MAXM 12-Bit, 95Msps, 3.3V ADC

General Description

The MAX19538 is a 3.3V, 12-bit, 95Msps analog-to-digital converter (ADC) featuring a fully differential wideband track-and-hold (T/H) input amplifier, driving a low-noise internal quantizer. The analog input accepts single-ended or differential signals. The MAX19538 is optimized for low power, small size, and high dynamic performance. Excellent dynamic performance is maintained from baseband to input frequencies of 175MHz and beyond, making the MAX19538 ideal for intermediate frequency (IF) sampling applications.

Powered from a single 3.3V supply, the MAX19538 consumes only 492mW while delivering a typical 68.4dB signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) performance at a 175MHz input frequency. In addition to low operating power, the MAX19538 features a 63µW power-down mode to conserve power during idle periods.

A flexible reference structure allows the MAX19538 to use the internal 2.048V bandgap reference or accept an externally applied reference. The reference structure allows the full-scale analog input range to be adjusted from ±0.35V to ±1.10V. The MAX19538 provides a common-mode reference to simplify design and reduce external component count in differential analog input circuits.

The MAX19538 supports either a single-ended or differential input clock drive. The internal clock duty-cycle equalizer accepts a wide range of clock duty cycles.

Analog-to-digital conversion results are available through a 12-bit, parallel, CMOS-compatible output bus. The digital output format is pin selectable to be either two's complement or Gray code. A data-valid indicator eliminates external components that are normally required for reliable digital interfacing. A separate digital power input accepts a wide 1.7V to 3.6V supply allowing the MAX19538 to interface with various logic levels.

The MAX19538 is available in a 6mm x 6mm x 0.8mm, 40-pin thin QFN package with exposed paddle (EP), and is specified for the extended industrial (-40°C to +85°C) temperature range.

See the Pin-Compatible Versions table for a complete family of 14-bit and 12-bit high-speed ADCs.

Applications

IF and Baseband Communication Receivers Cellular, Point-to-Point Microwave, HFC Medical Imaging Including Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Video Imaging Portable Instrumentation Low-Power Data Acquisition

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Features

- ♦ **Direct IF Sampling Up to 400MHz**
- ♦ **Excellent Dynamic Performance 70.9dB/68.4dB SNR at fIN = 3MHz/175MHz 89.0dBc/76.2dBc SFDR at fIN = 3MHz/175MHz -71.5dBFS Small-Signal Noise Floor**
- ♦ **3.3V Low-Power Operation 465mW (Single-Ended Clock Mode) 492mW (Differential Clock Mode) 63µW (Power-Down Mode)**
- ♦ **Fully Differential or Single-Ended Analog Input**
- ♦ **Adjustable Full-Scale Analog Input Range: ±0.35V to ±1.10V**
- ♦ **Common-Mode Reference**
- ♦ **CMOS-Compatible Outputs in Two's Complement or Gray Code**
- ♦ **Data-Valid Indicator Simplifies Digital Design**
- ♦ **Data Out-of-Range Indicator**
- ♦ **Miniature 6mm x 6mm x 0.8mm 40-Pin Thin QFN Package with Exposed Paddle**
- ♦ **Evaluation Kit Available (Order MAX1211EVKIT)**

Ordering Information

+Denotes lead-free package.

*All devices are specified over the -40°C to +85°C operating range.

Pin-Compatible Versions

Pin Configuration appears at end of data sheet.

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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.

MAX19538

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

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

Lead Temperature (soldering 10s)+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

 $(VDD = 3.3V, OVDD = 1.8V, GND = 0, REFIN = REFOUT (internal reference), VIN = -0.5dBFS, CLKTYP = high, DCE = high, PD = low,$ G/\overline{T} = low, f_{CLK} = 95MHz (50% duty cycle), T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.) (Note 1)

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(V_{DD} = 3.3V, OV_{DD} = 1.8V, GND = 0, REFIN = REFOUT (internal reference), V_{IN} = -0.5dBFS, CLKTYP = high, DCE = high, PD = low,
G/T = low, fc∟k = 95MHz (50% duty cycle), T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Ty

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

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ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(V_{DD} = 3.3V, OV_{DD} = 1.8V, GND = 0, REFIN = REFOUT (internal reference), V_{IN} = -0.5dBFS, CLKTYP = high, DCE = high, PD = low,
G/T = low, fc∟k = 95MHz (50% duty cycle), T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Ty

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ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(V_{DD} = 3.3V, OV_{DD} = 1.8V, GND = 0, REFIN = REFOUT (internal reference), V_{IN} = -0.5dBFS, CLKTYP = high, DCE = high, PD = low, G/\overline{T} = low, f_{CLK} = 95MHz (50% duty cycle), T_A = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.) (Note 1)

Note 1: Specifications ≥+25°C guaranteed by production test, <+25°C guaranteed by design and characterization.

Note 2: See definitions in the *Parameter Definitions* section at the end of this data sheet.

Note 3: Limit specifications include performance degradations due to production test socket. Performance is improved when the MAX19538 is soldered directly to the PC board.

Note 4: During power-down, D11–D0, DOR, and DAV are high impedance.

Note 5: Digital outputs settle to V_{IH} or V_{IL}.

Note 6: Guaranteed by design and characterization.

Typical Operating Characteristics

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Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

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 $(V_{DD} = 3.3V, OV_{DD} = 1.8V, GND = 0, REFIN = REFOUT$ (internal reference), $V_{IN} = -0.5dBFS$, CLKTYP = high, DCE = high, PD = low, G/\overline{T} = low, f_{CLK} \approx 95MHz (50% duty cycle), T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.

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Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

 $(VDD = 3.3V, OVDD = 1.8V, GND = 0, REFIN = REFOUT (internal reference), VIN = -0.5dBFS, CLKTYP = high, DCE = high, PD = low,$ G/\overline{T} = low, f_{CLK} \approx 95MHz (50% duty cycle), T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.

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Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

 $(V_{DD} = 3.3V, OV_{DD} = 1.8V, GND = 0, REFIN = REFOUT$ (internal reference), $V_{IN} = -0.5dBFS$, CLKTYP = high, DCE = high, PD = low, G/ \overline{T} = low, f_{CLK} \approx 95MHz (50% duty cycle), T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.

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Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

 $(V_{DD} = 3.3V, OV_{DD} = 1.8V, GND = 0, REFIN = REFOUT (internal reference), V_{IN} = -0.5dBFS, CLKTYP = high, DCE = high, PD = low,$ G/\overline{T} = low, fcLK \approx 95MHz (50% duty cycle), TA = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.

Pin Description

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Pin Description (continued)

Figure 1. Pipeline Architecture—Stage Blocks

Detailed Description

The MAX19538 uses a 10-stage, fully differential, pipelined architecture (Figure 1) that allows for highspeed conversion while minimizing power consumption. Samples taken at the inputs move progressively through the pipeline stages every half clock cycle. From input to output, the total clock-cycle latency is 8.5 clock cycles.

Figure 2. Simplified Functional Diagram

Each pipeline converter stage converts its input voltage into a digital output code. At every stage, except the last, the error between the input voltage and the digital output code is multiplied and passed along to the next pipeline stage. Digital error correction compensates for ADC comparator offsets in each pipeline stage and ensures no missing codes. Figure 2 shows the MAX19538 functional diagram.

Input Track-and-Hold (T/H) Circuit

Figure 3 displays a simplified functional diagram of the input track-and-hold (T/H) circuit. This input T/H circuit allows for high analog input frequencies of 175MHz and beyond and supports a V_{DD} / 2 \pm 0.5V commonmode input voltage.

The MAX19538 sampling clock controls the ADC's switched-capacitor T/H architecture (Figure 3), allowing the analog input signal to be stored as charge on the sampling capacitors. These switches are closed (track) when the sampling clock is high and they are open (hold) when the sampling clock is low (Figure 4). The analog input signal source must be capable of provid-

Figure 3. Simplified Input Track-and-Hold Circuit

ing the dynamic current necessary to charge and discharge the sampling capacitors. To avoid signal degradation, these capacitors must be charged to 1/2 LSB accuracy within one half of a clock cycle.

The analog input of the MAX19538 supports differential or single-ended input drive. For optimum performance with differential inputs, balance the input impedance of INP and INN and set the common-mode voltage to midsupply (V_{DD} / 2). The MAX19538 provides the optimum common-mode voltage of V_{DD} / 2 through the COM output when operating in internal reference mode and buffered external reference mode. This COM output voltage can be used to bias the input network as shown in Figures 10, 11, and 12.

Reference Output (REFOUT)

An internal bandgap reference is the basis for all the internal voltages and bias currents used in the MAX19538. The power-down logic input (PD) enables and disables the reference circuit. The reference circuit requires 10ms to power up and settle when power is applied to the MAX19538 or when PD transitions from high to low. REFOUT has approximately 17k Ω to GND when the MAX19538 is in power-down.

The internal bandgap reference and its buffer generate VREFOUT to be 2.048V. The reference temperature coefficient is typically +50ppm/°C. Connect an external ≥0.1µF bypass capacitor from REFOUT to GND for stability.

REFOUT sources up to 1.0mA and sinks up to 0.1mA for external circuits with a load regulation of 35mV/mA. Short-circuit protection limits IRFFOUT to a 2.1mA source current when shorted to GND and a 0.24mA sink current when shorted to V_{DD}.

Figure 4. T/H Aperture Timing

Table 1. Reference Modes

Analog Inputs and Reference **Configurations**

The MAX19538 full-scale analog input range is adjustable from $\pm 0.35V$ to $\pm 1.10V$ with a commonmode input range of V_{DD} / 2 \pm 0.5V. The MAX19538 provides three modes of reference operation. The voltage at REFIN (VREFIN) sets the reference operation mode (Table 1).

To operate the MAX19538 with the internal reference, connect REFOUT to REFIN either with a direct short or through a resistive divider. In this mode, COM, REFP, and REFN are low-impedance outputs with $V_{COM} =$ $VDD / 2$, $VREFP = VDD / 2 + VREFIN \times 3/8$, and $VREFN =$ V_{DD} $/$ 2 - VREFIN \times 3/8. The REFIN input impedance is very large (>50MΩ). When driving REFIN through a resistive divider, use resistances $≥10kΩ$ to avoid loading REFOUT.

Buffered external reference mode is virtually identical to internal reference mode except that the reference source is derived from an external reference and not the MAX19538 REFOUT. In buffered external reference mode, apply a stable 0.7V to 2.2V source at REFIN. In this mode, COM, REFP, and REFN are low-impedance

outputs with $V_{COM} = V_{DD}/2$, $V_{REF} = V_{DD}/2 + V_{REFIN}$ x 3/8, and VREFN = VDD/2 - VREFIN x 3/8.

To operate the MAX19538 in unbuffered external reference mode, connect REFIN to GND. Connecting REFIN to GND deactivates the on-chip reference buffers for COM, REFP, and REFN. With the respective buffers deactivated, COM, REFP, and REFN become highimpedance inputs and must be driven through separate, external reference sources. Drive V_{COM} to V_{DD} / 2 $±5%$, and drive REFP and REFN such that $V_{COM} =$ (VREFP + VREFN) / 2. The full-scale analog input range is \pm (VREFP - VREFN) \times 2/3.

All three modes of reference operation require the same bypass capacitor combinations. Bypass COM with a 2.2µF capacitor to GND. Bypass REFP and REFN each with a 0.1µF capacitor to GND. Bypass REFP to REFN with a 1µF capacitor in parallel with a 10µF capacitor. **Place the 1µF capacitor as close to the device as possible on the same side of the PC board.** Bypass REFIN and REFOUT to GND with a 0.1µF capacitor.

For detailed circuit suggestions, see Figures 13 and 14.

Figure 5. Simplified Clock Input Circuit

Clock Input and Clock Control Lines (CLKP, CLKN, CLKTYP)

The MAX19538 accepts both differential and singleended clock inputs. For single-ended clock input operation, connect CLKTYP to GND, CLKN to GND, and drive CLKP with the external single-ended clock signal. For differential clock input operation, connect CLKTYP to OV_{DD} or V_{DD}, and drive CLKP and CLKN with the external differential clock signal. To reduce clock jitter, the external single-ended clock must have sharp falling edges. Consider the clock input as an analog input and route it away from any other analog inputs and digital signal lines.

CLKP and CLKN are high impedance when the MAX19538 is powered down (Figure 5).

Low clock jitter is required for the specified SNR performance of the MAX19538. Analog input sampling occurs on the falling edge of the clock signal, requiring this edge to have the lowest possible jitter. Jitter limits the maximum SNR performance of any ADC according to the following relationship:

$$
SNR = 20 \times \log \left(\frac{1}{2 \times \pi \times f_N \times t_J} \right)
$$

where f_{IN} represents the analog input frequency and f_{I} is the total system clock jitter. Clock jitter is especially critical for undersampling applications. For example, assuming that clock jitter is the only noise source, to obtain the specified 68.4dB of SNR with an input frequency of 175MHz, the system must have less than 0.35ps of clock jitter. In actuality, there are other noise sources such as thermal noise and quantization noise that contribute to the system noise requiring the clock jitter to be less than 0.23ps to obtain the specified 68.4dB of SNR at 175MHz.

Clock Duty-Cycle Equalizer (DCE)

Connect DCE high to enable the clock duty-cycle equalizer (DCE = OV_{DD} or V_{DD}). Connect DCE low to disable the clock duty-cycle equalizer (DCE $=$ GND). With the clock duty-cycle equalizer enabled, the MAX19538 is insensitive to the duty cycle of the signal applied to CLKP and CLKN. Duty cycles from 35% to 65% are acceptable with the clock duty-cycle equalizer enabled.

The clock duty-cycle equalizer uses a delay-locked loop (DLL) to create internal timing signals that are duty-cycle independent. Due to this DLL, the MAX19538 requires approximately 100 clock cycles to acquire and lock to new clock frequencies.

Although not recommended, disabling the clock dutycycle equalizer reduces the analog supply current by 1.5mA. With the clock duty-cycle equalizer disabled, the MAX19538's dynamic performance varies depending on the duty cycle of the signal applied to CLKP and CLKN.

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12-Bit, 95Msps, 3.3V ADC

System Timing Requirements

Figure 6 shows the relationship between the clock, analog inputs, DAV indicator, DOR indicator, and the resulting output data. The analog input is sampled on the falling edge of the clock signal and the resulting data appears at the digital outputs 8.5 clock cycles later.

The DAV indicator is synchronized with the digital output and optimized for use in latching data into digital back-end circuitry. Alternatively, digital back-end circuitry can be latched with the rising edge of the conversion clock (CLKP-CLKN).

Data-Valid Output (DAV)

DAV is a single-ended version of the input clock (CLKP). Output data changes on the falling edge of DAV, and DAV rises once output data is valid (Figure 6).

The state of the duty-cycle equalizer input (DCE) changes the waveform at DAV. With the duty-cycle equalizer disabled ($DCE = low$), the DAV signal is the inverse of the signal at CLKP delayed by 6.8ns. With the dutycycle equalizer enabled (DCE $=$ high), the DAV signal has a fixed pulse width that is independent of CLKP. In either case, with DCE high or low, output data at D11–D0 and DOR are valid from 5.7ns (tseTUP) before the rising edge of DAV to 4.2ns (t HOLD) after the rising edge of DAV, and the rising edge of DAV is synchronized to have a 6.8ns (tp Av) delay from the falling edge of CLKP.

DAV is high impedance when the MAX19538 is in powerdown (PD $=$ high). DAV is capable of sinking and sourcing 600µA and has three times the drive strength of D11–D0 and DOR. DAV is typically used to latch the MAX19538 output data into an external back-end digital circuit.

Keep the capacitive load on DAV as low as possible (<25pF) to avoid large digital currents feeding back into the analog portion of the MAX19538 and degrading its dynamic performance. An external buffer on DAV isolates it from heavy capacitive loads. Refer to the MAX1211 evaluation kit schematic for an example of DAV driving back-end digital circuitry through an external buffer.

Data Out-of-Range Indicator (DOR)

The DOR digital output indicates when the analog input voltage is out of range. When DOR is high, the analog input is out of range. When DOR is low, the analog input is within range. The valid differential input range is from (VREFP - VREFN) \times 2/3 to (VREFN - VREFP) \times 2/3. Signals outside this valid differential range cause DOR to assert high as shown in Table 2 and Figure 6.

DOR is synchronized with DAV and transitions along with the output data D11–D0. There is an 8.5 clockcycle latency in the DOR function, as is with the output data (Figure 6).

DOR is high impedance when the MAX19538 is in power-down (PD = high). DOR enters a high-impedance state within 10ns after the rising edge of PD and becomes active 10ns after PD's falling edge.

Figure 6. System Timing Diagram

Digital Output Data (D11–D0), Output Format (G/ T**)**

The MAX19538 provides a 12-bit, parallel, tri-state output bus. D11–D0 and DOR update on the falling edge of DAV and are valid on the rising edge of DAV.

The MAX19538 output data format is either Gray code or two's complement, depending on the logic input G/\overline{T} . With G/\overline{T} high, the output data format is Gray code. With G/\overline{T} low, the output data format is two's complement. See Figure 9 for a binary-to-Gray and Gray-tobinary code conversion example.

The following equations, Table 2, Figure 7, and Figure 8 define the relationship between the digital output and the analog input:

$$
V_{INP} - V_{INN} = (V_{REFP} - V_{REFN}) \times \frac{4}{3} \times \frac{CODE_{10} - 2048}{4096}
$$

for Gray code (G \overline{T} = 1).

$$
V_{INP} - V_{INN} = (V_{REFP} - V_{REFN}) \times \frac{4}{3} \times \frac{\text{CODE}_{10}}{4096}
$$

for two's complement $(G/\overline{T} = 0)$.

where $CODE_{10}$ is the decimal equivalent of the digital output code as shown in Table 2.

Digital outputs D11–D0 are high impedance when the MAX19538 is in power-down (PD = high). D11–D0 transition high 10ns after the rising edge of PD and become active 10ns after PD's falling edge.

Keep the capacitive load on the MAX19538 digital outputs D11–D0 as low as possible (<15pF) to avoid large digital currents feeding back into the analog portion of the MAX19538 and degrading its dynamic performance. The addition of external digital buffers on the digital outputs isolates the MAX19538 from heavy capacitive loading. To improve the dynamic performance of the MAX19538, add 220 $Ω$ resistors in series with the digital outputs close to the MAX19538. Refer to the MAX1211 evaluation kit schematic for an example of the digital outputs driving a digital buffer through 220 $Ω$ series resistors.

Figure 7. Two's-Complement Transfer Function (G/ $\overline{T} = 0$)

Figure 8. Gray-Code Transfer Function (G/ \overline{T} = 1)

Table 2. Output Codes vs. Input Voltage **Table 2. Output Codes vs. Input Voltage**

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Figure 9. Binary-to-Gray and Gray-to-Binary Code Conversion

Figure 10. Transformer-Coupled Input Drive for Input Frequencies Up to Nyquist

Figure 12. Single-Ended, AC-Coupled Input Drive

Figure 11. Transformer-Coupled Input Drive for Input Frequencies Beyond Nyquist

Power-Down Input (PD)

The MAX19538 has two power modes that are controlled with the power-down digital input (PD). With PD low, the MAX19538 is in normal operating mode. With PD high, the MAX19538 is in power-down mode.

The power-down mode allows the MAX19538 to efficiently use power by transitioning to a low-power state when conversion is not required. Additionally, the MAX19538 parallel output bus is high impedance in power-down mode, allowing other devices on the bus to be accessed.

In power-down mode, all internal circuits are off, the analog supply current reduces to 0.02mA, and the digital supply current reduces to 1µA. The following list shows the state of the analog inputs and digital outputs in power-down mode:

- INP, INN analog inputs are disconnected from the internal input amplifier (Figure 3).
- REFOUT has approximately 17k Ω to GND.
- REFP, COM, REFN go high impedance with respect to V_{DD} and GND, but there is an internal $4kΩ$ resistor between REFP and COM, as well as an internal 4kΩ resistor between REFN and COM.

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Figure 13. External Buffered Reference Driving Multiple ADCs

- D11–D0, DOR, and DAV go high impedance.
- CLKP, CLKN go high impedance (Figure 5).

The wake-up time from power-down mode is dominated by the time required to charge the capacitors at REFP, REFN, and COM. In internal reference mode and buffered external reference mode the wake-up time is typically 10ms with the recommended capacitor array (Figure 13). When operating in unbuffered external reference mode, the wake-up time is dependent on the external reference drivers.

Applications Information

Using Transformer Coupling

In general, the MAX19538 provides better SFDR and THD performance with fully differential input signals as opposed to single-ended input drive. In differential input mode, even-order harmonics are lower as both inputs are balanced, and each of the ADC inputs only requires half the signal swing compared to singleended input mode.

An RF transformer (Figure 10) provides an excellent solution to convert a single-ended input source signal to a fully differential signal, required by the MAX19538 for optimum performance. Connecting the center tap of the transformer to COM provides a V_{DD} / 2 DC level

Figure 14. External Unbuffered Reference Driving Multiple ADCs

shift to the input. Although a 1:1 transformer is shown, a step-up transformer can be selected to reduce the drive requirements. A reduced signal swing from the input driver, such as an op amp, can also improve the overall distortion. The configuration of Figure 10 is good for frequencies up to Nyquist (fCLK / 2).

The circuit of Figure 11 converts a single-ended input signal to fully differential just as Figure 10. However Figure 11 utilizes an additional transformer to improve the common-mode rejection allowing high-frequency signals beyond the Nyquist frequency. The two sets of termination resistors provide an equivalent $50Ω$ termination to the signal source, as the ADT1-1WT transformer has a 1:1.5 impedance ratio. The second set of termination resistors connects to COM, providing the correct input common-mode voltage. Two 0Ω resistors in series with the analog inputs allow high IF input frequencies. These 0Ω resistors can be replaced with lowvalue resistors to limit the input bandwidth.

Single-Ended AC-Coupled Input Signal

Figure 12 shows an AC-coupled, single-ended input application. The MAX4108 operational amplifier provides high speed, high bandwidth, low noise, and low distortion to maintain the input signal integrity.

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Buffered External Reference Drives Multiple ADCs

The buffered external reference mode allows for more control over the MAX19538 reference voltage and allows multiple converters to use a common reference. The REFIN input impedance is >50MΩ.

Figure 13 uses the MAX6029EUK21 precision 2.048V reference as a common reference for multiple converters. The 2.048V output of the MAX6029 passes through a one-pole, 10Hz lowpass filter to the MAX4230. The MAX4230 buffers the 2.048V reference and provides additional 10Hz lowpass filtering before its output is applied to the REFIN input of the MAX19538.

Unbuffered External Reference Drives Multiple ADCs

The unbuffered external reference mode allows for precise control over the MAX19538 reference and allows multiple converters to use a common reference. Connecting REFIN to GND disables the internal reference, allowing REFP, REFN, and COM to be driven directly by a set of external reference sources.

Figure 14 uses the MAX6029EUK30 precision 3.000V reference as a common reference for multiple converters. A seven-component resistive divider chain follows the MAX6029 voltage reference. The 0.47µF capacitor along this chain creates a 10Hz lowpass filter. Three MAX4230 operational amplifiers buffer taps along this resistor chain providing 2.413V, 1.647V, and 0.880V to the MAX19538's REFP, COM, and REFN reference inputs, respectively. The feedback around the MAX4230 op amps provides additional 10Hz lowpass filtering. The 2.413V and 0.880V reference voltages set the full-scale analog input range to ±1.022V = ±(VREFP - VREFN) x 2/3.

A common power source for all active components removes any concern regarding power-supply sequencing when powering up or down

Grounding, Bypassing, and Board Layout

The MAX19538 requires high-speed board layout design techniques. Refer to the MAX1211 evaluation kit data sheet for a board layout reference. Locate all bypass capacitors as close to the device as possible, preferably on the same side of the board as the ADC, using surface-mount devices for minimum inductance. Bypass V_{DD} to GND with a 0.1µF ceramic capacitor in parallel with a 2.2µF ceramic capacitor. Bypass OV_{DD} to GND with a 0.1µF ceramic capacitor in parallel with a 2.2µF ceramic capacitor.

Multilayer boards with ample ground and power planes produce the highest level of signal integrity. All MAX19538 GNDs and the exposed backside paddle must be connected to the same ground plane. The MAX19538 relies on the exposed backside paddle connection for a low-inductance ground connection. Use multiple vias to connect the top-side ground to the bottom-side ground. Isolate the ground plane from any noisy digital system ground planes such as a DSP or output buffer ground.

Route high-speed digital signal traces away from the sensitive analog traces. Keep all signal lines short and free of 90° turns.

Ensure that the differential analog input network layout is symmetric and that all parasitics are balanced equally. Refer to the MAX1211 evaluation kit data sheet for an example of symmetric input layout.

Parameter Definitions

Integral Nonlinearity (INL)

Integral nonlinearity is the deviation of the values on an actual transfer function from a straight line. For the MAX19538, this straight line is between the end points of the transfer function, once offset and gain errors have been nullified. INL deviations are measured at every step of the transfer function and the worst-case deviation is reported in the Electrical Characteristics table.

Differential Nonlinearity (DNL)

Differential nonlinearity is the difference between an actual step width and the ideal value of 1 LSB. A DNL error specification of less than 1 LSB guarantees no missing codes and a monotonic transfer function. For the MAX19538, DNL deviations are measured at every step of the transfer function and the worst-case deviation is reported in the *Electrical Characteristics* table.

Offset Error

Offset error is a figure of merit that indicates how well the actual transfer function matches the ideal transfer function at a single point. Ideally the midscale MAX19538 transition occurs at 0.5 LSB above midscale. The offset error is the amount of deviation between the measured midscale transition point and the ideal midscale transition point.

Gain Error

Gain error is a figure of merit that indicates how well the slope of the actual transfer function matches the slope of the ideal transfer function. The slope of the actual transfer function is measured between two data points: positive full scale and negative full scale. Ideally the positive full-scale MAX19538 transition occurs at 1.5

LSB below positive full scale, and the negative fullscale transition occurs at 0.5 LSB above negative full scale. The gain error is the difference of the measured transition points minus the difference of the ideal transition points.

Small-Signal Noise Floor (SSNF)

Small-signal noise floor is the integrated noise and distortion power in the Nyquist band for small-signal inputs. The DC offset is excluded from this noise calculation. For this converter, a small signal is defined as a single tone with an amplitude less than -35dBFS. This parameter captures the thermal and quantization noise characteristics of the converter and can be used to help calculate the overall noise figure of a receive channel. Go to www.maxim-ic.com for application notes on thermal + quantization noise floor.

Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR)

For a waveform perfectly reconstructed from digital samples, the theoretical maximum SNR is the ratio of the full-scale analog input (RMS value) to the RMS quantization error (residual error). The ideal, theoretical minimum analog-to-digital noise is caused by quantization error only and results directly from the ADC's resolution (N bits):

$$
SNR_{[max]} = 6.02 \times N + 1.76
$$

In reality, there are other noise sources besides quantization noise: thermal noise, reference noise, clock jitter, etc. SNR is computed by taking the ratio of the RMS signal to the RMS noise. RMS noise includes all spectral components to the Nyquist frequency excluding the fundamental, the first six harmonics (HD2 to HD7), and the DC offset:

$$
SNR = 20 \times \log \left(\frac{SIGNAL_{RMS}}{NOISE_{RMS}} \right)
$$

Signal-to-Noise Plus Distortion (SINAD)

SINAD is computed by taking the ratio of the RMS signal to the RMS noise plus the RMS distortion. RMS noise includes all spectral components to the Nyquist frequency excluding the fundamental, the first six harmonics (HD2–HD7), and the DC offset. RMS distortion includes the first six harmonics (HD2–HD7):

$$
SINAD = 20 \times log \left(\frac{SIGNAL_{RMS}}{\sqrt{NOISE_{RMS}^{2} + DISTORTION_{RMS}^{2}}} \right)
$$

Effective Number of Bits (ENOB)

ENOB specifies the dynamic performance of an ADC at a specific input frequency and sampling rate. An ideal ADC's error consists of quantization noise only. ENOB for a full-scale sinusoidal input waveform is computed from:

$$
ENOB = \left(\frac{SINAD - 1.76}{6.02}\right)
$$

Single-Tone Spurious-Free Dynamic Range (SFDR)

SFDR is the ratio expressed in decibels of the RMS amplitude of the fundamental (maximum signal component) to the RMS amplitude of the next-largest spurious component, excluding DC offset.

Total Harmonic Distortion (THD)

THD is the ratio of the RMS sum of the first six harmonics of the input signal to the fundamental itself. This is expressed as:

$$
\text{THD} = 20 \times \log \left(\frac{\sqrt{{v_2}^2 + {v_3}^2 + {v_4}^2 + {v_5}^2 + {v_6}^2 + {v_7}^2}}{v_1} \right)
$$

where V_1 is the fundamental amplitude, and V_2 through V7 are the amplitudes of the 2nd- through 7th-order harmonics (HD2–HD7).

Intermodulation Distortion (IMD)

IMD is the ratio of the RMS sum of the intermodulation products to the RMS sum of the two fundamental input tones. This is expressed as:

$$
IMD = 20 \times \log \left(\frac{\sqrt{V_{1M1}^{2} + V_{1M2}^{2} + \dots + V_{1M13}^{2} + V_{1M14}^{2}}}{\sqrt{V1^{2} + V2^{2}}} \right)
$$

The fundamental input tone amplitudes (V_1 and V_2) are at -7dBFS. Fourteen intermodulation products (V_{IM}) are used in the MAX19538 IMD calculation. The intermodulation products are the amplitudes of the output spectrum at the following frequencies, where f_{IN1} and f_{IN2} are the fundamental input tone frequencies:

- Second-order intermodulation products: $f_{IN1} + f_{IN2}$, $f_{IN2} - f_{IN1}$
- Third-order intermodulation products: $2 \times f_{IN1}$ - f_{IN2}, $2 \times f_{IN2}$ - f_{IN1}, $2 \times f_{IN1}$ + f_{IN2}, $2 \times f_{IN2}$ + f_{IN1}
- Fourth-order intermodulation products: $3 \times f_{IN1}$ - f_{IN2} , $3 \times f_{IN2}$ - f_{IN1} , $3 \times f_{IN1}$ + f_{IN2} , $3 \times f_{IN2}$ + f_{IN1}

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• Fifth-order intermodulation products: $3 \times f_{IN1}$ - $2 \times f_{IN2}$, $3 \times f_{IN2}$ - $2 \times f_{IN1}$, $3 \times f_{IN1}$ + $2 \times f_{IN2}$, $3 \times f_{IN2} + 2 \times f_{IN1}$

Third-Order Intermodulation (IM3)

IM3 is the total power of the third-order intermodulation products to the Nyquist frequency relative to the total input power of the two input tones f_{IN1} and f_{IN2} . The individual input tone levels are at -7dBFS. The thirdorder intermodulation products are $2 \times f_{\text{IN1}}$ - fing, $2 \times$ f_{IN2} - fin1, 2 \times fin1 + fin2, 2 \times fin2 + fin1.

Two-Tone Spurious-Free Dynamic Range (SFDR_{TT})

SFDR_{TT} represents the ratio, expressed in decibels, of the RMS amplitude of either input tone to the RMS amplitude of the next-largest spurious component in the spectrum, excluding DC offset. This spurious component can occur anywhere in the spectrum up to Nyquist and is usually an intermodulation product or a harmonic.

Aperture Delay

The MAX19538 samples data on the falling edge of its sampling clock. In actuality, there is a small delay between the falling edge of the sampling clock and the actual sampling instant. Aperture delay (tAD) is the time defined between the falling edge of the sampling clock and the instant when an actual sample is taken (Figure 4).

Aperture Jitter

Figure 4 depicts the aperture jitter $(t_{A,J})$, which is the sample-to-sample variation in the aperture delay.

Output Noise (nOUT)

The output noise ($n \Omega$ UT) parameter is similar to the thermal + quantization noise parameter and is an indication of the ADC's overall noise performance.

No fundamental input tone is used to test for nOUT; INP, INN, and COM are connected together and 1024k data points collected. nout is computed by taking the RMS value of the collected data points after the mean is removed.

Overdrive Recovery Time

Overdrive recovery time is the time required for the ADC to recover from an input transient that exceeds the full-scale limits. The MAX19538 specifies overdrive recovery time using an input transient that exceeds the full-scale limits by $\pm 10\%$.

Pin Configuration

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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**.)

Package Information (continued)

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