

4-Channel 120mA LED Driver with +/-1.5% Current Matching

DESCRIPTION

WARNING!

Do not look directly at operating LEDs.

This circuit produces light that can damage eyes.

NOTE: This document is for Demo Circuit **1327B**.

Demonstration circuit 1327B is a 4-Channel 120mA LED Driver with +/-1.5% Current Matching featuring the LT3599. The LT3599 is a step-up DC/DC converter designed to drive up to 4-strings of LEDs at an output voltage up to 44V. The LED strings are connected to internal current sources where the current level is set with an external resistor.

The demonstration circuit drives 80mA through each LED string. Each string can have up to 10 white LEDs. The circuit operation frequency is set to 1MHz. Parameters such as the LED current; the switching frequency, etc can be modified easily based on the demo circuit. When a string is not used, tie its LED pin to V_{OUT} . Any unused string is no longer in the regulation loop. Direct

paralleling multiple strings together to achieve higher current per string is allowed. To paralleling strings, tie the respective LED n pins together. OPENLED indicator flags if any string is left open. To improve efficiency, it is recommended that V_{IN} is between 3.1V and 5.5V. The V_{IN} bias capacitor of the demo circuit is rated at 6.3V. PWM dimming ratio can be as high as 3000:1. The soft start will not start until the 1st PWM pulse is presented.

The LT3599 datasheet gives complete descriptions of the part, operation and application information. The data-sheet must be read in conjunction with this quick start guide for working on or modifying the demo circuit 1327B.

Design files for this circuit board are available. Call the LTC factory.

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PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

Specifications are at $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
V_{IN}	Input Supply Range		3.1		5.5*	V
PV_{IN}	Power Input Supply Range**		8		16	V
I_Q	Quiescent Current	PWM=0V, Not switching		3	5	mA
F_{SW}	Switching Frequency		0.9	1	1.1	MHz
I_{LED}	LED String Current		77.6	80	82.4	mA
I_M	LED String Current Matching***			+/-0.25	+/-1.5	%
Eff	Efficiency	$V_{IN} = 3.3V$; $PV_{IN} = 12V$; $I_{LED} = 80mA$		90		%
DPWM	PWM dimming ratio	$PV_{IN} = 12V$		3000:1		

*: Limited by the voltage rating of the bypass capacitor, C3, on the demo circuit. The IC rating is 30V.

**: PV_{IN} below 8V causes current derating but the circuit operates fine. PV_{IN} between 16V and 40V may be acceptable depending on the number of LEDs, desired LED current, etc. Power dissipation needs to be taken into considerations if PV_{IN} is greater than the Maximum LED string voltage.

***: Specifications apply over the full operating temperature range.

QUICK START PROCEDURE

Demonstration circuit 1327B is easy to set up to evaluate the performance of the LT3599. Refer to Figure 1 for proper measurement equipment setup and follow the procedure below:

1. With power off, connect the input power supply to VIN and GND.
2. Connect the power input power supply to PVIN and GND.
3. Tie PWM to VIN or a PWM signal.
4. Connect LED strings to LED $n+$ and LED $n-$. If any string is not used, tie LED $n-$ to LED $n+$, where n is the string number (between 1 and 4).
5. Turn on power supplies for VIN and PVIN.
6. A PWM signal needs to be applied if PWM is not tied to VIN.
7. If analog dimming is to be tested by varying the level of CTRL pin voltage, remove R15 to prevent triggering UVLO at low PVIN (<10V).
8. Removing R15 disables the programmed UVLO and LED current derating. If those functions are required in the test in 7, use two independent resistor dividers for UVLO and CTRL.
9. Check for the proper LED voltage and current.

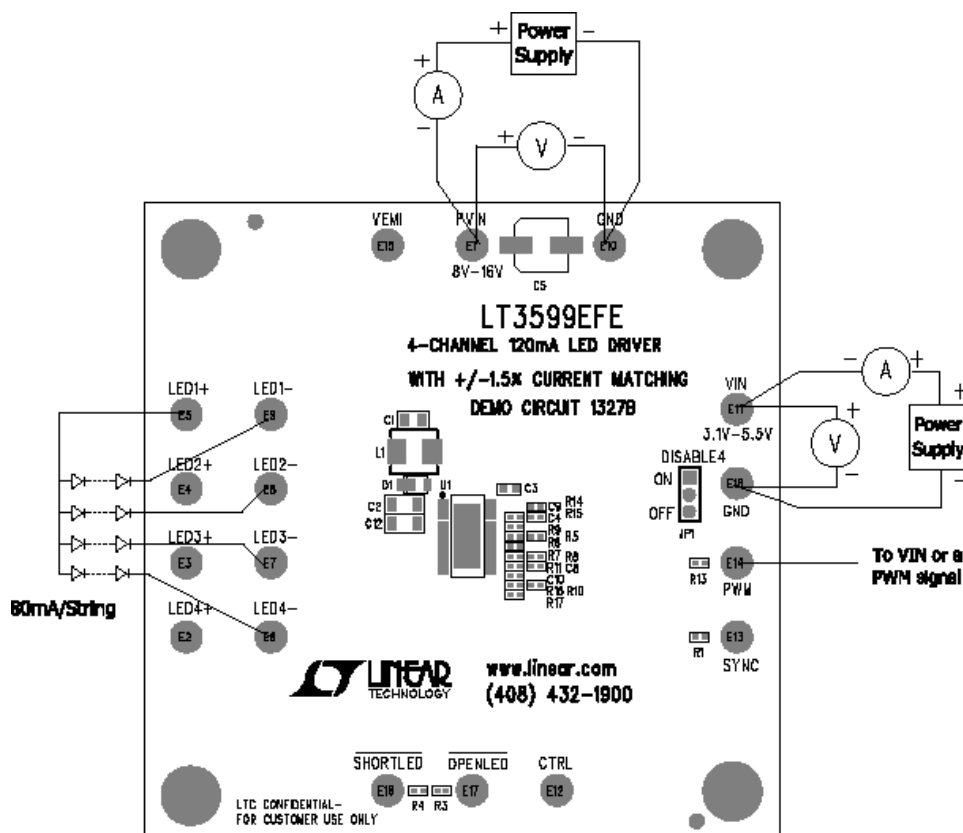


Figure 1. Proper Measurement Equipment Setup

