MAX2121B

L-Band Tuner with Programmable Baseband Filter

General Description

The MAX2121B low-cost, direct-conversion tuner IC is designed for satellite set-top and VSAT applications.

The device directly converts the satellite signals from the LNB to baseband using a broadband I/Q downconverter. The operating frequency range extends from 925MHz to 2250MHz.

The device includes an LNA and an RF variable-gain amplifier, I and Q downconverting mixers, and digitally controlled baseband filters (40MHz to 124MHz) and variable-gain amplifiers. Together, the RF and baseband variable-gain amplifiers provide more than 80dB of gain control range.

The device includes fully monolithic VCOs, as well as a complete fractional-N frequency synthesizer. Additionally, an on-chip crystal oscillator is provided along with a buffered output for driving additional tuners and demodulators. Synthesizer programming and device configuration are accomplished with a 2-wire serial interface. The IC features a VCO autoselect (VAS) function that automatically selects the proper VCO. For multituner applications, the device can be configured to have one of two 2-wire interface addresses. A low-power standby mode is available whereupon the signal path is shut down while leaving the reference oscillator, digital interface, and buffer circuits active, providing a method to reduce power in single and multituner applications.

The device is the most advanced broadband/VSAT DBS tuner available. The low noise figure eliminates the need for an external LNA. A small number of passive components are needed to form a complete broadband satellite tuner DVB-S2 RF front-end solution. The tuner is available in a very small, 5mm x 5mm, 28-pin TQFN package.

Applications

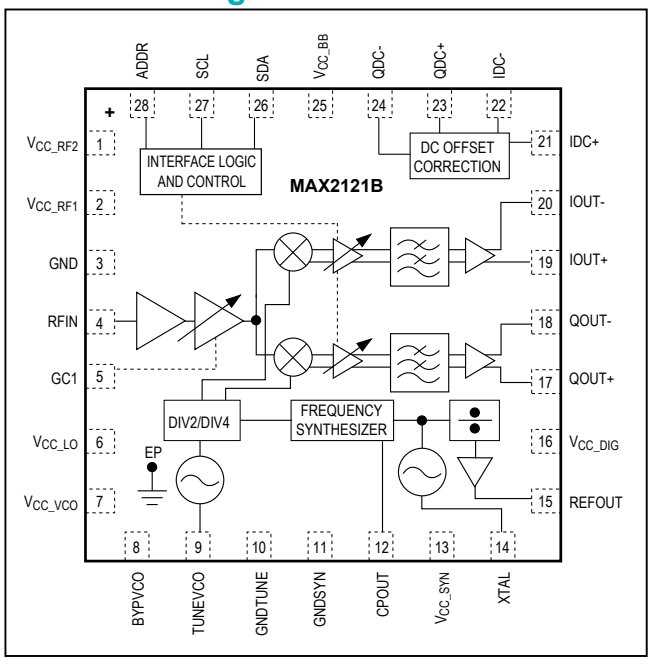
- VSATs
- Navigation Systems
- Satellite Set-Top Box
- DBS Tuner

Ordering Information ***appears at end of data sheet.***

Benefits and Features

- Monolithic Receiver Saves Cost and Space
  - Integrated VCO with Low Phase Noise: -97dBc/Hz at 10kHz
  - Integrated 14-Bit Fractional-N Synthesizer
  - Address Pin Allows for Multi-Tuner Applications
- Low Power Reduces Cost
  - 495mW Power Dissipation
  - 10mW Standby Mode
- High Dynamic Range Eliminates Need for External LNA and/or Attenuators
  - -75dBm to 0dBm Input Power
  - 8dB Noise Figure
- Integrated LP Filters Simplify Design
  - Programmable Bandwidth from 40MHz to 124MHz
- Differential I/Q Interface Minimizes EMI
  - $1V_{P-P}$ Full-Scale Outputs
- Serial Interface and Small Package Reduce Size
  - 5mm x 5mm, 28-Pin TQFN Package
  - I^2C 2-Wire Serial Interface

Functional Diagram



maxim integrated™

Absolute Maximum Ratings

$V_{CC\_}$ to GND.....-0.3V to +3.9V
All Other Pins to GND.....-0.3V to (V_{CC} + 0.3V)
RF Input Power: RFIN.....+10dBm
BYPVCO, CPOUT, XTAL, REFOUT, IOUT_, QOUT_, IDC_, QDC_ to GND Short-Circuit Protection.....10s
Continuous Power Dissipation (T_A = +70°C)
TQFN (derate 34.5mW/°C above +70°C).....2.75W
Operating Temperature Range.....-40°C to +85°C
Junction Temperature.....+150°C
Storage Temperature Range.....-65°C to +160°C
Lead Temperature (soldering, 10s).....+300°C
Soldering Temperature (reflow).....+260°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.

CAUTION! ESD SENSITIVE DEVICE

DC Electrical Characteristics

(MAX2121 Evaluation Kit: $V_{CC\_}$ = +3.13V to +3.47V, f_{XTAL} = 27MHz, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, V_{GC1} = +0.5V (max gain), default register settings except BBG[3:0] = 1011, LPF[7:0] =97h. No input signals at RF, baseband I/Os are open circuited. Typical values measured at V_{CC} = +3.3V, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
SUPPLY					
Supply Voltage ($V_{CC\_}$)		3.13	3.3	3.47	V
Supply Current	Receive mode, bit STBY = 0		148	200	mA
	Standby mode, bit STBY = 1		3		
ADDRESS SELECT INPUT (ADDR)					
Digital Input-Voltage High, V_{IH}		2.4			V
Digital Input-Voltage Low, V_{IL}				0.5	V
Digital Input-Current High, I_{IH}				50	µA
Digital Input-Current Low, I_{IL}		-50			µA
ANALOG GAIN-CONTROL INPUT (GC1)					
Input Voltage Range	Maximum gain = 0.5V	0.5		2.7	V
Input Bias Current		-50		+50	µA
VCO TUNING VOLTAGE INPUT (TUNEVCO)					
Input Voltage Range		0.4		2.3	V
2-WIRE SERIAL INPUTS (SCL, SDA)					
Clock Frequency				400	kHz
Input Logic-Level High		0.7 x V_{CC}			V
Input Logic-Level Low				0.3 x V_{CC}	V
Input Leakage Current	Digital inputs = GND or V_{CC}		±0.1	±1	µA
2-WIRE SERIAL OUTPUT (SDA)					
Output Logic-Level Low	I_{SINK} = 1mA (Note 2)			0.4	V

AC Electrical Characteristics

(MAX2121 Evaluation Kit: $V_{CC\_}$ = +3.13V to +3.47V, f_{XTAL} = 27MHz, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, default register settings except BBG[3:0] = 1111, LPF[7:0] = 97h. Typical values measured at V_{CC} = +3.3V, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
MAIN SIGNAL PATH PERFORMANCE					
Minimum Gain	f_{IN} = 2175MHz	72	78		dB
Gain Flatness	925MHz to 2250MHz (Note 2)		4	6	dB
Input Frequency Range	(Note 3)	925		2250	MHz
RF Gain-Control Range (GC1)	0.5V < V_{GC1} < 2.7V	65	73		dB
Baseband Gain-Control Range	Bits BBG[3:0] = 1111 to 0000	11.5	13.5		dB
In-Band Input IP3	(Note 4)		+2		dBm
Out-of-Band Input IP3	(Note 5)		+15		dBm
Input IP2	(Note 6)		+40		dBm
Noise Figure	V_{GC1} is set to 0.5V (maximum RF gain) and BBG[3:0] is adjusted to give a $1V_{P-P}$ baseband output level for a -75dBm CW input tone at 1500MHz		8		dB
	Starting with the same BBG[3:0] setting as above, V_{GC1} is adjusted to back off RF gain by 10dB (Note 2)		9	12	
Minimum RF Input Return Loss	925MHz < f_{RF} < 2175MHz, in 75Ω system		12		dB
BASEBAND OUTPUT CHARACTERISTICS					
Nominal Output Voltage Swing	R_{LOAD} = 200Ω//5pF	0.5	1		V_{P-P}
I/Q Amplitude Imbalance	Measured at 500kHz			±1	dB
I/Q Quadrature Phase Imbalance	Measured at 500kHz			3.5	Degrees
Single-Ended I/Q Output Impedance	Real Z_O, from 1MHz to 140MHz		24		Ω
Output 1dB Compression Voltage	Differential		3		V_{P-P}
Baseband Highpass -3dB Frequency Corner	47nF capacitors at IDC_, QDC_		400		Hz
BASEBAND LOWPASS FILTERS (5th-Order Butterworth with 1st-Order Group Delay Compensation)					
Typical Filter Bandwidth Range (-3dB)	LPF[7:0] = 2Eh to 97h	40		124	MHz
Rejection Ratio	At 247.5MHz, LPF[7:0] = 97h		31		dB
Group Delay	Up to 0.5dB bandwidth		1.0		ns
3dB Bandwidth Tolerance				±10	%
FREQUENCY SYNTHESIZER					
RF-Divider Frequency Range		925		2175	MHz
RF-Divider Range (N)		19		251	
Reference-Divider Frequency Range		12		30	MHz
Reference-Divider Range (R)		1		1	
Phase-Detector Comparison Frequency		12		30	MHz

AC Electrical Characteristics (continued)

(MAX2121 Evaluation Kit: $V_{CC\_}$ = +3.13V to +3.47V, f_{XTAL} = 27MHz, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, default register settings except BBG[3:0] = 1111, LPF[7:0] = 97h. Typical values measured at V_{CC} = +3.3V, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
VOLTAGE-CONTROLLED OSCILLATOR AND LO GENERATION					
Guaranteed LO Frequency Range		925		2250	MHz
LO Phase Noise	f_{OFFSET} = 10kHz		-97		dBc/Hz
	f_{OFFSET} = 100kHz		-100		
	f_{OFFSET} = 1MHz		-122		
XTAL/REFERENCE OSCILLATOR INPUT AND OUTPUT BUFFER					
XTAL Oscillator Frequency Range f_{XTAL}	Parallel-resonance-mode crystal (Note 7)	12		30	MHz
Input Overdrive Level	AC-coupled sine-wave input	0.5	1	2.0	V_{P-P}
XTAL Output-Buffer Divider Range		1		8	—
XTAL Output Voltage Swing	12MHz to 30MHz, C_{LOAD} = 10pF	1	1.5	2	V_{P-P}
XTAL Output Duty Cycle			50		%

Note 1: Min/max values are production tested at T_A = +25°C. Min/max limits at T_A = -40°C and T_A = +85°C are guaranteed by design and characterization.

Note 2: Guaranteed by design and characterization at T_A = +25°C.

Note 3: Input gain range specifications met over this band.

Note 4: In-band IIP3 test conditions: GC1 set to provide the nominal baseband output drive when mixing down a -23dBm tone at 2175MHz to 5MHz baseband (f_{LO} = 2170MHz). Baseband gain is set to its default value (BBG[3:0] = 1011). Two tones at -26dBm each are applied at 2174MHz and 2175MHz. The IM3 tone at 3MHz is measured at baseband, but is referred to the RF input.

Note 5: Out-of-band IIP3 test conditions: GC1 set to provide nominal baseband output drive when mixing down a -23dBm tone at 2175MHz to 5MHz baseband (f_{LO} = 2170MHz). Baseband gain is set to its default value (BBG[3:0] = 1011). Two tones at -20dBm each are applied at 1919MHz and 1663MHz. The IM3 tone at 5MHz is measured at baseband, but is referred to the RF input.

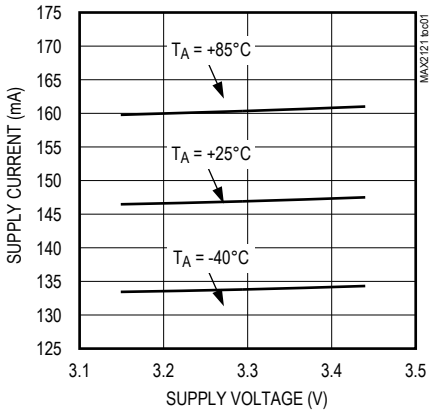
Note 6: Input IP2 test conditions: GC1 set to provide nominal baseband output drive when mixing down a -23dBm tone at 2175MHz to 5MHz baseband (f_{LO} = 2170MHz). Baseband gain is set to its default value (BBG[3:0] = 1011). Two tones at -20dBm each are applied at 925MHz and 1250MHz. The IM2 tone at 5MHz is measured at baseband, but is referred to the RF input.

Note 7: See Table 16 for crystal ESR requirements.

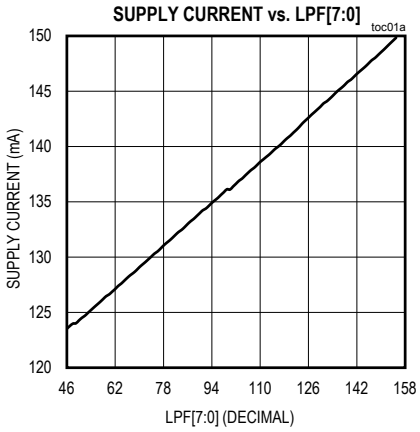
Typical Operating Characteristics

(MAX2121 Evaluation Kit: V_{CC} = +3.3V, T_A = +25°C, baseband output frequency = 5MHz, V_{GC1} = +1.2V, default register settings except BBG[3:0] = 1011, LPF[7:0] = 97h, unless otherwise noted.)

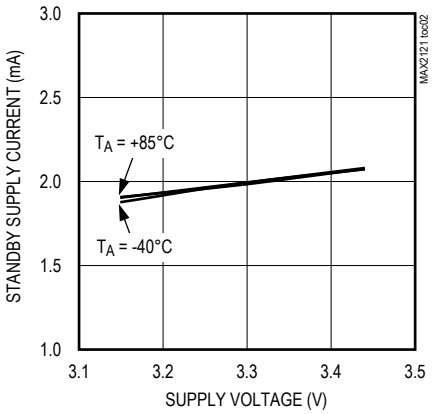
SUPPLY CURRENT vs. SUPPLY VOLTAGE



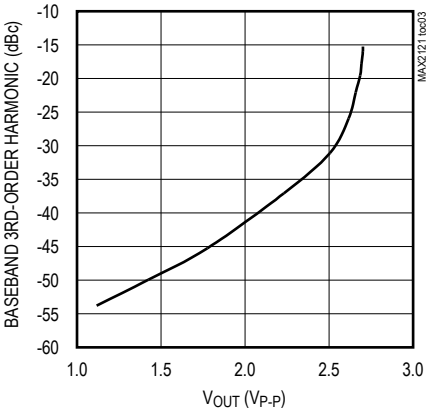
SUPPLY CURRENT vs. LPF[7:0]



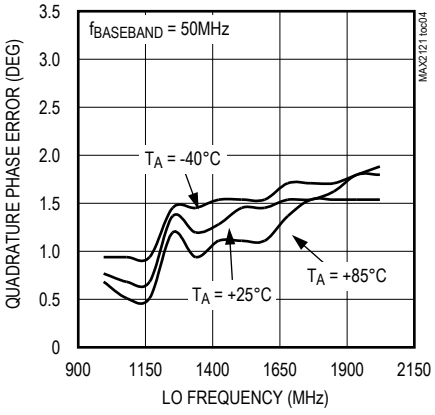
STANDBY SUPPLY CURRENT vs. SUPPLY VOLTAGE



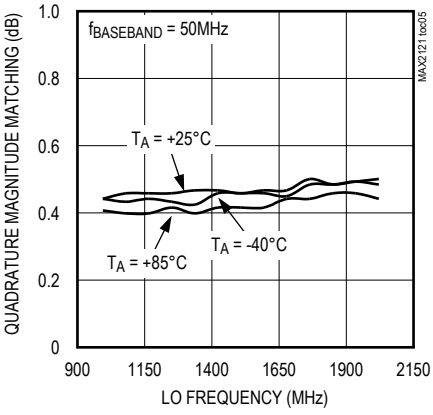
HD3 vs. V_{OUT}



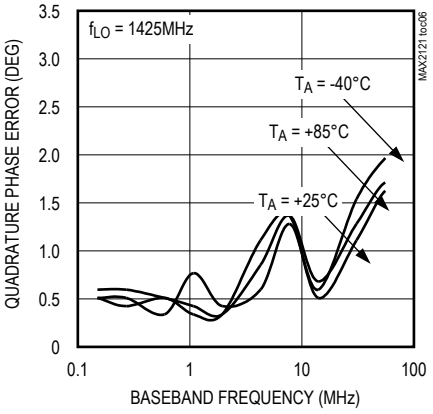
QUADRATURE PHASE ERROR vs. LO FREQUENCY



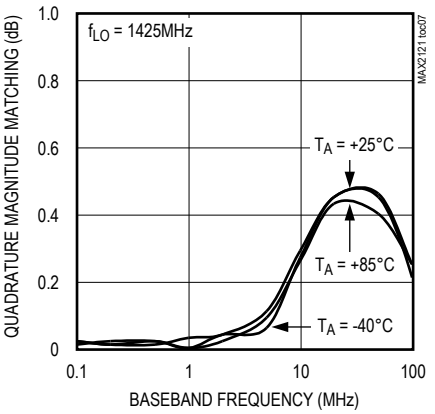
QUADRATURE MAGNITUDE MATCHING vs. LO FREQUENCY



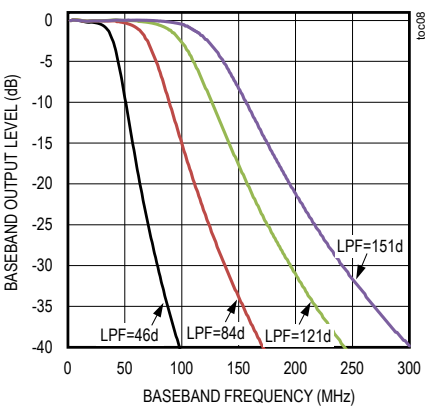
QUADRATURE PHASE ERROR vs. BASEBAND FREQUENCY



QUADRATURE MAGNITUDE MATCHING vs. BASEBAND FREQUENCY



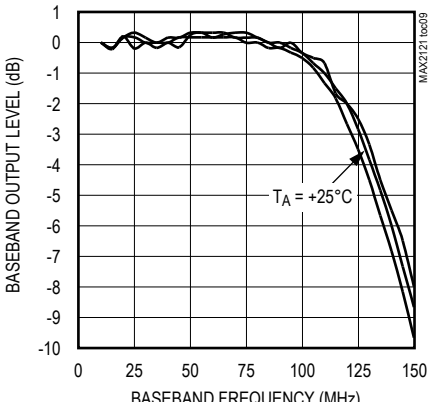
BASEBAND FILTER FREQUENCY RESPONSE



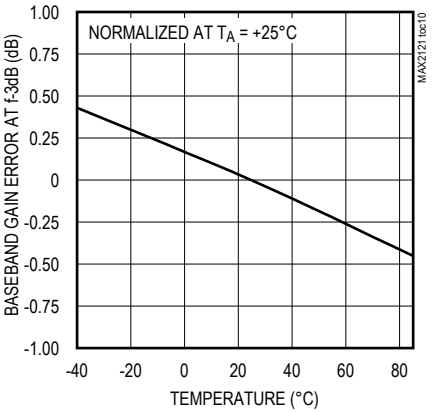
Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(MAX2121 Evaluation Kit: V_{CC} = +3.3V, T_A = +25°C, baseband output frequency = 5MHz, V_{GC1} = +1.2V, default register settings except BBG[3:0] = 1011, LPF[7:0] = 97h, unless otherwise noted.)

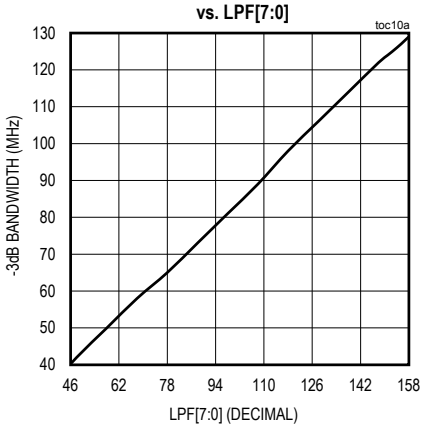
BASEBAND FILTER FREQUENCY RESPONSE



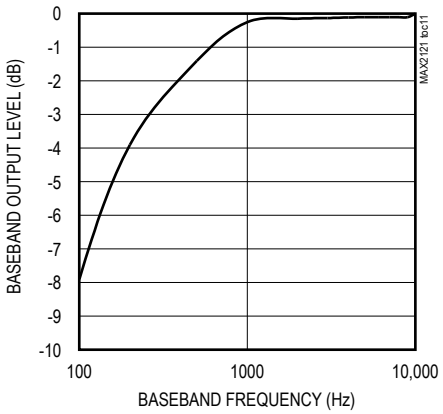
BASEBAND FILTER 3dB FREQUENCY vs. TEMPERATURE



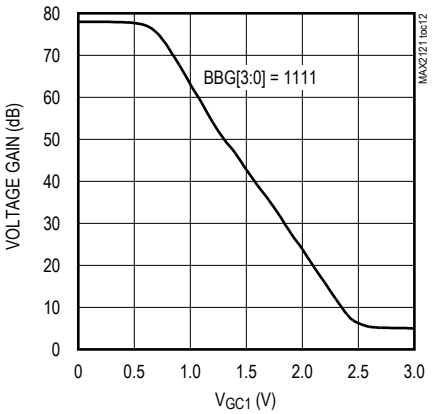
LOWPASS FILTER 3dB FREQUENCY vs. LPF[7:0]



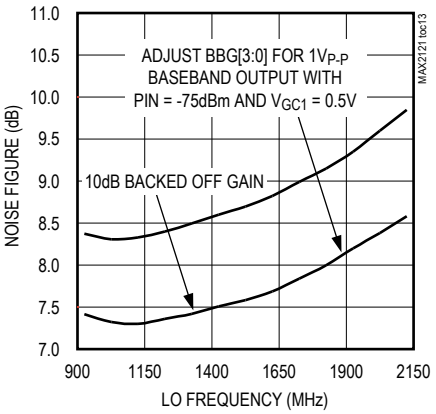
BASEBAND FILTER HIGHPASS FREQUENCY RESPONSE



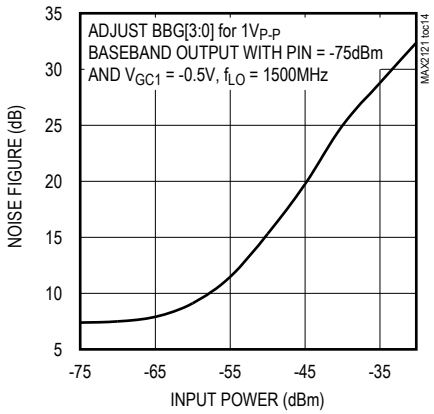
VOLTAGE GAIN vs. V_{GC1}



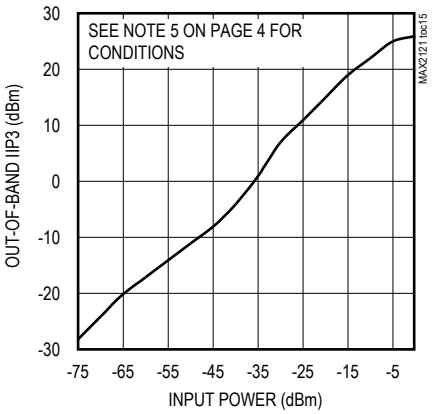
NOISE FIGURE vs. LO FREQUENCY (T_A = +25°C)



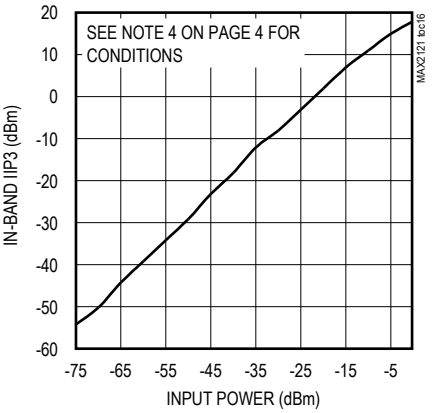
NOISE FIGURE vs. INPUT POWER



OUT-OF-BAND IIP3 vs. INPUT POWER



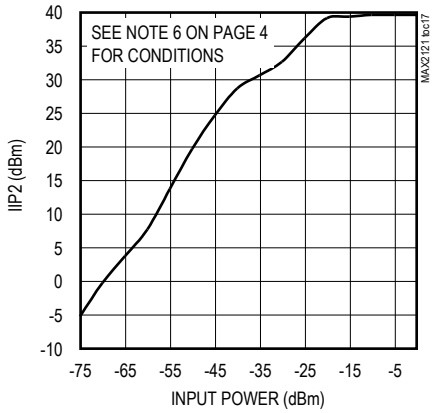
IN-BAND IIP3 vs. INPUT POWER



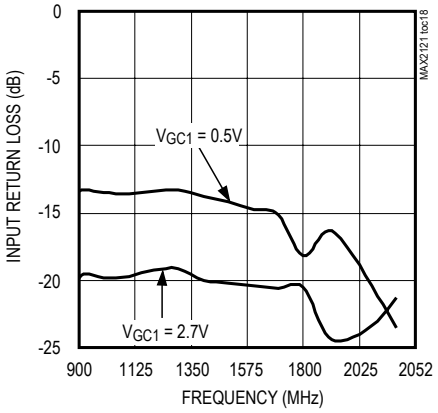
Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(MAX2121 Evaluation Kit: V_{CC} = +3.3V, T_A = +25°C, baseband output frequency = 5MHz, V_{GC1} = +1.2V, default register settings except BBG[3:0] = 1011, LPF[7:0] = 97h, unless otherwise noted.)

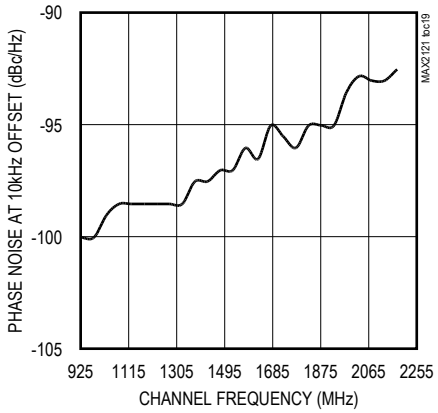
IIP2 vs. INPUT POWER



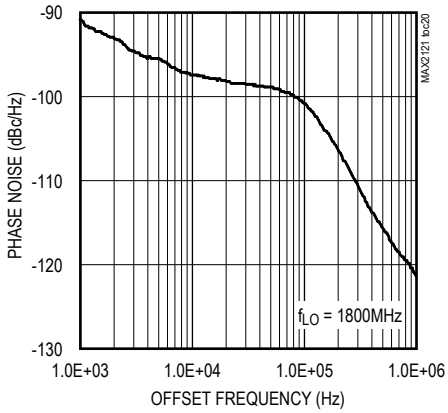
INPUT RETURN LOSS vs. FREQUENCY



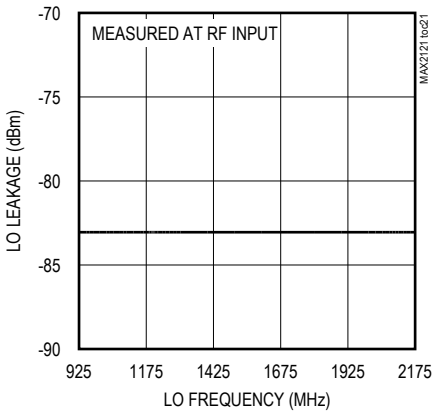
PHASE NOISE AT 10kHz OFFSET vs. CHANNEL FREQUENCY



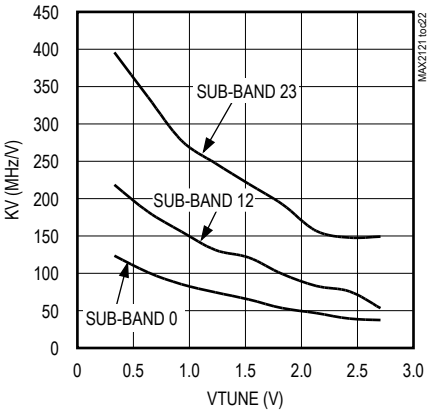
PHASE NOISE vs. OFFSET FREQUENCY



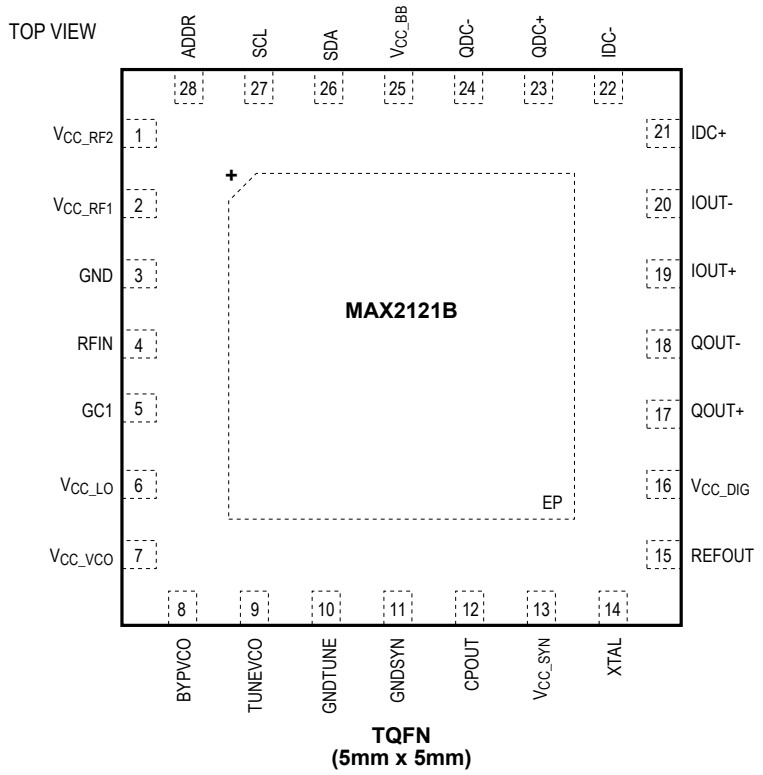
LO LEAKAGE vs. LO FREQUENCY



VCO: KV vs. VTUNE



Pin Configuration



TQFN
(5mm x 5mm)

Pin Description

PIN	NAME	FUNCTION
1	V_{CC_RF2}	DC Power Supply for LNA. Connect to a +3.3V low-noise supply. Bypass to GND with a 1nF capacitor connected as close as possible to the pin. Do not share capacitor ground vias with other ground connections.
2	V_{CC_RF1}	DC Power Supply for LNA. Connect to a +3.3V low-noise supply. Bypass to GND with a 1nF capacitor connected as close as possible to the pin. Do not share capacitor ground vias with other ground connections.
3	GND	Ground. Connect to board's ground plane for proper operation.
4	RFIN	Wideband 75Ω RF Input. Connect to an RF source through a DC-blocking capacitor.
5	GC1	RF Gain-Control Input. High-impedance analog input with a 0.5V to 2.7V operating range. V_{GC1} = 0.5V corresponds to the maximum gain setting.
6	V_{CC_LO}	DC Power Supply for LO Generation Circuits. Connect to a +3.3V low-noise supply. Bypass to GND with a 1nF capacitor connected as close as possible to the pin. Do not share capacitor ground vias with other ground connections.
7	V_{CC_VCO}	DC Power Supply for VCO Circuits. Connect to a +3.3V low-noise supply. Bypass to GND with a 1nF capacitor connected as close as possible to the pin. Do not share capacitor ground vias with other ground connections.

Pin Description (continued)

PIN	NAME	FUNCTION
8	BYPVCO	Internal VCO Bias Bypass. Bypass to GND with a 100nF capacitor connected as close as possible to the pin. Do not share capacitor ground vias with other ground connections.
9	TUNEVCO	High-Impedance VCO Tune Input. Connect the PLL loop filter output directly to this pin with as short of a connection as possible.
10	GNDTUNE	Ground for TUNEVCO. Connect to the PCB ground plane.
11	GNDSYN	Ground for Synthesizer. Connect to the PCB ground plane.
12	CPOUT	Charge-Pump Output. Connect this output to the PLL loop filter input with the shortest connection possible.
13	V_{CC_SYN}	DC Power Supply for Synthesizer Circuits. Connect to a +3.3V low-noise supply. Bypass to GND with a 1nF capacitor connected as close as possible to the pin. Do not share capacitor ground vias with other ground connections.
14	XTAL	Crystal-Oscillator Interface. Use with an external parallel-resonance-mode crystal through a series 1nF capacitor. See the *Typical Application Circuit*.
15	REFOUT	Crystal-Oscillator Buffer Output. A DC-blocking capacitor must be used when driving external circuitry.
16	V_{CC_DIG}	DC Power Supply for Digital Logic Circuits. Connect to a +3.3V low-noise supply. Bypass to GND with a 1nF capacitor connected as close as possible to the pin. Do not share capacitor ground vias with other ground connections.
17	QOUT+	Quadrature Baseband Differential Output. AC-couple with 47nF capacitors to the demodulator input.
18	QOUT-	
19	IOUT+	In-Phase Baseband Differential Output. AC-couple with 47nF capacitors to the demodulator input.
20	IOUT-	
21	IDC+	I-Channel Baseband DC Offset Correction. Connect a 47nF ceramic chip capacitor from IDC- to IDC+.
22	IDC-	
23	QDC+	Q-Channel Baseband DC Offset Correction. Connect a 47nF ceramic chip capacitor from QDC- to QDC+.
24	QDC-	
25	V_{CC_BB}	DC Power Supply for Baseband Circuits. Connect to a +3.3V low-noise supply. Bypass to GND with a 1nF capacitor connected as close as possible to the pin. Do not share capacitor ground vias with other ground connections.
26	SDA	2-Wire Serial-Data Interface. Requires ≥ 1kΩ pullup resistor to V_{CC}.
27	SCL	2-Wire Serial-Clock Interface. Requires ≥ 1kΩ pullup resistor to V_{CC}.
28	ADDR	Address. Must be connected to either ground (logic 0) or supply (logic 1).
—	EP	Exposed Pad. Solder evenly to the board's ground plane for proper operation.

Detailed Description

Register Description

The MAX2121B includes 12 user-programmable registers and two read-only registers. See Table 1 for register configurations. The register configuration of Table 1 shows each bit name and the bit usage information for all registers. Note that all registers must be written after and no earlier than 100µs after the device is powered up. The VCO autoselection circuit is triggered by writing to register 5. Thus register 5 should be the last register to be written in order to ensure proper PLL lock.

Table 1. Register Configuration

REG NUMBER	REGISTER NAME	READ/ WRITE	REG ADDRESS	MSB							LSB
				DATA BYTE							
				D[7]	D[6]	D[5]	D[4]	D[3]	D[2]	D[1]	D[0]
1	N-Divider MSB	Write	0x00	FRAC 1	N[14]	N[13]	N[12]	N[11]	N[10]	N[9]	N[8]
2	N-Divider LSB	Write	0x01	N[7]	N[6]	N[5]	N[4]	N[3]	N[2]	N[1]	N[0]
3	Charge Pump	Write	0x02	CPMP[1] 0	CPMP[0] 0	CPLIN[1] 0	CPLIN[0] 1	F[19]	F[18]	F[17]	F[16]
4	F-Divider MSB	Write	0x03	F[15]	F[14]	F[13]	F[12]	F[11]	F[10]	F[9]	F[8]
5	F-Divider LSB	Write	0x04	F[7]	F[6]	F[5]	F[4]	F[3]	F[2]	F[1]	F[0]
6	XTAL Buffer and Reference Divider	Write	0x05	XD[2]	XD[1]	XD[0]	R[4]	R[3]	R[2]	R[1]	R[0]
7	PLL	Write	0x06	D24	CPS	ICP	X	X	X	X	X
8	VCO	Write	0x07	VCO[4]	VCO[3]	VCO[2]	VCO[1]	VCO[0]	VAS	ADL	ADE
9	Lowpass Filter	Write	0x08	LPF[7]	LPF[6]	LPF[5]	LPF[4]	LPF[3]	LPF[2]	LPF[1]	LPF[0]
10	Control	Write	0x09	STBY	X	PWDN 0	X	BBG[3]	BBG[2]	BBG[1]	BBG[0]
11	Shutdown	Write	0x0A	X	PLL 0	DIV 0	VCO 0	BB 0	RFMIX 0	RFVGA 0	FE 0
12	Test	Write	0x0B	CPTST[2] 0	CPTST[1] 0	CPTST[0] 0	X	TURBO 1	LD MUX[2] 0	LD MUX[1] 0	LD MUX[0] 0
13	Status Byte-1	Read	0x0C	POR	VASA	VASE	LD	X	X	X	X
14	Status Byte-2	Read	0x0D	VCOSBR[4]	VCOSBR[3]	VCOSBR[2]	VCOSBR[1]	VCOSBR[0]	ADC[2]	ADC[1]	ADC[0]

X = Don't care. *0 = Set to 0 for factory-tested operation.* *1 = Set to 1 for factory-tested operation.*

Table 2. N-Divider MSB Register (Address: 0x00)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
FRAC	7	1	Users must program to 1 upon powering up the device.
N[14:8]	6–0	0000000	Sets the most significant bits of the PLL integer-divide number (N). N can range from 19 to 251.

Table 3. N-Divider LSB Register (Address: 0x01)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
N[7:0]	7–0	00100011	Sets the least significant bits of the PLL integer-divide number. N can range from 19 to 251.

Table 4. Charge-Pump Register (Address: 0x02)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
CPMP[1:0]	7–6	00	Charge-pump minimum pulse width. Users must program to 00 upon powering up the device.
CPLIN[1:0]	5–4	00	Controls charge-pump linearity. Users must program to 01 upon powering up the device.
F[19:16]	3–0	0010	Sets the 4 most significant bits of the PLL fractional divide number. Default value is F = 194,180 decimal.

Table 5. F-Divider MSB Register (Address: 0x03)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
F[15:8]	7–0	11110110	Sets the most significant bits of the PLL fractional-divide number (F). Default value is F = 194,180 decimal.

Table 6. F-Divider LSB Register (Address: 0x04)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
F[7:0]	7–0	10000100	Sets the least significant bits of the PLL fractional-divide number (F). Default value is F = 194,180 decimal.

Table 7. XTAL Buffer and Reference Divider Register (Address: 0x05)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
XD[2:0]	7–5	000	Sets the crystal-divider setting. 000 = Divide by 1. 001 = Divide by 2. 011 = Divide by 3. 100 = Divide by 4. 101 through 110 = All divide values from 5 (101) to 7 (110). 111 = Divide by 8.
R[4:0]	4–0	00001	Sets the PLL reference-divider (R) number. Users must program to 00001 upon powering up the device. 00001 = Divide by 1; other values are not tested.

Table 8. PLL Register (Address: 0x06)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
D24	7	1	VCO divider setting. 0 = Divide by 2. Use for LO frequencies ≥ 1125MHz. 1 = Divide by 4. Use for LO frequencies < 1125MHz.
CPS	6	1	Charge-pump current mode. 0 = Charge-pump current controlled by ICP bit. 1 = Charge-pump current controlled by VCO autoselect (VAS).
ICP	5	0	Charge-pump current. 0 = 600µA typical. 1 = 1200µA typical.
X	4–0	X	Don't care.

Table 9. VCO Register (Address: 0x07)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
VCO[4:0]	7–3	11001	Controls which VCO is activated when using manual VCO programming mode. This also serves as the starting point for the VCO autoselection (VAS) mode.
VAS	2	1	VCO autoselection (VAS) circuit. 0 = Disable VCO selection must be programmed through I^2C. 1 = Enable VCO selection controlled by autoselection circuit.
ADL	1	0	Enables or disables the VCO tuning voltage ADC latch when the VCO autoselect mode (VAS) is disabled. 0 = Disables the ADC latch. 1 = Latches the ADC value.
ADE	0	0	Enables or disables VCO tuning voltage ADC read when the VCO autoselect mode (VAS) is disabled. 0 = Disables ADC read. 1 = Enables ADC read.

Table 10. Lowpass Filter Register (Address: 0x08)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
LPF[7:0]	7–0	01001011	Sets the baseband lowpass filter corner frequency. f_{-3dB} = 0.8 x LPF[7:0]d +3.2 $f_{-3dBmin}$ = 40MHz (LPF[7:0] = 46d = 2Eh) $f_{-3dBmax}$ = 124MHz (LPF[7:0] = 151d = 97h)

Table 11. Control Register (Address: 0x09)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
STBY	7	0	Software standby control. 0 = Normal operation. 1 = Disables the signal path and frequency synthesizer leaving only the 2-wire bus, crystal oscillator, XTALOUT buffer, and XTALOUT buffer divider active.
X	6	X	Don't care.
PWDN	5	0	Factory use only. 0 = Normal operation; other value is not tested.
X	4	X	Don't care.
BBG[3:0]	3–0	0000	Baseband gain setting (1dB typical per step). 0000 = Minimum gain (0dB, default). … 1111 = Maximum gain (15dB typical).

Table 12. Shutdown Register (Address: 0x0A)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
X	7	X	Don't care.
PLL	6	0	PLL enable. 0 = Normal operation. 1 = Shuts down the PLL. Value not tested.
DIV	5	0	Divider enable. 0 = Normal operation. 1 = Shuts down the divider. Value not tested.
VCO	4	0	VCO enable. 0 = Normal operation. 1 = Shuts down the VCO. Value not tested.
BB	3	0	Baseband enable. 0 = Normal operation. 1 = Shuts down the baseband. Value not tested.
RFMIX	2	0	RF mixer enable. 0 = Normal operation. 1 = Shuts down the RF mixer. Value not tested.
RFVGA	1	0	RF VGA enable. 0 = Normal operation. 1 = Shuts down the RF VGA. Value not tested.
FE	0	0	Front-end enable. 0 = Normal operation. 1 = Shuts down the front-end. Value not tested.

Table 13. Test Register (Address: 0x0B)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	DEFAULT	FUNCTION
CPTST[2:0]	7–5	000	Charge-pump test modes. 000 = Normal operation (default).
X	4	X	Don't care.
TURBO	3	1	Charge-pump fast lock. Users must program to 1 after powering up the device.
LDMUX[2:0]	2–0	000	REFOUT output. 000 = Normal operation; other values are not tested.

Table 14. Status Byte-1 Register (Address: 0x0C)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	FUNCTION
POR	7	Power-on reset status. 0 = Chip status register has been read with a stop condition since last power-on. 1 = Power-on reset (power cycle) has occurred. Default values have been loaded in registers.
VASA	6	Indicates whether VCO autoselection was successful. 0 = Indicates the autoselect function is disabled or unsuccessful VCO selection. 1 = Indicates successful VCO autoselection.
VASE	5	Status indicator for the autoselect function. 0 = Indicates the autoselect function is active. 1 = Indicates the autoselect process is inactive.
LD	4	PLL lock detector. TURBO bit must be programmed to 1 for valid LD reading. 0 = Unlocked. 1 = Locked.
X	3–0	Don't care.

Table 15. Status Byte-2 Register (Address: 0x0D)

BIT NAME	BIT LOCATION (0 = LSB)	FUNCTION
VCOSBR[4:0]	7–3	VCO band readback.
ADC[2:0]	2–0	VAS ADC output readback. 000 = Out of lock. 001 = Locked. 010 = VAS locked. 101 = VAS locked. 110 = Locked. 111 = Out of lock.

2-Wire Serial Interface

The MAX2121B uses a 2-wire I²C-compatible serial interface consisting of a serial-data line (SDA) and a serial clock line (SCL). SDA and SCL facilitate bidirectional communication between the MAX2121B and the master at clock frequencies up to 400kHz. The master initiates a data transfer on the bus and generates the SCL signal to permit data transfer. The MAX2121B behaves as a slave device that transfers and receives data to and from the master. SDA and SCL must be pulled high with external pullup resistors (1kΩ or greater) for proper bus operation. Pullup resistors should be referenced to the MAX2121B's V_{CC}.

One bit is transferred during each SCL clock cycle. A minimum of nine clock cycles is required to transfer a byte in or out of the MAX2121B (8 bits and an ACK/NACK). The data on SDA must remain stable during the high period of the SCL clock pulse. Changes in SDA while SCL is high and stable are considered control signals (see the *START and STOP Conditions*). Both SDA and SCL remain high when the bus is not busy.

START and STOP Conditions

The master initiates a transmission with a START condition (S), which is a high-to-low transition on SDA while SCL is high. The master terminates a transmission with a STOP condition (P), which is a low-to-high transition on SDA while SCL is high.

Acknowledge and Not-Acknowledge Conditions

Data transfers are framed with an acknowledge bit (ACK) or a not-acknowledge bit (NACK). Both the master and the MAX2121B (slave) generate acknowledge bits. To generate an acknowledge, the receiving device must pull SDA low before the rising edge of the acknowledge-related clock pulse (ninth pulse) and keep it low during the high period of the clock pulse.

To generate a not-acknowledge condition, the receiver allows SDA to be pulled high before the rising edge of the acknowledge-related clock pulse, and leaves SDA high during the high period of the clock pulse. Monitoring the acknowledge bits allows for detection of unsuccessful data transfers. An unsuccessful data transfer happens if a receiving device is busy or if a system fault has occurred. In the event of an unsuccessful data transfer, the bus master must reattempt communication at a later time.

Slave Address

The MAX2121B has a 7-bit slave address that must be sent to the device following a START condition to initiate communication. The slave address is internally programmed to 1100000. The eighth bit (R/$\overline{W}$) following the 7-bit address determines whether a read or write operation occurs.

The MAX2121B continuously awaits a START condition followed by its slave address. When the device recognizes its slave address, it acknowledges by pulling the SDA line low for one clock period; it is ready to accept or send data depending on the R/$\overline{W}$ bit (Figure 1).

The write/read address is C0/C1 if ADDR pin is connected to ground. The write/read address is C2/C3 if the ADDR pin is connected to V_{CC}.

Write Cycle

When addressed with a write command, the MAX2121B allows the master to write to a single register or to multiple successive registers.

A write cycle begins with the bus master issuing a START condition followed by the seven slave address bits and a write bit (R/$\overline{W}$ = 0). The MAX2121B issues an ACK if the slave address byte is successfully received. The bus master must then send to the slave the address of the first register it wishes to write to (see Table 1 for register addresses). If the slave acknowledges the address, the master can then write one byte to the register at the specified address. Data is written beginning with the most significant bit. The MAX2121B again issues an ACK if the data is successfully written to the register. The master can continue to write data to the successive internal registers with the MAX2121B acknowledging each successful transfer, or it can terminate transmission by issuing a STOP condition. The write cycle does not terminate until the master issues a STOP condition.

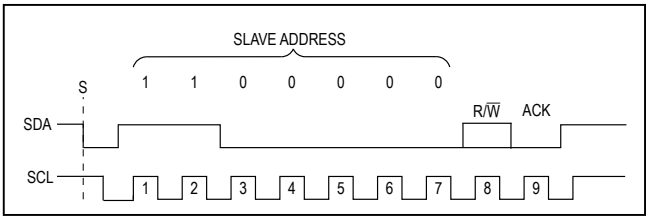


Figure 1. MAX2121B Slave Address Byte with ADDR Pin Connected to Ground

START	WRITE DEVICE ADDRESS	R/$\overline{W}$	ACK	WRITE REGISTER ADDRESS	AC	WRITE DATA TO REGISTER 0x00	ACK	WRITE DATA TO REGISTER 0x01	ACK	WRITE DATA TO REGISTER 0x02	ACK	STOP
	1100000	0	—	0x00	—	0x0E	—	0xD8	—	0xE1	—	

Figure 2. Example: Write Registers 0, 1, and 2 with 0x0E, 0xD8, and 0xE1, respectively.

START	WRITE DEVICE ADDRESS	R/$\overline{W}$	ACK	READ FROM STATUS BYTE-1 REGISTER	ACK	READ FROM STATUS BYTE-2 REGISTER	ACK/ NACK	STOP
	1100000	1	—	—	—	—	—	

Figure 3. Example: Receive Data from Read Registers

Read Cycle

When addressed with a read command, the MAX2121B allows the master to read back a single register, or multiple successive registers.

A read cycle begins with the bus master issuing a START condition followed by the seven slave address bits and a write bit (R/$\overline{W}$ = 0). The MAX2121B issues an ACK if the slave address byte is successfully received. The bus master must then send the address of the first register it wishes to read (see Table 1 for register addresses). The slave acknowledges the address. Then, a START condition is issued by the master, followed by the seven slave address bits and a read bit (R/$\overline{W}$ = 1). The MAX2121B issues an ACK if the slave address byte is successfully received. The MAX2121B starts sending data MSB first with each SCL clock cycle. At the 9th clock cycle, the master can issue an ACK and continue to read successive registers, or the master can terminate the transmission by issuing a NACK. The read cycle does not terminate until the master issues a STOP condition.

Figure 3 illustrates an example in which registers 0, 1, and 2 are read back.

Applications Information

The MAX2121B downconverts RF signals in the 925MHz to 2175MHz range directly to the baseband I/Q signals.

RF Input

The RF input of the MAX2121B is internally matched to 75Ω. Only a DC-blocking capacitor is needed. See the *Typical Application Circuit*.

RF Gain Control

The MAX2121B features a variable-gain low-noise amplifier providing 73dB of RF gain range. The voltage control (VGC) range is 0.5V (minimum attenuation) to 2.7V (maximum attenuation).

Baseband Variable-Gain Amplifier

The receiver baseband variable-gain amplifiers provide 15dB of gain control range programmable in 1dB steps. The VGA gain can be serially programmed through the I^2C interface by setting bits BBG[3:0] in the Control register.

Table 16. Maximum Crystal ESR Requirement

ESR_{MAX} (Ω)	XTAL FREQUENCY (MHz)
80	$12 < f_{XTAL} \le 14$
60	$14 < f_{XTAL} \le 30$

Baseband Lowpass Filter

The MAX2121B includes a programmable on-chip 5th-order Butterworth filter with 1st-order group delay compensation. The filter -3dB corner frequency can be adjusted to approximately 40MHz to 124MHz by programming the LPF[7:0] register using the following equation:

$$LPF[7:0]dec = 1.25(f_{-3dB} - 3.2)$$

where f_{-3dB} is in units of MHz.

The supply current is dependant on the filter bandwidth setting. See the Supply Current vs. LPF[7:0] graph in the *Typical Operating Characteristics*.

DC Offset Cancellation

The DC offset cancellation is required to maintain the I/Q output dynamic range. Connecting an external capacitor between IDC+ and IDC- forms a highpass filter for the I channel and an external capacitor between QDC+ and QDC- forms a highpass filter for the Q channel. Keep the value of the external capacitor less than 47nF to form a typical highpass corner of 250Hz.

XTAL Oscillator

The MAX2121B contains an internal reference oscillator, reference output divider, and output buffer. All that is required is to connect a crystal through a series 1nF capacitor. To minimize parasitics, place the crystal and series capacitor as close as possible to pin 14 (XTAL). See Table 16 for crystal (XTAL) ESR (equivalent series resistance) requirements.

Programming the Fractional N- Synthesizer

The MAX2121B utilizes a fractional-N type synthesizer for LO frequency programming. To program the frequency synthesizer, the N and F values are encoded as straight binary numbers. Determination of these values is illustrated by the following example:

f_{LO} is 2170MHz

f_{XTAL} is 27 MHz

Phase-detector comparison frequency is from 12MHz and 30MHz

R divider = R[4:0] = 1

f_{COMP} = 27MHz/1 = 27MHz

D = f_{LO}/f_{COMP} = 2170/27 = 80.37037

Integer portion:

N = 80

N[14:8] = 0

N[7:0] = 0101 0000

Fractional portion:

F = 0.370370 x 2^{20} = 388,361 (round up the decimal portion)

F = 0101 1110 1101 0000 1001

Note: When changing LO frequencies, all the divider registers (integer and fractional) must be programmed to activate the VAS function regardless of whether individual registers are changed.

VCO Autoselect (VAS)

The MAX2121B includes 24 VCOs. The local oscillator frequency can be manually selected by programming the VCO[4:0] bits in the VCO register. The selected VCO is reported in the Status Byte-2 register (see Table 15).

Alternatively, the MAX2121B can be set to autonomously choose a VCO by setting the VAS bit in the VCO register to logic-high. The VAS routine is initiated once the F-Divider LSB register word (register 5) is loaded.

Thus it is important to write register 5 **after** any of the following PLL related bits have been changed:

N-Divider bits (registers 1 and/or 2)

F-Divider bits (registers 3 and/or 4)

Reference Divider bits (register 6)

D24, CPS, or ICP bits (register 7)

This will ensure all intended bits have been programmed **before** the VAS is initiated and the PLL is locked. The VCO value programmed in the VCO[4:0] register serves as the starting point for the automatic VCO selection process.

During the selection process, the VASE bit in the Status Byte-1 register is cleared to indicate the autoselection function is active. Upon successful completion, bits VASE and VASA are set and the VCO selected is reported in the Status Byte-2 register (see Table 15). If the search is unsuccessful, VASA is cleared and VASE is set. This indicates that searching has ended but no good VCO has been found, and occurs when trying to tune to a frequency outside the VCO's specified frequency range.

Refer to **Application Note 4256: *Extended Characterization for the MAX2112/MAX2120 Satellite Tuners***.

Table 17. ADC Trip Points and Lock Status

ADC[2:0]	LOCK STATUS
000	Out of lock
001	Locked
010	VAS locked
101	VAS locked
110	Locked
111	Out of lock

3-Bit ADC

The MAX2121B has an internal 3-bit ADC connected to the VCO tune pin (TUNEVCO). This ADC can be used for checking the lock status of the VCOs.

Table 17 summarizes the ADC output bits and the VCO lock indication. The VCO autoselect routine only selects a VCO in the "VAS locked" range. This allows room for a VCO to drift over temperature and remain in a valid "locked" range.

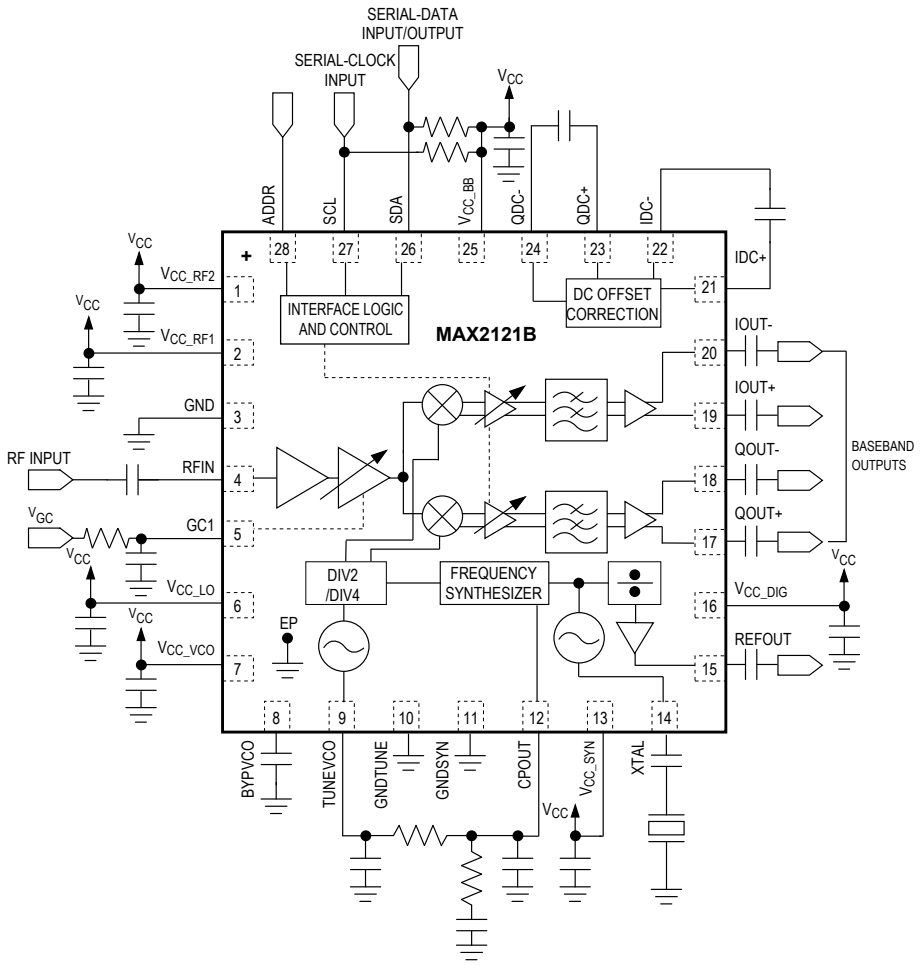
The ADC must first be enabled by setting the ADE bit in the VCO register. The ADC reading is latched by a subsequent programming of the ADC latch bit (ADL = 1). The ADC value is reported in the Status Byte-2 register (see Table 15).

Standby Mode

The MAX2121B features normal operating mode and standby mode using the I^2C interface. Setting a logic-high to the STBY bit in the Control register puts the device into standby mode, during which only the 2-wire-compatible bus, the crystal oscillator, the XTAL buffer, and the XTAL buffer divider are active.

In all cases, register settings loaded prior to entering shutdown are saved upon transition back to active mode. Default register values are provided for the user's convenience only. It is the user's responsibility to load all the registers no sooner than 100µs after the device is powered up.

Typical Application Circuit



Layout Considerations

The MAX2121 EV kit serves as a guide for PCB layout. Keep RF signal lines as short as possible to minimize losses and radiation. Use controlled impedance on all high-frequency traces. For proper operation, the exposed paddle must be soldered evenly to the board's ground plane. Use abundant vias beneath the exposed paddle for maximum heat dissipation. Use abundant ground vias between RF traces to minimize undesired coupling. Bypass each V_{CC} pin to ground with a 1nF capacitor placed as close as possible to the pin.

Ordering Information

PART	TEMP RANGE	PIN-PACKAGE
MAX2121BETI+	-40°C to +85°C	28 TQFN-EP*

+Denotes a lead(Pb)-free/RoHS-compliant package.

**EP = Exposed pad.*

Chip Information

PROCESS: BiCMOS

Package Information

For the latest package outline information and land patterns (footprints), go to **www.maximintegrated.com/packages**. Note that a "+", "#", or "-" in the package code indicates RoHS status only. Package drawings may show a different suffix character, but the drawing pertains to the package regardless of RoHS status.

PACKAGE TYPE	PACKAGE CODE	OUTLINE NO.	LAND PATTERN NO.
28 TQFN-EP	T2855+3	21-0140	90-0023

Revision History

REVISION NUMBER	REVISION DATE	DESCRIPTION	PAGES CHANGED
0	6/15	Initial release	—
1	9/16	Updated *Programming the Fractional N-Synthesizer* equation	17

