LT5527



FEATURES

- **50**Ω Single-Ended RF and LO Ports
- Wide RF Frequency Range: 400MHz to 3.7GHz*
- High Input IP3: 24.5dBm at 900MHz 23.5dBm at 1900MHz
- Conversion Gain: 3.2dB at 900MHz 2.3dB at 1900MHz
- Integrated LO Buffer: Low LO Drive Level
- High LO-RF and LO-IF Isolation
- Low Noise Figure: 11.6dB at 900MHz 12.5dB at 1900MHz
- Very Few External Components
- Enable Function
- 4.5V to 5.25V Supply Voltage Range
- 16-Lead (4mm × 4mm) QFN Package

APPLICATIONS

- Cellular, WCDMA, TD-SCDMA and UMTS Infrastructure
- GSM900/GSM1800/GSM1900 Infrastructure
- 900MHz/2.4GHz/3.5GHz WLAN
- MMDS, WiMAX
- High Linearity Downmixer Applications

TYPICAL APPLICATION

High Signal Level Downmixer for Multi-Carrier Wireless Infrastructure



400MHz to 3.7GHz 5V High Signal Level Downconverting Mixer **DESCRIPTION**

The LT[®]5527 active mixer is optimized for high linearity, wide dynamic range downconverter applications. The IC includes a high speed differential LO buffer amplifier driving a double-balanced mixer. Broadband, integrated transformers on the RF and LO inputs provide single-ended 50 Ω interfaces. The differential IF output allows convenient interfacing to differential IF filters and amplifiers, or is easily matched to drive 50 Ω single-ended, with or without an external transformer.

The RF input is internally matched to 50Ω from 1.7GHz to 3GHz, and the LO input is internally matched to 50Ω from 1.2GHz to 5GHz. The frequency range of both ports is easily extended with simple external matching. The IF output is partially matched and usable for IF frequencies up to 600MHz.

The LT5527's high level of integration minimizes the total solution cost, board space and system-level variation.

LT, LTC and LTM are registered trademarks of Linear Technology Corporation. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. *Operation over a wider fragmaper trade is possible with reduced performance. Consult for

*Operation over a wider frequency range is possible with reduced performance. Consult factory for information and assistance.

1.9GHz Conversion Gain, IIP3, SSB NF and LO-RF Leakage vs LO Power



ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

(Note 1)

Supply Voltage (V _{CC1} , V _{CC2} , IF+, IF–)	5.5V
Enable Voltage0.3	V to V_{CC} + 0.3V
LO Input Power (380MHz to 4GHz)	10dBm
LO Input DC Voltage	-1V to V_{CC} + 1V
Continuous RF Input Power	
(400MHz to 4GHz)	12dBm
RF Input Power (400MHz to 4GHz)	15dBm
RF Input DC Voltage	±0.1V
Operating Temperature Range	40°C to 85°C
Storage Temperature Range	-65°C to 125°C
Junction Temperature (T _J)	125°C

PIN CONFIGURATION



ORDER INFORMATION

LEAD FREE FINISH	TAPE AND REEL	PART MARKING	PACKAGE DESCRIPTION	TEMPERATURE RANGE
LT5527EUF#PBF	LT5527EUF#TRPBF	5527	16-Lead (4mm \times 4mm) Plastic QFN	-40°C to 85°C

Consult LTC Marketing for parts specified with wider operating temperature ranges.

Consult LTC Marketing for information on non-standard lead based finish parts.

For more information on lead free part marking, go to: http://www.linear.com/leadfree/

For more information on tape and reel specifications, go to: http://www.linear.com/tapeandreel/

DC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS $V_{CC} = 5V$, EN = High, $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$, unless otherwise specified. Test circuit shown in Figure 1. (Note 3)

PARAMETER		CONDITIONS	MIN	ТҮР	MAX	UNITS
Power Supply Requ	uirements (V _{CC})					
Supply Voltage			4.5	5	5.25	VDC
Supply Current	V _{CC1} (Pin 7) V _{CC2} (Pin 6) IF ⁺ + IF ⁻ (Pin 11 + Pin 10) Total Supply Current			23.2 2.8 52 78	60 88	mA mA mA mA
Enable (EN) Low =	Off, High = On					
Shutdown Current		EN = Low			100	μA
Input High Voltage	(On)		3			VDC
Input Low Voltage (Off)					0.3	VDC
EN Pin Input Currer	nt	EN = 5VDC		50	90	μA
Turn-ON Time				3		μs
Turn-OFF Time				3		μs

AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS Test circuit shown in Figure 1. (Notes 2, 3)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	ТҮР	MAX	UNITS
RF Input Frequency Range	No External Matching (Midband) With External Matching (Low Band or High Band)	400	1700 to 3000	3700	MHz MHz
LO Input Frequency Range No External Matching With External Matching		380	1200 to 3500		MHz MHz
IF Output Frequency Range	Requires Appropriate IF Matching		0.1 to 600		MHz
	·				5527fa



AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS Test circuit shown in Figure 1. (Notes 2, 3)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN	ТҮР	MAX	UNITS
RF Input Return Loss		>10		dB	
LO Input Return Loss	Z ₀ = 50Ω, 1200MHz to 3400MHz				dB
IF Output Impedance	Differential at 240MHz		407Ω 2.5pF		
LO Input Power	1200MHz to 3500MHz 380MHz to 1200MHz	-8 -5	-3 0	2 5	dBm dBm

Standard Downmixer Application: $V_{CC} = 5V$, EN = High, $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$, $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ (-5dBm/tone for 2-tone IIP3 tests, $\Delta f = 1MHz$), $f_{LO} = f_{RF} - f_{IF}$, $P_{LO} = -3dBm$ (0dBm for 450MHz and 900MHz tests), IF output measured at 240MHz, unless otherwise noted. Test circuit shown in Figure 1. (Notes 2, 3, 4)

PARAMETER	CONDITIONS	MIN TYP MAX	UNITS
Conversion Gain	RF = 450MHz, IF = 140MHz, High Side LO	2.5	dB
	RF = 900MHz, IF = 140MHz	3.4	dB
	RF = 1700MHz	2.3	dB
	RF = 1900MHz	2.3	dB
	RF = 2200MHz	2.0	dB
	RF = 2650MHz	1.8	dB
	RF = 3500MHz, IF = 380MHz	0.3	dB
Conversion Gain vs Temperature	$T_A = -40^{\circ}$ C to 85°C, RF = 1900MHz	-0.018	dB/°C
Input 3rd Order Intercept	RF = 450MHz, IF = 140MHz, High Side LO	23.2	dBm
	RF = 900MHz, IF = 140MHz	24.5	dBm
	RF = 1700MHz	24.2	dBm
	RF = 1900MHz	23.5	dBm
	RF = 2200MHz	22.7	dBm
	RF = 2650MHz	20.8	dBm
	RF = 3500MHz, IF = 380MHz	18.2	dBm
Single-Sideband Noise Figure	RF = 450MHz, IF = 140MHz, High Side LO RF = 900MHz, IF = 140MHz RF = 1700MHz RF = 1900MHz RF = 2200MHz RF = 2650MHz RF = 3500MHz, IF = 380MHz	13.3 11.6 12.1 12.5 13.2 13.9 16.1	dB dB dB dB dB dB dB dB
LO to RF Leakage	$f_{L0} = 400MHz$ to 2100MHz	≤–44	dBm
	$f_{L0} = 2100MHz$ to 3200MHz	≤–36	dBm
LO to IF Leakage	$f_{LO} = 400MHz$ to 700MHz	≤–40	dBm
	$f_{LO} = 700MHz$ to 3200MHz	≤–50	dBm
RF to LO Isolation	f _{RF} = 400MHz to 2200MHz	>43	dB
	f _{RF} = 2200MHz to 3700MHz	>38	dB
RF to IF Isolation	f _{RF} = 400MHz to 800MHz	>42	dB
	f _{RF} = 800MHz to 3700MHz	>54	dB
2RF-2LO Output Spurious Product	900MHz: f_{RF} = 830MHz at -5dBm, f_{IF} = 140MHz	-60	dBc
(f _{RF} = fLO + f _{IF} /2)	1900MHz: f_{RF} = 1780MHz at -5dBm, f_{IF} = 240MHz	-65	dBc
3RF-3LO Output Spurious Product	900MHz: f_{RF} = 806.67MHz at -5dBm, f_{IF} = 140MHz 1900MHz: f_{RF} = 1740MHz at -5dBm, f_{IF} = 240MHz	-73	dBc
(f _{RF} = fLO + f _{IF} /3)		-63	dBc
Input 1dB Compression	RF = 450MHz, IF = 140MHz, High Side	9.5	dBm
	LO RF = 900MHz, IF = 140MHz	8.9	dBm
	RF = 1900MHz	9.0	dBm

Note 1: Stresses beyond those listed under Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the device. Exposure to any Absolute Maximum Rating condition for extended periods may affect device reliability and lifetime.

Note 2: 450MHz, 900MHz and 3500MHz performance measured with external LO and RF matching. See Figure 1 and Applications Information.

Note 3: Specifications over the -40° C to 85° C temperature range are assured by design, characterization and correlation with statistical process controls.

Note 4: SSB Noise Figure measurements performed with a small-signal noise source and bandpass filter on RF input, and no other RF signal applied.



TYPICAL AC PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS Midband (No external RF/L0 matching) $V_{CC} = 5V$, EN = High, $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ (-5dBm/tone for 2-tone IIP3 tests, $\Delta f = 1MHz$), $P_{L0} = -3dBm$, IF output measured at 240MHz, unless otherwise noted. Test circuit shown in Figure 1.





TYPICAL AC PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS Midband (No external RF/L0 matching) $V_{CC} = 5V$, EN = High, $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ (-5dBm/tone for 2-tone IIP3 tests, $\Delta f = 1MHz$), $P_{L0} = -3dBm$, IF output measured at 240MHz, unless otherwise noted. Test circuit shown in Figure 1.



High Band (3500MHz application with external RF matching) V_{CC} = 5V, EN = High, P_{RF} = –5dBm (–5dBm/tone for 2-tone IIP3 tests, $\Delta f = 1$ MHz), low side LO, P_{LO} = -3dBm, IF output measured at 380MHz, unless otherwise noted. Test circuit shown in Figure 1.







450MHz Conversion Gain, IIP3 and NF vs LO Power



LO Leakage vs LO Frequency





425

450

RF FREQUENCY (MHz)

475

500

5527 G18

10

8

6

4

2

Gc 400

ç,

TYPICAL AC PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS Low Band (900MHz application with external RF/L0 matching) $V_{CC} = 5V$, EN = High, $P_{RF} = -5dBm$ (-5dBm/tone for 2-tone IIP3 tests, $\Delta f = 1MHz$), $P_{L0} = 0dBm$, IF output measured at the second s 140MHz, unless otherwise noted. Test circuit shown in Figure 1.



TYPICAL DC PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS Test circuit shown in Figure 1.











PIN FUNCTIONS

NC (Pins 1, 2, 4, 8, 13, 14, 16): Not Connected Internally. These pins should be grounded on the circuit board for improved LO-to-RF and LO-to-IF isolation.

RF (Pin 3): Single-Ended Input for the RF Signal. This pin is internally connected to the primary side of the RF input transformer, which has low DC resistance to ground. **If the RF source is not DC blocked, then a series blocking capacitor must be used**. The RF input is internally matched from 1.7GHz to 3GHz. Operation down to 400MHz or up to 3700MHz is possible with simple external matching.

EN (Pin 5): Enable Pin. When the input enable voltage is higher than 3V, the mixer circuits supplied through Pins 6, 7, 10 and 11 are enabled. When the input voltage is less than 0.3V, all circuits are disabled. Typical input current is 50μ A for EN = 5V and 0μ A when EN = 0V. The EN pin should not be left floating. Under no conditions should the EN pin voltage exceed V_{CC} + 0.3V, even at start-up.

 V_{CC2} (Pin 6): Power Supply Pin for the Bias Circuits. Typical current consumption is 2.8mA. This pin should be externally connected to the V_{CC1} pin and decoupled with 1000pF and 1µF capacitors.

V_{CC1} (Pin 7): Power Supply Pin for the LO Buffer Circuits. Typical current consumption is 23.2mA. This pin should

be externally connected to the V_{CC2} pin and decoupled with 1000pF and 1µF capacitors.

GND (Pins 9, 12): Ground. These pins are internally connected to the backside ground for improved isolation. They should be connected to the RF ground on the circuit board, although they are not intended to replace the primary grounding through the backside contact of the package.

IF⁻, IF⁺ (Pins 10, 11): Differential Outputs for the IF Signal. An impedance transformation may be required to match the outputs. These pins must be connected to V_{CC} through impedance matching inductors, RF chokes or a transformer center tap.

LO (Pin 15): Single-Ended Input for the Local Oscillator Signal. This pin is internally connected to the primary side of the LO transformer, which is internally DC blocked. An external blocking capacitor is not required. The LO input is internally matched from 1.2GHz to 5GHz. Operation down to 380MHz is possible with simple external matching.

Exposed Pad (Pin 17): Circuit Ground Return for the Entire IC. This must be soldered to the printed circuit board ground plane.

BLOCK DIAGRAM





TEST CIRCUITS



REF DES	VALUE	SIZE	PART NUMBER	REF DES	VALUE	SIZE	PART NUMBER
C1	1000pF	0402	AVX 04025C102JAT	L4, C4, C5		0402	See Applications Information
C2	1µF	0603	AVX 0603ZD105KAT	L1, L2	82nH	0603	Toko LLQ1608-A82N
C3	2.7pF	0402	AVX 04025A2R7CAT	T1	4:1		M/A-Com ETC4-1-2 (2MHz to 800MHz)

F :	-	Devenue	Teel	Cohomotio	Ctowelowel	10	Matahina	(0408411-	
FINITE		Unwnmixer	1961	Schematic-	-stannarn		watching	1/4111VIH7	161
iiguio		DOWINING	1000	oononnatio	otuniuuru	••	matoning	(24011112	,



REF DES	VALUE	SIZE	PART NUMBER	REF DES	VALUE	SIZE	PART NUMBER
C1, C3	1000pF	0402	AVX 04025C102JAT	L4, C4, C5		0402	See Applications Information
C2	1µF	0603	AVX 0603ZD105KAT	L1, L2	100nH	0603	Toko LLQ1608-AR10
C6, C7	4.7pF	0402	AVX 04025A4R7CAT	L3	220nH	0603	Toko LLQ1608-AR22

Figure 2. Downmixer Test Schematic—Discrete IF Balun Matching (240MHz IF)



Introduction

The LT5527 consists of a high linearity double-balanced mixer, RF buffer amplifier, high speed limiting LO buffer amplifier and bias/enable circuits. The RF and LO inputs are both single ended. The IF output is differential. Low side or high side LO injection can be used.

Two evaluation circuits are available. The standard evaluation circuit, shown in Figure 1, incorporates transformerbased IF matching and is intended for applications that require the lowest LO-IF leakage levels and the widest IF bandwidth. The second evaluation circuit, shown in Figure 2, replaces the IF transformer with a discrete IF balun for reduced solution cost and size. The discrete IF balun delivers comparable noise figure and linearity, higher conversion gain, but degraded LO-IF leakage and reduced IF bandwidth.

RF Input Port

The mixer's RF input, shown in Figure 3, consists of an integrated transformer and a high linearity differential amplifier. The primary terminals of the transformer are connected to the RF input pin (Pin 3) and ground. The secondary side of the transformer is internally connected to the amplifier's differential inputs.

One terminal of the transformer's primary is internally grounded. If the RF source has DC voltage present, then a coupling capacitor must be used in series with the RF input pin.

The RF input is internally matched from 1.7GHz to 3GHz, requiring no external components over this frequency range. The input return loss, shown in Figure 4a, is typically 10dB at the band edges. The input match at the lower band edge can be optimized with a series 2.7pF capacitor



Figure 3. RF Input Schematic

at Pin 3, which improves the 1.7GHz return loss to greater than 20dB. Likewise, the 2.7GHz match can be improved to greater than 30dB with a series 1.5nH inductor. A series 1.5nH/2.7pF network will simultaneously optimize the lower and upper band edges and expand the RF input bandwidth to 1.1GHz-3.3GHz. Measured RF input return losses for these three cases are also plotted in Figure 4a.

Alternatively, the input match can be shifted down, as low as 400MHz or up to 3700MHz, by adding a shunt capacitor (C5) to the RF input. A 450MHz input match is realized with C5 = 12pF, located 4.5mm away from Pin 3 on the evaluation board's 50Ω input transmission line. A 900MHz input match requires C5 = 3.9pF, located at 1.3mm. A 3500MHz input match is realized with C5 = 0.5pF, located at 4.5mm. This



(4a) Series Reactance Matching



⁽⁴b) Series Shunt Matching

Figure 4. RF Input Return Loss With and Without External Matching



series transmission line/shunt capacitor matching topology allows the LT5527 to be used for multiple frequency standards without circuit board layout modifications. The series transmission line can also be replaced with a series chip inductor for a more compact layout.

Input return loss for these three cases (450MHz, 900MHz and 3500MHz) are plotted in Figure 4b. The input return loss with no external matching is repeated in Figure 4b for comparison.

RF input impedance and S11 versus frequency (with no external matching) is listed in Table 1 and referenced to Pin 3. The S11 data can be used with a microwave circuit simulator to design custom matching networks and simulate board-level interfacing to the RF input filter.

FREQUENCY	INPUT	S11			
(MHz)	IMPEDANCE	MAG	ANGLE		
50	4.8 + j2.6	0.825	173.9		
300	9.0 + j11.9	0.708	152.5		
450	11.9 + j15.3	0.644	144.3		
600	14.3 + j18.2	0.600	137.2		
900	19.4 + j23.8	0.529	123.2		
1200	26.1 + j29.8	0.467	107.4		
1500	37.3 + j33.9	0.386	89.3		
1850	57.4 + j29.7	0.275	60.6		
2150	71.3 + j10.1	0.193	20.6		
2450	64.6 – j13.9	0.175	-36.8		
2650	53.0 – j21.8	0.209	-70.3		
3000	35.0 – j21.2	0.297	-111.2		
3500	20.7 – j9.0	0.431	-155.8		
4000	14.2 + j6.2	0.564	164.8		
5000	10.4 + j31.9	0.745	113.3		

Table 1. RF Input Impedance vs Frequency

LO Input Port

The mixer's LO input, shown in Figure 5, consists of an integrated transformer and high speed limiting differential amplifiers. The amplifiers are designed to precisely drive the mixer for the highest linearity and the lowest noise figure. An internal DC blocking capacitor in series with the transformer's primary eliminates the need for an external blocking capacitor.

The LO input is internally matched from 1.2GHz to 5GHz, although the maximum useful frequency is limited to 3.5GHz by the internal amplifiers. The input match can be shifted down, as low as 750MHz, with a single shunt capacitor (C4) on Pin 15. One example is plotted in Figure 6 where C4 = 2.7pF produces an 850MHz to 1.2GHz match.

LO input matching below 750MHz requires the series inductor (L4)/shunt capacitor (C4) network shown in Figure 5. Two examples are plotted in Figure 6 where L4 = 3.9nH/C4 = 5.6pF produces a 650MHz to 830MHz match and L4 = 6.8nH/C4 = 10pF produces a 540MHz to 640MHz match. The evaluation boards do not include pads for L4, so the circuit trace needs to be cut near Pin 15 to insert L4. A low cost multilayer chip inductor is adequate for L4.

The optimum LO drive is –3dBm for LO frequencies above 1.2GHz, although the amplifiers are designed to accommodate several dB of LO input power variation without significant mixer performance variation. Below 1.2GHz,







Figure 6. LO Input Return Loss



0dBm LO drive is recommended for optimum noise figure, although –3dBm will still deliver good conversion gain and linearity.

Custom matching networks can be designed using the port impedance data listed in Table 2. This data is referenced to the LO pin with no external matching.

FREQUENCY	INPUT	<u>\$11</u>			
(MHz)	IMPEDANCE	MAG	ANGLE		
50	30.4 – j355.7	0.977	-15.9		
300	8.7 – j52.2	0.847	-86.7		
450	9.4 – j25.4	0.740	-124.8		
600	11.5 – j8.9	0.635	-158.7		
900	19.7 + j12.8	0.463	146.7		
1200	34.3 + j24.3	0.330	106.9		
1500	49.8 + j21.3	0.209	78.5		
1850	53.8 + j8.9	0.093	61.7		
2150	50.4 + j3.2	0.032	80.5		
2450	45.1 + j0.3	0.052	176.5		
2650	41.1 + j2.4	0.101	163.1		
3000	41.9 + j8.1	0.124	129.8		
3500	49.0 + j12.0	0.120	87.9		
4000	55.4 + j8.6	0.096	53.2		
5000	33.2 + j8.7	0.226	146.7		

Table 2. LO Input Impedance vs Frequency

IF Output Port

The IF outputs, IF⁺ and IF⁻, are internally connected to the collectors of the mixer switching transistors (see Figure 7). Both pins must be biased at the supply voltage, which can be applied through the center tap of a transformer or through matching inductors. Each IF pin draws 26mA of supply current (52mA total). For optimum single-ended performance, these differential outputs should be combined externally through an IF transformer or a discrete IF balun circuit. The standard evaluation board (see Figure 1) includes an IF transformer for impedance transformation. A second evaluation board (see Figure 2) realizes the same functionality with a discrete IF balun circuit.

The IF output impedance can be modeled as 415Ω in parallel with 2.5pF at low frequencies. An equivalent small-signal model (including bondwire inductance) is shown in Figure

8. Frequency-dependent differential IF output impedance is listed in Table 3. This data is referenced to the package pins (with no external components) and includes the effects of IC and package parasitics. The IF output can be matched for IF frequencies as low as several kHz or as high as 600MHz.

Table 3.	IF	Output	Impedance	VS	Frequency
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DIFFERENTIAL OUTPUT MPEDANCE (RIF XIF)
415 -j64k
415 -j6.4k
415 -j909
413 -j453
407 -j264
403 -j211
395 -j165
387 -j138
381 -j124

The following three methods of differential to single-ended IF matching will be described:

- Direct 8:1 transformer
- Lowpass matching + 4:1 transformer
- Discrete IF balun



Figure 7. IF Output with External Matching



Figure 8. IF Output Small-Signal Model

Direct 8:1 IF Transformer Matching

For IF frequencies below 100MHz, the simplest IF matching technique is an 8:1 transformer connected across the IF pins. The transformer will perform impedance transformation and provide a single-ended 50Ω output. No other matching is required. Measured performance using this technique is shown in Figure 9. This matching is easily implemented on the standard evaluation board by shorting across the pads for L1 and L2 and replacing the 4:1 transformer with an 8:1 (C3 not installed).



Figure 9. Typical Conversion Gain, IIP3 and SSB NF Using an 8:1 IF Transformer

Lowpass + 4:1 IF Transformer Matching

The lowest LO-IF leakage and wide IF bandwidth are realized by using the simple, three element lowpass matching network shown in Figure 7. Matching elements C3, L1 and L2, in conjunction with the internal 2.5pF capacitance, form a 400 Ω to 200 Ω lowpass matching network which is tuned to the desired IF frequency. The 4:1 transformer then transforms the 200 Ω differential output to a 50 Ω single-ended output.

This matching network is most suitable for IF frequencies above 40MHz or so. Below 40MHz, the value of the series inductors (L1 and L2) becomes unreasonably high, and could cause stability problems, depending on the inductor value and parasitics. Therefore, the 8:1 transformer technique is recommended for low IF frequencies.

Suggested lowpass matching element values for several IF

frequencies are listed in Table 4. High-Q wire-wound chip inductors (L1 and L2) improve the mixer's conversion gain by a few tenths of a dB, but have little effect on linearity. Measured output return losses for each case are plotted in Figure 10 for the simple 8:1 transformer method and for the lowpass/4:1 transformer method.

PLOT	IF FREQUENCY (MHz)	L1, L2 (nH)	C3 (pF)	IF Transformer
1	1 to 100	Short	—	TC8-1 (8:1)
2	140	120	—	ETC4-1-2 (4:1)
3	190	110	2.7	ETC4-1-2 (4:1)
4	240	82	2.7	ETC4-1-2 (4:1)
5	380	56	2.2	ETC4-1-2 (4:1)
6	450	43	2.2	ETC4-1-2 (4:1)



Figure 10. IF Output Return Losses with Lowpass/Transformer Matching

Discrete IF Balun Matching

For many applications, it is possible to replace the IF transformer with the discrete IF balun shown in Figure 2. The values of L1, L2, C6 and C7 are calculated to realize a 180 degree phase shift at the desired IF frequency and provide a 50Ω single-ended output, using the equations listed below. Inductor L3 is calculated to cancel the internal 2.5pF capacitance. L3 also supplies bias voltage to the IF⁺ pin. Low cost multilayer chip inductors are adequate for L1 and L2. A high Q wire-wound chip inductor is recommended for L3 to maximize conversion gain and minimize DC voltage drop to the IF⁺ pin. C3 is a DC blocking capacitor.





$$L1, L2 = \frac{\sqrt{R_{IF} \bullet R_{OUT}}}{\omega_{IF}}$$
$$C6, C7 = \frac{1}{\omega_{IF} \bullet \sqrt{R_{IF} \bullet R_{OUT}}}$$
$$L3 = \frac{|X_{IF}|}{\omega_{IF}}$$

Compared to the lowpass/4:1 transformer matching technique, this network delivers approximately 0.8dB higher conversion gain (since the IF transformer loss is eliminated) and comparable noise figure and IIP3. At a $\pm 15\%$ offset from the IF center frequency, conversion gain and noise figure degrade about 1dB. Beyond $\pm 15\%$, conversion gain decreases gradually but noise figure increases rapidly. IIP3 is less sensitive to bandwidth. Other than IF bandwidth, the most significant difference is LO-IF leakage, which degrades to approximately –38dBm compared to the superior performance realized with the lowpass/4:1 transformer matching.

Discrete IF balun element values for four common IF frequencies are listed in Table 5. The corresponding measured IF output return losses are shown in Figure 11. The values listed in Table 5 differ from the calculated values slightly due to circuit board and component parasitics. Typical conversion gain, IIP3 and LO-IF leakage, versus RF input frequency, for all four IF frequency examples is shown in Figure 12. Typical conversion gain, IIP3 and noise figure versus IF output frequency for the same circuits are shown in Figure 13.

Table 5.	Discrete	IF Balı	un Element	Values	$(R_{OUT} =$	50 Ω)

IF FREQUENCY (MHz)	L1, L2 (nH)	C6, C7 (pF)	L3 (nH)
190	120	6.8	220
240	100	4.7	220
380	56	3	68
450	47	2.7	47

For fully differential IF architectures, the IF transformer can be eliminated. An example is shown in Figure 14, where the mixer's IF output is matched directly into a SAW filter. Supply voltage to the mixer's IF pins is applied through



Figure 11. IF Output Return Losses with Discrete Balun Matching



Figure 12. Conversion Gain, IIP3 and LO-IF Leakage vs RF Input Frequency Using Discrete IF Balun Matching



Figure 13. Conversion Gain, IIP3 and SSB NF vs IF Output Frequency Using Discrete IF Balun Matching



matching inductors in a band-pass IF matching network. The values of L1, L2 and C3 are calculated to resonate at the desired IF frequency with a quality factor that satisfies the required IF bandwidth. The L and C values are then adjusted to account for the mixer's internal 2.5pF capacitance and the SAW filter's input capacitance. In this case, the differential IF output impedance is 400Ω since the bandpass network does not transform the impedance.

Additional matching elements may be required if the SAW filter's input impedance is less than or greater than 400Ω . Contact the factory for application assistance.







Discrete IF Evaluation Board Layout



PACKAGE DESCRIPTION



MOLD FLASH. MOLD FLASH, IF PRESENT, SHALL NOT EXCEED 0.15mm ON ANY SIDE

- 5. EXPOSED PAD SHALL BE SOLDER PLATED
- 6. SHADED AREA IS ONLY A REFERENCE FOR PIN 1 LOCATION
 - ON THE TOP AND BOTTOM OF PACKAGE



RELATED PARTS

PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS			
Infrastructure					
LT5511	High Linearity Upconverting Mixer	RF Output to 3GHz, 17dBm IIP3, Integrated LO Buffer			
LT5512	1kHz to 3GHz High Signal Level Active Mixer	Optimized for HF/VHF/UHF Applications, 20dBm IIP3 11dB NF			
LT5514	Ultralow Distortion, IF Amplifier/ADC Driver with Digitally Controlled Gain	850MHz Bandwidth, 47dBm OIP3 at 100MHz, 10.5dB to 33dB Gain Control Range			
LT5515	1.5GHz to 2.5GHz Direct Conversion Quadrature Demodulator	20dBm IIP3, Integrated LO Quadrature Generator			
LT5516	0.8GHz to 1.5GHz Direct Conversion Quadrature Demodulator	21.5dBm IIP3, Integrated LO Quadrature Generator			
LT5517	40MHz to 900MHz Quadrature Demodulator	21dBm IIP3, Integrated LO Quadrature Generator			
LT5519	0.7GHz to 1.4GHz High Linearity Upconverting Mixer	17.1dBm IIP3 at 1GHz, Integrated RF Output Transformer with 50 Ω Matching, Single-Ended LO and RF Ports Operation			
LT5520	1.3GHz to 2.3GHz High Linearity Upconverting Mixer	15.9dBm IIP3 at 1.9GHz, Integrated RF Output Transformer with 50 Ω Matching, Single-Ended LO and RF Ports Operation			
LT5521	10MHz to 3700MHz High Linearity Upconverting Mixer	24.2dBm IIP3 at 1.95GHz, NF = 12.5dB, 3.15V to 5.25V Supply, Single-Ended LO Port Operation			
LT5522	400MHz to 2.7GHz High Signal Level Downconverting Mixer	$4.5V$ to $5.25V$ Supply, 25dBm IIP3 at 900MHz, NF = 12.5dB, 50Ω Single-Ended RF and LO Ports			
LT5524	Low Power, Low Distortion ADC Driver with Digitally Programmable Gain	450MHz Bandwidth, 40dBm OIP3, 4.5dB to 27dB Gain Control			
LT5525	High Linearity, Low Power Downconverting Mixer	Single-Ended 50 Ω RF and LO Ports, 17.6dBm IIP3 at 1900MHz, I_{CC} = 28mA			
LT5526	High Linearity, Low Power Downconverting Mixer	3V to 5.3V Supply, 16.5dBm IIP3, 100kHz to 2GHz RF, NF = 11dB, I_{CC} = 28mA, –65dBm LO-RF Leakage			
LT5557	400MHz to 3.8GHz, 3.3V High Signal Level Downconverting Mixer	Single-Ended RF and LO Ports, 24.7dBm IIP3 at 1950MHz, NF = 11.7dB			
RF Power Detec	tors				
LT5504	800MHz to 2.7GHz RF Measuring Receiver	80dB Dynamic Range, Temperature Compensated, 2.7V to 5.25V Supply			
LTC®5505	RF Power Detectors with >40dB Dynamic Range	300MHz to 3GHz, Temperature Compensated, 2.7V to 6V Supply			
LTC5507	100kHz to 1000MHz RF Power Detector	100kHz to 1GHz, Temperature Compensated, 2.7V to 6V Supply			
LTC5508	300MHz to 7GHz RF Power Detector	44dB Dynamic Range, Temperature Compensated, SC70 Package			
LTC5509	300MHz to 3GHz RF Power Detector	36dB Dynamic Range, Low Power Consumption, SC70 Package			
LTC5530	300MHz to 7GHz Precision RF Power Detector	Precision V _{OUT} Offset Control, Shutdown, Adjustable Gain			
LTC5531	300MHz to 7GHz Precision RF Power Detector	Precision V _{OUT} Offset Control, Shutdown, Adjustable Offset			
LTC5532	300MHz to 7GHz Precision RF Power Detector	Precision V _{OUT} Offset Control, Adjustable Gain and Offset			
LT5534	50MHz to 3GHz RF Power Detector with 60dB Dynamic Range	±1dB Output Variation over Temperature, 38ns Response Time			
LTC5536	Precision 600MHz to 7GHz RF Detector with Fast Compatator Output	25ns Response Time, Comparator Reference Input, Latch Enable Input, -26dBm to +12dBm Input Range			
Low Voltage RF Building Block					
LT5546	500MHz Quadrature Demodulator with VGA and 17MHz Baseband Bandwidth	17MHz Baseband Bandwidth, 40MHz to 500MHz IF, 1.8V to 5.25V Supply, –7dB to 56dB Linear Power Gain			
Wide Bandwidth	ADCs				
LTC1749	12-Bit, 80Msps	500MHz BW S/H, 71.8dB SNR			
LTC1750	14-Bit, 80Msps	500MHz BW S/H, 75.5dB SNR			



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