

3.3V, DUAL-BAND FRONT-END MODULE

Package Style: QFN, 40-Pin, 6 x 6 x 0.9 mm



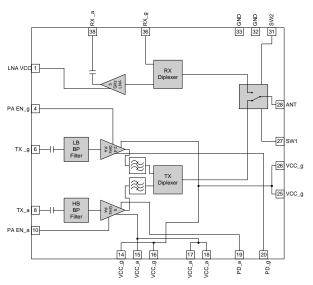


Features

- Single-Module Radio Front-End
- Single Supply Voltage 3.0V to 3.6V
- Integrated 2.5 GHz & 5 GHZ PA's, Diplexers, Filters & Switches for TX & RX
- P_{OUT}=18dBm, 11g, OFDM a 4% Typ EVM, P_{OUT}=16dBm, 11a, OFDM @ 4% Typ EVM

Applications

- IEEE802.11a/b/g/n WiFi Applications
- Single-Chip RF Front-End Module
- 2.5 GHz and 5 GHz ISM Bands Applications
- WiFi Systems
- Portable Battery-Powered Equipment



Functional Block Diagram

Product Description

The RF5388 is a single-chip dual-band integrated front-end module (FEM) for high-performance WiFi applications in the 2.5 GHz and 5 GHz ISM bands. The RF5388 addresses the need for aggressive size reduction for a typical 802.11a/b/g RF front-end design and greatly reduces the number of components outside of the core chipset thus minimizing the footprint and assembly cost of the overall 802.11a/b/g/n solution. The RF5388 contains integrated PA's for 2.5 GHz and 5 GHz, diplexers, TX/RX switch, LNA for the 5.0 GHz receive band, matching components, some bypass capacitors, built-in power detector for both bands, and filters for transmit and receive paths. The RF5388 is packaged in a 40-pin, 6 mmx6 mmx0.9 mm QFN package with backside ground. Greatly minimizes next level board space and allows for simplified integration.

Ordering Information

RF5388 Standard 25 piece bag RF5388SR Standard 100 piece reel RF5388TR7 Standard 2500 piece reel

RF5388PCK-410 Fully assembled evaluation board and 5 loose sample pieces

Optimum Technology Matching® Applied

| ☐ GaAs HBT | ☐ SiGe BiCMOS | GaAs pHEMT | ☐ GaN HEMT |
|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------|------------|
| ☐ GaAs MESFET ✓ InGaP HBT | ☐ Si BiCMOS | ☐ Si CMOS | |
| ▼ InGaP HBT | ☐ SiGe HBT | ☐ Si BJT | |
| | | | |

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Absolute Maximum Ratings

| Parameter | Rating | Unit |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Supply Voltage | -0.3 to +5.5 | V _{DC} |
| Power Control Voltage (PA EN) | -0.5 to +3.5 | V |
| DC Supply Current | 400 | mA |
| Input RF Power | +10 | dBm |
| Operating Ambient Temperature | -10 to +70 | °C |
| Reduced Performance Temp | -30 to -10 | °C |
| | +70 to +85 | °C |
| Storage Temperature | -40 to +85 | °C |
| Moisture Sensitivity | JEDEC Level MSL3 | |



Caution! ESD sensitive device.

Exceeding any one or a combination of the Absolute Maximum Rating conditions may cause permanent damage to the device. Extended application of Absolute Maximum Rating conditions to the device may reduce device reliability. Specified typical performance or functional operation of the device under Absolute Maximum Rating conditions is not implied.

RoHS status based on EUDirective 2002/95/EC (at time of this document revision).

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| Davamatav | | Specification | 1 | 11:4 | Condition | |
|-------------------------------|------|----------------|-----|-------|--|--|
| Parameter | Min. | Min. Typ. Max. | | Unit | Condition | |
| 2.4 GHz Transmit | | | | | T=+25°C, V _{CC} (b/g)=3.3V, PAEN_g=2.85V, Freq=2.4GHz to 2.5GHz, unless otherwise noted. | |
| Compliance | | | | | IEEE802.11b, IEEE802.11g FCC CFR 15.247, 0.205, 0.209 | |
| Frequency | 2.4 | | 2.5 | GHz | | |
| Output Power | | 14 | | dBm | | |
| EVM | | 2 | | % | At 14dBm, 11g output power, RMS, Mean with a standard IEEE802.11g waveform, OFDM, 54Mbps, 64 QAM | |
| Output Power | | 18 | | dBm | With a standard IEEE802.11g waveform at 54Mbps, 64 QAM | |
| EVM* | | 4 | | % | At 18dBm, 11g output power, RMS, Mean with a standard IEEE802.11g waveform, OFDM, 54Mbps, 64 QAM | |
| Output Power | | 20 | | dBm | With a standard IEEE802.11b waveform at 11Mbps, CCK | |
| Gain | 24 | 26 | | dB | | |
| Gain Variance | | ±2.0 | | dB | Over Temperature and Frequency | |
| Power Detect | | | | | | |
| Voltage Range | 0.1 | 1.8 | TBD | V | For P _{OUT} =0dBm to 20dBm in 11b mode. | |
| Output Resistance | | 10 | | kΩ | | |
| Output Capacitance | | 5 | | pF | | |
| Bandwidth | | 8 | | MHz | | |
| Sensitivity | | | | | | |
| >10dBm | 25 | | | mV/dB | | |
| 0 <p<sub>OUT<10dBm</p<sub> | 8 | | | mV/dB | | |
| Current Operating | | 140 | | mA | RF P _{OUT} = 18 dBm with a standard IEEE802.11g waveform, OFDM, 54Mbits/s, 64 QAM | |
| | | 180 | | mA | RF P _{OUT} = 20 dBm with a standard IEEE802.11b waveform, CCK, 11Mbits/s | |
| Idle Current | | 100 | | mA | V _{CC} =3.3V, PA EN_g=2.85V, RF=0FF | |
| IPAEN_g | | 3 | | mA | V _{CC} =On, PAEN_g=ON, and RF=ON | |
| Shutdown | | 5 | | uA | V _{CC} =On, PAEN_g=OFF, and RF=OFF | |



| | Specification | | | | 2 1111 | |
|--|----------------|------|------|-----------|--|--|
| Parameter | Min. Typ. Max. | | Unit | Condition | | |
| 2.4 GHz Transmit, cont. | | | | | | |
| Power Supply | 3.0 | 3.3 | 3.6 | V | | |
| PAEN_g Voltage | 2.8 | 2.85 | 2.9 | V | PAEN_a is in the high state (ON) | |
| | -0.2 | | +0.2 | V | PAEN_g is in the off state (OFF) | |
| Switch Voltages | 3.0 | | 3.6 | V | Switch voltage in the high state. | |
| | 0 | | 0.2 | V | Switch voltage in the low state. | |
| Input Impedance | | 50 | | Ω | | |
| Output Impedance | | 50 | | Ω | | |
| Stability Output VSWR | 4:1 | | | | Stable, max spurious -47 dBm | |
| Ruggedness Output VSWR | 10:1 | | | | No damage, conditions: max operating voltage, max input power | |
| Second Harmonic | -43 | | | dBm | Freq=2400 MHz to 2500 MHz at 18dBm P _{OUT} , RBW=1MHz, average detector tested with 1Mbps | |
| IEEE802.11b/g Spectral Mask per FCC Part 15.205 | -43 | | | dBm | Amplifier set up for best IEEE802.11g performance; F_C =2412 MHz; RF P_{OUT} =TBDdBm; IEEE802.11b CCK 11Mbps Modulation, T=+25 °C, Measured at F_C -22 MHz | |
| IEEE802.11b/g Spectral Mask per FCC Part 15.205 | -43 | | | dBm | Amplifier set up for best IEEE802.11g performance; F_C =2462MHz; RF P_{OUT} =TBDdBm; IEEE802.11b CCK 11Mbps Modulation, T=+25°C, Measured at F_C +22MHz | |
| Turn-On Time | | 0.5 | 1.0 | μSec | Output stable to within 90% of final gain | |
| Turn-Off Time | | 0.5 | 1.0 | μSec | Output stable to within 90% of final gain | |
| 5.0 GHz Transmit | | | | | T=+25°C, V _{CC} (a)=3.3V, PAEN_a=2.85V, Freq=4.9GHz to 5.85GHz, unless otherwise noted. | |
| Compliance | | | | | IEEE802.11a IEEE802.11j FCC CFR 15.247, 0.205, 0.209 | |
| Frequency | 4.9 | | 5.85 | GHz | | |
| Output Power | | 16 | | dBm | With a standard IEEE802.11a waveform, OFDM, 54Mbits/s, 64 QAM | |
| EVM* | | 4 | 6 | % | At 16dBm output power, RMS, mean with a standard IEEE802.11a waveform, OFDM, 54Mbits/s, 64 QAM at rated output power | |
| Output Power | | 13 | | dBm | At 13dBm, 11g output power, with a standard IEEE802.11a waveform, OFDM, 54 Mbits/s, 64 QAM | |
| EVM | | 2 | | % | At 13dBm, 11g output power, with a standard IEEE802.11a waveform, OFDM, 54 Mbits/s, 64 QAM | |
| Gain | 23 | 25 | | dB | | |
| Gain Variance | | ±2.0 | | dB | | |
| Power Detect | | | | | | |
| Voltage Range | 0.7 | 1.5 | TBD | V | At P _{OUT} range of OdBm to 16dBm with a standard IEEE802.11a waveform. | |
| Output Resistance | | 10 | | kΩ | | |
| Output Capacitance | | 1 | | pF | | |
| Bandwidth | | 8 | | MHz | | |



| Dovometer | Specification | | | Heit | Condition |
|--|---------------|------|------|-------|---|
| Parameter | Min. Typ. | | Max. | Unit | Condition |
| 5.0 GHz Transmit, cont. | | | | | |
| Sensitivity | | | | | |
| >10dBm | 25 | | | mV/dB | |
| 0 <p<sub>OUT<10dBm</p<sub> | 8 | | | mV/dB | |
| Current Operating | | 150 | | mA | RF P _{OUT} =+16dBm, RMS, mean with a stan- dard IEEE802.11g waveform, OFDM, 54Mbits/s, 64 QAM at rated output power |
| Idle Current | | 100 | | mA | V _{CC} =3.3V, PA EN_a=2.85V, RF=OFF |
| IPAEN_a | | 8 | | mA | |
| Shutdown | | 5 | | μΑ | |
| PAEN_a Supply Voltage | 3.0 | 3.3 | 3.6 | V | |
| PA EN_a Voltage | 2.8 | 2.85 | 2.9 | V | PAEN_a is in the high state (ON) |
| | -0.2 | | +0.2 | V | PAEN_a is in the off state (OFF) |
| Switch Voltages | 3.0 | | 3.6 | V | Switch voltage in the high state. |
| - | 0 | | 0.2 | V | Switch voltage in the low state. |
| Input Impedance | | 50 | | Ω | |
| Output Impedance | | 50 | | Ω | |
| Stability Output VSWR | 3:1 | | | | Stable, max spurious -47 dBm Conditions: max operating voltage, max input power |
| Ruggedness Output VSWR | 10:1 | | | | No damage, conditions: max operating voltage, max input power |
| Second Harmonic | -30 | | | dBm | At P _{OUT} =+16dBm, measured in 1MHz RBW with 6Mbps 11a signal, Fundamental Frequency is between 4.9GHz to 5.299GHz. |
| | -43 | | | dBm | At P _{OUT} =+16dBm, measured in 1MHz RBW with 6Mbps 11a signal, Fundamental Frequency is between 5.3GHz to 5.85GHz. |
| IEEE802.11a Spectral Mask per FCC Part 15.205 | -43 | | | dBm | Amplifier set up for best IEEE802.11a performance; F _C =5180MHz; RF P _{OUT} =+16dBm; T=+25°C, Measured at 5150MHz |
| IEEE802.11a Spectral Mask per FCC Part 15.205 | -43 | | | dBm | Amplifier set up for best IEEE802.11a performance; F _C =5320MHz; RF P _{OUT} =+16dBm; T=+25°C, Measured at 5350MHz |
| Turn-On Time | | 0.5 | 1.0 | μSec | Output stable to within 90% of final gain |
| Turn-Off Time | | 0.5 | 1.0 | μSec | Output stable to within 90% of final gain |
| Antenna Port Impedance | | | | | |
| Input | | 50 | | Ω | |
| Output | | 50 | | Ω | |



| Davis vis atau | | Specification | | | O - vadiki - va | |
|------------------------|------|---------------|------|------|--|--|
| Parameter | Min. | Тур. | Max. | Unit | Condition | |
| 2.4 GHz Receive | | _ | | | | |
| Compliance | | | | | IEEE802.11b IEEE802.11g FCC CFR 15.247, 0.205, 0.209 | |
| Frequency | 2.4 | | 2.5 | GHz | | |
| Insertion Loss | | 2.3 | | dB | SPDT switch+diplexer | |
| Noise Figure | | 2.3 | | dB | SPDT switch+diplexer | |
| Passband Ripple | -0.3 | | +0.3 | dB | | |
| Output Return Loss | | -10 | | dB | | |
| Current Consumption | | | 30 | μΑ | Switch leakage current | |
| Switch Voltages | 3.0 | | 3.6 | V | Switch voltage in the high state. | |
| | 0 | | 0.2 | V | Switch voltage in the low state. | |
| 5.0 GHz Receive | | | | | | |
| Compliance | | | | | IEEE802.11a IEEE802.11j FCC CFR 15.247, 0.205, 0.209 | |
| Frequency | 4.9 | | 5.85 | GHz | | |
| Receive Gain | | 9 | | dB | | |
| Noise Figure | | 4.5 | 4.9 | dB | SPDT switch+diplexer | |
| Input P1dB | | -5 | | dBm | | |
| Input IP3 | | +5 | | dBm | | |
| Passband Ripple | | ±1 | | dB | | |
| Output Return Loss | | -10 | | dB | | |
| Current Consumption | | 15 | | mA | | |
| Switch Leakage Current | | | 30 | uA | | |
| LNA V _{CC} | 3.0 | 3.3 | 3.6 | V | LNA V _{CC} is in the high state | |
| | -0.2 | | +0.2 | V | LNA V _{CC} is in the low state | |
| Switch Voltages | 3.0 | | 3.6 | V | Switch voltage in the high state. | |
| | 0 | | 0.2 | V | Switch voltage in the low state. | |

^{*}The EVM specification includes a 0.5% to 0.7% source EVM floor.



| Pin | Function | Description | Interface Schematic |
|-----|----------|--|---------------------|
| 1 | LNA VCC | 5GHz LNA input voltage supply. | |
| 2 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 3 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 4 | PA EN_g | Bias voltage for the 802.11b/g PA. Internally decoupled port with approximately 100 pF. | |
| 5 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 6 | TX_g | RF input for the 802.11b/g PA. Input is matched to 50Ω and DC block is provided internally. | |
| 7 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 8 | TX_a | TX RF input for the 802.11a PA. Input is matched to 50Ω and DC block is provided internally. | |
| 9 | GND | Ground Connection. | |
| 10 | PA EN_a | Bias voltage for the 802.11a PA. Internally decoupled port with approximately 100 pF. | |
| 11 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 12 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 13 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 14 | VCC_g | Supply voltage for the 11b/g amplifier. Requires external decoupling capacitors for best performance. | |
| 15 | VCC_a | Supply voltage for the 11a amplifier. Requires external decoupling capacitors for best performance. | |
| 16 | VCC_g | Supply voltage for the 11b/g amplifier. Requires external decoupling capacitors for best performance. | |
| 17 | VCC_a | Supply voltage for the 11a amplifier. Requires external decoupling capacitors for best performance. | |
| 18 | VCC_a | Supply voltage for the 11a amplifier. Requires external decoupling capacitors for best performance. | |
| 19 | PDET_a | Power detector voltage for the 802.11a PA. Pdetect voltage varies with output power. May need external decoupling capacitor for module stability. May need resistive voltage divider to bring output voltage to desired level. | |
| 20 | PDET_g | Power detector voltage for the 802.11b/g PA. Pdetect voltage varies with output power. May need external decoupling capacitor for module stability. May need resistive voltage divider to bring output voltage to desired level. | |
| 21 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 22 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 23 | NC | No Connect. | |
| 24 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 25 | VCC_g | Supply voltage for the 11b/g amplifier. Requires external decoupling capacitors for best performance. | |
| 26 | VCC_g | Supply voltage for the 11b/g amplifier. Requires external decoupling capacitors for best performance. | |
| 27 | SW1 | Switch control port. (See Switch Truth table.) | |
| 28 | ANT | Antenna port. This port is matched to 50Ω and DC block is \textit{not} provided internally. | |
| 29 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 30 | NC | No Connect. | |
| 31 | SW2 | Switch control port. (See Switch Truth table.) | |
| 32 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 33 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 34 | GND | Ground connection. | |

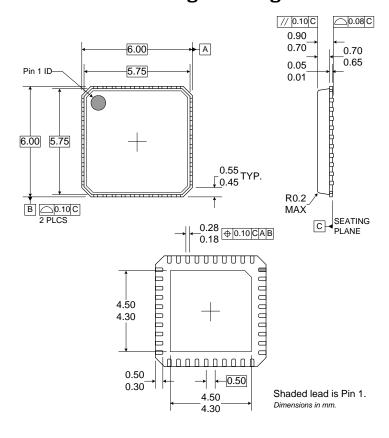


| Pin | Function | Description | Interface Schematic |
|-------------|----------|--|---------------------|
| 35 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 36 | RX_g | Receive port for 802.11b/g band. Internally matched to 50Ω and DC block is not provided internally. | |
| 37 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 38 | RX_a | Receive port for 802.11a band. Internally matched to 50Ω and DC block is provided internally. | |
| 39 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| 40 | GND | Ground connection. | |
| Pkg Base | GND | Ground connection. The back side of the package should be connected to ground plane through as short a connection as possible (e.g., PCB vias under the device are recommended). | |

Switch Truth Table

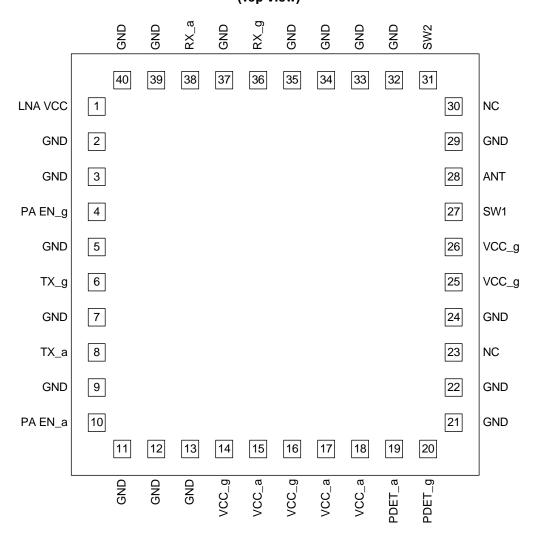
| Mode # | Description | SW1 | SW2 | PA EN_a | PA EN_g | LNA EN |
|--------|------------------|-----|-----|---------|---------|--------|
| 1 | Transmit, 2.4GHz | Н | L | L | Н | L |
| 2 | Receive, 2.4GHz | L | Н | L | L | L |
| 3 | Transmit, 5.0GHz | Н | L | Н | L | L |
| 4 | Receive, 5.0 GHz | L | Н | L | L | Н |

Package Drawing



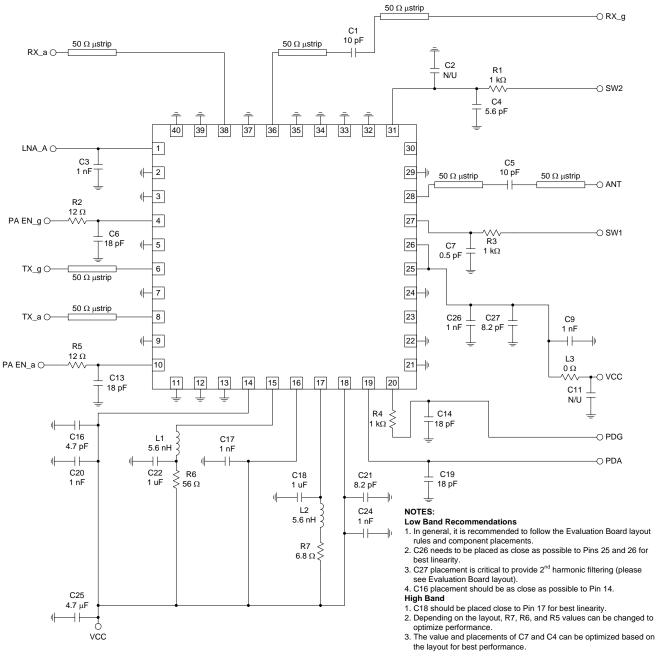


Pin Out (Top View)





Application Schematic

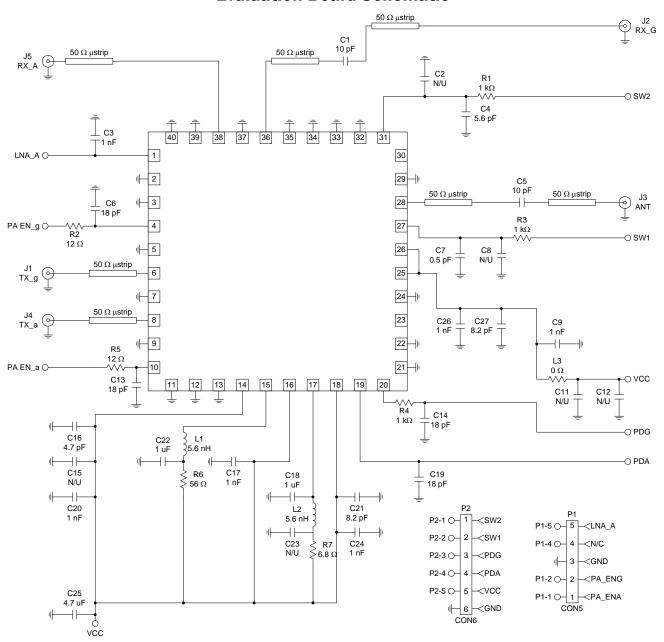


General Note

Depending on the layout, C20, C24, C11, L3, C2, C3, C6, C13 can all be unused without affecting the performance. It is recommended that the footprints be added on first layout, and once the design is proven they can be eliminated to reduce the component count.



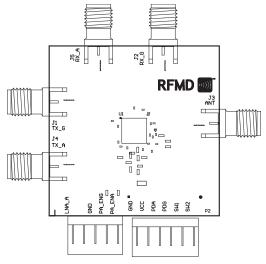
Evaluation Board Schematic

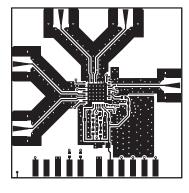


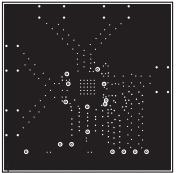


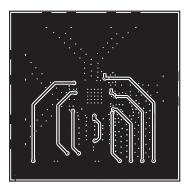
Evaluation Board Layouts Board Size 1.5" x 1.5"

Board Thickness 0.032", Board Material FR-4, Multi-Layer











Theory of Operation

The RF5388 is a single-chip dual-band integrated front-end module (FEM) for high performance WiFi applications in the 2.5 GHz and 5 GHz ISM bands. The RF5388 addresses the need for aggressive size reduction for a typical 802.11a/b/g RF front-end design and greatly reduces the number of components outside of the core chipset thus minimizing the footprint and assembly cost of the overall 802.11a/b/g/n solution. The RF5388 contains integrated PA's for 2.5 GHz and 5 GHz, diplexers, TX/RX switch, LNA for the 5.0 GHz receive band, matching components, some bypass capacitors, built-in power detector for both bands, and filters for transmit and receive paths. The RF5388 is packaged in a 40-pin, 6mmx6mmx0.9mm QFN package with backside ground which greatly minimizes next level board space and allows for simplified integration.

The RF5388 is designed primarily for IEEE802.11 b/g/a/n WiFi applications where the available supply voltage and current are limited. The RF5388 has one transmit path for a/b/g operation but it has two power amplifiers, one for the low band (b/g) and one for the high band (11a). The RF5388 requires a single positive supply voltage (V_{CC}), positive current control bias (PAEN) supply for each band, and a positive supply for switch control to simplify bias requirements. The RF5388 FEM also has built in power detectors for both 11b/g PA and 11a PA. All inputs and outputs are internally matched to 50Ω .

802.11b/g Transmit Path

The RF5388 low band power amplifier operates at frequencies between 2.4GHz to 2.5GHz and has a typical gain of 26dB and delivers 18dBm typical output power under 54Mbps OFDM modulation meeting the specified Error Vector Magnitude (EVM) and >20dBm under 11Mbps CCK modulation meeting the spectral mask. The RF5388 requires a single positive supply of 3.0V to 3.6V to operate at full specifications. Current control optimization for the 802.11b/g band is provided through one bias control input pin (PAEN_g). The PAEN_g pin requires a regulated supply to maintain nominal bias current. In general, higher PAEN_g voltage produce higher linear output power, higher operating current and higher gain but this voltage should be set in the range that it is specified. Second and third harmonic filtering is provided on the die so that the second and third harmonics level are well below -41.3dBm and passes the FCC restricted band requirements.

For best performance of the low band transmit path care has to be taken with the placement and values of some of the components around the FEM. We recommend that the layout of the evaluation board should be copied as close as possible to prevent any performance degradation. From one layout to another, the space and parts placement can change therefore, these are important recommendations one has to keep in mind (Please refer to the evaluation board schematic):

- For best linearity C26 and C16 should be placed as close to the FEM as possible.
- For best harmonic rejection, the combination of C26, C27, C9, L3, C11, and C12 placement and values are important. It is recommended to follow the evaluation board layout for best performance. Also the value and placement of C7, C8, C2, and C4 are important for harmonic rejection so care has to be taken on the placement and values of these parts.
- All RF transmission lines should be as close as possible to 50Ω no matter what the stack is and what board material is used.
- We recommend that you contact RFMD application support to review your schematics and layout to provide recommendations

802.11a Transmit Path:

The RF5388 high band power amplifier operates at frequencies between 4.9 GHz to 5.85 GHz and has a typical gain of 26 dB and delivers 16 dBm typical output power under 54 Mbps OFDM modulation meeting the specified EVM. The RF5388 requires a single positive supply of 3.0 V to 3.6 V to operate at full specifications. Current control optimization for the 802.11a band is provided through one bias control input pin (PAEN_a). The PAEN_a pin requires a regulated supply to maintain nominal bias current. In general, higher PAEN_a voltage produce higher linear output power, higher operating current and higher gain but this voltage should be set in the range that it is specified as per the data sheet. Second and third harmonic filtering is provided on the die so that the second and third harmonics level are well below -30 dBm for the bands that are not restricted by the FCC and <-41.3 dBm for bands that are restricted by the FCC.



For best performance of the high band transmit path care has to be taken with the placement and values of some of the components around the FEM. We recommend that the layout of the evaluation board should be copied as close as possible to prevent any performance degradation. From one layout to another, the space and parts placement can change therefore, these are important recommendations one has to keep in mind (Please refer to the evaluation board schematic):

- For best linearity, the combination of components on Pins 14, 17, and 18 should be copied as per the evaluation board. The placement of these components should be as close to the FEM as possible.
- All RF transmission lines should be as close as possible to 50Ω .
- We recommend that you contact RFMD application support to review your layout and to provide recommendations.

802.11b/g Receive Path

The 802.11b/g path has 50Ω impedance with a nominal insertion loss and noise figure of 2dB. The RX port return loss is -10dB Typical. Depending on the application, if filtering is required beyond what the RF5388 can achieve then additional external filters will need to be added outside of the RF5388.

802.11a Receive Path

The 802.11a path has 50Ω impedance with a nominal gain of 9dB and 4.5dB typical noise figure pin to pin. The RX port return loss is -10dB typical. Depending on the application, if filtering is required beyond what the RF5388 can achieve then additional external filters will need to be added outside of the RF5388.

Biasing instruction for TX Measurements:

- Connect (TX_a or TX_g) to RFIN from the signal Generator and ANT to RFOUT to the signal analyzer.
- Terminate all unused ports to 50Ω .
- Connect GND first and then the bias pins (V_{CC}) which is common between V_{CC-a} and V_{CC-g} but make sure the V_{CC} is off at this point.
- Connect Switch Control pins (SW1 and SW2) with all set to 0V.
- Set compliance on PAEN_a / PAEN_g to <10 mA.
- Set compliance on V_{CC} to <300 mA.
- Set SW1=HighV or equal to V_{CC} and turn on.
- Connect SW2 to GND for both 11a and 11g TX operation.
- Set VCC = 3.30V and turn on.
- Set PAEN_a / PAEN _g = 2.85V and turn on. With no RF drive the part should draw ~ 100 -130mA quiescent current for either 11a or 11g bands.
- Turn RF signal on from the signal Generator.
- · Perform measurements.
- · Follow reverse procedure to turn part off.
- Max RFIN power allowed is +5dBm.



