

MICROWAVE INSTRUMENTS

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ON
YOUR
CRITICAL
SYSTEMS

MODULAR AND SCALABLE
WIDEBAND UP AND
DOWN CONVERTERS



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MODULAR AND SCALABLE WIDEBAND UP AND DOWN CONVERTERS

Testing is a key process when producing and introducing new Radar and Electronic Warfare (ELINT, SIGINT) equipment. Repeatable, accurate and traceable test data is critical through multiple assembly stages and environments. New types of instruments including Software Defined Radio cores require frequency converters to match applications frequency coverage.

Generic overview and Key features

Design based on building block for an open form factor

Scalability – Wide range from 1GHz to 18GHz / 26GHz / 40GHz and IBW up to 2GHz

Control by LAN with SCPI Commands



Modularity and flexibility:

- Rackmount Lab solution in 1U-19 inch with 2 channels Up or Dw;
- Internal basic LO and external LO input;

Optimized solution for wide single or multi-signal test equipments

SPHEREA's Up & Down converters combine a wide instantaneous bandwidth (up to 2GHz), with an extended frequency coverage (up to 18 / 26 / 40GHz) making a product unique on the market and capable of addressing a wide variety of programs.

Up converter Specifications

UP - Output Characteristics	Vers1-18_2	Vers1-26_2
RF Output Frequency (SMA 50 Ohms)	[1 to 18] GHz	[1 to 26] GHz
Instantaneous Bandwidth	2 GHz (3dB)	2 GHz (3 dB)
Option – Frequency Extension 26Ghz	Yes	-
Option – Frequency Extension 40Ghz	-	Yes
IF to RF Gain	20-25 dB typ	
Flatness in frequency band (before System calibration) from 1Ghz to 18/26Ghz	± 3 dB typ	± 4 dB typ
Flatness in Bandwidth (before SW calibration)	± 1,5 dB typ	± 2,5 dB typ
Output Attenuator (Gain adjustment)	0-31 dB step 0,5 dB	
OP1dB (Output 1 dB Compression Gain)	> +10 dBm	
OIP3 (Output 3rd-order Intercept Point)	> +18 dBm	
Output VSWR	≤ 2.0:1	
Harmonics (at 0dBm output)	-25 dBc typ	
LOs to RF Leakage (to output)	<-50 dBm typ	
In-Bandwidth Spurious (over the entire frequency range [In band] GHz)	-60 dBc typ	-60 dBc typ
Wideband Spurious, [In band] GHz	-60 dBc typ	-60 dBc typ
SFDR excluding harmonics (at +10 dBm output), in band	-60 dBc typ	-60 dBc typ
Image rejection	-60 dBc typ	-60 dBc typ
Spectral sense	Non-inverting all version up to 40 GHz	
Phase noise 10GHz Output	-94 dBc/Hz typ@10KHz -105 dBc/Hz typ@1MHz	On demand
UP - Input Characteristics		
IF Center Frequency (Typ) (SMA 50 Ohms)	1,7 / 2.5 GHz	
Max Input Power no damage	+20 dBm	
Input Attenuator (Gain adjustment)	0 - 31 dB step 0.5 dB	
Nominal Mixer Input Power	-10 dBm typ	
Input VSWR	≤ 2.0:1	
LO to IF Leakage (to input)	< -50 dBm	
UP - General Characteristics		
Operating Temperature (lab equipment)	10° to 30 °C (Option 0°C to +50°C on demand for Embedded version)	
Power requirement	110/220VAC 50/60Hz < 30 W by channel	
Size, inches	EIA 19" 1RU chassis	
Remote access	Ethernet	
Remote Control	SCPI-type command set	

Subject to change without notice, Revision 0.2 July 2021

Application domains

- Capture and streaming solutions (single or multi-channel);
- Radar system testing - Radar pulse generation;
- Multichannel coherent signal generation;
- Electronic warfare testing equipment (ELINT, SIGINT) - Realtime Hil testing;
- Military receiver test (Performance & Robustness testing);
- Space communication testing system (Parametric and system test).

Additional information on demand about:

- Phase noise higher performances;
- Phase coherence (for multichannel systems);
- Phase linearity in bandwidth / Group delay;
- Switching timing in band...

«High form factor flexibility offering unique capabilities for your test facilities; from classic rackmount lab equipment for R&D tests; to on-board and / or ruggedized equipment for tests during integration on the final system (on ship, on aircraft or on combat vehicle...).»

Rackmount 19inch - Vers1-18_2 with Opt 26 GHz



Down converter Specifications

Down - Input Characteristics	Vers1-18_2	Vers1-26_2
RF Input Frequency (SMA 50 Ohms)	[1 to 18] GHz	[1 to 26] GHz
Instantaneous Bandwidth	2 GHz (3 dB)	2 GHz (3 dB)
Option – Frequency Extension 26Ghz	Yes	-
Option – Frequency Extension 40Ghz	-	Yes
RF to IF Gain	20-25dB typ	
Flatness in frequency band (before System calibration) from 1Ghz to 18/26Ghz	± 3 dB typ	± 4 dB typ
Input Attenuator (Gain adjustment)	0-31dB step 0.5dB	
Input VSWR	≤ 2.0:1	
Max Input Power no damage	+20 dBm	
Nominal Mixer Input Power	-10 dBm typ	-10 dBm typ
Image rejection	-60 dBc typ	-60 dBc typ
Down - Output Characteristics		
IF Center Frequency (SMA 50 Ohms)	1,7 / 2,5 GHz	
Output Attenuator (Gain adjustment)	0-31dB step 0.5dB	
LO to IF Leakage	< -50 dBm	
Flatness in Bandwidth (before SW calibration)	± 1,5 dB typ	± 2,5 dB typ
Nominal Output Power IF (Gain max)	+10 dBm	
OP1dB (Output 1 dB Compression Gain)	> +10 dBm	
OIP3 (Output 3rd-order Intercept Point)	> +18 dBm	
Output VSWR	≤ 2.0:1	
In-Bandwidth Spurious (at +10 dBm output)	-60 dBc typ	-60 dBc typ
SFDR excluding harmonics (at +10 dBm output), In band	-60 dBc typ	-60 dBc typ
Harmonics at 0 dBm output	-25 dBc typ	
Spectral sense	Non-inverting all version up to 40 GHz	
Phase noise 10G Output	-94 dBc/Hz typ@10KHz -105 dBc/Hz typ@1MHz	On demand
Down - Output Characteristics		
Operating Temperature (lab equipment)	10 to 30 °C (Option 0°C/+50°C on demand for Embedded version)	
Power requirement	110/220VAC 50/60Hz < 30 W by channel	
Size, inches	EIA 19" 1RU chassis	
Remote access	Ethernet	
Remote Control	SCPI-type command set	