MAX9930–MAX9933

2MHz to 1.6GHz 45dB RF-Detecting Controllers and RF Detector

General Description

The MAX9930–MAX9933 low-cost, low-power logarithmic amplifiers are designed to control RF power amplifiers (PA) and transimpedance amplifiers (TIA), and to detect RF power levels. These devices are designed to operate in the 2MHz to 1.6GHz frequency range. A typical dynamic range of 45dB makes this family of logarithmic amplifiers useful in a variety of wireless and GPON fiber video applications such as transmitter power measurement, and RSSI for terminal devices. Logarithmic amplifiers provide much wider measurement range and superior accuracy to controllers based on diode detectors. Excellent temperature stability is achieved over the full operating range of -40°C to +85°C.

The choice of three different input voltage ranges eliminates the need for external attenuators, thus simplifying PA control-loop design. The logarithmic amplifier is a voltage-measuring device with a typical signal range of -58dBV to -13dBV for the MAX9930/MAX9933, -48dBV to -3dBV for the MAX9931, and -43dBV to +2dBV for the MAX9932.

The MAX9930–MAX9933 require an external coupling capacitor in series with the RF input port. These devices feature a power-on delay when coming out of shutdown, holding OUT low for approximately 2.5µs to ensure glitch-free controller output.

The MAX9930–MAX9933 family is available in an 8-pin µMAX® package. These devices consume 7mA with a 5V supply, and when powered down, the typical shutdown current is 13µA.

Applications

- RSSI for Fiber Modules, GPON-CATV Triplexors
- Low-Frequency RF OOK and ASK Applications
- Transmitter Power Measurement and Control
- TSI for Wireless Terminal Devices
- Cellular Handsets (TDMA, CDMA, GPRS, GSM)

Block Diagram appears at end of data sheet.

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Features

- Complete RF-Detecting PA Controllers (MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932)
- Complete RF Detector (MAX9933)
- Variety of Input Ranges
  MAX9930/MAX9933: -58dBV to -13dBV (-45dBm to 0dBm for 50Ω Termination)
  MAX9931: -48dBV to -3dBV (-35dBm to +10dBm for 50Ω Termination)
  MAX9932: -43dBV to +2dBV (-30dBm to +15dBm for 50Ω Termination)
- 2MHz to 1.6GHz Frequency Range
- Temperature Stable Linear-in-dB Response
- Fast Response: 70ns 10dB Step
- 10mA Output Sourcing Capability
- Low Power: 17mW at 3V (typ)
- 13µA (typ) Shutdown Current
- Available in a Small 8-Pin µMAX Package

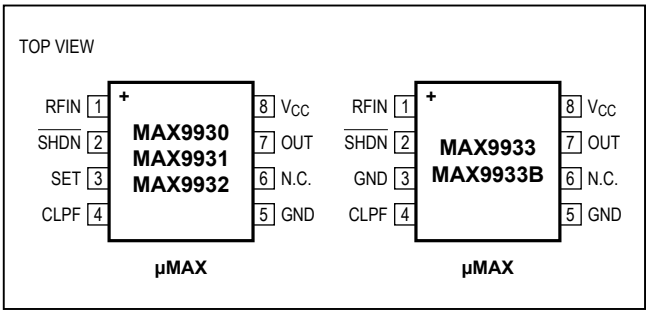
Ordering Information

PART	TEMP RANGE	PIN-PACKAGE
MAX9930EUA+T	-40°C to +85°C	8 µMAX
MAX9931EUA+T	-40°C to +85°C	8 µMAX
MAX9932EUA+T	-40°C to +85°C	8 µMAX
MAX9933EUA+T	-40°C to +85°C	8 µMAX
MAX9933BGUA+T	-40°C to +105°C	8 µMAX

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

T = Tape and reel.

Pin Configurations



maxim integrated™

Absolute Maximum Ratings

(Voltages referenced to GND.)
V_{CC} ..... -0.3V to +6V
OUT, SET, $\overline{SHDN}$, CLPF ..... -0.3V to (V_{CC} + 0.3V)
RFIN
MAX9930/MAX9933 ..... +6dBm
MAX9931 ..... +16dBm
MAX9932 ..... +19dBm
Equivalent Voltage
MAX9930/MAX9933 ..... $0.45V_{RMS}$
MAX9931 ..... $1.4V_{RMS}$
MAX9932 ..... $2.0V_{RMS}$
OUT Short Circuit to GND ..... Continuous
Continuous Power Dissipation (T_A = +70°C)
8-Pin µMAX (derate 4.5mW/°C above +70°C) 362mW
Operating Temperature Range ..... -40°C to +85°C
Storage Temperature Range ..... -65°C to +150°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.

DC Electrical Characteristics

(V_{CC} = 3V, $\overline{SHDN}$ = 1.8V, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, C_{CLPF} = 100nF, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.) (Notes 1 and 6)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Supply Voltage	V_{CC}		2.70		5.25	V
Supply Current	I_{CC}	V_{CC} = 5.25V		7	12	mA
Shutdown Supply Current	I_{CC}	$\overline{SHDN}$ = 0.8V, V_{CC} = 5V		13		µA
Shutdown Output Voltage	V_{OUT}	$\overline{SHDN}$ = 0.8V		1		mV
Logic-High Threshold Voltage	V_H		1.8			V
Logic-Low Threshold Voltage	V_L				0.8	V
$\overline{SHDN}$ Input Current	$I_{\overline{SHDN}}$	$\overline{SHDN}$ = 3V		5	30	µA
		$\overline{SHDN}$ = 0V	-1	-0.01		
MAIN OUTPUT (MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932)						
Voltage Range	V_{OUT}	High, I_{SOURCE} = 10mA	2.65	2.75		V
		Low, I_{SINK} = 350µA		0.15		
Output-Referred Noise		From CLPF		8		nV/√Hz
Small-Signal Bandwidth	BW	From CLPF		20		MHz
Slew Rate		V_{OUT} = 0.2V to 2.6V from CLPF		8		V/µs
SET INPUT (MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932)						
Voltage Range (Note 2)	V_{SET}	Corresponding to central 40dB span	0.35		1.45	V
Input Resistance	R_{IN}			30		MΩ
Slew Rate (Note 3)				16		V/µs
DETECTOR OUTPUT (MAX9933/MAX9933B)						
Voltage Range	V_{OUT}	RFIN = 0dBm		1.45		V
		RFIN = -45dBm		0.36		
Small-Signal Bandwidth	BW	C_{CLPF} = 150pF		4.5		MHz
Slew Rate		V_{OUT} = 0.36V to 1.45V, C_{CLPF} = 150pF		5		V/µs

AC Electrical Characteristics

(V_{CC} = 3V, $\overline{SHDN}$ = 1.8V, f_{RF} = 2MHz to 1.6GHz, T_A = -40°C to +85°C, C_{CLPF} = 100nF, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.) (Notes 1 and 6)

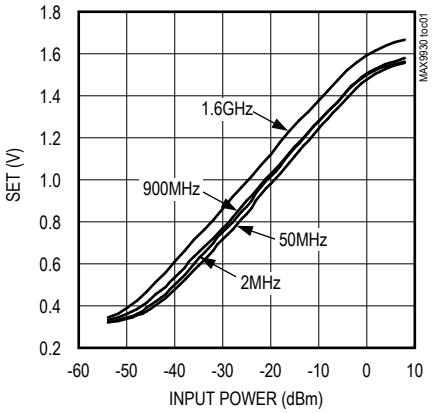
PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
RF Input Frequency Range	f_{RF}			2		1600	MHz
RF Input Voltage Range (Note 4)	V_{RF}	MAX9930/MAX9933/MAX9933B		-58		-13	dBV
		MAX9931		-48		-3	
		MAX9932		-43		+2	
Equivalent Power Range (50Ω Termination) (Note 4)	P_{RF}	MAX9930/MAX9933/MAX9933B		-45		0	dBm
		MAX9931		-35		+10	
		MAX9932		-30		+15	
Logarithmic Slope	V_S	f_{RF} = 2MHz, T_A = +25°C		25	27	29	mV/dB
		f_{RF} = 2MHz		24	27	30	
		f_{RF} = 900MHz, T_A = +25°C		23.5	25.5	27.5	
		f_{RF} = 900MHz		22.5	25.5	28.5	
		f_{RF} = 1600MHz			27		
Logarithmic Intercept	P_X	f_{RF} = 2MHz, T_A = +25°C	MAX9930/MAX9933/MAX9933B	-61	-56	-52	dBm
			MAX9931	-51	-46	-42	
			MAX9932	-46	-41	-37	
		f_{RF} = 2MHz	MAX9930/MAX9933/MAX9933B	-63	-56	-50	
			MAX9931	-53	-46	-40	
			MAX9932	-48	-41	-35	
		f_{RF} = 900MHz, T_A = +25°C	MAX9930/MAX9933/MAX9933B	-62	-59	-53	
			MAX9931	-53	-50	-44	
			MAX9932	-49	-45	-40	
		f_{RF} = 900MHz	MAX9930/MAX9933/MAX9933B	-64	-59	-51	
			MAX9931	-55	-50	-42	
			MAX9932	-51	-45	-38	
		f_{RF} = 1600MHz	MAX9930/MAX9933/MAX9933B		-62		
			MAX9931		-52		
			MAX9932		-47		
RF INPUT INTERFACE							
DC Resistance	R_{DC}	Connected to V_{CC}			2		kΩ
Inband Capacitance	C_{IB}	Internally DC-coupled (Note 5)			0.5		pF

Note 1: All devices are 100% production tested at T_A = +25°C and are guaranteed by design for T_A = -40°C to +85°C as specified.
Note 2: Typical value only, set-point input voltage range determined by logarithmic slope and logarithmic intercept.
Note 3: Set-point slew rate is the rate at which the reference level voltage, applied to the inverting input of the g_m stage, responds to a voltage step at the SET pin (see Figure 1).
Note 4: Typical min/max range for detector.
Note 5: Pin capacitance to ground.
Note 6: MAX9933B is 100% production tested at T_A = +25°C and is guaranteed by design for T_A = -40°C to +105°C as specified.

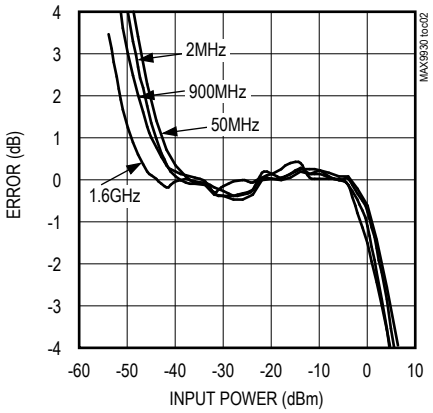
Typical Operating Characteristics

(V_{CC} = 3V, $\overline{SHDN}$ = V_{CC}, T_A = +25°C, all log conformance plots are normalized to their respective temperatures, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

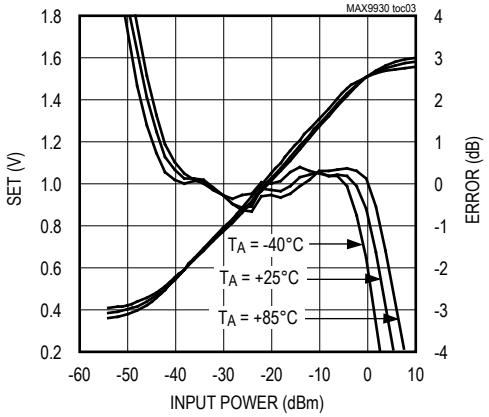
MAX9930
SET vs. INPUT POWER



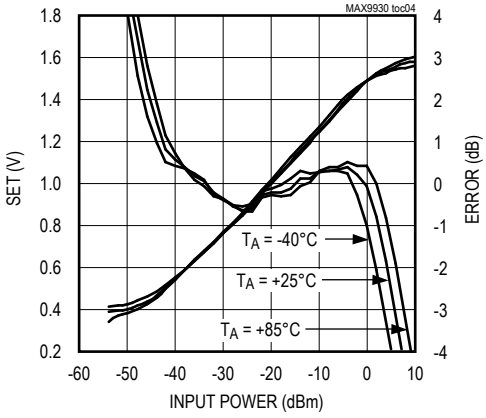
MAX9930
LOG CONFORMANCE vs. INPUT POWER



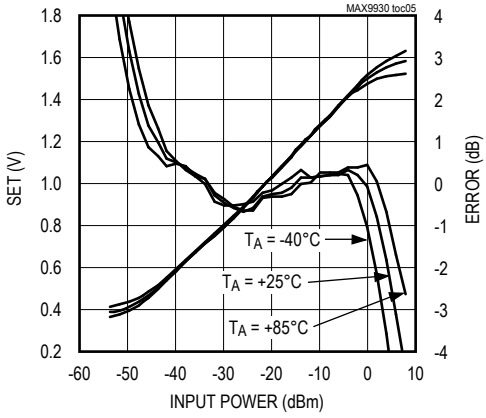
MAX9930
SET AND LOG CONFORMANCE
vs. INPUT POWER AT 2MHz



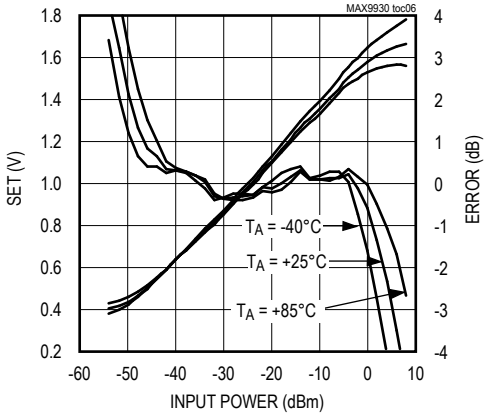
MAX9930
SET AND LOG CONFORMANCE
vs. INPUT POWER AT 50MHz



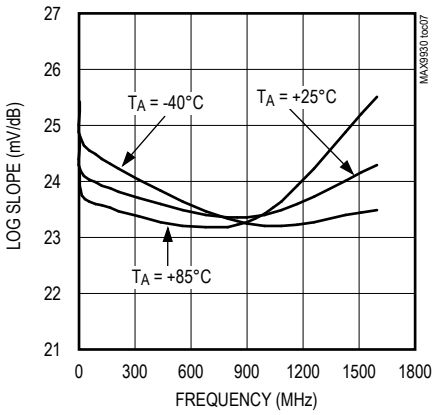
MAX9930
SET AND LOG CONFORMANCE
vs. INPUT POWER AT 900MHz



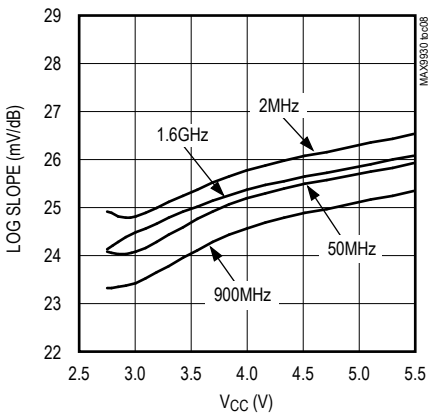
MAX9930
SET AND LOG CONFORMANCE
vs. INPUT POWER AT 1.6GHz



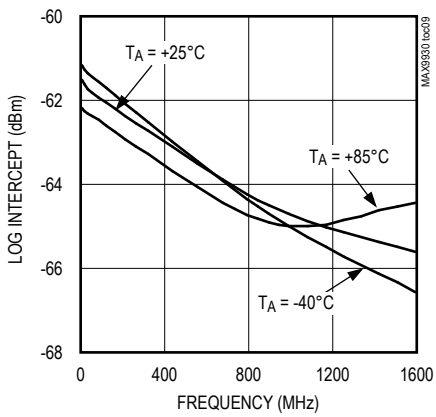
MAX9930
LOG SLOPE vs. FREQUENCY



MAX9930
LOG SLOPE vs. V_{CC}



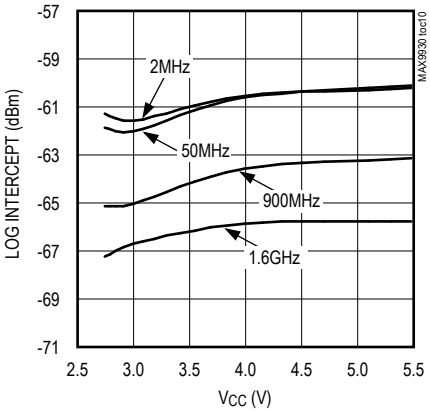
MAX9930
LOG INTERCEPT vs. FREQUENCY



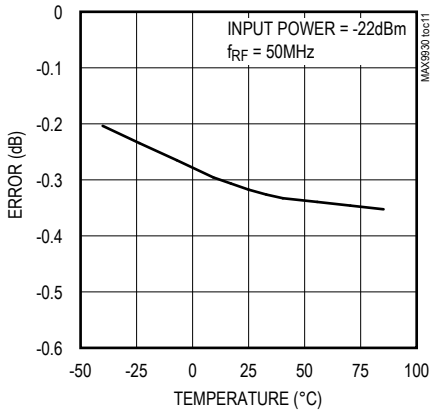
Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(V_{CC} = 3V, $\overline{SHDN}$ = V_{CC}, T_A = +25°C, all log conformance plots are normalized to their respective temperatures, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

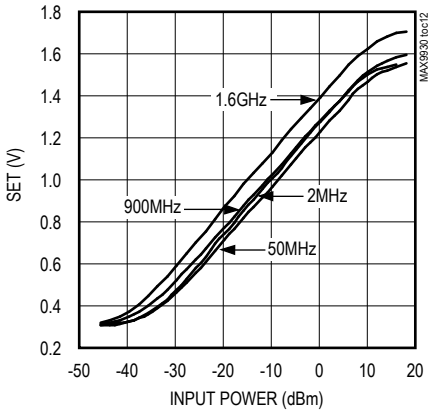
MAX9930
LOG INTERCEPT vs. V_{CC}



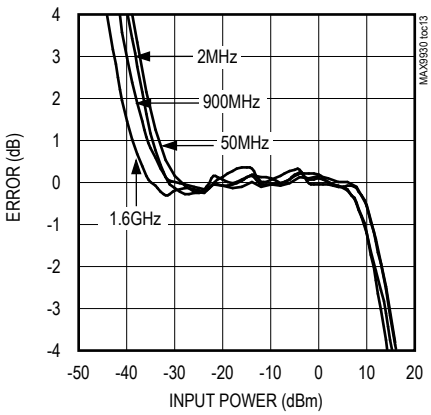
MAX9930
LOG CONFORMANCE vs. TEMPERATURE



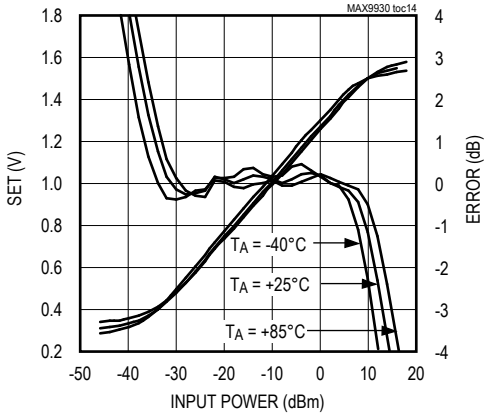
MAX9931
SET vs. INPUT POWER



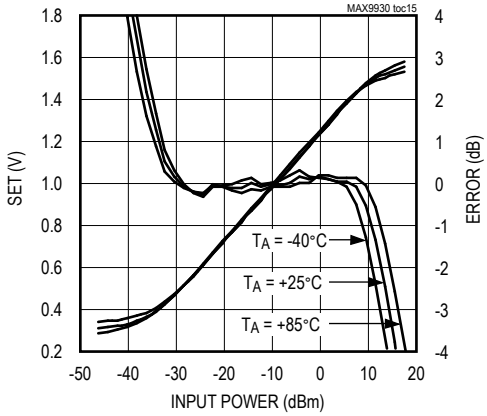
MAX9931
LOG CONFORMANCE vs. INPUT POWER



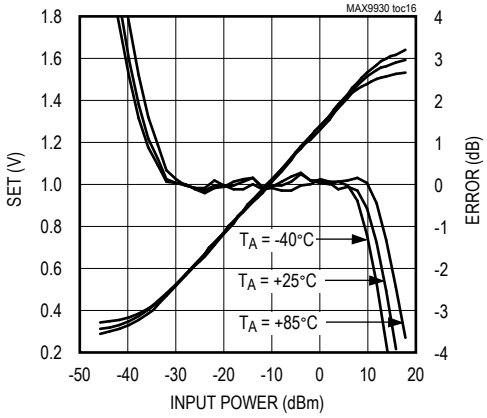
MAX9931
SET AND LOG CONFORMANCE
vs. INPUT POWER AT 2MHz



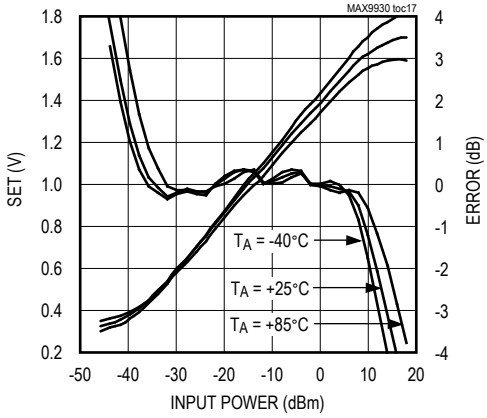
MAX9931
SET AND LOG CONFORMANCE
vs. INPUT POWER AT 50MHz



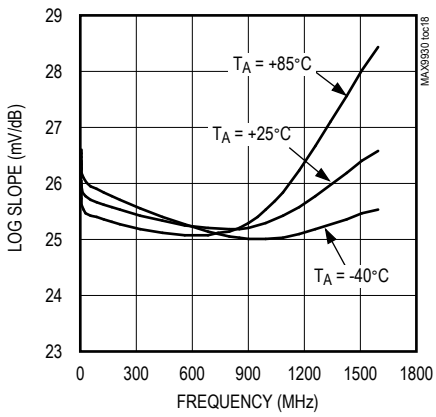
MAX9931
SET AND LOG CONFORMANCE
vs. INPUT POWER AT 900MHz



MAX9931
SET AND LOG CONFORMANCE
vs. INPUT POWER AT 1.6GHz



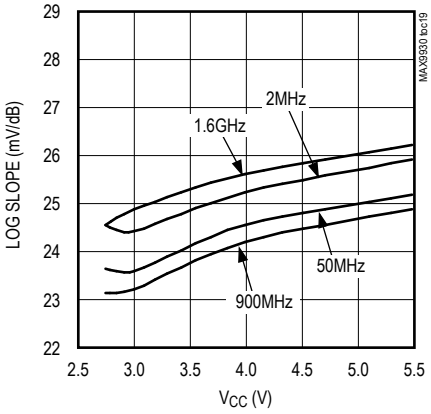
MAX9931
LOG SLOPE vs. FREQUENCY



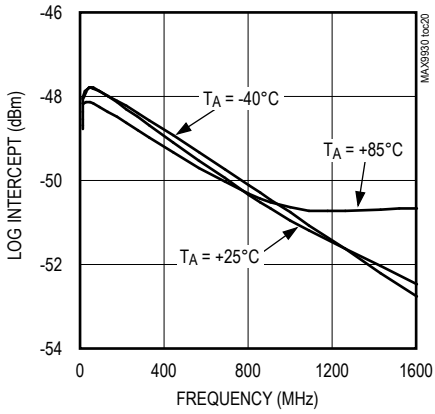
Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(V_{CC} = 3V, $\overline{SHDN}$ = V_{CC}, T_A = +25°C, all log conformance plots are normalized to their respective temperatures, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

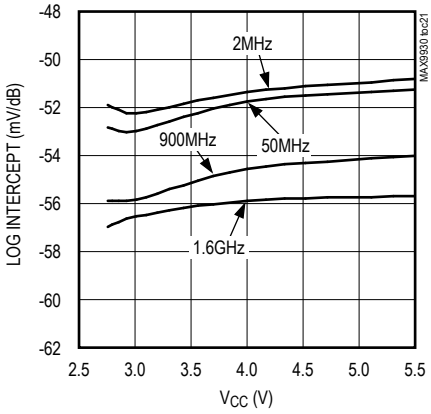
MAX9931
LOG SLOPE vs. VCC



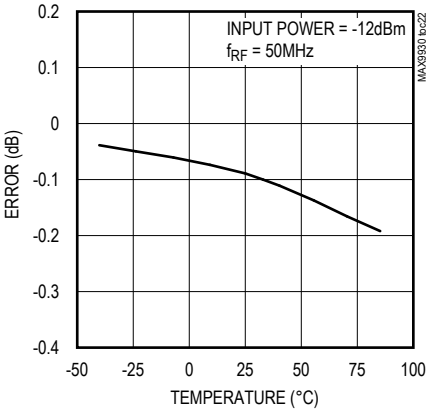
MAX9931
LOG INTERCEPT vs. FREQUENCY



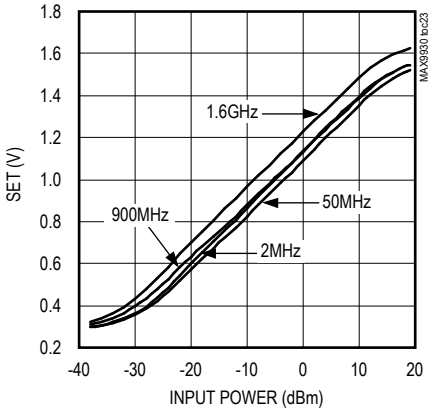
MAX9931
LOG INTERCEPT vs. VCC



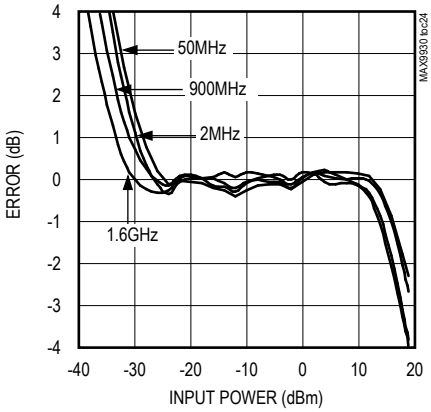
MAX9931
LOG CONFORMANCE vs. TEMPERATURE



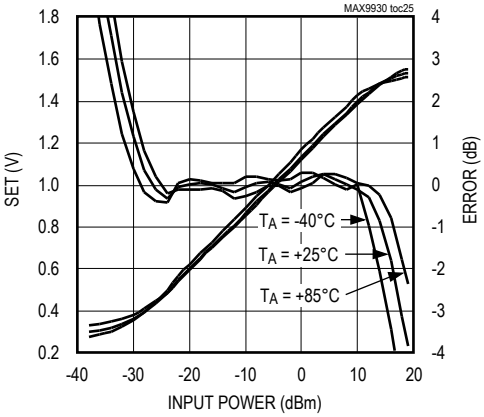
MAX9932
SET vs. INPUT POWER



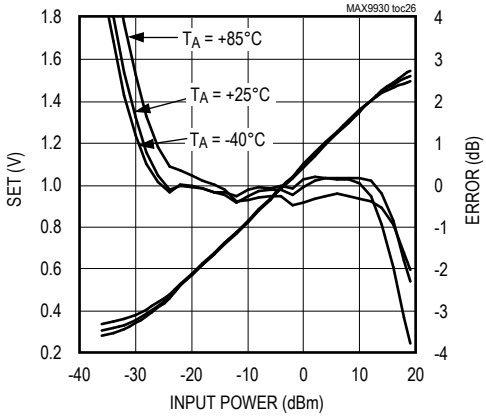
MAX9932
LOG CONFORMANCE vs. INPUT POWER



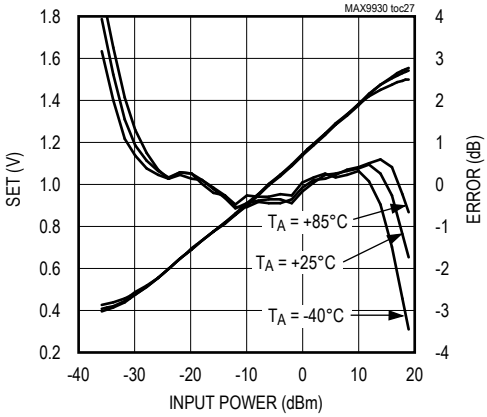
MAX9932
SET AND LOG CONFORMANCE vs. INPUT POWER AT 2MHz



MAX9932
SET AND LOG CONFORMANCE vs. INPUT POWER AT 50MHz



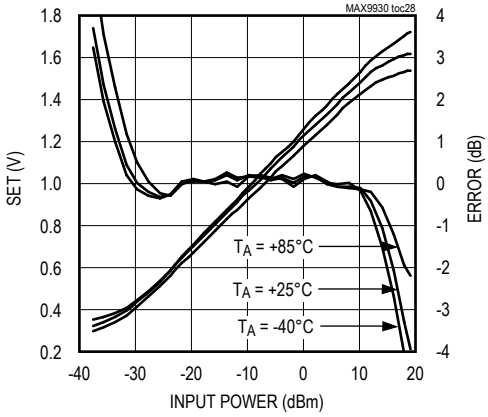
MAX9932
SET AND LOG CONFORMANCE vs. INPUT POWER AT 900MHz



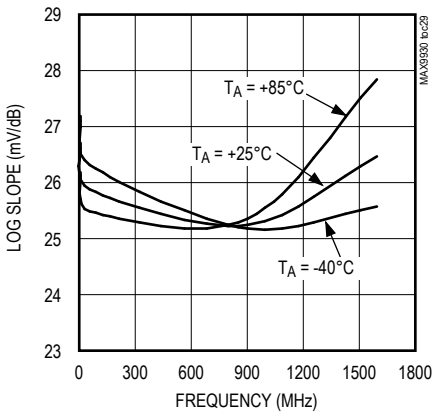
Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(V_{CC} = 3V, $\overline{SHDN}$ = V_{CC}, T_A = +25°C, all log conformance plots are normalized to their respective temperatures, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

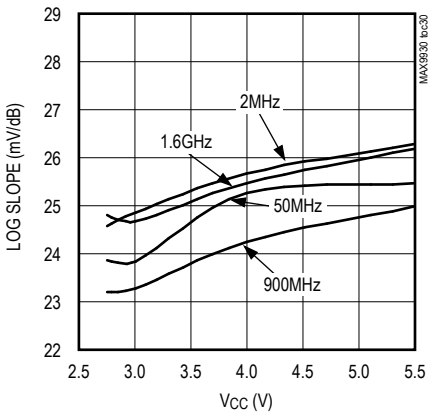
MAX9932
SET AND LOG CONFORMANCE vs. INPUT POWER AT 1.6GHz



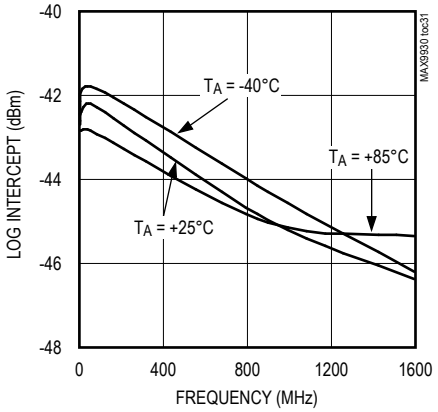
MAX9932
LOG SLOPE vs. FREQUENCY



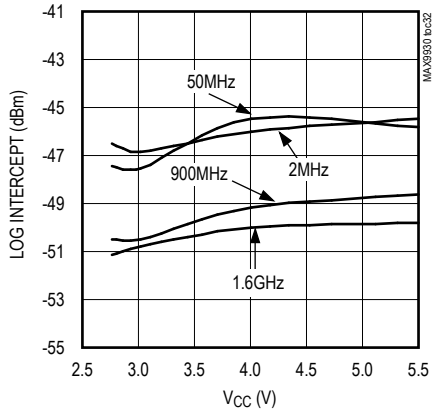
MAX9932
LOG SLOPE vs. V_{CC}



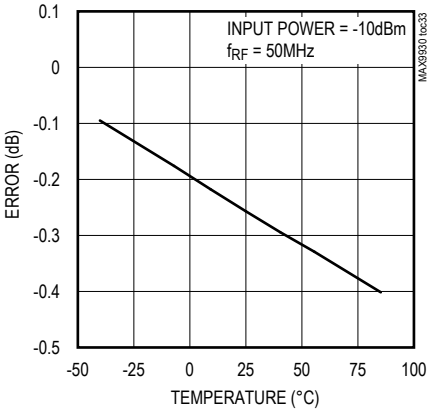
MAX9932
LOG INTERCEPT vs. FREQUENCY



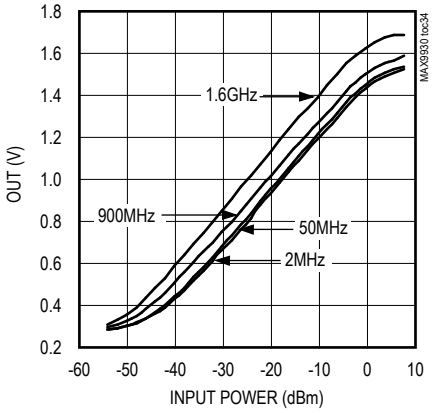
MAX9932
LOG INTERCEPT vs. V_{CC}



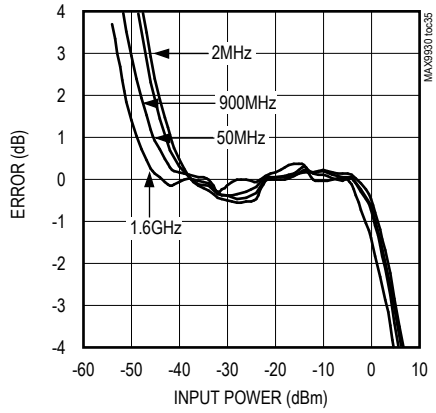
MAX9932
LOG CONFORMANCE vs. TEMPERATURE



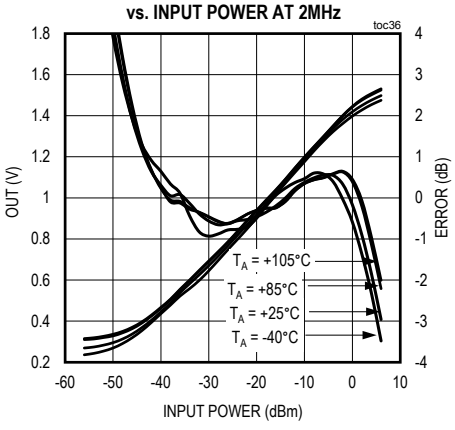
MAX9933
OUT vs. INPUT POWER



MAX9933
LOG CONFORMANCE vs. INPUT POWER



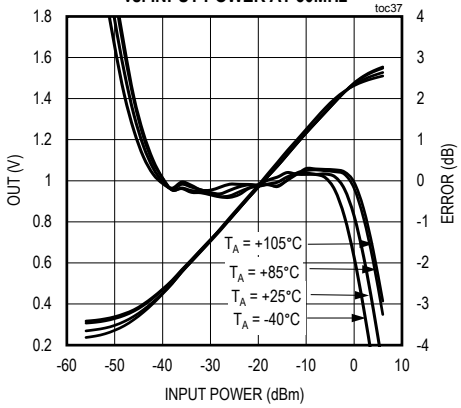
MAX9933B
OUTPUT AND LOG CONFORMANCE vs. INPUT POWER AT 2MHz



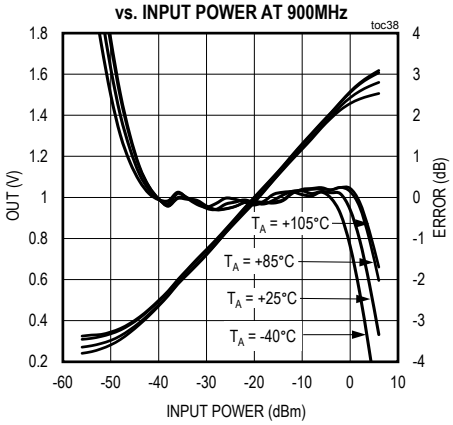
Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(V_{CC} = 3V, $\overline{SHDN}$ = V_{CC}, T_A = +25°C, all log conformance plots are normalized to their respective temperatures, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

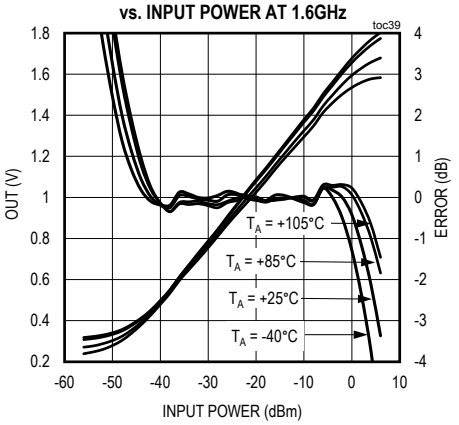
MAX9933B
OUTPUT AND LOG CONFORMANCE vs. INPUT POWER AT 50MHz



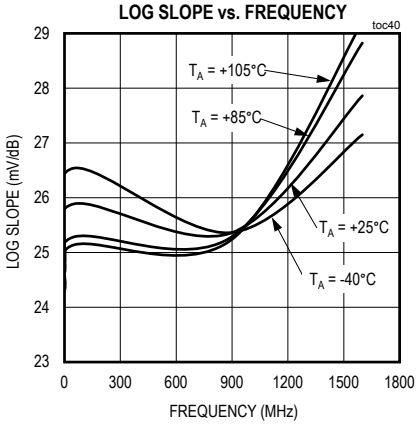
MAX9933B
OUTPUT AND LOG CONFORMANCE vs. INPUT POWER AT 900MHz



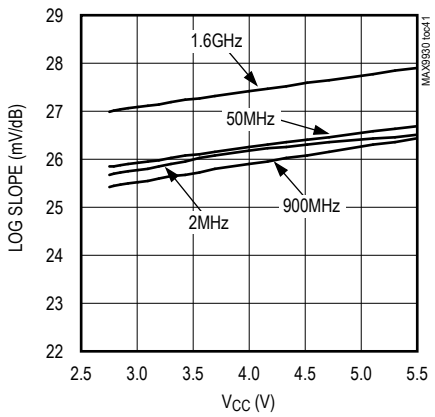
MAX9933B
OUTPUT AND LOG CONFORMANCE vs. INPUT POWER AT 1.6GHz



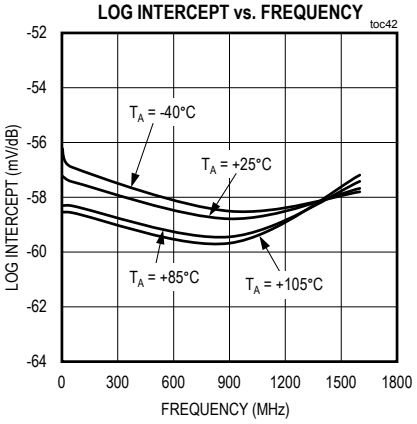
MAX9933B
LOG SLOPE vs. FREQUENCY



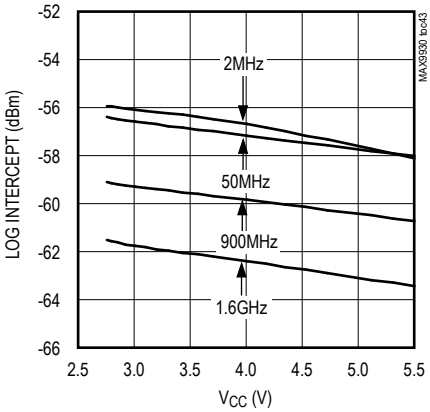
MAX9933
LOG SLOPE vs. VCC



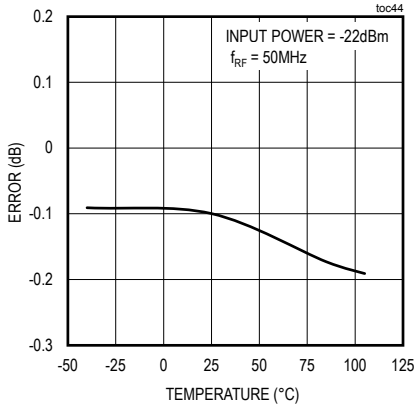
MAX9933B
LOG INTERCEPT vs. FREQUENCY



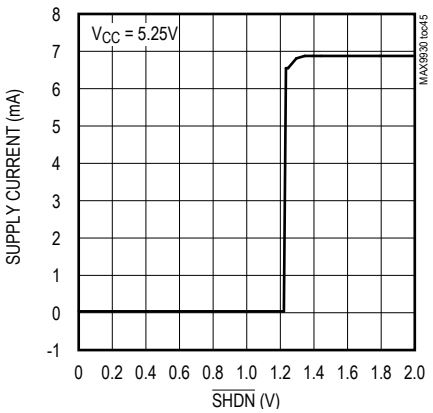
MAX9933
LOG INTERCEPT vs. VCC



MAX9933B
LOG CONFORMANCE vs. TEMPERATURE



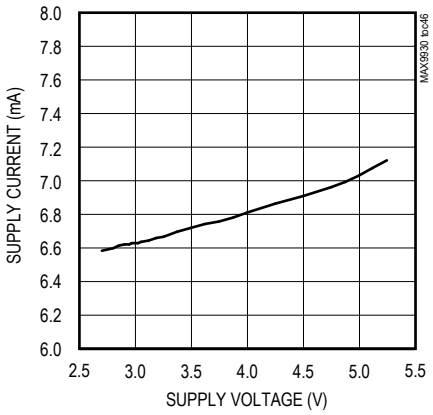
SUPPLY CURRENT vs. $\overline{SHDN}$ VOLTAGE



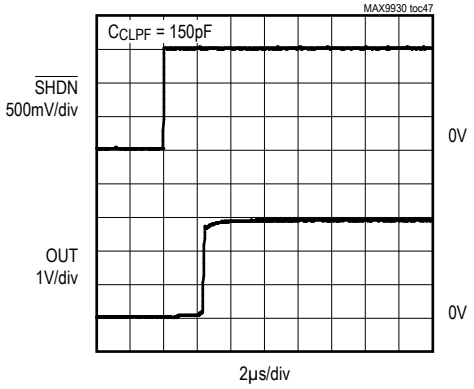
Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(V_{CC} = 3V, $\overline{SHDN}$ = V_{CC}, T_A = +25°C, all log conformance plots are normalized to their respective temperatures, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

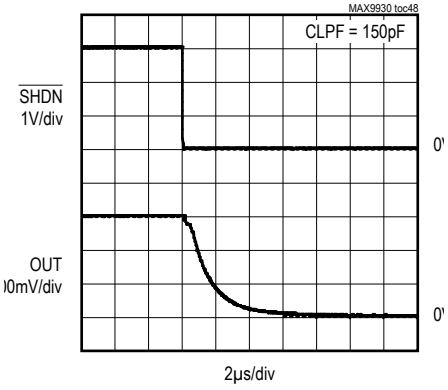
SUPPLY CURRENT vs. SUPPLY VOLTAGE



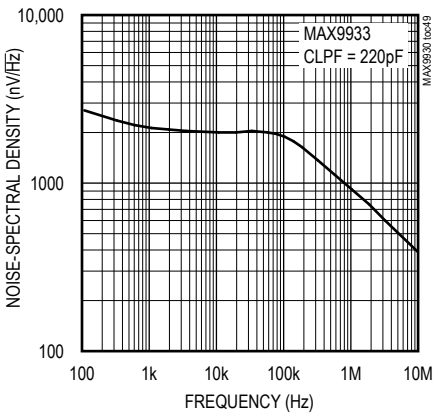
$\overline{SHDN}$ POWER-ON DELAY RESPONSE TIME



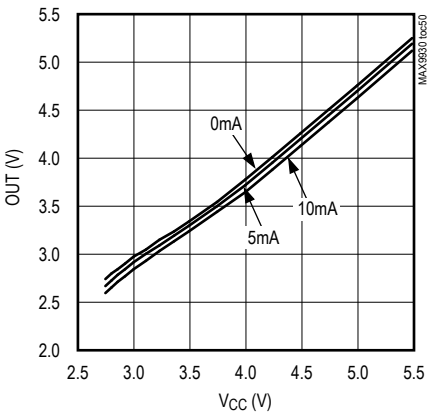
$\overline{SHDN}$ RESPONSE TIME



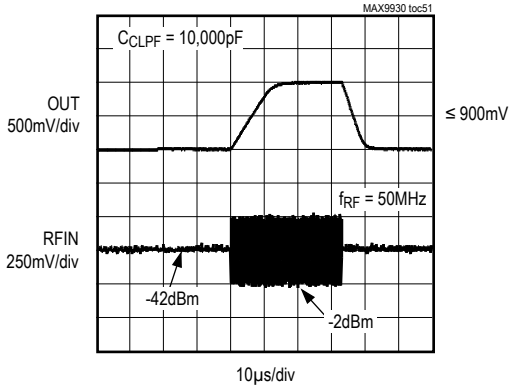
MAIN OUTPUT NOISE-SPECTRAL DENSITY



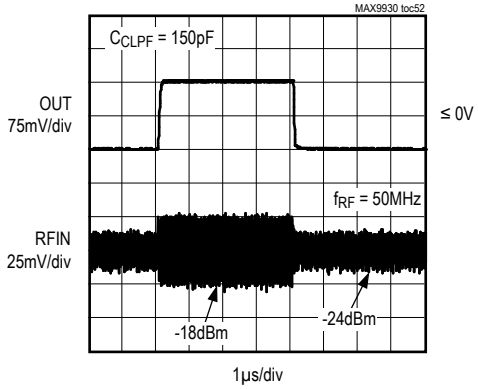
MAXIMUM OUT VOLTAGE vs. V_{CC} BY LOAD CURRENT



LARGE-SIGNAL PULSE RESPONSE



SMALL-SIGNAL PULSE RESPONSE



Pin Description

PIN		NAME	FUNCTION
MAX9930/ MAX9931/ MAX9932	MAX9933		
1	1	RFIN	RF Input
2	2	$\overline{SHDN}$	Shutdown. Connect to V_{CC} for normal operation.
3	—	SET	Set-Point Input
4	4	CLPF	Lowpass Filter Connection. Connect external capacitor between CLPF and GND to set control-loop bandwidth.
5	3, 5	GND	Ground
6	6	N.C.	No Connection. Not internally connected.
7	7	OUT	PA Gain-Control Output
8	8	V_{CC}	Supply Voltage. Bypass to GND with a 0.1µF capacitor.

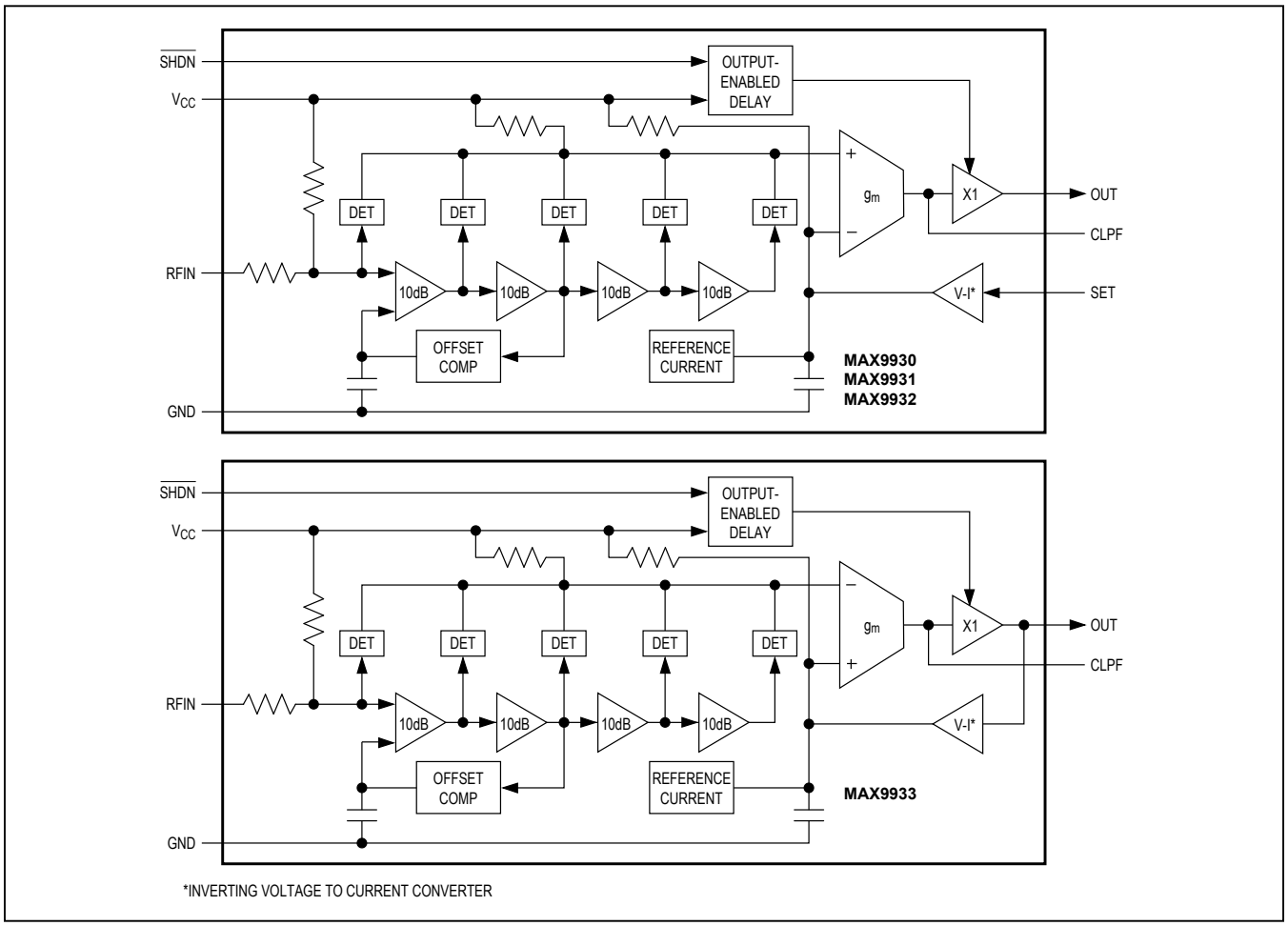


Figure 1. Functional Diagram

Detailed Description

The MAX9930–MAX9933 family of logarithmic amplifiers (log amps) comprises four main amplifier/limiter stages each with a small-signal gain of 10dB. The output stage of each amplifier is applied to a full-wave rectifier (detector). A detector stage also precedes the first gain stage. In total, five detectors, each separated by 10dB, comprise the log amp strip. Figure 1 shows the functional diagram of the log amps.

A portion of the PA output power is coupled to RFIN of the logarithmic amplifier controller/detector, and is applied to the logarithmic amplifier strip. Each detector cell outputs a rectified current and all cell currents are summed and form a logarithmic output. The detected output is applied to a high-gain g_m stage, which is buffered and then applied to OUT. For the MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932, OUT is applied to the gain-control input of the PA to close the control loop. The voltage applied to SET determines the output power of the PA in the control loop. The voltage applied to SET relates to an input power level determined by the log amp detector characteristics. For the MAX9933, OUT is applied to an ADC typically found in a baseband IC which, in turn, controls the PA biasing with the output (Figure 2).

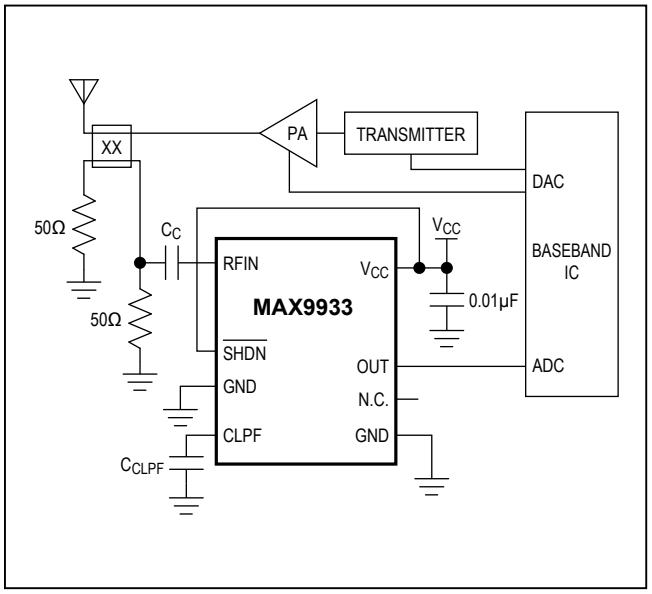


Figure 2. MAX9933 Typical Application Circuit

Extrapolating a straight-line fit of the graph of SET vs. RFIN provides the logarithmic intercept. Logarithmic slope, the amount SET changes for each dB change of RF input, is generally independent of waveform or termination impedance. The MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932 slope at low frequencies is about 25mV/dB.

Variance in temperature and supply voltage does not alter the slope significantly as shown in the *Typical Operating Characteristics*.

The MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932 are specifically designed for use in PA control applications. In a control loop, the output starts at approximately 2.9V (with supply voltage of 3V) for the minimum input signal and falls to a value close to ground at the maximum input. With a portion of the PA output power coupled to RFIN, apply a voltage to SET (for the MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932) and connect OUT to the gain-control pin of the PA to control its output power. An external capacitor from CLPF to ground sets the bandwidth of the PA control loop.

Transfer Function

Logarithmic slope and intercept determine the transfer function of the MAX9930–MAX9933 family of log amps. The change in SET voltage (OUT voltage for the MAX9933) per dB change in RF input defines the logarithmic slope. Therefore, a 10dB change in RF input results in a 250mV change at SET (OUT for the MAX9933). The Log Conformance vs. Input Power plots (see *Typical Operating Characteristics*) show the dynamic range of the log amp family. Dynamic range is the range for which the error remains within a band of ±1dB.

The intercept is defined as the point where the linear response, when extrapolated, intersects the y-axis of the Log Conformance vs. Input Power plot. Using these parameters, the input power can be calculated at any SET voltage level (OUT voltage level for the MAX9933) within the specified input range with the following equations:

RFIN = (SET / SLOPE) + IP
(MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932)

RFIN = (OUT / SLOPE) + IP
(MAX9933)

where SET is the set-point voltage, OUT is the output voltage for the MAX9933, SLOPE is the logarithmic slope (V/dB), RFIN is in either dBm or dBV and IP is the logarithmic intercept point utilizing the same units as RFIN.

Applications Information

Controller Mode (MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932)

Figure 3 provides a circuit example of the MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932 configured as a controller. The MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932 require a 2.7V to 5.25V supply voltage. Place a 0.1µF low-ESR, surface-mount ceramic capacitor close to V_{CC} to decouple the supply. Electrically isolate the RF input from other pins (especially SET) to maximize performance at high frequencies (especially at the high-power levels of the MAX9932). The MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932 require external AC-coupling. Achieve 50Ω input matching by connecting a 50Ω resistor between the AC-coupling capacitor of RFIN and ground.

The MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932 logarithmic amplifiers function as both the detector and controller in power-control loops. Use a directional coupler to couple a portion of the PA's output power to the log amp's RF input. For applications requiring dual-mode operation and where there are two PAs and two directional couplers, passively combine the outputs of the directional couplers before applying to the log amp. Apply a set-point voltage to SET from a controlling source (usually a DAC). OUT, which drives the automatic gain-control input of the PA, corrects any inequality between the RF input level and the corresponding set-point level. This is valid assuming the gain control of the variable gain element is positive, such that increasing OUT voltage increases gain. The OUT voltage can range from 150mV to within 250mV of the positive supply rail while sourcing 10mA. Use a suitable load resistor between OUT and GND for PA control inputs that source current. The *Typical Operating Characteristics* has the Maximum Out Voltage vs. V_{CC} By Load Current graph that shows the sourcing capabilities and output swing of OUT.

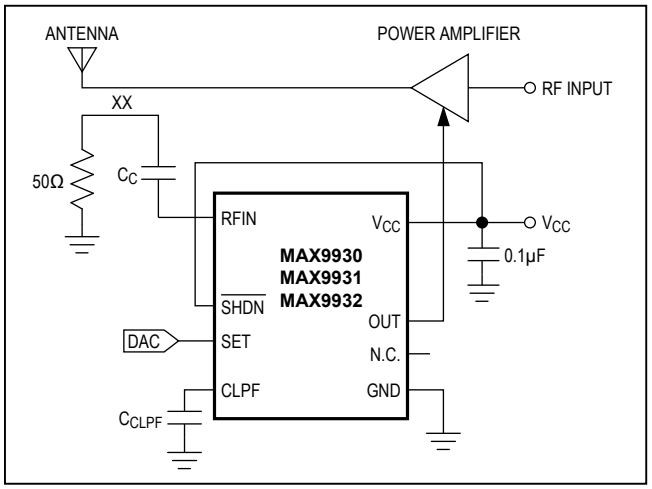


Figure 3. Control Mode Application Circuit Block

$\overline{SHDN}$ and Power-On

The MAX9930–MAX9933 can be placed in shutdown by pulling $\overline{SHDN}$ to ground. Shutdown reduces supply current to typically 13µA. A graph of $\overline{SHDN}$ Response Time is included in the *Typical Operating Characteristics*. Connect $\overline{SHDN}$ and V_{CC} together for continuous on operation.

Power Convention

Expressing power in dBm, decibels above 1mW, is the most common convention in RF systems. Log amp input levels specified in terms of power are a result of the following common convention. Note that input power does not refer to power, but rather to input voltage relative to a 50Ω impedance. Use of dBV, decibels with respect to a $1V_{RMS}$ sine wave, yields a less ambiguous result. The dBV convention has its own pit-falls in that log amp response is also dependent on waveform. A complex input, such as CDMA, does not have the exact same output response as the sinusoidal signal. The MAX9930–MAX9933 performance specifications are in both dBV and dBm, with equivalent dBm levels for a 50Ω environment. To convert dBV values into dBm in a 50Ω network, add 13dB. For CATV applications, to convert dBV values to dBm in a 75Ω network, add 11.25dB. Table 1 shows the different input power ranges in different conventions for the MAX9930–MAX9933.

Table 1. Power Ranges of the MAX9930–MAX9933

PART	INPUT POWER RANGE		
	dBV	dBm IN A 50Ω NETWORK	dBm IN A 75Ω NETWORK
MAX9930	-58 to -13	-45 to 0	-46.75 to -1.75
MAX9931	-48 to -3	-35 to +10	-36.75 to +8.25
MAX9932	-43 to +2	-30 to +15	-31.75 to +13.25
MAX9933	-58 to -13	-45 to 0	-46.75 to -1.75

Filter Capacitor and Transient Response

In general, for the MAX9930/MAX9931/MAX9932, the choice of filter capacitor only partially determines the time-domain response of a PA control loop. However, some simple conventions can be applied to affect transient response. A large filter capacitor, C_{CLPF}, dominates time-domain response, but the loop bandwidth remains a factor of the PA gain-control range. The bandwidth is maximized at power outputs near the center of the PA's range, and minimized at the low and high power levels, where the slope of the gain-control curve is lowest.

A smaller valued C_{CLPF} results in an increased loop bandwidth inversely proportional to the capacitor value. Inherent phase lag in the PA's control path, usually caused by parasitics at OUT, ultimately results in the addition of complex poles in the AC loop equation. To avoid this secondary effect, experimentally determine the lowest usable C_{CLPF} for the power amplifier of interest. This requires full consideration to the intricacies of the PA control function. The worst-case condition, where the PA output is smallest (gain function is steepest) should be used because the PA control function is typically nonlinear. An additional zero can be added to improve loop dynamics by placing a resistor in series with C_{CLPF}. See Figure 4 for the gain and phase response for different C_{CLPF} values.

Additional Input Coupling

There are three common methods for input coupling: broadband resistive, narrowband reactive, and series attenuation. A broadband resistive match is implemented by connecting a resistor to ground at the external AC-coupling capacitor at RFIN as shown in Figure 5. A 50Ω resistor (use other values for different input impedances) in this configuration, in parallel with the input impedance of the MAX9930–MAX9933, presents an input impedance of approximately 50Ω. These devices require an additional external coupling capacitor in series with the RF input. As the operating frequency increases over 2GHz, input impedance is reduced, resulting in the need for a larger-valued shunt resistor. Use a Smith Chart for calculating the ideal shunt resistor value. Refer to the MAX4000/MAX4001/MAX4002 data sheet for narrowband reactive and series attenuation input coupling.

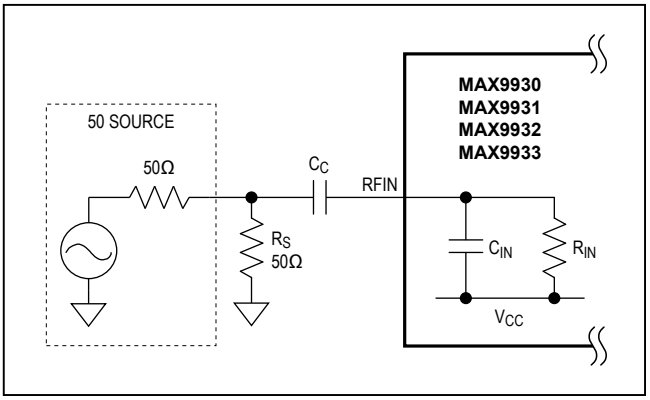


Figure 5. Broadband Resistive Matching

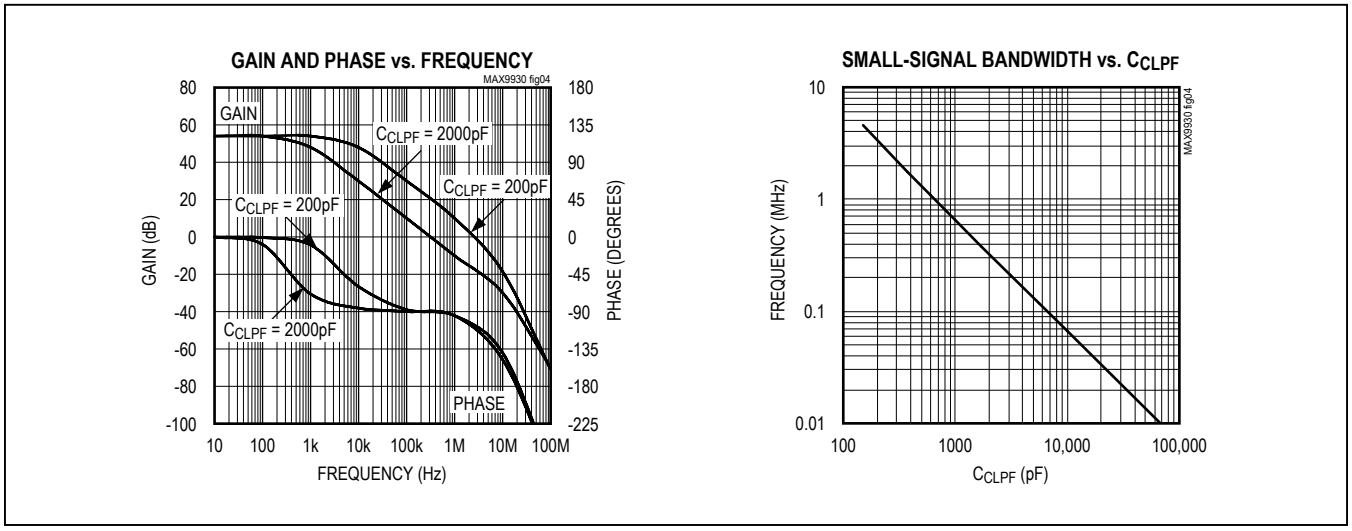


Figure 4. Gain and Phase vs. Frequency

Waveform Considerations

The MAX9930–MAX9933 family of logarithmic amplifiers respond to voltage, not power, even though input levels are specified in dBm. It is important to realize that input signals with identical RMS power but unique waveforms result in different log amp outputs. Differing signal waveforms result in either an upward or downward shift in the logarithmic intercept. However, the logarithmic slope remains the same; it is possible to compensate for known waveform shapes by baseband process.

It must also be noted that the output waveform is generated by first rectifying and then averaging the input signal. This method should not be confused with RMS or peak-detection methods.

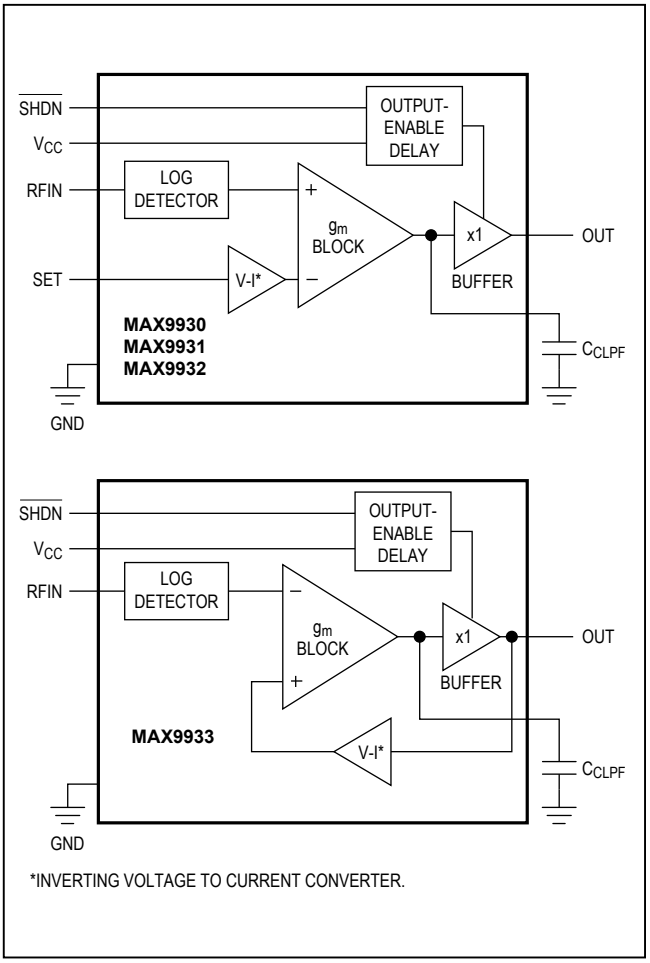
Layout Considerations

As with any RF circuit, the layout of the MAX9930–MAX9933 circuits affects performance. Use a short 50Ω line at the input with multiple ground vias along the length of the line. The input capacitor and resistor should both be placed as close as possible to the IC. V_{CC} should be bypassed as close as possible to the IC with multiple vias connecting the capacitor to the ground plane. It is recommended that good RF components be chosen for the desired operating frequency range. **Electrically isolate RF input from other pins (especially SET) to maximize performance at high frequencies (especially at the high power levels of the MAX9932).**

Chip Information

PROCESS: High-Frequency Bipolar

Block Diagram



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	OUTLINE NO.	LAND PATTERN NO.
8 µMAX	U8-1	21-0036	90-0092

Revision History

REVISION NUMBER	REVISION DATE	DESCRIPTION	PAGES CHANGED
0	8/07	Initial release	—
1	3/09	Added TOC46 to *Typical Operating Characteristics*	9
2	3/15	Added information for the MAX9933B. Revised *Typical Operating Characteristics.*	1–3, 7, 8, 15

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