



ST automotive PMICs and SBCs

October 2025

What is a power management IC for automotive systems?

PMICs and SBCs integrate essential power control elements into a single chip, reducing the component count and board space.

They allow an easy and cost-effective managing of automotive applications.

A **PMIC** is an integrated circuit designed to manage the power requirements of automotive electronic systems

Combines multiple power functions in a single chip: DC-DC converters, linear regulators, monitoring, sequencing, and safety features

Streamlines power distribution from the vehicle battery to various subsystems, ensuring efficient and reliable operation

SBCs complement PMICs with support features for the MCU (supervision, communication) and often CAN and/or LIN transceivers

Why use automotive PMICs and SBCs?



Reduce component
count and
PCB space



Enhance energy
efficiency and reduce
standby power
consumption



Accelerate
development time
with integrated
functions



Improve system
reliability through
built-in safety and
monitoring



What are the advantages of ST automotive PMICs?



Flexibility and compatibility

Multichannel and configurable power supply schemes for diverse applications

Battery compatibility eliminating the need for pre-regulators

Safety and reliability

Functional safety support up to ASIL-D standard

Advanced features: reverse current protection, thermal, and load dump protection

AEC-Q100 qualified

Integration and efficiency

Programmable via SPI/I²C with internal memory for flexible control

High switching frequency for compact PCB design

What are the advantages of ST automotive SBCs?



Scalability

A scalable product portfolio to support a wide range of applications, MCU platforms, and system topologies.

Integrated NVM enables precise PMIC and SBC configuration across diverse MCU families (ST and other), ensuring seamless adaptability.

Interoperability

Fully compatible with MCU power modes, requirements, and sequencing. Safeguards system supply from abnormal voltages.

Continuously checks MCU health for potential risks.

SBCs interface seamlessly with ST MCUs.

Safety ISO26262

ST MCU optimized SBCs support safety up to ASIL-D for all operating conditions.

Integrated NFSO path ensures transition to one of multiple safe states, allowing graded responses to system faults.

SPI, IRQ, and FCCU interfaces enable rapid communication between SBC and MCU.

Where are PMICs and SBCs used in vehicles?

ADAS systems: camera module, radar, domain controllers



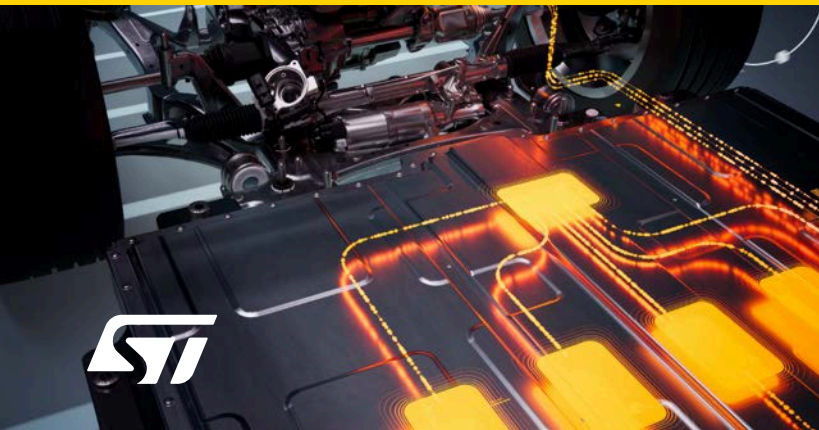
Electronic control units (ECU) and microcontroller units (MCU)



Infotainment: instrument clusters, telematics control units (TCU)



Zonal architecture power distribution



Braking, steering, powertrain systems



And more...

ST automotive PMIC product portfolio

For battery protection

Hot swap and ideal diode controllers

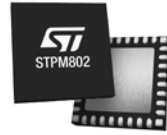
[STPM801](#)



For flexible power regulation

Buck-Boost controllers

[STPM802A](#)



For ADAS and ECU power rails

Multirail battery-compatible PMICs

[L5965](#)



[STPM066S](#)



[SPSA068](#)



For high-current processors and GPUs

High-performance multiphase controllers

[STPM098C](#)



For general electrification

Dual switching and linear regulators

[L5963](#)



[L9001](#)



Support

evaluation boards, design resources, and technical support



ST automotive SBC product portfolio

STM32xA and Cost-champions MCUs

General purpose

L99PMx



SPSB081



SPC5 and Mainstream MCUs

General purpose and
Performance

SPSB081



L9396



Stellar E line and Mainstream MCUs

Electrification (OBC,
DC-DC, ...)

L9396



SPSA068



Stellar P line and Performance-class MCUs

Electrification (Xin1, ...)

SPSB100B



SPSB100G



Stellar G line and Performance-class MCUs

High end body / zonal
vehicle architecture

SPSB100B



SPSB100G



Support

evaluation boards, design resources, and technical support



What is the difference between PMIC/SBC and PMU?

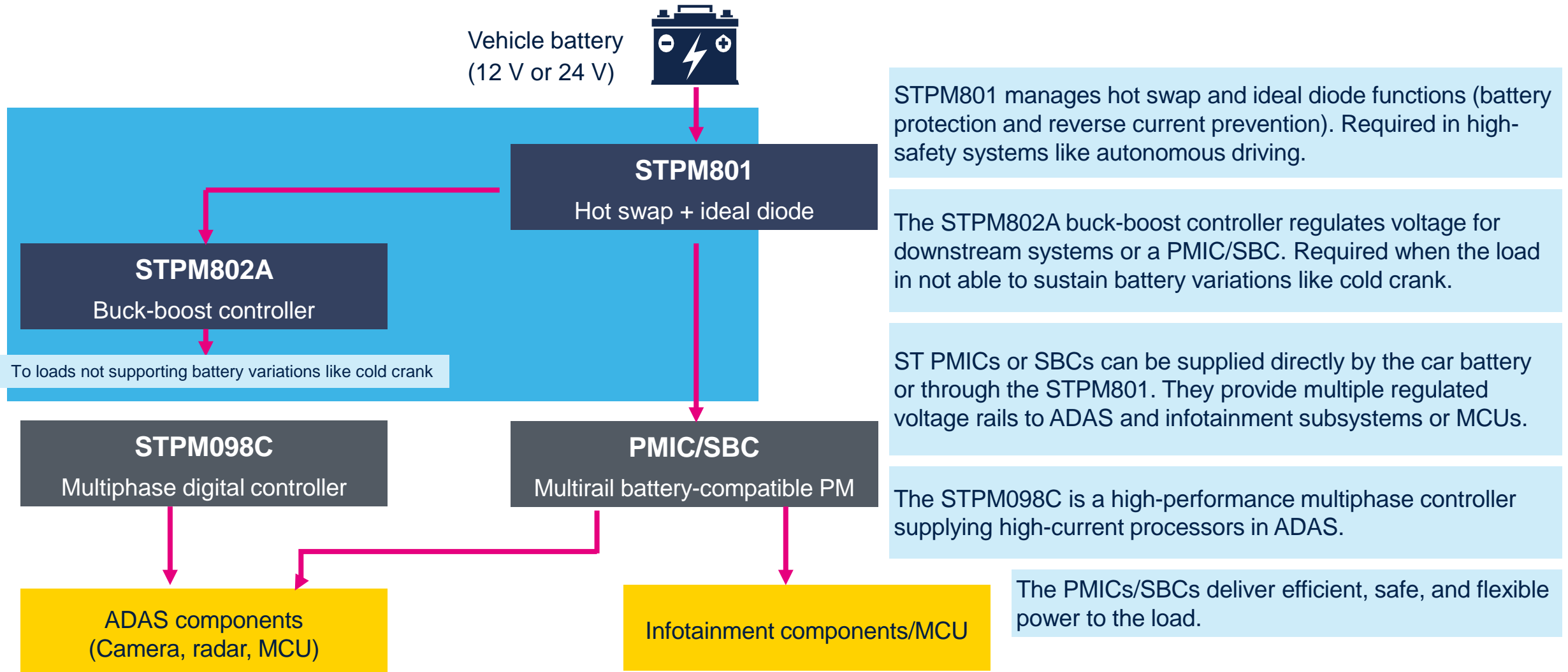
PMIC is a single integrated circuit that handles multiple power management tasks on-chip. SBC manages the MCU

- An integrated circuit that manages power functions such as voltage regulation, sequencing, monitoring, and protection within a device
- Typically, a single chip integrating multiple power management functions
- Regulates voltages, controls power sequencing, protects against faults, and often includes communication interfaces (SPI, I²C)
- Focused on integrated power regulation and control at the chip level
- Used in electronic subsystems to efficiently manage power rails and MCUs in all their working conditions, ensuring system safety

A power management unit (PMU) is a higher system-level unit and may include PMICs, SBCs & other components

- A broader functional block or module that manages power distribution and control, often consisting of multiple ICs or components, including PMICs
- It can be a system-level block that may include one or more PMICs, regulators, controllers, and interfaces
- Coordinates overall power management strategy and may include system-level power sequencing, battery management, and power distribution
- Encompasses system-level power management, possibly involving software control and multiple hardware components
- Used at the system or subsystem level to coordinate power flow and management across multiple components or ICs

Automotive PMU block diagram featuring ST PMICs



ST PMICs in ADAS PMUs

Example: ADAS power management unit

- Manages power from the vehicle battery (12 V or 24 V) to various ADAS components such as cameras, radar sensors, and domain controllers.
- Ensures safe power-up sequencing, fault detection, and energy efficiency.
- Supports functional safety requirements (ASIL-D).



ST PMICs inside the PMU

PMIC	Role in PMU	Key features
STPM801	Hot swap and ideal diode controller	Protects against reverse polarity, supports dual battery systems, ensures safe power switching
STPM066S	Battery-compatible multirail PMIC	Supplies multiple regulated rails for MCUs, sensors, and processors with SPI control
STPM802A	Buck-boost preregulator	Provides stable intermediate voltage rails for downstream regulators in zonal architectures
STPM098C	Multiphase digital controller	Supplies high-current processors and GPUs with efficient multiphase power conversion

PMU functions enabled

- Safe, efficient power distribution to ADAS modules
- Real-time monitoring and diagnostics via SPI/I²C
- Programmable power sequencing and fault management
- Reduced external components and PCB size

ST PMICs in infotainment system PMUs

Example: infotainment system power management unit

- Manage power for infotainment components such as instrument clusters, TCU, USB hubs, and chargers.
- Provide multiple voltage rails with high efficiency.
- Support standby modes to reduce power consumption when the vehicle is off.



ST PMICs inside the PMU

PMIC	Role in PMU	Key features
L5965	Battery-compatible multirail PMIC	Supplies multiple voltage rails with programmable outputs and diagnostics
SPSA068	Battery-compatible PMIC for MCU	Provides low quiescent current and supports functional safety
L5963	Dual switching and one linear regulator	Provides high power rails with a flexible configuration

PMU functions enabled

- Flexible power rail configuration
- Energy-efficient standby and low-power modes
- Integrated safety and monitoring
- Simplified system design with fewer external components

ST SBCs as companion chip for MCUs

Example: ST Stellar MCU power management

- Manages power for MCUs like the new ST Stellar family.
- Ensures safe power-up sequencing, fault detection, and communication.
- Supports functional safety requirements (ASIL-D) in all microcontroller's state, like run-mode, smart-power and stand-by.



ST SBCs inside the PMU

SBC	Main target
L99PMx	Power supply for STM32 automotive MCUs
SPSB081	Power management for MCUs with low core current, like STM32 automotive and SPC5 MCUs for general purpose
L9396	System basis chip especially for MCUs used in ABS, EPS, and transmission systems.
SPSB100/G	Power management for powerful MCUs, like Stellar G (G6, G7) and P (P6, P7) lines, targeting zonal architectures and electrification (e.g., X in 1)

Safety functions enabled

- NFSO path to bring the system to a safe state
- SPI, IRQ, and FCCU between PMIC and MCU for fast issue signaling
- NRESET pin to MCU to keep MCU under reset before the supplies are available and if no issue is detected
- Different safe states with different levels of severity

Why choose ST automotive power management ICs?



Integrated, multifunction PMICs / SBCs streamline automotive power design, reducing component count and PCB size

Advanced safety features including thermal and load dump protection, supporting ASIL-D functional safety

Flexible, battery-compatible solutions tailored for diverse automotive applications: ADAS, ECUs, infotainment, and zonal architectures

High efficiency and programmability with SPI/I²C control, internal memory, and high switching frequencies for optimized power management

A comprehensive product portfolio and ecosystem offering evaluation boards, design resources, and expert technical support to accelerate development

ST **SBCs** are designed as **companion chips** for ST MCUs and efficient power management devices for third-party automotive MCUs.

Our technology starts with You



Find out more at www.st.com

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