





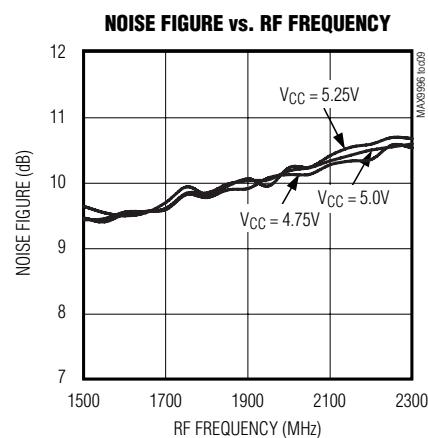
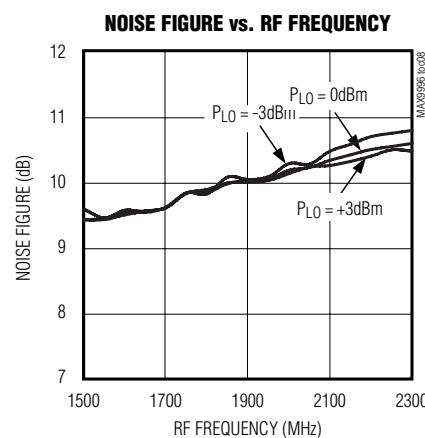
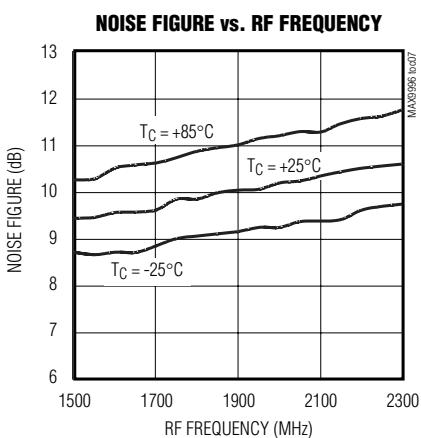
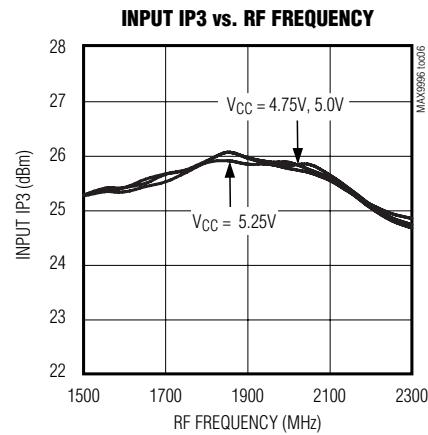
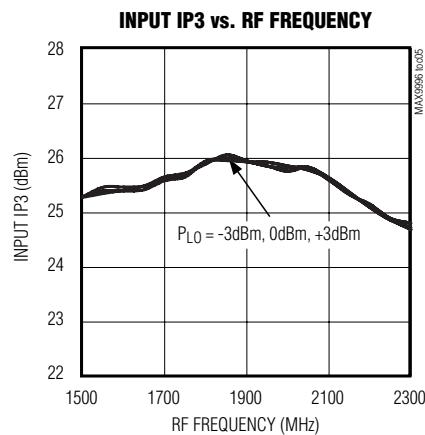
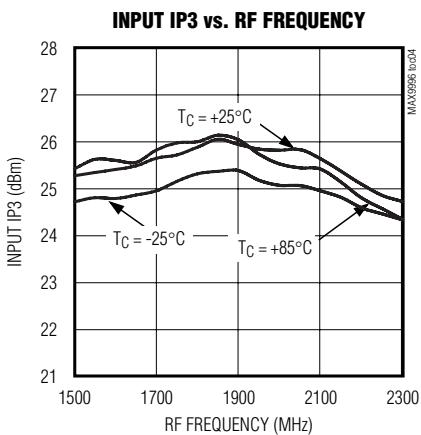
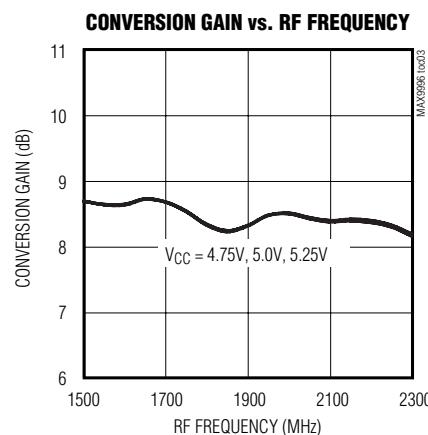
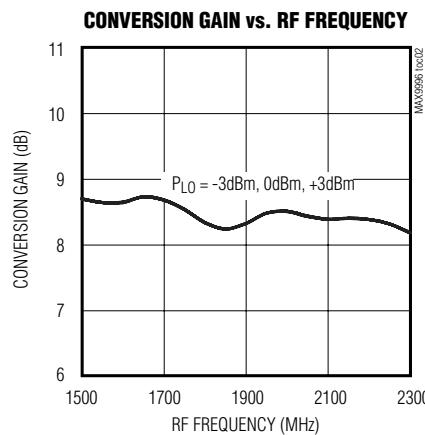
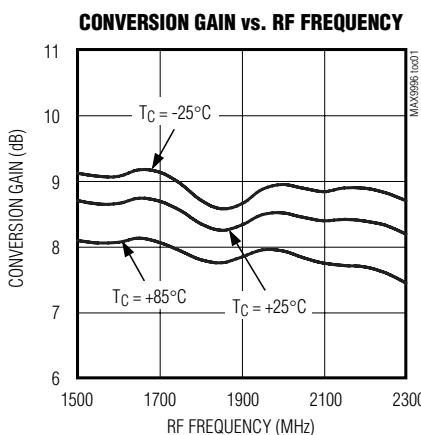


# SiGe High-Linearity, 1700MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

**MAX9996**

## Typical Operating Characteristics

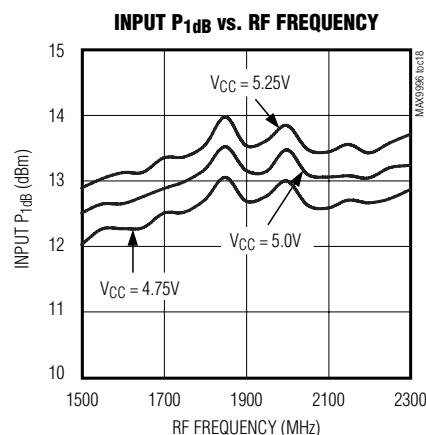
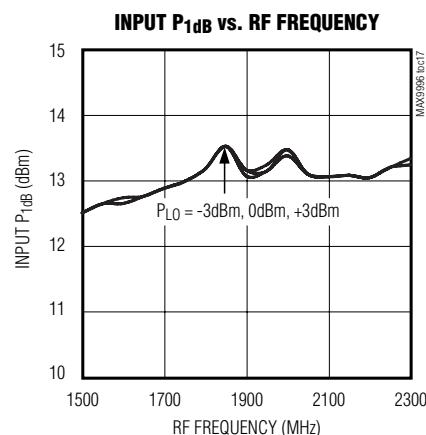
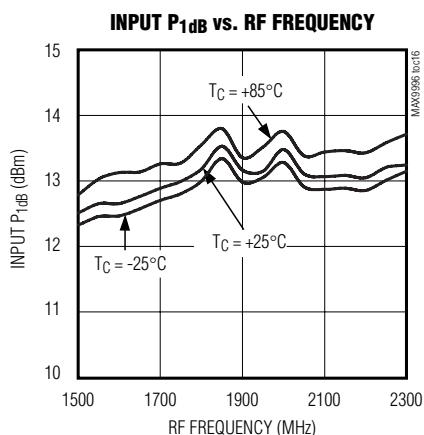
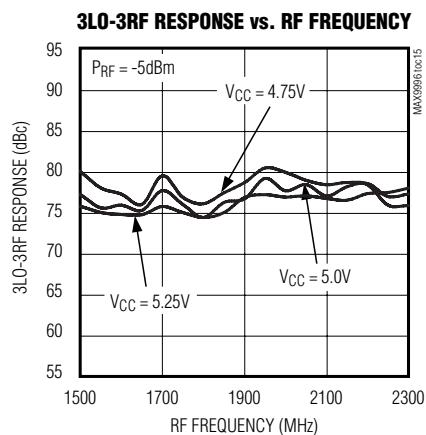
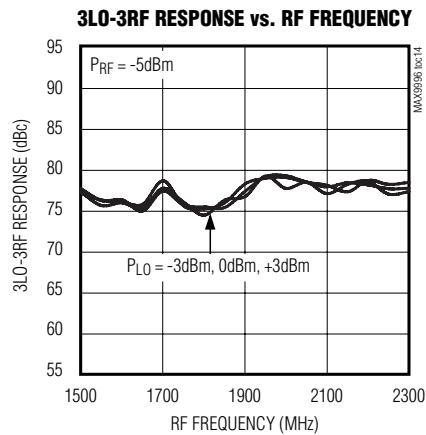
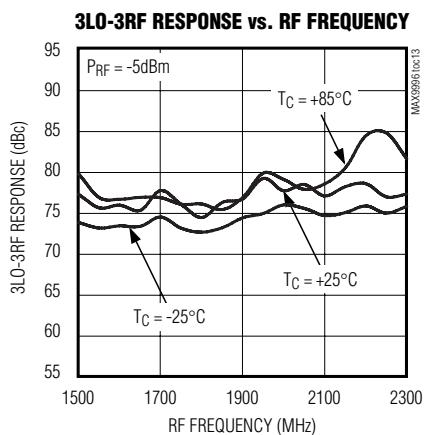
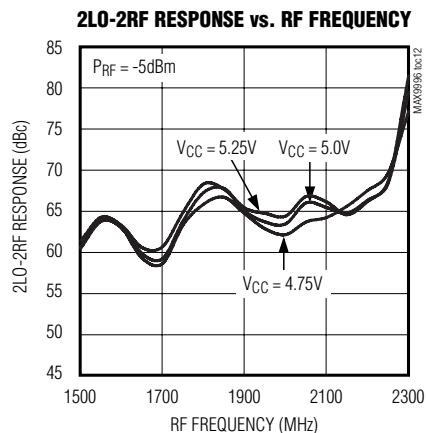
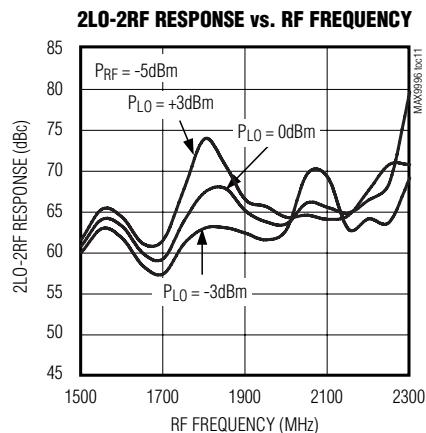
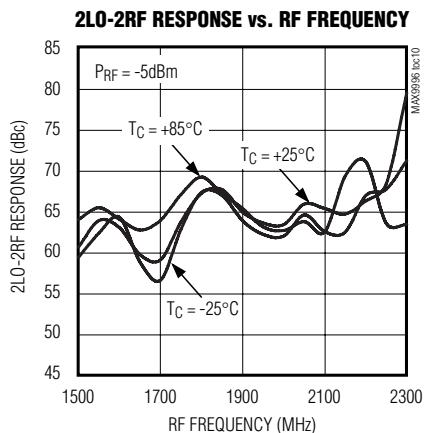
(MAX9996 Typical Application Circuit,  $V_{CC} = +5.0V$ ,  $P_{LO} = 0dBm$ ,  $PRF = -5dBm$ ,  $f_{LO} > f_{RF}$ ,  $f_{IF} = 200MHz$ , unless otherwise noted.)



# **SiGe High-Linearity, 1700MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch**

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

(MAX9996 Typical Application Circuit,  $V_{CC} = +5.0\text{V}$ ,  $P_{LO} = 0\text{dBm}$ ,  $\text{PRF} = -5\text{dBm}$ ,  $f_{LO} > f_{RF}$ ,  $f_{IF} = 200\text{MHz}$ , unless otherwise noted.)

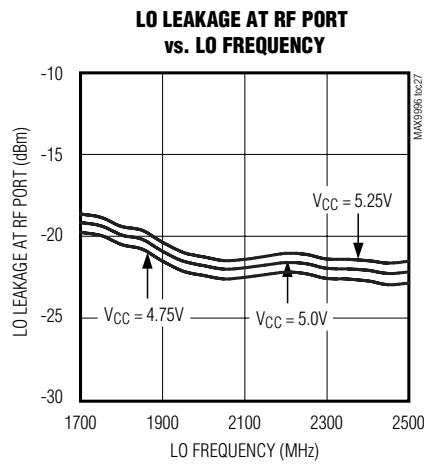
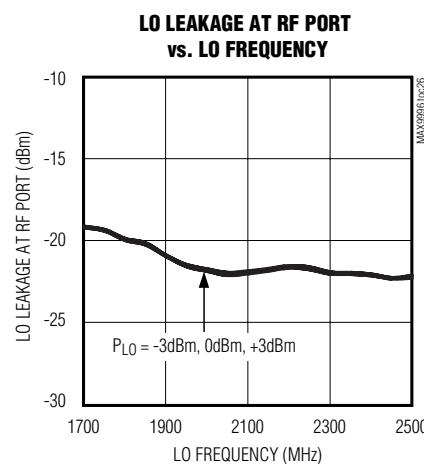
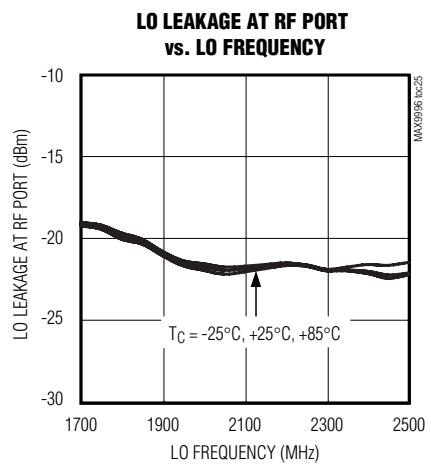
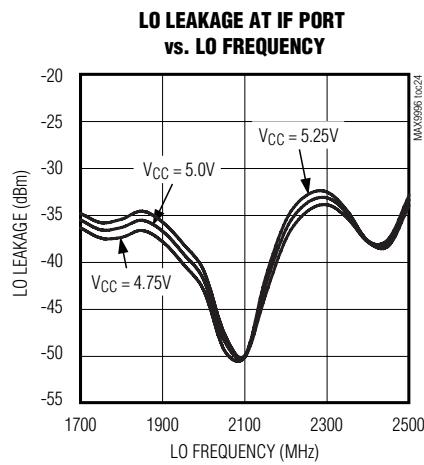
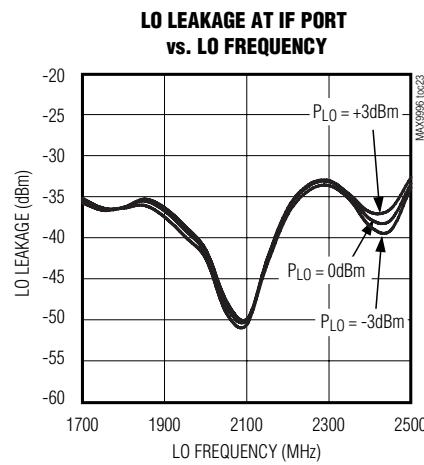
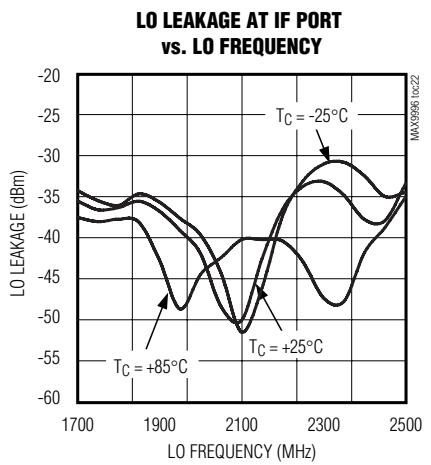
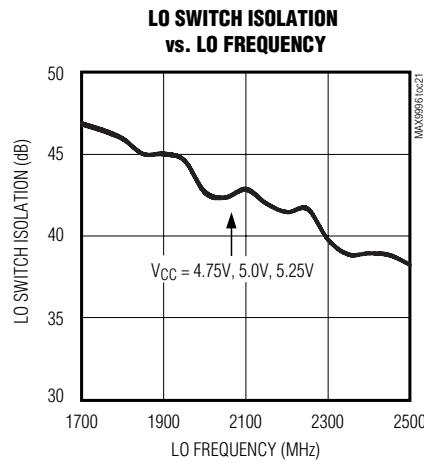
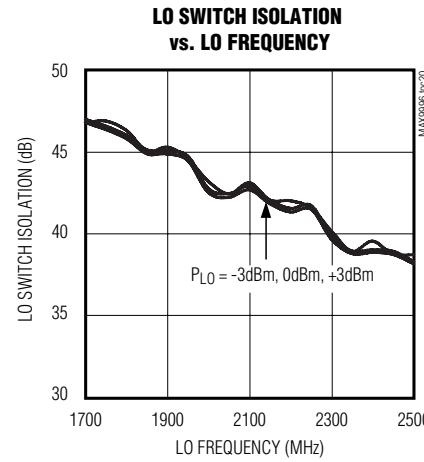
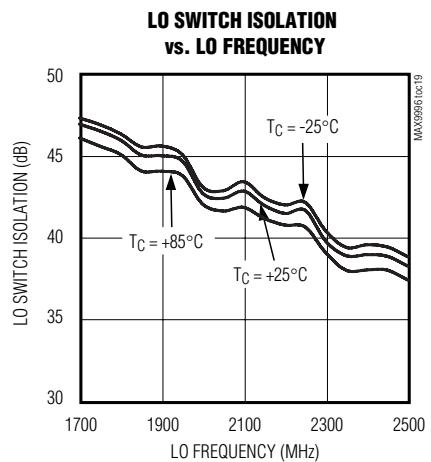


# **SiGe High-Linearity, 1700MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch**

**MAX9996**

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

(MAX9996 Typical Application Circuit,  $V_{CC} = +5.0\text{V}$ ,  $P_{LO} = 0\text{dBm}$ ,  $\text{PRF} = -5\text{dBm}$ ,  $f_{LO} > f_{RF}$ ,  $f_{IF} = 200\text{MHz}$ , unless otherwise noted.)

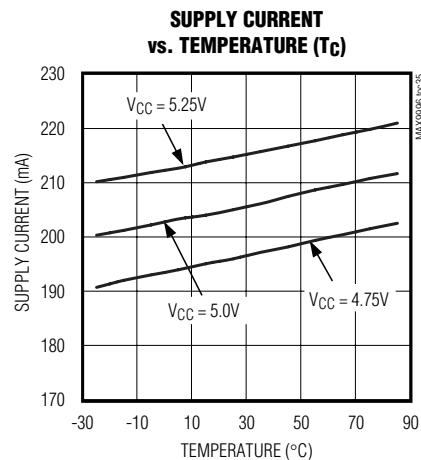
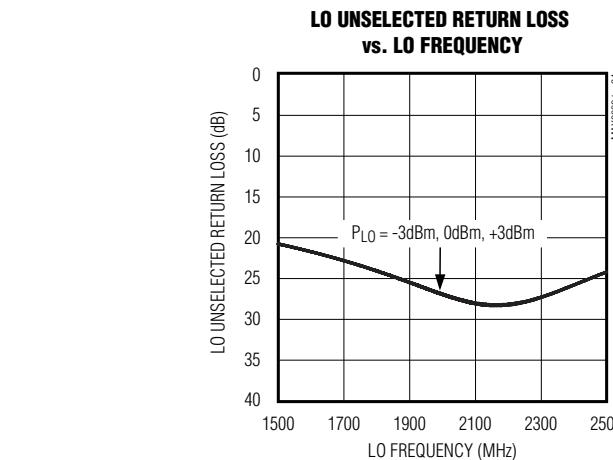
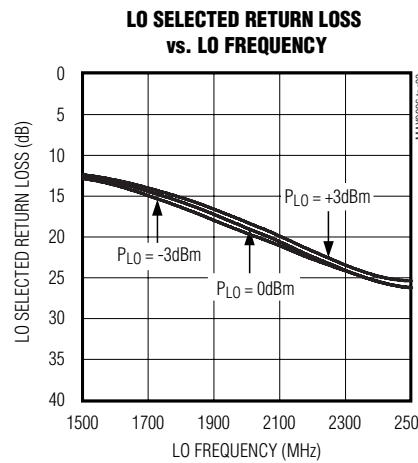
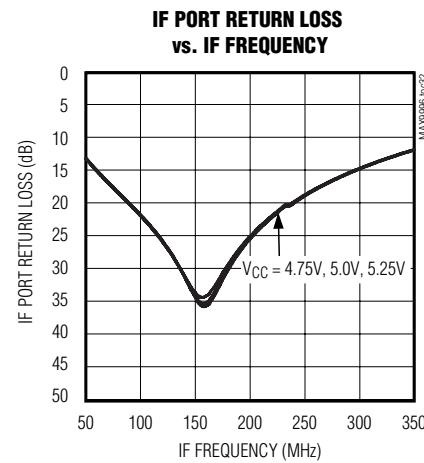
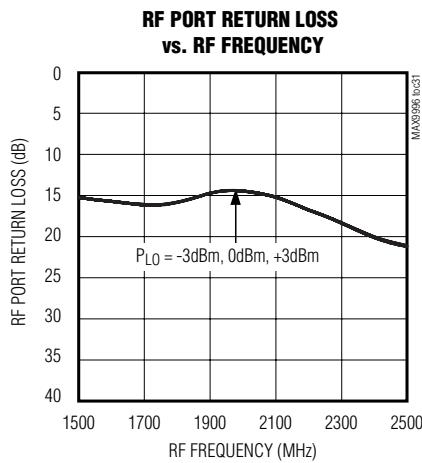
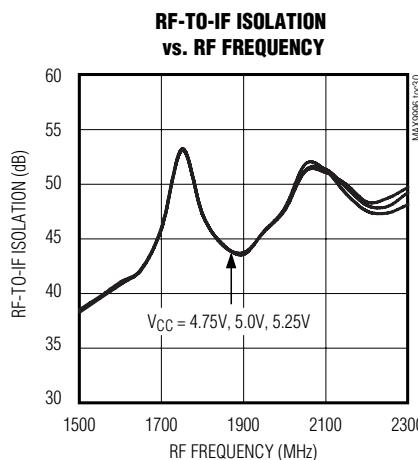
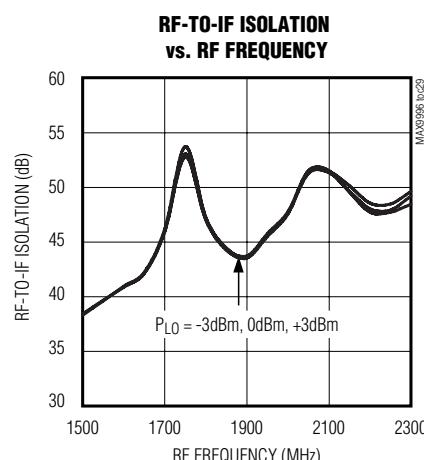
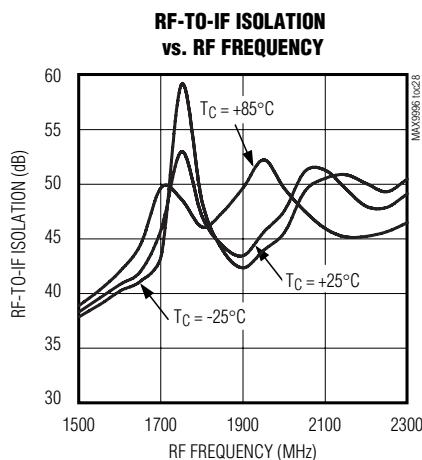


MAX9996

# **SiGe High-Linearity, 1700MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch**

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

(MAX9996 Typical Application Circuit,  $V_{CC} = +5.0V$ ,  $P_{LO} = 0dBm$ ,  $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ ,  $f_{LO} > f_{RF}$ ,  $f_{IF} = 200MHz$ , unless otherwise noted.)





# **SiGe High-Linearity, 1700MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch**

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. To avoid damage to the part, voltage must be applied to V<sub>CC</sub> before digital logic is applied to LOSEL. LO1 and LO2 inputs are internally matched to 50Ω, 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 MAX9996 is a double-balanced, high-performance 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, 2LO-2RF rejection, and NF performance is typically 26.5dBm, 72dBc, and 9.7dB, respectively.

## **Differential IF Output Amplifier**

The MAX9996 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 2LO-2RF rejection performance. Single-ended IF applications require a 4:1 balun to transform the 200Ω differential output impedance to a 50Ω single-ended 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 50Ω. No matching components are required. Return loss at the RF port is typically 15dB over the entire input range (1700MHz to 2200MHz) and return loss at the LO ports is typically better than 16dB (1900MHz to 2400MHz). RF and LO inputs require only DC-blocking capacitors for interfacing.

The IF output impedance is 200Ω (differential). For evaluation, an external low-loss 4:1 (impedance ratio) balun transforms this impedance down to a 50Ω 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 ±1% bias resistor values are not readily available, substitute standard ±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 MAX9996 Evaluation Kit can be used as a reference for board layout. Gerber files are available upon request at [www.maxim-ic.com](http://www.maxim-ic.com).

### **Power-Supply Bypassing**

Proper voltage-supply bypassing is essential for high-frequency 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.

# SiGe High-Linearity, 1700MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

## Exposed Pad RF/Thermal Considerations

The exposed paddle (EP) of the MAX9996'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 MAX9996 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

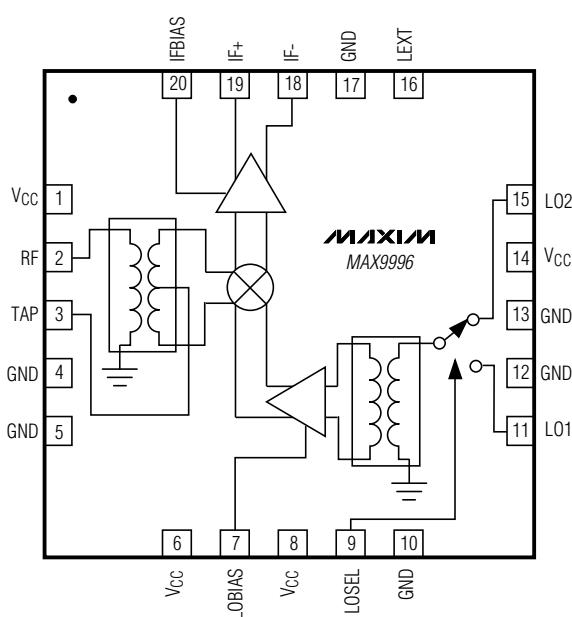
TRANSISTOR COUNT: 1414

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	MAX9996	Maxim IC

## Pin Configuration/Functional Diagram



# **SiGe High-Linearity, 1700MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch**

## **Typical Application Circuit**

