

# LINEAR TECHNOLOGY LTC3838EUHF-1 High Current Dual Output Synchronous Buck Converter Owner's Manual

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DEMO MANUAL  
DC1997A-A/DC1997A-B  
LTC3838EUHF-1/LTC3838EUHF-2  
High Current, Dual Output  
Synchronous Buck Converter

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## DESCRIPTION

Demonstration circuits DC1997A-A/DC1997A-B are dual output synchronous buck converters featuring the LT C® 3838EUHF-1/LTC3838EUHF-2. Both assemblies provide two outputs of 1.5V/20A and 1.2V/20A over an input voltage range of 4.5V to 14V at a switching frequency of 300kHz.

Applications requiring the output to be adjusted with an external reference can be implemented with the DC1997A-B assembly. Such applications include adaptive voltage scaling optimization (AVSO) where the processor voltage is adjusted to achieve optimal efficiency, wide output voltage applications controlled by a DAC, or margining. The 2nd channel of the DC1997A-B assembly is regulated to an onboard 1.2V reference in the default setup. The same reference can be set from 0.8V to 1.5V with a potentiometer or the 2nd channel can regulate to a source external to the board. The 1st channel on the DC1997A-B assembly and both channels on the DC1997A-A version are regulated to the internal reference.

The entire converter, excluding the bulk input and output capacitors, fits within a 1.5in<sup>2</sup> area on the board. The high density is a result of the compact, 2-sided drop-in layout and the use of dual channel FETs. Additional features of this demo board include:

- Remote sensing for each output.
- PLLIN and CLKOUT pins.
- PGOOD, RUN and TRK/SS pins for each output.
- Optional resistors to tie the two outputs together.
- Optional footprint for discrete single channel FETs for higher output current.
- Optional footprints to implement DTR (detect transient) to reduce overshoot following a load release.

Design files for this circuit board are available at <http://www.linear.com/demo>

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## PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

Specifications are at TA = 25°C, No Airflow

PARAMETER	CONDITION	VALUE
Minimum Input Voltage		4.5V
Maximum Input Voltage		14V
Output Voltage VOUT1	IOUT1 = 0A to 20A, VIN = 4.5V to 14V	1.5V ± 2%
Output Voltage VOUT2	IOUT2 = 0A to 20A, VIN = 4.5V to 14V	1.2V ± 2%
VOUT1 Maximum Output Current, IOUT1	VIN = 4.5V to 14V, VOUT1 = 1.5V	20A
VOUT2 Maximum Output Current, IOUT2	VIN = 4.5V to 14V, VOUT2 = 1.2V	20A
Nominal Switching Frequency		300kHz
Efficiency (Measured on DC1997A-B Assembly) See Figure 2	VOUT1 = 1.5V, IOUT1 = 20A, VIN = 12V	90.4% Typical
	VOUT2 = 1.2V, IOUT2 = 20A, VIN = 12V	88.8% Typical

## QUICK START PROCEDURE

Demonstration circuit DC1997A-A/DC1997A-B is easy to set up to evaluate the performance of the LTC3838EUHF-1/LTC3838EUHF-2. Please refer to Figure 1 for proper measurement equipment setup and follow the procedure below.

1. With power off, connect the input supply, load and meters as shown in Figure 1. Preset the load to 0A and VIN

supply to be 0V. For both assemblies, place the jumpers in the following positions:

JP4	RUN1	ON
JP1	RUN2	ON
JP2	MODE	FCM

The DC1997A-B assembly has additional jumpers for the reference circuit. Place these jumpers in the following positions:

JP5	ON BD REF	FIXED
JP6	REF	ON BD

- 2. Adjust the input voltage to be between 4.5V and 14V.  
VOUT1 should be  $1.5V \pm 2\%$ .  
VOUT2 should be  $1.2V \pm 2\%$ .
- 3. Next, apply 20A load to each output and re-measure VOUT.
- 4. Once the DC regulation is confirmed, observe the output voltage ripple, load step response, efficiency and other parameters.  
Note 1: Use the BNC connectors labeled VOUT1 or VOUT2 to measure the output volt-age ripple.  
Note 2: Do not connect load from the VO1\_SNS+ turret to the VO1\_SNS- turret or from the VO2\_SNS+ turret to the VO2\_SNS- turret. This could damage the converter. Only apply load across the stud connectors on the edge of the board.

**Reference Circuit for Channel 2 of DC1997A-B Assembly**

Channel 2 of the DC1997A-B assembly is configured by default to regulate to the fixed 1.2V reference generated by the LT® 6650 reference circuit. If desired, this reference can be set with a potentiometer, or an external source such as a DAC or another source. See the following instructions to set the board for either:

**Adjusting the Onboard Reference:**

- 1. Remove power from the input of the board.
- 2. Place these jumpers in the following positions:

JP5	ON BD REF	ADJ
JP6	REF	ON BD

- 3. Apply power to the input of the board.
- 4. Adjust reference with potentiometer at R52.

**Connecting a Reference External to the Board:**

- 1. Remove power from the input of the board.
- 2. Place JP6 in the EXT position.
- 3. Connect the external reference between the EXTREF2+ and EXTREF2- turrets.

4. Apply power to the input of the board.
5. Turn-on the external reference.

**Note 3:** For accurate efficiency measurements in DCM at light load at VIN greater than 5V, remove R51 and apply an external reference to the board as mentioned above.

### **Single Output/Dual Phase Operation**

A single output/dual phase converter may be preferred for higher output current applications. The optional components required to tie the phases together are found on the top middle of the first sheet. To tie the two outputs together, make the following modifications:

1. Tie the two VOUT shapes together with a piece of copper at the edge of the board where the copper is exposed.
2. Tie the VOUT SENSE1+ pin to INTVCC with a 0Ω jumper at R8. This will tie ITH1 to ITH2 inside the chip.
3. Tie RUN1 to RUN2 by stuffing a 0Ω jumper at R15.
4. If DTR is implemented, then stuff 0Ω jumper at R9 to tie the two DTR pins together.

### **Dynamic Load Circuit (Optional)**

Demonstration circuit DC1997A-A/DC1997A-B provides a simple load-step circuit consisting of a MOSFET and sense resistor for each rail. To apply a load step, follow the steps below.

1. Pre-set the amplitude of a pulse generator to 0.0V and the duty cycle to 5% or less.
2. Connect the scope to the VOUT BNC connectors for the rail under test with a coax cable. To monitor the load-step current, connect the scope probe across the ISTEP+/- turrets for that rail.
3. Connect the output of the pulse generator to the PULSE turret for the rail under test and connect the return to the adjacent GND turret.
4. With the converter running, slowly increase the amplitude of the pulse generator output to provide the desired load step pulse height. The scaling for the load step signal is 5mV/Amp.

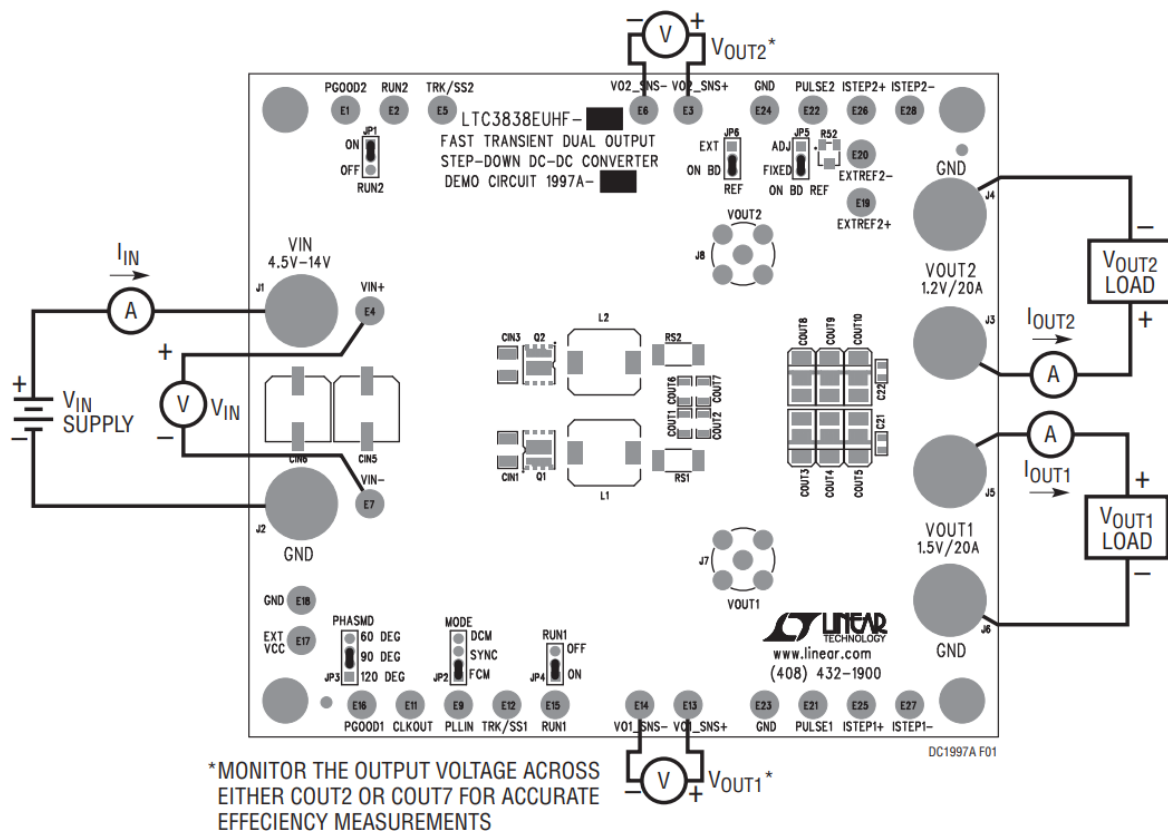


Figure 1. Proper Measurement Equipment Setup

#### LTC3838-2 1.5V/20A and 1.2V/20A Converter

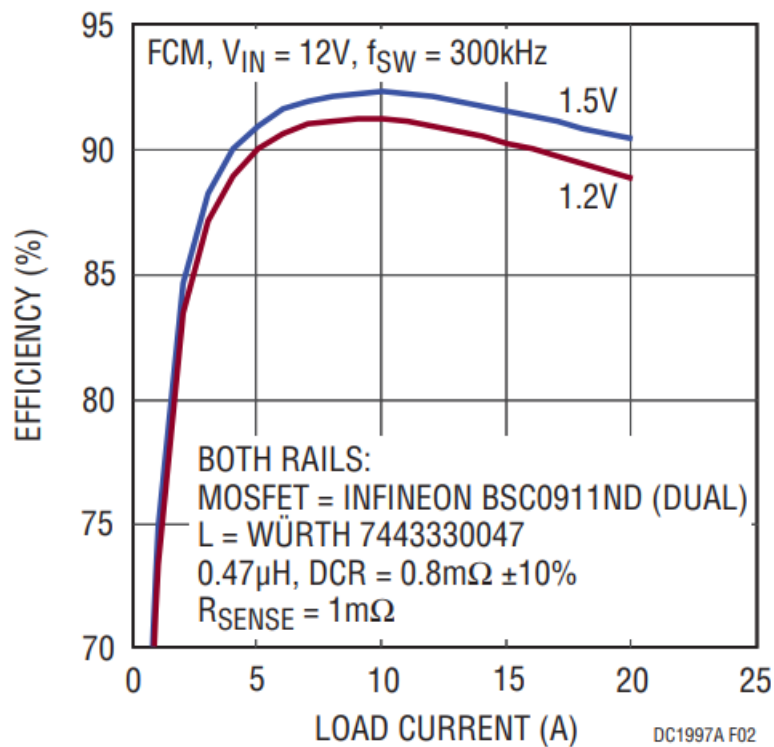


Figure 2. Efficiency Curves for the 1.5V Rail and 1.2V Rail of the DC1997A-B Assembly in FCM at VIN = 12V

#### LTC3838-2 1.5V/20A and 1.2V/20A Converter

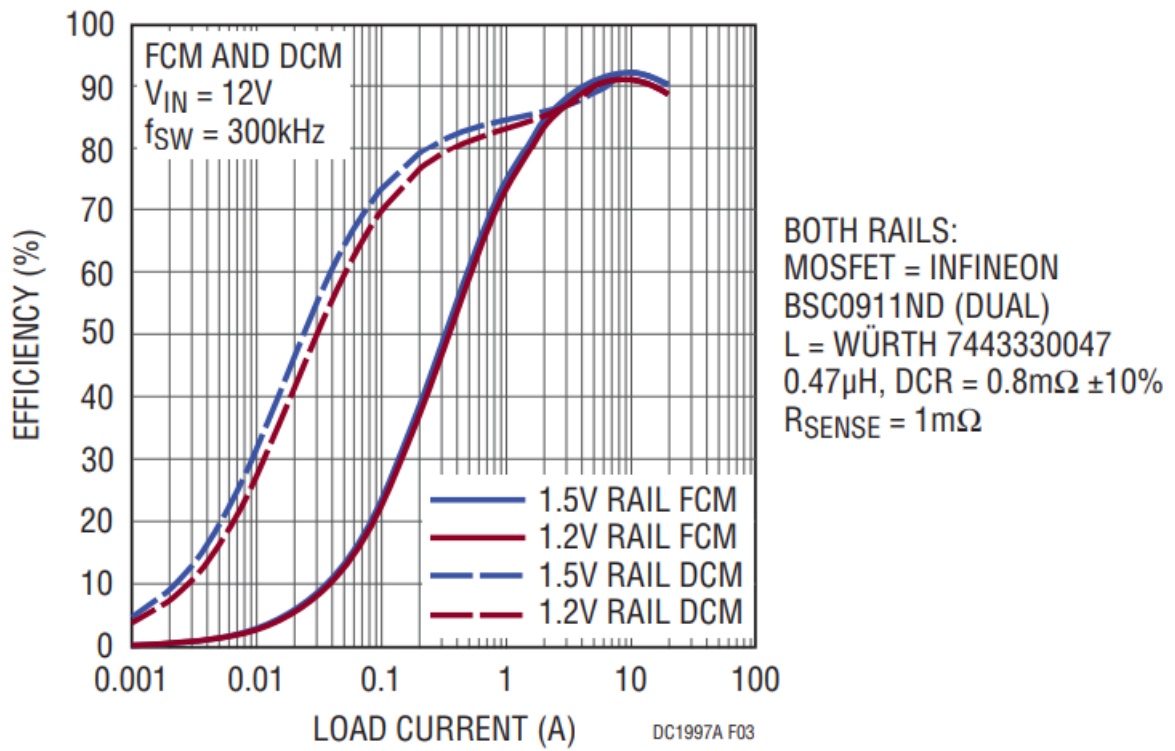


Figure 3. Efficiency Curves for the 1.5V Rail and 1.2V Rail of the DC1997A-B Assembly in FCM and DCM at  $V_{IN} = 12V$

VOUT2 of the LTC3838-2 Demo Board Adjusted with External Reference

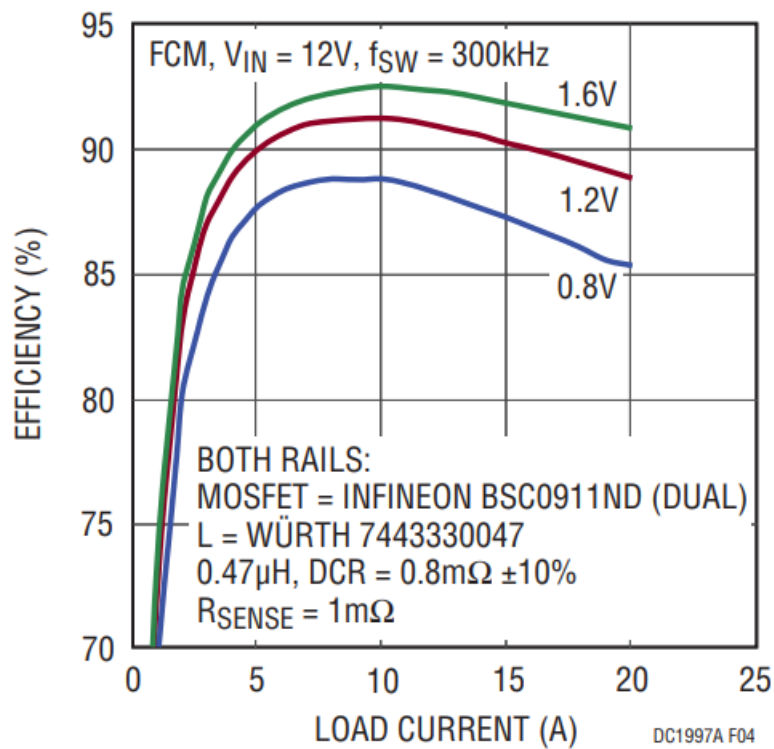


Figure 4. Efficiency Curves for VOUT2 on the DC1997A-B Assembly at Different Output Voltage Settings

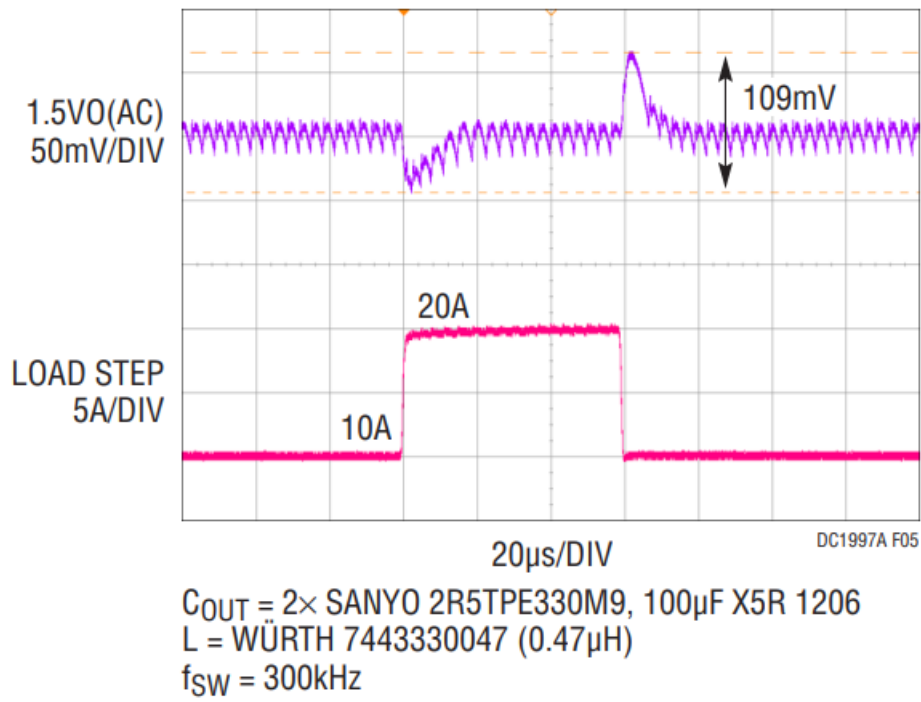


Figure 5. 50% to 100% to 50% Load Step Response of the 1.5V Rail on the DC1997A-A Assembly

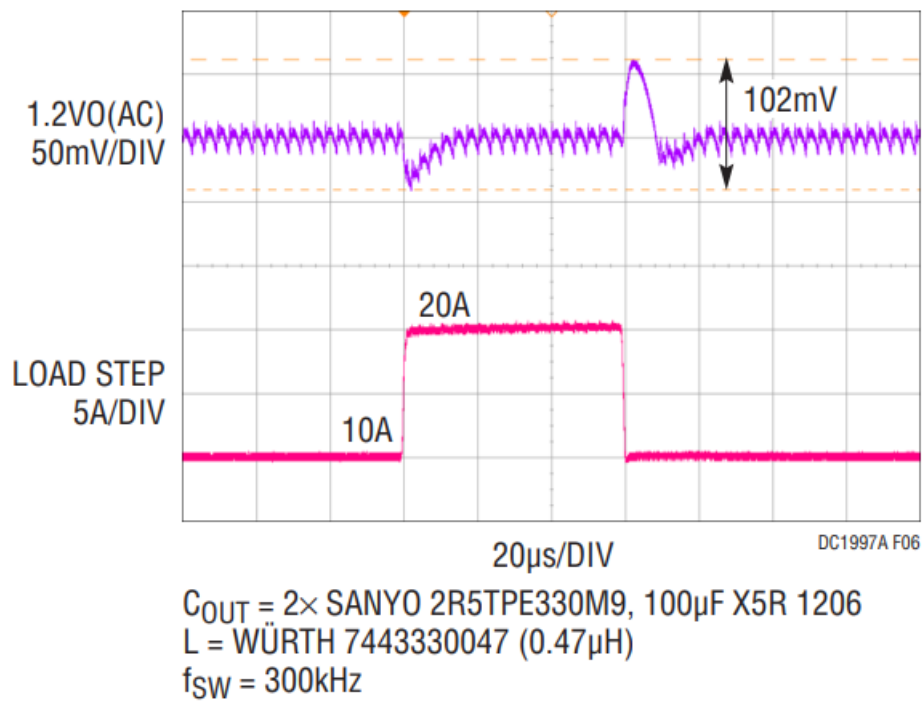


Figure 6. 50% to 100% to 50% Load Step Response of the 1.2V Rail on the DC1997A-A Assembly

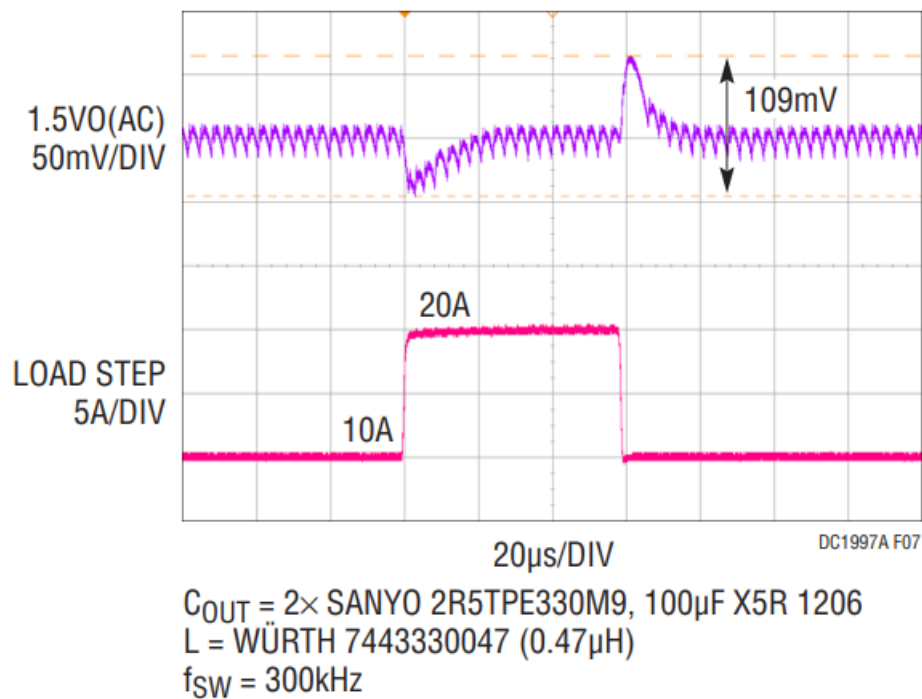


Figure 7. 50% to 100% to 50% Load Step Response of the 1.5V Rail on the DC1997A-B Assembly

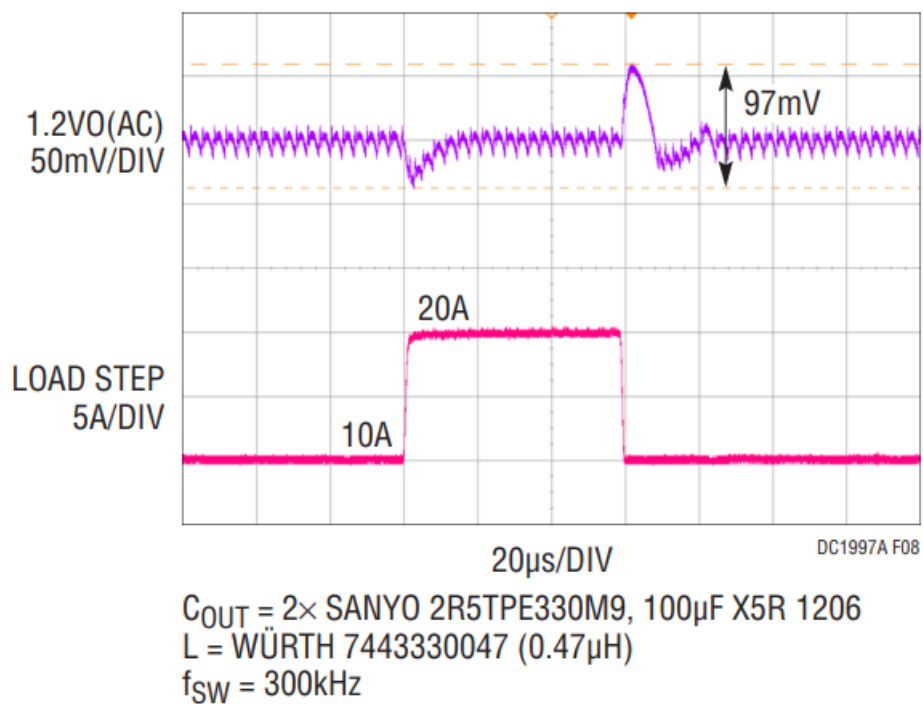


Figure 8. 50% to 100% to 50% Load Step Response of the 1.2V Rail on the DC1997A-B Assembly



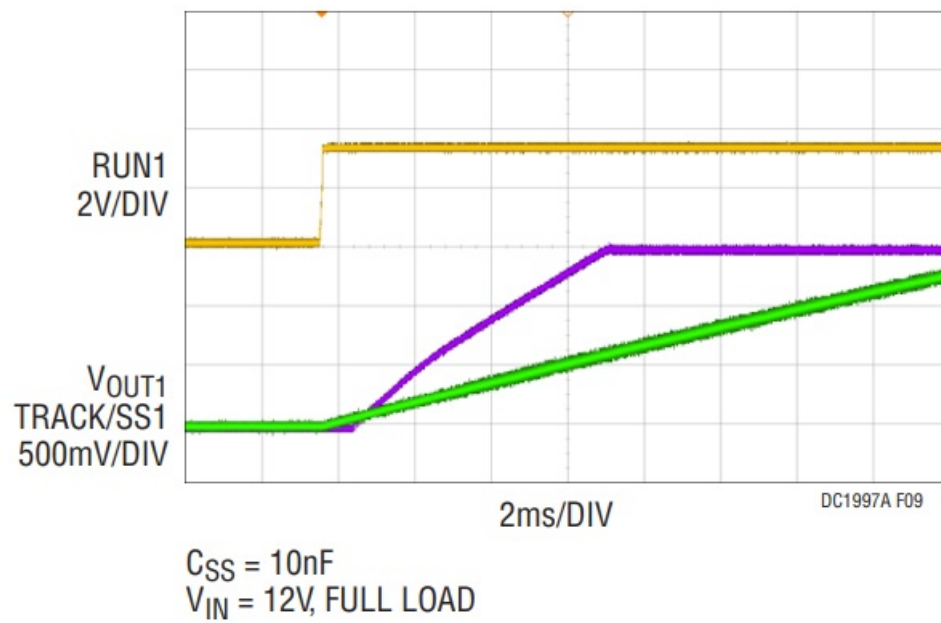


Figure 9. Turn-On of the 1.5V Rail of the DC1997A-A Assembly. RUN Pin Released from Ground

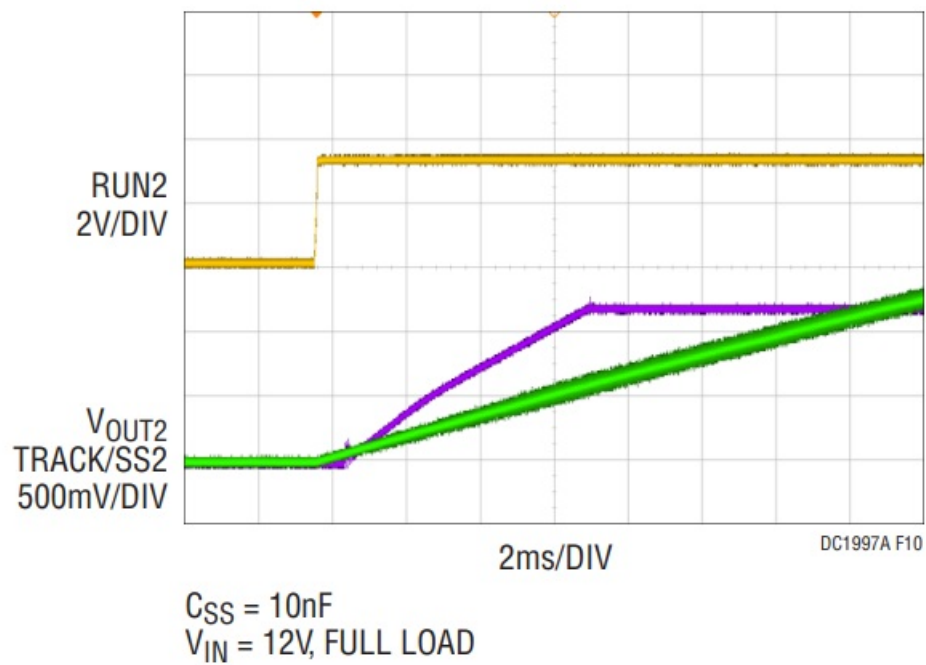


Figure 10. Turn-On of the 1.2V Rail of the DC1997A-A Assembly. RUN Pin Released from Ground

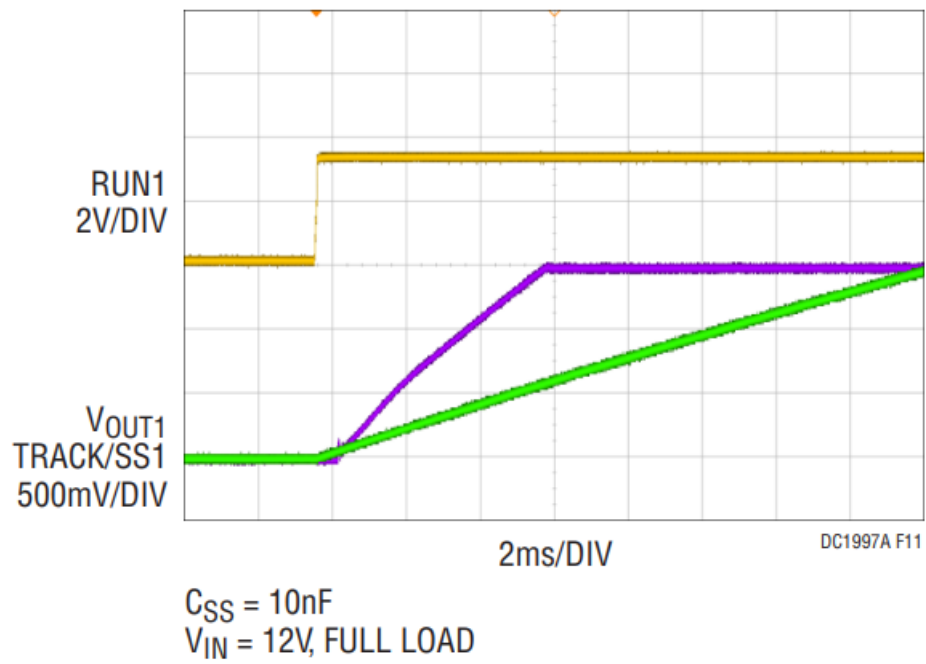


Figure 11. Turn-On of the 1.5V Rail of the DC1997A-B Assembly. RUN Pin Released from Ground

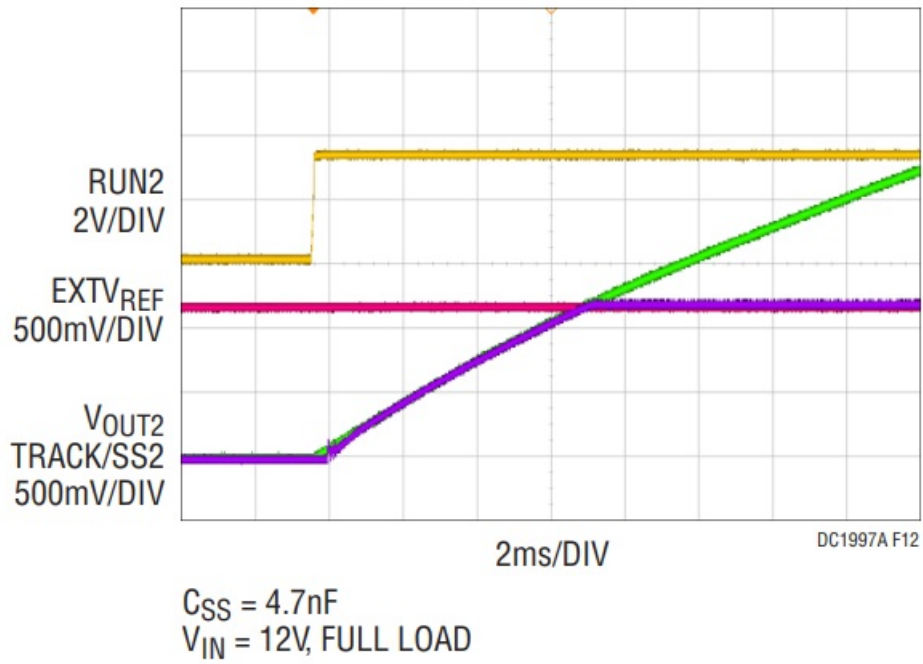
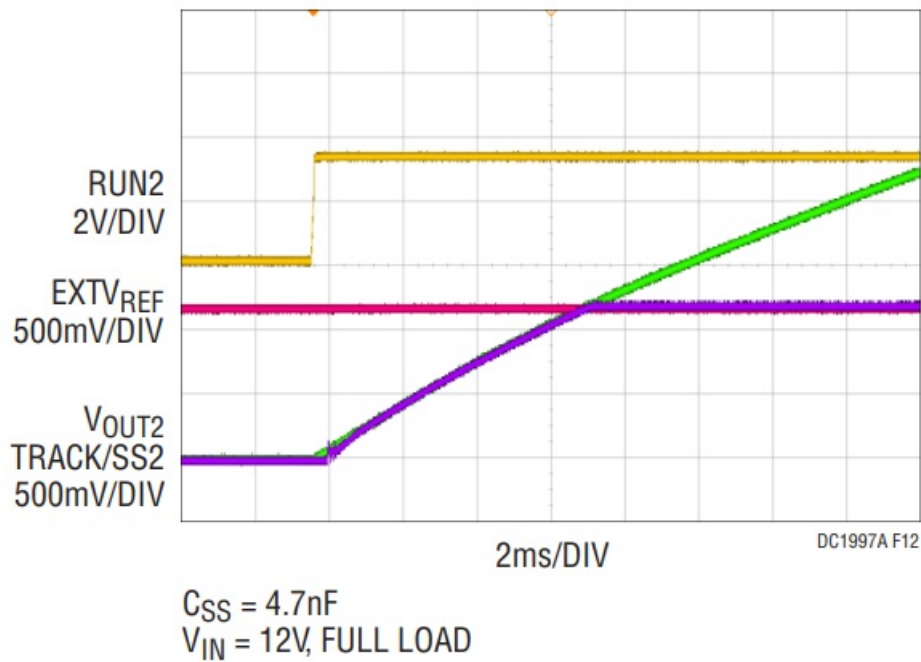


Figure 12. Turn-On of the 1.2V Rail of the DC1997A-B Assembly. RUN Pin Released from Ground



## PARTS LIST–DC1997A-A

ITEM	QTY	REFERENCE	PART DESCRIPTION	MANUFACTURER/PART NUMBER
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### Required Circuit Components

1	1	C12	CAP X7R 470pF 16V 5% 0603	AVX 0603YC471JAT2A
2	2	C21, C22	CAP X5R 10μF 16V,10% 0805	MURATA GRM21BR61C106KE15L
3	2	C3, C16	CAP NPO 1000pF 25V 5% 0603	AVX 06033A102JAT2A
4	3	C4, C10, C14	CAP X5R 0.1μF 16V 10% 0603	AVX 0603YD104KAT2A
5	2	C5, C11	CAP NPO 47pF 16V 5% 0603	AVX,0603YA470JAT2A
6	1	C6	CAP X7R 330pF 16V 0603	AVX 0603YC331JAT2A
7	2	C7, C13	CAP X5R 0.01μF 16V 10% 0603	AVX 0603YD103KAT2A
8	1	C8	CAP X5R 4.7μF 16V,10% 0805	AVX 0805YD475KAT2A
9	2	C9, C18	CAP X5R 1μF 16V,10% 0603	AVX 0603YD105KAT2A
10	4	CIN1, CIN2, CIN3, CIN4	CAP X5R 22μF 16V 1210	AVX 1210YD226MAT2A
11	1	CIN6	CAP 180μF 16V SVP-F8	SANYO 16SVP180MX
12	4	COUT1, COUT2, COUT6, COUT7	CAP X5R 100μF 6.3V 20% 1206	MURATA GRM31CR60J107ME39L

13	4	COUT4, COUT5, COUT9, COUT10	CAP 330 $\mu$ F 2.5V SIZE 7343	SANYO 2R5TPE330M9
14	2	D1, D2	DIODE SCHOTTKY SOD-323	CENTRAL SEMI. CMDSH-4E TR
15	2	L1, L2	IND 0.47 $\mu$ H 0.8m $\Omega$ DCR	WÜRTH 7443330047
16	2	Q1, Q2	MOSFET 5mm x 6mm POWER STAGE	INFINEON BSC0911ND
17	2	R13, R45	RES 100k 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW0603100KFKEA
18	6	R2, R11, R19, R44, R4, R12	RES 10k 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW060310K0FKEA
19	1	R27	RES CHIP 11k 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW060311K0FKEA
20	2	R29, R31	RES 2.2 $\Omega$ 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW06032R20FKEA
21	1	R30	RES 133k 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW0603133KFKEA
22	2	R32, R40	RES 15k 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW060315K0FKEA
23	12	R5, R17, R21, R23, R25, R35, R38, R41, R42, R50, R14, R24	RES 0 $\Omega$ ,0603	VISHAY CRCW06030000Z0EA
24	4	R6, R7, R46, R48	RES 10 $\Omega$ 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW060310R0FKE D
25	2	RS1, RS2	RES 0.001 $\Omega$ 1W 1% 2512	VISHAY WSL25121L000FEA
26	1	U1	LTC3838EUHF-1 QFN 38-LEAD	LINEAR TECH. LTC3838EUHF-1

### Additional Circuit Components

1	0	C1, C2, C15, C17, C19, C23, C24	CAP 0603	OPT
2	0	C20	CAP 0805	OPT
3	0	CIN5	CAP SVP-F8	OPT
4	0	CIN7-CIN12	CAP OPT 1210	OPT
5	0	COUT3, COUT8, COUT11-COUT14	CAP OPT 7343	OPT
6	0	D3	DIODE SOD-323	OPT
7	0	E19, E20	TESTPOINT TURRET 0.095"	OPT
8	0	JP5, JP6	HEADER OPT 2MM SINGLE 3-PIN	OPT
9	2	Q11, Q12	MOSFET N-CH 30V TO-252	FAIRCHILD FDD8874
10	0	Q3-Q10	MOSFET LPAK	OPT
11	0	R1, R3, R8, R9, R10, R15, R16, R18, R20, R22, R26, R28, R33, R34, R36, R37, R39, R43, R47, R49, R63	RES 0603	OPT
12	0	R51, R53, R54, R59, R60, R61, R62	RES 0603	OPT
13	0	R52	RES POT-3313J-1	OPT
14	2	R55, R56	RES 10k 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW060310K0FKEA
15	2	R57, R58	RES 0.005Ω 1/2W 1% 2010	VISHAY WSL20105L000FEA
16	0	U2	LT6650HS5 SOT23-5	OPT

## Hardware

1	6	J1-J6	STUD TEST PIN	PEM KFH-032-10
2	12	J1-J6	NUT BRASS #10-32	ANY
3	6	J1-J6	RING LUG #10	KEYSTONE 8205
4	6	J1-J6	WASHER TIN PLATED BRASS	ANY
5	2	J7,J8	CONN BNC 5 PINS	CONNEX 112404
6	2	JP1, JP4	HEADER 2MM SINGLE 3-PIN	SAMTEC TMM-103-02-L-S
7	2	JP2, JP3	HEADER 2MM SINGLE 4-PIN	SAMTEC TMM-104-02-L-S
8	4	XJP1-XJP4	SHUNT	SAMTEC 2SN-BK-G

## PARTS LIST–DC1997A-B

### Required Circuit Components

1	1	C12	CAP X7R 470pF 16V 5% 0603	AVX 0603YC471JAT2A
2	2	C21, C22	CAP X5R 10μF 16V 10% 0805	MURATA GRM21BR61C106KE15L
3	2	C3, C16	CAP NPO 1000pF 25V 5% 0603	AVX 06033A102JAT2A
4	3	C4, C10, C14	CAP X5R 0.1μF 16V 10% 0603	AVX 0603YD104KAT2A
5	2	C5, C11	CAP NPO 47pF 16V 5% 0603	AVX,0603YA470JAT2A
6	1	C6	CAP NPO 680pF 16V 0603	AVX 0603YC681JAT2A
7	1	C13	CAP X5R 0.01μF 16V 10% 0603	AVX 0603YD103KAT2A
8	1	C7	CAP X7R 4.7nF 10V 0603	AVX 0603ZC472JAT2A
9	1	C8	CAP X5R 4.7μF 16V,10% 0805	AVX 0805YD475KAT2A
10	2	C9, C18	CAP X5R 1μF 16V,10% 0603	AVX 0603YD105KAT2A
11	4	CIN1, CIN2, CIN3, CIN4	CAP X5R 22μF 16V 1210	AVX 1210YD226MAT2A
12	1	CIN6	CAP 180μF 16V SVP-F8	SANYO 16SVP180MX
13	4	COUT1, COUT2, COUT6, C OUT7	CAP X5R 100μF 6.3V 20% 1206	MURATA GRM31CR60J107ME39L
14	4	COUT4, COUT5, COUT9, C OUT10	CAP 330μF 2.5V SIZE 7343	SANYO 2R5TPE330M9

15	2	D1, D2	DIODE SCHOTTKY SOD-323	CENTRAL SEMI. CMDSH-4E TR
16	2	L1, L2	IND 0.47 $\mu$ H 0.8m $\Omega$ DCR	WÜRTH 7443330047
17	2	Q1, Q2	MOSFET 5mm x 6mm POWER S TAGE	INFINEON BSC0911ND
18	3	R13, R24, R45	RES 100k 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW0603100KFKE A
19	4	R2, R11, R19, R44	RES 10k 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW060310K0FKE A
20	1	R27	RES CHIP 5.23k 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW06035K23FKE A
21	2	R29, R31	RES 2.2 $\Omega$ 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW06032R20FKE A
22	1	R30	RES 133k 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW0603133KFKE A
23	2	R32, R40	RES 15k 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW060315K0FKE A
24	13	R5, R17, R21, R23, R25, R35, R38, R41, R42, R50, R59, R61, R62	RES 0 $\Omega$ , 0603	VISHAY CRCW06030000Z0EA
25	4	R6, R7, R46, R48	RES 10 $\Omega$ 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW060310R0FKE D
26	2	RS1, RS2	RES 0.001 $\Omega$ 1W 1% 2512	VISHAY WSL25121L000FEA
27	1	U1	LTC3838EUHF-2 QFN 38-LEAD	LINEAR TECH. LTC3838EUHF-2

### Additional Circuit Components

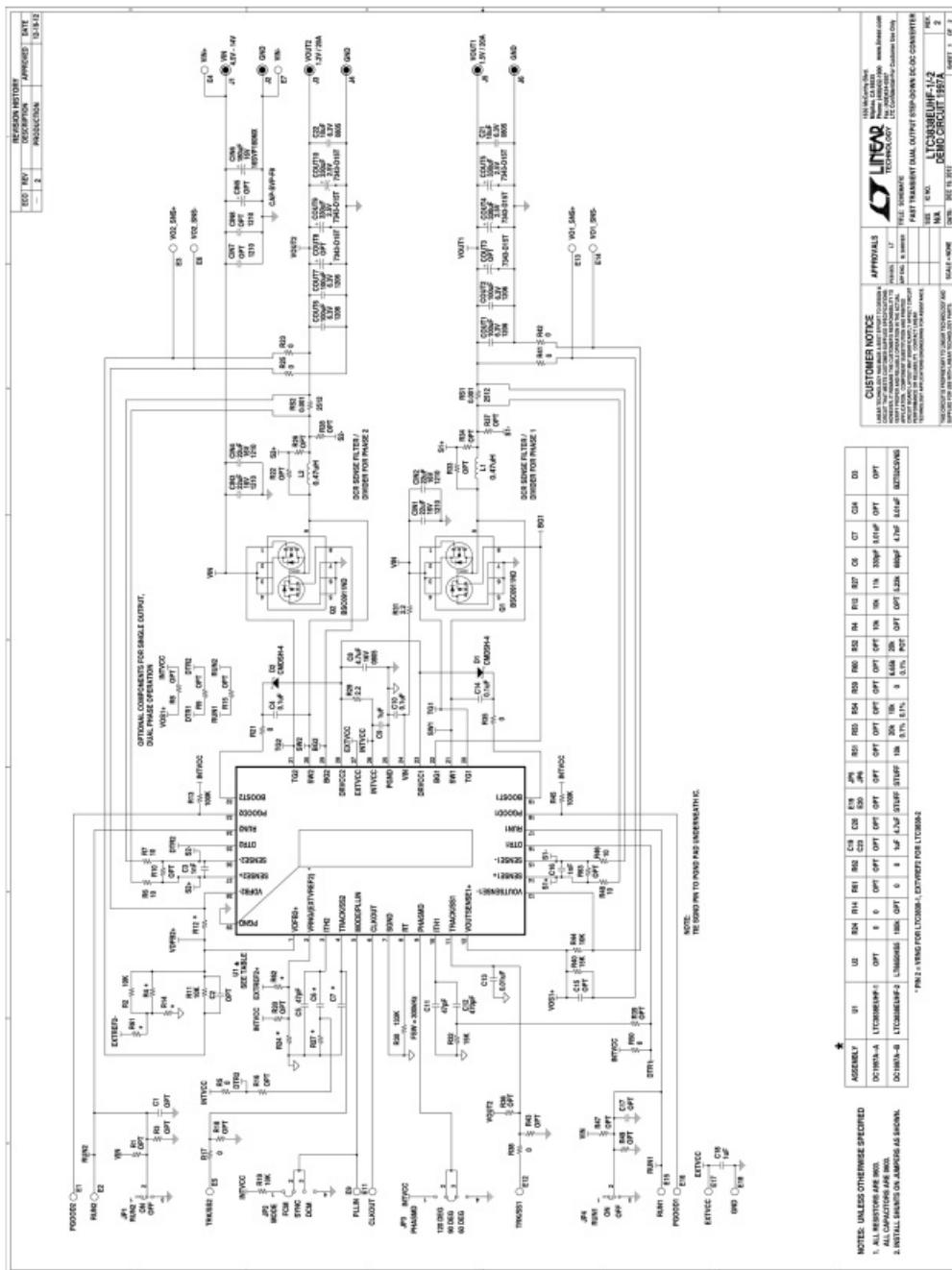
1	0	C1, C2, C15, C17	CAP 0603	OPT
2	1	C19	CAP X5R 1 $\mu$ F 16V 0603	AVX 0603YD105KAT2A
3	1	C20	CAP X5R 4.7 $\mu$ F 16V 0805	AVX 0805YD475KAT2A
4	1	C23	CAP X5R 1 $\mu$ F 16V 0603	AVX 0603YD105KAT2A
5	1	C24	CAP X5R 0.01 $\mu$ F 16V 0603	AVX 0603YD103KAT2A
6	0	CIN5	CAP SVP-F8	OPT
7	0	CIN7-CIN12	CAP OPT 1210	OPT
8	0	COU3, COU8, COU11-C OU14	CAP OPT 7343	OPT
9	1	D3	DIODE BZT52C5V6S 5.6V ZENE R SOD-323	DIODES BZT52C5V6S-7-F
10	2	Q11, Q12	MOSFET N-CH 30V TO-252	FAIRCHILD FDD8874
11	0	Q3-Q10 (OPT)	MOSFET LPAK	OPT
12	0	R1, R3, R8, R9, R10, R15, R 16, R18, R20, R22, R26, R28 , R33, R34, R36, R37, R39, R43, R47, R49, R63	RES 0603	OPT
13	0	R4, R12, R14	RES 0603	OPT
14	1	R51	RES CHIP 10k 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW060310K0FKE A
15	1	R52	RES POT 20k 1% POT-3313J-1	BOURN 3313J-1-203E
16	1	R53	RES 20k 0.1% 0603	VISHAY PTN0603E2002BST1
17	1	R54	RES 10k 0.1% 0603	VISHAY PTN0603E1002BSTS
18	2	R55, R56	RES 10k 1% 0603	VISHAY CRCW060310K0FKE A
19	2	R57, R58	RES 0.005 $\Omega$ 1/2W 1% 2010	VISHAY WSL20105L000FEA
20	1	R60	RES CHIP 6.65k 0.1% 0603	VISHAY PTN0603E6651BSTS
21	1	U2	LT6650HS5 SOT23-5	LINEAR TECH. LT6650HS5

## Hardware



1	2	E19, E20	TESTPOINT TURRET 0.095"	MILL-MAX 2501-2-00-80-00-00-07-0
2	26	E1-E7, E9, E11-E28	TESTPOINT TURRET 0.095"	MILL-MAX 2501-2-00-80-00-00-07-0
3	6	J1-J6	STUD TEST PIN	PEM KFH-032-10
4	6	J1-J6	NUT BRASS #10-32	ANY
5	6	J1-J6	RING LUG #10	KEYSTONE 8205
6	12	J1-J6	WASHER TIN PLATED BRASS	ANY
7	2	J7, J8	CONN BNC 5 PINS	CONNEX 112404
8	2	JP1, JP4	HEADER 2MM SINGLE 3-PIN	SAMTEC TMM-103-02-L-S
9	2	JP2, JP3	HEADER 2MM SINGLE 4-PIN	SAMTEC TMM-104-02-L-S
10	2	JP5, JP6	HEADER 2MM SINGLE 3-PIN	SAMTEC TMM-103-02-L-S
11	1	XJP1-XJP4	SHUNT	SAMTEC 2SN-BK-G
12	1	XJP5,XJP6	SHUNT	SAMTEC 2SN-BK-G

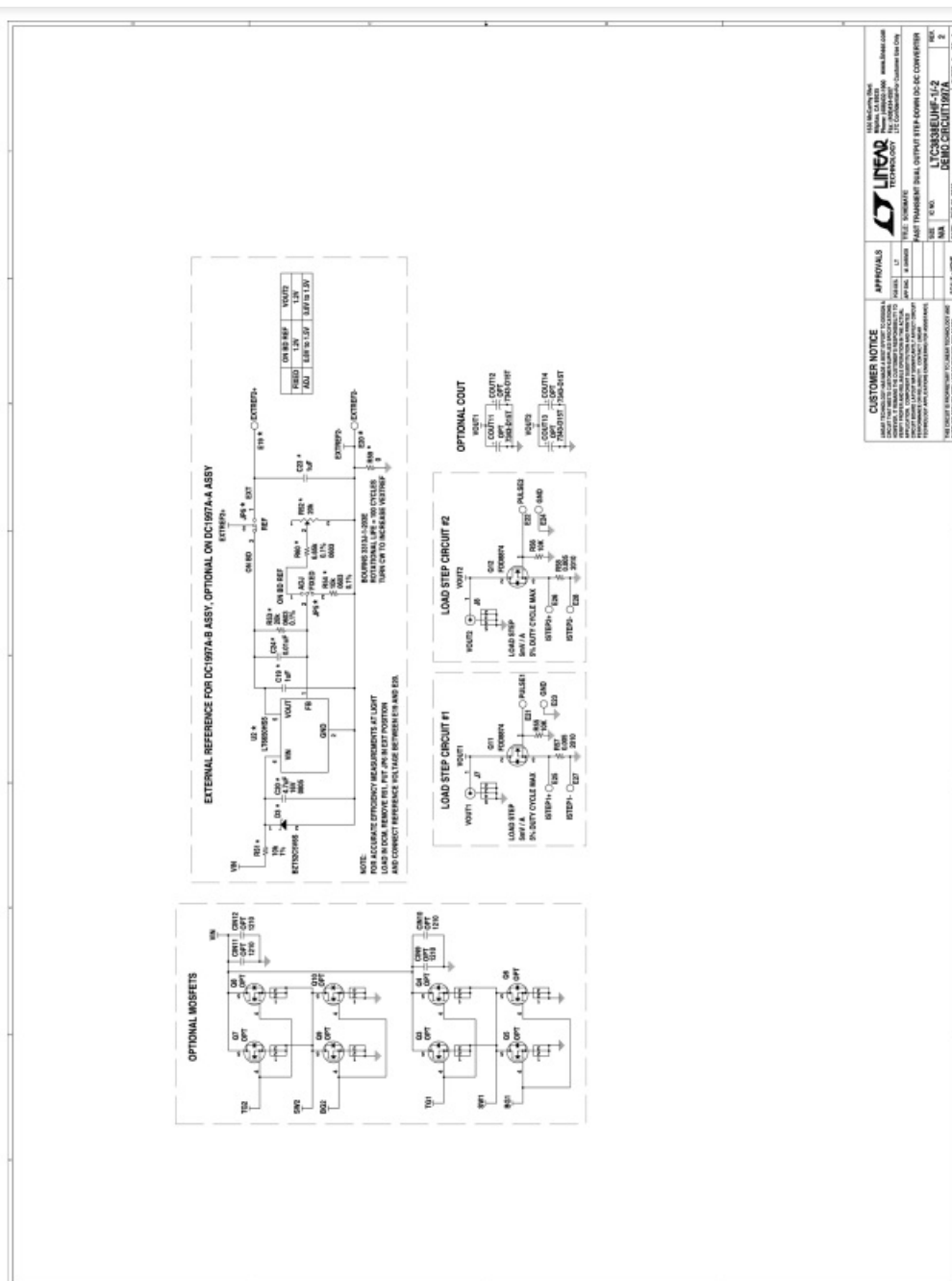
## SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM

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NOTES: UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED  
1. ALL RESISTORS ARE 500Ω.  
ALL CAPACITORS ARE 100Ω.  
INSTALL SHUNTS ON JUMPS AS SECOND.

PM 2 = VENG FOR ITCOMM-1 ENTERED FOR ITCOMM-2

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## DEMONSTRATION BOARD IMPORTANT NOTICE

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This notice contains important safety information about temperatures and voltages. For further safety concerns, please contact a LT C application engineer.

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## Documents / Resources

	<p><b><a href="#">LINEAR TECHNOLOGY LTC3838EUHF-1 High Current Dual Output Synchronous Buck Converter</a></b> [pdf] Owner's Manual</p> <p>LTC3838EUHF-1 High Current Dual Output Synchronous Buck Converter, LTC3838EUHF-1, High Current Dual Output Synchronous Buck Converter, Synchronous Buck Converter, Buck Converter</p>
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