



AL5873

#### 55V/250mA THREE-CHANNEL LINEAR LED DRIVER

## Description

The AL5873 is a three-channel linear LED driver with PWM dimming and analog dimming control. Each channel can drive up to 250mA with a total driving current up to 750mA. The LED channel current of the AL5873 can be set through two reference resistors connected to the REF1 and REF2 pins.

The AL5873 regulates LED current for each channel, accurate down to  $\pm 4\%$ , with excellent dimming performance. The AL5873 enters standby mode to save power if no PWM signal is detected.

The AL5873 monitors the temperature and reduces the LED current if the chip temperature exceeds the threshold temperature. Moreover, the input under voltage lock-out (UVLO), LED string open/short protection, over temperature protection (OTP), and fault indicator (FAULTB) are designed to improve system robustness.

The AL5873 is available in TSSOP-16EP (Type DX) package.

## Features

- Wide Input Voltage Range from 5V to 55V
- Each Channel up to 250mA Current Capability
- Set Stop and Tail Current Independently Through Two Resistors
- Switch LED Current Between Stop and Tail Function Automatically via FULL Input
- PWM Dimming via Both PWM Input and Power Supply
- Analog Dimming via ADIM Input
- Automatically Enter and Exit Standby Mode Without Enable Pin
- Internal Protections:
  - Input Under Voltage Lock-Out (UVLO)
  - LED String Open Protection
  - LED String Short Protection
  - Over Temperature Protection (OTP)
- Thermal Fold-Back if Chip Temperature Exceeds the Threshold
- Fault Reporting: UVLO, OTP, LED Open, and LED Short
- Totally Lead-Free & Fully RoHS Compliant (Notes 1 & 2)
- Halogen and Antimony Free. "Green" Device (Note 3)
- For automotive applications requiring specific change control (i.e. parts qualified to AEC-Q100/101/104/200, PPAP capable, and manufactured in IATF 16949 certified facilities), please <u>contact us</u> or your local Diodes representative. <u>https://www.diodes.com/quality/product-definitions/</u>
- An Automotive-Compliant Part is Available Under Separate Datasheet (<u>AL5873Q</u>)

Pin Assignments



## Applications

- Automotive aftermarket LED inner lamps
- Aftermarket rear lights tail and stop lights, rear turn indicators, parking lights, fog lights, reverse lights

- 1. No purposely added lead. Fully EU Directive 2002/95/EC (RoHS), 2011/65/EU (RoHS 2) & 2015/863/EU (RoHS 3) compliant.
  - 2. See https://www.diodes.com/quality/lead-free/ for more information about Diodes Incorporated's definitions of Halogen- and Antimony-free, "Green" and Lead-free.
  - 3. Halogen- and Antimony-free "Green" products are defined as those which contain <900ppm bromine, <900ppm chlorine (<1500ppm total Br + Cl) and <1000ppm antimony compounds.

Notes:



# **Typical Applications Circuit**





# **Pin Descriptions**

Pin Name	Pin Number	Description	
VIN	1	Power Supply for LED Driver	
NC	2, 4, 5	No Connection	
PWM	3	PWM Signal Input for Channel 1 to 3, Internally Pulled Down. This pin also serves as enabling function of chip. The chip enters standby mode when the PWM pin is pulled to ground longer than 25ms.	
GND	6, 7, 8	Ground for LED Driver	
LED3	9	Channel 3 LED Cathode	
LED2	10	Channel 2 LED Cathode	
LED1	11	Channel 1 LED Cathode	
REF2	12	Stop Reference Current Setting, Enabled When FULL is Pulled High.	
FULL	13	Select LED Current Level Set by External Resistor. When FULL pin is pulled high, the LED current is set by resistor connected to REF2 pin. When FULL pin is pulled low, the LED current is set by resistor connected to REF1 pin. When FULL pin is left floating, this pin is pulled to ground by internal current sink.	
REF1	14	Tail Reference Current Setting	
ADIM	15	Analog Dimming Input for All Channels. Drive with DC voltage (0.3V < V <sub>ADIM</sub> < 1.5V) to adjust o current from 0 to 100%.	
FAULTB	16	Fault Report. Asserted Low to report faulty conditions.	
EP	EP	Exposed Pad. Internally connected to GND. It should be externally connected to GND and thermal mass for enhanced thermal impedance. It should not be used as electrical conduction path.	



## **Functional Block Diagram**



Figure 2. Functional Block Diagram

## Absolute Maximum Ratings (Note 4)

Symbol	Parameter	Ratings	Units	
Vvin	Input Voltage Relative to GND	-0.3 to +65	V	
V <sub>LEDX</sub> , V <sub>PWM</sub> , V <sub>FULL</sub> , Vfaultb	LEDx , PWM, FULL and FAULTB Voltage Relative to GND	-0.3 to +65	V	
Vref1, Vref2, Vadim	REF1, REF2 and ADIM Voltage Relative to GND	-0.3 to +6	V	
TJ	Operating Junction Temperature Range	-40 to +150	°C	
Tstg	Storage Temperature Range	-55 to +150	°C	
θյΑ	Junction-to-Ambient Thermal Resistance (Note 5)	45	°C/W	
θJC	Junction-to-Case (Top) Thermal Resistance (Note 5)	10	°C/W	
_	Human-Body Model (HBM)	2000	V	
_	Charged-Device Model (CDM)	1000	V	

Notes: 4. Stresses greater than the 'Absolute Maximum Ratings' specified above can cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only; functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions exceeding those indicated in this specification is not implied. Device reliability can be affected by exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods of time. Semiconductor devices are ESD sensitive and may be damaged by exposure to ESD events. Suitable ESD precautions should be taken when handling

and transporting these devices 5. Device mounted on 2" x 2" FR-4 substrate PCB, 2oz copper, with minimum recommended pad on top layer and thermal vias to bottom layer ground plane.

## **Recommended Operating Conditions**

Symbol	Parameter	Min	Max	Unit
Vvin	Input Voltage Relative to GND	5	55	V
fрwм	PWM Frequency	0.2	1	kHz
I <sub>LEDX</sub>	LED <sub>X</sub> Output Current (Notes 6 & 7)	0	250	mA
VIH	High-Level Input Voltage on PWM	1.4	5.5	V
VIL	Low-Level Input Voltage on PWM	0	0.4	V
TJ	Operating Junction Temperature	-40	+150	°C
TA	Operating Ambient Temperature	-40	+125	°C

Notes: 6. Subject to maximum junction temperature of +150°C not being exceeded. The maximum ambient temperature range is limited by device power dissipation; such that its junction temperature should be kept less than or equal to +150°C. See Page 11 for more information on power dissipation.
7. Subject to thermal foldback function, the current of each channel becomes smaller than specs when the junction temperature is higher than thermal foldback trigger point. See Page 11 for more information on thermal foldback function.



Symbol	Parameter	Test Conditions	Min	Тур	Max	Unit	
Vvin_uvlo	VIN UVLO Voltage	Vvin Rising	4.75	5.0	5.25	V	
VVIN_UVLO_HYS	VIN UVLO Hysteresis	V <sub>VIN</sub> Falling	_	300	_	mV	
VIN_Standby	Input Current in Standby Mode	Standby Mode, PWM is "Low" for 7ms	_	186	_	μA	
IDVCC_Q	Input Current in Normal Mode	Enabled, LEDx Floating, PWM is "H", R <sub>SET</sub> is $48k\Omega$	_	0.7	_	mA	
VIL_PWM	PWM Low Voltage	_	_	_	0.4	V	
Vih pwm	PWM High Voltage	_	1.4	_		V	
IPWM_PD	PWM Internal Pulldown	V <sub>PWM</sub> = 5V	0.35	_	3.5	μA	
tpwm_shdn	Entrance Time for Standby Mode When the PWM is "L"	_	_	15	25	ms	
	Typical Voltage Range for Analog	For Analog Dimming 0%	_	0.3	_	V	
Vadim	Dimming	For Analog Dimming 100%	_	1.5	_	V	
VADIM_ON	Apply DC Voltage on ADIM Pin for Analog Dimming on	VADIM Rising		—	0.35	V	
VADIM_OFF	Apply DC Voltage on ADIM Pin for Analog Dimming off	Vadim Falling	0.15	—	_	V	
Iadim	ADIM sourcing Current		19	20	22	μA	
VREF1	Reference Voltage 1	(Notes 6 & 7)	1.47	1.5	1.53	V	
VREF2	Reference Voltage 2	(Notes 6 & 7)	1.47	1.5	1.53	V	
ILED_NOM	Regulation Current for Channel 1	R <sub>SET</sub> = 48kΩ (Notes 6 & 7)	_	125	_	mA	
VLEDX_REG	Minimum LED Regulation Voltage	I <sub>LEDX</sub> = 125mA	_	0.5	_	V	
ILEDX_LEAK	LEDx Leakage Current	VPWM = 0V, VLEDX = 12V	_	0.1	5	μA	
ILEDX_ACCURACY	LED Current Accuracy	R <sub>SET</sub> = 48kΩ	-4	_	4	%	
ILEDX_MATCH	LED Channel Current Matching	Rset = 48kΩ	-3	_	3	%	
<b>t</b> LEDXSHDG		100% Duty-Cycle		5		ms	
NLEDXSHDG	Short-Detection Deglitch	PWM Dimming (count the number of continuous cycles when LED short is detected)		7	_	Cycle	
tledxsh_hiccup	LED Short Protection Hiccup Time	_	_	128	_	ms	
t <sub>LEDXOPDG</sub>		100% Duty-Cycle	_	5	_	ms	
NLEDXOPDG	Open-Detection Deglitch	PWM Dimming (count the number of continuous cycles when LED open is detected)	_	7	_	Cycle	
tLEDXOPDG_CYCLE	Open-Detection Deglitch Time per Cycle	_		20		μs	
tledxop_hiccup	LED Open Protection Hiccup Time	—	—	128	_	ms	
VIL_FULL	FULL Low Voltage		—		0.4	V	
VIH_FULL	FULL High Voltage		1.4			V	
IPD_FULL	FULL Pull Down Current		_	2		μA	
IF_PULLUP	FAULTB Pull-up Current	VFAULTB = 1.6V	_	500		μA	
VF_PULLUP	FAULTB Pull-up Voltage	Fault Pin Floating	_	3	_	V	
VFOL	FAULTB Output Low Voltage	IFAULTB = 1mA	—		600	mV	
V <sub>FIN_TH</sub>	FAULTB Input Detect Threshold Voltage	—	_	1.33		V	
IF_LKG	FAULTB Leakage Current	V <sub>FAULTB</sub> = 5V	_	—	5	μA	
T <sub>SHDN</sub>	Thermal Shutdown Threshold		_	+160		°C	

### Electrical Characteristics (@TA = -40°C to +125°C, VIN = +12V, unless otherwise specified.)

Notes: 6. Subject to maximum junction temperature of +150°C not being exceeded. The maximum ambient temperature range is limited by device power dissipation; such that its junction temperature should be kept less than or equal to +150°C. See Page 11 for more information on power dissipation.

7. Subject to thermal foldback function, the current of each channel becomes smaller than specs when the junction temperature is higher than thermal foldback trigger point. See Page 11 for more information on thermal foldback function.



## Typical Performance Characteristics (T<sub>A</sub> = +25°C, V<sub>IN</sub> = 12V, R<sub>REF</sub> = 48kΩ, I<sub>LED</sub> = 125mA, unless otherwise specified.)



#### VIN Standby Current vs. Input Voltage

VIN Standby Current vs. Temperature



VIN Quiescent Current vs. Input Voltage



VIN Quiescent Current vs. Temperature



**Reference Voltage vs. Input Voltage** 



**Reference Voltage vs. Temperature** 







#### FAULT Sourcing Current vs. FAULT Voltage



FAULT Input Detection Threshold vs. Temperature



### **ADIM Sourcing Current vs. Temperature**



FAULT Sourcing Current vs. Temperature



VIN UVLO Voltage vs. Temperature







## LED Current vs. Temperature



LED Current vs. VLED Voltage







Minimum LED Voltage vs. LED Regulation Current



LED Current vs. ADIM Voltage ( $R_{REF} = 120k\Omega$ ,  $I_{LED} = 50mA$ )











LED Current vs. PWM Duty Cycle ( $R_{REF} = 120k\Omega$ ,  $I_{LED} = 50mA$ ,  $0\sim20\%$  Duty)







LED Current vs. PWM Duty Cycle (R<sub>REF</sub> = 48kΩ, I<sub>LED</sub> = 125mA, 0~20% Duty)



 $(R_{REF} = 24k\Omega, I_{LED} = 250mA, 0~100\% Duty)$ 

PWM Duty Cycle (%)

fpwm=1kHz

LED Current vs. PWM Duty Cycle

LED Current vs. PWM Duty Cycle ( $R_{REF} = 24k\Omega$ ,  $I_{LED} = 250mA$ , 0~20% Duty)



60

40

20 0

0 10

20

30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100



AL5873

## **Function Description**

The AL5873 is a cost-effective three-channel, constant-current linear driver optimized for automotive aftermarket LED applications. Each channel can drive up to 250mA with a total driving current up to 750mA. The channel can be controlled by digital PWM signal or analog dimming signal. The integrated low-side current sinks allow LED common-anode connections for cost effectiveness or different anode voltages for efficiency optimization.

The AL5873 detects fault conditions and reports its status on the FAULTB pin. It features LED open detection, LED short detection, Over Temperature Protection (OTP), and Under Voltage Lockout (UVLO).

Integrated thermal foldback function reduces the regulated current level at high junction temperatures to limit power dissipation.

#### LED Current Setting

The AL5873 channel current is set by the current setting resistor RREF1 or RREF2. Figure 3 illustrates LED current setting with FULL pin status.

Given that FULL = low, the LED channel current is pulse-width modulated at 200Hz frequency with fixed 25% duty cycle, and the amplitude of the LED channel current is set by R<sub>REF1</sub>. The average LED channel current is expressed as below:

$$I_{LEDX} = 4000 \times \frac{V_{REF1}}{R_{REF1}} \times 25\%$$

Given that FULL = high, the LED channel current is set by R<sub>REF2</sub>. The LED channel current level is expressed as below:

$$I_{LEDX} = 4000 \times \frac{V_{REF2}}{R_{REF2}}$$

Where  $V_{REF1}$  and  $V_{REF2}$  are nominally 1.5V,  $I_{LEDX}$  is in mA, and  $R_{REF1}$  and  $R_{REF2}$  are in k $\Omega$ . For example, if  $R_{REF1}$  and  $R_{REF2}$  are both 24k $\Omega$ , the AL5873 provides 250mA/62.5mA output current per channel when FULL = high/low.

While the recommended maximum I<sub>LED1</sub>, I<sub>LED2</sub> and I<sub>LED3</sub> are at 250mA for the AL5873, by setting R<sub>REF2</sub> at 24kΩ, the system design can drive an LED string with higher current by connecting the cathodes of the LED string to two or more LED channel outputs (LEDx). The total current through the LED string is the sum of the current through the individual channels.





#### Under Voltage Lockout

Under-voltage lockout function (UVLO) guarantees that the device is initially off during start-up. The AL5873 is not turned on until the power supply has reached 5.0V. Whenever the input voltage falls below approximately 4.7V, the device is turned off. The UVLO circuit has a hysteresis of 300mV. FAULTB status will be reported when UVLO happens.

#### Enable and Start-up LED Drivers

The AL5873 is enabled when the voltage at the PWM pin is greater than typical voltage of 1.4V, and disabled when the PWM is lower than 0.4V. Upon the PWM pin is asserted and VIN pin is ramped up beyond minimum operation voltage, a start-up process will be performed. When the PWM is pulled to ground longer than 25ms, the LED driver will enter standby mode with ultra-low standby current.

#### Standby Mode

When PWM pin is pulled down to voltage lower than 0.4V for 25ms or longer, the AL5873 will automatically enter the standby mode for power saving purpose. When in the standby mode, most of blocks in the AL5873 are turned off to reduce the quiescent supply current. When the PWM pin is pulled up to voltage higher than 1.4V, the AL5873 will automatically exit the standby mode and perform its designated functions properly.



## Function Description (continued)

#### **PWM Dimming Control**

The AL5873 features PWM dimming control for three output channels. High level of PWM signal will turn on the current sink to flow current through the LED and low level will turn it off. Consequently, the LED current and LED brightness of each channel can be adjusted according to the duty cycle of PWM signal. The PWM frequency is recommended to be greater than 200Hz and less than 1kHz for better dimming linearity.

#### Analog Dimming Control

In addition to PWM dimming, the AL5873 also provides an analog dimming feature on the ADIM pin. The LED current can be linearly adjusted from 0 to 100% by varying the voltage at ADIM pin from 0.3V to 1.5V. The AL5873 shuts all channel currents when the voltage on ADIM pin is lower than 0.15V. The LED current is constant, rather than switching during PWM dimming.



#### Thermal Foldback and Over Temperature Protection

The AL5873 integrates over temperature protection to prevent the device from overheating. When the junction temperature of IC is higher than +160°C, the device will enter OTP in which all current sinks are shut down and no current flows to LED strings. When the chip is cooled down and temperature is lower than +130°C, the AL5873 will trigger a start-up process and the LED current will be automatically restored to its set current value. OTP protection is reported on the FAULTB pin.

In addition, to prevent LEDs from flickering because of rapid thermal changes, the AL5873 features thermal foldback function to reduce power dissipation at high junction temperatures. As shown in Figure 5, the AL5873 reduces the LED current as the silicon junction temperature of device increases above the threshold temperature (+135°C). As the temperature rising, the LED current drops down to 50% of nominal value and keeps constant. If the junction temperature of IC is continually rising above +160°C, the OTP will be triggered and shut down the LED current. By mounting the AL5873 on the same thermal substrate with LEDs, use of this feature can also limit the dissipation of the LEDs, and protect the IC and LEDs.



AL5873 Document number: DS44751 Rev. 1 - 2



## Function Description (continued)

#### LED Open Protection

The AL5873 detects the LED open status by monitoring the current and voltage status of the LED strings. The voltage at LEDx pin is compared with a reference voltage proportional to LED current. The comparator will output high if the voltage at LEDx pin is lower than reference voltage. When LED opens and lasts for a short time period, the AL5873 enters protection and shuts down all channels. The time period is 7 cycles of the input PWM signal or 5ms timer when the PWM duty is 100%. The abnormal channel will be periodically rechecked every 128ms afterward to check if the abnormal condition is cleared. The LED driver will be re-activated if the abnormal condition is cleared. FAULTB pin will be pulled low if LED open condition happens, and will resume high if LED open protection is invalid when the PWM on time is shorter than 20µs during PWM dimming.

#### LED Short Protection

The AL5873 detects the LED short status by monitoring voltage at the LED<sub>x</sub> pins. When the LED string anode is short to cathode,  $V_{LEDx}$  will be pulled up to nearly  $V_{IN}$ . And if the voltage gap ( $V_{IN} - V_{LEDx}$ ) is less than 1V and lasts for a short time period, the AL5873 enters protection and shuts down all channels. The time period is 7 cycles of the input PWM signal or 5ms timer when the PWM duty is 100%. The abnormal channel will be periodically rechecked every 128ms afterward to check if the abnormal condition is cleared. The LED driver will be re-activated if the abnormal condition is cleared. FAULTB pin will be pulled low if LED short condition happens, and will resume high if LED short condition is removed. The comparator in LED short protection has a typical deglitch time of 20 $\mu$ s to avoid wrong trigger, therefore the LED short protection is invalid when the PWM on time is shorter than 20 $\mu$ s during PWM dimming.

#### Fault Reporting

When the PWM is active, the AL5873 detects and reports the FAULTB status upon the occurrence of OTP, LED Short, LED Open, and UVLO. The FAULTB pin is an open-drain output design with a current source pulled up. The FAULTB pin can be left floating or pulled up to a voltage (such as VIN) through a resistor. When the FAULTB is floating, the voltage on the pin is clamped to a voltage (typical 3V) during normal operation. Besides a fault status indicator pin, this pin also behaves as an input pin. The voltage on FAULTB pin is connected to internal comparator and compared with a reference voltage (typical 1.5V). If the voltage on FAULTB pin is lower than the reference voltage, the output signal of the comparator will shut down all LED channels.

In case there is no MCU, one can connect up to 4 AL5873 FAULTB pins together. When one or more devices have errors, the respective FAULTB pins go low, pulling the connected FAULTB bus down and shutting down all device outputs accordingly.

The device releases the FAULTB bus when external circuitry or internal current source pulls the FAULTB pin high, on toggling of the PWM pin, or on a power cycle of the device. In case there is no MCU, only a power cycle clears the fault.



## **Application and Implementation**

For many automobiles, the same set of LEDs function as both tail lights and stop lights. Thus, the LEDs must operate at two different brightness levels. The AL5873 can be used in stop/tail applications where the LED current is switched between a high current (indicating stop or brake) and a low current (for normal tail light operation). Figure 6 illustrates the recommended way to configure the AL5873 for stop/tail applications, and the RPWM and RFULL with  $10k\Omega$  or larger one are recommended to reduce the influence of power supply variation.



Figure 6. Stop/Tail Light Application Circuit through FULL pin

The stop light LED current per channel is set by  $R_{REF2}$ , and the tail light LED current is set by  $R_{REF1}$ . When the LED lamps work as stop light, the FULL is pulled high and higher LED current is set by  $R_{REF2}$ . When the LED lamps work as tail light, the FULL is pulled low and lower LED current is set by  $R_{REF1}$ .



## **Ordering Information**



Part Number	Part Number Suffix	r Suffix Package	Package Code	Packing		
Fart Number				Qty.	Carrier	
AL5873T16E-13	-13	TSSOP-16EP (Type DX) (Note 8)	T16E	2,500	Tape and Reel	

Note: 8. For packaging details, go to our website at https://www.diodes.com/design/support/packaging/diodes-packaging/.

## **Marking Information**





## **Package Outline Dimensions**

Please see http://www.diodes.com/package-outlines.html for the latest version.



## **Suggested Pad Layout**

Please see http://www.diodes.com/package-outlines.html for the latest version.



Dimensions	Value		
Dimensions	(in mm)		
С	0.65		
Х	0.35		
X1	2.94		
X2	2.45		
X3	4.90		
Y	1.40		
Y1	2.00		
Y2	2.72		
Y3	6.80		

## **Mechanical Data**

- Moisture Sensitivity: MSL Level 1 per J-STD-020
- Terminals: Finish Matte Tin Plated Leads, Solderable per JESD22-B102 (93)
- Weight: 0.055 grams (Approximate)



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