LMV225/LMV228 LLP Evaluation Board

National Semiconductor Application Note 1817 Gerrit de Wagt March 26, 2008



General Description

This board can be used to evaluate National Semiconductor's LMV225/LMV228 RF detectors. These logarithmic power detectors are intended for use in CDMA and WCDMA applications. They have a 30 dB dynamic range and an RF frequency range from 450 MHz to 2 GHz. The LMV228 is designed to be used in combination with a directional coupler, while the LMV225 detector is especially suited for power measurements via a high-resistive tap as well as directional coupler. The LMV225/LMV228 have an integrated filter for low-ripple average power detection of CDMA signals. Additional filtering can be applied using a single external capacitor.

Basic Operation

The LMV225/LMV228 provide an accurate temperature and supply compensated DC output voltage that relates linearly to the applied RF input power in dBm. The single supply, ranging from 2.7V to 5.5V, can be applied through connectors P_4 and P_5 . The signal applied to connector P_2 puts the detector in an active or a shutdown mode. The detector is active for Enable = HI, otherwise it is in a low power consumption shutdown mode. The RF signal is applied through connector P_1 , while the output voltage is measured through connector P_2 .

INPUT

The LMV225 has an RF power detection range from -30 dBm to 0 dBm and is designed for direct use in combination with resistive taps. The LMV228 has a detection range from -15 dBm to 15 dBm and are intended for use in combination with a directional coupler. Both detectors have an input impedance of 50Ω . Details about the configuration can be found in the datasheet.

OUTPUT

The output voltage range is typically 0.2V to 2V and can be scaled down to meet ADC input range requirements. Since the LMV225/LMV228 have a current controlled output, the voltage range can be adjusted by changing the output resistance. To change this a resistor needs to be placed in $R_{\rm 5}$. The output impedance of the detector (typical 19.8 k Ω) together with the resistor $R_{\rm 5}$ translates the current into a voltage. The value of resistor $R_{\rm 5}$ determines the exact scaling. A value of 19.8 k Ω for example divides the output voltage range by half. Besides scaling the output voltage, the output ripple can be reduced by lowpass filtering. This can be realized with capacitor C_3 . Further details can be found in the applications information section in the datasheet.

Schematic

The schematic of the evaluation board is depicted in Figure 1.

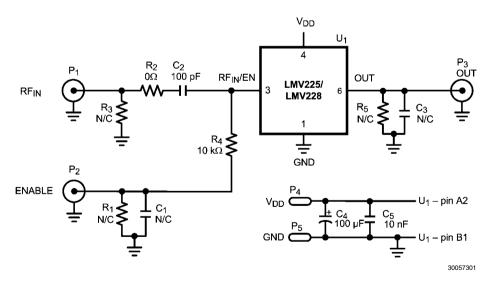


FIGURE 1. Schematic of the Evaluation Board

Layout

The layout of the evaluation board is depicted in Figure 2.

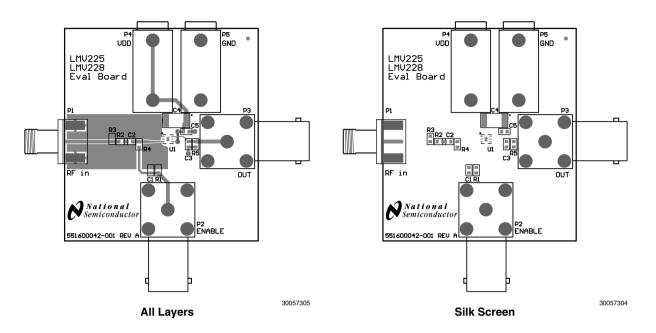


FIGURE 2. Layout of the Evaluation Board

Bill of Materials

The Bill of Material (BOM) of the evaluation board is given in the table below.

Designator	Description	Comment	
C2	0603 Capacitor	100 pF	
C4	Case_C Capacitor	100 μF	
C5	0603 Capacitor	10 nF	
C1, C3	0603 Capacitor	Not Connected	
P1	Connector	SMA	
P2	Connector	BNC	
P3	Connector	BNC	
P4	Connector	Banana	
P5	Connector	Banana	
R2	0603 Resistor	0Ω	
R4	0603 Resistor	10 kΩ	
R1, R3, R5	0603 Resistor	Not Connected	
U1	LLP	LMV225SD or LMV228SD	

Measurement Procedure

The performance of the LMV225/LMV228 can be measured with the setup given in *Figure 3*.

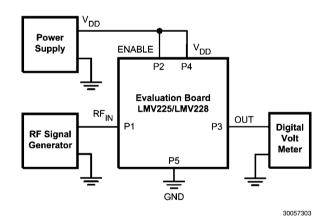


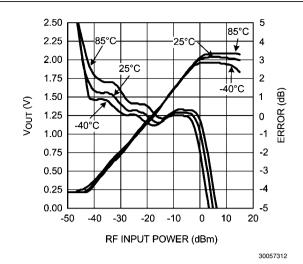
FIGURE 3. Measurement Setup

In this measurement example a supply voltage of 2.7V is applied by the power supply. To put the LMV225/LMV228 in active mode, the Enable ($\rm P_2$) is connected to 2.7V as well. The resulting DC output voltage is measured with a multimeter connected to $\rm P_3$. A 900 MHz RF signal is applied by the RF generator to connector $\rm P_1$, where the RF power is swept from –50 dBm to +20 dBm.

Measurement Results

Figure 4 and Figure 5 depict the measurement results for the LMV225/LMV228 respectively. For each plot the RF power is swept at 900 MHz for different temperatures. Also the error in dBs with respect to an ideal straight line is plotted (Log conformance).

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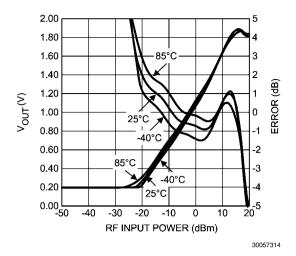


FIGURE 5. LMV228 Output Voltage and Log Conformance vs. RF Input Power at 900 MHz

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