

DATASHEET

AX5031



| Document | Туре | Datasheet |
|----------|---------|-------------|
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| Document | Version | Version 1.3 |
| Product | | AX5031 |



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1. Overview

1.1. Features

- Advanced multi-channel single chip UHF transmitter
- Configurable for usage in 400-470 MHz and 800-940 MHz SRD bands
- -5 dBm to +15 dBm programmable output
- 17 mA @ 0 dBm, 868 MHz
- 30 mA @ 10 dBm, 868 MHz
- 46 mA @ 14.5 dBm, 868 MHz
- Wide variety of shaped modulations supported (ASK, PSK, OQPSK, MSK, FSK, GFSK, 4-FSK)
- Data rates from 0.1 to 200 kbps (FSK, MSK, GFSK; 4-FSK) and to 2000 kbps (ASK, PSK)
- Ultra fast settling RF frequency synthesizer for low-power consumption
- 802.15.4 compatible
- RF carrier frequency and FSK deviation programmable in 1 Hz steps
- Fully integrated RF frequency synthesizer with VCO auto-ranging and band-width boost modes for fast locking
- Few external components
- On chip communication controller and flexible digital modulator
- Channel hopping 2000 hops/s
- Crystal oscillator with programmable transconductance and programmable internal tuning capacitors for low cost crystals
- SPI micro-controller interface

- QFN20 package
- Supply voltage range 2.2V 3.6V
- Internal power-on-reset
- 32 byte data FIFO
- Programmable Cyclic Redundancy Check (CRC-CCITT, CRC-16, CRC-32)
- Optional spectral shaping using a self synchronizing shift register
- Brown-out detection
- Differential antenna pins
- Dual frequency registers
- Internally generated coding for forward Viterbi error correction
- Software compatible to AX5051

1.2. Applications

400-470 MHz and 800-940 MHz data transmission in the Short Range Devices (SRD) band.

- Telemetric applications, sensor readout
- Toys
- Wireless audio
- Wireless networks
- Wireless USB
- Access control
- Remote keyless entry
- ARIB compatible
- Pointing devices and keyboards
- Active RFID
- RFID base station transmitter
- 433/868/915 MHz SRD band systems

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2. Block Diagram

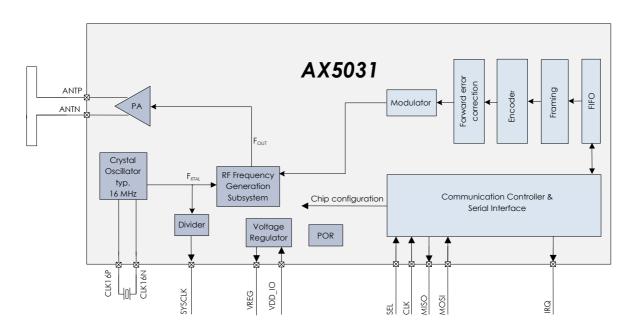


Figure 1 Functional block diagram of the AX5031



3. Pin Function Descriptions

3.1. Pin List

| Symbol | Pin(s) | Туре | Description |
|--------|---------------|------|---|
| VDD | 1 | Р | Power supply, must be supplied with regulated voltage VREG |
| ANTP | 2 | Α | Antenna output |
| ANTN | 3 | Α | Antenna output |
| VDD | 4 | Р | Power supply, must be supplied with regulated voltage VREG |
| NC | 5 | N | |
| NC | 6 | N | |
| SYSCLK | 7 | I/O | Default functionality: Crystal oscillator (or divided) clock output Can be programmed to be used as a general purpose I/O pin |
| SEL | 8 | I | Serial peripheral interface select |
| CLK | 9 | I | Serial peripheral interface clock |
| MISO | 10 | 0 | Serial peripheral interface data output |
| NC | 11 | N | |
| MOSI | 12 | I | Serial peripheral interface data input |
| NC | 13 | N | |
| IRQ | 14 | 1/0 | Default functionality: Interrupt Can be programmed to be used as a general purpose I/O pin |
| VDD_IO | 15 | Р | Unregulated power supply |
| NC | 16 | Ν | |
| VREG | 17 | Р | Regulated output voltage VDD pins must be connected to this supply voltage A 1µF low ESR capacitor to GND must be connected to this pin |
| VDD | 18 | Р | Power supply, must be supplied with regulated voltage VREG |
| CLK16P | 19 | Α | Crystal oscillator input/output |
| CLK16N | 20 | Α | Crystal oscillator input/output |
| GND | centre pad | Р | Ground on centre pad of QFN |

All digital inputs are Schmitt trigger inputs, digital input and output levels are LVCMOS/LVTTL compatible and 5V tolerant.



3.2. Pinout Drawing

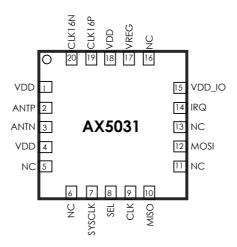


Figure 2: Pinout drawing (Top view)



4. Specifications

4.1. Absolute Maximum Ratings

Stresses above those listed under Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the device.

This is a stress rating only; functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions above those listed in the operational sections of this specification is not implied.

Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

| SYMBOL | DESCRIPTION | CONDITION | MIN | MAX | UNIT |
|------------------|---|-----------|--------|----------|------|
| VDD_IO | Supply voltage | | -0.5 | 5.5 | ٧ |
| IDD | Supply current | | | 100 | mA |
| Ptot | Total power consumption | | | 800 | mW |
| In | DC current into any pin except ANTP, ANTN | | -10 10 | | mA |
| l ₁₂ | DC current into pins ANTP, ANTN | | -100 | -100 100 | |
| lo | Output current | | | 40 | mA |
| V _{ia} | Input voltage ANTP, ANTN pins | | -0.5 | 5.5 | ٧ |
| | Input voltage digital pins | | -0.5 | 5.5 | ٧ |
| V _{es} | Electrostatic handling | НВМ | -2000 | 2000 | ٧ |
| T _{amb} | Operating temperature | | -40 | 85 | °C |
| T _{stg} | Storage temperature | | -65 | 150 | °C |
| Tj | Junction Temperature | | | 150 | °C |



4.2. DC Characteristics

Supplies

| SYMBOL | DESCRIPTION | CONDITION | MIN. | TYP. | MAX. | UNIT |
|--------------------|--|---------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Тамв | Operational ambient temperature | | -40 | 27 | 85 | °C |
| VDD_IO | I/O and voltage regulator supply voltage | | 2.2 | 3.0 | 3.6 | ٧ |
| VREG | Internally regulated supply | Power-down mode PWRMODE=0x00 | | 1.7 | | ٧ |
| | voltage | All other power modes | 2.1 | 2.5 | 2.8 | ٧ |
| I _{PDOWN} | Power-down current | PWRMODE=0x00 | | 0.25 | | μΑ |
| | Current consumption TX | 868 MHz, 14.5 dBm | | 46 | | |
| | | 868 MHz, 13 dBm | | 41 | | |
| | | 868 MHz, 10 dBm | | 30 | | |
| | | 868 MHz, 13 dBm | | 41 | | |
| | | 868 MHz, 4 dBm | | 19 | | |
| I _{TX} | | 868 MHz, 0 dBm | | 17 | | mA |
| | | 433 MHz, 15 dBm | | 46 | | |
| | | 433 MHz, 13 dBm | | 40 | | |
| | | 433 MHz, 10 dBm | | 29 | | |
| | | 433 MHz, 4 dBm | | 18 | | |
| | | 433 MHz, 0 dBm | | 17 | | |

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Logic

| SYMBOL | DESCRIPTION | CONDITION | MIN. | TYP. | MAX. | UNIT |
|-----------------|---|------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| DIGITAL INI | PUTS | | | | | |
| V _{T+} | Schmitt trigger low to high threshold point | | | 1.9 | | ٧ |
| V _{T-} | Schmitt trigger high to low threshold point | | | 1.2 | | ٧ |
| V _{IL} | Input voltage, low | | | | 0.8 | ٧ |
| V _{IH} | Input voltage, high | | 2.0 | | | ٧ |
| I _L | Input leakage current | | -10 | | 10 | μΑ |
| DIGITAL OL | ITPUTS | • | 1 | • | | • |
| Іон | Output Current, high | V _{OH} = 2.4V | 4 | | | mA |
| loL | Output Current, low | V _{OL} = 0.4V | 4 | | | mA |
| loz | Tri-state output leakage current | | -10 | | 10 | μΑ |



4.3. AC Characteristics

Crystal Oscillator

| SYMBOL | DESCRIPTION | CONDITION | MIN. | TYP. | MAX. | UNIT |
|---------------------|--|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| f _{XTAL} | Crystal frequency | Note 1 | | 16 | | MHz |
| | | XTALOSCGM=0000 | | 1 | | |
| | | XTALOSCGM=0001 | | 2 | | |
| | | XTALOSCGM =0010 default | | 3 | | |
| | | XTALOSCGM =0011 | | 4 | | |
| | | XTALOSCGM =0100 | | 5 | | |
| | | XTALOSCGM =0101 | | 6 | | |
| | | XTALOSCGM =0110 | | 6.5 | | |
| gm _{osc} | Transconductance oscillator | XTALOSCGM =0111 | | 7 | | mS |
| | | XTALOSCGM =1000 | | 7.5 | | |
| | | XTALOSCGM = 1001 | | 8 | | |
| | | XTALOSCGM =1010 | | 8.5 | | |
| | | XTALOSCGM = 1011 | | 9 | | |
| | | XTALOSCGM =1100 | | 9.5 | | |
| | | XTALOSCGM =1101 | | 10 | | |
| | | XTALOSCGM =1110 | | 10.5 | | |
| | | XTALOSCGM =1111 | | 11 | | |
| Cosc | Programmable tuning capacitors | XTALCAP = 000000 default | | 2 | | рF |
| | at pins CLK16N and CLK16P | XTALCAP = 111111 | | 33 | | рF |
| $C_{	ext{osc-lsb}}$ | Programmable tuning capacitors, increment per LSB of XTALCAP | | | 0.5 | | pF |
| Aosc | Oscillator amplitude at pin CLK16P | | | | 0.5 | ٧ |
| RINosc | Input DC impedance | | 10 | | | kΩ |

Notes

1. Tolerances and start-up times depend on the crystal used.



RF Frequency Generation Subsystem (Synthesizer)

| SYMBOL | DESCRIPTION | CONDITION | MIN. | TYP. | MAX. | UNIT | | |
|------------------------|--|--|------|---------|------|-----------|--|--|
| f _{REF} | Reference frequency | | | 16 | | MHz | | |
| f _{range_hi} | Frequency range | BANDSEL=0 | 800 | 800 940 | | | | |
| f _{range_low} | Tradactio, ratings | BANDSEL=1 | 400 | | 470 | MHz | | |
| f _{RESO} | Frequency resolution | | 1 | | | Hz | | |
| BW_1 | | Loop filter configuration: FLT=01 Charge pump current: PLLCPI=010 | | 100 | | | | |
| BW ₂ | Synthesizer loop bandwidth | Loop filter configuration: FLT=01 Charge pump current: PLLCPI=001 | | 50 | | <u> </u> | | |
| BW ₃ | | Loop filter configuration: FLT=11 Charge pump current: PLLCPI=010 | | 200 | | - kHz | | |
| BW ₄ | | Loop filter configuration: FLT=10 Charge pump current: PLLCPI=010 | | 500 | | - | | |
| T _{set1} | | Loop filter configuration: FLT=01 Charge pump current: PLLCPI=010 | | 15 | | | | |
| T _{set2} | Synthesizer settling time for | Loop filter configuration: FLT=01 Charge pump current: PLLCPI=001 | | 30 | | - | | |
| T _{set3} | 1MHz step | Loop filter configuration: FLT=11 Charge pump current: PLLCPI=010 | | 7 | | - µs | | |
| T _{set4} | | Loop filter configuration: FLT=10 Charge pump current: PLLCPI=010 | | 3 | | | | |
| T _{start1} | | Loop filter configuration: FLT=01 Charge pump current: PLLCPI=010 | | 25 | | | | |
| T _{start2} | Synthesizer start-up time if | Loop filter configuration: FLT=01 Charge pump current: PLLCPI=001 | | 50 | | = | | |
| T _{start3} | crystal oscillator and reference are running | Loop filter configuration: FLT=11 Charge pump current: PLLCPI=010 | | 12 | | μs | | |
| T _{start4} | | Loop filter configuration: FLT=10 Charge pump current: PLLCPI=010 | | 5 | | - | | |
| | | 868 MHz, 50 kHz from carrier | | -85 | | | | |
| | | 868 MHz, 100 kHz from carrier | | -90 | | | | |
| PN8681 | Synthesizer phase noise | 868 MHz, 300 kHz from carrier | | -100 | | | | |
| | Loop filter configuration: | 868 MHz, 2 MHz from carrier | | -110 | | 1 | | |
| | FLT=01 Charge pump current: | 433 MHz, 50 kHz from carrier | | -90 | | dBc/Hz | | |
| | PLLCPI=010 | 433 MHz, 100 kHz from carrier | | -95 | | 1 | | |
| PN433 ₁ | | 433 MHz, 300 kHz from carrier | | -105 | | | | |
| | | 433 MHz, 2 MHz from carrier | | -115 | | 1 | | |
| | | 868 MHz, 50 kHz from carrier | | -80 | | | | |
| DNIO/O | | 868 MHz, 100 kHz from carrier | | -90 | | 1 | | |
| PN868 ₂ | Synthesizer phase noise | | | -105 | | 1 | | |
| | Loop filter configuration: | 868 MHz, 2 MHz from carrier | | -115 | | -ID : " ! | | |
| | FLT=01 Charge pump current: | 433 MHz, 50 kHz from carrier | | -90 | | dBc/Hz | | |
| D) 1 100 | PLLCPI=001 | 433 MHz, 100 kHz from carrier | | -95 | | | | |
| PN433 ₂ | | 433 MHz, 300 kHz from carrier | | -110 | | | | |
| | | 433 MHz, 2 MHz from carrier | | | | \dashv | | |



Transmitter

| SYMBOL | DESCRIPTION | CONDITION | MIN. | TYP. | MAX. | UNIT |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|------|------|------|------|
| SBR | Signal bit rate | ASK & PSK | 0.1 | | 2000 | kbps |
| JDK | signal bil rate | FSK | 0.1 | | 200 | KDDS |
| | | TXRNG=0000 | | | -45 | |
| | | TXRNG=0001 | | -5 | | |
| | | TXRNG=0010 | | 0.4 | | |
| | | TXRNG=0011 | | 4 | | |
| | | TXRNG=0100 | | 6.2 | | |
| | | TXRNG=0101 | | 8 | | |
| | | TXRNG=0110 | | 9.3 | | |
| PTX ₈₆₈ | Transmitter power @ 868 MHz | TXRNG=0111 | | 10.3 | | dBm |
| F1A868 | ilansminer power @ 666 Minz | TXRNG=1000 | | 11.2 | | asm |
| | | TXRNG=1001 | | 11.9 | | |
| | | TXRNG=1010 | | 12.5 | | |
| | | TXRNG=1011 | | 13 | | |
| | | TXRNG=1100 | | 13.5 | | |
| | | TXRNG=1101 | | 13.8 | | |
| | | TXRNG=1110 | | 14 | | |
| | | TXRNG=1111 | | 14.5 | | |
| PTX ₄₃₃ | Transmitter power @ 433 MHz | TXRNG=1111 | | 15.5 | | dBm |
| PTX _{868-harm2} | Emission @ 2 nd harmonic | Note 1 | | -50 | | dBc |
| PTX _{868-harm3} | Emission @ 3 rd harmonic | NOIE I | | -55 | | UDC |

Notes

^{1.} Additional low-pass filtering was applied to the antenna interface, see section 7: Application Information.



SPI Timing

| SYMBOL | DESCRIPTION | CONDITION | MIN. | TYP. | MAX. | UNIT |
|--------|-------------------------------------|-----------|------|------|------|------|
| Tss | SEL falling edge to CLK rising edge | | 10 | | | ns |
| Tsh | CLK falling edge to SEL rising edge | | 10 | | | ns |
| Tssd | SEL falling edge to MISO driving | | 0 | | 10 | ns |
| Tssz | SEL rising edge to MISO high-Z | | 0 | | 10 | ns |
| Ts | MOSI setup time | | 10 | | | ns |
| Th | MOSI hold time | | 10 | | | ns |
| Tco | CLK falling edge to MISO output | | | | 10 | ns |
| Tck | CLK period | Note 1 | 50 | | | ns |
| Tcl | CLK low duration | | 40 | _ | | ns |
| Tch | CLK high duration | | 40 | | | ns |

Notes

For a figure showing the SPI timing parameters see section 5.11: Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI).

^{1.} For SPI access during power-down mode the period should be relaxed to 100ns.



5. Circuit Description

The **AX5031** is a true single chip low-power CMOS transmitter primarily for use in SRD bands. The on-chip transceiver consists of a fully integrated RF front-end with modulator, and demodulator. Base band data processing is implemented in an advanced and flexible communication controller that enables user friendly communication via the SPI interface.

AX5031 can be operated from a 2.2 V to 3.6 V power supply over a temperature range of -40°C to 85°C, it consumes 11 - 45 mA for transmitting, depending on the output power.

The **AX5031** features make it an ideal interface for integration into various battery powered SRD solutions such as ticketing or as transmitter for telemetric applications e.g. in sensors. As primary application, the transmitter is intended for UHF radio equipment in accordance with the European Telecommunication Standard Institute (ETSI) specification EN 300 220-1 and the US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) standard CFR47, part 15. The use of **AX5031** in accordance to FCC Par 15.247, allows for improved range in the 915 MHz band. Additionally AX5051 is compatible with the low frequency standards of 802.15.4 (ZigBee).

The **AX5031** receives data via the SPI port in frames. This standard operation mode is called Frame Mode. Pre and post ambles as well as checksums can be generated automatically. Interrupts control the data flow between a controller and the **AX5031**.

The **AX5031** behaves as a SPI slave interface. Configuration of the **AX5031** is also done via the SPI interface.

AX5031 supports any data rate from 0.1 kbps to 200 kbps for FSK and MSK and from 0.1 kbps to 2000 kbps for ASK and PSK. To achieve optimum performance for specific data rates and modulation schemes several register settings to configure the **AX5031** are necessary, they are outlined in the following, for details see the **AX5031** Programming Manual.

Spreading is possible on all data rates and modulation schemes. The net transfer rate is reduced by a factor of 15 in this case. For ZigBee either 600 or 300 kbps modes have to be chosen.



5.1. Voltage Regulator

The **AX5031** uses an on-chip voltage regulator to create a stable supply voltage for the internal circuitry at pin VREG from the primary supply VDD_IO. All VDD pins of the device must be connected to VREG. The antenna pins ANTP and ANTN must be DC biased to VREG. The I/O level of the digital pins is VDD_IO.

The voltage regulator requires a 1µF low ESR capacitor at pin VREG.

In power-down mode the voltage regulator typically outputs 1.7V at VREG, if it is powered-up its output rises to typically 2.5V. At device power-up the regulator is in power-down mode.

The voltage regulator must be powered-up before transmit operations can be initiated. This is handled automatically when programming the device modes via the **PWRMODE** register.

Register **VREG** contains status bits that can be read to check if the regulated voltage is above 1.3 V or 2.3 V, sticky versions of the bits are provided that can be used to detect low power events (brown-out detection).

5.2. Crystal Oscillator

The on-chip crystal oscillator allows the use of an inexpensive quartz crystal as the RF generation subsystem's timing reference. Although a wider range of crystal frequencies can be handled by the crystal oscillator circuit, it is recommended to use 16 MHz as reference frequency since this choice allows all the typical SRD band RF frequencies to be generated.

The oscillator circuit is enabled by programming the **PWRMODE** register. At power-up it is not enabled.

To adjust the circuit's characteristics to the quartz crystal being used without using additional external components, both the transconductance and the tuning capacitance of the crystal oscillator can be programmed.

The transconductance is programmed via register bits XTALOSCGM[3:0] in register XTALOSC.

The integrated programmable tuning capacitor bank makes it possible to connect the oscillator directly to pins CLK16N and CLK16P without the need for external capacitors. It is programmed using bits XTALCAP[5:0] in register **XTALCAP**.



5.3. SYSCLK Output

The SYSCLK pin outputs the reference clock signal divided by a programmable integer. Divisions from 1 to 2048 are possible. For divider ratios > 1 the duty cycle is 50%. Bits SYSCLK[3:0] in the *PINCFG1* register set the divider ratio. The SYSCLK output can be disabled.

5.4. Power-on-reset (POR)

AX5031 has an integrated power-on-reset block. No external POR circuit or signal is required.

After POR the **AX5031** can be reset by SPI accesses, this is achieved by toggling the bit RST in the **PWRMODE** register.

After POR or reset all registers are set to their default values.

5.5. RF Frequency Generation Subsystem

The RF frequency generation subsystem consists of a fully integrated synthesizer, which multiplies the reference frequency from the crystal oscillator to get the desired RF frequency. The advanced architecture of the synthesizer enables frequency resolutions of 1 Hz, as well as fast settling times of $5-50~\mu s$ depending on the settings (see section 4.3: AC Characteristics). Fast settling times mean fast start-up, which enables low-power system design.

The frequency must be programmed to the desired carrier frequency.

The synthesizer loop bandwidth can be programmed, this serves three purposes:

- 1. Start-up time optimisation, start-up is faster for higher synthesizer loop bandwidths
- 2. TX spectrum optimisation, phase-noise at 300 kHz to 1 MHz distance from the carrier improves with lower synthesizer loop bandwidths
- 3. Adaptation of the bandwidth to the data-rate. For transmission of FSK and MSK it is required that the synthesizer bandwidth must be in the order of the data-rate.



VCO

An on-chip VCO converts the control voltage generated by the charge pump and loop filter into an output frequency. The frequency can be programmed in 1 Hz steps in the **FREQ** or **FREQB** registers. To chose **FREQB** setting rather than **FREQ**, the bit FREQSEL in register **PLLLOOP** must be set. For operation in the 433 MHz band, the BANDSEL bit in the **PLLLOOP** register must be programmed.

VCO Auto-Ranging

The **AX5031** has an integrated auto-ranging function, which allows to set the correct VCO range for specific frequency generation subsystem settings automatically. Typically it has to be executed after power-up. The function is initiated by setting the RNG_START bit in the **PLLRANGING** register. The bit is readable and a 0 indicates the end of the ranging process. The RNGERR bit indicates the correct execution of the auto-ranging.

Loop Filter and Charge Pump

The **AX5031** internal loop filter configuration together with the charge pump current sets the synthesizer loop band width. The loop-filter has three configurations that can be programmed via the register bits FLT[1:0] in register **PLLLOOP**, the charge pump current can be programmed using register bits PLLCPI[1:0] also in register **PLLLOOP**. Synthesizer bandwidths are typically 50 - 500 kHz depending on the **PLLLOOP** settings, for details see the section 4.3: AC Characteristics.

Registers

| Register | Bits | Purpose |
|------------------|-------------|--|
| PLLLOOP FLT[1:0] | | Switches between carrier frequencies defined by FREQ and FREQB. Using this feature allows to avoid glitches in the PLL output frequency caused by serially changing the 4 bytes required to set a carrier frequency. |
| | | Synthesizer loop filter bandwidth, recommended usage is to increase the bandwidth for faster settling time, bandwidth increases of factor 2 and 5 are possible. |
| | PLLCPI[2:0] | Synthesizer charge pump current, recommended usage is to decrease the bandwidth (and improve the phase-noise) for low data-rate transmissions. |
| | BANDSEL | Switches between 868 MHz/915 MHz and 433 MHz bands |
| FREQ | | Programming of the carrier frequency |
| FREQB | | Programming of the 2 nd carrier frequency, switch to this carrier frequency by setting bit FREQSEL=1. |
| PLLRANGING | i | Initiate VCO auto-ranging and check results |



5.6. RF Output Stage (ANTP/ANTN)

The AX5031 uses fully differential antenna pins.

The PA drives the signal generated by the frequency generation subsystem out to the differential antenna terminals. The output power of the PA is programmed via bits TXRNG[3:0] in the register **TXPWR**. Output power as well as harmonic content will depend on the external impedance seen by the PA, recommendations are given in the section 7: Application Information.

5.7. Encoder

The encoder is located between the Framing Unit and the Modulator. It can optionally transform the bit-stream in the following ways:

- It can invert the bit stream.
- It can perform differential encoding. This means that a zero is transmitted as no change in the level, and a one is transmitted as a change in the level. Differential encoding is useful for PSK, because PSK transmissions can be received either as transmitted or inverted, due to the uncertainty of the initial phase. Differential encoding / decoding removes this uncertainty.
- It can perform Manchester encoding. Manchester encoding ensures that the modulation has no DC content and enough transitions (changes from 0 to 1 and from 1 to 0) for the demodulator bit timing recovery to function correctly, but does so at a doubling of the data rate.
- It can perform Spectral Shaping. Spectral Shaping removes DC content of the bit stream, ensures transitions for the demodulator bit timing recovery, and makes sure that the transmitted spectrum does not have discrete lines even if the transmitted data is cyclic. It does so without adding additional bits, i.e. without changing the data rate. Spectral Shaping uses a self synchronizing feedback shift register.

The encoder is programmed using the register **ENCODING**, details and recommendations on usage are given in the **AX5031** Programming Manual.



5.8. Framing and FIFO

Most radio systems today group data into packets. The framing unit is responsible for converting these packets into a bit-stream suitable for the modulator.

The Framing unit supports four different modes:

- HDLC
- Raw
- 802.15.4 compliant

The micro-controller communicates with the framing unit through a 32 level \times 10 bit FIFO. The FIFO decouples micro-controller timing from the radio (modulator) timing. The bottom 8 bits of the FIFO contain transmit data. The top 2 bit are used to convey meta information in HDLC and 802.15.4 modes. They are unused in Raw mode. The meta information consists of packet begin / end information and the result of CRC checks. The FIFO can be written in power-down mode.

The FIFO can be operated in polled or interrupt driven modes. In polled mode, the micro-controller must periodically read the FIFO status register or the FIFO count register to determine whether the FIFO needs servicing.

In interrupt mode EMPTY, NOT EMPTY, FULL, NOT FULL and programmable level interrupts are provided. The **AX5031** signals interrupts by asserting (driving high) its IRQ line. The interrupt line is level triggered, active high. Interrupts are acknowledged by removing the cause for the interrupt, i.e. by emptying or filling the FIFO.

Basic FIFO status (EMPTY, FULL, Overrun, Underrun, and the top two bits of the top FIFO word) are also provided during each SPI access on MISO while the micro-controller shifts out the register address on MOSI. See the SPI interface section for details. This feature significantly reduces the number of SPI accesses necessary.



HDLC Mode

Note: HDLC mode follows High-Level Data Link Control (HDLC, ISO 13239) protocol.

HDLC Mode is the main framing mode of the **AX5031**. In this mode, the **AX5031** performs automatic packet delimiting, and optional packet correctness check by inserting and checking a cyclic redundancy check (CRC) field.

The packet structure is given in the following table.

| Flag | Address | Control | Information | FCS | (Optional Flag) |
|-------|---------|-------------|---|-------------|-----------------|
| 8 bit | 8 bit | 8 or 16 bit | Variable length, 0 or more bits in multiples of 8 | 16 / 32 bit | 8 bit |

HDLC packets are delimited with flag sequences of content 0x7E.

In **AX5031** the meaning of address and control is user defined. The Frame Check Sequence (FCS) can be programmed to be CRC-CCITT, CRC-16 or CRC-32.

For details on implementing a HDLC communication see the AX5031 Programming Manual.

RAW Mode

In Raw mode, the **AX5031** does not perform any packet delimiting or byte synchronization. It simply serialises transmit bytes.

This mode is ideal for implementing legacy protocols in software.

802.15.4 (ZigBee)

802.15.4 uses binary phase shift keying (PSK) with 300 kbit/s (868 MHz band) or 600 kbit/s (915 MHz band) on the radio. The usable bit rate is only a 15^{th} of the radio bit rate, however. A spreading function in the transmitter expands the user bit rate by a factor of 15, to make the transmission more robust. The despreader function of the receiver undoes that.

In 802.15.4 mode, the **AX5031** framing unit performs the spreading according to the 802.15.4 specification.



5.9. Modulator

Depending on the transmitter settings the modulator generates various inputs for the PA:

| Modulation | Bit = 0 | Bit = 1 | Main Lobe Bandwidth | Max. Bitrate |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| ASK | PA off | PA on | BW = BITRATE | 2000 kBit/s |
| FSK / MSK /GFSK | $\Delta f = -f_{deviation}$ | $\Delta f = + f_{deviation}$ | BW = (1+h) ·BITRATE | 200 kBit/s |
| PSK | $ \Delta\Phi = 0^{\circ} $ | $\Delta\Phi = 180^{\circ}$ | BW = BITRATE | 2000 kBit/s |

h = modulation index. It is the ratio of the deviation compared to the bit-rate; $f_{deviation} = 0.5 \cdot h \cdot BITRATE$.

ASK = amplitude shift keying

FSK = frequency shift keying

MSK = minimum shift keying; MSK is a special case of FSK, where h = 0.5, and therefore $f_{\text{deviation}}$ = 0.25-BITRATE; the advantage of MSK over FSK is that it can be demodulated more robustly.

PSK = phase shift keying

OQPSK = offset quadrature shift keying. The **AX5031** supports OQPSK. However, unless compatibility to an existing system is required, MSK should be preferred.

4-FSK = four frequencies are used to transmit two bits simultaneously during each symbol

| Modulation | Symbol = 00 | Symbol = 01 | Symbol = 10 | Symbol = 11 | Max. Bitrate |
|------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 4-FSK | $\Delta f = -3 \cdot f_{deviation}$ | $\Delta f = -f_{deviation}$ | $\Delta f = + f_{deviation}$ | $\Delta f = +3 \cdot f_{deviation}$ | 400 kBit/s |

All modulation schemes are binary.



5.10. PWRMODE Register

The **PWRMODE** register controls, which parts of the chip are operating.

| PWRMODE register | Name | Description | Typical Idd |
|------------------|-----------|---|-------------|
| 0000 | POWERDOWN | All digital and analog functions, except the register file, are disabled. The core supply voltage is reduced to conserve leakage power. SPI registers are still accessible, but at a slower speed. FIFO access is possible. | 0.25 μΑ |
| 0100 | VREGON | All digital and analog functions, except the register file, are disabled. The core voltage, however is at its nominal value for operation, and all SPI registers are accessible at the maximum speed. | 140 μΑ |
| 0101 | STANDBY | The crystal oscillator is powered on; the transmitter is off. | 500 μΑ |
| 1100 | SYNTHTX | The synthesizer is running on the transmit frequency. The transmitter is still off. This mode is used to let the synthesizer settle on the correct frequency for transmit. | 10 mA |
| 1101 | FULLTX | Synthesizer and transmitter are running. Do not switch into this mode before the synthesizer has completely settled on the transmit frequency (in SYNTHTX mode), otherwise spurious spectral transmissions will occur. | 11 - 45 mA |

A typical **PWRMODE** sequence for a transmit session:

| Step | PWRMODE | Remarks |
|------|-----------|---|
| 1 | POWERDOWN | |
| 2 | STANDBY | The settling time is dominated by the crystal used, typical value 3ms. |
| 3 | SYNTHTX | The synthesizer settling time is 5 – 50 μs depending on settings, see section AC Characteristics |
| 4 | FULLTX | Data transmission |
| 6 | POWERDOWN | |



5.11. Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI)

The **AX5031** can be programmed via a four wire serial interface according SPI using the pins CLK, MOSI, MISO and SEL. Registers for setting up the **AX5031** are programmed via the serial peripheral interface in all device modes.

When the interface signal SEL is pulled low, a 16 bit configuration data stream is expected on the input signal pin MOSI, which is interpreted as D0...D7, A0...A6, R_N/W.

Data read from the interface appears on MISO.

Figure 5 shows a write/read access to the interface. The data stream is built of an address byte including read/write information and a data byte. Depending on the R_N/W bit and address bits A[6..0], data D[7..0] can be written via MOSI or read at the pin MISO.

 $R_N/W = 0$ means read mode, $R_N/W = 1$ means write mode.

The read sequence starts with 7 bits of status information S[6..0] followed by 8 data bits.

The status bits contain the following information:

| \$6 | \$5 | \$4 | \$3 | S2 | \$1 | so |
|----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| PLL LOCK | FIFO OVER | FIFO UNDER | FIFO FULL | FIFO EMPTY | FIFOSTAT(1) | FIFOSTAT(0) |

SPI Timing

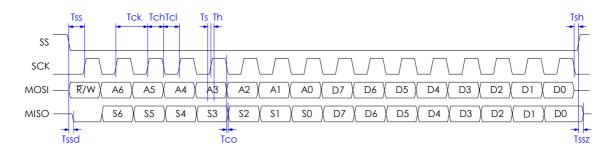


Figure 5 Serial peripheral interface timing



6. Register Bank Description

This section describes the bits of the register bank in detail. The registers are grouped by functional block to facilitate programming.

No checks are made whether the programmed combination of bits makes sense! Bit 0 is always the LSB.

Note Whole registers or register bits marked as reserved should be kept at their default values.

Note All addresses not documented here must not be accessed, neither in reading nor in writing.



6.1. Control Register Map

| Addr | Name | Dir | Reset | | | | В | it | | | | Description |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-----|----------|----------|---------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------|------------|------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| | | | | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | |
| Revision & Interface Probing | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | REVISION | R | 00100001 | | | | SILICON | REV(7:0) | | | | Silicon Revision |
| 1 | SCRATCH | RW | 11000101 | | | | SCRATO | CH(7:0) | | | | Scratch Register |
| Operating | g Mode | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | PWRMODE | RW | 011-0000 | RST | REFEN | XOEN | - | | PWRMODE | (3:0) | | Power Mode |
| Crystal O | scillator, Part 1 | Ť | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | XTALOSC | RW | 010 | - | - | - | - | | XTALOSCGM | ۸(3:0) | | GM of Crystal Oscillator |
| FIFO, Part | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | FIFOCTRL | RW | 11 | FIFOSTA | T(1:0) | FIFO OVER | FIFO UNDER | FIFO FULL | FIFO EMPTY | FIFOC | MD(1:0) | FIFO Control |
| 5 | FIFODATA | RW | | | | | FIFODA | .TA(7:0) | | | | FIFO Data |
| Interrupt (| Control | Ť | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | IRQMASK | RW | -0000000 | - | | | | IRQMASK(6:0) | | | | IRQ Mask |
| 7 | IRQREQUEST | R | | - | | | IF | RQREQUEST(6:0) | | | | IRQ Request |
| Interface | & Pin Control | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 0C | PINCFG1 | RW | 00101000 | - | | IRQZ | - | | SYSCLK(3: | :0) | | Pin Configuration 1 |
| 0D | PINCFG2 | RW | 00000000 | ı | | IRQE | - | - | • | IRQI | - | Pin Configuration 2 |
| OE | PINCFG3 | RW | 0 | reserved | - | - | SYSCLKR | - | - | IRQR | - | Pin Configuration 3 |
| OF | IRQINVERSION | RW | -0000000 | - | - IRQINVERSION(6:0) | | | | | | IRQ Inversion | |
| Modulatio | on & Framing | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | MODULATION | RW | -0000010 | - | | MODULATION(6:0) | | | | Modulation | | |
| 11 | ENCODING | RW | 00010 | 1 | - | - | ENC NOSYNC | ENC MANCH | ENC SCRAM | ENC DIFF | ENC INV | Encoder/Decoder Settings |



| 12 | FRAMING | RW | -0000000 | - | HSUPP | CRCM | ODE(1:0) | F | RMMODE(2:0) | | - | Framing settings |
|------------|-------------------|----|----------|-------------|---------------------------|---------|--|-------------|-------------|----------------|---------------------|--|
| 14 | CRCINIT3 | RW | 11111111 | | | | CRC Initialization Data or Preamble | | | | | |
| 15 | CRCINIT2 | RW | 11111111 | | | | CRCINI | Т(23:16) | | | | CRC Initialization Data or Preamble |
| 16 | CRCINIT1 | RW | 11111111 | | | | CRCIN | IT(15:8) | | | | CRC Initialization Data or Preamble |
| 17 | CRCINITO | RW | 11111111 | | | | CRCIN | IIT(7:0) | | | | CRC Initialization Data or Preamble |
| Voltage R | Voltage Regulator | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1B | VREG | R | | - | - | - | - | SSDS | SSREG | SDS | SREG | Voltage Regulator Status |
| Synthesize | er | | | | • | · | | | | | • | |
| 1C | FREQB3 | RW | 00111001 | | | | FREQB | (31:24) | | | | 2 nd Synthesizer Frequency |
| 1D | FREQB2 | RW | 00110100 | | | | FREQB | (23:16) | | | | 2 nd Synthesizer Frequency |
| 1E | FREQB1 | RW | 11001100 | | | | FREQE | (15:8) | | | | 2 nd Synthesizer Frequency |
| 1F | FREQB0 | RW | 11001101 | | | | FREQ | B(7:0) | | | | 2 nd Synthesizer Frequency |
| 20 | FREQ3 | RW | 00111001 | | | | FREQ(| 31:24) | | | | Synthesizer Frequency |
| 21 | FREQ2 | RW | 00110100 | | | | FREQ(| 23:16) | | | | Synthesizer Frequency |
| 22 | FREQ1 | RW | 11001100 | | | | FREQ | (15:8) | | | | Synthesizer Frequency |
| 23 | FREQ0 | RW | 11001101 | | | | FREG | (7:0) | | | | Synthesizer Frequency |
| 25 | FSKDEV2 | RW | 00000010 | | | | FSKDEV | (23:16) | | | | FSK Frequency Deviation |
| 26 | FSKDEV1 | RW | 01100110 | | | | FSKDE\ | /(15:8) | | | | FSK Frequency Deviation |
| 27 | FSKDEV0 | RW | 01100110 | | | | FSKDE | V(7:0) | | | | FSK Frequency Deviation |
| 2C | PLLLOOP | RW | 00011101 | FREQSEL | reserved | BANDSEL | | PLLCPI(2:0) | | FLT | (1:0) | Synthesizer Loop Filter Settings |
| 2D | PLLRANGING | RW | 00001000 | STICKY LOCK | PLL LOCK | RNGERR | RNG START VCOR(3:0) | | | | | Synthesizer VCO Auto-Ranging |
| Transmitte | er | • | | | · · · · · · | | | | | | | |
| 30 | TXPWR | RW | 1000 | - | TXRNG(3:0) Transmit Power | | | | | Transmit Power | | |
| 31 | TXRATEHI | RW | 00001001 | | TXRATE(23:16) Trans | | | | | | Transmitter Bitrate | |



| 32 | TXRATEMID | RW | 10011001 | | TXRATE(15:8) | | | | | | | Transmitter Bitrate |
|------------|-------------------|----|----------|-------|-----------------|---|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 33 | TXRATELO | RW | 10011010 | | TXRATE(7:0) | | | | | | Transmitter Bitrate | |
| 34 | MODMISC | RW | 11 | - | - | - | - | - | - | reserved | PTTLCK GATE | Misc RF Flags |
| FIFO, Part | FIFO, Part 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 35 | FIFOCOUNT | R | 000000 | - | FIFOCOUNT(5:0) | | | | | | | FIFO Fill state |
| 36 | FIFOTHRESH | RW | 000000 | - | FIFOTHRESH(5:0) | | | | | FIFO Threshold | | |
| 37 | FIFOCONTROL2 | RW | 000 | CLEAR | - | - | - | - | - | STOPON | NERR(1:0) | Additional FIFO control |
| Crystal O | scillator, Part 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4F | XTALCAP | RW | 000000 | - | - XTALCAP(5:0) | | | | | Crystal oscillator tuning capacitance | | |
| 4-FSK con | 4-FSK control | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 50 | FOURFSK | RW | 0 | - | - | - | _ | _ | ı | FOURF | SKENA | 4-FSK Control |



7. Application Information

7.1. Typical Application Diagram

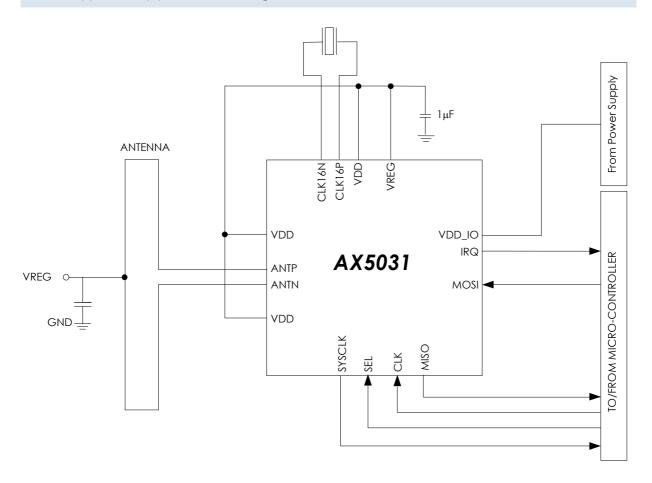


Figure 6 Typical application diagram

It is mandatory to add 1 μ F (low ESR) between VREG and GND.

Decoupling capacitors are not all drawn. It is recommended to add 100 nF decoupling capacitor for every VDD and VDD_IO pin. In order to reduce noise on the antenna inputs it is recommended to add 27 pF on the VDD pins close to the antenna interface.



7.2. Antenna Interface Circuitry

A small antenna can be directly connected to the **AX5031** ANTP and ANTN pins with an optional translation network. The network must provide DC power to the PA. A biasing to VREG is necessary.

Beside biasing and impedance matching, the proposed network also provides low pass filtering to limit spurious emission.

Single-Ended Antenna Interface

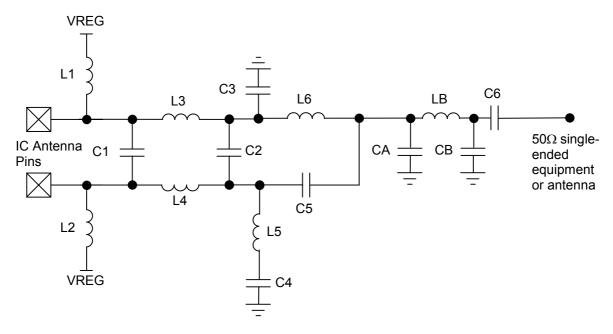


Figure 7 Structure of the antenna interface to 50Ω single-ended equipment or antenna

| Frequency Band | L1=L2 [nH] | C1 [pF] | L3=L4 [nH] | C2 [pF] | C3=C5 [pF] | L5=L6 [nH] | LB [nH] | CA=CB [pF] | C4=C6 [pF] |
|-------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| 868 / 915 MHz | 33 | 2.2 | 12 | 2.2 | 1.8 | 18 | 6.2 | 8.2 | 150 |
| 433 MHz | 39 | 3 | 33 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 39 | 12 | 18 | 150 |

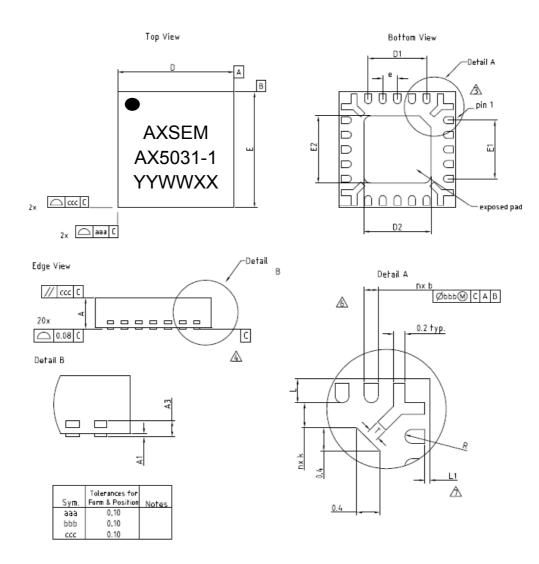
7.3. Voltage Regulator

The **AX5031** has an integrated voltage regulator which generates a stable supply voltage VREG from the voltage applied at VDD_IO. Use VREG to supply all the VDD supply pins.



8. QFN20 Package Information

8.1. Package Outline QFN20



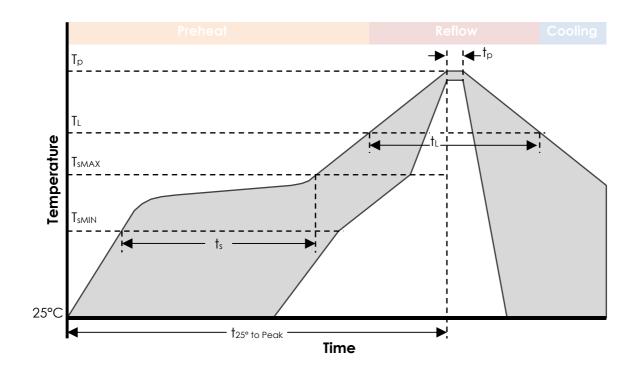
| | Commo | n Dimensions | |
|----------|---------|--------------|---------|
| Sym. | Minimum | Nominal | Maximum |
| A A1 | 0.85 | 0.90 | 1.0 |
| A1 | 0 | 0.02 | 0.05 |
| Ã3 | 3.0 | 0.20ref | |
| D | 3.9 | 4.0 | 4.10 |
| D1 D2 | 2.20 | 2.00 2.30 | 2.40 |
| F | 3.90 | 4.00 | 4.10 |
| E E1 | 3.70 | 2.00 | 4 |
| E2 | 2.20 | 2.30 | 2.40 |
| L. | 0.35 | 0.40 | 0.45 |
| Ļ1 | 0.40 | | 0.1 |
| ь | 0.18 | 0.24 20 | 0.30 |
| N | | 0.50 | |
| e k | 0.20 | 0.50 | |
| k R | b min/2 | | |
| T | | 0.20 | |

Notes

- 12. JEDEC ref MO-220
- 13. All dimensions are in millimeters
- 14. Pin 1 is identified by chamfer on corner of exposed die pad.
- 15. Datum C and the seating plane are defined by the flat surface of the metallised terminal
- 16. Dimension 'e' represents the terminal pitch
- 17. Dimension b applies to metallised terminal and is measured 0.25 to 0.30mm from terminal tip.
- 18. Dimension L1 represents terminal pull back from package edge. Where terminal pull back esists, only upper half of lead is visible on package edge due to half etching of leadframe.
- 19. Package surface shall be matte finish, Ra 1.6-2.2
- 20. Package warp shall be 0.050 maximum
- 21. Leadframe material is copper A194
- 22. Coplanarity applies to the exposed pad as well as the terminal
- 23. YYWWXX is the packaging lot code



8.2. QFN Soldering Profile



| Profile Feature | | Pb-Free Process |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Average Ramp-Up Rate | | 3°C/sec max. |
| Preheat Preheat | | |
| Temperature Min | T _{sMIN} | 150°C |
| Temperature Max | T_{sMAX} | 200°C |
| Time (T _{sMIN} to T _{sMAX}) | ts | 60 – 180 sec |
| Time 25°C to Peak Temperature | T ₂₅ ° to Peak | 8 min max. |
| Reflow Phase | | |
| Liquidus Temperature | T_{L} | 217°C |
| Time over Liquidus Temperature | † _L | 60 - 150 sec |
| Peak Temperature | t _p | 260°C |
| Time within 5°C of actual Peak Temperature | Tp | 20 – 40 sec |
| Cooling Phase | | |
| Ramp-down rate | | 6°C/sec max. |

Notes:

All temperatures refer to the top side of the package, measured on the package body surface.



8.3. QFN Recommended Pad Layout

1. PCB land and solder masking recommendations are shown in Figure 9.

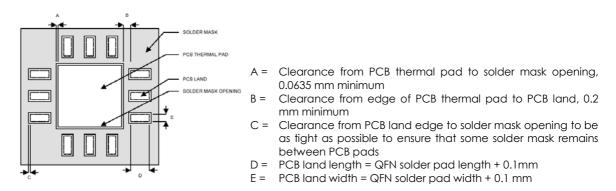


Figure 9: PCB land and solder mask recommendations

- Thermal vias should be used on the PCB thermal pad (middle ground pad) to improve thermal conductivity from the device to a copper ground plane area on the reverse side of the printed circuit board. The number of vias depends on the package thermal requirements, as determined by thermal simulation or actual testing.
- 3. Increasing the number of vias through the printed circuit board will improve the thermal conductivity to the reverse side ground plane and external heat sink. In general, adding more metal through the PC board under the IC will improve operational heat transfer, but will require careful attention to uniform heating of the board during assembly.

8.4. Assembly Process

Stencil Design & Solder Paste Application

- 1. Stainless steel stencils are recommended for solder paste application.
- 2. A stencil thickness of 0.125 0.150 mm (5 6 mils) is recommended for screening.
- 3. For the PCB thermal pad, solder paste should be printed on the PCB by designing a stencil with an array of smaller openings that sum to 50% of the QFN exposed pad area. Solder paste should be applied through an array of squares (or circles) as shown in Figure 10.
- 4. The aperture opening for the signal pads should be between 50-80% of the QFN pad area as shown in Figure 11.
- 5. Optionally, for better solder paste release, the aperture walls should be trapezoidal and the corners rounded.



- 6. The fine pitch of the IC leads requires accurate alignment of the stencil and the printed circuit board. The stencil and printed circuit assembly should be aligned to within + 1 mil prior to application of the solder paste.
- 7. No-clean flux is recommended since flux from underneath the thermal pad will be difficult to clean if water-soluble flux is used.

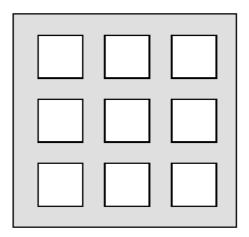


Figure 10: Solder paste application on exposed pad

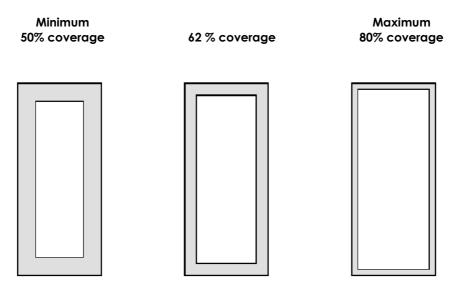


Figure 11: Solder paste application on pins



9. Life Support Applications

This product is not designed for use in life support appliances, devices, or in systems where malfunction of this product can reasonably be expected to result in personal injury. AXSEM customers using or selling this product for use in such applications do so at their own risk and agree to fully indemnify AXSEM for any damages resulting from such improper use or sale.



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