

FEATURES

Broadband RF port: 400 MHz to 1.2 GHz
Conversion gain: 4.5 dB
Noise figure: 10.5 dB
Input IP3: 24 dBm
Input P1dB: 8.5 dBm
LO drive: 0 dBm
External control of mixer bias for low power operation
Single-ended, 50 Ω RF and LO input ports
Single-supply operation: 5 V at 84 mA
Power-down mode
Exposed paddle LFCSP: 3 mm \times 3 mm

APPLICATIONS

Cellular base station receivers
ISM receivers
Radio links
RF Instrumentation

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The AD8344 is a high performance, broadband active mixer. It is well suited for demanding receive-channel applications that require wide bandwidth on all ports and very low intermodulation distortion and noise figure.

The AD8344 provides a typical conversion gain of 4.5 dB at 890 MHz. The integrated LO driver supports a 50 Ω input impedance with a low LO drive level, helping to minimize external component count.

The single-ended 50 Ω broadband RF port allows for easy interfacing to both active devices and passive filters. The RF input accepts input signals as large as 1.7 V p-p or 8.5 dBm (re: 50 Ω) at P1dB.

FUNCTIONAL BLOCK DIAGRAM

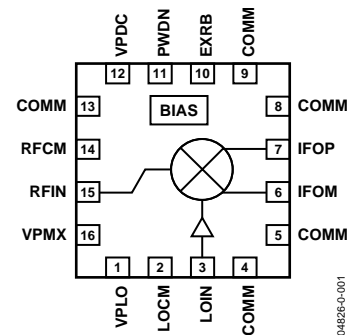


Figure 1.

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The open-collector differential outputs provide excellent balance and can be used with a differential filter or IF amplifier, such as the AD8369 or AD8351. These outputs may also be converted to a single-ended signal using a matching network or a transformer (balun). When centered on the VPOS supply voltage, each of the differential outputs may swing 2.5 V p-p.

The AD8344 is fabricated on an Analog Devices proprietary, high performance SiGe IC process. The AD8344 is available in a 16-lead LFCSP package. It operates over the -40°C to $+85^{\circ}\text{C}$ temperature range. An evaluation board is also available.

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REVISION HISTORY

4/2018—Rev. 0 to Rev. A

Changes to Figure 2 and Table 4.....	6
Updated Outline Dimensions	20
Changes to Ordering Guide	20

6/2004—Revision 0: Initial Version

SPECIFICATIONS

$V_S = 5\text{ V}$, $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$, $f_{RF} = 890\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 1090\text{ MHz}$, LO power = 0 dBm, $Z_O = 50\ \Omega$, $R_{BIAS} = 2.43\text{ k}\Omega$, unless otherwise noted.

Table 1.

Parameter	Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
RF INPUT INTERFACE	(Pin 15, RFIN and Pin 14, RFCM)				
Return Loss			10		dB
DC Bias Level	Internally generated; port must be ac-coupled		2.6		V
OUTPUT INTERFACE					
Output Impedance	Differential impedance, $f = 200\text{ MHz}$		9 1		k Ω pF
DC Bias Voltage	Externally generated	4.75	V_S	5.25	V
Power Range	Via a 4:1 balun			13	dBm
LO INTERFACE					
LO Power		-10	0	+4	dBm
Return Loss			10		dB
DC Bias Voltage	Internally generated; port must be ac-coupled		$V_S - 1.6$		V
POWER-DOWN INTERFACE					
PWDN Threshold			$V_S - 1.4$		V
PWDN Response Time	Device enabled, IF output to 90% of its final level		0.4		μs
	Device disabled, supply current < 5 mA		0.01		μs
PWDN Input Bias Current	Device enabled		-80		μA
	Device disabled		100		μA
POWER SUPPLY					
Positive Supply Voltage		4.75	V_S	5.25	V
Quiescent Current					
VPDC	Supply current for bias cells		5		mA
VPMX, IFOP, IFOM	Supply current for mixer, $R_{BIAS} = 2.43\text{ k}\Omega$		44		mA
VPLO	Supply current for LO limiting amplifier		35		mA
Total Quiescent Current		73	84	95	mA
Power-Down Current	Device disabled		500		μA

AC PERFORMANCE

$V_S = 5\text{ V}$, $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$, LO power = 0 dBm, $Z_O = 50\ \Omega$, $R_{BIAS} = 2.43\ \text{k}\Omega$, unless otherwise noted.

Table 2.

Parameter	Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
RF Frequency Range		400		1200	MHz
LO Frequency Range	High Side LO	470		1600	MHz
IF Frequency Range		70		400	MHz
Conversion Gain	$f_{RF} = 450\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 550\text{ MHz}$, $f_{IF} = 100\text{ MHz}$		9.25		dB
	$f_{RF} = 890\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 1090\text{ MHz}$, $f_{IF} = 200\text{ MHz}$		4.5		dB
SSB Noise Figure	$f_{RF} = 450\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 550\text{ MHz}$, $f_{IF} = 100\text{ MHz}$		7.75		dB
	$f_{RF} = 890\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 1090\text{ MHz}$, $f_{IF} = 200\text{ MHz}$		10.5		dB
Input Third-Order Intercept	$f_{RF1} = 450\text{ MHz}$, $f_{RF2} = 451\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 550\text{ MHz}$, $f_{IF} = 100\text{ MHz}$, each RF tone = -10 dBm		14		dBm
	$f_{RF1} = 890\text{ MHz}$, $f_{RF2} = 891\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 1090\text{ MHz}$, $f_{IF} = 200\text{ MHz}$, each RF tone = -10 dBm		24		dBm
Input Second-Order Intercept	$f_{RF1} = 450\text{ MHz}$, $f_{RF2} = 500\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 550\text{ MHz}$, $f_{IF} = 100\text{ MHz}$		36		dBm
	$f_{RF1} = 890\text{ MHz}$, $f_{RF2} = 940\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 1090\text{ MHz}$, $f_{IF} = 200\text{ MHz}$		51		dBm
Input 1 dB Compression Point	$f_{RF} = 450\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 550\text{ MHz}$, $f_{IF} = 100\text{ MHz}$		2.5		dBm
	$f_{RF} = 890\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 1090\text{ MHz}$, $f_{IF} = 200\text{ MHz}$		8.5		dBm
LO to IF Output Feedthrough	LO Power = 0 dBm, $f_{RF} = 890\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 1090\text{ MHz}$		-23		dBc
LO to RF Input Leakage	LO Power = 0 dBm, $f_{RF} = 890\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 1090\text{ MHz}$		-48		dBc
RF to IF Output Feedthrough	RF Power = -10 dBm , $f_{RF} = 890\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 1090\text{ MHz}$		-32		dBc
IF/2 Spurious	RF Power = -10 dBm , $f_{RF} = 890\text{ MHz}$, $f_{LO} = 1090\text{ MHz}$		-66		dBm

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

Table 3.

Parameter	Rating
Supply Voltage, V_s	5.5 V
RF Input Level	12 dBm
LO Input Level	12 dBm
PWDN Pin	$V_s + 0.5$ V
IFOP, IFOM Bias Voltage	5.5 V
Minimum Resistor from EXRB to COMM	2.4 k Ω
Internal Power Dissipation	580 mW
θ_{JA}	77°C/W
Maximum Junction Temperature	125°C
Operating Temperature Range	-40°C to +85°C
Storage Temperature Range	-65°C to +150°C
Lead Temperature Range (Soldering 60 sec)	300°C

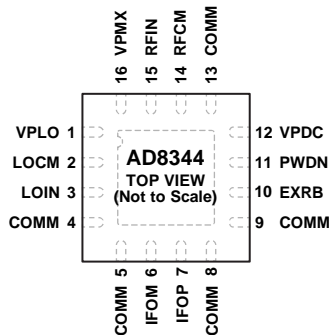
Stresses at or above those listed under Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the product. This is a stress rating only; functional operation of the product at these or any other conditions above those indicated in the operational section of this specification is not implied. Operation beyond the maximum operating conditions for extended periods may affect product reliability.

ESD CAUTION



ESD (electrostatic discharge) sensitive device. Charged devices and circuit boards can discharge without detection. Although this product features patented or proprietary protection circuitry, damage may occur on devices subjected to high energy ESD. Therefore, proper ESD precautions should be taken to avoid performance degradation or loss of functionality.

PIN CONFIGURATION AND FUNCTION DESCRIPTIONS



NOTES
1. EXPOSED PAD. THE EXPOSED PAD MUST BE CONNECTED TO AGND.

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Figure 2. 16-Lead LFCSP

Table 4. Pin Function Descriptions

Pin No.	Mnemonic	Function
1	VPLO	Positive Supply Voltage for the LO Buffer: 4.75 V to 5.25 V.
2	LOCM	AC Ground for Limiting LO Amplifier, AC-Coupled to Ground.
3	LOIN	LO Input. Nominal input level 0 dBm, input level range -10 dBm to +4 dBm, re: 50 Ω , ac-coupled.
4, 5, 8, 9, 13	COMM	Device Common (DC Ground).
6, 7	IFOM, IFOP	Differential IF Outputs; Open Collectors, Each Requires DC Bias of 5.00 V (Nominal).
10	EXRB	Mixer Bias Voltage, Connect Resistor from EXRB to Ground, Typical Value of 2.43 k Ω Sets Mixer Current to Nominal Value. Minimum resistor value from EXRB to ground = 2.4 k Ω .
11	PWDN	Connect to Ground for Normal Operation. Connect pin to V_s for disable mode.
12	VPDC	Positive Supply Voltage for the DC Bias Cell: 4.75 V to 5.25 V.
14	RFCM	AC Ground for RF Input, AC-Coupled to Ground.
15	RFIN	RF Input. Must be ac-coupled.
16	VPMX	Positive Supply Voltage for the Mixer: 4.75 V to 5.25 V.
	EPAD	Exposed Pad. The exposed pad must be connected to AGND.

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

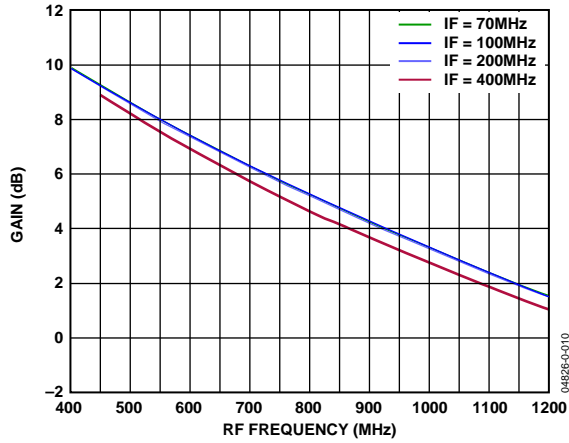


Figure 3. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency

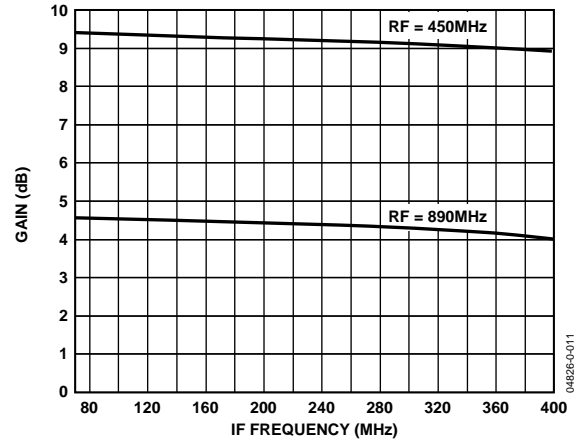


Figure 6. Conversion Gain vs. IF Frequency

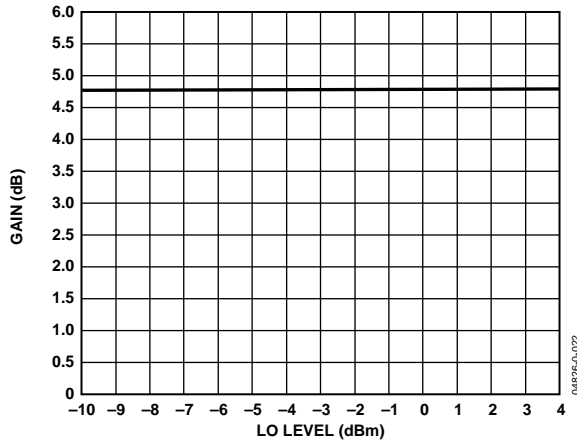


Figure 4. Conversion Gain vs. LO Power, $F_{RF} = 890$ MHz, $F_{IF} = 200$ MHz

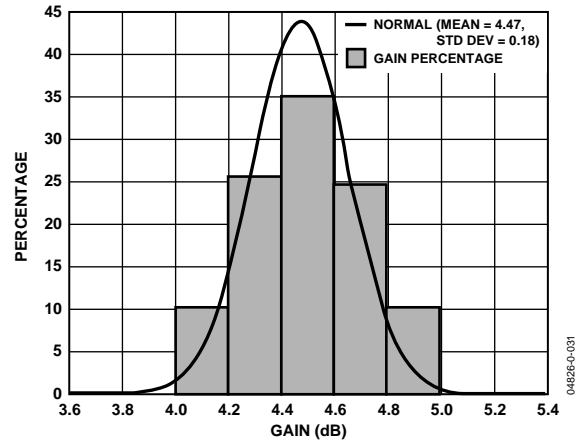


Figure 7. Conversion Gain Distribution, $F_{RF} = 890$ MHz, $F_{IF} = 200$ MHz

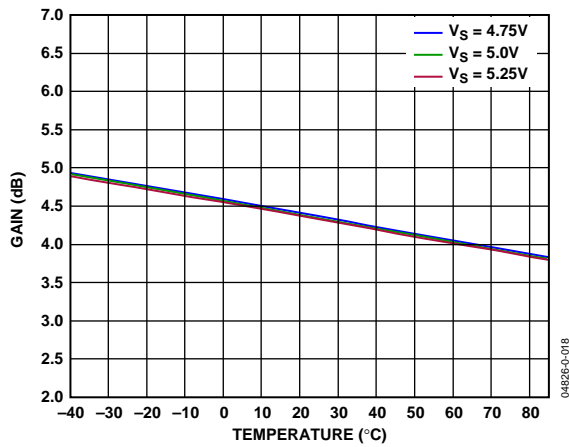


Figure 5. Conversion Gain vs. Temperature, $F_{RF} = 890$ MHz, $F_{LO} = 1090$ MHz

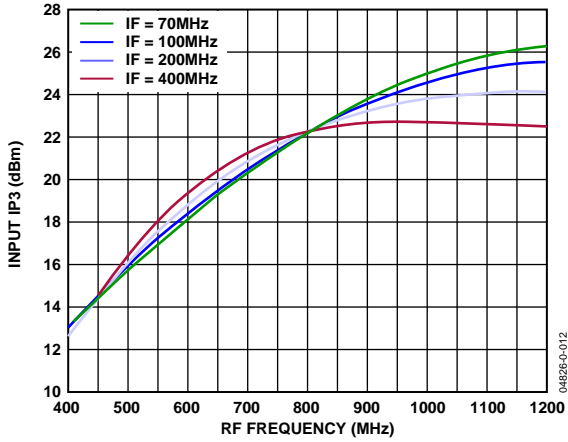


Figure 8. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency (RF Tone Spacing = 1 MHz)

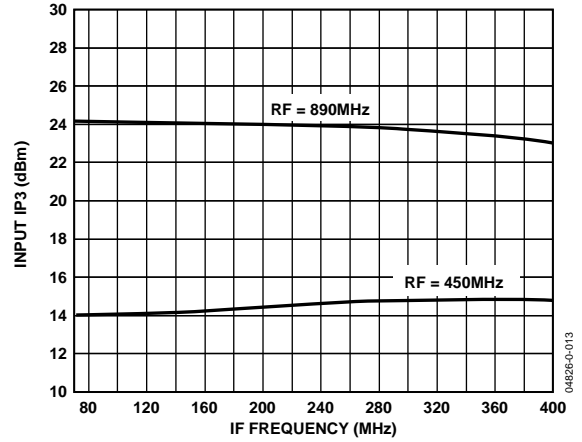


Figure 11. Input IP3 vs. IF Frequency (RF Tone Spacing = 1 MHz)

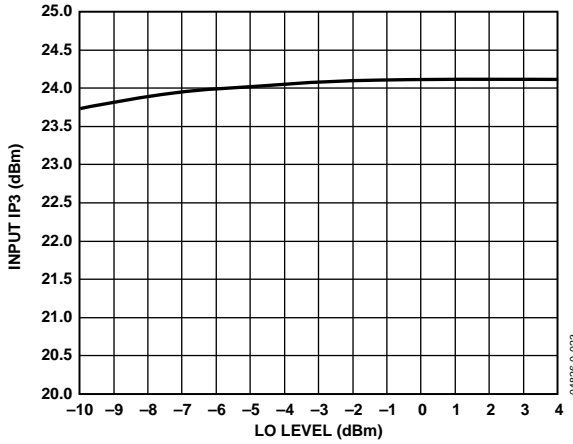


Figure 9. Input IP3 vs. LO Power,
 $F_{RF1} = 890 \text{ MHz}$, $F_{RF2} = 891 \text{ MHz}$, $F_{LO} = 1090 \text{ MHz}$

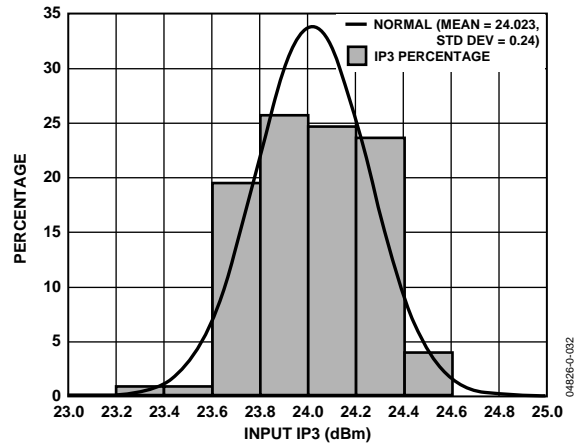


Figure 12. Input IP3 Distribution,
 $F_{RF1} = 890 \text{ MHz}$, $F_{RF2} = 891 \text{ MHz}$, $F_{LO} = 1090 \text{ MHz}$

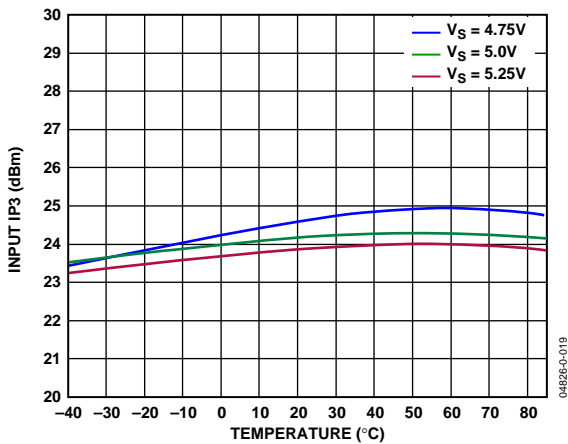


Figure 10. Input IP3 vs. Temperature,
 $F_{RF1} = 890 \text{ MHz}$, $F_{RF2} = 891 \text{ MHz}$, $F_{LO} = 1090 \text{ MHz}$

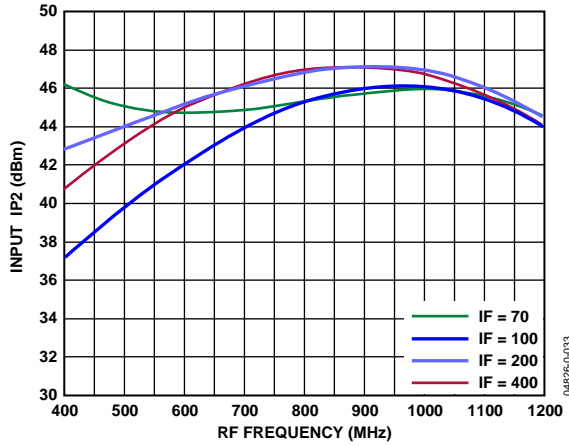


Figure 13. Input IP2 vs. RF Frequency (RF Tone Spacing = 50 MHz)

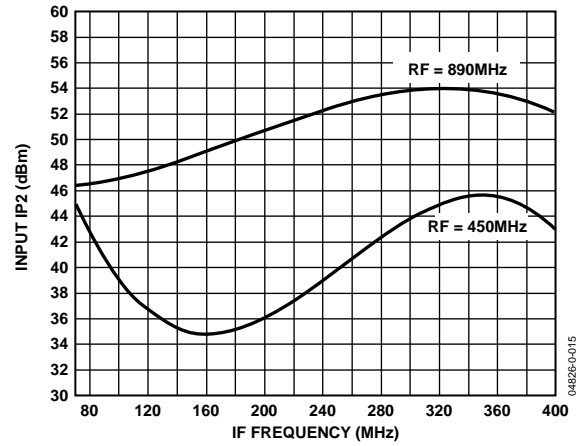


Figure 16. Input IP2 vs. IF Frequency (RF Tone Spacing = 50 MHz)

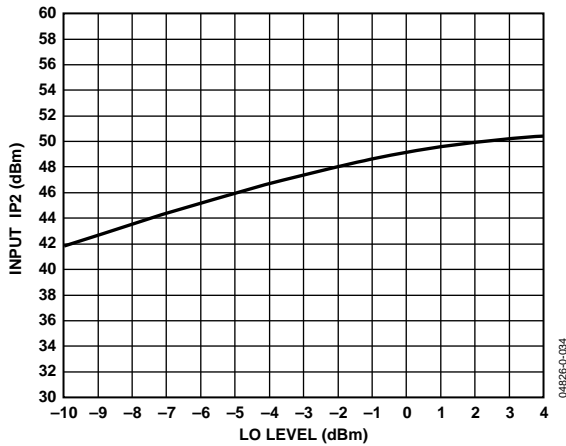


Figure 14. Input IP2 vs. LO Power,
 $F_{RF} = 890$ MHz, $F_{LO} = 1090$ MHz (RF Tone Spacing = 50 MHz)

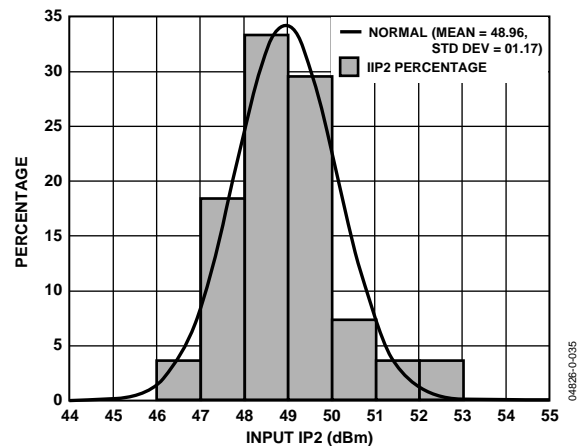


Figure 17. Input IP2 Distribution, $F_{RF} = 890$ MHz,
 $F_{LO} = 1090$ MHz (RF Tone Spacing = 50 MHz)

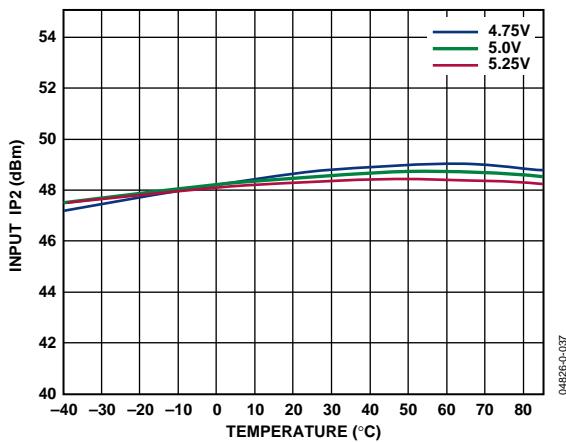


Figure 15. Input IP2 vs. Temperature, $F_{RF} = 890$ MHz,
 $F_{LO} = 1090$ MHz (RF Tone Spacing = 50 MHz)

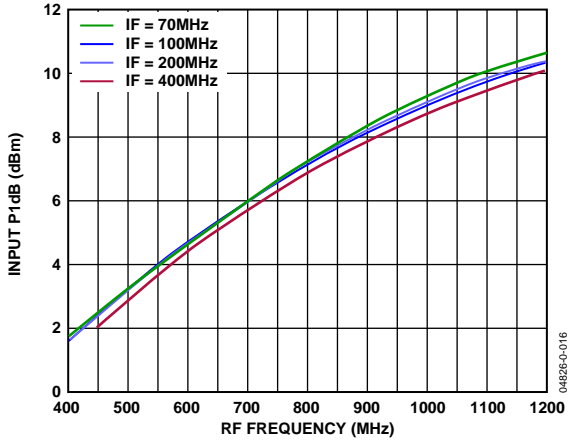


Figure 18. Input P1dB vs. RF Frequency

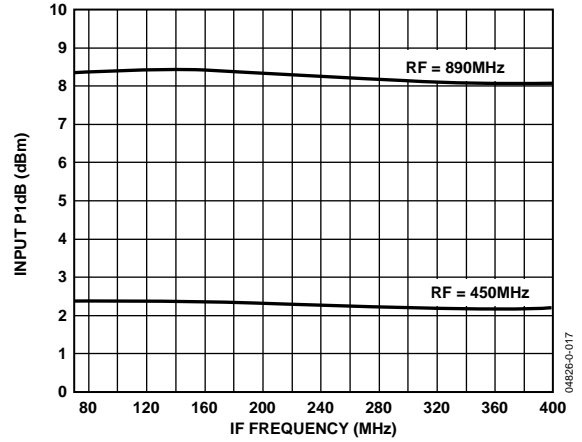


Figure 21. Input P1dB vs. IF Frequency

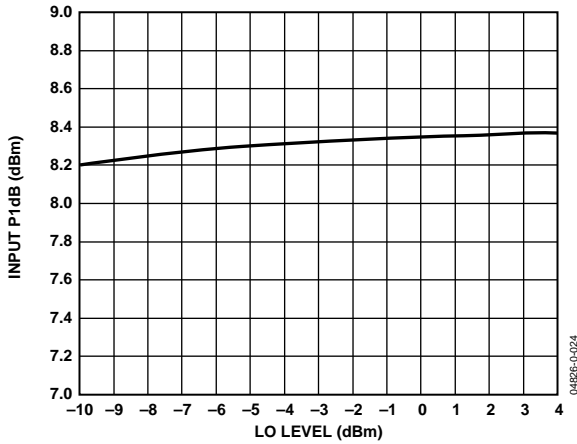


Figure 19. Input P1dB vs. LO Power, $F_{RF} = 890$ MHz, $F_{LO} = 1090$ MHz

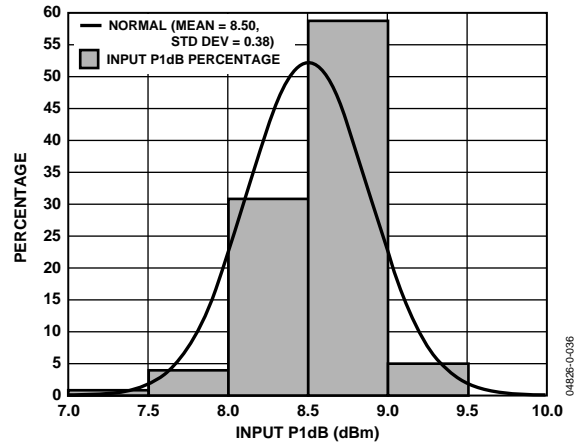


Figure 22. Input P1dB Distribution, $F_{RF} = 890$ MHz, $F_{LO} = 1090$ MHz

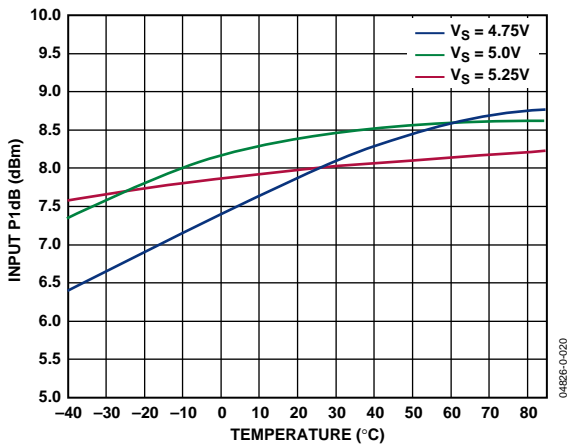


Figure 20. Input P1dB vs. Temperature, $F_{RF} = 890$ MHz, $F_{LO} = 1090$ MHz

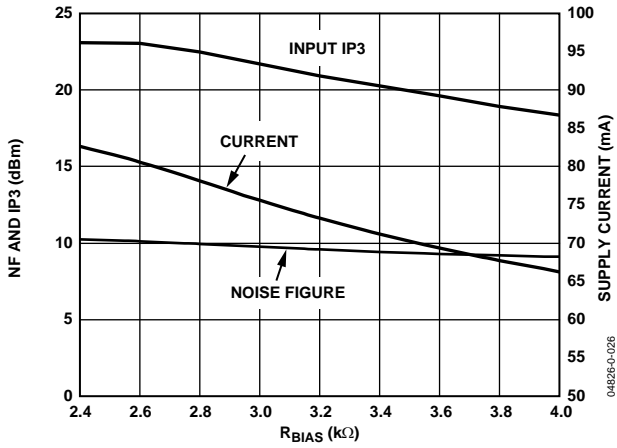


Figure 23. Noise Figure, Input IP3 and Supply Current vs. R_{BIAS} , $F_{RF1} = 890$ MHz, $F_{RF2} = 891$ MHz, $F_{LO} = 1090$ MHz

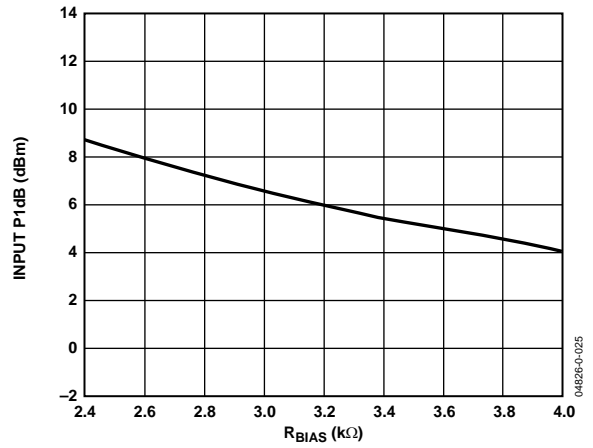


Figure 26. Input P1dB vs. R_{BIAS} , $F_{RF} = 890$ MHz, $F_{LO} = 1090$ MHz

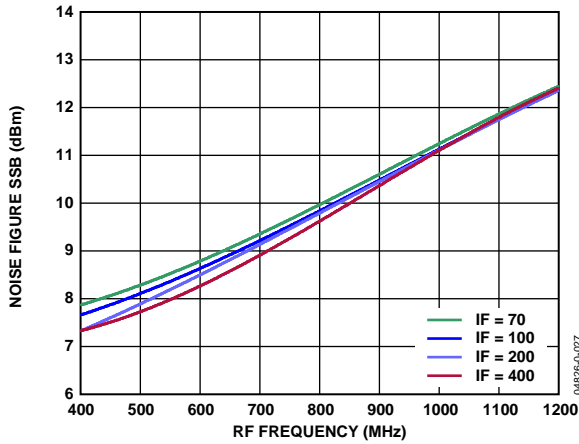


Figure 24. Noise Figure vs. RF Frequency

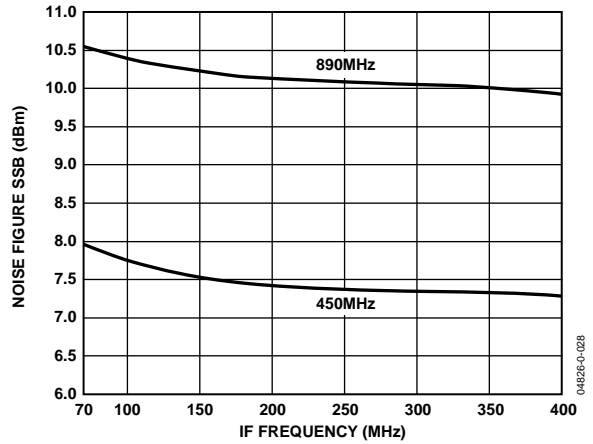


Figure 27. Noise Figure vs. IF Frequency

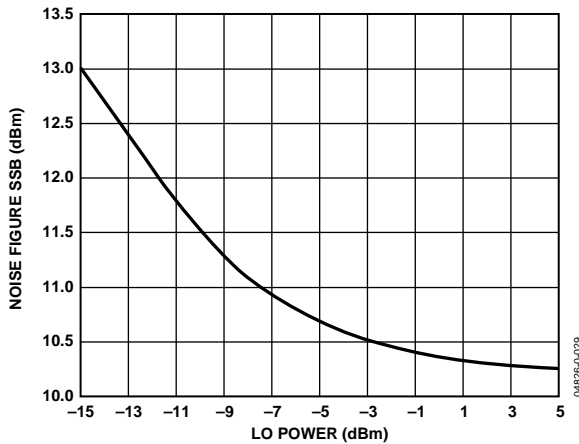


Figure 25. Noise Figure vs. LO Power, $F_{RF} = 890$ MHz, $F_{LO} = 1090$ MHz

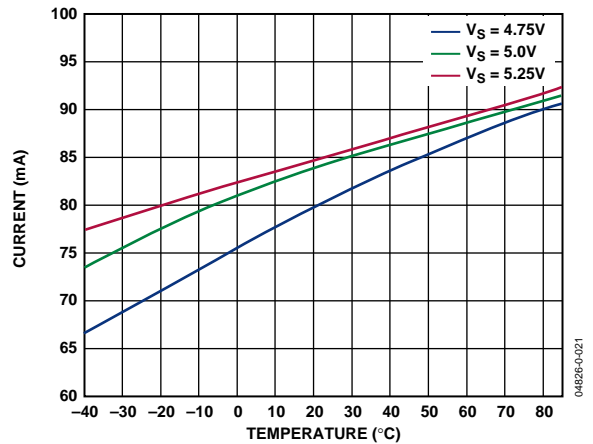


Figure 28. Total Supply Current vs. Temperature

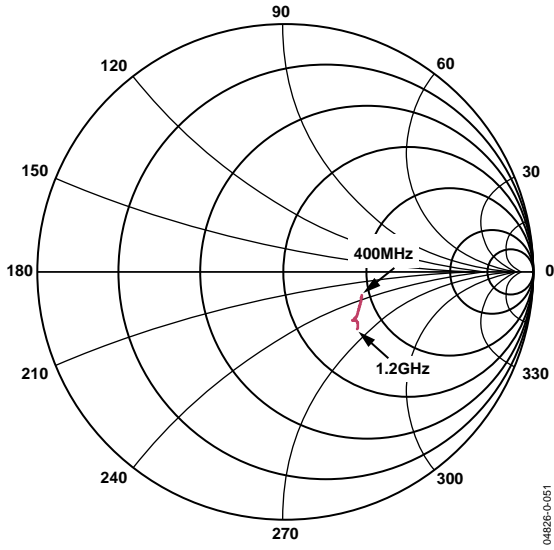


Figure 29. RFIN Return Loss vs. RF Frequency

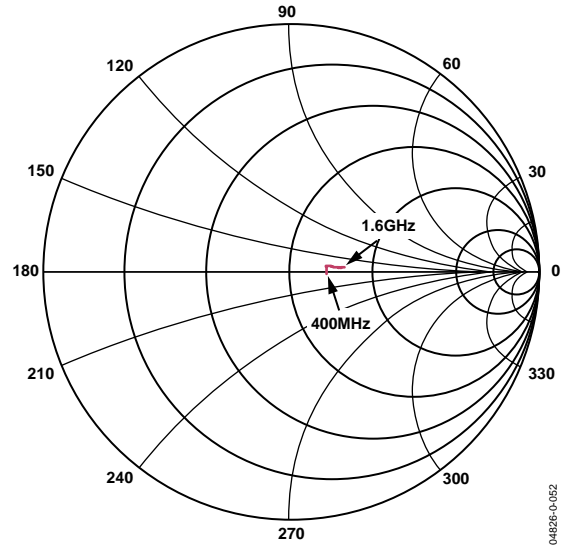


Figure 32. LOIN Return Loss vs. LO Frequency

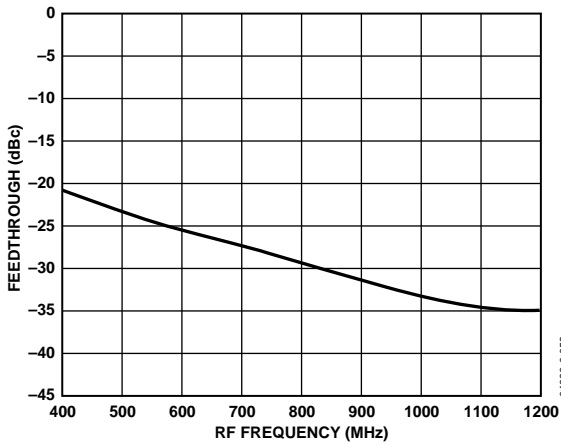


Figure 30. RF to IF Feedthrough vs. RF Frequency, $F_{LO} = 1090$ MHz, RF Power = -10 dBm

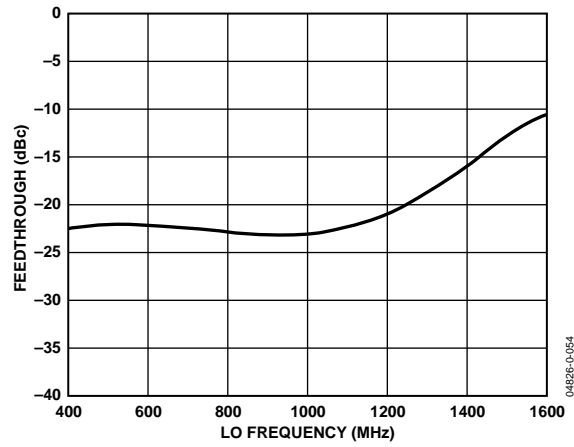


Figure 33. LO to IF Feedthrough vs. LO Frequency, LO Power = 0 dBm

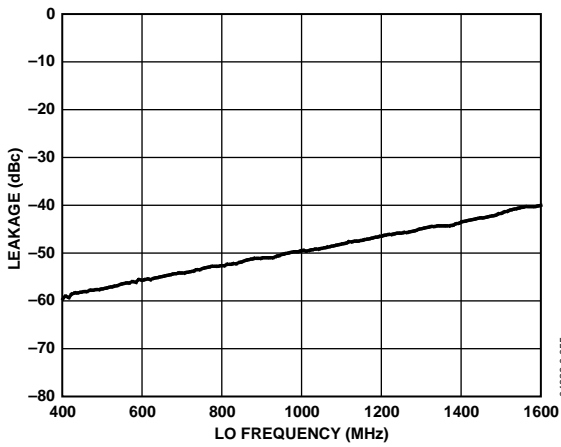


Figure 31. LO to RF Leakage vs. LO Frequency, LO Power = 0 dBm

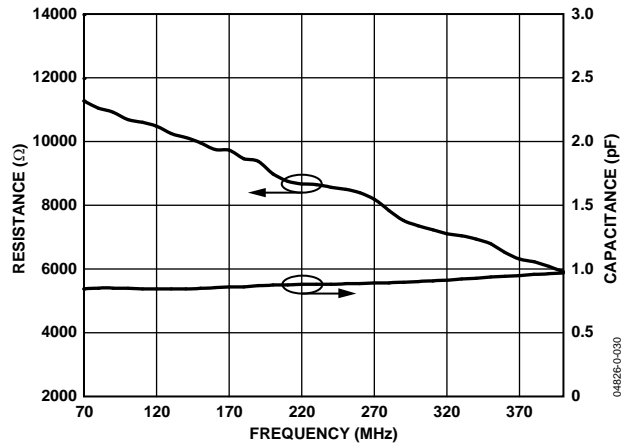


Figure 34. IF Port Output Resistance and Capacitance vs. IF Frequency

CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

The AD8344 is a down converting mixer optimized for operation within the input frequency range of 400 MHz to 1.2 GHz. It has a single-ended, 50 Ω RF input, as well as a single-ended, 50 Ω local oscillator (LO) input. The IF outputs are differential open collectors. The mixer current can be adjusted by the value of an external resistor to optimize performance for gain compression and intermodulation or for low power operation. Figure 35 shows the basic blocks of the mixer, which includes the LO buffer, RF voltage-to-current converter, bias cell, and mixing core.

The RF voltage to RF current conversion is done via an inductively degenerated differential pair. When one side of the differential pair is ac grounded, the other input can be driven single-ended. The RF inputs can also be driven differentially. The voltage-to-current converter then drives the emitters of a four-transistor switching core. This switching core is driven by an amplified version of the local oscillator signal connected to the LO input. There are three limiting gain stages between the external LO signal and the switching core. The first stage converts the single-ended LO drive to a well balanced differential drive. The differential drive then passes through two more gain stages, which ensures a limited signal drives the switching core. This affords the user a lower LO drive requirement, while maintaining excellent distortion and compression performance. The output signal of these three LO gain stages drives the four transistors within the mixer core to commute at the rate of the local oscillator frequency. The output of the mixer core is taken directly from these open collectors. The open collector outputs present a high impedance at the IF frequency. The conversion gain of the mixer depends directly on the impedance presented to these open collectors. In characterization, a 200 Ω load was presented to the device via a 4:1 impedance transformer.

The AD8344 also features a power-down function. Application of a logic low at the PWDN pin allows normal operation. A high logic level at the PWDN pin shuts down the AD8344. Power consumption when the device is disabled is less than 10 mW.

The bias for the mixer is set with an external resistor from the EXRB pin to ground. The value of this resistor directly affects the dynamic range of the mixer. The external resistor must not be lower than 2.4 k Ω . Permanent damage to the device occurs if values below 2.4 k Ω are used.

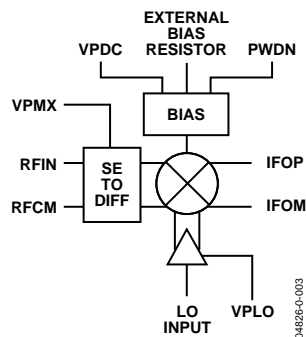


Figure 35. AD8344 Simplified Schematic

As shown in Figure 36, the IF output pins, IFOP and IFOM, are directly connected to the open collectors of the NPN transistors in the mixer core so the differential and single-ended impedances looking into this port are relatively high, on the order of several k Ω . A connection between the supply voltage and these output pins is required for proper mixer core operation.

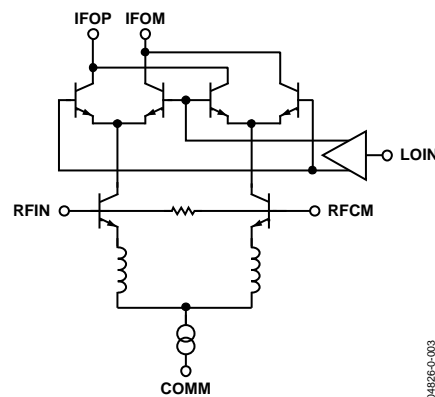


Figure 36. Mixer Core Simplified Schematic

The AD8344 has three pins for the supply voltage: VPDC, VPMX, and VPLO. These pins are separated to minimize or eliminate possible parasitic coupling paths within the AD8344 that can cause spurious signals or reduced interport isolation. Consequently, each of these pins are well bypassed and decoupled as close to the AD8344 as possible.

AC INTERFACES

The AD8344 is a high-side downconverter. It is designed to down-convert radio frequencies (RF) to lower intermediate frequencies (IF) using a high-side local oscillator (LO). The LO is injected into the mixer core at a frequency greater than the desired input RF frequency. The difference between the LO and RF frequencies, $f_{LO} - f_{RF}$, is the IF frequency, f_{IF} . In addition to the desired RF signal, an RF image is downconverted to the same IF frequency. The image frequency is at $f_{LO} + f_{IF}$. The conversion gain of the AD8344 decreases with increasing input frequency. By choosing to use a high-side LO the image frequency at $f_{LO} + f_{IF}$ is translated with less conversion gain than the desired RF signal at $f_{LO} - f_{IF}$. Additionally, any wideband noise present at the image frequency is downconverted with less conversion gain than if a low-side LO was applied. In general, use a high-side LO with the AD8344 to ensure optimal noise performance and image rejection.

The AD8344 is designed to operate using RF frequencies in the 400 MHz to 1200 MHz frequency range, with high-side LO injection within the 470 MHz to 1600 MHz range. It is essential to ac-couple RF and LO ports to prevent dc offsets from skewing the mixer core in an asymmetrical manner, potentially degrading linear input swing and impacting distortion and input compression characteristics.

The AD8344 RFIN port presents a $50\ \Omega$ impedance relative to RFCM. In order to ensure a good impedance match, the RFIN ac-coupling capacitor must be large enough in value so that the presented reactance is negligible at the intended RF frequency. Additionally, the RFCM bypassing capacitor must be sufficiently large to provide a low impedance return path to board ground. Low inductance ceramic grade capacitors of no more than 330 pF are sufficient for most applications.

Similarly the LOIN port provides a $50\ \Omega$ load impedance with common-mode decoupling on LOCM. Again, common grade ceramic capacitors provide sufficient signal coupling and bypassing of the LO interface.

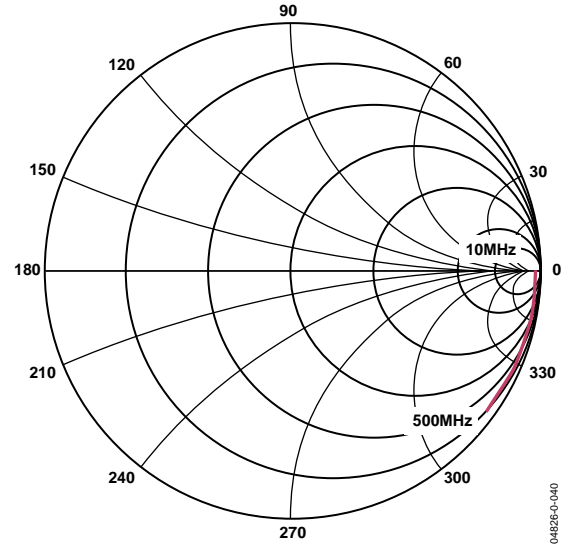


Figure 37. IF Port Reflection Coefficient from 10 MHz to 500 MHz

IF PORT

The IF port uses an open collector differential output interface. The NPN open collectors can be modeled as high impedance current sources. The stray capacitance associated with the IC package presents a slightly capacitive source impedance as in Figure 37. In general, the IFOP and IFOM output ports can be modeled as current sources with an impedance of $\sim 10\ \text{k}\Omega$ in parallel with $\sim 1\ \text{pF}$ of shunt capacitance. Circuit board traces connecting the IF outputs to the load must be narrow and short to prevent excessive capacitive loading. In order to maintain the specified conversion gain of the mixer, the IF output ports must be loaded into $200\ \Omega$. It is not necessary to attempt to provide a conjugate match to the IF port output source impedance. If the IF signal needs to be delivered to a remote load, more than a few centimeters away, it can be necessary to use an appropriate buffer amplifier to present a real $200\ \Omega$ loading impedance at the IF output interface. The buffer amplifier must have the appropriate source impedance to match the characteristic impedance of the selected transmission line. An example is provided in Figure 38, where the AD8351 differential amplifier is used to drive a pair of $75\ \Omega$ transmission lines. The gain of the buffer can be independently set by choosing an appropriate gain resistor, R_G .

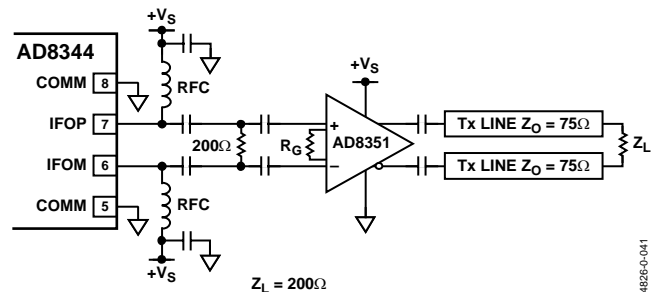


Figure 38. AD8351 Used as Transmission Line Driver and Impedance Buffer

The high input impedance of the AD8351 allows a shunt differential termination to provide the desired 200 Ω load to the AD8344 IF output port.

It is necessary to bias the open collector outputs using one of the schemes presented in Figure 39 and Figure 40. Figure 39 illustrates the application of a center-tapped impedance transformer. The turns ratio of the transformer must be selected to provide the desired impedance transformation. In the case of a 50 Ω load impedance, use a 4-to-1 impedance ratio transformer to transform the 50 Ω load into a 200 Ω differential load at the IF output pins. Figure 40 illustrates a differential IF interface where pull-up choke inductors are used to bias the open-collector outputs. The shunting impedance of the choke inductors used to couple dc current into the mixer core must be large enough at the IF frequency of operation as to not load down the output current before reaching the intended load. Additionally, the dc current handling capability of the selected choke inductors must be at least 45 mA. The self resonant frequency of the selected choke must be higher than the intended IF frequency. A variety of suitable choke inductors are commercially available from manufacturers such as Murata and Coilcraft. An impedance transforming network can be required to transform the final load impedance to 200 Ω at the IF outputs. There are several reference books that explain general impedance matching procedures, including:

- Chris Bowick, *RF Circuit Design*, Newnes, Reprint Edition, 1997.
- David M. Pozar, *Microwave Engineering*, Wiley Text Books, Second Edition, 1997.
- Guillermo Gonzalez, *Microwave Transistor Amplifiers: Analysis and Design*, Prentice Hall, Second Edition, 1996.

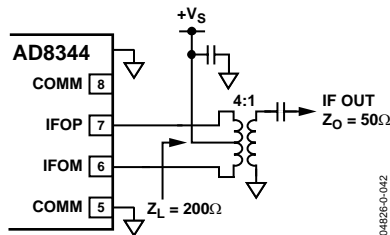


Figure 39. Biasing the IF Port Open Collector Outputs Using a Center-Tapped Impedance Transformer

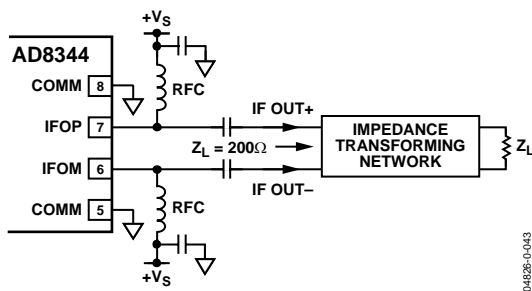


Figure 40. Biasing the IF Port Open Collector Outputs Using Pull-Up Choke Inductors

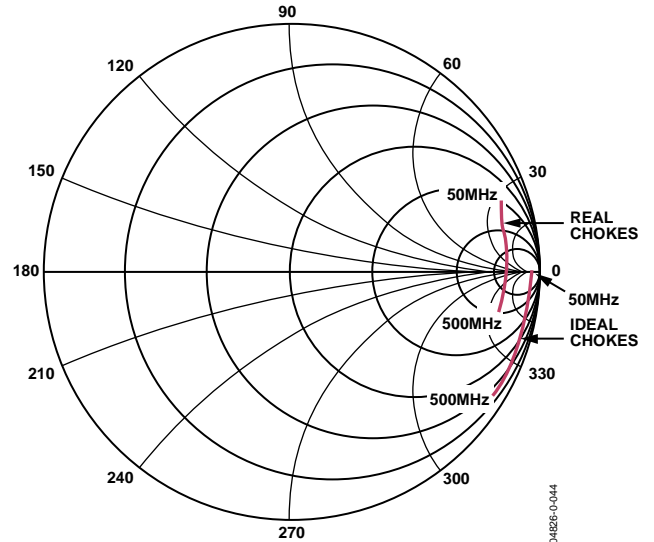


Figure 41. IF Port Loading Effects due to Finite-Q Pull-Up Inductors (Murata BLM18HD601SN1D Chokes)

LO CONSIDERATIONS

The LO signal must have adequate phase noise characteristics and reasonable low second harmonic content to prevent degradation of the noise figure performance of the AD8344. A LO plagued with poor phase noise can result in reciprocal mixing, a mechanism that causes spectral spreading of the downconverted signal, limiting the sensitivity of the mixer at frequencies close-in to any large input signals. The internal LO buffer provides enough gain to hard limit the input LO and provide fast switching of the mixer core. Odd harmonic content present on the LO drive signal should not impact mixer performance; however, even-order harmonics cause the mixer core to commutate in an unbalanced manner, potentially degrading noise performance. Simple, lumped element, low-pass filtering can be applied to help reject the harmonic content of a given local oscillator, as illustrated in Figure 42. The filter depicted is a common 3-pole Chebyshev, designed to maintain a 1-to-1 source-to-load impedance ratio with no more than 0.5 dB of ripple in the pass band. Other filter structures can be effective as long as the second harmonic of the LO is filtered to negligible levels, e.g., ~30 dB below the fundamental. The measured frequency response of the Chebyshev filter for a 1200 MHz –3 dB cutoff frequency is presented in Figure 43.

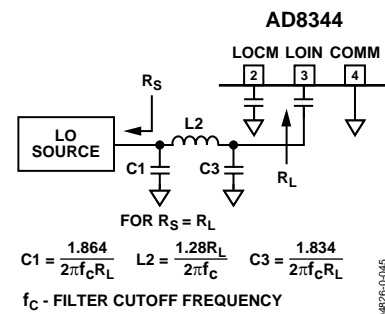


Figure 42. Using a Low-Pass Filter to Reduce LO Second Harmonic

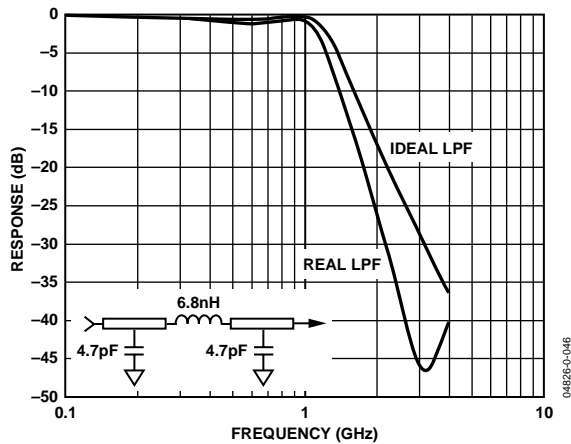


Figure 43. Measured and Ideal LO Filter Frequency Response

BIAS RESISTOR SELECTION

An external bias resistor is used to set the dc current in the mixer core. This provides the ability to reduce power consumption at the expense of decreased dynamic range. Figure 44 shows the spurious-free dynamic range (SFDR) of the mixer for a 1 Hz noise bandwidth versus the R_{BIAS} resistor value. SFDR was calculated using NF and IIP3 data collected at 900 MHz.

By definition,

$$SFDR = \frac{2}{3}(IIP3 - NF - kT - 10\log(B))$$

where $IIP3$ is the input third-order intercept in dBm. NF is the noise figure in dB. kT is the thermal noise power density and is -173.86 dBm/Hz at 298°K . B is the noise bandwidth in Hz.

In order to calculate the anticipated SFDR for a given application, it is necessary to factor in the actual noise bandwidth. For instance, if the IF noise bandwidth is 5 MHz, the anticipated SFDR using a 2.43 k Ω R_{BIAS} is $6.66 \log_{10}(5 \text{ MHz})$ less than the 1 Hz data in Figure 44 or ~ 80 dBc. Using a 2.43 k Ω bias resistor sets the quiescent power dissipation to ~ 415 mW for a 5 V supply. If the R_{BIAS} resistor value is raised to 3.9 k Ω , the SFDR for the same 5 MHz bandwidth is reduced to ~ 77.5 dBc and the power dissipation is reduced to ~ 335 mW. In low power portable applications, it can be advantageous to reduce power consumption by using a larger value of R_{BIAS} , assuming reduced dynamic range performance is acceptable.

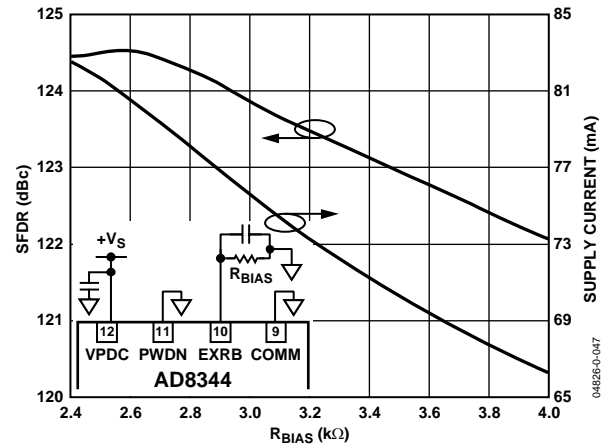


Figure 44. Impact of R_{BIAS} Resistor Selection vs. Spurious-Free Dynamic Range and Power Consumption, $f_{RF} = 890$ MHz and $f_{LO} = 1090$ MHz

CONVERSION GAIN AND IF LOADING

The AD8344 is optimized for driving a 200Ω differential load. Although the device is capable of driving a wide variety of loads, in order to maintain optimum distortion and noise performance, it is advised that the presented load at the IF outputs is reasonably close to 200Ω . Figure 45 illustrates the effect of IF loading on conversion gain. The mixer outputs behave like Norton equivalent sources, where the conversion gain is the effective transconductance of the mixer multiplied by the loading impedance. The linear differential voltage conversion gain of the mixer can be modeled as

$$Av = -0.46 \times R_{LOAD} \times \frac{g_m}{1 + j \times g_m \times 37.70 \times f_{RF}}$$

where R_{LOAD} is the differential loading impedance. g_m is the mixer transconductance and is equal to $4070/R_{BIAS}$. f_{RF} is the frequency of the signal applied to the RF port in GHz.

Large impedance loads cause the conversion gain to increase, resulting in a decrease in input linearity and allowable signal swing. In order to maintain positive conversion gain and preserve spurious-free dynamic range performance, the differential load presented at the IF port must remain within a range of $\sim 100 \Omega$ to 250Ω .

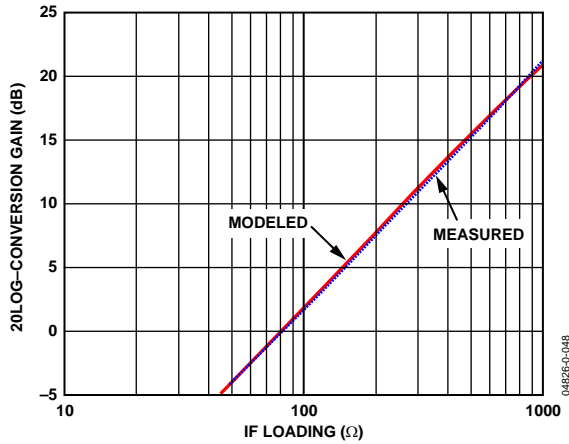


Figure 45. Conversion Gain vs. IF Loading

LOW IF FREQUENCY OPERATION

The AD8344 can be used down to arbitrarily low IF frequencies. The conversion gain, noise, and linearity characteristics remain quite flat as IF frequency is reduced, as indicated in Figure 46 and Figure 47. Larger value pull-up inductors must be used at the lower IF frequencies. A 1 μH choke inductor presents a common-mode loading impedance of 63 Ω at an IF frequency of 10 MHz, severely loading down the mixer outputs, reducing conversion gain, and sacrificing output power. At low IF frequencies, use choke inductors of several hundred μH to bias the IF outputs.

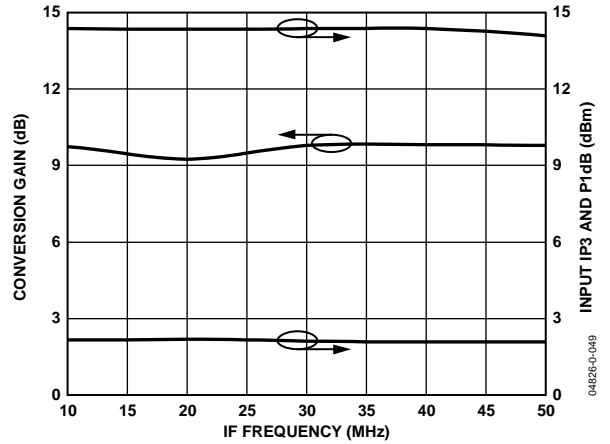


Figure 46. Conversion Gain, Input IP3, and P1dB vs. IF Frequency, $F_{RF} = 450$ MHz

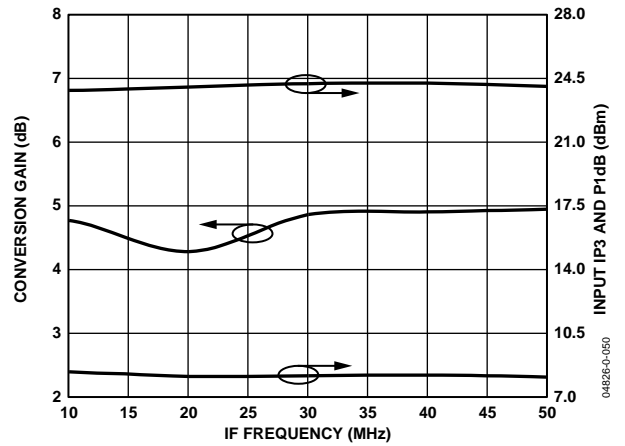


Figure 47. Conversion Gain, Input IP3, and P1dB vs. IF Frequency, $F_{RF} = 890$ MHz

EVALUATION BOARD

An evaluation board is available for the AD8344. The evaluation board is configured for single-ended signaling at the IF output port via a balun transformer. The schematic for the evaluation board is presented in Figure 48.

Table 5. Evaluation Board Configuration Options

Component	Function	Default Conditions
R1, R2, R7, C2, C4, C5, C6, C12, C13, C14, C15	Supply Decoupling. Jumpers or power supply decoupling resistors and filter capacitors.	R1, R2, R7 = 0 Ω (Size 0603) C4, C6, C13, C14 = 100 pF (Size 0603) C2, C5, C12, C15 = 0.1 μ F (Size 0603)
R3, R4	Jumpers in Single-Ended IF Output Circuit.	0 Ω (Size 0603)
R6, C11	R _{BIAS} resistor that sets the bias current for the mixer core. The capacitor provides ac bypass for R6.	R6 = 2.43 k Ω (Size 0603) C11 = 100 pF (Size 0603)
R8	Jumper for pull down of the PWDN pin.	R8 = 10 k Ω (Size 0603)
R9	Jumper.	R9 = 0 Ω (Size 0603)
C3	RF Input AC Coupling. Provides dc block for RF input.	C3 = 100 pF (Size 0402)
C1	RF Common AC Coupling. Provides dc block for RF input common connection.	C1 = 100 pF (Size 0402)
C8	LO Input AC Coupling. Provides dc block for the LO input.	C8 = 100 pF (Size 0402)
C7	LO Common AC Coupling. Provides dc block for LO input common connection.	C7 = 100 pF (Size 0402)
SW1	Power Down. The device is on when the PWDN is connected to ground via SW1. The device is disabled when PWDN is connected to the positive supply (V _s) via SW1.	
T1	IF Output Balun Transformer. Converts differential, high impedance IF output to single-ended. When loaded with 50 Ω , this balun presents a 200 Ω load to the mixers collectors. The center tap of the primary is used to supply the bias voltage (V _s) to the IF output pins.	T1 = TC4-1W, 4:1 (Mini-Circuits)
R11, Z3, Z4 R12, Z1, Z2	IF Output Interface —IFOP, IFOM. These positions can be used to modify the impedance presented to the IF outputs.	R11 = 0 Ω (Size 0603) Z3, Z4 = Open R12 = 0 Ω (Size 0603) Z1, Z2 = Open

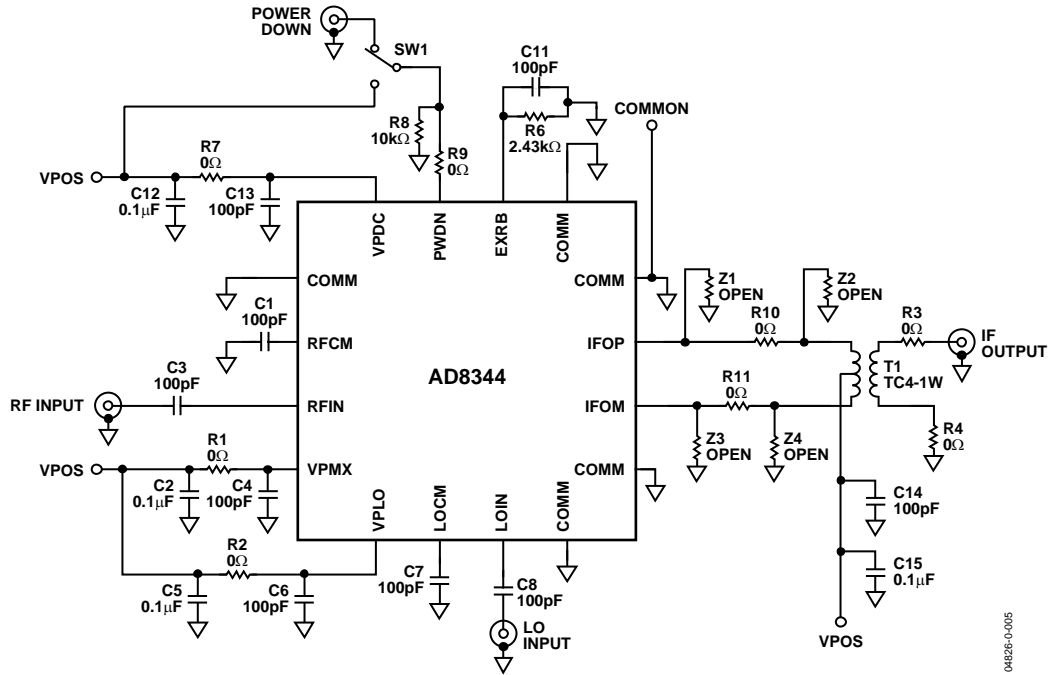


Figure 48. Evaluation Board Schematic—Single-Ended IF Output

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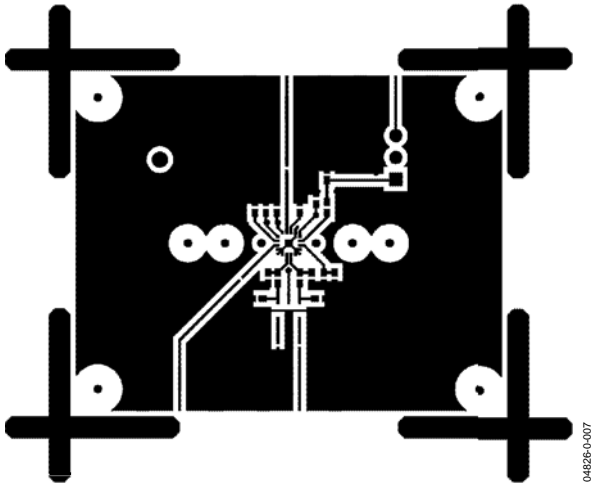


Figure 49. Single-Ended Evaluation Board, Component Side Layout

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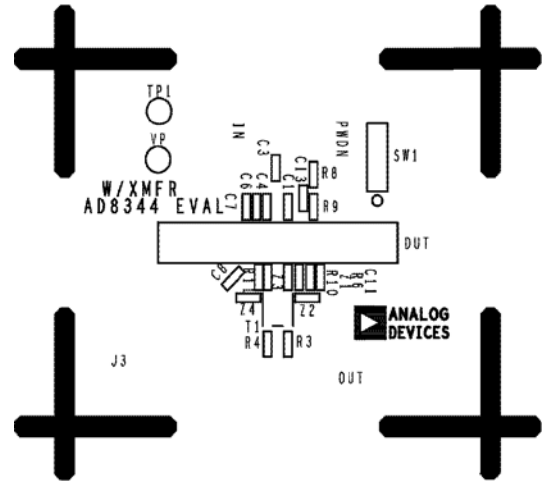


Figure 50. Single-Ended Evaluation Board, Component Side Silkscreen

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