

Introduction to Embedded System Design

Lecture - 4: Elements of Microcontroller Ecosystem, Power Supply for Embedded Systems

Dhananjay V. Gadre

Associate Professor

ECE Division

Netaji Subhas University of
Technology, New Delhi

Badri Subudhi

Assistant Professor

Electrical Engineering Department

Indian Institute of Technology,
Jammu

Elements of Microcontroller Ecosystem

“Roti, Kapda, Makaaan and Internet” for a Microcontroller! (Essential Elements for Survival)

- Clock
- Reset
- Power Supply
- Program Download Capability

The Clock Subsystem!

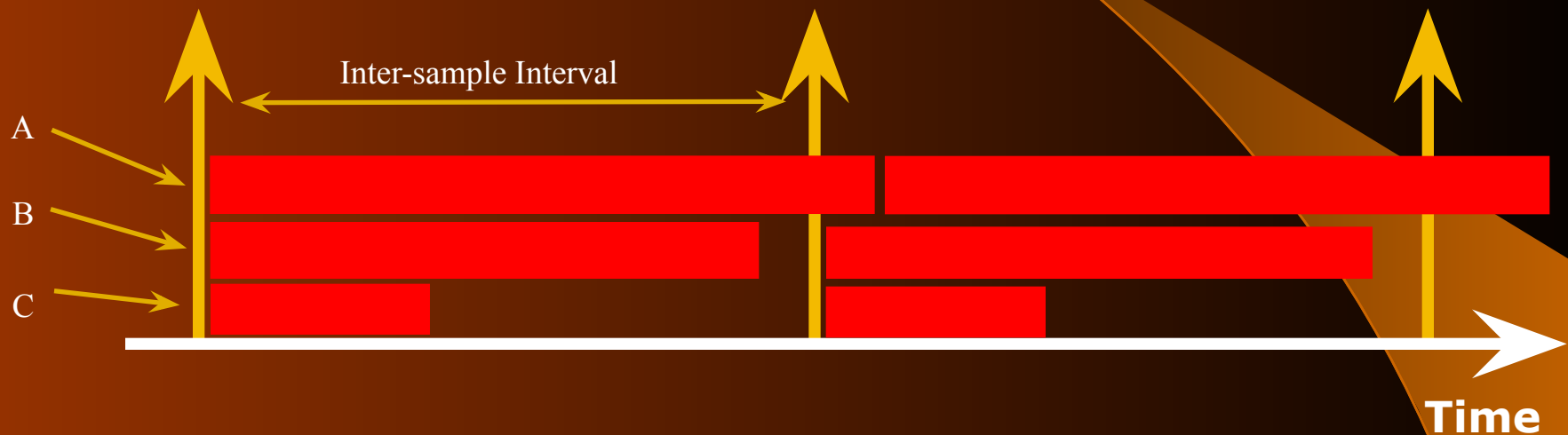
- Why do we need Clock?
- What Should be the Clock Frequency?
- Implications of Clock Frequency Value?
- What Topology for the Clock Generator?
- Desirable Features for the Clock Generator?
- RTC Clock?
- Clock Frequency Stabilization: TCXO, Temperature Sensor + Varactor diode in parallel to Crystal.

Selecting a Suitable Embedded Controller

- Peripheral Features
- Memory
- Packaging
- Grade (Commercial, Industrial, Automotive, Military)
- Price
- Availability and lead time

But most important!

Selecting a Suitable Embedded Controller



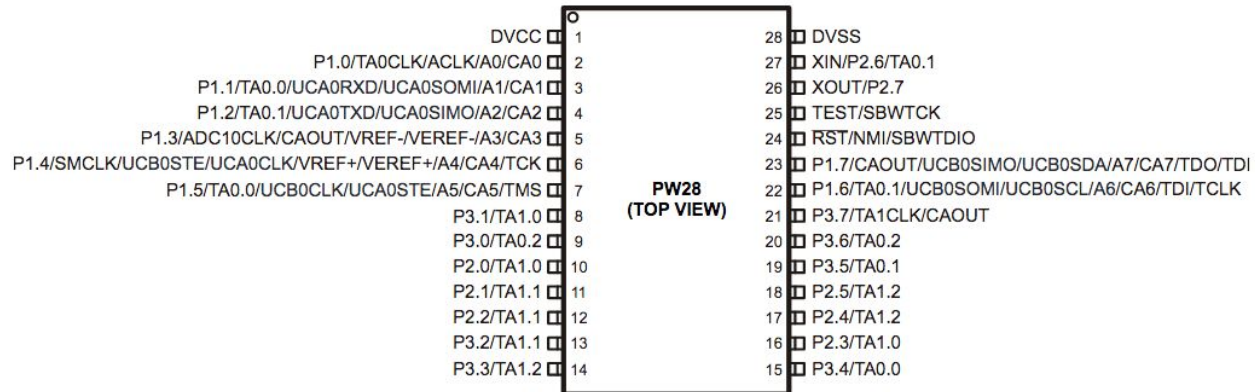
- Algorithm Complexity viz-a-viz Sampling Theorem Constraints
- Controller 'A' is unacceptable
- Controller 'B' is marginal
- Controller 'C' is comfortable!

The Reset Subsystem!

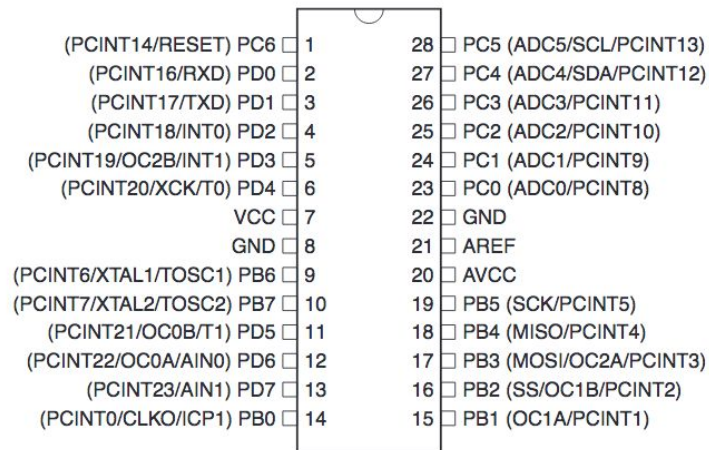
- Why do we need Reset?
- Sources of Reset?
- Warm and Cold Reset?
- POR, User, BOD and Watchdog.

User Reset

Device Pinout, MSP430G2x13 and MSP430G2x53, 28-Pin Devices, TSSOP



NOTE: ADC10 is available on MSP430G2x53 devices only.

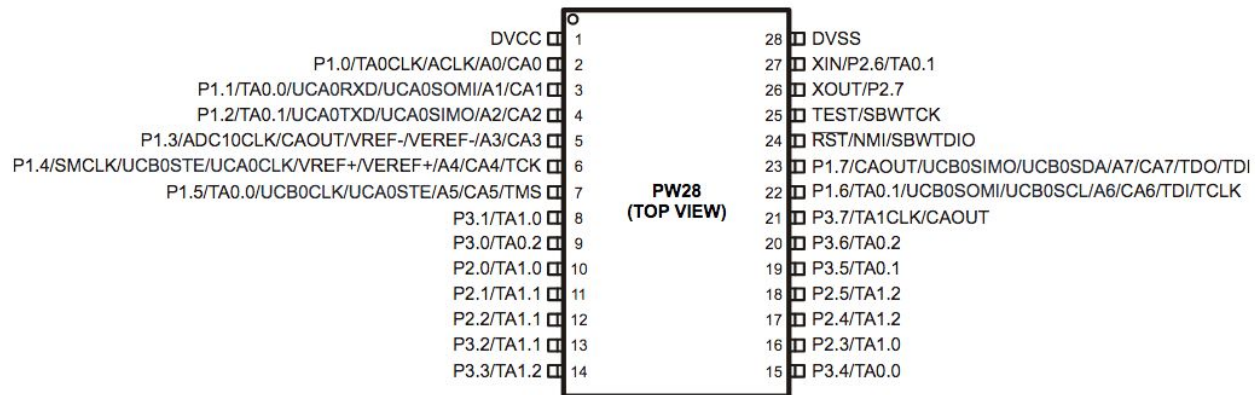


Program Download Capability

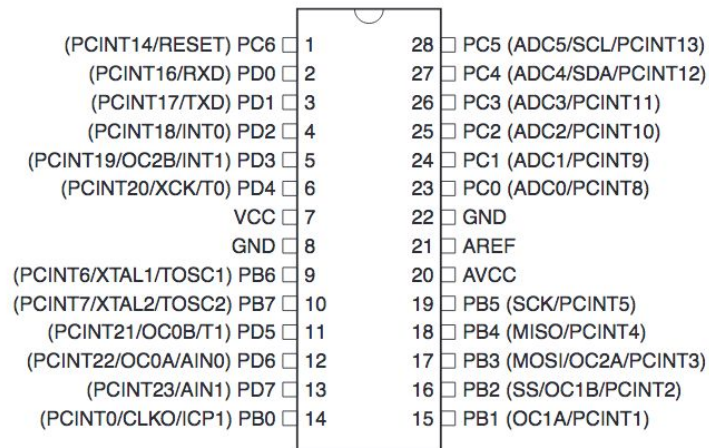
- Older Methods (EPROM Eraser + Universal Device Programmer).
- Evolution of Flash Memory → ISP.
- Most Popular using SPI.
- JTAG: Dual use. Testing as well as Program Download
- SWD
- IAP using Bootloader.
- UPM + BPM.

Power Supply for microcontrollers

Device Pinout, MSP430G2x13 and MSP430G2x53, 28-Pin Devices, TSSOP



NOTE: ADC10 is available on MSP430G2x53 devices only.



Power Supply: An Important Component

- Source of Power? – Grid, Battery or alternative?
- Stabilization (Voltage Regulation)
- Backup?
- Optimization- modes of operation

Power Supply: An Important Component

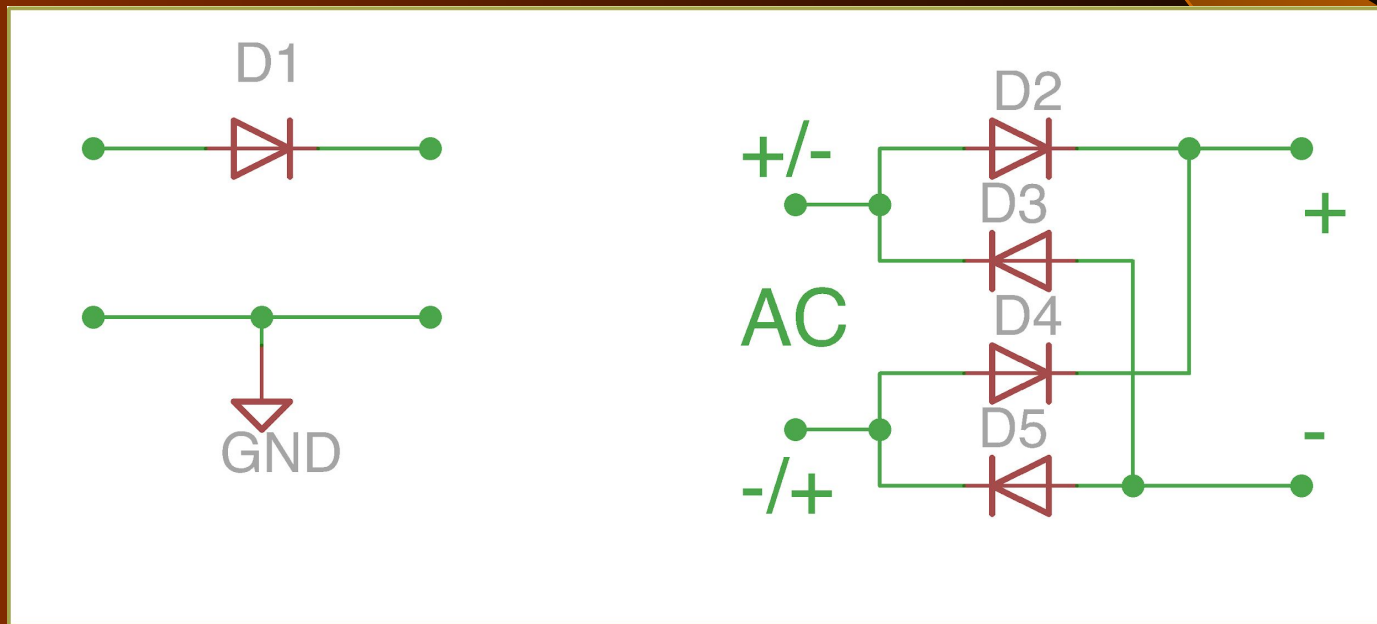
Alternative sources:

- Solar (Photovoltaic, Thermoelectric)
- Hydro
- Vibration/Resonance based on Faraday law
- Ambient RF power conversion.

Grid Power

- AC Step down → Rectifier.
- Polarity proof input stage.
- Instead of step-down transformer,
How about capacitive voltage divider option? Advantages?
- Switching Mode Supply?
- Filtering

Low Voltage AC Input: Polarity Safe or Polarity Proof Input Stage



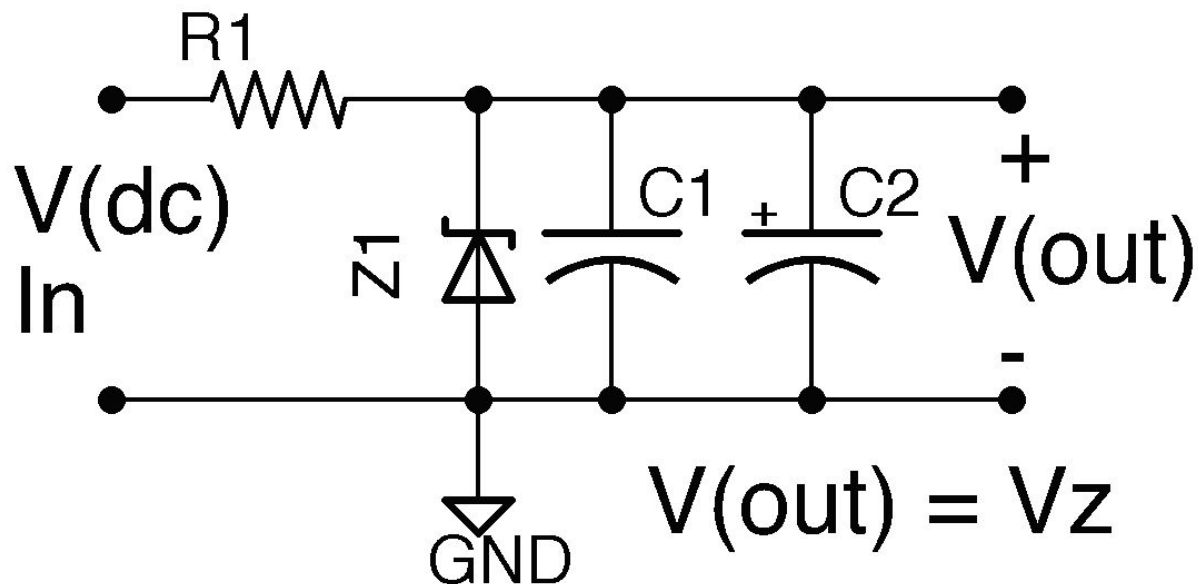
Voltage Regulators

- Linear Regulator
- Switching Regulator

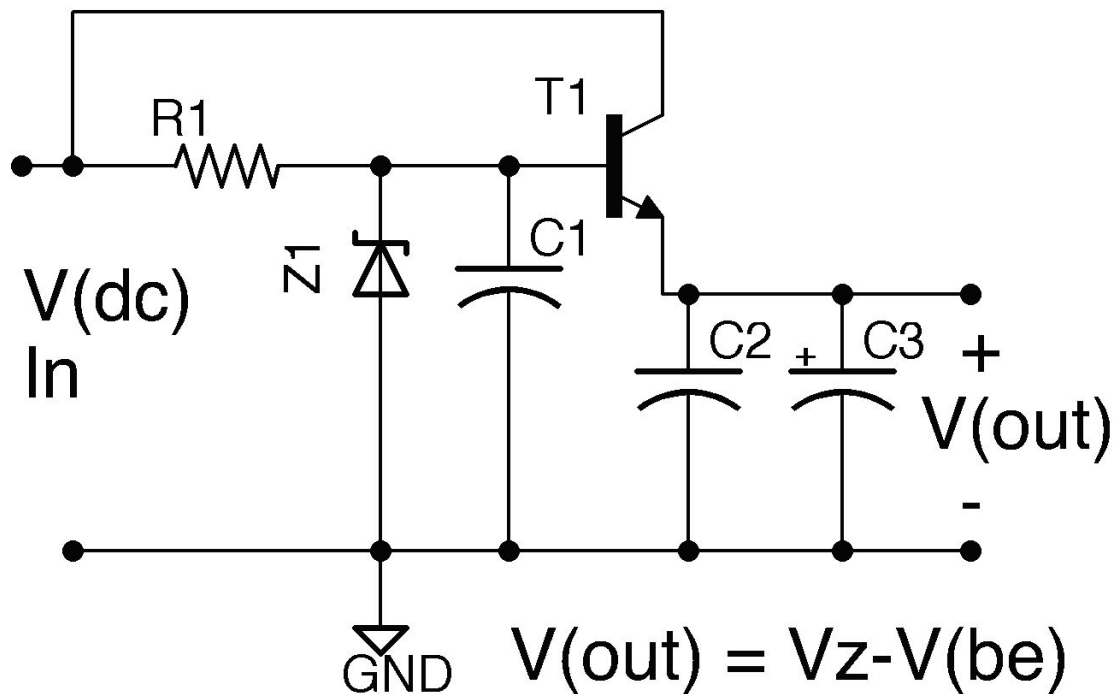
Voltage Stabilization

- Linear Regulators- Ease of use, cheap, low component count. The classic 78xxx series. Issues? Large Dropout voltage, Large quiescent current $I(q)$.
- Use Low Drop Out (LDO) linear regulators.
- Low Quiescent Current too.

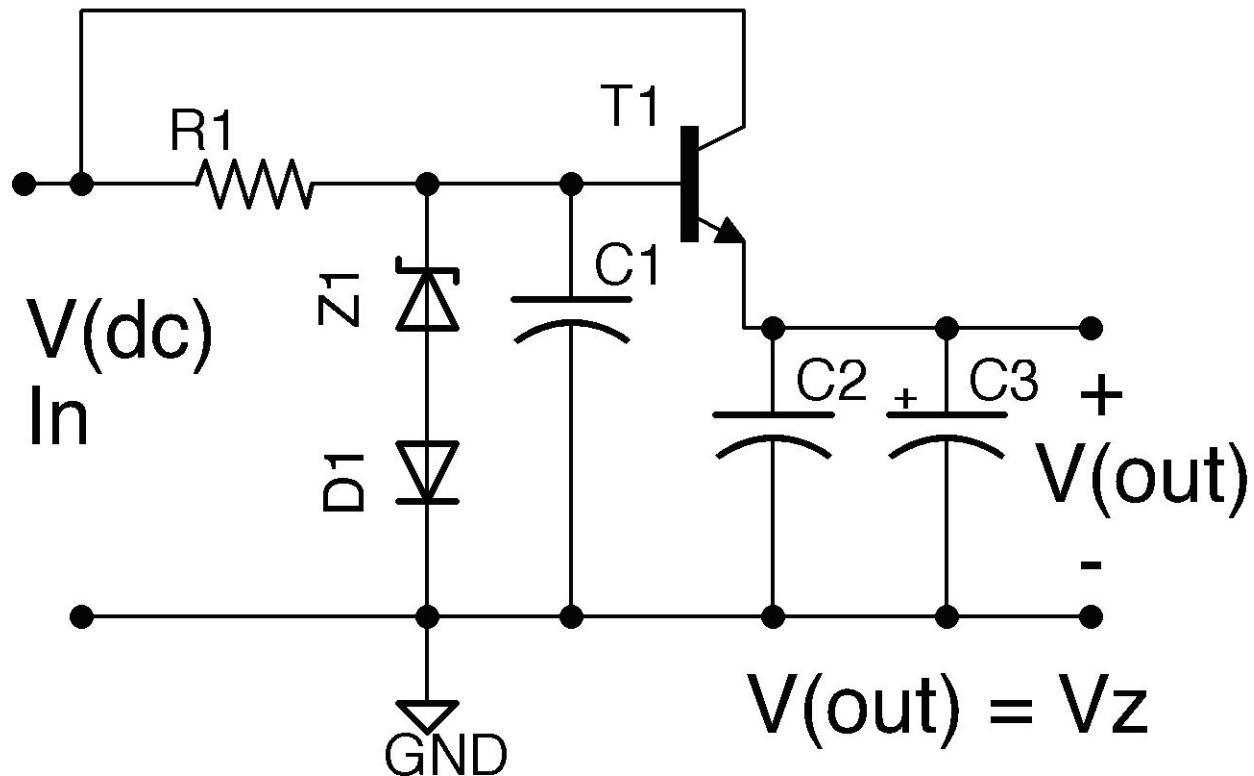
Linear Regulator Topologies



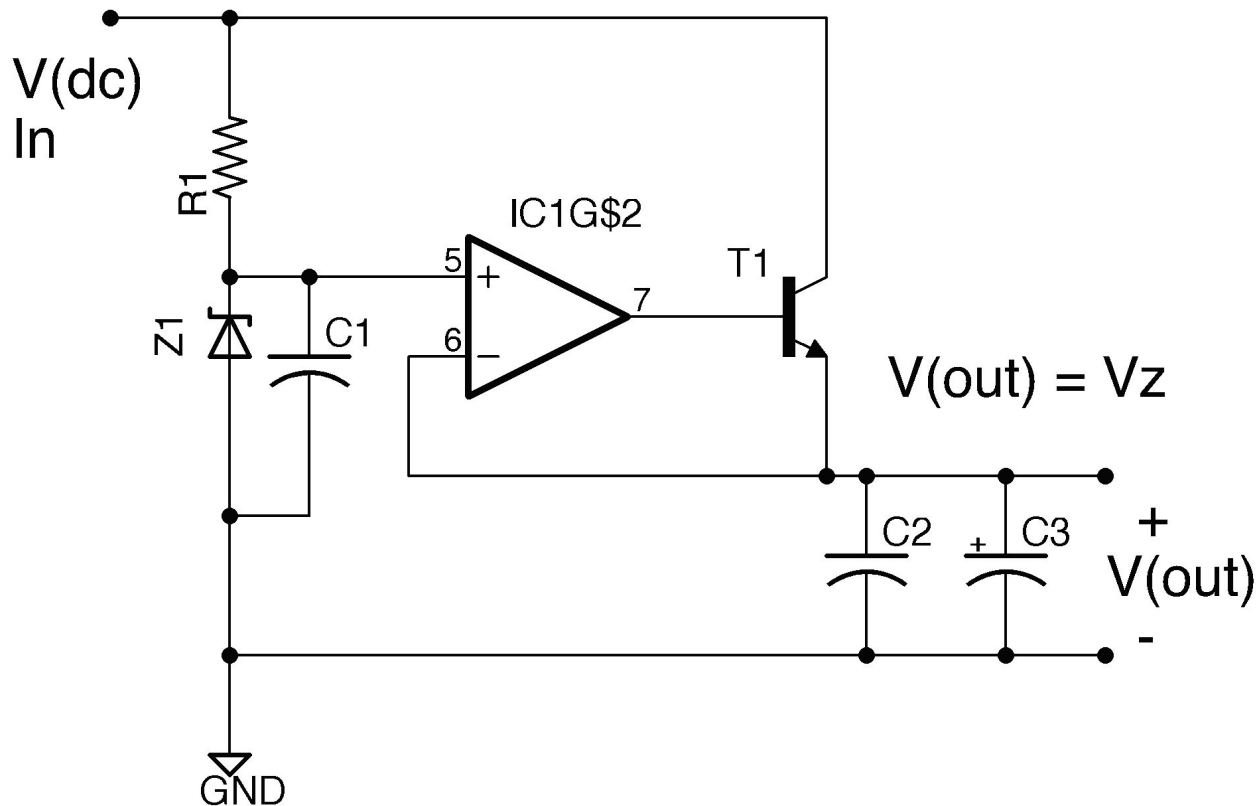
Linear Regulator Topologies



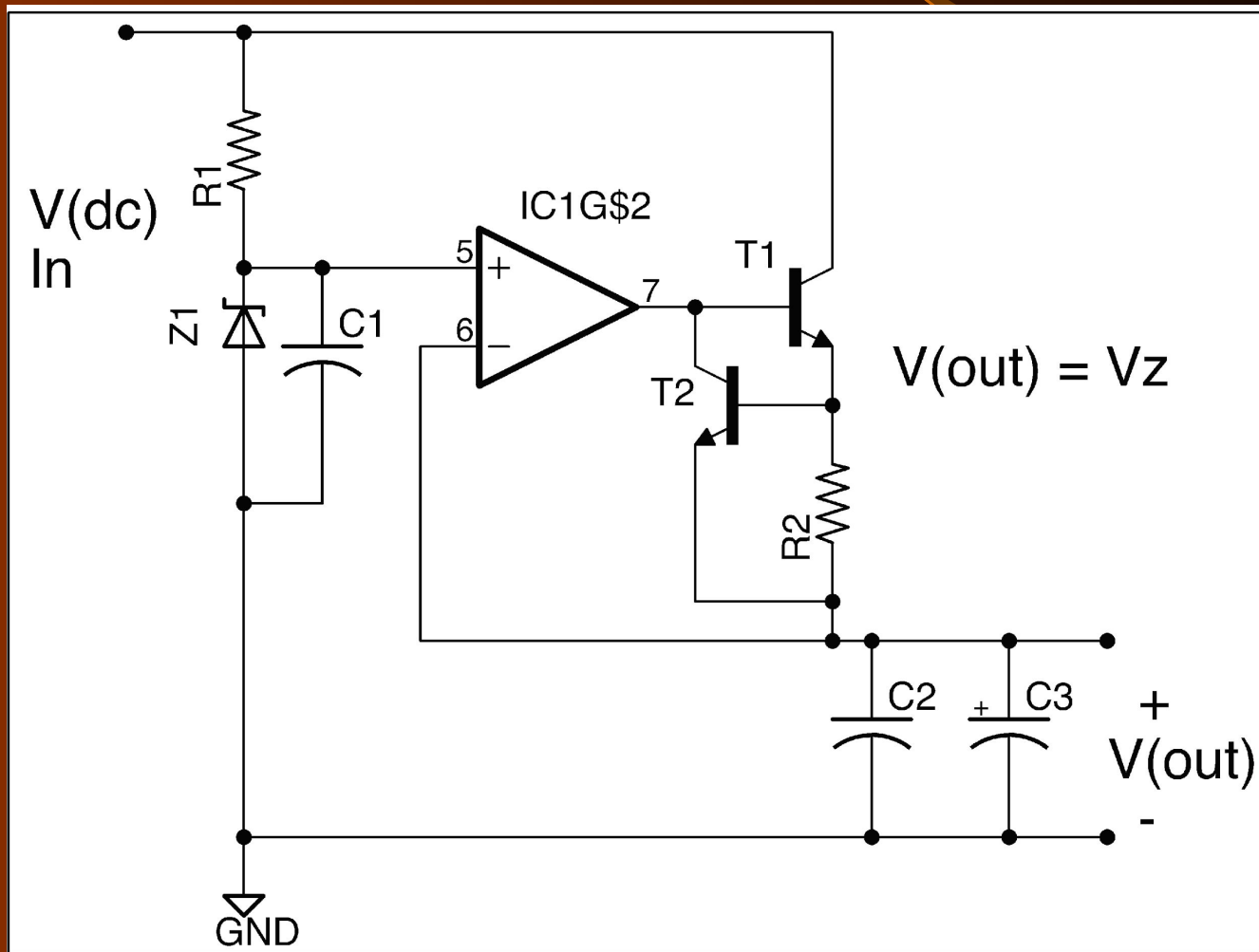
Linear Regulator Topologies



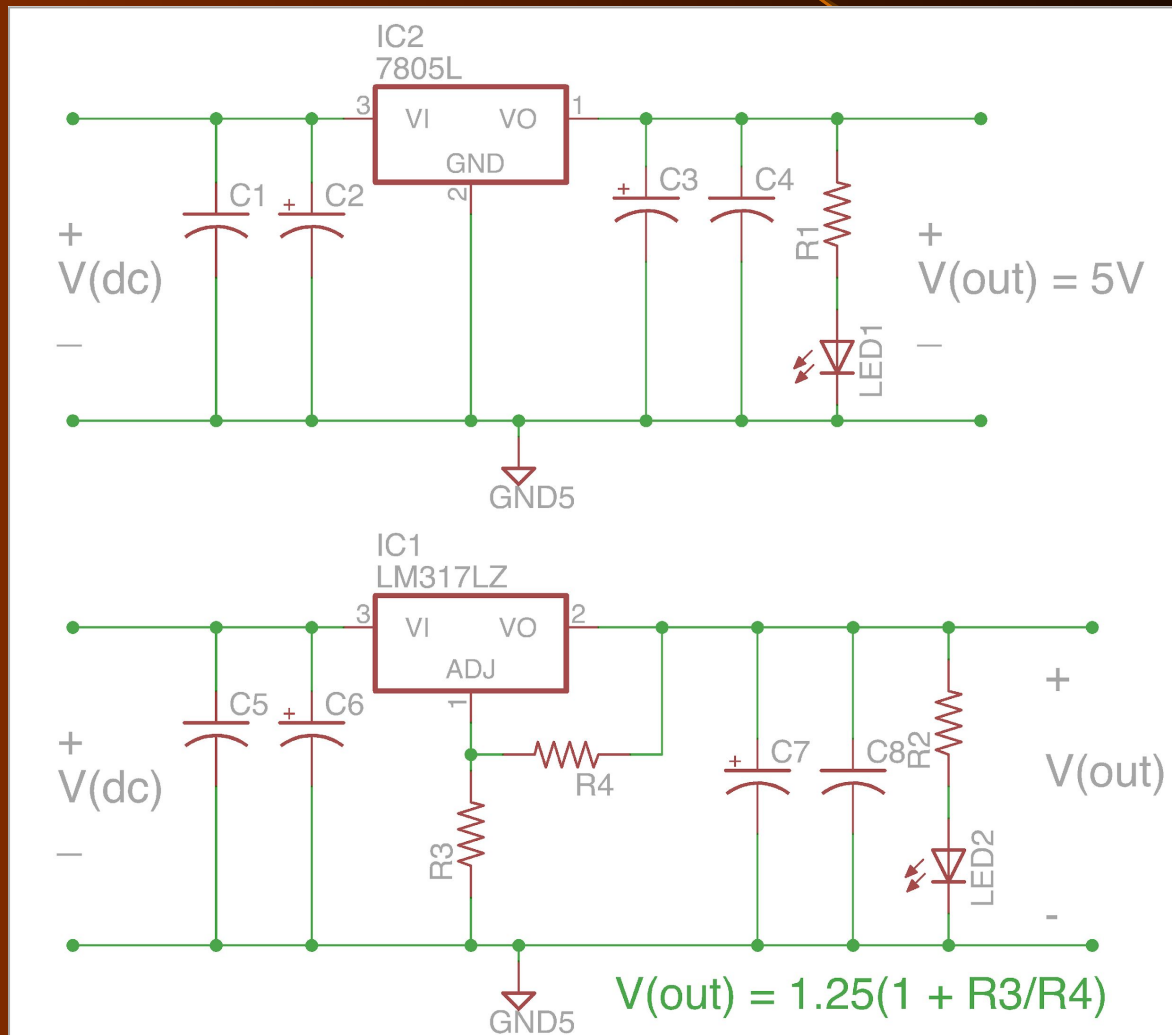
Linear Regulator Topologies



Linear Regulator Topologies



3-Terminal Linear Regulator



Linear Regulators

- The classic 7805 is history.
- Why? 5V no longer voltage of choice.
- Large Drop out voltage (3V or more)
- Large Quiescent Current – 10 mA.
- Alternatives?

LDO! 0.1V drop out, 10-100uA Quiescent Current

Examples: LP2950 (2.7, 3, 3.3V etc)

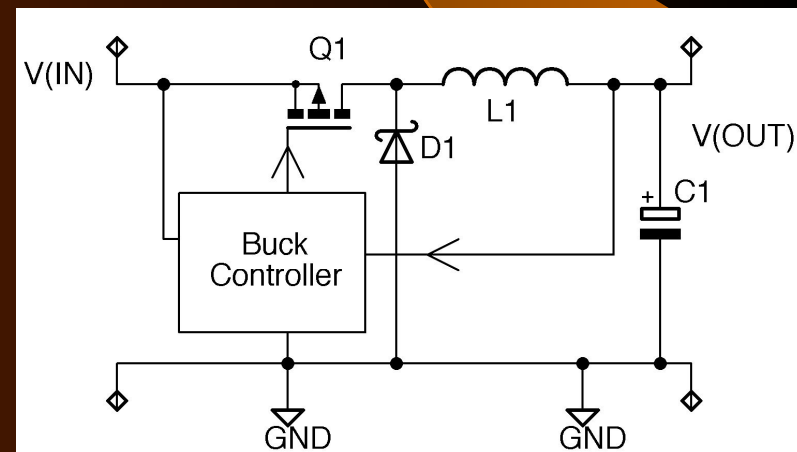
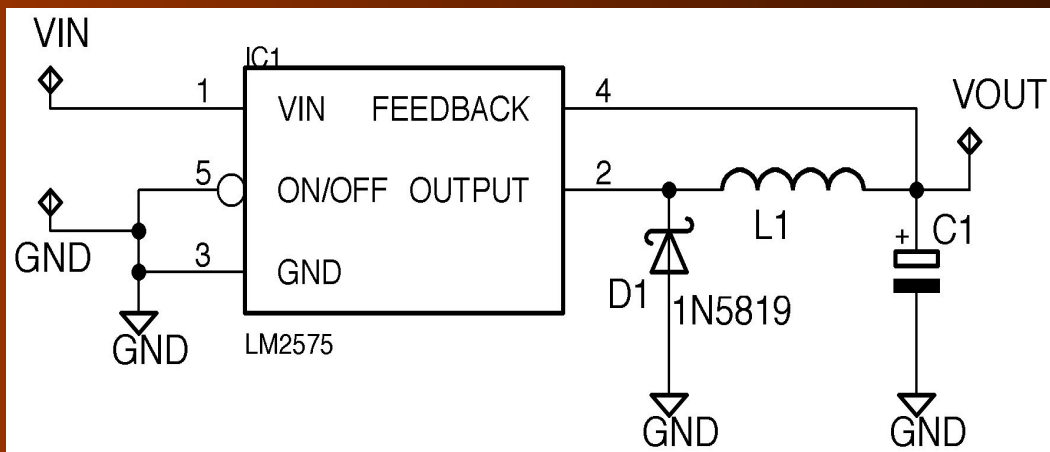
LP38500-ADJ 0.6V dropout.

Switching Regulators

- Advantages: 90%+ efficiency
- Pitfalls: Inductor, switching diode, high current switch.
- Lower ESR output capacitor
- Relatively large output noise.
- Type depends on input voltage availability and output voltage requirements.

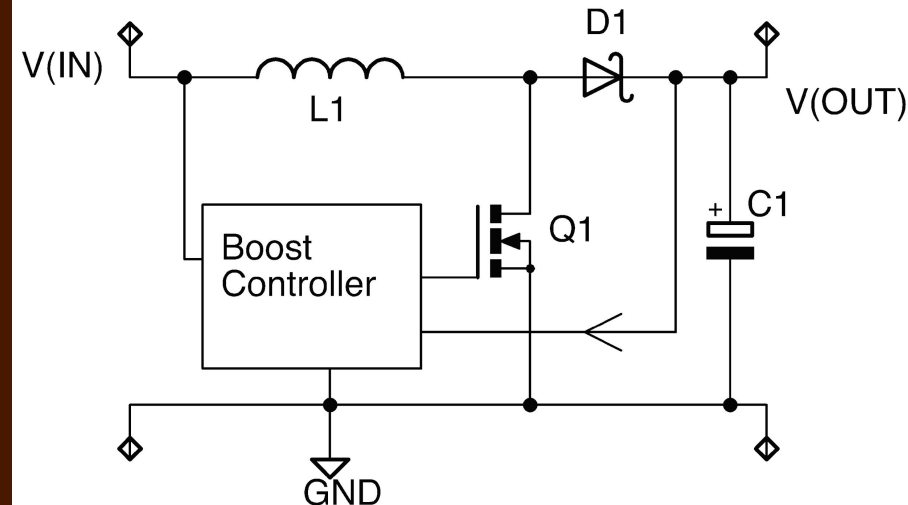
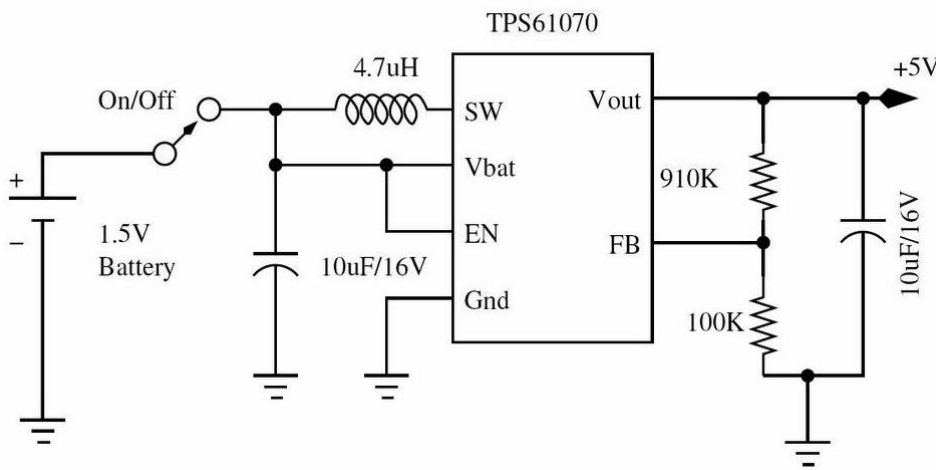
Switching Regulators - II

- Broadly 3 categories: Buck, Boost, Buck-boost.
- Buck: $V(\text{out}) < V(\text{in})$; $I(\text{out}) > I(\text{in})$
- Buck example: LM2575 (1A max); LM2576 (3A max.)



Switching Regulators - III

- Boost: $V(\text{out}) \geq V(\text{in})$; $I(\text{out}) < I(\text{in})$
- TPS61070; $V(\text{in})$ 0.9V to 5.5V; $V(\text{out}) < 5.5\text{V}$ (adjustable); Switch Current: 600mA
- LT1308: $V(\text{in})$: 1V to 10V; $V_{\text{out}} < 34\text{V}$. Switch Current: 3A.



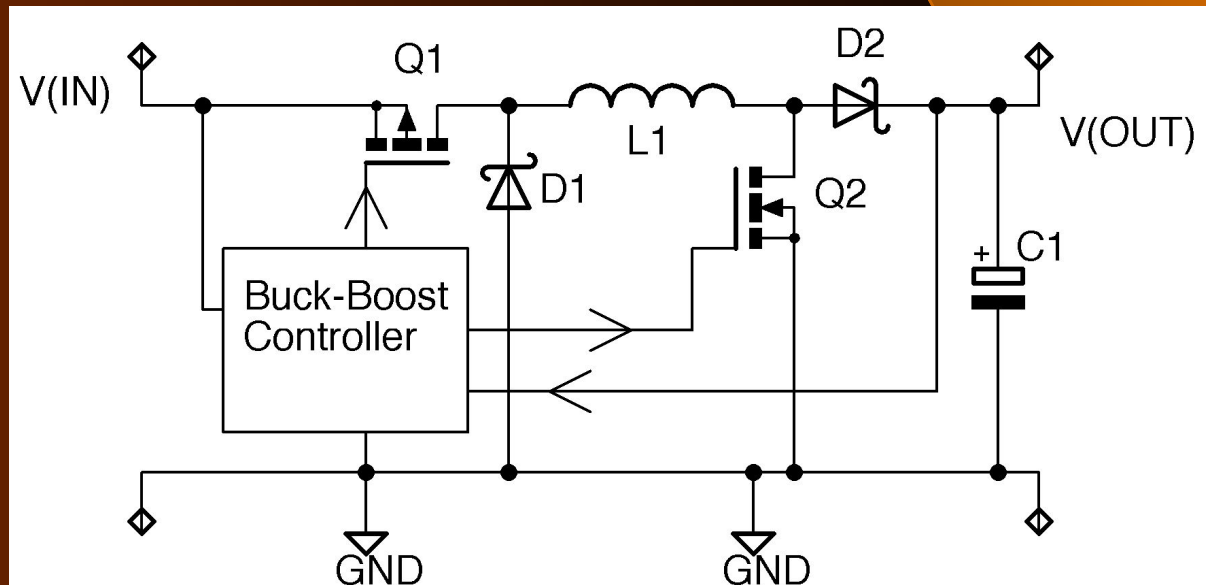
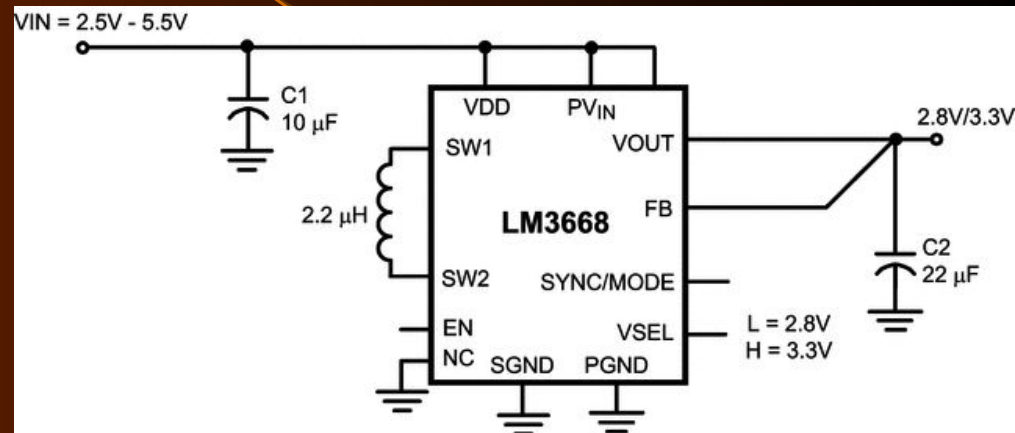
Switching Regulators - IV

- Buck-Boost:

$$V_{in(min)} < V_{out} < V_{in(max)}$$

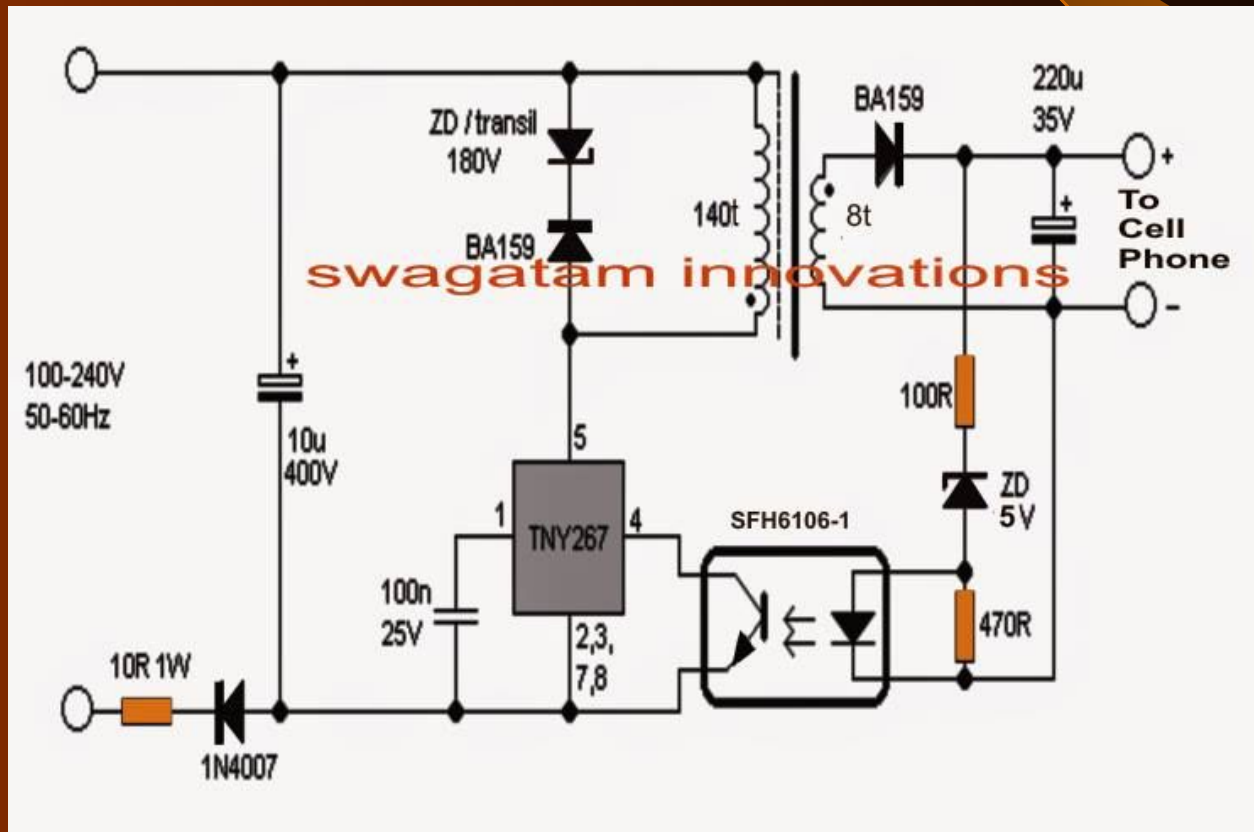
- Buck-Boost
example: LM3668.

V_{in} : 2.5V to 5.5V.
 V_{out} : 2.8V or 3.3V
(fixed). I_{max} : 1A.



Switching Cell Phone Charger

- $E(\text{avg}) = 4 \cdot f \cdot N \cdot a \cdot B$



Various Power Supply Topologies

- Line Frequency Transformer + Linear (fixed or variable) regulator
- Line Frequency Transformer + switching (buck or boost) regulator
- Switching Power Supply
- Capacitive attenuator + Zener
- Alkaline + Boost/Buck

Various Power Supply Topologies - II

- Lithium + Boost (for 5V)
- Lithium + Buck-Boost (3.3V)
- Lithium + Boost for 5V and Buck/LDO for 3.3V
- Radio Frequency based Ultra low power
- Faraday based
- Solar + Battery + Regulator
- Vibration resonance (<http://www.perpetuum.com/>)
- Thermoelectric (TEG) based

Modern ICs

- Partitioned Design
- Speed Versus Noise Margin trade off
- Analog Subsystem
- All the above leads to multiple power supply rails.

Linear Power Supply for Embedded Processors

Rail	Rail Volts (V)	Est IOU (A)	POUT (W)	Cnvtr VIN (V)	Converter Type	Linear Eff = V_o/V_{in} (%)	PIN = $POUT/Eff$ (W)	PIN/VIN = IIN Req'd (A)	Cnvtr Power Dsptd (W)
Vcc1	1.1	0.6	0.66	3.7	Linear	30	2.22	0.60	1.56
Vcc2/Io2	1.8	0.3	0.54	3.7	Linear	49	1.11	0.30	0.57
Io2	3.3	0.2	0.66	3.7	Linear	89	0.74	0.20	0.08
TOTAL			0.66				4.07	1.10	

Linear + Switched Power Supply for Embedded Processors

Rail	Rail Volts (V)	Est IOUT (A)	POUT (W)	Cnvrtr VIN (V)	Converter Type	Est. Eff (%)	PIN= POUT/Eff (W)	PIN/VIN= IIN Req'd (A)	Cnvrtr Power Dsptd (W)
Vcc1	1.1	0.6	0.66	3.7	Switch	92	0.72	0.19	0.06
Vcc2/Io2	1.8	0.3	0.54	3.7	Switch	93	0.58	0.16	0.04
Io2	3.3	0.2	0.66	3.7	Linear	89	0.74	0.20	0.08
TOTAL			0.66				2.04	0.55	

Power Optimization

Broadly 3 Levels of power consumption

- Active mode – full power and performance
- Sleep mode – Oscillator On, synchronous components off. Asynchronous On. Interrupts, RTC etc On. System Restart fairly quickly. Power consumption about half of active mode.
- Power Down mode – $1/1000$ of active power. All components power down; Only asynchronous components – interrupts On. Restart is slow and requires oscillator startup ~ several 100s of ms.

Power Backup Sources

Sporadic availability of power. Need to smoothen out the availability.

- Batteries – Lead-acid, NiCd, NiMH, Li, Li-poly
- Supercapacitors?

Battery Characteristics

Type	Voltage (V)	Power(W/Kg)	Eff.	Cycles	Life (yr)
Lead-Acid	2.1	180	70-90	500-800	3-20
NiCd	1.2	150	70-90	1500	-
NiMH	1.2	250-1000	66%	1000	-
Li ion	3.6	1800	99.9	1200	2-3
Li-poly	3.6	3000+	99.8	500-1000	2-3

Lecture - 4 Summary



Thank you!