

### **Data Sheet**

#### **FEATURES**

**Conversion** loss 9 dB typical for 22 GHz to 29 GHz 11 dB typical for 29 GHz to 38 GHz LO to RF isolation 37 dB typical for 22 GHz to 29 GHz 36 dB typical for 29 GHz to 38 GHz LO to IF isolation 30 dB typical for 22 GHz to 29 GHz 27 dB typical for 29 GHz to 38 GHz **RF to IF isolation** 31 dB typical for 22 GHz to 29 GHz 34 dB typical for 29 GHz to 38 GHz Input IP3 17 dBm typical for 22 GHz to 29 GHz 21 dBm typical for 29 GHz to 38 GHz IF range DC to 8 GHz Passive, no dc bias required Small size

#### APPLICATIONS

Point to point radios Point to multipoint radios and very small aperture terminal (VSAT) radios **Test equipment and sensors Military end use** 

#### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

The HMC329A chip is a general-purpose, double balanced mixer that can be used as an upconverter or downconverter from 22 GHz to 38 GHz in a small chip area of 0.87 mm  $\times$ 0.58 mm. This mixer requires no external component or

matching circuitry. The HMC329A provides excellent local oscillation (LO) to radio frequency (RF) and LO to intermediate frequency (IF) suppression due to optimized balun structures. The mixer operates with LO drive levels at 13 dBm or above.

# Downconverter

 $0.87 \times 0.58 \times 0.102 \text{ mm}$ 

# 22 GHz to 38 GHz, GaAs, MMIC, **Double Balanced Mixer**

### HMC329A

#### FUNCTIONAL BLOCK DIAGRAM



Rev. 0

#### **Document Feedback**

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#### **REVISION HISTORY**

7/2018—Revision 0: Initial Version

### **SPECIFICATIONS** ELECTRICAL SPECIFICATIONS—22 GHz TO 29 GHz RF FREQUENCY RANGE

 $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C, IF = 1 GHz, LO drive level = 13 dBm, RF frequency range = 22 GHz to 29 GHz, all measurements performed as a downconverter with the upper sideband selected, unless otherwise noted.

Parameter	Symbol	Min	Тур	Max	Unit
FREQUENCY RANGE					
Radio Frequency	RF	22		29	GHz
Local Oscillator	LO	22		29	GHz
Intermediate Frequency	IF	DC		8	GHz
CONVERSION LOSS			9	12.5	dB
NOISE FIGURE	NF		11		dB
ISOLATION					
LO to RF			37		dB
LO to IF		20	30		dB
RF to IF		19	31		dB
INPUT THIRD-ORDER INTERCEPT	IP3	10	17		dBm
INPUT SECOND-ORDER INTERCEPT	IP2		42		dBm
INPUT POWER					
1 dB Compression	P1dB		9.5		dBm
UPCONVERTER PERFORMANCE					
Conversion Loss			7		dB
Input Third-Order Intercept	IP3		16		dBm
RETURN LOSS					
RF			8		dB
LO			9.5		dB

#### ELECTRICAL SPECIFICATIONS—29 GHz TO 38 GHz RF FREQUENCY RANGE

 $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C, IF = 1 GHz, LO drive level = 13 dBm, RF frequency range = 29 GHz to 38 GHz, all measurements performed as a downconverter with the upper sideband selected, unless otherwise noted.

Parameter	Symbol	Min	Тур	Max	Unit
FREQUENCY RANGE					
Radio Frequency	RF	29		38	GHz
Local Oscillator	LO	29		38	GHz
Intermediate Frequency	IF	DC		8	GHz
CONVERSION LOSS			11	14.5	dB
NOISE FIGURE	NF		14		dB
ISOLATION					
LO to RF			36		dB
LO to IF		18	27		dB
RF to IF		19	34		dB
INPUT THIRD-ORDER INTERCEPT	IP3	16	21		dBm
INPUT SECOND-ORDER INTERCEPT	IP2		46		dBm
INPUT POWER					
1 dB Compression	P1dB		13.5		dBm
UPCONVERTER PERFORMANCE					
Conversion Loss			10		dB
Input Third-Order Intercept	IP3		14		dBm
RETURN LOSS					
RF			8.5		dB
LO			6.5		dB

### **ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS**

#### Table 3.

1.0010 01	
Parameter	Rating
RF Input Power	18 dBm
LO Input Power	27 dBm
IF Input Power	18 dBm
IF Source and Sink Current	2 mA
Channel Temperature	150°C
Continuous Power Dissipation, P <sub>DISS</sub> (T <sub>A</sub> = 85°C, Derate 5.88 mW/°C Above 85°C)	382 mW
Storage Temperature Range	–65 to +150°C
Operating Temperature Range	–55 to +85°C
Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) Sensitivity	
Human Body Model (HBM)	1500 V
Field Induced Charged Device Model (FICDM)	1250 V

Stresses at or above those listed under Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the product. This is a stress rating only; functional operation of the product at these or any other conditions above those indicated in the operational section of this specification is not implied. Operation beyond the maximum operating conditions for extended periods may affect product reliability.

#### THERMAL RESISTANCE

Thermal performance is directly linked to printed circuit board (PCB) design and operating environment. Careful attention to PCB thermal design is required.

#### Table 4. Thermal Resistance

Package Type	θ」	Unit
C-7-5	170	°C/W

#### **ESD CAUTION**



**ESD (electrostatic discharge) sensitive device.** Charged devices and circuit boards can discharge without detection. Although this product features patented or proprietary protection circuitry, damage may occur on devices subjected to high energy ESD. Therefore, proper ESD precautions should be taken to avoid performance degradation or loss of functionality.

### **PIN CONFIGURATION AND FUNCTION DESCRIPTIONS**



Figure 2. Pin Configuration

#### Table 5. Pin Function Descriptions

Pin No.	Mnemonic	Description
1, 4, 5, 7, Die Bottom	GND	Ground. These pads and die bottom must be connected to RF and dc ground. See Figure 3 for the GND interface schematic.
2	LO	Local Oscillator Port. This pin is ac-coupled and matched to 50 $\Omega$ . See Figure 4 for the LO interface schematic.
3	RF	Radio Frequency Port. This pin is ac-coupled and matched to 50 $\Omega$ . See Figure 6 for the RF interface schematic.
6	IF	Intermediate Frequency Port. This pin is dc-coupled. For applications not requiring operation to dc, dc block this port externally using a series capacitor with a value selected to pass the necessary IF frequency range. For operation to dc, this pin must not source or sink more than 2 mA of current or die malfunction and possible die failure can result. See Figure 5 for the IF interface schematic.

#### **INTERFACE SCHEMATICS**

GND 00-59891

Figure 3. GND Interface Schematic



Figure 4. LO Interface Schematic



Figure 5. IF Interface Schematic



Figure 6. RF Interface Schematic

### TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

DOWNCONVERTER PERFORMANCE AT IF = 1 GHz, UPPER SIDEBAND







Figure 8. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 9. Input IP2 vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 10. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ 



Figure 11. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C



Figure 12. Input IP2 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C



Figure 13. Input P1dB vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 14. Noise Figure vs. RF Frequency at  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 15. Input P1dB vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ 

#### DOWNCONVERTER PERFORMANCE AT IF = 4 GHz, UPPER SIDEBAND



Figure 16. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 17. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 18. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C



Figure 19. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C

#### DOWNCONVERTER PERFORMANCE AT IF = 8 GHz, UPPER SIDEBAND



Figure 20. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 21. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 22. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C



Figure 23. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C

#### DOWNCONVERTER PERFORMANCE AT IF = 1 GHz, LOWER SIDEBAND



Figure 24. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 25. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 26. Input P1dB vs. RF Frequency, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 27. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C



Figure 28. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C







Figure 30. Input IP2 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C

#### DOWNCONVERTER PERFORMANCE AT IF = 4 GHz, LOWER SIDEBAND



Figure 31. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures,  $LO = 13 \, dBm$ 



Figure 32. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 33. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C



Figure 34. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ 

#### DOWNCONVERTER PERFORMANCE AT IF = 8 GHz, LOWER SIDEBAND



Figure 35. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures,  $LO = 13 \ dBm$ 



Figure 36. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures,  $LO = 13 \ dBm$ 



Figure 37. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C



Figure 38. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ 

#### UPCONVERTER PERFORMANCE AT IF = 1 GHz, UPPER SIDEBAND



Figure 39. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures,  $LO = 13 \ dBm$ 



Figure 40. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 41. Input P1dB vs. RF Frequency, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 42. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ 



Figure 43. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C

#### UPCONVERTER PERFORMANCE AT IF = 4 GHz, UPPER SIDEBAND



Figure 44. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures  $LO = 13 \ dBm$ 



Figure 45. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures LO = 13 dBm



Figure 46. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ 



Figure 47. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C

#### UPCONVERTER PERFORMANCE AT IF = 8 GHz, UPPER SIDEBAND



Figure 48. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures,  $LO = 13 \, dBm$ 



Figure 49. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 50. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C



Figure 51. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C

#### UPCONVERTER PERFORMANCE AT IF = 1 GHz, LOWER SIDEBAND



Figure 52. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



 $LO = 13 \, dBm$ 



Figure 54. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C



Figure 55. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C

#### UPCONVERTER PERFORMANCE AT IF = 4 GHz, LOWER SIDEBAND



Figure 56. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 57. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 58. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C



Figure 59. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ 

#### UPCONVERTER PERFORMANCE AT IF = 8 GHz, LOWER SIDEBAND



Figure 60. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures,  $LO = 13 \ dBm$ 



Figure 61. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures,  $LO = 13 \ dBm$ 



Figure 62. Conversion Gain vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C



Figure 63. Input IP3 vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ 

#### **ISOLATION AND RETURN LOSS**

Downconverter performance at IF = 1 GHz, upper sideband (low-side LO).



Figure 64. LO to RF Isolation vs. LO Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 65. LO to IF Isolation vs. LO Frequency at Various Temperatures, LO = 13 dBm



Figure 66. RF to IF Isolation vs. RF Frequency at Various Temperatures,  $LO = 13 \ dBm$ 



Figure 67. LO to RF Isolation vs. LO Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C



Figure 68. LO to IF Isolation vs. LO Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C



Figure 69. RF to IF Isolation vs. RF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}$ C





Figure 72. IF Return Loss vs. IF Frequency, LO = 26.5 GHz, 13 dBm



Figure 71. RF Return Loss vs. RF Frequency, LO = 26.5 GHz, 13 dBm

#### IF BANDWIDTH, DOWNCONVERTER

Upper sideband, LO frequency = 26.5 GHz.



Figure 73. Conversion Gain vs. IF Frequency at Various Temperatures,  $LO = 13 \, dBm$ 







Figure 75. Conversion Gain vs. IF Frequency at Various LO Power Levels,  $T_A = 25^{\circ}C$ 



#### SPURIOUS AND HARMONICS PERFORMANCE

Mixer spurious products are measured in dBc from the IF output power level. N/A means not applicable.

#### LO Harmonics

LO power = 13 dBm,  $T_A$  =25°C, and all valued are in dBc below the input LO level measured at the RF port.

#### Table 6. LO Harmonics

	N	N $ imes$ LO Spur at the RF Port			
LO Frequency (GHz)	1	2	3		
24	9	13	N/A		
28	6	N/A	N/A		
31	8	N/A	N/A		

### Downconverter, Upper Sideband, $M \times N$ Spurious Outputs

Mixer spurious products are measured in dBc from the IF output power level.

Spur values are  $(M \times RF) - (N \times LO)$ .

IF = 1 GHz, RF = 32 GHz at -10 dBm, and LO = 31 GHz at +13 dBm.

		N × LO					
		0	1	2	3	4	
	0	N/A	-5	N/A	N/A	N/A	
	1	+32	0	+42	N/A	N/A	
M × RF	2	N/A	+52	+59	+56	N/A	
	3	N/A	N/A	+75	+81	+79	
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	+71	+85	

IF = 4 GHz, RF = 32 GHz at -10 dBm, and LO = 28 GHz at +13 dBm.

		N × LO							
		0	0 1 2 3 4						
	0	N/A	-5	N/A	N/A	N/A			
	1	+32	0	+37	N/A	N/A			
M × RF	2	N/A	+55	+60	+59	N/A			
	3	N/A	N/A	+71	+77	+78			
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	+70	+79			

IF = 8 GHz, RF = 32 GHz at -10 dBm, and LO = 24 GHz at +13 dBm.

		N × LO					
		0	1	2	3	4	
	0	N/A	-3	+21	N/A	N/A	
	1	+34	0	+33	+31	N/A	
M × RF	2	N/A	+64	+33	N/A	N/A	
	3	N/A	N/A	+21	N/A	N/A	
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

# Downconverter, Lower Sideband, $M \times N$ Spurious Outputs

Spur values are  $(M \times RF) - (N \times LO)$ .

IF = 1 GHz, RF = 35 GHz at -10 dBm, and LO = 36 GHz at +13 dBm.

		N × LO						
		0	0 1 2 3 4					
	0	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	N/A		
	1	37	0	74	N/A	N/A		
M×RF	2	N/A	59	61	74	N/A		
	3	N/A	N/A	81	70	68		
	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	83	89		

#### Upconverter, Upper Sideband, M × N Spurious Outputs

Mixer spurious products are measured in dBc from the RF output power level.

 $IF_{IN} = 1 GHz$  at -10 dBm, and LO = 31 GHz at 13 dBm.

		N × LO				
		0	1	2	3	4
M×IFin	-4	92	81	N/A	N/A	N/A
	-3	83	72	N/A	N/A	N/A
	-2	75	50	N/A	N/A	N/A
	-1	25	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
	0	N/A	7	N/A	N/A	N/A
	+1	24	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
	+2	74	46	N/A	N/A	N/A
	+3	84	62	N/A	N/A	N/A
	+4	91	72	N/A	N/A	N/A

#### Upconverter, Lower Sideband, M × N Spurious Outputs

		N×LO				
		0	1	2	3	4
M × IF <sub>IN</sub>	-4	92	76	N/A	N/A	N/A
	-3	88	60	N/A	N/A	N/A
	-2	75	44	N/A	N/A	N/A
	-1	23	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
	0	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	N/A
	+1	23	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
	+2	75	42	N/A	N/A	N/A
	+3	91	66	N/A	N/A	N/A
	+4	92	71	N/A	N/A	N/A

### **THEORY OF OPERATION**

The HMC329A is a general-purpose, double balanced mixer that can be used as an upconverter or a downconverter from 22 GHz to 38 GHz.

When used as a downconverter, the HMC329A downconverts radio frequencies between 22 GHz and 38 GHz to IF values between dc and 8 GHz.

When used as an upconverter, the mixer upconverts IF values between dc and 8 GHz to radio frequencies between 22 GHz and 38 GHz.

The mixer performs well with LO drive levels of 13 dBm or greater and provides excellent LO to RF and LO to IF suppression due to optimized balun structures.

### **APPLICATIONS INFORMATION** TYPICAL APPLICATION CIRCUIT

Figure 77 shows the typical application circuit for the HMC329A. The HMC329A is a passive device and does not require any external components. The LO and RF pins are

internally ac-coupled. When IF operation is not required until dc, it is recommended to use an ac-coupled capacitor at the IF port.

#### **ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM**

The assembly diagram is shown in Figure 78.



Figure 77. Typical Application Circuit



Figure 78. Assembly Diagram

### MOUNTING AND BONDING TECHNIQUES FOR MILLIMETER WAVE GAAS MMICS

Attach the die directly to the ground plane eutectically or with conductive epoxy.

To bring RF to and from the chip, use 50  $\Omega$  microstrip transmission lines on 0.127 mm (0.005 inches) alumina thin film substrates (see Figure 79).



If 0.254 mm (0.010 inches) alumina thin film substrates must be used, raise the die 0.152 mm (0.006 inches) so that the surface of the die is coplanar with the surface of the substrate.

One way to accomplish this coplanarity is to attach the 0.102 mm (0.004 inches) die to a 0.152 mm (0.006 inches) molybdenum heat spreader (moly tab), which is then attached to the ground plane (see Figure 80).



Figure 80. Routing RF Signals (Raised)

Bring the microstrip substrates as close to the die as possible to minimize ribbon bond length. Typical die to substrate spacing is 0.076 mm (0.003 inches). Gold ribbon of a 0.076 mm (0.003 inches) width and a <0.31 mm minimal length (<0.012 inches) is recommended to minimize inductance on the RF, LO, and IF ports.

### HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

To avoid permanent damage, adhere to the following precautions.

#### Storage

All bare die ship in either waffle-based or gel-based ESD protective containers and are then sealed in an ESD protective bag. After opening the sealed ESD protective bag, all die must be stored in a dry nitrogen environment.

#### Cleanliness

Handle the chips in a clean environment. Never use liquid cleaning systems to clean the chip.

#### Static Sensitivity

Follow ESD precautions to protect against ESD strikes.

#### **Transients**

Suppress instrument and bias supply transients while bias is applied. To minimize inductive pickup, use shielded signal and bias cables.

#### **General Handling**

Handle the chip only on the edges, using a vacuum collet or with a sharp pair of bent tweezers. Because the surface of the chip has fragile air bridges, never touch the surface of the chip with a vacuum collet, tweezers, or fingers.

#### MOUNTING

The chip is back metallized and can be die mounted with gold/tin eutectic preforms or with electrically conductive epoxy. The mounting surface must be clean and flat.

#### **Eutectic Die Attach**

It is best to use an 80% gold/20% tin preform with a work surface temperature of 255°C and a tool temperature of 265°C. When hot 90% nitrogen/10% hydrogen gas is applied, maintain the tool tip temperature at 290°C. Do not expose the chip to a temperature greater than 320°C for more than 20 sec. No more than 3 sec of scrubbing is required for attachment.

#### Epoxy Die Attach

Apply a minimum amount of epoxy to the mounting surface so that a thin epoxy fillet is observed around the perimeter of the chip after placing it into position. Cure the epoxy per the schedule provided by the manufacturer.

#### **WIRE BONDING**

RF bonds made with 0.003 inch  $\times$  0.005 inch gold ribbon are recommended for the RF ports. These bonds must be thermossonically bonded with a force of 40 g to 60 g. DC bonds of a 0.025 mm (0.001 inches) diameter, thermosonically bonded, are recommended. Create ball bonds with a force of 40 g to 50 g and wedge bonds with a force of 18 g to 22 g. Create all bonds with a nominal stage temperature of 150°C. Apply a minimum amount of ultrasonic energy to achieve reliable bonds. Keep all bonds as short as possible, less than 0.31 mm (0.012 inches).



#### **ORDERING GUIDE**

Model <sup>1</sup>	Temperature Range	Package Description	Package Option
HMC329A	–55°C to +85°C	7-Pad Bare Die [CHIP]	C-7-5
HMC329A-SX	–55°C to +85°C	7-Pad Bare Die [CHIP]	C-7-5

<sup>1</sup> The HMC329A and HMC329A-SX are RoHS compliant parts.

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