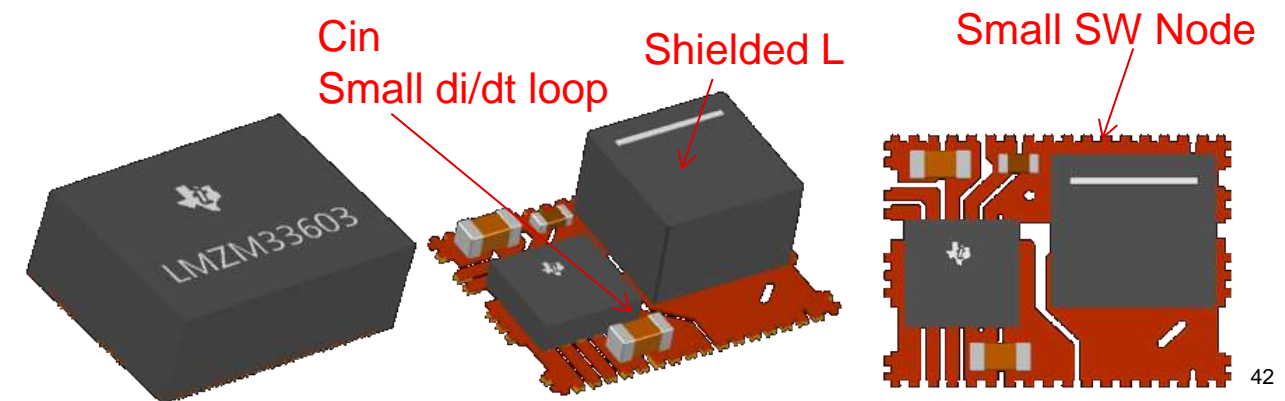
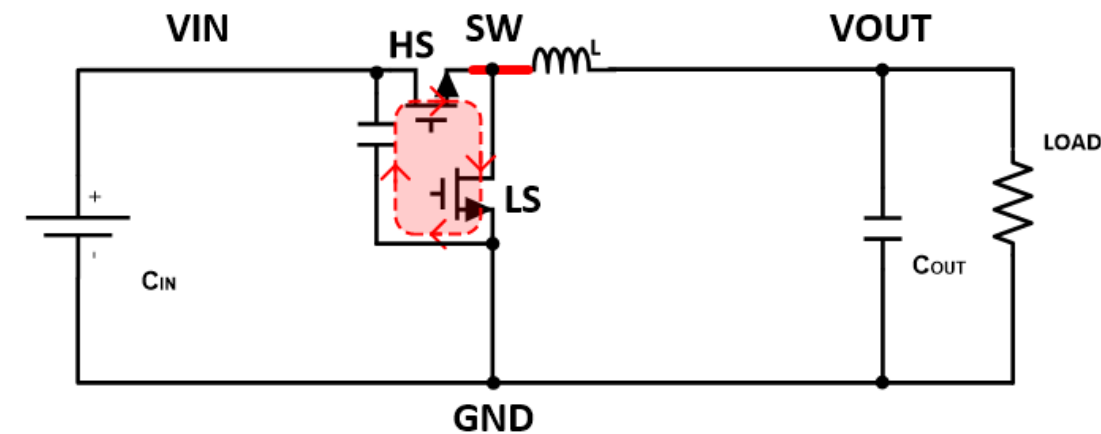
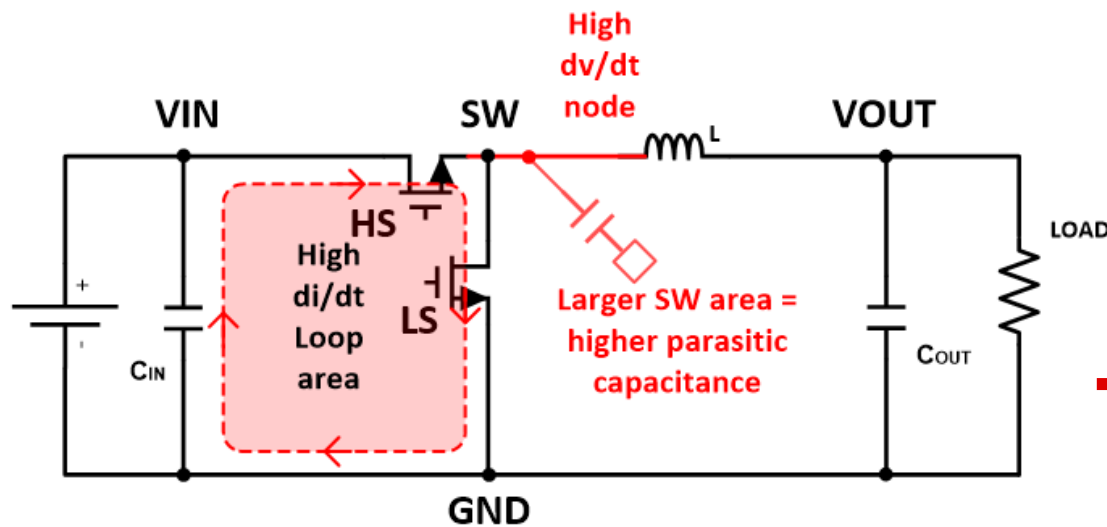




# HF noise reduction – DC-DC power modules save you layout troubles

- Reducing the high di/dt loop area – integrated input capacitance.
- Reducing the high dv/dt node area – integrated L and smaller switch node.

Discrete solution without optimized layout → DC-DC Power Module

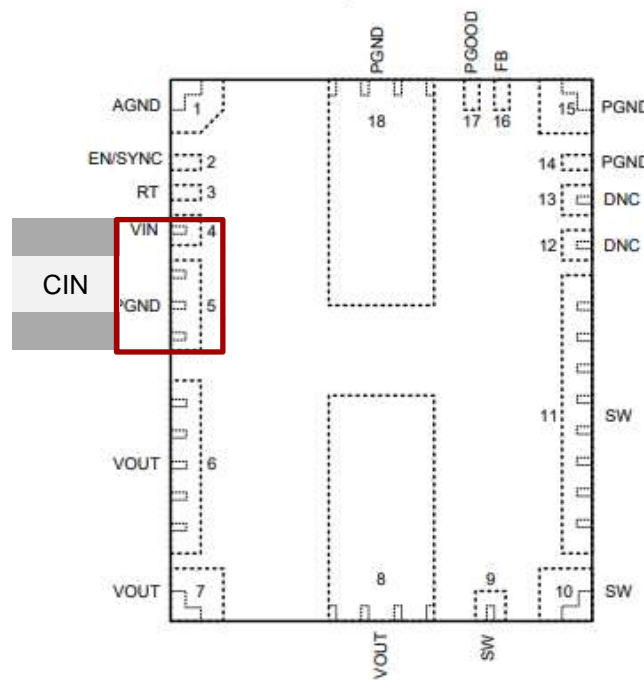


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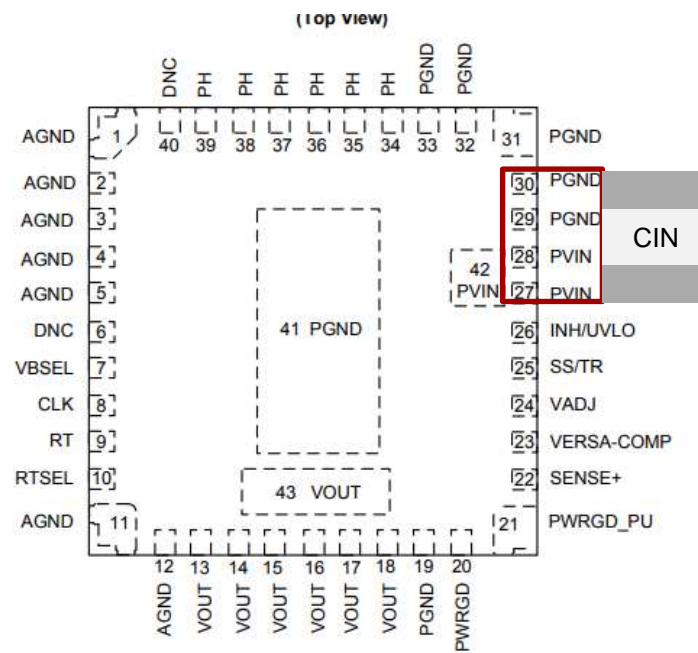


# HF noise reduction – proper pinout

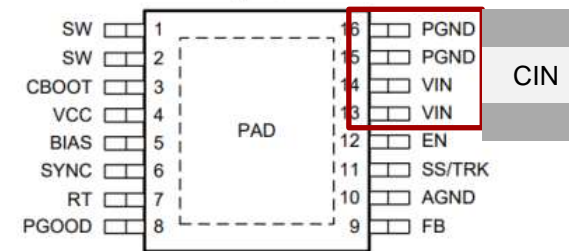
- To minimize the di/dt loop, it is best if the Buck regulator has VIN and PGND pins next to each other. This allow for placing the input capacitor as close as possible to the IC.



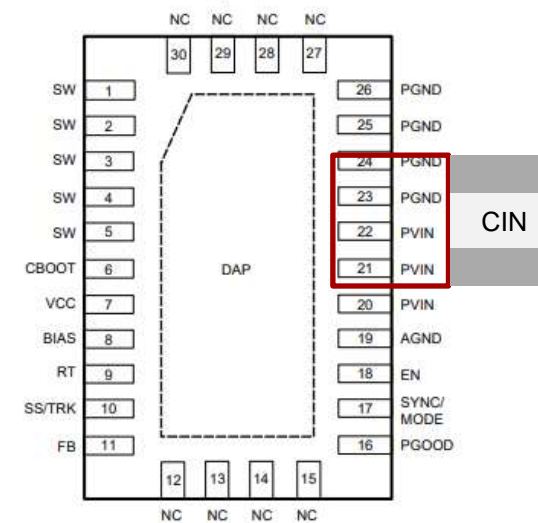
LMZM33603



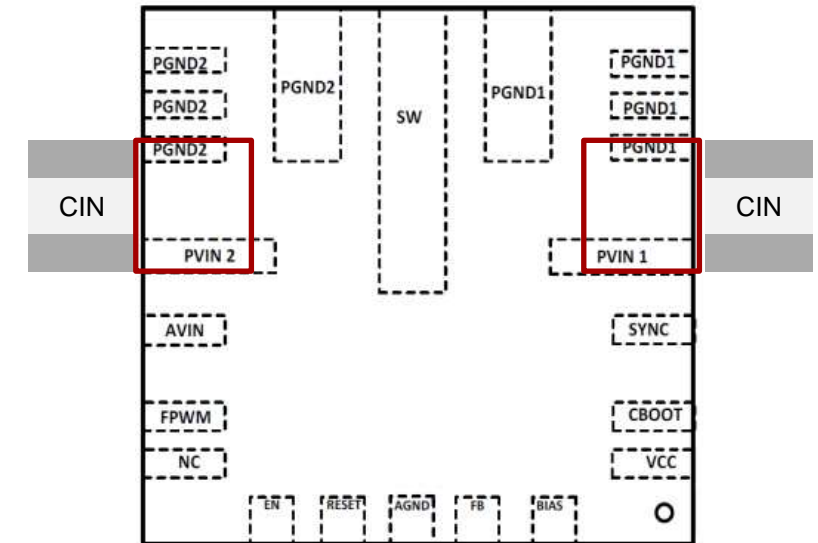
LMZ36002



LM46002



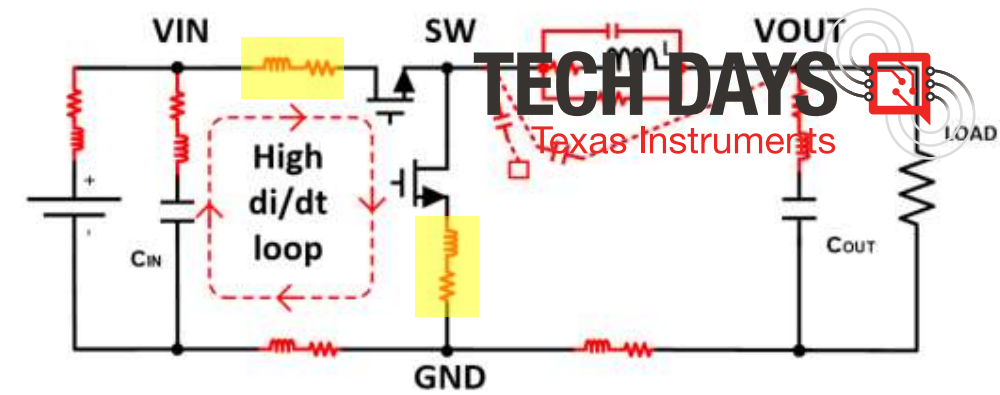
LM73606



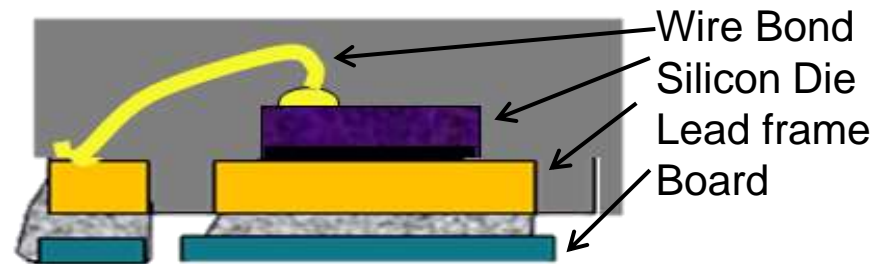
LMS3635

# IC package construction can help

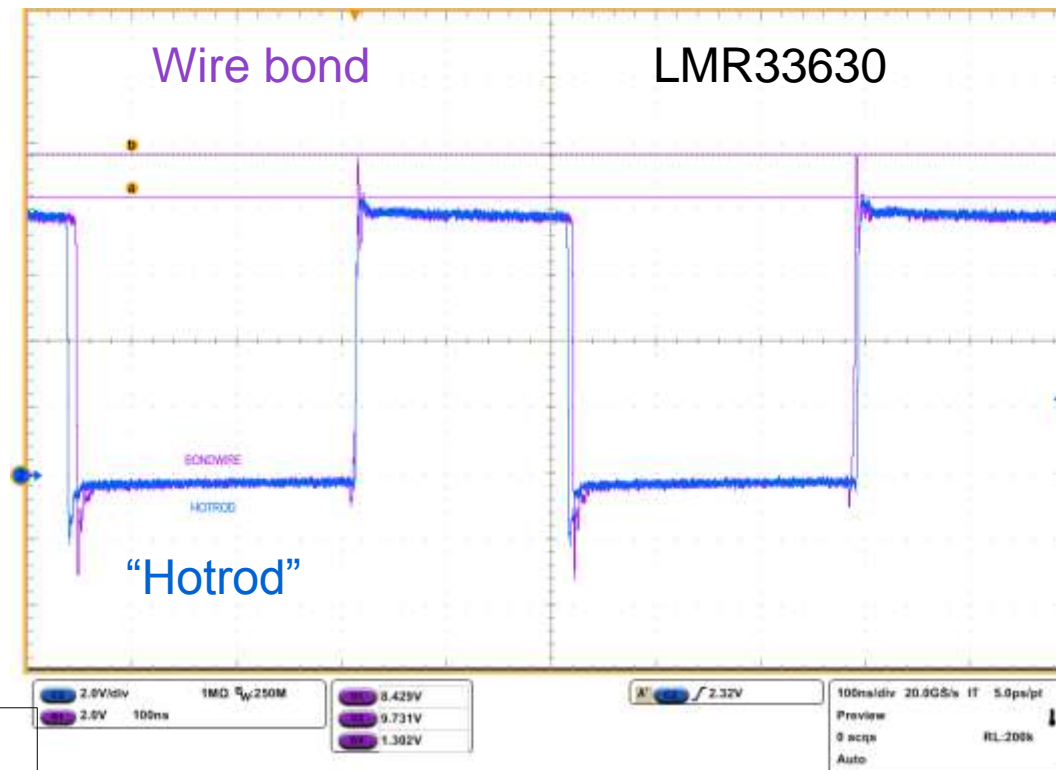
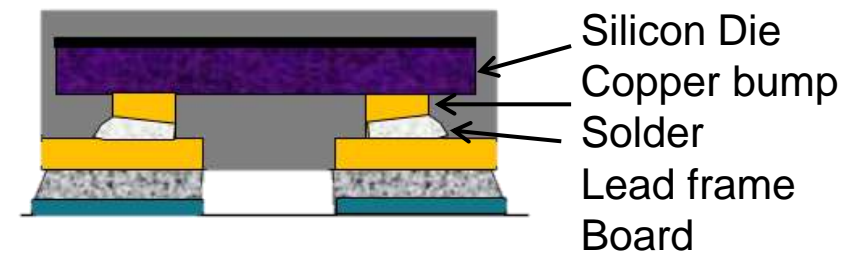
- Bond wire vs Copper pillar interconnects



Standard wire bond QFN package



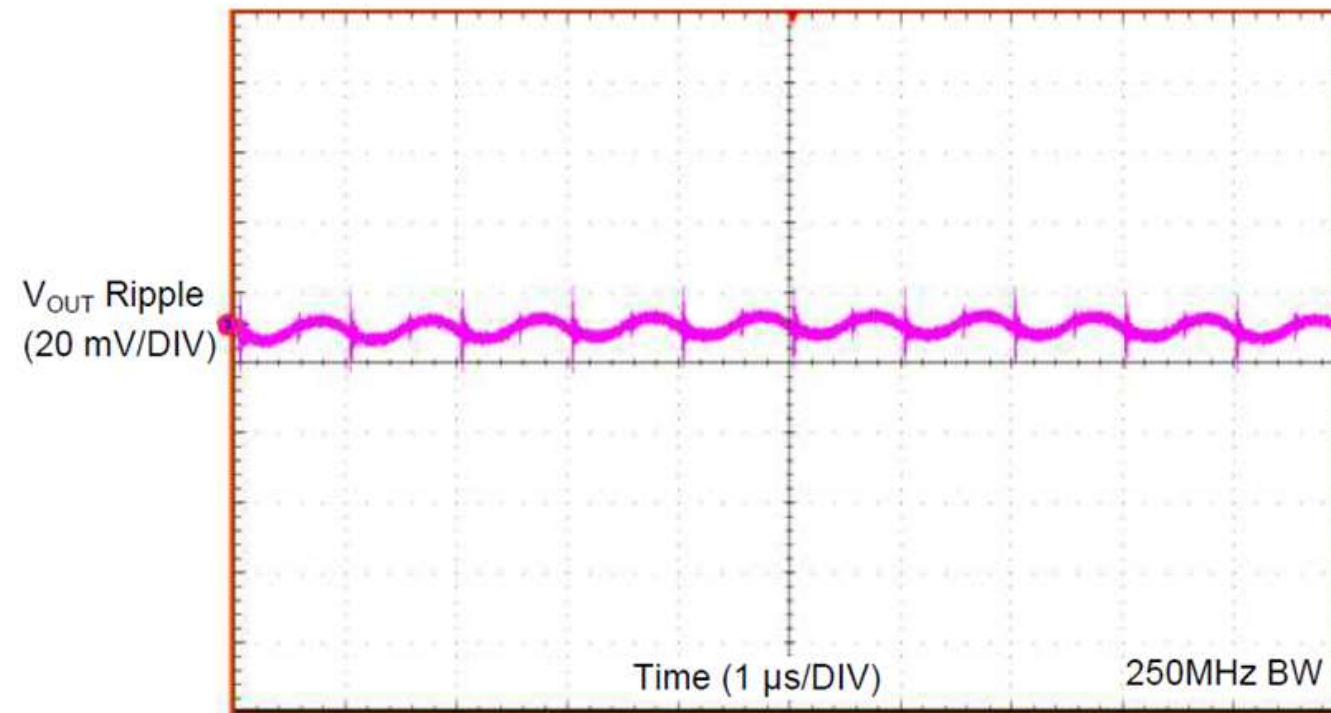
'Hotrod' flip chip on lead frame QFN



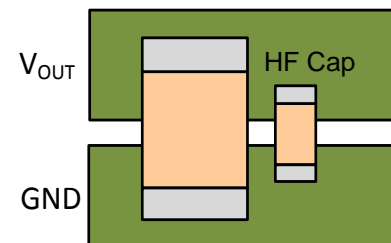
Understanding → Measuring → Reducing Noise

# HF filtering

- After careful input capacitor placement and layout there will be some left over high frequency noise – we cannot completely eliminate parasitic L and C.

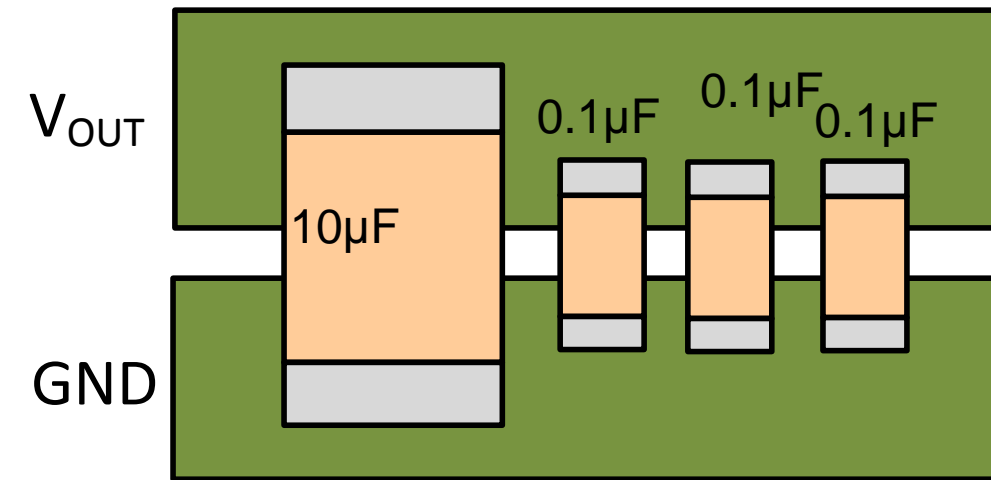
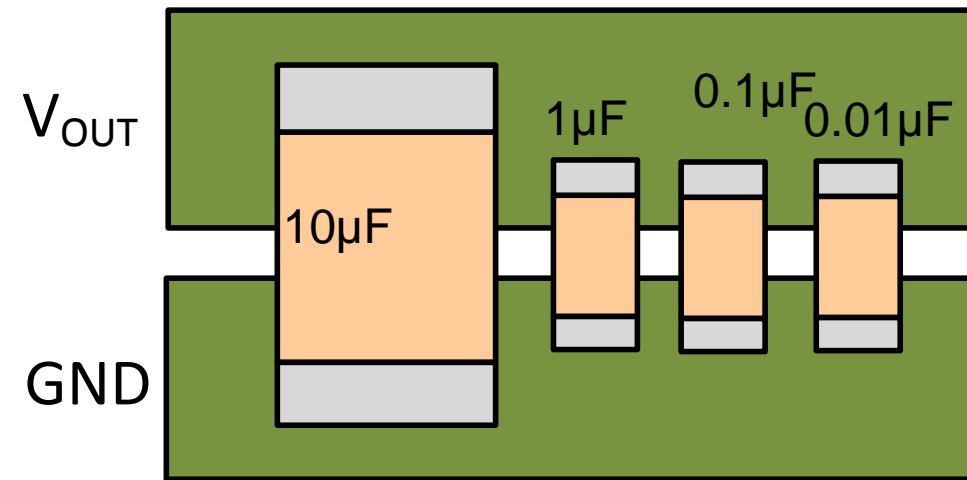
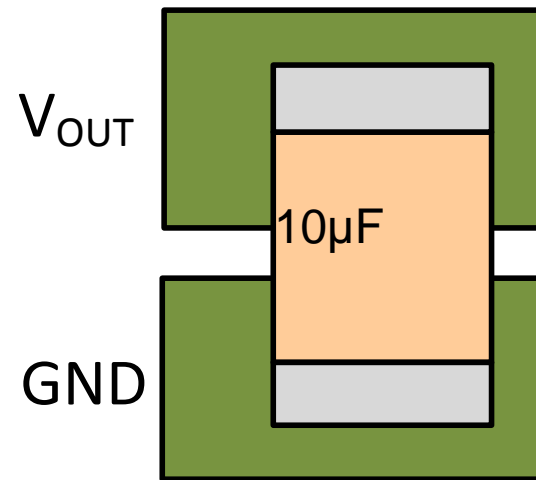


- How can we reduce it?



# HF filtering

- Which one is better?

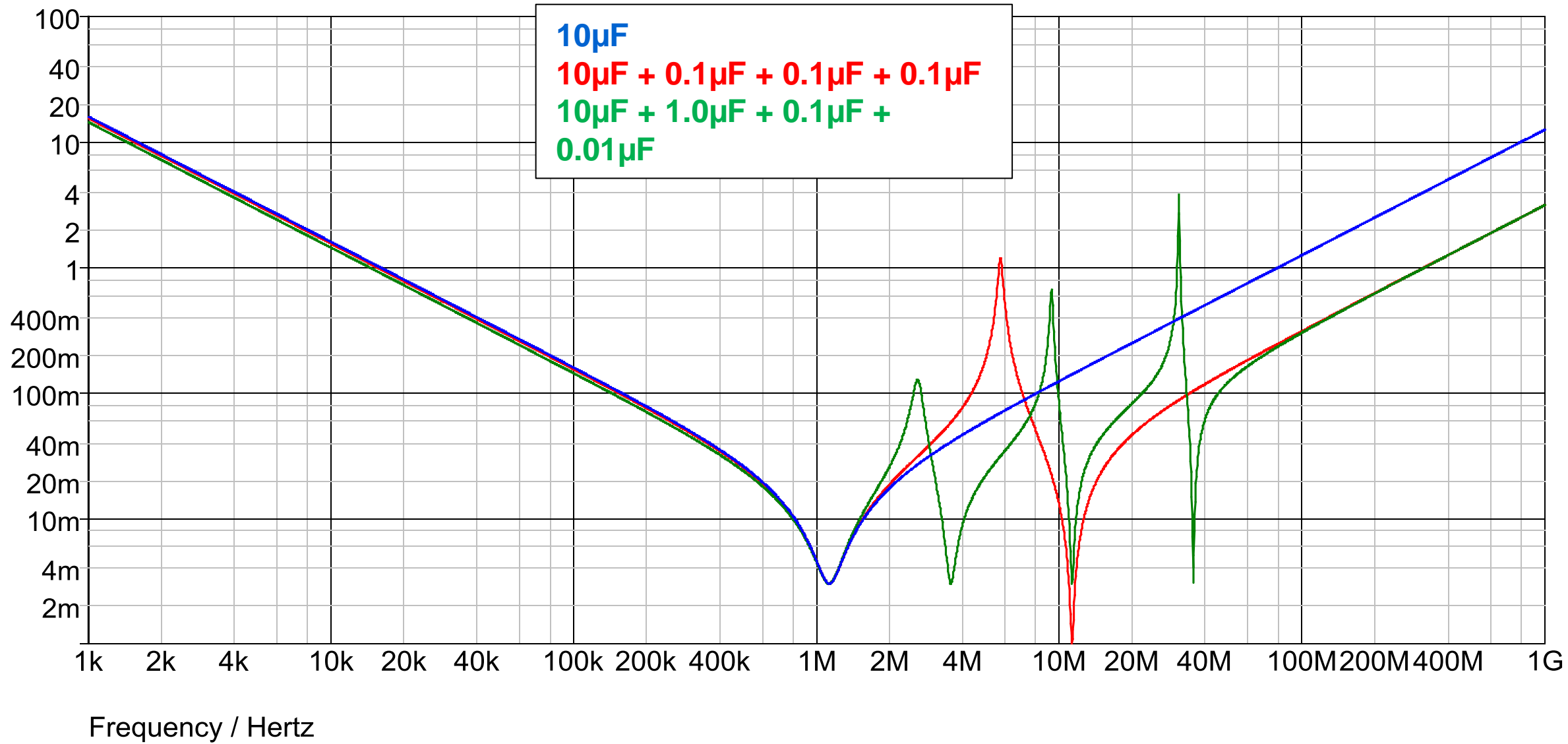


# HF filtering

SIMetrix schematic example:



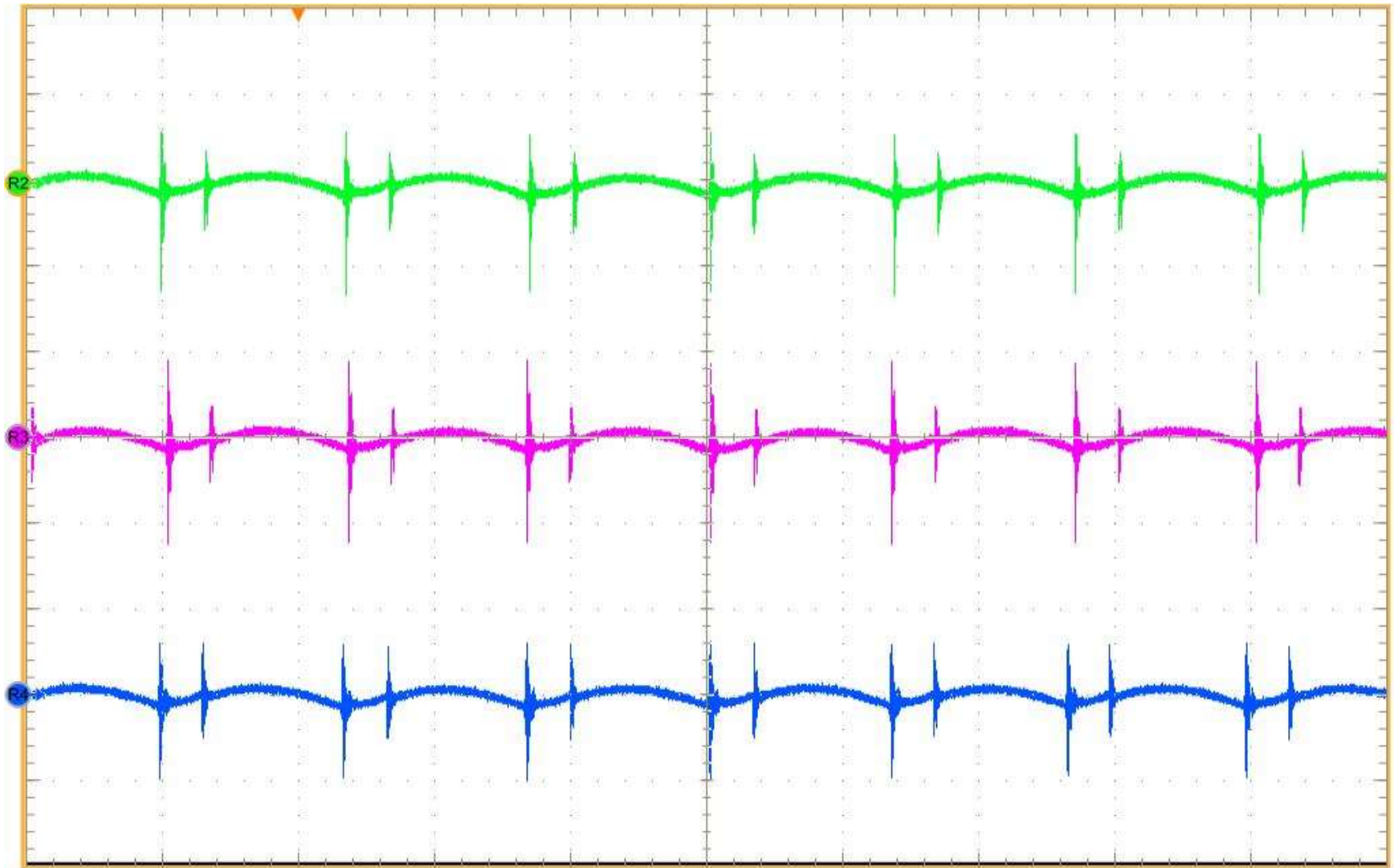
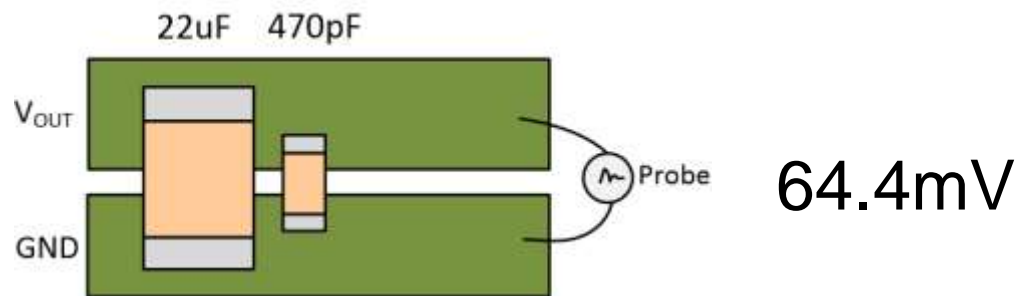
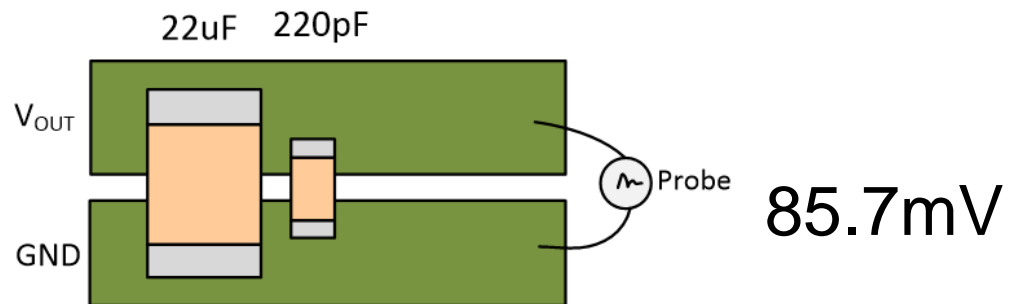
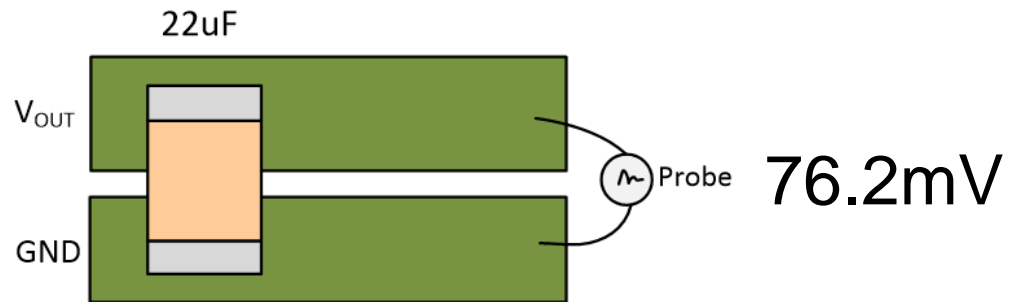
parallel\_capacitor\_impedance.sxsch



Understanding → Measuring → Reducing Noise



# HF filtering with wrong capacitor (example)



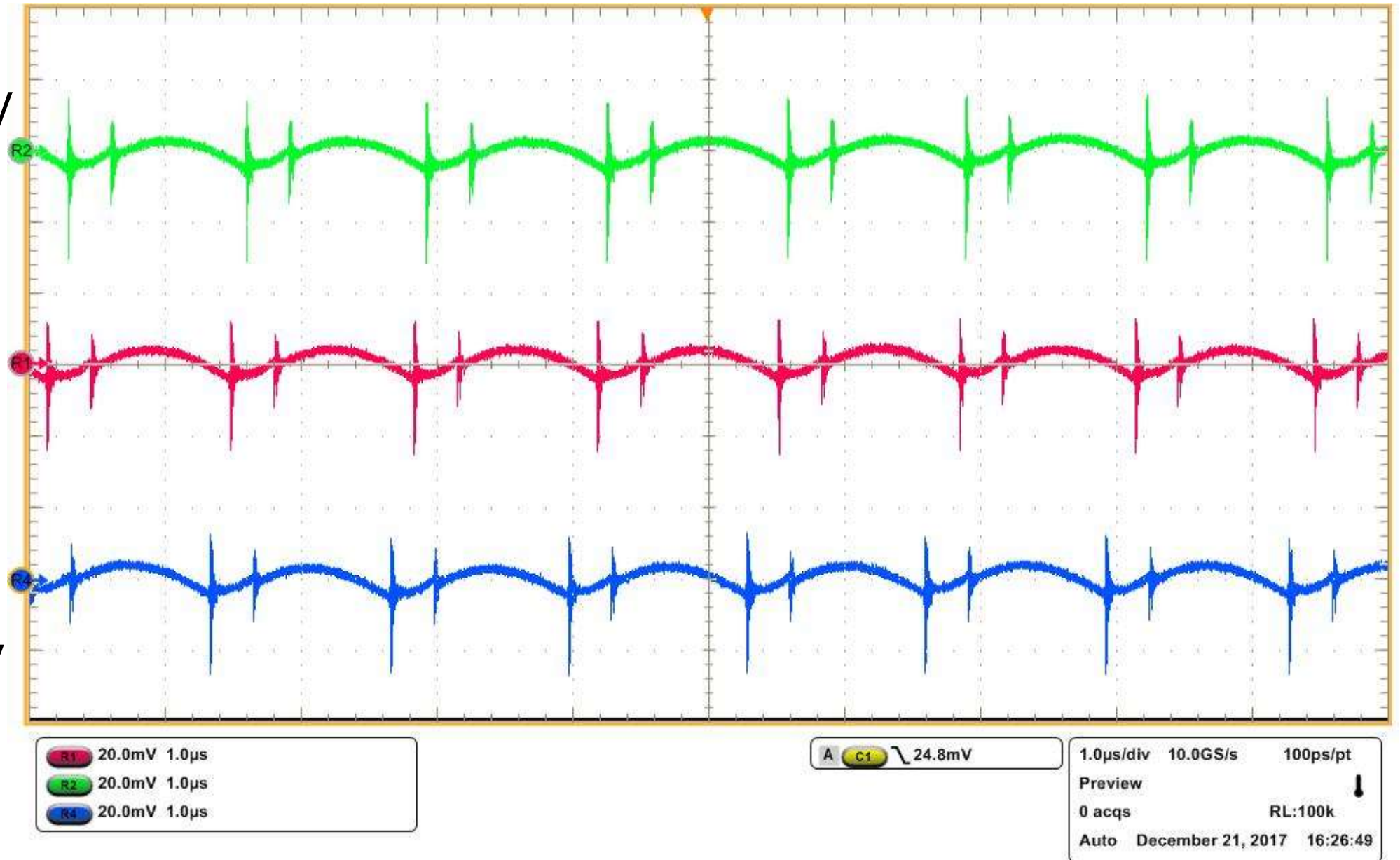
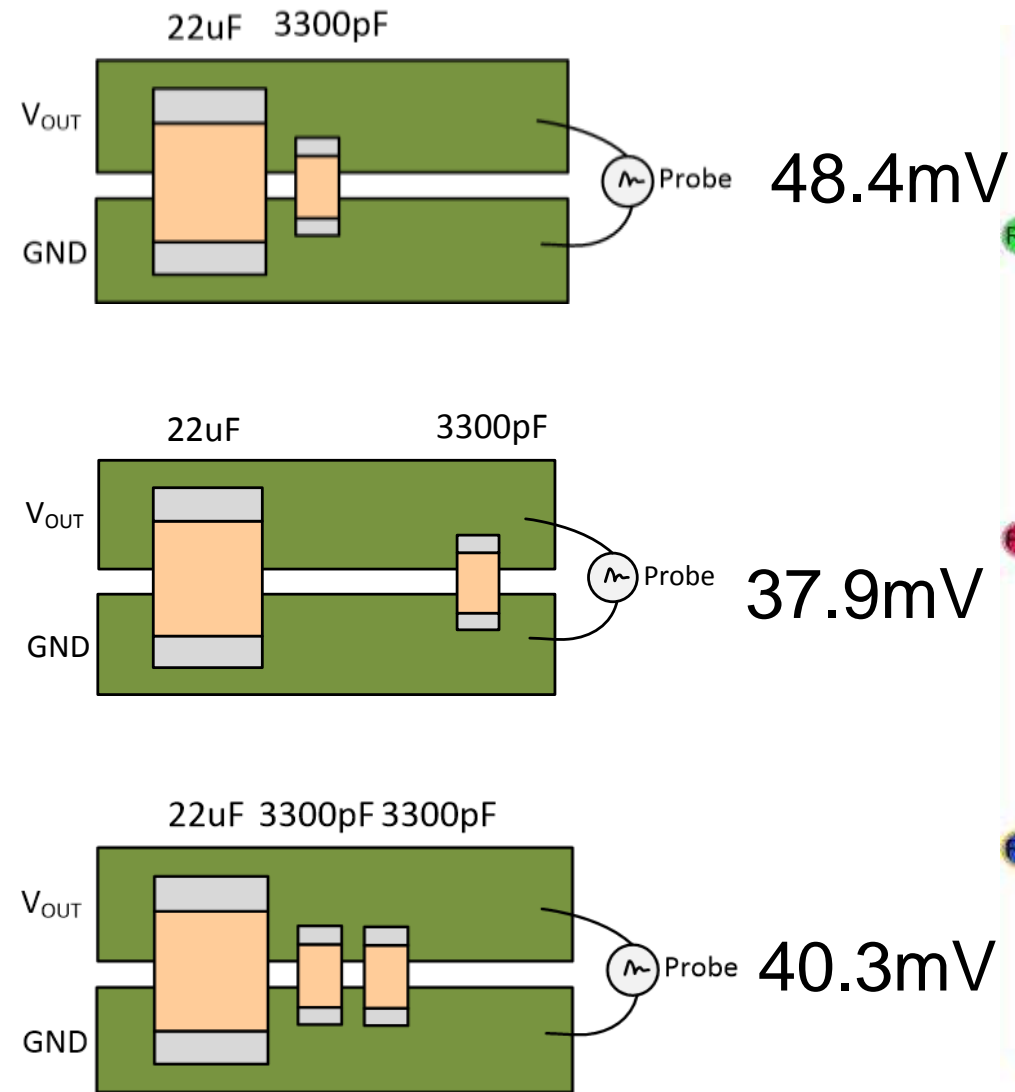
R2 40.0mV 1.0µs  
R3 40.0mV 1.0µs  
R4 40.0mV 1.0µs

A C1 2.8mV

1.0µs/div 10.0GS/s 100ps/pt  
Run Sample  
0 acqs RL:100k  
Auto December 21, 2017 15:42:14

Understanding → Measuring → Reducing Noise

# HF filtering - utilizing PCB parasitic inductance



Understanding → Measuring → Reducing Noise

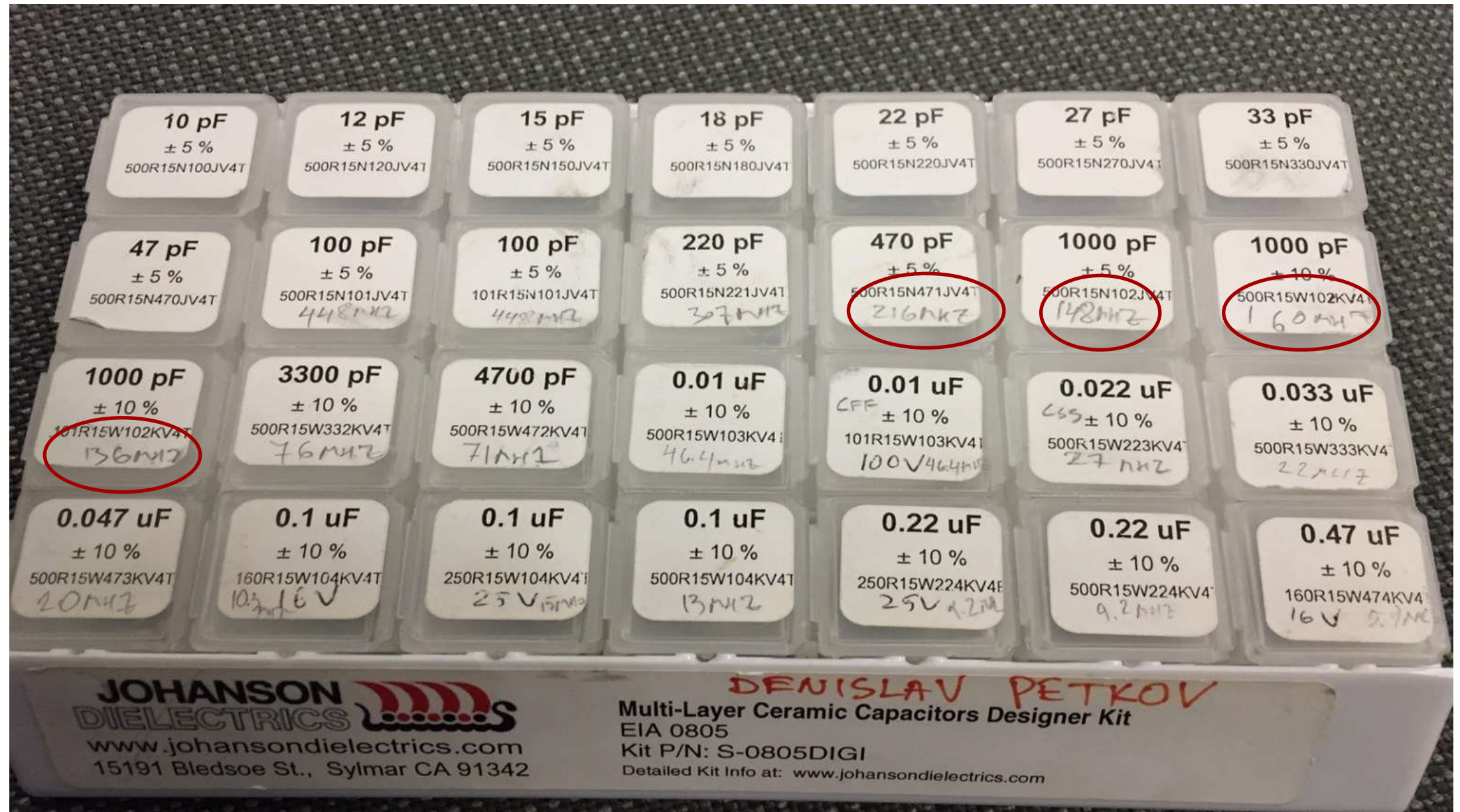
# HF filtering – strategy

- Leave footprint in the layout for 2-3 HF filter capacitors.
- Measure the ringing frequency and pick a capacitor with an impedance notch close to, but lower than that frequency.
- Use multiple capacitors of the same value in parallel to avoid new peaks in the impedance curve.



# HF filtering – pick the correct capacitor

- Measure your caps
- Mark up your capacitor kit!
- This data may also be available from the capacitor vendor.



# Summary

- Understanding the Noise Sources
- Measuring Noise
- Reducing Noise (high frequency and low frequency)



- **Application Notes and Blogs on EMI and Noise Reduction**
  - [Simple Success With Conducted EMI From DCDC Converters](#)
  - [Simplify low EMI design with power modules](#)
  - [Wiki on Understanding, measuring, and reducing output voltage ripple](#)
  - [Design a second-stage filter for noise sensitive applications](#)
  - PCB layout techniques for low noise power designs (in progress)



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