WCDMA Evaluation Board for PLL Frequency Synthesizer

FEATURES
Self-contained board including synthesizer, VCO, and loop filter for generating WCDMA frequencies (1.93 GHz to 1.99 GHz)
Designed for 20 kHz loop bandwidth
Accompanying software allows complete control of synthesizer functions from a PC
Battery operated: choice of 3 V or 5 V supplies
Typical phase noise performance of −85 dBC/Hz at 1 kHz offset

GENERAL DESCRIPTION
This board is designed to allow the user to evaluate the performance of the ADF4118 frequency synthesizer for phase-locked loops (PLLs). The block diagram of the board is shown in Figure 1. It contains the ADF4118 synthesizer, a PC connector, TCXO for the reference input, SMA connectors for the power supplies, and an RF output. There is also a low-pass loop filter (20 kHz) and a VCO (Vari-L VCO190-1960T) on board. A cable is included with the board to connect to a PC printer port.

The package also contains Windows® software to allow easy programming of the synthesizer.

Figure 1.
TABLE OF CONTENTS
Features .............................................................................................. 1
General Description .......................................................................... 1
Block Diagram .................................................................................. 1
Revision History ............................................................................... 2
Evaluation Board Hardware.............................................................3
Loop Components..............................................................................3
Evaluation Board Software...............................................................4
Evaluation Board Schematics...........................................................5

REVISION HISTORY
6/11—Revision 0: Initial Version
EVALUATION BOARD HARDWARE

The evaluation board is supplied with a cable for connecting to the printer port of a PC. The silkscreen and cable diagram for the evaluation board are shown in Figure 2 and Figure 3, respectively. The board schematics are shown in Figure 5 and Figure 6.

The board is powered from a single 9 V battery. The power supply circuitry allows the user to choose either 3 V or 5 V for the ADF4118 $V_{DD}$ and $V_T$ and for the VCO supply. The default settings are 3 V for the ADF4118 $V_{DD}$ and 5 V for the ADF4118 $V_T$ and for the VCO supply. It is very important to note that the ADF4118 $V_{DD}$ should never exceed the ADF4118 $V_T$. This can damage the device.

All components necessary for LO generation are included on board. The 10 MHz TCXO from Vectron provides the necessary reference input. The PLL is made up of the ADF4118, a passive loop filter (20 kHz), and the VCO 190-1960T from Vari-L. The output is available at $RF_{OUT}$ through a standard SMA connector. Alternatively, users can use their own power supplies and reference input. In this case, insert SMA connectors as shown on the silkscreen in Figure 2 and the block diagram in Figure 1.

LOOP COMPONENTS

C1 = 150 pF, C2 = 1.5 nF, C3 = 82 pF.

R1 = 22 kΩ, R1a = 22 kΩ, R2 = 20 kΩ.
EVALUATION BOARD SOFTWARE

The software is supplied on a CD. Double-click setup.exe to open the install wizard, which installs the software. Follow the on-screen instructions. The software is then installed in a default directory: C:/ProgramFiles/ADF4XXX/ADF4XXX_revx. To run the software, simply double-click adf4XXX_revx.exe.

Before the main Main Interface Page appears, the device window opens, which prompts you to choose the device to be evaluated.

1. Select the ADF4118 and click OK.
2. The Main Interface Page window opens (see Figure 4).
3. Click the Eval Board box near the top right corner of the Main Interface Page window.
4. When the evaluation board window opens, select the Eval-ADF4118EBZ1 and click OK.

The data is now set up, and you can explore the other features of the Main Interface Page window.

![Main Interface Page](image)
Figure 5. Evaluation Board Circuit Diagram (Page 1)
Figure 6. Evaluation Board Circuit Diagram (Page 2)
NOTES

ESD Caution

ESD (electrostatic discharge) sensitive device. Charged devices and circuit boards can discharge without detection. Although this product features patented or proprietary protection circuitry, damage may occur on devices subjected to high energy ESD. Therefore, proper ESD precautions should be taken to avoid performance degradation or loss of functionality.

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