

## FEATURES

- Inherent Matched LED
- Drives up to Six LEDs from a 3.6V Li-Ion Cell
- No External Schottky Diode Required
- 1.2MHz Switching Frequency
- Automatic Soft-Start
- Soft LED Turn-Off
- High Protection
- Efficiency: 80%
- Requires Only 0.22µF Output Capacitor
- Low Profile (1mm) 6-Lead SOT23 Packaging

## APPLICATIONS

- Cellular Phones
- PDAs, Handheld Computers
- Digital Cameras
- MP3 Players
- GPS Receivers

## DESCRIPTION

The ZC5126 is a step-up DC/DC converter designed to drive up to six LEDs in series from a Li-Ion cell. Series connection of the LEDs provides identical LED currents and eliminates the need for ballast resistors. These devices integrate the Schottky diode required externally on competing devices. Additional features include output voltage limiting when LEDs are disconnected, one-pin shutdown and dimming control. The ZC5126 has internal soft-start.

The ZC5126 switches at 1.2MHz, allowing the use of tiny external components. Constant frequency switching results in low input noise and a small output capacitor. Just 0.22µF is required for 4, 5- or 6-LED applications. The ZC5126 is available in low profile (1mm) 6-lead

## TYPICAL APPLICATION

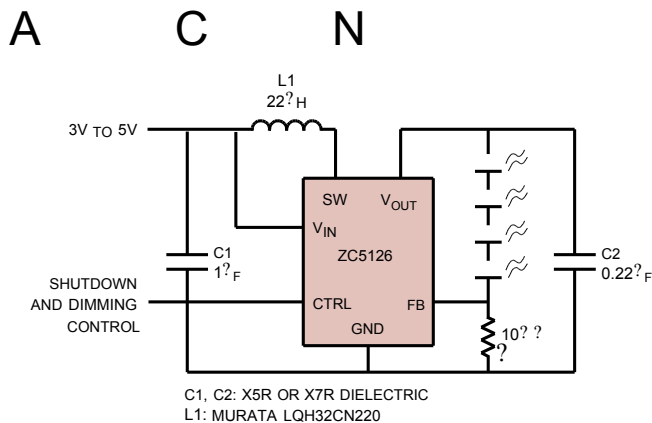
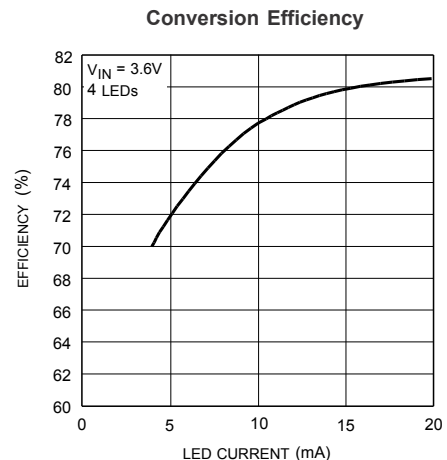
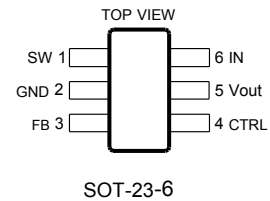


Figure 1. Li-Ion Powered Driver for Four White LEDs



(Note 1)

Input Voltage ( $V_{IN}$ ) .....	16V
SW Voltage .....	36V
FB Voltage .....	2V
CTRL Voltage .....	10V
Operating Temperature Range (Note 2) ..	$-40^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $85^{\circ}\text{C}$
Maximum Junction Temperature .....	$125^{\circ}\text{C}$
Storage Temperature Range .....	$-65^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $150^{\circ}\text{C}$
Lead Temperature (Soldering, 10 sec).....	$300^{\circ}\text{C}$



# ELECTRIC CHARACTERISTICS

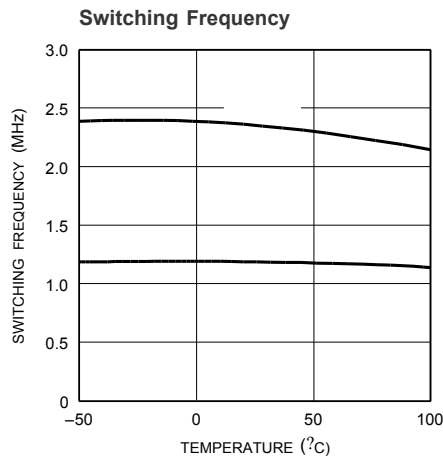
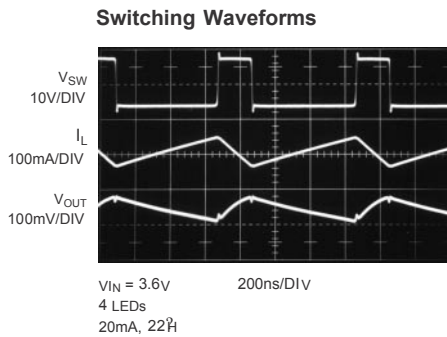
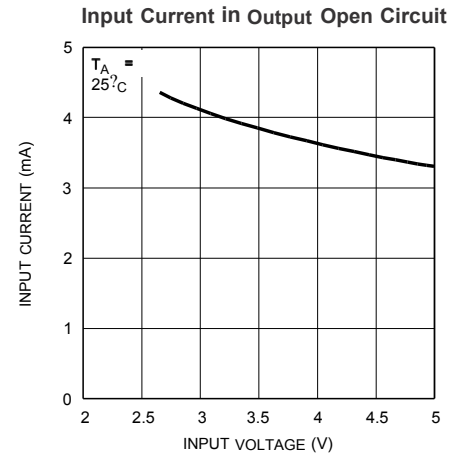
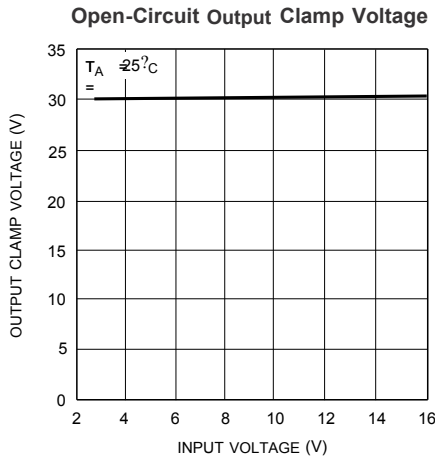
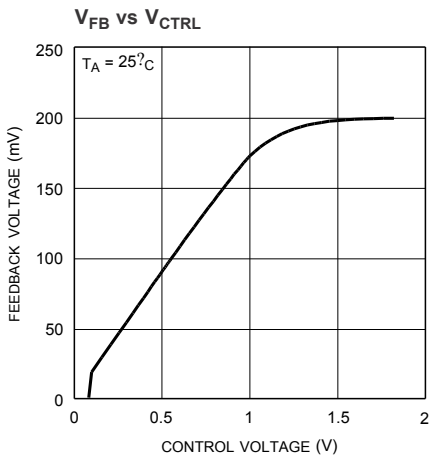
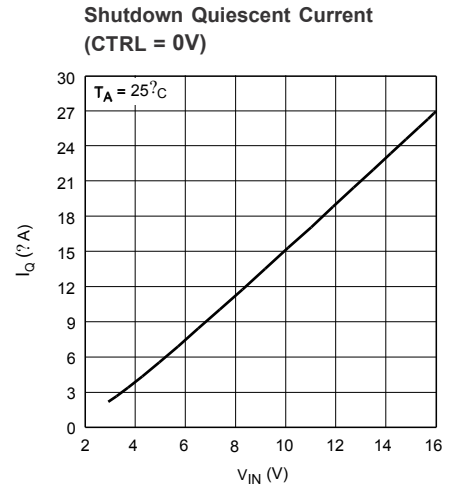
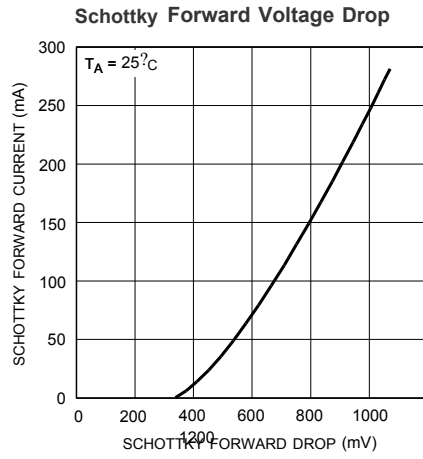
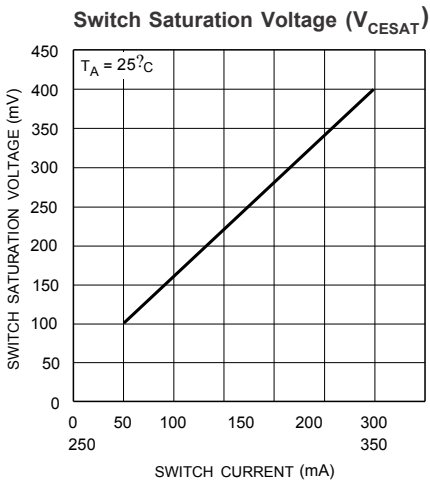
## TEMPERATURE TICS

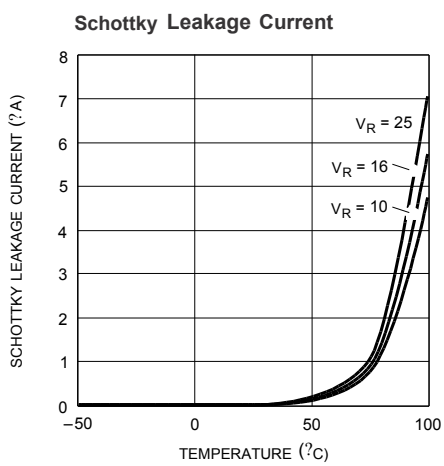
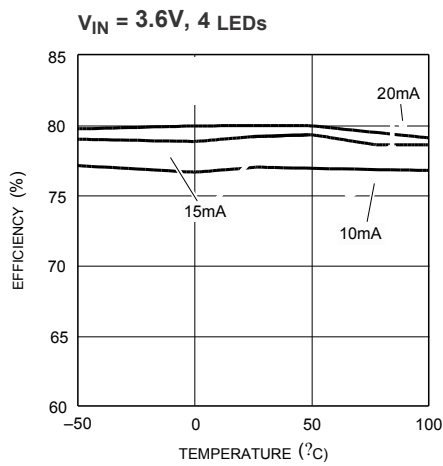
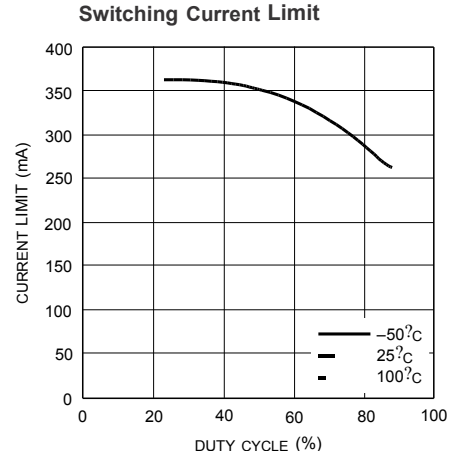
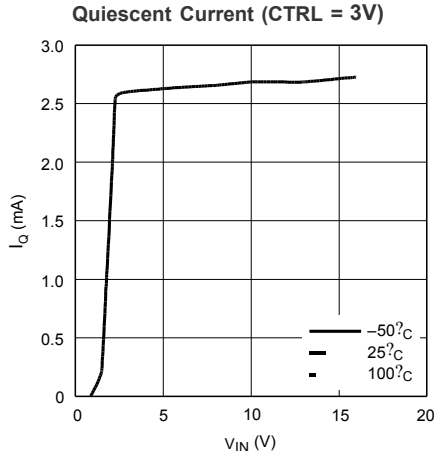
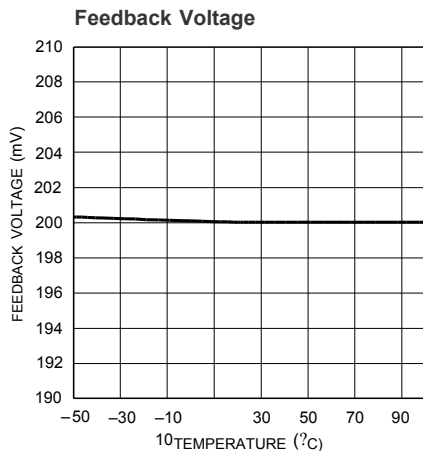
The □ denotes the specifications which apply over the full operating temperature range, otherwise specifications are at  $T_A = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$ .  $V_{IN} = 3\text{V}$ ,  $V_{CTRL} = 3\text{V}$ , unless otherwise noted.

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Minimum Operating Voltage		2.7			V
Maximum Operating Voltage				1	V
Feedback Voltage	$0^{\circ}\text{C} ? T_A ? 85^{\circ}\text{C}$	188	200	212	mV
FB Pin Bias Current†		10	35	100	nA
Supply Current†	Not Switching CTRL = 0V	1.9 2.0	2.6 3.2	3.3 5.0	mA
Switching Frequency		0.8	1.2	1.6	MHz
Maximum Duty Cycle	□	90	93		%
Switch Current Limit†	□	225	340		mA
Switch $V_{CESAT}$	$I_{SW} = 250\text{mA}$		30		mV
Switch Leakage Current	$V_{SW} = 5\text{V}$		0.01	5	
$V_{CTRL}$ for Full LED Current		1.8			V
$V_{CTRL}$ to Shut Down Chip				50	mV
CTRL Pin Bias Current†		48	60	70	uA
	$T_A = 85^{\circ}\text{C}$	40	50	60	
	$T_A = -40^{\circ}\text{C}$	60	75	90	
Soft-Start Time <sub>e</sub>			600		μs
Schottky Forward Drop	$I_D = 150\text{mA}$		0.7		V
Schottky Leakage Current	$V_R = 30\text{V}$			4	

**Note 1:** Absolute Maximum Ratings are those values beyond which the life of a device may be impaired.

**Note 2:** The ZC5126 are guaranteed to meet performance specifications from  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $70^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Specifications over the  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $85^{\circ}\text{C}$  operating temperature range are assured by design, characterization and correlation with statistical process controls.





**V<sub>OUT</sub> (Pin 1):** Output Pin. Connect to output capacitor and LEDs. Minimize trace between this pin and output capacitor to reduce EMI.

**GND (Pin 2):** Ground Pin. Connect directly to local ground plane.

**FB (Pin 3):** Feedback Pin. Reference voltage is 200mV. Connect LEDs and a resistor at this pin. LED current is determined by the resistance and CTRL pin voltage:

$$I_{LED} \approx \frac{200mV}{R_{FB}} \text{ When } V_{CTRL} \approx 1.8V$$

$$I_{LED} \approx \frac{V_{CTRL}}{5 \cdot R_{FB}} \text{ When } V_{CTRL} \approx 1V$$

**CTRL (Pin 4):** Dimming Control and Shutdown Pin. Ground this pin to shut down the device. When V<sub>CTRL</sub> is greater than about 1.8V, full-scale LED current is generated. When V<sub>CTRL</sub> is less than 1V, LED current is reduced.

**V<sub>IN</sub> (Pin 5):** Input Supply Pin. Must be locally bypassed with a 1<sup>µ</sup>F X5R or X7R type ceramic capacitor.

**SW (Pin 6):** Switch Pin. Connect inductor here.

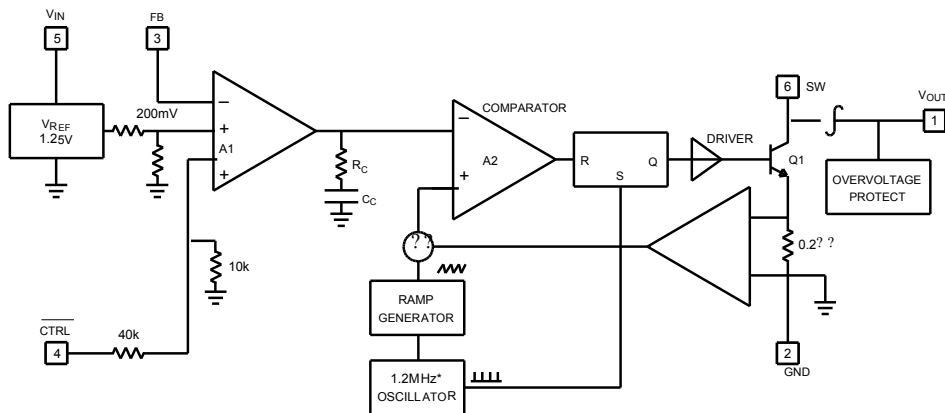


Figure ZC5126 Bloc Diagram  
2. 6 k m

## Operatio

n  
The ZC5126 uses a constant frequency, current mode control scheme to provide excellent line and load regulation. Operation can be best understood by referring to the block diagram in Figure 2. At the start of each oscillator cycle, the SR latch is set, which turns on the power switch Q1. A voltage proportional to the switch current is added to a stabilizing ramp and the resulting sum is fed into the positive terminal of the PWM comparator A2. When this voltage exceeds the level at the negative input of A2, the SR latch is reset turning off the power switch. The level at the negative input of A2 is set by the error amplifier A1, and is simply an amplified version of the difference between the feedback voltage and the reference voltage of 200mV. In this manner, the error amplifier sets the correct peak current level to keep the output in regulation. If the error amplifier's output increases, more current is delivered to the output; if it decreases, less current is delivered. The CTRL pin voltage is used to adjust the reference voltage.

## Minimum Output Current

The ZC5126 can drive a 3-LED string at 1.5mA LED current without pulse skipping. As current is further reduced, the device will begin skipping pulses. This will

result in some low frequency ripple, although the LED current remains regulated on an average basis down to zero. The photo in Figure 3a details circuit operation driving three white LEDs at a 1.5mA load. Peak inductor current is less than 40mA and the regulator operates in discontinuous mode, meaning inductor current

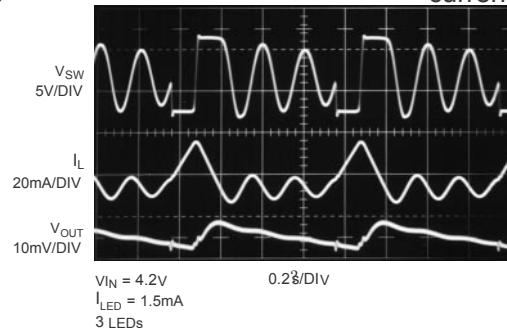


Figure 3. Switching Waveforms

reaches zero during the discharge phase. After the inductor current reaches zero, the SW pin exhibits ringing due to the LC tank circuit formed by the inductor in combination with switch and diode capacitance. This ringing is not harmful; far less spectral energy is contained in the ringing than in the switch transitions. The ringing can be damped by application of a 300 $\Omega$  resistor across the inductor, although this will degrade efficiency. Because of the higher switching frequency, The photo in Figure 3b

a 0.2mA load. Peak inductor current is less than 30mA.

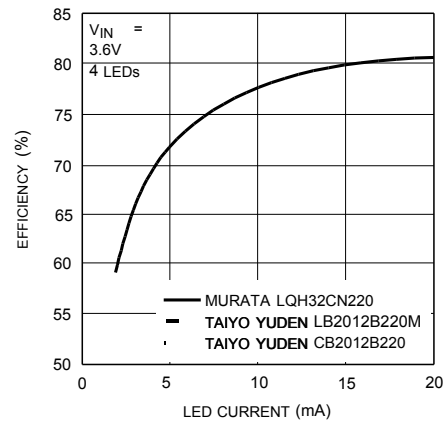


Figure 4. Efficiency Comparison of Different Inductors

### Inductor Selection

A 22 $\mu$ H inductor is recommended for most ZC5126 applications. Although small size and high efficiency are major concerns, the inductor should have low core losses at 1.2MHz and low DCR (copper wire resistance). Some inductors in this category with small size are listed in

Table 1. The efficiency comparison of different inductors is shown in Figure

4a.

PART NUMBER	DCR ( $\Omega$ )	CURRENT RATING (mA)	MANUFACTURER
LQH32CN220	0.71	250	Murata
LQH2MCN220	2.4	185	814-237-1431 www.murata.com
ELJPC220KF	4.0	160	Panasonic 714-373-7334 www.panasonic.com
CDRH3D16-220	0.53	350	Sumida 847-956-0666 www.sumida.com
LB2012B220M	1.7	75	Taiyo Yuden 408-573-4150 www.t-yuden.com
LEM2520-220	5.5	125	Taiyo Yuden 408-573-4150 www.t-yuden.com

### Capacitor Selection

The small size of ceramic capacitors makes them ideal for ZC5126 applications. X5R and X7R types are recommended because they retain their capacitance over wider voltage and temperature ranges than other types such as Y5V or Z5U. A 1 $\mu$ F input capacitor and a 0.22 $\mu$ F output capacitor are sufficient for most ZC5126 applications.

Table 2. Recommended Ceramic Capacitor Manufacturers

MANUFACTURER	PHONE	URL
Taiyo Yuden	408-573-4150	www.t-yuden.com
Murata	814-237-1431	www.murata.com
Kemet	408-986-0424	www.kemet.com

### Soft-Start

The ZC5126 has an internal soft-start circuit to limit the input current during circuit start-up. The circuit start-up waveforms are shown in Figure 5.

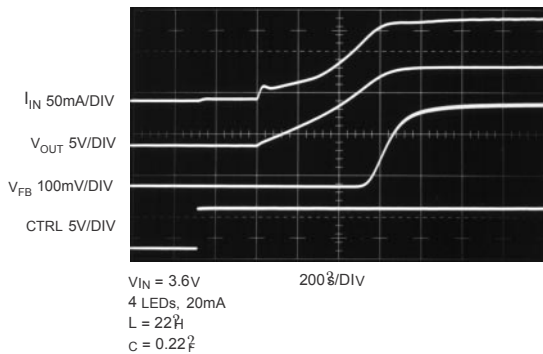


Figure 5. Start-Up Waveforms

### Inrush Current

The ZC5126 have a built-in Schottky diode. When supply voltage is applied to the VIN pin, the voltage difference between VIN and VOUT generates inrush current flowing from input through the inductor and the Schottky diode to charge the output capacitor to VIN. The maximum current the Schottky diode in the ZC5126 can sustain is 1A. The selection of inductor and capacitor value should ensure the peak of the inrush current to be below 1A. The peak inrush current can be calculated as follows:

$$I_P = \frac{V_{IN} - 0.6}{L} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{r}{L}\right) \cdot \arctan\left(\frac{r}{L}\right) \cdot \sin\left(\arctan\left(\frac{r}{L}\right)\right) + \frac{r \cdot 1.5}{2 \cdot L} \sqrt{\frac{1}{L \cdot C} - \frac{r^2 \cdot 1.5^2}{4 \cdot L^2}}$$

where L is the inductance, r is the resistance of the inductor, and C is the output capacitance. For low DCR inductors, which is usually the case for this application, the peak inrush current can be simplified as follows:

$$I_P = \frac{V_{IN} - 0.6}{L} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{r}{L}\right) \cdot \frac{r}{2}$$

Table 3 gives inrush peak currents for some component selections.

Table 3. Inrush Peak Current

V <sub>IN</sub> (V)	r (Ω)	L (µH)	C (F)	I <sub>P</sub> (A)
5	0.5	22	0.22	0.38
5	0.5	22	1	0.70
3.6	0.5	22	0.22	0.26
5	0.5	33	1	0.60

### LED Current and Dimming Control

The LED current is controlled by the feedback resistor (R1 in Figure 1) and the feedback reference voltage.

$$I_{LED} = V_{FB} / R_{FB}$$

The CTRL pin controls the feedback reference voltage as shown in the Typical Performance Characteristics. For CTRL higher than 1.8V, the feedback reference is 200mV, which results in full LED current. CTRL pin can be used as dimming control when CTRL voltage is between 200mV to 1.5V. In order to have accurate LED current, precision resistors are preferred (1% is recommended). The formula and table for R<sub>FB</sub> selection are shown below.

$$R_{FB} = 200\text{mV} / I_{LED-FULL} \quad (1)$$

Table 4. R<sub>FB</sub> Resistor Value Selection

FULL I <sub>LED</sub> (mA)	R1 (Ω)
5	40.0
10	20.0
15	13.3
20	10.0

The filtered PWM signal can be considered as an adjustable DC voltage. It can be used to adjust the CTRL voltage source in dimming control. The circuit is shown in Figure 6. The corner frequency of R1 C1 should be lower than the frequency of the PWM signal. R1 needs to be much smaller than the internal impedance in the CTRL pin, which is 50kΩ.

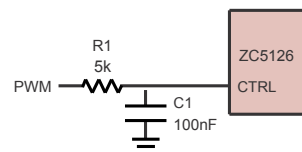


Figure 6. Dimming Control Using a Filtered PWM Signal

## Dimming Using Direct PWM

Unlike the ZC5126 does not have internal soft-start. Although the input current is higher during start-up, the absence of soft-start allows the CTRL pin to be directly driven with a PWM signal for dimming. A zero percent duty cycle sets the LED current to zero, while 100% duty cycle sets it to full current. Average LED current increases proportionally with the duty cycle of the PWM signal. PWM frequency should be between 1kHz and 10kHz for best performance. The PWM signal should be at least 1.8V in magnitude; lower voltage will lower the feedback voltage as shown in Equation 1. Waveforms are shown for a 1kHz PWM and 10kHz PWM signal in Figures 7a and 7b respectively.

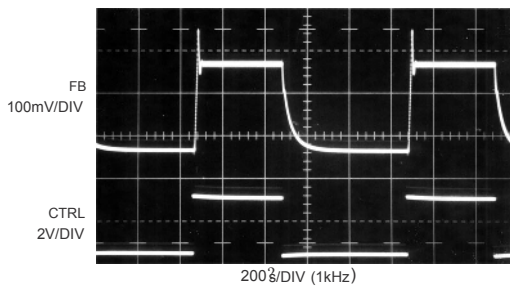


Figure 7a.

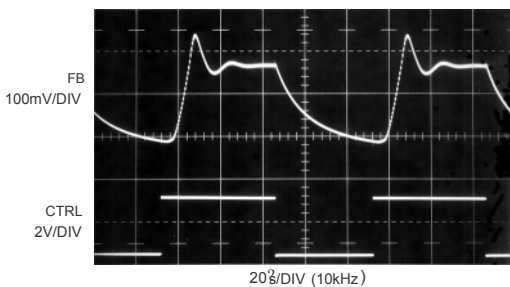


Figure 7b.

## Open-Circuit Protection

The ZC5126 have an internal open-circuit protection circuit. In the cases of output open circuit, when the LEDs are disconnected from the circuit or the LEDs fail, the V<sub>OUT</sub> is clamped at 30V. The ZC5126 will then switch at a very low frequency to

minimize the input current. V<sub>OUT</sub> and input current during output open circuit are shown in the Typical Performance Characteristics.

## Board Layout Consideration

As with all switching regulators, careful attention must be paid to the PCB board layout and component placement. To maximize efficiency, switch rise and fall times are made as short as possible. To prevent electromagnetic interference (EMI) problems, proper layout of the high frequency switching path is essential. Place C<sub>OUT</sub> next to the V<sub>OUT</sub> pin. Always use a ground plane under the switching regulator to minimize interplane coupling. In addition, the ground connection for the feedback resistor R<sub>1</sub> should be tied directly to the GND pin and not shared with any other component, ensuring a clean, noise-free connection. Recommended component placement is shown in Figure 8.

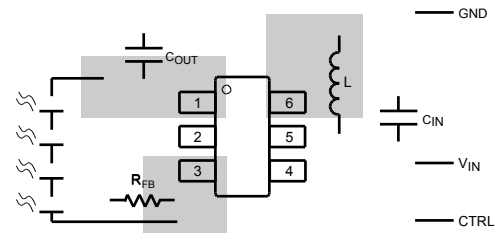
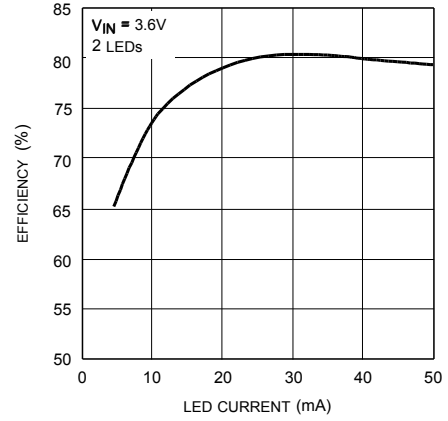
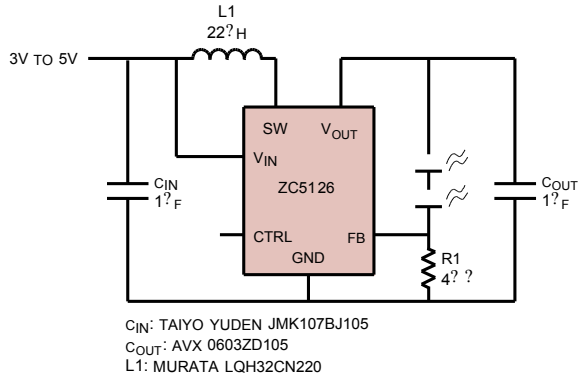


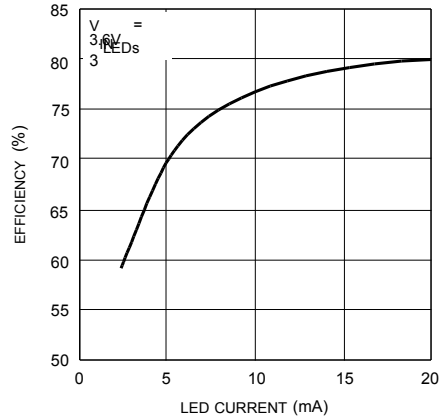
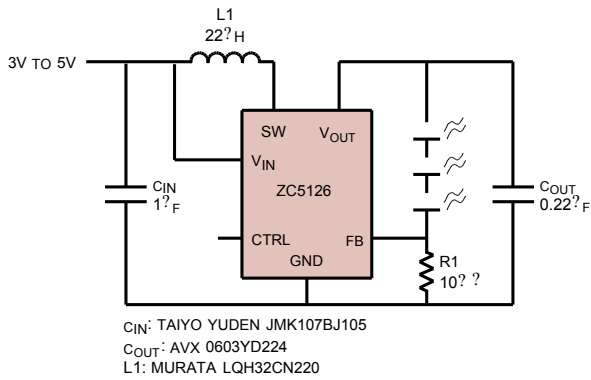
Figure 8. Recommended Component Placement



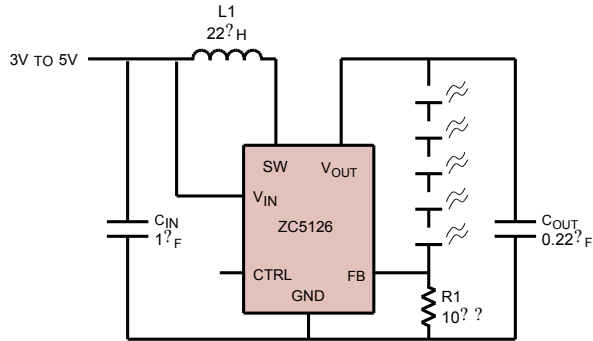
### Li-Ion to Two White LEDs



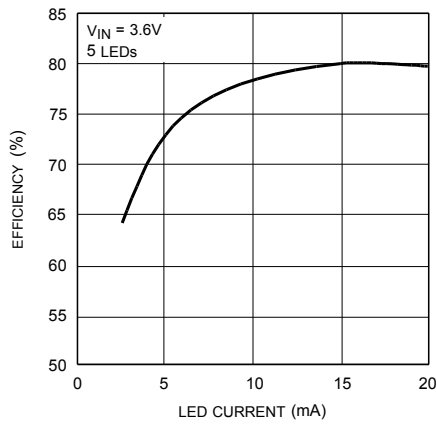
### Li-Ion to Three White LEDs



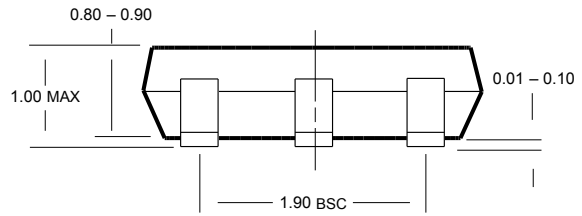
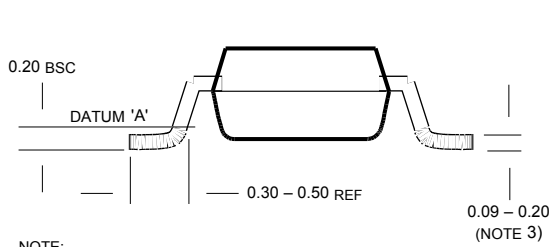
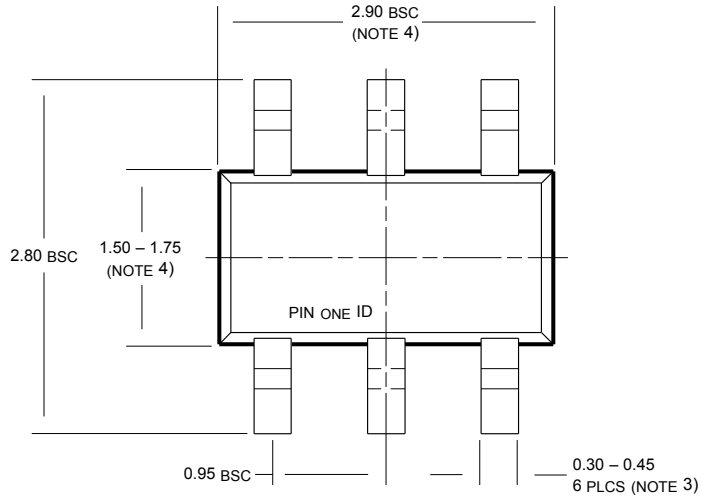
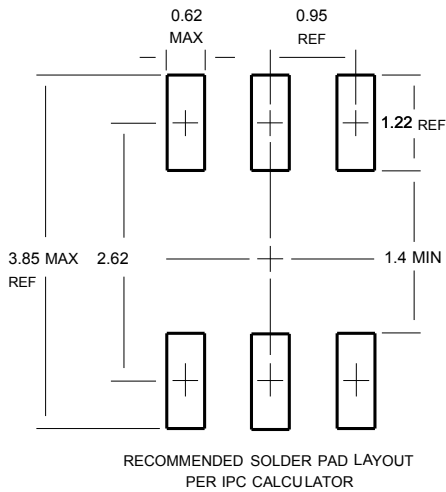
### Li-Ion to Five White LEDs



$C_{IN}$ : TAIYO YUDEN JMK107BJ105  
 $C_{OUT}$ : TAIYO YUDEN GMK212BJ224  
 $L1$ : MURATA LQH32CN220

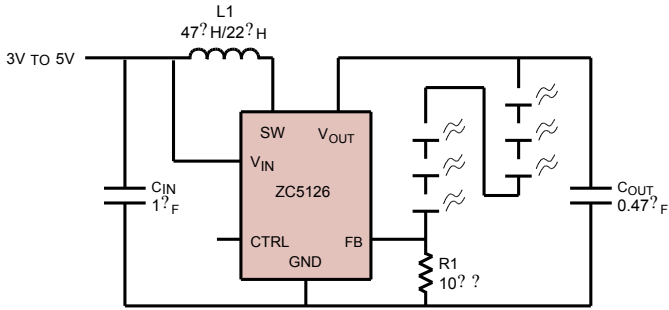


**S6 Package**  
**6-Lead Plastic SOT-23**  
 (Reference LTC DWG # 05-08-1636)



- NOTE:
1. DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETERS
  2. DRAWING NOT TO SCALE
  3. DIMENSIONS ARE INCLUSIVE OF PLATING
  4. DIMENSIONS ARE EXCLUSIVE OF MOLD FLASH AND METAL BURR
  5. MOLD FLASH SHALL NOT EXCEED 0.254mm
  6. JEDEC PACKAGE REFERENCE IS MO-193

### Li-Ion to Six White LEDs



$C_{IN}$ : TAIYO YUDEN JMK107BJ105  
 $C_{OUT}$ : TAIYO YUDEN GMK212BJ474  
 $L1$ : MURATA LQH32CN470

