MAXM

I2C-Compatible RTC with Microprocessor Supervisor, Alarm, and NV RAM Controller

General Description

The MAX6917 provides all the features of a real-time clock (RTC) plus a microprocessor (µP) supervisory circuit, NV RAM controller, and backup-battery monitor function. In addition, 96 x 8 bits of static RAM are available for scratchpad storage. The MAX6917 communicates with a μ P through an $12C^{\dagger}$ -bus-compatible serial interface.

The real-time clock/calendar provides seconds, minutes, hours, day, date, month, and year information. The end of the month date is automatically adjusted for months with fewer than 31 days, including corrections for leap years through 2099. The clock operates in either 24hr or 12hr format with an AM/PM indicator. A time/date-programmable alarm function is provided with an open-drain, active-low alarm output.

The uP supervisory circuit features an open-drain, active-low reset available in three different reset thresholds. A manual reset input and a watchdog function are included as well.

The NV RAM controller provides power for external SRAM from a backup battery plus chip-enable gating. The backup battery also provides data retention of the on-board 96 x 8 bits of RAM. An open-drain, active-low, battery-on signal alerts the system when operating from a battery.

The battery-test circuitry periodically tests the backup battery for a low-battery condition. An optional external resistor network selects different battery thresholds. A freshness seal prevents battery drain until the first V_{CC} power-up.

The MAX6917 has a crystal-fail-detect circuit and a data-valid bit. The MAX6917 is available in a 20-pin QSOP package and is guaranteed to operate over the extended (-40°C to +85°C) temperature range.

Applications

Point-of-Sale Equipment

Programmable Logic Controllers

Intelligent Instruments

Fax Machines

Digital Thermostats

Industrial Control

Pin Configuration and Selector Guide appear at end of data sheet.

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Features

- ♦ **Real-Time Clock Counts Seconds, Minutes, Hours, Date, Month, Day of Week, and Year with Leap-Year Compensation Through 2099**
- ♦ **Fast (400kHz) I2C-Bus-Compatible Interface**
- ♦ **96 x 8 Bits of RAM for Scratchpad Data Storage**
- ♦ **Uses Standard 32.768kHz, 6pF Load, Watch Crystal**
- ♦ **Single-Byte or Multiple-Byte (Burst Mode) Data Transfer for Read or Write of Clock Registers or RAM**
- ♦ **Battery Monitor and Low-Battery Warning Output Internal Default for Lithium Backup-Battery Testing Pins Available for Other Backup-Battery Testing Configurations**
- ♦ **Dual Power-Supply Pins for Primary and Backup Power**
- ♦ **Battery-On Output**
- ♦ **NV RAM Controller**
	- **Chip-Enable Gating (Control of** CE **with Reset and Power Valid) V_{OUT}** for SRAM Power
- ♦ **Microprocessor Supervisor with Watchdog Input**
- ♦ **Programmable Time/Date Alarm Output**
- ♦ **Data Valid Bit (Loss of All Voltage Alerts User of Corrupt Data)**
- ♦ **Crystal-Fail Detect**
- ♦ **Reference Output Frequencies—1Hz and 32.768kHz**
- ♦ **Small, 20-Pin, QSOP Surface-Mount Package**

Ordering Information

__ *Maxim Integrated Products* **1**

For pricing, delivery, and ordering information, please contact Maxim/Dallas Direct! at 1-888-629-4642, or visit Maxim's website at www.maxim-ic.com.

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

Stresses beyond those listed under "Absolute Maximum Ratings" may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only, and functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated in the operational sections of the specifications is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

DC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(V_{CC} = V_{CC(MIN)} to V_{CC(MAX)}, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.) (Notes 1, 2)

MAX6917

MAX6917

MAXIM

DC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(V_{CC} = V_{CC(MIN)} to V_{CC(MAX)}, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.) (Notes 1, 2)

DC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(V_{CC} = V_{CC(MIN)} to V_{CC(MAX)}, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.) (Notes 1, 2)

MAXIM

DC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(V_{CC} = V_{CC(MIN)} to V_{CC(MAX)}, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.) (Notes 1, 2)

DC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(V_{CC} = V_{CC(MIN)} to V_{CC(MAX)}, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.) (Notes 1, 2)

AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(VCC = VCC(MIN) to VCC(MAX), TA = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at TA = +25°C.) (Note 2)

Note 1: V_{RST} is the reset threshold for V_{CC}. See the *Selector Guide* section.

Note 2: All parameters are 100% tested at T_A = +85°C. Limits overtemperature are guaranteed by design and are not production tested.

AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(V_{CC} = V_{CC(MIN)} to V_{CC(MAX)}, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.) (Note 2)

- **Note 3:** I²C serial interface is operational for V_{CC} > V_{RST}.
Note 4: See the *Detailed Description* section (V_{OUT} funct
- **Note 4:** See the *Detailed Description* section (V_{OUT} function).
Note 5: IBATT is specified with SDA = SCL = V_{CC}. CE IN = W
- **Note 5:** IBATT is specified with SDA = SCL = V_{CC}, CE_IN = WDI = GND, V_{OUT}, CE_OUT, and MR floating. I_{CCS} is specified with SDA = $SCL = V_{CC}$, $\overline{CE_IN} = WDI = GND$, $VOUT$, $\overline{CE_OUT}$, and \overline{MR} floating.
- **Note 6:** I²C serial interface operating at 400kHz, SDA pulled high, and WDI = V_{CC} or GND, V_{OUT} and CE_OUT floating.
Note 7: For OUT switchover to BATT. Vcc must fall below Vest and Veatt. For OUT switchover to Vcc
- For OUT switchover to BATT, V_{CC} must fall below V_{RST} and V_{BATT}. For OUT switchover to V_{CC}, V_{CC} must be above V_{RST} or above V_{BATT}.
- **Note 8:** Guaranteed by design. Not subject to production testing.
Note 9: All values are referred to VIH (MIN) and VII (MAX) levels
- All values are referred to V_{IH (MIN)} and V_{IL(MAX)} levels.
- **Note 10:** Minimum SCL clock frequency is limited by the MAX6917 bus timeout feature, which resets the serial bus interface if either SDA or SCL is held low for 1s to 2s. When using the burst read or write command, all 96 bytes of RAM must be read/written within the timeout period. See the *Timeout Feature* section.
- **Note 11:** A device must internally provide a hold time of at least 300ns for the SDA signal (referred to the VIH(MIN) of the SCL signal) to bridge the undefined region of the falling edge of SCL.
- **Note 12:** C_b is the total capacitance of one bus line in pF.
- Note 13: The maximum t_F for the SDA and SCL bus lines is specified at 300ns. The maximum fall time for the SDA output stage t_F is specified at 250ns. This allows series-protection resistors to be connected between the SDA/SCL pins and the SDA/SCL bus lines without exceeding the maximum specified tF.
- Note 14: The maximum t_{HD:DAT} only has to be met if the device does not stretch the LOW period (t_{LOW}) of the SCL signal.

Typical Operating Characteristics

TIMEKEEPING CURRENT vs. TEMPERATURE

*IVI AXI AV*I

/VI/IXI/VI

OUTPUT CURRENT (mA)

0.4 0.8 1.2 1.6 2.0

0 0.4 0.8 1.2 1.6 2.0 2.4

0.005

0

 $V_{BATT} = +5V$

Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(V_{CC} = 3V, V_{BAT} = 3V, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

MAXM

MAX6917

Pin Description

Pin Description (continued)

Detailed Description

Functional Description

The MAX6917 contains eight 8-bit timekeeping registers, seven 8-bit alarm threshold registers, one status register, one control register, one alarm-configuration register, and 96 x 8 bits of SRAM. In addition to single-byte reads and writes to registers and RAM, there is a burst timekeeping register read/write command, a burst RAM read/write command, and a battery-test command that allows software-commanded testing of the backup battery at any time. An I2C-bus-compatible interface allows serial communication with a μ P. When V_{CC} is less than the reset threshold, the serial interface is disabled to prevent erroneous data from being written to the MAX6917. A µP supervisory section and an NVRAM controller are provided for ease of implementation with µP-based systems. A crystal fail-detect circuit and a data-valid bit can be used to guarantee RAM data integrity and valid timekeeping data. Two reference frequencies outputs, 32.768kHz and 1Hz, are provided for external device clocking. Time and calendar data are stored in a binary-coded decimal (BCD) format. Figure 1 shows the functional diagram of the MAX6917.

Real-Time Clock The RTC provides seconds, minutes, hours, day, date, month, and year information. The end of the months is automatically adjusted for months with fewer than 31 days, including corrections for leap years through 2099.

Crystal Oscillator

The MAX6917 uses an external, standard 6pF load watch crystal. No other external components are required for this timekeeping oscillator. Power-up oscillator start time is dependent mainly upon applied V_{CC} and ambient temperature. The MAX6917, because of its low timekeeping current, exhibits a typical startup time of 1s to 2s.

I2C-Compatible Interface

The I2C bus allows bidirectional, 2-wire communication between different ICs. The two lines are serial data line (SDA) and serial clock line (SCL). Both lines must be connected to a positive supply through individual pullup resistors (see the *Typical Application Circuit)*. Data transfer can only be initiated when the bus is not busy (both SDA and SCL are high). Figure 2 shows a timing diagram for I2C communication.

Figure 1. Functional Diagram

Figure 2. I2C Communication Timing Diagram

To maximize battery life and prevent erroneous data from being entered into the MAX6917, the serial bus interface is disabled when V_{CC} is below V_{RST}. If the SDA or SCL serial interface lines are held low for longer than 1s to 2s, the serial bus interface resets and awaits for a new START condition (see the *START and STOP Conditions* section).

I2C System Configuration

A device on the I2C-compatible bus that generates a message is called a transmitter and a device that receives the message is called a receiver. The device that controls the message is the master and the devices that are controlled by the master are called slaves (Figure 3). The word message refers to data in the form of three 8-bit bytes for a single read or write. The first byte is the slave ID byte, the second byte is the address/command byte, and the third is the data.

START and STOP Conditions

Data transfer can only be initiated when the bus is not busy (both SDA and SCL are high). A high-to-low transition of SDA while SCL is high defines a START (S) condition; low-to-high transition of SDA while SCL is high defines a STOP (P) condition (Figures 2, 4). Any time a START condition occurs, the slave ID must follow immediately, regardless of completion of a previous data transfer.

Bit Transfer

After the START condition occurs, 1 bit of data is transferred for each clock pulse. The data on SDA must remain stable during the high portion of the clock pulse as changes in data during this time are interpreted as a control signal (Figure 5).

Acknowledge

The acknowledge bit is a clocked 9th bit that the recipient uses to handshake receipt of each byte of data (Figure 6). Thus, each byte transferred effectively requires 9 bits. The master generates the 9th clock pulse, and the recipient pulls down SDA during the acknowledge clock pulse, such that the SDA line is stable low during the high portion of the clock pulse. A master receiver must signal an end of data to the transmitter by not generating an acknowledge on the last byte that has been clocked out of the slave. In this case, the transmitter must leave the SDA high to enable the master to generate a STOP condition. If a STOP condition is received before the current byte of data transfer is completed in burst mode, the last incomplete byte is ignored if it is a burst transaction to RAM or the whole burst transaction is ignored if it is a burst transaction to the timekeeping registers. There is no limit to the number of bytes that can be transmitted between a START and a STOP condition.

Slave Address

Before any data is transmitted on the I2C-bus-compatible serial interface, the device that is expected to respond must be addressed first. The first byte sent after the START (S) condition is the address byte or 7 bit slave ID. The MAX6917 acts as a slave transmitter/receiver. Therefore, SCL is only an input clock signal and SDA is a bidirectional data line. The slave address for the MAX6917 is shown in Figure 7.

MAX6917

Address/Command Byte

The second byte of data sent after the START condition is the address/command byte (Figure 8). Each data transfer is initiated by an address/command byte. Bits 7–1 specify the designated register or RAM location to be read or written to, and the LSB (bit 0) specifies a write operation if logic zero or a read operation if logic one. The command byte is always input starting with the MSB (bit 7).

Reading from the Timekeeping Registers

The timekeeping registers (seconds, minutes, hours, date, month, day, and year) and the control register can be read either with a single read or a burst read (Figure 9). Since the RTC runs continuously and a read takes a finite amount of time, there is the possibility that the clock counters could change during a read operation, thereby reporting inaccurate timekeeping data. In the MAX6917, each clock counter's data is buffered by a latch. Clock counter data is latched by the I2C bus read command (on the falling edge of SCL when the slave acknowledge bit is sent, after the address/command byte has been sent by the master to read a timekeeping register). Collision-detection circuitry ensures that this does not happen coincident with a seconds counter update to ensure accurate time data is being read. This avoids time-data changes during a read operation. The clock counters continue to count and keep accurate time during the read operation.

Figure 3. I2C System Configuration

Figure 4. START and STOP Conditions

If single reads are used to read each of the timekeeping registers individually, then it is necessary to do some error checking on the receiving end. An error can occur when the seconds counter increments before all the other registers are read out. For example, suppose a carry of 13:59:59 to 14:00:00 occurs during singleread operations of the timekeeping registers. Then the net data could become 14:59:59, which is erroneous real-time data. To prevent this with single-read operations, read the seconds register first (initial seconds) and store this value for future comparison. When the remaining timekeeping registers have been read out, read the seconds register again (final seconds). If the initial seconds value is 59, check that the final-seconds value is still 59; if not, repeat the entire single-read process for the timekeeping registers. A comparison of the initial-seconds value with the final-seconds value can indicate if there was a bus-delay problem in reading the timekeeping data (difference should always be 1s or less). Using a 100kHz bus speed, and sequential single reads, it would take under 2.5ms to read all seven of the timekeeping registers plus a second read of the seconds register.

The most accurate way to read the timekeeping registers is to perform a burst read. With burst reads, the main timekeeping registers (seconds, minutes, hours, date, month, day, year) and the control register are read sequentially, in the order listed with the seconds register first. They must be all read out as a group of

Figure 5. Bit Transfer

Figure 6. Acknowledge

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Figure 7. MAX6917 Slave Address

eight registers, with 8 bytes each, for proper execution of the burst-read function. All seven timekeeping registers are latched upon the receipt of the burst-read command. The worst-case error that can occur between the actual time and the read time is 1s.

Writing to the Timekeeping Registers

The time and date can be set by writing to the timekeeping registers (seconds, minutes, hours, date, month, day, year, and century). To avoid changing the

Figure 9. Read and Write Operations

MAX6917

MAX6917 **MAX691**

current time by an incomplete write operation, the current time value is buffered from being written directly to the clock counters. The new data sent replaces the current contents of this input buffer. This time update data is loaded into the clock counters after the stop bit at the end of the I2C bus write operation. Collision-detection circuitry ensures that this does not happen coincident with a seconds-counter update to quarantee that accurate time data is being written. This avoids time data changes during a write operation. An incomplete write operation aborts the time-update procedures and the contents of the input buffer are discarded. The clock counters reflect the new time data beginning with the first 1s clock cycle after the stop bit. The clock counter is reset immediately after a write to the seconds register or a burst write to the timekeeping registers. This ensures that 1s clock tick is synchronous to timekeeping writes.

If single-write operations (Figure 9) are used to write to each of the timekeeping registers, then error checking is needed. If the seconds register is the one to be updated, update it first and then read it back and store its value as the initial seconds. Update the remaining timekeeping registers and then read the seconds register again (final seconds). If initial seconds was 59, ensure it is still 59. If initial seconds was not 59, ensure that final seconds is within 1s of initial seconds. If the seconds register is not to be written to, then read the seconds register first and save it as initial seconds. Write to the required timekeeping registers and then read the seconds register again (final seconds). If initial seconds was 59, ensure it is still 59. If initial seconds was not 59, ensure that final seconds is within 1s of initial seconds.

Although both single writes and burst writes are possible, the most accurate way to write to the timekeeping counters is to do a burst write (Figure 9). In the burst write, the main timekeeping registers (seconds, minutes, hours, date, month, day, year) and the control register are written sequentially. They must be all written to as a group of eight registers, with 8 bytes each, for proper execution of the burst-write function. All seven timekeeping registers and the control register are simultaneously loaded into the input buffer at the end of the 2-wire bus write operation. The worst-case error that can occur between the actual time and the write time update is 1s.

To avoid rollover issues when writing time data to the MAX6917, the remaining time and date registers must be written within 1s of updating the seconds register when using single writes. For burst writes, all eight registers must be written within this period (1s).

The weekday data in the day register increments at midnight. Values that correspond to the day of the week are user defined, but must be sequential (i.e., if 1 equals Sunday, then 2 equals Monday, and so on). If invalid values are written to the timekeeping registers, the operation becomes undefined.

Timeout Feature

The purpose of the bus timeout feature is to reset the serial bus interface and change the SDA line of the MAX6917 from an output to an input, which puts the SDA line into a high-impedance state. This is necessary when the MAX6917 is transmitting data and becomes stuck at a logic-low level. If the SDA line is stuck low, any other device on the bus is not able to communicate.

The timeout feature looks for a valid START and STOP condition to determine whether SDA has been stuck low. A valid START condition initiates the timeout counter in reference to the internal 1Hz clock. Counting begins on the first rising edge of the 1Hz clock after a valid START condition. If a valid STOP condition is detected before the next rising edge of the 1Hz clock, the timeout counter is stopped and awaits a new valid START condition. If a valid STOP condition is not detected before the next rising edge of the 1Hz clock, the I2C interface resets to the idle state and waits for a new I2C transaction. Depending on the occurrence of the START condition, that initiates the timeout counter, in reference to the internal 1Hz clock, the timeout period can be 1s to 2s. The lower limit of the timeout period (1s) imposes a limit on the SCL frequency of the MAX6917 because a burst read/write requires up to 96 bytes of information to be transmitted in between a START and STOP condition.

Registers

Tables 1 and 2 show the register map, as well as the register descriptions for the MAX6917.

Control Register

The control register contains bits for configuring the MAX6917 for custom applications. Bit D0 (BATT ON BLINK) and D1 (BATT LO BLINK) are used to enable a 1Hz blink rate on BATT_ON and BATT_LO when they are active; see the *Battery Test* section for details. D2 (WD TIME) and D3 (WD EN) are used to enable the watchdog function and select its timeout. For details, see the *Watchdog Input* section. D5 (INT/EXT TEST) sets whether the internal resistor ratio or an external resistor ratio is to be used to check for the low-battery condition; see the *Battery Test* section for details. D6 (XTAL EN) enables the crystal-fail-detect circuitry when set. See the *Crystal-Fail Detect* section for details. D7 (WP) is the write protect bit. Before any write operation to the registers (except the control register) or RAM, bit 7 must be zero. When set to one, the write-protect bit prevents write operations to any register (except the control register) or RAM location.

Timekeeping and Alarm Thresholds Registers

Time and date data is stored in the timekeeping and alarm threshold registers in BCD format as shown in Table 1. The weekday data in the day register is user defined (a common format is $1 =$ Sunday, $2 =$ Monday, etc.)

AM/PM and 12hr/24hr Mode

For both timekeeping and alarm threshold registers (Table 1), D7 of the hours register is defined as the 12hr or 24hr mode-select bit. When set to one, the 12hr mode is selected. In the 12hr mode, D5 is the AM/PM bit with logic one being PM. In the 24hr mode, D5 is the second 10hr bit (20hr to 23hr).

Clock-Burst Mode

Addressing the clock-burst register specifies burstmode operation. In this mode, the first eight clock/calendar registers (seven timekeeping and the control register) can be consecutively read or written to by using the address/command byte 00h for a write or 01h for a read (Table 1). If the write-protect bit is set to one when a write-clock/calendar-burst mode is specified, no data transfer occurs to any of the seven timekeeping registers or the control register. When writing to the clock/calendar registers in the burst mode, the first eight registers must be written to for the data to be transferred.

RAM

The static RAM consists of 96 x 8 bits addressed consecutively in the RAM address/command space. Even address/commands (3Eh to FCh) are used for RAM writes and odd address/commands (3Fh to FDh) are used for RAM reads (Table 2).

RAM-Burst Mode

Sending the RAM-burst address/command (FEh for write, FFh for read) specifies burst-mode operation. In this mode, the 96 RAM locations can be consecutively read or written to starting with bit 7 of address/command 3Eh for writes, and 3Fh for reads. A burst read outputs all 96 bytes of RAM. When writing to RAM in burst mode, it is not necessary to write all 96 bytes for the data to transfer; each complete byte written is transferred to the RAM. When reading from RAM, data are output until all 96 bytes have been read, or until the data transfer is stopped by the I2C master.

Status Register

The status register contains individual bits for monitoring the status of several functions of the MAX6917. Bits D0–D3 are unused and always read zero (Table 1). D4 (ALM OUT) reflects the state of the alarm function; see the *Alarm-Generation Function* section for details. D5 (BATT LO) indicates the state of the battery connected to V_{BATT}; see the *Battery Test* section for more information. D6 (DATA VALID) alerts the user if all power was lost. See the *Data Valid Bit* section for details. D7 (XTAL FAIL) is the output of the crystal-fail detect circuit. See the *Crystal-Fail Detect* section for details.

Table 1. Register Map

MAX6917

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Table 1. Register Map (continued)

MAX6917 *MAX6917*

MAX6917 **MAX6917**

Power Control

I2C-Compatible RTC with Microprocessor

Supervisor, Alarm, and NV RAM Controller

VBATT provides power as a battery backup. V_{CC} provides the primary power in dual-supply systems where VBATT is connected as a backup source to maintain timekeeping in the absence of primary power. When V_{CC} rises above the reset threshold, V_{RST} , V_{CC} powers the MAX6917. When V_{CC} falls below the reset threshold, VRST, and is less than VTRD, VBATT powers the MAX6917. If V_{CC} falls below the reset threshold, VRST, and is more than VTRU, V_{CC} still powers the MAX6917. $V_{\rm CC}$ slew rate in power-down is limited to 10V/ms (max) for proper data retention.

VOUT Function

VOUT is an output supply voltage for battery-backed-up devices such as SRAM. When V_{CC} rises above the reset threshold or is greater than VBATT, VOUT connects to V_{CC} (Figure 19). When V_{CC} falls below VRST and VBATT, VOUT connects to VBATT. There is a typical ±100mV hysteresis associated with the switching between V_{CC} and V_{BATT} on the V_{OUT} output. Connect a 0.1 μ F capacitor from V_{OUT} to GND.

Power-On Reset (POR)

The MAX6917 contains an integral POR circuit that ensures all registers are reset to a known state on powerup. Once either V_{CC} or V_{BATT} rises above 1.6V (typ), the POR circuit releases the registers for normal operation. When V_{CC} or V_{BATT} drops to less than 0.9V (typ), the MAX6917 resets all register contents to the POR defaults.

Oscillator Start Time

The MAX6917 oscillator typically takes 1s to 2s to begin oscillating. To ensure the oscillator is operating correctly, the system software should validate proper timekeeping. This is accomplished by reading the seconds register. Any reading with more than 0s, from the POR value of 0s, is a validation of proper startup.

Alarm-Generation Function

The alarm function is configured using the alarm-configuration register and the alarm-threshold registers (Table 1). Writing a one to D7 (ONE SEC) in the alarmconfiguration register sets the alarm function to occur once every second, regardless of any other setting in the alarm-configuration register or in any of the alarmthreshold registers. When the alarm is triggered, D4 (ALM OUT) in the status register is set to one and the open-drain alarm output ALM goes low. The alarm is cleared by reading or writing to the alarm-configuration register or by reading or writing to any of the alarmthreshold registers. This resets the ALM output to a high and the ALM OUT bit to zero.

When D7 (ONE SEC) is set to zero in the alarm-configuration register, then the alarm function is set by the remaining bits in the alarm-configuration register and the contents of the respective alarm-threshold register. For example, writing 01h (0000 0001) to the alarm-configuration register causes the alarm to trigger every time the seconds-timekeeping register matches the seconds alarm-threshold register (i.e., once every minute on a specific second). Writing 02h (0000 0010) to the alarm configuration register causes the alarm to trigger on a minutes match (i.e., once every hour). Writing a 4Fh (0100 1111) to the alarm configuration register causes the alarm to be triggered on a specific second, of a specific minute, of a specific hour, of a specific date, of a specific year.

When setting the alarm-threshold registers, ensure that both the hour-timekeeping register and the hour-alarmthreshold register are using the same-hour format (either 12hr or 24hr format).

The alarm function, as well as the ALM output, is operational in both V_{CC} and battery-backup mode.

Table 2. Hex Register Address and Description

Crystal-Fail Detect

The crystal-fail detect circuit looks for a loss of oscillation from the 32.768kHz oscillator for 30 cycles (typ) or more. Both the control register and the status register are used in the crystal-failure detection scheme (Table 1).

The crystal-fail detect circuit sets the XTAL FAIL bit in the status register to one for a crystal failure and to zero for normal operation. Once the status register is read, the XTAL FAIL bit is reset to zero, if it was previously one. If the crystal-fail-detect circuit continues to sense a failed crystal, then the XTAL FAIL bit is set again.

On initial power-up, the crystal-fail detect circuit is enabled. Since it takes a while for the low-power, 32.768kHz oscillator to start, the XTAL FAIL bit in the status register can be set to one indicating a crystal failure. The XTAL FAIL bit should be polled a number of times to see if it is set to zero for successive polls. If the polling is far enough apart, a few polled results could guarantee that a maximum of 10s had elapsed since power-on, at which time the oscillator would be considered truly failed if the XTAL FAIL bit remains one.

On subsequent power-ups, when XTAL EN is set to one, if XTAL FAIL is set to one, time data should be considered suspect.

The crystal-fail-detection circuit functions in both Vcc. and VBATT modes when the XTAL EN bit is set in the control register.

Manual Reset Input

A logic low on MR asserts RESET. RESET remains asserted while \overline{MR} is low, and for t_{RP} after it returns high (Figure 10). MR has an internal pullup resistor, so it can be left open if it is not used. Internal debounce circuitry requires a minimum low time on the \overline{MR} input of 1µs with 35ns maximum glitch immunity.

Reset Output A µP's reset input starts the µP in a known state. The MAX6917's µP supervisory circuit asserts a reset to prevent code-execution errors during power-up, powerdown, and brownout conditions. The RESET output is guaranteed to be active for $0V < V_{CC} < V_{RST}$, provided VBATT is greater than VBATT (min). If V_{CC} drops below and then exceeds the reset threshold, an internal timer keeps RESET active for the reset timeout period t_{RP}; after this interval, RESET becomes inactive high. This condition occurs at either power-up or after a V_{CC} brownout.

Figure 10. Manual-Reset Timing Diagram

The RESET output is also activated when the watchdog interrupt function is enabled but no transition is detected on the WDI input. In this case, RESET is active for the period t_{RP} before becoming inactive again. When RESET is active, all inputs—WDI, MR, CE_IN, SDA, and SCL—are disabled.

The MAX6917EO30 is optimized to monitor $3.0V \pm 10\%$ power supplies. Except when MR is asserted, RESET is not active until V_{CC} falls below 2.7V (3.0V - 10%), but is guaranteed to occur before the power supply falls below 2.5V (3.0V - 15%).

The MAX6917EO33 is optimized to monitor $3.3V \pm 10\%$ power supplies. Except when MR is asserted, RESET is not active until V_{CC} falls below 3.0V (3.0V is just above 3.3V - 10%), but is guaranteed to occur before the power supply falls below 2.8V (3.3V - 15%).

The MAX6917EO50 is optimized to monitor $5.0V \pm 10\%$ power supplies. Except when MR is asserted, RESET is not active until V_{CC} falls below $4.5V$ (5.0V - 10%), but is guaranteed to occur before the power supply falls below 4.1V (4.1V is just below 5.0V - 15%).

Negative-Going VCC Transients

The MAX6917 is relatively immune to short-duration negative transients (glitches) while issuing resets to the µP during power-up, power-down, and brownout conditions. Therefore, resetting the μ P when V_{CC} experiences only small glitches is usually not recommended. Typically, a V_{CC} transient that goes 150mV below the reset threshold and lasts for 90µs or less does not cause a reset pulse to be issued. A 0.1µF capacitor mounted close to the V_{CC} pin provides additional transient immunity.

Figure 11. Interfacing to µP with Bidirectional Reset I/O

Interfacing to µPs with Bidirectional Reset Pins

Microprocessors with bidirectional reset pins, such as the Motorola 68HC11 series, can contend with the MAX6917 RESET output. If, for example, the RESET output is driven high and the µP wants to pull it low, indeterminate logic levels can result. To correct this, connect a 4.7kΩ resistor between the RESET output and the µP reset I/O as shown in Figure 11. Buffer the RESET output to other system components.

Battery-On Output

The battery-on output, BATT_ON, is an open-drain output that indicates when the MAX6917 is powered from the backup-battery input, VBATT. When V_{CC} falls below the reset threshold, VRST, and below VBATT, VOUT switches from V_{CC} to V_{BATT} and \overline{BAT} ON becomes low. When V_{CC} rises above the reset threshold, VRST, VOUT reconnects to V_{CC} and BATT_ON becomes high (open-drain output with pullup resistor). If desired, the BATT_ON output can be register selected, through the BATT ON BLINK bit in the control register, to toggle on and off 0.5s on, 0.5s off when active. The POR default is logic zero for no blink.

Watchdog Input The watchdog circuit monitors the μ P's activity. If the µP does not toggle the watchdog input (WDI) within the register-selectable watchdog-timeout period, RESET is asserted for t_{RP}. At the same time, the WD EN and WD TIME bits in the control register (Table 1) are reset to zero and can only be set again by writing the appropriate command to the control register. Thus, once a RESET is asserted due to a watchdog timeout, the watchdog function is disabled (Figure 12).

Figure 12. Watchdog Timing Diagram

WDI can detect pulses as short as twp. Data bit D2 in the control register controls the selection of the watchdog-timeout period. The power-up default is $1.6s$ (D2 = 0). A reset condition returns the timeout to 1.6s ($D2 =$ 0). If D2 is set to one, then the watchdog-timeout period is changed to 200ms. Data bit D3 in the control register is the watchdog-enable function. A logic zero disables the watchdog function, while a logic one enables it. The POR state of WD EN is logic one, or the watchdog function is enabled. Disable the watchdog function by writing a zero to the WD EN bit in the control register, within the 1.6s POR default timeout after power-up.

WDI does not include a pulldown or pullup feature. For this reason, WDI should not be left floating. When the WD EN bit in the control register is set to zero, WDI should be connected to V_{CC} or GND. WDI is disabled and does not draw cross-conduction current when V_{CC} falls below VRST.

Watchdog Software Considerations

There is a way to help the watchdog-timer monitor software execution more closely, which involves setting and resetting the watchdog input at different points in the program rather than "pulsing" the watchdog input. This technique avoids a "stuck" loop, in which the watchdog timer would continue to be reset within the loop, keeping the watchdog from timing out. Figure 13 shows an example of a flow diagram where the I/O driving the watchdog input is set high at the beginning of the program, set low at the beginning of every subroutine or loop, then set high again when the program returns to the beginning. If the program should "hang" in any subroutine, the problem would quickly be corrected since the I/O is continually set low and the watchdog timer is allowed to time out, causing a reset to be issued.

__ 23

MAX6917

Figure 13. Watchdog Flow Diagram

MAX6917

Chip-Enable Gating

Internal gating of chip-enable (CE) signals prevents erroneous data from corrupting external SRAM in the event of an undervoltage condition. The MAX6917 uses a transmission gate from CE_IN to CE_OUT (Figure 14). During normal operation (RESET inactive), the transmission gate is enabled and passes all CE transitions. When reset is asserted, this path becomes disabled, preventing erroneous data from corrupting the external SRAM. The short CE propagation delay from CE_IN to CE_OUT enables the MAX6917 to be used with most µPs. If CE_IN is low when reset asserts, CE_OUT remains low for tRCE to permit completion of the current write cycle.

Chip-Enable Input

The CE transmission gate is disabled and \overline{CE} IN is high impedance (disabled mode) while RESET is active. During a power-down sequence when V_{CC} passes the reset threshold, the CE transmission gate disables and $\overline{\text{CE}}$ IN immediately becomes high impedance if the voltage at CE_IN is high. If CE_IN is low when RESET becomes active, the CE transmission gate disables at the moment CE_IN goes high or tRCE after RESET is active, whichever occurs first (see the *Chip-Enable Timing* diagram). This permits the current write cycle to complete during powerdown. The CE transmission gate remains disabled and CE_IN remains high impedance (regardless of CE_IN activity) for most of the reset-timeout period (tRST) any time a RESET is generated. When the CE transmission gate is enabled, the impedance of \overline{CE} IN appears as a 46 Ω (typ) load in series with the load at CE_OUT.

Figure 14. Chip-Enable Gating

The propagation delay through the CE transmission gate depends on V_{CC}, the source impedance of the driver connected to CE_IN, and the loading on CE_OUT (see the Chip-Enable Propagation Delay vs. CE_OUT Load Capacitance graph in the *Typical Operating Characteristics*). For minimum propagation delay, the capacitive load at CE_OUT should be minimized, and a low-output-impedance driver should be used on \overline{CE} IN (Figure 15).

Figure 15. Propagation Delay Test Circuit

Figure 16. Chip-Enable Timing Diagram

Chip-Enable Output

When the CE transmission gate is enabled, the impedance seen at $\overline{CE_OUT}$ is equivalent to a 46Ω (typ) resistor in series with the source driving CE_IN. In the disabled mode, the transmission gate is off and an active pullup connects CE_OUT to V_{OUT} (see Figures 14, 16). This pullup turns off when the transmission gate is enabled.

Test Configuration Register

This is a read-only register.

Data Valid Bit

DATA VALID has a POR setting of zero, indicating that the data in the MAX6917 RTC is not guaranteed to be valid (Table 1). A read of the status register sets the DATA VALID bit to one, indicating valid data in the MAX6917 RTC. In a system that uses a backup power supply, the DATA VALID bit should be set to one by the system software on first system power-up by reading the status register. After that, any time the system recovers from a reset condition caused by V_{CC} < V_{RST} , the DATA VALID bit can be read to see if the data stored during operation from the backup power supply is still valid (i.e., the backup power supply did not drop out). A one indicates valid data and a zero indicates corrupted data. Any time the internal supply to the MAX6917 (either VBATT or VCC depending upon the operating conditions) drops below 1.5V to 1.6V (typ), the DATA VALID bit is set to zero even if it has recently been set by a read of the status register.

__ 25

MAX6917

Figure 17. MAX6917 Battery Load and Test Circuit

Battery Test Battery-Test Normal Operation

In normal operation, the battery-test circuitry uses the control register POR settings of INT/EXT TEST, which is set to logic low as default (Table 1). In this mode, all battery-test load resistors and threshold settings are internal. When V_{CC} rises above VRST, the MAX6917 automatically performs one power-on battery monitor test. Additionally, a battery check is performed every time that a reset is issued, either from a manual reset or a watchdog timeout. After that, periodic battery voltage monitoring at the factory-programmed time interval of 24hr begins while V_{CC} is applied.

After each 24hr period (t_{BTCN}) has elapsed, the MAX6917 connects VBATT to an internal 0.91M Ω (typ) test resistor (R_{SET+} Int + R_{SET-} Int) for 1s (t_{BTPW}) (Figure 17). During this 1s, if V_{BAT} falls below the factory-programmed battery trip point VBTP, the opendrain, battery-low output, BATT_LO, is asserted active low and the BATT LO bit in the status register is set to one. The BATT LO output can be register selected to toggle at a 1Hz rate (0.5s on, 0.5s off) when active. Once BATT LO is active, the 24hr tests stop until a fresh battery is inserted and BATT LO is cleared by writing any data to the battery test register at address 0x0D (Figure 18). Writing to this register performs a battery test and provided that the fresh battery is not low, deactivates the BATT LO output and resets BATT LO in the status register. Normal 24hr testing resumes. If a different load or BATT LO thresholds are desired for testing the backup battery, then external program resistors can be used in conjunction with the TRIP and TEST inputs (see the *Battery Test-Control Register and Other Test Options* section).

Battery replacement following BATT_LO activation should be done with V_{CC} nominal and not in batterybackup mode so that SRAM data is not lost. Alternatively, if SRAM data need not be saved, the battery can be replaced with the V_{CC} supply removed. If a battery is replaced in battery-backup mode, sufficient time must be allowed for the voltage on the V_{OUT} output to decay to zero. This ensures that the freshnessseal mode of operation has been reset and is active when V_{CC} is powered up again. If insufficient time is allowed, then V_{CC} must exceed V_{BATT} during the subsequent power-up to ensure that the MAX6917 has left battery-backup mode (Figure 19).

The MAX6917 does not constantly monitor an attached battery because such monitoring would drastically reduce the life of the battery. As a result, the MAX6917

Figure 18. Battery-Test Timing Diagram

Figure 19. Battery Switchover Diagram

only tests the battery for 1s every 24hr. If a good battery (one that has not been previously flagged with BATT_LO) is removed between battery tests, the MAX6917 does not immediately sense the removal and does not activate BATT_LO until the next-scheduled battery test. For this reason, a software-commanded battery test should be performed after a battery replacement by writing any data to the battery-test register at address 1Ah.

Battery monitoring is only a useful technique when testing can be done regularly over the entire life of a lithium battery. Because the MAX6917 only performs battery monitoring when V_{CC} is nominal, systems that are powered down for excessively long periods can completely drain their lithium cells without receiving any advanced warning. To prevent such an occurrence, systems using the MAX6917 battery-monitoring feature should be powered up periodically (at least every few months) to perform battery testing. Furthermore, anytime BATT_LO is activated on the first battery test after a power-up, data integrity should be checked through a checksum or other technique. Timekeeping data would also be suspect and should be checked for accuracy against an accurate known reference.

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MAX6917 **MAX6917**

Figure 20. Oscillator Functional Schematic

Figure 21. Crystal Layout

Freshness-Seal Mode

When the battery is first attached to the MAX6917 without V_{CC} power applied, the device does not immediately provide battery-backup power to VOUT (Figure 19). Only after V_{CC} exceeds VRST and later falls below both VRST and VBATT does the MAX6917 leave freshness-seal mode and provide battery-backup power. This mode allows a battery to be attached during manufacturing but not used until after the system has been activated for the first time. As a result, no battery energy is drained during storage and shipping.

Battery-Test Control Register and Other Test Options There are two warning formats for the BATT_LO and BATT_ON outputs. By setting D0 (BATT ON BLINK)

and/or D1 (BATT LO BLINK) in the control register to one, the respective warning output toggles on every 0.5s and off every 0.5s when set to active low by the internal MAX6917 logic. This allows a more noticeable warning indicator in systems where an LED is connected as a status or warning light for the end user. The POR default settings of zero leave these outputs set to logic low when they are active.

D5 (INT/EXT TEST) selects whether the battery-test circuit is configured as internal or external (Table 1). If D5 is set to zero (default value), then the internal resistordivider is used between VBATT and GND to select the battery-low trip point (Figure 17). The internal resistors, $RSET_{+}$ INT and RSET-LINT, are used to divide VBATT in half, as well as to provide the battery-test-load resistance of 0.91 $MΩ$ (typ).

If D5 (INT/EXT TEST) is set to one, then the two external resistors, RSET+ EXT and RSET- EXT, are used to divide VBATT down to the ratio for a trip point set at TRIP of 1.24V (VTRIP) (typ). $RSET + EXT$ plus $RSET - EXT$ in series provide the load resistance used during the 1s every-24hr-battery test. If additional load resistance is desired, then an external load resistor, RLOAD_EXT, can be placed between VBATT and the collector or drain of the transistor driven by TEST. The equivalent load resistance used to test the battery is then RLOAD_EXT in parallel with the series combination of RSET+_EXT plus RSET- EXT. In this mode, the internal resistors are removed from TRIP and are not used as a load during the battery-test pulse. TEST pulses high to perform the battery test and remains low between tests.

One final battery-test feature of the MAX6917 is the software write address/command of 1Ah that forces a 1s battery test to be performed every time it is sent.

Frequency Outputs

The 1Hz and 32kHz (32.768kHz) frequency outputs provide buffered, push-pull outputs for timing or clocking of external devices. Each push-pull output is referenced to GND for logic-low output levels and referenced to VOUT for logic-high output levels. Disabled frequency outputs are held at a logic-low level. The FOUT configuration register (Table 1) contains individual enable bits that control the state of the respective frequency output for V_{CC} operating mode and for VBATT operating mode.

Bits D5 (32kHz VBATT EN) and D4 (1Hz VBATT EN) in the FOUT configuration register enable the respective frequency output when operating from VBATT, if set to one, or disable the respective frequency output if set to zero. POR settings disable all frequency outputs when operating from VBATT.

Bits D7 (32kHz VCC EN) and D6 (1Hz VCC EN) in the FOUT configuration register enable the respective frequency output when operating from V_{CC}, if set to one, or disable the respective frequency output if set to zero. POR settings enable both output frequencies when operating from V_{CC}.

Applications Information

Crystal Selection

Connect a 32.768kHz watch crystal directly to the MAX6917 through pins 9 and 10 (X1, X2) (Figure 20). Use a crystal with a specified load capacitance (CL) of 6pF. Refer to Applications Note 616: *Considerations for Maxim Real-Time Clock Crystal Selection* from the Maxim website (www.maxim-ic.com) for more information regarding crystal parameters and crystal selection, as well as a list of crystal manufacturers.

When designing the PC board, keep the crystal as close to the X1 and X2 pins of the MAX6917 as possible. Keep the trace lengths short and small to reduce capacitive loading and prevent unwanted noise pickup.

Place a guard ring around the crystal and tie the ring to ground to help isolate the crystal from unwanted noise pickup. Keep all signals out from beneath the crystal and the X1 and X2 pins to prevent noise coupling. Finally, an additional local ground plane on an adjacent PC board layer can be added under the crystal to shield it from unwanted pickup from traces on other layers of the board. This plane should be isolated from the regular PC board ground, tied to the GND pin of the MAX6917, and needs to be no larger than the perimeter of the guard ring. Ensure that this ground plane does not contribute to significant capacitance between the signal line and ground on the connections that run from X1 and X2 to the crystal. See Figure 21.

For frequency stability overtemperature, refer to the Applications Note: *Real-Time-Clock Selection and Optimization* from the Maxim website (www.maxim-ic.com.)

Chip Information

PROCESS: CMOS

Selector Guide

Typical Application Circuit

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Package Information

(The package drawing(s) in this data sheet may not reflect the most current specifications. For the latest package outline information go to **www.maxim-ic.com/packages**.)

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