



330MHz, Gain of +1/Gain of +2 Closed-Loop Buffers

MAX4178/MAX4278

General Description

The MAX4178/MAX4278 are $\pm 5\text{V}$, wide-bandwidth, fast-settling, closed-loop buffers featuring high slew rate, high precision, high output current, low noise, and low differential gain and phase errors. The MAX4178, with a -3dB bandwidth of 330MHz, is preset for unity voltage gain (0dB). The MAX4278 is preset for a voltage gain of +2 (6dB) and has a 310MHz -3dB bandwidth.

The MAX4178/MAX4278 feature the high slew rate and low power that are characteristic of current-mode feedback amplifiers. However, unlike conventional current-mode feedback amplifiers, these devices have a unique input stage that combines the benefits of current-feedback topology with those of the traditional voltage-feedback topology. This combination results in low input offset voltage and bias current, low noise, and high gain precision and power-supply rejection.

The MAX4178/MAX4278 are ideally suited for driving 50Ω or 75Ω loads. They are the perfect choice for high-speed cable-driving applications, such as video routing. The MAX4178/MAX4278 are available in DIP, SO, and space-saving μMAX and SOT23 packages.

Applications

Broadcast and High-Definition TV Systems
Video Switching and Routing
High-Speed Cable Drivers
Communications
Medical Imaging
Precision High-Speed DAC/ADC Buffers

Features

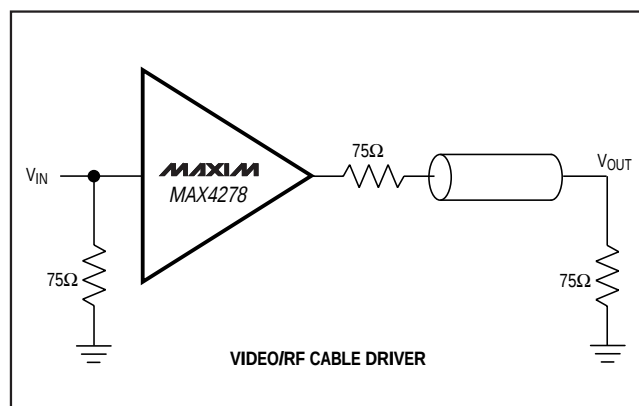
- ♦ **High Speed:**
 - 330MHz -3dB Bandwidth (MAX4178)
 - 310MHz -3dB Bandwidth (MAX4278)
 - 250MHz Full-Power Bandwidth ($V_{OUT} = 2\text{Vp-p}$)
 - 150MHz 0.1dB Flatness Bandwidth
 - 1300V/ μs Slew Rate (MAX4178)
 - 1600V/ μs Slew Rate (MAX4278)
- ♦ **Low Differential Phase/Gain Error: 0.01°/0.04%**
- ♦ **8mA Supply Current**
- ♦ **1 μA Input Bias Current**
- ♦ **0.5mV Input Offset Voltage**
- ♦ **5nV/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$ Input-Referred Voltage Noise**
- ♦ **2pA/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$ Input-Referred Current Noise**
- ♦ **1.0% Max Gain Error with 100 Ω Load**
- ♦ **Short-Circuit Protected**
- ♦ **8000V ESD Protection**
- ♦ **Available in Space-Saving SOT23 Package**

Ordering Information

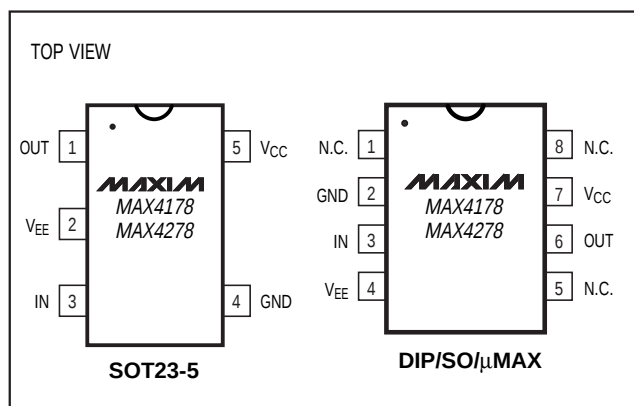
PART	TEMP. RANGE	PIN-PACKAGE	SOT TOP MARK
MAX4178EPA	-40°C to +85°C	8 Plastic DIP	—
MAX4178ESA	-40°C to +85°C	8 SO	—
MAX4178EUA	-40°C to +85°C	8 μMAX	—
MAX4178EUK-T	-40°C to +85°C	5 SOT23	ABYX
MAX4178MJA	-55°C to +125°C	8 CERDIP	—

Ordering Information continued at end of data sheet.

Typical Operating Circuit



Pin Configurations



330MHz, Gain of +1/Gain of +2 Closed-Loop Buffers

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

Supply Voltage (V _{CC} to V _{EE})	12V
Input Voltage	(V _{CC} + 0.3V) to (V _{EE} - 0.3V)
Output Short-Circuit Duration (to GND)	Continuous
Continuous Power Dissipation (T _A = +70°C)	
Plastic DIP (derate 9.09mW/°C above +70°C)	727mW
SO (derate 5.88mW/°C above +70°C)	471mW
μMAX (derate 4.10mW/°C above +70°C)	330mW
CERDIP (derate 8.00mW/°C above +70°C)	640mW
SOT23 (derate 7.10mW/°C above +70°C)	571mW

Operating Temperature Ranges (Note 1)

MAX4178E_A/MAX4278E_A	-40°C to +85°C
MAX4178EUK/MAX4278EUK	-40°C to +85°C
MAX4178MJA/MAX4278MJA	-55°C to +125°C
Storage Temperature Range	-65°C to +160°C
Lead Temperature (soldering, 10sec)	+300°C

Note 1: Specifications for the MAX4_78EUK(SOT23 packages) are 100% tested at T_A = +25°C, and guaranteed by design over temperature.

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, V_{OUT} = 0V, R_L = ∞, T_A = T_{MIN} to T_{MAX}, unless otherwise noted. Typical values are at T_A = +25°C.)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Input Voltage Range	V _{IN}	MAX4178		±2.5	±3.0		V
		MAX4278		±1.25	±1.5		
Input Offset Voltage	V _{OS}	T _A = +25°C	MAX4_78ESA/EPA/EUA/MJA		0.5	2.0	mV
			MAX4_78EUK		0.5	3.0	
		T _A = T _{MIN} to T _{MAX}	MAX4_78ESA/EPA/EUA/MJA			3.0	
			MAX4_78EUK			5.0	
Input Offset Voltage Drift	TCV _{OS}				2		μV/°C
Input Bias Current	I _B	T _A = +25°C			1	3	μA
		T _A = T _{MIN} to T _{MAX}				5	
Input Resistance	R _{IN}				1		MΩ
Power-Supply Rejection Ratio	PSRR	V _S = ±4.5V to ±5.5V		70	90		dB
Voltage Gain	A _V	MAX4178 (Note 2)	R _L = 100Ω	0.990		1.000	V/V
			R _L = 50Ω	0.985		1.000	
		MAX4278 (Note 3)	R _L = 100Ω	1.98		2.01	
			R _L = 50Ω	1.97		2.01	
Gain Linearity	A _{V(LIN)}	V _{OUT} = ±1mV to ±2V			0.01		%
Output Resistance	R _{OUT}	f = DC			0.1		Ω
Minimum Output Current	I _{OUT}	T _A = -40°C to +85°C		70	100		mA
Short-Circuit Output Current	I _{SC}	Short to GND			150		mA
Output Voltage Swing	V _{OUT}	R _L = 100Ω		±2.5	±3.0		V
		R _L = 50Ω		±2.0	±2.5		
Quiescent Supply Current	I _{SY}	T _A = +25°C			8	10	mA
		T _A = T _{MIN} to T _{MAX}	MAX4_78E_ _			12	
			MAX4_78MJA			14	

Note 2: Voltage Gain = (V_{OUT} - V_{OS}) / V_{IN} measured at V_{IN} = ±2.5V.

Note 3: Voltage Gain = (V_{OUT} - V_{OS}) / V_{IN} measured at V_{IN} = ±1.25V.

330MHz, Gain of +1/Gain of +2 Closed-Loop Buffers

MAX4178/MAX4278

AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(V_{CC} = +5V, V_{EE} = -5V, R_L = 100Ω, T_A = +25°C, unless otherwise noted.)

PARAMETER	SYMBOL	CONDITIONS		MIN	TYP	MAX	UNITS
Small-Signal, -3dB Bandwidth (Note 4)	BW	V _{OUT} ≤ 0.1Vp-p	MAX4178	240	330		MHz
			MAX4278	230	310		
Small-Signal, ±0.1dB Bandwidth (Note 4)	BW(0.1dB)	V _{OUT} ≤ 0.1Vp-p	MAX4178	30	150		MHz
			MAX4278	30	150		
Full-Power Bandwidth	FPBW	V _{OUT} = 2Vp-p	MAX4178		250		MHz
			MAX4278		250		
Slew Rate (Note 4)	SR	V _{OUT} = ±2Vp-p	MAX4178	800	1300		V/μs
			MAX4278	900	1600		
Settling Time	t _s	V _{OUT} = 2V step	to 0.1%		10		ns
			to 0.01%		12		
Rise/Fall Times	t _r , t _f	V _{OUT} = 2V step			2		ns
Input Capacitance	C _{IN}				1		pF
Input Voltage Noise Density	e _n	f = 10MHz			5		nV/√Hz
Input Current Noise Density	i _n	f = 10MHz			2		pA/√Hz
Differential Gain (Note 5)	DG	f = 3.58MHz	MAX4178		0.04		%
			MAX4278		0.04		
Differential Phase (Note 5)	DP	f = 3.58MHz	MAX4178		0.01		degrees
			MAX4278		0.01		
Total Harmonic Distortion	THD	f _C = 10MHz, V _{OUT} = 2Vp-p	MAX4178		-58		dB
			MAX4278		-59		
Spurious-Free Dynamic Range	SFDR	f = 5MHz, V _{OUT} = 2Vp-p	MAX4178		-81		dBC
			MAX4278		-74		
Third-Order Intercept	IP3	f _C = 10MHz, V _{OUT} = 2Vp-p	MAX4178		36		dBm
			MAX4278		31		

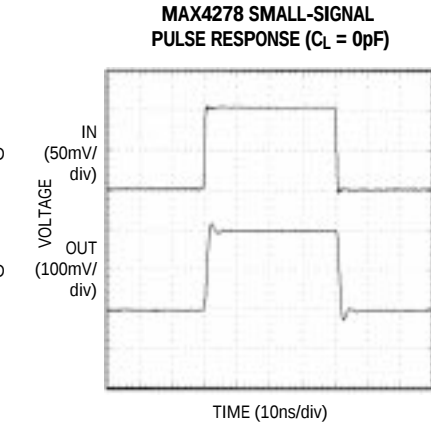
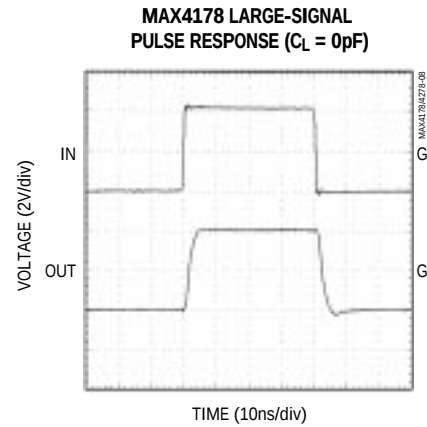
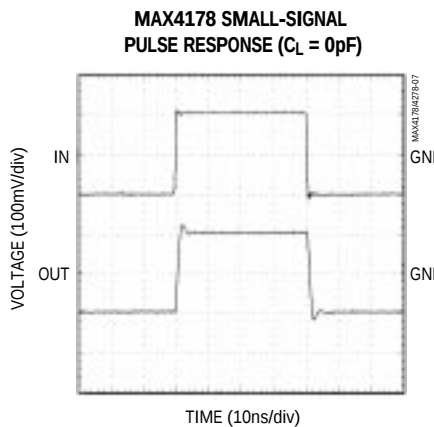
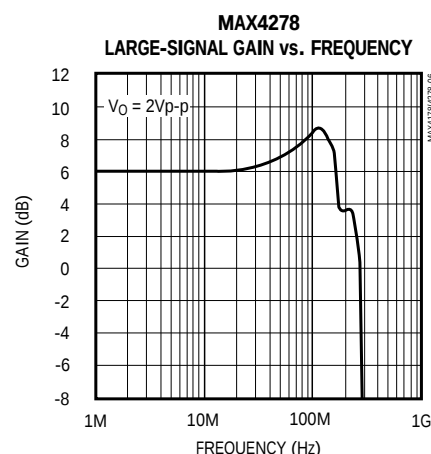
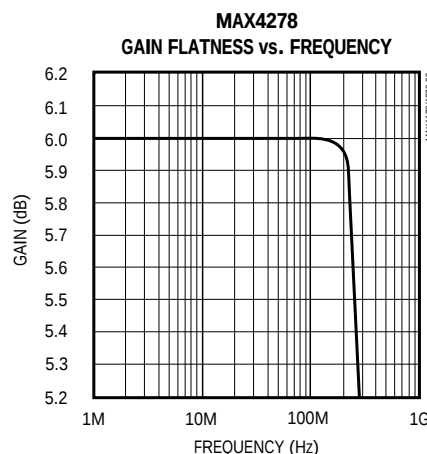
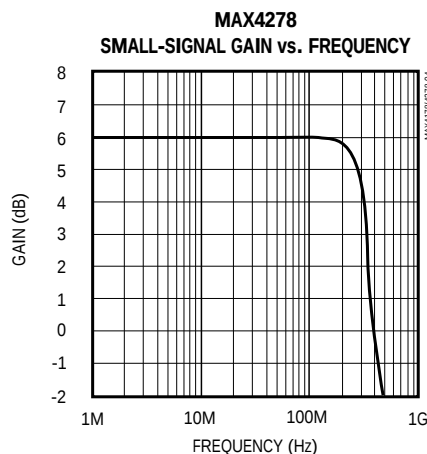
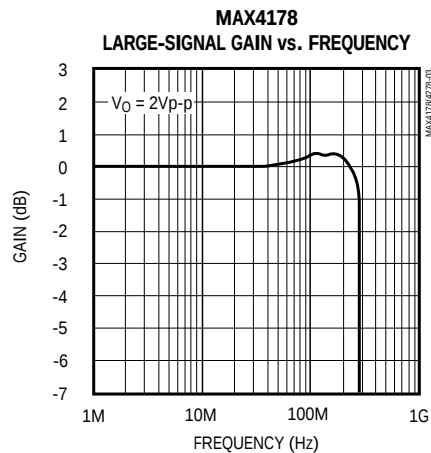
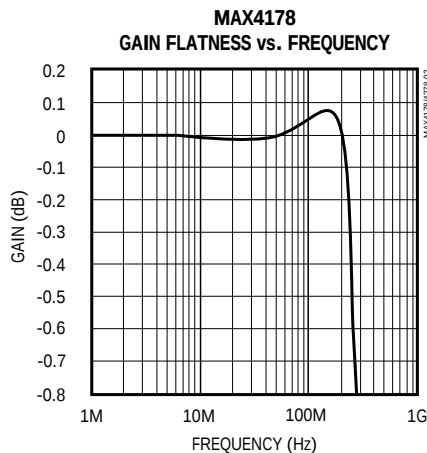
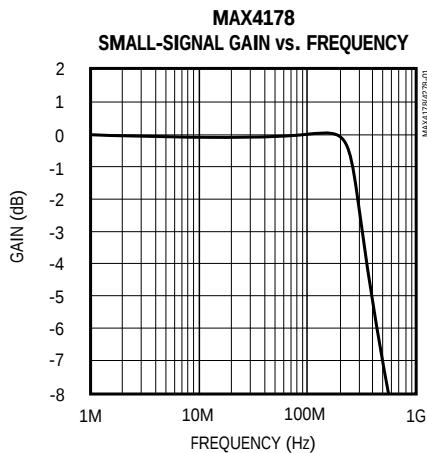
Note 4: Minimum AC specifications are guaranteed by sample test on the MAX4_78ESA only.

Note 5: Tested with a 3.58MHz video test signal with an amplitude of 40IRE superimposed on a linear ramp (0 to 100IRE). An IRE is a unit of video signal amplitude developed by the Institute of Radio Engineers. 140IRE = 1V in color systems.

330MHz, Gain of +1/Gain of +2 Closed-Loop Buffers

Typical Operating Characteristics

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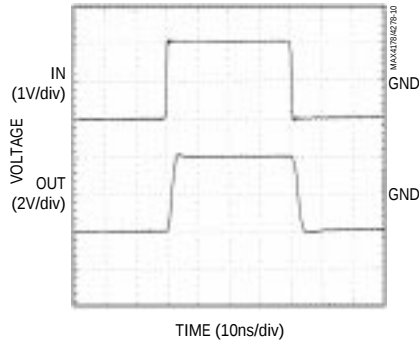


330MHz, Gain of +1/Gain of +2 Closed-Loop Buffers

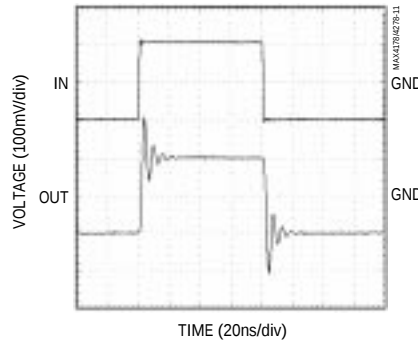
Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

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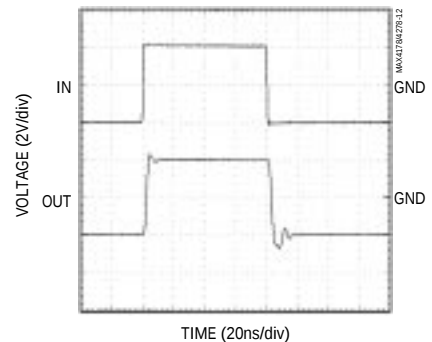
**MAX4278 LARGE-SIGNAL
PULSE RESPONSE ($C_L = 0pF$)**



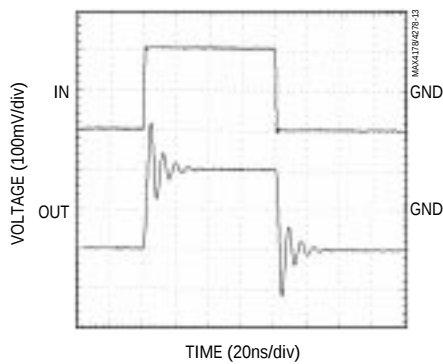
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PULSE RESPONSE ($C_L = 50pF$)**



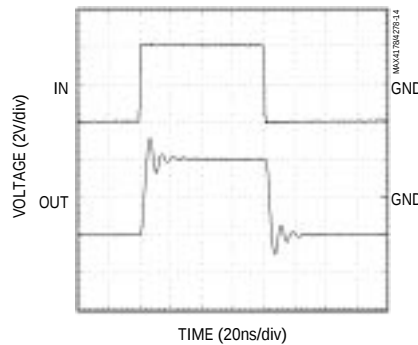
**MAX4178 LARGE-SIGNAL
PULSE RESPONSE ($C_L = 50pF$)**



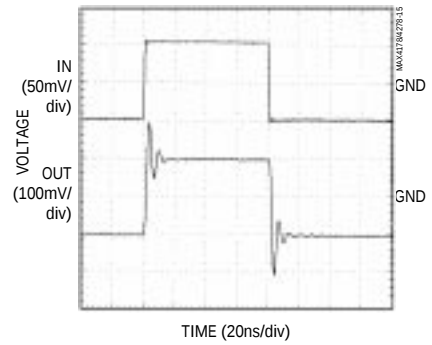
**MAX4178 SMALL-SIGNAL
PULSE RESPONSE ($C_L = 100pF$)**



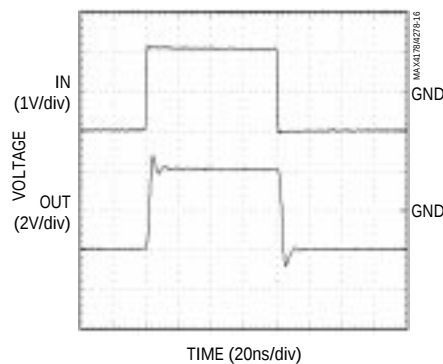
**MAX4178 LARGE-SIGNAL
PULSE RESPONSE ($C_L = 100pF$)**



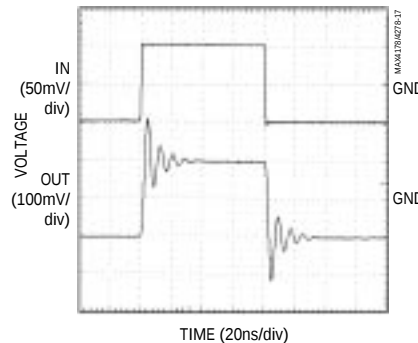
**MAX4278 SMALL-SIGNAL
PULSE RESPONSE ($C_L = 50pF$)**



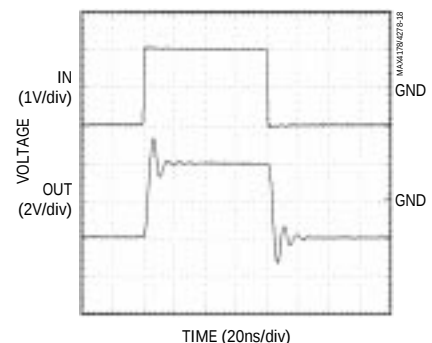
**MAX4278 LARGE-SIGNAL
PULSE RESPONSE ($C_L = 50pF$)**



**MAX4278 SMALL-SIGNAL
PULSE RESPONSE ($C_L = 100pF$)**



**MAX4278 LARGE-SIGNAL
PULSE RESPONSE ($C_L = 100pF$)**

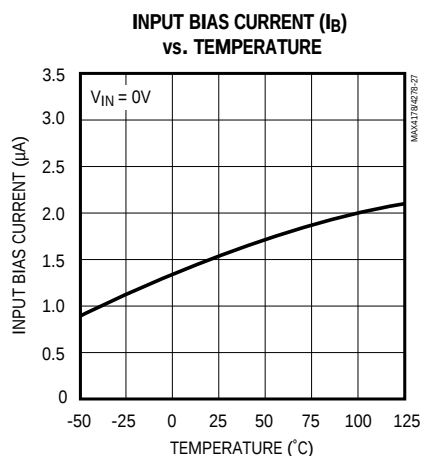
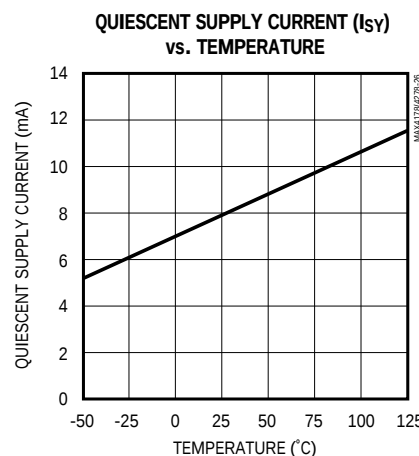
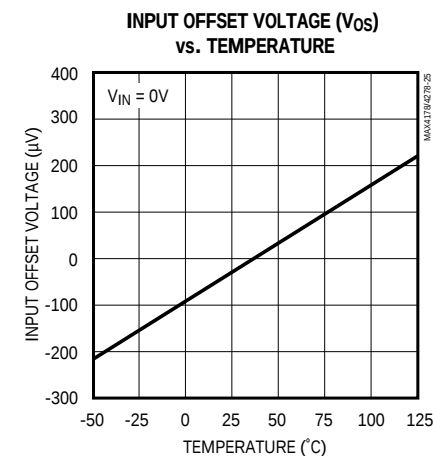
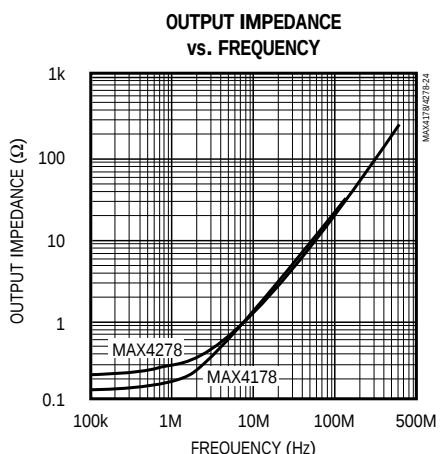
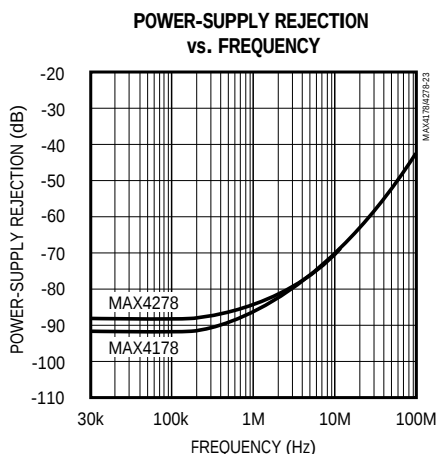
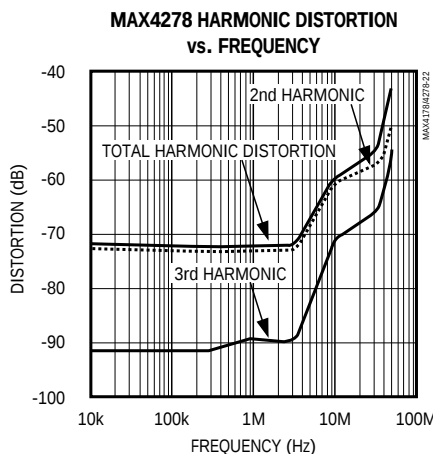
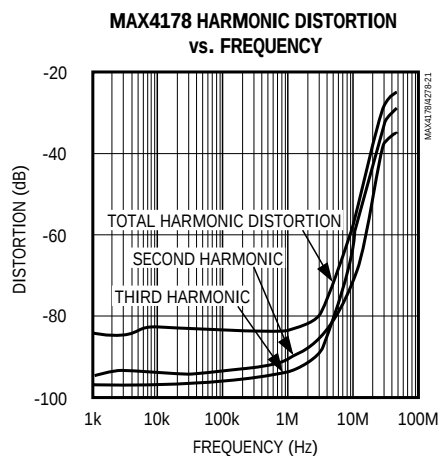
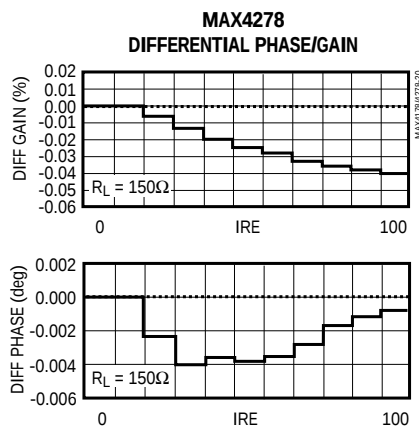
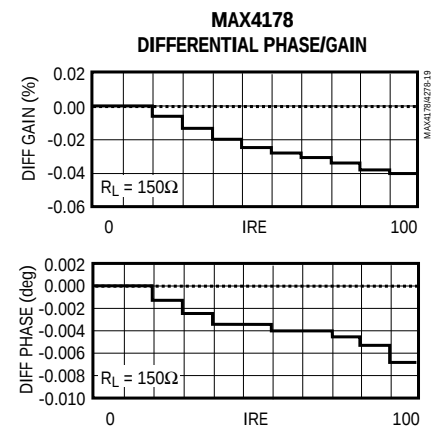


MAX4178/MAX4278

330MHz, Gain of +1/Gain of +2 Closed-Loop Buffers

Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

($V_{CC} = +5V$, $V_{EE} = -5V$, $R_L = 100\Omega$, $C_L = 0pF$, $T_A = +25^\circ C$, unless otherwise noted.)

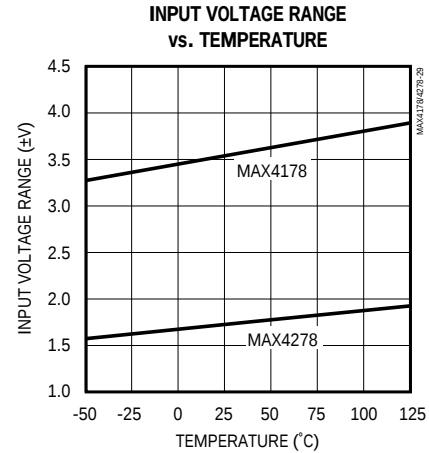
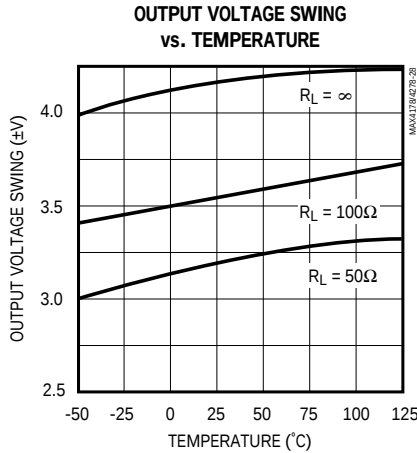


330MHz, Gain of +1/Gain of +2 Closed-Loop Buffers

MAX4178/MAX4278

Typical Operating Characteristics (continued)

($V_{CC} = +5V$, $V_{EE} = -5V$, $R_L = 100\Omega$, $C_L = 0pF$, $T_A = +25^\circ C$, unless otherwise noted.)



Pin Description

PIN		NAME	FUNCTION
SO/ μ MAX/DIP	SOT23		
1, 5, 8	—	N.C.	No Connection
2	4	GND	Ground
3	3	IN	Input
4	2	V_{EE}	Negative Power Supply. Connect to -5V.
6	1	OUT	Output
7	5	V_{CC}	Positive Power Supply. Connect to +5V.

Detailed Description

The MAX4178/MAX4278 are $\pm 5V$, wide-bandwidth, fast-settling, closed-loop buffers featuring high slew rate, high precision, high output current, low noise, and low differential gain and phase errors. The MAX4178, with a -3dB bandwidth of 330MHz, is preset for unity voltage gain (0dB). The MAX4278 is preset for a voltage gain of +2 (6dB) and has a 310MHz -3dB bandwidth.

These devices have a unique input stage that combines the benefits of a current-mode-feedback topology (high slew rate and low power) with those of a traditional voltage-feedback topology. This combination of architectures results in low input offset voltage and bias current, and high gain precision and power-supply rejection.

Under short-circuit conditions, the output current is typically limited to 150mA. This is low enough that a short to ground of any duration will not cause permanent damage to the chip. However, a short to either supply will create double the allowable power dissipation and may cause permanent damage if allowed to exist for longer than approximately 10 seconds. The high output-current capability is an advantage in systems that transmit a signal to several loads. See *High-Performance Video Distribution Amplifier* in the *Applications Information* section.

330MHz, Gain of +1/Gain of +2 Closed-Loop Buffers

Applications Information

Grounding, Bypassing, and PC Board Layout

In order to obtain the MAX4178/MAX4278's full 330MHz/310MHz bandwidths, Micro-Strip and Stripline techniques are recommended in most cases. To ensure that the PC board does not degrade the amplifier's performance, it's a good idea to design the board for a frequency greater than 1GHz. Even with very short traces, it's good practice to use these techniques at critical points, such as inputs and outputs. Whether you use a constant-impedance board or not, observe the following guidelines when designing the board:

- Do not use wire-wrap boards. They are too inductive.
- Do not use IC sockets. They increase parasitic capacitance and inductance.
- In general, surface-mount components have shorter leads and lower parasitic reactance, giving better high-frequency performance than through-hole components.
- The PC board should have at least two layers, with one side a signal layer and the other a ground plane.
- Keep signal lines as short and straight as possible. Do not make 90° turns; round all corners.
- The ground plane should be as free from voids as possible.

On Maxim's evaluation kit, the ground plane has been removed from areas where keeping the trace capacitance to a minimum is more important than maintaining ground continuity.

Driving Capacitive Loads

The MAX4178/MAX4278 provide maximum AC performance with no output load capacitance. This is the case when the MAX4178/MAX4278 are driving a correctly terminated transmission line (e.g., a back-terminated 75Ω cable). However, the MAX4178/MAX4278 are capable of driving capacitive loads up to 100pF without oscillations, but with reduced AC performance.

Driving large capacitive loads increases the chance of oscillations in most amplifier circuits. This is especially true for circuits with high loop gains, such as voltage followers. The amplifier's output resistance and the load

capacitor combine to add a pole and excess phase to the loop response. If the frequency of this pole is low enough and if phase margin is degraded sufficiently, oscillations may occur.

A second problem when driving capacitive loads results from the amplifier's output impedance, which looks inductive at high frequency. This inductance forms an L-C resonant circuit with the capacitive load, which causes peaking in the frequency response and degrades the amplifier's gain margin.

The MAX4178/MAX4278 drive capacitive loads up to 100pF without oscillation. However, some peaking (in the frequency domain) or ringing (in the time domain) may occur. This is shown in Figures 2a and 2b and the in the Small- and Large-Signal Pulse Response graphs in the *Typical Operating Characteristics*.

To drive larger-capacitance loads or to reduce ringing, add an isolation resistor between the amplifier's output and the load, as shown in Figure 1.

The value of R_{ISO} depends on the circuit's gain and the capacitive load. Figures 3a and 3b show the Bode plots that result when a 20Ω isolation resistor is used with a voltage follower driving a range of capacitive loads. At the higher capacitor values, the bandwidth is dominated by the RC network, formed by R_{ISO} and C_L ; the bandwidth of the amplifier itself is much higher. Note that adding an isolation resistor degrades gain accuracy. The load and isolation resistor form a divider that decreases the voltage delivered to the load.

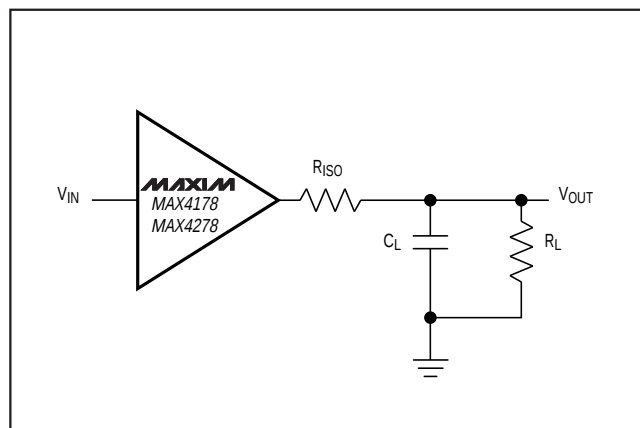


Figure 1. Capacitive-Load Driving Circuit

330MHz, Gain of +1/Gain of +2 Closed-Loop Buffers

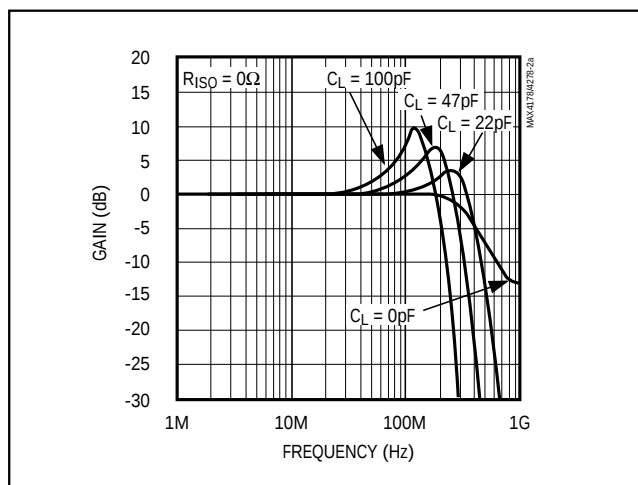


Figure 2a. MAX4178 Small-Signal Gain vs. Frequency with Capacitive Load

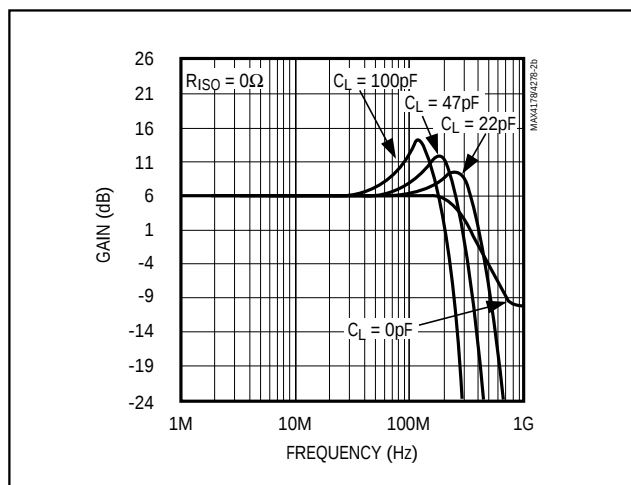


Figure 2b. MAX4278 Small-Signal Gain vs. Frequency with Capacitive Load

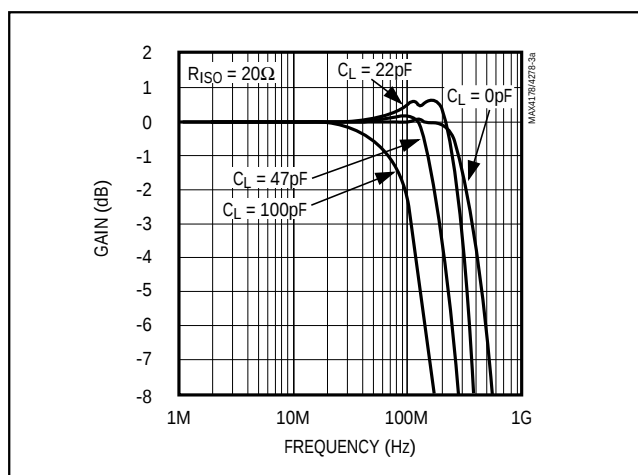


Figure 3a. MAX4178 Small-Signal Gain vs. Frequency with Capacitive Load and Isolation Resistor (R_{ISO})

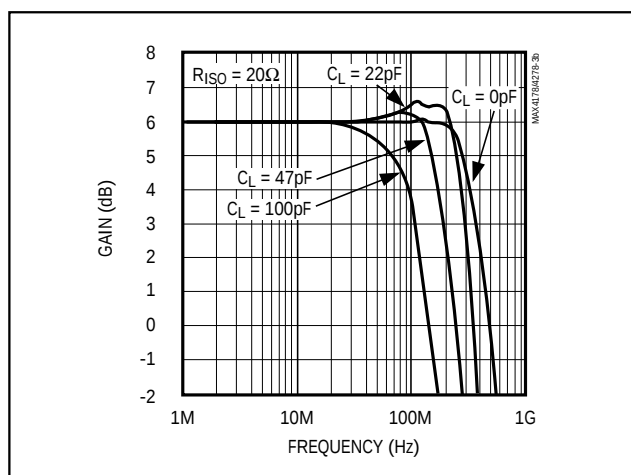


Figure 3b. MAX4278 Small-Signal Gain vs. Frequency with Capacitive Load and Isolation Resistor (R_{ISO})

330MHz, Gain of +1/Gain of +2 Closed-Loop Buffers

Flash ADC Preamp

The MAX4178/MAX4278's high current-drive capability makes them well suited for buffering the low-impedance input of a high-speed flash ADC. With their low output impedance, these buffers can drive the inputs of the ADC with no loss of accuracy. Figure 4 shows a preamp for digitizing video, using the 250Mps MAX100 and the 500Mps MAX101 flash ADCs. Both of these ADCs have a 50Ω input resistance and a 1.2GHz input bandwidth.

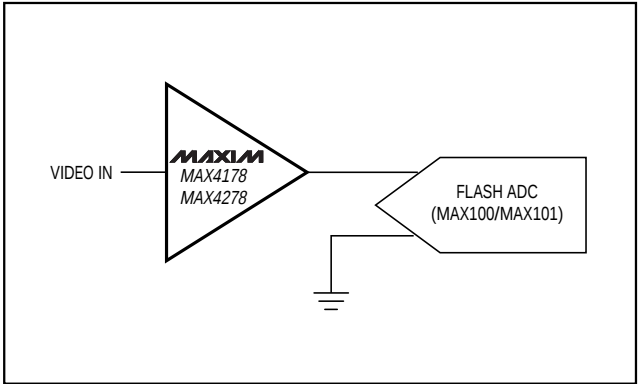


Figure 4. Preamp for Video Digitizer

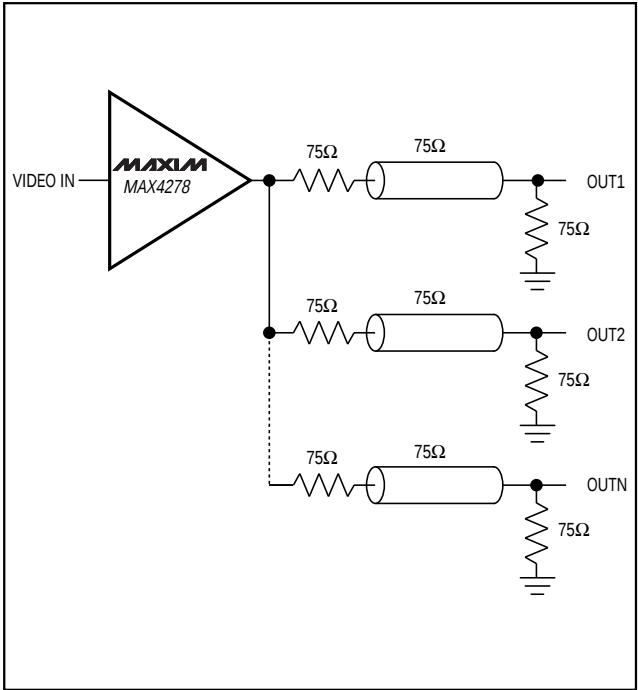


Figure 5. High-Performance Video Distribution Amplifier

High-Performance Video Distribution Amplifier

The MAX4278 ($A_V = +2$) makes an excellent driver for multiple back-terminated 75Ω video coaxial cables (Figure 5). The high current-output capability allows the attachment of up to six $\pm 2V_{p-p}$, 150Ω loads to the MAX4278 at +25°C. With the output limited to $\pm 1V_{p-p}$, the number of loads may double. For multiple gain-of-2 video line drivers in a single package, see the MAX496/MAX497 data sheet.

_Ordering Information (continued)

PART	TEMP. RANGE	PIN-PACKAGE	SOT TOP MARK
MAX4278EPA	-40°C to +85°C	8 Plastic DIP	–
MAX4278ESA	-40°C to +85°C	8 SO	–
MAX4278EUA	-40°C to +85°C	8 μMAX	–
MAX4278EUK-T	-40°C to +85°C	5 SOT23	ABYY
MAX4278MJA	-55°C to +125°C	8 CERDIP	–

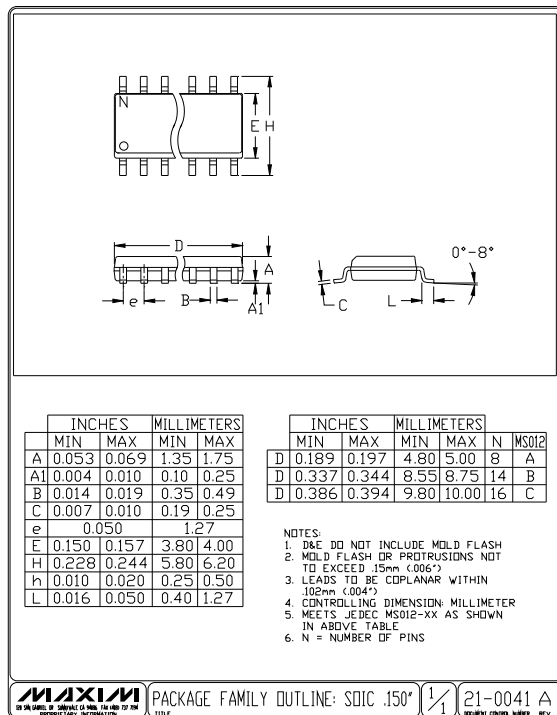
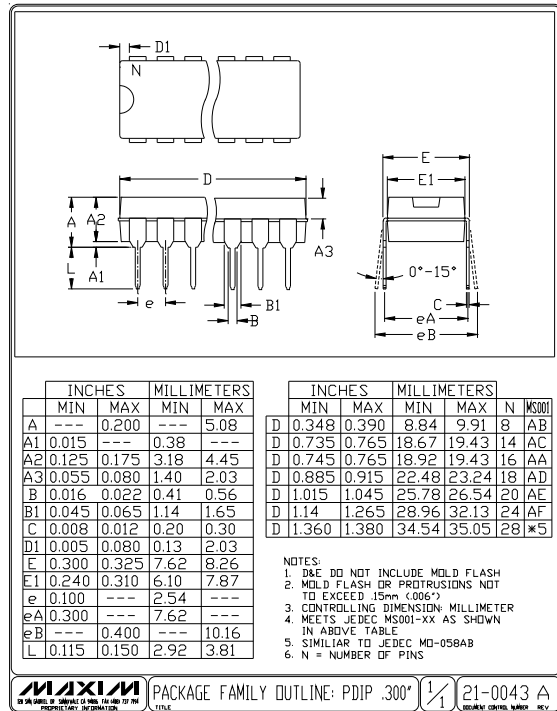
Chip Information

TRANSISTOR COUNT: 175
SUBSTRATE CONNECTED TO V_{EE}

330MHz, Gain of +1/Gain of +2 Closed-Loop Buffers

Package Information

MAX4178/MAX4278



330MHz, Gain of +1/Gain of +2 Closed-Loop Buffers

Package Information (continued)

