## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

### **General Description**

The MAX2092 high-linearity analog variable-gain amplifier (VGA) is a monolithic SiGe BiCMOS attenuator/amplifier/ error amplifier with an alarm circuit designed to interface with 50 $\Omega$  systems operating in the 700MHz to 2700MHz frequency range. The device features a gain range of +18.1dB to -22.3dB, a noise figure of 5.2dB, OIP3 linearity of +32.5dBm, and a wide RF bandwidth. Each of these features makes the device an ideal VGA for numerous receiver and transmitter applications. When paired with the MAX2091 or MAX2091B variable gain upconverter, a complete 2-chip IF-RF signal conditioning solution is possible for microwave point-to-point transmitters.

The MAX2092 operates from a single +5V supply, and is available in a compact 20-pin TQFN package (5mm x 5mm) with an exposed pad. Electrical performance is guaranteed over the extended temperature range from  $T_C = -40^{\circ}C$  to +95°C.

### **Applications**

- Microwave Point-to-Point Receivers and Transmitters
- RF Variable-Gain Stages
- Temperature Compensation Circuits
- Cellular Applications
- WiMAX® Applications
- LTE Applications
- Fixed Broadband Wireless Access
- Wireless Local Loop

#### **Benefits and Features**

- Wide Band Analog VGA Increases System Performance
  - 700MHz to 2700MHz RF Frequency Range
  - High Linearity
    - +32.5dBm OIP3
    - +18.2dBm Output -1dB Compression Point
  - 18.1dB Gain with 40.4dB Attenuation Range and 0.03dB Gain Variation Over 100MHz Bandwidth at 1835MHz
  - 5.2dB Noise Figure (Includes Attenuator Insertion Loss)
- Integrated Error Amplifier and Alarm Circuit Simplifies
   ALC Operation
- Lowers Power Consumption with Power-Down
   Capability
- Package with Exposed Pad Improves Heat Dissipation and System Performance

Ordering Information appears at end of data sheet.

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## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

### **Absolute Maximum Ratings**

V <sub>CC RF</sub> , V <sub>CC A</sub>	0.3V to +6V
RF_OUT, RF_IN0.3	
R_BIAS, CTRL1, CTRL2,	
PLVLSET, DET_VIN0.3V to Minimum (V	<sub>CC</sub> + 0.3V, +3.6V)
RF_IN Input Power	+15dBm
RF_OUT Output Power	+23dBm
Continuous Power Dissipation (Note 1)	2.5W

Operating Case Temperature	
Range (Note 2)	40°C to +95°C
Maximum Junction Temperature	+150°C
Storage Temperature Range	65°C to +150°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.

**Note 1:** Based on junction temperature  $T_J = T_C + (\theta_{JC} \times V_{CC} \times I_{CC})$ . This formula can be used when the temperature of the exposed pad is known while the device is soldered down to a PCB. See the *Applications Information* section for details. The junction temperature must not exceed +150°C.

Note 2: T<sub>C</sub> is the temperature on the exposed pad of the package. T<sub>A</sub> is the ambient temperature of the device and PCB.

### **Package Thermal Characteristics**

Junction-to-Ambient Thermal Resistance ( $\theta_{JA}$ )	Junction-to-Case Thermal Resistance (0 <sub>JC</sub> )
(Notes 3, 4)	(Notes 1, 4)7°C/W

- **Note 3:** Junction temperature  $T_J = T_A + (\theta_{JA} \times V_{CC} \times I_{CC})$ . This formula can be used when the ambient temperature of the PCB is known. The junction temperature must not exceed +150°C.
- **Note 4:** Package thermal resistances were obtained using the method described in JEDEC specification JESD51-7, using a four-layer board. For detailed information on package thermal considerations, refer to **www.maximintegrated.com/thermal-tutorial**.

### **DC Electrical Characteristics**

(*Typical Application Circuit* with V<sub>CC</sub> = 4.75V to 5.8V, V<sub>GND</sub> = 0V, and T<sub>C</sub> = -40°C to +95°C. Typical values are at V<sub>CC</sub> = 5.5V and T<sub>C</sub> = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 5)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	ТҮР	MAX	UNITS
Supply Voltage	V <sub>CC</sub>		4.75		5.8	V
		Power down: CTRL1 = 0, CTRL2 = 0		2	3	
Total Supply Current	IDC	VGA-only mode: CTRL1 = 1, CTRL2 = 0		80	90	mA
		ALC mode: CTRL1 = 1, CTRL2 = 1		93	110	
CTRL1/CTRL2 Logic-Low Input Voltage	V <sub>IL</sub>				0.8	V
CTRL1, CTRL2 Logic-High Input Voltage	V <sub>IH</sub>		2.2			V
Input Logic Current	I <sub>IH,</sub> I <sub>IL</sub>		-1		+1	μA
PLVLSET Input-Voltage Range	V <sub>IN</sub>		0		2.5	V
DET_VIN Input-Voltage Range	V <sub>IN</sub>		0		2.5	V

## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

### **Recommended AC Electrical Characteristics**

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
RF Frequency	f <sub>RF</sub>	(Note 6)	700		2700	MHz

### **AC Electrical Characteristics**

(*Typical Application Circuit* with analog attenuator set for maximum gain,  $V_{CC} = 4.75V$  to 5.8V,  $f_{RF} = 1835$ MHz,  $P_{RFIN} = -16$ dBm (CW),  $T_C = -40^{\circ}$ C to  $+95^{\circ}$ C, and RF ports are connected to  $50\Omega$  sources and loads, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $T_C = +25^{\circ}$ C,  $V_{CC} = 5.5V$ ,  $P_{RF_{-}IN} = -16$ dBm,  $V_{PLVLSET} = 2.5V$ , CTRL1 = 1, CTRL2 = 0. Min/max specifications apply over supply, process, and temperature, unless otherwise noted.) (Notes 5, 7)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	C	ONDITIONS	MIN	ТҮР	MAX	UNITS
		f <sub>RF</sub> = 974MHz			17.3		
Small-Signal Gain	G	f <sub>RF</sub> = 1835MHz		18.1			
		f <sub>RF</sub> = 2200MHz			18.1		
Gain vs. Temperature			-0.007				dB/°C
		974MHz ±50MH	łz		0.22		
		1835MHz ±50N	IHz		0.03		
Gain Flatness vs. Frequency		1835MHz ±80M	lHz		0.03		dBP-P
		1835MHz ±100	MHz		0.03		
		2200MHz ±100	MHz		0.1		
		f <sub>RF</sub> = 974MHz			5.0		
Noise Figure	NF	f <sub>RF</sub> = 1835MHz			5.2		dB
		f <sub>RF</sub> = 2200MHz			5.5		
		$f_{RF} = 974MHz$		40.1			
Total Attenuation Range		f <sub>RF</sub> = 1835MHz			40.4		dB
		f <sub>RF</sub> = 2200MHz			39.2		
Output Second-Order Intercept Point	OIP2	$P_{RFOUT} = +2dBm/tone,$ $\Delta f = 1MHz, f1+ f2$					dBm
		P <sub>RFOUT</sub> =	<b>f<sub>RF</sub></b> = 974MHz		34.3		
Output Third-Order Intercept Point	OIP3	+2dBm/tone,	f <sub>RF</sub> = 1835MHz		32.5		dBm
Follu		$\Delta f = 1 MHz$	$f_{RF} = 2200 MHz$		31.4		
Output -1dB Compression Point	P <sub>-1dB</sub>	(Note 8)			18.2		dBm
Second Harmonic		PRFOUT = +5dE	Зm		52		dBc
Third Harmonic		PRFOUT = +5dE	Зm	61			dBc
Input Return Loss		1835MHz ±50MHz		18			dB
Output Return Loss		1835MHz ±50MHz			23		dB
ALARM CIRCUIT (CTRL1 = 1 CT	RL2 = 1)						
Lower Alarm Threshold		Input = DET_VIN		Input = DET_VIN 0.175			V
Upper Alarm Threshold		Input = DET_VIN		Input = DET_VIN 2.25			V
Hysteresis					29		mV
Alarm Output Logic 1		Output = ALM		3.135	3.3	3.465	V
Alarm Output Logic 0		Output = ALM				0.4	V

## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

### **AC Electrical Characteristics (continued)**

(*Typical Application Circuit* with analog attenuator set for maximum gain,  $V_{CC} = 4.75V$  to 5.8V,  $f_{RF} = 1835$ MHz,  $P_{RFIN} = -16$ dBm (CW),  $T_C = -40^{\circ}$ C to +95°C, and RF ports are connected to 50 $\Omega$  sources and loads, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $T_C = +25^{\circ}$ C,  $V_{CC} = 5.5V$ ,  $P_{RF_{-}IN} = -16$ dBm,  $V_{PLVLSET} = 2.5V$ , CTRL1 = 1, CTRL2 = 0. Min/max specifications apply over supply, process, and temperature, unless otherwise noted.) (Notes 5, 7)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	ТҮР	MAX	UNITS
ANALOG ATTENUATOR (CTRL1 = 1, CTRL2 = 0)						
Minimum Attenuator Control Voltage		Input = PLVLSET		0.25		V
Maximum Attenuator Control Voltage		Input = PLVLSET		2.3		V
Average Gain-Control Slope		V <sub>PLVLSET</sub> = 0.25V to 2.3V		19.4		dB/V
Maximum Gain-Control Slope		V <sub>PLVLSET</sub> = 0 to 2.5V		27		dB/V

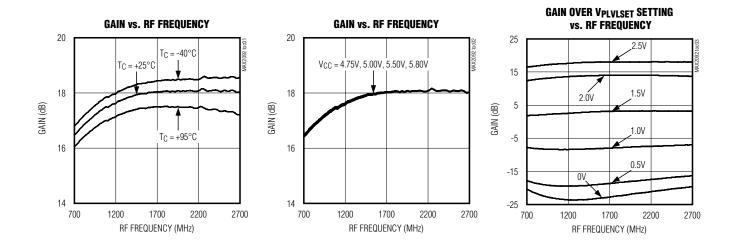
Note 5: Production tested at  $T_C$  = +95°C. All other temperatures guaranteed by design and characterization.

**Note 6:** Recommended functional range, not production tested. Operation outside this range is possible, but with degraded performance of some parameters.

Note 7: All limits include external component losses. Output measurements are taken at the RF port of the *Typical Application Circuit*.

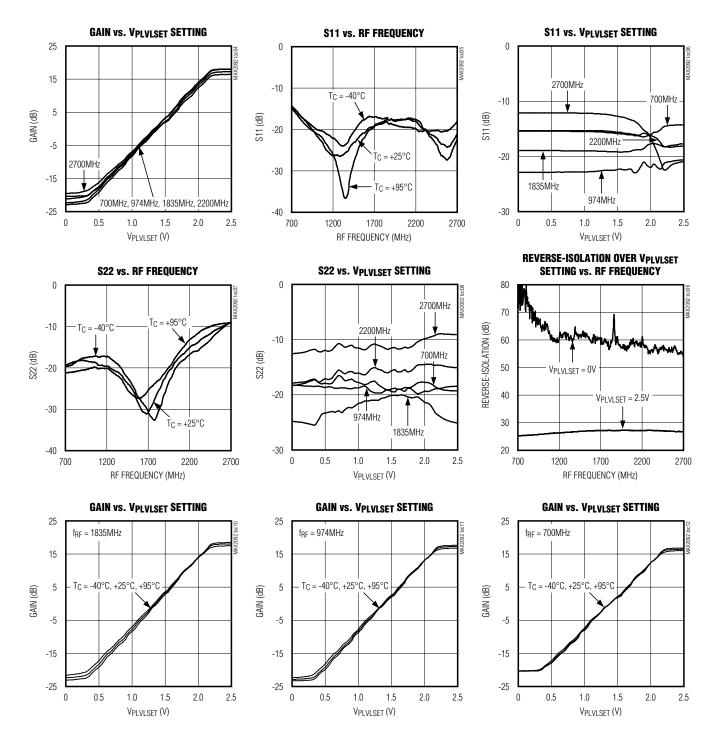
Note 8: It is advisable not to continuously operate the VGA RF-input above +12dBm.

### **Typical Operating Characteristics**



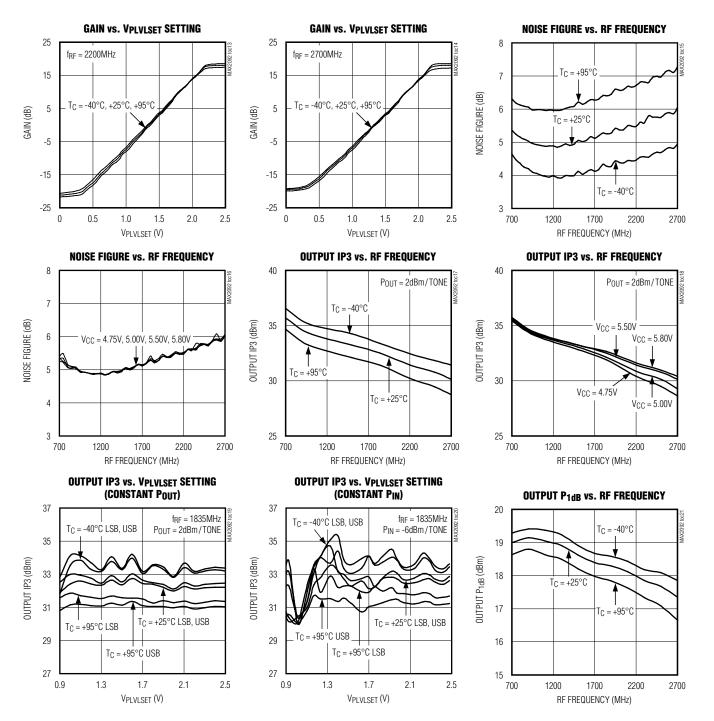
## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

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



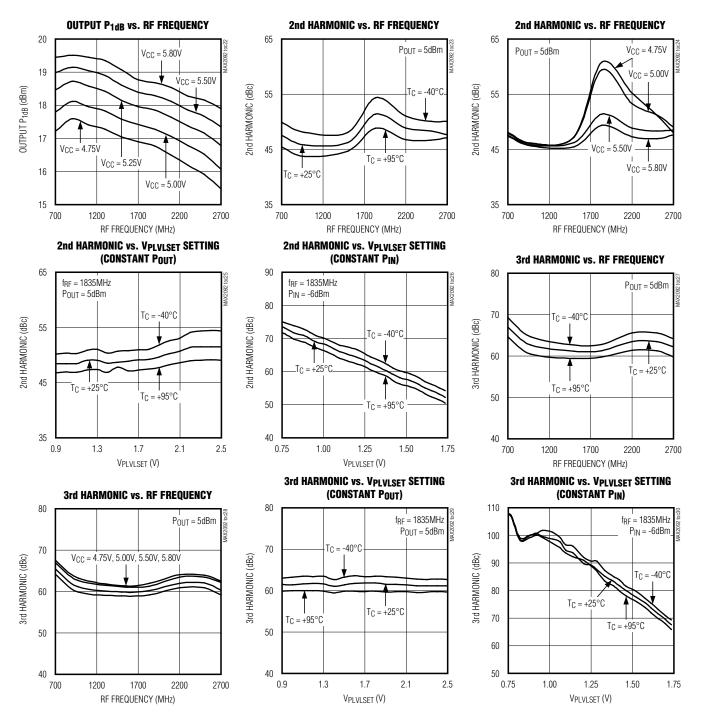
## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

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



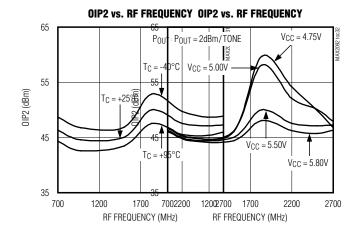
## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

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

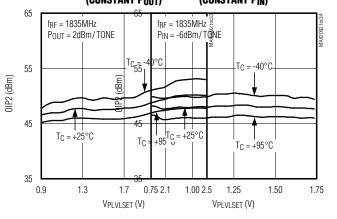


## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

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

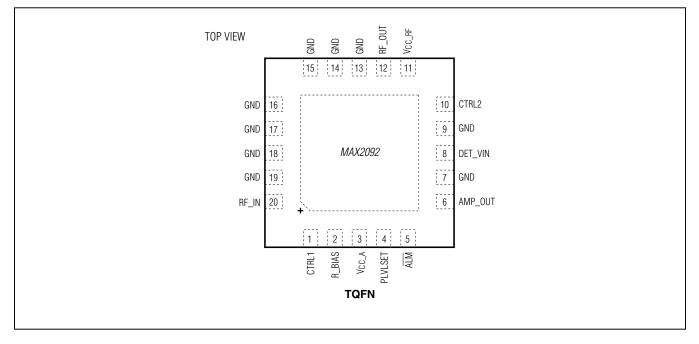


OIP2 vs. V<sub>plvlset</sub> Settin**g**ip2 vs. V<sub>plvlset</sub> Setting (Constant P<sub>out</sub>) (Constant P<sub>in</sub>)



# 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

### **Pin Configuration**



### **Pin Description**

PIN	NAME	FUNCTION				
1	CTRL1	Control-Mode Logic Input 1 (3.3V Logic)				
2	R_BIAS	Bias Resistor Setting Input. Connect a resistor from this pin to ground.				
3	VCC_A	Power-Supply Input. Bypass to ground with a 0.01µF capacitor as close as possible to the p				
4	PLVLSET	Output-Power Level-Setting DC Input or Analog Attenuator Control Voltage				
5	ALM	Alarm Logic Output				
6	AMP_OUT	Error-Amplifier Output				
7, 13–19	GND	Ground				
8	DET_VIN	Error-Amplifier Input Voltage from an External Detector				
9	GND	<b>Do not directly connect to EP.</b> Connect to RF ground plane with a short trace using a separate via hole.				
10	CTRL2	Control-Mode Logic Input 2 (3.3V Logic)				
11	VCC_RF	Driver-Amplifier Supply Voltage Input. Bypass to ground with a $0.01\mu$ F capacitor as close as possible to the pin.				
12	RF_OUT	Driver-Amplifier Output (50 $\Omega$ ). Requires a DC-blocking capacitor.				
20	RF_IN	Attenuator Input (50Ω). Requires a DC-blocking capacitor.				
_	EP	Exposed Pad. Internally connected to GND. Solder the exposed pad to a PCB pad that uses multiple ground vias to provide heat transfer out of the device into the PCB ground planes. These multiple via grounds are also required to achieve the noted RF performance. See the <i>Layout Considerations</i> section.				

## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

### **Detailed Description**

The MAX2092 is a high-linearity analog VGA designed to interface with  $50\Omega$  systems operating in the 700MHz to 2700MHz frequency range. The analog attenuator is controlled by an external analog control voltage. The device features a gain range of 18.1dB to -22.3dB, a noise figure of 5.2dB, OIP3 linearity of +32.5dBm, and a wide RF bandwidth. Each of these features makes the device an ideal VGA for numerous receiver and transmitter applications. In addition, the device operates from a single +5V supply.

### **Applications Information**

#### **Modes of Operation**

The device can operate in several different modes, as summarized in Table 1.

#### **VGA-Only Mode Operation**

VGA-only mode operation consists of setting CTRL1 = logic 1 and CTRL2 = logic 0, and applying a DC value to PLVLSET between 0V and 2.5V DC to manually adjust the attenuation, and subsequently the RF\_OUT power to any desired value. The output power at RF\_OUT increases at a rate of 19.4dB/V as PLVLSET is increased. In VGA-only mode, operation components R5, R6, R7, and C8–C11 can be left unpopulated, and CTRL2 needs to be tied directly to ground.

#### **Closed-ALC Mode Operation**

Closed-ALC mode operation consists of setting CTRL1 = CTRL2 = logic 1. The voltage on PLVLSET is set externally to adjust output power from -20dBm to +5dBm when input power is in the recommended power range, typically -6dBm. See the *Typical Application Circuit*. As PLVLSET increases, the output power also increases at a rate set by the external detector chosen. Ideally, a detector with an output voltage range of 0.1V DC to 2.4V DC is recommended, but the device operates with any detector.

tor whose output ranges from 0V DC to 2.5V DC (output coupler at RF\_OUT already taken into account). An error amplifier compares the DET\_VIN voltage to PLVLSET, and drives the attenuator in servo fashion until the error-amplifier's differential input error voltage is near zero. The servo loop acts to maintain a regulated output power level over an input power range depending on the setting of PLVLSET.

When used in conjunction with the MAX2091 IF VGA, it is recommended that an external voltage of 1.65V be applied to the IF PLVLSET. This ensures that a nominal RF signal level of approximately -3dBm is output from the MAX2091. With this specific level setting, the complete MAX2091 + MAX2092 cascade yields a constant RF output power of -20.5dBm to +5dBm (depending on the setting of RF PLVLSET) over an IF input power range of -24dBm to +1dBm. See Figure 1 for details. Contact the factory for additional details surrounding Maxim's MAX2091 + MAX2092 reference design.

#### **Control Inputs**

The device has three control inputs: CTRL1, CTRL2, and PLVLSET. V<sub>CC</sub> must be present before voltages are applied to these pins. In cases where this is not possible, a 200 $\Omega$  resistor must be included in series with the control inputs to limit on-chip ESD diode conduction. CTRL1 and CTRL2 are 3V logic controls, and cannot be driven from 5V logic. In the case where no logic control is available and a logic high is required, a voltage divider can be used from the 5V V<sub>CC</sub> supply to produce the 3V logic-high.

#### **Alarm Operation**

The alarm remains in logic-high state when the voltage on DET\_VIN (pin 8) is within the 0.175V to 2.25V range. The alarm threshold amount is an internal fixed value to the device with a nominal hysteresis of approximately 29mV.

CTRL1	CTRL2	VGA	ALC LOOP	ALARM	FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTION
0	0	Disabled	Disabled	Disabled	Power-Down Mode
1	0	Enabled	Disabled	Disabled	VGA-Only Mode
1	1	Enabled	Enabled	Enabled	Closed ALC Mode. ALC loop locks DET_VIN to PLVLSET.
0	1		—	—	Factory Test Mode (Do Not Use)

### Table 1. Control Mode Logic

## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

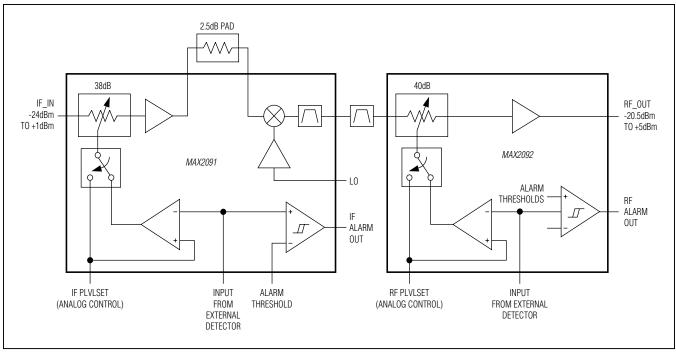


Figure 1. Cascaded IF-RF Lineup Using the MAX2091 + MAX2092

#### DET\_VIN

In closed ALC-loop mode, avoid directly loading pins AMP OUT and DET VIN with capacitance in excess of 10pF on each pin. In closed ALC-loop mode, this can cause ringing or instability in the power-control loop. As in any closed-loop system, one must be careful not to load DET VIN or AMP OUT with additional external circuitry. Therefore, it is suggested that in the closed-loop ALC mode, no additional connections be made to DET VIN or AMP\_OUT. AMP\_OUT and DET\_VIN support a total trace routing capacitance of 10pF or less. Connect pin 9 to the RF ground plane with a via separated from the exposed pad (EP) ground connection. Pin 9 must not connect to the exposed pad or share a ground with any other component, and must connect directly to the solid ground plane below. As a reference, refer to the MAX2092EVKIT+ PCB artwork.

#### **Layout Considerations**

The pin configuration of the MAX2092 is optimized to facilitate a very compact physical layout of the device and its associated discrete components. The exposed pad of the device's 20-pin TQFN-EP package provides a low thermal-resistance path to the die. It is important that the PCB on which the device is mounted be designed to conduct heat from the EP. In addition, provide the EP with a low inductance path to electrical ground. The EP **MUST** be soldered to a ground plane on the PCB, either directly or through an array of plated via holes. Pin 9 must not connect to the exposed pad or share a ground with any other component and must connect directly to the solid ground plane below.

## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

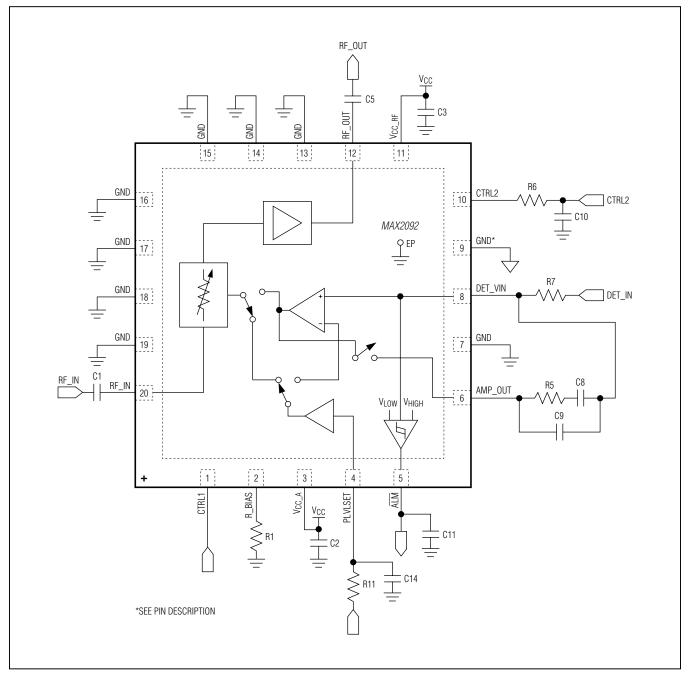
	MODE OF C	PERATION				
COMPONENT	VGA ONLY	CLOSED ALC	VALUE	SIZE	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION
C1	~	✓	12pF	0402	Murata	C0G dielectric
C2, C3	~	✓	0.01µF	0402	Murata	X7R dielectric
C5	~	✓	8.2pF	0402	Murata	C0G dielectric
C8	—	✓	100nF	0603	Murata	X7R dielectric
C9	—	✓	680pF	0402	Murata	C0G dielectric
C10	—	✓	120pF	0402	Murata	C0G dielectric
C11		✓	120pF	0402	Murata	C0G dielectric
C14*	—	_	Do not install	0402	—	—
R1	~	✓	1.78kΩ	0402	Panasonic	1% tolerance
R5	_	✓	200Ω	0402	Panasonic	1% tolerance
R6		✓	51Ω	0402	Panasonic	5% tolerance
R7	_	✓	10kΩ	0402	Panasonic	5% tolerance
R11*	~	✓	0Ω	0402	Panasonic	5% tolerance
U1	~	√	_	20-pin TQFN (5mm x 5mm)	Maxim	MAX2092ETP+

### **Table 2. Typical Application Circuit Component Values**

**Note:** The checkmarks in the Mode of Operation columns indicate that the component is used within each respective application. \*C14 and R11 form an optional lowpass network to filter out potential noise from the external PLVLSET control source.

## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

### **Typical Application Circuit**



## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

### **Ordering Information**

PART	TEMP RANGE	PIN-PACKAGE
MAX2092ETP+	-40°C to +95°C	20 TQFN-EP*
MAX2092ETP+T	-40°C to +95°C	20 TQFN-EP*

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

\*EP = Exposed pad.

\*T = Tape and reel.

### **Chip Information**

PROCESS: SiGe BiCMOS

### **Package Information**

For the latest package outline information and land patterns (footprints), go to <u>www.maximintegrated.com/packages</u>. 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	PACKAGE	OUTLINE	LAND
TYPE	CODE	NO.	PATTERN NO.
20 TQFN	T2055+3	<u>21-0140</u>	<u>90-008</u>

## 700MHz to 2700MHz Analog VGA with Threshold Alarm Circuit and Error Amplifier for Level Control

### **Revision History**

REVISION NUMBER	REVISION DATE	DESCRIPTION	PAGES CHANGED
0	6/12	Initial release	—
1	7/15	Removed military reference from <i>Applications</i> and updated the <i>Benefits and Features</i> section	1

For pricing, delivery, and ordering information, please contact Maxim Direct at 1-888-629-4642, or visit Maxim Integrated's website at www.maximintegrated.com.

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