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# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

**MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146**

## General Description

The MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146 differential line receivers offer unparalleled high-speed, low-distortion performance. Using a three op-amp instrumentation amplifier architecture, these ICs have fully symmetrical differential inputs and a single-ended output. They operate from  $\pm 5V$  power supplies and are capable of driving a  $150\Omega$  load to  $\pm 3.7V$ . The MAX4144 has an internally set closed-loop gain of  $+2V/V$ . The MAX4145 is optimized for gains from  $+1V/V$  to  $+10V/V$ , while the MAX4146 is optimized for gains from  $+10V/V$  to  $+100V/V$ . The MAX4145/MAX4146 require a single external resistor to set the closed-loop gain.

These amplifiers use laser-trimmed, matched thin-film resistors to deliver a common-mode rejection (CMR) of up to 90dB at 10MHz. Using current-feedback techniques, the MAX4144 achieves a 130MHz bandwidth and a  $1000V/\mu s$  slew rate. The MAX4145 achieves a bandwidth of 180MHz and a slew rate of  $600V/\mu s$  while operating with a closed-loop gain of  $+1V/V$ , and the MAX4146 features a bandwidth of 70MHz and a slew rate of  $800V/\mu s$  with a gain of  $+10V/V$ . Excellent differential gain/phase and noise specifications make these amplifiers ideal for a wide variety of video and RF signal-processing applications.

For a complete differential transmission link, use the MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146 with the MAX4147 differential line driver (see the MAX4147 data sheet for more information).

## Applications

Differential to Single-Ended Conversion  
Twisted-Pair to Coaxial Converter  
High-Speed Instrumentation Amplifier  
Data Acquisition  
Medical Instrumentation  
High-Speed Differential Line Receiver

*Pin Configurations appear at end of data sheet.*

*Typical Application Circuit appears at end of data sheet.*

## Features

### MAX4144:

- ♦  $+2V/V$  Internally Fixed Gain
- ♦ 130MHz Bandwidth
- ♦  $1000V/\mu s$  Slew Rate
- ♦ 70dB CMR at 10MHz
- ♦ -90dBc SFDR ( $f = 10kHz$ )
- ♦ Low Differential Gain/Phase: 0.03%/0.03°
- ♦ 800 $\mu A$  Shutdown

### MAX4145:

- ♦ External Gain Selection from  $+1V/V$  to  $+10V/V$
- ♦ 180MHz Bandwidth
- ♦ 90MHz 0.1dB Gain Flatness
- ♦  $600V/\mu s$  Slew Rate
- ♦ 75dB CMR at 10MHz
- ♦ -92dBc SFDR ( $f = 10kHz$ )
- ♦ Very Low Noise:  $3.8nV/\sqrt{Hz}$  ( $G = +10V/V$ )
- ♦ 800 $\mu A$  Shutdown

### MAX4146:

- ♦ External Gain Selection from  $+10V/V$  to  $+100V/V$
- ♦ 70MHz Bandwidth ( $A_V = +10V/V$ )
- ♦  $800V/\mu s$  Slew Rate
- ♦ 90dB CMR at 10MHz
- ♦ -82dBc SFDR ( $f = 10kHz$ )
- ♦ Very Low Noise:  $3.45nV/\sqrt{Hz}$  ( $G = +100V/V$ )
- ♦ 800 $\mu A$  Shutdown

## Ordering Information

| PART       | TEMP. RANGE    | PIN-PACKAGE |
|------------|----------------|-------------|
| MAX4144ESD | -40°C to +85°C | 14 SO       |
| MAX4144EEE | -40°C to +85°C | 16 QSOP     |
| MAX4145ESD | -40°C to +85°C | 14 SO       |
| MAX4145EEE | -40°C to +85°C | 16 QSOP     |
| MAX4146ESD | -40°C to +85°C | 14 SO       |
| MAX4146EEE | -40°C to +85°C | 16 QSOP     |



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# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

## ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

Supply Voltage ( $V_{CC}$  to  $V_{EE}$ ) .....12V  
 Voltage on  $IN_{-}$ ,  $SHDN$ ,  $REF$ ,  $OUT$ ,  
 $SENSE$ ,  $RG_{-}$  .....( $V_{EE} - 0.3V$ ) to ( $V_{CC} + 0.3V$ )  
 Short-Circuit Duration to Ground .....10sec  
 Input Current ( $IN_{-}$ ,  $RG_{-}$ ) .....±10mA  
 Output Current .....±120mA

Continuous Power Dissipation ( $T_A = +70^{\circ}C$ )  
 14-Pin SO (derate 8.33mW/ $^{\circ}C$  above  $+70^{\circ}C$ ) .....667mW  
 16-Pin QSOP (derate 8.33mW/ $^{\circ}C$  above  $+70^{\circ}C$ ) .....667mW  
 Operating Temperature Range .....-40 $^{\circ}C$  to  $+85^{\circ}C$   
 Storage Temperature Range .....-65 $^{\circ}C$  to  $+150^{\circ}C$   
 Lead Temperature (soldering, 10sec) .....+300 $^{\circ}C$

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

( $V_{CC} = +5V$ ,  $V_{EE} = -5V$ ,  $SHDN = 0V$ ,  $R_L = \infty$ ,  $T_A = T_{MIN}$  to  $T_{MAX}$ , unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $T_A = +25^{\circ}C$ .)

| PARAMETER                        | SYMBOL     | CONDITIONS                                         |         | MIN            | TYP                    | MAX   | UNITS             |
|----------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------|----------------|------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Operating Supply Voltage         |            | Guaranteed by PSR test                             |         | ±4.5           |                        | ±5.5  | V                 |
| Input Offset Voltage             | $V_{OS}$   | $V_{IN} = 0V$                                      |         |                | 0.6                    | 8     | mV                |
| Input Offset Voltage Drift       | $TC_{VOS}$ | $V_{IN} = 0V$                                      |         |                | 5                      |       | $\mu V/^{\circ}C$ |
| Input Bias Current               | $I_B$      | $V_{IN} = 0V$                                      |         |                | 9                      | 20    | $\mu A$           |
| Input Offset Current             | $I_{OS}$   | $V_{IN} = 0V$                                      |         |                | 0.1                    | 2.5   | $\mu A$           |
| Input Capacitance                | $C_{IN}$   |                                                    |         |                | 1                      |       | pF                |
| Differential Input Resistance    | $R_{IN}$   |                                                    |         |                | 1                      |       | M $\Omega$        |
| Differential Input Voltage Range |            | $R_L = 150\Omega$                                  | MAX4144 | -1.55          |                        | 1.55  | V                 |
|                                  |            |                                                    | MAX4145 | -2.8/G         |                        | 2.8/G |                   |
|                                  |            |                                                    | MAX4146 | -3.1/G         |                        | 3.1/G |                   |
| Common-Mode Input Voltage Range  | $V_{CM}$   | Guaranteed by CMR test                             |         | -2.8           |                        | 2.8   | V                 |
| Gain                             | $A_V$      | $-1V \leq V_{OUT} \leq +1V$ ,<br>$R_L = 150\Omega$ | MAX4144 |                | 2                      |       | V/V               |
|                                  |            |                                                    | MAX4145 |                | $1 + (1.4k\Omega/R_G)$ |       |                   |
|                                  |            |                                                    | MAX4146 |                | $10 + (14k\Omega/R_G)$ |       |                   |
| Gain Error                       |            | $-1V \leq V_{OUT} \leq +1V$ ,<br>$R_L = 150\Omega$ | MAX4144 | $A_V = 2V/V$   | 0.02                   | 2     | %                 |
|                                  |            |                                                    | MAX4145 | $A_V = 1V/V$   | 0.5                    | 2     |                   |
|                                  |            |                                                    |         | $A_V = 10V/V$  | 1.5                    | 5     |                   |
|                                  |            |                                                    | MAX4146 | $A_V = 10V/V$  | 0.5                    | 2     |                   |
|                                  |            |                                                    |         | $A_V = 100V/V$ | 1.5                    | 5     |                   |
| Gain Drift                       |            | $-1V \leq V_{OUT} \leq +1V$ ,<br>$R_L = 150\Omega$ | MAX4144 |                | 20                     |       | ppm/ $^{\circ}C$  |
|                                  |            |                                                    | MAX4145 |                | $5 + 15G$              |       |                   |
|                                  |            |                                                    | MAX4146 |                | $14 + 0.9G$            |       |                   |
| Common-Mode Rejection            | CMR        | $V_{CM} = \pm 2.8V$                                |         | 60             | 80                     |       | dB                |
| Power-Supply Rejection           | PSR        | $V_S = \pm 4.5V$ to $\pm 5.5V$                     |         | 70             | 85                     |       | dB                |
| Quiescent Supply Current         |            |                                                    |         |                | 11                     | 16    | mA                |
| Shutdown Supply Current          | $I_{SHDN}$ | $V_{SHDN} \geq 2V$                                 |         |                | 0.8                    | 2     | mA                |
| Shutdown Output Impedance        |            | $V_{SHDN} \geq 2V$                                 | MAX4144 |                | 1.4                    |       | k $\Omega$        |
|                                  |            |                                                    | MAX4145 |                | 1.4                    |       |                   |
|                                  |            |                                                    | MAX4146 |                | 2                      |       |                   |
| Output Voltage Swing             | $V_{OUT}$  | $R_L = 100\Omega$                                  |         |                | ±3.6                   |       | V                 |
|                                  |            | $R_L = 150\Omega$                                  |         | ±3.1           | ±3.7                   |       |                   |
|                                  |            | $R_L = \infty$                                     |         | ±3.4           | ±3.8                   |       |                   |

# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146

## DC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

( $V_{CC} = +5V$ ,  $V_{EE} = -5V$ ,  $SHDN = 0V$ ,  $R_L = \infty$ ,  $T_A = T_{MIN}$  to  $T_{MAX}$ , unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ .)

| PARAMETER               | SYMBOL     | CONDITIONS           |                                       | MIN | TYP  | MAX | UNITS   |
|-------------------------|------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-----|------|-----|---------|
| Output Current Drive    | $I_{OUT}$  | $V_{OUT} = \pm 1.7V$ | $0^\circ C \leq T_A \leq +85^\circ C$ | 80  | 100  |     | mA      |
|                         |            |                      | $-40^\circ C \leq T_A \leq 0^\circ C$ | 60  |      |     |         |
| SHDN High Threshold     | $V_{IH}$   |                      |                                       |     |      | 2   | V       |
| SHDN Low Threshold      | $V_{IL}$   |                      |                                       | 0.8 |      |     | V       |
| SHDN Input Bias Current | $I_{SHDN}$ | $V_{SHDN} \leq 0.8V$ |                                       |     | 75   | 150 | $\mu A$ |
|                         |            | $V_{SHDN} \geq 2V$   |                                       |     | 0.06 | 2   |         |

## AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

( $V_{CC} = +5V$ ,  $V_{EE} = -5V$ ,  $SHDN = 0V$ ,  $R_L = 150\Omega$ ,  $T_A = T_{MIN}$  to  $T_{MAX}$ , unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ .)

| PARAMETER                   | SYMBOL         | CONDITIONS                  |          | MIN            | TYP             | MAX  | UNITS          |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------|----------------|-----------------|------|----------------|
| -3dB Bandwidth              | $BW_{(-3dB)}$  | $V_{OUT} \leq 0.1V_{RMS}$   | MAX4144  | $A_V = 2V/V$   |                 | 130  | MHz            |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4145  | $A_V = 1V/V$   |                 | 180  |                |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4146  | $A_V = 10V/V$  |                 | 70   |                |
|                             |                |                             |          | $A_V = 100V/V$ |                 | 30   |                |
| Full-Power Bandwidth        | FPBW           | $V_{OUT} = 2V_{p-p}$        | MAX4144  | $A_V = 2V/V$   |                 | 110  | MHz            |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4145  | $A_V = 1V/V$   |                 | 180  |                |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4146  | $A_V = 10V/V$  |                 | 70   |                |
|                             |                |                             |          | $A_V = 100V/V$ |                 | 30   |                |
| 0.1dB Bandwidth             | $BW_{(0.1dB)}$ | $V_{OUT} \leq 0.1V_{RMS}$   | MAX4144  | $A_V = 2V/V$   |                 | 30   | MHz            |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4145  | $A_V = 1V/V$   |                 | 90   |                |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4146  | $A_V = 10V/V$  |                 | 50   |                |
| Input Voltage Noise Density | $e_n$          | $f = 1MHz$                  | MAX4144  |                |                 | 12   | $nV/\sqrt{Hz}$ |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4145  |                | $1.8 + (20/G)$  |      |                |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4146  |                | $2.1 + (135/G)$ |      |                |
| Input Current Noise Density | $i_n$          | $f = 1MHz$                  |          |                |                 | 1.7  | $pA/\sqrt{Hz}$ |
| Common-Mode Rejection       | CMR            | $f = 10MHz$                 | MAX4144  |                |                 | 70   | dB             |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4145  |                |                 | 75   |                |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4146  |                |                 | 90   |                |
| Slew Rate                   | SR             | $-2V \leq V_{OUT} \leq +2V$ | MAX4144  |                |                 | 1000 | $V/\mu s$      |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4145  |                |                 | 600  |                |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4146  |                |                 | 800  |                |
| Settling Time to 0.1%       | $t_s$          | $-2V \leq V_{OUT} \leq +2V$ | to 0.1%  | MAX4144        |                 | 23   | ns             |
|                             |                |                             |          | MAX4145        |                 | 20   |                |
|                             |                |                             |          | MAX4146        |                 | 17   |                |
|                             |                |                             | to 0.01% | MAX4144        |                 | 36   |                |
|                             |                |                             |          | MAX4145        |                 | 38   |                |
|                             |                |                             |          | MAX4146        |                 | 40   |                |
| Enable Time from Shutdown   |                |                             |          |                |                 | 45   | ns             |
| Disable Time to Shutdown    |                |                             |          |                |                 | 40   | $\mu s$        |
| Differential Gain (Note 1)  | DG             | $f = 3.58MHz$               | MAX4144  |                |                 | 0.03 | %              |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4145  |                |                 | 0.01 |                |
|                             |                |                             | MAX4146  |                |                 | 0.12 |                |

# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

## AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

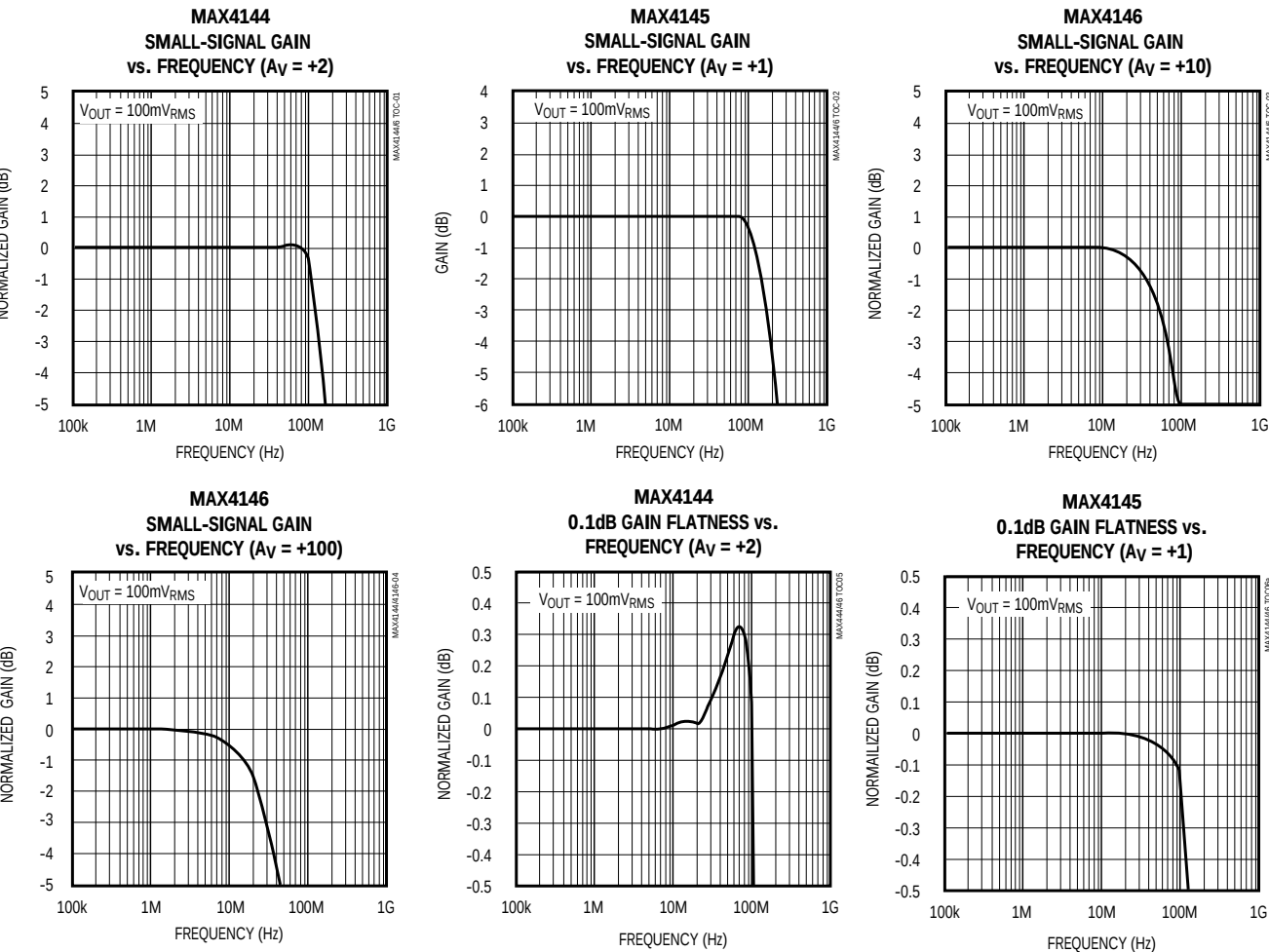
(V<sub>CC</sub> = +5V, V<sub>EE</sub> = -5V, SHDN = 0V, R<sub>L</sub> = 150Ω, T<sub>A</sub> = T<sub>MIN</sub> to T<sub>MAX</sub>, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T<sub>A</sub> = +25°C.)

| PARAMETER                   | SYMBOL | CONDITIONS                             |         | MIN                    | TYP  | MAX | UNITS   |
|-----------------------------|--------|----------------------------------------|---------|------------------------|------|-----|---------|
| Differential Phase (Note 1) | DP     | f = 3.58MHz                            | MAX4144 |                        | 0.03 |     | Degrees |
|                             |        |                                        | MAX4145 |                        | 0.06 |     |         |
|                             |        |                                        | MAX4146 |                        | 0.07 |     |         |
| Spurious-Free Dynamic Range | SFDR   | f = 10kHz,<br>V <sub>OUT</sub> = 2Vp-p | MAX4144 | A <sub>V</sub> = 2V/V  | -90  |     | dBc     |
|                             |        |                                        | MAX4145 | A <sub>V</sub> = 1V/V  | -92  |     |         |
|                             |        |                                        | MAX4146 | A <sub>V</sub> = 10V/V | -82  |     |         |
|                             |        | f = 5MHz,<br>V <sub>OUT</sub> = 2Vp-p  | MAX4144 | A <sub>V</sub> = 2V/V  | -66  |     |         |
|                             |        |                                        | MAX4145 | A <sub>V</sub> = 1V/V  | -67  |     |         |
|                             |        |                                        | MAX4146 | A <sub>V</sub> = 10V/V | -48  |     |         |

**Note 1:** Differential gain and phase are tested using a modulated ramp, 100 IRE (0.714V).

## Typical Operating Characteristics

(V<sub>CC</sub> = +5V, V<sub>EE</sub> = -5V, SHDN = 0V, R<sub>L</sub> = 150Ω, T<sub>A</sub> = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

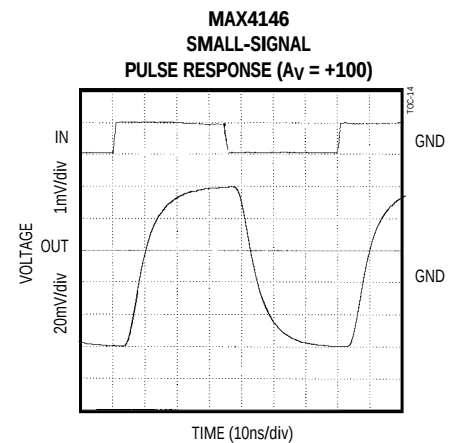
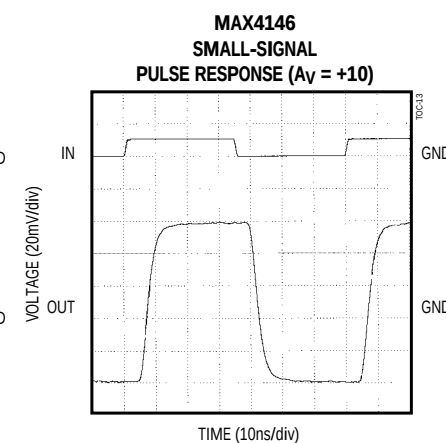
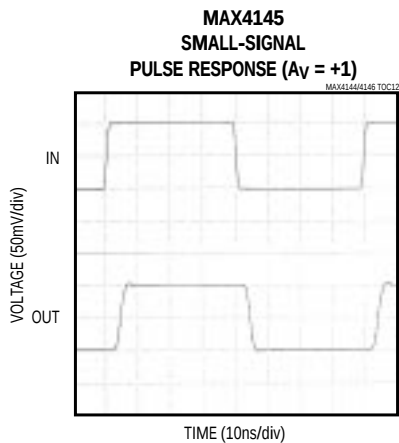
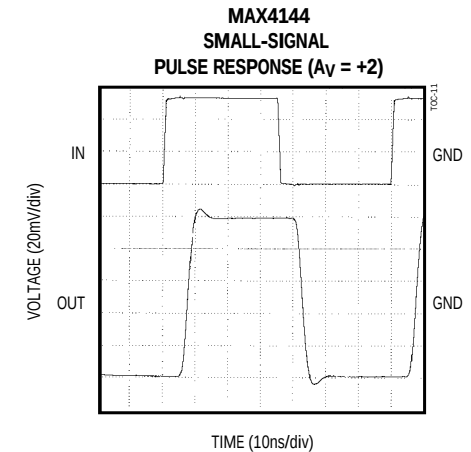
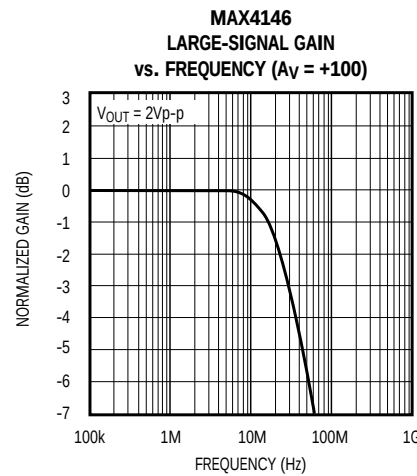
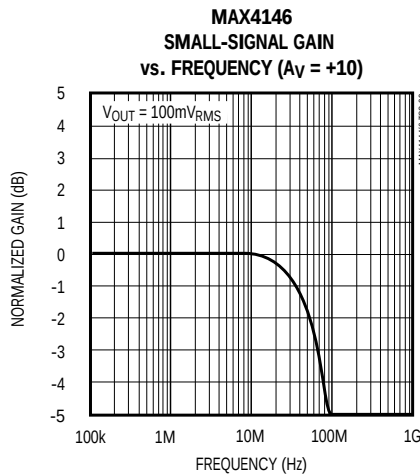
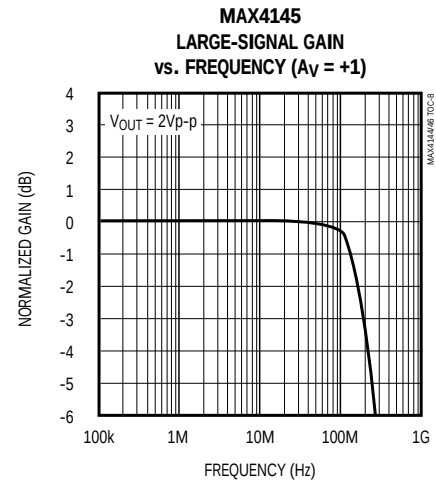
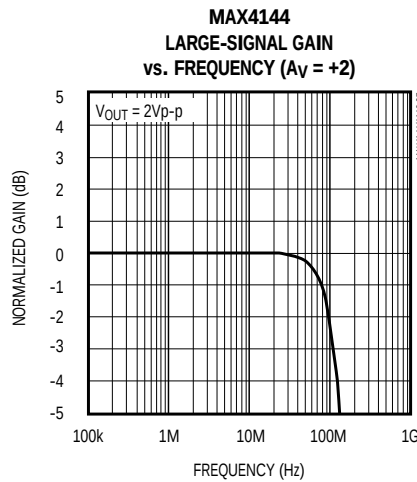
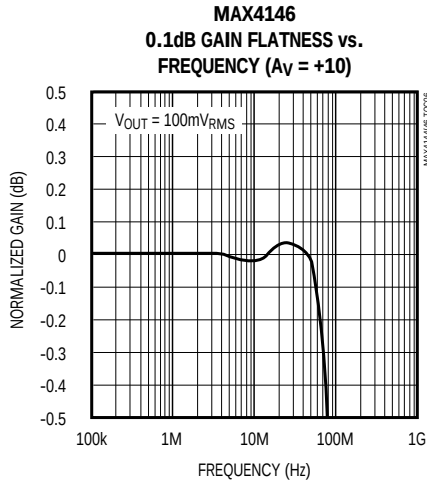


# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

( $V_{CC} = +5V$ ,  $V_{EE} = -5V$ ,  $SHDN = 0V$ ,  $R_L = 150\Omega$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)

MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146

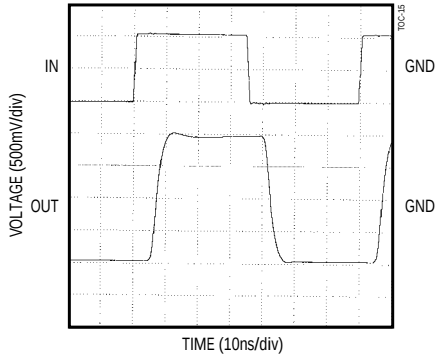


# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

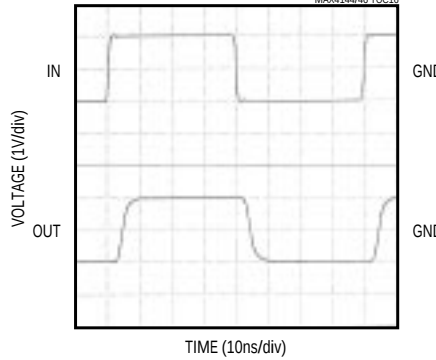
## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

( $V_{CC} = +5V$ ,  $V_{EE} = -5V$ , SHDN = 0V,  $R_L = 150\Omega$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)

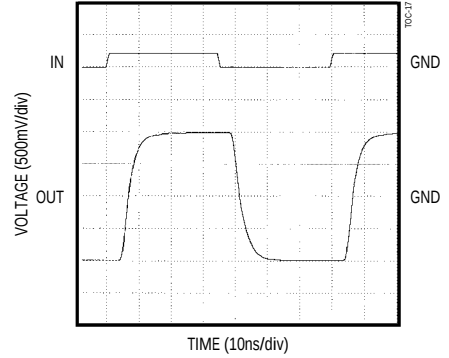
**MAX4144  
LARGE-SIGNAL  
PULSE RESPONSE ( $A_V = +2$ )**



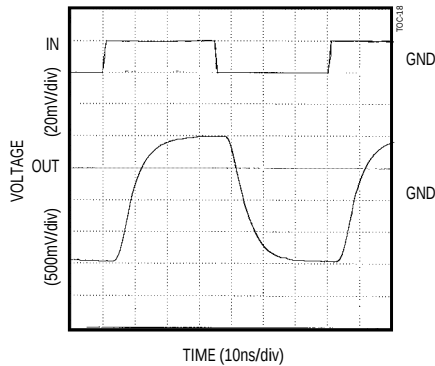
**MAX4145  
LARGE-SIGNAL  
PULSE RESPONSE ( $A_V = +1$ )**



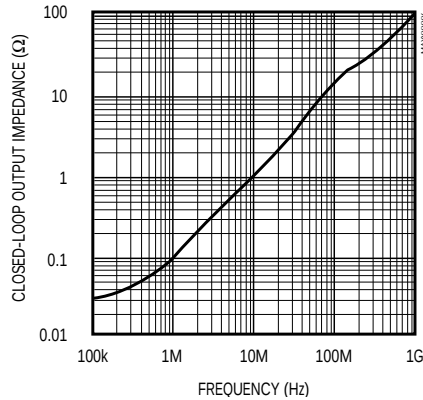
**MAX4146  
LARGE-SIGNAL  
PULSE RESPONSE ( $A_V = +10$ )**



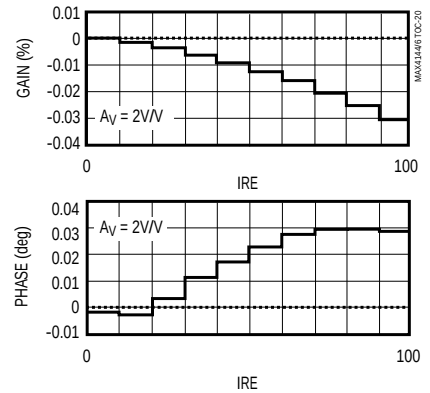
**MAX4146  
LARGE-SIGNAL  
PULSE RESPONSE ( $A_V = +100$ )**



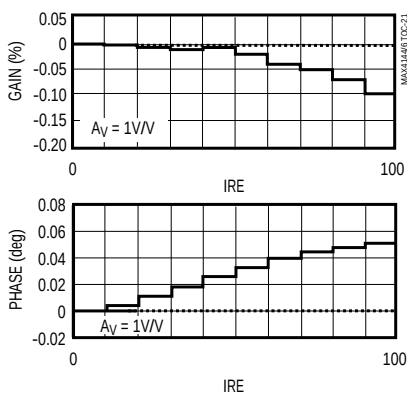
**CLOSED-LOOP OUTPUT IMPEDANCE  
vs. FREQUENCY ( $A_V = +1$ )**



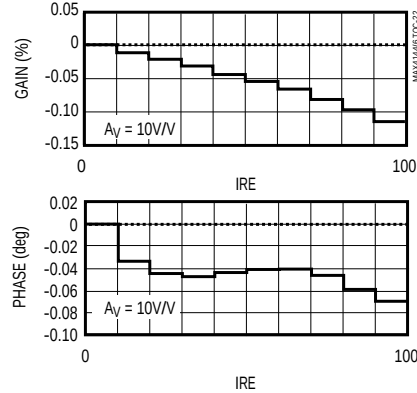
**MAX4144  
DIFFERENTIAL GAIN AND PHASE**



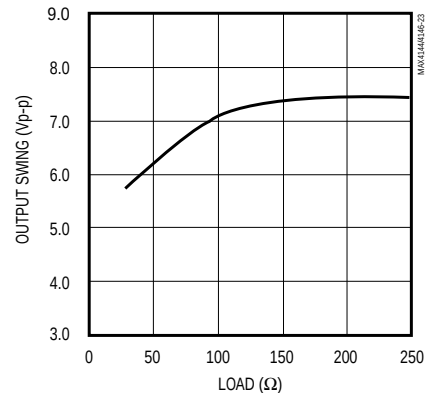
**MAX4145  
DIFFERENTIAL GAIN AND PHASE**



**MAX4146  
DIFFERENTIAL GAIN AND PHASE**



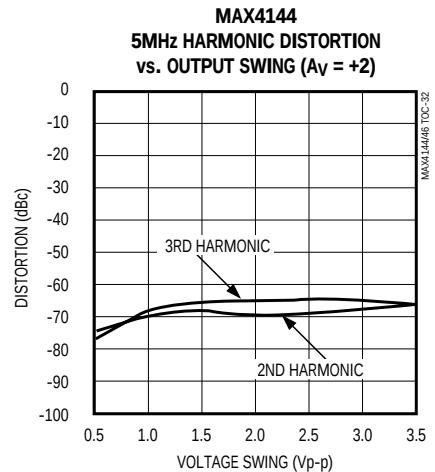
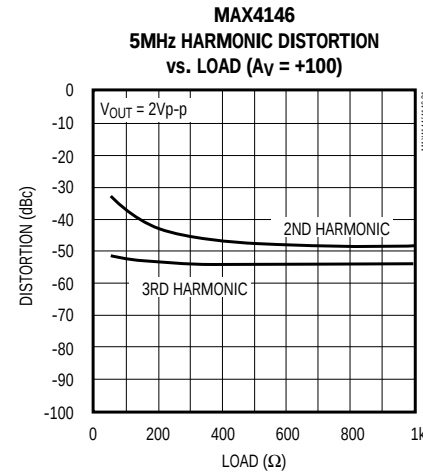
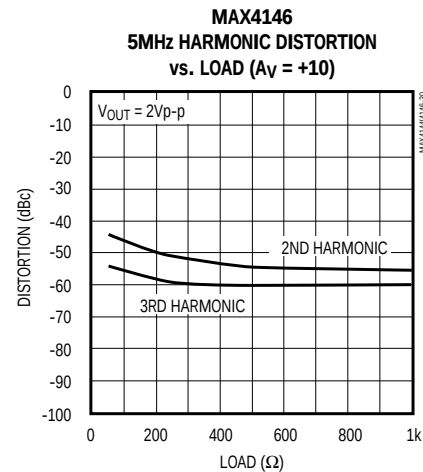
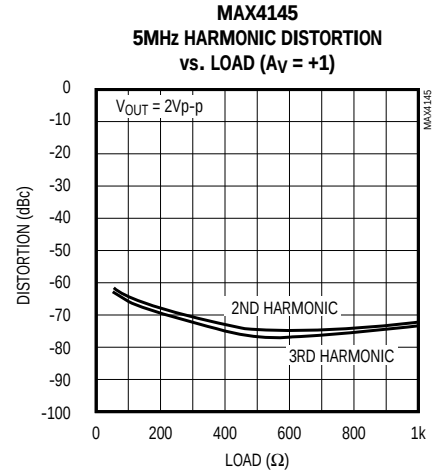
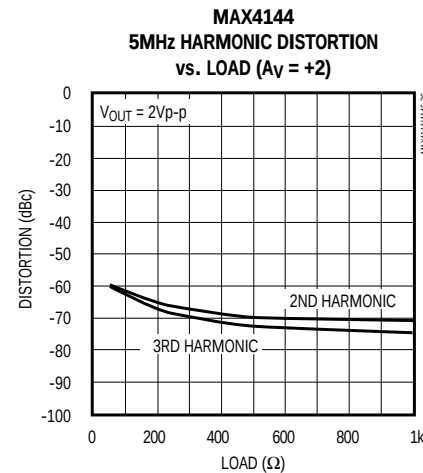
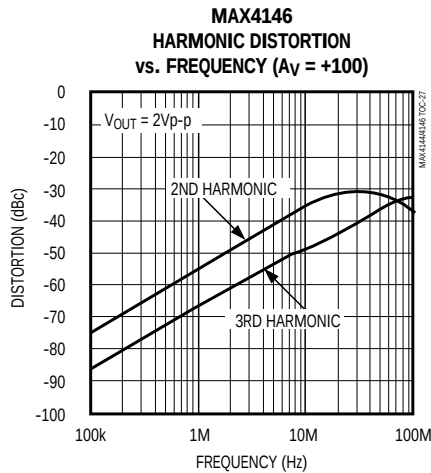
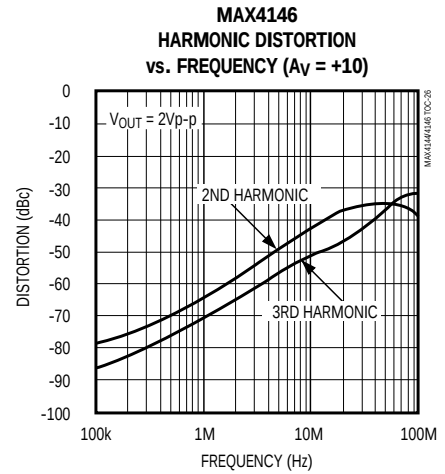
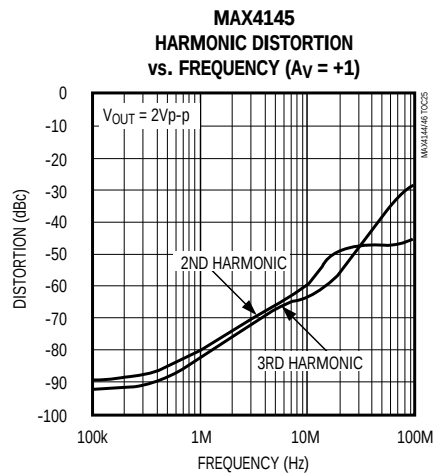
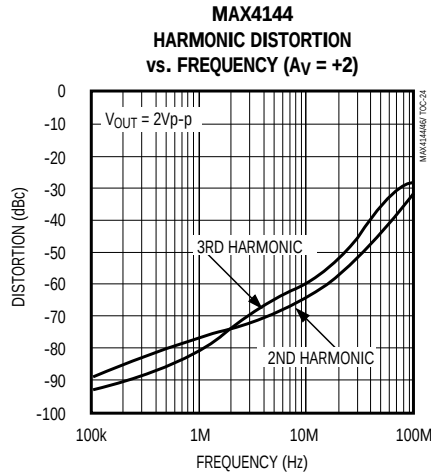
**OUTPUT SWING  
vs. LOAD RESISTANCE**



# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

( $V_{CC} = +5V$ ,  $V_{EE} = -5V$ ,  $SHDN = 0V$ ,  $R_L = 150\Omega$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)

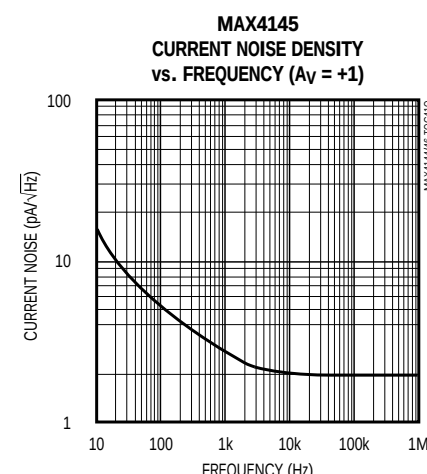
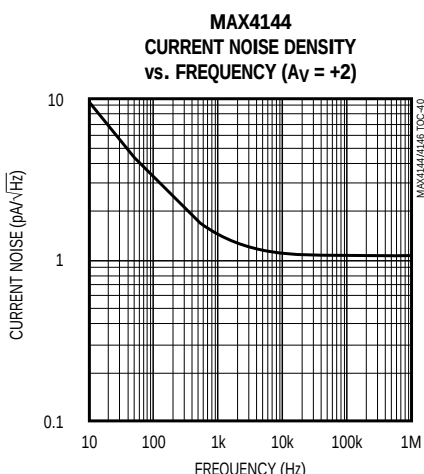
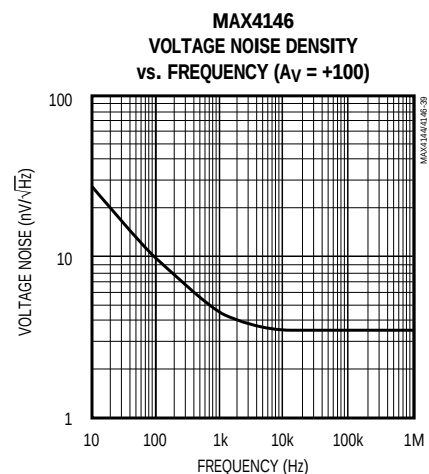
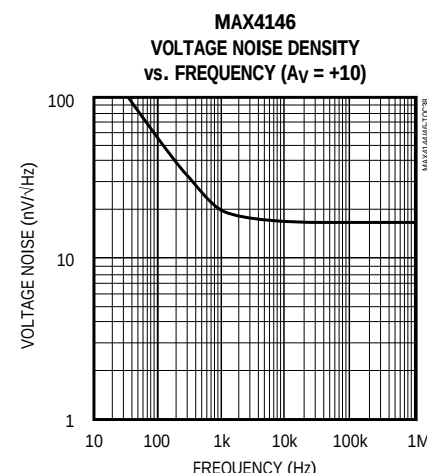
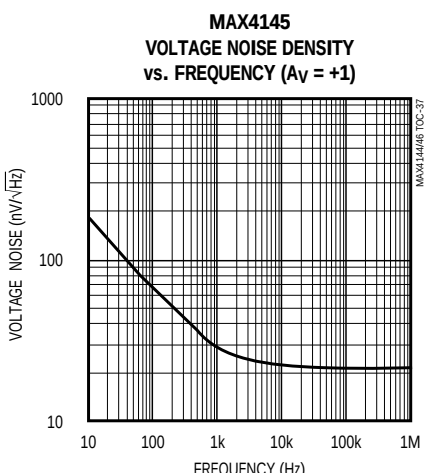
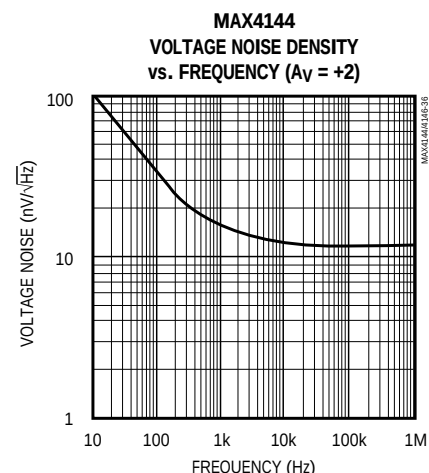
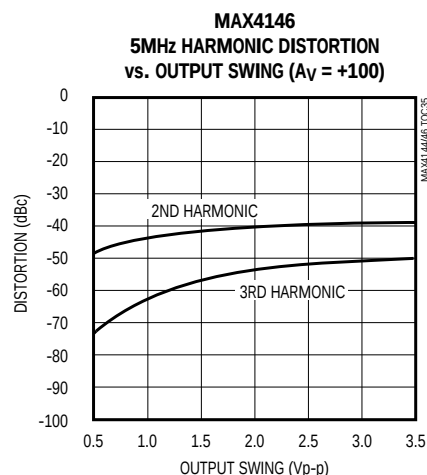
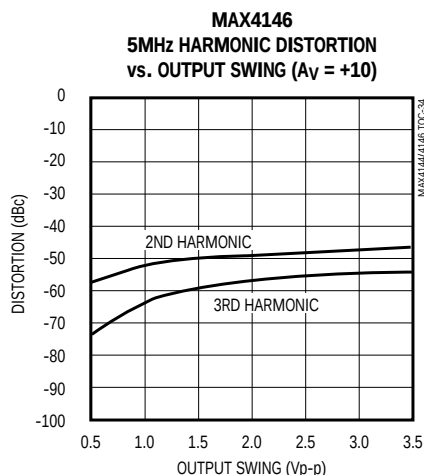
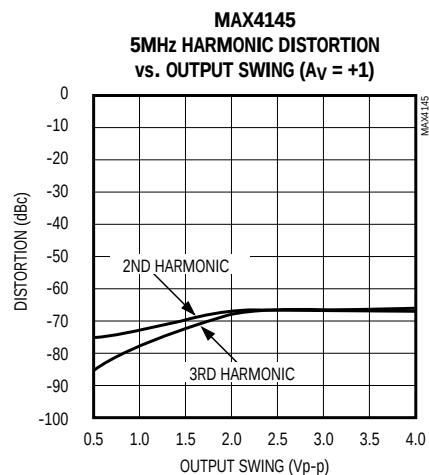


MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146

# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

( $V_{CC} = +5V$ ,  $V_{EE} = -5V$ ,  $SHDN = 0V$ ,  $R_L = 150\Omega$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)

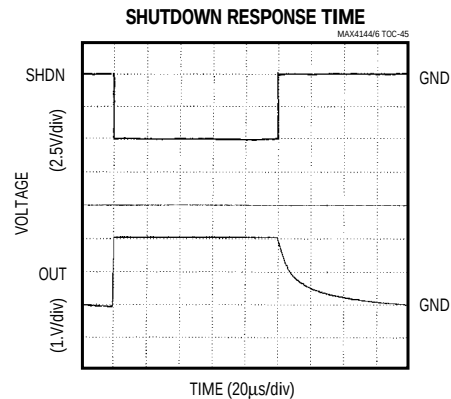
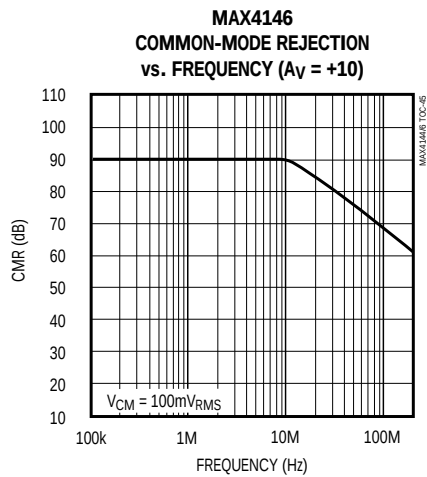
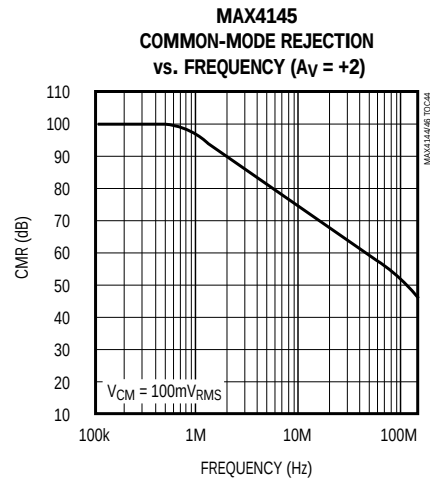
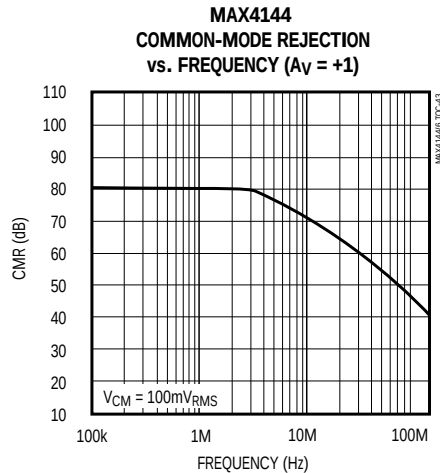
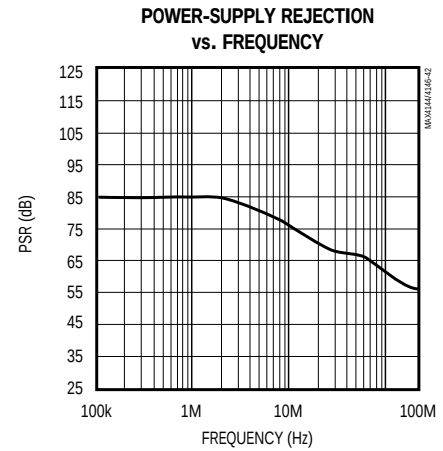
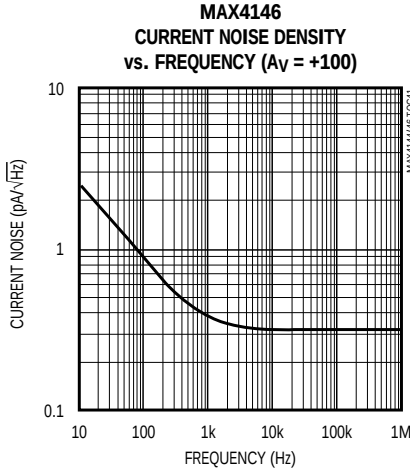
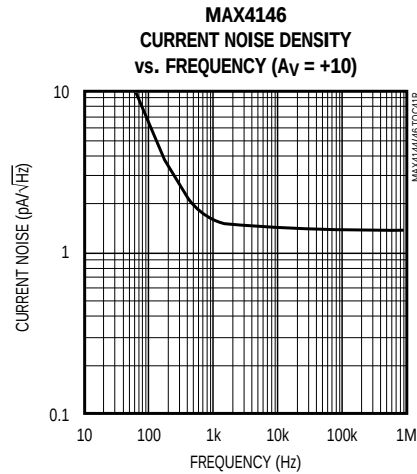




# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

## Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

( $V_{CC} = +5V$ ,  $V_{EE} = -5V$ ,  $SHDN = 0V$ ,  $R_L = 150\Omega$ ,  $T_A = +25^\circ C$ , unless otherwise noted.)



MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146

# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

## Pin Description

| PIN          |                   |         |         |         |         | NAME  | FUNCTION                                                                                                    |
|--------------|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MAX4144      |                   | MAX4145 |         | MAX4146 |         |       |                                                                                                             |
| 14 SO        | 16 QSOP           | 14 SO   | 16 QSOP | 14 SO   | 16 QSOP |       |                                                                                                             |
| 1, 7         | 1, 7              | 1, 7    | 1, 7    | 1, 7    | 1, 7    | VEE   | Negative Power Supply                                                                                       |
| 2            | 2                 | 2       | 2       | 2       | 2       | IN-   | Inverting Input                                                                                             |
| 3, 5, 10, 12 | 3, 5, 8, 9, 12,14 | 10, 12  | 12, 14  | 10, 12  | 12, 14  | N.C.  | No Connect. Not internally connected.                                                                       |
| —            | —                 | 3       | 3       | 3       | 3       | RG-   | Inverting Input for Gain-Set Resistor                                                                       |
| 4            | 4                 | 4       | 4       | 4       | 4       | SHDN  | Logic Input for Shutdown Circuitry. A logic low enables the amplifier. A logic high disables the amplifier. |
| —            | —                 | 5       | 5       | 5       | 5       | RG+   | Noninverting Input for Gain-Set Resistor                                                                    |
| 6            | 6                 | 6       | 6       | 6       | 6       | IN+   | Noninverting Input                                                                                          |
| 8, 14        | 10, 16            | 8, 14   | 10, 16  | 8, 14   | 10, 16  | VCC   | Positive Power Supply                                                                                       |
| 9            | 11                | 9       | 11      | 9       | 11      | REF   | Output Reference. Connect to ground for normal operation.                                                   |
| 11           | 13                | 11      | 13      | 11      | 13      | OUT   | Output                                                                                                      |
| 13           | 15                | 13      | 15      | 13      | 15      | SENSE | Output Sense. Connect to OUT close to the pin for normal operation.                                         |

## Detailed Description

The MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146 are low-distortion, differential line receivers that feature high bandwidths and excellent common-mode rejection, making them ideal for balanced, high-speed data transmission systems.

The MAX4144 has a preset gain of +2V/V and achieves a 130MHz -3dB bandwidth, a 1000V/μs slew rate, and common-mode rejection (CMR) of 70dB at 10MHz. The MAX4145 and MAX4146 use a single external resistor to set the closed-loop gain from +1V/V to +10V/V for the MAX4145, or greater than +10V/V for the MAX4146. The MAX4145 achieves a -3dB bandwidth of 180MHz, a slew rate of 600V/μs, and CMR of 75dB at 10MHz when operating in the unity-gain configuration. The MAX4146 attains a -3dB bandwidth of 70MHz, a slew rate of 800V/μs, and CMR of 90dB at 10MHz when operating with a closed-loop gain of +10V/V.

Differential inputs make the MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146 ideal for applications with high common-

mode noise, such as receiving T1 or xDSL transmissions over a twisted-pair cable. Excellent differential gain and phase, along with low noise, also suit them to video applications and RF signal processing.

For a complete differential transmission link, use the MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146 amplifiers with the MAX4147 line driver, as shown in the *Typical Application Circuit*.

## Applications Information

### Grounding, Bypassing, and PC Board Layout

Adhere to the following high-frequency design techniques when designing the PC board for the MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146.

- The printed circuit board should have at least two layers: the signal layer and the ground plane.
- Do not use wire-wrap boards—they are too inductive.

# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

- Do not use IC sockets—they increase parasitic capacitance and inductance.
- Use surface-mount power-supply bypass capacitors instead of through-hole capacitors. Their shorter lead lengths reduce parasitic inductance, leading to superior high-frequency performance.
- Keep signal lines as short and as straight as possible. Do not make 90° turns; round all corners.
- The ground plane should be as free from voids as possible.

## Output Short-Circuit Protection

Under short-circuit conditions to ground, limit the output current to 120mA. This level is low enough that a short to ground of moderate duration will not cause permanent damage to the chip. However, a short to either supply will significantly increase power dissipation, and will cause permanent damage. The high output current capability is an advantage in systems that transmit a signal to several loads.

## Input Protection Circuitry

The MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146 include internal protection circuitry that prevents damage to the precision input stage from large differential input voltages. This protection circuitry consists of five back-to-back Schottky protection diodes between IN+ and RG+, and IN- and RG- (Figure 1). The diodes limit the differential voltage applied to the amplifiers' internal circuitry to no more than  $10V_F$ , where  $V_F$  is the diode's forward voltage drop (about 0.4V at +25°C).

For a large differential input voltage (exceeding 4V), the MAX4145/MAX4146 input bias current (at IN+ and IN-) increases according to the following equation:

$$\text{Input Current} = \frac{(V_{IN+} - V_{IN-} - 10V_F)}{R_G}$$

The MAX4144 has an internal gain-setting resistor valued at 1.4kΩ. A differential input voltage as high as 10V will cause only 4.3mA to flow—much less than the 10mA absolute maximum rating. However, in the MAX4145/MAX4146,  $R_G$  can be as low as 150Ω. Under this condition, the absolute maximum input current rating might be exceeded if the differential input voltage exceeds 5.5V ( $10\text{mA} \times 150\Omega + 10V_F$ ). In that case, 510Ω resistors can be placed at IN+ and IN- to limit the current without degrading performance.

## Shutdown Mode

The MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146 can be put into low-power shutdown mode by bringing SHDN high. The amplifier output is high impedance in this mode; thus the impedance at OUT is that of the feedback resistors (1.4kΩ).

## Setting Gain (MAX4145/MAX4146)

The MAX4145/MAX4146's gain is determined by a single external resistor,  $R_G$ . The optimal gain range is from +1V/V to +10V/V for the MAX4145 and +10V/V ( $R_G$  = open) to +100V/V for the MAX4146. The gain (in V/V) is given in the following equations:

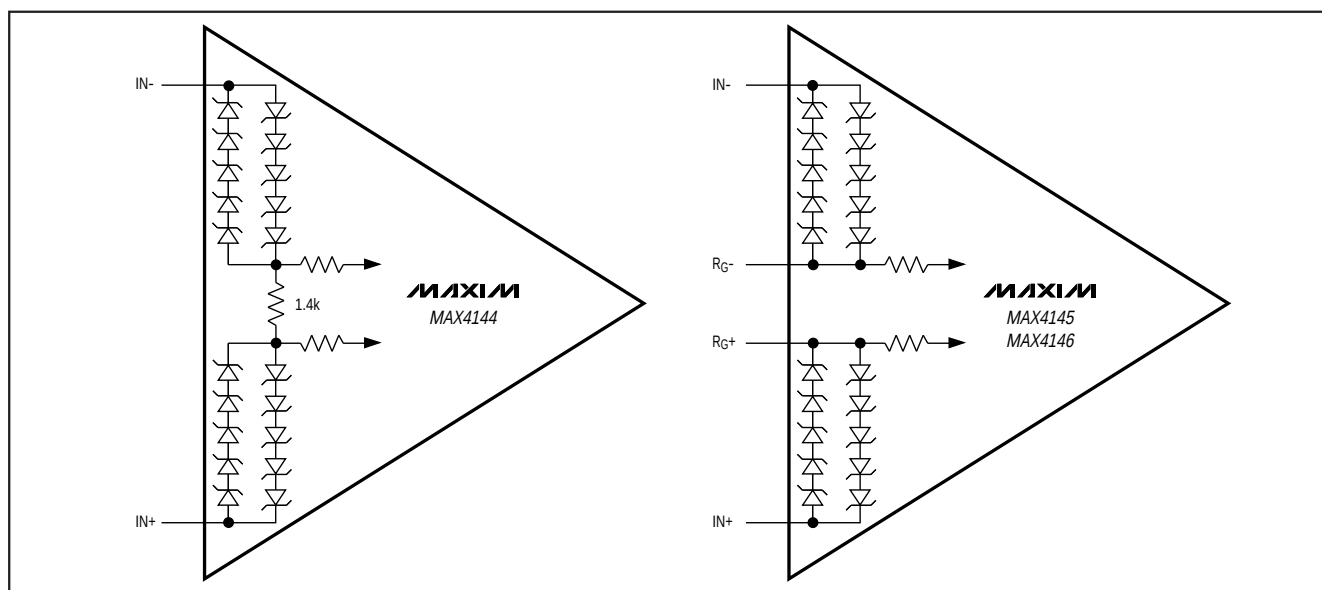


Figure 1. Input Protection Circuits

# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

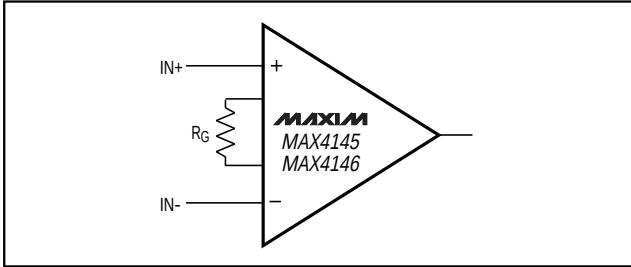


Figure 2. Connection of  $R_G$  in MAX4146

$$G = A_V = 1 + \frac{1.4k\Omega}{R_G} \quad (\text{MAX4145})$$

$$G = A_V = 10 + \frac{14k\Omega}{R_G} \quad (\text{MAX4146})$$

Figure 2 shows the connection for  $R_G$ .  $R_G$  might simply be a resistor, or it can be a complex pole-zero pair for filter and shaping applications (Figure 9). Use surface-mount gain-setting components to ensure stability.

## Using REF and SENSE

The MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146 have a REF pin (normally connected to ground) and a SENSE pin (normally connected to OUT). In some long-line applications, it may be desirable to connect SENSE and OUT together at the load, instead of the typical connection at the part (Figure 3). This compensates for the long line's resistance, which otherwise leads to an IR voltage error.

When using this technique, keep the sense lines' impedance low to minimize gain errors. Also, keep capacitance low to maximize frequency response. The gain of the MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146 output stage is approximated by the following equation:

$$A_V = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{700\Omega + \Delta R_{\text{SENSE}}}{R} \left( 1 + \frac{700\Omega + \Delta R_{\text{REF}}}{R + 700\Omega + \Delta R_{\text{REF}}} \right) + \frac{700\Omega + \Delta R_{\text{REF}}}{R + 700\Omega + \Delta R_{\text{REF}}} \right]$$

where  $\Delta R_{\text{SENSE}}$  and  $\Delta R_{\text{REF}}$  are the SENSE and REF trace impedances, respectively.  $R$  is  $700\Omega$  for the MAX4144 and MAX4145, and  $100\Omega$  for the MAX4146.

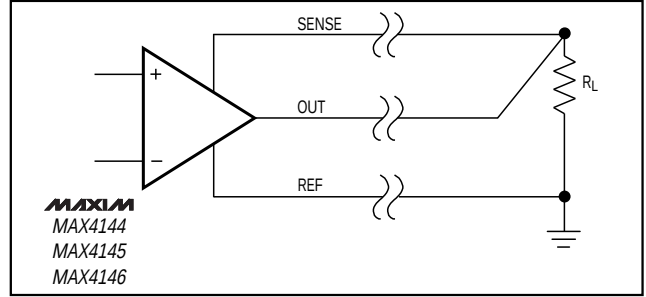


Figure 3. Connection of SENSE and REF to a Remote Load

Additionally, mismatches in the SENSE and REF traces lead to common-mode gain errors. Common-mode gain is approximated by the following equation:

$$A_{\text{VCM}} = \frac{\Delta R_{\text{REF}} - \Delta R_{\text{SENSE}}}{R + 700\Omega}$$

Substituting numbers for  $\Delta R_{\text{REF}}$  and  $\Delta R_{\text{SENSE}}$  into this equation, we can see that if changes in  $\Delta R_{\text{REF}}$  and  $\Delta R_{\text{SENSE}}$  are equal, CMR is not degraded.

## Driving Capacitive Loads

The MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146 provide maximum AC performance when not driving an output load capacitance. This is the case when driving a correctly terminated transmission line (i.e., a back-terminated cable). In most amplifier circuits, driving large load capacitance increases the chance of oscillations. The amplifier's output impedance and the load capacitor combine to add a pole and excess phase to the loop response. If the pole's frequency is low enough and phase margin is degraded sufficiently, oscillations may occur. A second concern when driving capacitive loads results from the amplifier's output impedance,

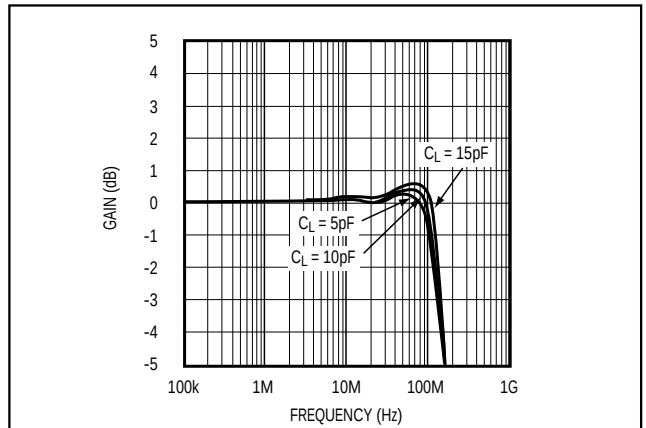


Figure 4. MAX4144 Small-Signal Response with Capacitive Load

# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

which appears inductive at high frequencies. This inductance forms an L-C resonant circuit with the capacitive load, which causes peaking in the frequency response and degrades the amplifier's phase margin.

The MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146 drive capacitive loads up to 25pF without oscillation. However, some peaking may occur in the frequency domain (Figure 4).

To drive larger capacitance and reduce ringing, add an isolation resistor ( $R_{ISO}$ ) between the amplifier's output and the load (Figure 5).

The value of  $R_{ISO}$  depends on the circuit's gain and the capacitive load (Figures 6 and 7). With higher capaci-

tive values, bandwidth is dominated by the RC network formed by  $R_{ISO}$  and  $C_L$ ; the bandwidth of the amplifier itself is much higher. Also note that the isolation resistor forms a divider that decreases the voltage delivered to the load.

## Twisted-Pair Line Receiver

The MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146 are well suited as receivers in twisted-pair xDSL or NTSC/PAL video applications. The standard 24AWG telephone wire widely used in these applications is a lossy medium for high-frequency signals. The losses in NTSC video applications are almost 15dB per 1000 feet (Figure 8).

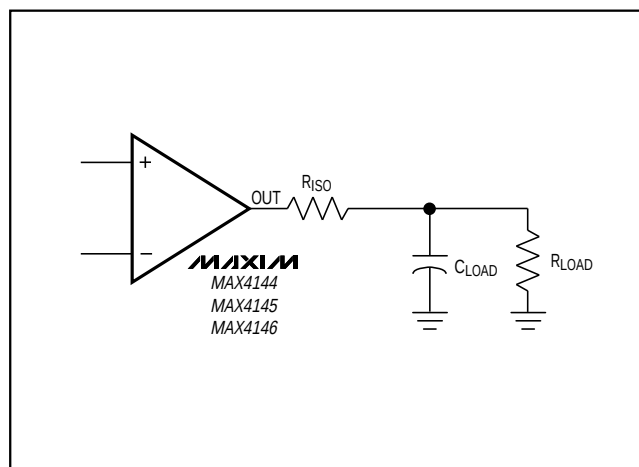


Figure 5. Addition of  $R_{ISO}$  to Amplifier Output

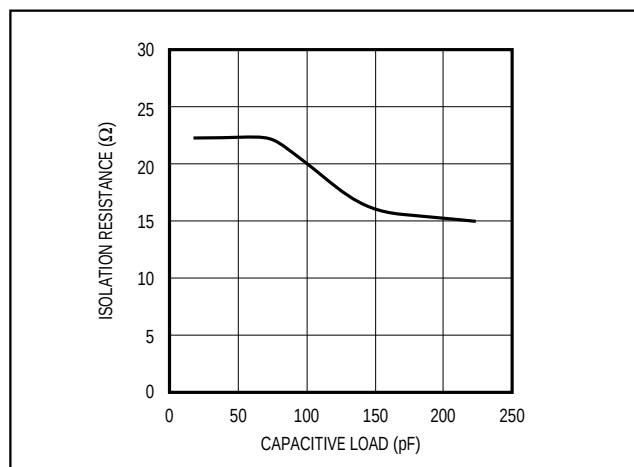


Figure 6. MAX4144 Isolation Resistance vs. Capacitive Load

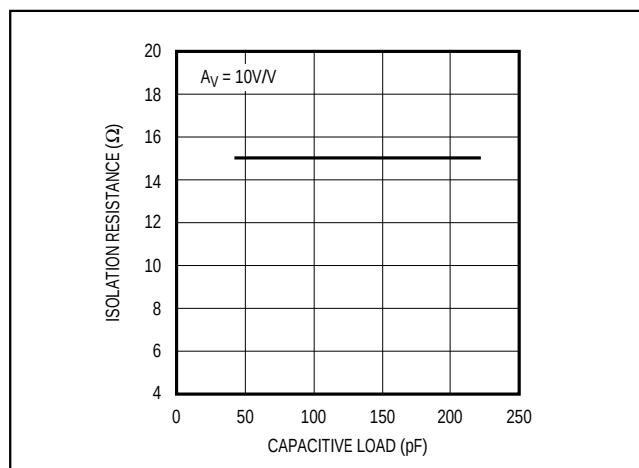


Figure 7. MAX4145/MAX4146 Isolation Resistance vs. Capacitive Load

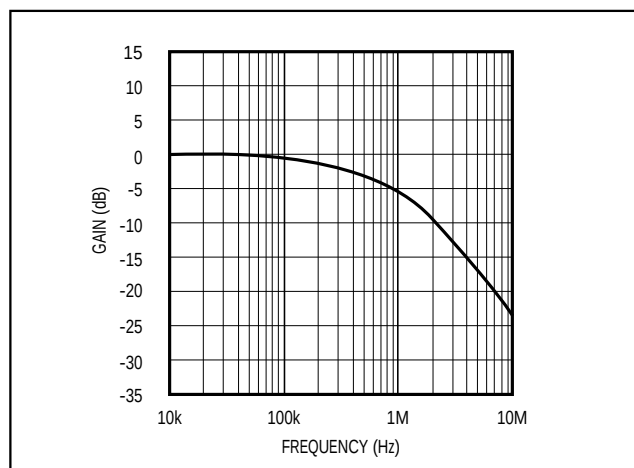


Figure 8. 1000 Feet of AWG24 Twisted-Pair Telephone Cable (Gain vs. Frequency)

# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

Losses are higher at higher frequencies, contributing to severe pulse-edge rounding in digital applications. The nominal impedance of twisted-pair telephone wire is 110Ω.

The MAX4145/MAX4146, with variable gain up to +10V/V and +100V/V, respectively, can be used to compensate for cable losses. In the graph shown in Figure 8, the cable characteristics are such that the video-chroma frequency loss is almost 15dB greater

than the low-frequency loss. The losses can be compensated for by using the RC-shaping network (Figure 9).

A 560Ω resistance and a 100pF capacitance shape the MAX4146 gain to inversely match the frequency of the 1000 feet of telephone cable. The differential gain and phase, using the circuit shown in Figure 9, is 0.55% and 0.18°, respectively.

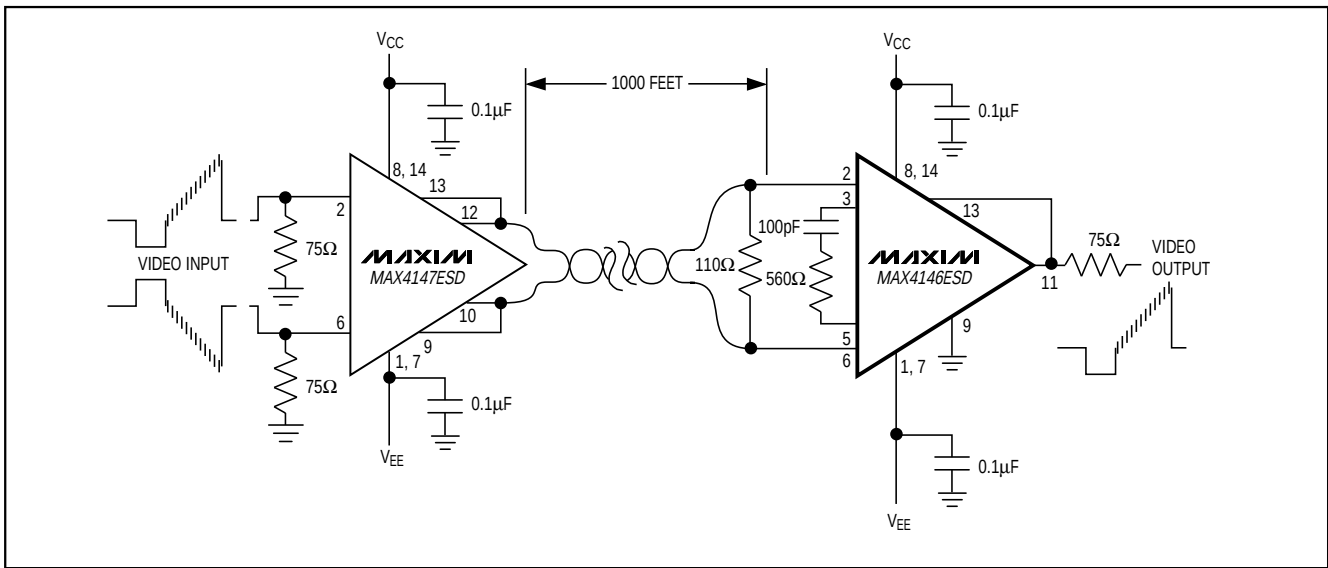
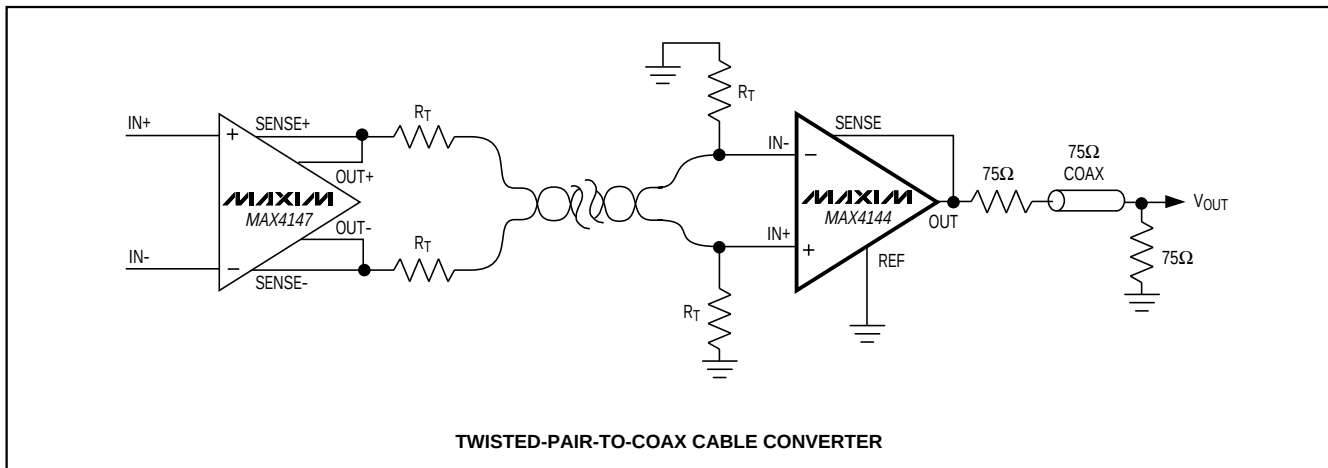


Figure 9. Circuit for Transmitting NTSC/PAL Video Over 1000 Feet of Twisted-Pair Telephone Line

## Typical Application Circuit

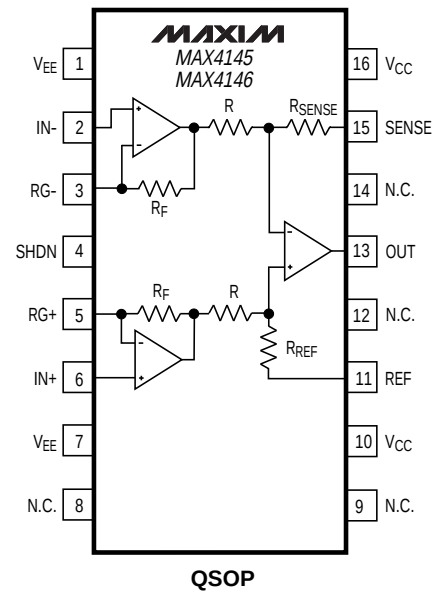
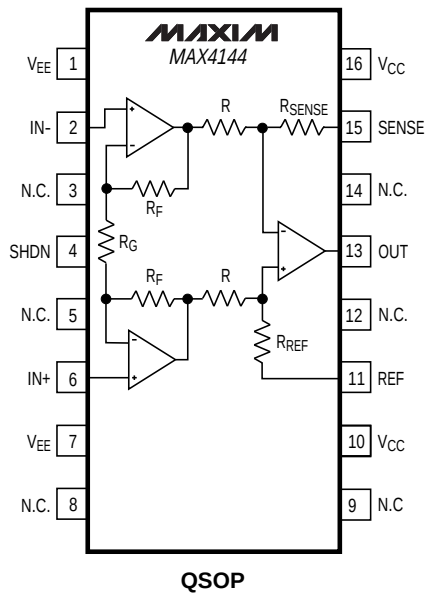
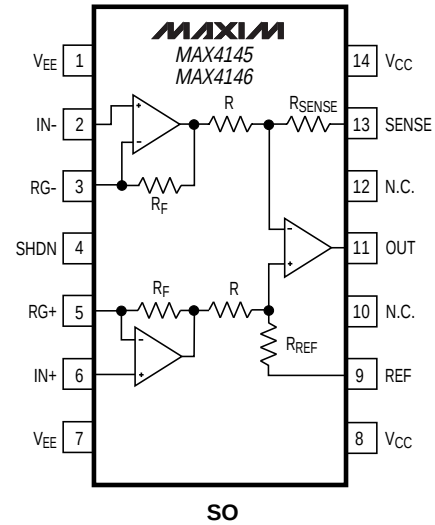
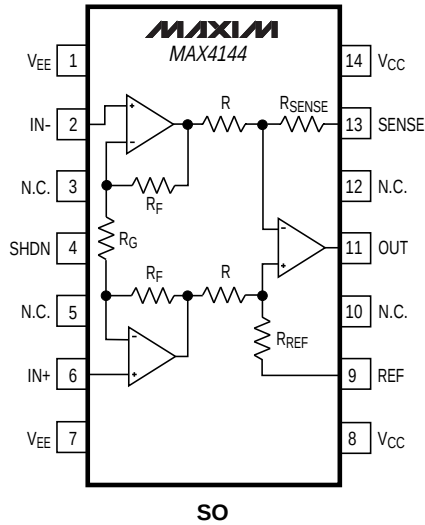


# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

## Pin Configurations

MAX4144/MAX4145/MAX4146

TOP VIEW



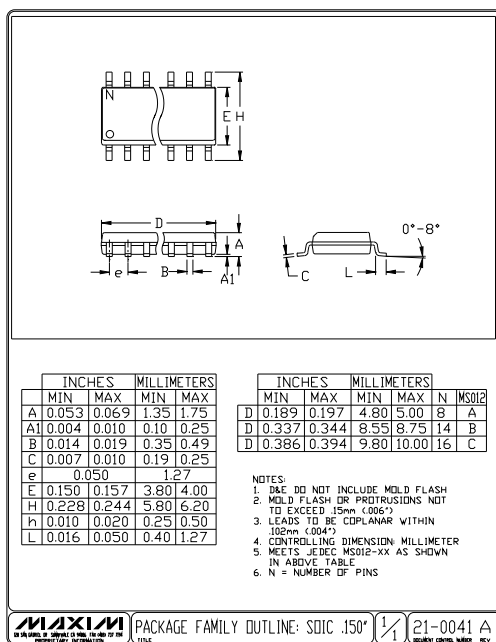
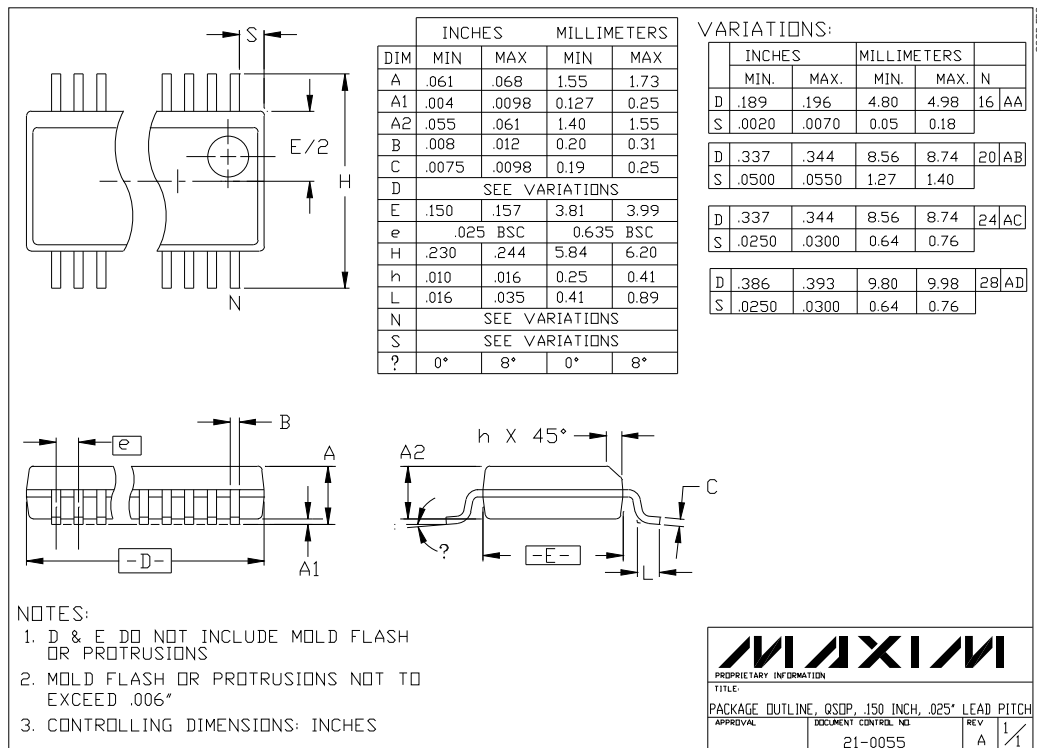
## Chip Information

TRANSISTOR COUNT: 237

SUBSTRATE CONNECTED TO V<sub>EE</sub>

# High-Speed, Low-Distortion, Differential Line Receivers

## Package Information



Maxim cannot assume responsibility for use of any circuitry other than circuitry entirely embodied in a Maxim product. No circuit patent licenses are implied. Maxim reserves the right to change the circuitry and specifications without notice at any time.

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