

FEATURES

- **Wide Input Voltage Range: 0.9V to 5.5V**
- **Stable with Ceramic Capacitors**
- **Very Low Dropout: 85mV at 500mA**
- **Adjustable Output Range: 0.4V to 3.6V (LTC3025-1)**
- **Fixed Output: 1.2V (LTC3025-2), 1.5V (LTC3025-3), 1.8V (LTC3025-4)**
- **±2% Voltage Accuracy over Temperature, Supply and Load**
- Low Noise: $80\mu\text{V}_{\text{RMS}}$ (10Hz to 100kHz)
- BIAS Voltage Range: 2.5V to 5.5V
- Fast Transient Recovery
- Shutdown Disconnects Load from V_{IN} and V_{BIAS}
- Low Operating Current: $I_{\text{IN}} = 4\mu\text{A}$, $I_{\text{BIAS}} = 50\mu\text{A}$ Typ
- Low Shutdown Current: $I_{\text{IN}} = 1\mu\text{A}$, $I_{\text{BIAS}} = 0.01\mu\text{A}$ Typ
- Output Current Limit
- Thermal Overload Protection
- Available in 6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) DFN Package

APPLICATIONS

- Low Power Handheld Devices
- Low Voltage Logic Supplies
- DSP Power Supplies
- Cellular Phones
- Portable Electronic Equipment
- Handheld Medical Instruments
- Post Regulator for Switching Supply Noise Rejection

DESCRIPTION

The LTC®3025-X is a micropower, VLDO™ (very low dropout) linear regulator which operates from input voltages as low as 0.9V. The device is capable of supplying 500mA of output current with a typical dropout voltage of only 85mV. A BIAS supply is required to run the internal reference and LDO circuitry while output current comes directly from the IN supply for high efficiency regulation. The LTC3025-1 features an adjustable output with a low 0.4V reference while the LTC3025-2, LTC3025-3, and LTC3025-4 have fixed 1.2V, 1.5V and 1.8V output voltages respectively.

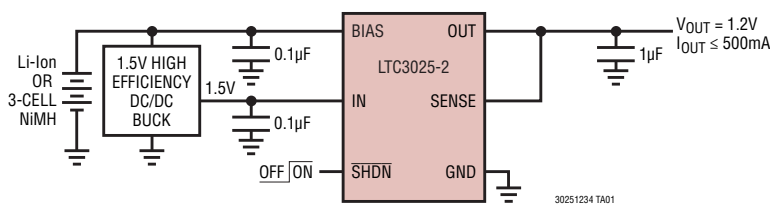
The LTC3025-X's low quiescent current makes it an ideal choice for use in battery-powered systems. For 3-cell NiMH and single cell Li-Ion applications, the BIAS voltage can be supplied directly from the battery while the input can come from a high efficiency buck regulator, providing a high efficiency, low noise output.

Other features include high output voltage accuracy, excellent transient response, stability with ultralow ESR ceramic capacitors as small as 1μF, short-circuit and thermal overload protection and output current limiting. The LTC3025-X is available in a tiny, low profile (0.75mm) 6-lead DFN (2mm × 2mm) package.

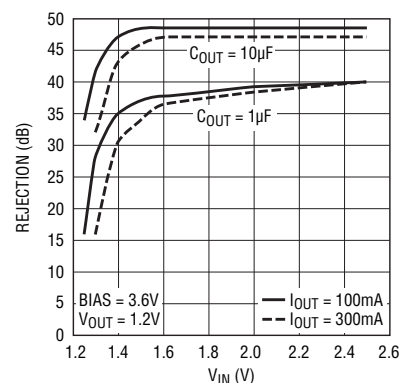
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TYPICAL APPLICATION

1.2V Output Voltage from 1.5V Input Supply



1MHz V_{IN} Supply Rejection



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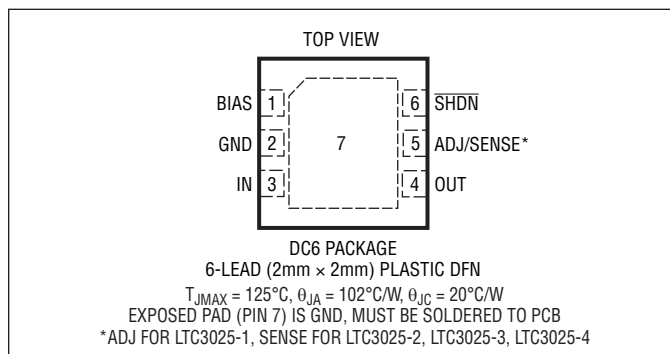
LTC3025-1/LTC3025-2/ LTC3025-3/LTC3025-4

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

(Notes 1, 2)

V_{BIAS} , V_{IN} to GND.....	–0.3V to 6V
SHDN to GND.....	–0.3V to 6V
SENSE, ADJ to GND.....	–0.3V to 6V
V_{OUT}	–0.3V to $V_{IN} + 0.3V$ or 6V
Operating Junction Temperature Range (Note 3).....	–40°C to 125°C
Storage Temperature Range.....	–65°C to 125°C
Output Short-Circuit Duration	Indefinite

PIN CONFIGURATION



ORDER INFORMATION

LEAD FREE FINISH	TAPE AND REEL	PART MARKING*	PACKAGE DESCRIPTION	TEMPERATURE RANGE
LTC3025EDC-1#PBF	LTC3025EDC-1#TRPBF	LDDW	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025IDC-1#PBF	LTC3025IDC-1#TRPBF	LDDW	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025EDC-2#PBF	LTC3025EDC-2#TRPBF	LDMK	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025IDC-2#PBF	LTC3025IDC-2#TRPBF	LDMK	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025EDC-3#PBF	LTC3025EDC-3#TRPBF	LDQS	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025IDC-3#PBF	LTC3025IDC-3#TRPBF	LDQS	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025EDC-4#PBF	LTC3025EDC-4#TRPBF	LDPQ	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025IDC-4#PBF	LTC3025IDC-4#TRPBF	LDPQ	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LEAD BASED FINISH	TAPE AND REEL	PART MARKING*	PACKAGE DESCRIPTION	TEMPERATURE RANGE
LTC3025EDC-1	LTC3025EDC-1#TR	LDDW	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025IDC-1	LTC3025IDC-1#TR	LDDW	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025EDC-2	LTC3025EDC-2#TR	LDMK	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025IDC-2	LTC3025IDC-2#TR	LDMK	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025EDC-3	LTC3025EDC-3#TR	LDQS	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025IDC-3	LTC3025IDC-3#TR	LDQS	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025EDC-4	LTC3025EDC-4#TR	LDPQ	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C
LTC3025IDC-4	LTC3025IDC-4#TR	LDPQ	6-Lead (2mm × 2mm) Plastic DFN	–40°C to 125°C

Consult LTC Marketing for parts specified with wider operating temperature ranges. *The temperature grade is identified by a label on the shipping container.

For more information on lead free part marking, go to: <http://www.linear.com/leadfree/>

For more information on tape and reel specifications, go to: <http://www.linear.com/tapeandreel/>

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS The ● denotes the specifications which apply over the full operating temperature range, otherwise specifications are at $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$. $V_{IN} = 1.5\text{V}$, $V_{BIAS} = 3.6\text{V}$, $C_{OUT} = 1\mu\text{F}$, $C_{IN} = 0.1\mu\text{F}$, $C_{BIAS} = 0.1\mu\text{F}$ (all capacitors ceramic) unless otherwise noted. (Note 3)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
V_{IN} Operating Voltage (Note 4)	LTC3025-1	●	0.9		5.5	V
	LTC3025-2	●	1.4		5.5	V
	LTC3025-3	●	1.7		5.5	V
	LTC3025-4	●	2.0		5.5	V
V_{BIAS} Operating Voltage (Note 4)	LTC3025-1	●	2.5		5.5	V
	LTC3025-2	●	2.7		5.5	V
	LTC3025-3	●	3.0		5.5	V
	LTC3025-4	●	3.3		5.5	V
V_{BIAS} Undervoltage Lockout		●		2.2	2.5	V
V_{IN} Operating Current	$I_{OUT} = 10\mu\text{A}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.2\text{V}$, LTC3025-1	●		4	10	μA
V_{IN} Operating Current	$I_{OUT} = 0\mu\text{A}$, LTC3025-2/LTC3025-3/LTC3025-4	●		4	10	μA
V_{BIAS} Operating Current	$I_{OUT} = 10\mu\text{A}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.2\text{V}$, LTC3025-1	●		50	80	μA
V_{BIAS} Operating Current	$I_{OUT} = 0\mu\text{A}$, LTC3025-2/LTC3025-3/LTC3025-4	●		50	80	μA
V_{IN} Shutdown Current	$V_{SHDN} = 0\text{V}$			1	5	μA
V_{BIAS} Shutdown Current	$V_{SHDN} = 0\text{V}$			0.01	1	μA
V_{ADJ} Regulation Voltage (Note 5)	$1\text{mA} \leq I_{OUT} \leq 500\text{mA}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.2\text{V}$, $1.5\text{V} \leq V_{IN} \leq 5\text{V}$, LTC3025-1		0.395	0.4	0.405	V
	$1\text{mA} \leq I_{OUT} \leq 500\text{mA}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.2\text{V}$, $1.5\text{V} \leq V_{IN} \leq 5\text{V}$, LTC3025-1	●	0.392	0.4	0.408	V
V_{SENSE} Regulation Voltage (Note 5)	$1\text{mA} \leq I_{OUT} \leq 500\text{mA}$, $1.5\text{V} \leq V_{IN} \leq 5\text{V}$, LTC3025-2		1.185	1.2	1.215	V
	$1\text{mA} \leq I_{OUT} \leq 500\text{mA}$, $1.5\text{V} \leq V_{IN} \leq 5\text{V}$, LTC3025-2	●	1.176	1.2	1.224	V
V_{SENSE} Regulation Voltage (Note 5)	$1\text{mA} \leq I_{OUT} \leq 500\text{mA}$, $1.7\text{V} \leq V_{IN} \leq 5\text{V}$, LTC3025-3		1.481	1.5	1.519	V
	$1\text{mA} \leq I_{OUT} \leq 500\text{mA}$, $1.7\text{V} \leq V_{IN} \leq 5\text{V}$, LTC3025-3	●	1.470	1.5	1.530	V
V_{SENSE} Regulation Voltage (Note 5)	$1\text{mA} \leq I_{OUT} \leq 500\text{mA}$, $2.0\text{V} \leq V_{IN} \leq 5\text{V}$, LTC3025-4		1.777	1.8	1.823	V
	$1\text{mA} \leq I_{OUT} \leq 500\text{mA}$, $2.0\text{V} \leq V_{IN} \leq 5\text{V}$, LTC3025-4	●	1.764	1.8	1.836	V
I_{ADJ} ADJ Input Current	$V_{ADJ} = 0.45\text{V}$, LTC3025-1		-50	0	50	nA
OUT Load Regulation (Referred to ADJ Pin)	$\Delta I_{OUT} = 1\text{mA}$ to 500mA, LTC3025-1			-0.35		mV
OUT Load Regulation	$\Delta I_{OUT} = 1\text{mA}$ to 500mA, LTC3025-2			-1		mV
	$\Delta I_{OUT} = 1\text{mA}$ to 500mA, LTC3025-3			-1.3		mV
	$\Delta I_{OUT} = 1\text{mA}$ to 500mA, LTC3025-4			-1.5		mV
V_{IN} Line Regulation (Referred to ADJ Pin)	$V_{IN} = 1.5\text{V}$ to 5V, $V_{BIAS} = 3.6\text{V}$, $V_{OUT} = 1.2\text{V}$, $I_{OUT} = 1\text{mA}$, LTC3025-1			0.07		mV
V_{IN} Line Regulation	$V_{IN} = 1.5\text{V}$ to 5V, $V_{BIAS} = 3.6\text{V}$, $I_{OUT} = 1\text{mA}$, LTC3025-2			0.21		mV
	$V_{IN} = 1.8\text{V}$ to 5V, $V_{BIAS} = 3.6\text{V}$, $I_{OUT} = 1\text{mA}$, LTC3025-3			0.26		mV
	$V_{IN} = 2.1\text{V}$ to 5V, $V_{BIAS} = 3.6\text{V}$, $I_{OUT} = 1\text{mA}$, LTC3025-4			0.32		mV
V_{BIAS} Line Regulation	$V_{IN} = 1.5\text{V}$, $V_{BIAS} = 2.7\text{V}$ to 5V, $V_{OUT} = 1.2\text{V}$, $I_{OUT} = 1\text{mA}$, LTC3025-1	●		4.5	16.5	mV
V_{BIAS} Line Regulation	$V_{IN} = 1.5\text{V}$, $V_{BIAS} = 2.7\text{V}$ to 5V, $I_{OUT} = 1\text{mA}$, LTC3025-2	●		4.5	16.5	mV
	$V_{IN} = 1.8\text{V}$, $V_{BIAS} = 3.0\text{V}$ to 5V, $I_{OUT} = 1\text{mA}$, LTC3025-3	●		4.5	16.5	mV
	$V_{IN} = 2.1\text{V}$, $V_{BIAS} = 3.3\text{V}$ to 5V, $I_{OUT} = 1\text{mA}$, LTC3025-4	●		4.5	16.5	mV
V_{IN} to V_{OUT} Dropout Voltage (Notes 4, 6)	$V_{BIAS} = 3\text{V}$, $V_{IN} = 1.5\text{V}$, $I_{OUT} = 500\text{mA}$, $V_{ADJ} = 0.37\text{V}$ (LTC3025-1), $V_{SENSE} = 1.15\text{V}$ (LTC3025-2)	●		85	120	mV
					170	mV
V_{IN} to V_{OUT} Dropout Voltage (Notes 4, 6)	$V_{BIAS} = 3.1\text{V}$, $V_{IN} = 1.7\text{V}$, $I_{OUT} = 500\text{mA}$, $V_{SENSE} = 1.45\text{V}$ (LTC3025-3)	●		90	130	mV
					185	mV
V_{IN} to V_{OUT} Dropout Voltage (Notes 4, 6)	$V_{BIAS} = 3.4\text{V}$, $V_{IN} = 2.0\text{V}$, $I_{OUT} = 500\text{mA}$, $V_{SENSE} = 1.75\text{V}$ (LTC3025-4)	●		90	130	mV
					185	mV
V_{BIAS} to V_{OUT} Dropout Voltage (Note 4)	LTC3025-1	●			1.5	V

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LTC3025-1/LTC3025-2/ LTC3025-3/LTC3025-4

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

The ● denotes the specifications which apply over the full operating temperature range, otherwise specifications are at $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$. $V_{IN} = 1.5\text{V}$, $V_{BIAS} = 3.6\text{V}$, $C_{OUT} = 1\mu\text{F}$, $C_{IN} = 0.1\mu\text{F}$, $C_{BIAS} = 0.1\mu\text{F}$ (all capacitors ceramic) unless otherwise noted. (Note 3)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
I_{OUT} Continuous Output Current	●	500			mA
I_{OUT} Current Limit	$V_{ADJ} = 0\text{V}$ (LTC3025-1), $V_{SENSE} = 0\text{V}$ (LTC3025-2/LTC3025-3/LTC3025-4)		1130		mA
e_n Output Voltage Noise	$f = 10\text{Hz to } 100\text{kHz}$, $I_{OUT} = 300\text{mA}$		80		μV_{RMS}
V_{IH} $\overline{\text{SHDN}}$ Input High Voltage	●	0.9			V
V_{IL} $\overline{\text{SHDN}}$ Input Low Voltage	●			0.3	V
I_{IH} $\overline{\text{SHDN}}$ Input High Current	$\overline{\text{SHDN}} = 1.2\text{V}$	-1		1	μA
I_L $\overline{\text{SHDN}}$ Input Low Current	$\overline{\text{SHDN}} = 0\text{V}$	-1		1	μA

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: This IC includes overtemperature protection that is intended to protect the device during momentary overload conditions. Junction temperature will exceed 125°C when overtemperature protection is active. Continuous operation above the specified maximum operating junction temperature may impair device reliability.

Note 3: The LTC3025-X regulators are tested and specified under pulse load conditions such that $T_J \approx T_A$. The LTC3025E-X are guaranteed to meet performance specifications from 0°C and 125°C . Specifications over the -40°C to 125°C operating junction temperature range are assured by design, characterization and correlation with statistical process controls. The LTC3025I-X are guaranteed to meet performance specifications over the full -40°C to 125°C operating junction temperature range.

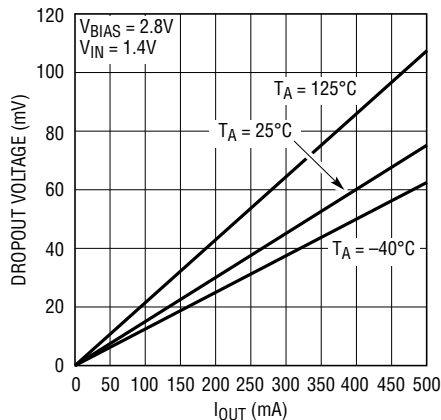
Note 4: For the LTC3025-1, a regulated output voltage will only be available when the minimum I_N and I_{BIAS} operating voltages as well as the I_N to I_{OUT} and I_{BIAS} to I_{OUT} dropout voltages are all satisfied. For the LTC3025-2/LTC3025-3/LTC3025-4 the minimum I_N operating voltage assumes $I_{OUT} = 500\text{mA}$. For correct regulation at $I_{OUT} < 500\text{mA}$ the minimum I_N operating voltage decreases to the maximum V_{SENSE} Regulation Voltage as I_{OUT} decreases to 0mA (i.e. $V_{INMIN} = 1.312\text{V}$ at $I_{OUT} = 250\text{mA}$ for the LTC3025-2).

Note 5: Operating conditions are limited by maximum junction temperature. The regulated output voltage specification will not apply for all possible combinations of input voltage and output current. When operating at maximum input voltage, the output current range must be limited. When operating at maximum output current, the input voltage range must be limited.

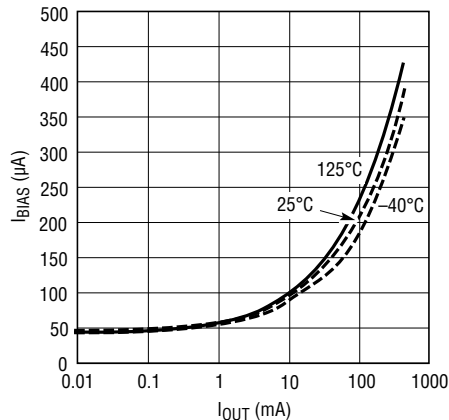
Note 6: Dropout voltage is minimum input to output voltage differential needed to maintain regulation at a specified output current. In dropout, the output voltage will be equal to $V_{IN} - V_{DROPOUT}$.

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS ($T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ unless otherwise noted)

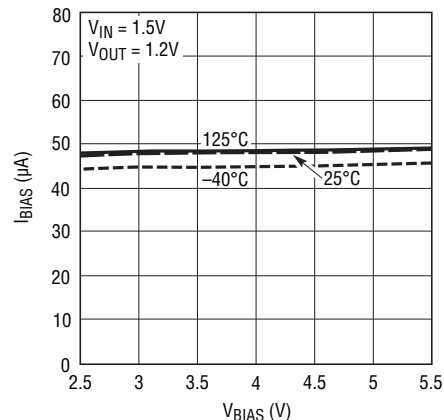
V_{IN} to V_{OUT} Dropout Voltage vs I_{OUT}



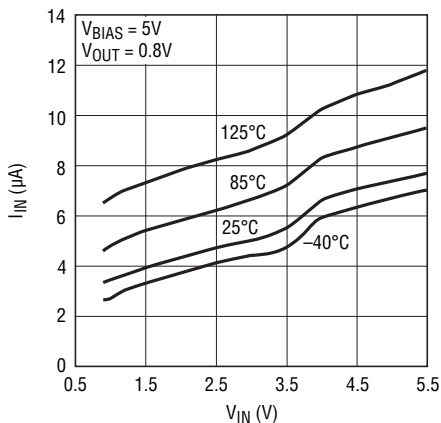
Operating BIAS Current vs Output Current



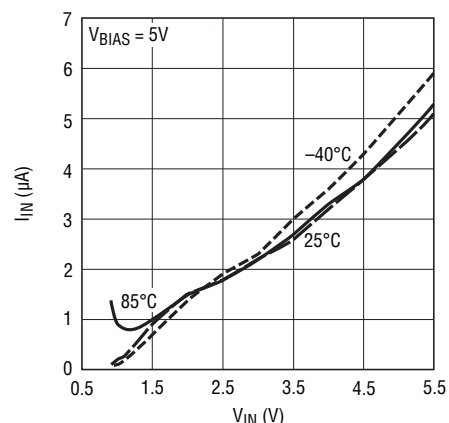
BIAS No Load Operating Current



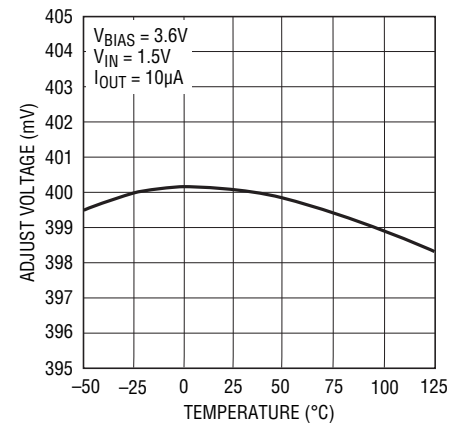
V_{IN} No Load Operating Current



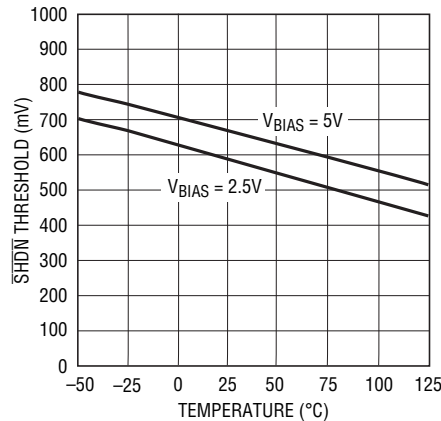
V_{IN} Shutdown Current



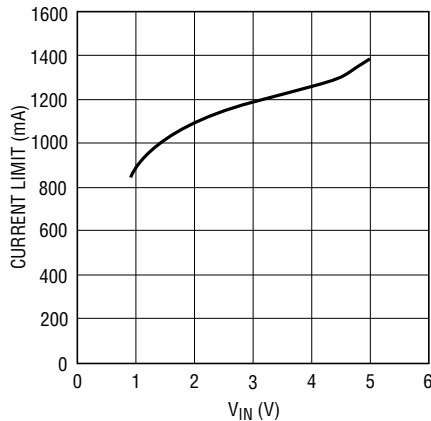
Adjust Voltage vs Temperature



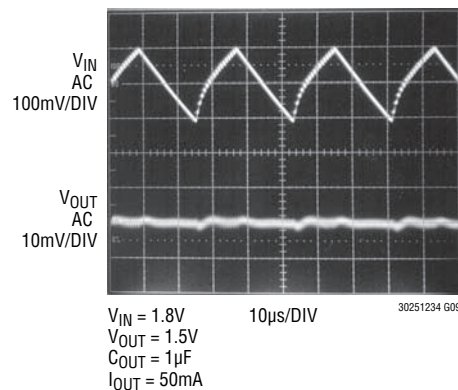
SHDN Threshold vs Temperature



Current Limit vs V_{IN} Voltage

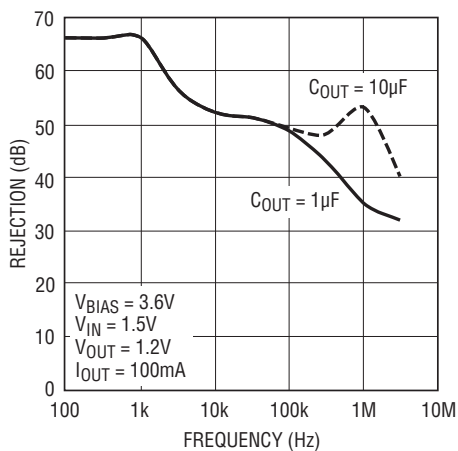


Burst Mode DC/DC Buck Ripple Rejection

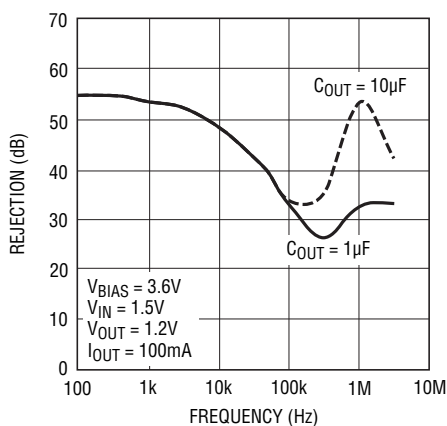


TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS ($T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ unless otherwise noted)

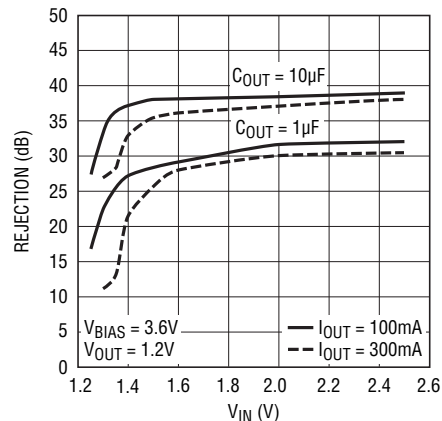
**V_{IN} Ripple Rejection
vs Frequency**



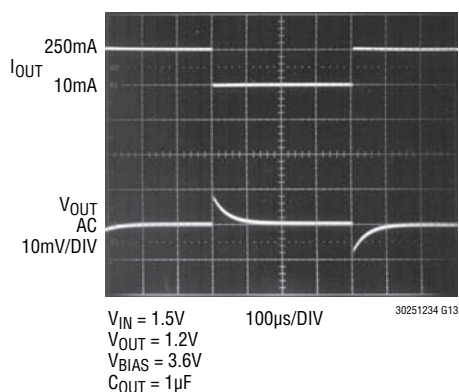
**BIAS Ripple Rejection
vs Frequency**



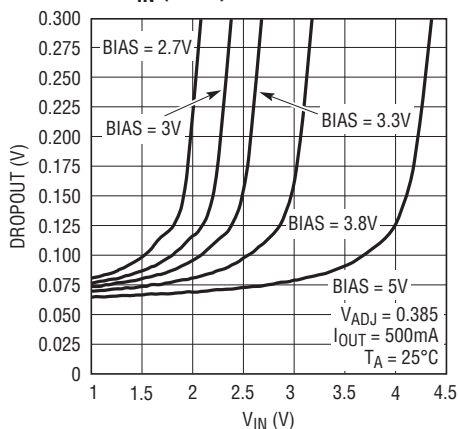
3MHz V_{IN} Supply Rejection



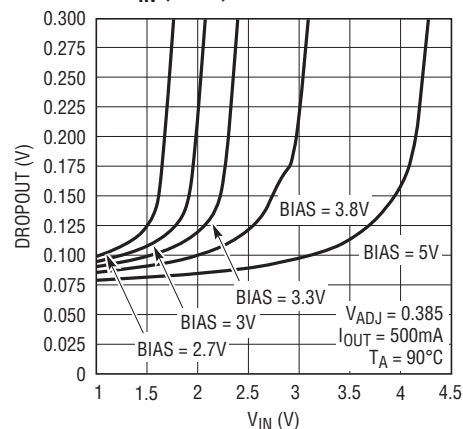
Transient Response



**V_{IN} to V_{OUT} Dropout Voltage
vs V_{IN} (25°C) LTC3025-1**



**V_{IN} to V_{OUT} Dropout Voltage
vs V_{IN} (90°C) LTC3025-1**



PIN FUNCTIONS

BIAS (Pin 1): BIAS Input Voltage. BIAS provides internal power for LTC3025-X circuitry. The BIAS pin should be locally bypassed to ground if the LTC3025-X is more than a few inches away from another source of bulk capacitance. In general, the output impedance of a battery rises with frequency, so it is usually advisable to include an input bypass capacitor in battery-powered circuits. A capacitor in the range of 0.01 μ F to 0.1 μ F is usually sufficient.

GND (Pin 2): Ground. Connect to a ground plane.

IN (Pin 3): Input Supply Voltage. The output load current is supplied directly from IN. The IN pin should be locally bypassed to ground if the LTC3025-X is more than a few inches away from another source of bulk capacitance. In general, the output impedance of a battery rises with frequency, so it is usually advisable to include an input bypass capacitor when supplying IN from a battery. A capacitor in the range of 0.1 μ F to 1 μ F is usually sufficient.

OUT (Pin 4): Regulated Output Voltage. The OUT pin supplies power to the load. A minimum ceramic output capacitor of at least 1 μ F is required to ensure stability. Larger output capacitors may be required for applications with large transient loads to limit peak voltage transients.

See the Applications Information section for more information on output capacitance.

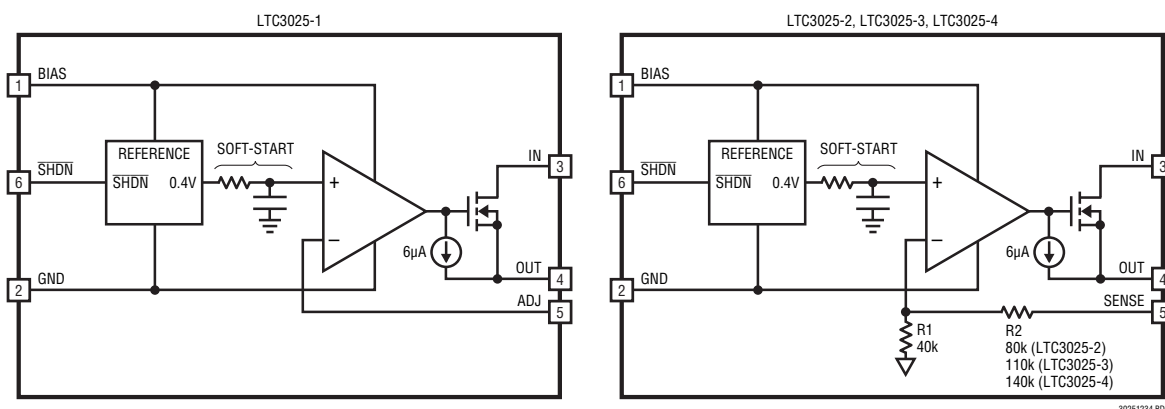
ADJ (Pin 5) LTC3025-1: Adjust Input. This is the input to the error amplifier. The ADJ pin reference voltage is 0.4V referenced to ground. The output voltage range is 0.4V to 3.6V and is typically set by connecting ADJ to a resistor divider from OUT to GND. See Figure 2.

SENSE (Pin 5) LTC3025-2, LTC3025-3, LTC3025-4: Output Sense. The sense is the input to the resistor divider driving the error amplifier. Optimum regulation will be obtained at the point where SENSE is connected to OUT. The SENSE pin bias current is 10 μ A at the nominal rated output voltage.

SHDN (Pin 6): Shutdown Input, Active Low. This pin is used to put the LTC3025-X into shutdown. The $\overline{\text{SHDN}}$ pin current is typically less than 10nA. The $\overline{\text{SHDN}}$ pin cannot be left floating and must be tied to a valid logic level (such as BIAS) if not used.

GND (Exposed Pad Pin 7): Ground and Heat Sink. Must be soldered to PCB ground plane or large pad for optimal thermal performance.

BLOCK DIAGRAM



APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

Operation (Refer to Block Diagram)

The LTC3025-X is a micropower, VLDO (very low dropout) linear regulator which operates from input voltages as low as 0.9V. The device provides a highly accurate output that is capable of supplying 500mA of output current with a typical dropout voltage of only 85mV. A single ceramic capacitor as small as 1 μ F is all that is required for output bypassing. A low reference voltage allows the LTC3025-1 output to be programmed to much lower voltages than available in common LDOs (range of 0.4V to 3.6V). The LTC3025-2/LTC3025-3/LTC3025-4 have fixed outputs of 1.2V, 1.5V and 1.8V respectively, eliminating the need for an external resistor divider.

As shown in the Block Diagram, the BIAS input supplies the internal reference and LDO circuitry while all output current comes directly from the IN input for high efficiency regulation. The low quiescent supply currents $I_{IN} = 4\mu$ A, $I_{BIAS} = 50\mu$ A drop to $I_{IN} = 1\mu$ A, $I_{BIAS} = 0.01\mu$ A typical in shutdown making the LTC3025-X an ideal choice for use in battery-powered systems.

The device includes current limit and thermal overload protection. The fast transient response of the follower output stage overcomes the traditional tradeoff between dropout voltage, quiescent current and load transient response inherent in most LDO regulator architectures. The LTC3025-X also includes overshoot detection circuitry which brings the output back into regulation when going from heavy to light output loads (see Figure 1).

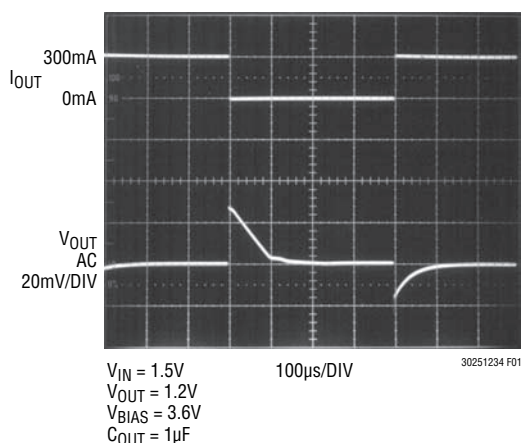


Figure 1. LTC3025-X Transient Response

Adjustable Output Voltage (LTC3025-1)

The output voltage is set by the ratio of two external resistors as shown in Figure 2. The device servos the output to maintain the ADJ pin voltage at 0.4V (referenced to ground). Thus, the current in R1 is equal to $0.4V/R1$. For good transient response, stability, and accuracy, the current in R1 should be at least 8 μ A, thus the value of R1 should be no greater than 50k. The current in R2 is the current in R1 plus the ADJ pin bias current. Since the ADJ pin bias current is typically <10nA, it can be ignored in the output voltage calculation. The output voltage can be calculated using the formula in Figure 2. Note that in shutdown the output is turned off and the divider current will be zero once C_{OUT} is discharged.

The LTC3025-1 operates at a relatively high gain of -0.7μ V/mA referred to the ADJ input. Thus a load current change of 1mA to 500mA produces a -0.35 mV drop at the ADJ input. To calculate the change referred to the output simply multiply by the gain of the feedback network (i. e., $1 + R2/R1$). For example, to program the output for 1.2V choose $R2/R1 = 2$. In this example, an output current change of 1mA to 500mA produces -0.35 mV $\cdot (1 + 2) = -1.05$ mV drop at the output.

Because the ADJ pin is relatively high impedance (depending on the resistor divider used), stray capacitance at this pin should be minimized (<10pF) to prevent phase shift in the error amplifier loop. Additionally, special attention should be given to any stray capacitances that can couple external signals onto the ADJ pin producing undesirable output ripple. For optimum performance connect the ADJ pin to R1 and R2 with a short PCB trace and minimize all other stray capacitance to the ADJ pin.

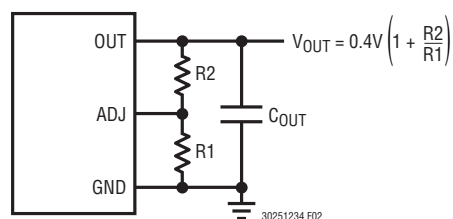


Figure 2. Programming the LTC3025-1

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

Output Capacitance and Transient Response

The LTC3025-X is designed to be stable with a wide range of ceramic output capacitors. The ESR of the output capacitor affects stability, most notably with small capacitors. A minimum output capacitor of $1\mu\text{F}$ with an ESR of 0.05Ω or less is recommended to ensure stability. The LTC3025-X is a micropower device and output transient response will be a function of output capacitance. Larger values of output capacitance decrease the peak deviations and provide improved transient response for larger load current changes. Note that bypass capacitors used to decouple individual components powered by the LTC3025-X will increase the effective output capacitor value. High ESR tantalum and electrolytic capacitors may be used, but a low ESR ceramic capacitor must be in parallel at the output. There is no minimum ESR or maximum capacitor size requirements.

Extra consideration must be given to the use of ceramic capacitors. Ceramic capacitors are manufactured with a variety of dielectrics, each with different behavior across temperature and applied voltage. The most common dielectrics used are Z5U, Y5V, X5R and X7R. The Z5U and Y5V dielectrics are good for providing high capacitances in a small package, but exhibit large voltage and temperature coefficients as shown in Figures 3 and 4. When used with a 2V regulator, a $1\mu\text{F}$ Y5V capacitor can lose as much as 75% of its initial capacitance over the operating temperature range. The X5R and X7R dielectrics result in more stable characteristics and are usually more suitable for use as the output capacitor. The X7R type has better stability across temperature, while the X5R is less expensive and is available in higher values. In all cases, the output capacitance should never drop below $0.4\mu\text{F}$, or instability or degraded performance may occur.

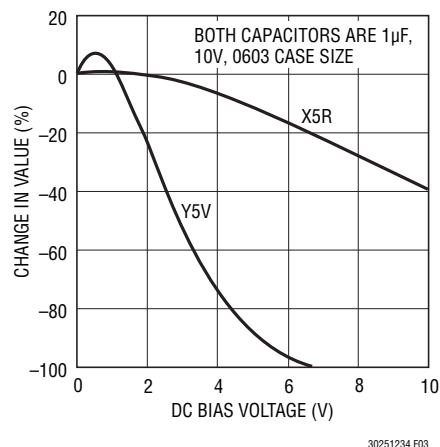


Figure 3. Ceramic Capacitor DC Bias Characteristics

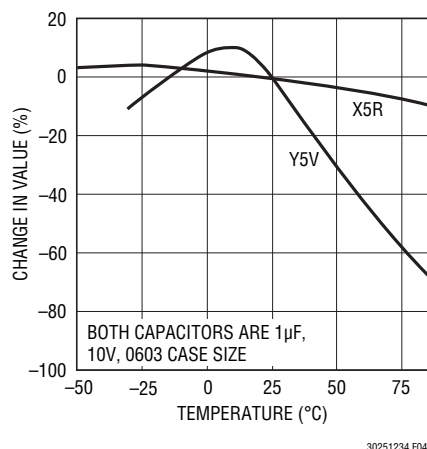


Figure 4. Ceramic Capacitor Temperature Characteristics

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

Thermal Considerations

The power handling capability of the device will be limited by the maximum rated junction temperature (125°C). The power dissipated by the device will be the output current multiplied by the input/output voltage differential:

$$(I_{OUT})(V_{IN} - V_{OUT})$$

Note that the BIAS current is less than 500µA even under heavy loads, so its power consumption can be ignored for thermal calculations.

The LTC3025-X has internal thermal limiting designed to protect the device during momentary overload conditions. For continuous normal conditions, the maximum junction temperature rating of 125°C must not be exceeded. It is important to give careful consideration to all sources of thermal resistance from junction to ambient. Additional heat sources mounted nearby must also be considered. For surface mount devices, heat sinking is accomplished by using the heat-spreading capabilities of the PC board and its copper traces. Copper board stiffeners and plated through holes can also be used to spread the heat generated by power devices.

The LTC3025-X 2mm × 2mm DFN package is specified as having a junction-to-ambient thermal resistance of 102°C/W, which assumes a minimal heat spreading copper plane. The actual thermal resistance can be reduced substantially by connecting the package directly to a good heat spreading ground plane. When soldered to 2500mm² double-sided 1 oz. copper plane, the actual junction-to-ambient thermal resistance can be less than 60°C/W.

Calculating Junction Temperature

Example: Given an output voltage of 1.2V, an input voltage of 1.8V to 3V, an output current range of 0mA to 100mA and a maximum ambient temperature of 50°C, what will the maximum junction temperature be?

The power dissipated by the device will be equal to:

$$I_{OUT(MAX)}(V_{IN(MAX)} - V_{OUT})$$

where:

$$I_{OUT(MAX)} = 100\text{mA}$$

$$V_{IN(MAX)} = 3\text{V}$$

So:

$$P = 100\text{mA}(3\text{V} - 1.2\text{V}) = 0.18\text{W}$$

Even under worst-case conditions, the LTC3025-X's BIAS pin power dissipation is only about 1mW, thus can be ignored. Assuming a junction-to-ambient thermal resistance of 102°C/W, the junction temperature rise above ambient will be approximately equal to:

$$0.18\text{W}(102^\circ\text{C/W}) = 18.4^\circ\text{C}$$

The maximum junction temperature will then be equal to the maximum junction temperature rise above ambient plus the maximum ambient temperature or:

$$T_J = 50^\circ\text{C} + 18.4^\circ\text{C} = 68.4^\circ\text{C}$$

Short-Circuit/Thermal Protection

The LTC3025-X has built-in short-circuit current limiting as well as overtemperature protection. During short-circuit conditions, internal circuitry automatically limits the output current to approximately 1130mA. At higher temperatures, or in cases where internal power dissipation causes excessive self heating on chip, the thermal shutdown circuitry will shut down the LDO when the junction temperature exceeds approximately 150°C. It will re enable the LDO once the junction temperature drops back to approximately 140°C. The LTC3025-X will cycle in and out of thermal shutdown without latch-up or damage until the overstress condition is removed. Long term overstress ($T_J > 125^\circ\text{C}$) should be avoided as it can degrade the performance or shorten the life of the part.

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

Soft-Start Operation

The LTC3025-X includes a soft-start feature to prevent excessive current flow during start-up. When the LDO is enabled, the soft-start circuitry gradually increases the LDO reference voltage from 0V to 0.4V over a period of about 600 μ s. There is a short 700 μ s delay from the time the part is enabled until the LDO output starts to rise. Figure 5 shows the start-up and shutdown output waveform.

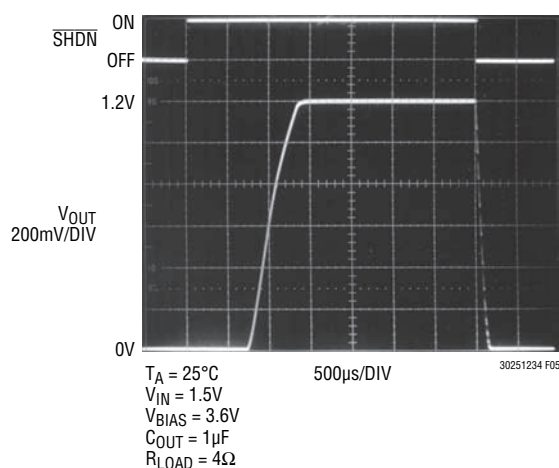


Figure 5. Output Start-Up and Shutdown

V_{OUT} Start-Up and Supply Sequencing

During power-up, the output shutdown circuitry is not active below V_{IN} of about 0.65V DC (typical). As a result, the output voltage can drift up during power-up due to leakage current (<1 mA typical) from V_{IN} to V_{OUT} . At 0.9V input, the shutdown circuitry is active and the output is actively held off. This usually causes no circuit problems and is similar to 3-terminal regulators such as the LT3080, LT1086 and LT317 which have no ground pin and can have the output rise under some conditions. A slowly rising V_{IN} with the part enabled may result in non-monotonic ramping of V_{OUT} due to LDO circuitry becoming active at V_{IN} of about 0.65V (typical) as well.

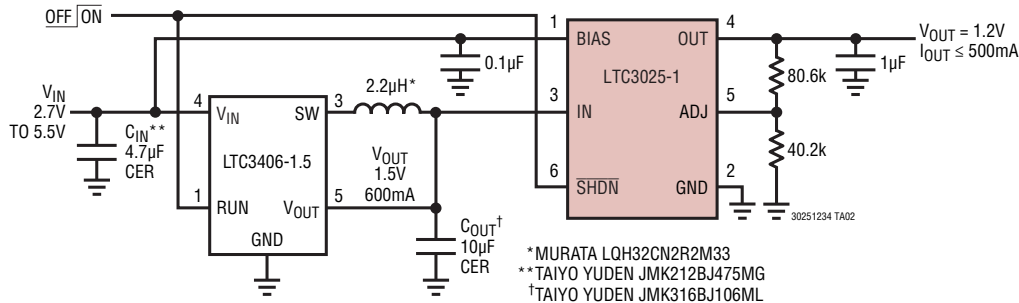
With fast rising inputs (>1V/ms) or with sufficient resistive load on V_{OUT} , output voltage rise during power-up is reduced or eliminated. Such conditions also reduce or eliminate non-monotonic initial power-up with the part enabled. If V_{BIAS} is sequenced up before V_{IN} , the leakage current from V_{IN} to V_{OUT} may increase until the shutdown circuitry is active at a V_{IN} of about 0.65V typical. Thus, to minimize V_{OUT} rise during start-up, sequence up V_{IN} before V_{BIAS} . At $V_{IN} = 0.9\text{V}$, the output is actively held off in shutdown or it is actively held on when enabled under all conditions.

REVISION HISTORY (Revision history begins at Rev E)

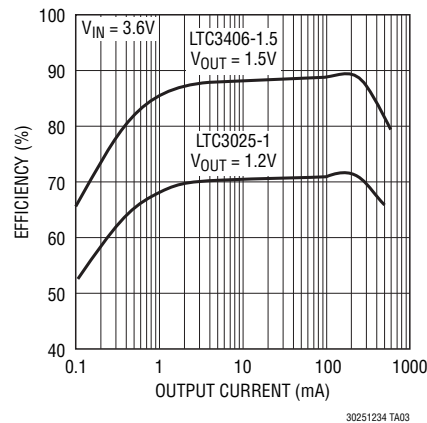
REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	PAGE NUMBER
E	07/10	Added (Note 3) notation to “The ● denotes” statement in Electrical Characteristics section	3, 4
		Updated Pin 7 in Pin Functions	7
		Added “V _{OUT} Start-Up and Supply Sequencing” section	11
		Updated Related Parts section	14
F	04/11	Updated y-axis on graphs G14 and G15	6

TYPICAL APPLICATION

High Efficiency 1.5V Step-Down Converter with Efficient 1.2V VLDO Output



Efficiency vs Output Current



RELATED PARTS

PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS
LT1761	100mA, Low Noise Micropower, LDO	V_{IN} : 1.8V to 20V, $V_{OUT(MIN)}$ = 1.22V, V_{DO} = 0.30V, I_Q = 20µA, I_{SD} < 1µA, V_{OUT} = Adj, 1.5V, 1.8V, 2V, 2.5V, 2.8V, 3V, 3.3V, 5V, ThinSOT™ Package. Low Noise < 20µV _{RMS} -P, Stable with 1µF Ceramic Capacitors
LT1762	150mA, Low Noise Micropower LDO	V_{IN} : 1.8V to 20V, $V_{OUT(MIN)}$ = 1.22V, V_{DO} = 0.30V, I_Q = 25µA, I_{SD} < 1µA, V_{OUT} = Adj, 2.5V, 3V, 3.3V, 5V, MS8 Package. Low Noise < 20µV _{RMS} -P
LTC1844	150mA, Very Low Dropout LDO	V_{IN} : 1.6V to 6.5V, $V_{OUT(MIN)}$ = 1.25V, V_{DO} = 0.08V, I_Q = 40µA, I_{SD} < 1µA, V_{OUT} = Adj, 1.5V, 1.8V, 2.5V, 2.8V, 3.3V, ThinSOT Package. Low Noise < 30µV _{RMS} -P, Stable with 1µF Ceramic Capacitors
LT1962	300mA, Low Noise Micropower LDO	V_{IN} : 1.8V to 20V, $V_{OUT(MIN)}$ = 1.22V, V_{DO} = 0.27V, I_Q = 30µA, I_{SD} < 1µA, V_{OUT} = 1.5, 1.8V, 2.5V, 3V, 3.3V, 5V, MS8 Package. Low Noise < 20µV _{RMS} -P
LT1964	200mA, Low Noise Micropower, Negative LDO	V_{IN} : -0.9V to -20V, $V_{OUT(MIN)}$ = -1.21V, V_{DO} = 0.34V, I_Q = 30µA, I_{SD} < 3µA, V_{OUT} = Adj, -5V, ThinSOT Package. Low Noise < 30µV _{RMS} -P, Stable with Ceramic Capacitors
LT3020	100mA, Low Voltage, VLDO	V_{IN} : 0.9V to 10V, $V_{OUT(MIN)}$ = 0.20V, V_{DO} = 0.15V, I_Q = 120µA, I_{SD} < 3µA, V_{OUT} = Adj, DFN, MS8 Package
LTC3025	300mA Micropower VLDO Linear Regulator	45mV Dropout Voltage, Low Noise: 80µV _{RMS} , V_{IN} : 0.9V to 5.5V, Low I_Q = 54µA, 2mm × 2mm 6-Lead DFN Package
LTC3026	1.5A, Low Input Voltage VLDO Regulator	V_{IN} : 1.14V to 3.5V (Boost Enabled), 1.14V to 5.5V (with External 5V Rail), V_{DO} = 0.1V, I_Q = 950µA, Stable with 10µF Ceramic Capacitors, DFN-10 and MSOP-10 Packages

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