General Description

The MAX2121B evaluation kit (EV kit) simplifies the testing and evaluation of the IC direct-conversion tuner. The evaluation kit is fully assembled and tested at the factory. Standard 50Ω SMA and BNC connectors are included on the EV kit for the inputs and outputs to allow quick and easy evaluation on the test bench. This document provides a list of equipment required to evaluate the device, a straightforward test procedure to verify functionality, a description of the EV kit circuit, the circuit schematic, a component list for the kit, and artwork for each layer of the PCB.

Features

- Easy Evaluation of the MAX2121B
- 50Ω RF Input SMA Connector
- 50Ω Baseband Output BNC Connector
- Single 3.3V ±5% Supply
- I²C 2-Wire Serial Interface
- All Critical Peripheral Components Included
- Proven PCB Layout
- Fully Assembled and Tested
- PC Control Software
  (Available at www.maximintegrated.com/evkitsoftware)

Ordering Information ***appears at end of data sheet.***

Component List

DESIGNATION	QTY	DESCRIPTION
ADDR	0	Not installed, 3-pin (1 x 3) inline header, 0.01in centers Sullins PEC36SAAN
CP_OUT, J13, REF_O/P, VGC	4	PC mini red test points Keystone 5000
C1–C6, C9	7	1000pF ±10% ceramic capacitors (0603) Murata GRM188R71H102K
C7, C13, C20, C21, C25, C26, C27, C75	8	0.1µF ±10% ceramic capacitors (0603) Murata GRM188R71C104K
C8, C12, C30	0	Not installed, capacitors
C10, C11	2	0.047µF ±10% ceramic capacitors (0603) Murata GRM188R71C473K
C14	1	100pF ±5% ceramic capacitor (0603) Murata GRM1885C1H101J
C15	1	0.033µF ±10% ceramic capacitor (0603) Murata GRM188R71E333K
C16	1	2200pF ±5% ceramic capacitor (0603) Murata GRM188R71H222J
C18	1	10µF ±10% tantalum capacitor (C Case) AVX TAJC016K016
C23, C24, C71, C72, C73	5	330pF ±5% ceramic capacitors (0603) Murata GRM1885C1H331J
C28, C31	2	5pF ±0.25pF ceramic capacitors (0603) Murata GRM1885C1H5R0C
C32	1	33pF ±5% capacitor (0603) Murata GRM1885C1H330J
IN, IP, QN, QP	4	SMA PC top-mount connectors Emerson 142-0701-201
J6	1	DB25 right-angle male connector AMP 5747238-4
J17	1	PC mini black test point Keystone 5001
JP1, JP2, VCC_BB, VCC_DIG, VCC_LO, VCC_RF1, VCC_RF2, VCC_SYN, VCC_VCO	0	Not installed, 2-pin (1 x 2) inline headers, 0.01in centers Sullins PEC36SAAN

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Component List (continued)

DESIGNATION	QTY	DESCRIPTION
R1, R12, R13, R17	4	49.9Ω ±1% resistors (0603); use lead-free parts only
R2	0	Not installed, resistor
R3, R7, R15, R16	4	0Ω ±5% resistors—short (0603); use lead-free parts only
R4	1	1kΩ ±5% resistor (0603); use lead-free parts only
R5	1	820Ω ±5% resistor (0603); use lead-free parts only
R6	1	390Ω ±5% resistor (0603); use lead-free parts only
R8	1	86.6Ω ±1% resistor (0603); use lead-free parts only
R9, R10, R11, R41, R42	5	100Ω ±1% resistors (0603); use lead-free parts only
R14, R43	2	5.1kΩ ±5% resistors (0603); use lead-free parts only
R18	1	43.2Ω ±1% resistor (0603); use lead-free parts only
R46, R47	2	2.7kΩ ±5% resistors (0603); use lead-free parts only

DESIGNATION	QTY	DESCRIPTION
REF_INPUT	0	Not installed, SMA edge-mount connector, round contact Emerson 142-0701-801
RF_INPUT	1	SMA edge-mount connector, round contact Emerson 142-0701-801
U1	1	DVBS tuner (28 TQFN-EP) Maxim MAX2121BETI+
U3	1	74LV07A hex buffer/driver OC TI SN74LV07ADR
Y1	1	27MHz crystal Citizen America HCM49-27.000MABJ-UT Digi-Key 300-8571-1-ND
—	0	Not installed, shunts (JP1, JP2, VCC_BB, VCC_DIG, VCC_LO, VCC_RF1, VCC_RF2, VCC_SYN, VCC_VCO) Shorting jumpers, 2 position Sullins SSC02SYAN
—	1	PCB: MAX2121B EVALUATION KIT#

Component Suppliers

SUPPLIER	PHONE	WEBSITE
AMP/Tyco Electronics	800-522-6752	www.tycoelectronics.com
AVX Corporation	843-946-0238	www.avx.com
Citizen America Corp.	310-781-1460	www.citizencrystal.com
Digi-Key Corp.	800-344-4539	www.digikey.com
Emerson Network Power	507-833-8822	www.emersonnetworkpower.com
Keystone Electronics Corp.	209-796-2032	www.keyelco.com
Murata Electronics North America, Inc.	770-436-1300	www.murata-northamerica.com
Sullins Electronics Corp.	760-744-0125	www.sullinselectronics.com

Note: *Indicate that you are using the MAX2121B when contacting these component suppliers.*

Quick Start

Test Equipment Required

- MAX2121B EV kit
- Dual-output power supply capable of supplying up to 3.3V at > 160mA for V_{CC} and 3V at > 50µA for V_{GC} gain-control voltage
- RF signal generator capable of delivering at least 0dBm of output power at frequencies up to 2.175GHz
- RF spectrum analyzer capable of covering the operating frequency range of the device
- PC, laptop, or tablet with Windows XP®, Windows® 7 or 8 operating system, and a USB port
- USB A male to USB B male cable
- US keyboard
- Multichannel digital oscilloscope (optional)
- Network analyzer to measure return loss (optional)
- Ammeter to measure supply current (optional)

Windows and Windows XP are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corp.

Procedure

The EV kit is fully assembled and factory tested. Follow the instructions in the *Connections and Setup* section for proper device evaluation.

Measurement Considerations

The EV kit includes on-board matching circuitry at the MAX2121B RF input to convert the 50Ω source to a 75Ω input. Note that the input power to the device must be adjusted to account for the -6dB power loss of the matching resistor network.

Connections and Setup

This section provides a step-by-step guide to testing the basic functionality of the EV kit in UHF mode. **Caution: Do not turn on DC power or RF signal generators until all connections are completed.**

1) Verify that all jumpers are in place.
2) With its output disabled, connect the DC power supply to VGC set to 0.5V (maximum gain).
3) With its output disabled, set the DC power supply to 3.3V. Connect the power supply to the VCC (through an ammeter if desired) and GND terminals on the EV kit. If available, set the current limit to 200mA.
4) With its output disabled, set the RF signal generator to a 955MHz frequency at -69dBm to account for the 6dB resistive pad loss. When measuring noise figure, this 6dB must also be accounted for by subtracting 6dB from the measured noise figure, unless the pad has been removed.
5) Connect the output of the RF signal generator to the SMA connector labeled RF _INPUT on the evaluation board.
6) Connect the PC to the INTF3000 Interface Board using a USB A male to USB B male cable. On INTF3000, place a jumper between pins 1-2 of JU1 (VBUS Pos). Connect a 25-pin connector of the INTF3000 (J4) directly to the 25-pin connector of the EV kit (J6).
7) Turn on the 3.3V V_{CC} power supply, followed by the 3V gain-control power supply. The supply current from the 3.3V V_{CC} supply should read approximately 150mA, and the supply current from the 3V V_{GC} should read approximately 50µA. Be sure to adjust the power supply to account for any voltage drop across the ammeter.
8) Install and run the IC control software. Software is available for download at **www.maximintegrated.com/evkitsoftware**.
9) Load the default register settings from the control software by clicking **Edit: Load Defaults**.
10) Connect the output to a spectrum analyzer or an oscilloscope.
11) Enable the RF signal generator's output.
12) Activate and set the power level of the RF generator to achieve $1V_{P-P}$ differential across IP/IN or QP/QN. Note that the intended 200Ω differential load is dependent on each baseband output being properly terminated into 50Ω. For example, terminate IP into a 50Ω spectrum analyzer and terminate IN into 50Ω. The summation of these two 50Ω terminations and the two series 50Ω resistors on the EV kit equates to the desired 200Ω differential load. In this configuration, the $1V_{P-P}$ differential voltage across IP/IN is reduced to $250mV_{P-P}$ (-8dBm) at the spectrum-analyzer input.
13) Check the I/Q outputs.
14) Observe the baseband output at 5MHz with differential $1V_{P-P}$.

Layout Considerations

The EV kit can serve as a guide for PCB layout. Keep RF signal lines as short as possible to minimize losses and radiation. Use controlled impedance on all high-frequency traces. The exposed pad must be soldered evenly to the board's ground plane for proper operation. Use abundant vias beneath the exposed pad for maximum heat dissipation. Use abundant ground vias between RF traces to minimize undesired coupling.

To minimize coupling between different sections of the IC, the ideal power-supply layout is a star configuration, which has a large decoupling capacitor at the central V_{CC} node. The V_{CC} traces branch out from this node, with each trace going to separate V_{CC} pins of the IC. Each V_{CC} pin must have a bypass capacitor with low impedance to ground at the frequency of interest. Do not share ground vias among multiple connections to the PCB ground plane.

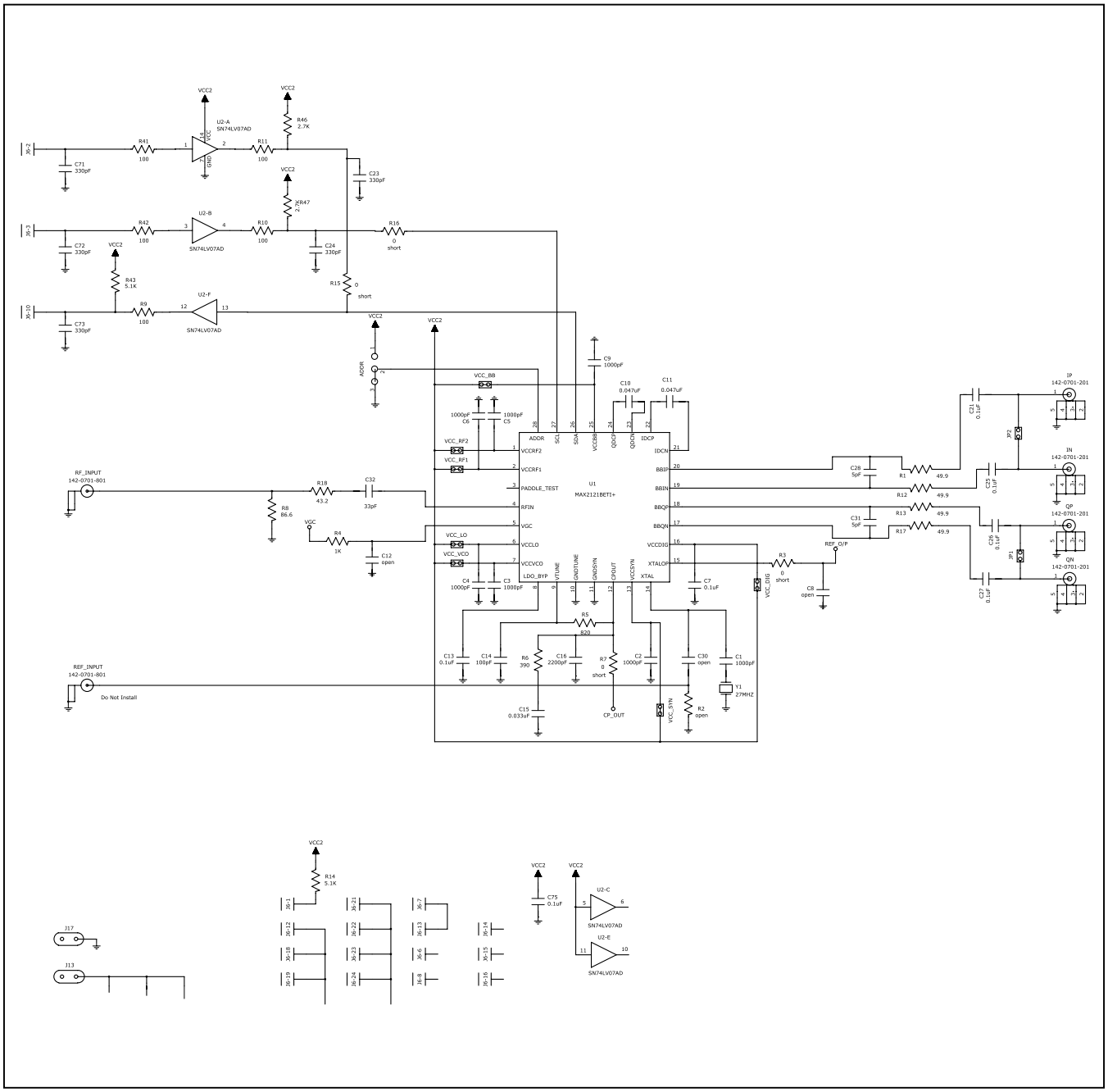

Figure 1. MAX2121B EV Kit Schematic

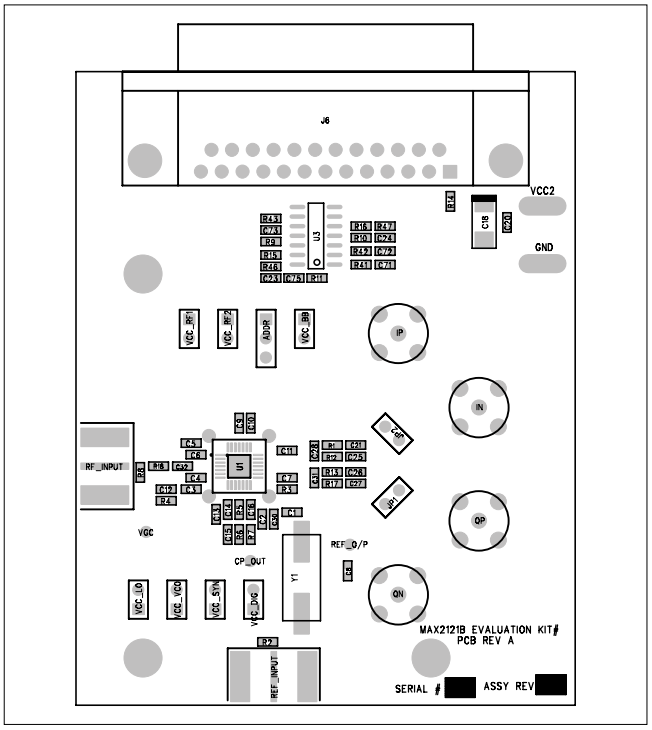

Figure 2. MAX2121B EV Kit Component Placement Guide—Component Side

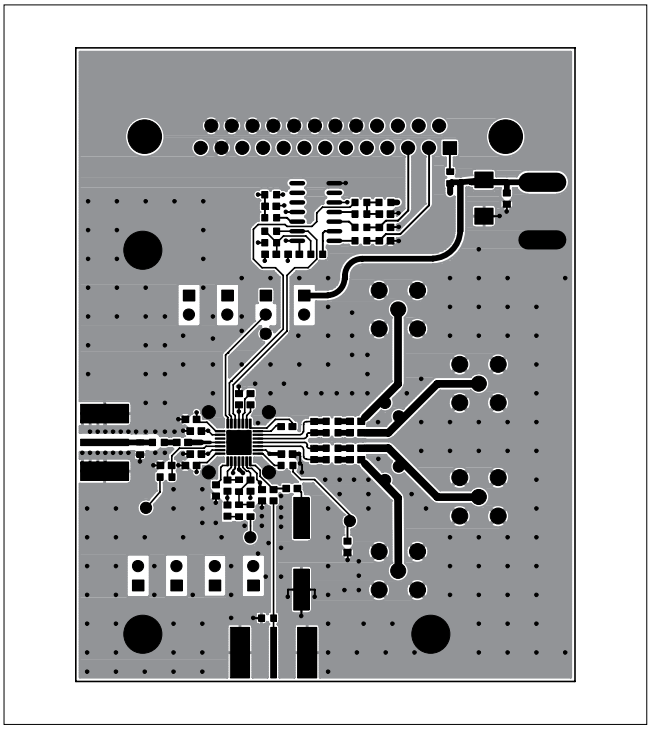

Figure 3. MAX2121B EV Kit PCB Layout—Top

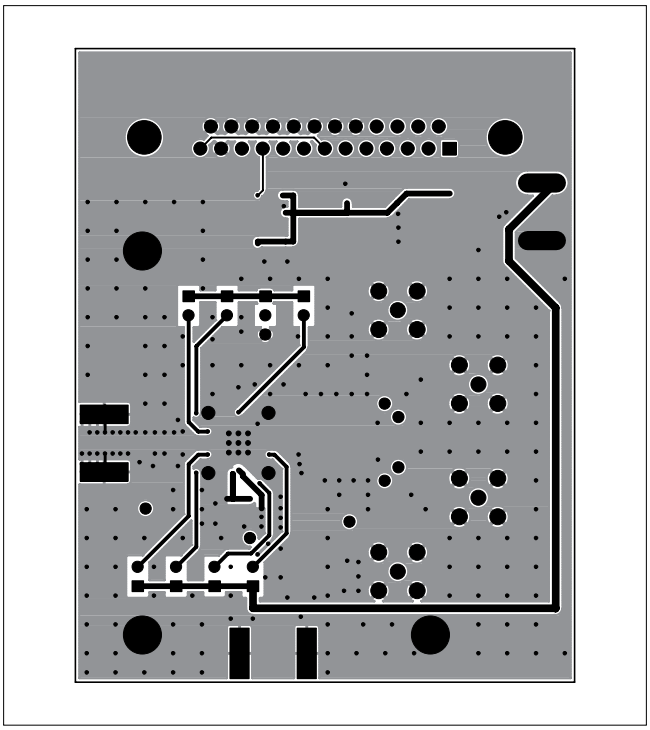

Figure 4. MAX2121B EV Kit PCB Layout—Bottom

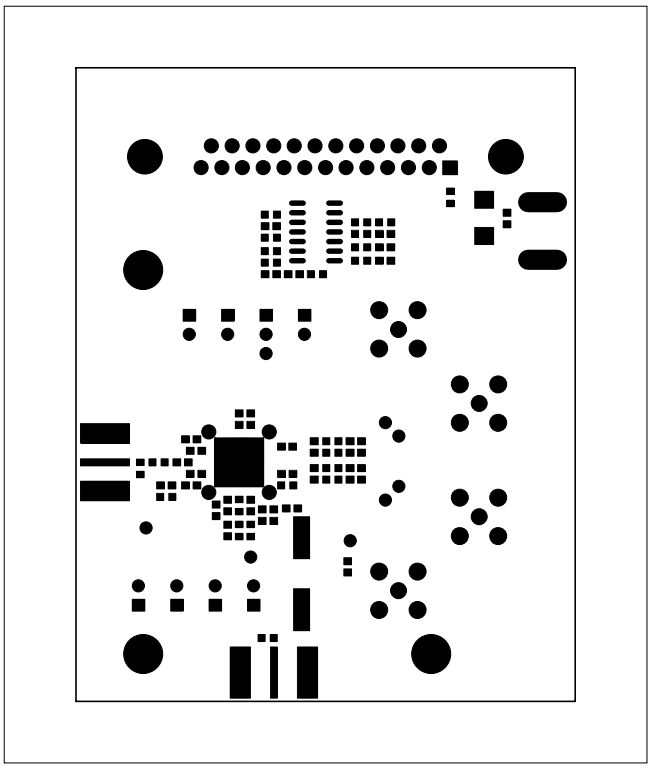

Figure 5. MAX2121B EV Kit PCB Layout—Top Soldermask

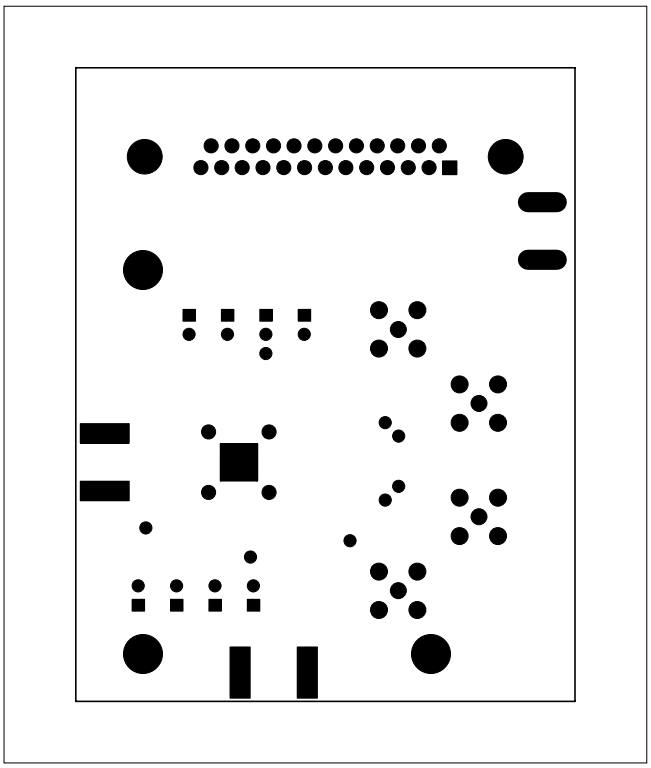

Figure 6. MAX2121B EV Kit PCB Layout—Bottom Soldermask

Ordering Information

PART	TYPE
MAX2121BEVKIT#	EV Kit

#Denotes RoHS compliant.

Revision History

REVISION NUMBER	REVISION DATE	DESCRIPTION	PAGES CHANGED
0	6/15	Initial release	—

For pricing, delivery, and ordering information, please contact Maxim Direct at 1-888-629-4642, or visit Maxim Integrated's website at www.maximintegrated.com.

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