

## 17V Input, 3A, ACOT® Buck Converter with Both FETs OC Protection

### General Description

The RT6273A/B is a simple, easy-to-use, 3A synchronous step-down DC-DC converter with an input supply voltage range of 4.5V to 17V. The device possesses an accurate reference voltage and integrates low R<sub>DS(ON)</sub> power MOSFETs to achieve high efficiency.

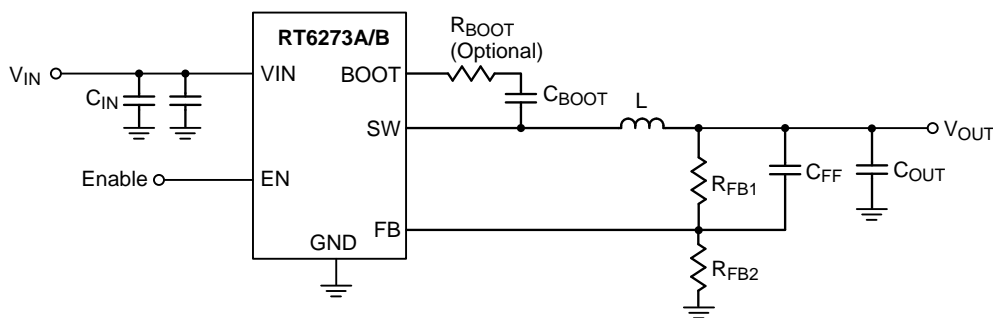
The RT6273A/B adopts Advanced Constant On-Time (ACOT®) control architecture to provide an ultrafast transient response with few external components and to operate in nearly constant switching frequency over the line, load, and output voltage range. The RT6273A operates in automatic PSM that maintains high efficiency during light load operation. The RT6273B operates in Forced PWM that helps meet tight voltage regulation accuracy requirements.

The RT6273A/B senses both FETs current for a robust over-current protection (OCP). The device features cycle-by-cycle current limit protection to prevent the device from the catastrophic damage in output short circuit, over-current or inductor saturation conditions. A built-in soft-start function prevents inrush current during start-up. The device also includes input under-voltage lockout, output under-voltage protection, and over-temperature protection (OTP) to provide safe and smooth operation in all operating conditions.

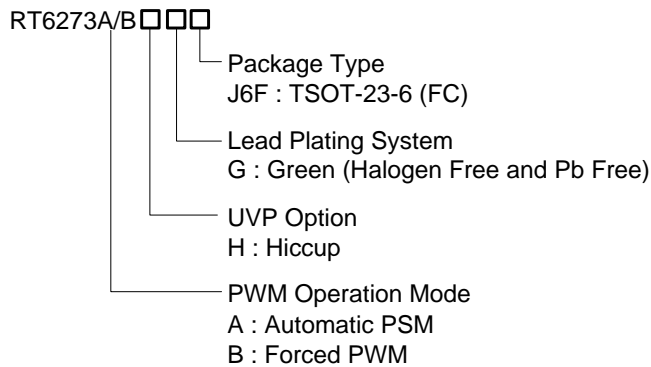
### Features

- 3A Converter Integrated 95mΩ and 50mΩ FETs
- Input Supply Voltage Range : 4.5V to 17V
- Maximum Output Voltage Range : 7V
- Advanced Constant On-Time (ACOT®) Control
  - ▶ Ultrafast Transient Response
  - ▶ Optimized for Low-ESR Ceramic Output Capacitors
- High Accuracy Feedback Reference Voltage : Typ. ± 1%
- Optional for Operation Modes :
  - ▶ RT6273A : Power Saving Mode (PSM)
  - ▶ RT6273B : Forced PWM Mode
- Fixed Switching Frequency : 1.4MHz
- Enable Control and Internally Fixed Soft-Start with typ. 1ms
- Input Under-Voltage Lockout (UVLO)
- Protection Function
  - ▶ Output Under-Voltage Protection (UVP) with Hiccup Mode
  - ▶ High- / Low-side MOSFET OCP and OTP Function
- RoHS Compliant and Halogen Free

### Simplified Application Circuit



## Ordering Information



Note :

Richtek products are :

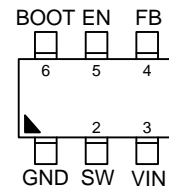
- ▶ RoHS compliant and compatible with the current requirements of IPC/JEDEC J-STD-020.
- ▶ Suitable for use in SnPb or Pb-free soldering processes.

## Applications

- Set-Top Boxes
- LCD TVs
- Home Networking Devices
- Surveillance
- General Purpose

## Pin Configuration

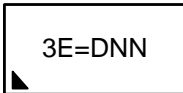
(TOP VIEW)



TSOT-23-6 (FC)

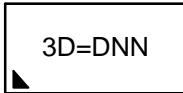
## Marking Information

RT6273AHGJ6F



3E= : Product Code  
DNN : Date Code

RT6273BHGJ6F

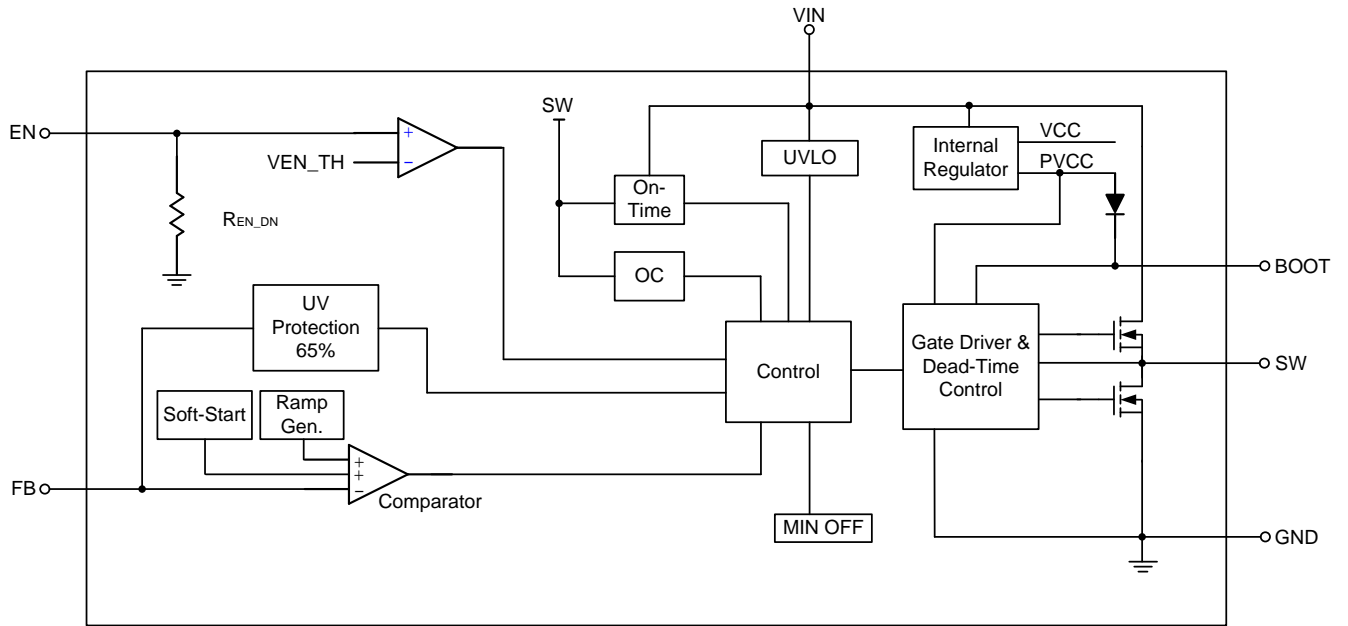


3D= : Product Code  
DNN : Date Code

## Functional Pin Description

Pin No.	Pin Name	Pin Function
1	GND	Power ground.
2	SW	Switch node between the internal switch and the synchronous rectifier. Connect this pin to the inductor and bootstrap capacitor.
3	VIN	Power input. The input voltage range is from 4.5V to 17V. Connect input bypass capacitors directly to this pin and GND pins. The MLCC with capacitance higher than 20μF is recommended.
4	FB	Feedback voltage input. Connect this pin to the midpoint of the external feedback resistive divider to set the output voltage of the converter to the desired regulation level. The device regulates the FB voltage at feedback reference voltage, typically 0.765V.
5	EN	Enable control input. Connect this pin to logic high enables the device and connect this pin to GND disables the device.
6	BOOT	Bootstrap capacitor connection node to supply the high-side gate driver. Connect a 0.1μF ceramic capacitor between this pin and the SW pin.

**Functional Block Diagram**



## Operation

The RT6273A/B is a high-efficiency, synchronous step-down DC-DC converter that can deliver up to 3A output current from a 4.5V to 17V input supply.

### Advanced Constant On-Time Control and PWM

#### Operation

The RT6273A/B adopts ACOT<sup>®</sup> control for its ultrafast transient response, low external component counts and stable with low ESR MLCC output capacitors. When the feedback voltage falls below the feedback reference voltage, the minimum off-time one-shot (130ns, typ.) has timed out and the inductor current is below the current limit threshold, then the internal on-time one-shot circuitry is triggered and the high-side switch is turn-on. Since the minimum off-time is short, the device exhibits ultrafast transient response and enables the use of smaller output capacitance.

The on-time is inversely proportional to input voltage and directly proportional to output voltage to achieve pseudo-fixed frequency over the input voltage range. After the on-time one-shot timer expired, the high-side switch is turned off and the low-side switch is turned on until the on-time one-shot is triggered again. To achieve stable operation with low-ESR ceramic output capacitors, an internal ramp signal is added to the feedback reference voltage to simulate the output voltage ripple.

### Power Saving Mode (RT6273A Only)

The RT6273A automatically enters power saving mode (PSM) at light load to maintain high efficiency. As the load current decreases, the inductor current ripple valley eventually touches the zero current, which is the boundary between continuous conduction and discontinuous conduction modes. The low-side switch is turned off when the zero inductor current is detected. In this case, the output capacitor is only discharged by load current so that the switching frequency decreases. As the result, the light-load efficiency can be enhanced due to lower switching loss.

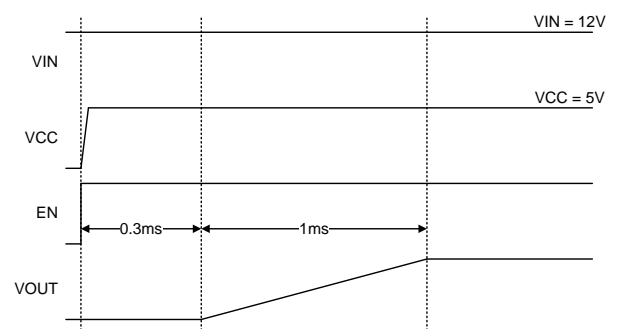
### Enable Control

The RT6273A/B provides an EN pin, as an external chip enable control, to enable or disable the device. If

$V_{EN}$  is held below a logic-low threshold voltage ( $V_{EN\_L}$ ) of the enable input (EN), the converter will disable output voltage, that is, the converter is disabled and switching is inhibited even if the VIN voltage is above VIN under-voltage lockout threshold ( $V_{UVLO}$ ). During shutdown mode, the supply current can be reduced to  $I_{SHDN}$  (10 $\mu$ A or below). If the EN voltage rises above the logic-high threshold voltage ( $V_{EN\_H}$ ) while the VIN voltage is higher than UVLO threshold, the device will be turned on, that is, switching being enabled and soft-start sequence being initiated. An internal resistor  $R_{EN\_DN}$  from EN to GND allows EN float to shutdown the chip.

### Soft-Start (SS)

The RT6273A/B provides an internal soft-start feature for inrush control. At power up, the internal capacitor is charged by an internal current source to generate a soft-start ramp voltage as a reference voltage to the PWM comparator. The device will initiate switching and the output voltage will smoothly ramp up to its targeted regulation voltage only after this ramp voltage is greater than the feedback voltage  $V_{FB}$  to ensure the converters have a smooth start-up from pre-biased output. The output voltage starts to rise in 0.3ms from EN rising, and the soft-start ramp-up time ( $V_{FB}$  from 0V to 0.765V) is 1ms.



### Input Under-Voltage Lockout

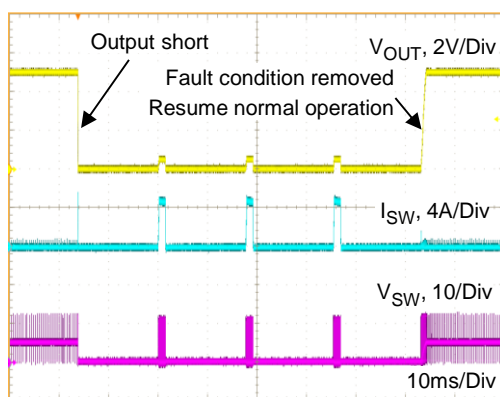
In addition to the EN pin, the RT6273A/B also provides enable control through the VIN pin. It features an under-voltage lockout (UVLO) function that monitors the internal linear regulator (VCC). If  $V_{EN}$  rises above  $V_{EN\_H}$  first, switching will still be inhibited until the VIN voltage rises above  $V_{UVLO}$ . It is to ensure that the

internal regulator is ready so that operation with not-fully-enhanced internal MOSFET switches can be prevented. After the device is powered up, if the input voltage  $V_{IN}$  goes below the UVLO falling threshold voltage ( $V_{UVLO} - \Delta V_{UVLO}$ ), this switching will be inhibited; if  $V_{IN}$  rises above the UVLO rising threshold ( $V_{UVLO}$ ), the device will resume normal operation with a complete soft-start.

**Output Under-Voltage Protection and Hiccup Mode**

The RT6273A/B includes output under-voltage protection (UVP) against over-load or short-circuited condition by constantly monitoring the feedback voltage  $V_{FB}$ . If  $V_{FB}$  drops below the under-voltage protection trip threshold (typically 65% of the internal feedback reference voltage), the UV comparator will go high to turn off both the internal high-side and low-side MOSFET switches.

If the output under-voltage condition continues for a period of time, the RT6273A/B will enter output under-voltage protection with hiccup mode. During hiccup mode, the IC will shut down for  $t_{HICUP\_OFF}$  (15ms), and then attempt to recover automatically for  $t_{HICUP\_ON}$  (1.8ms). Upon completion of the soft-start sequence, if the fault condition is removed, the converter will resume normal operation; otherwise, such cycle for auto-recovery will be repeated until the fault condition is cleared. The hiccup mode allows the circuit to operate safely with low input current and power dissipation, and then the converter resumes normal operation as soon as the over-load or short-circuit condition is removed.



**The Over-Current Protection**

The RT6273A/B features cycle-by-cycle current-limit protection on both the high-side and low-side MOSFETs and prevents the device from the catastrophic damage in output short-circuit, over-current or inductor saturation conditions.

The high-side MOSFET over-current protection is achieved by an internal current comparator that monitors the current in the high-side MOSFET during each on-time. The switch current is compared with the high-side switch peak-current limit ( $I_{LIM\_H}$ ) after a certain amount of delay when the high-side switch being turned on each cycle. If an over-current condition occurs, the converter will immediately turns off the high-side switch and turns on the low-side switch to prevent the inductor current exceeding the high-side current limit.

The low-side MOSFET over-current protection is achieved by measuring the inductor current through the synchronous rectifier (low-side switch) during the low-side on-time. Once the current rises above the low-side switch valley current limit ( $I_{LIM\_L}$ ), the on-time one-shot will be inhibited until the inductor current ramps down to the current limit level ( $I_{LIM\_L}$ ), that is, another on-time can only be triggered when the inductor current goes below the low-side current limit. If the output load current exceeds the available inductor current (clamped by the low-side current limit), the output capacitor needs to supply the extra current such that the output voltage will begin to drop. If it drops below the output under-voltage protection trip threshold, the IC will stop switching to avoid excessive heat.

**Negative Over-Current Limit**

The RT6273B is the part which is forced to PWM and allows negative current operation.

In case of PWM operation, high negative current may be generated as an external power source is tied to output terminal unexpectedly. As the risk described above, the internal circuit monitors negative current in each on-time interval of low-side MOSFET and compares it with NOC threshold.

Once the negative current exceeds the NOC threshold, the low-side MOSFET is turned off immediately, and then the high-side MOSFET will be turned on to

discharge the energy of output inductor. This behavior can keep the valley of negative current at NOC threshold to protect low-side MOSFET. However, the negative current can't be limited at NOC threshold anymore since minimum off-time is reached.

## Thermal Shutdown

The RT6273A/B includes an over-temperature protection (OTP) circuitry to prevent overheating due to excessive power dissipation. The OTP will shut down switching operation when junction temperature exceeds a thermal shutdown threshold ( $T_{SD}$ ). Once the junction temperature cools down by a thermal shutdown hysteresis ( $\Delta T_{SD}$ ), the IC will resume normal operation with a complete soft-start.

Note that the over temperature protection is intended to protect the device during momentary overload conditions. The protection is activated outside of the absolute maximum range of operation as a secondary fail-safe and therefore should not be relied upon operationally. Continuous operation above the specified absolute maximum operating junction temperature may impair the reliability of the device or permanently damage the device.

**Absolute Maximum Ratings** (Note 1)

- Supply Input Voltage, VIN----- -0.3V to 20V
- Enable Voltage, EN----- -0.3V to 20V
- Switch Voltage, SW----- -0.3V to 20.3V  
   < 100ns ----- -5V to 25V
- BOOT Voltage , BOOT----- - 0.3V to 26V
- BOOT to SW, V<sub>BOOT</sub> – V<sub>SW</sub> ----- -0.3V to 6V
- Feedback Voltage, FB ----- -0.3V to 6V
- Lead Temperature (Soldering, 10 sec.)----- 260°C
- Junction Temperature----- 150°C
- Storage Temperature Range ----- -65°C to 150°C
- Power Dissipation, P<sub>D</sub> @ T<sub>A</sub> = 25°C  
   TSOT-23-6 (FC) ----- 1.64W

**ESD Ratings**

- ESD Susceptibility (Note 2)  
   HBM (Human Body Model) ----- 2kV

**Recommended Operating Conditions** (Note 3)

- Supply Input Voltage ----- 4.5V to 17V
- Junction Temperature Range ----- -40°C to 125°C

**Thermal Information** (Note 4 and Note 5)

Thermal Parameter		TSOT-23-6 (FC)	Unit
θ <sub>JA</sub>	Junction-to-ambient thermal resistance (JEDEC standard)	88.7	°C/W
θ <sub>JC(Top)</sub>	Junction-to-case (top) thermal resistance	76.9	°C/W
θ <sub>JC(Bottom)</sub>	Junction-to-case (bottom) thermal resistance	6	°C/W
θ <sub>JA(EVB)</sub>	Junction-to-ambient thermal resistance (specific EVB)	61	°C/W
Ψ <sub>JC(Top)</sub>	Junction-to-top characterization parameter	13.9	°C/W
Ψ <sub>JB</sub>	Junction-to-board characterization parameter	31.53	°C/W

## Electrical Characteristics

(V<sub>IN</sub> = 12V, T<sub>A</sub> = 25°C, unless otherwise specified)

Parameter	Symbol	Test Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
<b>Supply Voltage</b>						
VIN Supply Input Operating Voltage	V <sub>IN</sub>		4.5	--	17	V
Under-Voltage Lockout Threshold	V <sub>UVLO</sub>		3.7	4	4.3	V
Under-Voltage Lockout Threshold Hysteresis	ΔV <sub>UVLO</sub>		--	400	--	mV
Shutdown Current	I <sub>SHDN</sub>	V <sub>EN</sub> = 0V	--	3	10	μA
Quiescent Current	I <sub>Q</sub>	V <sub>EN</sub> = 2V, V <sub>FB</sub> = 0.8V	--	280	--	μA
<b>Soft-Start</b>						
Soft-Start Time	t <sub>SS</sub>		--	1	--	ms
<b>Enable Voltage</b>						
Enable Voltage Threshold	V <sub>EN_H</sub>	EN high-level input voltage	1.16	1.25	1.34	V
	V <sub>EN_L</sub>	EN low-level input voltage	1.01	1.1	1.19	
EN Pin Pull-Down Resistance	R <sub>EN_DN</sub>	EN pin resistance to GND, V <sub>EN</sub> = 12V	225	450	900	kΩ
<b>Feedback Voltage and Discharge Resistance</b>						
Feedback Threshold Voltage	V <sub>FB</sub>	V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1.05V	758	765	772	mV
Feedback Input Current	I <sub>FB</sub>	V <sub>FB</sub> = 0.8V, T <sub>A</sub> = 25°C	-0.1	0	0.1	μA
<b>Internal MOSFET</b>						
High-Side On-Resistance	R <sub>DSON_H</sub>	V <sub>BOOT</sub> - V <sub>SW</sub> = 4.8V	--	95	--	mΩ
Low-Side On-Resistance	R <sub>DSON_L</sub>		--	50	--	
<b>Current Limit</b>						
High-Side Switch Current Limit	I <sub>LIM_H</sub>		--	5.6	--	A
Low-Side Switch Valley Current Limit	I <sub>LIM_L</sub>		3.2	4.2	5.2	
Low-Side Switch Negative Current Limit	I <sub>NOC</sub>	Forced PWM mode only	--	1.4	--	A
<b>Switching Frequency</b>						
Switching Frequency	f <sub>SW</sub>	V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1.05V, PWM mode	--	1.4	--	MHz
<b>On-Time Timer Control</b>						
On-Time	t <sub>ON</sub>	V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1.05V	--	70	--	ns
Minimum Off-Time	t <sub>OFF_MIN</sub>	V <sub>FB</sub> = 0.5V	--	130	--	ns
<b>Output Under-Voltage Protections</b>						
UVP Trip Threshold	V <sub>UVP</sub>	Hiccup detect	--	65	--	%
Hiccup Power On-Time	t <sub>HICCUP_ON</sub>		--	1.8	--	ms
Hiccup Power Off-Time	t <sub>HICCUP_OFF</sub>		--	15	--	



Parameter	Symbol	Test Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
<b>Thermal Shutdown</b>						
Thermal Shutdown Threshold	$T_{SD}$		--	155	--	°C
Thermal Shutdown Hysteresis	$\Delta T_{SD}$		--	35	--	

**Note 1.** Stresses beyond those listed under “Absolute Maximum Ratings” may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only, and functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated in the operational sections of the specifications is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions may affect device reliability.

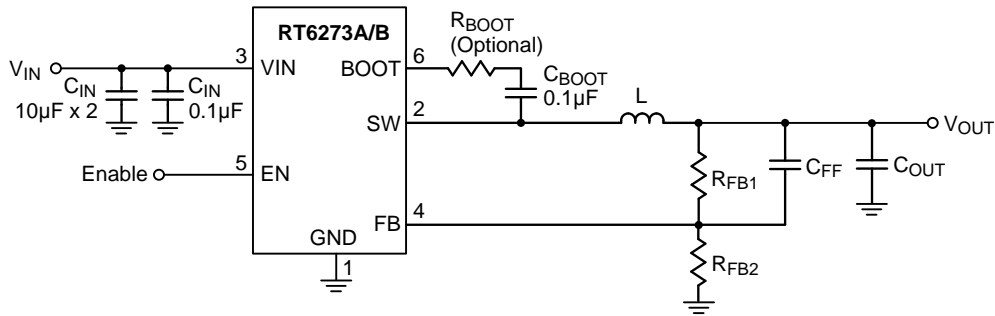
**Note 2.** Devices are ESD sensitive. Handling precaution recommended.

**Note 3.** The device is not guaranteed to function outside its operating conditions.

**Note 4.**  $\theta_{JA}$  and  $\theta_{JC}$  are measured or simulated at  $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$  based on the JEDEC 51-7 standard.

**Note 5.**  $\theta_{JA(EVB)}$ ,  $\Psi_{JC(TOP)}$  and  $\Psi_{JB}$  are measured on a high effective-thermal-conductivity four-layer test board which is in size of 70mm x 50mm; furthermore, all layers with 1 oz. Cu. Thermal resistance/parameter values may vary depending on the PCB material, layout, and test environmental conditions.

## Typical Application Circuit



**Table 1. Recommended Components Selection**

V <sub>OUT</sub> (V)	R <sub>FB1</sub> (kΩ)	R <sub>FB2</sub> (kΩ)	C <sub>FF</sub> (pF)	L (µH)	C <sub>OUT</sub> (µF)
5.0	54.9	10	10 to 100	2.2	44
3.3	33.2	10	10 to 100	2.2	44
2.5	22.6	10	10 to 100	2.2	22
1.8	13.7	10	10 to 100	1	22
1.5	9.53	10	--	1	22
1.2	5.76	10	--	1	22
1.0	3.09	10	--	1	22

**Table 2. Recommended External Components**

Component	Description	Vendor P/N
C <sub>IN</sub>	10µF, 25V, X5R, 0805	GRM21BR61E106MA73 (MURATA) 0805X106M250 (WALSIN)
C <sub>OUT</sub>	22µF, 6.3V, X5R, 0603	GRM187R60J226ME15 (MURATA) 0603X226M6R3 (WALSIN)
L	1µH	74404054010 (WE) FDV0530S-H-1R0M (MURATA)
	2.2µH	74404054022 (WE) FDV0530S-H-2R2M (MURATA)

Note :

Considering effective capacitance de-rating which is related to biased voltage level and size, the effective capacitance of C<sub>OUT</sub> should meet 18µF as 3.3V ≤ V<sub>OUT</sub> ≤ 5V and 12µF as V<sub>OUT</sub> < 3.3V.

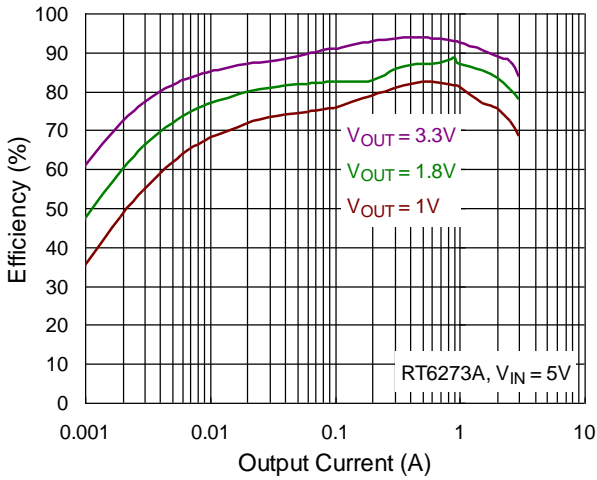
The effect of higher C<sub>FF</sub> value (>100pF) may not be obvious; Furthermore, it probably results in worse load regulation, checking the load regulation is suggested if higher C<sub>FF</sub> is applied.

**Typical Operating Characteristics**

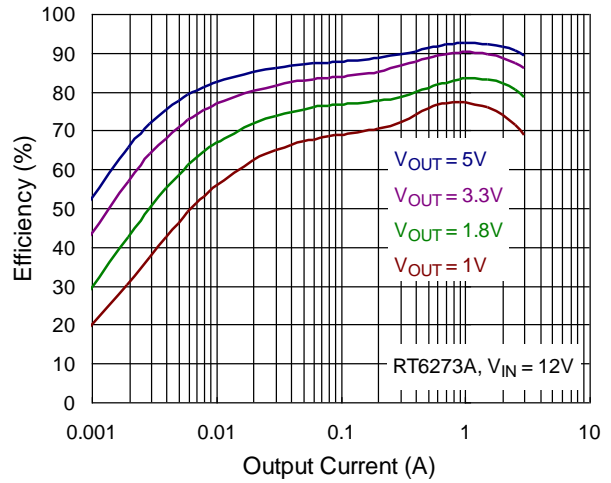
L : WE-74404054010 (DCR = 12mΩ) for V<sub>OUT</sub> = 1V and 1.8V.

L : WE-74404054022 (DCR = 19mΩ) for V<sub>OUT</sub> = 3.3V and 5V.

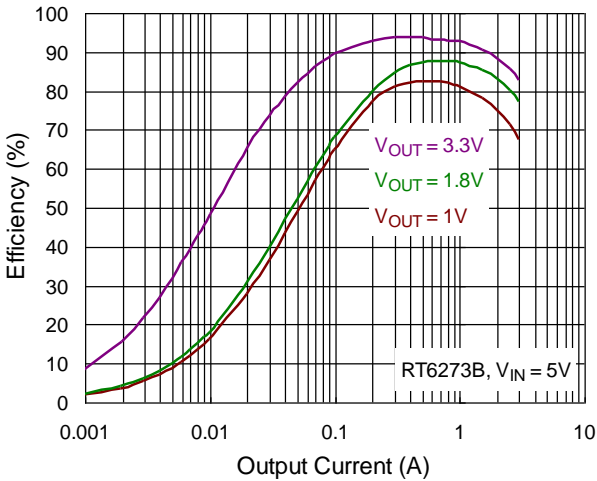
**Efficiency vs. Output Current**



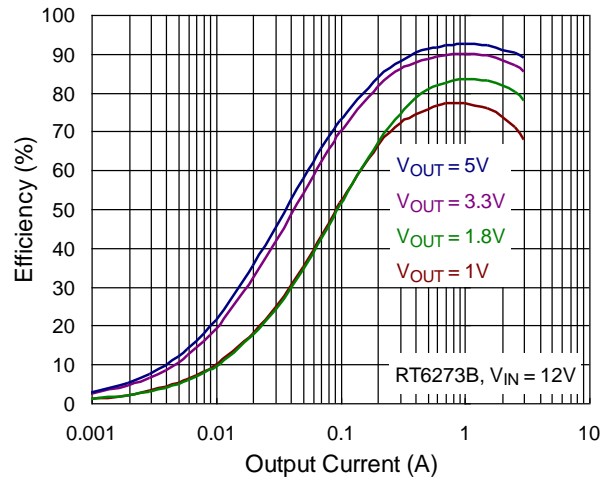
**Efficiency vs. Output Current**



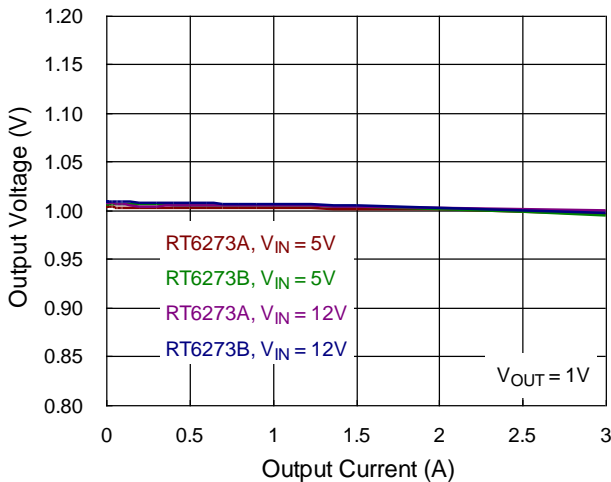
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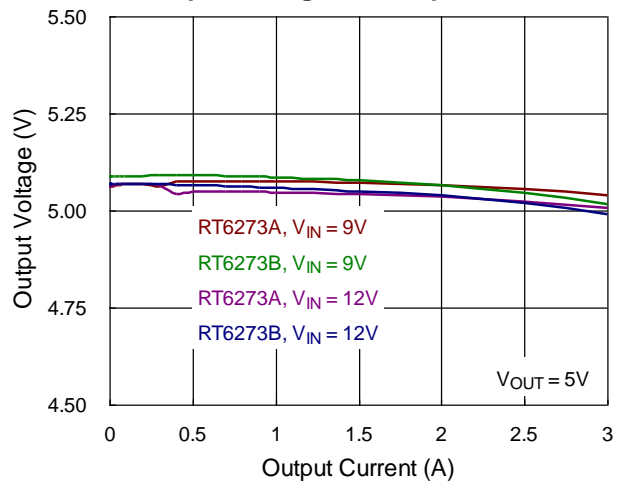
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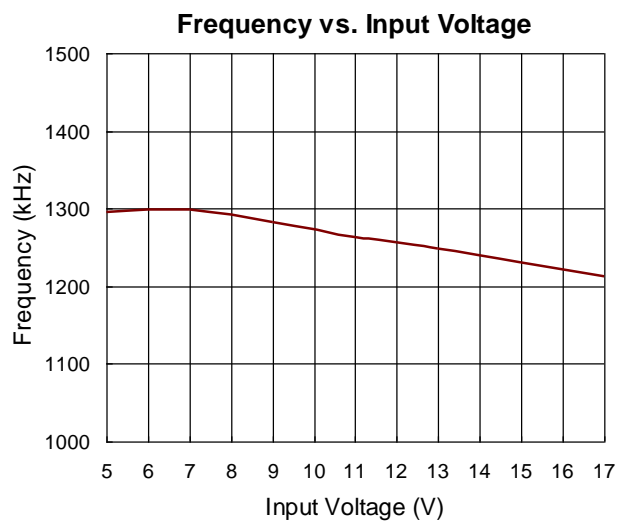
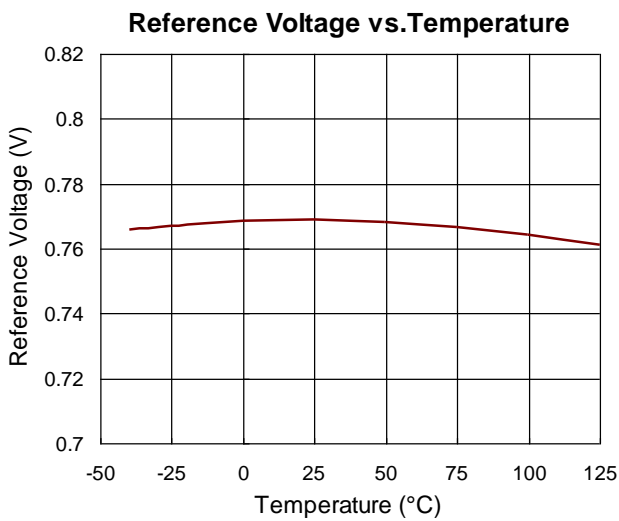
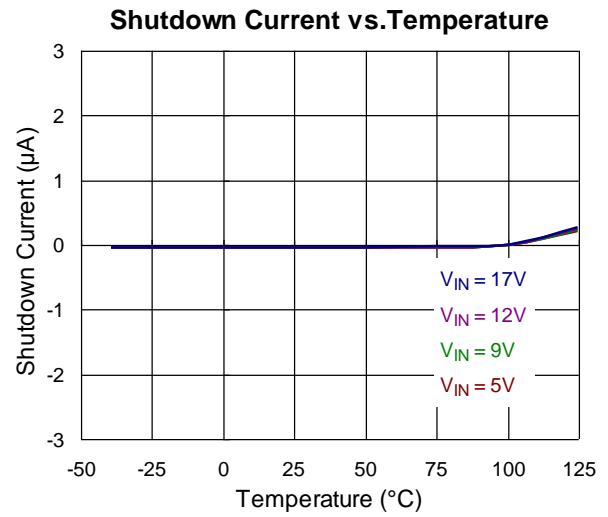
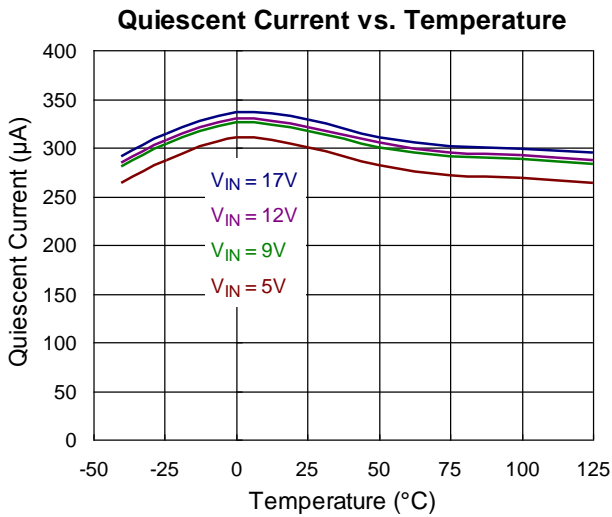
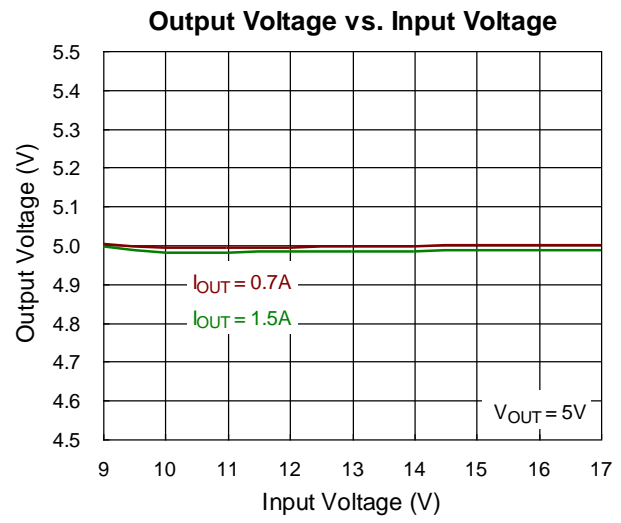
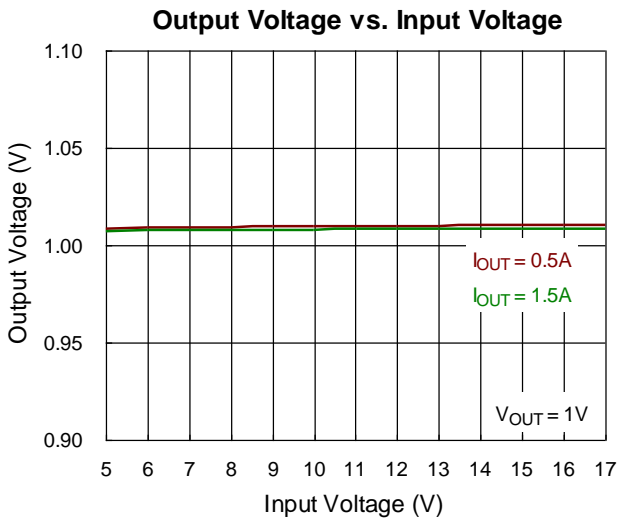


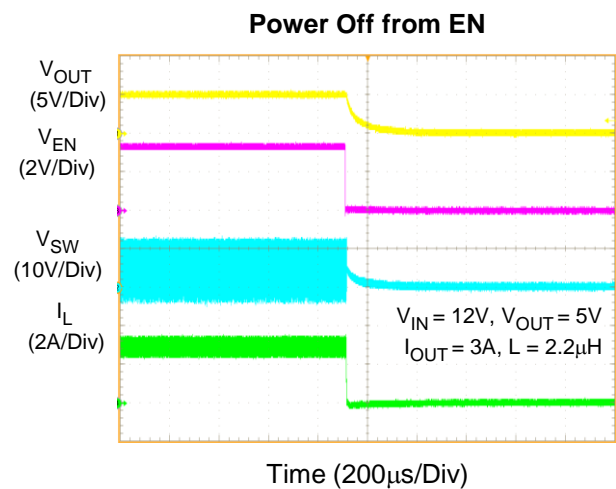
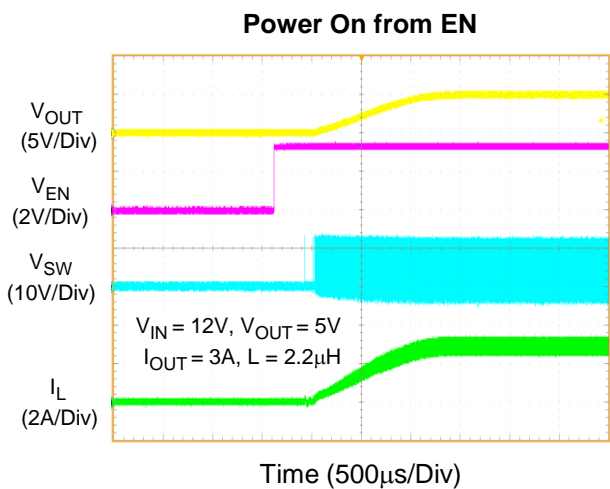
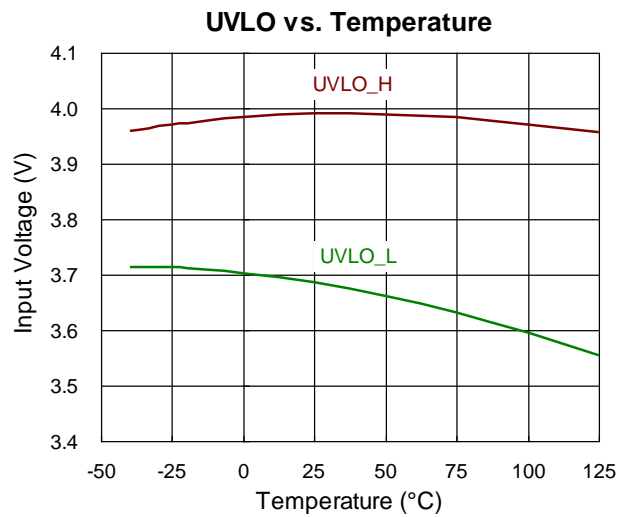
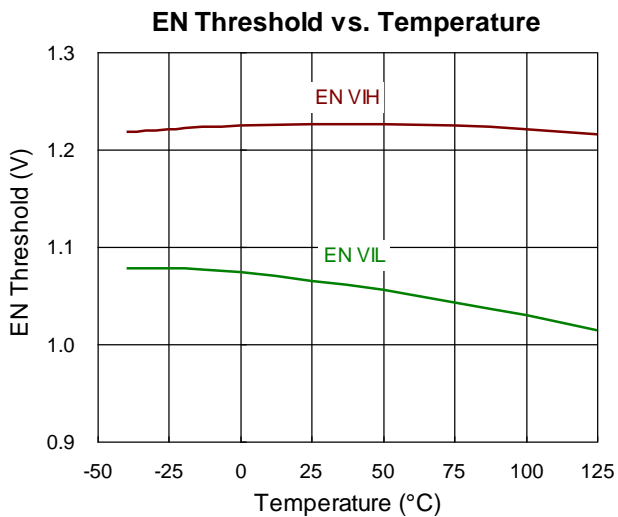
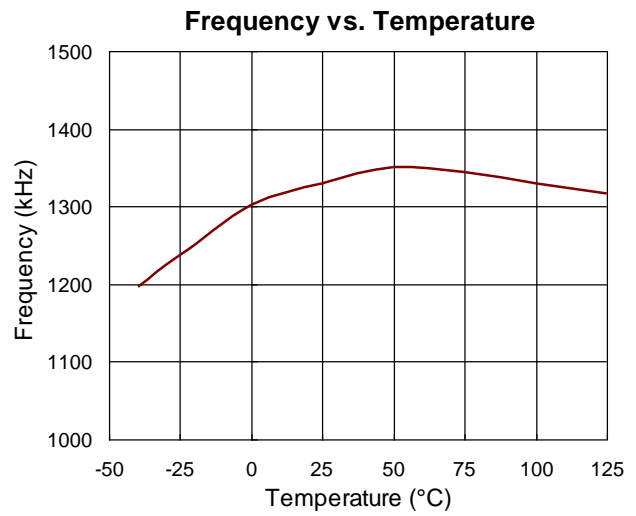
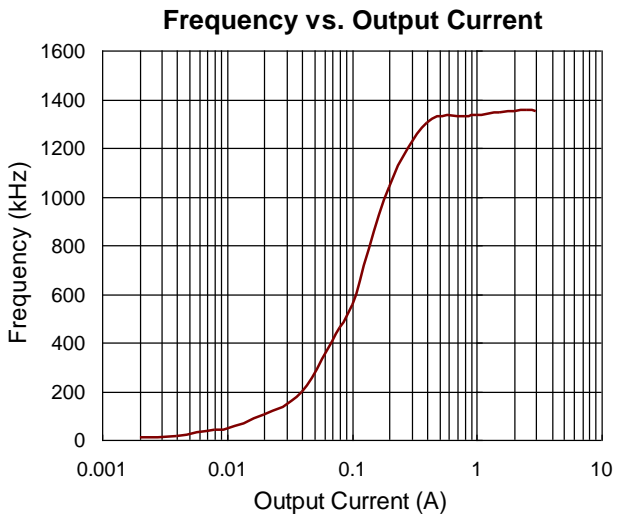
**Output Voltage vs. Output Current**



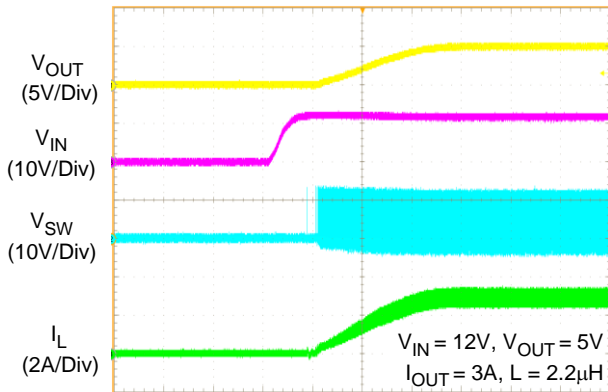
**Output Voltage vs. Output Current**





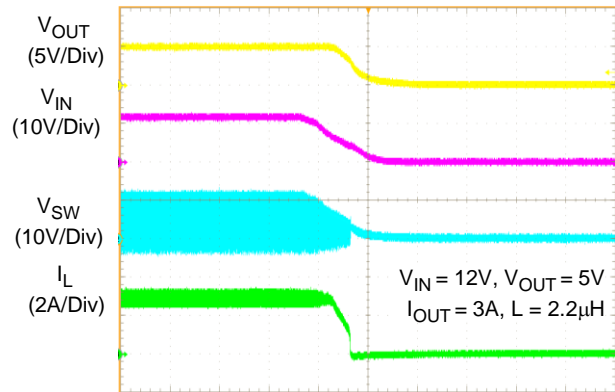


Power On from VIN



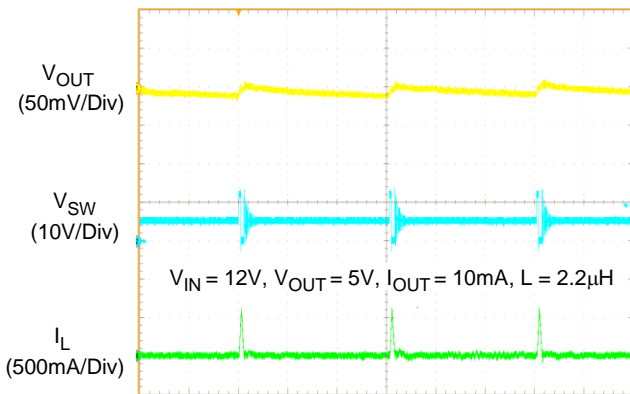
Time (500µs/Div)

Power Off from VIN



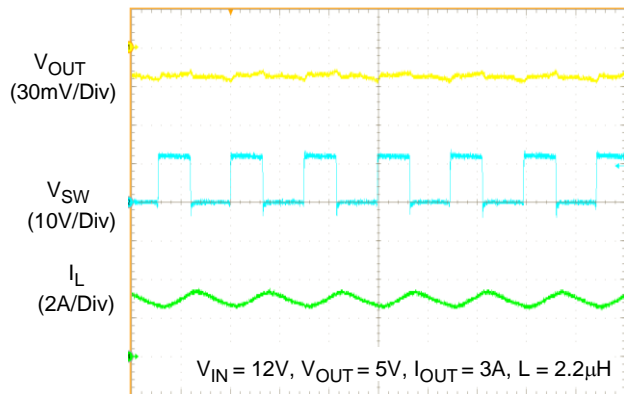
Time (200µs/Div)

Output Ripple as IOUT = 10mA



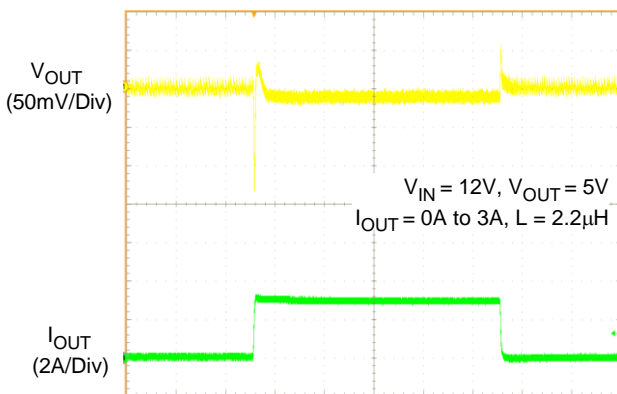
Time (5µs/Div)

Output Ripple as IOUT = 3A



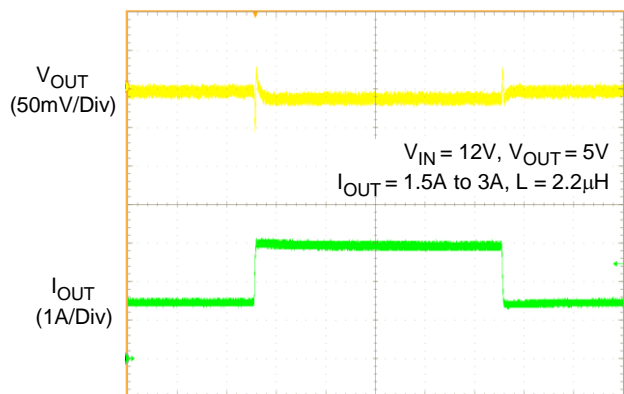
Time (500ns/Div)

Load Transient (No Load to Full Load)



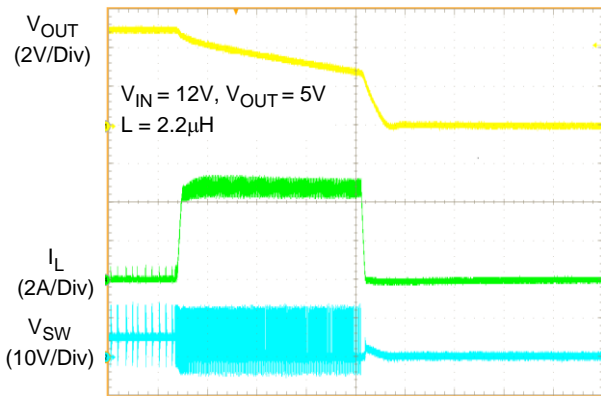
Time (200µs/Div)

Load Transient (Half Load to Full Load)



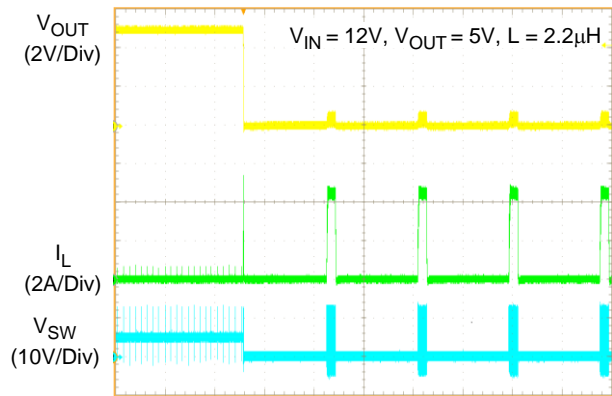
Time (200µs/Div)

**Over-Current Protection and UVP**



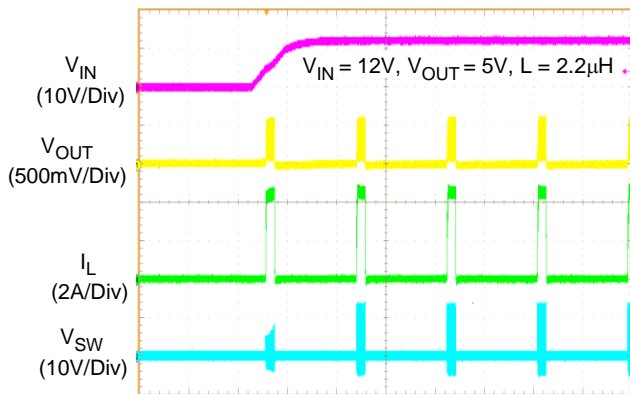
Time (50µs/Div)

**Short Circuit Protection**



Time (10ms/Div)

**Short Circuit before Power On**



Time (10ms/Div)

## Application Information

The output stage of a synchronous buck converter is composed of an inductor and capacitor, which stores and delivers energy to the load, and forms a second-order low-pass filter to smooth out the switch node voltage to maintain a regulated output voltage.

### Inductor Selection

The inductor selection trade-offs among size, cost, efficiency, and transient response requirements. Generally, three key inductor parameters are specified for operation with the device: inductance value (L), inductor saturation current (I<sub>SAT</sub>), and DC resistance (DCR).

A good compromise between size and loss is to choose the peak-to-peak ripple current equals to 20% to 50% of the IC rated current. The switching frequency, input voltage, output voltage, and selected inductor ripple current determines the inductor value as follows :

$$L = \frac{V_{OUT} \times (V_{IN} - V_{OUT})}{V_{IN} \times f_{SW} \times \Delta I_L}$$

Once an inductor value is chosen, the ripple current ( $\Delta I_L$ ) is calculated to determine the required peak inductor current.

$$\Delta I_L = \frac{V_{OUT} \times (V_{IN} - V_{OUT})}{V_{IN} \times f_{SW} \times L} \text{ and } I_{L(PEAK)} = I_{OUT(MAX)} + \frac{\Delta I_L}{2}$$

I<sub>L(PEAK)</sub> should not exceed the minimum value of IC's upper current limit level. Besides, the current flowing through the inductor is the inductor ripple current plus the output current. During power up, faults, or transient load conditions, the inductor current can increase above the calculated peak inductor current level calculated above. In transient conditions, the inductor current can increase up to the switch current limit of the device. For this reason, the most conservative approach is to specify an inductor with a saturation current rating which is equal to or greater than the switch current limit rather than the peak inductor current.

Considering the Typical Application Circuit for 1.2V output at 3A and an input voltage of 12V, using an inductor ripple of 0.8A (26.7% of the IC rated current),

the calculated inductance value is :

$$L = \frac{1.2 \times (12 - 1.2)}{12 \times 1.4 \text{MHz} \times 0.8A} = 0.96 \mu\text{H}$$

For the typical application, a standard inductance value of 1 $\mu$ H can be selected.

$$\Delta I_L = \frac{1.2 \times (12 - 1.2)}{12 \times 1.4 \text{MHz} \times 1 \mu\text{H}} = 0.77A \text{ (25.7\% of the IC rated current)}$$

$$\text{and } I_{L(PEAK)} = 3A + \frac{0.77A}{2} = 3.39A$$

For the 1 $\mu$ H value, the inductor's saturation and thermal rating should exceed at least 3.39A. For more conservative, the rating for inductor saturation current must be equal to or greater than switch current limit of the device rather than the inductor peak current.

For EMI sensitive application, choosing shielding type inductor is preferred.

### Input Capacitor Selection

Input capacitance, C<sub>IN</sub>, is needed to filter the pulsating current at the drain of the high-side power MOSFET. C<sub>IN</sub> should be sized to do this without causing a large variation in input voltage. The waveform of C<sub>IN</sub> ripple voltage and ripple current are shown in Figure 1. The peak-to-peak voltage ripple on input capacitor can be estimated as the equation below :

$$\Delta V_{CIN} = D \times I_{OUT} \times \left( \frac{1-D}{C_{IN} \times f_{SW}} \right) + I_{OUT} \times ESR$$

where

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

For ceramic capacitors, the equivalent series resistance (ESR) is very low, the ripple which is caused by ESR can be ignored, and the minimum input capacitance can be estimated as the equation below :

$$C_{IN\_MIN} = I_{OUT\_MAX} \times \frac{D(1-D)}{\Delta V_{CIN\_MAX} \times f_{SW}}$$

where  $\Delta V_{CIN\_MAX} \leq 200\text{mV}$



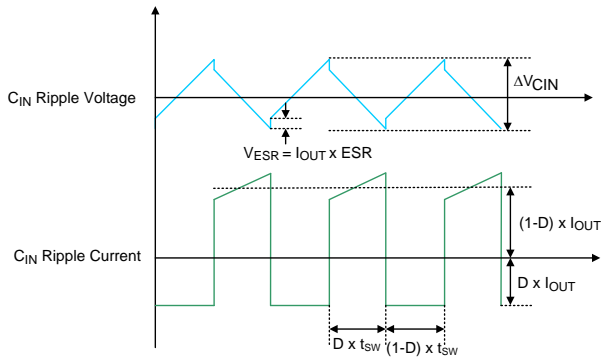


Figure 1. C<sub>IN</sub> Ripple Voltage and Ripple Current

In addition, the input capacitor needs to have a very low ESR and must be rated to handle the worst-case RMS input current of :

$$I_{RMS} \cong I_{OUT\_MAX} \times \frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN}} \times \sqrt{\frac{V_{IN}}{V_{OUT}} - 1}$$

It is commonly to use the worse  $I_{RMS} \cong I_{OUT}/2$  at  $V_{IN} = 2V_{OUT}$  for design. Note that ripple current ratings from capacitor manufacturers are often based on only 2000 hours of life which makes it advisable to further de-rate the capacitor, or choose a capacitor rated at a higher temperature than required.

Several capacitors may also be paralleled to meet size, height and thermal requirements in the design. For low input voltage applications, sufficient bulk input capacitance is needed to minimize transient effects during output load changes.

Ceramic capacitors are ideal for switching regulator applications because of its small size, robustness, and very low ESR. However, care must be taken when these capacitors are used at the input. A ceramic input capacitor combined with trace or cable inductance forms a high quality (under damped) tank circuit. If the RT6273A/B circuit is plugged into a live supply, the input voltage can ring to twice its nominal value, possibly exceeding the device’s rating. This situation is easily avoided by placing the low ESR ceramic input capacitor in parallel with a bulk capacitor with higher ESR to damp the voltage ringing.

The input capacitor should be placed as close as possible to the VIN pins, with a low inductance connection to the GND of the IC. In addition to a larger bulk capacitor, a small ceramic capacitors of 0.1μF should be placed close to the VIN and GND pin. This

capacitor should be 0402 or 0603 in size.

**Output Capacitor Selection**

The RT6273A/B are optimized for ceramic output capacitors and best performance will be obtained using them. The total output capacitance value is usually determined by the desired output voltage ripple level and transient response requirements for sag (undershoot on load apply) and soar (overshoot on load release).

**Output Ripple**

The output voltage ripple at the switching frequency is a function of the inductor current ripple going through the output capacitor’s impedance. To derive the output voltage ripple, the output capacitor with capacitance (C<sub>OUT</sub>) and its equivalent series resistance (R<sub>ESR</sub>) must be taken into consideration. The output peak-to-peak ripple voltage (V<sub>RIPPLE</sub>) caused by the inductor current ripple (ΔI<sub>L</sub>) is characterized by two components, which are ESR ripple (V<sub>RIPPLE(ESR)</sub>) and capacitive ripple (V<sub>RIPPLE(C)</sub>), and can be expressed as below :

$$V_{RIPPLE} = V_{RIPPLE(ESR)} + V_{RIPPLE(C)}$$

$$V_{RIPPLE(ESR)} = \Delta I_L \times R_{ESR}$$

$$V_{RIPPLE(C)} = \frac{\Delta I_L}{8 \times C_{OUT} \times f_{SW}}$$

As ceramic capacitors are used, both parameters should be estimated due to the extremely low ESR and relatively small capacitance. Refer to the RT6273A/B’s typical application circuit of 1.2V application, the actual inductor current ripple (ΔI<sub>L</sub>) is 0.77A, and the output capacitor is 22μF (Murata ceramic capacitor: GRM219R60J226ME47), V<sub>RIPPLE</sub> can be obtained as below.

The ripple caused by ESR (2mΩ) can be calculated as :

$$V_{RIPPLE(ESR)} = 0.77A \times 2m\Omega = 1.54mV$$

Considering the capacitance derating, the effective capacitance is approximately 18μF as the output voltage is 1.2V, and another parameter is :

$$V_{RIPPLE(C)} = \frac{0.77A}{8 \times 18\mu F \times 1.4MHz} = 3.8mV$$

$$V_{RIPPLE} = 1.54mV + 3.8mV = 5.34mV$$

## Output Transient Undershoot and Overshoot

In addition to voltage ripple at the switching frequency, the output capacitor and its ESR also affect the voltage sag (undershoot) and soar (overshoot) when the load steps up and down abruptly. The ACOT<sup>®</sup> transient response is very quick and output transients are usually small. The following section shows how to calculate the worst-case voltage swings in response to very fast load steps.

Both undershoot voltage and overshoot voltage consist of two factors : the voltage steps caused by the output capacitor's ESR, and the voltage sag and soar due to the finite output capacitance and the inductor current slew rate. Use the following formulas to check if the ESR is low enough (typically not a problem with ceramic capacitors) and the output capacitance is large enough to prevent excessive sag and soar on very fast load step edges, with the chosen inductor value.

The amplitude of the ESR step up or down is a function of the load step and the ESR of the output capacitor :

$$V_{ESR\_STEP} = \Delta I_{OUT} \times R_{ESR}$$

The amplitude of the capacitive sag is a function of the load step, the output capacitor value, the inductor value, the input-to-output voltage differential, and the maximum duty cycle. The maximum duty cycle during a fast transient is a function of the on-time and the minimum off-time since the ACOT<sup>®</sup> control scheme will ramp the current using on-times spaced apart with minimum off-times, which is as fast as allowed. Calculate the approximate on-time (neglecting parasites) and maximum duty cycle for a given input and output voltage as :

$$t_{ON} = \frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{IN} \times f_{SW}} \text{ and } D_{MAX} = \frac{t_{ON}}{t_{ON} + t_{OFF\_MIN}}$$

The real on-time will slightly extend due to the voltage drop which is related to output current; however, this on-time compensation can be neglected. Calculate the output voltage sag as :

$$V_{SAG} = \frac{L \times (\Delta I_{OUT})^2}{2 \times C_{OUT} \times (V_{IN(MIN)} \times D_{MAX} - V_{OUT})}$$

The amplitude of the capacitive soar is a function of the load step, the output capacitor value, the inductor value and the output voltage :

$$V_{SOAR} = \frac{L \times (\Delta I_{OUT})^2}{2 \times C_{OUT} \times V_{OUT}}$$

Because some modern digital loads can exhibit nearly instantaneous load changes, the amplitude of the ESR should be taken into consideration while calculating the  $V_{SAG}$  &  $V_{SOAR}$ .

## Output Voltage Setting

Set the desired output voltage using a resistive divider from the output to ground with the midpoint connected to FB, as shown in Figure 2. The output voltage is set according to the following equation :

$$V_{OUT} = 0.765V \times (1 + R_{FB1} / R_{FB2})$$

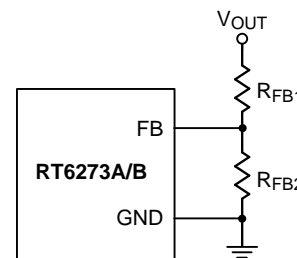


Figure 2. Output Voltage Setting

Place the FB resistors within 5mm of the FB pin. Choose  $R_{FB2}$  between 10k $\Omega$  and 100k $\Omega$  to minimize power consumption without excessive noise pick-up and calculate  $R_{FB1}$  as follows :

$$R_{FB1} = \frac{R_{FB2} \times (V_{OUT} - V_{REF})}{V_{REF}}$$

For output voltage accuracy, use divider resistors with 1% or better tolerance.

## Feed-Forward Capacitor Selection ( $C_{FF}$ )

The RT6273A/B is optimized for low duty-cycle applications and the control loop is stable with low ESR ceramic output capacitors. In higher duty-cycle applications (higher output voltages or lower input voltages), the internal ripple signal will increase in amplitude. Before the ACOT<sup>®</sup> control loop can react to an output voltage fluctuation, the voltage change on the feedback signal must exceed the internal ripple amplitude. Because of the large internal ripple in this condition, the response may become slower and under-damped. This situation will result in ringing waveform at output terminal. In case of high output

voltage application, the phenomenon described above is more visible because of large attenuation in feedback network. As shown in Figure 3, adding a feedforward capacitor ( $C_{FF}$ ) across the upper feedback resistor is recommended. This increases the damping of the control system.

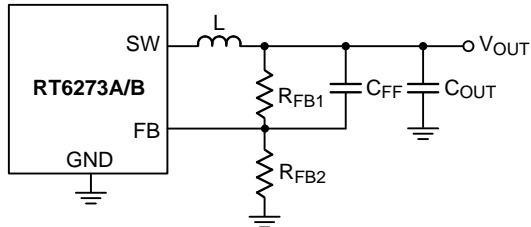


Figure 3. Feedback Loop with Feedforward Capacitor

Loop stability can be checked by viewing the load transient response. A load step with a speed that exceeds the converter bandwidth must be applied. For ACOT<sup>®</sup>, loop bandwidth can be in the order of 100 to 200kHz, so a load step with 500ns maximum rising time ( $dI/dt \approx 2A/\mu s$ ) ensures the excitation frequency is sufficient. It is important that the converter operates in PWM mode, outside the light load efficiency range, and below any current limit threshold. A load transient from 30% to 60% of maximum load is reasonable which is shown in Figure 4.

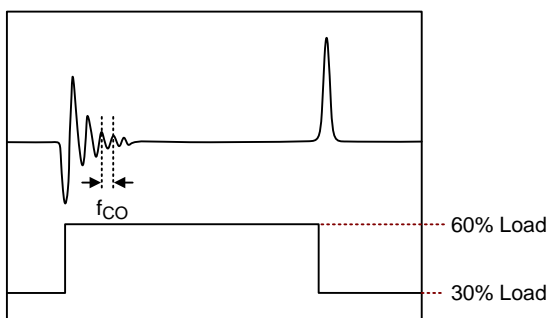


Figure 4. Example of Measuring the Converter BW by Fast Load Transient

$C_{FF}$  can be calculated basing on below equation :

$$C_{FF} = \frac{1}{2\pi \times BW} \sqrt{\frac{1}{R_{FB1}} \times \left( \frac{1}{R_{FB1}} + \frac{1}{R_{FB2}} \right)}$$

Figure 5. shows the transient performance with and without feedforward capacitor.

Note that, after defining the  $C_{FF}$  please also check the load regulation, because feedforward capacitor might inject an offset voltage into  $V_{OUT}$  to cause  $V_{OUT}$  inaccuracy. If the output voltage is over spec caused by

calculated  $C_{FF}$ , please decrease the value of feedforward capacitor  $C_{FF}$ .

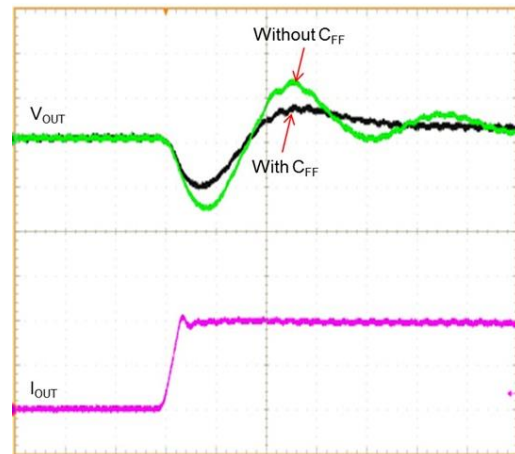


Figure 5. Load Transient Response With and Without Feedforward Capacitor

**Enable Operation**

The RT6273A/B is enabled when the  $V_{IN}$  pin voltage rises above  $V_{UVLO}$  while the EN pin voltage exceeds  $V_{EN\_H}$ . The RT6273A/B is disabled when the  $V_{IN}$  pin voltage falls below  $V_{UVLO} - \Delta V_{UVLO}$  or when the EN pin voltage is below  $V_{EN\_L}$ . An internal pull-down resistor  $REN\_DN$ , which is connected from EN to GND, ensures that the chip still stays in shutdown even if EN pin is floated.

For automatic start-up, the EN pin, with high-voltage rating, can be connected to the input supply  $V_{IN}$  directly as shown in Figure 6.

The built-in hysteresis band makes the EN pin useful for simple delay and timing circuits. The EN pin can be externally connected to  $V_{IN}$  by adding a resistor  $REN$  and a capacitor  $C_{EN}$ , as shown in Figure 7, to have an additional delay. The time delay can be calculated by the equation below with the EN's internal threshold, at which switching operation begins.

$$C_{EN} = \frac{t}{R_{th} \times \ln \frac{V_{th}}{V_{th} - V_{EN\_H}}}$$

, where

$$R_{th} = REN // REN\_DN$$

$$V_{th} = V_{IN} \times \frac{REN\_DN}{REN\_DN + REN}$$

An external MOSFET can be used for logic control which is shown in Figure 8. In this case, REN is connected between VIN and the EN pin. The MOSFET Q1 will be under logic control to pull down the EN pin.

If the device is desired to be shut down by EN pin before VIN falls below the UVLO threshold, a resistive divider (REN1 and REN2) can be used to externally set the input under-voltage lockout threshold as shown in Figure 9. For a given REN1, REN2 can be found by the equation below for the desired VIN stop voltage.

$$V_{IN\_STOP} \times \frac{R_{EN2} // R_{EN\_DN}}{R_{EN1} + R_{EN2} // R_{EN\_DN}} < V_{EN\_L}$$

After REN1 and REN2 are defined, the input voltage VIN\_START is obtained from

$$V_{EN\_H} \times \frac{R_{EN1} + R_{EN2} // R_{EN\_DN}}{R_{EN2} // R_{EN\_DN}} = V_{IN\_START}$$

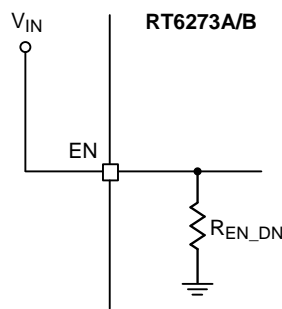


Figure 6. Automatic Start-Up Setting

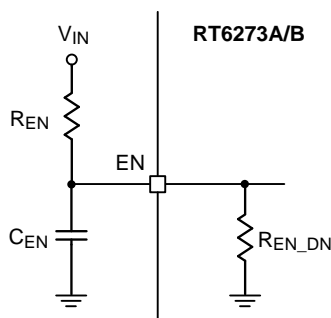


Figure 7. External Timing Control

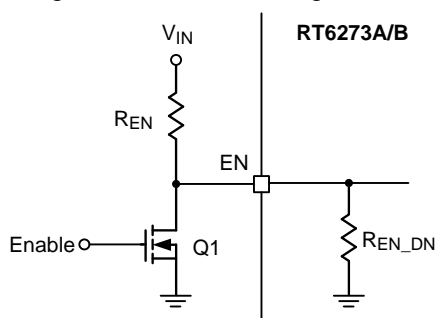


Figure 8. Digital Enable Control Circuit

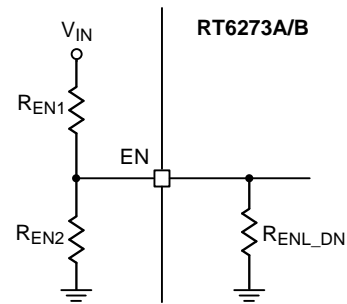


Figure 9. Resistor Divider for Lockout Threshold Setting

### Bootstrap Driver Supply

The bootstrap capacitor (C\_BOOT) between the BOOT pin and the SW pin is used to create a voltage rail above the applied input voltage, VIN. Specifically, the bootstrap capacitor is charged through an internal diode to a voltage equal to approximately PVCC each time the low-side switch is turned on. The charge on this capacitor is then used to supply the required current during the remainder of the switching cycle. For most applications, a 0.1μF, 0603 ceramic capacitor with X5R is recommended and the capacitor should have a 6.3 V or higher voltage rating.

### External Bootstrap Diode (Optional)

A bootstrap capacitor of 0.1μF low-ESR ceramic capacitor is connected between the BOOT and SW pins to supply the high-side gate driver. It is recommended to add an external bootstrap diode between an external 5V voltage supply and the BOOT pin as shown in Figure 10 to improve efficiency when the input voltage is below 5.5V. The bootstrap diode can be a low-cost one, such as 1N4148 or BAT54. The external 5V can be a fixed 5V voltage supply from the system, or a 5V output voltage generated by the RT6273A/B. Note that the BOOT voltage V\_BOOT must be lower than 5.5V.

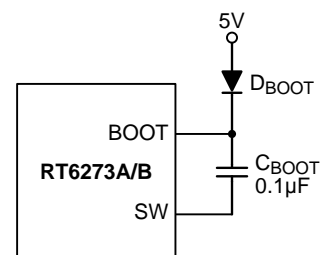


Figure 10. External Bootstrap Diode

**External Bootstrap Resistor (Optional)**

The gate driver of an internal power MOSFET, utilized as a high-side switch, is optimized for turning on the switch. The gate driver is not only fast enough for reducing switching power loss, but also slow enough for minimizing EMI. The EMI issue is worse when the switch is turned on rapidly due to the induced high di/dt noises. When the high-side switch is turned off, the discharging time on SW node is relatively slow because there's the presence of dead time, both high-side and low-side MOSFETs are turned off in this interval. In some cases, it is desirable to reduce EMI further, even at the expense of some additional power dissipation. The turn-on rate of the high-side switch can be slowed by placing a small bootstrap resistor  $R_{BOOT}$  between the BOOT pin and the external bootstrap capacitor as shown in Figure 11. The recommended range for the  $R_{BOOT}$  is several ohms to 47 ohms, and it could be 0402 or 0603 in size.

This will slow down the rates of the high-side switch turn on and the rise of  $V_{SW}$ . In order to improve EMI performance and enhancement of the internal MOSFET switch, the recommended application circuit is shown in Figure 12, which includes an external bootstrap diode for charging the bootstrap capacitor and a bootstrap resistor  $R_{BOOT}$  placed between the BOOT pin and the capacitor/diode connection.

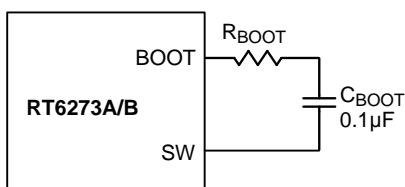


Figure 11. External Bootstrap Resistor at the BOOT Pin

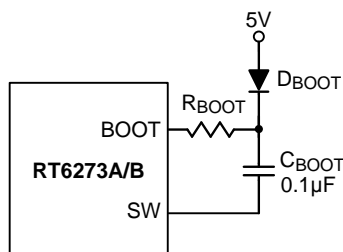


Figure12. External Bootstrap Diode and Resistor at the BOOT Pin

**Thermal Considerations**

In many applications, the RT6273A/B does not generate much heat due to its high efficiency and low thermal resistance of its TSOT-23-6 (FC) package. However, in applications which the RT6273A/B runs at a high ambient temperature and high input voltage, the generated heat may exceed the maximum junction temperature of the part.

The RT6273A/B includes an over-temperature protection (OTP) circuitry to prevent overheating due to excessive power dissipation. If the junction temperature reaches approximately 155°C, the RT6273A/B stops switching the power MOSFETs until the temperature is cooled down by 35°C.

Note that the over temperature protection is intended to protect the device during momentary overload conditions. The protection is activated outside of the absolute maximum range of operation as a secondary fail-safe and therefore should not be relied upon operationally. Continuous operation above the specified absolute maximum operating junction temperature may impair device reliability or permanently damage the device.

The maximum power dissipation can be calculated by the following formula :

$$P_{D(MAX)} = (T_{J(MAX)} - T_A) / \theta_{JA(EFFECTIVE)}$$

where  $T_{J(MAX)}$  is the maximum allowed junction temperature of the die. For recommended operating condition specifications, the maximum junction temperature is 125°C.  $T_A$  is the ambient operating temperature, and  $\theta_{JA(EFFECTIVE)}$  is the system-level junction to ambient thermal resistance. It can be estimated from thermal modeling or measurements in the system.

The thermal resistance of the device strongly depends on the surrounding PCB layout and can be improved by providing a heat sink of surrounding copper ground. The addition of backside copper with thermal vias, stiffeners, and other enhancements can also help reduce thermal resistance.

As an example, considering the case when the RT6273A is used in application where  $V_{IN} = 12V$ ,  $I_{OUT} = 3A$ ,  $f_{sw} = 1.4MHz$ ,  $V_{OUT} = 1V$ . The efficiency at 1V,

3A is 68.7% by using WE-74404054010 (1μH, 12mΩ DCR) as the inductor and measured at room temperature. The core loss can be obtained from its website and it's 54mW. In this case, the power dissipation of the RT6273A is

$$P_{D, RT} = \frac{1-\eta}{\eta} \times P_{OUT} - (I_O^2 \times DCR + P_{CORE}) = 1.21W$$

Considering the system-level  $\theta_{JA(EFFECTIVE)}$  is 67.1°C/W (other heat sources are also considered), the junction temperature of the regulator operating in a 25°C ambient temperature is approximately :

$$T_J = 1.21W \times 67.1^\circ C/W + 25^\circ C = 106^\circ C$$

Figure 13 shows the RT6273A/B  $R_{DS(ON)}$  versus different junction temperatures. If the application requires a higher ambient temperature, we might recalculate the device power dissipation and the junction temperature of the device need to be recalculated based on a higher  $R_{DS(ON)}$  since it increases with temperature.

Using 40°C ambient temperature as an example. Due to the variation of junction temperature is dominated by the ambient temperature, the  $T'_J$  at 40°C ambient temperature can be pre-estimated as

$$T'_J = 106^\circ C + (40^\circ C - 25^\circ C) = 121^\circ C$$

According to Figure 13, the increasing  $R_{DS(ON)}$  can be found as

$$\Delta R_{DS(ON)_H} = 132m\Omega \text{ (at } 121^\circ C) - 127m\Omega \text{ (} 106^\circ C) = 5m\Omega$$

$$\Delta R_{DS(ON)_L} = 66m\Omega \text{ (at } 121^\circ C) - 64m\Omega \text{ (} 106^\circ C) = 2m\Omega$$

The external power dissipation caused by the increasing  $R_{DS(ON)}$  at higher temperature can be calculated as

$$\Delta P_{D,RDS(ON)} = (3A)^2 \times \frac{1}{12} \times 5m\Omega + (3A)^2 \times \left(1 - \frac{1}{12}\right) \times 2m\Omega = 0.02W$$

As a result, the new power dissipation is 1.23W due to the variation of  $R_{DS(ON)}$ . Therefore, the estimated new junction temperature is

$$T'_J = 1.23W \times 67.1^\circ C/W + 40^\circ C = 123^\circ C$$

If the application requires a higher ambient temperature and may exceed the recommended maximum junction temperature of 125°C, care should be taken to reduce the temperature rise of the part by using a heat sink or air flow.

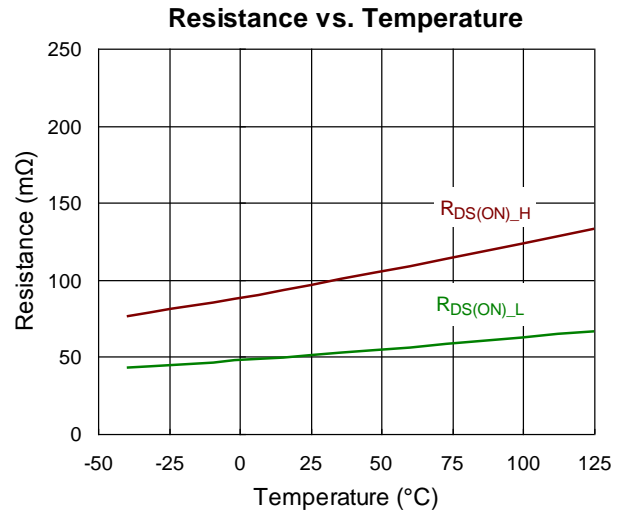


Figure 13. RT6273A/B  $R_{DS(ON)}$  vs. Temperature

### Layout Considerations

Follow the PCB layout guidelines below for optimal performance of the device.

- ▶ Keep the high-current paths short, especially at the ground terminals. This practice is essential for stable and jitter-free operation. The high current path comprising of input capacitor, high-side FET, inductor, and the output capacitor should be as short as possible. This practice is essential for high efficiency.
- ▶ Place the input MLCC capacitors as close to the VIN and GND pins as possible. The major MLCC capacitors should be placed on the same layer as the RT6273A/B.
- ▶ SW node is with high frequency voltage swing and should be kept at small area. Keep analog components away from the SW node to prevent stray capacitive noise pickup.
- ▶ Connect feedback network behind the output capacitors. Place the feedback components next to the FB pin.
- ▶ For better thermal performance, design a wide and thick plane for GND pin or add a lot of vias to GND plane.

An example of PCB layout guide is shown in Figure 14.

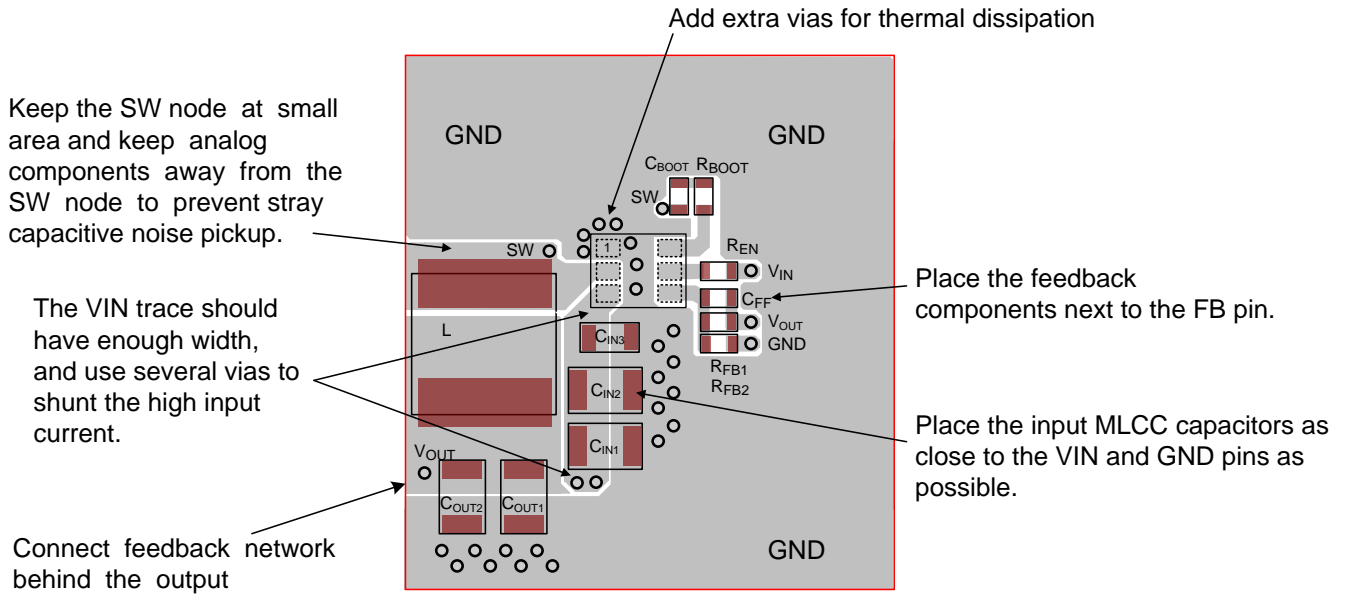
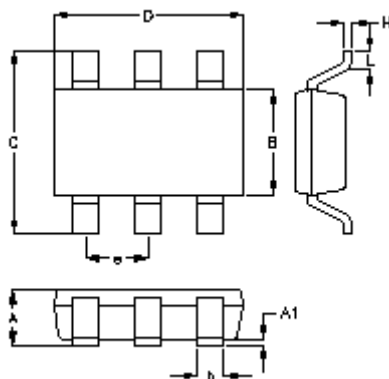


Figure 14. Layout Guide

## Outline Dimension

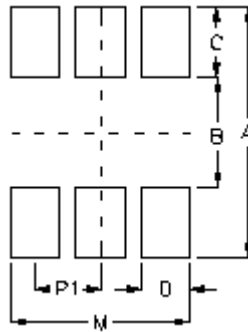


Symbol	Dimensions In Millimeters		Dimensions In Inches	
	Min	Max	Min	Max
A	0.700	1.000	0.028	0.039
A1	0.000	0.100	0.000	0.004
B	1.397	1.803	0.055	0.071
b	0.300	0.559	0.012	0.022
C	2.591	3.000	0.102	0.118
D	2.692	3.099	0.106	0.122
e	0.950		0.037	
H	0.080	0.254	0.003	0.010
L	0.300	0.610	0.012	0.024

**TSOT-23-6 (FC) Surface Mount Package**



**Footprint Information**



Package	Number of Pin	Footprint Dimension (mm)						Tolerance
		P1	A	B	C	D	M	
TSOT-26/TSOT-26(FC)/SOT-26/SOT-26(COL)	6	0.95	3.60	1.60	1.00	0.70	2.60	±0.10

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