19-1303; Rev 0: 10/97 EVALUATION KIT AVAILABLE

## Low-Cost Downconverter with Low-Noise Amplifier

#### General Description

The MAX2406 low-noise amplifier (LNA)/downconverter mixer is designed for use over a wide range of frequencies and is optimized for communications systems operating at a frequency of 1.9GHz. Applications include PWT1900/DCT1900, DCS1800/PCS1900, PHS, and DECT. This device includes an LNA, a downconverter mixer, and a local-oscillator (LO) buffer in a lowcost, plastic surface-mount package. At 1.9GHz, the LNA has 2.5dB typical noise figure and a -9.5dBm input third-order intercept point (IP3). The downconverter mixer has a low 9.1dB noise figure and a 4.5dBm input IP3. Image and LO filtering are implemented off-chip for maximum flexibility.

The MAX2406 has a differential IF port that can be used in a single-ended configuration by tying the unused side to V<sub>CC</sub>. The LO buffer can be driven differentially or in a single-ended configuration with only -10dBm of LO power. Power consumption is 60mW in receive mode, and typically drops to less than 1 $\mu$ W in shutdown mode.

For transceiver applications, the MAX2410 or MAX2411A both offer a transmitter along with a similar receiver.

**Applications** 

PWT1900/DCT1900 DCS1800/PCS1900 PHS/PACS DECT



**Functional Diagram** 

Typical Application Functional Diagram appears at end of data sheet.

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#### \_Features

- Integrated LNA/Downconverter
- 3.2dB Combined Receiver Noise Figure: 2.5dB (LNA) 9.1dB (mixer)
- -12.5dBm Combined Receiver Input IP3: -9.5dBm (LNA) 4.5dBm (mixer)
- + LO Buffer
- + +2.7V to +5.5V Single-Supply Operation
- + 60mW Power Consumption
- Low-Power Shutdown Mode

#### **Ordering Information**

PART	TEMP. RANGE	PIN-PACKAGE
MAX2406EEP	-40°C to +85°C	20 QSOP

### Pin Configuration



#### **ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS**

V <sub>CC</sub> to GND0.3V to 6 <sup>N</sup>	V (
LNAIN Input Power15dBn	n
LO, TO Input Power10dBn	n.
RXMXIN Input Power10dBn	n (
RXEN Voltage to GND0.3V to (V <sub>CC</sub> + 0.3V	
RXEN Current	Á I

Continuous Power Dissipation  $(T_A = +70^{\circ}C)$ 

QSOP (derate 9.1mW/°C above +70°C)	727mW
Junction Temperature	+150°C
Operating Temperature Range	40°C to +85°C
Storage Temperature	65°C to +165°C
Lead Temperature (soldering, 10sec)	+300°C

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

 $(V_{CC} = 2.7V \text{ to } 5.5V, \text{RXEN} = 2V, \text{LNAIN} = \text{RXMXIN} = \text{open, LNAOUT pulled up with } 100\Omega \text{ to } V_{CC}$ , IF and  $\overline{\text{IF}}$  pulled up with  $50\Omega$  to  $V_{CC}$ ,  $T_A = -40^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $+85^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Typical values are at  $T_A = +25^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $V_{CC} = 3.0V$ , unless otherwise noted.)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Supply-Voltage Range		2.7		5.5	V
RXEN Input Voltage High		2.0			V
RXEN Input Voltage Low				0.6	V
RXEN Input Bias Current	RXEN = 2.0V		0.1	1.0	μA
Supply Current, Receive Mode			20	30	mA
Supply Current, Shutdown Mode	$RXEN = GND, V_{CC} = 3.0V$		0.1	10	μA

#### AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

 $(MAX2406EVKIT, Rev. B, V_{CC} = 3.0V, RXEN = V_{CC}, f_{LO} = 1.5GHz, f_{LNAIN} = f_{RXMXIN} = 1.9GHz, P_{LNAIN} = -30dBm, P_{RXMXIN} = -21.5dBm, P_{LO} = -10dBm, differential IF operation, 50\Omega system, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)$ 

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS	
LNA Gain (Note 1)	$T_{A} = +25^{\circ}C$	13.6	16	17.6	dB	
	$T_A = T_{MIN}$ to $T_{MAX}$	12.2		18.8		
LNA Noise Figure			2.5		dB	
LNA Input IP3	(Note 2)		-9.5		dBm	
LNA Output 1dB Compression			-5.6		dBm	
Mixer Conversion Gain (Note 1)	$T_{A} = +25^{\circ}C$	7.4	8.4	9.0	dB	
	$T_A = T_{MIN}$ to $T_{MAX}$	6.2		10.2		
Mixer Noise Figure	Single sideband		9.1		dB	
Mixer Input IP3	(Note 3)		4.5		dBm	
Mixer Input 1dB Compression			-7		dBm	
Mixer Output Frequency	(Notes 1 and 4)			450	MHz	
Receiver Turn-On Time	(Notes 1 and 5)		0.5	2.5	μs	
Minimum LO Drive Level	(Note 6)		-17		dBm	
LO to LNAIN Leakage	RXEN = high or low		-49		dBm	

Note 1: Guaranteed by design and characterization.

Note 2: 1.9GHz and 1.901GHz tones at -30dBm per tone.

Note 3: 1.9GHz and 1.901GHz tones at -21.5dBm per tone.

Note 4: Mixer operation is guaranteed to this frequency. For optimum gain, adjust IF output match. See the IF Output Impedance (single ended) vs. Frequency graph in the *Typical Operating Characteristics*.

Note 5: Time from RXEN = low to RXEN = high, until the combined receive gain is within 1dB of its final value. Measured with 47pF blocking capacitors on LNAIN and LNAOUT.

Note 6: At this LO drive level, the mixer conversion gain is typically 1dB lower than with -10dBm LO drive.



### **Typical Operating Characteristics**

(MAX2406EVKIT, Rev. B, V<sub>CC</sub> = 3.3V, RXEN = V<sub>CC</sub>,  $f_{LO}$  = 1.5GHz,  $f_{LNAIN}$  =  $f_{RXMXIN}$  = 1.9GHz,  $P_{LNAIN}$  = -30dBm,  $P_{RXMXIN}$  = -21.5dBm,  $P_{LO}$  = -10dBm, differential IF operation, 50 $\Omega$  system,  $T_A$  = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)



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**MAX2406** 

3000

10.0

9.5 9.0

85

8.0

7.5

GAIN (dB)

RETURN LOSS (dB)

5.5

5.0

10

15

20

25

30

0 500

 $V_{CC} = 3.0V$ 

### Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

NOISE FIGURE (dB)

0

2500 3000

(MAX2406EVKIT, Rev. B, V<sub>CC</sub> = 3.3V, RXEN = V<sub>CC</sub>,  $f_{LO}$  = 1.5GHz,  $f_{LNAIN}$  =  $f_{RXMXIN}$  = 1.9GHz, P<sub>LNAIN</sub> = -30dBm, P<sub>RXMXIN</sub> = -21.5dBm, P<sub>LO</sub> = -10dBm, differential IF operation, 50 $\Omega$  system, T<sub>A</sub> = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

**RX MIXER INPUT IMPEDANCE** vs. FREQUENCY 300 MEASURED AT DEVICE PIN 250 IMAGINARY REAL IMPEDANCE (Ω) 001 120 001 001 REAL 50 0 0 500 1000 1500 2000 2500 FREQUENCY (MHz)



**MIXER GAIN vs. LO POWER** 







LNA AND MIXER NOISE FIGURE

vs. SUPPLY VOLTAGE

SUPPLY VOLTAGE (V)

MIXER

LNA

3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5



1000 1500 2000

FREQUENCY (MHz)









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**MAX2406** 

4

10

9

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

0

2.5

NOISE FIGURE (dB)

### \_\_\_Pin Description

PIN	NAME	FUNCTION	
1, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 15, 20	GND	Ground. Connect to ground plane with minimal inductance.	
2	RF Input to the LNA. At 1.9GHz, LNAIN can be easily matched to 50Ω with one external shunt 1pF capacitor. AC couple to this pin. See the LNA Input Impedance vs. Frequency plot in the Typical Operating Characteristics.		
5, 9	Vcc	Supply Voltage (+2.7V to +5.5V). Bypass $V_{CC}$ to GND at each pin with a 47pF capacitor as close to each pin as possible.	
6	RXEN Enable Control Input, active high. Logic high activates all part functions. A logic low places the devi shutdown mode.		
7	LO	$50\Omega$ Local-Oscillator Input Port. AC couple to this pin.	
8	LO	50 $\Omega$ Inverting Local-Oscillator Input Port. For single-ended LO operation, connect $\overline{LO}$ directly to GN a differential LO signal is available, AC couple the inverted LO signal to this pin.	
13	IF	Noninverting Side of Downconverter's Differential Open-Collector IF Output. Pull IF up to V <sub>CC</sub> with an inductor. This inductor can be part of the matching network to the desired IF impedance. Alternatively, a resistor can be placed in parallel to set a terminating impedance.	
14	ĪĒ	Inverting Side of Downconverter's Differential Open-Collector IF Output. Follow recommendations for IF output above. If single-ended operation is desired, connect IF directly to V <sub>CC</sub> .	
16	RXMXIN	RF Input of Downconverter Mixer. AC couple to this pin. A matching network may be required to match RXMXIN to an external filter. Consult the Rx Mixer Input Impedance vs. Frequency plot in the <i>Typical Operating Characteristics</i> .	
17	GND	LNA Output Ground. Connect to ground plane with minimal inductance.	
18	GND	Downconverter Mixer Input Ground. Connect to ground plane with minimal inductance.	
19	LNAOUT	LNA Output. This output typically provides a VSWR of better than 2:1 at frequencies from 1.8GHz to 2.5GHz with no external matching components. At other frequencies, a matching network may be required to match this pin to an external filter. Consult the LNA Output Impedance vs. Frequency plot in the <i>Typical Operating Characteristics</i> .	

### Detailed Description

The following sections describe each of the blocks in the MAX2406 Functional Diagram.

The MAX2406 consists of four major components: a lownoise amplifier (LNA), a downconverter mixer, a localoscillator (LO) buffer, and a power-management block.

#### Low-Noise Amplifier

The LNA is a wideband, single-ended cascode amplifier that can be used over a wide range of frequencies. Refer to the LNA Gain vs. Frequency graph in the *Typical Operating Characteristics*. Its port impedances are optimized for operation around 1.9GHz, requiring only a 1pF shunt capacitor at the LNA input for a VSWR

of better than 2:1 at the input and output. As with every LNA, the input match can be traded off for better noise figure.

#### **Receive Mixer**

The receive mixer is a wideband, double-balanced design with excellent noise figure and linearity.

#### **RF Inputs**

The RXMXIN input is typically connected to the LNA output through an off-chip filter providing enhanced flexibility. This input is externally matched to  $50\Omega$ . See Figure 1 for an example matching network for 1.9GHz, and the Rx Mixer Input Impedance vs. Frequency graph in the *Typical Operating Characteristics*.



**LO Inputs** The LO and  $\overline{\text{LO}}$  pins are internally terminated with 50 $\Omega$  resistors. See the *Typical Operating Characteristics* for a plot of LO Port Return Loss vs. Frequency. AC couple the local-oscillator signal to these pins. If a single-ended LO source is used, connect  $\overline{\text{LO}}$  to ground.

#### **IF Output Port**

The receive mixer output appears on the differential IF and IF pins. These open-collector outputs each require an external inductor to V<sub>CC</sub> for DC biasing. This port typically requires a matching network for coupling to an external IF filter. For single-ended operation, connect the unused side (typically IF) to V<sub>CC</sub>, and decouple it to ground with a 1000pF capacitor. Figure 1 shows examples of single-ended and differential IF port connections. Refer to the IF and IF Output Impedance vs. Frequency plot in the *Typical Operating Characteristics*. At lower IF frequencies, a shunt resistor across the pull-up inductor (in single-ended applications) or across IF and IF (in differential applications) can be used to set the IF impedance.

#### **Power-Down Control**

Pulling RXEN low places the MAX2406 in shutdown mode. Power-down is guaranteed with a control voltage at or below 0.6V. The device exits shutdown in 0.5µs typical.

#### Applications Information

#### **Extended Frequency Range**

The MAX2406 has been characterized at 1.9GHz for use in PCS applications; however, it operates over a much wider frequency range. The LNA gain and noise figure, as well as receive mixer conversion gain, are plotted over a wide frequency range in the *Typical Operating Characteristics*. When operating the device at frequencies other than those specified in the specification table, it may be necessary to design or alter the matching networks on LNAIN, RXMIXIN, IF, and (if used) IF. In some cases, the internal broadband output match on LNAOUT may have to be supplemented by an external matching circuit. The *Typical Operating Characteristics* provide port-impedance data vs. frequency for use in designing a matching network. The



Figure 1. MAX2406 Typical Operating Circuit

#### Typical Application Functional Diagram



LO port is internally terminated to  $50\Omega$  and provides a good match (a VSWR of approximately 1.2:1 to 2GHz, and a VSWR of approximately 2:1 to 3GHz).

#### Layout

A properly designed PC board is an essential part of any RF/microwave circuit. Be sure to use controlled impedance lines on all high-frequency inputs and outputs, use low-inductance connections to ground on all GND pins, and place decoupling capacitors close to all V<sub>CC</sub> connections. For the power supplies, a star topology works well. Each V<sub>CC</sub> node in the circuit has its own path to a central V<sub>CC</sub> and a decoupling capacitor that provides low impedance at the RF frequency of interest. The central V<sub>CC</sub> node has a large decoupling capacitor as well. This provides good isolation between the different sections of the MAX2406. The MAX2406 EV kit layout can be used as a guide to integrating the MAX2406 into your design.

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### Package Information



**MAX2406**