## Wideband I/Q Modulator with Sigma-Delta Fractional-N Synthesizer

## General Description

The MAX2150 is a complete wideband direct upconversion quadrature modulator IC incorporating a 28-bit sigma-delta fractional-N synthesizer. The device is targeted for applications in the 700 MHz to 2300 MHz frequency range.
The super-high-resolution sigma-delta fractional-N synthesizer is capable of better than 50 mHz resolution when used with a 10 MHz reference. Other features: fully differential I/Q modulation inputs, an internal LO buffer, and a $50 \Omega$ wideband output driver amplifier.
A standard 3-wire interface is provided for synthesizer programming and overall device configuration. An on-chip low-noise crystal oscillator amplifier is also included and can be configured as a buffer when an external reference oscillator is used.
The device typically achieves 34 dBc of carrier and sideband suppression at a -1 dBm output level. The wideband, internally matched RF output can also be disabled while the synthesizer and 3-wire bus remain powered up for continuous programming.
The device consumes 72 mA from a single +3.0 V supply and is packaged in an ultra-compact 28-pin QFN package ( $5 \mathrm{~mm} \times 5 \mathrm{~mm}$ ) with an exposed pad.

## Applications

- Wireless Broadband
- Satellite Uplink
- LMDS
- Wireless Base Station


## Features

- Single Voltage Supply (2.7V to 3.6 V )
- 75MHz 3dB I/Q Input Bandwidth
- Wideband $50 \Omega$ RF Output: 700 MHz to 2300 MHz
- Ultra-Fine Frequency Resolution: 100 mHz
- High Reference Frequency for Fast-Switching Applications
- Ultra-Low Phase Noise
- Low Spurious and Reference Emissions
- -1dBm RMS Output Power
- 60dB RF Muting Control
- 34dBc Typical Carrier Suppression
- 34dBc Typical Sideband Suppression
- Software- and Hardware-Controlled Shutdown Modes


## Ordering Information

| PART | TEMP RANGE | PIN-PACKAGE |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| MAX2150ETI | $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+85^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | 28 TQFN-EP* |
| MAX2150ETI+ | $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+85^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | 28 TQFN-EP* |

*EP = Exposed paddle.
+Denotes lead-free package.

## Pin Configuration/ Functional Diagram


Absolute Maximum Ratings
$V_{C C}$ to GND $\qquad$ -0.3 V to +6.0 V
RF Signals: LO+, LO-, OSCIN .......................................+10dBm
I+ to I-, Q+ to Q-. $\qquad$
$\qquad$
LO+, LO-, I+, I-, Q+, Q-, BUFEN, TXEN, CLK, DATA,
EN, SYNEN, OSCIN, OSCOUT, BUFOUT, CHP, $\overline{S H D N}$, LOCK, $V_{C C}$ CP to GND .......... -0.3 V to $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}+0.3 \mathrm{~V}\right)$
Digital Input Current ........................................................ $\pm 10 \mathrm{~mA}$
Short-Circuit Duration RFOUT, BUFOUT, OSCOUT,
Lock, CHP. $\qquad$
$\qquad$

Continuous Power Dissipation
 (derate $28.5 \mathrm{~mW} / /^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ above $+70^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ )
Operating Temperature Range $-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+85^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$
Junction Temperature Range .......................................... $+150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$
Storage Temperature...................................... $-65^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$
Lead Temperature (soldering 10s) .................................. $+300^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$

Stresses beyond those listed under "Absolute Maximum Ratings" may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only, and functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated in the operational sections of the specifications is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

## CAUTION! ESD SENSITIVE DEVICE

## DC Electrical Characteristics

$\left(\right.$ MAX2150 EV kit. $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}=+2.7 \mathrm{~V}$ to $+3.6 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{GND}=0 \mathrm{~V}, \overline{\mathrm{SHDN}}=\mathrm{PLLEN}=\mathrm{TXEN}=$ high, BUFEN$=$ low. No AC input signals. RFOUT and BUFOUT output ports are terminated in $50 \Omega . \mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{A}}=-40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ to $+85^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Typical values are at $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}=+3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~T}_{\mathrm{A}}=+25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

| PARAMETER | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| SUPPLY |  |  |  |  |  |
| Supply Voltage |  | 2.7 | 3 | 3.6 | V |
| Supply Current | TX mode, $\overline{\text { SHDN }}=$ PLLEN $=$ TXEN $=$ high BUFEN = low |  | 72 | 107 | mA |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SYNTH mode, } \overline{\text { SHDN }}=\text { PLLEN }=\text { high, } \\ & \text { TXEN = BUFEN = low } \end{aligned}$ |  | 25 | 38 |  |
|  | MOD mode, $\overline{\text { SHDN }}=$ TXEN $=$ high, <br> SYNEN = BUFEN = low |  | 46 | 69 |  |
| LO Buffer Supply Current | Additional current in all modes for BUFEN = high |  | 3.3 | 5.5 | mA |
| Shutdown Supply Current | HW_SHDN mode, $\overline{\text { SHDN }}=$ low |  | 0.3 | 600 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
|  | SW_SHDN mode, $\overline{\text { PWDN }}$ bit at logic low |  | 35 | 600 |  |
| CONTROL INPUT/OUTPUTS ( $\overline{\text { SHDN, }}$, TXEN, SYNEN, BUFEN) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Input Logic High |  | 2 |  |  | V |
| Input Logic Low |  |  |  | 0.5 | V |
| Input Logic High Current |  |  |  | 1 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| Input Logic Low Current |  | -1 |  |  | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| Lock Detect High (Locked) |  | 2 |  |  | V |
| Lock Detect Low (Unlocked) |  |  |  | 0.5 | V |
| Power-Up Time | MOD mode |  | 25 |  | $\mu \mathrm{s}$ |
| Power-Down Time | MOD mode |  | 1 |  | $\mu \mathrm{s}$ |
| 3-WIRE CONTROL INPUT (CLK, DATA, $\overline{\text { EN }}$ ) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Input Logic High |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}-0$. |  |  | V |
| Input Logic Low |  |  |  | 0.5 | V |
| Input Logic High Current |  |  |  | 1 | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |
| Input Logic Low Current |  | -1 |  |  | $\mu \mathrm{A}$ |

AC Electrical Characteristics
$\left(\mathrm{MAX} 2150 \mathrm{EV}\right.$ kit. $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}=+2.7 \mathrm{~V}$ to $+3.6 \mathrm{~V}, \overline{\mathrm{SHDN}}=\mathrm{PLLEN}=\mathrm{TXEN}=$ high, $\mathrm{BUFEN}=$ low. Input $\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{Q}$ signals: $\mathrm{F}_{I / Q}=500 \mathrm{kHz}, \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{Q}}=1 \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{P}}$. I+, Q+ single-ended input, driven from AC-coupled source. I-, Q- single-ended inputs are AC-coupled to GND. RFOUT and BUFOUT output ports are terminated in $50 \Omega$ loads. $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{LO}}=1750 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{LO}}=-10 \mathrm{dBm}$, typical values are at $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}=+3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~T}_{\mathrm{A}}=+25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

| PARAMETER | CONDITIONS | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MODULATION INPUT |  |  |  |  |  |
| I/Q Input Bandwidth | BW (-1dB) |  | 26 |  | MHz |
|  | BW (-3dB) |  | 75 |  |  |
| I/Q Differential Input Level | Assumes a sine-wave input to achieve the RFOUT output power specified below |  | 1 |  | $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{P}}$ |
| I/Q DC Input Resistance |  |  | 200 |  | k $\Omega$ |
| I/Q Common-Mode Input Range | (Note 2) | 1.5 | 1.6 | 1.7 | V |
| RF OUTPUT |  |  |  |  |  |
| Frequency Range |  | 700 |  | 2300 | MHz |
| Output Power | TXEN $=$ high, $\mathrm{f}_{\text {RF }}=1750 \mathrm{MHz}$ | -7 | -1 |  | dBm |
|  | TXEN $=$ low, $\mathrm{f}_{\text {RF }}=1750 \mathrm{MHz}$ |  | -60 |  |  |
| Output 1dB Compression Point |  |  | 1 |  | dBm |
| Output IP3 |  |  | 14 |  | dBm |
| Carrier Suppression | $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{RF}}=1750 \mathrm{MHz}$ |  | 34 |  | dBc |
| Sideband Suppression | $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{LO}}-\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{l} / \mathrm{Q}}, \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{RF}}=1750 \mathrm{MHz}$ | 25 | 34 |  | dBc |
| RF Output Noise Floor | foffsET $>40 \mathrm{MHz}$ (Note 2) |  | -148 | -143 | $\mathrm{dBm} / \mathrm{Hz}$ |
| Output Return Loss | (Note 3) |  | -9 |  | dB |
| LO INPUT/OUTPUT |  |  |  |  |  |
| Frequency Range |  | 700 |  | 2300 | MHz |
| LO Input Power | (Note 2) | -12 | -10 | -7 | dBm |
| LO Input Return Loss | $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{LO}}=2000 \mathrm{MHz}$ |  | -15 |  | dB |
| LO Buffer Output Level | BUFEN = high (Note 2) | -14 | -9.5 |  | dBm |
| SIGMA-DELTA FRACTIONAL-N SYNTHESIZER |  |  |  |  |  |
| SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS |  |  |  |  |  |
| Frequency Range | (Note 2) | 700 |  | 2300 | MHz |
| Phase-Detector Input-Referred Phase Noise Floor | $\mathrm{f}_{\text {COMP }}=\mathrm{f}_{\text {REF }}=20 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CPO}=\mathrm{CP} 1=\mathrm{CPX}=1($ Note 4) |  | -138 |  | dBc/Hz |
| In-Loop Spurious Emissions | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{LO}}=1740.005 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{COMP}}=\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{REF}}=20 \mathrm{MHz}, \\ & \mathrm{CPO}=\mathrm{CP} 1=\mathrm{CPX}=1(\text { Note } 5) \end{aligned}$ |  | -40 |  | dBc |
| MAIN DIVIDER AND PHASE DETECTOR |  |  |  |  |  |
| Minimum Fractional-N Step Size |  |  | OMP/2 |  |  |
| Phase-Detector Comparison Frequency |  |  | 20 | 30 | MHz |
| Maximum N Division |  |  | 251 |  |  |
| Minimum N Division |  |  | 35 |  |  |

## Wideband I/Q Modulator with Sigma-Delta Fractional-N Synthesizer

## AC Electrical Characteristics (continued)

(MAX2150 EV kit. $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}=+2.7 \mathrm{~V}$ to $+3.6 \mathrm{~V}, \overline{\mathrm{SHDN}}=\mathrm{PLLEN}=\mathrm{TXEN}=$ high, $\mathrm{BUFEN}=$ low. Input $I / \mathrm{Q}$ signals: $\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{Q}}=500 \mathrm{kHz}, \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{Q}}=1 \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{P}}$. I+, Q+ single-ended input, driven from AC-coupled source. I-, Q- single-ended inputs are AC-coupled to GND. RFOUT and BUFOUT output ports are terminated in $50 \Omega$ loads. $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{LO}}=1750 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{LO}}=-10 \mathrm{dBm}$, typical values are at $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}=+3 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~T}_{\mathrm{A}}=+25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

| PARAMETER | CONDITIONS |  | MIN | TYP | MAX | UNITS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| REFERENCE OSCILLATOR AND DIVIDER |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Input Frequency Range |  |  | 10 |  | 50 | MHz |
| AC-Coupled Input Sensitivity | AC-coupled, single ended (Note 2) |  | 0.4 |  | 2.3 | $\mathrm{V}_{\text {P-P }}$ |
| Reference Division Ratio | (Notes 2, 6) |  | 1 |  | 4 |  |
| CHARGE-PUMP OUTPUT |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Charge-Pump Current (Note 7) | $C P 1, C P 0=00$ | $C P X=0$ | 0.12 | 0.17 | 0.22 | mA |
|  |  | $C P X=1$ | 0.23 | 0.34 | 0.44 |  |
|  | $C P 1, C P 0=01$ | $C P X=0$ | 0.23 | 0.35 | 0.46 |  |
|  |  | $C P X=1$ | 0.47 | 0.67 | 0.88 |  |
|  | $C P 1, C P 0=10$ | CPX $=0$ | 0.36 | 0.52 | 0.68 |  |
|  |  | $C P X=1$ | 0.70 | 1.00 | 1.30 |  |
|  | $C P 1, C P 0=11$ | CPX $=0$ | 0.48 | 0.69 | 0.90 |  |
|  |  | $C P X=1$ | 0.91 | 1.31 | 1.70 |  |
| Charge-Pump Voltage Compliance | Sink/source currents match within $\pm 5 \%$ |  | 0.5 |  | $V_{C C}-0.5$ | V |

Note 1: Parameters are guaranteed by production testing at $+25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and $+85^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Minimum and maximum values over the temperature and supply voltage range are guaranteed by design and characterization.
Note 2: Guaranteed by design and characterization.
Note 3: Measured with MAX2150 EV kit.
Note 4: Measured with an on-chip crystal oscillator.
Note 5: In-loop spurious emissions occur when synthesizing a frequency at an integer multiple of the comparison frequency with fractional offset within the PLL loop BW.
Note 6: If an on-chip oscillator is used, a fundamental tone crystal is needed.
Note 7: Minimum and maximum values at CPX = 1 are guaranteed by production testing. Values at CPX $=0$ are guaranteed by design and characterization.

## Typical Operating Characteristics

$\left(\right.$ MAX2150 EV kit. $V_{C C}=+3 V, \overline{S H D N}=P L E N=T X E N=$ high, BUFEN = low. Input I/Q signals: $F_{I / Q}=500 \mathrm{kHz}, \mathrm{V}_{I / Q}=1 \mathrm{~V}_{P-P} .1+, Q+$ single-ended input, driven from AC-coupled source. I-, Q- single-ended inputs are AC-coupled to GND. RFOUT and BUFOUT output ports are terminated in $50 \Omega$ loads. $\mathrm{f}_{\mathrm{LO}}=1750 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{LO}}=-10 \mathrm{dBm}, \mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{A}}=+25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, unless otherwise noted.)


## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(MAX2150 EV kit. $\mathrm{V}_{C C}=+3 \mathrm{~V}, \overline{\mathrm{SHDN}}=\mathrm{PLLEN}=\mathrm{TXEN}=$ high, $\mathrm{BUFEN}=$ low. Input $\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{Q}$ signals: $\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{Q}}=500 \mathrm{kHz}, \mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{Q}}=1 \mathrm{~V}_{\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{P}} \mathrm{I}+, \mathrm{Q}+$ single-ended input, driven from AC-coupled source. I-, Q- single-ended inputs are AC-coupled to GND. RFOUT and BUFOUT output ports are terminated in $50 \Omega$ loads. $\mathrm{fLO}=1750 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{LO}}=-10 \mathrm{dBm}, \mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{A}}=+25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, unless otherwise noted.)


## Wideband I/Q Modulator with Sigma-Delta Fractional-N Synthesizer

## Pin Description

| PIN | NAME | FUNCTION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | TXEN | Modulator Enable Input. Set TXEN low to inhibit the RF and modulator circuits. This mode can be used for quiet frequency synthesis. |
| 2 | VCC_PA | Supply Voltage Input for RFOUT Output Driver Circuits. Bypass as close to the pin as possible. The bypass capacitor should not share ground vias with other branches. |
| 3 | RFOUT | Modulator RF Output. This is a wideband, internally matched $50 \Omega$ output. A DC-blocking capacitor is required. |
| 4, 5 | N.C. | Do Not Connect. (These pins must be left floating.) |
| 6 | LOCK | Lock Status of the PLL. A static logic-level high indicates that the PLL is in the locked condition. |
| 7 | VCC_SD | Supply Voltage Input for Sigma-Delta Modulator Circuits. Bypass as close to the pin as possible. The bypass capacitor should not share ground vias with other branches. |
| 8, 9, 10 | $\frac{\text { CLK, DATA, }}{\overline{E N}}$ | Input Pins from 3-Wire Serial Bus. An RC lowpass filter on each of these pins can be used to reduce digital noise. |
| 11 | $\overline{\text { SHDN }}$ | Shutdown Control. Set $\overline{\text { SHDN }}$ low to disable all internal circuits for lowest power consumption. An RC lowpass filter can be used to reduce digital noise. |
| 12 | SYNEN | Synthesizer Enable Input. Set SYNTH low to disable the internal frequency synthesizer. An RC lowpass filter can be used to reduce digital noise. |
| 13 | OSCIN | Reference Oscillator Input. Connect a parallel, resonant, fundamental-tone crystal between this pin and ground to facilitate a crystal oscillator circuit. For applications with an external reference oscillator, the OSCIN input can be driven through a large-value series capacitor. |
| 14 | VCC_XTAL | Supply Voltage Input for Crystal Oscillator. Bypass as close to the pin as possible. The bypass capacitor should not share ground vias with other branches. |
| 15 | VCC_CHP | Supply Voltage Input for Charge Pump. Bypass as close to the pin as possible. The bypass capacitor should not share ground vias with other branches. |
| 16 | CHP | High-Impedance Charge-Pump Output. Connect to the tune input of the VCO through the PLL loop filter. Keep the line from this pin to the tune input as short as possible to prevent spurious pickup, and connect the loop filter as close to the tune input as possible. |
| 17 | VCC_A | Supply Voltage Input for PLL. Bypass as close to the pin as possible. The bypass capacitor should not share ground vias with other branches. |
| 18 | VCC_D | Supply Voltage Input for PLL. Bypass as close to the pin as possible. The bypass capacitor should not share ground vias with other branches. |
| 19 | VCC_LO | Supply Voltage Input for Internal LO Circuits. Bypass as close to the pin as possible. The bypass capacitor should not share ground vias with other branches. |
| 20, 21 | LO-, LO+ | Differential Local-Oscillator Input. These inputs require DC-blocking capacitors. The LO can be applied with a single-ended input to the LO+/LO- pin. In this mode, the other pin should be AC-grounded. |
| 22 | BUFOUT | Buffered LO Output. Internally matched to $50 \Omega$, requires a DC-blocking capacitor. |
| 23 | BUFEN | LO Output Buffer Amplifier Enable. Set BUFEN high to enable the on-chip output LO buffer for driving external circuits. An RC lowpass filter can be used to reduce digital noise. |
| 24, 25 | Q-, Q+ | Differential Q-Channel Baseband Inputs to the Modulator. These pins connect directly to the bases of a differential pair and require an external common-mode bias voltage of 1.6 V . |

## Pin Description (continued)

| PIN | NAME | FUNCTION |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 26,27 | I-, I+ | Differential I-Channel Baseband Inputs to the Modulator. These pins connect directly to the bases of a <br> differential pair and require an external common-mode bias voltage of 1.6 V. |
| 28 | VCC_RF | Supply Voltage Input for RF Circuits. Bypass as close to pin as possible. <br> The bypass capacitor should not share ground vias with other branches. |
| - | Exposed pad | Ground |

## Detailed Description

Internally, the MAX2150 includes a broadband I/Q modulator, internally matched broadband output driver amplifier, fine-resolutionfractional-Nfrequency synthesizer, an LO buffer amplifier, and an on-chip low-noise crystal oscillator circuit.
A simple 3 -wire interface is provided for synthesizer programming and device configuration and control. Independent hardware and software power-down control of the I/Q modulator, frequency synthesizer, and LO buffer amplifier is provided, as well as the ability to shut down the entire chip.

## I/Q Modulator

The MAX2150 modulator is composed of a pair of matched double-balanced mixers, a broadband passive LO quadrature generator, and a summing amplifier. The mixers accept differential I/Q baseband signals that directly modulate the internal $0^{\circ}$ and $90^{\circ}$ LO signals applied to the I/Q mixers. An external LO source drives an internal LO quadrature generator that shifts the phase of the LO signal applied to the $Q$ mixer by $90^{\circ}$ relative to the LO signal applied to the I-channel mixer. The modulated output of the $I / Q$ mixers is summed together, and the undesired sideband is suppressed.
The I+, I-, Q+, and Q-input ports feature high-linearity buffer amplifiers with a typical -3 dB bandwidth of 75 MHz and accept differential input voltages up to $1 V_{\text {P-p. }}$. The ports require external biasing and have an input common-mode requirement of 1.6 V . For single-ended operation, bypass the I and Q ports to ground. See the Typical Application Circuit for recommended component values.
The broadband output driver amplifier is matched on chip across the entire operating frequency range and requires an output DC-blocking capacitor. For optimum performance, the output match can be improved with simple L-section and/or PI-section matching networks. Always ensure that DC blocking is provided, because internal bias voltages are present at this output.

The modulator can be shut down with both hardware (pin 1) and software (TE bit). This mode is useful for quiet synthesizer programming or to mute the RF output signal. The hardware pin and software bits must be set to logic-1 to enable the modulator. If the hardware pin or software bit is set to logic- 0 , or if both are set to logic- 0 , the modulator is disabled.

## LO Buffer Amplifier

The broadband buffer amplifier output is internally matched and requires a DC-blocking capacitor to isolate on-chip bias voltages. Power-down of the LO buffer can be controlled by both BUFEN (pin 23), as well as BUFEN by software by setting the BUFEN (BE) bit through the 3 -wire interface. The hardware pin and the software bit must be a logic-1 to enable the buffer. If the hardware or software bit is set to logic-0, the LO buffer is disabled.

## Frequency Synthesizer

The MAX2150 features an internal 28-bit sigma-delta frequency synthesizer. This architecture enables the use of very high $(30 \mathrm{MHz})$ comparison frequencies, which significantly reduces the in-loop phase noise as a result of reduced division ratios. The high comparison frequency also allows significantly increased PLL bandwidths for very fast switching speed applications.

## Divider Programming

The MAX2150 frequency programming is determined as follows. The overall division ratio (D) has an integer value $(\mathrm{N})$, as well as a fractional component $(\mathrm{F})$ :

$$
D=N . F=N+F / 228
$$

The N and F values are encoded as straight binary numbers. Determination of these values is illustrated by the following example:

$$
\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{LO}}=1721.125 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{~F}_{\mathrm{COMP}}=20 \mathrm{MHz}
$$

Then:

$$
D=1721.125 / 20=86.05625
$$

Therefore:

$$
N=86 \text { and } F=0.05625 \times 228=15,099,494
$$

Converting each to binary representation results in the following:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathrm{N} \text { register }=86=0101,0110 \\
\mathrm{~F} \text { register value }= \\
0000,110,0110,0110,0110,0110,0110
\end{gathered}
$$

The F-register value is then split between an upper 14 bits and a lower 14 bits as follows:

Upper 14 bits + address $00=0000,1110,0110,0100$
Lower 14 bits + address $01=1001,1001,1001,1001$

## Synthesizer Shutdown

The synthesizer can be disabled by setting SYNEN (pin 12) to a logic low. This mode is useful when an external frequency synthesizer is employed.

## Applications Information

## Serial Interface and Register Definition

## 3-Wire Interface and Registers

The MAX2150 is programmed through a simple 3 -wire (CLK, DATA, EN) interface. The programming data is contained within 16 -bit words loaded into four unique address locations. Each location contains programming information for setting operational modes and device configuration. Two words (address 00, 01) control the fractional divide number in the sigma-delta synthesizer. The third word (address 10) sets the integer divide value, reference divide value, charge-pump current, and chargepump compensation DAC settings. The fourth and final word (address 11) contains various device configuration registers and test registers, as well as additional chargepump compensation registers. See Tables 1 through 11 for details.

## 3-Wire Interface Timing Diagram

Figure 1 shows the programming logic. The 16 -bit shift register is programmed by clocking in data at the rising edge of CLK. Pulling enable low allows data to be clocked
into the shift register; pulling enable high loads the register addressed.

## Fractional Spurs

When synthesizing a frequency that is an integer multiple of the reference divider and having a fractional offset with a value less than the PLL filter bandwidth, fractional spurs can be observed at a typical level of -40 dBc . For example, to synthesize 1640.005 MHz when using a 20 MHz reference and a PLL bandwidth of 25 kHz , spurious products offset from the LO by 5 kHz can be observed. The 1640 MHz is an integer multiple of 20 MHz , and the fractional offset of 5 kHz is within the PLL bandwidth.
It is possible to avoid the above-mentioned spurious products by using two reference oscillators with slightly offset frequencies or by using a higher reference frequency and changing the comparison frequency of the reference divider.

## Crystal Oscillator

The MAX2150 includes a simple-to-use on-chip low-noise reference oscillator circuit. The oscillator is formed by connecting a fundamental mode parallel resonant crystal from OSCIN to ground. The oscillator circuit is useful from 10 MHz to 50 MHz .
The phase noise of the MAX2150 can be improved by using a precision high-frequency external reference oscillator (TCXO). The external oscillator is connected through a DC-blocking capacitor directly to the OSCIN pin.

## Layout Considerations

A properly designed PC board is an essential part of any RF circuit. A ground plane is essential. Keep RF signal lines as short as possible to reduce losses, radiation, and inductance. The exposed pad on the underside of the MAX2150 must be adequately grounded by ensuring that the exposed paddle of the device package is soldered evenly to the board ground plane. Use multiple, low-inductance vias to ground the exposed paddle.


Figure 1. 3-Wire Interface Timing Diagram

Table 1. Register Tables

| MSB | SHIFT REGISTER DATA |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | LSB |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Upper (MSBs) Fractional Divider Value (F) 14 Bits (Default $=8192,10000000000000$ ) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Address |  |
| 27 | 26 | 25 | 24 | 23 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| Lower (LSBs) Fractional Divider Value (F)14 Bits (Default 0 DEC, 00000000000000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Address |  |
| 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| R Divider Default $=00$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { CP Bleed } \\ & \text { Default }=00 \end{aligned}$ |  | CP Current <br> Default = 11 |  | Integer Divide Value (N) 8 Bits Defvault = 177 DEC |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Address |  |
| R1 | R0 | LIN1 | LINO | CP1 | CP0 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Reset Delay <br> Default = 00 |  | Test Registers 6 Bits Default = 0 DEC |  |  |  |  |  | Control Register 6 Bits <br> Default = 15 DEC |  |  |  |  |  | Address |  |
| BL1 | BLO | T5 | T4 | T3 | T2 | T1 | T0 | INT | PD | TE | BE | XX | CPX | 1 | 1 |

Table 2. Reference Divider

| R1 | R0 | REFERENCE DIVIDE VALUE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 1 | 0 | 3 |
| 1 | 1 | 4 |

Table 3. Integer Divider-N*

| N7 | N6 | N5 | N4 | N3 | N2 | N1 | N0 | INTEGER DIVIDE VALUE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 35 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 36 |
| - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 250 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 251 |

* $N$ divider is limited to $35<N<251$.

Table 4. Fractional Divider-F (Upper 14 Bits)

| F27 | F26 | F25 | F24 | F23 | F22 | F21 | F20 | F19 | F18 | F17 | F16 | F15 | F14 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Table 5. Fractional Divider-F (Lower 14 Bits)

| F13 | F12 | F11 | F10 | F9 | F8 | F7 | F6 | F5 | F4 | F3 | F2 | F1 | F0 | INTEGER DIVIDE <br> VALUE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 268435454 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 268435455 |

Table 6. Control Register

| BIT ID | BIT <br> NAME | PWR-UP <br> STATE | BIT LOCATION <br> $\mathbf{0}=$ LSB | FUNCTION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |
| CPX | CP_MULT | 1 | 0 | A logic high doubles the charge pump current selected through registers <br> CP1 and CP0. Logic low sets the charge-pump current to the value <br> selected by registers CP1 and CPO. |
| XX | XX | XX | 1 | Unused. |
| BE | BUFEN | 1 | 2 | High enables the VCO buffer. Low disables this output. |
| TE | TXEN | 1 | 3 | Low enables SW_MUTE mode, which shuts down the RF circuits while <br> leaving the 3-wire interface, register, and PLL circuits active. |
| PD | PWDN | 0 | 4 | Low enables register-based shutdown. This mode shuts down all circuits <br> except the 3-wire interface and internal registers. |
| INT | INT_MODE | 0 | 5 | Logic high disables the sigma-delta modulator. Logic low enables the <br> sigma-delta modulator for normal operation. |

Table 7. Device Modes

| MODE | HW PINS |  |  |  | SOFTWARE CONTROL <br> BITS |  | DESCRIPTION |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- |

## Power-Supply (Vcc) Bypassing

Proper voltage-supply bypassing is essential to reduce the spurious emissions mentioned above. It is recommended that each $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{CC}}$ pin be bypassed independently
and share no common vias with any other ground connection. See the Typical Operating Circuit for suggested bypass component values.

Table 8. TXEN Pin and Software Bit Definitions

| TXEN |  | TX MODE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PIN | BIT |  |
| 0 | 0 | TX off |
| 0 | 1 | TX off |
| 1 | 0 | TX off |
| 1 | 1 | TX enabled |

Table 9. Charge-Pump Registers

| $\mathbf{C P X}$ | $\mathbf{C P} 1$ | $\mathbf{C P 0}$ | $\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{C P}}(\boldsymbol{\mu} \mathbf{A})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 170 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 350 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 520 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 690 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 340 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 670 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1000 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1310 |

Table 10. Test Register Definition
(Default 0 Dec)*

| TEST MODE | T5 | T4 | T3 | T2 | T1 | T0 | TEST PIN |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Normal Operating Mode | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - |
| Charge Pump Forced to Source Icp | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | CP |
| Charge Pump Forced to Sink Icp | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | CP |
| Reference Divider Output | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Lock |
| Main Divider Output | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Lock |

[^0]Table 11. BUFEN Pin and Software Bit Definitions

| BUFEN |  | BUF MODE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PIN | BIT |  |
| 0 | 0 | Buffer off |
| 0 | 1 | Buffer off |
| 1 | 0 | Buffer off |
| 1 | 1 | Buffer on |

## Chip Information

TRANSISTOR COUNT: 16,321

## Package Information

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

| PACKAGE TYPE | PACKAGE CODE | DOCUMENT NO. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 28 TQFN-EP | T2855-3 | $\underline{21-0140}$ |

## Typical Operating Circuit



## Revision History

| REVISION <br> NUMBER | REVISION <br> DATE |  | PAGES <br> CHANGED |
| :---: | :---: | :--- | :---: |
| 4 | $6 / 08$ | Updated table in Package Information | 13 |
| 5 | $6 / 21$ | Updated Typical Operating Characteristics | 5,6 |

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[^0]:    *All other logic states are undefined.

