High Resolution, Precision, Low Voltage Ultrasonic Range Finder MB1003, MB1013, MB1023, MB1033, MB1043⁶

The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensor line is the most cost-effective solution for applications where precision range-finding, low-voltage operation, and low-cost are needed. This sensor component module allows users of other more costly precision rangefinders to lower the cost of their systems without sacrificing performance.

The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensor line provides high accuracy and high resolution ultrasonic proximity detection and ranging in air, in a package less than one cubic inch. This sensor line features 1-mm resolution, target-size and operating-voltage compensation for improved accuracy, superior rejection of outside noise sources, internal speed-of-sound temperature compensation and optional external speed-of-sound temperature compensation. This ultrasonic sensor detects objects from 1-mm to 5-meters, senses range to objects from 30-cm to 5-meters, with large objects closer than 30-cm are typically reported as 30-cm¹. The interface output formats are pulse width, analog voltage, and serial digital in either RS232 or TTL. Factory calibration is standard. ¹See Close Range Operation

Precision Range Sensing	• Stable and reliable range readings and	• 100mS measurement cycle
 Range-finding at a fraction of the cost of other precision rangefinders Reading-to-reading stability of 1-mm at 1 -meter is typical Accuracy is factory-matched at 1-meter to 0.1% providing a typical large target accuracy of 1% or better for most voltages and uses² Calibrated acoustic detection zones allows selection of the part number that matches a specific application Compensation for target size variation and operating voltage range Standard internal temperature compensation and optional external temperature compensation 	 excellent noise rejection make the sensor easy to use Easy to use interface with distance provided in a variety of outputs Target size compensation provides greater consistency and accuracy when switching targets Sensor automatically handles acoustic noise^{2,3} Sensor ignores other acoustic noise sources Small and easy to mount Calibrated sensor eliminates most sensor to sensor variations Very low power ranger, excellent for multiple sensors or battery based systems 	 Free run operation uses a 2Hz filter, with 100mS measurement and output cycle Actual operating temperature range from -40°C to +65°C, Recommended operating temperature range from -15°C to +65°C, provided proper frost prevention is employed ⁵ Operating voltage from 2.5V to 5.5V⁵ Nominal current draw of 2.5mA at 3.3V and 3.1mA at 5V Low current draw reduces current drain for battery operation Fast first reading after power-up eases battery requirements
 Range Outputs Pulse width, (1uS/mm) Analog Voltage, (5mm resolution) Serial, (RS232 or TTL using solder-able jumper or volume orders available as no-cost factory installed jumper) Easy to Use Component Module Gracefully handles other ultrasonic sensors⁴ 	 Low-cost ultrasonic rangefinder Size less than 1 cubic inch with easy mounting Object proximity detection from 1-mm to 5-meters Resolution of 1-mm Excellent³ Mean Time Between Failure (MTBF) Triggered operation yields a real-time 	Notes: ¹ See Close Range Operation ² Users are encouraged to evaluate the sensor performance in their application. ³ By design. ⁴ See page 5 for multi-sensor operation. ⁵ Please reference page 5 for minimum operating voltage verses temperature information. ⁶ Please reference page 16 for part number key.

Close Range Operation

Applications requiring 100% reading-to-reading reliability should not use MaxSonar sensors at a distance closer than 30cm. Although most users find MaxSonar sensors to work reliably from 0 to 30cm for detecting objects in many applications, MaxBotix[®] Inc. does not guarantee operational reliability for objects closer than the minimum reported distance. Because of ultrasonic physics, these sensors are unable to achieve 100% reliability at close distances.

Warning: Personal Safety Applications

We do not recommend or endorse this product be used as a component in any personal safety applications. This product is not designed, intended or authorized for such use. These sensors and controls do not include the self-checking redundant circuitry needed for such use. Such unauthorized use may create a failure of the MaxBotix[®] Inc. product which may result in personal injury or death. MaxBotix[®] Inc. will not be held liable for unauthorized use of this component.



	HRL	V-MaxSonar [®] - EZ Series
Applications & Uses	• Automated factory systems	• Box dimensions
 Proximity zone detection 	• This product is not recommended as	• Environments with acoustic and elec-
People detection	a device for personal safety	trical noise
 Robots ranging sensor 	• Designed for protected indoor envi-	• Height monitors
 Autonomous navigation Distance 	ronments	Auto sizing
measuring	Motion detectors	
 Long range object detection 	• Limited tank level measurements	
Pin Out Description		

Pin Out Description

Pin 1- Temperature Sensor Connection: Leave this pin unconnected if an external temperature sensor is not used. For best accuracy, this pin is optionally connected to the HR-MaxTemp temperature sensor. Look up the HR-MaxTemp temperature sensor for additional information.

Pin 2- Pulse Width Output: This pin outputs a pulse width representation of the distance with a scale factor of 1uS per mm. Output range is 300uS for 300-mm to 5000uS for 5000-mm. Pulse width output is +/-1% of the serial data sent.



TTL Jumper

Pin 3- Analog Voltage Output: On power-up, the voltage on this pin is set to 0V, after which, the voltage on this pin has the voltage corresponding to the latest measured distance.

This pin outputs an analog voltage scaled representation of the distance with a scale factor of (Vcc/1024) per 5-mm. (This output voltage is referenced to GND, Pin 7.) The analog voltage output is typically within ±10-mm of the serial output.

Using a 10bit analog to digital convertor, one can read the analog voltage bits (i.e. 0 to 1023) directly and just multiply the number of bits in the value by 5 to yield the range in mm. For example, 60 bits corresponds to 300-mm (where 60 * 5 =300), and 1000 bits corresponds to 5000-mm (where 1000 * 5 = 5000-mm).

For users of this output that desire to work in voltage, a 5V power supply yields~4.88mV per 5 mm. Output voltage range when powered with 5V is 293mV for 300-mm, and 4.885V for 5000-mm.

Pin 4- Ranging Start/Stop: This pin is internally pulled high. If this pin is left unconnected or held high, the sensor will continually measure and output the range data. If held low, the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ will stop ranging. Bring high for 20uS or longer to command a range reading.

Real-time Range Data: When pin 4 is low and then brought high, the sensor will operate in real time and the first reading output will be the range measured from this first commanded range reading. When the sensor tracks that the RX pin is low after each range reading, and then the RX pin is brought high, unfiltered real time range information can be obtained as quickly as every 100mS.

Filtered Range Data: When pin 4 is left high, the sensor will continue to range every 100mS, but the output will pass through a 2Hz filter, where the sensor will output the range based on recent range information.

Pin 5-Serial Output: By default, the serial output is RS232 format (0 to Vcc) with a 1-mm resolution. If TTL output is desired, solder the TTL jumper pads on the back side of the PCB as shown in the photo to the right. For volume orders, the TTL option is available as no-cost factory installed jumper. The output is an ASCII capital "R", followed by four ASCII character digits representing the range in millimeters, followed by a

carriage return (ASCII 13). The maximum distance reported is 5000. The serial output is the most accurate of the range outputs. Serial data sent is 9600 baud, with 8 data bits, no parity, and one stop bit.

V+ Pin 6 - Positive Power, Vcc: The sensor operates on voltages from 2.5V - 5.5V DC. For best operation, the sensor requires that the DC power be free from electrical noise. (For installations with known dirty electrical power, a 100uF capacitor placed at the sensor pins between V+ and GND will typically correct the electrical noise.) Please reference page 5 for minimum operating voltage verses temperature information.

GND Pin 7 – Sensor ground pin: DC return, and circuit common ground.

About Ultrasonic Sensors

Our ultrasonic sensors are in air, non-contact object detection and ranging sensors that detect objects within an area. These sensors are not affected by the color or other visual characteristics of the detected object. Ultrasonic sensors use high frequency sound to detect and localize objects in a variety of environments. Ultrasonic sensors measure the time of flight for sound that has been transmitted to and reflected back from nearby objects. Based upon the time of flight, the sensor then outputs a range reading.

Auto Calibration

Each time the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ takes a range reading, it calibrates itself. The sensor then uses this data to range objects. If the temperature, humidity, or applied voltage changes during sensor operation; the sensor will continue to function normally over the rated temperature range while applying compensation for changes caused by temperature and voltage.

Sensor Operation: Free-Run

When operating in free run mode, the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensors are designed to be used in a variety of indoor environments. Most range readings are accurately reported. If the range readings are affected, the effect is typically less than 5 mm. This allows users to employ real-time ultrasonic distance sensing without the need for additional supporting circuitry or complicated user software.

Many acoustic noise sources will have little to no effect on the reported range of the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensors. However, users are encouraged to test sensor operation in the operating environment.

Sensor Minimum Distance

The sensor minimum reported distance is 30-cm (11.8 inches). However, the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ will range and report targets to within 1-mm of the front sensor face. Large targets closer than 30-cm will typically range as 300-mm.

Sensor Operation from 30-cm to 50-cm

Because of acoustic phase effects in the near field, objects between 30-cm and 50-cm may experience acoustic phase cancellation of the returning waveform resulting in inaccuracies of up to 5-mm. These effects become less prevalent as the target distance increases, and has not been observed past 50-cm. For this reason, industrial users that require the highest sensor accuracy are encouraged to mount the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ from objects that are farther than 50-cm.

Range "0" Location

The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ reports the range to distant targets starting from the back of the sensor PCB as shown in the diagram below.



In general, the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ will report the range to the leading edge of the closest detectable object. Target detection has been characterized in the sensor beam patterns.

Target Size Compensation

Most low cost ultrasonic rangefinders will report the range to smaller size targets as farther than the actual distance. In addition, they may also report the range to larger size targets as closer than the actual distance.

The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensor line correctly compensates for target size differences. This means that, provided an object is large enough to be detected, the sensor will report the same distance, typically within 2%, regardless of target size. Smaller targets can have additional detection noise that may limit this feature. In addition, targets with small or rounded surfaces may have an apparent distance that is slightly farther, where the distance reported may be a composite of the sensed object(s). Compensation for target size is applied to all range outputs: pulse width, analog voltage, and serial RS232 or TTL.

Supply Voltage Droop and Charge Compensation

HRLV-MaxSonar[®] - EZ[™] Series

During power up, the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensor line will calibrate itself for changes in supply voltage. Additionally, the sensor will compensate if the supplied voltage gradually changes.

If the voltage applied to the sensor changes faster than 0.5V per second, it is best to remove and reapply power to the sensor.

The sensor requires noise free power for best operation. If the sensor is used with noise on the supplied power, the readings may be affected. Typically adding a 100 μ F capacitor at the sensor between the V+ and GND pins will correct most power related electrical noise issues.

Mechanical Dimensions



Temperature Compensation

On Board - Internal Temperature Compensation

The speed of sound in air increases about 0.6 meters per second, per degree centigrade. Because of this, each HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ is equipped with an internal temperature sensor which allows the sensor to apply a compensation for speed of sound changes.

The self heating (15mW at 5V, or 8mW at 3.3V) will change the temperature of the sensor by about 1 degree C. The amount of self heating is dependent upon user mounting.

Most importantly, the actual air temperature of the path between the sensor and the target may not match the temperature measured at the sensor electronics. Sensors mounted in vertical applications, or applications where the environmental temperature gradient is severe, may experience a large temperature measurement error which will effect the sensor accuracy. For example, buildings with a height of 2-meters can have floor to ceiling temperature variations of 5°C or more. Because of these temperature effects, users desiring the highest accuracy output are encouraged to use a properly mounted external temperature sensor or to manually account for this measurement error.

HR-MaxTemp[®] External Temperature Sensor

Although the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ has an internal temperature sensor; for best accuracy, users are encouraged to use the optional external temperature sensor. On power-up the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ will automatically detect an attached HR-MaxTemp temperature sensor and begin to apply temperature compensation using the external temperature sensor.

The external temperature sensor allows for the most accurate temperature compensation, by eliminating sensor self-heating from the sensor electronics, and by allowing the user to place the temperature sensor closer to the center of the acoustic ranging path.

For best results users are encouraged to connect the temperature sensor midway between the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ and the expected target distance.

Voltage vs Temperature

Minimum Operating Voltage vs Temperature 3.5 For operation to -40°C voltage shall be 2.7V or higher 3.25 Supply Voltage (V) 3 2.75 2.5 2.25 2 -40 -20 20 80 0 40 60 -60 Temperature (°C)

The graph below shows minimum operating voltage of the sensor verses temperature.

Operating Modes

Multiple Sensor Operation

Multiple HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensors can be used simultaneously in the same environment generally with little to no interference (cross-talk). Even so, some cross-talk may still occur for users wishing to use a large number of sensors in the same environment. This interference is rare and can be up to +/- 1 cm of the target's distance. Because of this, sensor to sensor interference must be accounted for. To avoid interference between sensors, chaining can be used to prevent cross-talk between sensors. This will be necessary when using 3+ sensors depending on mounting and environment.

The recommended chaining method is AN Output Commanded Loop. The first sensor will range, then trigger the next sensor to range and so on for all the sensors in the array. Once the last sensor has ranged, the array stops until the first sensor is triggered to range again. Below is a diagram on how to set this up.



Repeat to add as many sensors as desired

Another recommended chaining method is AN Output Constantly Looping. The first sensor will range, then trigger the next sensor to range and so on for all the sensors in the array. Once the last sensor has ranged, it will trigger the first sensor in the array to range again and will continue this loop indefinitely. Below is a diagram on how to set this up.



Repeat to add as many sensors as desired

Operating Modes Cont.

HRLV-MaxSonar[®] - EZ[™] Series ∎

Independent Sensor Operation

The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensors have the capability to operate independently when the user desires. When using the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensors in single or independent sensor operation, it is easiest to allow the sensor to free-run. Free-run is the default mode of operation for all of the MaxBotix Inc., sensors. The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensors have three separate outputs that update the range data simultaneously: Analog Voltage, Pulse Width, and Serial Data. Below are diagrams on how to connect the sensor for each of the three outputs when operating in a single or independent sensor operating environment.



Operations and Timing



RS232/TTL solderable jumper (and if used, external temperature sensor) connected before powering.

Operations and Timing Continued

HRLV-MaxSonar[®] - EZ[™] Series

Real-Time Operation - Triggered

Real-time or triggered operation allows users to take advantage of a few functions unavailable during free run mode. By operating in triggered mode, a maximum refresh rate of 10Hz can be achieved. This can be valuable for instance, as triggered operation allows users to range targets moving away from or closer to the sensor faster than 240mm/s.

Users can enter and remain in the Real-time or Triggered Operation by making sure that after each range cycle, the voltage level on Pin 4 is set low. After the sensor has completed the last reading, then the voltage on Pin 4 is brought high. This starts a brand new range cycle and the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ will output the most recent range data without filtering. Please reference the Real-time Triggered Operation timing diagram for full implementation details.

Readings during triggered operation are less accurate than the 2Hz filtered readings by about +/- 5-mm. Also, because the range readings are not filtered, noise tolerance can be greatly reduced. Take care to make sure that only one sensor is sampling range at a time.



Operations and Timing Continued

HRLV-MaxSonar[®] - EZ[™] Series ∎

Sensor Operation - Free-Run

When operating in free run mode, the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensors are designed to be used in a variety of indoor environments. Many acoustic noise sources will have little to no effect on the reported range of the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensors.

Most range readings are accurately reported. If the range readings are affected, the effect is typically less than 5-mm. This allows users to employ real-time ultrasonic distance sensing without the need for additional supporting circuitry or complicated user software.

Filtered Operation - Free-Run

The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ uses an internal 2Hz bandwidth filter to process range data; which reports the latest range every 100mS or 10Hz. This improves the sensor's performance for accuracy, noise rejection, and reading to reading stability. The filtering in the free-run operation also permits additional acoustic and electrical noise tolerance.



Selecting a HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ

Different applications require different sensors. The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ product line offers varied sensitivity to allow you to select the best sensor to meet your needs.

People Detection Wide Beam High Sensitivity		Best Balance		Large Targets Narrow Beam Noise Tolerance
MB1003	MB1013	MB1023	MB1033	MB1043

The HRLV-MaxSonar[®]-EZ[™] Sensors At a Glance

The diagram above shows how each product balances sensitivity and noise tolerance. This does not affect the maximum range, pin outputs, or other operations of the sensor. To view how each sensor will function to different sized targets reference the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ-Beam Patterns.

HRLV-MaxSonar[®]-EZ[™] Beam Patterns

Background Information Regarding our Beam Patterns

Each HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensor has a calibrated beam pattern. Each sensor is matched to provide the approximate detection pattern shown in this datasheet. This allows end users to select the part number that matches their given sensing application. Each part number has a consistent field of detection so additional units of the same part number will have similar beam patterns. The beam plots are provided to help identify an estimated detection zone for an application based on the acoustic properties of a target versus the plotted beam patterns.

Each beam pattern is a 2D representation of the detection area of the sensor. The beam pattern is actually shaped like a 3D cone (having the same detection pattern both vertically and horizontally). Detection patterns for dowels are used to show the beam pattern of each sensor. Dowels are long cylindered targets of a given diameter. The dowels provide consistent target detection characteristics for a given size target which allows easy comparison of one MaxSonar sensor to another MaxSonar sensor.

People Sensing: For users that desire to detect people, the detection area to the 1-inch diameter dowel, in general, represents the area that the sensor will reliably detect people.

For each part number, the four patterns (A, B, C, and D) represent the detection zone for a given target size. Each beam pattern shown is determined by the sensor's part number and target size.

The actual beam angle changes over the full range. Use the beam pattern for a specific target at any given distance to calculate the beam angle for that target at the specific distance. Generally, smaller targets are detected over a narrower beam angle and a shorter distance. Larger targets are detected over a wider beam angle and a longer range.

MB1003 HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ0 Beam Pattern and Uses

The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ0 is the highest sensitivity and widest beam sensor of the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensor series. The wide beam makes this sensor ideal for a variety of applications including people detection, autonomous navigation, and wide beam applications.



Beam Patterns drawn to a 1:95 scale for easy comparison to our other products.

MB1003 Features and Benefits

- Factory calibrated wide beam width
- Low operating voltages from 2.5V to 5.5V
- All range outputs are active simultaneously
- High acoustic sensitivity
- Detects small targets to longer distances
- Widest beam width for the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensors

MB1003 Applications and Uses

- People detection
- Small target detection
- High sensitivity applications
- Obstacle avoidance

MB1013 HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ1 Beam Pattern and Uses

The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ1 is an indoor ultrasonic sensor and is a quality, low-cost starting place for a customer not sure of which HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensor to use. It balances the detection of people and other objects with a narrow beam width.



Beam Patterns drawn to a 1:95 scale for easy comparison to our other products.

MB1013 Features and Benefits

- Good balance between people detection and beam pattern width
- Well balanced acoustic sensitivity
- Ignores some small targets
- Detects most targets to long distances
- Wider, balanced beam width
- Sensitive long narrow beam

MB1013 Applications and Uses

- Our most recommended HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ Sensor
- People Detection
- Well balanced detection
- Autonomous Navigation

MB1023 HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ2 Beam Pattern and Uses

The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ2 is a good compromise between sensitivity and side object rejection. The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ2 is an excellent choice for applications that requires slightly less side object detection and sensitivity than the MB1013 HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ1.



Beam Patterns drawn to a 1:95 scale for easy comparison to our other products.

MB1023 Features and Benefits

- Good balance between high sensitivity and noise tolerance
- Well balanced acoustic sensitivity
- Ignores some small targets
- Detects most targets to long distances
- Balanced Beam Width
- Best compromise for beam width, sensitivity and sensor range

MB1023 Applications and Uses

- Well balanced detection
- Applications where the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ1 is too wide

MB1033 HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ3 Beam Pattern and Uses

The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ3 is a narrow beam sensor with good side object rejection. The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ3 has slightly wider beam width than the MB1043 HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ4 which makes it a good choice for when the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ4 does not have enough sensitivity for the application.



Beam Patterns drawn to a 1:95 scale for easy comparison to our other products.

MB1033 Features and Benefits

- More sensitive then the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ4
- More noise tolerant acoustic sensitivity
- Ignores some small targets and medium targets
- Detects most targets to long distances
- Narrow Beam Width

MB1033 Applications and Uses

- Large target detection
- Short range medium target detection
- Applications requiring high noise tolerance

MB1043 HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ4 Beam Pattern and Uses

The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ4 is the narrowest beam width sensor which is also the least sensitive to side objects offered in the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensor line. The HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ4 is an excellent choice when only larger objects need to be detected.



Beam Patterns drawn to a 1:95 scale for easy comparison to our other products.

MB1043 Features and Benefits

- Best noise tolerance of the HRLV-MaxSonar-EZ sensors
- Most noise tolerant acoustic sensitivity
- Ignores some small targets and medium targets
- Detects most large targets to long distances
- Narrow beam width

MB1043 Applications and Uses

- Large target detection
- Applications requiring high noise tolerance

Part Numbers

All part numbers are a combination of a six-character base followed by a dash and a three-digit product code. Please review the following table for more information on the three-digit product code.



The following table displays all of the active and valid part numbers for this product.

Active Part Numbers for							
MB1003, MB1013, MB1023, MB1033 and MB1043							
MB1003-000	MB1013-000	MB1023-000	MB1033-000	MB1043-000			
MB1003-040	MB1013-040	MB1023-040	MB1033-040	MB1043-040			
MB1003-050	MB1013-050	MB1023-050	MB1033-050	MB1043-050			
MB1003-060	MB1013-060	MB1023-060	MB1033-060	MB1043-060			