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### **AS3933 3D Low Frequency Wake-Up Receiver**

#### <span id="page-1-0"></span>**General Description**

The AS3933 is a 3-channel low power ASK receiver that is able to generate a wake-up upon detection of a data signal which uses a LF carrier frequency between 15-150 kHz. The integrated correlator can be used for detection of a programmable 16-bit or 32-bit Manchester wake-up pattern. The device can operate using one, two, or three active channels.

The AS3933 provides a digital RSSI value for each active channel, it supports a programmable data rate and Manchester decoding with clock recovery. The AS3933 offers an internal Clock Generator, which is either derived from a crystal oscillator or the internal RC oscillator. The user can decide to use the external clock generator instead.

The programmable features of AS3933 enable to optimize its settings for achieving a longer distance while retaining a reliable wake-up generation. The sensitivity level of AS3933 can be adjusted in presence of a strong field or in noisy environments.

Antenna tuning is greatly simplified, as the automatic tuning feature ensures perfect matching to the desired carrier frequency.

The device is available in 16-pin TSSOP and 16-LD QFN (4x4mm) packages, and DoW (dice on wafer).

[Ordering Information](#page-58-0) and [Content Guide](#page-63-0) appear at end of datasheet.

#### **Key Benefits & Features**

The benefits and features of AS3933, 3D Low Frequency Wake-Up Receiver are listed below:

<span id="page-1-1"></span>**Figure 1: Added Value of Using AS3933** 



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#### **Applications**

The AS3933, 3D Low Frequency Wake-Up Receiver is ideal for Active RFID tags, Real-time location systems, Operator identification, Access control, and Wireless sensors.

<span id="page-2-0"></span>**Figure 2: AS3933 Typical Application Diagram with Crystal Oscillator** 



#### <span id="page-3-0"></span>**Figure 3: AS3933 Typical Application Diagram with RC Oscillator**



#### <span id="page-3-1"></span>**Figure 4: AS3933 Typical Application Diagram with Clock from External Source**



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#### <span id="page-4-1"></span><span id="page-4-0"></span>**Pin Assignments**

#### **TSSOP-16 Package**

**Figure 5: TSSOP Pin Assignment (Top View)**



#### *Pin Description*

<span id="page-4-2"></span>





#### **QFN-16 Package**

**Figure 7: QFN Pin Assignment (Top View)**

<span id="page-5-0"></span>





#### *Pin Description*

**Figure 8: QFN-16 Pin Description** 





#### **Dice On Wafer**

DoW Attributes:

- **•** Wafer Diameter: 8"
- **•** Process: 0.35μm
- **•** Wafer Thickness: 725μm ± 15μm
- **•** Scribe line: 80μm
- **•** Chip Size: 2.070 x 1.700 mm
- **•** Pad Size: 85 x 85 μm

**Figure 9: DoW Pad Assignment** 



#### **Figure 10:**

**DoW Pad Description and Position** 





#### <span id="page-9-0"></span>**Absolute Maximum Ratings**

Stresses beyond those listed in Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only. Functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions beyond those indicated in [Operating Conditions](#page-10-0) is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

#### **Figure 11: Absolute Maximum Ratings**





### <span id="page-10-1"></span>**Electrical Characteristics**

<span id="page-10-0"></span>**Figure 12:**

**Operating Conditions** 



**Figure 13:**

**DC/AC Characteristics for Digital Inputs and Outputs** 



#### <span id="page-11-0"></span>**Figure 14:**

**Electrical System Specifications** 













#### <span id="page-15-0"></span>**Typical Operating Characteristics**

**Figure 15: Sensitivity vs Voltage and Temperature** 



**Figure 16: Sensitivity vs RSSI** 



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**Figure 17: RC-Oscillator Frequency vs Voltage (Calibr.)** 



**Figure 18: RC-Oscillator Frequency vs Temperature (Calibr.)** 



#### <span id="page-17-0"></span>**Detailed Description**

The AS3933 is a three-dimensional low power low-frequency wake-up receiver. The AS3933 is capable of detecting the presence of an inductive coupled carrier and can extract the envelope of the ON-OFF-Keying (OOK) modulated carrier. In case the carrier is Manchester coded, the clock can be recovered from the received signal and the data can be correlated with a programmed pattern. If the detected pattern corresponds to the stored one, a wake-up signal (IRQ) is risen up. The pattern correlation can be disabled; in this case the wake-up detection is based only on the frequency detection.

The AS3933 is made up of three independent receiving channels, one envelop detector, one data correlator, one Manchester decoder, 19 programmable registers with the main logic and a Clock Generator.

The digital logic can be accessed by an SPI. The Clock Generator can be based on a crystal oscillator, or an internal RC-oscillator or an external clock. In case the RC-oscillator is used to improve its accuracy, a calibration can be performed.

The internal LC-oscillator can deliver the antenna's oscillation frequency for each channel and the internal tuning capacitor bank can provide fine tuning.

The Internal RC-oscillator can be calibrated either over SPI or using the internal algorithm based on the antenna resonance frequency.





AS3933 needs the following external components:

- **•** Power supply capacitor CBAT 100 nF.
- **•** 32.768 kHz crystal with its two pulling capacitors XTAL and CL - (it is possible to omit these components if the internal RC oscillator is used instead of the crystal oscillator).
- **•** One, two, or three LC resonators according to the number of used channels.

In case the internal RC-oscillator is used (no crystal oscillator is mounted), the pin XIN has to be connected to the supply, while pin XOUT should stay floating. Application diagrams with and without crystal are shown in [Figure 2](#page-2-0), [Figure 3](#page-3-0) and [Figure 4.](#page-3-1)

#### **Operating Modes**

The diagram in [Figure 20](#page-18-0) shows how the AS3933 operates.

**Figure 20: Operating Modes Flow Chart**

<span id="page-18-1"></span><span id="page-18-0"></span>

#### <span id="page-19-0"></span>*Listening Mode*

In listening mode, the chip is active and looks continuously for the presence of the carrier on the input of all active channels. In this mode, only the active channel amplifiers and the Clock Generator are running. In case the carrier is detected, then the RSSI measurements get started on all three channels and the result is stored in the memory.

If the three dimensional detection is not required, then it is possible to deactivate one or more channels. In case only two channels are required, then the deactivated channel must be the number two; while in case only one channel is needed, then the active channel must be the number one.

Inside the listening mode, it is possible to distinguish the following three low power sub modes:

*Standard Listening Mode*. All channels are active at the same time.

*Scanning Mode (Low Power Mode 1)*. In this sub-mode, a time slot T=1ms is defined and in each time slot only one channel can be active. As shown in [Figure 21](#page-20-0) when a certain time slot is over, the current active channel is switched OFF and the next channel becomes active and so on. If, for example all three channels are enabled, in the first time slot the only active channel is the number one. When the first time slot is over, the channel one is switched OFF and the channel three becomes active. During the third time slot, the channel two is active while the other two are OFF. This channel rotation starts back from the channel one and goes on until the presence of the carrier is detected by any channel. The Scanning mode (channel rotation) is managed internally by the AS3933 and doesn't need any activity from the host system (MCU). As soon as one channel detects the frequency, all three channels become immediately active at the same time. The AS3933 can perform a simultaneous multidirectional evaluation (on all three channels) of the field and evaluate which channel has the strongest RSSI. The channel with the highest RSSI will be put through to the demodulator. In this way it is possible to perform multidirectional monitoring of the field with a current consumption of a single channel, keeping the sensitivity as good as if all channels are active at the same time.





#### <span id="page-20-0"></span>**Figure 21: Scanning Mode**



*ON/OFF Mode (Low Power Mode 2)*. In this low power sub-mode the chip sets the receiving channels in polling mode; all active channels are on at the same time only for a certain time T (where T is 1 ms). The OFF-time can be defined with the bits [R4<7:6>](#page-24-0). If, for example, [R4<7:6>=](#page-24-0)11 (see [Figure 25](#page-26-0)) the active channels will be 1ms ON and 8ms OFF.







#### <span id="page-21-1"></span>*Artificial Wake-Up*

For each of these sub modes it is possible to enable a further feature called Artificial Wake-up. The Artificial Wake-up is a counter based on the used Clock Generator. Three bits define a time window (see  $R8 < 2:0$ ). If no activity is seen within this time window, the chip will produce an interrupt on the WAKE pin that lasts 128  $\mu$ s. With this interrupt the microcontroller ( $\mu$ C) can get feedback on the surrounding environment (e.g. read the false wake-up register  $R13<7:0>$ ) and/or take actions in order to change the setup.

#### <span id="page-21-2"></span>*Preamble Detection / Pattern Correlation*

The chip can go in to this mode after detecting a LF carrier only if the data correlation is enabled  $(R1 < 1> = 1)$ . The correlator searches first for preamble bits and then for data pattern. The paragraph [Wake-Up Protocol: Pattern Detection Enabled](#page-44-0) describes how the protocol can be implemented. Should the pattern correlation be disabled  $(R1<1>=0)$  $(R1<1>=0)$  $(R1<1>=0)$ , the AS3933 goes directly in Data receiving mode (see paragraph [Data Receiving](#page-21-0)).

If the received pattern matches, then the wake-up interrupt is displayed on the WAKE output (Wake goes high) and the chip goes in Data receiving mode. If the pattern fails, then the internal wake-up (on all active channels) is terminated and no interrupt is produced.

Having per default DAT MASK disabled ( $R0<6>=0$  $R0<6>=0$ ), the DAT pin shows the entire demodulated incoming signal (carrier burst+preamble+pattern+data).

If DAT MASK is enabled ( $R0<6>=1$  $R0<6>=1$ ), the data will be displayed only after the generation of the WAKEUP interrupt.

**Note(s):** It is important to note that the Manchester decoder must be enabled ([R1<3>=](#page-23-3)1) for this feature.

#### <span id="page-21-0"></span>*Data Receiving*

After a successful wake-up the chip enters the data receiving mode. In this mode the chip can be retained a normal OOK receiver. The data is provided on the DAT pin and in case the Manchester decoder is enabled (see [R1<3>](#page-23-3)), the recovered clock is present on the CL\_DAT. It is possible to set the chip back to listening mode either with a direct command CLEAR\_WAKE (see [Figure 29](#page-28-0)) or by using the timeout feature. This feature automatically sets the chip back to listening mode after a certain time defined by the bits [R7<7:5>.](#page-24-2)

<span id="page-22-0"></span>

#### **System and Block Specification**

#### *Register Overview*

<span id="page-22-1"></span>



#### *Register Description and Default Values*

#### <span id="page-23-17"></span><span id="page-23-4"></span>**Figure 24: Default Values of Registers**

<span id="page-23-16"></span><span id="page-23-15"></span><span id="page-23-14"></span><span id="page-23-13"></span><span id="page-23-12"></span><span id="page-23-11"></span><span id="page-23-10"></span><span id="page-23-9"></span><span id="page-23-8"></span><span id="page-23-7"></span><span id="page-23-6"></span><span id="page-23-5"></span><span id="page-23-3"></span><span id="page-23-2"></span><span id="page-23-1"></span><span id="page-23-0"></span>

# am

<span id="page-24-11"></span><span id="page-24-10"></span><span id="page-24-9"></span><span id="page-24-8"></span><span id="page-24-7"></span><span id="page-24-6"></span><span id="page-24-5"></span><span id="page-24-4"></span><span id="page-24-3"></span><span id="page-24-2"></span><span id="page-24-1"></span><span id="page-24-0"></span>

<span id="page-25-8"></span><span id="page-25-7"></span><span id="page-25-6"></span><span id="page-25-5"></span><span id="page-25-4"></span><span id="page-25-3"></span><span id="page-25-2"></span><span id="page-25-1"></span><span id="page-25-0"></span>

#### *Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI)*

This 4-wire interface is used by the Microcontroller ( $\mu$ C) to program the AS3933. The maximum clock operation frequency of the SPI is 6MHz.

#### <span id="page-26-2"></span><span id="page-26-0"></span>**Figure 25: Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI) Pins**



**Note(s):** SDO is set to tristate if CS is low. In this way more than one device can communicate on the same SDO bus.

*SDI Command Structure.* To program the SPI the CS signal has to go high. A SPI command is made up by a two bytes serial command and the data is sampled on the falling edge of SCLK. The [Figure 26](#page-26-1) shows how the command looks like, from the MSB (B15) to LSB (B0). The command stream has to be sent to the SPI from the MSB (B15) to the LSB (B0).

<span id="page-26-1"></span>**Figure 26: SDI Command Structure** 



The first two bits (B15 and B14) define the operating mode. There are three modes available (write, read, direct command) plus one spare (not used), as shown in [Figure 27](#page-27-0).



#### <span id="page-27-0"></span>**Figure 27: SDI Command Structure**



In case a write or read command happens the next 6 bits (B13 to B8) define the register address which has to be written respectively read, as shown in [Figure 28.](#page-27-1)

#### <span id="page-27-1"></span>**Figure 28: SDI Command Structure**



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The last 8 bits are the data that has to be written respectively read. A CS toggle high-low-high terminates the command mode.

If a direct command is sent (B15-B14=11) the bits from B13 to B8 defines the direct command while the last 8 bits are omitted. [Figure 29](#page-28-0) shows all possible direct commands:

#### <span id="page-28-0"></span>**Figure 29: List of Direct Commands**



All direct commands are explained below:

- clear wake: clears the wake state of the chip. In case the chip has woken up (WAKE pin is high) the chip is set back to listening mode.
- **•** reset\_RSSI: resets the RSSI measurement.
- **•** Calib\_RCosc: starts the trimming procedure of the internal RC oscillator [\(see page 29\)](#page-29-0).
- **•** clear\_false: resets the false wake-up register ([R13<7:0>](#page-25-0)=00).
- **•** preset\_default: sets all register in the default mode, as shown in [Figure 24.](#page-23-4)
- **•** Calib\_RCO\_LC: calibration of the RC-oscillator with the external LC tank [\(see page 31\).](#page-31-0)

*Writing of Data to Addressable Registers (WRITE Mode).* The SPI is sampled at the falling edge of SCLK (as shown in the following diagrams).

A CS toggling high-low-high indicates the end of the WRITE command after register has been written. The following example shows a write command.

#### **Figure 30: Writing of a Single Byte (Falling Edge Sampling)**



#### **Figure 31: Writing of Register Data with Auto-Incrementing Address**



#### <span id="page-29-0"></span>*Reading of Data from Addressable Registers (READ Mode)*.

Once the address has been sent through SPI, the data can be fed through the SDO pin out to the microcontroller.

A CS LOW toggling high-low-high has to be performed after finishing the read mode session, in order to indicate the end of the READ command and prepare the Interface to the next command control Byte.

To transfer bytes from consecutive addresses, SPI master has to keep the CS signal high and the SCLK clock has to be active as long as data need to be read.



#### **Figure 32: Reading of Single Register Byte**



**Figure 33: Send Direct COMMAND Byte** 





#### *SDI Timing*

#### <span id="page-31-0"></span>**Figure 34: SDI Timing Parameters**



#### **Figure 35: SDI Timing Diagram**



### <span id="page-32-0"></span>**MANIT**

#### **Channel Amplifier and Frequency Detector**

Each of the 3 channels consists of a variable gain amplifier (VGA) with automatic gain control (AGC) and a frequency detector. When the AS3933 is in listening mode (waiting for RF signal) the gain of all channel amplifiers is set to maximum. The frequency detector counts the zero crossing of the amplified RF signal to detect the presence of the wanted carrier. As soon as the carrier is detected the AGC is enabled, the gain of the VGA is reduced and set to the right value. The RSSI (Received Signal Strength Indicator) represents how strong the input signal is and it is the inverse representation of the gain of the VGA. In fact, if for example the input signal is very strong the AGC will reduce the gain of the VGA. The gain reduction will correspond to a big RSSI, as it is the inverse of the gain setting of the VGA (small gain corresponds to a big RSSI and vice versa).

The AS3933 is a pretty wide LF wake-up receiver and can work between 15 kHz and 150 kHz. Once the carrier frequency has been chosen the user must set the amplifier working in the appropriate frequency band using the bits [R8<7:5>,](#page-24-3) as described in the [Figure 36](#page-33-1).

It is possible to boost the gain of the amplifiers for +3dB with an improvement of the sensitivity, as shown in the [Figure 14](#page-11-0) ([R2<5>=](#page-23-5)1). The gain boost will increase the current consumption of 100nA (typ) per channel. In case the lowest frequency band is used (15kHz – 23 kHz) the gain boost is automatically enabled from the logic.

It is possible to enable/disable individual channels, in case not all three channels are needed. This enables to reduce the current consumption by 1.5 µA (typ.) per channel.

#### *Frequency Detector / RSSI / Channel Selector*

<span id="page-32-1"></span>The frequency detection is based on a zero crossing counter and uses the Clock Generator as time base. This counter counts the zero crossing of the input signal within a time window defined by the clock generator and if it matches to the expected value it enabled the AGC (the RSSI measurement can get started). The Clock Generator can be based either on the internal RC-oscillator or on the Crystal oscillator or on the external clock source. The details on the choice of the Clock Generator are discussed in the [Clock Generator](#page-49-0). The Clock Generator generates time windows equal to N times its period, where N depends on the operating frequency band, as shown in the [Figure 36.](#page-33-1)

#### <span id="page-33-1"></span>**Figure 36:**

**Bit Setting for the Operating Frequency Range and Time Windows Generation for the Frequency Detection** 



[The frequency detection is successful if in two consecutive time](#page-23-6)  windows the zero threshold counter detects M zero crossing, [where M depends also on the operating frequency range. The](#page-23-6)  frequency detection criteria can be tighter or more relaxed [according to the setup described in](#page-23-6)  $R2<1:0>$  (see [Figure 36](#page-33-1)).

<span id="page-33-0"></span>**Figure 37:**

**Tolerance Settings for Frequency Detection in the Bands 23-150 kHz** 



[Figure 37](#page-33-0) shows the value of M for the different tolerance settings for the operating frequency bands from 23 to 150 kHz. [Figure 38](#page-33-2) shows M in case the operating frequency range is the lowest one (15 to 23 kHz).

<span id="page-33-2"></span>**Figure 38:**

**Tolerance Settings for Frequency Detection in the Bands 15-23 kHz** 



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The AGC starts working after the frequency detection. At the beginning the gain in the VGA is set to maximum and the AGC reduce it according to the received signal input level. The AGC needs maximum 35 carrier periods to settle, getting a stable RSSI.

The AGC can operate in two modes:

- **•** AGC down only ([R1<5>](#page-23-7)=0)
- AGC up and down  $(R1 < 5 > = 1)$

If the AGC down only mode is selected, the AGC can only decrease the gain for the whole duration of the data reception; in this mode the system holds the RSSI peak.

When the AGC up and down mode is selected, the RSSI can dynamically follow the input signal strength variation in both directions.

The RSSI is available for all 3 channels at the same time and it is stored in 3 registers ([R10<4:0>](#page-25-1), [R11<4:0>](#page-25-2), [R12<4:0>](#page-25-3)). Once the RSSI gets stable (maximum after 35 carrier periods after frequency detection) the channel selector checks which channel receives the strongest signal. The channel selector compares the RSSI on the active channels and freezes the AGC on the channels which have the smaller RSSI. From this time on the AGC is active only on the selected channel. It is possible to set things back having the AGC active on all channels just sending a clear\_wake (sets the chip back to listening mode) or reset\_RSSI (resets the ACG) direct command.

Both AGC modes (only down or down and up) can also operate with time limitation. This option allows AGC operation only in time slot of 256μs after the frequency detection (during carrier burst), then the RSSI is frozen till the wake-up or RSSI reset occurs (clear\_wakeup or reset\_RSSI).

The RSSI is reset either with the direct command 'clear\_wakeup' or 'reset\_RSSI'. The 'reset\_RSSI' command resets only the VGA setting but does not terminate wake-up frequency detection condition. This means that if the signal is still present the new AGC setting (RSSI) will appear not later than 35 LF carrier periods after the command was received. The AGC setting is reset during data receiving if for duration of 3 Manchester half symbols no carrier is detected. If the wake-up IRQ is cleared the chip will go back to listening mode.

In case the maximum amplification at the beginning is a drawback (e.g. in noisy environment) it is possible to set a smaller starting gain on the amplifier, according to the [Figure 39.](#page-35-1) In this way it is possible to reduce the false frequency detection.



#### <span id="page-35-1"></span>**Figure 39: Bit Setting of Gain Reduction**



#### <span id="page-35-2"></span>*Antenna Damper*

In case the chip needs to deal with higher field strengths the antenna damper can be enabled. The antenna damper consists of internal resistors which can be connected in parallel to the external resonator as shown in [Figure 40](#page-35-0). It is possible to enable the antenna damper with the bit  $R1<4>$  and the value of the resistor can be chosen with the bits [R4<5:4>](#page-24-4). The shunt resistors degrade the quality factor of the external resonator by reducing the signal at the input of the amplifier. In this way the resonator sees a smaller parallel resistance (in the band of interest) which degrades its quality factor in order to increase the linear range of the channel amplifier (the amplifier doesn't saturate in presence of bigger signals). [Figure 40](#page-35-0) shows the bit setup.

#### **Figure 40:**

<span id="page-35-0"></span>**Antenna Damper Bit Setup** 





#### **Figure 41: Antenna Damper**



#### <span id="page-36-0"></span>**Demodulator / Data Slicer**

As soon as the AS3933 detects successfully the frequency and the RSSI has got stable the channel selector compares the RSSI on all active channels and connects the channel amplifier which has the biggest RSSI to the demodulator. The channel selector needs 32 RF carrier periods to take this decision. The output signal (amplified LF carrier) of selected channel is connected to the input of the demodulator.

The demodulator takes the signal to base-band and recovers two signals from the amplified RF signal; a fast and a slow envelop. Those two signals are fed to the data slicer, which is a comparator with programmable hysteresis. At the output of the data slicer are streamed the digital received bits. A concept block diagram is shown in the [Figure 42.](#page-37-0)

#### <span id="page-37-0"></span>**Figure 42: Concept Block Diagram**



#### <span id="page-37-1"></span>**Figure 43: Envelop Detector Signals - Dynamic Threshold**



The performance of the demodulator can be optimized according to bit rate and preamble length as described in [Figure 44](#page-38-0) and [Figure 45.](#page-39-0)

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### <span id="page-38-0"></span>**Omin**





On one hand the fast envelope's time constant ( [R3<2:0>](#page-24-5)) needs to be adjusted to the desired symbol rate as shown in [Figure 44](#page-38-0). However, decreasing the fast envelope's time constant also means that more noise will be injected due to the wider band. On the other hand, the slow envelop signal acts as an average of the incoming data. Therefore, the bigger its time constant is, the better will be the noise rejection. Yet, a bigger time constant of the slow envelop ( $R3 < 5:3$ ) requires a longer preamble in order to settle to the correct value. The minimum preamble length as a function of the slow envelope's settings is given in [Figure 45.](#page-39-0)



#### **Figure 45:**

<span id="page-39-0"></span>**Minimum Required Preamble Lengths as Function of Slow Envelop Settings** 



#### **Note(s) and/or Footnote(s):**

1. These times are minimum required, but it is recommended to prolong the preamble.

With the bits  $R3<6>$  and  $R3<7>$  it is possible to change the hysteresis on the data slicer comparator (only positive, positive negative, 20mV, 40mV).

The slow envelop signal (blue signal in [Figure 43](#page-37-1)) represents the average of the demodulated signal, therefore acts as a reference signal for the data slicer. In case the chosen protocol has a duty cycle far away from 50% (for example in the NRZ protocol there can be several consecutive ones or zeros) the slow envelop signal would not be a stable reference signal for the data slicer. In this case the data slicer can also work with an absolute threshold ( $R1 < 7$ ), as shown in the [Figure 46.](#page-40-0) Should the absolute threshold be enabled the bits  $R3 < 2:0$  would not influence the performance. It is even possible to reduce the absolute threshold in case the environment is not particularly noisy ([R2<7>\)](#page-23-9).

As the input signal may be damped due to physical influences of the transmitter environment, the symbol rate needs to be adapted (lowered) if absolute threshold is enabled to ensure a proper detection of the wake-up signal. The peak level of the signal should be reached within 1/3 of the symbol duration which is defined as two times the bit duration. The bit duration is defined in register  $R7 < 4:0 >$  as a function of the Clock Generator periods.

#### <span id="page-40-0"></span>**Figure 46: Envelop Detector Signals - Absolute Threshold**



#### <span id="page-40-2"></span>**Correlator**

In order to prevent that the AS3933 wakes up the host system (MCU) from noise or disturbers (LF transmitter within the field) the internal correlator checks that the bit sequence delivered from the data slicer corresponds to stored pattern. The wanted pattern can be stored in the registers [R5<7:0>](#page-24-10) and [R6<7:0>](#page-24-11). The data correlation is performed only if the correlator is enabled ([R1<1>=](#page-23-1)1) and can start only after frequency detection.

The pattern correlation is successful (Wake goes high) only if the bits sequence (pattern) and its timing (duration of the single bit) matches.

#### <span id="page-40-1"></span>*Pattern: Bit and Symbol Definition in Manchester Code*

The AS3933 can correlate the incoming pattern without the help of an external unit (MCU). The chosen pattern must be Manchester encoded. In the Manchester code each "Symbol" is defined by a transition (high-to-low for 1 and low-to-high for 0), therefore consists of two "bits". In the [Figure 47](#page-41-1) it is shown, as an example, how the encoding technique works. In this sequence a simple message made up by 3 symbols (1 0 1) is Manchester encoded. In the Manchester encoded bit stream there can not be three consecutive zeros or ones (in each symbol there is always a transition). This helps the receiver to recover the clock.

#### <span id="page-41-1"></span>**Figure 47: Manchester Encoding**



The bit duration is defined in the register [R7<4:0>](#page-24-9) according to the [Figure 48](#page-41-0) as function of the Clock Generator periods.

<span id="page-41-0"></span>**Figure 48: Bit Rate Setup** 



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The user can define the pattern to correlate in the registers [R5<7:0>](#page-24-10) and [R6<7:0>](#page-24-11) and can decide whether the stored pattern is a bit representation (16 Manchester bits corresponds to 8 Symbols) if [R0<7>](#page-23-10)=0 or the symbol representation (16 symbols corresponds to 32 bits) of the pattern if  $R0 < 7 > 1$ . The number of different pattern is 2^SYM, where SYM is the number of Manchester symbols. In case the [R5<7:0>](#page-24-10) and [R6<7:0>](#page-24-11) represent the bit sequence of the pattern there are 256 different possible combinations, while in case they are the symbol representation there are 65536 different patterns.



#### <span id="page-43-1"></span>**Wake-Up Protocol**

The AS3933 can support different protocols:

- **•** Frequency detection only (no pattern correlation)
- **•** Single pattern detection
	- 16-bit pattern
	- 32-bit pattern
- **•** Double pattern detection
	- 16-bits pattern
	- 32-bits pattern

The wake-up state can be terminated either by the host system (MCU) with the direct command 'clear\_wake' sent over SPI (see direct command details in [Figure 29](#page-28-0)) or with a time-out option. In case the latter is used the host system (MCU) does not need to take any action to terminate the wake-up state and the chip is set back to listening mode automatically after a predefined time. It is possible to set the duration of the time-out with the register [R7<7:5>,](#page-24-2) as shown in the [Figure 49](#page-43-0).

<span id="page-43-0"></span>**Figure 49: Timeout Setup** 





#### *Wake-Up Protocol: Frequency Detection Only*

<span id="page-44-2"></span><span id="page-44-1"></span>**Figure 50:**

**Wake-Up Protocol Overview Without Pattern Detection**



In case the pattern correlation is disabled  $(R1<1>=0)$  $(R1<1>=0)$  $(R1<1>=0)$  the AS3933 wakes up upon detection of the carrier frequency only as shown in [Figure 50](#page-44-1). The minimum duration of the carrier burst in order to ensure that AS3933 wakes up and the RSSI is settled is specified in the [Figure 52.](#page-45-0) In addition the carrier burst does not have to be longer than 155 periods of the Clock Generator (Crystal oscillator or RCO or External Clock). As shown in the [Figure 20,](#page-18-0) the AS3933 after the detection of the carrier goes directly from the Listening mode to Data receiving mode after settling the RSSI.

#### <span id="page-44-0"></span>*Wake-Up Protocol: Pattern Detection Enabled*

In case the pattern correlation is enabled ([R1<1>](#page-23-1)=1) the AS3933 generates a wake-up interrupt if the wake-up protocol is fulfilled. The communication protocol consists of a carrier burst, a preamble (0101010…. ON/OFF modulated carrier) and the 16-bit pattern. In case the double pattern option is enabled ([R1<2>=](#page-23-11)1) the 16-bit pattern has to be repeated 2 times consequentially (2 times the same pattern). The signal on the WAKE pin goes high one bit after the end of the pattern and the data transmission can get started.



A graphic representation of the wake-up protocol is shown in the [Figure 51](#page-45-1).

<span id="page-45-1"></span>



The minimum length for the carrier burst depends on the operating frequency range (see [Figure 36](#page-33-1) bits [R8<7:5>\)](#page-24-3) and is described in the [Figure 52](#page-45-0).

<span id="page-45-0"></span>**Figure 52: Minimum Duration of the Carrier Burst** 



#### **Note(s) and/or Footnote(s):**

1. Tclk is the period of the clock generator.

2. Tcarr is the period of the carrier.

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If the carrier burst is shorter than what has been specified in the [Figure 52,](#page-45-0) then the frequency detection is not guaranteed. In order to fulfill the protocol the carrier burst must be shorter than 155 periods of the clock generator (crystal oscillator or RCO or external clock). The carrier burst must be followed by a separation bit and at least 6 bits preamble (101010). The separation bit must last as half Manchester symbol (see paragraph [Pattern: Bit and Symbol Definition in Manchester](#page-40-1)  [Code\)](#page-40-1). The preamble and the pattern cannot be longer than 30 symbols in sum in case 16-bit pattern detection is enabled and 46 symbols if the 32-bit pattern detection is enabled.

In case the ON/OFF option is enabled  $(RO < 5 > = 1)$  the minimum duration of the carrier burst must be prolonged by the OFF time defined in the [R4<7:6>](#page-24-0).

Should the carrier burst be longer than what is defined in the [Figure 52](#page-45-0) or the number of preamble bits longer than what has been specified above a false wake-up event might be recorded in the register [R13<7:0>](#page-25-0).

If the Scan Mode be enabled ( $R0 < 4$  ) the minimum duration of the carrier burst is defined in the [Figure 53](#page-46-0).

**Figure 53:**

<span id="page-46-0"></span>**Minimum Duration of the Carrier Burst in Case the Scanning Mode is Enabled** 





#### *Manchester Decoder and Clock Recovery*

In case the Manchester decoder is enabled ([R1<3>](#page-23-3)=1) the AS3933 decodes the incoming Manchester bits automatically and the Manchester decoded data are displayed on the DAT pin and the Manchester recovered clock on the CL\_DAT. The data coming out from the DAT pin are stable (and therefore can be acquired) on the rising edge of the CL\_DAT clock, as shown in [Figure 54.](#page-47-0)

#### <span id="page-47-1"></span><span id="page-47-0"></span>**Figure 54: Synchronization of Data with the Manchester Recovered Clock**



In case a Manchester timing violation happens, the signal on SPO goes high for a duration of 4 periods of internal clock (either crystal oscillator or RCO or external clock).

#### <span id="page-47-2"></span>**False Wake-Up Register**

The wake-up strategy in the AS3933 is based on 2 steps:

- 1. Frequency Detection: In this phase the frequency of the received signal is checked.
- 2. Pattern Correlation: Here the pattern is demodulated and checked whether it corresponds to the valid one.

If there is a disturber or noise capable to overcome the first step (frequency detection) without producing a valid pattern, then a false wake-up call happens. Each time this event is recognized a counter is incremented by one and the respective counter value is stored in a memory cell (false wake-up register). Thus, the microcontroller can periodically look at the false wake-up register, to get a feeling how noisy the surrounding environment is and can then react accordingly (e.g. reducing the gain of the LNA during frequency detection, set the AS3933 temporarily to power down etc.), as shown in the [Figure 55](#page-48-0). The false wake-up counter is a useful tool to quickly adapt the system to any changes in the noise environment and thus avoid false wake-up events.



Most wake-up receivers have to deal with environments that can rapidly change. By periodically monitoring the number of false wake-up events it is possible to adapt the system setup to the actual characteristics of the environment and enables a better use of the full flexibility of AS3933.

<span id="page-48-0"></span>**Figure 55: Concept of the False Wake-Up Register Together with the System** 





#### <span id="page-49-0"></span>**Clock Generator**

The Clock Generator can be based on a crystal oscillator  $(R1<0>=1)$  $(R1<0>=1)$  $(R1<0>=1)$ , the internal RC-oscillator  $(R1<0>=0)$ , or an external clock source ( $R1 < 0 > 1$ ). The crystal oscillator has higher precision of the frequency with higher current consumption and needs three external components (crystal plus two capacitors). The RC-oscillator is completely integrated and can be calibrated to increase its precision. Should a digital clock already be available it can be applied directly to the XOUT pin (XIN to VDD).

Regardless which clock generator is chosen, the frequency of the Clock Generator must be set according to the carrier frequency. [Figure 56](#page-49-1) shows the dependency of the Clock Generator frequency from the carrier frequency and operating frequency band.

<span id="page-49-1"></span>**Figure 56:**

**Clock Generator Frequency vs Frequency Band** 



It is possible to display the frequency of the clock generator on the CL DAT pin writing  $R2 < 3:2> = 11$  and  $R16 < 7> = 1$ .

#### *Crystal Oscillator*

In case the user decides to use the Crystal Oscillator as reference clock a 32.768 kHz quartz can be used in case the tolerance setting for the frequency detection is relaxed  $(R2<1:0>=00)$  $(R2<1:0>=00)$  $(R2<1:0>=00)$ . Should this not be the case, then [Figure 56](#page-49-1) shows how the frequency of the quartz has to be chosen.

If the AS3933 works in the bandwidth 23-40 kHz, then it is recommended not to use the XTAL oscillator to avoid any coupling between the input antennas and the quartz.

<span id="page-50-0"></span>**Figure 57: Characteristics of XTAL** 



#### *RC-Oscillator*

<span id="page-50-1"></span>**Figure 58: Characteristics of RCO** 





In case the pattern detection and the Manchester decoder are not enabled ( $R1 < 1 > 0$  and  $R1 < 3 > 1$ ) the calibration on the RC-oscillator is not needed. Should this not be the case, the RC-oscillator has to be calibrated. The calibration of the RC-oscillator can be done in two different ways:

- **•** Over SPI, the host system (MCU) has to be able to provide 65 clock pulses of a reference clock. In this case the host has to have a precise reference clock (quartz, resonator etc.).
- **•** Using the internal calibration procedure based on the antenna resonator. Using this calibration method the RC-oscillator is automatically trimmed to the proper frequency, according to the operating frequency band. The precision of the calibration depends on the tolerances of the resonator of the first channel (LC connected to LF1P).

*RC-Oscillator: Calibration via SPI*. The calibration gets started with the Calib\_RCosc direct command. Since no non-volatile memory is available on the chip, the calibration must be done every time after battery replacement. Since the Clock Generator defines the time base of the frequency detection, the selected frequency depends on the carrier frequency. The choice of the reference clock frequency delivered by the host (MCU) is the same as the choice of the frequency in case the crystal oscillator is used and it is shown in the [Figure 56](#page-49-1).

To trim the RC-Oscillator, set the chip select (CS) to high before sending the direct command Calib\_RCosc over SPI. Then 65 digital clock cycles of the reference clock (e.g. 125kHz/4=31.25kHz) have to be sent on the clock bus (SCLK), as shown in [Figure 59](#page-51-0). After that the signal on the chip select (CS) has to be pulled down.

The calibration is effective after the 65th reference clock edge and it will be stored in a volatile memory. In case the RC-oscillator is switched OFF or a power-on-reset happens (e.g. battery change) the calibration has to be repeated.



#### <span id="page-51-0"></span>**Figure 59: RC-Oscillator Calibration via SPI**

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*RC-Oscillator: Self Calibration*. This procedure uses the LC-tank (antenna) connected to the channel 1 (LF1P) not as antenna but as resonator for an oscillator. The internal LC oscillator is therefore connected through a multiplexer to the external tank.

The LC-oscillator generates a clock which corresponds to the resonance frequency of the LC-tank. In a typical application the user designs the external resonators such to set the resonance frequency of the external LC-tank as close as possible to the carrier frequency. The mathematical relation between the oscillation frequency and the LC time constant is:

$$
(\text{EQ1}) \qquad F_{LC} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot \pi \cdot \sqrt{L \cdot C}}
$$

#### **Where:**

L is the inductance and

C the capacitance of the external antenna

To start the calibration the direct command Calib\_RCO\_LC must be sent over the SPI and as soon as the bit  $R14<7>$  is high, the RC-oscillator will be calibrated. The calibrated frequency of the RC-oscillator depends on the carrier frequency and is automatically set to better perform the frequency detection, according to the [Figure 56](#page-49-1).

#### *External Clock Source*

To clock the AS3933 with an external signal, the external clock generator ( $R2 < 6 > 1$ ) and the crystal oscillator ( $R1 < 0 > 1$ ) need to be enabled. As shown in the [Figure 4](#page-3-1) the clock can be directly applied on the pin XOUT while the pin XIN must be connected to VDD. The clock characteristics are summarized in [Figure 60](#page-52-0).

<span id="page-52-1"></span><span id="page-52-0"></span>**Figure 60: Characteristics of External Clock** 



**Note(s):** In power down mode the external clock has to be set to a definite potential (VDD or ground).

The frequency of the external clock source must be set according to the [Figure 56](#page-49-1).



#### **Antenna Tuning**

The AS3933 offers the possibility to implement a fine antenna tuning. A block diagram shows how the tuning can be implemented with the help of the host system (MCU).

#### <span id="page-53-0"></span>**Figure 61: Tuning Implementation**



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Each of the three antennas can be tuned with the internal capacitor banks. The capacitor can be connected or disconnected (adding or subtracting parallel capacitance to the external resonator) through registers [R17<4:0>](#page-25-6), [R18<4:0>](#page-25-7) and [R19<4:0>.](#page-25-8)

#### **Figure 62:**

**Parallel Tuning Capacitance on the LF1P** 



**Figure 63:**

**Parallel Tuning Capacitance on the LF2P** 





#### **Figure 64: Parallel Tuning Capacitance on the LF3P**



The Three channels can be tuned separately. The host system (MCU) has to connect the LC-oscillator to the antenna to measure the resonance frequency on the pin DAT. The host should measure the frequency on this pin and just changing register setting fine tune it to get it as close as possible to the nominal value of the carrier frequency. With the bits R16<2:0> it is possible to connect the LC-oscillator to the three different antennas.

#### <span id="page-55-0"></span>**Channel Selection in Scanning Mode and ON/OFF Mode**

In case only 2 channels are active and one of the Low Power modes is enabled, then the channels 1 and 3 have to be active. If the chip works in ON-OFF mode and only one channel is active then the active channel has to be the channel 1. Both Low Power modes are not allowed to be enabled at the same time.



#### <span id="page-56-0"></span>**Package Drawings & Markings**

The devices are available in a 16-pin TSSOP and QFN 4×4 16LD package.

**Figure 65: 16-pin TSSOP Package Drawing** 



#### **Note(s) and/or Footnote(s):**

1. Dimensions & tolerancing conform to ASME Y14.5M-1994.

2. All dimensions are in millimeters. Angles are in degrees.

**Figure 66: Marking: YYWWMZZ@**



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#### **Figure 67: QFN 4**× **4 16LD Package Drawing**



#### **Note(s) and/or Footnote(s):**

- 1. Dimensions and tolerancing conform to ASME Y14.5M-1994.
- 2. All dimensions are in millimeters. Angles are in degrees.
- 3. Dimension b applies to metallized terminal and is measured between 0.25mm and 0.30mm from terminal tip. Dimension L1 represents terminal full back from package edge up to 0.15mm is acceptable.
- 4. Coplanarity applies to the exposed heat slug as well as the terminal.
- 5. Radius on terminal is optional.

**Figure 68: Marking: YYWWXZZ@**





#### <span id="page-58-0"></span>**[Ordering & Contact Information](#page-58-2)**

The devices are available as the standard products shown in Figure 69.

<span id="page-58-2"></span>**Figure 69: Ordering Information**



#### **Note(s) and/or Footnote(s):**

<span id="page-58-1"></span>1. Dry Pack: Moisture Sensitivity Level (MSL) = 3, according to IPC/JEDEC J-STD-033A.

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#### <span id="page-61-0"></span>**Document Status**





#### <span id="page-62-0"></span>**Revision Information**



#### **Note(s) and/or Footnote(s):**

1. Page and figure numbers for the previous version may differ from page and figure numbers in the current revision.

2. Correction of typographical errors is not explicitly mentioned.

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