Agilent
E5052A Signal Source
Analyzer

10 MHz to 7, 26.5, or 110 GHz

Everything you need for signal source analysis



# Everything you need for signal source analysis in one instrument

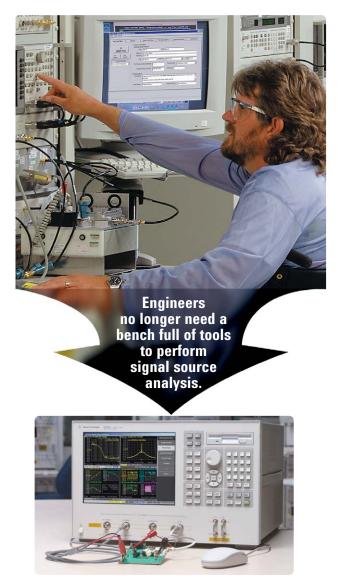
Testing the performance of next-generation signal sources such as voltage-controlled oscillators (VCOs), surface acoustic wave (SAW) oscillators, dielectric resonator oscillator (DROs), PLL synthesizers, RFICs, transmitters, and other devices can be challenging - especially with a bench full of instruments. Valuable time is spent learning to use multiple tools, determining the best tool to use, calibrating each instrument, setting up measurements, and then getting the right parameters. Capability restrictions in a number of the older instruments also make it difficult and time consuming to obtain the right parameters to get accurate measurements.

With Agilent Technologies' new Signal Source Analyzer (SSA), engineers no longer need a bench full of tools. All they need is one comprehensive test solution to perform next-generation signal source analysis.

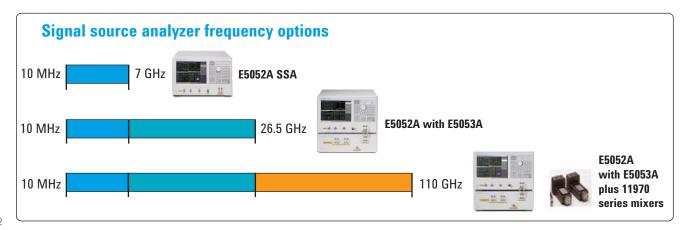
#### The Agilent E5052A Signal Source Analyzer:

- $\checkmark$  Performs all the critical signal source evaluations in one instrument
- ✓ Simplifies complicated, time-consuming measurements and dramatically reduces test time
- Provides excellent phase noise and transient measurements with performance to meet tough measurement challenges
- ✓ Has the right combination of performance and ease-of-use to significantly improve design and test productivity

Agilent's Signal Source Analyzer delivers unparalleled performance and versatility for a variety of signal sources in a wide range of industries such as wireless communications, aerospace & defense, satellite communications, automotive, education, and more.



Today, engineers only need a single tool for signal source analysis.



One instrument does it all...

Agilent's Signal Source Analyzer provides an indispensable set of measurements in one comprehensive tool:  • Phase noise  • Frequency, phase, and power, transients over time  • Frequency, RF power, and DC current  • Spectrum monitor		←Phase noise measurement	
Features	Benefits	Transient	The other states of the ot
True single-connection for signal source evaluations	Dramatically simplifies complicated measurement procedures and reduces test time by eliminating reconnection and set up of individual instruments.	measurement    Comparison   Com	
One-step phase noise measurement	Easy, one-step process eliminates time-consuming tasks and provides measurement speeds more than 10 times faster than conventional methods.		
Built-in low-noise reference sources	<ul> <li>Fully-optimized for phase noise measurements and provides excellent phase noise sensitivity.</li> </ul>		
Cross-correlation technique	<ul> <li>Lowers system phase noise providing exceptional phase noise sensitivity.</li> </ul>		
Simultaneous transient measurements for frequency, phase, and power over time	<ul> <li>Provides a complete set of measurements to test frequency-switching sources.</li> <li>Simultaneous measurements both in wideband and narrow-band.</li> <li>Captures all behaviors of sources under test, allowing you to analyze very detailed</li> </ul>	Ultra low-noise DC sources	Outstanding low-noise DC sources provide accuracy and flexibility to improve throughput.
		Multiple measurement windows and versatile analysis capabilities	<ul> <li>Up to four measurement windows and a user window can be viewed simultaneously, allowing for faster analysis.</li> </ul>
10 nsec sampling resolution with better frequency resolution	<ul> <li>Enables high-speed switching source measurements with tighter tolerance of a settled frequency - even in a very short period.</li> </ul>	Built-in VBA® programming	Simplifies complicated measurements and eases automated tests.

# Industry-leading performance in one easy-to-use instrument

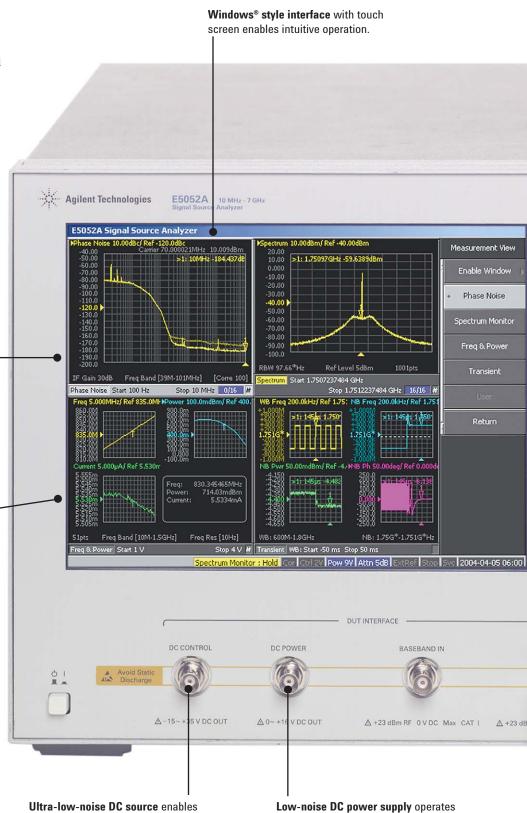
Agilent's Signal Source Analyzer is the ultimate tool for signal source analysis. Using the latest innovative technology, it is specifically designed to provide you with all the critical measurements and performance you need in a single instrument.

This all-in-one solution is optimized for efficient measurements, high reliability, and offers easy-to-use features to minimize training and increase productivity.

The SSA provides the right combination of performance and flexibility to meet your signal source test needs now and well into the future.

Multi-window display speeds your — measurement evaluation and provides useful design insights by allowing you to view multiple results simultaneously.

**Large (10.4-inch) color LCD** clearly displays your measurements with the parameters you need.

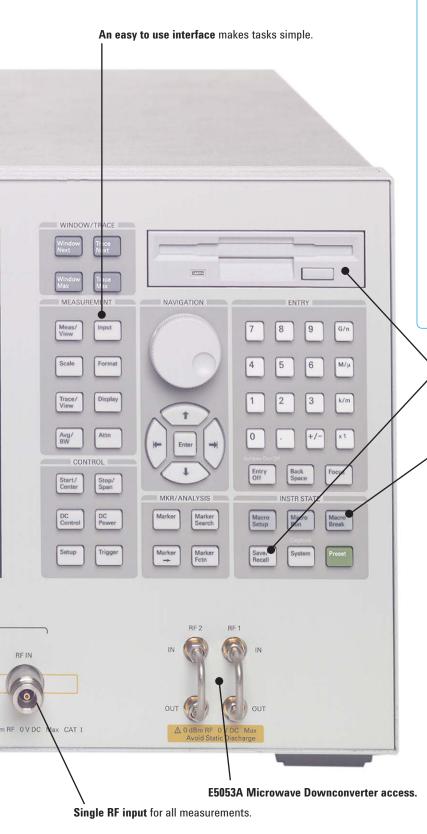


oscillators and eases frequency push-

ing measurements (0 to 16 V).

accurate oscillator tests with a wide

range of tuning voltage (-15 to 35 V).





Flexible connectivity (through rear-panel connectors)

**24 bit I/0:** high-speed handshake with parts handler or other instruments with user defined I/O signals

**GPIB:** robust instrument control

**LAN:** high-speed instrument control and data transfer **USB:** controls external instruments and peripherals

Parallel: printer VGA: external display

#### Save/Recall (to floppy or hard drive)

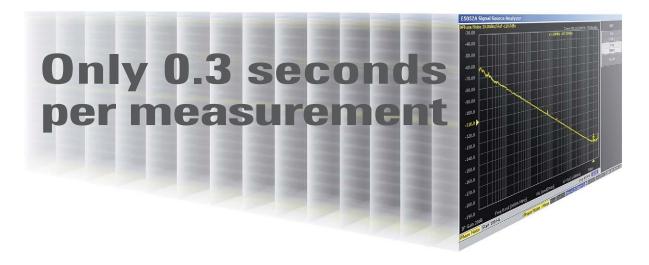
- · Instrument settings
- · Screen capture in .bmp or .png
- · Measured data pairs in .csv

Built-in VBA® programming simplifies complicated measurements and decreases operator error. Easily configure external automated measurements/procedures and create a graphic user interface tailored to your measurement needs.



Frequency extension from 7 to 26.5 GHz with the E5053A Microwave Downconverter. Phase noise measurements up to 110 GHz with 11970 series harmonic mixers.

# Phase noise measurements are now more than 10 times faster!

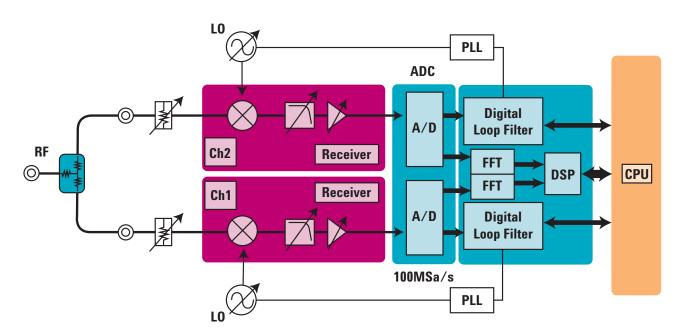


#### Easy one-step phase noise measurement

The Signal Source Analyzer provides a true one-step phase noise measurement. This eliminates time-consuming measurement set ups and system calibration. Built-in low-noise reference sources, lock the system to the carrier of the measured signal, automatically enabling and dramatically improving measurement speed. **Tedious phase noise measurements are now more than 10 times faster.** 

#### Real-time phase noise measurement

The measurement speed is exceptionally fast. With a frequency offset range between 1 kHz to 40 MHz, measurements only take 0.3 seconds per measurement. Real-time phase noise measurements not only dramatically improve test time, they also quickly help identify the root cause of undesired behavior of a source-under-test.

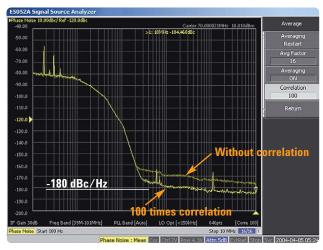


The Signal Source Analyzer's advanced architecture brings phase noise measurement to a new level.

### Exceptional phase noise sensitivity

## Cross-correlation technique provides exceptional phase noise sensitivity

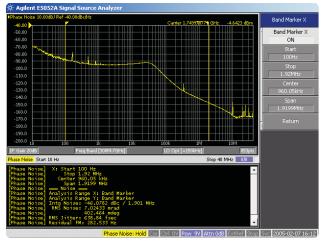
Dual channel receivers enable a "cross-correlation" technique to lower the instrument's noise floor at all offset frequencies. Traditionally the phase noise of reference source used in the system limits the measurement sensitivity. However, this technique essentially cancels noises of built-in reference sources and overcomes the limitation. The amount of noise cancellation depends on the "number" of correlations. Correlations of up to 10,000-times produces a 20 dB phase noise sensitivity improvement.



Cross-correlation technique enhances phase noise sensitivity.

# Trace integration and jitter conversion offers quick and accurate jitter analysis

Integrated phase noise between two points specified by the band marker function can be automatically calculated. Both rms jitter and residual FM are also displayed. This function allows you to evaluate the noise contribution in the communication channels or the random jitter of clock sources quickly and accurately. When compared to oscilloscopes, the SSA provides better sensitivity of random jitter measurements (as low as femto second).

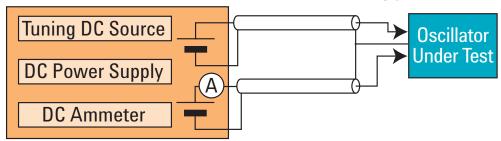


SSA phase noise to jitter conversion analysis.

## Outstanding low-noise DC sources provide accuracy and flexibility

The Signal Source Analyzer provides and controls the DC power supply as well as the DC control (tuning) voltage source. These DC sources are floated from the ground and isolated from external noise to ensure accuracy and repeatability.

In particular, the DC control voltage source supplies an ultra-low-noise DC signal ( $1nV/\sqrt{Hz}$  at 10 kHz offset) to measure free-running voltage controlled oscillators. This enables you to make measures without a low pass filter. This is superior to the conventional methods because it reduces noise on the control signal (controlling voltage quickly), while improving flexibility and total test throughput.



Built-in low-noise DC sources allow you to measure a voltage controlled oscillator without a low pass filter.

# Versatility and performance to characterize high-speed frequency switching sources



Synthesizer measurement: Multiple measurement windows provide more data and enable faster analysis.

#### A complete set of transient measurements

The Signal Source Analyzer provides dual channel measurements to fully characterize switching signal sources. In the wideband mode, the entire behavior of frequency jumps can be observed. In the narrowband mode, you can analyze detailed information of frequency, phase, and power over time. All of these measurements can be done simultaneously and displayed as multiple traces.

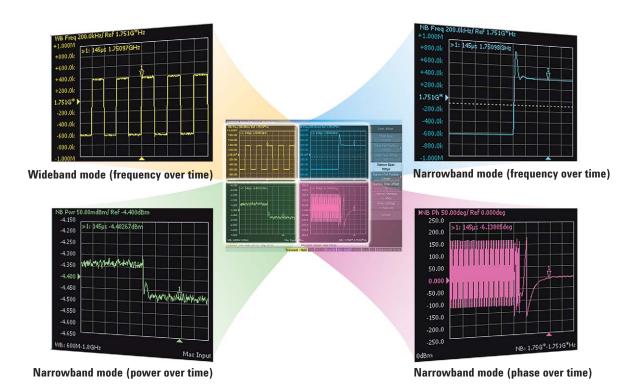
This enables designers to evaluate the dynamic response of synthesizers, LO circuits, and transmitters quickly.

#### Better sampling rate, better frequency resolution

One of today's measurement challenges is testing fast frequency switching sources. These sources lock up within sub-micro seconds and are used in high-speed wireless data communication and aerospace/defense radars. To meet this requirement, the Signal Source Analyzer offers a 10 nsec sampling rate with an internal 100 MHz ADC. This provides enhanced sampling resolution and better frequency resolution to meet the requirements of future high-speed switching source characterization (7 kHz of frequency resolution at 10 nsec sampling rate, and 0.2 Hz of frequency resolution at 25.6 usec sampling rate).

## Hardware trigger, video, and pre-trigger capabilities

The hardware trigger input port is provided with the analyzer to synchronize the source- under-test to change with the measurement trigger. Pre-trigger capability is available to observe phenomena before and after events. Video trigger capability is also useful to quickly check the behavior of frequency jumps at your bench.

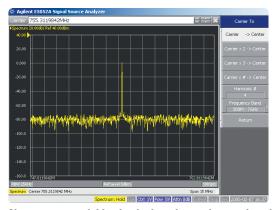


Simultaneous measurements, both in wide and narrow bandwidth, allow you to analyze detailed information of frequency, phase, and power over time.

# Powerful analysis capabilities provide valuable design insights



Detailed frequency and phase measurements over time with the band marker function, provide a quick and comprehensive analysis.



Now you can quickly check close-in-carrier spurious in a PLL synthesizer with the spectrum monitor function.



Limit line and pass/fail testing display.

#### Powerful analysis and band marker

Measurement results require quick and clear observation. The analyzer's unique band marker function allows you to define the range of measurement data you want to analyze on the X- and the Y-axis.

In the frequency over time measurement trace, delta-Hz, percent of the y-axis reference frequency, or ppm formats are supported; as well as limit line testing. Up to 6 markers can be used on one trace to search for peak/maximum/minimum/target values allowing for detailed analysis. Markers on all traces can be coupled in the time axis allowing you to quickly evaluate PLL's lockup time with different parameters in frequency, phase, and power simultaneously.

#### **Spectrum monitor function**

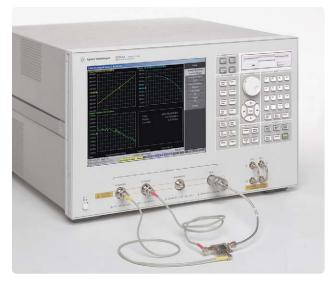
The spectrum monitor function is tuned for measuring close-in spurious measurements with up to a 15 MHz span. This function helps you check unfavorable signals such as spurious products in a PLL synthesizer very quickly. The carrier/harmonics search function provides the center frequency of the spectrum monitor to the carrier frequency automatically. This allows you to quickly check the carrier signal, as well as the harmonics of your signal.

### Oscillator characterization made easy

## Measure a wide variety of oscillator characteristics

The Signal Source Analyzer's frequency, power, and DC current measurement functions are tuned for characterizing oscillators (from fixed to voltage controlled oscillators). Frequency, RF power, and DC current (at DC power voltage port) measurements are synchronized with the voltage sweep on either DC control voltage or DC power voltage. The trace curve of each parameter is shown on the display with a single cabling hookup. The following parameters can be measured:

- · Frequency versus DC control (tuning) voltage
- Tuning sensitivity (differential of frequency versus DC tuning voltage)
- · Frequency versus DC power voltage
- Frequency pushing (differential of frequency versus DC power voltage)
- RF power versus DC control (tuning) voltage
- · RF power versus DC power voltage
- DC current (at DC power voltage port)

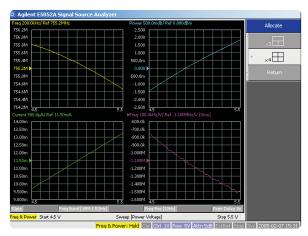


A true single-connection measurement for a voltage controlled oscillator speeds set-up time.

## Real-time monitoring of frequency, RF power, and DC current

The "tester mode" provides real-time monitoring of frequency, RF power, and DC current (at DC power voltage port). The numerical data appears on the display like a frequency counter, power meter, and DC ammeter, enabling high-speed manufacturing test in a single point measurement.

#### Oscillator characterization is comprehensive and simple



SSA analyzer mode



Tester mode display

# Exceeding expectations in productivity with enhanced usability

#### Modern connectivity and flexible programming

Design characterization often requires you to analyze measured data on an external PC. The Signal Source Analyzer allows you to easily connect to external PCs, additional test equipment and other peripherals such as keyboards, mice, and printers through GPIB, LAN and USB ports.

The Signal Source Analyzer is equipped with various interfaces to help you maximize productivity, such as different views for measurement results and external test equipment controls. It is easily controlled from an external PC using your preferred programming language and method such as Socket or SICL over LAN.



#### **Intuitive operation**

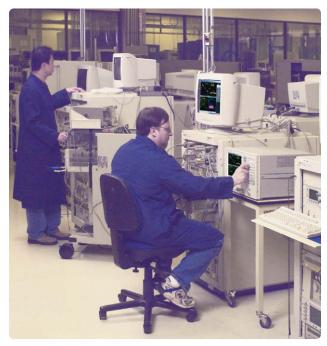
A large 10.4-inch LCD display provides a clear view of multiple traces in multiple windows. In addition, a touch screen eases interactive operation and minimizes operational errors.

Dedicated keys are available to select and maximize a display window or trace, allowing you to quickly enlarge measurement results.



The Signal Source Analyzer supports a variety of I/O interfaces to provide maximum flexibility.

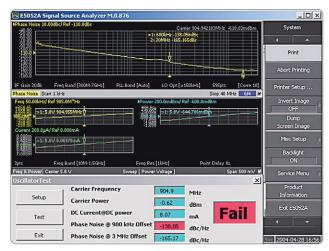
# Gain a competitive advantage with powerful automation tools

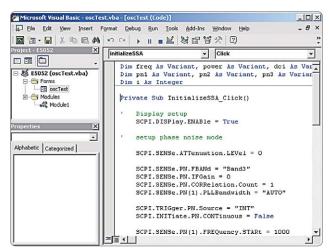


The Signal Source Analyzer provides unprecedented simplicity to maximize your productivity.

#### Fast, accurate and integrated

The Signal Source Analyzer offers unparalleled performance. With fast, high-quality, repeatable measurements it's well-suited for the demanding requirements of high-speed manufacturing test. All this performance provides an integrated solution to help simplify your test procedures. Unlike "rack and stack" measurement systems, this comprehensive solution is compact, easy-to-use and saves valuable space on the manufacturing floor.





Built-in VBA allows you to tailor and automate measurements to speed your test time.

#### Powerful built-in VBA for customization

Signal Source Analyzer's built-in VBA® programming function allows you to automate measurement procedures and easily create a graphic user interface, tailored to your measurement needs. In addition, test programs can be developed using a built-in editor.

#### Automation to reduce your test time

Automated test is yet another method to eliminate valuable seconds from your test processes. Use the analyzer's flexible automation environment to simplify your measurement procedures and lower your cost of test. A 24-bit interface is provided for faster handshaking with parts handler and can be customized using SCPI commands for your automated test environment needs.

### Key Specifications<sup>1</sup>

#### **E5052A Signal Source Analyzer**

Frequency range 10 MHz to 7 GHz

10 MHz to 26.5 GHz with E5053A

Downconverter

(up to 110 GHz with an external downconverter and harmonic mixer)

Input power level -20 dBm to +20 dBm (RF input)

#### **Measurement Parameters**

#### Frequency, RF power, and DC current

Measurement parameters:

Tester mode

Frequency, RF power, DC current Analyzer mode (standard model ONLY)

Frequency versus DC control voltage (tuning sensitivity)
Frequency versus DC power voltage (frequency pushing)
RF power versus DC control or power voltage
DC current versus DC control or power voltage

RF power

Resolution: 0.01 dB
Accuracy: ± 0.5 dB

Frequency

Resolution: 10 Hz, 1 kHz, 64 kHz

Accuracy: ± (frequency resolution + time base accuracy)

Phase noise

Offset frequency range: 1 Hz to 40 MHz (standard model)

10 Hz to 40 MHz (Option E5052A-011)

Phase noise sensitivity: See figures on phase noise plots

Enhanced phase noise Cross-correlation (1 to 10,000 times)

sensitivity technique: Up to 20 dB improvement

(standard model ONLY)

Accuracy: +/- 4 dB at 1 Hz to 1 kHz

+/- 2 dB at 1 kHz to 1 MHz +/- 3 dB at 1 MHz to 40 MHz

Measurement time:<sup>2</sup> 0.07 sec (1 kHz to 40 MHz offset)

 $0.56~{\rm sec}$  (100 Hz to 40 MHz offset)  $4.40~{\rm sec}$  (10 Hz to 40 MHz offset)

17.7 sec (1 Hz to 40 MHz offset)

**Transient** 

Measurement parameters: Frequency over time, phase over

time, power over time

Time span: 10 usec to 10 sec, 1, 2, 5 step

Time resolution: 10 nsec minimum

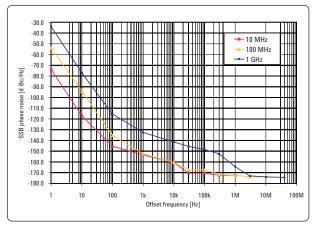
Input frequency range: 50 MHz to 7 GHz (wideband mode)

10 MHz to 7 GHz (narrowband mode)

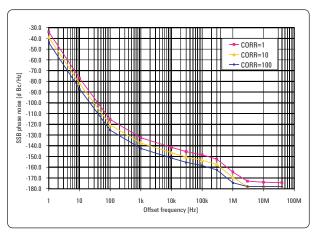
Transient frequency range: Frequency min.: Frequency max. =

1: 3 (wideband mode)

25.6 MHz, 1.6 MHz, 200 kHz, 25 kHz, or 3.125 kHz (narrowband mode)



SSB phase noise sensitivity (typical) (standard, correlation = 1, start offset = 1 Hz, + 5 dBm input)



### Phase noise improvement with 1, 10, 100 correlation at 1 GHz carrier (typical)

Frequency resolution:

, Narrowband, 3.125 kHz:

0.0004 Hz rms at 10.25 msec time

resolution

Narrowband, 25 kHz:

0.0095 Hz rms at 12.8 msec time

resolution

Narrowband, 200 kHz:

0.2 Hz rms at 25.6 usec time resolution

Narrowband, 1.6 MHz:

5 Hz rms at 8 usec time resolution

Narrowband, 25.6 MHz:

313 Hz rms at 1 usec time resolution

Phase transient accuracy: 0.1 deg/GHz (0.1 deg min.)

Power transient accuracy: +/- 2 dB Resolution: 0.01 dB

Spectrum monitor 15 MHz max Span, RBW = 1 Hz to 100 kHz

DC sources:

Control voltage:

Power voltage:

15 to +35 volt, 20 mAmax

0 to 16 volt, 80 mAmax

15 lo +35 volt, 20 mAmax

15 lo +35 volt, 20 mAmax

16 lo +35 volt, 20 mAmax

17 lo +35 volt, 20 mAmax

18 lo +35 v

<sup>1.</sup> For additional specification details see the Agilent E5052A Signal Source Analyzer Data Sheet (literature number 5989-0903EN) available on our Web site: www.agilent.com/find/ssa

<sup>2.</sup> Measurement time (sec) = 0.2 plus the above value x number of correlation when applying cross-correlation function (standard model ONLY). For E5052A-011, number of correlation = 1

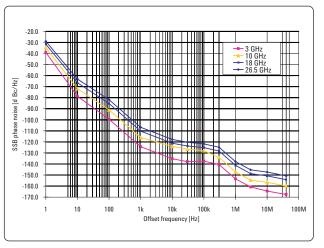
## Beyond RF to microwave and millimeter-wave frequencies

If your signal source design and test requires microwave or millimeter-wave frequencies, you can extend the frequency range of the instrument simply by adding mixers and a downconverter. Adding the E5053A Microwave Downconverter, as illustrated below, will extend your frequency range up to 26.5 GHz. Additionally, the E5053A Microwave Downconverter, used in conjunction with a pair of

Agilent 11970 series harmonic mixers and an external power divider, will allow you to extend your frequency range up to 110 GHz.

The cross-correlation technique, which offers exceptional phase noise sensitivity, can also be expanded to microwave and millimeter wave frequencies. All functions of the E5052A SSA are seamlessly integrated into the instrument's user interface.

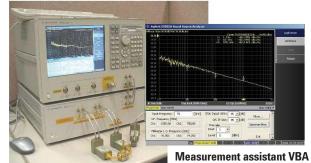




SSB phase noise sensitivity (standard, correlation = 1, start offset = 1 Hz)

#### Specifications: E5052A Signal Source Analyzer with E5053A Microwave Downconverter

Key measurements	Specification	
Carrier frequency range	10 MHz to 26.5 GHz, to 110 GHz <sup>1</sup>	
Measurement Capabilities	Frequency, power, DC current, frequency versus control voltage (tuning sensitivity) frequency versus power voltage (frequency pushing), phase noise, frequency/phase/power over time (transient), spectrum	
Input power range	-10 dBm to + 10 dBm	
Phase noise sensitivity (typical)	See figures on phase noise plots	
Transient measurement range	500 MHz max (wideband) 25.6 MHz, 1.6 MHz or 200 kHz (narrowband)	



SSA millimeter wave phase noise configuration

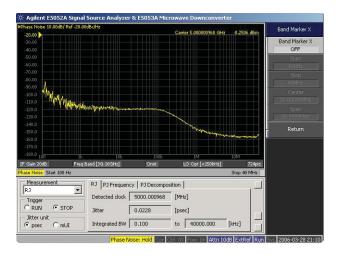
<sup>1.</sup> Requires a pair of 11970 mixers and an external power divider. Please contact your local Agilent sales office for more details.

### **Precision clock Jitter Analysis**

As the need to characterize clock jitter used in the digital communication systems increases, so increases the demand for the right measurement tools to measure jitter accurately. Agilent's E5052A Signal Source Analyzer offers a new tool delivering a powerful analysis capability on both random jitter (RJ) and periodic jitter (PJ) on a clock source.

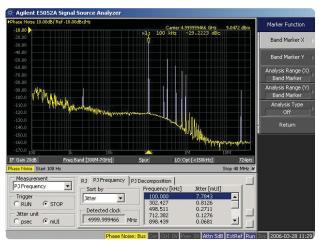
## Ultra-low random jitter measurement through phase noise

The Agilent E5052A SSA provides exceptional low jitter measurement capability through phase noise measurement technique. For a 10 giga-bit clock rate, the random jitter noise floor reaches 9 femto seconds and representing 100 times the sensitivity of a high performance sampling oscilloscope.



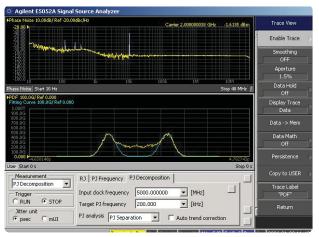
#### **Jitter spectrum analysis**

The Agilent E5052A SSA makes identifying the periodic jitter on a clock under test simple. Periodic jitter components are displayed in the PJ spectrum view. The periodic jitter frequency can help us better understand the jitter source of the periodic jitter and give more insights for designing clock signal quality better.



#### **Precision RJ and PJ separation**

By providing views of jitter trend, jitter histogram, and random and periodic jitter separation, you'll gain a clearer picture of your system's clock jitter characteristics enabling you to separate random jitter and periodic jitter from the total jitter on your system clock.



### **Ordering Information**

#### Signal Source Analyzer Series

E5052A Signal Source Analyzer 10 MHz to 7 GHz E5053A Microwave Downconverter 3 GHz to 26.5 GHz

#### **Options**

E5052A-011 Delete functions
E5052AU-012 Add standard functions
E5052AU-018 Add hard disk drive kit

#### Signal Source Analysis Software

E5001A SSA-J Precision Clock Jitter

**Analysis** 

#### **Harmonic mixers**

11970 series harmonic mixers can be used with the E5053A Microwave Downconverter or N5507A Downconverter.

 11970A
 26.5 to 40 GHz

 11970Q
 33 to 50 GHz

 11970U
 40 to 60 GHz

 11970V
 50 to 75 GHz

 11970W
 75 to 110 GHz

#### Accessories

82357A USB-GPIB converter

### Web Resources

Visit our Signal Source Analyzer Web site for additional product information and literature.

www.agilent.com/find/ssa

Phase noise measurements

www.agilent.com/find/phasenoise

RF and microwave test accessories

www.agilent.com/find/accessories



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Agilent Open simplifies the process of connecting and programming test systems to help engineers design, validate and manufacture electronic products. Agilent offers open connectivity for a broad range of system-ready instruments, open industry software, PC-standard I/O and global support, which are combined to more easily integrate test system development.

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Agilent Technologies aims to maximize the value you receive, while minimizing your risk and problems. We strive to ensure that you get the test and measurement capabilities you paid for and obtain the support you need. Our extensive support resources and services can help you choose the right Agilent products for your applications and apply them successfully. Every instrument and system we sell has a global warranty. Two concepts underlie Agilent's overall support policy: "Our Promise" and "Your Advantage."

#### **Our Promise**

Our Promise means your Agilent test and measurement equipment will meet its advertised performance and functionality. When you are choosing new equipment, we will help you with product information, including realistic performance specifications and practical recommendations from experienced test engineers. When you receive your new Agilent equipment, we can help verify that it works properly and help with initial product operation.

#### Your Advantage

Your Advantage means that Agilent offers a wide range of additional expert test and measurement services, which you can purchase according to your unique technical and business needs. Solve problems efficiently and gain a competitive edge by contracting with us for calibration, extra-cost upgrades, out-of-warranty repairs, and onsite education and training, as well as design, system integration, project management, and other professional engineering services. Experienced Agilent engineers and technicians worldwide can help you maximize your productivity, optimize the return on investment of your Agilent instruments and systems, and obtain dependable measurement accuracy for the life of those products.

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