# **MAXM**

### Single/Dual, +3V/+5V Dual-Speed Comparators with Auto-Standby

### General Description

The MAX975/MAX977 single/dual comparators feature three different operating modes, and are optimized for +3V and +5V single-supply applications. The operating modes are as follows: high speed, high speed with auto-standby, and low power. Propagation delay is 28ns in high-speed mode, while supply current is only 250µA. Supply current is reduced to 3µA in low-power mode.

The auto-standby feature allows the comparator to automatically change from low-power mode to highspeed mode upon receipt of an input signal. In the absence of an input signal, the comparator reverts back to low-power mode after an adjustable timeout period. The timeout period for the MAX975 to enter standby is set by a single capacitor. The dual MAX977 features independently adjustable timeout periods for each comparator using separate capacitors.

The MAX975/MAX977's inputs have a common-mode voltage range of -0.2V to (V<sub>CC</sub> - 1.2V). The differential input voltage range extends rail to rail. The outputs are capable of rail-to-rail operation without external pull-up circuitry, making these devices ideal for interface with CMOS/TTL logic. All inputs and outputs can tolerate a continuous short-circuit fault condition to either rail. The comparator's internal hysteresis in high-speed mode ensures clean output switching, even with slow-moving input signals.

The single MAX975 is available in 8-pin SO and 8-pin µMAX® packages, while the dual MAX977 is available in 14-pin SO and 16-pin QSOP packages.

\_Applications

Battery-Powered Systems RF ID Tags Keyless Entry Threshold Detectors/Discriminators 3V Systems IR Receivers Digital-Line Receivers

♦ **Three Operating Modes: High Speed High Speed with Auto-Standby Low Power**

- ♦ **28ns Propagation Delay (high-speed mode)**
- ♦ **5µA Max Supply Current in Low-Power/ Auto-Standby Modes**
- ♦ **+3V/+5V Single-Supply Operation**
- ♦ **Rail-to-Rail Outputs**
- ♦ **Ground-Sensing Input**
- ♦ **Internal Hysteresis (high-speed mode)**
- ♦ **Adjustable Timeout Period**
- ♦ **µMAX Package (MAX975) QSOP-16 Package (MAX977)**

#### Ordering Information



#### Functional Diagram



µMAX is a registered trademark of Maxim Integrated Products, Inc.

**Pin Configurations appear at end of data sheet.**

#### **MAXIM**

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

**Features** 

**\_ Maxim Integrated Products 1**

### **ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS**



8-Pin µMAX (derate 4.10mW/°C above +70°C) .............330mW 14-Pin SO (derate 8.33mW/°C above +70°C)................667mW 16-Pin QSOP (derate 8.33mW/°C above +70°C)...........667mW Operating Temperature Range ...........................-40°C to +85°C Storage Temperature Range .............................-65°C to +150°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.

### **ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS**

(V<sub>CC</sub> = +2.7V to +5.25V, specifications are for high-speed mode,  $T_A$  = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $T_A = +25$ °C.) (Note 1)



#### **ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)**

(V<sub>CC</sub> = +2.7V to +5.25V, specifications are for high-speed mode,  $T_A$  = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $T_A = +25$ °C.) (Note 1)



**Note 1:** The MAX975EUA is 100% production tested at T<sub>A</sub> = +25°C; all temperature specifications are guaranteed by design.

**Note 2:** Inferred by CMRR. Either input can be driven to the absolute maximum limit without false output inversion, as long as the other input is within the specified common-mode input voltage range.

Note 3: V<sub>OS</sub> is defined as the mean of trip points. The trip points are the extremities of the differential input voltage required to make the comparator output change state (Figure 1).

**Note 4:** The difference between the upper and lower trip points is equal to the width of the input-referred hysteresis zone (Figure 1).

Note 5: Guaranteed by design. The LP pin is sensitive to noise. If fall times larger than 10µs are expected, bypass LP to ground using a 0.1µF capacitor.

**Note 6:** Propagation delay is guaranteed by design. For low-overdrive conditions, V<sub>OS</sub> is added to the overdrive. The following equation defines propagation-delay skew:  $t_{SKEW} = t_{PD+} - t_{PD-}$ .

**ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)**

(V<sub>CC</sub> = +2.7V to +5.25V, specifications are for high-speed mode,  $T_A = -40^{\circ}C$  to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $T_A = +25$ °C.) (Note 1)



**Note 7:** Timing specifications are guaranteed by design.

- **Note 8:** Set by 1000pF external capacitor at the STO\_ pin. t<sub>ASB</sub> is defined as the time from last input transition to STAT\_ = high. Does not include time to go into standby condition (tASBE).
- Note 9: t<sub>ASBE</sub> is defined as the time from when STAT\_ goes high to when the supply current drops to 5µA.
- Note 10: t<sub>ASD</sub> is defined as the time from the last input transition to when STAT\_ goes low. The comparator is in high-speed mode before STAT\_ is low.
- **Note 11:** t<sub>PWD</sub> is defined as the minimum input or LP pulse width to trigger fast-mode operation from auto-standby.
- **Note 12:** t<sub>ASCD</sub> is defined as the time from the last input transition to when the supply current increases to 300µA.
- **Note 13:** t<sub>LPE</sub> is defined as the time from when LP is driven high to when the supply current drops to 5µA.
- Note 14: t<sub>HSE</sub> is defined as the time from when LP goes low to when STAT goes low. The comparator is in high-speed mode before STAT\_ is low.
- Note 15: t<sub>LPCD</sub> is defined as the time from when LP goes low to when the supply current increases to 300µA.
- Note 16: t<sub>LPSH</sub> is defined as the time from when LP goes high to when STAT\_ goes high.

#### **Typical Operating Characteristics**

( $V_{CC}$  = 3.0V,  $T_A$  = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)



**MAX975/MAX97:** MAX975/MAX977



#### **Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)**

( $V_{CC}$  = 3.0V,  $T_A$  = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)



/VI/IXI/VI

MAX975/MAX977

**NAX975/MAX977** 



**NAX975/MAX977** MAX975/MAX977

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#### \_Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

( $V_{CC}$  = 3.0V,  $T_A$  = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)



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### Pin Descriptions



#### **MAX977**





**NAX975/MAX977** 

#### **MAXIM**

High speed

High speed

L  $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline \end{array}$  L  $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline \end{array}$  L  $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline \end{array}$  H  $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline \end{array}$  H  $\begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline \end{array}$  H

H | X | Low power | H

#### **Table 1. Programming**

↓



The MAX975/MAX977 single/dual comparators have three operating modes, and use a +2.7V to +5.25V single supply. The operating modes are as follows: high speed, high speed with auto-standby, and low power. Propagation delay is typically 28ns in highspeed mode, while typical supply current is 250µA. In low-power mode, propagation delay is typically 480ns and power consumption is only 3µA. The auto-standby feature switches into low-power standby for each comparator with unchanging outputs in high-speed mode. The timeout period, or the time that OUT\_ must be idle (unchanged state) for the MAX975/ MAX977 to enter auto-standby, is adjustable by means of an external capacitor. All inputs and outputs can tolerate a continuous short-circuit fault condition to either rail. Internal hysteresis in high-speed mode ensures clean output switching, even with slow-moving input signals.

**INPUTS LP STO\_ IDLE TIME**

L  $t_{ASB} = C_{STO} \times 10 \mu s / pF$   $\leftarrow$   $\leftarrow$   $\leftarrow$   $t_{ASB}$ 

 $(L)$  (falling edge) L  $\qquad \qquad \times$ 

The MAX975 functional diagram shows two paralleled logic gates. The upper comparator is high speed, while the lower comparator is a slower low-power compara-

Most high-speed comparators can oscillate in the linear operating region because of noise or undesired parasitic feedback. This tends to occur when the voltage on one input is equal to or very close to the voltage on the other input. The MAX975/MAX977 have internal hysteresis to counter parasitic effects and noise.

The hysteresis in a comparator creates two trip points: one for the rising input voltage and one for the falling

 $V_{01}$ VOH  $V_{\text{IN}-}=0$  $V_{OS}$  =  $V_{TRIP+} + V_{TRIP-}$ 2 COMPARATOR OUTPUT VTRIP+  $V_{IN+}$ V<sub>HYST</sub> VTRIP-

Thgri speed<br>(Auto-standby enabled) L

Then speed<br>(Auto-standby mode disabled) L

Figure 1. Input and Output Waveforms, Noninverting Input Varied

input voltage (Figure 1). The difference between the trip points is the hysteresis. When the comparators' input voltages are equal, the hysteresis effectively causes one comparator input voltage to move quickly past the other, taking the input out of the region where oscillation occurs.

Figure 1 illustrates the case where IN- has a fixed voltage applied and IN+ is varied. If the inputs were reversed, the figure would be the same, except with an inverted output.

#### Auto-Standby Mode

The MAX975/MAX977's auto-standby function operates only in high-speed mode. The device enters autostandby when OUT\_ remains unchanged for a preprogrammed timeout period. In auto-standby mode, the low-power comparator is enabled while the high-speed comparator is disabled and STAT\_ goes high. The logic state and sink/source capabilities of OUT\_ remain unchanged, but propagation delay increases to 480ns. In this mode, the timing circuitry is powered down, and the transition detector monitors the low-power comparator for a transition. When an output transition occurs (OUT\_ changes state), the timing circuitry is

MAX975/MAX977 **TTEXAM/2797AM MODE STAT OUTPUT**





Figure 2. Timing Diagram

powered up, the high-speed comparator is enabled, the low-power comparator is disabled, and STAT goes high, placing the MAX975 back into high-speed mode (Figure 2).

Use an external capacitor, CSTO, to program the timeout period required for the comparator to enter autostandby mode. Determine the capacitor required for a particular timeout period by the relationship  $t_{ASB}$  = 10 x Cµs, where C is in pF. For example, connecting a 0.1µF capacitor to STO\_ results in a timeout period of 1sec. The propagation delay of OUT\_ when exiting auto standby mode is equivalent to the low-power-mode propagation delay. When STAT\_ goes low, the lowpower comparator is disabled and the high-speed comparator is ready for operation. To bring the comparator out of auto-standby mode without a transition occurring on OUT\_, toggle LP low-high-low. The LP pin is sensitive to noise. If fall times larger than 10µs are expected, bypass LP with a 0.1µF capacitor to GND. To disable auto-standby mode, drive STO\_ low or connect it to ground. Note that driving STO\_ low while in autostandby mode will not bring the comparator out of autostandby mode. Also, if driving STO\_ with an open drain, leakage must be less than 1nA. On power-up, the device is in high-speed mode unless LP is high. The MAX977 operates in the same manner as the MAX975.

#### Low-Power Mode

Driving LP high switches the MAX975/MAX977 to lowpower mode. In this mode, the supply current drops to a maximum of 5µA, and propagation delay increases typically to 480ns. The high-speed comparator is disabled and the low-power comparator is enabled for continuous operation. Return to high-speed mode by driving LP low. The LP pin is sensitive to noise. If fall times larger than 10µs are expected, bypass LP with a 0.1µF capacitor to GND. The logic state and sink/ source capabilities of OUT\_ remain unchanged in lowpower mode.

#### Input-Stage Circuitry

The MAX975/MAX977 input common-mode range is from  $-0.2V$  to (V<sub>CC</sub>  $-1.2V$ ). But the voltage range for each comparator input extends to both  $V_{CC}$  and GND rails. The output remains in the correct logic state while one or both of the inputs are within the common-mode range. If both input levels are out of the common-mode range, input-stage current saturation occurs and the output becomes unpredictable.

#### \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Applications Information

#### Powering Circuitry with STAT

STAT's function is to indicate the comparator's operating mode. When STAT is low, the comparator is in highspeed mode and will meet the guaranteed propagation delay. When STAT is high, the comparator is in autostandby mode, in low-power mode, or in transition to high-speed mode. An additional feature of this pin is that it can source 3mA of current. When STAT is high, additional circuitry can be powered. This circuitry can be automatically powered up or powered down, depending on the input signal or lack of input signal received by the MAX975/MAX977.

#### STO\_ Considerations

The charge currents for the capacitor connected to STO\_ are on the order of 100nA. This necessitates caution in capacitor type selection and board layout. Capacitor leakage currents must be less than 1nA to prevent timing errors. Ceramic capacitors are available in values up to 1µF, and are an excellent choice for this application. If a larger capacitance value is needed, use parallel ceramic capacitors to get the required capacitance. Aluminum and tantalum electrolytic capacitors are not recommended due to their higher leakage currents.

Board layout can create timing errors due to parasitic effects. Make the STO\_ traces as short as possible to reduce capacitance and coupling effects. When driving STO\_ to disable auto-standby mode, use standard CMOS logic isolated with a low-leakage (<1nA) diode, such as National's FJT1100 (Figure 3). 15nA leakage typically results in 10% error.

The MAX977 has separate timing inputs (STOA and STOB). These pins must have separate capacitors. The timing circuits will not operate correctly if a single capacitor is used with STOA and STOB connected together.

The relationship between the timeout period and the  $STO$  capacitor is t<sub>ASB</sub> = 10 x C<sub>STO</sub>  $\mu$ s, where C<sub>STO</sub> is in pF. This equation is for larger capacitance values, and does not take into account variations due to board capacitance and board leakage. If less than 1ms is desired, subtract the ~3pF STO\_ parasitic capacitance from the calculated value.

#### Circuit Layout and Bypassing

The MAX975/MAX977's high gain bandwidth requires design precautions to realize the comparator's full highspeed capability. The following precautions are recommended:

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Figure 3. Driving STO\_ with CMOS Logic



Figure 4. IR Receiver

- 1) Use a printed circuit board with an unbroken, lowinductance ground plane.
- 2) Place a decoupling capacitor (a 0.1µF ceramic capacitor is a good choice) as close to V<sub>CC</sub> as possible.
- 3) Keep lead lengths short on the inputs and outputs, to avoid unwanted parasitic feedback around the comparators.
- 4) Solder the devices directly to the printed circuit board instead of using a socket.
- 5) Minimize input impedance.
- 6) For slowly varying inputs, use a small capacitor (~1000pF) across the inputs to improve stability.

#### IR Receiver

MAX975/MAX977

**ASXAM/27978XAM** 

Figure 4 shows an application using the MAX975 as an infrared receiver. The infrared photodiode creates a current relative to the amount of infrared light present. This current creates a voltage across R<sub>D</sub>. When this voltage level crosses the voltage applied by the voltage divider to the inverting input, the output transitions. If the photodiode is not receiving enough signal to cause transitions on the MAX975's output, STAT is used as a loss-of-signal indicator. R3 adds additional hysteresis for noise immunity.





Figure 5. Window Comparator

#### Window Comparator

The MAX977 is ideal for making a window detector (undervoltage/overvoltage detector). The schematic shown in Figure 5 uses a MAX6120 reference and component values selected for a 2.0V undervoltage threshold and a 2.5V overvoltage threshold. Choose different thresholds by changing the values of R1, R2, and R3. OUTA provides an active-low undervoltage indication, and OUTB gives an active-low overvoltage indication. ANDing the two outputs provides an active-high, power-good signal. The design procedure is as follows:

- 1) Select R1. The leakage current into INB- is normally 100nA, so the current through R1 should exceed 10µA for the thresholds to be accurate. R1 values in the 50kΩ to 100kΩ range are typical.
- 2) Choose the overvoltage threshold (VOTH) when  $V_{IN}$ is rising, and calculate R2 and R3 with the following formula:

 $R2 + R3 = R1 \times [VOTH / (VREF + VH) - 1]$ 

where  $V_H = 1/2V_H$  YST.

3) Choose the undervoltage threshold ( $V_{\text{UTH}}$ ) when  $V_{\text{IN}}$  is falling, and calculate R2 with the following formula:

 $R2 = (R1 + R2 + R3) \times [(V_{RFF} - V_H) / V_{UTH}] - R1$ where  $V_H = 1/2V_H$  YST.



Figure 6. Toll-Tag Reader

4) Calculate R3 with the following formula:

$$
R3 = (R2 + R3) - R2
$$

5) Verify the resistor values. The equations are as follows:

VOTH = (VREF + VH) x (R1 + R2 + R3) / R1 VUTH = (VREF - VH) x (R1 + R2 + R3) / (R1 + R2)

#### Toll-Tag Circuit

The circuit shown in Figure 6 uses a MAX975 in a very low standby-power AM demodulator circuit that wakes up a toll tag (part of an automated roadway tollcollection system). This application requires very long standby times with brief and infrequent interrogations. In the awake state, it is capable of demodulating the typical 600kHz AM carrier riding on the 2.4GHz RF signal. In this state, the comparator draws its 250µA highspeed current. After communications have ceased, or when instructed by the microcontroller, the comparator returns to its low-power state. The comparator draws only 3µA in this state, while monitoring for RF activity. Typically, this application requires two comparators and a discrete power-management and signalswitchover circuit. The MAX975 circuit is smaller, simpler, less costly, and saves design time.



### \_Pin Configurations



### \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Chip Information

TRANSISTOR COUNT: 522 (MAX975) 1044 (MAX977)

### 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**.)



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### Package Information (continued)

(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**.)



### \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Revision History

Pages changed at Rev 2: 1, 2, 6, 7, 10, 14–16

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