

LTC3526/LTC3526B

NOT RECOMMENDED FOR NEW DESIGNS Contact Analog Devices for Potential Replacement

- Delivers 3.3V at 100mA from a Single Alkaline/ **NiMH Cell or 3.3V at 200mA from Two Cells**
- ⁿ **VIN Start-Up Voltage: 850mV**
- \blacksquare 1.6V to 5.25V V_{OUT} Range
- Up to 94% Efficiency
- ⁿ **Output Disconnect**
- \blacksquare **1MHz Fixed Frequency Operation**
- **Notation V**_{IN} > V_{OUT} Operation
- **Integrated Soft-Start**
- Current Mode Control with Internal Compensation
- Automatic Burst Mode[®] Operation with 9uA Quiescent Current (LTC3526)
- Low Noise PWM Operation (LTC3526B)
- Internal Synchronous Rectifier
- **n** Logic Controlled Shutdown ($I_Q < 1\mu$ A)
- Anti-Ringing Control
- Low Profile (2mm \times 2mm \times 0.75mm) DFN Package

APPLICATIONS

- \blacksquare Medical Instruments
- Flash-Based MP3 Players
- Noise Canceling Headphones
- \blacksquare Wireless Mice
- **Bluetooth Headsets**

TYPICAL APPLICATION

500mA 1MHz Synchronous Step-Up DC/DC Converters in $2mm \times 2mm$ DFN

FEATURES DESCRIPTION

The LTC®3526/LTC3526B are synchronous, fixed frequency step-up DC/DC converters with output disconnect. Synchronous rectification enables high efficiency in the low profile $2mm \times 2mm$ DFN package. Battery life in single AA/AAA powered products is extended further with an 850mV start-up voltage and operation down to 500mV once started.

A switching frequency of 1MHz minimizes solution footprint by allowing the use of tiny, low profile inductors and ceramic capacitors. The current mode PWM design is internally compensated, reducing external parts count. The LTC3526 features automatic Burst Mode operation at light load conditions, while the LTC3526B features continuous switching at light loads. Anti-ringing control circuitry also reduces EMI concerns by damping the inductor in discontinuous mode. Additional features include a low shutdown current of under 1µA and thermal shutdown.

The LTC3526/LTC3526B are housed in a 2mm \times 2mm \times 0.75mm DFN package.

For new designs, we recommend the LTC3526L/LTC3526LB.

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LTC3526 Efficiency and Power Loss vs Load Current

(Note 1) ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS PIN CONFIGURATION

ORDER INFORMATION

Consult LTC Marketing for parts specified with wider operating temperature ranges.

Consult LTC Marketing for information on non-standard lead based finish parts.

For more information on lead free part marking, go to: http://www.analog.com/leadfree/ For more information on tape and reel specifications, go to: http://www.analog.com/tapeandreel/

The \bullet **denotes the specifications which apply over the specified operating** ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

temperature range of –40°C to 85°C, otherwise specifications are at T_A = 25°C. V_{IN} = 1.2V, V_{OUT} = 3.3V unless otherwise noted.

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Note 1: Stresses beyond those listed under Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the device. Exposure to any Absolute Maximum Rating condition for extended periods may affect device reliability and lifetime.

Note 2: The LTC3526E is guaranteed to meet performance specifications from 0°C to 85°C. Specifications over –40°C to 85°C operating temperature range are assured by design, characterization and correlation with statistical process controls.

Note 3: Specification is guaranteed by design and not 100% tested in production.

Note 4: Current measurements are made when the output is not switching. **Note 5:** This IC includes overtemperature protection that is intended to protect the device during momentary overload conditions. Junction temperature will exceed 125°C when overtemperature protection is active. Continuous operation above the specified maximum operating junction temperature may result in device degradation or failure.

Note 6: Failure to solder the exposed backside of the package to the PC board ground plane will result in a thermal resistance much higher than 102°C/W.

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Burst Mode Threshold Current vs VIN

Burst Mode Threshold Current vs VIN

Burst Mode Threshold Current vs VIN $V_{OUT} = 5V$

Oscillator Frequency Change vs VOUT

RDS(ON) VS VOUT

Oscillator Frequency Change

vs Temperature RDS(ON) Change vs Temperature

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

 $V_{IN} = 3.6V$ 100 μ s/DIV V_{OUT} = 5V
50mA TO 150mA STEP $C_{\text{OUT}} = 10 \mu F$

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

SW (Pin 1): Switch Pin. Connect inductor between SW and V_{IN} . Keep PCB trace lengths as short and wide as possible to reduce EMI. If the inductor current falls to zero or SHDN is low, an internal anti-ringing switch is connected from SW to V_{IN} to minimize EMI.

GND (Pin 2): Signal and Power Ground. Provide a short direct PCB path between GND and the (–) side of the input and output capacitors.

V_{IN} (Pin 3): Input Supply Pin. Connect a minimum of 1µF ceramic decoupling capacitor from this pin to ground using short direct PCB traces.

SHDN (Pin 4): Logic Controlled Shutdown Input. There is an internal $4M\Omega$ pull-down on this pin.

- $\overline{\text{SHDN}}$ = High: Normal operation
- \bullet SHDN = Low: Shutdown, quiescent current < 1µA

FB (Pin 5): Feedback Input to the g_m Error Amplifier. Connect resistor divider tap to this pin. The top of the divider connects to the output capacitor, the bottom of the divider connects to GND. Referring to the Block Diagram, the output voltage can be adjusted from 1.6V to 5.25V by:

$$
V_{OUT} = 1.195V \cdot 1 + \frac{R2}{R1}
$$

V_{OUT} (Pin 6): Output voltage sense and drain of the internal synchronous rectifier. PCB trace from V_{OUT} to the output filter capacitor (4.7µF minimum) should be as short and wide as possible.

GND (Exposed Pad Pin 7): The Exposed Pad must be soldered to the PCB ground plane. It serves as an additional ground connection and as a means of conducting heat away from the package.

BLOCK DIAGRAM

OPERATION **(Refer to Block Diagram)**

The LTC3526/LTC3526B are 1MHz synchronous boost converters housed in a 6-lead $2mm \times 2mm$ DFN package. With the ability to start up and operate from inputs less than 1V, these devices feature fixed frequency, current mode PWM control for exceptional line and load regulation. The current mode architecture with adaptive slope compensation provides excellent transient load response, requiring minimal output filtering. Internal soft-start and internal loop compensation simplifies the design process while minimizing the number of external components.

With its low $R_{DS(ON)}$ and low gate charge internal N-channel MOSFET switch and P-channel MOSFET synchronous rectifier, the LTC3526 achieves high efficiency over a wide range of load currents. Automatic Burst Mode operation maintains high efficiency at very light loads, reducing the quiescent current to just 9µA. Operation can be best understood by referring to the Block Diagram.

LOW VOLTAGE START-UP

The LTC3526/LTC3526B include an independent start-up oscillator designed to start up at an input voltage of 0.85V (typical). Soft-start and inrush current limiting are provided during start-up, as well as normal mode.

When either V_{IN} or V_{OUT} exceeds 1.4V typical, the IC enters normal operating mode. When the output voltage exceeds

OPERATION **(Refer to Block Diagram)**

the input by 0.24V, the IC powers itself from V_{OUT} instead of V_{IN} . At this point the internal circuitry has no dependency on the V_{IN} input voltage, eliminating the requirement for a large input capacitor. The input voltage can drop as low as 0.5V. The limiting factor for the application becomes the availability of the power source to supply sufficient energy to the output at low voltages, and maximum duty cycle, which is clamped at 90% typical. Note that at low input voltages, small voltage drops due to series resistance become critical, and greatly limit the power delivery capability of the converter.

LOW NOISE FIXED FREQUENCY OPERATION

Soft-Start

The LTC3526/LTC3526B contain internal circuitry to provide soft-start operation. The soft-start circuitry slowly ramps the peak inductor current from zero to its peak value of 700mA (typical) in approximately 0.5ms, allowing startup into heavy loads. The soft-start circuitry is reset in the event of a shutdown command or a thermal shutdown.

Oscillator

An internal oscillator sets the switching frequency to 1MHz.

Shutdown

Shutdown is accomplished by pulling the SHDN pin below 0.3V and enabled by pulling the SHDN pin above 0.8V typical. Although $\overline{\text{SHDN}}$ can be driven above V_{IN} or V_{OUT} (up to the absolute maximum rating) without damage, the LTC3526/LTC3526B have a proprietary test mode that may be engaged if SHDN is held in the range of 0.5V to 1V higher than the greater of V_{IN} or V_{OIII} . If the test mode is engaged, normal PWM switching action is interrupted, which can cause undesirable operation in some applications. Therefore, in applications where SHDN may be driven above V_{IN} , a resistor divider or other means must be employed to keep the $\overline{\text{SHDN}}$ voltage below (V_{IN} + 0.4V) to prevent the possibility of the test mode being engaged. Please refer to Figure 1 for two possible implementations.

Error Amplifier

The positive input of the transconductance error amplifier

Figure 1. Recommended Shutdown Circuits when Driving SHDN above V_{IN}

is internally connected to the 1.195V reference and the negative input is connected to FB. Clamps limit the minimum and maximum error amp output voltage for improved large-signal transient response. Power converter control loop compensation is provided internally. An external resistive voltage divider from V_{OUT} to ground programs the output voltage via FB from 1.6V to 5.25V.

$$
L > \frac{V_{IN(MIN)} \bullet \left(V_{OUT(MAX)} - V_{IN(MIN)}\right)}{{Ripple} \bullet V_{OUT(MAX)}}
$$

Current Sensing

Lossless current sensing converts the peak current signal of the N-channel MOSFET switch into a voltage that is summed with the internal slope compensation. The summed signal is compared to the error amplifier output to provide a peak current control command for the PWM.

Current Limit

The current limit comparator shuts off the N-channel MOSFET switch once its threshold is reached. The current limit comparator delay to output is typically 60ns. Peak switch current is limited to approximately 700mA, independent of input or output voltage, unless V_{OUT} falls below 0.7V, in which case the current limit is cut in half.

Zero Current Comparator

The zero current comparator monitors the inductor current to the output and shuts off the synchronous rectifier when this current reduces to approximately 30mA. This prevents the inductor current from reversing in polarity, improving efficiency at light loads.

OPERATION **(Refer to Block Diagram)**

Synchronous Rectifier

To control inrush current and to prevent the inductor current from running away when V_{OUT} is close to V_{IN} , the P-channel MOSFET synchronous rectifier is only enabled when $V_{\text{OUT}} > (V_{\text{IN}} + 0.24V)$.

Anti-Ringing Control

The anti-ringing control connects a resistor across the inductor to prevent high frequency ringing on the SW pin during discontinuous current mode operation. Although the ringing of the resonant circuit formed by L and C_{SW} (capacitance on SW pin) is low energy, it can cause EMI radiation.

Output Disconnect

The LTC3526/LTC3526B are designed to allow true output disconnect by eliminating body diode conduction of the internal P-channel MOSFET rectifier. This allows for V_{OUT} to go to zero volts during shutdown, drawing no current from the input source. It also allows for inrush current limiting at turn-on, minimizing surge currents seen by the input supply. Note that to obtain the advantages of output disconnect, there must not be an external Schottky diode connected between the SW pin and V_{OUT} . The output disconnect feature also allows V_{OUT} to be pulled high, without any reverse current into a battery connected to V_{IN} .

Thermal Shutdown

If the die temperature exceeds 160°C, the LTC3526/ LTC3526B will go into thermal shutdown. All switches will be off and the soft-start capacitor will be discharged. The device will be enabled again when the die temperature drops by about 15°C.

Burst Mode OPERATION

The LTC3526 will automatically enter Burst Mode operation

at light load and return to fixed frequency PWM mode when the load increases. Refer to the Typical Performance Characteristics to see the output load Burst Mode threshold current vs V_{IN} . The load current at which Burst Mode operation is entered can be changed by adjusting the inductor value. Raising the inductor value will lower the load current at which Burst Mode operation is entered.

In Burst Mode operation, the LTC3526 still switches at a fixed frequency of 1MHz, using the same error amplifier and loop compensation for peak current mode control. This control method eliminates any output transient when switching between modes. In Burst Mode operation, energy is delivered to the output until it reaches the nominal regulation value, then the LTC3526 transitions to sleep mode where the outputs are off and the LTC3526 consumes only 9µA of quiescent current from V_{OIIT} . When the output voltage droops slightly, switching resumes. This maximizes efficiency at very light loads by minimizing switching and quiescent losses. Burst Mode output voltage ripple, which is typically 1% peak-to-peak, can be reduced by using more output capacitance (10µF or greater), or with a small capacitor (10pF to 50pF) connected between V_{OUT} and FB.

As the load current increases, the LTC3526 will automatically leave Burst Mode operation. Note that larger output capacitor values may cause this transition to occur at lighter loads. Once the LTC3526 has left Burst Mode operation and returned to normal operation, it will remain there until the output load is reduced below the burst threshold.

Burst Mode operation is inhibited during start-up and soft-start and until V_{OUT} is at least 0.24V greater than V_{IN} .

The LTC3526B features continuous PWM operation at 1MHz. At very light loads, the LTC3526B will exhibit pulseskip operation.

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

V_{IN} > V_{OUT} OPERATION

The LTC3526/LTC3526B will maintain voltage regulation even when the input voltage is above the desired output voltage. Note that the efficiency is much lower in this mode, and the maximum output current capability will be less. Refer to the Typical Performance Characteristics.

SHORT-CIRCUIT PROTECTION

The LTC3526/LTC3526B output disconnect feature allows output short circuit while maintaining a maximum internally set current limit. To reduce power dissipation under short-circuit conditions, the peak switch current limit is reduced to 400mA (typical).

SCHOTTKY DIODE

Although it is not required, adding a Schottky diode from SW to V_{OUT} will improve efficiency by about 2%. Note that this defeats the output disconnect and short-circuit protection features.

PCB LAYOUT GUIDELINES

The high speed operation of the LTC3526/LTC3526B demands careful attention to board layout. A careless layout will result in reduced performance. Figure 2 shows the recommended component placement. A large ground pin copper area will help to lower the die temperature. A multilayer board with a separate ground plane is ideal, but not absolutely necessary.

COMPONENT SELECTION

Inductor Selection

The LTC3526/LTC3526B can utilize small surface mount chip inductors due to their fast 1MHz switching frequency. Inductor values between 3.3µH and 6.8µH are suitable for most applications. Larger values of inductance will allow slightly greater output current capability (and lower the Burst Mode threshold) by reducing the inductor ripple current. Increasing the inductance above 10µH will increase size while providing little improvement in output current capability.

The minimum inductance value is given by:

$$
L > \frac{V_{IN(MIN)} \bullet (V_{OUT(MAX)} - V_{IN(MIN)})}{Ripple \bullet V_{OUT(MAX)}}
$$

Ripple = Allowable inductor current ripple (amps peakpeak)

 $V_{IN(MIN)} =$ Minimum input voltage

 $V_{\text{OUT} (MAX)} =$ Maximum output voltage

The inductor current ripple is typically set for 20% to 40% of the maximum inductor current. High frequency ferrite core inductor materials reduce frequency dependent power losses compared to cheaper powdered iron types, improving efficiency. The inductor should have low ESR (series resistance of the windings) to reduce the ²R power losses, and must be able to support the peak

Figure 2. Recommended Component Placement for Single Layer Board

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

inductor current without saturating. Molded chokes and some chip inductors usually do not have enough core area to support the peak inductor currents of 700mA seen on the LTC3526/LTC3526B. To minimize radiated noise, use a shielded inductor. See Table 1 for suggested components and suppliers.

Table 1. Recommended Inductors

Output and Input Capacitor Selection

Low ESR (equivalent series resistance) capacitors should be used to minimize the output voltage ripple. Multilayer ceramic capacitors are an excellent choice as they have extremely low ESR and are available in small footprints. A 4.7µF to 10µF output capacitor is sufficient for most applications. Larger values up to 22µF may be used to obtain extremely low output voltage ripple and improve transient response. X5R and X7R dielectric materials are preferred for their ability to maintain capacitance over wide voltage and temperature ranges. Y5V types should not be used.

The internal loop compensation of the LTC3526 is designed to be stable with output capacitor values of 4.7µF or greater (without the need for any external series resistor). Although ceramic capacitors are recommended, low ESR tantalum capacitors may be used as well.

A small ceramic capacitor in parallel with a larger tantalum capacitor may be used in demanding applications that have large load transients. Another method of improving the transient response is to add a small feed-forward capacitor across the top resistor of the feedback divider (from V_{OUT} to FB). A typical value of 22pF will generally suffice.

Low ESR input capacitors reduce input switching noise and reduce the peak current drawn from the battery. It follows that ceramic capacitors are also a good choice for input decoupling and should be located as close as possible to the device. A 2.2µF input capacitor is sufficient for most applications, although larger values may be used without limitations. Table 2 shows a list of several ceramic capacitor manufacturers. Consult the manufacturers directly for detailed information on their selection of ceramic capacitors.

Table 2. Capacitor Vendor Information

TYPICAL APPLICATIONS

1-Cell to 1.8V Converter with <1mm Maximum Height

1-Cell to 2.85V Converter

1-Cell to 3.3V

TYPICAL APPLICATIONS

2-Cell to 3.3V

2-Cell to 5V

PACKAGE DESCRIPTION

DC6 Package

6. SHADED AREA IS ONLY A REFERENCE FOR PIN 1 LOCATION ON THE TOP AND BOTTOM OF PACKAGE

REVISION HISTORY **(Revision history begins at Rev D)**

