19-5128; Rev 0; 1/10

EVALUATION KIT AVAILABLE

0V to 16V, Dual Hot-Swap Controller with 10-Bit Current and Voltage Monitor and 4 LED Drivers

General Description

The MAX5970 dual hot-swap controller provides complete protection for systems with two supply voltages from 0V to +16V. The MAX5970 includes four programmable LED outputs. The two hot-swap channels can be configured to operate as independent hot-swap controllers, or as a pair operating together so that both channels shut down if either channel experiences a fault.

The MAX5970 provides two programmable levels of overcurrent circuit-breaker protection: a fast-trip threshold for a fast turn-off, and a lower slow-trip threshold for a delayed turn-off. The maximum overcurrent circuitbreaker threshold range is set independently for each channel with a trilevel logic input IRNG_, or by programming though the I2C interface.

The MAX5970 is an advanced hot-swap controller that monitors voltage and current with an internal 10-bit ADC which is continuously multiplexed to convert the output voltage and current of both hot-swap channels at 10ksps. Each 10-bit sample is stored in an internal circular buffer so that 50 past samples of each signal can be read back through the I2C interface at any time or after a fault condition.

The device includes five user-programmable digital comparators per hot-swap channel to implement overcurrent warning and two levels of overvoltage/undervoltage detection. When any of the measured values violates the programmable limits, an external ALERT output is asserted. In addition to the ALERT signal, the MAX5970 can be programmed to deassert the power-good signal and/or turn off the external MOSFET.

The MAX5970 features four I/Os that can be independently configured as general-purpose inputs/outputs (GPIOs) or as open-drain LED drivers with programmable blinking. These four I/Os can be configured for any mix of LED driver or GPIO function.

The MAX5970 is available in a 36-pin thin QFN-EP package and operates over the -40 $^{\circ}$ C to +85 $^{\circ}$ C extended temperature range.

Features

MAX5970

MAX5970

- ◆ Two Independent Hot-Swap Controllers Operate from 0V to +16V
- ◆ 10-Bit ADC Monitors Voltage and Current of Each Channel
- Circular Buffers Store 5ms of Current and Voltage **Measurements**
- \rightarrow Two Independent Internal Charge Pumps Generate n-Channel MOSFET Gate Drives
- ◆ Internal 500mA Gate Pulldown Current for Fast Shutdown
- ◆ VariableSpeed/BiLevel™ Circuit-Breaker Protection
- ◆ Independent Precision-Voltage Enable Inputs
- ◆ Alert Output Indicates Fault and Warning **Conditions**
- Independent Power-Good Outputs
- Independent Fault Outputs
- ◆ Four Open-Drain Outputs Sink 25mA to Directly Drive LEDs
- ◆ Programmable LED Flashing Function
- **+ Autoretry or Latched Fault Management**
- ◆ 400kHz I²C Interface
- ◆ Small 6mm x 6mm, 36-Pin TQFN-EP Package

Applications

Single PCI Express[®] Hot-Plug Slot

Blade Servers

Disk Drives/DASD/Storage Systems

Soft-Switch for ASICs, FPGAs, and Microcontrollers with Independent Core and I/O Voltages

Ordering Information

+*Denotes a lead(Pb)-free/RoHS-compliant package.* **EP = Exposed pad.*

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ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

Continuous Power Dissipation $(T_A = +70^{\circ}C)$			
36-Pin, 6mm x 6mm TQFN			
Junction-to-Ambient Thermal Resistance $(\theta_{I}A)$ (Note 1). 28°C/W			
Storage Temperature Range -65°C to +150°C			
Lead Temperature (soldering, 10s) +300°C			

Note 1: Package thermal resistances were obtained using the method described in JEDEC specification JESD51-7, using a fourlayer board. For detailed information on package thermal consideration, refer to www.maxim-ic.com/thermal-tutorial.

**As per JEDEC51 Standard (Multilayer Board)

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.

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(V_{IN} = 2.7V to 16V, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at V_{IN} = 3.3V and T_A = +25°C.) (Note 2)

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(V_{IN} = 2.7V to 16V, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at V_{IN} = 3.3V and T_A = +25°C.) (Note 2)

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(V_{IN} = 2.7V to 16V, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at V_{IN} = 3.3V and T_A = +25°C.) (Note 2)

MAXIM

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(V_{IN} = 2.7V to 16V, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at V_{IN} = 3.3V and T_A = +25°C.) (Note 2)

Note 2: All devices are 100% production tested at $T_A = +25^{\circ}$ C. Limits over the temperature range are guaranteed by design.

(V_{IN} = 3.3V, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

Typical Operating Characteristics

MAXM ___ 5 *MAX5970*

 Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(V_{IN} = 3.3V, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

MAX5970

MAX5970

ILOAD 2A/div VFAULT 5V/div

10ms/div

400µs/div

MAXM

 Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(V_{IN} = 3.3V, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

MAXM

MAX5970

DZ6SXVM

Pin Description

MAX5970

 Pin Description (continued)

MAX5970

 Typical Application Circuit

MAX5970

Detailed Description

The MAX5970 includes a set of registers that are accessed through the I2C interface. Some of the registers are read only and some of the registers are read and write that are updated to configure the MAX5970 for a specific operation. See Tables 1a and 1b for the registers map.

Table 1a. Register Address Map (Channel Specific)

MAX5970

Table 1a. Register Address Map (Channel Specific) (continued)

Table 1b. Register Address Map (General)

Grouping Hot-Swap Channels

The MAX5970 can operate as either two independent hot-swap controllers or as a pair. See Table 2 for the configuration option based on the MODE logic level.

Hot-Swap Channels On-Off Control

Depending on the configuration of the Chx_EN1 and Chx EN2 bits, when VIN is above the VUVLO threshold and the ON_ input reaches its internal threshold, the MAX5970 turns on the external n-channel MOSFET for the corresponding channel, allowing power to flow to the load. The channel is enabled depending on the output of a majority function. Chx_EN1, Chx_EN2, and ON_ are the inputs to the majority function and the channel is enabled when two or more of these inputs are 1.

$(Channel enabled) = (Chx_EN1 x Chx_EN2) +$ (Chx_EN1 x ON_) + (Chx_EN2 x ON_)

The inputs ON and Chx EN2 can be set externally; the initial state of the Chx_EN2 bits in register *chxen* is set by the state of the HWEN input when V_{IN} rises above VUVLO. The ON_ inputs connect to internal precision analog comparators with a 0.6V threshold. Whenever VON is above 0.6V, the corresponding ON_ bit in register *status1[0:1]* is set to 1. The inputs Chx_EN1 and Chx_ EN2 can be set using the I2C interface; the Chx_EN1 bits have a default value of 0. This makes it possible to enable or disable each of the MAX5970 channels independently with or without using the I2C interface (see Tables 3, 4a, and 4b).

Table 2. Grouping Hot-Swap Channels

Table 3. chxen Register Format

Table 4a. status1 Register Function

Table 4b. status1 Register Format

Figure 1 shows the detailed logic operation of the hotswap enable signals Chx_EN1, Chx_EN2, and ON_, as well as the effect of various fault conditions.

An input undervoltage threshold control for enabling the hot-swap channel can be implemented by placing a resistive divider between the drain of the hot-swap MOSFET and ground, with the midpoint connected to ON_. The turn-on threshold voltage for the channel is then:

$VFN = 0.6V \times (R1 + R2)/R2$

The maximum rating for the ON_ is 6V; do not exceed this value.

Startup

When all conditions for channel turn-on are met, the external n-channel MOSFET switch is fully enhanced with a typical gate-to-source voltage of 5V to ensure a low drain-to-source resistance. The charge pump at each GATE_ driver sources 5µA to control the output voltage turn-on voltage slew rate. An external capacitor can be added from GATE_to GND_to further reduce the voltage slew rate. Placing a 1k Ω resistor in series with this capacitance prevents the added capacitance from increasing the gate turn-off time. Total inrush current is the load current summed with the product of the gate voltage slew rate dV/dt and the load capacitance.

Figure 1. Channel On-Off Control Logic Functional Schematic

To determine the output dV/dt during startup, divide the GATE_ pullup current IG(UP) by the gate-to-ground capacitance. The voltage at the source of the external MOSFET follows the gate voltage, so the load dV/dt is the same as the gate dV/dt. Inrush current is the product of the dV/dt and the load capacitance. The time to start up tSU is the hot-swap voltage VS_ divided by the output dV/dt.

Be sure to choose an external MOSFET that can handle the power dissipated during startup. The inrush current is roughly constant during startup, and the voltage drop across the MOSFET (drain to source) decreases linearly as the load capacitance charges. The resulting power dissipation is therefore roughly equivalent to a single pulse of magnitude (VS x Inrush current)/2 and duration tsu. Refer to the thermal resistance charts in the MOSFET data sheet to determine the junction temperature rise during startup, and ensure that this does

not exceed the maximum junction temperature for worstcase ambient conditions.

Circuit-Breaker Protection

As the channel is turned on and during normal operation, two analog comparators are used to detect an overcurrent condition by sensing the voltage across an external resistor connected between SENSE_ and MON. If the voltage across the sense resistor is less than the slow-trip and fast-trip circuit-breaker thresholds, the GATE_ output remains high. If either of the thresholds is exceeded due to an overcurrent condition, the gate of the MOSFET is pulled down to MON_ by an internal 500mA current source.

The higher of the two comparator thresholds, the fasttrip, is set by an internal 8-bit DAC (see Table 8), within one of three configurable full-scale current-sense ranges: 25mV, 50mV, or 100mV (see Tables 7a and 7b). The 8-bit fast-trip threshold DAC can be programmed

MAX5970

Table 5a. ifast2slow Register Format

from 40% to 100% of the selected full-scale currentsense range. The slow-trip threshold follows the fast-trip threshold as one of four programmable ratios, set by the ifast2slow register (see Tables 5a and 5b).

The fast-trip threshold is always higher than the slow-trip threshold, and the fast-trip comparator responds very quickly to protect the system against sudden, severe overcurrent events. The slower response of the slowtrip comparator varies depending upon the amount of overdrive beyond the slow-trip threshold. If the overdrive is small and short-lived, the comparator does not shut down the affected channel. As the overcurrent event increases in magnitude, the response time of the slowtrip comparator decreases. This scheme provides good rejection of noise and spurious overcurrent transients near the slow-trip threshold while aggressively protecting the system against larger overcurrent events that occur as a result of a load fault.

Setting Circuit-Breaker Thresholds

To select and set the MAX5970 slow-trip and fast-trip comparator thresholds, use the following procedure:

1) Select one of four ratios between the fast-trip threshold and the slow-trip threshold: 200%, 175%, 150%, or 125%. A system that experiences brief, but large transient load currents should use a higher ratio, whereas a system that operates continuously at higher average load currents might benefit from a smaller ratio to ensure adequate protection. The ratio is set by writing to the ifast2slow register. The default setting on power-up is 200%.

2) Determine the slow-trip threshold VTH,ST based on the anticipated maximum continuous load current during normal operation, and the value of the current-sense resistor. The slow-trip threshold should include some margin (possibly 20%) above the maximum load current to prevent spurious circuit-breaker shutdown and to accommodate passive component tolerances:

 $VTHST = RSENSE \times ILOAD$, MAX \times 120%

3) Calculate the necessary fast-trip threshold VTH, FT based on the ratio set in step 1:

VTH,FT = VTH,ST x (ifast2slow ratio)

- 4) Select one of the four maximum current-sense ranges: 25mV, 50mV, or 100mV. The current-sense range is initially set upon power-up by the state of the associated IRNG_ input, but can be altered at any time by writing to the status2 register. For maximum accuracy and best measurement resolution, select the lowest current-sense range that is larger than the VTH,FT value calculated in Step 3.
- 5) Program the fast-trip and slow-trip thresholds by writing an 8-bit value to the dac_chx register. This 8-bit value is determined from the desired VTH,ST value that was calculated in Step 2, the threshold ratio from Step 1, and the current-sense range from Step 4:

DAC = $VTHST \times 255 \times (ifast2slow ratio)$ (IRNG_ current-sense range)

MAX5970

MAX597c

MAX5970 *MAX5970*

The MAX5970 provides a great deal of system flexibility because the current-sense range, DAC setting, and threshold ratio can be changed on the fly for systems that must protect a wide range of interchangeable load devices, or for systems that control the allocation of power to smart loads. Table 6 shows the specified

ranges for the fast-trip and slow-trip thresholds for all combinations of current-sense range and threshold ratio.

When an overcurrent event causes the MAX5970 to shut down a channel, a corresponding open-drain FAULT_ output alerts the system. Figure 2 shows the operation and fault-management flowchart for one channel of the MAX5970.

Table 7a. IRNG Inputs Status Register Format

Table 7b. Setting Current-Sense Range

Figure 2. Operation and Fault-Management Flowchart for One Channel

MAX5970

Table 8. dac_chx Register Format

MAX5970

MAX5970

Digital Current Monitoring

The two current-sense signals are sampled by the internal 10-bit 10ksps ADC, and the most recent results are stored in registers for retrieval through the I2C interface. The current conversion values are 10 bits wide, with the eight high-order bits written to one 8-bit register and the

two low-order bits written to the next higher 8-bit register address (Tables 9 and 10). This allows use of just the high-order byte in applications where 10-bit precision is not required. This split 8-bit/2-bit storage scheme is used throughout the MAX5970 for all 10-bit ADC conversion results and 10-bit digital comparator thresholds.

Table 9. ADC Current Conversion Results Register Format (High-Order Bits)

Table 10. ADC Current Conversion Results Register Format (Low-Order Bits)

Once the PG output is asserted, the most recent current samples are continuously compared to the programmable overcurrent warning register values. If the measured current value exceeds the warning level, the ALERT output is asserted. The MAX5970 response to this digital comparator is not altered by the setting of the PROT input (Tables 11 and 12).

Minimum and Maximum Value Detection for Current Measurement Values

All current measurement values from the ADC are continuously compared with the contents of minimumand maximum-value registers, and if the most recent measurement exceeds the stored maximum or is less than the stored minimum, the corresponding register is updated with the new value. These peak detection registers are read accessible through the I2C interface (Tables 13–16). The minimum-value registers are reset to 0x3FF, and the maximum-value registers are reset to 0x000. These reset values are loaded upon startup of a channel or at any time as commanded by register peak_log_rst (Table 36).

Table 11. Overcurrent Warning Threshold Register Format (High-Order Bits)

Table 12. Overcurrent Warning Threshold Register Format (Low-Order Bits)

Table 13. ADC Minimum Current Conversion Register Format (High-Order Bits)

Table 14. ADC Minimum Current Conversion Register Format (Low-Order Bits)

Table 15. ADC Maximum Current Conversion Register Format (High-Order Bits)

Table 16. ADC Maximum Current Conversion Register Format (Low-Order Bits)

Digital Voltage Monitoring and Power-Good Outputs

The voltage at the load (MON_ inputs) is sampled by the internal ADC. The MON_ full-scale voltage for each

channel can be set to 16V, 8V, 4V, or 2V by writing to register mon_range. The default range is 16V (Tables 17 and 18).

Table 17. ADC Voltage Monitor Settings Register Format

Table 18. ADC Full-Scale Voltage Setting

The most recent voltage conversion results can be read from the adc_chx_mon_msb and adc_chx_mon_lsb registers (see Tables 19 and 20).

Table 19. ADC Voltage Conversion Result Register Format (High-Order Bits)

Table 20. ADC Voltage Conversion Result Register Format (Low-Order Bits)

MAX5970

MAX597C

Digital Undervoltage and Overvoltage Detection Thresholds

undervoltage (UV) levels (see Tables 21–24) and two overvoltage (OV) levels (see Tables 25–28).

The most recent voltage values are continuously compared to four programmable limits, comprising two

Table 21. Undervoltage Warning Threshold Register Format (High-Order Bits)

Table 22. Undervoltage Warning Threshold Register Format (Low-Order Bits)

Table 23. Undervoltage Critical Threshold Register Format (High-Order Bits)

Table 24. Undervoltage Critical Threshold Register Format (Low-Order Bits)

MAXM

Table 25. Overvoltage Warning Threshold Register Format (High-Order Bits)

Table 26. Overvoltage Warning Threshold Register Format (Low-Order Bits)

Table 27. Overvoltage Critical Threshold Register Format (High-Order Bits)

Table 28. Overvoltage Critical Threshold Register Format (Low-Order Bits)

If PG_ is asserted and the voltage is outside the warning limits, the ALERT output is asserted low. Depending on the status of the prot[] bits in register status1[7:6], the MAX5970 can also deassert the PG_ output or turn off the external MOSFET when the voltage is outside the critical limits (see Figure 3). Table 29 shows the behavior for the three possible states of the PROT input. Note that the PROT input does not affect the MAX5970 response to the UV or OV warning digital comparators; it only determines

the system response to the critical digital comparators (see Tables 4a, 4b, and 29).

In a typical application, the UV1 and OV1 thresholds would be set closer to the nominal output voltage, and the UV2 and OV2 thresholds would be set further from nominal. This provides a progressive response to a voltage excursion. However, the thresholds can be configured in any arrangement or combination as desired to suit a given application.

PROT INPUT STATE	prot[1]	prot[0]	UV/OV WARNING ACTION	UV/OV CRITICAL ACTION
LOW			Assert ALERT	Assert ALERT, clear PG, shutdown channel(s)
High			Assert ALERT	Assert ALERT , clear PG
Unconnected			Assert ALERT	Assert ALERT

Table 29. PROT Input and prot[] Bits

Figure 3. Graphical Representation of Typical UV and OV Thresholds Configuration

MAX5970

Power-Good Detection and PG_ Outputs

The PG output for a given channel is asserted when the voltage at MON_ is between the undervoltage and overvoltage critical limits. The status of the power-good signals is maintained in register status3[3:0]. A value of

1 in any of the pg[] bits indicates a power-good condition, regardless of the POL setting, which only affects the PG_ output polarity. The open-drain PG_ output can be configured for active-high or active-low status indication by the state of the POL input (see Table 30).

Table 30. status3 Register Format

The POL input sets the value of *status3[5]*, which is a read-only bit; the state of the POL input can be changed at any time during operation and the polarity of the PG_ outputs changes accordingly.

The assertion of the PG_ output is delayed by a userselectable time delay of 50ms, 100ms, 200ms, or 400ms (see Tables 31a and 31b).

Table 31a. Power-Good Assertion Delay-Time Register Format

Table 31b. Power-Good Assertion Delay

Minimum and Maximum Value Detection for Voltage Measurement Values

All voltage measurement values are compared with the contents of minimum- and maximum-value registers, and if the most recent measurement exceeds the stored maximum or is less than the stored minimum, the corresponding register is updated with the new value. These peak detection registers are read accessible through the I2C interface (see Tables 32–35). The minimum-value registers are reset to 0x3FF, and the maximum-value registers are reset to 0x000. These reset values are loaded upon startup of a channel or at any time as commanded by register peak_log_rst (see Table 36).

Table 32. ADC Minimum Voltage Conversion Register Format (High-Order Bits)

Table 33. ADC Minimum Voltage Conversion Register Format (Low-Order Bits)

Table 34. ADC Maximum Voltage Conversion Register Format (High-Order Bits)

MAXM

Table 35. ADC Maximum Voltage Conversion Register Format (Low-Order Bits)

Using the Voltage and Current Peak-Detection Registers

The voltage and current minimum- and maximum-value records in register locations 0x08 through 0x17 can be reset by writing a 1 to the appropriate location in register peak_log_rst (see Table 36). The minimum-value registers are reset to 0x3FF, and the maximum-value registers are reset to 0x00.

As long as a bit in peak_log_rst is 1, the corresponding peak-detection registers are disabled and are cleared to their power-up reset values. The voltage and current

minimum- and maximum-detection register contents for each signal can be held by setting bits in register peak_log_hold (see Table 37). Writing a 1 to a location in peak_log_hold locks the register contents for the corresponding signal and stops the min/max detection and logging; writing a 0 enables the detection and logging. Note that the peak-detection registers cannot be cleared while they are held by register peak_log_hold.

The combination of these two control registers allows the user to monitor voltage and current peak-to-peak values during a particular time period.

Table 36. Peak-Detection Reset-Control Register Format

Table 37. Peak-Detection Hold-Control Register Format

Deglitching of Digital Comparators

The five digital comparators per hot-swap channel (undervoltage/overvoltage warning and critical, overcurrent warning) all have a user-selectable deglitching feature that requires two consecutive positive compares before the MAX5970 takes action as determined by the particular compare and the setting of the PROT input.

The deglitching function is enabled or disabled per comparator by registers dgl_i, dgl_uv, and dgl_ov (Tables 38, 39, and 40). Writing a 1 to the appropriate bit location in these registers enables the deglitch function for the corresponding digital comparator.

Table 38. OI Warning Comparators Deglitch Enable Register Format

Table 39. UV Warning and Critical Comparators Deglitch Enable Register Format

Table 40. OV Warning and Critical Comparators Deglitch Enable Register Format

Circular Buffer

The MAX5970 features four 10-bit "circular buffers" (in volatile memory) that contain a history of the 50 mostrecent voltage and current digital conversion results for each hot-swap channel. These circular buffers can be read back through the I2C interface. The recording of new data to the buffer for a given signal is stopped under any of the following conditions:

• The corresponding channel is shut down because of a fault condition.

- Clearing appropriate bits in register cbuf_chx_store.
- A read of the circular buffer base address is performed through the I2C interface.
- The corresponding channel is turned off by a combination of the Chx_EN1, Chx_EN2, or ON_ signals.

The buffers allow the user to recall the voltage and current waveforms for analysis and troubleshooting. The buffer contents are accessed through the I2C interface at **four** fixed addresses in the MAX5970 register address space (see Table 41).

Table 41. Circular Buffer Read Addresses

Each of the four buffers can also be stopped under user control by register cbuf_chx_store (see Table 42).

Table 42. Circular Buffer Control Register Format

The contents of a buffer can be retrieved as a block read of either fifty 10-bit values (spanning 2 bytes each) or of fifty high-order bytes, depending on the per-signal bit settings of register cbufrd_hibyonly (see Table 43).

Table 43. Circular Buffer Resolution Register Format

If the circular buffer contents are retrieved as 10-bit data, the first byte read out is the high-order 8 bits of the 10-bit sample, and the second byte read out contains the two least-significant bits (LSBs) of the sample. This is repeated for each of the 50 samples in the buffer. Thus, 2 bytes must be read for each 10-bit sample retrieved. Conversely, if the buffer contents are retrieved as 8-bit data, then each byte read out contains the 8 MSB of each successive sample. It is important to remember

that in 10-bit mode, 100 bytes must be read to extract the entire buffer contents, but in 8-bit mode, only 50 bytes must be read.

The circular buffer system has a user-programmable stop delay that specifies a certain number of sample cycles to continue recording to the buffer after a shutdown occurs. This delay value is stored in register cbuf_dly_stop[5:0] (see Table 44).

Table 44. Circular Buffer Stop-Delay Register Format

The default (reset) value of the buffer stop-delay is 25 samples, which means that an equal number of samples are stored in the buffer preceding and following the moment of the shutdown event. The buffer stop delay is analogous to an oscilloscope trigger delay, because it allows the MAX5970 to record what happened both immediately before and after a shutdown. In other words, when the contents of a circular buffer are read out of the MAX5970, the shutdown event, by default, is located in the middle of the recorded data. The balance of data before and after an event can be altered by writing a different value (between 0 and 50) to the buffer stop-delay register.

Autoretry or Latched-Off Fault Management

In the event of an overcurrent, undervoltage, or overvoltage condition that results in the shutdown of one or both channels, the MAX5970 device can be configured to either latch off or automatically restart the affected channel. The MAX5970 stays off if the RETRY input is set low (latched-off), and automatically retries if the RETRY input is high. The RETRY input is read once during initialization and sets the value of status3[6] register (see Table 30).

The autoretry feature has a fixed 200ms timeout delay between fault shutdown and the autorestart attempt. Be aware that if the MAX5970 is configured for autoretry operation, the startup event occurs every 200ms if a short circuit occurs. A short circuit during startup causes the output current to increase rapidly as the MOSFET is enhanced, until the slow-trip threshold is reached and the gate is pulled low again. Be sure to evaluate MOSFET junction temperature rise for this repeatedstress condition if autoretry is used.

To restart a channel that has been shutdown in latchedoff operation (RETRY low), the user must either cycle power to the IN pin, or toggle one or more of the ON_ pin, Chx_EN1 bit, or the Chx_EN2 bit for the affected channel.

Force-On Function

When the force-on bit for a channel is set to 1 in register foset[1:0] (see Table 45), the channel is enabled regardless of the ON_ voltage or the Chx_EN1 and Chx_EN2 bits in register chxen. In forced-on operation, all functions operate normally with the notable exception that the channel does not shut down due to any fault conditions that may arise.

There is a Force-On Key register fokey that must be set to 0xA5 in order for the Force-On function to become active (see Table 46). If this register contains any value other than 0xA5, writing 1 to the Force-On bits in register foset has no effect. This provides protection against accidental force-on operation that might otherwise be caused by an erroneous I2C write.

Table 45. Force-On Control Register Format

Table 46. Force-On Key Register Format

Fault Logging and Indications

The MAX5970 provides detailed information about any fault conditions that have occurred. Independent FAULT_ outputs specifically indicate circuit-breaker shutdown events, while an ALERT output is asserted whenever a problem has occurred that requires attention or interaction.

Fault Dependency

If a fault event occurs (digital UV warning/critical, digital OV warning/critical, or digital overcurrent warning), the fault is logged by setting a corresponding bit in registers fault1 or fault2 (see Tables 47, 48, and 49).

Table 47. Undervoltage Status Register Format

MAX5970 **MAX5970**

Table 48. Overvoltage Status Register Format

Table 49. Overcurrent Warning Status Register Format

Likewise, circuit-breaker shutdown events are logged in register status0[7:0] (see Table 50).

Table 50. Circuit-Breaker Event Logging Register Format

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IFAULTSx indicates the overcurrent status from slow comparator. IFAULTFx indicates overcurrent status from fast comparator. The status of FAULT_ reflects the NOR operation of IFAULTSx and IFAULTFx.

These fault register bits latch upon fault condition and are reset by restarting the affected channel as described in the *Autoretry or Latched-Off Fault Management* section*.*

FAULT_ *Outputs*

When an overcurrent event (fast-trip or slow-trip) causes the MAX5970 to shut down the affected channel(s), a corresponding open-drain FAULT_ output is asserted low. Note that the FAULT_ outputs are not asserted for shutdowns caused by critical undervoltage or overvoltage.

The FAULT_ output is cleared when the channel is disabled by pulling ON_ low or by clearing the bits in the chxen register.

ALERT *Output*

ALERT is an open-drain output that is asserted low any time that a fault or other condition requiring attention has occurred. The state of the ALERT output is also indicated by status3[4].

Table 51. LED_Flash/GPIO Enable Register

ALERT is the NOR of registers 0x31, 0x35, 0x36 and 0x37, so when the ALERT output goes low, the system microcontroller should query these registers through the I2C interface to determine the cause of the ALERT assertion.

LED Set Registers

The MAX5970 has four open-drain LED drivers/userprogrammable GPIOs. When programmed as LED drivers, each driver can sink up to 25mA of current. Table 51 shows the register that enables the drivers as either LED drivers or GPIOs.

When any of the LED_Set bit in the register is set to 1, the corresponding open-drain LED driver is turned OFF. The LED Flash bits enable each corresponding LED driver to flash on and off at 1Hz frequency regardless of the condition of the corresponding LED_Set bit.

Bits 7-4 in Table 52 show how to set the LED drivers to be either in phase or out of phase with the internal 1Hz clock. Bits 3-0 show how to enable the $4\mu A$ pullup current to disable a corresponding LED driver.

Table 52. LED Phase/Weak Pullup Enable Register

Table 53 shows LED State register. The LED State register is a read-only register. When the LEDs are disabled, the pins are configured as GPIOs. Applying an external voltage below 0.4V sets the GPIOs low and, applying an external voltage above 1.4V, sets the GPIOs high.

I2C Serial Interface

The MAX5970 features an I2C serial interface consisting of a serial-data line (SDA) and a serial-clock line (SCL). SDA and SCL allow bidirectional communication between the MAX5970 and the master device at clock rates from up to 400kHz. The I2C bus can have several devices (e.g., more than one MAX5970, or other I2C devices in addition to the MAX5970) attached simultaneously. The A0 and A1 inputs set one of nine possible I2C addresses (see Table 54).

Table 53. LED State Register

MAX5970

MAX5970

Table 54. MAX5970 Slave Address Settings

The 2-wire communication is fully compatible with existing 2-wire serial interface systems; Figure 4 shows the interface timing diagram. The MAX5970 is a transmit/ receive slave-only device, relying upon a master device to generate a clock signal. The master device (typically a microcontroller) initiates data transfer on the bus and generates SCL to permit that transfer.

A master device communicates to the MAX5970 by transmitting the proper address followed by command and/or data words. Each transmit sequence is framed by a START (S) or REPEATED START (Sr) condition and a STOP (P) condition. Each word transmitted over the bus is 8 bits long and is always followed by an acknowledge pulse.

SCL is a logic input, while SDA is a logic input/opendrain output. SCL and SDA both require external pullup resistors to generate the logic-high voltage. Use $4.7k\Omega$ for most applications.

Bit Transfer

Each clock pulse transfers one data bit. The data on SDA must remain stable while SCL is high (see Figure 5), otherwise the MAX5970 registers a START or STOP condition (see Figure 6) from the master. SDA and SCL idle high when the bus is not busy.

Figure 4. Serial-Interface Timing Details

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Figure 5. Bit Transfer Figure 6. START and STOP Conditions

MAX5970 **MAX5970**

START and STOP Conditions

Both SCL and SDA idle high when the bus is not busy. A master device signals the beginning of a transmission with a START condition (see Figure 3) by transitioning SDA from high to low while SCL is high. The master device issues a STOP condition (see Figure 6) by transitioning SDA from low to high while SCL is high. A STOP condition frees the bus for another transmission. The bus remains active if a REPEATED START condition is generated, such as in the block read protocol (see Figure 7).

Figure 7. SMBUS/I2C Protocols

Early STOP Conditions

The MAX5970 recognizes a STOP condition at any point during transmission except if a STOP condition occurs in the same high pulse as a START condition. This condition is not a legal I2C format. At least one clock pulse must separate any START and STOP condition.

REPEATED START Conditions

A REPEATED START (Sr) condition may indicate a change of data direction on the bus. Such a change occurs when a command word is required to initiate a read operation (see Figure 4). Sr may also be used when the bus master is writing to several I2C devices and does not want to relinquish control of the bus. The MAX5970 serial interface supports continuous write operations with or without an Sr condition separating them. Continuous read operations require Sr conditions because of the change in direction of data flow.

Acknowledge

MAX5970

MAX5970

The acknowledge bit (ACK) is the 9th bit attached to any 8-bit data word. The receiving device always generates an ACK. The MAX5970 generates an ACK when receiving an address or data by pulling SDA low during the 9th clock period (see Figure 8). When transmitting data, such as when the master device reads data back from the MAX5970, the MAX5970 waits for the master device to generate an ACK. Monitoring ACK allows for detection of unsuccessful data transfers. An unsuccessful data transfer occurs if the receiving device is busy or if a system fault has occurred. In the event of an unsuccessful data transfer, the bus master should reattempt communication at a later time. The MAX5970 generates a NACK after the slave address during a software reboot or when receiving an illegal memory address.

Figure 8. Acknowledge

Send Byte

The send byte protocol allows the master device to send one byte of data to the slave device (see Figure 9). The send byte presets a register pointer address for a subsequent read or write. The slave sends a NACK instead of an ACK if the master tries to send an address that is not allowed. If the master sends a STOP condition, the internal address pointer does not change. The send byte procedure follows:

- 1) The master sends a START condition.
- 2) The master sends the 7-bit slave address and a write bit (low).
- 3) The addressed slave asserts an ACK on SDA.
- 4) The master sends an 8-bit data byte.
- 5) The addressed slave asserts an ACK on SDA.
- 6) The master sends a STOP condition.

Write Byte

The write byte/word protocol allows the master device to write a single byte in the register bank or to write to a series of sequential register addresses. The write byte procedure follows:

- 1) The master sends a START condition.
- 2) The master sends the 7-bit slave address and a write bit (low).
- 3) The addressed slave asserts an ACK on SDA.
- 4) The master sends an 8-bit command code.
- 5) The addressed slave asserts an ACK on SDA.
- 6) The master sends an 8-bit data byte.
- 7) The addressed slave asserts an ACK on SDA.
- 8) The addressed slave increments its internal address pointer.
- 9) The master sends a STOP condition or repeats steps 6, 7, and 8.

To write a single byte to the register bank, only the 8-bit command code and a single 8-bit data byte are sent. The data byte is written to the register bank if the command code is valid.

The slave generates a NACK at step 5 if the command code is invalid. The command code must be in the range of 0x00 to **0x45**. The internal address pointer returns to 0x00 after incrementing from the highest register address.

Receive Byte

The receive byte protocol allows the master device to read the register content of the MAX5970 (see Figure 9). The EEPROM or register address must be preset with a send byte protocol first. Once the read is complete, the internal pointer increases by one. Repeating the receive byte protocol reads the contents of the next address. The receive byte procedure follows:

- 1) The master sends a START condition.
- 2) The master sends the 7-bit slave address and a read bit (high).
- 3) The addressed slave asserts an ACK on SDA.
- 4) The slave sends 8 data bits.
- 5) The slave increments its internal address pointer.
- 6) The master asserts an ACK on SDA and repeats steps 4 and 5 or asserts a NACK and generates a STOP condition.

The internal address pointer returns to 0x00 after incrementing from the highest register address.