A Highly-Tunable 12 GHz Quadrature LC VCO in SiGe BiCMOS Process

Abdulkerim L. Coban, Kashif Ahmed, and Charles Chang

Mindspeed Technologies™ - A Conexant Business
4311 Jamboree Road, Newport Beach, CA 92660, USA

Abstract

This paper describes a 12 GHz fully-integrated, fully-differential quadrature LC VCO. Fabricated in a 0.35 µm SiGe BiCMOS process with 55 GHz $f_T$, the oscillator achieves 37% tuning range (9.62 to 14.0 GHz) and exhibits –113.5 and –112.3 dBC/Hz phase noise at 10 MHz away from 11 and 13 GHz oscillation frequencies, respectively. The oscillator draws 39 mA current from a 3.3 V supply and occupies 0.36 mm$^2$ active die area.