EC21 Hardware Design

LTE Module Series

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About the Document

History

Revision	Date	Author	Description
1.0	2016-04-15	Yeoman CHEN	Initial
1.1	2016-09-22	Yeoman CHEN/ Frank WANG/ Lyndon LIU	1. Updated frequency bands in Table 1. 2. Updated transmitting power, supported maximum baud rate of main UART, supported internet protocols, supported USB drivers of USB interface, and temperature range in Table 2. 3. Updated timing of turning on module in Figure 12. 4. Updated timing of turning off module in Figure 13. 5. Updated timing of resetting module in Figure 16. 6. Updated main UART supports baud rate in Chapter 3.11. 7. Added notes for ADC interface in Chapter 3.13. 8. Updated GNSS Performance in Table 21. 9. Updated operating frequencies of module in Table 23. 10. Added current consumption in Chapter 6.4. 11. Updated RF output power in Chapter 6.5. 12. Added RF receiving sensitivity in Chapter 6.6.
1.2	2016-11-04	Lyndon LIU/ Michael ZHANG	1. Added SGMII and WLAN interfaces in Table 2. 2. Updated function diagram in Figure 1. 3. Updated pin assignment (Top View) in Figure 2. 4. Added description of SGMII and WLAN interfaces in Table 4. 5. Added SGMII interface in Chapter 3.17. 6. Added WLAN interface in Chapter 3.18. 7. Added USB_BOOT interface in Chapter 3.19. 8. Added reference design of RF layout in Chapter 5.1.4. 9. Added current consumption of EC21-V in Chapter

			6.4.
			10. Added note about SIMO in Chapter 6.6.
1.3	2017-01-24	Lyndon LIU/ Rex WANG	1. Updated frequency bands in Table 1.
			2. Updated function diagram in Figure 1.
			3. Updated pin assignment (top view) in Figure 2.
			4. Added BT interface in Chapter 3.18.2.
			5. Updated reference circuit of wireless connectivity interfaces with FC20 module in Figure 29.
			6. Updated GNSS performance in Table 24.
			7. Updated module operating frequencies in Table 26.
			8. Added EC21-AUV current consumption in Table 38.
			9. Updated EC21-A conducted RF receiving sensitivity of in Table 42.
			10. Added EC21-J conducted RF receiving sensitivity in Table 48.
1.4	2017-03-01	Geely YANG	Deleted the LTE band TDD B41 of EC21-CT
1.5	2018-03-05	Annice ZHANG/ Lyndon LIU/ Frank WANG	1. Updated functional diagram in Figure 1.
			2. Updated frequency bands in Table 1.
			3. Updated UMTS and GSM features in Table 2.
			4. Updated description of pin 40/136/137/138.
			5. Updated PWRKEY pulled down time to 500ms in chapter 3.7.1 and reference circuit in Figure 10.
			6. Updated reference circuit of (U)SIM interface in Figure 17&18.
			7. Updated reference circuit of USB interface in Figure 19.
			8. Updated PCM mode in Chapter 3.12.
			9. Updated USB_BOOT reference circuit in Chapter 3.20.
			10. Added SD card interface in Chapter 3.13.
			11. Updated module operating frequencies in Table 26.
			12. Updated EC21 series modules current consumption in Chapter 6.5.
			13. Updated EC21 series modules conducted RF receiving sensitivity in Chapter 6.6.
			14. Added thermal consideration description in Chapter 6.8.
			15. Updated dimension tolerance information in Chapter 7.
			16. Added storage temperature range in Table 2 and Chapter 6.3.
			17. Updated RF output power in Table 42.
			18. Updated antenna requirements in Table 29.

19. Updated GPRS multi-slot classes in Table 55.
20. Updated storage information in Chapter 8.1

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1 Introduction

This document defines the EC21 module and describes its air interface and hardware interface which are connected with customers' applications.

This document can help customers quickly understand module interface specifications, electrical and mechanical details, as well as other related information of EC21 module. Associated with application note and user guide, customers can use EC21 module to design and set up mobile applications easily.

1.1. Safety Information

The following safety precautions must be observed during all phases of the operation, such as usage, service or repair of any cellular terminal or mobile incorporating EC21 module. Manufacturers of the cellular terminal should send the following safety information to users and operating personnel, and incorporate these guidelines into all manuals supplied with the product. If not so, Quectel assumes no liability for the customers' failure to comply with these precautions.

	Full attention must be given to driving at all times in order to reduce the risk of an accident. Using a mobile while driving (even with a handsfree kit) causes distraction and can lead to an accident. You must comply with laws and regulations restricting the use of wireless devices while driving.
	Switch off the cellular terminal or mobile before boarding an aircraft. Make sure it is switched off. The operation of wireless appliances in an aircraft is forbidden, so as to prevent interference with communication systems. Consult the airline staff about the use of wireless devices on boarding the aircraft, if your device offers an Airplane Mode which must be enabled prior to boarding an aircraft.
	Switch off your wireless device when in hospitals,clinics or other health care facilities. These requests are desinged to prevent possible interference with sensitive medical equipment.
	Cellular terminals or mobiles operating over radio frequency signal and cellular network cannot be guaranteed to connect in all conditions, for example no mobile fee or with an invalid (U)SIM card. While you are in this condition and need emergent help, please remember using emergency call. In order to make or receive a call, the cellular terminal or mobile must be switched on and in a service area with adequate cellular signal strength.
	Your cellular terminal or mobile contains a transmitter and receiver. When it is ON, it receives and transmits radio frequency energy. RF interference can occur if it is used close to TV set, radio, computer or other electric equipment.
	In locations with potentially explosive atmospheres, obey all posted signs to turn off wireless devices such as your phone or other cellular terminals. Areas with potentially explosive atmospheres include fuelling areas, below decks on boats, fuel or chemical transfer or storage facilities, areas where the air contains chemicals or particles such as grain, dust or metal powders, etc.

1.2. FCC Statement

According to the definition of mobile and fixed device is described in Part 2.1091(b), this device is a mobile device.

And the following conditions must be met:

1. This Modular Approval is limited to OEM installation for mobile and fixed applications only. The antenna installation and operating configurations of this transmitter, including any applicable source-based time-averaging duty factor, antenna gain and cable loss must satisfy MPE categorical Exclusion Requirements of 2.1091.

2. The EUT is a mobile device; maintain at least a 20 cm separation between the EUT and the user's body and must not transmit simultaneously with any other antenna or transmitter.

3.A label with the following statements must be attached to the host end product: This device contains FCC ID: XMR201805EC21AU.

4.To comply with FCC regulations limiting both maximum RF output power and human exposure to RF radiation, maximum antenna gain (including cable loss) must not exceed 4dBi

5. This module must not transmit simultaneously with any other antenna or transmitter

6. The host end product must include a user manual that clearly defines operating requirements and conditions that must be observed to ensure compliance with current FCC RF exposure guidelines.

For portable devices, in addition to the conditions 3 through 6 described above, a separate approval is required to satisfy the SAR requirements of FCC Part 2.1093

If the device is used for other equipment that separate approval is required for all other operating configurations, including portable configurations with respect to 2.1093 and different antenna configurations.

For this device, OEM integrators must be provided with labeling instructions of finished products. Please refer to KDB784748 D01 v07, section 8. Page 6/7 last two paragraphs:

A certified modular has the option to use a permanently affixed label, or an electronic label. For a permanently affixed label, the module must be labelled withan FCC ID - Section 2.926 (see 2.2 Certification (labelling requirements) above). The OEM manual must provide clear instructions explaining to the OEM the labelling requirements,options and OEM user manual instructions that are required (see next paragraph).

For a host using a certified modular with a standard fixed label, if (1) the module's FCC ID is notvisible when installed in the host, or (2) if the host is marketed so that end users do not havestraightforward commonly used methods for access to remove the module so that the FCC ID ofthe module is visible; then an additional permanent label referring to the enclosed module:"Contains Transmitter Module FCC ID:XMR201805EC21AU" or "Contains FCC ID: XMR201805EC21AU" mustbe used. The host OEM user manual must also contain clear instructions on how end users can find and/or access the module and the FCC ID.

The final host / module combination may also need to be evaluated against the FCC Part 15B criteria for unintentional radiators in order to be properly authorized for operation as a Part 15 digital device.

The user's manual or instruction manual for an intentional or unintentional radiator shall caution the user that changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment. In cases where the manual is provided only in a form other than paper, such as on a computer disk or over the Internet, the information required by this section may be

included in the manual in that alternative form, provided the user can reasonably be expected to have the capability to access information in that form.

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the manufacturer could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

To ensure compliance with all non-transmitter functions the host manufacturer is responsible for ensuring compliance with the module(s) installed and fully operational. For example, if a host was previously authorized as an unintentional radiator under the Declaration of Conformity procedure without a transmitter certified module and a module is added, the host manufacturer is responsible for ensuring that the after the module is installed and operational the host continues to be compliant with the Part 15B unintentional radiator requirements.

2 Product Concept

2.1. General Description

EC21 is a series of LTE-FDD/LTE-TDD/WCDMA/GSM wireless communication module with receive diversity. It provides data connectivity on LTE-FDD, LTE-TDD, DC-HSDPA, HSPA+, HSDPA, HSUPA, WCDMA, EDGE and GPRS networks. It also provides GNSS[1] and voice functionality[2] for customers' specific applications. EC21 contains nine variants: EC21-E, EC21-A, EC21-V, EC21-AU, EC21-AUT, EC21-AUV, EC21-J, EC21-KL and EC20-CEL. Customers can choose a dedicated type based on the region or operator. The following table shows the frequency bands of EC21 series module.

Table 1: Frequency Bands of EC21 Series Module

Modules[2]	LTE Bands	UMTS Bands	GSM	Rx-diversity	GNSS[1]
EC21-E	FDD: B1/B3/B5/B7/B8/B20	WCDMA: B1/B5/B8	900/1800	Y	GPS, GLONASS, BeiDou/ Compass, Galileo, QZSS
EC21-A	FDD: B2/B4/B12	WCDMA: B2/B4/B5	N	Y	
EC21-V	FDD: B4/B13	N	N	Y	
EC21-AU[3]	FDD: B1/B2/B3/B4/B5/B7/B8/ B28 TDD: B40	WCDMA: B1/B2/B5/B8	850/900/ 1800/1900	Y	
EC21-AUT	FDD: B1/B3/B5/B7/B28	WCDMA: B1/B5	N	Y	
EC21-AUV	FDD: B1/B3/B5/B8/B28	B1/B5/B8	N	Y	N
EC21-J	FDD: B1/B3/B8/B18/B19/B26	N	N	Y	N
EC21-KL	FDD: B1/B3/B5/B7/B8	N	N	Y	N
EC20-CEL	FDD: B1/B3/B5	N	N	N	N

NOTES

1. [1] GNSS function is optional.
2. [2] EC21 series module (EC21-E, EC21-A, EC21-V, EC21-AU, EC21-AUT, EC21-AUV, EC21-J, EC21-KL and EC20-CEL) contains **Telematics** version and **Data-only** version. **Telematics** version supports voice and data functions, while **Data-only** version only supports data function.
3. [3] B2 band on EC21-AU module does not support Rx-diversity.
4. Y = Supported. N = Not supported.

With a compact profile of 29.0mm × 32.0mm × 2.4mm, EC21 can meet almost all requirements for M2M applications such as automotive, metering, tracking system, security, router, wireless POS, mobile computing device, PDA phone, tablet PC, etc.

EC21 is an SMD type module which can be embedded into applications through its 144-pin pads, including 80 LCC signal pads and 64 other pads.

2.2. Key Features

The following table describes the detailed features of EC21 module.

Table 2: Key Features of EC21 Module

Features	Details
Power Supply	Supply voltage: 3.3V~4.3V
	Typical supply voltage: 3.8V
Transmitting Power	Class 4 (33dBm±2dB) for GSM850
	Class 4 (33dBm±2dB) for GSM900
	Class 1 (30dBm±2dB) for DCS1800
	Class 1 (30dBm±2dB) for PCS1900
	Class E2 (27dBm±3dB) for GSM850 8-PSK
	Class E2 (27dBm±3dB) for GSM900 8-PSK
	Class E2 (26dBm±3dB) for DCS1800 8-PSK
	Class E2 (26dBm±3dB) for PCS1900 8-PSK
	Class 3 (24dBm+1/-3dB) for WCDMA bands
	Class 3 (23dBm±2dB) for LTE-FDD bands
	Class 3 (23dBm±2dB) for LTE-TDD bands
LTE Features	Support up to non-CA Cat 1 FDD and TDD
	Support 1.4MHz~20MHz RF bandwidth
	Support MIMO in DL direction
	LTE-FDD: Max 10Mbps (DL)/5Mbps (UL)

	LTE-TDD: Max 8.96Mbps (DL)/3.1Mbps (UL)
UMTS Features	Support 3GPP R8 DC-HSDPA, HSPA+, HSDPA, HSUPA and WCDMA Support QPSK, 16-QAM and 64-QAM modulation DC-HSDPA: Max 42Mbps (DL) HSUPA: Max 5.76Mbps (UL) WCDMA: Max 384Kbps (DL)/384Kbps (UL)
GSM Features	**GPRS:** Support GPRS multi-slot class 33 (33 by default) Coding scheme: CS-1, CS-2, CS-3 and CS-4 Max 107Kbps (DL)/85.6Kbps (UL) **EDGE:** Support EDGE multi-slot class 33 (33 by default) Support GMSK and 8-PSK for different MCS (Modulation and Coding Scheme) Downlink coding schemes: CS 1-4 and MCS 1-9 Uplink coding schemes: CS 1-4 and MCS 1-9 Max 296Kbps (DL)/ 236.8Kbps (UL)
Internet Protocol Features	Support TCP/UDP/PPP/FTP/HTTP/NTP/PING/QMI/ CMUX*/HTTPS*/ SMTP*/ MMS*/FTPS*/SMTPS*/SSL*/FILE* protocols Support PAP (Password Authentication Protocol) and CHAP (Challenge Handshake Authentication Protocol) protocols which are usually used for PPP connections
SMS	Text and PDU mode Point to point MO and MT SMS cell broadcast SMS storage: ME by default
(U)SIM Interface	Support USIM/SIM card: 1.8V, 3.0V
Audio Features	Support one digital audio interface: PCM interface GSM: HR/FR/EFR/AMR/AMR-WB WCDMA: AMR/AMR-WB LTE: AMR/AMR-WB Support echo cancellation and noise suppression
PCM Interface	Used for audio function with external codec Support 8-bit A-law*, μ-law* and 16-bit linear data formats Support long frame synchronization and short frame synchronization Support master and slave modes, but must be the master in long frame synchronization
USB Interface	Compliant with USB 2.0 specification (slave only); the data transfer rate can reach up to 480Mbps Used for AT command communication, data transmission, GNSS NMEA output, software debugging, firmware upgrade and voice over USB* Support USB serial drivers for: Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows

	7/8/8.1/10, Windows CE 5.0/6.0/7.0*, Linux 2.6/3.x/4.1, Android 4.x/5.x/6.x/7.x
UART Interface	**Main UART:** Used for AT command communication and data transmission Baud rates reach up to 921600bps, 115200bps by default Support RTS and CTS hardware flow control **Debug UART:** Used for Linux console and log output 115200bps baud rate
SD Card Interface	Support SD 3.0 protocol
SGMII Interface	Support 10/100/1000Mbps Ethernet connectivity
Wireless Connectivity Interfaces	Support a low-power SDIO 3.0 interface for WLAN and UART/PCM interface for Bluetooth*
Rx-diversity	Support LTE/WCDMA Rx-diversity
GNSS Features	Gen8C Lite of Qualcomm Protocol: NMEA 0183
AT Commands	Compliant with 3GPP TS 27.007, 27.005 and Quectel enhanced AT commands
Network Indication	Two pins including NET_MODE and NET_STATUS to indicate network connectivity status
Antenna Interface	Including main antenna interface (ANT_MAIN), Rx-diversity antenna interface (ANT_DIV) and GNSS antenna interface (ANT_GNSS)
Physical Characteristics	Size: (29.0±0.15)mm × (32.0±0.15)mm × (2.4±0.2)mm Weight: approx. 4.9g
Temperature Range	Operation temperature range: -35°C ~ +75°C[1] Extended temperature range: -40°C ~ +85°C[2] Storage temperature range: -40°C ~ +90°C
Firmware Upgrade	USB interface and DFOTA*
RoHS	All hardware components are fully compliant with EU RoHS directive

NOTES

1. [1] Within operating temperature range, the module is 3GPP compliant.
2. [2] Within extended temperature range, the module remains the ability to establish and maintain a voice, SMS, data transmission, emergency call, etc. There is no unrecoverable malfunction. There are also no effects on radio spectrum and no harm to radio network. Only one or more parameters like P_{out} might reduce in their value and exceed the specified tolerances. When the temperature returns to normal operating temperature levels, the module will meet 3GPP specifications again.
3. "*" means under development.

2.3. Functional Diagram

The following figure shows a block diagram of EC21 and illustrates the major functional parts.

- Power management
- Baseband
- DDR+NAND flash
- Radio frequency
- Peripheral interfaces
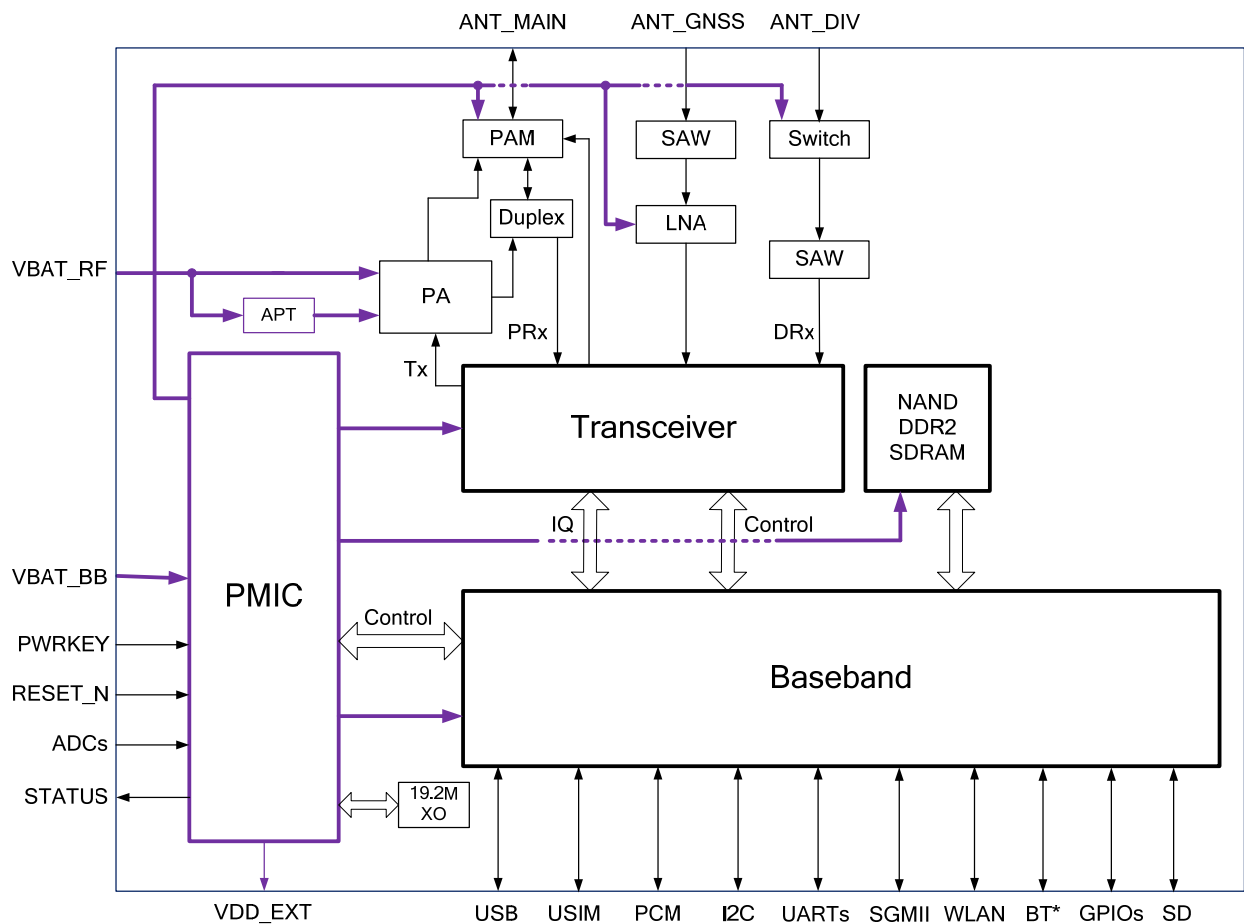
Figure 1: Functional Diagram

2.4. Evaluation Board

In order to help customers develop applications with EC21, Quectel supplies an evaluation board (EVB), USB to RS-232 converter cable, earphone, antenna and other peripherals to control or test the module.

3 Application Interfaces

3.1. General Description

EC21 is equipped with 80 LCC pads plus 64 LGA pads that can be connected to cellular application platform. Sub-interfaces included in these pads are described in detail in the following chapters:

- Power supply
- (U)SIM interface
- USB interface
- UART interfaces
- PCM and I2C interfaces
- SD card interface
- ADC interfaces
- Status indication
- SGMII interface
- Wireless connectivity interfaces
- USB_BOOT interface

3.2. Pin Assignment

The following figure shows the pin assignment of EC21 module.
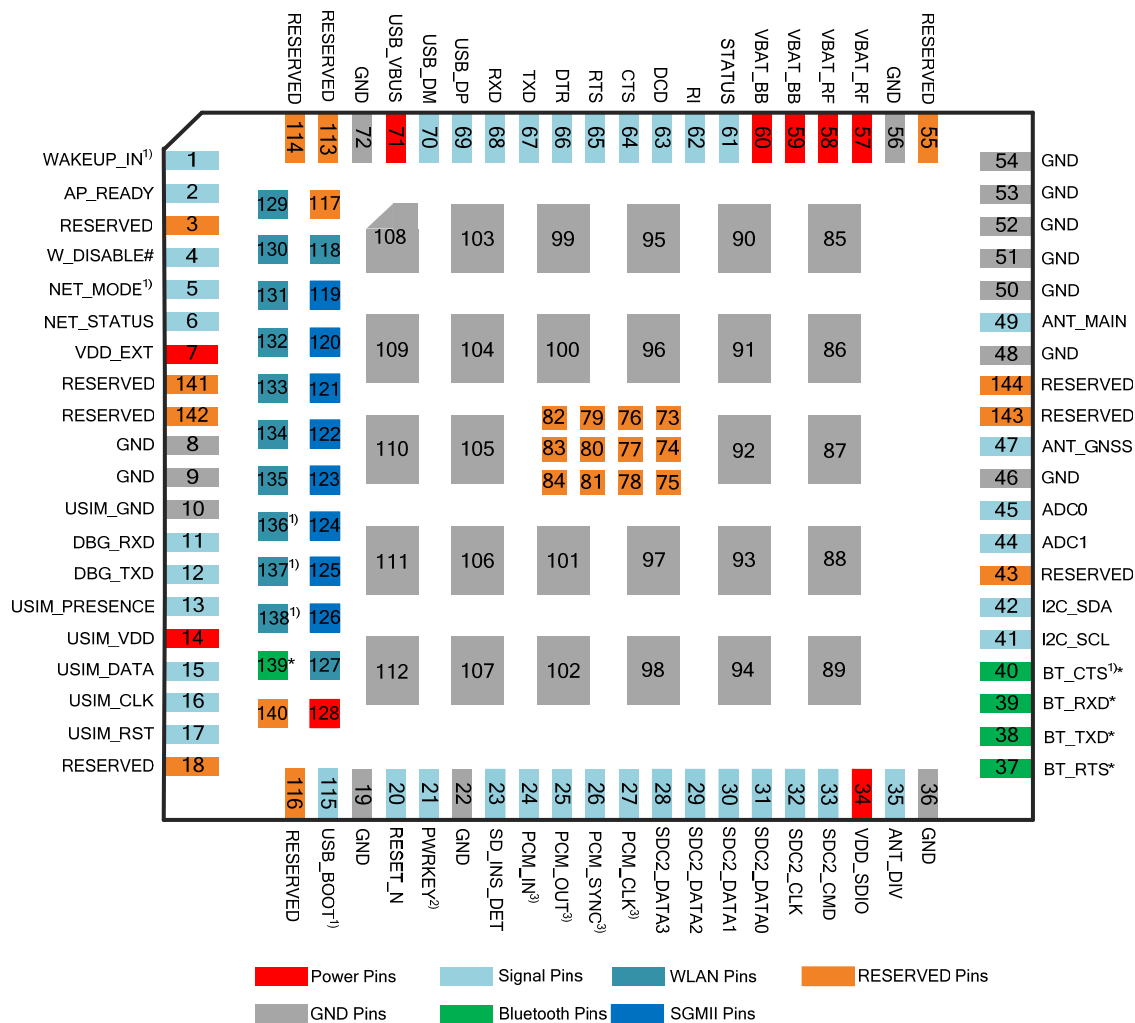
Figure 2: Pin Assignment (Top View)

NOTES

1. [1] means that these pins cannot be pulled up before startup.
2. [2] PWRKEY output voltage is 0.8V because of the diode drop in the Qualcomm chipset.
3. [3] means these interface functions are only supported on **Telematics** version.
4. Pads 37~40, 118, 127 and 129~139 are used for wireless connectivity interfaces, among which pads 118, 127 and 129~138 are WLAN function pins, and others are Bluetooth (BT) function pins. BT function is under development.
5. Pads 119~126 and 128 are used for SGMII interface.

6. Pads 24~27 are multiplexing pins used for audio design on EC21 module and BT function on FC20 module.
7. Keep all RESERVED pins and unused pins unconnected.
8. GND pads 85~112 should be connected to ground in the design. RESERVED pads 73~84 should not be designed in schematic and PCB decal, and these pins should be served as a keep out area.
9. "*" means under development.

3.3. Pin Description

The following tables show the pin definition of EC21 module.

Table 3: I/O Parameters Definition

Type	Description
IO	Bidirectional
DI	Digital input
DO	Digital output
PI	Power input
PO	Power output
AI	Analog input
AO	Analog output
OD	Open drain

Table 4: Pin Description

Power Supply					
Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
VBAT_BB	59, 60	PI	Power supply for module's baseband part	Vmax=4.3V Vmin=3.3V Vnorm=3.8V	It must be able to provide sufficient current up to 0.8A.
VBAT_RF	57, 58	PI	Power supply for module's RF part	Vmax=4.3V Vmin=3.3V Vnorm=3.8V	It must be able to provide sufficient current up to 1.8A in a burst

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
					transmission.
VDD_EXT	7	PO	Provide 1.8V for external circuit	Vnorm=1.8V $I_O$max=50mA	Power supply for external GPIO's pull-up circuits. If unused, keep it open.
GND	8, 9, 19, 22, 36, 46, 48, 50~54, 56, 72, 85~112		Ground		

Turn on/off

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
PWRKEY	21	DI	Turn on/off the module	V_{IH}max=2.1V V_{IH}min=1.3V V_{IL}max=0.5V	The output voltage is 0.8V because of the diode drop in the Qualcomm chipset.
RESET_N	20	DI	Reset signal of the module	V_{IH}max=2.1V V_{IH}min=1.3V V_{IL}max=0.5V	If unused, keep it open.

Status Indication

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
STATUS	61	OD	Indicate the module operating status	The drive current should be less than 0.9mA.	Require external pull-up. If unused, keep it open.
NET_MODE	5	DO	Indicate the module network registration mode	V_{OH}min=1.35V V_{OL}max=0.45V	1.8V power domain. It cannot be pulled up before startup. If unused, keep it open.
NET_ STATUS	6	DO	Indicate the module network activity status	V_{OH}min=1.35V V_{OL}max=0.45V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.

USB Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
USB_VBUS	71	PI	USB detection	Vmax=5.25V Vmin=3.0V Vnorm=5.0V	Typical: 5.0V If unused, keep it open.

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
USB_DP	69	IO	USB differential data bus (+)	Compliant with USB 2.0 standard specification.	Require differential impedance of 90Ω. If unused, keep it open.
USB_DM	70	IO	USB differential data bus (-)	Compliant with USB 2.0 standard specification.	Require differential impedance of 90Ω. If unused, keep it open.

(U)SIM Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
USIM_GND	10		Specified ground for (U)SIM card		
USIM_VDD	14	PO	Power supply for (U)SIM card	For 1.8V (U)SIM: Vmax=1.9V Vmin=1.7V For 3.0V (U)SIM: Vmax=3.05V Vmin=2.7V $I_O$max=50mA	Either 1.8V or 3.0V is supported by the module automatically.
USIM_DATA	15	IO	Data signal of (U)SIM card	For 1.8V (U)SIM: V_{IL}max=0.6V V_{IH}min=1.2V V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V For 3.0V (U)SIM: V_{IL}max=1.0V V_{IH}min=1.95V V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=2.55V	
USIM_CLK	16	DO	Clock signal of (U)SIM card	For 1.8V (U)SIM: V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V For 3.0V (U)SIM: V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=2.55V	
USIM_RST	17	DO	Reset signal of (U)SIM card	For 1.8V (U)SIM: V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V	

| | | | | For 3.0V (U)SIM:
V_{OL}max=0.45V
V_{OH}min=2.55V | |
| USIM_
PRESENCE | 13 | DI | (U)SIM card
insertion detection | V_{IL}min=-0.3V
V_{IL}max=0.6V
V_{IH}min=1.2V
V_{IH}max=2.0V | 1.8V power domain.
If unused, keep it
open. |

Main UART Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
RI	62	DO	Ring indicator	V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
DCD	63	DO	Data carrier detection	V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
CTS	64	DO	Clear to send	V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
RTS	65	DI	Request to send	V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.6V V_{IH}min=1.2V V_{IH}max=2.0V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
DTR	66	DI	Data terminal ready, sleep mode control	V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.6V V_{IH}min=1.2V V_{IH}max=2.0V	1.8V power domain. Pulled up by default. Low level wakes up the module. If unused, keep it open.
TXD	67	DO	Transmit data	V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
RXD	68	DI	Receive data	V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.6V V_{IH}min=1.2V V_{IH}max=2.0V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.

Debug UART Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
DBG_TXD	12	DO	Transmit data	V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.

				VILmin=-0.3V	1.8V power domain.
DBG_RXD	11	DI	Receive data	V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.6V V_{IH}min=1.2V V_{IH}max=2.0V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.

ADC Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
ADC0	45	AI	General purpose analog to digital converter	Voltage range: 0.3V to VBAT_BB	If unused, keep it open.
ADC1	44	AI	General purpose analog to digital converter	Voltage range: 0.3V to VBAT_BB	If unused, keep it open.

PCM Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
PCM_IN	24	DI	PCM data input	V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.6V V_{IH}min=1.2V V_{IH}max=2.0V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
PCM_OUT	25	DO	PCM data output	V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
PCM_SYNC	26	IO	PCM data frame synchronization signal	V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.6V V_{IH}min=1.2V V_{IH}max=2.0V	1.8V power domain. In master mode, it is an output signal. In slave mode, it is an input signal. If unused, keep it open.
PCM_CLK	27	IO	PCM clock	V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.6V V_{IH}min=1.2V V_{IH}max=2.0V	1.8V power domain. In master mode, it is an output signal. In slave mode, it is an input signal. If unused, keep it open.

I2C Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
I2C_SCL	41	OD	I2C serial clock. Used for external		External pull-up resistor is required.

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
			codec		1.8V only. If unused, keep it open.
I2C_SDA	42	OD	I2C serial data. Used for external codec		External pull-up resistor is required. 1.8V only. If unused, keep it open.

SD Card Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
SDC2_DATA3	28	IO	SD card SDIO bus DATA3	**1.8V signaling:** V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.4V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.58V V_{IH}min=1.27V V_{IH}max=2.0V **3.0V signaling:** V_{OL}max=0.38V V_{OH}min=2.01V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.76V V_{IH}min=1.72V V_{IH}max=3.34V	SDIO signal level can be selected according to SD card supported level, more details please refer to SD 3.0 protocol. If unused, keep it open.
SDC2_DATA2	29	IO	SD card SDIO bus DATA2	**1.8V signaling:** V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.4V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.58V V_{IH}min=1.27V V_{IH}max=2.0V **3.0V signaling:** V_{OL}max=0.38V V_{OH}min=2.01V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.76V V_{IH}min=1.72V V_{IH}max=3.34V	SDIO signal level can be selected according to SD card supported level, more details please refer to SD 3.0 protocol. If unused, keep it open.
SDC2_DATA1	30	IO	SD card SDIO bus DATA1	**1.8V signaling:** V_{OL}max=0.45V	SDIO signal level can be selected according

				V_{OH}min=1.4V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.58V V_{IH}min=1.27V V_{IH}max=2.0V **3.0V signaling:** V_{OL}max=0.38V V_{OH}min=2.01V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.76V V_{IH}min=1.72V V_{IH}max=3.34V	to SD card supported level, more details please refer to SD 3.0 protocol. If unused, keep it open.
SDC2_ DATA0	31	IO	SD card SDIO bus DATA0	**1.8V signaling:** V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.4V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.58V V_{IH}min=1.27V V_{IH}max=2.0V **3.0V signaling:** V_{OL}max=0.38V V_{OH}min=2.01V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.76V V_{IH}min=1.72V V_{IH}max=3.34V	SDIO signal level can be selected according to SD card supported level, more details please refer to SD 3.0 protocol. If unused, keep it open.
SDC2_CLK	32	DO	SD card SDIO bus clock	**1.8V signaling:** V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.4V **3.0V signaling:** V_{OL}max=0.38V V_{OH}min=2.01V	SDIO signal level can be selected according to SD card supported level, more details please refer to SD 3.0 protocol. If unused, keep it open.
SDC2_CMD	33	IO	SD card SDIO bus command	**1.8V signaling:** V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.4V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.58V V_{IH}min=1.27V V_{IH}max=2.0V	SDIO signal level can be selected according to SD card supported level, more details please refer to SD 3.0 protocol. If unused, keep it open.

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
				3.0V signaling: V_{OL}max=0.38V V_{OH}min=2.01V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.76V V_{IH}min=1.72V V_{IH}max=3.34V	
SD_INS_ DET	23	DI	SD card insertion detect	V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.6V V_{IH}min=1.2V V_{IH}max=2.0V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
VDD_SDIO	34	PO	SD card SDIO bus pull-up power	$I_O$max=50mA	1.8V/2.85V configurable. Cannot be used for SD card power. If unused, keep it open.
SGMII Interface					
Pin Name	**Pin No.**	**I/O**	**Description**	**DC Characteristics**	**Comment**
EPHY_RST_N	119	DO	Ethernet PHY reset	For 1.8V: V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.4V For 2.85V: V_{OL}max=0.35V V_{OH}min=2.14V	1.8V/2.85V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
EPHY_INT_N	120	DI	Ethernet PHY interrupt	V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.6V V_{IH}min=1.2V V_{IH}max=2.0V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
SGMII_ MDATA	121	IO	SGMII MDIO (Management Data Input/Output) data	For 1.8V: V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.4V V_{IL}max=0.58V V_{IH}min=1.27V For 2.85V: V_{OL}max=0.35V V_{OH}min=2.14V V_{IL}max=0.71V V_{IH}min=1.78V	1.8V/2.85V power domain. If unused, keep it open.

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
SGMII_MCLK	122	DO	SGMII MDIO (Management Data Input/Output) clock	For 1.8V: V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.4V For 2.85V: V_{OL}max=0.35V V_{OH}min=2.14V	1.8V/2.85V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
USIM2_VDD	128	PO	SGMII MDIO pull-up power source		Configurable power source. 1.8V/2.85V power domain. External pull-up for SGMII MDIO pins. If unused, keep it open.
SGMII_TX_M	123	AO	SGMII transmission - minus		If unused, keep it open.
SGMII_TX_P	124	AO	SGMII transmission - plus		If unused, keep it open.
SGMII_RX_P	125	AI	SGMII receiving - plus		If unused, keep it open.
SGMII_RX_M	126	AI	SGMII receiving - minus		If unused, keep it open.

Wireless Connectivity Interfaces

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
SDC1_DATA3	129	IO	WLAN SDIO data bus D3	V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.6V V_{IH}min=1.2V V_{IH}max=2.0V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
SDC1_DATA2	130	IO	WLAN SDIO data bus D2	V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.6V V_{IH}min=1.2V V_{IH}max=2.0V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
SDC1_DATA1	131	IO	WLAN SDIO data bus D1	V_{OL}max=0.45V V_{OH}min=1.35V V_{IL}min=-0.3V V_{IL}max=0.6V V_{IH}min=1.2V	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.

				$V_{IH}max=2.0V$	
SDC1_DATA0	132	IO	WLAN SDIO data bus D0	$V_{OL}max=0.45V$ $V_{OH}min=1.35V$ $V_{IL}min=-0.3V$ $V_{IL}max=0.6V$ $V_{IH}min=1.2V$ $V_{IH}max=2.0V$	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
SDC1_CLK	133	DO	WLAN SDIO bus clock	$V_{OL}max=0.45V$ $V_{OH}min=1.35V$	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
SDC1_CMD	134	DO	WLAN SDIO bus command	$V_{OL}max=0.45V$ $V_{OH}min=1.35V$	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
PM_ENABLE	127	DO	External power control	$V_{OL}max=0.45V$ $V_{OH}min=1.35V$	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
WAKE_ON_WIRELESS	135	DI	Wake up the host (EC21 module) by FC20 module.	VILmin=-0.3V VILmax=0.6V VIHmin=1.2V VIHmax=2.0V	1.8V power domain. Active low. If unused, keep it open.
WLAN_EN	136	DO	WLAN function control via FC20 module	$V_{OL}max=0.45V$ $V_{OH}min=1.35V$	1.8V power domain. Active high. It cannot be pulled up before startup. If unused, keep it open.
COEX_UART_RX	137	DI	LTE/WLAN&BT coexistence signal	$V_{IL}min=-0.3V$ $V_{IL}max=0.6V$ $V_{IH}min=1.2V$ $V_{IH}max=2.0V$	1.8V power domain. It cannot be pulled up before startup. If unused, keep it open.
COEX_UART_TX	138	DO	LTE/WLAN&BT coexistence signal	$V_{OL}max=0.45V$ $V_{OH}min=1.35V$	1.8V power domain. It cannot be pulled up before startup. If unused, keep it open.
WLAN_SLP_CLK	118	DO	WLAN sleep clock		If unused, keep it open.
BT_RTS*	37	DI	BT UART request to send	$V_{IL}min=-0.3V$ $V_{IL}max=0.6V$ $V_{IH}min=1.2V$ $V_{IH}max=2.0V$	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
BT_TXD*	38	DO	BT UART transmit data	$V_{OL}max=0.45V$ $V_{OH}min=1.35V$	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
BT_RXD*	39	DI	BT UART receive data	$V_{IL}min=-0.3V$ $V_{IL}max=0.6V$ $V_{IH}min=1.2V$ $V_{IH}max=2.0V$	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
BT_CTS*	40	DO	BT UART clear to send	$V_{OL}max=0.45V$ $V_{OH}min=1.35V$	1.8V power domain. It cannot be pulled up before startup. If unused, keep it open.
BT_EN*	139	DO	BT function control via FC20 module	$V_{OL}max=0.45V$ $V_{OH}min=1.35V$	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
RF Interface					
Pin Name	**Pin No.**	**I/O**	**Description**	**DC Characteristics**	**Comment**
ANT_DIV	35	AI	Diversity antenna pad		50Ω impedance If unused, keep it open.
ANT_MAIN	49	IO	Main antenna pad		50Ω impedance
ANT_GNSS	47	AI	GNSS antenna pad		50Ω impedance If unused, keep it open.
GPIO Pins					
Pin Name	**Pin No.**	**I/O**	**Description**	**DC Characteristics**	**Comment**
WAKEUP_IN	1	DI	Sleep mode control	$V_{IL}min=-0.3V$ $V_{IL}max=0.6V$ $V_{IH}min=1.2V$ $V_{IH}max=2.0V$	1.8V power domain. Cannot be pulled up before startup. Low level wakes up the module. If unused, keep it open.
W_DISABLE#	4	DI	Airplane mode control	$V_{IL}min=-0.3V$ $V_{IL}max=0.6V$ $V_{IH}min=1.2V$ $V_{IH}max=2.0V$	1.8V power domain. Pull-up by default. At low voltage level, module can enter into airplane mode. If unused, keep it open.

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
AP_READY	2	DI	Application processor sleep state detection	$V_{IL}min=-0.3V$ $V_{IL}max=0.6V$ $V_{IH}min=1.2V$ $V_{IH}max=2.0V$	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.

USB_BOOT Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
USB_BOOT	115	DI	Force the module to enter into emergency download mode.	$V_{IL}min=-0.3V$ $V_{IL}max=0.6V$ $V_{IH}min=1.2V$ $V_{IH}max=2.0V$	1.8V power domain. Active high. If unused, keep it open.

RESERVED Pins

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	DC Characteristics	Comment
RESERVED	3, 18, 23, 43, 55, 73~84, 113, 114, 116, 117, 140-144.		Reserved		Keep these pins unconnected.

NOTES

1. "*" means under development.
2. Pads 24~27 are multiplexing pins used for audio design on EC21 module and BT function on FC20 module.

3.4. Operating Modes

The table below briefly summarizes the various operating modes referred in the following chapters.

Table 5: Overview of Operating Modes

Mode	Details	
Normal Operation	Idle	Software is active. The module has registered on the network, and it is ready to send and receive data.
	Talk/Data	Network connection is ongoing. In this mode, the power consumption is decided by network setting and data transfer rate.
Minimum	**AT+CFUN** command can set the module to a minimum functionality mode without	

Functionality Mode	removing the power supply. In this case, both RF function and (U)SIM card will be invalid.
Airplane Mode	**AT+CFUN** command or W_DISABLE# pin can set the module to airplane mode. In this case, RF function will be invalid.
Sleep Mode	In this mode, the current consumption of the module will be reduced to the minimal level. During this mode, the module can still receive paging message, SMS, voice call and TCP/UDP data from the network normally.
Power down Mode	In this mode, the power management unit shuts down the power supply. Software is not active. The serial interface is not accessible. Operating voltage (connected to VBAT_RF and VBAT_BB) remains applied.

3.5. Power Saving

3.5.1. Sleep Mode

EC21 is able to reduce its current consumption to a minimum value during the sleep mode. The following section describes power saving procedures of EC21 module.

3.5.1.1. UART Application

If the host communicates with module via UART interface, the following preconditions can let the module enter into sleep mode.

● Execute **AT+QSCLK=1** command to enable sleep mode.
● Drive DTR to high level.

The following figure shows the connection between the module and the host.
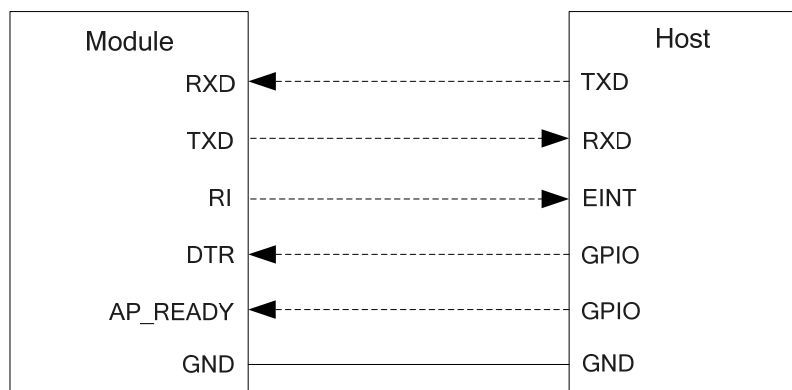
Figure 3: Sleep Mode Application via UART

- Driving the host DTR to low level will wake up the module.
- When EC21 has a URC to report, RI signal will wake up the host. Refer to *Chapter 3.17* for details about RI behaviors.
- AP_READY will detect the sleep state of the host (can be configured to high level or low level detection). Please refer to **AT+QCFG="apready"*** command for details.

NOTE

"*" means under development.

3.5.1.2. USB Application with USB Remote Wakeup Function

If the host supports USB suspend/resume and remote wakeup functions, the following three preconditions must be met to let the module enter into sleep mode.

- Execute **AT+QSCLK=1** command to enable sleep mode.
- Ensure the DTR is held at high level or keep it open.
- The host's USB bus, which is connected with the module's USB interface, enters into suspended state.

The following figure shows the connection between the module and the host.
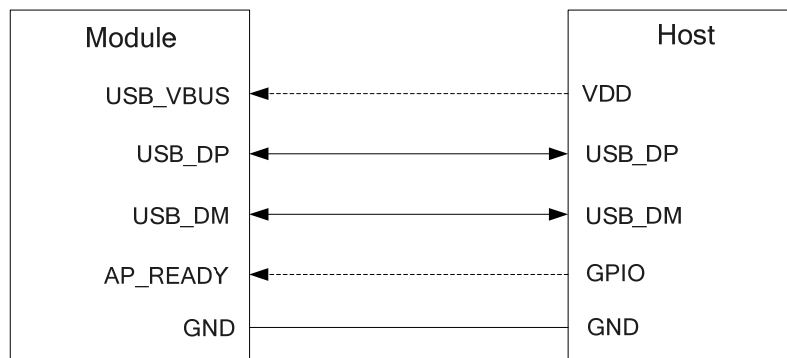
Figure 4: Sleep Mode Application with USB Remote Wakeup

- Sending data to EC21 through USB will wake up the module.
- When EC21 has a URC to report, the module will send remote wake-up signals via USB bus so as to wake up the host.

3.5.1.3. USB Application with USB Suspend/Resume and RI Function

If the host supports USB suspend/resume, but does not support remote wake-up function, the RI signal is needed to wake up the host.

There are three preconditions to let the module enter into the sleep mode.

● Execute **AT+QSCLK=1** command to enable sleep mode.
● Ensure the DTR is held at high level or keep it open.
● The host's USB bus, which is connected with the module's USB interface, enters into suspended state.

The following figure shows the connection between the module and the host.
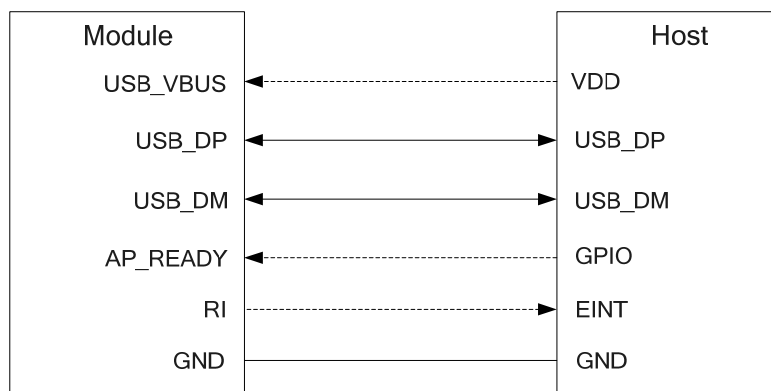
Figure 5: Sleep Mode Application with RI

● Sending data to EC21 through USB will wake up the module.
● When EC21 has a URC to report, RI signal will wake up the host.

3.5.1.4. USB Application without USB Suspend Function

If the host does not support USB suspend function, USB_VBUS should be disconnected via an additional control circuit to let the module enter into sleep mode.

● Execute **AT+QSCLK=1** command to enable sleep mode.
● Ensure the DTR is held at high level or keep it open.
● Disconnect USB_VBUS.

The following figure shows the connection between the module and the host.
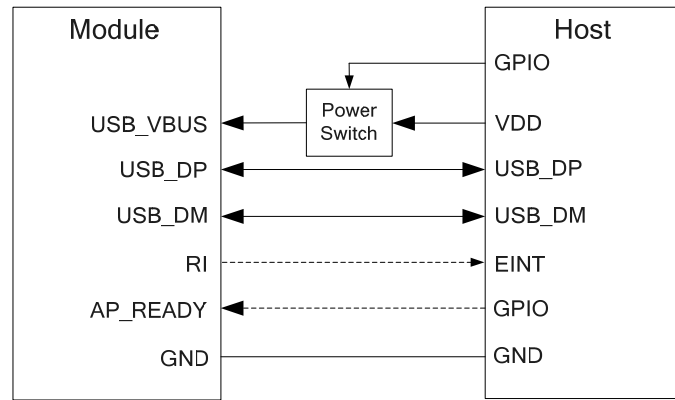
Figure 6: Sleep Mode Application without Suspend Function

Switching on the power switch to supply power to USB_VBUS will wake up the module.

NOTE

Please pay attention to the level match shown in dotted line between the module and the host. Refer to *document [1]* for more details about EC21 power management application.

3.5.2. Airplane Mode

When the module enters into airplane mode, the RF function does not work, and all AT commands correlative with RF function will be inaccessible. This mode can be set via the following ways.

Hardware:

The W_DISABLE# pin is pulled up by default. Driving it to low level will let the module enter into airplane mode.

Software:

AT+CFUN command provides the choice of the functionality level through setting **<fun>** into 0, 1 or 4.

- **AT+CFUN=0:** Minimum functionality mode. Both (U)SIM and RF functions are disabled.
- **AT+CFUN=1:** Full functionality mode (by default).
- **AT+CFUN=4:** Airplane mode. RF function is disabled.

NOTES

1. W_DISABLE# control function is disabled in firmware by default. It can be enabled by **AT+QCFG="airplanecontrol"** command. This command is under development.
2. The execution of **AT+CFUN** command will not affect GNSS function.

3.6. Power Supply

3.6.1. Power Supply Pins

EC21 provides four VBAT pins for connection with the external power supply. There are two separate voltage domains for VBAT.

- Two VBAT_RF pins for module's RF part.
- Two VBAT_BB pins for module's baseband part.

The following table shows the details of VBAT pins and ground pins.

Table 6: VBAT and GND Pins

Pin Name	Pin No.	Description	Min.	Typ.	Max.	Unit
VBAT_RF	57, 58	Power supply for module's RF part.	3.3	3.8	4.3	V
VBAT_BB	59, 60	Power supply for module's baseband part.	3.3	3.8	4.3	V
GND	8, 9, 19, 22, 36, 46, 48, 50~54, 56, 72, 85~112	Ground	-	0	-	V

3.6.2. Decrease Voltage Drop

The power supply range of the module is from 3.3V to 4.3V. Please make sure that the input voltage will never drop below 3.3V. The following figure shows the voltage drop during burst transmission in 2G network. The voltage drop will be less in 3G and 4G networks.
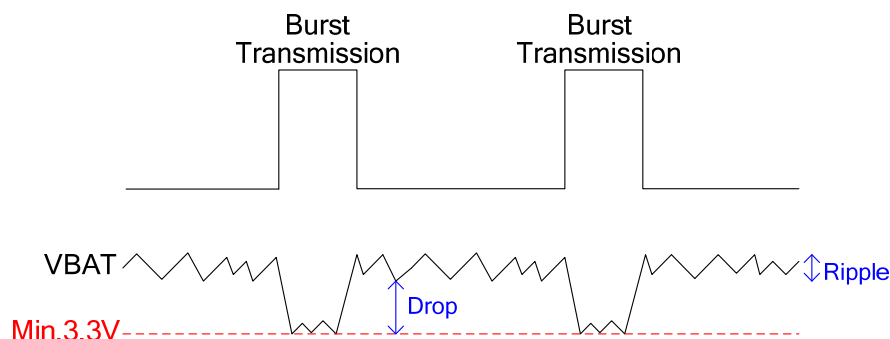
Figure 7: Power Supply Limits during Burst Transmission

To decrease voltage drop, a bypass capacitor of about 100μF with low ESR (ESR=0.7Ω) should be used, and a multi-layer ceramic chip (MLCC) capacitor array should also be reserved due to its ultra-low ESR. It is recommended to use three ceramic capacitors (100nF, 33pF, 10pF) for composing the MLCC array, and place these capacitors close to VBAT_BB/VBAT_RF pins. The main power supply from an external application has to be a single voltage source and can be expanded to two sub paths with star structure. The width of VBAT_BB trace should be no less than 1mm; and the width of VBAT_RF trace should be no less than 2mm. In principle, the longer the VBAT trace is, the wider it will be.

In addition, in order to get a stable power source, it is suggested that a zener diode whose reverse zener voltage is 5.1V and dissipation power is more than 0.5W should be used. The following figure shows the star structure of the power supply.
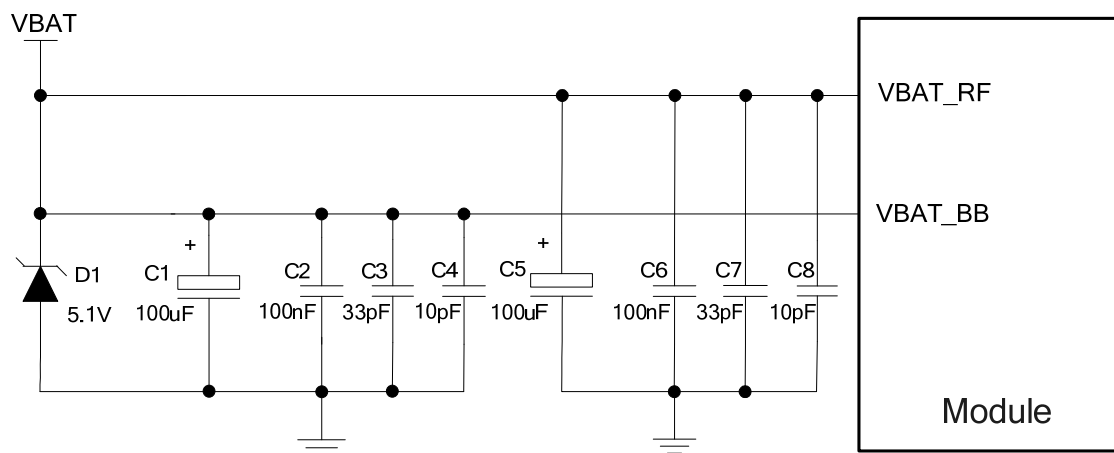
Figure 8: Star Structure of the Power Supply

3.6.3. Reference Design for Power Supply

Power design for the module is very important, as the performance of the module largely depends on the power source. The power supply should be able to provide sufficient current up to 2A at least. If the voltage drop between the input and output is not too high, it is suggested that an LDO should be used to supply power for the module. If there is a big voltage difference between the input source and the desired output (VBAT), a buck converter is preferred to be used as the power supply.

The following figure shows a reference design for +5V input power source. The typical output of the power supply is about 3.8V and the maximum load current is 3A.
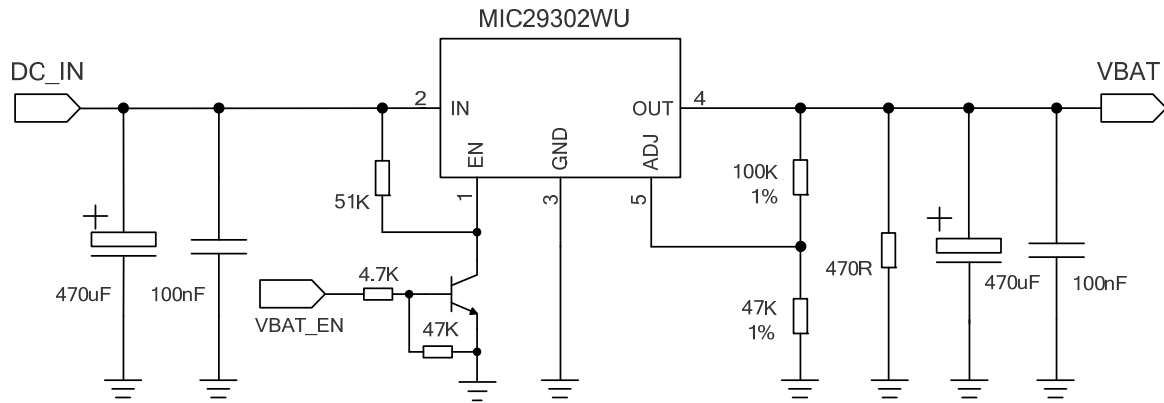
Figure 9: Reference Circuit of Power Supply

NOTE

In order to avoid damaging internal flash, please do not switch off the power supply when the module works normally. Only after the module is shut down by PWRKEY or AT command, the power supply can be cut off.

3.6.4. Monitor the Power Supply

AT+CBC command can be used to monitor the VBAT_BB voltage value. For more details, please refer to *document [2]*.

3.7. Turn on and off Scenarios

3.7.1. Turn on Module Using the PWRKEY

The following table shows the pin definition of PWRKEY.

Table 7: Pin Definition of PWRKEY

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
PWRKEY	21	DI	Turn on/off the module	The output voltage is 0.8V because of the diode drop in the Qualcomm chipset.

When EC21 is in power down mode, it can be turned on to normal mode by driving the PWRKEY pin to a low level for at least 500ms. It is recommended to use an open drain/collector driver to control the PWRKEY. After STATUS pin (require external pull-up) outputting a low level, PWRKEY pin can be released. A simple reference circuit is illustrated in the following figure.
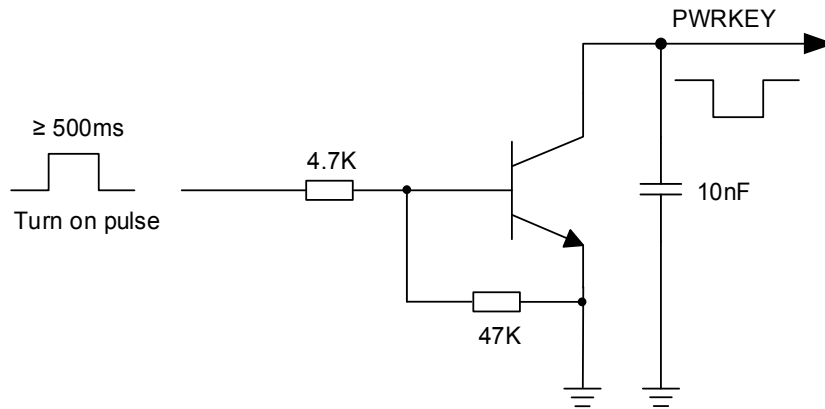
Figure 10: Turn on the Module by Using Driving Circuit

The other way to control the PWRKEY is using a button directly. When pressing the key, electrostatic strike may generate from finger. Therefore, a TVS component is indispensable to be placed nearby the button for ESD protection. A reference circuit is shown in the following figure.
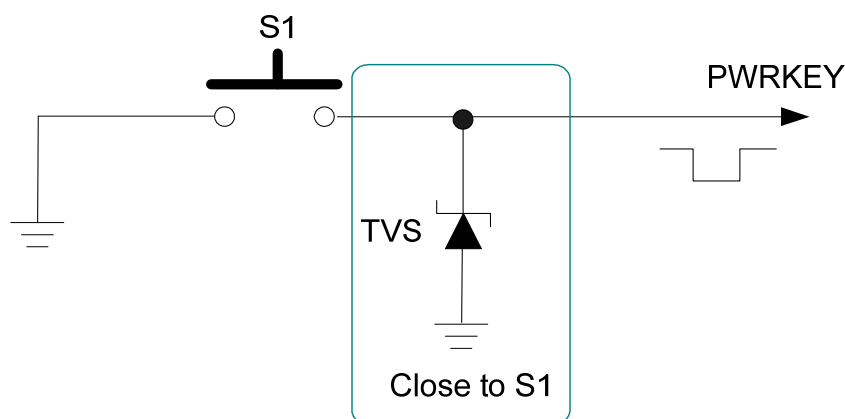
Figure 11: Turn on the Module by Using Button

The turn on scenario is illustrated in the following figure.
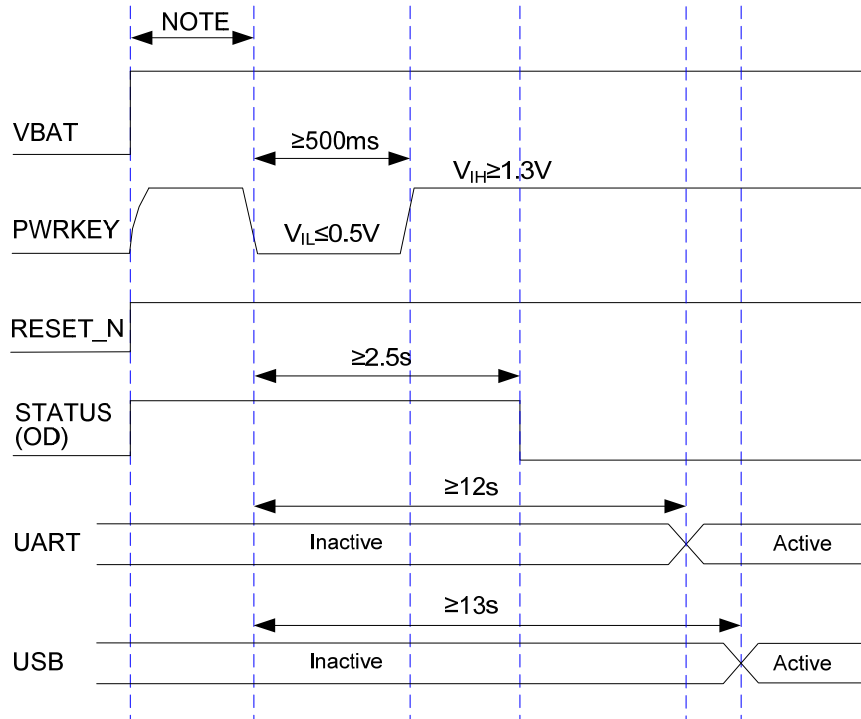
Figure 12: Timing of Turning on Module

NOTE

Please make sure that VBAT is stable before pulling down PWRKEY pin. The time between them is no less than 30ms.

3.7.2. Turn off Module

The following procedures can be used to turn off the module:

- Normal power down procedure: Turn off the module using the PWRKEY pin.
- Normal power down procedure: Turn off the module using **AT+QPOWD** command.

3.7.2.1. Turn off Module Using the PWRKEY Pin

Driving the PWRKEY pin to a low level voltage for at least 650ms, the module will execute power-down procedure after the PWRKEY is released. The power-down scenario is illustrated in the following figure.
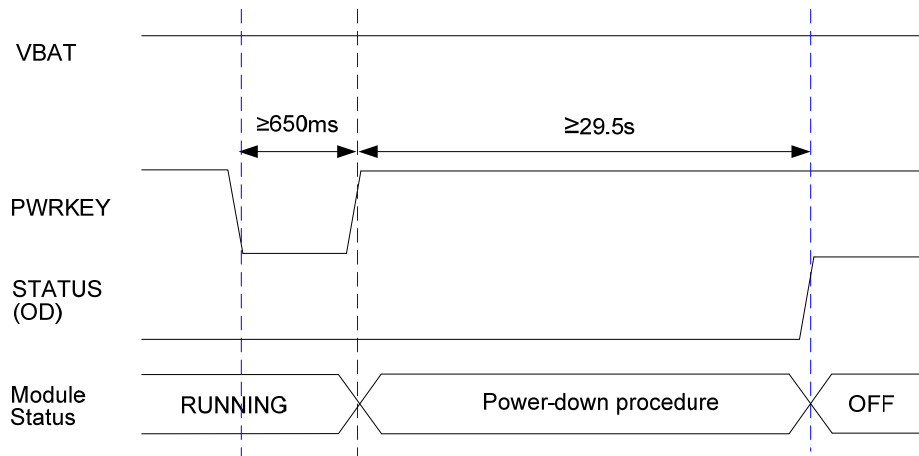
Figure 13: Timing of Turning off Module

3.7.2.2. Turn off Module Using AT Command

It is also a safe way to use **AT+QPOWD** command to turn off the module, which is similar to turning off the module via PWRKEY pin.

Please refer to **document [2]** for details about **AT+QPOWD** command.

> **NOTE**
>
> 1. In order to avoid damaging internal flash, please do not switch off the power supply when the module works normally. Only after the module is shut down by PWRKEY or AT command, the power supply can be cut off.
> 2. When turn off module with AT command, please keep PWRKEY at high level after the execution of power-off command. Otherwise the module will be turned on again after successfully turn-off.

3.8. Reset the Module

The RESET_N pin can be used to reset the module. The module can be reset by driving RESET_N to a low level voltage for time between 150ms and 460ms.

Table 8: Pin Definition of RESET_N

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
RESET_N	20	DI	Reset the module	1.8V power domain

The recommended circuit is similar to the PWRKEY control circuit. An open drain/collector driver or button can be used to control the RESET_N.
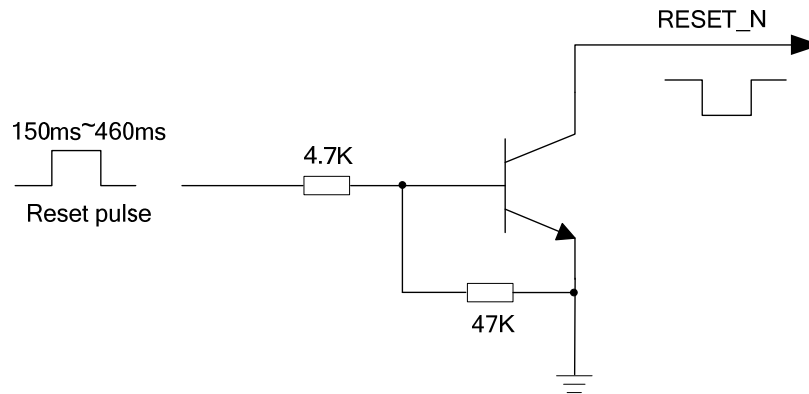
Figure 14: Reference Circuit of RESET_N by Using Driving Circuit
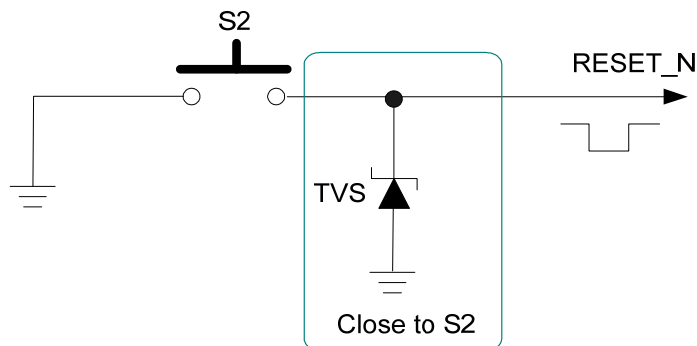
Figure 15: Reference Circuit of RESET_N by Using Button

The reset scenario is illustrated in the following figure.
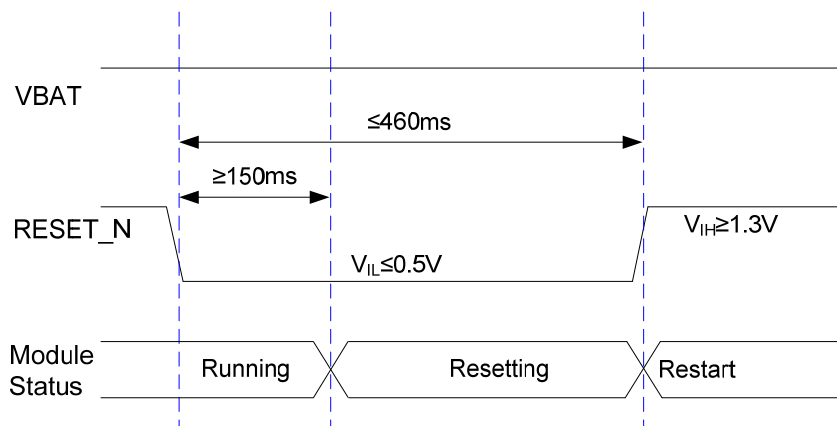
Figure 16: Timing of Resetting Module

NOTES

1. Use RESET_N only when turning off the module by **AT+QPOWD** command and PWRKEY pin failed.
2. Ensure that there is no large capacitance on PWRKEY and RESET_N pins.

3.9. (U)SIM Interface

The (U)SIM interface circuitry meets ETSI and IMT-2000 requirements. Both 1.8V and 3.0V (U)SIM cards are supported.

Table 9: Pin Definition of the (U)SIM Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
USIM_VDD	14	PO	Power supply for (U)SIM card	Either 1.8V or 3.0V is supported by the module automatically.
USIM_DATA	15	IO	Data signal of (U)SIM card	
USIM_CLK	16	DO	Clock signal of (U)SIM card	
USIM_RST	17	DO	Reset signal of (U)SIM card	
USIM_ PRESENCE	13	DI	(U)SIM card insertion detection	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.
USIM_GND	10		Specified ground for (U)SIM card	

EC21 supports (U)SIM card hot-plug via the USIM_PRESENCE pin. The function supports low level and high level detections, and is disabled by default. Please refer to *document [2]* about **AT+QSIMDET** command for details.

The following figure shows a reference design for (U)SIM interface with an 8-pin (U)SIM card connector.

Figure 17: Reference Circuit of (U)SIM Interface with an 8-Pin (U)SIM Card Connector
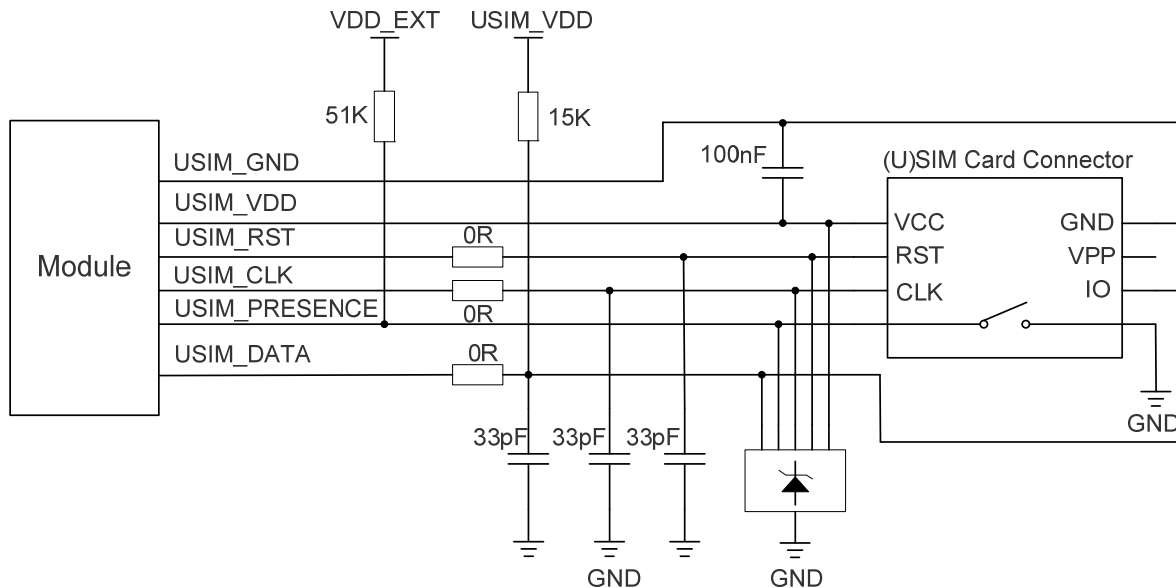
If (U)SIM card detection function is not needed, please keep USIM_PRESENCE unconnected. A reference circuit for (U)SIM interface with a 6-pin (U)SIM card connector is illustrated in the following figure.

Figure 18: Reference Circuit of (U)SIM Interface with a 6-Pin (U)SIM Card Connector
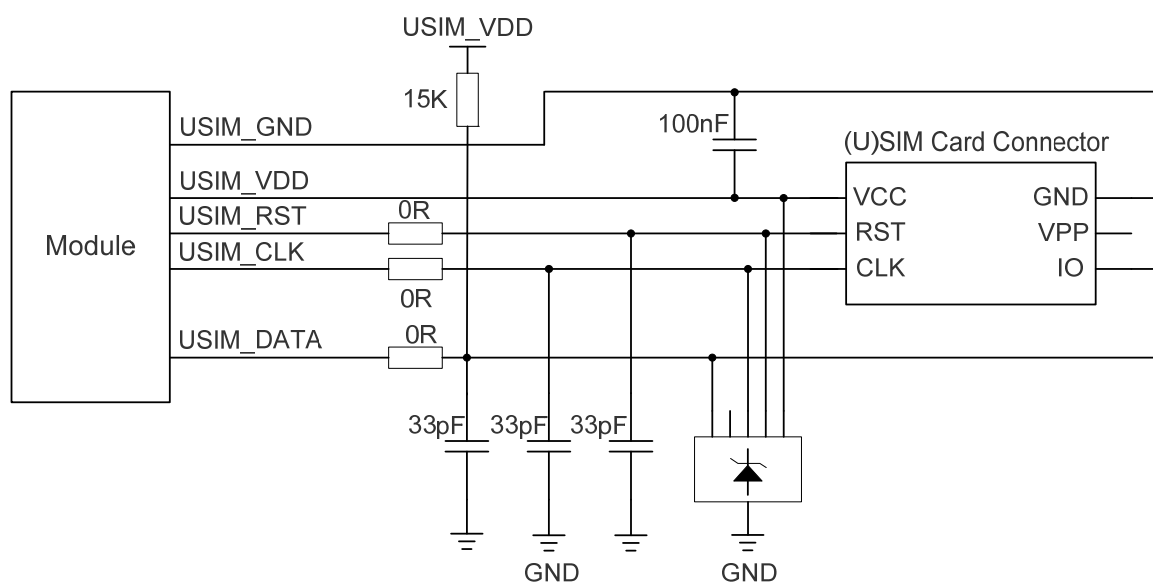
In order to enhance the reliability and availability of the (U)SIM card in customers' applications, please follow the criteria below in (U)SIM circuit design:

- Keep placement of (U)SIM card connector to the module as close as possible. Keep the trace length as less than 200mm as possible.
- Keep (U)SIM card signals away from RF and VBAT traces.
- Assure the ground between the module and the (U)SIM card connector short and wide. Keep the trace width of ground and USIM_VDD no less than 0.5mm to maintain the same electric potential. Make sure the bypass capacitor between USIM_VDD and USIM_GND less than 1uF, and place it as close to (U)SIM card connector as possible. If the ground is complete on customers' PCB, USIM_GND can be connected to PCB ground directly.
- To avoid cross-talk between USIM_DATA and USIM_CLK, keep them away from each other and shield them with surrounded ground.
- In order to offer good ESD protection, it is recommended to add a TVS diode array whose parasitic capacitance should not be more than 15pF. The 0Ω resistors should be added in series between the module and the (U)SIM card to facilitate debugging. The 33pF capacitors are used for filtering interference of GSM900MHz. Please note that the (U)SIM peripheral circuit should be close to the (U)SIM card connector.
- The pull-up resistor on USIM_DATA line can improve anti-jamming capability when long layout trace and sensitive occasion are applied, and should be placed close to the (U)SIM card connector.

3.10. USB Interface

EC21 contains one integrated Universal Serial Bus (USB) interface which complies with the USB 2.0 specification and supports high-speed (480Mbps) and full-speed (12Mbps) modes. The USB interface is used for AT command communication, data transmission, GNSS NMEA sentences output, software debugging, firmware upgrade and voice over USB*. The following table shows the pin definition of USB interface.

Table 10: Pin Description of USB Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
USB_DP	69	IO	USB differential data bus (+)	Require differential impedance of 90Ω
USB_DM	70	IO	USB differential data bus (-)	Require differential impedance of 90Ω
USB_VBUS	71	PI	Used for detecting the USB connection	Typically 5.0V
GND	72		Ground	

For more details about the USB 2.0 specification, please visit http://www.usb.org/home.

The USB interface is recommended to be reserved for firmware upgrade in customers' designs. The following figure shows a reference circuit of USB interface.
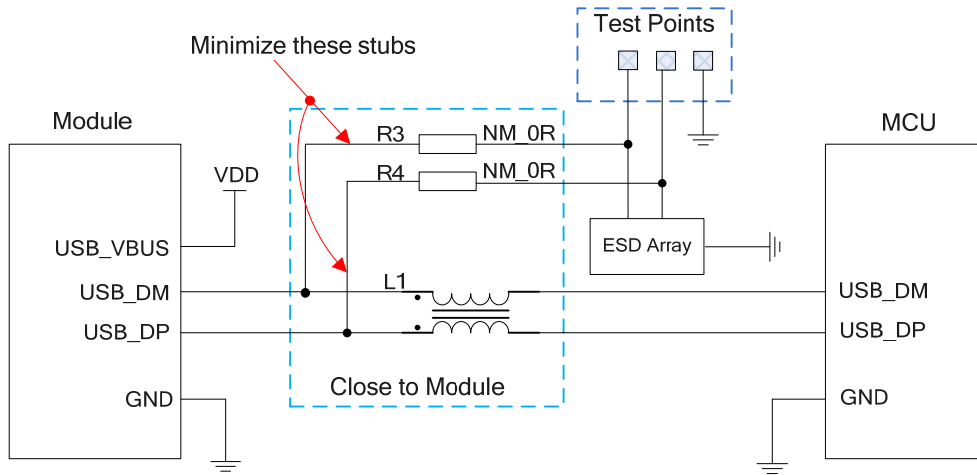
Figure 19: Reference Circuit of USB Application

A common mode choke L1 is recommended to be added in series between the module and customer's MCU in order to suppress EMI spurious transmission. Meanwhile, the 0Ω resistors (R3 and R4) should be added in series between the module and the test points so as to facilitate debugging, and the resistors are not mounted by default. In order to ensure the integrity of USB data line signal, L1/R3/R4 components must be placed close to the module, and also these resistors should be placed close to each other. The extra stubs of trace must be as short as possible.

The following principles should be complied with when design the USB interface, so as to meet USB 2.0 specification.

- It is important to route the USB signal traces as differential pairs with total grounding. The impedance of USB differential trace is 90Ω.
- Do not route signal traces under crystals, oscillators, magnetic devices and RF signal traces. It is important to route the USB differential traces in inner-layer with ground shielding on not only upper and lower layers but also right and left sides.
- Pay attention to the influence of junction capacitance of ESD protection components on USB data lines. Typically, the capacitance value should be less than 2pF.
- Keep the ESD protection components to the USB connector as close as possible.

NOTES

1. EC21 module can only be used as a slave device.
2. "*" means under development.

3.11. UART Interfaces

The module provides two UART interfaces: the main UART interface and the debug UART interface. The following shows their features.

● The main UART interface supports 4800bps, 9600bps, 19200bps, 38400bps, 57600bps, 115200bps, 230400bps, 460800bps and 921600bps baud rates, and the default is 115200bps. The interface is used for data transmission and AT command communication.
● The debug UART interface supports 115200bps baud rate. It is used for Linux console and log output.

The following tables show the pin definition of the UART interfaces.

Table 11: Pin Definition of Main UART Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
RI	62	DO	Ring indicator	1.8V power domain
DCD	63	DO	Data carrier detection	
CTS	64	DO	Clear to send	
RTS	65	DI	Request to send	
DTR	66	DI	Data terminal ready	
TXD	67	DO	Transmit data	
RXD	68	DI	Receive data	

Table 12: Pin Definition of Debug UART Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
DBG_TXD	12	DO	Transmit data	1.8V power domain
DBG_RXD	11	DI	Receive data	1.8V power domain

The logic levels are described in the following table.

Table 13: Logic Levels of Digital I/O

Parameter	Min.	Max.	Unit
V_{IL}	-0.3	0.6	V
V_{IH}	1.2	2.0	V
V_{OL}	0	0.45	V
V_{OH}	1.35	1.8	V

The module provides 1.8V UART interface. A level translator should be used if customers' application is equipped with a 3.3V UART interface. A level translator TXS0108EPWR provided by *Texas Instruments* is recommended. The following figure shows a reference design.
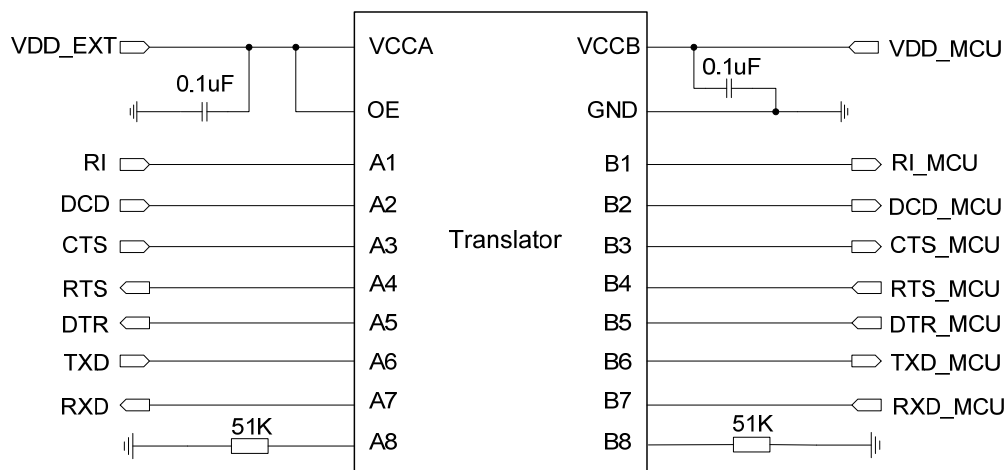
Figure 20: Reference Circuit with Translator Chip

Please visit http://www.ti.com for more information.

Another example with transistor translation circuit is shown as below. The circuit design of dotted line section can refer to the design of solid line section, in terms of both module input and output circuit designs, but please pay attention to the direction of connection.
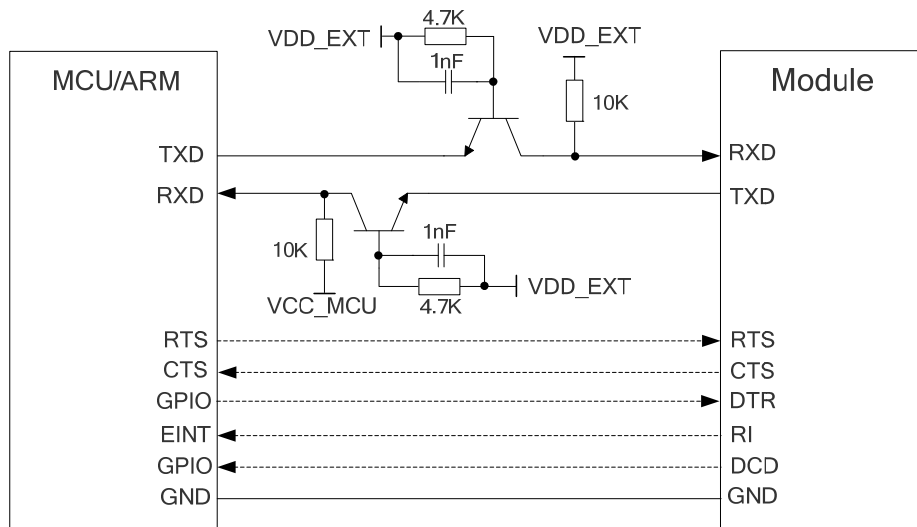
Figure 21: Reference Circuit with Transistor Circuit

> **NOTE**
>
> Transistor circuit solution is not suitable for applications with high baud rates exceeding 460Kbps.

3.12. PCM and I2C Interfaces

EC21 provides one Pulse Code Modulation (PCM) digital interface for audio design, which supports the following modes and one I2C interface:

● Primary mode (short frame synchronization, works as both master and slave)
● Auxiliary mode (long frame synchronization, works as master only)

In primary mode, the data is sampled on the falling edge of the PCM_CLK and transmitted on the rising edge. The PCM_SYNC falling edge represents the MSB. In this mode, the PCM interface supports 256kHz, 512kHz, 1024kHz or 2048kHz PCM_CLK at 8kHz PCM_SYNC, and also supports 4096kHz PCM_CLK at 16kHz PCM_SYNC.

In auxiliary mode, the data is sampled on the falling edge of the PCM_CLK and transmitted on the rising edge. The PCM_SYNC rising edge represents the MSB. In this mode, the PCM interface operates with a 256kHz, 512kHz, 1024kHz or 2048kHz PCM_CLK and an 8kHz, 50% duty cycle PCM_SYNC.

EC21 supports 8-bit A-law* and μ-law*, and also 16-bit linear data formats. The following figures show the primary mode's timing relationship with 8kHz PCM_SYNC and 2048kHz PCM_CLK, as well as the auxiliary mode's timing relationship with 8kHz PCM_SYNC and 256kHz PCM_CLK.
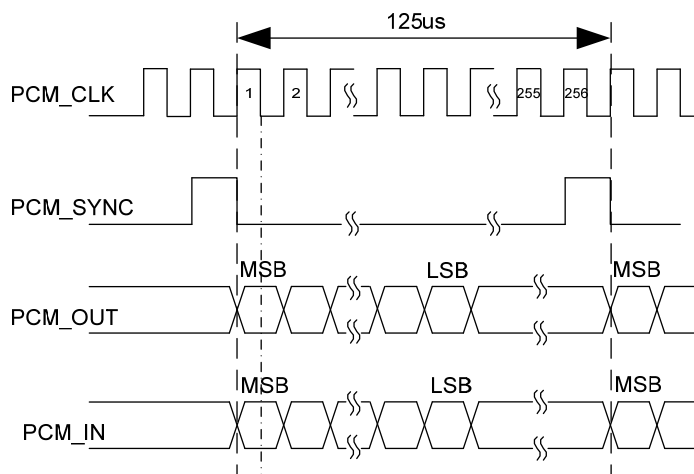
Figure 22: Primary Mode Timing
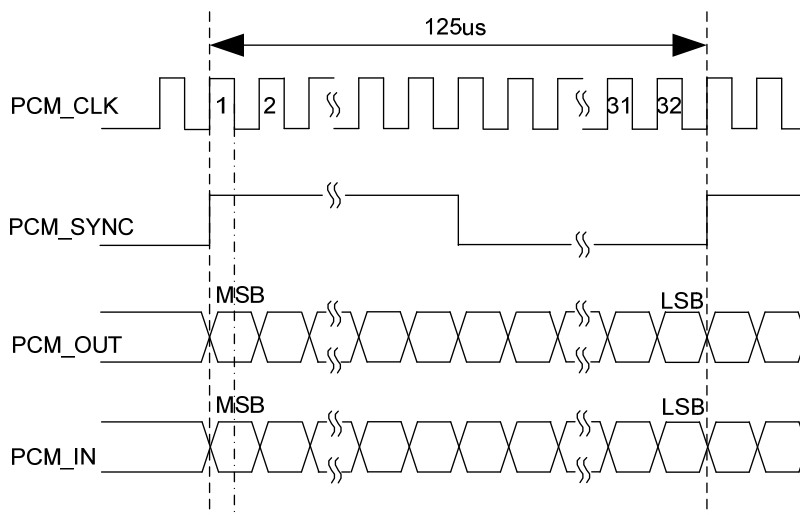
Figure 23: Auxiliary Mode Timing

The following table shows the pin definition of PCM and I2C interfaces which can be applied on audio codec design.

Table 14: Pin Definition of PCM and I2C Interfaces

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
PCM_IN	24	DI	PCM data input	1.8V power domain
PCM_OUT	25	DO	PCM data output	1.8V power domain

PCM_SYNC	26	IO	PCM data frame synchronization signal	1.8V power domain
PCM_CLK	27	IO	PCM data bit clock	1.8V power domain
I2C_SCL	41	OD	I2C serial clock	Require external pull-up to 1.8V
I2C_SDA	42	OD	I2C serial data	Require external pull-up to 1.8V

Clock and mode can be configured by AT command, and the default configuration is master mode using short frame synchronization format with 2048KHz PCM_CLK and 8KHz PCM_SYNC. Please refer to *document [2]* about **AT+QDAI** command for details.

The following figure shows a reference design of PCM interface with external codec IC.
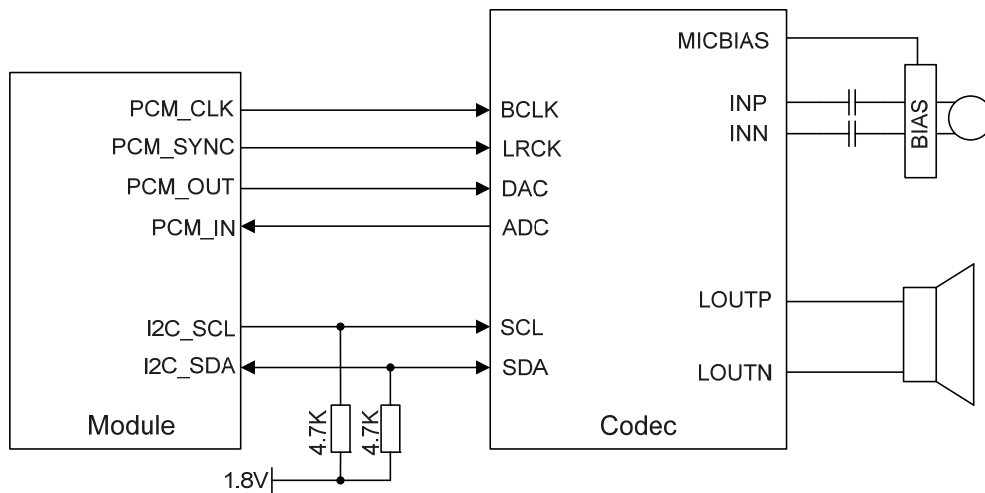
Figure 24: Reference Circuit of PCM Application with Audio Codec

NOTES

1. "*" means under development.
2. It is recommended to reserve RC (R=22Ω, C=22pF) circuits on the PCM lines, especially for PCM_CLK.
3. EC21 works as a master device pertaining to I2C interface.

3.13. SD Card Interface

EC21 supports SDIO3.0 interface for SD card.

The following table shows the pin definition of SD card interface.

Table 15: Pin Definition of SD Card Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
SDC2_DATA3	28	IO	SD card SDIO bus DATA3	SDIO signal level can be selected according to SD card supported level, more details please refer to SD 3.0 protocol. If unused, keep it open.
SDC2_DATA2	29	IO	SD card SDIO bus DATA2	SDIO signal level can be selected according to SD card supported level, more details please refer to SD 3.0 protocol. If unused, keep it open.
SDC2_DATA1	30	IO	SD card SDIO bus DATA1	SDIO signal level can be selected according to SD card supported level, more details please refer to SD 3.0 protocol. If unused, keep it open.
SDC2_DATA0	31	IO	SD card SDIO bus DATA0	SDIO signal level can be selected according to SD card supported level, more details please refer to SD 3.0 protocol. If unused, keep it open.
SDC2_CLK	32	DO	SD card SDIO bus clock	SDIO signal level can be selected according to SD card supported level, more details please refer to SD 3.0 protocol. If unused, keep it open.
SDC2_CMD	33	IO	SD card SDIO bus command	SDIO signal level can be selected according to SD card supported level, more details please refer to SD 3.0 protocol. If unused, keep it open.
VDD_SDIO	34	PO	SD card SDIO bus pull up power	1.8V/2.85V configurable. Cannot be used for SD card power. If unused, keep it open.

SD_INS_DET	23	DI	SD card insertion detection	1.8V power domain. If unused, keep it open.

The following figure shows a reference design of SD card.
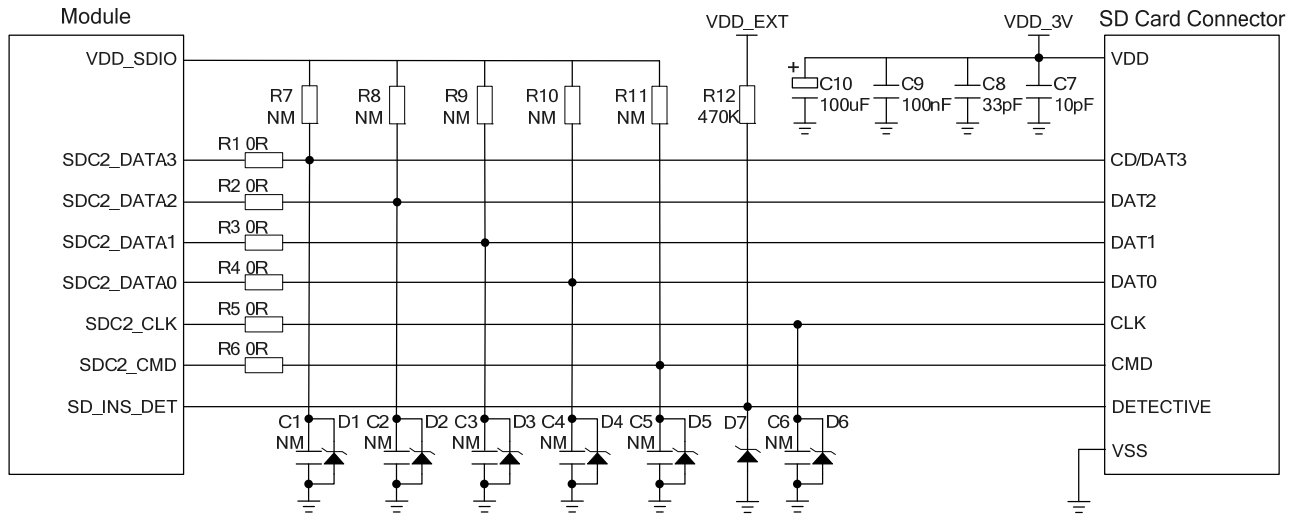
Figure 25: Reference Circuit of SD card

In SD card interface design, in order to ensure good communication performance with SD card, the following design principles should be complied with:

- The voltage range of SD card power supply VDD_3V is 2.7V~3.6V and a sufficient current up to 0.8A should be provided. As the maximum output current of VDD_SDIO is 50mA which can only be used for SDIO pull-up resistors, an externally power supply is needed for SD card.
- To avoid jitter of bus, resistors R7~R11 are needed to pull up the SDIO to VDD_SDIO. Value of these resistors is among 10KΩ~100KΩ and the recommended value is 100KΩ. VDD_SDIO should be used as the pull-up power.
- In order to adjust signal quality, it is recommended to add 0Ω resistors R1~R6 in series between the module and the SD card. The bypass capacitors C1~C6 are reserved and not mounted by default. All resistors and bypass capacitors should be placed close to the module.
- In order to offer good ESD protection, it is recommended to add a TVS diode on SD card pins near the SD card connector with junction capacitance less than 15pF.
- Keep SDIO signals far away from other sensitive circuits/signals such as RF circuits, analog signals, etc., as well as noisy signals such as clock signals, DCDC signals, etc.
- It is important to route the SDIO signal traces with total grounding. The impedance of SDIO data trace is 50Ω (±10%).
- Make sure the adjacent trace spacing is two times of the trace width and the load capacitance of SDIO bus should be less than 15pF.
- It is recommended to keep the trace length difference between CLK and DATA/CMD less than 1mm and the total routing length less than 50mm. The total trace length inside the module is 27mm, so the exterior total trace length should be less than 23mm.

3.14. ADC Interfaces

The module provides two analog-to-digital converter (ADC) interfaces. **AT+QADC=0** command can be used to read the voltage value on ADC0 pin. **AT+QADC=1** command can be used to read the voltage value on ADC1 pin. For more details about these AT commands, please refer to *document [2]*.

In order to improve the accuracy of ADC, the trace of ADC should be surrounded by ground.

Table 16: Pin Definition of ADC Interfaces

Pin Name	Pin No.	Description
ADC0	45	General purpose analog to digital converter
ADC1	44	General purpose analog to digital converter

The following table describes the characteristic of ADC function.

Table 17: Characteristic of ADC

Parameter	Min.	Typ.	Max.	Unit
ADC0 Voltage Range	0.3		VBAT_BB	V
ADC1 Voltage Range	0.3		VBAT_BB	V
ADC Resolution		15		bits

NOTES

1. ADC input voltage must not exceed VBAT_BB.
2. It is prohibited to supply any voltage to ADC pins when VBAT is removed.
3. It is recommended to use a resistor divider circuit for ADC application.

3.15. Network Status Indication

The network indication pins can be used to drive network status indication LEDs. LTE module provides two pins which are NET_MODE and NET_STATUS. The following tables describe the pin definition and logic level changes in different network status.

Table 18: Pin Definition of Network Connection Status/Activity Indicator

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
NET_MODE[1)	5	DO	Indicate the module's network registration status	1.8V power domain Cannot be pulled up before startup
NET_STATUS	6	DO	Indicate the module's network activity status	1.8V power domain

Table 19: Working State of Network Connection Status/Activity Indicator

Pin Name	Logic Level Changes	Network Status
NET_MODE	Always High	Registered on LTE network
	Always Low	Others
NET_STATUS	Flicker slowly (200ms High/1800ms Low)	Network searching
	Flicker slowly (1800ms High/200ms Low)	Idle
	Flicker quickly (125ms High/125ms Low)	Data transfer is ongoing
	Always High	Voice calling

A reference circuit is shown in the following figure.
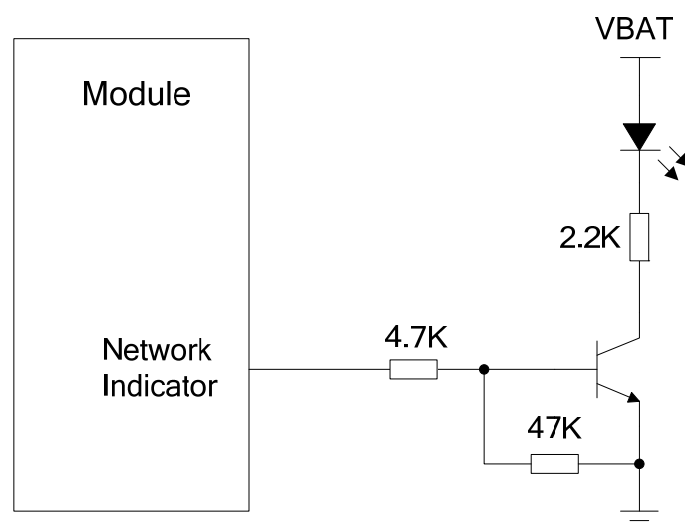
Figure 26: Reference Circuit of the Network Indicator

3.16. STATUS

The STATUS pin is an open drain output for indicating the module's operation status. Customers can connect it to a GPIO of DTE with a pull up resistor, or as the LED indication circuit shown below. When the module is turned on normally, the STATUS will present the low state. Otherwise, the STATUS will present high-impedance state.

Table 20: Pin Definition of STATUS

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
STATUS	61	OD	Indicate the module's operation status	An external pull-up resistor is required. If unused, keep it open.

The following figure shows different circuit designs of STATUS, and customers can choose either one according to their application demands.
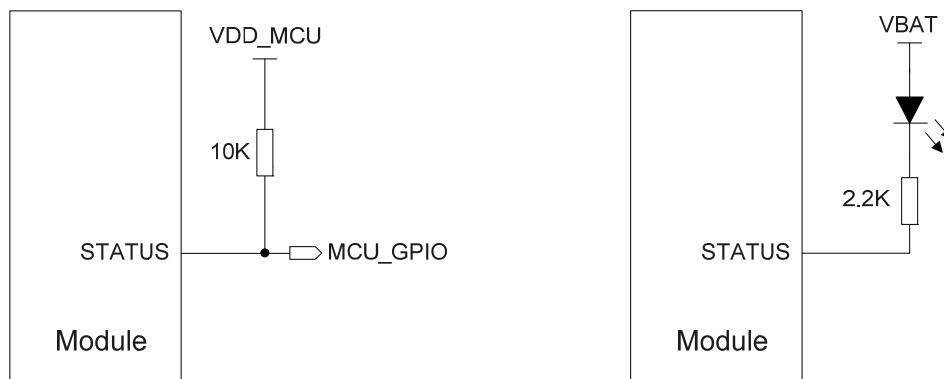
Figure 27: Reference Circuits of STATUS

3.17. Behaviors of RI

AT+QCFG="risignaltype","physical" command can be used to configure RI behavior.

No matter on which port URC is presented, URC will trigger the behavior of RI pin.

NOTE

URC can be outputted from UART port, USB AT port and USB modem port through configuration via **AT+QURCCFG** command. The default port is USB AT port.

In addition, RI behavior can be configured flexibly. The default behavior of the RI is shown as below.

Table 21: Behavior of RI

State	Response
Idle	RI keeps at high level
URC	RI outputs 120ms low pulse when a new URC returns

The RI behavior can be changed by **AT+QCFG="urc/ri/ring"** command. Please refer to *document [2]* for details.

3.18. SGMII Interface

EC21 includes an integrated Ethernet MAC with an SGMII interface and two management interfaces, key features of the SGMII interface are shown below:

- IEEE802.3 compliance
- Support 10M/100M/1000M Ethernet work mode
- Support VLAN tagging
- Support IEEE1588 and Precision Time Protocol (PTP)
- Can be used to connect to external Ethernet PHY like AR8033, or to an external switch
- Management interfaces support dual voltage 1.8V/2.85V

The following table shows the pin definition of SGMII interface.

Table 22: Pin Definition of the SGMII Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
Control Signal Part				
EPHY_RST_N	119	DO	Ethernet PHY reset	1.8V/2.85V power domain
EPHY_INT_N	120	DI	Ethernet PHY interrupt	1.8V power domain

SGMII_MDATA	121	IO	SGMII MDIO (Management Data Input/Output) data	1.8V/2.85V power domain
SGMII_MCLK	122	DO	SGMII MDIO (Management Data Input/Output) clock	1.8V/2.85V power domain
USIM2_VDD	128	PO	SGMII MDIO pull-up power source	Configurable power source. 1.8V/2.85V power domain. External pull-up power source for SGMII MDIO pins.
SGMII Signal Part				
SGMII_TX_M	123	AO	SGMII transmission-minus	Connect with a 0.1uF capacitor, close to the PHY side.
SGMII_TX_P	124	AO	SGMII transmission-plus	Connect with a 0.1uF capacitor, close to the PHY side.
SGMII_RX_P	125	AI	SGMII receiving-plus	Connect with a 0.1uF capacitor, close to EC21 module.
SGMII_RX_M	126	AI	SGMII receiving-minus	Connect with a 0.1uF capacitor, close to EC21 module.

The following figure shows the simplified block diagram for Ethernet application.
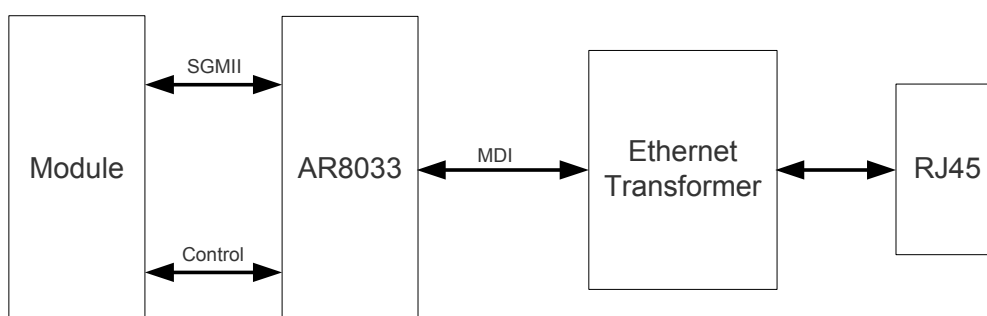
Figure 28: Simplified Block Diagram for Ethernet Application

The following figure shows a reference design of SGMII interface with PHY AR8033 application.
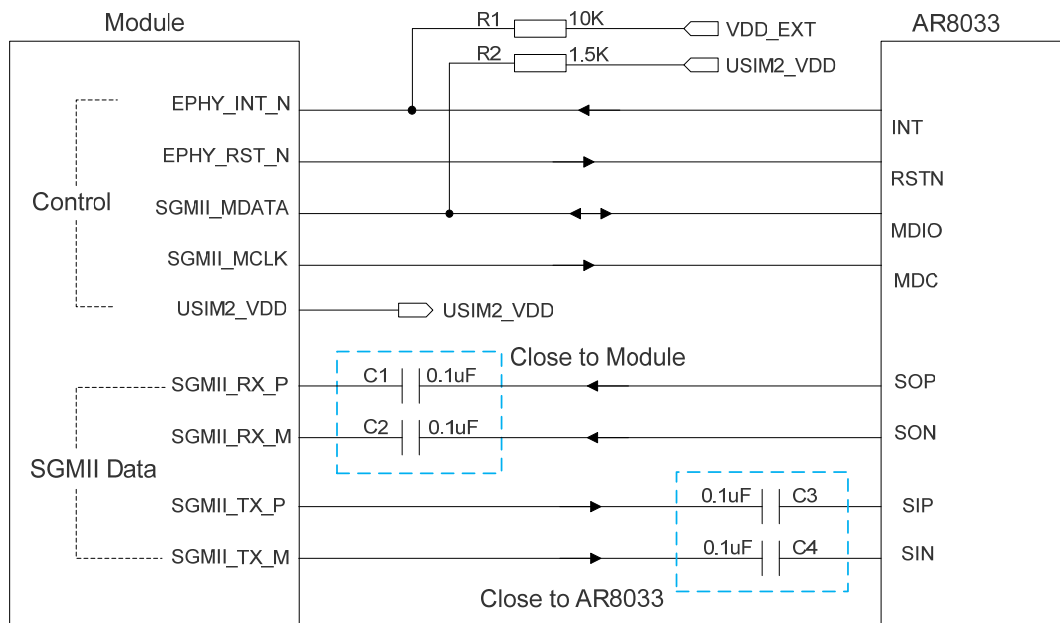
Figure 29: Reference Circuit of SGMII Interface with PHY AR8033 Application

In order to enhance the reliability and availability in customers' applications, please follow the criteria below in the Ethernet PHY circuit design:

● Keep SGMII data and control signals away from other sensitive circuits/signals such as RF circuits, analog signals, etc., as well as noisy signals such as clock signals, DCDC signals, etc.
● Keep the maximum trace length less than 10-inch and keep skew on the differential pairs less than 20mil.
● The differential impedance of SGMII data trace is 100Ω±10%, and the reference ground of the area should be complete.
● Make sure the trace spacing between SGMII RX and TX is at least 3 times of the trace width, and the same to the adjacent signal traces.

3.19. Wireless Connectivity Interfaces

EC21 supports a low-power SDIO 3.0 interface for WLAN and a UART/PCM interface for BT.

The following table shows the pin definition of wireless connectivity interfaces.

Table 23: Pin Definition of Wireless Connectivity Interfaces

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
WLAN Part				
SDC1_DATA3	129	IO	SDIO data bus D3	1.8V power domain
SDC1_DATA2	130	IO	SDIO data bus D2	1.8V power domain
SDC1_DATA1	131	IO	SDIO data bus D1	1.8V power domain
SDC1_DATA0	132	IO	SDIO data bus D0	1.8V power domain
SDC1_CLK	133	DO	SDIO clock	1.8V power domain
SDC1_CMD	134	IO	SDIO command	1.8V power domain
WLAN_EN	136	DO	WLAN function control via FC20 module.	1.8V power domain Active high. It cannot be pulled up before startup
Coexistence and Control Part				
PM_ENABLE	127	DO	External power control	1.8V power domain
WAKE_ON_ WIRELESS	135	DI	Wake up the host (EC21 module) by FC20 module	1.8V power domain
COEX_UART_RX	137	DI	LTE/WLAN&BT coexistence signal	1.8V power domain It cannot be pulled up before startup
COEX_UART_TX	138	DO	LTE/WLAN&BT coexistence signal	1.8V power domain It cannot be pulled up before startup
WLAN_SLP_CLK	118	DO	WLAN sleep clock	
BT Part*				
BT_RTS*	37	DI	BT UART request to send	1.8V power domain
BT_TXD*	38	DO	BT UART transmit data	1.8V power domain
BT_RXD*	39	DI	BT UART receive data	1.8V power domain
BT_CTS*	40	DO	BT UART clear to send	1.8V power domain It cannot be pulled up before startup

PCM_IN[1]	24	DI	PCM data input	1.8V power domain
PCM_OUT[1]	25	DO	PCM data output	1.8V power domain
PCM_SYNC[1]	26	IO	PCM data frame synchronization signal	1.8V power domain
PCM_CLK[1]	27	IO	PCM data bit clock	1.8V power domain
BT_EN*	139	DO	WLAN function control via FC20 module.	1.8V power domain Active high.

The following figure shows a reference design of wireless connectivity interfaces with Quectel FC20 module.
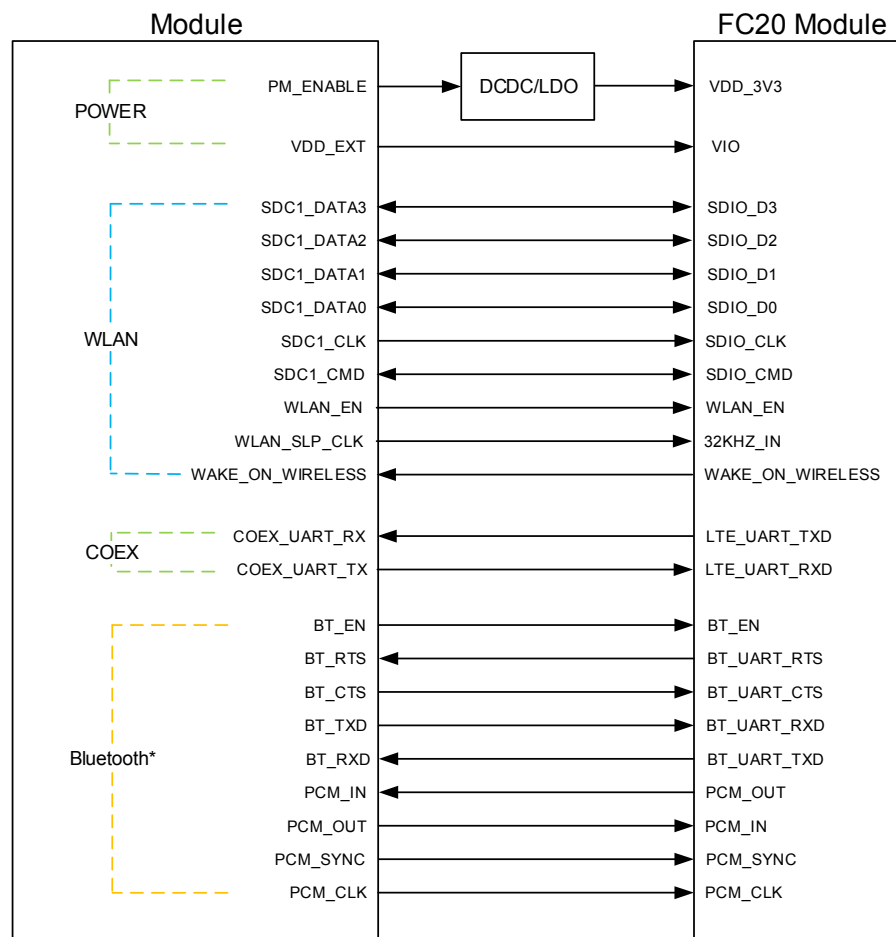
Figure 30: Reference Circuit of Wireless Connectivity Interfaces with FC20 Module

NOTES

1. FC20 module can only be used as a slave device.
2. When BT function is enabled on EC21 module, PCM_SYNC and PCM_CLK pins are only used to

output signals.

3. For more information about wireless connectivity interfaces, please refer to *document [5]*.
4. "*" means under development.
5. [1] Pads 24~27 are multiplexing pins used for audio design on EC25 module and BT function on FC20 module.

3.19.1. WLAN Interface

EC21 provides a low power SDIO 3.0 interface and control interface for WLAN design.

SDIO interface supports the SDR mode (up to 50MHz).

As SDIO signals are very high-speed, in order to ensure the SDIO interface design corresponds with the SDIO 3.0 specification, please comply with the following principles:

- It is important to route the SDIO signal traces with total grounding. The impedance of SDIO signal trace is 50Ω (±10%).
- Protect other sensitive signals/circuits (RF, analog signals, etc.) from SDIO corruption and protect SDIO signals from noisy signals (clocks, DCDCs, etc.).
- It is recommended to keep matching length between CLK and DATA/CMD less than 1mm and total routing length less than 50mm.
- Keep termination resistors within 15Ω~24Ω on clock lines near the module and keep the route distance from the module clock pins to termination resistors less than 5mm.
- Make sure the adjacent trace spacing is is 2 times of the trace width and bus capacitance is less than 15pF.

3.19.2. BT Interface*

EC21 supports a dedicated UART interface and a PCM interface for BT function application.

Further information about BT interface will be added in future version of this document.

NOTE

"*" means under development.

3.20. USB_BOOT Interface

EC21 provides a USB_BOOT pin. Developers can pull up USB_BOOT to VDD_EXT before powering on the module, thus the module will enter into emergency download mode when powered on. In this mode, the module supports firmware upgrade over USB interface.

Table 24: Pin Definition of USB_BOOT Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
USB_BOOT	115	DI	Force the module enter into emergency download mode	1.8V power domain. Active high. It is recommended to reserve test point.

The following figure shows a reference circuit of USB_BOOT interface.
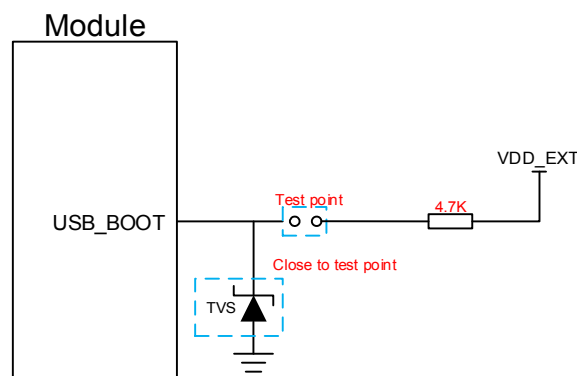
Figure 31: Reference Circuit of USB_BOOT Interface

4 GNSS Receiver

4.1. General Description

EC21 includes a fully integrated global navigation satellite system solution that supports Gen8C-Lite of Qualcomm (GPS, GLONASS, BeiDou, Galileo and QZSS).

EC21 supports standard NMEA-0183 protocol, and outputs NMEA sentences at 1Hz data update rate via USB interface by default.

By default, EC21 GNSS engine is switched off. It has to be switched on via AT command. For more details about GNSS engine technology and configurations, please refer to *document [3]*.

4.2. GNSS Performance

The following table shows the GNSS performance of EC21.

Table 25: GNSS Performance

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Typ.	Unit
Sensitivity (GNSS)	Cold start	Autonomous	-146	dBm
	Reacquisition	Autonomous	-157	dBm
	Tracking	Autonomous	-157	dBm
TTFF (GNSS)	Cold start @open sky	Autonomous	35	s
		XTRA enabled	18	s
	Warm start @open sky	Autonomous	26	s
		XTRA enabled	2.2	s

	Hot start @open sky	Autonomous	2.5	s
		XTRA enabled	1.8	s
Accuracy (GNSS)	CEP-50	Autonomous @open sky	<1.5	m

NOTES

1. Tracking sensitivity: the lowest GNSS signal value at the antenna port on which the module can keep on positioning for 3 minutes.
2. Reacquisition sensitivity: the lowest GNSS signal value at the antenna port on which the module can fix position again within 3 minutes after loss of lock.
3. Cold start sensitivity: the lowest GNSS signal value at the antenna port on which the module fixes position within 3 minutes after executing cold start command.

4.3. Layout Guidelines

The following layout guidelines should be taken into account in customers' designs.

● Maximize the distance among GNSS antenna, main antenna and the Rx-diversity antenna.
● Digital circuits such as (U)SIM card, USB interface, camera module and display connector should be kept away from the antennas.
● Use ground vias around the GNSS trace and sensitive analog signal traces to provide coplanar isolation and protection.
● Keep 50Ω characteristic impedance for the ANT_GNSS trace.

Please refer to *Chapter 5* for GNSS antenna reference design and antenna installation consideration.

5 Antenna Interfaces

EC21 antenna interfaces include a main antenna interface, an Rx-diversity antenna interface which is used to resist the fall of signals caused by high speed movement and multipath effect, and a GNSS antenna interface. The impedance of the antenna port is 50Ω.

5.1. Main/Rx-diversity Antenna Interfaces

5.1.1. Pin Definition

The pin definition of main antenna and Rx-diversity antenna interfaces is shown below.

Table 26: Pin Definition of RF Antennas

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
ANT_MAIN	49	IO	Main antenna pad	50Ω impedance
ANT_DIV	35	AI	Receive diversity antenna pad	50Ω impedance

5.1.2. Operating Frequency

Table 27: Module Operating Frequencies

3GPP Band	Transmit	Receive	Unit
GSM850	824~849	869~894	MHz
EGSM900	880~915	925~960	MHz
DCS1800	1710~1785	1805~1880	MHz
PCS1900	1850~1910	1930~1990	MHz
WCDMA B1	1920~1980	2110~2170	MHz
WCDMA B2	1850~1910	1930~1990	MHz

WCDMA B4	1710~1755	2110~2155	MHz
WCDMA B5	824~849	869~894	MHz
WCDMA B8	880~915	925~960	MHz
LTE FDD B1	1920~1980	2110~2170	MHz
LTE FDD B2	1850~1910	1930~1990	MHz
LTE FDD B3	1710~1785	1805~1880	MHz
LTE FDD B4	1710~1755	2110~2155	MHz
LTE FDD B5	824~849	869~894	MHz
LTE FDD B7	2500~2570	2620~2690	MHz
LTE FDD B8	880~915	925~960	MHz
LTE FDD B12	699~716	729~746	MHz
LTE FDD B13	777~787	746~756	MHz
LTE FDD B18	815~830	860~875	MHz
LTE FDD B19	830~845	875~890	MHz
LTE FDD B20	832~862	791~821	MHz
LTE FDD B26	814~849	859~894	MHz
LTE FDD B28	703~748	758~803	MHz
LTE TDD B40	2300~2400	2300~2400	MHz

5.1.3. Reference Design of RF Antenna Interface

A reference design of ANT_MAIN and ANT_DIV antenna pads is shown as below. A π-type matching circuit should be reserved for better RF performance. The capacitors are not mounted by default.
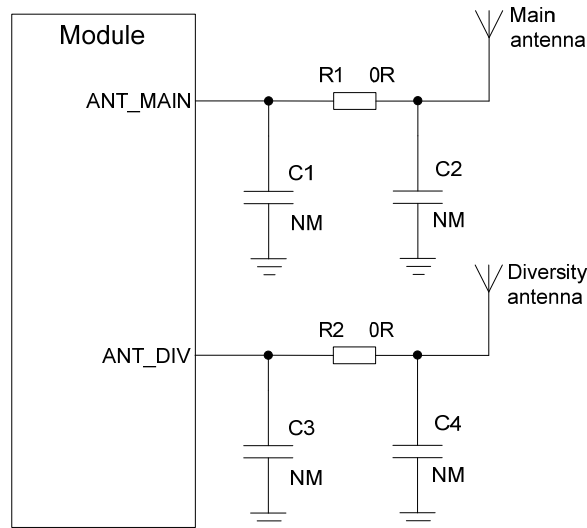
Figure 32: Reference Circuit of RF Antenna Interface

NOTES

1. Keep a proper distance between the main antenna and the Rx-diversity antenna to improve the receiving sensitivity.
2. ANT_DIV function is enabled by default.
3. Place the π-type matching components (R1, C1, C2, R2, C3, C4) as close to the antenna as possible.

5.1.4. Reference Design of RF Layout

For user's PCB, the characteristic impedance of all RF traces should be controlled as 50Ω. The impedance of the RF traces is usually determined by the trace width (W), the materials' dielectric constant, the distance between signal layer and reference ground (H), and the clearance between RF trace and ground (S). Microstrip line or coplanar waveguide line is typically used in RF layout for characteristic impedance control. The following are reference designs of microstrip line or coplanar waveguide line with different PCB structures
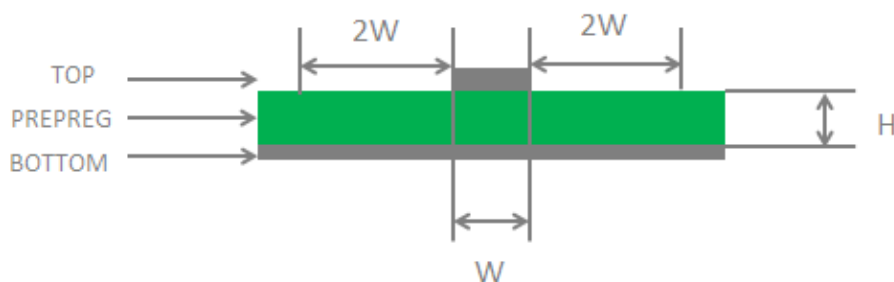
Figure 33: Microstrip Line Design on a 2-layer PCB
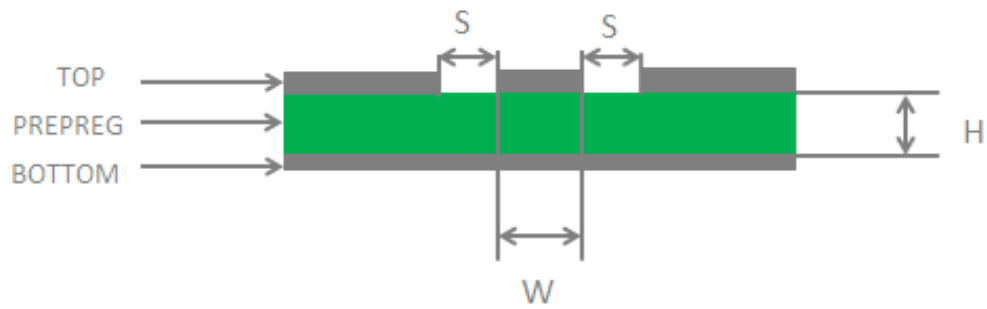
Figure 34: Coplanar Waveguide Line Design on a 2-layer PCB
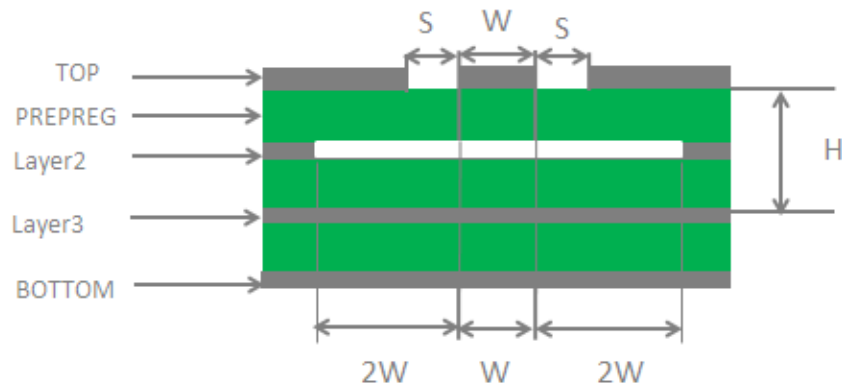
Figure 35: Coplanar Waveguide Line Design on a 4-layer PCB (Layer 3 as Reference Ground)
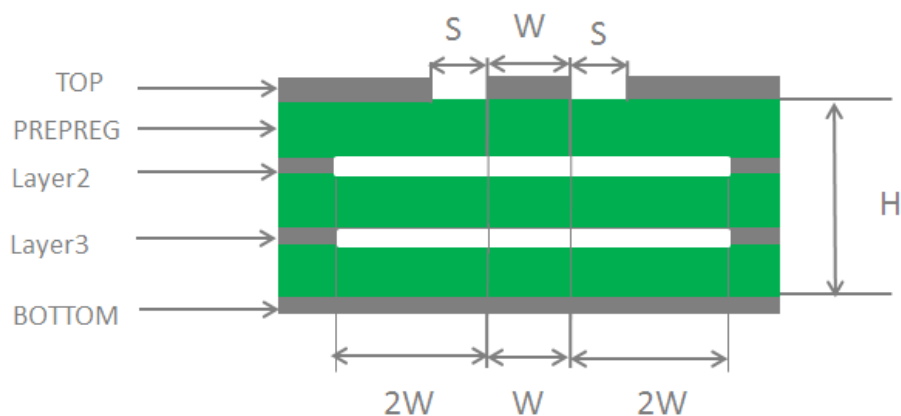
Figure 36: Coplanar Waveguide Line Design on a 4-layer PCB (Layer 4 as Reference Ground)

In order to ensure RF performance and reliability, the following principles should be complied with in RF layout design:

- Use impedance simulation tool to control the characteristic impedance of RF traces as 50Ω.
- The GND pins adjacent to RF pins should not be designed as thermal relief pads, and should be fully connected to ground.
- The distance between the RF pins and the RF connector should be as short as possible, and all the right angle traces should be changed to curved ones.
- There should be clearance area under the signal pin of the antenna connector or solder joint.
- The reference ground of RF traces should be complete. Meanwhile, adding some ground vias around RF traces and the reference ground could help to improve RF performance. The distance between the ground vias and RF traces should be no less than two times the width of RF signal traces (2*W).

For more details about RF layout, please refer to **document [6]**.

5.2. GNSS Antenna Interface

The following tables show the pin definition and frequency specification of GNSS antenna interface.

Table 28: Pin Definition of GNSS Antenna Interface

Pin Name	Pin No.	I/O	Description	Comment
ANT_GNSS	47	AI	GNSS antenna	50Ω impedance

Table 29: GNSS Frequency

Type	Frequency	Unit
GPS/Galileo/QZSS	1575.42±1.023	MHz
GLONASS	1597.5~1605.8	MHz
BeiDou	1561.098±2.046	MHz

A reference design of GNSS antenna is shown as below.
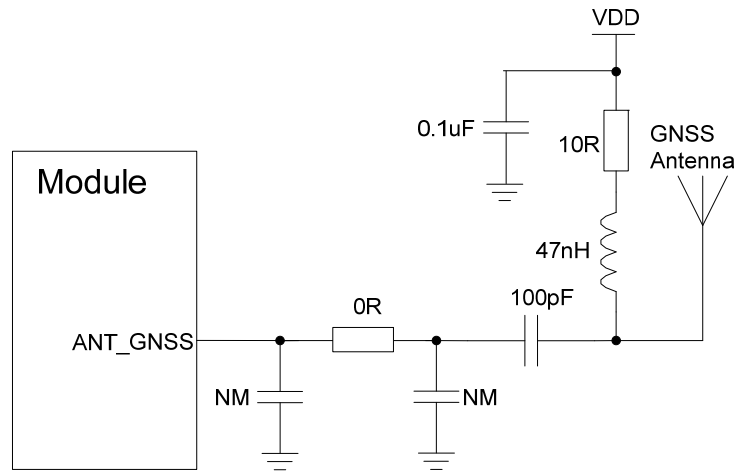
Figure 37: Reference Circuit of GNSS Antenna

NOTES

1. An external LDO can be selected to supply power according to the active antenna requirement.
2. If the module is designed with a passive antenna, then the VDD circuit is not needed.

5.3. Antenna Installation

5.3.1. Antenna Requirement

The following table shows the requirements on main antenna, Rx-diversity antenna and GNSS antenna.

Table 30: Antenna Requirements

Type	Requirements
GNSS[1]	Frequency range: 1561MHz~1615MHz
	Polarization: RHCP or linear
	VSWR: <2 (Typ.)
	Passive antenna gain: > 0dBi
	Active antenna noise figure: <1.5dB
	Active antenna gain: > 0dBi
	Active antenna embedded LNA gain: <17 dB
GSM/WCDMA/LTE	VSWR: ≤2
	Efficiency: > 30%

Max Input Power: 50 W

Input Impedance: 50Ω

Cable insertion loss: <1dB

(GSM850, GSM900, WCDMA B5/B8,

LTE-FDD B5/B8/B12/B13/B18/B19/B20/B26/B28)

Cable insertion loss: <1.5dB

(DCS1800, PCS1900, WCDMA B1/B2/B4, LTE B1/B2/B3/B4)

Cable insertion loss <2dB

(LTE-FDD B7, LTE-TDD B40)

NOTE

[1] It is recommended to use a passive antenna when the module supports B13 or B14, because harmonics will be generated when using an active antenna, which will affect the GNSS performance

5.3.2. Recommended RF Connector for Antenna Installation

If RF connector is used for antenna connection, it is recommended to use U.FL-R-SMT connector provided by Hirose.
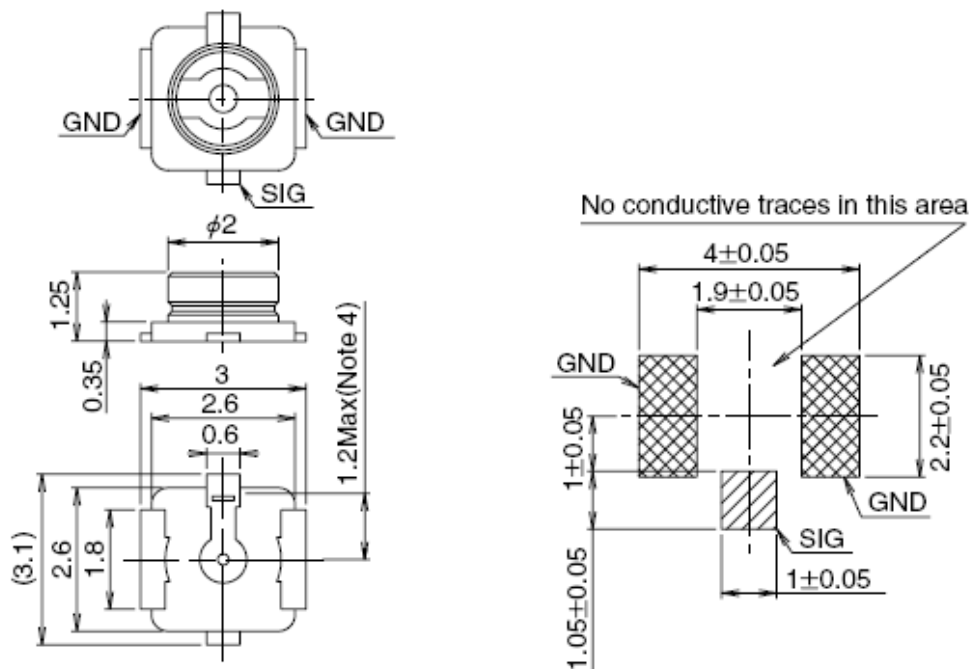
Figure 38: Dimensions of the U.FL-R-SMT Connector (Unit: mm)

U.FL-LP serial connectors listed in the following figure can be used to match the U.FL-R-SMT.
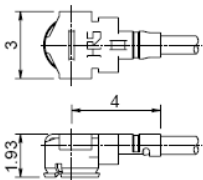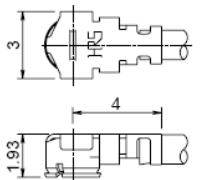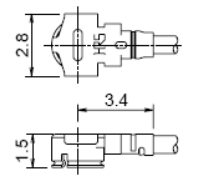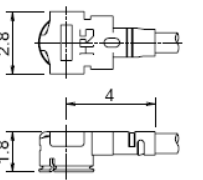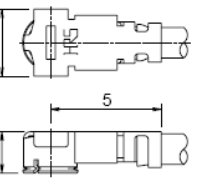
Part No.	U.FL-LP-040	U.FL-LP-066	U.FL-LP(V)-040	U.FL-LP-062	U.FL-LP-088
Mated Height	2.5mm Max. (2.4mm Nom.)	2.5mm Max. (2.4mm Nom.)	2.0mm Max. (1.9mm Nom.)	2.4mm Max. (2.3mm Nom.)	2.4mm Max. (2.3mm Nom.)
Applicable cable	Dia. 0.81mm Coaxial cable	Dia. 1.13mm and Dia. 1.32mm Coaxial cable	Dia. 0.81mm Coaxial cable	Dia. 1mm Coaxial cable	Dia. 1.37mm Coaxial cable
Weight (mg)	53.7	59.1	34.8	45.5	71.7
RoHS	YES				

Figure 39: Mechanicals of U.FL-LP Connectors

The following figure describes the space factor of mated connector.
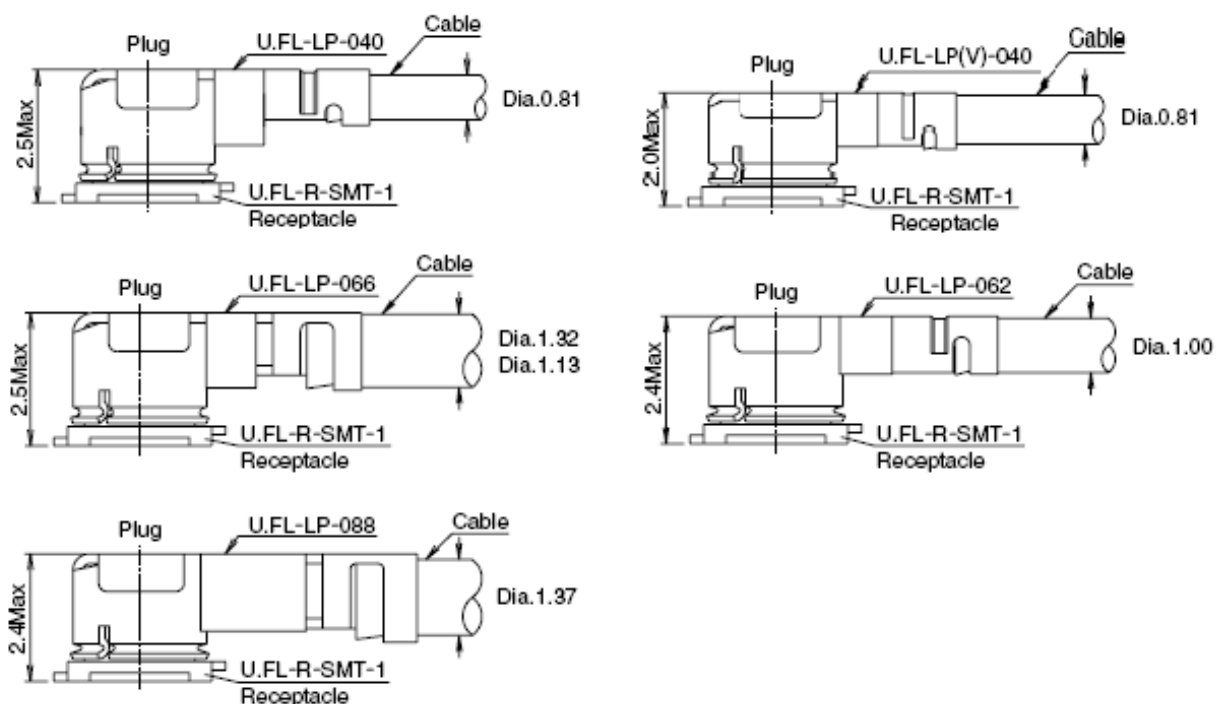
Figure 40: Space Factor of Mated Connector (Unit: mm)

For more details, please visit http://www.hirose.com.

6 Electrical, Reliability and Radio Characteristics

6.1. Absolute Maximum Ratings

Absolute maximum ratings for power supply and voltage on digital and analog pins of the module are listed in the following table.

Table 31: Absolute Maximum Ratings

Parameter	Min.	Max.	Unit
VBAT_RF/VBAT_BB	-0.3	4.7	V
USB_VBUS	-0.3	5.5	V
Peak Current of VBAT_BB	0	0.8	A
Peak Current of VBAT_RF	0	1.8	A
Voltage at Digital Pins	-0.3	2.3	V
Voltage at ADC0	0	VBAT_BB	V
Voltage at ADC1	0	VBAT_BB	V

6.2. Power Supply Ratings

Table 32: Power Supply Ratings

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Min.	Typ.	Max.	Unit
VBAT	VBAT_BB and VBAT_RF	The actual input voltages must stay between the minimum and maximum values.	3.3	3.8	4.3	V
	Voltage drop during burst transmission	Maximum power control level on GSM900			400	mV
I_{VBAT}	Peak supply current (during transmission slot)	Maximum power control level on GSM900		1.8	2.0	A
USB_VBUS	USB detection		3.0	5.0	5.25	V

6.3. Operation and Storage Temperatures

The operation and storage temperatures are listed in the following table.

Table 33: Operation and Storage Temperatures

Parameter	Min.	Typ.	Max.	Unit
Operation Temperature Range[1]	-35	+25	+75	ºC
Extended Temperature Range[2]	-40		+85	ºC
Storage Temperature Range	-40		+90	ºC

NOTES

1. [1] Within operation temperature range, the module is 3GPP compliant.
2. [2] Within extended temperature range, the module remains the ability to establish and maintain a voice, SMS, data transmission, emergency call, etc. There is no unrecoverable malfunction. There are also no effects on radio spectrum and no harm to radio network. Only one or more parameters like P_{out} might reduce in their value and exceed the specified tolerances. When the temperature returns to the normal operating temperature levels, the module will meet 3GPP specifications again.

6.4. Current Consumption

The values of current consumption are shown below.

Table 34: EC21-E Current Consumption

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Typ.	Unit
I_{VBAT}	OFF state	Power down	13	uA
	Sleep state	**AT+CFUN=0** (USB disconnected)	1.4	mA
		GSM900 @DRX=9 (USB disconnected)	1.8	mA
		DCS1800 @DRX=9 (USB disconnected)	1.8	mA
		WCDMA PF=64 (USB disconnected)	2.4	mA
		WCDMA PF=128 (USB disconnected)	1.9	mA
		FDD-LTE PF=64 (USB disconnected)	3.2	mA
		FDD-LTE PF=128 (USB disconnected)	2.1	mA
	Idle state (GNSS OFF)	GSM900 @DRX=5 (USB disconnected)	22.0	mA
		GSM900 @DRX=5 (USB connected)	32.0	mA
		WCDMA PF=64 (USB disconnected)	22.5	mA
		WCDMA PF=64 (USB connected)	32.7	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	22.5	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB connected)	32.5	mA
	GPRS data transfer (GNSS OFF)	GSM900 4DL/1UL @32.3dBm	220	mA
		GSM900 3DL/2UL @32.18dBm	387	mA
		GSM900 2DL/3UL @30.3dBm	467	mA
		GSM900 1DL/4UL @29.4dBm	555	mA
		DCS1800 4DL/1UL @29.6dBm	185	mA
		DCS1800 3DL/2UL @29.1dBm	305	mA

	DCS1800 2DL/3UL @28.8dBm	431	mA
	DCS1800 1DL/4UL @29.1dBm	540	mA
EDGE data transfer (GNSS OFF)	GSM900 4DL/1UL @26dBm	148	mA
	GSM900 3DL/2UL @26dBm	245	mA
	GSM900 2DL/3UL @25dBm	338	mA
	GSM900 1DL/4UL @25dBm	432	mA
	DCS1800 4DL/1UL @26dBm	150	mA
	DCS1800 3DL/2UL @25dBm	243	mA
	DCS1800 2DL/3UL @25dBm	337	mA
	DCS1800 1DL/4UL @25dBm	430	mA
WCDMA data transfer (GNSS OFF)	WCDMA B1 HSDPA @22.5dBm	659	mA
	WCDMA B1 HSUPA @21.11dBm	545	mA
	WCDMA B5 HSDPA @23.5dBm	767	mA
	WCDMA B5 HSUPA @21.4dBm	537	mA
	WCDMA B8 HSDPA @22.41dBm	543	mA
	WCDMA B8 HSUPA @21.2dBm	445	mA
LTE data transfer (GNSS OFF)	LTE-FDD B1 @23.45dBm	807	mA
	LTE-FDD B3 @23.4dBm	825	mA
	LTE-FDD B5 @23.4dBm	786	mA
	LTE-FDD B7 @23.86dBm	887	mA
	LTE-FDD B8 @23.5dBm	675	mA
	LTE-FDD B20 @23.57dBm	770	mA
GSM voice call	GSM900 PCL=5 @32.8dBm	336	mA
	PCS1800 PCL=0 @29.3dBm	291	mA
WCDMA voice call	WCDMA B1 @23.69dBm	683	mA

		WCDMA B5 @23.61dBm	741	mA
		WCDMA B8 @23.35dBm	564	mA

Table 35: EC21-A Current Consumption

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Typ.	Unit
I_{VBAT}	OFF state	Power down	10	uA
	Sleep state	**AT+CFUN=0** (USB disconnected)	1.25	mA
		WCDMA PF=64 (USB disconnected)	2.03	mA
		WCDMA PF=128 (USB disconnected)	1.65	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	2.31	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=128 (USB disconnected)	1.85	mA
	Idle state (GNSS OFF)	WCDMA PF=64 (USB disconnected)	23.1	mA
		WCDMA PF=64 (USB connected)	32.8	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	22.8	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB connected)	32.8	mA
	WCDMA data transfer (GNSS OFF)	WCDMA B2 HSDPA @21.54dBm	479.0	mA
		WCDMA B2 HSUPA @22.19dBm	530.0	mA
		WCDMA B4 HSDPA @22.15dBm	539.0	mA
		WCDMA B4 HSUPA @21.82dBm	531.0	mA
		WCDMA B5 HSDPA @22.22dBm	454.0	mA
		WCDMA B5 HSUPA @21.45dBm	433.0	mA
	LTE data transfer (GNSS OFF)	LTE-FDD B2 @23.11dBm	721.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B4 @23.16dBm	748.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B12 @23.25dBm	668.0	mA
	WCDMA voice call	WCDMA B2 @22.97dBm	565.0	mA

	WCDMA B4 @22.91dBm	590.0	mA
	WCDMA B5 @23.06dBm	493.0	mA

Table 36: EC21-V Current Consumption

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Typ.	Unit
I_{VBAT}	OFF state	Power down	10	uA
	Sleep state	**AT+CFUN=0** (USB disconnected)	1.07	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	2.85	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=128 (USB disconnected)	2.26	mA
	Idle state (GNSS OFF)	LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	22.0	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB connected)	32.0	mA
	LTE data transfer (GNSS OFF)	LTE-FDD B4 @22.77dBm	762.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B13 @23.05dBm	533.0	mA

Table 37: EC21-AUT Current Consumption

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Typ.	Unit
I_{VBAT}	OFF state	Power down	10	uA
	Sleep state	**AT+CFUN=0** (USB disconnected)	0.99	mA
		WCDMA PF=64 (USB disconnected)	2.1	mA
		WCDMA PF=128 (USB disconnected)	1.7	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	2.9	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=128 (USB disconnected)	2.4	mA
	Idle state	WCDMA PF=64 (USB disconnected)	22.0	mA
		WCDMA PF=64 (USB connected)	32.0	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	23.6	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB connected)	33.6	mA

	WCDMA data (GNSS OFF)	WCDMA B1 HSDPA @22.59dBm	589.0	mA
		WCDMA B1 HSUPA @22.29dBm	623.0	mA
		WCDMA B5 HSDPA @22.22dBm	511.0	mA
		WCDMA B5 HSUPA @21.64dBm	503.0	mA
	LTE data transfer (GNSS OFF)	LTE-FDD B1 @23.38dBm	813.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B3 @22.87dBm	840.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B5 @23.12dBm	613.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B7 @22.96dBm	761.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B28 @23.31dBm	650.0	mA
	WCDMA voice call	WCDMA B1 @24.21dBm	687.0	mA
		WCDMA B5 @23.18dBm	535.0	mA

Table 38: EC21-AUV Current Consumption

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Typ.	Unit
I_{VBAT}	OFF state	Power down	10	uA
	Sleep state	AT+CFUN=0 (USB disconnected)	1.15	mA
		WCDMA PF=64 (USB disconnected)	2.06	mA
		WCDMA PF=128 (USB disconnected)	1.65	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	2.46	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=128 (USB disconnected)	1.86	mA
	Idle state (GNSS OFF)	WCDMA PF=64 (USB disconnected)	22.0	mA
		WCDMA PF=64 (USB connected)	32.0	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	23.5	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB connected)	33.5	mA
	WCDMA data transfer (GNSS OFF)	WCDMA B1 HSDPA @22.59dBm	623.0	mA
		WCDMA B1 HSUPA @22.47dBm	628.0	mA
		WCDMA B5 HSDPA @22.95dBm	605.0	mA

		WCDMA B5 HSUPA @22.87dBm	610.0	mA
		WCDMA B8 HSDPA @22.37dBm	549.0	mA
		WCDMA B8 HSUPA @22.09dBm	564.0	mA
	LTE data transfer (GNSS OFF)	LTE-FDD B1 @23.28dBm	789.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B3 @23.2dBm	768.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B5 @23.05dBm	669.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B8 @23.21dBm	693.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B28 @22.9dBm	795.0	mA
	WCDMA voice call	WCDMA B1 @23.43dBm	672.0	mA
		WCDMA B5 @23.32dBm	616.0	mA
		WCDMA B8 @23.31dBm	592.0	mA

Table 39: EC21-J Current Consumption

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Typ.	Unit
I_{VBAT}	OFF state	Power down	10	uA
	Sleep state	**AT+CFUN=0** (USB disconnected)	0.85	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	2.20	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=128 (USB disconnected)	1.46	mA
	Idle state (GNSS OFF)	LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	23.5	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB connected)	33.8	mA
	LTE data transfer (GNSS OFF)	LTE-FDD B1 @23.35dBm	734.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B3 @22.95dBm	778.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B8 @22.81dBm	722.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B18 @23.15dBm	677.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B19 @23.17dBm	688.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B26 @23.37dBm	723.0	mA

Table 40: EC21-KL Current Consumption

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Typ.	Unit
I$_{VBAT}$	OFF state	Power down	10	uA
	Sleep state	**AT+CFUN=0** (USB disconnected)	1.08	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	2.1	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=128 (USB disconnected)	1.4	mA
	Idle state (GNSS OFF)	LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	24.8	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB connected)	33.5	mA
	LTE data transfer (GNSS OFF)	LTE-FDD B1 @23.0dBm	771.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B3 @23.36dBm	780.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B5 @23.56dBm	628.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B7 @23.32dBm	754.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B8 @23.33dBm	680.0	mA

Table 41: GNSS Current Consumption of EC21 Series Module

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Typ.	Unit
I$_{VBAT}$ (GNSS)	Searching (AT+CFUN=0)	Cold start @Passive Antenna	58	mA
		Lost state @Passive Antenna	58	mA
	Tracking (AT+CFUN=0)	Instrument Environment	33	mA
		Open Sky @Passive Antenna	35	mA
		Open Sky @Active Antenna	43	mA

6.5. RF Output Power

The following table shows the RF output power of EC21 module.

Table 42: RF Output Power

Frequency	Max.	Min.
GSM850/GSM900	33dBm±2dB	5dBm±5dB
DCS1800/PCS1900	30dBm±2dB	0dBm±5dB
GSM850/GSM900 (8-PSK)	27dBm±3dB	5dBm±5dB
DCS1800/PCS1900 (8-PSK)	26dBm±3dB	0dBm±5dB
WCDMA bands	24dBm+1/-3dB	<-49dBm
LTE-FDD bands	23dBm±2dB	<-39dBm
LTE-TDD bands	23dBm±2dB	<-39dBm

NOTE

In GPRS 4 slots TX mode, the maximum output power is reduced by 3.0dB. The design conforms to the GSM specification as described in *Chapter 13.16* of *3GPP TS 51.010-1*.

6.6. RF Receiving Sensitivity

The following tables show the conducted RF receiving sensitivity of EC21 series module.

Table 43: EC21-E Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

Frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO[1)]	3GPP (SIMO)
GSM900	-109.0dBm	/	/	-102.0dBm
DCS1800	-109.0dBm	/	/	-102.0dbm
WCDMA Band 1	-110.5dBm	/	/	-106.7dBm
WCDMA Band 5	-110.5dBm	/	/	-104.7dBm
WCDMA Band 8	-110.5dBm	/	/	-103.7dBm
LTE-FDD B1 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-98.0dBm	-101.5dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B3 (10M)	-96.5dBm	-98.5dBm	-101.5dBm	-93.3dBm

LTE-FDD B5 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-98.5dBm	-101.0dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B7 (10M)	-97.0dBm	-94.5dBm	-99.5dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B8 (10M)	-97.0dBm	-97.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B20 (10M)	-97.5dBm	-99.0dBm	-102.5dBm	-93.3dBm

Table 44: EC21-A Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

Frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO[1]	3GPP (SIMO)
WCDMA B2	-110.0dBm	/	/	-104.7dBm
WCDMA B4	-110.0dBm	/	/	-106.7dBm
WCDMA B5	-110.5dBm	/	/	-104.7dBm
LTE-FDD B2 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-98.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B4 (10M)	-97.5dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B12 (10M)	-96.5dBm	-98.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-93.3dBm

Table 45: EC21-V Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

Frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO[1]	3GPP (SIMO)
LTE-FDD B4 (10M)	-97.5dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B13 (10M)	-95.0dBm	-97.0dBm	-100.0dBm	-93.3dBm

Table 46: EC21-AUT Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

Frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO[1]	3GPP (SIMO)
WCDMA B1	-110.0dBm	/	/	-106.7dBm
WCDMA B5	-110.5dBm	/	/	-104.7dBm
LTE-FDD B1 (10M)	-98.5dBm	-98.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B3 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-96.0dBm	-100.0dBm	-93.3dBm

LTE-FDD B5 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-99.0dBm	-102.5dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B7 (10M)	-97.0dBm	-95.0dBm	-98.5dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B28 (10M)	-97.0dBm	-99.0dBm	-102.0dBm	-94.8dBm

Table 47: EC21-KL Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

Frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO[1]	3GPP (SIMO)
LTE-FDD B1 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-99.5dBm	-100.5dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B3 (10M)	-97.0dBm	-97.5dBm	-99.5dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B5 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-99.5dBm	-100.5dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B7 (10M)	-96.0dBm	-96.0dBm	-98.5dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B8 (10M)	-97.0dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-93.3dBm

Table 48: EC21-J Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

Frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO[1]	3GPP (SIMO)
LTE-FDD B1 (10M)	-97.5dBm	-98.7dBm	-100.2dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B3 (10M)	-96.5dBm	-97.1dBm	-100.5dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B8 (10M)	-98.4dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.2dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B18 (10M)	-99.5dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.7dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B19 (10M)	-99.2dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.4dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B26 (10M)	-99.5dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.5dBm	-93.8dBm

Table 49: EC21-AUV Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

Frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO[1]	3GPP (SIMO)
WCDMA B1	-109.5dBm	/	/	-106.7dBm
WCDMA B5	-111.0dBm	/	/	-104.7dBm

WCDMA B8	-111.0dBm	/	/	-103.7dBm
LTE-FDD B1 (10M)	-97.7dBm	-97.5dBm	-101.3dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B3 (10M)	-98.2dBm	-98.6dBm	-102.7dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B5 (10M)	-98.7dBm	-98.2dBm	-102.5dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B8 (10M)	-98.2dBm	-98.2dBm	-102.3dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B28 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-98.7dBm	-102.1dBm	-94.8dBm

Table 50: EC21-AU Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

Frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO[1]	3GPP (SIMO)
GSM850	-109.0dBm	/	/	-102.0dBm
GSM900	-109.0dBm	/	/	-102.0dBm
DCS1800	-109.0dBm	/	/	-102.0dBm
PCS1900	-109.0dBm	/	/	-102.0dBm
WCDMA B1	-110.0dBm	/	/	-106.7dBm
WCDMA B2	-110.0dBm	/	/	-104.7dBm
WCDMA B5	-111.0dBm	/	/	-104.7dBm
WCDMA B8	-111.0dBm	/	/	-103.7dBm
LTE-FDD B1 (10M)	-97.2dBm	-97.5dBm	-100.2dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B2 (10M)	-98.2dBm	/	/	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B3 (10M)	-98.7dBm	-98.6dBm	-102.2dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B4 (10M)	-97.7dBm	-97.4dBm	-100.2dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B5 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-98.2dBm	-101.0dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B7 (10M)	-97.7dBm	-97.7dBm	-101.2dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B8 (10M)	-99.2dBm	-98.2dBm	-102.2dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B28 (10M)	-98.6dBm	-98.7dBm	-102.0dBm	-94.8dBm

| LTE-TDD B40 (10M) | -97.2dBm | -98.4dBm | -101.2dBm | -96.3dBm |

NOTE

[1] SIMO is a smart antenna technology that uses a single antenna at the transmitter side and two antennas at the receiver side, which can improve RX performance.

6.7. Electrostatic Discharge

The module is not protected against electrostatic discharge (ESD) in general. Consequently, it is subject to ESD handling precautions that typically apply to ESD sensitive components. Proper ESD handling and packaging procedures must be applied throughout the processing, handling and operation of any application that incorporates the module.

The following table shows the module's electrostatic discharge characteristics.

Table 51: Electrostatic Discharge Characteristics

Tested Points	Contact Discharge	Air Discharge	Unit
VBAT, GND	±5	±10	kV
All Antenna Interfaces	±4	±8	kV
Other Interfaces	±0.5	±1	kV

6.8. Thermal Consideration

In order to achieve better performance of the module, it is recommended to comply with the following principles for thermal consideration:

- On customers' PCB design, please keep placement of the module away from heating sources, especially high power components such as ARM processor, audio power amplifier, power supply, etc.
- Do not place components on the opposite side of the PCB area where the module is mounted, in order to facilitate adding of heatsink when necessary.
- Do not apply solder mask on the opposite side of the PCB area where the module is mounted, so as to ensure better heat dissipation performance.
- The reference ground of the area where the module is mounted should be complete, and add ground vias as many as possible for better heat dissipation.

- Make sure the ground pads of the module and PCB are fully connected.
- According to customers' application demands, the heatsink can be mounted on the top of the module, or the opposite side of the PCB area where the module is mounted, or both of them.
- The heatsink should be designed with as many fins as possible to increase heat dissipation area. Meanwhile, a thermal pad with high thermal conductivity should be used between the heatsink and module/PCB.

The following shows two kinds of heatsink designs for reference and customers can choose one or both of them according to their application structure.
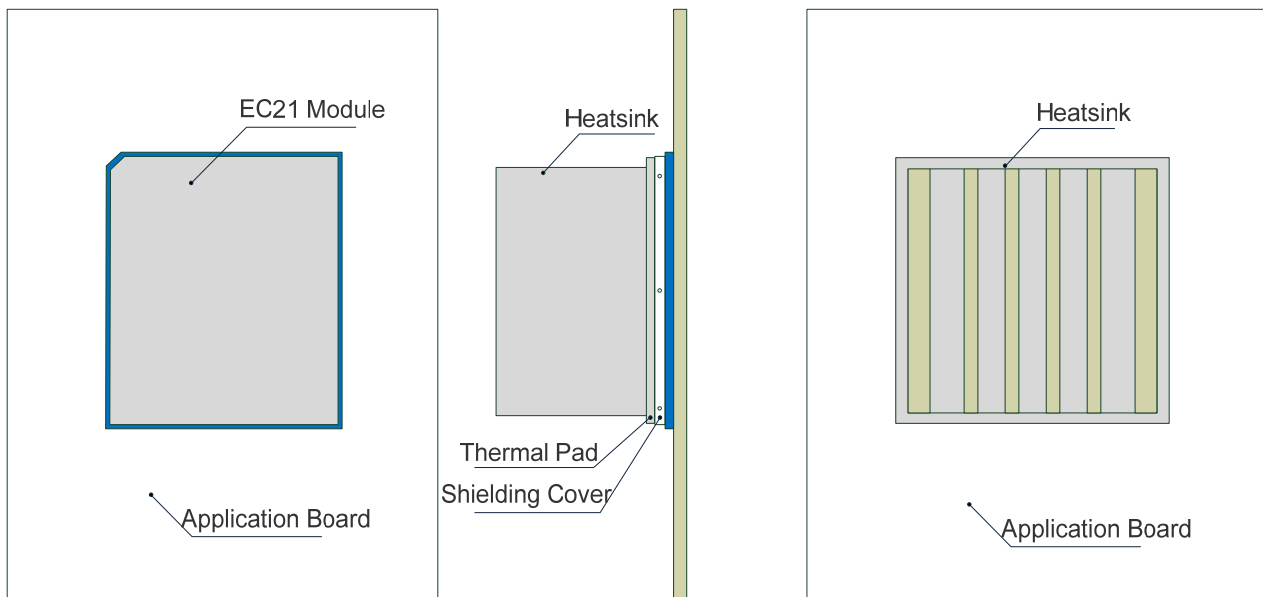
Figure 41: Referenced Heatsink Design (Heatsink at the Top of the Module)
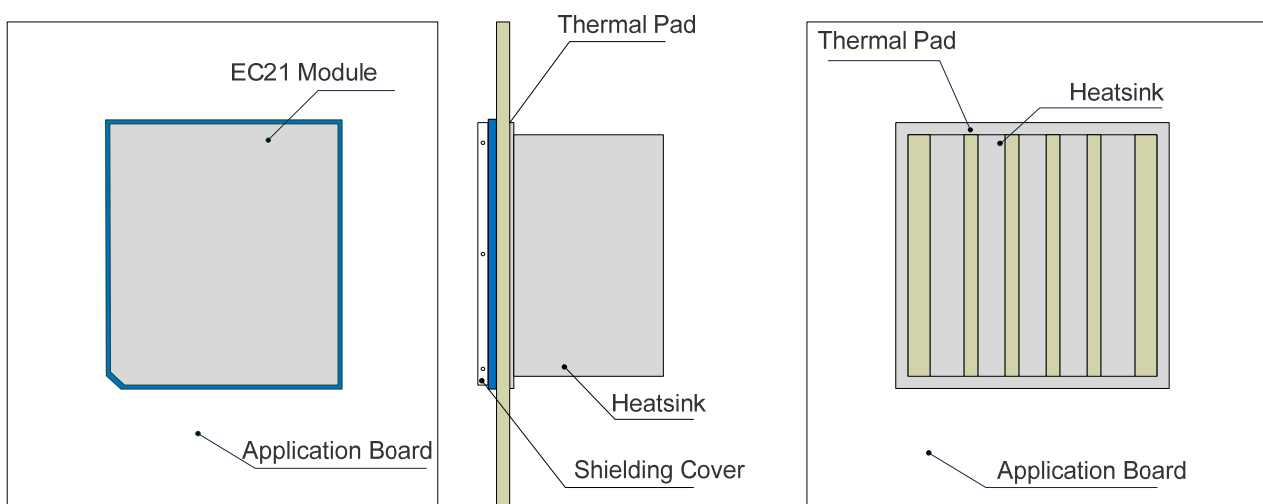
Figure 42: Referenced Heatsink Design (Heatsink at the Bottom of Customers' PCB)

NOTE

The module offers the best performance when the internal BB chip stays below 105°C. When the maximum temperature of the BB chip reaches or exceeds 105°C, the module works normal but provides reduced performance (such as RF output power, data rate, etc.). When the maximum BB chip temperature reaches or exceeds 115°C, the module will disconnect from the network, and it will recover to network connected state after the maximum temperature falls below 115°C. Therefore, the thermal design should be maximally optimized to make sure the maximum BB chip temperature always maintains below 105°C. Customers can execute **AT+QTEMP** command and get the maximum BB chip temperature from the first returned value.

7 Mechanical Dimensions

This chapter describes the mechanical dimensions of the module. All dimensions are measured in mm. The tolerances for dimensions without tolerance values are ±0.05mm.

7.1. Mechanical Dimensions of the Module

Figure 43: Module Top and Side Dimensions
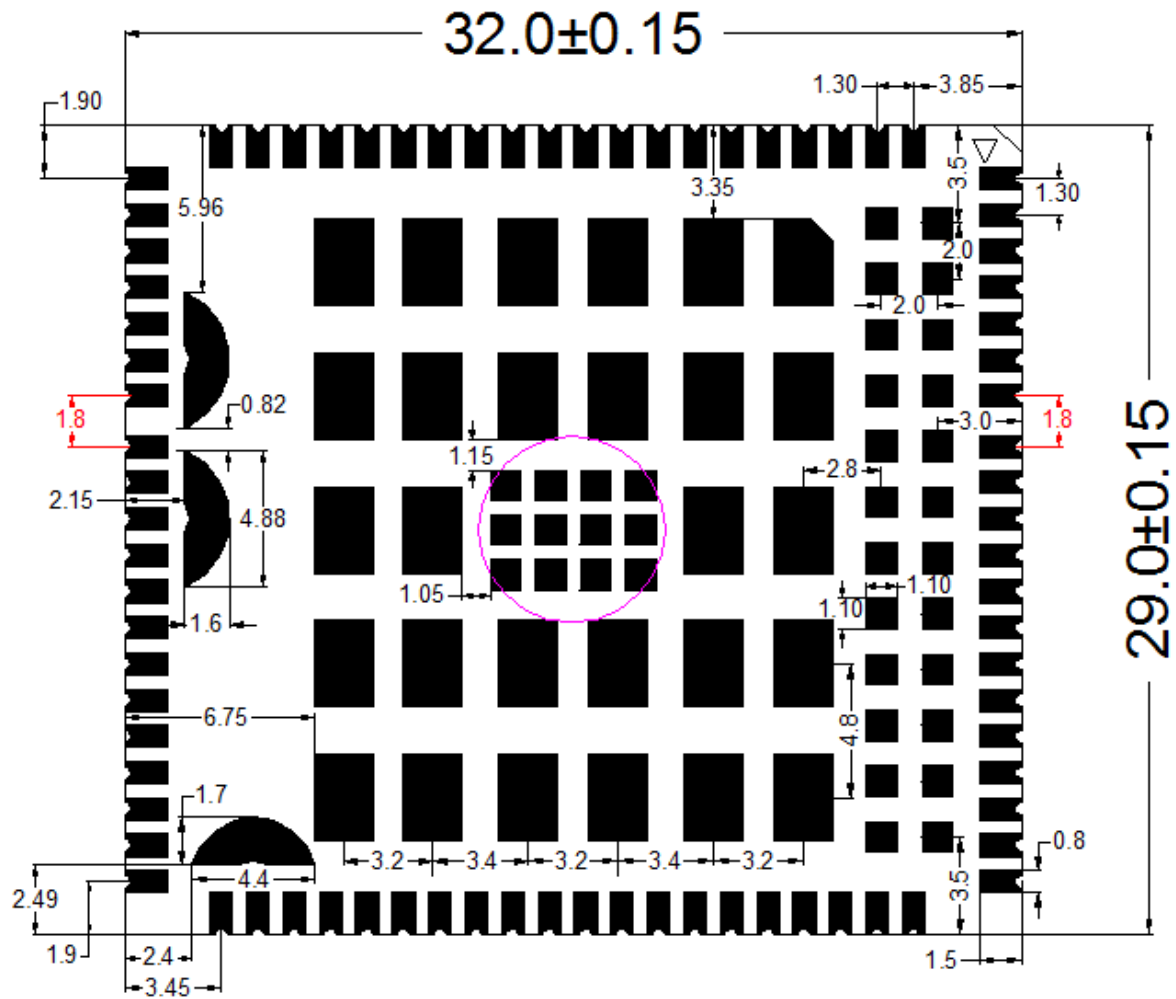
Figure 44: Module Bottom Dimensions (Bottom View)

7.2. Recommended Footprint

Figure 45: Recommended Footprint (Top View)
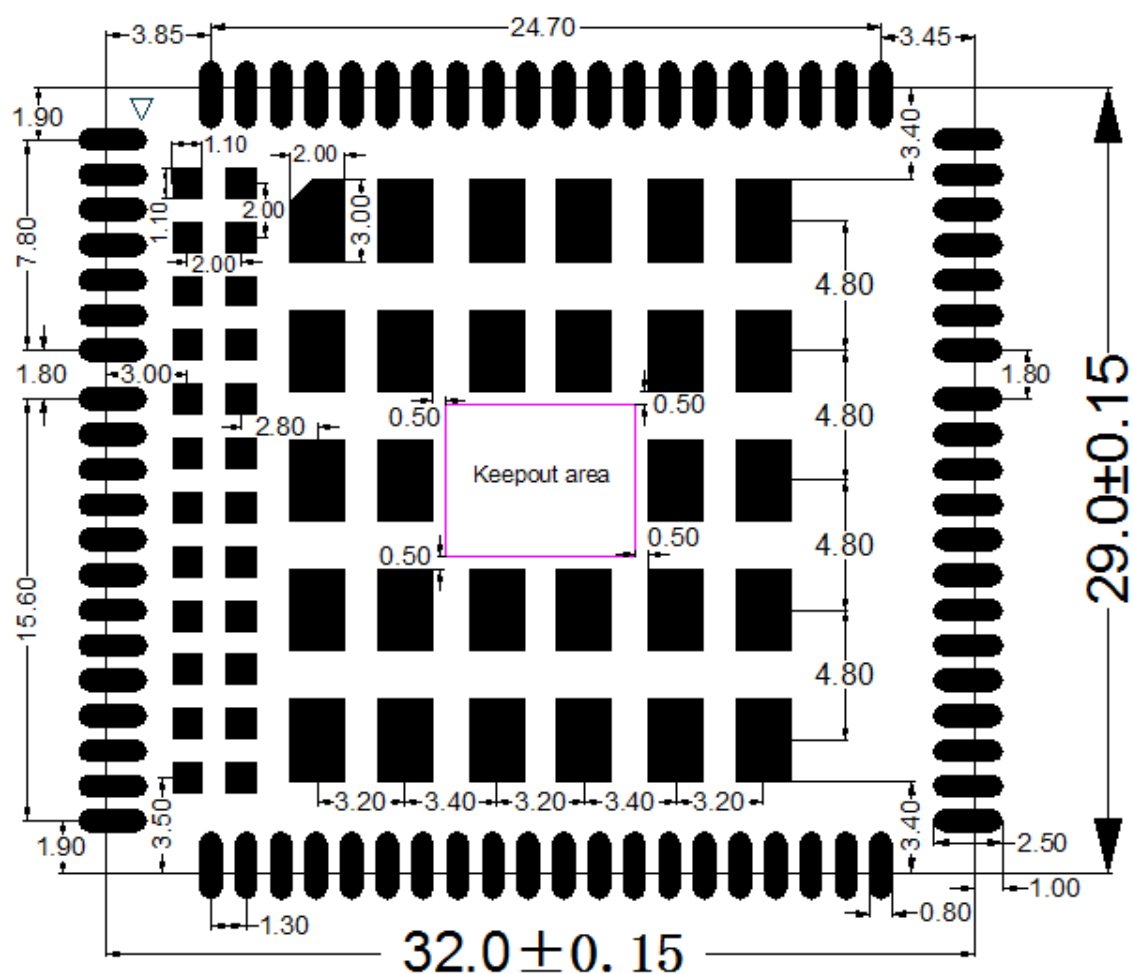
> **NOTES**
>
> 1. The keep out area should not be designed.
> 2. For easy maintenance of the module, please keep about 3mm between the module and other components in the host PCB.

7.3. Design Effect Drawings of the Module

Figure 46: Top View of the Module
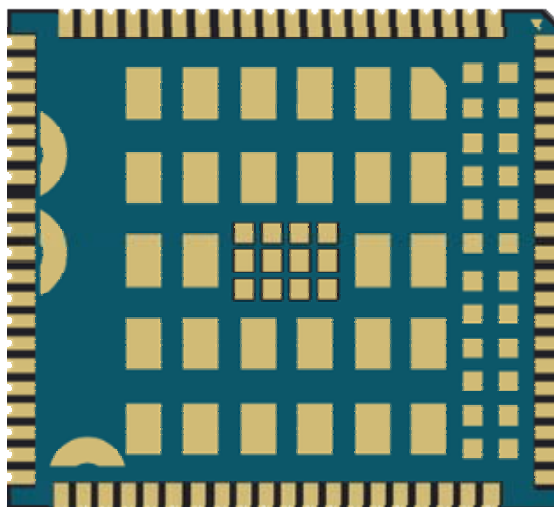
Figure 47: Bottom View of the Module

NOTE

These are design effect drawings of EC21 module. For more accurate pictures, please refer to the module that you get from Quectel.

8 Storage, Manufacturing and Packaging

8.1. Storage

EC21 is stored in a vacuum-sealed bag. The storage restrictions are shown as below.

1. Shelf life in the vacuum-sealed bag: 12 months at <40ºC/90%RH.

2. After the vacuum-sealed bag is opened, devices that will be subjected to reflow soldering or other high temperature processes must be:

- Mounted within 168 hours at the factory environment of ≤30ºC/60%RH
- Stored at <10%RH

3. Devices require baking before mounting, if any circumstances below occurs:

- When the ambient temperature is 23ºC±5ºC and the humidity indicator card shows the humidity is >10% before opening the vacuum-sealed bag.
- Device mounting cannot be finished within 168 hours at factory conditions of ≤30ºC/60%RH.

4. If baking is required, devices may be baked for 8 hours at 120ºC±5ºC.

NOTE

As the plastic package cannot be subjected to high temperature, it should be removed from devices before high temperature (120ºC) baking. If shorter baking time is desired, please refer to *IPC/JEDECJ-STD-033* for baking procedure.

8.2. Manufacturing and Soldering

Push the squeegee to apply the solder paste on the surface of stencil, thus making the paste fill the stencil openings and then penetrate to the PCB. The force on the squeegee should be adjusted properly so as to produce a clean stencil surface on a single pass. To ensure the module soldering quality, the thickness of stencil for the module is recommended to be 0.20mm. For more details, please refer to *document [4]*.

It is suggested that the peak reflow temperature is 235ºC~245ºC (for SnAg3.0Cu0.5 alloy). The absolute maximum reflow temperature is 260ºC. To avoid damage to the module caused by repeated heating, it is suggested that the module should be mounted after reflow soldering for the other side of PCB has been completed. Recommended reflow soldering thermal profile is shown below:
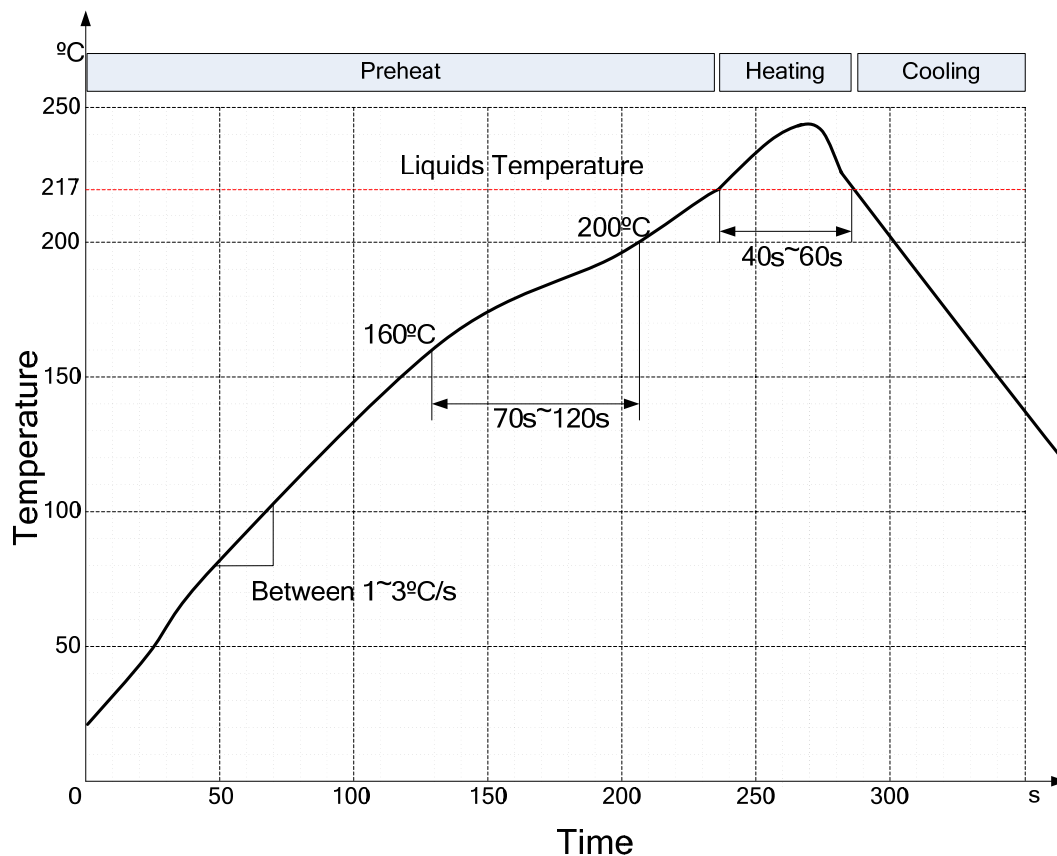
Figure 48: Reflow Soldering Thermal Profile

NOTE

During manufacturing and soldering, or any other processes that may contact the module directly, NEVER wipe the module label with organic solvents, such as acetone, ethyl alcohol, isopropyl alcohol, trichloroethylene, etc.

8.3. Packaging

EC21 is packaged in tape and reel carriers. One reel is 11.88m long and contains 250pcs modules. The figure below shows the packaging details, measured in mm.
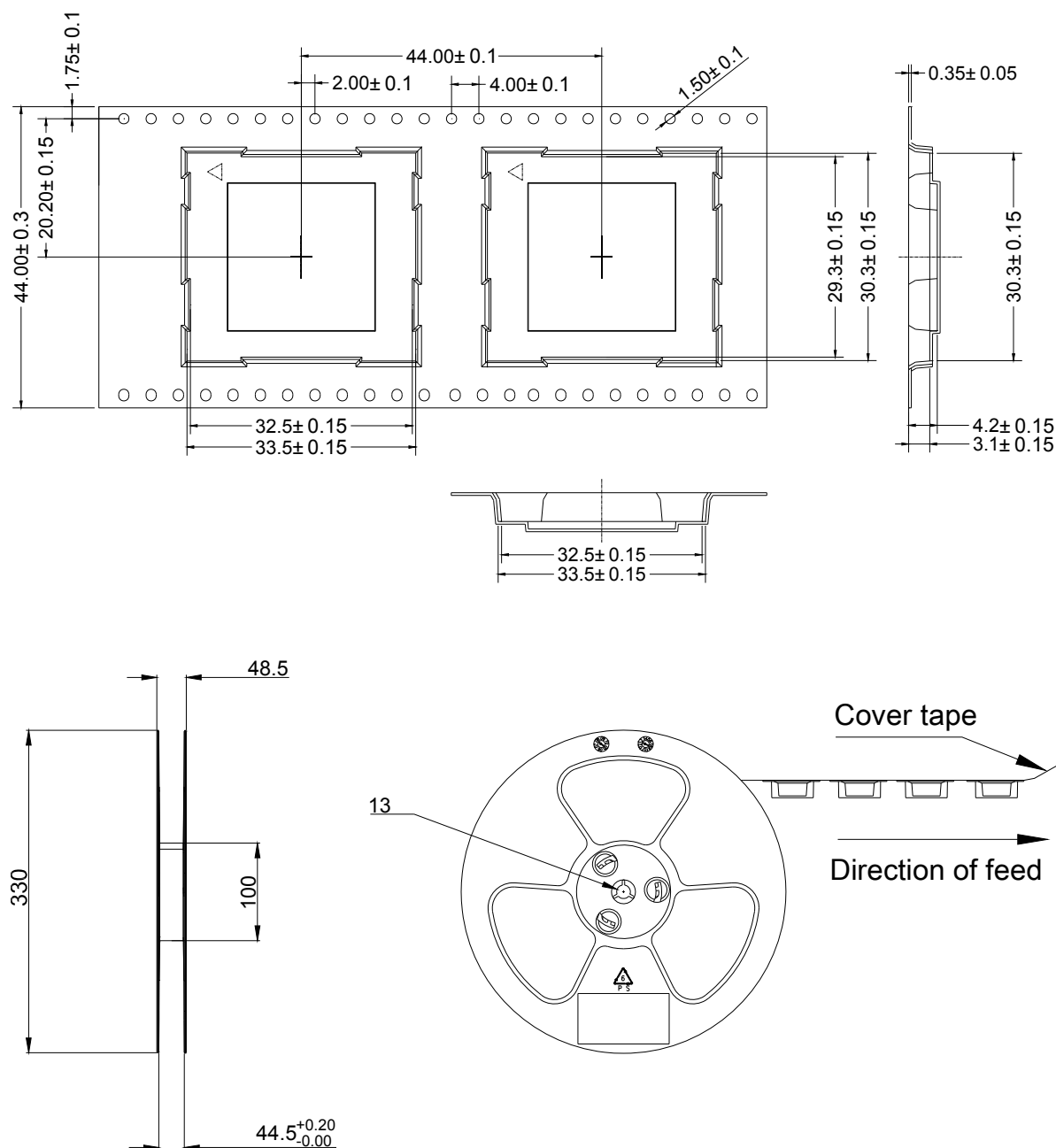
Figure 49: Tape and Reel Specifications

9 Appendix A References

Table 52: Related Documents

SN	Document Name	Remark
[1]	Quectel_EC2x&EG9x&EM05_Power_Management_Application_Note	Power management application notefor EC25, EC21, EC20 R2.0, EC20 R2.1, EG95, EG91 and EM05 modules
[2]	Quectel_EC25&EC21_AT_Commands_Manual	EC25 and EC21 AT commands manual
[3]	Quectel_EC25&EC21_GNSS_AT_Commands_Manual	EC25 and EC21 GNSS AT commands manual
[4]	Quectel_Module_Secondary_SMT_User_Guide	Module secondary SMT user guide
[5]	Quectel_EC21_Reference_Design	EC21 reference design
[6]	Quectel_RF_Layout_Application_Note	RF layout application note

Table 53: Terms and Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
AMR	Adaptive Multi-rate
bps	Bits Per Second
CHAP	Challenge Handshake Authentication Protocol
CS	Coding Scheme
CSD	Circuit Switched Data
CTS	Clear To Send
DC-HSPA+	Dual-carrier High Speed Packet Access
DFOTA	Delta Firmware Upgrade Over The Air
DL	Downlink

DTR	Data Terminal Ready
DTX	Discontinuous Transmission
EFR	Enhanced Full Rate
ESD	Electrostatic Discharge
FDD	Frequency Division Duplex
FR	Full Rate
GLONASS	GLObalnaya NAvigatsionnaya Sputnikovaya Sistema, the Russian Global Navigation Satellite System
GMSK	Gaussian Minimum Shift Keying
GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite System
GPS	Global Positioning System
GSM	Global System for Mobile Communications
HR	Half Rate
HSPA	High Speed Packet Access
HSDPA	High Speed Downlink Packet Access
HSUPA	High Speed Uplink Packet Access
I/O	Input/Output
Inorm	Normal Current
LED	Light Emitting Diode
LNA	Low Noise Amplifier
LTE	Long Term Evolution
MIMO	Multiple Input Multiple Output
MO	Mobile Originated
MS	Mobile Station (GSM engine)
MT	Mobile Terminated
PAP	Password Authentication Protocol

PCB	Printed Circuit Board
PDU	Protocol Data Unit
PPP	Point-to-Point Protocol
QAM	Quadrature Amplitude Modulation
QPSK	Quadrature Phase Shift Keying
RF	Radio Frequency
RHCP	Right Hand Circularly Polarized
Rx	Receive
SGMII	Serial Gigabit Media Independent Interface
SIM	Subscriber Identification Module
SIMO	Single Input Multiple Output
SMS	Short Message Service
TDD	Time Division Duplexing
TDMA	Time Division Multiple Access
TD-SCDMA	Time Division-Synchronous Code Division Multiple Access
TX	Transmitting Direction
UL	Uplink
UMTS	Universal Mobile Telecommunications System
URC	Unsolicited Result Code
USIM	Universal Subscriber Identity Module
Vmax	Maximum Voltage Value
Vnorm	Normal Voltage Value
Vmin	Minimum Voltage Value
$V_{IH}max$	Maximum Input High Level Voltage Value
$V_{IH}min$	Minimum Input High Level Voltage Value

$V_{IL}max$	Maximum Input Low Level Voltage Value
$V_{IL}min$	Minimum Input Low Level Voltage Value
$V_{I}max$	Absolute Maximum Input Voltage Value
$V_{I}min$	Absolute Minimum Input Voltage Value
$V_{OH}max$	Maximum Output High Level Voltage Value
$V_{OH}min$	Minimum Output High Level Voltage Value
$V_{OL}max$	Maximum Output Low Level Voltage Value
$V_{OL}min$	Minimum Output Low Level Voltage Value
VSWR	Voltage Standing Wave Ratio
WCDMA	Wideband Code Division Multiple Access
WLAN	Wireless Local Area Network

10 Appendix B GPRS Coding Schemes

Table 54: Description of Different Coding Schemes

Scheme	CS-1	CS-2	CS-3	CS-4
Code Rate	1/2	2/3	3/4	1
USF	3	3	3	3
Pre-coded USF	3	6	6	12
Radio Block excl. USF and BCS	181	268	312	428
BCS	40	16	16	16
Tail	4	4	4	-
Coded Bits	456	588	676	456
Punctured Bits	0	132	220	-
Data Rate Kb/s	9.05	13.4	15.6	21.4

11 Appendix C GPRS Multi-slot Classes

Twenty-nine classes of GPRS multi-slot modes are defined for MS in GPRS specification. Multi-slot classes are product dependent, and determine the maximum achievable data rates in both the uplink and downlink directions. Written as 3+1 or 2+2, the first number indicates the amount of downlink timeslots, while the second number indicates the amount of uplink timeslots. The active slots determine the total number of slots the GPRS device can use simultaneously for both uplink and downlink communications.

The description of different multi-slot classes is shown in the following table.

Table 55: GPRS Multi-slot Classes

Multislot Class	Downlink Slots	Uplink Slots	Active Slots
1	1	1	2
2	2	1	3
3	2	2	3
4	3	1	4
5	2	2	4
6	3	2	4
7	3	3	4
8	4	1	5
9	3	2	5
10	4	2	5
11	4	3	5
12	4	4	5
13	3	3	NA
14	4	4	NA

15	5	5	NA
16	6	6	NA
17	7	7	NA
18	8	8	NA
19	6	2	NA
20	6	3	NA
21	6	4	NA
22	6	4	NA
23	6	6	NA
24	8	2	NA
25	8	3	NA
26	8	4	NA
27	8	4	NA
28	8	6	NA
29	8	8	NA
30	5	1	6
31	5	2	6
32	5	3	6
33	5	4	6

12 Appendix D EDGE Modulation and Coding Schemes

Table 56: EDGE Modulation and Coding Schemes

Coding Scheme	Modulation	Coding Family	1 Timeslot	2 Timeslot	4 Timeslot
CS-1:	GMSK	/	9.05kbps	18.1kbps	36.2kbps
CS-2:	GMSK	/	13.4kbps	26.8kbps	53.6kbps
CS-3:	GMSK	/	15.6kbps	31.2kbps	62.4kbps
CS-4:	GMSK	/	21.4kbps	42.8kbps	85.6kbps
MCS-1	GMSK	C	8.80kbps	17.60kbps	35.20kbps
MCS-2	GMSK	B	11.2kbps	22.4kbps	44.8kbps
MCS-3	GMSK	A	14.8kbps	29.6kbps	59.2kbps
MCS-4	GMSK	C	17.6kbps	35.2kbps	70.4kbps
MCS-5	8-PSK	B	22.4kbps	44.8kbps	89.6kbps
MCS-6	8-PSK	A	29.6kbps	59.2kbps	118.4kbps
MCS-7	8-PSK	B	44.8kbps	89.6kbps	179.2kbps
MCS-8	8-PSK	A	54.4kbps	108.8kbps	217.6kbps
MCS-9	8-PSK	A	59.2kbps	118.4kbps	236.8kbps

EC21 Mini PCIe

Hardware Design

LTE Module Series

Rev. EC21_Mini_PCIe_Hardware_Design_V1.1

Date: 2017-01-24

Our aim is to provide customers with timely and comprehensive service. For any assistance, please contact our company headquarters:

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About the Document

History

Revision	Date	Author	Description
1.0	2016-06-07	Yeoman CHEN/ Frank WANG	Initial
1.1	2017-01-24	Lyndon LIU/ Rex WANG	1. Deleted description of EC21-AUTL and EC21-CT Mini PCIe in Table 1. 2. Updated key features of EC21 Mini PCIe in Table 2. 3. Added current consumption of EC21 Mini PCIe in Chapter 4.7. 4. Updated mechanical dimensions of EC21 Mini PCIe in Figure 15. 5. Updated conducted RF output power in Table 16. 6. Updated conducted RF receiving sensitivity of EC21-A in Table 18. 7. Added conducted RF receiving sensitivity of EC21-KL in Table 21. 8. Added conducted RF receiving sensitivity of EC21-J in Table 22.

Contents

Table Index

Figure Index

1 Introduction

This document defines EC21 Mini PCIe module and describes its hardware interfaces which are connected with your application and air interfaces.

This document can help you to quickly understand the interface specifications, electrical and mechanical details and related product information of the EC21 Mini PCIe module. To facilitate its application in different fields, relevant reference design documents are also provided. Associated with application note and user guide of EC21 Mini PCIe module, you can use the module to design and set up mobile applications easily.

1.1. Safety Information

The following safety precautions must be observed during all phases of the operation, such as usage, service or repair of any cellular terminal or mobile incorporating EC21 Mini PCIe module. Manufacturers of the cellular terminal should send the following safety information to users and operating personnel, and incorporate these guidelines into all manuals supplied with the product. If not so, Quectel does not take on any liability for customer failure to comply with these precautions.

	Full attention must be given to driving at all times in order to reduce the risk of an accident. Using a mobile while driving (even with a handsfree kit) causes distraction and can lead to an accident. You must comply with laws and regulations restricting the use of wireless devices while driving.
	Switch off the cellular terminal or mobile before boarding an aircraft. Make sure it is switched off. The operation of wireless appliances in an aircraft is forbidden, so as to prevent interference with communication systems. Consult the airline staff about the use of wireless devices on boarding the aircraft, if your device offers an Airplane Mode which must be enabled prior to boarding an aircraft.
	Switch off your wireless device when in hospitals, clinics or other health care facilities. These requests are desinged to prevent possible interference with sensitive medical equipment.
	Cellular terminals or mobiles operating over radio frequency signal and cellular network cannot be guaranteed to connect in all conditions, for example no mobile fee or with an invalid USIM/SIM card. While you are in this condition and need emergent help, please remember using emergency call. In order to make or receive a call, the cellular terminal or mobile must be switched on and in a service area with adequate cellular signal strength.
	Your cellular terminal or mobile contains a transmitter and receiver. When it is ON, it receives and transmits radio frequency energy. RF interference can occur if it is used close to TV set, radio, computer or other electric equipment.
	In locations with potentially explosive atmospheres, obey all posted signs to turn off wireless devices such as your phone or other cellular terminals. Areas with potentially explosive atmospheres include fuelling areas, below decks on boats, fuel or chemical transfer or storage facilities, areas where the air contains chemicals or particles such as grain, dust or metal powders, etc.

1.2. FCC Statement

According to the definition of mobile and fixed device is described in Part 2.1091(b), this device is a mobile device.

And the following conditions must be met:

1. This Modular Approval is limited to OEM installation for mobile and fixed applications only. The antenna installation and operating configurations of this transmitter, including any applicable source-based time-averaging duty factor, antenna gain and cable loss must satisfy MPE categorical Exclusion Requirements of 2.1091.

2. The EUT is a mobile device; maintain at least a 20 cm separation between the EUT and the user's body and must not transmit simultaneously with any other antenna or transmitter.

3.A label with the following statements must be attached to the host end product: This device contains FCC ID: XMR201805EC21AU.

4.To comply with FCC regulations limiting both maximum RF output power and human exposure to RF radiation, maximum antenna gain (including cable loss) must not exceed 4dBi

5. This module must not transmit simultaneously with any other antenna or transmitter

6. The host end product must include a user manual that clearly defines operating requirements and conditions that must be observed to ensure compliance with current FCC RF exposure guidelines.

For portable devices, in addition to the conditions 3 through 6 described above, a separate approval is required to satisfy the SAR requirements of FCC Part 2.1093

If the device is used for other equipment that separate approval is required for all other operating configurations, including portable configurations with respect to 2.1093 and different antenna configurations.

For this device, OEM integrators must be provided with labeling instructions of finished products. Please refer to KDB784748 D01 v07, section 8. Page 6/7 last two paragraphs:

A certified modular has the option to use a permanently affixed label, or an electronic label. For a permanently affixed label, the module must be labelled withan FCC ID - Section 2.926 (see 2.2 Certification (labelling requirements) above). The OEM manual must provide clear instructions explaining to the OEM the labelling requirements,options and OEM user manual instructions that are required (see next paragraph).

For a host using a certified modular with a standard fixed label, if (1) the module's FCC ID is notvisible when installed in the host, or (2) if the host is marketed so that end users do not havestraightforward commonly used methods for access to remove the module so that the FCC ID ofthe module is visible; then an additional permanent label referring to the enclosed module:"Contains Transmitter Module FCC ID:XMR201805EC21AU" or "Contains FCC ID: XMR201805EC21AU" mustbe used. The host OEM user manual must also contain clear instructions on how end users can find and/or access the module and the FCC ID.

The final host / module combination may also need to be evaluated against the FCC Part 15B criteria for unintentional radiators in order to be properly authorized for operation as a Part 15 digital device.

The user's manual or instruction manual for an intentional or unintentional radiator shall caution the user that changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment. In cases where the manual is provided only in a form other than paper, such as on a computer disk or over the Internet, the information required by this section may be

included in the manual in that alternative form, provided the user can reasonably be expected to have the capability to access information in that form.

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the manufacturer could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

To ensure compliance with all non-transmitter functions the host manufacturer is responsible for ensuring compliance with the module(s) installed and fully operational. For example, if a host was previously authorized as an unintentional radiator under the Declaration of Conformity procedure without a transmitter certified module and a module is added, the host manufacturer is responsible for ensuring that the after the module is installed and operational the host continues to be compliant with the Part 15B unintentional radiator requirements.

2 Product Concept

2.1. General Description

EC21 Mini PCIe module provides data connectivity on LTE-FDD, LTE-TDD, WCDMA and GSM networks with PCI Express Mini Card 1.2 standard interface. It supports embedded operating systems such as WinCE, Linux and Android etc., and also provides audio, high-speed data transmission and GNSS functionality for your applications.

EC21 Mini PCIe module can be applied in the following fields:

- PDAs and Laptop Computer
- Remote Monitor System
- Vehicle System
- Wireless POS System
- Intelligent Meter Reading System
- Wireless Router and Switch
- Other Wireless Terminal Devices

This chapter generally introduces the following aspects of EC21 Mini PCIe module:

- Product Series
- Key Features
- Functional Diagram

NOTE

EC21 Mini PCIe contains **Telematics** version and **Data-only** version. **Telematics** version supports voice and data functions, while **Data-only** version only supports data function.

2.2. Description of Product Series

The following table shows the product series of EC21 Mini PCIe module.

Table 1: Description of EC21 Mini PCIe

Product Series	Description
EC21-E Mini PCIe	Support GSM: 900/1800MHz Support WCDMA: B1/B5/B8 Support LTE-FDD: B1/B3/B5/B7/B8/B20 Support LTE/WCDMA receive diversity Support GNSS[1] Support digital audio[2]
EC21-A Mini PCIe	Support WCDMA: B2/B4/B5 Support LTE-FDD: B2/B4/B12 Support LTE/WCDMA receive diversity Support GNSS[1] Support digital audio[2]
EC21-V Mini PCIe	Support LTE-FDD: B4/B13 Support LTE receive diversity Support GNSS[1] Support digital audio[2]
EC21-AUT Mini PCIe	Support WCDMA: B1/B5 Support LTE-FDD: B1/B3/B5/B7/B28 Support LTE/WCDMA receive diversity Support GNSS[1] Support digital audio[2]
EC21-AU Mini PCIe[3]	Support GSM: 850/900/1800/1900MHz Support WCDMA: B1/B2/B5/B8 Support LTE-FDD: B1/B2/B3/B4/B5/B7/B8/B28 Support LTE-TDD: B40 Support LTE/WCDMA receive diversity[3] Support GNSS[1] Support digital audio[2]
EC21-J Mini PCIe	Support LTE-FDD: B1/B3/B8/B18/B19/B26 Support LTE receive diversity Support digital audio[2]
EC21-KL Mini PCIe	Support LTE-FDD: B1/B3/B5/B7/B8 Support LTE receive diversity Support digital audio[2]

NOTES

1. [1] GNSS function is optional.
2. [2] Digital audio (PCM) function is only supported in **Telematics** version.
3. [3] B2 band on EC21-AU Mini PCIe module does not support receive diversity.

2.3. Key Features

The following table describes the detailed features of EC21 Mini PCIe module.

Table 2: Key Features of EC21 Mini PCIe

Feature	Details
Function Interface	PCI Express Mini Card 1.2 Standard Interface
Power Supply	Supply voltage: 3.0~3.6V
	Typical supply voltage: 3.3V
Transmitting Power	Class 4 (33dBm±2dB) for GSM850
	Class 4 (33dBm±2dB) for GSM900
	Class 1 (30dBm±2dB) for DCS1800
	Class 1 (30dBm±2dB) for PCS1800
	Class E2 (27dBm±3dB) for GSM850 8-PSK
	Class E2 (27dBm±3dB) for GSM900 8-PSK
	Class E2 (26dBm±3dB) for DCS1800 8-PSK
	Class E2 (26dBm±3dB) for PCS1900 8-PSK
	Class 3 (24dBm+1/-3dB) for WCDMA bands
	Class 3 (23dBm±2dB) for LTE-FDD bands
	Class 3 (23dBm±2dB) for LTE-TDD bands
LTE Features	Support up to non-CA Cat 1
	Support 1.4 to 20MHz RF bandwidth
	Support MIMO in DL direction
	FDD: Max 5Mbps (UL), 10Mbps (DL)
	TDD: Max 3.1Mbps (UL), 8.96Mbps (DL)
	TDD: Max 3.1Mbps (UL), 8.96Mbps (DL)
WCDMA Features	Support 3GPP R8 DC-HSPA+
	Support 16-QAM, 64-QAM and QPSK modulation
	3GPP R6 Cat 6 HSUPA: Max 5.76Mbps (UL)
	3GPP R8 Cat 24 DC-HSPA+: Max 42Mbps (DL)
GSM Features	**R99:**
	CSD: 9.6kbps, 14.4kbps
	GPRS:

	Support GPRS multi-slot class 12 (12 by default)
	Coding scheme: CS-1, CS-2, CS-3 and CS-4
	Maximum of four Rx time slots per frame
	EDGE:
	Support EDGE multi-slot class 12 (12 by default)
	Support GMSK and 8-PSK for different MCS (Modulation and Coding Scheme)
	Downlink coding schemes: CS 1-4 and MCS 1-9
	Uplink coding schemes: CS 1-4 and MCS 1-9
Internet Protocol Features	Support TCP/UDP/PPP/FTP/HTTP/NTP/PING/QMI/HTTPS*/SMTP*/ MMS*/FTPS*/SSL* protocols
	Support PAP (Password Authentication Protocol) and CHAP (Challenge Handshake Authentication Protocol) protocols usually used for PPP connections
SMS	Text and PDU mode
	Point to point MO and MT
	SMS cell broadcast
	SMS storage: ME by default
USIM Interface	Support USIM/SIM card: 1.8V, 3.0V
UART Interface	Baud rate can reach up to 230400bps; 115200bps by default
	Used for AT command communication
Audio Feature	Support one digital audio interface: PCM interface
	GSM: HR/FR/EFR/AMR/AMR-WB
	WCDMA: AMR/AMR-WB
	LTE: AMR/AMR-WB
	Support echo cancellation and noise suppression
PCM Interface	Support 8-bit A-law*, μ-law* and 16-bit linear data formats
	Support long frame synchronization and short frame synchronization
	Support master and slave mode, but must be the master in long frame synchronization
USB Interface	Compliant with USB 2.0 specification (slave only), the data transfer rate can reach up to 480Mbps
	Used for AT command communication, data transmission, firmware upgrade, software debugging, GNSS NMEA output and voice over USB*
	USB Driver: Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows 7, Windows 8/8.1, Windows 10, Linux 2.6 or later, Android 4.0/4.2/4.4/5.0/5.1/6.0
Antenna Interface	Include main antenna, diversity antenna and GNSS antenna
Rx-diversity	Support LTE/WCDMA Rx-diversity
GNSS Features	Gen 8C Lite of Qualcomm
	Protocol: NMEA 0183
AT Commands	Compliant with 3GPP TS 27.007, 27.005 and Quectel enhanced AT commands

Physical Characteristics	Size: (51.0±0.1) × (30.0±0.1) × (4.9±0.2) mm Weight: approx. 9.8g
Temperature Range	Operation temperature range: -35°C ~ +75°C[2] Extended temperature range: -40°C ~ +80°C[3]
Firmware Upgrade	USB interface and DFOTA*
RoHS	All hardware components are fully compliant with EU RoHS directive

NOTES

1. "*" means under development.
2. [2] Within operating temperature range, the module is 3GPP compliant.
3. [3] Within extended temperature range, the module remains the ability to establish and maintain a voice, SMS, data transmission, emergency call, etc. There is no unrecoverable malfunction; there are also no effects on radio spectrum and no harm to radio network. Only one or more parameters like P_{out} might reduce in their value and exceed the specified tolerances. When the temperature returns to normal operating temperature levels, the module is compliant with 3GPP specification again.

2.4. Functional Diagram

The following figure shows the block diagram of EC21 Mini PCIe.
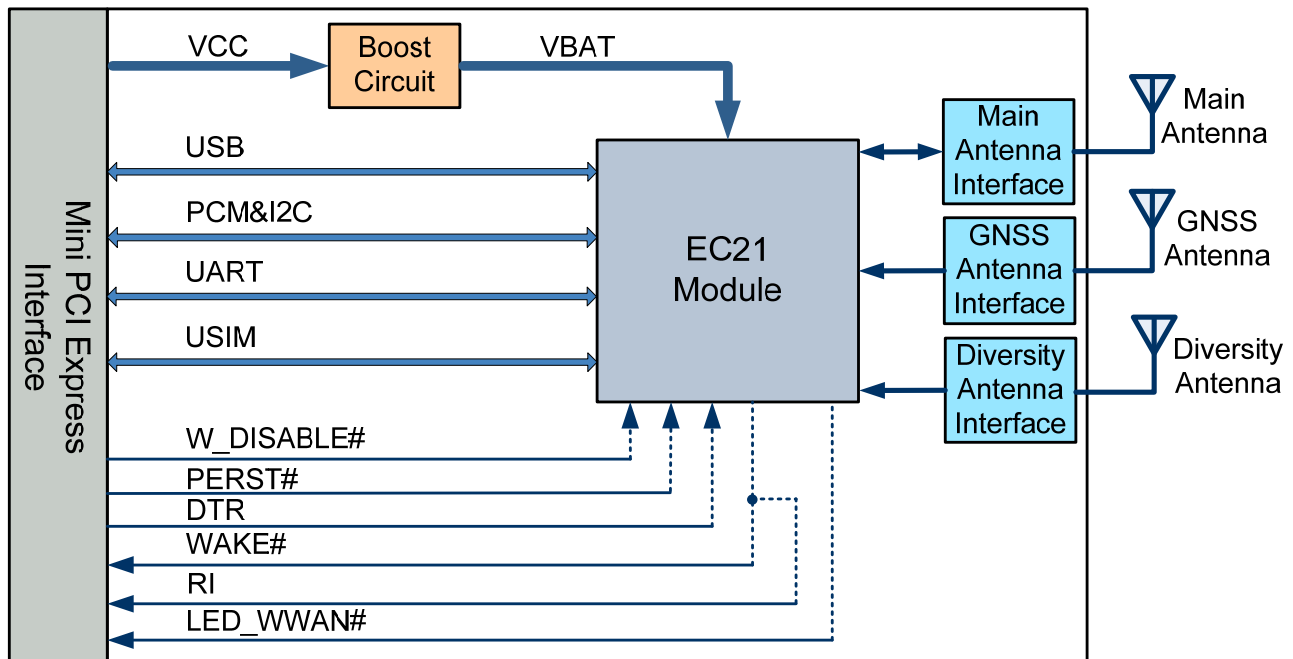
Figure 1: Functional Diagram

3 Application Interface

3.1. General Description

The physical connections and signal levels of EC21 Mini PCIe comply with PCI Express Mini CEM specifications. This chapter mainly describes the following interface definition and application of EC21 Mini PCIe:

● Power supply
● USIM card interface
● USB interface
● UART interface
● PCM&I2C interfaces
● Control signals
● Antenna interface

3.2. EC21 Mini PCIe Interface

3.2.1. Definition of Interface

The following tables show the pin definition and description of EC21 Mini PCIe on the 52-pin application.

Table 3: Definition of I/O Parameters

Type	Description
IO	Bidirectional
DI	Digital input
DO	Digital output
OC	Open collector
PI	Power input
PO	Power output

Table 4: Description of Pins

Pin No.	Mini PCI Express Standard Name	EC21 Mini PCIe Pin Name	I/O	Description	Comment
1	WAKE#	WAKE#	OC	Output signal can be used to wake up the host.	
2	3.3Vaux	VCC_3V3	PI	3.3V DC supply	
3	COEX1	RESERVED		Reserved	
4	GND	GND		Mini card ground	
5	COEX2	RESERVED		Reserved	
6	1.5V	NC			
7	CLKREQ#	RESERVED		Reserved	
8	UIM_PWR	USIM_VDD	PO	Power source for the USIM card	
9	GND	GND		Mini card ground	
10	UIM_DATA	USIM_DATA	IO	USIM data signal	
11	REFCLK-	UART_RX	DI	UART receive data	Connect to DTE's TX
12	UIM_CLK	USIM_CLK	DO	USIM clock signal	
13	REFCLK+	UART_TX	DO	UART transmit data	Connect to DTE's RX
14	UIM_RESET	USIM_RST	DO	USIM reset signal	
15	GND	GND		Mini card ground	
16	UIM_VPP	RESERVED		Reserved	
17	RESERVED	RI	DO	Output signal can be used to wake up the host.	
18	GND	GND		Mini card ground	
19	RESERVED	RESERVED		Reserved	
20	W_DISABLE#	W_DISABLE#	DI	Disable wireless communications	Pull-up Active low
21	GND	GND		Mini card ground	
22	PERST#	PERST#	DI	Functional reset to the card	Active low
23	PERn0	UART_CTS	DI	UART clear to send	Connect to DTE's RTS
24	3.3Vaux	RESERVED		Reserved	

25	PERp0	UART_RTS	DO	UART request to send	Connect to DTE's CTS
26	GND	GND		Mini card ground	
27	GND	GND		Mini card ground	
28	1.5V	NC			
29	GND	GND		Mini card ground	
30	SMB_CLK	I2C_SCL	DO	I2C serial clock	Require external pull-up to 1.8V.
31	PETn0	DTR	DI	Sleep mode control	
32	SMB_DATA	I2C_SDA	IO	I2C serial data	Require external pull-up to 1.8V.
33	PETp0	RESERVED		Reserved	
34	GND	GND		Mini card ground	
35	GND	GND		Mini card ground	
36	USB_D-	USB_DM	IO	USB differential data (-)	
37	GND	GND		Mini card ground	
38	USB_D+	USB_DP	IO	USB differential data (+)	
39	3.3Vaux	VCC_3V3	PI	3.3V DC supply	
40	GND	GND		Mini card ground	
41	3.3Vaux	VCC_3V3	PI	3.3V DC supply	
42	LED_WWAN#	LED_WWAN#	OC	Active-low. LED signal for indicating the state of the card.	
43	GND	GND		Mini card ground	
44	LED_WLAN#	RESERVED		Reserved	
45	RESERVED	PCM_CLK*	IO	PCM clock signal	
46	LED_WPAN#	RESERVED		Reserved	
47	RESERVED	PCM_DOUT*	DO	PCM data output	
48	1.5V	NC			

49	RESERVED	PCM_DIN*	DI	PCM data input
50	GND	GND		Mini card ground
51	RESERVED	PCM_SYNC*	IO	PCM frame synchronization
52	3.3Vaux	VCC_3V3	PI	3.3V DC supply

NOTES

1. The typical supply voltage is 3.3V.
2. Keep all NC, reserved and unused pins unconnected.
3. "*" means the digital audio (PCM) function is only supported on **Telematics** version.

3.2.2. Pin Assignment

The following figure shows the pin assignment of EC21 Mini PCIe module. The top side contains EC21 module and antenna connectors.

Pin Name	Pin No.		Pin No.	Pin Name
WAKE#	1		2	VCC_3V3
RESERVED	3		4	GND
RESERVED	5		6	NC
RESERVED	7		8	USIM_VDD
GND	9		10	USIM_DATA
UART_RX	11		12	USIM_CLK
UART_TX	13		14	USIM_RST
GND	15		16	RESERVED
RI	17		18	GND
RESERVED	19		20	W_DISABLE#
GND	21		22	PERST#
UART_CTS	23		24	RESERVED
UART_RTS	25		26	GND
GND	27		28	NC
GND	29		30	I2C_SCL
DTR	31		32	I2C_SDA
RESERVED	33		34	GND
GND	35		36	USB_DM
GND	37		38	USB_DP
VCC_3V3	39		40	GND
VCC_3V3	41		42	LED_WWAN#
GND	43		44	RESERVED
PCM_CLK	45		46	RESERVED
PCM_DOUT	47		48	NC
PCM_DIN	49		50	GND
PCM_SYNC	51		52	VCC_3V3

Figure 2: Pin Assignment

3.3. Power Supply

The following table shows pin definition of VCC_3V3 pins and ground pins.

Table 5: Definition of VCC_3V3 and GND Pins

Pin No.	Pin Name	I/O	Power Domain	Description
2, 39, 41, 52	VCC_3V3	PI	3.0~3.6V	3.3V DC supply
4, 9, 15, 18, 21, 26, 27, 29, 34, 35, 37, 40, 43, 50	GND			Mini card ground

The typical supply voltage of EC21 Mini PCIe is 3.3V. In the 2G networks, the input peak current may reach to 2.7A during the transmitting time, therefore the power supply must be able to provide enough current, and a bypass capacitor of no less than 470μF with low ESR should be used to prevent the voltage from dropping.

The following figure shows a reference design of power supply. The precision of resistor R2 and R3 is 1%, and the capacitor C3 needs a low ESR.
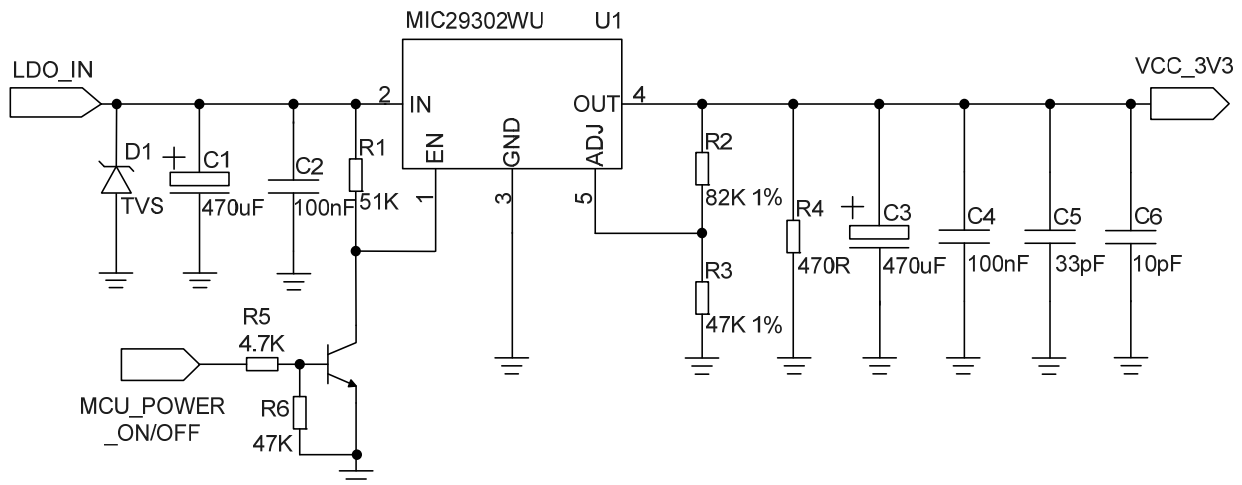
Figure 3: Reference Design of Power Supply

3.4. USIM Card Interface

The following table shows the pin definition of USIM card interface.

Table 6: USIM Pin Definition

Pin No.	Pin Name	I/O	Power Domain	Description
8	USIM_VDD	PO	1.8V/3.0V	Power source for the USIM card
10	USIM_DATA	IO	1.8V/3.0V	USIM data signal
12	USIM_CLK	DO	1.8V/3.0V	USIM clock signal
14	USIM_RST	DO	1.8V/3.0V	USIM reset signal

EC21 Mini PCIe supports 1.8V and 3.0V USIM cards. The following figure shows the reference design of the 6-pin USIM card connector.
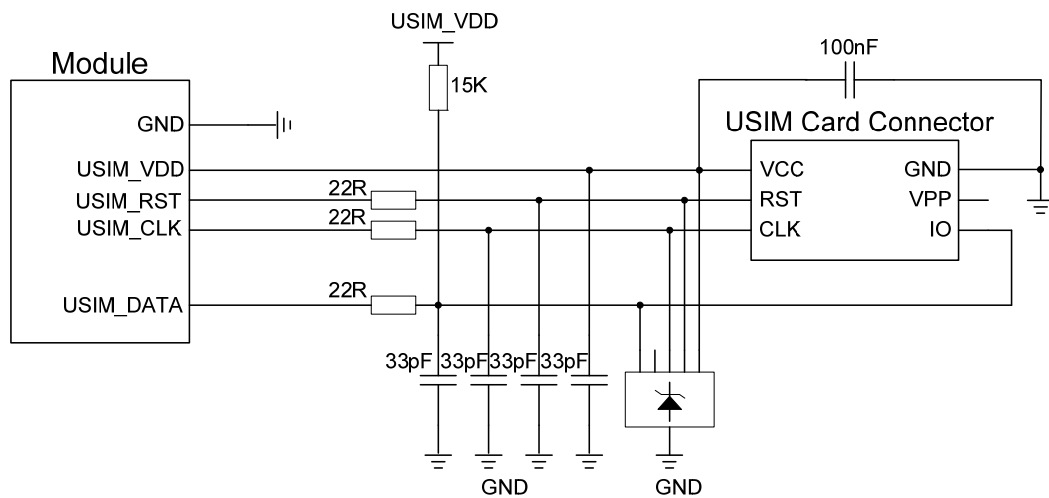
Figure 4: Reference Circuit of USIM Card Interface with a 6-Pin USIM Card Connector

In order to enhance the reliability and availability of the USIM card in your application, please follow the criteria below in USIM circuit design:

● Keep layout of USIM card as close to the module as possible. Assure the trace length as less than 200mm as possible.
● Keep USIM card signal away from RF and power supply traces.
● Keep the trace width of ground and USIM_VDD no less than 0.5mm to maintain the same electric potential. The decouple capacitor of USIM_VDD should be less than 1uF and must near to USIM card connector.

- To avoid cross-talk between USIM_DATA and USIM_CLK, keep them away from each other and shield them with surrounding ground.
- In order to offer good ESD protection, it is recommended to add a TVS whose parasitic capacitance should not be more than 50pF. The 22 ohm resistors should be added in series between the module and USIM card so as to suppress EMI spurious transmission and enhance ESD protection. The 33pF capacitors are used for filtering interference of GSM900. Please note that the USIM peripheral circuit should be close to the USIM card connector.
- The pull-up resistor on USIM_DATA line can improve anti-jamming capability when long layout trace and sensitive occasion are applied, and should be placed close to the USIM card connector.

3.5. USB Interface

The following table shows the pin definition of USB interface.

Table 7: Pin Definition of USB Interface

Pin No.	Pin Name	I/O	Description	Comment
36	USB_DM	IO	USB differential data (-)	Require differential impedance of 90Ω
38	USB_DP	IO	USB differential data (+)	Require differential impedance of 90Ω

EC21 Mini PCIe is compliant with USB 2.0 specification. It can only be used as a slave device. Meanwhile, it supports high speed (480Mbps) and full speed (12Mbps) mode. The USB interface is used for AT command communication, data transmission, GNSS NMEA output, software debugging, firmware upgrade and voice over USB*. The following figure shows the reference circuit of USB interface.
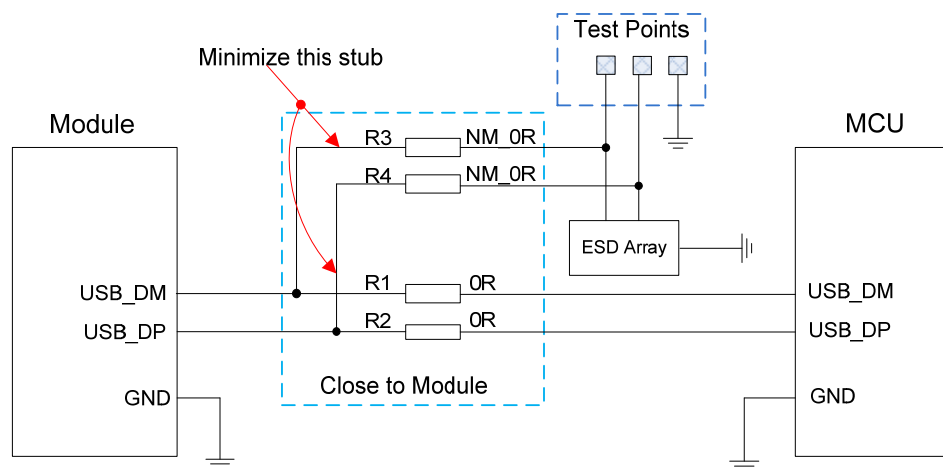

Figure 5: Reference Circuit of USB Interface

In order to ensure the integrity of USB data line signal, components R1, R2, R3 and R4 must be placed close to the module, and also these resistors should be placed close to each other. The extra stubs of trace must be as short as possible.

In order to ensure the USB interface design corresponding with the USB 2.0 specification, please comply with the following principles:

● It is important to route the USB signal traces as differential pairs with total grounding. The impedance of USB differential trace is 90 ohm.
● Do not route signal traces under crystals, oscillators, magnetic devices and RF signal traces. It is important to route the USB differential traces in inner-layer with ground shielding on not only upper and lower layers but also right and left sides.
● If USB connector is used, please keep the ESD protection components to the USB connector as close as possible. Pay attention to the influence of junction capacitance of ESD protection components on USB data lines. Typically, the capacitance value should be less than 2pF.
● Keep the ESD components as close as possible to the connector.
● Keep traces of USB data test points short to avoid noise coupled on USB data lines. If possible, reserve a 0R resistor on these two lines.

NOTES

1. There are three preconditions when enabling EC21 Mini PCIe to enter into the sleep mode:
   a) Execute **AT+QSCLK=1** command to enable the sleep mode. Please refer to *document [2]* for details.
   b) DTR pin should be kept in high level (pull-up internally).
   c) USB interface on Mini PCIe must be connected with the USB interface of the host and please guarantee the USB of the host is in suspended state.
2. "*" means under development.

3.6. UART Interface

The following table shows the pin definition of the UART interface.

Table 8: Pin Definition of the UART Interface

Pin No.	EC21 Mini PCIe Pin Name	I/O	Power Domain	Description
11	UART_RX	DI	3.3V	UART receive data
13	UART_TX	DO	3.3V	UART transmit data

23	UART_CTS	DI	3.3V	UART clear to send
25	UART_RTS	DO	3.3V	UART request to send

The UART interface supports 9600, 19200, 38400, 57600, 115200 and 230400bps baud rate. The default is 115200bps. This interface can be used for AT command communication.

NOTE

AT+IPR command can be used to set the baud rate of the UART, and **AT+IFC** command can be used to set the hardware flow control (hardware flow control is disabled by default). Please refer to *document [2]* for details.

3.7. PCM and I2C Interfaces

The following table shows the pin definition of PCM and 12C interfaces that can be applied in audio codec design.

Table 9: Pin Definition of PCM and I2C Interfaces

Pin No.	Pin Name	I/O	Power Domain	Description
45	PCM_CLK	IO	1.8V	PCM clock signal
47	PCM_DOUT	DO	1.8V	PCM data output
49	PCM_DIN	DI	1.8V	PCM data input
51	PCM_SYNC	IO	1.8V	PCM frame synchronization
30	I2C_SCL	DO	1.8V	I2C serial clock, require external pull-up to 1.8V.
32	I2C_SDA	IO	1.8V	I2C serial data, require external pull-up to 1.8V.

EC21 Mini PCIe provides one PCM digital interface, which supports 8-bit A-law* and μ-law*, and also supports 16-bit linear data formats and the following modes:

● Primary mode (short frame synchronization, works as either master or slave)
● Auxiliary mode (long frame synchronization, works as master only)

In primary mode, the data is sampled on the falling edge of the PCM_CLK and transmitted on the rising edge. The PCM_SYNC falling edge represents the MSB. In this mode, PCM_CLK supports 128kHz, 256kHz, 512kHz, 1024kHz and 2048kHz. The following figure shows timing relationship in primary mode with 8kHz PCM_SYNC and 2048kHz PCM_CLK.
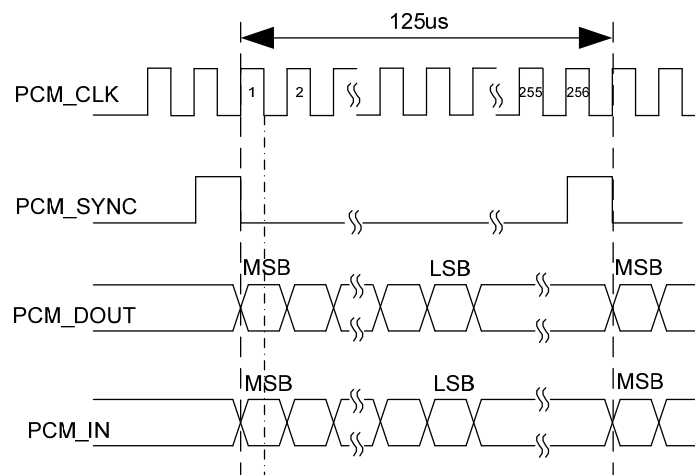
Figure 6: Timing in Primary Mode

In auxiliary mode, the data is sampled on the falling edge of the PCM_CLK and transmitted on the rising edge; while the PCM_SYNC rising edge represents the MSB. In this mode, PCM interface operates with a 128kHz PCM_CLK and an 8kHz, 50% duty cycle PCM_SYNC only. The following figure shows the timing relationship in auxiliary mode with 8kHz PCM_SYNC and 128kHz PCM_CLK.
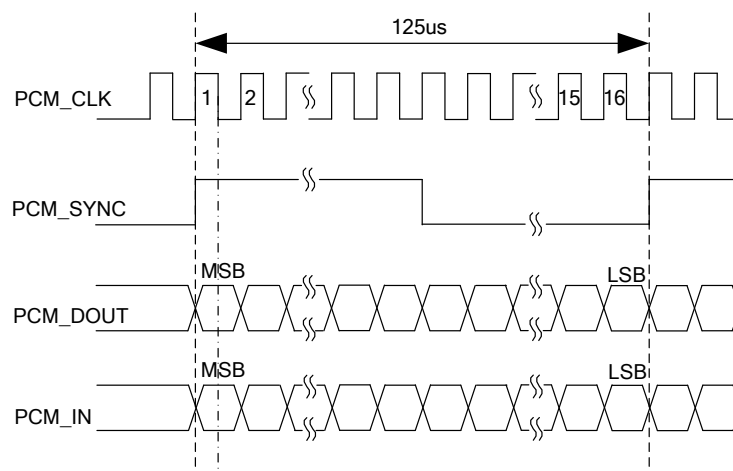
Figure 7: Timing in Auxiliary Mode

Clock and mode can be configured by AT command, and the default configuration is master mode using short frame synchronization data format with 2048kHz PCM_CLK and 8kHz PCM_SYNC. In addition, EC21 Mini PCIe's firmware has integrated the configuration on some PCM codec's application with I2C interface. Please refer to *document [2]* for details about **AT+QDAI** command.

The following figure shows a reference design of PCM interface with external codec IC.
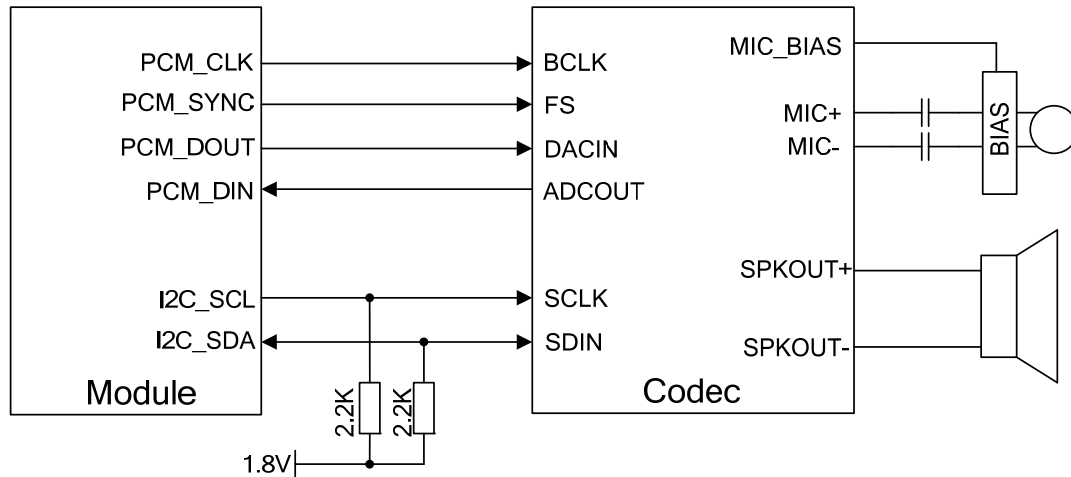
Figure 8: Reference Circuit of PCM Application with Audio Codec

3.8. Control Signals

The following table shows the pin definition of control signals.

Table 10: Pin Definition of Control Signal

Pin No.	Pin Name	I/O	Power Domain	Description
17	RI	DO	3.3V	Output signal can be used to wake up the host.
31	DTR	DI	3.3V	Sleep mode control.
20	W_DISABLE#	DI	3.3V	Disable wireless communications, pull-up by default, active low.
22	PERST#	DI	3.3V	Functional reset to the card, active low.
42	LED_WWAN#	OC		Active-low. LED signal for indicating the state of the module.
1	WAKE#	OC		Output signal can be used to wake up the host.

3.8.1. RI Signal

The RI signal can be used to wake up the host. When URC returns, there will be the following behavior on the RI pin after executing **AT+QCFG="risignaltype","physical"** command.
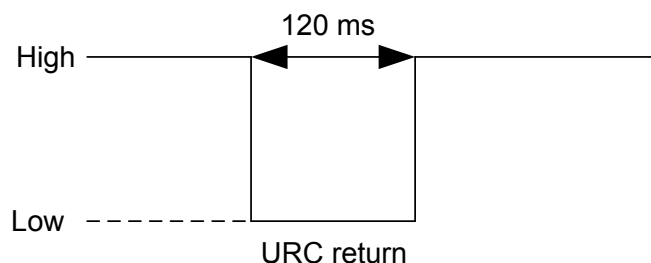
Figure 9: RI Behavior

3.8.2. DTR Signal

The DTR signal supports sleep control function. Driving it to low level will wake up the module.

3.8.3. W_DISABLE# Signal

EC21 Mini PCIe provides W_DISABLE# signal to disable wireless communications through hardware operation. The following table shows the radio operational states of the module. Please refer to *document [2]* for related AT commands.

Table 11: Radio Operational States

W_DISABLE#	AT Commands	Radio Operation
High Level	**AT+CFUN=1**	Enabled
High Level	**AT+CFUN=0** **AT+CFUN=4**	Disabled
Low Level	**AT+CFUN=0** **AT+CFUN=1** **AT+CFUN=4**	Disabled

3.8.4. PERST# Signal

The PERST# signal can be used to force a hardware reset on the card. You can reset the module by driving the PERST# to a low level voltage within the time frame of 150~460ms and then releasing it. The reset scenario is illustrated in the following figure.
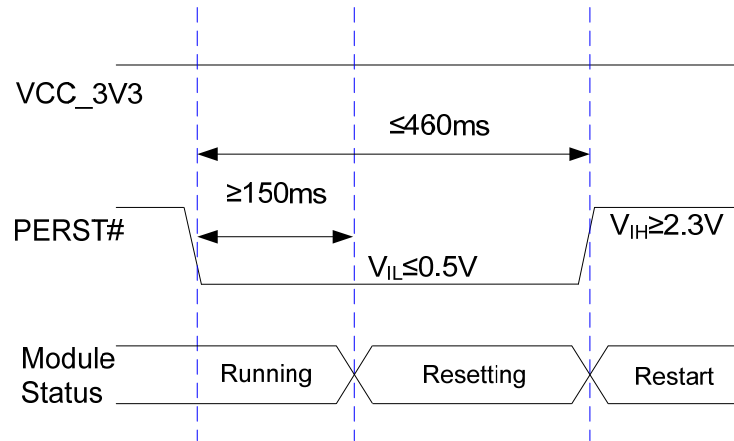
Figure 10: Timing of Resetting Module

3.8.5. LED_WWAN# Signal

The LED_WWAN# signal of EC21 Mini PCIe is used to indicate the network status of the module, which can absorb the current up to 40mA. According to the following circuit, in order to reduce the current of the LED, a resistor must be placed in series with the LED. The LED is emitting light when the LED_WWAN# output signal is active low.
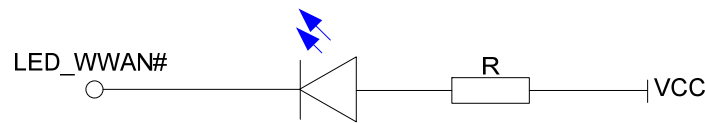
Figure 11: LED_WWAN# Signal Reference Circuit Diagram

The following table shows the network status indications of the LED_WWAN# signal.

Table 12: Indications of Network Status

LED_WWAN#	Description
Low Level (Light on)	Registered on network
High-impedance (Light off)	● No network coverage or not registered ● W_DISABLE# signal is at low level. (Disable the RF) ● **AT+CFUN=0**, **AT+CFUN=4**

3.8.6. WAKE# Signal

The WAKE# signal is an open collector signal which is similar to RI signal, but a host pull-up resistor and **AT+QCFG="risignaltype","physical"** command are required. When URC returns, there will be 120ms low level pulse output as below.
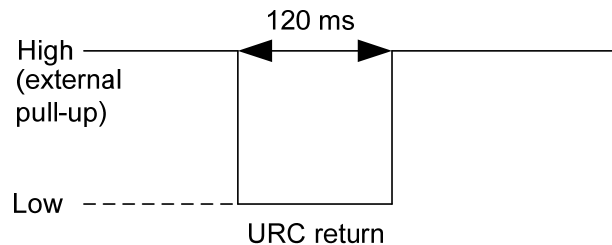
Figure 12: WAKE# Behavior

3.9. Antenna Interfaces

EC21 Mini PCIe antenna interfaces include a main antenna interface, a Rx-diversity antenna interface and a GNSS antenna interface. And Rx-diversity function is enabled by default.

The following table shows the requirement on main antenna, Rx-diversity antenna and GNSS antenna.

Table 13: Antenna Requirements

Type	Requirements
GNSS	Frequency range: 1561~1615MHz Polarization: RHCP or linear VSWR: <2 (Typ.) Passive antenna gain: >0dBi
GSM/WCDMA/LTE	VSWR: ≤2 Gain (dBi): 1 Max Input Power (W): 50 Input Impedance (ohm): 50 Polarization Type: Vertical Cable Insertion Loss: <1dB (GSM900, WCDMA B5/B8, LTE B5/B8/B12/B13/B20/B28) Cable Insertion Loss: <1.5dB (GSM1800, WCDMA B1/B2, LTE B1/B2/B3/B4) Cable insertion loss <2dB (LTE B7)

The following figure shows the overall sizes of RF connector.
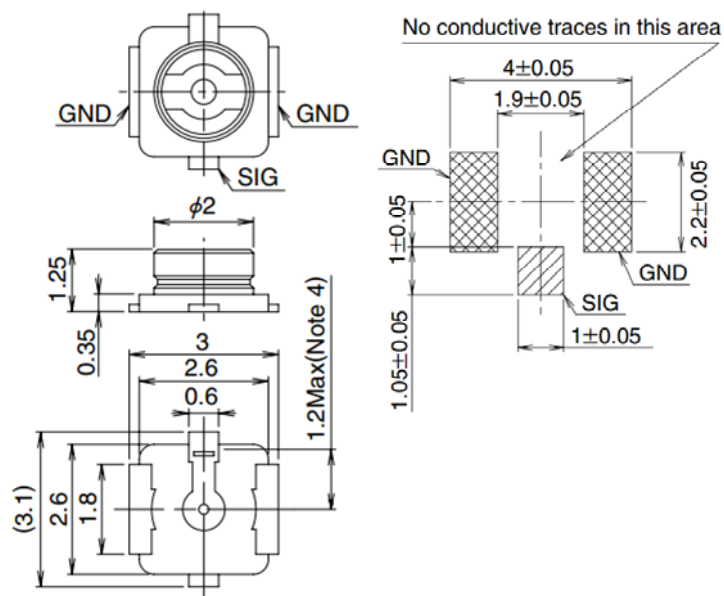
Figure 13: Dimensions of the RF Connector (Unit: mm)

U.FL-LP serial connectors listed in the following figure can be used to match the RF connector.

Part No.	U.FL-LP-040	U.FL-LP-066	U.FL-LP(V)-040	U.FL-LP-062	U.FL-LP-088
Mated Height	2.5mm Max. (2.4mm Nom.)	2.5mm Max. (2.4mm Nom.)	2.0mm Max. (1.9mm Nom.)	2.4mm Max. (2.3mm Nom.)	2.4mm Max. (2.3mm Nom.)
Applicable cable	Dia. 0.81mm Coaxial cable	Dia. 1.13mm and Dia. 1.32mm Coaxial cable	Dia. 0.81mm Coaxial cable	Dia. 1mm Coaxial cable	Dia. 1.37mm Coaxial cable
Weight (mg)	53.7	59.1	34.8	45.5	71.7
RoHS	YES				

Figure 14: Mechanicals of UF.L-LP Connectors

4 Electrical and Radio Characteristics

4.1. General Description

This chapter mainly describes the following electrical and radio characteristics of EC21 Mini PCIe:

● Power supply requirements
● I/O requirements
● Current consumption
● RF characteristics
● GNSS receiver
● ESD characteristics

4.2. Power Supply Requirements

The input voltage of EC21 Mini PCIe is 3.3V±9%, as specified by *PCI Express Mini CEM Specifications 1.2*. The following table shows the power supply requirements of EC21 Mini PCIe.

Table 14: Power Supply Requirements

Parameter	Description	Min.	Typ.	Max.	Unit
VCC_3V3	Power Supply	3.0	3.3	3.6	V

4.3. I/O Requirements

The following table shows the I/O requirements of EC21 Mini PCIe.

Table 15: I/O Requirements

Parameter	Description	Min.	Max.	Unit
V_{IH}	Input High Voltage	$0.7 \times$ VCC_3V3	VCC_3V3+0.3	V
V_{IL}	Input Low Voltage	-0.3	$0.3 \times$ VCC_3V3	V
V_{OH}	Output High Voltage	VCC_3V3-0.5	VCC_3V3	V
V_{OL}	Output Low Voltage	0	0.4	V

NOTES

1. The PCM and I2C interfaces belong to 1.8V power domain and other I/O interfaces belong to VCC_3V3 power domain.
2. The maximum voltage value of V_{IL} for PERST# signal and W_DISABLE# signal is 0.5V.

4.4. RF Characteristics

The following tables show conducted RF output power and receiving sensitivity of EC21 Mini PCIe module.

Table 16: EC21 Mini PCIe Conducted RF Output Power

Frequency	Max.	Min.
GSM850/GSM900	33dBm±2dB	5dBm±5dB
DCS1800/PCS1900	30dBm±2dB	0dBm±5dB
GSM850/GSM900 (8-PSK)	27dBm±3dB	5dBm±5dB
DCS1800/PCS1900 (8-PSK)	26dBm±3dB	0dBm±5dB
WCDMA bands	24dBm+1/-3dB	<-50dBm
LTE-FDD bands	23dBm±2dB	<-44dBm

LTE-TDD bands	23dBm±2dB	<-44dBm

Table 17: EC21-E Mini PCIe Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

Frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO	3GPP (SIMO)
GSM	-109.0dBm	/	/	-102.0dBm
DCS	-109.0dBm	/	/	-102.0dbm
WCDMA B1	-110.5dBm	/	/	-106.7dBm
WCDMA B5	-110.5dBm	/	/	-104.7dBm
WCDMA B8	-110.5dBm	/	/	-103.7dBm
LTE-FDD B1 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-98.0dBm	-101.5dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B3 (10M)	-96.5dBm	-98.5dBm	-101.5dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B5 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-98.5dBm	-101.0dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B7 (10M)	-97.0dBm	-94.5dBm	-99.5dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B8 (10M)	-97.0dBm	-97.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B20 (10M)	-97.5dBm	-99.0dBm	-102.5dBm	-93.3dBm

Table 18: EC21-A Mini PCIe Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO	3GPP (SIMO)
WCDMA B2	-110.0dBm	/	/	-104.7dBm
WCDMA B4	-110.0dBm	/	/	-106.7dBm
WCDMA B5	-110.5dBm	/	/	-104.7dBm
LTE-FDD B2 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-98.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B4 (10M)	-97.5dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B12 (10M)	-96.5dBm	-98.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-93.3dBm

Table 19: EC21-V Mini PCIe Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

Frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO	3GPP (SIMO)
LTE-FDD B4 (10M)	-97.5dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B13 (10M)	-95.0dBm	-97.0dBm	-100.0dBm	-93.3dBm

Table 20: EC21-AUT Mini PCIe Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

Frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO	3GPP (SIMO)
WCDMA B1	-110.0dBm	/	/	-106.7dBm
WCDMA B5	-110.5dBm	/	/	-104.7dBm
LTE-FDD B1 (10M)	-98.5dBm	-98.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B3 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-96.0dBm	-100.0dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B5 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-99.0dBm	-102.5dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B7 (10M)	-97.0dBm	-95.0dBm	-98.5dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B28 (10M)	-97.0dBm	-99.0dBm	-102.0dBm	-94.8dBm

Table 21: EC21-KL Mini PCIe Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

Frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO	3GPP (SIMO)
LTE-FDD B1 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-99.5dBm	-100.5dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B3 (10M)	-97.0dBm	-97.5dBm	-99.5dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B5 (10M)	-98.0dBm	-99.5dBm	-100.5dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B7 (10M)	-96.0dBm	-96.0dBm	-98.5dBm	-94.3dBm
LTE-FDD B8 (10M)	-97.0dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.0dBm	-93.3dBm

Table 22: EC21-J Mini PCIe Conducted RF Receiving Sensitivity

Frequency	Primary	Diversity	SIMO	3GPP (SIMO)
LTE-FDD B1 (10M)	-97.5dBm	-98.7dBm	-100.2dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B3 (10M)	-96.5dBm	-97.1dBm	-100.5dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B8 (10M)	-98.4dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.2dBm	-93.3dBm
LTE-FDD B18 (10M)	-99.5dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.7dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B19 (10M)	-99.2dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.4dBm	-96.3dBm
LTE-FDD B26 (10M)	-99.5dBm	-99.0dBm	-101.5dBm	-93.8dBm

4.5. GNSS Receiver

EC21 Mini PCIe integrates a GNSS receiver that supports Gen8C Lite of Qualcomm (GPS, GLONASS, BeiDou, Galileo and QZSS). Meanwhile, it supports Qualcomm gpsOneXTRA technology (one kind of A-GNSS). This technology will download XTRA file from the internet server to enhance the TTFF. XTRA file contains predicted GPS and GLONASS satellites coordinates and clock biases valid for up to 7 days. It is best if XTRA file is downloaded every 1-2 days. Additionally, EC21 Mini PCIe can support standard NMEA-0183 protocol and output NMEA messages with 1Hz via USB NMEA interface.

EC21 Mini PCIe GNSS engine is switched off by default. You must switch on it by AT command. Please refer to **document [3]** for more details about GNSS engine technology and configurations. A passive antenna should be used for the GNSS engine.

4.6. ESD Characteristics

The following table shows the ESD characteristics of EC21 Mini PCIe.

Table 23: ESD Characteristics of EC21 Mini PCIe

Part	Contact Discharge	Air Discharge	Unit
Power Supply and GND	+/-5	+/-10	kV
Antenna Interface	+/-4	+/-8	kV

USB Interface	+/-4	+/-8	kV
USIM Interface	+/-4	+/-8	kV
Others	+/-0.5	+/-1	kV

4.7. Current Consumption

The following tables describe the current consumption of EC21 Mini PCIe series module.

Table 24: Current Consumption of EC21-A Mini PCIe

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Typ.	Unit
I_{VBAT}	Sleep state	**AT+CFUN=0** (USB disconnected)	3.5	mA
		WCDMA PF=64 (USB disconnected)	5.0	mA
		WCDMA PF=128 (USB disconnected)	4.4	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	5.3	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=128 (USB disconnected)	4.5	mA
	Idle state	WCDMA PF=64 (USB disconnected)	32.0	mA
		WCDMA PF=64 (USB connected)	45.0	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	32.0	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB connected)	45.0	mA
	WCDMA data transfer (GNSS OFF)	WCDMA B2 HSDPA @21.59dBm	582.0	mA
		WCDMA B2 HSUPA @22.17dBm	675.0	mA
		WCDMA B4 HSDPA @21.47dBm	575.0	mA
		WCDMA B4 HSUPA @21.73dBm	637.0	mA
		WCDMA B5 HSDPA @20.02dBm	686.0	mA
		WCDMA B5 HSUPA @20.18dBm	577.0	mA
	LTE data transfer (GNSS OFF)	LTE-FDD B2 @22.93dBm	926.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B4 @22.72dBm	934.0	mA

		LTE-FDD B12 @23.26dBm	835.0	mA
	WCDMA voice call	WCDMA B2 @22.88dBm	610.0	mA
		WCDMA B4 @23.21dBm	743.0	mA
		WCDMA B5 @23.13dBm	643.0	mA

Table 25: Current Consumption of EC21-V Mini PCIe

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Typ.	Unit
I_{VBAT}	Sleep state	**AT+CFUN=0** (USB disconnected)	3.8	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	5.3	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=128 (USB disconnected)	4.9	mA
	Idle state	LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	30.0	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB connected)	42.0	mA
	LTE data transfer (GNSS OFF)	LTE-FDD B4 @23.59dBm	997.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B13 @24.05dBm	724.0	mA

Table 26: Current Consumption of EC21-KL Mini PCIe

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Typ.	Unit
I_{VBAT}	Sleep state	**AT+CFUN=0** (USB disconnected)	3.5	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	5.6	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=128 (USB disconnected)	4.7	mA
	Idle state	LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB disconnected)	35.0	mA
		LTE-FDD PF=64 (USB connected)	49.0	mA
	LTE data transfer (GNSS OFF)	LTE-FDD B1 @22.78dBm	972.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B3 @23.03dBm	974.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B5 @23.03dBm	764.0	mA
		LTE-FDD B7 @22.89dBm	959.0	mA

		LTE-FDD B8 @22.86dBm	839.0	mA

Table 27: GNSS Current Consumption of EC21 Mini PCIe Series Module

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Typ.	Unit
I_{VBAT} (GNSS)	Searching (**AT+CFUN=0**)	Cold start @Passive Antenna	75.0	mA
		Lost state @Passive Antenna	74.0	mA
	Tracking (**AT+CFUN=0**)	Instrument environment	44.0	mA
		Open Sky @Passive Antenna	53.0	mA
		Open Sky @Active Antenna	58.0	mA

5 Dimensions and Packaging

5.1. General Description

This chapter mainly describes mechanical dimensions as well as packaging specification of EC21 Mini PCIe module.
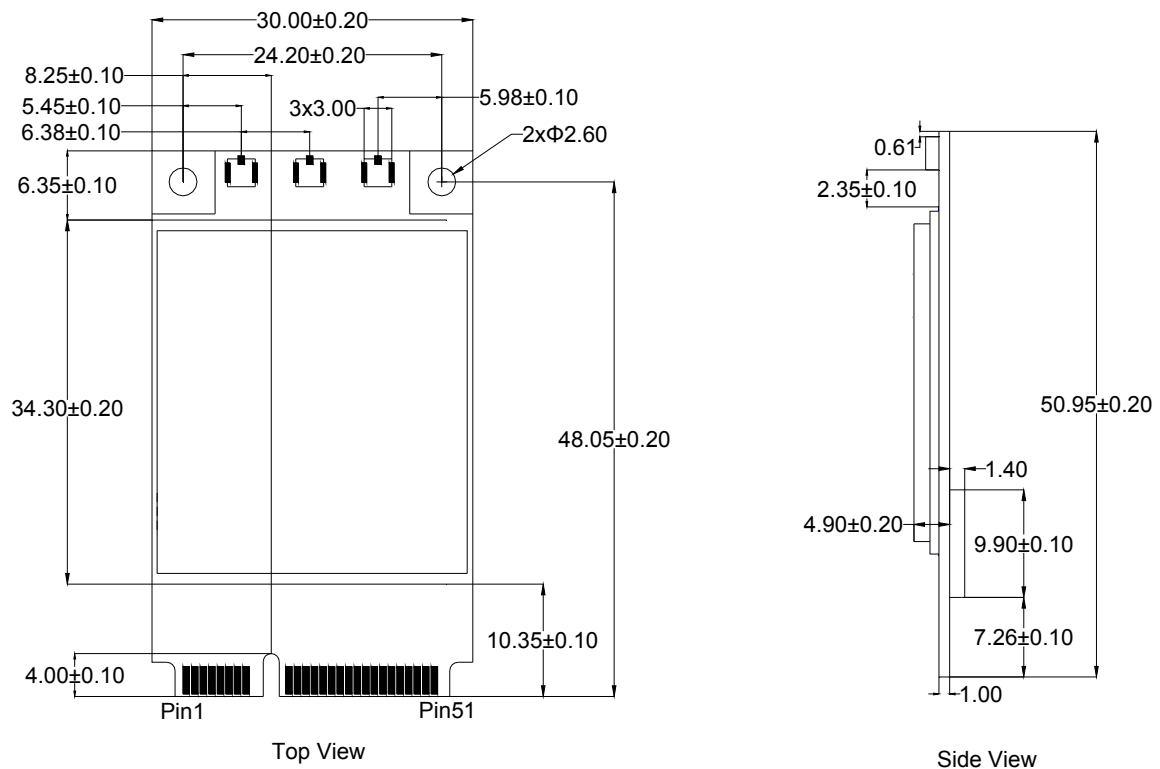
5.2. Mechanical Dimensions of EC21 Mini PCIe

Figure 15: Mechanical Dimensions of EC21 Mini PCIe (Unit: mm)

5.3. Standard Dimensions of Mini PCI Express

The following figure shows the standard dimensions of Mini PCI Express. Please refer to *document [1]* for detailed A and B.

Figure 16: Standard Dimensions of Mini PCI Express (Unit: mm)

EC21 Mini PCIe adopts a standard Mini PCI Express connector which compiles with the directives and standards listed in the *document [1]*. The following figure takes the Molex 679100002 as an example.
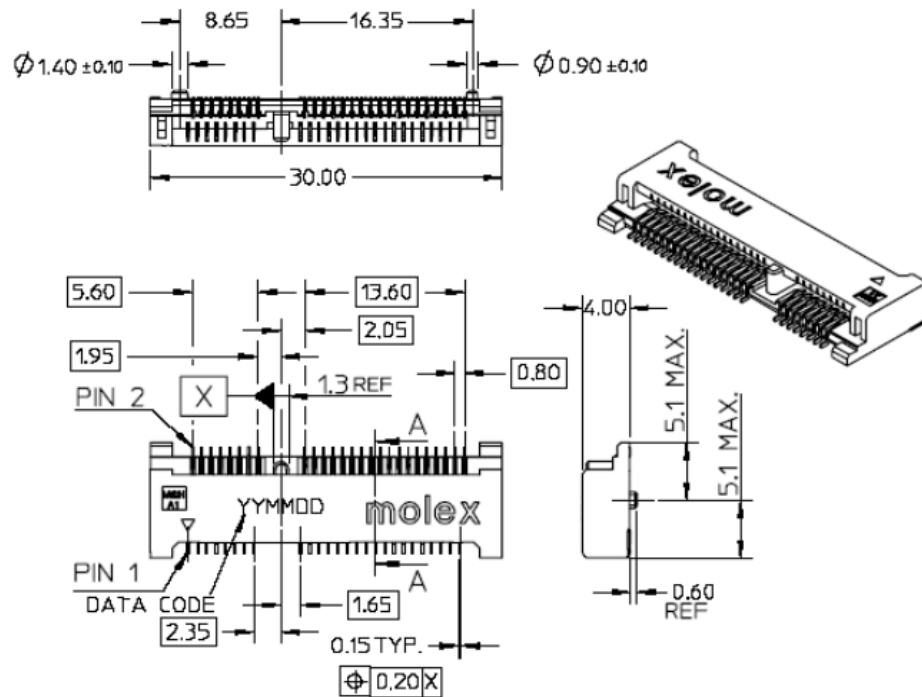
Figure 17: Dimensions of the Mini PCI Express Connector (the Molex 679100002, Unit: mm)

5.4. Packaging Specification

The EC21 Mini PCIe is packaged in tray. Each tray contains 10pcs of modules. The smallest package of EC21 Mini PCIe contains 100pcs.

6 Appendix References

Table 28: Related Documents

SN	Document Name	Remark
[1]	PCI Express Mini Card Electromechanical Specification Revision 1.2	Mini PCI Express Specification
[2]	Quectel_EC25&EC21_AT_Commands_Manual	EC25 and EC21 AT Commands Manual
[3]	Quectel_EC25&EC21_GNSS_AT_Commands_Manual	EC25 and EC21 GNSS AT Commands Manual

Table 29: Terms and Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
AMR	Adaptive Multi-rate
bps	Bits Per Second
CS	Coding Scheme
DC-HSPA+	Dual-carrier High Speed Packet Access
DFOTA	Delta Firmware Upgrade Over The Air
DL	Down Link
EFR	Enhanced Full Rate
ESD	Electrostatic Discharge
FDD	Frequency Division Duplexing
FR	Full Rate
GLONASS	GLObalnaya Navigatsionnaya Sputnikovaya Sistema, the Russian Global Navigation Satellite System
GMSK	Gaussian Minimum Shift Keying
GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite System

GPS	Global Positioning System
GSM	Global System for Mobile Communications
HR	Half Rate
HSPA	High Speed Packet Access
HSUPA	High Speed Uplink Packet Access
kbps	Kilo Bits Per Second
LED	Light Emitting Diode
LTE	Long-Term Evolution
Mbps	Million Bits Per Second
ME	Mobile Equipment (Module)
MIMO	Multiple-Input Multiple-Output
MMS	Multimedia Messaging Service
MO	Mobile Originated
MT	Mobile Terminated
PCM	Pulse Code Modulation
PDU	Protocol Data Unit
PPP	Point-to-Point Protocol
RF	Radio Frequency
Rx	Receive
USIM	Universal Subscriber Identification Module
SMS	Short Message Service
UART	Universal Asynchronous Receiver & Transmitter
UL	Up Link
URC	Unsolicited Result Code
WCDMA	Wideband Code Division Multiple Access