

AN-1766 Evaluation Board for the LMV221 Logarithmic Power Detector

1 General Description

This evaluation board, [Figure 1](#), is designed to aid in the characterization of the Texas Instruments LMV221 Logarithmic Power Detector. This board simplifies the measurement of the DC output voltage that the LMV221 produces in response to the power level of the RF signal applied to the RF input. Use the evaluation board as a guide for high frequency layout and as a tool to aid in device testing and characterization.

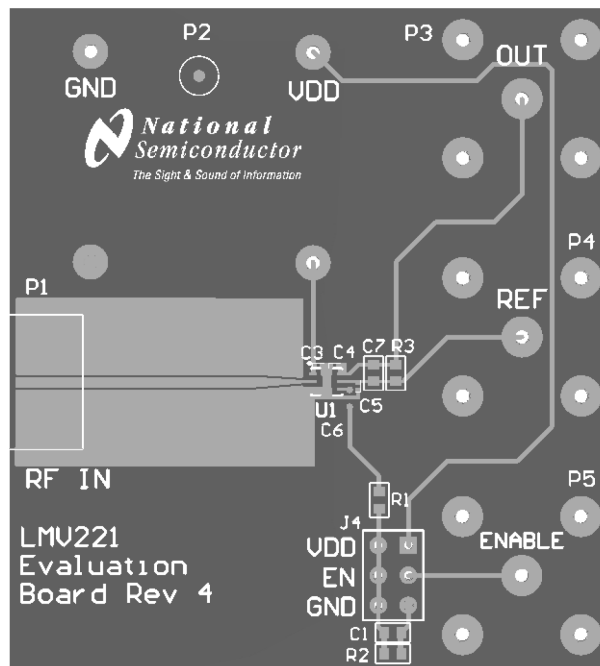


Figure 1. LMV221 Evaluation Board

2 Basic Operation

The LMV221 is a 40 dB RF Logarithmic power detector intended for use in CDMA and WCDMA applications. The device has an RF frequency range from 50 MHz to 3.5 GHz. It provides an accurate temperature and supply compensated output voltage that relates linearly to the RF input power in dBm. The circuit operates with a single supply from 2.7V to 3.3V and has an RF power detection range from –45 dBm to –5 dBm. The board consist of a single LMV221 along with external components soldered on a printed circuit board. [Figure 2](#) shows the schematic of the LMV221 evaluation board.

External supply voltages and input signals can be applied to the onboard connectors. The supply voltage is applied with connectors P2.2 (V_{DD}) and P2.1 (GND). The RF input signal is applied by SMA connector P1. This RF signal is applied through an RF generator and is connected with a 50 Ω coax cable. The detector output can be measured via BNC connector P3.

The device can be activated by forcing a “high” voltage to the enable input. This can be done by jumper J4, see [Table 1](#).

The REF input (P4) is directly connected to the inverting input of the transimpedance amplifier in the LMV221 and can be used to compensate for the temperature drift of the internal reference voltage.

Capacitors C_3 , C_4 , C_5 , and C_6 are decoupling capacitors and will act as RF shorts to prevent RF interference.

Additional low-pass filtering of the output signal can be realized by means of an external resistor (R_3) and capacitor (C_7). For more details about filtering, check the application notes information in *LMV221 50 MHz to 3.5 GHz 40 dB Logarithmic Power Detector for CDMA and WCDMA* ([SNWS018](#)).

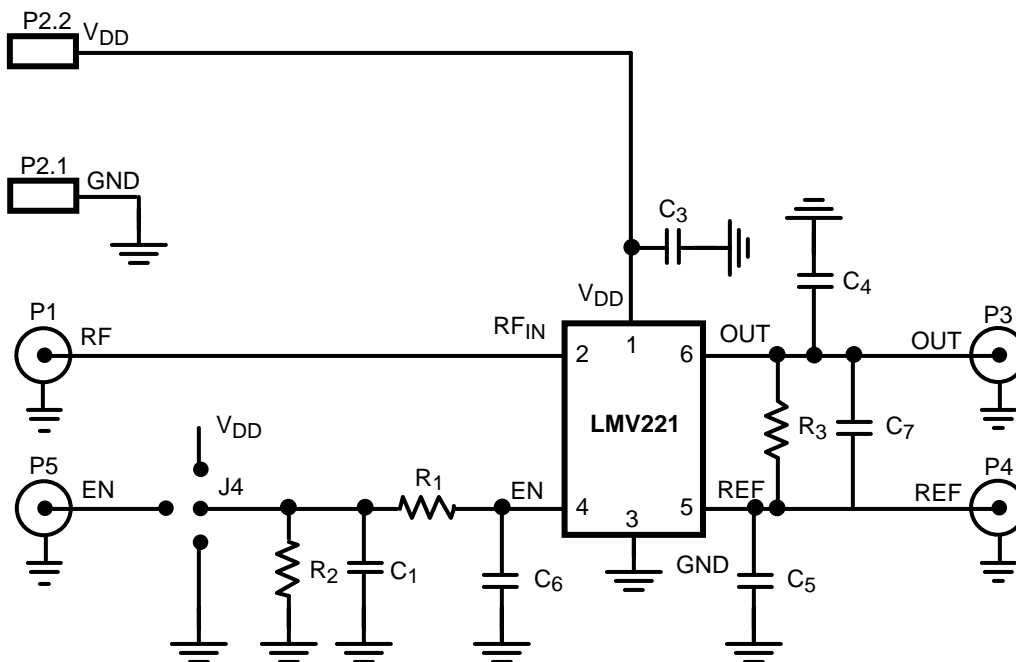


Figure 2. LMV221 Evaluation Board Schematic

Table 1. Jumper J4 Connections

Jumper J4	Device	
V_{DD}		Active
EN	$V_{EN} = \text{high}$	Active
	$V_{EN} = \text{low}$	Shutdown
GND		Shutdown

3 Layout Considerations

As with any other RF device, careful attention must be paid to the board layout. If the board layout is not properly designed, unwanted signals will be detected or interference will be picked up. Electrical signals (voltage/currents) need a finite time to travel through a trace or transmission line. RF voltage levels at the generator side and at the detector side can therefore be different. Signals at different locations or traces on the PCB will be in different phase of the RF frequency cycle. Phase differences in, for example the voltage across neighboring lines, may result in crosstalk between lines, due to parasitic capacitance or inductive coupling. The crosstalk is further enhanced by the fact that all traces on the PCB are susceptible to resonance. The resonance frequency depends on the trace geometry. Traces are particularly sensitive to interference when the length of the trace corresponds to a quarter of the wavelength of the interfering signal or a multiple.

3.1 Supply Lines

Since the PSRR of the LMV221 is finite, variations of the supply can result in some variation at the output. This can be caused by RF injection from other parts of the circuitry or on/off switching of the PA or other various issues.

3.2 Positive Supply (V_{DD})

In order to minimize injection of the RF interference into the LMV221 through the supply lines, the PCB traces connecting to V_{DD} and GND should be shorted for RF. This can be done by placing a small decoupling capacitor between the V_{DD} and GND. It should be placed as close as possible to the V_{DD} and GND pins of the LMV221. Due to the presence of the RF input, the best possible position would be to extend the GND plane connection to the DAP slightly beyond the short edge of the package, such that the capacitor can be placed directly to the V_{DD} Pin (Figure 3). Be aware that the resonance frequency of the capacitor itself should be above the highest RF frequency used in the application, since the capacitance acts as an inductor used above its resonance frequency.

Low frequency supply voltage variations due to PA switching might result in a ripple at the output voltage. The LMV221 has a Power Supply Rejection Ratio of 60 dB for low frequencies.

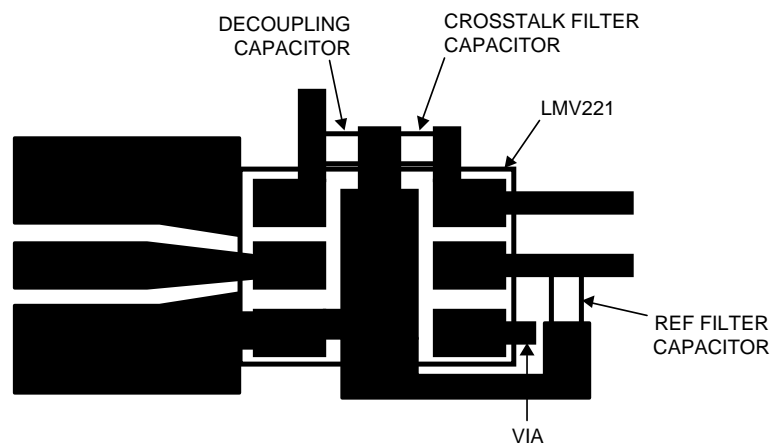


Figure 3. Recommended Board Layout

3.3 Ground (GND)

The LMV221 needs a ground plane free of noise and other disturbing signals. It is important to separate the RF ground return path from the other grounds. This is due to the fact that the RF input handles large voltage swings. A power level of 0 dBm will cause a voltage swing larger than $0.6 V_{PP}$, over the internal 50Ω input resistor. This will result in a significant RF return current towards the source. It is therefore recommended that the RF ground return path is not used for other circuits in the design. The RF path should be routed directly back to the source without loops.

3.4 RF Input Interface (RF_{IN})

The LMV221 is designed to be used in RF applications that have a characteristic impedance of 50Ω . To achieve this impedance, the input of the LMV221 needs to be connected via a 50Ω transmission line. Transmission lines can be easily created on PCBs using microstrip or (grounded) coplanar waveguide configurations. Both configurations are discussed in more detail in the application information of the LMV221 datasheet or in microwave designer handbooks.

3.5 Reference (REF)

The reference pin can be used to compensate for temperature drift of the internal reference voltage of the LMV221. The REF pin is directly connected to the inverting input of the transimpedance amplifier. Thus, RF signals and other spurious signals couple directly through to the output. Introduction of RF signals into the REF pin can be prevented by connecting a small capacitor (C_5) between the REF pin and ground. The capacitor should be placed as close to the REF pin as possible.

3.6 Output (OUT)

The OUT pin is sensitive to crosstalk from the RF input, especially at high power levels. The ESD diode between the output and V_{DD} may rectify the RF signal, but may not add an unwanted inaccurate DC component to the output voltage. The board layout should minimize crosstalk between the detector's input RF_{IN} and the detector's output. Using an additional capacitor (C_4) connected between the output and the positive supply voltage V_{DD} pin or GND can prevent this. For optimal performance this capacitor should be placed as close as possible to the OUT pin of the LMV221; e.g. extend the DAP GND plane and place the capacitor next to the OUT pin.

3.7 Board Layout

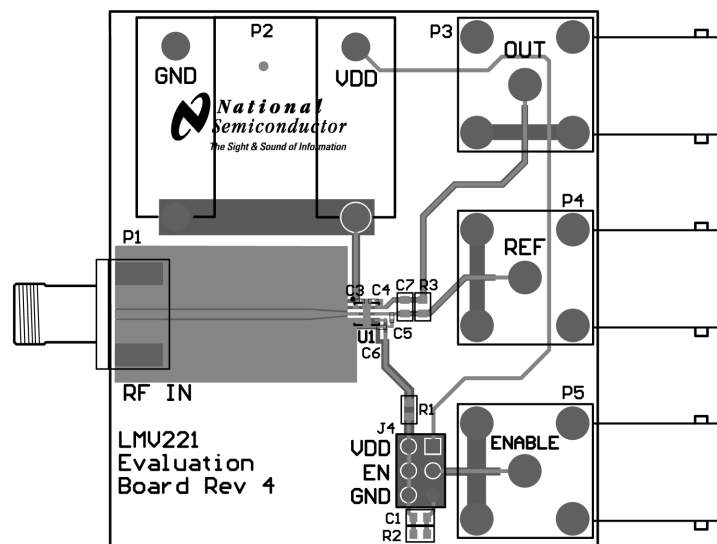


Figure 4. LMV221 Evaluation Board Layout

3.8 Bill of Materials

The Bill of Material (BOM) of the evaluation board is listed in [Table 2](#).

Table 2. LMV221 Evaluation Board Bill of Materials

Designator	Description	Comment
R1	0603 Resistor	100 k Ω
R2	0603 Resistor	100 k Ω
R3	0603 Resistor	NU
C1	0603 Capacitor	10n
C3	0201 Capacitor	10p
C4	0201 Capacitor	10p
C5	0201 Capacitor	1p
C6	0603 Capacitor	10p
C7	0603 Capacitor	NU
J4	Jumper	Header 2 x 3
P1	Connector	SMA
P2.1	Connector	banana socket
P2.2	Connector	banana socket
P3	Connector	BNC-RA
P4	Connector	BNC-RA
P5	Connector	BNC-RA
U1	6-pin WSON	LMV221

4 Measurement Procedure

The performance of the LMV221 can be measured with the circuit shown in [Figure 5](#).

An external power supply provides a voltage of 2.7V to 3.3V to the evaluation board. An accurate and stable RF Signal Generator is used to produce a test signal. Be sure to use low loss coax cables to ensure reliable measurement data. The detected output voltage can be measured with a Digital Voltage Meter (DVM). To make continuous measurements, place a jumper from V_{DD} to enable (EN).

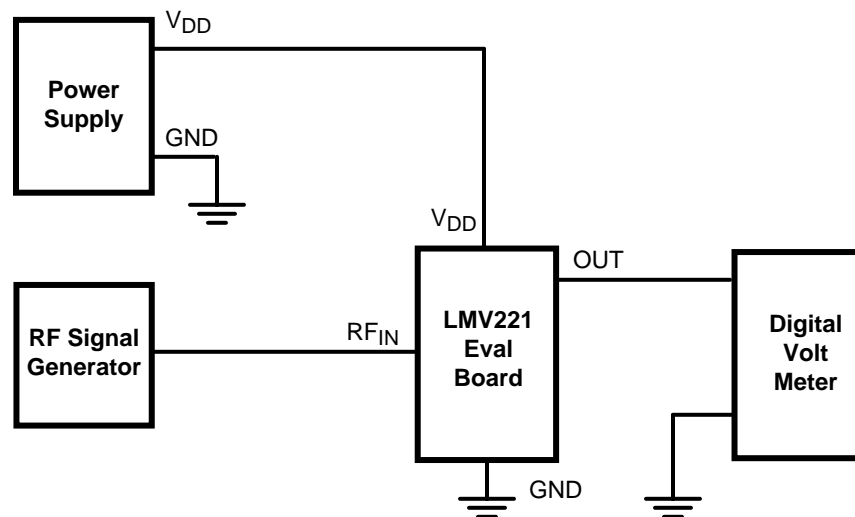


Figure 5. Measurement Setup

5 Measurement Results

Figure 6 shows the frequency response of the LMV221 at various RF input power levels.

Figure 7 shows the detector response for an RF input power sweep at various frequencies.

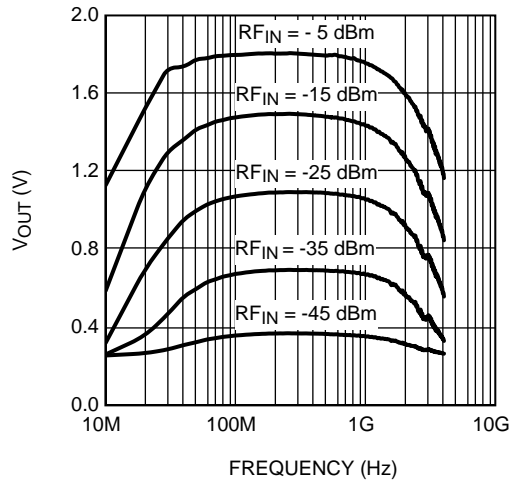


Figure 6. V_{OUT} vs. RF Input Frequency

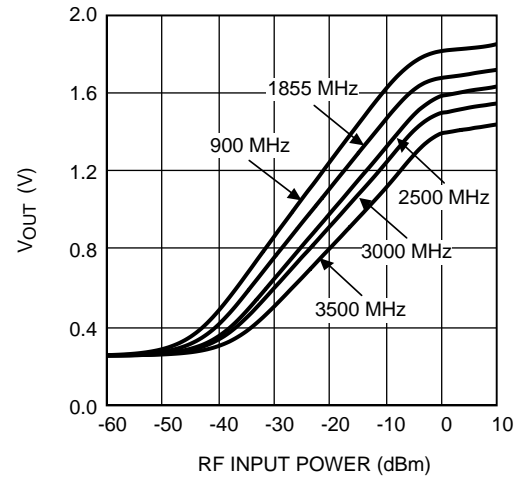


Figure 7. V_{OUT} vs. RF Input Power Level

EVALUATION BOARD/KIT/MODULE (EVM) ADDITIONAL TERMS

Texas Instruments (TI) provides the enclosed Evaluation Board/Kit/Module (EVM) under the following conditions:

The user assumes all responsibility and liability for proper and safe handling of the goods. Further, the user indemnifies TI from all claims arising from the handling or use of the goods.

Should this evaluation board/kit not meet the specifications indicated in the User's Guide, the board/kit may be returned within 30 days from the date of delivery for a full refund. THE FOREGOING LIMITED WARRANTY IS THE EXCLUSIVE WARRANTY MADE BY SELLER TO BUYER AND IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESSED, IMPLIED, OR STATUTORY, INCLUDING ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE. EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT OF THE INDEMNITY SET FORTH ABOVE, NEITHER PARTY SHALL BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER FOR ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES.

Please read the User's Guide and, specifically, the Warnings and Restrictions notice in the User's Guide prior to handling the product. This notice contains important safety information about temperatures and voltages. For additional information on TI's environmental and/or safety programs, please visit www.ti.com/esh or contact TI.

No license is granted under any patent right or other intellectual property right of TI covering or relating to any machine, process, or combination in which such TI products or services might be or are used. TI currently deals with a variety of customers for products, and therefore our arrangement with the user is not exclusive. TI assumes no liability for applications assistance, customer product design, software performance, or infringement of patents or services described herein.

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE INFORMATION

As noted in the EVM User's Guide and/or EVM itself, this EVM and/or accompanying hardware may or may not be subject to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Industry Canada (IC) rules.

For EVMs **not** subject to the above rules, this evaluation board/kit/module is intended for use for ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT, DEMONSTRATION OR EVALUATION PURPOSES ONLY and is not considered by TI to be a finished end product fit for general consumer use. It generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and has not been tested for compliance with the limits of computing devices pursuant to part 15 of FCC or ICES-003 rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against radio frequency interference. Operation of the equipment may cause interference with radio communications, in which case the user at his own expense will be required to take whatever measures may be required to correct this interference.

General Statement for EVMs including a radio

User Power/Frequency Use Obligations: This radio is intended for development/professional use only in legally allocated frequency and power limits. Any use of radio frequencies and/or power availability of this EVM and its development application(s) must comply with local laws governing radio spectrum allocation and power limits for this evaluation module. It is the user's sole responsibility to only operate this radio in legally acceptable frequency space and within legally mandated power limitations. Any exceptions to this are strictly prohibited and unauthorized by Texas Instruments unless user has obtained appropriate experimental/development licenses from local regulatory authorities, which is responsibility of user including its acceptable authorization.

For EVMs annotated as FCC – FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Part 15 Compliant

Caution

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

FCC Interference Statement for Class A EVM devices

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference when the equipment is operated in a commercial environment. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. Operation of this equipment in a residential area is likely to cause harmful interference in which case the user will be required to correct the interference at his own expense.

FCC Interference Statement for Class B EVM devices

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

For EVMs annotated as IC – INDUSTRY CANADA Compliant

This Class A or B digital apparatus complies with Canadian ICES-003.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

Concerning EVMs including radio transmitters

This device complies with Industry Canada licence-exempt RSS standard(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.

Concerning EVMs including detachable antennas

Under Industry Canada regulations, this radio transmitter may only operate using an antenna of a type and maximum (or lesser) gain approved for the transmitter by Industry Canada. To reduce potential radio interference to other users, the antenna type and its gain should be so chosen that the equivalent isotropically radiated power (e.i.r.p.) is not more than that necessary for successful communication.

This radio transmitter has been approved by Industry Canada to operate with the antenna types listed in the user guide with the maximum permissible gain and required antenna impedance for each antenna type indicated. Antenna types not included in this list, having a gain greater than the maximum gain indicated for that type, are strictly prohibited for use with this device.

Cet appareil numérique de la classe A ou B est conforme à la norme NMB-003 du Canada.

Les changements ou les modifications pas expressément approuvés par la partie responsable de la conformité ont pu vider l'autorité de l'utilisateur pour actionner l'équipement.

Concernant les EVMs avec appareils radio

Le présent appareil est conforme aux CNR d'Industrie Canada applicables aux appareils radio exempts de licence. L'exploitation est autorisée aux deux conditions suivantes : (1) l'appareil ne doit pas produire de brouillage, et (2) l'utilisateur de l'appareil doit accepter tout brouillage radioélectrique subi, même si le brouillage est susceptible d'en compromettre le fonctionnement.

Concernant les EVMs avec antennes détachables

Conformément à la réglementation d'Industrie Canada, le présent émetteur radio peut fonctionner avec une antenne d'un type et d'un gain maximal (ou inférieur) approuvé pour l'émetteur par Industrie Canada. Dans le but de réduire les risques de brouillage radioélectrique à l'intention des autres utilisateurs, il faut choisir le type d'antenne et son gain de sorte que la puissance isotrope rayonnée équivalente (p.i.r.e.) ne dépasse pas l'intensité nécessaire à l'établissement d'une communication satisfaisante.

Le présent émetteur radio a été approuvé par Industrie Canada pour fonctionner avec les types d'antenne énumérés dans le manuel d'usage et ayant un gain admissible maximal et l'impédance requise pour chaque type d'antenne. Les types d'antenne non inclus dans cette liste, ou dont le gain est supérieur au gain maximal indiqué, sont strictement interdits pour l'exploitation de l'émetteur.

【Important Notice for Users of this Product in Japan】

This development kit is NOT certified as Confirming to Technical Regulations of Radio Law of Japan

If you use this product in Japan, you are required by Radio Law of Japan to follow the instructions below with respect to this product:

1. Use this product in a shielded room or any other test facility as defined in the notification #173 issued by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications on March 28, 2006, based on Sub-section 1.1 of Article 6 of the Ministry's Rule for Enforcement of Radio Law of Japan,
2. Use this product only after you obtained the license of Test Radio Station as provided in Radio Law of Japan with respect to this product, or
3. Use of this product only after you obtained the Technical Regulations Conformity Certification as provided in Radio Law of Japan with respect to this product. Also, please do not transfer this product, unless you give the same notice above to the transferee. Please note that if you could not follow the instructions above, you will be subject to penalties of Radio Law of Japan.

Texas Instruments Japan Limited
(address) 24-1, Nishi-Shinjuku 6 chome, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan

<http://www.tij.co.jp>

【ご使用にあたっての注】

本開発キットは技術基準適合証明を受けておりません。

本製品のご使用に際しては、電波法遵守のため、以下のいずれかの措置を取っていただく必要がありますのでご注意ください。

1. 電波法施行規則第6条第1項第1号に基づく平成18年3月28日総務省告示第173号で定められた電波暗室等の試験設備でご使用いただく。
2. 実験局の免許を取得後ご使用いただく。
3. 技術基準適合証明を取得後ご使用いただく。

なお、本製品は、上記の「ご使用にあたっての注意」を譲渡先、移転先に通知しない限り、譲渡、移転できないものとします。

上記を遵守頂けない場合は、電波法の罰則が適用される可能性があることをご留意ください。

日本テキサス・インスツルメンツ株式会社
東京都新宿区西新宿6丁目24番1号
西新宿三井ビル

<http://www.tij.co.jp>

EVALUATION BOARD/KIT/MODULE (EVM) WARNINGS, RESTRICTIONS AND DISCLAIMERS

For Feasibility Evaluation Only, in Laboratory/Development Environments. Unless otherwise indicated, this EVM is not a finished electrical equipment and not intended for consumer use. It is intended solely for use for preliminary feasibility evaluation in laboratory/development environments by technically qualified electronics experts who are familiar with the dangers and application risks associated with handling electrical mechanical components, systems and subsystems. It should not be used as all or part of a finished end product.

Your Sole Responsibility and Risk. You acknowledge, represent and agree that:

1. You have unique knowledge concerning Federal, State and local regulatory requirements (including but not limited to Food and Drug Administration regulations, if applicable) which relate to your products and which relate to your use (and/or that of your employees, affiliates, contractors or designees) of the EVM for evaluation, testing and other purposes.
2. You have full and exclusive responsibility to assure the safety and compliance of your products with all such laws and other applicable regulatory requirements, and also to assure the safety of any activities to be conducted by you and/or your employees, affiliates, contractors or designees, using the EVM. Further, you are responsible to assure that any interfaces (electronic and/or mechanical) between the EVM and any human body are designed with suitable isolation and means to safely limit accessible leakage currents to minimize the risk of electrical shock hazard.
3. You will employ reasonable safeguards to ensure that your use of the EVM will not result in any property damage, injury or death, even if the EVM should fail to perform as described or expected.
4. You will take care of proper disposal and recycling of the EVM's electronic components and packing materials.

Certain Instructions. It is important to operate this EVM within TI's recommended specifications and environmental considerations per the user guidelines. Exceeding the specified EVM ratings (including but not limited to input and output voltage, current, power, and environmental ranges) may cause property damage, personal injury or death. If there are questions concerning these ratings please contact a TI field representative prior to connecting interface electronics including input power and intended loads. Any loads applied outside of the specified output range may result in unintended and/or inaccurate operation and/or possible permanent damage to the EVM and/or interface electronics. Please consult the EVM User's Guide prior to connecting any load to the EVM output. If there is uncertainty as to the load specification, please contact a TI field representative. During normal operation, some circuit components may have case temperatures greater than 60°C as long as the input and output are maintained at a normal ambient operating temperature. These components include but are not limited to linear regulators, switching transistors, pass transistors, and current sense resistors which can be identified using the EVM schematic located in the EVM User's Guide. When placing measurement probes near these devices during normal operation, please be aware that these devices may be very warm to the touch. As with all electronic evaluation tools, only qualified personnel knowledgeable in electronic measurement and diagnostics normally found in development environments should use these EVMs.

Agreement to Defend, Indemnify and Hold Harmless. You agree to defend, indemnify and hold TI, its licensors and their representatives harmless from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, expenses, costs and liabilities (collectively, "Claims") arising out of or in connection with any use of the EVM that is not in accordance with the terms of the agreement. This obligation shall apply whether Claims arise under law of tort or contract or any other legal theory, and even if the EVM fails to perform as described or expected.

Safety-Critical or Life-Critical Applications. If you intend to evaluate the components for possible use in safety critical applications (such as life support) where a failure of the TI product would reasonably be expected to cause severe personal injury or death, such as devices which are classified as FDA Class III or similar classification, then you must specifically notify TI of such intent and enter into a separate Assurance and Indemnity Agreement.

Mailing Address: Texas Instruments, Post Office Box 655303, Dallas, Texas 75265
Copyright © 2013, Texas Instruments Incorporated

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Texas Instruments Incorporated and its subsidiaries (TI) reserve the right to make corrections, enhancements, improvements and other changes to its semiconductor products and services per JESD46, latest issue, and to discontinue any product or service per JESD48, latest issue. Buyers should obtain the latest relevant information before placing orders and should verify that such information is current and complete. All semiconductor products (also referred to herein as "components") are sold subject to TI's terms and conditions of sale supplied at the time of order acknowledgment.

TI warrants performance of its components to the specifications applicable at the time of sale, in accordance with the warranty in TI's terms and conditions of sale of semiconductor products. Testing and other quality control techniques are used to the extent TI deems necessary to support this warranty. Except where mandated by applicable law, testing of all parameters of each component is not necessarily performed.

TI assumes no liability for applications assistance or the design of Buyers' products. Buyers are responsible for their products and applications using TI components. To minimize the risks associated with Buyers' products and applications, Buyers should provide adequate design and operating safeguards.

TI does not warrant or represent that any license, either express or implied, is granted under any patent right, copyright, mask work right, or other intellectual property right relating to any combination, machine, or process in which TI components or services are used. Information published by TI regarding third-party products or services does not constitute a license to use such products or services or a warranty or endorsement thereof. Use of such information may require a license from a third party under the patents or other intellectual property of the third party, or a license from TI under the patents or other intellectual property of TI.

Reproduction of significant portions of TI information in TI data books or data sheets is permissible only if reproduction is without alteration and is accompanied by all associated warranties, conditions, limitations, and notices. TI is not responsible or liable for such altered documentation. Information of third parties may be subject to additional restrictions.

Resale of TI components or services with statements different from or beyond the parameters stated by TI for that component or service voids all express and any implied warranties for the associated TI component or service and is an unfair and deceptive business practice. TI is not responsible or liable for any such statements.

Buyer acknowledges and agrees that it is solely responsible for compliance with all legal, regulatory and safety-related requirements concerning its products, and any use of TI components in its applications, notwithstanding any applications-related information or support that may be provided by TI. Buyer represents and agrees that it has all the necessary expertise to create and implement safeguards which anticipate dangerous consequences of failures, monitor failures and their consequences, lessen the likelihood of failures that might cause harm and take appropriate remedial actions. Buyer will fully indemnify TI and its representatives against any damages arising out of the use of any TI components in safety-critical applications.

In some cases, TI components may be promoted specifically to facilitate safety-related applications. With such components, TI's goal is to help enable customers to design and create their own end-product solutions that meet applicable functional safety standards and requirements. Nonetheless, such components are subject to these terms.

No TI components are authorized for use in FDA Class III (or similar life-critical medical equipment) unless authorized officers of the parties have executed a special agreement specifically governing such use.

Only those TI components which TI has specifically designated as military grade or "enhanced plastic" are designed and intended for use in military/aerospace applications or environments. Buyer acknowledges and agrees that any military or aerospace use of TI components which have **not** been so designated is solely at the Buyer's risk, and that Buyer is solely responsible for compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements in connection with such use.

TI has specifically designated certain components as meeting ISO/TS16949 requirements, mainly for automotive use. In any case of use of non-designated products, TI will not be responsible for any failure to meet ISO/TS16949.

Products

Audio	www.ti.com/audio
Amplifiers	amplifier.ti.com
Data Converters	dataconverter.ti.com
DLP® Products	www.dlp.com
DSP	dsp.ti.com
Clocks and Timers	www.ti.com/clocks
Interface	interface.ti.com
Logic	logic.ti.com
Power Mgmt	power.ti.com
Microcontrollers	microcontroller.ti.com
RFID	www.ti-rfid.com
OMAP Applications Processors	www.ti.com/omap
Wireless Connectivity	www.ti.com/wirelessconnectivity

Applications

Automotive and Transportation	www.ti.com/automotive
Communications and Telecom	www.ti.com/communications
Computers and Peripherals	www.ti.com/computers
Consumer Electronics	www.ti.com/consumer-apps
Energy and Lighting	www.ti.com/energy
Industrial	www.ti.com/industrial
Medical	www.ti.com/medical
Security	www.ti.com/security
Space, Avionics and Defense	www.ti.com/space-avionics-defense
Video and Imaging	www.ti.com/video

TI E2E Community

e2e.ti.com