6 GHz Direct IQ Demodulator for PXI Express

The SC5312A is a single slot, 3U, PXI Express, 400 MHz to 6 GHz direct IQ demodulator, downconverting RF directly to analog In-phase (I) and Quadrature (Q) IF or IQ baseband components. The frequency range of the baseband/IF output is DC to 160 MHz. The module can also be operated as a single stage downconverter. The DC-coupled differential IQ pair may be fed to any dual channel digitizer for analog to digital data conversion. The local oscillator (LO) is supplied by any external signal source capable of tuning over the range of the SC5312A (like the SignalCore SC5505A dual channel signal source). The SC5312A can daisy-chain the LO signal, allowing a single source module to drive multiple direct IQ downconverters for coherent reception.

The SC5312A has an auxiliary RF input port that may be connected to the auxiliary RF output port of SignalCore IQ modulators like the SC5412A to aid with system digital equalization that corrects for IQ impairments associated with the device(s). The user can access internal correction DACs, applying



compensation offsets to improve the demodulator linearity, IP2, DC offsets, and common mode output voltage of the differential ports. The input compression-to-noise dynamic range is typically 150 dB with noise figure less than 10 dB. IMD is less than -70 dBc for a -20 dBm input signal.

The SC5312A is designed to be paired with the SC5505A signal source to form a complete RF direct IQ demodulator/downconverter solution. It can also be configured with the SC5412A direct IQ upconverter as the core of an RF signal transceiver. The SC5312A's high dynamic range, along with its compact size, low power consumption, and modular flexibility make it attractive for system integration into applications such as wireless device testing, software defined radio research, point-to-point radio, multichannel coherent systems, and other academic and military programs.

Product Features

- RF range 400 MHz to 6 GHz
- DC to 160 MHz baseband
- Noise floor < -165 dBm/Hz
- Input IP3 > 15 dBm
- DC offset calibration
- Adjustable gain > 60 dB
- Compact size



SC5312A Simplified Block Diagram



Applications

- RF instrumentation
- Wireless communications
- Broadcast monitoring
- Spectral analysis
- Software-defined radio

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS (AT 25°C AMBIENT, SINE WAVEFORM)

SPECTRAL SPECIFICATIONS

RF input frequency range	400 MHz to 6 GHz
IF output frequency	DC to 160 MHz

AMPLITUDE SPECIFICATIONS

Input RF range	160 dBm to +20 dBm
Max input (with 20 dB RF attenuation)	+ 27 dBm
RF attenuation range	0 to 60 dB
RF attenuation resolution	1 dB
Gain range	-30 dB to +30 dB typical
Input P1dB compression	+ 5 dBm
IMD3 (two tones, 1 MHz apart)	

(RF amplifier/attenuator adjusted for 1V peak baseband)

Frequency	RF=-10 dBm	RF=-20 dBm	RF=-30dBm
900 MHz	-75 dBc	-80 dBc	-85 dBc
1800 MHz	-70 dBc	-75 dBc	-80 dBc
5800 MHz	-60 dBc	-65 dBc	-67 dBc

Input IP2	>	60 dBc
Input noise density		

(adjusted for 1V peak baseband)

Frequency	$RF = -10 \ dBm$	RF = -30 dBm	Max gain
900 MHz	-148 dBm/Hz	-161 dBm/Hz	-166 dBm/Hz
1800 MHz	-148 dBm/Hz	-161 dBm/Hz	-165 dBm/Hz
5800 MHz	-140 dBm/Hz	-160 dBm/Hz	-160 dBm/Hz
LO leakage at RF port < -70 dBm LO level3 dBm to +3 dBm			

QUADRATURE SPECIFICATIONS

Gain mismatch (user equalization not applied)

Error
< 0.2 dB
< 0.2 dB
< 0.3 dB
< 0.3 dB

Phase error (user equalization not applied)

Frequency	Error
900 MHz	< 0.6 deg
1800 MHz	$< 0.8 \deg$
3600 MHz	< 2.2 deg
5800 MHz	< 2.0 deg

TERMINAL SPECIFICATIONS

RF and LO input terminals	
Impedance	50 Ω
Connector type	SMA female
Coupling	AC
Baseband / IF output terminals	
Impedance (single ended)	50 Ω
Connector type	MCX female
Coupling	DC
Amplitude	2 V max
Communication interface	PXI Express
Power consumption	+12 V @ 0.5 A
	+3V@0.3A
Weight	1 lb
Dimensions (W x H x D, max envelope) 0.8	3″ x 5.1″ x 7.2″
Warranty	rts and labor on
defects in materials	or workmanship

ADDITIONAL FEATURES

- Auxiliary RF port for calibration use
- Switchable LO output
- DAC control for linearity optimization, DC voltage
 offset, and common differential output voltage
- Switchable RF amplifier to improve SNR for low-level RF signals
- User EEPROM for storage of calibration constants and settings
- Onboard temperature sensor to monitor temperature variation

ORDER INFORMATION

7100029-01	SC5312A, 6 GHz Direct IQ
D	ownconverter for PXI Express

Specifications are subject to change without notice. For the most recent product specifications, please visit www.signalcore.com.

- (1) All units are factory calibrated and calibration is stored in onboard EEPROMs. The user must apply the calibration correction to the IF signal for output level accuracy to be valid
- (2) Only with sine-tone generation. Accuracies are limited by the step attenuation resolution
- (3) Shown in the table are two different settings; one set for improved SNR, the other set for improved $3^{\rm sd}$ order IMD