

SPECIFICATIONS

PXIe-5654

PXIe, 250 kHz to 20 GHz, PXI RF Analog Signal Generator

These specifications apply to the PXIe-5654 RF Analog Signal Generator with up to 10 GHz or 20 GHz frequency and the PXIe-5696 Amplitude Extender.

When not otherwise specified, these specifications refer to both the PXIe-5654 and the PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 system.

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Definitions

Warranted specifications describe the performance of a model under stated operating conditions and are covered by the model warranty.

Characteristics describe values that are relevant to the use of the model under stated operating conditions but are not covered by the model warranty.

- *Typical* specifications describe the performance met by a majority of models.
- *Nominal* specifications describe an attribute that is based on design, conformance testing, or supplemental testing.

Specifications are *Warranted* unless otherwise noted.

Conditions

Minimum or maximum specifications are warranted under the following conditions unless otherwise noted.

- Over ambient temperature ranges of 0 °C to 55 °C
- 30 minutes warm-up time
- Calibration cycle maintained
- Chassis fan speed set to High
- NI-RFSG instrument driver used



Notice Do not disconnect the cable that connects RF AMP OUT to ATTN IN. Removing the cable from or tampering with the RF AMP OUT or ATTN IN front panel connectors voids the product calibration, and specifications are no longer warranted.

Typical specifications are valid under the following condition unless otherwise noted.

- Over ambient temperature ranges of 23 °C ± 5 °C

Frequency

Range	250 kHz to 20 GHz
Resolution	0.001 Hz
Accuracy	Refer to the <i>Reference Clock</i> section.

Frequency Settling Time

Frequency settling time^{1,2,3} (nominal)

Standard ^{4,5}	1 ms
Fast tuning ^{4,5,6}	100 μ s

Reference Clock

Internal Clock

Initial accuracy	± 0.1 ppm, maximum
Temperature (15 °C to 35 °C)	± 0.2 ppm, maximum
Aging (per day, after 30 days)	± 0.01 ppm, maximum
Aging (over 10 years)	± 1.25 ppm, maximum

Internal Reference Output 1

Connector name	REF OUT
Frequency	10 MHz
Amplitude	+5 dBm \pm 2 dB
Coupling	AC
Output impedance	50 Ω

Internal Reference Output 2

Connector name	REF OUT 2
Frequency	100 MHz
Amplitude	+5 dBm \pm 2 dB
Coupling	AC
Output impedance	50 Ω

- ¹ The settling time is within 0.1 ppm of the target frequency.
- ² The frequency settling time specification includes only frequency settling and excludes any residual amplitude settling that may occur as the result of a large frequency change.
- ³ To obtain the best determinism and accuracy for frequency switching speed, use an external clock source as a trigger.
- ⁴ Add 1 ms to the frequency settling time for fast tuning or 850 μ s for standard tuning when transitioning from >250 MHz to <250 MHz.
- ⁵ The frequency settling time is 150 μ s between 250 kHz and 250 MHz.
- ⁶ Automatic Power Search must be disabled.

External Reference Input

Connector name	REF IN
Frequency	1 MHz to 20 MHz in 1 MHz steps
Amplitude	-10 dBm to +10 dBm
Input impedance	50 Ω
Lock time to external reference	<2 s

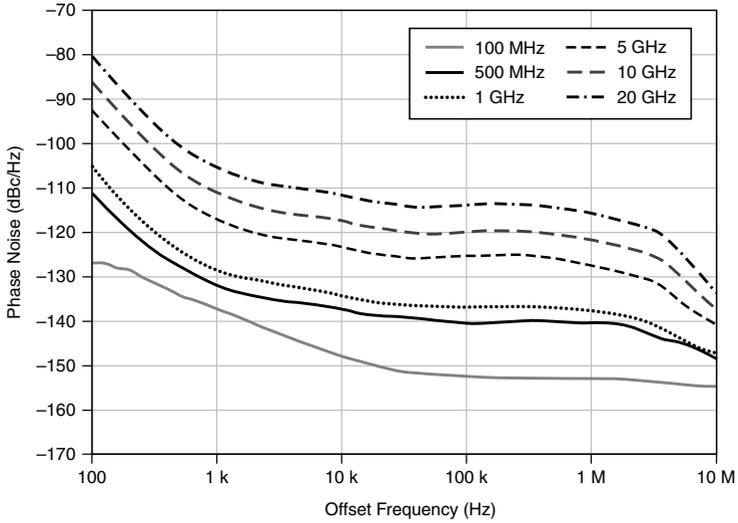
Spectral Purity

Table 1. Single Sideband (SSB) Phase Noise at +8 dBm Output Power

Frequency (GHz)	Phase Noise (dBc/Hz)					
	100 Hz	1 kHz	10 kHz	100 kHz	1 MHz	10 MHz
0.5	-111, typical	-131, typical ⁷	-137, typical	-139, typical	-140, typical	-147, typical
	-107, max	-127, max ⁷	-135, max	-137, max	-138, max	—
1	-105, typical	-125, typical	-133, typical	-133, typical	-134, typical	-141, typical
	-101, max	-121, max	-130, max	-131, max	-132, max	—
5	-91, typical	-111, typical	-124, typical	-125, typical	-127, typical	-136, typical
	-87, max	-109, max	-120, max	-122, max	-125, max	—
10	-85, typical	-105, typical	-117, typical	-119, typical	-121, typical	-136, typical
	-81, max	-103, max	-114, max	-117, max	-119, max	—
20	-79, typical	-99, typical	-111, typical	-113, typical	-115, typical	-130, typical
	-75, max	-97, max	-108, max	-111, max	-113, max	—

⁷ Degrades by 1 dB when using the PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696.

Figure 1. Typical Phase Noise (Spurs Not Shown)



Spurious Responses

Table 2. Typical Harmonics

Frequency	Harmonics (dBc)	
	PXIe-5654 ⁸	PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 ⁹
250 kHz to <25 MHz	≤-18	≤-20
25 MHz to <250 MHz	≤-20	≤-20
250 MHz to <1 GHz	≤-25	≤-25
1 GHz to <2 GHz	≤-30	≤-30
2 GHz to <12 GHz	≤-40 ¹⁰	≤-55
12 GHz to 20 GHz	≤-40	≤-50

⁸ Measured at +10 dBm output power.

⁹ Measured at +8 dBm output power.

¹⁰ Degrades to -35 dBc between 4.35 GHz and 4.45 GHz.

Figure 2. PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 Typical Harmonic Levels at +8 dBm Output Power

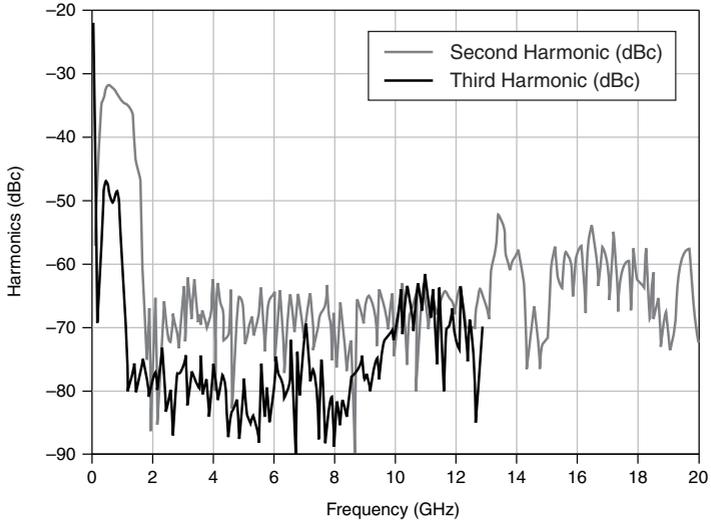


Table 3. Typical Subharmonics

Frequency	Subharmonics (dBc)	
	PXIe-5654 ⁸	PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 ⁹
250 kHz to <10 GHz	-65	-65
10 GHz to <12 GHz	-60	-60
12 GHz to 20 GHz	-50	-45

Table 4. Typical Nonharmonic Spurs

Frequency	Nonharmonic Spurs (dBc)	
	PXIe-5654 ⁸	PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 ⁹
250 kHz to <8 GHz	-65	-65
8 GHz to <10 GHz	-60	-60
10 GHz to 20 GHz	-60	-55

Figure 3. PXIe-5654 Typical Spectrum at 2.4 GHz

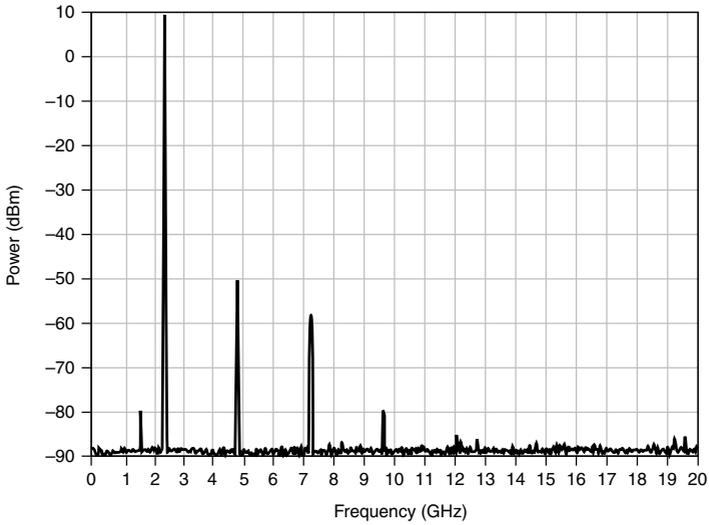


Figure 4. PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 Typical Spectrum at 2.4 GHz

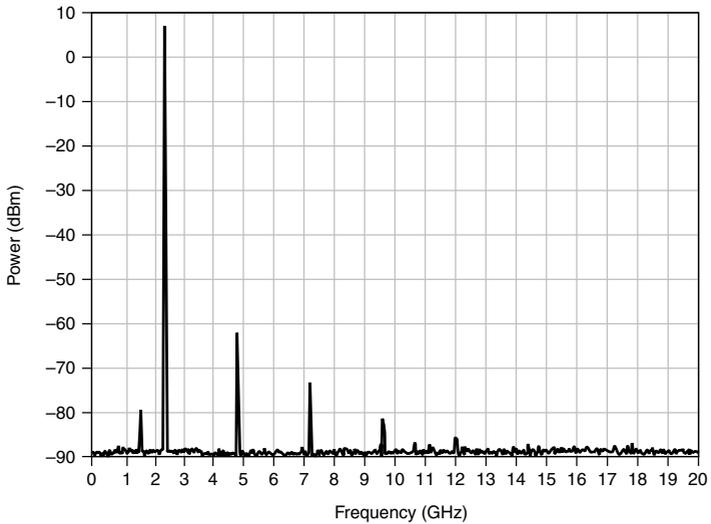


Figure 5. PXIe-5654 Typical Spectrum at 10 GHz

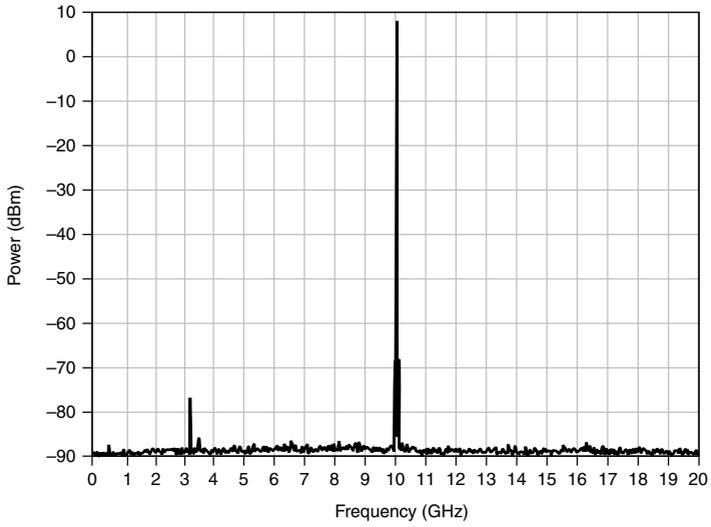
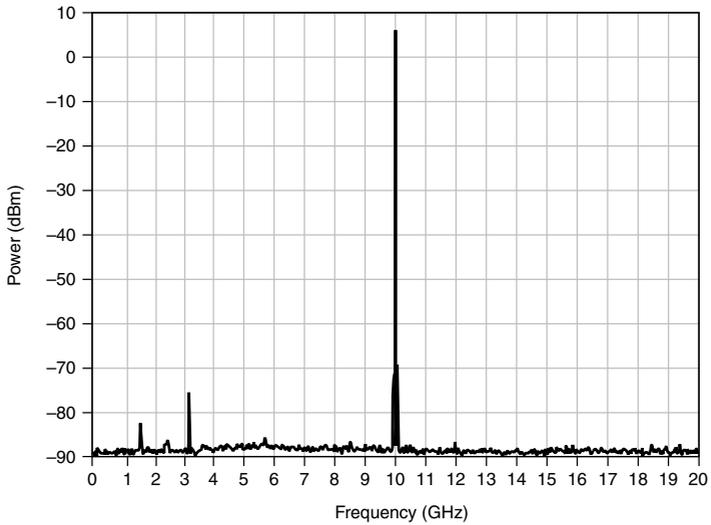


Figure 6. PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 Typical Spectrum at 10 GHz



Amplitude

Output Power

Table 5. Maximum Levelled Output Power (dBm)

Frequency	PXIe-5654		PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696	
	Specification	Typical	Specification ¹¹	Typical
250 kHz to \leq 250 MHz	+10	+12	+10	+13
250 MHz to \leq 1 GHz	+13	+14	+20	+23
1 GHz to \leq 3 GHz	+13	+14	+24	+27
3 GHz to \leq 6 GHz	+13	+15	+23	+26
6 GHz to \leq 8 GHz	+13	+15	+20	+25
8 GHz to \leq 12 GHz	+13	+14	+20	+22
12 GHz to \leq 15 GHz	+13	+15	+20	+21
15 GHz to \leq 18 GHz	+13	+15	+18	+21
18 GHz to \leq 20 GHz	+12	+14	+18	+20

Table 6. Nominal Minimum Power (dBm)

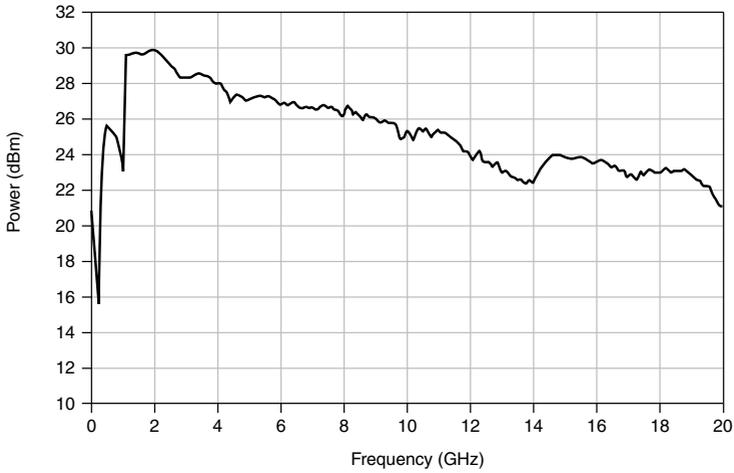
Frequency	PXIe-5654	PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696
250 kHz to $<$ 250 MHz	-10	-110
250 MHz to $<$ 2 GHz	-7	-110
2 GHz to $<$ 18 GHz	-7	-110
18 GHz to 20 GHz	-7	-110

Resolution

0.01 dB

¹¹ Specifications apply over the 25 °C \pm 10 °C temperature range.

Figure 7. PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 Typical Maximum Available Power



Amplitude Accuracy

Open-loop mode^{12, 13}

± 2 dB, typical¹⁴

¹² Specifies the amplitude accuracy for both the PXIe-5654 module and the PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 system device with automatic leveling control (ALC) disabled. Performing a power search improves the amplitude accuracy.

¹³ For the PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696, refer to the [Amplitude Accuracy](#) table for amplitude accuracy < -100 dBm.

¹⁴ Typical specifications are ± 2.5 dB for frequencies < 20 MHz.

Table 7. PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 Amplitude Accuracy (dB) at 25 °C ± 10 °C, Closed-Loop Mode¹⁵

Center Frequency	>+13 dBm to Maximum Leveled Power	-10 dBm to +13 dBm ¹⁶	-40 dBm to <-10 dBm	-80 dBm to <-40 dBm	-100 dBm to <-80 dBm	-110 dBm to <-100 dBm
≤250 MHz	—	±0.35, typical	±0.60, typical	±0.70, typical	±2.0, typical	±2.5, typical
	—	±0.80, max	±1.20, max	±1.50, max ¹⁷	—	—
250 MHz to <8 GHz	±0.60, typical	±0.35, typical	±0.60, typical	±0.70, typical	±2.0, typical	±2.5, typical
	±1.20, max	±0.80, max	±1.20, max	±1.50, max	—	—
8 GHz to 20 GHz	±0.60, typical	±0.35, typical	±0.60, typical	±0.70, typical	±2.0, typical	±2.5, typical
	±1.30, max	±0.80, max	±1.20, max	±1.50, max	—	—

¹⁵ Closed-loop mode requires the PXIe-5696 amplitude extender module and indicates that the ALC is enabled.

¹⁶ Performance is guaranteed to +10 dBm for frequencies ≤ 250 MHz.

¹⁷ Specification is ±1.75 dB maximum for frequencies < 20 MHz.

Figure 8. PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 Typical Power Accuracy at -40 dBm

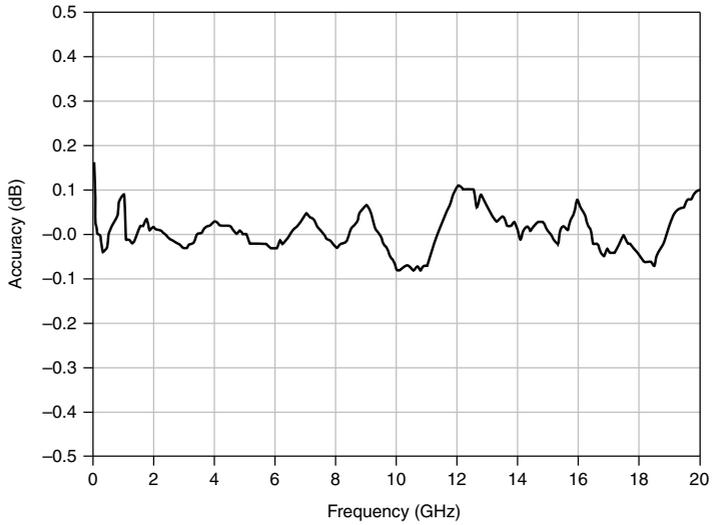


Figure 9. PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 Typical Power Accuracy at -70 dBm

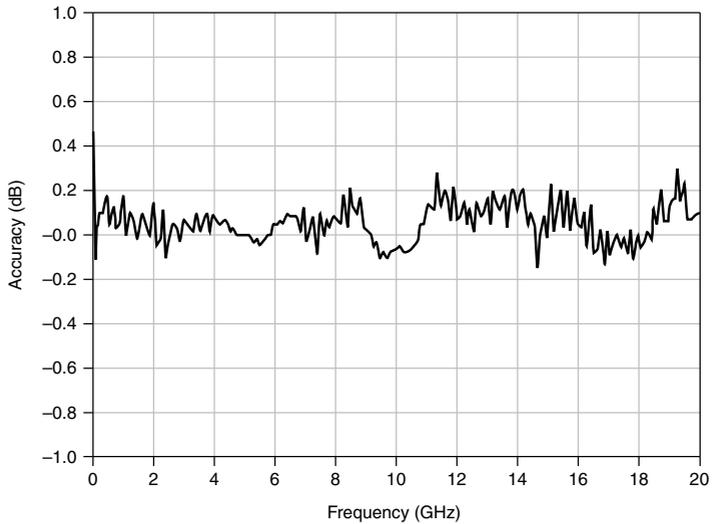
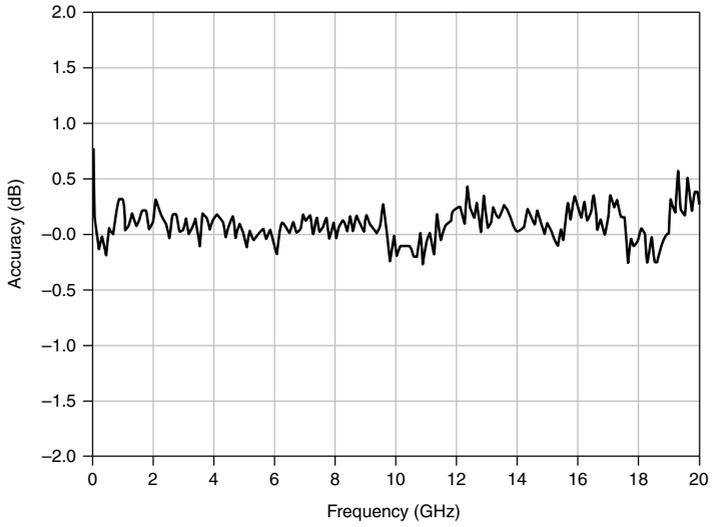


Figure 10. PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 Typical Power Accuracy at -100 dBm



Amplitude Settling Time

Table 8. Typical Amplitude Settling Time

Final Frequency	PXle-5654 ^{18,19}		PXle-5654 with PXle-5696 (Open-Loop Mode) ^{19,20}		PXle-5654 with PXle-5696 (Closed-Loop Mode) ^{21,22}	
	1.5 dB Settling Time	2 dB Settling Time	1.5 dB Settling Time	2 dB Settling Time	0.2 dB Settling Time	0.5 dB Settling Time
<250 MHz	4 ms	3.5 ms	4 ms	3.5 ms	4 ms	3 ms
>250 MHz	500 μs	300 μs	500 μs	300 μs	4 ms	3 ms

0.2 dB amplitude settling time²³

25 ms, typical

¹⁸ The minimum frequency settling time in open-loop mode is 1 ms (typical) for the standard tuning option and 100 μs (typical) for the fast tuning option.

¹⁹ For module revision D and above, add 60 ms to the settling time values when crossing from >250 MHz to a frequency between 200 MHz and 250 MHz with output powers above +10 dBm.

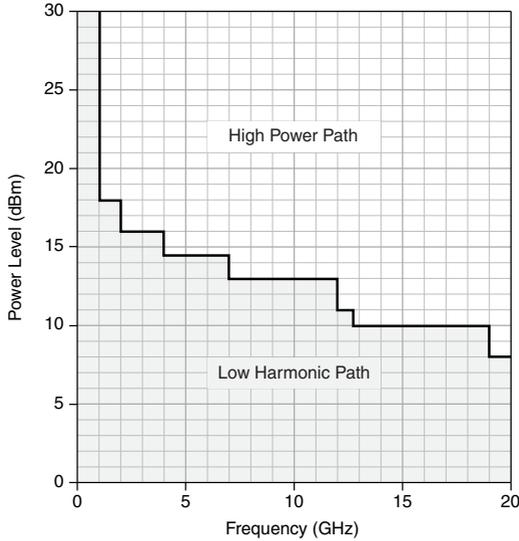
²⁰ Add 1 ms to the settling time values when entering the 250 MHz to 2.4 GHz frequency range. For frequency changes within the 250 MHz to 2.4 GHz range, no additional settling time applies.

²¹ Add 2.5 ms to the settling time values when crossing 250 MHz.

²² Add 2.5 ms to the settling time values when switching from the low harmonic or high power paths. Refer to the *Transition Power Level* figure for more information about path switching.

²³ (PXle-5654 with PXle-5696, mechanical attenuator state changed)

Figure 11. Transition Power Level (dBm)²⁴



Broadband Noise Floor

Broadband noise floor²⁵

<-145 dBc/Hz, typical at >20 MHz offset

Voltage Standing Wave Ratio (VSWR)

Table 9. PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 VSWR

Amplification Path ²⁶	Frequency Range	VSWR
Low harmonic path	250 kHz to 8 GHz	<1.6 : 1
	8 GHz to 20 GHz	<2.0 : 1
High power path	1 GHz to 20 GHz	<2.0 : 1

Output impedance

50 Ω

²⁴ This figure represents the default path switching used in NI-RFSG. The PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696 specifications were measured using the default path switching.

²⁵ Measured at +10 dBm output power for the PXIe-5654. Measured at +8 dBm output power for the PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696.

²⁶ Refer to the [Transition Power Level](#) figure for more information about the low-harmonic path versus the high-power path.

Modulation

Supported modulation types²⁷

Amplitude modulation (AM), frequency modulation (FM), phase modulation (PM), and pulse modulation

Amplitude Modulation

Connector name	AM IN
Modulation rate	DC to 100 kHz
Input level	±1 V, nominal
AM range ²⁸	±10 dB, nominal
Maximum input level	+2 V
Minimum input level	-2 V
Input impedance	50 Ω, nominal

Frequency Modulation and Phase Modulation

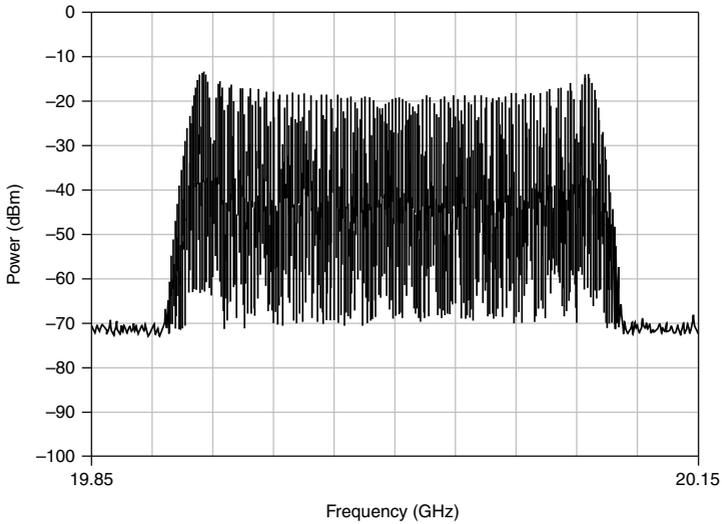
Connector name	FM IN
FM operating modes	
100 Hz to 1 kHz modulating signal rate	Narrowband
1 kHz to 10 kHz modulating signal rate	Narrowband
10 kHz to 100 kHz modulating signal rate	Narrowband
>100 kHz modulating signal rate	Wideband

PM operating modes	
DC modulating signal rate	Low phase noise
DC to 100 kHz modulating signal rate	High deviation

²⁷ AM, FM, and PM modulation types are specified as a capability, not a warranted specification.

²⁸ Measured at +3 dBm output power for the PXIe-5654. For the PXIe-5654 with PXIe-5696, the AM range varies with frequency and power as well as the selected amplification path. Under worst-case combinations, the AM range may go to 0 dB.

Figure 12. Representative FM Deviation (Wideband FM)



FM and PM division constants²⁹

10,400 MHz to 20,800 MHz	$N = 1$
5,200 MHz to 10,400 MHz	$N = 2$
2,600 MHz to 5,200 MHz	$N = 4$
1,300 MHz to 2,600 MHz	$N = 8$
650 MHz to 1,300 MHz	$N = 16$
325 MHz to 650 MHz	$N = 32$
250 MHz to 325 MHz	$N = 64$

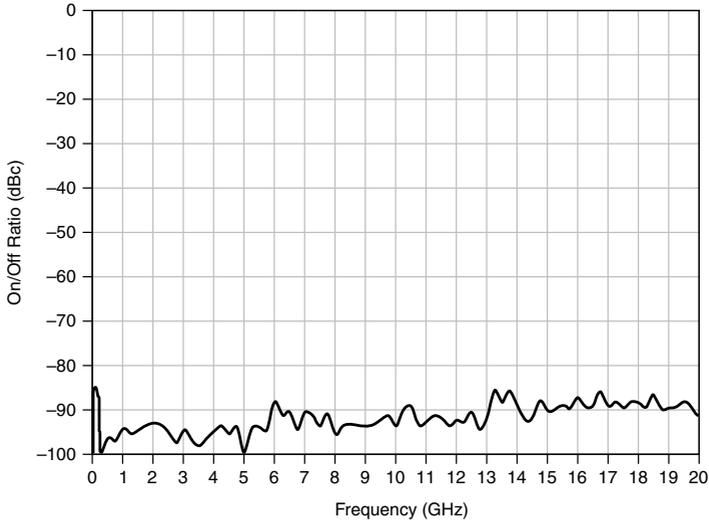
Pulse Modulation³⁰

Connector name	PULSE IN
Repetition frequency	DC to 10 MHz
Input level	
RF on	TTL high
RF off	TTL low

²⁹ For any FM or PM setting, achievable deviation degrades in each band by a factor of $1/N$ as the frequency changes.

Maximum	+5.5 V
Minimum	-0.5 V
Input impedance	>100 k Ω
Carrier on/off ratio (250 MHz to 20 GHz) ³¹	80 dB

Figure 13. Pulse Modulation On/Off Ratio



Minimum pulse width (250 MHz to 20 GHz)	50 ns, typical
Rise/fall time (250 MHz to 20 GHz)	15 ns
Maximum pulse width compression ³² (250 MHz to 20 GHz)	15 ns, nominal
Delay time (250 MHz to 20 GHz)	<35 ns, nominal
Pulse overshoot (250 MHz to 20 GHz)	<10%

³⁰ At maximum available power.

³¹ Carrier on/off ratio is 80 dB (typical) from 12.75 GHz to 13.75 GHz. Degrades by 3 dB over 0 °C to 55 °C.

³² At 10 MHz repetition frequency, 50% duty cycle.

Power Requirements

Table 10. PXIe-5654 DC Power Requirements

Voltage (V _{DC})	Maximum Current (A)	Typical Current (A)
+3.3	2.5	1.9
+12	3	2.4

Table 11. PXIe-5696 DC Power Requirements

Voltage (V _{DC})	Maximum Current (A)	Typical Current (A)
+3.3	3	2.2
+12	2.8	1.6

Calibration

Interval 2 years



Note For module revision D and above, use NI-RFSG 20.7 or later to perform an external calibration as described in the *Adjusting RF OUT Power* section of the *PXIe-5654 Calibration Procedure*.

Physical Characteristics

PXIe-5654 RF signal generator

Size 3U, three slot, PXI Express module
6.1 cm x 13.0 cm x 21.4 cm
(2.4 in. x 5.1 in. x 8.4 in.)

Weight 1,328 g (46.8 oz)

PXIe-5696 amplitude extender

Size 3U, two slot, PXI Express module
4.1 cm x 13.0 cm x 21.4 cm
(1.6 in. x 5.1 in. x 8.4 in.)

Weight 894 g (31.5 oz)

Environment

Maximum altitude	2,000 m (800 mbar) (at 25 °C ambient temperature)
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Pollution Degree	2
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Indoor use only.

Operating Environment

Ambient temperature range	0 °C to 55 °C
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Relative humidity range	10% to 90%, noncondensing
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Storage Environment

Ambient temperature range	-40 °C to 71 °C
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Relative humidity range	5% to 95%, noncondensing
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Shock and Vibration

Operating shock	30 g peak, half-sine, 11 ms pulse
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Random vibration	
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Operating	5 Hz to 500 Hz, 0.3 g _{rms}
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Nonoperating	5 Hz to 500 Hz, 2.4 g _{rms}
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Compliance and Certifications

Safety Compliance Standards

This product is designed to meet the requirements of the following electrical equipment safety standards for measurement, control, and laboratory use:

- IEC 61010-1, EN 61010-1
- UL 61010-1, CSA C22.2 No. 61010-1



Note For safety certifications, refer to the product label or the [Product Certifications and Declarations](#) section.

Electromagnetic Compatibility

This product meets the requirements of the following EMC standards for electrical equipment for measurement, control, and laboratory use:

- EN 61326-1 (IEC 61326-1): Class A emissions; Basic immunity
- EN 55011 (CISPR 11): Group 1, Class A emissions
- AS/NZS CISPR 11: Group 1, Class A emissions
- ICES-001: Class A emissions



Note In Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand (per CISPR 11), Class A equipment is intended for use only in non-residential locations. In Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand (per CISPR 11), Class A equipment is intended for use only in heavy-industrial locations.



Note Group 1 equipment (per CISPR 11) is any industrial, scientific, or medical equipment that does not intentionally generate radio frequency energy for the treatment of material or inspection/analysis purposes.



Note For EMC declarations, certifications, and additional information, refer to the [Product Certifications and Declarations](#) section.

Product Certifications and Declarations

Refer to the product Declaration of Conformity (DoC) for additional regulatory compliance information. To obtain product certifications and the DoC for NI products, visit ni.com/product-certifications, search by model number, and click the appropriate link.

Environmental Management

NI is committed to designing and manufacturing products in an environmentally responsible manner. NI recognizes that eliminating certain hazardous substances from our products is beneficial to the environment and to NI customers.

For additional environmental information, refer to the *Commitment to the Environment* web page at ni.com/environment. This page contains the environmental regulations and directives with which NI complies, as well as other environmental information not included in this document.

Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)



EU Customers At the end of the product life cycle, all NI products must be disposed of according to local laws and regulations. For more information about how to recycle NI products in your region, visit ni.com/environment/weee.

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