

# LTM4601A/LTM4601A-1

# 12A µModule Regulators with PLL, Output Tracking and Margining

## **FEATURES**

- Complete Switch Mode Power Supply
- Wide Input Voltage Range: 4.5V to 20V
- 12A DC Typical, 14A Peak Output Current
- 0.6V to 5V Output Voltage
- Output Voltage Tracking and Margining
- Redundant Mounting Pads for Enhanced Solder-Joint Strength
- Parallel Multiple µModules for Current Sharing
- Differential Remote Sensing for Precision Regulation (LTM4601A Only)
- PLL Frequency Synchronization
- ±1.5% Total DC Error
- Current Foldback Protection (Disabled at Start-Up)
- SnPb or RoHS Compliant Finish
- UltraFast™ Transient Response
- Current Mode Control
- Up to 95% Efficiency at 5V<sub>IN</sub>, 3.3V<sub>OUT</sub>
- Programmable Soft-Start
- Output Overvoltage Protection
- Enhanced (15mm  $\times$  15mm  $\times$  2.82mm) Surface Mount LGA and (15mm  $\times$  15mm  $\times$  3.42mm) BGA Packages

## **APPLICATIONS**

- Telecom and Networking Equipment
- Servers

## DESCRIPTION

The LTM®4601A is a complete 12A step-down switch mode DC/DC power supply with onboard switching controller, MOSFETs, inductor and all support components. The  $\mu\text{Module}^\circledast$  regulator is housed in a small surface mount  $15\text{mm}\times15\text{mm}\times2.82\text{mm}$  LGA or  $15\text{mm}\times15\text{mm}\times3.42\text{mm}$  BGA package. The LTM4601A LGA and BGA packages are designed with redundant mounting pads to enhance solder-joint strength for extended temperature cycling endurance. Operating over an input voltage range of 4.5V to 20V, the LTM4601A supports an output voltage range of 0.6V to 5V as well as output voltage tracking and margining. The high efficiency design delivers 12A continuous current (14A peak). Only bulk input and output capacitors are needed to complete the design.

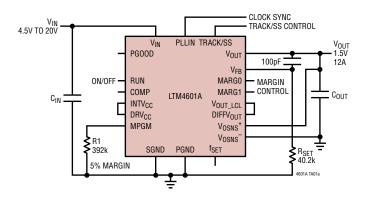
The low profile and light weight package easily mounts on the back side of PC boards. The µModule regulator can be synchronized with an external clock for reducing undesirable frequency harmonics and allows PolyPhase® operation for high load currents.

An onboard differential remote sense amplifier can be used to accurately regulate an output voltage independent of load current. The onboard remote sense amplifier is not available in the LTM4601A-1.

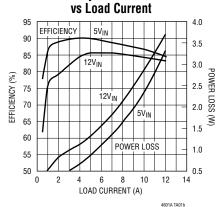
CT, LT, LTC, LTM, µModule and PolyPhase are registered trademarks of Linear Technology Corporation. UltraFast and LTpowerCAD are trademarks of Linear Technology Corporation. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. Protected by U.S. Patents including 5481178, 5847554, 6304066, 6476589, 6580258, 6677210, 6774611.

## TYPICAL APPLICATION

1.5V/12A Power Supply with 4.5V to 20V Input



# Efficiency and Power Loss



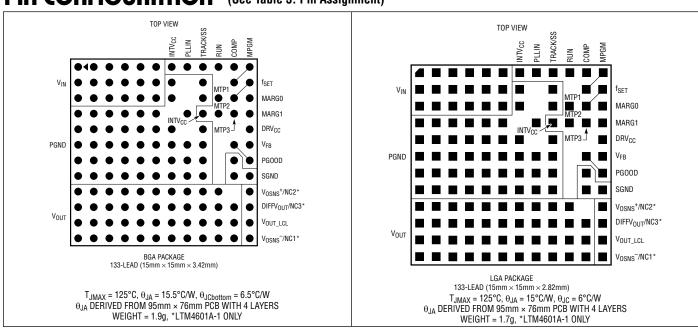


## **ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS** (Note 1)

/ with
-0.3V to 6V
$V_{CC} + 0.3V$
-0.3V to 5V
0.3V to 2.7V

V <sub>IN</sub>	.−0.3V to 20V
V <sub>OSNS</sub> <sup>+</sup> , V <sub>OSNS</sub> <sup>-</sup> 0.3V to I	$NTV_{CC} + 0.3V$
Operating Temperature Range (Note 2)	-40°C to 85°C
Junction Temperature	125°C
Storage Temperature Range!	55°C to 125°C
Peak Solder Reflow Body Temperature	245°C

## PIN CONFIGURATION (See Table 5. Pin Assignment)



## ORDER INFORMATION

PART NUMBER	PAD OR BALL FINISH	PART MAF	KING*	PACKAGE	MSL	TEMPERATURE RANGE
		DEVICE	FINISH CODE	TYPE	RATING	(Note 2)
LTM4601AEV#PBF	Au (RoHS)	LTM4601AV	e4	LGA	3	-40°C to 85°C
LTM4601AIV#PBF	Au (RoHS)	LTM4601AV	e4	LGA	3	-40°C to 85°C
LTM4601AEV-1#PBF	Au (RoHS)	LTM4601AV-1	e4	LGA	3	-40°C to 85°C
LTM4601AIV-1#PBF	Au (RoHS)	LTM4601AV-1	e4	LGA	3	-40°C to 85°C
LTM4601AEY#PBF	SAC305 (RoHS)	LTM4601AY	e1	BGA	3	-40°C to 85°C
LTM4601AEY-1#PBF	SAC305 (RoHS)	LTM4601AY-1	e1	BGA	3	-40°C to 85°C
LTM4601AIY-1#PBF	SAC305 (RoHS)	LTM4601AY-1	e1	BGA	3	-40°C to 85°C
LTM4601AIY#PBF	SAC305 (RoHS)	LTM4601AY	e1	BGA	3	-40°C to 85°C
LTM4601AIY	SnPb (63/37)	LTM4601AY	e0	BGA	3	-40°C to 85°C
LTM4601AIY-1	SnPb (63/37)	LTM4601AY-1	e0	BGA	3	-40°C to 85°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 $\bullet$ denotes the specifications which apply over the specified operating temperature range (Note 2), otherwise specifications are at $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ , $V_{IN} = 12V$ , per typical application (front page) configuration.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
V <sub>IN(DC)</sub>	Input DC Voltage		•	4.5		20	V
V <sub>OUT(DC)</sub>	Output Voltage, Total Variation with Line and Load	$C_{IN}$ = 10 $\mu$ F $\times$ 3, $C_{OUT}$ = 200 $\mu$ F, $R_{SET}$ = 40.2 $k$ $V_{IN}$ = 5 $V$ to 20 $V$ , $I_{OUT}$ = 0A to 12A (Note 5)	•	1.478	1.5	1.522	V
Input Specificat	ions						
V <sub>IN(UVLO)</sub>	Undervoltage Lockout Threshold	I <sub>OUT</sub> = 0A			3.2	4	V
I <sub>INRUSH(VIN)</sub>	Input Inrush Current at Startup	I <sub>OUT</sub> = 0A. V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1.5V V <sub>IN</sub> = 5V V <sub>IN</sub> = 12V			0.6 0.7		A
I <sub>Q(VIN,NOLOAD)</sub>	Input Supply Bias Current	$ \begin{aligned} &V_{IN} = 12 V, \text{No Switching} \\ &V_{IN} = 12 V, V_{OUT} = 1.5 V, \text{Switching Continuous} \\ &V_{IN} = 5 V, \text{No Switching} \\ &V_{IN} = 5 V, V_{OUT} = 1.5 V, \text{Switching Continuous} \\ &\text{Shutdown, RUN} = 0, V_{IN} = 12 V \end{aligned} $			3.8 38 2.5 42 22		mA mA mA mA μA
I <sub>S(VIN)</sub>	Input Supply Current	$ \begin{vmatrix} V_{IN} = 12V,  V_{OUT} = 1.5V,  I_{OUT} = 12A \\ V_{IN} = 12V,  V_{OUT} = 3.3V,  I_{OUT} = 12A \\ V_{IN} = 5V,  V_{OUT} = 1.5V,  I_{OUT} = 12A \\ \end{vmatrix} $			1.81 3.63 4.29		A A A
INTV <sub>CC</sub>	V <sub>IN</sub> = 12V, RUN > 2V	No Load		4.7	5	5.3	V
Output Specifica	ations						
I <sub>OUTDC</sub>	Output Continuous Current Range	V <sub>IN</sub> = 12V, V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1.5V (Note 5)		0		12	A
$\frac{\Delta V_{OUT(LINE)}}{V_{OUT}}$	Line Regulation Accuracy	$V_{OUT}$ = 1.5V, $I_{OUT}$ = 0A, $V_{IN}$ from 4.5V to 20V	•			0.3	%
$\frac{\Delta V_{OUT(LOAD)}}{V_{OUT}}$	Load Regulation Accuracy	V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1.5V, 0A to 12A (Note 5) V <sub>IN</sub> = 12V, with Remote Sense Amplifier V <sub>IN</sub> = 12V (LTM4601A-1)	•			0.25 1	% %
V <sub>OUT(AC)</sub>	Output Ripple Voltage	$I_{OUT} = 0A$ , $C_{OUT} = 2 \times 100 \mu F$ X5R Ceramic $V_{IN} = 12V$ , $V_{OUT} = 1.5V$ $V_{IN} = 5V$ , $V_{OUT} = 1.5V$			20 18		$mV_{P-P}$
$f_S$	Output Ripple Voltage Frequency	I <sub>OUT</sub> = 5A, V <sub>IN</sub> = 12V, V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1.5V			850		kHz
$\Delta V_{OUT(START)}$	Turn-On Overshoot	$C_{OUT}$ = 200 $\mu$ F, $V_{OUT}$ = 1.5V, $I_{OUT}$ = 0A, TRACK/SS = 10nF $V_{IN}$ = 12V $V_{IN}$ = 5V			20 20		mV mV
tstart	Turn-On Time	$C_{OUT}$ = 200µF, $V_{OUT}$ = 1.5V, TRACK/SS = Open, $I_{OUT}$ = 1A Resistive Load $V_{IN}$ = 12V $V_{IN}$ = 5V			0.5 0.5		ms ms
ΔV <sub>OUTLS</sub>	Peak Deviation for Dynamic Load	Load: 0% to 50% to 0% of Full Load, $C_{OUT}$ = 2 × 22µF Ceramic, 470µF4V Sanyo POSCAP $V_{IN}$ = 12V $V_{IN}$ = 5V			35 35		mV mV
t <sub>SEΠLE</sub>	Settling Time for Dynamic Load Step				25		μѕ
I <sub>OUTPK</sub>	Output Current Limit	C <sub>OUT</sub> = 200μF Ceramic V <sub>IN</sub> = 12V, V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1.5V V <sub>IN</sub> = 5V, V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1.5V			17 17		A



# LTM4601A/LTM4601A-1

# **ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS** The $\bullet$ denotes the specifications which apply over the specified operating temperature range (Note 2), otherwise specifications are at $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ , $V_{IN} = 12V$ , per typical application (front page) configuration.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Remote Sense An	np (Note 3) (LTM4601A Only, Not Sup	ported in the LTM4601A-1)					
V <sub>OSNS</sub> <sup>+</sup> , V <sub>OSNS</sub> <sup>-</sup> CM Range	Common Mode Input Voltage Range	V <sub>IN</sub> = 12V, RUN > 2V		0		INTV <sub>CC</sub> – 1	V
DIFFV <sub>OUT</sub> Range	Output Voltage Range	V <sub>IN</sub> = 12V, DIFFV <sub>OUT</sub> Load = 100k		0		INTV <sub>CC</sub> – 1	V
$\overline{V_{OS}}$	Input Offset Voltage Magnitude					1.25	mV
A <sub>V</sub>	Differential Gain				1		V/V
GBP	Gain-Bandwidth Product				3		MHz
SR	Slew Rate				2		V/µs
R <sub>IN</sub>	Input Resistance	V <sub>OSNS</sub> <sup>+</sup> to GND			20		kΩ
CMRR	Common Mode Rejection Mode				100		dB
Control Stage							
$V_{FB}$	Error Amplifier Input Voltage Accuracy	$I_{OUT} = 0A, V_{OUT} = 1.5V$	•	0.594	0.6	0.606	V
V <sub>RUN</sub>	RUN Pin On/Off Threshold			1	1.5	1.9	V
I <sub>TRACK/SS</sub>	Soft-Start Charging Current	V <sub>TRACK/SS</sub> = 0V		-1	-1.5	-2	μA
t <sub>ON(MIN)</sub>	Minimum On-Time	(Note 4)			50	100	ns
t <sub>OFF(MIN)</sub>	Minimum Off-Time	(Note 4)			250	400	ns
R <sub>PLLIN</sub>	PLLIN Input Resistance				50		kΩ
I <sub>DRVCC</sub>	Current into DRV <sub>CC</sub> Pin	$V_{OUT} = 1.5V$ , $I_{OUT} = 1A$ , $DRV_{CC} = 5V$			18	25	mA
R <sub>FBHI</sub>	Resistor Between V <sub>OUT_LCL</sub> and V <sub>FB</sub>			60.098	60.4	60.702	kΩ
V <sub>MPGM</sub>	Margin Reference Voltage				1.18		V
$V_{MARG0}, V_{MARG1}$	MARGO, MARG1 Voltage Thresholds				1.4	,	V
PGOOD Output							
$\Delta V_{FBH}$	PGOOD Upper Threshold	V <sub>FB</sub> Rising		7	10	13	%
$\Delta V_{FBL}$	PGOOD Lower Threshold	V <sub>FB</sub> Falling		<b>-</b> 7	-10	-13	%
$\Delta V_{FB(HYS)}$	PGOOD Hysteresis	V <sub>FB</sub> Returning			1.5		%
$V_{PGL}$	PGOOD Low Voltage	I <sub>PGOOD</sub> = 5mA			0.15	0.4	V

**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 LTM4601A is tested under pulsed load conditions such that  $T_J \approx T_A$ . The LTM4601AE/LTM4601AE-1 are guaranteed to meet performance specifications from 0°C to 85°C. Specifications over the

 $-40^{\circ}$ C to 85°C operating temperature range are assured by design, characterization and correlation with statistical process controls. The LTM4601AI/LTM4601AI-1 are guaranteed over the  $-40^{\circ}$ C to 85°C operating temperature range.

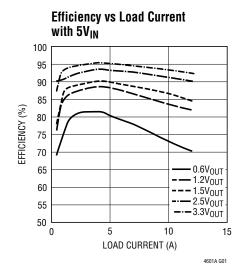
**Note 3:** Remote sense amplifier recommended for ≤3.3V output.

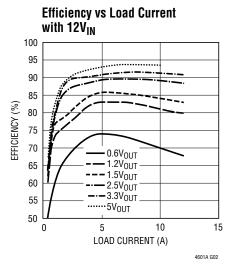
Note 4: 100% tested at wafer level only.

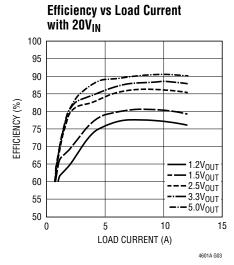
Note 5: See output current derating curves for different  $V_{\text{IN}},\,V_{\text{OUT}}$  and  $T_{\text{A}}.$ 

LINEAR TECHNOLOGY

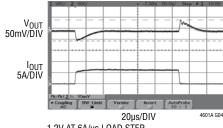
# TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS (See Figure 18 for all curves)





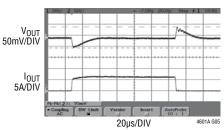


#### 1.2V Transient Response



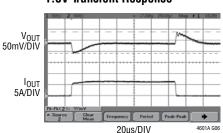
1.2V AT 6A/µs LOAD STEP C<sub>OUT</sub> = 3 • 22µF 6.3V CERAMICS, 470µF 4V SANYO POSCAP C3 = 100pF

#### 1.5V Transient Response



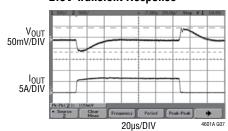
1.5V AT 6A/µs LOAD STEP C<sub>OUT</sub> = 3 • 22µF 6.3V CERAMICS, 470µF 4V SANYO POSCAP C3 = 100pF

#### 1.8V Transient Response



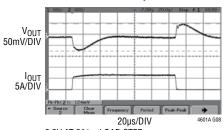
1.8V AT 6A/µs LOAD STEP C<sub>OUT</sub> = 3 • 22µF 6.3V CERAMICS, 470µF 4V SANYO POSCAP C3 = 100pF

#### 2.5V Transient Response



2.5V AT 6A/µs LOAD STEP C<sub>OUT</sub> = 3 • 22µF 6.3V CERAMICS, 470µF 4V SANYO POSCAP C3 = 100pF

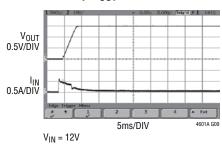
#### 3.3V Transient Response



3.3V AT 6A/µs LOAD STEP C<sub>OUT</sub> = 3 • 22µF 6.3V CERAMICS, 470µF 4V SANYO POSCAP C3 = 100pF

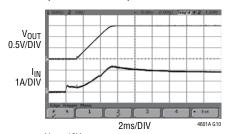
# TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS (See Figure 18 for all curves)

Start-Up, I<sub>OUT</sub> = OA



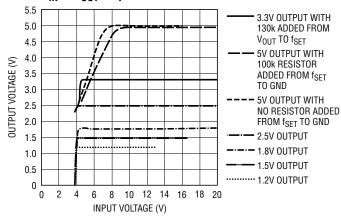
 $V_{IN}$  = 12V  $V_{OUT}$  = 1.5V  $C_{OUT}$  = 470 $\mu$ F, 3  $\times$  22 $\mu$ F SOFT-START = 10nF

#### Start-Up, I<sub>OUT</sub> = 12A (Resistive Load)

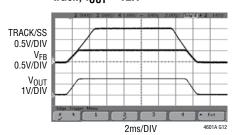


 $V_{IN} = 12V$   $V_{OUT} = 1.5V$   $C_{OUT} = 470 \mu \text{F}, 3 \times 22 \mu \text{F}$  SOFT-START = 10 nF

VIN to VOUT Step-Down Ratio

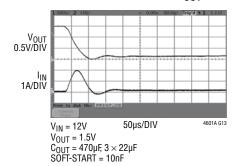


### Track, I<sub>OUT</sub> = 12A

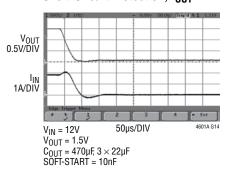


 $V_{IN}$  = 12V  $V_{OUT}$  = 1.5V  $C_{OUT}$  = 470 $\mu$ F, 3 × 22 $\mu$ F SOFT-START = 10nF

#### Short-Circuit Protection, $I_{OUT} = 0A$



#### Short-Circuit Protection, $I_{OUT} = 12A$



# PIN FUNCTIONS (See Package Description for Pin Assignment)

 $V_{IN}$  (Bank 1): Power Input Pins. Apply input voltage between these pins and PGND pins. Recommend placing input decoupling capacitance directly between  $V_{IN}$  pins and PGND pins.

**V<sub>OUT</sub>** (**Bank 3**): Power Output Pins. Apply output load between these pins and PGND pins. Recommend placing output decoupling capacitance directly between these pins and PGND pins. See Figure 15.

**PGND (Bank 2):** Power ground pins for both input and output returns.

 $V_{OSNS}^-$  (Pin M12): (–) Input to the Remote Sense Amplifier. This pin connects to the ground remote sense point. The remote sense amplifier is used for  $V_{OUT} \le 3.3V$ . Tie to INTV<sub>CC</sub> if not used.

NC1 (Pin M12): No Internal Connection on the LTM4601A-1.

 $V_{OSNS}^+$  (Pin J12): (+) Input to the Remote Sense Amplifier. This pin connects to the output remote sense point. The remote sense amplifier is used for  $V_{OUT} \le 3.3V$ . Tie to GND if not used.

NC2 (Pin J12): No Internal Connection on the LTM4601A-1.

**DIFFV**<sub>OUT</sub> (**Pin K12**): Output of the Remote Sense Amplifier. This pin connects to the  $V_{OUT\_LCL}$  pin. Leave floating if not used.

NC3 (Pin K12): No Internal Connection on the LTM4601A-1.

**DRV**<sub>CC</sub> (**Pin E12**): This pin normally connects to INTV<sub>CC</sub> for powering the internal MOSFET drivers. This pin can be biased up to 6V from an external supply with about 50mA capability, or an external circuit shown in Figure 16. This improves efficiency at the higher input voltages by reducing power dissipation in the module.

**INTV<sub>CC</sub> (Pin A7, D9):** This pin is for additional decoupling of the 5V internal regulator. These pins are internally connected. Pin A7 is a test pin.

**PLLIN (Pin A8):** External Clock Synchronization Input to the Phase Detector. This pin is internally terminated to SGND with a 50k resistor. Apply a clock with high level above 2V and below  $INTV_{CC}$ . See the Applications Information section.

**TRACK/SS (Pin A9):** Output Voltage Tracking and Soft-Start Pin. When the module is configured as a master output, then a soft-start capacitor is placed on this pin to ground to control the master ramp rate. A soft-start capacitor can be used for soft-start turn on as a stand alone regulator. Slave operation is performed by putting a resistor divider from the master output to ground, and connecting the center point of the divider to this pin. See the Applications Information section.

**MPGM (Pins A12, B11):** Programmable Margining Input. A resistor from this pin to ground sets a current that is equal to 1.18V/R. This current multiplied by  $10k\Omega$  will equal a value in millivolts that is a percentage of the 0.6V reference voltage. See the Applications Information section. To parallel LTM4601As, each requires an individual MPGM resistor. Do not tie MPGM pins together. Both pins are internally connected. Pin A12 is a test pin.

**f<sub>SET</sub>** (**Pins B12, C11**): Frequency Set Internally to 850kHz. An external resistor can be placed from this pin to ground to increase frequency. See the Applications Information section for frequency adjustment. Both pins are internally connected. Pin B12 is a test pin.

 $V_{FB}$  (Pin F12): The Negative Input of the Error Amplifier. Internally, this pin is connected to  $V_{OUT\_LCL}$  pin with a 60.4k precision resistor. Different output voltages can be programmed with an additional resistor between  $V_{FB}$  and SGND pins. See the Applications Information section.

**MARGO (Pin C12):** This pin is the LSB logic input for the margining function. Together with the MARG1 pin it will determine if margin high, margin low or no margin state is applied. The pin has an internal pull-down resistor of 50k. See the Applications Information section.



# PIN FUNCTIONS (See Package Description for Pin Assignment)

**MARG1 (Pin D12):** This pin is the MSB logic input for the margining function. Together with the MARGO pin it will determine if margin high, margin low or no margin state is applied. The pin has an internal pull-down resistor of 50k. See the Applications Information section.

**SGND (Pins H12, H11, G11):** Signal Ground. These pins connect to PGND at output capacitor point. See Figure 15.

**COMP (Pin A11):** Current Control Threshold and Error Amplifier Compensation Point. The current comparator threshold increases with this control voltage. The voltage ranges from 0V to 2.4V with 0.7V corresponding to zero sense voltage (zero current).

**PGOOD** (Pins G12, F11): 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, after a 25 $\mu$ s power bad mask timer expires.

**RUN (Pin A10):** Run Control Pin. A voltage above 1.9V will turn on the module, and when below 1V, will turn off the module. A programmable UVLO function can be accomplished by connecting to a resistor divider from  $V_{IN}$  to ground. See Figure 1. This pin has a 5.1V Zener to ground. Maximum pin voltage is 5V. Limit current into the RUN pin to less than 1mA.

 $V_{OUT\_LCL}$  (Pin L12):  $V_{OUT}$  connects directly to this pin to bypass the remote sense amplifier, or DIFFV<sub>OUT</sub> connects to this pin when the remote sense amplifier is used.  $V_{OUT\_LCL}$  can be connected to  $V_{OUT}$  on the LTM4601A-1,  $V_{OUT}$  is internally connected to  $V_{OUT\_LCL}$  with  $50\Omega$  in the LTM4601A-1.

MTP1, MTP2, MPT3 (Pins C10, D10, D11): Extra Mounting Pads. These pads must be left floating (electrical open circuit) and are used for enhanced solder joint strength.

## SIMPLIFIED BLOCK DIAGRAM

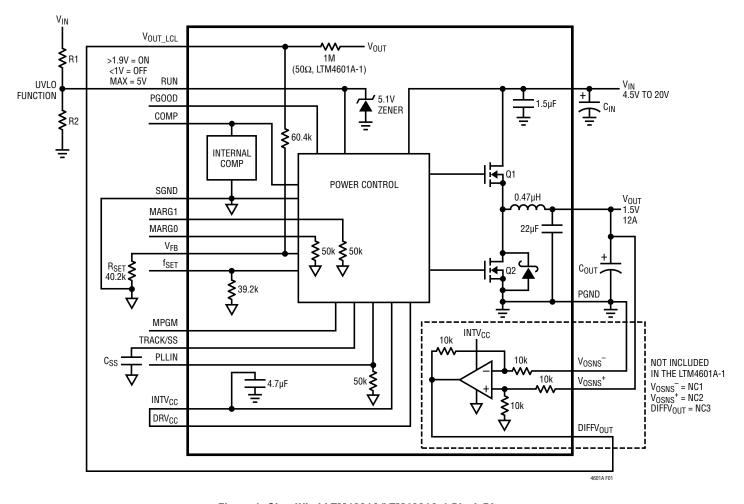


Figure 1. Simplified LTM4601A/LTM4601A-1 Block Diagram

# **DECOUPLING REQUIREMENTS** $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ , $V_{IN} = 12V$ . Use Figure 1 configuration.

SYMBOL	PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
C <sub>IN</sub>	External Input Capacitor Requirement (V <sub>IN</sub> = 4.5V to 20V, V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1.5V)	I <sub>OUT</sub> = 12A	20	30		μF
C <sub>OUT</sub>	External Output Capacitor Requirement (V <sub>IN</sub> = 4.5V to 20V, V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1.5V)	I <sub>OUT</sub> = 12A	100	200		μF



## **OPERATION**

### **Power Module Description**

The LTM4601A is a standalone nonisolated switching mode DC/DC power supply. It can deliver up to 12A of DC output current with few external input and output capacitors. This module provides precisely regulated output voltage programmable via one external resistor from  $0.6V_{DC}$  to  $5.0V_{DC}$  over a 4.5V to 20V wide input voltage. The typical application schematic is shown in Figure 18.

The LTM4601A has an integrated constant on-time current mode regulator, ultralow  $R_{DS(0N)}$  FETs with fast switching speed and integrated Schottky diodes. The typical switching frequency is 850kHz at full load. With current mode control and internal feedback loop compensation, the LTM4601A module has sufficient stability margins and good transient performance under a wide range of operating conditions and with a wide range of output capacitors, even all ceramic output capacitors.

Current mode control provides cycle-by-cycle fast current limit. Besides, foldback current limiting is provided in an overcurrent condition while  $V_{FB}$  drops. Internal overvoltage and undervoltage comparators pull the open-drain PGOOD output low if the output feedback voltage exits a  $\pm 10\%$  window around the regulation point. Furthermore, in an overvoltage condition, internal top FET Q1 is turned

off and bottom FET Q2 is turned on and held on until the overvoltage condition clears.

Pulling the RUN pin below 1V forces the controller into its shutdown state, turning off both Q1 and Q2. At low load current, the module works in continuous current mode by default to achieve minimum output ripple voltage.

When  $DRV_{CC}$  pin is connected to  $INTV_{CC}$  an integrated 5V linear regulator powers the internal gate drivers. If a 5V external bias supply is applied on the  $DRV_{CC}$  pin, then an efficiency improvement will occur due to the reduced power loss in the internal linear regulator. This is especially true at the high end of the input voltage range.

The LTM4601A has a very accurate differential remote sense amplifier with very low offset. This provides for very accurate output voltage measurement at the load. The MPGM pin, MARG0 pin and MARG1 pin are used to support voltage margining, where the percentage of margin is programmed by the MPGM pin, and the MARG0 and MARG1 select margining.

The PLLIN pin provides frequency synchronization of the device to an external clock. The TRACK/SS pin is used for power supply tracking and soft-start programming.



The typical LTM4601A application circuit is shown in Figure 18. External component selection is primarily determined by the maximum load current and output voltage. Refer to Table 2 for specific external capacitor requirements for a particular application.

## V<sub>IN</sub> to V<sub>OUT</sub> 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. These constraints are shown in the Typical Performance Characteristics curves labeled " $V_{IN}$  to  $V_{OUT}$  Step-Down Ratio". Note that additional thermal derating may apply. See the Thermal Considerations and Output Current Derating section of this data sheet.

### **Output Voltage Programming and Margining**

The PWM controller has an internal 0.6V reference voltage. As shown in the Block Diagram, a 1M and a 60.4k 0.5% internal feedback resistor connects  $V_{OUT}$  and  $V_{FB}$  pins together. The  $V_{OUT\_LCL}$  pin is connected between the 1M and the 60.4k resistor. The 1M resistor is used to protect against an output overvoltage condition if the  $V_{OUT\_LCL}$  pin is not connected to the output, or if the remote sense amplifier output is not connected to  $V_{OUT\_LCL}$ . In these cases, the output voltage will default to 0.6V. Adding a resistor  $R_{SET}$  from the  $V_{FB}$  pin to SGND pin programs the output voltage:

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

Table 1. R<sub>SET</sub> Standard 1% Resistor Values vs V<sub>OUT</sub>

$R_{SET}$ ( $k\Omega$ )	Open	60.4	40.2	30.1	25.5	19.1	13.3	8.25
V <sub>OUT</sub> (V)	0.6	1.2	1.5	1.8	2	2.5	3.3	5

The MPGM pin programs a current that when multiplied by an internal 10k resistor sets up the 0.6V reference  $\pm$  offset for margining. A 1.18V reference divided by the R<sub>PGM</sub> resistor on the MPGM pin programs the current. Calculate V<sub>OUT(MARGIN)</sub>:

$$V_{OUT(MARGIN)} = \frac{\%V_{OUT}}{100} \bullet V_{OUT}$$

where  $%V_{OUT}$  is the percentage of  $V_{OUT}$  you want to margin, and  $V_{OUT(MARGIN)}$  is the margin quantity in volts:

$$R_{PGM} = \frac{V_{OUT}}{0.6V} \bullet \frac{1.18V}{V_{OUT(MARGIN)}} \bullet 10k$$

where  $R_{PGM}$  is the resistor value to place on the MPGM pin to ground.

The margining voltage,  $V_{OUT(MARGIN)}$ , will be added or subtracted from the nominal output voltage as determined by the state of the MARG0 and MARG1 pins. See the truth table below:

MARG1	MARGO	MODE
LOW	LOW	NO MARGIN
LOW	HIGH	MARGIN UP
HIGH	LOW	MARGIN DOWN
HIGH	HIGH	NO MARGIN

#### **Input Capacitors**

LTM4601A module should be connected to a low AC impedance DC source. Input capacitors are required to be placed adjacent to the module. In Figure 18, the 10 $\mu$ C ceramic input capacitors are selected for their ability to handle the large RMS current into the converter. An input bulk capacitor of 100 $\mu$ F is optional. This 100 $\mu$ F capacitor is only needed if the input source impedance is compromised by long inductive leads or traces.



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

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

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

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

In the above equation,  $\eta\%$  is the estimated efficiency of the power module.  $C_{IN}$  can be a switcher-rated electrolytic aluminum capacitor, OS-CON capacitor or high value ceramic capacitor. Note the capacitor ripple current ratings are often based on temperature and hours of life. This makes it advisable to properly derate the input capacitor, or choose a capacitor rated at a higher temperature than required. Always contact the capacitor manufacturer for derating requirements.

In Figure 18, the 10µF ceramic capacitors are together used as a high frequency input decoupling capacitor. In a typical 12A output application, three very low ESR, X5R or X7R 10µF ceramic capacitors are recommended. These decoupling capacitors should be placed directly adjacent to the module input pins in the PCB layout to minimize the trace inductance and high frequency AC noise. Each 10µF ceramic is typically good for 2A to 3A of RMS ripple current. Refer to your ceramics capacitor catalog for the RMS current ratings.

Multiphase operation with multiple LTM4601A devices in parallel will lower the effective input RMS ripple current due to the interleaving operation of the regulators. Application Note 77 provides a detailed explanation. Refer to Figure 2 for the input capacitor ripple current reduction as a function of the number of phases. The figure provides a ratio of RMS ripple current to DC load current as function of duty cycle and the number of paralleled phases. Pick the

corresponding duty cycle and the number of phases to arrive at the correct ripple current value. For example, the 2-phase parallel LTM4601A design provides 24A at 2.5V output from a 12V input. The duty cycle is DC = 2.5V/12V = 0.21. The 2-phase curve has a ratio of  $\sim 0.25$  for a duty cycle of 0.21. This 0.25 ratio of RMS ripple current to a DC load current of 24A equals  $\sim 6$ A of input RMS ripple current for the external input capacitors.

## **Output Capacitors**

The LTM4601A is designed for low output ripple voltage. The bulk output capacitors defined as  $C_{OUT}$  are chosen with low enough effective series resistance (ESR) to meet the output ripple voltage and transient requirements.  $C_{OUT}$  can be a low ESR tantalum capacitor, a low ESR polymer capacitor or a ceramic capacitor. The typical capacitance is  $200\mu F$  if all ceramic output capacitors are used. Additional output filtering may be required by the system designer if further reduction of output ripple or dynamic transient spikes is required. Table 2 shows a matrix of different output voltages and output capacitors to minimize the voltage droop and overshoot during a  $5A/\mu S$  transient. The table optimizes total equivalent ESR and total bulk capacitance to maximize transient performance.

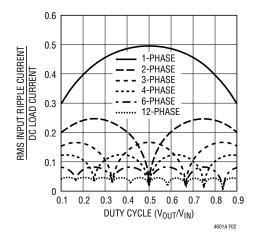


Figure 2. Normalized Input RMS Ripple Current vs Duty Cycle for One to Six Modules (Phases)

LINEAR TECHNOLOGY

Multiphase operation with multiple LTM4601A devices in parallel will lower the effective output ripple current due to the interleaving operation of the regulators. For example, each LTM4601A's inductor current in a 12V to

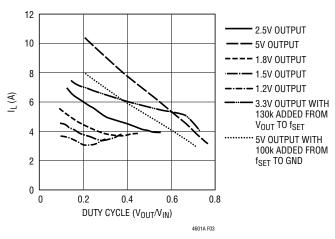


Figure 3. Inductor Ripple Current vs Duty Cycle

2.5V multiphase design can be read from the Inductor Ripple Current vs Duty Cycle graph (Figure 3). The large ripple current at low duty cycle and high output voltage can be reduced by adding an external resistor from  $f_{SET}$  to ground which increases the frequency. If the duty cycle is DC = 2.5V/12V = 0.21, the inductor ripple current for 2.5V output at 21% duty cycle is ~6A in Figure 3.

Figure 4 provides a ratio of peak-to-peak output ripple current to the inductor current as a function of duty cycle and the number of paralleled phases. Pick the corresponding duty cycle and the number of phases to arrive at the correct output ripple current ratio value. If a 2-phase operation is chosen at a duty cycle of 21%, then 0.6 is the ratio. This 0.6 ratio of output ripple current to inductor ripple of 6A equals 3.6A of effective output ripple current. Refer to Application Note 77 for a detailed explanation of output ripple current reduction as a function of paralleled phases.

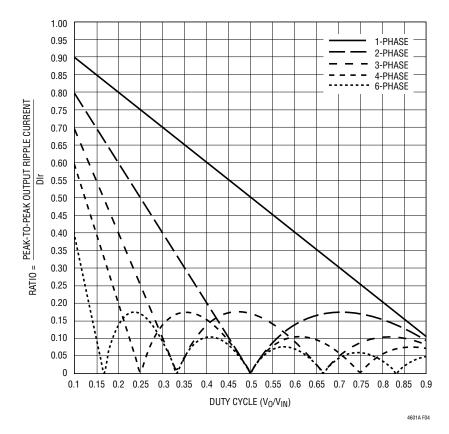


Figure 4. Normalized Output Ripple Current vs Duty Cycle, DIr =  $V_0T/L_1$ , DIr = Each Phase's Inductor Current



The output ripple voltage has two components that are related to the amount of bulk capacitance and effective series resistance (ESR) of the output bulk capacitance. Therefore, the output ripple voltage can be calculated with the known effective output ripple current. The equation:  $\Delta V_{OUT(P-P)} \approx (\Delta I_L/(8 \bullet f \bullet m \bullet C_{OUT}) + ESR \bullet \Delta I_L), \text{ where } f \text{ is frequency and } m \text{ is the number of parallel phases. This calculation process can be easily accomplished by using LTpowerCADTM.}$ 

# Fault Conditions: Current Limit and Overcurrent Foldback

LTM4601A has a current mode controller, which inherently limits the cycle-by-cycle inductor current not only in steady-state operation, but also in response to transients.

To further limit current in the event of an overload condition, the LTM4601A provides foldback current limiting. If the output voltage falls by more than 50%, then the maximum output current is progressively lowered to about one sixth of its full current limit value.

### **Soft-Start and Tracking**

The TRACK/SS pin provides a means to either soft-start the regulator or track it to a different power supply. A capacitor on this pin will program the ramp rate of the output voltage. A 1.5µA current source will charge up the external soft-start capacitor to 80% of the 0.6V internal voltage reference plus or minus any margin delta. This will control the ramp of the internal reference and the output voltage. The total soft-start time can be calculated as:

$$t_{SOFTSTART} = 0.8 \bullet \left(0.6V \pm V_{OUT(MARGIN)}\right) \bullet \frac{C_{SS}}{1.5uA}$$

When the RUN pin falls below 1.5V, then the TRACK/SS pin is reset to allow for proper soft-start control when the regulator is enabled again. Current foldback and forced continuous mode are disabled during the soft-start process. The soft-start function can also be used to control the output ramp up time, so that another regulator can be easily tracked to it.

#### **Output Voltage Tracking**

Output voltage tracking can be programmed externally using the TRACK/SS pin. 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. Figure 5 shows an example of coincident tracking. Ratiometric modes of tracking can be achieved by selecting different resistor values to change the output tracking ratio. The master output must be greater than the slave output for the tracking to work. Figure 6 shows the coincident output tracking characteristics.

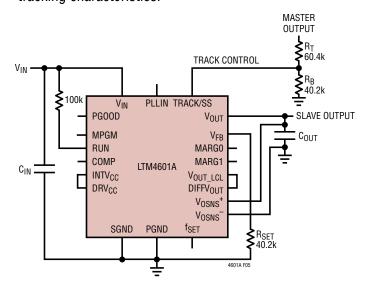


Figure 5. Coincident Tracking Schematic

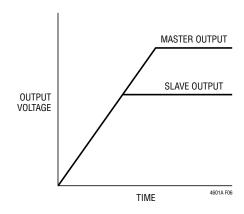


Figure 6. Coincident Output Tracking Characteristics

LINEAR TECHNOLOGY

#### Run Enable

The RUN pin is used to enable the power module. The pin has an internal 5.1V zener to ground. The pin can be driven with a logic input not to exceed 5V.

The RUN pin can also be used as an undervoltage lockout (UVLO) function by connecting a resistor divider from the input supply to the RUN pin:

$$V_{UVLO} = \frac{R1 + R2}{R2} \bullet 1.5V$$

See Figure 1, Simplified Block Diagram.

#### **Power Good**

The PGOOD pin is an open-drain pin that can be used to monitor valid output voltage regulation. This pin monitors a  $\pm 10\%$  window around the regulation point and tracks with margining.

#### **COMP Pin**

This pin is the external compensation pin. The module has already been internally compensated for most output voltages. Table 2 is provided for most application requirements. LTpowerCAD is available for other control loop optimization.

#### **PLLIN**

The power module has a phase-locked loop comprised of an internal voltage controlled oscillator and a phase detector. This allows the internal top MOSFET turn-on to be locked to the rising edge of an external clock. The frequency range is ±30% around the operating frequency of 850kHz. A pulse detection circuit is used to detect a clock on the PLLIN pin to turn on the phase-locked loop. The pulse width of the clock has to be at least 400ns and the amplitude at least 2V. The PLLIN pin must be driven from a low impedance source such as a logic gate located close to the pin. During startup of the regulator, the phase-locked loop function is disabled.

### INTV<sub>CC</sub> and DRV<sub>CC</sub> Connection

An internal low dropout regulator produces an internal 5V supply that powers the control circuitry and DRV $_{CC}$  for driving the internal power MOSFETs. Therefore, if the system does not have a 5V power rail, the LTM4601A can be directly powered by  $V_{IN}$ . The gate drive current through the LDO is about 20mA. The internal LDO power dissipation can be calculated as:

$$P_{LDO\ LOSS} = 20 \text{mA} \cdot (V_{IN} - 5V)$$

The LTM4601A also provides the external gate drive voltage pin DRV $_{CC}$ . If there is a 5V rail in the system, it is recommended to connect the DRV $_{CC}$  pin to the external 5V rail. This is especially true for higher input voltages. Do not apply more than 6V to the DRV $_{CC}$  pin. A 5V output can be used to power the DRV $_{CC}$  pin with an external circuit as shown in Figure 16.

#### **Parallel Operation of the Module**

The LTM4601A device is an inherently current mode controlled device. Parallel modules will have very good current sharing. This will balance the thermals on the design. Figure 19 shows the schematic of a parallel design. The voltage feedback equation changes with the variable N as modules are paralleled:

$$V_{OUT} = 0.6V \frac{\frac{60.4k}{N} + R_{SET}}{R_{SET}}$$

N is the number of paralleled modules.

Figure 19 shows an LTM4601A and an LTM4601A-1 used in a parallel design. The 2nd LTM4601A device does not require the remote sense amplifier, therefore, the LTM4601A-1 device is used. An LTM4601A device can be used without the diff amp.  $V_{OSNS}^+$  can be tied to ground and the  $V_{OSNS}^-$  can be tied to INTV<sub>CC</sub>. DIFFV<sub>OUT</sub> can float. When using multiple LTM4601A-1 devices in parallel with an LTM4601A, limit the number to five for a total of six modules in parallel.



### **Thermal Considerations and Output Current Derating**

The power loss curves in Figures 7 and 8 can be used in coordination with the load current derating curves in Figures 9 to 14 for calculating an approximate  $\theta_{JA}$  for the module with various heat sinking methods. Thermal models are derived from several temperature measurements at the bench and thermal modeling analysis. Thermal Application Note 103 provides a detailed explanation of the analysis for the thermal models and the derating curves. Tables 3 and 4 provide a summary of the equivalent  $\theta_{JA}$  for the noted conditions. These equivalent  $\theta_{JA}$  parameters are correlated to the measured values, and are improved with air flow. The case temperature is maintained at 100°C or below

for the derating curves. The maximum case temperature of 100°C is to allow for a rise of about 13°C to 25°C inside the  $\mu$ Module regulator with a thermal resistance  $\theta_{JC}$  from junction to case between 6°C/W to 9°C/W. This will maintain the maximum junction temperature inside the  $\mu$ Module regulator below 125°C.

## **Safety Considerations**

The LTM4601A modules do not provide isolation from  $V_{\text{IN}}$  to  $V_{\text{OUT}}$ . 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.

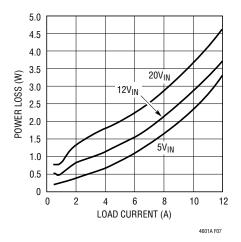


Figure 7. 1.5V Power Loss

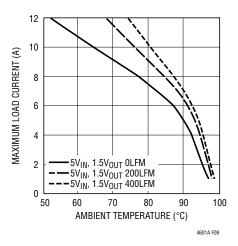


Figure 9. No Heat Sink 5V<sub>IN</sub>

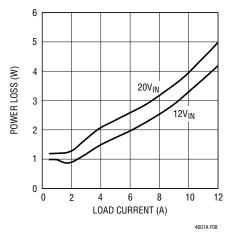


Figure 8. 3.3V Power Loss

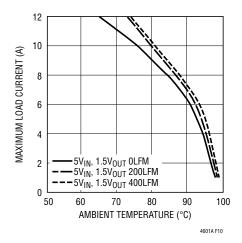


Figure 10. BGA Heat Sink 5VIN

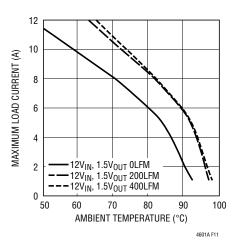


Figure 11. No Heat Sink 12V<sub>IN</sub>

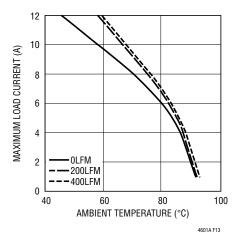


Figure 13.  $12V_{IN}$ ,  $3.3V_{OUT}$ , No Heat Sink

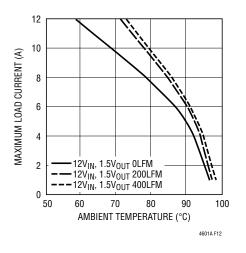


Figure 12. BGA Heat Sink 12V<sub>IN</sub>

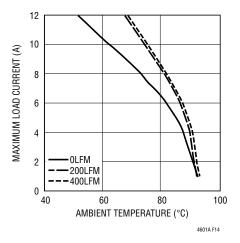


Figure 14.  $12V_{IN}$ ,  $3.3V_{OUT}$ , BGA Heat Sink



Table 2. Output Voltage Response Versus Component Matrix (Refer to Figure 18), 0A to 6A Load Step

#### TYPICAL MEASURED VALUES

C <sub>OUT1</sub> VENDORS	PART NUMBER	C <sub>OUT2</sub> VENDORS	PART NUMBER
TDK	C4532X5R0J107MZ (100µF, 6.3V)	SANYO POSCAP	6TPE330MIL (330μF, 6.3V)
TAIYO YUDEN	JMK432BJ107MU-T (100μF, 6.3V)	SANYO POSCAP	2R5TPE470M9 (470μF, 2.5V)
TAIYO YUDEN	JMK316BJ226ML-T501 (22μF, 6.3V)	SANYO POSCAP	4TPE470MCL (470μF, 4V)

V <sub>OUT</sub> (V)	C <sub>IN</sub> (CERAMIC)	C <sub>IN</sub> (BULK)	C <sub>OUT1</sub> (CERAMIC)	C <sub>OUT2</sub> (BULK)	C <sub>COMP</sub>	C3	V <sub>IN</sub> (V)	DROOP (mV)	PEAK TO PEAK (mV)	RECOVERY TIME (μs)	LOAD STEP (A/µs)	R <sub>SET</sub> (kΩ)
1.2	$2 \times 10 \mu F 25 V$	150µF 35V	3 × 22μF 6.3V	470μF 4V	NONE	47pF	5	70	140	30	6	60.4
1.2	$2\times 10 \mu F~25 V$	150µF 35V	1 × 100μF 6.3V	470μF 2.5V	NONE	100pF	5	35	70	20	6	60.4
1.2	$2\times 10 \mu F~25 V$	150µF 35V	2 × 100μF 6.3V	330µF 6.3V	NONE	22pF	5	70	140	20	6	60.4
1.2	$2\times 10 \mu F~25 V$	150µF 35V	4 × 100μF 6.3V	NONE	NONE	100pF	5	40	93	30	6	60.4
1.2	$2 \times 10 \mu F 25 V$	150µF 35V	3 × 22μF 6.3V	470μF 4V	NONE	100pF	12	70	140	30	6	60.4
1.2	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	1 × 100μF 6.3V	470μF 2.5V	NONE	100pF	12	35	70	20	6	60.4
1.2	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	2 × 100μF 6.3V	330µF 6.3V	NONE	22pF	12	70	140	20	6	60.4
1.2	$2\times 10 \mu F~25 V$	150µF 35V	4 × 100μF 6.3V	NONE	NONE	100pF	12	49	98	20	6	60.4
1.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	3 × 22μF 6.3V	470μF 4V	NONE	100pF	5	48	100	35	6	40.2
1.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150μF 35V	1 × 100μF 6.3V	470μF 2.5V	NONE	33pF	5	54	109	30	6	40.2
1.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	2 × 100μF 6.3V	330µF 6.3V	NONE	100pF	5	44	84	30	6	40.2
1.5	$2 \times 10 \mu F 25 V$	150µF 35V	4 × 100μF 6.3V	NONE	NONE	100pF	5	61	118	30	6	40.2
1.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	3 × 22μF 6.3V	470μF 4V	NONE	100pF	12	48	100	35	6	40.2
1.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	1 × 100μF 6.3V	470μF 2.5V	NONE	33pF	12	54	109	30	6	40.2
1.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150μF 35V	2 × 100μF 6.3V	330µF 6.3V	NONE	100pF	12	44	89	25	6	40.2
1.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	4 × 100μF 6.3V	NONE	NONE	100pF	12	54	108	25	6	40.2
1.8	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	3 × 22μF 6.3V	470μF 4V	NONE	47pF	5	48	100	30	6	30.1
1.8	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	1 × 100μF 6.3V	470μF 2.5V	NONE	100pF	5	44	90	20	6	30.1
1.8	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	2 × 100µF 6.3V	330µF 6.3V	NONE	100pF	5	68	140	30	6	30.1
1.8	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	4 × 100μF 6.3V	NONE	NONE	100pF	5	65	130	30	6	30.1
1.8	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	3 × 22μF 6.3V	470μF 4V	NONE	100pF	12	60	120	30	6	30.1
1.8	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	1 × 100μF 6.3V	470μF 2.5V	NONE	100pF	12	60	120	30	6	30.1
1.8	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	2 × 100µF 6.3V	330µF 6.3V	NONE	100pF	12	68	140	30	6	30.1
1.8	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	4 × 100μF 6.3V	NONE	NONE	100pF	12	65	130	20	6	30.1
2.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	1 × 100μF 6.3V	470µF 4V	NONE	100pF	5	48	103	30	6	19.1
2.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	2 × 100μF 6.3V	330µF 6.3V	NONE	220pF	5	56	113	30	6	19.1
2.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	3 × 22μF 6.3V	470μF 4V	NONE	NONE	5	57	116	30	6	19.1
2.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	4 × 100μF 6.3V	NONE	NONE	100pF	5	60	115	25	6	19.1
2.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	1 × 100μF 6.3V	470µF 4V	NONE	100pF	12	48	103	30	6	19.1
2.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	3 × 22μF 6.3V	470μF 4V	NONE	NONE	12	51	102	30	6	19.1
2.5	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	2 × 100μF 6.3V	330µF 6.3V	NONE	220pF	12	56	113	30	6	19.1
2.5	$2 \times 10 \mu F 25 V$	150µF 35V	4 × 100μF 6.3V	NONE	NONE	220pF	12	70	140	25	6	19.1
3.3	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	2 × 100μF 6.3V	330µF 6.3V	NONE	100pF	7	120	240	30	6	13.3
3.3	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	1 × 100μF 6.3V	470μF 4V	NONE	100pF	7	110	214	30	6	13.3
3.3	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	3 × 22μF 6.3V	470μF 4V	NONE	100pF	7	110	214	30	6	13.3
3.3	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	4 × 100μF 6.3V	NONE	NONE	100pF	7	114	230	30	6	13.3
3.3	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	1 × 100μF 6.3V	470μF 4V	NONE	100pF	12	110	214	30	6	13.3
3.3	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	3 × 22μF 6.3V	470μF 4V	NONE	150pF	12	110	214	35	6	13.3
3.3	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	2 × 100μF 6.3V	330µF 6.3V	NONE	100pF	12	110	214	35	6	13.3
3.3	$2\times 10 \mu F~25 V$	150µF 35V	4 × 100μF 6.3V	NONE	NONE	100pF	12	114	230	30	6	13.3
5	2 × 10μF 25V	150µF 35V	4 × 100μF 6.3V	NONE	NONE	22pF	15	188	375	25	6	8.25
5	$2\times10\mu\text{F }25\text{V}$	150µF 35V	4 × 100μF 6.3V	NONE	NONE	22pF	20	159	320	25	6	8.25

INTER TECHNOLOGY

#### Table 3. 1.5V Output at 12A

DERATING CURVE	V <sub>IN</sub> (V)	POWER LOSS CURVE	AIR FLOW (LFM)	HEAT SINK	θ <sub>ja</sub> (°C/W) LGA	θ <sub>JA</sub> (°C/W) BGA
Figures 9, 11	5, 12	Figure 7	0	None	15.2	15.7
Figures 9, 11	5, 12	Figure 7	200	None	14	14.5
Figures 9, 11	5, 12	Figure 7	400	None	12	12.5
Figures 10, 12	5, 12	Figure 7	0	BGA Heat Sink	13.9	14.4
Figures 10, 12	5, 12	Figure 7	200	BGA Heat Sink	11.3	11.8
Figures 10, 12	5, 12	Figure 7	400	BGA Heat Sink	10.25	10.75

#### Table 4. 3.3V Output at 12A

DERATING CURVE	V <sub>IN</sub> (V)	POWER LOSS CURVE	AIR FLOW (LFM)	HEAT SINK	θ <sub>JA</sub> (°C/W) LGA	θ <sub>JA</sub> (°C/W) BGA
Figure 13	12	Figure 8	0	None	15.2	15.7
Figure 13	12	Figure 8	200	None	14.6	15.0
Figure 13	12	Figure 8	400	None	13.4	13.9
Figure 14	12	Figure 8	0	BGA Heat Sink	13.9	14.4
Figure 14	12	Figure 8	200	BGA Heat Sink	11.1	11.6
Figure 14	12	Figure 8	400	BGA Heat Sink	10.5	11

#### **Heat Sink Manufacturer**

Aavid Thermallov	Part No: 375424B00034G	Phone: 603-224-9988
Advid Tricilliandy	1 alt 110. 37 3424000044	1 Holic. 000 224 3300



### Layout Checklist/Example

The high integration of LTM4601A 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 path, including V<sub>IN</sub>, PGND and V<sub>OUT</sub>. It helps to minimize the PCB conduction loss and thermal stress.
- Place high frequency ceramic input and output capacitors next to the V<sub>IN</sub>, PGND and V<sub>OUT</sub> pins to minimize high frequency noise.
- Place a dedicated power ground layer underneath the unit. Refer frequency synchronization source to power ground.
- 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 vias directly on pads unless they are capped.
- Use a separated SGND ground copper area for components connected to signal pins. Connect the SGND to PGND underneath the unit.

Figure 15 gives a good example of the recommended layout.

#### Frequency Adjustment

The LTM4601A is designed to typically operate at 850kHz across most input conditions. The  $f_{SET}$  pin is normally left open. The switching frequency has been optimized for maintaining constant output ripple noise over most operating ranges. The 850kHz switching frequency and the 400ns minimum off-time can limit operation at higher duty cycles like 5V to 3.3V, and produce excessive inductor ripple currents for lower duty cycle applications like 20V to 5V. The 5V<sub>OUT</sub> and 3.3V<sub>OUT</sub> drop out curves are modified by adding an external resistor on the  $f_{SET}$  pin to allow for lower input voltage operation, or higher input voltage operation.

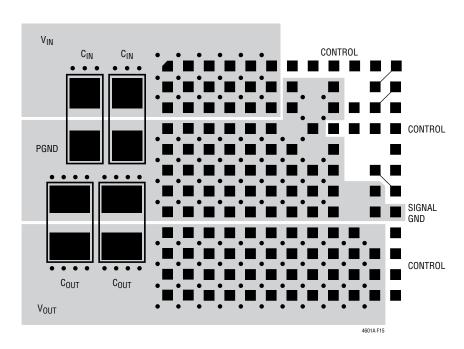


Figure 15. Recommended Layout (LGA and BGA PCB Layouts Are Identical with the Exception of Circle Pads for BGA, See Package Description.)

LINEAR TECHNOLOGY

### **Example for 5V Output**

LTM4601A minimum on-time = 100ns  $t_{ON} = ((V_{OUT} \bullet 10pF)/I_{fSET})$ , for  $V_{OUT} > 4.8V$  use 4.8V LTM4601A minimum off-time = 400ns  $t_{OFF} = t - t_{ON}$ , where t = 1/Frequency

Duty Cycle =  $t_{ON}/t$  or  $V_{OUT}/V_{IN}$ 

Equations for setting frequency:

 $I_{fSET} = (V_{IN}/(3 \cdot R_{fSET}))$ , for 20V operation,  $I_{fSET} = 170 \mu A$ ,  $t_{ON} = ((4.8 \cdot 10 \text{pF})/I_{fSET}), t_{ON} = 282 \text{ns}, \text{ where the internal}$  $R_{fSFT}$  is 39.2k. Frequency =  $(V_{OLIT}/(V_{IN} \cdot t_{ON})) = (5V/(20)$  282ns)) ≈ 886kHz. The inductor ripple current begins to get high at the higher input voltages due to a larger voltage across the inductor. This is noted in the Inductor Ripple Current vs Duty Cycle graph (Figure 3) where  $I_1 \approx 10A$  at 25% duty cycle. The inductor ripple current can be lowered at the higher input voltages by adding an external resistor from f<sub>SFT</sub> to ground to increase the switching frequency. An 8A ripple current is chosen, and the total peak current is equal to 1/2 of the 8A ripple current plus the output current. The 5V output current is limited to 8A, so the total peak current is less than 12A. This is below the 14A peak specified value. A 100k resistor is placed from f<sub>SFT</sub> to ground, and the parallel combination of 100k and 39.2k equates to 28k. The IfSET calculation with 28k and 20V input voltage equals 238 $\mu$ A. This equates to a  $t_{ON}$  of 200ns. This will increase the switching frequency from ~886kHz to ~1.25MHz for the 20V to 5V conversion. The minimum on-time is above 100ns at 20V input. Since the switching frequency is approximately constant over input and output conditions, then the lower input voltage range is limited to 10V for the 1.25MHz operation due to the 400ns minimum off-time. Equation:  $t_{ON} = (V_{OUT}/V_{IN})$  (1/Frequency) equates to a 400ns on-time, and a 400ns off-time. The V<sub>IN</sub> to V<sub>OLIT</sub> Step-Down Ratio curve reflects an operating range of 10V to 20V for 1.25MHz operation with a 100k resistor to ground, and an 8V to 16V operation for f<sub>SET</sub> floating. These modifications are made to provide wider input voltage ranges for the 5V output designs while limiting the inductor ripple current, and maintaining the 400ns minimum off-time.

#### **Example for 3.3V Output**

LTM4601A minimum on-time = 100ns  $t_{ON} = ((V_{OUT} \bullet 10pF)/I_{fSET})$ LTM4601A minimum off-time = 400ns  $t_{OFF} = t - t_{ON}$ , where t = 1/Frequency Duty Cycle (DC) =  $t_{ON}/t$  or  $V_{OUT}/V_{IN}$ 

Equations for setting frequency:

 $I_{fSET} = (V_{IN}/(3 • R_{fSET}))$ , for 20V operation,  $I_{fSET} = 170 \mu A$ ,  $t_{ON} = ((3.3 • 10 pF)/I_{fSET})$ ,  $t_{ON} = 195 ns$ , where the internal  $R_{fSET}$  is 39.2k. Frequency =  $(V_{OUT}/(V_{IN} • t_{ON})) = (3.3 V/(20 • 195 ns)) \approx 846 kHz$ . The minimum on-time and minimum off-time are within specification at 195 ns and 980 ns. The 4.5V minimum input for converting 3.3V output will not meet the minimum off-time specification of 400 ns.  $t_{ON} = 868 ns$ , Frequency = 850 kHz,  $t_{OFF} = 315 ns$ .

#### Solution

Lower the switching frequency at lower input voltages to allow for higher duty cycles, and meet the 400ns minimum off-time at 4.5V input voltage. The off-time should be about 500ns, which includes a 100ns guard band. The duty cycle for  $(3.3V/4.5V) \approx 73\%$ . Frequency =  $(1 - DC)/t_{OFF}$ , or (1-0.73)/500ns = 540kHz. The switching frequency needs to be lowered to 540kHz at 4.5V input. to be DC/frequency, or 1.35 $\mu$ s. The f<sub>SFT</sub> pin voltage is 1/3 of V<sub>IN</sub>, and the I<sub>fSFT</sub> current equates to 38µA with the internal 39.2k. The I<sub>fSFT</sub> current needs to be 24µA for 540kHz operation. A resistor can be placed from  $V_{OUT}$  to  $f_{SET}$  to lower the effective  $I_{fSET}$ current out of the  $f_{SFT}$  pin to 24 $\mu$ A. The  $f_{SFT}$  pin is 4.5V/3 =1.5V and  $V_{OUT}$  = 3.3V, therefore 130k will source 14µA into the f<sub>SFT</sub> node and lower the I<sub>fSFT</sub> current to 24µA. This enables the 540kHz operation and the 4.5V to 20V input operation for down converting to 3.3V output. The frequency will scale from 540kHz to 1.1MHz over this input range. This provides for an effective output current of 8A over the input range.



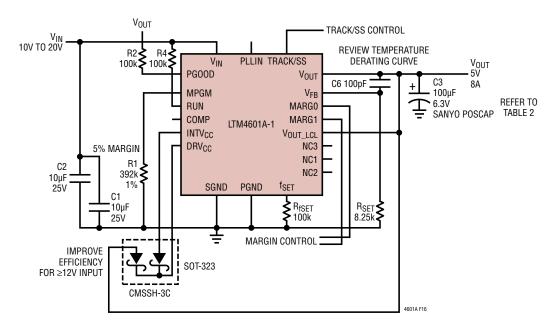


Figure 16. 5V at 8A Design Without Differential Amplifier

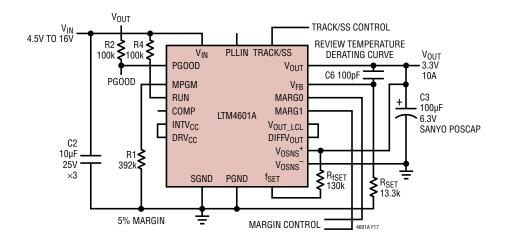


Figure 17. 3.3V at 10A Design



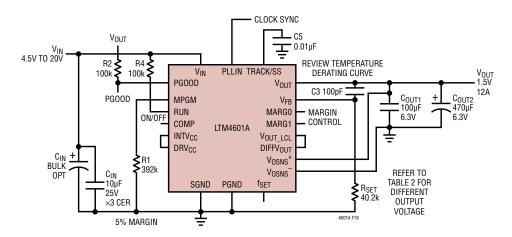


Figure 18. Typical 4.5V to 20V, 1.5V at 12A Design

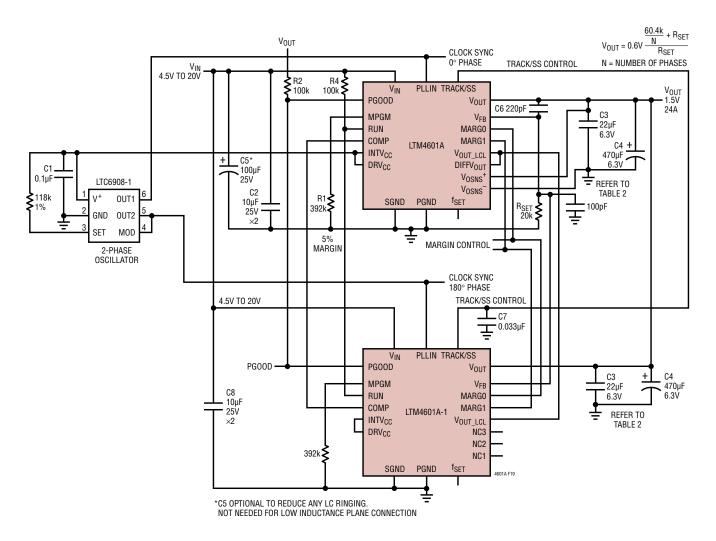


Figure 19. 2-Phase Parallel, 1.5V at 24A Design



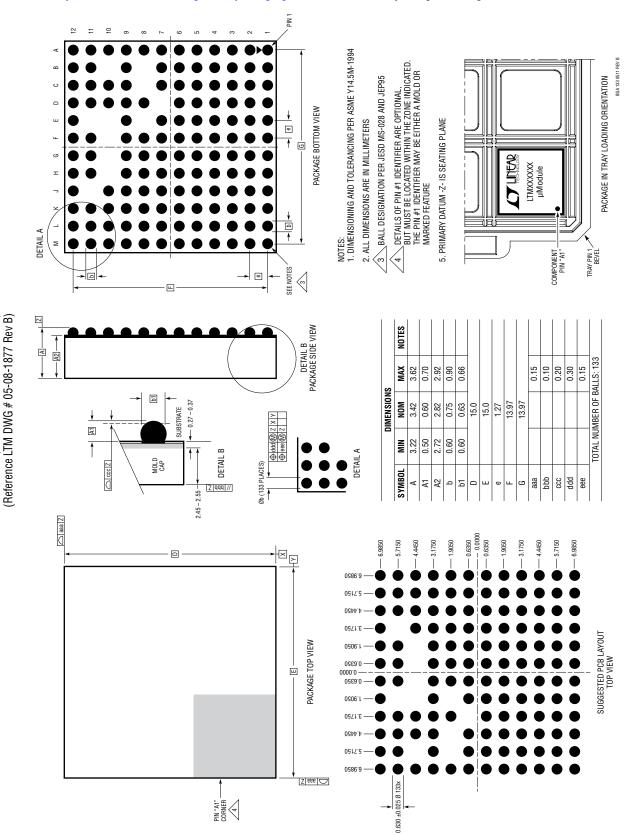
## TYPICAL APPLICATIONS

++ C15 470µF 6.3V C15 470µF 6.3V 2.5V AT 12A EFER TO TABLE 2 REFER TO TABLE 2 R23 60.4k R25 60.4k **~**R18 19.1k R13 40.2k **~** R24 19.1k -WR26 40.2k C24 100pF Wout\_LCL DIFFVout VOUT\_LCL DIFFVOUT VOSNS<sup>+</sup> V<sub>OSNS</sub><sup>+</sup> LTM4601A PGND CLOCK SYNC 2 CLOCK SYNC 4 NPGM RUN COMP INTVCC DRVCC MPGM RUN COMP INTV<sub>CC</sub> DRV<sub>CC</sub> 8V T0 16V **№** R9 5% MARGIN 5% MARGIN £, R16 100k 3.3V R15 100k C14 10µF 25V ×3 C14 10µF 25V ×3 SET MOD GND OUT4 OUT3 C10 470μF 6.3V PH COUT REFER TO TABLE 2 4-PHASE OSCILLATOR • R21 60.4k R8 13.3k 8V TO 16V ЦН. ₩<sup>R19</sup> 30.1k C8 100pF - MARGIN - CONTROL MARGIN CONTROL Vout\_LCL DIFFVout Vosns\* VFB MARG0 MARG1 Vout\_lcl DIFFVout Vosns<sup>+</sup> CLOCK SYNC 3 CLOCK SYNC 1 LTM4601A PGND MPGM RUN COMP INTVCC DRVCC MPGM RUN COMP INTVCC DRVCC ᆘ INTERMEDIATE BUS 8V T0 16V 8V TO 16V 5% MARGIN 5% MARGIN 100K 100k 4 10 pr C8 10µF 25V 33 + 100µF 35V 0PT

4-Phase, Four Outputs (3.3V, 2.5V, 1.8V and 1.5V) with Coincident Tracking

TECHNOLOGY TECHNOLOGY

Please refer to http://www.linear.com/designtools/packaging/ for the most recent package drawings.



133-Lead (15mm imes 15mm imes 3.42mm)

**BGA Package** 

Please refer to http://www.linear.com/designtools/packaging/ for the most recent package drawings.

PACKAGE IN TRAY LOADING ORIENTATION PACKAGE BOTTOM VIEW LTMXXXXXX µModule COMPONENT PIN "A1" TRAY PIN 1, BEVEL SEE NOTES NOTES: 1. DIMENSIONING AND TOLERANCING PER ASME Y14.5M-1994 4 DETAILS OF PAD #1 IDENTIFIER ARE OPTIONAL,
BUT MUST BE LOCATED WITHIN THE ZONE INDICATED.
THE PAD #1 IDENTIFIER MAY BE EITHER A MOLD OR
MARKED FEATURE 3 LAND DESIGNATION PER JESD MO-222, SPP-010 2.72 - 2.92 DETAIL B 5. PRIMARY DATUM -Z- IS SEATING PLANE 2. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETERS 6. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PADS: 133 --- 0.27 -- 0.37 SUBSTRATE ⊕ eee S X Y TOLERANCE Z 0.10 DETAIL B MOLD 0.630 ±0.025 SQ. 133x SYMBOL Z qqq 🔘 aaa bbb 2.45 - 2.55-≽ × 15 BSC SUGGESTED PCB LAYOUT TOP VIEW PACKAGE TOP VIEW 15 BSC 0000.0 5.7150 4.4450 — ☐ aaa Z 4.4450 — 5.7150 — 3.1750 -- 0906.1 0.6350 -3.1750 -6.9850 -.9050 6.9850 -PAD 1

LINEAR

**133-Lead (15mm**  $\times$  **15mm**  $\times$  **2.82mm)** (Reference LTM DWG # 05-08-1755, Rev Ø)

LGA Package

Table 5. Pin Assignment (Arranged by Pin Number)

PIN ID	FUNCTION	PIN ID	FUNCTION	PIN ID	FUNCTION	PIN ID	FUNCTION	PIN ID	FUNCTION	PIN ID	FUNCTION
A1	V <sub>IN</sub>	B1	V <sub>IN</sub>	C1	V <sub>IN</sub>	D1	PGND	E1	PGND	F1	PGND
A2	V <sub>IN</sub>	B2	$V_{IN}$	C2	$V_{IN}$	D2	PGND	E2	PGND	F2	PGND
A3	V <sub>IN</sub>	В3	V <sub>IN</sub>	C3	V <sub>IN</sub>	D3	PGND	E3	PGND	F3	PGND
A4	V <sub>IN</sub>	B4	V <sub>IN</sub>	C4	V <sub>IN</sub>	D4	PGND	E4	PGND	F4	PGND
A5	V <sub>IN</sub>	B5	V <sub>IN</sub>	C5	V <sub>IN</sub>	D5	PGND	E5	PGND	F5	PGND
A6	V <sub>IN</sub>	В6	V <sub>IN</sub>	C6	$V_{IN}$	D6	PGND	E6	PGND	F6	PGND
A7	INTV <sub>CC</sub>	В7	PGND	C7	PGND	D7	-	E7	PGND	F7	PGND
A8	PLLIN	В8	-	C8	_	D8	PGND	E8	-	F8	PGND
A9	TRACK/SS	В9	PGND	C9	PGND	D9	INTV <sub>CC</sub>	E9	PGND	F9	PGND
A10	RUN	B10	-	C10	MTP1	D10	MTP2	E10	_	F10	_
A11	COMP	B11	MPGM	C11	f <sub>SET</sub>	D11	MTP3	E11	_	F11	PG00D
A12	MPGM	B12	f <sub>SET</sub>	C12	MARG0	D12	MARG1	E12	DRV <sub>CC</sub>	F12	V <sub>FB</sub>

PIN ID	FUNCTION	PIN ID	FUNCTION	PIN ID	FUNCTION	PIN ID	FUNCTION	PIN ID	FUNCTION	PIN ID	FUNCTION
G1	PGND	H1	PGND	J1	V <sub>OUT</sub>	K1	V <sub>OUT</sub>	L1	V <sub>OUT</sub>	M1	V <sub>OUT</sub>
G2	PGND	H2	PGND	J2	V <sub>OUT</sub>	K2	V <sub>OUT</sub>	L2	V <sub>OUT</sub>	M2	V <sub>OUT</sub>
G3	PGND	H3	PGND	J3	V <sub>OUT</sub>	К3	V <sub>OUT</sub>	L3	V <sub>OUT</sub>	М3	V <sub>OUT</sub>
G4	PGND	H4	PGND	J4	V <sub>OUT</sub>	K4	V <sub>OUT</sub>	L4	V <sub>OUT</sub>	M4	V <sub>OUT</sub>
G5	PGND	H5	PGND	J5	V <sub>OUT</sub>	K5	V <sub>OUT</sub>	L5	V <sub>OUT</sub>	M5	V <sub>OUT</sub>
G6	PGND	H6	PGND	J6	V <sub>OUT</sub>	K6	V <sub>OUT</sub>	L6	V <sub>OUT</sub>	M6	V <sub>OUT</sub>
G7	PGND	H7	PGND	J7	V <sub>OUT</sub>	K7	V <sub>OUT</sub>	L7	V <sub>OUT</sub>	M7	V <sub>OUT</sub>
G8	PGND	H8	PGND	J8	V <sub>OUT</sub>	K8	V <sub>OUT</sub>	L8	V <sub>OUT</sub>	M8	V <sub>OUT</sub>
G9	PGND	H9	PGND	J9	V <sub>OUT</sub>	К9	V <sub>OUT</sub>	L9	V <sub>OUT</sub>	M9	V <sub>OUT</sub>
G10	_	H10	-	J10	V <sub>OUT</sub>	K10	V <sub>OUT</sub>	L10	V <sub>OUT</sub>	M10	V <sub>OUT</sub>
G11	SGND	H11	SGND	J11	-	K11	V <sub>OUT</sub>	L11	V <sub>OUT</sub>	M11	V <sub>OUT</sub>
G12	PG00D	H12	SGND	J12	V <sub>OSNS</sub> +/NC2*	K12	DIFFV <sub>OUT</sub> /NC2*	L12	V <sub>OUT_LCL</sub>	M12	V <sub>OSNS</sub> -/NC1*

<sup>\*</sup>LTM4601A-1 Only



# Pin Assignment Table 6 (Arranged by Pin Function)

PIN	NAME
A1	V <sub>IN</sub>
A2	V <sub>IN</sub>
A3	V <sub>IN</sub>
A4	VIN
A5	V <sub>IN</sub>
A6	V <sub>IN</sub>
B1	V <sub>IN</sub>
B2	V <sub>IN</sub>
B3	V <sub>IN</sub>
B4	V <sub>IN</sub>
B5	V <sub>IN</sub>
B6	V <sub>IN</sub>
C1	V <sub>IN</sub>
C2	V <sub>IN</sub>
C3	VIN
C4	V <sub>IN</sub>
C5	V <sub>IN</sub>
C6	V <sub>IN</sub>

PIN N	NAME
D1	PGND
D2	PGND
D3	PGND
D4	PGND
D5	PGND
D6	PGND
D8	PGND
E1	PGND
E2	PGND
E3	PGND
E4	PGND
E5	PGND
E6	PGND
E7	PGND
F1	PGND
F2	PGND
F3	PGND
F4	PGND
F5	PGND
F6	PGND
F7	PGND
F8	PGND
F9	
G1	PGND
G2	PGND
G3	PGND
G4	PGND
G5	PGND
G6	PGND
G7	PGND
G8	PGND
G9	
H1	PGND
H2	PGND
H3	PGND
H4	PGND
H5	PGND
H6	PGND
H7	PGND
H8	PGND
H9	

PIN N	NAME
J1	V <sub>OUT</sub>
J2	$V_{OUT}$
J3	V <sub>OUT</sub>
J4	V <sub>OUT</sub>
J5	V <sub>OUT</sub>
J6	V <sub>OUT</sub>
J7	V <sub>OUT</sub>
J8	V <sub>OUT</sub>
J9	V <sub>OUT</sub>
J10	V <sub>OUT</sub>
K1	V <sub>OUT</sub>
K2	V <sub>OUT</sub>
K3	V <sub>OUT</sub>
K4	V <sub>OUT</sub>
K5	V <sub>OUT</sub>
K6	V <sub>OUT</sub>
K7	V <sub>OUT</sub>
K8	V <sub>OUT</sub>
K9	V <sub>OUT</sub>
K10	V <sub>OUT</sub>
K11	V <sub>OUT</sub>
L1	V <sub>OUT</sub>
L2	V <sub>OUT</sub>
L3	V <sub>OUT</sub>
L4	V <sub>OUT</sub>
L5	V <sub>OUT</sub>
L6	V <sub>OUT</sub>
L7	V <sub>OUT</sub>
L8	V <sub>OUT</sub>
L9 L10	V <sub>OUT</sub>
L10 L11	Vout
	V <sub>OUT</sub>
M1	V <sub>OUT</sub>
M2	V <sub>OUT</sub>
M3	V <sub>OUT</sub>
M4	V <sub>OUT</sub>
M5	V <sub>OUT</sub>
M6	V <sub>OUT</sub>
M7 M8	V <sub>OUT</sub>
M9	V <sub>OUT</sub>
M10	Vout
M11	Vout
- IVI I I	V <sub>OUT</sub>

P	IN NAME		
A7 A8 A9 A10 A11 A12	INTV <sub>CC</sub> PLLIN TRACK/SS RUN COMP MPGM		
B12	f <sub>SET</sub>		
C12	MARG0		
D12	MARG1		
E12	DRV <sub>CC</sub>		
F12	V <sub>FB</sub>		
G12	PG00D		
H12	SGND		
J12	V <sub>OSNS</sub> +/NC2*		
K12	DIFFV <sub>OUT</sub> /NC3*		
L12	V <sub>OUT_LCL</sub>		
M12	V <sub>OSNS</sub> <sup>-</sup> /NC1*		
*I TM4004 A 4 0-1-			

<sup>\*</sup>LTM4601A-1 Only

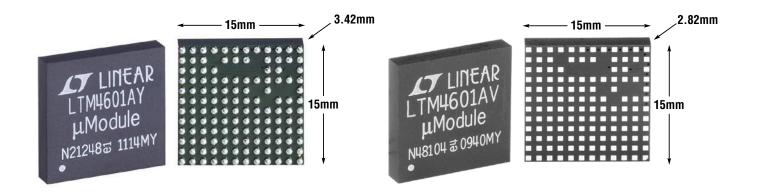
PIN NAME			
B7	PGND		
B8	-		
B9	PGND		
B10	-		
B11	MPGM		
C7	PGND		
C8	-		
C9	PGND		
C10	MTP1		
C11	fset		
D7 D8 D9 D10 D11	PGND INTV <sub>CC</sub> MTP2 MTP3		
E8 E9 E10 E11	- PGND -		
F10	-		
F11	PGOOD		
G10	-		
G11	SGND		
H10	-		
H11	SGND		
J11	-		

# **REVISION HISTORY** (Revision history begins at Rev C)

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NUMBER
С	8/11	Added BGA package. Changes reflected throughout the data sheet.	1 to 30
D	2/14	Added SnPb BGA option	1, 2
E	10/14	Added LTM4601A-1 BGA to data sheet	1, 2, 25, 27, 28, 30



## PACKAGE PHOTOS



## **RELATED PARTS**

PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS			
LTC2900	Quad Supply Monitor with Adjustable Reset Timer	Monitors Four Supplies; Adjustable Reset Timer			
LTC2923	Power Supply Tracking Controller	Tracks Both Up and Down; Power Supply Sequencing			
LT3825/LT3837	Synchronous Isolated Flyback Controllers	No Opto-coupler Required; 3.3V, 12A Output; Simple Design			
LTM4600	10A DC/DC μModule Regulator	Basic 10A DC/DC µModule Regulator			
LTM4601	12A DC/DC µModule Regulator with PLL, Output Tracking/ Margining and Remote Sensing	Synchronizable, PolyPhase Operation to 48A, LTM4601-1 Version Has No Remote Sensing			
LTM4602	6A DC/DC μModule Regulator	Pin Compatible with the LTM4600			
LTM4603	6A DC/DC µModule Regulator with PLL and Output Tracking/Margining and Remote Sensing	Synchronizable, PolyPhase Operation, LTM4603-1 Version Has No Remote Sensing, Pin Compatible with the LTM4601			
LTM4604A	4A Low Voltage DC/DC μModule Regulator	$2.7V \le V_{IN} \le 5.5V$ ; $0.8V \le V_{OUT} \le 5V$ , $15mm \times 9mm \times 2.32mm$ (Ultrathin) LGA Package			
LTM4608A	8A Low Voltage DC/DC μModule Regulator	$2.7V \le V_{IN} \le 5.5V$ ; $0.6V \le V_{OUT} \le 5V$ ; $15mm \times 9mm \times 2.82mm$ LGA Package			