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Test Procedure for RF diplexer amplifier

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## 1 Introduction

The following Test Procedure describes the test of proper operation of the RF diplexer amplifier (E1300852). The unused outputs should always be properly terminated.

## 2 Test Equipment

- Voltmeter
- Oscilloscope
- Agilent Network/Spectrum analyzer (e.g. AG4395A)
- Agilent ESG-1000 signal generator (or similar signal source with  $f_{\max} > 150\text{MHz}$ )
- RF Power Meter (e.g. HP E4418A or N1914A)
- Board Schematics--[D1300989](#)

## 3 Tests

*The RF Preamplifier comes with the Low Noise Power Module (D0901846).*

- 1) **Verify the proper current draw.** Using a bench DC supply apply  $\pm 24\text{Volts}$  to P7 and  $\pm 17\text{ Volts}$  to P6 of the low noise power Module (D0901846). Measure the current draw of the board.

+24 Volt current     0.02A          0.02 A Nom.

-24 Volt current     0.02A          0.02 A Nom.

+17 Volt current     0.30A          0.2~0.3 A Nom.

-17 Volt current     0.03A          0.03 A Nom.

- 2) **On the low noise power module check the voltage on TP 1-13.**

TP1 (+17V) +17.27 V      TP2 (-17V) -17.27 V  
 TP3 , 4 ( GND )      TP5 (+ 5V) +5.05 V  
 TP6 (-15V) -14.97 V      TP7 (+24V) +24.17 V  
 TP8 ( GND )      TP9 ( -24V ) -24.09 V  
 TP10 ( GND )      TP11 (+15V) +14.98 V  
 TP12 (+VREF) +9.99V      TP13 (-VREF) -9.99V

- 3) If TP 1 , 2 , 7 , 9 and 8 are correct then pin 5 on U1 and U7, TP14 (OK) should be Logic high ~3Volts. The front panel LED should be on.

Confirm. OK

- 4) The noise on TP 12, 13, 11 and 6 should be measured with a SR785 using an rms power spectrum.

TP12 noise 8.38 nVrms/sqrtHz less than 200 nVrms/sqrt Hz at 140 Hz

TP13 noise 17.13 nVrms/sqrtHz less than 900 nVrms/sqrt Hz at 140 Hz

TP11 noise 13.14 nVrms/sqrtHz less than 1 uVrms/sqrt Hz at 140 Hz

TP6 noise 22.3 nVrms/sqrtHz less than 1 uVrms/sqrt Hz at 140 Hz.

- 5) Test the output powers of each port by applying the RF signal to the “In” port at the below specified power and frequency. With an RF power meter measure the power at the three output ports (i.e. “Direct”, “LF”, HF). Compare the output with the specification.

**Frequency: 27.3MHz, Input power -20dBm**

Output port	Measured Power	Specification (dBm)	Judgement (Pass/NG)
Direct	-32.16 dBm	-32 +/- 1 dBm	Pass
LF	-0.59 dBm	> -2 dBm	Pass
HF	-29.67 dBm	< -27 dBm	Pass

**Frequency: 136.5MHz, Input power -40dBm**

Output port	Measured Power (dBm)	Specification (dBm)	Judgement (Pass/NG)
Direct	-52.43 dBm	-52 +/- 1 dBm	Pass
LF	Upper limit: < -87 dBm dBm	< -72 <sup>†</sup> dBm	Pass
HF	8.80 dBm	> +3 dBm	Pass

<sup>†</sup> This power level may be too small to be measured with the power meter. An RF spectrum analyzer may be needed.

- 6) Measure -0.5dB pass and -50dB rejection bandwidth by changing the input frequency from the above setting. Change the signal frequency, starting from the above specified signal frequency. Record the upper and lower frequency where the output is reduced by 0.5dB and 50dB. Confirm the pass and rejection band with the specification.

LF port, center frequency: 27.3MHz, Input power -20dBm

Lower boundary of the -0.5dB band	Upper boundary of the -0.5dB band	Pass band width $df=f_{0.5dBHI} - f_{0.5dBLO}$	Spec.	Judgement (Pass/NG)
$f_{0.5dBLO} = 26.4$ MHz	$f_{0.5dBHI} = 28.3$ MHz	$df = 1.9$ MHz	$df > 1$ MHz	Pass

Lower boundary of the -50dB band	Upper boundary of the -50dB band	Rejection band specification	Judgement (Pass/NG)
$f_{50dBLO} = 10.6$ MHz	$f_{50dBHI} = 41$ MHz	$f_{50dBLO} > 18.2$ MHz $f_{50dBLO} < 45.5$ MHz	Marginal pass; lower -50dB boundary is too low

HF port, center frequency: 135.6MHz, Input power -40dBm

Lower boundary of the -0.5dB band	Upper boundary of the -0.5dB band	Pass band width $df=f_{0.5dBHI} - f_{0.5dBLO}$	Spec.	Judgement (Pass/NG)
$f_{0.5dBLO} = 134.7$ MHz	$f_{0.5dBHI} = 139.9$ MHz	$df = 5.2$ MHz	$df > 2$ MHz	Pass Peak transmission at 137.5MHz

Lower boundary of the -50dB band	Upper boundary of the -50dB band	Rejection band specification	Judgement (Pass/NG)
$f_{50dBLO} =$ MHz Stops at -30dBm	$f_{50dBHI} =$ MHz Stops at -30dBm	$f_{50dBLO} > 127.4$ MHz $f_{50dBLO} < 145.6$ MHz	NG; rejection never reaches -50dB

- 7) **Measure the input power level to give the harmonic distortion of -30dBc.** Connect the LF or HF ports to an RF spectrum analyzer. Setup the harmonic distortion measurement (the function “Multi Peak search” is useful). Increase the signal amplitude with a 0.1dB step until the largest harmonics is 30dB relative to the main signal peak (“Delta Marker” is useful for this measurement). Record the power of the harmonic (up to 5th harmonics for 27.3MHz and 3rd harmonics for 136.5MHz). Confirm the output power level is larger than the specification.

**LF port, Signal frequency: 27.3MHz**

Input power for 30dBc harmonics	Power level of the main signal	Specification	Judgement (Pass/NG)
-2.66 dBm	16.1 dBm	> 16 dBm	Pass

Harmonics			
2nd (54.6MHz)	3rd (81.9MHz)	4th (109.2MHz)	5th (136.5MHz)
-24.6dBm, -40.7dBc	-13.0dBm, -29.1dBc	-25.5dBm, -41.6dBc	-20.3, -36.4dBc

**HF port, Signal frequency: 136.5MHz**

Input power for 30dBc harmonics	Power level of the main signal	Specification	Judgement (Pass/NG)
-32.2 dBm	16.3 dBm	> 16 dBm	Pass

Harmonics			
2nd (273.0MHz)	3rd (409.5MHz)		
-26.7dBm, -43dBc	-13.4dBm, -29.7dBc		

- 8) **Measure the output noise level of the LF and HF output ports. A**

Output Port	Measured noise level	Specification	Judgement (Pass/NG)
LF (27.3MHz)	15 nV/rtHz	< 20 nV/rtHz	
HF (136.5MHz)	230 nV/rtHz	< 300 nV/rtHz	