



High-Linearity, 815MHz to 1000MHz Upconversion/ Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

MAX2029

General Description

The MAX2029 high-linearity passive upconverter or downconverter mixer is designed to provide +36.5dBm IIP3, 6.7dB NF, and 6.5dB conversion loss for an 815MHz to 1000MHz RF frequency range to support GSM/cellular base-station transmitter or receiver applications. With a 570MHz to 900MHz LO frequency range, this particular mixer is ideal for low-side LO injection architectures. For a pin-to-pin-compatible mixer meant for high-side LO injection, refer to the MAX2031 data sheet.

In addition to offering excellent linearity and noise performance, the MAX2029 also yields a high level of component integration. This device includes a double-balanced passive mixer core, a dual-input LO selectable switch, and an LO buffer. On-chip baluns are also integrated to allow for a single-ended RF input for downconversion (or RF output for upconversion), and single-ended LO inputs. The MAX2029 requires a nominal LO drive of 0dBm, and supply current is guaranteed to be below 100mA.

The MAX2029 is pin compatible with the MAX2039, MAX2041, MAX2042, MAX2044 series of 1700MHz to 2200MHz, 2000MHz to 3000MHz, and 3200MHz to 3900MHz mixers, making this family of passive upconverters and downconverters ideal for applications where a common printed-circuit board (PCB) layout is used for multiple frequency bands.

The MAX2029 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

Cellular Band WCDMA and cdma2000® Base Stations
GSM 850/GSM 900 2G and 2.5G EDGE Base Stations
TDMA and Integrated Digital Enhanced Network (iDEN®) Base Stations
PHS/PAS Base Stations
WiMAX Base Stations and Customer Premise Equipment

Predistortion Receivers
Microwave and 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.

iDEN is a registered trademark of Motorola, Inc.

Features

- ◆ 815MHz to 1000MHz RF Frequency Range
- ◆ 570MHz to 900MHz LO Frequency Range
- ◆ 960MHz to 1180MHz LO Frequency Range (Refer to the MAX2031 Data Sheet)
- ◆ DC to 250MHz IF Frequency Range
- ◆ 6dB/6.5dB (Upconverter/Downconverter) Conversion Loss
- ◆ 36.5dBm/39dBm (Downconverter/Upconverter) Input IP3
- ◆ +25dBm/+27dBm (Upconverter/Downconverter) Input 1dB Compression Point
- ◆ 6.7dB Noise Figure
- ◆ Integrated LO Buffer
- ◆ Integrated RF and LO Baluns
- ◆ Low -3dBm to +3dBm LO Drive
- ◆ Built-In SPDT LO Switch with 53dB Isolation and 50ns Switching Time
- ◆ Pin Compatible with the MAX2039/MAX2041 1700MHz to 2200MHz Mixers
- ◆ External Current-Setting Resistor Provides Option for Operating Mixer in Reduced-Power/Reduced-Performance Mode
- ◆ Lead-Free Package Available

Ordering Information

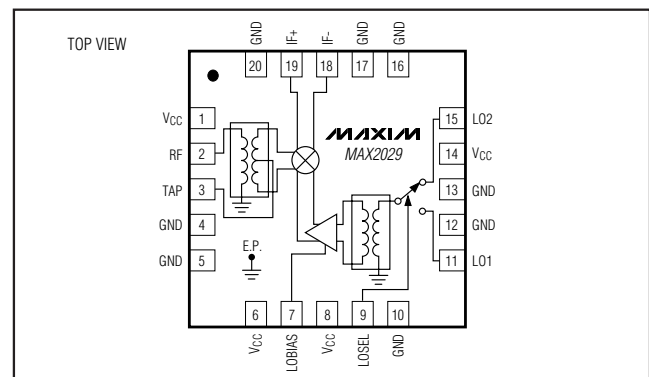
PART	TEMP RANGE	PIN-PACKAGE	PKG CODE
MAX2029ETP/-T	-40°C to +85°C	20 Thin QFN-EP* (5mm x 5mm)	T2055-3
MAX2029ETP/+T	-40°C to +85°C	20 Thin QFN-EP* (5mm x 5mm)	T2055-3

T = Tape and reel.

*EP = Exposed paddle.

+Denotes lead-free package.

Pin Configuration/ Functional Diagram



Maxim Integrated Products 1

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

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ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

V _{CC} to GND	-0.3V to +5.5V	Continuous Power Dissipation (T _C = +85°C) (Note A)	
RF (RF is DC shorted to GND through a balun)	50mA	20-Pin Thin QFN-EP	5W
LO1, LO2 to GND	-0.3V to +0.3V	θ _{JA} (Note B)	+38°C/W
IF+, IF- to GND	-0.3V to (V _{CC} + 0.3V)	θ _{JC}	+13°C/W
TAP to GND	-0.3V to +1.4V	Operating Temperature Range (Note C)	T _C = -40°C to +85°C
LOSEL to GND	-0.3V to (V _{CC} + 0.3V)	Maximum Junction Temperature	+150°C
LOBIAS to GND	-0.3V to (V _{CC} + 0.3V)	Storage Temperature Range	-65°C to +150°C
RF, LO1, LO2 Input Power*	+20dBm	Lead Temperature (soldering, 10s)	+300°C

Note A: Based on junction temperature $T_J = T_C + (\theta_{JC} \times V_{CC} \times I_{CC})$. This formula can be used when the temperature of the exposed paddle is known while the device is soldered down to a PCB. See the *Applications Information* section for details. The junction temperature must not exceed +150°C.

Note B: Junction temperature $T_J = T_A + (\theta_{JA} \times V_{CC} \times I_{CC})$. This formula can be used when the ambient temperature of the EV kit PCB is known. The junction temperature must not exceed +150°C. See the *Applications Information* section for details.

Note C: T_C is the temperature on the exposed paddle of the package. T_A is the ambient temperature of the device and PCB.

*Maximum reliable continuous input power applied to the RF, LO, and IF ports of this device is +15dBm from a 50Ω source.

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 signals applied, T_C = -40°C to +85°C. IF+ and IF- are DC grounded through an IF balun. 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}			85	100	mA
LOSEL Input Logic-Low	V _{IL}				0.8	V
LOSEL Input Logic-High	V _{IH}		2			V
Input Current	I _{IH} , I _{IL}			±0.01		μA

AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(Typical Application Circuit, C5 = 3.3pF, L1 and C4 not used, V_{CC} = +4.75V to +5.25V, RF and LO ports are driven from 50Ω sources, P_{LO} = -3dBm to +3dBm, P_{RF} = 0dBm, f_{RF} = 815MHz to 1000MHz, f_{LO} = 570MHz to 900MHz, f_{IF} = 90MHz, f_{LO} < f_{RF}, T_C = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at V_{CC} = +5V, P_{LO} = 0dBm, f_{RF} = 920MHz, f_{LO} = 830MHz, f_{IF} = 90MHz, T_C = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
RF Frequency Range	f _{RF}	(Note 2)	815		1000	MHz
LO Frequency Range	f _{LO}	(Note 2)	570		900	MHz
IF Frequency Range	f _{IF}	External IF transformer dependence (Note 2)	DC		250	MHz
LO Drive	P _{LO}	(Note 2)	-3		+3	dBm
LO1-to-LO2 Isolation (Note 3)		LO2 selected, P _{LO} = +3dBm, T _C = +25°C, f _{RF} = 920MHz to 960MHz, f _{LO} = 830MHz to 870MHz	48	53		dB
		LO1 selected, P _{LO} = +3dBm, T _C = +25°C, f _{RF} = 920MHz to 960MHz, f _{LO} = 830MHz to 870MHz	50	56		
Maximum LO Leakage at RF Port		P _{LO} = +3dBm		-17		dBm
Maximum LO Leakage at IF Port		P _{LO} = +3dBm, f _{RF} = 920MHz to 960MHz, f _{LO} = 830MHz to 870MHz (Note 3)		-29.5	-23	dBm

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AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(Typical Application Circuit, C5 = 3.3pF, L1 and C4 not used, V_{CC} = +4.75V to +5.25V, RF and LO ports are driven from 50Ω sources, P_{LO} = -3dBm to +3dBm, P_{RF} = 0dBm, f_{RF} = 815MHz to 1000MHz, f_{LO} = 570MHz to 900MHz, f_{IF} = 90MHz, f_{LO} < f_{RF}, T_C = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at V_{CC} = +5V, P_{LO} = 0dBm, f_{RF} = 920MHz, f_{LO} = 830MHz, f_{IF} = 90MHz, T_C = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
LO Switching Time		50% of LOSEL to IF, settled within 2 degrees		50		ns
Minimum RF-to-IF Isolation		f _{RF} = 920MHz to 960MHz, f _{LO} = 830MHz to 870MHz (Note 3)	38	47		dB
RF Port Return Loss				18		dB
LO Port Return Loss		LO1/LO2 port selected, LO2/LO1, RF, and IF terminated into 50Ω		19		dB
		LO1/LO2 port unselected, LO2/LO1, RF, and IF terminated into 50Ω		31		
IF Port Return Loss		LO driven at 0dBm, RF terminated into 50Ω		23		dB

AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (DOWNCONVERTER OPERATION)

(Typical Application Circuit, C5 = 3.3pF, L1 and C4 not used, V_{CC} = +4.75V to +5.25V, RF and LO ports are driven from 50Ω sources, P_{LO} = -3dBm to +3dBm, P_{RF} = 0dBm, f_{RF} = 815MHz to 1000MHz, f_{LO} = 570MHz to 900MHz, f_{IF} = 90MHz, f_{LO} < f_{RF}, T_C = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at V_{CC} = +5V, P_{LO} = 0dBm, f_{RF} = 920MHz, f_{LO} = 830MHz, f_{IF} = 90MHz, T_C = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Conversion Loss	G _C			6.5		dB
Conversion Loss Flatness (Note 3)		Flatness over any one of three frequency bands (f _{IF} = 90MHz): f _{RF} = 827MHz to 849MHz f _{RF} = 869MHz to 894MHz f _{RF} = 880MHz to 915MHz		±0.2		dB
		f _{RF} = 920MHz to 960MHz		±0.4		
		Conversion Loss Variation Over Temperature		T _C = +25°C to -40°C T _C = +25°C to +85°C		-0.28 0.35
Input Compression Point	P _{1dB}	(Note 4)		27		dBm
Input Third-Order Intercept Point	IIP3	f _{RF1} = 920MHz, f _{RF2} = 921MHz, P _{RF} = 0dBm/tone, P _{LO} = 0dBm, T _C = +25°C (Note 3)	33	36.5		dBm
Input IP3 Variation Over Temperature	IIP3	T _C = +25°C to -40°C		-0.6		dB
		T _C = +25°C to +85°C		0.4		
Output Third-Order Intercept Point	OIP3	f _{RF1} = 920MHz, f _{RF2} = 921MHz, P _{RF} = 0dBm/tone, P _{LO} = 0dBm, T _C = +25°C (Note 3)	26	30		dBm
Spurious Response at IF (Note 3)	2 × 2	2RF - 2LO, P _{RF} = -10dBm, f _{RF} = 920MHz to 960MHz (f _{LO} = 830MHz to 870MHz), T _C = +25°C	62	72		dBc
	3 × 3	3RF - 3LO, P _{RF} = -10dBm		96		
Noise Figure	NF	Single sideband		6.7		dB
Noise Figure Under Blocking (Note 5)		P _{BLOCKER} = +8dBm		15		dB
		P _{BLOCKER} = +12dBm		19		

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AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (UPCONVERTER OPERATION)

(Typical Application Circuit, L1 = 4.7nH, C4 = 4.7pF, C5 not used, V_{CC} = +4.75V to +5.25V, RF and LO ports are driven from 50Ω sources, P_{LO} = -3dBm to +3dBm, P_{IF} = 0dBm, f_{RF} = 815MHz to 1000MHz, f_{LO} = 570MHz to 900MHz, f_{IF} = 90MHz, f_{LO} < f_{RF}, T_C = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at V_{CC} = +5V, P_{LO} = 0dBm, f_{RF} = 920MHz, f_{LO} = 830MHz, f_{IF} = 90MHz, T_C = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Conversion Loss	G _C			6		dB
Conversion Loss Flatness		Flatness over any one of four frequency bands (f _{IF} = 90MHz): f _{RF} = 827MHz to 849MHz f _{RF} = 869MHz to 894MHz f _{RF} = 880MHz to 915MHz f _{RF} = 920MHz to 960MHz		±0.3		dB
Conversion Loss Variation Over Temperature		T _C = +25°C to -40°C		-0.4		dB
		T _C = +25°C to +85°C		0.3		
Input Compression Point	P _{1dB}	(Note 4)		25		dBm
Input Third-Order Intercept Point	IIP3	f _{IF1} = 90MHz, f _{IF2} = 91MHz (results in f _{RF1} = 920MHz, f _{RF2} = 921MHz), P _{IF} = 0dBm/tone, P _{LO} = 0dBm, T _C = +25°C (Note 3)	34	39		dBm
Input IP3 Variation Over Temperature	IIP3	T _C = +25°C to -40°C		-0.6		dB
		T _C = +25°C to +85°C		-0.6		
LO ± 2IF Spur				71		dBc
LO ± 3IF Spur				86		dBc
Output Noise Floor		P _{OUT} = 0dBm (Note 5)		-167		dBm/Hz

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

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

Note 3: Guaranteed by design.

Note 4: Compression point characterized. It is advisable not to continuously operate the mixer RF/IF inputs above +15dBm.

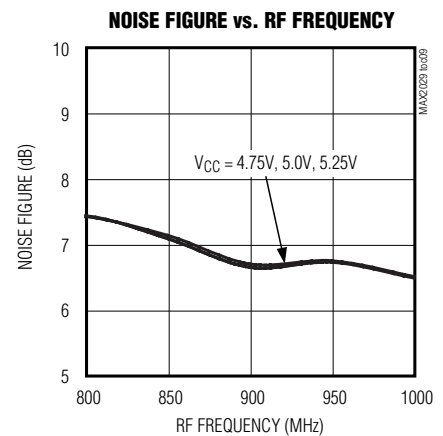
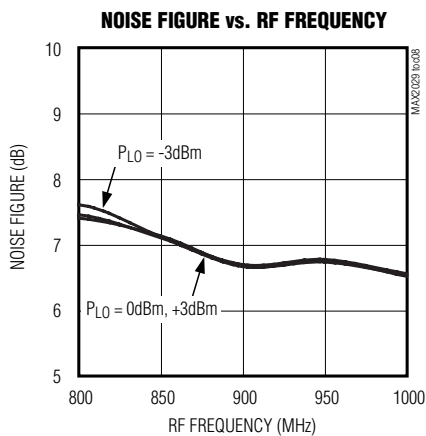
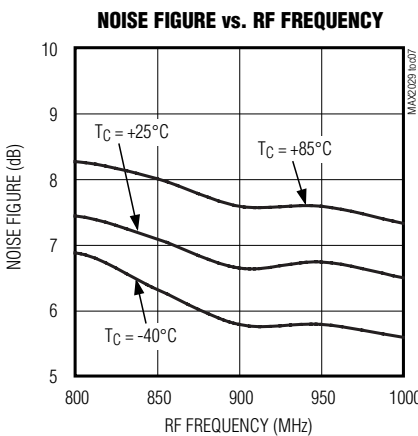
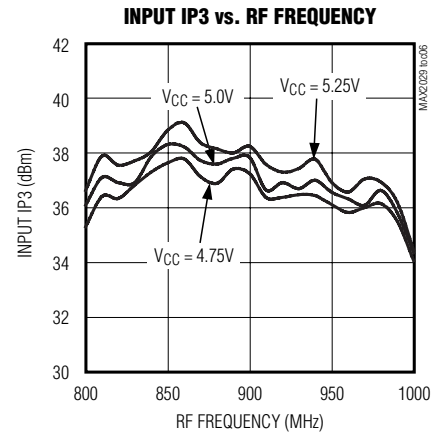
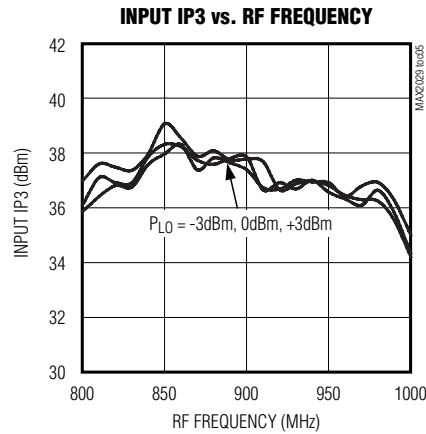
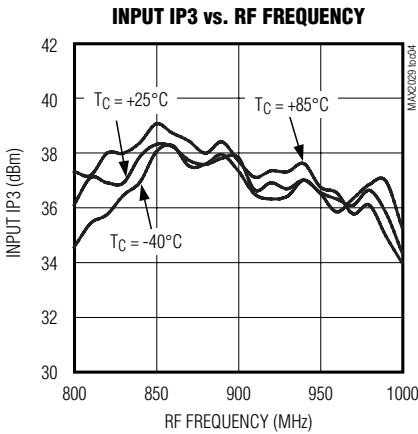
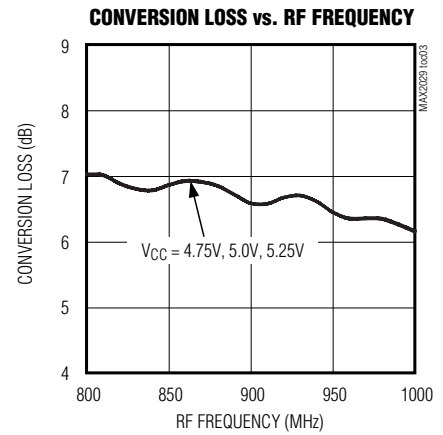
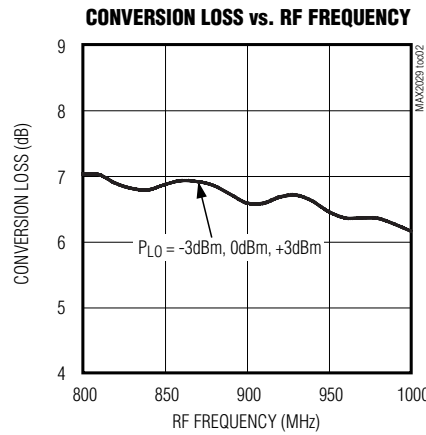
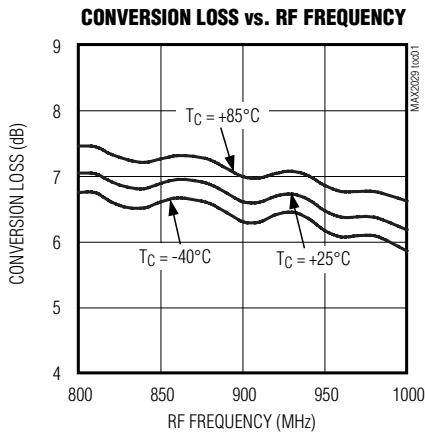
Note 5: Measured with external LO source noise filtered, so its noise floor is -174dBm/Hz at 100MHz offset. This specification reflects the effects of all SNR degradations in the mixer, including the LO noise as defined in *Maxim Application Note 2021*.

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Typical Operating Characteristics

(Typical Application Circuit, C5 = 3.3pF, L1 and C4 not used, V_{CC} = +5.0V, P_{LO} = 0dBm, P_{RF} = 0dBm, f_{LO} < f_{RF}, f_{IF} = 90MHz, unless otherwise noted.)

Downconverter Curves

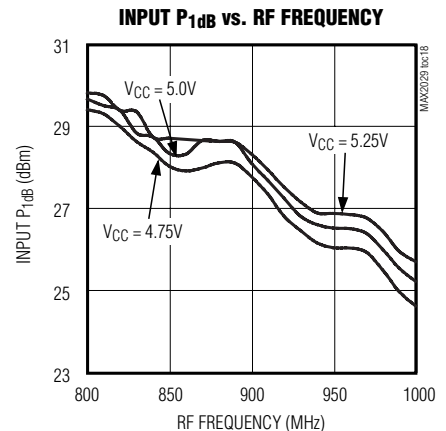
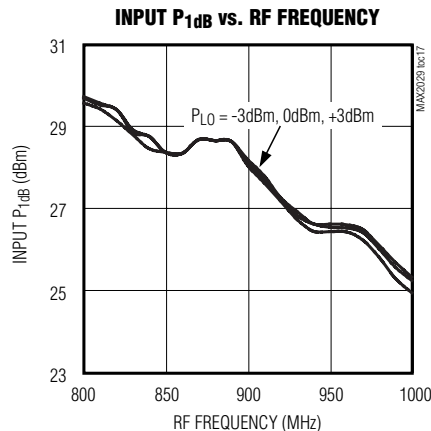
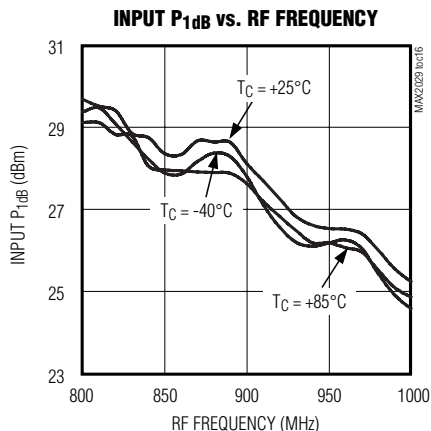
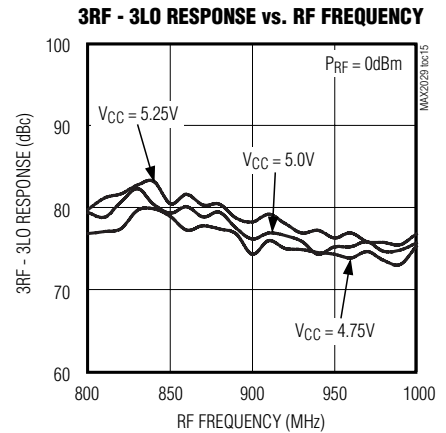
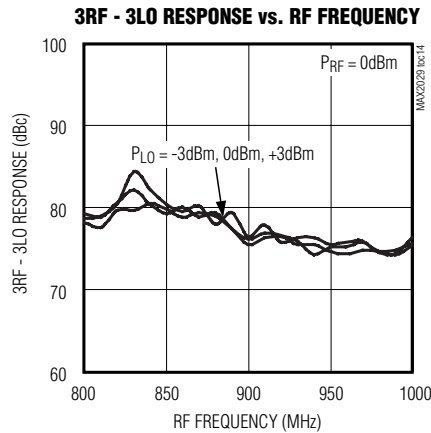
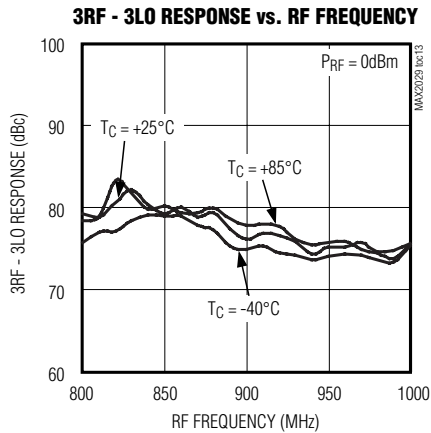
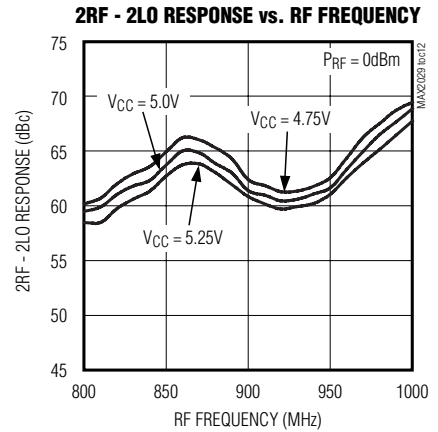
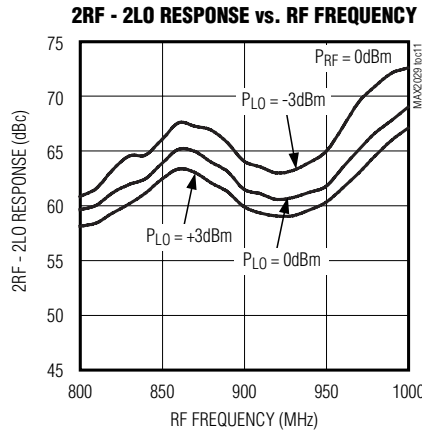
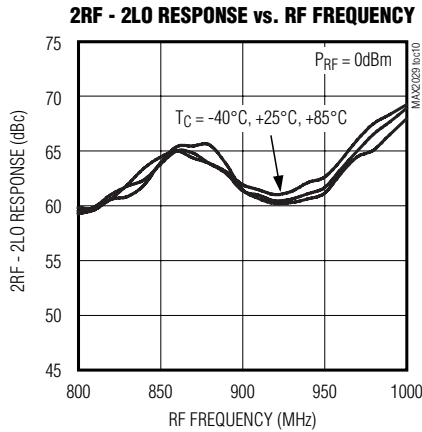


High-Linearity, 815MHz to 1000MHz Upconversion/Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(Typical Application Circuit, C5 = 3.3pF, L1 and C4 not used, VCC = +5.0V, PLO = 0dBm, PRF = 0dBm, fLO < fRF, fIF = 90MHz, unless otherwise noted.)

Downconverter Curves

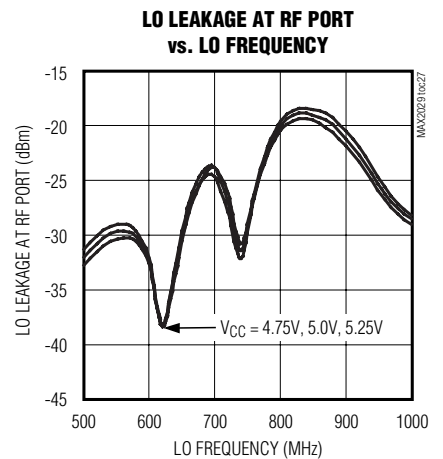
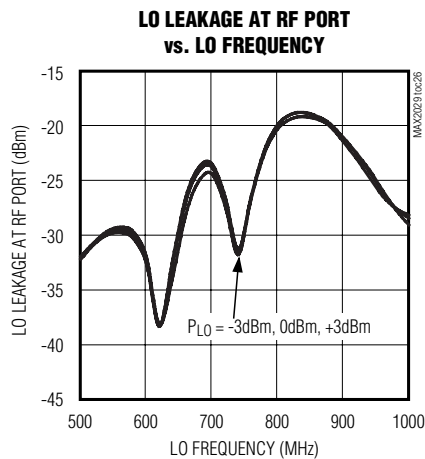
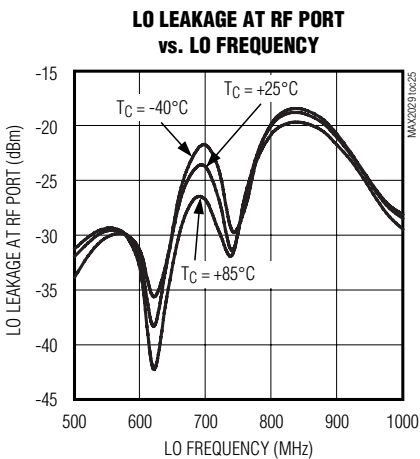
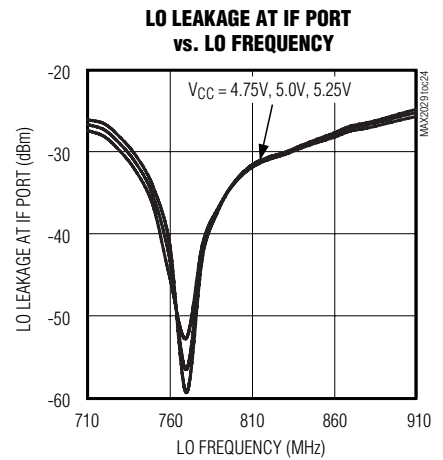
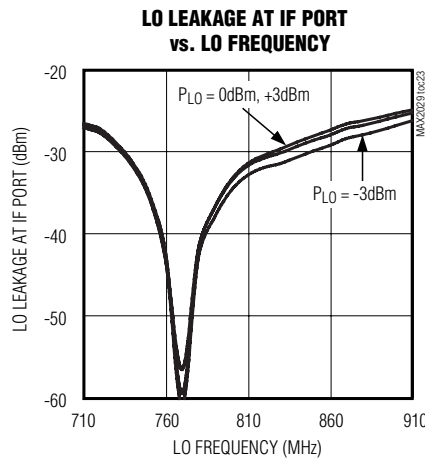
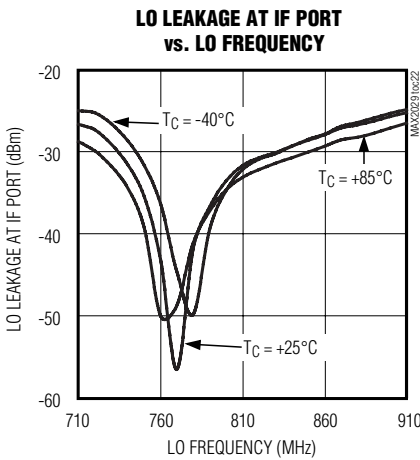
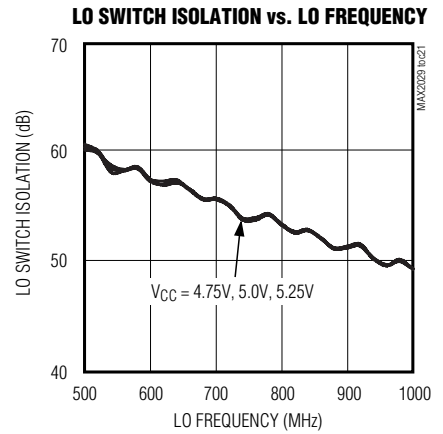
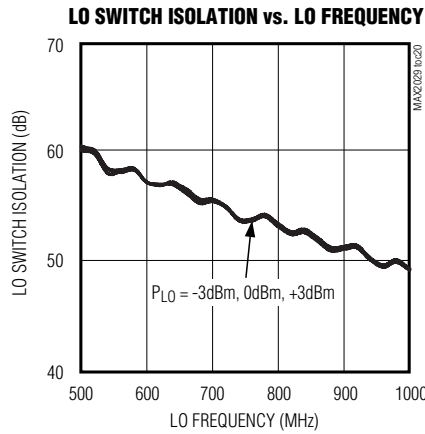
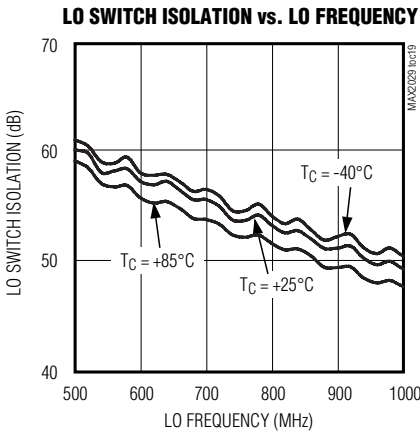


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Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(Typical Application Circuit, C5 = 3.3pF, L1 and C4 not used, VCC = +5.0V, PLO = 0dBm, PRF = 0dBm, fLO < fRF, fIF = 90MHz, unless otherwise noted.)

Downconverter Curves

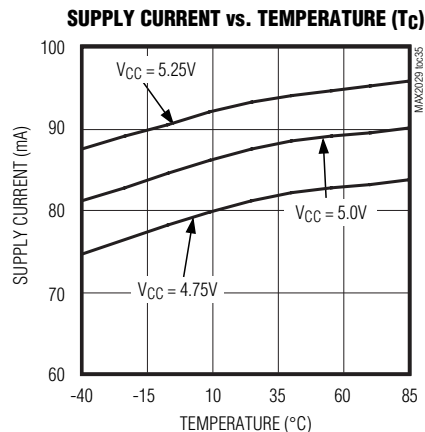
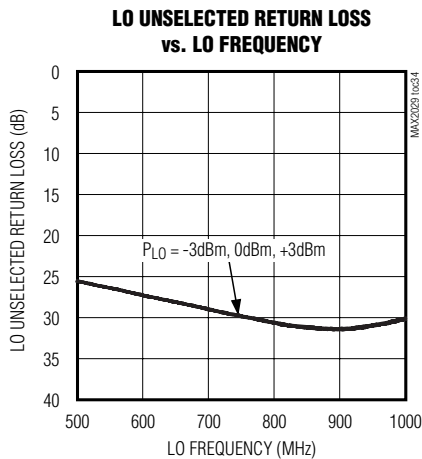
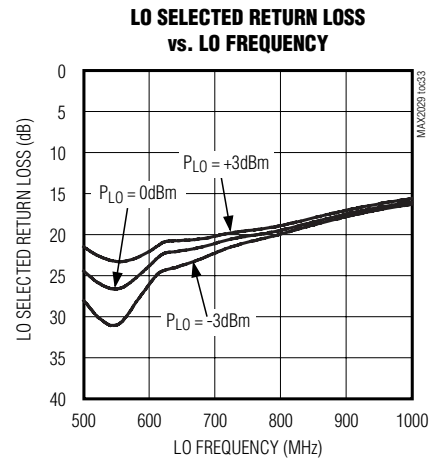
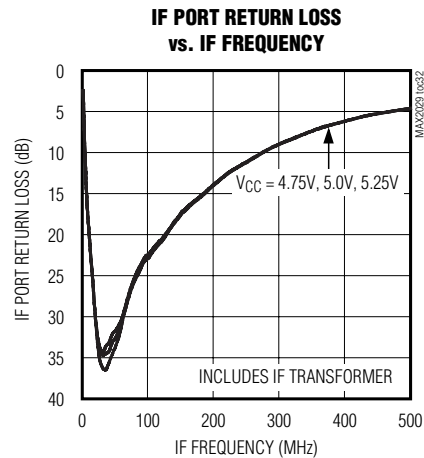
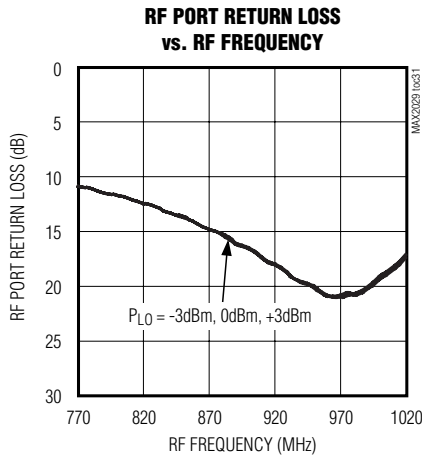
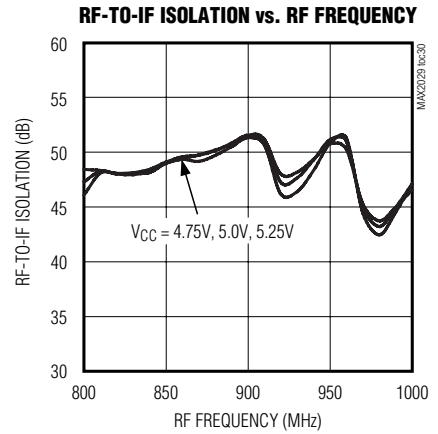
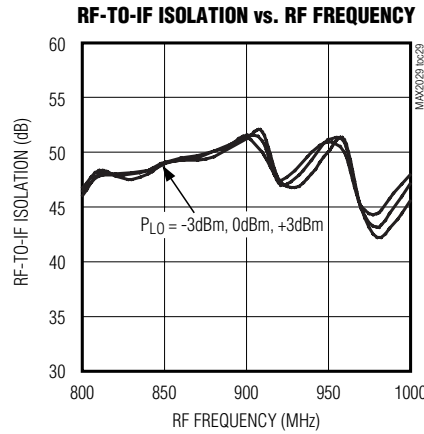
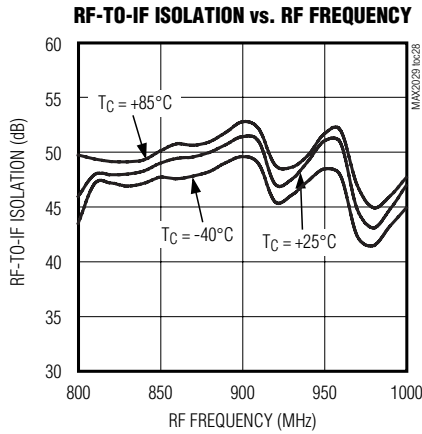


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Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(Typical Application Circuit, C5 = 3.3pF, L1 and C4 not used, V_{CC} = +5.0V, P_{LO} = 0dBm, P_{RF} = 0dBm, f_{LO} < f_{RF}, f_{IF} = 90MHz, unless otherwise noted.)

Downconverter Curves



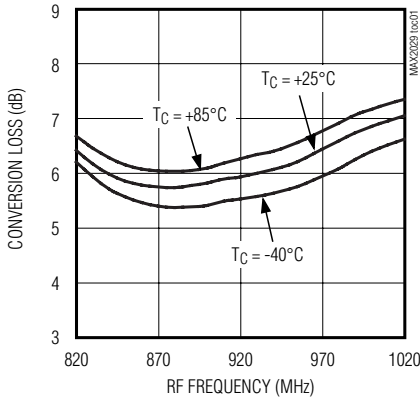
High-Linearity, 815MHz to 1000MHz Upconversion/Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

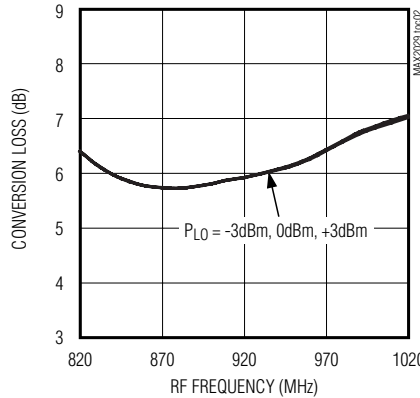
(Typical Application Circuit, L1 = 4.7nH, C4 = 4.7pF, C5 not used, VCC = +5.0V, PLO = 0dBm, PIF = 0dBm, fRF = fLO + fIF, fIF = 90MHz, unless otherwise noted.)

Upconverter Curves

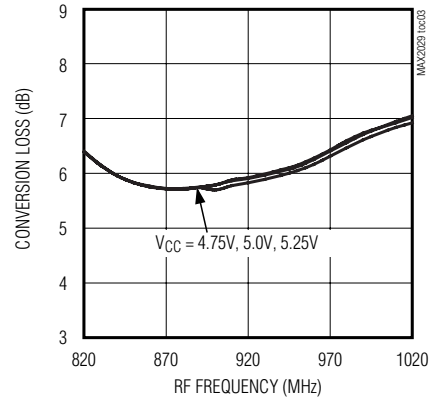
CONVERSION LOSS vs. RF FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)



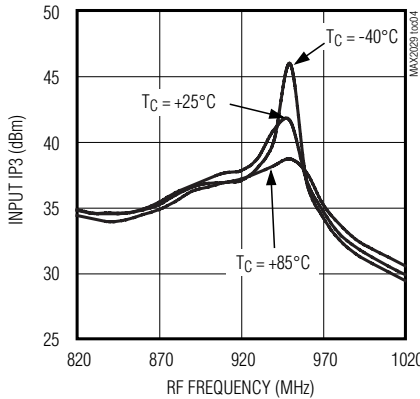
CONVERSION LOSS vs. RF FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)



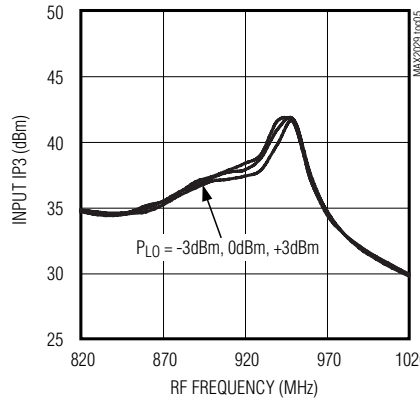
CONVERSION LOSS vs. RF FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)



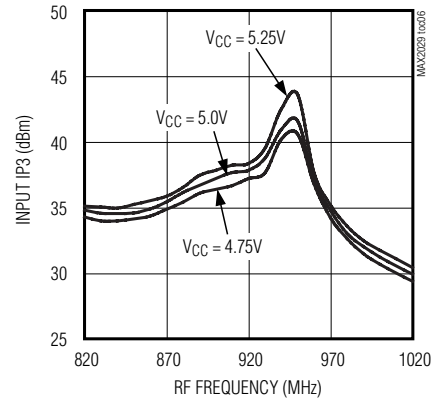
INPUT IP3 vs. RF FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)



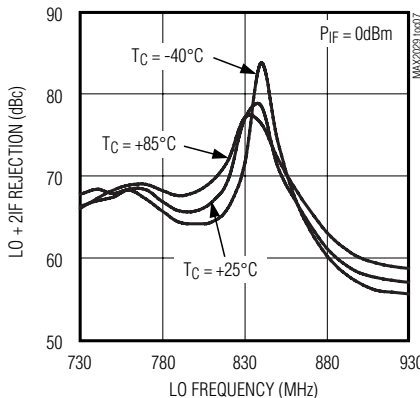
INPUT IP3 vs. RF FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)



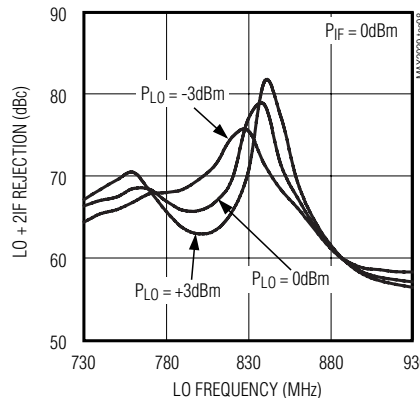
INPUT IP3 vs. RF FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)



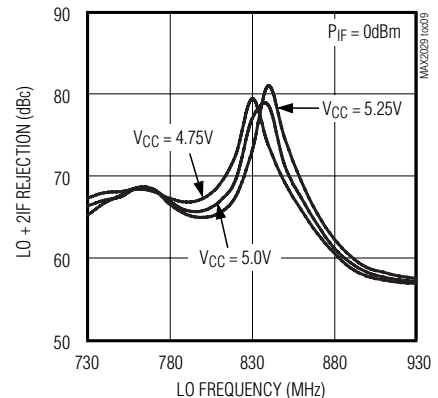
LO + 2IF REJECTION vs. LO FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)



LO + 2IF REJECTION vs. LO FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)



LO + 2IF REJECTION vs. LO FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)

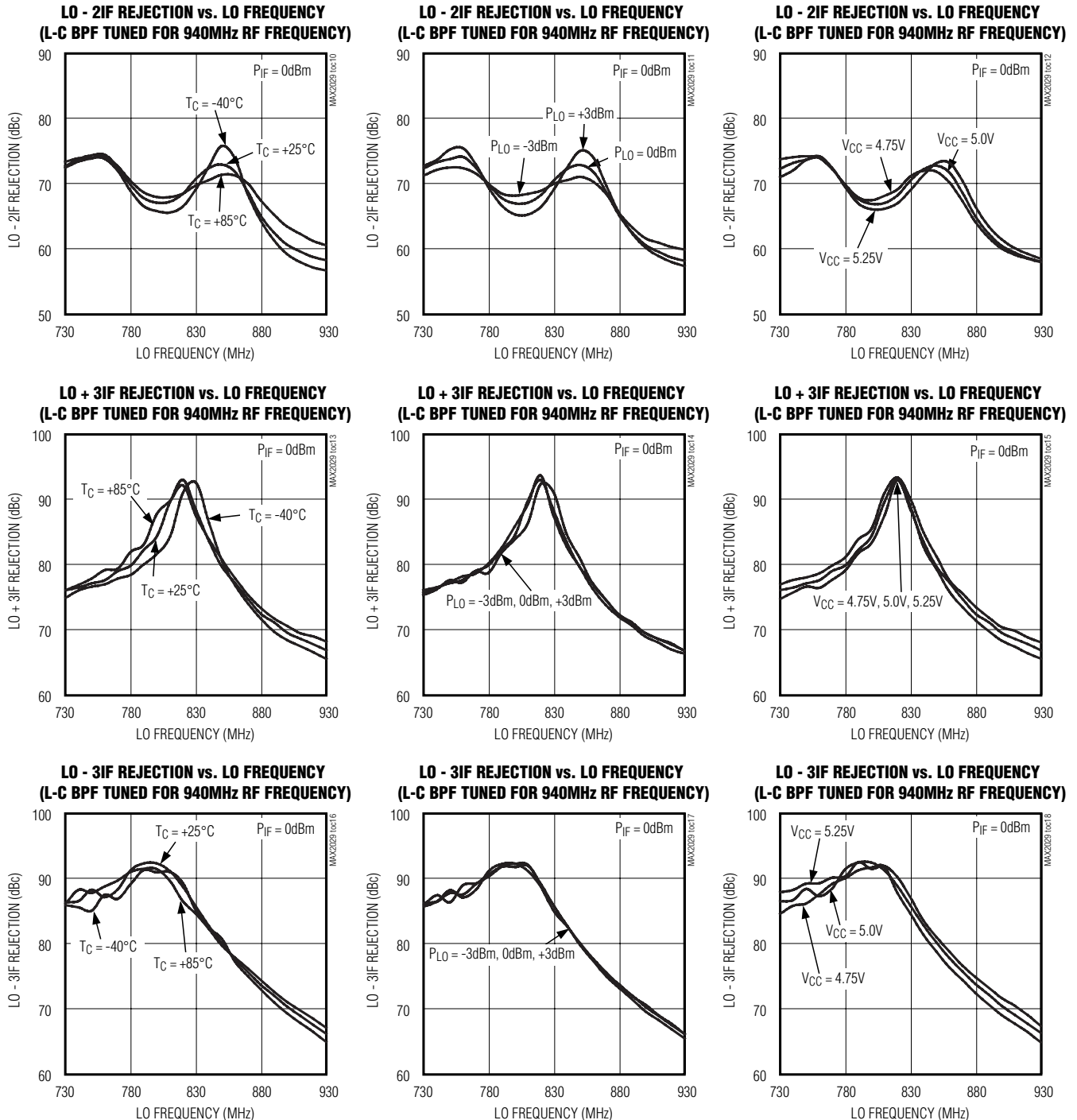


High-Linearity, 815MHz to 1000MHz Upconversion/Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(Typical Application Circuit, L1 = 4.7nH, C4 = 4.7pF, C5 not used, VCC = +5.0V, PLO = 0dBm, PIF = 0dBm, fRF = fLO + fIF, fIF = 90MHz, unless otherwise noted.)

Upconverter Curves



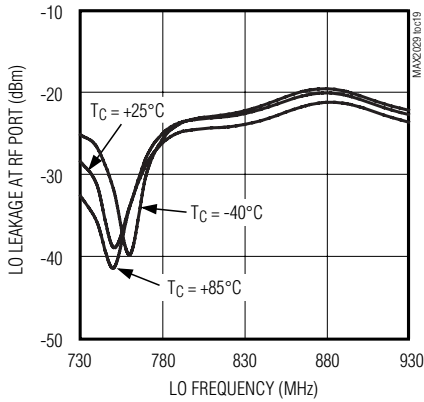
High-Linearity, 815MHz to 1000MHz Upconversion/Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

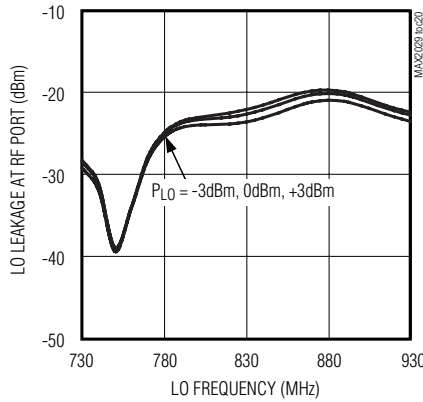
(Typical Application Circuit, L1 = 4.7nH, C4 = 4.7pF, C5 not used, V_{CC} = +5.0V, P_{LO} = 0dBm, P_{IF} = 0dBm, f_{RF} = f_{LO} + f_{IF}, f_{IF} = 90MHz, unless otherwise noted.)

Upconverter Curves

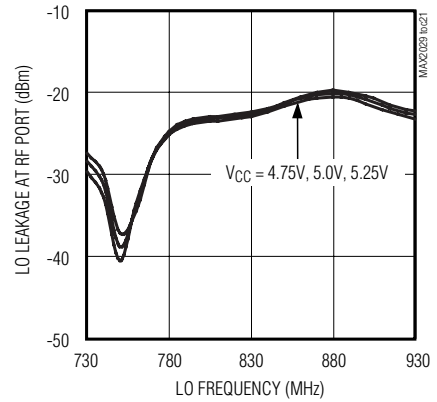
**LO LEAKAGE AT RF PORT vs. LO FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)**



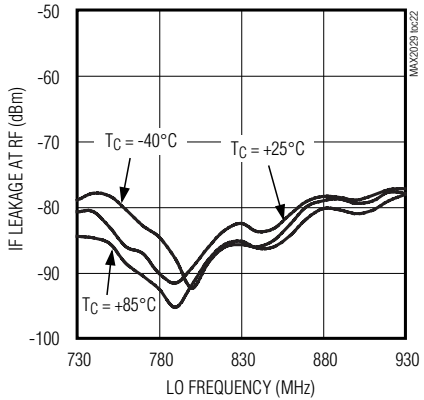
**LO LEAKAGE AT RF PORT vs. LO FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)**



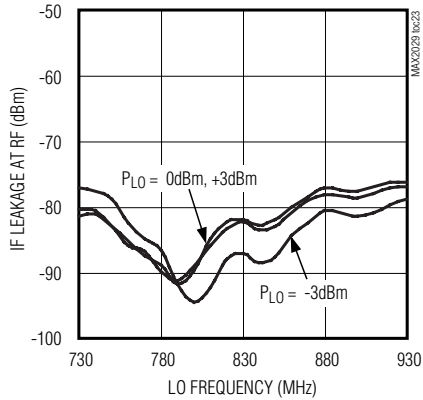
**LO LEAKAGE AT RF PORT vs. LO FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)**



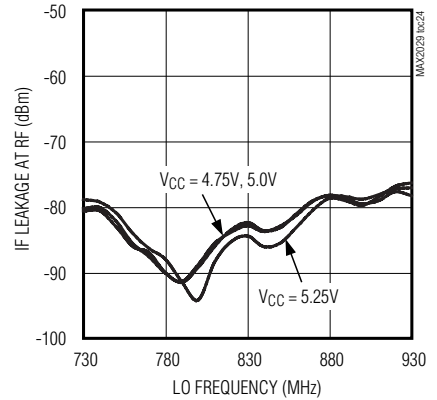
**IF LEAKAGE AT RF vs. LO FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)**



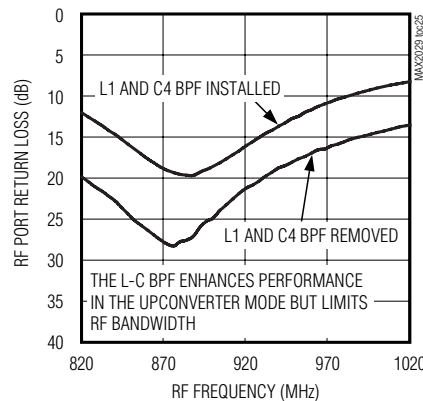
**IF LEAKAGE AT RF vs. LO FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)**



**IF LEAKAGE AT RF vs. LO FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)**



**RF PORT RETURN LOSS vs. RF FREQUENCY
(L-C BPF TUNED FOR 940MHz RF FREQUENCY)**



High-Linearity, 815MHz to 1000MHz Upconversion/Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

Pin Description

PIN	NAME	FUNCTION
1, 6, 8, 14	VCC	Power-Supply Connection. Bypass each VCC pin to GND with capacitors as shown in the <i>Typical Application Circuit</i> .
2	RF	Single-Ended 50Ω RF Input/Output. This port is internally matched and DC shorted to GND through a balun.
3	TAP	Center Tap of the Internal RF Balun. Connect to ground.
4, 5, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20	GND	Ground. Connect to PCB ground plane for proper operation and improved pin-to-pin isolation.
7	LOBIAS	Bias Resistor for Internal LO Buffer. Connect a 523Ω ±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.
18, 19	IF-, IF+	Differential IF Input/Outputs
EP	GND	Exposed Ground Paddle. Solder the exposed paddle to the ground plane using multiple vias.

Detailed Description

The MAX2029 can operate either as a downconverter or an upconverter mixer. As a downconverter, the MAX2029 yields a 6.5dB conversion loss, a 6.7dB noise figure, and a +36.5dBm third-order input intercept point (IIP3). The integrated baluns and matching circuitry allow for 50Ω single-ended interfaces to the RF port and the two LO ports. The RF port can be used as an input for downconversion or an output for upconversion. A single-pole, double-throw (SPDT) switch provides 50ns switching time between the two LO inputs with 53dB 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 MAX2029's inputs to a -3dBm to +3dBm range. The IF port incorporates a differential output for downconversion, which is ideal for providing enhanced IIP2 performance. For upconversion, the IF port is a differential input.

Specifications are guaranteed over broad frequency ranges to allow for use in cellular band WCDMA, cdmaOne™, cdma2000, and GSM 850/GSM 900 2.5G EDGE base stations. The MAX2029 is specified to operate over an 815MHz to 1000MHz RF frequency range, a 570MHz to 900MHz LO frequency range, and a DC to 250MHz IF frequency range. Operation beyond these ranges is possible; see the *Typical Operating Characteristics* for additional details.

The MAX2029 is optimized for low-side LO injection architectures. However, the device can operate in high-side LO injection applications with an extended LO range, but performance degrades as f_{LO} increases. See the *Typical Operating Characteristics* for measurements taken with

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f_{LO} up to 1000MHz. For a pin-compatible device that has been optimized for high-side LO injection, refer to the MAX2031 data sheet.

RF Port and Balun

For using the MAX2029 as a downconverter, the 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. The RF return loss is typically better than 15dB over the entire 815MHz to 1000MHz RF frequency range. For upconverter operation, the RF port is a single-ended output similarly matched to 50Ω.

LO Inputs, Buffer, and Balun

The MAX2029 is optimized for low-side LO injection architectures with a 570MHz to 900MHz LO frequency range. For a device with a 960MHz to 1180MHz LO frequency range, refer to the MAX2031 data sheet. As an added feature, the MAX2029 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 nearly 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 VCC before digital logic is applied to LOSEL (see the *Absolute Maximum Ratings*). LO1

High-Linearity, 815MHz to 1000MHz Upconversion/Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

and LO2 inputs are internally matched to 50Ω, requiring an 82pF DC-blocking capacitor at each input.

A two-stage internal LO buffer allows a wide input-power range for the LO drive. All guaranteed specifications are for a -3dBm to +3dBm LO signal power. 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 MAX2029 is a double-balanced, high-performance passive mixer. Exceptional linearity is provided by the large LO swing from the on-chip LO buffer.

Differential IF

The MAX2029 mixer has a DC to 250MHz IF frequency range. Note that these differential ports are ideal for providing enhanced IIP2 performance. Single-ended IF applications require a 1:1 balun to transform the 50Ω differential IF impedance to 50Ω single-ended. Including the balun, the IF return loss is better than 15dB. The differential IF is used as an input port for upconverter operation. The user can use a differential IF amplifier following the mixer, but a DC block is required on both IF pins.

Applications Information

Input and Output Matching

The RF and LO inputs are internally matched to 50Ω. No matching components are required. As a downconverter, the return loss at the RF port is typically better than 15dB over the entire input range (815MHz to 1000MHz), and return loss at the LO ports are typically 15dB (570MHz to 850MHz). RF and LO inputs require only DC-blocking capacitors for interfacing.

An optional L-C bandpass filter (BPF) can be installed at the RF port to improve upconverter performance. See the *Typical Application Circuit* and *Typical Operating Characteristics* for upconverter operation with an L-C BPF tuned for 920MHz RF frequency. Performance can be optimized at other frequencies by choosing different values for L1 and C4. Removing L1 and C4 altogether results in a broader match, but performance degrades. Contact factory for details.

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

Bias Resistor

Bias current for the LO buffer is optimized by fine tuning resistor R1. 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.

Layout Considerations

A properly designed PCB 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 PCB exposed pad **MUST** be connected to the ground plane of the PCB. 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 PCB. The MAX2029 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 VCC pin with the capacitors shown in the *Typical Application Circuit*. See Table 1.

Table 1. Typical Application Circuit Component List

COMPONENT	VALUE	DESCRIPTION
C1, C2, C7, C8, C10, C11, C12	82pF	Microwave capacitors (0603)
C3, C6, C9	10nF	Microwave capacitors (0603)
C4*	4.7pF	Microwave capacitor (0603)
C5**	3.3pF	Microwave capacitor (0603)
L1*	4.7nH	Inductor (0603)
R1	523Ω	±1% resistor (0603)
T1	1:1	IF balun M/A-COM: MABAES0029
U1	MAX2029	Maxim IC

*C4 and L1 installed only when mixer is used as an upconverter.

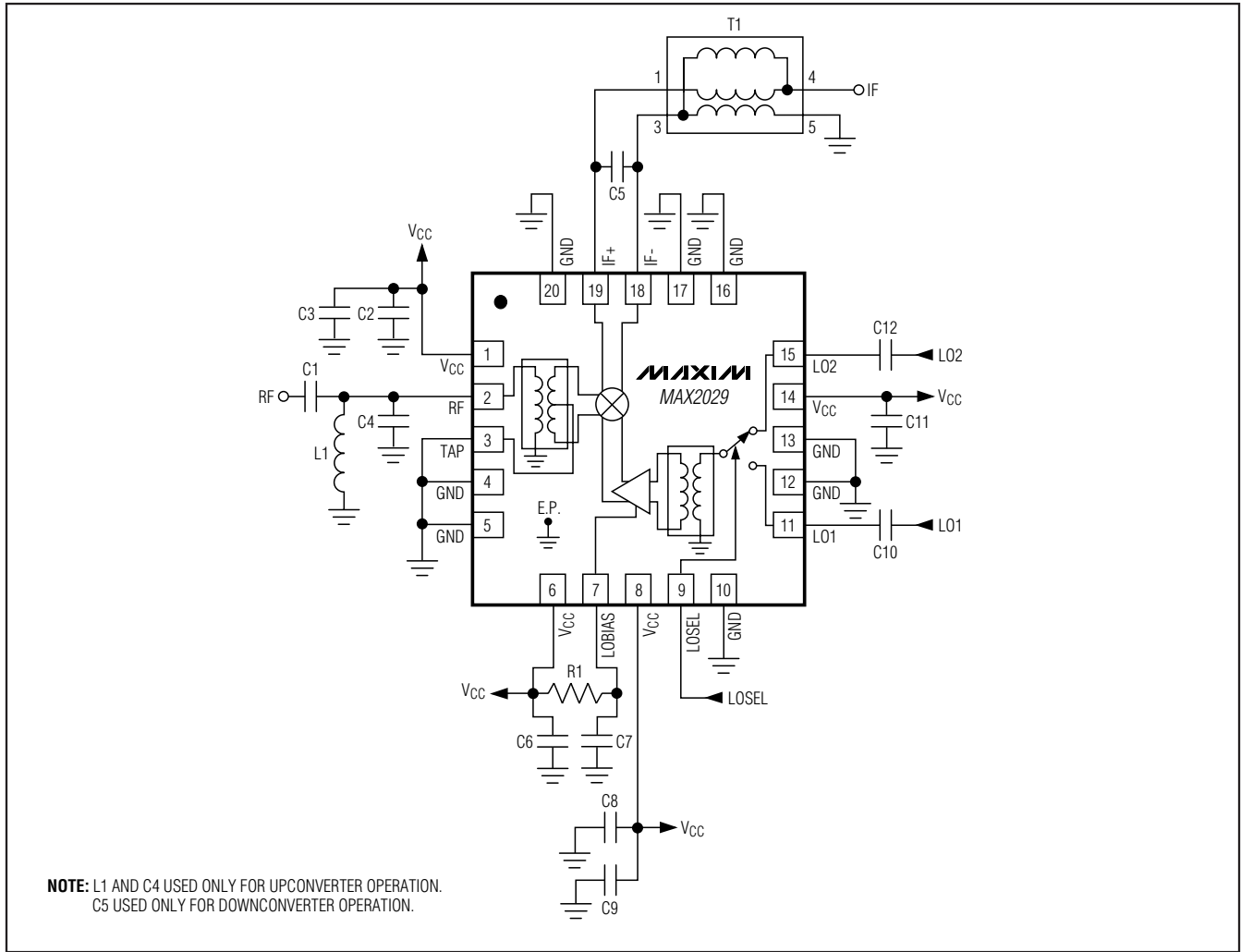
**C5 installed only when mixer is used as a downconverter.

Exposed Pad RF/Thermal Considerations

The exposed paddle (EP) of the MAX2029'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 MAX2029 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.

High-Linearity, 815MHz to 1000MHz Upconversion/Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

Typical Application Circuit



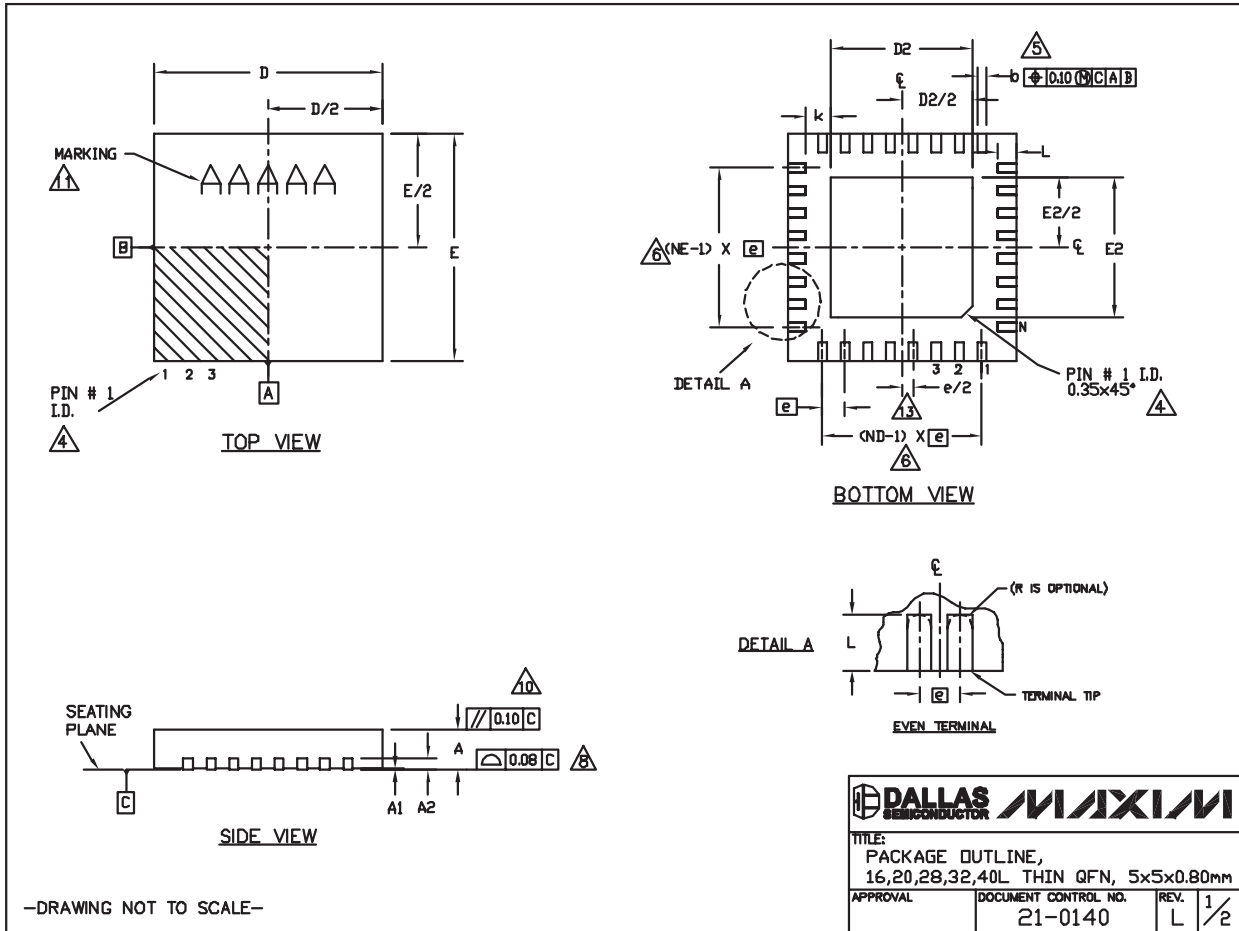
Chip Information

PROCESS: SiGe BiCMOS

High-Linearity, 815MHz to 1000MHz Upconversion/Downconversion Mixer with LO Buffer/Switch

Package Information

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



QFN THIN.EPS