

# 3.0V TO 4.2V, 2.4GHz FRONT END MODULE

RF6525 BL6252 KEWD

Package Style: QFN, 20-Pin, 3.5mmx3.5mmx0.5mm



### **Features**

TX Output Power: 22dBm

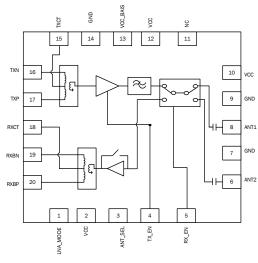
RX Gain: 11.5dBRX NF: 2.5dB

 Integrated RF Front End Module with TX/RX balun, PA, Filter, LNA with Bypass Mode and DP2T Switch.

 Dual Differential Transceiver Interface.

# **Applications**

- ZigBee® 802.15.4 Based Systems for Remote Monitoring and Control
- 2.4GHz ISM Band Applications
- Smart Meters for Energy Management



Functional Block Diagram

# **Product Description**

The RF6525 integrates a complete solution in a single Front End Module (FEM) for ZigBee® applications in the 2.4 GHz to 2.5 GHz band. This FEM integrates the PA plus harmonic filter in the transmit path and the LNA with bypass mode in the receive side. It also integrates a diversity switch and provides balanced input and output signals for both the TX and RX paths respectively.

The RF6525 FEM is ideal for ZigBee® systems operating with a minimum output power of 20dBm and high efficiency requirements. On the receive path, the RX Chain provides 11.5dB of typical gain with only 7 mA of current and excellent NF of 2.5dB. This FEM meets or exceeds the system requirements for ZigBee® applications operating in the 2.4GHz to 2.5GHz band. The device is provided in a 3.5mm x 3.5mm x 0.5mm, 20-pin QFN package.

#### **Ordering Information**

RF6525SQ Standard 25 piece bag RF6525SR Standard 100 piece reel RF6525TR13 Standard 2500 piece reel

RF6525PCK-410 Fully assembled evaluation board with 5 loose pieces

# Optimum Technology Matching® Applied

| ☐ GaAs HBT    | ☐ SiGe BiCMOS | <b>▼</b> GaAs pHEMT | ☐ GaN HEMT  |
|---------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|
| ☐ GaAs MESFET | ☐ Si BiCMOS   | ☐ Si CMOS           | ☐ BiFET HBT |
| ▼ InGaP HBT   | ☐ SiGe HBT    | ☐ Si BJT            | ☐ LDMOS     |

# **RF6525**



### **Absolute Maximum Ratings**

| Parameter   | Rating      | Unit |
|---|-------------|------|
| DC Supply Voltage   | 5           | V    |
| Operating Case Temperature  | -40 to +85  | °C   |
| Storage Temperature   | -40 to +150 | °C   |
| ESD Human Body Model RF Pins  | 1000        | V    |
| ESD Human Body Model All Other<br>Pins                                | 500         | V    |
| ESD Charge Device Model All Pins                                      | 500         | V    |
| Moisture Sensitivity Level  | MSL 2       |      |
| Maximum Input Power to PA and<br>LNA (No Damage in High Gain<br>Mode) | +5          | dBm  |



#### Caution! ESD sensitive device.

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Exceeding any neor ar combination of the Absolute Maximum Rating conditions may cause permanent damage to the device. Extended application of Absolute Maximum Rating conditions to the device may reduce device reliability. Specified typical performance or functional operation of the device under Absolute Maximum Rating conditions is not implied. The information in this publication is believed to be accurate and reliable. However, no responsibility is assumed by RF Micro Devices, inc. ("RFMD") for its use, nor for any infringement of patients, or other rights of third parties, resulting from its use. No license is granted by implication or otherwise under any patient or patient rights of RFMD. RFMD reserves the right to change component circuitry, recommended application circuitry and specifications at any time without prior notice.



RFMD Green: RoHS compliant per EU Directive 2002/95/EC, halogen free per IEC 61249-2-21, < 1000 ppm each of antimony trioxide in polymeric materials and red phosphorus as a flame retardant, and <2% antimony in solder.

| Parameter  | Specification |      |      | Unit    | On a dikina   |  |
|--|---------------|------|------|---------|---|--|
|  | Min.          | Тур. | Max. | Unit    | Condition   |  |
| Overall  |               |      |      |         | Specifications must be met across supply voltage, control voltage, and temperature ranges unless otherwise noted. Typical conditions: $T=25^{\circ}$ C, $V_{CC}=3.6$ V, $TX_{EN}=$ High |  |
| Operating Frequency Range                          | 2400          |      | 2483 | MHz     |   |  |
| Operating Voltage (V <sub>CC</sub> )               | 3.0           | 3.6  | 4.2  | V       |   |  |
| Leakage Current                                    |               | 0.5  |      | uA      | V <sub>CC</sub> =3.6V, RF=OFF, TX_EN=Low, RX_EN=Low.<br>LNA_EN, ANT_SEL, and LNA Mode=Low.  |  |
| Transmit Parameters                                |               |      |      |         |   |  |
| Frequency  | 2400          |      | 2483 | MHz     |   |  |
| Input Return Loss                                  |               | -13  | -9.6 | dB      | Over all conditions for both Antenna 1 and Antenna 2  |  |
| Amplitude Imbalance                                | -1            |      | 1    | dB      |   |  |
| Phase Imbalance                                    | -15           |      | 15   | deg     |   |  |
| Output Return Loss                                 |               | -14  | -9.6 | dB      | Over all conditions for both Antenna 1 and Antenna 2  |  |
| Gain   | 25            | 28   |      | dB      | At rated power and nominal conditions   |  |
| Gain Variation                                     | -1.5          |      | +1.5 | dB      | Over temperature  |  |
| Gain Flatness                                      | -1            |      | +1   | dB      | Over frequencies and voltage  |  |
| Rated Output Power                                 | 20            | 22   |      | dBm     |   |  |
|  |               | 19   |      | dBm     | V <sub>CC</sub> =2.6V, V <sub>CC</sub> Bias=3.0V  |  |
| Supply Current                                     |               | 200  | 230  | mA      | P <sub>0</sub> =22dBm 802.15.4 OQPSK. Typical Conditions.   |  |
| Supply Current                                     |               | 175  | 205  | mA      | P <sub>0</sub> =20dBm 802.15.4 OQPSK.   |  |
| Thermal Resistance                                 |               | 53   |      | °C/W    | V <sub>CC</sub> = 3.6V, P <sub>OUT</sub> = 22dBm, T <sub>REF</sub> = 85°C   |  |
| 2nd Harmonic Level                                 |               | -45  | -42  | dBm/MHz | Measured using standard 802.15.4 OQPSK modulation signal at P <sub>OUT</sub> =20 dBm over temperature, frequency, and voltage   |  |
| 3rd Harmonic Level                                 |               | -45  | -42  | dBm/MHz | Measured using standard 802.15.4 OQPSK modulation signal at P <sub>OUT</sub> =20 dBm over temperature, frequency, and voltage   |  |
| VSWR Stability and Load<br>Mismatch Susceptibility | 4:1           |      |      |         | No spurs above -45 dBm  |  |
| VSWR No Damage                                     | 8:1           |      |      |         |   |  |



**Specification Parameter** Unit Condition Min. Тур. Max. Transmit Parameters, cont. Gain Settling Time 1 2 uS Current Sourced through 18.0 mA TXCT Pin Voltage Drop from TXCT Pin 0.1 ٧ to TXP/TXN **Receive Parameters** (LNA Mode) 2400 Frequency 2483 MHz Gain 8 11.5 14 dB From antenna to RX pin (entire RX path). (All condi-Noise Figure 2.5 3.5 dB From antenna to RX pin (entire RX path). Current 8 12 mΑ LNA + Switches Input IP3 5 10 dBm At nominal conditions Gain Flatness -0.7 0.7 dB over frequency Input Return Loss 10 dB dB **Output Return Loss** 8 Amplitude Imbalance -1 1 dΒ Differential RX Port -15 Phase Imbalance 15 deg On 180 degrees typical, differential RX Port Current Sourced through 1 mA RXCT Pin Voltage Drop from RXCT Pin 0.05 0.1 ٧ to RXP/RXN **ByPass Mode** Frequency 2400 2483 MHz Insertion Loss 5 7 dB Entire RX path Noise Figure 5 dB Entire RX path 5 ANT1 Current uA 50 uA ANT2 IIP3 18 dBm Nominal Gain Flatness -0.1 0.1 dB over frequency 12 dB Input Return Loss 15 Output Return Loss 9.5 8 dB Amplitude Imbalance dΒ Differential RX Port -1 1 deg Phase Imbalance -15 15 On 180 degrees typical, differential RX Port Current Sourced through 1 mA **RXCT Pin** Voltage Drop from RXCT Pin 0.05 0.1 V to RXP/RXN **Antenna Switch** RF-to-Control Isolation 50 dB Measured at any control pin while in TX or RX mode. 17 RF-to-ANT Isolation 20 dΒ Measured from Antenna to RX port while in Transmit mode. Measured from Antenna to TX port while in Receive mode. RF-to-RF Isolation 18 20 dΒ Measured from TX port to RX port while in receive or transmit modes. ٧ Switch Control Logic = HIGH All Logic I/O's  $=V_{CC}-0.3$  $=V_{CC}$ Switch Control Logic = LOW 0.0 0.2 ٧ All Logic I/O's



# **RF6525**



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| Switch Control Current. Logic<br>HIGH | 2   | 5 | μА | All Logic I/O's                  |
|---------------------------------------|-----|---|----|----------------------------------|
| Switch Control Current. Logic<br>LOW  | 0.1 |   | μА | All Logic I/O's                  |
| Antenna Select Switch Speed           |     | 1 | uS | ANT1 or ANT2 path, TX or RX mode |

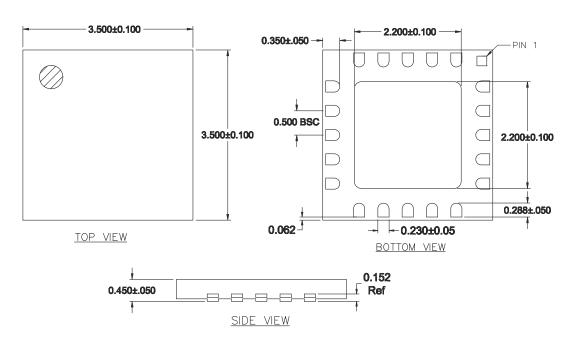


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| Pin | Function | Description   |
|-----|----------|---|
| 1   | LNA_MODE | Bypass enable pin. See logic table for operation.   |
| 2   | VCC      | Voltage Supply. An external 1uF capacitor might be needed for low frequency decoupling.             |
| 3   | ANT_SEL  | Control pin for Antenna select. See logic table for operation.                                      |
| 4   | TX_EN    | Enable voltage pin for the PA and Transmit switch. See logic table for operation.                   |
| 5   | RX_EN    | Enable voltage pin for the LNA and Receive switch. See logic table for operation                    |
| 6   | ANT2     | This is the common port (antenna). It is matched to $50\Omega$ and DC-block is provided internally. |
| 7   | GND      | Ground.   |
| 8   | ANT1     | This is the common port (antenna). It is matched to $50\Omega$ and DC-block is provided internally  |
| 9   | GND      | Ground.   |
| 10  | VCC      | Voltage Supply. An external 1uF capacitor might be needed for low frequency decoupling              |
| 11  | NC       | No connect pin. Must be left floating.  |
| 12  | VCC      | Voltage Supply. An external 1uF capacitor might be needed for low frequency decoupling              |
| 13  | VCC_BIAS | Voltage Supply. An external 1 uF capacitor might be needed for low frequency decoupling             |
| 14  | GND      | Ground.   |
| 15  | TXCT     | Center tap for passing thru DC voltage to TXN and TXP pins that connect to the TXVR SoIC.           |
| 16  | TXN      | $100\Omega$ single-ended, $200\Omega$ differential.   |
| 17  | TXP      | $100\Omega$ single-ended, $200\Omega$ differential.   |
| 18  | RXCT     | Center tap for passing thru DC voltage to RXBN and RXBP pins that connect to the TXVR SoIC.         |
| 19  | RXBN     | $100\Omega$ single-ended, $200\Omega$ differential.   |
| 20  | RXBP     | $100\Omega$ single-ended, $200\Omega$ differential.   |



# **Package Drawing**





# **RF6525 Biasing Instructions**

#### TX Mode

- With the RF source disabled, apply 3.3 V to  $V_{CC}$  with other control set to 0 V
- Set VTX=High, keeping VRX and LNA\_MODE at OV
- Apply OV to ANT\_SEL to select the ANT1 port, or 2.8V to select the ANT2 port
- V<sub>CC</sub> current should rise to 70mA to 80mA quiescent current
- Enable the RF source; V<sub>CC</sub> current should rise to a maximum of 200 mA depending on output power

#### RX LNA Mode

- With the RF source disables, apply 3.3 V to V<sub>CC</sub> with other controls set to 0 V
- Set VRX=High to RX Enable and LNA\_MODE, keeping TX at OV
- Apply OV to ANT\_SEL to select the ANT1 port, or 2.8V to select the ANT2 port
- V<sub>CC</sub> current should rise to 7 mA to 8 mA
- Enable the RF source; V<sub>CC</sub> current may increase a few mA depending on output power

#### **RX Bypass Mode**

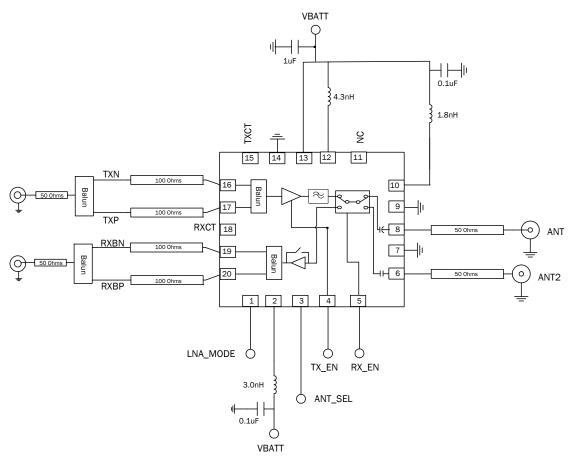
- With the RF source disabled, apply 3.3V to V<sub>CC</sub> with other controls set to 0V
- Set VRX=High, keeping TX and LNA\_MODE at OV
- Apply OV to ANT\_SEL to select the ANT1 port, or 2.8V to select the ANT2 port
- V<sub>CC</sub> current should be in the uA range
- Enable the RF source; V<sub>CC</sub> current should remain in the uA range

|             | Logic Table |       |          |         |
|-------------|-------------|-------|----------|---------|
| Mode        | TX_EN       | RX_EN | LNA_MODE | ANT_SEL |
| TX-ANT1     | HIGH        | LOW   | LOW      | LOW     |
| TX_ANT2     | HIGH        | LOW   | LOW      | HIGH    |
| RX-ANT1 LNA | LOW         | HIGH  | HIGH     | LOW     |
| RX-ANT1 BYP | LOW         | HIGH  | LOW      | LOW     |
| RX-ANT2LNA  | LOW         | HIGH  | HIGH     | HIGH    |
| RX-ANT2 BYP | LOW         | HIGH  | LOW      | HIGH    |
| All OFF     | LOW         | LOW   | LOW      | LOW     |

Operating currents at nominal conditions



# **Evaluation Board Schematic**





# **PCB Design Requirements**

#### **PCB Surface Finish**

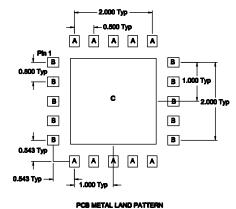
The PCB surface finish used for RFMD's qualification process is electroless nickel, immersion gold. Typical thickness is  $3\mu$ inch to  $8\mu$ inch gold over  $180\mu$ inch nickel.

#### **PCB Land Pattern Recommendation**

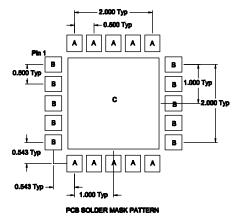
PCB land patterns for RFMD components are based on IPC-7351 standards and RFMD empirical data. The pad pattern shown has been developed and tested for optimized assembly at RFMD. The PCB land pattern has been developed to accommodate lead and package tolerances. Since surface mount processes vary from company to company, careful process development is recommended.

#### PCB Metal Land and Solder Mask Pattern

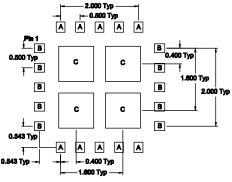
A = 0.250 x 0.290 (mm) Typ Rounded Rectangle 50% B = 0.290 x 0.250 (mm) Typ Rounded Rectangle 50% C = 0.000 (mm) Sp. Rounded Rectangle 50%



A = 0.390 x 0.430 (mm) Typ Rounded Rectangle 50% B = 0.430 x 0.390 (mm) Typ Rounded Rectangle 50% C = 2.340 (mm) Sp Rounded Rectangle 50%



A = 0.225 x 0.281 (mm) Typ Rounded Rectangle 10% B = 0.281 x 0.225 (mm) Typ Rounded Rectangle 10%



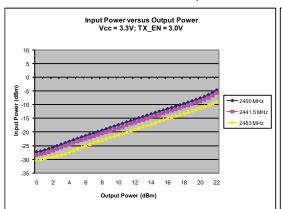
PCS STENCIL PATTERN

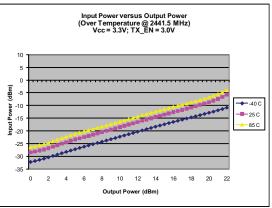
Thermal vias for center slug "C" should be incorporated into the PCB design. The number and size of thermal vias will depend on the application, the power dissipation, and this electrical requirements. Example of the number and size of vias can be found on the RFMD evaluation board layout.



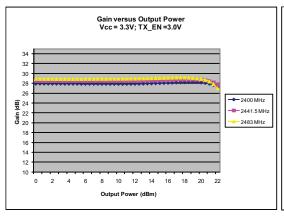
# RF6525 2.4 GHz Front End Module

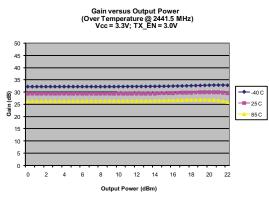
Input Power versus Output Power





### Gain versus Output Power

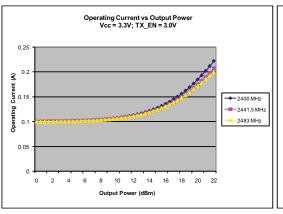


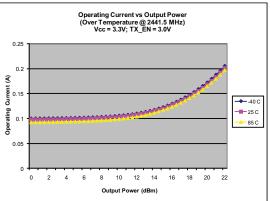




# RF6525 2.4 GHz Front End Module

Operating Current versus Output Power





TX S21 versus Frequency

