TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

LM43601-Q1

SNVSAA0A – JULY 2015 – REVISED AUGUST 2015

LM43601-Q1 SIMPLE SWITCHER® 3.5 V to 36 V 1 A Synchronous Step-Down Voltage Converter

1 Features

- AEC-Q100 Qualified (–40°C to +125°C Operating Junction Temperature)
- 33 µA Quiescent Current in Regulation
- High Efficiency at Light Load (DCM and PFM)
- Tested to EN55022/CISPR 22 EMI standards
- Integrated Synchronous Rectification
- Adjustable Frequency Range: 200 kHz to 2.2 MHz (500 kHz default)
- Frequency Synchronization to External Clock
- Internal Compensation
- Stable with Almost Any Combination of Ceramic, Polymer, Tantalum, and Aluminum Capacitors
- Power-Good Flag
- Soft-Start into Pre-Biased Load
- Internal Soft-Start: 4.1 ms
- Extendable Soft-Start Time by External Capacitor
- Output Voltage Tracking Capability
- Precision Enable to Program System UVLO
- Output Short Circuit Protection with Hiccup Mode
- Over Temperature Thermal Shutdown Protection

2 Applications

- Sub-AM Band Automotive
- Industrial Power Supplies
- Telecommunications Systems
- General Purpose Wide V_{IN} Regulation
- High Efficiency Point-Of-Load Regulation

3 Description

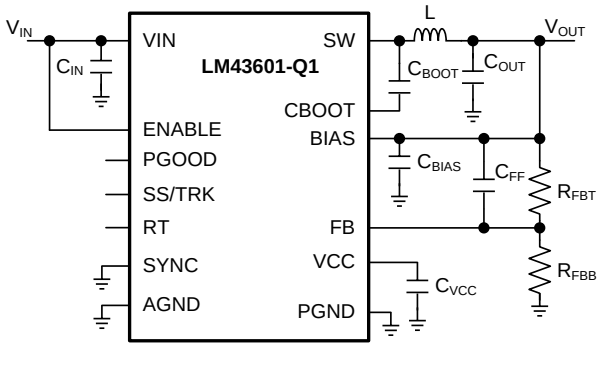
The LM43601-Q1 SIMPLE SWITCHER® regulator is an easy to use synchronous step-down DC-DC converter capable of driving up to 1 A of load current from an input voltage ranging from 3.5 V to 36 V (42 V transient). The LM43601-Q1 provides exceptional efficiency, output accuracy and drop-out voltage in a very small solution size. An extended family is available in 0.5 A, 2 A and 3 A load current options in pin-to-pin compatible packages. Peak current mode control is employed to achieve simple control loop compensation and cycle-by-cycle current limiting. Optional features such as programmable switching frequency, synchronization, power-good flag, precision enable, internal soft-start, extendable soft-start, and tracking provide a flexible and easy to use platform for a wide range of applications. Discontinuous conduction and automatic frequency modulation at light loads improve light load efficiency. The family requires few external components and pin arrangement allows simple, optimum PCB layout. Protection features include thermal shutdown, V_{CC} under-voltage lockout, cycle-by-cycle current limit, and output short circuit protection. The LM43601-Q1 device is available in the HTSSOP / PWP 16 leaded package (5.1 mm x 6.6 mm x 1.2 mm) with 0.65 mm lead pitch. Pin to pin compatible with LM46000, LM46001, LM46002, LM43600, LM43602, LM43603.

Device Information(1)

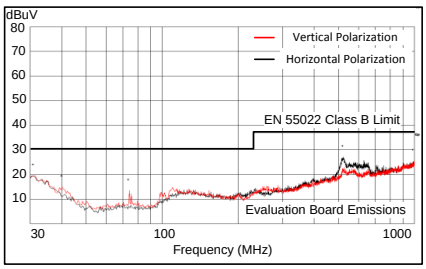
PART NUMBER	PACKAGE	BODY SIZE (NOM)
LM43601-Q1	HTSSOP (16)	5.1 mm x 6.6 mm

(1) For all available packages, see the orderable addendum at the end of the datasheet.

4 Simplified Schematic



Radiated Emission Graph
V_{IN} = 12 V, V_{OUT} = 3.3 V, F_S= 500 kHz, I_{OUT} = 1 A



An IMPORTANT NOTICE at the end of this data sheet addresses availability, warranty, changes, use in safety-critical applications, intellectual property matters and other important disclaimers. PRODUCTION DATA.

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5 Revision History

Changes from Original (July 2015) to Revision A **Page**

- Changed from Preview to Production Data ... 1

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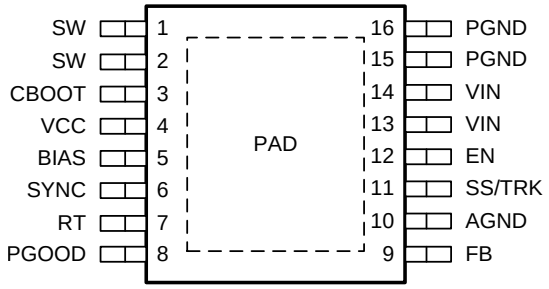
6 Pin Configuration and Functions

16-Pin HTSSOP (PWP)
Top View



Pin Functions

PIN			DESCRIPTION
NAME	NUMBER	I/O (1)	
SW	1,2	P	Switching output of the regulator. Internally connected to both power MOSFETs. Connect to power inductor.
CBOOT	3	P	Boot-strap capacitor connection for high-side driver. Connect a high quality 470 nF capacitor from CBOOT to SW.
VCC	4	P	Internal bias supply output for bypassing. Connect bypass capacitor from this pin to AGND. Do not connect external load to this pin. Never short this pin to ground during operation.
BIAS	5	P	Optional internal LDO supply input. To improve efficiency, it is recommended to tie to V_{OUT} when 3.3 V ≤ V_{OUT} ≤ 28 V, or tie to an external 3.3 V or 5 V rail if available. When used, place a bypass capacitor (1 to 10 µF) from this pin to ground. Tie to ground when not in use. Do not float
SYNC	6	A	Clock input to synchronize switching action to an external clock. Use proper high speed termination to prevent ringing. Connect to ground if not used. Do not float.
RT	7	A	Connect a resistor R_T from this pin to AGND to program switching frequency. Leave floating for 500 kHz default switching frequency.
PGOOD	8	A	Open drain output for power-good flag. Use a 10 kΩ to 100 kΩ pull-up resistor to logic rail or other DC voltage no higher than 12 V.
FB	9	A	Feedback sense input pin. Connect to the midpoint of feedback divider to set V_{OUT}. Do not short this pin to ground during operation.
AGND	10	G	Analog ground pin. Ground reference for internal references and logic. Connect to system ground.
SS/TRK	11	A	Soft-start control pin. Leave floating for internal soft-start slew rate. Connect to a capacitor to extend soft start time. Connect to external voltage ramp for tracking.
EN	12	A	Enable input to the LM43601-Q1: High = ON and low = OFF. Connect to VIN, or to VIN through resistor divider,or to an external voltage or logic source. Do not float.
VIN	13,14	P	Supply input pins to internal LDO and high side power FET. Connect to power supply and bypass capacitors C_{IN}. Path from VIN pin to high frequency bypass C_{IN} and PGND must be as short as possible.
PGND	15,16	G	Power ground pins, connected internally to the low side power FET. Connect to system ground, PAD, AGND, ground pins of C_{IN} and C_{OUT}. Path to C_{IN} must be as short as possible.
PAD	-	G	Low impedance connection to AGND. Connect to PGND on PCB . Major heat dissipation path of the die. Must be used for heat sinking to ground plane on PCB.

(1) P = Power, G = Ground, A = Analog

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7 Specifications

7.1 Absolute Maximum Ratings(1)

Over operating free-air temperature range (unless otherwise noted)

PARAMETER		MIN	MAX	UNIT
Input Voltages	VIN to PGND	-0.3	42	V
	EN to PGND	-0.3	VIN + 0.3	
	FB, RT, SS/TRK to AGND	-0.3	3.6	
	PGOOD to AGND	-0.3	15	
	SYNC to AGND	-0.3	5.5	
	BIAS to AGND	-0.3	30	
	AGND to PGND	-0.3	0.3	
Output Voltages	SW to PGND	-0.3	VIN + 0.3	V
	SW to PGND less than 10ns Transients	-3.5	42	
	CBOOT to SW	-0.3	5.5	
	VCC to AGND	-0.3	3.6	
Storage temperature range	T_{stg}	-65	+150	°C

(1) 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 under *Recommended Operating Conditions* is not implied. Exposure to absolute-maximum-rated conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

7.2 ESD Ratings

			VALUE	UNIT
$V_{(ESD)}$	Electrostatic discharge	Human-body model (HBM), per AEC Q100-002(1)	±2000	V
		Charged-device model (CDM), per AEC Q100-011	±750	

(1) AEC Q100-002 indicates that HBM stressing shall be in accordance with the ANSI/ESDA/JEDEC JS-001 specification.

7.3 Recommended Operating Conditions(1)

Over operating free-air temperature range (unless otherwise noted)

PARAMETER		MIN	MAX	UNIT
Input Voltages	VIN to PGND	3.5	36	V
	EN	-0.3	VIN	
	FB	-0.3	1.1	
	PGOOD	-0.3	12	
	BIAS input not used	-0.3	0.3	
	BIAS input used	3.3	VIN or 28(2)	
	AGND to PGND	-0.1	0.1	
Output Voltage	V_{OUT}	1.0	28	V
Output Current	I_{OUT}	0	1	A
Temperature	Operating junction temperature range, T_J	-40	+125	°C

(1) Operating Ratings indicate conditions for which the device is intended to be functional, but do not guarantee specific performance limits. For guaranteed specifications, see Electrical Characteristics.
(2) Whichever is lower Electrical Characteristics.

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7.4 Thermal Information

THERMAL METRIC (1)		HTSSOP (16 PINS)	UNIT
$R_{\theta JA}$	Junction-to-ambient thermal resistance	39.9 (2)	°C/W
$R_{\theta JC(top)}$	Junction-to-case (top) thermal resistance	26.9	
$R_{\theta JB}$	Junction-to-board thermal resistance	21.7	
ψ_{JT}	Junction-to-top characterization parameter	0.8	
ψ_{JB}	Junction-to-board characterization parameter	21.5	
$R_{\theta JC(bot)}$	Junction-to-case (bottom) thermal resistance	2.3	

(1) The package thermal impedance is calculated in accordance with JESD 51-7 standard with a 4-layer board and 1 W power dissipation.
(2) $R_{\theta JA}$ is highly related to PCB layout and heat sinking. Please refer to Figure 107 for measured $R_{\theta JA}$ vs PCB area from a 2-layer board and a 4-layer board.

7.5 Electrical Characteristics

Limits apply over the recommended operating junction temperature (T_J) range of -40°C to +125°C, unless otherwise stated. Minimum and Maximum limits are specified through test, design or statistical correlation. Typical values represent the most likely parametric norm at T_J = 25°C, and are provided for reference purposes only. Unless otherwise stated, the following conditions apply: V_{IN} = 12 V, V_{OUT} = 3.3 V, F_S = 500 kHz.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNIT
SUPPLY VOLTAGE (VIN PINS)						
$V_{IN-MIN-ST}$	Minimum input voltage for startup				3.8	V
I_{SHDN}	Shutdown quiescent current	V_{EN} = 0 V		1.1	3.1	µA
$I_{Q-NONSW}$	Operating quiescent current (non-switching) from V_{IN}	V_{EN} = 3.3 V V_{FB} = 1.5 V V_{BIAS} = 3.4 V external		6.0	11	µA
$I_{BIAS-NONSW}$	Operating quiescent current (non-switching) from external V_{BIAS}	V_{EN} = 3.3 V V_{FB} = 1.5 V V_{BIAS} = 3.4 V external		85	140	µA
I_{Q-SW}	Operating quiescent current (switching)	V_{EN} = 3.3 V I_{OUT} = 0 A R_T = open V_{BIAS} = V_{OUT} = 3.3 V R_{FBT} = 1.0 Meg		33		µA
ENABLE (EN PIN)						
$V_{EN-VCC-H}$	Voltage level to enable the internal LDO output V_{CC}	V_{ENABLE} high level	1.2			V
$V_{EN-VCC-L}$	Voltage level to disable the internal LDO output V_{CC}	V_{ENABLE} low level			0.4	V
$V_{EN-VOUT-H}$	Precision enable level for switching and regulator output: V_{OUT}	V_{ENABLE} high level	2.00	2.1	2.42	V
$V_{EN-VOUT-HYS}$	Hysteresis voltage between V_{OUT} precision enable and disable thresholds	V_{ENABLE} hysteresis		-305		mV
I_{LKG-EN}	Enable input leakage current	V_{EN} = 3.3 V		0.8	1.75	µA
INTERNAL LDO (VCC PIN AND BIAS PIN)						
V_{CC}	Internal LDO output voltage V_{CC}	V_{IN} ≥ 3.8 V		3.3		V
$V_{CC-UVLO}$	Under voltage lock out (UVLO) thresholds for V_{CC}	V_{CC} rising threshold		3.14		V
		Hysteresis voltage between rising and falling thresholds		-567		mV
$V_{BIAS-ON}$	Internal LDO input change over threshold to BIAS	V_{BIAS} rising threshold		2.96	3.2	V
		Hysteresis voltage between rising and falling thresholds		-74		mV

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Electrical Characteristics (continued)

Limits apply over the recommended operating junction temperature (T_J) range of -40°C to +125°C, unless otherwise stated. Minimum and Maximum limits are specified through test, design or statistical correlation. Typical values represent the most likely parametric norm at T_J = 25°C, and are provided for reference purposes only. Unless otherwise stated, the following conditions apply: V_{IN} = 12 V, V_{OUT} = 3.3 V, F_S = 500 kHz.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNIT
VOLTAGE REFERENCE (FB PIN)						
V_{FB}	Feedback voltage	T_J = 25 ºC	1.009	1.016	1.023	V
		T_J = -40 ºC to 125 ºC	0.999	1.016	1.039	
I_{LKG-FB}	Input leakage current at FB pin	FB = 1.016 V		0.2	65	nA
THERMAL SHUTDOWN						
T_{SD} (1)	Thermal shutdown	Shutdown threshold		160		ºC
		Recovery threshold		150		ºC
CURRENT LIMIT AND HICCUP						
$I_{HS-LIMIT}$	Peak inductor current limit		2.07	2.45	2.71	A
$I_{LS-LIMIT}$	Valley Inductor current limit		0.94	1.1	1.25	A
SOFT START (SS/TRK PIN)						
I_{SSC}	Soft-start charge current		1.17	2.2	2.85	µA
R_{SSD}	Soft-start discharge resistance	UVLO, TSD, OCP, or EN = 0 V		16		kΩ
POWER GOOD (PGOOD PIN)						
$V_{PGOOD-HIGH}$	Power-good flag over voltage tripping threshold	% of FB voltage		110%	113%	
$V_{PGOOD-LOW}$	Power-good flag under voltage tripping threshold	% of FB voltage	83%	90%		
$V_{PGOOD-HYS}$	Power-good flag recovery hysteresis	% of FB voltage		6%		
R_{PGOOD}	PGOOD pin pull down resistance when power bad	V_{EN} = 3.3 V		40	125	Ω
		V_{EN} = 0 V		60	150	
MOSFETS (2)						
$R_{DS-ON-HS}$	High-side MOSFET ON-resistance	I_{OUT} = 1 A V_{BIAS} = V_{OUT} = 3.3 V		419		mΩ
$R_{DS-ON-LS}$	Low-side MOSFET ON-resistance	I_{OUT} = 1 A V_{BIAS} = V_{OUT} = 3.3 V		231		mΩ

(1) Guaranteed by design
(2) Measured at package pins

7.6 Timing Requirements

PARAMETER		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNIT
CURRENT LIMIT AND HICCUP					
N_{OC}	Hiccup wait cycles when LS current limit tripped		32		Cycles
T_{OC}	Hiccup retry delay time		5.5		ms
SOFT START (SS/TRK PIN)					
T_{SS}	Internal soft-start time when SS pin open circuit		3.86		ms
POWER GOOD (PGOOD PIN)					
$T_{PGOOD-RISE}$	Power-good flag rising transition deglitch delay		220		µs
$T_{PGOOD-FALL}$	Power-good flag falling transition deglitch delay		220		µs

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7.7 Switching Characteristics

Over operating free-air temperature range (unless otherwise noted)

PARAMETER		TEST CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNIT
SW (SW PIN)						
t_{ON-MIN} (1)	Minimum high side MOSFET ON time			125	165	ns
$t_{OFF-MIN}$ (1)	Minimum high side MOSFET OFF time			200	250	ns
OSCILLATOR (SW PINS AND SYNC PIN)						
$F_{OSC-DEFAULT}$	Oscillator default frequency	RT pin open circuit	445	500	570	kHz
F_{ADJ}	Minimum adjustable frequency	With 1% resistors at RT pin		200		kHz
	Maximum adjustable frequency			2200		kHz
	Frequency adjust accuracy			10%		
$V_{SYNC-HIGH}$	Sync clock high level threshold		2			V
$V_{SYNC-LOW}$	Sync clock low level threshold				0.4	V
$D_{SYNC-MAX}$	Sync clock maximum duty cycle			90%		
$D_{SYNC-MIN}$	Sync clock minimum duty cycle			10%		
$T_{SYNC-MIN}$	Minimum sync clock ON and OFF time			80		ns

(1) Guaranteed by design

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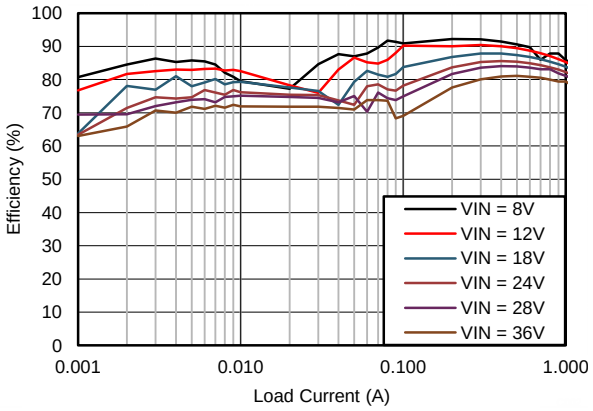
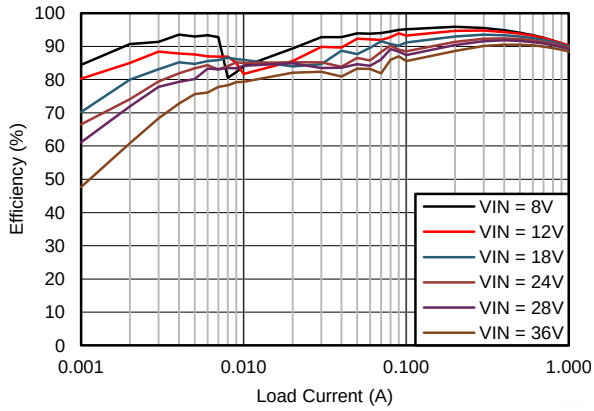
7.8 Typical Characteristics

Unless otherwise specified, V_{IN} = 12V, V_{OUT} = 3.3 V, F_S = 500 kHz, L = 18 µH, C_{OUT} = 100 µF, C_{FF} = 33 pF. Please refer to Application Performance Curves for Bill of Materials (BOM) for other V_{OUT} and F_S combinations.



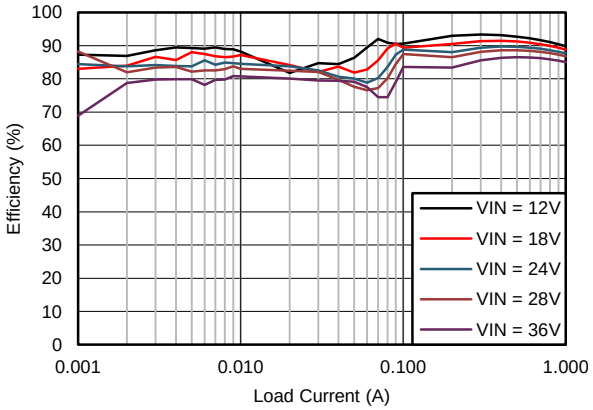
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 1. Efficiency



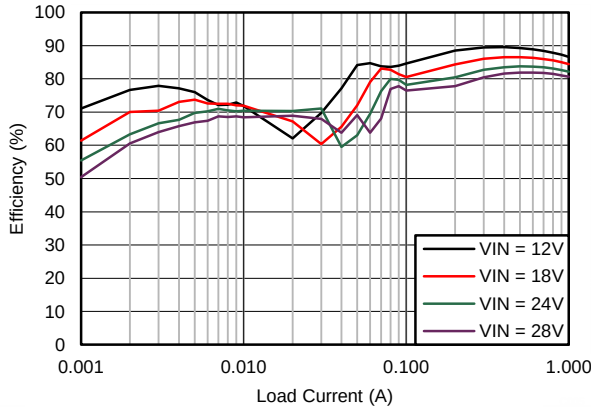
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 200 kHz

Figure 2. Efficiency



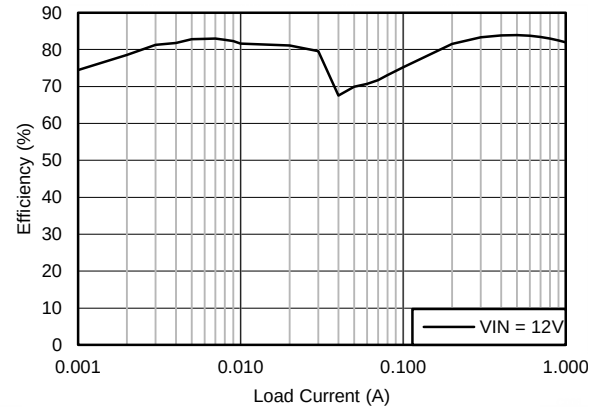
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 3. Efficiency



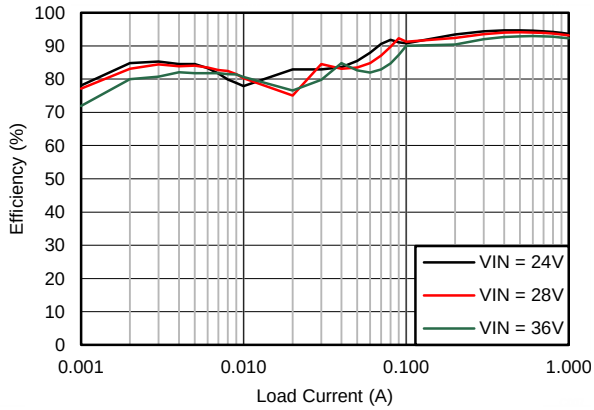
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz

Figure 4. Efficiency



V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 2.2 MHz

Figure 5. Efficiency



V_{OUT} = 12 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 6. Efficiency

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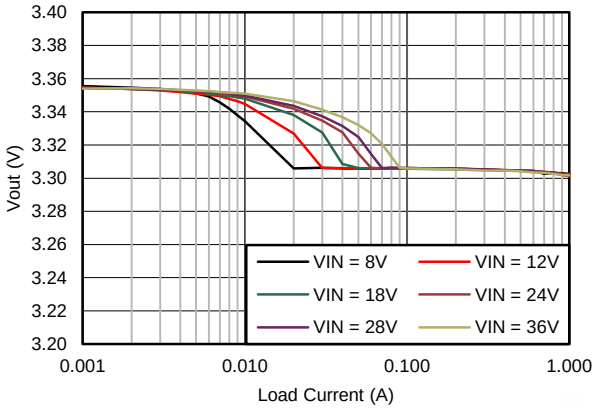
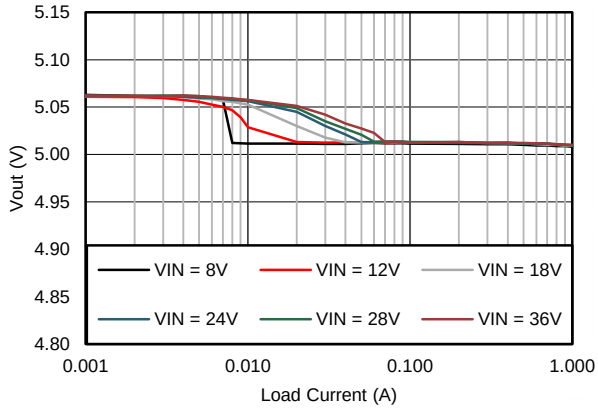
Typical Characteristics (continued)

Unless otherwise specified, V_{IN} = 12V, V_{OUT} = 3.3 V, F_S = 500 kHz, L = 18 µH, C_{OUT} = 100 µF, C_{FF} = 33 pF. Please refer to Application Performance Curves for Bill of Materials (BOM) for other V_{OUT} and F_S combinations.



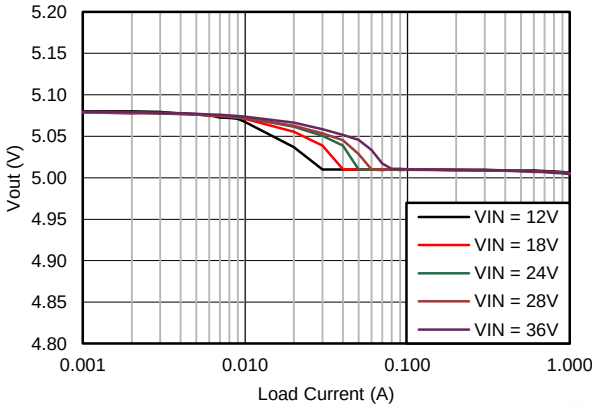
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 7. V_{OUT} Regulation



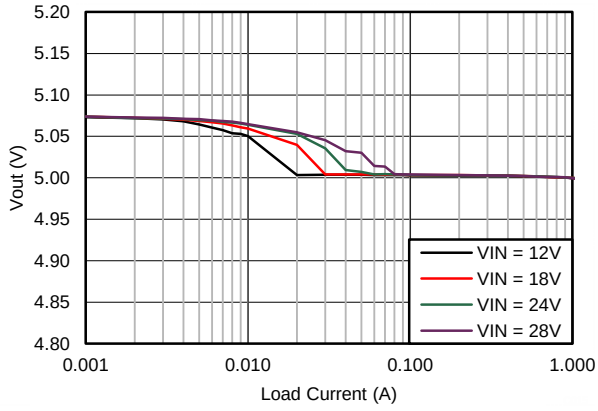
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 200 kHz

Figure 8. V_{OUT} Regulation



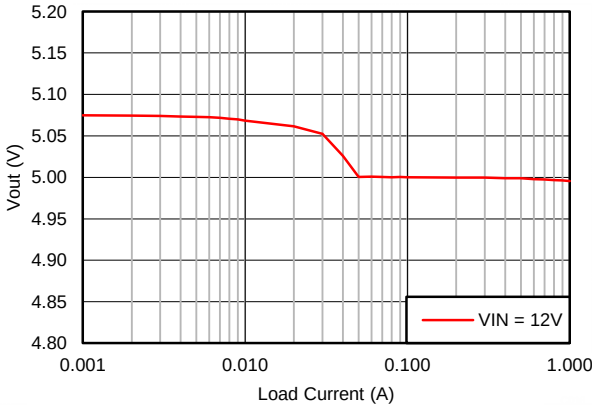
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 9. V_{OUT} Regulation



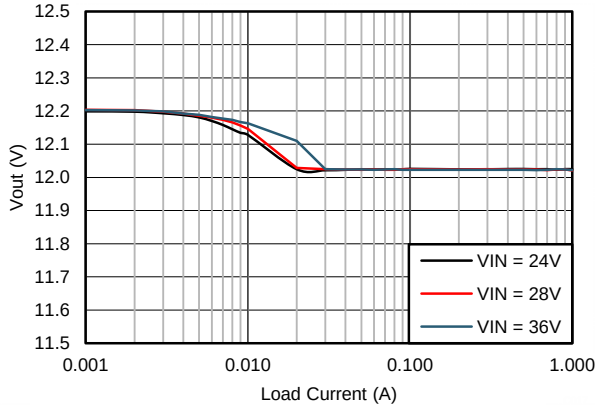
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz

Figure 10. V_{OUT} Regulation



V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 2.2 MHz

Figure 11. V_{OUT} Regulation



V_{OUT} = 12 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 12. V_{OUT} Regulation

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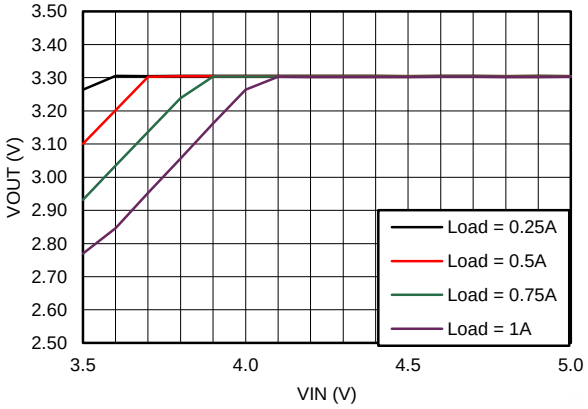
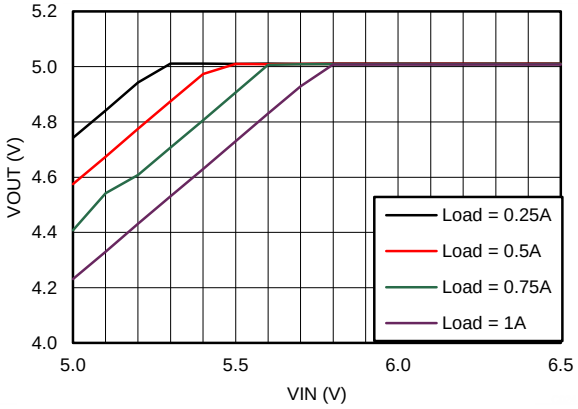
Typical Characteristics (continued)

Unless otherwise specified, V_{IN} = 12V, V_{OUT} = 3.3 V, F_S = 500 kHz, L = 18 µH, C_{OUT} = 100 µF, C_{FF} = 33 pF. Please refer to Application Performance Curves for Bill of Materials (BOM) for other V_{OUT} and F_S combinations.



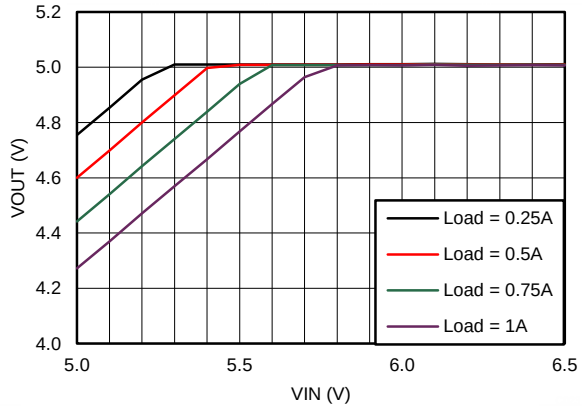
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 13. Drop-Out Curve



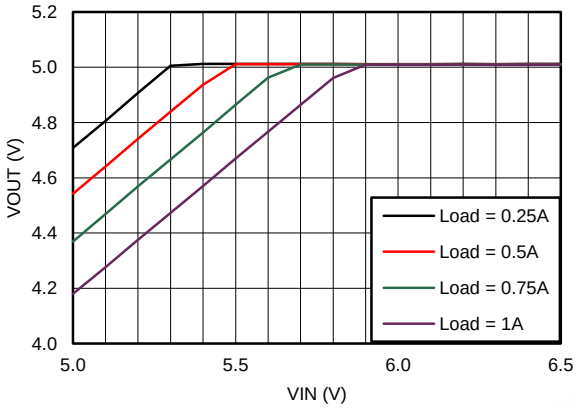
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 200 kHz

Figure 14. Drop-Out Curve



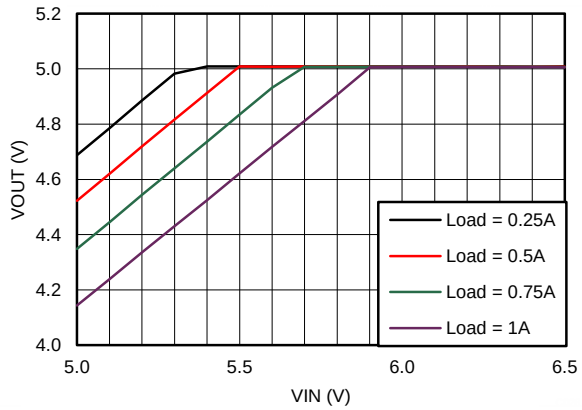
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 15. Drop-Out Curve



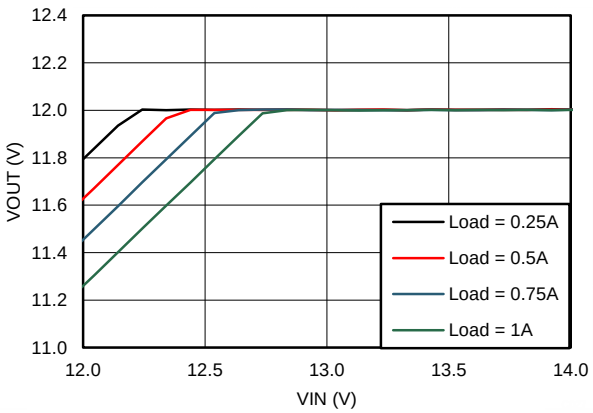
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz

Figure 16. Drop-Out Curve



V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 2.2 MHz

Figure 17. Drop-Out Curve



V_{OUT} = 12 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 18. Drop-Out Curve

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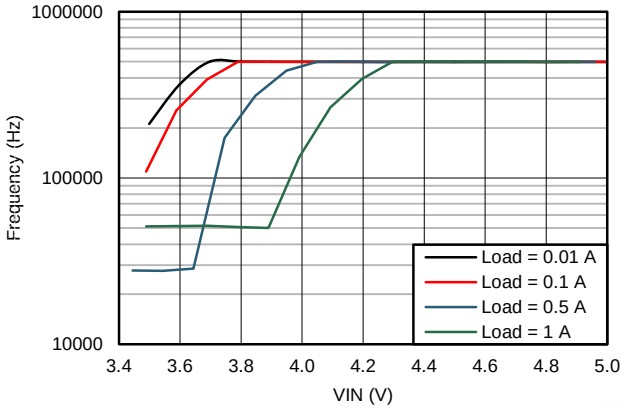
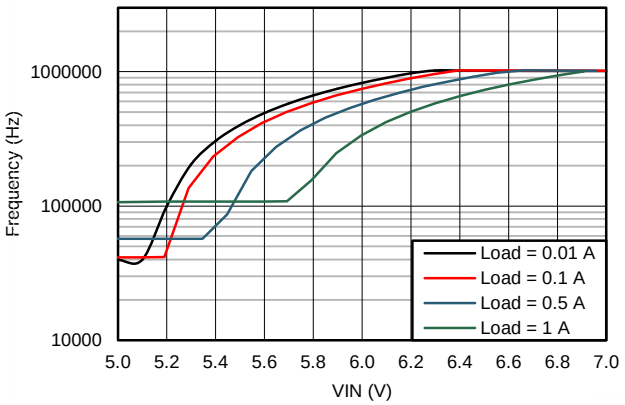
Typical Characteristics (continued)

Unless otherwise specified, V_{IN} = 12V, V_{OUT} = 3.3 V, F_S = 500 kHz, L = 18 µH, C_{OUT} = 100 µF, C_{FF} = 33 pF. Please refer to Application Performance Curves for Bill of Materials (BOM) for other V_{OUT} and F_S combinations.



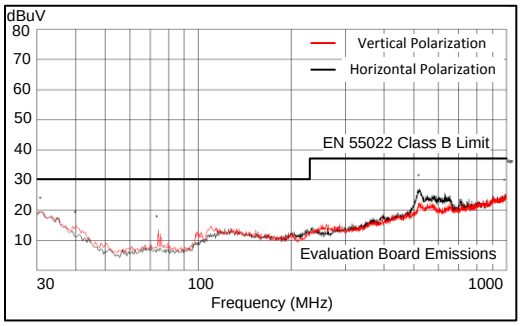
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 19. Switching Frequency vs V_{IN} in Drop-Out Operation



V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz

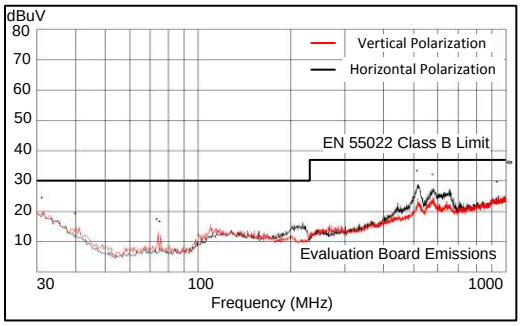
Figure 20. Switching Frequency vs V_{IN} in Drop-Out Operation



V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz I_{OUT} = 1 A

Measured on the LM43601QPWPEVM with default BOM. No input filter used.

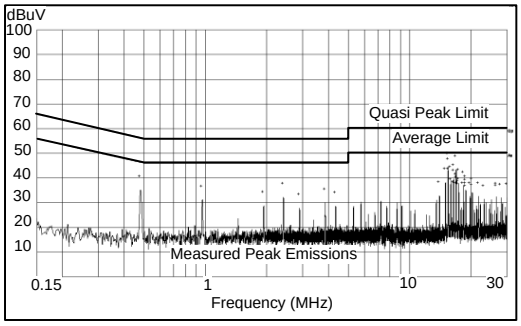
Figure 21. Radiated EMI Curve



V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz I_{OUT} = 1 A

Measured on the LM43601QPWPEVM with L = 27 µH, C_{OUT} = 66 µF, C_{FF} = 33 pF. No input filter used.

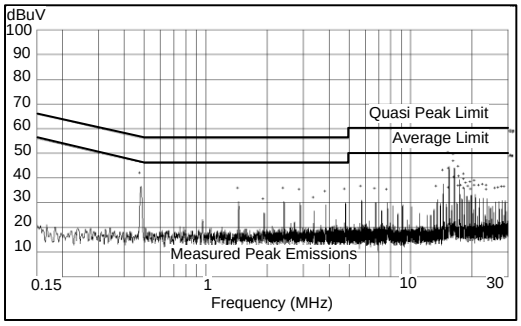
Figure 22. Radiated EMI Curve



V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz I_{OUT} = 1 A

Measured on the LM43601QPWPEVM with default BOM. EVM Input filter: L_{in} = 1 µH C_d = 47 µF C_{IN4} = 68 µF

Figure 23. Conducted EMI Curve



V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz I_{OUT} = 1 A

Measured on the LM43601QPWPEVM with L = 18 µH, C_{OUT} = 66 µF, C_{FF} = 33 pF. Input filter L_{in} = 1 µH C_d = 47 µF C_{IN4} = 68 µF

Figure 24. Conducted EMI Curve

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Typical Characteristics (continued)

Unless otherwise specified, V_{IN} = 12V, V_{OUT} = 3.3 V, F_S = 500 kHz, L = 18 µH, C_{OUT} = 100 µF, C_{FF} = 33 pF. Please refer to Application Performance Curves for Bill of Materials (BOM) for other V_{OUT} and F_S combinations.

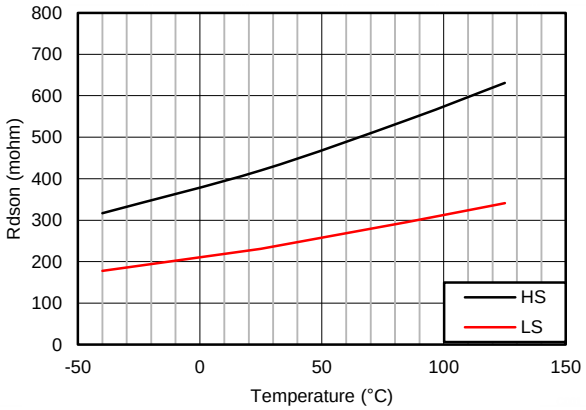

Figure 25. High-Side and Low-side On Resistance vs Junction Temperature

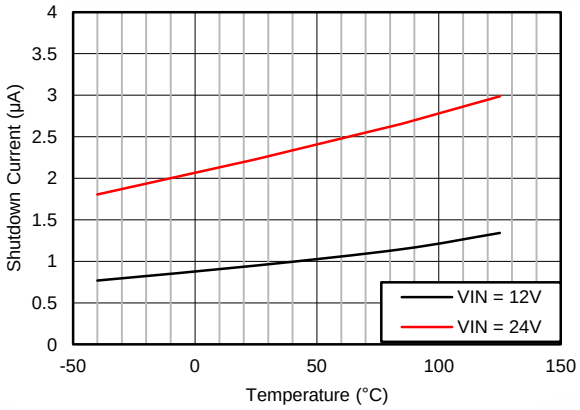

Figure 26. Shutdown Current vs Junction Temperature

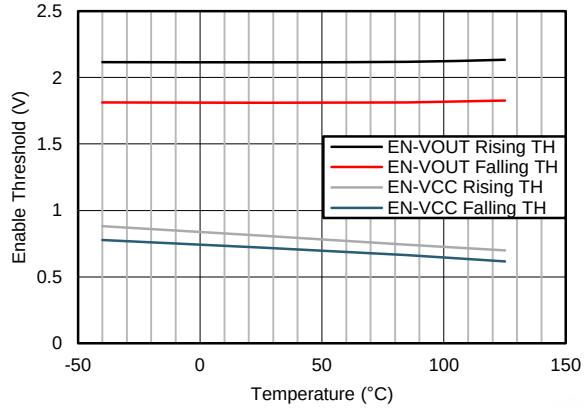

Figure 27. Enable Threshold vs Junction Temperature

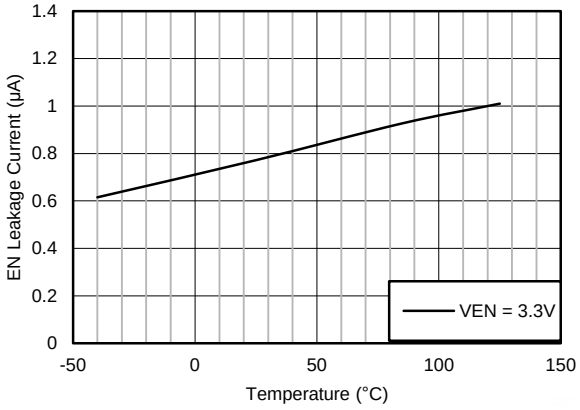

Figure 28. Enable Leakage Current vs Junction Temperature

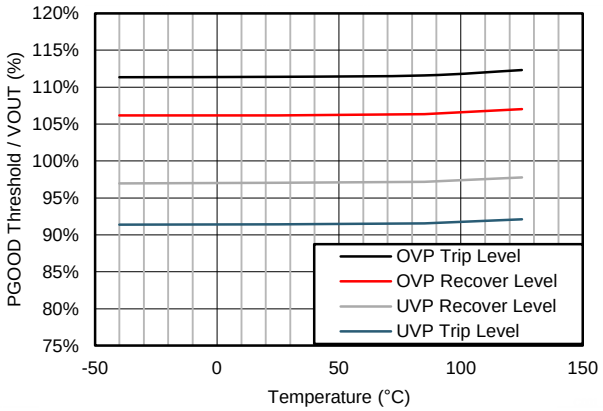

Figure 29. PGOOD Threshold vs Junction Temperature

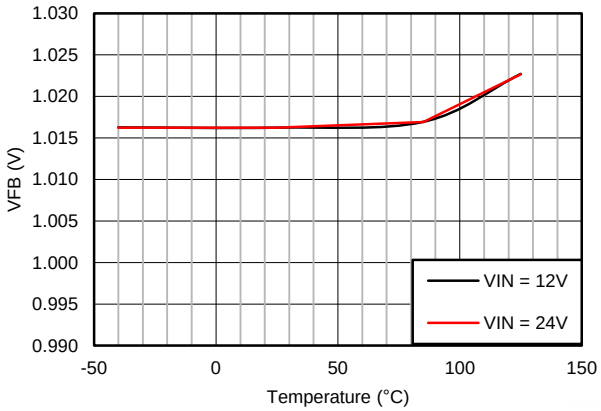

Figure 30. Feedback Voltage vs Junction Temperature

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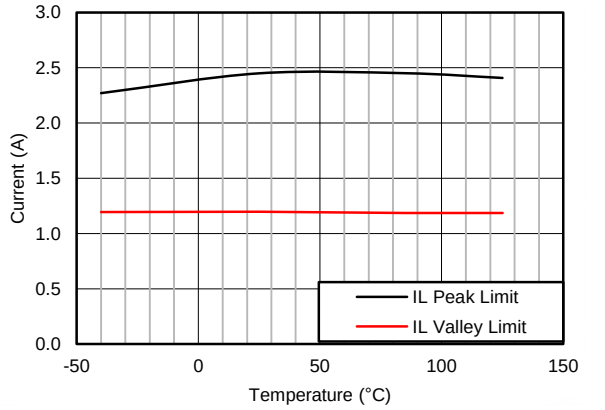
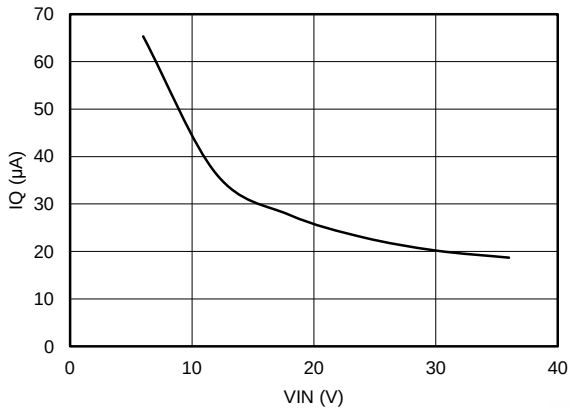
Typical Characteristics (continued)

Unless otherwise specified, V_{IN} = 12V, V_{OUT} = 3.3 V, F_S = 500 kHz, L = 18 µH, C_{OUT} = 100 µF, C_{FF} = 33 pF. Please refer to Application Performance Curves for Bill of Materials (BOM) for other V_{OUT} and F_S combinations.



V_{IN} = 12 V V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 31. Peak and Valley Current Limits vs Junction Temperature



V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz I_{OUT} = 0 A

Figure 32. Operating I_Q vs V_{IN} with BIAS Connected to V_{OUT}

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8 Detailed Description

8.1 Overview

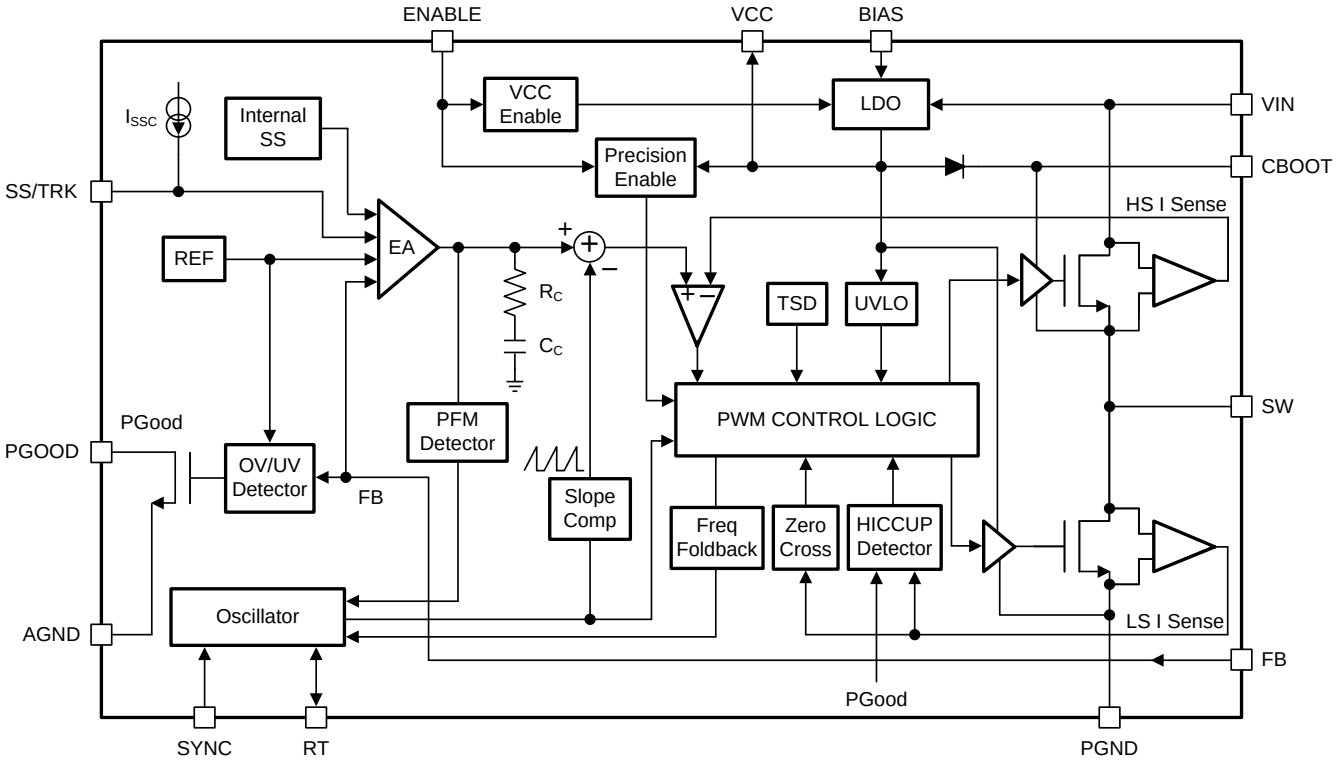
The LM43601-Q1 SIMPLE SWITCHER® regulator is an easy to use synchronous step-down DC-DC converter that operates from 3.5 V to 36 V supply voltage. It is capable of delivering up to 1 A DC load current with exceptional efficiency and thermal performance in a very small solution size. An extended family is available in 0.5 A , 2 A, 3 A load options in pin-to-pin compatible packages.

The LM43601-Q1 employs fixed frequency peak current mode control with Discontinuous Conduction Mode (DCM) and Pulse Frequency Modulation (PFM) mode at light load to achieve high efficiency across the load range. The device is internally compensated, which reduces design time, and requires fewer external components. The switching frequency is programmable from 200 kHz to 2.2 MHz by an external resistor, R_T. It defaults at 500 kHz without R_T. The LM43601-Q1 is also capable of synchronization to an external clock within the 200 kHz to 2.2 MHz frequency range. The wide switching frequency range allows the device to be optimized to fit small board space at higher frequency, or high efficient power conversion at lower frequency.

Optional features are included for more comprehensive system requirements, including power-good (PGOOD) flag, precision enable, synchronization to external clock, extendable soft-start time, and output voltage tracking. These features provide a flexible and easy to use platform for a wide range of applications. Protection features include over temperature shutdown, V_{CC} under-voltage lockout (UVLO), cycle-by-cycle current limit, and short-circuit protection with hiccup mode.

The family requires few external components and the pin arrangement was designed for simple, optimum PCB layout. The LM43601-Q1 device is available in the HTSSOP / PWP 16 pin leaded package (5.1 mm x 6.6 mm x 1.2 mm) with 0.65 mm lead pitch.

8.2 Functional Block Diagram



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8.3 Feature Description

8.3.1 Fixed Frequency Peak Current Mode Controlled Step-Down Regulator

The following operating description of the LM43601-Q1 will refer to the *Functional Block Diagram* and to the waveforms in Figure 33. The LM43601-Q1 is a step-down Buck regulator with both high-side (HS) switch and low-side (LS) switch (synchronous rectifier) integrated. The LM43601-Q1 supplies a regulated output voltage by turning on the HS and LS NMOS switches with controlled ON time. During the HS switch ON time, the SW pin voltage V_{SW} swings up to approximately V_{IN}, and the inductor current I_L increases with a linear slope (V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) / L. When the HS switch is turned off by the control logic, the LS switch is turned on after a anti-shoot-through dead time. Inductor current discharges through the LS switch with a slope of -V_{OUT} / L. The control parameter of Buck converters are defined as Duty Cycle D = t_{ON} / T_{SW}, where t_{ON} is the HS switch ON time and T_{SW} is the switching period. The regulator control loop maintains a constant output voltage by adjusting the duty cycle D. In an ideal Buck converter, where losses are ignored, D is proportional to the output voltage and inversely proportional to the input voltage: D = V_{OUT} / V_{IN}.

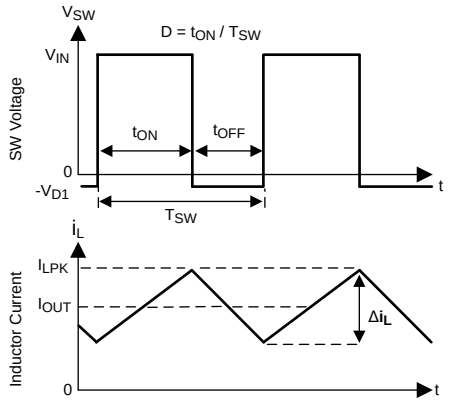

Figure 33. SW Node and Inductor Current Waveforms in Continuous Conduction Mode (CCM)

The LM43601-Q1 synchronous Buck converter employs peak current mode control topology. A voltage feedback loop is used to get accurate DC voltage regulation by adjusting the peak current command based on voltage offset. The peak inductor current is sensed from the HS switch and compared to the peak current to control the ON time of the HS switch. The voltage feedback loop is internally compensated, which allows for fewer external components, makes it easy to design, and provides stable operation with almost any combination of output capacitors. The regulator operates with fixed switching frequency in Continuous Conduction Mode (CCM) and Discontinuous Conduction Mode (DCM). At very light load, the LM43601-Q1 will operate in PFM to maintain high efficiency and the switching frequency will decrease with reduced load current.

8.3.2 Light Load Operation

DCM operation is employed in the LM43601-Q1 when the inductor current valley reaches zero. The LM43601-Q1 will be in DCM when load current is less than half of the peak-to-peak inductor current ripple in CCM. In DCM, the LS switch is turned off when the inductor current reaches zero. Switching loss is reduced by turning off the LS FET at zero current and the conduction loss is lowered by not allowing negative current conduction. Power conversion efficiency is higher in DCM than CCM under the same conditions.

In DCM, the HS switch ON time will reduce with lower load current. When either the minimum HS switch ON time (T_{ON-MIN}) or the minimum peak inductor current ($I_{PEAK-MIN}$) is reached, the switching frequency will decrease to maintain regulation. At this point, the LM43601-Q1 operates in PFM. In PFM, switching frequency is decreased by the control loop when load current reduces to maintain output voltage regulation. Switching loss is further reduced in PFM operation due to less frequent switching actions. Figure 34 shows an example of switching frequency decreases with decreased load current.

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Feature Description (continued)

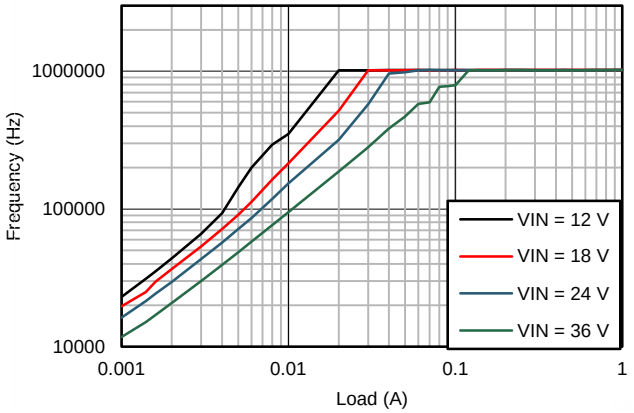

Figure 34. Switching Frequency Decreases with Lower Load Current in PFM Operation V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz

In PFM operation, a small positive DC offset is required at the output voltage to activate the PFM detector. The lower the frequency in PFM, the more DC offset is needed at V_{OUT}. Please refer to the *Typical Characteristics* for typical DC offset at very light load. If the DC offset on V_{OUT} is not acceptable for a given application, a static load at output is recommended to reduce or eliminate the offset. Lowering values of the feedback divider R_{FBT} and R_{FBB} can also serve as a static load. In conditions with low V_{IN} and/or high frequency, the LM43601-Q1 may not enter PFM mode if the output voltage cannot be charged up to provide the trigger to activate the PFM detector. Once the LM43601-Q1 is operating in PFM mode at higher V_{IN}, it will remain in PFM operation when V_{IN} is reduced.

8.3.3 Adjustable Output Voltage

The voltage regulation loop in the LM43601-Q1 regulates output voltage by maintaining the voltage on FB pin (V_{FB}) to be the same as the internal REF voltage (V_{REF}). A resistor divider pair is needed to program the ratio from output voltage V_{OUT} to V_{FB}. The resistor divider is connected from the V_{OUT} of the LM43601-Q1 to ground with the mid-point connecting to the FB pin.

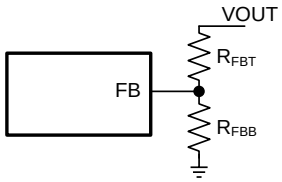

Figure 35. Output Voltage Setting

The voltage reference system produces a precise voltage reference over temperature. The internal REF voltage is 1.016 V typically. To program the output voltage of the LM43601-Q1 to be a certain value V_{OUT}, R_{FBB} can be calculated with a selected R_{FBT} by

$$R_{FBB} = \frac{V_{FB}}{V_{OUT} - V_{FB}} R_{FBT} \quad (1)$$

The choice of the R_{FBT} depends on the application. R_{FBT} in the range from 10 kΩ to 100 kΩ is recommended for most applications. A lower R_{FBT} value can be used if static loading is desired to reduce V_{OUT} offset in PFM operation. Lower R_{FBT} will reduce efficiency at very light load. Less static current goes through a larger R_{FBT} and might be more desirable when light load efficiency is critical. But R_{FBT} larger than 1 MΩ is not recommended because it makes the feedback path more susceptible to noise. Larger R_{FBT} value requires more carefully designed feedback path on the PCB. The tolerance and temperature variation of the resistor dividers affect the output voltage regulation. It is recommended to use divider resistors with 1% tolerance or better and temperature coefficient of 100 ppm or lower.

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Feature Description (continued)

If the resistor divider is not connected properly, the output voltage cannot be regulated since the feedback loop is broken. If the FB pin is shorted to ground, the output voltage will be driven close to V_{IN}, since the regulator sees very low voltage on the FB pin and tries to regulate it up. The load connected to the output could be damaged under such a condition. Do not short FB pin to ground when the LM43601-Q1 is enabled. It is important to route the feedback trace away from the noisy area of the PCB. For more layout recommendations, please refer to the *Layout* section.

8.3.4 Enable (ENABLE)

Voltage on the ENABLE pin (V_{EN}) controls the ON or OFF functionality of the LM43601-Q1. Applying a voltage less than 0.4 V to the ENABLE input shuts down the operation of the LM43601-Q1. In shutdown mode the quiescent current drops to typically 1 µA at V_{IN} = 12 V.

The internal LDO output voltage V_{CC} is turned on when V_{EN} is higher than 1.2 V. The switching action and output regulation are enabled when V_{EN} is greater than 2.1 V (typical). The LM43601-Q1 supplies regulated output voltage when enabled and output current up to 1 A.

The ENABLE pin is an input and cannot be open circuit or floating. The simplest way to enable the operation of the LM43601-Q1 is to connect the ENABLE pin to VIN pins directly. This allows self-start-up when V_{IN} is within the operation range.

Many applications will benefit from the employment of an enable divider R_{ENT} and R_{ENB} in Figure 36 to establish a precision system UVLO level for the stage. System UVLO can be used for supplies operating from utility power as well as battery power. It can be used for sequencing, ensuring reliable operation, or supply protection, such as a battery discharge voltage level. An external logic signal can also be used to drive EN input for system sequencing and protection.

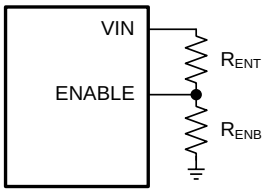

Figure 36. System UVLO By Enable Dividers

8.3.5 VCC, UVLO and BIAS

The LM43601-Q1 integrates an internal LDO to generate V_{CC} for control circuitry and MOSFET drivers. The nominal voltage for V_{CC} is 3.3 V. The VCC pin is the output of the LDO and must be properly bypassed. A high quality ceramic capacitor with 2.2 µF to 10 µF capacitance and 6.3 V or higher rated voltage should be placed as close as possible to VCC and grounded to the exposed PAD and ground pins. The VCC output pin should not be loaded, left floating, or shorted to ground during operation. Shorting VCC to ground during operation may cause damage to the LM43601-Q1.

Under voltage lockout (UVLO) prevents the LM43601-Q1 from operating until the V_{CC} voltage exceeds 3.14 V (typical). The V_{CC} UVLO threshold has 567 mV of hysteresis (typically) to prevent undesired shuting down due to temperary V_{IN} droops.

The internal LDO has two inputs: primary from VIN and secondary from BIAS input. The BIAS input powers the LDO when V_{BIAS} is higher than the change-over threshold. Power loss of an LDO is calculated by I_{LDO} * (V_{IN-LDO} - $V_{OUT-LDO}$). The higher the difference between the input and output voltages of the LDO, the more power loss occur to supply the same output current. The BIAS input is designed to reduce the difference of the input and output voltages of the LDO to reduce power loss and improve LM43601-Q1 efficiency, especially at light load. It is recommended to tie the BIAS pin to V_{OUT} when V_{OUT} ≥ 3.3V. The BIAS pin should be grounded in applications with V_{OUT} less than 3.3 V. BIAS input can also come from an external voltage source, if available, to reduce power loss. When used, a 1µF to 10µF high quality ceramic capacitor is recommended to bypass the BIAS pin to ground.

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Feature Description (continued)

8.3.6 Soft-Start and Voltage Tracking (SS/TRK)

The LM43601-Q1 has a flexible and easy to use start up rate control pin: SS/TRK. The soft-start feature is to prevent inrush current impacting the LM43601-Q1 and its supply when power is first applied. Soft-start is achieved by slowly ramping up the target regulation voltage when the device is first enabled or powered up.

The simplest way to use the device is to leave the SS/TRK pin open circuit. The LM43601-Q1 will employ the internal soft-start control ramp and start up to the regulated output voltage in 4.1 ms typically.

In applications with a large amount of output capacitors, or higher V_{OUT}, or other special requirements, the soft-start time can be extended by connecting an external capacitor C_{SS} from SS/TRK pin to AGND. Extended soft-start time further reduces the supply current needed to charge up output capacitors and supply any output loading. An internal current source (I_{SSC} = 2.2 µA) charges C_{SS} and generates a ramp from 0 V to V_{FB} to control the ramp-up rate of the output voltage. For a desired soft start time t_{SS}, the capacitance for C_{SS} can be found by

$$C_{SS} = I_{SSC} \times t_{SS} \quad (2)$$

The soft start capacitor C_{SS} is discharged by an internal FET when V_{OUT} is shutdown by hiccup protection due to excessive load, temperature shutdown due to overheating or ENABLE = logic low. A large C_{SS} capacitor will take a long time to discharge when ENABLE is toggled low. If ENABLE is toggled high again before the C_{SS} is completely discharged, then the next resulting soft-start ramp will follow the internal soft-start ramp. Only when the soft-start voltage reaches the leftover voltage on CSS, will the output follow the ramp programmed by C_{SS}. This behavior will look as if there are two slopes at startup. If this is not acceptable by a certain application, a R-C low pass filter can be added to ENABLE to slow down the shutting down of VCC, which allows more time to discharge C_{SS}

The LM43601-Q1 is capable of start up into prebiased output conditions. When the inductor current reaches zero, the LS switch will be turned off to avoid negative current conduction. This operation mode is also called diode emulation mode. It is built-in by the DCM operation at light loads. With a prebiased output voltage, the LM43601-Q1 will wait until the soft-start ramp allows regulation above the prebiased voltage. It will then follow the soft-start ramp to the regulation level.

When an external voltage ramp is applied to the SS/TRK pin, the LM43601-Q1 FB voltage follows the external ramp if the ramp magnitude is lower than the internal soft-start ramp. A resistor divider pair can be used on the external control ramp to the SS/TRK pin to program the tracking rate of the output voltage. The final external ramp voltage applied at the SS/TRK pin should not fall below 1.2 V to avoid abnormal operation.

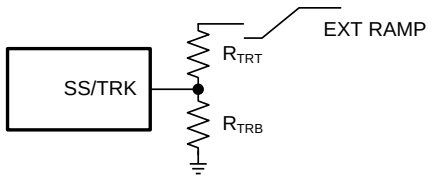

Figure 37. Soft Start Tracking External Ramp

V_{OUT} tracked to an external voltage ramp has the option of ramping up slower or faster than the internal voltage ramp. V_{FB} always follows the lower potential of the internal voltage ramp and the voltage on the SS/TRK pin. Figure 38 shows the case when V_{OUT} ramps slower than the internal ramp, while Figure 39 shows when V_{OUT} ramps faster than the internal ramp. Faster start up time may result in inductor current tripping current protection during start-up. Use with special care.

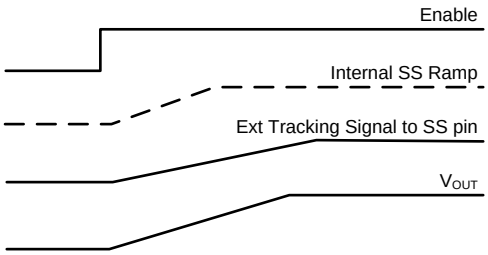

Figure 38. Tracking with Longer Start-up Time Than The Internal Ramp

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Feature Description (continued)

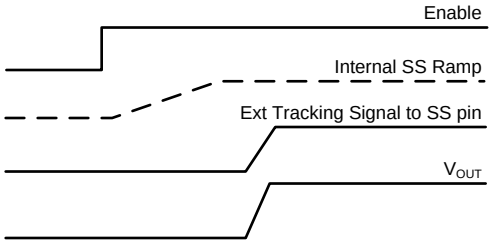

Figure 39. Tracking with Shorter Start-up Time Than The Internal Ramp

8.3.7 Switching Frequency (RT) and Synchronization (SYNC)

The switching frequency of the LM43601-Q1 can be programmed by the impedance R_T from the RT pin to ground. The frequency is inversely proportional to the R_T resistance. The RT pin can be left floating and the LM43601-Q1 will operate at 500 kHz default switching frequency. The RT pin is not designed to be shorted to ground.

For a desired frequency, typical R_T resistance can be found by Equation 3.

$$R_T(k\Omega) = 40200 / Freq\ (kHz) - 0.6 \quad (3)$$

Figure 40 shows R_T resistance vs switching frequency F_S curve.

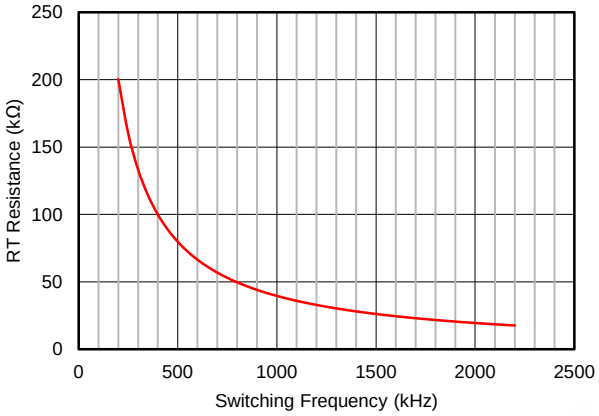

Figure 40. R_T Resistance vs Switching Frequency

Table 1 provides typical R_T values for a given F_S.

Table 1. Typical Frequency Setting R_T Resistance

F_S (kHz)	R_T (kΩ)
200	200
350	115
500	80.6
750	53.6
1000	39.2
1500	26.1
2000	19.6
2200	17.8

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Feature Description (continued)

The LM43601-Q1 switching action can also be synchronized to an external clock from 200 kHz to 2.2 MHz. Connect an external clock to the SYNC pin, with proper high speed termination, to avoid ringing. The SYNC pin should be grounded if not used.

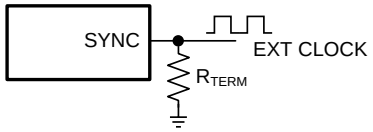

Figure 41. Frequency Synchronization

The recommendations for the external clock include high level no lower than 2 V, low level no higher than 0.4 V, duty cycle between 10% and 90% and both positive and negative pulse width no shorter than 80 ns. When the external clock fails at logic high or low, the LM43601-Q1 will switch at the frequency programmed by the R_T resistor after a time-out period. It is recommended to connect a resistor R_T to the RT pin such that the internal oscillator frequency is the same as the target clock frequency when the LM43601-Q1 is synchronized to an external clock. This allows the regulator to continue operating at approximately the same switching frequency if the external clock fails.

The choice of switching frequency is usually a compromise between conversion efficiency and the size of the circuit. Lower switching frequency implies reduced switching losses (including gate charge losses, switch transition losses, etc.) and usually results in higher overall efficiency. However, higher switching frequency allows use of smaller LC output filters and hence a more compact design. Lower inductance also helps transient response (higher large signal slew rate of inductor current), and reduces the DCR loss. The optimal switching frequency is usually a trade-off in a given application and thus needs to be determined on a case-by-case basis. It is related to the input voltage, output voltage, most frequent load current level(s), external component choices, and circuit size requirement. The choice of switching frequency may also be limited if an operating condition triggers $T_{ON\text{-}MIN}$ or $T_{OFF\text{-}MIN}$.

8.3.8 Minimum ON-Time, Minimum OFF-Time and Frequency Foldback at Drop-Out Conditions

Minimum ON-time, $T_{ON\text{-}MIN}$, is the smallest duration of time that the HS switch can be on. $T_{ON\text{-}MIN}$ is typically 125 ns in the LM43601-Q1. Minimum OFF-time, $T_{OFF\text{-}MIN}$, is the smallest duration that the HS switch can be off. $T_{OFF\text{-}MIN}$ is typically 200 ns in the LM43601-Q1.

In CCM operation, $T_{ON\text{-}MIN}$ and $T_{OFF\text{-}MIN}$ limits the voltage conversion range given a selected switching frequency. The minimum duty cycle allowed is

$$D_{MIN} = T_{ON\text{-}MIN} \times F_S \quad (4)$$

And the maximum duty cycle allowed is

$$D_{MAX} = 1 - T_{OFF\text{-}MIN} \times F_S \quad (5)$$

Given fixed $T_{ON\text{-}MIN}$ and $T_{OFF\text{-}MIN}$, the higher the switching frequency the narrower the range of the allowed duty cycle. In the LM43601-Q1, frequency foldback scheme is employed to extend the maximum duty cycle when $T_{OFF\text{-}MIN}$ is reached. The switching frequency will decrease once longer duty cycle is needed under low VIN conditions. The switching frequency can be decreased to approximately 1/10 of the programmed frequency by R_T or the synchronization clock. Such wide range of frequency foldback allows the LM43601-Q1 output voltage to stay in regulation with a much lower supply voltage V_{IN}. This leads to a lower effective drop-out voltage. Please refer to *Typical Characteristics* for more details.

Given an output voltage, the choice of the switching frequency affects the allowed input voltage range, solution size and efficiency. The maximum operating supply voltage can be found by

$$V_{IN\text{-}MAX} = V_{OUT} / (F_S * T_{ON\text{-}MIN}) \quad (6)$$

At lower supply voltage, the switching frequency will decrease once $T_{OFF\text{-}MIN}$ is tripped. The minimum V_{IN} without frequency foldback can be approximated by

$$V_{IN\text{-}MIN} = V_{OUT} / (1 - F_S * T_{OFF\text{-}MIN}) \quad (7)$$

Taking considerations of power losses in the system with heavy load operation, $V_{IN\text{-}MIN}$ is higher than the result calculated in Equation 7 . With frequency foldback, $V_{IN\text{-}MIN}$ is lowered by decreased F_S. Figure 42 gives an example of how F_S decreases with decreasing supply voltage V_{IN} at drop-out operation.

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Feature Description (continued)

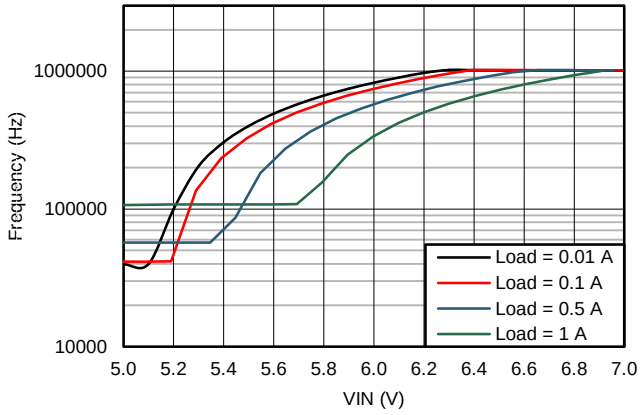

Figure 42. Switching Frequency Decreases in Drop-Out Operation
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz

8.3.9 Internal Compensation and C_{FF}

The LM43601-Q1 is internally compensated with R_C = 400 kΩ and C_C = 50 pF as shown in *Functional Block Diagram*. The internal compensation is designed such that the loop response is stable over the entire operating frequency and output voltage range. Depending on the output voltage, the compensation loop phase margin can be low with all ceramic capacitors. An external feed-forward cap C_{FF} is recommended to be placed in parallel with the top resistor divider R_{FBT} for optimum transient performance as shown in Figure 43.

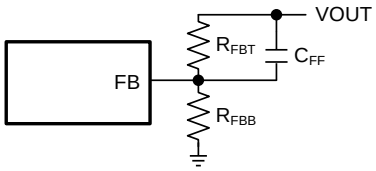

Figure 43. Feed-Forward Capacitor for Loop Compensation

The feed-forward capacitor C_{FF} in parallel with R_{FBT} places an additional zero before the cross over frequency of the control loop to boost phase margin. The zero frequency can be found by

$$f_{Z\text{-}CFF} = 1 / (2\pi \times R_{FBT} \times C_{FF}). \quad (8)$$

An additional pole is also introduced with C_{FF} at the frequency of

$$f_{P\text{-}CFF} = 1 / (2\pi \times C_{FF} \times (R_{FBT} // R_{FBB})). \quad (9)$$

The C_{FF} should be selected such that the bandwidth of the control loop without the C_{FF} is centered between $f_{Z\text{-}CFF}$ and $f_{P\text{-}CFF}$. The zero $f_{Z\text{-}CFF}$ adds phase boost at the crossover frequency and improves transient response. The pole $f_{P\text{-}CFF}$ helps maintaining proper gain margin at frequency beyond the crossover.

Designs with different combinations of output capacitors need different C_{FF}. Different types of capacitors have different Equivalent Series Resistance (ESR). Ceramic capacitors have the smallest ESR and need the most C_{FF}. Electrolytic capacitors have much larger ESR and the ESR zero frequency

$$f_{Z\text{-}ESR} = 1 / (2\pi \times ESR \times C_{OUT}) \quad (10)$$

would be low enough to boost the phase up around the crossover frequency. Designs using mostly electrolytic capacitors at the output may not need any C_{FF}.

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Feature Description (continued)

The C_{FF} creates a time constant with R_{FBT} that couples in the attenuated output voltage ripple to the FB node. If the C_{FF} value is too large, it can couple too much ripple to the FB and affect V_{OUT} regulation. It could also couple too much transient voltage deviation and falsely trip PGOOD thresholds. Therefore, C_{FF} should be calculated based on output capacitors used in the system. At cold temperatures, the value of C_{FF} might change based on the tolerance of the chosen component. This may reduce its impedance and ease noise coupling on the FB node. To avoid this, more capacitance can be added to the output or the value of C_{FF} can be reduced. Please refer to the *Detailed Design Procedure* for the calculation of C_{FF}.

8.3.10 Bootstrap Voltage (BOOT)

The driver of the HS switch requires a bias voltage higher than V_{IN} when the HS switch is ON. The capacitor connected between CBOOT and SW pins works as a charge pump to boost voltage on the CBOOT pin to (V_{SW} + V_{CC}). The boot diode is integrated on the LM43601-Q1 die to minimize the Bill-Of-Material (BOM). A synchronous switch is also integrated in parallel with the boot diode to reduce voltage drop on CBOOT. A high quality ceramic 0.47 µF 6.3 V or higher capacitor is recommended for C_{BOOT}.

8.3.11 Power Good (PGOOD)

The LM43601-Q1 has a built in power-good flag shown on PGOOD pin to indicate whether the output voltage is within its regulation level. The PGOOD signal can be used for start-up sequencing of multiple rails or fault protection. The PGOOD pin is an open-drain output that requires a pull-up resistor to an appropriate DC voltage. Voltage seen by the PGOOD pin should never exceed 12 V. A resistor divider pair can be used to divide the voltage down from a higher potential. A typical range of pull-up resistor value is 10 kΩ to 100 kΩ.

When the FB voltage is within the power-good band, +4% above and -7% below the internal reference V_{REF} typically, the PGOOD switch will be turned off and the PGOOD voltage will be pulled up to the voltage level defined by the pull up resistor or divider. When the FB voltage is outside of the tolerance band, +10 % above or -10 % below V_{REF} typically, the PGOOD switch will be turned on and the PGOOD pin voltage will be pulled low to indicate power bad. Both rising and falling edges of the power-good flag have a built-in 220 µs (typical) deglitch delay.

8.3.12 Over Current and Short Circuit Protection

The LM43601-Q1 is protected from over-current conditions by cycle-by-cycle current limiting on both peak and valley of the inductor current. Hiccup mode will be activated to prevent over heating if a fault condition persists.

High-side MOSFET over-current protection is implemented by the nature of the Peak Current Mode control. The HS switch current is sensed when the HS is turned on after a set blanking time. The HS switch current is compared to the output of the Error Amplifier (EA) minus slope compensation every switching cycle. Please refer to *Functional Block Diagram* for more details. The peak current of the HS switch is limited by the maximum EA output voltage minus the slope compensation at every switching cycle. The slope compensation magnitude at the peak current is proportional to the duty cycle.

When the LS switch is turned on, the current going through it is also sensed and monitored. The LS switch will not be turned OFF at the end of a switching cycle if its current is above the LS current limit $I_{LS\text{-}LIMIT}$. The LS switch will be kept ON so that inductor current keeps ramping down, until the inductor current ramps below $I_{LS\text{-}LIMIT}$. Then the LS switch will be turned OFF and the HS switch will be turned on after a dead time. If the current of the LS switch is higher than the LS current limit for 32 consecutive cycles and the power-good flag is low, hiccup current protection mode will be activated. In hiccup mode, the regulator will be shutdown and kept off for 5.5 ms typically before the LM43601-Q1 tries to start again. If over-current or short-circuit fault condition still exist, hiccup will repeat until the fault condition is removed. Hiccup mode reduces power dissipation under severe over-current conditions, prevents over heating and potential damage to the device.

Hiccup is only activated when power-good flag is low. Under non-severe over-current conditions when V_{OUT} has not fallen outside of the PGOOD tolerance band, the LM43601-Q1 will reduce the switching frequency and keep the inductor current valley clamped at the LS current limit level. This operation mode allows slight over current operation during load transients without tripping hiccup. If the power-good flag becomes low, hiccup operation will start after LS current limit is tripped 32 consecutive cycles.

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Feature Description (continued)

8.3.13 Thermal Shutdown

Thermal shutdown is a built-in self protection to limit junction temperature and prevent damages due to over heating. Thermal shutdown turns off the device when the junction temperature exceeds 160°C typically to prevent further power dissipation and temperature rise. Junction temperature will reduce after thermal shutdown. The LM43601-Q1 will attempt to restart when the junction temperature drops to 150°C.

8.4 Device Functional Modes

8.4.1 Shutdown Mode

The EN pin provides electrical ON and OFF control for the LM43601-Q1. When V_{EN} is below 0.4 V, the device is in shutdown mode. Both the internal LDO and the switching regulator are off. In shutdown mode the quiescent current drops to 1 µA typically with V_{IN} = 12 V. The LM43601-Q1 also employs under voltage lock out protection. If V_{CC} voltage is below the UVLO level, the output of the regulator will be turned off.

8.4.2 Stand-by Mode

The internal LDO has a lower enable threshold than the regulator. When V_{EN} is above 1.2 V and below the precision enable falling threshold (1.8 V typically), the internal LDO regulates the V_{CC} voltage at 3.2 V. The precision enable circuitry is turned on once V_{CC} is above the UVLO threshold. The switching action and voltage regulation are not enabled unless V_{EN} rises above the precision enable threshold (2.1 V typically).

8.4.3 Active Mode

The LM43601-Q1 is in Active Mode when V_{EN} is above the precision enable threshold and V_{CC} is above its UVLO level. The simplest way to enable the LM43601-Q1 is to connect the EN pin to V_{IN}. This allows self start-up when the input voltage is in the operation range: 3.5 V to 36 V. Please refer to *Enable (ENABLE)* and *VCC, UVLO and BIAS* for details on setting these operating levels.

In Active Mode, depending on the load current, the LM43601-Q1 will be in one of four modes:

1. Continuous conduction mode (CCM) with fixed switching frequency when load current is above half of the peak-to-peak inductor current ripple;
2. Discontinuous conduction mode (DCM) with fixed switching frequency when load current is lower than half of the peak-to-peak inductor current ripple in CCM operation;
3. Pulse Frequency Modulation (PFM) when switching frequency is decreased at very light load;
4. Fold-back mode when switching frequency is decreased to maintain output regulation at lower supply voltage V_{IN}.

8.4.4 CCM Mode

Continuous Conduction Mode (CCM) operation is employed in the LM43601-Q1 when the load current is higher than half of the peak-to-peak inductor current. In CCM peration, the frequency of operation is fixed unless the the minimum HS switch ON-time (T_{ON_MIN}), the minimum HS switch OFF-time (T_{OFF_MIN}) or LS current limit is exceeded. Output voltage ripple will be at a minimum in this mode and the maximum output current of 1 A can be supplied by the LM43601-Q1

8.4.5 Light Load Operation

When the load current is lower than half of the peak-to-peak inductor current in CCM, the LM43601-Q1 will operate in Discontinuous Conduction Mode (DCM), also known as Diode Emulation Mode (DEM). In DCM operation, the LS FET is turned off when the inductor current drops to 0 A to improve efficiency. Both switching losses and conduction losses are reduced in DCM, comparing to forced PWM operation at light load.

At even lighter current loads, Pulse Frequency Mode (PFM) is activated to maintain high efficiency operation. When the HS switch ON-time reduces to T_{ON_MIN} or peak inductor current reduces to its minimum $I_{PEAK\text{-}MIN}$, the switching frequency will reduce to maintain proper regulation. Efficiency is greatly improved by reducing switching and gate drive losses.

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Device Functional Modes (continued)

8.4.6 Self-Bias Mode

For highest efficiency of operation, it is recommended that the BIAS pin be connected directly to V_{OUT} when V_{OUT} ≥ 3.3 V. In this Self-Bias Mode of operation, the difference between the input and output voltages of the internal LDO are reduced and therefore the total efficiency is improved. These efficiency gains are more evident during light load operation. During this mode of operation, the LM43601-Q1 operates with a minimum quiescent current of 36 µA (typical). Please refer to *VCC, UVLO and BIAS* for more details.

9 Applications and Implementation

NOTE

Information in the following applications sections is not part of the TI component specification, and TI does not warrant its accuracy or completeness. TI's customers are responsible for determining suitability of components for their purposes. Customers should validate and test their design implementation to confirm system functionality.

9.1 Application Information

The LM43601-Q1 is a step down DC-to-DC regulator. It is typically used to convert a higher DC voltage to a lower DC voltage with a maximum output current of 1 A. The following design procedure can be used to select components for the LM43601-Q1. Alternately, the WEBENCH® software may be used to generate complete designs. When generating a design, the WEBENCH® software utilizes iterative design procedure and accesses comprehensive databases of components. Please go to ti.com for more details.

This section presents a simplified discussion of the design process.

9.2 Typical Applications

The LM43601-Q1 only requires a few external components to convert from a wide range of supply voltage to output voltage. Figure 44 shows a basic schematic when BIAS is connected to V_{OUT} . This is recommended for V_{OUT} ≥ 3.3 V. For V_{OUT} < 3.3 V, BIAS should be connected to ground, as shown in Figure 45.

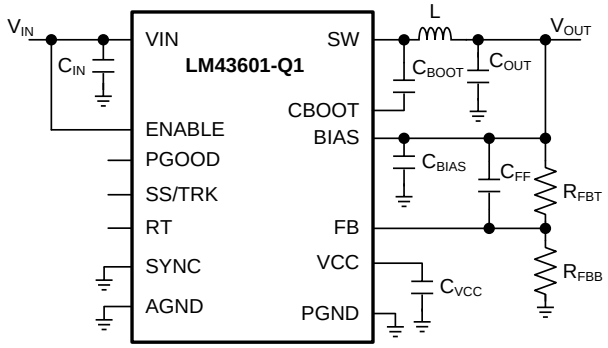

Figure 44. LM43601-Q1 Basic Schematic for V_{OUT} ≥ 3.3 V, Tie BIAS to V_{OUT}

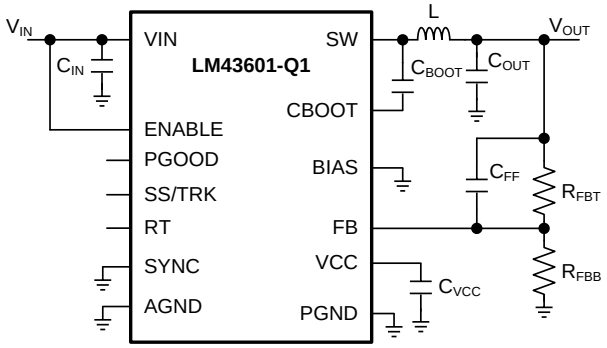

Figure 45. LM43601-Q1 Basic Schematic for V_{OUT} < 3.3 V, Tie BIAS to Ground

The LM43601-Q1 also integrates a full list of optional features to aid system design requirements, such as precision enable, V_{CC} UVLO, programmable soft-start, output voltage tracking, programmable switching frequency, clock synchronization and power-good indication. Each application can select the features for a more comprehensive design. A schematic with all features utilized is shown in Figure 46.

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Typical Applications (continued)

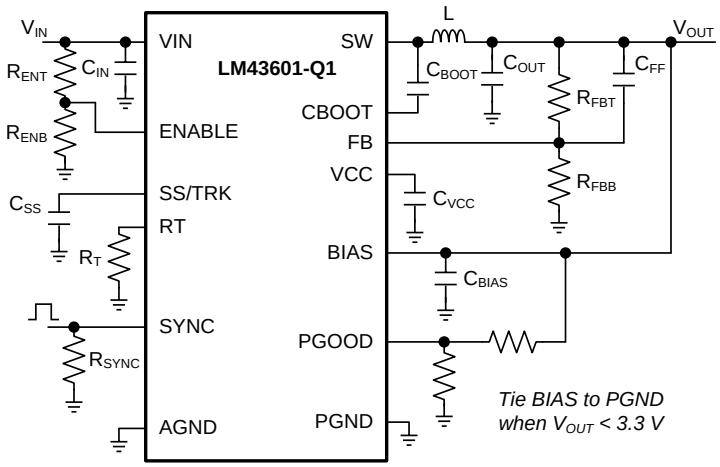

Figure 46. LM43601-Q1 Schematic with All Features

Typical Applications (continued)

The external components have to fulfill the needs of the application, but also the stability criteria of the device's control loop. The LM43601-Q1 is optimized to work within a range of external components. The LC output filter's inductance and capacitance have to be considered in conjunction, creating a double pole, responsible for the corner frequency of the converter. Table 2 can be used to simplify the output filter component selection.

Table 2. L, C_{OUT} and C_{FF} Typical Values

F_S (kHz)	L (µH)	C_{OUT} (µF) (1)	C_{FF} (pF) (2)(3)	R_T (kΩ)	R_{FBB} (kΩ) (2)(3)
V_{OUT} = 1 V					
200	18	500	none	200	100
500	6.8	330	none	80.6 or open	100
1000	3.3	180	none	39.2	100
2200	1.5	100	none	17.8	100
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V					
200	47	220	44	200	442
500	18	100	33	80.6 or open	442
1000	10	47	18	39.2	442
2200	4.7	27	12	17.8	442
V_{OUT} = 5 V					
200	56	150	68	200	255
500	27	66	33	80.6 or open	255
1000	15	33	22	39.2	255
2200	6.8	22	18	17.8	255
V_{OUT} = 12 V					
200	100	33	see note (4)	200	90.9
500	47	22	47	80.6 or open	90.9
1000	22	15	33	39.2	90.9

(1) All the C_{OUT} values are after derating. Add more when using ceramics
(2) R_{FBT} = 0 Ω for V_{OUT} = 1 V. R_{FBT} = 1 MΩ for all other V_{OUT} settings.
(3) For designs with R_{FBT} other than 1 MΩ, please adjust C_{FF} such that (C_{FF} × R_{FBT}) is unchanged and adjust R_{FBB} such that (R_{FBT} / R_{FBB}) is unchanged.
(4) High ESR C_{OUT} will give enough phase boost and C_{FF} not needed.

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Typical Applications (continued)

9.2.1 Design Requirements

A detailed design procedure is described based on a design example. For this design example, use the parameters listed in Table 3 as the input parameters.

Table 3. Design Example Parameters

DESIGN PARAMETER	VALUE
Input Voltage V_{IN}	12 V typical, range from 3.8 V to 36 V
Output Voltage V_{OUT}	3.3 V
Input Ripple Voltage	400 mV
Output ripple voltage	30 mV
Output Current Rating	1 A
Operating Frequency	500 kHz
Soft-start time	10 ms

9.2.2 Detailed Design Procedure

9.2.2.1 Output Voltage Set-Point

The output voltage of the LM43601-Q1 device is externally adjustable using a resistor divider network. The divider network is comprised of top feedback resistor R_{FBT} and bottom feedback resistor R_{FBB}. The following equation is used to determine the output voltage of the converter:

$$R_{FBB} = \frac{V_{FB}}{V_{OUT} - V_{FB}} R_{FBT} \quad (11)$$

Choose the value of the R_{FBT} to be 1 MΩ to minimize quiescent current to improve light load efficiency in this application. With the desired output voltage set to be 3.3 V and the V_{FB} = 1.016 V, the R_{FBB} value can then be calculated using Equation 11. The formula yields a value of 444.83 kΩ. Choose the closest available value of 442 kΩ for the R_{FBB}. Please refer to *Adjustable Output Voltage* for more details.

9.2.2.2 Switching Frequency

The default switching frequency of the LM43601-Q1 device is set at 500 kHz when RT pin is open circuit. The switching frequency is selected to be 500 kHz in this application for one less passive components. If other frequency is desired, use Equation 12 to calculate the required value for R_T.

$$R_T(k\Omega) = 40200 / \text{Freq (kHz)} - 0.6 \quad (12)$$

For 500 kHz, the calculated R_T is 79.8 kΩ and standard value 80.6 kΩ can also be used to set the switching frequency at 500 kHz.

9.2.2.3 Input Capacitors

The LM43601-Q1 device requires high frequency input decoupling capacitor(s) and a bulk input capacitor, depending on the application. The typical recommended value for the high frequency decoupling capacitor is 4.7 µF to 10 µF. A high-quality ceramic type X5R or X7R with sufficiency voltage rating is recommended. The voltage rating must be greater than the maximum input voltage. To compensate the derating of ceramic capacitors, a voltage rating of twice the maximum input voltage is recommended. Additionally, some bulk capacitance can be required, especially if the LM43601-Q1 circuit is not located within approximately 5 cm from the input voltage source. This capacitor is used to provide damping to the voltage spiking due to the lead inductance of the cable or trace. The value for this capacitor is not critical but must be rated to handle the maximum input voltage including ripple. For this design, a 10 µF, X7R dielectric capacitor rated for 100 V is used for the input decoupling capacitor. The equivalent series resistance (ESR) is approximately 3 mΩ, and the current-rating is 3 A. Include a capacitor with a value of 0.1 µF for high-frequency filtering and place it as close as possible to the device pins.

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NOTE

DC Bias effect: High capacitance ceramic capacitors have a DC Bias effect, which will have a strong influence on the final effective capacitance. Therefore the right capacitor value has to be chosen carefully. Package size and voltage rating in combination with dielectric material are responsible for differences between the rated capacitor value and the effective capacitance.

9.2.2.4 Inductor Selection

The first criterion for selecting an output inductor is the inductance itself. In most buck converters, this value is based on the desired peak-to-peak ripple current, Δi_L, that flows in the inductor along with the DC load current. As with switching frequency, the selection of the inductor is a tradeoff between size and cost. Higher inductance gives lower ripple current and hence lower output voltage ripple with the same output capacitors. Lower inductance could result in smaller, less expensive component. An inductance that gives a ripple current of 20% to 40% of the 1 A at the typical supply voltage is a good starting point. Δi_L = (1/5 to 2/5) x I_{OUT}. The peak-to-peak inductor current ripple can be found by Equation 13 and the range of inductance can be found by Equation 14 with the typical input voltage used as V_{IN}.

$$\Delta i_L = \frac{(V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) \times D}{L \times F_S} \tag{13}$$

$$\frac{(V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) \times D}{0.4 \times F_S \times I_{L-MAX}} \le L \le \frac{(V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) \times D}{0.2 \times F_S \times I_{L-MAX}} \tag{14}$$

D is the duty cycle of the converter which in a buck converter it can be approximated as D = V_{OUT} / V_{IN} , assuming no loss power conversion. By calculating in terms of amperes, volts, and megahertz, the inductance value will come out in micro Henries. The inductor ripple current ratio is defined by:

$$r = \frac{\Delta i_L}{I_{OUT}} \tag{15}$$

The second criterion is the inductor saturation current rating. The inductor should be rated to handle the maximum load current plus the ripple current:

$$I_{L\text{-}PEAK} = I_{LOAD\text{-}MAX} + \Delta i_L \tag{16}$$

The LM43601-Q1 has both valley current limit and peak current limit. During an instantaneous short, the peak inductor current can be high due to a momentary increase in duty cycle. The inductor current rating should be higher than the HS current limit. It is advised to select an inductor with a larger core saturation margin and preferably a softer roll off of the inductance value over load current.

In general, it is preferable to choose lower inductance in switching power supplies, because it usually corresponds to faster transient response, smaller DCR, and reduced size for more compact designs. But too low of an inductance can generate too large of an inductor current ripple such that over current protection at the full load could be falsely triggered. It also generates more conduction loss, since the RMS current is slightly higher relative that with lower current ripple at the same DC current. Larger inductor current ripple also implies larger output voltage ripple with the same output capacitors. With peak current mode control, it is not recommended to have too small of an inductor current ripple. Enough inductor current ripple improves signal-to-noise ratio on the current comparator and makes the control loop more immune to noise.

Once the inductance is determined, the type of inductor must be selected. Ferrite designs have very low core losses and are preferred at high switching frequencies, so design goals can concentrate on copper loss and preventing saturation. Ferrite core material saturates hard, which means that inductance collapses abruptly when the peak design current is exceeded. The ‘hard’ saturation results in an abrupt increase in inductor ripple current and consequent output voltage ripple. Do not allow the core to saturate!

For the design example, a standard 18 µH inductor from Würth, Coiltronics, or Vishay can be used for the 3.3 V output with plenty of current rating margin.

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9.2.2.5 Output Capacitor Selection

The device is designed to be used with a wide variety of LC filters. It is generally desired to use as little output capacitance as possible to keep cost and size down. The output capacitor (s), COUT, should be chosen with care since it directly affects the steady state output voltage ripple, loop stability and the voltage over/undershoot during load current transients.

The output voltage ripple is essentially composed of two parts. One is caused by the inductor current ripple going through the Equivalent Series Resistance (ESR) of the output capacitors:

$$\Delta V_{OUT\text{-}ESR} = \Delta i_L \times ESR \tag{17}$$

The other is caused by the inductor current ripple charging and discharging the output capacitors:

$$\Delta V_{OUT\text{-}C} = \Delta i_L / (8 \times F_S \times C_{OUT}) \tag{18}$$

The two components in the voltage ripple are not in phase, so the actual peak-to-peak ripple is smaller than the sum of the two peaks.

Output capacitance is usually limited by transient performance specifications if the system requires tight voltage regulation in the presence of large current steps and fast slew rates. When a fast large load transient happens, output capacitors provide the required charge before the inductor current can slew to the appropriate level. The initial output voltage step is equal to the load current step multiplied by the ESR. VOUT continues to droop until the control loop response increases or decreases the inductor current to supply the load. To maintain a small over- or under-shoot during a transient, small ESR and large capacitance are desired. But these also come with higher cost and size. Thus, the motivation is to seek a fast control loop response to reduce the output voltage deviation.

For a given input and output requirement, the following inequality gives an approximation for an absolute minimum output cap required:

$$C_{OUT} > \frac{1}{(F_S \times r \times \Delta V_{OUT} / I_{OUT})} \times \left[\left(\frac{r^2}{12} \times (1 + D') \right) + (D' \times (1 + r)) \right] \tag{19}$$

Along with this for the same requirement, the max ESR should be calculated as per the following inequality

$$ESR < \frac{D'}{F_S \times C_{OUT}} \times \left(\frac{1}{r} + 0.5 \right) \tag{20}$$

where

r = Ripple ratio of the inductor ripple current (ΔI_L / I_{OUT})

ΔV_{OUT} = Target output voltage undershoot

D’ = 1 – Duty cycle

F_S = Switching Frequency

I_{OUT} = Load Current

A general guide line for C_{OUT} range is that C_{OUT} should be larger than the minimum required output capacitance calculated by Equation 19, and smaller than 10 times the minimum required output capacitance or 1 mF. In applications with V_{OUT} less than 3.3 V, it is critical that low ESR output capacitors are selected. This will limit potential output voltage overshoots as the input voltage falls below the device normal operating range. To optimize the transient behavior a feed-forward capacitor could be added in parallel with the upper feedback resistor. For this design example, two 47 µF,10 V, X7R ceramic capacitors are used in parallel.

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9.2.2.6 Feed-Forward Capacitor

The LM43601-Q1 is internally compensated and the internal R-C values are 400 kΩ and 50 pF respectively. Depending on the V_{OUT} and frequency F_S, if the output capacitor C_{OUT} is dominated by low ESR (ceramic types) capacitors, it could result in low phase margin. To improve the phase boost an external feedforward capacitor C_{FF} can be added in parallel with R_{FBT}. C_{FF} is chosen such that phase margin is boosted at the crossover frequency without C_{FF}. A simple estimation for the crossover frequency without C_{FF} (f_x) is shown in Equation 21, assuming C_{OUT} has very small ESR.

$$f_x = \frac{2.73}{V_{OUT} \times C_{OUT}} \tag{21}$$

The following equation for C_{FF} was tested:

$$C_{FF} = \frac{1}{2\pi f_x} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{R_{FBT} \times (R_{FBT} \,//\, R_{FBB})}} \tag{22}$$

This equation indicates that the crossover frequency is geometrically centered on the zero and pole frequencies caused by the C_{FF} capacitor.

For designs with higher ESR, C_{FF} is not neeed when C_{OUT} has very high ESR and C_{FF} calculated from Equation 22 should be reduced with medium ESR. Table 2 can be used as a quick starting point.

For the application in this design example, a 33 pF COG capacitor is selected.

9.2.2.7 Bootstrap Capacitors

Every LM43601-Q1 design requires a bootstrap capacitor, C_{BOOT}. The recommended bootstrap capacitor is 0.47 µF and rated at 6.3 V or higher. The bootstrap capacitor is located between the SW pin and the CBOOT pin. The bootstrap capacitor must be a high-quality ceramic type with X7R or X5R grade dielectric for temperature stability.

9.2.2.8 VCC Capacitor

The VCC pin is the output of an internal LDO for LM43601-Q1. The input for this LDO comes from either VIN or BIAS (please refer to Functional Block Diagram for LM43601-Q1). To insure stability of the part, place a minimum of 2.2 µF, 10 V capacitor from this pin to ground.

9.2.2.9 BIAS Capacitors

For an output voltage of 3.3 V and greater, the BIAS pin can be connected to the output in order to increase light load efficiency. This pin is an input for the VCC LDO. When BIAS is not connected, the input for the VCC LDO will be internally connected into VIN. Since this is an LDO, the voltage differences between the input and output will affect the efficiency of the LDO. If necessary, a capacitor with a value of 1 µF can be added close to the BIAS pin as an input capacitor for the LDO.

9.2.2.10 Soft-Start Capacitors

The user can leave the SS/TRK pin floating and the LM43601-Q1 will implement a soft start time of 4.1 ms typically. In order to use an external soft start capacitor, the capacitor should be sized such that the soft start time will be longer than 4.1 ms. Use the following equation in order to calculate the soft start capacitor value:

$$C_{SS} = I_{SSC} \times t_{SS} \tag{23}$$

Where,

C_{SS} = Soft start capacitor value (µF)

I_{SS} = Soft start charging current (µA)

t_{SS} = Desired soft start time (s)

For the desired soft start time of 10 ms and soft start charging current of 2.2 µA, the equation above yield a soft start capacitor value of 0.022 µF.

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9.2.2.11 Under Voltage Lockout Set-Point

The undervoltage lockout (UVLO) is adjusted using the external voltage divider network of R_{ENT} and R_{ENB}. R_{ENT} is connected between VIN and the EN pin of the LM43601-Q1 device. R_{ENB} is connected between the EN pin and the GND pin. The UVLO has two thresholds, one for power up when the input voltage is rising and one for power down or brown outs when the input voltage is falling. The following equation can be used to determine the VIN (UVLO) level.

$$V_{IN\text{-}UVLO\text{-}RISING} = V_{ENH} \times (R_{ENB} + R_{ENT}) / R_{ENB} \quad (24)$$

The EN rising threshold for LM43601-Q1 is set to be 2.1 V. Choose the value of RENB to be 1 MΩ to minimize input current going into the converter. If the desired VIN (UVLO) level is at 5 V, then the value of R_{ENT} can be calculated using the equation below:

$$R_{ENT} = (V_{IN\text{-}UVLO\text{-}RISING} / V_{ENH} - 1) \times R_{ENB} \quad (25)$$

The above equation yields a value of 1.37 MΩ. The resulting falling UVLO threshold can be calculated as follows:

$$V_{IN\text{-}UVLO\text{-}FALLING} = 1.8 \times (R_{ENB} + R_{ENT}) / R_{ENB} \quad (26)$$

9.2.2.12 PGOOD

A typical pull-up resistor value is 10 kΩ to 100 kΩ from the PGOOD pin to a voltage no higher than 12 V. If it is desired to pull up the PGOOD pin to a voltage higher than 12 V, a resistor can be added from the PGOOD pin to ground to divide the voltage seen by the PGOOD pin to a value no higher than 12 V.

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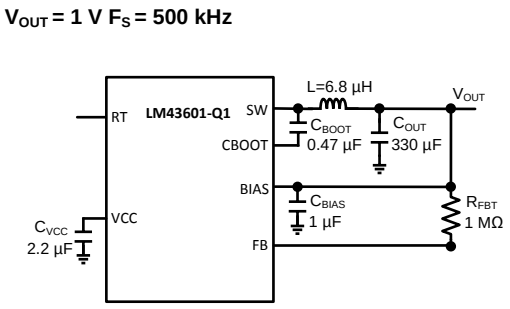
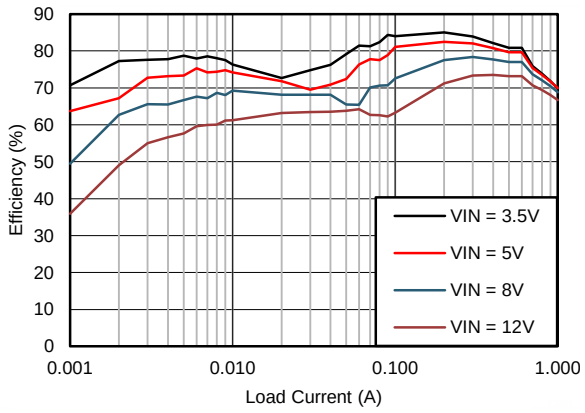
9.2.3 Application Performance Curves

Please refer to Table 2 for Bill of materials for each V_{OUT} and F_S combination. Unless otherwise stated, application performance curves were taken at T_A = 25 °C.



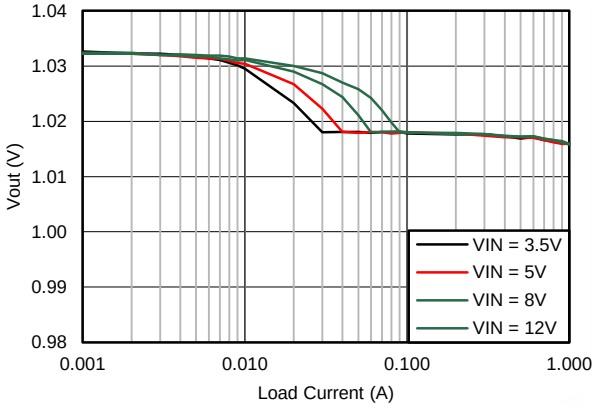
V_{OUT} = 1 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 47. BOM for V_{OUT} = 1 V F_S = 500 kHz



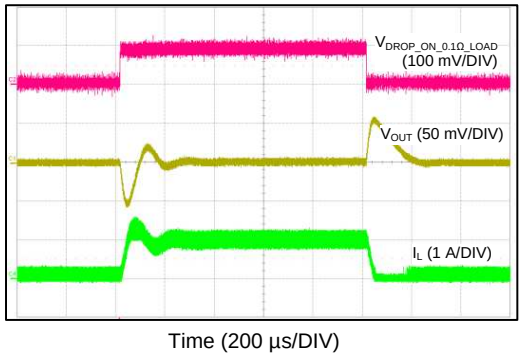
V_{OUT} = 1 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 48. Efficiency



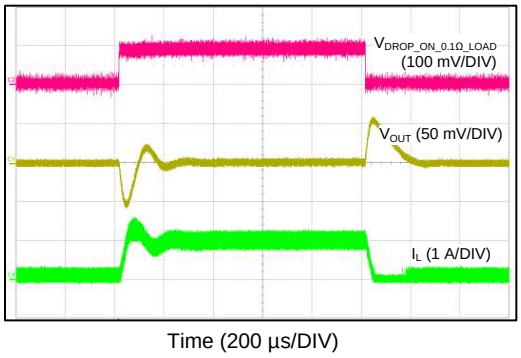
V_{OUT} = 1 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 49. Output Voltage Regulation



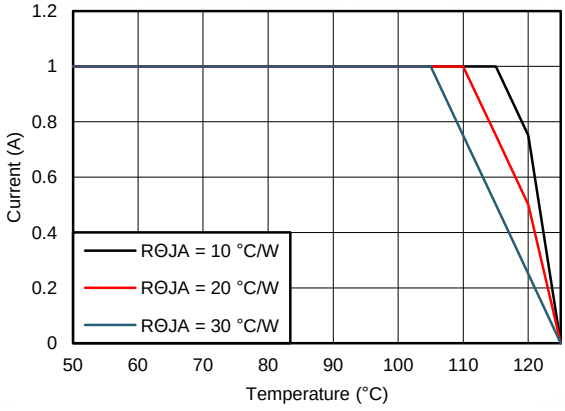
V_{OUT} = 1 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 50. Load Transient Between 0.05 A and 1 A



V_{OUT} = 1 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 51. Load Transient Between 0.1 A and 1 A



V_{OUT} = 1 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 52. Derating Curve

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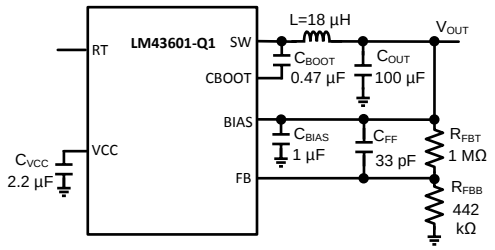
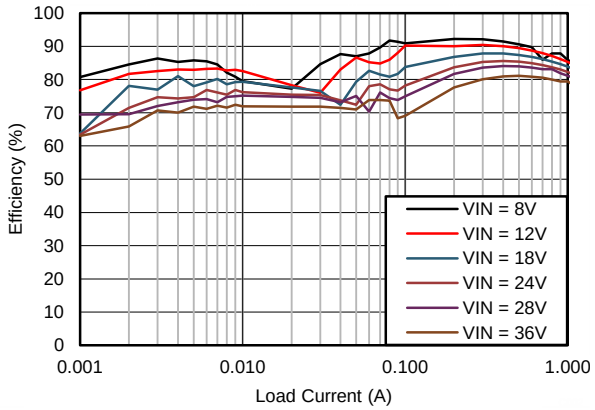
Please refer to Table 2 for Bill of materials for each V_{OUT} and F_S combination. Unless otherwise stated, application performance curves were taken at T_A = 25 °C.

V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz



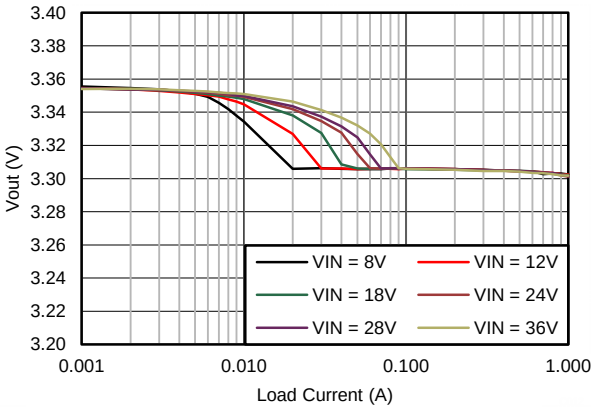
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 53. BOM for V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz



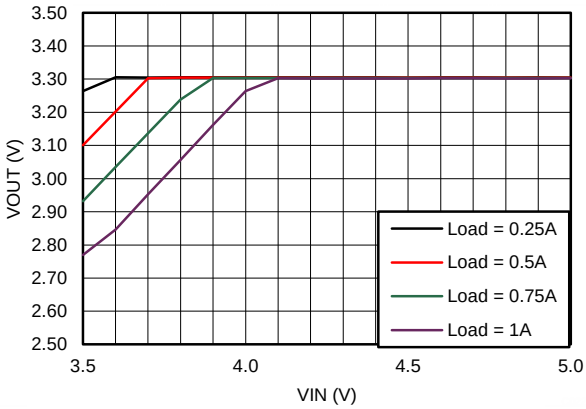
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 54. Efficiency



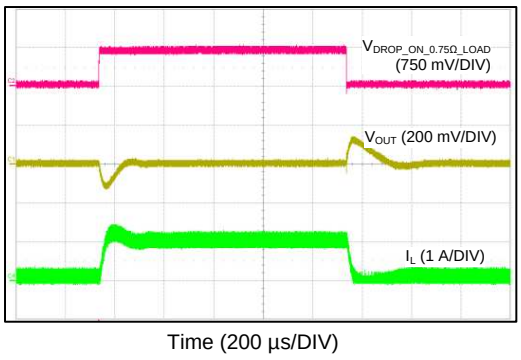
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 55. Output Voltage Regulation



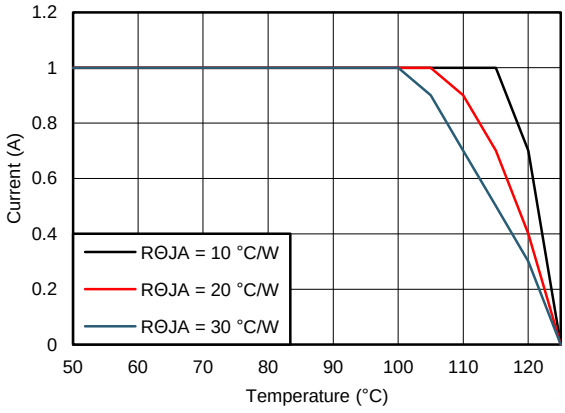
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 56. Drop-Out Curve



V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 57. Load Transient Between 0.1 A and 1 A

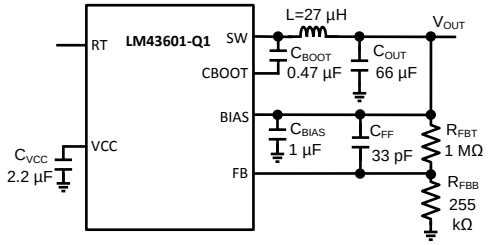


V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 58. Derating Curve

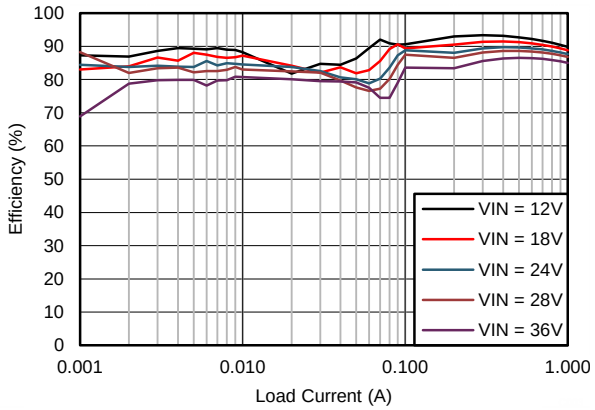
Please refer to Table 2 for Bill of materials for each V_{OUT} and F_S combination. Unless otherwise stated, application performance curves were taken at T_A = 25 °C.

V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz



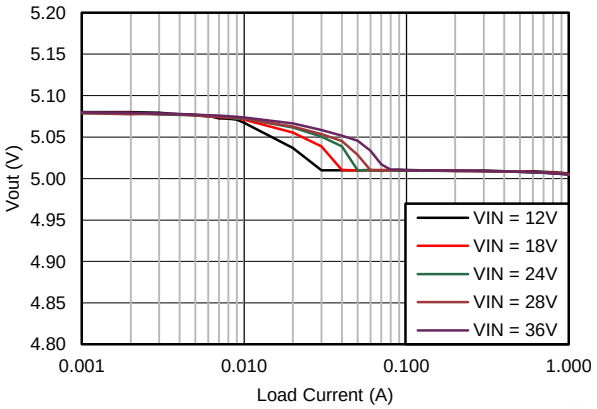
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 59. BOM for V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz



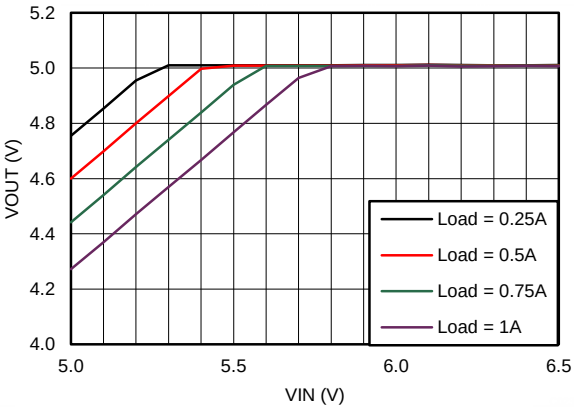
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 60. Efficiency



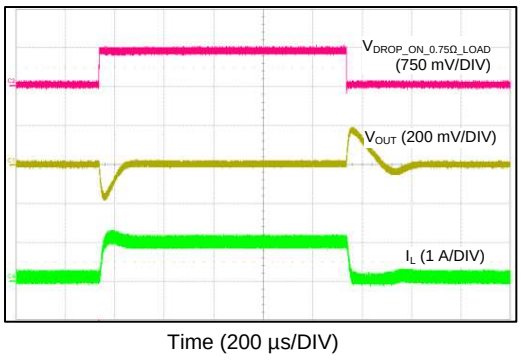
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 61. Output Voltage Regulation



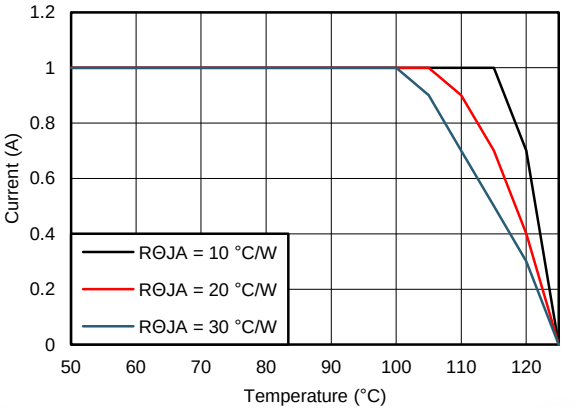
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 62. Drop-Out Curve



V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 63. Load Transient Between 0.1 A and 1 A



V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 64. Derating Curve

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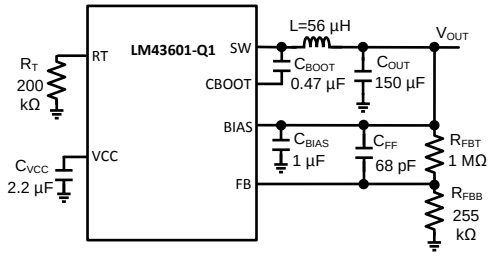
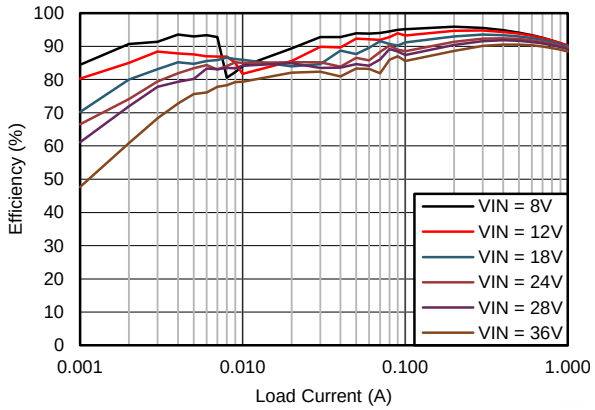
Please refer to Table 2 for Bill of materials for each V_{OUT} and F_S combination. Unless otherwise stated, application performance curves were taken at T_A = 25 °C.

V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 200 kHz



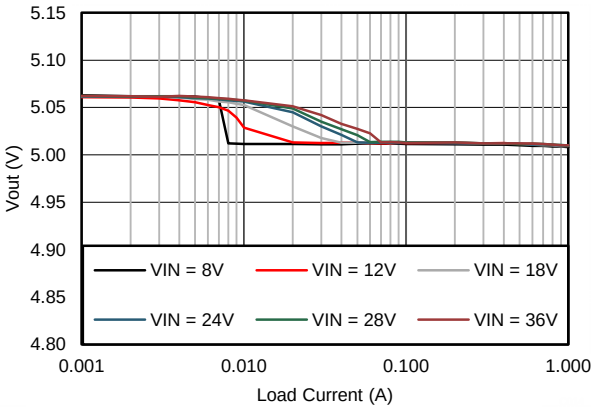
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 200 kHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 65. BOM for V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 200 kHz



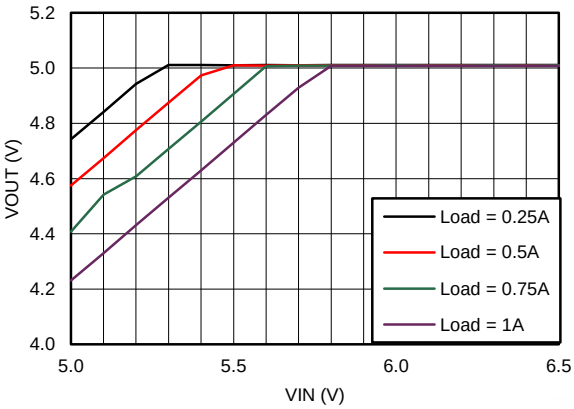
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 200 kHz

Figure 66. Efficiency



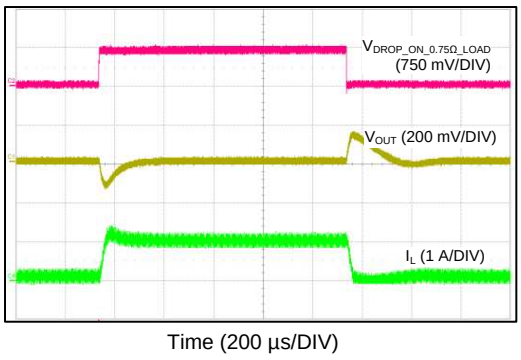
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 200 kHz

Figure 67. Output Voltage Regulation



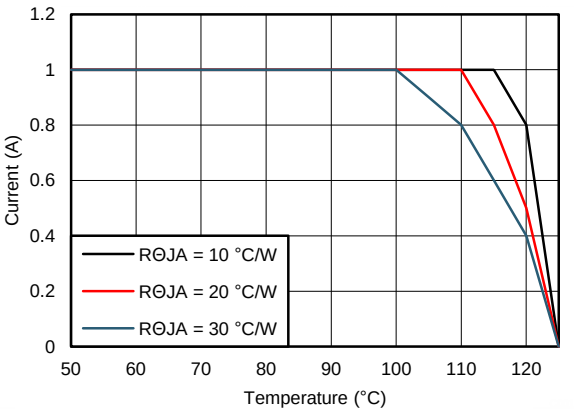
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 200 kHz

Figure 68. Drop-Out Curve



V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 200 kHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 69. Load Transient Between 0.1 A and 1 A

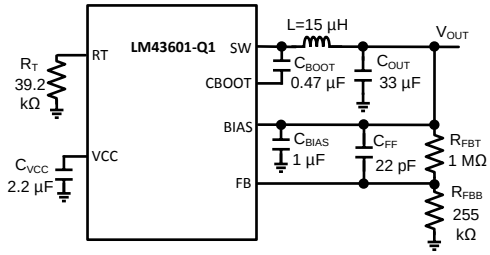


V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 200 kHz

Figure 70. Derating Curve

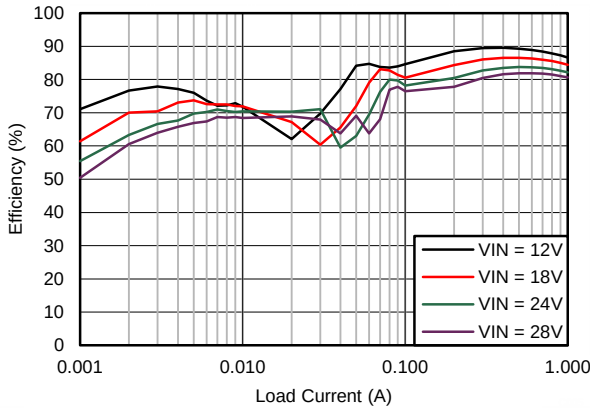
Please refer to Table 2 for Bill of materials for each V_{OUT} and F_S combination. Unless otherwise stated, application performance curves were taken at T_A = 25 °C.

V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz



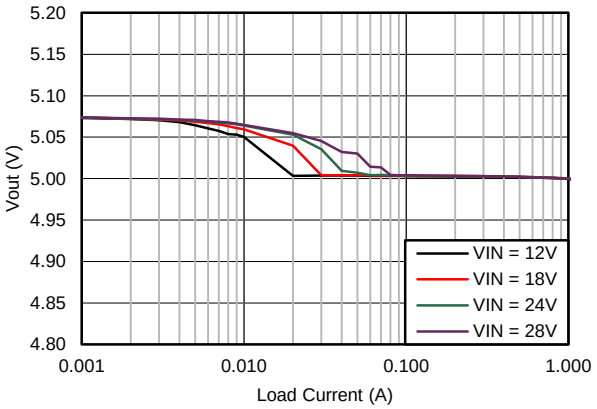
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 71. BOM for V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz



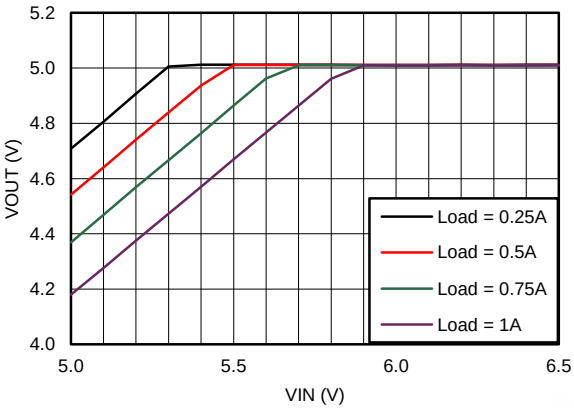
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 72. Efficiency



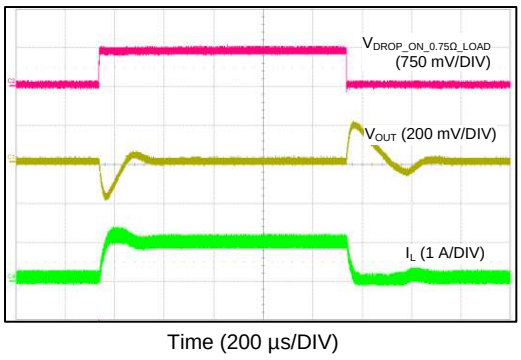
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz

Figure 73. Output Voltage Regulation



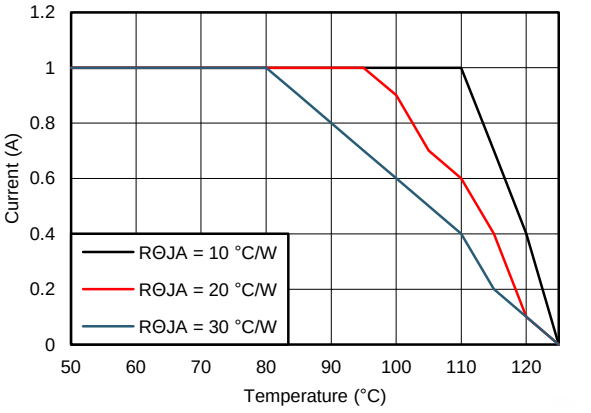
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz

Figure 74. Drop-Out Curve



V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 75. Load Transient Between 0.1 A and 1 A



V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 76. Derating Curve

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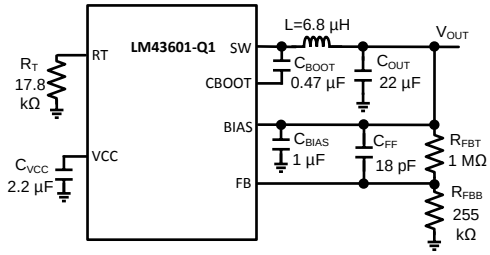
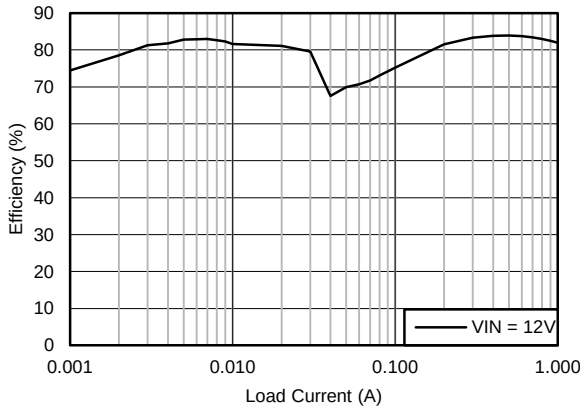
Please refer to Table 2 for Bill of materials for each V_{OUT} and F_S combination. Unless otherwise stated, application performance curves were taken at T_A = 25 °C.

V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 2.2 MHz



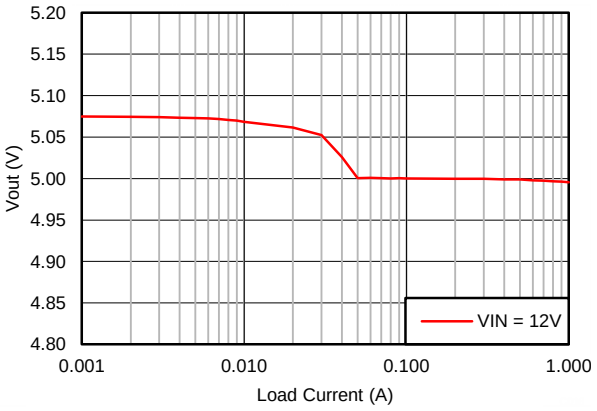
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 77. BOM for V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 2.2 MHz



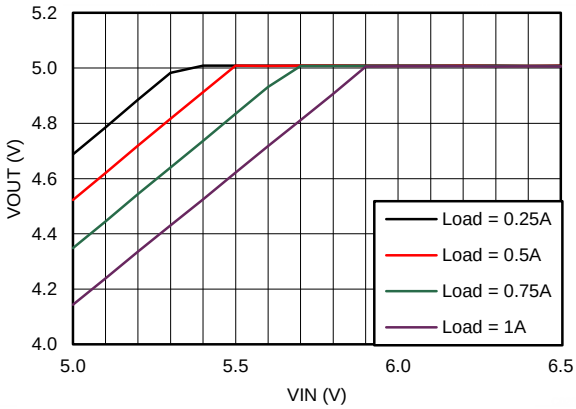
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 2.2 MHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 78. Efficiency



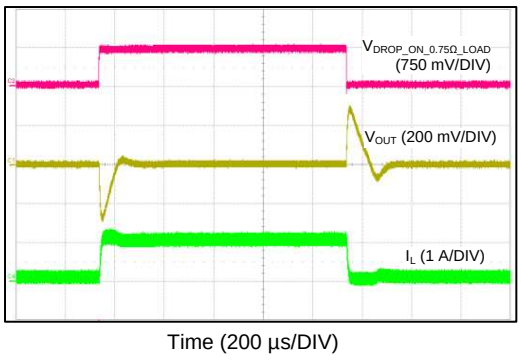
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 2.2 MHz

Figure 79. Output Voltage Regulation



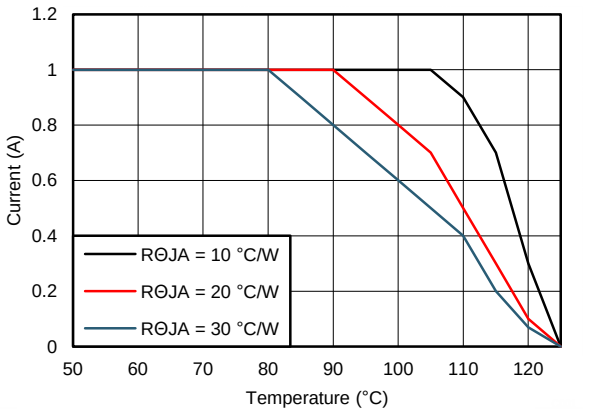
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 2.2 MHz

Figure 80. Drop-Out Curve



V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 2.2 MHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 81. Load Transient Between 0.1 A and 1 A

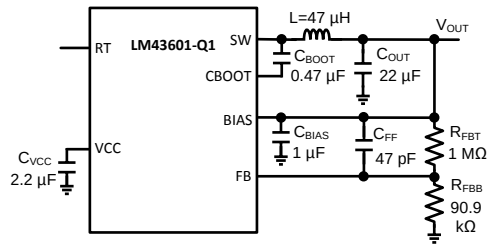


V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 2.2 MHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 82. Derating Curve

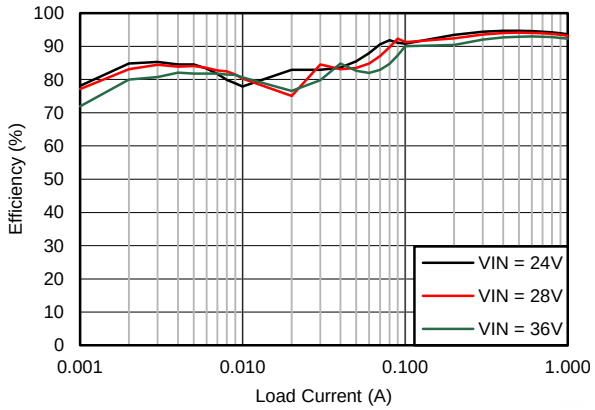
Please refer to Table 2 for Bill of materials for each V_{OUT} and F_S combination. Unless otherwise stated, application performance curves were taken at T_A = 25 °C.

V_{OUT} = 12 V F_S = 500 kHz



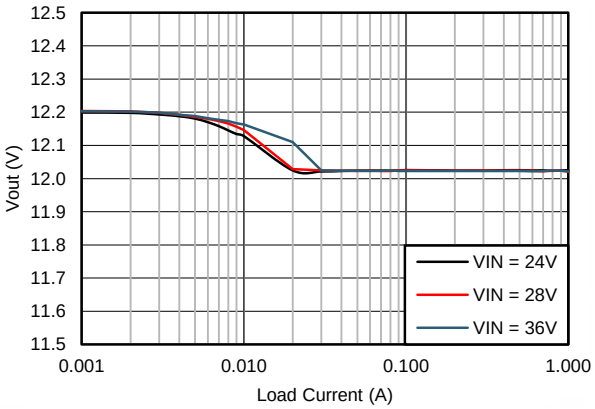
V_{OUT} = 12 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 24 V

Figure 83. BOM for V_{OUT} = 12 V F_S = 500 kHz



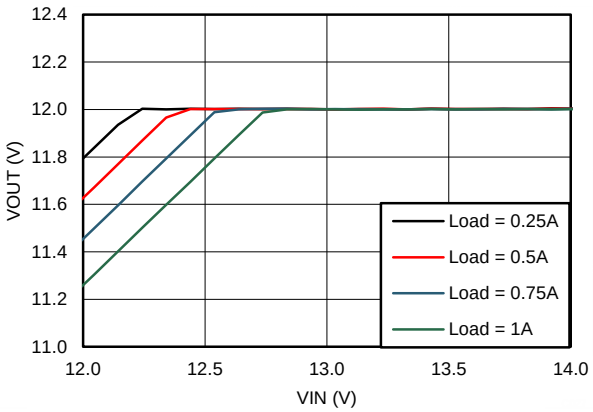
V_{OUT} = 12 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 84. Efficiency



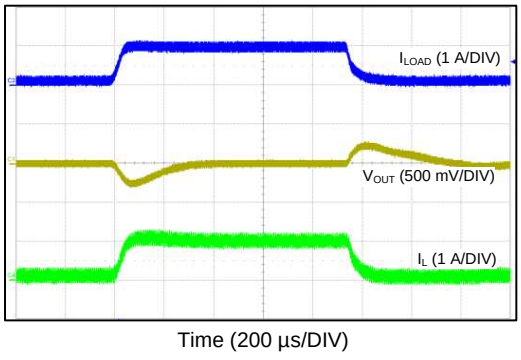
V_{OUT} = 12 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 85. Output Voltage Regulation



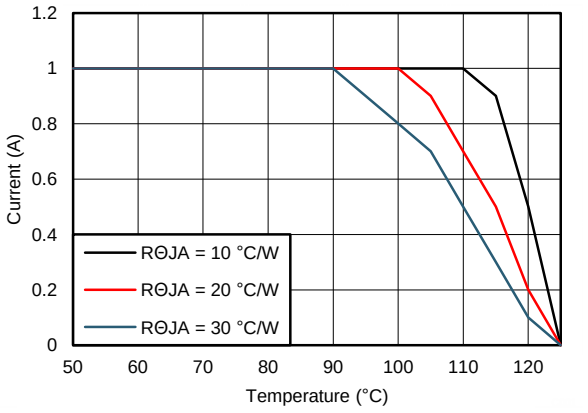
V_{OUT} = 12 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 86. Drop-Out Curve



V_{OUT} = 12 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 24 V

Figure 87. Load Transient Between 0.1 A and 1 A



V_{OUT} = 12 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 24 V

Figure 88. Derating Curve

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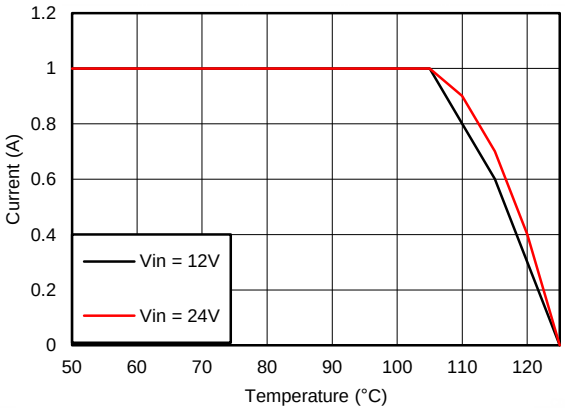
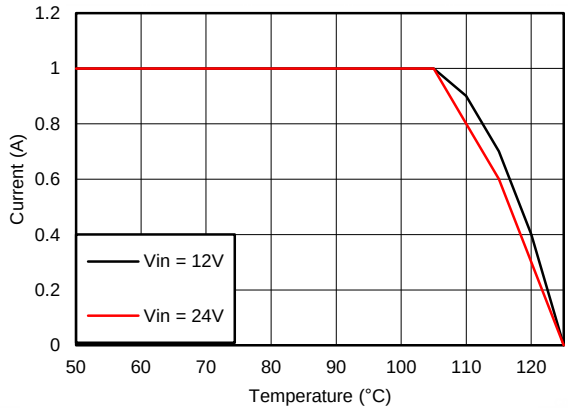
Please refer to Table 2 for Bill of materials for each V_{OUT} and F_S combination. Unless otherwise stated, application performance curves were taken at T_A = 25 °C.



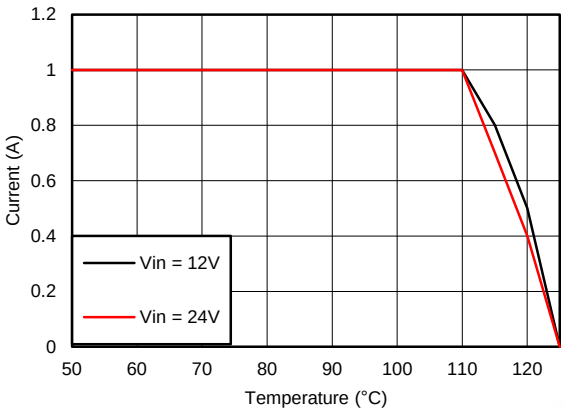
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz $R_{\theta JA}$ = 20 °C/W

Figure 89. Derating Curve with $R_{\theta JA}$ = 20 °C/W



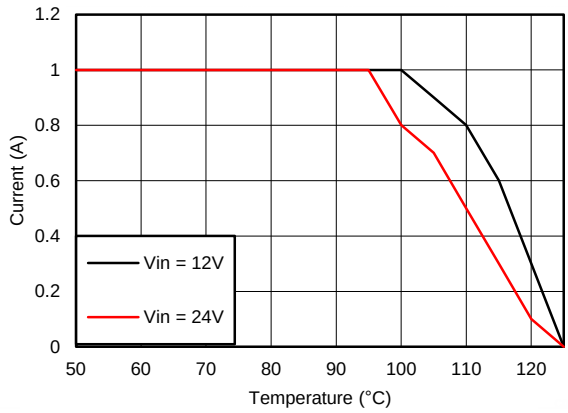
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 500 kHz $R_{\theta JA}$ = 20 °C/W

Figure 90. Derating Curve with $R_{\theta JA}$ = 20 °C/W



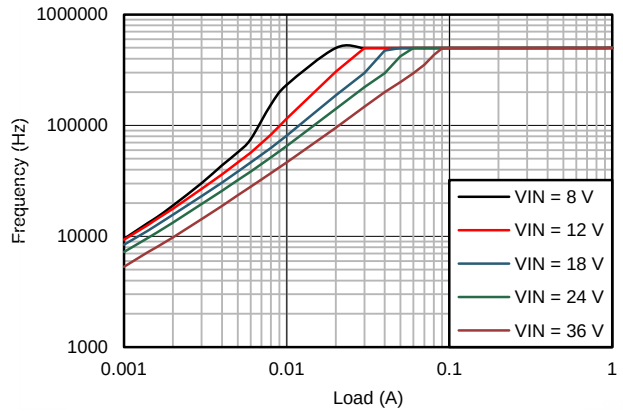
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 200 kHz $R_{\theta JA}$ = 20 °C/W

Figure 91. Derating Curve with $R_{\theta JA}$ = 20 °C/W



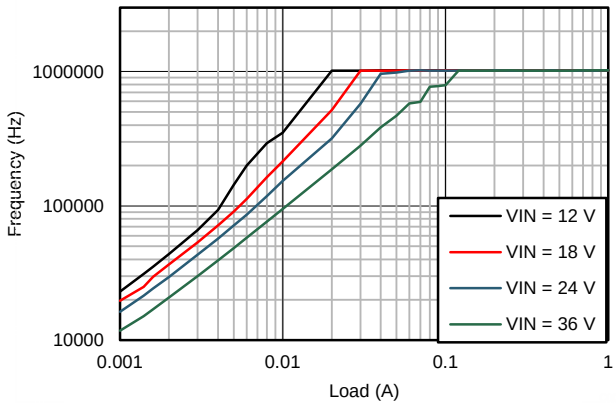
V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz $R_{\theta JA}$ = 20 °C/W

Figure 92. Derating Curve with $R_{\theta JA}$ = 20 °C/W



V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz

Figure 93. Switching Frequency vs I_{OUT} in PFM Operation



V_{OUT} = 5 V F_S = 1 MHz

Figure 94. Switching Frequency vs I_{OUT} in PFM Operation

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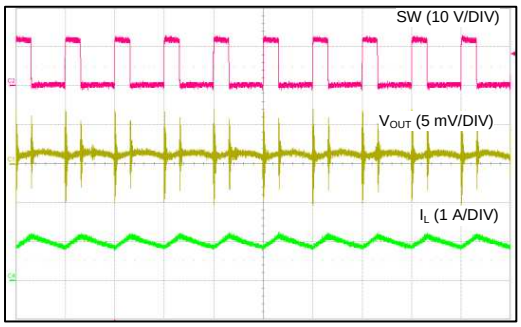
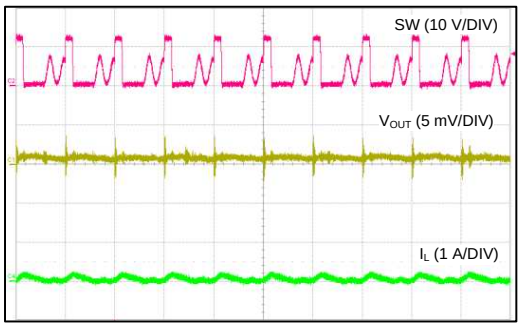
Please refer to Table 2 for Bill of materials for each V_{OUT} and F_S combination. Unless otherwise stated, application performance curves were taken at T_A = 25 °C.



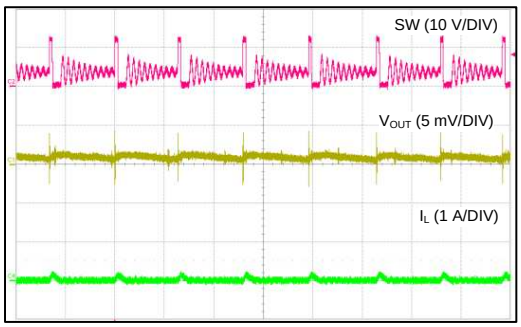
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz I_{OUT} = 1A

Figure 95. Switching Waveform in CCM Operation



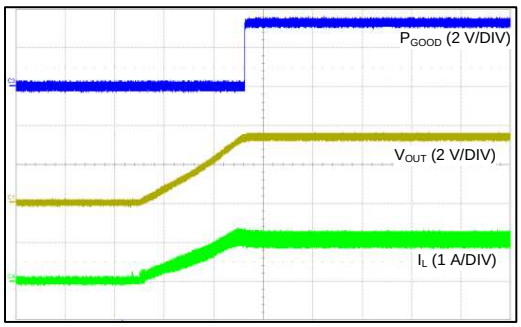
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz I_{OUT} = 40 mA

Figure 96. Switching Waveform in DCM Operation



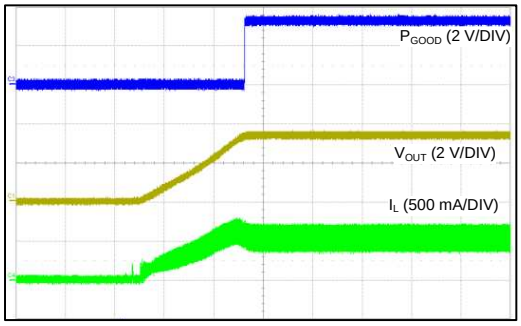
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz I_{OUT} = 10 mA

Figure 97. Switching Waveform in PFM Operation



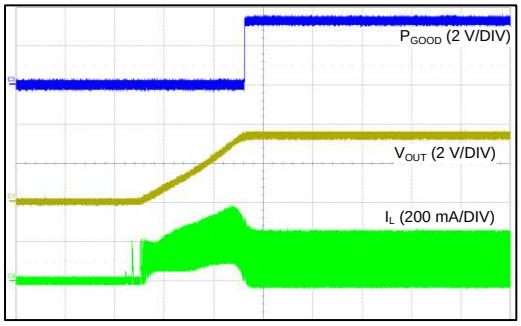
V_{IN} = 12V V_{OUT} = 3.3 V R_{LOAD} = 3.3 Ω

Figure 98. Startup Into Full Load with Internal Soft-Start Rate



V_{IN} = 12 V V_{OUT} = 3.3 V R_{LOAD} = 6.6 Ω

Figure 99. Startup Into Half Load with Internal Soft-Start Rate



V_{IN} = 12 V V_{OUT} = 3.3 V R_{LOAD} = 33 Ω

Figure 100. Startup Into 100 mA with Internal Soft-Start Rate

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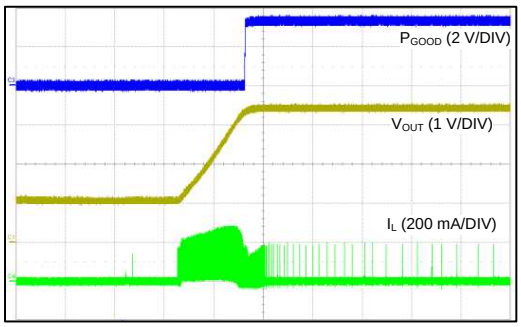
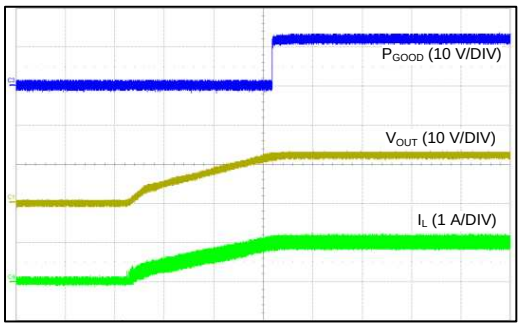
Please refer to Table 2 for Bill of materials for each V_{OUT} and F_S combination. Unless otherwise stated, application performance curves were taken at T_A = 25 °C.



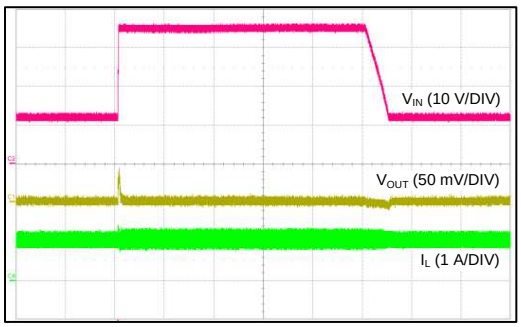
V_{IN} = 12V V_{OUT} = 3.3 V R_{LOAD} = Open

Figure 101. Startup Into 1.0 V Pre-biased Voltage



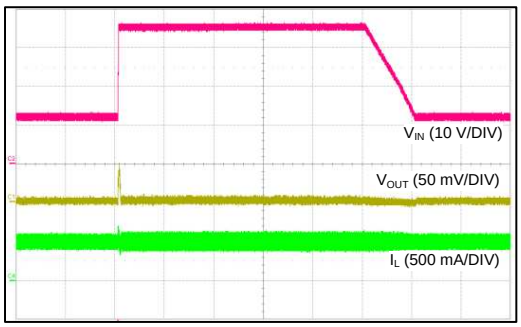
V_{IN} = 24 V V_{OUT} = 12 V R_{LOAD} = 12 Ω

Figure 102. Startup with External Capacitor C_{SS} = 33 nF



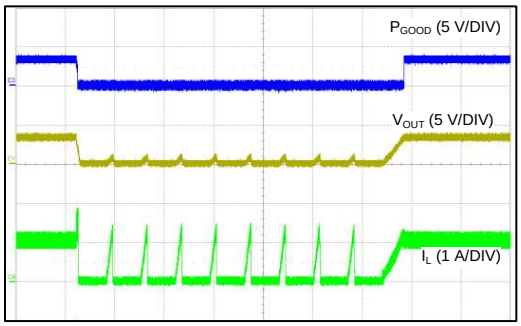
V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz I_{OUT} = 1 A

Figure 103. Line Transient: V_{IN} Transitions Between 12 V and 36 V



V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz I_{OUT} = 0.5 A

Figure 104. Line Transient: V_{IN} Transitions Between 12 V and 36 V



V_{OUT} = 3.3 V F_S = 500 kHz V_{IN} = 12 V

Figure 105. Short Circuit Protection and Recover

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10 Power Supply Recommendations

The LM43601-Q1 is designed to operate from an input voltage supply range between 3.5 V and 36 V. This input supply should be able to withstand the maximum input current and maintain a voltage above 3.5 V. The resistance of the input supply rail should be low enough that an input current transient does not cause a high enough drop at the LM43601-Q1 supply voltage that can cause a false UVLO fault triggering and system reset.

If the input supply is located more than a few inches from the LM43601-Q1 additional bulk capacitance may be required in addition to the ceramic bypass capacitors. The amount of bulk capacitance is not critical, but a 47 µF or 100 µF electrolytic capacitor is a typical choice.

11 Layout

The performance of any switching converter depends as much upon the layout of the PCB as the component selection. The following guidelines will help users design a PCB with the best power conversion performance, thermal performance, and minimized generation of unwanted EMI.

11.1 Layout Guidelines

1. Place ceramic high frequency bypass C_{IN} as close as possible to the LM43601-Q1 VIN and PGND pins. Grounding for both the input and output capacitors should consist of localized top side planes that connect to the PGND pins and PAD.
2. Place bypass capacitors for VCC and BIAS close to the pins and ground the bypass capacitors to device ground.
3. Minimize trace length to the FB pin. Both feedback resistors, R_{FBT} and R_{FBB} should be located close to the FB pin. Place C_{FF} directly in parallel with R_{FBT}. If V_{OUT} accuracy at the load is important, make sure V_{OUT} sense is made at the load. Route V_{OUT} sense path away from noisy nodes and preferably through a layer on the other side of a shielding layer.
4. Use ground plane in one of the middle layers as noise shielding and heat dissipation path.
5. Have a single point ground connection to the plane. The ground connections for the feedback, soft-start, and enable components should be routed to the ground plane. This prevents any switched or load currents from flowing in the analog ground traces. If not properly handled, poor grounding can result in degraded load regulation or erratic output voltage ripple behavior.
6. Make V_{IN}, V_{OUT} and ground bus connections as wide as possible. This reduces any voltage drops on the input or output paths of the converter and maximizes efficiency.
7. Provide adequate device heat-sinking. Use an array of heat-sinking vias to connect the exposed pad to the ground plane on the bottom PCB layer. If the PCB has multiple copper layers, these thermal vias can also be connected to inner layer heat-spreading ground planes. Ensure enough copper area is used for heat-sinking to keep the junction temperature below 125°C.

11.1.1 Compact Layout for EMI Reduction

Radiated EMI is generated by the high di/dt components in pulsing currents in switching converters. The larger area covered by the path of a pulsing current, the more electromagnetic emission is generated. The key to minimize radiated EMI is to identify the pulsing current path and minimize the area of the path. In Buck converters, the pulsing current path is from the V_{IN} side of the input capacitors to HS switch, to the LS switch, and then return to the ground of the input capacitors, as shown in Figure 106.

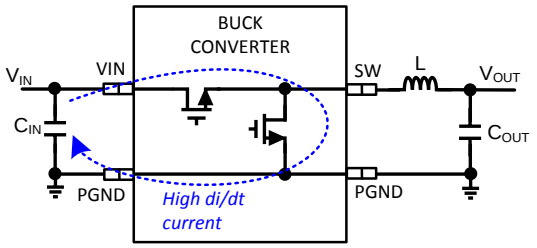

Figure 106. Buck Converter High di / dt Path

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Layout Guidelines (continued)

High frequency ceramic bypass capacitors at the input side provide primary path for the high di/dt components of the pulsing current. Placing ceramic bypass capacitor(s) as close as possible to the VIN and PGND pins is the key to EMI reduction.

The SW pin connecting to the inductor should be as short as possible, and just wide enough to carry the load current without excessive heating. Short, thick traces or copper pours (shapes) should be used for high current conduction path to minimize parasitic resistance. The output capacitors should be place close to the V_{OUT} end of the inductor and closely grounded to PGND pin and exposed PAD.

The bypass capacitors on VCC and BIAS pins should be placed as close as possible to the pins respectively and closely grounded to PGND and the exposed PAD.

11.1.2 Ground Plane and Thermal Considerations

It is recommended to use one of the middle layers as a solid ground plane. Ground plane provides shielding for sensitive circuits and traces. It also provides a quiet reference potential for the control circuitry. The AGND and PGND pins should be connected to the ground plane using vias right next to the bypass capacitors. PGND pins are connected to the source of the internal LS switch. They should be connected directly to the grounds of the input and output capacitors. The PGND net contains noise at the switching frequency and may bounce due to load variations. The PGND trace, as well as PVIN and SW traces, should be constrained to one side of the ground plane. The other side of the ground plane contains much less noise and should be used for sensitive routes.

It is recommended to provide adequate device heat sinking by utilizing the PAD of the IC as the primary thermal path. Use a minimum 4 by 4 array of 10 mil thermal vias to connect the PAD to the system ground plane for heat sinking. The vias should be evenly distributed under the PAD. Use as much copper as possible for system ground plane on the top and bottom layers for the best heat dissipation. It is recommended to use a four-layer board with the copper thickness, for the four layers, starting from the top one, 2 oz / 1 oz / 1 oz / 2 oz. Four layer boards with enough copper thickness and proper layout provides low current conduction impedance, proper shielding and lower thermal resistance.

The thermal characteristics of the LM43601-Q1 are specified using the parameter $R_{\theta JA}$, which characterize the junction temperature of the silicon to the ambient temperature in a specific system. Although the value of $R_{\theta JA}$ is dependant on many variables, it still can be used to approximate the operating junction temperature of the device. To obtain an estimate of the device junction temperature, one may use the following relationship:

$$T_J = P_D \times R_{\theta JA} + T_A \quad (27)$$

where

T_J = Junction temperature in °C

$P_D = V_{IN} \times I_{IN} \times (1 - \text{Efficiency}) - 1.1 \times I_{OUT} \times \text{DCR}$

DCR = Inductor DC parasitic resistance in Ω

$R_{\theta JA}$ = Junction-to-ambient thermal resistance of the device in °C/W

T_A = Ambient temperature in °C.

The maximum operating junction temperature of the LM43601-Q1 is 125°C. $R_{\theta JA}$ is highly related to PCB size and layout, as well as environmental factors such as heat sinking and air flow. Figure 107 shows measured results of $R_{\theta JA}$ with different copper area on a 2-layer board and a 4-layer board.

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Layout Guidelines (continued)

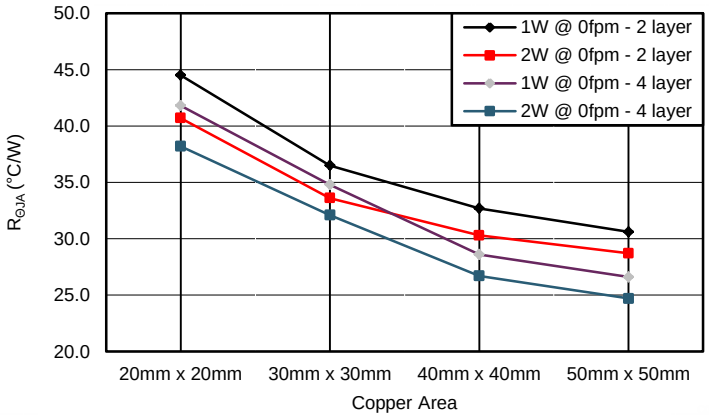

Figure 107. Measured $R_{\theta JA}$ vs PCB Copper Area on a 2-layer Board and a 4-layer Board

11.1.3 Feedback Resistors

To reduce noise sensitivity of the output voltage feedback path, it is important to place the resistor divider and C_{FF} close to the FB pin, rather than close to the load. The FB pin is the input to the error amplifier, so it is a high impedance node and very sensitive to noise. Placing the resistor divider and C_{FF} closer to the FB pin reduces the trace length of FB signal and reduces noise coupling. The output node is a low impedance node, so the trace from V_{OUT} to the resistor divider can be long if short path is not available.

If voltage accuracy at the load is important, make sure voltage sense is made at the load. Doing so will correct for voltage drops along the traces and provide the best output accuracy. The voltage sense trace from the load to the feedback resistor divider should be routed away from the SW node path, the inductor and V_{IN} path to avoid contaminating the feedback signal with switch noise, while also minimizing the trace length. This is most important when high value resistors are used to set the output voltage. It is recommended to route the voltage sense trace on a different layer than the inductor, SW node and V_{IN} path, such that there is a ground plane in between the feedback trace and inductor / SW node / V_{IN} polygon. This provides further shielding for the voltage feedback path from switching noises.

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11.2 Layout Example

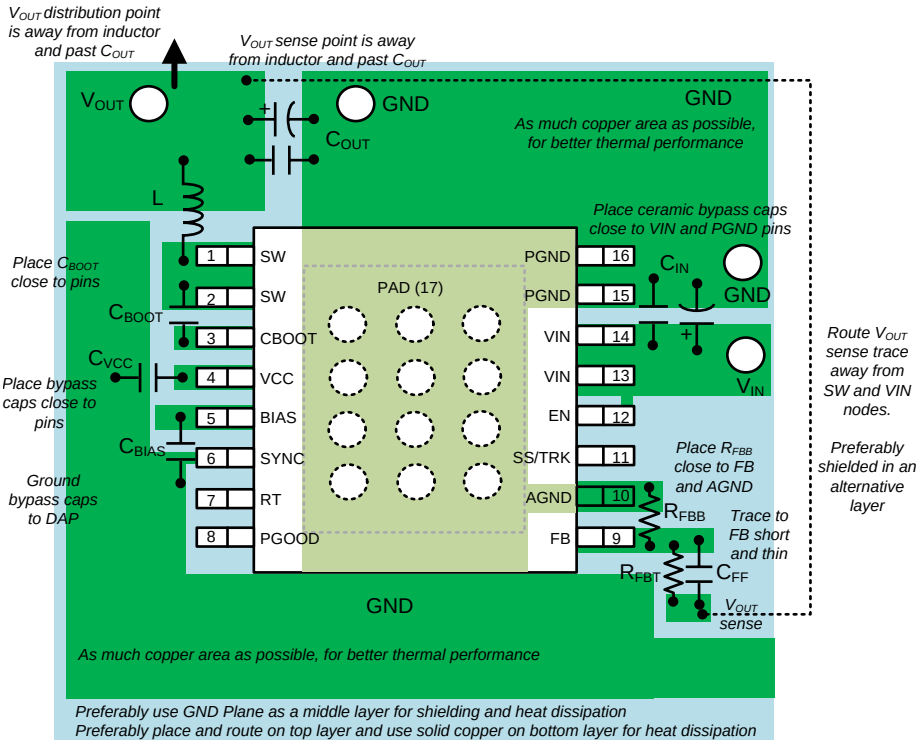

Figure 108. LM43601-Q1 PCB Layout Example

12 Device and Documentation Support

12.1 Trademarks

SIMPLE SWITCHER, WEBENCH are registered trademarks of Texas Instruments.
All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

12.2 Electrostatic Discharge Caution

These devices have limited built-in ESD protection. The leads should be shorted together or the device placed in conductive foam during storage or handling to prevent electrostatic damage to the MOS gates.

12.3 Glossary

SLYZ022 — *TI Glossary*.

This glossary lists and explains terms, acronyms, and definitions.

13 Mechanical, Packaging, and Orderable Information

The following pages include mechanical packaging and orderable information. This information is the most current data available for the designated devices. This data is subject to change without notice and revision of this document. For browser-based versions of this data sheet, refer to the left-hand navigation.

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PACKAGING INFORMATION

Orderable Device	Status (1)	Package Type	Package Drawing	Pins	Package Qty	Eco Plan (2)	Lead/Ball Finish (6)	MSL Peak Temp (3)	Op Temp (°C)	Device Marking (4/5)	Samples
LM43601QPWPRQ1	ACTIVE	HTSSOP	PWP	16	2000	Green (RoHS & no Sb/Br)	CU NIPDAU	Level-3-260C-168 HR	-40 to 125	43601Q1	Samples
LM43601QPWPTQ1	ACTIVE	HTSSOP	PWP	16	250	Green (RoHS & no Sb/Br)	CU NIPDAU	Level-3-260C-168 HR	-40 to 125	43601Q1	Samples

(1) The marketing status values are defined as follows:
ACTIVE: Product device recommended for new designs.
LIFEBUY: TI has announced that the device will be discontinued, and a lifetime-buy period is in effect.
NRND: Not recommended for new designs. Device is in production to support existing customers, but TI does not recommend using this part in a new design.
PREVIEW: Device has been announced but is not in production. Samples may or may not be available.
OBSOLETE: TI has discontinued the production of the device.

(2) Eco Plan - The planned eco-friendly classification: Pb-Free (RoHS), Pb-Free (RoHS Exempt), or Green (RoHS & no Sb/Br) - please check http://www.ti.com/productcontent for the latest availability information and additional product content details.
TBD: The Pb-Free/Green conversion plan has not been defined.
Pb-Free (RoHS): TI's terms "Lead-Free" or "Pb-Free" mean semiconductor products that are compatible with the current RoHS requirements for all 6 substances, including the requirement that lead not exceed 0.1% by weight in homogeneous materials. Where designed to be soldered at high temperatures, TI Pb-Free products are suitable for use in specified lead-free processes.
Pb-Free (RoHS Exempt): This component has a RoHS exemption for either 1) lead-based flip-chip solder bumps used between the die and package, or 2) lead-based die adhesive used between the die and leadframe. The component is otherwise considered Pb-Free (RoHS compatible) as defined above.
Green (RoHS & no Sb/Br): TI defines "Green" to mean Pb-Free (RoHS compatible), and free of Bromine (Br) and Antimony (Sb) based flame retardants (Br or Sb do not exceed 0.1% by weight in homogeneous material)

(3) MSL, Peak Temp. - The Moisture Sensitivity Level rating according to the JEDEC industry standard classifications, and peak solder temperature.

(4) There may be additional marking, which relates to the logo, the lot trace code information, or the environmental category on the device.

(5) Multiple Device Markings will be inside parentheses. Only one Device Marking contained in parentheses and separated by a "~" will appear on a device. If a line is indented then it is a continuation of the previous line and the two combined represent the entire Device Marking for that device.

(6) Lead/Ball Finish - Orderable Devices may have multiple material finish options. Finish options are separated by a vertical ruled line. Lead/Ball Finish values may wrap to two lines if the finish value exceeds the maximum column width.

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In no event shall TI's liability arising out of such information exceed the total purchase price of the TI part(s) at issue in this document sold by TI to Customer on an annual basis.

OTHER QUALIFIED VERSIONS OF LM43601-Q1 :

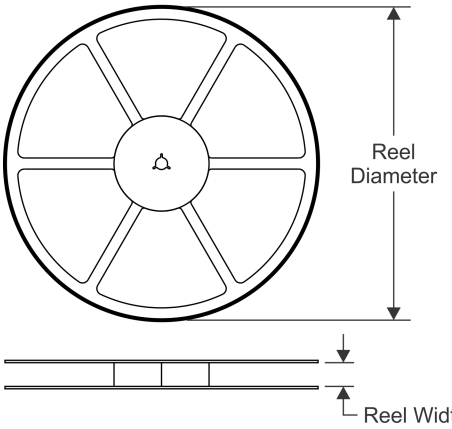
- Catalog: LM43601

NOTE: Qualified Version Definitions:

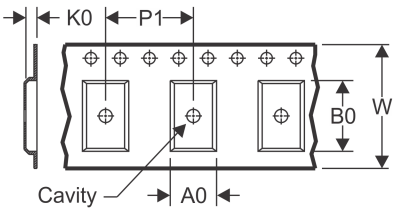
- Catalog - TI's standard catalog product

TAPE AND REEL INFORMATION

REEL DIMENSIONS

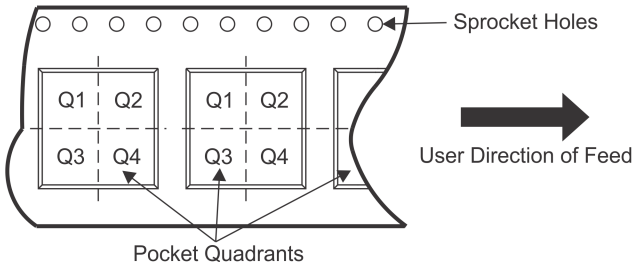


TAPE DIMENSIONS



A0	Dimension designed to accommodate the component width
B0	Dimension designed to accommodate the component length
K0	Dimension designed to accommodate the component thickness
W	Overall width of the carrier tape
P1	Pitch between successive cavity centers

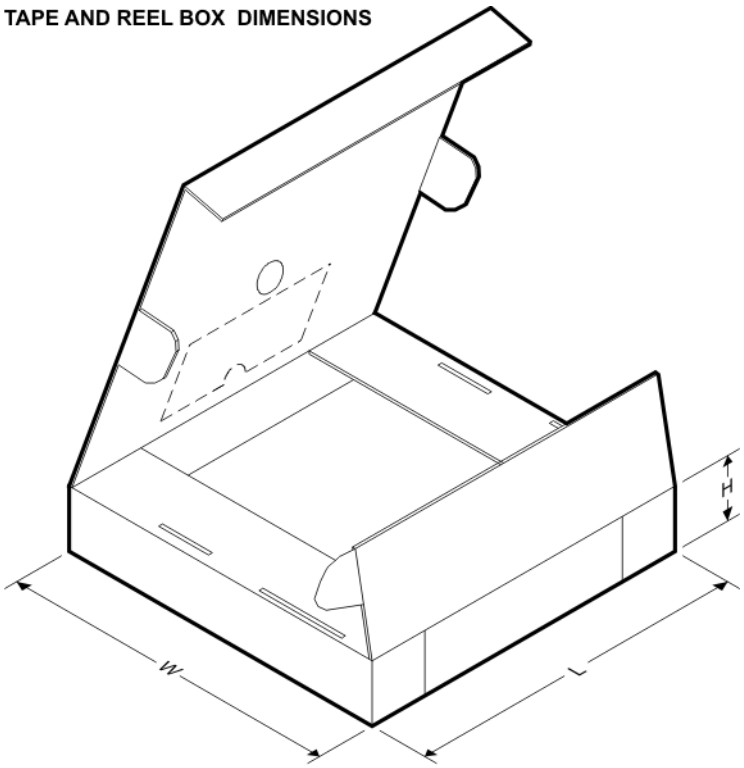
QUADRANT ASSIGNMENTS FOR PIN 1 ORIENTATION IN TAPE



*All dimensions are nominal

Device	Package Type	Package Drawing	Pins	SPQ	Reel Diameter (mm)	Reel Width W1 (mm)	A0 (mm)	B0 (mm)	K0 (mm)	P1 (mm)	W (mm)	Pin1 Quadrant
LM43601QPWPRQ1	HTSSOP	PWP	16	2000	330.0	12.4	6.9	5.6	1.6	8.0	12.0	Q1
LM43601QPWPTQ1	HTSSOP	PWP	16	250	180.0	12.4	6.9	5.6	1.6	8.0	12.0	Q1

TAPE AND REEL BOX DIMENSIONS



*All dimensions are nominal

Device	Package Type	Package Drawing	Pins	SPQ	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Height (mm)
LM43601QPWPRQ1	HTSSOP	PWP	16	2000	367.0	367.0	35.0
LM43601QPWPTQ1	HTSSOP	PWP	16	250	210.0	185.0	35.0

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