



# Electret Condenser Microphone Cartridge Preamplifier

MAX9810

## General Description

The MAX9810 microphone preamplifier is intended for use inside electret condenser microphone (ECM) cartridges. Current solutions use a FET as an impedance converter. FETs have limited gain, are susceptible to noise and require additional components external to the ECM cartridge for biasing and amplification. The MAX9810 replaces the FET with a high-gain, high-noise rejection, low-output-impedance amplifier. Designed to be integrated inside the ECM cartridge, the MAX9810 offers a flat frequency response, tightly controlled gain, increased sensitivity, and high-noise rejection greatly simplifying system design. Target applications include ECM cartridges in cell phones, PDAs, notebooks, and other portable audio devices.

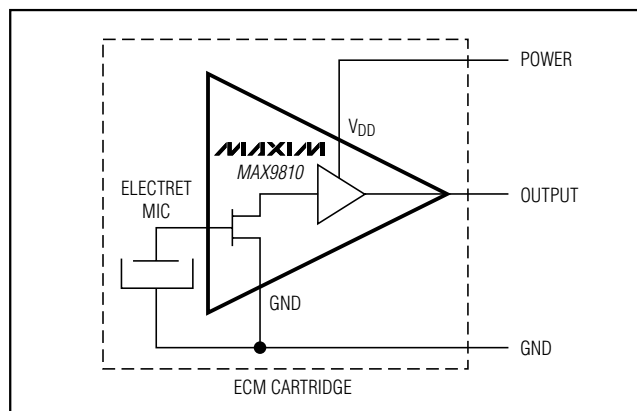
The MAX9810 operates from a single 2.3V to 5.5V supply and consumes only 670µA of quiescent current. The device features an internally generated 1.5V DC bias, and is available in three internally fixed gain options (24dB, 27dB, and 30dB). The MAX9810 is specified over the extended temperature range (-40°C to +85°C) and comes in a tiny 4-bump chip-scale package (UCSP™) that is designed to fit inside the ECM cartridge.

## Applications

Electret Condenser Microphone Cartridges In:

Cell Phones  
Notebooks  
PDAs  
Portable Audio

## Functional Diagram/ Typical Application Circuit



Rail-to-Rail is a registered trademark of Nippon Motorola Ltd.

USCP is a trademark of Maxim Integrated Products, Inc.

**MAXIM**

## Features

- ◆ Replaces FET in Electret Condenser Microphone
- ◆ 2.3V to 5.5V Single-Supply Operation
- ◆ Low-Impedance Output (<0.4Ω)
- ◆ High PSRR: 82dB
- ◆ Three High-Gain Options:  
MAX9810A: 24dB  
MAX9810B: 27dB  
MAX9810C: 30dB
- ◆ Internal Bias Voltage
- ◆ Low Supply Current (670µA)
- ◆ Rail-to-Rail® Output
- ◆ No Output Phase Reversal During Overload Conditions
- ◆ Available in a Tiny 4-Bump UCSP

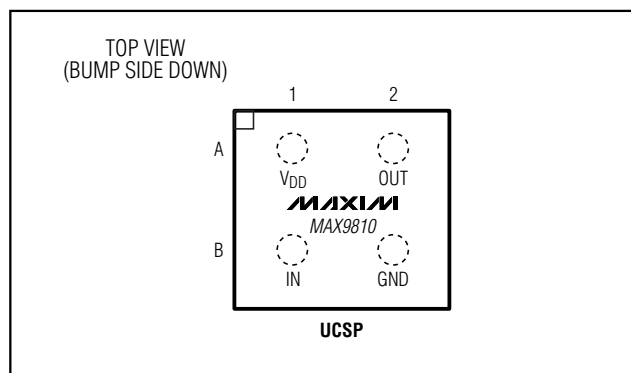
## Ordering Information

| PART          | TEMP RANGE     | BUMP-PACKAGE | TOP MARK |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|----------|
| MAX9810AEBS-T | -40°C to +85°C | 4 UCSP-4     | AFS      |
| MAX9810BEBS-T | -40°C to +85°C | 4 UCSP-4     | AFT      |
| MAX9810CEBS-T | -40°C to +85°C | 4 UCSP-4     | AFU      |

## Selector Guide

| PART          | BUMP-PACKAGE | GAIN (dB) |
|---------------|--------------|-----------|
| MAX9810AEBS-T | 4 UCSP-4     | 24        |
| MAX9810BEBS-T | 4 UCSP-4     | 27        |
| MAX9810CEBS-T | 4 UCSP-4     | 30        |

## Pin Configuration



# Electret Condenser Microphone Cartridge Preamplifier

## ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

|                                                                  |                                   |                                       |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| V <sub>DD</sub> to GND .....                                     | -0.3V to +6V                      | Operating Temperature Range .....     | -40°C to +85°C  |
| All Other Pins to GND .....                                      | -0.3V to (V <sub>DD</sub> + 0.3V) | Junction Temperature .....            | +150°C          |
| Continuous Current (IN, OUT) .....                               | ±20mA                             | Storage Temperature Range .....       | -65°C to +150°C |
| Output Short-Circuit Duration (to GND or V <sub>DD</sub> ) ..... | Continuous                        | Bump Temperature (soldering) (Note 1) |                 |
| Continuous Power Dissipation (T <sub>A</sub> = +70°C)            |                                   | Infrared (15s) .....                  | +220°C          |
| 4-Bump UCSP (derate 3.0mW/°C above +70°C) .....                  | 238.8mW                           | Vapor Phase (60s) .....               | +215°C          |

**Note 1:** This device is constructed using a unique set of packaging techniques that impose a limit on the thermal profile the device can be exposed to during board level solder attach and rework. This limit permits only the use of the solder profiles recommended in the industry standard specification, JEDEC 020A, paragraph 7.6, Table 3 for IR/VPF and convection reflow. Preheating is required. Hand or wave soldering is not allowed.

Stresses beyond those listed under "Absolute Maximum Ratings" may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only, and functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated in the operational sections of the specifications is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

## DC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(V<sub>DD</sub> = 3V, GND = 0, R<sub>L</sub> = ∞, V<sub>IN</sub> = 0, T<sub>A</sub> = T<sub>MIN</sub> to T<sub>MAX</sub>, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T<sub>A</sub> = +25°C.) (Note 2)

| PARAMETER                    | SYMBOL            | CONDITIONS                              |          | MIN                    | TYP                     | MAX   | UNITS |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------|
| Supply Voltage Range         | V <sub>DD</sub>   | Inferred from PSRR test                 |          | 2.3                    |                         | 5.5   | V     |
| Quiescent Supply Current     | I <sub>DD</sub>   | 2.3V ≤ V <sub>DD</sub> ≤ 5.5V           |          |                        | 670                     | 950   | μA    |
| Output Bias Voltage          | V <sub>BIAS</sub> | MAX9810A                                |          | 1.3                    | 1.48                    | 1.7   | V     |
|                              |                   | MAX9810B                                |          | 1.3                    | 1.53                    | 1.7   |       |
|                              |                   | MAX9810C                                |          | 1.3                    | 1.58                    | 1.8   |       |
| Input Bias Current           | I <sub>BIAS</sub> | (Note 3)                                |          |                        | 5                       | 100   | pA    |
| Input Resistance             | R <sub>IN</sub>   |                                         |          | 0.025                  | 5                       |       | GΩ    |
| Power-Supply Rejection Ratio | PSRR              | 2.3V < V <sub>DD</sub> < 5.5V (Note 4)  |          | 70                     | 86                      |       | dB    |
| Output Voltage Swing High    | V <sub>OH</sub>   | R <sub>L</sub> = 10kΩ connected to 1.5V |          | V <sub>DD</sub> - 0.04 | V <sub>DD</sub> - 0.015 |       | V     |
|                              |                   | R <sub>L</sub> = 1kΩ connected to 1.5V  |          | V <sub>DD</sub> - 0.15 | V <sub>DD</sub> - 0.07  |       |       |
| Output Voltage Swing Low     | V <sub>OL</sub>   | R <sub>L</sub> = 10kΩ connected to 1.5V |          |                        | 0.005                   | 0.015 | V     |
|                              |                   | R <sub>L</sub> = 1kΩ connected to 1.5V  |          |                        | 0.045                   | 0.08  |       |
| Output Short-Circuit Current | I <sub>SCC</sub>  | V <sub>DD</sub> = 5V                    |          |                        | 12                      |       | mA    |
|                              |                   | V <sub>DD</sub> = 2.3V                  |          |                        | 10                      |       |       |
| Voltage Gain                 | A <sub>V</sub>    | V <sub>IN</sub> = ±20mV                 | MAX9810A | 23                     | 24                      | 25    | dB    |
|                              |                   |                                         | MAX9810B | 26                     | 27                      | 28    |       |
|                              |                   |                                         | MAX9810C | 29                     | 30                      | 31    |       |

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## AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

( $V_{DD} = 3V$ ,  $GND = 0$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$  connected to  $1.5V$ ,  $C_L = 20pF$ ,  $C_{IN} = 30pF$  connected to  $GND$ ,  $V_{IN} = 0$ ,  $T_A = T_{MIN}$  to  $T_{MAX}$ , unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ .)

| PARAMETER                            | SYMBOL           | CONDITIONS                                                               |       | MIN | TYP  | MAX | UNITS           |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----|------|-----|-----------------|
| Small-Signal -3dB Bandwidth          | BW <sub>SS</sub> | $V_{OUT} = 10mV_{P-P}$                                                   |       |     | 900  |     | kHz             |
| Slew Rate                            | SR               | $V_{OUT} = 1V$ step                                                      |       |     | 0.03 |     | V/ $\mu s$      |
| Settling Time to 0.1%                | $t_s$            | $V_{OUT} = 1V$ step                                                      |       |     | 1    |     | $\mu s$         |
| Input-Noise Voltage Density          | $e_n$            | $R_S = 0$ (Note 5)                                                       | 10Hz  |     | 60   |     | nV/ $\sqrt{Hz}$ |
|                                      |                  |                                                                          | 1kHz  |     | 16   |     |                 |
|                                      |                  |                                                                          | 10kHz |     | 15   |     |                 |
| Input-Noise Current Density          | $i_n$            | 10Hz                                                                     |       |     | 5    |     | pA/ $\sqrt{Hz}$ |
|                                      |                  | 1kHz                                                                     |       |     | 1    |     |                 |
|                                      |                  | 10kHz                                                                    |       |     | 1    |     |                 |
| Total Integrated Noise               |                  | Noise bandwidth = 20Hz to 7kHz                                           |       |     | 4    |     | $\mu V_{RMS}$   |
| Signal-to-Noise Ratio                | SNR              | $V_{OUT} = 2V_{P-P}$ , noise bandwidth = 20Hz to 7kHz                    |       |     | 90   |     | dB              |
| Output Impedance                     | $Z_{OUT}$        | $f_{IN} = 1kHz$                                                          |       |     | 0.4  |     | $\Omega$        |
| Power-Supply Rejection Ratio         | PSRR             | $V_{DD} = 3V$ , $V_{RIPPLE} = 100mV$ ,<br>$f_{RIPPLE} = 1kHz$            |       |     | 82   |     | dB              |
| RF Noise Immunity                    |                  | 1GHz—carrier, 1kHz—AM tone                                               |       |     | 82   |     | dB              |
| Total Harmonic Distortion Plus Noise | THD + N          | $f_{IN} = 1kHz$ , $V_{OUT} = 1V_{P-P}$ , noise bandwidth = 22Hz to 22kHz |       |     | 0.02 |     | %               |
| Input Capacitance                    | $C_{IN}$         |                                                                          |       |     | 3    |     | pF              |
| Turn-On Time                         | $t_{ON}$         |                                                                          |       |     | 10   |     | $\mu s$         |

**Note 2:** All specifications are 100% tested at  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , temperature limits are guaranteed by design.

**Note 3:** Guaranteed by design. Not production tested.

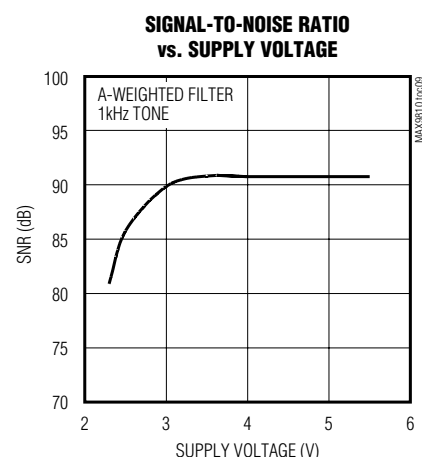
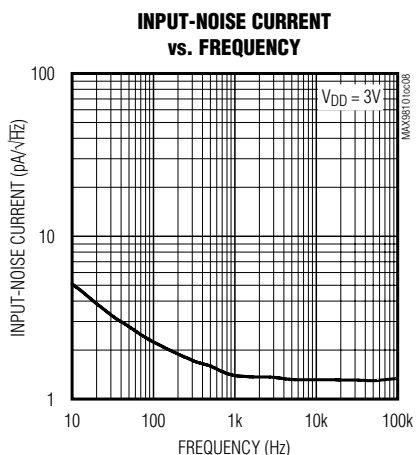
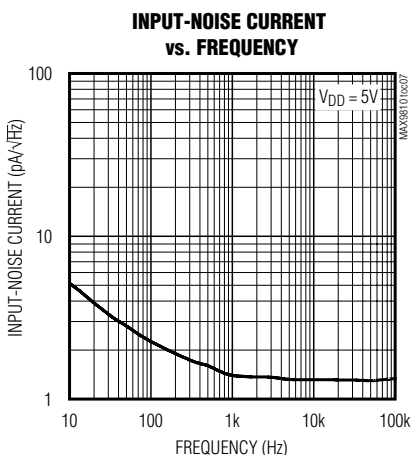
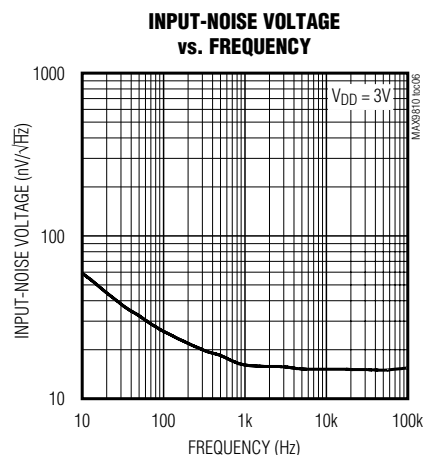
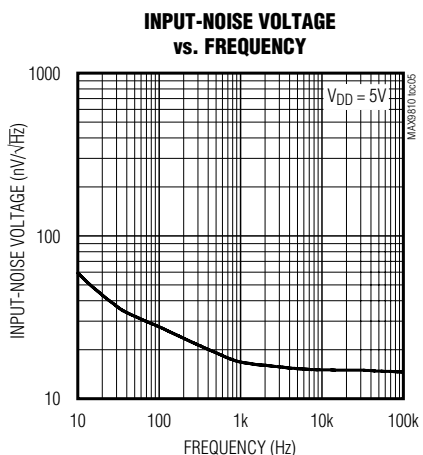
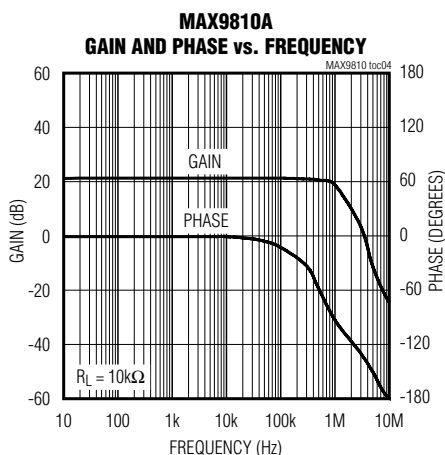
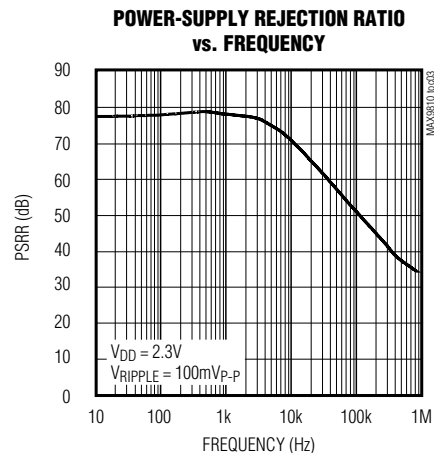
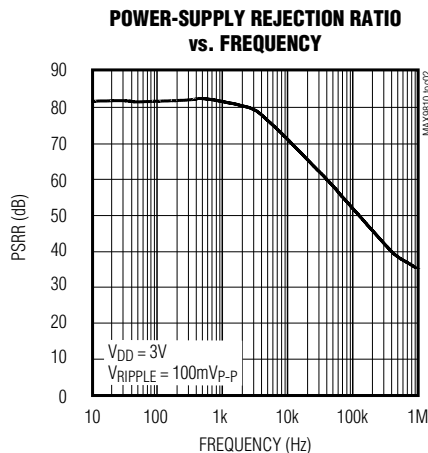
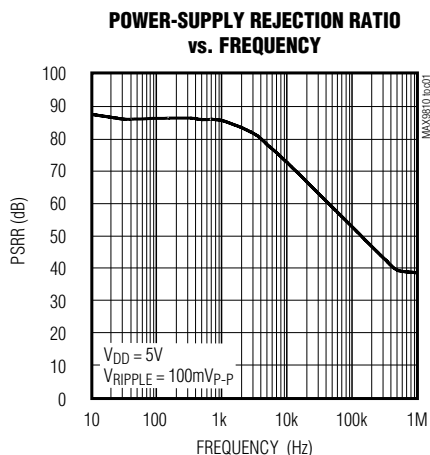
**Note 4:** PSRR is input-referred.

**Note 5:** Noise measurement includes the noise contribution of the internal gain-setting resistors.

# Electret Condenser Microphone Cartridge Preamplifier

## Typical Operating Characteristics

( $V_{DD} = 3V$ ,  $GND = 0$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$  connected to  $1.5V$ ,  $C_L = 20pF$ ,  $C_{IN} = 30pF$  connected to  $GND$ ,  $V_{IN} = 0$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)



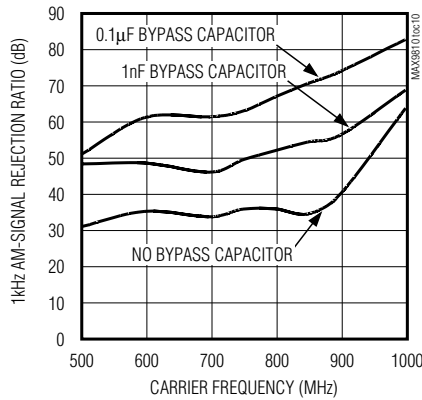
# Electret Condenser Microphone Cartridge Preamplifier

## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

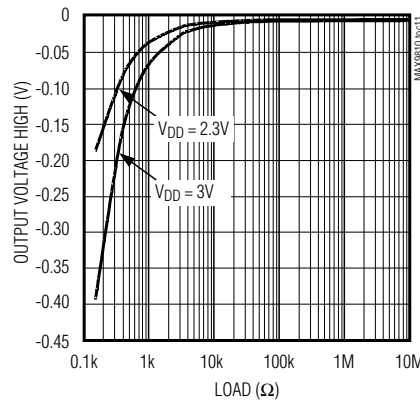
( $V_{DD} = 3V$ ,  $GND = 0$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$  connected to  $1.5V$ ,  $C_L = 20pF$ ,  $C_{IN} = 30pF$  connected to  $GND$ ,  $V_{IN} = 0$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)

MAX9810

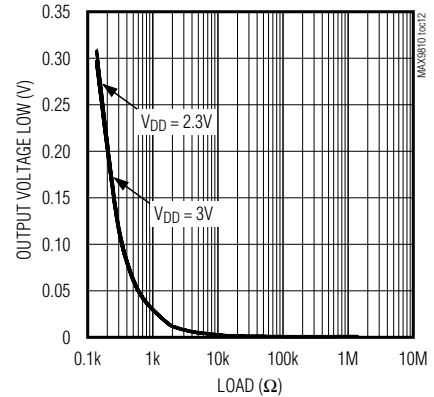
**1kHz REJECTION  
vs. SWEEPED AC SIGNAL ON POWER SUPPLY**



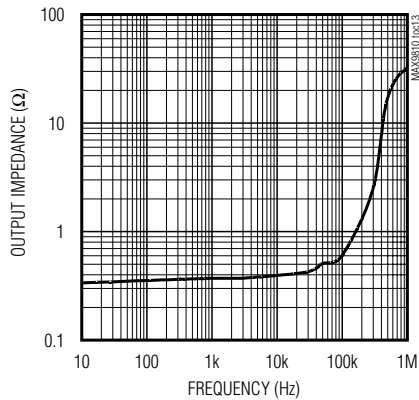
**OUTPUT VOLTAGE HIGH vs. LOAD**



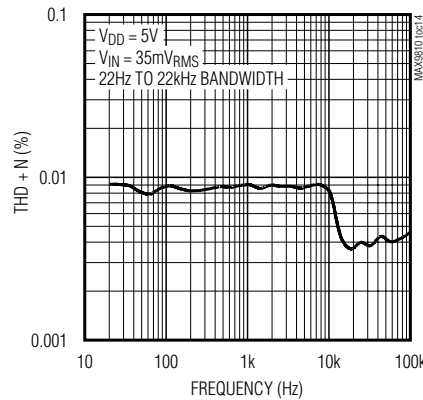
**OUTPUT VOLTAGE LOW vs. LOAD**



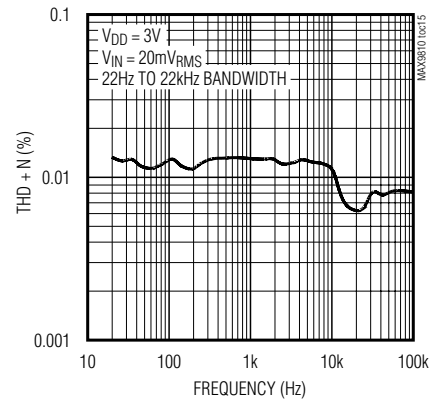
**OUTPUT IMPEDANCE  
vs. FREQUENCY**



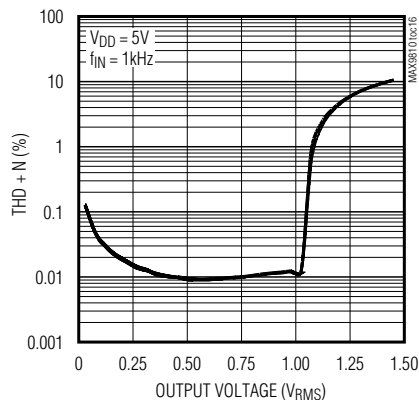
**TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION PLUS NOISE  
vs. FREQUENCY**



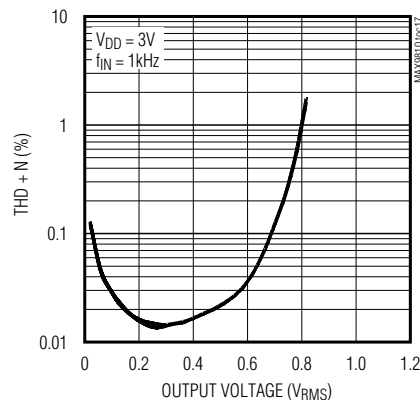
**TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION PLUS NOISE  
vs. FREQUENCY**



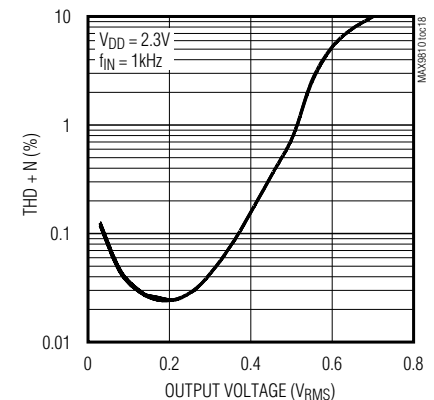
**TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION PLUS NOISE  
vs. OUTPUT VOLTAGE**



**TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION PLUS NOISE  
vs. OUTPUT VOLTAGE**



**TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION PLUS NOISE  
vs. OUTPUT VOLTAGE**

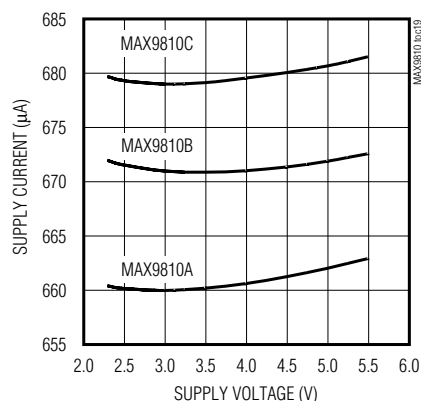


# Electret Condenser Microphone Cartridge Preamplifier

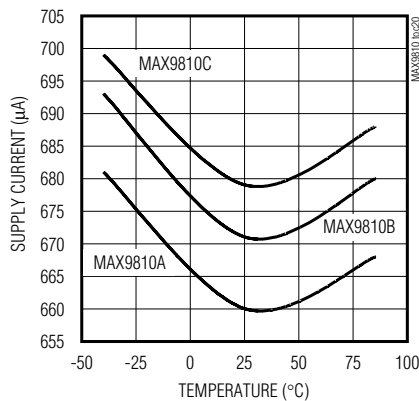
## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

( $V_{DD} = 3V$ ,  $GND = 0$ ,  $R_L = 10k\Omega$  connected to  $1.5V$ ,  $C_L = 20pF$ ,  $C_{IN} = 30pF$  connected to  $GND$ ,  $V_{IN} = 0$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)

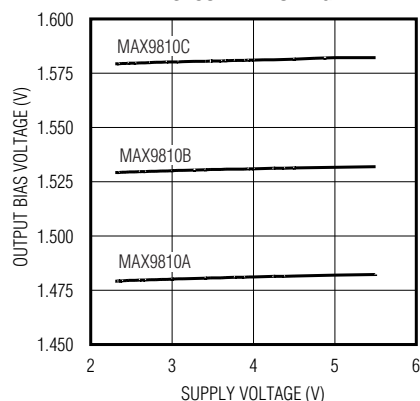
**SUPPLY CURRENT  
vs. SUPPLY VOLTAGE**



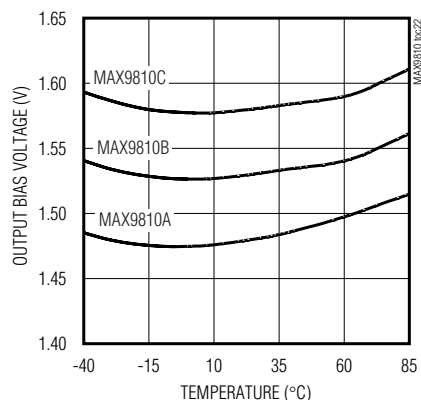
**SUPPLY CURRENT  
vs. TEMPERATURE**



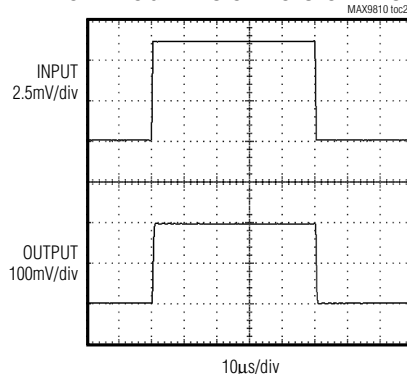
**OUTPUT BIAS VOLTAGE  
vs. SUPPLY VOLTAGE**



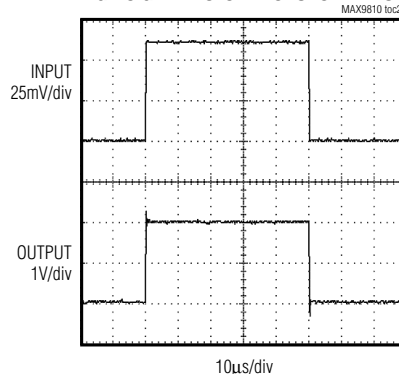
**OUTPUT BIAS VOLTAGE  
vs. TEMPERATURE**



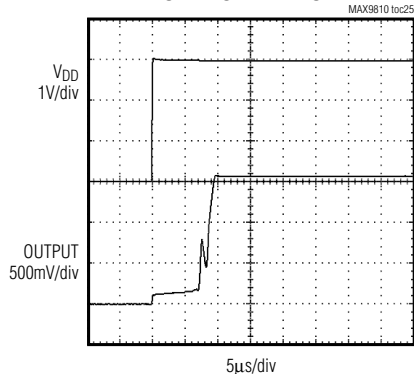
**SMALL-SIGNAL PULSE RESPONSE AT 10kHz**



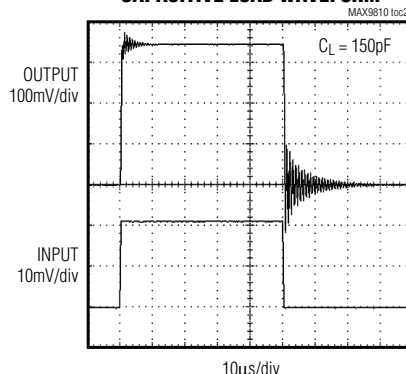
**LARGE-SIGNAL PULSE RESPONSE AT 10kHz**



**POWER-UP WAVEFORM**



**DRIVING MAXIMUM  
CAPACITIVE LOAD WAVEFORM**



# Electret Condenser Microphone Cartridge Preamplifier

MAX9810

## Pin Description

| BUMP | NAME            | DESCRIPTION            |
|------|-----------------|------------------------|
| A1   | V <sub>DD</sub> | Amplifier Power Supply |
| A2   | OUT             | Amplifier Output       |
| B1   | IN              | Amplifier Input        |
| B2   | GND             | Ground                 |

## Detailed Description

The MAX9810 replaces the FET commonly used in ECMs with a high-gain, low-noise, low-output-impedance amplifier, offering improved performance over the traditional FET solution. The MAX9810 features high PSRR (82dB at 1kHz), and is available in three gain options (24dB, 27dB, and 30dB). ECMs with FET impedance converters require additional amplification (Figure 1). The high gain of the MAX9810 eliminates the need for an external preamplifier, allowing the ECM cartridge to be directly connected to front-end devices such as CODECs or ADCs (Figure 2). The MAX9810 also features excellent RF immunity (see the *RF Noise Rejection* section).

### Rail-to-Rail Output

When operated from a 3V supply, the internal 1.5V DC bias point provides symmetrical, rail-to-rail operation where the output can swing to within 15mV of either rail into a 10k $\Omega$  load. The 1.5V bias point is independent of supply, so when operated from supplies other than 3V, the MAX9810 output can run out of headroom on one of the supplies (Figure 3). This limits the peak-to-peak output to approximately:

$$V_{OUT(P-P)} = 3V \text{ for } V_{DD} > 3V$$

$$V_{OUT(P-P)} = V_{DD} \text{ for } V_{DD} < 3V$$

The MAX9810 shows no phase reversal when the device is overdriven. If the device output is driven into clipping, the overload behavior is predictable.

## Applications Information

### RF Noise Rejection

The MAX9810 features excellent RF rejection at common cellular-phone operating frequencies. Figure 4 shows the modulation products of a high-frequency signal coupling into the device power supply, while the device is driven with a 1kHz input. At 1GHz, the MAX9810 exhibits 82dB of rejection.

### Supply Bypassing

Unlike FETs, the MAX9810 requires a separate power source (Figures 1 and 2). V<sub>DD</sub> must be connected to a 2.3V to 5.5V power supply external to the ECM cartridge, thus the MAX9810 ECM solution requires three electrical connections instead of the two commonly found in current FET solutions.

For optimum performance, bypass the MAX9810 as close to the device as possible (inside the cartridge). This yields the best RF rejection and PSRR and is ideal for applications such as cell phones where high-frequency noise is present. The device operates properly if the bypass capacitor is placed on the circuit board outside the cartridge; however, RF rejection is slightly degraded in this configuration (Figure 4). This is well suited for applications where there is less high-frequency interference such as PDAs and notebook computers.

### UCSP Layout

For land pattern and suggested layout of the 4-bump UCSP, see the JEDEC website at [www.ipc.org/html/framesetcatseg.html](http://www.ipc.org/html/framesetcatseg.html).

# Electret Condenser Microphone Cartridge Preamplifier

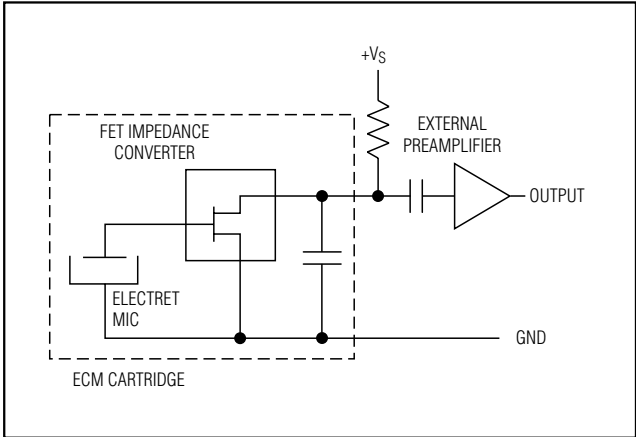


Figure 1. Conventional FET ECM

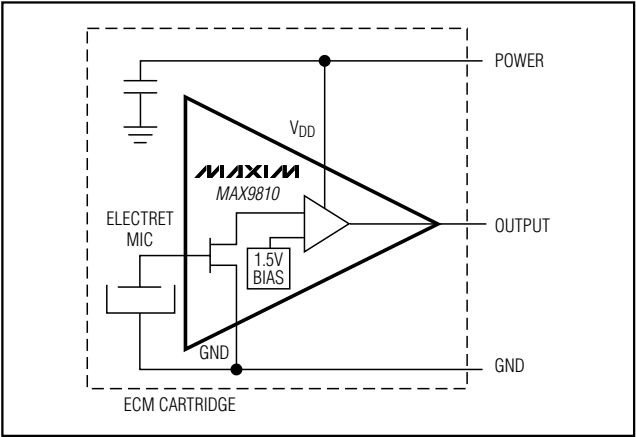


Figure 2. MAX9810 ECM

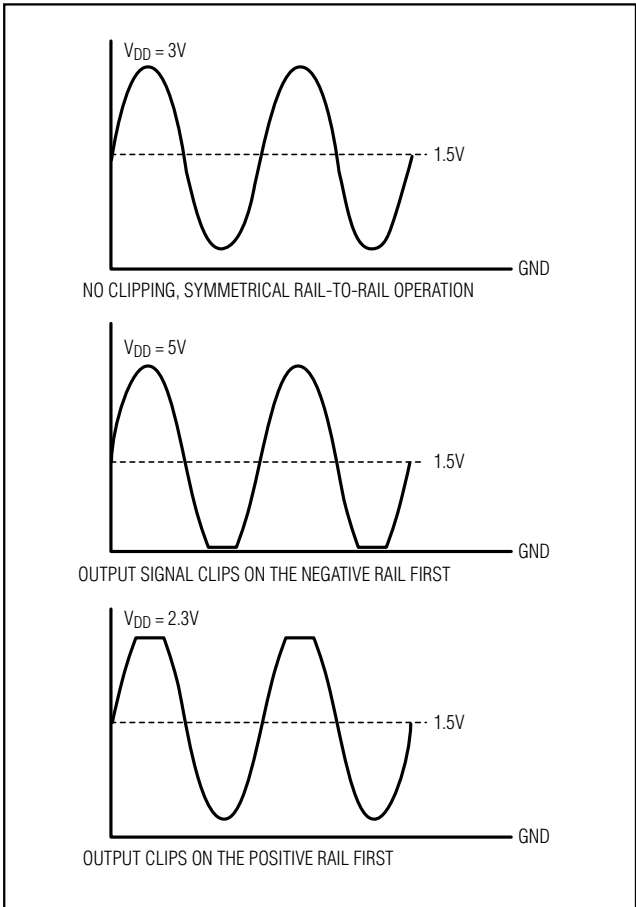


Figure 3. Rail-to-Rail Waveforms

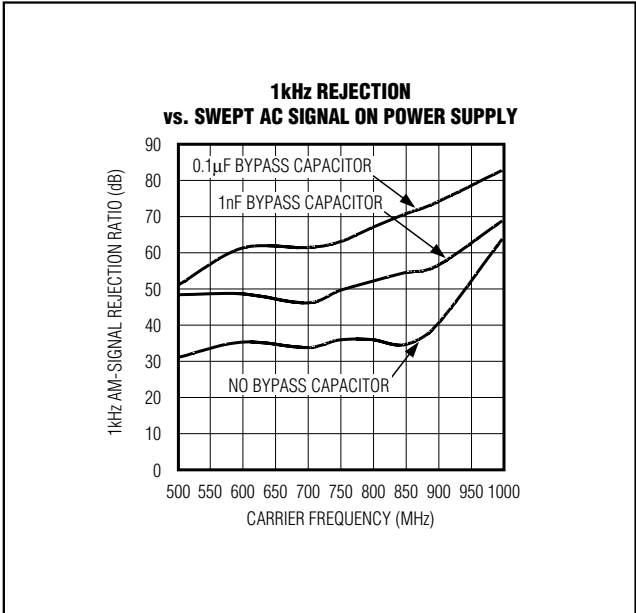


Figure 4. MAX9810 RF Rejection

## Chip Information

TRANSISTOR COUNT: 427  
PROCESS: BiCMOS

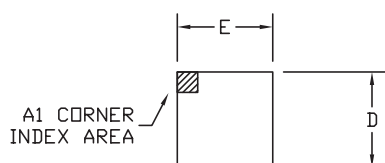


# Electret Condenser Microphone Cartridge Preamplifier

## Package Information

(The package drawing(s) in this data sheet may not reflect the most current specifications. For the latest package outline information, go to [www.maxim-ic.com/packages](http://www.maxim-ic.com/packages).)

MAX9810

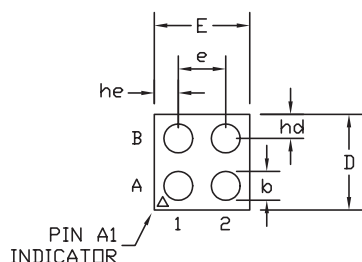


TOP VIEW

| SYMBOL | DIMENSIONS   |
|--------|--------------|
| A      | 0.60±0.05    |
| D      | 1.02±0.05    |
| E      | 1.02±0.05    |
| e      | 0.50 BASIC   |
| b      | ∅ 0.35 BASIC |
| A1     | 0.27±0.04    |
| A2     | 0.33 Ref.    |
| hd     | 0.26 Ref.    |
| he     | 0.26 Ref.    |

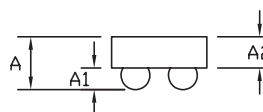
| SOLDER BALL DEPOPULATION |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| PKG. CODE                | DEPOPULATED BALL |
| B4-1                     | NONE             |

4L UCSP 2x2.EPS



BOTTOM VIEW

NOTES:  
1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETERS.  
2. MEETS JEDEC M0195.



SIDE VIEW

|                                     |                                 |               |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>MAXIM</b>                        |                                 |               |
| PROPRIETARY INFORMATION             |                                 |               |
| TITLE:<br>PACKAGE OUTLINE, 2x2 UCSP |                                 |               |
| APPROVAL                            | DOCUMENT CONTROL NO.<br>21-0117 | REV.<br>B 1/1 |

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Maxim Integrated Products, 120 San Gabriel Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94086 408-737-7600 9