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LMX2485/85E 3.0 GHz Delta-Sigma Low Power Dual PLLatinum™ Frequency Synthesizer

Check for Samples: [LMX2485,](http://www.ti.com/product/lmx2485#samples) [LMX2485E](http://www.ti.com/product/lmx2485e#samples)

- **²³• Quadruple Modulus Prescalers for Lower • Cellular Phones and Base Stations**
	- **– RF PLL: 8/9/12/13 or 16/17/20/21 PDC**
	-
- **• Advanced DeltaSigma Fractional • Satellite and Cable TV Tuners Compensation • WLAN Standards**
	- **– 12 bit or 22 Bit Selectable Fractional Modulus DESCRIPTION**
	-
- **• Features for Improved Lock Times and** Instruments' advanced process. **Programming**
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	- **– Hardware and Software Power-Down** requirements of the system.
	-
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¹FEATURES APPLICATIONS

-
- **Divide Ratios – CDMA, WCDMA, GSM/GPRS, TDMA, EDGE,**
- **– IF PLL: 8/9 or 16/17 • Direct Digital Modulation Applications**
	-
	-

– Up to 4th Order Programmable Delta-Sigma The LMX2485 is a low power, high performance **Modulator Modulator Modulator Modulator Modulator delta-sigma fractional-N PLL with an auxiliary integer-**N PLL. The device is fabricated using Texas

With delta-sigma architecture, fractional spurs at **– Fastlock / Cycle Slip Reduction** lower offset frequencies are pushed to higher **– Integrated Time-Out Counter** frequencies outside the loop bandwidth. The ability to **– Single Word Write to Change Frequencies** push close in spur and phase noise energy to higher **with Fastlock**
 with Fastlock frequencies is a direct function of the modulator

order. Unlike analog compensation, the digital **order.** Unlike analog compensation, the digital vide Operating Range
 • LMX2485 RF PLL: 500 MHz to 3.0 GHz

• **CMX2485 RF PLL: 500 MHz to 3.0 GHz**

• **COLLY CONDITY TO SERVIT TO SERVITE AND TO SERVIT TO AND TO SERVIT – LMX2485 RF PLL: 500 MHz to 3.0 GHz** resistant to changes in temperature and variations in **– LMX2485E RF PLL: 50 MHz to 3.0 GHz** wafer processing. The LMX2485 delta-sigma modulator is programmable up to fourth order, which **• Useful Features** allows the designer to select the optimum modulator **– Digital Lock Detect Output** order to fit the phase noise, spur, and lock time

Control
Serial data for programming the LMX2485 is
fransferred via a three line high speed (20 MHz) **– On-Chip Crystal Reference Frequency** transferred via a three line high speed (20 MHz) MICROWIRE interface. The LMX2485 offers fine **– RF Phase Comparison Frequency up to 50** frequency resolution, low spurs, fast programming **MHz** speed, and a single word write to change the frequency. This makes it ideal for direct digital **– 2.5 to 3.6 Volt Operation with ^ICC ⁼ 5.0 mA** modulation applications, where the ^N counter is **at 3.0 V** directly modulated with information. The LMX2485 is available in a 24 lead 4.0 X 4.0 X 0.8 mm WQFN package.

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Connection Diagram

Figure 1. Top View 24-Pin WQFN (RTW0024A)

PIN DESCRIPTIONS

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These devices have limited built-in ESD protection. The leads should be shorted together or the device placed in conductive foam during storage or handling to prevent electrostatic damage to the MOS gates.

Absolute Maximum Ratings(1)(2)

(1) "Absolute Maximum Ratings" indicate limits beyond which damage to the device may occur. "Recommended Operating Conditions" indicate conditions for which the device is intended to be functional, but do not guarantee specific performance limits. For guaranteed specifications and test conditions, see the Electrical [Characteristics.](#page-3-0) The guaranteed specifications apply only for the test conditions listed. The voltage at all the power supply pins of VddRF1, VddRF2, VddRF3, VddRF4, VddRF5, VddIF1 and VddIF2 must be the same. V_{CC} will be used to refer to the voltage at these pins and I_{CC} will be used to refer to the sum of all currents through all these power pins.

(2) This Device is a high performance RF integrated circuit with an ESD rating < 2 kV and is ESD sensitive. Handling and assembly of this device should only be done at ESD-free workstations.

Recommended Operating Conditions

(1) "Absolute Maximum Ratings" indicate limits beyond which damage to the device may occur. "Recommended Operating Conditions" indicate conditions for which the device is intended to be functional, but do not guarantee specific performance limits. For guaranteed specifications and test conditions, see the Electrical [Characteristics.](#page-3-0) The guaranteed specifications apply only for the test conditions listed. The voltage at all the power supply pins of VddRF1, VddRF2, VddRF3, VddRF4, VddRF5, VddIF1 and VddIF2 must be the same. V_{CC} will be used to refer to the voltage at these pins and I_{CC} will be used to refer to the sum of all currents through all these power pins.

Electrical Characteristics

(1) A slew rate of at least 100 V/uS is recommended for frequencies below 500 MHz for optimal performance.

Electrical Characteristics (continued)

(V_{CC} = 3.0V; -40°C \leq T_A \leq +85°C unless otherwise specified)

(2) For Phase Detector Frequencies above 20 MHz, Cycle Slip Reduction (CSR) may be required. Legal divide ratios are also required. (3) Refer to table in [RF_CPG](#page-31-0) -- RF PLL Charge Pump Gain for complete listing of charge pump currents.

STRUMENTS

XAS

Electrical Characteristics (continued)

(V_{CC} = 3.0V; -40°C \leq T_A \leq +85°C unless otherwise specified)

(4) In order to measure the in-band spur, the fractional word is chosen such that when reduced to lowest terms, the fractional numerator is one. The spur offset frequency is chosen to be the comparison frequency divided by the reduced fractional denominator. The loop bandwidth must be sufficiently wide to negate the impact of the loop filter. Measurement conditions are: Spur Offset Frequency = 10 kHz, Loop Bandwidth = 100 kHz, Fraction = 1/2000, Comparison Frequency = 20 MHz, RF_CPG = 7, DITH = 0, and a 4th Order Modulator (FM = 0). These are relatively consistent over tuning range.

(5) Normalized Phase Noise Contribution is defined as: $L_N(f) = L(f) - 20\log(N) - 10\log(f_{COMP})$ where L(f) is defined as the single side band phase noise measured at an offset frequency, f, in a 1 Hz Bandwidth. The offset frequency, f, must be chosen sufficiently smaller than the PLL loop bandwidth, yet large enough to avoid substantial phase noise contribution from the reference source. Measurement conditions are: Offset Frequency = 11 kHz, Loop Bandwidth = 100 kHz for RF_CPG = 7, Fraction = 1/2000, Comparison Frequency = 20 MHz, $FM = 0$, $DITH = 0$.

MICROWIRE INPUT TIMING DIAGRAM

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NSTRUMENTS

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Typical Performance Characteristics : Sensitivity (continued) OSCin Sensitivity T^A = 25°C, OSC_2X = 1

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Typical Performance Characteristics : FinRF Input Impedance

Figure 10.

Typical Performance Characteristics : FinIF Input Impedance

Typical Performance Characteristics : OSCin Input Impedance

Typical Performance Characteristics : Currents

EXAS ISTRUMENTS

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Figure 15.

Figure 16.

(1) Typical performance characteristics do not imply any sort of guarantee. Guaranteed specifications are in the [Electrical](#page-3-0) [Characteristics.](#page-3-0)

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BENCH TEST SETUPS

Charge Pump Current Measurement Procedure

The above block diagram shows the test procedure for testing the RF and IF charge pumps. These tests include absolute current level, mismatch, and leakage measurement. In order to measure the charge pump currents, a signal is applied to the high frequency input pins. The reason for this is to guarantee that the phase detector gets enough transitions in order to be able to change states. If no signal is applied, it is possible that the charge pump current reading will be low due to the fact that the duty cycle is not 100%. The OSCin Pin is tied to the supply. The charge pump currents can be measured by simply programming the phase detector to the necessary polarity. For instance, in order to measure the RF charge pump, a 10 MHz signal is applied to the FinRF pin. The source current can be measured by setting the RF PLL phase detector to a positive polarity, and the sink current can be measured by setting the phase detector to a negative polarity. The IF PLL currents can be measured in a similar way. Note that the magnitude of the RF PLL charge pump current is controlled by the RF_CPG bit. Once the charge pump currents are known, the mismatch can be calculated as well. In order to measure leakage, the charge pump is set to a TRI-STATE mode by enabling the RF_CPT and IF_CPT bits. The table below shows a summary of the various charge pump tests.

Charge Pump Current Specification Definitions

I1 = Charge Pump Sink Current at $V_{C\text{Pout}}$ = Vcc - ΔV

 $I2 =$ Charge Pump Sink Current at $V_{CPout} = Vcc/2$

I3 = Charge Pump Sink Current at $V_{CPout} = ΔV$

I4 = Charge Pump Source Current at V_{CPout} = Vcc - ΔV

 $I5 =$ Charge Pump Source Current at $V_{CPout} =$ Vcc/2

I6 = Charge Pump Source Current at $V_{C\text{Pout}} = ΔV$

 ΔV = Voltage offset from the positive and negative supply rails. Defined to be 0.5 volts for this part.

V_{CPout} refers to either V_{CPoutRF} or V_{CPoutIF}

I_{CPout} refers to either I_{CPoutRF} or I_{CPoutIF}

Charge Pump Output Current Magnitude Variation vs. Charge Pump Output Voltage

$$
I_{CPout} \text{Vs } V_{CPout} = \frac{(|11| - |13|)}{(|11| + |13|)} \times 100\%
$$

$$
= \frac{(|14| - |16|)}{(|14| + |16|)} \times 100\%
$$

Charge Pump Sink Current vs. Charge Pump Output Source Current Mismatch

 I_{CPout} Sink Vs I_{CPout} Source = $\frac{|12| - |15|}{\frac{1}{2} (|12| + |15|)} \times 100\%$

Charge Pump Output Current Magnitude Variation vs. Temperature

Sensitivity Measurement Procedure

Sensitivity is defined as the power level limits beyond which the output of the counter being tested is off by 1 Hz or more of its expected value. It is typically measured over frequency, voltage, and temperature. In order to test sensitivity, the MUX[3:0] word is programmed to the appropriate value. The counter value is then programmed to a fixed value and a frequency counter is set to monitor the frequency of this pin. The expected frequency at the Ftest/LD pin should be the signal generator frequency divided by twice the corresponding counter value. The factor of two comes in because the LMX2485 has a flip-flop which divides this frequency by two to make the duty cycle 50% in order to make it easier to read with the frequency counter. The frequency counter input impedance should be set to high impedance. In order to perform the measurement, the temperature, frequency, and voltage is set to a fixed value and the power level of the signal is varied. Note that the power level at the part is assumed to be 4 dB less than the signal generator power level. This accounts for 1 dB for cable losses and 3 dB for the pad. The power level range where the frequency is correct at the Ftest/LD pin to within 1 Hz accuracy is recorded for the sensitivity limits. The temperature, frequency, and voltage can be varied in order to produce a family of sensitivity curves. Since this is an open-loop test, the charge pump is set to TRI-STATE and the unused side of the PLL (RF or IF) is powered down when not being tested. For this part, there are actually four frequency input pins, although there is only one frequency test pin (Ftest/LD). The conditions specific to each pin are shown in above table.

Note that for the RF N counter, a fourth order fractional modulator is used in 22-bit mode with a fraction of 2097150 / 4194301 is used. The reason for this long fraction is to test the RF N counter and supporting fractional circuitry as completely as possible.

Input Impedance Measurement Procedure

The above block diagram shows the test setup used for measuring the input impedance for the LMX2485. The DC blocking capacitor used between the input SMA connector and the pin being measured must be changed to a zero Ohm resistor. This procedure applies to the FinRF, FinIF, and OSCin pins. The basic test procedure is to calibrate the network analyzer, ensure that the part is powered up, and then measure the input impedance. The network analyzer can be calibrated by using either calibration standards or by soldering resistors directly to the evaluation board. An open can be implemented by putting no resistor, a short can be implemented by soldering a zero ohm resistor as close as possible to the pin being measured, and a short can be implemented by soldering two 100 ohm resistors in parallel as close as possible to the pin being measured. Calibration is done with the PLL removed from the PCB. This requires the use of a clamp down fixture that may not always be generally available. If no clamp down fixture is available, then this procedure can be done by calibrating up to the point where the DC blocking capacitor usually is, and then implementing port extensions with the network analyzer. Zero ohm resistor is added back for the actual measurement. Once the setup is calibrated, it is necessary to ensure that the PLL is powered up. This can be done by toggling the power down bits (RF_PD and IF_PD) and observing that the current consumption indeed increases when the bit is disabled. Sometimes it may be necessary to apply a signal to the OSCin pin in order to program the part. If this is necessary, disconnect the signal once it is established that the part is powered up. It is useful to know the input impedance of the PLL for the purposes of debugging RF problems and designing matching networks. Another use of knowing this parameter is make the trace width on the PCB such that the input impedance of this trace matches the real part of the input impedance of the PLL frequency of operation. In general, it is good practice to keep trace lengths short and make designs that are relatively resistant to variations in the input impedance of the PLL.

FUNCTIONAL DESCRIPTION

GENERAL

The LMX2485 consists of integrated N counters, R counters, and charge pumps. The TCXO, VCO and loop filter are supplied external to the chip. The various blocks are described below.

TCXO, OSCILLATOR BUFFER, AND R COUNTER

The oscillator buffer must be driven single-ended by a signal source, such as a TCXO. The OSCout pin is included to provide a buffered output of this input signal and is active when the OSC_OUT bit is set to one. The ENOSC pin can be also pulled high to ensure that the OSCout pin is active, regardless of the status of the registers in the LMX2485.

The R counter divides this TXCO frequency down to the comparison frequency.

PHASE DETECTOR

The maximum phase detector operating frequency for the IF PLL is straightforward, but it is a little more involved for the RF PLL since it is fractional. The maximum phase detector frequency for the LMX2485 RF PLL is 50 MHz. However, this is not possible in all circumstances due to illegal divide ratios of the N counter. The crystal reference frequency also limits the phase detector frequency, although the doubler helps with this limitation. There are trade-offs in choosing the phase detector frequency. If this frequency is run higher, then phase noise will be lower, but lock time may be increased due to cycle slipping and the capacitors in the loop filter may become rather large.

CHARGE PUMP

For the majority of the time, the charge pump output is high impedance, and the only current through this pin is the Tri-State leakage. However, it does put out fast correction pulses that have a width that is proportional to the phase error presented at the phase detector.

The charge pump converts the phase error presented at the phase detector into a correction current. The magnitude of this current is theoretically constant, but the duty cycle is proportional to the phase error. For the IF PLL, this current is not programmable, but for the RF PLL it is programmable in 16 steps. Also, the RF PLL allows for a higher charge pump current to be used when the PLL is locking in order to reduce the lock time.

LOOP FILTER

The loop filter design can be rather involved. In addition to the regular constraints and design parameters, deltasigma PLLs have the additional constraint that the order of the loop filter should be one greater than the order of the delta sigma modulator. This rule of thumb comes from the requirement that the loop filter must roll off the delta sigma noise at 20 dB/decade faster than it rises. However, since the noise can not have infinite power, it must eventually roll off. If the loop bandwidth is narrow, this requirement may not be necessary. For the purposes of discussion in this datasheet, the pole of the loop filter at 0 Hz is not counted. So a second order filter has 3 components, a 3rd order loop filter has 5 components, and the 4th order loop filter has 7 components. Although a 5th order loop filter is theoretically necessary for use with a 4th order modulator, typically a 4th order filter is used in this case. The loop filter design, especially for higher orders can be rather involved, but there are many simulation tools and references available, such as the one given at the end of the functional description block.

N COUNTERS AND HIGH FREQUENCY INPUT PINS

The N counter divides the VCO frequency down to the comparison frequency. Because prescalers are used, there are limitations on how small the N value can be. The N counters are discussed in greater depth in the [Programming](#page-27-0) Description section. Since the input pins to these counters (FinRF and FinIF) are high frequency, layout considerations are important.

High Frequency Input Pins, FinRF and FinIF

It is generally recommended that the VCO output go through a resistive pad and then through a DC blocking capacitor before it gets to these high frequency input pins. If the trace length is sufficiently short (< 1/10th of a wavelength), then the pad may not be necessary, but a series resistor of about 39 ohms is still recommended to isolate the PLL from the VCO. The DC blocking capacitor should be chosen at least to be 27 pF, depending on frequency. It may turn out that the frequency is above the self-resonant frequency of the capacitor, but since the input impedance of the PLL tends to be capacitive, it actually is a benefit to exceed the tune frequency. The pad and the DC blocking capacitor should be placed as close to the PLL as possible

Complementary High Frequency Pin, FinRF*

These inputs may be used to drive the PLL differentially, but it is very common to drive the PLL in a single ended fashion. A shunt capacitor should be placed at the FinRF^{*} pin. The value of this capacitor should be chosen such that the impedance, including the ESR of the capacitor, is as close to an AC short as possible at the operating frequency of the PLL. 100 pF is a typical value, depending on frequency.

POWER PINS, POWER DOWN, AND POWER UP MODES

It is recommended that all of the power pins be filtered with a series 18 ohm resistor and then placing two capacitors shunt to ground, thus creating a low pass filter. Although it makes sense to use large capacitor values in theory, the ESR (Equivalent Series Resistance) is greater for larger capacitors. For optimal filtering minimize the sum of the ESR and theoretical impedance of the capacitor. It is therefore recommended to provide two capacitors of very different sizes for the best filtering. 1 µF and 100 pF are typical values. The small capacitor should be placed as close as possible to the pin.

The power down state of the LMX2485 is controlled by many factors. The one factor that overrides all other factors is the CE pin. If this pin is low, the part will be powered down. Asserting a high logic level on this pin is necessary to power up the chip, however, there are other bits in the programming registers that can override this and put the PLL back in a power down state. Provided that the voltage on the CE pin is high, programming the RF_PD and IF_PD bits to zero guarantees that the part will be powered up. Programming either one of these bits to one will power down the appropriate section of the synthesizer, provided that the ATPU bit does not override this.

DIGITAL LOCK DETECT OPERATION

The RF PLL digital lock detect circuitry compares the difference between the phase of the inputs of the phase detector to a RC generated delay of ε. To indicate a locked state (Lock = HIGH) the phase error must be less than the ε RC delay for 5 consecutive reference cycles. Once in lock (Lock = HIGH), the RC delay is changed to approximately δ. To indicate an out of lock state (Lock = LOW), the phase error must become greater δ. The values of ε and δ are dependent on which PLL is used and are shown in the table below:

When the PLL is in the power down mode and the Ftest/LD pin is programmed for the lock detect function, it is forced LOW. The accuracy of this circuit degrades at higher comparison frequencies. To compensate for this, the DIV4 word should be set to one if the comparison frequency exceeds 20 MHz. The function of this word is to divide the comparison frequency presented to the lock detect circuit by 4. Note that if the MUX[3:0] word is set such as to view lock detect for both PLLs, an unlocked (LOW) condition is shown whenever either one of the PLLs is determined to be out of lock.

CYCLE SLIP REDUCTION AND FASTLOCK

The LMX2485 offers both cycle slip reduction (CSR) and Fastlock with timeout counter support. This means that it requires no additional programming overhead to use them. It is generally recommended that the charge pump current in the steady state be 8X or less in order to use cycle slip reduction, and 4X or less in steady state in order to use Fastlock. The next step is to decide between using Fastlock or CSR. This determination can be made based on the ratio of the comparison frequency (f_{COMP}) to loop bandwidth (BW).

Cycle Slip Reduction (CSR)

Cycle slip reduction works by reducing the comparison frequency during frequency acquisition while keeping the same loop bandwidth, thereby reducing the ratio of the comparison frequency to the loop bandwidth. In cases where the ratio of the comparison frequency exceeds about 100 times the loop bandwidth, cycle slipping can occur and significantly degrade lock times. The greater this ratio, the greater the benefit of CSR. This is typically the case of high comparison frequencies. In circumstances where there is not a problem with cycle slipping, CSR provides no benefit. There is a glitch when CSR is disengaged, but since CSR should be disengaged long before the PLL is actually in lock, this glitch is not an issue. A good rule of thumb for CSR disengagement is to do this at the peak time of the transient response. Because this time is typically much sooner than Fastlock should be disengaged, it does not make sense to use CSR and Fastlock in combination.

Fastlock

Fastlock works by increasing the loop bandwidth only during frequency acquisition. In circumstances where the comparison frequency is less than or equal to 2 MHz, Fastlock may provide a benefit beyond what CSR can offer. Since Fastlock also reduces the ratio of the comparison frequency to the loop bandwidth, it may provide a significant benefit in cases where the comparison frequency is above 2 MHz. However, CSR can usually provide an equal or larger benefit in these cases, and can be implemented without using an additional resistor. The reason for this restriction on frequency is that Fastlock has a glitch when it is disengaged. As the time of engagement for Fastlock decreases and becomes on the order of the fast lock time, this glitch grows and limits the benefits of Fastlock. This effect becomes worse at higher comparison frequencies. There is always the option of reducing the comparison frequency at the expense of phase noise in order to satisfy this constraint on comparison frequency. Despite this glitch, there is still a net improvement in lock time using Fastlock in these circumstances. When using Fastlock, it is also recommended that the steady state charge pump state be 4X or less. Also, Fastlock was originally intended only for second order filters, so when implementing it with higher order filters, the third and fourth poles can not be too close in, or it will not be possible to keep the loop filter well optimized when the higher charge pump current and Fastlock resistor are engaged.

Using Cycle Slip Reduction (CSR) to Avoid Cycle Slipping

Once it is decided that CSR is to be used, the cycle slip reduction factor needs to be chosen. The available factors are 1/2, 1/4, and 1/16. In order to preserve the same loop characteristics, it is recommended that the following constraint be satisfied:

(Fastlock Charge Pump Current) / (Steady State Charge Pump Current) = CSR

In order to satisfy this constraint, the maximum charge pump current in steady state is 8X for a CSR of 1/2, 4X for a CSR of 1/4, and 1X for a CSR of 1/16. Because the PLL phase noise is better for higher charge pump currents, it makes sense to choose CSR only as large as necessary to prevent cycle slipping. Choosing it larger than this will not improve lock time, and will result in worse phase noise.

Consider an example where the desired loop bandwidth in steady state is 100 kHz and the comparison frequency is 20 MHz. This yields a ratio of 200. Cycle slipping may be present, but would not be too severe if it was there. If a CSR factor of 1/2 is used, this would reduce the ratio to 100 during frequency acquisition, which is probably sufficient. A charge pump current of 8X could be used in steady state, and a factor of 16X could be used during frequency acquisition. This yields a ratio of 1/2, which is equal to the CSR factor and this satisfies the above constraint. In this circumstance, it could also be decided to just use 16X charge pump current all the time, since it would probably have better phase noise, and the degradation in lock time would not be too severe.

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Using Fastlock to Improve Lock Times

Once it is decided that Fastlock is to be used, the loop bandwidth multiplier, K, is needed in order to determine the theoretical impact of Fastlock on the loop bandwidth and the resistor value, R2p, that is switched in parallel during Fastlock. This ratio is calculated as follows:

The above table shows how to calculate the Fastlock resistor and theoretical lock time improvement, once the ratio , K, is known. This all assumes a second order filter (not counting the pole at 0 Hz). However, it is generally recommended that the loop filter order be one greater than the order of the delta sigma modulator, which means that a second order filter is never recommended. In this case, the value for R2p is typically about 80% of what it would be for a second order filter. Because the Fastlock disengagement glitch gets larger and it is harder to keep the loop filter optimized as the K value becomes larger, designing for the largest possible value for K usually, but not always yields the best improvement in lock time. To get a more accurate estimate requires more simulation tools, or trial and error.

Capacitor Dielectric Considerations for Lock Time

The LMX2485 has a high fractional modulus and high charge pump gain for the lowest possible phase noise. One consideration is that the reduced N value and higher charge pump may cause the capacitors in the loop filter to become larger in value. For larger capacitor values, it is common to have a trade-off between capacitor dielectric quality and physical size. Using film capacitors or NPO/COG capacitors yields the best possible lock times, where as using X7R or Z5R capacitors can increase lock time by 0 – 500%. However, it is a general tendency that designs that use a higher compare frequency tend to be less sensitive to the effects of capacitor dielectrics. Although the use of lesser quality dielectric capacitors may be unavoidable in many circumstances, allowing a larger footprint for the loop filter capacitors, using a lower charge pump current, and reducing the fractional modulus are all ways to reduce capacitor values. Capacitor dielectrics have very little impact on phase noise and spurs.

FRACTIONAL SPUR AND PHASE NOISE CONTROLS

Control of the fractional spurs is more of an art than an exact science. The first differentiation that needs to be made is between primary fractional and sub-fractional spurs. The primary fractional spurs are those that occur at increments of the channel spacing only. The sub-fractional spurs are those that occur at a smaller resolution than the channel spacing, usually one-half or one-fourth. There are trade-offs between fractional spurs, sub-fractional spurs, and phase noise. The rules of thumb presented in this section are just that. There will be exceptions. The bits that impact the fractional spurs are FM and DITH, and these bits should be set in this order.

The first step to do is choose FM, for the delta sigma modulator order. It is recommended to start with FM = 3 for a third order modulator and use strong dithering. In general, there is a trade-off between primary and subfractional spurs. Choosing the highest order modulator ($FM = 0$ for 4th order) typically provides the best primary fractional spurs, but the worst sub-fractional spurs. Choosing the lowest modulator order (FM = 2 for 2nd order), typically gives the worst primary fractional spurs, but the best sub-fractional spurs. Choosing FM = 3, for a 3rd order modulator is a compromise.

The second step is to choose DITH, for dithering. Dithering has a very small impact on primary fractional spurs, but a much larger impact on sub-fractional spurs. The only problem is that it can add a few dB of phase noise, or even more if the loop bandwidth is very wide. Disabling dithering (DITH = 0), provides the best phase noise, but the sub-fractional spurs are worst (except when the fractional numerator is 0, and in this case, they are the best). Choosing strong dithering (DITH $= 2$) significantly reduces sub-fractional spurs, if not eliminating them completely, but adds the most phase noise. Weak dithering $(DITH = 1)$ is a compromise.

The third step is to tinker with the fractional word. Although 1/10 and 400/4000 are mathematically the same, expressing fractions with much larger fractional numerators often improve the fractional spurs. Increasing the fractional denominator only improves spurs to a point. A good practical limit could be to keep the fractional denominator as large as possible, but not to exceed 4095, so it is not necessary to use the extended fractional numerator or denominator.

This steps can be done in different orders and it might take a few iterations to find the optimum performance. Special considerations should be taken for lower frequencies that are below about 100 MHz. In addition squaring up the wave, it is often helpful to use lowest terms fractions instead of highest terms fractions. Also, dithering may turn out to not be so useful. All the things are to introduce a methodical way of thinking about optimizing spurs, not an exact method. There will be exceptions to all these rules.

Note: For more information concerning delta-sigma PLLs, loop filter design, cycle slip reduction, Fastlock, and many other topics, visit [www.ti.com.](http://www.ti.com) Here there is the EasyPLL simulation tool and an online reference called "PLL Performance, Simulation, and Design", by Dean Banerjee.

Programming Description

GENERAL PROGRAMMING INFORMATION

The 24-bit data registers are loaded through a MICROWIRE Interface. These data registers are used to program the R counter, the N counter, and the internal mode control latches. The data format of a typical 24-bit data register is shown below. The control bits CTL [3:0] decode the register address. On the rising edge of LE, data stored in the shift register is loaded into one of the appropriate latches (selected by address bits). Data is shifted in MSB first. Note that it is best to program the N counter last, since doing so initializes the digital lock detector and Fastlock circuitry. Note that initialize means it resets the counters, but it does NOT program values into these registers. The exception is when 22-bit is not being used. In this case, it is not necessary to program the R7 register.

Register Location Truth Table

The control bits CTL [3:0] decode the internal register address. The table below shows how the control bits are mapped to the target control register.

Control Register Content Map

Because the LMX2485 registers are complicated, they are organized into two groups, basic and advanced. The first four registers are basic registers that contain critical information necessary for the PLL to achieve lock. The last 5 registers are for features that optimize spur, phase noise, and lock time performance. The next page shows these registers.

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R0 REGISTER

Note that this register has only one control bit, so the N counter value to be changed with a single write statement to the PLL.

RF_FN[11:0] -- Fractional Numerator for RF PLL

Refer to Fractional Numerator Determination { [RF_FN\[21:12\],](#page-34-0) RF_FN[11:0], ACCESS[1] } for a more detailed description of this control word.

RF_N[10:0] -- RF N Counter Value

The RF N counter contains an 8/9/12/13 and a 16/17/20/21 prescaler. The N counter value can be calculated as follows:

 $N = RF$ P·RF $C + 4$ ·RF $B + RF$ A

RF_C ≥Max{RF_A, RF_B}, for N-2^{FM}-1 ... N+2^{FM} is a necessary condition. This rule is slightly modified in the case where the RF_B counter has an unused bit, where this extra bit is used by the delta-sigma modulator for the purposes of modulation. Consult the tables below for valid operating ranges for each prescaler.

Table 1. Operation with the 8/9/12/13 Prescaler (RF_P=0)

Table 2. Operation with the 16/17/20/21 Prescaler (RF_P=1)

R1 REGISTER

RF_FD[11:0] -- RF PLL Fractional Denominator

The function of these bits are described in Fractional Denominator Determination { [RF_FD\[21:12\],](#page-35-0) RF_FD[11:0], [ACCESS\[1\]}.](#page-35-0)

RF_R [5:0] -- RF R Divider Value

The RF R Counter value is determined by this control word. Note that this counter does allow values down to one.

RF_P -- RF Prescaler bit

The prescaler used is determined by this bit.

RF_PD -- RF Power Down Control Bit

When this bit is set to 0, the RF PLL operates normally. When it is set to one, the RF PLL is powered down and the RF Charge pump is set to a TRI-STATE mode. The CE pin and ATPU bit also control power down functions, and will override the RF_PD bit. The order of precedence is as follows. First, if the CE pin is LOW, then the PLL will be powered down. Provided this is not the case, the PLL will be powered up if the ATPU bit says to do so, regardless of the state of the RF_PD bit. After the CE pin and the ATPU bit are considered, then the RF_PD bit then takes control of the power down function for the RF PLL.

R2 REGISTER

IF_N[18:0] -- IF N Divider Value

Table 3. IF_N Counter Programming with the 8/9 Prescaler (IF_P=0)

Table 4. Operation with the 16/17 Prescaler (IF_P=1)

IF_PD -- IF Power Down Bit

When this bit is set to 0, the IF PLL operates normally. When it is set to 1, the IF PLL powers down and the output of the IF PLL charge pump is set to a TRI-STATE mode. If the ATPU bit is set and register R0 is written to, the IF_PD will be reset to 0 and the IF PLL will be powered up. If the CE pin is held low, the IF PLL will be powered down, overriding the IF_PD bit.

R3 REGISTER

IF_R[11:0] -- IF R Divider Value

For the IF R divider, the R value is determined by the IF R[11:0] bits in the R3 register. The minimum value for IF_R is 3.

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RF_CPG -- RF PLL Charge Pump Gain

This is used to control the magnitude of the RF PLL charge pump in steady state operation.

ACCESS -- Register Access word

It is mandatory that the first 5 registers R0-R4 be programmed. The programming of registers R5-R7 is optional. The ACCESS[3:0] bits determine which additional registers need to be programmed. Any one of these registers can be individually programmed. According to the table below, when the state of a register is in default mode, all the bits in that register are forced to a default state and it is not necessary to program this register. When the register is programmable, it needs to be programmed through the MICROWIRE. Using this register access technique, the programming required is reduced up to 37%.

The default conditions the registers is shown below:

This corresponds to the following bit settings.

R4 REGISTER

This register controls the conditions for the RF PLL in Fastlock.

MUX[3:0] Frequency Out & Lock Detect MUX

These bits determine the output state of the Ftest/LD pin.

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IF_P -- IF Prescaler

When this bit is set to 0, the 8/9 prescaler is used. Otherwise the 16/17 prescaler is used.

RF_CPP -- RF PLL Charge Pump Polarity

IF_CPP -- IF PLL Charge Pump Polarity

For a positive phase detector polarity, which is normally the case, set this bit to 1. Otherwise set this bit for a negative phase detector polarity.

OSC_OUT Oscillator Output Buffer Enable

OSC2X -- Oscillator Doubler Enable

When this bit is set to 0, the oscillator doubler is disabled and the TCXO frequency presented to the IF R and RF R counters is equal to that of the input frequency of the OSCin pin. When this bit is set to 1, the TCXO frequency presented to the RF R counter is doubled. Phase noise added by the doubler is negligible.

FM[1:0] -- Fractional Mode

Determines the order of the delta-sigma modulator. Higher order delta-sigma modulators reduce the spur levels closer to the carrier by pushing this noise to higher frequency offsets from the carrier. In general, the order of the loop filter should be at least one greater than the order of the delta-sigma modulator in order to allow for sufficient roll-off.

DITH[1:0] -- Dithering Control

Dithering is a technique used to spread out the spur energy. Enabling dithering can reduce the main fractional spurs, but can also give rise to a family of smaller spurs. Whether dithering helps or hurts is application specific. Enabling the dithering may also increase the phase noise. In most cases where the fractional numerator is zero, dithering usually degrades performance.

Dithering tends to be most beneficial in applications where there is insufficient filtering of the spurs. This often occurs when the loop bandwidth is very wide or a higher order delta-sigma modulator is used. Dithering tends not to impact the main fractional spurs much, but has a much larger impact on the sub-fractional spurs. If it is decided that dithering will be used, best results will be obtained when the fractional denominator is at least 1000.

ATPU -- PLL Automatic Power Up

When this bit is set to 1, both the RF and IF PLL power up when the R0 register is written to. When the R0 register is written to, the PD_RF and PD_IF bits are changed to 0 in the PLL registers. The exception to this case is when the CE pin is low. In this case, the ATPU function is disabled.

R5 REGISTER

Fractional Numerator Determination { RF_FN[21:12], RF_FN[11:0], ACCESS[1] }

In the case that the ACCESS[1] bit is 0, then the part operates in 12-bit fractional mode, and the RF_FN2[21:12] bits become do not care bits. When the ACCESS[1] bit is set to 1, the part operates in 22-bit mode and the fractional numerator is expanded from 12 to 22-bits.

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Fractional Denominator Determination { RF_FD[21:12], RF_FD[11:0], ACCESS[1]}

In the case that the ACCESS[1] bit is 0, then the part is operates in the 12-bit fractional mode, and the RF_FD[21:12] bits become do not care bits. When the ACCESS[1] is set to 1, the part operates in 22-bit mode and the fractional denominator is expanded from 12 to 22-bits.

R6 REGISTER

RF_TOC -- RF Time Out Counter and Control for FLoutRF Pin

The RF_TOC[13:0] word controls the operation of the RF Fastlock circuitry as well as the function of the FLoutRF output pin. When this word is set to a value between 0 and 3, the RF Fastlock circuitry is disabled and the FLoutRF pin operates as a general purpose CMOS TRI-STATE I/O. When RF_TOC is set to a value between 4 and 16383, the RF Fastlock mode is enabled and the FLoutRF pin is utilized as the RF Fastlock output pin. The value programmed into the RF_TOC[13:0] word represents two times the number of phase detector comparison cycles the RF synthesizer will spend in the Fastlock state.

RF_CPF -- RF PLL Fastlock Charge Pump Current

Specify the charge pump current for the Fastlock operation mode for the RF PLL. Note that the Fastlock charge pump current, steady state current, and CSR control are all interrelated.

CSR[1:0] -- RF Cycle Slip Reduction

CSR controls the operation of the Cycle Slip Reduction Circuit. This circuit can be used to reduce the occurrence of phase detector cycle slips. Note that the Fastlock charge pump current, steady state current, and CSR control are all interrelated. Refer to CYCLE SLIP [REDUCTION](#page-24-0) AND FASTLOCK for information on how to use this.

R7 REGISTER

DIV4 -- RF Digital Lock Detect Divide By 4

Because the digital lock detect function is based on a phase error, it becomes more difficult to detect a locked condition for larger comparison frequencies. When this bit is enabled, it subdivides the RF PLL comparison frequency (it does not apply to the IF comparison frequency) presented to the digital lock detect circuitry by 4. This enables this circuitry to work at higher comparison frequencies. It is recommended that this bit be enabled whenever the comparison frequency exceeds 20 MHz and RF digital lock detect is being used.

IF_RST -- IF PLL Counter Reset

When this bit is enabled, the IF PLL N and R counters are reset, and the charge pump is put in a Tri-State condition. This feature should be disabled for normal operation. Note that a counter reset is applied whenever the chip is powered up via software or CE pin.

RF_RST -- RF PLL Counter Reset

When this bit is enabled, the RF PLL N and R counters are reset and the charge pump is put in a Tri-State condition. This feature should be disabled for normal operation. This feature should be disabled for normal operation. Note that a counter reset is applied whenever the chip is powered up via software or CE pin.

RF_TRI -- RF Charge Pump Tri-State

When this bit is enabled, the RF PLL charge pump is put in a Tri-State condition, but the counters are not reset. This feature is typically disabled for normal operation.

IF_TRI -- IF Charge Pump Tri-State

When this bit is enabled, the IF PLL charge pump is put in a Tri-State condition, but the counters are not reset. This feature is typically disabled for normal operation.

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REVISION HISTORY

PACKAGING INFORMATION

(1) The marketing status values are defined as follows:

ACTIVE: Product device recommended for new designs.

LIFEBUY: TI has announced that the device will be discontinued, and a lifetime-buy period is in effect.

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(2) Eco Plan - The planned eco-friendly classification: Pb-Free (RoHS), Pb-Free (RoHS Exempt), or Green (RoHS & no Sb/Br) - please check<http://www.ti.com/productcontent>for the latest availability information and additional product content details.

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(3) MSL, Peak Temp. -- The Moisture Sensitivity Level rating according to the JEDEC industry standard classifications, and peak solder temperature.

(4) Multiple Top-Side Markings will be inside parentheses. Only one Top-Side Marking contained in parentheses and separated by a "~" will appear on a device. If a line is indented then it is a continuation of the previous line and the two combined represent the entire Top-Side Marking for that device.

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PACKAGE MATERIALS INFORMATION

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TAPE AND REEL INFORMATION

QUADRANT ASSIGNMENTS FOR PIN 1 ORIENTATION IN TAPE

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MECHANICAL DATA

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