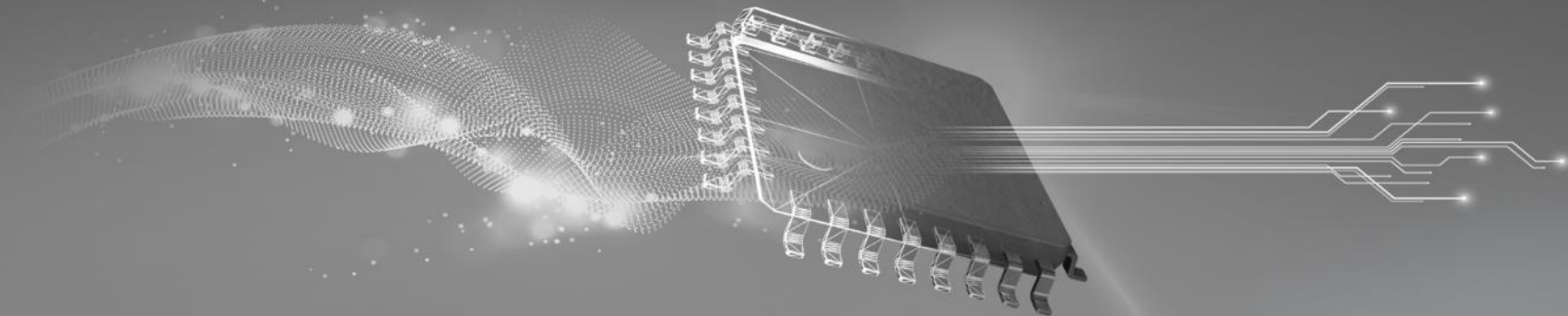


TI TECH DAYS



Automotive LED exterior lighting design considerations

Mahendra Patel

AFAE, Automotive team, India

Exterior lighting requirements in automotive

Rear light



- Tail lamp ★
- Stop lamp
- Turn ★
- Back-up light (reverse)
- Fog lamp

Front light



- Low beam
- High beam ★
- Turn indicator ★
- DRL/position ★
- Fog lamp / Corner
- Side markers

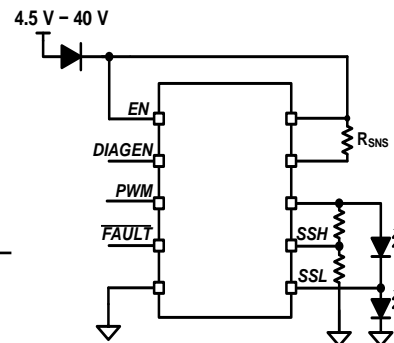
Design challenges in Automotive LED lighting

- **Fault and diagnostics**
 - ✓ One fail all fail : if one LED fails (open or short), all other LEDs in lamp turn off
 - ✓ N-1 : if one LED or string fail in the lamp, remaining LEDs can meet photometric requirement
 - ✓ Output short to ground and open protection
 - ✓ Over temperature protection
- **Thermal management**
 - ✓ Max ambient temperature test (55C) without reduction in lumen output at nominal battery level or 16V
 - ✓ 24V, 1min test at 25C ambient (with or without dimming)
- **Control large number of LEDs in DRL and tail lamp**
- **Animated solutions for two wheeler and four wheeler exterior lighting**
- **Safety and quality requirements**
- **Common issues in LED drivers including**
 - ✓ Thermal management and PCB copper area
 - ✓ EMI/EMC - RE, CE, RI, Bulk current injection
 - ✓ Behavior during Transient tests, Load dump, input ripple test
 - ✓ How to debug them
- **Summarize the topic with resources like**
 - ✓ Functional safety documentation
 - ✓ Reference design and application report on TI LED drivers

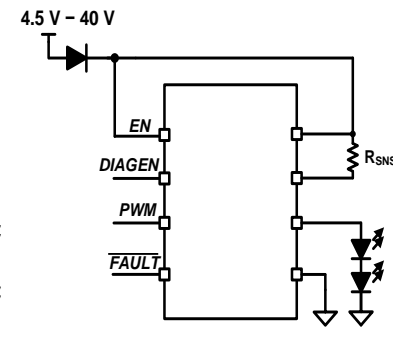
TPS9261x-Q1 40-V single channel LED driver

- Ease of use in multiple applications
- Cost competitive against discrete solution
- Reliable off-board LEDs control
- Full diagnostics and protection features
- PWM signal is required for dimming

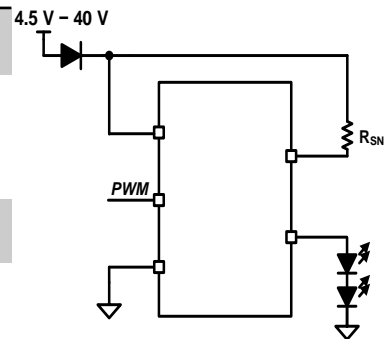
| Device | I _{out} per ch X # of channels | Diagnostics & Protection | Package | R θ JA C/W |
|-------------|--|---|---------------|----------------------|
| TPS92613-Q1 | 600mA X 1 | Open, Short | TO-263 | 28.4 |
| TPS92610-Q1 | 450mA X 1 | Open, Short, Single LED short | HTSSOP- 14 | 52.4 |
| TPS92611-Q1 | 300mA X 1 | Open, Short | MSOP-8 | 60 |
| TPS92612-Q1 | 150mA X 1 | Short Protection (no FAULT output) | SOT23-5 | 200.7 |



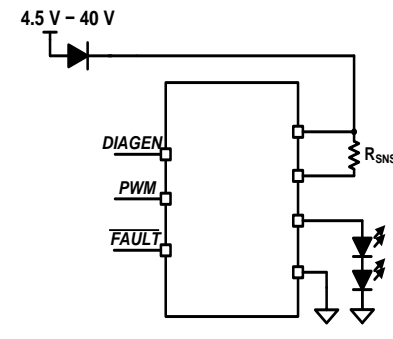
TPS92610-Q1



TPS92611-Q1

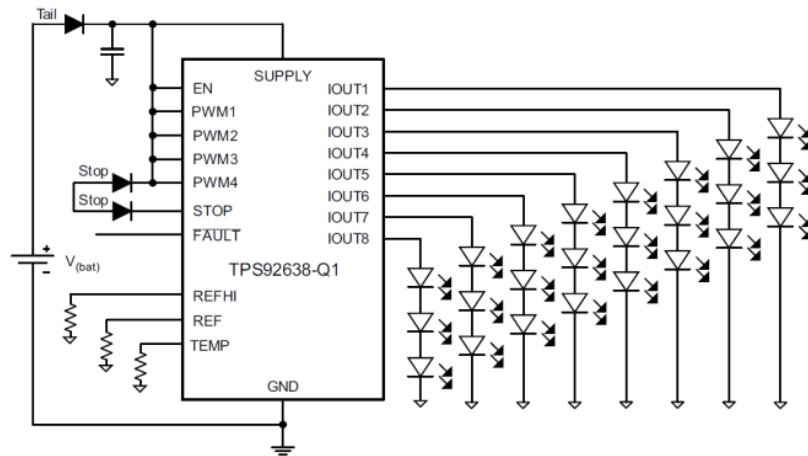
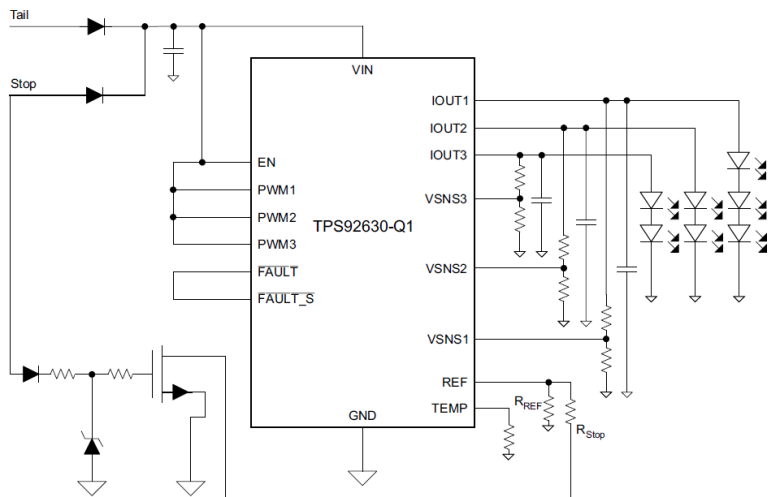


TPS92612-Q1



TPS92613-Q1

TPS9263x-Q1 40-V multi channel LED driver



Changing output current on-the-go is very easy!

| Device | Iout per ch X # of channels | Diagnostics & Protection | Package | R θ JA |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|---|-----------|---------------|
| TPS92630-Q1 | 150mA X 3 | Open, Short, Single LED short, thermal foldback | HTSSOP-16 | 41.5C/W |
| TPS92638-Q1 | 70mA X 8 | Open, Short, Thermal foldback | HTSSOP-20 | 37.8C/W |

Thermal calculations for linear driver [1] [2] [3] [4]

[2] [TPS92611-Q1 PCB Thermal Budget Design for Maximum Output Current](#)

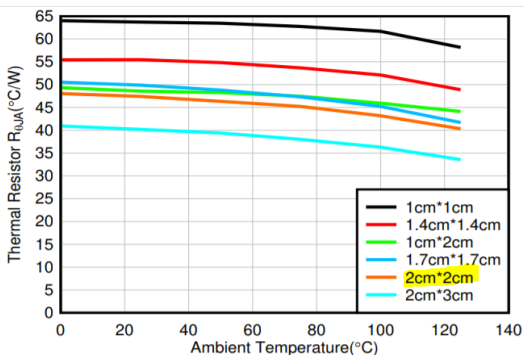
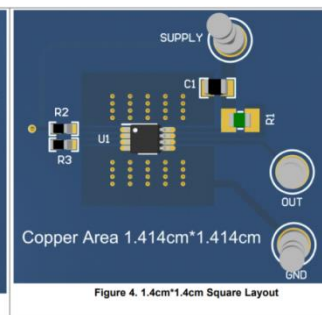
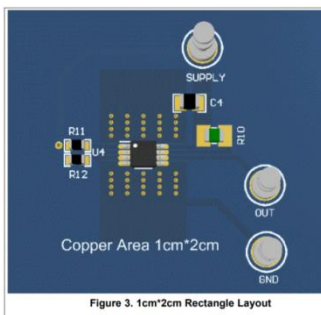


Figure 1. $R_{\theta JA}$ with Copper Area Varies



[4] [TPS92630-Q1 online PCB thermal calculator](#)

Enter/select a device
TPS92630QPWRQ1

Theta Jc, Bottom
3.4 °C/W

Enter device power dissipation
1.0 W

Select system reference temperature
Ambient 55 °C

Update

[View TPS92630-Q1 product details](#)

Temperature vs. PCB copper coverage area

Click on the legend to toggle series in the chart.

The graph plots Temperature (°C) on the y-axis (75 to 225) against PCB copper coverage area (mm²) on the x-axis (0 to 8000). Two data series are shown:

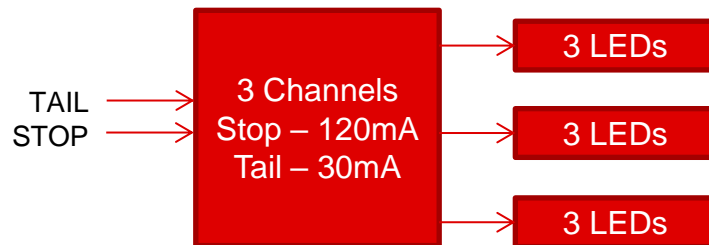
- T_{junction}, enhanced thermal PCB (cyan line): starts at ~200°C for 0 mm², drops to ~118.56°C at 1048 mm², and continues to decrease towards 100°C at 8000 mm².
- T_{junction}, minimum thermal PCB (red line): starts at ~200°C for 0 mm², drops to ~125°C at 1048 mm², and continues to decrease towards 110°C at 8000 mm².

A callout box highlights the point: 1048 mm², 118.56 °C.

Case Study

Problem statement for Stop/Tail lamp

- Need to drive 9 RED LEDs with N-1
 - 120mA in STOP mode
 - 30mA in TAIL mode (dimming required)
- 9V to 16V operation @ 55C with required lumen
- 24V operation @ 25C for 1min
- Total PCB size available for driver section – 5cmX5cm
- LED forward voltage, VF : 2Vmin to 2.65V max



Solution:

It is obvious to make 3 strings of 3 LED each. **Which approach would you pick for the requirement ?**

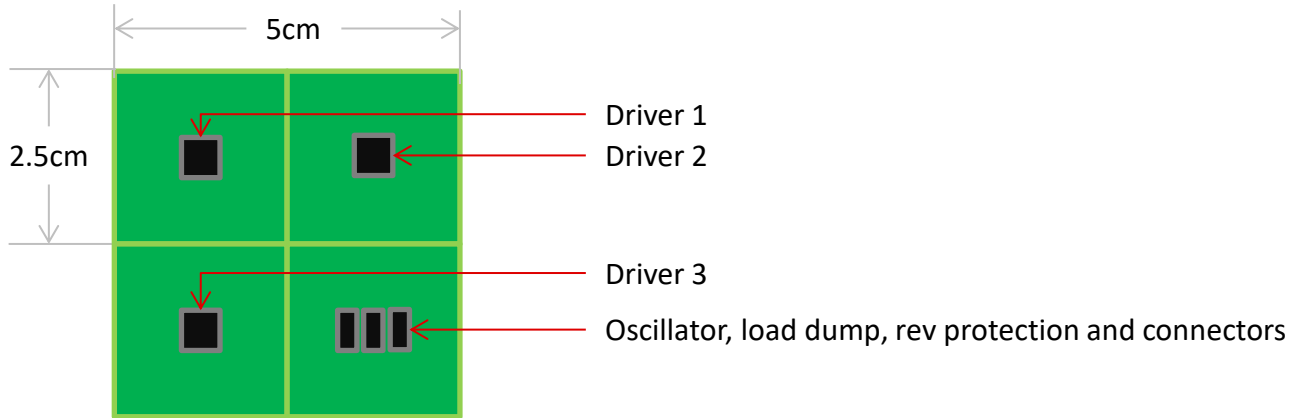
| Approach | #1 | #2 | #3 |
|--------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| LED driver options | TPS92630-Q1 | 3X TPS92611-Q1 | TPS92638-Q1 |

Case Study

| | Criteria | Approach | | |
|---|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | #1 | #2 | #3 |
| 1 | Drivers | TPS92630-Q1 | 3X TPS92611-Q1 | TPS92638-Q1 |
| 2 | Output current per channel X number of channel | 150mA X 3 | 300mA X 3 | 70mA X 8 |
| 3 | Partial failure | N-1 1-fail-all-fail | N-1 | N-1 |
| 4 | Current setting and Use of LED with multiple intensity bins | Use REF resistor | Use RSNS | Use REF resistor |
| 5 | Stop to tail mode dimming | Use REF pin with BJT | LM2903B-Q1 for PWM | Use one additional diode |
| 6 | Power dissipation in each driver at 16V | 3.6W | 1.2W | 3.6W |
| 7 | Junction temp rise of driver above ambient @16V | 149C | 72C | 136C |
| 9 | 1ku cost | \$0.8 | \$1.1 | \$1.1 |

PCB thermal estimation with approach #2:

1. PCB form factor= 5cm X 5cm
2. Divide this area in 4 rectangle with 2.5cmX2.5cm area as shown below
3. With below arrangement each driver gets 2.5cmX2.5cm
4. This is equivalent to or better than 2cmX2cm – 2 layer, 1oz PCB for which we have practically measured R θ JC data available



From TPS92611-Q1 PCB Thermal Budget Design for Maximum Output Current [2]

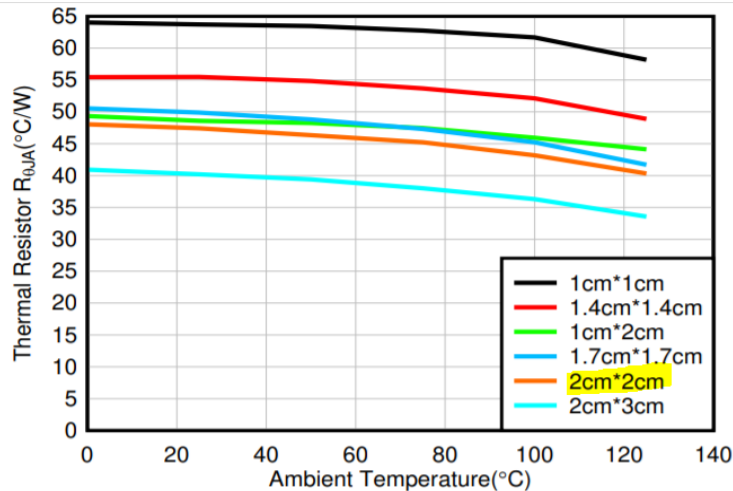


Figure 1. $R_{\theta JA}$ with Copper Area Varies

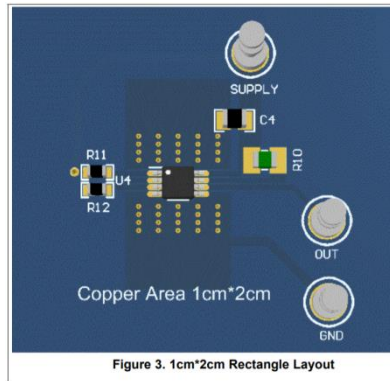


Figure 3. 1cm*2cm Rectangle Layout

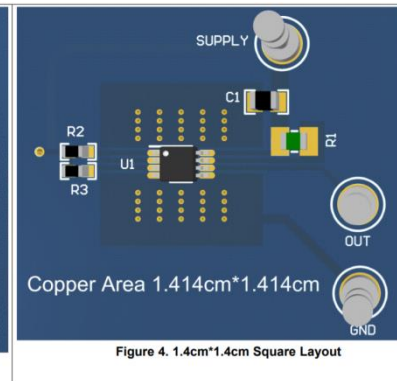
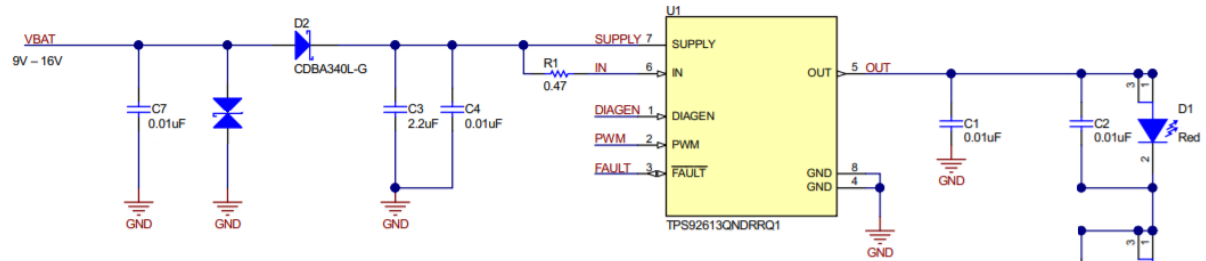


Figure 4. 1.4cm*1.4cm Square Layout

| Ambient (C) | Vin (V) | Dissipation per driver (W) | $R_{\theta JA}$ (C/W) (1oz, 2 layer, 2cmX2cm PCB) | Driver junction temperature (C) |
|-------------|---------|----------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 55 | 16 | 1.2 | 46 | 110.2 |
| 25 | 24 | 2.16 | 47 | 126.52 |

No need to have thermal fold-back or dimming for 24V

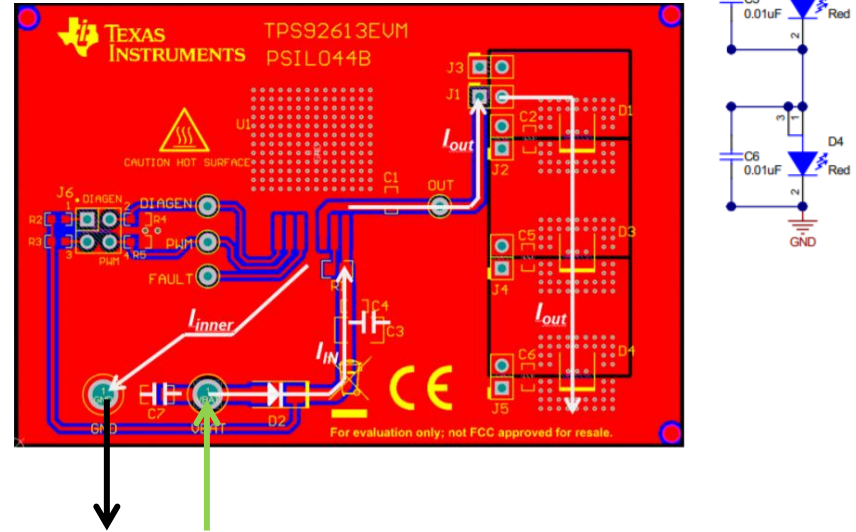
Recommendations to pass EMI/EMC for linear drivers [8]



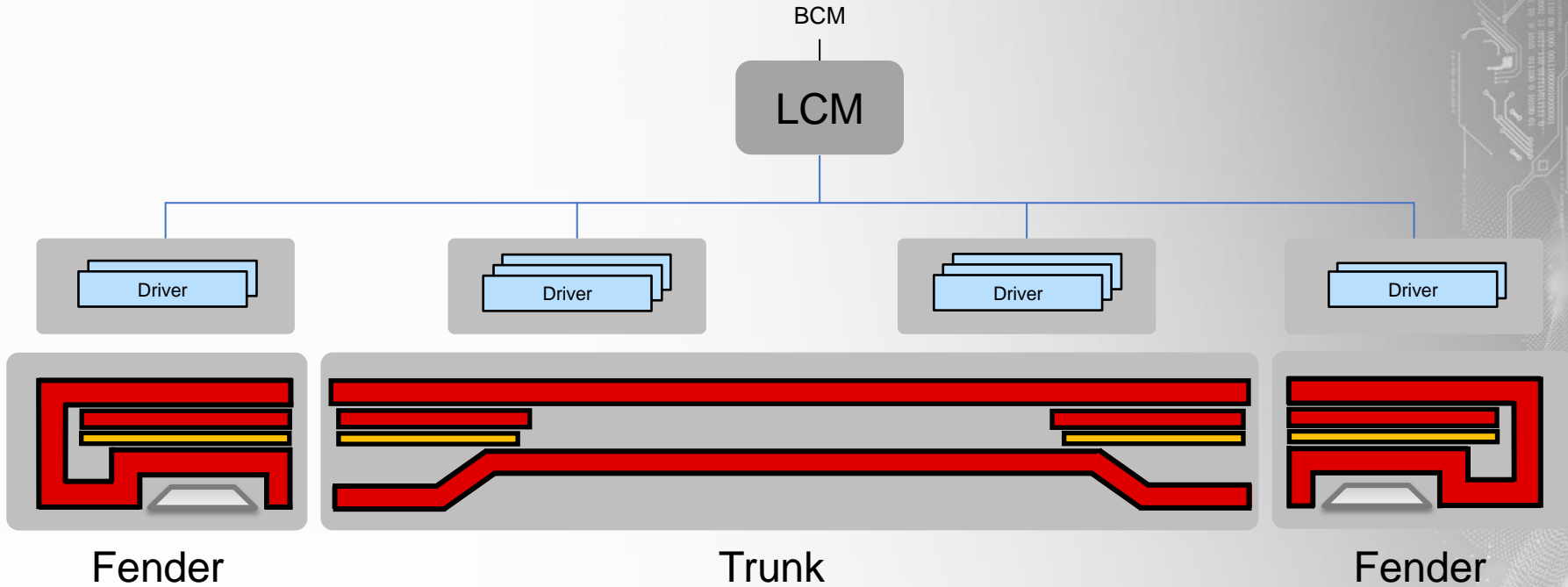
1. Shielding noise sensitive traces (**FAULT** pin and **Single LED short detection**) should be shielded and a small caps (<100pF) can be used
2. Avoid routing **input and output tracks parallel** to each other
3. **Input capacitor C7 (and TVS)** should be closest to input connector to provide shortest return path for input noise (BCI)

Other points-

1. Supply/decoupling caps C3 +C4 and R1 should be closest to IC pin
2. 10nF cap on OUT pin is more than sufficient.
3. Individual LEDs / LED strings should have small caps in parallel
 - for gradual rise and fall of LED current
 - Sometime LEDs are on separate PCB
4. Ground layer plays important role wrt EMI/EMC as well as thermal performance



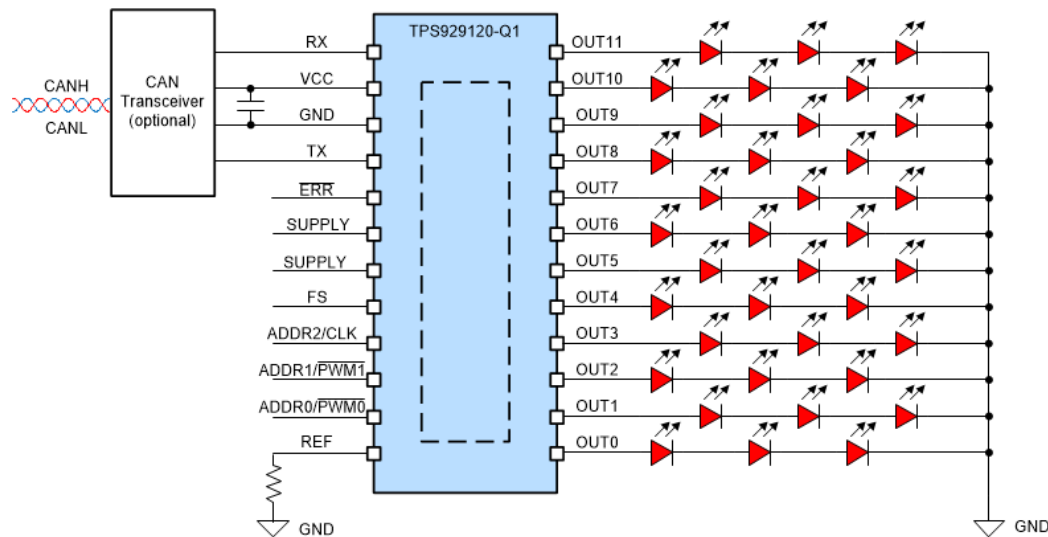
Managing large number of LEDs and Animation with LED Lighting



TPS929120-Q1

Features

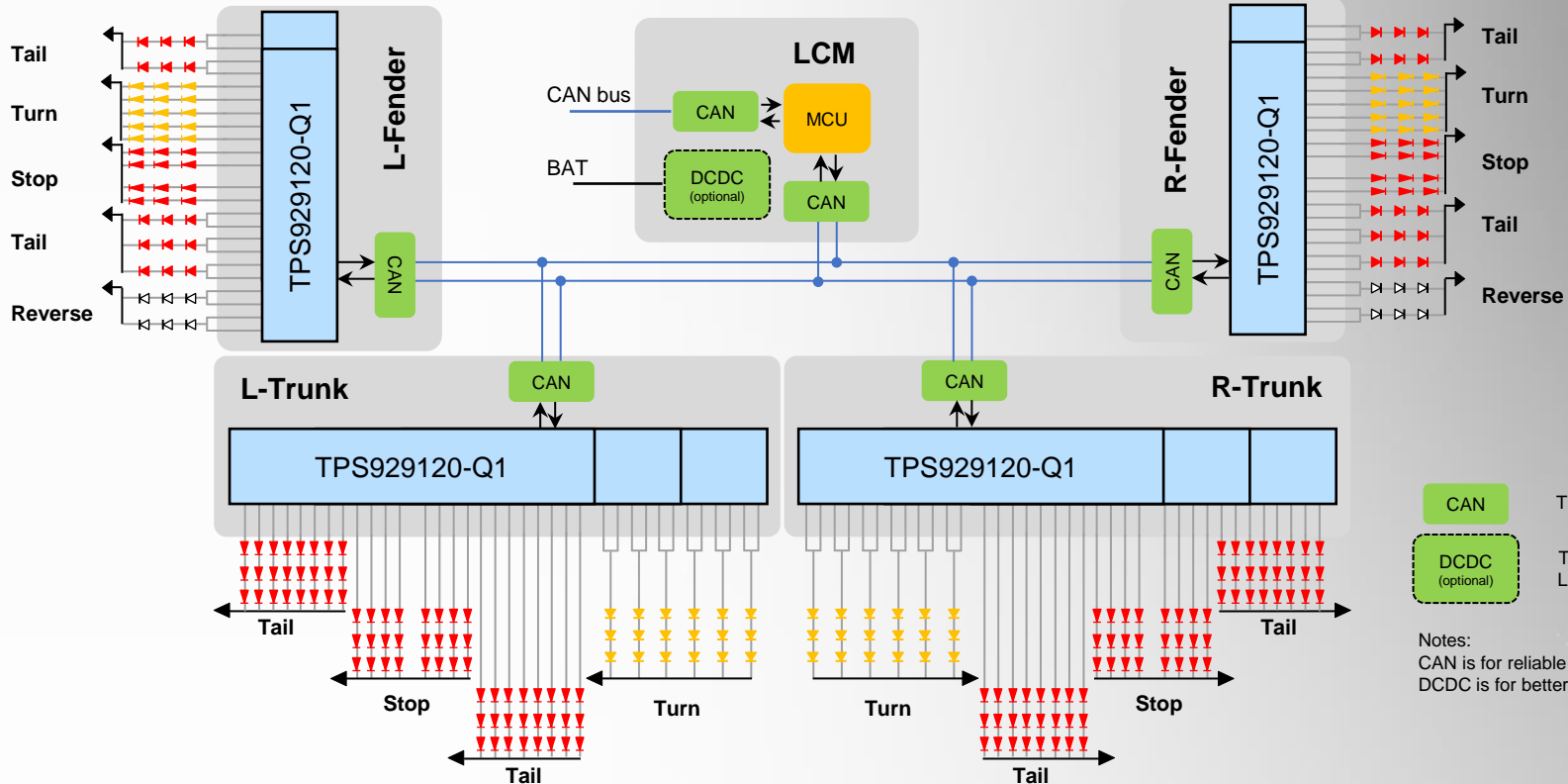
- **AEC-Q100 Qualified (Grade 1: T_A -40C to +125C)**
- **12-Ch Precision High-side Current Output**
 - Up to 75mA channel current set by resistor
 - Low voltage drop 500mV @ 50mA
 - Programmable PWM frequency up to 20KHz
- **FlexWire Control Interface**
 - Up to 1-MHz clock frequency
 - Max. 16 devices on one FlexWire bus
 - Burst Mode for max. 8 Bytes of data throughput
 - 5V LDO output to supply CAN transceiver
- **Protection and Diagnostics**
 - Programmable fail-safe state in EEPROM
 - LED open-circuit and short-circuit detection
 - Single-LED short-circuit diagnostic
 - Programmable low-supply detection
 - Open-drain ERR for fault indication
 - Watchdog and CRC for FlexWire interface
 - 8-bit ADC for pin voltage measurement
 - Overtemperature protection
- **HTSSOP-24 Package (PWP)**



Key Parameter Overview

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------|-----|
| Output Current Resolution | 6+2 | bit |
| PWM Dimming Resolution | 12 | bit |
| Output Current Accuracy | < ±5% | |
| Supply Voltage | 4.5 - 40 | V |

Flexwire Animation Lighting



Using BUCK pre-regulator with linear drivers

| | TPS560430-Q1 | LMR33620-Q1/ LMR33630-Q1 | LMR63615-Q1/ LMR63625-Q1 | LMR34206-Q1/ LMR34215-Q1 |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| I _{out} max | 0.6A | 2A / 3A | 1.5 | 0.6A / 1.5A |
| V _{IN} max | 36V | 36V | 36V | 42V |
| Switching frequency | 2.1MHz fixed | 400kHz fixed / 1.4MHz fixed / 2.1MHz fixed | Adjustable | 400kHz fixed / 2.1MHz fixed |
| Spread spectrum | No | No | Yes | Yes |
| Package | SOT23- 6 (2.9mm X 1.6mm) | VQFN (2mmX3mm) | HTSSOP-16 (5mm X 4mm) WSON -12 (3mm X3mm) | VQFN (2mmX3mm) |
| Components to pass CISPR25 Class 5 EMI | 2.2uH + FB + caps (refer to SNVA886) | 3.3uH + FB + caps (refer to datasheet) | 1.5uH + FB + caps (refer to datasheet) | 83H9652 FB + caps (refer to datasheet) |

Adaptive Boost / SEPIC voltage control

7.8 Current Sinks Electrical Characteristics

Limits apply over the full operation temperature range $-40^{\circ}\text{C} \leq T_A \leq +125^{\circ}\text{C}$, unless otherwise specified, $V_{IN} = 12\text{V}$.

| PARAMETER | TEST CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNIT |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| $V_{\text{LOW_COMP}}$ | Low comparator threshold | | 0.9 | | V |
| $V_{\text{MID_COMP}}$ | Mid comparator threshold | | 1.9 | | V |
| $V_{\text{HIGH_COMP}}$ | High comparator threshold | 5.6 | 6 | 7 | V |

- **Boost efficiency of >92% with 400kHz switching frequency**
- **Boost efficiency of >87% with 2.1MHz switching frequency**

- **LED Open Condition**
 - Boost/SEPIC voltage is raised to maximum level set through FB
 - &
 - $V(\text{OUT}_x) < 0.9\text{V}$.

- **LED Short Condition**
 - If $V(\text{OUT}_x) - V(\text{OUT}_y) > \sim 5\text{V}$

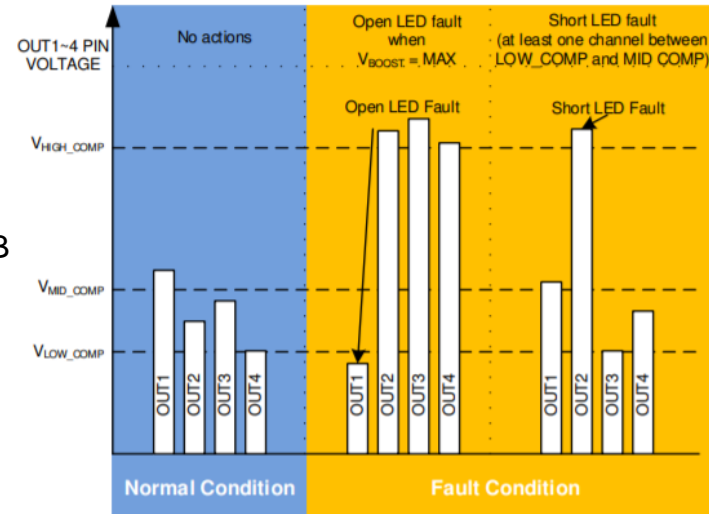
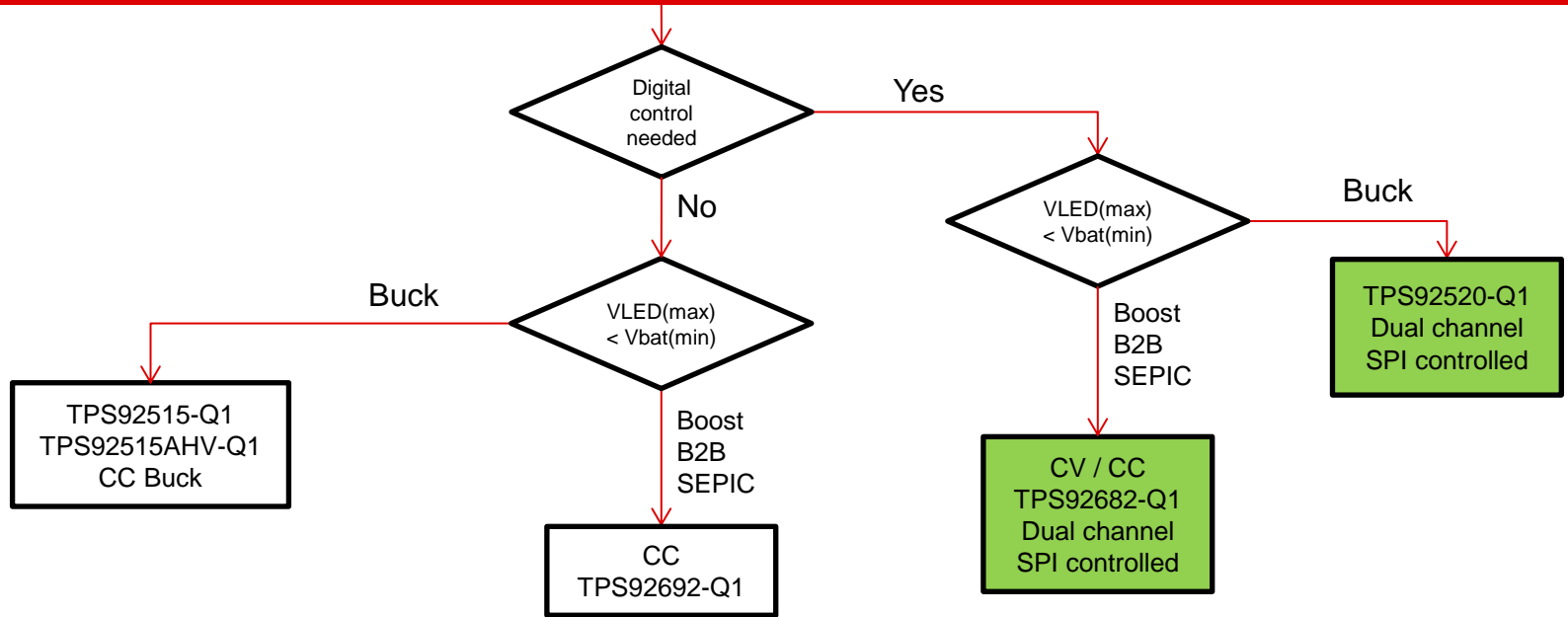
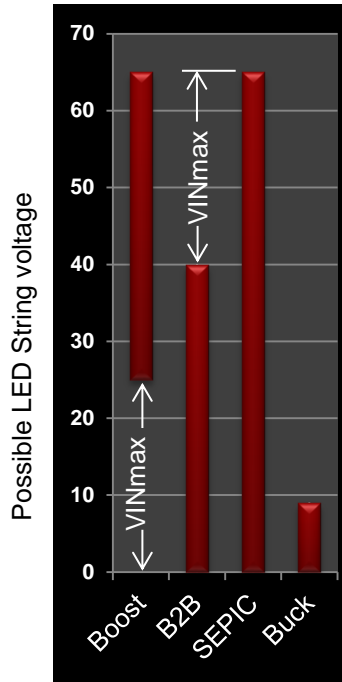


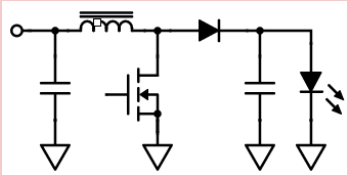
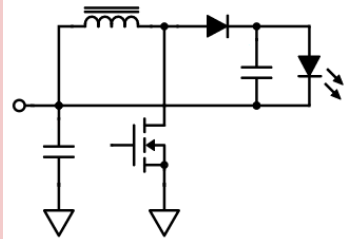
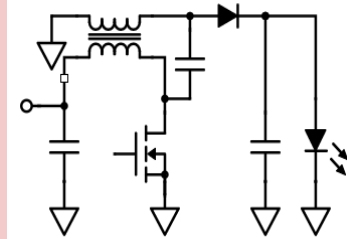
Figure 15. Protection and DC-DC Voltage Adaptation Algorithms

Switching LED drivers



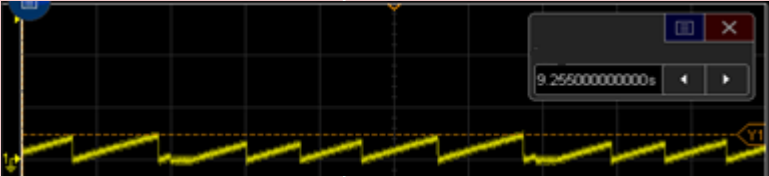
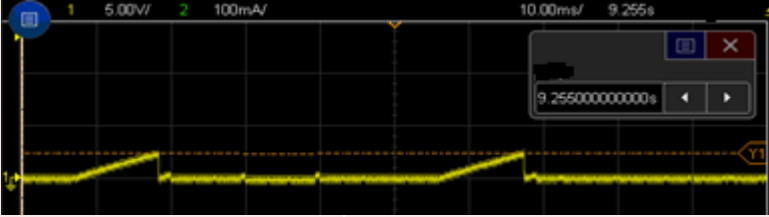
When to use B2B v/s Boost v/s SEPIC?



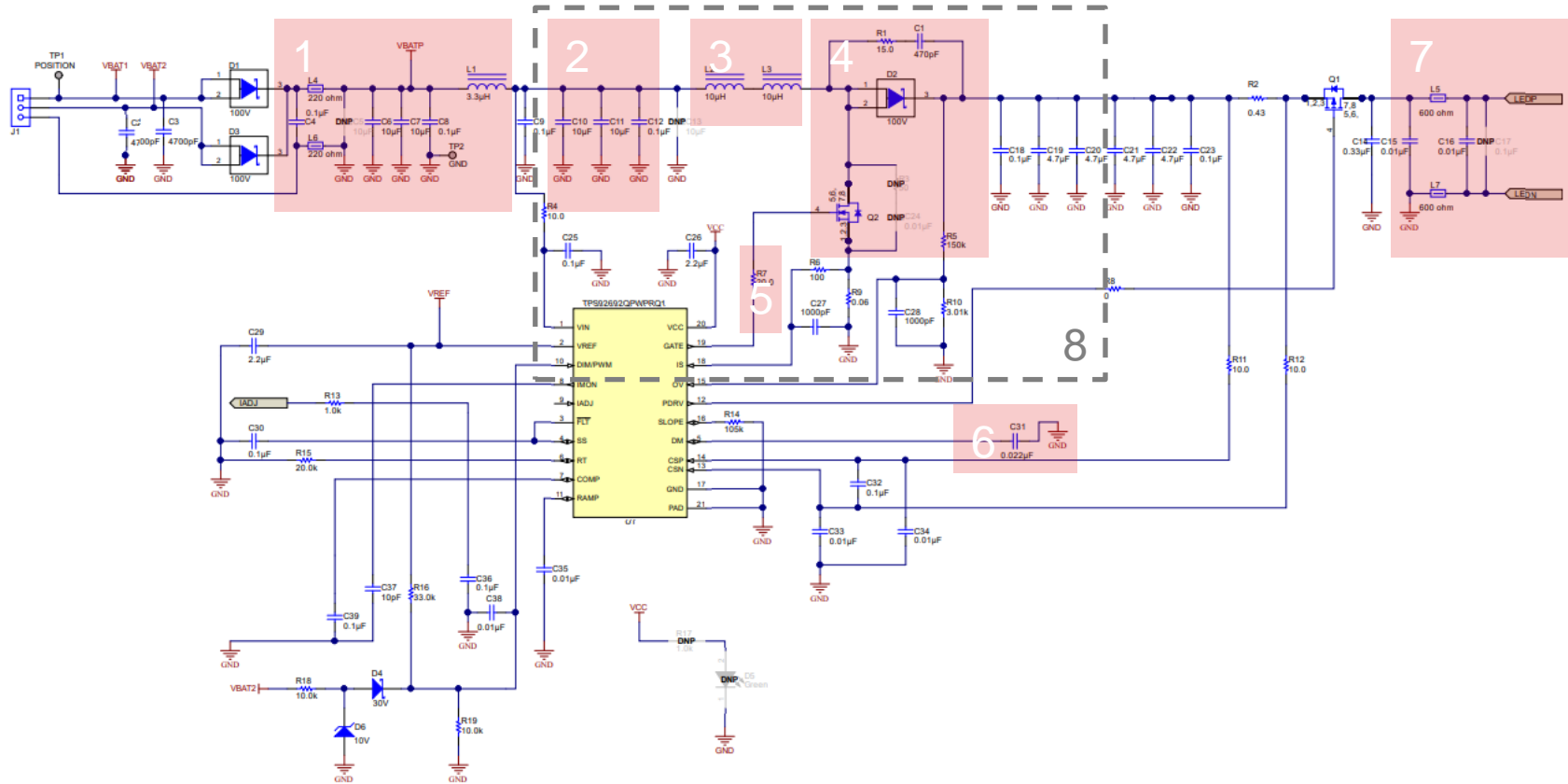
| | Boost | B2B | SEPIC |
|--|--|---|---|
| Power stage schematic |  |  |  |
| LED string voltage | >Max VIN & <65V | < (65V – Max VIN) | <65V |
| LED Cathode connection | GND | VIN | GND |
| Output short to GND protection | Requires PFET | Requires PFET | Self protected |
| Driving multiplexed loads Eg. DRL + TURN driver | Easy using N-FET in GND path | Complex due to level shifting need | Easy using N-FET in GND path |
| BoM differences | Single inductor FET with VOUT rating | Single inductor FET with VIN+VOUT rating | Coupled inductor Cap with higher IRMS FET with VIN+VOUT rating |
| Max output voltage wrt GND | VLEDmax | VINmax + VLEDmax | VLEDmax |

TPS92692-Q1 : Decoding fault behavior

(FLT and SS pin shorted together)

| Observation | Waveform | FAULT | Corrective action |
|--|--|---|---|
| Dimmed output | Sawtooth waveform on SS pin | Output OV protection VOV > 1.228V | If LED voltage is as expected- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce value of Rov1 Or <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase value of Rov2 |
| |  | Observed at lower input voltage: Switch current limit, VIS > 250 mV | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Populate R-C filter on IS pin not already done • Decrease RIS value |
| | | Observed at higher input voltage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check combination of switching frequency, inductor, RIS and Slope resistor |
| LED string blinking at Time interval >35ms | Sawtooth waveform on SS pin with 35ms of low period | LED overcurrent IMON > 1.5*ADJ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This may occur during start up, input transient test, digital dimming or while switching LED current • need to correct compensation / slope / output cap • Input capacitor may be insufficient for input transient test |
| |  | Output UV protection VOV < 100mV | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check for short between output (LED+) to GND • Check if Rov2 is open • Check if Rov1 is shorted |

TPS92692-Q1 : Managing EMI / EMC (TIDA-01581)



References

PCB thermal : Applications notes

- [1] TPS92610-Q1 PCB Thermal Budget Design for Maximum Output Current - [link](#)
- [2] TPS92611-Q1 PCB Thermal Budget Design for Maximum Output Current - [link](#)
- [3] How to Calculate TPS92630-Q1 Maximum Output Current for Automotive Exterior Light - [link](#)
- [4] For TPS92630-Q1 [online PCB thermal calculator](#)

Safety and Quality Analysis : Technical documents

- [5] TPS92611-Q1 Functional Safety FIT Rate and Failure Mode Distribution - [link](#)
- [6] TPS92610-Q1 Functional Safety FIT Rate and Failure Mode Distribution - [link](#)
- [7] TPS92613-Q1 Functional Safety FIT Rate and Failure Mode Distribution – [link](#)

EMI/EMC : Application note

- [8] TPS92613-Q1 Typical Application to Achieve High Immunity to BCI – [link](#)



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