MAX17631

4.5V to 36V, 1.5A, High-Efficiency, Synchronous Step-Down DC-DC Converter

General Description

The MAX17631 is a high-efficiency, high-voltage, synchronous step-down DC-DC converter with integrated MOSFETs operating over an input-voltage range of 4.5V to 36V. It can deliver up to 1.5A current. The MAX17631 is available in three variants, MAX17631A, MAX17631B and MAX17631C. The MAX17631A and MAX17631B are fixed 3.3V and fixed 5V output parts, respectively. The MAX17631C is an adjustable output voltage (from 0.9V up to 90% of $V_{\mbox{\scriptsize IN}}$) part. Built-in compensation across the output-voltage range eliminates the need for external compensation components.

The MAX17631 features peak-current-mode control architecture. The device can be operated in the forced pulse- width modulation (PWM), or pulse-frequency modulation (PFM), or discontinuous-conduction mode (DCM) to enable high efficiency under full-load and light-load conditions. The MAX17631 offers a low minimum ontime that allows high switching frequencies and a smaller solution size.

The feedback-voltage regulation accuracy over -40°C to ± 125 °C for the MAX17631A/MAX17631B/MAX17631C is ± 1.2 %. The device is available in a 16-pin (3mm x 3mm) TQFN package. Simulation models are available.

Applications

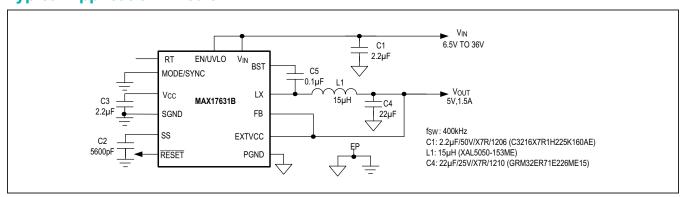
- Industrial Control Power Supplies
- General-Purpose Point-of-Load
- Distributed Supply Regulation
- Base Station Power Supplies
- Wall Transformer Regulation
- High Voltage Single-Board Systems

Ordering Information appears at end of data sheet.

Benefits and Features

- Reduces External Components and Total Cost
 - · No Schottky Synchronous Operation
 - · Internal Compensation Components
 - All-Ceramic Capacitors, Compact Layout
- Reduces Number of DC-DC Regulators to Stock
 - Wide 4.5V to 36V Input
 - Adjustable Output Voltage Range from 0.9V up to 90% of V_{IN}
 - Delivers Up to 1.5A Over the Temperature Range
 - 400kHz to 2.2MHz Adjustable Frequency with External Clock Synchronization
 - Available in a 16-Pin, 3mm x 3mm TQFN Package
- Reduces Power Dissipation
 - · Peak Efficiency of 95%
 - PFM and DCM Modes Enable Enhanced Light-Load Efficiency
 - Auxiliary Bootstrap Supply (EXTVCC) for Improved Efficiency
 - 2.8µA Shutdown Current
- Operates Reliably in Adverse Industrial Environments
 - · Hiccup-Mode Overload Protection
 - Adjustable and Monotonic Startup with Prebiased Output Voltage
 - Built-In Output-Voltage Monitoring with RESET
 - Programmable EN/UVLO Threshold
 - Overtemperature Protection
 - High Industrial -40°C to +125°C Ambient Operating Temperature Range / -40°C to +150°C Junction Temperature Range

Typical Application Circuit





4.5V to 36V, 1.5A, High-Efficiency, Synchronous Step-Down DC-DC Converter

Absolute Maximum Ratings

| V _{IN} to PGND | 0.3V to +40V | PGND to SGND | 0.3V to +0.3V |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| EN/UVLO to SGND | 0.3V to (V _{IN} + 0.3V) | LX Total RMS Current | ±3.5A |
| LX to PGND | 0.3V to (V _{IN} + 0.3V) | Output Short-Circuit Duration | Continuous |
| EXTVCC to SGND | 5.5V to +6.5V | Continuous Power Dissipation (Multilayer | Board) |
| BST to PGND | 0.3V to +46.5V | (T _A = +70°C, derate 20.8mW/°C above | +70°C.)1666.7mW |
| BST to LX | 0.3V to +6.5V | Operating Temperature Range (Note 1) | 40°C to +125°C |
| BST to V _{CC} | 0.3V to +40V | Junction Temperature | +150°C |
| RESET, SS, MODE/SYNC, VCC, R | T to SGND0.3V to +6.5V | Storage Temperature Range | 65°C to +150°C |
| FB to SGND (MAX17631A & MAX1 | 7631B)5.5V to 6.5V | Lead Temperature (soldering, 10s) | +300°C |
| FB to SGND (MAX17631C) | 0.3V to 6.5V | Soldering Temperature (reflow) | +260°C |
| | | | |

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

Package Information

| PACKAGE TYPE: 16-PIN TQFN | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------|----------|--|--|--|
| Package Code | T1633+5C | | | |
| Outline Number | 21-0136 | | | |
| Land Pattern Number | 90-0032 | | | |
| THERMAL RESISTANCE, FOUR-LAYER BOARD (Note 2): | | | | |
| Junction to Ambient (θ _{JA}) | 38°C/W | | | |
| Junction to Case (θ _{JC}) | 10°C/W | | | |

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.

Note 1: Junction temperature greater than +125°C degrades operating lifetimes.

Note 2: Package thermal resistances were obtained using the MAX17631 evaluation kit with no airflow.

Electrical Characteristics

 $(V_{IN} = V_{EN/UVLO} = 24V, R_{RT} = unconnected (f_{SW} = 400 \text{ kHz}), C_{VCC} = 2.2 \mu\text{F}, V_{MODE/SYNC} = V_{EXTVCC} = V_{SGND} = V_{PGND} = 0V, V_{FB} = 3.67V (MAX17631A), V_{FB} = 5.5V (MAX17631B), V_{FB} = 1V (MAX17631C), LX = SS = RESET = Open, V_{BST} to V_{LX} = 5V, T_{A} = -40^{\circ}\text{C}$ to 125°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at $T_{A} = +25^{\circ}\text{C}$. All voltages are referenced to SGND, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 3)

| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|
| INPUT SUPPLY (VIN) | | | | | | | |
| Input-Voltage Range | V _{IN} | | 4.5 | | 36 | V | |
| Input-Shutdown Current | I _{IN-SH} | V _{EN/UVLO} = 0V (Shutdown mode) | | 2.8 | 4.5 | μA | |
| | | MODE/SYNC = Open, V _{EXTVCC} = 5V | | 50 | | μΑ | |
| | I _{Q_PFM} | MODE/SYNC = Open, R_{RT} = 50.8kΩ, V_{EXTVCC} = 5V | | 60 | | | |
| Input-Quiescent Current | IQ_DCM | DCM Mode, V _{LX} = 0.1V | | 1.2 | 1.8 | | |
| | I _{Q_PWM} | Normal switching mode, f_{SW} = 400kHz, V_{FB} = 3V (MAX17631A), V_{FB} = 4.4V (MAX17631B), V_{FB} = 0.8V (MAX17631C) | | 4.7 | | mA | |
| ENABLE/UVLO (EN/UVLO) |) | | | | | | |
| ENANA O Three-held | V _{ENR} | V _{EN/UVLO} rising | 1.19 | 1.215 | 1.26 | | |
| EN/UVLO Threshold | V _{ENF} | V _{EN/UVLO} falling | 1.068 | 1.09 | 1.131 | V | |
| EN Input-Leakage Current | I _{EN} | V _{EN/UVLO} = 0V, T _A = +25°C | -50 | 0 | +50 | nA | |
| V _{CC} (LDO) | | | | | | | |
| V _{CC} Output-Voltage | V | 1mA ≤ I _{VCC} ≤ 15mA | 4.75 | 5 | 5.25 | V | |
| Range | V_{CC} | 6V ≤ V _{IN} ≤ 36V, I _{VCC} = 1mA | 4.75 | 5 | 5.25 | | |
| V _{CC} Current Limit | I _{VCC-MAX} | V _{CC} = 4.5V, V _{IN} = 7.5V | 25 | 50 | | mA | |
| V _{CC} Dropout | V_{CC-DO} | V _{IN} = 4.5V, I _{VCC} = 10mA | | | 0.3 | V | |
| V _{CC} UVLO | V _{CC_UVR} | V _{CC} rising | 4.05 | 4.2 | 4.3 | V | |
| ACC OAFO | V_{CC_UVF} | V _{CC} falling | 3.65 | 3.8 | 3.9 | | |
| EXTVCC | | | | | | | |
| EXTVCC Switchover | | V _{EXTVCC} rising | 4.56 | 4.7 | 4.84 | V | |
| Threshold | | V _{EXTVCC} falling | 4.3 | 4.45 | 4.6 | v | |
| POWER MOSFETS | | | | | | | |
| High-Side nMOS On-Resistance | R _{DS-ONH} | I _{LX} = 0.3A, sourcing | | 137 | 275 | mΩ | |
| Low-Side nMOS On-Resistance | R _{DS-ONL} | I _{LX} = 0.3A, sinking | | 90 | 180 | mΩ | |
| LX Leakage Current | I _{LX_LKG} | $V_{LX} = (V_{PGND} + 1V)$ to $(V_{IN} - 1V)$, $T_A = +25$ °C | -2 | | +3 | μA | |
| SOFT-START (SS) | | | | | | | |
| Charging Current | I _{SS} | V _{SS} = 0.5V | 4.7 | 5 | 5.3 | μA | |

Electrical Characteristics (continued)

 $(V_{IN} = V_{EN/UVLO} = 24V, \ R_{RT} = unconnected \ (f_{SW} = 400 \ kHz), \ C_{VCC} = 2.2 \mu F, \ V_{MODE/SYNC} = V_{EXTVCC} = V_{SGND} = V_{PGND} = 0V, \ V_{FB} = 3.67V \ (MAX17631A), \ V_{FB} = 5.5V \ (MAX17631B), \ V_{FB} = 1V \ (MAX17631C), \ LX = SS = \overline{RESET} = Open, \ V_{BST} \ to \ V_{LX} = 5V, \ T_A = -40 ^{\circ}C \ to \ 125 ^{\circ}C, \ unless \ otherwise \ noted.) \ (Note 3)$

| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS | |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|--|
| FEEDBACK (FB) | FEEDBACK (FB) | | | | | | |
| | | MODE/SYNC = SGND or MODE/SYNC = V_{CC} , for MAX17631A | 3.26 | 3.3 | 3.34 | | |
| | | MODE/SYNC = SGND or MODE/SYNC = V_{CC} , for MAX17631B | 4.94 | 5 | 5.06 | | |
| FB Regulation Voltage | V _{FB-REG} | MODE/SYNC = SGND or MODE/SYNC = V _{CC} for MAX17631C | 0.889 | 0.9 | 0.911 | V | |
| | | MODE/SYNC = Open, for MAX17631A | 3.26 | 3.36 | 3.43 | | |
| | | MODE/SYNC = Open, for MAX17631B | 4.94 | 5.09 | 5.20 | | |
| | | MODE/SYNC = Open for MAX17631C | 0.89 | 0.915 | 0.936 | | |
| | | For MAX17631A | | 21 | | | |
| FB Input-Bias Current | I _{FB} | For MAX17631B | | 17 | | μA | |
| | | $0 \le V_{FB} \le 1V, T_A = 25^{\circ}C \text{ For MAX17631C}$ | -50 | · | +50 | nA | |
| MODE/SYNC | | | | | | | |
| | V _{M-DCM} | MODE/SYNC = V _{CC} (DCM mode) | V _{CC} - 0.6 | 5 | | | |
| MODE Threshold | V _{M-PFM} | MODE/SYNC = Open (PFM mode) V _{CC} /2 | | |] v | | |
| | V _{M-PWM} | MODE/SYNC = SGND (PWM mode) | | | 0.75 | | |
| SYNC Frequency- Capture Range | fSYNC | f _{SW} set by R _{RT} | 1.1 x f _{SW} | | 1.4 x f _{SW} | kHz | |
| SYNC Pulse Width | | | 50 | | | ns | |
| SYNC Threshold | V _{IH} | | 2.1 | | | V | |
| 3 TNC Threshold | V _{IL} | | | | 0.8 | V | |
| CURRENT LIMIT | | | | | | | |
| Peak Current-Limit Threshold | I _{PEAK-LIMIT} | | 2.3 | 2.7 | 3.1 | Α | |
| Runaway Peak Current-Limit Threshold | I _{RUNAWAY} - LIMIT | | 2.55 | 3.1 | 3.5 | Α | |
| PFM Peak Current-Limit Threshold | I _{PFM} | MODE/SYNC = Open | | 0.61 | | Α | |
| Valley Current-Limit | | MODE/SYNC = Open or MODE/SYNC = V _{CC} | -0.15 | 0 | +0.15 | ٨ | |
| Threshold | IVALLEY-LIMIT | MODE/SYNC = SGND, V _{FB} > 0.65 | | -1.8 | | A | |

Electrical Characteristics (continued)

 $(V_{IN} = V_{EN/UVLO} = 24V, R_{RT} = unconnected (f_{SW} = 400 \text{ kHz}), C_{VCC} = 2.2\mu\text{F}, V_{MODE/SYNC} = V_{EXTVCC} = V_{SGND} = V_{PGND} = 0V, V_{FB} = 3.67V (MAX17631A), V_{FB} = 5.5V (MAX17631B), V_{FB} = 1V (MAX17631C), LX = SS = RESET = Open, V_{BST} to V_{LX} = 5V, T_{A} = -40^{\circ}\text{C}$ to 125°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at $T_{A} = +25^{\circ}\text{C}$. All voltages are referenced to SGND, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 3)

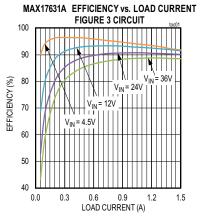
| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------|-------|------|--------|
| RT | | | | | | |
| | | R _{RT} = 50.8kΩ | 380 | 400 | 420 | |
| Switching Fraguency | f | $R_{RT} = 40.2k\Omega$ | 475 | 500 | 525 | kHz |
| Switching Frequency | f _{SW} | $R_{RT} = 8.06k\Omega$ | 1950 | 2200 | 2450 | |
| | | R _{RT} = Open | 370 | 400 | 430 | |
| ., | | For MAX17631A | 2.05 | 2.13 | 2.2 | |
| V _{FB} Undervoltage Trip Level to Cause Hiccup | V _{FB-HICF} | For MAX17631B | 3.11 | 3.22 | 3.33 | V |
| | | For MAX17631C | 0.56 | 0.58 | 0.6 | |
| HICCUP Timeout | | (Note 4) | | 32768 | | Cycles |
| Minimum On-Time | t _{ON-MIN} | | | 52 | 80 | ns |
| Minimum Off-Time | t _{OFF-MIN} | | 140 | | 160 | ns |
| LX Dead Time | LX _{DT} | | | 5 | | ns |
| RESET | | | | | | |
| RESET Output-Level Low | V _{RESETL} | I _{RESET} = 10mA | | | 40 | mV |
| RESET Output-Leakage Current | IRESETLKG | $T_A = T_J = 25$ °C, $V_{\overline{RESET}} = 5.5$ V | -100 | | +100 | nA |
| FB Threshold for RESET Deassertion | V _{FB-OKR} | V _{FB} rising | 93.8 | 95 | 97.8 | % |
| FB Threshold for RESET Assertion | V _{FB-OKF} | V _{FB} falling | 90.5 | 92 | 94.6 | % |
| RESET Delay after FB Reaches 95% Regulation | | | | 1024 | | Cycles |
| THERMAL SHUTDOWN (T | EMP) | | | | | |
| Thermal-Shutdown Threshold | | Temperature rising | | 165 | | °C |
| Thermal-Shutdown Hysteresis | | | | 10 | | °C |

Note 3: Electrical specifications are production tested at T_A = +25°C. Specifications over the entire operating temperature range are guaranteed by design and characterization.

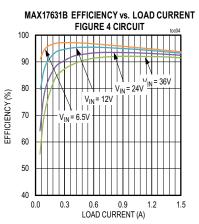
Note 4: See the Overcurrent Protection (OCP)/Hiccup Mode section for more details

Typical Operating Characteristics

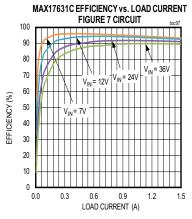
 $(V_{EN/UVLO} = V_{IN} = 24V, V_{SGND} = V_{PGND} = 0V, C_{VCC} = 2.2\mu\text{F}, C_{BST} = 0.1\mu\text{F}, C_{SS} = 5600\text{pF}, T_{A} = -40^{\circ}\text{C} \text{ to } +125^{\circ}\text{C}, \text{ unless otherwise noted.}$



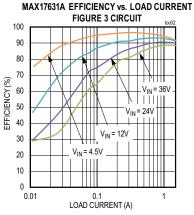
CONDITIONS: FIXED 3.3V OUTPUT, PWM MODE, f_{SW} = 400kHz



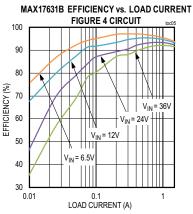
CONDITIONS: FIXED 5V OUTPUT, PWM MODE, f_{SW} = 400kHz



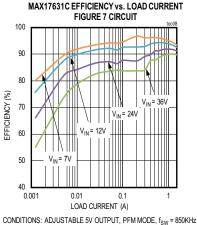
CONDITIONS: ADJUSTABLE 5V OUTPUT, PWM MODE, f_{SW} = 850KHz

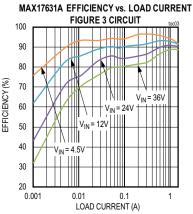


CONDITIONS: FIXED 3.3V OUTPUT, DCM MODE, f_{SW} = 400kHz

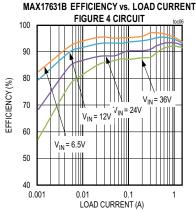


CONDITIONS: FIXED 5V OUTPUT, DCM MODE, f_{SW} = 400kHz

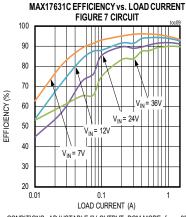




CONDITIONS: FIXED 3.3V OUTPUT, PFM MODE, f_{SW} = 400kHz

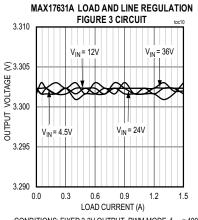


CONDITIONS: FIXED 5V OUTPUT, PFM MODE, f_{SW} = 400kHz

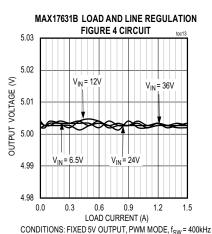


CONDITIONS: ADJUSTABLE 5V OUTPUT, DCM MODE, f_{SW} = 850kHz

 $(V_{EN/UVLO} = V_{IN} = 24V, V_{SGND} = V_{PGND} = 0V, C_{VCC} = 2.2\mu\text{F}, C_{BST} = 0.1\mu\text{F}, C_{SS} = 5600\text{pF}, T_{A} = -40^{\circ}\text{C} \text{ to } +125^{\circ}\text{C}, \text{ unless otherwise noted.}$



CONDITIONS: FIXED 3.3V OUTPUT, PWM MODE, f_{SW} = 400kHz



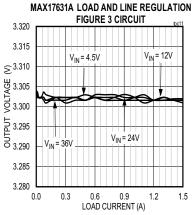
5.08 5.07 V_{IN}= 12V 5.06 5.06 V_{IN}= 7V V_{IN}= 36V 5.03 5.03 5.02 0.0 0.3 0.6 0.9 1.2 1.5

MAX17631C LOAD AND LINE REGULATION

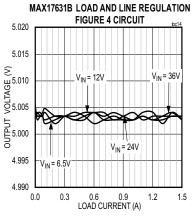
FIGURE 7 CIRCUIT

5.09

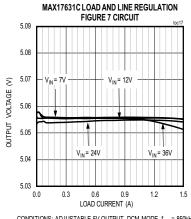
 $\label{eq:load_current} \mbox{LOAD CURRENT (A)}$ $\mbox{CONDITIONS: ADJUSTABLE 5V OUTPUT, PWM MODE, } \mbox{f}_{SW} = 850 \mbox{kHz}$



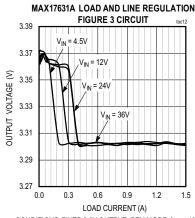
CONDITIONS: FIXED 3.3V OUTPUT, DCM MODE, f_{SW} = 400kHz



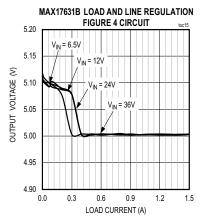
CONDITIONS: FIXED 5V OUTPUT, DCM MODE, f_{SW} = 400kHz



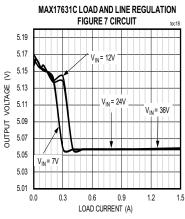
CONDITIONS: ADJUSTABLE 5V OUTPUT, DCM MODE, f_{SW} = 850kHz



CONDITIONS: FIXED 3.3V OUTPUT, PFM MODE, f_{SW} = 400kHz

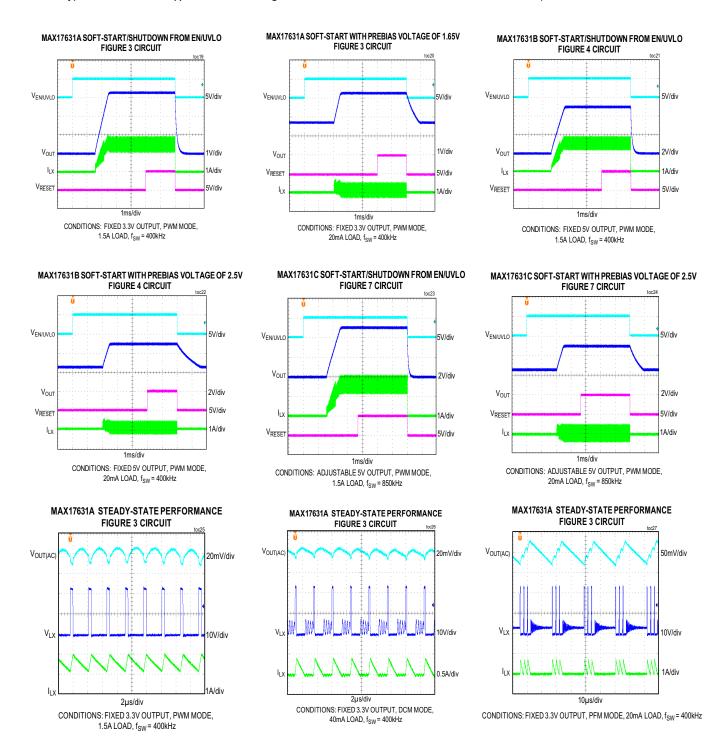


CONDITIONS: FIXED 5V OUTPUT, PFM MODE, f_{SW} = 400kHz

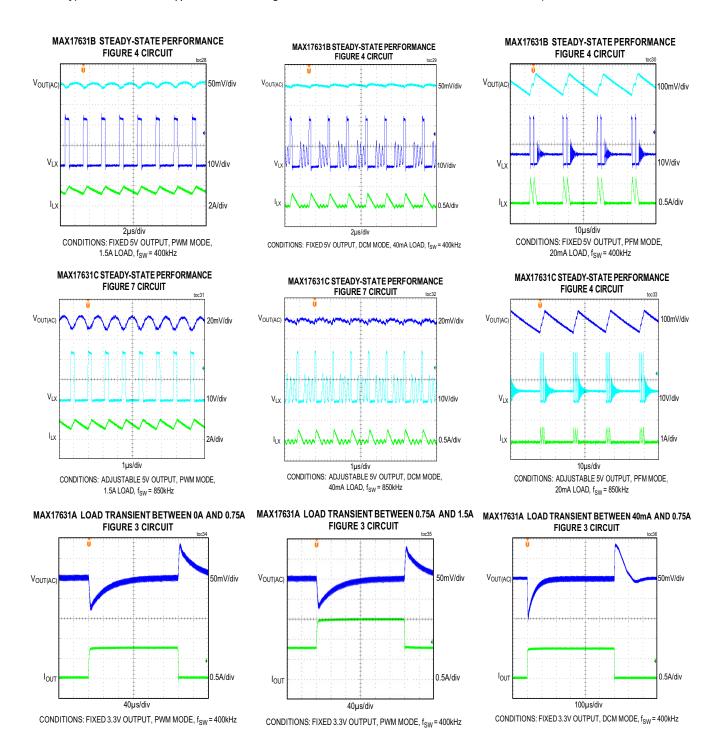


CONDITIONS: ADJUSTABLE 5V OUTPUT, PFM MODE, f_{SW} = 850kHz

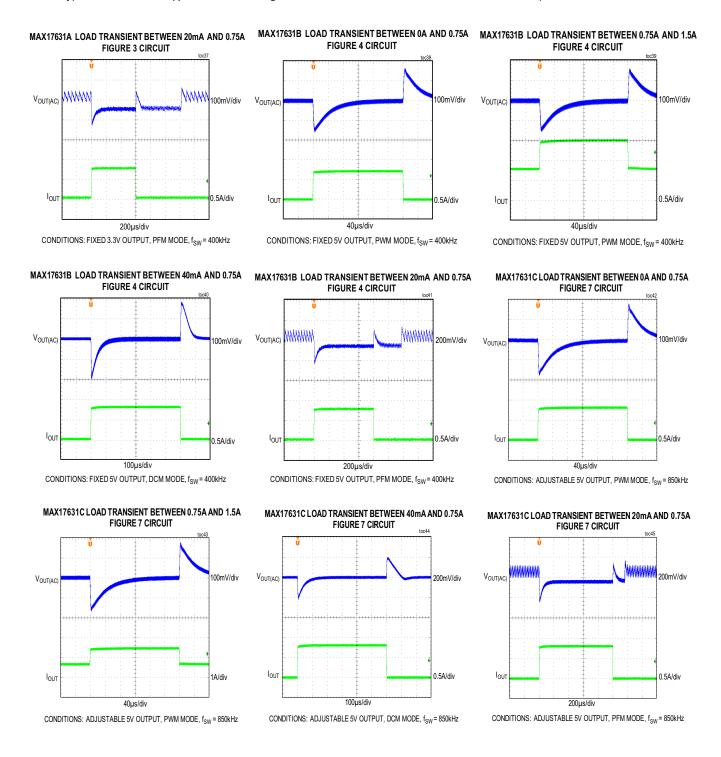
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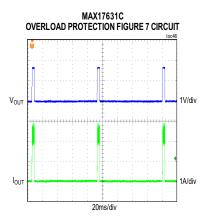
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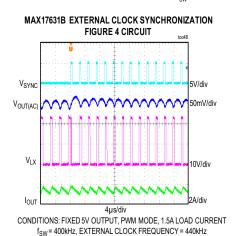
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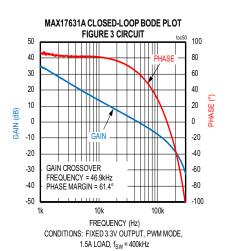


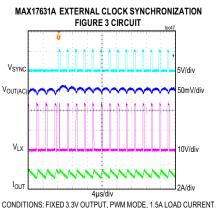
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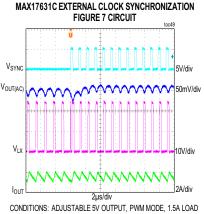
CONDITIONS: ADJUSTABLE 5V OUTPUT, PWM MODE, f_{SW} = 850kHz



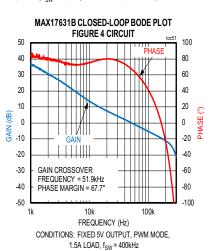




f_{SW} = 400kHz, EXTERNAL CLOCK FREQUENCY = 440kHz

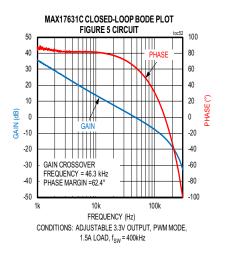


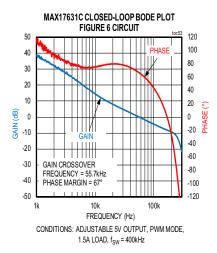
CURRENT, f_{SW} = 850kHz, EXTERNAL CLOCK FREQUENCY = 935kHz

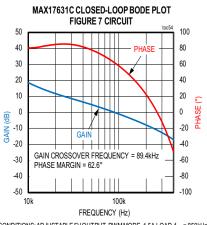


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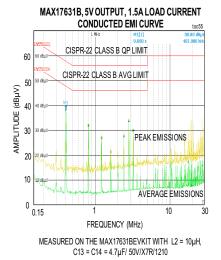
 $(V_{EN/UVLO} = V_{IN} = 24V, V_{SGND} = V_{PGND} = 0V, C_{VCC} = 2.2\mu\text{F}, C_{BST} = 0.1\mu\text{F}, C_{SS} = 5600\text{pF}, T_{A} = -40^{\circ}\text{C} \text{ to } +125^{\circ}\text{C}, \text{ unless otherwise noted.}$

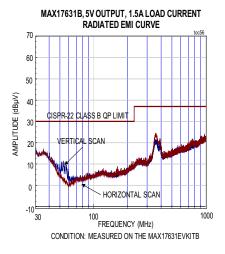




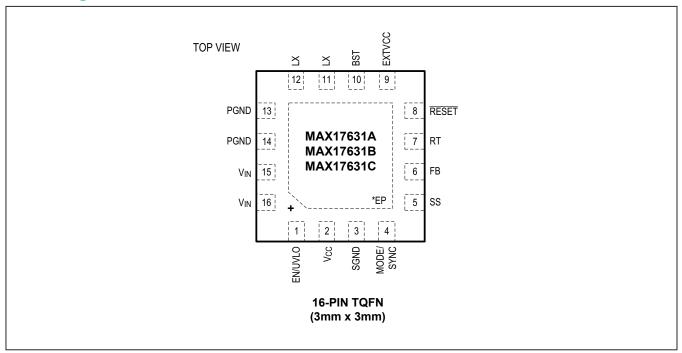


CONDITIONS: ADJUSTABLE 5V OUTPUT, PWM MODE, 1.5A LOAD, $\rm f_{SW}$ = 850kHz





Pin Configuration



Pin Description

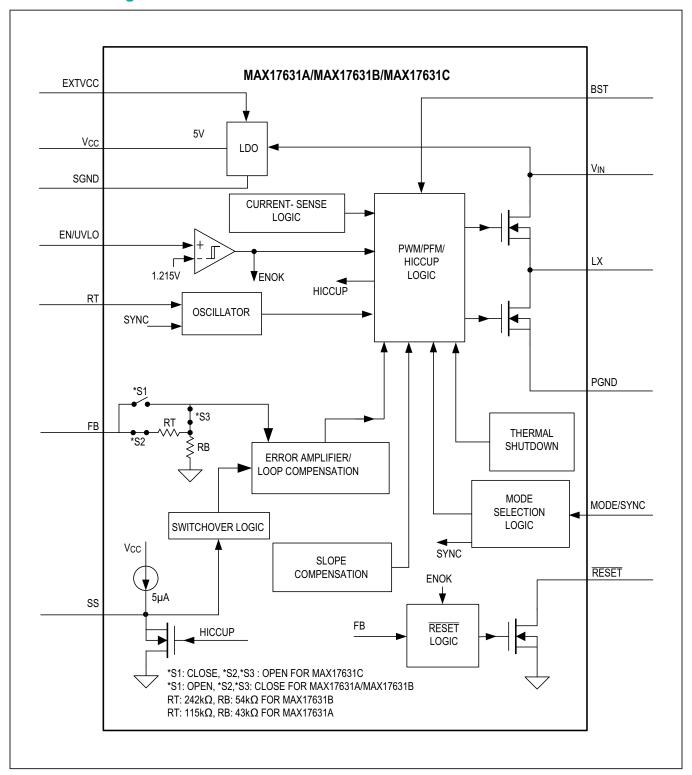
| PIN | NAME | FUNCTION | | | |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| 1 | EN/UVLO | Enable/Undervoltage Lockout Pin. Drive EN/UVLO high to enable the output. Connect to the center of the resistor-divider between V_{IN} and SGND to set the input voltage at which the part turns on. Connect to V_{IN} pins for always on operation. Pull low (lower than V_{ENF}) for disabling the device. | | | |
| 2 | V _{CC} | 5V LDO Output. Bypass V_{CC} with a 2.2 μ F ceramic capacitance to SGND. LDO doesn't support the external loading on V_{CC} . | | | |
| 3 | SGND | Analog Ground | | | |
| 4 | MODE/ SYNC | MODE/SYNC Pin Configures the Device to Operate either in PWM, PFM or DCM Modes of Operation. Leave MODE/SYNC open for PFM operation (pulse skipping at light loads). Connect MODE/SYNC to SGND for constant-frequency PWM operation at all loads. Connect MODE/SYNC to V _{CC} for DCM operation at light loads. The device can be synchronized to an external clock using this pin. See the <i>Mode Selection and External Clock Synchronization (MODE/SYNC)</i> section for more details. | | | |
| 5 | SS | Soft-Start Input. Connect a capacitor from SS to SGND to set the soft-start time. | | | |
| 6 | FB | Feedback Input. Connect the output voltage node (V _{OUT}) to FB for MAX17631A and MAX17631B. Connect FB to the center node of an external resistor-divider from the output to SGND to set the output voltage for MAX17631C. See the <u>Adjusting Output Voltage</u> section for more details. | | | |

4.5V to 36V, 1.5A, High-Efficiency, Synchronous Step-Down DC-DC Converter

Pin Description (continued)

| PIN | NAME | FUNCTION |
|--------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7 | RT | Programmable Switching Frequency Input. Connect a resistor from RT to SGND to set the regulator's switching frequency between 400kHz and 2.2MHz. Leave RT open for the default 400kHz frequency. See the Setting the Switching Frequency (RT) section for more details. |
| 8 | RESET | Open-Drain RESET Output. The RESET output is driven low if FB drops below 92% of its set value. RESET goes high 1024 cycles after FB rises above 95% of its set value. |
| 9 | EXTVCC | External Power Supply Input Reduces the Internal-LDO Loss. Connect it to the buck output when it is programmed to 5V only. When EXTVCC is not used, connect it to SGND. |
| 10 | BST | Boost Flying Capacitor. Connect a 0.1µF ceramic capacitor between BST and LX. |
| 11, 12 | LX | Switching Node Pins. Connect LX pins to the switching side of the inductor. |
| 13, 14 | PGND | Power Ground Pins of the Converter. Connect externally to the power ground plane. Refer to the MAX17631 EV kit data sheet for a layout example. |
| 15, 16 | V _{IN} | Power-Supply Input Pins. 4.5V to 36V input-supply range. Decouple to PGND with a 2.2 μ F capacitor; place the capacitor close to the V _{IN} and PGND pins. |
| _ | EP | Exposed Pad. Always connect EP to the SGND pin of the IC. Also, connect EP to a large SGND plane with several thermal vias for best thermal performance. Refer to the MAX17631 EV kit data sheet for an example of the correct method for EP connection and thermal vias. |

Functional Diagram



Detailed Description

The MAX17631 is a high-efficiency, high-voltage, synchronous step-down DC-DC converter with integrated MOSFETs operating over an input-voltage range of 4.5V to 36V. It can deliver up to 1.5A current. MAX17631A and MAX17631B are fixed 3.3V and fixed 5V output parts, respectively. MAX17631C is the adjustable output voltage (from 0.9V up to 90% of V_{IN}) part. Built-in compensation across the output-voltage range eliminates the need for external compensation components. The feedback-voltage regulation accuracy over -40°C to +125°C is $\pm 1.2\%$ for MAX17631A/MAX17631B/MAX17631C.

The device features a peak-current-mode control architecture. An internal transconductance error amplifier produces an integrated error voltage at an internal node, which sets the duty cycle using a PWM comparator, a high-side current-sense amplifier, and a slope-compensation generator. At each rising edge of the clock, the high-side MOSFET turns on and remains on until either the appropriate or maximum duty cycle is reached, or the peak current limit is detected. During the high-side MOSFET's on-time, the inductor current ramps up. During the second half of the switching cycle, the high-side MOSFET turns off and the low-side MOSFET turns on. The inductor releases the stored energy as its current ramps down and provides current to the output.

The device features a MODE/SYNC pin that can be used to operate the device in PWM, PFM, or DCM control modes. The device also features adjustable-input undervoltage lockout, adjustable soft-start, open-drain RESET, and external frequency synchronization features. The MAX17631 offers a low minimum on-time that enables to design converter at high switching frequencies and a small solution size.

Mode Selection and External Clock Synchronization (MODE/SYNC)

The MAX17631 supports PWM, PFM and DCM mode of operation. The device enters the required mode of operation based on the setting of the MODE/SYNC pin as detected within 1.5ms after V_{CC} and EN/UVLO voltages exceed their respective UVLO rising thresholds (VCC_UVR, VENR). If the MODE/SYNC pin is open, the device operates in PFM mode at light loads. If the state of the MODE/SYNC pin is low (< $V_{M\text{-}PWM}$), the device operates in constant-frequency PWM mode at all loads. If the state of the MODE/ SYNC pin is high (> $V_{M\text{-}DCM}$), the device operates in DCM mode at light loads.

During external clock synchronization, the device operates in PWM mode irrespective of mode of operation

detected. When 16 external clock rising edges are detected on the MODE/SYNC pin, the internal oscillator frequency set by the RT pin (f_{SW}) changes to the external clock frequency, and the device transitions to PWM mode. The device remains in PWM mode until EN/UVLO or input power is cycled. The external clock frequency must be between 1.1 x f_{SW} and 1.4 x f_{SW} . The minimum external clock pulse width should be greater than 50ns. The off-time duration of the external clock should be at least 160ns. See the MODE/SYNC section in the *Electrical Characteristics* table for details.

PWM Mode Operation

In PWM mode, the inductor current is allowed to go negative. PWM operation provides constant frequency operation at all loads, and is useful in applications sensitive to switching frequency. However, the PWM mode of operation gives lower efficiency at light loads compared to PFM and DCM modes of operation.

PFM Mode Operation

PFM mode of operation disables negative inductor current and additionally skips pulses at light loads for high efficiency. In PFM mode, the inductor current is forced to a fixed peak of IPFM (0.61mA typ) every clock cycle until the output rises to 102.3% of the set nominal output voltage. Once the output reaches 102.3% of the set nominal output voltage, both the high-side and low-side FETs are turned off and the device enters hibernate operation until the load discharges the output to 101.1% of the set nominal output voltage. Most of the internal blocks are turned off in hibernate operation to save quiescent current. After the output falls below 101.1% of the set nominal output voltage, the device comes out of hibernate operation, turns on all internal blocks, and again commences the process of delivering pulses of energy to the output until it reaches 102.3% of the set nominal output voltage. The advantage of PFM mode is higher efficiency at light loads because of lower quiescent current drawn from the supply. The disadvantage is that the output-voltage ripple is higher compared to PWM or DCM modes of operation and switching frequency is not constant at light loads.

DCM Mode Operation

DCM mode of operation features constant frequency operation down to lighter loads than PFM mode, not by skipping pulses, but by disabling negative inductor current at light loads. DCM operation offers efficiency performance that lies between PWM and PFM modes. The output-voltage ripple in DCM mode is comparable to PWM mode and relatively lower compared to PFM mode.

Linear Regulator (V_{CC} and EXTVCC)

The MAX17631 has an internal low dropout (LDO) regulator that powers V_{CC} from $V_{IN}.$ This LDO is enabled during power-up or when EN/UVLO is recycled. When V_{CC} is above its UVLO, if EXTVCC is greater than 4.7V (typ), internal V_{CC} is powered by EXTVCC and LDO is disabled from $V_{IN}.$ Powering V_{CC} from EXTVCC increases efficiency at higher input voltages. The typical V_{CC} output voltage is 5V. Bypass V_{CC} to SGND with a 2.2 μ F low-ESR ceramic capacitor. V_{CC} powers the internal blocks and the low-side MOSFET driver and recharges the external bootstrap capacitor.

The MAX17631 employs an undervoltage-lockout circuit that forces the buck converter off when V_{CC} falls below V_{CC_UVF} . The buck converter can be immediately enabled again when $V_{CC} > V_{CC_UVR}$. The 400mV UVLO hysteresis prevents chattering on power-up/power-down.

In applications where the buck-converter output is connected to the EXTVCC pin, if the output is shorted to ground, then the transfer from EXTVCC to internal LDO happens seamlessly without any impact to the normal functionality. Connect the EXTVCC pin to SGND when not in use.

Setting the Switching Frequency (RT)

The switching frequency of the device can be programmed from 400kHz to 2.2MHz by using a resistor connected from the RT pin to SGND. The switching frequency (f_{SW}) is related to the resistor connected at the RT pin (R_{RT}) by the following equation:

$$R_{RT} = \frac{21000}{f_{SW}} - 1.7$$

Where R_{RT} is in $k\Omega$ and f_{SW} is in kHz. Leaving the RT pin open makes the device operate at the default switching frequency of 400kHz. See <u>Table 1</u> for RT resistor values for a few common switching frequencies.

Table 1. Switching Frequency vs. RT Resistor

| SWITCHING FREQUENCY (kHz) | RT RESISTOR (kΩ) |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 400 | Open |
| 400 | 50.8 |
| 500 | 40.2 |
| 2200 | 8.06 |

Operating Input-Voltage Range

The minimum and maximum operating input voltages for a given output voltage setting should be calculated as follows:

$$V_{IN(MIN)} = \frac{V_{OUT} + \left(I_{OUT(MAX)} \times \left(R_{DCR(MAX)} + R_{DS-ONL(MAX)}\right)\right)}{1 - \left(f_{SW(MAX)} \times f_{OFF-MIN(MAX)}\right)} + \frac{\left(I_{OUT(MAX)} \times \left(R_{DS-ONH(MAX)} - R_{DS-ONL(MAX)}\right)\right)}{V_{IN(MAX)}} + \frac{V_{OUT}}{f_{SW(MAX)} \times f_{ON-MIN(MAX)}}$$

where:

V_{OUT} = Steady-state output voltage

I_{OUT(MAX)} = Maximum load current

 $R_{DCR(MAX)}$ = Worst-case DC resistance of the inductor

f_{SW(MAX)} = Maximum switching frequency

 $t_{OFF-MIN(MAX)}$ = Worst-case minimum switch off-time (160ns)

 $t_{ON-MIN(MAX)}$ = Worst-case minimum switch on-time (80ns)

 $R_{DS-ONL(MAX)}$ and $R_{DS-ONH(MAX)}$ = Worst-case on-state resistances of low-side and high-side internal MOSFETs, respectively.

Overcurrent Protection (OCP)/Hiccup Mode

The device is provided with a robust overcurrentprotection (OCP) scheme that protects the device under overload and output short-circuit conditions. A cycle-bycycle peak current limit turns off the high-side MOSFET whenever the high-side switch current exceeds an internal limit of IPEAK-LIMIT (2.7A (typ)). A runaway peak current limit on the high-side switch current at IRUNAWAY-LIMIT (3.1A (typ)) protects the device under high input voltage, short-circuit conditions when there is insufficient output voltage available to restore the inductor current that built up during the on period of the step-down converter. One occurrence of the runaway current limit triggers a hiccup mode. In addition, if feedback voltage drops to VFB-HICF due to a fault condition any time after soft-start is complete, hiccup mode is triggered. In hiccup mode, the converter is protected by suspending switching for a hiccup timeout period of 32,768 clock cycles of half the programmed switching frequency. Once the hiccup timeout period expires, soft-start is attempted again. Note that when soft-start is attempted under overload condition, if feedback voltage does not exceed VFB-HICF, the device continues to switch at half the programmed switching frequency for the time duration of the programmed softstart time and 1024 clock cycles. Hiccup mode of operation ensures low power dissipation under output shortcircuit conditions.

4.5V to 36V, 1.5A, High-Efficiency, Synchronous Step-Down DC-DC Converter

RESET Output

The device includes a $\overline{\text{RESET}}$ comparator to monitor the status of the output voltage. The open-drain $\overline{\text{RESET}}$ output requires an external pullup resistor. $\overline{\text{RESET}}$ goes high (high impedance) 1024 switching cycles after the regulator output increases above 95% of the designed nominal regulated voltage. $\overline{\text{RESET}}$ goes low when the regulator output voltage drops to below 92% of the set nominal output voltage. $\overline{\text{RESET}}$ also goes low during thermal shutdown or when the EN/UVLO pin goes below V_{ENF} .

Prebiased Output

When the device starts into a prebiased output, both the high-side and the low-side switches are turned off so that the converter does not sink current from the output. High-side and low-side switches do not start switching until the PWM comparator commands the first PWM pulse, at which point switching commences. The output voltage is then smoothly ramped up to the target value in alignment with the internal reference.

Thermal-Shutdown Protection

Thermal-shutdown protection limits junction temperature of the device. When the junction temperature of the device exceeds +165°C, an on-chip thermal sensor shuts down the device, allowing the device to cool. The device turns-on with soft-start after the junction temperature reduces by 10°C. Carefully evaluate the total power dissipation (see the *Power Dissipation* section) to avoid unwanted triggering of the thermal shutdown during normal operation.

Applications Information

Input Capacitor Selection

The input filter capacitor reduces peak currents drawn from the power source and reduces noise and voltage ripple on the input caused by the circuit's switching. The input capacitor RMS current requirement (I_{RMS}) is defined by the following equation:

$$I_{RMS} = I_{OUT(MAX)} \times \frac{\sqrt{V_{OUT} \times (V_{IN} - V_{OUT})}}{V_{IN}}$$

where, $I_{OUT(MAX)}$ is the maximum load current. I_{RMS} has a maximum value when the input voltage equals twice the output voltage (V_{IN} = 2 x V_{OUT}), so

$$I_{RMS(MAX)} = \frac{I_{OUT(MAX)}}{2}$$
.

Choose an input capacitor that exhibits less than +10°C temperature rise at the RMS input current for optimal long-term reliability. Use low-ESR ceramic capacitors with high-ripple-current capability at the input. X7R capacitors are recommended in industrial applications for their temperature stability. Calculate the input capacitance using the following equation:

$$C_{IN} = \frac{|OUT(MAX)| \times D \times (1-D)}{\eta \times f_{SW} \times \Delta V_{IN}}$$

where:

 $D = V_{OUT}/V_{IN}$ is the duty ratio of the converter

f_{SW} = Switching frequency

 ΔV_{IN} = Allowable input-voltage ripple

 $\eta = Efficiency$

In applications where the source is located distant from the device input, an appropriate electrolytic capacitor should be added in parallel to the ceramic capacitor to provide necessary damping for potential oscillations caused by the inductance of the longer input power path and input ceramic capacitor.

Inductor Selection

Three key inductor parameters must be specified for operation with the device: inductance value (L), inductor saturation current (I_{SAT}), and DC resistance (R_{DCR}). The switching frequency and output voltage determine the inductor value as follows:

$$L = \frac{V_{OUT}}{0.9 \times f_{SW}}$$

where V_{OUT} and f_{SW} are nominal values and f_{SW} is in Hz. Select an inductor whose value is nearest to the value calculated by the previous formula. Select a low-loss inductor closest to the calculated value with acceptable dimensions and having the lowest possible DC resistance. The saturation current rating (I_{SAT}) of the inductor must be high enough to ensure that saturation can occur only above the peak current-limit value of $I_{PEAK-I\,IMIT}$.

Output-Capacitor Selection

X7R ceramic output capacitors are preferred due to their stability over temperature in industrial applications. The output capacitors are usually sized to support a step load of 50% of the maximum output current in the application, so the output-voltage deviation is contained to 3% of the output-voltage change. The minimum required output capacitance can be calculated as follows:

$$C_{OUT} = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{I_{STEP} \times I_{RESPONSE}}{\Delta V_{OUT}}$$
$$I_{RESPONSE} \cong \frac{0.33}{f_{C}}$$

where:

I_{STFP} = Load current step

tresponse time of the controller

ΔV_{OUT} = Allowable output-voltage deviation

f_C = Target closed-loop crossover frequency

f_{SW} = Switching frequency.

Select f_C to be 1/10th of f_{SW} if the switching frequency is less than or equal to 800kHz. If the switching frequency is more than 800kHz, select fc to be 80kHz. Actual derating of ceramic capacitors with DC bias voltage must be considered while selecting the output capacitor. Derating curves are available from all major ceramic capacitor manufacturers.

Soft-Start Capacitor Selection

The device implements adjustable soft-start operation to reduce inrush current. A capacitor connected from the SS pin to SGND programs the soft-start time. The selected output capacitance (C_{SEL}) and the output voltage (V_{OUT}) determine the minimum required soft-start capacitor as follows:

$$C_{SS} \ge 28 \times 10^{-6} \times C_{SEL} \times V_{OUT}$$

The soft-start time (tss) is related to the capacitor connected at SS (C_{SS}) by the following equation:

$$t_{SS} = \frac{C_{SS}}{5.55 \times 10^{-6}}$$

For example, to program a 1ms soft-start time, a 5.6nF capacitor should be connected from the SS pin to SGND. Note that during startup, the device operates at half the programmed switching frequency until the output voltage reaches 64.4% of set output nominal voltage.

Setting the Input Undervoltage-Lockout Level

The device offers an adjustable input undervoltage-lockout level. Set the voltage at which the device turns on with a resistive voltage-divider connected from V_{IN}to SGND (see Figure 1). Connect the center node of the divider to EN/UVLO. Choose R1 to be $3.3M\Omega$ and then calculate R2 as follows:

$$R_2 = \frac{R_1 \times 1.215}{\left(V_{\text{INU}} - 1.215\right)}$$

where V_{INU} is the input-voltage level at which the device is required to turn on. Ensure that $V_{\mbox{\footnotesize{INU}}}$ is higher than 0.8 x V_{OUT} to avoid hiccup during slow power-up (slower than soft-start)/power-down. If the EN/UVLO pin is driven from an external signal source, a series resistance of minimum $1k\Omega$ is recommended to be placed between the output pin of signal source and the EN/UVLO pin, to reduce voltage ringing on the line.

Adjusting Output Voltage

Set the output voltage with a resistive voltage-divider connected from the output-voltage node (VOUT) to SGND (see Figure 2). Connect the center node of the divider to the FB pin for MAX17631C. Connect the output voltage node (V_{OUT}) to the FB pin for MAX17631A and MAX17631B. Use the following procedure to choose the resistive voltage-divider values.

Calculate resistor R_T from the output to the FB pin as follows:

$$R_{T} = \frac{180}{\left(f_{C} \times C_{OUT SEL}\right)}$$

where:

 R_T is in $k\Omega$

f_C = Crossover frequency is in Hz

COUT SEL= Actual capacitance of selected output capacitor at DC-bias voltage in F.

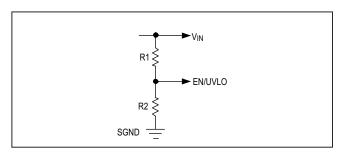


Figure 1. Setting the Input Undervoltage Lockout

4.5V to 36V, 1.5A, High-Efficiency, Synchronous Step-Down DC-DC Converter

Calculate resistor R_B from the FB pin to SGND as follows:

$$R_{B} = \frac{R_{T} \times 0.9}{\left(V_{OUT} - 0.9\right)}$$

 R_B is in $k\Omega$.

Power Dissipation

At a particular operating condition, the power losses that lead to a temperature rise of the part are estimated as follows:

$$\mathsf{P}_{\mathsf{LOSS}} = \left(\mathsf{P}_{\mathsf{OUT}} \times \left(\frac{1}{\eta} - 1\right)\right) - \left(\mathsf{I}_{\mathsf{OUT}}^{2} \times \mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{DCR}}\right)$$

$$P_{OUT} = V_{OUT} \times I_{OUT}$$

where:

P_{OUT} = Output power

 η = Efficiency of the converter

R_{DCR} = DC resistance of the inductor (see the <u>Typical</u> <u>Operating Characteristics</u> for more information on efficiency at typical operating conditions).

For a typical multilayer board, the thermal performance metrics for the package are given below:

$$\theta_{JA} = 38^{\circ}C/W$$

 $\theta_{JC} = 10^{\circ}C/W$

The junction temperature of the device can be estimated at any given maximum ambient temperature $(T_{A(MAX)})$ from the following equation:

$$T_{J(MAX)} = T_{A(MAX)} + (\theta_{JA} \times P_{LOSS})$$

If the application has a thermal-management system that ensures that the exposed pad of the device is maintained at a given temperature (TEP(MAX)) by using proper heat sinks, then the junction temperature of the device can be estimated at any given maximum ambient temperature as:

$$T_{J(MAX)} = T_{EP(MAX)} + (\theta_{JC} \times P_{LOSS})$$

Note: Junction temperatures greater than +125°C degrades operating lifetimes.

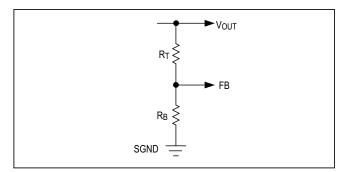


Figure 2. Setting the Output Voltage

PCB Layout Guidelines

All connections carrying pulsed currents must be very short and as wide as possible. The inductance of these connections must be kept to an absolute minimum due to the high di/dt of the currents. Since inductance of a current-carrying loop is proportional to the area enclosed by the loop, if the loop area is made very small, inductance is reduced. Additionally, small-current loop areas reduce radiated EMI.

A ceramic input filter capacitor should be placed close to the V_{IN} pins of the IC. This eliminates as much trace inductance effects as possible and gives the IC a cleaner voltage supply. A bypass capacitor for the V_{CC} pin also should be placed close to the pin to reduce the effects of trace impedance.

When routing the circuitry around the IC, the analog small signal ground and the power ground for switching currents must be kept separate. They should be connected together at a point where switching activity is minimum. This helps keep the analog ground quiet. The ground plane should be kept continuous (unbroken) as far as possible. No trace carrying high switching current should be placed directly over any ground plane discontinuity.

PCB layout also affects the thermal performance of the design. A number of thermal throughputs that connect to a large ground plane should be provided under the exposed pad of the part, for efficient heat dissipation.

For a sample layout that ensures first pass success, refer to the MAX17631 evaluation kit layout available at www.maximintegrated.com.

Typical Application Circuits

Typical Application Circuit — Fixed 3.3V Output

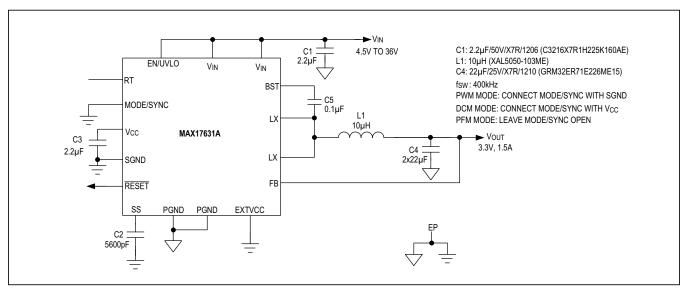


Figure 3. Fixed 3.3V Output with 400kHz Switching Frequency

Typical Application Circuit — Fixed 5V Output

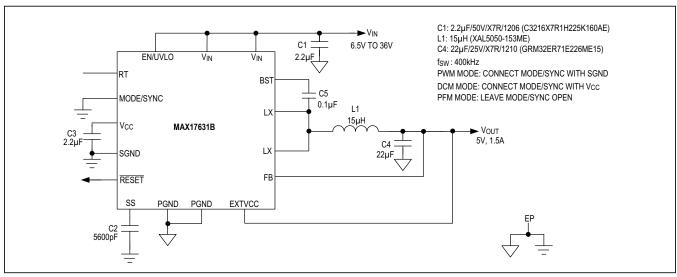


Figure 4. Fixed 5V Output with 400kHz Switching Frequency

Typical Application Circuits (continued)

Typical Application Circuit — Adjustable 3.3V Output

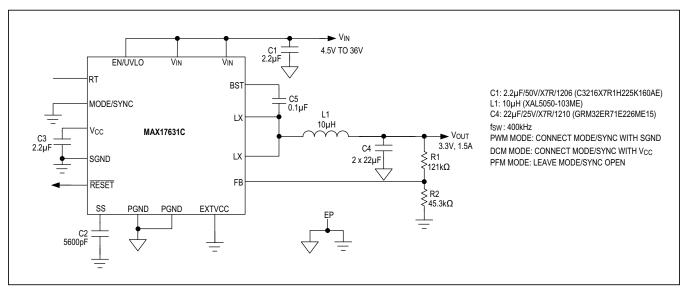


Figure 5. Adjustable 3.3V Output with 400kHz Switching Frequency

Typical Application Circuit — Adjustable 5V Output

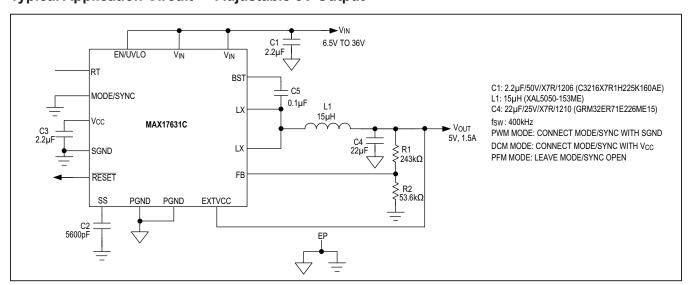


Figure 6. Adjustable 5V Output with 400kHz Switching Frequency

Typical Application Circuits (continued)

Typical Application circuit: Adjustable 3.3V Output with 800kHz Switching Frequency

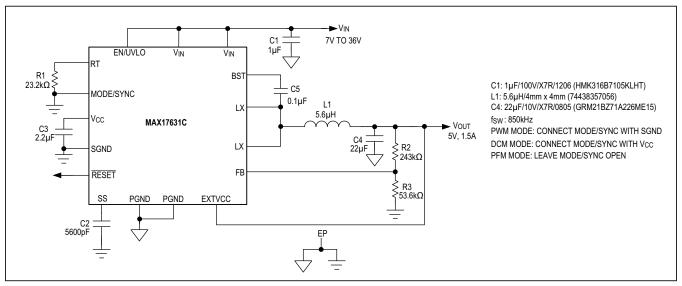


Figure 7. Adjustable 3.3V Output with 800kHz Switching Frequency

Ordering Information

| PART NUMBER | OUTPUT VOLTAGE (V) | PIN-PACKAGE |
|---------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| MAX17631AATE+ | 3.3 | 16 TQFN 3mm x 3mm |
| MAX17631BATE+ | 5 | 16 TQFN 3mm x 3mm |
| MAX17631CATE+ | Adjustable | 16 TQFN 3mm x 3mm |