

1.5MHz, 600mA Synchronous Step-Down Regulator with Bypass Transistor

January 2003

FEATURES

- Dynamically Adjustable Output from 0.3V to 3.5V
- Very Low Quiescent Current: Only 20 μ A During Operation
- 600mA Output Current
- P-Channel MOSFET Bypass Transistor
- High Efficiency: Up to 96%
- 1.5MHz Constant Frequency Operation
- No Schottky Diode Required
- Low Dropout Operation: 100% Duty Cycle
- 2.5V to 5V Input Voltage Range
- Shutdown Mode Draws <1 μ A Supply Current
- Current Mode Operation for Excellent Line and Load Transient Response
- Overtemperature Protected
- Available in 8-Lead 3mm \times 3mm DFN Package

APPLICATIONS

- WCDMA Cell Phone Power Amplifiers
- Wireless Modems

DESCRIPTION

The LTC[®]3403 is a high efficiency monolithic synchronous buck regulator optimized for WCDMA power amplifier applications. The output voltage can be dynamically programmed from 0.3V to 3.5V. At $V_{OUT} > 3.6V$ an internal bypass P-channel MOSFET transistor connects V_{OUT} directly to V_{IN} eliminating power loss through the inductor. Selectable forced continuous mode enables fast V_{OUT} response to the controlling input.

Supply current is only 20 μ A in Burst Mode[®] operation and drops to <1 μ A in shutdown. The 2.5V to 5V input voltage range makes the LTC3403 ideally suited for single Li-Ion battery-powered applications. 100% duty cycle provides low dropout operation, extending battery life in portable systems.

Switching frequency is internally set at 1.5MHz, allowing the use of small surface mount inductors and capacitors. The internal synchronous switch increases efficiency and eliminates the need for an external Schottky diode.

The LTC3403 is available in a low profile 8-lead 3mm \times 3mm DFN package.

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TYPICAL APPLICATION

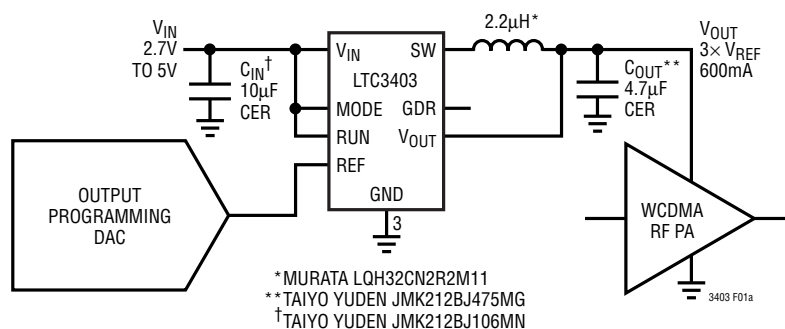


Figure 1a. WCDMA Transmitter Power Supply

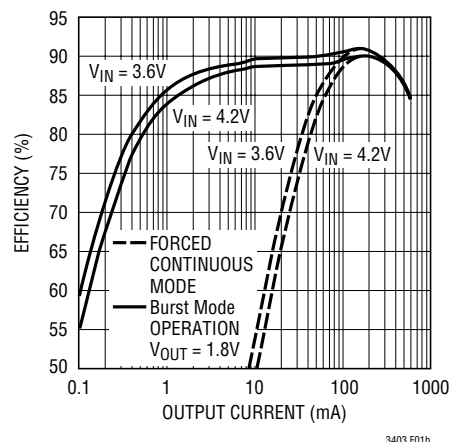


Figure 1b. Efficiency vs Output Current

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

(Note 1)

Input Supply Voltage (< 300 μ s)	–0.3V to 6V
Input Supply Voltage (DC)	–0.3V to 5.5V
RUN, REF, MODE, V _{OUT} , GDR Voltages	–0.3V to V _{IN}
SW Voltage	–0.3V to (V _{IN} + 0.3V)
P-Channel Switch Source Current (DC)	800mA
N-Channel Switch Sink Current (DC)	800mA
Peak SW Sink and Source Current	1.3A
Operating Temperature Range (Note 2) ..	–40°C to 85°C
Junction Temperature (Note 3)	125°C
Storage Temperature Range	–65°C to 150°C

PACKAGE/ORDER INFORMATION

<p>TOP VIEW</p> <p>DD PACKAGE 8-LEAD (3mm × 3mm) PLASTIC DFN T_{JMAX} = 125°C, θ_{JA} = 43°C/W</p>	ORDER PART NUMBER
	LTC3403EDD
	DD PART MARKING
	LAAX

Consult LTC Marketing for parts specified with wider operating temperature ranges.

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The ● denotes specifications which apply over the full operating temperature range, otherwise specifications are T_A = 25°C. V_{IN} = 3.6V unless otherwise specified.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
V _{OUT}	Regulated Output Voltage	V _{REF} = 1.1V, MODE = V _{IN} V _{REF} = 0.1V, MODE = V _{IN}	● ●	3.23 0.25	3.3 0.3	3.37 0.35	V V
ΔV _{OUT}	Output Voltage Line Regulation	V _{IN} = 2.5V to 5V	●		0.1	0.4	%/V
I _{PK}	Peak Inductor Current	V _{IN} = 3V, V _{REF} = 0.9V		0.70	1	1.25	A
V _{LOADREG}	Output Voltage Load Regulation				0.7		%
V _{IN}	Input Voltage Range		●	2.5		5	V
I _S	Input DC Operating Current Burst Mode Operation Forced Continuous Mode Operation Shutdown	MODE = 0V, SW = Open MODE = V _{IN} , SW = Open V _{RUN} = 0V, V _{IN} = 5.5V			20 1.5 0.1	35 2.5 1	μA mA μA
f _{OSC}	Oscillator Frequency	V _{REF} ≥ 0.25V V _{REF} ≤ 0.1V	●	1.2 550	1.5 700	1.8 850	MHz kHz
V _{REF}	Bypass PFET Turn-Off Threshold	V _{REF} = \overline{L}		1.167	1.2		V
	Bypass PFET Turn-On Threshold	V _{REF} = \overline{A}			1.21	1.26	V
R _{PFET}	R _{DS(ON)} of P-Channel FET	I _{SW} = 100mA, Wafer Level I _{SW} = 100mA, DD Package			0.3 0.4	0.4	Ω Ω
R _{NFET}	R _{DS(ON)} of N-Channel FET	I _{SW} = −100mA, Wafer Level I _{SW} = −100mA, DD Package			0.3 0.4	0.4	Ω Ω
R _{BYPASS}	R _{DS(ON)} of Bypass P-Channel FET	I _{OUT} = 100mA, V _{IN} = 3V, Wafer Level I _{OUT} = 100mA, V _{IN} = 3V, DD Package			0.15 0.20	0.18	Ω Ω
I _{LSW}	SW Leakage	V _{RUN} = 0V, V _{SW} = 0V or 5V, V _{IN} = 5V			±0.01	±1	μA
I _{LBYP}	Bypass PFET Leakage	V _{OUT} = 0V, V _{IN} = 5V, V _{REF} = 0V			±0.01	±1	μA
V _{RUN}	RUN Threshold		●	0.3	1	1.5	V
I _{RUN}	RUN Input Current		●		±0.01	±1	μA
V _{MODE}	MODE Threshold		●	0.3	1.5	2	V
I _{MODE}	MODE Input Current		●		±0.01	±1	μA
I _{REF}	REF Input Current		●		±0.01	±1	μA

Note 1: Absolute Maximum Ratings are those values beyond which the life of a device may be impaired.

Note 2: The LTC3403E is guaranteed to meet performance specifications from 0°C to 70°C. Specifications over the –40°C to 85°C operating

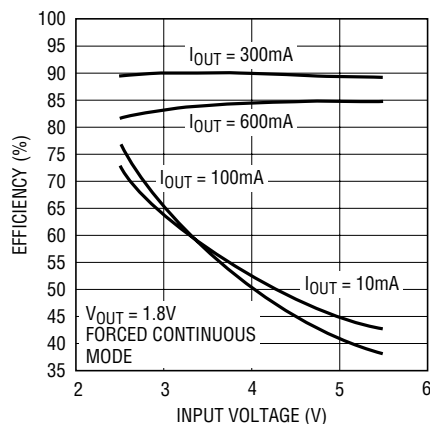
temperature range are assured by design, characterization and correlation with statistical process controls.

Note 3: T_J is calculated from the ambient temperature T_A and power dissipation P_D according to the following formula:

$$T_{J} = T_{A} + (P_{D}) / (??^{\circ}\text{C/W})$$

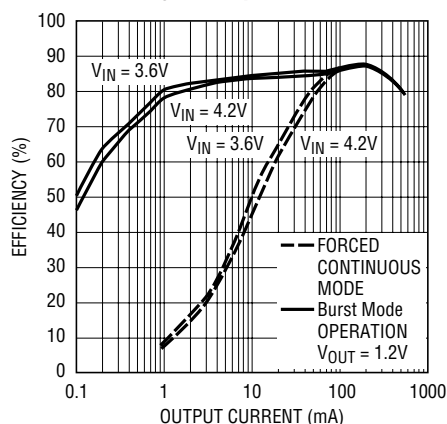
TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS (From Figure 1a)

Efficiency vs Input Voltage



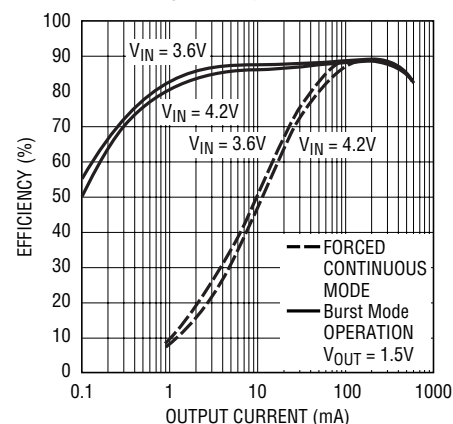
3403 G01

Efficiency vs Output Current



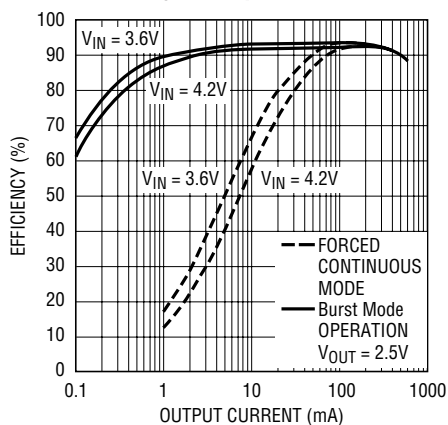
3403 G02

Efficiency vs Output Current



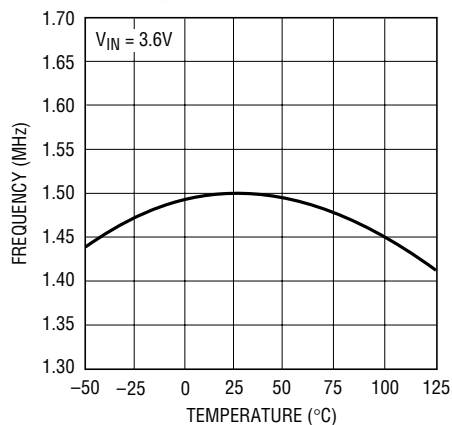
3403 G03

Efficiency vs Output Current



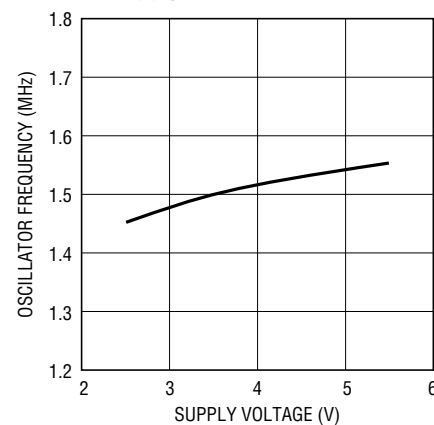
3403 G04

Oscillator Frequency vs Temperature



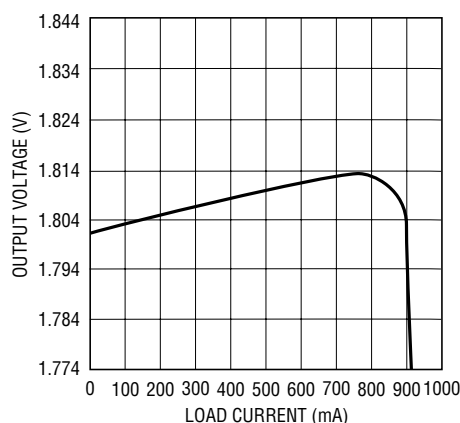
3403 G05

Oscillator Frequency vs Supply Voltage



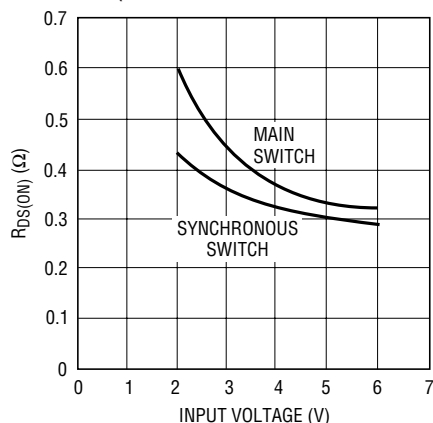
3403 G06

Output Voltage vs Load Current



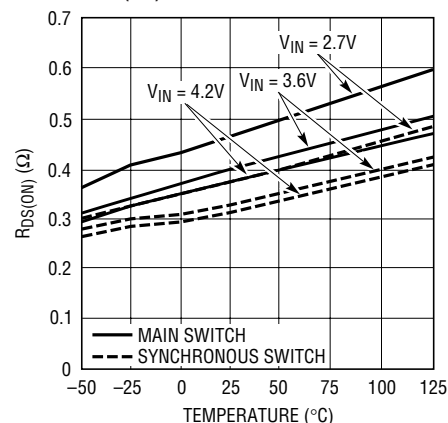
3403 G07

RDS(ON) vs Input Voltage



3403 G08

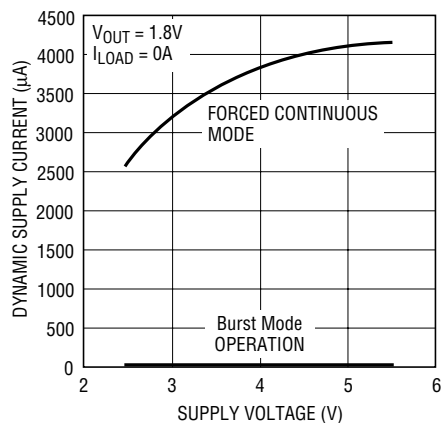
RDS(ON) vs Temperature



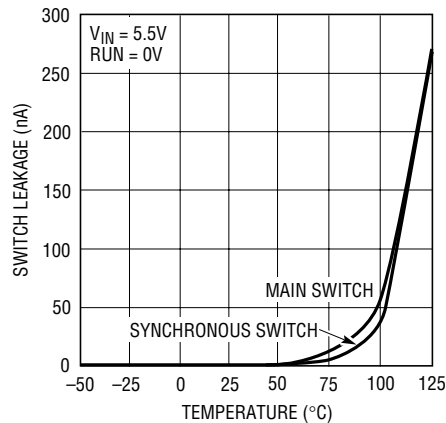
3403 G09

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS (From Figure 1a)

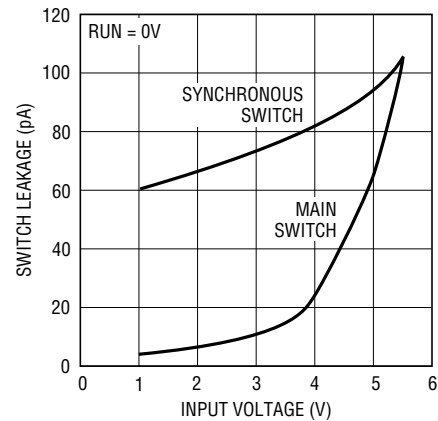
Dynamic Supply Current vs Supply Voltage



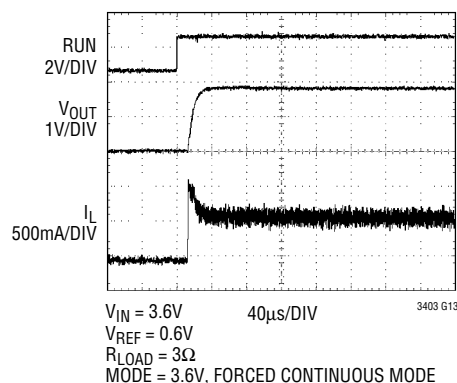
Switch Leakage vs Temperature



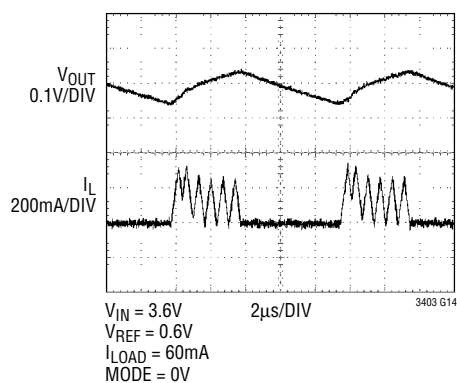
Switch Leakage vs Input Voltage



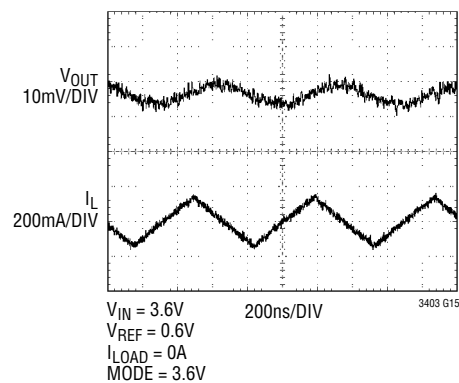
Start-Up from Shutdown



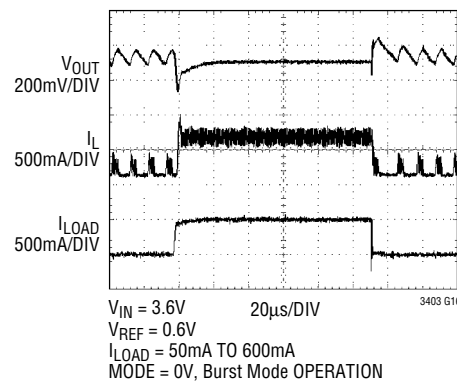
Burst Mode Operation



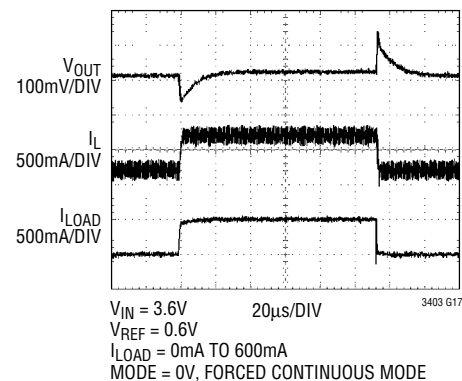
Forced Continuous Mode



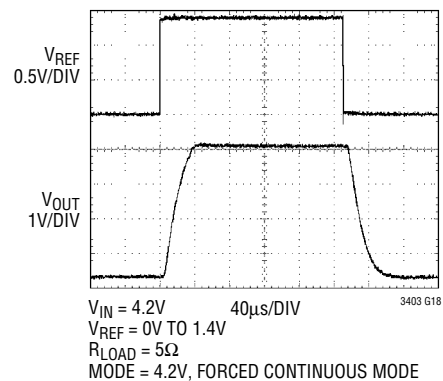
Load Step Response



Load Step Response



REF Transient



PIN FUNCTIONS

GDR (Pin 1): MOSFET Gate Driver. Drives a small external P-channel MOSFET.

V_{IN} (Pin 2): Main Supply Pin. Must be closely decoupled to GND, Pin 3, with a 10 μ F or greater ceramic capacitor.

GND (Pin 3): Ground Pin.

SW (Pin 4): Switch Node Connection to Inductor. This pin connects to the drains of the internal main and synchronous power MOSFET switches.

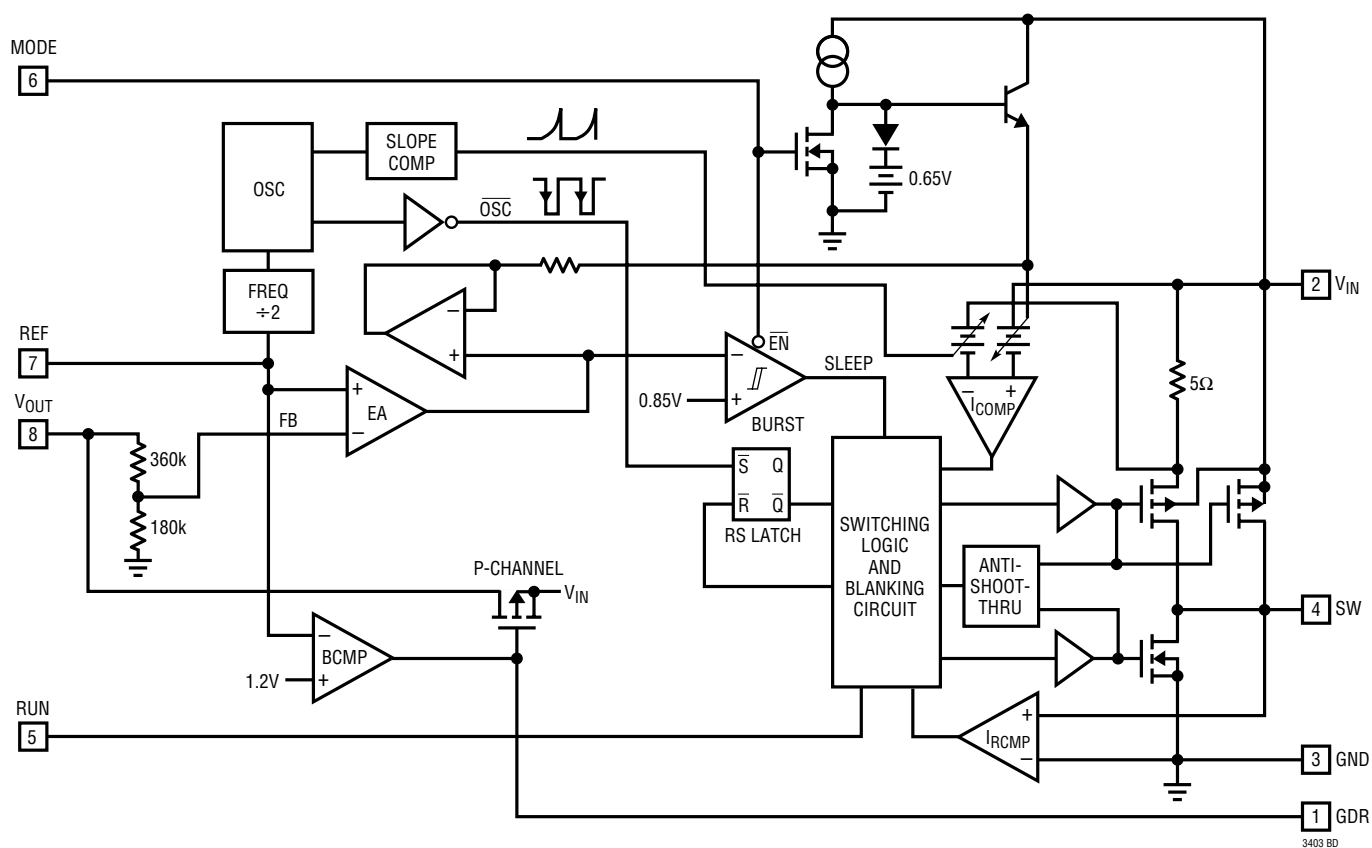
RUN (Pin 5): Run Control Input. Forcing this pin above 1.5V enables the part. Forcing this pin below 0.3V shuts down the device. In shutdown, all functions are disabled drawing <1 μ A supply current. Do not leave RUN floating.

MODE (Pin 6): Mode Select Input. To select forced continuous mode, tie to V_{IN}. Grounding this pin selects Burst Mode operation. Do not leave this pin floating.

REF (Pin 7): External Reference Input. Controls the output voltage to 3 \times the applied voltage at REF. Also turns on the bypass MOSFET when V_{REF} > 1.2V.

V_{OUT} (Pin 8): Output Voltage Feedback Pin. An internal resistive divider divides the output voltage down by 3 for comparison to the external reference voltage. The drain of the P-channel bypass MOSFET is connected to this pin.

FUNCTIONAL DIAGRAM



OPERATION (Refer to Functional Diagram)

Main Control Loop

The LTC3403 uses a constant frequency, current mode step-down architecture. The main (P-channel MOSFET), synchronous (N-channel MOSFET) and bypass (P-channel MOSFET) switches are internal. During normal operation, the internal main switch is turned on each cycle when the oscillator sets the RS latch, and turned off when the current comparator, I_{COMP} , resets the RS latch. The peak inductor current at which I_{COMP} resets the RS latch, is controlled by the output of error amplifier EA. When the load current increases, it causes a slight decrease in the feedback voltage, FB, relative to the external reference, which in turn, causes the EA amplifier's output voltage to increase until the average inductor current matches the new load current. While the main switch is off, the synchronous switch is turned on until the beginning of the next clock cycle.

The inductor current is constantly cycled in a forced continuous mode. In this mode, the output voltage can respond quickly to the external reference voltage by sourcing or sinking current as needed.

Burst Mode Operation

The LTC3403 is capable of Burst Mode operation in which the internal power switches operate intermittently based on load demand.

In Burst Mode operation, the peak current of the inductor is set to approximately 200mA regardless of the output load. Each burst event can last from a few cycles at light loads to almost continuously cycling with short sleep intervals at moderate loads. In between these burst events, the power switches and any unneeded circuitry are turned off, reducing the quiescent current to 20 μ A. In this sleep state, the load current is being supplied solely from the output capacitor. As the output voltage droops, the EA amplifier's output rises above the sleep threshold signaling the BURST comparator to trip and turn the top switch

on. This process repeats at a rate that is dependent on the load demand.

Controlling the Output Voltage

The output voltage can be dynamically programmed from 0.3V to 3.5V using the REF input. Because the gain to V_{OUT} from REF is internally set to 3, the corresponding input range at REF is 0.1V to 1.167V. V_{OUT} can be modulated during operation by driving REF with an external DAC.

When REF exceeds 1.2V, an internal bypass P-channel MOSFET connects V_{IN} to V_{OUT} , dramatically reducing the drop across the inductor and the main switch.

Dropout Operation

The LTC3403 will enter dropout operation when V_{OUT} is commanded to greater than or equal to the input voltage. During dropout, the main switch remains on continuously and operates at 100% duty cycle. If the voltage at REF is less than 1.2V, the bypass P-channel MOSFET will stay OFF even in dropout operation. The output voltage is then determined by the input voltage minus the voltage drop across the main switch and the inductor.

An important detail to remember is that at low input supply voltages, the $R_{DS(ON)}$ of the P-channel switch increases (see Typical Performance Characteristics). Therefore, the user should calculate the power dissipation when the LTC3403 is used at 100% duty cycle with low input voltage (See Thermal Considerations in the Applications Information section).

Low Supply Operation

The LTC3403 will operate with input supply voltages as low as 2.5V, but the maximum allowable output current is reduced at this low voltage. Figure 2 shows the reduction in the maximum output current as a function of input voltage for various output voltages.

OPERATION (Refer to Functional Diagram)

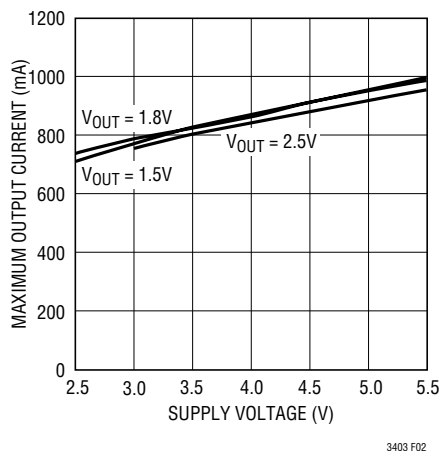


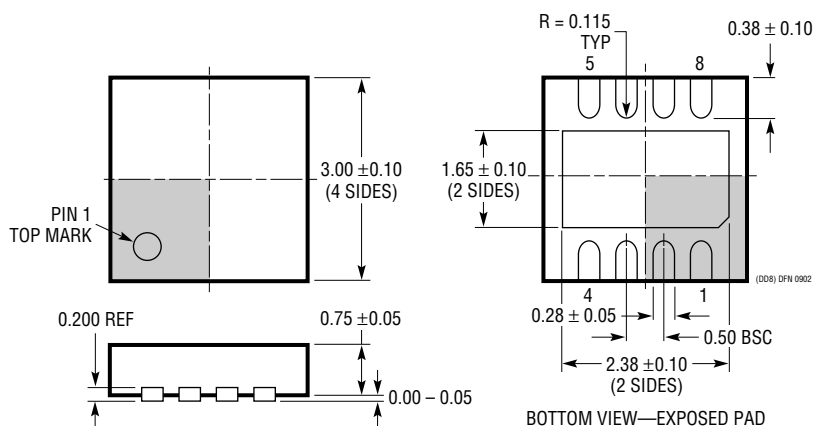
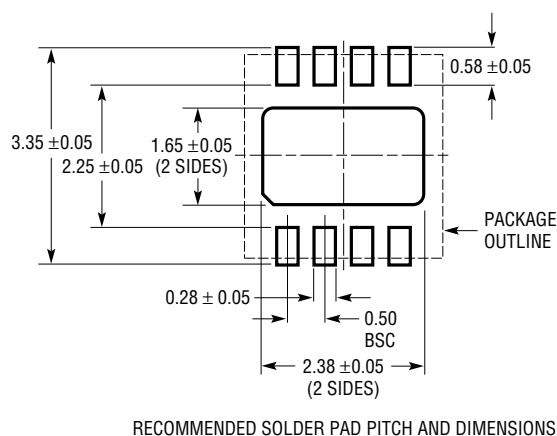
Figure 2. Maximum Output Current vs Input Voltage

Slope Compensation and Inductor Peak Current

Slope compensation provides stability in constant frequency architectures by preventing subharmonic oscillations at high duty cycles. It is accomplished internally by adding a compensating ramp to the inductor current signal at duty cycles in excess of 40%. Normally, this results in a reduction of maximum inductor peak current for duty cycles >40%. However, the LTC3403 uses a patent-pending scheme that counteracts this compensating ramp, which allows the maximum inductor peak current to remain unaffected throughout all duty cycles.

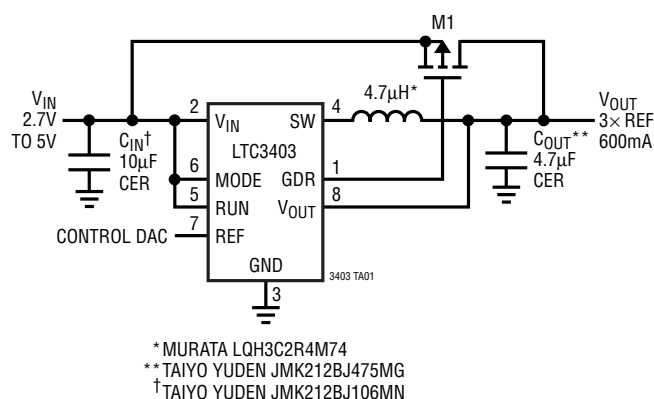
PACKAGE DESCRIPTION

DD Package 8-Lead Plastic DFN (3mm × 3mm) (Reference LTC DWG # 05-08-1698)



TYPICAL APPLICATION

High Efficiency Step-Down Converter with External Bypass MOSFET



RELATED PARTS

PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS
LT1616	1.4MHz, 600mA Step Down DC/DC Converter	V_{IN} : 3.6V to 25V, I_Q = 1.9mA, ThinSOT™ Package
LTC1701	1MHz, 500mA (I_{OUT}) Step-Down DC/DC Converter	V_{IN} : 2.5V to 5.5V, Constant Off-Time, I_Q = 135µA, ThinSOT Package
LTC1767	1.5A, 1.25MHz Step-Down Switching Regulator	V_{IN} : 3V to 25V, I_Q = 1mA, MS8/E Packages
LTC1779	550kHz, 250mA (I_{OUT}) Step-Down Switching Regulator	V_{IN} : 2.5V to 9.8V, I_Q = 135µA, ThinSOT Package
LTC1877	550kHz, 600mA (I_{OUT}) Synchronous Step-Down Regulator	V_{IN} : 2.65V to 10V, I_Q = 10µA, MS8 Package
LTC1878	550kHz, 600mA (I_{OUT}) Synchronous Step-Down Regulator	V_{IN} : 2.65V to 6V, I_Q = 10µA, MS8 Package
LTC3404	1.4MHz, 600mA (I_{OUT}) Synchronous Monolithic Step-Down Regulator	Up to 95% Efficiency, V_{IN} : 2.65V to 6V, I_Q = 10µA, MS8 Package
LTC3405/LTC3405A LTC3405A-1.5 LTC3405A-1.8	1.5MHz, 300mA (I_{OUT}) Synchronous Monolithic Step-Down Regulators	Up to 95% Efficiency, V_{IN} : 2.5V to 5.5V, I_Q = 20µA, Fixed Output Voltages Available, ThinSOT Package
LTC3406 LTC3406-1.5 LTC3406-1.8	1.5MHz, 600mA, (I_{OUT}) Synchronous Monolithic Step-Down Regulators with Burst Mode Operation	Up to 95% Efficiency, with Automatic Burst Mode Operation Enabled, Fixed Output Voltages Available, ThinSOT Package
LTC3406B LTC3406B-1.5 LTC3406B-1.8	1.5MHz, 600mA, (I_{OUT}) Synchronous Monolithic Step-Down Regulators with Burst Mode Defeat	Up to 95% Efficiency, with Pulse Skipping Mode Enabled, Fixed Output Voltages Available, ThinSOT Package
LTC3411	4MHz, 1.25A (I_{OUT}) Synchronous Monolithic Step-Down Regulator	Up to 95% Efficiency, V_{IN} : 2.5V to 5.5V, I_Q = 60µA, MS10 Package
LTC3412	4MHz, 2.5A (I_{OUT}) Synchronous Monolithic Step-Down Regulator	Up to 95% Efficiency, V_{IN} : 2.5V to 5.5V, I_Q = 60µA, TSSOP16 Package
LTC5505	ThinSOT RF Power Detector with Buffered Output and >40dB Dynamic Range	300MHz to 3GHz, Temperature Compensated, LTC5505-1: -28dBm to 18dBm, LTC5505-2: -32dBm to 12dBm, V_{CC} = 2.7V to 6V

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