### EVALUATION KIT AVAILABLE **Highest Efficiency Supply for 2 to 6** Series WLEDs in a 2mm x 2mm TDFN Package

## **General Description**

The MAX8901A/MAX8901B step-up converters drive from two to six series-connected white LEDs (WLEDs) with constant current to provide uniform WLED intensity for LCD backlighting in cell phones, PDAs, and other handheld devices. The MAX8901\_ operate at a fixed 750kHz (typ) switching frequency, allowing for tiny external components, and are optimized for the highest possible efficiency over the full 1-cell Li+/Li-Poly battery range.

These converters use a single input (ON) to enable the IC and to control WLED intensity. The MAX8901A requires a direct PWM input to regulate WLED intensity with the WLED current proportional to the PWM duty cycle. The MAX8901B uses single-wire, serial-pulse dimming that reduces the WLED intensity in 32 linear steps. Full-scale WLED current for serial-pulse dimming is 24.75mA (MAX8901B, 0.75mA/step).

The MAX8901\_ feature an internal soft-start to eliminate inrush currents during startup, input overvoltage protection, WLED overvoltage protection, and a shutdown mode with 0.01µA (typ) shutdown current. No WLED current is present in shutdown provided the WLED forward voltage is greater than the input supply voltage. Additional features include undervoltage lockout (UVLO) and thermal shutdown.

The MAX8901\_ are available in tiny 8-pin, 2mm x 2mm TDFN-EP packages (0.8mm max height).

#### Applications

Display Backlight (from 2 to 6 WLEDs)

Cellular Phones

PDAs and Smartphones

MP3 and Portable Media Players

Portable Navigation Devices

**Digital Cameras** 

### **Features**

AX8901A/MAX8901B

- High Efficiency, Up to 91%
- 2.6V to 5.5V Input Voltage Range
- Fixed-Frequency Operation
- Supplies from 2 to 6 WLEDs with 1.3% LED Current Accuracy

Flexible Dimming Control

Direct PWM Dimming (MAX8901A) 32-Step, Single-Wire Serial Dimming (MAX8901B)

- Input Undervoltage Lockout
- Input Overvoltage Lockout
- WLED Overvoltage Protection (25V typ)
- 0.01µA (typ) Shutdown Current
- No WLED Current in Shutdown
- Internal Soft-Start and Thermal Shutdown

### **Ordering Information**

PART	PIN-PACKAGE	TOP MARK	
MAX8901AETA+T	8 TDFN-EP* 2mm x 2mm	+ABA	
MAX8901BETA+T	8 TDFN-EP* 2mm x 2mm	+ABB	

Note: All devices are specified over the -40°C to +85°C operating temperature range.

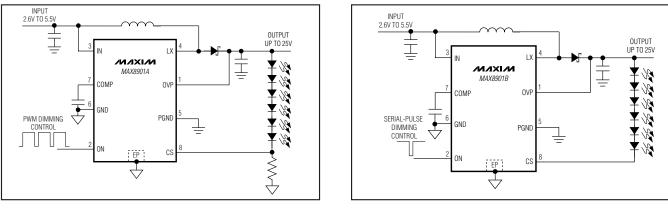
+Denotes a lead(Pb)-free/RoHS-compliant package.

\*EP = Exposed pad.

T = Tape and reel.

#### Pin Configuration appears at end of data sheet.

# Typical Operating Circuits



### M/XI/M

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For pricing, delivery, and ordering information, please contact Maxim Direct at 1-888-629-4642, or visit Maxim's website at www.maxim-ic.com.

### **ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS**

IN to GND	-0.3V to +7V
CS, COMP, ON to GND	0.3V to (V <sub>IN</sub> + 0.3V)
OVP, LX to GND	-0.3V to +28V
PGND to GND	-0.3V to +0.3V
LX Current	
Continuous Power Dissipation (mul	tilayer board at +70°C)
8-pin, 2mm x 2mm TDFN	

(derate above +70°C by 11.9mW/°C).....953mW

Operating Temperature Range	40°C to +85°C
Junction Temperature	+150°C
Storage Temperature Range	65°C to +150°C
Lead Temperature (soldering, 10s)	+300°C
Soldering Temperature (reflow)	

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

### **ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

 $(V_{IN} = V_{ON} = V_{OVP} = 3.6V, V_{PGND} = V_{GND} = 0V, COMP, CS, and LX are unconnected, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.) (Note 1)$ 

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS		MIN	ТҮР	МАХ	UNITS
Input Voltage	VIN			2.6		5.5	V
Input Undervoltage Lockout VIN_UVLO		V <sub>IN</sub> rising		2.25		2.55	V
Threshold		V <sub>IN</sub> falling				2.53	
Input Overvoltage Lockout		V <sub>IN</sub> rising		6.2		6.35	V
Threshold	VIN_OVLO	V <sub>IN</sub> falling		6.0		6.3	
Shutdown Input Current			$T_A = +25^{\circ}C$		0.01	1	
Shutdown Input Current	ISHDN	$V_{ON} = 0V$	$T_A = +85^{\circ}C$		0.1		μA
Quiescent Current		V <sub>CS</sub> = 0.55V, no load	MAX8901A		70	135	μA
Quiescent Current	IQ	(not switching)	MAX8901B		115	185	
Output Voltage Range	V <sub>OUT</sub>	V <sub>DIODE</sub> = external boost diode voltage drop		V <sub>IN</sub> - Vdiode		V <sub>OV</sub>	V
OVP Overvoltage Protection Threshold	V <sub>OV</sub>	6 LEDs with 25V OVP option		24	25	26	V
OVP Input Current	IOV	$V_{OVP} = 20V$			20		μΑ
CS Regulation Voltage	V <sub>CS</sub>	No dimming		0.475	0.50	0.525	V
ON Shutdown Delay	<sup>t</sup> SHDN	Time V <sub>ON</sub> is below low threshold until shutdown (Figure 1)		1.18	1.33	1.50	ms
ON High Voltage	Von_hi	2.6V < V <sub>IN</sub> < 5.5V		1.3			V
ON Low Voltage	Von_lo	2.6V < V <sub>IN</sub> < 5.5V				0.4	V
ON Input Current	ION		$T_A = +25^{\circ}C$		0.01	1	μA
		()       =	$T_{A} = +85^{\circ}C$		0.1		
Initial ON High Pulse Width	t <sub>HI_INIT</sub>	First ON high pulse to enable IC (MAX8901B) (Figure 1)		40			μs
ON High Pulse Width	t <sub>HI</sub>	MAX8901B (Figure 1)		0.5			μs
ON Low Pulse Width	tLO	MAX8901B (Figure 1)		0.5		500.0	μs

# **ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)**

 $(V_{IN} = V_{ON} = V_{OVP} = 3.6V, V_{PGND} = V_{GND} = 0V, COMP, CS, and LX are unconnected, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.) (Note 1)$ 

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS		MIN	ТҮР	MAX	UNITS
Serial Dimming		$I_{LED} = 24.75 mA$	$T_A = +25^{\circ}C$	-1.3		+1.3	%
Full-Scale LED Current Accuracy		(MAX8901B)	$T_A = -40^{\circ}C \text{ to } +85^{\circ}C$	-3		+3	%
PWM Frequency for PWM Dimming Control	fpwm	MAX8901A			100		kHz
CS to COMP Transconductance				40	60	80	μS
Soft-Start Interval	<sup>t</sup> SOFT- START	C <sub>COMP</sub> = 0.022µF (Figure 1)			10		ms
Thermal Shutdown					160		°C
OSCILLATOR							
Operating Frequency	fsw			700	750	800	kHz
Maximum Duty Cycle	DMAX	$V_{CS} = 0.4V$		90	92		%
n-CHANNEL SWITCH							
LX Leakage Current	ILXLKG	$V_{1} x = 2/V$	$T_A = +25^{\circ}C$		0.1	5	μA
			$T_A = +85^{\circ}C$		0.1		
n-Channel Switch On-Resistance	R <sub>LX</sub>				0.7	1.4	Ω
n-Channel Current Limit	ILIM			0.63	0.70	0.77	А

Note 1: Specifications to -40°C are guaranteed by design and characterization and are not production tested.

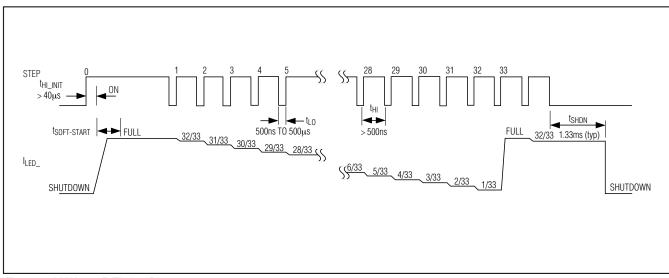
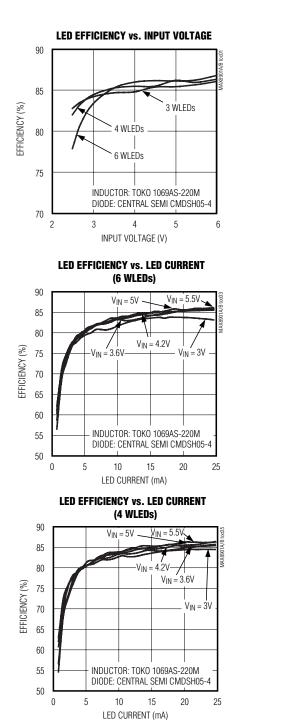
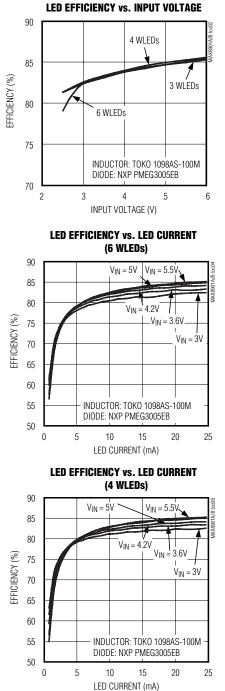


Figure 1. MAX8901B Timing Diagram

### **Typical Operating Characteristics**

(Circuit of Figure 5,  $I_{LED}$  = 24.75mA,  $V_{IN}$  =  $V_{ON}$  = 3.6V, C1 = 1µF, C2 = 1µF, T<sub>A</sub> = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)



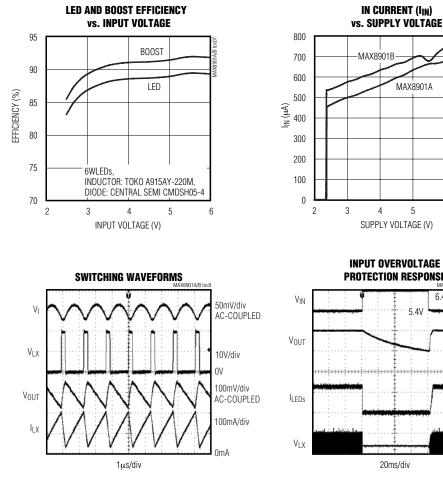


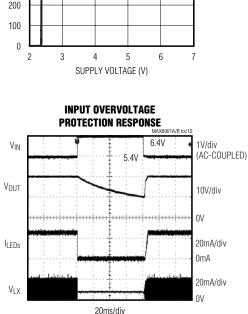
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### Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

MAX8901A

(Circuit of Figure 5,  $I_{LED}$  = 24.75mA,  $V_{IN}$  =  $V_{ON}$  = 3.6V, C1 = 1µF, C2 = 1µF, T<sub>A</sub> = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)





**STARTUP AND SHUTDOWN** 

**RESPONSE (MAX8901B)** 

10ms/div

VON

VOUT

ISUPPLY

**I**LEDs

D1A/B toc1

2V/div

10V/div

100mA/div

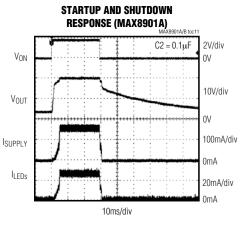
20mA/div

0V

0V

0mA

0mA

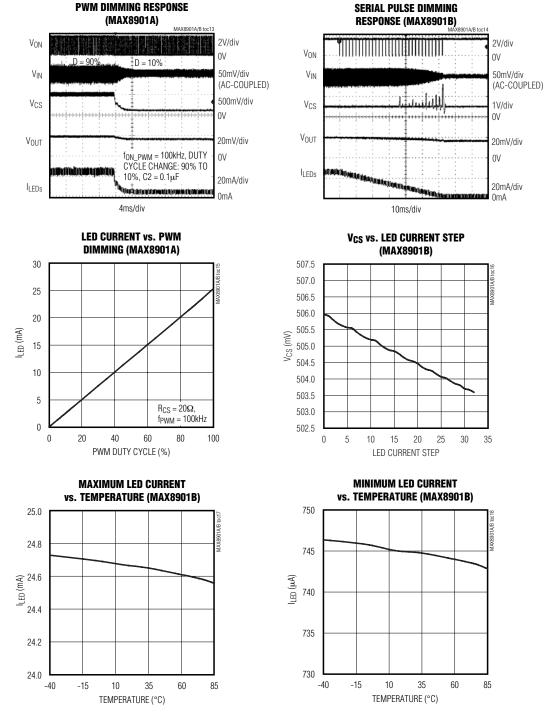


///XI///





(Circuit of Figure 5,  $I_{LED} = 24.75$ mA,  $V_{IN} = V_{ON} = 3.6$ V,  $C1 = 1\mu$ F,  $C2 = 1\mu$ F,  $T_A = +25^{\circ}$ C, unless otherwise noted.)



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### **Pin Description**

PIN	NAME	FUNCTION
1	OVP	WLED Overvoltage Protection Input. OVP monitors voltage at the WLEDs. Connect OVP to the positive terminal of the output capacitor. If an OVP condition is detected, the MAX8901_ latch off. Cycle $V_{IN}$ or toggle $V_{ON}$ to restart the IC.
2	ON	<ul> <li>Enable and Dimming Control Input. Drive ON high to enable the IC. Drive ON low for greater than 1.33ms (typ) to shutdown the WLED current regulator.</li> <li>For the MAX8901A: After V<sub>IN</sub> is above V<sub>UVLO</sub> and ON is driven high, the MAX8901A enters soft-start and increases the WLED current to full brightness. Apply a minimum 30kHz (500kHz max) PWM signal to ON to adjust the WLED brightness from 100% to off, proportional to the duty cycle of the PWM signal. See the <i>PWM Dimming Control (MAX8901A)</i> section for more details.</li> <li>For the MAX8901B: After ON is driven high for 40µs (min), the MAX8901B enters soft-start and increases the WLED current to full brightness. Subsequent pulses on ON cause the MAX8901B WLED current to decrease in 32 equal steps. See the <i>Serial-Pulse Dimming Control (MAX8901B)</i> section for more details.</li> </ul>
3	IN	Power Supply Input. Bypass IN to GND with a 1 $\mu$ F ceramic capacitor placed as close as possible to the IC. If V <sub>IN</sub> exceeds the input overvoltage lockout threshold (6.5V max, V <sub>IN</sub> rising), the IC stops switching and no WLED current flows (if the forward voltage of the WLED string is greater than V <sub>IN</sub> ). When V <sub>IN</sub> falls below the overvoltage lockout hysteresis level (6.0V min, V <sub>IN</sub> falling), soft-start is initiated and normal operation resumes.
4	LX	Boost Inductor Node. Connect an inductor between IN and LX. LX is high impedance in shutdown.
5	PGND	Power Ground. Connect to GND and the exposed paddle (EP) with a short, wide trace.
6	GND	Analog Ground. Connect GND to the exposed paddle with a short, wide trace.
7	COMP	WLED Boost Compensation Node. Connect a 0.022µF ceramic capacitor from COMP to GND. C <sub>COMP</sub> stabilizes the converter and sets the soft-start time. COMP discharges to GND when in shutdown.
8	CS	WLED Current Sense Input. For the MAX8901A, connect a current-sense resistor from CS to GND. Voltage sensed at CS regulates the WLED current. For the MAX8901B, do not connect a sense resistor from CS to GND. The MAX8901B provides an internal current source from CS to GND to program the WLED current. The MAX8901B regulates V <sub>CS</sub> to 0.5V (typ) for all I <sub>LED</sub> . The MAX8901A regulates V <sub>CS</sub> to 0.5V (typ) for maximum duty cycle only.
_	EP	Exposed Metal Paddle. Connect EP to GND. For good thermal dissipation, the exposed paddle must be connected to a large ground plane.





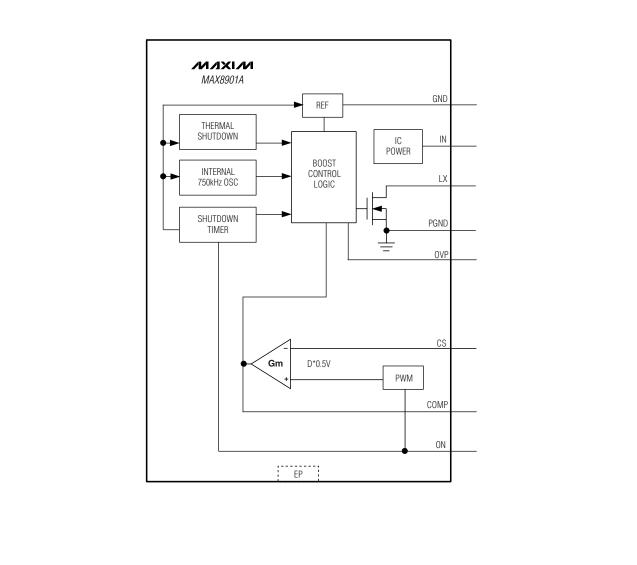


Figure 2. MAX8901A Block Diagram

### **Detailed Description**

The high efficiency and tiny size of the MAX8901A/ MAX8901B WLED step-up converters make them ideally suited for driving LCD backlighting in cell phones, PDAs, and other portable and handheld devices. The MAX8901\_ drive from 2 to 6 series-connected WLEDs with constant current for uniform WLED intensity and are optimized for the highest possible efficiency (up to 91%) over the full 1-cell Li+/Li-Poly battery range. These tiny 2mm x 2mm devices operate at a constant 750kHz switching frequency, and use small external components to achieve minimal input and output ripple while occupying the smallest possible footprint.

These converters use a single input (ON) to enable the IC and to control WLED intensity. The MAX8901A requires a direct PWM input to modulate WLED intensity, with WLED current proportional to the PWM duty cycle. The MAX8901B uses single-wire, serial-pulse dimming that reduces the WLED intensity in 32 equal steps. Full-scale WLED current for serial-pulse dimming is 24.75mA.



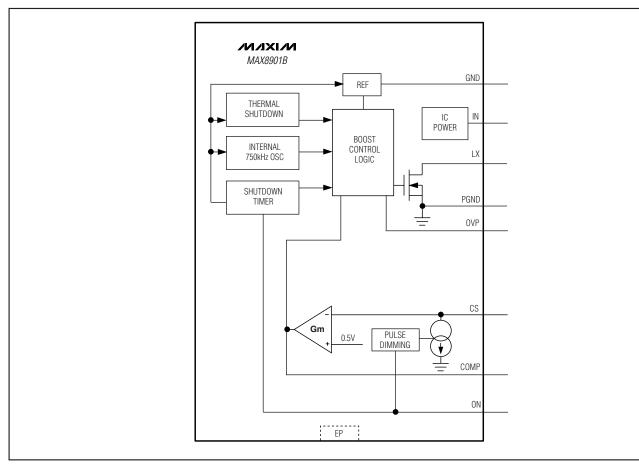


Figure 3. MAX8901B Block Diagram

The MAX8901\_feature:

- Internal soft-start that gradually illuminates the WLEDs to eliminate inrush current during startup.
- Input overvoltage protection (6.5V max) that prevents IC switching when exceeded.
- WLED overvoltage protection (25V typ) that latches off the IC.
- Shutdown mode that reduces current to 0.01µA (typ).

No WLED current is present in shutdown or during an overvoltage condition if the WLED forward voltage is greater than the input supply voltage. Figures 2 and 3 show the block diagrams for the MAX8901A and MAX8901B, respectively.

#### **Input Overvoltage Lockout**

When  $V_{IN}$  exceeds 6.2V (min), input overvoltage lockout (OVLO) is engaged to protect the MAX8901\_ from high-input voltage conditions. Once input OVLO occurs, the MAX8901\_ stop switching and no WLED current flows, provided the forward voltage of the WLED string is greater than  $V_{IN}$ . When  $V_{IN}$  falls below 6V (min), the input OVLO condition is cleared, and the IC is enabled and enters soft-start.

#### **WLED Overvoltage Protection**

WLED overvoltage protection (OVP) occurs when the WLED output voltage rises above the WLED OVP threshold. The WLED OVP protection circuitry latches off the IC and the IC enters shutdown when the WLED OVP threshold is exceeded. After OVP is engaged, cycle VIN or toggle ON to reenable the IC and enter soft-start.



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**WAX8901A/MAX8901B** 

#### Startup and Soft-Start

The MAX8901\_ use a single input (ON) to enable the IC and to control WLED intensity. After ON is driven high, the MAX8901\_ enter soft-start and gradually increase the WLED current to full brightness.

When the MAX8901\_ are first turned on, C<sub>COMP</sub> is charged to 1.25V with a 60 $\mu$ A current source. When V<sub>COMP</sub> rises above 1.25V, C<sub>COMP</sub> is charged with a 4 $\mu$ A current source, and the internal MOSFET begins switching at a reduced duty cycle. When V<sub>COMP</sub> rises above 2.25V, the duty cycle is at its maximum. The V<sub>COMP</sub> where the IC exits soft-start depends on the final duty cycle required by the load. Typical startup timing characteristics are shown in the *Typical Operating Characteristics* section.

A PWM signal (MAX8901A) or serial pulses (MAX8901B) are applied to dim the WLEDs. See the *PWM Dimming Control (MAX8901A)* and *Serial-Pulse Dimming Control (MAX8901B)* sections for more details.

#### Shutdown

The MAX8901\_ enter shutdown when VON is held low for more than 1.33ms (typ), or when an output overvoltage condition is engaged. In shutdown, the supply current is reduced to 0.01µA (typ) by powering down the entire IC except for the ON voltage-detection circuitry. CCOMP is discharged to GND during shutdown, allowing the device to reinitiate soft-start when it is re-enabled. Although the internal n-channel MOSFET does not switch in shutdown, there is still a DC current path between the input and the WLEDs through the inductor and Schottky diode. In shutdown, the minimum forward voltage of the WLED string must exceed the maximum input voltage to ensure that the WLEDs remain off. Typically, with two or more WLEDs, the forward voltage is large enough to keep leakage current low, less than 1µA (typ). Shutdown timing characteristics are shown in the Typical Operating Characteristics.

#### Thermal Shutdown

The MAX8901\_ include a thermal shutdown feature that protects the IC by turning it off when the die temperature reaches +160°C (typ). After thermal shutdown occurs, the MAX8901\_ must be restarted by toggling the ON pin low, then high, or by cycling the input voltage.

#### **PWM Dimming Control (MAX8901A)**

After V<sub>IN</sub> is above UVLO, apply a PWM signal to ON for a WLED current that is proportional to the PWM signal's duty cycle (0% duty cycle corresponds to zero LED current and 100% duty cycle corresponds to full LED current). Restrict PWM frequency to between 30kHz to 500kHz for a maximum I<sub>LED</sub> current accuracy. If dimming control is not required, ON works as a simple on/off control. Drive ON high to enable the IC, or drive ON low for shutdown. A resistor connected from CS to GND programs maximum I<sub>LED</sub>. See the *Current-Sense Resistor* (MAX8901A Only) section for more details.

#### Serial-Pulse Dimming Control (MAX8901B)

After the MAX8901B is enabled by driving ON high for the minimum initial ON high pulse width (40µs, min), soft-start is engaged and brings WLED current to maximum brightness. After soft-start is completed, dim the MAX8901B by pulsing ON low (500ns to 500µs pulse width). Each pulse reduces the WLED current by 0.75mA. The maximum WLED current is 24.75mA for the MAX8901B (0.75mA/step). The overall dimming range for serial-pulse dimming control is from maximum WLED current down to 1/33 of maximum WLED current. The WLEDs are turned off by holding ON low for at least 1.33ms (typ). See Figure 1 for the serial-pulse dimming control timing diagram.

### **Applications Information**

#### **Inductor Selection**

Recommended inductor values range from  $10\mu$ H to  $47\mu$ H. A 22 $\mu$ H inductor optimizes the efficiency for most applications while maintaining low input voltage ripple. With input voltages near 5V, a larger value of inductance may be more efficient. To prevent core saturation, ensure that the inductor saturation current rating exceeds the peak inductor current for the application. Calculate the peak inductor current with the following formula:

$$I_{PEAK} = \frac{V_{OUT(MAX)} \times I_{LED(MAX)}}{900 \times V_{IN(MIN)}} + \frac{V_{IN(MIN) \times 1.2}}{2 \times L}$$

where  $I_{LED(MAX)}$  is in mA and L is in  $\mu$ H.

#### **Schottky Diode Selection**

The high switching frequency of the MAX8901\_ demands a high-speed rectification diode for optimum efficiency. A Schottky diode is recommended due to its fast recovery time and low forward voltage drop. Ensure that the diode's average and peak current rating exceeds the average output current and peak inductor current. In addition, the diode's reverse breakdown voltage must exceed V<sub>OUT</sub>. The RMS diode current can be approximated from the following equation:

 $I_{\text{DIODE}(\text{RMS})} = \sqrt{I_{\text{LED}} \times I_{\text{PEAK}}}$ 

#### **Capacitor Selection**

Ceramic capacitors with X5R, X7R, or better dielectric are recommended for stable operation over the entire operating temperature range. The exact values of input (C1) and output (C2) capacitors are not critical (see Figures 4 and 5). The typical value for the input capacitor is 1µF, and the typical value for the output capacitor is 0.1µF (MAX8901A) or 1µF (MAX8901B). Higher value capacitors can reduce input and output ripple, but at the expense of size and higher cost. The compensation capacitor (C3) stabilizes the converter and controls soft-start. The compensation capacitor is typically chosen to be 0.022µF for most applications.

#### **Current-Sense Resistor (MAX8901A Only)**

The MAX8901A uses a sense resistor (R<sub>CS</sub>) connected from CS to GND to program the maximum WLED current for 100% PWM duty cycle. The MAX8901A regulates V<sub>CS</sub> to 0.5V (typ) for 100% duty cycle. Calculate R<sub>CS</sub> (in ohms) using the following equation:

$$R_{CS} = \frac{500}{I_{LED(MAX)}}$$

where  $I_{\text{LED}(\text{MAX})}$  is the maximum WLED current in milliamps. Maximum WLED current is programmed to 25mA using a 20 $\Omega$  resistor.

#### PCB Layout

Due to fast switching waveforms and high-current paths, careful attention is required when the PCB layout is designed. Minimize trace lengths between the IC and the inductor, the diode, the input capacitor, and the output capacitor. For the MAX8901A, minimize the trace length between the IC and RCs. Keep traces short, direct, and wide. Keep noisy traces, such as the LX node trace, away from CS. The input bypass capacitor (C<sub>IN</sub>) should be placed as close as possible to the IC. The ground connections of C<sub>IN</sub> and C<sub>OUT</sub> should be connected together at the input capacitor ground terminal. Refer to the MAX8901 EV Kit for an example layout.



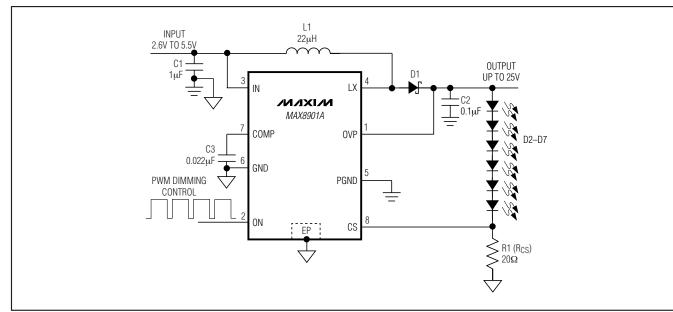


Figure 4. MAX8901A Application Circuit

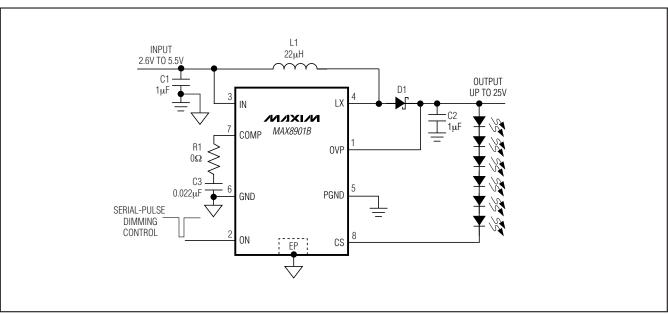
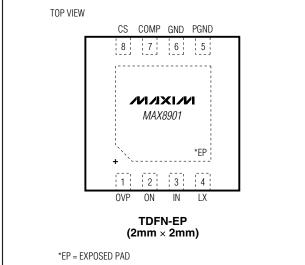


Figure 5. MAX8901B Application Circuit

MAX8901A/MAX8901B

# \_\_\_\_Pin Configuration



\_Chip Information

PROCESS: BiCMOS

### **Package Information**

For the latest package outline information and land patterns, go to **www.maxim-ic.com/packages**. Note that a "+", "#", or "-" in the package code indicates RoHS status only. Package drawings may show a different suffix character, but the drawing pertains to the package regardless of RoHS status.

PACKAGE	PACKAGE	OUTLINE	LAND
TYPE	CODE	NO.	PATTERN NO.
8 TDFN-EP	T822-1	<u>21-0168</u>	<u>90-0064</u>



### **Revision History**

REVISION NUMBER	REVISION DATE	DESCRIPTION	PAGES CHANGED
0	8/07	Initial release	—
1	5/08	Replaced TOC 16	6
2	6/08	Updated LED current accuracy, input undervoltage lockout threshold, and input overvoltage lockout threshold.	1, 2, 3
3	8/10	Removed Input Undervoltage Lockout Threshold (V $_{\rm IN}$ falling) minimum value and added soldering temperature	2

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