

FAN5903 Buck Converter with Bypass Mode for 3G / 3.5G / 4G PAs

Features

- 2.7 V to 5.5 V Input Voltage Range
- V_{OUT} Range from 0.4 V to 3.5 V (or V_{IN})
- Small Form Factor Inductor
	- o 2012 470 nH or 540 nH for Minimal PCB Area
	- o 2520 1.0 µH for Higher Efficiency
- Bypass Dropout at 500 mA, 60 mV Typical
- 100% Duty Cycle for Low Dropout Operation
- Input Under-Voltage Lockout / Thermal Shutdown
- 1.34 mm x 1.29 mm, 9-Bump, 0.4 mm-Pitch, Wafer-Level Chip-Scale Package (WLCSP)
- 3 MHz / 6 MHz Selectable Switching Frequency to Facilitate System Optimization
- High-Efficiency PFM Operation at Low Power
- Sleep Mode for Very Low I_{Q} Operation
- Up to 96% Efficient Synchronous Operation at High-Power Conditions
- 10 µs Output Voltage Step Response for Early Power Loop Settling

Applications

- Dynamic Supply Bias for 3G/3.5G and 4G PAs
- Power Supply for WCDMA/LTE PAs

Resources

For more information or a full copy of this datasheet, please contact a Fairchild representative.

Description

FAN5903 is a high-efficiency, low-noise, synchronous, step-down, DC-DC converter designed for powering 3G / 3.5G / 4G RF Power Amplifiers (PAs) in handsets and other mobile applications.

The output voltage may be dynamically varied from 0.40 V to 3.50 V, proportional to an analog input V_{CON} , ranging from 0.16 V to 1.40 V provided by an external DAC. This allows the PA to be supplied with the voltage that enables maximum power-added efficiency.

An integrated bypass FET automatically switches on when battery voltage drops close to the desired output voltage ($V_{\text{OUT}} = V_{\text{BAT}} - 200 \text{ mV}$). The DC-DC switches back to Synchronous Mode when the voltage dropout exceeds 375 mV. The integrated bypass FET is also enabled when V_{CON} is nominally greater than to 1.5 V.

The FAN5903 offers fast transition times, enabling changes to the output voltage in less than 10 µs for power transitions. Moreover, a Current-Mode control loop with fast transient response ensures excellent line and load regulation.

Light-load efficiency is optimized by operating in PFM Mode for load currents typically less than 100 mA.

The switching frequency may be set to 3 MHz or 6 MHz, enabling further optimization of system performance. The FAN5903 typically uses a single, small-form-factor inductor of 470 nH or 540 nH. Efficiency may be further optimized using a 1.0 μ H inductor when running at 3 MHz.

When output regulation is not required, the FAN5903 may be placed in Sleep Mode by setting V_{CON} nominally to 50 mV. This ensures a very low I_Q (<70 μ A) while enabling a fast return to output regulation. The FAN5903 enables significant current reduction and increased talk time and is available in a 1.34 mm x 1.29 mm, 9-bump, 0.40 mm-pitch, WLCSP package.

Ordering Information

FAN5903

Pin Configuration

Figure 3. Top-Through View, Bumps Face Down Figure 4. Top-Through View, Bumps Face Up

Pin Definitions

Absolute Maximum Ratings

Stresses exceeding the absolute maximum ratings may damage the device. The device may not function or be operable above the recommended operating conditions and stressing the parts to these levels is not recommended. In addition, extended exposure to stresses above the recommended operating conditions may affect device reliability. The absolute maximum ratings are stress ratings only.

Recommended Operating Conditions

The Recommended Operating Conditions table defines the conditions for actual device operation. Recommended operating conditions are specified to ensure optimal performance to the datasheet specifications. Fairchild does not recommend exceeding them or designing to Absolute Maximum Ratings.

Note:

1. A large enough input capacitor value is required for limiting the input voltage drop during bursts, bypass transitions, or during large output voltage transitions. Ensure the input capacitor value is greater than the output capacitor's. *See the inrush current specifications below.*

Dissipation Ratings

Note:

2. Junction-to-ambient thermal resistance is a function of application and board layout. This data is measured with four-layer 2s2p boards in accordance to JESD51- JEDEC standard. Special attention must be paid not to exceed junction temperature $T_{J(max)}$ at a given ambient temperate T_{A} .

Electrical Characteristics

 $\rm V_{\rm IN}$ = V_{OUT} + 0.6 V, I_{OUT} = 200 mA, EN = V_{IN}, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at $T_A = +25$ °C, $V_{IN} = 3.7 V$.

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Notes:

4. Bypass FET resistance does not include the PFET R_{DSON} and inductor DCR in parallel with the bypass FET in Bypass Mode.

5. Protects part under short circuit conditions. After 40 µs, operation halts and restarts after 180 µs. Under heavy capacitive loads, V $_{\rm CON}$ slew rate may be reduced to avoid consecutive current limits. Under typical conditions for a 3 V change at the output, a capacitive only load of up to 40 μ F is supported, assuming a step at the V_{CON} input.

^{3.} Guaranteed by design; not tested in production.

Typical Characteristics

Unless otherwise noted, $V_{IN} = EN = 3.7 V$, L1 = 1.0 µH, C_{LOAD} = 4.7 µF, and T_A = +25°C.

Figure 7. Efficiency vs. Output Voltage vs. Input V oltage, $f_{SW} = 6$ MHz, $R_{PA} = 7 \Omega$

Figure 8. Efficiency vs. Output Voltage vs. Input Voltage, $f_{SW} = 6$ MHz, $R_{PA} = 10 \Omega$

Typical Characteristics

Unless otherwise noted, $V_{IN} = EN = 3.7 V$, L1 = 1.0 µH, C_{LOAD} = 4.7 µF, and T_A = +25°C.

Figure 13. Shutdown Current vs. Input Voltage vs. Temperature

Figure 12. Efficiency vs. Output Voltage vs. Input Voltage, $f_{SW} = 3$ MHz, $R_{PA} = 10 \Omega$

Figure 14. Sleep Mode Current vs. Input Voltage vs. Temperature

FANS003 – Buck Converter with Bypass Mode tor 3.5G / 4G PAs **FAN5903 — Buck Converter with Bypass Mode for 3G / 3.5G / 4G PAs**

 50.00 $\frac{1}{2}$

 -98.00

Auto **f** 1 3.84V

VIN T VIN ² VOUT VOUT Figure 17. Line Transient V_{IN} = 3.7 V to 4.2 V, Figure 18. Line Transient $V_{IN} = 3.7 V$ to 4.2 V, **VOUT = 2.5 V, 10 Load, 50 µs/div. VOUT = 1.0 V, 10 Load, 50 µs/div.** $\begin{array}{ccc} \end{array}$ 200/ 2 200/ 8 $\vert 4 \vert$ $\sqrt{2}$ 30.00% 10.00%/ Stop $\frac{1}{2}$ 4.000 50 v/ 2 50 v/ 3 $\sqrt{ }$ 30.60% 10.00%/ Stop f 1 41.3 \vert 4 п IE. IL. VOUT VOUT **Figure 19. Load Transient, 0 mA to 400 mA, Figure 20. Load Transient, 200 mA to 800 mA,** $V_{\text{OUT}} = 1.0 \text{ V}$ $V_{OUT} = 1.0 V$ 30.201 30.60 10.00 μ $\overline{Ch(2)} = 2.51475V$ IL. īL VOUT **VOUT** WWWW maanin jiriin maa **Figure 21. Load Transient, 0 mA to 400 mA, Figure 22. Load Transient, 200 mA to 800 mA,** $V_{\text{OUT}} = 2.5 \text{ V}$ $V_{\text{OUT}} = 2.5 V$ © 2008 Fairchild Semiconductor Corporation www.fairchildsemi.com

Typical Characteristics

2 2.00 %/ 8

Unless otherwise noted, $V_{IN} = EN = 3.7 V$, L1 = 1.0 μ H, C_{LOAD} = 4.7 μ F, and T_A = +25°C.

 $\sqrt{1}$

 $3.84V$ **N** 500 v/ **2** 2.00 v/ **8**

98.00%

 50.00

FAN5903 • Rev. 1.0.9

Ston $F \cup T$ 41.30

FANS003 – Buck Converter with Bypass Mode tor 3.5G / 4G PAs **FAN5903 — Buck Converter with Bypass Mode for 3G / 3.5G / 4G PAs**

Operating Mode Description

The FAN5903 is a high-efficiency synchronous stepdown DC-DC converter operating with a Current-Mode control. It adjusts the output voltage, V_{OUT} , depending on the set voltage V_{CON} provided by an external DAC. Regulated V_{OUT} is set to 2.5 times input voltage V_{CON} .

The DC-DC operates in PWM Mode or PFM Mode, depending on the output voltage and load current. Bypass Mode is supported where the output voltage is shorted to the input voltage via a low on-state resistance bypass FET.

The FAN5903 supports a wide range of load currents. High-current applications, up to a DC output of 800 mA, mandated by 3G / 3.5G and 4G applications, for example, are supported. System performance may be optimized by enabling the DC-DC to run at either a 3 MHz or 6 MHz switching rate.

Auto Mode

In Pulse Width Modulation (PWM) Mode, regulation starts with an on-state where a P-channel transistor is turned on and the inductor current is ramped up until the off state begins. In the off state, the P-channel is switched off and an N-channel transistor is turned on. The inductor current decreases to maintain an average value equal to the DC load current. The inductor current is continuously

monitored. A current sense flags when the P-channel transistor current exceeds the current limit and the switcher is turned off to decrease the inductor current and prevent magnetic saturation. Similarly, the current sense flags when the N-channel transistor current exceeds the current limit and re-directs discharging current through the inductor back to the battery.

In Pulse Frequency Modulation (PFM) Mode, at low output voltages and load currents, typically less than 100 mA; the DC-DC operates in a constant On-Time Mode. In the on-state, the P-channel is turned on during a well-defined on-time before switching to the off state, whereby the N-channel switch is turned on and the inductor current is decreased to 0 A. The switcher output is put into high-resistance state until the new regulation cycle starts.

PFM Mode realizes high efficiency while maintaining RF system performance down to low load currents.

Bypass Mode

In Bypass Mode, the FAN5903 operates at 100% duty cycle with the bypass FET turned on. This enables a very low voltage dropout with up to 2.4 A DC load current. In applications with 3G / 3.5G and 4G PAs, the Bypass Mode typically handles 800 mA.

Table 1. Mode Descriptions

Notes:

6. When V_{OUT} exceeds V_{IN} – 200 mV, the bypass FET is enabled and the DC-DC goes to 100% duty cycle. When $V_{\text{OUT}} \le V_{\text{IN}} - 375$ mV, the bypass FET is disabled and the DC-DC goes to Auto Mode.

When the load current is smaller than PFM current threshold, the DC-DC changes to PFM Mode.

DC Output Voltage

The output voltage of the DC-DC is determined by V_{CON} . provided by an external DAC or voltage reference:

$$
V_{OUT} = 2.5 \times V_{CON} \tag{1}
$$

Figure 35. Output Voltage vs. Control Voltage

The DC-DC is able to provide a regulated V_{OUT} only if V_{CON} is between 0.16 V to 1.40 V. This allows V_{OUT} to be adjusted between 0.40 V and 3.50 V. If V_{CON} is below this range, V_{OUT} is clamped to 0.40 V as minimum and enters bypass for $V_{CON} > 1.50$ V. If V_{CON} is less than 50 mV, FAN5903 enters a non-regulated Sleep Mode. This reduces current consumption to less than $70 \mu A$ while allowing for a rapid return to regulation.

FAN5903 automatically switches between PFM, PWM, and Bypass Modes.

The DC-DC is able to provide a regulated V_{OUT} only if the battery voltage is 200 mV greater than V_{OUT} .

Bypass Mode

The trigger to enter Bypass Mode is based on the voltage difference between the battery voltage (sensed through the PVIN pin) and the internally generated reference voltage, V_{REF} , as depicted in [Figure 36.](#page-12-2) The DC-DC enters Bypass Mode when $V_{IN} = V_{OUT} + 200$ mV. It then turns into 100% duty cycle and the low- R_{DSON} bypass FET is turned on. As V_{OUT} approaches V_{IN} ; the DC-DC operates in a constant off-time mode, the frequency is decreased to achieve a high duty cycle, and the system continues to run in a regulated mode until the bypass condition is satisfied.

As noted above, Bypass Mode is also entered when V_{CON} exceeds 1.5 V.

Figure 36. Enabling Bypass Transistor Circuit

The bypass FET is turned on progressively using a slew rate controller to limit the inrush current. The inrush current is expressed as a function of the specified slew rate as follows:

$$
I_{INRUSH} \approx C_{OUT} \frac{\Delta V_{OUT}}{\Delta t} = C_{OUT} \bullet V_{BP_SLEW}
$$
 (2)

The slew rate controller is not used when releasing the Bypass Mode.

Switching Frequency Selection (FSEL)

In some cases, it may be desirable to change the DC-DC's switching frequency from 6 MHz (FSEL = 0) to 3 MHz (FSEL = 1). At 3 MHz operation the DC-DC's efficiency is generally higher than that at 6 MHz. The primary tradeoff with this is increased voltage ripple at the lower frequency. A 1.0 µH inductor may be used in 3 MHz operation to optimize efficiency and ripple.

The FAN5903 is designed to have minimal impact on the RF output spectrum at either switching frequency.

Dynamic Output Voltage Transitions

The FAN5903 has a complex voltage transition controller that realizes less than 10 µs transition times with a large output capacitor and output voltage ranges.

The transition controller manages five transitions:

- \blacksquare ΔV_{OUT} positive step
- \blacksquare ΔV_{OUT} negative step
- ΔV_{OUT} transition to or from Bypass Mode
- ΔV_{OUT} transition at startup
- ΔV_{OUT} transition after BPEN

In most cases, sharp V_{CON} transitions and letting the transition controller optimize the output voltage slew rate are recommended.

VOUT Positive Step

After a V_{CON} positive step, the DC-DC enters a Current-Limit Mode, where V_{OUT} ramps with a constant slew rate dictated by the output capacitor and the current limit.

and 2 V Δ V_{OUT} (V_{IN} = 3.7 V)

VOUT Negative Step

After a V_{CON} negative step, the DC-DC enters Current-Limit Mode, where V_{OUT} is reduced with a constant slew rate dictated by the output capacitor and the current limit.

VOUT Transition to or from Bypass Mode

The transition to or from Bypass Mode requires the bypass conditions be met. The FAN5903 performs detection of the bypass conditions $2 \mu s$ after V_{CON} transition and enables the required charging / discharging circuit to realize a transition time of 10 µs.

VOUT Transition at Startup

At startup, after EN rising edge is detected, the system requires 40 µs to enable all internal voltage references and amplifiers before enabling the DC-DC function.

VOUT Transition After BPEN

When BPEN goes HIGH, the controller dismisses the internal bypass flags and sensors and enables Bypass Mode. However, the transition is managed with the same current limit and slew rate used during regular transitions.

Thermal Protection

If the junction temperature exceeds the maximum specified junction temperature, the FAN5903 enters Power-Down Mode (except the thermal detection circuit).

Sleep Mode

The FAN5903 offers a Sleep mode to minimize current, while also enabling a rapid return to regulation. Sleep Mode is entered when V_{CON} is held below 50 mV for at least 40 µs. In this mode, current consumption is reduced to under 70 µA. Sleep Mode is exited after approximately 12 μ s when V_{CON} is set above 135 mV.

 Δ **V**_{OUT} (**V**_{IN} = 3.7 V)

Application Information

[Figure 39](#page-14-0) illustrates an application of the FAN5903 in a 3G / 4G transmitter. The FAN5903 is designed for driving multiple PAs. [Figure 40](#page-14-1) presents a timing diagram designed to meet WCDMA specifications. The FAN5903 supports voltage transients less than 10 µs.

Application Information

Inductor Selection

The FAN5903 is able to operate at 3 MHz or 6 MHz switching frequency, so 470 nH (or 540 nH) or 1.0 µH inductors can be used, respectively. To achieve optimum efficiency, it is recommended that the FAN5903 switch at 3 MHz (FSEL = HIGH), using a 1.0 µH inductor. For applications that require the smallest possible PCB area, the FAN5903 should be configured for 6 MHz operation (FSEL = LOW) to allow use of a 470 nH or 540 nH 2012 inductor.

Table 2. Recommended Inductors

Capacitor Selection

The minimum required output capacitor C_{OUT} is 4.7 μ F, 6.3 V, X5R with an ESR of 10 m Ω or lower and an ESL of 0.3 nH or lower. Larger case sizes result in increased loop parasitic inductance and higher noise.

A 0.1 μ F capacitor may be added in parallel with C_{OUT} to reduce the effect of the capacitor's parasitic inductance.

Table 3. Recommended Capacitor Values

Filter VCON

VCON is the analog control pin of the DC-DC and should be connected to an external Digital-to-Analog Converter (DAC). It is recommended to place up to 470 pF decoupling capacitance between VCON and AGND to filter the DAC noise. This capacitor also helps protect the DAC from the DC-DC high-frequency switching noise coupled through the VCON pin.

Any noise on the V_{CON} input is transferred to V_{OUT} with a gain of two and a half (2.5). If the DAC output is noisy, a series resistor may be inserted between the DAC output and the capacitor to form an RC filter.

Follow these guidelines:

- Use a low noise source or a driver with good PSRR to generate V_{CON} .
- The V_{CON} driver must be referenced to AGND.
- V_{CON} routing must be protected against PVIN, SW, PGND signals, and other noisy signals. Use AGND shielding for better isolation.
- Be sure the DAC output can drive the 470 pF capacitor on VCON. It may be necessary to insert a low value resistor to ensure DAC stability without slowing V_{CON} fast transition times.

No Floating Inputs

The FAN5903 does not have internal pull-down resistors on its inputs. Therefore, unused inputs should not be left floating and should be pulled HIGH or LOW.

PCB Layout & Component Placement

- Make sure the FAN5903, C_{IN} , and C_{OUT} are all tied to the same power ground (PGND). This minimizes the parasitic inductance of the switching loop paths.
- Place PGND on the top layer and connect it to the AGND ground plane next to C_{OUT} using several vias.
- Ensure that the routing loop, PVIN PGND VOUT is the shortest possible.
- Place the inductor away from the FB connection to prevent unpredictable loop behavior.
- Use the application circuit layout in [Figure 41](#page-16-0) whenever possible. The performance of this layout has been verified.
- Review the layout guidelines for the IC package. This is especially important for the WLCSP package. Refer to "*Surface Mount Assembly of Amkor's Eutectic and Lead-Free CSPnl™ Wafer-Level Chip-Scale Package*" available from the Amkor website.
- PVIN and PGND must be routed with the widest and shortest traces possible. It is acceptable for the traces connecting the inductor to be long rather than having long PVIN or PGND traces. The SW node is a source of electrical switching noise. Do not route it near sensitive analog signals.
- Two small vias are used to connect the SW node to the inductor L1. Use solder-filled vias if available.
- The connection from C_{OUT} to FB should be wide to minimize the Bypass mode voltage drop and the series inductance. Even if the current in Bypass Mode is small, keep this trace short and at least 5mm wide.
- The ground plane should be not be broken into pieces. Ground currents must have a direct, wide path from input to output.
- Each capacitor should have at least two dedicated ground vias. Place vias within 0.1 mm of the capacitors.
- Ensure the traces are wide enough to handle the maximum current value, especially in Bypass Mode.
- **Ensure the vias are able to handle the current** density. Use metal-filled vias if available.

Assembly

- Use metal-filled or solder-filled vias if available.
- **Poor soldering can cause low DC-DC conversion** efficiency. If the efficiency is low, X-ray the solder connections to verify their integrity.

Figure 41. Recommended PCB Layout

FAN5903

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Rev. 164