19-3711; Rev 0; 5/05

MAXIM

High-Efficiency, Quad-Output, Main Power-Supply Controllers for Notebook Computers

General Description

The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A dual step-down, switch-mode power-supply (SMPS) controllers generate logic-supply voltages in battery-powered systems. The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A include two pulse-width modulation (PWM) controllers, adjustable from 2V to 5.5V or fixed at 5V and 3.3V. These devices feature two linear regulators providing 5V and 3.3V always-on outputs. Each linear regulator provides up to 100mA output current with automatic linear-regulator bootstrapping to the main SMPS outputs. The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A include on-board power-up sequencing, a power-good (PGOOD) output, digital soft-start, and internal soft-stop output discharge that prevents negative voltages on shutdown. Additionally, the outputs are high impedance when V_{CC} falls below its UVLO set point while the outputs are enabled.

Maxim's proprietary Quick-PWM™ quick-response, constant on-time PWM control scheme operates without sense resistors and provides 100ns response to load transients while maintaining a relatively constant switching frequency. The unique ultrasonic pulse-skipping mode maintains the switching frequency above 25kHz, which eliminates noise in audio applications. Other features include pulse skipping, which maximizes efficiency in light-load applications, and fixed-frequency PWM mode, which reduces RF interference in sensitive applications.

The MAX8732A features a 200kHz/5V and 300kHz/3.3V SMPS for highest efficiency, while the MAX8733A features a 400kHz/5V and 500kHz/3.3V SMPS for "thin and light" applications. The MAX8734A provides a pin-selectable switching frequency, allowing either 200kHz/300kHz or 400kHz/500kHz operation of the 5V/3.3V SMPSs, respectively. The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A are available in 28-pin QSOP packages and operate over the extended temperature range (-40°C to +85°C).

The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A are pin-for-pin upgrades to the MAX1777/MAX1977/MAX1999. The MAX1999 evaluation kit (EV kit) can be used to evaluate the MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A.

Applications

Notebook and Subnotebook Computers

PDAs and Mobile Communication Devices

3- and 4-Cell Li+ Battery-Powered Devices

Quick-PWM and Dual Mode are trademarks of Maxim Integrated Products, Inc.

Features

- ♦ **No Current-Sense Resistor Needed (MAX8734A)**
- ♦ **Accurate Current Sense with Current-Sense Resistor (MAX8732A/MAX8733A)**
- ♦ **1.5% Output Voltage Accuracy**
- ♦ **3.3V and 5V 100mA Bootstrapped Linear Regulators**
- ♦ **Internal Soft-Start and Soft-Stop Output Discharge**
- ♦ **Quick-PWM with 100ns Load Step Response**
- ♦ **3.3V and 5V Fixed or Adjustable Outputs (Dual Mode™)**
- ♦ **4.5V to 24V Input Voltage Range**
- ♦ **Enhanced Ultrasonic Pulse-Skipping Mode (25kHz min)**
- ♦ **Power-Good (PGOOD) Signal**
- ♦ **Overvoltage Protection Enable/Disable**

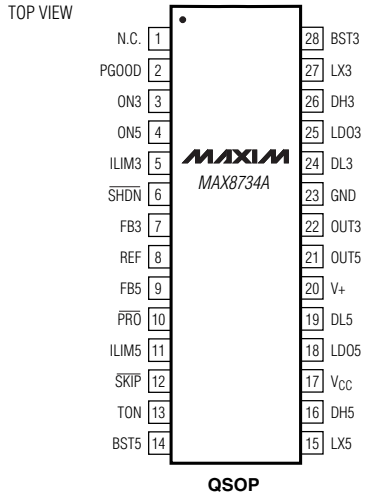
Ordering Information

PART	TEMP RANGE	PIN-PACKAGE	5V/3.3V SWITCHING FREQUENCY (kHz)
MAX8732AEEI+	-40°C to +85°C	28 QSOP	200/300
MAX8732AEEI	-40°C to +85°C	28 QSOP	200/300
MAX8733AEEI+	-40°C to +85°C	28 QSOP	400/500
MAX8733AEEI	-40°C to +85°C	28 QSOP	400/500

Ordering Information continued at end of data sheet.

+Denotes lead-free package.

Pin Configurations



Pin Configurations continued at end of data sheet.

For pricing, delivery, and ordering information, please contact Maxim/Dallas Direct! at 1-888-629-4642, or visit Maxim's website at www.maxim-ic.com.

High-Efficiency, Quad-Output, Main Power-Supply Controllers for Notebook Computers

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

V+, $\overline{SHDN}$ to GND .....-0.3V to +25V
BST_ to GND .....-0.3V to +30V
LX_ to BST_ .....-6V to +0.3V
CS_ to GND (MAX8732A/MAX8733A only) .....-2V to +6V
V_{CC}, LDO5, LDO3, OUT3, OUT5, ON3, ON5, REF, FB3, FB5, $\overline{SKIP}$, $\overline{PRO}$, PGOOD to GND .....-0.3V to +6V
DH3 to LX3 .....-0.3V to (V_{BST3} + 0.3V)
DH5 to LX5 .....-0.3V to (V_{BST5} + 0.3V)
ILIM3, ILIM5 to GND.....-0.3V to (V_{CC} + 0.3V)
DL3, DL5 to GND.....-0.3V to (V_{LDO5} + 0.3V)
TON to GND (MAX8734A only) .....-0.3V to +6V
LDO3, LDO5, REF Short Circuit to GND .....Momentary
LDO3 Current (internal regulator) Continuous.....+100mA
LDO3 Current (switched over to OUT3) Continuous.....+200mA
LDO5 Current (internal regulator) Continuous.....+100mA
LDO5 Current (switched over to OUT5) Continuous.....+200mA
Continuous Power Dissipation (T_A = +70°C)
28-Pin QSOP (derate 10.8mW/°C above +70°C).....860mW
Operating Temperature Range .....-40°C to +85°C
Junction Temperature.....+150°C
Storage Temperature Range .....-65°C to +150°C
Lead Temperature (soldering, 10s) .....+300°C

Stresses beyond those listed under "Absolute Maximum Ratings" may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only, and functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated in the operational sections of the specifications is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(Circuit of Figure 1 and Figure 2, no load on LDO5, LDO3, OUT3, OUT5, and REF, V+ = 12V, ON3 = ON5 = V_{CC}, $V_{\overline{SHDN}}$ = 5V, **T_A = 0°C to +85°C**, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
MAIN SMPS CONTROLLERS						
V+ Input Voltage Range	LDO5 in regulation		6		24	V
	V+ = LDO5, V_{OUT5} < 4.43V		4.5		5.5	
3.3V Output Voltage in Fixed Mode	V+ = 6V to 24V, FB3 = GND, $V_{\overline{SKIP}}$ = 5V		3.285	3.330	3.375	V
5V Output Voltage in Fixed Mode	V+ = 6V to 24V, FB5 = GND, $V_{\overline{SKIP}}$ = 5V, MAX8732A/MAX8734A (TON = V_{CC})		4.975	5.050	5.125	V
	V+ = 7V to 24V, FB5 = GND, $V_{\overline{SKIP}}$ = 5V, MAX8733A/MAX8734A (TON = GND)					
Output Voltage in Adjustable Mode	V+ = 6V to 24V, either SMPS		1.975	2.00	2.025	V
Output Voltage Adjust Range	Either SMPS		2.0		5.5	V
FB3, FB5 Adjustable-Mode Threshold Voltage	Dual-Mode comparator		0.1		0.2	V
DC Load Regulation	Either SMPS, $V_{\overline{SKIP}}$ = 5V, 0 to 5A			-0.1		%
	Either SMPS, $\overline{SKIP}$ = GND, 0 to 5A			-1.5		
	Either SMPS, $V_{\overline{SKIP}}$ = 2V, 0 to 5A			-1.7		
Line Regulation	Either SMPS, 6V < V+ < 24V			0.005		%/V
Current-Limit Threshold (Positive, Default)	ILIM_ = V_{CC}, GND - CS_ (MAX8732A/MAX8733A), GND - LX_ (MAX8734A)		93	100	107	mV
Current-Limit Threshold (Positive, Adjustable)	GND - CS_ (MAX8732A/MAX8733A), GND - LX_ (MAX8734A)	$V_{ILIM_}$ = 0.5V	40	50	60	mV
		$V_{ILIM_}$ = 1V	93	100	107	
		$V_{ILIM_}$ = 2V	185	200	215	
Zero-Current Threshold	$\overline{SKIP}$ = GND, ILIM_ = V_{CC}, GND - CS_ (MAX8732A/MAX8733A), GND - LX_ (MAX8734A)			3		mV
Current-Limit Threshold (Negative, Default)	$\overline{SKIP}$ = ILIM_ = V_{CC}, GND - CS_ (MAX8732A/MAX8733A), GND - LX_ (MAX8734A)			-120		mV
Soft-Start Ramp Time	Zero to full limit			1.7		ms

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(Circuit of Figure 1 and Figure 2, no load on LDO5, LDO3, OUT3, OUT5, and REF, V+ = 12V, ON3 = ON5 = V_{CC}, $V_{\overline{SHDN}}$ = 5V, **T_A = 0°C to +85°C**, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Operating Frequency	MAX8732A or MAX8734A (V_{TON} = 5V), $\overline{SKIP}$ = V_{CC}	5V SMPS		200		kHz
		3.3V SMPS		300		
	MAX8733A or MAX8734A (V_{TON} = 0), $\overline{SKIP}$ = V_{CC}	5V SMPS		400		
		3.3V SMPS		500		
	SKIP = REF		25	36		
On-Time Pulse Width	MAX8732A or MAX8734A (V_{TON} = 5V)	V_{OUT5} = 5.05V	1.895	2.105	2.315	µs
		V_{OUT3} = 3.33V	0.833	0.925	1.017	
	MAX8733A or MAX8734A (V_{TON} = 0)	V_{OUT5} = 5.05V	0.895	1.052	1.209	
		V_{OUT3} = 3.33V	0.475	0.555	0.635	
Minimum Off-Time			250	300	350	ns
Maximum Duty Cycle	MAX8732A or MAX8734A (V_{TON} = 5V)	V_{OUT5} = 5.05V		94		%
		V_{OUT3} = 3.33V		91		
	MAX8733A or MAX8734A (V_{TON} = 0)	V_{OUT5} = 5.05V		88		
		V_{OUT3} = 3.33V		85		
INTERNAL REGULATOR AND REFERENCE						
LDO5 Output Voltage	ON3 = ON5 = GND, 6V < V+ < 24V, 0 < I_{LDO5} < 100mA		4.90	5.00	5.10	V
LDO5 Short-Circuit Current	LDO5 = GND			190		mA
LDO5 Undervoltage-Lockout Fault Threshold	Falling edge of LDO5, hysteresis = 1%		3.7	4.0	4.3	V
LDO5 Bootstrap Switch Threshold	Falling edge of OUT5, rising edge at OUT5 regulation point		4.43	4.56	4.69	V
LDO5 Bootstrap Switch Resistance	LDO5 to OUT5, V_{OUT5} = 5V			1.4	3.2	Ω
LDO3 Output Voltage	ON3 = ON5 = GND, 6V < V+ < 24V, 0 < I_{LDO3} < 100mA		3.28	3.35	3.42	V
LDO3 Short-Circuit Current	LDO3 = GND			180		mA
LDO3 Bootstrap Switch Threshold	Falling edge of OUT3, rising edge at OUT3 regulation point		2.80	2.91	3.02	V
LDO3 Bootstrap Switch Resistance	LDO3 to OUT3, V_{OUT3} = 3.2V			1.5	3.5	Ω
REF Output Voltage	No external load		1.980	2.000	2.020	V
REF Load Regulation	0 < I_{LOAD} < 50µA				10	mV
REF Sink Current	REF in regulation		10			µA
V+ Operating Supply Current	LDO5 switched over to OUT5, 5V SMPS			25	50	µA
V+ Standby Supply Current	V+ = 6V to 24V, both SMPSs off, includes $I_{\overline{SHDN}}$			150	250	µA
V+ Shutdown Supply Current	V+ = 4.5V to 24V			6	15	µA
Quiescent Power Consumption	Both SMPSs on, FB3 = FB5 = $\overline{SKIP}$ = GND, V_{OUT3} = 3.5V, V_{OUT5} = 5.3V			3	4.5	mW
FAULT DETECTION						
Overvoltage Trip Threshold	FB3 or FB5 with respect to nominal regulation point		+8	+11	+14	%

High-Efficiency, Quad-Output, Main Power-Supply Controllers for Notebook Computers

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(Circuit of Figure 1 and Figure 2, no load on LDO5, LDO3, OUT3, OUT5, and REF, V+ = 12V, ON3 = ON5 = V_{CC}, $V_{\overline{SHDN}}$ = 5V, **T_A = 0°C to +85°C**, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Overvoltage Fault Propagation Delay	FB3 or FB5 delay with 50mV overdrive		10		µs
PGOOD Threshold	FB3 or FB5 with respect to nominal output, falling edge, typical hysteresis = 1%	-12	-9.5	-7	%
PGOOD Propagation Delay	Falling edge, 50mV overdrive		10		µs
PGOOD Output Low Voltage	I_{SINK} = 4mA			0.3	V
PGOOD Leakage Current	High state, forced to 5.5V			1	µA
Thermal-Shutdown Threshold			+160		°C
Output Undervoltage Shutdown Threshold	FB3 or FB5 with respect to nominal output voltage	65	70	75	%
Output Undervoltage Shutdown Blanking Time	From ON_ signal	10	22	35	ms
INPUTS AND OUTPUTS					
Feedback Input Leakage Current	V_{FB3} = V_{FB5} = 2.2V	-200	+40	+200	nA
$\overline{PRO}$ Input Voltage	Low level			0.6	V
	High level	1.5			
$\overline{SKIP}$ Input Voltage	Low level			0.8	V
	Float level	1.7		2.3	
	High level	2.4			
TON Input Voltage	Low level			0.8	V
	High level	2.4			
ON3, ON5 Input Voltage	Clear fault level/SMPS off level			0.8	V
	Delay start level	1.7		2.3	
	SMPS on level	2.4			
Input Leakage Current	$V_{\overline{PRO}}$ or V_{TON} = 0 or 5V	-1		+1	µA
	$V_{ON_}$ = 0 or 5V	-2		+2	
	$V_{\overline{SKIP}}$ = 0 or 5V	-1		+1	
	$V_{\overline{SHDN}}$ = 0 or 24V	-1		+1	
	$V_{CS_}$ = 0 or 5V	-2		+2	
	V_{ILIM3}, V_{ILIM5} = 0 or 2V	-0.2		+0.2	
$\overline{SHDN}$ Input Trip Level	Rising edge	1.2	1.6	2.0	V
	Falling edge	0.96	1.00	1.04	
DH_ Gate-Driver Sink/Source Current	DH3, DH5 forced to 2V		2		A
DL_ Gate-Driver Source Current	DL3 (source), DL5 (source), forced to 2V		1.7		A
DL_ Gate-Driver Sink Current	DL3 (sink), DL5 (sink), forced to 2V		3.3		A
DH_ Gate-Driver On-Resistance	BST - LX_ forced to 5V		1.5	4.0	Ω
DL_ Gate-Driver On-Resistance	DL_, high state (pullup)		2.2	5.0	Ω
	DL_, low state (pulldown)		0.6	1.5	

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(Circuit of Figure 1 and Figure 2, no load on LDO5, LDO3, OUT3, OUT5, and REF, V+ = 12V, ON3 = ON5 = V_{CC}, $V_{\overline{SHDN}}$ = 5V, **T_A = 0°C to +85°C**, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
OUT3, OUT5 Discharge-Mode On-Resistance			12	40	Ω
OUT3, OUT5 Discharge-Mode Synchronous Rectifier Turn-On Level		0.2	0.3	0.4	V

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(Circuit of Figure 1 and Figure 2, no load on LDO5, LDO3, OUT3, OUT5, and REF, V+ = 12V, ON3 = ON5 = V_{CC}, $V_{\overline{SHDN}}$ = 5V, **T_A = -40°C to +85°C**, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
MAIN SMPS CONTROLLERS						
V+ Input Voltage Range	LDO5 in regulation		6		24	V
	V+ = LDO5, V_{OUT5} < 4.41V		4.5		5.5	
3.3V Output Voltage in Fixed Mode	V+ = 6V to 24V, FB3 = GND, $V_{\overline{SKIP}}$ = 5V		3.27		3.39	V
5V Output Voltage in Fixed Mode	V+ = 6V to 24V, FB5 = GND, $V_{\overline{SKIP}}$ = 5V, MAX8732A/MAX8734A (TON = V_{CC})		4.95		5.15	V
	V+ = 7V to 24V, FB5 = GND, $V_{\overline{SKIP}}$ = 5V, MAX8733A/MAX8734A (TON = GND)					
Output Voltage in Adjustable Mode	V+ = 6V to 24V, either SMPS		1.97		2.03	V
Output Voltage Adjust Range	Either SMPS		2.0		5.5	V
FB3, FB5 Adjustable-Mode Threshold Voltage	Dual-Mode comparator		0.1		0.2	V
Current-Limit Threshold (Positive, Default)	ILIM_ = V_{CC}, GND - CS_ (MAX8732A/MAX8733A), GND - LX_ (MAX8734A)		90		110	mV
Current-Limit Threshold (Positive, Adjustable)	GND - CS_ (MAX8732A/MAX8733A), GND - LX_ (MAX8734A)	$V_{ILIM_}$ = 0.5V	40		60	mV
		$V_{ILIM_}$ = 1V	90		110	
		$V_{ILIM_}$ = 2V	180		220	
On-Time Pulse Width	MAX8732A or MAX8734A (V_{TON} = 5V)	V_{OUT5} = 5.05V	1.895		2.315	µs
		V_{OUT3} = 3.33V	0.833		1.017	
	MAX8733A or MAX8734A (V_{TON} = 0)	V_{OUT5} = 5.05V	0.895		1.209	
		V_{OUT3} = 3.33V	0.475		0.635	
Minimum Off-Time			200		400	ns
INTERNAL REGULATOR AND REFERENCE						
LDO5 Output Voltage	ON3 = ON5 = GND, 6V < V+ < 24V, 0 < I_{LDO5} < 100mA		4.90		5.10	V
LDO5 Undervoltage-Lockout Fault Threshold	Falling edge of LDO5, hysteresis = 1%		3.7		4.3	V

High-Efficiency, Quad-Output, Main Power-Supply Controllers for Notebook Computers

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(Circuit of Figure 1 and Figure 2, no load on LDO5, LDO3, OUT3, OUT5, and REF, V+ = 12.0.V, ON3 = ON5 = V_{CC}, $V_{\overline{SHDN}}$ = 5V, **T_A = -40°C to +85°C**, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
LDO5 Bootstrap Switch Threshold	Falling edge of OUT5, rising edge at OUT5 regulation point	4.43		4.69	V
LDO5 Bootstrap Switch Resistance	LDO5 to OUT5, V_{OUT5} = 5V			3.2	Ω
LDO3 Output Voltage	ON3 = ON5 = GND, 6V < V+ < 24V, 0 < I_{LDO3} < 100mA	3.27		3.43	V
LDO3 Bootstrap Switch Threshold	Falling edge of OUT3, rising edge at OUT3 regulation point	2.80		3.02	V
LDO3 Bootstrap Switch Resistance	LDO3 to OUT3, V_{OUT3} = 3.2V			3.5	Ω
REF Output Voltage	No external load	1.975		2.025	V
REF Load Regulation	0 < I_{LOAD} < 50µA			10	mV
REF Sink Current	REF in regulation	10			µA
V+ Operating Supply Current	LDO5 switched over to OUT5, 5V SMPS			50	µA
V+ Standby Supply Current	V+ = 6V to 24V, both SMPSs off, includes $I_{\overline{SHDN}}$			300	µA
V+ Shutdown Supply Current	V+ = 4.5V to 24V			15	µA
Quiescent Power Consumption	Both SMPSs on, FB3 = FB5 = $\overline{SKIP}$ = GND, V_{OUT3} = 3.5V, V_{OUT5} = 5.3V			4.5	mW
FAULT DETECTION					
Overvoltage Trip Threshold	FB3 or FB5 with respect to nominal regulation point	+8		+14	%
PGOOD Threshold	FB3 or FB5 with respect to nominal output, falling edge, typical hysteresis = 1%	-12		-7	%
PGOOD Output Low Voltage	I_{SINK} = 4mA			0.3	V
PGOOD Leakage Current	High state, forced to 5.5V			1	µA
Output Undervoltage Shutdown Threshold	FB3 or FB5 with respect to nominal output voltage	65		75	%
Output Undervoltage Shutdown Blanking Time	From ON_ signal	10		40	ms
INPUTS AND OUTPUTS					
Feedback Input Leakage Current	V_{FB3} = V_{FB5} = 2.2V	-200		+200	nA
$\overline{PRO}$ Input Voltage	Low level			0.6	V
	High level	1.5			
$\overline{SKIP}$ Input Voltage	Low level			0.8	V
	Float level	1.7		2.3	
	High level	2.4			
TON Input Voltage	Low level			0.8	V
	High level	2.4			

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(Circuit of Figure 1 and Figure 2, no load on LDO5, LDO3, OUT3, OUT5, and REF, V+ = 12.0.V, ON3 = ON5 = V_{CC}, $V_{\overline{SHDN}}$ = 5V, **T_A = -40°C to +85°C**, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
ON3, ON5 Input Voltage	Clear fault level/SMPS off level			0.8	V
	Delay start level	1.7		2.3	
	SMPS on level	2.4			
Input Leakage Current	$V_{\overline{PRO}}$ or V_{TON} = 0 or 5V	-1		+1	µA
	$V_{ON_}$ = 0 or 5V	-1		+1	
	$V_{\overline{SKIP}}$ = 0 or 5V	-2		+2	
	$V_{\overline{SHDN}}$ = 0 or 24V	-1		+1	
	$V_{CS_}$ = 0 or 5V	-2		+2	
	V_{ILIM3}, V_{ILIM5} = 0 or 2V	-0.2		+0.2	
$\overline{SHDN}$ Input Trip Level	Rising edge	1.2		2.0	V
	Falling edge	0.96		1.04	
DH_ Gate-Driver On-Resistance	BST - LX_ forced to 5V			4.0	Ω
DL_ Gate-Driver On-Resistance	DL_, high state (pullup)			5.0	Ω
	DL_, low state (pulldown)			1.5	
OUT3, OUT5 Discharge-Mode On-Resistance				40	Ω
OUT3, OUT5 Discharge-Mode Synchronous Rectifier Turn-On Level		0.2		0.4	V

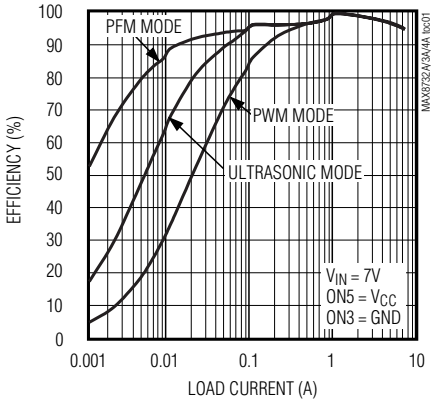
Note 1: Specifications to -40°C are guaranteed by design, not production tested.

High-Efficiency, Quad-Output, Main Power-Supply Controllers for Notebook Computers

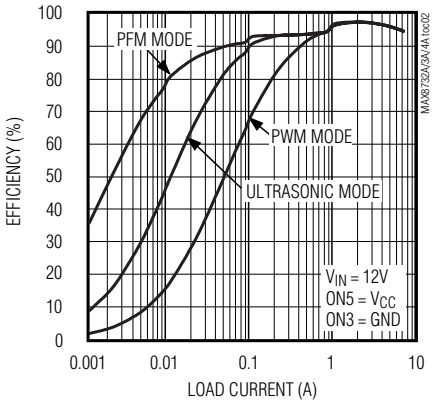
Typical Operating Characteristics

(Circuit of Figure 1 and Figure 2, no load on LDO5, LDO3, OUT3, OUT5, and REF, V+ = 12V, ON3 = ON5 = V_{CC}, $\overline{SHDN}$ = V+, R_{CS} = 7mΩ, $V_{ILIM_}$ = 0.5V, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

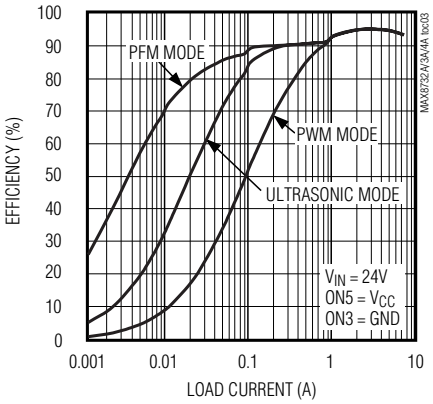
MAX8732A
5V OUTPUT EFFICIENCY
vs. LOAD CURRENT



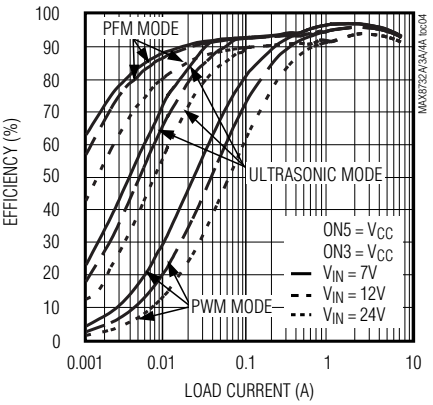
MAX8732A
5V OUTPUT EFFICIENCY
vs. LOAD CURRENT



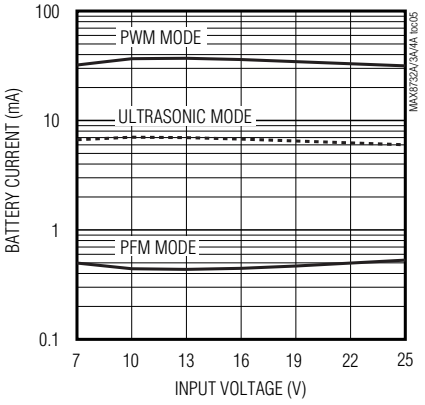
MAX8732A
5V OUTPUT EFFICIENCY
vs. LOAD CURRENT



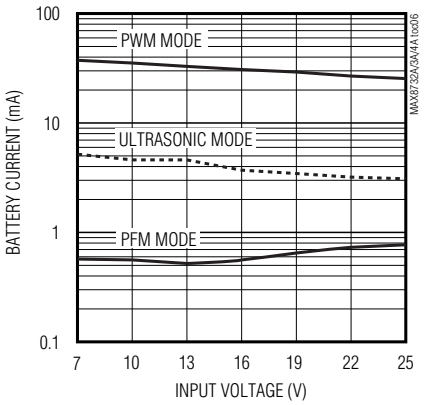
MAX8733A
3.3V OUTPUT EFFICIENCY
vs. LOAD CURRENT



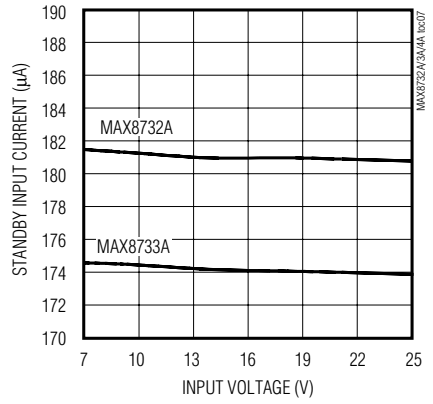
MAX8732A
NO-LOAD BATTERY CURRENT
vs. INPUT VOLTAGE



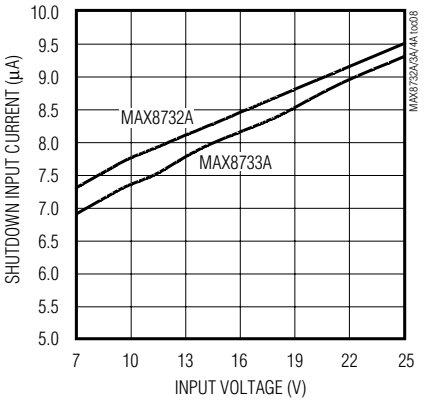
MAX8733A
NO-LOAD BATTERY CURRENT
vs. INPUT VOLTAGE



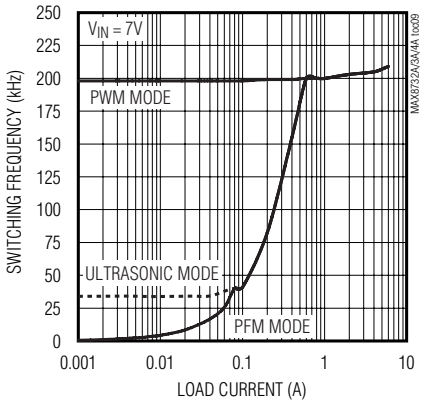
STANDBY INPUT CURRENT
vs. INPUT VOLTAGE



SHUTDOWN INPUT CURRENT
vs. INPUT VOLTAGE



MAX8732A
5V OUTPUT SWITCHING FREQUENCY
vs. LOAD CURRENT MAX8732A

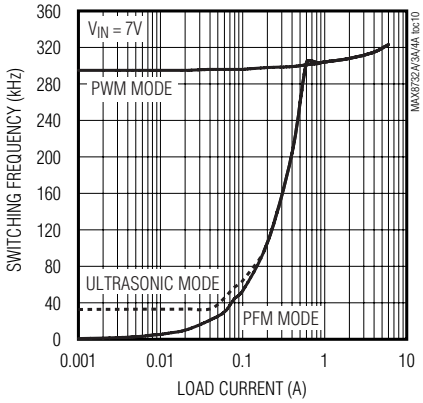


Idle Mode is a trademark of Maxim Integrated Products, Inc.

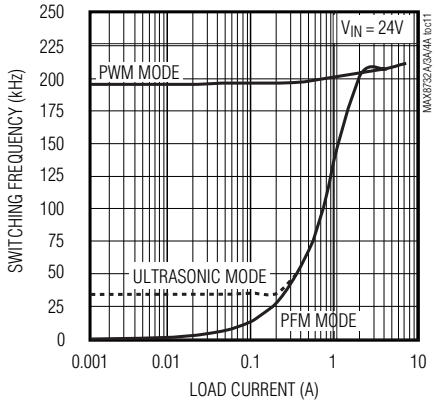
Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(Circuit of Figure 1 and Figure 2, no load on LDO5, LDO3, OUT3, OUT5, and REF, V+ = 12V, ON3 = ON5 = V_{CC}, $\overline{SHDN}$ = V+, R_{CS} = 7mΩ, $V_{ILIM_}$ = 0.5V, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

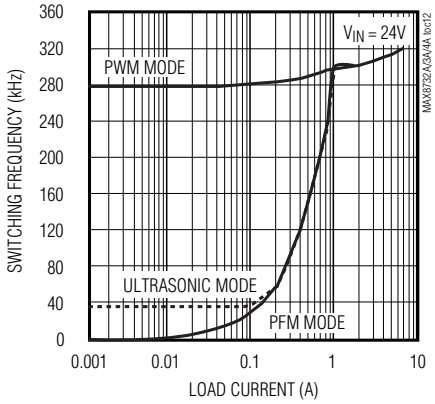
3.3V OUTPUT SWITCHING FREQUENCY vs. LOAD CURRENT (MAX8732A)



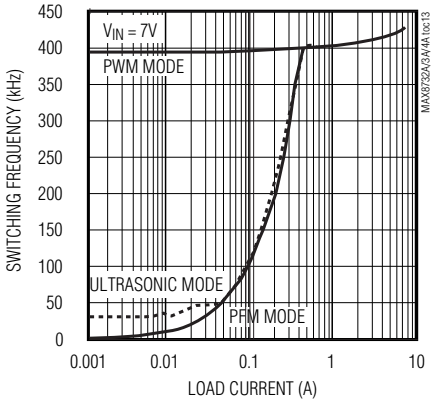
MAX8732A 5V OUTPUT SWITCHING FREQUENCY vs. LOAD CURRENT



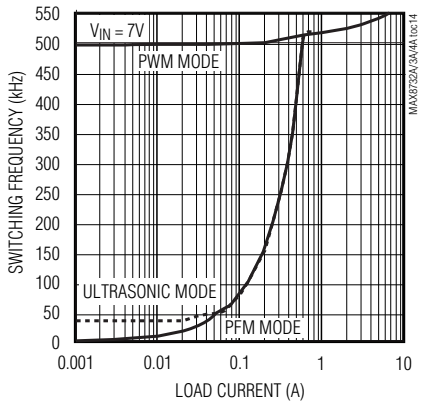
MAX8732A 3.3V OUTPUT SWITCHING FREQUENCY vs. LOAD CURRENT



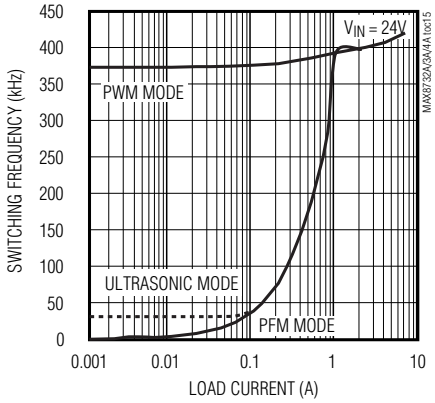
MAX8733A 5V OUTPUT SWITCHING FREQUENCY vs. LOAD CURRENT



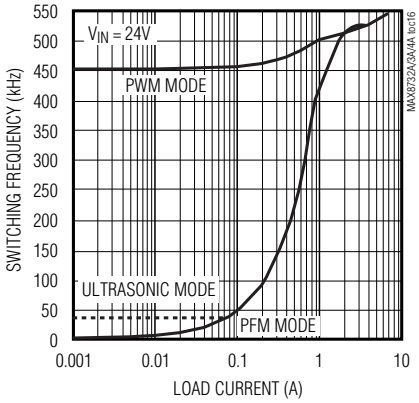
MAX8733A 3.3V OUTPUT SWITCHING FREQUENCY vs. LOAD CURRENT



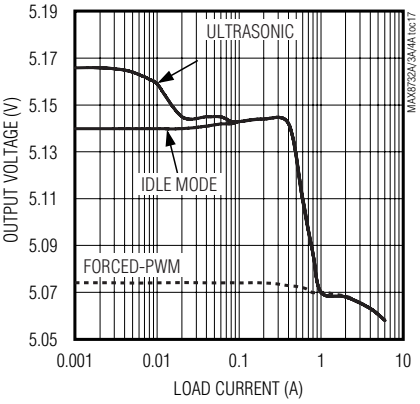
MAX8733A 5V OUTPUT SWITCHING FREQUENCY vs. LOAD CURRENT



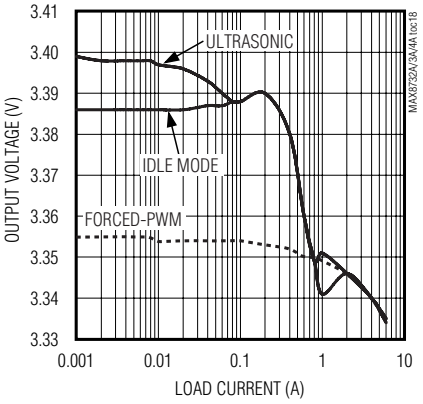
MAX8733A 3.3V OUTPUT SWITCHING FREQUENCY vs. LOAD CURRENT



MAX8732A OUT5 VOLTAGE REGULATION vs. LOAD CURRENT



MAX8732A OUT3 VOLTAGE REGULATION vs. LOAD CURRENT

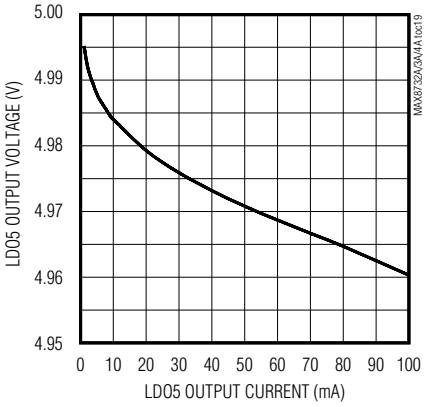


High-Efficiency, Quad-Output, Main Power-Supply Controllers for Notebook Computers

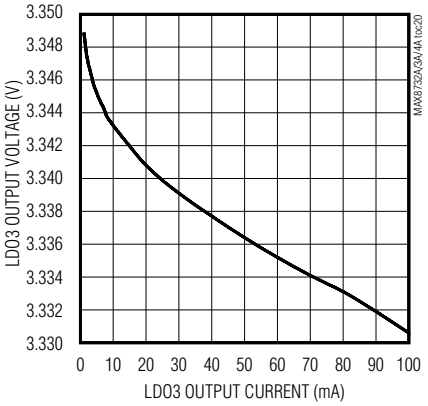
Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(Circuit of Figure 1 and Figure 2, no load on LDO5, LDO3, OUT3, OUT5, and REF, V+ = 12V, ON3 = ON5 = V_{CC}, $\overline{SHDN}$ = V+, R_{CS} = 7mΩ, $V_{ILIM_}$ = 0.5V, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

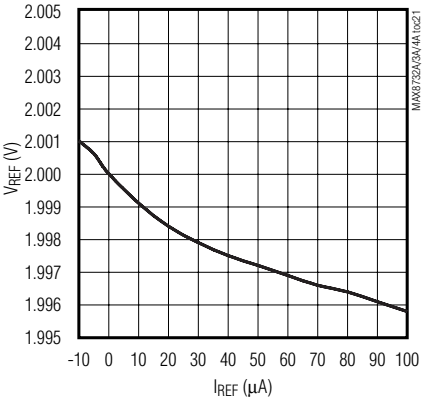
LDO5 REGULATOR OUTPUT VOLTAGE vs. OUTPUT CURRENT



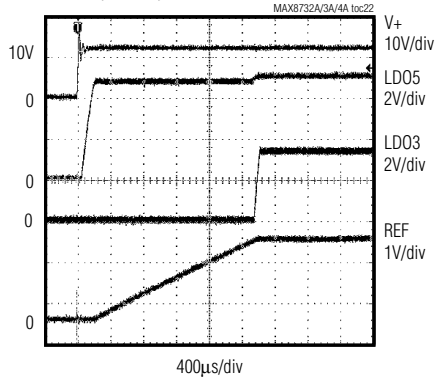
LDO3 REGULATOR OUTPUT VOLTAGE vs. OUTPUT CURRENT



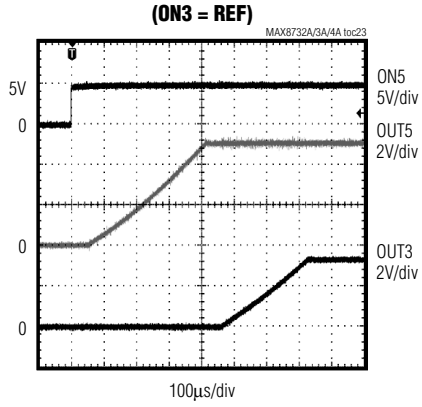
REFERENCE VOLTAGE vs. OUTPUT CURRENT



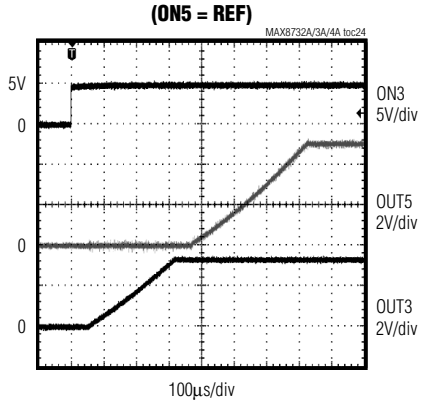
REF, LDO3, AND LDO5 POWER-UP



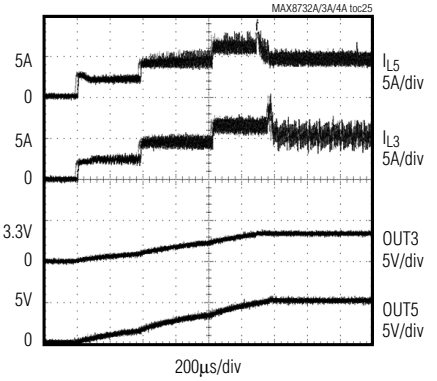
DELAYED-START WAVEFORMS (ON3 = REF)



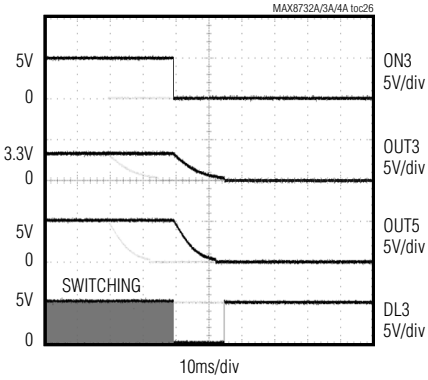
DELAYED-START WAVEFORMS (ON5 = REF)



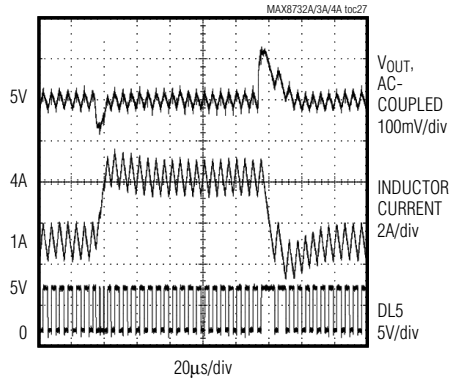
SOFT-START WAVEFORMS



SHUTDOWN WAVEFORMS



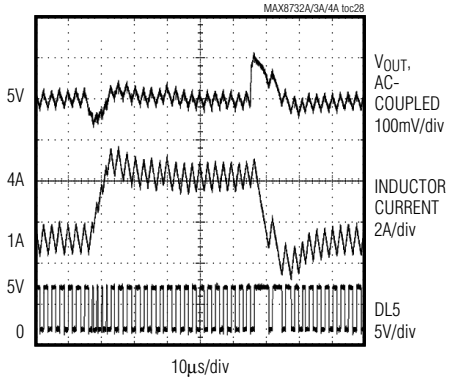
MAX8732A/MAX8734A (TON = V_{CC}) 5V PWM-MODE LOAD TRANSIENT RESPONSE



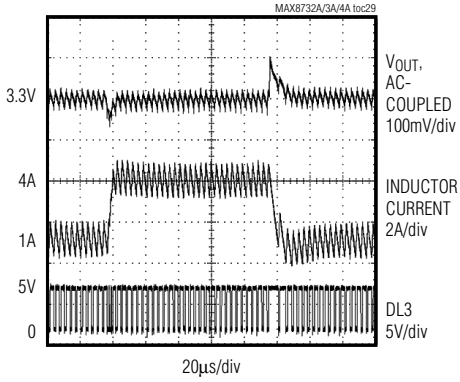
Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(Circuit of Figure 1 and Figure 2, no load on LDO5, LDO3, OUT3, OUT5, and REF, V+ = 12V, ON3 = ON5 = V_{CC}, $\overline{SHDN}$ = V+, R_{CS} = 7mΩ, $V_{ILIM_}$ = 0.5V, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

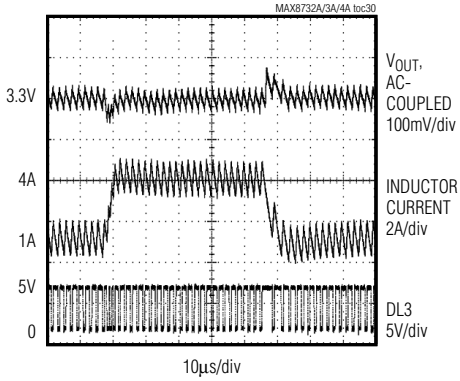
MAX8733A/MAX8734A (TON = GND)
5V PWM-MODE
LOAD TRANSIENT RESPONSE



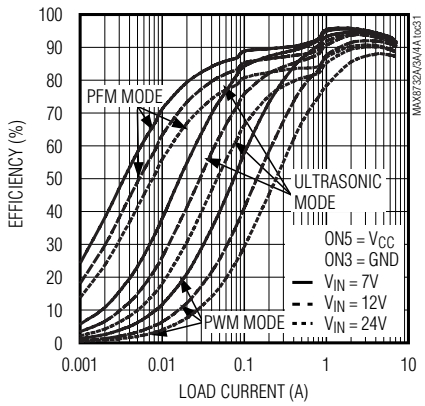
MAX8732A/MAX8734A (TON = V_{CC})
3.3V PWM-MODE
LOAD TRANSIENT RESPONSE



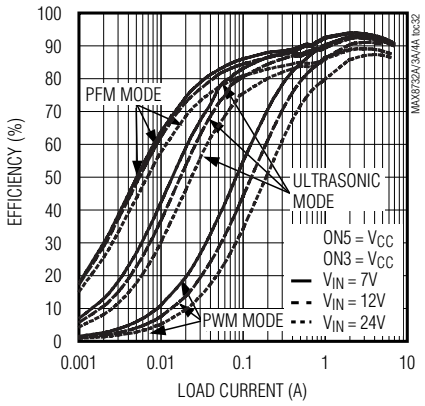
MAX8733A/MAX8734A (TON = GND)
3.3V PWM-MODE
LOAD TRANSIENT RESPONSE



MAX8733A
5V OUTPUT EFFICIENCY
vs. LOAD CURRENT



MAX8733A
3.3V OUTPUT EFFICIENCY
vs. LOAD CURRENT



High-Efficiency, Quad-Output, Main Power-Supply Controllers for Notebook Computers

Pin Description

PIN		NAME	FUNCTION
MAX8732A MAX8733A	MAX8734A		
1	—	CS3	3.3V SMPS Current-Sense Input. Connect CS3 to a current-sensing resistor from the source of the synchronous rectifier to GND. The voltage at ILIM3 determines the current-limit threshold (see the *Current-Limit Circuit (ILIM_)* section).
—	1	N.C.	No Connection. Not internally connected.
2	2	PGOOD	Power-Good Output. PGOOD is an open-drain output that is pulled low if either output is disabled or is more than 10% below its nominal value.
3	3	ON3	3.3V SMPS Enable Input. The 3.3V SMPS is enabled if ON3 is greater than the SMPS on level and disabled if ON3 is less than the SMPS off level. If ON3 is connected to REF, the 3.3V SMPS starts after the 5V SMPS reaches regulation (delay start). Drive ON3 below the clear fault level to reset the fault latches.
4	4	ON5	5V SMPS Enable Input. The 5V SMPS is enabled if ON5 is greater than the SMPS on level and disabled if ON5 is less than the SMPS off level. If ON5 is connected to REF, the 5V SMPS starts after the 3.3V SMPS reaches regulation (delay start). Drive ON5 below the clear fault level to reset the fault latches.
5	5	ILIM3	3.3V SMPS Current-Limit Adjustment. The GND-LX current-limit threshold defaults to 100mV if ILIM3 is connected to V_{CC}. In adjustable mode, the current-limit threshold is 1/10 the voltage seen at ILIM3 over a 0.5V to 3V range. The logic threshold for switchover to the 100mV default value is approximately V_{CC} - 1V. Connect ILIM3 to REF for a fixed 200mV threshold.
6	6	$\overline{SHDN}$	Shutdown Control Input. The device enters its 6µA supply current shutdown mode if $V_{\overline{SHDN}}$ is less than the $\overline{SHDN}$ input falling-edge trip level and does not restart until $V_{\overline{SHDN}}$ is greater than the $\overline{SHDN}$ input rising-edge trip level. Connect $\overline{SHDN}$ to V+ for automatic startup. $\overline{SHDN}$ can be connected to V+ through a resistive voltage-divider to implement a programmable undervoltage lockout.
7	7	FB3	3.3V SMPS Feedback Input. Connect FB3 to GND for fixed 3.3V operation. Connect FB3 to a resistive voltage-divider from OUT3 to GND to adjust the output from 2V to 5.5V.
8	8	REF	2V Reference Output. Bypass to GND with a 0.22µF (min) capacitor. REF can source up to 100µA for external loads. Loading REF degrades FB_ and output accuracy according to the REF load-regulation error.
9	9	FB5	5V SMPS Feedback Input. Connect FB5 to GND for fixed 5V operation. Connect FB5 to a resistive voltage-divider from OUT5 to GND to adjust the output from 2V to 5.5V.
10	10	$\overline{PRO}$	Overvoltage and Undervoltage Fault Protection Enable/Disable. Connect $\overline{PRO}$ to V_{CC} to disable undervoltage, overvoltage protection, and discharge mode (DL = low in shutdown). Connect $\overline{PRO}$ to GND to enable undervoltage and overvoltage protection (see the *Fault Protection* section), and output discharge mode.
11	11	ILIM5	5V SMPS Current-Limit Adjustment. The GND-LX current-limit threshold defaults to 100mV if ILIM5 is connected to V_{CC}. In adjustable mode, the current-limit threshold is 1/10 the voltage seen at ILIM5 over a 0.5V to 3V range. The logic threshold for switchover to the 100mV default value is approximately V_{CC} - 1V. Connect ILIM5 to REF for a fixed 200mV threshold.
12	12	$\overline{SKIP}$	Low-Noise Mode Control. Connect $\overline{SKIP}$ to GND for normal Idle-Mode (pulse-skipping) operation or to V_{CC} for PWM mode (fixed frequency). Connect to REF or leave floating for ultrasonic mode (pulse skipping, 25kHz min).

Pin Description (continued)

PIN		NAME	FUNCTION
MAX8732A MAX8733A	MAX8734A		
13	—	CS5	5V SMPS Current-Sense Input. Connect CS5 to a current-sensing resistor from the source of the synchronous rectifier to GND. The voltage at ILIM5 determines the current-limit threshold (see the *Current-Limit Circuit (ILIM_)* section).
—	13	TON	Frequency Select Input. Connect to V_{CC} for 200kHz/300kHz operation and to GND for 400kHz/500kHz operation (5V/3.3V SMPS switching frequencies, respectively).
14	14	BST5	Boost Flying Capacitor Connection for 5V SMPS. Connect to an external capacitor and diode according to the typical application circuits (Figure 1 and Figure 2). See the *MOSFET Gate Drivers (DH_, DL_)* section.
15	15	LX5	Inductor Connection for 5V SMPS. LX5 is the internal lower supply rail for the DH5 high-side gate driver. LX5 is the current-sense input for the 5V SMPS (MAX8734A only).
16	16	DH5	High-Side MOSFET Floating Gate-Driver Output for 5V SMPS. DH5 swings from LX5 to BST5.
17	17	V_{CC}	Analog Supply Voltage Input for PWM Core. Connect V_{CC} to the system supply voltage with a series 50Ω resistor. Bypass to GND with a 1µF ceramic capacitor.
18	18	LDO5	5V Linear-Regulator Output. LDO5 is the gate-driver supply for the external MOSFETs. LDO5 can provide a total of 100mA, including MOSFET gate-drive requirements and external loads. The internal load depends on the choice of MOSFET and switching frequency (see the *Reference and Linear Regulators (REF, LDO5, and LDO3)* section). If OUT5 is greater than the LDO5 bootstrap switch threshold, the LDO5 regulator shuts down and the LDO5 pin connects to OUT5 through a 1.4Ω switch. Bypass LDO5 with a minimum of 4.7µF. Use an additional 1µF per 5mA of load.
19	19	DL5	5V SMPS Synchronous Rectifier Gate-Drive Output. DL5 swings between GND and LDO5.
20	20	V+	Power-Supply Input. V+ powers the LDO5/LDO3 linear regulators and is also used for the Quick-PWM on-time, one-shot circuits. Connect V+ to the battery input and bypass with a 0.1µF capacitor.
21	21	OUT5	5V SMPS Output Voltage-Sense Input. Connect to the 5V SMPS output. OUT5 is an input to the Quick-PWM on-time, one-shot circuit. It also serves as the 5V feedback input in fixed-voltage mode. If OUT5 is greater than the LDO5 bootstrap-switch threshold, the LDO5 linear regulator shuts down and LDO5 connects to OUT5 through a 1.4Ω switch.
22	22	OUT3	3.3V SMPS Output Voltage-Sense Input. Connect to the 3.3V SMPS output. OUT3 is an input to the Quick-PWM on-time, one-shot circuit. It also serves as the 3V feedback input in fixed-voltage mode. If OUT3 is greater than the LDO3 bootstrap-switch threshold, the LDO3 linear regulator shuts down and LDO3 connects to OUT3 through a 1.5Ω switch.
23	23	GND	Analog and Power Ground
24	24	DL3	3.3V SMPS Synchronous-Rectifier Gate-Drive Output. DL3 swings between GND and LDO5.
25	25	LDO3	3.3V Linear-Regulator Output. LDO3 powers up after REF is in regulation. LDO3 can provide a total of 100mA to external loads. If OUT3 is greater than the LDO3 bootstrap-switch threshold, the LDO3 regulator shuts down and the LDO3 pin connects to OUT3 through a 1.5Ω switch. Bypass LDO3 with a minimum of 4.7µF. Use an additional 1µF per 5mA of load.
26	26	DH3	High-Side MOSFET Floating Gate-Driver Output for 3.3V SMPS. DH3 swings from LX3 to BST3.
27	27	LX3	Inductor Connection for 3.3V SMPS. LX3 is the current-sense input for the 3.3V SMPS (MAX8734A only).
28	28	BST3	Boost Flying Capacitor Connection for 3.3V SMPS. Connect to an external capacitor and diode according to the typical application circuits (Figure 1 and Figure 2). See the *MOSFET Gate Drivers (DH_, DL_)* section.

High-Efficiency, Quad-Output, Main Power-Supply Controllers for Notebook Computers

Typical Application Circuits

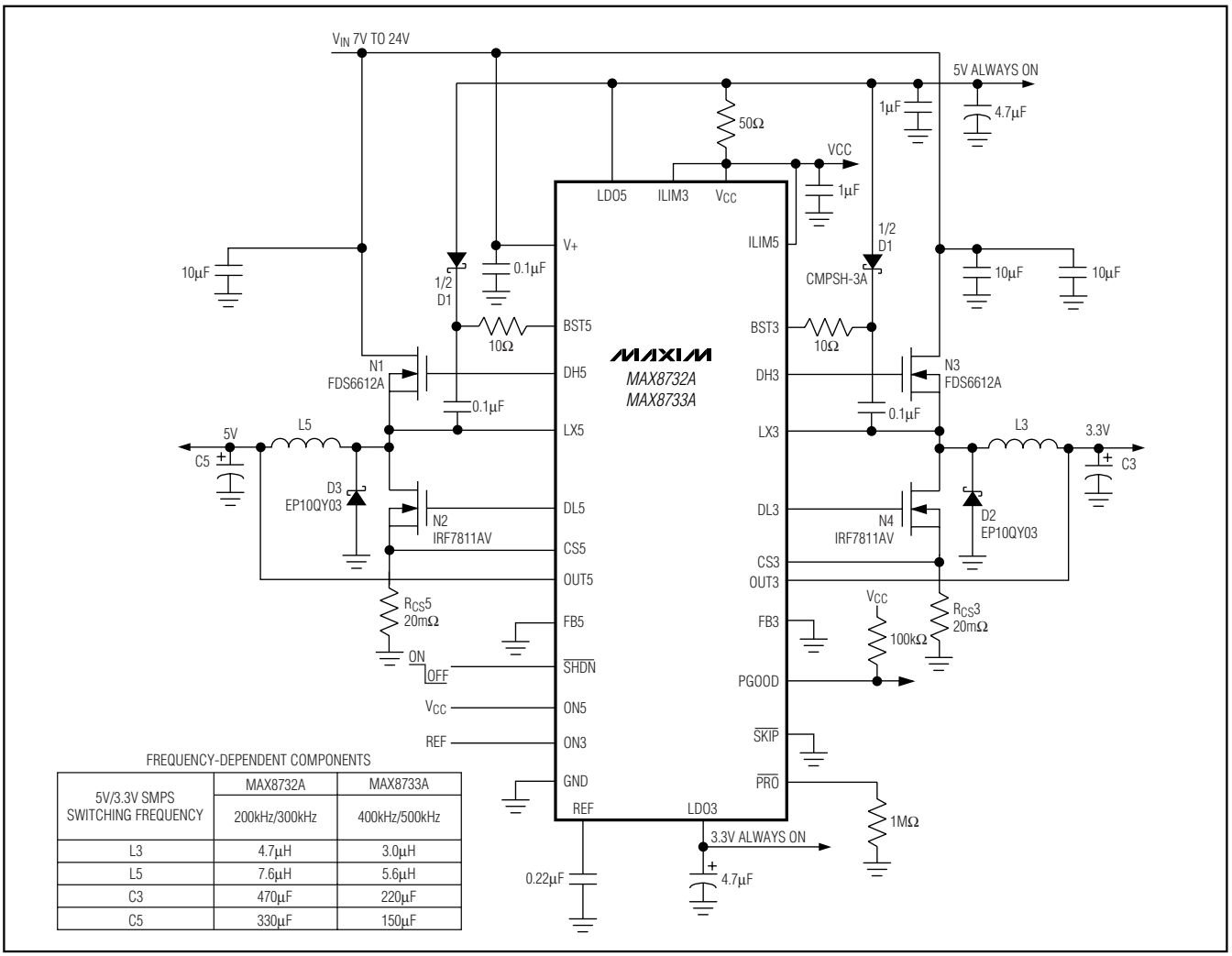
The typical application circuits (Figures 1 and 2) generate the 5V/5A and 3.3V/5A main supplies in a notebook computer. The input supply range is 7V to 24V. Table 1 lists component suppliers.

Detailed Description

The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A dual-buck, BiCMOS, switch-mode power-supply controllers generate logic supply voltages for notebook computers. The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A are designed primarily for battery-powered applications where high efficiency and low-quiescent supply current are critical. The MAX8732A is optimized for highest efficiency with a 5V/200kHz SMPS and a 3.3V/300kHz SMPS, while the

Table 1. Component Suppliers

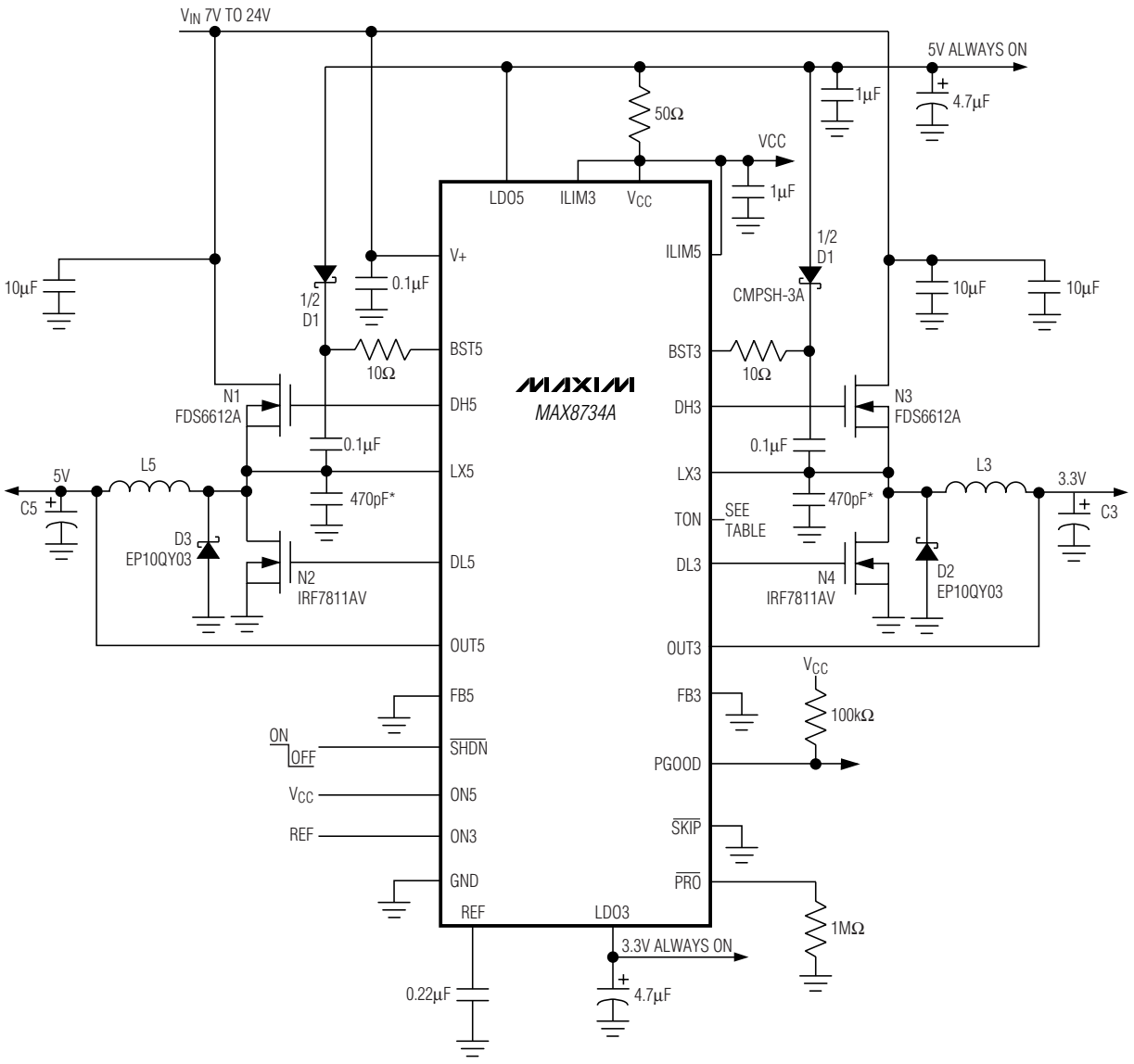
MANUFACTURER	PHONE	FAX
Central Semiconductor	516-435-1110	516-435-1824
Dale-Vishay	402-564-3131	402-563-6418
Fairchild	408-721-2181	408-721-1635
International Rectifier	310-322-3331	310-322-3332
NIEC (Nihon)	805-843-7500	847-843-2798
Sanyo	619-661-6835	619-661-1055
Sprague	603-224-1961	603-224-1430
Sumida	847-956-0666	847-956-0702
Taiyo Yuden	408-573-4150	408-573-4159
TDK	847-390-4461	847-390-4405



FREQUENCY-DEPENDENT COMPONENTS

5V/3.3V SMPS SWITCHING FREQUENCY	MAX8732A 200kHz/300kHz	MAX8733A 400kHz/500kHz
L3	4.7µH	3.0µH
L5	7.6µH	5.6µH
C3	470µF	220µF
C5	330µF	150µF

Figure 1. MAX8732A/MAX8733A Typical Application Circuit



*OPTIONAL CAPACITANCE BETWEEN LX AND PGND (CLOSE TO THE IC) ONLY REQUIRED FOR ULTRASONIC MODE

FREQUENCY-DEPENDENT COMPONENTS

5V/3.3V SMPS SWITCHING FREQUENCY	TON = V_{CC}	TON = GND
	200kHz/300kHz	400kHz/500kHz
L3	4.7µH	3.0µH
L5	7.6µH	5.6µH
C3	470µF	220µF
C5	330µF	150µF

Figure 2. MAX8734A Typical Application Circuit

High-Efficiency, Quad-Output, Main Power-Supply Controllers for Notebook Computers

MAX8733A is optimized for "thin and light" applications with a 5V/400kHz SMPS and a 3.3V/500kHz SMPS. The MAX8734A provides a pin-selectable switching frequency, allowing either 200kHz/300kHz or 400kHz/500kHz operation of the 5V/3.3V SMPSs, respectively.

Light-load efficiency is enhanced by automatic Idle-Mode operation, a variable-frequency pulse-skipping mode that reduces transition and gate-charge losses. Each step-down, the power-switching circuit consists of two n-channel MOSFETs, a rectifier, and an LC output filter. The output voltage is the average AC voltage at the switching node, which is regulated by changing the duty cycle of the MOSFET switches. The gate-drive signal to the n-channel, high-side MOSFET must exceed the battery voltage, and is provided by a flying-capacitor boost circuit that uses a 100nF capacitor connected to BST_.

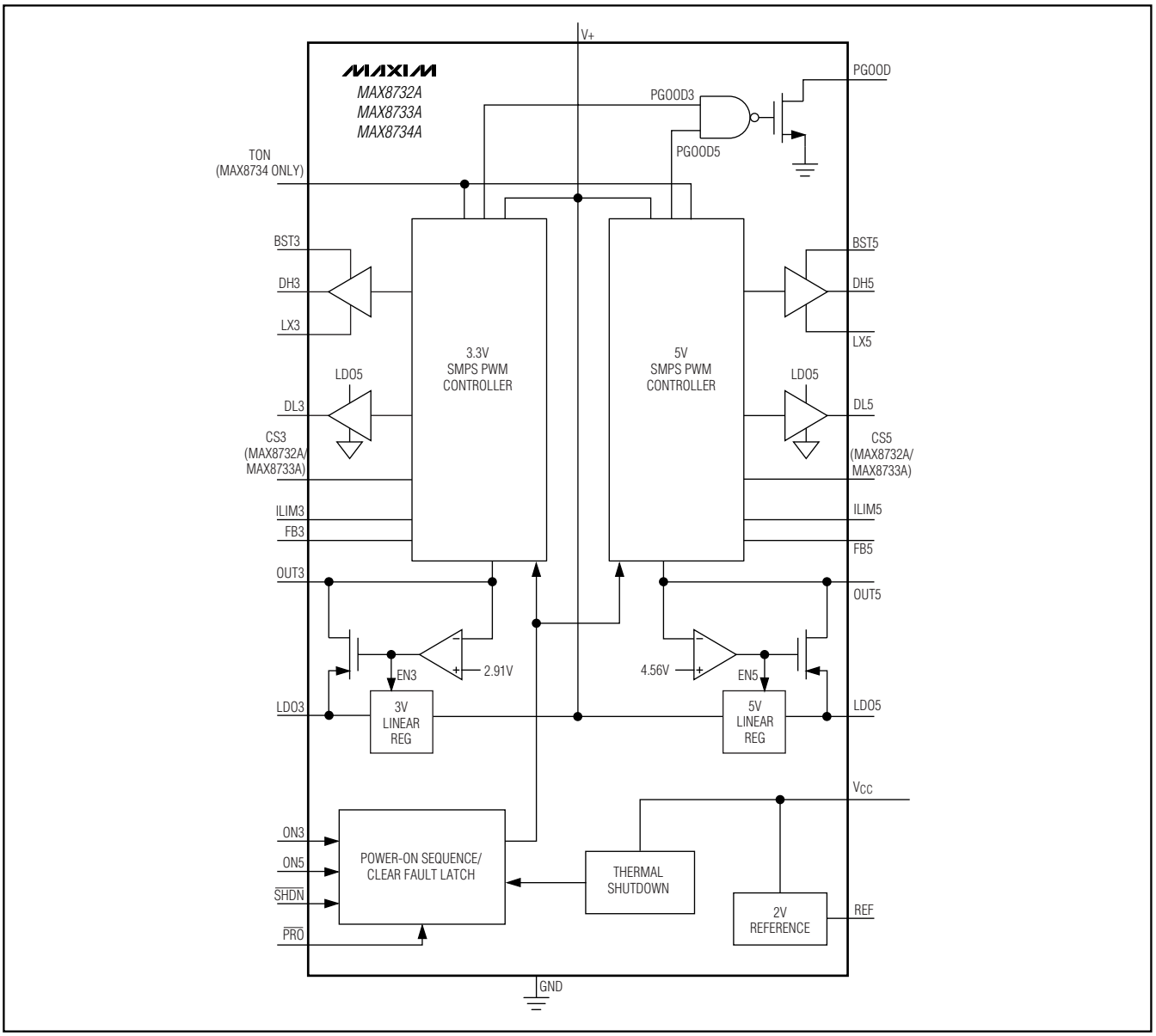


Figure 3. Detailed Functional Diagram

Each PWM controller consists of a Dual-Mode feedback network and multiplexer, a multi-input PWM comparator, high-side and low-side gate drivers, and logic. The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A contain fault-protection circuits that monitor the main PWM outputs for undervoltage and overvoltage conditions. A power-on sequence block controls the power-up timing of the main PWMs and monitors the outputs for undervoltage faults. The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A include 5V and 3.3V linear regulators. Bias generator blocks include the 5V (LDO5) linear regulator, 2V precision reference, and automatic bootstrap switchover circuit.

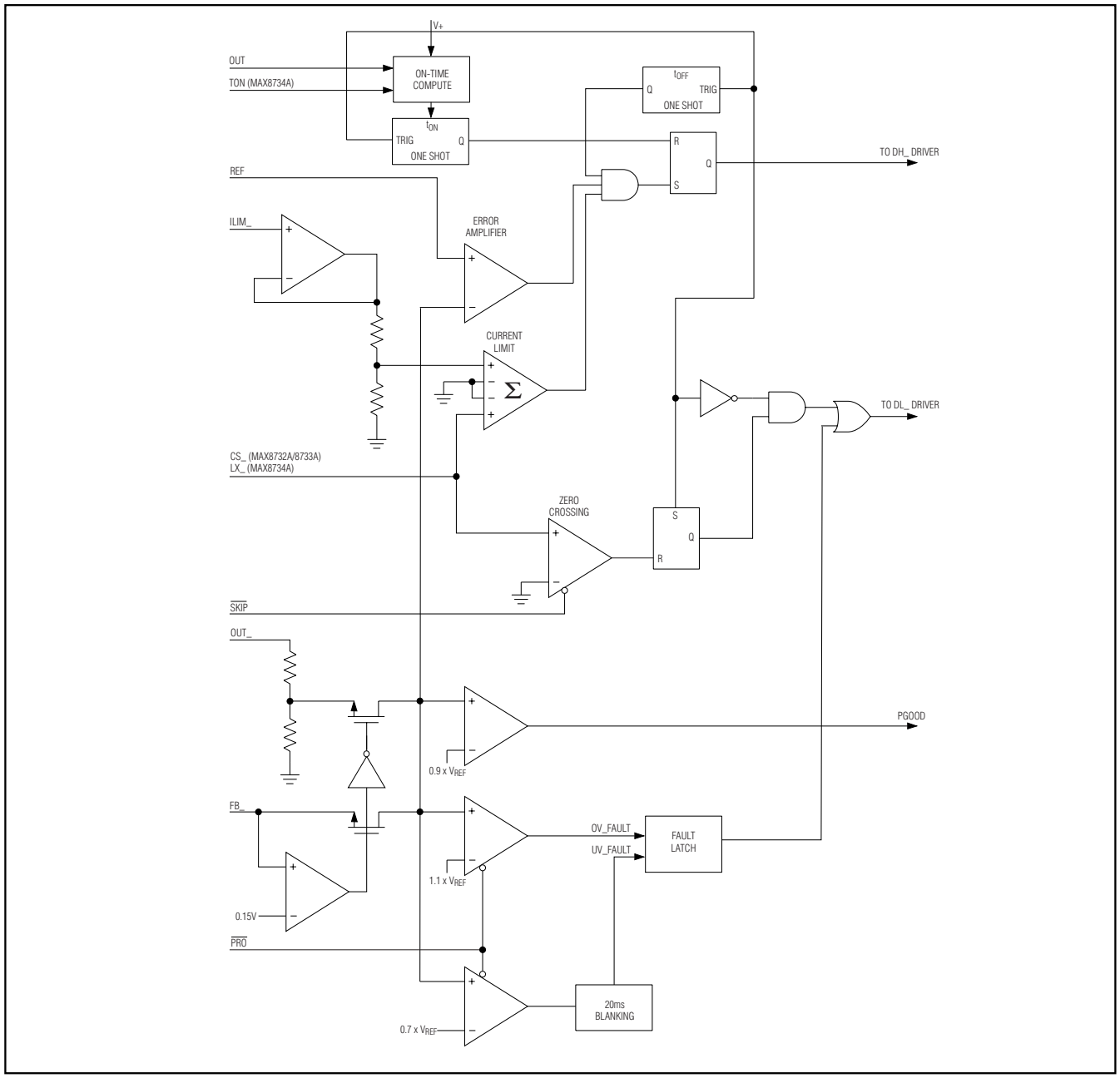


Figure 4. PWM Controller (One Side Only)

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These internal blocks are not powered directly from the battery. Instead, the 5V (LDO5) linear regulator steps down the battery voltage to supply both internal circuitry and the gate drivers. The synchronous-switch gate drivers are directly powered from LDO5, while the high-side switch gate drivers are indirectly powered from LDO5 through an external diode-capacitor boost circuit. An automatic bootstrap circuit turns off the 5V linear regulator and powers the device from OUT5 when OUT5 is above 4.56V.

Free-Running, Constant On-Time PWM Controller with Input Feed-Forward

The Quick-PWM control architecture is a pseudo-fixed-frequency, constant on-time, current-mode type with voltage feed-forward. The Quick-PWM control architecture relies on the output ripple voltage to provide the PWM ramp signal; thus, the output filter capacitor's ESR acts as a current-feedback resistor. The high-side switch on-time is determined by a one-shot whose period is inversely proportional to input voltage and directly proportional to output voltage. Another one-shot sets a minimum off-time (300ns typ). The on-time, one-shot triggers when the following conditions are met: the error comparator is low, the synchronous rectifier current is below the current-limit threshold, and the minimum off-time one-shot has timed out.

On-Time, One-Shot (t_{ON})

Each PWM core includes a one-shot that sets the high-side switch on-time for each controller. Each fast, low-jitter, adjustable one-shot includes circuitry that varies the on-time in response to battery and output voltage. The high-side switch on-time is inversely proportional to the battery voltage as measured by the V+ input, and proportional to the output voltage. This algorithm results in a nearly constant switching frequency despite the lack of a fixed-frequency clock generator. The benefit of a constant switching frequency is the frequency can be selected to avoid noise-sensitive frequency regions:

$$t_{ON} = \frac{K(V_{OUT} + 0.075V)}{V+}$$

See Table 2 for approximate K-factors. The constant 0.075V is an approximation to account for the expected drop across the synchronous-rectifier switch. Switching frequency increases as a function of load current due to the increasing drop across the synchronous rectifier, which causes a faster inductor-current discharge ramp.

On-times translate only roughly to switching frequencies. The on-times guaranteed in the *Electrical Characteristics* are influenced by switching delays in the external high-side power MOSFET. Also, the dead-time effect increases the effective on-time, reducing the switching frequency. It occurs only in PWM mode ($\overline{SKIP}$ = V_{CC}) and during dynamic output voltage transitions when the inductor current reverses at light or negative load currents. With reversed inductor current, the inductor's EMF causes LX to go high earlier than normal, extending the on-time by a period equal to the DH-rising dead time.

For loads above the critical conduction point, the actual switching frequency is:

$$f = \frac{V_{OUT} + V_{DROP1}}{t_{ON}(V+ + V_{DROP2})}$$

where V_{DROP1} is the sum of the parasitic voltage drops in the inductor discharge path, including synchronous rectifier, inductor, and PC board resistances; V_{DROP2} is the sum of the parasitic voltage drops in the charging path, including high-side switch, inductor, and PC board resistances, and t_{ON} is the on-time calculated by the MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A.

Automatic Pulse-Skipping Switchover (Idle Mode)

In Idle Mode ($\overline{SKIP}$ = GND), an inherent automatic switchover to PFM takes place at light loads. This switchover is affected by a comparator that truncates the low-side switch on-time at the inductor current's zero crossing. This mechanism causes the threshold between pulse-skipping PFM and nonskipping PWM operation to coincide with the boundary between con-

Table 2. Approximate K-Factor Errors

SMPS	SWITCHING FREQUENCY (kHz)	K-FACTOR (µs)	APPROXIMATE K-FACTOR ERROR (%)
MAX8732A/MAX8734A (t_{ON} = V_{CC}), 5V	200	5.0	±10
MAX8732A/MAX8734A (t_{ON} = V_{CC}), 3.3V	300	3.3	±10
MAX8733A/MAX8734A (t_{ON} = GND), 5V	400	2.5	±10
MAX8733A/MAX8734A (t_{ON} = GND), 3.3V	500	2.0	±10

tinuous and discontinuous inductor-current operation (also known as the critical conduction point):

$$I_{LOAD(SKIP)} = \frac{K \times V_{OUT_}}{2 \times L}\left(\frac{V+ - V_{OUT_}}{V+}\right)$$

where K is the on-time scale factor (see the *On-Time One-Shot (t_{ON})* section). The load-current level at which PFM/PWM crossover occurs, $I_{LOAD(SKIP)}$, is equal to 1/2 the peak-to-peak ripple current, which is a function of the inductor value (Figure 5). For example, in the MAX8732A *Typical Application Circuit* with V_{OUT2} = 5V, V+ = 12V, L = 7.6µH, and K = 5µs, switchover to pulse-skipping operation occurs at I_{LOAD} = 0.96A or about 1/5 full load. The crossover point occurs at an even lower value if a swinging (soft-saturation) inductor is used.

The switching waveforms may appear noisy and asynchronous when light loading causes pulse-skipping operation, but this is a normal operating condition that results in high light-load efficiency. Trade-offs in PFM noise vs. light-load efficiency are made by varying the inductor value. Generally, low inductor values produce a broader efficiency vs. load curve, while higher values result in higher full-load efficiency (assuming that the coil resistance remains fixed) and less output voltage ripple. Penalties for using higher inductor values include larger physical size and degraded load-transient response (especially at low input-voltage levels).

DC output accuracy specifications refer to the trip level of the error comparator. When the inductor is in continuous conduction, the output voltage has a DC regulation higher than the trip level by 50% of the ripple. In discontinuous conduction ($\overline{SKIP}$ = GND, light load), the output voltage has a DC regulation higher than the trip level by approximately 1.5% due to slope compensation.

Forced-PWM Mode

The low-noise, forced-PWM ($\overline{SKIP}$ = V_{CC}) mode disables the zero-crossing comparator, which controls the low-side switch on-time. Disabling the zero-crossing detector causes the low-side, gate-drive waveform to become the complement of the high-side, gate-drive waveform. The inductor current reverses at light loads as the PWM loop strives to maintain a duty ratio of V_{OUT}/V+. The benefit of forced-PWM mode is to keep the switching frequency fairly constant, but it comes at a cost: the no-load battery current can be 10mA to 50mA, depending on switching frequency and the external MOSFETs.

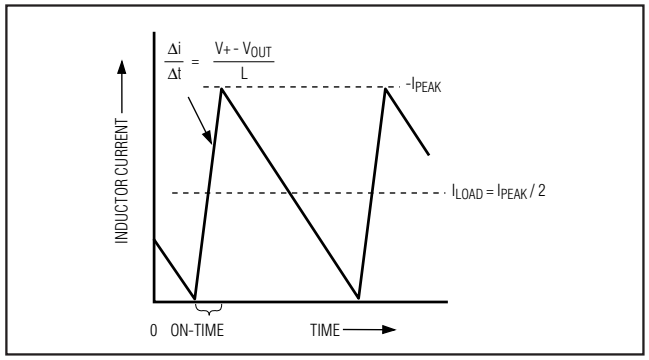


Figure 5. Pulse-Skipping/Discontinuous Crossover Point

Forced-PWM mode is most useful for reducing audio-frequency noise, improving load-transient response, providing sink-current capability for dynamic output voltage adjustment, and improving the cross-regulation of multiple-output applications that use a flyback transformer or coupled inductor.

Enhanced Ultrasonic Mode (25kHz (min) Pulse Skipping)

Leaving $\overline{SKIP}$ unconnected or connecting $\overline{SKIP}$ to REF activates a unique pulse-skipping mode with a minimum switching frequency of 25kHz. This ultrasonic pulse-skipping mode eliminates audio-frequency modulation that would otherwise be present when a lightly loaded controller automatically skips pulses. In ultrasonic mode, the controller automatically transitions to fixed-frequency PWM operation when the load reaches the same critical conduction point ($I_{LOAD(SKIP)}$) that occurs when normally pulse skipping.

An ultrasonic pulse occurs when the controller detects that no switching has occurred within the last 28µs. Once triggered, the ultrasonic controller pulls DL high, turning on the low-side MOSFET to induce a negative inductor current. After the inductor current reaches the negative ultrasonic current threshold, the controller turns off the low-side MOSFET (DL pulled low) and triggers a constant on-time (DH driven high). When the on-time has expired, the controller reenables the low-side MOSFET until the controller detects that the inductor current dropped below the zero-crossing threshold. Starting with a DL pulse greatly reduces the peak output voltage when compared to starting with a DH pulse.

The output voltage at the beginning of the ultrasonic pulse determines the negative ultrasonic current threshold, resulting in the following equation:

$$V_{ISONIC} = I_L R_{ON} = \left(V_{REF} - V_{FB}\right) \times 0.58$$

where $V_{FB} > V_{REF}$ and R_{ON} is the on-resistance of the synchronous rectifier (MAX8734A) or the current-sense resistor value (MAX8732A/MAX8733A).

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Reference and Linear Regulators (REF, LDO5, and LDO3)

The 2V reference (REF) is accurate to ±1% over temperature, making REF useful as a precision system reference. Bypass REF to GND with a 0.22µF (min) capacitor. REF can supply up to 100µA for external loads. However, if extremely accurate specifications for both the main output voltages and REF are essential, avoid loading REF. Loading REF reduces the LDO5, LDO3, OUT5, and OUT3 output voltages slightly because of the reference load-regulation error.

Two internal regulators produce 5V (LDO5) and 3.3V (LDO3). LDO5 provides gate drive for the external MOSFETs and powers the PWM controller, logic, reference, and other blocks within the device. The LDO5 regulator supplies a total of 100mA for internal and external loads, including MOSFET gate drive, which typically varies from 10mA to 50mA, depending on switching frequency and the external MOSFETs. LDO3 powers up when the reference (REF) is in regulation, and supplies up to 100mA for external loads. Bypass LDO5 and LDO3 with a minimum 4.7µF load; use an additional 1µF per 5mA of internal and external load.

When the 5V main output voltage is above the LDO5 bootstrap-switchover threshold, an internal 1.4Ω p-channel MOSFET switch connects OUT5 to LDO5 while simultaneously shutting down the LDO5 linear regulator. Similarly, when the 3.3V main output voltage is above the LDO3 bootstrap-switchover threshold, an internal 1.5Ω p-channel MOSFET switch connects OUT3 to LDO3 while simultaneously shutting down the LDO3 linear regulator. These actions bootstrap the device, powering the internal circuitry and external loads from the output SMPS voltages, rather than through linear regulators from the battery. Bootstrapping reduces power dissipation due to gate charge and quiescent losses by providing power from a 90%-efficient switch-mode source, rather than from a much-less-efficient linear regulator.

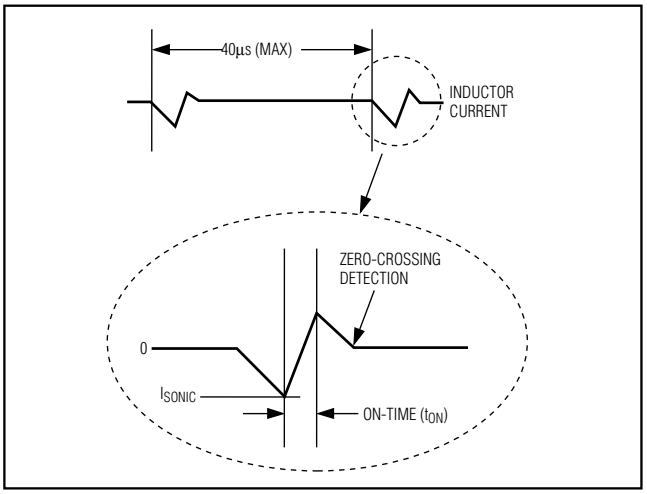


Figure 6. Ultrasonic Current Waveforms

Current-Limit Circuit (ILIM_)

The current-limit circuit employs a "valley" current-sensing algorithm. The MAX8734A uses the on-resistance of the synchronous rectifier, while the MAX8732A/MAX8733A use a discrete resistor in series with the source of the synchronous rectifier as a current-sensing element. If the magnitude of the current-sense signal at CS_ (MAX8732A/MAX8733A)/LX_ (MAX8734A) is above the current-limit threshold, the PWM is not allowed to initiate a new cycle (Figure 7). The actual peak current is greater than the current-limit threshold by an amount equal to the inductor ripple current. Therefore, the exact current-limit characteristic and maximum load capability are a function of the current-limit threshold, inductor value, and input and output voltage.

For the MAX8732A/MAX8733A, connect CS_ to the junction of the synchronous rectifier source and a current-sense resistor to GND. With a current-limit threshold of 100mV, the accuracy is approximately ±7%. Using a lower current-sense threshold results in less accuracy. The current-sense resistor only dissipates power when the synchronous rectifier is on.

For lower power dissipation, the MAX8734A uses the on-resistance of the synchronous rectifier as the current-sense element. Use the worst-case maximum value for $R_{DS(ON)}$ from the MOSFET data sheet, and add some margin for the rise in $R_{DS(ON)}$ with temperature. A good general rule is to allow 0.5% additional resistance for each °C of temperature rise. The current limit varies with the on-resistance of the synchronous rectifier. The reward for this uncertainty is robust, lossless overcurrent sensing. When combined with the

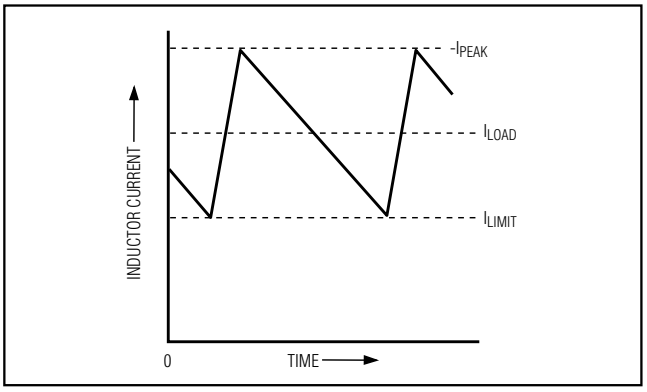


Figure 7. "Valley" Current-Limit Threshold Point

undervoltage-protection circuit, this current-limit method is effective in almost every circumstance.

A negative current limit prevents excessive reverse inductor currents when V_{OUT} sinks current. The negative current-limit threshold is set to approximately 120% of the positive current limit and therefore tracks the positive current limit when ILIM_ is adjusted.

The current-limit threshold is adjusted with an external voltage-divider at ILIM_. The current-limit threshold adjustment range is from 50mV to 300mV. In the adjustable mode, the current-limit threshold voltage is precisely 1/10th the voltage at ILIM_. The threshold defaults to 100mV when ILIM_ is connected to V_{CC}.

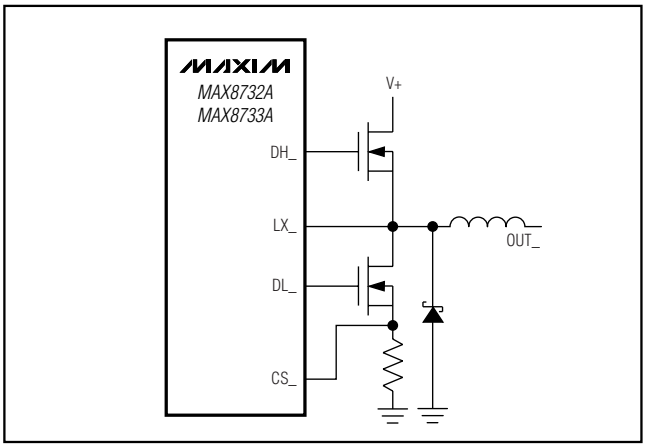


Figure 8. Current Sensing Using Sense Resistor (MAX8732A/MAX8733A)

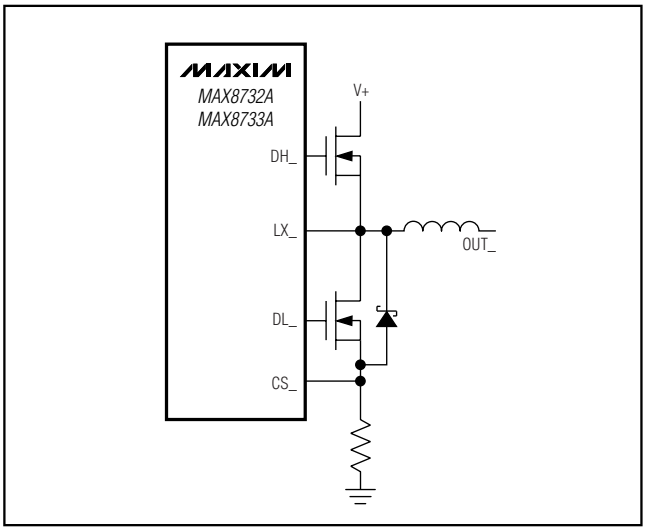


Figure 9. More Accurate Current Sensing with Adjusted Schottky Connection

The logic threshold for switchover to the 100mV default value is approximately V_{CC} - 1V.

Carefully observe the PC board layout guidelines to ensure that noise and DC errors do not corrupt the current-sense signals at CS_. Mount or place the device close to the synchronous rectifier or sense resistor (whichever is used) with short, direct traces, making a Kelvin-sense connection to the sense resistor. The current-sense accuracy of Figure 8 is degraded if the Schottky diode conducts during the synchronous rectifier on-time. To ensure that all current passes through the sense resistor, connect the Schottky diode in parallel with only the synchronous rectifier (Figure 9) if the voltage drop across the synchronous rectifier and sense resistor exceeds the Schottky diode's forward voltage. Note that at high temperatures, the on-resistance of the synchronous rectifier increases and the forward voltage of the Schottky diode decreases.

MOSFET Gate Drivers (DH_, DL_)

The DH_ and DL_ gate drivers sink 2.0A and 3.3A, respectively, of gate drive, ensuring robust gate drive for high-current applications. The DH_ floating high-side MOSFET drivers are powered by diode-capacitor charge pumps at BST_. The DL_ synchronous-rectifier drivers are powered by LDO5.

The internal pulldown transistors that drive DL_ low have a 0.6Ω typical on-resistance. These low on-resistance pulldown transistors prevent DL_ from being pulled up during the fast rise time of the inductor nodes due to capacitive coupling from the drain to the gate of the low-side synchronous-rectifier MOSFETs. However, for high-current applications, some combinations of high- and low-side MOSFETS may cause excessive gate-drain coupling, which leads to poor efficiency and EMI-producing shoot-through currents. Adding a resistor in series with BST_ increases the turn-on time of the

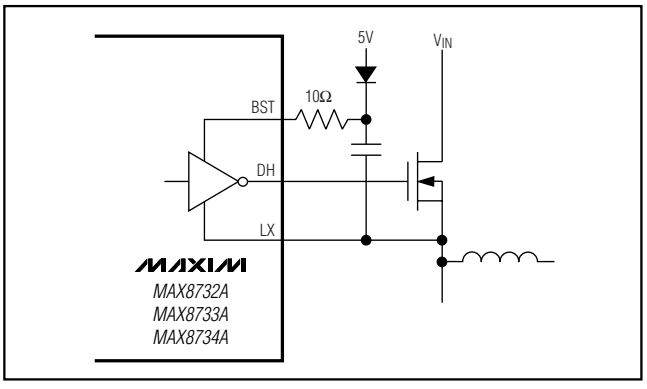


Figure 10. Reducing the Switching-Node Rise Time

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high-side MOSFETs at the expense of efficiency, without degrading the turn-off time (Figure 10).

Adaptive dead-time circuits monitor the DL_ and DH_ drivers and prevent either FET from turning on until the other is fully off. This algorithm allows operation without shoot-through with a wide range of MOSFETs, minimizing delays and maintaining efficiency. There must be low-resistance, low-inductance paths from the gate drivers to the MOSFET gates for the adaptive dead-time circuit to work properly. Otherwise, the sense circuitry interprets the MOSFET gate as "off" when there is actually charge left on the gate. Use very short, wide traces measuring 10 to 20 squares (50 mils to 100 mils wide if the MOSFET is 1in from the device).

POR, UVLO, and Internal Digital Soft-Start

Power-on reset (POR) occurs when V+ rises above approximately 2.4V, resetting the undervoltage, overvoltage, and thermal-shutdown fault latches. LDO5 undervoltage-lockout (UVLO) circuitry inhibits switching when LDO5 is below 4V (typ). DL_ is low if $\overline{PRO}$ is disabled; DL_ is high if $\overline{PRO}$ is enabled. The output voltages begin to ramp up once V_{CC} exceeds its 3.25V (typ) UVLO threshold and REF is in regulation. The internal digital soft-start timer begins to ramp up the maximum-allowed current limit during startup. The 1.7ms ramp occurs in five steps: 20%, 40%, 60%, 80%, and 100%.

When LD05 falls below its 4V (typ) UVLO threshold, DH_ and DL_ are immediately forced low, and the outputs are high impedance. REF is turned off when V_{CC} falls below 3.25V (typ). DL_ is forced high again when V_{CC} falls below its 1V (typ) POR threshold.

Power-Good Output (PGOOD)

The PGOOD comparator continuously monitors both output voltages for undervoltage conditions. PGOOD is actively held low in shutdown, standby, and soft-start. PGOOD releases and digital soft-start terminates when both outputs reach the error-comparator threshold. PGOOD goes low if EITHER output turns off or is 10% below its nominal regulation point. PGOOD is a true open-drain output. Note that PGOOD is independent of the state of $\overline{PRO}$.

Fault Protection

The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A provide over/undervoltage fault protection. Drive $\overline{PRO}$ low to activate fault protection. Drive $\overline{PRO}$ high to disable fault protection. Once activated, the devices continuously monitor for both undervoltage and overvoltage conditions.

Overvoltage Protection

When the output voltage is 11% above the set voltage, the overvoltage fault protection activates. The synchronous rectifier turns on 100% and the high-side MOSFET turns off. This rapidly discharges the output capacitors, decreasing the output voltage. The output voltage may dip below ground. For loads that cannot tolerate a negative voltage, place a power Schottky diode across the output to act as a reverse-polarity clamp. In practical applications, there is a fuse between the power source (battery) and the external high-side switches. If the overvoltage condition is caused by a short in the high-side switch, turning the synchronous rectifier on 100% creates an electrical short between the battery and GND, blowing the fuse and disconnecting the battery from the output. Once an overvoltage fault condition is set, it can only be reset by toggling $\overline{SHDN}$, ON_, or cycling V+ (POR).

Undervoltage Protection

When the output voltage is 30% below the set voltage for over 22ms (undervoltage shutdown blanking time), the undervoltage fault protection activates. Both SMPSs stop switching. The two outputs start to discharge (see the *Discharge Mode (Soft-Stop)* section). When the output voltage drops to 0.3V, the synchronous rectifiers turn on, clamping the outputs to GND. Toggle $\overline{SHDN}$ or ON_, or cycle V+ (POR) to clear the undervoltage fault latch.

Thermal Protection

The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A have thermal shutdown to protect the devices from overheating. Thermal shutdown occurs when the die temperature exceeds +160°C. All internal circuitry shuts down during thermal shutdown. The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A may trigger thermal shutdown if LDO_ is not bootstrapped from OUT_ while applying a high input voltage on V+ and drawing the maximum current (including short circuit) from LDO_. Even if LDO_ is bootstrapped from OUT_, overloading the LDO_ causes large power dissipation on the bootstrap switches, which may result in thermal shutdown. Cycling $\overline{SHDN}$, ON3, ON5, or a V+ (POR) ends the thermal-shutdown state.

Discharge Mode (Soft-Stop)

When $\overline{PRO}$ is low and a transition to standby or shutdown mode occurs, or the output undervoltage fault latch is set, the outputs discharge to GND through an internal 12Ω switch, until the output voltages decrease to 0.3V. The reference remains active to provide an accurate threshold and to provide overvoltage protection. When both SMPS outputs discharge to 0.3V, the DL_ synchronous rectifier drivers are forced high. The

Table 3. Operating-Mode Truth Table

MODE	CONDITION	COMMENT
Power-Up	LDO5 < UVLO threshold	Transitions to discharge mode after a V+ POR and after REF becomes valid. LDO5, LDO3, and REF remain active. DL_ is active if $\overline{PRO}$ is low.
Run	$\overline{SHDN}$ = high, ON3 or ON5 enabled	Normal operation.
Overvoltage Protection	Either output > 111% of nominal level, $\overline{PRO}$ = low	DL_ is forced high. LDO3, LDO5 active. Exited by a V+ POR or by toggling $\overline{SHDN}$, ON3, or ON5.
Undervoltage Protection	Either output < 70% of nominal after 22ms time-out expires and output is enabled, $\overline{PRO}$ = low	If $\overline{PRO}$ is low, DL_ is forced high after discharge mode terminates. LDO3, LDO5 active. Exited by a V+ POR or by toggling $\overline{SHDN}$, ON3, or ON5.
Discharge	$\overline{PRO}$ is low and either SMPS output is still high in either standby mode or shutdown mode	Discharge switch (12Ω) connects OUT_ to PGND. One output may still run while the other is in discharge mode. Activates when LDO_ is in UVLO, or transition to UVLO, standby, or shutdown has begun. LDO3, LDO5 active.
Standby	ON5, ON3 < startup threshold, $\overline{SHDN}$ = high	DL_ stays high if $\overline{PRO}$ is low. LDO3, LDO5 active.
Shutdown	$\overline{SHDN}$ = low	All circuitry off.
Thermal Shutdown	T_J > +160°C	All circuitry off. Exited by V+ POR or cycling $\overline{SHDN}$, ON3, or ON5.

synchronous rectifier drivers clamp the SMPS outputs to GND. When $\overline{PRO}$ is high, the SMPS outputs do not discharge and the DL_ synchronous rectifier drivers remain low.

Shutdown Mode

Drive $\overline{SHDN}$ below the precise $\overline{SHDN}$ input falling-edge trip level to place the MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A in their low-power shutdown state. The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A consume only 6µA of quiescent current while in shutdown mode. When shutdown mode activates, the reference turns off, making the threshold to exit shutdown inaccurate. To guarantee startup, drive $\overline{SHDN}$ above 2V ($\overline{SHDN}$ input rising-edge trip level). For automatic shutdown and startup, connect $\overline{SHDN}$ to V+. If $\overline{PRO}$ is low, both SMPS outputs are discharged to 0.3V through a 12Ω switch before entering true shutdown. The accurate 1V falling-edge threshold on $\overline{SHDN}$ can be used to detect a specific analog voltage level and shut down the device. Once in shutdown, the 1.6V rising-edge threshold activates, providing sufficient hysteresis for most applications. For additional hysteresis, the undervoltage threshold can be made dependent on REF or LDO_, which go to 0V in shutdown.

Table 4. Power-Up Sequencing

$\overline{SHDN}$ (V)	V_{ON3} (V)	V_{ON5} (V)	LDO5	LDO3	5V SMPS	3V SMPS
Low	X	X	Off	Off	Off	Off
"> 2.4" => High	Low	Low	On	On (after REF powers up)	Off	Off
"> 2.4" => High	High	High	On	On (after REF powers up)	On	On
"> 2.4" => High	High	Low	On	On (after REF powers up)	Off	On
"> 2.4" => High	Low	High	On	On (after REF powers up)	On	Off
"> 2.4" => High	High	REF	On	On (after REF powers up)	On (after 3V SMPS is up)	On
"> 2.4" => High	REF	High	On	On (after REF powers up)	On	On (after 5V SMPS is up)

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Power-Up Sequencing and On/Off Controls (ON3, ON5)

ON3 and ON5 control SMPS power-up sequencing. ON3 or ON5 rising above 2.4V enables the respective outputs. ON3 or ON5 falling below 1.6V disables the respective outputs.

Connecting ON3 or ON5 to REF forces the respective outputs off while the other output is below regulation and starts after that output regulates. The second SMPS remains on until the first SMPS turns off, the device shuts down, a fault occurs, or LDO5 goes into undervoltage lockout. Both supplies begin their power-down sequence immediately when the first supply turns off. Driving ON_ below 0.8V clears the overvoltage, undervoltage, and thermal fault latches.

Adjustable-Output Feedback (Dual-Mode FB)

Connect FB_ to GND to enable the fixed, preset SMPS output voltages (3.3V and 5V). Connect a resistive voltage-divider at FB_ between OUT_ and GND to adjust the respective output voltage between 2V and 5.5V (Figure 11). Choose R2 to be approximately 10kΩ, and solve for R1 using the equation:

$$R1 = R2 \times \left(\frac{V_{OUT_}}{V_{FB}} - 1 \right)$$

where V_{FB} = 2V nominal.

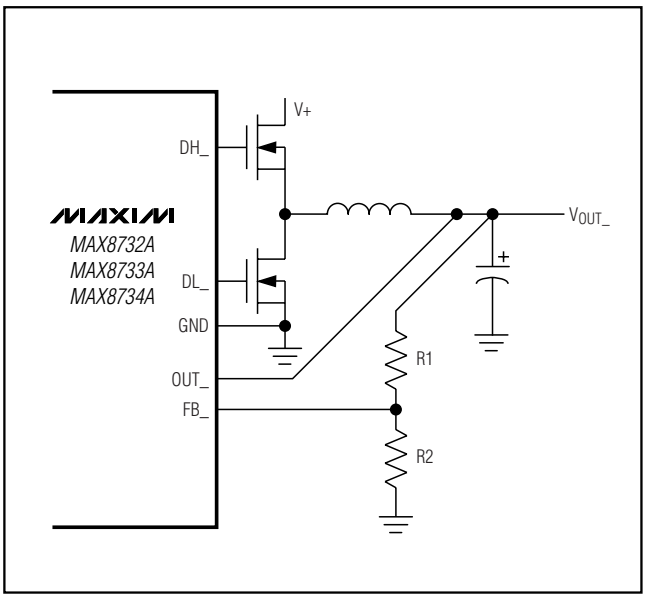


Figure 11. Setting $V_{OUT_}$ with a Resistor-Divider

When using the adjustable-output mode, set the 3.3V SMPS lower than the 5V SMPS. LDO5 connects to OUT5 through an internal switch only when OUT5 is above the LDO5 bootstrap-switch threshold (4.56V). LDO3 connects to OUT3 through an internal switch only when OUT3 is above the LDO3 bootstrap switch threshold (2.91V). Bootstrapping is most effective when the fixed output voltages are used. Once LDO_ is bootstrapped from OUT_, the internal linear regulator turns off. This reduces internal power dissipation and improves efficiency when LDO_ is powered with a high input voltage.

Design Procedure

Establish the input voltage range and maximum load current before choosing an inductor and its associated ripple-current ratio (LIR). The following four factors dictate the rest of the design:

1) **Input Voltage Range.** The maximum value ($V+_{(MAX)}$) must accommodate the maximum AC adapter voltage. The minimum value ($V+_{(MIN)}$) must account for the lowest input voltage after drops due to connectors, fuses, and battery selector switches. Lower input voltages result in better efficiency.
2) **Maximum Load Current.** The peak load current ($I_{LOAD(MAX)}$) determines the instantaneous component stress and filtering requirements, and thus drives output capacitor selection, inductor saturation rating, and the design of the current-limit circuit. The continuous load current (I_{LOAD}) determines the thermal stress and drives the selection of input capacitors, MOSFETs, and other critical heat-contributing components.
3) **Switching Frequency.** This choice determines the basic trade-off between size and efficiency. The optimal frequency is largely a function of maximum input voltage and MOSFET switching losses. The MAX8732A has a nominal switching frequency of 200kHz for the 5V SMPS and 300kHz for the 3.3V SMPS. The MAX8733A has a nominal switching frequency of 400kHz for the 5V SMPS and 500kHz for the 3.3V SMPS. The MAX8734A has a pin-selectable switching frequency.
4) **Inductor Ripple Current Ratio (LIR).** LIR is the ratio of the peak-to-peak ripple current to the average inductor current. Size and efficiency trade-offs must be considered when setting the inductor ripple current ratio. Low inductor values cause large ripple currents, resulting in the smallest size, but poor efficiency and high output noise. The minimum practical inductor value is one that causes the circuit to operate at critical conduction (where the inductor current just touches zero with every cycle

at maximum load).Inductor values lower than this grant no further size-reduction benefit.

The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734As' pulse-skipping algorithm (SKIP = GND) initiates skip mode at the critical conduction point, so the inductor's operating point also determines the load current at which PWM/PFM switchover occurs. The optimum point is usually found between 20% and 50% ripple current.

Inductor Selection

The switching frequency (on-time) and operating point (% ripple or LIR) determine the inductor value as follows:

$$L = \frac{V_{OUT_}\left(V+ - V_{OUT_}\right)}{V+ \times f \times LIR \times I_{LOAD(MAX)}}$$

Example: $I_{LOAD(MAX)}$ = 5A, V+ = 12V, V_{OUT5} = 5V, f = 200kHz, 35% ripple current or LIR = 0.35:

$$L = \frac{5V\left(12V - 5V\right)}{12V \times 200kHz \times 0.35 \times 5A} = 8.3\mu H$$

Find a low-loss inductor with the lowest possible DC resistance that fits in the allotted dimensions. Ferrite cores are often the best choice. The core must be large enough not to saturate at the peak inductor current (I_{PEAK}):

$$I_{PEAK} = I_{LOAD(MAX)} + [(LIR / 2) \times I_{LOAD(MAX)}]$$

The inductor ripple current also impacts transient-response performance, especially at low V+ - $V_{OUT_}$ differences. Low inductor values allow the inductor current to slew faster, replenishing charge removed from the output filter capacitors by a sudden load step. The peak amplitude of the output transient (V_{SAG}) is also a function of the maximum duty factor, which can be calculated from the on-time and minimum off-time:

$$V_{SAG} = \frac{\left(\Delta I_{LOAD(MAX)}\right)^2 \times L\left(K\frac{V_{OUT_}}{V+} + t_{OFF(MIN)}\right)}{2 \times C_{OUT} \times V_{OUT_}\left[K\left(\frac{V+ - V_{OUT_}}{V+}\right) - t_{OFF(MIN)}\right]}$$

where minimum off-time = 0.350µs (max) and K is from Table 2.

Determining the Current Limit

The minimum current-limit threshold must be great enough to support the maximum load current when the current limit is at the minimum tolerance value. The valley of the inductor current occurs at $I_{LOAD(MAX)}$ minus half of the ripple current; therefore:

$$I_{LIMIT(LOW)} > I_{LOAD(MAX)} - [(LIR / 2) \times I_{LOAD(MAX)}]$$

where $I_{LIMIT(LOW)}$ = minimum current-limit threshold voltage divided by the $R_{DS(ON)}$ of N2/N4 (MAX8734A). For the MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A, the minimum current-limit threshold voltage is 93mV (ILIM_ = V_{CC}). Use the worst-case maximum value for $R_{DS(ON)}$ from the MOSFET N2/N4 data sheet and add some margin for the rise in $R_{DS(ON)}$ with temperature. A good general rule is to allow 0.5% additional resistance for each °C of temperature rise.

Examining the 5A circuit example with a maximum $R_{DS(ON)}$ = 12mΩ at high temperature reveals the following:

$$I_{LIMIT(LOW)} = 93mV / 12m\Omega > 5A - (0.35 / 2)\ 5A$$
$$7.75A > 4.125A$$

7.75A is greater than the valley current of 4.125A, so the circuit can easily deliver the full-rated 5A using the fixed 100mV nominal current-limit threshold voltage.

Connect the source of the synchronous rectifier to a current-sense resistor to GND (MAX8732A/MAX8733A), and connect CS_ to that junction to set the current limit for the device. The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A limit the current with the sense resistor instead of the $R_{DS(ON)}$ of N2/N4. The maximum value of the sense resistor can be calculated with the equation:

$$I_{LIM_} = 93mV / R_{SENSE}$$

Output-Capacitor Selection

The output filter capacitor must have low enough equivalent series resistance (ESR) to meet output ripple and load-transient requirements, yet have high enough ESR to satisfy stability requirements. The output capacitance must also be high enough to absorb the inductor energy while transitioning from full-load to no-load conditions without tripping the overvoltage fault latch. In applications where the output is subject to large load transients, the output capacitor's size depends on how much ESR is needed to prevent the output from dipping too low under a load transient. Ignoring the sag due to finite capacitance:

$$R_{ESR} \le \frac{V_{DIP}}{I_{LOAD(MAX)}}$$

where V_{DIP} is the maximum-tolerable transient voltage drop. In non-CPU applications, the output capacitor's size depends on how much ESR is needed to maintain an acceptable level of output voltage ripple:

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$$R_{ESR} \le \frac{V_{P-P}}{LIR \times I_{LOAD(MAX)}}$$

where V_{P-P} is the peak-to-peak output voltage ripple. The actual capacitance value required relates to the physical size needed to achieve low ESR, as well as to the chemistry of the capacitor technology. Thus, the capacitor is usually selected by ESR and voltage rating rather than by capacitance value (this is true of tantalum, OS-CON, and other electrolytic-type capacitors).

When using low-capacity filter capacitors such as polymer types, capacitor size is usually determined by the capacity required to prevent V_{SAG} and V_{SOAR} from tripping the undervoltage and overvoltage fault latches during load transients in ultrasonic mode.

For low input-to-output voltage differentials (V_{IN} / V_{OUT} < 2), additional output capacitance is required to maintain stability and good efficiency in ultrasonic mode.

The amount of overshoot due to stored inductor energy can be calculated as:

$$V_{SOAR} = \frac{I_{PEAK}^2 L}{2C_{OUT} V_{OUT_}}$$

where I_{PEAK} is the peak inductor current.

Stability Considerations

Stability is determined by the value of the ESR zero (f_{ESR}) relative to the switching frequency (f). The point of instability is given by the following equation:

$$f_{ESR} \le \frac{f}{\pi}$$

where:

$$f_{ESR} = \frac{1}{2\pi R_{ESR} C_{OUT}}$$

For a typical 300kHz application, the ESR zero frequency must be well below 95kHz, preferably below 50kHz. Low-ESR capacitors (especially polymer or tantalum), in widespread use at the time of publication, typically have ESR zero frequencies lower than 30kHz. In the design example used for inductor selection, the ESR needed to support a specified ripple voltage is found by the equation:

$$ESR = \frac{V_{RIPPLE(P-P)}}{LIR \times I_{LOAD}}$$

where LIR is the inductor ripple current ratio and I_{LOAD} is the average DC load. Using LIR = 0.35 and an average load current of 5A, the ESR needed to support 50mV_{P-P} ripple is 28mΩ.

Do not place high-value ceramic capacitors directly across the fast-feedback inputs (OUT_ to GND for internal feedback, FB_ divider point for external feedback) without taking precautions to ensure stability. Large ceramic capacitors can have a high-ESR zero frequency and cause erratic, unstable operation. Adding a discrete resistor or placing the capacitors a couple of inches downstream from the junction of the inductor and OUT_ may improve stability.

Unstable operation manifests itself in two related but distinctly different ways: double pulsing and fast-feedback loop instability. Noise on the output or insufficient ESR may cause double pulsing. Insufficient ESR does not allow the amplitude of the voltage ramp in the output signal to be large enough. The error comparator mistakenly triggers a new cycle immediately after the 350ns minimum off-time period has expired. Double pulsing results in increased output ripple, and can indicate the presence of loop instability caused by insufficient ESR. Loop instability results in oscillations or ringing at the output after line or load perturbations, causing the output voltage to fall below the tolerance limit.

The easiest method for checking stability is to apply a very fast zero-to-max load transient (refer to the MAX8734A EV kit data sheet) and observe the output voltage-ripple envelope for overshoot and ringing. Monitoring the inductor current with an AC current probe can also provide some insight. Do not allow more than one cycle of ringing of under- or overshoot after the initial step response.

Input-Capacitor Selection

The input capacitors must meet the input-ripple-current (I_{RMS}) requirement imposed by the switching current. The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A dual switching regulators operate at different frequencies. This interleaves the current pulses drawn by the two switches and reduces the overlap time where they add together. The input RMS current is much smaller in comparison than with both SMPSs operating in phase. The input RMS current varies with load and the input voltage.

The maximum input capacitor RMS current for a single SMPS is given by:

$$I_{RMS} \approx I_{LOAD}\left(\frac{\sqrt{V_{OUT_}\left(V+ - V_{OUT_}\right)}}{V+}\right)$$

When V+ = 2 x $V_{OUT_}$(D = 50%), I_{RMS} has a maximum current of I_{LOAD} / 2.

The ESR of the input capacitor is important for determining capacitor power dissipation. All the power (I_{RMS}^2 x ESR) heats up the capacitor and reduces efficiency. Nontantalum chemistries (ceramic or OS-CON) are preferred due to their low ESR and resilience to power-up surge currents. Choose input capacitors that exhibit less than +10°C temperature rise at the RMS input current for optimal circuit longevity. Place the drains of the high-side switches close to each other to share common input bypass capacitors.

Power-MOSFET Selection

Most of the following MOSFET guidelines focus on the challenge of obtaining high load-current capability (> 5A) when using high-voltage (> 20V) AC adapters. Low-current applications usually require less attention.

Choose a high-side MOSFET (N1/N3) that has conduction losses equal to the switching losses at the typical battery voltage for maximum efficiency. Ensure that the conduction losses at the minimum input voltage do not exceed the package thermal limits or violate the overall thermal budget. Ensure that conduction losses plus switching losses at the maximum input voltage do not exceed the package ratings or violate the overall thermal budget.

Choose a synchronous rectifier (N2/N4) with the lowest possible $R_{DS(ON)}$. Ensure the gate is not pulled up by the high-side switch turning on due to parasitic drain-to-gate capacitance, causing crossconduction problems. Switching losses are not an issue for the synchronous rectifier in the buck topology since it is a zero-voltage switched device when using the buck topology.

MOSFET Power Dissipation

Worst-case conduction losses occur at the duty-factor extremes. For the high-side MOSFET, the worst-case power dissipation (PD) due to the MOSFET's $R_{DS(ON)}$ occurs at the minimum battery voltage:

$$PD(N_H \text{ Resistance}) = \left(\frac{V_{OUT_}}{V_{IN(MIN)}}\right)\left(I_{LOAD}\right)^2 R_{DS(ON)}$$

Generally, a small high-side MOSFET reduces switching losses at high input voltage. However, the $R_{DS(ON)}$ required to stay within package power-dissipation limits often limits how small the MOSFET can be. The optimum situation occurs when the switching (AC) losses equal the conduction ($R_{DS(ON)}$) losses.

Switching losses in the high-side MOSFET can become an insidious heat problem when maximum battery voltage is applied, due to the squared term in the $CV^2 \times f$ switching-loss equation. Reconsider the high-side MOSFET chosen for adequate $R_{DS(ON)}$ at low battery voltages if it becomes extraordinarily hot when subjected to $V+_{(MAX)}$.

Calculating the power dissipation in N_H (N1/N3) due to switching losses is difficult since it must allow for quantifying factors that influence the turn-on and turn-off times. These factors include the internal gate resistance, gate charge, threshold voltage, source inductance, and PC board layout characteristics. The following switching-loss calculation provides only a very rough estimate and is no substitute for bench evaluation, preferably including verification using a thermocouple mounted on N_H (N1/N3):

$$PD(N_H \text{ Switching}) = \frac{C_{OSS}(V_{IN(MAX)})^2 f_{SW}}{2} + \frac{V_{IN(MAX)} I_{LOAD} Q_{G(SW)} f_{SW}}{I_{GATE}}$$

where C_{OSS} is the output capacitance of N_H (N1/N3), $Q_{G(SW)}$ is the switch gate charge of N_H, and I_{GATE} is the peak gate-drive source/sink current.

For the synchronous rectifier, the worst-case power dissipation always occurs at maximum battery voltage:

$$PD\left(N_L\right) = \left(1 - \frac{V_{OUT_}}{V_{IN(MAX)}}\right) I_{LOAD}{}^2 R_{DS(ON)}$$

The absolute worst case for MOSFET power dissipation occurs under heavy overloads that are greater than $I_{LOAD(MAX)}$ but are not quite high enough to exceed the current limit and cause the fault latch to trip. To protect against this possibility, "overdesign" the circuit to tolerate:

$$I_{LOAD} = I_{LIMIT(HIGH)} + (LIR / 2) \times I_{LOAD(MAX)}$$

where $I_{LIMIT(HIGH)}$ is the maximum valley current allowed by the current-limit circuit, including threshold tolerance and resistance variation.

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Rectifier Selection

Current circulates from ground to the junction of both MOSFETs and the inductor when the high-side switch is off. As a consequence, the polarity of the switching node is negative with respect to ground. This voltage is approximately -0.7V (a diode drop) at both transition edges while both switches are off (dead time). The drop is $I_L \times R_{DS(ON)}$ when the low-side switch conducts.

The rectifier is a clamp across the synchronous rectifier that catches the negative inductor swing during the dead time between turning the high-side MOSFET off and the synchronous rectifier on. The MOSFETs incorporate a high-speed silicon body diode as an adequate clamp diode if efficiency is not of primary importance. Place a Schottky diode in parallel with the body diode to reduce the forward-voltage drop and prevent the N2/N4 MOSFET body diodes from turning on during the dead time. Typically, the external diode improves the efficiency by 1% to 2%. Use a Schottky diode with a DC current rating equal to 1/3 of the load current. For example, use an MBR0530 (500mA-rated) type for loads up to 1.5A, a 1N5819 type for loads up to 3A, or a 1N5822 type for loads up to 10A. The rectifier's rated reverse-breakdown voltage must be at least equal to the maximum input voltage, preferably with a 20% derating factor.

Boost Supply Diode

A signal diode, such as a 1N4148, works well in most applications. Use a small (20mA) Schottky diode for slightly improved efficiency and dropout characteristics, if the input voltage can go below 6V. Do not use large power diodes, such as 1N5817 or 1N4001, since high-junction capacitance can force LDO5 to excessive voltages.

Applications Information

Dropout Performance

The output voltage-adjust range for continuous-conduction operation is restricted by the nonadjustable 350ns (max) minimum off-time, one-shot. Use the slower 5V SMPS for the higher of the two output voltages for best dropout performance in adjustable feedback mode. The duty-factor limit must be calculated using worst-case values for on- and off-times, when working with low input voltages. Manufacturing tolerances and internal propagation delays introduce an error to the t_{ON} K-factor. Also, keep in mind that transient-response performance of buck regulators operated close to dropout is poor, and bulk output capacitance must often be added (see the V_{SAG} equation in the *Output-Capacitor Selection* section).

The absolute point of dropout occurs when the inductor current ramps down during the minimum off-time (ΔI_{DOWN}) as much as it ramps up during the on-time (ΔI_{UP}). The ratio $h = \Delta I_{UP}/\Delta I_{DOWN}$ indicates the ability to slew the inductor current higher in response to increased load, and must always be greater than 1. As h approaches 1, the absolute minimum dropout point, the inductor current is less able to increase during each switching cycle and V_{SAG} greatly increases unless additional output capacitance is used.

A reasonable minimum value for h is 1.5, but this can be adjusted up or down to allow tradeoffs between V_{SAG}, output capacitance, and minimum operating voltage. For a given value of h, the minimum operating voltage can be calculated as:

$$V+_{(MIN)} = \frac{\left(V_{OUT_} + V_{DROP1}\right)}{1-\left(\frac{t_{OFF(MIN)} \times h}{K}\right)} + V_{DROP2} - V_{DROP1}$$

where V_{DROP1} and V_{DROP2} are the parasitic voltage drops in the discharge and charge paths (see the *On-Time, One-Shot* section), $t_{OFF(MIN)}$ is from the EC table, and K is taken from Table 2. The absolute minimum input voltage is calculated with h = 1.

Operating frequency must be reduced or h must be increased and output capacitance added to obtain an acceptable V_{SAG} if calculated $V+_{(MIN)}$ is greater than the required minimum input voltage. Calculate V_{SAG} to be sure of adequate transient response if operation near dropout is anticipated.

Dropout Design Example

MAX8733A: With V_{OUT5} = 5V, fsw = 400kHz, K = 2.25µs, $t_{OFF(MIN)}$ = 350ns, $V_{DROP1} = V_{DROP2}$ = 100mV, and h = 1.5,

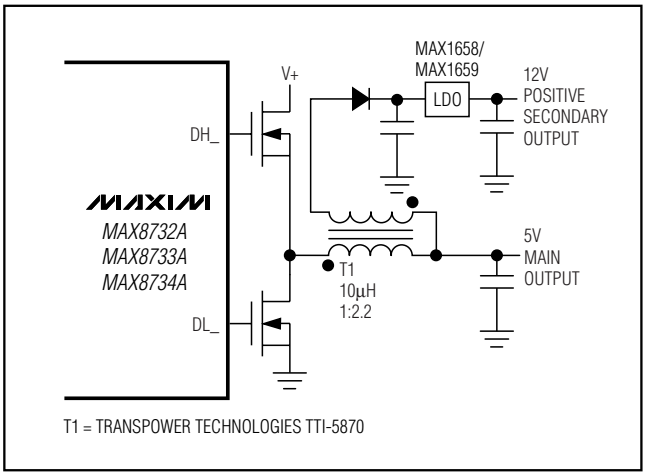


Figure 12. Transformer-Coupled Secondary Output

the minimum V+ is:

$$V+_{(MIN)} = \frac{(5V + 0.1V)}{1-\left(\frac{0.35\mu s \times 1.5}{2.25\mu s}\right)} + 0.1V - 0.1V = 6.65V$$

Calculating with h = 1 yields:

$$V+_{(MIN)} = \frac{(5V + 0.1V)}{1-\left(\frac{0.35\mu s \times 1}{2.25\mu s}\right)} + 0.1V - 0.1V = 6.04V$$

Therefore, V+ must be greater than 6.65V. A practical input voltage with reasonable output capacitance would be 7.5V.

Use of Coupled Inductors to Create Auxiliary Outputs

A coupled inductor or transformer can be substituted for the inductor in the 5V or 3.3V SMPS to create an auxiliary output (Figure 12). The MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A are particularly well suited for such applications because they can be configured in ultrasonic or forced-PWM mode to ensure good load regulation when the main supplies are lightly loaded. An additional postregulation circuit can be used to improve load regulation and limit output current.

The power requirements of the auxiliary supply must be considered in the design of the main output. The transformer must be designed to deliver the required current in both the primary and the secondary outputs with the proper turns ratio and inductance. The power ratings of the synchronous-rectifier MOSFETs and the current limit in the MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A must also be adjusted accordingly. Extremes of low input-output differentials, widely different output loading levels, and high turns ratios can further complicate the design due to parasitic transformer parameters such as interwinding capacitance, secondary resistance, and leakage inductance. Power from the main and secondary outputs is combined to get an equivalent current referred to the main output. Use this total current to determine the current limit (see the *Determining the Current Limit* section):

$$I_{TOTAL} = P_{TOTAL} / V_{OUT}$$

where I_{TOTAL} is the equivalent output current referred to the main output and P_{TOTAL} is the sum of the output power from both the main output and the secondary output:

$$L_{PRIMARY} = \frac{V_{OUT}(V_{IN(MAX)} - V_{OUT}}{V_{IN(MAX)} \times f \times I_{TOTAL} \times LIR}$$

$$N = \frac{V_{SEC} + V_{FWD}}{V_{OUT(MIN)} + V_{RECT}}$$

where $L_{PRIMARY}$ is the primary inductance, N is the transformer turns ratio, V_{SEC} is the minimum-required rectified secondary voltage, V_{FWD} is the forward drop across the secondary rectifier, $V_{OUT(MIN)}$ is the minimum value of the main output voltage, and V_{RECT} is the on-state voltage drop across the synchronous rectifier MOSFET. The transformer secondary return is often connected to the main output voltage instead of ground to reduce the necessary turns ratio. In this case, subtract V_{OUT} from the secondary voltage (V_{SEC} - V_{OUT}) in the transformer turns-ratio equation above.

The secondary diode in coupled-inductor applications must withstand flyback voltages greater than 60V, which usually rules out most Schottky rectifiers. Common silicon rectifiers, such as the 1N4001, are also prohibited because they are too slow. This often makes fast silicon rectifiers such as the MURS120 the only choice. The flyback voltage across the rectifier is related to the V_{IN} - V_{OUT} difference, according to the transformer turns ratio:

$$V_{FLYBACK} = V_{SEC} + (V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) \times N$$

where N is the transformer turns ratio (secondary windings/primary windings), V_{SEC} is the maximum secondary DC output voltage, and V_{OUT} is the primary (main) output voltage. If the secondary winding is returned to V_{OUT} instead of ground, subtract V_{OUT} from $V_{FLYBACK}$ in the equation above. The diode's reverse breakdown voltage rating must also accommodate any ringing due to leakage inductance. The diode's current rating should be at least twice the DC load current on the secondary output.

The optional linear postregulator must be selected to deliver the required load current from the transformer's rectified DC output. The linear regulator should be configured to run close to dropout to minimize power dissipation and should have good output accuracy under those conditions. Input and output capacitors are chosen to meet line regulation, stability, and transient requirements. There is a wide variety of linear regulators appropriate for this application; consult the specific linear-regulator data sheet for details.

Widely different output loads affect load regulation. In particular, when the secondary output is left unloaded while the main output is fully loaded, the secondary output capacitor may become overcharged by the leakage inductance, reaching voltages much higher than intended. In this case, a minimum load or overvoltage protec-

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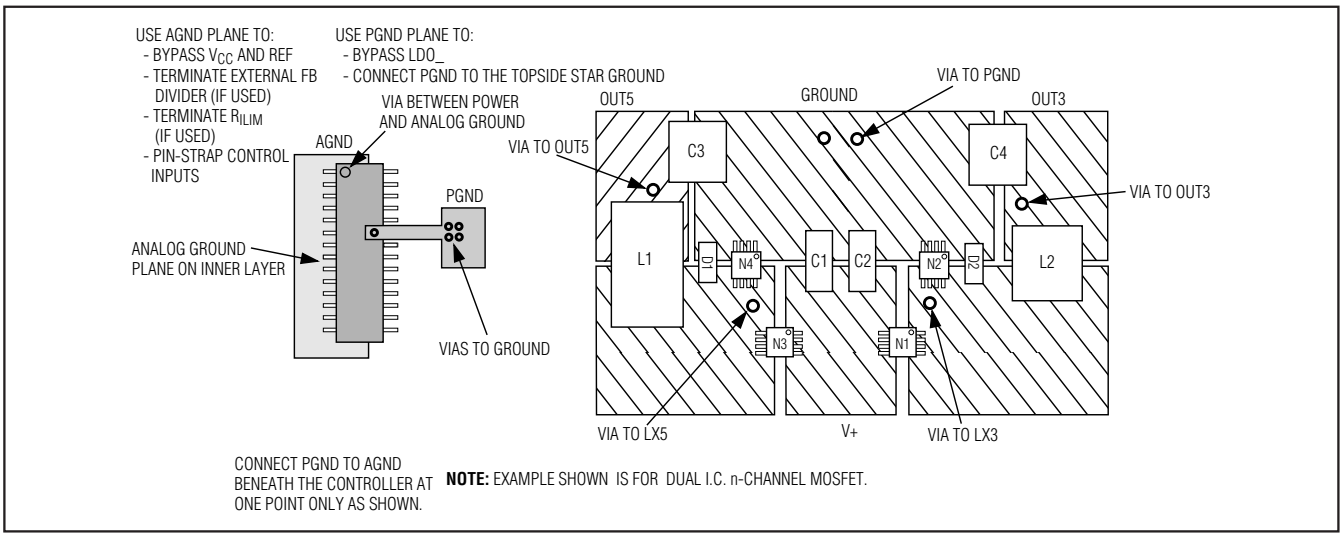


Figure 13. PC Board Layout Example

tion may be required on the secondary output to protect any device connected to this output.

PC Board Layout Guidelines

Careful PC board layout is critical to achieve minimal switching losses and clean, stable operation. This is especially true when multiple converters are on the same PC board where one circuit can affect the other. The switching power stages require particular attention (Figure 13). Refer to the MAX1999 EV kit I.C. data sheet for a specific layout example.

Mount all of the power components on the top side of the board with their ground terminals flush against one another, if possible. Follow these guidelines for good PC board layout:

- Isolate the power components on the top side from the sensitive analog components on the bottom side with a ground shield. Use a separate PGND plane under the OUT3 and OUT5 sides (called PGND3 and PGND5). Avoid the introduction of AC currents into the PGND3 and PGND5 ground planes. Run the power plane ground currents on the top side only, if possible.
- Use a star ground connection on the power plane to minimize the crosstalk between OUT3 and OUT5.
- Keep the high-current paths short, especially at the ground terminals. This practice is essential for stable, jitter-free operation.
- Keep the power traces and load connections short. This practice is essential for high efficiency. Using thick copper PC boards (2oz vs. 1oz) can enhance full-load efficiency by 1% or more. Correctly routing PC board traces must be approached in terms of fractions of centimeters, where a single milliohm of excess trace resistance causes a measurable efficiency penalty.
- CS_ (MAX8732A/MAX8733A)/LX_ (MAX8734A) and GND connections to the synchronous rectifiers for current limiting must be made using Kelvin-sense connections to guarantee the current-limit accuracy. With 8-pin SO MOSFETs, this is best done by routing power to the MOSFETs from outside using the top copper layer, while connecting CS_/LX_ traces inside (underneath) the MOSFETs.
- When trade-offs in trace lengths must be made, it is preferable to allow the inductor charging path to be made longer than the discharge path. For example, it is better to allow some extra distance between the input capacitors and the high-side MOSFET than to allow distance between the inductor and the synchronous rectifier or between the inductor and the output filter capacitor.
- Ensure that the OUT_ connection to $C_{OUT_}$ is short and direct. However, in some cases it may be desirable to deliberately introduce some trace length between the OUT_ connector node and the output filter capacitor (see the *Stability Considerations* section).
- Route high-speed switching nodes (BST_, DH_, LX_, and DL_) away from sensitive analog areas (REF, ILIM_, and FB_). Use PGND3 and PGND5 as an EMI shield to keep radiated switching noise away from the IC's feedback divider and analog bypass capacitors.

- Make all pin-strap control input connections ($\overline{SKIP}$, ILIM_, etc.) to GND or V_{CC} of the device.

Layout Procedure

1) Place the power components first with ground terminals adjacent (N2/N4 source, $C_{IN_}$, $C_{OUT_}$, D1 anode). If possible, make all these connections on the top layer with wide, copper-filled areas.
2) Mount the controller IC adjacent to the synchronous-rectifier MOSFETs, preferably on the back side to keep DH_, GND, and the DL_ gate drive lines short and wide. The DL_ gate trace must be short and wide, measuring 50 mils to 100 mils wide if the MOSFET is 1in from the controller device.
3) Group the gate-drive components (BST_ diode and capacitor, V+ bypass capacitor) together near the controller device.
4) Make the DC-DC controller ground connections as follows: near the device, create a small analog ground plane. Connect the small analog ground plane to GND (Figure 13) and use the plane for the ground connection for the REF and V_{CC} bypass capacitors, FB dividers, and ILIM resistors (if any). Create another small ground island for PGND, and use the plane for the V+ bypass capacitor, placed very close to the device. Connect the AGND and PGND planes together at the GND pin of the device.
5) On the board's top side (power planes), make a star ground to minimize crosstalk between the two sides. The top-side star ground is a star connection of the input capacitors and synchronous rectifiers. Keep the resistance low between the star ground and the source of the synchronous rectifiers for accurate current limit. Connect the top-side star ground (used for MOSFET, input, and output capacitors) to the small island with a single short, wide connection (preferably just a via).

   Create PGND islands on the layer just below the top-side layer (refer to the MAX1999 EV kit for an example) to act as an EMI shield if multiple layers are available (highly recommended). Connect each of these individually to the star ground via, which connects the top side to the PGND plane. Add one more solid ground plane under the device to act as an additional shield, and also connect the solid ground plane to the star ground via.
6) Connect the output power planes (V_{CORE} and system ground planes) directly to the output filter capacitor positive and negative terminals with multiple vias.

Table 5. MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A and MAX1777/MAX1977/MAX1999 Differences

	MAX8732A/MAX8733A/MAX8734A	MAX1777/MAX1977/MAX1999
Line Transient Behavior	Improved line transient behavior requires only a 0.1µF filter capacitor on V+. Allows fast rising-edge line transients of 10V/µs and falling-edge line transients of 5V/µs.	A 4Ω/4.7µF filter capacitor is required on V+ to limit the dV/dt on the V+ pin.
Ultrasonic Mode	Simplified Z pattern offers better efficiency and smoother transition into continuous-conduction mode.	Original "W" pattern conducts through the high-side MOSFET's body diode, reducing efficiency. Transition between ultrasonic mode and continuous-conduction mode is not as smooth.
LDO3 and LDO5 Sequencing	LDO3 starts only after LDO5 is in regulation, reducing the inrush current when $\overline{SHDN}$ goes high.	LDO3 and LDO5 start up together at the current limit of each LDO, causing large inrush currents through the 4Ω series resistor at V+.
Soft-Shutdown Enable Delay	Soft-shutdown (10Ω discharge feature) is enabled immediately when an output is enabled, and is not dependent on the 22ms (typ) startup undervoltage blanking timer.	Soft-shutdown (10Ω discharge feature) is enabled only after the 22ms (typ) startup undervoltage blanking time. This causes DL_ to be driven high if the part is commanded to turn off before the 22ms timer.
High-Output Impedance in UVLO	When LDO5 falls below its 4V (typ) UVLO threshold, DH_ and DL_ are immediately pulled low, and the outputs are high impedance. The outputs are discharged by the load.	When LDO5 falls below its 4V (typ) UVLO threshold, DH_ is immediately pulled low and DL_ forced high to clamp the output rails. This causes the outputs to swing below ground.

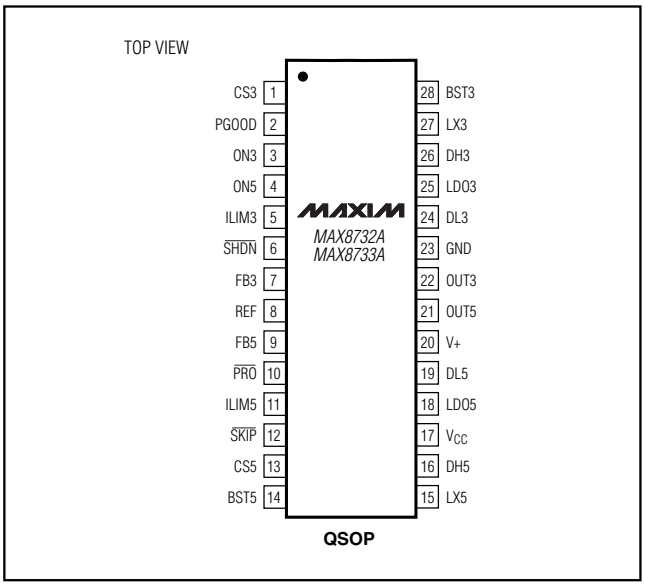
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Ordering Information (continued)

PART	TEMP RANGE	PIN-PACKAGE	5V/3V SWITCHING FREQUENCY (kHz)
MAX8734AEEI+	-40°C to +85°C	28 QSOP	200/300 or 400/500
MAX8734AEEI	-40°C to +85°C	28 QSOP	400kHz/500

+Denotes lead free package.

Pin Configurations (continued)



Chip Information

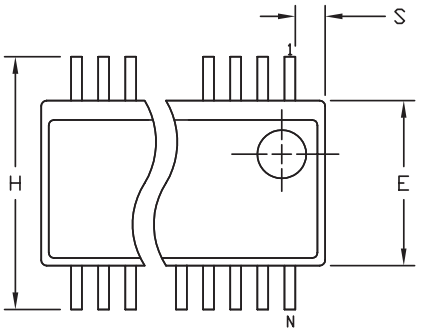
TRANSISTOR COUNT: 8335

PROCESS: BiCMOS

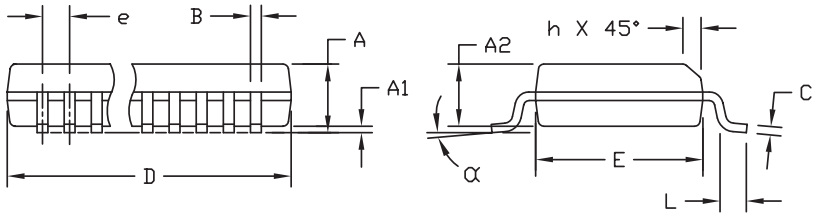
Package Information

(The package drawing(s) in this data sheet may not reflect the most current specifications. For the latest package outline information, go to **www.maxim-ic.com/packages**.)

QSOP.EPS



DIM	INCHES MIN	INCHES MAX	MILLIMETERS MIN	MILLIMETERS MAX
A	.061	.068	1.55	1.73
A1	.004	.0098	0.102	0.249
A2	.055	.061	1.40	1.55
B	.008	.012	0.20	0.30
C	.0075	.0098	0.191	0.249
D	SEE VARIATIONS			
E	.150	.157	3.81	3.99
e	.025 BSC		0.635 BSC	
H	.230	.244	5.84	6.20
h	.010	.016	0.25	0.41
L	.016	.035	0.41	0.89
N	SEE VARIATIONS			
α	0°	8°	0°	8°



VARIATIONS:

	INCHES MIN.	INCHES MAX.	MILLIMETERS MIN.	MILLIMETERS MAX.	N	
D	.189	.196	4.80	4.98	16	AB
S	.0020	.0070	0.05	0.18		
D	.337	.344	8.56	8.74	20	AD
S	.0500	.0550	1.270	1.397		
D	.337	.344	8.56	8.74	24	AE
S	.0250	.0300	0.635	0.762		
D	.386	.393	9.80	9.98	28	AF
S	.0250	.0300	0.635	0.762		

NOTES:
1). D & E DO NOT INCLUDE MOLD FLASH OR PROTRUSIONS.
2). MOLD FLASH OR PROTRUSIONS NOT TO EXCEED .006" PER SIDE.
3). CONTROLLING DIMENSIONS: INCHES.
4). MEETS JEDEC MO137.

DALLAS SEMICONDUCTOR MAXIM
PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

TITLE: PACKAGE OUTLINE, QSOP .150", .025" LEAD PITCH

APPROVAL	DOCUMENT CONTROL NO.	REV.	
	21-0055	E	1/1

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