

TRF3765 Integer/Fractional-N PLL With Integrated VCO Evaluation Module

This document describes usage and features of the TRF3765 evaluation module (EVM) for wideband frequency synthesis applications. The synthesizer uses an integer/fractional-N PLL with integrated VCOs to generate local oscillator signals from 300 MHz to 4800 MHz. This document describes rapid-start setup procedures, detailed descriptions of circuit blocks and available options, schematics and printed-circuit board layout, and a common start-up problem troubleshooting guide.

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1 Quick-Start Operating Procedures

The TRF3765 evaluation module (EVM) is preconfigured to use a 3.3-Vdc power supply on TP2. The supply must be capable of supplying 250 mA.

SPI communication is required for configuring the TRF3765 device. J7 accepts a mini-USB connector that can be driven through the device graphical user interface (GUI).

Local oscillator (LO) outputs are available in four differential pairs on SMA coaxial connectors J1, J3-J6, and J9-J11.

The following steps describe the EVM setup for basic operation with the default hardware configuration.

- 1. Connect the mini-USB connector. LED D1 draws power through the mini-USB connector and illuminates immediately.
- 2. Power the device by supplying TP2 with 3.3 V. Use TP3 for the ground connection. Board revisions prior to Revision D may require additional power supply connections.
- 3. Connect the LO output to measurement equipment.
- 4. Install and start the GUI software.
- 5. Initiate a communication link with the device by using the GUI Connect button. Follow on-screen instructions to load a register configuration file. Select file *TRF3765.FracMode.3p3Vtank.2600MHz.txt* for a fractional mode board and *TRF3765.IntMode.3p3Vtank.2600MHz.txt* for an integer mode board.
- 6. Verify lock-detect on LED D2 and the signal on measurement equipment. If D2 is not illuminated, no signal is present or the signal is at the incorrect frequency. Check GUI settings on any of the High Level tabs and recalibrate.
- 7. Using default hardware and configuration settings, fractional mode integrate phase noise is –47 dBc to –48 dBc/Hz, whereas integer mode integrated phase is –44 dBc/Hz.

2 Circuit Block Descriptions

This section describes each of the major circuit blocks and their configuration options.

2.1 Test Points

Test points are used throughout the board for control and monitoring. These test points are color-coded for quick reference. The color codes are described in Table 1.

Table 1. Test Point Color Codes

Color	Group	Reference Designators
Black	Ground	TP1, TP3, TP4, TP11, TP14, TP27-TP30
White	Unregulated supply	TP2, TP24
Red	Unregulated supply	TP5
Purple	Regulated supply	TP25, TP26
Green	VCC and SPI monitor	TP6-TP10, TP12, TP13, TP19-TP23
Blue	VCC1 monitor	TP15-TP18



2.2 Power Supply

The TRF3765 uses three primary power supplies: VCC1, VCC2, and VCC3. In the default configuration, VCC1 and VCC2 are connected onboard by R41 and VCC3 is unused. The entire board can be supplied through 3.3 V on TP2 or Revision D boards. Earlier board revisions require multiple power connections.

A clean power supply is critical to optimal phase noise performance of the synthesizer. The impact of the power supply is discussed in detail in the application report *Supply Noise Effect on Oscillator Phase Noise* (SLWA066). Linear power supplies are the best sources available. Switching power supplies degrade in-band phase noise by 10 dB compared to linear laboratory supplies. Onboard regulators U3 and U4 are ultra-clean TPS74201 linear regulators that also provide excellent performance when they are driven by most laboratory power supply equipment. These regulators provide performance comparable to a clean linear supply. To use these regulated 3.3-V supplies, disconnect power from TP2 and remove R41. Connect 5 V to TP26, using TP27 for ground. Place jumpers on JP4 and JP5 to shunt jumper pins 1 and 2

VCC3 can be used to drive VCC_TK, a 3.3-V/5-V tolerant supply on the TRF3765. VCC_TK is normally driven by the 3.3-V VCC2 supply, but some applications perform better with a 5-V supply on VCC_TK. To use VCC3 to drive VCC_TK at 5 V, move FB2 onto FB11. Populate R12 with a short. Then drive VCC3 through TP5 with a clean linear laboratory supply at 5 V.

VCC3 can also be driven at 5 V by onboard regulator U5. However, this regulator is not as clean as a linear laboratory supply, and some phase noise performance loss occurs. To use the VCC3 onboard 5-V regulator, drive TP25 with 6 V using TP28 for ground and place a jumper on JP1 to shunt jumper pins 1 and 2.

The TRF3765EVM includes a power supply filter. This filter can be used to reduce in-band frequency noise from a switching power supply so that an external supply can drive 5 V on VCC_TK. Phase noise performance using a high-quality laboratory switching power supply to drive VCC3 through TP5 is similar to performance measured using a linear supply. The filter is equipped with BNC connectors for convenient connection with power supply banana jacks.

Each VCC pin on the TRF3765 connects to an individual test point. The test point may be used for monitoring. Because each supply pin is isolated through a ferrite bead, by lifting the ferrite bead these test points may also be used to drive single-device supply pins.

Spurs occurring in the LO signal at 60 kHz and 100 kHz offset from the carrier are usually the result of ground loops in power supply cabling.

2.3 Loop Filter

Loop-filter components are also critical to optimal phase noise performance. The loop filter must be matched to the selected phase frequency detector (PFD) frequency. TRF3765 boards are shipped with components matched to the onboard reference clock and configuration file. However, to use a different PFD frequency, the loop-filter components must be updated. The Loop Filter Design Tool available at ti.com in the TRF3765EVM product folder is an intuitive software package that identifies proper component values.

Loop filter reference designators are shown in Figure 1. The assembly layout of these components is shown in a silkscreen blow-up on the EVM.



Configuration Options www.ti.com

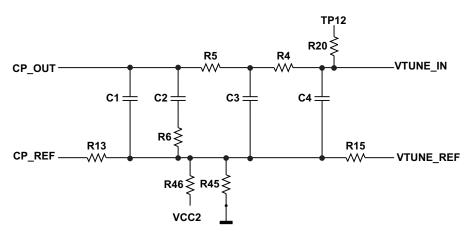


Figure 1. Loop Filter Reference Designators

VTune may be monitored on TP12 without disrupting circuit operation, because R20 is a high-value resistance. TP12 can also be used to drive VTune for open-loop VCO measurements when the TRF3765 charge pump is in 3-state logic. A 1-µF capacitor on C4 is also recommended for open-loop measurements to help stabilize the applied voltage.

By default, reference is tied to ground through shorts on R13, R15, and R45, with R46 open.

2.4 SPI Communication

SPI communication from the TRF3765 GUI passes through mini-USB connector J7. The USB interface is decoded and encoded by U2 into SPI lines DATA, STROBE, CLK, and RDBK. U2 is powered through the USB connection instead of the board supply, and LED D1 indicates USB power is applied. Test points TP6–TP10 can be used to monitor SPI communication with laboratory equipment. The laboratory equipment must be set to high impedance so that it does not load the communication lines.

When the USB cable is disconnected, U2 I/Os are high impedance. In this case, TP6–TP10 can be used to directly drive the SPI lines.

The power-on reset default register settings in the TRF3765 do not correspond to a valid operational state. SPI initialization is required to operate the device. Once the registers have been initialized, the mini-USB cable may be disconnected without disrupting device operation. However, once the mini-USB has been reconnected, the link must be reestablished through the GUI Connect button on the Start Up tab. The link exists between the GUI computer and U2, so loss of power to the TRF3765 device does not require reestablishing the link. Loss of device power, however, does require re-initialization of the registers.

2.5 Reference Clock

An oscillator is installed on the TRF3765EVM to provide a reference clock to the device. JP2 installed provides supply voltage to the oscillator, whereas JP3 installed connects the oscillator output to the TRF3765. The oscillator frequency drifts over temperature and is not rated for the full TRF3765 temperature operating range, so temperature testing must use an external reference clock.

An external reference clock can be supplied through the SMA connector J8. When using an external reference clock, remove jumpers on JP2 and JP3. The external reference is ac-coupled to the TRF3765 input pin. An external reference can also be used to frequency-lock the device to laboratory equipment. Verify that any supplied reference clock has low phase noise.

3 Configuration Options

The TRF3765 evaluation module ships configured for either integer mode or fractional mode. Each configuration is designed to use different reference and PFD frequencies and also has the corresponding loop-filter components. Differences in integer mode and fractional mode boards are listed in Table 2.



Item	Fractional Mode	Integer Mode
Oscillator	Y1 frequency 61.44 MHz	Y1 frequency 40 MHz
Typical PFD frequency	30.72 MHz	1.6 MHz
Loop filter components	$C20 = 2200 \text{ pF}$ $C19 = 22000 \text{ pF}$ $R6 = 475 \Omega$ $R5 = 475 \Omega$ $C14 = 220 \text{ pF}$ $R4 = 475 \Omega$ $C15 = 220 \text{ pF}$	$C20 = 47 \text{ pF}$ $C19 = 560 \text{ pF}$ $R6 = 10 \text{ k}\Omega$ $R5 = 5 \text{ k}\Omega$ $C14 = 4.7 \text{ pF}$ $R4 = 0 \Omega$ $C15 = \text{open}$
Configuration file	TRF3765.FracMode.3p3Vtank.2600MHz.txt	TRF3765.IntMode.3p3Vtank.2600MHz.txt

4 Physical Description

The TRF3765EVM is designed to be a high-performance platform for the TRF3765 device. This section describes the schematic, layout and stackup, and bill of materials corresponding to Revision D boards.

4.1 Schematic

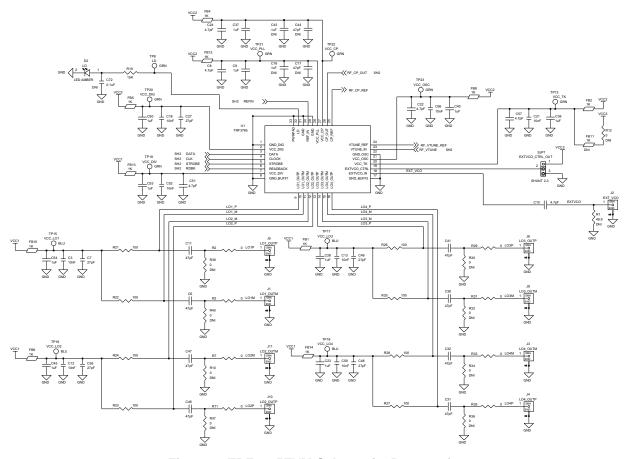


Figure 2. TRF3765EVM Schematic, Page 1 of 3



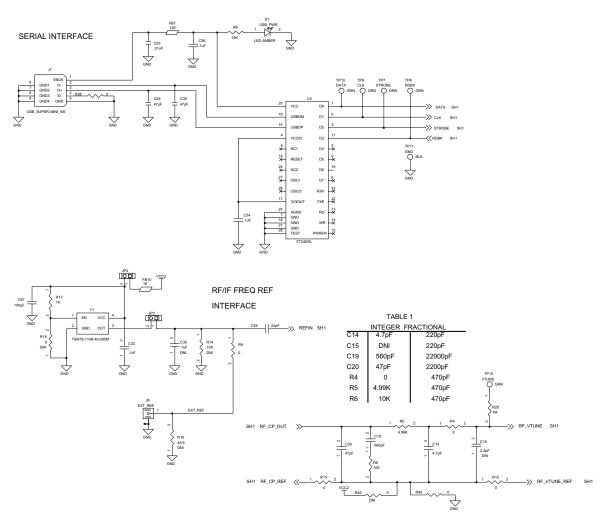


Figure 3. TRF3765EVM Schematic, Page 2 of 3



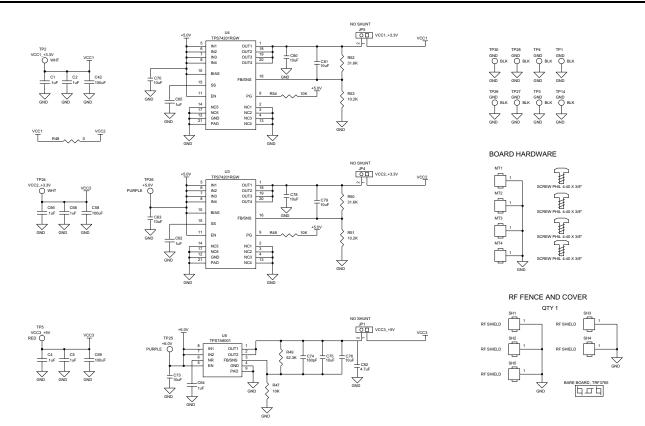


Figure 4. TRF3765EVM Schematic, Page 3 of 3



4.2 Layout

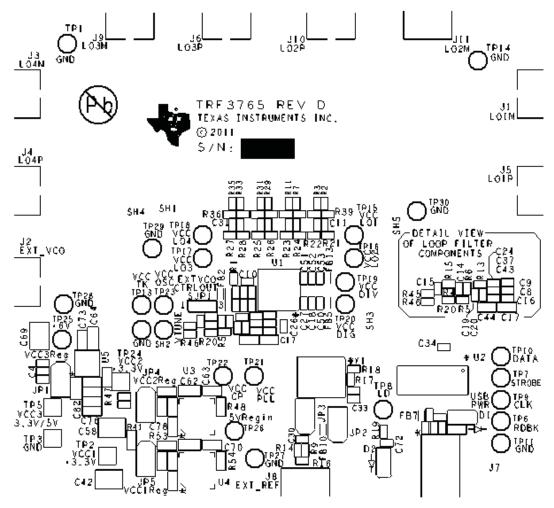


Figure 5. Silkscreen, Top



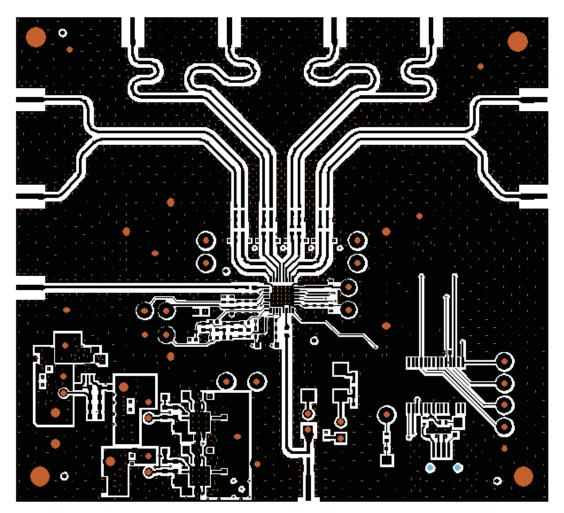


Figure 6. Top Layer and Drill Map



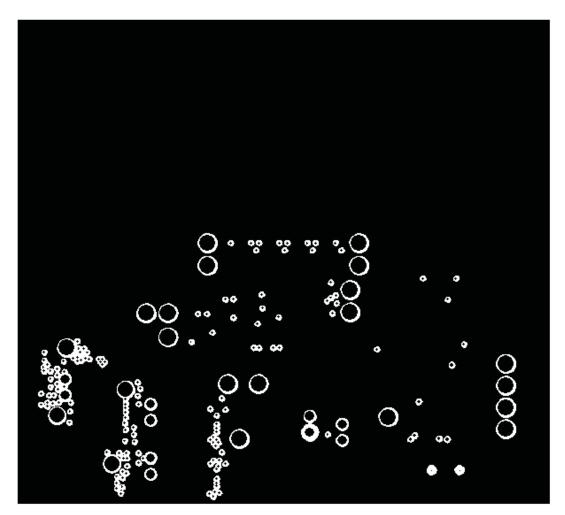


Figure 7. Layer 2, Ground



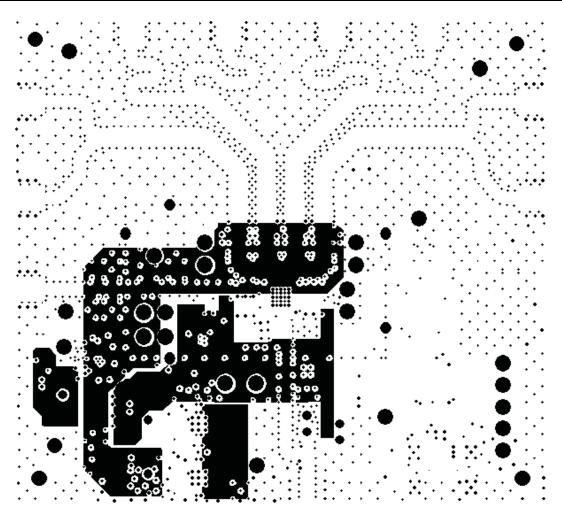


Figure 8. Layer 3, Power



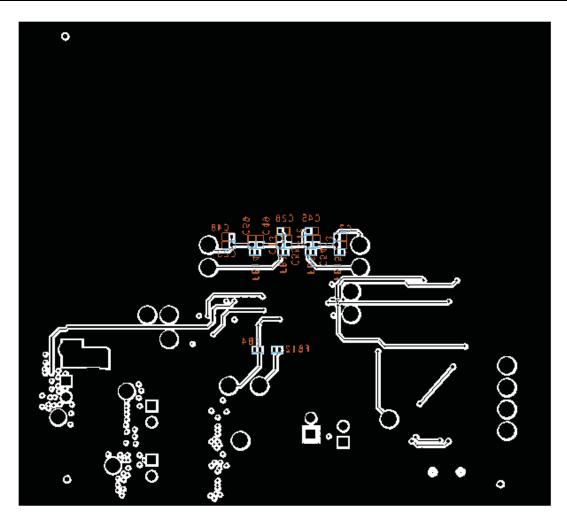


Figure 9. Bottom Layer and Silkscreen

Figure 10. Fabrication Drawing

4.3 Bill of Materials

Table 3. Fractional Board Bill of Materials

Item No.	Qty	Note	Part Reference	Value	PCB Footprint	Manufacturer	Manufacturer Part No.
1	6		C1, C4, C33, C34, C36, C66	0.1uF	0402	PANASONIC	ECJ-0EB1C104K
2	13		C2, C5, C9, C23, C28, C37, C39, C40, C45, C50, C53, C54, C68	1uF	0402	PANASONIC	ECJ-0EB1A105M
3	8		C3, C12, C13, C18, C21, C52, C56, C59	10nF	0402	MURATA	GRM155R71E103KA01D
4	8		C6, C11, C31, C32, C38, C41, C46, C47	47pF	0402	AVX CORP	GRM1555C1H470JZ01
5	5		C7, C27, C48, C49, C55	27pF	0402	AVX	04025A270JAT2A
6	6		C8, C10, C22, C24, C51, C57	4.7pF	0402	MURATA	GRM1555C1H4R7CZ01D
7	2		C14, C15	220pF	0402	AVX	04023A221JAT2A
8	1		C82	4.7uF	0805	TDK CORP	C2012X5R1A475K/0.86
9	0	DNI	C16, C30, C43	0.1uF	0402	PANASONIC	ECJ-0EB1A104K_DNI
10	0	DNI	C17, C44	47pF	0603	MURATA	GRM1885C1H470JA01D_DNI



Table 3. Fractional Board Bill of Materials (continued)

Item No.	Qty	Note	Part Reference	Value	PCB Footprint	Manufacturer	Manufacturer Part No.
11	1		C19	22000pF	0402	MURATA	GRM155R71C223KA01D
12	1		C20	2200pF	0402	AVX	04025C222JAT2A
13	2		C29, C35	47pF	0402	PANASONIC	ECJ-0EC1H470J
14	1		C25	0.01uF	0402	PANASONIC	ECJ-0EB1E103K
15	1		C26	22pF	0402	PANASONIC	ECJ-0EC1H220J
16	3		C42, C58, C69	100uF	1210	PANASONIC	ECJ-4YB0J107M
17	3		C62, C64, C65,	1uF	0805	TDK CORP	C2012X5R1E105K
18	9		C63, C70, C73, C75, C76, C78, C79, C80, C81	10uF	0603	MURATA	GRM188R60J106ME47D
19	1		C67	100pF	0402	MURATA	GRM1555C1H101JZ01D
20	0	DNI	C72	0.1uF	0402	PANASONIC	ECJ-0EB1A104K_DNI
21	1		C74	160pF	0603	TDK Corp	C1608C0G1H161J
22	2		D1, D2	LED AMBER	LED_0805	PANASONIC	LNJ406K54RX
23	11		FB1, FB2, FB4-FB6, FB8, FB10, FB12-FB15	1K	IND_0402	MURATA	BLM15AG102SN1
24	1		FB7	120	IND_0402	MURATA	BLM15AG121SNIB
25	0	DNI	FB11	1K	IND_0402	MURATA	BLM15AG102SN1_DNI
26	10		J1-J6, J8-J11	SMA_END_JACK	SMA_SMEL_250x215	Johnson Components	142-0711-821
7	1		J7	USB_SUPER-MINI_AB	CON_SMRT_USBMNE20_F	ACON	MNE20-5G5P10
28	5		JP1-JP5	JUMPER_1X2_100	HDR_THVT_1X2_100_M	SAMTEC	TSW-102-07-L-S
29	4		MT1-MT4	STANDOFF 4-40 X 0.500" ALUM	mfg125_plated	KEYSTONE	3480
30	0	DNI	R1 R16	49.9	0402	PANASONIC	ERJ-2RKF49R9X_DNI
31	12		R2, R3, R7, R9, R11, R13, R15, R29, R31, R33, R35, R45	0	0402	PANASONIC	ERJ-2GE0R00X
32	3		R4, R5, R6	470	0402	PANASONIC	ERJ-2RKF4700X
33	2		R8, R19	15K	0402	PANASONIC	ERJ-2GEJ153X
34	0	DNI	R10, R12, R18, R30, R32, R34, R36, R37, R39, R40, R46	0	0402	PANASONIC	ERJ-2GE0R00X_DNI
35	0	DNI	R14	10K	0402	PANASONIC	ERJ-2GEJ103X_DNI
36	1		R17	1K	0402	PANASONIC	ERJ-2GEJ102X
37	1		R20	1M	0402	PANASONIC	ERJ-2RKF1004X
38	8		R21, R22-R28	100	0402	PANASONIC	ERJ-2RKF1000X
39	2		R38, R41	0	0603	Panasonic	ERJ-3GEY0R00V
40	3		R47, R48, R54	10K	0603	PANASONIC	ERJ-3EKF1002V
41	1		R49	52.3K	0603	PANASONIC	ERJ-3EKF5232V
42	2		R50, R52	31.6K	0603	PANASONIC	ERJ-3EKF3162V
43	2		R51, R53	10.2K	0603	PANASONIC	ERJ-3EKF1022V
44	0	DNI	SH1-SH5	RF SHIELD	MFG053_PTH	LEADER TECH	SL-10797
45	0	DNI	SJP1	SOLDER JUMPER, 0603	SJP3_JUMPER	DNI	DNI
46	8		TP1, TP4, TP11, TP14, TP27- TP30	BLK	TP_THVT_100_RND	KEYSTONE	5001K
47	1		TP3	BLK	TESTPOINT_62DIA	KEYSTONE	5011K
48	2		TP2, TP24	WHT	TESTPOINT_62DIA	KEYSTONE	5012K
49	1		TP5	RED	TESTPOINT_62DIA	KEYSTONE	5010K
50	12		TP6-TP10, TP12, TP13, TP19-TP23	GRN	TP_THVT_100_RND	KEYSTONE	5116K
51	4		TP15-TP18	BLU	TP_THVT_100_RND	KEYSTONE	5117K
52	2		TP25, TP26	PURPLE	TP_THVT_100_RND	KEYSTONE	5119K
53	1		U1	TRF3765	QFN_32_197X197_20_PWRPAD	TI	TRF3765
54	1		U2	FT245RL	ssop_28_413x220_26	FTDI Chip	FT245RL
55	2		U3, U4	TPS74201RGW	QFN_20_199X199_0P65MM	TI	TPS74201RGW
56	1		U5	TPS7A8001	SON_8_3MMX3MM_0P65MM	TI	TPS7A8001DRB
57	1		Y1	TSM75-1148-61.440M	OSC_4_SM_295x197	Transko	TSM75-1148-61.440M
58	4			PHIL 4-40 X 3/8"		Building Fasteners	PMSSS 440 0038 PH
59	2	pins 1-2	FOR JP2 AND JP3	SHUNT	+	KELTRON	MJ-5.97-G OR EQUIVALENT



Table 3. Fractional Board Bill of Materials (continued)

Item No.	Qty	Note	Part Reference	Value	PCB Footprint	Manufacturer	Manufacturer Part No.	
60	1	pins 2-3	FOR SJP1	SHUNT-JUMPER-0603		PANASONIC	ERJ-3GE0R00X	

Table 4. Integer Board Bill of Materials, Differences from Fractional Board

Item No.	Qty	Note	Part Reference	Value	PCB Footprint	Manufacturer	Manufacturer Part No.
7	1		C14	4.7pF	0402	PANASONIC	ECD-G0E4R7B
8	0	DNI	C15	2.2pF	0402	PANASONIC	ECD-G0E2R2B
11	1		C19	560pF	0402	MURATA	GRM155R71H561KA01D
12	3		C20	47pF	0402	PANASONIC	ECJ-0EC1H470J
30	13		R4	0	0402	PANASONIC	ERJ-2GE0R00X
31	1		R5	4.99K	0402	PANASONIC	ERJ-2RKF4991X
32	1		R6	10K	0402	PANASONIC	ERJ-2RKF1002X
56	1		Y1	TSM75-1148-40.000M	OSC_4_SM_295x197	Transko	TSM75-1148-40.000M



www.ti.com Troubleshooting FAQs

5 Troubleshooting FAQs

This section provides troubleshooting sequences in Table 5 to resolve several of the most frequently asked questions.

Table 5. Troubleshooting Sequences

Problem	Response
	Verify that the loop filter components correspond to the programmed PFD frequency.
	Check power on device pin test points: TP12. TP13.TP19-TP23
	Verify that one refclk is applied, generated either onboard or offboard.
	Registers 1 to 6 must be initialized. Reload the start-up macro. Execute VCO calibration after initialization is complete.
	Fractional mode operation must set LD_ANA_PREC* at low precision (1).
LD diode D2 won't light up	Verify GUI communication with the device. Readback value fields display nonzero hexadecimal values after a register is written. The GUI Low Level display allows direct register readback.
	Using the GUI Low Level tab, read registers. Verify that read ADDR bits are correct and that no N.U. bits have been initialized. Reset the device by removing power if a faulty address has been sent to the device or if any N.U. bits have been set.
	Measure voltage on TP8. Multimeter measurements below 2 V but above 0.5 V indicate toggling LD.
	Verify Cal_Clk frequency.
	High Level tab readback is supported on GUI revision 6 or later. Low Level readback is supported on all GUI releases.
No readback from registers	Prerelease device revisions may not support readback. Verify the device markings do not include a <i>P</i> prefix on the first line.
	On the GUI Start Up tab, Disconnect, verify that Simulate Connection is not selected, then Connect.
	Verify that the buffer is configured to be powered on by reading back register 4 on the GUI Low Level tab. 0 = on, and 1 = off.
No LO output	Verify that registers are successfully reading back from the device to confirm communication.
	Check power on device pin test points: TP12, TP13, TP19-TP23
	Verify that one refclk is applied, generated either onboard or offboard.
	Remove any monitoring equipment from the VTune tap on TP12.
Spurs or unstable output frequency	Verify that EN_DITH, EN_ISOURCE are set properly for integer or fractional mode. Verify VCO_BIAS is set properly for the applied VCC_TK voltage level. In fractional mode, verify that MOD_ORD is third (2) and DITH_SEL is Random (0).
	Eliminate ground loops in power supplies.
	Verify that the installed loop filter corresponds to the applied refclk and PFD frequency.
Poor phase noise	Verify that the power supply is clean and is not an unfiltered switching power supply.
	Revert the board to shipping hardware configuration, load a factory-supplied, start-up file, and verify phase noise against data sheet measurements.

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EVM Warnings and Restrictions

It is important to operate this EVM within the input voltage range of 0 V to 5.5 V and the output voltage range of 0 V to 3.6 V.

Exceeding the specified input range may cause unexpected operation and/or irreversible damage to the EVM. If there are questions concerning the input range, please contact a TI field representative prior to connecting the input power.

Applying loads outside of the specified output range may result in unintended operation and/or possible permanent damage to the EVM. 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 85° C. The EVM is designed to operate properly with certain components above 85° C as long as the input and output ranges are maintained. These components include but are not limited to linear regulators, switching transistors, pass transistors, and current sense resistors. These types of devices can be identified using the EVM schematic located in the EVM User's Guide. When placing measurement probes near these devices during operation, please be aware that these devices may be very warm to the touch.

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