PXA X-Series Signal Analyzer
N9030A

- 3 Hz up to 50 GHz frequency range
- Up to 75 dB spurious-free dynamic range with 160 MHz analysis bandwidth
- ± 0.19 dB amplitude accuracy
- –172 dBm DANL with Noise Floor Extension technology
- Real-time spectrum analysis
Summary of Key Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specification</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Frequency ranges</strong></td>
<td>Minimum: 3 Hz</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maximum: 3.6, 8.4, 13.6, 26.5, 43, 44, 50 GHz</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Up to 325 GHz and beyond with external mixing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Analysis bandwidth</strong></td>
<td>10, 25, 40, and 160 MHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Displayed average noise level (DANL)</strong></td>
<td>−172 dBm at 1 GHz, preamplifier and noise floor extension on</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Third-order intermodulation (TOI) distortion</strong></td>
<td>+22 dBm at 1 GHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-CDMA ACLR dynamic range</strong></td>
<td>−83 dBc (−88 dBc nominal) with noise correction on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phase noise</strong></td>
<td>−132 dBc/Hz at 10 kHz offset (1 GHz carrier)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amplitude accuracy</strong></td>
<td>± 0.19 dB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Real-time bandwidth</strong></td>
<td>160 MHz; up to 50 GHz frequency range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Probability of intercept</strong></td>
<td>100% with signal durations as short as 3.57 µs</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Drive Your Evolution

In real-world signal analysis, the ability to evolve equals success. For future designs, excellent measurement performance enables detailed analysis of complex signals. For existing technologies, versatile capabilities help you reduce product cost. And for legacy test systems, drop-in replacement ensures ongoing stability.

Designed for the real world, Agilent’s future-ready PXA signal analyzer is the evolutionary replacement for your current high-performance analyzer. It helps you sustain past achievements, enhance current designs, and accelerate future innovations. Take control with the PXA signal analyzer—and drive your evolution.

Evolve in R&D

With the performance and flexibility of the PXA, you’ll be equipped to create state-of-the-art original designs. Unravel complex signals through the PXA’s broad set of measurement applications and demodulation capabilities, such as the Agilent 89600 VSA software and MATLAB.

Add real-time spectrum analysis

Adding real-time spectrum analyzer capabilities is an upgradable option for new and existing PXAs, enabling you to see, capture and understand fleeting, close-in signals at very low levels. (see page 4)

Evolve in operations (ATE)

The ATE system you create today will be will be able to keep pace with future changes. Through its outstanding speed and performance, the PXA will help you reduce measurement uncertainties and improve yields. Whatever the pace of your product life cycle, you can drive your evolution with the Agilent PXA signal analyzer.

What it means to be “future ready”

A truly future-ready signal analyzer offers flexibility to upgrade and enhance every major subsystem: mechanical, electronic, firmware, and software. The PXA delivers in all four areas:

- A mechanical assembly that provides seven expansion slots for future enhancements
- A removable CPU motherboard that enables CPU, memory, and I/O upgrades
- GPIB and LXI/LAN ports for automated testing
- Firmware-based measurement applications that add specific or standards-compliant capabilities
- An open Windows operating system that lets you run software applications inside the analyzer

These capabilities let you and the PXA evolve as your needs change—and help protect your equipment investment.

You can upgrade!

Options can be added after your initial purchase.
Most X-Series options are license-key upgradeable.
Maximize Signal Insights With Outstanding Performance

Measure with confidence

The PXA is ideally suited for high-performance R&D applications in aerospace & defense and commercial wireless communications. The PXA analyzes signals over wider bandwidths, reduces measurement uncertainty and reveals previously hidden signals with Noise Floor Extension.

Go deeper with Noise Floor Extension (NFE)

NFE technology provides a dramatic improvement in the PXA’s ability to accurately measure low-level signals approaching the theoretical “kTB” noise floor. NFE reduces the measurement noise by up to 10 dB and more. With increased averaging, the PXA’s effective noise floor can be extended by up to 10 dB because 90% or more of the contributed noise power is predictable, which means it can be measured, calibrated and then eliminated during normal measurements. (see application note Using Noise Floor Extension in the PXA Signal Analyzer, literature number 5990-5340EN)

Know you’ve got it with real-time spectrum analysis

Even at the extremes of signal analysis, your high-performance analyzer should be ready for anything. That’s why we offer real-time spectrum analysis as an upgradable option for new and existing PXAs. With real-time spectrum analyzer capabilities, the PXA offers the widest analysis bandwidth and dynamic range to ensure maximum probability of intercept (POI). And for even deeper analysis and thorough characterization of complex signals, a real-time PXA can also be equipped with the Agilent 89600 VSA software (page 6). See, capture and understand the most elusive signals – known or unknown.

• Detect signals with 100% POI with durations as short as 3.57 µs
• Scan wide spans of spectrum with 160 MHz real-time bandwidth up to 50 GHz frequency range
• See small signals in the presence of large ones with up to 75 dB of spurious-free dynamic range

Every PXA also includes I/Q analyzer functionality and Agilent PowerSuite. It allows viewing of magnitude, phase, or I/Q behavior for complex modulated signals over the maximum available analysis bandwidth. PowerSuite provides a wealth of one-button, standards-based power measurements such as TOI, harmonic distortion and burst power.
Upgrade Legacy Instruments While Maintaining Test System Stability

Hewlett Packard and Agilent have contributed decades of innovations and product excellence in spectrum and signal analysis. Naturally, many users of our past-generation analyzers are looking to migrate to the latest technology with more performance, faster measurement time, and the highest level of backwards compatibility.

Up to 70% faster to improve measurement time

Enhance your test systems with the power of the PXA. Compared to past-generation analyzers, the PXA offers improved speed and performance, leading to improved yields and reduced measurement uncertainties.

The PXA’s speed advantage can translate into fewer test stations. It provides up to 70% faster test times than the Agilent PSA spectrum analyzer, and is often much faster than the HP/Agilent 856x spectrum analyzers.

Expect great reliability and uptime

To help you maximize system uptime, expect the PXA to provide excellent reliability based on the proven dependability and reliability of the X-Series. X-Series instruments share a common architecture and simplified design that includes one-third fewer major subassemblies compared to our past-generation analyzers.

Simplify migration and match past results

We’ve also made it easy for you to migrate PSA-based systems. By design, the PXA utilizes the same command language (SCPI) as the PSA for the most commonly used spectrum and signal analysis functions. The PXA also includes extensive command aliasing, which allows it to parse, accept, and process legacy PSA commands without interruption.

To further maximize compatibility, the PXA is designed to match previous results through core spectrum measurements that use the same proven algorithms as several other Agilent signal analyzers.

Learn more by downloading the “Why Migrate from the PSA to the PXA” technical overview, literature number 5990-3990EN.

www.agilent.com/find/pxamigration
Today and tomorrow, you can configure and reconfigure the PXA to fit evolving requirements. This starts with optional advanced measurement applications such as noise figure, phase noise, cellular communications, wireless connectivity, and digital video. Identical across the X-Series, these applications use the same measurement algorithms and provide consistent results whether you run them on the PXA, MXA, EXA, or CXA. To save time, ensure ease of use, and simplify programming, all four models use the same user interface and SCPI commands.

The ability to run the same library of X-Series advanced measurement applications ensures consistent, repeatable results. Available transport of the applications across the X-Series lets you mix and match the hardware that provides your required levels of performance for the specific measurement at hand.

Our integrated approach to the X-Series control code, applications, functions, and user interface ensures a seamless transition from R&D to manufacturing. To enhance ease-of-use, the user interface retains the look and feel of our classic spectrum analyzers while giving you access to a wealth of advanced measurement techniques and analysis capabilities.

Delve deeply into complex and modulated signals

Agilent’s industry-leading 89600 VSA software and VXA measurement application provide comprehensive signal visualization and analysis in the time, frequency, and modulation domains. With support for over 75 signal standards and modulation types, you’ll be ready to analyze radar and communications signals, modulations from 2 FSK to 1024QAM, and standards ranging from RFID to LTE-Advanced.

Explore evolving standards

If you’re analyzing evolving signals and standards, built-in drivers make it easy to integrate the PXA into your MATLAB environment. To help you get started, we provide several example programs and an application note that explains how to develop your own programs or applications in MATLAB.

Do more with built-in capabilities; optimize connectivity and control

For power and noise-figure measurements, the PXA includes built-in support for USB power sensors and Agilent smart noise sources (SNS Series). As a system controller, the PXA can also control other instruments through its GPIB, LAN, and USB ports, and the Windows XP Pro operating system. In controller mode, the PXA can replace the test-system PC, potentially simplifying system architecture as well as security procedures in classified military ATE applications. In addition, external mixing allows you to measure signals up to 325 GHz and beyond.

89600 VSA software

On the leading edge of wireless design, signal interactions can cause the unexpected. Recognizing there is a problem is relatively easy—achieving the clarity to find the root cause is the real challenge.

Agilent 89600 VSA software is your window into what’s happening inside complex wireless devices:

www.agilent.com/find/89600_VSA

LTE modulation analysis (N9080A)

MATLAB application (N6171A)
PXA Front and Rear Panels

- Soft keys provide tactile feedback to allow quicker navigation of menus and retain a clear display.
- Use six traces and three different detectors simultaneously.
- Mark the frequency or position of a trace with up to 12 markers that enable easy viewing of measurement results.
- Save files fast with the quick-save feature.
- Extend frequency to 325 GHz and beyond with external mixing.
- Two USB 2.0 ports conveniently located on the front of the instrument.
- Identify signals quickly and view information easily on the 21.4-cm, high-resolution XGA display.
- Get answers quickly with the comprehensive, context-sensitive embedded help system.
- Navigate the interface and help system using the front-panel keys, or a mouse and keyboard.
- Use six traces and three different detectors simultaneously.
- Acquire IQ waveform data quickly or control the PXA remotely from an external PC over the USB 2.0 (type-B port) interface.
- Connect external peripherals and transfer data via the USB 2.0 (type-A port) interface.
- View the display on an external monitor by connecting to the VGA video output.
- Control the PXA remotely over 1000Base-T LAN.
- Ensure analog baseband signal quality with embedded 16-bit ADC.
- Send and receive SCPI commands over the GPIB interface.
- Removable CPU enables processor, memory, and I/O upgrades.
- Evaluate noise figure using SNS or 346 Series noise sources and the N9069A measurement application.
- Start measurements based on a specific incident using an external trigger input signal.
- Synchronize other test equipment with the analyzer using the external trigger output signals.
- Removable solid-state drive. Additional solid-state drive available for instrument security.
- Digital bus for future applications.
Related Literature

Agilent PXA Signal Analyzers
- Data Sheet 5990-3952EN
- Configuration Guide 5990-3953EN
- X-Series Measurement Applications Brochure 5989-8019EN
- X-Series Signal Analysis Brochure 5990-7998EN

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Revised: January 6, 2012

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© Agilent Technologies, Inc. 2013
Published in USA, February 8, 2013
5990-3951EN