

High Performance ISM Band ASK/FSK/GFSK Transmitter IC

ADF7010

FEATURES

Single Chip Low Power UHF Transmitter 902 MHz–928 MHz Frequency Band On-Chip VCO and Fractional-N PLL 2.3 V–3.6 V Supply Voltage Programmable Output Power –16 dBm to +12 dBm, 0.3 dB Steps Data Rates up to 76.8 kbps Low Current Consumption 28 mA at 8 dBm Output Power-Down Mode (<1 A) 24-Lead TSSOP Package

APPLICATIONS Low Cost Wireless Data Transfer Wireless Metering Remote Control/Security Systems Keyless Entry

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The ADF7010 is a low power OOK/ASK/FSK/GFSK UHF transmitter designed for use in ISM band systems. It contains an integrated VCO and sigma-delta fractional-N PLL. The output power, channel spacing, and output frequency are programmable with four 24-bit registers. The fractional-N PLL enables the user to select any channel frequency within the U.S. 902 MHz–928 MHz band, allowing the use of the ADF7010 in frequency hopping systems.

It is possible to choose from the four different modulation schemes: Binary or Gaussian Frequency Shift Keying (FSK/ GFSK), Amplitude Shift Keying (ASK), or On/Off Keying (OOK). The device also features a crystal compensation register that can provide ± 1 ppm resolution in the output frequency. Indirect temperature compensation of the crystal can be accomplished inexpensively using this register.

Control of the four on-chip registers is via a simple 3-wire interface. The devices operate with a power supply ranging from

FUNCTIONAL BLOCK DIAGRAM

REV. 0

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$\mathbf{ADF7010-}$ $\mathbf{SPECIFICATIONS}^1$ $(\mathsf{V}_{\text{DD}}=2.3 \text{ V to } 3.6 \text{ V}, \text{GND} = 0 \text{ V}, \mathsf{T_A} = \mathsf{T_{MIN}}$ to $\mathsf{T_{MAX}}$, unless otherwise noted. Typical \mathbf{s} pecifications are at $\mathbf{V}_{\text{DD}} = 3 \mathbf{V}$, $\mathbf{T}_{\text{A}} = 25^{\circ} \mathbf{C}$.)

NOTES

¹Operating temperature range is as follows: –40∞C to +85∞C.

² Frequency Deviation = (PFD Frequency × Mod Deviation)/2¹².
³ GFSK Frequency Deviation = (PFD Frequency × 2^{*m*})/2¹² where *m* = Mod Control.

 $^{4}V_{DD}$ = 3 V, PFD = 19.2 MHz, PA = 8 dBm

 $5V_{\text{DD}}$ = 3 V, Loop Filter BW = 100 kHz

⁶Measured >1 MHz away from integer channel. See *Successful Design with ADF7010 Transmitter* application note.

⁷Not production tested. Based on characterization.

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Guaranteed by design but not production tested.

Figure 1. Timing Diagram

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS1, 2

NOTES

¹Stresses above those listed under Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the device. This is a stress rating only; functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions above those listed in the operational sections of this specification is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

²This device is a high performance RF integrated circuit with an ESD rating of <1 kV and it is ESD sensitive. Proper precautions should be taken for handling and assembly.

 3 GND = CPGND = RFGND = DGND = AGND = 0 V.

ORDERING GUIDE

CAUTION

ESD (electrostatic discharge) sensitive device. Electrostatic charges as high as 4000 V readily accumulate on the human body and test equipment and can discharge without detection. Although the ADF7010 features proprietary ESD protection circuitry, permanent damage may occur on devices subjected to high energy electrostatic discharges. Therefore, proper ESD precautions are recommended to avoid performance degradation or loss of functionality.

PIN CONFIGURATION

PIN FUNCTION DESCRIPTIONS

PIN FUNCTION DESCRIPTIONS (continued)

Typical Performance Characteristics–ADF7010

TPC 1. FSK Modulated Signal, $F_{DEVIATION} = 58$ kHz, Data Rate = 19.2 kbps/s, 10 dBm

TPC 2. OOK Modulated Signal, Data Rate = 4.8 kbps/s, 4 dBm

TPC 3. Harmonic Levels at 10 dBm Output Power. See Figure 15.

TPC 4. PLL Settling Time, 902 MHz to 928 MHz, $23 \mu s$ (±400 kHz)

TPC 5. PFD Spurious/Fractional Spurious

TPC 6. In-Band Phase Noise

TPC 7. 1.6 MHz $CLOCK_{OUT}$ Waveform

TPC 8. Spurious Signal Generated by $CLOCK_{OUT}$

TPC 9. N-Divider Input Sensitivity

TPC 12. I_{DD} vs. V_{DD} @ 10 dBm

SUPPLY VOLTAGE – V

3.43.02.82.62.4

PA SETTING – MODULATION REGISTER

TPC 11. PA Output Programmability, $T_A = 25^\circ C$

60 80 100 120

40

–30

40 38

42 44

34

32 30

CURRENT – mA 36

2.2

3.2 3.6

REGISTER MAPS

RF R REGISTER

RF N REGISTER

MODULATION REGISTER

FUNCTION REGISTER

RF R REGISTER

RF N REGISTER

MODULATION REGISTER

FUNCTION REGISTER

DEFAULT VALUES FOR REGISTERS

R REGISTER

N REGISTER

MODULATION REGISTER

FUNCTION REGISTER

CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION REFERENCE INPUT SECTION

The on-board crystal oscillator circuitry (Figure 2), allows the use of an inexpensive quartz crystal as the PLL reference. The oscillator circuit is enabled by setting \overline{XOE} low. It is enabled by default on power-up and is disabled by bringing CE low. Two parallel resonant capacitors are required for oscillation at the correct frequency; the value of these is dependent on the crystal specification. Errors in the crystal can be corrected using the Error Correction register within the R Register. A singleended reference (TCXO, CXO) may be used. The CMOS levels should be applied to OSC2, with XOE set high.

Figure 2. Oscillator Circuit on the ADF7010

CLKOUT DIVIDER AND BUFFER

The CLK_{OUT} circuit takes the reference clock signal from the oscillator section above and supplies a divided down 50:50 mark-space signal to the CLK_{OUT} pin. An even divide from 2 to 30 is available. This divide is set by the 4 MSBs in the R register. On power-up, the CLKOUT defaults to divide by 16.

The output buffer to CLK_{OUT} is enabled by setting Bit DB4 in the function register high. On power-up, this bit is set high. The output buffer can drive up to a 20 pF load with a 10% rise time at 4.8 MHz. Faster edges can result in some spurious feedthrough to the output. A small series resistor (50 Ω) can be used to slow the clock edges to reduce these spurs at F_{CIK} .

R COUNTER

The 4-bit R Counter divides the reference input frequency by an integer from 1 to 15. The divided down signal is presented as the reference clock to the phase frequency detector (PFD). The divide ratio is set in the R register. Maximizing the PFD frequency reduces the N-value. This reduces the noise multiplied at a rate of 20 log(N) to the output, as well as reducing occurrences of spurious components. The R register defaults to $R = 1$ on power-up.

PRESCALER, PHASE FREQUENCY DETECTOR (PFD), AND CHARGE PUMP

The dual-modulus prescaler $(P/P + 1)$ divides the RF signal from the VCO to a lower frequency that is manageable by the CMOS counters.

The PFD takes inputs from the R Counter and the N Counter (*N* = *Int* + *Fraction*) and produces an output proportional to the phase and frequency difference between them. Figure 4 is a simplified schematic.

The PFD includes a delay element that sets the width of the antibacklash pulse. The typical value for this in the ADF7010 is 3 ns. This pulse ensures that there is no dead zone in the PFD transfer function and minimizes phase noise and reference spurs.

MUXOUT AND LOCK DETECT

The MUXOUT pin allows the user to access various internal points in the ADF7010. The state of MUXOUT is controlled by Bits M1 to M4 in the function register.

REGULATOR READY

This is the default setting on MUXOUT after the transmitter has been powered up. The power-up time of the regulator is typically 50 µs. Since the serial interface is powered from the regulator, it is necessary for the regulator to be at its nominal voltage before the ADF7010 can be programmed. The status of the regulator can be monitored at MUXOUT. Once the REGULATOR READY signal on MUXOUT is high, programming of the ADF7010 may begin.

Digital Lock Detect

Digital lock detect is active high. The lock detect circuit is contained at the PFD. When the phase error on five consecutive cycles is less than 15 ns, lock detect is set high. Lock detect remains high until 25 ns phase error is detected at the PFD. Since no external components are needed for digital lock detect, it is more widely used than analog lock detect.

Analog Lock Detect

This N-channel open-drain lock detect should be operated with an external pull-up resistor of 10 k Ω nominal. When lock has been detected, this output will be high with narrow low going pulses.

VOLTAGE REGULATOR

The ADF7010 requires a stable voltage source for the VCO and modulation blocks. The on-board regulator provides 2.2 V using a band gap reference. A 2.2 μ F capacitor from C_{REG} to ground is used to improve stability of the regulator over a supply from 2.3 V to 3.6 V. The regulator consumes less than 400 µA and can only be powered down using the chip enable (CE) pin. Bringing the chip enable pin low disables the regulator and also erases all values held in the registers. The serial interface operates off the regulator supply; therefore, to write to the part, the user must have CE high. Regulator status can be monitored using the Regulator Ready signal from MUXOUT.

LOOP FILTER

The loop filter integrates the current pulses from the charge pump to form a voltage that tunes the output of the VCO to the desired frequency. It also attenuates spurious levels generated by the PLL. A typical loop filter design is shown in Figure 6.

Figure 6. Typical Loop Filter Configuration–– Third Order Integrator

CHARGE → PIC → P VCO

In FSK, the loop should be designed so that the loop bandwidth (LBW) is approximately 5 times the data rate. Widening the LBW excessively reduces the time spent jumping between frequencies but may cause insufficient spurious attenuation.

For ASK systems, the wider the loop BW the better. The sudden large transition between two power levels will result in VCO pulling and can cause a wider output spectrum than is desired. By widening the loop BW to >10 times the data rate, the amount of the VCO pulling is reduced, since the loop will settle quickly back to the correct frequency. The wider LBW may restrict the output power and data rate of ASK based systems, compared with FSK based systems.

Narrow loop bandwidths may result in the loop taking long periods of time to attain lock. Careful design of the loop filter is critical in obtaining accurate FSK/GFSK modulation.

For GFSK, it is recommended that an LBW of 2.0 to 2.5 times the data rate be used to ensure sufficient samples are taken of the input data while filtering system noise.

VOLTAGE CONTROLLED OSCILLATOR (VCO)

An on-chip VCO is included on the transmitter. The VCO converts the control voltage generated by the loop filter into an output frequency that is sent to the antenna via the power amplifier (PA). The VCO has a typical gain of 80 MHz/V and operates from 900 MHz–940 MHz. The PD1 bit in the function register is the active high bit that turns on the VCO. A frequency divide by 2 is included to allow operation in the lower 450 MHz band. To enable operation in the lower band, the V1 bit in the N Register should be set to 1.

The VCO needs an external 220 nF between the VCO and the regulator to reduce internal noise.

Figure 7. Voltage Controlled Oscillator

RF OUTPUT STAGE

The RF output stage consists of a DAC with a number of current sources to adjust the output power level. To set up the power level:

FSK GFSK: The output power is set using the modulation register by entering a 7-bit number into the bits P1–P7. The two MSBs set the range of the output stage, while the five LSBs set the output power in the selected range.

ASK: The output power as set up for FSK is the output power for a TxDATA of 1. The output power for a zero data bit is set up the same way but using the bits D1–D7.

The output stage is powered down by setting bit PD2 in the Function register to zero.

SERIAL INTERFACE

The serial interface allows the user to program the four 24-bit registers using a 3-wire interface. (CLK, Data, and Load Enable).

The serial interface consists of a level shifter, 24-bit shift register, and four latches. Signals should be CMOS compatible. The serial interface is powered by the regulator, and therefore is inactive when CE is low.

Data is clocked into the shift register, MSB first, on the rising edge of each clock (CLK). Data is transferred to one of four latches on the rising edge of LE. The destination latch is determined by the value of the two control bits (C2 and C1). These are the two LSBs, DB1 and DB0, as shown in the timing diagram of Figure 1.

Figure 10. Output Impedance on Smith Chart

FRACTIONAL-N

N COUNTER AND ERROR CORRECTION

The ADF7010 consists of a 15-bit sigma-delta fractional N divider. The N Counter divides the output frequency to the output stage back to the PFD frequency. It consists of a prescaler, integer, and fractional part.

The prescaler can be 4/5 or 8/9. The spurious performance is better with a 4/5 prescaler, and the N-value can be lower since N_{MIN} is $P^2 + 3P + 3$.

The output frequency of the PLL is:

Figure 11. Fractional-N PLL

Fractional-N Registers

The fractional part is made up of a 15-bit divide, made up of a 12-bit N value in the N Register summed with a 10-bit (plus sign bit) in the R-Register that is used for error correction, as shown in Figure 12.

The resolution of each register is the smallest amount that the output frequency can be changed by changing the LSB of the register.

Changing the Output Frequency

The fractional part of the N Register changes the output frequency by:

$$
\frac{(F_{\text{PFD}})(N\text{-}Register Value)}{2^{12}}
$$

The frequency error correction contained in the R Register changes the output frequency by:

$$
\frac{(F_{\text{PFD}})(\text{Frequency Error Correction Value})}{2^{15}}
$$

By default, this will be set to 0. The user can calibrate the system and set this by writing a twos complement number to Bits F1–F11 in the R Register. This can be used to compensate for initial error, temperature drift, and aging effects in the crystal reference.

Integer N Register

The integer part of the N-Counter contains the prescaler and A and B counters. It is eight bits wide and offers a divide of $P^2 + 3P + 3$ to 255.

The combination of the integer (255) and the fractional (31767/ 31768) give a maximum N Divider of 256. The minimum PFD usable is:

$$
F_{PFD}(\text{min}) = \frac{Maximum Output Frequency Required}{(255+1)}
$$

For use in the U.S. 902 MHz–928 MHz band, there is a restriction to using a minimum PFD of 3.625 MHz to allow the user to have a center frequency of 928 MHz.

PFD Frequency

The PFD frequency is the number of times a comparison is made between the reference frequency and the feedback signal from the output.

The higher the PFD frequency, the more often a comparison is made at the PFD. This also allows a wider loop bandwidth without compromising stability. This means that the frequency lock time will be reduced when jumping from one frequency to another by increasing the PFD.

The N divide in the integer part is also reduced. This results in less noise being multiplied from the PFD to the output, resulting in better phase noise for higher PFDs.

Increasing the PFD reduces your resolution at the output.

MODULATION SCHEMES

Frequency Shift Keying (FSK)

Frequency shift keying is implemented by setting the N value for the center frequency and then toggling this with the TxDATA line. The deviation from the center frequency is set using Bits D1–D7 in the Modulation register. The deviation from the center frequency in Hz is:

$$
\frac{F_{DEVIATION}(Hz) = Modulation\ Number \times F_{PFD}}{2^{12}}
$$

The modulation number is a number from 1 to 127. FSK is selected by setting Bits S1 and S2 to zero in the modulation register.

Figure 13. FSK Implementation

Gaussian Frequency Shift Keying (GFSK)

Gaussian frequency shift keying reduces the bandwidth occupied by the transmitted spectrum by digitally prefiltering the TxDATA. A TxCLK output line is provided from the ADF7010 for synchronization of TxDATA from the microcontroller. The TxCLK line may be connected to the clock input of an external shift register that clocks data to the transmitter at the exact data rate.

Figure 14. TxCLK Pin Synchronizing Data for GFSK

Setting up the ADF7010 for GFSK

To set up the frequency deviation, set the PFD and the mod control Bits MC1 to MC3:

$$
GFSKDEVIATION (Hz) = \frac{2^m \times F_{PFD}}{2^{12}}
$$

where *m* is mod control.

To set up the GFSK data rate:

$$
Data Rate(bits/s) = \frac{F_{PFD}}{Divider Factor \times Index Counter}
$$

For further information, refer to the *Using GFSK on the ADF7010* application note.

Amplitude Shift Keying (ASK)

Amplitude shift keying is implemented by switching the output stage between two discrete power levels. This is implemented by toggling the DAC, which controls the output level between two 7-bit values set up in the Modulation register. A zero TxDATA bit sends Bits D1–D7 to the DAC. A high TxDATA bit sends Bits P1–P7 to the DAC. A maximum modulation depth of 30 dB is possible. ASK is selected by setting Bit $S2 = 1$ and Bit $S1 = 0$.

On-Off Keying (OOK)

On-off keying is implemented by switching the output stage to a certain power level for a high TxDATA bit and switching the output stage off for a zero. Due to feedthrough effects, a maximum modulation depth of 33 dB is specified. For OOK, the transmitted power for a high input is programmed using Bits P1–P7 in the Modulation register. OOK is selected by setting Bits S1 and S2 to 1 in the modulation register.

CHOOSING CHANNELS FOR BEST SYSTEM PERFORMANCE

The fractional-N PLL allows the selection of any channel within 902 MHz to 928 MHz to a resolution of < 100 Hz, as well as facilitating frequency hopping systems. The use of the ADF7010 in accordance with FCC Part 15.247, allows for improved range by allowing power levels up to 1 W, and greater interference avoidance by changing the RF channel on a regular basis.

Careful selection of the RF transmit channels must be made to achieve best spurious performance. The architecture of Fractional-N results in some level of the nearest integer channel moving through the loop to the RF output. These "beat-note" spurs are not attenuated by the loop if the desired RF channel and the nearest integer channel are separated by a frequency of less than the loop BW.

The occurrence of beat-note spurs is rare, as the integer frequencies are at multiples of the reference, which is typically > 10 MHz.

The beat-note spurs can be significantly reduced in amplitude by avoiding very small or very large values in the fractional register. By having a channel 1 MHz away from an integer frequency, a 100 kHz loop filter will reduce the level to < –45 dBc. When using an external VCO, the Fast Lock (bleed) function will reduce the spurs to \lt –60 dBc for the same conditions above.

COMPLIANT TO JEDEC STANDARDS MO-153AD