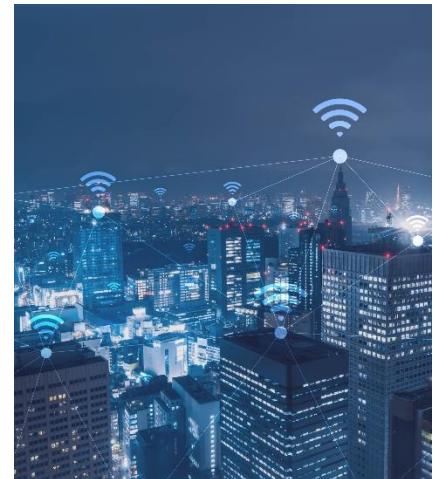
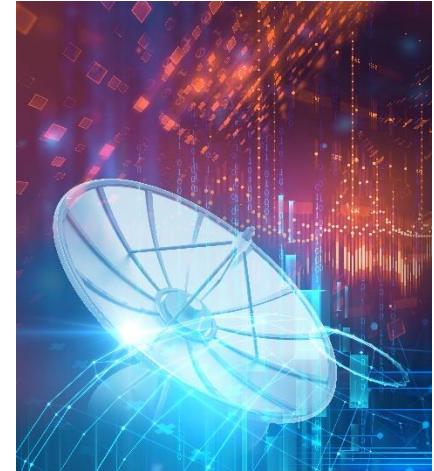


# Model 825-M Ultra-Agile Signal Source



## Features

- Phase Coherent
- Fast Switching as Low as 5 µs
- FM, Chirps, Pulse
- Internal OCXO, External Variable Reference



## Applications

- ATE
- LO for Frequency Converters
- Telecom / Satellite Com

**Model 825-M**  
8 kHz to 20 GHz Ultra-Agile Signal Source

## CONTENTS

<b>DEFINITIONS.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SPECIFICATIONS.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<i>Frequency Parameters / Range .....</i>	4
<i>Phase Noise .....</i>	4
<i>Spectral Purity .....</i>	5
<i>Level Performance .....</i>	5
<i>Level Uncertainty and VSWR .....</i>	7
<i>Reverse Power Protection .....</i>	7
<i>Channel to Channel Performance .....</i>	7
<i>Modulation Capabilities.....</i>	10
<i>Sweeping Capability .....</i>	10
<i>Frequency Reference.....</i>	10
<i>Trigger.....</i>	11
<b>CONNECTORS .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<i>Front Panel.....</i>	12
<i>Rear Panel.....</i>	12
<i>Front View.....</i>	12
<i>Rear View.....</i>	12
<i>With Option TOUCH.....</i>	12
<i>With Option HI.....</i>	12
<i>Fast Control Port (FCP).....</i>	13
<b>ORDERING INFORMATION.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<i>Document History.....</i>	15
<b>NOTES .....</b>	<b>16</b>

## DEFINITIONS

- The specifications in the following pages describe the warranted performance of the instrument for  $23 \pm 5$  °C after a 30-minute warm-up period (unless otherwise stated).

**Min/Max:** Parameter range that is guaranteed by product design, and/or production tested. Warranted performance specifications include guard-bands to account for the expected statistical performance distribution, measurement uncertainties, and changes in performance due to environmental conditions.

**Typical:** Expected mean values, not warranted performance.

## INTRODUCTION

- The Model 825-M-20 is a very compact, very agile signal source series with frequency range of up to 20 GHz. It combines fast switching speed with low phase noise and good signal purity. The single-channel unit is available as flange- and rack-mountable module or in a compact desktop enclosure with color touch display and front panel control.

The multi-channel version Model 825-M-20-X is available in 1, 2, 3 or 4 channel configurations in a standard 1U 19" rack-mountable enclosure. For high phase coherence, RF channels are locked to a common frequency reference. The Model 825-M-20 has standard communication ports USB and ETHERNET, and optionally GPIB. All communication ports support the SCPI 1999 command set. The Model 825-M-20 also features an FCP (Fast Control Port) allowing for ultra-fast user-controlled list sweeping and frequency hopping.

## SPECIFICATIONS



### Frequency Parameters / Range

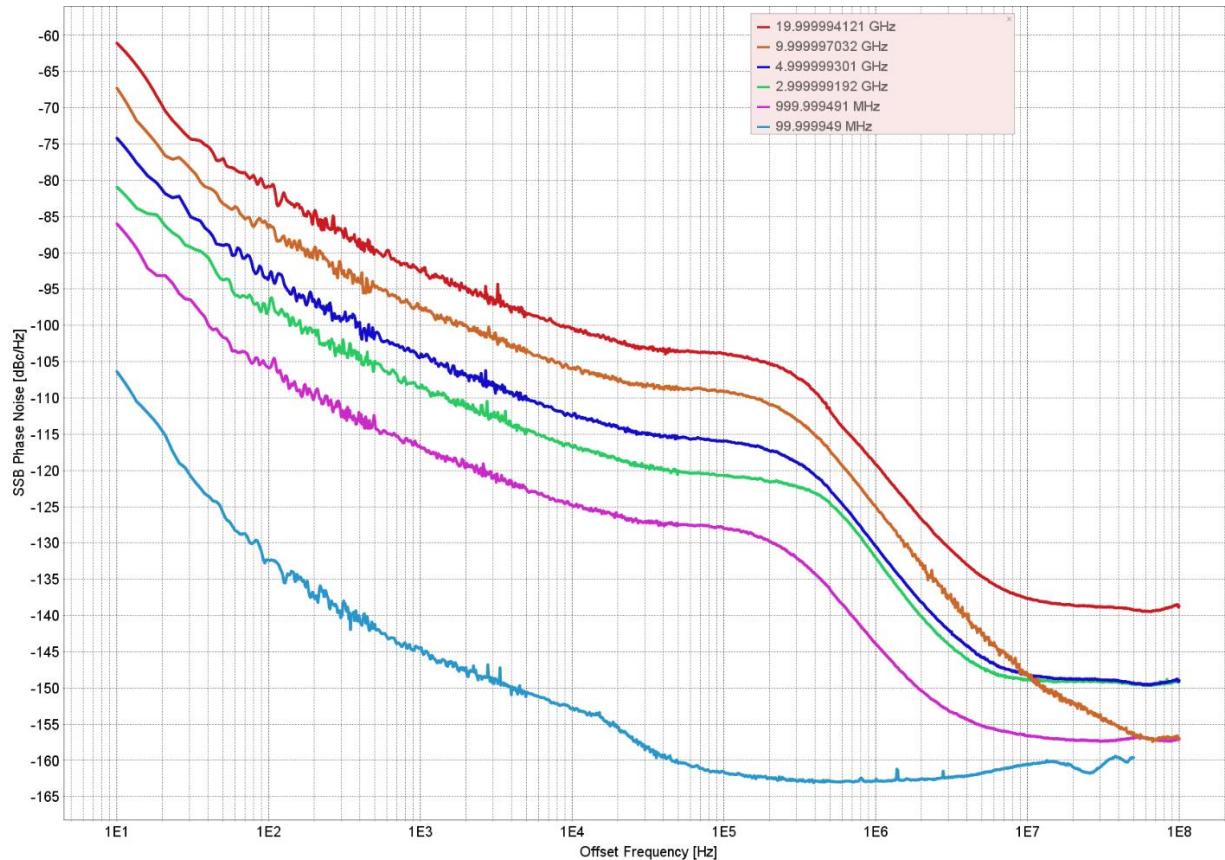
PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
Frequency Range	100 kHz 8 kHz		20 GHz 20 GHz	Option 8K
Resolution		0.01 Hz		
Phase Resolution		0.1 deg		
Switching Speed		200 µs 5 µs	500 µs 10 µs	In sweep mode Option FS



### Phase Noise

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
SSB Phase noise at 1 GHz				See also plots
At 10 Hz from carrier		-85 dBc/Hz		
At 1 kHz from carrier		-115 dBc/Hz		
At 20 kHz from carrier		-125 dBc/Hz		
At 10 MHz from carrier		-155 dBc/Hz		

Figure 1: Phase Noise Performance

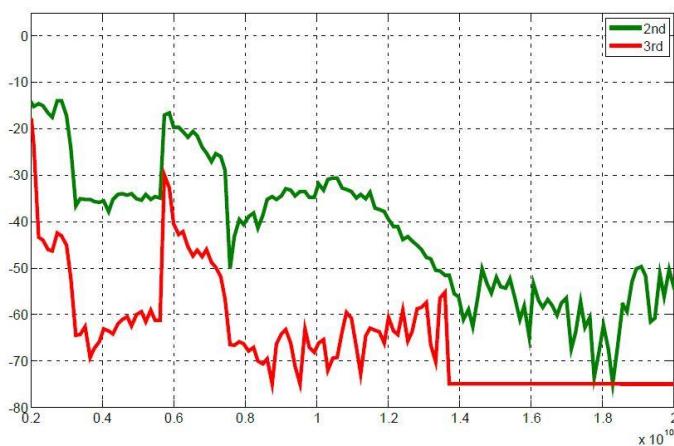




## Spectral Purity

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
<b>Output Harmonics</b>				$P_{out} = 0 \text{ dBm}$
< 3.0 GHz		-15 dBc	0 dBc	
3.0 – 7.5 GHz		-25 dBc	-10 dBc	
7.5 – 12.0 GHz		-30 dBc	-20 dBc	
> 12.0 GHz		-40 dBc	-30 dBc	
<b>Sub-harmonics</b>				$P_{out} = 0 \text{ dBm}$
< 10.0 GHz		-80 dBc	-50 dBc	
10.0 – 18.0 GHz		-55 dBc	-40 dBc	
> 18.0 GHz		-40 dBc	-20 dBc	
<b>Non-harmonic spurious</b>				(10 kHz < offset < 500 MHz)
<= 18.0 GHz		-65 dBc	-50 dBc	
> 18.0 GHz		-55 dBc	-35 dBc	

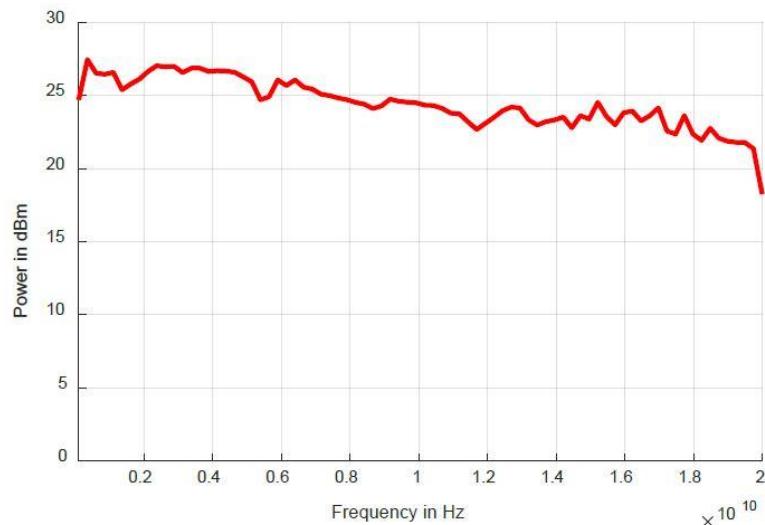
Figure 2: Harmonic performance at 0 dBm – Harmonic output power [dBc] vs. frequency [Hz]



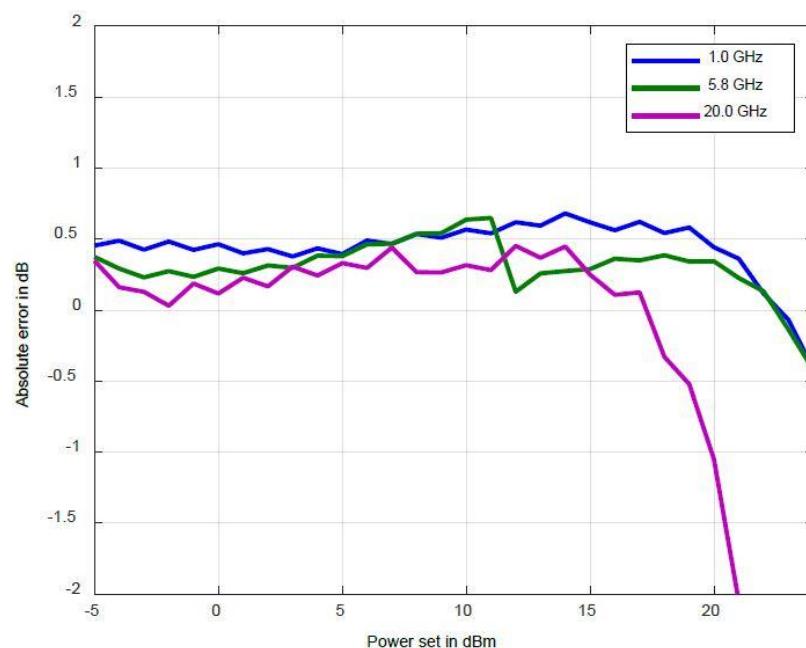
## Level Performance

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
Range	0 dBm		+18 dBm	Settable to -10 to +23 dBm
Resolution		0.5 dB		

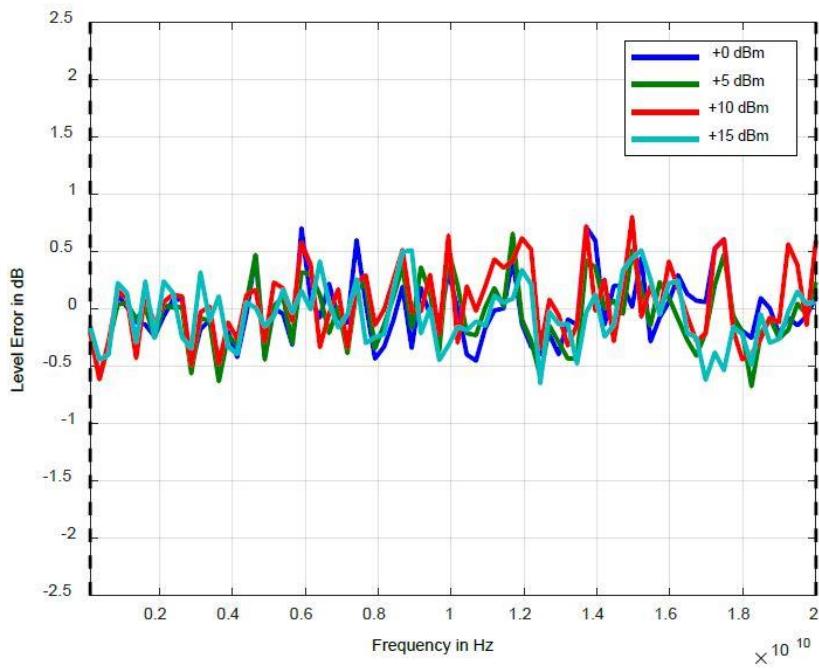
**Figure 3: Typical Maximum Output Power**



**Figure 4: Power Linearity**



**Figure 5: Power level accuracy**



### Level Uncertainty and VSWR

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
Level uncertainty		$\pm 1.5$ dB		
Output impedance		50 $\Omega$	2.0	
VSWR		1.7		

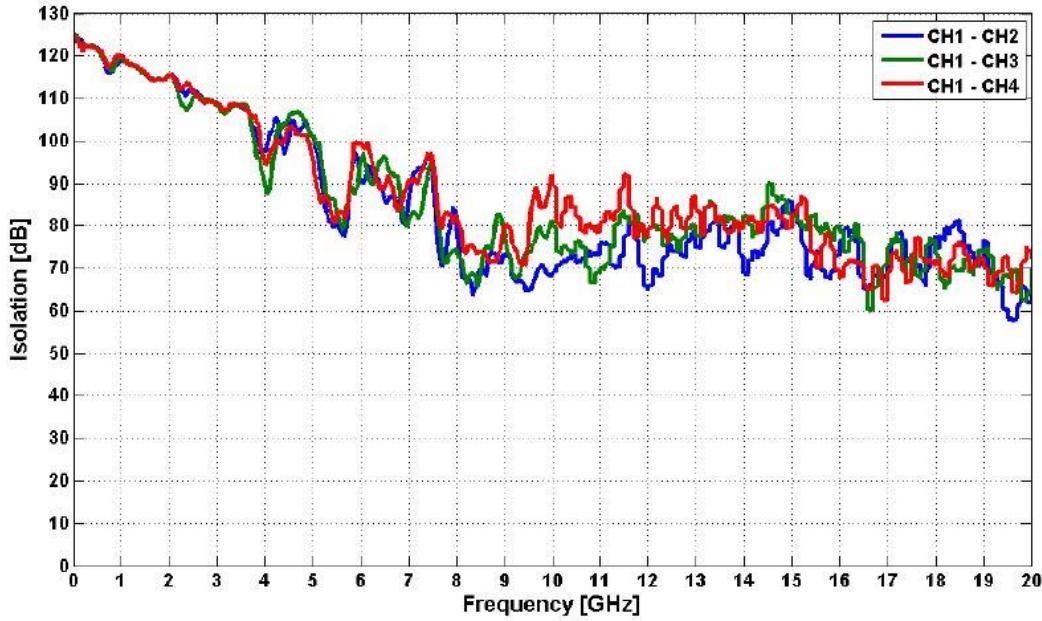
### Reverse Power Protection

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
DC Voltage		7 V		
RF Power			23 dBm	

### Channel to Channel Performance

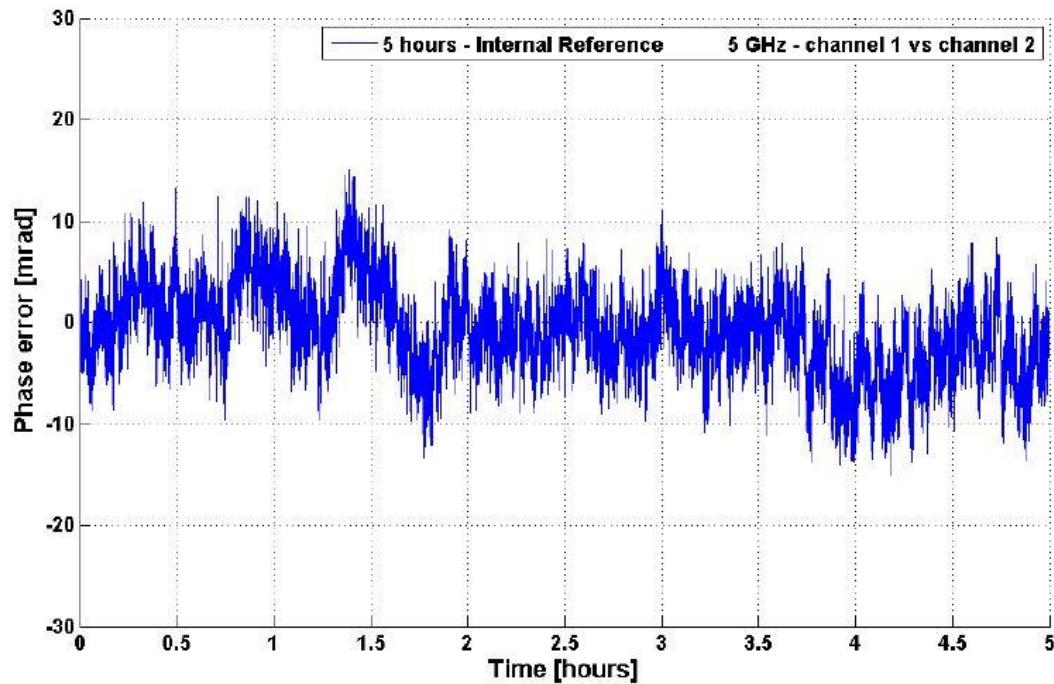
PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
Isolation				
< 3.0 GHz	90 dB			
3.0 – 8.0 GHz	70 dB			
> 8.0 GHz		60 dB		
Relative phase stability		15 mrad		@5 GHz over 5 hours

**Figure 6: Channel to channel isolation – the measurement shows the impact of channel #2, #3 and #4 at f0+9 MHz on the channel #1 channel under test) operating at f0. All channels have dBm output power.**

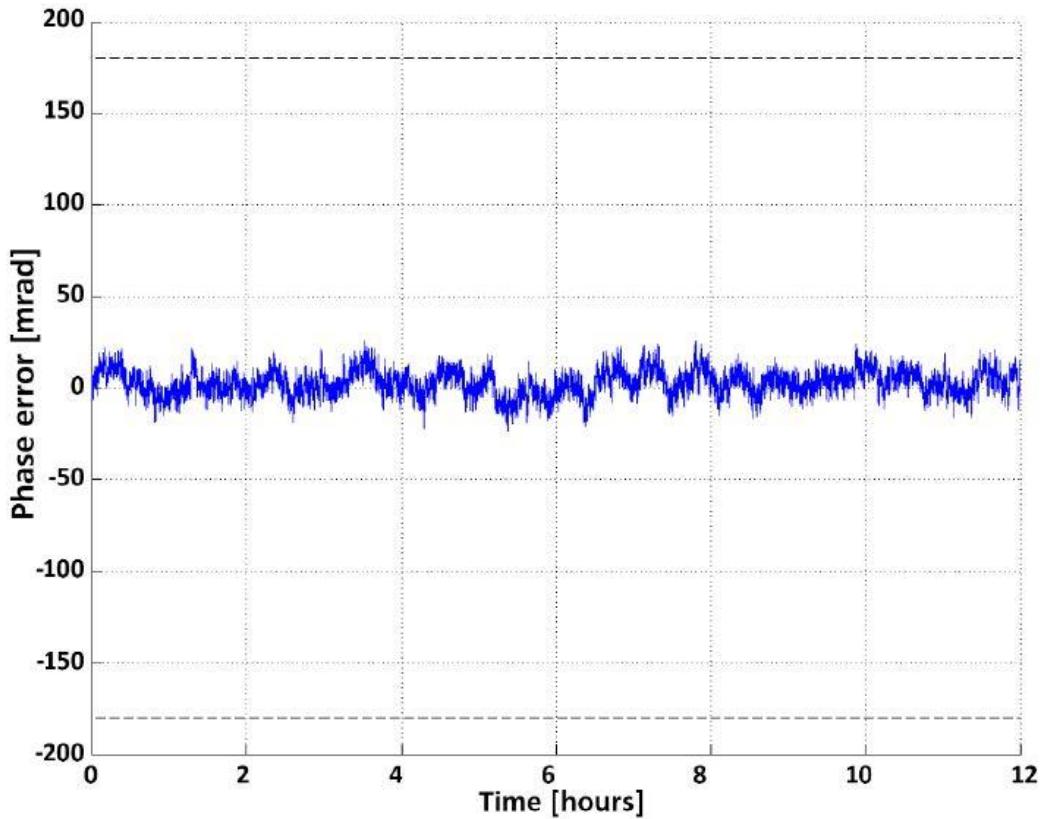


**Figure 7: Channel to channel phase stability – the measurement shows the phase fluctuation between two RF channels in the same device, measured over 5 hours with a 5 GHz CW signal.**

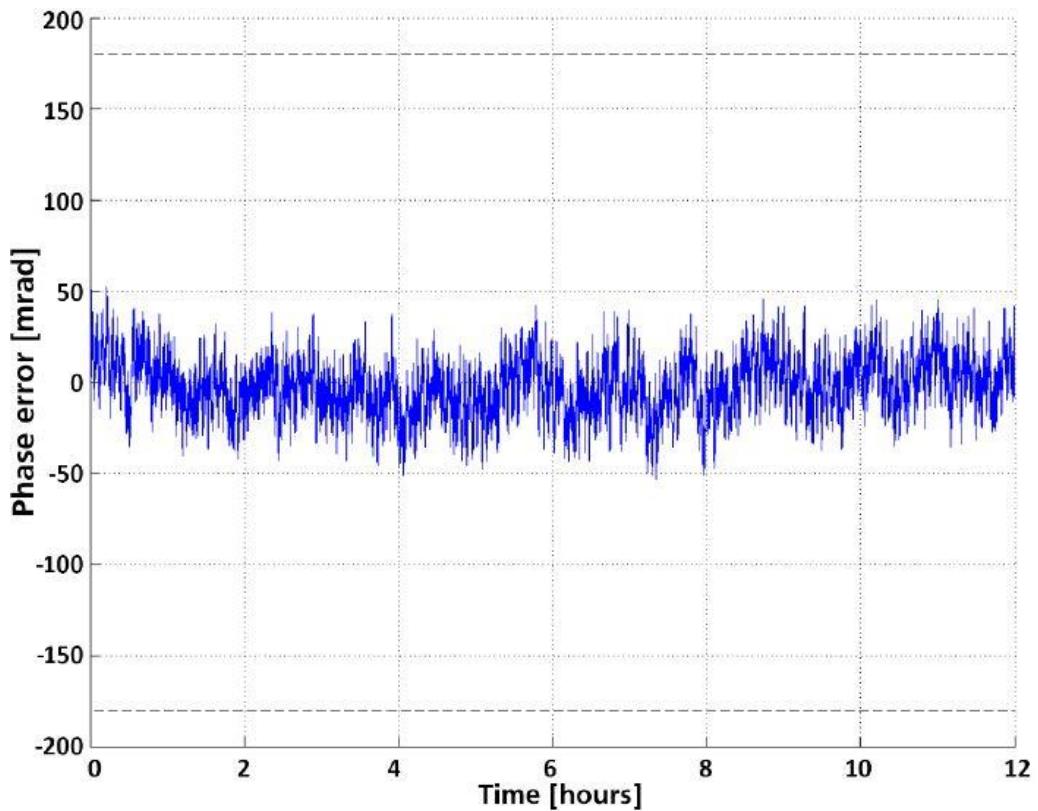
#### Model 825-M typical time domain channel-to-channel phase error at 5.000 GHz



**Figure 8: 825-M typical time domain channel-to-channel phase error at 10 GHz – measured over 12 hours**



**Figure 9: 825-M typical time domain channel-to-channel phase error at 20 GHz – measured over 12 hours**





## Modulation Capabilities

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
<b>Pulse Modulation</b>				
On/off ratio		60 dB		
Repetition frequency	DC		10 MHz	
Pulse width	30 ns		20 s	
Pulse rise/fall time		9 ns		
Pulse trainslength (pulses)	2		4192	
Video crosstalk		-40 dB		
Modulation source		Int. / ext.		
External input threshold	0.85 V	0.9 V	0.95 V	TTL compatible
External input voltage range	-0.5 V		+5.5 V	TTL compatible
External input hysteresis		60 mV		
Delay (to RF)		20 ns	40 ns	



## Sweeping Capability

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
<b>Frequency / List sweep</b>				
Sweep type: linear, logarithmic, random				
Step time	500 µs 5 µs		200 s	Option FS
Timing resolution		5 ns		
Timing accuracy per point		20 ns		
<b>Generalized list sweep</b>				
Allows for individual setting of frequency, step-time, and off-time for each point				



## Frequency Reference

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
<b>Reference frequency input</b>	1 MHz		200 MHz	Integer MHz
Reference input level	-5 dBm	0 dBm	+13 dBm	
Lock Range			±1.0 ppm	
Reference input impedance		50 Ω		
<b>Internal reference frequency output</b>		100 MHz		
Initial accuracy of internal reference		±40 ppb		calibrated at 23 ± 3 °C
Temperature stability (0 to 50 degC)			±100 ppb	
<b>Aging</b>				
Aging 1 <sup>st</sup> year		0.5 ppm		
Aging per day			5 ppb	After 30 days operation
Warm-Up time		5 min		
Output of internal reference		+0 dBm 50 Ω		


**Trigger**

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
<b>Trigger Types</b>				Continuous, single (point), gated, gated direction
<b>Trigger Source</b>				External, bus (LAN, USB)
<b>Trigger Modes</b>				Continuous free run, trigger and run, reset and run
Trigger uncertainty		5 µs		
External Trigger delay	50 µs		40 s	
External Delay resolution		15 ns		
<b>Trigger Modulo</b>	1		255	Execute only on Nth trigger event
<b>Trigger Polarity</b>		Rising, falling		
<b>External trigger input threshold</b>	0.85 V	0.9 V	0.95 V	TTL compatible
<b>External trigger input voltage range</b>	-0.5 V		+5.5 V	TTL compatible
<b>External trigger input hysteresis</b>		60 mV		

\*TRIG OUT connector is not available in standard flange-mount enclosure

## CONNECTORS

### Front Panel



### Rear Panel



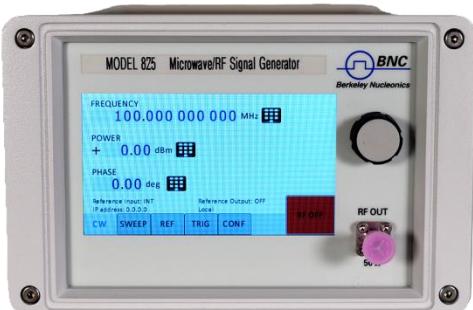
### Front View



### Rear View



### With Option TOUCH



### With Option HI





## Fast Control Port (FCP)

- 8-bit or 16-bit parallel port for fast, time critical settings like frequency
- Sequential submission of 48-bit frequency word or access to pre-defined frequency table
- Optional amplitude control and support for multi-channel models (only with 16-bit bus)
- Signal Source confirms the received data with ACK (only in 8-bit mode) and informs the controller by the BUSY signal while processing the information

**Connector:** 26 pin 3M Mini-D Ribbon Receptacle

**8-bit Mode:** Address A<3..0>, Data D<3..0>, STROBE, ACK, BUSY

**16-bit Mode:** Address A<7..0>, Data D<7..0>, STROBE, BUSY

**Input signal:** 0 to 5 V

**Input impedance:** 4,7 kΩ

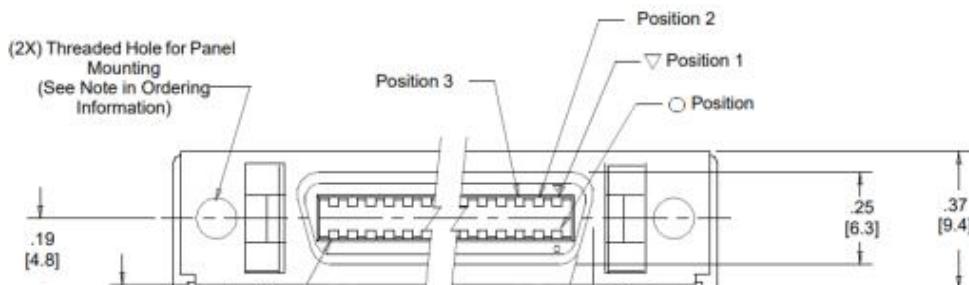
**Maximum toggle rate:** 10 MHz, frequency switching starts after transfer of last byte

### Electrical Specification

**Input signal:** 0 V to 5 V

**Input impedance:** 4,7 k Ω

**Maximum toggle rate:** 10 MHz



## ORDERING INFORMATION

HOST MODEL	PRODUCT	DESCRIPTION
825-M	825-M	20 GHz wideband frequency synthesizer, flange-mount
825-M	825-M	Multi-channel 20 GHz frequency synthesizer, 19" 1U rack-mount
825-M	Option TOUCH	Desktop enclosure with touch display control
825-M	Option EB	External power bank adapter cable
825-M	Option 8K	Frequency range extension to 8 kHz
825-M	Option FS	Fast switching option (with FCP port)
825-M	Option HI	High Isolation Enclosure
825-M	Option GPIB	GPIB interface (only with option TOUCH or 1U rack-mount)
825-M	Option FLASH	MicroSD card slot for removable SD memory
825-M	Option Retrofit	Applies when options are back-ordered

## GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Remote Programming Interfaces:**

Ethernet interface

USB2.0 device interface

GPIB (option)

Control language: SCPI Version 1999.0

**Power requirements:** 24 VDC; 20 W maximum

**Mains adapter supplied:** 100-240 VAC in / 24 V, 2 A DC out

**Storage temperature range:** - 40 to 70 °C

**Operating temperature range:** 0 to 45 °C

**Operating and storage altitude:** Up to 15,000 feet



Safety/EMC complies with applicable Safety and EMC regulations and directives.

**Dimensions (W x L x H) / Weight [Including Connectors]**

Standard Flange-Mount	4.13 x 10.63 x 2.36 in [105 x 270 x 60 mm] / ~2 lbs ( $\leq 1.0$ kg)
Option TOUCH	6.77 x 10.75 x 4.17 in [172 x 273 x 106 mm] / ~5 lbs ( $\leq 2.5$ kg)
Model 825-M in 1U Rackmount	16.85 x 18.39 x 1.73 in [428 x 467 x 44 mm] / ~21 lbs ( $\leq 10.0$ kg)

**Recommended calibration cycle:** 24 months

## Document History

Version	Date	Author	Notes
V10	2019-05-20	Jk	First release
V11	2019-09-20	Jk	Added options
V12	2020-02-27	Jk	Single and multi-channel version
V121	2020-03-25	Jk	Plots added
V122	2020-05-08	Jk	FCP specification added
V123	2020-06-01	Db	FCP details added
V124	2020-10-20	Jk	Refined harmonic specs
V125	2020-12-07	Yg	Added multi-channel specs and pictures
V126	2021-02-25	Db	Pulse and trigger input electrical specifications
V127	2021-04-13	Ah	Environmental specification updated
V128	2022-08-22	Ee, Db	Corrected dimensions, corrected harmonic specifications
V129	2023-05-30	Mh	Corrected harmonics and non-harmonic values
V130	2023-06-14	Mh, ee	New layout structure
V131	2023-11-29	Ap	Added phase stability plots for 10 GHz and 20 GHz

## Berkeley Nucleonics

2955 Kerner Blvd.  
San Rafael, CA 94901

Phone: 415-453-9955  
Email: [info@berkeleynucleonics.com](mailto:info@berkeleynucleonics.com)

[berkeleynucleonics.com](http://berkeleynucleonics.com)  
[berkeleynucleonics.com/downloads](http://berkeleynucleonics.com/downloads)

## NOTES

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---