ANALOG DEVICES

## Automotive Four-Switch Buck-Boost LED Controller for Combination Head Lights

## General Description

The MAX25603 is a synchronous four-switch, buckboost LED driver controller suitable for multifunction automotive combination head lamps. The controller regulates the LED current for LED string voltages from 0V to 60V. The MAX25603 can be used as a seamless buck-boost LED driver for applications that require an efficient buck-boost LED driver with synchronous rectification. The MAX25603 is ideal for high-power applications that require a current source with PWM dimming capability.
The device provides seamless transition between buck, boost, and buck-boost modes depending on the ratio of input to output voltage. The MAX25603 is ideal for LED driver applications in automotive, industrial, and other LED lighting applications. A fault flag indicates open LED or thermal shutdown conditions. The device uses Analog Devices' proprietary average-current-mode control scheme and allows adjustable 200 kHz to 440 kHz fixedfrequency operation. In addition, $\pm 6 \%$ triangular spreadspectrum is added internally to the oscillator to improve EMI performance. The MAX25603 provides both analog and digital PWM dimming in dual string applications with time sharing. A single device can be used to power a daytime running light (DRL), position light, high beam, and low beam in an automotive front headlamp. The MAX25603 integrates two high-side pMOS drivers for PWM dimming applications that require fast rising and falling edges of the LED current. It also features robust output open and short protection, is AEC qualified, and is suitable for automotive applications.

The MAX25603 uses Analog Devices' proprietary architecture to limit LED current overshoots and overshoot durations during switchover in dual-string applications in time-sharing mode. In multistring applications in time-sharing mode, LED current overshoots during switchover between strings is minimized by an Analog Devices' proprietary control scheme.

## Applications

- Combination Automotive Head Lamps


## Benefits and Features

- Automotive Ready: AEC-Q100 Qualified
- Integration Minimizes BOM for High-Brightness LED Driver, Saving Space and Reducing Cost
- Wide Input Voltage Range from 5 V to 60 V
- H-Bridge Single Inductor Buck-Boost Architecture
- Built-In Fast LED Current Limit During Transients
- Suitable for Dual-String Applications with TimeSharing
- 28-Pin TSSOP with EP Pad
- Full Featured Dual String Driver
- Analog and PWM Dimming on Both Channels (EN1 and EN2)
- Analog Devices' Proprietary Control Architecture Limits LED Current Spikes and Spike Duration in Dual-String Mode
- Flicker-Free PWM Dimming with SpreadSpectrum
- Dual Integrated pMOS Dimming FET Gate Driver
- Protection Features and Wide Temperature Range Increase System Reliability
- Short Circuit, Overvoltage, and Thermal Protection
- Fast LED Current Limit and Input Current Limiter
- $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ Operating Junction-Temperature Range


## Ordering Information appears at end of data sheet

## Simplified Application Diagram



## Automotive Four-Switch Buck-Boost LED Controller for Combination Head Lights



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.

## Package Information

28-TSSOP

| Package Code | U28E $+1 \mathrm{C}$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| Outline Number | $\underline{21-100182}$ |
| Land Pattern Number | $\underline{90-100069}$ |
| Thermal Resistance, Four-Layer Board: | $33.6^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{W}$ |
| Junction-to-Ambient $\left(\theta_{\mathrm{JA}}\right)$ | $3.3^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{W}$ |
| Junction-to-Case Thermal Resistance $\left(\theta_{\mathrm{JC}}\right)$ |  |

For the latest package outline information and land patterns (footprints), go to www.maximintegrated.com/packages. Note that a "+", "\#", or "-" in the package code indicates RoHS status only. Package drawings may show a different suffix character, but the drawing pertains to the package regardless of RoHS status.

Package thermal resistances were obtained using the method described in JEDEC specification JESD51-7, using a fourlayer board. For detailed information on package thermal considerations, refer to www.maximintegrated.com/thermal-tutorial.

## Electrical Characteristics

$\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}=\mathrm{V}_{\text {INP }}=14 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~T}_{\mathrm{J}}=-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right.$ to $+125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ unless otherwise noted, (Note 1) $)$

| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SUPPLY VOLTAGE |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| INP Input Voltage Range | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {INP }}$ |  | 5.0 |  | 60 | V |
| Supply Current | $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{INQ}}$ | No switching, $\mathrm{IN}=12 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 4 | 8 | mA |
| UNDERVOLTAGE LOCKOUT |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Undervoltage Lockout Rising | UVLORIN | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ rising | 3.85 | 4.1 | 4.3 | V |
| Undervoltage Lockout Falling | UVLOFIN | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ falling | 3.55 | 3.8 | 4.0 | V |
| Hysteresis |  |  |  | 300 |  | mV |
| Startup Delay | tstart_Delay |  |  | 550 |  | $\mu \mathrm{s}$ |
| Vcc REGULATOR |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Output Voltage | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ | $5.5 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}<65 \mathrm{~V}$; $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{VCC}}=1 \mathrm{~mA}$ | 4.85 | 5.0 | 5.1 | V |
|  |  | $\mathrm{IVCC}=30 \mathrm{~mA}, 5.5 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}<36 \mathrm{~V}$ | 4.85 | 5.0 | 5.1 |  |
|  |  | $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{VCC}}=1 \mathrm{~mA}$ to $60 \mathrm{~mA}, 6 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}<25 \mathrm{~V}$ | 4.85 | 5.0 | 5.1 |  |
| Dropout Voltage | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {CC_DROP }}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}=4.5 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{VCC}}=5 \mathrm{~mA}$ |  | 60 | 110 | mV |
| $V_{\text {CC }}$ UVLO Rising | $V_{\text {CC_UVLOR }}$ | Rising |  | 4.2 |  | V |
| $\mathrm{V}_{\text {CC }}$ UVLO Falling | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {CC_ }}$ UVLOF | Falling |  | 3.9 |  | V |
| Short-Circuit Current Limit | Ivcc_sc |  |  | 110 |  | mA |

BUCK-BOOST CONTROLLER

| Switching Frequency (Dither Disabled) | fsw | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{RDL1}=10 \mathrm{k} \Omega \\ & \mathrm{RDL} 2=10 \mathrm{k} \Omega \end{aligned}$ |  | 200 |  | kHz |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{RDL1}=20 \mathrm{k} \Omega \\ & \mathrm{RDL} 2=10 \mathrm{k} \Omega \end{aligned}$ |  | 230 |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{RDL1}=30 \mathrm{k} \Omega \\ & \mathrm{RDL} 2=10 \mathrm{k} \Omega \end{aligned}$ |  | 260 |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{RDL1}=10 \mathrm{k} \Omega \\ & \mathrm{RDL} 2=20 \mathrm{k} \Omega \end{aligned}$ |  | 290 |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{RDL1}=20 \mathrm{k} \Omega \\ & \mathrm{RDL2} 2=20 \mathrm{k} \Omega \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  | 320 |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { RDL1 }=30 \mathrm{k} \Omega \\ & \text { RDL2 } 20 \mathrm{k} \Omega \end{aligned}$ |  | 350 |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \mathrm{RDL1}=10 \mathrm{k} \Omega \\ & \mathrm{RDL2}=30 \mathrm{k} \Omega \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  | 380 |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{RDL1}=20 \mathrm{k} \Omega \\ & \mathrm{RDL2}=30 \mathrm{k} \Omega \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  | 410 |  |  |
|  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{RDL1}=30 \mathrm{k} \Omega \\ & \mathrm{RDL2}=30 \mathrm{k} \Omega \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  | 440 |  |  |
| Frequency Accuracy | fsw |  | -15 |  | 15 | \% |
| Frequency Dither |  |  |  | +/-6 |  | \% |
| Minimum On-Time (Buck) | ton_MIN |  |  | 180 | 270 | ns |
| INPUT CURRENT-SENSE AMPLIFIER |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Input Current-Sense Common-Mode Range |  |  | 5 |  | 60 | V |
| Input Current-Sense Threshold |  | $3 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {INP }}<60 \mathrm{~V}$ | 88 | 100 | 112 | mV |
| INP Bias Current |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {INP }}-\mathrm{V}_{\text {INN }}=100 \mathrm{mV}$, $\mathrm{V}_{\text {INP }}=60 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 50 |  | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| INN Bias Current |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {INP }}-\mathrm{V}_{\text {INN }}=100 \mathrm{mV}, \mathrm{V}_{\text {INP }}=60 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 10 |  | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |


| CSP CSN CURRENT-SENSE AMPLIFIER |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| CSP, CSN Input Bias <br> Current |  | $V_{C S P}=100 \mathrm{mV}, \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CSN}}=0 \mathrm{mV}$ | -1 | 1 | $\mu \mathrm{~A}$ |  |
| Voltage Gain (Boost, <br> Buck Mode) |  |  | 10 | $\mathrm{~V} / \mathrm{V}$ |  |  |
| ANALOG DIMMING |  | 0.2 | 1.2 | V |  |  |
| ICTRL Control Input <br> Voltage Range | ICTRLRNG $^{2}$ |  | 0.16 | 0.18 | 0.2 | V |
| ICTRL Zero Current <br> Threshold | $I_{\text {CTRLZC_VTH }}$ | $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}-\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISN }}\right)<5 \mathrm{mV}$ |  |  |  |  |

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| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
| :--- | :---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: |
| ICTRL Clamp Voltage | ICTRL $_{\text {CLMP }}$ | ICTRL sink $=1 \mu \mathrm{~A}$ | 1.25 | 1.30 | 1.35 | V |
| ICTRL Input Bias <br> Current | ICTRLI $_{\mathbb{I N}}$ | VICTRL $=0$ to $5.0 \mathrm{~V}^{20}$ | 500 | nA |  |  |

## LED CURRENT-SENSE AMPLIFIER

| Common-Mode Input Range |  |  | 0 |  | +60 | V |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Differential Signal Range |  |  | 0 |  | 200 | mV |
| ISN Input Bias Current | $\mathrm{IB}_{\text {ISN }}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}-\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISN }}=200 \mathrm{mV}$, $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}=60 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 24 | 50 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| ISP Input Bias Current | $\mathrm{IB}_{\text {ISP }}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}-\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISN }}=200 \mathrm{mV}, \mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}=60 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 800 | 1300 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| LED Current-Sense Regulation Voltage |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}=1.4 \mathrm{~V}, 5.4 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}<60 \mathrm{~V}$ | 213.8 | 220 | 226.2 | mV |
|  |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}=1.2 \mathrm{~V}, 5.4 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}<60 \mathrm{~V}$ | 194 | 200 | 206 |  |
|  |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}=0.4 \mathrm{~V}, 5.4 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}<60 \mathrm{~V}$ | 36 | 40 | 44 |  |
|  |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}=1.4 \mathrm{~V}, 2.15 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}<5.4 \mathrm{~V}$ | 210 | 220 | 232 |  |
|  |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}=1.2 \mathrm{~V}, 2.15 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}<5.4 \mathrm{~V}$ | 190 | 200 | 210 |  |
|  |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}=0.4 \mathrm{~V}, 2.15 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}<5.4 \mathrm{~V}$ | 36 | 40 | 44 |  |
| LED Current-Sense Regulation Voltage (Low Range) |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}=1.2 \mathrm{~V}, 0 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}<2.15 \mathrm{~V}$ | 190 | 200 | 210 | mV |
|  |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}=0.4 \mathrm{~V}, 0 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}<2.15 \mathrm{~V}$ | 35 | 40 | 45 |  |
| Common-Mode Input Range Selector | RNG ${ }_{\text {SEL }}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}$ rising | 1.9 | 2.05 | 2.15 | V |
| Common-Mode Input Range Selector Hysteresis |  |  |  | 100 |  | mV |
| LED Current Limit | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CL}}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}=1.4 \mathrm{~V}, 3 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}<60 \mathrm{~V}$ | 247 | 275 | 303 | mV |
|  |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}=1.2 \mathrm{~V}, 3 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}<60 \mathrm{~V}$ | 225 | 250 | 275 |  |
|  |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL_CLMP }}$, $3 \mathrm{~V}<\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}<60 \mathrm{~V}$ | 40 | 55 | 70 |  |
| ICTRL LED Current Limit Clamp | VICTRL_CLMP | ICTRL rising |  | 420 |  | mV |

OUTPUT VOLTAGE DISCHARGE

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| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| DH1 Sourcing Resistance | $\mathrm{R}_{\text {DH1_SRC }}$ |  |  | 2.2 |  | $\Omega$ |
| DH2 Sourcing Resistance | R ${ }_{\text {DH2_SRC }}$ |  |  | 1.2 |  | $\Omega$ |
| DH_Sinking Resistance | R ${ }_{\text {DH_SINK }}$ |  |  | 1.2 |  | $\Omega$ |
| DL_ Sourcing Resistance | $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{DL}}$ SRC | DL_ = high |  | 1.6 |  | $\Omega$ |
| DL_ Sinking Resistance | $\mathrm{R}_{\text {DL_SINK }}$ | DL_ = low |  | 0.9 |  | $\Omega$ |
| DH_to DL_ Dead Time |  | DH_ fall to DL_rise |  | 20 |  | ns |
| DL_ to DH_ Dead Time |  | DL_ fall to DH_ rise |  | 20 |  | ns |
| PWM DIMMING |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| EN1, EN2 Turn-On <br> Threshold |  | EN_rising | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.5 | V |
| EN1, EN2 Hysteresis |  |  |  | 250 |  | mV |
| EN1, EN2 Input Bias Current | $\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{EN} 1}, \mathrm{I}_{\text {EN2 }}$ |  | -1 |  | 1 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| SHUNT High Threshold |  | SHUNT rising | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.5 | V |
| SHUNT Hysteresis |  |  |  | 250 |  | mV |
| SHUNT Input Bias Current | ISHUNT |  | -1 |  | 1 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |

DIMMING pMOS GATE DRIVERS

| Peak Pullup Current | IDIMOUTPU | EN1, EN2 $=0 \mathrm{~V},\left(\mathrm{~V}_{\text {ISP }}-\mathrm{V}_{\text {GTP_ }}\right)=5 \mathrm{~V}$ | 5 | 7.5 | 10 | mA |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Peak Pulldown Current | I DIMOUTPD | $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}-\mathrm{V}_{\text {GTP }}\right)=0 \mathrm{~V}$ | 4.5 | 7 | 9.5 | mA |
| GTP_ Low Voltage with <br> Respect to ISP |  |  | -5.5 | -5.0 | -4.4 | V |
| GTP_Turn-On Voltage |  | ISP rising | 4.6 | 5.0 | 5.4 | V |
| GTP_Turn-Off Voltage |  |  |  | 3.0 |  | V |

FAULT

| FB Overvoltage Threshold | V ${ }_{\text {TH_OVP }}$ | FB rising | 1.22 | 1.24 | 1.28 | V |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FB Overvoltage Hysteresis |  |  |  | 0.1 |  | V |
| FB Input Bias Current | $\mathrm{I}_{\text {FB }}$ |  | -1 |  | 1 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| Short Protection Threshold |  | ISP falling |  | 4.7 |  | V |
| Short Protection Hysteresis |  |  |  | 0.1 |  | V |
| Short Protection Timer |  |  |  | 10 |  | ms |
|  |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}>0.32 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | 0.024 |  |  |
| Short Regulation | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISP }}-\mathrm{V}_{\text {ISN }}$ | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}<0.32 \mathrm{~V}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \hline\left(V_{\text {ICTRL }}\right. \\ & -0.2) / 5 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  | V |
| FLT Output Voltage |  | $\mathrm{I}_{\text {SINK }}$ is 1 mA after fault |  | 0.05 | 0.3 | V |
| FLT Leakage Current |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {FLT }}=5.5 \mathrm{~V}$ |  |  | 1 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| OFF TIME CONTROL |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Linear Range of Pulse Doubler |  |  |  | 5 |  | $\mu \mathrm{s}$ |

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| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| THERMAL SHUTDOWN |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Thermal Shutdown Threshold | TSHUTDOWN | Temperature Rising |  | 165 |  | ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |
| Thermal Shutdown Hysteresis | THYS |  |  | 15 |  | ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ |

Note 1: The MAX25603 is designed for continuous operation up to $T_{J}=+125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 95,000 hours and $T_{J}=+150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 5,000 hours.
Note 2: The MAX25603 includes overtemperature protection to protect the device during momentary overload conditions. Junction temperature exceeds the maximum operating junction temperature when overtemperature protection is active. Continuous operation above the specified absolute maximum operating junction temperature may impair device reliability.

## Typical Operating Characteristics

(TA $=+25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, unless otherwise noted.)






( $\mathrm{TA}=+25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, unless otherwise noted.)


## Pin Configurations



## Pin Descriptions

| PIN | NAME | FUNCTION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | IN | Positive Power-Supply Input. Bypass IN to PGND with at least a $1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ceramic capacitor. |
| 2 | INP | Positive Input for the Input Current Limit |
| 3 | INN | Negative Input for the Input Current Limit. Add an RC low-pass filter from INN to INP to provide a filtered DC voltage from INP to INN. The resistor should be $100 \Omega$ and the capacitor $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$. |
| 4 | BST1 | High-Side Power Supply for High-Side Gate Drive for Buck Section. Connect a $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ceramic capacitor from BST1 to LX1. |
| 5 | DH1 | Top Gate Drive for Buck Section of the MAX25603. Drives the gate of the high-side nMOS. |
| 6 | LX1 | Buck-Side Switching Node. LX1 pin swings from a diode voltage drop below ground up to VIN. |
| 7 | DL1 | Bottom Gate Drive for Buck Section of the MAX25603. Drives the gate of the low-side nMOS. A resistor from this pin to SGND also sets the switching frequency. Connect appropriate resistor from DL1 to SGND to set the switching frequency. |
| 8 | PGND | Power Ground Connection |
| 9 | DL2 | Bottom Gate Drive for the Boost Section of the MAX25603. Drives the gate of the low-side nMOS. A resistor from this pin to SGND also sets the switching frequency. Connect appropriate resistor from DL2 to SGND to set the switching frequency. |
| 10 | LX2 | Switching Node of Boost Section of the MAX25603. LX2 pin swings from a diode voltage drop below ground up to Vout. |
| 11 | DH2 | Top Gate Drive for Boost Section of the MAX25603. Drives the gate of the high-side nMOS. |
| 12 | BST2 | High-Side Power Supply for High-Side Gate Drive for Boost Section. Connect a $0.1 \mu$ F ceramic capacitor from BST2 to LX2. |
| 13 | CSP | Positive Input to the Current-Sense Comparator for the Average-Current-Mode Controller. |
| 14 | CSN | Negative Input to the Current-Sense Comparator for the Average-Current-Mode Controller. |
| 15 | ISP | Positive LED Current-Sense Input. The voltage between ISP and ISN is proportionally regulated to $1.1 \mathrm{~V} / 5$ or (VICTRL - 0.2)/5, whichever is less. |


| 16 | ISN | Negative LED Current-Sense Input |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 17 | GTP2 | Channel 2 High Side Gate Drive. The GTP2 pin drives an external high-side pMOS PWM switch with a voltage swing from Vout to (VOUT - 5 V ). Leave this pin unconnected if not used. |
| 18 | GTP1 | Channel 1 High-Side Gate Drive. The GTP1 pin drives an external high-side pMOS PWM switch with a voltage swing from VOUT to (VOUT -5V). Leave this pin unconnected if not used. |
| 19 | FB | Overvoltage-Protection Input for the LED String. Connect a resistive divider between the output, FB, and GND. When the voltage on FB exceeds 1.24 V , a fast-acting comparator immediately stops PWM switching. VovP $=1.24 \times\left(R_{F B 1}+R_{F B 2}\right) / R_{F B 2}$. |
| 20 | FLT | Active-Low, Open-Drain Fault Indicator Output. See the Fault Indicator (FLT) section. |
| 21 | COMP1 | Compensation-Network Connection when SHUNT is low. For proper compensation, connect a suitable RC network from COMP1 to SGND. |
| 22 | COMP2 | Compensation-Network Connection when SHUNT is high. For proper compensation, connect a suitable RC network from COMP2 to SGND. |
| 23 | SGND | Signal Ground Connection |
| 24 | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ | 5 V Regulator Output. Connect a minimum $2.2 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ceramic capacitor from $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ to SGND for stable operation. |
| 25 | ICTRL | Analog Dimming-Control Input. Connect an analog voltage from 0 to 1.3 V for analog dimming of LED current. ILED $=(\mathrm{V}$ ICTRL $-0.2 \mathrm{~V}) /(5 \times$ RLED $)$. Bypass ICTRL to GND with at least a 10 nF ceramic capacitor for noise filtering. If $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}>1.3 \mathrm{~V}$, the capacitor is not needed and LED current is clamped to ILED $=$ $1.1 \mathrm{~V} /(5 \times \mathrm{RLED})$. |
| 26 | SHUNT | Drive this pin high when using PWM dimming across some LEDs in the string. SHUNT high enables compensation network on COMP2 and SHUNT low enables compensation network on COMP1. |
| 27 | EN1 | Drive EN1 to enable pMOS gate drive on GTP1 and turn on LED string connected to pMOS drain on GTP1. Drive EN1 low to disable gate drive on GTP1 and turn off LED string on GTP1. Drive with a PWM signal to implement PWM dimming on GTP1. |
| 28 | EN2 | Drive EN2 to enable pMOS gate drive on GTP2 and turn on LED string connected to pMOS drain on GTP2. Drive EN2 low to disable gate drive on GTP2 and turn off LED string on GTP2. Drive with a PWM signal to implement PWM dimming on GTP2. |
| - | EP | Exposed Pad. Connect EP to a large-area contiguous copper ground plane for effective power dissipation. Do not use as the main IC ground connection. EP must be connected to SGND. |

## Functional Diagrams

## Block Diagram



## Detailed Description

The MAX25603 is a synchronous four-switch, buck-boost LED driver controller suitable for multifunction automotive combination head lamps. The controller regulates the LED current for LED string voltages from OV to 60V. The MAX25603 can be used as a seamless buck-boost LED driver for applications that require an efficient buck-boost LED driver with synchronous rectification. The MAX25603 is ideal for high-power applications that require a current source with PWM dimming capability.
The device provides seamless transition between buck, boost, and buck-boost modes depending on the ratio of input to output voltage. The MAX25603 is ideal for LED driver applications in automotive, industrial, and other LED lighting applications. A fault flag indicates open LED and thermal shutdown conditions. The device uses Analog Devices' proprietary average-current-mode control scheme and allows adjustable 200 kHz to 440 kHz fixed-frequency operation. In addition, $\pm 6 \%$ triangular spread-spectrum is added internally to the oscillator to improve EMI performance. The MAX25603 provides both analog and digital PWM dimming in dual-string applications with time sharing. A single device can be used to power a daytime running light (DRL), position light, high beam, and low beam in an automotive front headlamp. The MAX25603 integrates two high-side pMOS drivers for PWM dimming applications that require fast rising and falling edges of the LED current. It also features robust output open and short protection, is AEC qualified, and is suitable for automotive applications.
The MAX25603 uses Analog Devices' proprietary architecture to limit LED current overshoots and overshoot durations during switchover in dual-string applications in time-sharing mode. In multistring applications in time-sharing mode, LED current overshoots during switchover between strings is minimized by an Analog Devices proprietary control scheme.

## $V_{c c}$ Regulator

The $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ supply is the low-voltage analog supply for the chip and derives power from the input voltage from IN to PGND. An internal power-on-reset (POR) monitors the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ voltage and the $I N$ voltage. A POR is generated when $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ drops below its UVLO threshold, causing the IC to reset. The chip exits reset state once the input voltage goes back up and the $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ linear regulator output is back in regulation.

## Undervoltage Lockout

The MAX25603 features undervoltage lockout (UVLO) using the positive power-supply input (IN). The IC is enabled when IN exceeds the 4.1V threshold and disabled when IN drops below the 3.8 V threshold. The IN UVLO is internally fixed and cannot be adjusted. When IN exceeds its UVLO, the internal LDO is enabled. Once $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{Cc}}$ exceeds 4.2 V , there is a start-up delay of $550 \mu \mathrm{~s}$. Then, the converter is enabled.

## H-Bridge Operation

The H-bridge configuration using the MAX25603 is shown in Figure 1. The H-bridge consists of the four switches: N1, N2, N3, and N4. Switches N1 and N2 are in series with the input voltage, and switches N3 and N4 are connected to the output. Inductor L is connected as shown in Figure 1. There are four different configurations in which the circuit operates, depending on the ratio of the input and output voltages.


Figure 1. Bridge LED Driver
Table 1 shows the status of the switches in the H -Bridge in each configuration.
Table 1. Status of Switches in H-Bridge

| SWITCH | BOOST MODE | BUCK-BOOST <br> MODE (BOOST <br> CONTROL) | BUCK-BOOST <br> MODE (BUCK <br> CONTROL) | BUCK MODE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| N1 | ON | SWITCHING | SWITCHING | SWITCHING |
| N2 | OFF | SWITCHING | SWITCHING | SWITCHING |
| N3 | SWITCHING | SWITCHING | SWITCHING | ON |
| N4 | SWITCHING | SWITCHING | SWITCHING | OFF |

## Buck Mode

When the input voltage is much higher than the output voltage, the MAX25603 operates in buck mode. In this configuration, switch N3 is always on and switch N4 is always off. Switch N2 is turned on at the beginning of the clock cycle (CLK1), and the inductor current ramps down. The MAX25603 uses an average-current-mode control scheme to determine the ON pulse width for switch N2. Once N2 is turned off, N1 is turned on. Switches N1 and N2 alternate, behaving like a synchronous buck regulator.


Figure 2. Buck-Mode Waveforms

## Boost Mode

When the input voltage is much lower than the output voltage, the MAX25603 operates in boost mode. In this configuration, switch N1 is always on and switch N2 is always off. Switch N4 is turned on at the beginning of the clock cycle (CLK2), and the inductor current ramps up. The MAX25603 uses an average-current-mode control scheme to determine the ON pulse width for switch N4. Once N4 is turned off, N3 is turned on. Switches N3 and N4 alternate, behaving like a synchronous boost regulator.


## Figure 3. Boost-Mode Waveforms

## Buck-Boost Mode

When $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ is close to $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$, the MAX25603 operates in buck-boost configuration. In this configuration, all four switches have PWM voltages on the gates, and all four switches are switching at the switching frequency. There are two different configurations in the buck-boost mode.
When $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ is slightly higher than $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$, the MAX25603 operates in the buck-boost region, where switch N 2 is controlled by the PWM. Switch N4 is turned on for the beginning $16.7 \%$ cycle triggered by clock CLK2, and switch N3 is turned on for the remaining $83.3 \%$ cycle. Control of switch N2 is initiated by clock CLK1. N2 is turned on and N1 is turned off when CLK1 goes
high. The MAX25603 uses average-current-mode control to determine the ON pulse width of N2. When N2 is turned off, N1 is turned on immediately.


Figure 4. Buck-Boost Buck-Mode Waveforms

When $\mathrm{V}_{\text {IN }}$ is slightly lower than $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUT }}$, the MAX25603 operates in the buck-boost region where switch N4 is controlled by the PWM. Switch N2 is turned on for the beginning $16.7 \%$ cycle triggered by clock CLK1 and switch N1 is turned on for the remaining $83.3 \%$ cycle. Control of switch N4 is initiated by clock CLK2. N4 is turned on and N3 is turned off when CLK2 goes high. The MAX25603 uses average-current-mode control to determine the ON pulse width of N4. When N4 is turned off, N3 is turned on immediately.


Figure 5. Buck-Boost Boost-Mode Waveforms

## Maximum Proprietary Average-Current-Mode Control

A novel average-current-mode control scheme is used in this current-mode buck-boost H-bridge converter. Instead of regulating the peak/valley current in buck/boost mode, average inductor current is regulated regardless of operating mode. As long as the inductor current is not changed abruptly during the mode transitions, the command signal remains at a nearly constant value unrelated to operating modes. As a result, seamless mode transition can be achieved. Since the converter is
operating at a fixed switching frequency, additional slope compensation must be added to the inductor current-sense signal, which may require slight changes to the command signal to compensate for the error introduced by the slope compensation signal.

## Average-Current-Mode Buck

When operating in buck mode, the pulse doubler controls the duty cycle of switch N2. The pulse width of switch N2 is $2 x$ tpw.


Figure 6. Pulse Doubler Buck

## Average Current-Mode Boost

When operating in boost mode, the pulse doubler controls the duty cycle of switch N4. The pulse width of switch N4 is $2 x$ tpw.


Figure 7. Pulse Doubler Boost

## Switching Frequency

The internal oscillator of the MAX25603 is programmable from 200 kHz to 440 kHz using a single resistor at DL1 and DL2. An additional $\pm 6 \%$ spread spectrum is added internally to the oscillator to improve EMI performance.

## Analog Dimming (ICTRL)

The MAX25603 offers an analog dimming-control input (ICTRL). The LED current can be linearly adjusted from zero to full scale for ICTRL voltage in the range of 0.2 V to 1.2 V . Full scale regulates V ISP -V ISN to 200 mV . For $\mathrm{V}_{\text {ICTRL }}>1.3 \mathrm{~V}$, an
internal reference sets the LED current and regulates VISP - VISN to 220 mV . The maximum withstand voltage of this input is 5.5 V . The LED current is guaranteed to be at zero when the ICTRL voltage is at or below 0.18 V .

## EN1 and EN2

EN1 and EN2 are the input signals that control the switching of the H -bridge and control the two high-side pMOS gate drivers on the MAX25603. EN1 turns on the H-bridge and the pMOS connected on GTP1. EN2 turns on the H-bridge and the pMOS connected to GTP2. EN1 has priority over EN2. If both EN1 and EN2 are high, only the pMOS on GTP1 is turned on. When EN1 is low GTP1 is turned off and when EN2 is low, GTP2 is turned off. PWM dimming is achieved by applying the appropriate dimming signal to EN1 or EN2. EN2 can be left high while EN1 is toggled. If simultaneously toggling EN1 and EN2, ensure there is at least a $1 \mu$ s dead time between the falling and rising edges of the inputs.

## SHUNT and COMP1/COMP2

The MAX25603 includes two compensation pins, which are connected to the output of the internal error amplifier depending on the state of the SHUNT pin. When the SHUNT input is low, the error amplifier output is connected to COMP1 and when SHUNT input is high, the error amplifier is connected to COMP2. Connect the appropriate compensation network from COMP1 to ground and from COMP2 to ground for stable operation.

## Current Clamp and Output Discharge

Typical LED drivers experience a sharp overshoot in LED current when transitioning from driving a higher number to a lower number of LEDs. The MAX25603 features a comparator that trips when the voltage across the LED current-sense resistor, VISP - VISN, indicates that the LED current is more than $125 \%$ of the current programmed by ICTRL. When this occurs, GTP1 or GTP2 drive the high-side pMOS dimming switch as a linear current clamp to limit the LED current. The clamp level scales linearly with ICTRL. For ICTRL less than 420 mV , the regulated voltage across VISP - ISN is fixed to 55 mV .

If the current clamp comparator is concurrently triggered on a rising edge on the SHUNT pin, MAX25603 controls the Hbridge to build negative inductor current and discharge the output capacitor back to IN. The H-bridge turns on N2 and N3 while N1 and N4 are off to drive the inductor current negative. N1 and N4 then commutate with N2 and N3 to hysterically regulate $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CSP}}-\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CSN}}$ to 63 mV with a hysteresis of 15 mV . Once current clamp deactivates, there is a $5 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ deglitch to deactivate discharge. At that time, the H-bridge turns on N1 and N4 while N2 and N3 are off until the inductor current is positive again and normal switching resumes. To prevent discharge from triggering inadvertently, SHUNT has a $2 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ deglitch filter and the current clamp comparator is blanked for an additional $1 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ after the deglitch before discharge begins. Once discharge is activated, it cannot trigger again until the next rising edge of SHUNT.
In Figure 8, the solid waveforms on SHUNT and ILED indicate events when output discharge occurs. The dashed waveforms indicate events when output discharge does not occur.


Figure 8. Output Discharge

In the typical application circuit shown in Figure 11, the clearance lamp LEDs (CLL) are normally dimmed with a 200 Hz to 400 Hz PWM signal on EN1. This same PWM can also be tied to SHUNT to improve transient response. When SHUNT changes state, the GTP1 switch turns on or off and the output of the error amplifier alternates between COMP1 and COMP2. COMP1 and COMP2 store the appropriate COMP voltage for each of the respective number of LEDs active on the string i.e., COMP1 has the COMP voltage for 8 LEDs while COMP2 has the COMP voltage stored for 4 LEDs. When SHUNT is a rising edge, the voltage across the LED current-sense resistor hits the clamp voltage and the output discharge is triggered. When the HB_ON/OFF switch is toggled, the voltage across the LED current-sense resistor triggers the LED current clamp, but the output discharge routine does not begin if SHUNT is stable.

## Error Amplifer

The sensed inductor current is controlled by the voltage on either the COMP1 or COMP2 pin, which is the output of the error amplifier. When utilizing PWM dimming on EN1 or EN2, the MAX25603 disconnects the error amplifier from the compensation network when EN1 and EN2 are low. The error amplifier is also disconnected during the output discharge routine. The error amplifier is reconnected only when either EN1 or EN2 is high and the output discharge routine is complete.

## Start-Up

An initial start-up sequence is performed for both COMP1 and COMP2 the first time either compensation network is selected by the SHUNT pin. N1 and N3 are off while N2 and N4 are on and switching begins once COMP rises above an internal threshold.

## Input-Current Limit

The MAX25603 features circuitry that limits the input current during line dropouts. If desired, this circuitry can be disabled by shorting INN and INP pins together. If DC input-current limiting is desired during low input voltages, then a current-sense resistor $R_{I N}$ should be used. Use the circuit shown in Figure 9 to limit the input current.
An RC filter and a series resistor to INN should be used as shown. The input current is limited to $I N_{M A X}$, where $I_{\text {MAX }}$ is given by the following equation:

$$
\mathrm{IN}_{\mathrm{MAX}}=0.1 / \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{IN}}
$$



Figure 9. Input-Current Limit

## Overvoltage Protection (FB)

Pin FB sets the overvoltage-threshold limit across the LEDs. Use a resistive divider between ISP to FB and SGND to set the overvoltage-threshold limit. An internal overvoltage-protection comparator senses the voltage across FB and SGND. If the voltage is greater than 1.24 V , the switching is turned off and FLT asserts. Switching resumes when the voltage at FB drops below 1.23 V and EN1 or EN2 is high. EN1 and EN2 maintain control of GTP1 and GTP2 during an overvoltage condition. FLT deasserts only if EN1 or EN2 is high and VISP - VISN is $>24 \mathrm{mV}$.

## Short-Circuit Protection

A short-circuit condition across the LED string is detected when the voltage on ISP falls below 4.7 V for at least 10 ms . The regulation point of the voltage across the LED current-sense resistor is determined by the lower of 320 mV or ICTRL. A shortcircuit does not assert FLT. The short-circuit condition is cleared when ISP rises above 4.8 V .

## Fault Indicator (FLT)

The MAX25603 features an active-low, open-drain fault indicator (FLT). FLT asserts when one of the following conditions occur:

- Overvoltage or open across the LED string
- Overtemperature condition

For overvoltage, FLT asserts only when a fault occurs with EN1 or EN2 in the high state. Once asserted, the FLT remains low and only changes state if EN1 or EN2 is high, the fault condition is removed, and the voltage across the LED currentsense resistor is greater than 24 mV . The FLT signal never changes state when EN1 and EN2 are low.

## Applications Information

Figure 11 shows a typical MAX25603 application circuit. External-component selection is driven by the input voltage range and LED string voltage and current requirements.

## $V_{C C}$ Regulator

The internal 5 V regulator is used to power the internal control circuitry inside the MAX25603. This regulator can provide a load of 50 mA to the internal and external circuitry, and requires an external ceramic capacitor for stable operation. A $2.2 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ceramic capacitor is adequate for most applications. Place the ceramic capacitor close to the IC to minimize trace length to the internal $V_{C C}$ pin and also to the IC ground. Choose a low-ESR, X7R ceramic capacitor for optimal performance. The IC powers up once the voltage on $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ crosses the undervoltage lockout ( $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ UVLO) rising threshold and shuts down when $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ falls below the ( $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ UVLO) falling threshold.

## Bootstrap Capacitor and Diode

A bootstrap circuit is used to drive the floating gate drivers on DH 1 and DH 2 . The bootstrap capacitors, $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{BST}}$ and $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{BST}}$, provide the gate charge to the high-side nMOS when they are on and are recharged when the low-side nMOS are on. Connect a $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ ceramic capacitor from BST1 to LX1 and BST2 to LX2.
Select the bootstrap diode based on the average gate-drive current and blocking voltage for the diode. The maximum blocking voltage must be high enough to block the maximum drain-to-source voltage for the high-side nMOS. The average gate-drive current through the diode can be calculated as:

$$
I_{G}=Q_{G} \times f_{S W}
$$

where $Q_{G}$ is the total gate charge of the nMOS. Use a silicon diode. A Schottky diode has a lower forward voltage drop and can minimize loss, but also has the downside of a large reverse leakage current at high temperatures. This can discharge the bootstrap capacitor and shut off the gate driver. Connect the bootstrap diodes from $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ to BST1 and from $V_{C C}$ to BST2.

## Programming the LED Current

Normal sensing of the LED current should be done on the high side, where the LED current-sense resistor is connected to the anode of the LED string. The LED current is programmed using the resistor RLED (see the Simplified Application Circuit). The LED current can also be programmed by adjusting the voltage on ICTRL when $V_{\text {ICTRL }} \leq 1.2 \mathrm{~V}$ (analog dimming). The current is given by the following equation:

$$
\text { LED }=\left(V_{\text {ICTRL }}-0.2\right) /\left(5 \times R_{\text {LED }}\right)
$$

For voltages greater than 1.3 V on the ICTRL pin, the LED current is clamped to the current given by the following equation:

$$
\operatorname{lLED}=(1.3-0.2) /\left(5 \times R_{\mathrm{LED}}\right)
$$

LED current can also be sensed on the ground side, if needed. In some applications, the LED current can be sensed by a current-sense resistor RLED to ground.

## Programming the Switching Frequency

The internal oscillator of the MAX25603 is programmable from 200 kHz to 440 kHz using a single resistor at DL1 and DL2. Select the appropriate $R_{D L 1}$ and $R_{D L 2}$ resistors according to Table 2:

Table 2. Frequency Selection RdL1 and RdL2

| $\mathbf{f s w}_{\text {sw }}$ | $\mathbf{R d L}$ | RoL2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 200 kHz | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| 230 kHz | $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| 260 kHz | $30 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| 290 kHz | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| 320 kHz | $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| 350 kHz | $30 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| 380 kHz | $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | $30 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| 410 kHz | $20 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | $30 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |
| 440 kHz | $30 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ | $30 \mathrm{k} \Omega$ |

An additional $\pm 6 \%$ spread-spectrum is added internally to the oscillator to improve EMI performance.

## Programming Input-Current Limit

The MAX25603 has an input current-sense amplifier that can be used to limit the input, as calculated by the following equation:

$$
\mathrm{IIN}=0.1 / \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{IN}}
$$

A low-pass RC filter is needed for loop stability. For most applications, a $100 \Omega$ resistor RF and a 100 nF capacitor CF are sufficient. An added $50 \Omega$ resistor RINN in series with the INN pin should be added, as shown in Figure 9.

## Setting the Overvoltage Threshold

The overvoltage threshold is set by resistors $R_{F B 1}$ and $R_{F B 2}$. The overvoltage circuit in the MAX25603 is activated when the voltage on FB with respect to GND exceeds 1.24 V . Use the following equation to set the desired overvoltage threshold:

$$
V_{\mathrm{OVP}}=1.24 \times\left(\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{FB} 1}+\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{FB} 2}\right) / \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{FB} 2}
$$

## Selecting the Inductor

In the boost converter, the average inductor current varies with the line voltage. The maximum average current occurs at the lowest line voltage. When operating the boost converter, the average inductor current is equal to the input current. Calculate maximum duty cycle using the following equation:

$$
\mathrm{D}_{\mathrm{MAX}}=\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{LED}}-\mathrm{V}_{\text {INMIN }}\right) / \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{LED}}
$$

where $\mathrm{V}_{\text {LED }}$ is the forward voltage of the LED string, in volts, and $\mathrm{V}_{\text {INMIN }}$ is the minimum input supply voltage, in volts.
Use the following equations to calculate the maximum average inductor current (ILAVG), peak-to-peak inductor-current ripple ( $\Delta \mathrm{IL}$ ), and peak inductor current (lLP):

Maximum average inductor current is given by:

$$
I_{A V G}=I_{L E D} /\left(1-D_{M A X}\right)
$$

Allowing the peak-to-peak inductor ripple to be $\Delta \mathrm{IL}$, the peak inductor current is given by:

$$
\mathrm{IL}_{\mathrm{P}}=\mathrm{I} \mathrm{~L}_{\mathrm{AVG}}+0.5 \times \Delta \mathrm{IL}
$$

The inductance value ( L ) of inductor L 1 , in Henrys $(\mathrm{H})$, is calculated as:

$$
\mathrm{L}=\mathrm{V}_{\text {INMIN }} \times \mathrm{D}_{\mathrm{MAX}} /(\mathrm{f} \mathrm{SW} \times \Delta \mathrm{IL})
$$

where fSW is the switching frequency in Hertz, VINMIN is in volts, and $\Delta I L$ is in amperes.
Choose an inductor with a minimum inductance greater than the calculated value. The current rating of the inductor should be higher than ILP at the operating temperature.

When operating in buck mode, the average inductor current is the same as the LED current. The peak inductor current occurs at the maximum input line voltage where the duty cycle is at the minimum:

$$
\mathrm{D}_{\mathrm{MIN}}=\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{LED}} / \mathrm{V}_{\text {INMAX }}
$$

where $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{LED}}$ is the forward voltage of the LED string, in volts, and $\mathrm{V}_{\text {INMAX }}$ is the maximum input supply voltage, in volts.
The peak inductor current is given by:

$$
\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{LP}}=\mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{LED}}+0.5 \times \Delta \mathrm{IL}
$$

The inductance value $(\mathrm{L})$ of inductor L1, in Henrys, is calculated as:

$$
\mathrm{L}=\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {INMAX }}-\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{LED}}\right) \times \mathrm{D}_{\mathrm{MIN}} /(\mathrm{f} S W \times \Delta \mathrm{IL})
$$

where fSW is the switching frequency in Hertz, VINMAX is in volts, and $\Delta I L$ is in amperes.
Choose an inductor with a minimum inductance greater than the calculated value. The chosen inductor for the application should have an inductance larger of the two calculated values from the boost and the buck configurations.

## Selecting the Input Capacitor

The discontinuous input-current waveform of the buck converter causes large ripple currents in the input capacitor. The switching frequency, peak inductor current, and the allowable peak-to-peak voltage ripple reflected back to the source dictate the capacitance requirement. The input ripple consists of $\Delta \mathrm{VQ}$ (caused by the capacitor discharge) and $\Delta \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{ESR}}$ (caused by the ESR of the capacitor). Use low-ESR ceramic capacitors with high ripple-current capability at the input. A good starting point for the selection of $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ is to use an input-voltage ripple of $2 \%$ to $10 \%$ of $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}$. $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{IN}}$ MIN can be selected as follows:

$$
\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{IN} \_M I N}=\left(\mathrm{D} \times(1-\mathrm{D}) \times \mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{LED}} \times \mathrm{t}_{\mathrm{ON}}\right) / \Delta \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{IN}}
$$

where $t_{O N}$ is the on-time pulse width per switching cycle.
When selecting a ceramic capacitor, pay special attention to the operating conditions of the application. Ceramic capacitors can lose more than half of their capacitance at their rated DC-voltage bias and also lose capacitance with extremes in temperature. In applications with PWM dimming, where the input connections to the source have wiring inductance, additional electrolytic capacitors may need to be added at the input to prevent large sags and surges in the input voltages during the PWM rising and falling edges. These line sags and surges can also cause the H -bridge to switch between boost, buck-boost, and buck configurations in one dimming cycle, which is undesirable and can cause flicker problems.

## Selecting the Output Capacitor

The function of the output capacitor is to reduce the output ripple to acceptable levels. The ESR, ESL, and bulk capacitance of the output capacitor contribute to the output ripple. In most applications, the output ESR and ESL effects can be dramatically reduced by using low-ESR ceramic capacitors. To reduce the ESL and ESR effects, connect multiple ceramic capacitors in parallel to achieve the required bulk capacitance. To minimize audible noise generated by the ceramic capacitors during PWM dimming, it may be necessary to minimize the number of ceramic capacitors on the output. In these cases, an additional electrolytic or tantalum capacitor provides most of the bulk capacitance.

For simplicity, assume the bulk capacitance accounts for most of the output ripple. The capacitance for boost configuration is given by:

$$
\mathrm{C}_{\text {BOOSTOUT }}>\left(\mathrm{L}_{\text {LED }} \times \mathrm{D}_{\text {MAX }}\right) /\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {OUTRIPPLE }} \times \mathrm{f} \text { SW }\right)
$$

where lled is in amperes, COUT is in farads, $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{S}} \mathrm{w}$ is in Hertz, and VOUTRIPPLE is in volts.
The corresponding LED current ripple is then given by:

$$
\text { lLEDRIPPLE }=V_{\text {OUTRIPPLE }} /\left(R_{L E D}+R_{D}\right)
$$

where $R_{L E D}$ is the LED current-sense resistor and $R_{D}$ is the dynamic impedance of the LED string.

## Minimizing Crosstalk Between LED Strings

Some designs have additional capacitance placed immediately across the LED string to minimize LED current ripple. When simultaneously togging EN1 and EN2, in either a two-string design or a one-string design in which the pMOS on GTP1 is used a shunting switch, ensure the extra capacitance across the LEDs is minimized. In Figure 10, when EN2 is high, the MAX25603 drives four LEDs and when EN1 is high, it drives two LEDs.


Figure 10. LED Current Ripple Capacitor
When EN1 goes high, Vout begins to slew down to the output voltage necessary to drive two LEDs. At the same time, the body diode on the GTP2 pMOS becomes forward biased and the extra charge on capacitor C slightly increases the LED current while Vout is slewing. This additional current, as indicated by the dashed line, can be approximated by:

$$
\mathrm{I}=\mathrm{C} \times \mathrm{dVOUT} / \mathrm{dt}
$$

Where dVOUT is the change in output voltage and dt is the time it takes to slew to the new output voltage. For most designs, keep the additional LED current ripple capacitor below $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$.

## H-Bridge Control Loop Current-Sense Selection (RSENSE)

The control loop uses average-current-mode control in both boost and buck mode to control the H-bridge switches. The current-sense resistor on the low side of the H-bridge, RSENSE, is chosen based on the peak inductor current and slope compensation. This occurs in boost mode with the maximum output power at minimum input voltage, VINMIN. RSENSE is given by:

$$
\mathrm{R}_{\text {SENSE }}=80 \mathrm{mV} /\left(\mathrm{IL} P+\left(\mathrm{D}_{\mathrm{MAX}} \times\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{LED}}-2 \times \mathrm{V}_{\text {INMIN }}\right) \times 3\right) /(2 \times \mathrm{L} \times \mathrm{f} \mathrm{SW})\right)
$$

RSENSE also determines the peak, negative inductor current during the discharge sequence:

$$
\text { ILPDIS }=63 \mathrm{mV} / \mathrm{R}_{\text {SENSE }}
$$

## Slope Compensation

Slope compensation should be added to fixed-frequency converters operating in continuous-conduction mode with more than $50 \%$ duty cycle to avoid current-loop instability and sub-harmonic oscillations.
In the MAX25603, the slope-compensating ramp is added to the current-sense signal before it is fed to the PWM comparator. The device generates a current ramp with a slope of $50 \mu \mathrm{~A} \times \mathrm{f}$ SW for slope compensation. The current-ramp signal is forced into the slope compensation resistor, RSLOPE, thereby adding a programmable slope-compensating voltage, $\mathrm{V}_{\text {SLOPE }}$, at the current-sense input, CSP. Connect RSLOPE between CSP and RSENSE.

$$
d V_{\text {SLOPE }} / d t=\left(R_{S L O P E} \times 50 \mu A\right) \times f S W
$$

The slope-compensation voltage that must be added to the current signal at minimum line voltage, with margin of 1.5 x , is as follows:

Boost configuration:

$$
V_{\text {SLOPE }}=\left(\left(V_{\text {LED }}-2 \times \mathrm{V}_{\text {INMIN }}\right) \times \mathrm{R}_{\text {SENSE }}\right) /\left(2 \times \mathrm{L} \times \mathrm{f}_{\text {SW }}\right) \times 2 \times 1.5
$$

Buck configuration:

$$
V_{\text {SLOPE }}=\left(V_{\text {LED }} \times R_{\text {SENSE }}\right) /(L \times f S W) \times 2 \times 1.5
$$

## Control Loop Compensation

The LED current-control loop comprising the switching converter, LED current amplifier, and the error amplifier should be compensated for stable control of the LED current in all modes of operation. For most applications, the design must first be stabilized for boost mode of operation. The buck mode loop has a higher loop gain and higher frequency load pole. After compensation components are calculated for boost operation, ensure these values still place the unity gain in buck operation to less than $1 / 10$ of fsw.
The switching converter small-signal transfer function has a right half-plane (RHP) zero for the boost configuration as the inductor current is in the continuous-conduction mode. The RHP zero adds a $20 \mathrm{~dB} /$ decade gain together with a $90^{\circ}$ phase lag, which is difficult to compensate. The easiest way to avoid this zero is to roll off the loop gain to 0 dB at a frequency less than $1 / 5$ of the RHP zero frequency with a $-20 \mathrm{~dB} /$ decade slope.
The worst-case RHP zero frequency (fZRHP) is calculated as follows:
Boost configuration:

$$
\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{ZRHP}}=\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{LED}} \times\left(1-\mathrm{D}_{\mathrm{MAX}}\right)^{2}\right) /\left(2 \pi \times \mathrm{L} \times \mathrm{I}_{\mathrm{LED}}\right)
$$

The switching converter small-signal transfer function also has an output pole for the boost configuration. The effective output impedance that determines the output pole frequency together with the output filter capacitance is calculated as:
Boost configuration:

$$
\text { ROUT }=\left(\left(R_{L E D}+R_{D} \times V_{\text {LED }}\right) /\left(\left(R_{\text {LED }}+R_{D}\right) \times I_{\text {LED }}+V_{\text {LED }}\right)\right.
$$

where $R_{D}$ is the dynamic impedance of the LED string at the operating current and $R_{\text {LED }}$ is the LED current-sense resistor. The output pole frequency is calculated as follows:

$$
f_{P}=1 /\left(2 \pi \times \text { ROUT } \times \text { C OUT }^{\text {O }}\right.
$$

The feedback-loop compensation is done by connecting a resistor ( $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{COMP}}$ ) and capacitor ( $\mathrm{C}_{\text {COMP }}$ ) in series from COMP to GND. RCOMP is chosen to set the high frequency integrator gain for fast transient response, while CCOMP is chosen to set the integrator zero to maintain loop stability. For optimum performance, choose the components using the following equations:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{C}}=0.2 \times \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{ZRHP}} \\
\mathrm{R}_{\text {COMP }}=\left(2 \times \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{ZRHP}} \times \mathrm{R}_{\text {SENSE }}\right) /\left(\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{f}} \times\left(1-\mathrm{D}_{\text {MAX }}\right) \times \mathrm{R}_{\text {LED }} \times 5 \times \mathrm{g}_{\mathrm{m}}\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

where $\mathrm{gm}_{\mathrm{m}}=1.8 \mathrm{mS}$ (transconductance of error amplifier), RSENSE is the current-sense resistor on the low side of H-Bridge, and $R_{\text {LED }}$ is the LED current-sense resistor.

$$
C_{C O M P}=1 /\left(2 \pi \times R_{C O M P} \times f_{P}\right)
$$

With RCOMP and CCOMP selected, confirm that when in buck mode, the unity gain is still less than $1 / 10$ of $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{S}}$. Note that in buck mode, ROUT reduces as there are a lower number of LEDs.
Buck configuration:

$$
\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{C}}=\mathrm{ff}_{-} \mathrm{BUCK} \times\left(\left(\mathrm{gm}_{\mathrm{m}} \times \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{LED}} \times \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{COMP}}\right) /\left(2 \times \mathrm{R}_{\text {SENSE }}\right)-1\right)
$$

## Typical Application Circuits

## Single LED String Application Circuit



Figure 11. MAX25603 in a Combination Head Lamp

Multiple LED String Application Circuit


Figure 12. MAX25630 in a Multistring Configuration

Time-Sharing Application Circuit


Figure 13. MAX25603 in a Time-Sharing Configuration

## Ordering Information

| PART | TEMP RANGE | PIN-PACKAGE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MAX25603AUI $/ \mathrm{V}_{+}$ | $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $125^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | 28 TSSOP-EP* |

+Denotes a lead (Pb)-free/RoHS-compliant package.
$N$ denotes an automotive qualified part.
*EP = Exposed pad.

## Revision History

| REVISION NUMBER | REVISION DATE | DESCRIPTION | PAGES CHANGED |
| :---: | :---: | :--- | :---: |
| 0 | $12 / 21$ | Release for market intro | - |

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