i.MX 6UL EVK VDD_ARM_SOC_IN Overshoot Issue

(Doc link: https://community.nxp.com/t5/i-MX-Processors-Knowledge-Base/iMX6UL-VDD-ARM-SOC-IN-Overshoot-On-EVK/ta-p/1099926)

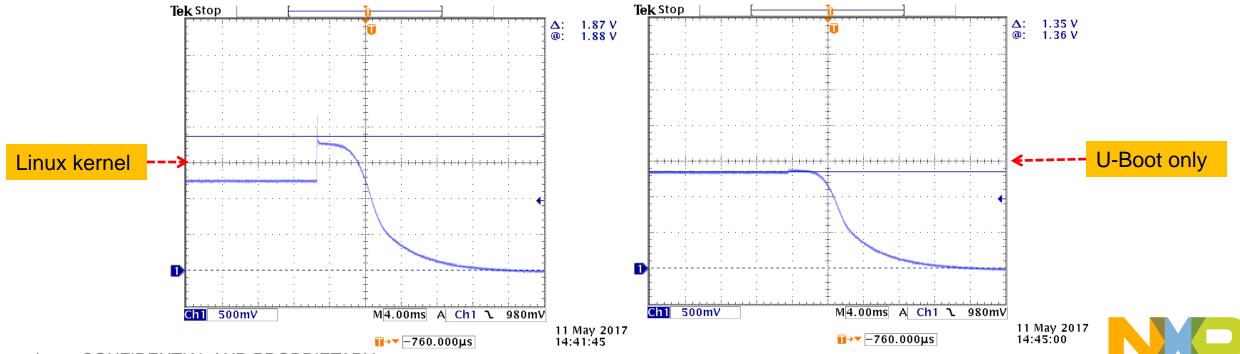
Leo Pan May, 2017





Issue Description

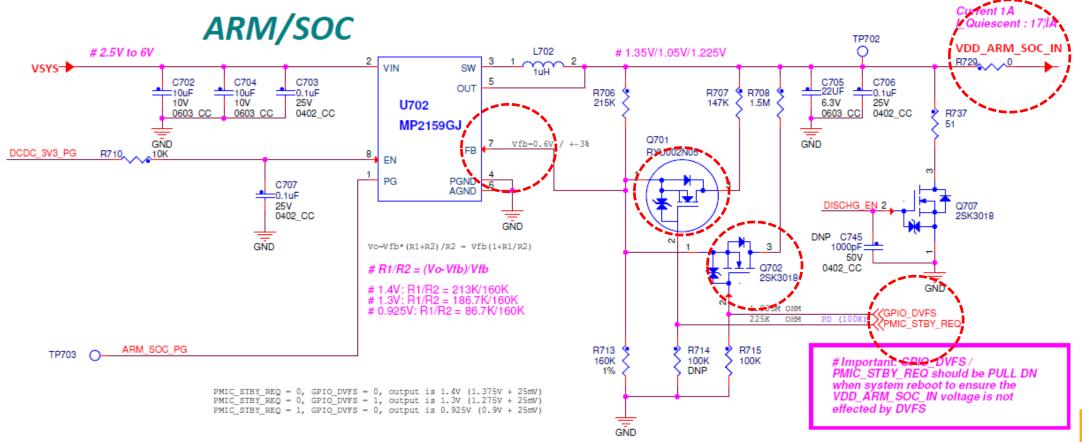
- Board: MCIMX6G2CVM EVK Board (SPF-28617)
- Issue Description:
 - Overshoot (> 1.8V) is found on VDD_ARM_SOC_IN when the EVK board is powered down by POWER BUTTON long pressed after the Linux kernel loaded. It would not happen if only U-Boot is run. The overshoot is out of i.MX6UL maximum rating.



Issue Analysis

VDD_ARM_SOC_IN circuitry:

- It is controlled by GPIO_DVFS and PMIC_STBY_REQ to output (1.37V@PMIC_STBY_REQ = 0, GPIO_DVFS = 0), (1.27V@PMIC_STBY_REQ = 0, GPIO_DVFS = 1), (0.9V@PMIC_STBY_REQ = 1, GPIO_DVFS = 0).

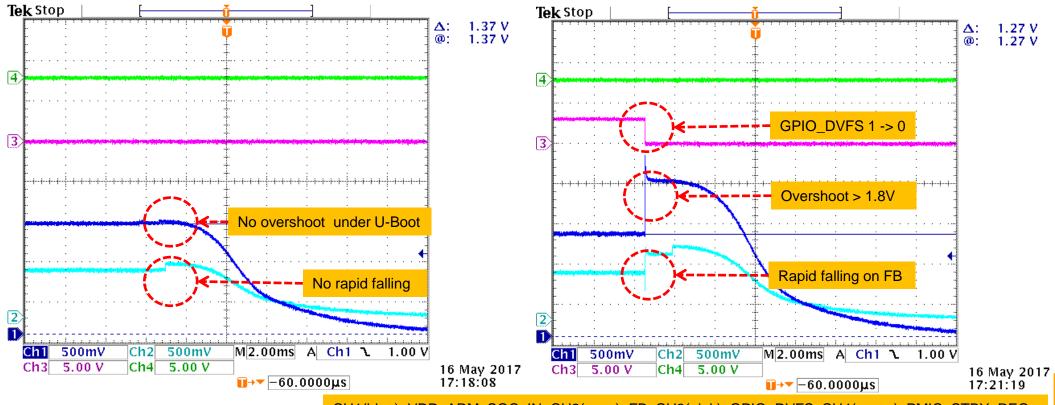




Issue Analysis (Cont.)

Waveforms on VDD_ARM_SOC_IN, FB, GPIO_DVFS and PMIC_STBY_REQ:

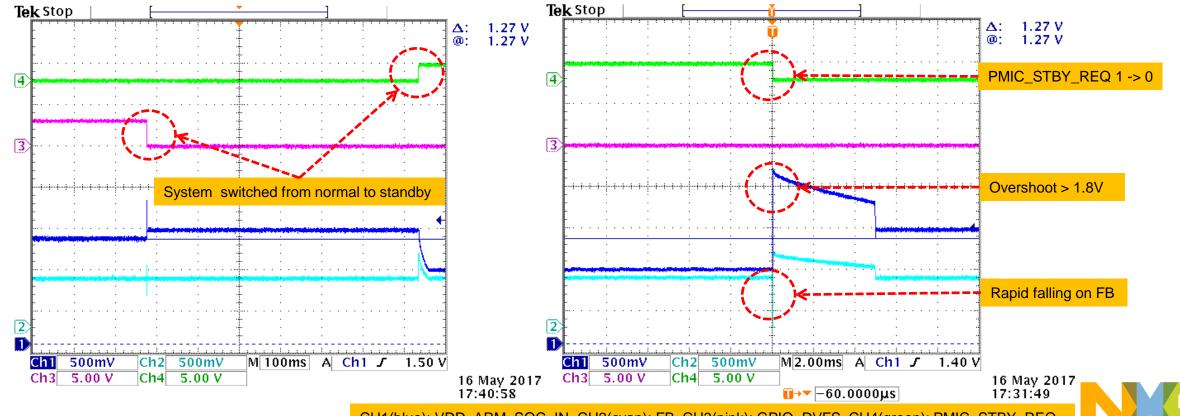
- VDD_ARM_SOC_IN output voltage is (1.37V@PMIC_STBY_REQ = 0, GPIO_DVFS = 0) under U-Boot.
- VDD_ARM_SOC_IN output voltage is (1.27V@PMIC_STBY_REQ = 0, GPIO_DVFS = 1) when Linux kernel is run.
- When GPIO_DVFS is changed from 1 to 0, overshoot happens because of rapid falling on FB.



Issue Analysis (Cont.)

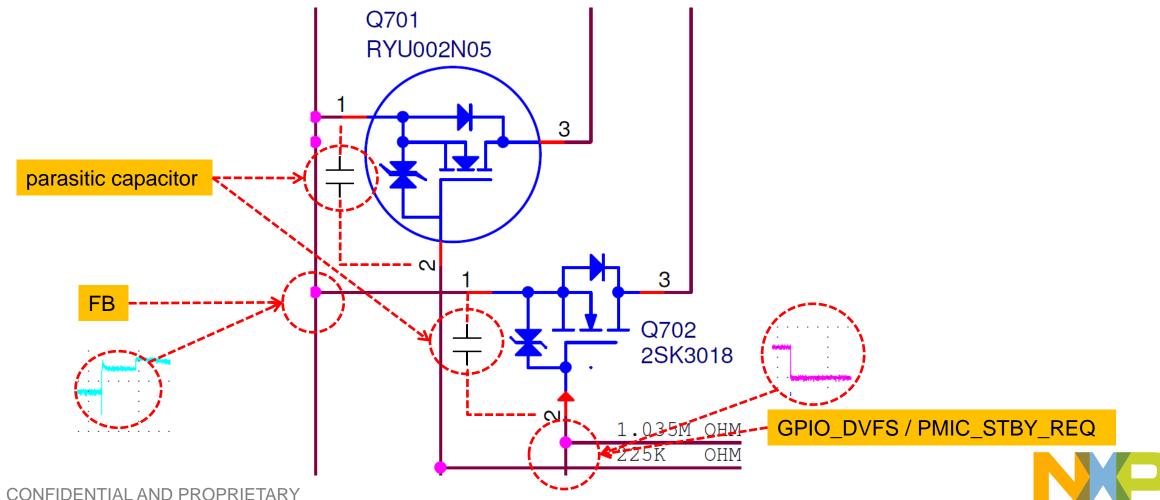
Waveforms on VDD_ARM_SOC_IN, FB, GPIO_DVFS and PMIC_STBY_REQ:

- VDD_ARM_SOC_IN output voltage is (1.37V@PMIC_STBY_REQ = 0, GPIO_DVFS = 0) under U-Boot.
- VDD_ARM_SOC_IN output voltage is (0.93V@PMIC_STBY_REQ = 1, GPIO_DVFS = 0) when the system is standby.
- When PMIC_STBY_REQ is changed from 1 to 0, overshoot happens also because of rapid falling on FB.



Root Cause

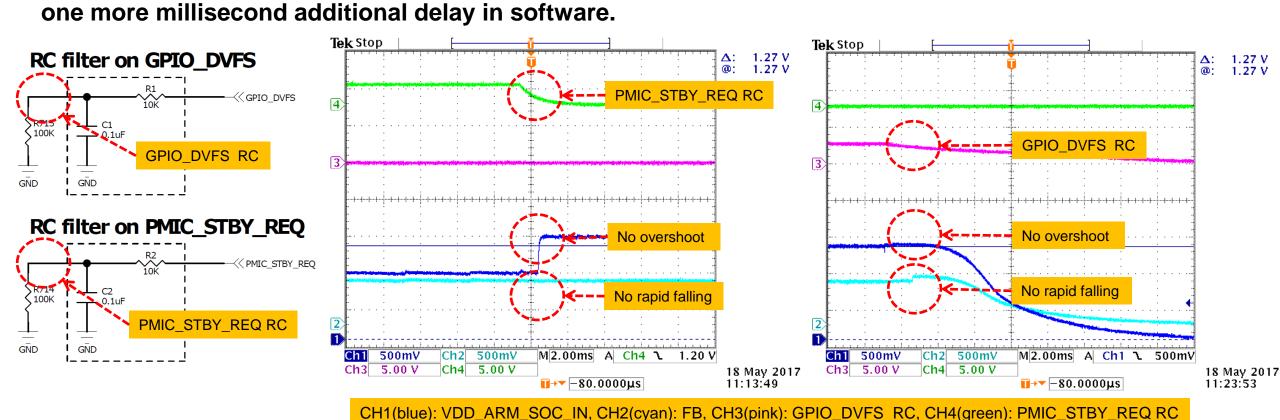
Rapid falling (1 -> 0) of GPIO_DVFS/PMIC_STBY_REQ will be coupled to FB via the parasitic capacitor between Gate pin and Source pin of the N-FET and cause the overshoot on VDD_ARM_SOC_IN.



Solution

Add RC filter on the Gate pin of the N-FET to eliminate the rapid falling on it.

With this RC filter, VDD_ARM_SOC_IN needs more time to recover its output level, hence it might need







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