

# Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

#### **General Description**

The MAX9994 high-linearity downconversion mixer provides 8.3dB gain, +26.2dBm IIP3, and 9.7dB NF for 1700MHz to 2200MHz UMTS/WCDMA, DCS, and PCS base-station receiver applications. With a 1400MHz to 2000MHz LO frequency range, this particular mixer is ideal for low-side LO injection receiver architectures. High-side LO injection is supported by the MAX9996\*, which is pin-for-pin and functionally compatible with the MAX9994.

In addition to offering excellent linearity and noise performance, the MAX9994 also yields a high level of component integration. This device includes a doublebalanced passive mixer core, an IF amplifier, a dualinput LO selectable switch, and an LO buffer. On-chip baluns are also integrated to allow for single-ended RF and LO inputs. The MAX9994 requires a nominal LO drive of 0dBm, and supply current is guaranteed to be below 235mA.

The MAX9994/MAX9996 are pin compatible with the MAX9984/MAX9986 815MHz to 995MHz mixers, making this entire family of downconverters ideal for applications where a common PC board layout is used for both frequency bands. The MAX9994 is also functionally compatible with the MAX9993.

The MAX9994 is available in a compact, 20-pin, thin QFN package (5mm x 5mm) with an exposed paddle. Electrical performance is guaranteed over the extended  $-40^{\circ}$ C to  $+85^{\circ}$ C temperature range.

#### **Applications**

UMTS/WCDMA Base Stations

DCS1800/PCS1900 EDGE Base Stations

cdmaOne<sup>™</sup> and cdma2000<sup>®</sup> Base Stations

PHS/PAS Base Stations

**Predistortion Receivers** 

Fixed Broadband Wireless Access

Wireless Local Loop

Private Mobile Radios

Military Systems

Microwave Links

Digital and Spread-Spectrum Communication Systems

cdma2000 is a registered trademark of Telecommunications Industry Association.

cdmaOne is a trademark of CDMA Development Group. \*Future product—contact factory for availability.

#### MAXIM

\_Features

- 1700MHz to 2200MHz RF Frequency Range
- 1400MHz to 2000MHz LO Frequency Range (MAX9994)
- 1900MHz to 2400MHz LO Frequency Range (MAX9996)
- ♦ 40MHz to 350MHz IF Frequency Range
- 8.3dB Conversion Gain
- +26.2dBm Input IP3
- +12.6dBm Input 1dB Compression Point
- ♦ 9.7dB Noise Figure
- 67dBc 2RF 2LO Spurious Rejection at PRF = -10dBm
- Integrated LO Buffer
- Integrated RF and LO Baluns for Single-Ended Inputs
- Low -3dBm to +3dBm LO Drive
- Built-In SPDT LO Switch with 45dB LO1 to LO2 Isolation and 50ns Switching Time
- Pin Compatible with MAX9984/MAX9986 815MHz to 995MHz Mixers
- Functionally Compatible with MAX9993
- External Current-Setting Resistors Provide Option for Operating Mixer in Reduced Power/Reduced Performance Mode
- Lead-Free Package Available

#### **Ordering Information**

PART	TEMP RANGE	PIN-PACKAGE	PKG CODE
MAX9994ETP	-40°C to +85°C	20 Thin QFN-EP** 5mm × 5mm bulk	T2055-3
MAX9994ETP-T	-40°C to +85°C	20 Thin QFN-EP** 5mm × 5mm T/R	T2055-3
MAX9994ETP+D	-40°C to +85°C	20 Thin QFN-EP** 5mm × 5mm lead-free bulk	T2055-3
MAX9994ETP+TD	-40°C to +85°C	20 Thin QFN-EP** 5mm × 5mm lead-free T/R	T2055-3

\*\*EP = Exposed paddle.

+ = Lead free. D = Dry pack.

Pin Configuration/Functional Diagram and Typical Application Circuit appear at end of data sheet.

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

# **MAX9994**

#### **ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS**

V <sub>CC</sub> to GND0.3V to +5.5	ōV
IF+, IF-, LOBIAS, LOSEL, IFBIAS to GND0.3V to (VCC + 0.3	V)
TAP0.3V to +1.4	4V
LO1, LO2, LEXT to GND0.3V to +0.3	
RF, LO1, LO2 Input Power+12dB	m
RF (RF is DC shorted to GND through a balun)50n	٦A
Continuous Power Dissipation ( $T_A = +70^{\circ}C$ )	
20-Pin Thin QFN-EP (derate 20mW/°C above +70°C)1.8	W

θJA+38°C/W	
θJC	
Operating Temperature Range (Note A) $\dots$ T <sub>C</sub> = -40°C to +85°C	
Junction Temperature+150°C	
Storage Temperature Range65°C to +150°C	
Lead Temperature (soldering 10s)+300°C	

Note A: T<sub>C</sub> is the temperature on the exposed paddle of the package.

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.

#### DC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(MAX9994 *Typical Application Circuit*,  $V_{CC} = +4.75V$  to +5.25V, no RF signal applied, IF+ and IF- outputs pulled up to  $V_{CC}$  through inductive chokes,  $R_1 = 806\Omega$ ,  $R_2 = 549\Omega$ ,  $T_C = -40^{\circ}C$  to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $V_{CC} = +5V$ ,  $T_C = +25^{\circ}C$ , unless otherwise noted.)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	ТҮР	МАХ	UNITS
Supply Voltage	Vcc		4.75	5.00	5.25	V
Supply Current	ICC			206	235	mA
LO_SEL Input-Logic Low	VIL				0.8	V
LO_SEL Input-Logic High	VIH		2			V

#### **AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

(MAX9994 *Typical Application Circuit*,  $V_{CC} = +4.75V$  to +5.25V, RF and LO ports are driven from 50 $\Omega$  sources,  $P_{LO} = -3dBm$  to +3dBm,  $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ ,  $f_{RF} = 1700MHz$  to 2200MHz,  $f_{LO} = 1400MHz$  to 2000MHz,  $f_{IF} = 200MHz$ ,  $f_{RF} > f_{LO}$ ,  $T_C = -40^{\circ}C$  to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $V_{CC} = +5V$ ,  $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ ,  $P_{LO} = 0dBm$ ,  $f_{RF} = 1900MHz$ ,  $f_{LO} = 1700MHz$ ,  $f_{IF} = 200MHz$ ,  $f_{I$ 

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	ТҮР	МАХ	UNITS
RF Frequency Range	f <sub>RF</sub>	(Note 3)	1700		2200	MHz
	fLO	(Note 3)	1400		2000	MHz
LO Frequency Range		MAX9996	1900		2400	
IF Frequency Range	fIF		40		350	MHz
Conversion Gain	GC	$P_{RF} < +2dBm$ , $T_A = +25^{\circ}C$ (Note 4)	7.2	8.3	9.2	dB
Gain Variation Over Temperature		$T_C = -40^{\circ}C$ to $+85^{\circ}C$		±0.75		dB
Input Compression Point	P <sub>1dB</sub>	(Note 5)		12.6		dBm
Input Third-Order Intercept Point (Note 4)	IIP3	Two tones: $f_{RF1} = 2000MHz$ , $f_{RF2} = 2001MHz$ , $P_{RF} = -5dBm/tone$ , $f_{LO} = 1800MHz$ , $P_{LO} = 0dBm$ , $T_A = +25^{\circ}C$	23.5	26.2		dBm
Input IP3 Variation Over Temperature		$T_{\rm C}$ = -40°C to +85°C		±0.5		dB

#### AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(MAX9994 *Typical Application Circuit*,  $V_{CC} = +4.75V$  to +5.25V, RF and LO ports are driven from  $50\Omega$  sources,  $P_{LO} = -3dBm$  to +3dBm,  $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ ,  $f_{RF} = 1700MHz$  to 2200MHz,  $f_{LO} = 1400MHz$  to 2000MHz,  $f_{IF} = 200MHz$ ,  $f_{RF} > f_{LO}$ ,  $T_C = -40^{\circ}C$  to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $V_{CC} = +5V$ ,  $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ ,  $P_{LO} = 0dBm$ ,  $f_{RF} = 1900MHz$ ,  $f_{LO} = 1700MHz$ ,  $f_{IF} = 200MHz$ ,  $f_{I$ 

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS		MIN	ТҮР	MAX	UNITS	
Noise Figure	NF	Single sideband			9.7		dB	
Noise Figure Under-Blocking		$P_{RF} = 5dBm, f_{RF} = 20$ $f_{LO} = 1810MHz, f_{bloc}$	000MHz, <sub>k</sub> = 2100MHz (Note 6)		19		dB	
LO Drive				-3		+3	dBm	
	2 x 2	2BE - 2LO	$P_{RF} = -10 dBm$		67			
Spurious Despenses at IE	2 X Z	2NF - 2LU	$P_{RF} = -5 dBm$		62		dDo	
Spurious Response at IF	3 x 3	3RF - 3LO	$P_{RF} = -10 dBm$		82		dBc	
	3.7.3	3NF - 3LU	$P_{RF} = -5 dBm$		72			
LO1 to LO2 Isolation		LO2 selected, 1500MHz < f <sub>LO</sub> < 170	00MHz	40			dD	
(Note 1)		LO1 selected, 1500MHz < f <sub>LO</sub> < 170	00MHz	40	45		- dB	
Maximum LO Leakage at RF Port		$P_{LO} = +3dBm$			-17		dBm	
Maximum LO Leakage at IF Port		$P_{LO} = +3dBm$			-30		dBm	
Minimum RF-to-IF Isolation					35		dB	
LO Switching Time		50% of LOSEL to IF s	settled to within 2°		50		ns	
RF Port Return Loss					21		dB	
LO Port Return Loss		LO1/2 port selected, LO2/1 and IF termina	ited		16		dB	
		LO1/2 port unselecte LO2/1 and IF termina			26			
IF Port Return Loss		LO driven at 0dBm, RF terminated into 50 $\Omega$ , differential 200 $\Omega$			20		dB	

Note 1: Guaranteed by design and characterization.

Note 2: All limits include external component losses. Output measurements taken at IF output of the Typical Application Circuit.

Note 3: Operation outside this range is possible, but with degraded performance of some parameters.

Note 4: Production tested.

Note 5: Compression point characterized. It is advisable not to operate continuously the mixer RF input above +12dBm.

**Note 6:** Measured with external LO source noise filtered so the noise floor is -174dBm/Hz. This specification reflects the effects of all SNR degradations in the mixer, including the LO noise as defined in Maxim Application Note 2021.

(MAX9994 Typical Application Circuit, V<sub>CC</sub> = +5.0V, P<sub>LO</sub> = 0dBm, P<sub>RF</sub> = -5dBm, f<sub>RF</sub> > f<sub>LO</sub>, f<sub>IF</sub> = 200MHz, unless otherwise noted.)

**Typical Operating Characteristics** 

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#### Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(MAX9994 Typical Application Circuit, V<sub>CC</sub> = +5.0V, P<sub>LO</sub> = 0dBm, P<sub>RF</sub> = -5dBm, f<sub>RF</sub> > f<sub>LO</sub>, f<sub>IF</sub> = 200MHz, unless otherwise noted.)



Typical Operating Characteristics (continued) (MAX9994 Typical Application Circuit, V<sub>CC</sub> = +5.0V, P<sub>LO</sub> = 0dBm, P<sub>RF</sub> = -5dBm, f<sub>RF</sub> > f<sub>LO</sub>, f<sub>IF</sub> = 200MHz, unless otherwise noted.)



#### **Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)**

(MAX9994 Typical Application Circuit, V<sub>CC</sub> = +5.0V, P<sub>LO</sub> = 0dBm, P<sub>RF</sub> = -5dBm, f<sub>RF</sub> > f<sub>LO</sub>, f<sub>IF</sub> = 200MHz, unless otherwise noted.)



#### Pin Description

PIN	NAME	FUNCTION
1, 6, 8, 14	V <sub>CC</sub>	Power-Supply Connection. Bypass each V <sub>CC</sub> pin to GND with capacitors as shown in the <i>Typical</i> Application Circuit.
2	RF	Single-Ended $50\Omega$ RF Input. This port is internally matched and DC shorted to GND through a balun. Requires an external DC-blocking capacitor.
3	TAP	Center Tap of the Internal RF Balun. Bypass to GND with capacitors close to the IC, as shown in the <i>Typical Application Circuit</i> .
4, 5, 10, 12, 13, 17	GND	Ground
7	LOBIAS	Bias Resistor for Internal LO Buffer. Connect a 549 $\Omega$ ±1% resistor from LOBIAS to the power supply.
9	LOSEL	Local Oscillator Select. Logic control input for selecting LO1 or LO2.
11	LO1	Local Oscillator Input 1. Drive LOSEL low to select LO1.
15	LO2	Local Oscillator Input 2. Drive LOSEL high to select LO2.
16	LEXT	External Inductor Connection. Connect a low-ESR, 10nH inductor from LEXT to GND. This inductor carries approximately 100mA DC current.
18, 19	IF-, IF+	Differential IF Outputs. Each output requires external bias to V <sub>CC</sub> through an RF choke (see the <i>Typical Application Circuit</i> ).
20	IFBIAS	IF Bias Resistor Connection for IF Amplifier. Connect an 806 $\Omega$ resistor from IFBIAS to GND.
EP	GND	Exposed Ground Paddle. Solder the exposed paddle to the ground plane using multiple vias.

#### **Detailed Description**

The MAX9994 high-linearity downconversion mixer provides 8.3dB of conversion gain and 26.2dBm of IIP3, with a typical 9.7dB noise figure. The integrated baluns and matching circuitry allow for  $50\Omega$  single-ended interfaces to the RF and the two LO ports. A single-pole, double-throw (SPDT) switch provides 50ns switching time between the two LO inputs with 45dB of LO-to-LO isolation. Furthermore, the integrated LO buffer provides a high drive level to the mixer core, reducing the LO drive required at the MAX9994's inputs to a range of -3dBm to +3dBm. The IF port incorporates a differential output, which is ideal for providing enhanced IIP2 performance.

Specifications are guaranteed over broad frequency ranges to allow for use in UMTS, cdma2000, and 2G/2.5G/3G DCS1800 and PCS1900 base stations. The MAX9994 is specified to operate over a 1700MHz to 2200MHz RF frequency range, a 1400MHz to 2000MHz LO frequency range, and a 40MHz to 350MHz IF frequency range. Operation beyond these ranges is possible; see the *Typical Operating Characteristics* for additional details.

This device can operate in high-side LO injection applications with an extended LO range, but performance degrades as  $f_{LO}$  continues to increase. See the *Typical Operating Characteristics* for measurements taken with  $f_{LO}$  up to 2200MHz. The MAX9996—a variant of the MAX9994—provides better high-side performance since it is tuned for a higher LO range of 1900MHz to 2400MHz. Contact the factory for details. As a result of these higher LO frequencies, the MAX9996 may also be a better choice for extending the RF frequency range beyond 2200MHz.

#### **RF Input and Balun**

The MAX9994 RF input is internally matched to  $50\Omega$ , requiring no external matching components. A DCblocking capacitor is required because the input is internally DC shorted to ground through the on-chip balun. Input return loss is typically 21dB over the entire 1700MHz to 2200MHz RF frequency range.

#### LO Inputs, Buffer, and Balun

The MAX9994 can be used for either high-side or lowside injection applications with a 1400MHz to 2000MHz LO frequency range. For a device with a 1900MHz to 2400MHz LO frequency range, refer to the MAX9996



data sheet. As an added feature, the MAX9994 includes an internal LO SPDT switch that can be used for frequency-hopping applications. The switch selects one of the two single-ended LO ports, allowing the external oscillator to settle on a particular frequency before it is switched in. LO switching time is typically less than 50ns, which is more than adequate for virtually all GSM applications. If frequency hopping is not employed, set the switch to either of the LO inputs. The switch is controlled by a digital input (LOSEL): logic-high selects LO2, logic-low selects LO1. LO1 and LO2 inputs are internally matched to  $50\Omega$ , requiring only a 22pF DC blocking capacitor.

A two-stage internal LO buffer allows a wide input power range for the LO drive. All guaranteed specifications are for an LO signal power from -3dBm to +3dBm. The on-chip low-loss balun, along with an LO buffer, drives the double-balanced mixer. All interfacing and matching components from the LO inputs to the IF outputs are integrated on-chip.

#### **High-Linearity Mixer**

The core of the MAX9994 is a double-balanced, highperformance passive mixer. Exceptional linearity is provided by the large LO swing from the on-chip LO buffer. When combined with the integrated IF amplifiers, the cascaded IIP3, 2RF - 2LO rejection, and NF performance is typically 26.2dBm, 67dBc, and 9.7dB, respectively.

#### **Differential IF Output Amplifier**

The MAX9994 mixer has a 40MHz to 350MHz IF frequency range. The differential, open-collector IF output ports require external pullup inductors to V<sub>CC</sub>. Note that these differential outputs are ideal for providing enhanced 2RF - 2LO rejection performance. Singleended IF applications require a 4:1 balun to transform the 200 $\Omega$  differential output impedance to a 50 $\Omega$  singleended output. After the balun, the IF return loss is better than 15dB.

#### Applications Information

#### **Input and Output Matching**

The RF and LO inputs are internally matched to  $50\Omega$ . No matching components are required. Return loss at the RF port is typically 21dB over the entire input range (1700MHz to 2200MHz) and return loss at the LO ports are typically better than 14dB (1400MHz to 2000MHz). RF and LO inputs require only DC-blocking capacitors for interfacing.

The IF output impedance is  $200\Omega$  (differential). For evaluation, an external low-loss 4:1 (impedance ratio) balun transforms this impedance down to a  $50\Omega$  single-ended output (see the *Typical Application Circuit*).

#### **Bias Resistors**

Bias currents for the LO buffer and the IF amplifier are optimized by fine tuning resistors R1 and R2. If reduced current is required at the expense of performance, contact the factory for details. If the  $\pm 1\%$  bias resistor values are not readily available, substitute standard  $\pm 5\%$  values.

#### **LEXT Inductor**

LEXT serves to improve the LO-to-IF and RF-to-IF leakage. The inductance value can be adjusted by the user to optimize the performance for a particular frequency band. Since approximately 100mA flows through this inductor, it is important to use a low DCR wire-wound coil.

If the LO-to-IF and RF-to-IF leakage are not critical parameters, the inductor can be replaced by a short circuit to ground.

#### **Layout Considerations**

A properly designed PC board is an essential part of any RF/microwave circuit. Keep RF signal lines as short as possible to reduce losses, radiation, and inductance. For the best performance, route the ground pin traces directly to the exposed pad under the package. The PC board exposed pad **MUST** be connected to the ground plane of the PC board. It is suggested that multiple vias be used to connect this pad to the lower level ground planes. This method provides a good RF/thermal conduction path for the device. Solder the exposed pad on the bottom of the device package to the PC board. The MAX9994 Evaluation Kit can be used as a reference for board layout. Gerber files are available upon request at www.maxim-ic.com.

#### **Power-Supply Bypassing**

Proper voltage-supply bypassing is essential for highfrequency circuit stability. Bypass each V<sub>CC</sub> pin and TAP with the capacitors shown in the *Typical Application Circuit*; see Table 1. Place the TAP bypass capacitor to ground within 100 mils of the TAP pin.

**Exposed Pad RF/Thermal Considerations** The exposed paddle (EP) of the MAX9994's 20-pin thin QFN-EP package provides a low thermal-resistance path to the die. It is important that the PC board on which the MAX9994 is mounted be designed to conduct heat from the EP. In addition, provide the EP with a low-inductance path to electrical ground. The EP **MUST**  be soldered to a ground plane on the PC board, either directly or through an array of plated via holes.

Chip Information

TRANSISTOR COUNT: 1414 PROCESS: SiGe BiCMOS

#### Table 1. Component List Referring to the Typical Application Circuit

COMPONENT	VALUE	DESCRIPTION
L1, L2	470nH	Wire-wound high-Q inductors (0805)
L3	10nH	Wire-wound high-Q inductor (0603)
C1	4pF	Microwave capacitor (0603)
C4	10pF	Microwave capacitor (0603)
C2, C6, C7, C8, C10, C12	22pF	Microwave capacitors (0603)
C3, C5, C9, C11	0.01µF	Microwave capacitors (0603)
C13, C14	150pF	Microwave capacitors (0603)
C15	150pF	Microwave capacitor (0402)
R1	806Ω	±1% resistor (0603)
R2	549Ω	±1% resistor (0603)
R3	7.15Ω	±1% resistor (1206)
T1	4:1 balun	IF balun
U1	MAX9994	Maxim IC





#### **Typical Application Circuit**



#### **Package Information**

(The package drawing(s) in this data sheet may not reflect the most current specifications. For the latest package outline information go to **www.maxim-ic.com/packages**.)



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