The MRFIC Line 900 MHz TX-Mixer/Exciter

The MRFIC2101 is a transmit mixer and exciter designed primarily for United States and Japan Digital Cellular radio systems. The mixer is double-balanced for excellent LO and spurious rejection. An on-board LO buffer is provided to reduce LO power requirements and eliminate the need for an external LO balun. A power down control is provided to minimize current drain with minimum recovery/turn-on time. The design utilizes Motorola's advanced MOSAIC 3 silicon bipolar RF process to yield superior performance in a cost effective monolithic device.

- High Linearity $IP_{0}^{3} = 23 \text{ dBm} (Typ)$
- Low LO Drive Required = -15 dBm (Typ)
- Externally Adjustable Exciter Bias Current
- Power Down Supply Current = 2.0 μA (Typ)
- SO-16 Narrow Body Plastic Package
- Available in Tape and Reel by Adding R2 Suffix to Part Number. R2 suffix = 2,500 Units per 16 mm, 13 inch Reel.
- Device Marking = M2101

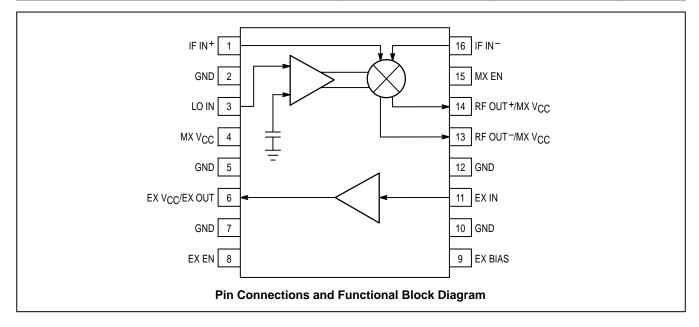
MRFIC2101

900 MHz TX-MIXER/EXCITER SILICON MONOLITHIC INTEGRATED CIRCUIT



ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS (T_A = 25°C unless otherwise noted)

Ratings	Symbol	Value	Unit
Supply Voltage	EX V _{CC} , MX V _{CC} , EX BIAS	5	Vdc
Enable Voltages	MX EN, EX EN	6	Vdc
Input Power, LO and IF Ports	PLO, PIF	+10	dBm
Operating Ambient Temperature	T _A	– 35 to + 85	°C
Storage Temperature	T _{stg}	– 65 to +150	°C
RF Output Power (EX V _{CC} < 4 V)	Pout	18	dBm
RF Output Power (4 V< EX V _{CC} \leq 5 V)	Pout	38 – 5 EX V _{CC}	dBm





RECOMMENDED OPERATING CONDITIONS

Parameter	Symbol	Value	Unit
Supply Voltages	EX V _{CC} , MX V _{CC} , EX BIAS	4.75	Vdc
Enable Voltages	MX EN, EX EN	0, 4.75	Vdc
RF Port Frequency Range	RF	800 to 1000	MHz
IF Port Frequency Range	IF	0 to 250	MHz

LOGIC LEVELS (T_A = 25° C)

Input Voltage (MX EN, EX EN)	Min	Max	Unit
High	MX V _{CC} –0.8, EX V _{CC} –0.8	—	Volts
Low	_	0.8	Volts

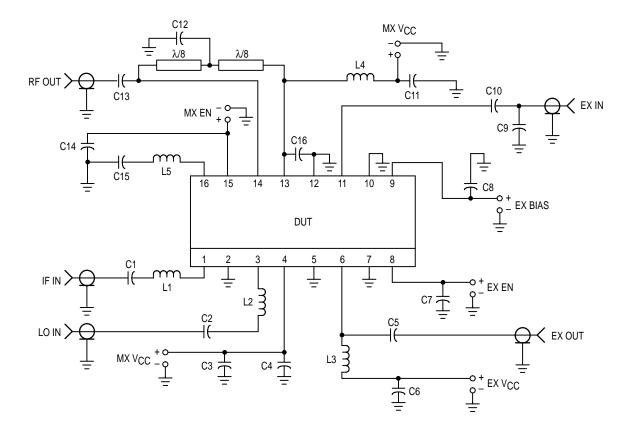
 $P_{LO} = -15$ dBm unless otherwise noted)

Characteristic (1)	Min	Тур	Max	Unit
Conversion Gain (Small Signal)	24	26.5	29	dB
Output Power at 1 dB Gain Compression	2.5	4.5	—	dBm
Output Third Order Intercept Point (- 5 dBm out/tone)	—	14	—	dBm
Output Fifth Order Intercept Point (- 5 dBm out/tone)	—	11	—	dBm
LO Leakage	—	- 30	—	dBm
Supply Current (Enabled)	—	45	54	mA
Supply Current (Disabled)	—	1	—	μΑ
Noise Figure (Single Sideband)	—	5	_	dB

EXCITER ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (EX V_{CC}, EX EN, EX BIAS = 4.75 V, T_A = 25°C, RF @ 900 MHz unless otherwise noted)

Characteristic (1)	Min	Тур	Max	Unit
Gain (Small Signal)	14	16	18	dB
Output Power at 1 dB Gain Compression	16	18	—	dBm
Output Third Order Intercept Point (+ 3 dBm out/tone)	—	30	_	dBm
Output Fifth Order Intercept Point (+ 3 dBm out/tone)	—	22	—	dBm
LO Leakage ($P_{LO} = -15 \text{ dBm into Mixer}$)	—	- 30	—	dBm
Supply Current (Enabled)	—	38	46	mA
Supply Current (Disabled)	—	1	—	μΑ
Noise Figure	—	5	_	dB

(1) All electrical characteristics are measured in test circuit schematic as shown in Figure 1.



C1, C2, C3,	1000 pF, Chip Capacitor	L1, L5	82 nH, Chip Inductor
C4	100 pF, Chip Capacitor	L2	15 nH, Chip Inductor
C5, C6, C7	1000 pF, Chip Capacitor	L3	8.2 nH, Chip Inductor
C8, C10, C11 C9, C12 C13, C16 C14, C15	1000 pF, Chip Capacitor 5.6 pF, Chip Capacitor 2.7 pF, Chip Capacitor 1000 pF, Chip Capacitor	L4 RF Connectors Board Material	12 nH, Chip Inductor SMA Type 0.031'' Thick FR4, 0.5 oz. Copper, $\varepsilon_r = 4.45$, Coplanar Waveguide

Figure 1. Test Circuit Configuration

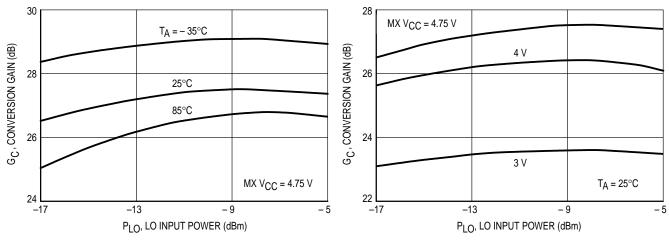
	ΓIF		ΓIF ^Γ RF			_0
f (MHz)	Мад	∠¢ Degrees	Mag	∠ φ Degrees	Mag	∠φ Degrees
50	0.68	- 9.4	—	—	—	—
100	0.68	- 18	—	—	—	—
150	0.67	- 26	—	_	—	—
200	0.66	- 33	—	_	—	—
250	0.65	- 40	—	—	—	—
500	—	—	0.93	- 28	0.79	- 30
600	—	—	0.92	- 33	0.79	- 32
700	_	—	0.91	- 37	0.79	- 33
800	-	—	0.89	- 41	0.77	- 34
900	—	_	0.87	- 45	0.75	- 34
1000	—	—	0.85	- 48	0.73	- 35
1100	—	—	0.82	- 50	0.69	- 36
1200	—	_	0.79	- 53	0.65	- 37
1300	—	_	0.75	- 56	0.61	- 41
1400	—	_	0.71	- 61	0.56	- 47
1500	—	—	0.66	- 66	0.52	- 55

Table 1. Mixer Deembedded Port Reflection Coefficients (Z_O = 50 Ω , T_A = 25°C)

Table 2. Exciter Small Signal Deembedded S Parameters (Z_O = 50 $\Omega,$ T_A = 25°C)

f	\$ ₁₁		\$ ₂₁		S ₁₂		\$ ₂₂	
(MHz)	S ₁₁	∠¢	S ₂₁	∠¢	S ₁₂	∠¢	S ₂₂	∠¢
100	0.51	-121	35.51	131	0.02	50	0.65	-67
200	0.62	-149	22.61	109	0.03	42	0.49	-103
300	0.65	-162	16.05	96	0.03	41	0.43	-122
400	0.65	-170	12.16	87	0.04	41	0.40	-134
500	0.63	-177	9.75	81	0.04	42	0.38	-141
600	0.61	176	8.18	75	0.05	41	0.37	-146
700	0.59	169	7.06	70	0.05	40	0.36	-149
800	0.58	161	6.18	65	0.06	38	0.35	-153
900	0.58	154	5.44	60	0.07	33	0.35	-156
1000	0.59	145	4.91	55	0.07	30	0.35	-163
1100	0.61	139	4.39	51	0.08	27	0.35	-170
1200	0.65	134	3.94	47	0.08	22	0.35	-177
1300	0.67	131	3.56	43	0.08	20	0.37	174
1400	0.69	129	3.22	39	0.09	16	0.40	166
1500	0.71	127	2.92	36	0.09	13	0.43	160

TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS







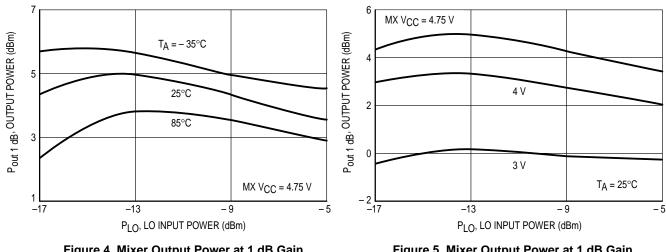
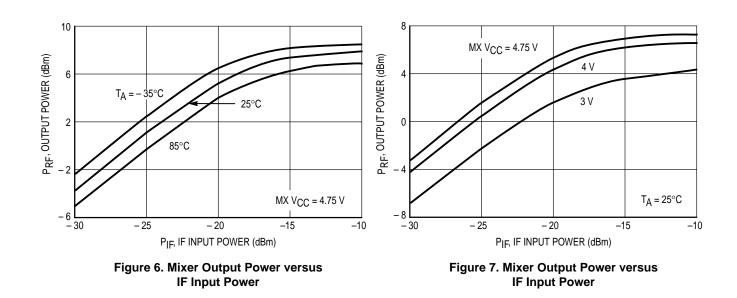
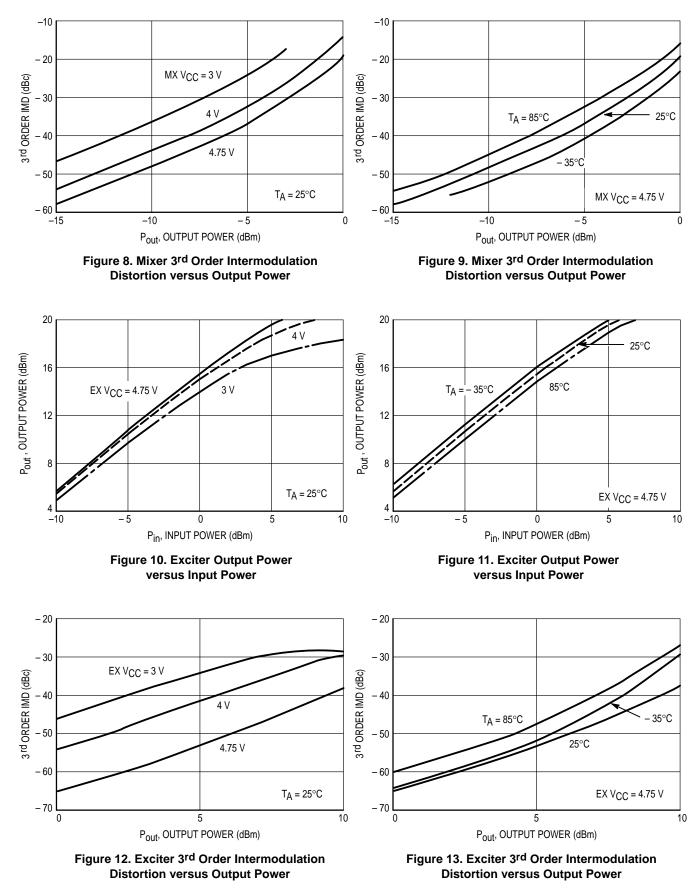


Figure 4. Mixer Output Power at 1 dB Gain Compression versus LO Input Power

Figure 5. Mixer Output Power at 1 dB Gain Compression versus LO Input Power



TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS



TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS

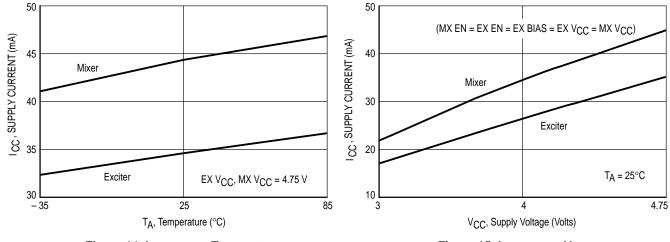


Figure 14. ICC versus Temperature

Figure 15. ICC versus VCC

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

DESIGN PHILOSOPHY

The MRFIC2101 was designed as a linear upconverter for U.S. and Japan digital cellular radios. However, it is versatile enough to be used in other applications such as analog cellular, GSM, and the 900 MHz ISM band.

The mixer is double-balanced to minimize spurious and LO emission. An external balun is required on the mixer RF output to maximize linearity and maintain good balance. An inexpensive and easy to implement balun is described below in the theory of operation. The IF and LO ports do not require baluns. The LO split is achieved on-chip with a buffer amplifier which also reduces the LO power requirement. The IF port can be driven differentially or single-ended with a decoupling capacitor on the unused IF input.

To maximize efficiency in various systems, the exciter bias current is externally adjustable. The bias current can also be ramped to reduce spectral splatter.

To minimize current drain in TDD/TDMA systems, the MRFIC2101 has separate TTL/CMOS compatible enable pins for the mixer and the exciter.

THEORY OF OPERATION

Matching the LO port to 50 ohms can be done several ways. The recommended approach is a series inductor as close to the IC as possible. The inductor value is small enough (\sim 8 – 15 nH depending on LO frequency and distance from the IC) to be printed on the board. A DC block is required and should not be placed between the inductor and IC since the added electrical length will cause a poor match.

The IF ports are approximately 250 ohms resistive in parallel with 5.0 pF of capacitance. Matching directly into this impedance is not recommended. Series 82 nH chip inductors should first be placed as close to both IF ports as possible. This presents a high impedance to the IF ports at the LO frequency which substantially reduces the LO leakage out of the RF port. The resulting impedance then may be matched to the desired characteristic impedance. DC blocking capacitors are also required.

Both RF ports are approximately 25 ohms resistive in series with 1.5 pF of capacitance (or the parallel equivalent,

380 ohms in parallel with 1.9 pF). Best linearity is achieved by loading each port with 100 ohms resistive and resonating the 1.9 pF. Ideally, a half wavelength transmission line could be used to combine the two differential RF ports into one; however, the size of such a line would be very large. Any number of balun type network can be employed so long as the network presents 100 ohms to each port, resonates 1.9 pF capacitance at each port, and exhibits 180 degree phase difference between the two ports. The network shown in Figure 1 combines very well without a lot of added board space or complexity. Essentially, a quarter wavelength of transmission line (~1.5 inches of 50 ohms stripline in FR4) is used with additional phase shift coming from capacitors C12, C13 and C16. This network will operate anywhere from 800–1000 MHz by adjusting bias inductor L4 and C16 only.

The exciter input requires external matching and a DC block. It is best matched to 50 ohms using a short 50 ohms transmission line followed by a 5–10 pF shunt capacitor. The exciter output is approximately 50 ohms resistive in parallel with 4 pF of capacitance in the 800–1000 MHz range. It is best matched to 50 ohms using a 6–10 nH bias inductor placed as close to the IC as possible. The exciter is conditionally stable. Placing a 100-300 ohm resistor in parallel with the bias inductor, when driving large VSWR loads, may be needed to keep the exciter stable.

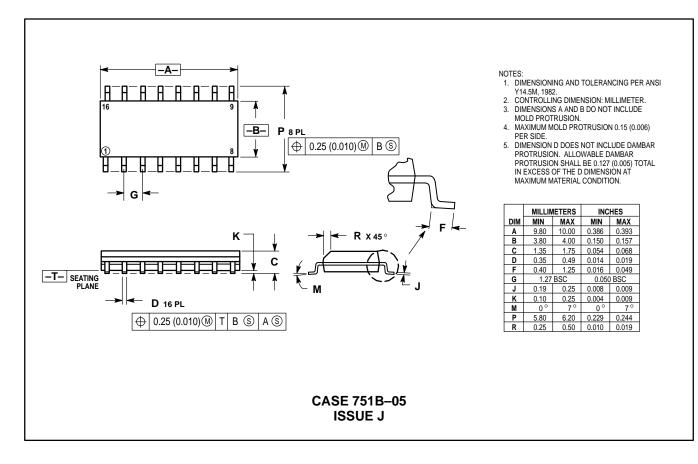
Supply decoupling must be done as close to the IC as possible. A 1000 pF capacitor is recommended. An additional 100 pF capacitor and an RF choke are recommended to keep the LO signal off the supply line.

Enabling/Disabling the MRFIC2101 can be done with the separate TTL/CMOS compatible enable pins for the mixer and exciter. The trip point is between 1 and 2 volts.

EVALUATION BOARDS

Evaluation boards are available for RF Monolithic Integrated Circuits by adding a "TF" suffix to the device type. For a complete list of currently available boards and ones in development for newly introduced poduct, please contact your local Motorola Distributor or Sales Office.

PACKAGE DIMENSIONS



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