



# 0.1GHz to 2.5GHz, 75dB Logarithmic Detector/Controller

MAX2015

## General Description

The MAX2015 complete multistage logarithmic amplifier is designed to accurately convert radio-frequency (RF) signal power in the 0.1GHz to 2.5GHz frequency range to an equivalent DC voltage. The outstanding dynamic range and precision over temperature of this log amplifier make it particularly useful for a variety of base station and other wireless applications, including automatic gain control (AGC), transmitter power measurements, and received signal strength indication (RSSI) for terminal devices.

The MAX2015 can also be operated in a controller mode where it measures, compares, and controls the output power of a variable-gain amplifier as part of a fully integrated AGC loop.

This logarithmic amplifier provides much wider measurement range and superior accuracy compared to controllers based on diode detectors, while achieving excellent temperature stability over the full -40°C to +85°C operating range.

## Applications

- AGC Measurement and Control
- RF Transmitter Power Measurement
- RSSI Measurements
- Cellular Base Station, WLAN, Microwave Link, Radar, and other Military Applications

## Features

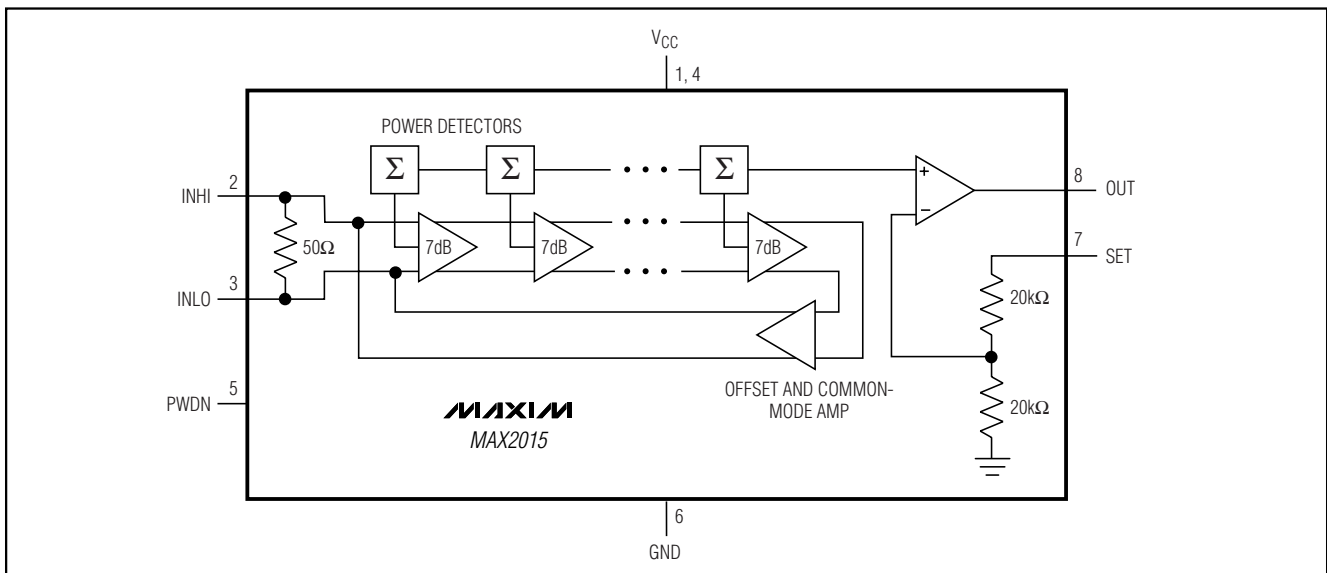
- ◆ Complete RF Detector/Controller
- ◆ 0.1GHz to 2.5GHz Frequency Range
- ◆ Exceptional Accuracy Over Temperature
- ◆ High Dynamic Range
- ◆ 2.7V to 5.25V Supply Voltage Range\*
- ◆ Scaling Stable Over Supply and Temperature Variations
- ◆ Controller Mode with Error Output
- ◆ Shutdown Mode with Typically 1µA of Supply Current
- ◆ Available in 8-Pin µMAX Package

\*See Power-Supply Connections section.

## Ordering Information

PART	TEMP RANGE	PIN-PACKAGE
MAX2015EUA-T	-40°C to +85°C	8 µMAX

## Functional Diagram



Pin Configuration appears at end of data sheet.



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## ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

V<sub>CC</sub> (Pins, 1, 4) to GND .....-0.3V to +5.25V  
 SET, PWDN to GND.....-0.3V to (V<sub>CC</sub> + 0.3V)  
 Input Power Differential INHI, INLO.....+23dBm  
 Input Power Single Ended (INHI or INLO grounded).....+19dBm  
 Continuous Power Dissipation (T<sub>A</sub> = +70°C)  
 8-Pin  $\mu$ MAX (derate 4.5mW/°C above +70°C) .....362mW

Operating Temperature Range .....-40°C to +85°C  
 Junction Temperature .....+150°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

(MAX2015 Typical Application Circuit (Figure 1), V<sub>S</sub> = +3.3V, f<sub>RF</sub> = 100MHz to 2500MHz, R<sub>1</sub> = 0 $\Omega$ , R<sub>4</sub> = 0 $\Omega$ , R<sub>L</sub> = 10k $\Omega$ , T<sub>A</sub> = -40°C to +85°C, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T<sub>A</sub> = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
<b>POWER SUPPLY</b>						
Supply Voltage	V <sub>S</sub>	R <sub>4</sub> = 75 $\Omega$ $\pm$ 1%, PWDN must be connected to GND	4.75		5.25	V
		R <sub>4</sub> = 0 $\Omega$	2.7		3.6	
Supply Current	I <sub>CC</sub>	T <sub>A</sub> = +25°C, V <sub>S</sub> = 5.25V, R <sub>4</sub> = 75 $\Omega$		17.3		mA
		T <sub>A</sub> = +25°C		17.3	20.5	
Supply Current Variation with Temp	I <sub>CC</sub>	T <sub>A</sub> = -40°C to +85°C		0.05		mA/°C
Shutdown Current	I <sub>CC</sub>	V <sub>PWDN</sub> = V <sub>CC</sub>		1		$\mu$ A
<b>CONTROLLER REFERENCE (SET)</b>						
SET Input Voltage Range				0.5 to 1.8		V
SET Input Impedance				40		k $\Omega$
<b>DETECTOR OUTPUT (OUT)</b>						
Source Current				4		mA
Sink Current				450		$\mu$ A
Minimum Output Voltage	V <sub>OUT(MIN)</sub>			0.5		V
Maximum Output Voltage	V <sub>OUT(MAX)</sub>			1.8		V

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## AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(MAX2015 Typical Application Circuit (Figure 1),  $V_S = +3.3V$ ,  $f_{RF} = 100MHz$  to  $2500MHz$ ,  $R_1 = 0\Omega$ ,  $R_4 = 0\Omega$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$ ,  $T_A = -40^\circ C$  to  $+85^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
RF Input Frequency Range	$f_{RF}$			0.1 to 2.5		GHz
Return Loss	$S_{11}$			-15		dB
Large-Signal Response Time		$P_{IN} =$ no signal to $0dBm$ , $\pm 0.5dB$ settling accuracy		150		ns
<b>RSSI MODE—0.1GHz</b>						
RF Input Power Range		(Note 2)		-65 to +5		dBm
$\pm 3dB$ Dynamic Range		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$ (Note 3)		70		dB
Range Center				-30		dBm
Temp Sensitivity when $T_A > +25^\circ C$		$T_A = +25^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$ , $P_{IN} = -25dBm$		+0.0083		dB/ $^\circ C$
Temp Sensitivity when $T_A < +25^\circ C$		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+25^\circ C$ , $P_{IN} = -25dBm$		-0.0154		dB/ $^\circ C$
Slope		(Note 4)		19		mV/dB
Typical Slope Variation		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$		-4		$\mu V/^\circ C$
Intercept		(Note 5)		-100		dBm
Typical Intercept Variation		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$		0.03		dBm/ $^\circ C$
<b>RSSI MODE—0.9GHz</b>						
RF Input Power Range		(Note 2)		-65 to +5		dBm
$\pm 3dB$ Dynamic Range		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$ (Note 3)		70		dB
Range Center				-30		dBm
Temp Sensitivity when $T_A > +25^\circ C$		$T_A = +25^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$ , $P_{IN} = -25dBm$		$\pm 0.0083$		dB/ $^\circ C$
Temp Sensitivity when $T_A < +25^\circ C$		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+25^\circ C$ , $P_{IN} = -25dBm$		-0.0154		dB/ $^\circ C$
Slope		(Note 4)		18.1		mV/dB
Typical Slope Variation		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$		-4		$\mu V/^\circ C$
Intercept		(Note 5)		-97		dBm
Typical Intercept Variation		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$		0.02		dBm/ $^\circ C$
<b>RSSI MODE—1.9GHz</b>						
RF Input Power Range		(Note 2)		-55 to +5		dBm
$\pm 3dB$ Dynamic Range		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$ (Note 3)		60		dB
Range Center				-25		dBm
Temp Sensitivity when $T_A > +25^\circ C$		$T_A = +25^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$ , $P_{IN} = -25dBm$		$\pm 0.0033$		dB/ $^\circ C$
Temp Sensitivity when $T_A < +25^\circ C$		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+25^\circ C$ , $P_{IN} = -25dBm$		-0.0138		dB/ $^\circ C$
Slope		(Note 4)		18		mV/dB
Typical Slope Variation		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$		-4.8		$\mu V/^\circ C$

# 0.1GHz to 2.5GHz, 75dB Logarithmic Detector/Controller

## AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

(MAX2015 Typical Application Circuit (Figure 1),  $V_S = +3.3V$ ,  $f_{RF} = 100MHz$  to  $2500MHz$ ,  $R_1 = 0\Omega$ ,  $R_4 = 0\Omega$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$ ,  $T_A = -40^\circ C$  to  $+85^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.) (Note 1)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Intercept		(Note 5)		-83		dBm
Typical Intercept Variation		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$		0.03		dBm/ $^\circ C$
<b>RSSI MODE—2.5GHz</b>						
RF Input Power Range		(Note 2)		-45 to -5		dBm
$\pm 3dB$ Dynamic Range		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$ (Note 3)		40		dB
Range Center				-25		dBm
Temp Sensitivity when $T_A > +25^\circ C$		$T_A = +25^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$ , $P_{IN} = -25dBm$		-0.0083		dB/ $^\circ C$
Temp Sensitivity when $T_A < +25^\circ C$		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+25^\circ C$ , $P_{IN} = -25dBm$		-0.0083		dB/ $^\circ C$
Slope		(Note 4)		16.8		mV/dB
Typical Slope Variation		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$		-8		$\mu V/^\circ C$
Intercept		(Note 5)		-81		dBm
Typical Intercept Variation		$T_A = -40^\circ C$ to $+85^\circ C$		0.03		dBm/ $^\circ C$

**Note 1:** The MAX2015 is 100% production tested at  $T_A = +25^\circ C$  and is guaranteed by design for  $T_A = -40^\circ C$  to  $+85^\circ C$ , as specified.

**Note 2:** Typical minimum and maximum range of the detector at the stated frequency.

**Note 3:** Dynamic range refers to the range over which the error remains within the stated bounds. The error is calculated at  $-40^\circ C$  and  $+85^\circ C$ , relative to the curve at  $+25^\circ C$ .

**Note 4:** The slope is the variation of the output voltage per change in input power. It is calculated by fitting a root-mean-square (RMS) straight line to the data indicated by RF input power range.

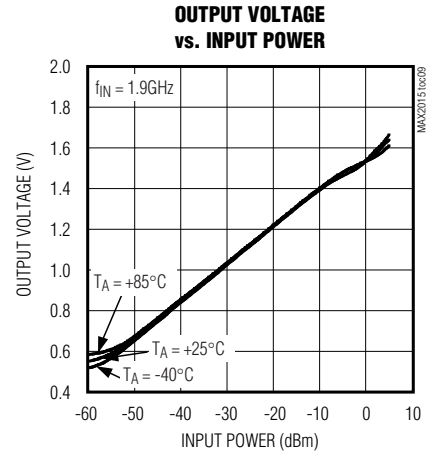
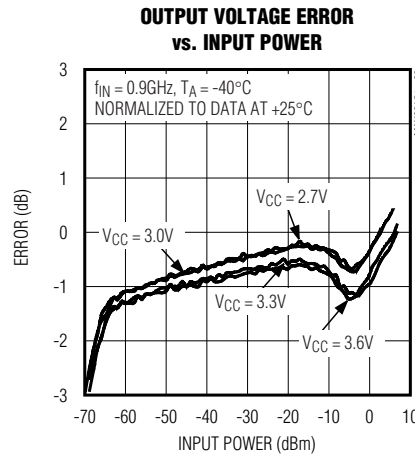
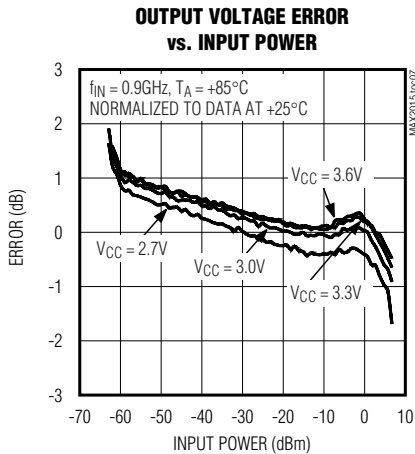
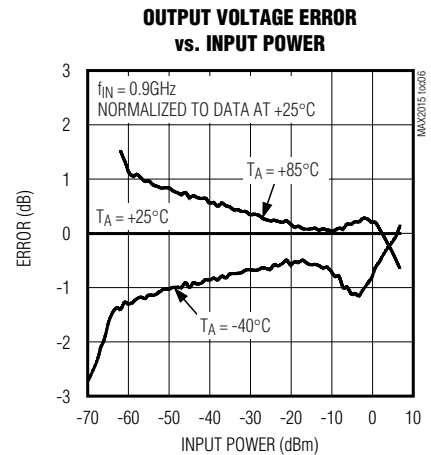
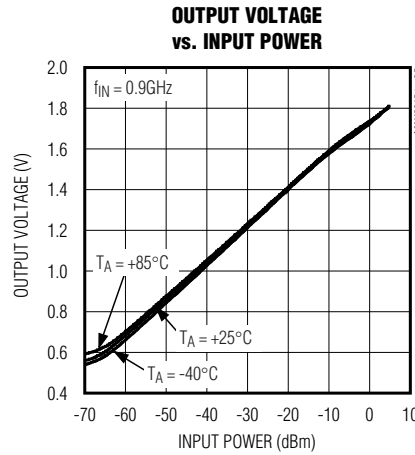
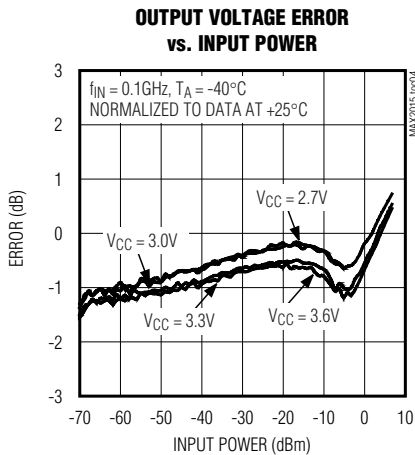
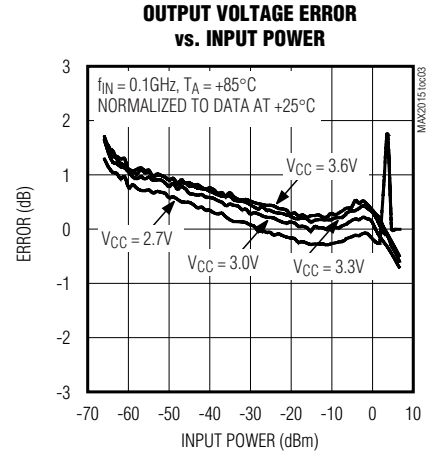
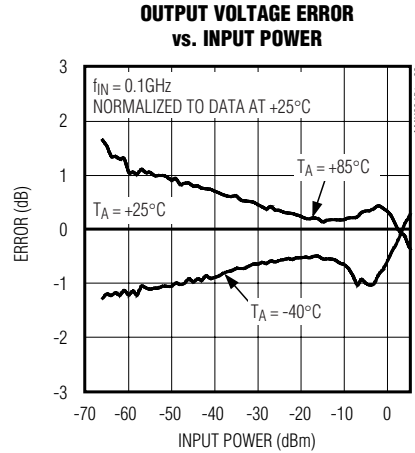
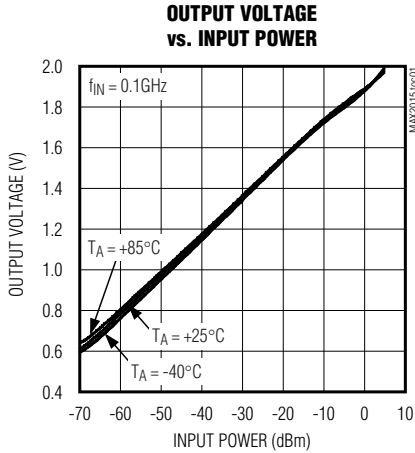
**Note 5:** The intercept is an extrapolated value that corresponds to the output power for which the output voltage is zero. It is calculated by fitting an RMS straight line to the data.

# 0.1GHz to 2.5GHz, 75dB Logarithmic Detector/Controller

## Typical Operating Characteristics

(MAX2015 Typical Application Circuit (Figure 1),  $V_S = V_{CC} = 3.3V$ ,  $P_{IN} = -10dBm$ ,  $f_{IN} = 100MHz$ ,  $R_1 = 0\Omega$ ,  $R_4 = 0\Omega$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$ ,  $V_{PNDN} = 0V$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)

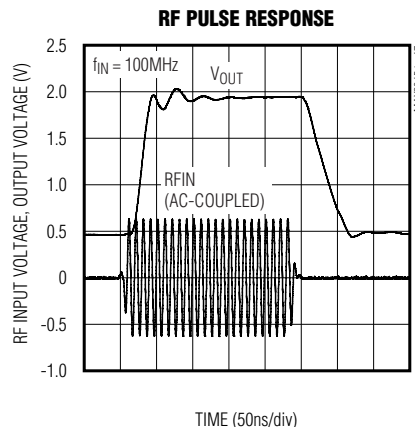
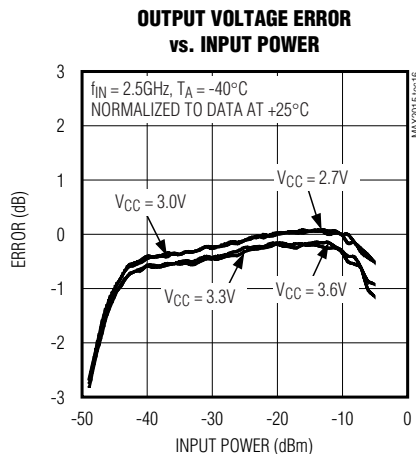
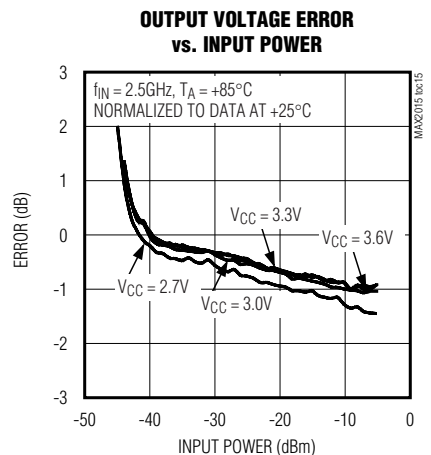
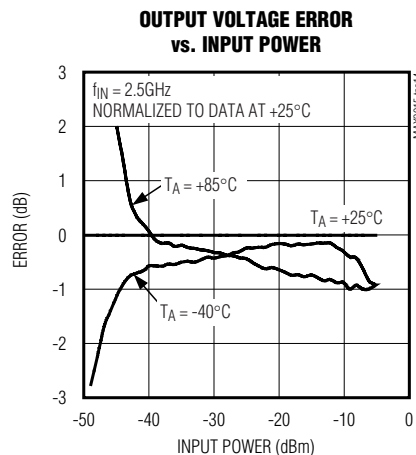
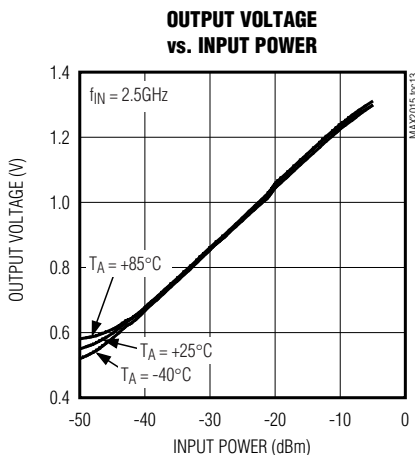
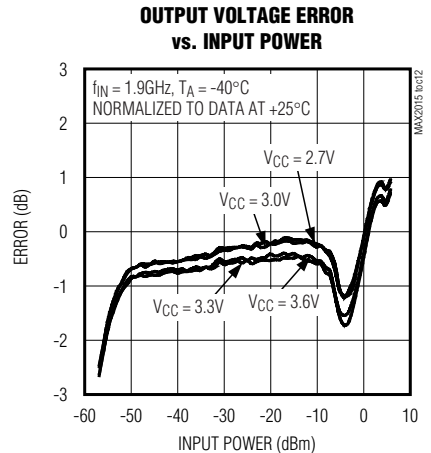
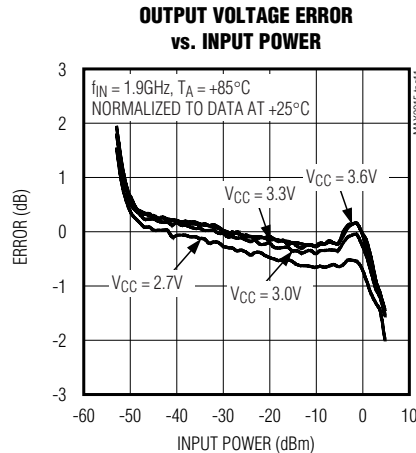
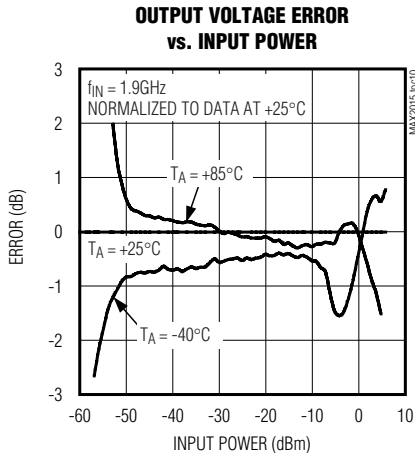
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# 0.1GHz to 2.5GHz, 75dB Logarithmic Detector/Controller

## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(MAX2015 Typical Application Circuit (Figure 1),  $V_S = V_{CC} = 3.3V$ ,  $P_{IN} = -10dBm$ ,  $f_{IN} = 100MHz$ ,  $R_1 = 0\Omega$ ,  $R_4 = 0\Omega$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$ ,  $V_{PWRDN} = 0V$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)

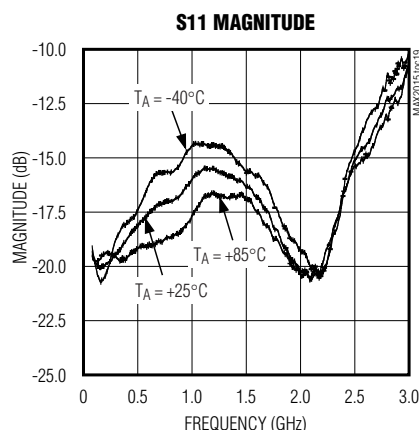
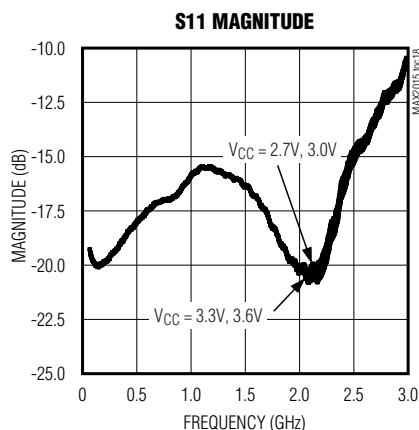


# 0.1GHz to 2.5GHz, 75dB Logarithmic Detector/Controller

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## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

(MAX2015 Typical Application Circuit (Figure 1),  $V_S = V_{CC} = 3.3V$ ,  $P_{IN} = -10dBm$ ,  $f_{IN} = 100MHz$ ,  $R_1 = 0\Omega$ ,  $R_4 = 0\Omega$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$ ,  $V_{PWDN} = 0V$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)



## Pin Description

PIN	NAME	DESCRIPTION
1, 4	$V_{CC}$	Supply Voltage. Bypass with capacitors as specified in the application drawing. Place capacitors as close to the pin as possible (see <i>Power-Supply Connections</i> section).
2, 3	INH1, INLO	Differential RF Inputs
5	PWDN	Power-Down Input. Drive PWDN with a logic high to power down the IC. PWDN must be connected to GND for $V_S$ between 4.75V and 5.25V with $R_4 = 75\Omega$
6	GND	Ground. Connect to the printed circuit (PC) board ground plane.
7	SET	Set-Point Input. To operate in detector mode, connect SET to OUT. To operate in controller mode, connect a precision voltage source to control the power level of a power amplifier.
8	OUT	Detector Output. In detector mode, this output provides a voltage proportional to the log of the input power. In controller mode, this output is connected to a power-control input on a power amplifier (PA).

# 0.1GHz to 2.5GHz, 75dB Logarithmic Detector/Controller

## Detailed Description

The MAX2015 is a successive detection logarithmic amplifier designed for use in RF power measurement and AGC applications with a 0.1GHz to 2.5GHz frequency range from a single 2.7V to 3.6V power supply. It is pin compatible with other leading logarithmic amplifiers.

The MAX2015 provides for improved performance with a high 75dB dynamic range at 100MHz, and exceptional accuracy over the extended temperature range and supply voltage range.

### RF Input

The MAX2015 differential RF input (INHI, INLO) allows for broadband signals between 100MHz and 2.5GHz. For single-ended signals, AC-couple INLO to ground. The RF inputs are internally biased and need to be AC-coupled using 680pF capacitors as shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2. An internal 50 $\Omega$  resistor between INHI and INLO provides a good 50MHz to 3.0GHz match.

### SET Input

The SET input is used for loop control when in controller mode or to set the slope of the output signal (mV/dB) when in detector mode. The internal input structure of SET is two series 20k $\Omega$  resistors connected to ground. The center node of the resistors is fed to the negative input of the internal output op amp.

### Power-Supply Connections

The MAX2015 requires power-supply bypass capacitors connected close to each VCC pin. At each VCC pin, connect a 0.1 $\mu$ F capacitor (C4, C6) and a 100pF capacitor (C3, C5) with the 100pF capacitor being closest to the pin.

For power-supply voltages ( $V_S$ ) between 2.7V and 3.6V, set  $R_4 = 0\Omega$  (see *Typical Applications Circuits*).

For power-supply voltages ( $V_S$ ) between 4.75V and 5.25V, set  $R_4 = 75\Omega \pm 1\%$  (100ppm/ $^{\circ}$ C max) and PWDN must be connected to GND.

### Power-Down Mode

The MAX2015 can be powered down by driving PWDN with logic high (logic high = VCC). In power-down mode, the supply current is reduced to a typical value of 1 $\mu$ A. For normal operation, drive PWDN with a logic low. It is recommended when using power-down that an RF signal not be applied before the power-down signal is low.

## Applications Information

### Detector (RSSI) Mode

In detector mode, the MAX2015 acts like an RSSI, which provides an output voltage proportional to the input power. This is accomplished by providing a feedback path from OUT to SET ( $R_1 = 0\Omega$ ; see Figure 1).

By connecting SET directly to OUT, the op amp gain is set to 2V/V due to two internal 20k $\Omega$  feedback resistors. This provides a detector slope of approximately 18mV/dB with a 0.5V to 1.8V output range.

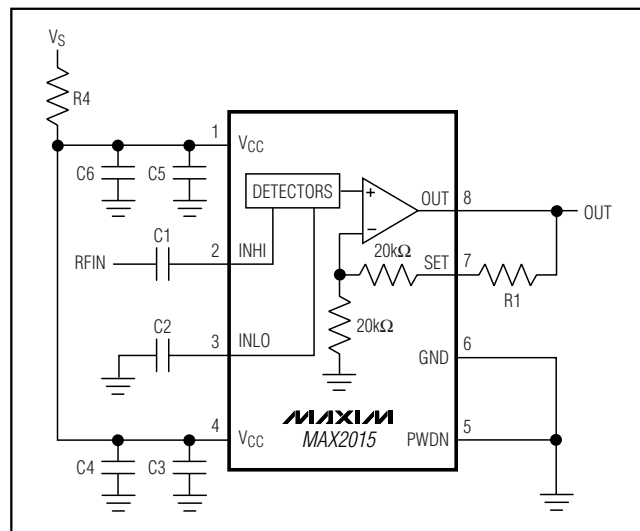


Figure 1. Detector-Mode (RSSI) Typical Application Circuit

Table 1. Suggested Components of Typical Applications Circuits

DESIGNATION	VALUE	TYPE
C1, C2	680pF	0603 ceramic capacitors
C3, C5	100pF	0603 ceramic capacitors
C4, C6	0.1 $\mu$ F	0603 ceramic capacitors
R1*	0 $\Omega$	0603 resistor
R4**	0 $\Omega$	0603 resistor

\*RSSI mode only.

\*\* $V_S = 2.7V$  to 3.6V.



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## Controller Mode

The MAX2015 can also be used as a detector/controller within an AGC loop. Figure 3 depicts one scenario where the MAX2015 is employed as the controller for a variable-gain PA. As shown in the figure, the MAX2015 monitors the output of the PA through a directional coupler. An internal integrator (Figure 2) compares the detected signal with a reference voltage determined by  $V_{SET}$ . The integrator, acting like a comparator, increases or decreases the voltage at OUT, according to how closely the detected signal level matches the  $V_{SET}$  reference. The MAX2015 adjusts the power of the PA to a level determined by the voltage applied to SET. With  $R1 = 0\Omega$ , the controller mode slope is approximately 19mV/dB ( $RF = 100MHz$ ).

## Layout Considerations

As with any RF circuit, the layout of the MAX2015 circuit affects the device's performance. Use an abundant number of ground vias to minimize RF coupling. Place the input capacitors (C1, C2) and the bypass capacitors (C3–C6) as close to the IC as possible. Connect the bypass capacitors to the ground plane with multiple vias.

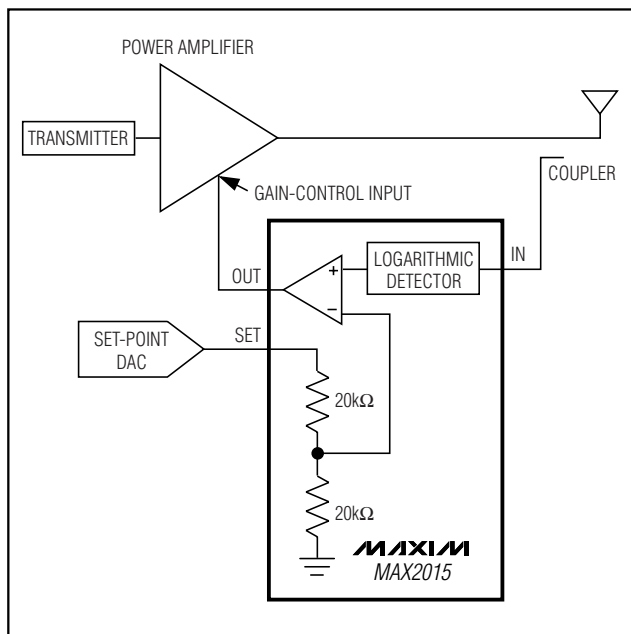


Figure 3. System Diagram for Automatic Gain-Control Loop

## Pin Configuration

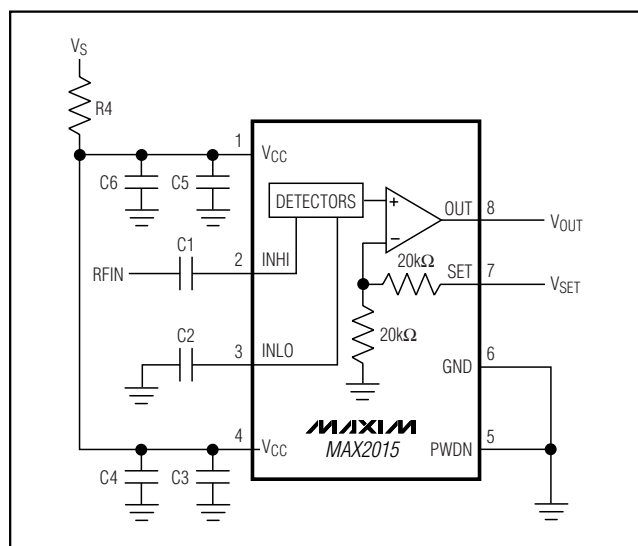
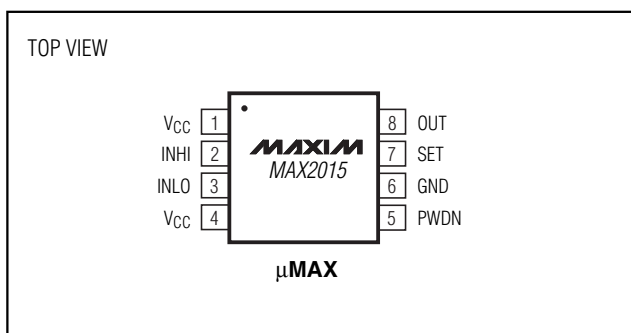


Figure 2. Controller-Mode Typical Application Circuit



## Chip Information

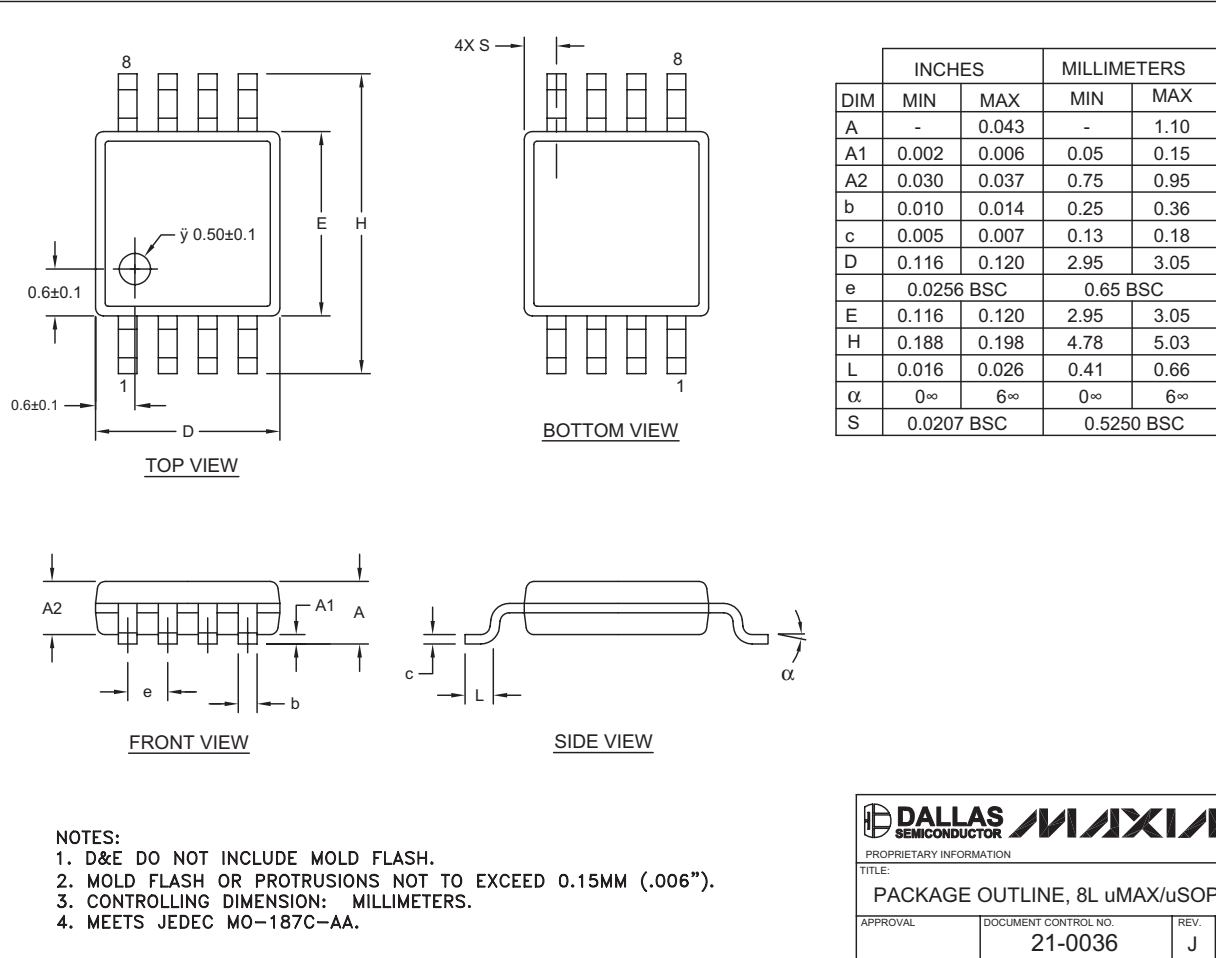
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PROCESS: BiCMOS

# 0.1GHz to 2.5GHz, 75dB Logarithmic Detector/Controller

## Package Information

(The package drawing(s) in this data sheet may not reflect the most current specifications. For the latest package outline information, go to [www.maxim-ic.com/packages](http://www.maxim-ic.com/packages).)



8LUMAXDEPS

**DALLAS SEMICONDUCTOR** **MAXIM**

PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

TITLE: PACKAGE OUTLINE, 8L uMAX/uSOP

APPROVAL	DOCUMENT CONTROL NO. 21-0036	REV. J	1/1
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