LamaPLC: MAX4466/MAX9814: Low-noise Microphone Preamplifiers

The MAX4466 and MAX9814 are low-noise microphone preamplifiers typically used with electret microphones to convert sound into electrical signals for microcontrollers like Arduino.

MAX4466: Fixed Gain Amplifier

The MAX4466 is a straightforward operational amplifier optimized for use as a microphone preamp.

- **How it works:** It amplifies incoming audio by a set amount that you can manually tune using a potentiometer (trimmer).
- **Key Advantage:** It provides consistent, predictable gain. If the sound volume stays the same, the output stays the same.
- **Best For:** Audio-reactive projects (like FFT visualizers), precise sound level monitoring, and voice changers where you want full manual control over sensitivity.

MAX9814: Automatic Gain Control (AGC) Amplifier

The MAX9814 is a more sophisticated chip that features Automatic Gain Control (AGC).

- **How it works:** It dynamically adjusts its own gain. It makes quiet sounds louder and prevents loud sounds from “clipping” (distorting) by automatically lowering their volume.
- **Key Advantage:** It handles unpredictable environments where sound levels vary wildly without needing manual adjustment.
- **Best For:** Voice recognition, conferencing systems, portable recorders, and any application where you need a stable output level regardless of how far away the speaker is.

Comparison Table: MAX4466 vs. MAX9814

Feature	MAX4466	MAX9814
		
Gain Control	Manual: Adjusted via an onboard potentiometer.	Automatic (AGC): Automatically adjusts to keep sound levels constant.
Gain Range	Variable from 25x to 125x (~28dB to 42dB).	Selectable base gains of 40dB, 50dB, or 60dB.
Operating Voltage	2.4V to 5.5V	2.7V to 5.5V
Noise Level	Low: Known for excellent power supply rejection (112dB)	Very Low: Features 30nV/rtHz input-referred noise density
Behavior	Predictable and consistent output for fixed sounds	Adaptive; prevents “*clipping*” from sudden loud noises

Feature	MAX4466	MAX9814
Complexity	Simple op-amp; easy to wire and use	Advanced; allows tuning "*Attack*" and "*Release*" ratios
Best For	Audio-reactive LEDs, FFT visualizers, and precise monitoring	Voice recognition, conferencing, and dynamic environments

Key Differences

- **Audio Consistency:** Choose the MAX4466 if you need your electrical signal volume to accurately reflect the room volume. Choose the MAX9814 if you want the signal to stay *"loud and clear"* even if the speaker moves closer or further away from the mic.
- **Power Efficiency:** The MAX4466 is a micropower device, drawing only about 24 µA, making it slightly better suited to ultra-low-power battery applications than the MAX9814.

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MAX9814 Module Pinout Table

^Pin^Name^Description|

VCC	Power Supply	Input voltage, typically **2.7V to 5.5V**
GND	Ground	Common ground for power and signal
OUT	Analog Output	Audio signal output (approx. 2Vpp max) with a 1.25V DC bias
GAIN	Gain Control	Sets the maximum amplification level (see configuration below)
AR	Attack/Release	Adjusts the AGC's attack-to-release time ratio (see configuration below)

Configuration Settings

You can change the behavior of the module by connecting the GAIN and AR pins to VCC, GND, or leaving them *"floating"* (unconnected).

Gain Settings (Maximum Gain)

- **Unconnected (Floating):** 60dB (Maximum sensitivity).
- **Connected to GND:** 50dB.
- **Connected to VCC:** 40dB (Minimum sensitivity).

AR (Attack/Release Ratio) Settings

This controls how quickly the AGC responds to volume changes.

- **Unconnected (Floating):** 1:4000 ratio (Slowest response; best for most general purposes).
- **Connected to VCC:** 1:2000 ratio.

- **Connected to GND:** 1:500 ratio (Fastest response).

Pro-Tip: For the cleanest signal on an Arduino, connect VCC to 3.3V rather than 5V to minimize electrical noise from the power rail.

Arduino & MAX9814

Here's an example sketch to read audio signals from the MAX9814 and display the amplitude on the Serial Monitor:

```
const int microphonePin = A0; // Connect MAX9814 OUT to A0

void setup() {
  Serial.begin(9600);
  Serial.println("MAX9814 Microphone Test");
}

void loop() {
  int audioValue = analogRead(microphonePin); // Read audio signal
  Serial.print("Audio Amplitude: ");

  //  use the Arduino Serial Print   -> Tools > Serial Monitor
  //  use the Arduino Serial Plotter -> Tools > Serial Plotter
  Serial.println(audioValue);

  delay(10); // Small delay for smooth readings
}
```

Sensor topics on lamaPLC

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• lamaPLC project: Arduino - OLED SH1106 with AHT20/BMP280 Sensor	2026/04/23 21:51	bmp280, aht20, temperature, humidity, pressure, sensor, arduino, oled, sh1106, arduino code
• lamaPLC project: Arduino - Vibration sensors	2026/04/15 17:21	vibration, sensor, piezoelectric, mems, eddy-current, electrodynamic, gxfm0459, ldtm-028k, arduino, arduino code
• lamaPLC project: Digitales Potentiometer Board Moduls	2026/04/11 18:29	sensor, module, arduino code, renesas, x9c series, x9c102, x9c103, x9c104, x9c503, xdcp, digitally controlled potentiometer
• lamaPLC project: Sension SCD CO² measurement module	2026/04/15 19:34	scd30, scd40, scd41, iaq, ndir, sensor, i2c, arduino code
• lamaPLC: A0221AU / A02YYUW Waterproof Ultrasonic Distance Sensor with UART communication	2026/04/23 21:52	a0221au, a02yyuw, waterproof, ultrasonic, distance, sensor, uart, ip67, serial, sen0311, dfrobot

• LamaPLC: AHT10 Modul	2026/03/22 03:14	communication, i2c, temperature, humidity, sensor, aht, aht 10, modul
• LamaPLC: AHT20 / BMP280 Modul	2026/04/23 21:52	bmp280, aht20, adafruit, temperature, humidity, pressure, sensor, arduino, code, i2c
• LamaPLC: Allegro ACS758 Hall-effect linear current sensors	2026/04/23 21:52	cjmcu, cjmcu-758, acs758, acs758lcb-050b, acs758lcb-100b, acs758kcb-150b, acs758ecb-200b, hall-effect, current, sensor, analog, arduino, code
• LamaPLC: APDS - Avago ALS and proximity detection sensors with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	avago, apds-9900, apds-9930, apds-9960, als, proximity, detection, gesture recognition, gesture, i2c, communication, sensor, arduino, code
• lamaPLC: AS5600 Magnetic Induction Angle Measurement Sensor Module	2026/03/28 23:50	communication, i2c, as5600, as-5600, magnetic, induction, angle, sensor
• LamaPLC: BMP/BME Bosch Temperature/Humidity/Pressure sensors with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	bme280, bme680, bmp180, bmp280, hw-611, hw611, bosch, temperature, humidity, pressure, sensor, arduino, i2c, communication, cjmcu
• LamaPLC: BQ25570 / CJMCU-2557 - Texas Instruments nano-power management IC and module	2026/04/23 21:52	bq25570, sensor, texas instruments, nano-power management, dc-dc boost charger, mppt, solar, thermoelectric, piezoelectric
• LamaPLC: CJMCU-219/INA-219 breakout board/IC with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	cjmcu-219, ina-219, ina219, breakout board, i2c, communication, sensor, voltage, current, arduino, code, cjmcu
• LamaPLC: CJMCU-3216 / AP-3216 integrated digital ambient light and proximity sensor module/IC with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	cjmcu-3216, cjmcu, ap-3216, ap3216, ambient light, proximity, sensor, arduino, code, i2c, communication
• LamaPLC: CJMCU-3901/PMW-3901 compact optical flow sensor module/IC by PixArt with SPI communication	2026/04/23 21:52	cjmcu-3901, cjmcu, pmw3901, pmw-3901, optical flow, sensor, pixart, spi, communication, arduino, code, pmw3901mb-txqt
• LamaPLC: CJMCU-6701: Biosensor for measuring Galvanic Skin Response (GSR) with SPI communication	2026/04/23 21:52	cjmcu, cjmcu-6701, acs758, acs-758, galvanic skin response, gsr, electrodermal activity, eda, spi, communication, arduino, code, sensor, healthcare
• LamaPLC: CJMCU-6814 combined gas sensor module for CO, NO_2, NH_3	2026/04/23 21:52	analog, cjmcu, cjmcu-6814, mics6814, mics-6814, sensor, arduino, code, carbon monoxide, co, ammonia, nh_3, nitrogen dioxide, no_2
• lamaPLC: CJMCU-811 CCS811 Gas Sensor (VOCs TVOC CO2)	2026/03/22 00:08	cjmcu-811, ccs811, gas, sensor, vocs, tvoc, eco2, co2, arduino, air quality metal oxide, mox, i2c
• LamaPLC: CJMCU-8221 Analog Devices Precision instrumentation amplifier module	2026/04/23 21:52	cjmcu-8221, ad8221ar, analog devices, amplifier, sensor, cjmcu
• LamaPLC: D6T Omron Non-Contact Thermal Sensors with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	d6t, d6t-32l, d6t-44l, d6t-8l, d6t-1a, omron, non-contact, thermal, sensor, i2c, arduino, code

• LamaPLC: DHT Temperature /Humidity sensors with 1-wire / I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	dht11, dht20, dht22, temperature, humidity, pressure, sensor, 1-wire, arduino, code
• LamaPLC: DPS Infineon Temperature/Pressure sensors with I2C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	dps310, infineon, temperature, pressure, sensor, arduino, i2c, communication, code
• lamaPLC: DS18B20 1-Wire Digital Thermometer	2026/04/23 21:52	ds18b20, sensor, 1-wire, communication, arduino, thermometer, parasitic mode
• lamaPLC: Energy, power, current, and voltage	2025/05/31 23:32	i2c, i c, communication, arduino, energy, power, current, sensor, ina226
• LamaPLC: ENS ScioSense Multi-gas sensors with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	ens160, sciosense, gas-quality, i2c, communication, sensor, arduino, code, eco₂, tvoc, aqi, indoor air quality, iaq, co₂, voc
• lamaPLC: ENS160 + AHT21 Air Quality Sensor - CO, ECO, TVOC, Temp & Humidity Module	2026/04/23 21:52	arduino, ens160, aht21, air quality, sensor, co, eco, tvoc, module, aqi
• LamaPLC: Gas sensors	2023/07/01 17:29	gas, sensor, i2c, onewire, communication, mq-3, mq-4, mq-5, mq-6, mq-7, mq-8, mq-9, mq-135, gm-102b, gm-302b, gm-502b, gm-702b, alcohol, ch4, natural gas, smoke, lng, co, co2, lpg, h2, iso-butane, nox, nh3, benzene, town gas, formaldehyde, propane, humidity, temperature, voc, grv gas sens v2
• LamaPLC: GM MEMS Gas-sensors	2026/04/23 21:52	gm-102b, gm-302b, gm-502b, gm-702b, mems, gas-quality, sensor, arduino, code, nitrogen dioxide, no₂, volatile organic compounds, voc, carbon monoxide, co, ethyl alcohol, c₂h₅ch, formaldehyde, ch₂o, alcohol, c₂h₅oh
• lamaPLC: GY-511 6DOF sensor module	2026/03/22 01:44	stmicroelectronics, lsm303dlhc, i2c, lsm303, sensor, gy-511, 6dof, pololu, module, arduino
• LamaPLC: HC-SR04 Ultrasonic Sensor Module	2026/04/23 21:52	hc-sr04, ultrasonic, sensor, arduino, code
• LamaPLC: HDC Texas Instruments Temperature/humidity sensors with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	sht21, htu21, si7021, gy-21, gy-213v, hdc1080, gy-213v-hdc1080, cjmcu, cjmcu-1080, texas instruments, temperature, humidity, sensor, i2c, communication, arduino, code
• LamaPLC: HTU TE Connectivity temperature/humidity sensors with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	htu, htu31d, htu21d, htu20d, sht20, htu20, sht21, htu21, si7021, gy-21, gy-213v, hdc1080, si702, gy-20, sht31, htu31, si7031, gy-31, te connectivity, temperature, humidity, i2c, communication, sensor, arduino, code

• LamaPLC: HX711 24-bit analog-to-digital converter (ADC)	2026/04/11 18:28	hx711, hx-711, analog-to-digital, adc, converter, load cell, wheatstone bridge, weight, sensor, communication, arduino, code
• lamaPLC: INA modules with Arduino libraries	2026/04/11 19:54	i2c, i c, communication, arduino, energy, power, current, monitor, sensor, ina219, gy-219, ina226, gy-216, ina228, gy-228, ina237, ina238, ina260, ina3221, ina
• lamaPLC: INA226 - current/voltage/power monitor with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	i2c, i c, communication, arduino, energy, power, current, monitor, sensor, ina226, ina219, ina
• lamaPLC: LTC3588 - Nanopower energy harvesting power supply IC	2026/04/23 21:52	communication, arduino, sensor, energy harvesting, energy, ambient power
• LamaPLC: M01 - V0.4 Laser ranging sensor with UART communication	2026/04/23 21:52	distance measurement, laser, distance, sensor, m01
• LamaPLC: MAX30100/MAX30102 Heart Rate Click Sensor Module	2026/04/23 21:52	max30102, max30100, heart rate click, sensor, communication, i2c, arduino, code
• lamaPLC: Max31865 RTD to Digital Converter - PT100/PT1000 Platine	2026/04/23 21:52	max31865, rtd, pt 100, pt 1000, temperature, spi, platinum, arduino, code, sensor, adafruit
• LamaPLC: MAX4466/MAX9814: Low-noise Microphone Preamplifiers	2026/04/23 21:52	audio, microphone, analogue audio, max4466, max9814, max 4466, max 9814, agc, preamplifiers, sensor, arduino, code
• LamaPLC: MH-Z19 series of NDIR CO_2 sensors	2026/04/23 21:52	mh-z19, mh-z19d, mh-z19c, mh-z19b, mh-z19e, ndir, co_2, sensor, winsen, uart, pwm, communication, non-dispersive infrared, infrared, ir, temperature, arduino, code, tasmota
• lamaPLC: MPU-6050 (HW-123, GY-521) 6-axis MotionTracking device	2026/03/22 03:13	mpu-6050, hw-123, gy-521, 6-axis motiontracking, dmp, temperature, sensor, mems, arduino code, arduino, accelerometer, gyroscope, tilt
• LamaPLC: MQ Winsen Gas-sensors	2026/04/23 21:52	mq, mq-2, mq-3, mq-4, mq-5, mq-6, mq-7, mq-8, mq-9, mq-131, mq-135, mq-137, winsen, gas-sensor, sensor, arduino, code, alcohol, c_2h_5oh, benzine gas, smoke, lpg, propane, c_3h_8, hydrogen, h_2, methane, ch_4, iso-butane, town gas, ammonia, nh_3
• LamaPLC: PIR sensors	2026/04/23 21:52	hc-sr501, hc-sr505, am-312, ekmb ekmc, pir, motion, sensor, arduino, code
• LamaPLC: Pixart PAJ7620U2 Gesture recognition sensors/module with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	paj7620u2, gy-paj7620, pixart, gesture recognition, i2c, communication, sensor, arduino, code
• lamaPLC: PT100 / PT1000	2025/09/23 18:59	pt100, pt1000, temperature, sensor, platine, rtd

• lamaPLC: PTA8C04 4-channel PT100 Modbus Modul	2026/02/14 18:42	pta8c04, sensor, modbus, rtu, rs-485, communication, platine, um72
• LamaPLC: RCWL - Microwave radar sensor	2026/04/23 21:52	rcwl-0516, rcwl, microwave, radar, sensor, arduino, code
• lamaPLC: RD-xx - Ai-Thinker Radar Module with UART communication	2026/04/23 21:52	radar, s3km1110, fmcw, rd-01, rd-03, rd-03d, ai-thinker, k-band, 24 ghz, sensor, distance, micro-movements
• LamaPLC: SGP Sensirion TVOC/VOC sensors with I²C communication	2026/04/15 19:41	sgp30, sgp40, sgp41, sensirion, gas-sensor, i2c, communication, sensor, arduino, code, eco₂, voc, tvoc, indoor air quality, iaq, nox, hydrogen
• LamaPLC: SHT Sensirion Temperature/humidity sensor with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	sht20, sht21, sht25, sht30, sht31, sht35, sht40, gy21, temperature, humidity, i2c, communication, sensor, arduino, code
• LamaPLC: Texas Instruments ADCs: Delta-sigma multi-channel Analog Converters with SPI communication	2026/04/23 21:52	ads111x, ads12xx, delta-sigma, converter, texas instruments, adc, spi, communication, sensor, arduino, code, ads1110, ads1112, ads1113, ads1114, ads1115, ads1118, ads1119, ads1220, ads1232, ads1234, ads1256, ads1261, ads1263, multi channel
• LamaPLC: TOFnnnC STMicroelectronics Time-of-Flight (ToF) sensors with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	tof050c, vl6180, tof200c, vl53l0x, tof400c, vl53l1x, stmicroelectronics, time-of-flight, tof, i2c, communication, sensor, arduino, code
• LamaPLC: UICPAL Temp.humi.sensor	2023/06/25 00:43	simatic, s7, modbus, communication, temperature, humidity, sensor
• LamaPLC: VL53Lnn STMicroelectronics time-of-flight (ToF) laser-ranging sensors with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	vl53l0x, vl53l1x, vl53l0 1xv2, gy-530, time-of-flight, tof, laser-ranging, i2c, communication, sensor, arduino, code
• LamaPLC: VL6180X STMicroelectronics Time-of-Flight (ToF) sensor with I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	vl6180x, stmicroelectronics, time-of-flight, tof, i2c, communication, sensor, arduino, code
• LamaPLC: Waveshare TOF Laser Range Sensor with UART / I²C communication	2026/04/23 21:52	distance measurement, laser, range, sensor, tof, waveshare
• lamaPLC: YR-3180 - Weight sensor module with UART or Modbus communication	2026/02/15 00:00	communication, modbus, rtu, sensor, weight, yr-3180, hx710b, arduino, ttl, rs-485
• Magnetic angle sensors	2026/03/05 21:19	magnetic angle sensor, magnetic flux, sensor, spi, i2c, pwm, communication, modul, as5047p, as5600, mt6701, mt6816, mt6835, tle5012b, amr, gmr, tmr, anisotropic magnetoresistive
• NT18B07: 7 Kanal RS485 Temperatur Sensor with Modbus RTU	2026/02/14 18:49	nt18b07, sensor, modbus, rtu, rs-485, communication, platine
• PT100 / PT1000 sensors	2026/04/23 21:52	rtd, pt100, pt1000, sensor, temperature
• Radar Module RD-xx	2026/04/23 21:52	radar, s3km1110, fmcw, rd-03, k-band, 24 ghz, sensor, distance, micro-movements

audio, microphone, analogue audio, MAX4466, MAX9814, MAX 4466, MAX 9814, AGC, preamplifiers, sensor, arduino, code

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