

EG91xQ Series

Reference Design

LTE Standard Module Series

Version: 1.2

Date: 2024-08-07

Status: Released



At Quectel, our aim is to provide timely and comprehensive services to our customers. If you require any assistance, please contact our headquarters:

Quectel Wireless Solutions Co., Ltd.

Building 5, Shanghai Business Park Phase III (Area B), No.1016 Tianlin Road, Minhang District, Shanghai 200233, China

Tel: +86 21 5108 6236

Email: info@quectel.com

Or our local offices. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.quectel.com/support/sales.htm>.

For technical support, or to report documentation errors, please visit:

<http://www.quectel.com/support/technical.htm>.

Or email us at: support@quectel.com.

Legal Notices

We offer information as a service to you. The provided information is based on your requirements and we make every effort to ensure its quality. You agree that you are responsible for using independent analysis and evaluation in designing intended products, and we provide reference designs for illustrative purposes only. Before using any hardware, software or service guided by this document, please read this notice carefully. Even though we employ commercially reasonable efforts to provide the best possible experience, you hereby acknowledge and agree that this document and related services hereunder are provided to you on an “as available” basis. We may revise or restate this document from time to time at our sole discretion without any prior notice to you.

Use and Disclosure Restrictions

License Agreements

Documents and information provided by us shall be kept confidential, unless specific permission is granted. They shall not be accessed or used for any purpose except as expressly provided herein.

Copyright

Our and third-party products hereunder may contain copyrighted material. Such copyrighted material shall not be copied, reproduced, distributed, merged, published, translated, or modified without prior written consent. We and the third party have exclusive rights over copyrighted material. No license shall be granted or conveyed under any patents, copyrights, trademarks, or service mark rights. To avoid ambiguities, purchasing in any form cannot be deemed as granting a license other than the normal non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use the material. We reserve the right to take legal action for noncompliance with abovementioned requirements, unauthorized use, or other illegal or malicious use of the material.

Trademarks

Except as otherwise set forth herein, nothing in this document shall be construed as conferring any rights to use any trademark, trade name or name, abbreviation, or counterfeit product thereof owned by Quectel or any third party in advertising, publicity, or other aspects.

Third-Party Rights

This document may refer to hardware, software and/or documentation owned by one or more third parties ("third-party materials"). Use of such third-party materials shall be governed by all restrictions and obligations applicable thereto.

We make no warranty or representation, either express or implied, regarding the third-party materials, including but not limited to any implied or statutory, warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, quiet enjoyment, system integration, information accuracy, and non-infringement of any third-party intellectual property rights with regard to the licensed technology or use thereof. Nothing herein constitutes a representation or warranty by us to either develop, enhance, modify, distribute, market, sell, offer for sale, or otherwise maintain production of any our products or any other hardware, software, device, tool, information, or product. We moreover disclaim any and all warranties arising from the course of dealing or usage of trade.

Privacy Policy

To implement module functionality, certain device data are uploaded to Quectel's or third-party's servers, including carriers, chipset suppliers or customer-designated servers. Quectel, strictly abiding by the relevant laws and regulations, shall retain, use, disclose or otherwise process relevant data for the purpose of performing the service only or as permitted by applicable laws. Before data interaction with third parties, please be informed of their privacy and data security policy.

Disclaimer

- a) We acknowledge no liability for any injury or damage arising from the reliance upon the information.
- b) We shall bear no liability resulting from any inaccuracies or omissions, or from the use of the information contained herein.
- c) While we have made every effort to ensure that the functions and features under development are free from errors, it is possible that they could contain errors, inaccuracies, and omissions. Unless otherwise provided by valid agreement, we make no warranties of any kind, either implied or express, and exclude all liability for any loss or damage suffered in connection with the use of features and functions under development, to the maximum extent permitted by law, regardless of whether such loss or damage may have been foreseeable.
- d) We are not responsible for the accessibility, safety, accuracy, availability, legality, or completeness of information, advertising, commercial offers, products, services, and materials on third-party websites and third-party resources.

Copyright © Quectel Wireless Solutions Co., Ltd. 2024. All rights reserved.

About the Document

Revision History

Version	Date	Author	Description
-	2023-02-10	Lex LI	Creation of the document
1.0	2023-03-14	Lex LI	First official release
1.1	2023-09-22	Lex LI	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Added the applicable module EG916Q-GL. Updated the following pins: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> pin 25: from SPI_CS to RESERVED; pin 26: from SPI_CLK to RESERVED; pin 27: from SPI_MOSI to GNSS_TXD; pin 28: from SPI_MISO to GNSS_RXD; pin 49: from RESERVED to ANT_GNSS; pin 51: from RESERVED to GNSS_PPS; pin 84: from RESERVED to USIM2_CLK; pin 85: from RESERVED to USIM2_RST; pin 86: from RESERVED to USIM2_DATA; pin 87: from RESERVED to USIM2_VDD; pin 109: from RESERVED to GNSS_DBG_TXD; pin 110: from RESERVED to GNSS_DBG_RXD; pin 112: from RESERVED to GNSS_RST; pin 117: from RESERVED to GNSS_PWR_EN; pin 118: from RESERVED to GNSS_VBCKP. Added GNSS related reference design. Added notes 6 to 11 (Sheet 3). Added the reference design of USIM2 interface (Sheet 7).
1.2	2024-08-07	Fanny CHEN/ Lem JIN	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Added the applicable modules EG915Q-AF and EG915Q-JP. Updated the current that is provided to the module from 2.0 A to 1.5 A (Sheets 1 & 5). Added Wi-Fi Scan function (Sheets 1 and 8).

-
4. Updated test points (Sheets 1 & 9).
 5. Added two notes about GNSS design guidelines;
Added the reference design of ADC interfaces (Sheet 3).
 6. Updated the reference design of antenna interfaces (Sheet 8).
-

Contents

About the Document.....3

Contents.....5

1 Reference Design.....6

1.1. Introduction6

1.2. Schematics6

1 Reference Design

1.1. Introduction

This document provides the reference design for Quectel EG91xQ series. The reference design mainly includes the block diagram, power system block diagram, module interfaces, MCU interfaces, power supply design, UARTs and USIM interface design, antenna interface design and other designs.

This document is applicable to the following modules:

- EG915Q Series (EG915Q-NA, EG915Q-AF and EG915Q-JP)
- EG916Q-GL

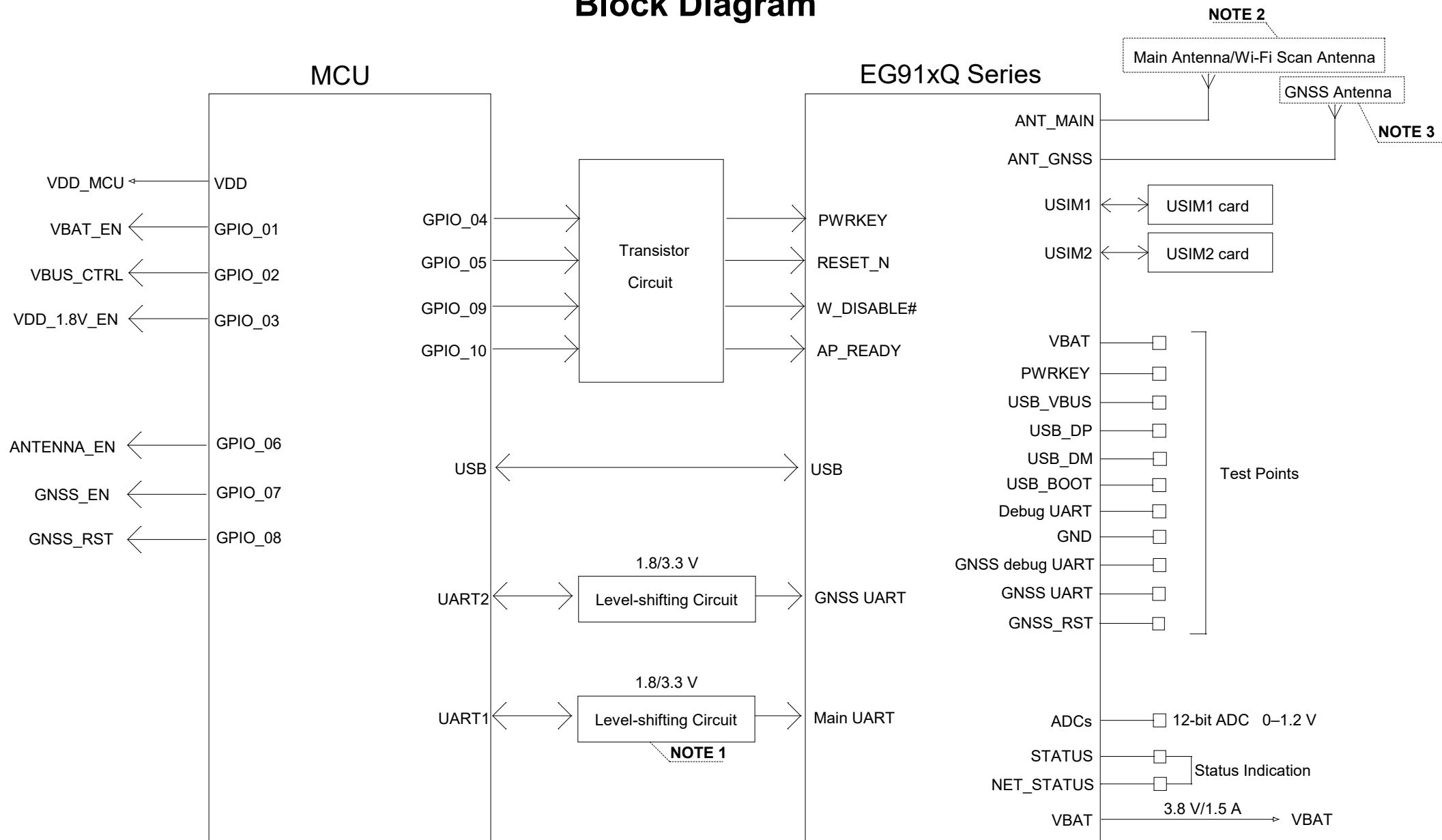
1.2. Schematics

The schematics illustrated in the following pages are provided for reference only.

NOTE

It is required to confirm the applicability and price from the supplier about the IC involved in the reference design.

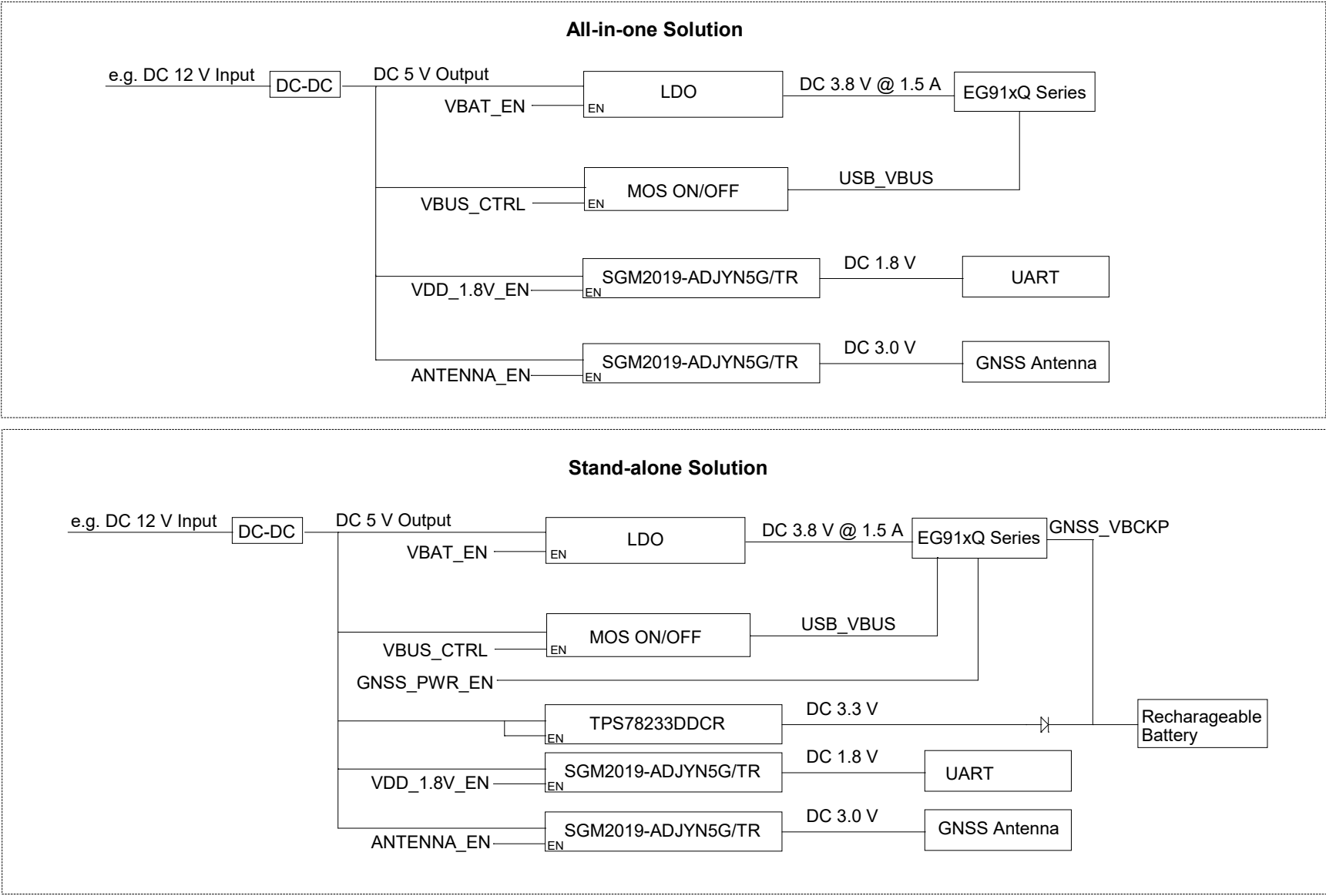
Block Diagram



NOTE:

1. A transistor solution or an IC solution TXS0108EPWR provided by Texas Instruments is recommended.
2. Wi-Fi scan function is optional. This function and LTE network cannot be used simultaneously since they share the same antenna interface.
3. GNSS interface is optional. If you need this function, please contact Quectel Technical Support.

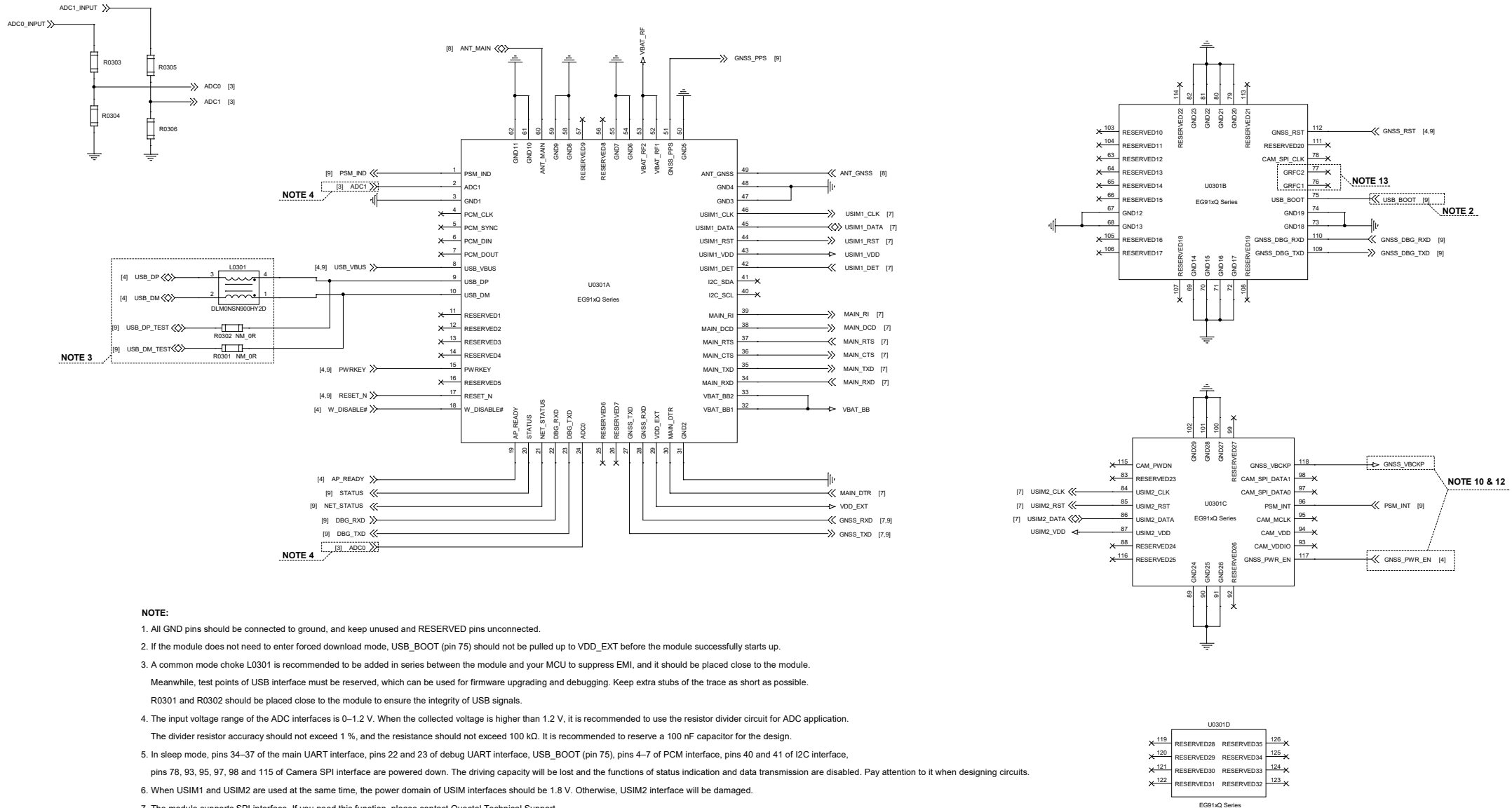
Power System Block Diagram



NOTE:

EG91xQ series integrates both LTE and GNSS engines which can work as a whole (All-in-one solution) unit or work independently (Stand-alone solution) according to your demands.

Module Interfaces



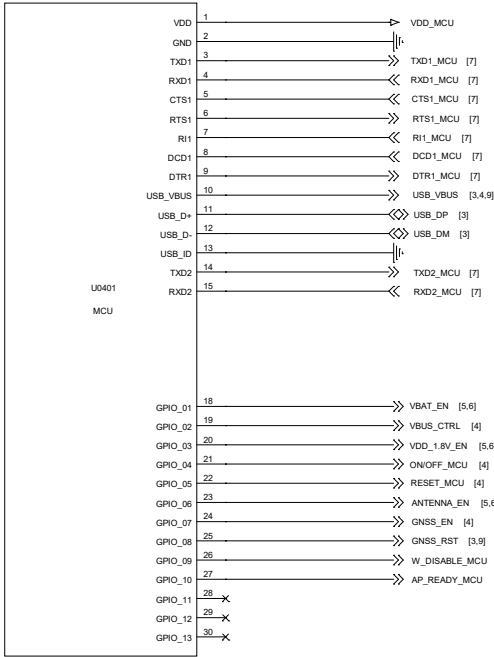
NOTE:

- All GND pins should be connected to ground, and keep unused and RESERVED pins unconnected.
- If the module does not need to enter forced download mode, USB_BOOT (pin 75) should not be pulled up to VDD_EXT before the module successfully starts up.
- A common mode choke L0301 is recommended to be added in series between the module and your MCU to suppress EMI, and it should be placed close to the module.
Meanwhile, test points of USB interface must be reserved, which can be used for firmware upgrading and debugging. Keep extra stubs of the trace as short as possible.
R0301 and R0302 should be placed close to the module to ensure the integrity of USB signals.
- The input voltage range of the ADC interfaces is 0-1.2 V. When the collected voltage is higher than 1.2 V, it is recommended to use the resistor divider circuit for ADC application.
The divider resistor accuracy should not exceed 1 %, and the resistance should not exceed 100 kΩ. It is recommended to reserve a 100 nF capacitor for the design.
- In sleep mode, pins 34-37 of the main UART interface, pins 22 and 23 of debug UART interface, USB_BOOT (pin 75), pins 4-7 of PCM interface, pins 40 and 41 of I2C interface, pins 78, 93, 95, 97, 98 and 115 of Camera SPI interface are powered down. The driving capacity will be lost and the functions of status indication and data transmission are disabled. Pay attention to it when designing circuits.
- When USIM1 and USIM2 are used at the same time, the power domain of USIM interfaces should be 1.8 V. Otherwise, USIM2 interface will be damaged.
- The module supports SPI interface. If you need this function, please contact Quectel Technical Support.
- GNSS interface (pins 27, 28, 49, 51, 109, 110, 112, 117, 118) is optional. If you need this function, please contact Quectel Technical Support.
- USIM2 and Camera SPI interfaces cannot be used at the same time.
- In All-in-one solution, GNSS_PWR_EN, GNSS_VBCKP can be unconnected.
- Whether in Stand-alone or All-in-one solution, to facilitate updating GNSS firmware, it is highly recommended to reserve test points for GNSS UART (pins 27 and 28) and GNSS_RST (pin 112).
- In the Stand-alone or All-in-one solution, if the GNSS chip is powered externally, the GNSS firmware cannot be upgraded through the LTE network because LTE cannot reset the GNSS chip. If you want to upgrade the GNSS firmware through the LTE network, you need to disconnect GNSS_PWR_EN (pin 117) and GNSS_VBCKP (pin 118) from the outside or set both pins to low.
- If you need GRFC function, please contact Quectel Technical Support for the related reference design.

Quectel Wireless Solutions

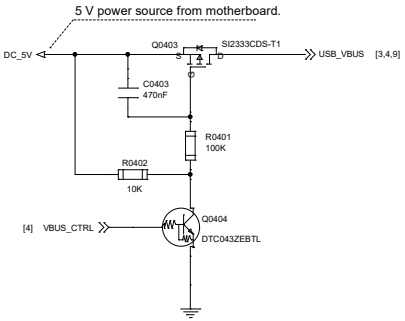
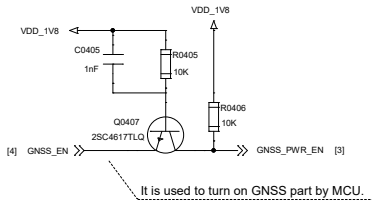
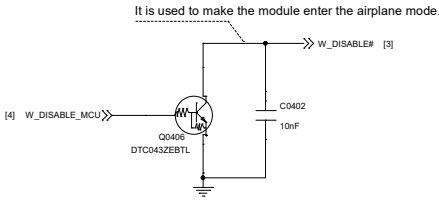
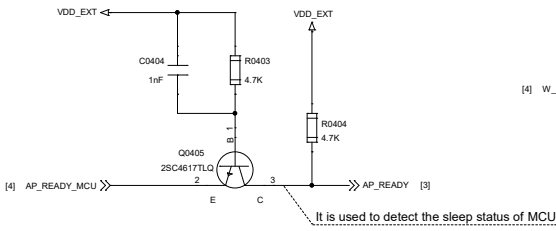
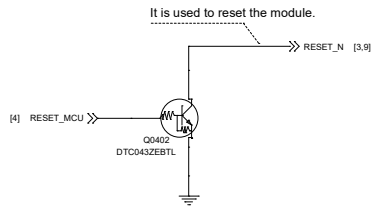
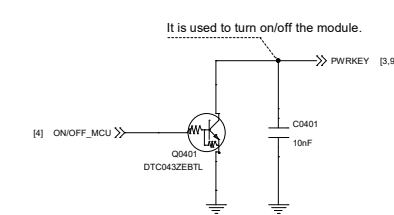
PROJECT			VER	
EG91xQ Series			1.2	
DRAWN BY		CHECKED BY		SIZE
Fanny CHEN/Lem.JIN		Woody WU		A2
DATE		Tuesidw, August 20, 2024		SHEET 3 OF 9

MCU Interface Design



NOTE:

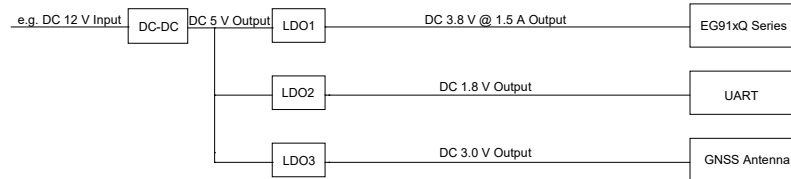
1. U0401 represents your MCU. The power domain of GPIO interfaces of the module is 1.8 V.
If the power domain of GPIO interfaces of U0401 is also 1.8 V, then the related level-shifting circuit is not needed.
2. The USB interface of the module only serves as a slave device and supports high-speed and full-speed modes of USB 2.0.
To communicate with the USB interface, MCU needs to support USB host mode or OTG function.
The USB_VBUS pin of the module should be powered by an external power system for USB detection, and VBUS_CTRL is used to turn on/off the USB_VBUS power supply.
3. It is recommended to select the GPIO pins of MCU, which are at low level by default, as the control pins for PWRKEY and RESET_N of the module.
Ensure that the load capacitance does not exceed 10 nF on PWRKEY and RESET_N pins.
4. When the sleep function of the module is enabled, pulling down MAIN_DTR can wake up the module from the sleep mode.
For details of the AT commands for configuration, see the hardware design document of the module.
You can choose the level-shifting circuit on Sheet "UARTs and USIM Interface Design".



Power Supply Design (All-in-one Solution)

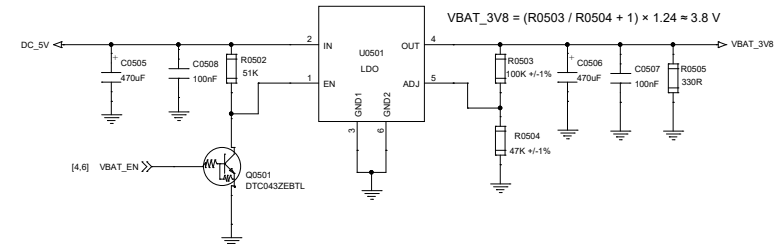
DC-DC Application

When the input voltage is above 7.0 V, use a DC-DC converter to convert the high input voltage to 5.0 V, and then use LDOs to convert it to 3.8 V, 1.8 V and 3.0 V to power the module, UART interfaces and GNSS Antenna.

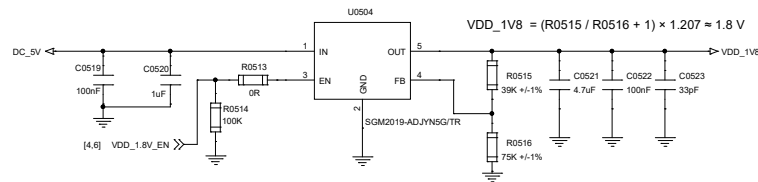


LDO Application

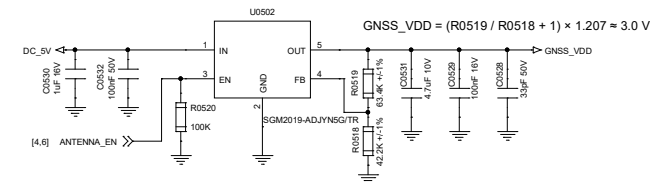
When the input voltage is below 7.0 V, use an LDO to convert the input voltage to 3.8 V.



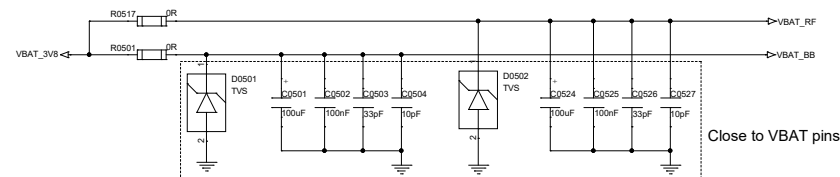
Power Supply for UART Interface



Power Supply for GNSS Antenna



VBAT Design



NOTE:

1. It is recommended to provide 1.5 A current to the module.
2. The width of VBAT_BB and VBAT_RF traces should not be less than 1 mm and 2 mm respectively.
3. The typical operating voltage of VBAT is 3.8 V.

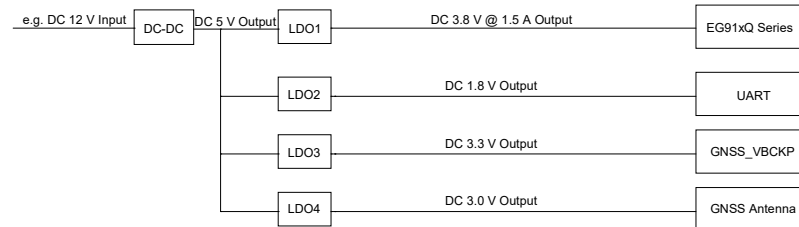
Quectel Wireless Solutions

PROJECT	EG91xQ Series	VER	1.2
DRAWN BY	Fanny CHEN/Lem.JIN	CHECKED BY	Woody WU
DATE	Wednesday, August 07, 2024	SHEET	5 OF 9

Power Supply Design (Stand-alone Solution)

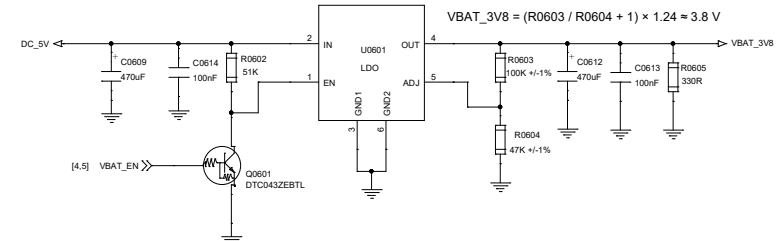
DC-DC Application

When the input voltage is above 7.0 V, use a DC-DC converter to convert the high input voltage to 5.0 V, and then use LDOs to convert it to 3.8 V, 1.8 V, 3.3 V and 3.0 V to power the module, UART interfaces, GNSS_VBCKP and GNSS Antenna.

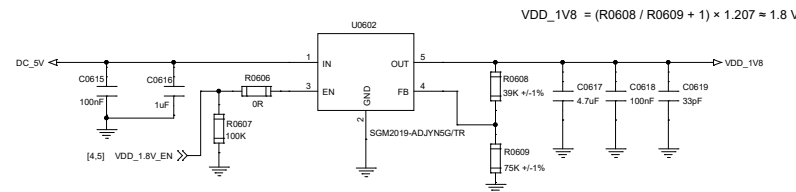


LDO Application

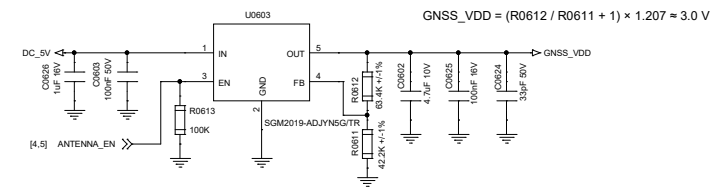
When the input voltage is below 7.0 V, use an LDO to convert the input voltage to 3.8 V.



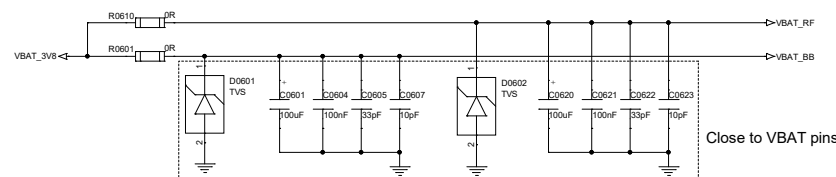
Power Supply for UART Interface



Power Supply for GNSS Antenna



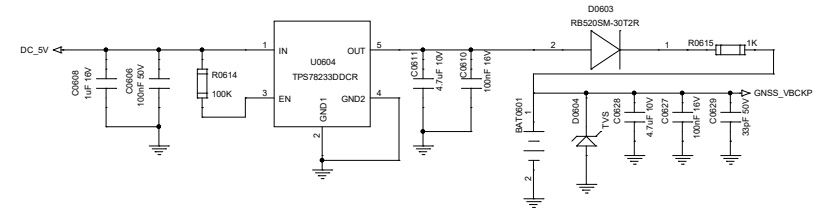
VBAT Design



NOTE:

- It is recommended to provide 1.5 A current to the module.
- The width of VBAT_BB and VBAT_RF traces should be not less than 1 mm and 2 mm respectively.
- The typical operating voltage of VBAT is 3.8 V.

Power Supply for GNSS_VBCKP



NOTE:

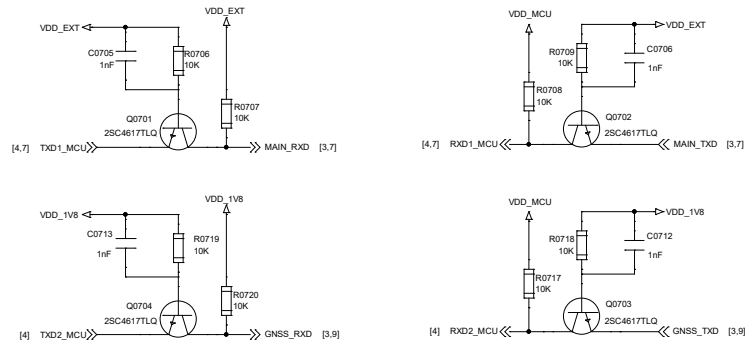
- The rechargeable battery (BAT0601) is optional.
- Since GNSS_VBCKP requires continuous power supply, it is recommended to use an LDO with small quiescent current. For example, TPS78233DDCR.
- GNSS_VBCKP must be powered before or simultaneously with the GNSS_PWR_EN.

Quectel Wireless Solutions

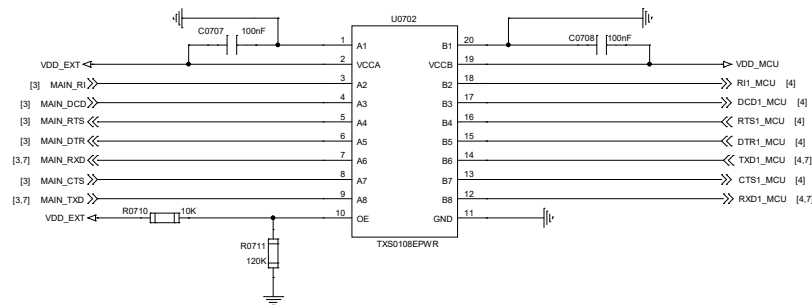
PROJECT	EG91xQ Series	VER	1.2
DRAWN BY	Fanny CHEN/Lem.JIN	CHECKED BY	Woody WU
DATE	Wednesday, August 07, 2024	SHEET	6 OF 9

UARTs and USIM Interface Design

UART Level-shifting Circuit - Transistor Solution



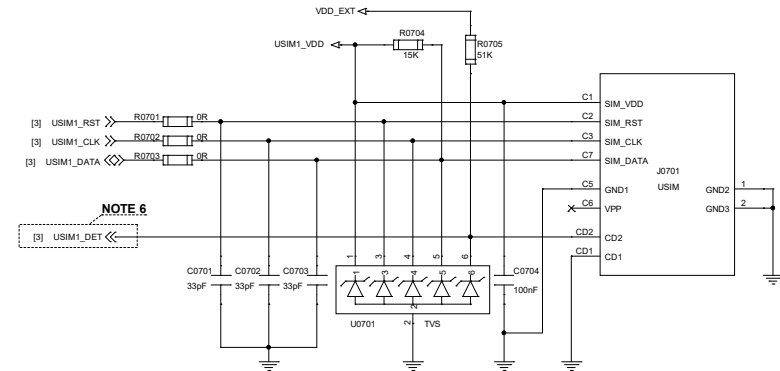
UART Level-shifting Circuit - IC Solution



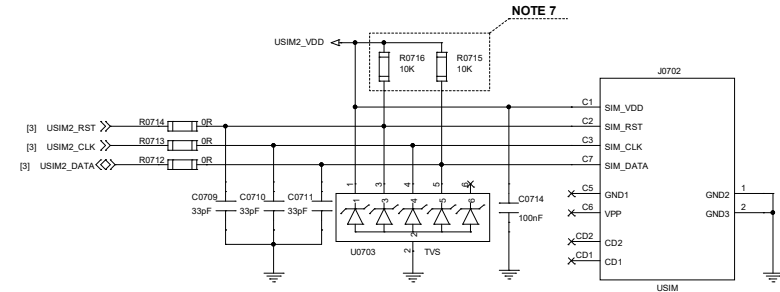
NOTE:

- There are two level-shifting solutions: transistor solution and IC solution, and it is recommended to select the latter one.
- The power supply of TXS0108EPWR's VCCA should not exceed that of VCCB. For more information, see the datasheet of TXS0108EPWR.
- The transistor solution is not suitable for applications with baud rates exceeding 460 kbps.
The 1 nF capacitors can improve the signal quality.
- The level-shifting circuit of MAIN_RTS is similar to that of MAIN_RXD.
The level-shifting circuits of MAIN_CTS, MAIN_RI and MAIN_DCD are similar to that of MAIN_TXD.
- To increase the stability of UART communication, it is recommended to add UART hardware flow control design.

USIM Interface Design



NOTE 6



NOTE 7

NOTE:

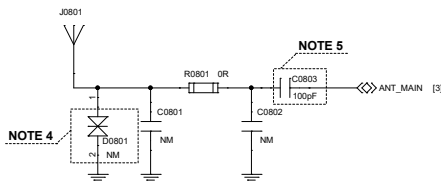
- When USIM1 and USIM2 are used at the same time, the power domain of USIM interfaces should be 1.8 V. Otherwise, USIM2 interface will be damaged.
- U0701 and U0703 are recommended to be used to offer good ESD protection, and the parasitic capacitance should be less than 15 pF.
- The pull-up resistor R0704, R0715 and R0716 can improve anti-jamming capability, and should be placed close to the USIM card connector.
- The capacitance of C0704 and C0714 should be less than 1 μ F and it should be placed close to the USIM card connector.
- R0701–R0703, R0712–R0714 are used for debugging, and C0701–C0703, C0709–C0711 are used for filtering out RF interference.
- Only USIM1 supports hot-plug detection.
- When only USIM1 interface is used, please make sure that these two 10K resistors are not mounted. Otherwise, USIM2 interface may be damaged.
- USIM2 and Camera SPI interfaces cannot be used at the same time.

Quectel Wireless Solutions

PROJECT	EG91x2 Series	VER	1.2
DRAWN BY	Fanny CHEN/Lem.JIN	CHECKED BY	Woody WU
DATE	Wednesday, August 07, 2024	SIZE	A2
SHEET	7	OF	9

Antenna Interface Design

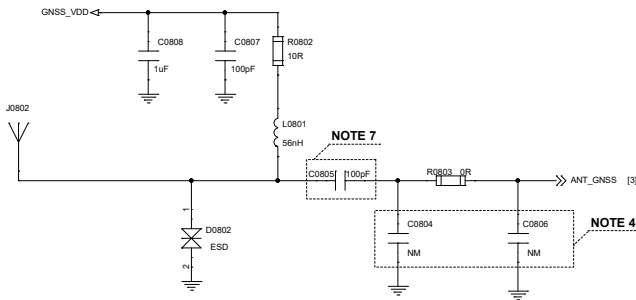
LTE/Wi-Fi Scan Antenna Interface



NOTE:

1. The single-ended impedance of the RF antenna is 50 Ω .
2. It is highly recommended to reserve a dual L-type matching circuit for main antenna for future debugging.
3. The impedance of RF signal traces must be controlled as 50 Ω when routing.
4. It is recommended to reserve an ESD protection component for the cellular antenna interface and the junction capacitance should not exceed 0.05 pF.
5. If there is DC power at the antenna ports, C0803 must be used for DC-blocking to prevent short circuit to ground. The capacitance value is recommended to be 100 pF, which can be adjusted according to actual requirements. If there is no DC power in the peripheral design, C0803 should not be reserved.

GNSS Antenna Interface



NOTE:

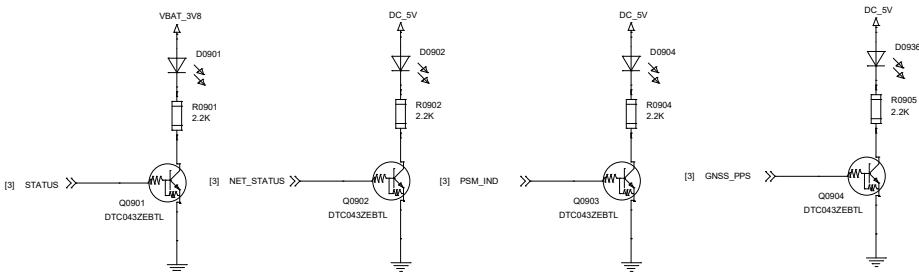
1. An external LDO can be selected according to the active antenna requirement.
2. If passive antenna is used, then C0808, C0807, R0802 and L0801 are not mounted.
3. The impedance of RF signal traces must be controlled as 50 Ω when routing.
4. C0804 and C0806 are reserved for impedance matching and attenuation circuits.
5. The module's GNSS function is optional.
6. It is recommended to reserve an ESD protection component for the antenna interface and the junction capacitance should not exceed 0.05 pF.
7. For passive antenna, if there is DC power at the antenna ports, C0805 must be used for DC-blocking to prevent short circuit to ground. The capacitance value is recommended to be 100 pF, which can be adjusted according to actual requirements. If there is no DC power in the peripheral design, C0805 should not be reserved.

Quectel Wireless Solutions

PROJECT EG91x2 Series		VER 1.2	
DRAWN BY Fanny CHEN/Lem.JIN		CHECKED BY Woody WU	
DATE Wednesday, August 07, 2024		SIZE A2	
SHEET		8 OF 9	

Other Designs

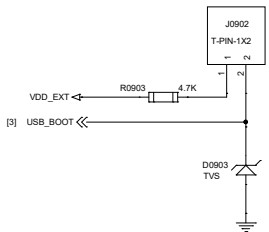
Indicators



NOTE:

If your device has low power consumption requirements in sleep mode, replace the power supplies (VBAT_3V8 and DC_5V) of STATUS, NET_STATUS, PSM_IND and GNSS_PPS with external controllable ones. Turn off the power when the module is in sleep mode to reduce the power consumption.

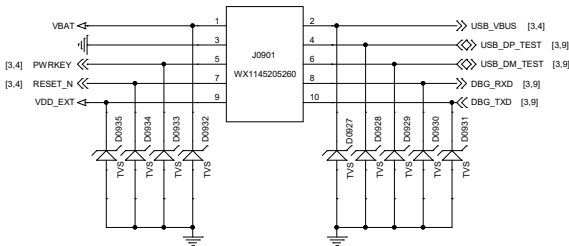
Download Interface



NOTE:

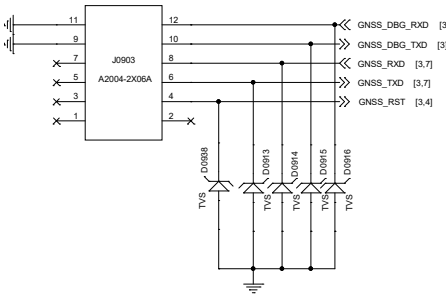
1. A test point for USB_BOOT must be reserved.
2. Pulling up USB_BOOT to VDD_EXT before turning on the module, and then the module will enter forced download mode, in which the module supports firmware upgrade over USB 2.0 interface.

Reserved Test Points



NOTE:

1. Test points of USB_VBUS, USB_DP/DM, debug UART, GNSS debug UART and USB_BOOT must be reserved.
Test points of VBAT_BB, VBAT_RF, VDD_EXT, PWRKEY, GNSS UART and GNSS_RST are recommended to be reserved.
A test point of RESET_N is recommended to be reserved if unused.
2. Test points of debug UART interfaces are reserved for the output of partial logs.
3. Test points of USB interface are used for firmware upgrading, debugging and output of partial logs.
4. The stray capacitance of the ESD protection components on USB data traces should be less than 2 pF for USB 2.0.
5. The debug UART interface supports 1.8 V power domain, and a level-shifting circuit should be used if the power domain of your application is 3.3 V.
6. Whether in Stand-alone or All-in-one solution, to facilitate GNSS firmware upgrade, it is recommended to reserve test points for GNSS UART (pins 27 and 28) and GNSS_RST (pin 112).



Quectel Wireless Solutions

PROJECT	EG91x2 Series	VER	1.2
DRAWN BY	Fanny CHEN/Lem.JIN	CHECKED BY	Woody WU
DATE	Wednesday, August 07, 2024	SHEET	9 OF 9