

# Wavelab 24 GHz project

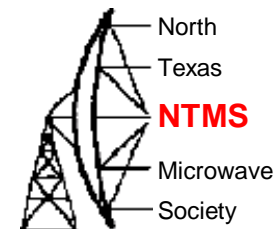
Converting Surplus Wavelab 23 GHz radios to 24 GHz Ham Band using  
PA0MHE Wavelab Add On PCB

June 6, 2023

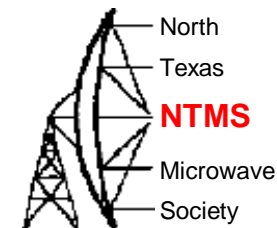
KM5PO

Jim McMasters

# Wavelab 23 GHz ODU



# Wavelab module



- According to Wavelab ODU brochure, frequency range is 21.2-23.6GHz but original PCB LO can't reach 21.2GHz. TR spacing is 1008 MHz
- **Warning: The 23X1008XP module is our unit of interest. Do not purchase the "XN" module.**
- **The advantage of the XP module is that it can be converted to 24 GHz by simply changing the external input frequencies. It is not necessary to open it up or do any precision surgery on the millimeter wave circuitry.**

## 23X1008XP

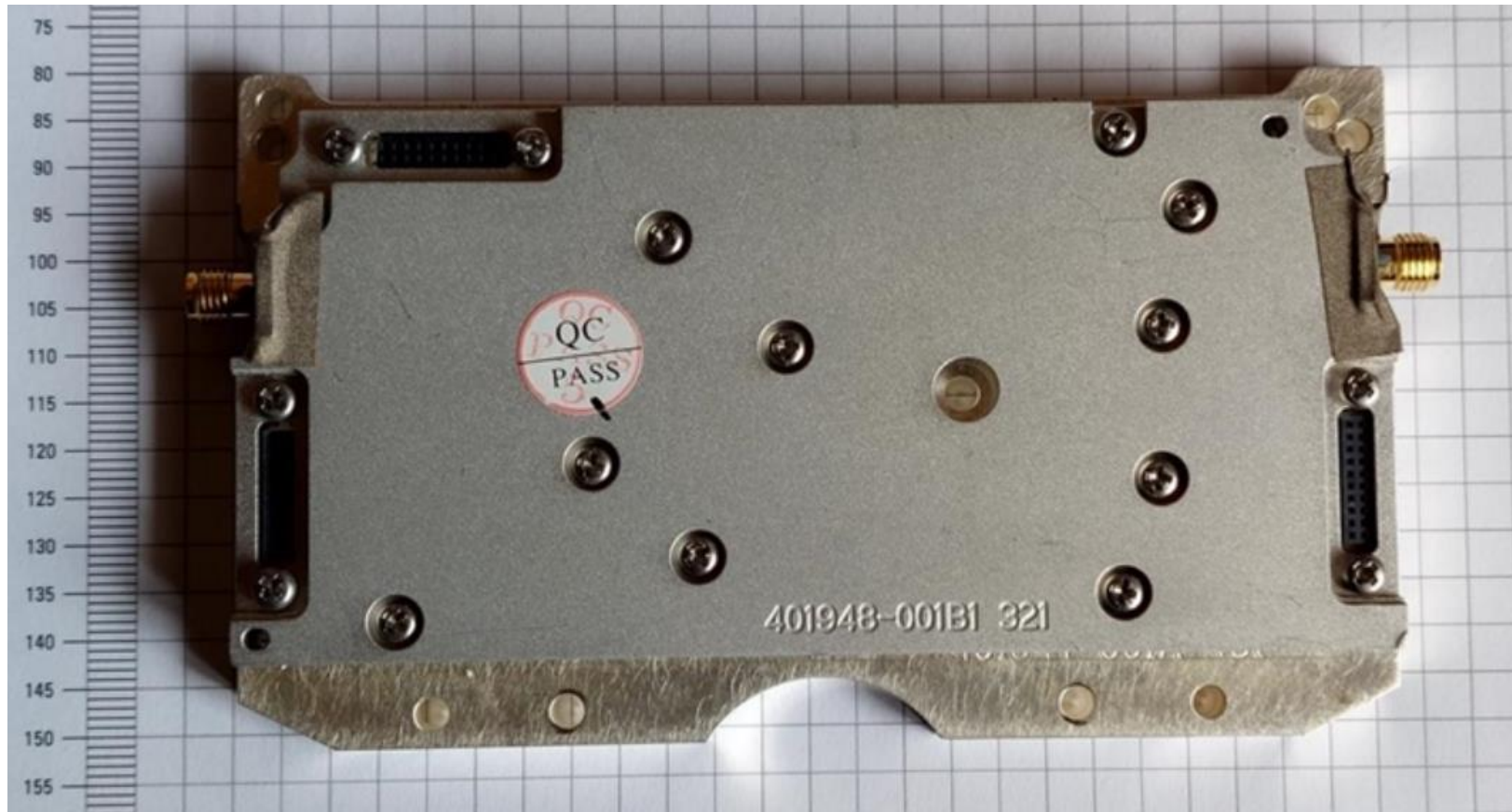
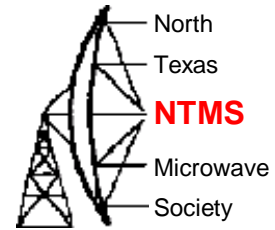
TR space 1008MHz (IF Tx 2364MHz-IF Rx 1356MHz); RX=LO+IF Rx; TX=LO+IF Tx; TX= RX+1008MHz  
Motherboard ADF4153 PLL; VCO CRO1728T-LF; LO Range 1670-1770MHz

Frequency Band*	RX	TX	LO	LO/12 (input)
23.600GHz	22.592GHz	23.600GHz	21.236GHz	1769.66MHz

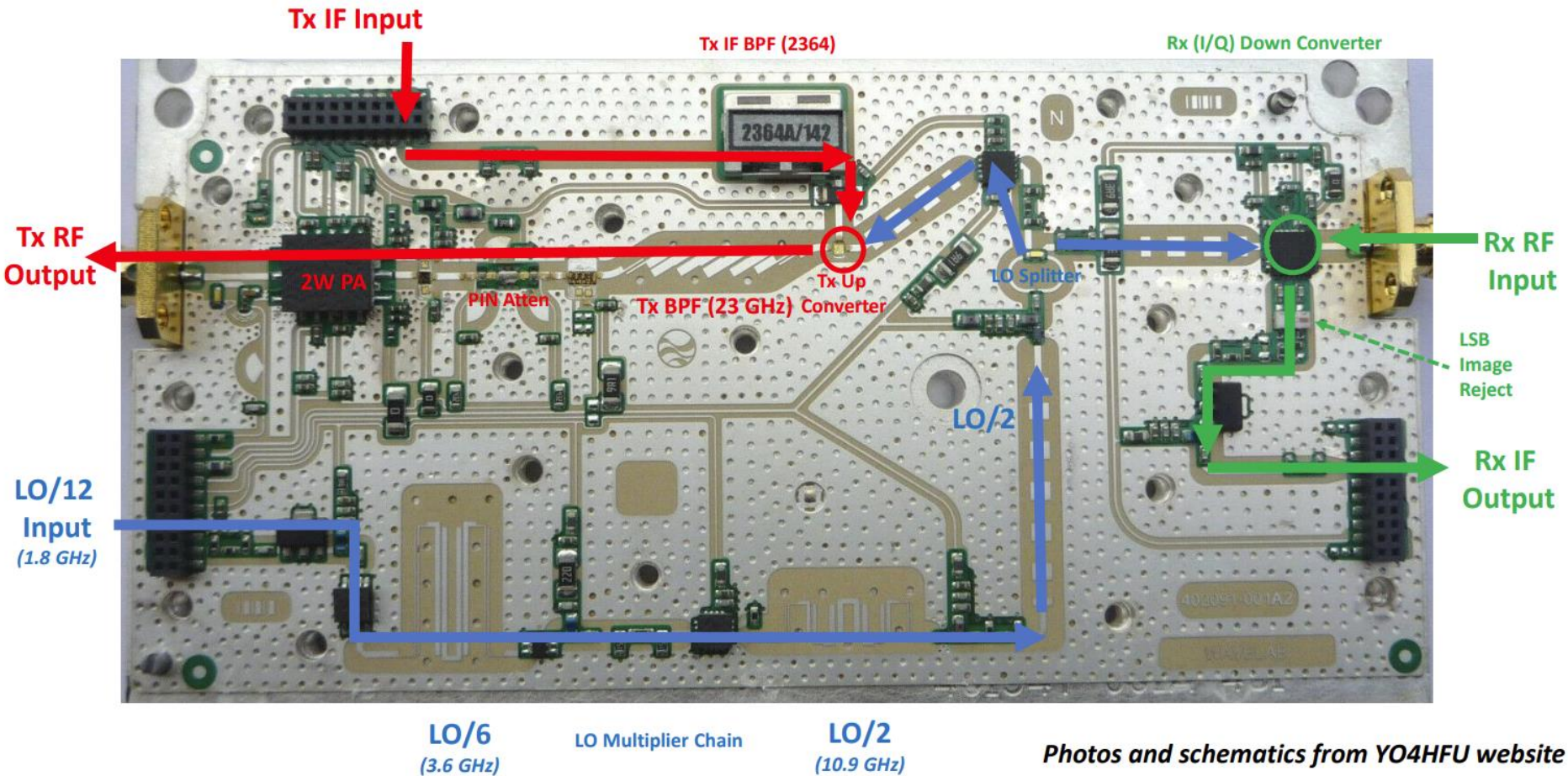
- The plan to put the module on USA terrestrial 24192 MHz

Synthesizer 1 ADF 1	1819 Mhz	x 12 mult	21828 Mhz
Synthesizer 2 ADF 2	2220 Mhz	+ 144 Mhz IF	2364 Mhz
			24192 Mhz

# External view of module

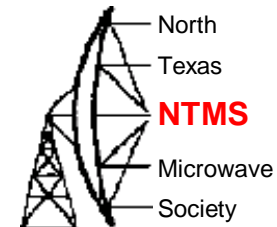


# Signal Flow & Components Inside the Wavelab Module



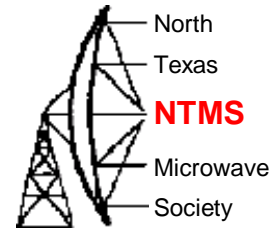


# Add on board by PA0MHE

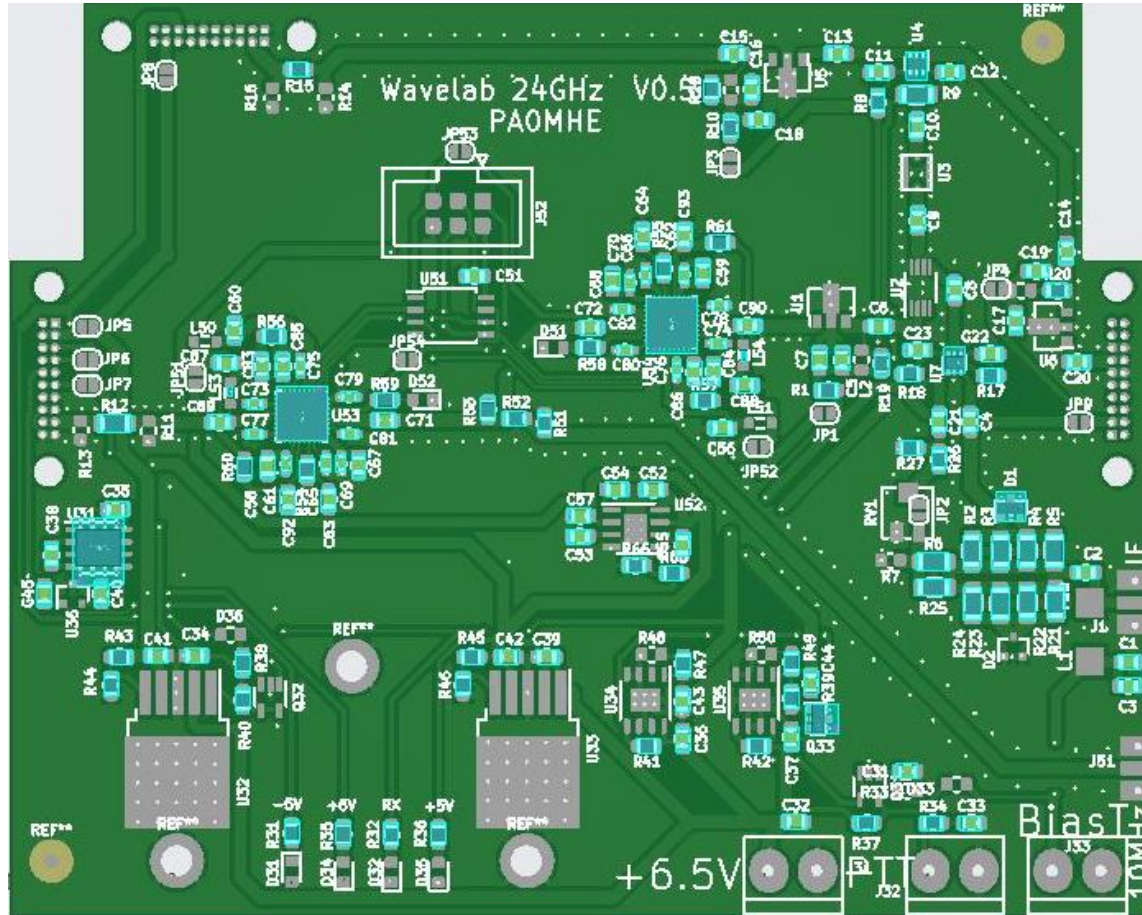


- Board provides:
  - - all voltage regulators needed by the wavelab module and the add on circuits; supplied by a single 6.5-7 volt external input
  - - first LO synthesizer (~1.8 GHz) to drive the wavelab module's 12x LO multiplier chain
  - - first IF Tx and Rx amps and first IF (2364 MHz) band pass filter
  - - up/down conversion mixer from first IF to second IF (144 or 432 MHz ham transceiver)
  - - second LO synthesizer (~2.2 GHz) for 1st to 2nd IF conversion mixer
  - - second IF attenuators
  - - ATTINY microcontroller to program the two synths (both ADF4351)
- Support:
  - NTMS Group PCB order
  - Wavelab groupsio -<https://groups.io/g/Wavelab24GHz>

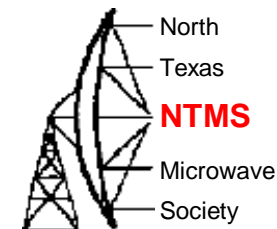
# JLCPCB order



Confirming parts placement via website image



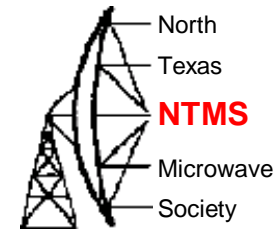




# Board interest

- History
  - 11/14/2022      20 boards
  - April 2023 – eBay seller lists more modules
  - 4/21/2023      5 boards (NTMS#1 build)
  - 4/29/2023      30 boards (NTMS#2 build)
  - 5/31/2023      75 boards (NTMS#3 build)
    - Interest from VE, VK, PA, G, 9H1, ON

# JLCPCB order



## Most Efficient, Economic, Innovative PCB Solutions

Founded in 2006, JLCPCB has been at the forefront of the PCB industry. With over 15-year continuous innovation and improvement based on customers' need, we have been growing fast, and becoming a leading global PCB manufacturer, who provides the rapid production of high-reliability and cost-effective PCBs and creates the best customer experience in the industry.

800,000<sup>+</sup>

Customers

20,000<sup>+</sup>

Orders Daily

450,000m<sup>2</sup>

Factory Area

620,000m<sup>2</sup>

Production Capacity/Month

6 Million<sup>+</sup>

PCBs Produced/Year

170<sup>+</sup>

Countries Covered

3000<sup>+</sup>

Employees

15

Years Founded

>99.97%

On-time delivery

<0.23%

Quality Complaint Rate

1 Day

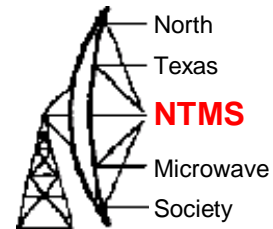
PCB Prototype

24/7

Online Service

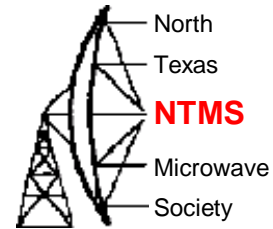
\* As of January 2021

# JLCPCB order



- Create an account on the website
- Upload the gerber, BOM, positions files
  - [Wavelab-24G-Addon-module/Kicad/V05 Kicad6/Wavelab24GHz\\_v05/production at main · PA0MHE/Wavelab-24G-Addon-module · GitHub](#)
- Review component placement and jlcpcb inventory shortages
  - Using search features you may find replacement parts
- Place the order

# JLPCB order





- Initial cost of PCBs was about a buck each.

**J@LC JLPCB** Why JLPCB? Capabilities Support Resources Order now

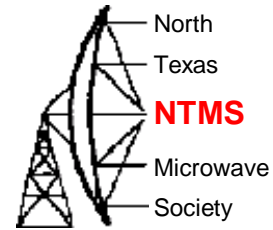
Home / Order History

Order History File Manager Parts Manager Payments Account Settings Messages <sup>1</sup>

Order Type  Date  Order #, Gerber file name...

Product Detail	Product File	Price	Order Status
2022-11-14   W202211140658438			
 <p>PCB Prototype Order #: Y4-5139041A Build Time: 1-2 days 20 pcs \$20.80 <a href="#">Product Details</a></p>	<p>gerber_Y4  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Production Completed  <input type="button" value="Quality Complaint"/></p>	<p>Merchandise Total: \$755.89 Shipping Charge: \$26.87 Order Total: \$782.76</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shipped DHL Express Worldwide <input type="button" value="Shipment Tracking"/></p>
 <p>Standard PCBA Order #: SMT0221113102520... Build Time: 2-3 days 20 pcs \$731.34 <a href="#">Product Details</a></p>	<p>wavelab 24 GHz BOM.xlsx positions.csv <a href="#">DFM Analysis</a> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Production Completed <input type="button" value="Quality Complaint"/></p>		

# JLCPCB order



- Shipment timeline. From payment to shipment < 6 days

**Submitted**  
2022-11-14 06:58

**Paid**  
2022-11-14 19:17

**Reviewed**  
2022-11-14 19:17

**In Production**  
2022-11-15 12:05

**Shipped**  
2022-11-20 13:13

---

**Shipped**  
Tracking #: [1248274300](#)  
DHL Express Worldwide  
Photos of package:

2022/11/23 10:43:00 Shipment has departed from a DHL facility  
CINCINNATI HUB - USA,CINCINNATI HUB, OH - USA  
2022/11/23 07:14:00 Clearance processing complete at  
CINCINNATI HUB - USA,CINCINNATI HUB, OH - USA  
2022/11/23 06:31:00 Processed at CINCINNATI HUB -  
USA,CINCINNATI HUB, OH - USA  
2022/11/23 05:21:00 Arrived at DHL Sort Facility CINCINNATI  
HUB - USA,CINCINNATI HUB, OH - USA  
2022/11/22 21:40:00 Customs clearance status updated. Note -  
The Customs clearance process may start while the shipment is  
in transit to the destination.,CINCINNATI HUB, OH - USA  
2022/11/22 14:15:00 Shipment has departed from a DHL facility  
HONG KONG - HONG KONG SAR, CHINA,HONG KONG -  
HONG KONG SAR, CHINA

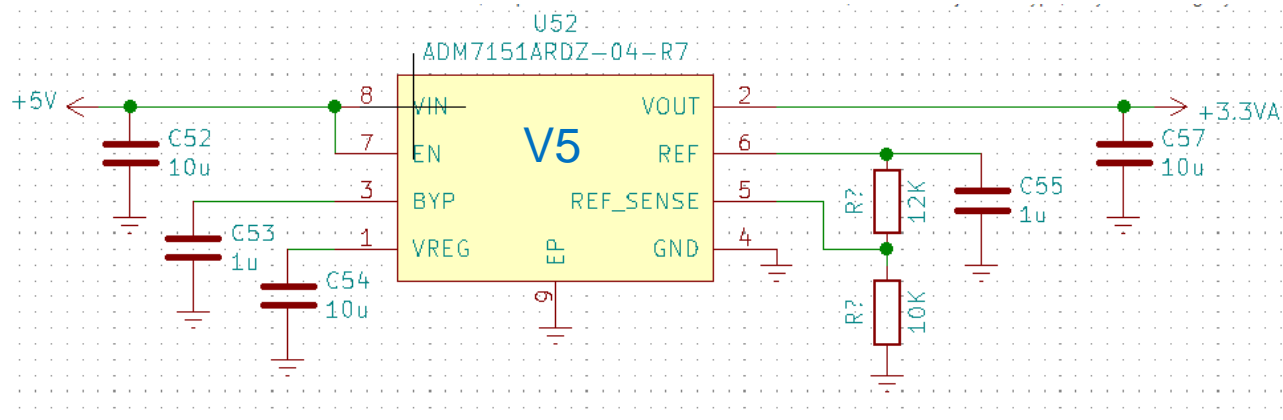
# V5 changes from V4

R65, R66 added as option for U52 ADM7151 (chip shortage)

R36 update service print to "+5V"

U6 changed footprint to MGA-86576 (still possible to mount PGA103+, but too little gain)

J31, J32, J33, J1, J2, J3 No solder paste



V4



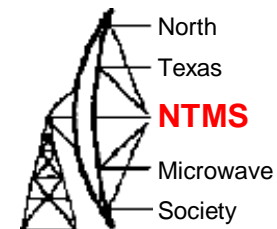
V5





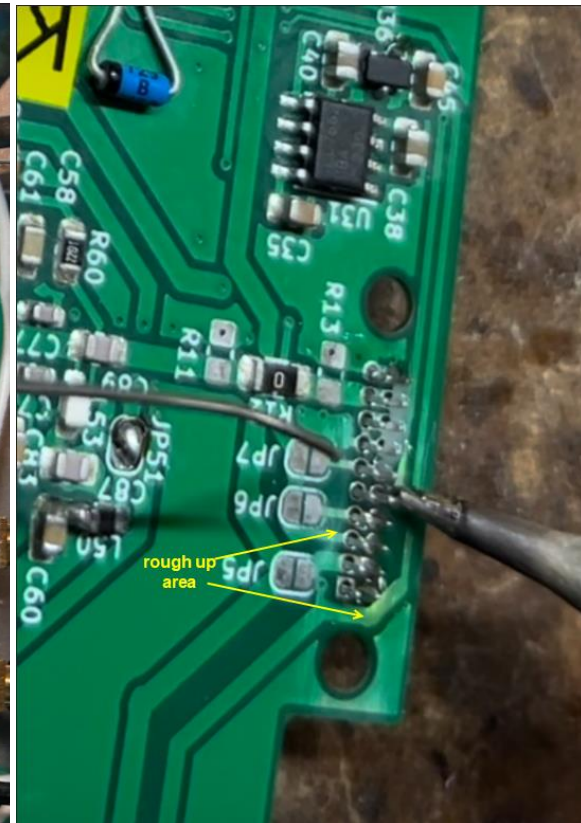
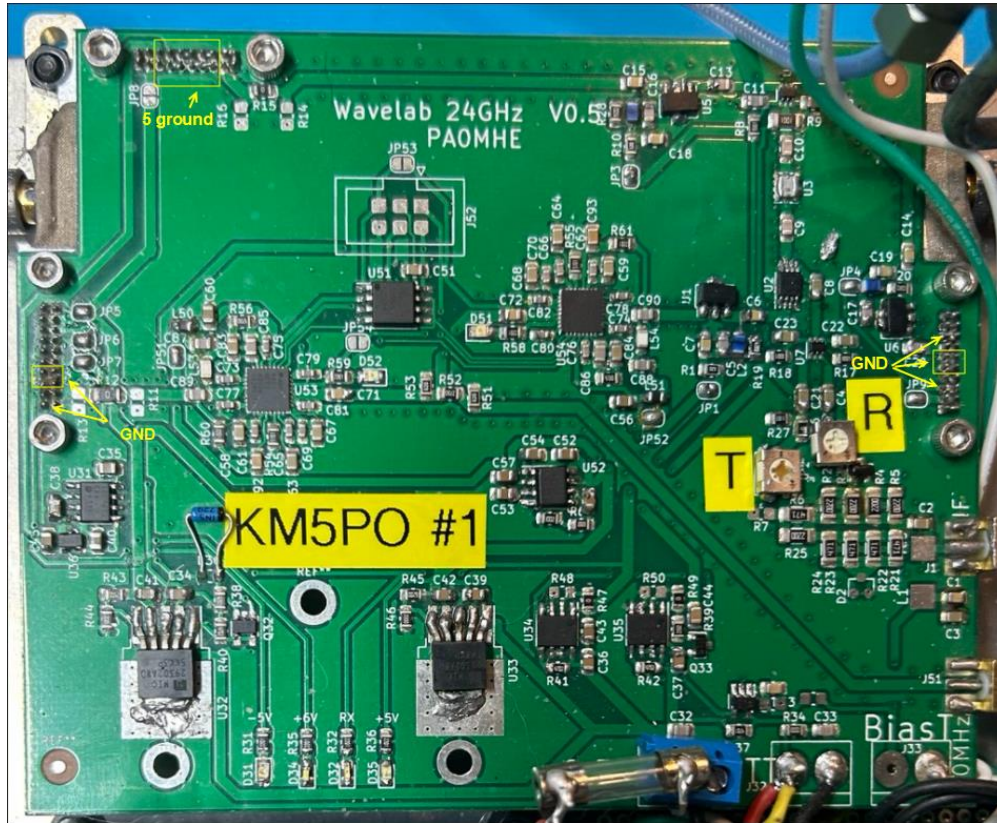
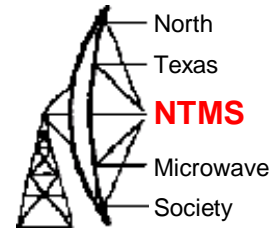


# Soldering technique

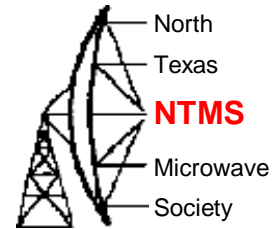


- Solder pin strip headers after DC checks are performed and validated
  - Rough up pin hole connections with light sandpaper
  - Tack one pin in place while insuring connector is aligned properly.
  - Start with J3/upper left -TX IF. 5 ground conns ganged together. 1 edge n/c and 1 edge ground.
  - Next is J4/right side - RX IF. 2 ground conns ganged. 2 other ground, 3 edge are n/c.
  - Last is J2/left side – LO. 2 ground conns ganged. 1 edge ground, other edge is MON but “n/c” on schematic.

# Soldering technique

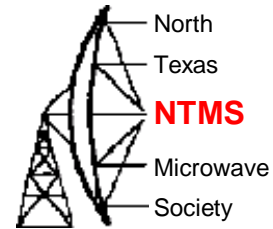


# Inspect solder joints



- Ohm out parts from other connecting parts
  - Filter U3 is easy to short to ground.
    - Through filter resistance is slightly lower than filter in/out ports to ground.
  - L2, L5, L6 – do not overheat. Verify through coil resistance is ~ .27 ohm
    - I pre-tin the pads but do not leave a build up of solder on the pad
  - The mixer sanity checks:
    - *IF port ~ 340 ohms to ground*
    - *RF port 10-14 ohms to ground*
    - *LO port 8-9 ohms to ground*

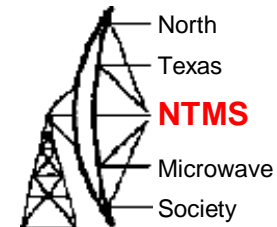
# Building tips



- Use a checklist of parts placement
  - For the NTMS December 2022 PCB order, a checklist is available here:
  - [Parts detail v5.pdf \(ntms.org\)](https://www.ntms.org/parts-detail-v5.pdf)

*W5JAT #1*

Required Parts for December 2022 JLCPCB boards			
Placed	Top to bottom, right to left		
✓	1 L5	near JP3	Do not overheat. Cont chk= .27 ohm
✓	2 U5		
✓	3 U3		
✓	4 L50		
✓	5 ATTINY85		
✓	6 D52 LED blue		
✓	7 D51 LED blue		
✓	8 L51 near JPS2		
✓	9 U1		
✓	10 U2		
✓	11 L2	near JP1	Do not overheat. Cont chk= .27 ohm
✓	12 L6	near JP4	Do not overheat. Cont chk= .27 ohm
✓	13 U6		
✓	14 U36		
✓	15 D36 zener leaded		
✓	16 U52		
✓	17 RV1		
✓	18 U32		High heat on ground tab
✓	19 Q32		
✓	20 U33		High heat on ground tab
✓	21 U34		
✓	22 U35		
✓	23 Q31		
✓	24 D31 LED orange		✓ replace drop resistor w/470 ohm
✓	25 D34 LED white		
✓	26 D32 LED red		
✓	27 D35 LED green		
✓	28 3 header pins		
✓	29 SMA connectors		
✓	30 PTT connector		
✓	31 +6.5v connector		
✓	32 Fuse holder		



# Building tips

- Use a checklist for initial checkout
  - Test sequence from Maarten/PA0MHE and modified for NTMS PCB with substituted parts is here:
  - <https://ntms.org/files/Feb2023/Wavelab power up testing.pdf>

How I did a first time test and measured a new Wavelab 24GHz add-on module.

Supply: +7.4  
 In RX, PTT open, high on pin 1 J32 → 6.25 V  
 - +5V on C42 → 5.9 V  
 - +5V on C43 → 4.9 V  
 - +3V3 on C57 → 3.3 V  
 - -5V on C45 → 5.0 V  
 In TX mode, PTT short to ground, and pin 9 and 10 of J2 temporarily short circuited to simulate the RF module.  
 - +5V on C41 → 4.8 V  
 - +5V on C44 → 4.9 V

PTT switching:  
 In RX:  
 C12 and C22: 0V ✓  
 C11 and C23: 5V ✓  
 In TX:  
 C12 and C22: 5V ✓  
 C11 and C23: 0V ✓

In circuit programming U51:  
 Or directly upload HEX files or compile and upload.  
 In Arduino IDE setting for compiling: Board "ATtiny25/45/85", Processor "ATtiny85", Clock "internal 1MHz"  
 Connect AVRISP MkII to J52  
 Ensure both U53 and U54 are powered: JP51 and JP52 closed.  
 Leave JP53 and JP54 always open

Test ADF4351's U53 and U54:  
 - Test with a multimeter in ohms if U53 and U54 are soldered correctly:  
 - Open pins: With a multimeter in the diode range, the plus terminal to ground and the other to a connected component; e.g. C or R you can measure if the pin is connected. Example: on C64 and C66 connected to pin 23 U54, you should measure ~0.2V.  
 - Check also short circuits: e.g. no short circuit between pin 23 C64 and pin 24 C68.  
 - Measure currents of U53 and U54 on JP51 and JP52: if OK short both jumpers JP51 and JP52 you can expect 71mA no code loaded 88mA code loaded  
 - with a DC voltmeter I usually check all DC values on all pins of U53 and U54, tapping on connected components. But perhaps this step is only needed to find fault.  
 - Ensure U51 is programmed  
 - Ensure 10MHz reference is connected and arrives at inputs of U53 and U54  
 - Connect supply; after 1 second first lock indication should switch on 500ms later also the other.  
 - 1497MHz should be present at pin 17-18 J2

Check U1: connect a current meter between pins 1 and 2 from JP1: you should expect a current of ~55 mA, if OK short JP1  
 - 432MHz (case IF 432MHz) should be present on C6  
 - 1932MHz (case IF 432MHz) should be present on C6 (KM5PO: 2220 MHz case IF 144 MHz)

Test 2364MHz TX:  
 Place module in TX, PTT short to ground  
 - Check U5: connect a current meter between pins 1 and 2 from JP3: you should expect a current of ~55 mA, if OK short JP3  
 - 2364MHz should be present on pin 3-4 J3 (As test stimulus I usually connect +2dBm 432MHz on C8, and measure +1dBm on 2364MHz)

Test RX:  
 Place module in RX, PTT open  
 - Check U6: connect a current meter between pins 1 and 2 from JP4: you should expect a current of ~15 mA (case MGA-86576), if OK short JP3 (KM5PO: expect ~85-90 mA due to substituted part)  
 - As test stimulus I insert -20dBm 2364MHz (e.g. from a Pluto) on pin 13-14 J4 and I measure RX gain ~4dB 432MHz on J1 (KM5PO: inject -20 dBm 2364 MHz on C20 and measure RX 144 MHz output -28dBm at J1 also 2<sup>nd</sup> test: inject 24192.1 harmonic into Wavelab module RX port and measure -46 dBm 2364 MHz on C20 and measure -40 dBm 144 MHz at C8)

Add-on module current consumption:  
 RX mode: ~300mA  
 TX mode: ~335mA

Finally I mount the piggybacks and mate with the RF module.  
 Then step by step I verify the currents via the solder jumpers and close them.

KM5PO: Fully assembled PCB board to module current consumption:  
 RX mode: ~300mA  
 TX mode: ~335mA

*Handwritten notes:*  
 "j10 5/6 on J2 found to be grounded"  
 "K15EMNH#1"  
 "2.0W"  
 "1.47V -2.5V -3.3V -5.0V PTT down"  
 "72mA both L20s"  
 "3.9V"  
 "54mA"  
 "1.0V"  
 "8.0mA"  
 "92mA"  
 "C89 = 1.819 GHz"  
 "C90 = 2.220 GHz"  
 "TX channel 340"  
 "Pen out test"  
 "RX PTT TX Pt TX 400V"  
 "-75 -54 -34 7.5"  
 "-52 -33 -23 6.3"  
 "-50 -28.5 -6.3"

24 GHz PA0MHE checklist for testing PCB. Modifications by KM5PO.

How I did a first time test and measured a new Wavelab 24GHz add-on module.

I use a step by step approach:  
 - The piggybacks J2, J3 and J4 I only mount afterwards.  
 - Optically check if everything is present and well soldered.

Supply: (KM5PO: My supply was set 6.8V)  
 In RX, PTT open, high on pin 1 J32  
 - +5V on C42  
 - +5V on C43  
 - +3V3 on C57  
 - -5V on C45  
 In TX mode, PTT short to ground, and pin 9 and 10 of J2 temporarily short circuited to simulate the RF module.  
 - +5V on C41  
 - +5V on C44

PTT switching:  
 In RX:  
 C12 and C22: 0V  
 C11 and C23: 5V  
 In TX:  
 C12 and C22: 5V  
 C11 and C23: 0V

In circuit programming U51:  
 Or directly upload HEX files or compile and upload.  
 Arduino IDE setting for compiling: Board "ATtiny25/45/85", Processor "ATtiny85", clock "internal 1MHz"  
 Connect AVRISP MkII to J52  
 Ensure both U53 and U54 are powered: JP51 and JP52 closed.  
 Leave JP53 and JP54 always open

Test ADF4351's U53 and U54:  
 - Test with a multimeter in ohms if U53 and U54 are soldered correctly:  
 - Open pins: With a multimeter in the diode range, the plus terminal to ground and the other to a connected component; e.g. C or R you can measure if the pin is connected. Example: on C64 and C66, connected to pin 23 U54, you should measure ~0.2V.  
 - Check also short circuits: e.g. no short circuit between pin 23 C64 and pin 24 C68.  
 - Measure currents of U53 and U54 are powered: JP51 and JP52 closed. (KM5PO: measure current across these two jumpers first - see below - then close jumpers)  
 Leave JP53 and JP54 always open

Test 2364MHz TX:  
 Place module in TX, PTT short to ground  
 - Check U5: connect a current meter between pins 1 and 2 from JP3: you should expect a current of ~55 mA, if OK short JP3  
 - 2364MHz should be present on pin 3-4 J3 (As test stimulus I usually connect +2dBm 432MHz on C8, and measure +1dBm on 2364MHz)

Test RX:  
 Place module in RX, PTT open  
 - Check U6: connect a current meter between pins 1 and 2 from JP4: you should expect a current of ~15 mA (case MGA-86576), if OK short JP3 (KM5PO: expect ~85-90 mA due to substituted part)  
 - As test stimulus I insert -20dBm 2364MHz (e.g. from a Pluto) on pin 13-14 J4 and I measure RX gain ~4dB 432MHz on J1 (KM5PO: inject -20 dBm 2364 MHz on C20 and measure RX 144 MHz output -28dBm at J1 also 2<sup>nd</sup> test: inject 24192.1 harmonic into Wavelab module RX port and measure -46 dBm 2364 MHz on C20 and measure -40 dBm 144 MHz at C8)

Add-on module current consumption:  
 RX mode: ~300mA  
 TX mode: ~335mA

Finally I mount the piggybacks and mate with the RF module.  
 Then step by step I verify the currents via the solder jumpers and close them.

KM5PO: Fully assembled PCB board to module current consumption:  
 RX mode: ~300mA  
 TX mode: ~335mA

Connect supply; after 1 second first lock indication should switch on 500ms later also the other.  
 - 1807MHz should be present at pin 17-18 J2 (KM5PO: for U.S. Terrestrial use this should be 1819 MHz)  
 - Check U1: connect a current meter between pins 1 and 2 from JP1: you should expect a current of ~55 mA, if OK short JP1 (KM5PO: expect ~80 mA due to substituted part)  
 - 1932MHz (case IF 432MHz) should be present on C6 (KM5PO: 2220 MHz case IF 144 MHz)

Test 2364MHz TX:  
 Place module in TX, PTT short to ground (KM5PO: apply <= 1 watt 144 MHz IF drive at J1 or inject +5 dBm at C8 note: TX IF attenuation pot is at minimum value fully CCW and placed resistors on psd make up 20 dB of attenuation from J1)  
 - Check U5: connect a current meter between pins 1 and 2 from JP3: you should expect a current of ~55 mA, if OK short JP3 (KM5PO: expect ~80 mA due to substituted part)  
 - 2364MHz should be present on pin 3-4 J3 (As test stimulus I usually connect +2dBm 432MHz on C8, and measure +1dBm on 2364MHz) (KM5PO: with drive supplied as noted above, expect ~+5 to +8 dBm 2364 MHz on pin 3-4 J3)

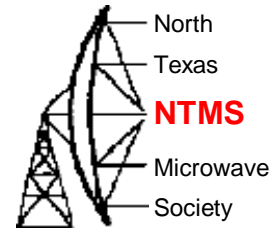
Test RX:  
 Place module in RX, PTT open  
 - Check U6: connect a current meter between pins 1 and 2 from JP4: you should expect a current of ~15 mA (case MGA-86576), if OK short JP3 (KM5PO: expect ~85-90 mA due to substituted part)  
 - As test stimulus I insert -20dBm 2364MHz (e.g. from a Pluto) on pin 13-14 J4 and I measure RX gain ~4dB 432MHz on J1 (KM5PO: inject -20 dBm 2364 MHz on C20 and measure RX 144 MHz output -28dBm at J1 also 2<sup>nd</sup> test: inject 24192.1 harmonic into Wavelab module RX port and measure -46 dBm 2364 MHz on C20 and measure -40 dBm 144 MHz at C8)

Add-on module current consumption:  
 RX mode: ~300mA  
 TX mode: ~335mA

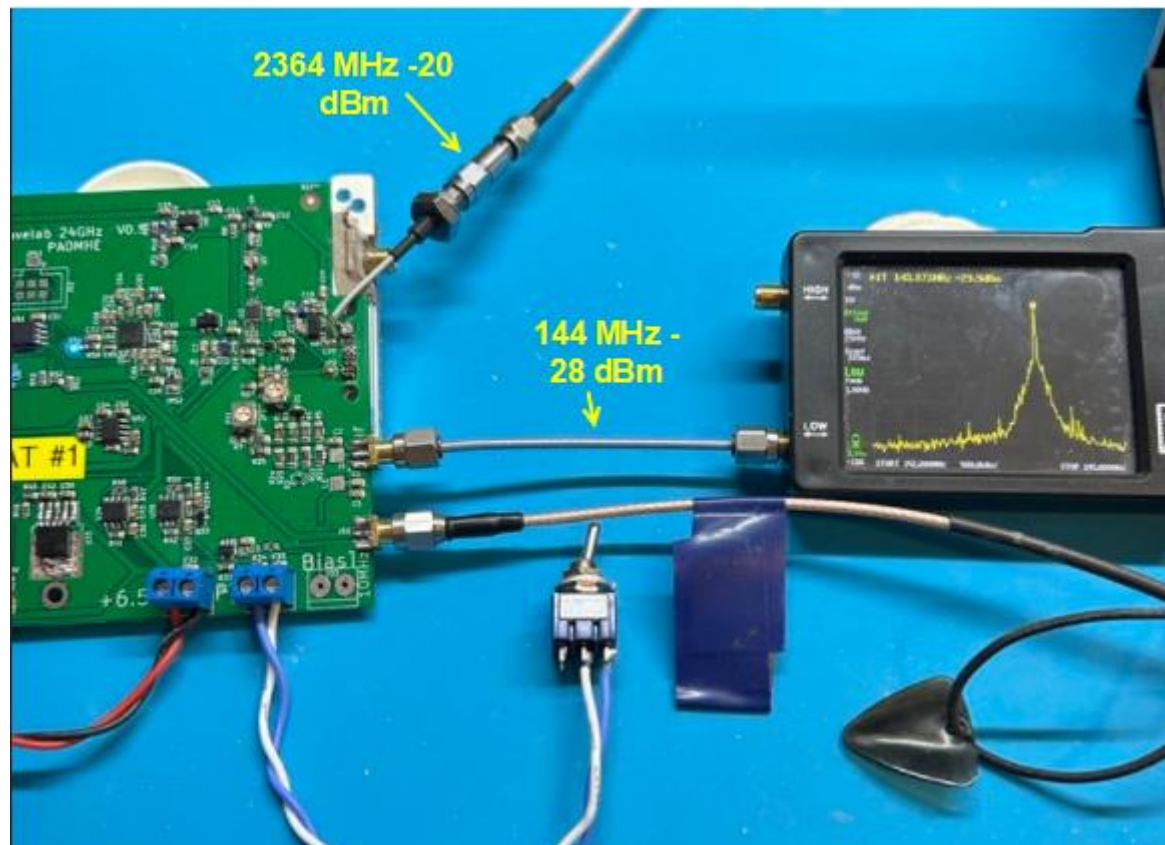
Finally I mount the piggybacks and mate with the RF module.  
 Then step by step I verify the currents via the solder jumpers and close them.

KM5PO: Fully assembled PCB board to module current consumption:  
 RX mode: ~300mA  
 TX mode: ~335mA

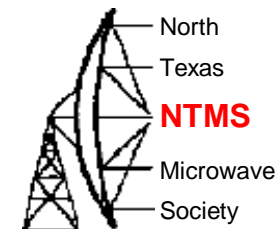
# Building tips



- Use a checklist for initial checkout
  - <https://ntms.org/files/Feb2023/Wavelab power up testing.pdf>

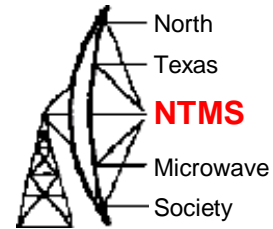


# Building tips

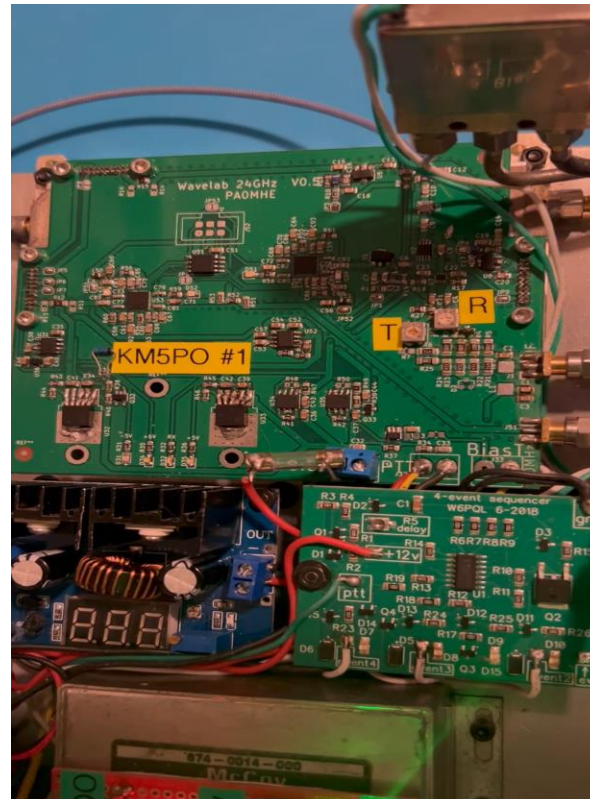


- DC power reversal
  - Hook up the input DC power backwards and expect to replace:
    - U31 – Charge pump voltage inverter
    - U34 – LDO voltage regulator
    - U35 – LDO voltage regulator
    - Many ways to prevent this but at minimum install a 3 A fast blow fuse on +6.5 V line.
- D31 LED (- 5 V sense) place Anode on ground pad!
  - Opposite of the other three voltage sense LEDs...
- Even though LO synth LED “lock” lights up, if you see a big signal ~ 750 Mhz at LO #1 output (*should be 1819 MHz*) then you do not have 10 MHz ref lock.
  - Correct behavior of LO lock LEDs at power on is 1819 MHz lights first (left side of board), then 2220 MHz one second later.
  - I used 15 dBm reference in the shop for initial testing of the PCB boards.
  - Final build used McCoy OCXO with 13 dBm output + 3 dB attenuator ahead of ref input.

# Building tips

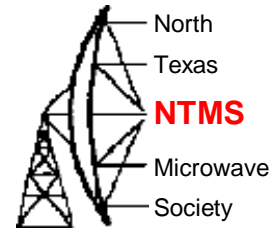


- Correct behavior of LO lock LEDs at power on is 1819 MHz lights first (left side of board), then 2220 MHz one second later.

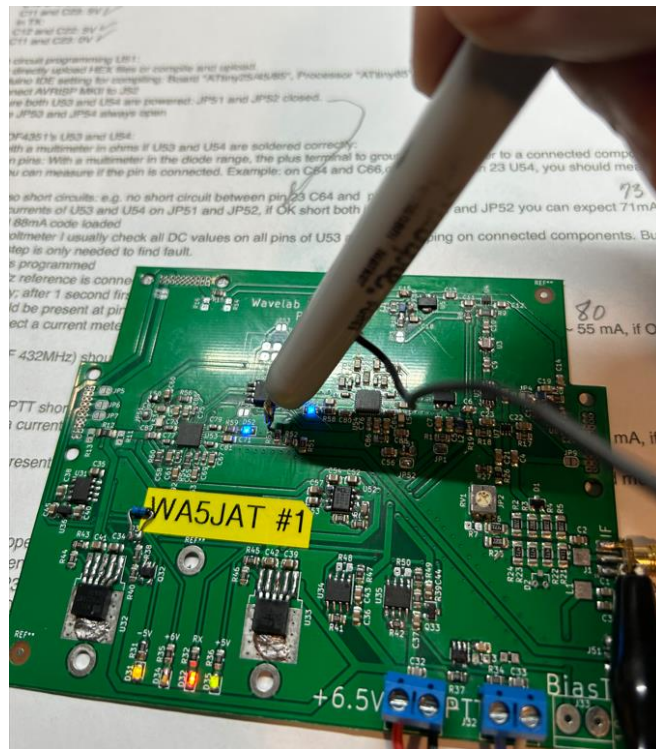




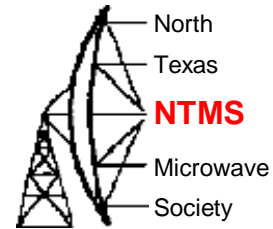
# Building tips



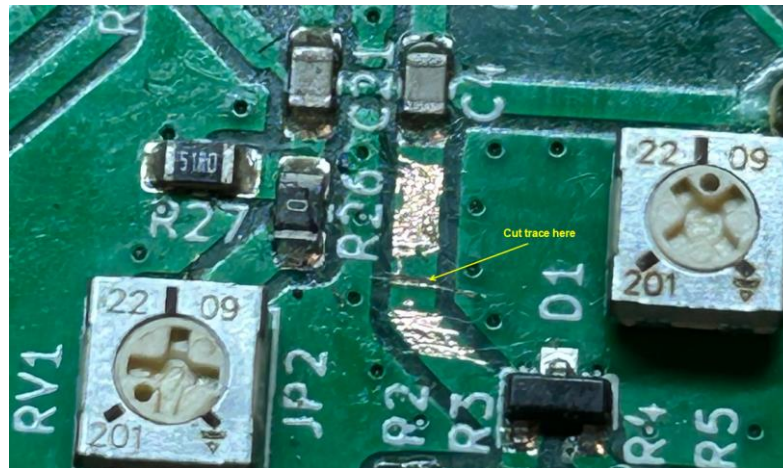
- Placing a probe between the LO LEDs will sample both LO frequencies



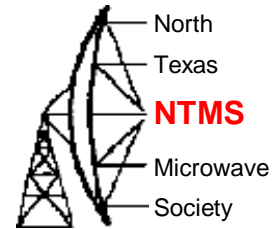
# Building tips



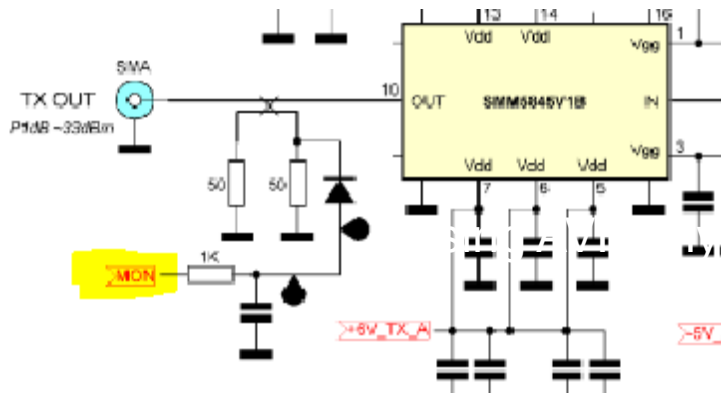
If you want to add receive side IF attenuation prepare the trace below C4



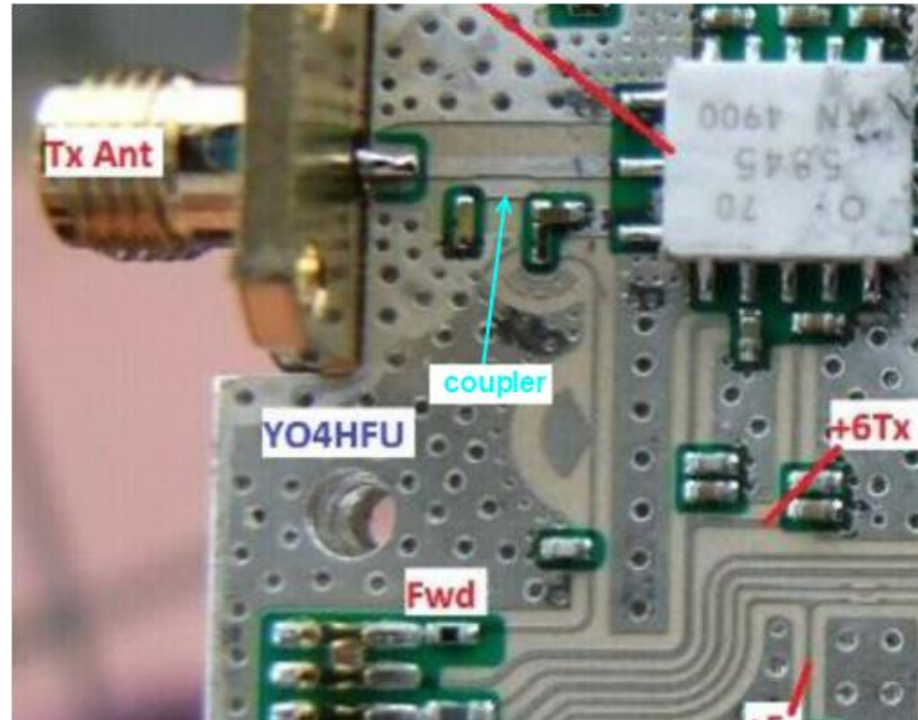
# Monitor port



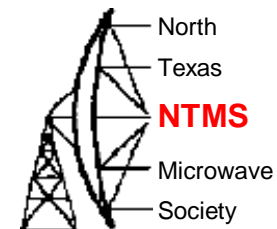
- Mon(itor) port



Measure varies from -.5 to -3.5v (J2 pin 1)

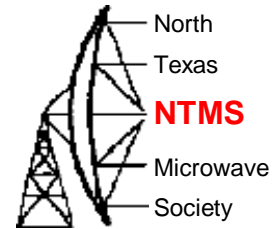


# Program ATTINY



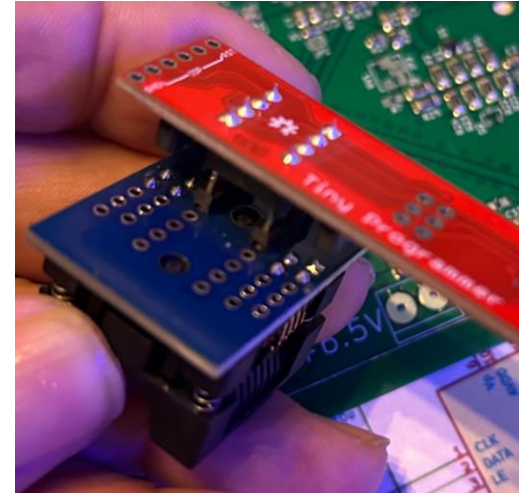
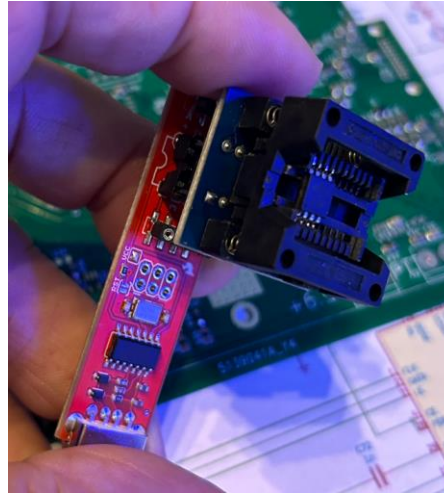
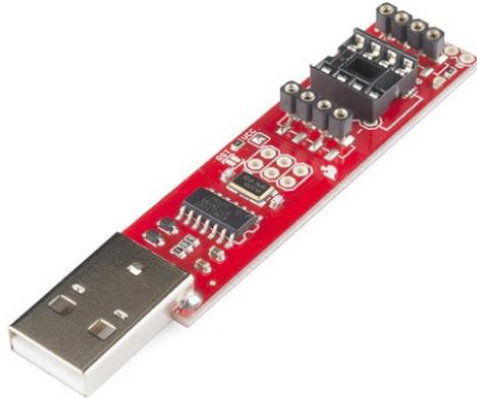
- Arduino sketch is on GitHub
  - [Wavelab-24G-Addon-module/ADF4351\\_fixed\\_tiny\\_24GHz.ino at main · PA0MHE/Wavelab-24G-Addon-module · GitHub](#)
  - Arduino integrated development environment needed (Free)
- Use Arduino IDE to burn bootloader to Uno and then upload Wavelab sketch to ATTINY
  - Uno required, breadboards, patch wiring
  - [Program an ATtiny With Arduino : 7 Steps \(with Pictures\) - Instructables](#)
- Use sparkfun “AVR tiny programmer” and SOIC chip holder, install drivers, upload Wavelab sketch directly to ATTINY
  - This will be explained in the following slides

# Programming tools

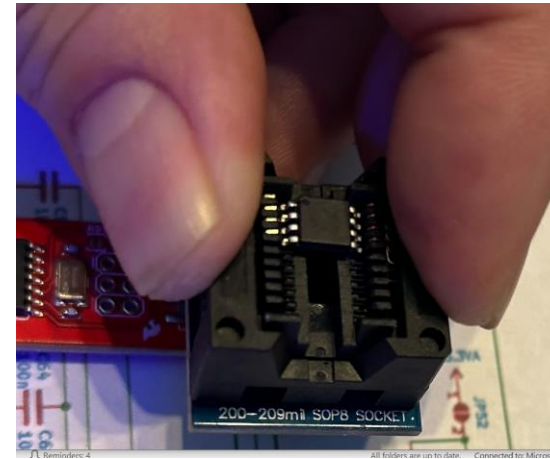


- Using AVR tiny programmer (windows)
  - Plug the programmer into your USB
  - If drivers are not found then download Zadig USBTiny drivers
  - Ref:<https://learn.sparkfun.com/tutorials/tiny-avr-programmer-hookup-guide/all>
  - Download the ATTINY addon to your Arduino IDE from GitHub
  - Configure IDE to use ATTINY85 (internal 1 MHz clock)
    - *Tools>Board>ATtiny85 (internal 1 MHz clock)*
  - Configure IDE to use ATTINY85 processor
    - *Tools>Processor>ATTINY85*
  - Configure IDE to use programmer USBtinyISP
    - *Tools>Programmer>USBtinyISP*
  - Plug in the ATTINY
  - Upload the code. (Use a blink sample sketch if you want to test 1<sup>st</sup> time)

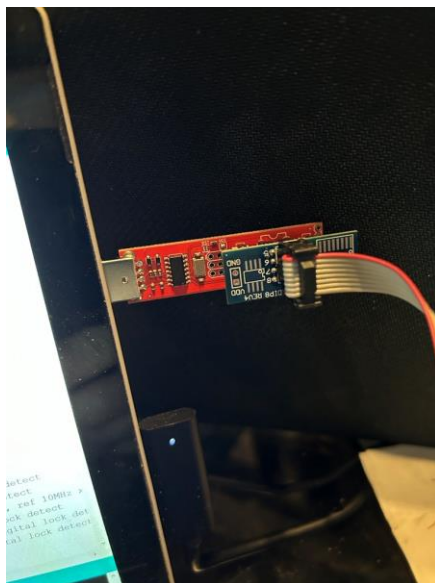
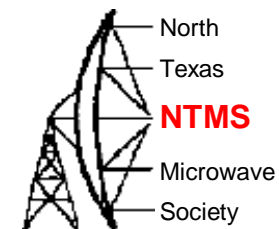
# Programming tools



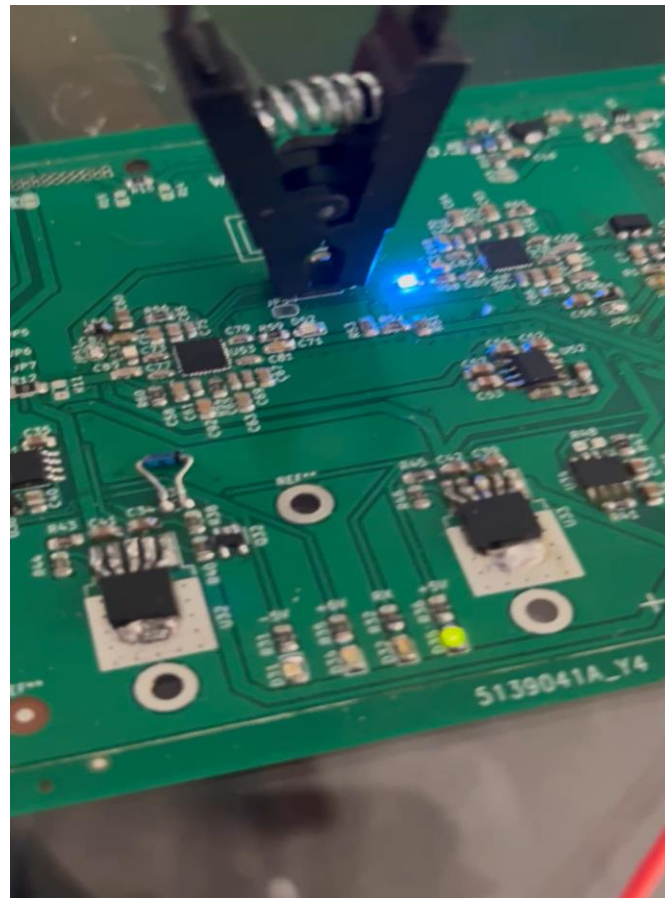
- On Amazon
  - AVR Tiny Programmer
  - SOIC8 SOP8 to DIP8 IC Programmer Socket Converter (verify the device will handle 200+ mil sizing)



# In circuit programmer (clip)

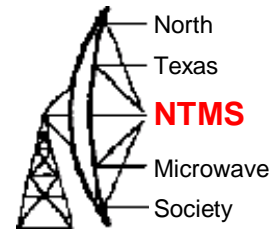


- I use the TinyProgrammer and plug in a cable with clip.
- Red wire in cable orients to pin 1 of the on-board chip to be programmed.



Video: +5v LED lights, #2 LO blinks, #1 LO blinks, then pause and #2 LO steady on.

# LO frequencies



- The plan to put the module on USA terrestrial 24192 MHz

Synthesizer 1 ADF 1	1819 MHz	x 12 mult	21828 MHz	
Synthesizer 2 ADF 2	2220 MHz		2220 MHz	
			24048 MHz	
			144 MHz	IF
			24192 MHz	Final

- For 144 MHz IF use the reg1 & reg2 lines below highlighted and comment out all others.

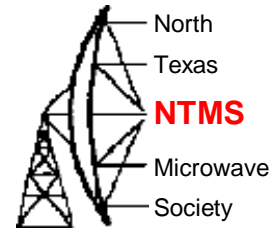
```

23 uint32_t reg1[6] = {0x5A0038, 0x8008051, 0x1A004E42, 0x4B3, 0x9A003C, 0x580005}; // 1807MHz, ref 10MHz x2, 5dBm, Muxout: digital lock detect
24 + //uint32_t reg1[6] = {0x5A8048, 0x8008051, 0x1A004E42, 0x4B3, 0x9A003C, 0x580005}; // 1819MHz, ref 10MHz x2, 5dBm, Muxout: digital lock detect
25 //uint32_t reg2[6] = {0x378000, 0x8008011, 0x1A004E42, 0x4B3, 0x8A003C, 0x580005}; // 2m, 2220MHz, ref 10MHz x2, 5dBm, Muxout: digital lock detect
26 + //uint32_t reg2[6] = { 0x600018, 0x8008029, 0x1A004E42, 0x4B3, 0x9A003C, 0x580005 }; //438MHz, 1926MHz, ref 10MHz x2, 5dBm, Muxout: digital lock detect
27 uint32_t reg2[6] = {0x608008, 0x8008029, 0x1A004E42, 0x4B3, 0x9A003C, 0x580005}; // 70cm, 1932MHz, ref 10MHz x2, 5dBm, Muxout: digital lock detect

```



# LO frequencies



- Pertinent register values are the first two hex strings

```

23 uint32_t reg1[6] = {0x5A0038, 0x8008051, 0x1A004E42, 0x483, 0x9A003C, 0x580005}; // 1807MHz, ref 10MHz x2, 5dBm, Muxout: digital lock detect
24 + //uint32_t reg1[6] = {0x5A8048, 0x8008051, 0x1A004E42, 0x483, 0x9A003C, 0x580005}; // 1819MHz, ref 10MHz x2, 5dBm, Muxout: digital lock detect
25 //uint32_t reg2[6] = {0x378000, 0x8008011, 0x1A004E42, 0x483, 0x8A003C, 0x580005}; // 2m, 2220MHz, ref 10MHz x2, 5dBm, Muxout: digital lock detect
26 + //uint32_t reg2[6] = { 0x600018, 0x8008029, 0x1A004E42, 0x483, 0x9A003C, 0x580005 }; //438MHz, 1926MHz, ref 10MHz x2, 5dBm, Muxout: digital lock detect
27 uint32_t reg2[6] = {0x608008, 0x8008029, 0x1A004E42, 0x483, 0x9A003C, 0x580005}; // 70cm, 1932MHz, ref 10MHz x2, 5dBm, Muxout: digital lock detect

```

Reg 1 will control Integer and Fractional values

Enter hex number

 16
   
  

Binary number

 2

Reg 2 controls Phase adjust, prescaler (8/9), Modulus value

Enter hex number

 16
   
  

Binary number

 2

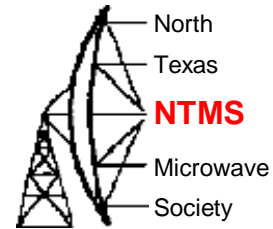
**ADF4351**

Data Sheet

## REGISTER MAPS

INTEGGER REGISTER 0																FRACTION												CONTROL BITS			
Dec: 181																Dec: 009															
0 1 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1																												0 0 0			
16-BIT INTEGER VALUE (INT)																12-BIT FRACTIONAL VALUE (FRAC)												CONTROL BITS			
DB31	DB30	DB29	DB28	DB27	DB26	DB25	DB24	DB23	DB22	DB21	DB20	DB19	DB18	DB17	DB16	DB15	DB14	DB13	DB12	DB11	DB10	DB9	DB8	DB7	DB6	DB5	DB4	DB3	DB2	DB1	DB0
0	N16	N15	N14	N13	N12	N11	N10	N9	N8	N7	N6	N5	N4	N3	N2	N1	F12	F11	F10	F9	F8	F7	F6	F5	F4	F3	F2	F1	C3(0)	C2(0)	C1(0)

# LO frequencies



- There's an app for that!!

Analog Devices ADF435x Software

File Tools Help

Select Device and Connection Main Controls Registers Sweep and Hop Other Functions Features

**RF Settings**

**Output**      **VCO**

RF Frequency: 1819 3638 MHz

Channel spacing: 1 2 kHz

Output divider: 2

Reference Frequency: 10 MHz

R counter: 1 Ref Doubler:  Ref /2:

PFD Frequency: 20 MHz

Prescaler: 8/9

Feedback signal: Fundamental 3638 MHz

**INT**      **FRAC**      **PFD (MHz)**      **Div**      **RFout (MHz)**

$(\frac{181}{10} + \frac{9}{10}) \times 20 / 2 = 1819$

**MOD**      **N = 181.9**

Phase adjust: 0. Off      Phase Value: 1

**Register 2**

Low Noise/Spur Mode: Low noise mode      LDP: 10 ns

Muxout: Digital Lock dete      PD Polarity: Positive

Double buff: Disabled      Powerdown: Disabled

Charge pump current: 2.50      CP 3-state: Disabled

LDF: FRAC-N      Counter reset: Disabled

**Register 3**

Band Select Clock Mode: Low      ABP: 6 ns (FRAC-N)

Charge Cancellation: Disabled      CSR: Disabled

Clock Divider Value: 150

CLK Div Mode: Clock Divider Off

**Register 4**

VCO Powerdown: Disabled

MTLD: Disabled

Aux Output Select: Divided

Aux Output Enable: 0. Disabled

Aux Output Power: -4 dBm

RF Output Enable: 1. Enabled

RF Output Power: +5 dBm

**Register 5**

LD Pin Mode: Digital Lock Detect

**Register 4**

VCO Powerdown: Disabled

MTLD: Disabled

Aux Output Select: Divided

Aux Output Enable: 0. Disabled

Aux Output Power: -4 dBm

RF Output Enable: 1. Enabled

RF Output Power: +5 dBm

**Band Select Clock**

Auto set      Divider: 160

Freq (kHz): 125.000

**Registers**

0x 5A8048	0x 8008051	0x 1A004E42	0x 4B3	0x 9A003C	0x 580005
Write R0	Write R1	Write R2	Write R3	Write R4	Write R5

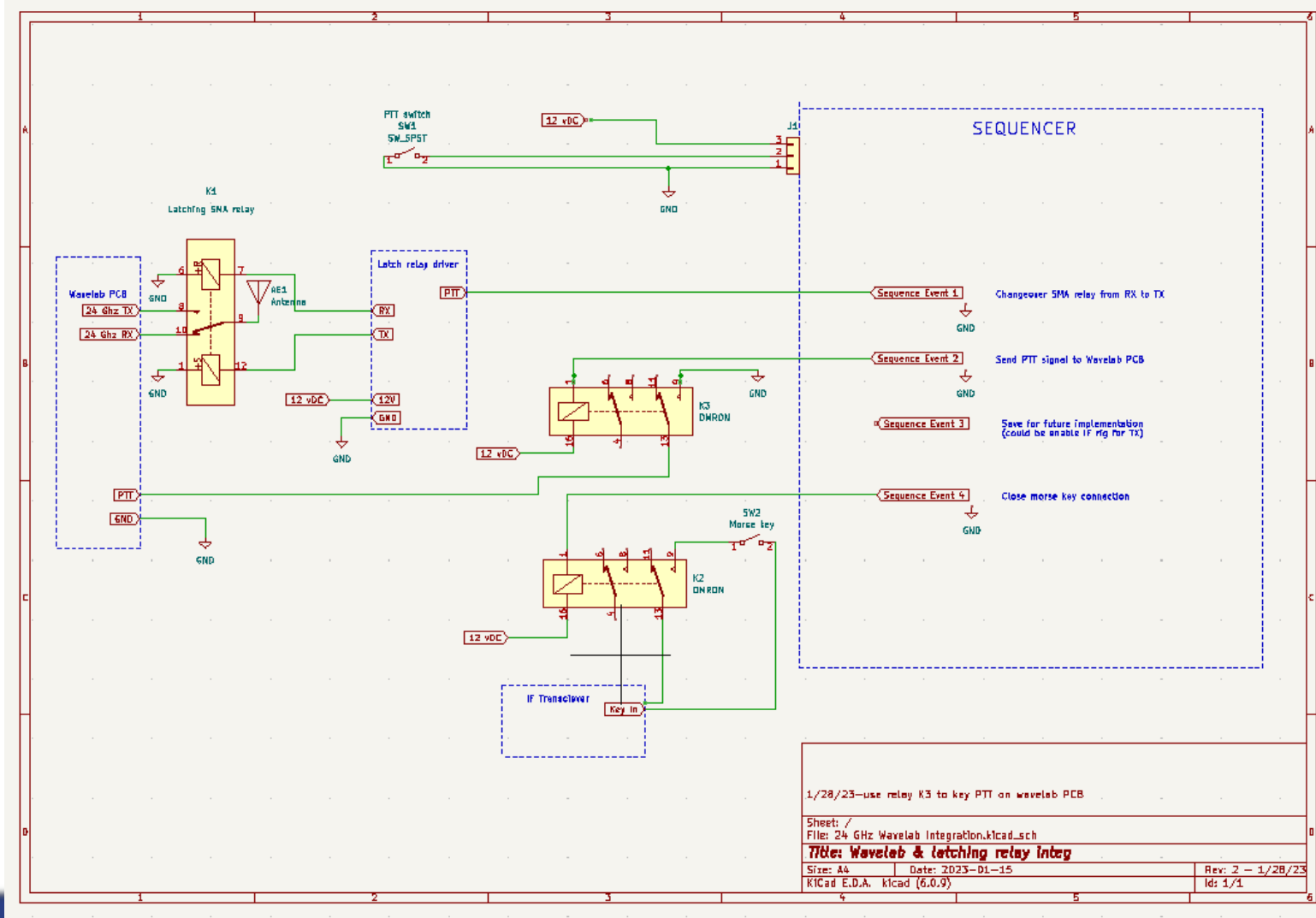
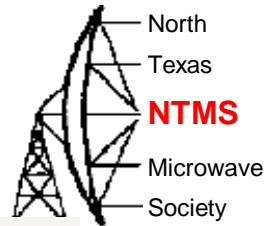
Write All Registers

Application started.  
 15:09:44: No USB adapter board attached. Try unplugging and re-plugging the USB cable.  
 17:41:02: No USB adapter board attached. Try unplugging and re-plugging the USB cable.

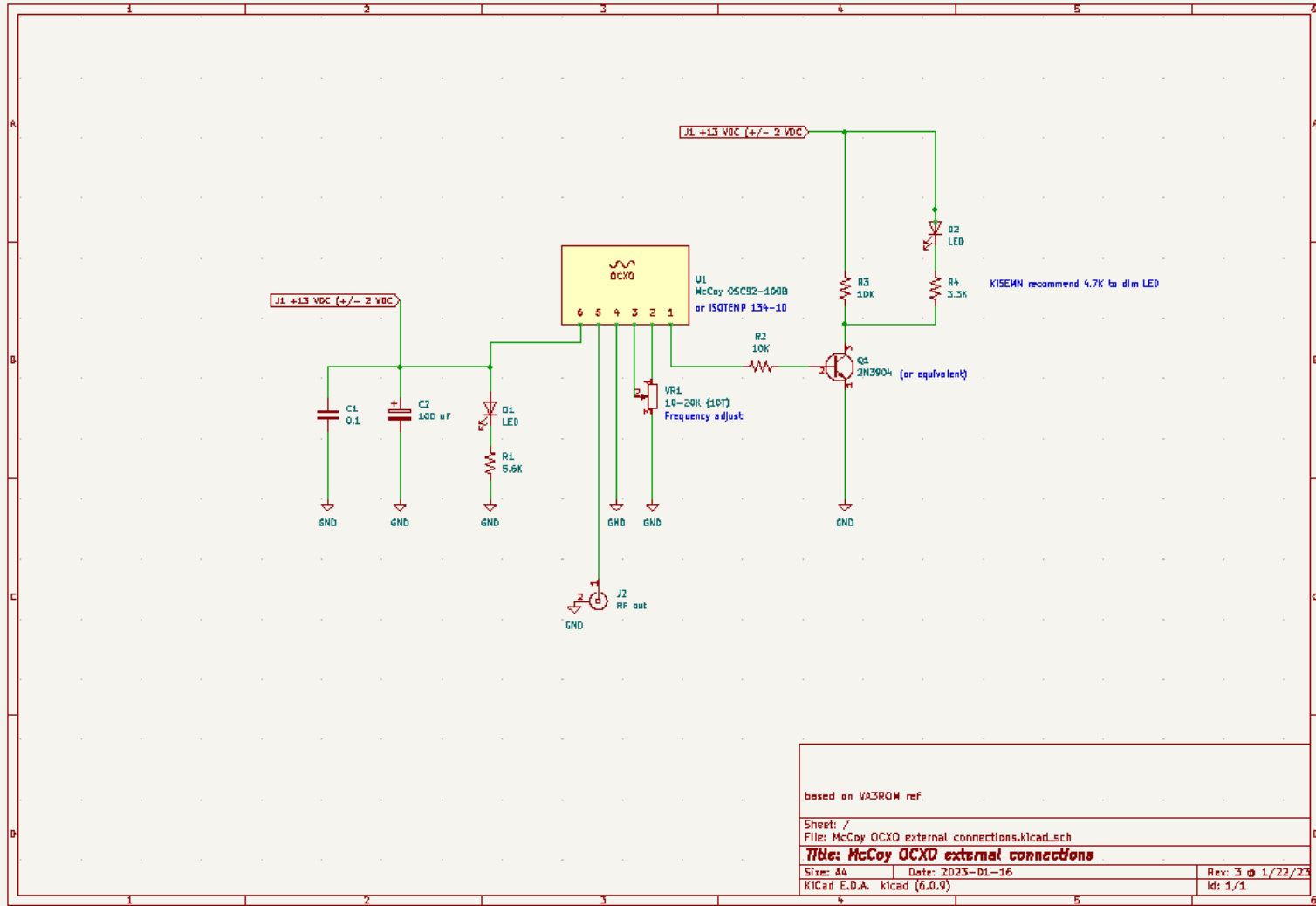
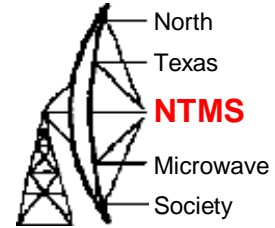
Device in use: ADF4351  
 Software version: 4.5.1

**ANALOG DEVICES**

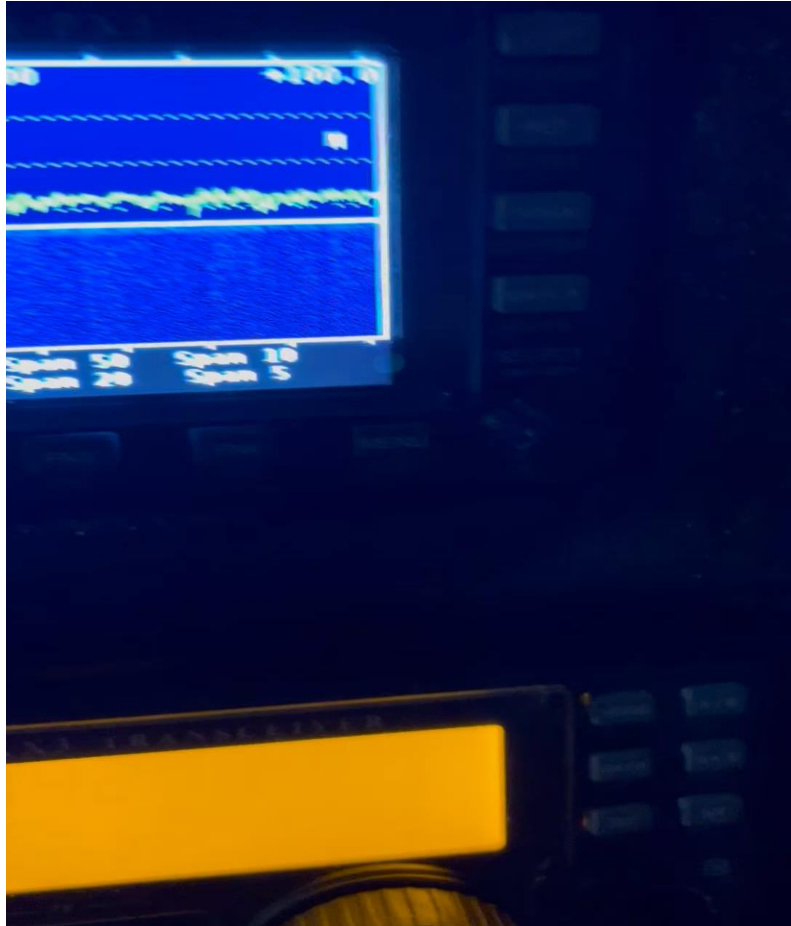
# Integration



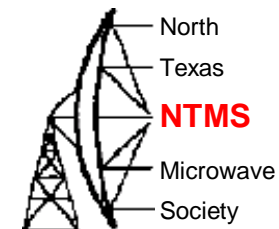
# OCXO



# High Hawk proving ground – Feb 3, 2023



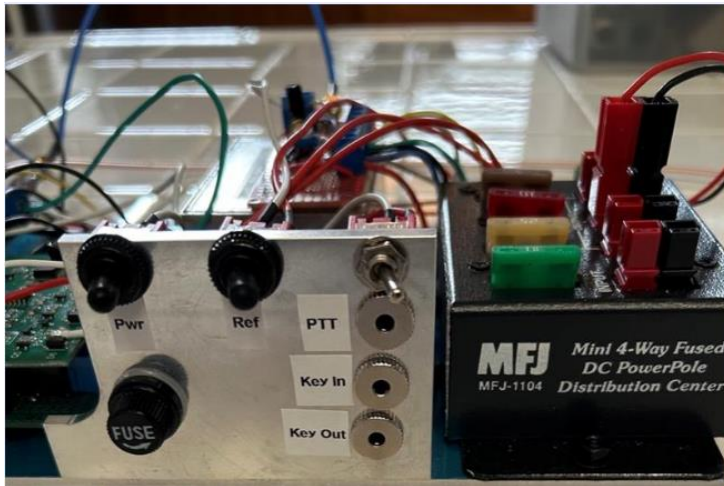
# WA5JAT unit



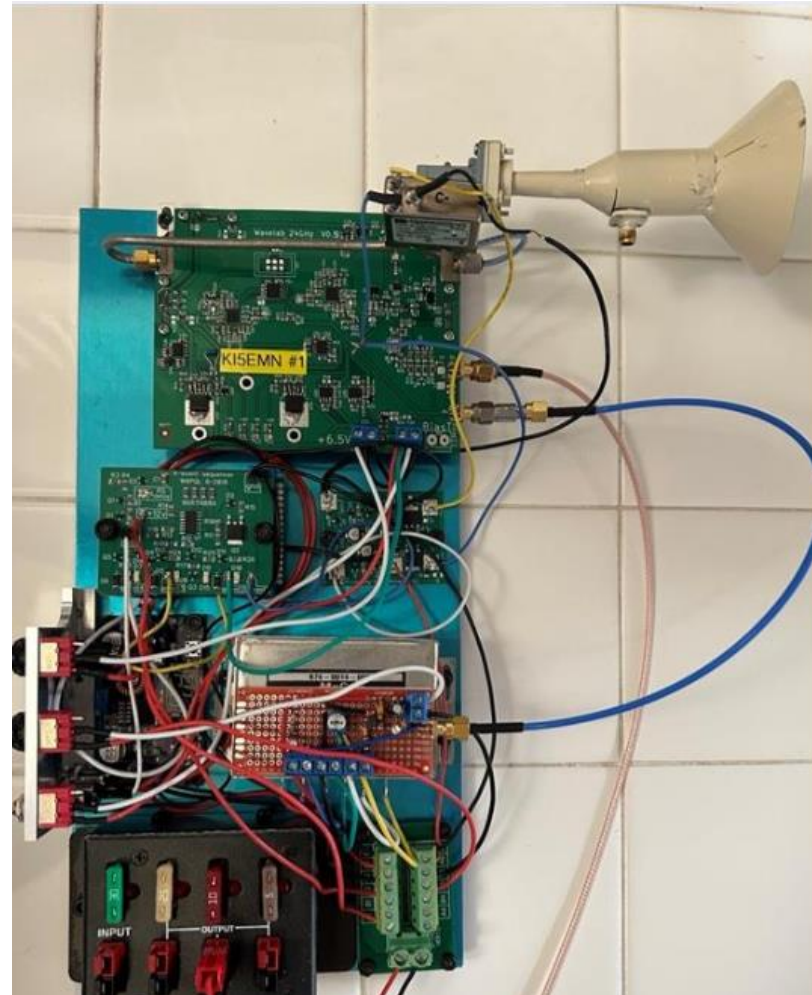
- Passes all tests and measured +32 dBm output



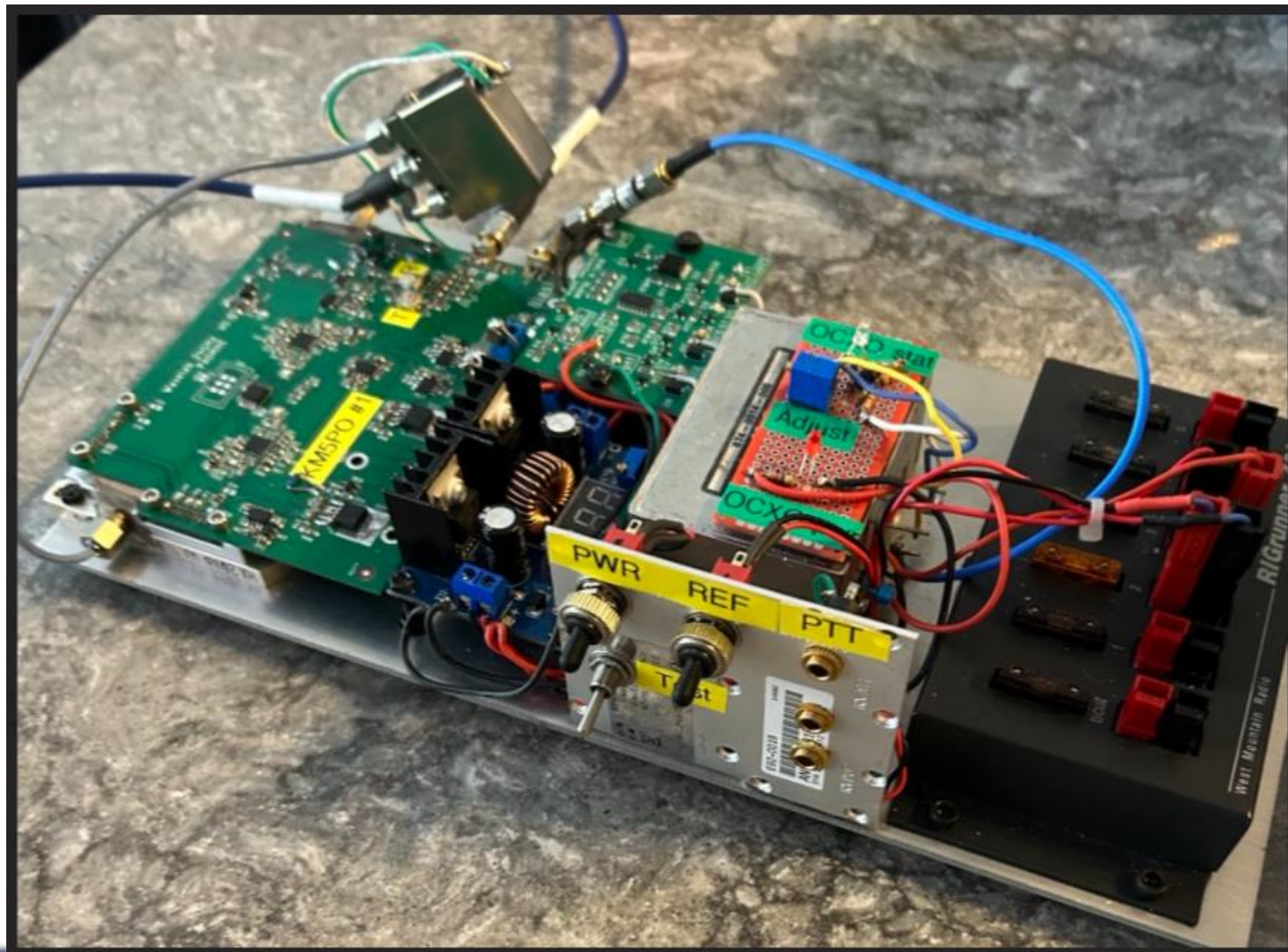
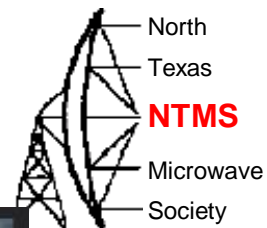
# KI5EMN unit



Uses latching relay driver with  
SMA latching relay

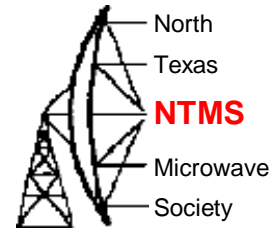


# KM5PO unit

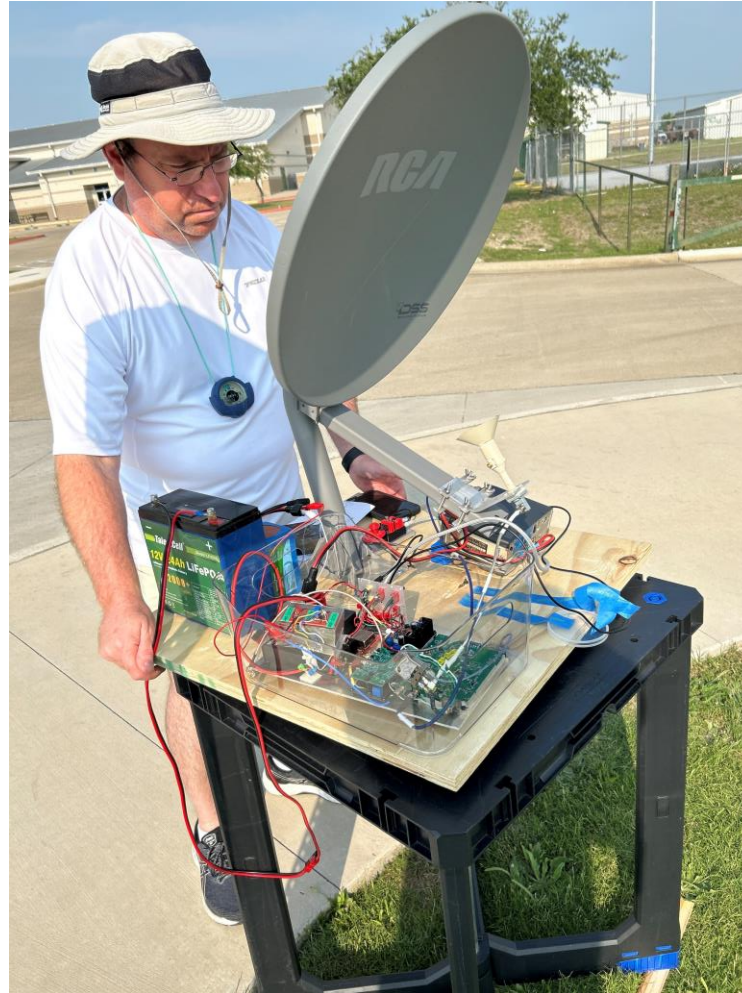




# KI5EMN – Blue Ridge, Texas



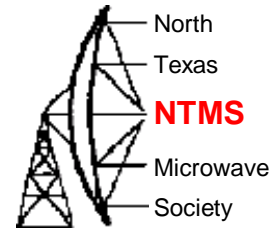
- Recent on-the-air operation – NTMS MAD May 21, 2023



- Wavelab, PA0MHE add-on board, 18" dish.
- 30 km 599 contacts

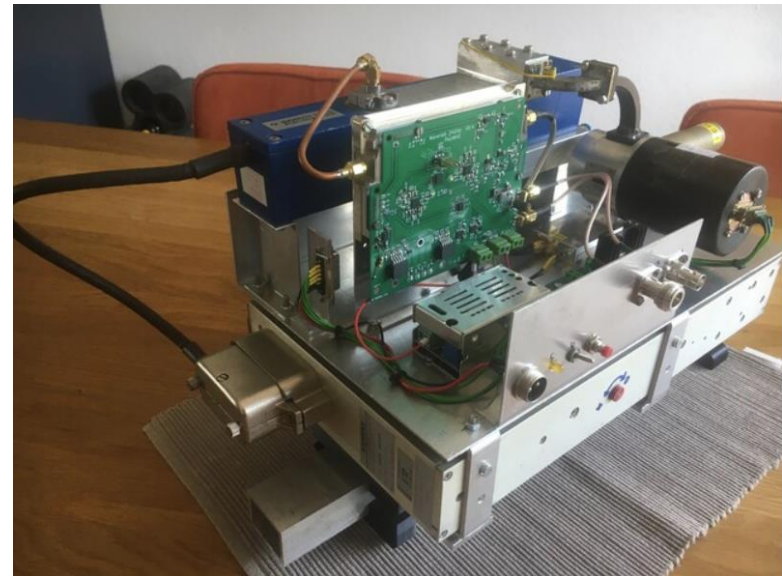
# Wavelab 24 GHz EME

May 18, 2023- Hans PE1CKK worked PA0BAT via EME



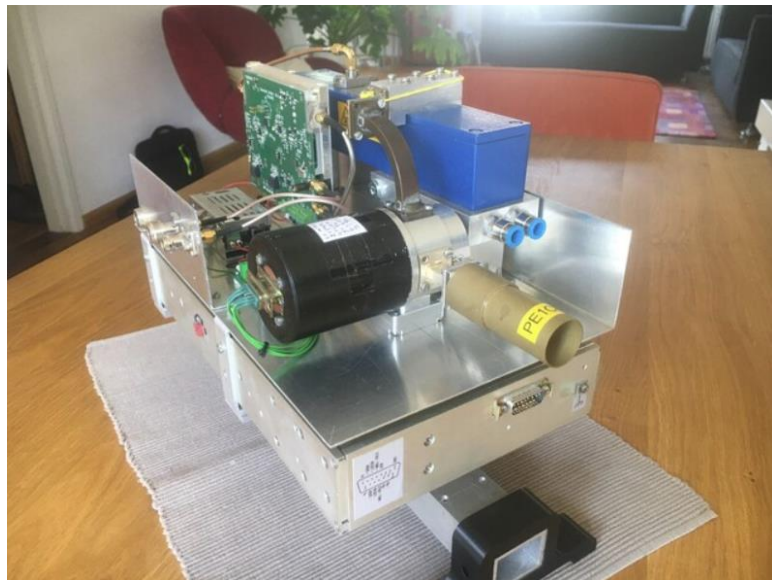
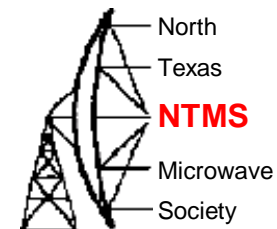
- Wavelab with PA0MHE addon board
- RW1127 TWT 30W converted to 24G
- DU3T preamp nf 1dB

- WG switch
- Dualmode feedhorn calculated for  $f/D$  0,8
- 1.8m Prodelin offset dish

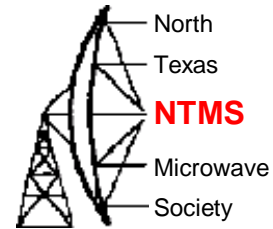


# Wavelab 24 GHz EME

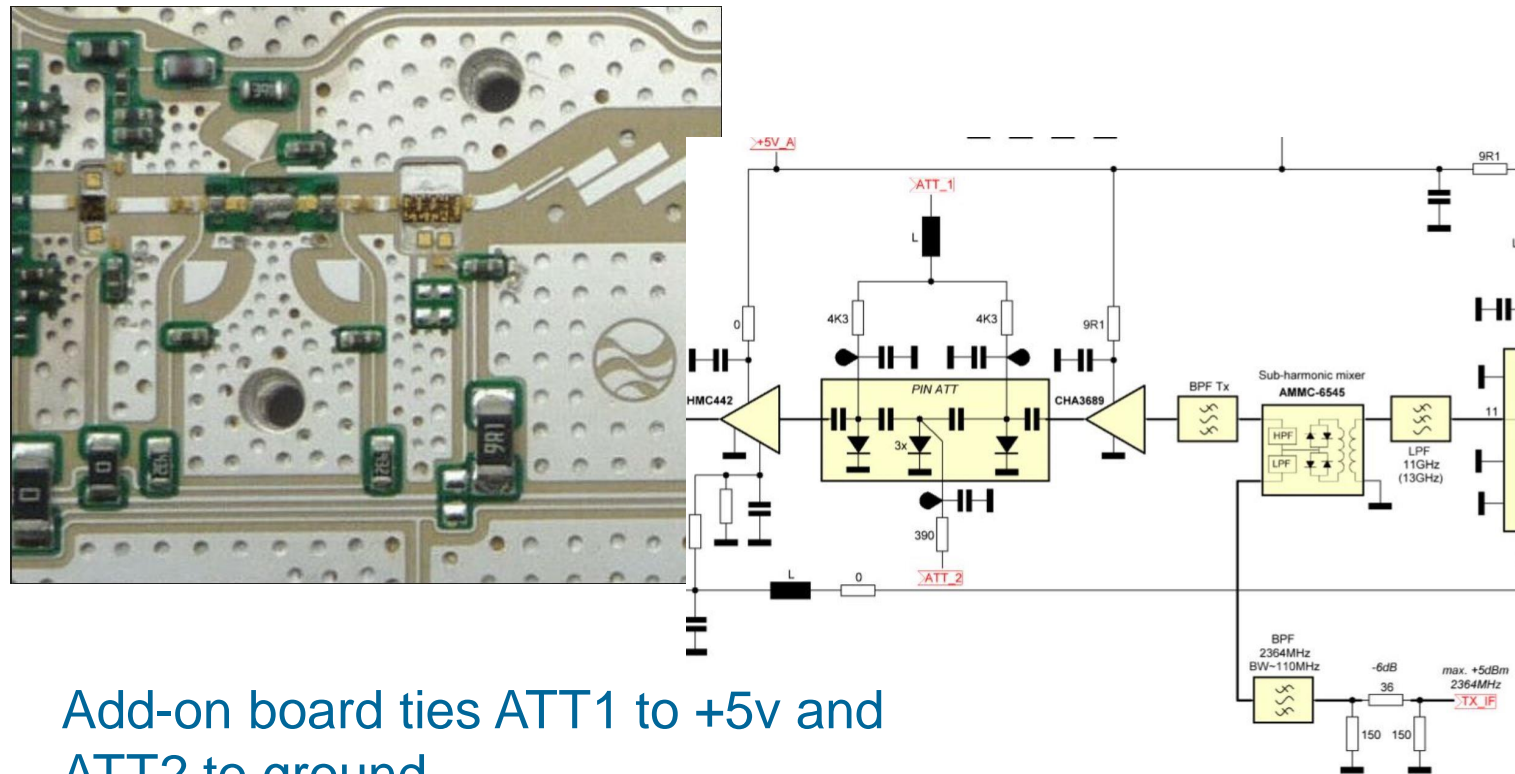
May 18, 2023- Hans PE1CKK worked PA0BAT via EME



# Improving RF output

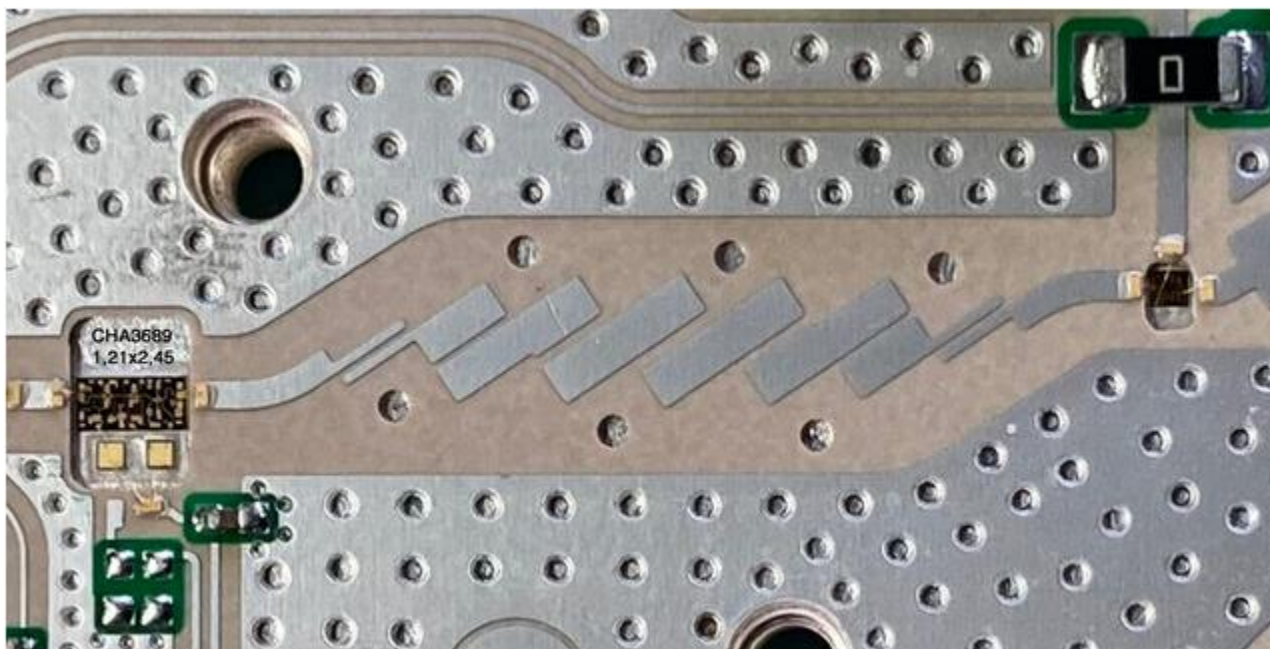
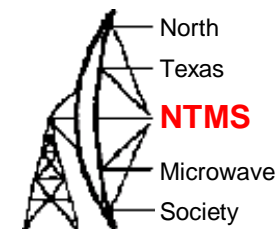


- Recall previous discussions around module-based PIN attenuator



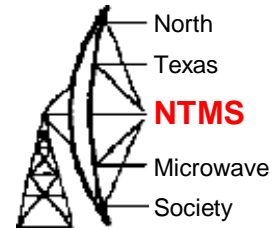
Add-on board ties ATT1 to +5v and ATT2 to ground

# Inside the module

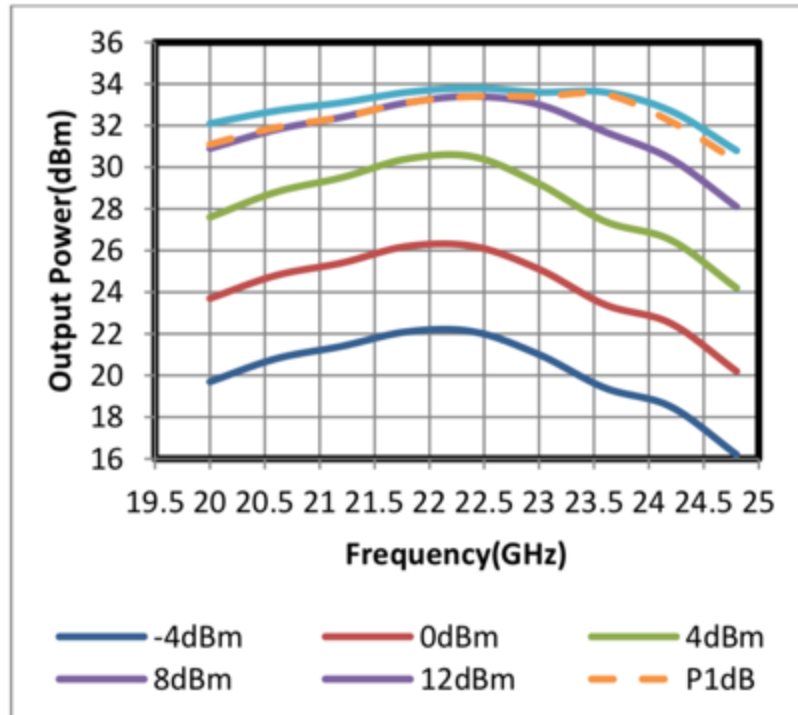


$12 \times 1700 + 2364 = 22764$		Ref
$12 \times 1633 + 2364 = 21960$	down 804	-3db
$12 \times 1774 + 2364 = 23652$	up 888	-3db
$12 \times 1807 + 2364 = 24048$	up 1284	-6db

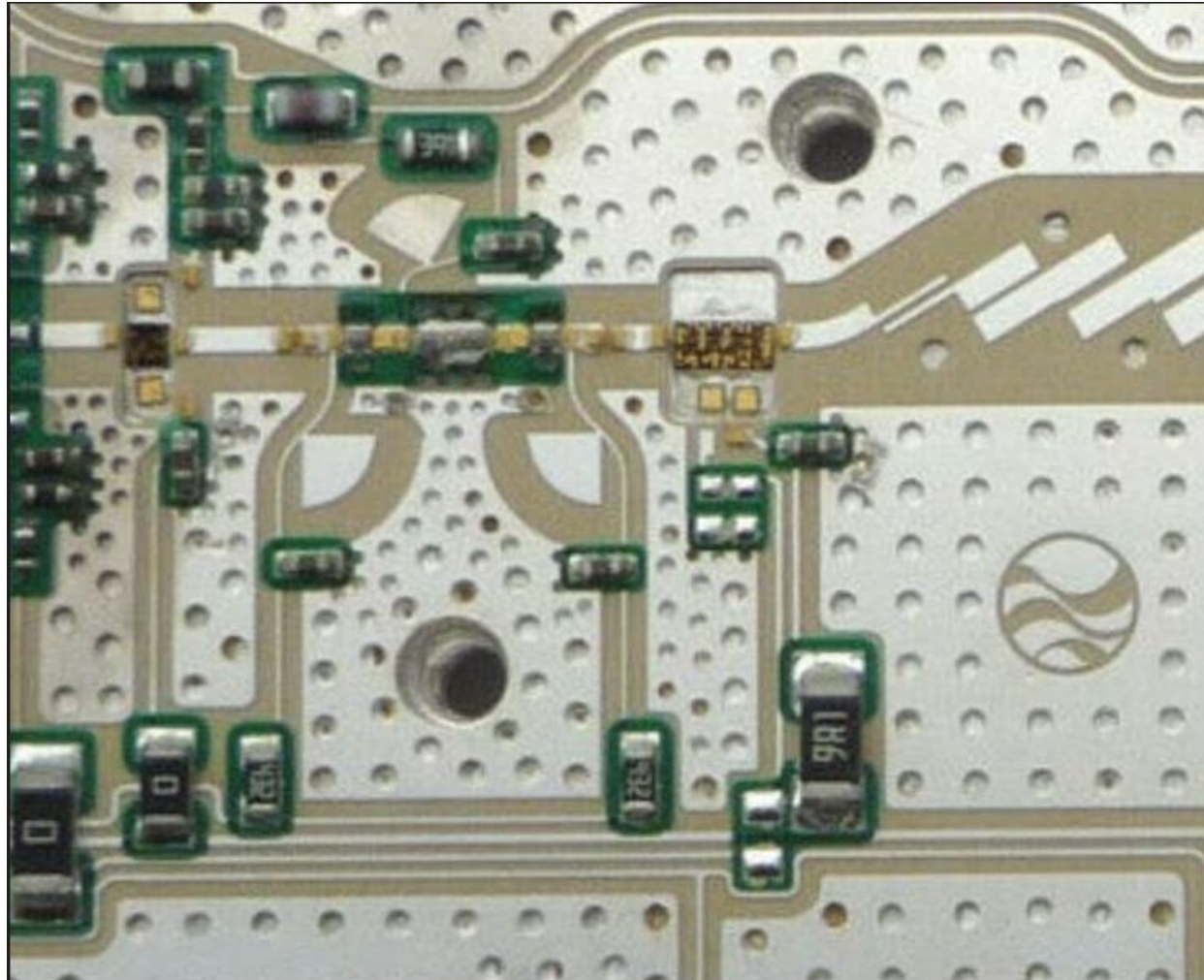
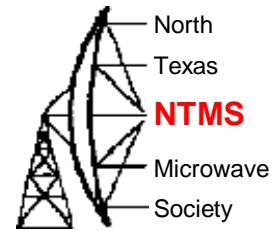
# SMM5845



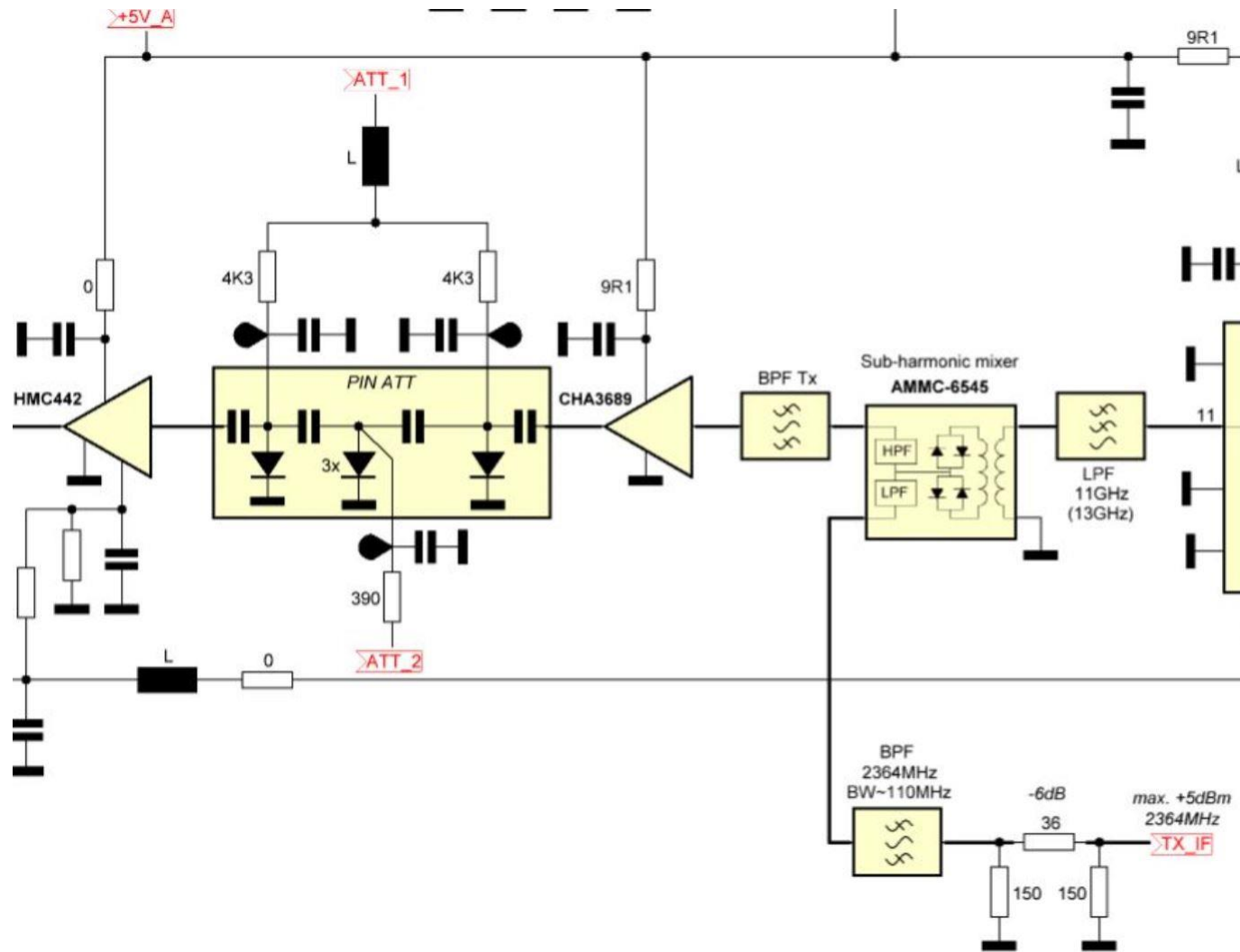
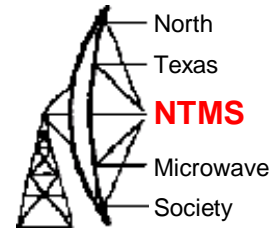
**Output Power vs. Frequency**  
VDD=6V, IDD(DC)=1400mA



# PIN attenuator

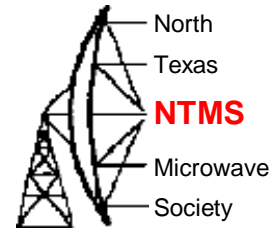


# Pin closeup



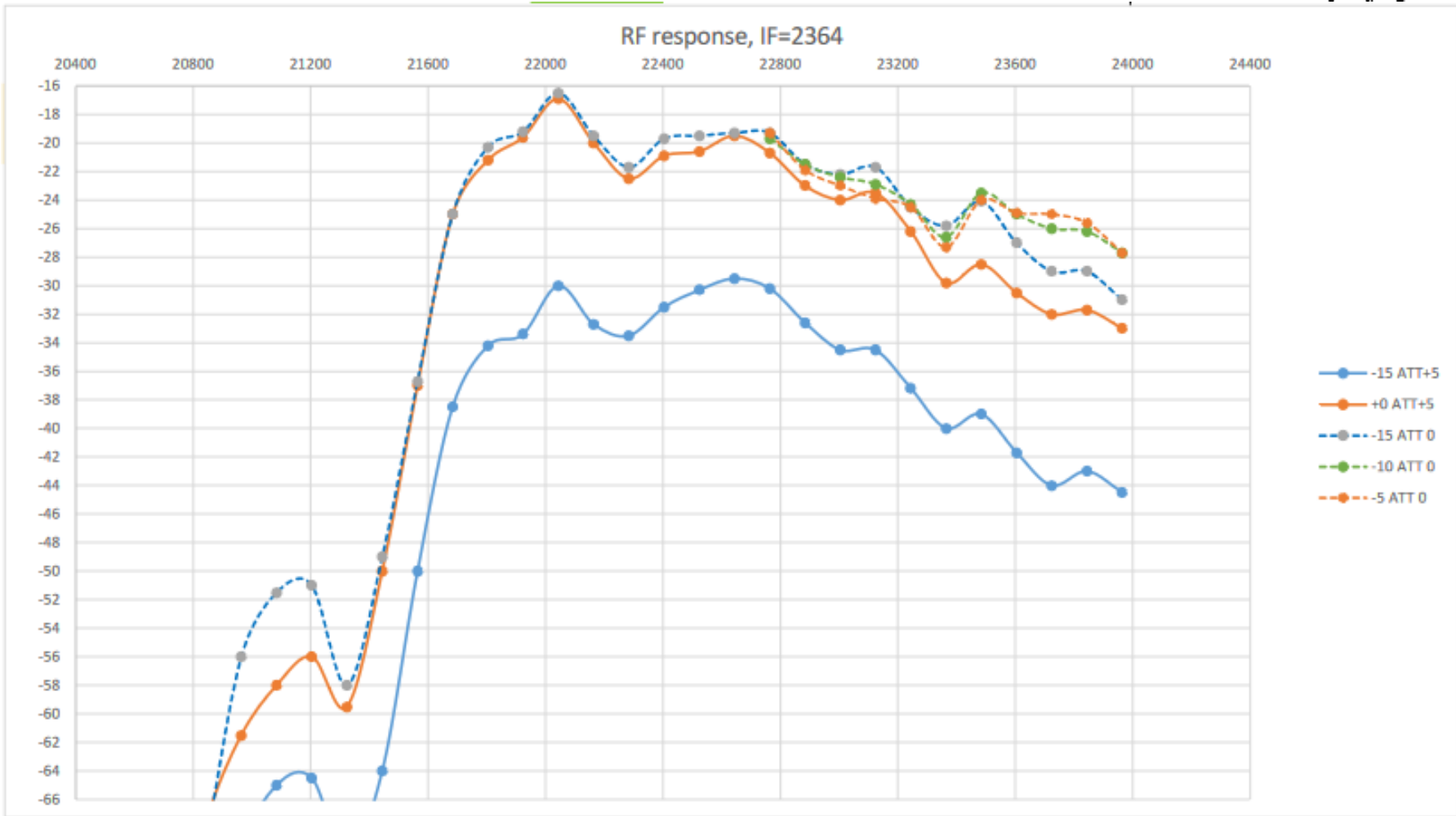
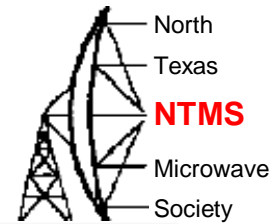


# Improving RF output

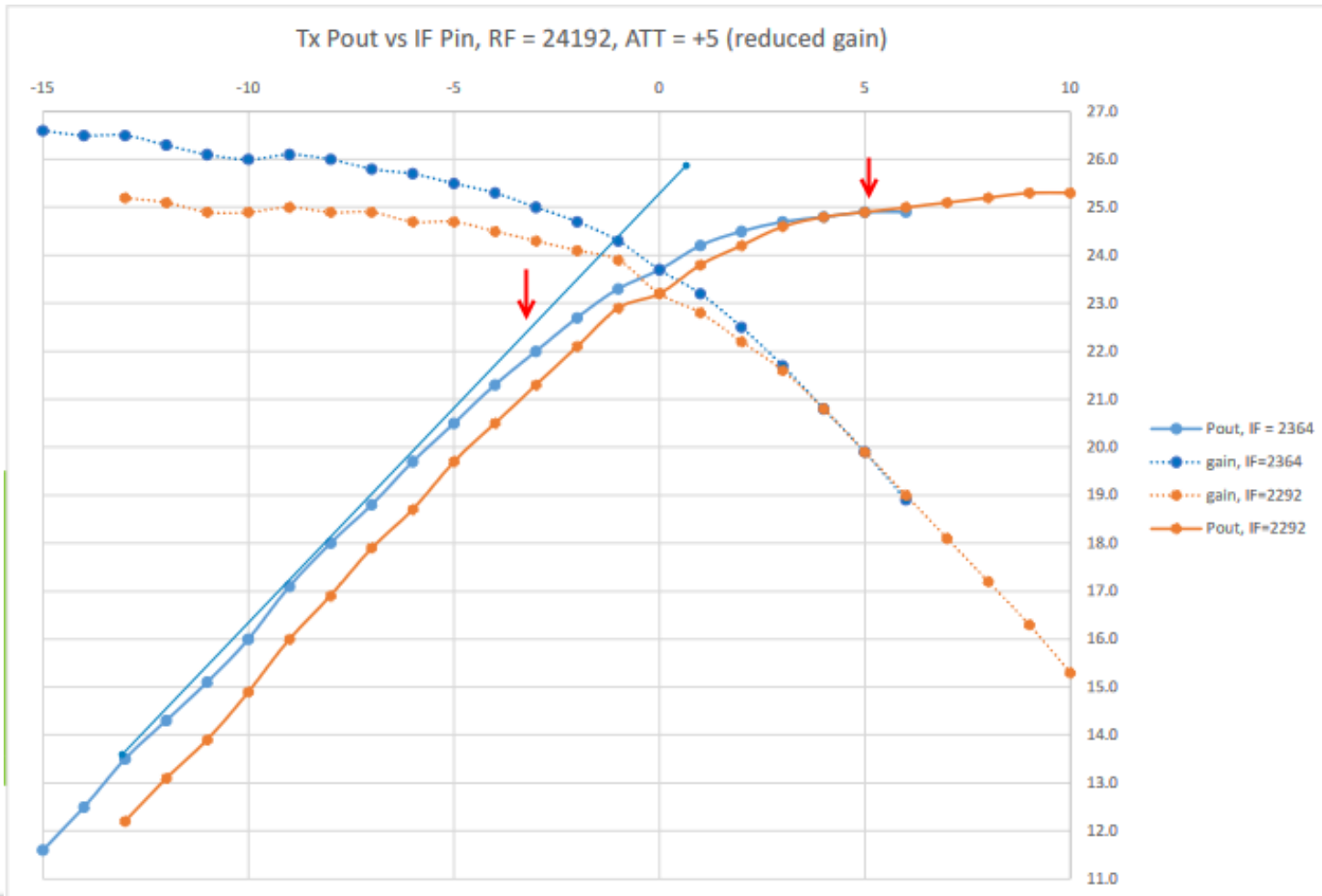
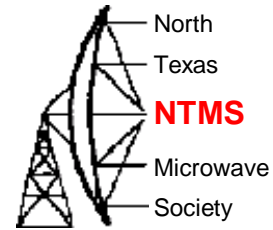


- Mike Lavelle K6ML ran tests on the PA0MHE add-on board and Wavelab 23 GHz ODU module
  - He swept the LO1 frequency to determine the frequency response of the Wavelab's TX IF and RF band pass filters as well as the TX mixer and PA saturation points.
  - He then measured power in (after the PCB mixer) versus power out from the module to find the saturation point for the Wavelab module upconverter AMMC-6545 mixer for both conditions of ATT1 tied to +5v (stock PCB board design) and for ATT1 allowed to float.
  - The measurements demonstrate that eliminating most or all of the internal pin attenuation allows more drive in the transmit pipeline which provides full saturation of the final PA with less drive from the PCB. In theory this would enable more linear operation.
  - The modification will be described here and the measurement procedure if you would like to experiment with your Wavelab system on your own.

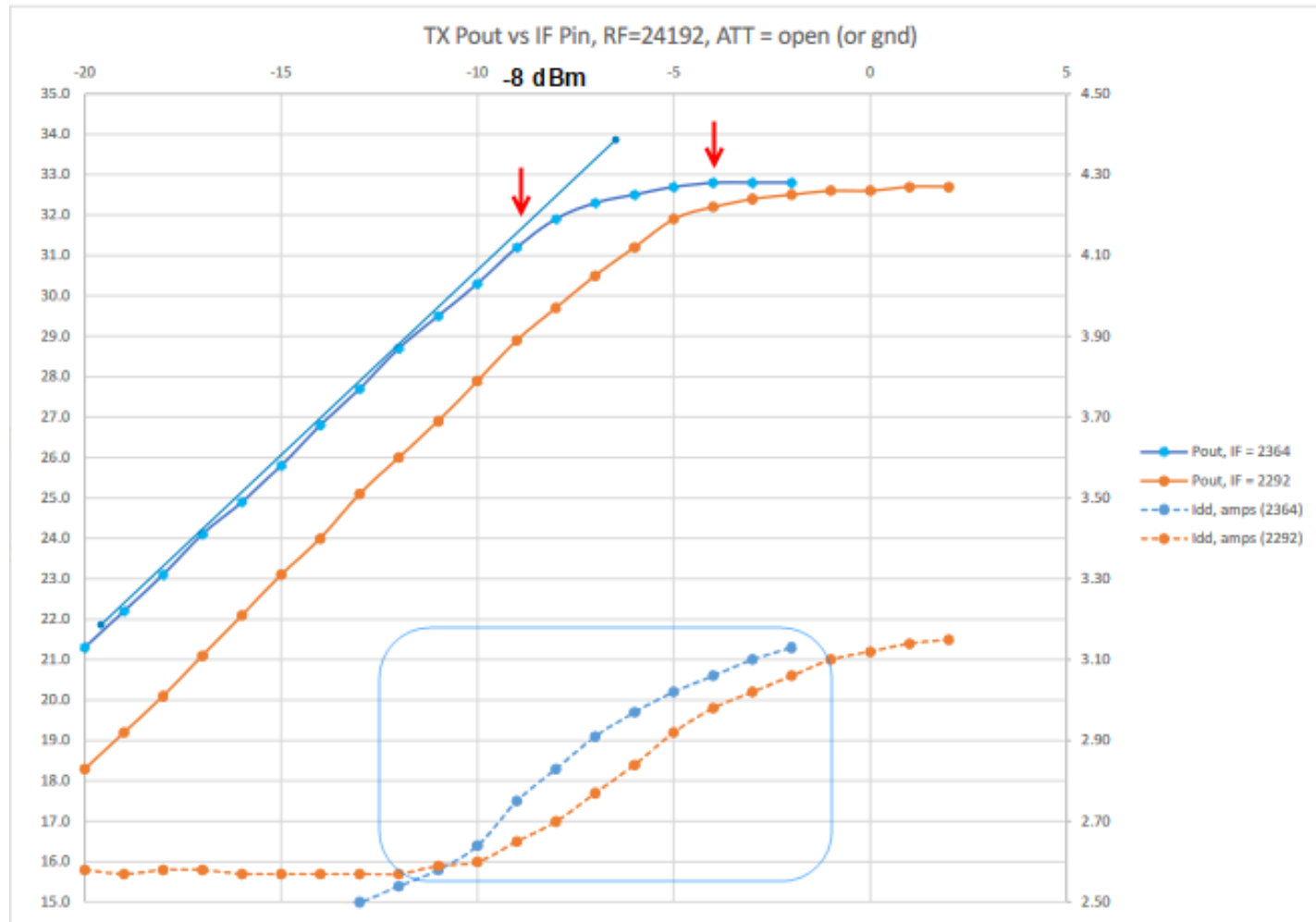
# K6ML swept LO1



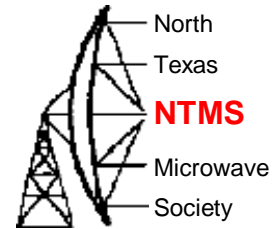
# K6ML upconverter saturation test – ATT1=+5v



# K6ML Pout/Pin ATT1 open



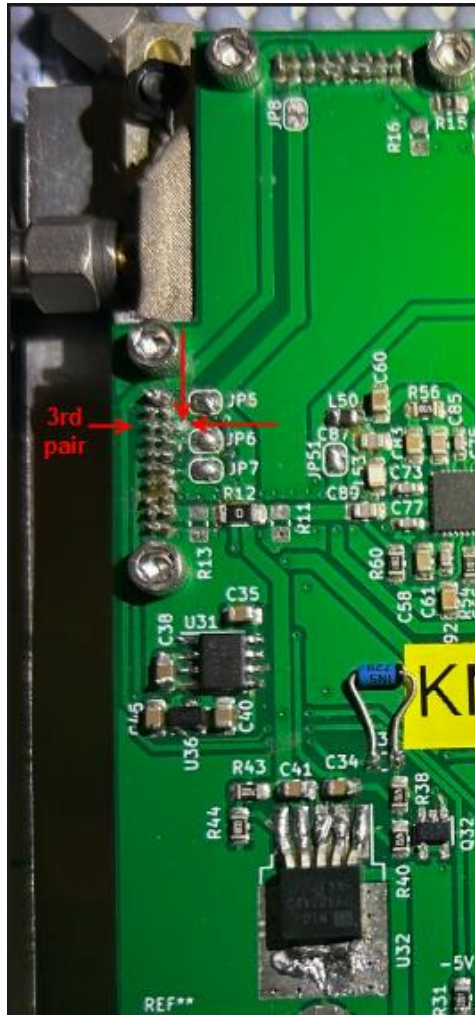
# Improving RF output



Cutting ATT1 jumper adds about 14 dB gain to the internal path from Tx up converter to the PA input.

Without this extra gain, most units cannot reach full power at 24192. We can put a resistor across the cut trace to adjust the extra Tx gain by anywhere from 0 to 14 dB. Running wide open, we can supply less drive to the up converter and still drive the PA to P1dB (or Psat), but we might start to see LO leak thru at 21828 MHz. If we don't see too much LO leakage, an open trace is fine, but we can put some resistance across the cut to reduce the PA drive. The sweet spot would be to run the 2364 MHz Tx drive to the up converter at or just shy of P1dB for max LO rejection and then add enough gain using resistance at ATT1 to get the PA to P1dB (or Psat).

# The modification



Turn the power off.

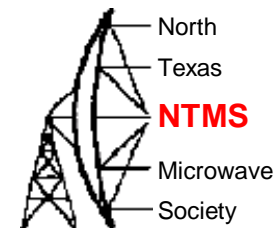
Make a vertical cut to the horizontal trace tied to the 3<sup>rd</sup> pair of pins on left side of board.



Check continuity from a +5v point like the +5v LED.

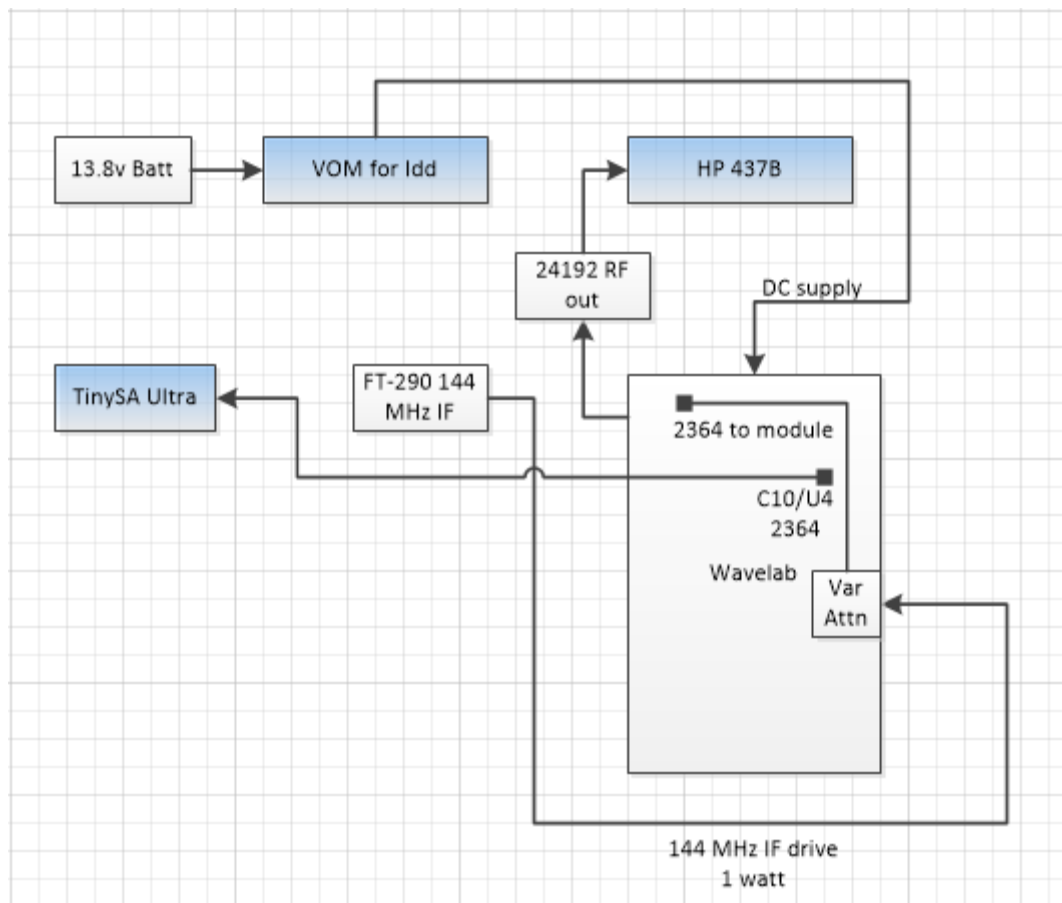
The 3<sup>rd</sup> pair of pins should now be open (not tied to +5v or grounded-although grounded will give the same results)

# Testing



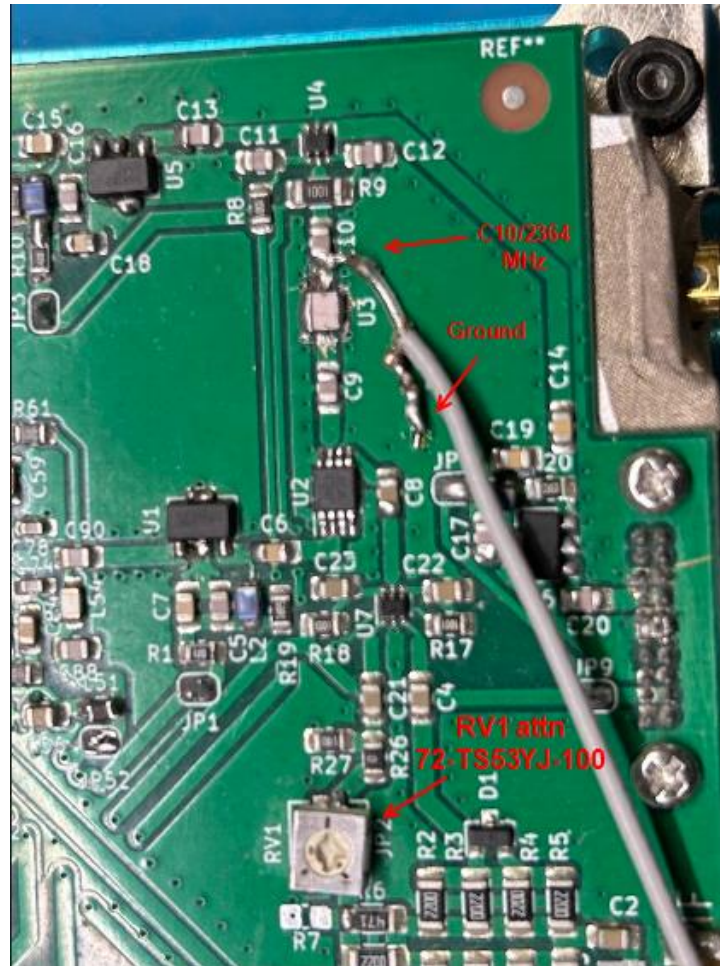
- Calibrate power meter to known source
  - DB6NT 24 GHz transverter = 2.5 watts = 34 dBm
  - 60dB attenuation to pad down to safe power head readings
- Calibrate or feel good about S.A.s for IF drive power readings
  - I tested a DigiLO (+2 dBm) an ADF 4351 development board (various outputs) using both the HP8566A and a TinySA Ultra.
- Attach a pigtail to C10 to read power levels of 2364 MHz drive
- Use RV1 pot to vary the drive level at approx. 1 dBm steps
- Record current, IF drive level, RF (24192 MHz) output level.

# Testing

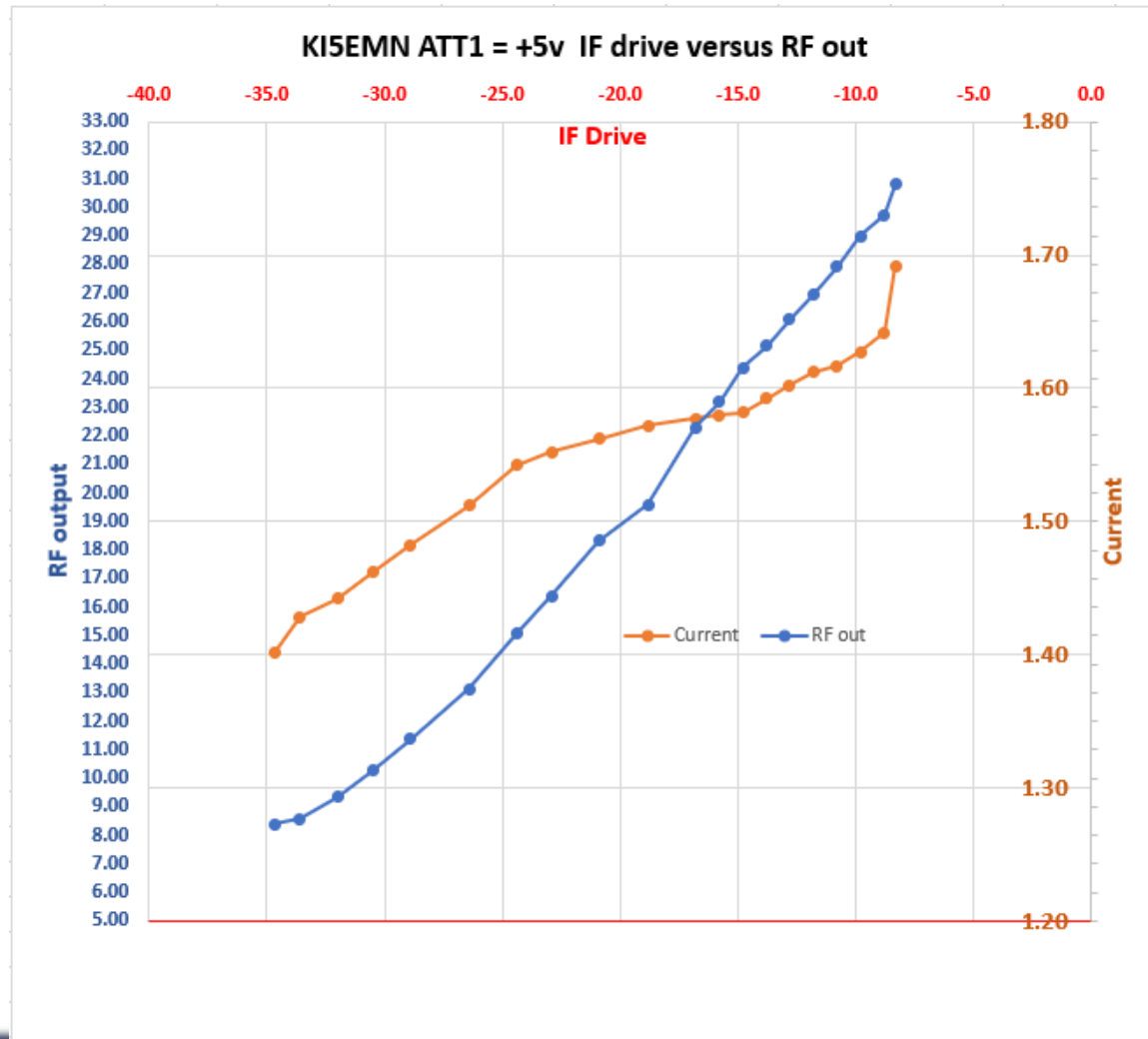
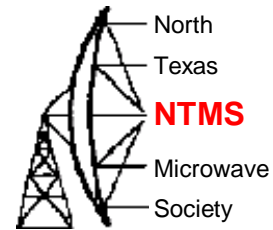




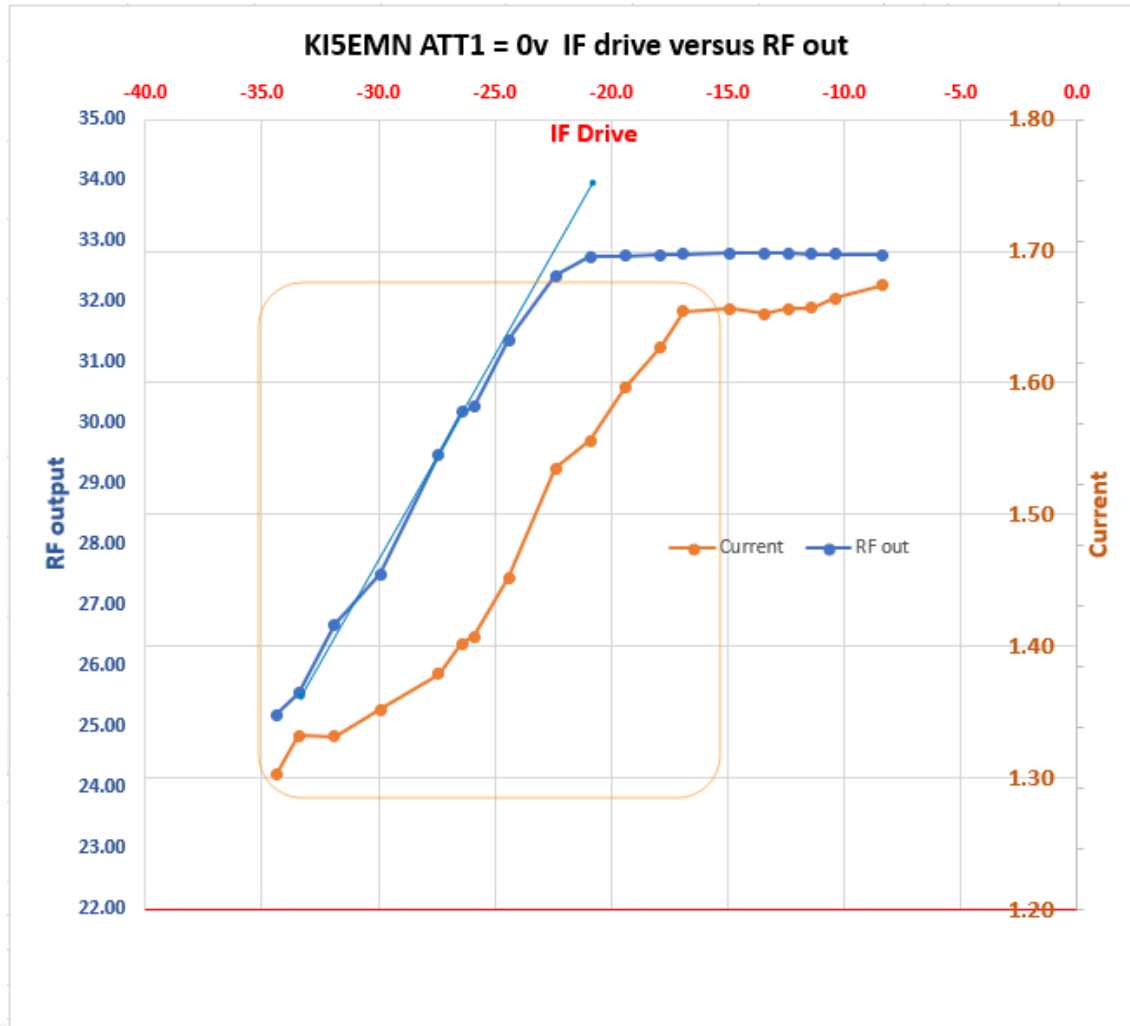
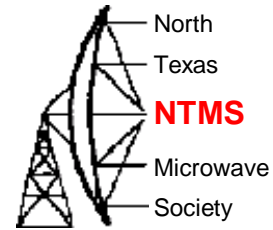
# Testing



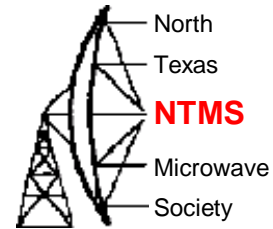
# IF drive vs RF out ATT1=+5v



# IF drive vs RF out ATT1=05v

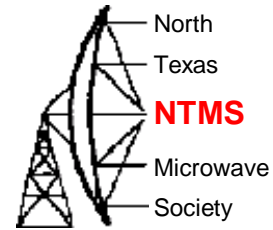


# Next steps



- Obtain second set of accurate measurements:
  - Check spectral RF output
  - Verify power output
  - Measure receive sensitivity, noise figure
- Integrate improvements/optimizations.
  - More improvements may be coming as the user group expands
- In-field tests
  - Extend DX success
- Build a Wavelab beacon

# Resources



[Wavelab24GHz@groups.io | Home](https://groups.io/g/Wavelab24GHz)

[GitHub - PA0MHE/Wavelab-24G-Addon-module](https://github.com/PA0MHE/Wavelab-24G-Addon-module)

YO4HFU Wavelab 23 specs, schems, photos, reverse engineering: [https://www-qsl-net.translate.goog/yo4hfu/Link\\_23GHz.html?\\_x\\_tr\\_sl=pl&\\_x\\_tr\\_tl=en&\\_x\\_tr\\_hl=en-US&\\_x\\_tr\\_pto=wapp](https://www-qsl-net.translate.goog/yo4hfu/Link_23GHz.html?_x_tr_sl=pl&_x_tr_tl=en&_x_tr_hl=en-US&_x_tr_pto=wapp)

Wavelab24GHz@groups.io

This group like to link all Ham radio amateurs who are building the Wavelab 24G Addon module from PA0MHE. Here we can pose questions, publish results, share improvements or modifications.

The design files are on the GitHub page: <https://github.com/PA0MHE/Wavelab-24G-Addon-module>

**Group Information**

- <https://github.com/PA0MHE/Wavelab-24G-Addon-module>
- 69 Members
- 33 Topics, Last Post: Jan 8
- Started on 06/02/22
- Feed

**Group Email Addresses**

- Post: [Wavelab24GHz@groups.io](mailto:Wavelab24GHz@groups.io)
- Subscribe: [Wavelab24GHz+subscribe@groups.io](mailto:Wavelab24GHz+subscribe@groups.io)
- Unsubscribe: [Wavelab24GHz+unsubscribe@groups.io](mailto:Wavelab24GHz+unsubscribe@groups.io)
- Group Owner: [Wavelab24GHz+owner@groups.io](mailto:Wavelab24GHz+owner@groups.io)
- Help: [Wavelab24GHz+help@groups.io](mailto:Wavelab24GHz+help@groups.io)

**Group Settings**

- All members can post to the group.
- Posts to this group do not require approval
- Posts from new users require approval first
- Messages are set to reply to group.
- Subscriptions to this group do not require approval
- Archive is visible to anyone.
- Wiki is visible to members only.
- Members cannot edit their messages.
- Members can set their subscriptions to no

Product Solutions Open Source Pricing

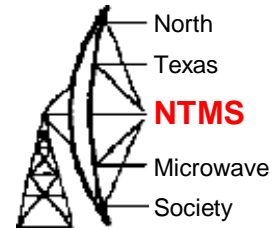
PA0MHE / Wavelab-24G-Addon-module Public

<> Code Issues Pull requests Actions Projects Security Insights

main 1 branch 0 tags Go to file

Commit Message	Commit Hash	Time
PA0MHE Deleted old V5 project file	ac64517	2 weeks ago
Update ADF4351_fixed_tiny_24GHz.ino		
Added the HEX files		
Deleted old V5 project file		
V5 information		
Initial commit		
Update BOM_v04_2.xlsx		
Updated schematic		

# Additional rev eng by SP6GWB

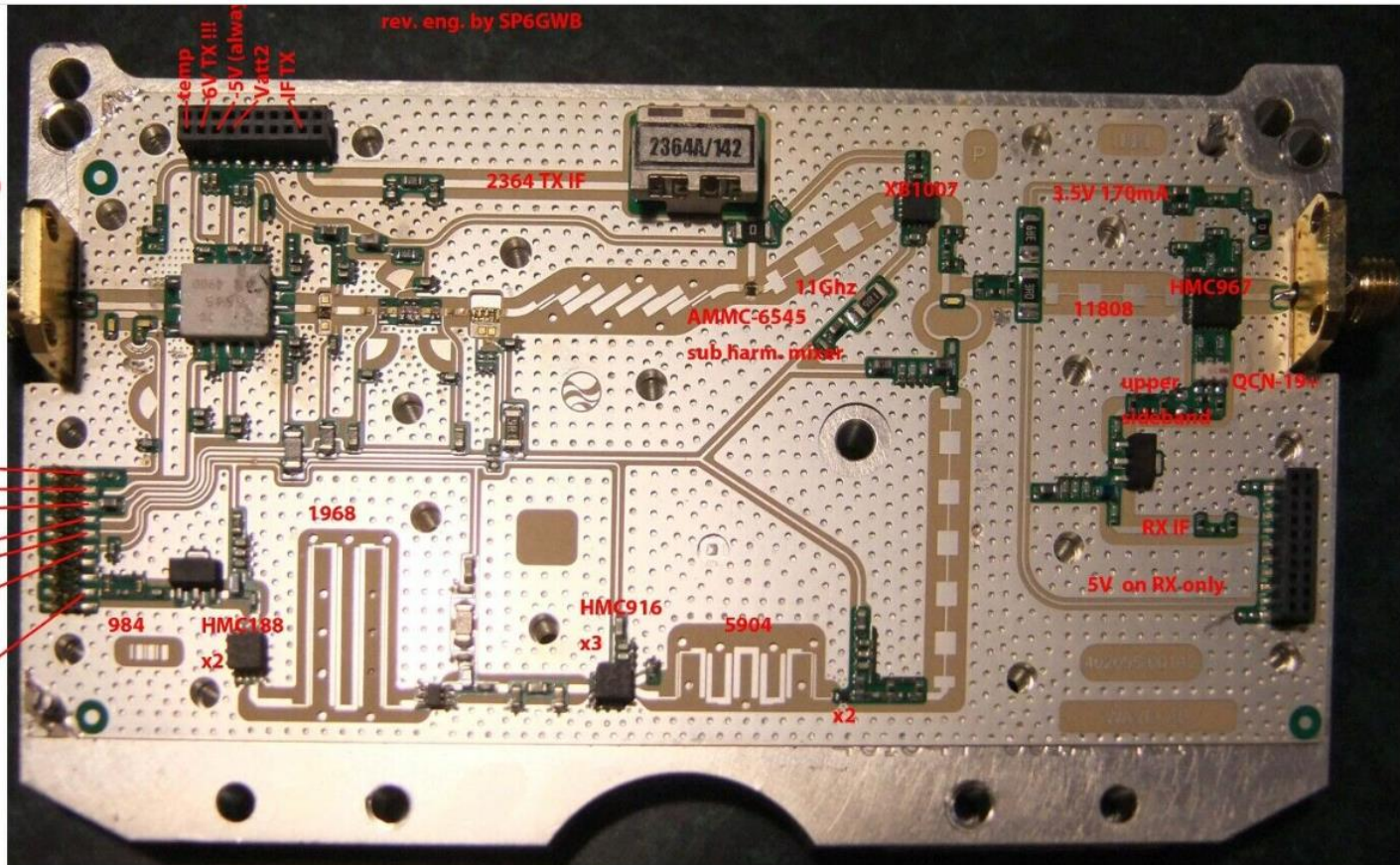


1. **NEGATIVE -5V voltage MUST be always present (also on RX)**

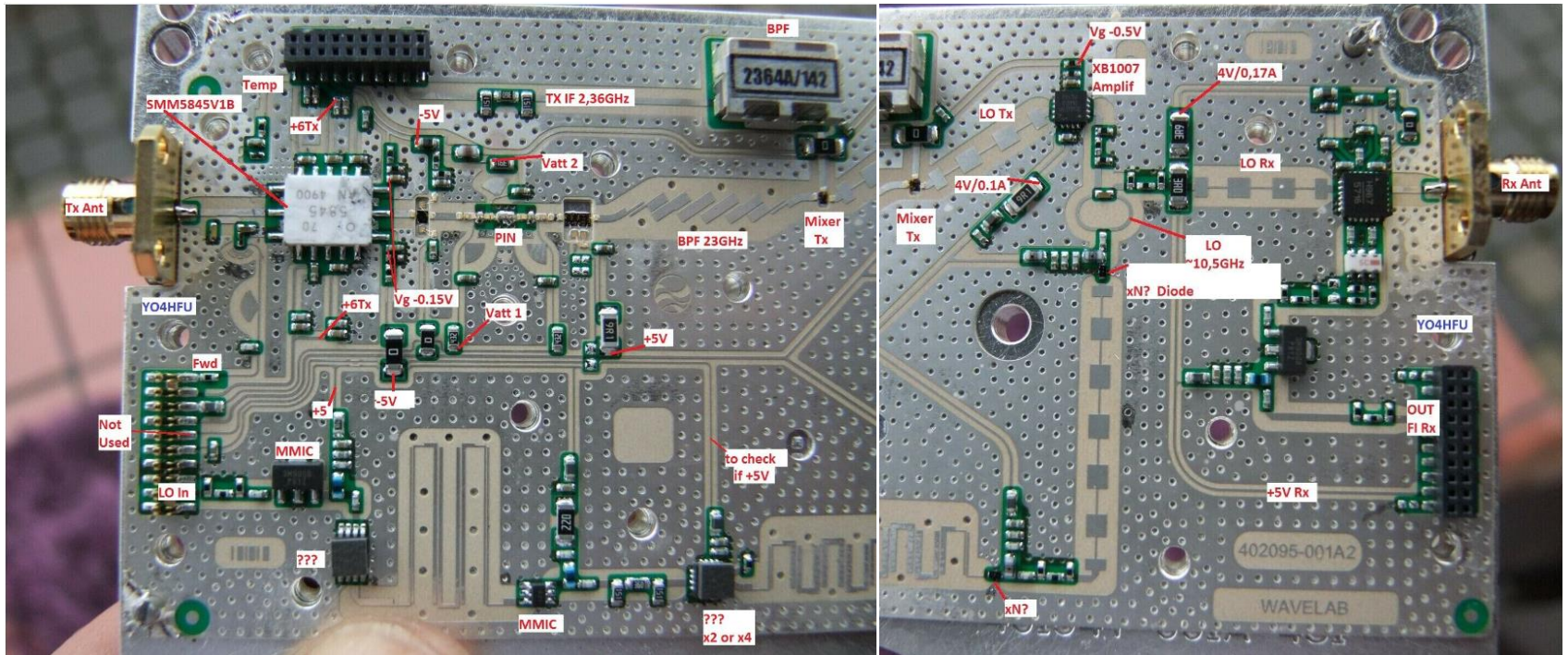
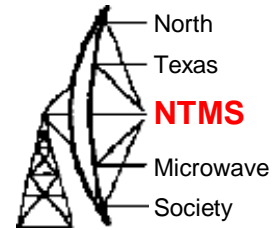
2. **6V and -5V on both connectors must be connected externally**

3. **TRY NOT TO OPEN**  
it is hard to assemble

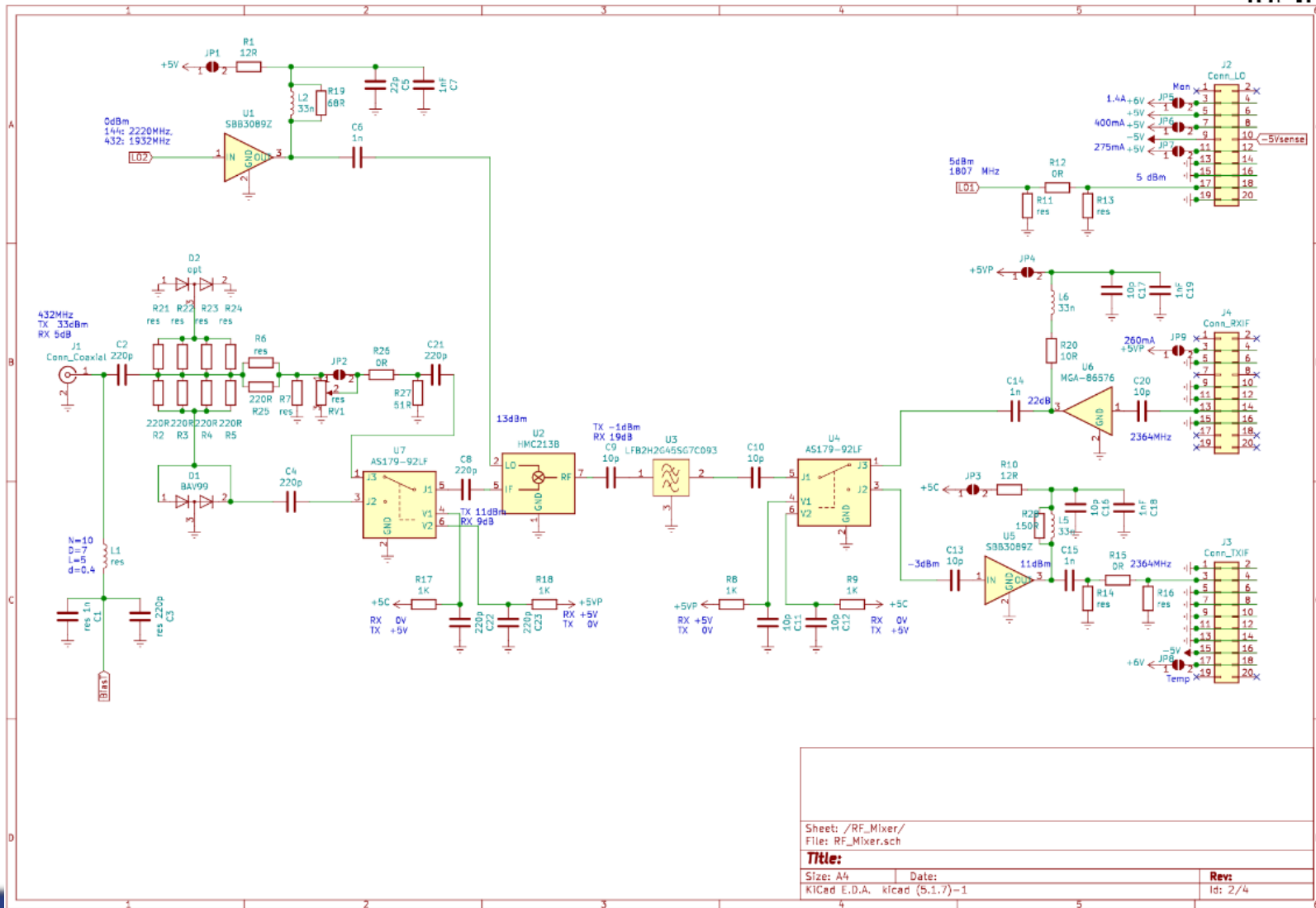
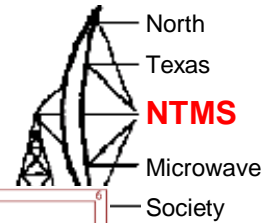
tx mon  
+6V TX !!! 1.4A  
Vatt1  
+5V TX&RX 400mA  
-5V (always)  
5V TX&RX 275mA  
-  
LO IN 5dbm min.  
-



# Additional resource

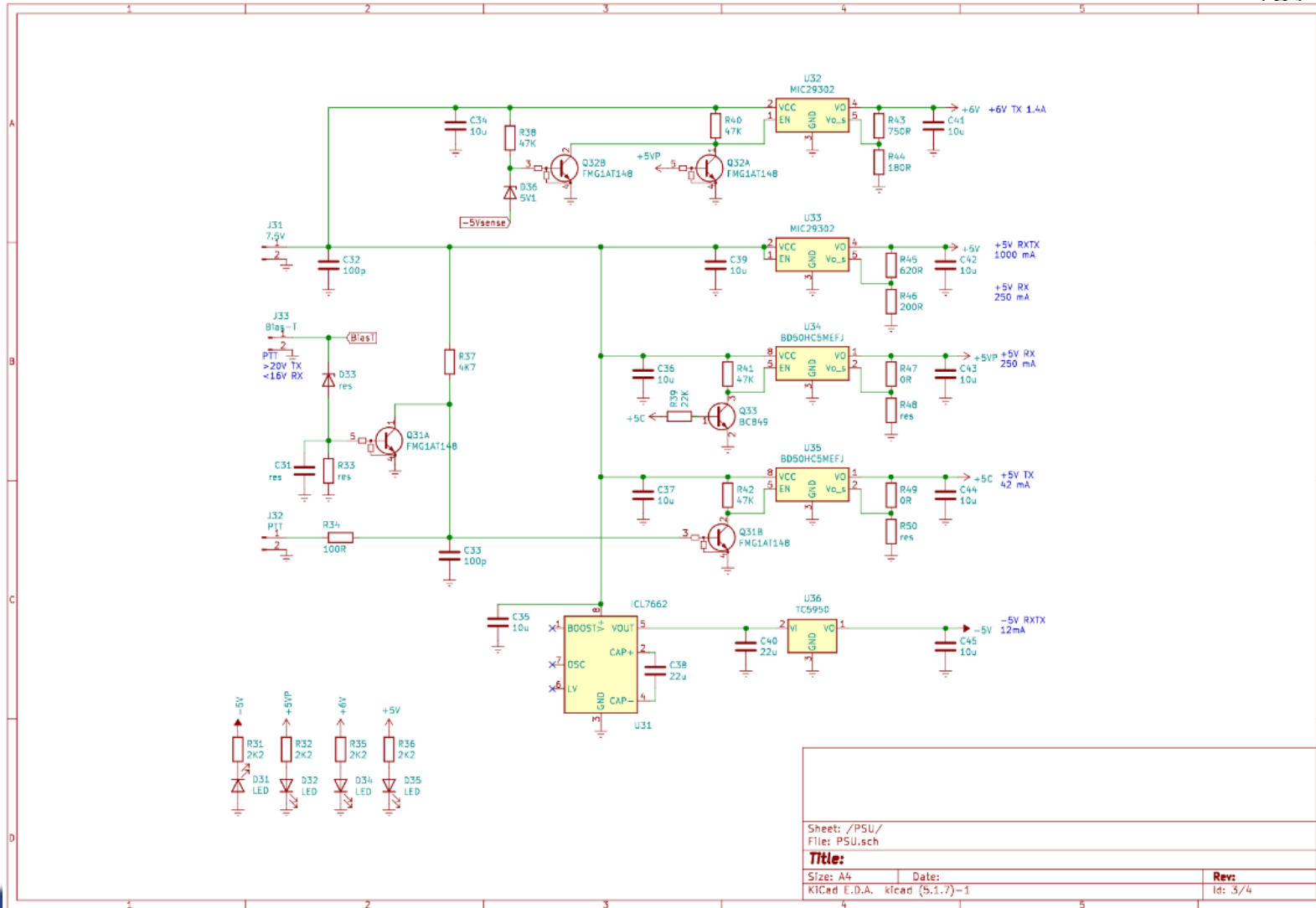
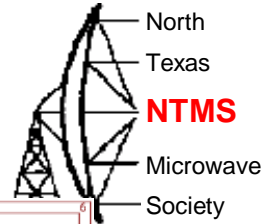


# Add on board schematic pages

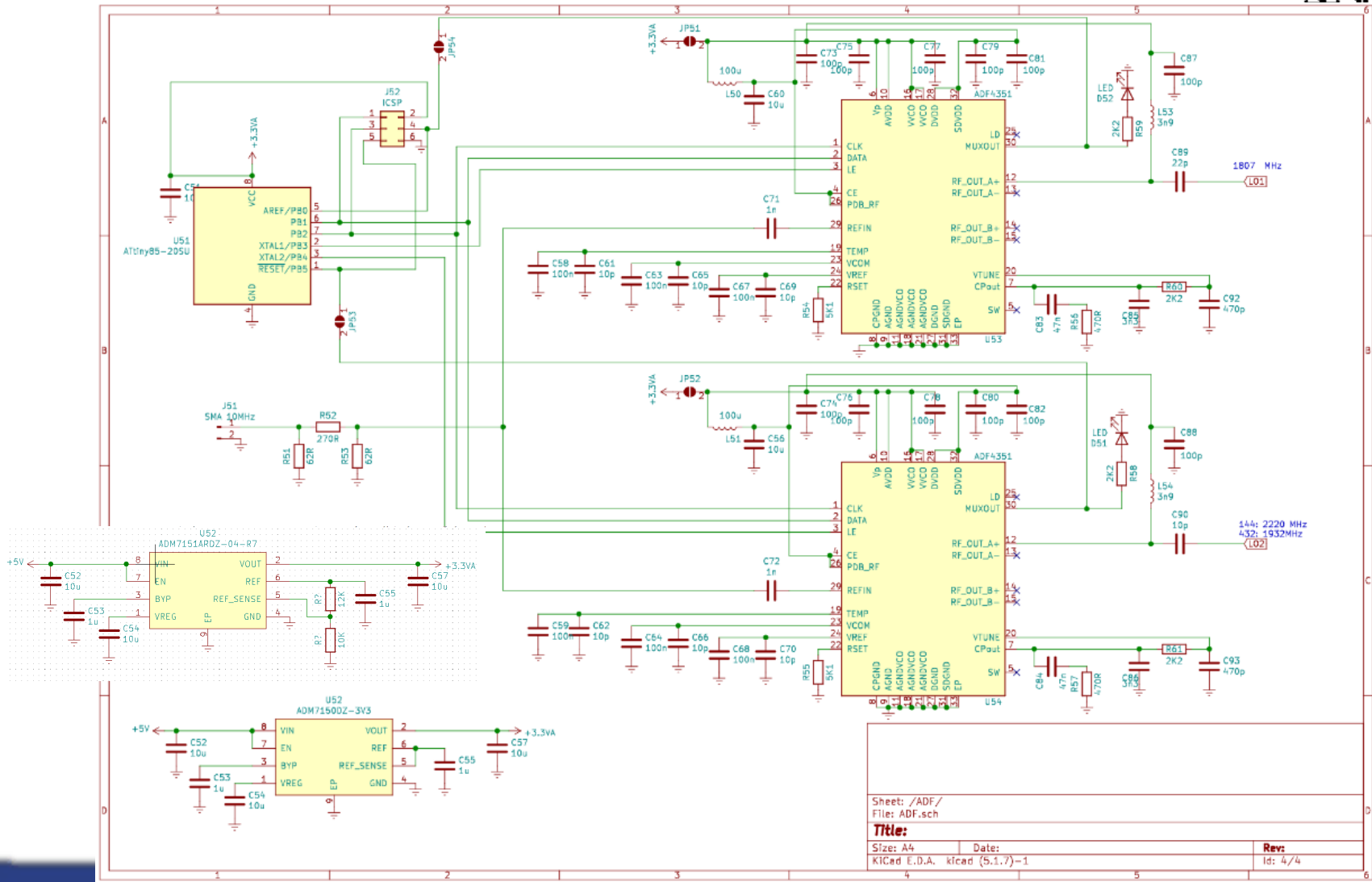
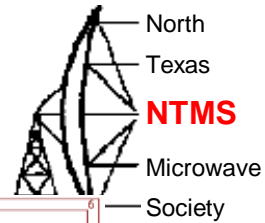




# Add on board schematic pages



# Add on board schematic pages



Sheet: /ADF/		File: ADF.sch	
<b>Title:</b>			
Size: A4	Date:	Rev:	
KICad E.D.A. kicad (5.1.7)-1		Id: 4/4	

# Questions?

