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FEATURES

- Dual 10A or Single 20A Output
- Input Voltage Range: 4.5V to 15V
- Output Voltage Range: 0.6V to 1.8V
- $\pm 1.5\%$ Maximum Total DC Output Error Over Line, Load and Temperature
- Differential Remote Sense Amplifier
- Current Mode Control/Fast Transient Response
- Adjustable Switching Frequency
- Overcurrent Foldback Protection
- Multiphase Parallel Current Sharing with Multiple LTM4631s
- Frequency Synchronization
- Internal Temperature Monitor
- Selectable Burst Mode[®] Operation
- Soft-Start/Voltage Tracking
- Output Overvoltage Protection
- Ultrathin 16mm \times 16mm \times 1.91mm LGA Package

APPLICATIONS

- Telecom and Networking Equipment
- Storage and ATCA Cards
- Industrial Equipment

DESCRIPTION

The LTM[®]4631 is a dual 10A or single 20A output switching mode step-down DC/DC μ Module[®] (power module) regulator. Included in the package are the switching controller, power FETs, inductors and all supporting components. Operating from an input voltage range of 4.5V to 15V, the LTM4631 supports two outputs each with an output voltage range of 0.6V to 1.8V, each set by a single external resistor. Its high efficiency design delivers up to 10A continuous current for each output. Only a few input and output capacitors are needed.

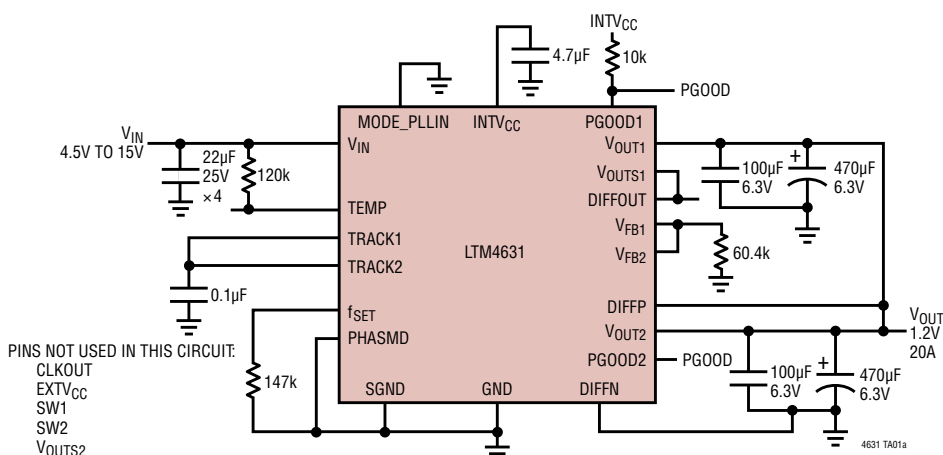
The device supports frequency synchronization, multi-phase operation, Burst Mode operation and output voltage tracking for supply rail sequencing and has an onboard temperature diode for device temperature monitoring. High switching frequency and a current mode architecture enable a very fast transient response to line and load changes without sacrificing stability.

Fault protection features include overvoltage and overcurrent protection. The LTM4631 is offered in an ultrathin 16mm \times 16mm \times 1.91mm LGA package. The LTM4631 is Pb-free and ROHS compliant.

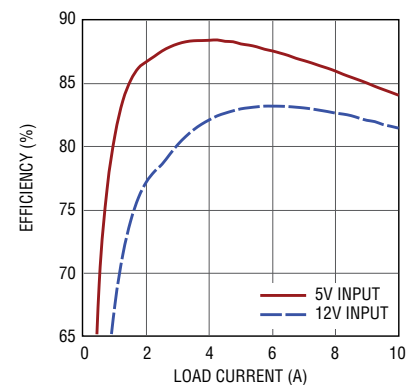
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TYPICAL APPLICATION

20A, 1.2V Output Ultrathin μ Module Regulator



1.2V Output Efficiency vs Load Current



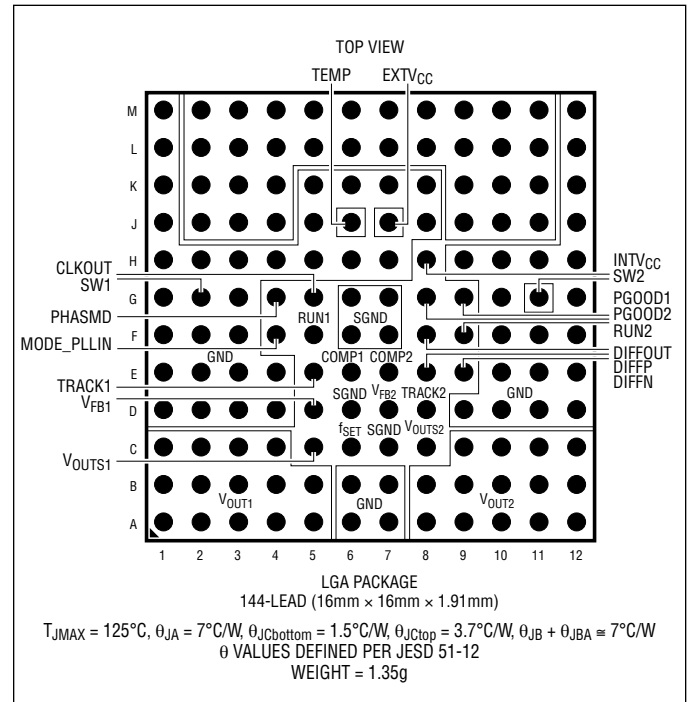
LTM4631

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

(Note 1)

V_{IN}	-0.3V to 16V
V_{SW1} , V_{SW2}	-1V to 16V
PGOOD1, PGOOD2, RUN1, RUN2, INTV _{CC} , EXTV _{CC}	-0.3V to 6V
MODE_PLLIN, f _{SET} , TRACK1, TRACK2, DIFFOUT, PHASMD	-0.3V to INTV _{CC}
V_{OUT1} , V_{OUT2} , V_{OUTS1} , V_{OUTS2} (Note 6)	-0.3V to 6V
DIFFP, DIFFN	-0.3V to INTV _{CC}
COMP1, COMP2, V _{FB1} , V _{FB2} (Note 6)	-0.3V to 2.7V
INTV _{CC} Peak Output Current	100mA
Internal Operating Temperature Range (Note 2)	-40°C to 125°C
Storage Temperature Range	-55°C to 125°C
Peak Package Body Temperature	245°C

PIN CONFIGURATION



ORDER INFORMATION

<http://www.linear.com/product/LTM4631#orderinfo>

PART NUMBER	PAD OR BALL FINISH	PART MARKING*		PACKAGE TYPE	MSL RATING	TEMPERATURE RANGE (Note 2)
		DEVICE	FINISH CODE			
LTM4631EV#PBF	Au (RoHS)	LTM4631V	e4	LGA	3	-40°C to 125°C
LTM4631IV#PBF	Au (RoHS)	LTM4631V	e4	LGA	3	-40°C to 125°C

Consult Marketing for parts specified with wider operating temperature ranges. *Device temperature grade is indicated by a label on the shipping container. Pad or ball finish code is per IPC/JEDEC J-STD-609.

- Terminal Finish Part Marking:
www.linear.com/leadfree

- Recommended LGA and BGA PCB Assembly and Manufacturing Procedures:
www.linear.com/umodule/pcbassembly
- LGA and BGA Package and Tray Drawings:
www.linear.com/packaging

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The ● denotes the specifications which apply over the specified internal operating temperature range. Specified as each individual output channel. $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ (Note 2), $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$ and V_{RUN1} , V_{RUN2} at 5V unless otherwise noted. Per the typical application in Figure 23.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
V_{IN}	Input DC Voltage		● 4.5		15	V
V_{OUT}	Output Voltage		● 0.6		1.8	V
$V_{OUT1(DC)}$, $V_{OUT2(DC)}$	Output Voltage, Total Variation with Line and Load	$C_{IN} = 22\mu\text{F} \times 3$, $C_{OUT} = 100\mu\text{F} \times 1$ Ceramic, 470 μF POSCAP $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$, $I_{OUT} = 0\text{A}$ to 10A	● 1.477	1.5	1.523	V

Input Specifications

V_{RUN1} , V_{RUN2}	RUN Pin On/Off Threshold	RUN Rising	1.1	1.25	1.40	V
$V_{RUN1HYS}$, $V_{RUN2HYS}$	RUN Pin On Hysteresis			150		mV

4631f

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS The ● denotes the specifications which apply over the specified internal operating temperature range. Specified as each individual output channel. $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ (Note 2), $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$ and V_{RUN1} , V_{RUN2} at 5V unless otherwise noted. Per the typical application in Figure 23.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
$I_{INRUSH}(V_{IN})$	Input Inrush Current at Start-Up	$I_{OUT} = 0\text{A}$, $C_{IN} = 22\mu\text{F} \times 3$, $C_{SS} = 0.01\mu\text{F}$, $C_{OUT} = 100\mu\text{F} \times 3$, $V_{OUT1} = 1.5\text{V}$, $V_{OUT2} = 1.5\text{V}$, $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$		200		mA
$I_{Q}(V_{IN})$	Input Supply Bias Current	$V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$, Burst Mode Operation $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$, Pulse-Skipping Mode $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$, Switching Continuous Shutdown, $RUN = 0$, $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$		4 25 65 30		mA mA mA μA
$I_S(V_{IN})$	Input Supply Current	$V_{IN} = 5\text{V}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$, $I_{OUT} = 10\text{A}$ $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$, $I_{OUT} = 10\text{A}$		2.7 1.2		A A
Output Specifications						
$I_{OUT1}(DC)$, $I_{OUT2}(DC)$	Output Continuous Current Range	$V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$ (Note 6)	0		10	A
$\Delta V_{OUT1}(\text{LINE})/V_{OUT1}$ $\Delta V_{OUT2}(\text{LINE})/V_{OUT2}$	Line Regulation Accuracy	$V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$, V_{IN} from 4.5V to 15V $I_{OUT} = 0\text{A}$ for Each Output, ●		0.01	0.025	%/V
$\Delta V_{OUT1}/V_{OUT1}$ $\Delta V_{OUT2}/V_{OUT2}$	Load Regulation Accuracy	For Each Output, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$, 0A to 10A $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$ (Note 6) ●		0.2	0.75	%
$V_{OUT1(AC)}$, $V_{OUT2(AC)}$	Output Ripple Voltage	For Each Output, $I_{OUT} = 0\text{A}$, $C_{OUT} = 100\mu\text{F} \times 3$ / X7R/Ceramic, 470 μF POSCAP, $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$, Frequency = 750kHz		15		mV _{p-p}
f_S (Each Channel)	Output Ripple Voltage Frequency	$V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$, $f_{SET} = \text{INTV}_{CC}$ (Note 4)		750		kHz
f_{SYNC} (Each Channel)	SYNC Capture Range		500		780	kHz
$\Delta V_{OUTSTART}$ (Each Channel)	Turn-On Overshoot	$C_{OUT} = 100\mu\text{F}/\text{X5R}/\text{Ceramic}$, 470 μF POSCAP, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$, $I_{OUT} = 0\text{A}$ $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$		10		mV
t_{START} (Each Channel)	Turn-On Time	$C_{OUT} = 100\mu\text{F}/\text{X5R}/\text{Ceramic}$, 470 μF POSCAP, No Load, TRACK/SS with 0.01 μF to GND, $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$		5		ms
$\Delta V_{OUT(LS)}$ (Each Channel)	Peak Deviation for Dynamic Load	Load: 0% to 50% to 0% of Full Load $C_{OUT} = 22\mu\text{F} \times 3/\text{X5R}/\text{Ceramic}$, 470 μF POSCAP $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$		30		mV
t_{SETTLE} (Each Channel)	Settling Time for Dynamic Load Step	Load: 0% to 50% to 0% of Full Load, $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$, $C_{OUT} = 100\mu\text{F}$, 470 μF POSCAP		20		μs
$I_{OUT(PK)}$ (Each Channel)	Output Current Limit	$V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$		13		A
Control Section						
V_{FB1} , V_{FB2}	Voltage at V_{FB} Pins	$I_{OUT} = 0\text{A}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.5\text{V}$ ●	0.592	0.600	0.606	V
I_{FB}		(Note 5)		-5	-20	nA
V_{OVL}	Feedback Overvoltage Lockout	●	0.64	0.66	0.68	V
TRACK1 (I), TRACK2 (I)	Track Pin Soft-Start Pull-Up Current	TRACK1 (I), TRACK2 (I) Start at 0V	1	1.3	1.5	μA
UVLO	Undervoltage Lockout (Falling)			3.3		V
UVLO Hysteresis				0.6		V
$t_{ON(MIN)}$	Minimum On-Time	(Note 5)		90		ns
R_{FBH1} , R_{FBH2}	Resistor Between V_{OUTS1} , V_{OUTS2} and V_{FB1} , V_{FB2} Pins for Each Output		60.05	60.4	60.75	k Ω
V_{PGOOD1} , V_{PGOOD2} Low	PGOOD Voltage Low	$I_{PGOOD} = 2\text{mA}$		0.1	0.3	V
I_{PGOOD}	PGOOD Leakage Current	$V_{PGOOD} = 5\text{V}$			± 5	μA

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The ● denotes the specifications which apply over the specified internal operating temperature range. Specified as each individual output channel. $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ (Note 2), $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$ and $VRUN1, VRUN2$ at 5V unless otherwise noted. Per the typical application in Figure 23.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
V_{PGOOD}	PGOOD Trip Level	V_{FB} with Respect to Set Output Voltage		-10		%
		V_{FB} Ramping Negative		10		%
		V_{FB} Ramping Positive				

INTV_{CC} Linear Regulator

V_{INTVCC}	Internal V_{CC} Voltage	$6\text{V} < V_{IN} < 15\text{V}$	4.8	5	5.2	V
V_{INTVCC} Load Regulation	INTV _{CC} Load Regulation	$I_{CC} = 0\text{mA}$ to 50mA		0.5	2	%
V_{EXTVCC}	EXTV _{CC} Switchover Voltage	EXTV _{CC} Ramping Positive	4.5	4.7		V
$V_{EXTVCC(DROP)}$	EXTV _{CC} Dropout	$I_{CC} = 20\text{mA}$, $V_{EXTVCC} = 5\text{V}$		50	100	mV
$V_{EXTVCC(HYST)}$	EXTV _{CC} Hysteresis			220		mV

Oscillator and Phase-Locked Loop

Oscillator Frequency	Medium Frequency	$f_{SET} = 1.2\text{V}$	450	500	550	kHz
	Lowest Frequency	$f_{SET} = 0\text{V}$ (Note 4)	210	250	290	kHz
	Highest Frequency	$f_{SET} > 2.4\text{V}$, Up to INTV _{CC}	700	780	860	kHz
f_{SET}	Frequency Set Current		9	10	11	μA
R_{MODE_PLLIN}	MODE_PLLIN Input Resistance			250		k Ω
CLKOUT	Phase (Relative to V_{OUT1})	PHASMD = GND		60		Deg
		PHASMD = Float		90		Deg
		PHASMD = INTV _{CC}		120		Deg
CLK High	Clock High Output Voltage		2			V
CLK Low	Clock Low Output Voltage				0.8	V

Differential Amplifier

A_V Differential Amplifier	Gain			1		V/V
R_{IN}	Input Resistance	Measured at DIFFP Input		80		k Ω
V_{OS}	Input Offset Voltage	$V_{DIFFP} = V_{DIFFOUT} = 1.5\text{V}$, $I_{DIFFOUT} = 100\mu\text{A}$			3	mV
PSRR Differential Amplifier	Power Supply Rejection Ratio	$5\text{V} < V_{IN} < 15\text{V}$		90		dB
I_{CL}	Maximum Output Current			3		mA
$V_{OUT(MAX)}$	Maximum Output Voltage	$I_{DIFFOUT} = 300\mu\text{A}$	INTV _{CC} - 1.4			V
GBW	Gain Bandwidth Product			3		MHz
V_{TEMP}	Diode Connected PNP	$I = 100\mu\text{A}$		0.6		V
TC	Temperature Coefficient		●	-2.2		mV/C

Note 1: Stresses beyond those listed under Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the device. Exposure to any Absolute Maximum Rating condition for extended periods may affect device reliability and lifetime.

Note 2: The LTM4631 is tested under pulsed load conditions such that $T_J \approx T_A$. The LTM4631E is guaranteed to meet specifications from 0°C to 125°C internal temperature. Specifications over the -40°C to 125°C internal operating temperature range are assured by design, characterization and correlation with statistical process controls. The LTM4631I is guaranteed over the full -40°C to 125°C internal operating temperature range. Note that the maximum ambient temperature consistent with these specifications is determined by specific operating conditions in conjunction with board layout, the rated package thermal impedance and other environmental factors.

Note 3: Two outputs are tested separately and the same testing condition is applied to each output.

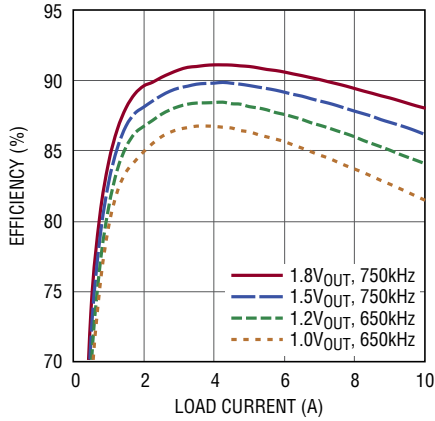
Note 4: Although the switching frequency is programmable from 250kHz to 750kHz, the LTM4631 device is designed to operate from 500kHz to 750kHz for optimized inductor current ripple and efficiency. See the Applications Information section.

Note 5: These parameters are tested at wafer sort.

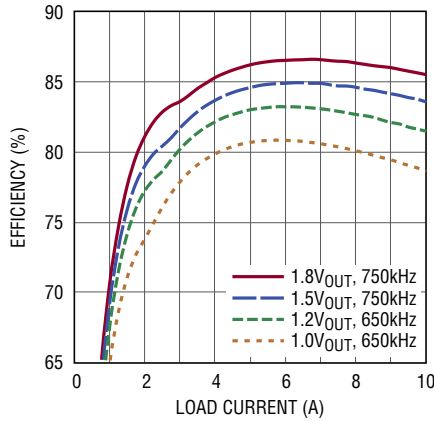
Note 6: See output current derating curves for different V_{IN} , V_{OUT} and T_A .

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

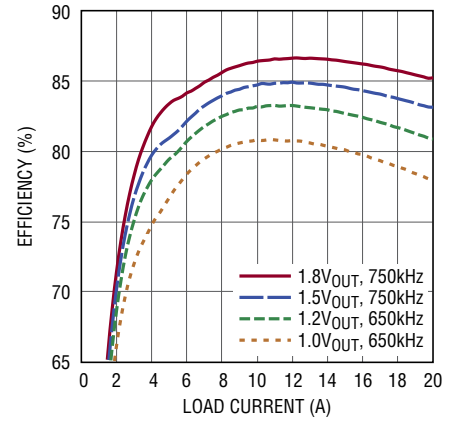
Efficiency vs Output Current, $V_{IN} = 5V$



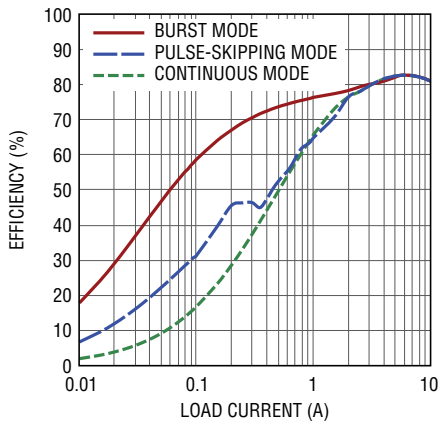
Efficiency vs Output Current, $V_{IN} = 12V$



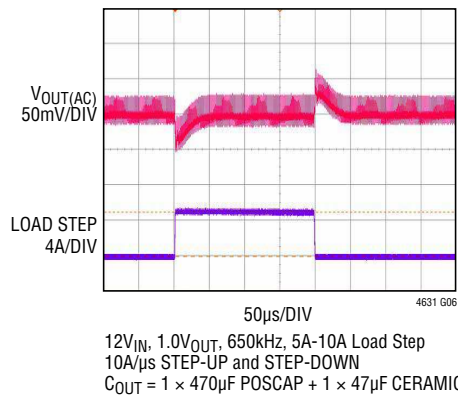
Dual Phase Single Output Efficiency vs Output Current, $V_{IN} = 12V$



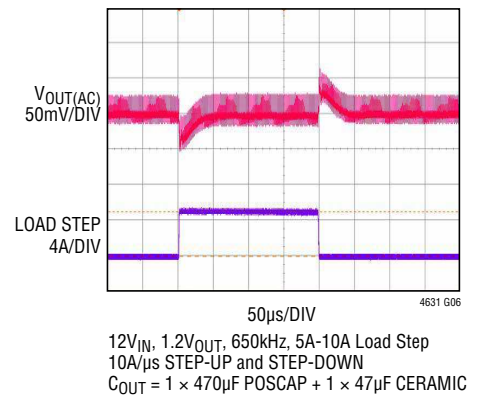
Burst Mode and Pulse-Skip Mode Efficiency $V_{IN}=12V$, $V_{OUT} = 1.2V$, 650kHz



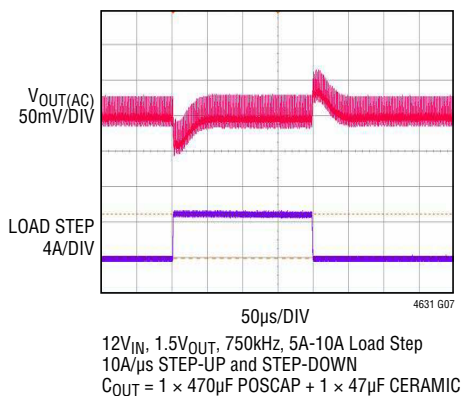
1V Output Single Phase Load Transient Response



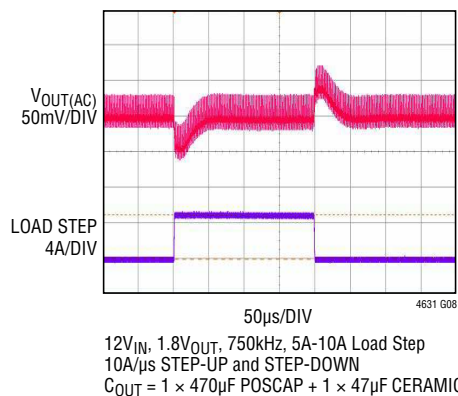
1.2V Output Single Phase Load Transient Response



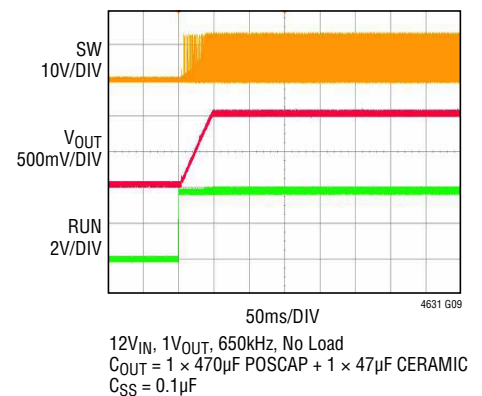
1.5V Output Single Phase Load Transient Response



1.8V Output Single Phase Load Transient Response

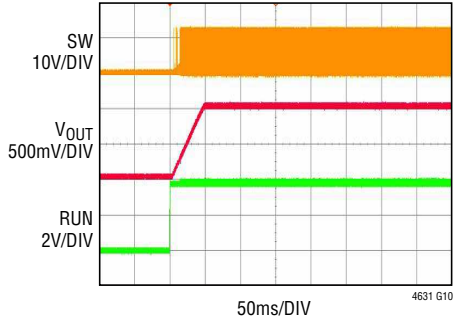


Single Phase Start-Up with No Load Applied



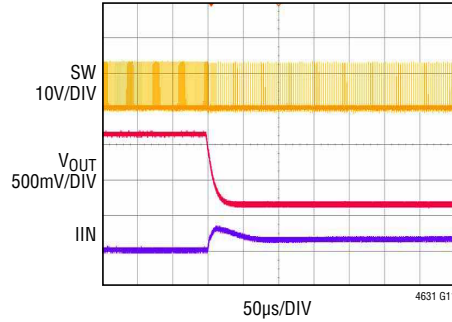
TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Single Phase Start-up with 10A Applied



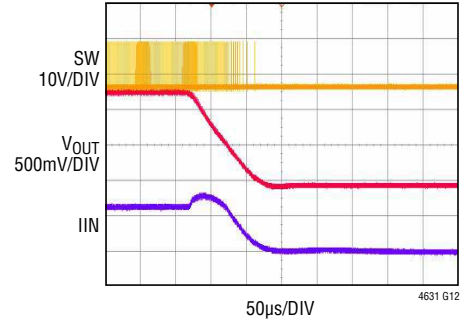
12V_{IN}, 1V_{OUT}, 650kHz, 10A Load
 C_{OUT} = 1 × 470μF POSCAP + 1 × 47μF CERAMIC
 C_{SS} = 0.1μF

Single Phase Short Circuit Protection with No load



12V_{IN}, 1.8V_{OUT}, 750kHz, No Load
 C_{IN} = 2 × 22μF CERAMIC
 C_{OUT} = 1 × 470μF POSCAP + 1 × 47μF CERAMIC

Single Phase Short Circuit Protection with 10A



12V_{IN}, 1.8V_{OUT}, 750kHz, No Load
 C_{IN} = 2 × 22μF CERAMIC
 C_{OUT} = 1 × 470μF POSCAP + 1 × 47μF CERAMIC

PIN FUNCTIONS (Recommended to Use Test Points to Monitor Signal Pin Connections.)



PACKAGE ROW AND COLUMN LABELING MAY VARY AMONG μ Module PRODUCTS. REVIEW EACH PACKAGE LAYOUT CAREFULLY.

V_{OUT1} (A1-A5, B1-B5, C1-C4): Power Output Pins. Apply output load between these pins and GND pins. Recommend placing output decoupling capacitance directly between these pins and GND pins. Review Table 4.

GND (A6-A7, B6-B7, D1-D4, D9-D12, E1-E4, E10-E12, F1-F3, F10-F12, G1, G3, G10, G12, H1-H7, H9-H12, J1, J5, J8, J12, K1, K5-K8, K12, L1, L12, M1, M12): Power Ground Pins for Both Input and Output Returns.

V_{OUT2} (A8-A12, B8-B12, C9-C12): Power Output Pins. Apply output load between these pins and GND pins. Recommend placing output decoupling capacitance directly between these pins and GND pins. Review Table 4.

V_{OUTS1} , V_{OUTS2} (C5, C8): This pin is connected to the top of the internal top feedback resistor for each output. The pin can be directly connected to its specific output, or connected to DIFFOUT when the remote sense amplifier is used. In paralleling modules, one of the V_{OUTS} pins is connected to the DIFFOUT pin in remote sensing or directly to V_{OUT} with no remote sensing. It is very important to connect these pins to either the DIFFOUT or V_{OUT} since this is the feedback path, and cannot be left open. See the Applications Information section.

f_{SET} (C6): Frequency Set Pin. A 10 μ A current is sourced from this pin. A resistor from this pin to ground sets a voltage that in turn programs the operating frequency. Alternatively, this pin can be driven with a DC voltage that can set the operating frequency. See the Applications Information section.

SGND (C7, D6, G6-G7, F6-F7): Signal Ground Pin. Return ground path for all analog and low power circuitry. Tie a single connection to the output capacitor GND in the application. See layout guidelines in Figure 12.

V_{FB1} , V_{FB2} (D5, D7): The Negative Input of the Error Amplifier for Each Channel. Internally, this pin is connected to V_{OUTS1} or V_{OUTS2} with a 60.4k Ω precision resistor. Different output voltages can be programmed with an additional resistor between V_{FB} and GND pins. In PolyPhase[®] operation, tying the V_{FB} pins together allows for parallel operation. See the Applications Information section for details.

TRACK1, TRACK2 (E5, D8): Output Voltage Tracking Pin and Soft-Start Inputs. Each channel has a 1.3 μ A pull-up current source. When one channel is configured to be master of the two channels, then a capacitor from this pin to ground will set a soft-start ramp rate. The remaining channel can be set up as the slave, and have the master's output applied through a voltage divider to the slave output's track pin. This voltage divider is equal to the slave output's feedback divider for coincidental tracking. See the Applications Information section.

COMP1, COMP2 (E6, E7): Current control threshold and error amplifier compensation point for each channel. The current comparator threshold increases with this control voltage. Tie the COMP pins together for parallel operation. The device is internal compensated.

DIFFP (E8): Positive input of the remote sense amplifier. This pin is connected to the remote sense point of the output voltage. See the Applications Information section.

DIFFN (E9): Negative input of the remote sense amplifier. This pin is connected to the remote sense point of the output GND. See the Applications Information section.

MODE_PLLIN (F4): Force Continuous Mode, Burst Mode Operation, or Pulse-Skipping Mode Selection Pin and External Synchronization Input to Phase Detector Pin. Connect this pin to SGND to force both channels into force continuous mode of operation. Connect to INTV_{CC} to enable pulse-skipping mode of operation. Leaving the pin floating will enable Burst Mode operation. A clock on the pin will force both channels into continuous mode of operation and synchronized to the external clock applied to this pin.

PIN FUNCTIONS (Recommended to Use Test Points to Monitor Signal Pin Connections.)

RUN1, RUN2 (F5, F9): Run Control Pin. A voltage above 1.25V will turn on each channel in the module. A voltage below 1.25V on the RUN pin will turn off the related channel. Each RUN pin has a 1 μ A pull-up current, once the RUN pin reaches 1.2V an additional 4.5 μ A pull-up current is added to this pin.

DIFFOUT (F8): Internal Remote Sense Amplifier Output. Connect this pin to V_{OUTS1} or V_{OUTS2} depending on which output is using remote sense. In parallel operation connect one of the V_{OUTS} pin to DIFFOUT for remote sensing.

SW1, SW2 (G2, G11): Switching node of each channel that is used for testing purposes. Also an R-C snubber network can be applied to reduce or eliminate switch node ringing, or otherwise leave floating. See the Applications Information section.

PHASMD (G4): Connect this pin to SGND, INTV_{CC}, or floating this pin to select the phase of CLKOUT to 60 degrees, 120 degrees, and 90 degrees respectively.

CLKOUT (G5): Clock output with phase control using the PHASMD pin to enable multiphase operation between devices. See the Applications Information section.

PGOOD1, PGOOD2 (G9, G8): Output Voltage Power Good Indicator. Open drain logic output that is pulled to ground when the output voltage is not within $\pm 10\%$ of the regulation point.

INTV_{CC} (H8): Internal 5V Regulator Output. The control circuits and internal gate drivers are powered from this voltage. Decouple this pin to PGND with a 4.7 μ F low ESR tantalum or ceramic. INTV_{CC} is activated when either RUN1 or RUN2 is activated.

TEMP (J6): Onboard General Purpose Temperature Diode for Monitoring the VBE Junction Voltage Change with Temperature. See the Applications Information section.

EXTV_{CC} (J7): External power input that is enabled through a switch to INTV_{CC} whenever EXTV_{CC} is greater than 4.7V. Do not exceed 6V on this input, and connect this pin to V_{IN} when operating V_{IN} on 5V. An efficiency increase will occur that is a function of the $(V_{IN} - INTV_{CC})$ multiplied by power MOSFET driver current. Typical current requirement is 30mA. V_{IN} must be applied before EXTV_{CC}, and EXTV_{CC} must be removed before V_{IN} .

V_{IN} (M2-M11, L2-L11, J2-J4, J9-J11, K2-K4, K9-K11): Power Input Pins. Apply input voltage between these pins and GND pins. Recommend placing input decoupling capacitance directly between V_{IN} pins and GND pins.

SIMPLIFIED BLOCK DIAGRAM

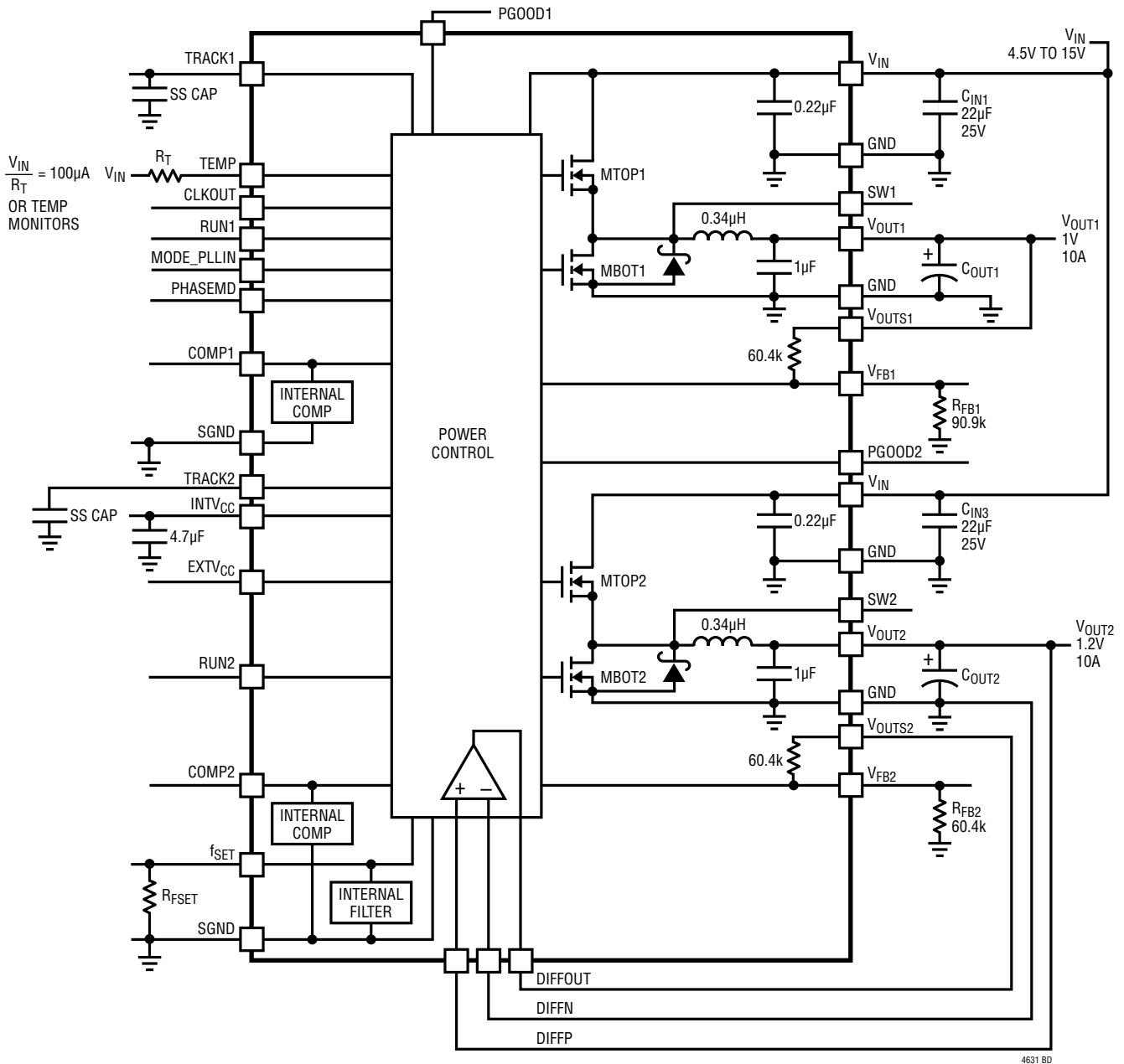


Figure 1. Simplified LTM4631 Block Diagram

DECOUPLING REQUIREMENTS $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$. Use Figure 1 configuration.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
C_{IN1}, C_{IN2} C_{IN3}, C_{IN4}	External Input Capacitor Requirement ($V_{IN1} = 4.5\text{V to }15\text{V}, V_{OUT1} = 1.5\text{V}$) ($V_{IN2} = 4.5\text{V to }15\text{V}, V_{OUT2} = 1.2\text{V}$)	$I_{OUT1} = 10\text{A}$ $I_{OUT2} = 10\text{A}$		22		μF μF
C_{OUT1} C_{OUT2}	External Output Capacitor Requirement ($V_{IN1} = 4.5\text{V to }15\text{V}, V_{OUT1} = 1.5\text{V}$) ($V_{IN2} = 4.5\text{V to }15\text{V}, V_{OUT2} = 1.2\text{V}$)	$I_{OUT1} = 10\text{A}$ $I_{OUT2} = 10\text{A}$		300		μF μF

OPERATION

Power Module Description

The LTM4631 is a dual-output standalone nonisolated switching mode DC/DC power supply. It can provide two 10A outputs with few external input and output capacitors and setup components. This module provides precisely regulated output voltages programmable via external resistors from $0.6V_{DC}$ to $1.8V_{DC}$ over 4.5V to 15V input voltages. The typical application schematic is shown in Figure 23.

The LTM4631 has dual integrated constant-frequency current mode regulators and built-in power MOSFET devices with fast switching speed. The typical switching frequency is 550kHz to 750kHz. For switching-noise sensitive applications, it can be externally synchronized from 500kHz to 780kHz. A resistor can be used to program a free run frequency on the FSET pin. See the Applications Information section.

With current mode control and internal feedback loop compensation, the LTM4631 module has sufficient stability margins and good transient performance with a wide range of output capacitors, even with all ceramic output capacitors.

Current mode control provides cycle-by-cycle fast current limit and foldback current limit in an overcurrent condition. Internal overvoltage and undervoltage comparators pull the open-drain PGOOD outputs low if the output feedback voltage exits a $\pm 10\%$ window around the regulation point. As the output voltage exceeds 10% above regulation, the bottom MOSFET will turn on to clamp the output voltage. The top MOSFET will be turned off. This overvoltage protect is feedback voltage referred.

Pulling the RUN pins below 1.1V forces the regulators into a shutdown state, by turning off both MOSFETs. The TRACK pins are used for programming the output voltage ramp and voltage tracking during start-up or

used for soft-starting the regulator. See the Applications Information section.

The LTM4631 is internally compensated to be stable over all operating conditions. Table 4 provides a guide line for input and output capacitances for several operating conditions. The Linear Technology μ Module Power Design Tool will be provided for transient and stability analysis. The V_{FB} pin is used to program the output voltage with a single external resistor to ground. A differential remote sense amplifier is available for sensing the output voltage accurately on one of the outputs at the load point, or in parallel operation sensing the output voltage at the load point.

Multiphase operation can be easily employed with the MODE_PLLIN, PHASMD, and CLKOUT pins. Up to 12 phases can be cascaded to run simultaneously with respect to each other by programming the PHASMD pin to different levels. See the Applications Information section.

High efficiency at light loads can be accomplished with selectable Burst Mode operation or pulse-skipping operation using the MODE_PLLIN pin. These light load features will accommodate battery operation. Efficiency graphs are provided for light load operation in the Typical Performance Characteristics section. See the Applications Information section for details.

A general purpose temperature diode is included inside the module to monitor the temperature of the module. See the Applications Information section for details.

The switch pins are available for functional operation monitoring and a resistor-capacitor snubber circuit can be carefully placed on the switch pin to ground to dampen any high frequency ringing on the transition edges. See the Applications Information section for details.

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

The typical LTM4631 application circuit is shown in Figure 23. External component selection is primarily determined by the maximum load current and output voltage. Refer to Table 4 for specific external capacitor requirements for particular applications.

V_{IN} to V_{OUT} Step-Down Ratios

There are restrictions in the maximum V_{IN} and V_{OUT} step-down ratio that can be achieved for a given input voltage. Each output of the LTM4631 is capable of 98% duty cycle, but the V_{IN} to V_{OUT} minimum dropout is still shown as a function of its load current and will limit output current capability related to high duty cycle on the top side switch. Minimum on-time $t_{ON(MIN)}$ is another consideration in operating at a specified duty cycle while operating at a certain frequency due to the fact that $t_{ON(MIN)} < D/f_{SW}$, where D is duty cycle and f_{SW} is the switching frequency. $t_{ON(MIN)}$ is specified in the electrical parameters as 90ns.

Output Voltage Programming

The PWM controller has an internal 0.6V reference voltage. As shown in the Block Diagram, a 60.4k Ω internal feedback resistor connects between the V_{OUTS1} to V_{FB1} and V_{OUTS2} to V_{FB2} . It is very important that these pins be connected to their respective outputs for proper feedback regulation. Overvoltage can occur if these V_{OUTS1} and V_{OUTS2} pins are left floating when used as individual regulators, or at least one of them is used in paralleled regulators. The output voltage will default to 0.6V with no feedback resistor on either V_{FB1} or V_{FB2} . Adding a resistor R_{FB} from V_{FB} pin to GND programs the output voltage:

$$V_{OUT} = 0.6V \cdot \frac{60.4k + R_{FB}}{R_{FB}}$$

Table 1. V_{FB} Resistor Table vs Various Output Voltages

V_{OUT}	0.6V	0.9V	1.0V	1.2V	1.5V	1.8V
R_{FB}	Open	121k	90.9k	60.4k	40.2k	30.2k
f_{SW} (Hz)	550k	550k	650k	650k	750k	750k

For parallel operation of multiple channels the same feedback setting resistor can be used for the parallel design. This is done by connecting the V_{OUTS1} to the output as shown in Figure 2, thus tying one of the internal 60.4k resistors to the output. All of the V_{FB} pins tie together with one programming resistor as shown in Figure 2.

In parallel operation, the V_{FB} pins have an I_{FB} current of 20nA maximum each channel. To reduce output voltage error due to this current, an additional V_{OUTS} pin can be tied to V_{OUT} , and an additional R_{FB} resistor can be used to lower the total Thevenin equivalent resistance seen by this current. For example in Figure 2, the total Thevenin equivalent resistance of the V_{FB} pin is $(60.4k//R_{FB})$, which is 30.2k where R_{FB} is equal to 60.4k for a 1.2V output. Four phases connected in parallel equates to a worse case feedback current of $4 \cdot I_{FB} = 80nA$ maximum. The voltage error is $80nA \cdot 30.2k = 2.4mV$. If V_{OUTS2} is connected, as shown in Figure 2, to V_{OUT} , and another 60.4k resistor is connected from V_{FB2} to ground, then the voltage error is reduced to 1.2mV. If the voltage error is acceptable then no additional connections are necessary. The onboard 60.4k resistor is 0.5% accurate and the V_{FB} resistor can be chosen by the user to be as accurate as needed. All COMP pins are tied together for current sharing between the phases. The TRACK/SS pins can be tied together and a single soft-start capacitor can be used to soft-start the regulator. The soft-start equation will need to have the soft-start current parameter increased by the number of paralleled channels. See Output Voltage Tracking section.

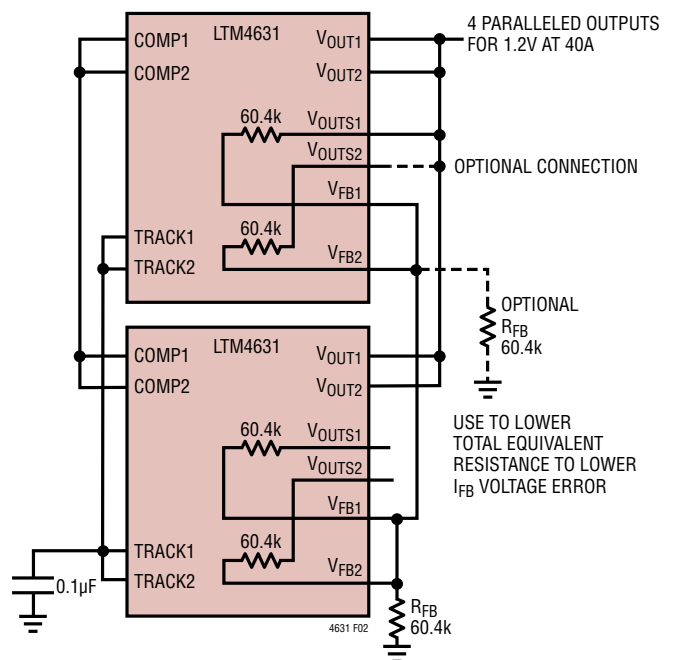


Figure 2. 4-Phase Parallel Configurations

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Input Capacitors

The LTM4631 module should be connected to a low ac-impedance DC source. For the regulator input one 10 μ F to 22 μ F input ceramic capacitor is used for RMS ripple current for each phase. A 47 μ F to 100 μ F surface mount aluminum electrolytic bulk capacitor can be used for more input bulk capacitance. This bulk input capacitor is only needed if the input source impedance is compromised by long inductive leads, traces or not enough source capacitance. If low impedance power planes are used, then this bulk capacitor is not needed.

For a buck converter, the switching duty-cycle can be estimated as:

$$D = \frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN}}$$

Without considering the inductor current ripple, for each output, the RMS current of the input capacitor can be estimated as:

$$I_{CIN(RMS)} = \frac{I_{OUT(MAX)}}{\eta\%} \cdot \sqrt{D \cdot (1-D)}$$

In the above equation, $\eta\%$ is the estimated efficiency of the power module. The bulk capacitor can be a switcher-rated electrolytic aluminum capacitor, Polymer capacitor.

Output Capacitors

The LTM4631 is designed for low output voltage ripple noise and good transient response. The bulk output capacitors defined as C_{OUT} are chosen with low enough effective series resistance (ESR) to meet the output voltage ripple and transient requirements. C_{OUT} can be a low ESR tantalum capacitor, the low ESR polymer capacitor or ceramic capacitor. The typical output capacitance range for each output is 300 μ F. Additional output filtering may be required by the system designer, if further reduction of output ripples or dynamic transient spikes is required. Table 4 shows a matrix of different output voltages and output capacitors to minimize the voltage droop and overshoot during a 5A transient at 10A/ μ s speed. The table optimizes total equivalent ESR and total bulk capacitance to optimize the transient performance. Stability criteria are

considered in the Table 4 matrix, and the Linear Technology LTpowerCAD Design Tool will be provided for stability analysis. Multiphase operation will reduce effective output ripple as a function of the number of phases. Application Note 77 discusses this noise reduction versus output ripple current cancellation, but the output capacitance should be considered carefully as a function of stability and transient response. The Linear Technology μ Module Power Design Tool can calculate the output ripple reduction as the number of implemented phases increases by N times. A small value 10 Ω to 50 Ω resistor can be placed in series from V_{OUT} to the V_{OUTS} pin to allow for a bode plot analyzer to inject a signal into the control loop and validate the regulator stability. The same resistor could be placed in series from V_{OUT} to DIFFP and a bode plot analyzer could inject a signal into the control loop and validate the regulator stability.

Burst Mode Operation

The LTM4631 is capable of Burst Mode operation on each regulator in which the power MOSFETs operate intermittently based on load demand, thus saving quiescent current. For applications where maximizing the efficiency at very light loads is a high priority, Burst Mode operation should be applied. Burst Mode operation is enabled with the MODE_PLLIN pin floating. During this operation, the peak current of the inductor is set to approximately one third of the maximum peak current value in normal operation even though the voltage at the COMP pin indicates a lower value. The voltage at the COMP pin drops when the inductor's average current is greater than the load requirement. As the COMP voltage drops below 0.5V, the BURST comparator trips, causing the internal sleep line to go high and turn off both power MOSFETs.

In sleep mode, the internal circuitry is partially turned off, reducing the quiescent current to about 450 μ A for each output. The load current is now being supplied from the output capacitors. When the output voltage drops, causing COMP to rise above 0.5V, the internal sleep line goes low, and the LTM4631 resumes normal operation. The next oscillator cycle will turn on the top power MOSFET and the switching cycle repeats. Either regulator can be configured for Burst Mode operation.

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Pulse-Skipping Mode Operation

In applications where low output ripple and high efficiency at intermediate currents are desired, pulse-skipping mode should be used. Pulse-skipping operation allows the LTM4631 to skip cycles at low output loads, thus increasing efficiency by reducing switching loss. Tying the MODE_PLLIN pin to INTV_{CC} enables pulse-skipping operation. At light loads the internal current comparator may remain tripped for several cycles and force the top MOSFET to stay off for several cycles, thus skipping cycles. The inductor current does not reverse in this mode. This mode will maintain higher effective frequencies thus lower output ripple and lower noise than Burst Mode operation. Either regulator can be configured for pulse-skipping mode.

Forced Continuous Operation

In applications where fixed frequency operation is more critical than low current efficiency, and where the lowest output ripple is desired, forced continuous operation should be used. Forced continuous operation can be enabled by tying the MODE_PLLIN pin to GND. In this mode, inductor current is allowed to reverse during low output loads, the COMP voltage is in control of the current comparator threshold throughout, and the top MOSFET always turns on with each oscillator pulse. During start-up, forced continuous mode is disabled and inductor current is prevented from reversing until the LTM4631's output voltage is in regulation. Either regulator can be configured for force continuous mode.

Multiphase Operation

For output loads that demand more than 10A of current, two outputs in LTM4631 or even multiple LTM4631s can be paralleled to run out of phase to provide more output current without increasing input and output voltage ripples. The MODE_PLLIN pin allows the LTM4631 to synchronize to an external clock (between 400kHz and 780kHz) and the internal phase-locked-loop allows the LTM4631 to lock onto incoming clock phase as well. The CLKOUT signal can be connected to the MODE_PLLIN pin of the following stage to line up both the frequency and the phase of the entire system. Tying the PHASMD pin to INTV_{CC}, SGND, or (floating) generates a phase difference (between

MODE_PLLIN and CLKOUT) of 120 degrees, 60 degrees, or 90 degrees respectively. A total of 12 phases can be cascaded to run simultaneously with respect to each other by programming the PHASMD pin of each LTM4631 channel to different levels. Figure 3 shows a 2-phase design, 4-phase design and a 6-phase design example for clock phasing with the PHASMD table.

A multiphase power supply significantly reduces the amount of ripple current in both the input and output capacitors. The RMS input ripple current is reduced by, and the effective ripple frequency is multiplied by, the number of phases used (assuming that the input voltage is greater than the number of phases used times the output voltage). The output ripple amplitude is also reduced by the number of phases used when all of the outputs are tied together to achieve a single high output current design.

The LTM4631 device is an inherently current mode controlled device, so parallel modules will have very good current sharing. This will balance the thermals on the design. Figure 26 shows an example of parallel operation and pin connection.

Input RMS Ripple Current Cancellation

Application Note 77 provides a detailed explanation of multiphase operation. The input RMS ripple current cancellation mathematical derivations are presented, and a graph is displayed representing the RMS ripple current reduction as a function of the number of interleaved phases. Figure 4 shows this graph.

PLL, Frequency Adjustment and Synchronization

The LTM4631 switching frequency is set by a resistor (R_{fSET}) from the f_{SET} pin to signal ground. A 10 μ A current (I_{FREQ}) flowing out of the f_{SET} pin through R_{fSET} develops a voltage on f_{SET} . R_{fSET} can be calculated as:

$$R_{fSET} = \left[\frac{FREQ}{500kHz/V} + 0.2V \right] \frac{1}{10\mu A}$$

The relationship of f_{SET} voltage to switching frequency is shown in Figure 5. For low output voltages from 0.6V to 0.9V, 550kHz operation is an optimal frequency for the

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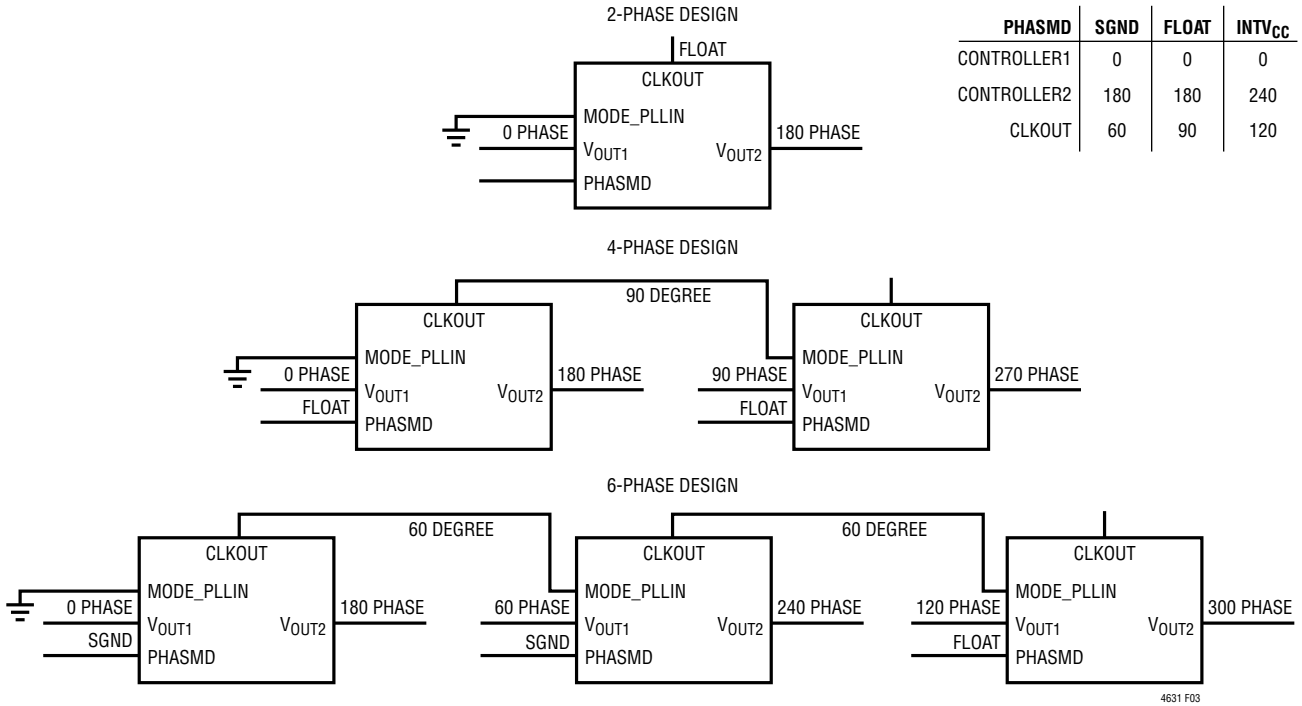


Figure 3. Examples of 2-Phase, 4-Phase, and 6-Phase Operation with PHASMD Table

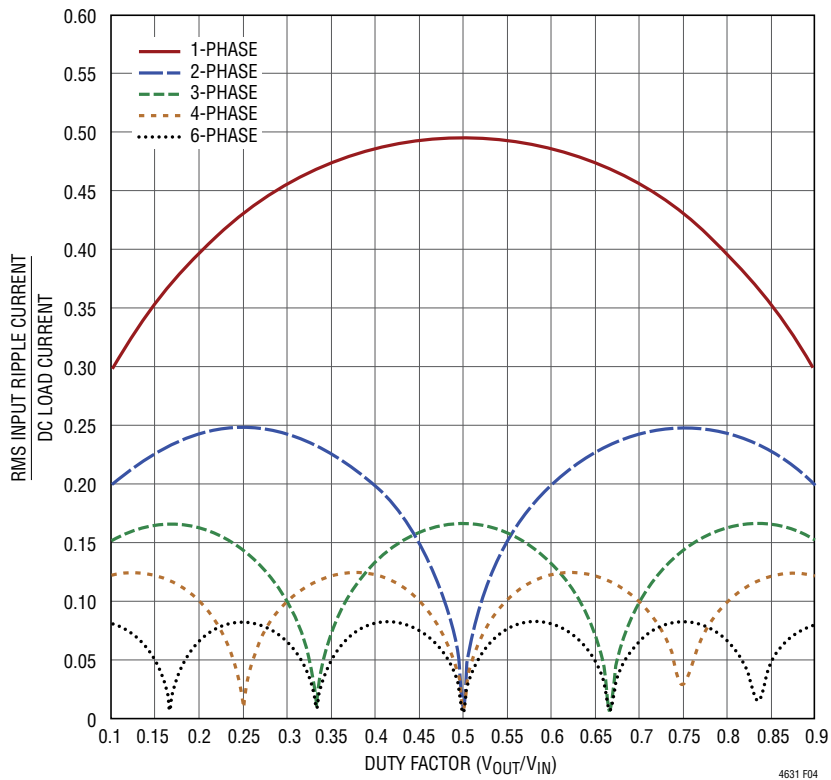


Figure 4. Input RMS Current Ratios to DC Load Current as a Function of Duty Cycle

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best power conversion efficiency while maintaining the inductor current to about 30% to 40% of maximum load current. 650kHz is the optimal frequency for output voltages from 1.0V to 1.4V and 750kHz is the optimal frequency for output voltages from 1.5V to 1.8V. See efficiency graphs for optimal frequency set point.

V _{OUT}	0.6V – 0.9V	1.0V – 1.4V	1.5V – 1.8V
OPTIMAL FREQUENCY	550kHz	650kHz	750kHz

The LTM4631 can be synchronized from 500kHz to 780kHz with an input clock that has a high level above 2V and a low level below 0.8V. The LTM4631 has the PLL loop filter components on board. The frequency setting resistor should always be present to set the initial switching frequency before locking to an external clock. The LTM4631 will operate in continuous mode while being externally clock.

The output of the PLL phase detector has a pair of complementary current sources that charge and discharge the internal filter network. When the external clock is applied then the f_{SET} frequency resistor is disconnected with an internal switch, and the current sources control the frequency adjustment to lock to the incoming external clock. When no external clock is applied, then the internal switch is on, thus connecting the external f_{SET} frequency set resistor for free run operation.

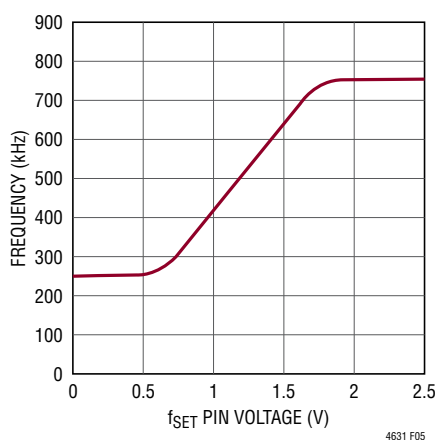


Figure 5. Operating Frequency vs f_{SET} Pin Voltage

Minimum On-Time

Minimum on-time t_{ON} is the smallest time duration that the LTM4631 is capable of turning on the top MOSFET on

either channel. It is determined by internal timing delays, and the gate charge required turning on the top MOSFET. Low duty cycle applications may approach this minimum on-time limit and care should be taken to ensure that:

$$\frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN} \cdot \text{FREQ}} > t_{ON(MIN)}$$

If the duty cycle falls below what can be accommodated by the minimum on-time, the controller will begin to skip cycles. The output voltage will continue to be regulated, but the output ripple and current will increase. The on-time can be increased by lowering the switching frequency. A good rule of thumb is to keep on-time longer than 90ns.

Output Voltage Tracking

Output voltage tracking can be programmed externally using the TRACK pins. The output can be tracked up and down with another regulator. The master regulator's output is divided down with an external resistor divider that is the same as the slave regulator's feedback divider to implement coincident tracking. The LTM4631 uses an accurate 60.4k resistor internally for the top feedback resistor for each channel. Figure 6 shows an example of coincident tracking. Equations:

$$\text{SLAVE} = \left(1 + \frac{60.4k}{R_{TA}}\right) \cdot V_{TRACK}$$

V_{TRACK} is the track ramp applied to the slave's track pin. V_{TRACK} has a control range of 0V to 0.6V, or the internal reference voltage. When the master's output is divided down with the same resistor values used to set the slave's output, then the slave will coincident track with the master until it reaches its final value. The master will continue to its final value from the slave's regulation point. Voltage tracking is disabled when V_{TRACK} is more than 0.6V. R_{TA} in Figure 6 will be equal to the R_{FB} for coincident tracking. Figure 7 shows the coincident tracking waveforms.

The TRACK pin of the master can be controlled by a capacitor placed on the master regulator TRACK pin to ground. A 1.3μA current source will charge the TRACK pin up to the reference voltage and then proceed up to INTV_{CC}. After the 0.6V ramp, the TRACK pin will no longer be in control, and the internal voltage reference

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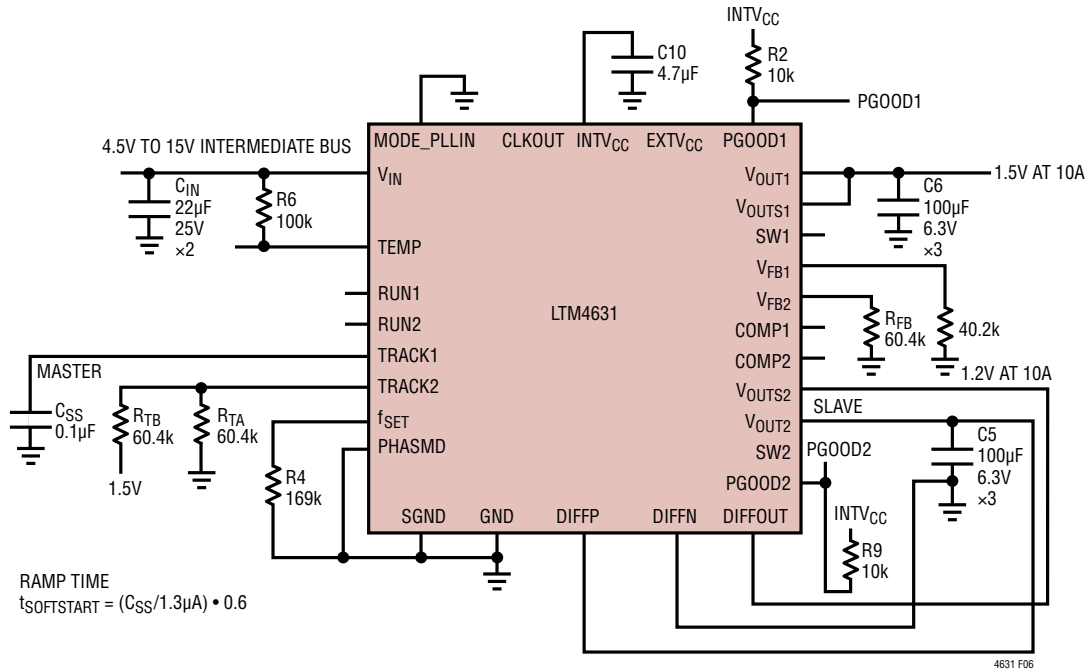


Figure 6. Example of Output Tracking Application Circuit

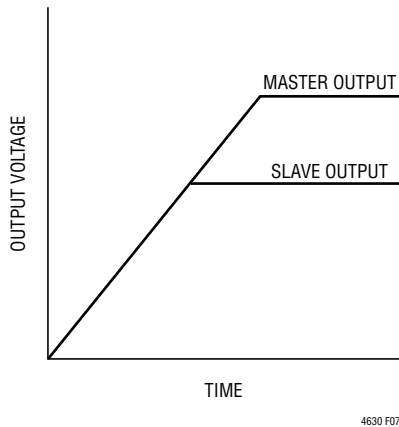


Figure 7. Output Coincident Tracking Waveform

will control output regulation from the feedback divider. Foldback current limit is disabled during this sequence of turn-on during tracking or soft-starting. The TRACK pins are pulled low when the RUN pin is below 1.2V. The total soft-start time can be calculated as:

$$t_{\text{SOFT-START}} = \left(\frac{C_{\text{SS}}}{1.3\mu\text{A}} \right) \cdot 0.6$$

Regardless of the mode selected by the MODE_PLLIN pin, the regulator channels will always start in pulse-skipping mode up to TRACK = 0.5V. Between TRACK = 0.5V and 0.54V, it will operate in forced continuous mode and revert to the selected mode once TRACK > 0.54V. In order to track with another channel once in steady state operation, the LTM4631 is forced into continuous mode operation as soon as VFB is below 0.54V regardless of the setting on the MODE_PLLIN pin.

Ratiometric tracking can be achieved by a few simple calculations and the slew rate value applied to the master's TRACK pin. As mentioned above, the TRACK pin has a control range from 0 to 0.6V. The master's TRACK pin slew rate is directly equal to the master's output slew rate in Volts/Time. The equation:

$$\frac{\text{MR}}{\text{SR}} \cdot 60.4\text{k} = R_{\text{TB}}$$

where MR is the master's output slew rate and SR is the slave's output slew rate in Volts/Time. When coincident

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tracking is desired, then MR and SR are equal, thus R_{TB} is equal the 60.4k. R_{TA} is derived from equation:

$$R_{TA} = \frac{0.6V}{\frac{V_{FB}}{60.4k} + \frac{V_{FB} - V_{TRACK}}{R_{TB}}}$$

where V_{FB} is the feedback voltage reference of the regulator, and V_{TRACK} is 0.6V. Since R_{TB} is equal to the 60.4k top feedback resistor of the slave regulator in equal slew rate or coincident tracking, then R_{TA} is equal to R_{FB} with $V_{FB} = V_{TRACK}$. Therefore $R_{TB} = 60.4k$, and $R_{TA} = 60.4k$ in Figure 6.

In ratiometric tracking, a different slew rate maybe desired for the slave regulator. R_{TB} can be solved for when SR is slower than MR. Make sure that the slave supply slew rate is chosen to be fast enough so that the slave output voltage will reach it final value before the master output.

For example, MR = 1.5V/1ms, and SR = 1.2V/1ms. Then $R_{TB} = 76.8k$. Solve for R_{TA} to equal to 49.9k.

Each of the TRACK pins will have the 1.3 μ A current source on when a resistive divider is used to implement tracking on that specific channel. This will impose an offset on the TRACK pin input. Smaller values resistors with the same ratios as the resistor values calculated from the above equation can be used. For example, where the 60.4k is used then a 6.04k can be used to reduce the TRACK pin offset to a negligible value.

Power Good

The PGOOD pins are open drain pins that can be used to monitor valid output voltage regulation. This pin monitors a 10% window around the regulation point. A resistor can be pulled up to a particular supply voltage no greater than 6V maximum for monitoring.

Stability Compensation

The module has already been internally compensated for all output voltages. Table 4 is provided for most application requirements. The Linear Technology μ Module Power Design Tool will be provided for other control loop optimization.

Run Enable

The RUN pins have an enable threshold of 1.4V maximum, typically 1.25V with 150mV of hysteresis. They control the turn on each of the channels and $INTV_{CC}$. These pins can be pulled up to V_{IN} for 5V operation, or a 5V Zener diode can be placed on the pins and a 10k to 100k resistor can be placed up to higher than 5V input for enabling the channels. The RUN pins can also be used for output voltage sequencing. In parallel operation the RUN pins can be tie together and controlled from a single control. See the Typical Application circuits in Figure 23.

$INTV_{CC}$ and $EXTV_{CC}$

The LTM4631 module has an internal 5V low dropout regulator that is derived from the input voltage. This regulator is used to power the control circuitry and the power MOSFET drivers. This regulator can source up to 70mA, and typically uses ~30mA for powering the device at the maximum frequency. This internal 5V supply is enabled by either RUN1 or RUN2.

$EXTV_{CC}$ allows an external 5V supply to power the LTM4631 and reduce power dissipation from the internal low dropout 5V regulator. The power loss savings can be calculated by:

$$(V_{IN} - 5V) \cdot 30mA = PLOSS$$

$EXTV_{CC}$ has a threshold of 4.7V for activation, and a maximum rating of 6V. When using a 5V input, connect this 5V input to $EXTV_{CC}$ also to maintain a 5V gate drive level. $EXTV_{CC}$ must sequence on after V_{IN} , and $EXTV_{CC}$ must sequence off before V_{IN} .

Differential Remote Sense Amplifier

An accurate differential remote sense amplifier is provided to sense low output voltages accurately at the remote load points. This is especially true for high current loads. The amplifier can be used on one of the two channels, or on a single parallel output. It is very important that the DIFFP and DIFFN are connected properly at the output, and DIFFOUT is connected to either V_{OUTS1} or V_{OUTS2} . In parallel operation, the DIFFP and DIFFN are connected properly at the output, and DIFFOUT is connected to one of the V_{OUTS} pins. Review the parallel schematics in Figure 24 and review Figure 2.

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SW Pins

The SW pins are generally for testing purposes by monitoring these pins. These pins can also be used to dampen out switch node ringing caused by LC parasitic in the switched current paths. Usually a series R-C combination is used called a snubber circuit. The resistor will dampen the resonance and the capacitor is chosen to only affect the high frequency ringing across the resistor. If the stray inductance or capacitance can be measured or approximated then a somewhat analytical technique can be used to select the snubber values. The inductance is usually easier to predict. It combines the power path board inductance in combination with the MOSFET interconnect bond wire inductance.

First the SW pin can be monitored with a wide bandwidth scope with a high frequency scope probe. The ring frequency can be measured for its value. The impedance Z can be calculated:

$$ZL = 2\pi fL,$$

where f is the resonant frequency of the ring, and L is the total parasitic inductance in the switch path. If a resistor is selected that is equal to Z, then the ringing should be dampened. The snubber capacitor value is chosen so that its impedance is equal to the resistor at the ring frequency. Calculated by: $ZC = 1/(2\pi fC)$. These values are a good place to start with. Modification to these components should be made to attenuate the ringing with the least amount of power loss.

Temperature Monitoring

Measuring the absolute temperature of a diode is possible due to the relationship between current, voltage and temperature described by the classic diode equation:

$$I_D = I_S \cdot e \left(\frac{V_D}{\eta \cdot V_T} \right) \text{ or } V_D = \eta \cdot V_T \cdot \ln \frac{I_D}{I_S}$$

where I_D is the diode current, V_D is the diode voltage, η is the ideality factor (typically close to 1.0) and I_S (saturation current) is a process dependent parameter. V_T can be broken out to:

$$V_T = \frac{k \cdot T}{q}$$

where T is the diode junction temperature in Kelvin, q is the electron charge and k is Boltzmann's constant. V_T is approximately 26mV at room temperature (298K) and scales linearly with Kelvin temperature. It is this linear temperature relationship that makes diodes suitable temperature sensors. The I_S term in the previous equation is the extrapolated current through a diode junction when the diode has zero volts across the terminals. The I_S term varies from process to process, varies with temperature, and by definition must always be less than I_D . Combining all of the constants into one term:

$$K_D = \frac{\eta \cdot k}{q}$$

where $K_D = 8.62 \cdot 10^{-5}$, and knowing $\ln(I_D/I_S)$ is always positive because I_D is always greater than I_S , leaves us with the equation that:

$$V_D = T(\text{KELVIN}) \cdot K_D \cdot \ln \frac{I_D}{I_S}$$

where V_D appears to increase with temperature. It is common knowledge that a silicon diode biased with a current source has an approximate $-2\text{mV}/^\circ\text{C}$ temperature relationship (Figure 8), which is at odds with the equation. In fact, the I_S term increases with temperature, reducing the $\ln(I_D/I_S)$ absolute value yielding an approximate $-2\text{mV}/^\circ\text{C}$ composite diode voltage slope.

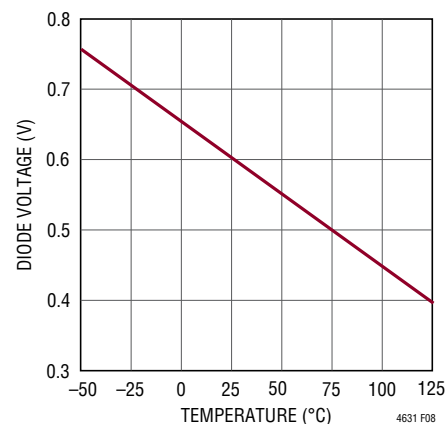


Figure 8. Diode Voltage V_D vs Temperature T(K) for Different Bias Currents

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To obtain a linear voltage proportional to temperature we cancel the I_S variable in the natural logarithm term to remove the I_S dependency from the equation 1. This is accomplished by measuring the diode voltage at two currents I_1 , and I_2 , where $I_1 = 10 \cdot I_2$ and subtracting we get:

$$\Delta V_D = T(\text{KELVIN}) \cdot K_D \cdot \ln \frac{I_1}{I_S} - T(\text{KELVIN}) \cdot K_D \cdot \ln \frac{I_2}{I_S}$$

Combining like terms, then simplifying the natural log terms yields:

$$\Delta V_D = T(\text{KELVIN}) \cdot K_D \cdot \ln(10)$$

and redefining constant

$$K'_D = K_D \cdot \ln(10) = \frac{198\mu\text{V}}{\text{K}}$$

yields

$$\Delta V_D = K'_D \cdot T(\text{KELVIN})$$

Solving for temperature:

$$T(\text{KELVIN}) = \frac{\Delta V_D}{K'_D} \text{ (°CELSIUS)} = T(\text{KELVIN}) - 273.15$$

where

$$300^\circ\text{K} = 27^\circ\text{C}$$

means that is we take the difference in voltage across the diode measured at two currents with a ratio of 10, the resulting voltage is 198 μV per Kelvin of the junction with a zero intercept at 0 Kelvin.

The diode connected PNP transistor between the TEMP pin and the SGND pin can be used to monitor the internal temperature of the LTM4631. See Figure 24 for an example.

Thermal Considerations and Output Current Derating

The thermal resistances reported in the Pin Configuration section of the data sheet are consistent with those parameters defined by JESD51-9 and are intended for use with finite element analysis (FEA) software modeling tools that leverage the outcome of thermal modeling, simulation, and correlation to hardware evaluation performed on a μModule package mounted to a hardware test board—also

defined by JESD51-9 (“Test Boards for Area Array Surface Mount Package Thermal Measurements”). The motivation for providing these thermal coefficients is found in JESD 51-12 (“Guidelines for Reporting and Using Electronic Package Thermal Information”).

Many designers may opt to use laboratory equipment and a test vehicle such as the demo board to anticipate the μModule regulator’s thermal performance in their application at various electrical and environmental operating conditions to compliment any FEA activities. Without FEA software, the thermal resistances reported in the Pin Configuration section are in-and-of themselves not relevant to providing guidance of thermal performance; instead, the derating curves provided in the data sheet can be used in a manner that yields insight and guidance pertaining to one’s application-usage, and can be adapted to correlate thermal performance to one’s own application.

The Pin Configuration section typically gives four thermal coefficients explicitly defined in JESD 51-12; these coefficients are quoted or paraphrased below:

1. θ_{JA} , the thermal resistance from junction to ambient, is the natural convection junction-to-ambient air thermal resistance measured in a one cubic foot sealed enclosure. This environment is sometimes referred to as “still air” although natural convection causes the air to move. This value is determined with the part mounted to a JESD 51-9 defined test board, which does not reflect an actual application or viable operating condition.
2. $\theta_{JCbottm}$, the thermal resistance from junction to the bottom of the product case, is the junction-to-board thermal resistance with all of the component power dissipation flowing through the bottom of the package. In the typical μModule , the bulk of the heat flows out the bottom of the package, but there is always heat flow out into the ambient environment. As a result, this thermal resistance value may be useful for comparing packages but the test conditions don’t generally match the user’s application.
3. θ_{JCTOP} , the thermal resistance from junction to top of the product case, is determined with nearly all of the component power dissipation flowing through the top of the package. As the electrical connections of the

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typical μ Module are on the bottom of the package, it is rare for an application to operate such that most of the heat flows from the junction to the top of the part. As in the case of $\theta_{JC\text{BOTTOM}}$, this value may be useful for comparing packages but the test conditions don't generally match the user's application.

- θ_{JB} , the thermal resistance from junction to the printed circuit board, is the junction-to-board thermal resistance where almost all of the heat flows through the bottom of the μ Module and into the board, and is really the sum of the $\theta_{JC\text{bottom}}$ and the thermal resistance of the bottom of the part through the solder joints and through a portion of the board. The board temperature is measured a specified distance from the package, using a two sided, two layer board. This board is described in JESD 51-9.

A graphical representation of the aforementioned thermal resistances is given in Figure 9; blue resistances are contained within the μ Module regulator, whereas green resistances are external to the μ Module.

As a practical matter, it should be clear to the reader that no individual or sub-group of the four thermal resistance parameters defined by JESD 51-12 or provided in the Pin Configuration section replicates or conveys normal operating conditions of a μ Module. For example, in normal board-mounted applications, never does 100% of the device's total power loss (heat) thermally conduct exclusively through the top or exclusively through bottom of the

μ Module—as the standard defines for $\theta_{JC\text{top}}$ and $\theta_{JC\text{bottom}}$, respectively. In practice, power loss is thermally dissipated in both directions away from the package—granted, in the absence of a heat sink and airflow, a majority of the heat flow is into the board.

Within a SIP (system-in-package) module, be aware there are multiple power devices and components dissipating power, with a consequence that the thermal resistances relative to different junctions of components or die are not exactly linear with respect to total package power loss. To reconcile this complication without sacrificing modeling simplicity—but also, not ignoring practical realities—an approach has been taken using FEA software modeling along with laboratory testing in a controlled-environment chamber to reasonably define and correlate the thermal resistance values supplied in this data sheet: (1) Initially, FEA software is used to accurately build the mechanical geometry of the μ Module and the specified PCB with all of the correct material coefficients along with accurate power loss source definitions; (2) this model simulates a software-defined JEDEC environment consistent with JESD51-9 to predict power loss heat flow and temperature readings at different interfaces that enable the calculation of the JEDEC-defined thermal resistance values; (3) the model and FEA software is used to evaluate the μ Module with heat sink and airflow; (4) having solved for and analyzed these thermal resistance values and simulated various operating conditions in the software model, a thorough laboratory evaluation replicates the simulated conditions with thermocouples within a controlled-environment

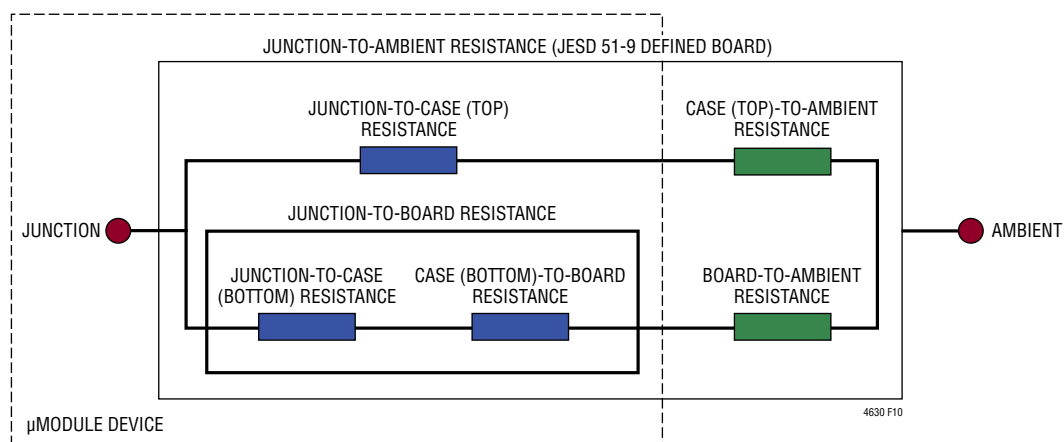


Figure 9. Graphical Representation of JESD51-12 Thermal Coefficients

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chamber while operating the device at the same power loss as that which was simulated. An outcome of this process and due-diligence yields a set of derating curves provided in other sections of this data sheet. After these laboratory test have been performed and correlated to the μ Module model, then the θ_{JB} and θ_{BA} are summed together to correlate quite well with the μ Module model with no airflow or heat sinking in a properly define chamber. This $\theta_{JB} + \theta_{BA}$ value is shown in the Pin Configuration section and should accurately equal the θ_{JA} value because approximately 100% of power loss flows from the junction through the board into ambient with no airflow or top mounted heat sink. Each system has its own thermal characteristics, therefore thermal analysis must be performed by the user in a particular system.

The LTM4631 module has been designed to effectively remove heat from both the top and bottom of the package. The bottom substrate material has very low thermal resistance to the printed circuit board. An external heat sink can be applied to the top of the device for excellent heat sinking with airflow.

Figures 10 and 11 show temperature plots of the LTM4631 doing a paralleled 12V to 1.0V at 20A design with no airflow and 12V to 1.8V at 20A design with 200LFM airflow.

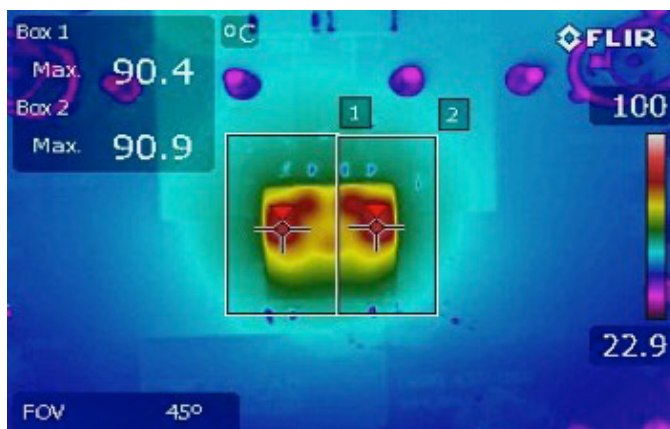


Figure 10. Thermal Image 12V to 1.0V, 20A with No Air Flow and No Heat Sink

Safety Considerations

The LTM4631 modules do not provide isolation from V_{IN} to V_{OUT} . There is no internal fuse. If required, a slow blow fuse with a rating twice the maximum input current needs to be provided to protect each unit from catastrophic failure. The device does support over current protection. A temperature diode is provided for monitoring internal temperature, and can be used to detect the need for thermal shutdown that can be done by controlling the RUN pin.

Power Derating

The 1.0V and 1.5V power loss curves in Figures 13 and 14 can be used in coordination with the load current derating curves in Figures 15 to 22 for calculating an approximate θ_{JA} thermal resistance for the LTM4631 with various heat sinking and airflow conditions. The power loss curves are taken at room temperature, and are increased with a 1.20 multiplicative factor at 125°C.

The derating curves are plotted with CH1 and CH2 in parallel single output operation starting at 20A of load with low ambient temperature. The output voltages are 1.0V and 1.5V. These are chosen to include the lower and higher output voltage ranges for correlating the thermal resistance. Thermal models are derived from several temperature measurements in a controlled temperature chamber along with thermal modeling analysis.

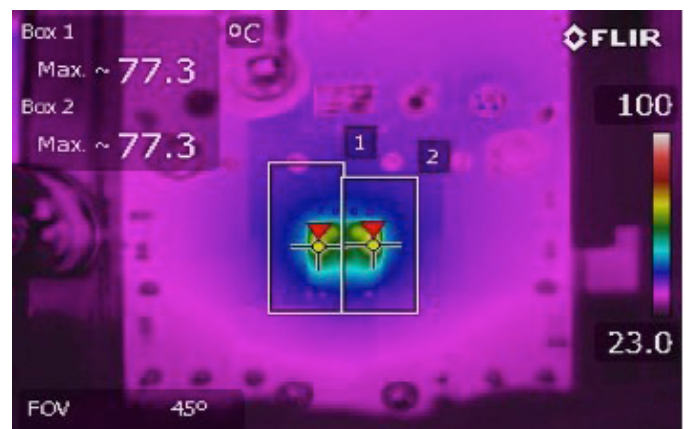


Figure 11. Thermal Image 12V to 1.8V, 20A with 200LFM and No Heat Sink

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The junction temperatures are monitored while ambient temperature is increased with and without airflow. The power loss increase with ambient temperature change is factored into the derating curves. The junctions are maintained at $\sim 120^{\circ}\text{C}$ maximum while lowering output current or power while increasing ambient temperature. The decreased output current will decrease the internal module loss as ambient temperature is increased.

The monitored junction temperature of 120°C minus the ambient operating temperature specifies how much module temperature rise can be allowed. As an example in Figure 15, the load current is derated to $\sim 14\text{A}$ at $\sim 90^{\circ}\text{C}$ with 200LFM air flow or no heat sink and the power loss for the 12V to 1.0V at 14A output is a $\sim 4.1\text{W}$ loss. The 4.1W loss is calculated with the $\sim 3.4\text{W}$ room temperature loss from the 12V to 1.0V power loss curve at 14A, and the 1.20 multiplying factor at 120°C junction temperature. If the 90°C ambient temperature is subtracted from the 120°C junction temperature, then the difference of 30°C divided 4.1W equals a $7.3^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{W}$ θ_{JA} thermal resistance. Table 2 specifies a $7.5^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{W}$ value which is pretty close. The airflow graphs are more accurate due to the fact that the ambient temperature environment is controlled better with airflow. Tables 2 and 3 provide equivalent thermal resistances for 1.0V and 1.5V outputs with and without airflow and heat sinking.

The derived thermal resistances in Tables 2 and 3 for the various conditions can be multiplied by the calculated power loss as a function of ambient temperature to derive temperature rise above ambient, thus maximum junction temperature. Room temperature power loss can be derived from the efficiency curves and adjusted with the above ambient temperature multiplicative factors. The printed circuit board is a 1.6mm thick four layer board with two ounce copper for the two outer layers and one ounce copper for the two inner layers. The PCB dimensions are $101\text{mm} \times 114\text{mm}$. The BGA heat sinks are listed in Table 3.

Layout Checklist/Example

The high integration of LTM4631 makes the PCB board layout very simple and easy. However, to optimize its electrical and thermal performance, some layout considerations are still necessary.

- Use large PCB copper areas for high current paths, including V_{IN} , GND, V_{OUT1} and V_{OUT2} . It helps to minimize the PCB conduction loss and thermal stress.
- Place high frequency ceramic input and output capacitors next to the V_{IN} , PGND and V_{OUT} pins to minimize high frequency noise.
- Place a dedicated power ground layer underneath the unit.
- To minimize the via conduction loss and reduce module thermal stress, use multiple vias for interconnection between top layer and other power layers.
- Do not put via directly on the pad, unless they are capped or plated over.
- Use a separated SGND ground copper area for components connected to signal pins. Connect the SGND to GND underneath the unit.
- For parallel modules, tie the V_{OUT} , V_{FB} , and COMP pins together. Use an internal layer to closely connect these pins together. The TRACK pin can be tied a common capacitor for regulator soft-start.
- Bring out test points on the signal pins for monitoring.

Figure 12 gives a good example of the recommended layout.

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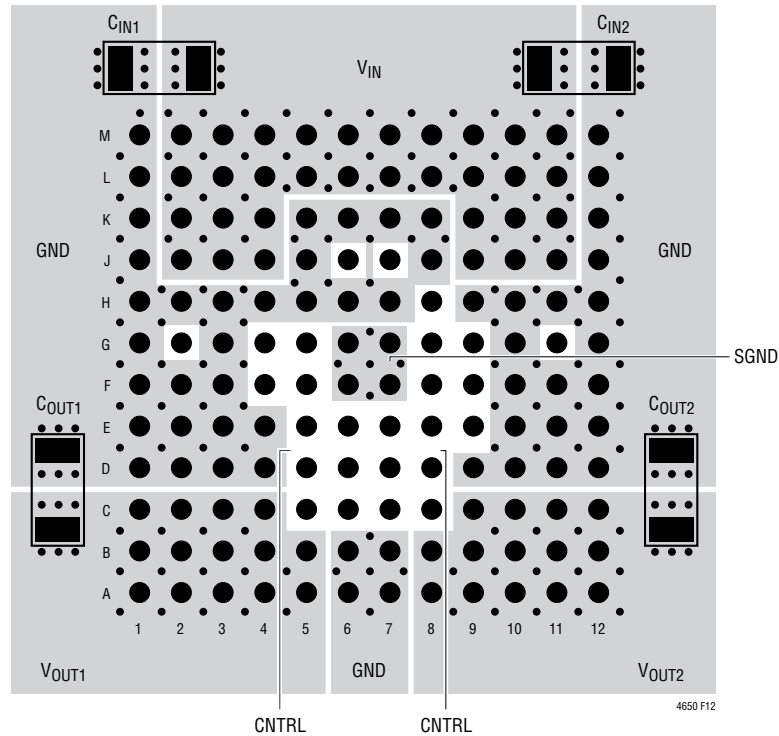


Figure 12. Recommended PCB Layout

Table 2. 1.0V Output

DERATING CURVE	V _{IN} (V)	POWER LOSS CURVE	AIRFLOW (LFM)	HEAT SINK	θ _{JA} (°C/W)
Figures 15, 16	5, 12	Figure 13	0	None	10
Figures 15, 16	5, 12	Figure 13	200	None	7.5
Figures 15, 16	5, 12	Figure 13	400	None	6.5
Figures 17, 18	5, 12	Figure 13	0	BGA Heat Sink	9
Figures 17, 18	5, 12	Figure 13	200	BGA Heat Sink	6.5
Figures 17, 18	5, 12	Figure 13	400	BGA Heat Sink	5.5

Table 3. 1.5V Output

DERATING CURVE	V _{IN} (V)	POWER LOSS CURVE	AIRFLOW (LFM)	HEAT SINK	θ _{JA} (°C/W)
Figures 19, 20	5, 12	Figure 14	0	None	10
Figures 19, 20	5, 12	Figure 14	200	None	7.5
Figures 19, 20	5, 12	Figure 14	400	None	6.5
Figures 21, 22	5, 12	Figure 14	0	BGA Heat Sink	9
Figures 21, 22	5, 12	Figure 14	200	BGA Heat Sink	6.5
Figures 21, 22	5, 12	Figure 14	400	BGA Heat Sink	5.5

HEAT SINK MANUFACTURER

PART NUMBER

WEBSITE

Aavid Thermalloy

375424B00034G

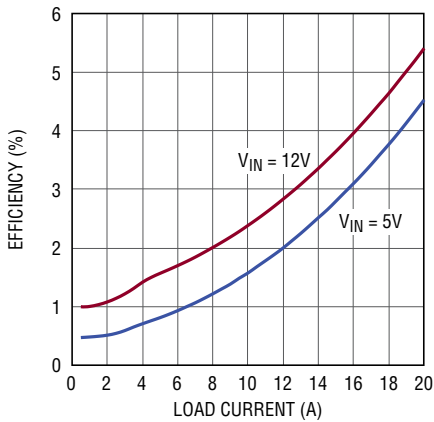
www.aavid.com

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Table 4. Output Voltage Response vs Component Matrix (Refer to Figure 23) 0A to 5A Load Step Typical Measured Values

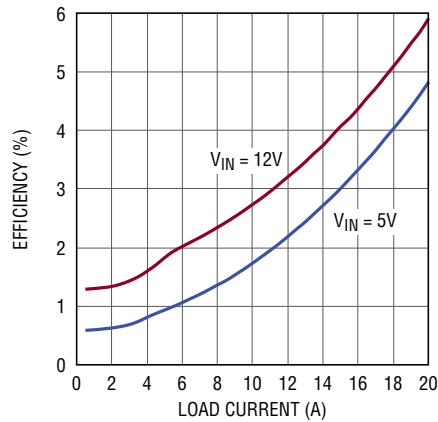
VENDORS	VALUE	PART NUMBER
TDK, C _{OUT} Ceramic	100μF 6.3V	C4532X5R0J107MZ
Murata, C _{OUT} Ceramic	100μF 6.3V	GRM32ER60J107M
AVX, C _{OUT} Ceramic	100μF 6.3V	18126D107MAT
Panasonic POSCAP, C _{OUT} Bulk	470μF 2R5	2R5TPE470M9
TDK C _{IN} Ceramic	22μF 25V	C3216X5R1E226M160AB

V _{OUT} (V)	C _{IN} (CERAMIC)	C _{IN} (BULK)	C _{OUT} (CERAMIC)	C _{OUT} (BULK)	C _{FF} (pF)	V _{IN} (V)	DROOP (mV)	P-P DEVIATION (mV)	RECOVERY TIME (μs)	LOAD STEP (A)	LOAD STEP (A/μs)	R _{FB} (kΩ)	FREQ (kHz)
1	22μF	None	100μF	470μF	None	5, 12	0	106	30	5	10	90.9	650
1	22μF	None	100μF × 4	None	4.7	5, 12	0	98	30	5	10	90.9	650
1.2	22μF	None	100μF	470μF	None	5, 12	0	116	30	5	10	60.4	650
1.2	22μF	None	100μF × 4	None	4.7	5, 12	0	117	30	5	10	60.4	650
1.5	22μF	None	100μF	470μF	None	5, 12	0	120	40	5	10	40.2	750
1.5	22μF	None	100μF × 4	None	4.7	5, 12	0	130	40	5	10	40.2	750
1.8	22μF	None	100μF	470μF	None	5, 12	0	131	50	5	10	30.2	750
1.8	22μF	None	100μF × 4	None	4.7	5, 12	0	142	50	5	10	30.2	750



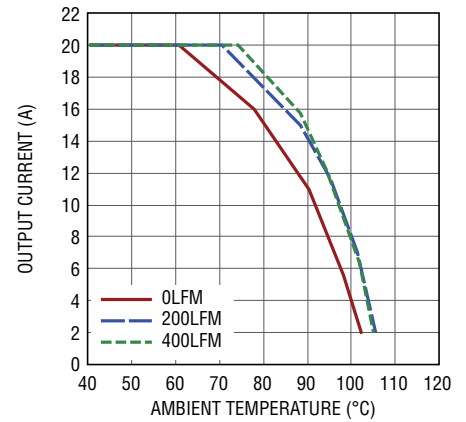
4631 F13

Figure 13. 1.0V Output Power Loss Curve



4631 F14

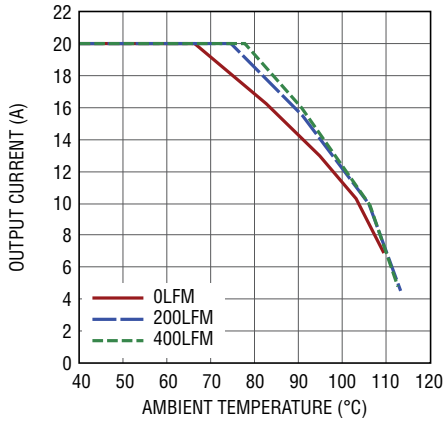
Figure 14. 1.5V Output Power Loss Curve



4631 F15

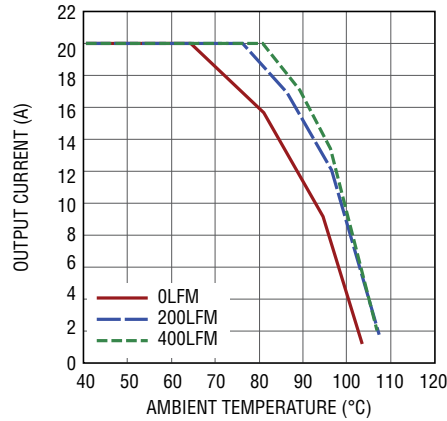
Figure 15. 12V to 1V Derating Curve, No Heat Sink

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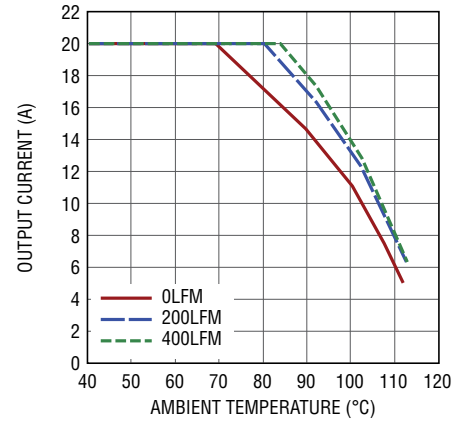
4631 F16

Figure 16. 5V to 1V Derating Curve, No Heat Sink



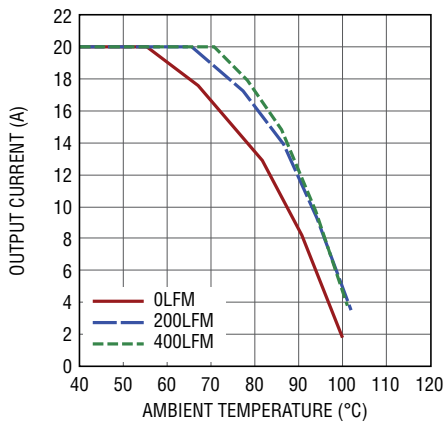
4631 F17

Figure 17. 12V to 1V Derating Curve, BGA Heat Sink



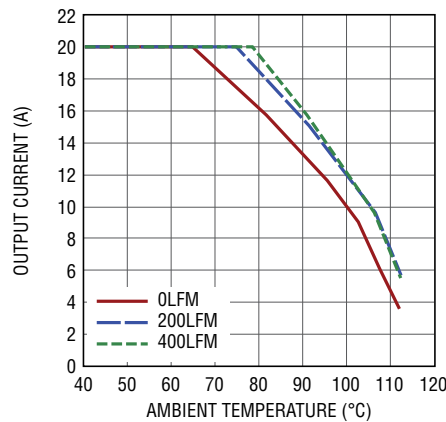
4631 F18

Figure 18. 5V to 1V Derating Curve, BGA Heat Sink



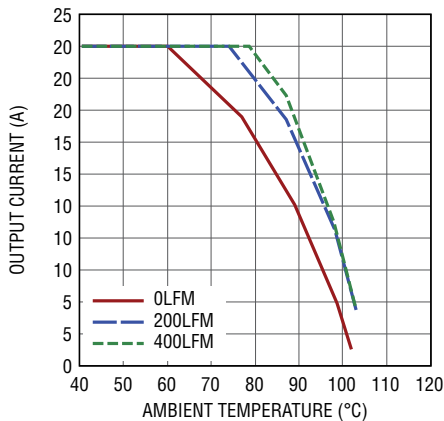
4631 F19

Figure 19. 12V to 1.5V Derating Curve, No Heat Sink



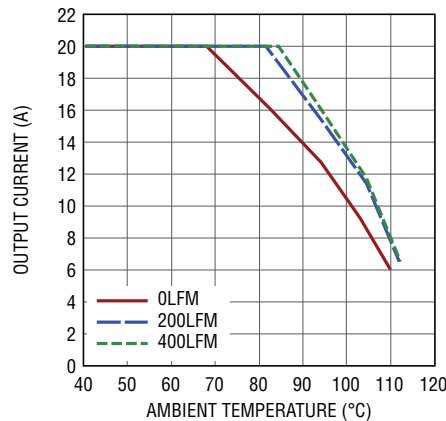
4631 F20

Figure 20. 5V to 1.5V Derating Curve, No Heat Sink



4631 F21

Figure 21. 12V to 1.5V Derating Curve, BGA Heat Sink



4631 F22

Figure 22. 5V to 1.5V Derating Curve, BGA Heat Sink