TPS54A20 SWIFT™ Step-Down Converter Evaluation Module User's Guide



ABSTRACT

This user's guide contains information for the TPS54A20EVM-770 evaluation module (PWR770) as well as for the TPS54A20 dc/dc converter. Also included are the performance specifications, the schematic, and the bill of materials for the TPS54A20EVM-770.

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Introduction www.ti.com

1 Introduction

1.1 Before You Begin

The following warnings and cautions are noted for the safety of anyone using or working close to the TPS54A20EVM-770. Observe all safety precautions.



Warning

The TPS54A20EVM-770 circuit module may become hot during operation due to dissipation of heat. Avoid contact with the board. Follow all applicable safety procedures applicable to your laboratory.



Caution

Do not leave the EVM powered when unattended.

WARNING

The circuit module has signal traces, components, and component leads on the bottom of the board. This may result in exposed voltages, hot surfaces or sharp edges. Do not reach under the board during operation.

CAUTION

The circuit module may be damaged by over temperature. To avoid damage, monitor the temperature during evaluation and provide cooling, as needed, for your system environment.

CAUTION

Some power supplies can be damaged by application of external voltages. If using more than 1 power supply, check your equipment requirements and use blocking diodes or other isolation techniques, as needed, to prevent damage to your equipment.

Introduction

1.2 Background

The TPS54A20 dc/dc converter is a two-phase synchronous series capacitor buck converter designed to provide up to a 10-A output. The input (VIN) is rated for 8 V to 14 V. Rated input voltage and output current range for the evaluation module are given in Table 1-1. This evaluation module is designed to demonstrate the small printedcircuit-board areas that may be achieved when designing with the TPS54A20 regulator. The switching frequency is externally set at a nominal 2 MHz for each side, 4 MHz effective. The high-side and low-side MOSFETs are incorporated inside the TPS54A20 package along with the gate drive circuitry. The low drain-to-source on-resistance of the MOSFET allows the TPS54A20 to achieve high efficiencies and helps keep the junction temperature low at high output currents. The compensation components are internal to the integrated circuit (IC), and an external divider allows for an adjustable output voltage. Additionally, the TPS54A20 provides adjustable slow start and undervoltage lockout inputs. The absolute maximum input voltage is 15 V while switching and 17 V for non-switching conditions.

Table 1-1. Input Voltage and Output Current Summary

EVM	INPUT VOLTAGE RANGE	OUTPUT CURRENT RANGE
TPS54A20EVM-770	VIN = 9.2 V to 14 V	0 A to 10 A

1.3 Performance Specification Summary

A summary of the TPS54A20EVM-770 performance specifications is provided in Table 1-2. Specifications are given for an input voltage of V_{IN} = 12 V and an output voltage of 1.2 V, unless otherwise specified. The TPS54A20EVM-770 is designed and tested for V_{IN} = 9.2 V to 14 V. The ambient temperature is 25°C for all measurements, unless otherwise noted.

Table 1-2. TPS54A20EVM-770 Performance Specification Summary

SPECIFICATION	TEST (CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNIT
V _{IN} voltage range			9.2	12	14	V
V _{IN} start voltage				9.39		V
V _{IN} stop voltage				9.14		V
Output voltage setpoint				1.2		V
Output current range	V _{IN} = 9.2 V to 14 V		0		10	Α
Line regulation	I _O = 5 A, V _{IN} = 9.2 V to 14 V			±0.04%		
Load regulation	V _{IN} = 12 V, I _O = 0 A	to 10 A		±0.03%		
Load transient response	I - 0 A 45 O A	Voltage change		-60		mV
	I _O = 0 A to 9 A	Recovery time		60		μs
		Voltage change		60		mV
	I _O = 9 A to 0 A	Recovery time		60		μs
Loop bandwidth	V _{IN} = 12 V, I _O = 5 A			280		kHz
Phase margin	V _{IN} = 12 V , I _O = 5 A	1		45		degree
Input ripple voltage	I _O = 10 A			90		mVPP
Output ripple voltage	I _O = 10 A			20		mVPP
Output rise time				512		μs
Operating frequency				2		MHz
Maximum efficiency	TPS54A20EVM-770), V _{IN} = 9 V, I _O = 5 A		84.7%		

1.4 Modifications

These evaluation modules are designed to provide access to the features of the TPS54A20. Some modifications can be made to this module.

1.4.1 Output Voltage Setpoint

The output voltage is set by the resistor divider network of R9 ($R_{(TOP)}$) and R7 ($R_{(BOT)}$). R7 is fixed at 14.3 k Ω . To change the output voltage of the EVM, it is necessary to change the value of resistor R9. Changing the value Introduction www.ti.com

of R9 can change the output voltage above the 0.508 V reference voltage V_{REF} . The value of R9 for a specific output voltage can be calculated using Equation 1.

$$R_{(TOP)} = \frac{R_{(BOT)}x(V_{OUT} - V_{REF})}{V_{REF}}$$
(1)

1.4.2 On Time

The TON pin requires a resistor to set the nominal on-time and to support the input voltage feed forward circuit. The resistance value used also influences the internal ramp in the controller. Use Equation 2 for selecting the TON resistor.

$$R_{(TON)} = 3 k + 15 k x V_{OUT}$$
 (2)

The R_{TON} resistor selected for this design example is 22.1 k Ω . During startup, the converter uses the nominal on-time programmed through TON. The phase lock loop (PLL) is only activated after startup is complete. When the PLL is engaged, the on-time is adjusted. If the nominal on-time programmed through the TON pin is not close to the on-time when the PLL is engaged, the SYNC range of the device may be reduced. The TON resistor can also be adjusted to tune the controller. Lowering the R_{TON} value will increase the internal ramp height. This will reduce the converter's sensitivity to noise and jitter but it will also reduce the transient response capabilities of the converter.

1.4.3 Adjustable UVLO

The undervoltage lockout (UVLO) can be adjusted externally using R2 ($R_{EN(TOP)}$) and R3 ($R_{EN(BOT)}$). The EVM is set for a start voltage of 9.385 V and a stop voltage of 9.144 V using R2 = 80.6 k Ω and R3 = 12.4 k Ω . Use Equation 3 and Equation 4 to calculate required resistor values for different start and stop voltages. $I_{EN(FALL)}$ = 4 μ A, $I_{EN(RISE)}$ = 1 μ A and V_{EN} = 1.23 V

$$R_{EN(TOP)} = \frac{V_{IN(RISE)} - V_{IN(FALL)}}{I_{EN(FALL)} - I_{EN(RISE)}}$$
(3)

$$R_{EN(BOT)} = \frac{R_{EN(TOP)} \times V_{EN}}{V_{IN(FALL)} - V_{EN} + R_{EN(TOP)} \times I_{EN(FALL)}}$$
(4)

2 Test Setup and Results

This section describes how to properly connect, set up, and use the TPS54A20EVM-770 evaluation module. The section also includes test results typical for the evaluation module and covers efficiency, output voltage regulation, load transients, loop response, output ripple, input ripple, and start-up.

2.1 Input/Output Connections

The TPS54A20EVM-770 is provided with input/output connectors and test points as shown in Table 2-1. A power supply capable of supplying greater than 2 A must be connected to J1 through a pair of 20 AWG wires or better. The load must be connected to J4 through a pair of 20 AWG wires or better. The maximum load current capability is 10 A. Wire lengths must be minimized to reduce losses in the wires. Test-point TP1 provides a place to monitor the V_{IN} input voltages with TP2 providing a convenient ground reference. TP7 is used to monitor the output voltage with TP8 as the ground reference.

Table 2-1. EVM Connectors and Test Points

Reference Designator	Function
J1	VIN input voltage connector. (See Table 1-1 for V _{IN} range).
J2	2-pin header for enable. Connect EN to ground to disable, open to enable.
J3	External VG+ header. To improve converter efficiency, an external 5V supply is recommended to be connected to the VG+ pin (J3-2) to GND (J3-1).
J4	V _{OUT} , 1.2 V at 10 A maximum.
TP1	VIN test point.

Table 2-1. EVM Connectors and Test Points (continued)

Reference Designator	Function
TP2	GND test point at VIN connector.
TP3	PGOOD test point.
TP4	SYNC test point.
TP5	VG+ test point.
TP6	Test point between voltage divider network and output. Used for loop response measurements.
TP7	Output voltage test point.
TP8	GND test point
TP9	Test point at gate of transient load circuit.
TP10	GND test point at input of transient load circuit.
TP11	Test point at top of transient load circuit load resistor
TP12	Test point at bottom (GND) of transient load circuit load resistor
TP13	Analog ground (AGND) test point.

2.2 Efficiency

The efficiency of this EVM peaks at a load current of about 5 A and then decreases as the load current increases toward full load. Figure 2-1 shows the efficiency for the TPS54A20EVM-770 at an ambient temperature of 25°C.

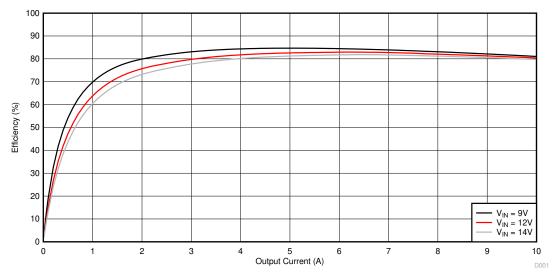


Figure 2-1. TPS54A20EVM-770 Efficiency

Figure 2-2 shows the efficiency for the TPS54A20EVM-770 using a semi-log scale to more easily show efficiency at lower output currents. The ambient temperature is 25°C.

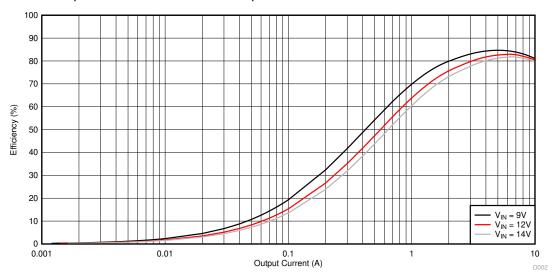


Figure 2-2. TPS54A20EVM-770 Low Current Efficiency

The efficiency may be lower at higher ambient temperatures, due to temperature variation in the drain-to-source resistance of the internal MOSFET.

2.3 Output Voltage Load Regulation

Figure 2-3 shows the load regulation for the TPS54A20EVM-770.

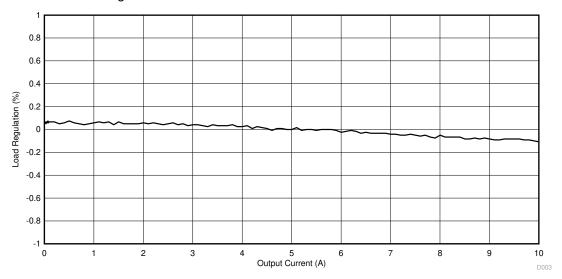


Figure 2-3. TPS54A20EVM-770 Load Regulation

Measurements are given for an ambient temperature of 25°C.

2.4 Output Voltage Line Regulation

Figure 2-4 shows the line regulation for the TPS54A20EVM-770.

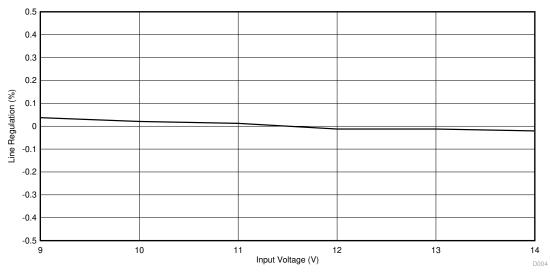


Figure 2-4. TPS54A20EVM-770 Line Regulation

2.5 Load Transients

Figure 2-5 shows the TPS54A20EVM-770 response to load transients. The current step is from 0 A to 9 A. The current step slew rate is 9 A/µs. Total peak-to-peak voltage variation is as shown, including ripple and noise on the output. The transient waveform is measured using the on-board fast transient circuit.

CAUTION

Q1 may get hot. Limit the power dissipation to 3W or less. Use low duty cycles.

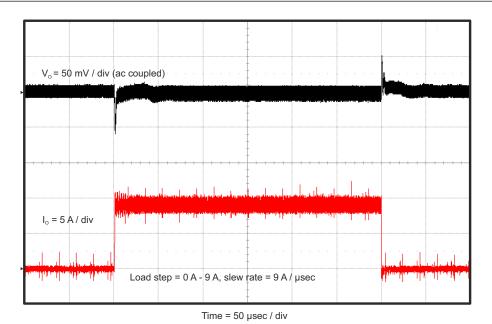


Figure 2-5. TPS54A20EVM-770 Transient Response

2.6 Loop Characteristics

Figure 2-6 shows the TPS54A20EVM-770 loop-response characteristics. Gain and phase plots are shown for V_{IN} voltage of 12 V. Load current for the measurement is 5 A.

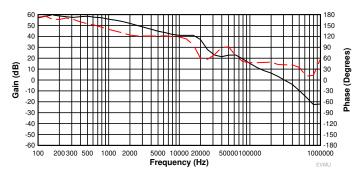


Figure 2-6. TPS54A20EVM-770 Loop Response

2.7 Output Voltage Ripple

Figure 2-7, Figure 2-8, and Figure 2-9 show the TPS54A20EVM-770 output voltage ripple. The load currents are 0 A, 5 A and 10 A. V_{IN} = 12 V. The ripple voltage is measured directly across TP7 and TP8.



Time = 200 nsec / div

Figure 2-7. TPS54A20EVM-770 Output Ripple, 0 A Load

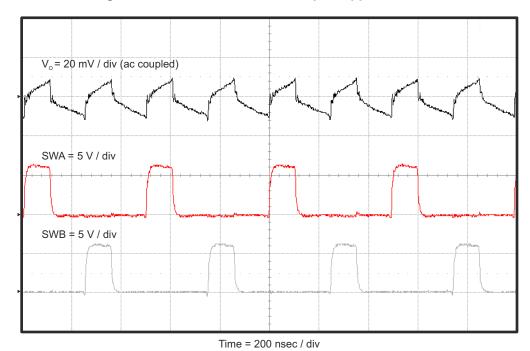


Figure 2-8. TPS54A20EVM-770 Output Ripple, 5 A Load

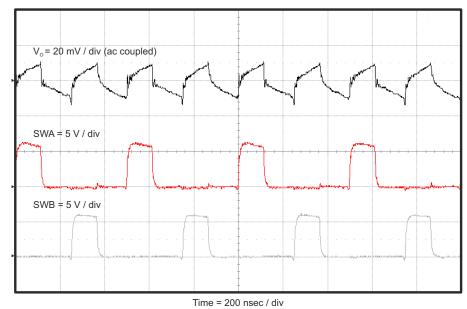


Figure 2-9. TPS54A20EVM-770 Output Ripple, 10 A Load

2.8 Input Voltage Ripple

Figure 2-10, Figure 2-11 and Figure 2-12 show the TPS54A20EVM-770 input voltage ripple. The load currents are 0 A, 5 A and 10 A. V_{IN} = 12 V. The ripple voltage is measured directly across TP1 and TP2.

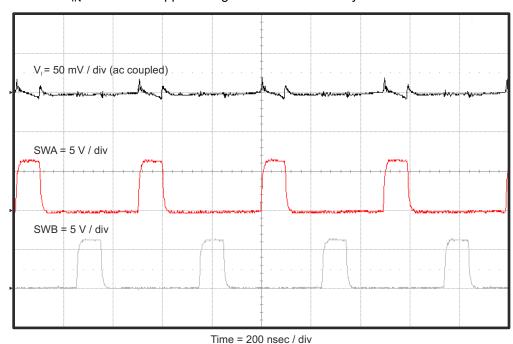
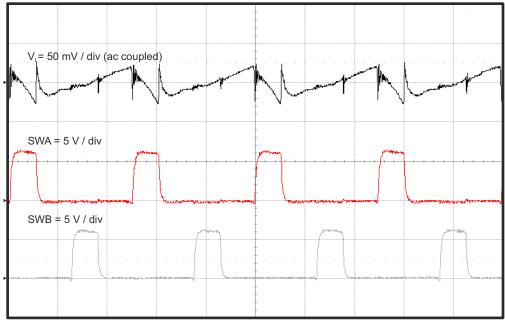


Figure 2-10. TPS54A20EVM-770 Input Ripple, 0 A Load





Time = 200 nsec / div

Figure 2-11. TPS54A20EVM-770 Input Ripple, 5 A Load

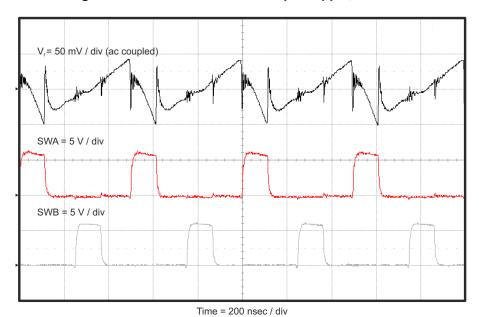
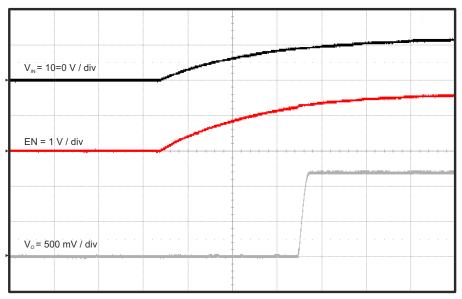


Figure 2-12. TPS54A20EVM-770 Input Ripple, 10 A Load

2.9 Powering Up

Figure 2-13 and Figure 2-14 show the start-up waveforms for the TPS54A20EVM-770. In Figure 2-13, the output voltage ramps up as soon as the input voltage reaches the UVLO threshold as set by the R2 and R3 resistor divider network. In Figure 2-14, the input voltage is initially applied and the output is inhibited by using a jumper at J2 to tie EN to GND. When the jumper is removed, EN is released. When the EN voltage reaches the enable-threshold voltage, the start-up sequence begins and the output voltage ramps up to the externally set value of 1.2 V. The input voltage for these plots is 12 V and the load is 1 Ω .



Time = 2 msec / div

Figure 2-13. TPS54A20EVM-770 Start-Up Relative to V_{IN}

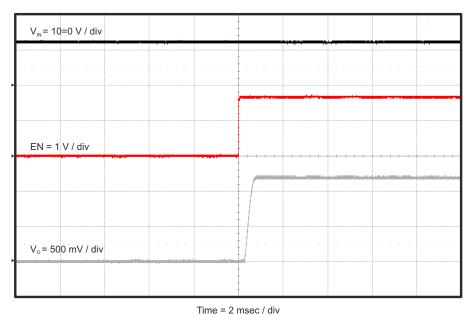
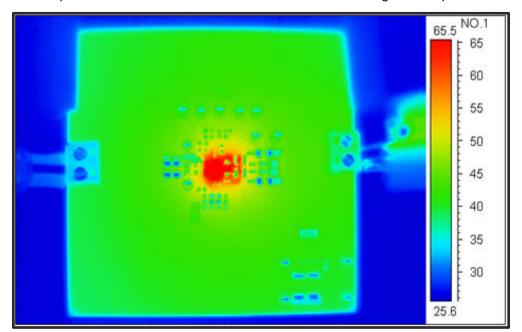


Figure 2-14. TPS54A20EVM-770 Start-Up Relative to Enable

2.10 Thermal Image

The EVM thermal image is shown in Figure 2-15. The input voltage is 12 V and the output current is 10A. The EVM was allowed to operate at full 10 A load for > 45 minutes before the image was captured.



Maximum Case Temperature = 76.3 °C

Figure 2-15. Thermal Image

STRUMENTS Board Layout www.ti.com

3 Board Layout

This section provides a description of the TPS54A20EVM-770 board layout and layer illustrations.

3.1 Layout

The board layout for the TPS54A20EVM-770 is shown in Figure 3-1 through Figure 3-5. The top-side layer of the EVM is laid out in a manner typical of a user application. The top, bottom, and internal layers are 2-oz. copper.

The top layer contains the main power traces for VIN, V_{OUT}, SWA and SWB. Also on the top layer are connections for the remaining pins of the TPS54A20 and a large area filled with ground. The internal layer-1 is dedicated ground plane. The internal layer-2 contain an additional large ground copper area as well as an additional V_{OUT} copper fill. The bottom layer is another ground plane with an additional trace for the output voltage feedback. The top-side ground traces are connected to the bottom and internal ground planes with multiple vias placed around the board including five vias directly under the TPS54A20 device to provide a thermal path from the top-side ground plane to the bottom-side ground plane.

The input decoupling capacitors and bootstrap capacitor are all located as close to the IC as possible. Additionally, the voltage setpoint resistor divider components are kept close to the IC. The voltage divider network ties to the output voltage at the point of regulation, the copper V_{OUT} trace at the TP7 test point. For the TPS54A20, an additional input bulk capacitor may be required, depending on the EVM connection to the input supply. Critical analog circuits such as the voltage set point divider, frequency set resistor, and compensation components are terminated to ground using a wide ground trace separate from the power ground pour.

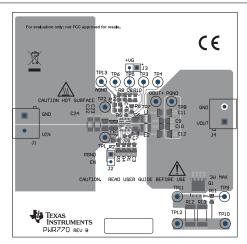


Figure 3-1. TPS54A20EVM-770 Top-Side Assembly

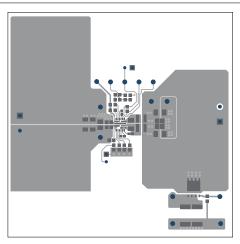


Figure 3-2. TPS54A20EVM-770 Top-Side Layout

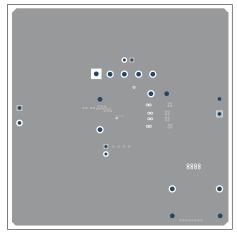


Figure 3-3. TPS54A20EVM-770 Internal Layer-1 Layout

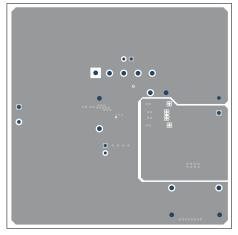
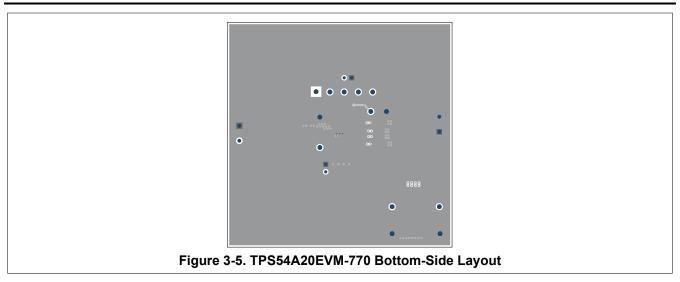


Figure 3-4. TPS54A20EVM-770 Internal Layer-2 Layout





4 Schematic and Bill of Materials

This section presents the TPS54A20EVM-770 schematic and bill of materials.



4.1 Schematic

Figure 4-1 is the schematic for the TPS54A20EVM-770.

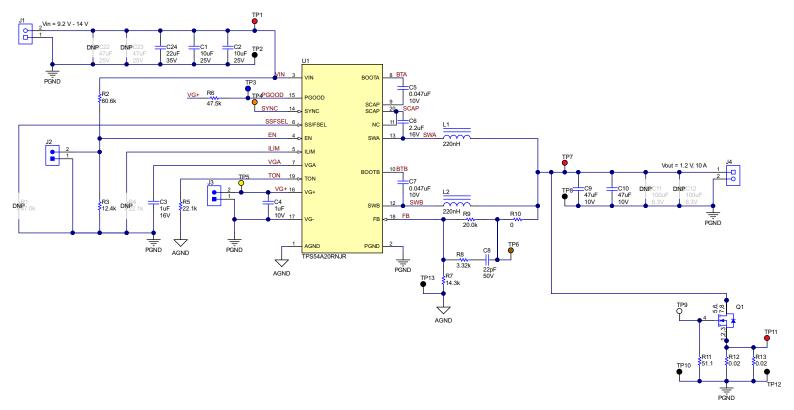


Figure 4-1. TPS54A20EVM-770 Schematic

4.2 Bill of Materials

Table 4-1 presents the bill of materials for the TPS54A20EVM-770.

Table 4-1. TPS54A20EVM-770 Bill of Materials

Quantity	Value	Description			
		Description	Package	Part Number	Manufacturer
1		Printed Circuit Board		PWR770	Any
2	10uF	CAP, CERM, 10 uF, 25 V, +/- 20%, X5R, 0603	0603	C1608X5R1E106M080AC	TDK
1	1uF	CAP, CERM, 1 uF, 16 V, +/- 10%, X7R, 0603	0603	C1608X7R1C105K080AC	TDK
1	1uF	CAP, CERM, 1 uF, 10 V, +/- 10%, X5R, 0402	0402	GRM155R61A105KE15D	MuRata
2	0.047uF	CAP, CERM, 0.047 uF, 10 V, +/- 10%, X5R, 0402	0402	C1005X5R1A473K050BA	TDK
1	2.2uF	CAP, CERM, 2.2 uF, 16 V, +/- 10%, X7R, 1206	1206	GRM31MR71C225KA35L	MuRata
	1 2 1 1 2 1	2 10uF 1 1uF 1 1uF 2 0.047uF	1 1uF CAP, CERM, 1 uF, 16 V, +/- 10%, X7R, 0603 1 1uF CAP, CERM, 1 uF, 10 V, +/- 10%, X5R, 0402 2 0.047uF CAP, CERM, 0.047 uF, 10 V, +/- 10%, X5R, 0402	2 10uF CAP, CERM, 10 uF, 25 V, +/- 20%, X5R, 0603 0603 1 1uF CAP, CERM, 1 uF, 16 V, +/- 10%, X7R, 0603 0603 1 1uF CAP, CERM, 1 uF, 10 V, +/- 10%, X5R, 0402 0402 2 0.047uF CAP, CERM, 0.047 uF, 10 V, +/- 10%, X5R, 0402 0402	10uF CAP, CERM, 10 uF, 25 V, +/- 20%, X5R, 0603 0603 C1608X5R1E106M080AC 1 1uF CAP, CERM, 1 uF, 16 V, +/- 10%, X7R, 0603 0603 C1608X7R1C105K080AC 1 1uF CAP, CERM, 1 uF, 10 V, +/- 10%, X5R, 0402 0402 GRM155R61A105KE15D 2 0.047uF CAP, CERM, 0.047 uF, 10 V, +/- 10%, X5R, 0402 0402 C1005X5R1A473K050BA



www.ti.com Schematic and Bill of Materials

Table 4-1. TPS54A20EVM-770 Bill of Materials (continued)

Designator	Quantity	Value	Description	Package	Part Number	Manufacturer
C8	1	22pF	CAP, CERM, 22 pF, 50 V, +/- 5%, C0G/NP0, 0603	0603	06035A220JAT2A	AVX
C9, C10	2	47uF	CAP, CERM, 47 uF, 10 V, +/- 20%, X5R, 0805	0805	GRM21BR61A476ME15	MuRata
C24	1	22uF	CAP, CERM, 22 uF, 35 V, +/- 20%, X5R, 0805	0805	C2012X5R1V226M125AC	TDK
J1, J4	2		Terminal Block, 5.08 mm, 2x1, Brass, TH	2x1 5.08 mm Terminal Block	ED120/2DS	On-Shore Technology
J2, J3	2		Header, 100mil, 2x1, Gold, TH	Header, 100mil, 2x1, TH	HTSW-102-07-G-S	Samtec
L1, L2	2	220nH	Inductor, 220 nH, 7.2 A, 0.0075 ohm, SMD	3.2x2.5mm	MLA-FY12NR22N-M3-RU	Mag Layers
Q1	1	30V	MOSFET, N-CH, 30 V, 65 A, DQJ0008A (VSONP-8)	DQJ0008A	CSD17527Q5A	Texas Instruments
R2	1	80.6k	RES, 80.6 k, 1%, 0.1 W, 0603	0603	CRCW060380K6FKEA	Vishay-Dale
R3	1	12.4k	RES, 12.4 k, 1%, 0.1 W, 0603	0603	CRCW060312K4FKEA	Vishay-Dale
R5	1	22.1k	RES, 22.1 k, 1%, 0.1 W, 0603	0603	RC0603FR-0722K1L	Yageo America
R6	1	47.5k	RES, 47.5 k, 1%, 0.1 W, 0603	0603	RC0603FR-0747K5L	Yageo America
R7	1	14.3k	RES, 14.3 k, 1%, 0.1 W, 0603	0603	CRCW060314K3FKEA	Vishay-Dale
R8	1	3.32k	RES, 3.32 k, 1%, 0.1 W, 0603	0603	CRCW06033K32FKEA	Vishay-Dale
R9	1	20.0k	RES, 20.0 k, 1%, 0.1 W, 0603	0603	CRCW060320K0FKEA	Vishay-Dale
R10	1	0	RES, 0, 5%, 0.1 W, 0603	0603	ERJ-3GEY0R00V	Panasonic
R11	1	51.1	RES, 51.1, 0.1%, 0.1 W, 0603	0603	RT0603BRD0751R1L	Yageo America
R12, R13	2	0.02	RES, 0.02, 1%, 3 W, 2512	2512	CRA2512-FZ-R020ELF	Bourns
SH-J1	1	1x2	Shunt, 100mil, Gold plated, Black	Shunt	SNT-100-BK-G	Samtec
TP1, TP7, TP11	3		Test Point, Multipurpose, Red, TH	Red Multipurpose Testpoint	5010	Keystone
TP2, TP8, TP10, TP12, TP13	5		Test Point, Multipurpose, Black, TH	Black Multipurpose Testpoint	5011	Keystone
TP3	1		Test Point, Multipurpose, Blue, TH	Blue Multipurpose Testpoint	5127	Keystone
TP4	1		Test Point, Multipurpose, Orange, TH	Orange Multipurpose Testpoint	5013	Keystone
TP5	1		Test Point, Multipurpose, Yellow, TH	Yellow Multipurpose Testpoint	5014	Keystone
TP6	1		Test Point, Multipurpose, Brown, TH	Brown Multipurpose Testpoint	5125	Keystone
TP9	1		Test Point, Multipurpose, White, TH	White Multipurpose Testpoint	5012	Keystone
U1	1		Small, 10MHz 10A, 8V to 14V Input, SWIFT Series Capacitor Step-Down Converter, RNJ0020A (VQFN-HR-20)	RNJ0020A	TPS54A20RNJR	Texas Instruments
C11, C12	0	100uF	CAP, CERM, 100 uF, 6.3 V, +/- 20%, X5R, 1206	1206	JMK316BJ107ML-T	Taiyo Yuden
C22, C23	0	47uF	CAP, CERM, 47 uF, 25 V, +/- 20%, X5R, 1206_190	1206_190	C3216X5R1E476M160AC	TDK
R1	0	47.0k	RES, 47.0 k, 1%, 0.1 W, 0603	0603	RC0603FR-0747KL	Yageo America
R4	0	22.1k	RES, 22.1 k, 1%, 0.1 W, 0603	0603	RC0603FR-0722K1L	Yageo America

Revision History www.ti.com

5 Revision History

NOTE: Page numbers for previous revisions may differ from page numbers in the current version.

C	hanges from Revision A (March 2019) to Revision B (August 2021)	Page
•	Updated user's guide title	2
•	Updated the numbering format for tables, figures, and cross-references throughout the document	2
C	hanges from Revision * (December 2015) to Revision A (March 2019)	Page
•	Changed 1 kΩ to 14.3 kΩ	3
	Updated Figure 2-6	
	Updated Figure 3-1 through Figure 3-5	
	Updated Figure 4-1	
•	Updated Table 4-1	16

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