

How to fix Smart Switching Converter PCB problem?

The PCB of the Smart Buck Converter contains two errors:

- the PMOD GND pin is not physically connected to the board ground
 - the comparator positive feedback is incorrectly wired
1. The GND problem is very easy to fix: just solder a wire between the PMOD ground PIN and the 1 x 4 board ground pin header (as Figure 1 shows)

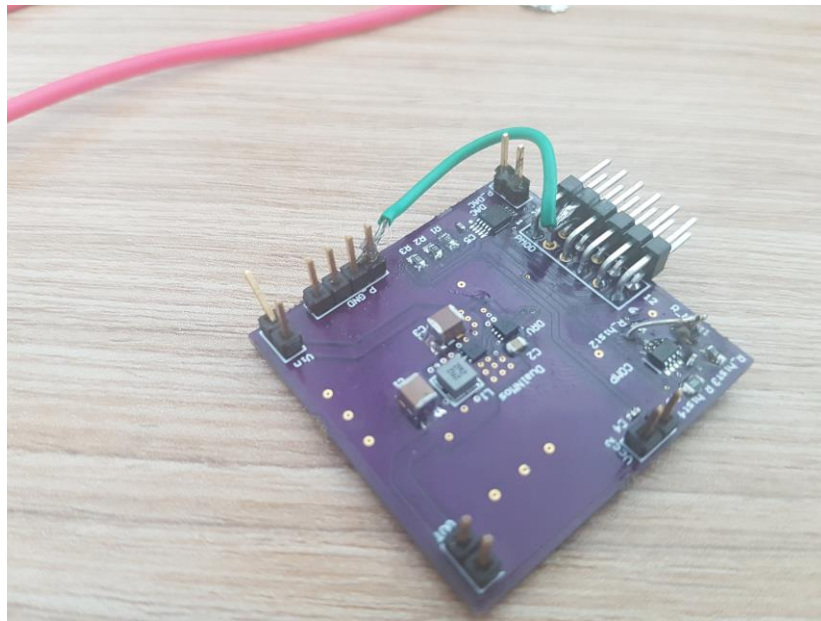


Figure 1

2. The Positive feedback fix

As Figure 2 shows, the R_hist1 and R_hist2 are wrong connected. In this case, R_hist2 has no purpose, because it is in series with the input impedance of the non-inverting input of the comparator.

In order to fix the problem, the right terminal of R_hist2 should be disconnected from IN+ and connected to OUTA. The FB wire should be disconnected from OUTA and connected to IN+.

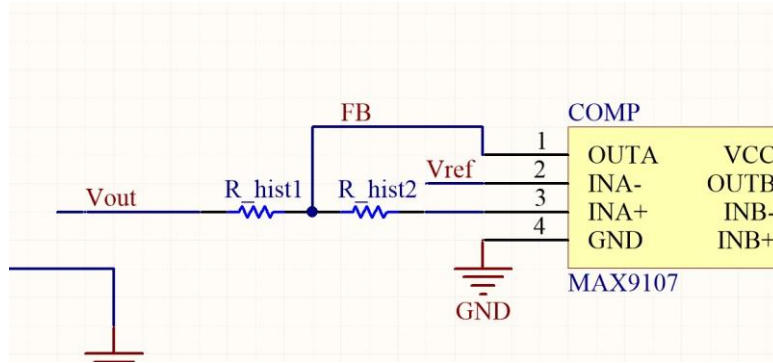


Figure 2

Because this problem is not major one, it can be solved without destroying the PCB.

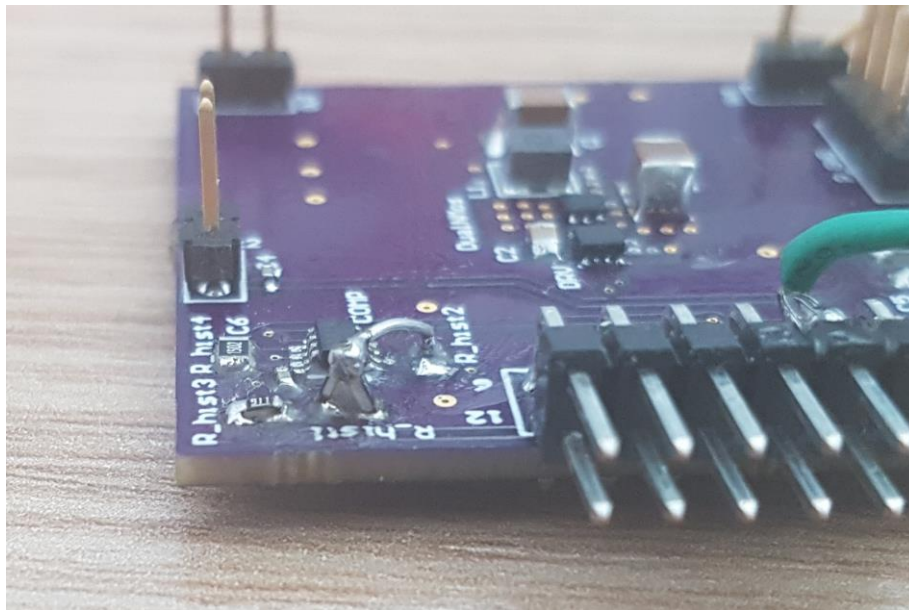


Figure 3

For doing this, R_{hist2} was detached from its PAD. Both R_{hist1} and R_{hist2} were soldered on the pad of R_{hist1} in a triangle form. R_{hist1} was lifted at 60 degrees, remaining fixed on the upper pad (the one closer to the top border). R_{hist2} was soldered with a terminal on the other pad of R_{hist2} (the one closer to PMOD). Our common pad (which is the triangle top) was soldered, and connected to the right pad of R_{hist2} (see Figure 4).

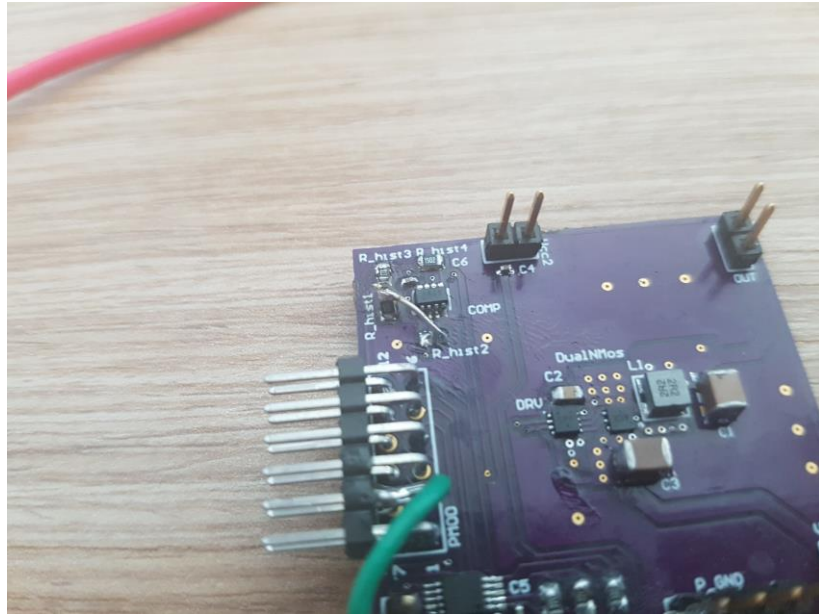


Figure 4