INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

Product specification Supersedes data of 1996 Oct 08 IC17 Data Handbook

1997 May 22

PHILIPS

Philips Semiconductors

DESCRIPTION

The SA1620 is a combined receive (Rx) and transmit (Tx) front-end for GSM cellular telephones. The receive path contains two low noise amplifiers (LNA1 and LNA2) with four switchable attenuation steps. A Gilbert Cell mixer in the receive path down-converts the RF signal to a first IF of 70 to 500 MHz. A second Gilbert Cell in the transmit path transposes a GMSK or phase modulated IF to RF by image reject mixing and has a fixed IF of 400 MHz. A buffered LO signal is fed to Rx and Tx mixers. Rx or Tx path or the entire circuit may be powered-down.

FEATURES

- Excellent noise figure: <2dB for the LNAs at 950MHz
- LNAs matched to 50Ω with external matching components
- LNAs with gain control, 59dB dynamic range in four discrete steps
- LNA gain stability ±0.5dB within -40 to 85°^C
- Feedthrough attenuation LNA1 to Rx mixer ≥ 35dB
- Tx power adjustable from -3 to +12dBm by external resistor
- Direct supply: 2.7V to 5.5V
- Battery supply voltage $V_{\text{BAT}} = 3.3V$ to 7.5V or direct supply
- Two DC regulators programmable for 3.0V, 3.4V, 3.7V or 5.1V
- Low current consumption: 28mA for Rx or 59mA for Tx
- Fully compatible with SA1638 GSM IF Digital I/Q circuit

APPLICATIONS

- 900MHz front end for GSM hand-held units
- Portable radio, TDMA systems

PIN CONFIGURATION

Figure 1. Pin Configuration

ORDERING INFORMATION

RECOMMENDED OPERATING CONDITIONS

BLOCK DIAGRAM

Figure 2. Block Diagram

PIN DESCRIPTIONS

NOTES:

1. Device is ESD sensitive. There are no ESD protection diodes at Pins 16, 17, 40 and 41. Thus, open-collector outputs may have increased DC voltage or higher AC peak voltage.

2. Pins 15, 18 and 21 are connected to each other and to a separate ground in REG1 and REG2.

3. Pins 23, 25, 42 and 39 are connected to each other and to the Tx path, LO buffer and associated bias supplies.

4. Pins 22 and 24 are connected to each other providing a sense input. They are also connected to the Tx path, LO buffer and associated bias supplies.

5. Pins 30 and 34 are not internally connected. They must be connected to external grounds.

6. Pins 48, 1, and 12 are not internally connected and have no ESD protection diodes between them. Power may be saved by connecting V_{CC} L1 and IN1 or V_{CC} L2 and IN2 to ground if LNA1 or LNA2 is not needed.

ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

NOTE:

1. Maximum junction temperature is determined by the power dissipation is determined by the operating ambient temperature and the thermal resistance, θ_{JA} . 48-pin TQFP: $\theta_{JA} = 67^{\circ}$ C/W.

DC REGULATORS

Two low drop regulators (REG1 and REG2) are included on the chip and may be used to deliver the supply voltage of the main circuitry (e.g., 3V) out of the battery (at $V_{\text{BAT}} = 3.3$ to 7.5V) as shown in Figure 4 and in Table 1.

REG1 is intended to supply, at least, the internal functions of the SA1620. Both regulators may also be used for external circuitry. For this application, different voltages may be programmed as shown in Table 1.

The transmitter supply pins ($V_{CC}Tx1,2$) also operate as a sensor connection in the feedback loop of REG1 and must be externally connected to pin VREG1. For REG2, the sensor pin VREGF2 must be connected to VREG2.

All ground pins are internally bonded to the header except for pins GNDL1, GNDREG1 and GNDREG2.

When both regulators are not used, connect pins V_{BATT} , PON, CON1, CON2, VREG1, VREG2 and VREG2F2 to ground.

Table 1. DC Reg Output Voltage Control Pins

NOTES:

1. Logic levels at CON1 and CON2:

H – Open circuit. Pin must not be connected externally. Logic high level supplied on chip. L – Connected to ground.

- 2. Currents at CON1 and CON2:
	- $H 0\mu A$
		- L ($PON = H$) $50\mu A$
		- L $(PN = L) 1\mu A$

Table 2. DC Regulators

NOTES:

1. Power-on pin of Regulator 1 and 2: PON

2. Input currents at PON: <1µA. There are no pull-up or pull-down resistors.

3. Feedthrough attenuation from the logic input PON to the outputs VREG1 and VREG2: ≥40dB.

4. Recommended load capacitors: C529 = C530 = 1µF to ground with series resistance ≤0.1Ω. See Figure 4. Additional optional capacitor ≤1000µF with series resistance ≤5Ω.

5. At $T_i \ge 150^{\circ}$ C a thermal switch reduces the output current.

6. Typical open loop bandwidths of regulator 1 at \vee_{REG1} = 3V and C529 = 1µF.

7. Feedthrough attenuation (at the indicated frequency f) from the input V_{BATT} to the outputs V_{REG1} and V_{REG2} at V_{BATT} = 3.3V, $(CON1=CON2=L)$

DC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

 V_{CCxxx} = +3V, T_A = 25°C; unless otherwise stated.

NOTES:

1. The output current I_{TXO} + I_{TXOX} is adjustable by the external resistor R546. I_{TXO} + I_{TXOX} = 10 * I_{R546}, I_{R546} = V_{R1}/R546,
2. Thresholds are independent of supply voltages. Thus the SA1620 is compatible wit external voltage regulators.

3. P_{ON} logic 1 max is V_{BATT} .

AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

 V_{CCXX} = +3V, T_A = 25°C; RF = 940MHZ; IF=400MHz, f_{LO} =RF + IF; LO = -15dBm; unless otherwise stated.

AC ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS (continued)

NOTES:

2. If the LNA1 is not needed, connect pin $V_{\text{CC}}L1$ and IN1 to GND. If the LNA2 is not needed, connect pin $V_{\text{CC}}L2$ and IN2 to GND.

3. Simple L/C elements are needed to achieve specified return loss.

4. The mixer RF inputs (emitters of a Gilbert Cell) may be driven by a symmetrical matching network.

5. Input symmetry suppression is such that the product 6*RF–4*LO is to be suppressed by at least 66dB relative to the wanted IF output when the input to the mixer is at –32dBm.

6. LNA1, LNA2, and the mixer are cascaded. 0 db insertion loss between LNA1 out to LNA2 in and LNA2 out to mixer in.

7. Lowering the LO input power (P_{IN}) from TYP to MIN will lower the mixer gain (PG_C) by 1 dB.

^{1.} Due to our automatic test equipment accuracy and repeatability test limits may not reflect the ultimate device performance. Standard deviations are calculated from characterization data.

Table 3. Power-Down and Tx/Rx Control Logic

NOTES:

1. Logic levels of PONBUF, PDTx and PONRx: TTL, see DC Electrical Characteristics.

2. Logic levels / polarities are compatible with Philips Semiconductors Power Amp Controller PCA5075 and synthesizers UMA1019 or SA8025. 3. First stage of LO buffer and parts of bias supply are powered on by PONBUF.

4. Tx- or Rx-paths may be activated for special timeslots. Lines 1 and 4 show options to support DC offset calibrations at baseband mixers, following in the receiver chain (SA1638).

Table 4. Gain Control Logic for LNA1 and LNA2

NOTES:

1. Logic levels of a and b: TTL

2. For values of G1hi and G1lo, G2hi, G2lo1, G2lo2 and G2lo3 see LNA1 and LNA2 AC Electrical Characteristics.

Figure 3.

Overview of Dual GSM/PCN Architecture

The SA1620 RF front-end and SA1638 IF transceivers form a dual conversion architecture which uses a common IF and standard I/Q baseband interface for both transmit and receive paths. This approach avoids the screening difficulties of direct modulation in the transmit direction and the mass production and practical performance issues related to direct conversion in the receive direction. The time division multiplex nature of the GSM system permits integration of the transmit and receive functions together on the one RF and one IF chips. This simplifies the distribution of local oscillator signals, maximizes circuitry commonality, and reduces power consumption.

The SA1620 and SA1638 allow considerable flexibility to optimize the transceiver design for particular price/size/performance requirements, through choice of appropriate RF and IF filters. The receive IF may be chosen freely in the range 70–500MHz, while the transmit IF is fixed to 400 MHz. The comparison frequency of the SA1638 PLL is high in order to provide fast switching time.

With suitable choice of the IF, an identical SA1638 IF receiver design can be used for both 900MHz GSM and 1800MHz PCN (DCS1800) equipment.

General Benefits/Advantages

- 2.7V operation. Compatible with 3V digital technology and portable applications. (Higher voltage operation also possible, if desired.)
- Excellent dynamic range. The availability of two LNAs allows flexibility in receiver dynamic design for portable and mobile GSM spec. applications with appropriate filters. If for a particular application a GaAs or discrete front-end is desired, one of the LNAs can be left unpowered. The placing of the AGC gains switches at the front means that for most of the time some attenuation will be inserted, further increasing typical dynamic performance beyond that specified by GSM.
- High power transmit output driver, delivering +8.5dBm output. This is sufficient to drive a filter and power amplifier input, without a driver amplifier. To avoid unnecessary current consumption the output power can be reduced, if not required, by appropriate choice of an external resistor.
- DC offsets generated in the receive channel are independent of the AGC setting, and correctable by software to prevent erosion of signal handling dynamic range by DC offsets. Independence of DC from AGC setting is achieved by putting the gain switches in the RF front-end.
- Minimal high-quality filter requirements. As a result of the integration in the SA1638 of high quality channel selectivity filters, only sufficient filtering is needed in the receive path to provide blocking protection for the second mixers. This reduces receiver cost and size.
- Operation at a high IF allows RF image reject filters to be relaxed. For example, at a 400MHz IF, the natural gain roll-off in the LNAs and mixer suppresses the image signal in the 1800MHz band by typically 28dB below the desired 900MHz band signal.

Receive Path

Multiple LNAs allow the flexibility to exploit the best choice of currently available filters (on performance, size, or cost grounds). This approach is preferable to a single high-gain stage as the stray cross-coupling effects between pins remain manageable. In a single stage amplifier this would limit the amount of rejection of out-of-band signals that could be achieved, and would also limit the amount of AGC attenuation that could be practically implemented.

The LNAs are powered up only when PONBUF, PDTx and PONRx are high, to allow a high degree of battery economy. If greater sensitivity is required for an application, an external preamplifier circuit can be used instead of LNA1, and LNA1 left unconnected.

A special mode is provided with just the IF output related circuitry active in order to allow calibration of the DC offset at the SA1638 baseband receive outputs. This offset contains a contribution due to coupling effects between the second local oscillator and the IF circuitry, and therefore the receiver is set up in the receive state (but with incoming signals excluded) to allow accurate offset calibration.

Gain Control

Gain control is implemented in the SA1620 RF front-end. This avoids the disruption of the DC offset at the baseband IQ outputs that is typically caused by changes in the AGC. The SA1620 and SA1638 are designed so that the GSM dynamic range requirements can be met with the AGC remaining on the maximum gain setting.

These gain steps scale the dynamic range of the received signal (e.g., 90dB for GSM) into the dynamic range of the baseband processing device.

The absolute gain tolerances may be measured together with the attenuation tolerances of external filters during production of the receiver equipment. After software calibration switching from one dynamic range to another will cause only minor errors.

Tx Path

TXIF and TXIFX are differential IF inputs for phase modulated signals (e.g., GMSK). There is an IF level control loop which provides a constant amplitude to an image reject up mixer. Thus, this mixer operates linearly in the IF path, independent of IF level tolerances.

The single sideband up mixer is sufficient in quadrature to achieve the typical performance indicated in Table 6 over an IF range of 250 to 500MHz. The mixer is operating in switching mode by well matched 0° and 90° LO signals, optimized for 1.1 to 1.5GHz.

The Tx output stage operates in switching mode. Thus, parasitic AM at the IF is not transferred. The outputs TXO and TXOX may be used symmetrically or single-ended. Some spurious emissions will be very low when a symmetrical output signal is used.

$$
P_{OUT} = R_e \left[6.25V \cdot (Z_{Pin\ 40} + Z_{Pin\ 41}) \cdot (I_{R546})^2 \right]
$$

according to Figure 4 and $I_{R546} = \frac{V_{R546}}{R_{R546}}$ $\frac{R_{546}}{R_{546}}$ according to DC Electrical Characteristics. P_{OUT} is adjustable with R546 and is accurate to within ±1dB over the full voltage range 2.7 to 5.5V, and ±0.5dB from a given supply voltage. The absolute limit of the negative peak voltage swing at pins TxO and TxOX is $V_{\text{SAT}} = V_{\text{CC}} T x 1,2 - 1V$. The absolute limit of the positive peak voltage is +6V.

Figure 4. Application Circuit

APPLICATION CIRCUIT

LNA

Impedance Match: Intrinsic return losses at the input and output ports are 7dB and 11dB, respectively. However, since long and narrow traces are always needed to fan out the pins, the user can adjust the traces' dimensions so that only one shunt capacitor at the input is required to achieve excellent impedance match for both ports. If the user wants to skip the input matching network for simplicity, then roughly 0.7dB gain would be lost, although it benefits the system IP3.

Noise Match: The LNA1 and LNA2 can achieve 1.9dB and 2.0dB noise figure, respectively, when S11 = –11dB. Further improvement in S_{11} will slightly decrease NF and increase S_{21} .

Gain Control: The LNA1 can be switched to the attenuation mode, while LNA2 has three attenuation modes to choose from. When gain and loss modes from two LNAs are combined, there will be a total dynamic range of 59dB in the RF block; 3.0V operation is preferred to achieve better IP3 for both LNA1 and LNA2.

Temperature Compensation: Both LNAs have a built–in temperature compensation scheme to reduce the gain drift rate to 0.003dB/°C from -40° C to $+85^{\circ}$ C.

Supply Voltage Compensation: Unique circuitry provides gain stabilization over wide supply voltage range. The gain changes no more than 0.5dB when V_{CC} increases from 2.7V to 5.5V.

Mixer

Mixer Input Match: The mixer is configured for best gain, noise figure and spurious response. The user must supply an external, patented resonant balun to provide the differential drive as well as the impedance match (embedded in). Because the mixer consists of two single–balance mixers, whose inputs are connected in parallel instead of in series, the differential and common–mode impedances are equal.

Output Match: The mixer output circuit also features an external, patented resonant balun to optimize the conversion gain and noise figure. The principal IF operating frequency is 400 MHz.

LO Drive: The internal buffer only requires –15dBm from an external source. Furthermore, the transmitter incorporates an integrated SSB upconverter that consists of narrowband phase shifters at 1300MHz (LO side) and 400MHz (IF side), so the LO frequency is

recommended to be the receiver band plus 400MHz. Additionally, the LO leakage at the input of LNA1 is extremely low, which can greatly alleviate the LO re–radiation problem.

Outband Blocking: For optimum performance, passive R/C network is added at each input of the mixer. The resistors degenerate the noise conversion gain, while the capacitors preserve the gain and noise figure at RF frequencies.

Noise Figure and IP3: The resonant balun is superior to the conventional balun in terms of insertion loss, size and cost. As a result, the user can expect excellent SSB noise figure and gain which is 10dB and 8.5dB, respectively, at 400MHz IF. And the associated input IP3 is 2dBm typically. In the meantime, due to the internal LO buffer, the noise figure and IP3 are not sensitive to the LO levels. As discussed in the LNA Impedance Match session, a better system IP3 can be achieved (if necessary) through LNAs' gain reduction.

Transmitter

The resonant balun is applied again to maximize the gain and output power, for a given bias current. Typical output power is 8.5dBm when the input level exceeds –25dBm.

LO Input

The LO input is used in Tx- and in Rx-mode.

Only one synthesizer PLL is necessary to supply the LO input with different frequencies in Tx and Rx timeslots.

The LO input buffer should only be set in power-down mode together with the PLL. As further buffering is included on chip there will be no influence on the PLL in active mode when the SA1620 Rxor Tx-path is power On or Off. Current consumption can thus be saved by powering on the Rx- and Tx-circuitry just before it is required, without disruption of the LO circuitry. LO input pins LO IN and LO INX may be used single-ended or symmetrically.

Table 5. GSM/DSC1800 Frequency Specification

(GSM 05.05, Version 4.2.0, April 1992) Mobile Stations Frequency Bands

IF=400MHz, symmetrical load at pins TxO, TxOX. **SPECTRAL LINE f=n*IF+m*LO MHz RELATIVE POWER OF SPECTRAL No. LO = LO = LO = Order LINE REMARKS 1280MHz 1300MHz 1315MHz n m min dBc typ dBc max dBc** 1 80 100 115 -3 1 1 1 -70 2 160 200 230 –6 2 –76 3 320 300 285 4 –1 –60 4 400 400 400 1 0 –46 IF 5 480 500 515 –2 1 –31 6 **560 600 630 -5 2 -5 -62** 7 | 720 | 700 | 685 | 5 | –1 | | –56 8 800 800 800 2 0 2 0 37 Note 2 9 880 900 915 –1 1 0 Note 1 10 960 1000 1030 –4 2 –46 Note 3 11 | 1020 | 1100 | 1185 | 6 | –1 | | –63 12 | 1200 | 1200 | 3 | 0 | | -60 13 1280 1300 1315 0 1 –32 LO 14 | 1360 | 1400 | 1430 | -3 | 2 | | -46 15 | 1440 | 1500 | 1545 | -6 | 3 | | -64 16 1600 1600 1600 4 0 –75 17 | 1680 | 1700 | 1715 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | -50 | Notes 4 and 5 18 | 1760 | 1800 | 1830 | -2 | 2 | | -34 | | |Note 3 19 1840 1900 1945 –5 3 –68 Note 3 20 2000 2000 2000 5 0 –77 21 2080 2100 2115 2 1 –74 22 2160 2200 2230 –1 2 –67 23 2240 2300 2345 –4 3 –59 24 2400 2400 2400 6 0 –75 25 2480 2500 2515 3 1 –76

26 2560 2600 2630 0 2 –70 2LO

NOTES:

1. Desired Tx output frequency LO–IF corresponding to EGSM Tx band in Table 5.

2. $(LO+IF)-(LO-IF) = 2 * IF$

3. See Rx bands in Table 5.

4. LO+IF = mixer image frequency

5. See Tx bands in Table 5.

1997 May 22 15

5

 4.5
 ICC
 ICC
 ICC
 ICC
 ICC
 ICC 4 3.5 3

3V 4V

 \overline{a}

5V

Low voltage GSM front-end transceiver SA1620

SR01333

 $\frac{1}{-40^{\circ}}$ $\frac{1}{25^{\circ}}$ $\frac{1}{85^{\circ}}$ $\frac{1}{85^{\circ}}$

20

3V 4V 5V

Figure 9. Standby_ICC vs. Temp

Figure 10. Calibrate_ICC vs. Temp

Figure 7. Transmit_ICC vs. Temp

Temp (°**C)**

SR01344

34

Low voltage GSM front-end transceiver SA1620

Figure 11. Receive_Gain Mode1 vs. Temp

Figure 12. Receive_Gain_Mode2 vs. Temp

Figure 13. Receive_Gain_Mode3 vs. Temp

Figure 14. Receive_Gain_Mode4 vs. Temp

Figure 15. Receive IIP3 vs. Temp

SR01336

Figure 16. Receive LNA1 Noise Figure

Figure 17. Receive LNA2 Noise Figure

Figure 18. Receive Mixer Noise Figure

Figure 19. Transmit Power @ -25dBm

Figure 20. Transmit_Power @ –20 dBm Input

Figure 21. Transmit Power @ -15dBm

Figure 22. Transmit Power @ 25°**C**

Figure 23. Regulator 1 Load Regulation (V_{BATT} = 3.5V)

Figure 24. Regulator 2 Load Regulation (V_{BATT} = 3.5V)

Figure 25. Regulator 1 Line Regulation @ 100mA Load

Figure 26. Regulator 2 Line Regulation @ 30mA Load

Figure 27. Transmit Output Power vs R(546) @ V_{CC} = 3V

Figure 28. Transmit Mode Current vs R(546) @ V_{CC} = 3V

Figure 29. Pin Functions

Figure 29. Pin Functions (continued)

LQFP48: plastic low profile quad flat package; 48 leads; body 7 x 7 x 1.4 mm SOT313-2 \sqrt{a} $\overline{\mathsf{x}}$ 36 25 \boxed{A} 37 24 Z_{E} \equiv ł \Box \equiv ŧ \blacksquare $\hbox{\tt Q}$ \boxed{e} E H_E $\overline{\mathbf{r}}$ (A_3) $\overline{}$ $\overline{}$ **⊕** w[∞] ┑ \equiv ┓ $\frac{1}{2}b_p$ pin 1 index \blacksquare $\overline{48}$ $\overline{13}$ $\sqrt{\det(\mathbf{A})}$ 12 z_{D} $= v \otimes A$ $\,$ e ⊕ w@ b_{p} \blacktriangleright B D H_D $=$ $\sqrt{M}B$ $\mathbf 0$ 2.5 5 mm scale DIMENSIONS (mm are the original dimensions) A $D^{(1)}$ $E^{(1)}$ Z_D ⁽¹⁾ $Z_{E}^{(1)}$ **UNIT** ${\sf A}_3$ $\mathsf Q$ θ $\mathbf c$ \mathbf{e} ${\sf H}_{\sf D}$ L v w $A₁$ ${\sf A}_2$ b_p $H_{\sf E}$ L_{p} y max. 7° 0.20 1.45 0.27 0.18 7.1 7.1 9.15 9.15 0.75 0.69 0.95 0.95 mm 1.60 0.25 0.5 $1.0\,$ 0.2 0.12 0.1 0° 0.05 1.35 0.17 0.12 $6.9\,$ $6.9\,$ 8.85 8.85 0.45 0.59 0.55 0.55 Note

1. Plastic or metal protrusions of 0.25 mm maximum per side are not included.

NOTES

Philips Semiconductors and Philips Electronics North America Corporation reserve the right to make changes, without notice, in the products, including circuits, standard cells, and/or software, described or contained herein in order to improve design and/or performance. Philips Semiconductors assumes no responsibility or liability for the use of any of these products, conveys no license or title under any patent, copyright, or mask work right to these products, and makes no representations or warranties that these products are free from patent, copyright, or mask work right infringement, unless otherwise specified. Applications that are described herein for any of these products are for illustrative purposes only. Philips Semiconductors makes no representation or warranty that such applications will be suitable for the specified use without further testing or modification.

LIFE SUPPORT APPLICATIONS

Philips Semiconductors and Philips Electronics North America Corporation Products are not designed for use in life support appliances, devices, or systems where malfunction of a Philips Semiconductors and Philips Electronics North America Corporation Product can reasonably be expected to result in a personal injury. Philips Semiconductors and Philips Electronics North America Corporation customers using or selling Philips Semiconductors and Philips Electronics North America Corporation Products for use in such applications do so at their own risk and agree to fully indemnify Philips Semiconductors and Philips Electronics North America Corporation for any damages resulting from such improper use or sale.

Philips Semiconductors 811 East Arques Avenue P.O. Box 3409 Sunnyvale, California 94088–3409 Telephone 800-234-7381

 Copyright Philips Electronics North America Corporation 1997 All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

Let's make things better.

