

EECS 522

A 402/433 MHz Low Power, Direct Conversion Medical Implant Communication FSK Receiver Front End



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Daniel Egert, Pranay Rai & Venkatram Pepakayala

Group 7



Outline

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Motivation

- **To move from reactive healthcare based methods to active and prevention based healthcare solutions.**
- **To aid in monitoring health based parameters in real time**
- **Remote access to patient's data**
- **Reduce the healthcare cost and improving access to better healthcare to wider population**
 - To develop low power low cost radio frequency receiver front end for medical applications
 - Eliminating replaceable components with highly reliable and long life term mechanisms (i.e. batteries with energy harvesting mechanism)
- **Provide external control of functionality/measurement of implanted/ embedded devices**



Applications

■ Personal Healthcare System

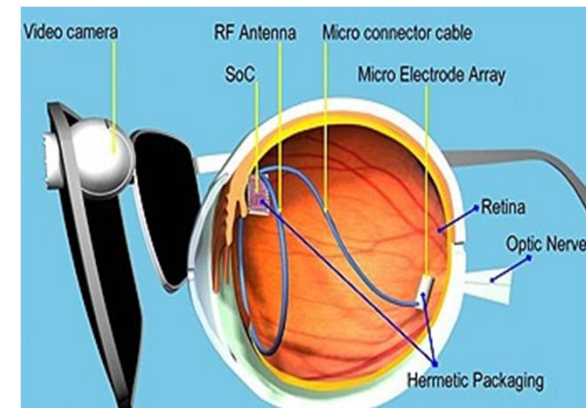
■ Wireless Bio-signal Acquisition

■ Implantable Devices

- Pacemaker
- Neurostimulators
- Cochlear Implants
- Retinal Prosthesis
- Implantable Cardioverter/ Defibrillator(ICD)

■ Embedded Measurement/Control/ Other Devices

- Drug Infusion & dispensing
- Implanted sensors for measuring body parameters
- Artificial Heart & Organ Assist devices



MICS BAND

■ Medical Implant Communication Service (MICS)

■ Why introduce MICS?

- Removes limitations associated with existing short range inductive links (low data rate, very short range requires body contact)
- Opportunity for improved healthcare and new applications

■ Why 402-405 MHz?

- Reasonable signal propagation characteristics in the human body
- Compatibility with incumbent users of the band (e.g. weather balloons)
- General world-wide acceptance (US, Europe, Japan, Australia etc)

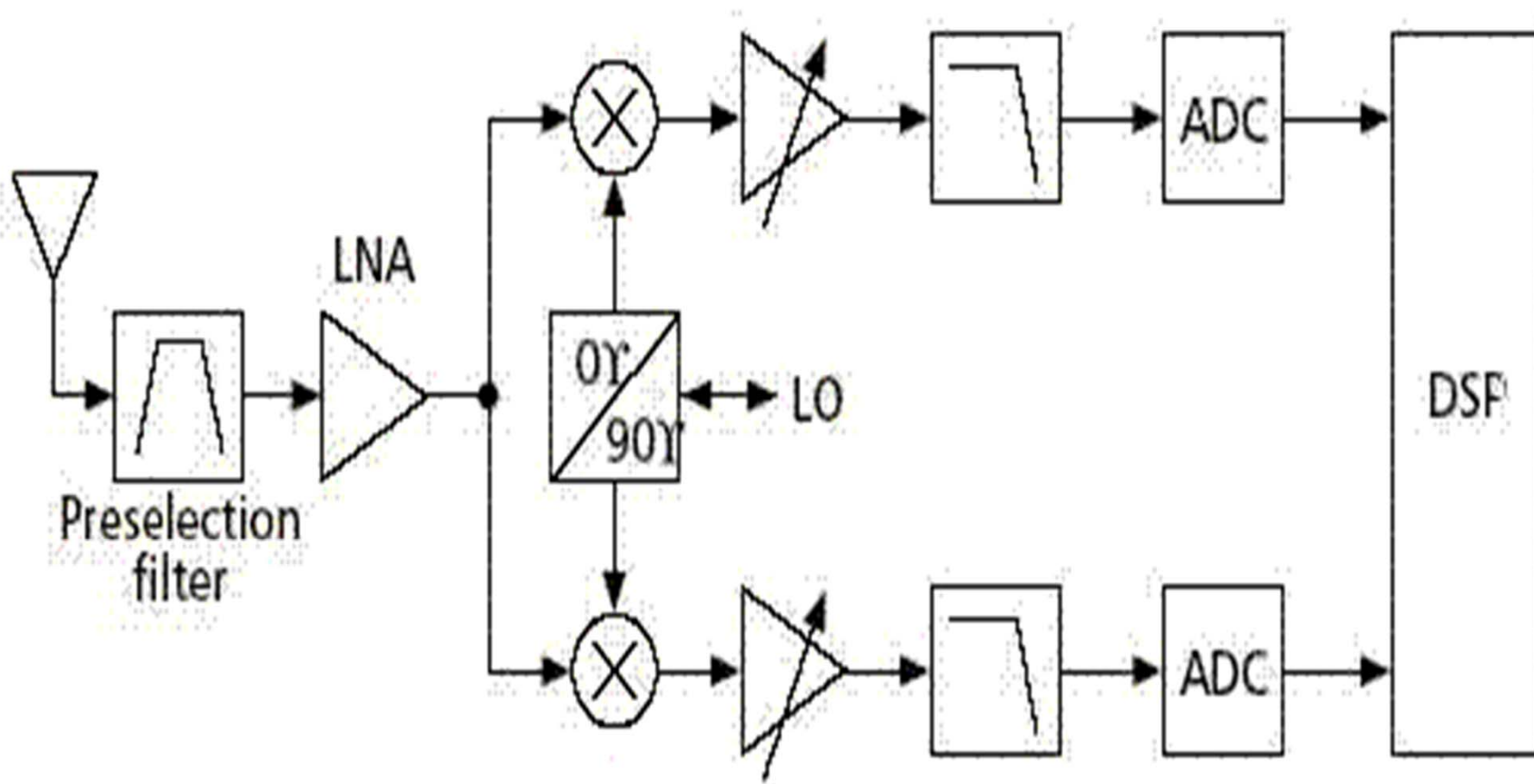
■ Why allocate separate band?

- Need for higher data rates
- Need for longer range/ broader applications
- Required by medical industry



Architecture

■ Direct Receiver (Zero IF Architecture)



Specifications

- Frequency of Operation: 402-405 MHz (10 channels MICS)/ 433-434 MHz (2 channels ISM)
- Data Rate: ~20 Kbps
- Modulation Scheme: Non-coherent FSK with index $m=0.25$
- Adjacent Channel Rejection: 50dB
- Sensitivity: -110 dBm @ 0.1% BER
- Power Consumption: ~1mW
- Range: ~2m
- Minimum Detectable signal (MDS):-91dBm
- Technology: 0.13 um
- $NF = 174 - 10\log B - SNR + MDS = 26 \text{ dB}$ (at demodulator input for MICS band)



Biological Signal Characteristics

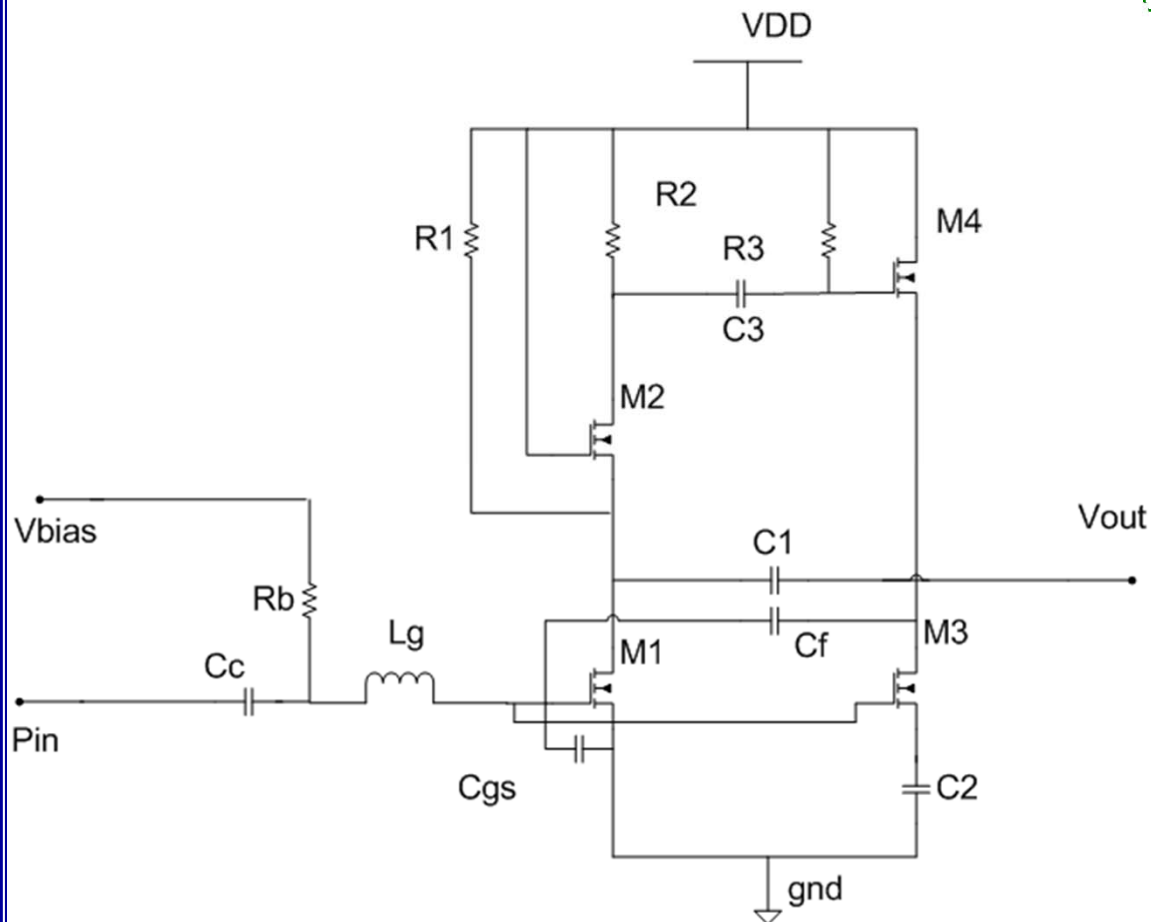
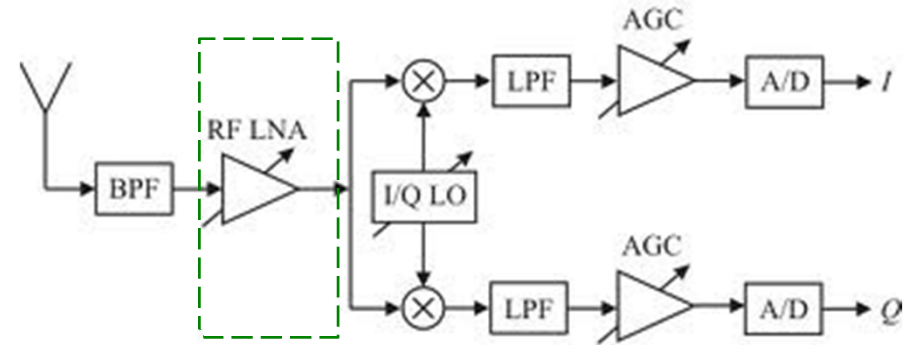
Parameter	Measurement Range	Signal Frequency (Hz)	Standard Sensor
Electrocardiography (ECG)	0.5 ~ 4 mV	0.01 ~ 250	Skin electrode
Electroencephalography (EEG)	5 ~ 300 μ V	dc ~ 150	Scalp electrode
Electromyography (EMG)	0.1 ~ 5 mV	dc ~ 10000	Needle electrode
Electroneurography (ENG)	0 ~ 100 μ V	250 ~ 5000	Surface or Needle electrode
Electroretinography (ERG)	0 ~ 900 μ V	dc ~ 50	Contact electrode



LNA & Single to differential stage



LNA

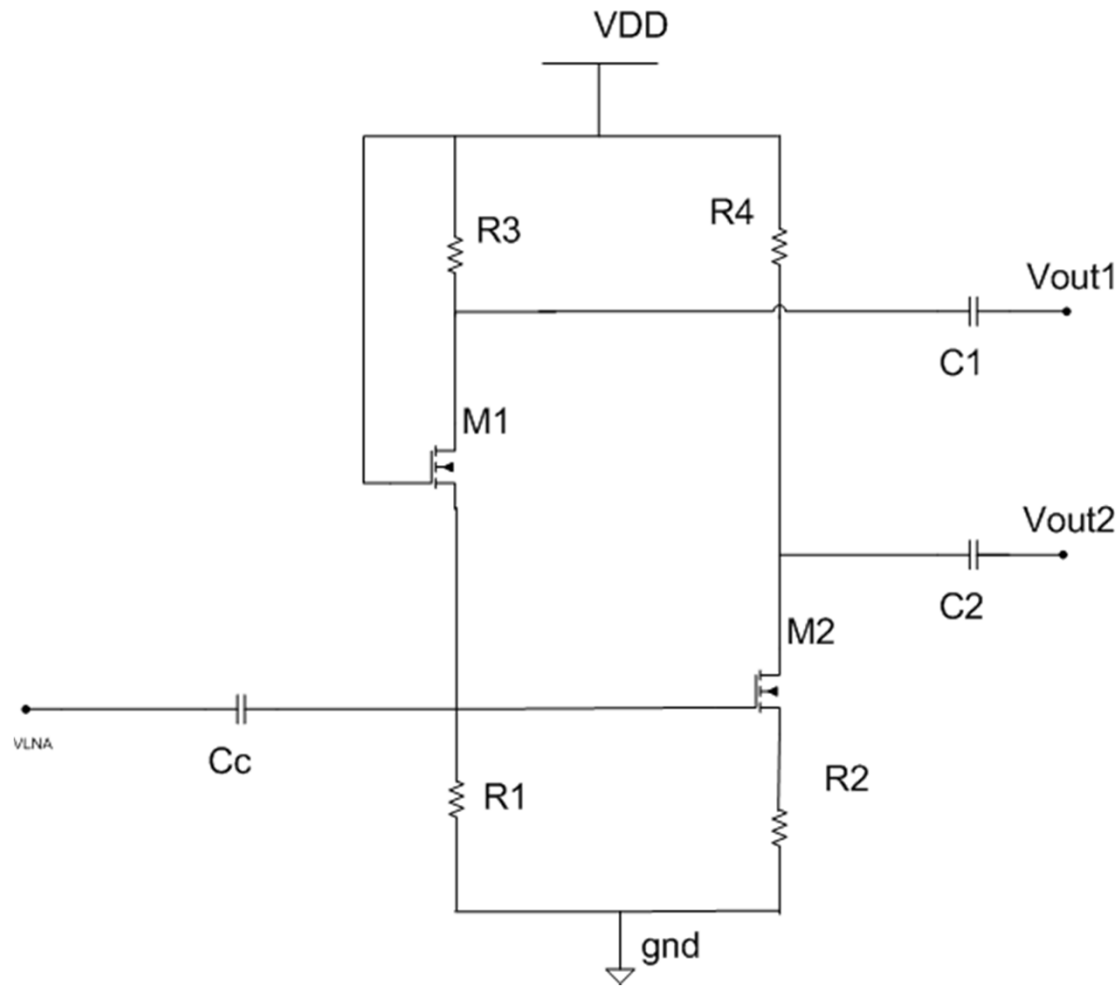


Design Challenge:

- High Gain
- Return loss
- Noise Figure
- Impedance matching at input

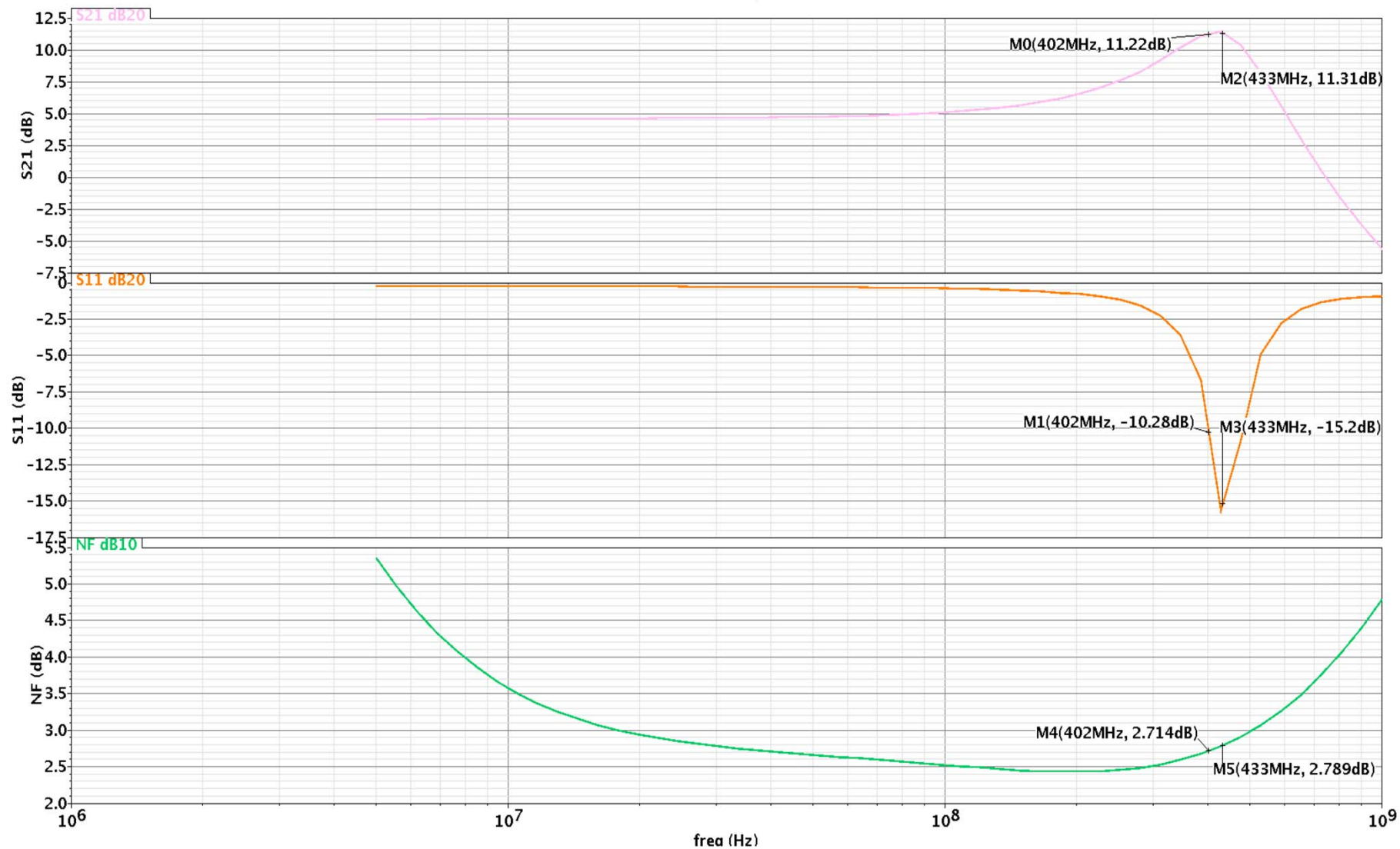
Single to Differential Stage

Cascaded Common Gate Common Source Balun



LNA Characteristics

S-Parameter Response

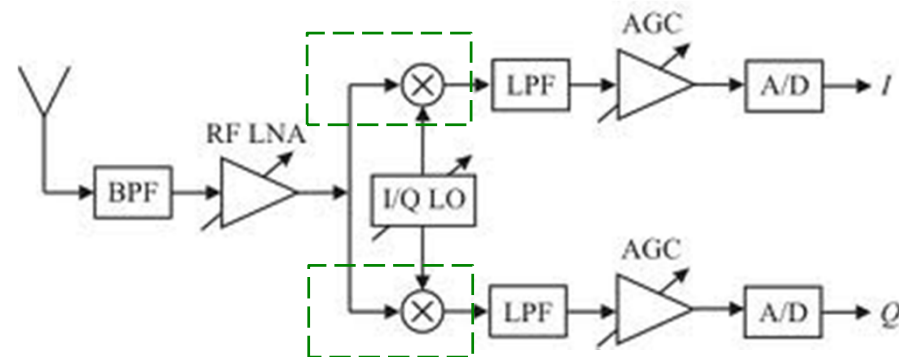


Performance

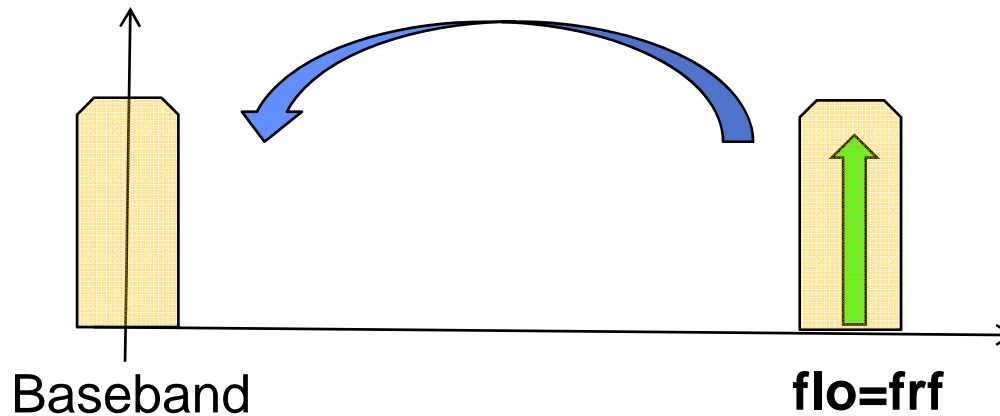
Parameters	Results
Gain (S21) LNA	11.22 dB
Gain (S21)	16.45 dB
Return Loss (S11) LNA	-10.28 dB
Return Loss (S11)	-9.65dB
Noise Figure (LNA)	2.71 dB
Noise Figure	8.03 dB
Power Consumption (LNA)	9.87 uW
Power Consumption	44.91 uW



Low Power Low Noise Self Mixing Free I-Q down-conversion



Zero-IF Receiver



Merits:

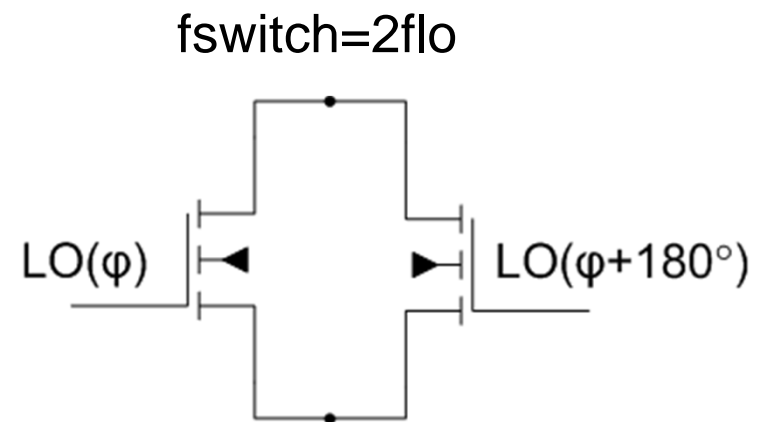
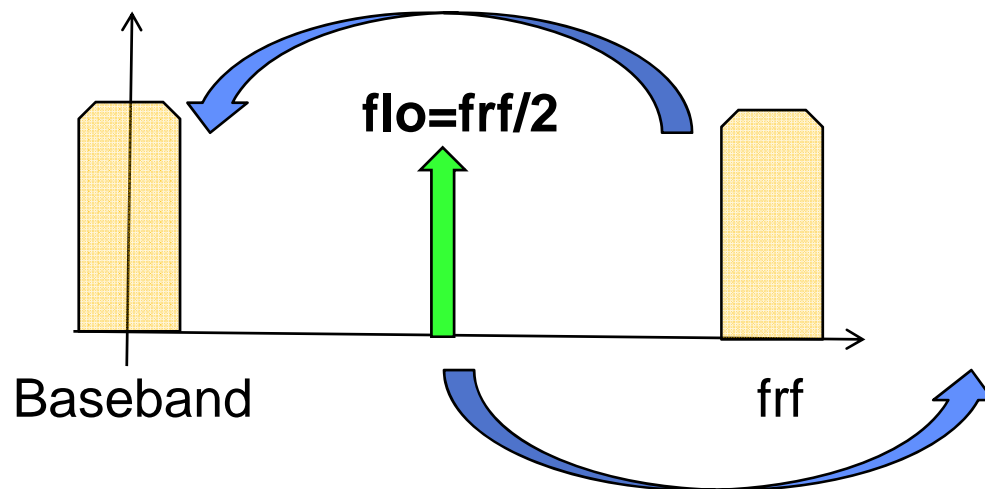
- Low complexity, cost, power

Susceptible to:

- LO Leakage (DC offset)
- $1/f$ noise
- I/Q Mismatch
- Even order distortion

DC OFFSET at Mixer output

- LO radiated, reflected and received, mixed with itself
- Hard to remove time varying DC offset
- Removing by root:
 - Oscillator running at *half* the signal frequency
 - frequency doubling within the mixer by employing phase shifted LO signals.
 - Oscillator frequency mixed to half the RF frequency



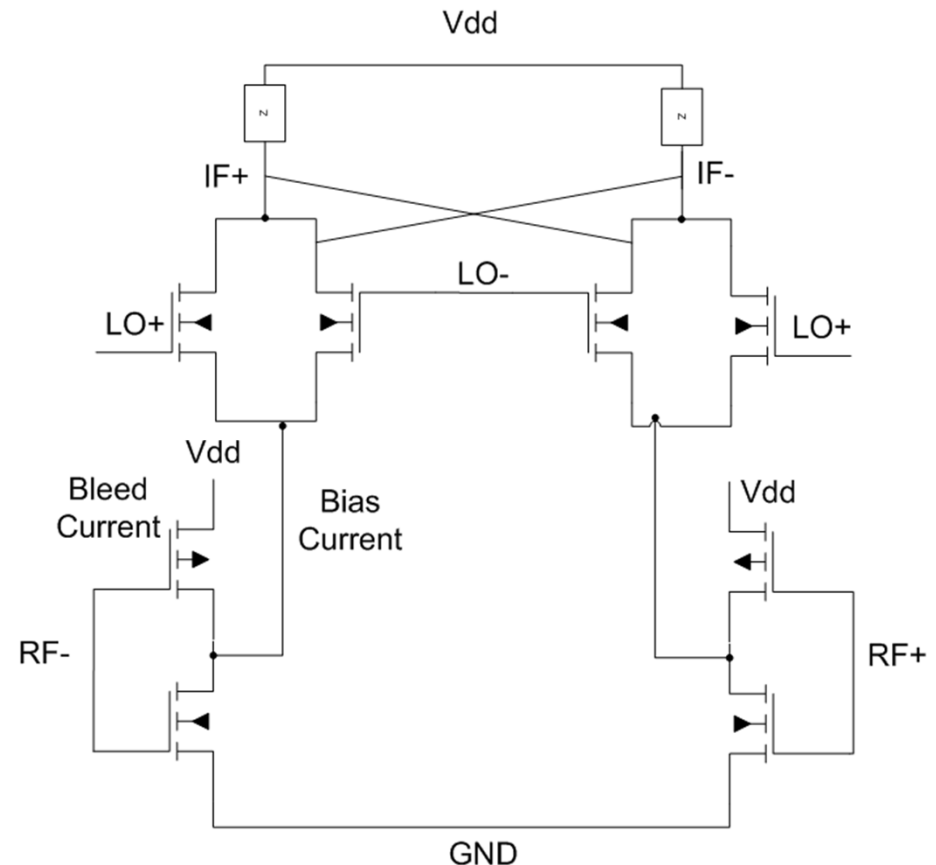
Flicker Noise

■ Main contributor: Switching pairs

- $I_n(\text{DC}) \sim I_b, 1/\text{Area}, 1/\text{frf}$

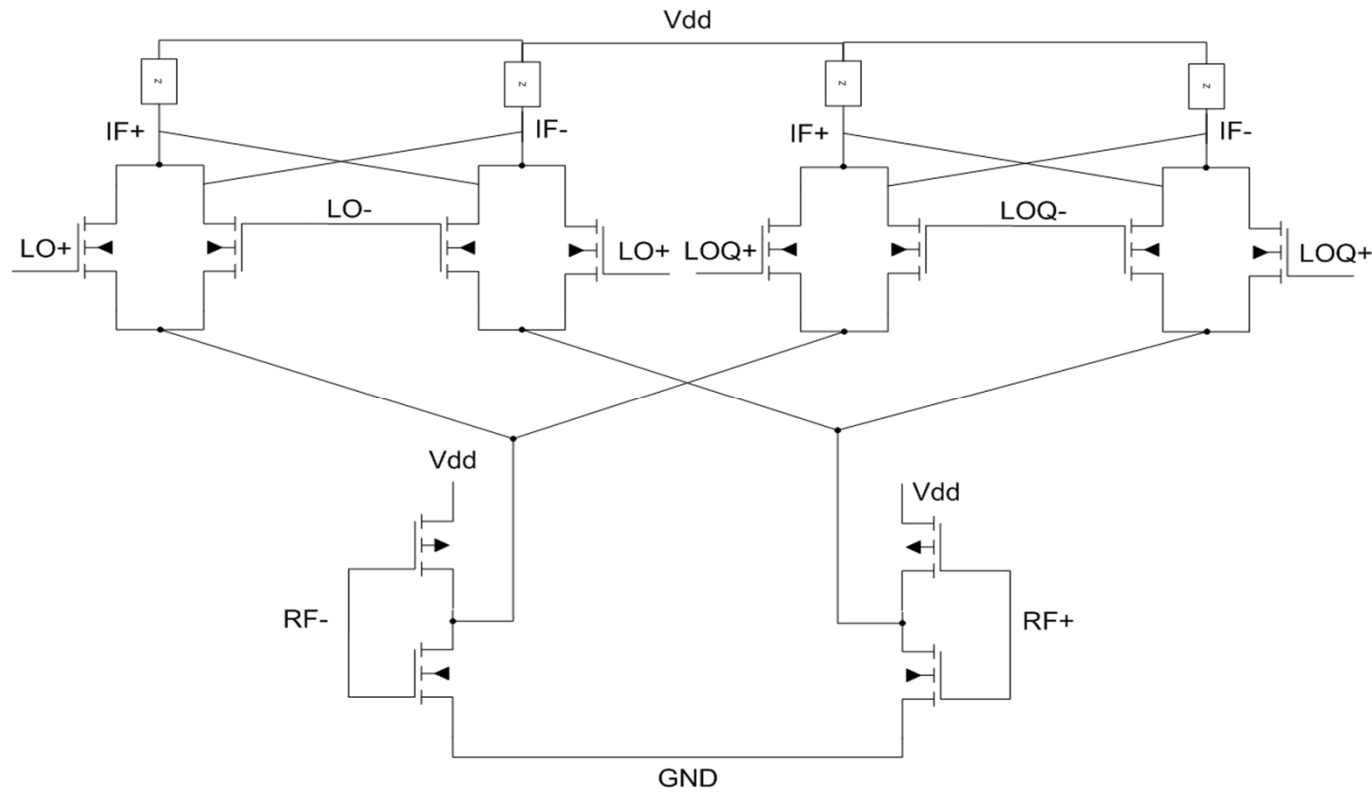
■ Bleed current

- decrease switch current
- reused in driver stage for large g_m
- Makes signal more sensitive to parasitic capacitances



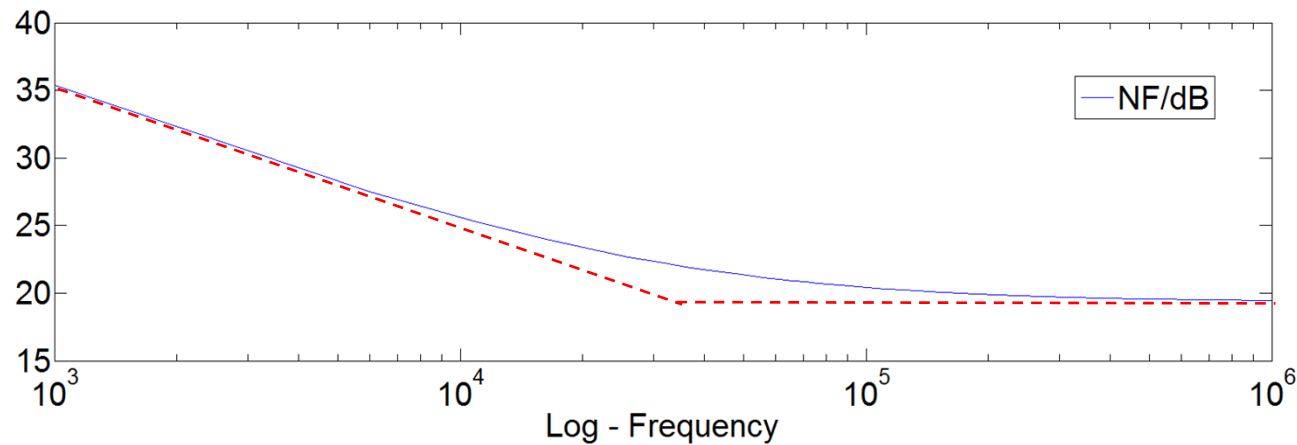
IQ mismatch and low power

- Amplitude and phase of I/Q channels need to match
- Combine trans-conductor for both channels
 - Process variation shared
 - Half power



Mixer Summary

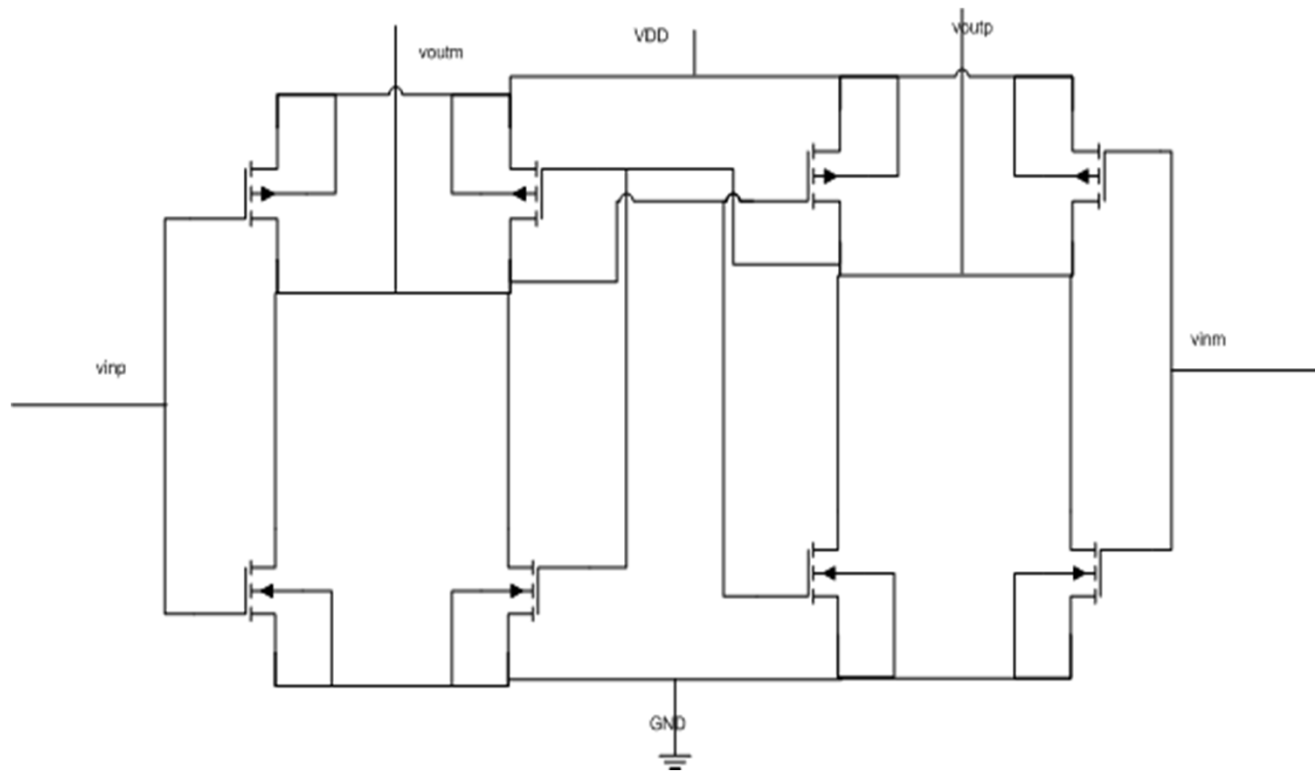
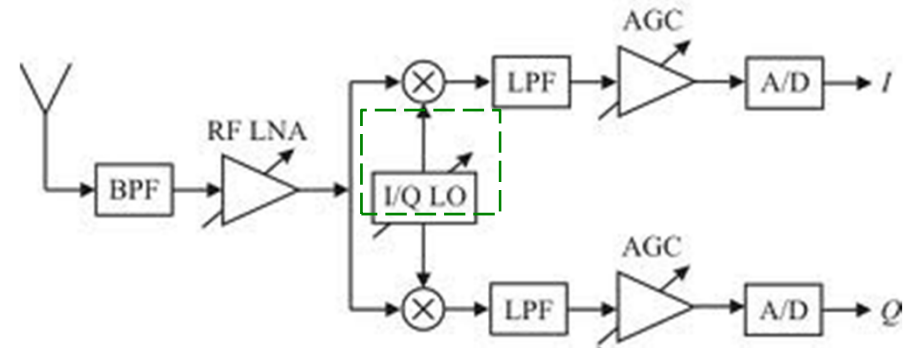
- Power : combined IQ 550 μ W
- $f_c=25$ kHz
- NF : 17.5dB
- Conversion Gain : 23dB



VCO



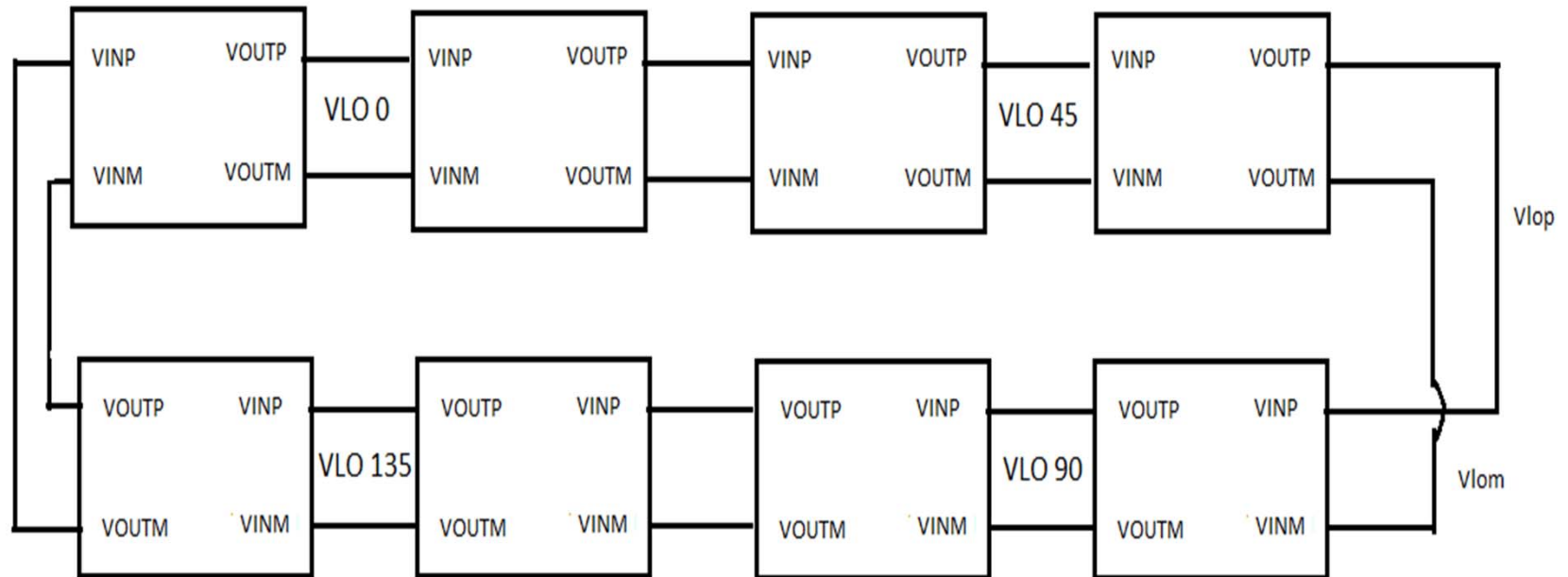
Voltage Control Ring Oscillator



Design
Challenge:

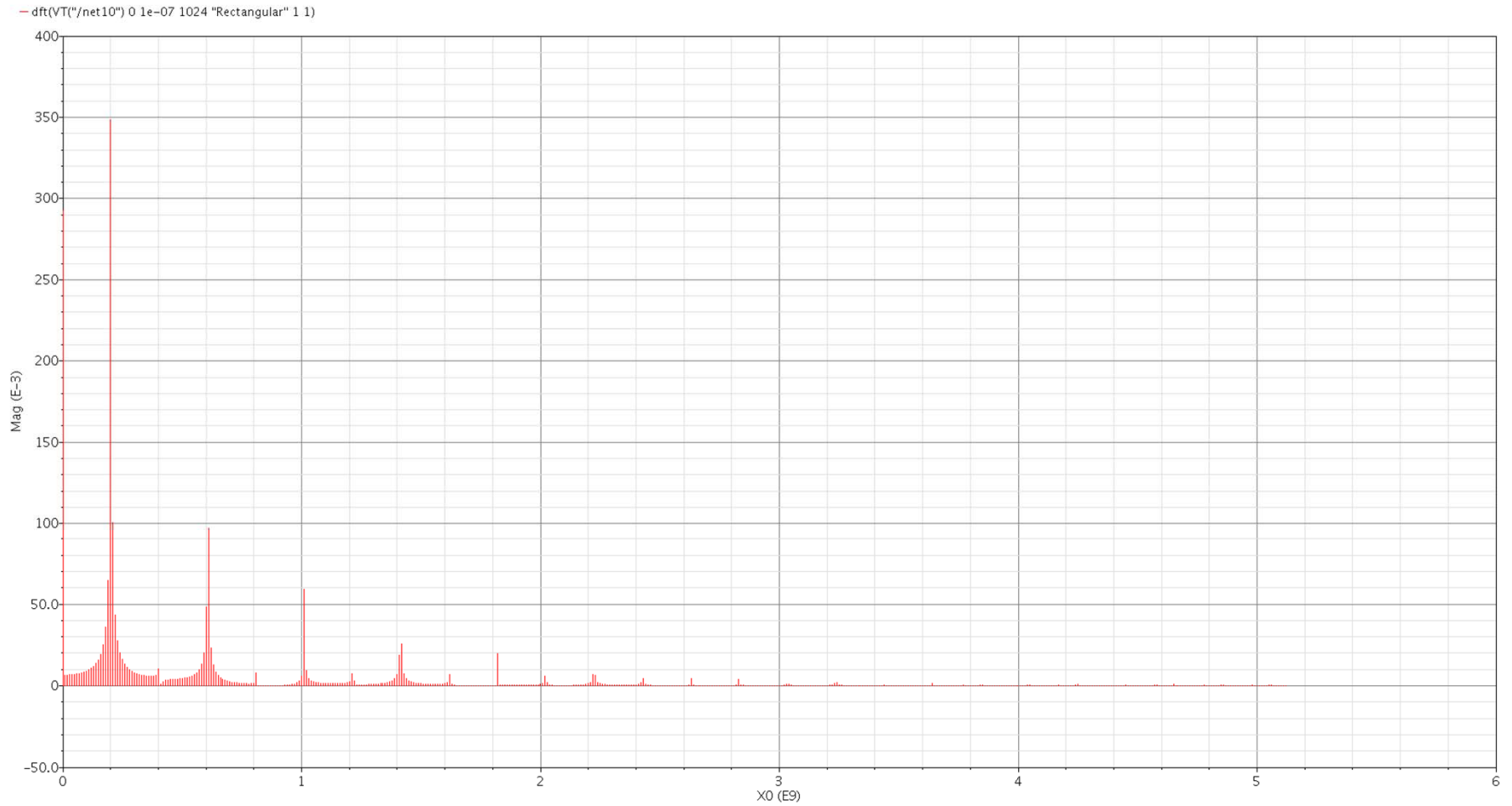
- Phase Noise
- Low Power

Voltage Control Ring Oscillator



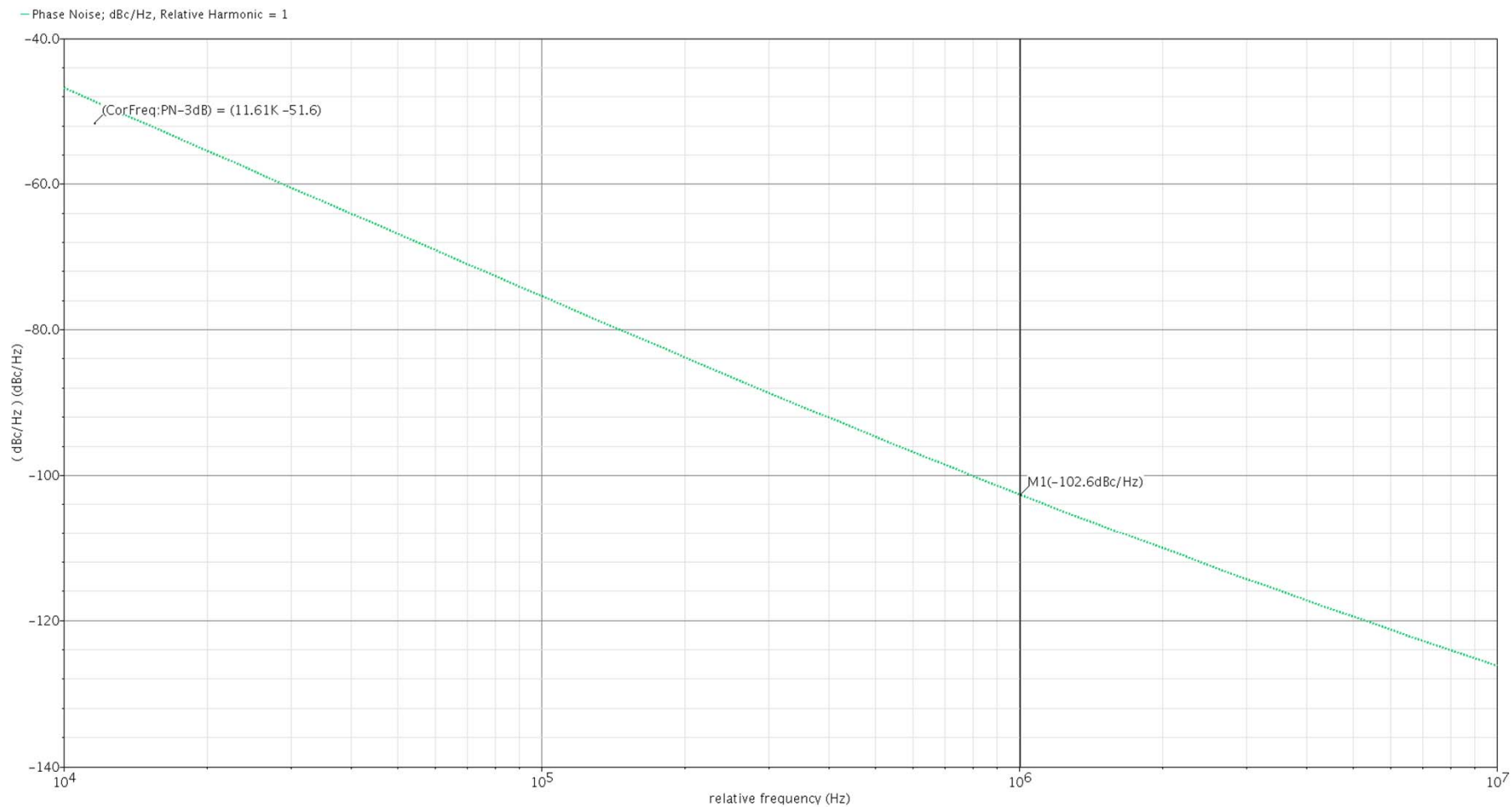
Frequency Spectrum

Periodic Noise Response



Phase Noise

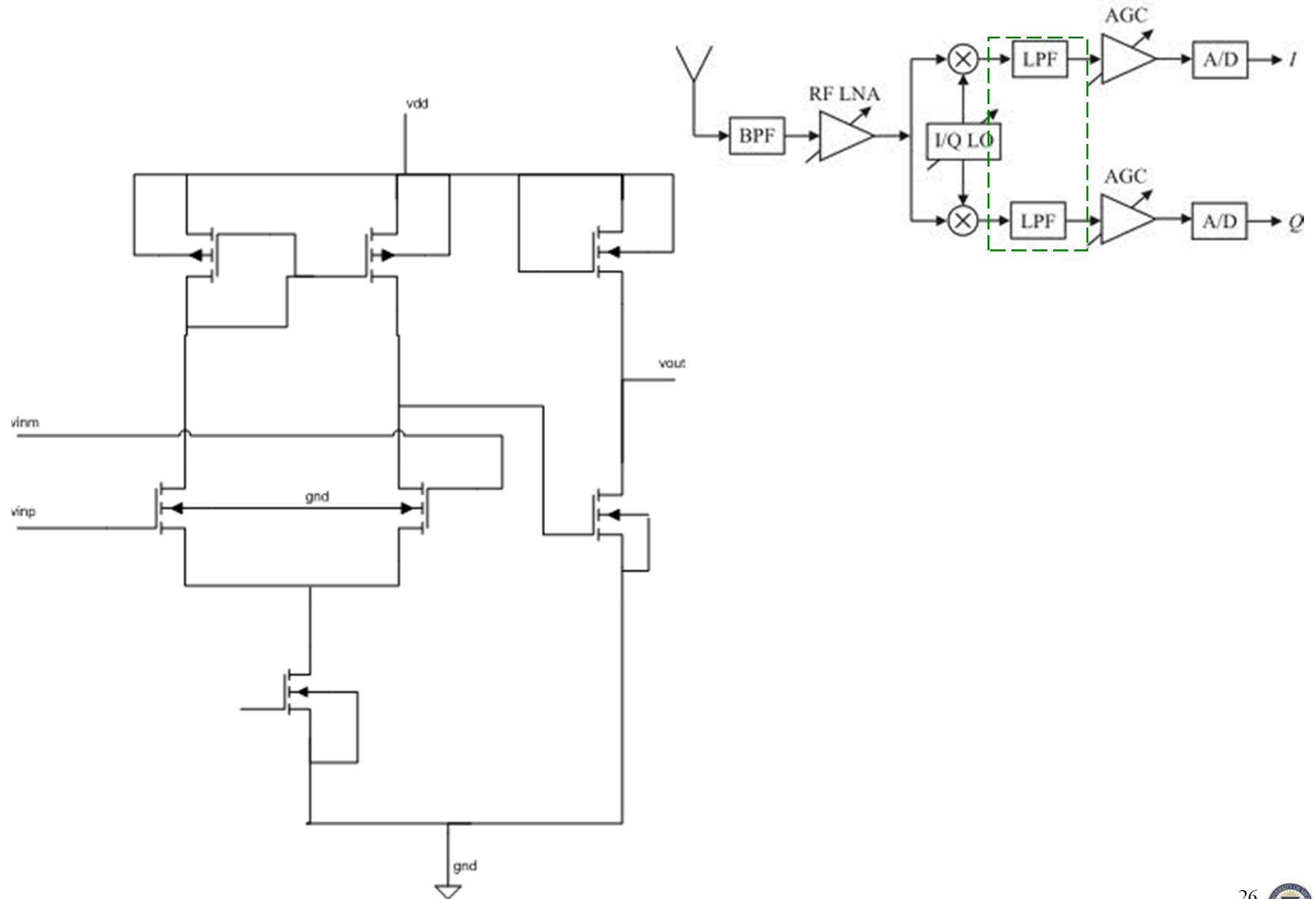
Periodic Noise Response



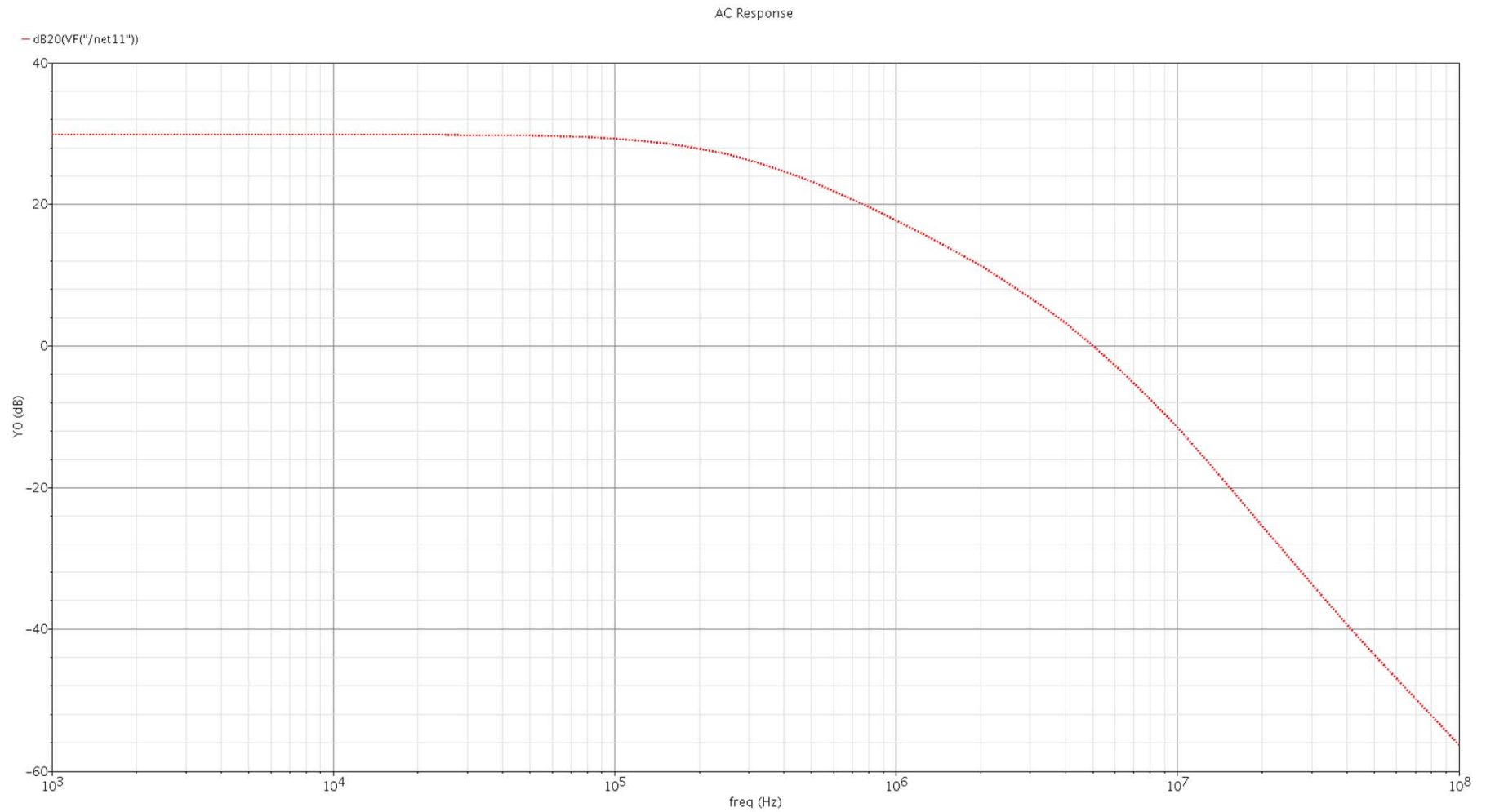
Filter



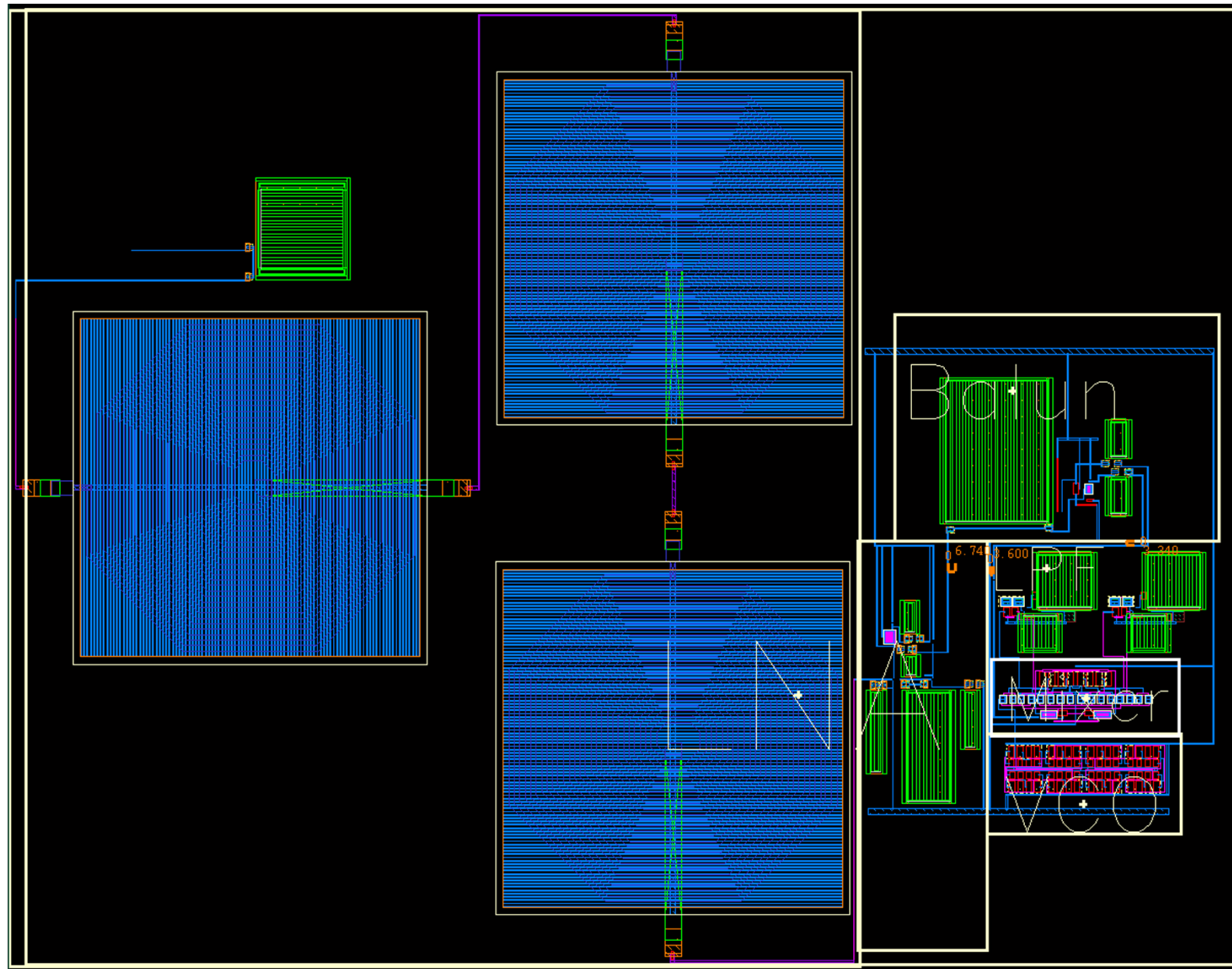
Low Pass Filter



Low Pass Filter Characteristic



Layout



Area:
~ 1124 X
879 μm^2

Performance Summary

■ LNA

- NF=2.75 dB Gain=11.22 dB Power= 9.87 μ W

■ Balun

- NF=5.28 dB Gain=5.23 dB Power=35 μ W

■ Mixer

- NF=18 dB Gain=20 dB Power=550 μ W

■ VCO

- Phase Noise= -102dBc/Hz at 1 MHz
- Power=19 μ W

■ LPF

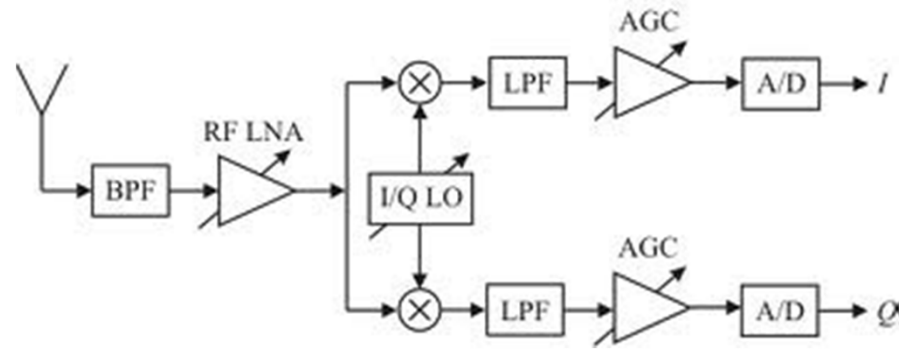
- 3 dB cutoff = 200kHz
- Tunable gain upto 40 dB

■ System

- Overall Gain:76.45 dB (calculated)
- NF after mixer = 9dB (calculated)



Summary



References

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- Implantable ultralow-power radio chip facilitates in-body communications, Peter Bradley, www.rficdesign.com, June 2007
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Questions?

