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19-3435; Rev 1; 12/10

EVALUATION KIT AVAILABLE

# SiGe High-Linearity, 1400MHz to 2200MHz 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 1400MHz to 2200MHz UMTS/WCDMA, DCS, and PCS base-station receiver applications. With a wide LO range of 1400MHz to 2000MHz, the MAX9994 can be used in either high-side or low-side LO injection architectures, depending on the RF band of interest. Higher LO applications are supported by the MAX9996, which is pin-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 double-balanced passive mixer core, an IF amplifier, a dual-input 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 pad. Electrical performance is guaranteed over the extended -40°C to +85°C temperature range.

## Applications

UMTS/LTE Base Stations

TD-SCDMA/TD-LTE Base Stations

DCS1800/PCS1900 EDGE Base Stations

cdmaOne™ and cdma2000® 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.*

## Features

- **1400MHz 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 $P_{RF}$ = -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 the MAX9984/MAX9986 815MHz to 995MHz Mixers**
- **Functionally Compatible with the MAX9993**
- **External Current-Setting Resistors Provide Option for Operating Mixer in Reduced Power/Reduced Performance Mode**

## Ordering Information

| PART | TEMP RANGE | PIN-PACKAGE |
|---|---|---|
| MAX9994ETP+ | -40°C to +85°C | 20 Thin QFN-EP** 5mm × 5mm bulk |
| MAX9994ETP+T | -40°C to +85°C | 20 Thin QFN-EP** 5mm × 5mm T/R |

***EP = Exposed pad.*
*+Denotes a lead(Pb)-free/RoHS-compliant package.*
*T = Tape and reel.*

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

# SiGe High-Linearity, 1400MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

## ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

$V_{CC}$ to GND .....-0.3V to +5.5V
IF+, IF-, LOBIAS, LOSEL, IFBIAS to GND...-0.3V to ($V_{CC}$ + 0.3V)
TAP .....-0.3V to +1.4V
LO1, LO2, LEXT to GND.....-0.3V to +0.3V
RF, LO1, LO2 Input Power .....+12dBm
RF (RF is DC shorted to GND through a balun) .....50mA
Continuous Power Dissipation ($T_A$ = +70°C)
20-Pin Thin QFN-EP (derate 20mW/°C above +70°C).....1.8W
$\theta_{JA}$ (Note 1) .....+38°C/W
$\theta_{JC}$ (Note 1) .....+8°C/W
Operating Temperature Range (Note 2).....$T_C$ = -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) .....+260°C

**Note 1:** Package thermal resistances were obtained using the method described in JEDEC specification JESD51-7, using a four-layer board. For detailed information on package thermal considerations, refer to **www.maxim-ic.com/thermal-tutorial**.

**Note 2:** $T_C$ is the temperature on the exposed pad 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

(*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, $R_1$ = 806Ω, $R_2$ = 549Ω, $T_C$ = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at $V_{CC}$ = +5V, $T_C$ = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Supply Voltage | $V_{CC}$ | | 4.75 | 5.00 | 5.25 | V |
| Supply Current | $I_{CC}$ | | | 206 | 235 | mA |
| LO_SEL Input Logic-Low | $V_{IL}$ | | | | 0.8 | V |
| LO_SEL Input Logic-High | $V_{IH}$ | | 2 | | | V |

## RECOMMENDED AC OPERATING CONDITIONS

| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| RF Frequency Range | $f_{RF}$ | (Note 3) | 1400 | | 2200 | MHz |
| LO Frequency Range | $f_{LO}$ | (Note 3) | 1400 | | 2000 | MHz |
| IF Frequency Range | $f_{IF}$ | (Note 3) | 40 | | 350 | MHz |
| LO Drive Level | $P_{LO}$ | (Note 3) | -3 | | +3 | dBm |

## AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS—$f_{RF}$ = 1700MHz TO 2200MHz, LOW-SIDE LO INJECTION

(*Typical Application Circuit*, $V_{CC}$ = +4.75V to +5.25V, RF and LO ports are driven from 50Ω 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°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, $T_C$ = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.) (Notes 4, 5)

| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS | | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Conversion Gain | $G_C$ | $P_{RF}$ < +2dBm, $T_A$ = +25°C (Note 6) | | 7.2 | 8.3 | 9.2 | dB |
| Gain Variation Over Temperature | | $T_C$ = -40°C to +85°C | | | ±0.75 | | dB |
| Input Compression Point | $P_{1dB}$ | (Note 7) | | | 12.6 | | dBm |
| Input Third-Order Intercept Point (Note 6) | IIP3 | Two tones: $f_{RF1}$ = 2000MHz, $f_{RF2}$ = 2001MHz, $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm/tone, $f_{LO}$ = 1800MHz, $P_{LO}$ = 0dBm, $T_A$ = +25°C | | 23.5 | 26.2 | | dBm |
| Input IP3 Variation Over Temperature | | $T_C$ = -40°C to +85°C | | | ±0.5 | | dB |
| Noise Figure | NF | Single sideband | | | 9.7 | | dB |
| Noise Figure Under-Blocking | | $P_{RF}$ = 5dBm, $f_{RF}$ = 2000MHz, $f_{LO}$ = 1810MHz, $f_{block}$ = 2100MHz (Note 8) | | | 19 | | dB |
| LO Drive | | | | -3 | | +3 | dBm |
| Spurious Response at IF | 2 x 2 | 2RF - 2LO | $P_{RF}$ = -10dBm | | 67 | | dBc |
| | | | $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm | | 62 | | |
| | 3 x 3 | 3RF - 3LO | $P_{RF}$ = -10dBm | | 82 | | |
| | | | $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm | | 72 | | |
| LO1 to LO2 Isolation (Note 4) | | LO2 selected, 1500MHz < $f_{LO}$ < 1700MHz | | 40 | 52 | | dB |
| | | LO1 selected, 1500MHz < $f_{LO}$ < 1700MHz | | 40 | 45 | | |
| 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 settled to within 2° | | | 50 | | ns |
| RF Port Return Loss | | | | | 21 | | dB |
| LO Port Return Loss | | LO1/2 port selected, LO2/1 and IF terminated | | | 16 | | dB |
| | | LO1/2 port unselected, LO2/1 and IF terminated | | | 26 | | |
| IF Port Return Loss | | LO driven at 0dBm, RF terminated into 50Ω, differential 200Ω | | | 20 | | dB |

# SiGe High-Linearity, 1400MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

## AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS—$f_{RF}$ = 1455MHz, HIGH-SIDE LO INJECTION

(*Typical Application Circuit*, RF and LO ports are driven from 50Ω sources, $f_{RF} < f_{LO}$, $V_{CC}$ = +5V, $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm, $P_{LO}$ = 0dBm, $f_{RF}$ = 1455MHz, $f_{LO}$ = 1625MHz, $f_{IF}$ = 170MHz, $T_C$ = +25°C, LO2 is selected, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 5)

| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Conversion Gain | $G_C$ | | | 8.8 | | dB |
| Input Third-Order Intercept Point | IIP3 | Two tones: $f_{RF1}$ = 1455MHz, $f_{RF2}$ = 1456MHz, $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm/tone | | 25.6 | | dBm |
| Input Compression Point (Note 7) | $IP_{1dB}$ | | | 12.7 | | dBm |
| 2LO - 2RF Spurious Response | 2 x 2 | $P_{RF}$ = -10dBm | | 71.4 | | dBc |
| | | $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm | | 66.4 | | |
| LO-to-IF Leakage | | LOSEL = LO2 | | -30.2 | | dBm |

## AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS—$f_{RF}$ = 1500MHz, HIGH-SIDE LO INJECTION

(*Typical Application Circuit*, RF and LO ports are driven from 50Ω sources, $f_{RF} < f_{LO}$, $V_{CC}$ = +5V, $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm, $P_{LO}$ = 0dBm, $f_{RF}$ = 1500MHz, $f_{LO}$ = 1650MHz, $f_{IF}$ = 150MHz, $T_C$ = +25°C, LO1 is selected, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 5)

| PARAMETER | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Conversion Gain | $G_C$ | | | 8.9 | | dB |
| Input Third-Order Intercept Point | IIP3 | Two tones: $f_{RF1}$ = 1500MHz, $f_{RF2}$ = 1501MHz, $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm/tone | | 25.5 | | dBm |
| Input Compression Point (Note 7) | $IP_{1dB}$ | | | 12.5 | | dBm |
| 2LO - 2RF Spurious Response | 2 x 2 | $P_{RF}$ = -10dBm | | 70.4 | | dBc |
| | | $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm | | 65.4 | | |
| LO-to-IF Leakage | | | | -33.2 | | dBm |

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

**Note 4:** Guaranteed by design and characterization.

**Note 5:** All limits include external component losses. Output measurements taken at IF output of the *Typical Application Circuit*.

**Note 6:** Production tested.

**Note 7:** Compression point characterized. It is advisable not to operate continuously the mixer RF input above +12dBm.

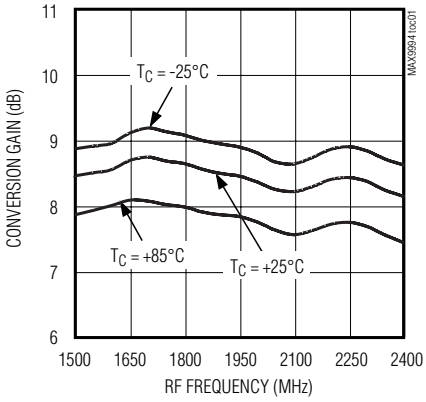
**Note 8:** Measured with external LO source noise filtered so the noise floor is -174dBm/Hz. This specification reflects the effects of all SNR degradations in the mixer, including the LO noise as defined in Application Note 2021: *Specifications and Measurement of Local Oscillator Noise in Integrated Circuit Base Station Mixers*.

# SiGe High-Linearity, 1400MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

## Typical Operating Characteristics

(MAX9994 *Typical Application Circuit*, $V_{CC}$ = +5.0V, $P_{LO}$ = 0dBm, $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm, **$f_{RF}$ = 1700MHz to 2200MHz, LO is Low-Side Injected** for a 200MHz IF, unless otherwise noted.)

**CONVERSION GAIN vs. RF FREQUENCY**

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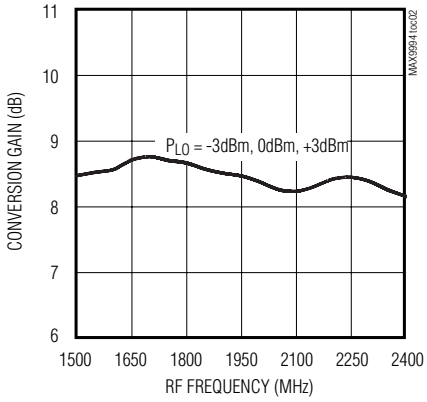


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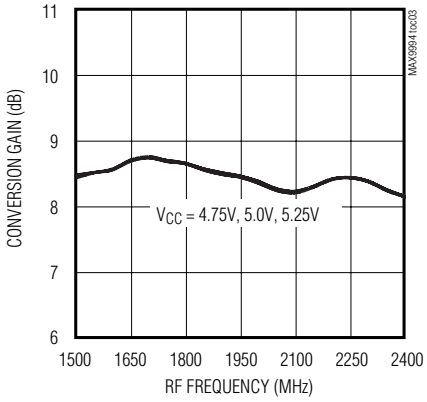
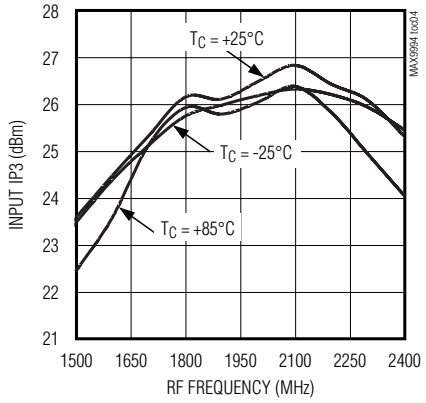
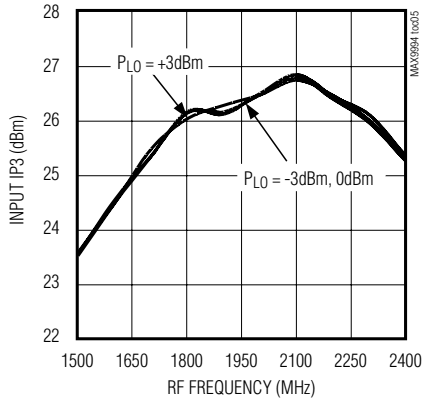



**INPUT IP3 vs. RF FREQUENCY**




**INPUT IP3 vs. RF FREQUENCY**

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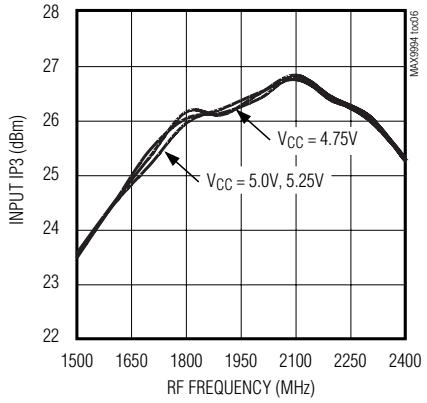
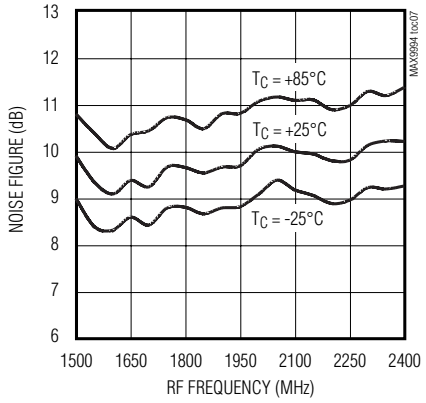



**NOISE FIGURE vs. RF FREQUENCY**

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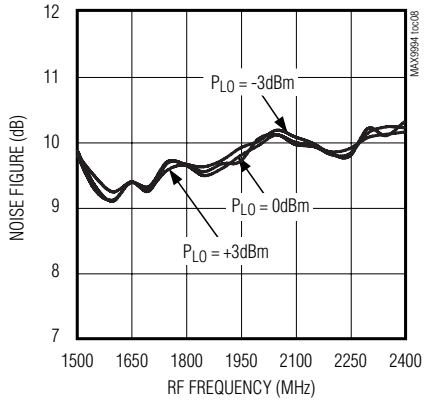
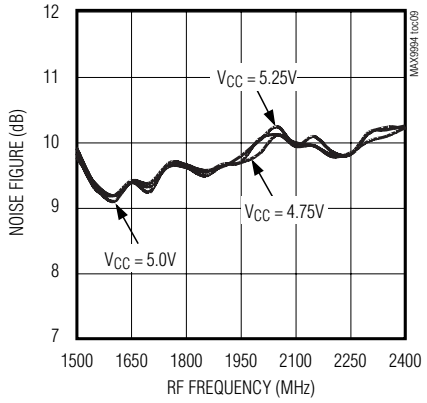



**NOISE FIGURE vs. RF FREQUENCY**

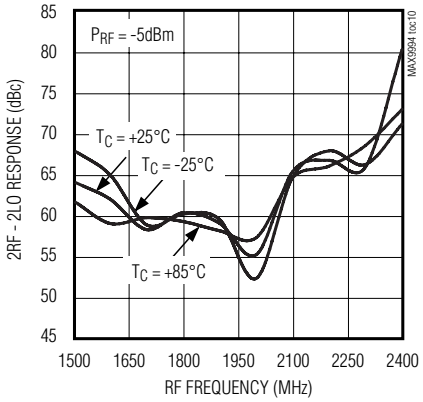


# SiGe High-Linearity, 1400MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

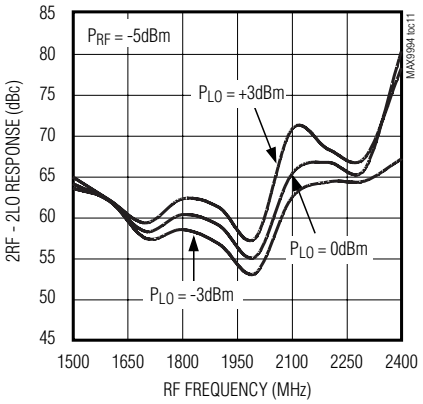
## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(MAX9994 *Typical Application Circuit*, $V_{CC}$ = +5.0V, $P_{LO}$ = 0dBm, $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm, **$f_{RF}$ = 1700MHz to 2200MHz, LO is Low-Side Injected** for a 200MHz IF, unless otherwise noted.)

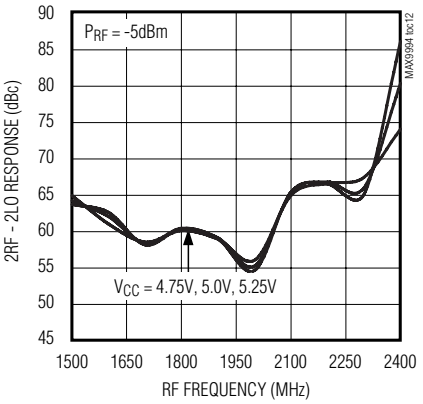
**2RF - 2LO RESPONSE vs. RF FREQUENCY**



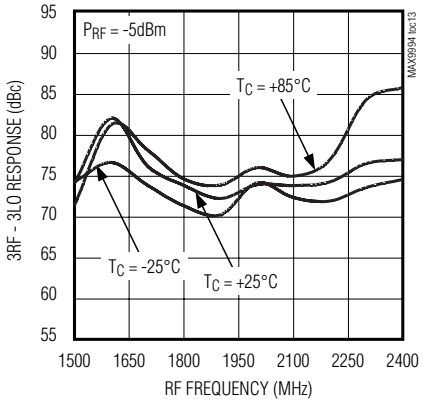

**2RF - 2LO RESPONSE vs. RF FREQUENCY**



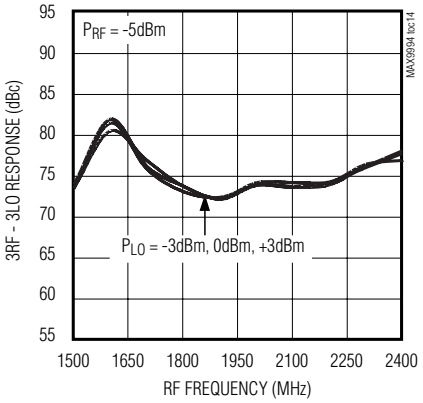

**2RF - 2LO RESPONSE vs. RF FREQUENCY**



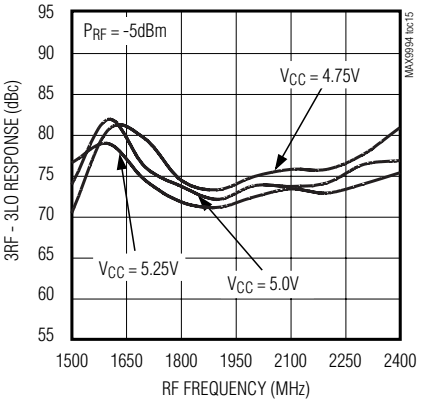

**3RF - 3LO RESPONSE vs. RF FREQUENCY**



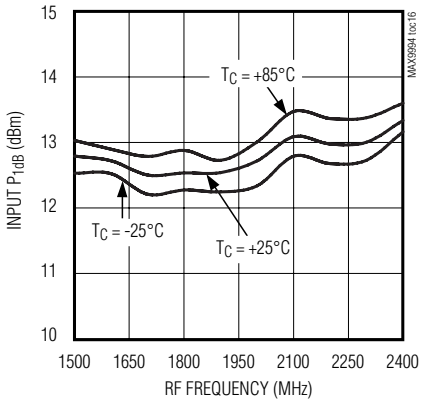

**3RF - 3LO RESPONSE vs. RF FREQUENCY**




**3RF - 3LO RESPONSE vs. RF FREQUENCY**




**INPUT $P_{1dB}$ vs. RF FREQUENCY**

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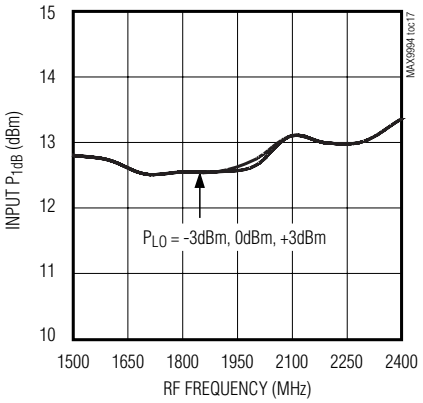


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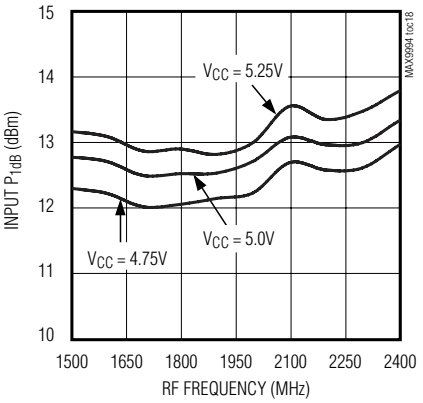
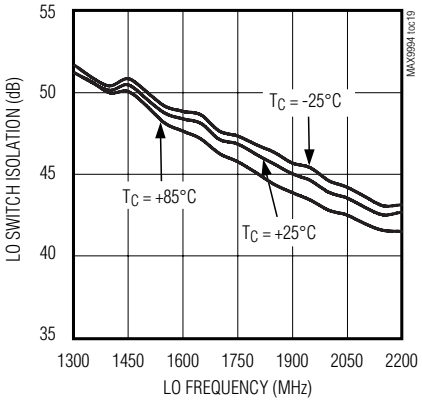


# SiGe High-Linearity, 1400MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

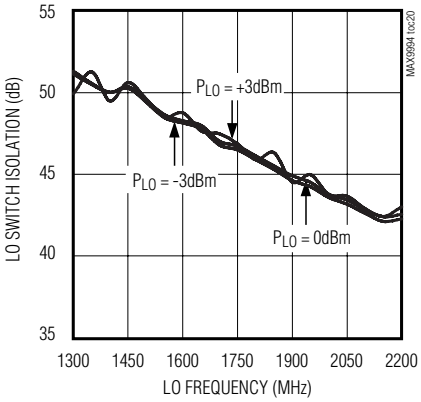
## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(MAX9994 *Typical Application Circuit*, $V_{CC}$ = +5.0V, $P_{LO}$ = 0dBm, $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm, **$f_{RF}$ = 1700MHz to 2200MHz, LO is Low-Side Injected** for a 200MHz IF, unless otherwise noted.)

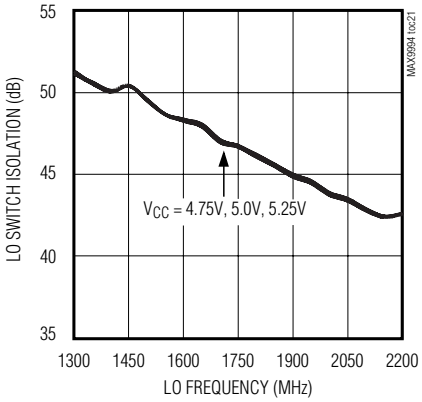
**LO SWITCH ISOLATION vs. LO FREQUENCY**



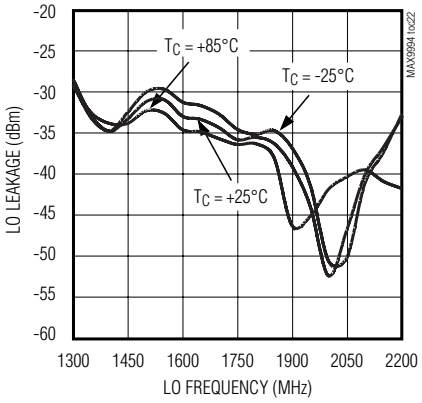

**LO SWITCH ISOLATION vs. LO FREQUENCY**



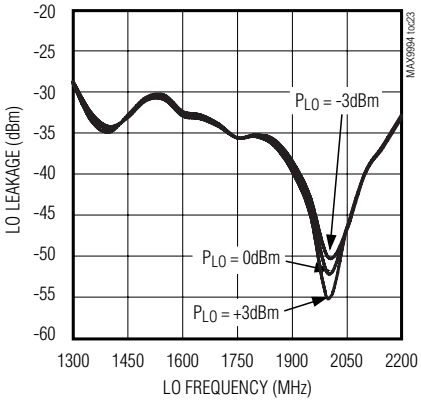

**LO SWITCH ISOLATION vs. LO FREQUENCY**




**LO LEAKAGE AT IF PORT vs. LO FREQUENCY**




**LO LEAKAGE AT IF PORT vs. LO FREQUENCY**

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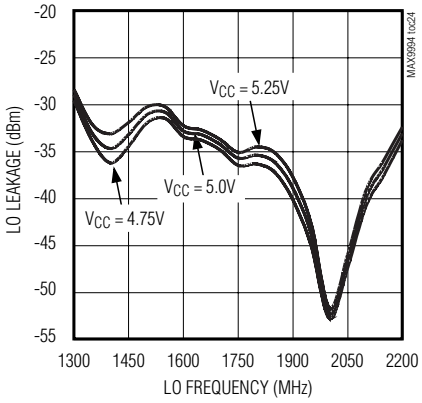
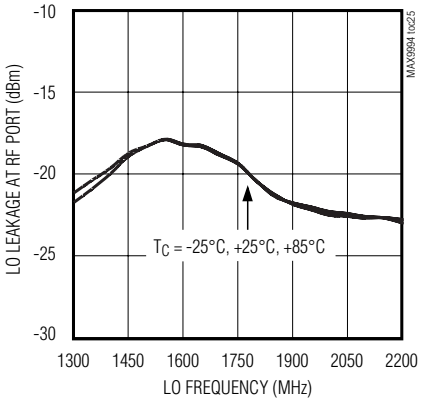
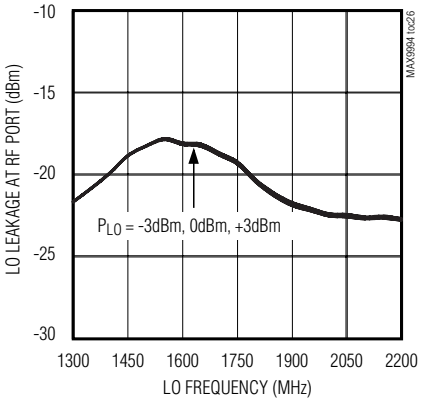


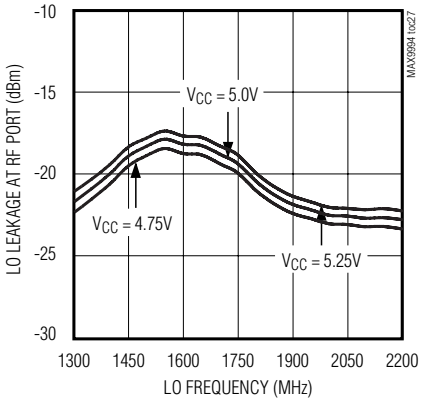

**LO LEAKAGE AT RF PORT vs. LO FREQUENCY**




**LO LEAKAGE AT RF PORT vs. LO FREQUENCY**




**LO LEAKAGE AT RF PORT vs. LO FREQUENCY**

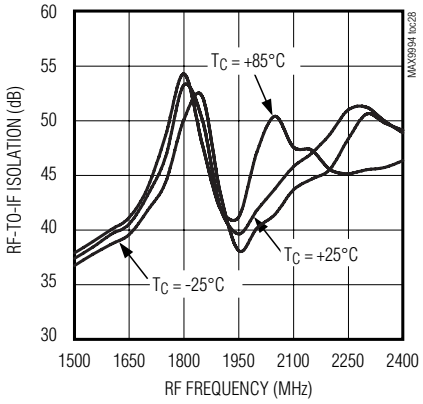


# SiGe High-Linearity, 1400MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

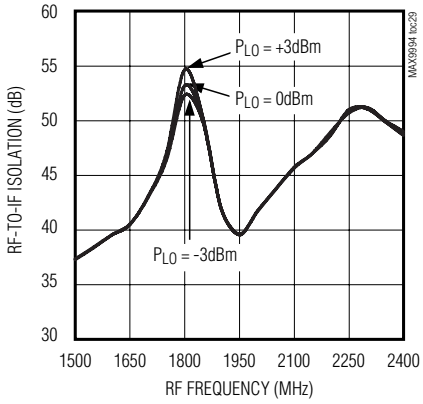
## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(MAX9994 *Typical Application Circuit*, $V_{CC}$ = +5.0V, $P_{LO}$ = 0dBm, $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm, **$f_{RF}$ = 1700MHz to 2200MHz, LO is Low-Side Injected** for a 200MHz IF, unless otherwise noted.)

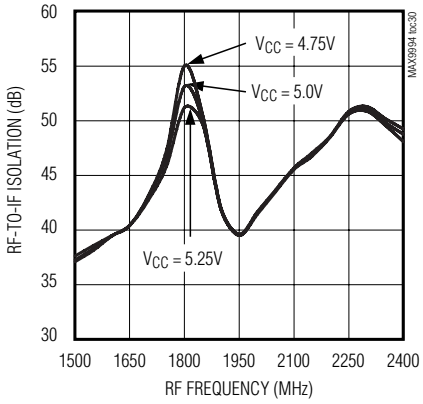
**RF-TO-IF ISOLATION vs. RF FREQUENCY**



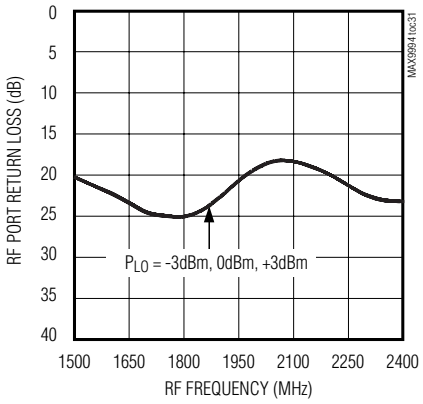

**RF-TO-IF ISOLATION vs. RF FREQUENCY**



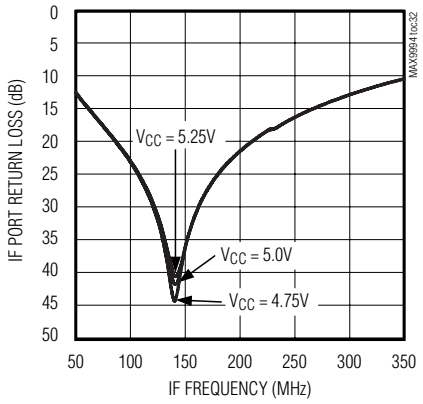

**RF-TO-IF ISOLATION vs. RF FREQUENCY**



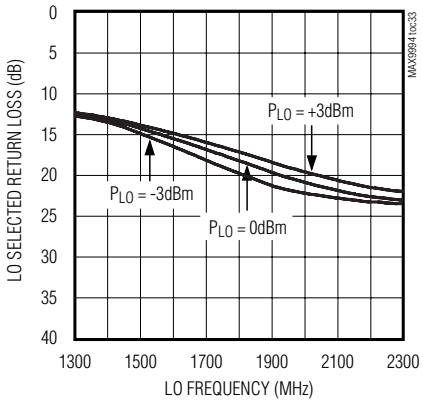

**RF PORT RETURN LOSS vs. RF FREQUENCY**



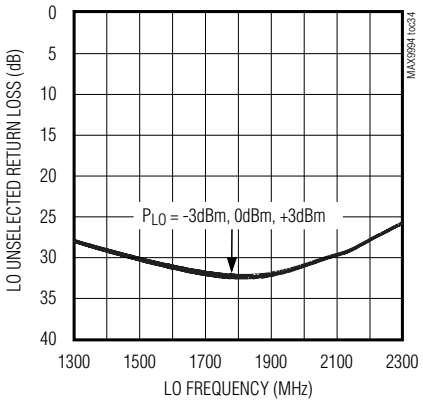

**IF PORT RETURN LOSS vs. IF FREQUENCY**



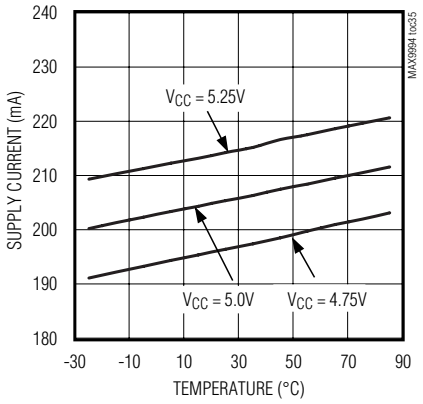

**LO SELECTED RETURN LOSS vs. LO FREQUENCY**




**LO UNSELECTED RETURN LOSS vs. LO FREQUENCY**




**SUPPLY CURRENT vs. TEMPERATURE ($T_C$)**

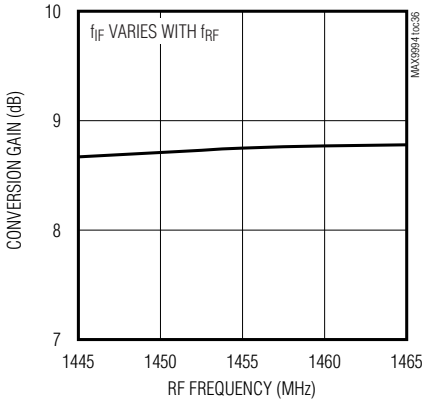


# SiGe High-Linearity, 1400MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

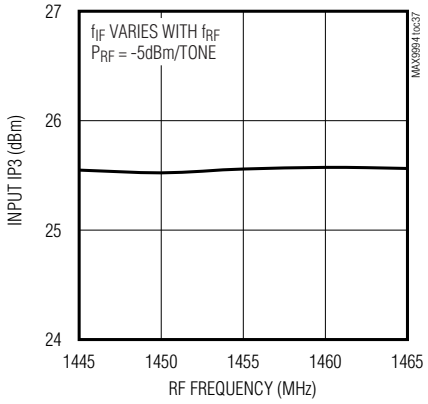
## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(MAX9994 *Typical Application Circuit*, $V_{CC}$ = +5V, $P_{LO}$ = 0dBm, LO2 selected, $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm, **$f_{RF}$ = 1400MHz to 1700MHz, LO is High-Side Injected** for a 170MHz IF, unless otherwise noted.)

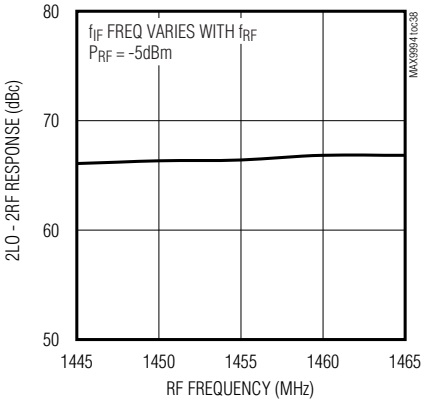
**CONVERSION GAIN vs. FREQUENCY**



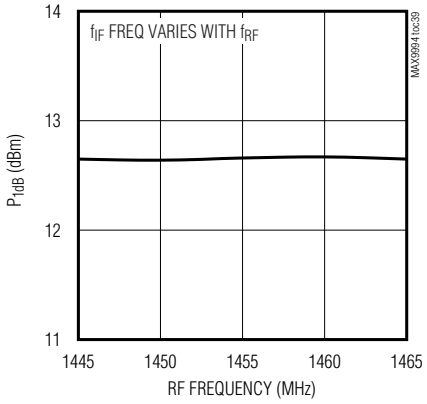

**INPUT IP3 vs. RF FREQUENCY**



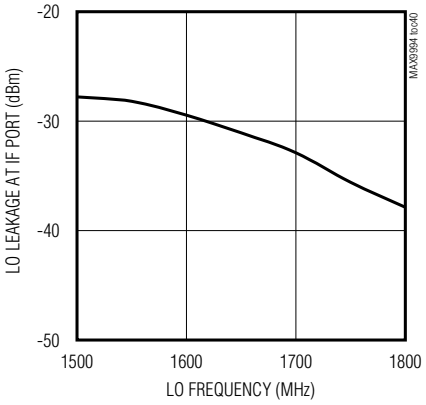

**2LO - 2RF RESPONSE vs. RF FREQUENCY**




**INPUT $P_{1dB}$ vs. FREQUENCY**




**LO LEAKAGE AT IF PORT vs. LO FREQUENCY**

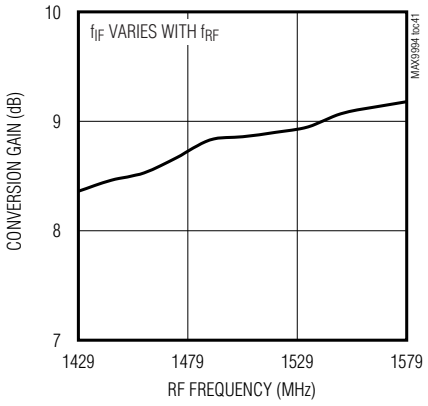


# SiGe High-Linearity, 1400MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

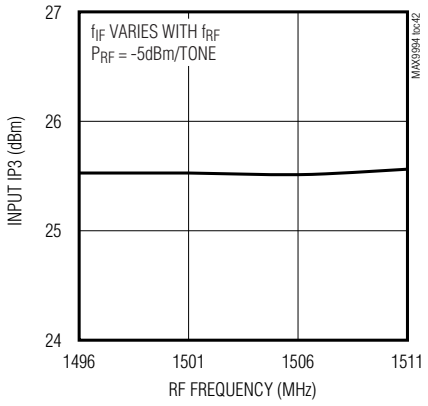
## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(MAX9994 *Typical Application Circuit*, $V_{CC}$ = +5V, $P_{LO}$ = 0dBm, LO1 selected, $P_{RF}$ = -5dBm, **$f_{RF}$ = 1400MHz to 1700MHz, LO is High-Side Injected** for a 150MHz IF, unless otherwise noted.)

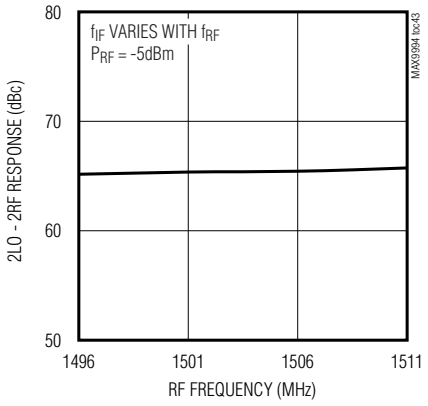
**CONVERSION GAIN vs. FREQUENCY**



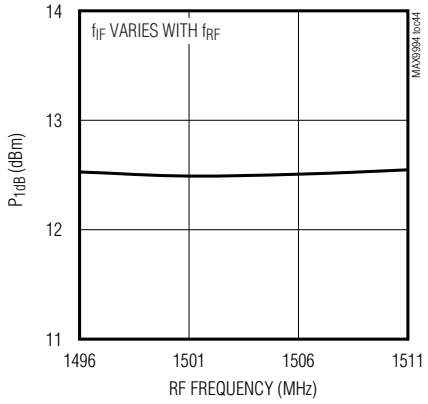

**INPUT IP3 vs. RF FREQUENCY**



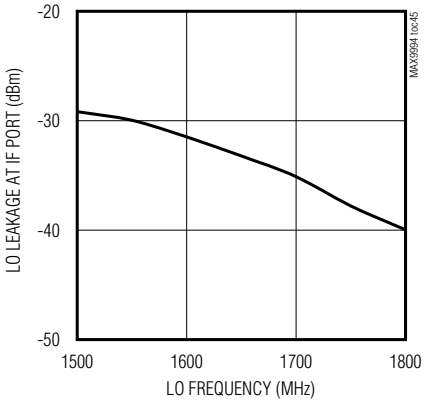

**2LO - 2RF RESPONSE vs. RF FREQUENCY**




**INPUT $P_{1dB}$ vs. RF FREQUENCY**




**LO LEAKAGE AT IF PORT vs. LO FREQUENCY**



## Pin Description

| PIN | NAME | FUNCTION |
|---|---|---|
| 1, 6, 8, 14 | $V_{CC}$ | Power-Supply Connection. Bypass each $V_{CC}$ pin to GND with capacitors as shown in the *Typical Application Circuit*. |
| 2 | RF | Single-Ended 50Ω 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 *Typical Application Circuit*. |
| 4, 5, 10, 12, 13, 17 | GND | Ground |
| 7 | LOBIAS | Bias Resistor for Internal LO Buffer. Connect a 549Ω ±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 $V_{CC}$ through an RF choke (see the *Typical Application Circuit*). |
| 20 | IFBIAS | IF Bias Resistor Connection for IF Amplifier. Connect an 806Ω resistor from IFBIAS to GND. |
| — | EP | Exposed Pad. Solder the exposed pad 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 50Ω 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 WCDMA, TD-SCDMA, LTE, TD-LTE, cdma2000, and 2G/2.5G/3G DCS1800 and PCS1900 base stations. The MAX9994 is specified to operate over a 1400MHz 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.

With a wide LO range of 1400MHz to 2000MHz, the MAX9994 can be used in either high-side or low-side LO injection architectures, depending on the RF band of interest. Higher LO applications are supported by the MAX9996, which is pin-pin and functionally compatible with the MAX9994.

### RF Input and Balun

The MAX9994 RF input is internally matched to 50Ω, requiring no external matching components. A DC-blocking 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 low-side 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

# SiGe High-Linearity, 1400MHz 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. 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 MAX9994 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, 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 $V_{CC}$. Note that these differential outputs are ideal for providing enhanced 2RF - 2LO 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 21dB over the 1700MHz to 2200MHz input range, and the return loss at the LO port is typically better than 14dB (1400MHz to 2000MHz). 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

Short LEXT to ground using a 0Ω resistor. For applications requiring improved RF-to-IF and LO-to-IF isolation, a 10nH inductor (L3) can be used in place of the 0Ω resistor. However, in order to ensure stable operation, the mixer IF ports must be presented with a low common-mode load impedance. Contact the factory for details. Since approximately 100mA flows through LEXT, it is important to use a low-DCR wire-wound inductor.

### 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 high-frequency circuit stability. Bypass each $V_{CC}$ 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.

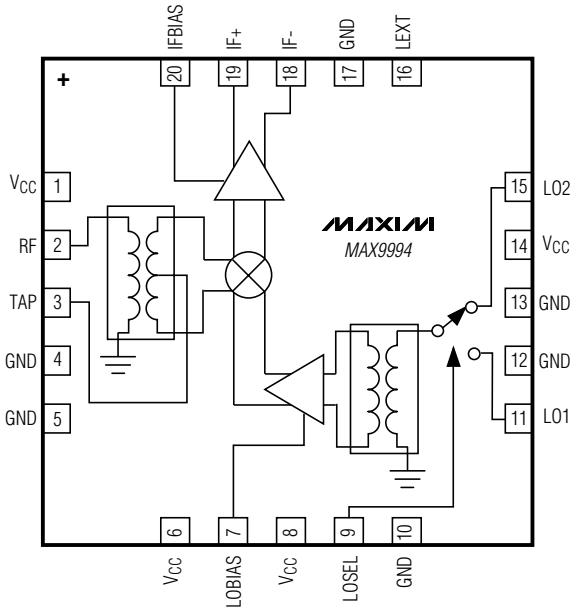
### Exposed Pad RF/Thermal Considerations

The exposed pad (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 PCB 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 PCB, either directly or through an array of plated via holes.

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

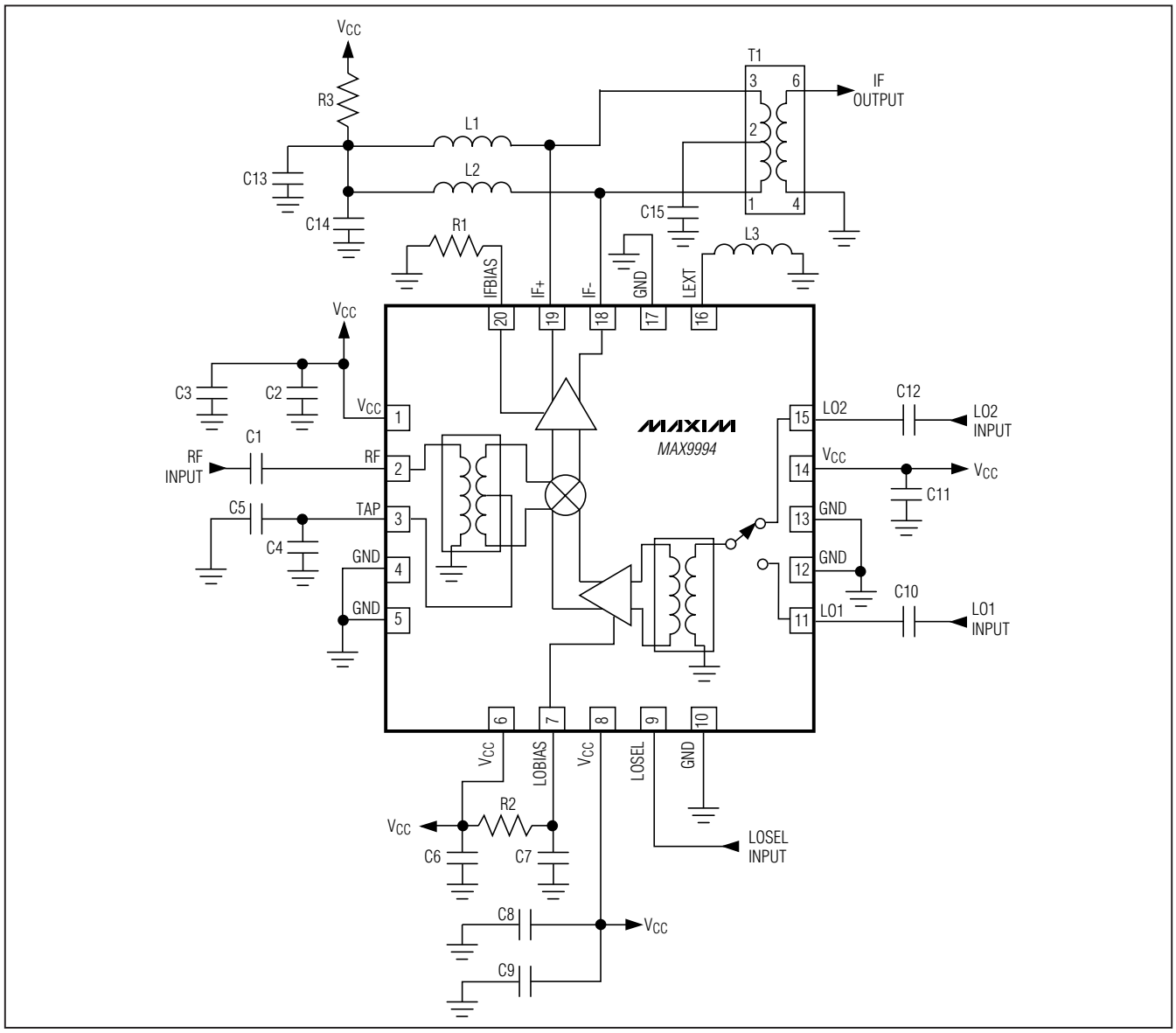
| COMPONENT | VALUE | DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|---|
| C1 | 4pF | Microwave capacitor (0603) |
| C2, C6, C7, C8, C10, C12 | 22pF | Microwave capacitors (0603) |
| C3, C5, C9, C11 | 0.01µF | Microwave capacitors (0603) |
| C4 | 10pF | Microwave capacitor (0603) |
| C13, C14 | 150pF | Microwave capacitors (0603) |
| C15 | 150pF | Microwave capacitor (0402) |
| L1, L2 | 470nH | Wire-wound high-Q inductors (0805) |
| L3 | 10nH | Wire-wound high-Q inductor (0603) |
| 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 |

## Pin Configuration/Functional Diagram



# SiGe High-Linearity, 1400MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

## Typical Application Circuit




## Chip Information

PROCESS: SiGe 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 TYPE | PACKAGE CODE | OUTLINE NO. | LAND PATTERN NO. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 TQFN-EP | T2055+3 | 21-0140 | 90-0008 |

# SiGe High-Linearity, 1400MHz to 2200MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

## Revision History

| REVISION NUMBER | REVISION DATE | DESCRIPTION | PAGES CHANGED |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 10/04 | Initial release | — |
| 1 | 12/10 | Updated *Title*, *General Description*, *Ordering Information*, *Absolute Maximum Ratings*, *Electrical Characteristics*, *Typical Operating Characteristics*, *Pin Description*, *General Description*, and *Applications Information* sections | 1–12 |