



**THE DATASHEET OF  
MAX9984ETP+T**



# SiGe High-Linearity, 400MHz to 1000MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

## General Description

The MAX9984 high-linearity downconversion mixer provides 8.1dB gain, +25dBm IIP3, and 9.3dB NF for 400MHz to 1000MHz base-station receiver applications\*. With an optimized 570MHz to 850MHz LO frequency range, this particular mixer is ideal for low-side LO injection receiver architectures in the cellular band. High-side LO injection is supported by the MAX9986, which is pin-for-pin and functionally compatible with the MAX9984.

In addition to offering excellent linearity and noise performance, the MAX9984 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 MAX9984 requires a nominal LO drive of 0dBm, and supply current is guaranteed to be below 265mA.

The MAX9984/MAX9986 are pin compatible with the MAX9994/MAX9996 1700MHz to 2200MHz mixers, making this entire family of downconverters ideal for applications where a common PC board layout is used for both frequency bands. The MAX9984 is also functionally compatible with the MAX9993.

The MAX9984 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°C to +85°C temperature range.

## Applications

850MHz W-CDMA Base Stations  
GSM 850/GSM 900 2G and 2.5G EDGE Base Stations  
cdmaOne™ and cdma2000® Base Stations  
iDEN® Base Stations  
400MHz to 700MHz OFDM/WiMAX CPE and Base-Station Equipment  
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 the Telecommunications Industry Association.

cdmaOne is a trademark of CDMA Development Group.

iDEN is a registered trademark of Motorola, Inc.

## Features

- ◆ 400MHz to 1000MHz RF Frequency Range\*
- ◆ 325MHz to 850MHz LO Frequency Range\* (MAX9984)
- ◆ 960MHz to 1180MHz LO Frequency Range (MAX9986)
- ◆ 50MHz to 250MHz IF Frequency Range
- ◆ 8.1dB Conversion Gain
- ◆ +25dBm Input IP3
- ◆ +13dBm Input 1dB Compression Point
- ◆ 9.3dB Noise Figure
- ◆ 71dBc 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 54dB LO1 to LO2 Isolation and 50ns Switching Time
- ◆ Pin Compatible with MAX9994/MAX9996 1700MHz to 2200MHz 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
MAX9984ETP	-40°C to +85°C	20 Thin QFN-EP** 5mm x 5mm	T2055-3
MAX9984ETP-T	-40°C to +85°C	20 Thin QFN-EP** 5mm x 5mm	T2055-3
MAX9984ETP+D	-40°C to +85°C	20 Thin QFN-EP** 5mm x 5mm	T2055-3
MAX9984ETP+TD	-40°C to +85°C	20 Thin QFN-EP** 5mm x 5mm	T2055-3

\*For an RF frequency range below 815MHz (LO frequency below 570MHz), appropriate tuning is required. See Table 2 for details.

\*\*EP = Exposed paddle.

+ = Lead free. D = Dry pack. T = Tape-and-reel.

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

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## ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

V <sub>CC</sub> to GND .....	-0.3V to +5.5V
IF+, IF-, LOBIAS, LOSEL, IFBIAS to GND.....	-0.3V to (V <sub>CC</sub> + 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 <sub>A</sub> = +70°C) 20-Pin Thin QFN-EP (derate 26.3mW/°C above +70°C).....	2.1W

θ <sub>JA</sub> .....	+38°C/W
θ <sub>JC</sub> .....	+13°C/W
Operating Temperature Range (Note A) ....	T <sub>C</sub> = -40°C to +85°C
Junction Temperature .....	+150°C
Storage Temperature Range .....	-65°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

(MAX9984 *Typical Application Circuit*, using component values in Table 1, V<sub>CC</sub> = +4.75V to +5.25V, no RF signal applied, IF+ and IF- outputs pulled up to V<sub>CC</sub> through inductive chokes, R<sub>1</sub> = 953Ω, R<sub>2</sub> = 619Ω, T<sub>C</sub> = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at V<sub>CC</sub> = +5V, T<sub>C</sub> = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Supply Voltage	V <sub>CC</sub>		4.75	5.00	5.25	V
Supply Current	I <sub>CC</sub>			222	265	mA
LO_SEL Input-Logic Low	V <sub>IL</sub>				0.8	V
LO_SEL Input-Logic High	V <sub>IH</sub>		2			V

## AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(MAX9984 *Typical Application Circuit*, using component values in Table 1, V<sub>CC</sub> = +4.75V to +5.25V, RF and LO ports are driven from 50Ω sources, P<sub>LO</sub> = -3dBm to +3dBm, P<sub>RF</sub> = -5dBm, f<sub>RF</sub> = 815MHz to 1000MHz, f<sub>LO</sub> = 570MHz to 850MHz, f<sub>IF</sub> = 160MHz, f<sub>RF</sub> > f<sub>LO</sub>, T<sub>C</sub> = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at V<sub>CC</sub> = +5V, P<sub>RF</sub> = -5dBm, P<sub>LO</sub> = 0dBm, f<sub>RF</sub> = 910MHz, f<sub>LO</sub> = 750MHz, f<sub>IF</sub> = 160MHz, T<sub>C</sub> = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
RF Frequency Range	f <sub>RF</sub>	(Note 2)	815		1000	MHz
		(Notes 2, 3)	400			
LO Frequency Range	f <sub>LO</sub>	(Note 2)	570		850	MHz
		(Notes 2, 3)	325			
		MAX9986	960		1180	
IF Frequency Range	f <sub>IF</sub>	(Note 2)	50		250	MHz
Conversion Gain	G <sub>C</sub>	f <sub>RF</sub> = 910MHz, f <sub>LO</sub> = 750MHz, T <sub>C</sub> = +25°C	7.2	8.1	9.2	dB
Gain Variation Over Temperature		T <sub>C</sub> = -40°C to +85°C		-0.0079		dB/°C
Conversion Gain Flatness		Flatness over any one of three frequency bands: f <sub>RF</sub> = 824MHz to 849MHz f <sub>RF</sub> = 869MHz to 894MHz f <sub>RF</sub> = 880MHz to 915MHz		±0.25		dB
Input Compression Point	P <sub>1dB</sub>	(Note 4)		13		dBm
Input Third-Order Intercept Point	IIP <sub>3</sub>	f <sub>LO</sub> = 570MHz to 850MHz, f <sub>IF</sub> = 160MHz, P <sub>LO</sub> = 0dBm, T <sub>C</sub> = +25°C (Note 5)	19			dBm
		Two tones: f <sub>RF1</sub> = 910MHz, f <sub>RF2</sub> = 911MHz, P <sub>RF</sub> = -5dBm/tone, f <sub>LO</sub> = 750MHz, P <sub>LO</sub> = 0dBm, T <sub>C</sub> = +25°C	22	25		

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## AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(MAX9984 *Typical Application Circuit*, using component values in Table 1,  $V_{CC} = +4.75V$  to  $+5.25V$ , RF and LO ports are driven from  $50\Omega$  sources,  $P_{LO} = -3dBm$  to  $+3dBm$ ,  $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ ,  $f_{RF} = 815MHz$  to  $1000MHz$ ,  $f_{LO} = 570MHz$  to  $850MHz$ ,  $f_{IF} = 160MHz$ ,  $f_{RF} > f_{LO}$ ,  $T_C = -40^\circ C$  to  $+85^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $V_{CC} = +5V$ ,  $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ ,  $P_{LO} = 0dBm$ ,  $f_{RF} = 910MHz$ ,  $f_{LO} = 750MHz$ ,  $f_{IF} = 160MHz$ ,  $T_C = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Input IP3 Variation Over Temperature		$T_C = +25^\circ C$ to $-40^\circ C$		-1.5		dB
		$T_C = +25^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$		+0.8		
Noise Figure	NF	Single sideband, $f_{IF} = 190MHz$		9.3		dB
Noise Figure Under-Blocking		$f_{RF} = 900MHz$ (no signal) $f_{LO} = 1090MHz$ $f_{BLOCKER} = 981MHz$ $f_{IF} = 190MHz$ (Note 6)	$P_{BLOCKER} = +8dBm$	19		dB
			$P_{BLOCKER} = +11dBm$	24		
Small-Signal Compression Under-Blocking Condition		$P_{FUNDAMENTAL} = -5dBm$ $f_{FUNDAMENTAL} = 910MHz$ $f_{BLOCKER} = 911MHz$	$P_{BLOCKER} = +8dBm$	0.25		dB
			$P_{BLOCKER} = +11dBm$	0.6		
LO Drive			-3		+3	dBm
Spurious Response at IF	2 x 2	2RF-2LO	$P_{RF} = -10dBm$	71		dBc
			$P_{RF} = -5dBm$	66		
	3 x 3	3RF-3LO	$P_{RF} = -10dBm$	87		
			$P_{RF} = -5dBm$	82		
LO1 to LO2 Isolation		$P_{LO} = +3dBm$ $T_C = +25^\circ C$ (Note 5)	LO2 selected	47	54	dB
			LO1 selected	47	60	
LO Leakage at RF Port		$P_{LO} = +3dBm$		-32		dBm
LO Leakage at IF Port		$P_{LO} = +3dBm$		-23		dBm
RF-to-IF Isolation		$P_{LO} = +3dBm$		54		dB
LO Switching Time		50% of LOSEL to IF settled to within $2^\circ$		50		ns
RF Port Return Loss				14		dB
LO Port Return Loss		LO1/2 port selected, LO2/1 and IF terminated		23		dB
		LO1/2 port unselected, LO2/1 and IF terminated		20		
IF Port Return Loss		LO driven at $0dBm$ , RF terminated into $50\Omega$ , differential $200\Omega$		16		dB

**Note 1:** All limits include external component losses. Output measurements taken at IF output of the *Typical Application Circuit*.

**Note 2:** Operation outside this range is possible, but with degraded performance of some parameters.

**Note 3:** See Table 2 for component list required for 400MHz to 500MHz operation. For operation from 500MHz to 800MHz, appropriate tuning is required; please contact the factory for support.

**Note 4:** Compression point characterized. It is advisable not to operate continuously the mixer RF input above  $+12dBm$ .

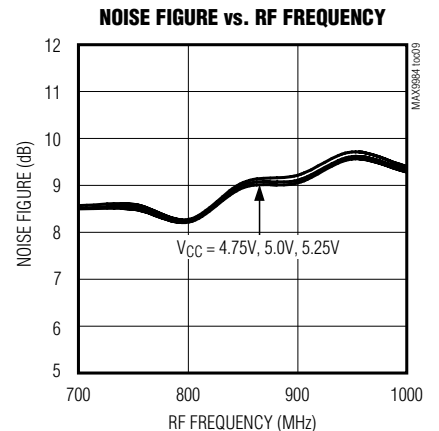
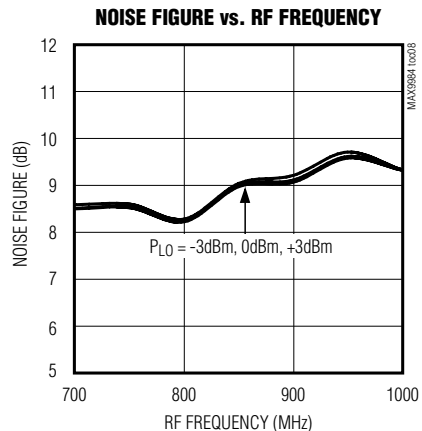
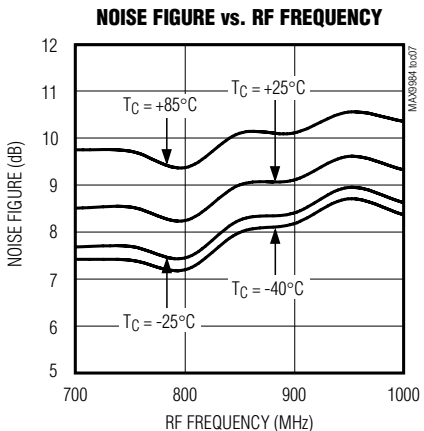
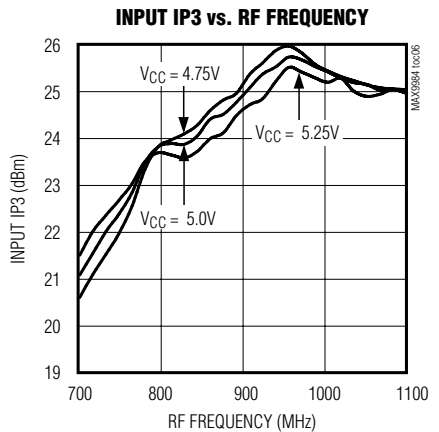
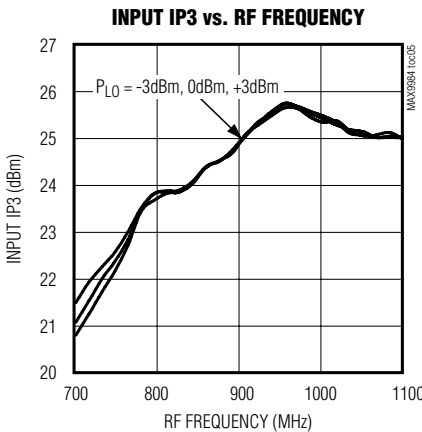
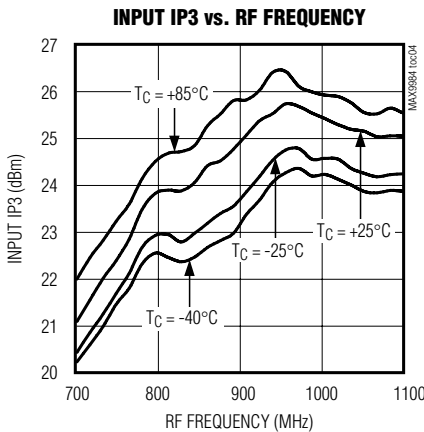
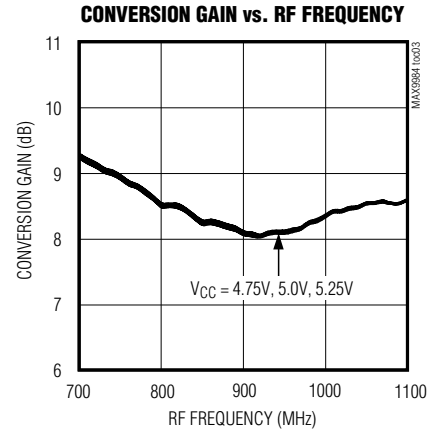
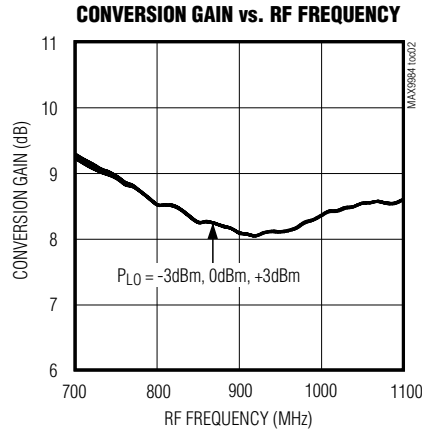
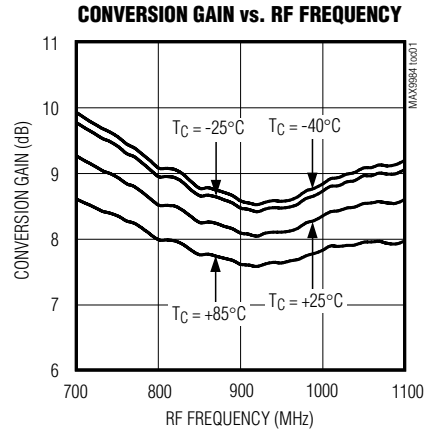
**Note 5:** Guaranteed by design and characterization.

**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.

# SiGe High-Linearity, 400MHz to 1000MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

## Typical Operating Characteristics

(MAX9984 Typical Application Circuit, using component values in Table 1,  $V_{CC} = +5.0V$ ,  $P_{LO} = 0dBm$ ,  $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ ,  $f_{RF} > f_{LO}$ ,  $f_{IF} = 160MHz$ , unless otherwise noted.)

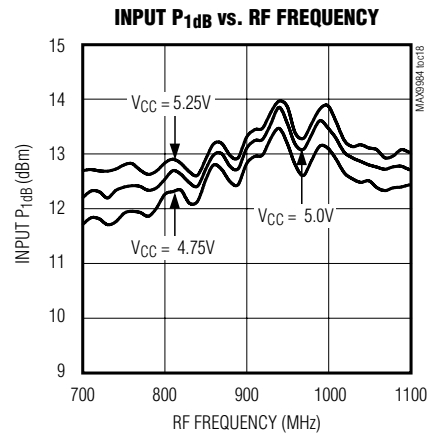
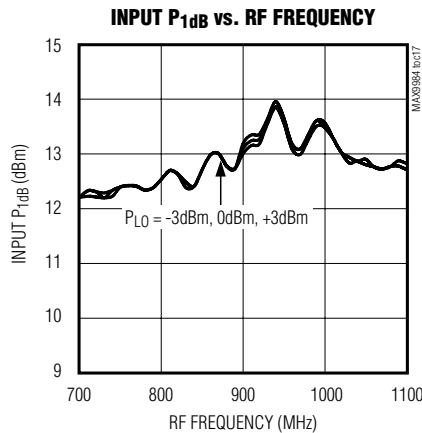
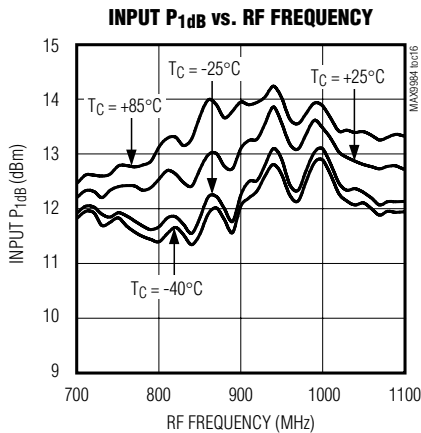
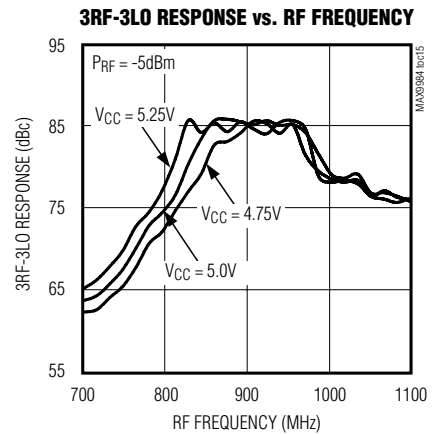
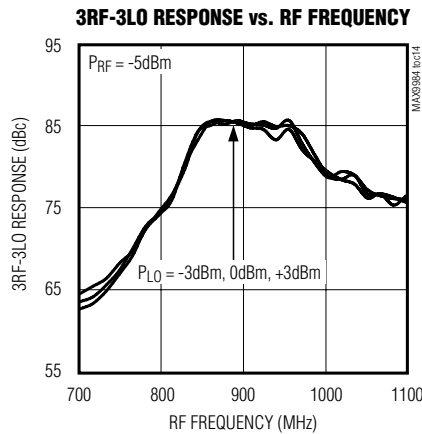
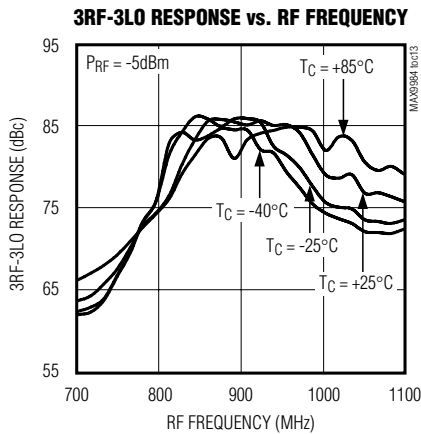
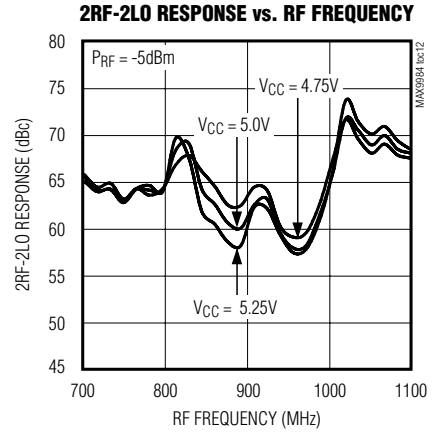
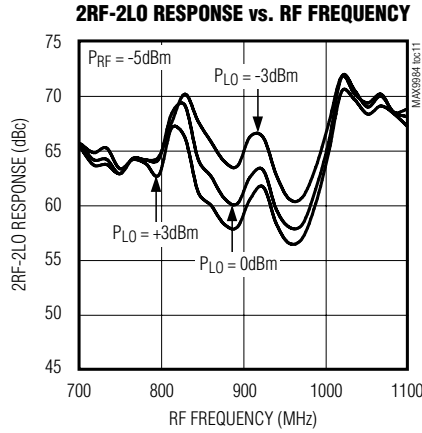
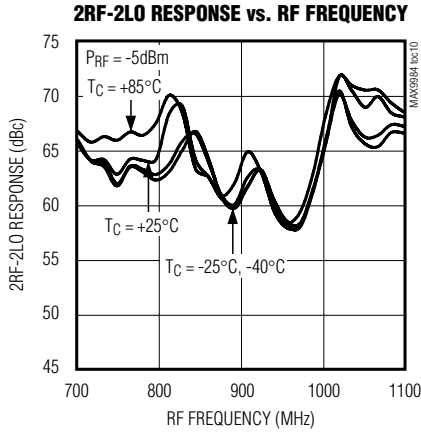


# SiGe High-Linearity, 400MHz to 1000MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

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## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

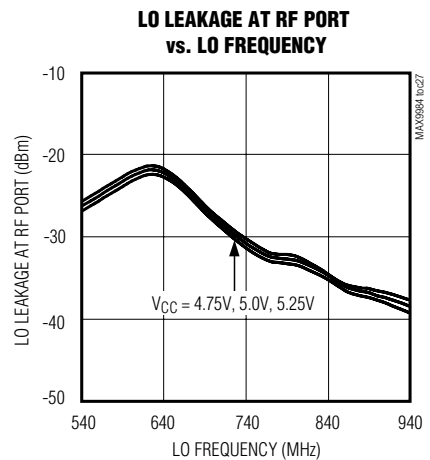
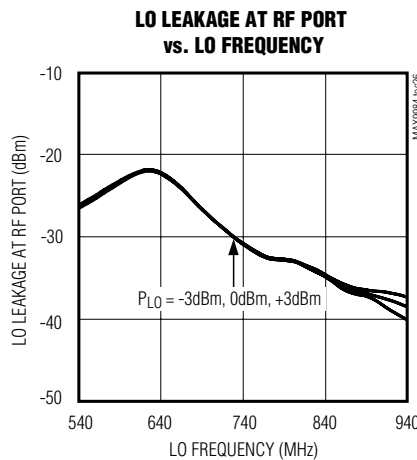
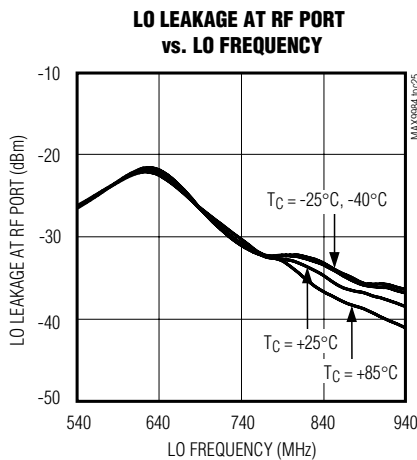
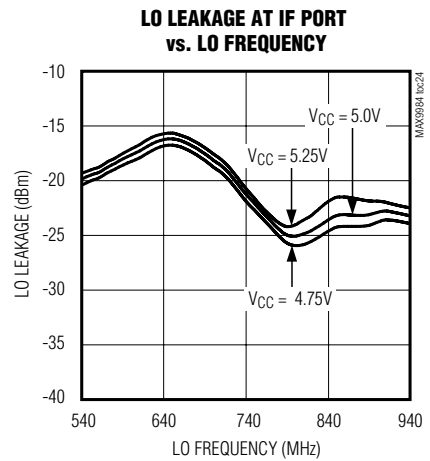
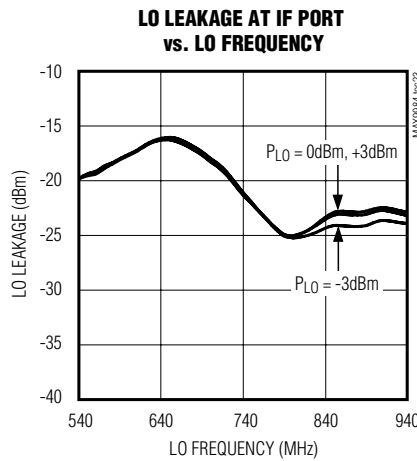
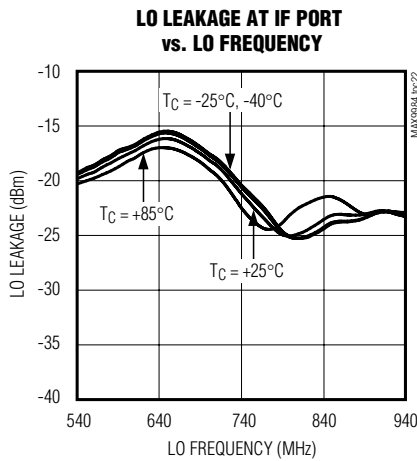
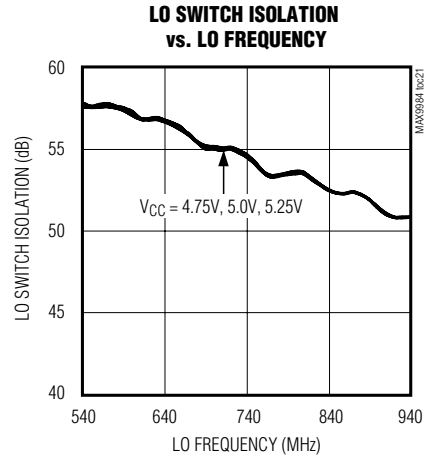
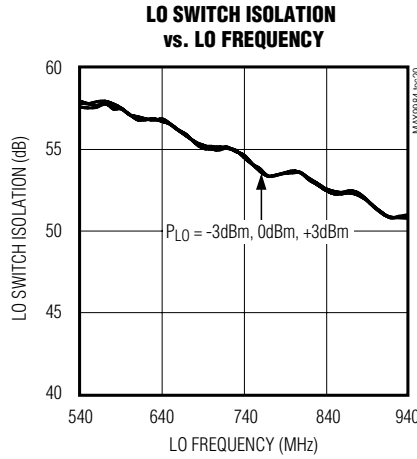
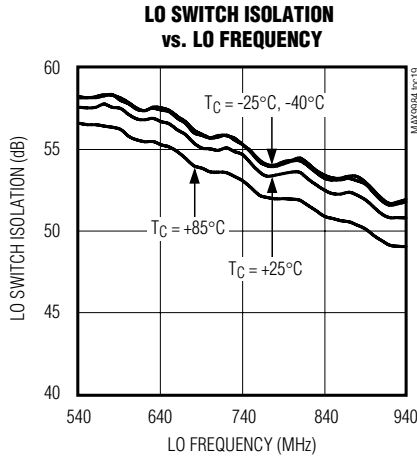
(MAX9984 Typical Application Circuit, using component values in Table 1,  $V_{CC} = +5.0V$ ,  $P_{LO} = 0dBm$ ,  $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ ,  $f_{RF} > f_{LO}$ ,  $f_{IF} = 160MHz$ , unless otherwise noted.)



# SiGe High-Linearity, 400MHz to 1000MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(MAX9984 Typical Application Circuit, using component values in Table 1,  $V_{CC} = +5.0V$ ,  $P_{LO} = 0dBm$ ,  $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ ,  $f_{RF} > f_{LO}$ ,  $f_{IF} = 160MHz$ , unless otherwise noted.)

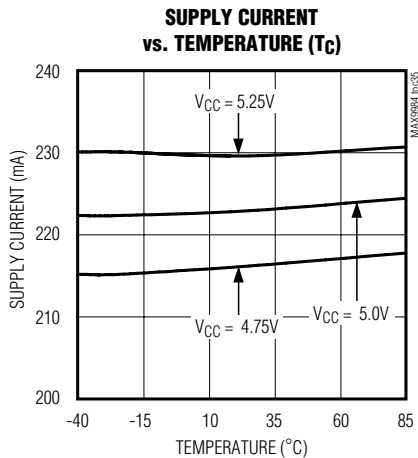
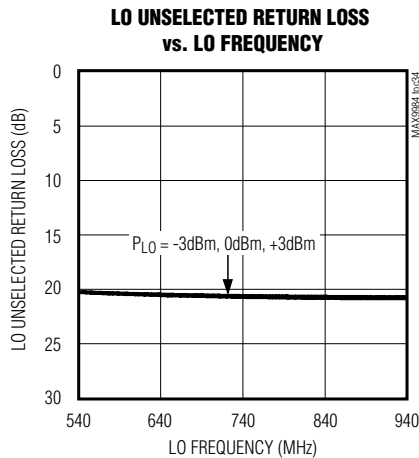
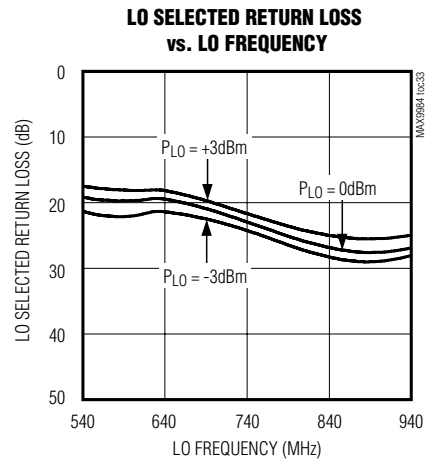
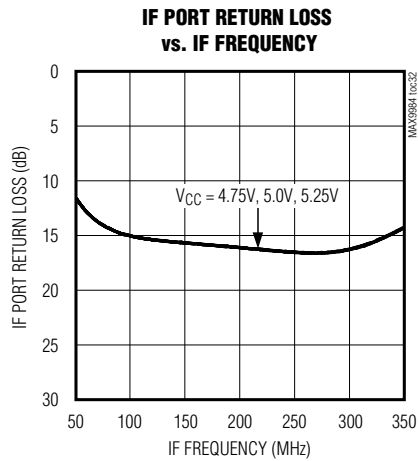
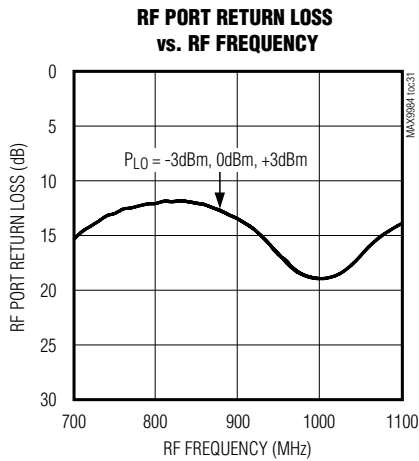
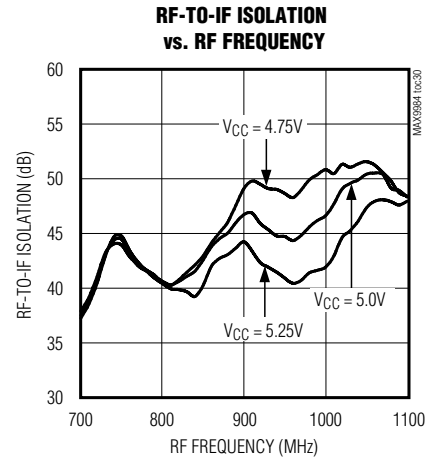
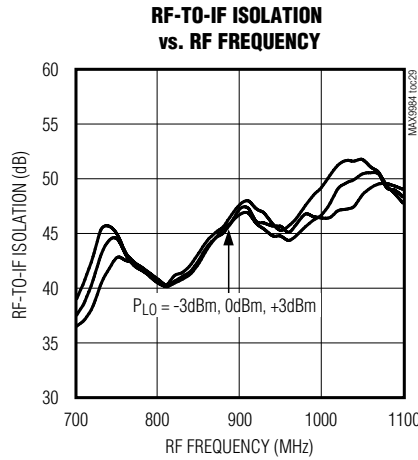
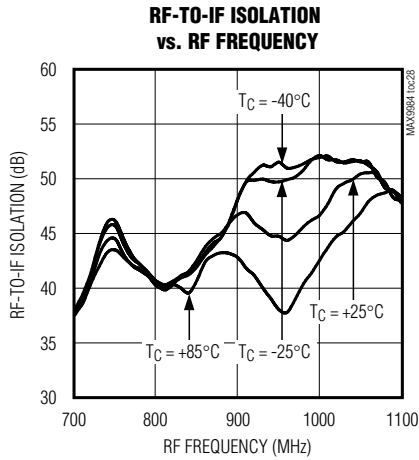


# SiGe High-Linearity, 400MHz to 1000MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

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## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(MAX9984 Typical Application Circuit, using component values in Table 1,  $V_{CC} = +5.0V$ ,  $P_{LO} = 0dBm$ ,  $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ ,  $f_{RF} > f_{LO}$ ,  $f_{IF} = 160MHz$ , unless otherwise noted.)

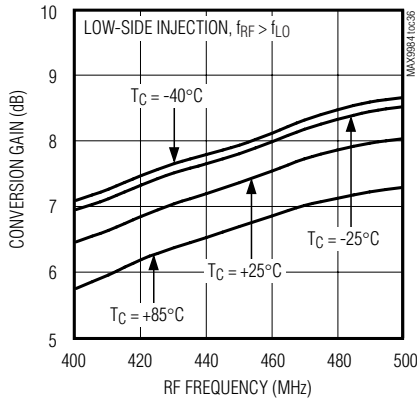


# SiGe High-Linearity, 400MHz to 1000MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

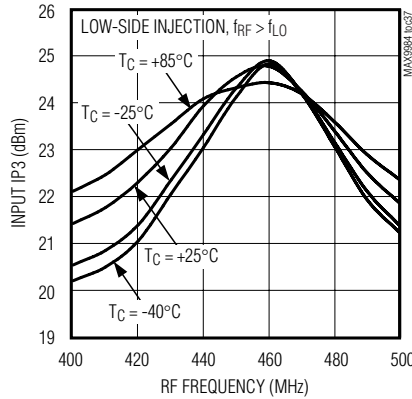
## Typical Operating Characteristics

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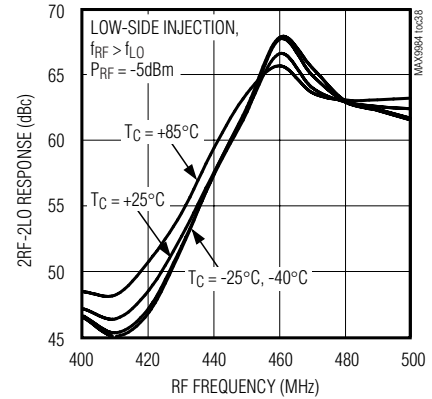
**CONVERSION GAIN vs. RF FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



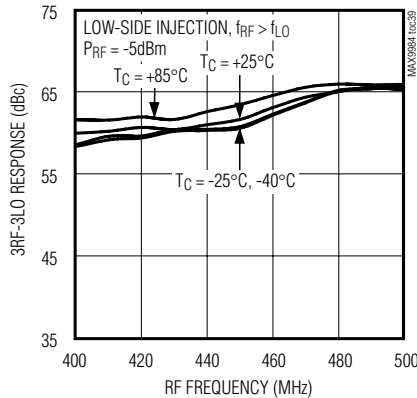
**INPUT IP3 vs. RF FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



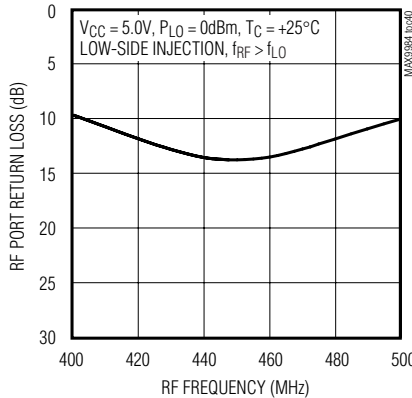
**2RF-2LO RESPONSE vs. RF FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



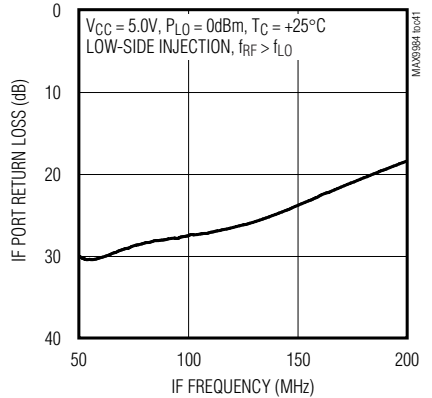
**3RF-3LO RESPONSE vs. RF FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



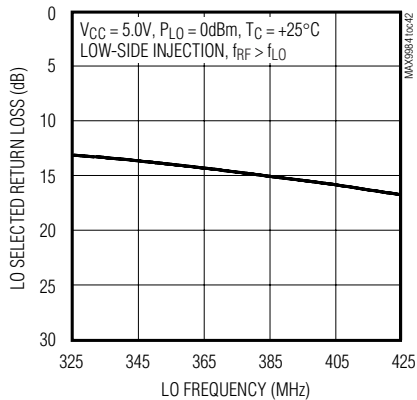
**RF PORT RETURN LOSS vs. RF FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



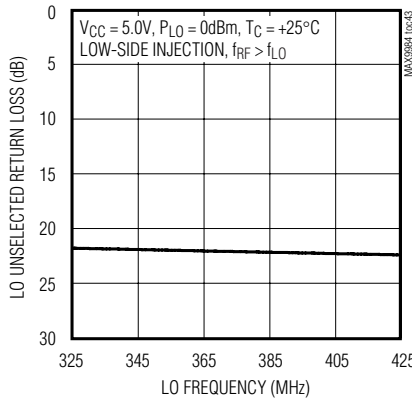
**IF PORT RETURN LOSS vs. IF FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



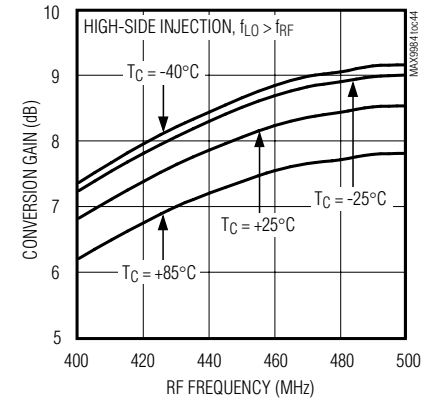
**LO SELECTED RETURN LOSS vs. LO FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



**LO UNSELECTED RETURN LOSS vs. LO FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



**CONVERSION GAIN vs. RF FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



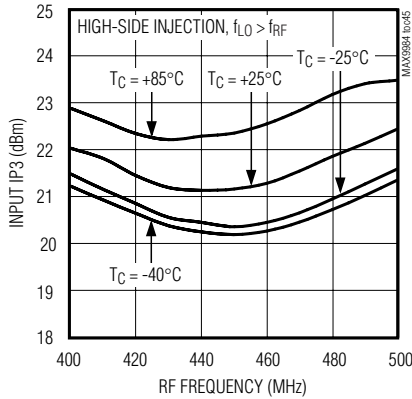
# SiGe High-Linearity, 400MHz to 1000MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

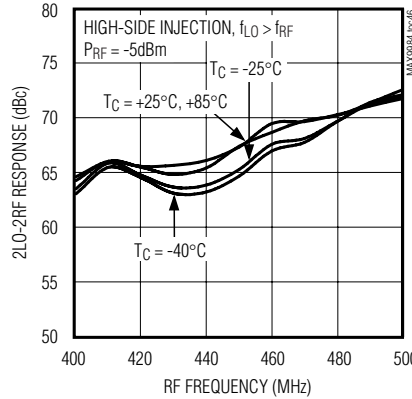
(MAX9984 Typical Application Circuit, using component values in Table 2,  $V_{CC} = +5.0V$ ,  $P_{LO} = 0dBm$ ,  $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ ,  $f_{IF} = 75MHz$ , unless otherwise noted.)

MAX9984

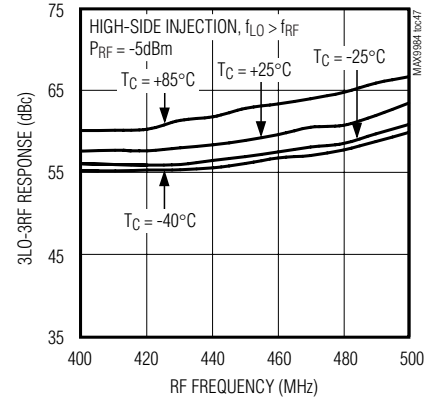
**INPUT IP3 vs. RF FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



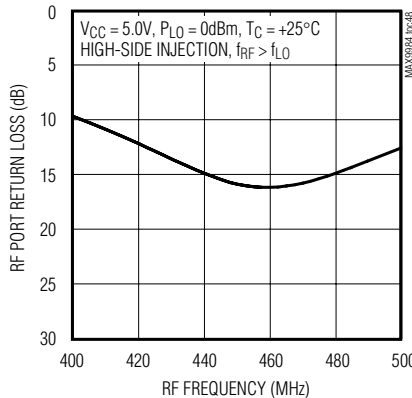
**2LO-2RF RESPONSE vs. RF FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



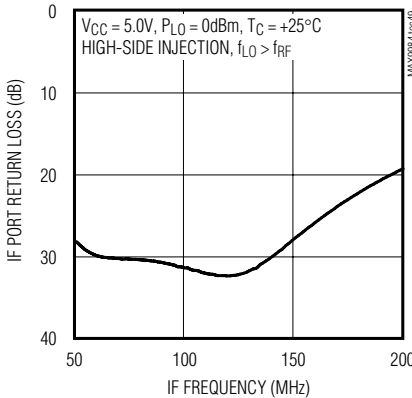
**3LO-3RF RESPONSE vs. RF FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



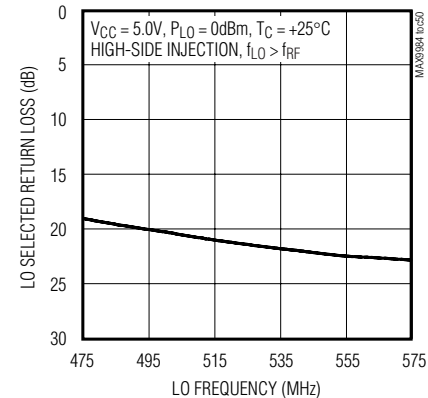
**RF PORT RETURN LOSS vs. RF FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



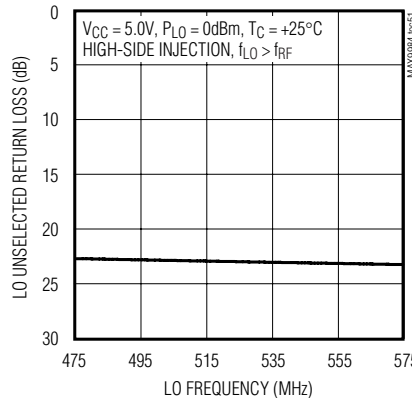
**IF PORT RETURN LOSS vs. IF FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



**LO SELECTED RETURN LOSS vs. LO FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



**LO UNSELECTED RETURN LOSS vs. LO FREQUENCY**  
(TUNED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY)



# SiGe High-Linearity, 400MHz to 1000MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

## 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 Application Circuit</i> .
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 <i>Typical Application Circuit</i> .
4, 5, 10, 12, 13, 17	GND	Ground
7	LOBIAS	Bias Resistor for Internal LO Buffer. Connect a 619Ω ±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, 47nH inductor from LEXT to GND. This inductor carries approximately 140mA 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 a 953Ω ±1% resistor from IFBIAS to GND.
EP	GND	Exposed Ground Paddle. Solder the exposed paddle to the ground plane using multiple vias.

## Detailed Description

The MAX9984 high-linearity downconversion mixer provides 8.1dB of conversion gain and +25dBm of IIP3, with a typical 9.3dB 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 54dB 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 MAX9984's inputs to a -3dBm to +3dBm range. 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 cellular band GSM, cdma2000, iDEN, and W-CDMA 2G/2.5G/3G base stations. The MAX9984 is optimized to operate over a 815MHz to 1000MHz RF frequency range, a 570MHz to 850MHz LO frequency range, and a 50MHz to 250MHz IF frequency range. Operation beyond these ranges is possible; see the *Typical Operating Characteristics* for additional details. For operation at a 400MHz to 500MHz RF frequency range, see the *Typical Operating Characteristics* and Table 2 for details.

## RF Input and Balun

The MAX9984 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.

## LO Inputs, Buffer, and Balun

The MAX9984 is ideally suited for low-side LO injection applications with an optimized 570MHz to 850MHz LO frequency range. Appropriate tuning allows for an LO frequency range below 570MHz (RF frequency below 815MHz). For a device with a 960MHz to 1180MHz LO frequency range, refer to the MAX9986 data sheet. As an added feature, the MAX9984 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. 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 82pF DC-blocking capacitor.

# SiGe High-Linearity, 400MHz to 1000MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

MAX9984

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 MAX9984 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 25dBm, 71dBc, and 9.3dB, respectively.

## Differential IF Output Amplifier

The MAX9984 mixer has a 50MHz to 250MHz 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 200 $\Omega$  differential output impedance to a 50 $\Omega$  single-ended output.

## Applications Information

### Input and Output Matching

The RF and LO inputs are internally matched to 50 $\Omega$ . No matching components are required for an 815MHz to 1000MHz RF frequency range. 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*).

Capacitor  $C_p$  is used at the RF input port to tune the mixer down to operate in the 400MHz to 500MHz RF frequency range (see Table 2). Operation between 500MHz to 815MHz would require a smaller capacitor  $C_p$ . Contact the factory for details.

### 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 140mA 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 MAX9984 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 VCC 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 MAX9984'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 MAX9984 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: 1017

PROCESS: SiGe BiCMOS

## SiGe High-Linearity, 400MHz to 1000MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

**Table 1. Component List Referring to the Typical Application Circuit for 815MHz to 1000MHz RF Frequency Operation**

COMPONENT	VALUE	DESCRIPTION
L1, L2	330nH	Wire-wound high-Q inductors (0805)
L3	47nH	Wire-wound high-Q inductor (0603)
C1	10pF	Microwave capacitor (0603)
C2, C4, C7, C8, C10, C11, C12	82pF	Microwave capacitors (0603)
C3, C5, C6, C9, C13, C14	0.01 $\mu$ F	Microwave capacitors (0603)
C15	220pF	Microwave capacitor (0402)
R1	953 $\Omega$	$\pm$ 1% resistor (0603)
R2	619 $\Omega$	$\pm$ 1% resistor (0603)
R3	3.57 $\Omega$	$\pm$ 1% resistor (1206)
T1	4:1 balun	IF balun (TC4-1W-7A)
U1	MAX9984	Maxim IC

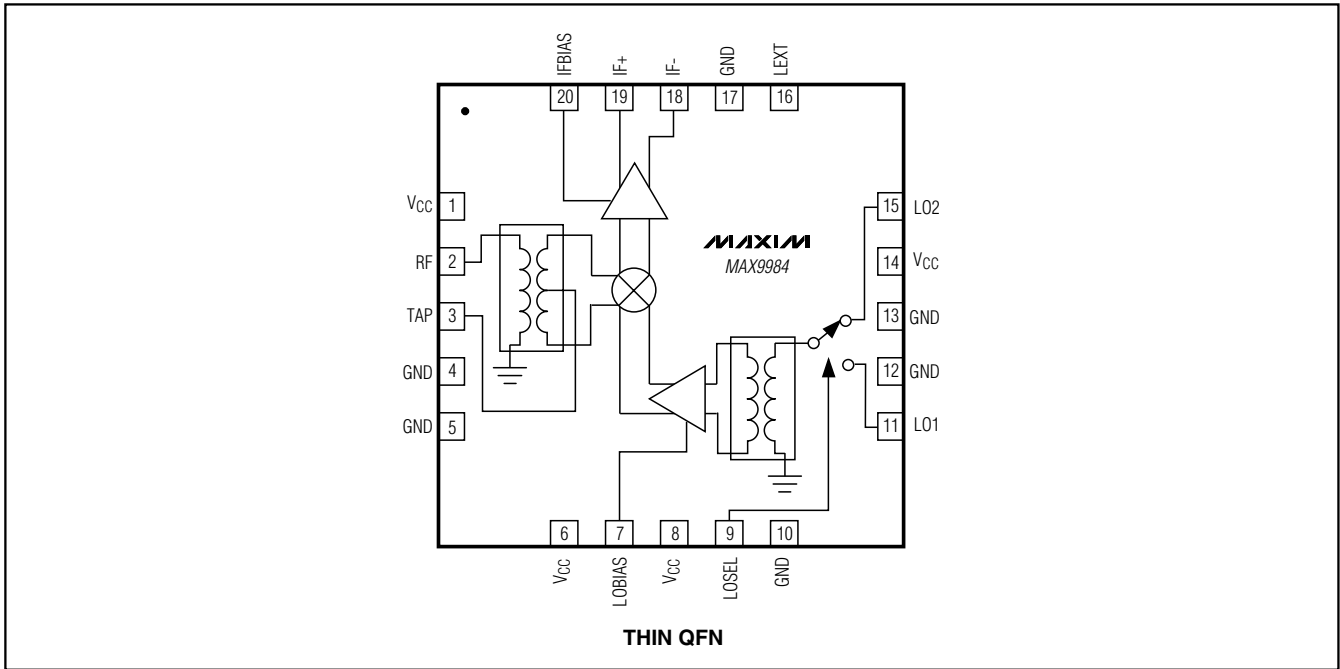
**Table 2. Component List Referring to the Typical Application Circuit for 400MHz to 995MHz RF Frequency Operation**

COMPONENT	VALUE	DESCRIPTION
L1, L2	820nH	Wire-wound high-Q inductors (0805)
L3	47nH	Wire-wound high-Q inductor (0603)
Cp	7pF	Microwave capacitor (0603)
C1	56pF	Microwave capacitor (0603)
C2, C4, C7, C8, C10, C11, C12	220pF	Microwave capacitors (0603)
C3, C5, C6, C9, C13, C14	10nF	Microwave capacitors (0603)
C15	220pF	Microwave capacitor (0402)
R1	953 $\Omega$	$\pm$ 1% resistor (0603)
R2	619 $\Omega$	$\pm$ 1% resistor (0603)
R3	3.57 $\Omega$	$\pm$ 1% resistor (1206)
T1	4:1 balun	IF balun (TC4-1W-7A)
U1	MAX9984	Maxim IC

# SiGe High-Linearity, 400MHz to 1000MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

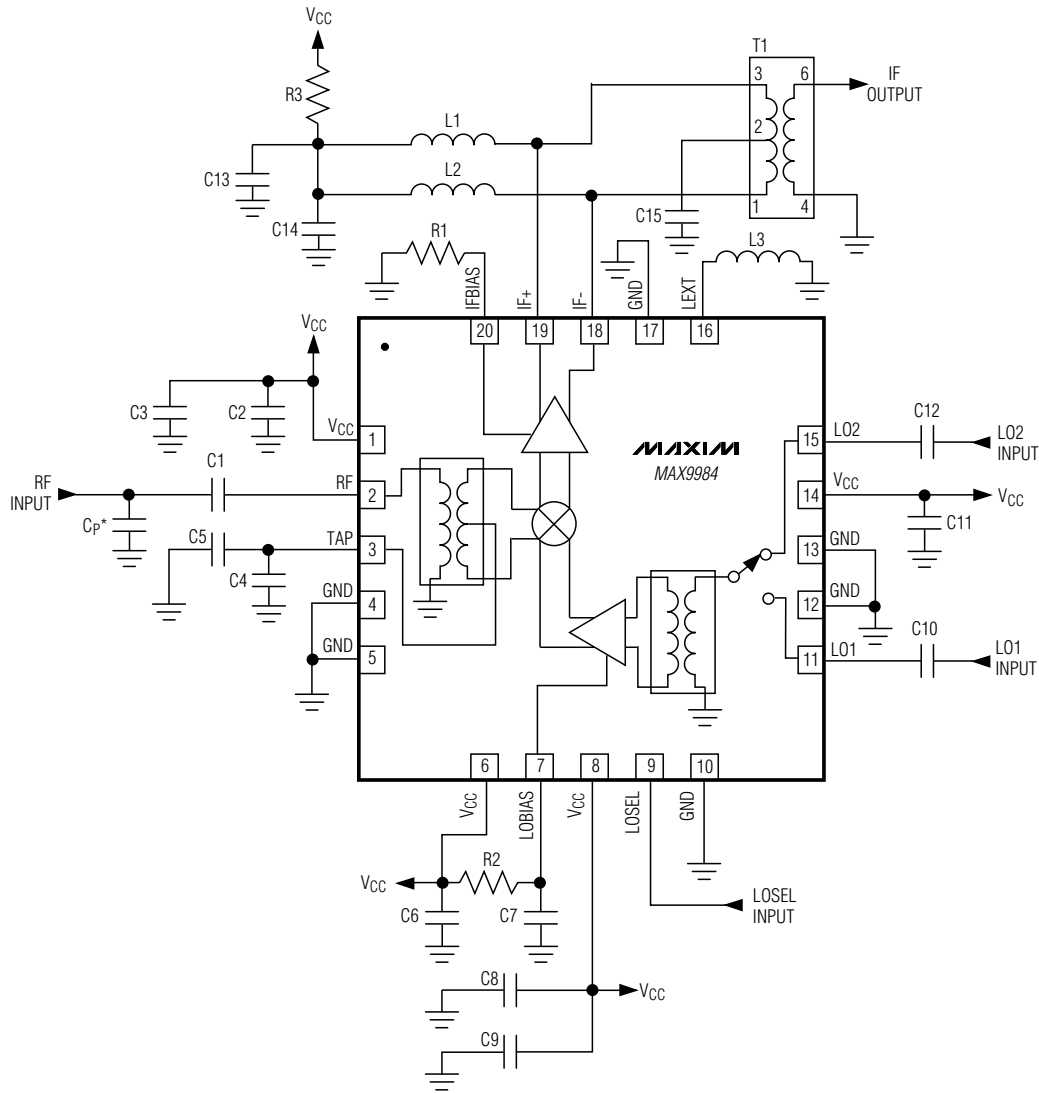
## Pin Configuration/Functional Diagram

**MAX9984**



# SiGe High-Linearity, 400MHz to 1000MHz Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

## Typical Application Circuit



\*C<sub>P</sub> NEEDED FOR 400MHz TO 500MHz RF FREQUENCY OPERATION. SEE TABLE 2.



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