PCA9846

4-Channel Ultra-Low Voltage, Fast-mode Plus I^{2}C-Bus Switch with Reset

Rev. 1.2 — 22 December 2025   **Product data sheet**

Document information

Information	Content
Keywords	PCA9846, Fast-mode Plus, I^{2}C bus, SCL, SDA
Abstract	The PCA9846 is an ultra-low voltage and quad-bidirectional translating switch controlled through the I^{2}C-bus. The SCL/SDA upstream pair fans out to four downstream pairs, or channels. Any or all SCx/SDx channels can be selected, determined by the programmable control register. This feature allows multiple devices with the same I^{2}C-bus address to reside on the same bus. The switch device can also separate a heavily loaded I^{2}C-bus into separate bus segments, eliminating the need for a bus buffer.

1 General description

The PCA9846 is an ultra-low voltage and quad-bidirectional translating switch controlled through the I^{2}C-bus. The SCL/SDA upstream pair fans out to four downstream pairs, or channels. Any or all SCx/SDx channels can be selected, determined by the programmable control register. This feature allows multiple devices with the same I^{2}C-bus address to reside on the same bus. The switch device can also separate a heavily loaded I^{2}C-bus into separate bus segments, eliminating the need for a bus buffer.

An active LOW reset input allows the PCA9846 to recover from a situation where one of the downstream I^{2}C-buses is stuck in a LOW state. Pulling the $\overline{RESET}$ pin LOW resets the I^{2}C-bus state machine and deselects all the channels, as does the internal Power-On Reset (POR) function.

The pass gates of switches are constructed such that the V_{DD1} pin is used to limit the maximum high voltage, which is passed by the PCA9846. This allows the use of different bus voltages on each channel, so that 0.8 V, 1.8 V, 2.5 V, or 3.3 V parts can communicate without any additional protection. External pullup resistors pull the bus up to the desired voltage level for each channel. All I/O pins are 3.6 V tolerant.

2 Features and benefits

- Ultra-low voltage operation, down to 0.8 V to interface with next-generation CPUs
- 1-of-4 bidirectional translating switch
- Fast-mode Plus I^{2}C-bus interface logic; compatible with SMBus standards
- Active LOW reset input
- 2 address pins allowing up to 16 devices on the I^{2}C-bus
- Channel selection via the I^{2}C-bus
- Power up with all switch channels deselected
- Low R$_{on}$ switches
- Allows voltage level translation between 0.8 V, 1.8 V, 2.5 V, and 3.3 V buses
- Reset via the I^{2}C-bus software command
- I^{2}C device ID function
- No glitch on power up
- Supports hot insertion since all channels are deselected at power on.
- Low standby current
- 3.6 V tolerant inputs
- 0 Hz to 1 MHz clock frequency
- ElectroStatic Discharge (ESD) protection exceeds 6000 V Human Body Model (HBM) per JESD22-A114 and 1000 V CDM per JESD22-C101.
- Latch-up testing is done to JEDEC Standard JESD78, which exceeds 100 mA.
- Two packages are offered: TSSOP16 and HVQFN16

3 Ordering information

Table 1 describes the ordering information for PCA9846.

Table 1. Ordering information

Type number	Topside marking	Package		
		Name	Description	Version
PCA9846PW	PCA9846	TSSOP16	Plastic thin shrink small outline package; 16 leads; body width 4.4 mm	SOT403-1

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3.1 Ordering options

Table 2 describes the ordering options for PCA9846.

Table 2. Ordering options

Type number	Orderable part number	Package	Packing method	Minimum order quantity	Temperature range
PCA9846PW	PCA9846PWJ	TSSOP16	Reel 13"Q1/T1 *Standard mark SMD	2500	T_{amb} = -40 ° C to +85 ° C
PCA9846PW	PCA9846PWZ	TSSOP16	Reel 13"Q1/T1 *Standard mark SMD	500	T_{amb} = -40 ° C to +85 ° C

4 Block diagram

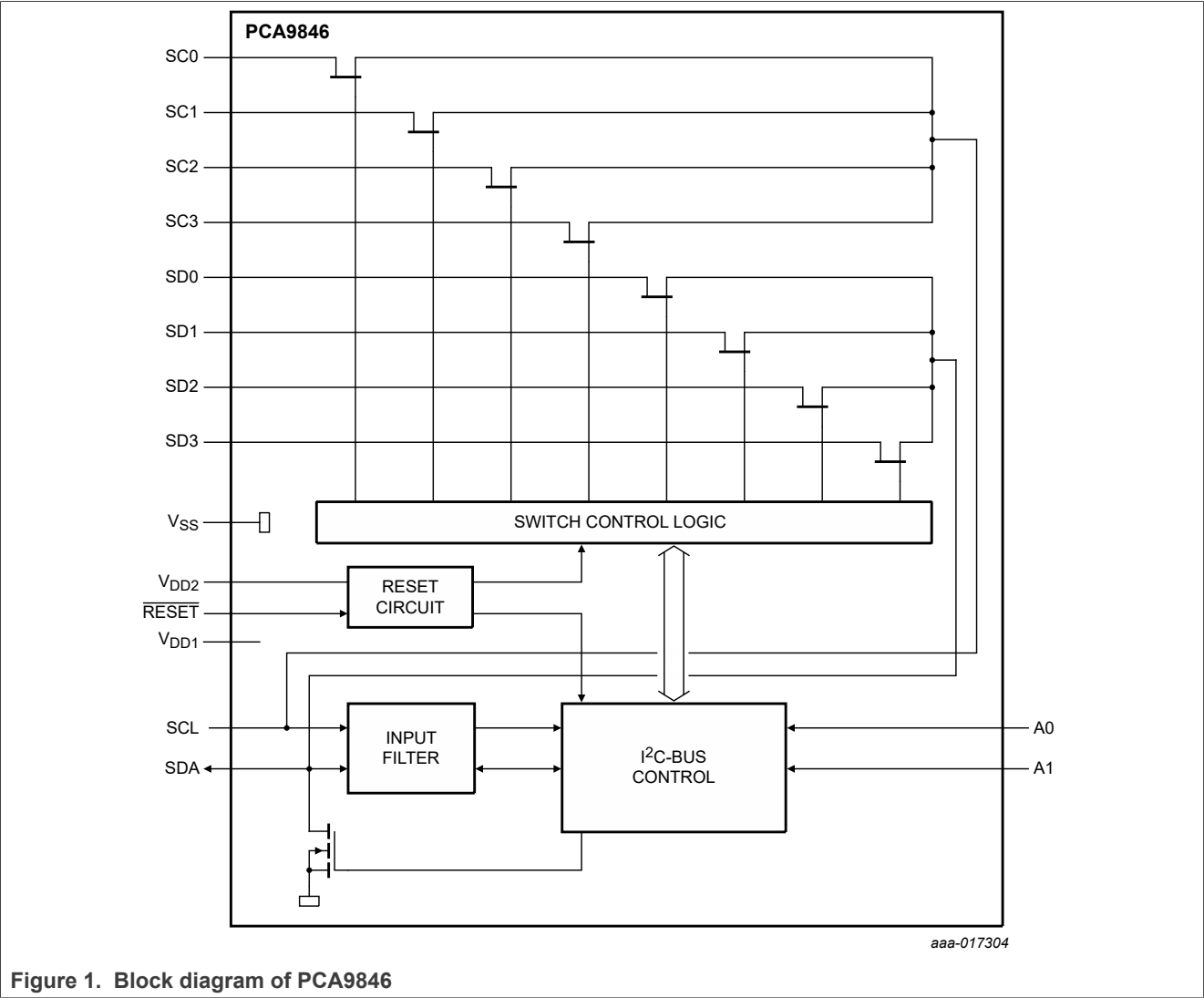Figure 1 shows the labeled block diagram of PCA9846.
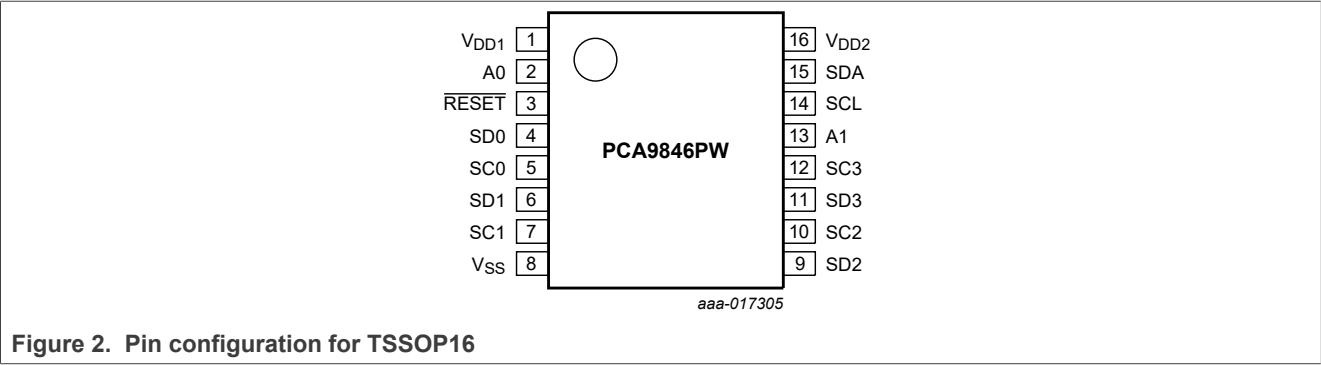

Figure 1. Block diagram of PCA9846

5 Pinning information

This section outlines the pin configuration and provides a detailed description of the PCA9846.

5.1 Pinning

This section shows the pin configuration of the PCA9846.

Figure 2. Pin configuration for TSSOP16

5.2 Pin description

Table 3 provides detailed description of various pins on PCA9846.

Table 3. Pin description

Symbol	Pin		Description
	TSSOP16	HVQFN16	
V_{DD1}	1	15	Logic level power supply
A0	2	16	Address input 0
$\overline{RESET}$	3	1	Active LOW reset input
SD0	4	2	Serial data 0
SC0	5	3	Serial clock 0
SD1	6	4	Serial data 1
SC1	7	5	Serial clock 1
V_{SS}	8	6[1]	Supply ground
SD2	9	7	Serial data 2
SC2	10	8	Serial clock 2
SD3	11	9	Serial data 3
SC3	12	10	Serial clock 3
A1	13	11	Address input 1
SCL	14	12	Serial clock line
SDA	15	13	Serial data line
V_{DD2}	16	14	Core logic power supply

[1] HVQFN16 package die supply ground is connected to both the V_{SS} pin and the exposed center pad. The V_{SS} pin must be connected to supply ground for proper device operation. For enhanced thermal, electrical, and board-level performance, the exposed pad must be soldered to the board using a

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corresponding thermal pad on the board, and for proper heat conduction through the board thermal vias must be incorporated in the printed-circuit board in the thermal pad region.

6 Functional description

Refer to Figure 1.

6.1 Device address

Following a START condition, the bus controller must output the address of the target it is accessing. The address of the PCA9846 is shown in Figure 3. The device pins A0 and A1 must be connected to a valid logic signal — HIGH, LOW, SCL or SDA — to ensure a valid target address, since no internal pullup resistors are provided.
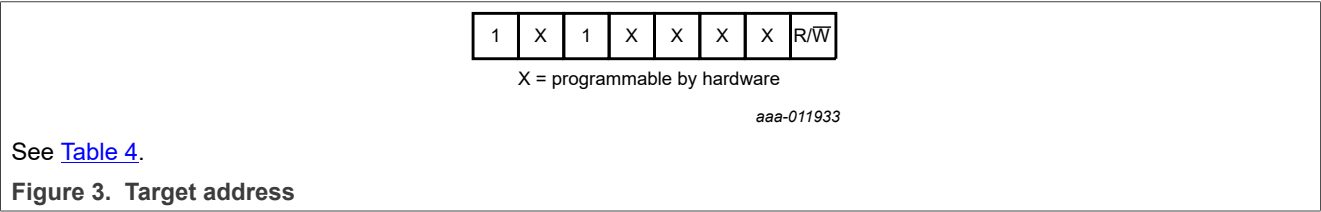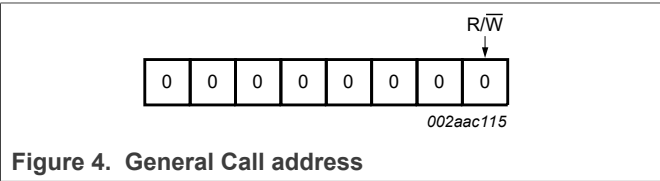
| 1 | X | 1 | X | X | X | X | R/$\overline{W}$ |

X = programmable by hardware

aaa-011933

See Table 4.

Figure 3. Target address

Table 4. Address selection

PCA9846 address pins		8-bit I²C-bus address	Target address/bit pattern Controller must send							
A1	A0		A7	A6	A5	A4	A3	A2	A1	A0 - R/$\overline{W}$
0	SCL	0xE0h	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0/1
0	0	0xE2h	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0/1
0	SDA	0xE4h	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0/1
0	1	0xE6h	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0/1
1	SCL	0xE8h	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0/1
1	0	0xEAh	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0/1
1	SDA	0xECh	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0/1
1	1	0xEEh	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0/1
SCL	SCL	0xB0h	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0/1
SCL	0	0xB2h	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0/1
SCL	SDA	0xB4h	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0/1
SCL	1	0xB6h	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0/1
SDA	SCL	0xB8h	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0/1
SDA	0	0xBAh	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0/1
SDA	SDA	0xBCh	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0/1
SDA	1	0xBEh	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0/1

6.2 Software Reset General Call, and device ID addresses

Two other different addresses can be sent to the device.

- **General Call address:** Allows to reset the device through the I^{2}C-bus upon reception of the right I^{2}C-bus sequence. See Section 6.2.1 for more information.
- **Device ID address:** Allows to read ID information from the device (manufacturer, part identification, revision). See Section 6.2.2 for more information.

R/$\overline{\text{W}}$

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

002aac115

Figure 4. General Call address

1	1	1	1	1	0	0	R/$\overline{\text{W}}$

002aac116

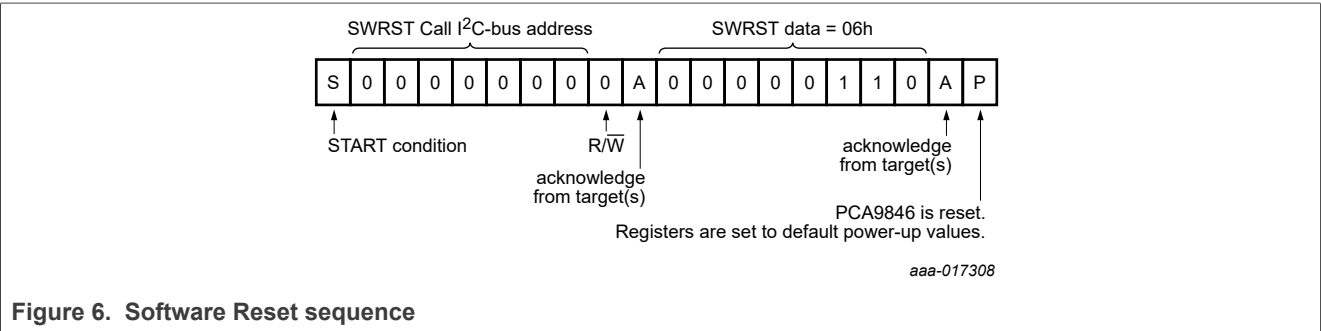**Figure 5. Device ID address**

6.2.1 Software Reset

The Software Reset Call allows all the devices in the I^{2}C-bus to be reset to the power up state value through a specific formatted I^{2}C-bus command. To be performed correctly, it implies that the I^{2}C-bus is functional and that there is no device hanging the bus.

The Software Reset sequence is defined as the following:

1. A START command is sent by the I^{2}C-bus controller.
2. The reserved General Call I^{2}C-bus address '0000 000' with the R/$\overline{\text{W}}$ bit set to 0 (write) is sent by the I^{2}C-bus controller.
3. The device acknowledges after seeing the General Call address '0000 0000' (00h) only. If the R/$\overline{\text{W}}$ bit is set to 1 (read), no acknowledge is returned to the I^{2}C-bus controller.
4. Once the General Call address has been sent and acknowledged, the controller sends 1 byte. The value of the byte must be equal to 06h.
   a. The device acknowledges this value only. If the byte is not equal to 06h, the device does not acknowledge it.
   If more than 1 byte of data is sent, the device does not acknowledge anymore.
   Once the right byte has been sent and correctly acknowledged, the controller sends a STOP command to end the Software Reset sequence: the device then resets to the default value (power up value) and is ready to be addressed again within the specified bus free time. If the controller sends a Repeated START instead, no reset is performed.

The I^{2}C-bus controller must interpret a non-acknowledge from the device (at any time) as a 'Software Reset Abort'. The device does not initiate a reset of its registers.

The unique sequence that initiates a Software Reset is described in Figure 6.

SWRST Call I^{2}C-bus address   SWRST data = 06h

S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	A	P

START condition   R/$\overline{\text{W}}$ acknowledge
                                                                                          from target(s)
                                             acknowledge
                                             from target(s)
                                                              PCA9846 is reset.
                                                Registers are set to default power-up values.

aaa-017308

Figure 6. Software Reset sequence

6.2.2 Device ID (PCA9846 ID field)

The Device ID field is a 3-byte read-only (24 bits) word giving the following information:

- 12 bits with the manufacturer name, unique per manufacturer (for example, NXP).
- 9 bits with the part identification, assigned by manufacturer.
- 3 bits with the die revision, assigned by manufacturer (for example, Rev X).

The Device ID is read-only, hardwired in the device and can be accessed as follows:

1. START command
2. The controller sends the Reserved Device ID I^{2}C-bus address followed by the R/$\overline{W}$ bit set to 0 (write): '1111 1000'.
3. The controller sends the I^{2}C-bus target address of the target device it must identify. The LSB is a 'Don't care' value. Only one device must acknowledge this byte (the one that has the I^{2}C-bus target address).
4. The controller sends a Re-START command.
   Remark: A STOP command followed by a START command resets the target state machine and the Device ID read cannot be performed. Also, a STOP command or a Re-START command followed by an access to another target device resets the target state machine and the Device ID Read cannot be performed.
5. The controller sends the Reserved Device ID I^{2}C-bus address followed by the R/$\overline{W}$ bit set to 1 (read): '1111 1001'.
6. The Device ID Read can be done, starting with the 12 manufacturer bits (first byte + 4 MSB of the second byte), followed by the 9 part identification bits (4 LSBs of the second byte + 5 MSBs of the third byte), and then the 3 die revision bits (3 LSBs of the third byte).
7. The controller ends the reading sequence by NACKing the last byte, therefore resetting the target device state machine and allowing the controller to send the STOP command.
   Remark: The reading of the Device ID can be stopped anytime by sending a NACK command.
   If the controller continues to ACK the bytes after the third byte, the target rolls back to the first byte and keeps sending the Device ID sequence until a NACK has been detected.
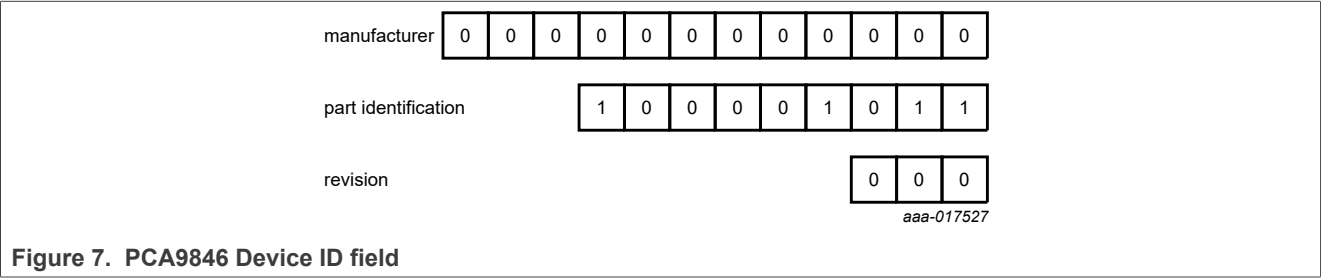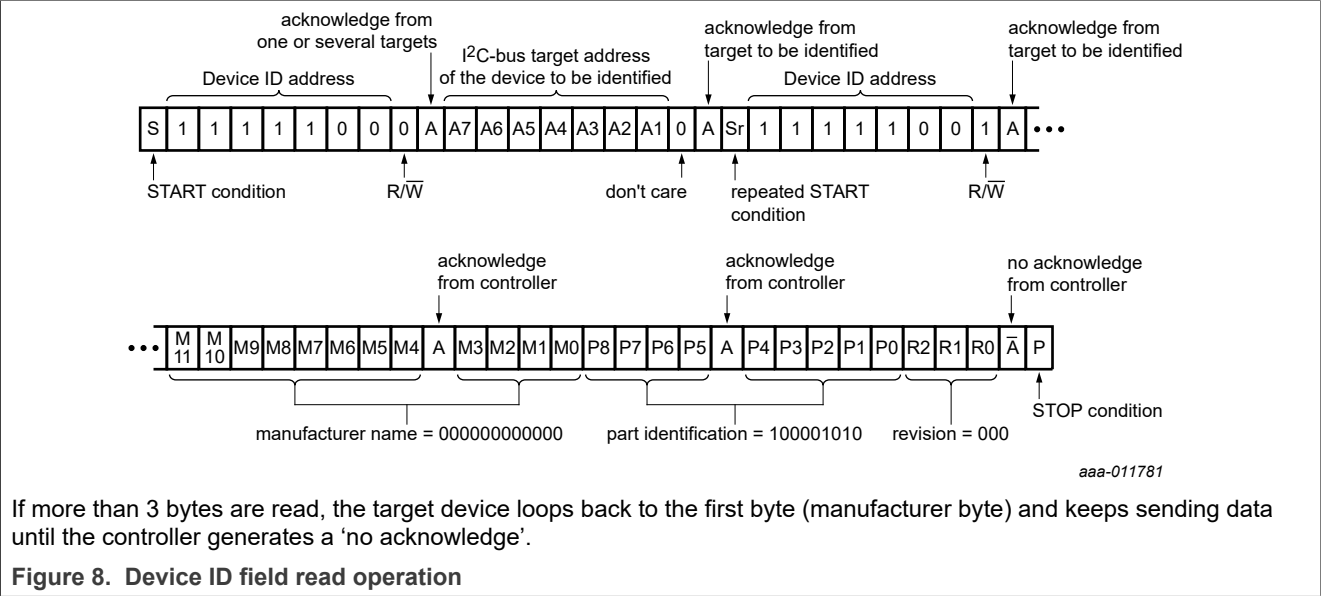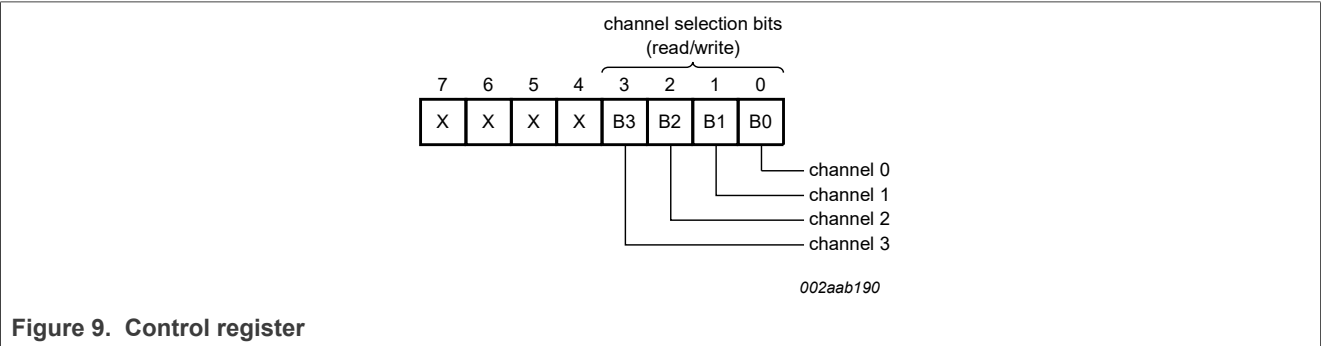   For the PCA9846, the Device ID is shown in Figure 7.

Figure 7. PCA9846 Device ID field

If more than 3 bytes are read, the target device loops back to the first byte (manufacturer byte) and keeps sending data until the controller generates a 'no acknowledge'.

Figure 8. Device ID field read operation

6.3 Control register

Following the successful acknowledgment of the target address, the bus controller sends a byte to the PCA9846, which is stored in the control register. If multiple bytes are received by the PCA9846, it saves the last byte received. This register can be written and read via the I^{2}C-bus.

Figure 9. Control register

6.3.1 Control register definition

A SCx/SDx downstream pair, or channel, is selected by the contents of the control register. This register is written after the PCA9846 has been addressed. All 8 bits of the control byte are used to determine which channel or channels are to be selected. When a channel is selected, it will become active after a STOP condition has been placed on the I^{2}C-bus. This ensures that all SCx/SDx lines are in a HIGH state when the channel is made active, so that no false conditions are generated at the time of connection. Notice that multiple channels can be simultaneously selected.

Table 5. Control register

Write = channel selection; Read = channel status

D7	D6	D5	D4	B3	B2	B1	B0	Command
X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	Channel 0 disabled
							1	Channel 0 enabled

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Table 5. Control register...*continued*

Write = channel selection; Read = channel status

D7	D6	D5	D4	B3	B2	B1	B0	Command
X	X	X	X	X	X	0	X	Channel 1 disabled
						1		Channel 1 enabled
X	X	X	X	X	0	X	X	Channel 2 disabled
					1			Channel 2 enabled
X	X	X	X	0	X	X	X	Channel 3 disabled
				1				Channel 3 enabled
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	No channel selected; power-up/reset default state

Remark: Several channels can be enabled at the same time. Example: B3 = 0, B2 = 1, B1 = 1, B0 = 0, means that channel 0 and channel 3 are disabled and channel 1 and channel 2 are enabled. Care must be taken not to exceed the maximum bus capacitance.

6.4 RESET input

The $\overline{\text{RESET}}$ input is an active LOW signal, which can be used to recover from a bus fault condition. By asserting this signal LOW for a minimum of $t_{w(rst)L}$, the PCA9846 resets its registers and I^{2}C-bus state machine and deselect all channels.

6.5 Power-on Reset (POR)

When power is applied to V_{DD}, an internal POR holds the PCA9846 in a reset condition until V_{DD2} has reached V_{POR}. At this point, the reset condition is released and the PCA9846 registers and I^{2}C-bus state machine are initialized to their default states (all zeroes) causing all the channels to be deselected.

6.6 Power-on reset requirements

In the event of a glitch or data corruption, PCA9846 can be reset to its default conditions by using the power-on reset feature. Power-on reset requires the device to go through a power cycle to be reset. This reset also happens when the device is powered on for the first time in an application.
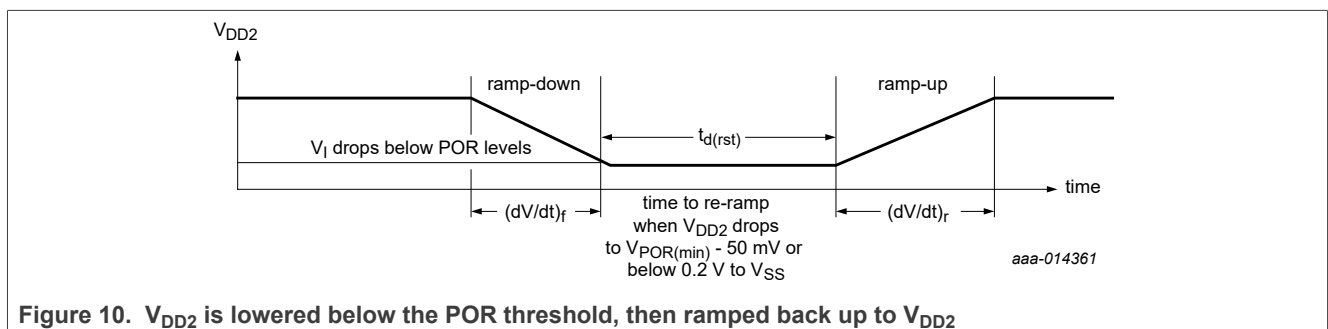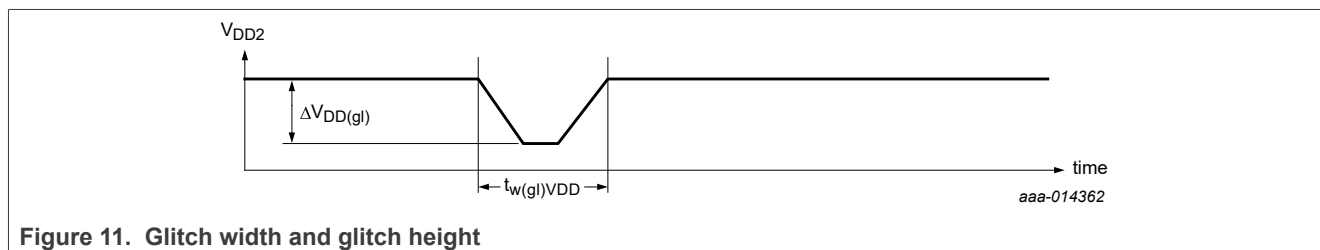
Power-on reset is shown in Figure 10.

Figure 10. V_{DD2} is lowered below the POR threshold, then ramped back up to V_{DD2}

Table 6 specifies the performance of the power-on reset feature for PCA9846 for both types of power-on reset.

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Table 6. Recommended supply sequencing and ramp rates

T_{amb} = 25 ° C (unless otherwise noted). Not tested; specified by design.

Symbol	Parameter	Condition	Note	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
$(dV/dt)_f$	Fall rate of change of voltage	Figure 10		0.1	-	2000	ms
$(dV/dt)_r$	Rise rate of change of voltage	Figure 10		0.1	-	2000	ms
$t_{d(rst)}$	Reset delay time	Figure 10; re-ramp time when V_{DD2} drops to $V_{POR(min)}$ - 50 mV) or below 0.2 V to V_{SS}		1	-	-	µs
$\Delta V_{DD(gl)}$	Glitch supply voltage difference	Figure 11	[1]	-	-	1.0	V
$t_{w(gl)VDD}$	Supply voltage glitch pulse width	Figure 11	[2]	-	-	10	µs
$V_{POR(trip)}$	Power-on reset trip voltage	Falling V_{DD2}		0.7	-	-	V
		Rising V_{DD2}		-	-	1.5	V

[1]   Level that V_{DD2} can glitch down to with a ramp rate = 0.4 µs/V, but not cause a functional disruption when $t_{w(gl)VDD}$ < 1 µs.
[2]   Glitch width that does not cause a functional disruption when $\Delta V_{DD(gl)}$ = 0.5 × V_{DD2}.

Glitches in the power supply can also affect the power-on reset performance of this device. The glitch width ($t_{w(gl)VDD}$) and glitch height ($\Delta V_{DD(gl)}$) depend on each other. The bypass capacitance, source impedance, and device impedance are factors that affect power-on reset performance. Figure 11 and Table 6 provide more information on how to measure these specifications.

Figure 11. Glitch width and glitch height

V_{POR} is critical to the power-on reset. V_{POR} is the voltage level at which the reset condition is released and all the registers and the I^{2}C-bus/SMBus state machine are initialized to their default states. The value of V_{POR} differs based on the V_{DD2} being lowered to or from 0 V. Figure 12 and Table 6 provide more details on this specification.
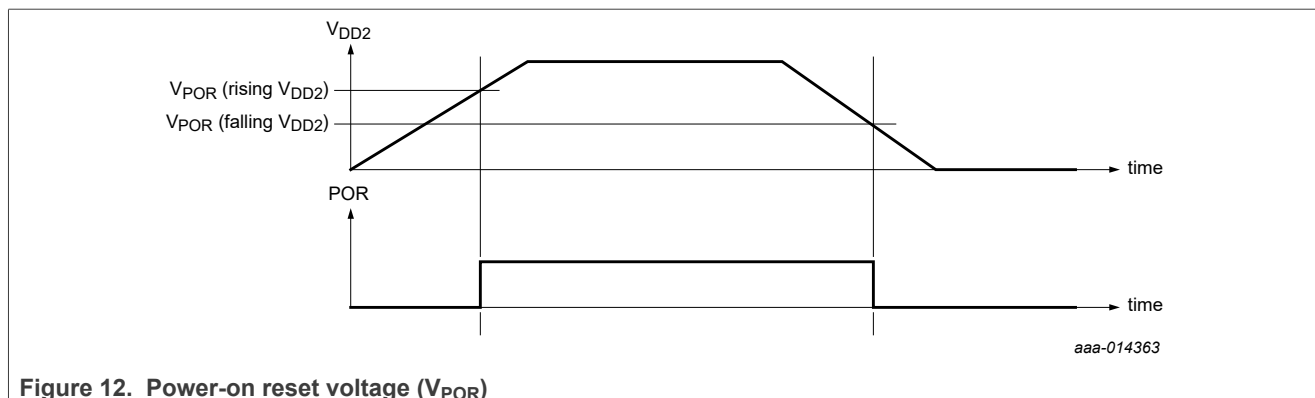
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Figure 12. Power-on reset voltage (V$_{POR}$)

6.7 Voltage level translation between I^{2}C-buses

Today's complex systems often use multiple power supplies to maximize power savings and to meet the operating specifications of the devices used. This means that various I^{2}C-buses are also operating at differing voltage levels and cannot simply connect. In addition, modern microcontrollers operate down to 0.8 V to save power, further complicating the connection of I^{2}C-buses.

The PCA9846 is designed to seamlessly handle these voltage level translation issues. Any combination of bus voltages can be intermixed on the PCA9846 and correctly translated to the other bus at Fast-mode Plus (1 MHz) speed.

Figure 13 shows a typical application. The microcontroller acts as the controller and operates at 0.8 V with its I^{2}C-bus swinging between 0 V and 0.8 V. The temperature sensor on channel 0 of the PCA9846 operates at 3.3 V, while the GPIO expander on channel 1 operates down to 1.8 V to interface with chip select and reset inputs on various other ICs also operating at 1.8 V. Channel 2 of the PCA9846 is connected to the I^{2}C-bus of a power management device, operating at 2.5 V. The other channels of PCA9846 are left unconnected.

In this example, V$_{DD1}$ of the PCA9846 is a bias supply and is set at the lowest bus voltage, or 0.8 V of the microcontroller. V$_{DD1}$ sets the input switching points of each SCL and SDA at 0.3 × V$_{DD1}$ for a LOW level and 0.7 × V$_{DD1}$ for a HIGH level.

V$_{DD2}$ is the core logic supply from which most of the PCA9846 circuitry runs and must be greater than 1.65 V.

The I^{2}C-bus is open-drain, so pullup resistors are needed on each I^{2}C-bus segment. This is where the voltage level translation happens. The pass transistor internal to the PCA9846 limits the output voltage to the lower of V$_{DD1}$ or V$_{DD2}$. The pullup resistors then limit the HIGH level of each bus segment to the power supply of the devices on that segment. Note that the pullup resistors on channel 0 are connected to 3.3 V, and the resistors on channel 1 are connected to 1.8 V, while the resistors on channel 2 are connected to 2.5 V — effectively translating the 0.8 V signal swing of the microcontroller to the correct voltage level for each peripheral.

It is possible to level shift from a higher voltage microcontroller connected to V$_{DD1}$ to lower voltage peripherals on the downstream side — the opposite of this particular example, as long as V$_{DD1}$ > 0.8 V and V$_{DD2}$ > 1.65 V.

One thing to note is that the noise margin on each I^{2}C-bus segment is reduced due to the input levels set by V$_{DD1}$. Especially, in this example, the I^{2}C-bus LOW level is 0.3 × V$_{DD1}$ or 0.24 V, so extreme care must be taken to ensure that all bus segments meet this specification. It also means that static offset buffers may not work correctly if the offset side is connected to the PCA9846.

Another point to examine is that there is no buffering capability between the upstream and the downstream buses. This is simply a pass transistor, which acts like a switch and a series resistor, between these bus segments. The series resistance is the R$_{on}$ of the pass transistor and is inversely proportional to the minimum of V$_{DD1}$ + V$_{TH}$ or V$_{DD2}$, where V$_{TH}$ is approximately 0.8 V. Refer to Table 8 for some representative R$_{on}$ values. An upcoming application note explains R$_{on}$ more thoroughly. Therefore, a careful analysis of bus capacitance and pullup resistor values is called for.

A further point to consider is pullup resistor selection. Since multiple channels can be simultaneously selected, the pullup resistors on each channel are connected in parallel. Ensure that each device can correctly drive the effective pullup resistor value and still meet the LOW-level specifications.
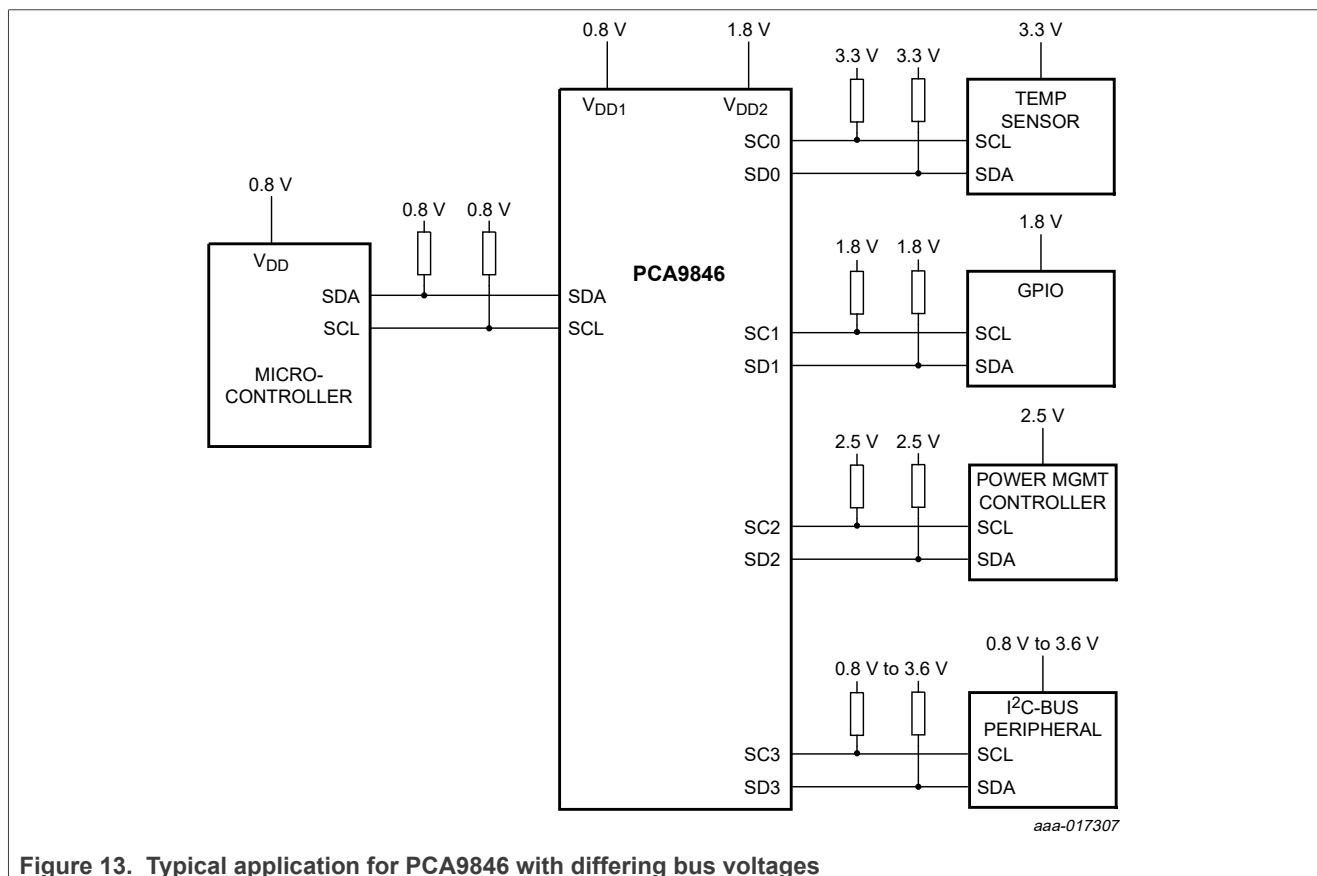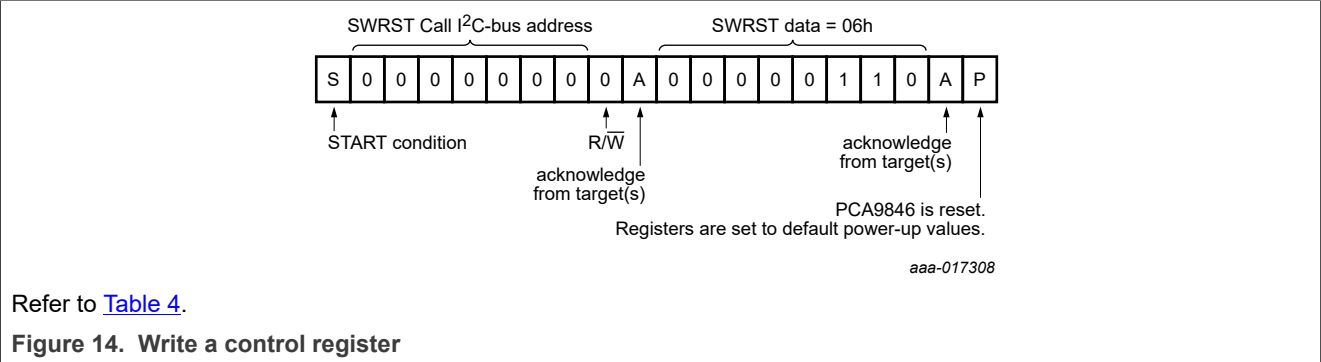

Figure 13. Typical application for PCA9846 with differing bus voltages

7 Characteristics of the I^{2}C-bus

The PCA9846 is an I^{2}C target device. Data is exchanged between the controller and the PCA9846 through write and read commands conforming to the I^{2}C-bus protocol. The two communication lines are Serial Clock Line (SCL) and Serial Data Line (SDA), both of which must be connected to V_{DD1} through pullup resistors.
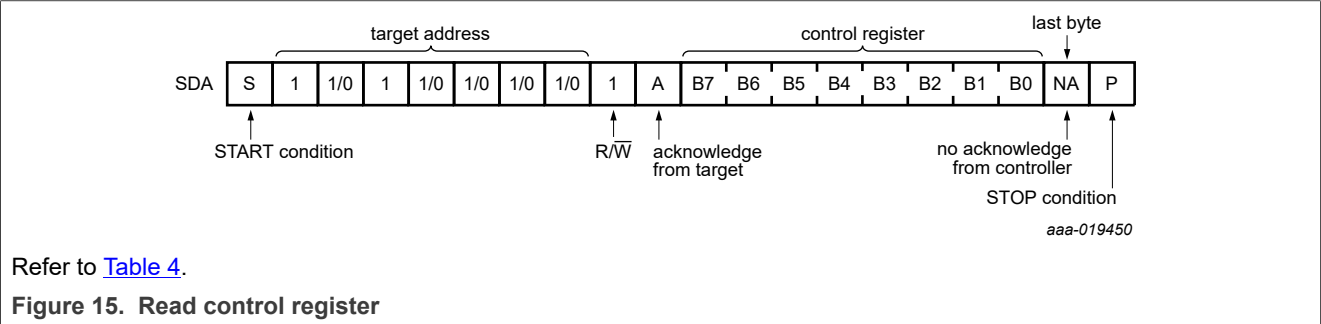
7.1 Write commands

Data is transmitted to the PCA9846 by sending its device address and setting the Least Significant Bit (LSB) to a logic 0 (see Table 4 for device addresses), which the PCA9846 acknowledges (ACK). The control register byte is sent after the address that determines which downstream channel is connected to the upstream channel by bit 0 through bit 2. Bit 7 through bit 3 are ignored and can be written with any data. There is no limit on the number of bytes sent after the address and before a STOP condition, only the last byte written before the STOP condition is recognized and the selected channel is enabled only at the following STOP condition.

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Refer to Table 4.

Figure 14. Write a control register

7.2 Read commands

Data is read from the PCA9846 by sending its device address and setting the Least Significant Bit (LSB) to a logic 1 (see Table 4 for device addresses), which the PCA9846 acknowledges. The control register byte is read by the controller with each byte either ACK or NACK by the controller. If the controller ACKs the control register byte, it continues sending register data until the controller NACKs, signaling that the transaction is complete. There is no limit on the number of bytes read from the PCA9846.

The control register bit definitions are shown in Figure 9. Bit 0 through bit 2 show the enabled channels (as determined by the last write).

Refer to Table 4.

Figure 15. Read control register

8 Limiting values

Table 7 describes the limiting values of PCA9846.

Table 7. Limiting values
In accordance with the Absolute Maximum Rating System (IEC 60134).
Voltages are referenced to V_{SS} (ground = 0 V)[1].

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Max	Unit
V_{DD}	Supply voltage		-0.5	+4.0	V
V_I	Input voltage		-0.5	+4.0	V
I_I	Input current		-	± 20	mA
I_O	Output current		-	± 25	mA
I_{DD}	Supply current		-	± 100	mA
I_{SS}	Ground supply current		-	± 100	mA
P_{tot}	Total power dissipation		-	400	mW

Table 7. Limiting values...*continued*

In accordance with the Absolute Maximum Rating System (IEC 60134).
Voltages are referenced to V_{SS} (ground = 0 V)[1].

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Max	Unit
T_{stg}	Storage temperature		-60	+150	° C
T_{amb}	Ambient temperature	Operating	-40	+85	° C

[1] The performance capability of a high-performance integrated circuit in conjunction with its thermal environment can create junction temperatures, which are detrimental to reliability. The maximum junction temperature of this integrated circuit should not exceed 125 ° C.

9 Static characteristics

Table 8 describes the static characteristics of PCA9846.

Table 8. Static characteristics

V_{SS} = 0 V; T_{amb} = -40 ° C to +85 ° C; unless otherwise specified.

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Note	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
Supply							
V_{DD1}	Supply voltage 1			0.8	-	3.6	V
V_{DD2}	Supply voltage 2			1.65	-	3.6	V
$I_{DD(VDD2)}$	Supply current on pin V_{DD2}	V_{DD1} = 3.6 V, V_{DD2} = 3.6 V; SC0 to SC7 and SD0 to SD7 not connected; $\overline{RESET}$ = V_{DD1}; A0 = A1 = SCL; continuous register read/write					
		f_{SCL} = 0 kHz		-	5	12	µA
		f_{SCL} = 100 kHz		-	8	20	µA
		f_{SCL} = 1000 kHz		-	65	150	µA
$I_{DD(VDD1)}$	Supply current on pin V_{DD1}	V_{DD1} = 3.6 V, V_{DD2} = 3.6 V; SC0 to SC7 and SD0 to SD7 not connected; $\overline{RESET}$ = V_{DD1}; A0 = A1 = SCL; continuous register read/write					
		f_{SCL} = 0 kHz		-5	-2	+2	µA
		f_{SCL} = 100 kHz		-	5	15	µA
		f_{SCL} = 1000 kHz		-	45	100	µA
V_{POR}	Power-on reset voltage			-	1.2	1.5	V
Input SCL; input/output SDA							
V_{IL}	LOW-level input voltage	V_{DD1} ≤ 1.1 V		-0.5	-	+0.2V_{DD1}	V
		V_{DD1} > 1.1 V		-0.5	-	+0.3V_{DD1}	V
V_{IH}	HIGH-level input voltage	V_{DD1} = ≤ 1.1 V		0.8V_{DD1}	-	3.6	V
		V_{DD1} > 1.1 V		0.7V_{DD1}	-	3.6	V

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Table 8. Static characteristics...*continued*

V_{SS} = 0 V; T_{amb} = -40 ° C to +85 ° C; unless otherwise specified.

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Note	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
I_{OL}	LOW-level output current	V_{OL} = 0.4 V; V_{DD2} ≤ 2 V		15	-	-	mA
		V_{OL} = 0.4 V; V_{DD2} > 2 V		20	-	-	mA
I_L	Leakage current	V_I = V_{DD} or V_{SS}		-1	-	+1	µA
C_i	Input capacitance	V_I = V_{SS}; all channels disabled	[1]	-	20	40	pF
Select inputs A0 to A1, RESET							
V_{IL}	LOW-level input voltage	V_{DD1} ≤ 1.1 V		-0.5	-	+0.2V_{DD1}	V
		V_{DD1} > 1.1 V		-0.5	-	+0.3V_{DD1}	V
V_{IH}	HIGH-level input voltage	V_{DD1} ≤ 1.1 V		0.8V_{DD1}	-	3.6	
		V_{DD1} > 1.1 V		0.7V_{DD1}	-	3.6	V
I_{LI}	Input leakage current	pin at V_{DD2} to 3.6 V or V_{SS}		-1	-	+1	µA
C_i	Input capacitance	V_I = V_{SS} or V_{DD1}	[1]	-	5	10	pF
Pass gate							
R_{on}	ON-state resistance	ON resistance of the pass transistor between SCL and SCx, and SDA and SDx					
		V_{DD1} = 0.8 V; V_{DD2} ≥ 1.65 V; $V_{i(sw)}$ = 0.16 V; I_O = 3 mA		-	15	24	Ω
		V_{DD1} = 1.2 V; V_{DD2} ≥ 1.8 V; $V_{i(sw)}$ = 0.24 V; I_O = 6 mA		-	12	18	Ω
		V_{DD1} > 2 V; V_{DD2} ≥ 2.5 V; $V_{i(sw)}$ = 0.4 V; I_O = 20 mA		-	7	10	Ω
$I_{o(sw)}$	Switch output current	V_{DD2} = 1.65 V to 3.6 V; $V_{i(sw)}$ = V_{DD1} to 3.6 V; $V_{o(sw)}$ = V_{DD1} to 3.6 V		0	-	100	µA
I_L	Leakage current	V_I = V_{DD} or V_{SS}		-1	-	+1	µA
C_{io}	Input/output capacitance	V_I = V_{SS}; all switches disabled	[1]	-	8	15	pF

[1]   Not tested in production. Guaranteed by design and characterization.

$R_{on} = (V_{o(sw)} - (V_{i(sw)})) / I_o$; $V_{i(sw)}$ and I_o are defined in Table 8

Figure 16. R_{on} test circuit

10 Dynamic characteristics

Table 9 describes the dynamic characteristics of PCA9846.

PCA9846

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Table 9. Dynamic characteristics

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Note	Standard-mode I^{2}C-bus		Fast-mode I^{2}C-bus		Fast-mode Plus I^{2}C-bus		Unit
				Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
t_{PD}	Propagation delay	From SDA to SDx, or SCL to SCx		-	1[1]	-	1[1]	-	1[1]	ns
f_{SCL}	SCL clock frequency			0	100	0	400	0	1000	kHz
t_{BUF}	Bus free time between a STOP and START condition			4.7	-	1.3	-	0.5	-	µs
$t_{HD;STA}$	Hold time (repeated) START condition		[2]	4.0	-	0.6	-	0.26	-	µs
t_{LOW}	LOW period of the SCL clock			4.7	-	1.3	-	0.5	-	µs
t_{HIGH}	HIGH period of the SCL clock			4.0	-	0.6	-	0.26	-	µs
$t_{SU;STA}$	Set-up time for a repeated START condition			4.7	-	0.6	-	0.26	-	µs
$t_{SU;STO}$	Set-up time for STOP condition			4.0	-	0.6	-	0.26	-	µs
$t_{HD;DAT}$	Data hold time			0[3]	3.45	0[3]	0.9	0	-	µs
$t_{SU;DAT}$	Data set-up time			250	-	100	-	50	-	ns
t_r	Rise time of both SDA and SCL signals			-	1000	20 × (V$_{DD}$/5.5 V)[4][4]	300	-	120	ns
t_f	Fall time of both SDA and SCL signals			-	300	20 × (V$_{DD}$/5.5 V)[4]	300	20 × (V$_{DD}$/5.5 V)[4]	120[5]	ns
C_b	Capacitive load for each bus line			-	400	-	400	-	550	pF
t_{SP}	Pulse width of spikes that must be			-	50	-	50	0	50[6]	ns

Table 9. Dynamic characteristics...*continued*

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Note	Standard-mode I²C-bus		Fast-mode I²C-bus		Fast-mode Plus I²C-bus		Unit
				Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
	suppressed by the input filter									
$t_{VD;DAT}$	Data valid time		[7]	-	3.45	-	0.9	-	0.45	µs
$t_{VD;ACK}$	Data valid acknowledge time			-	1	-	1	-	0.45[8]	µs
RESET										
$t_{w(rst)L}$	LOW-level reset time			100	-	100	-	100	-	ns
t_{rst}	Reset time	SDA clear		500	-	500	-	500	-	ns
$t_{REC;STA}$	Recovery time to START condition			0	-	0	-	0	-	ns

[1] Pass gate propagation delay is calculated from the 20 Ω typical R_{on} and the 50 pF load capacitance.
[2] After this period, the first clock pulse is generated.
[3] A device must internally provide a hold time of at least 300 ns for the SDA signal (referred to the $V_{IH(min)}$ of the SCL signal) to bridge the undefined region of the falling edge of SCL.
[4] Necessary to be backward-compatible to Fast-mode.
[5] In Fast-mode Plus, fall time is specified the same for both output stage and bus timing. If series resistors are used, designers should allow for this when considering bus timing.
[6] Input filters on the SDA and SCL inputs suppress noise spikes of less than 50 ns.
[7] Measurements taken with 1 kΩ pullup resistor and 50 pF load.
[8] The maximum $t_{HD;DAT}$ could be 3.45 µs and 0.9 µs for Standard-mode and Fast-mode, but must be less than the maximum of $t_{VD;DAT}$ or $t_{VD;ACK}$ by a transition time. This maximum must only be met if the device does not stretch the LOW period (t_{LOW}) of the SCL signal. If the clock stretches the SCL, the data must be valid by the set-up time before it releases the clock.
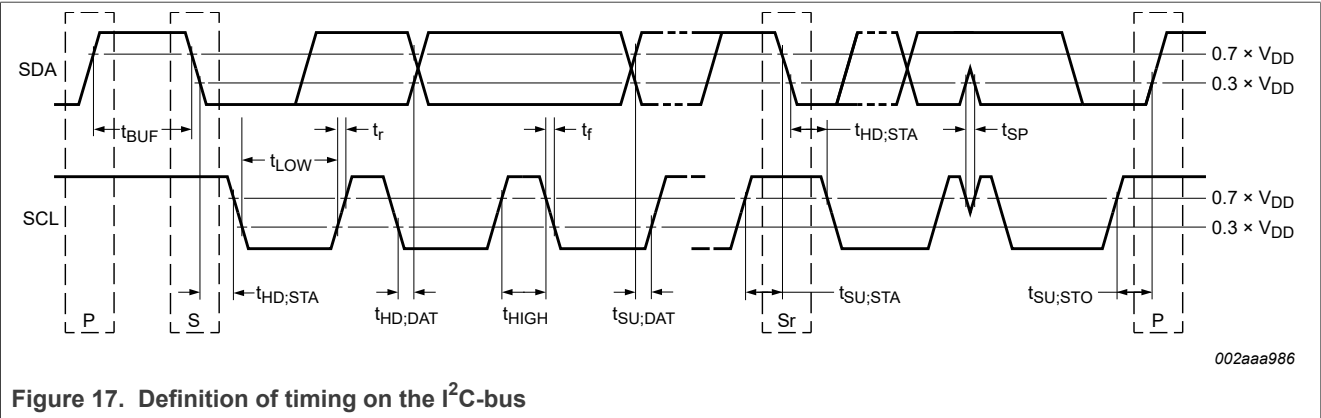
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Figure 17. Definition of timing on the I^{2}C-bus
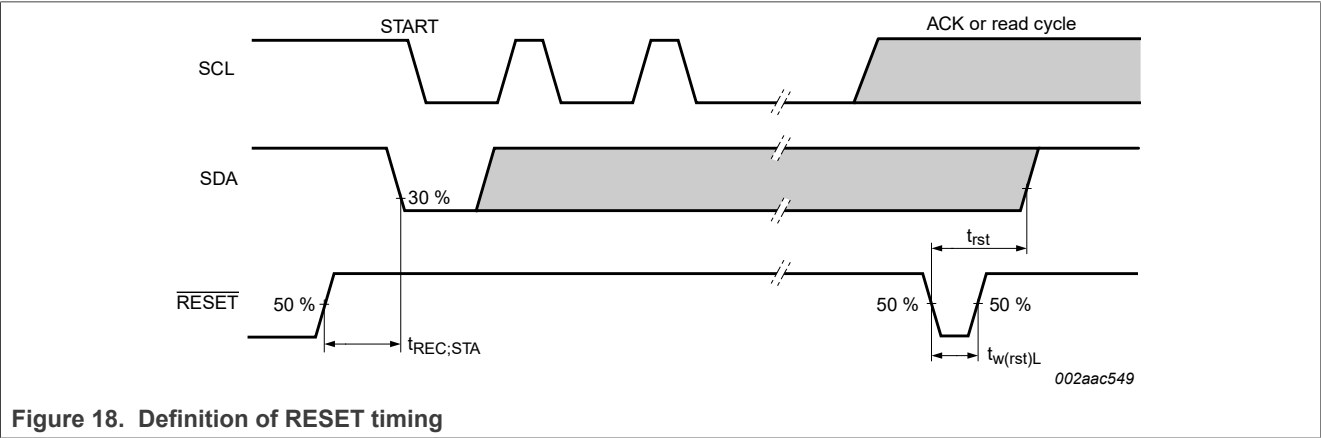

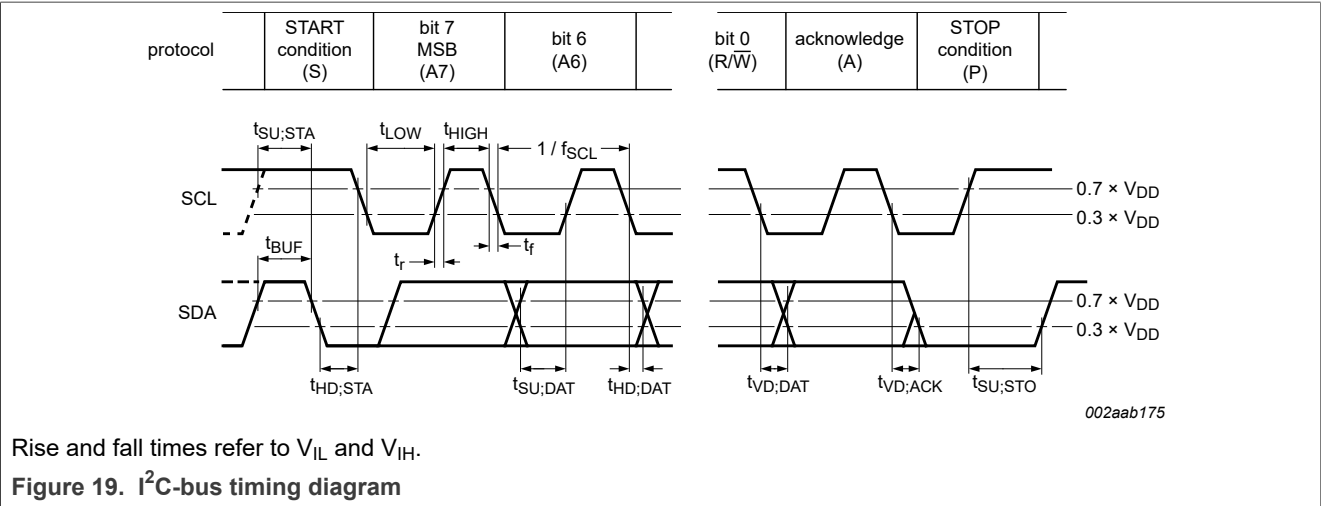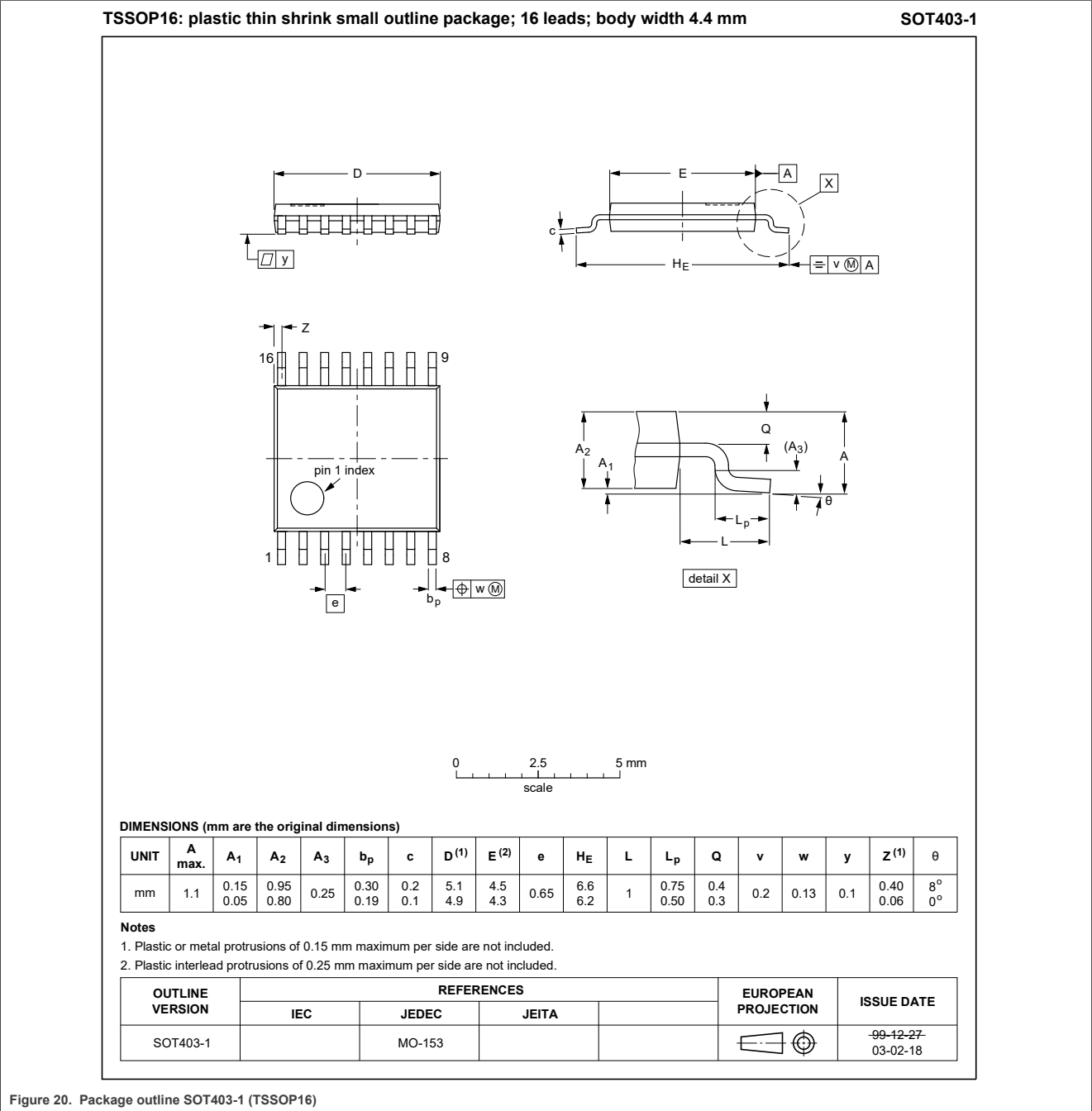**Figure 18. Definition of RESET timing**

Rise and fall times refer to V_{IL} and V_{IH}.

Figure 19. I^{2}C-bus timing diagram

PCA9846

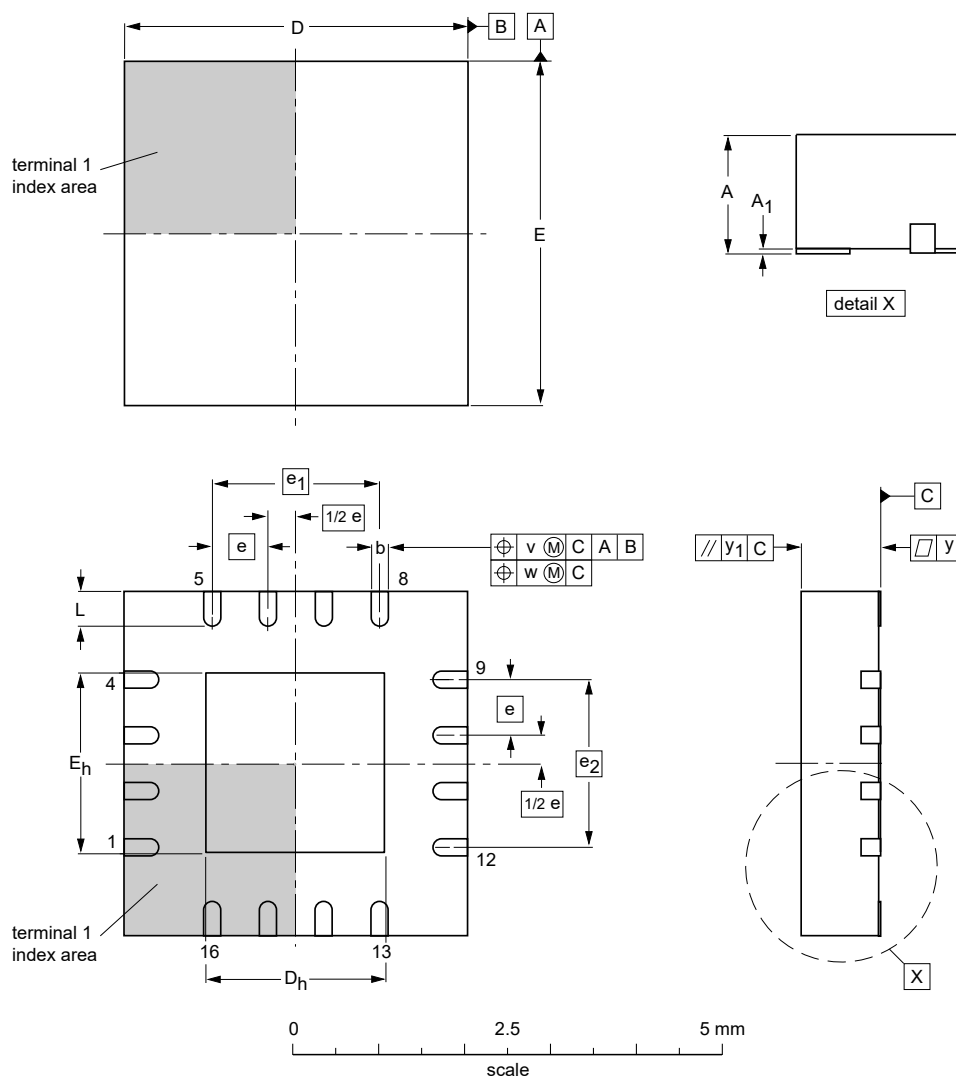All information provided in this document is subject to legal disclaimers.

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11 Package outline

This section shows the package outline for the PCA9846.

TSSOP16: plastic thin shrink small outline package; 16 leads; body width 4.4 mm   **SOT403-1**

0   2.5   5 mm
scale

DIMENSIONS (mm are the original dimensions)

UNIT	A max.	A₁	A₂	A₃	bₚ	c	D[1]	E[2]	e	H_E	L	Lₚ	Q	v	w	y	Z[1]	θ
mm	1.1	0.15 0.05	0.95 0.80	0.25	0.30 0.19	0.2 0.1	5.1 4.9	4.5 4.3	0.65	6.6 6.2	1	0.75 0.50	0.4 0.3	0.2	0.13	0.1	0.40 0.06	8° 0°

Notes

1. Plastic or metal protrusions of 0.15 mm maximum per side are not included.

2. Plastic interlead protrusions of 0.25 mm maximum per side are not included.

OUTLINE VERSION	REFERENCES				EUROPEAN PROJECTION	ISSUE DATE
	IEC	JEDEC	JEITA			
SOT403-1		MO-153				~~99-12-27~~ 03-02-18

Figure 20. Package outline SOT403-1 (TSSOP16)

HVQFN16: plastic thermal enhanced very thin quad flat package; no leads; 16 terminals; body 4 mm x 4 mm x 0.85 mm

SOT629-1

DIMENSIONS (mm are the original dimensions)

UNIT	A[1] max.	A$_1$	b	c	D[1]	D$_h$	E[1]	E$_h$	e	e$_1$	e$_2$	L	v	w	y	y$_1$
mm	1	0.05 0.00	0.38 0.23	0.2	4.1 3.9	2.25 1.95	4.1 3.9	2.25 1.95	0.65	1.95	1.95	0.75 0.50	0.1	0.05	0.05	0.1

Note

1. Plastic or metal protrusions of 0.075 mm maximum per side are not included.

OUTLINE VERSION	REFERENCES				EUROPEAN PROJECTION	ISSUE DATE
	IEC	JEDEC	JEITA			
SOT629-1	- - -	MO-220	- - -			~~01-08-08~~ 02-10-22

Figure 21. Package outline SOT629-1 (HVQFN16)

12 Soldering of SMD packages

This text provides a very brief insight into a complex technology. A more in-depth account of soldering ICs can be found in Application Note *AN10365 "Surface mount reflow soldering description"*.

12.1 Introduction to soldering

Soldering is one of the most common methods through which packages are attached to Printed Circuit Boards (PCBs), to form electrical circuits. The soldered joint provides both the mechanical and the electrical connection. There is no single soldering method that is ideal for all IC packages. Wave soldering is often preferred when through-hole and Surface Mount Devices (SMDs) are mixed on one printed wiring board; however, it is not suitable for fine pitch SMDs. Reflow soldering is ideal for the small pitches and high densities that come with increased miniaturization.

12.2 Wave and reflow soldering

Wave soldering is a joining technology in which the joints are made by solder coming from a standing wave of liquid solder. The wave soldering process is suitable for the following:

• Through-hole components
• Leaded or leadless SMDs, which are glued to the surface of the printed circuit board

Not all SMDs can be wave soldered. Packages with solder balls, and some leadless packages which have solder lands underneath the body, cannot be wave soldered. Also, leaded SMDs with leads having a pitch smaller than ~0.6 mm cannot be wave soldered, due to an increased probability of bridging.

The reflow soldering process involves applying solder paste to a board, followed by component placement and exposure to a temperature profile. Leaded packages, packages with solder balls, and leadless packages are all reflow solderable.

Key characteristics in both wave and reflow soldering are:

• Board specifications, including the board finish, solder masks and vias
• Package footprints, including solder thieves and orientation
• The moisture sensitivity level of the packages
• Package placement
• Inspection and repair
• Lead-free soldering versus SnPb soldering

12.3 Wave soldering

Key characteristics in wave soldering are:

• Process issues, such as application of adhesive and flux, clinching of leads, board transport, the solder wave parameters, and the time during which components are exposed to the wave
• Solder bath specifications, including temperature and impurities

12.4 Reflow soldering

Key characteristics in reflow soldering are:

• Lead-free versus SnPb soldering; note that a lead-free reflow process usually leads to higher minimum peak temperatures (see Figure 22) than a SnPb process, thus reducing the process window
• Solder paste printing issues including smearing, release, and adjusting the process window for a mix of large and small components on one board

- Reflow temperature profile; this profile includes preheat, reflow (in which the board is heated to the peak temperature) and cooling down. It is imperative that the peak temperature is high enough for the solder to make reliable solder joints (a solder paste characteristic). In addition, the peak temperature must be low enough that the packages and/or boards are not damaged. The peak temperature of the package depends on package thickness and volume and is classified in accordance with Table 10 and Table 11

Table 10. SnPb eutectic process (from J-STD-020D)

Package thickness (mm)	Package reflow temperature (°C)	
	Volume (mm³)	
	< 350	≥ 350
< 2.5	235	220
≥ 2.5	220	220

Table 11. Lead-free process (from J-STD-020D)

Package thickness (mm)	Package reflow temperature (°C)		
	Volume (mm³)		
	< 350	350 to 2000	> 2000
< 1.6	260	260	260
1.6 to 2.5	260	250	245
> 2.5	250	245	245

Moisture sensitivity precautions, as indicated on the packing, must be respected at all times.

Studies have shown that small packages reach higher temperatures during reflow soldering, see Figure 22.

MSL: Moisture Sensitivity Level

Figure 22. Temperature profiles for large and small components

For further information on temperature profiles, refer to Application Note *AN10365 "Surface mount reflow soldering description"*.

13 Soldering: PCB footprints

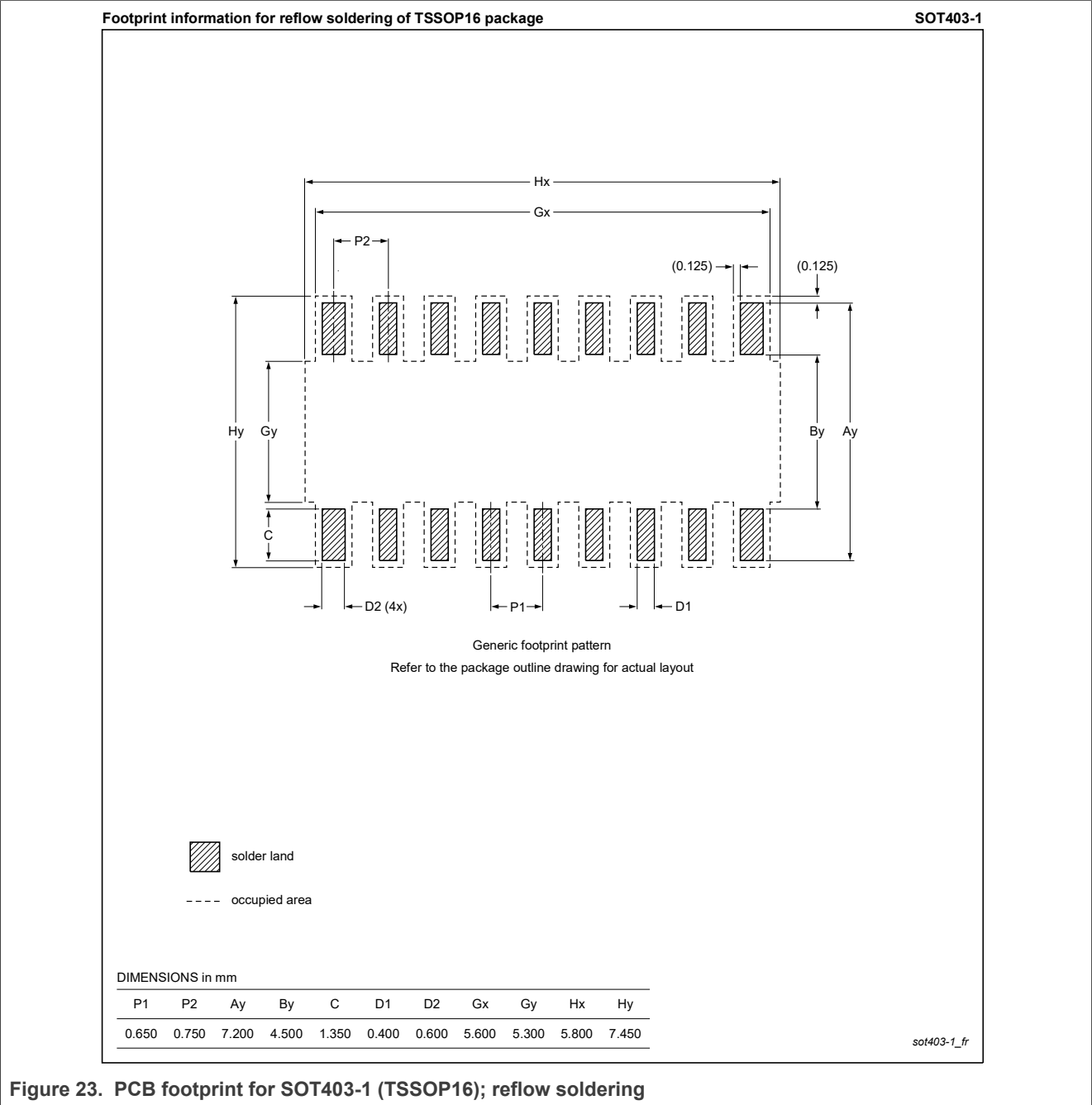This section shows the PCB footprints information for reflow soldering.

Footprint information for reflow soldering of TSSOP16 package   **SOT403-1**

Generic footprint pattern
Refer to the package outline drawing for actual layout

solder land

- - - - occupied area

DIMENSIONS in mm

P1	P2	Ay	By	C	D1	D2	Gx	Gy	Hx	Hy
0.650	0.750	7.200	4.500	1.350	0.400	0.600	5.600	5.300	5.800	7.450

sot403-1_fr

Figure 23. PCB footprint for SOT403-1 (TSSOP16); reflow soldering

Footprint information for reflow soldering of HVQFN16 package **SOT629-1**

Generic footprint pattern
Refer to the package outline drawing for actual layout

solder land

solder paste deposit

solder land plus solder paste

- - - - occupied area

	nSPx	nSPy
	2	2

Dimensions in mm

P	Ax	Ay	Bx	By	C	D	SLx	SLy	SPx tot	SPy tot	SPx	SPy	Gx	Gy	Hx	Hy
0.650	5.000	5.000	2.800	2.800	1.100	0.300	2.000	2.000	1.200	1.200	0.450	0.450	4.300	4.300	5.250	5.250

Issue date	~~07-05-07~~ 09-06-15	*sot629-1_fr*

Figure 24. PCB footprint for SOT629-1 (HVQFN16); reflow soldering

14 Acronyms

This section lists the acronyms used in this document.

Table 12. Acronyms

Acronym	Description
CDM	Charged-Device Model
ESD	ElectroStatic Discharge
HBM	Human Body Model
IC	Integrated Circuit
I^{2}C-bus	Inter-Integrated Circuit bus
LSB	Least Significant Bit
MSB	Most Significant Bit
PCB	Printed-Circuit Board
POR	Power-on Reset
SMBus	System Management Bus
SMD	Surface Mount Devices

15 Revision history

Table 13 summarizes revisions to this document.

Table 13. Revision history

Document ID	Release date	Description
PCA9846 v.1.2	22 December 2025	Updated as per CIN# 202512021I: • Removed PCA9846BS related information in Section 3 "Ordering information" • Changed 'master/slave' to 'controller/target' • Minor editorial changes
PCA9846 v.1.1	04 April 2017	Updated as per CIN# 201703016I: • Section 6.7: Minor text edits to clarify the operation of the device. • Table 1: Corrected topside marking for PCA9846PW; no change to device.
PCA9846 v.1.0	09 November 2015	Product data sheet

Legal information

Data sheet status

Document status[1][2]	Product status[3]	Definition
Objective [short] data sheet	Development	This document contains data from the objective specification for product development.
Preliminary [short] data sheet	Qualification	This document contains data from the preliminary specification.
Product [short] data sheet	Production	This document contains the product specification.

[1]   Please consult the most recently issued document before initiating or completing a design.
[2]   The term 'short data sheet' is explained in section "Definitions".
[3]   The product status of device(s) described in this document may have changed since this document was published and may differ in case of multiple devices. The latest product status information is available on the Internet at URL https://www.nxp.com.

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NXP Semiconductors **PCA9846**

4-Channel Ultra-Low Voltage, Fast-mode Plus I^{2}C-Bus Switch with Reset

Contents