



microwave

# X-Microwave Getting Started Plate

XM-RDK-200

User Manual

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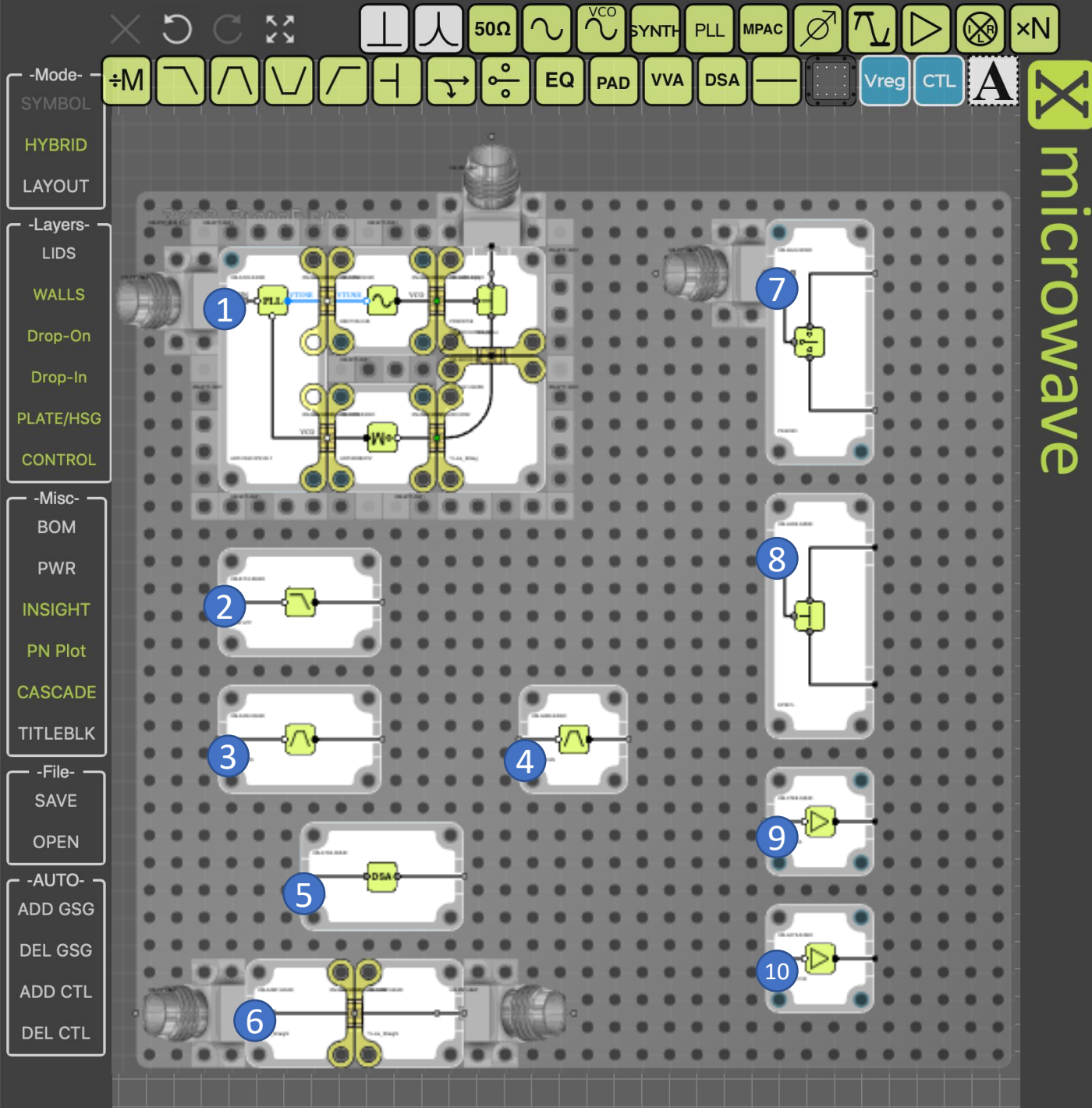
This product uses semiconductors that can be damaged by electrostatic discharge (ESD).

When handling, care must be taken so that the devices are not damaged.

- Wear ground foot or wrist straps and use a grounded anti-static mat to cover your work surface
- Always discharge yourself by touching a grounded bare metal surface before picking up the plate

# Change Log

Date	Impacted PN	Change (Reason)	By
Sep 1, 2020	XM-RDK-200	Replace (9) 15.5dB Amp, XM-A3A2-0404D, Custom MMIC CMD197C4, [PCB 320], F=1G-24G with With (9) 15.5dB Amp, XM-C7E8-0404D, Custom MMIC CMD317C4 [PCB: 320], F=1G-22G (due to end of life of CMD197C4)	Luther
Sep 1, 2020	XM-RDK-200	Replace (2) Band Pass Filter, XM-A275-1204D, [PCB 044] CF=640MHz BW=39M With (2) Low Pass Filter, XM-B1F4-0604D, [PCB 0976], F=DC-177.5M (Improve lead time of the getting started plate)	Luther
Sep 17, 2021	XM-RDK-200	Corrected voltage levels, OpAmp Voltage = A1=+25.2VDC with changes to PLL(XM-A3X3-0409D-04 version used) and PLL bias board A4G7 changed to A746. Moved Amp(10) to use +9V input. Updated pictures and wiring diagram. Corrected labels on slides. Added A3X3 quick start guide, UX measurements, and appendix with PLL parameters. Fixed broken hyperlinks on XM Getting Started Guide.	Tillman



# Getting Started Proto Plate

## (1) Synthesizer

PLL, XM-A3X3-0409D-04, ADI ADF4169CCPZ-RL7, [PCB 0357], F=500M – 13.5G  
 VCO, XM-A353-0404D, ADI HMC733LC4B, [PCB 0234] F=10G-20G  
 Divide x2, XM-A5P2-0404D, ADI ADF5000BCPZ, [PCB 0206], F=4G-18G  
 2-Way Splitter, XM-A2B1-0404D, DLI PDW05758, [PCB 166], F=4.5G-18G

## (2) Lumped Element Filter

Low Pass Filter, XM-B1F4-0604D, [PCB 0976], F=DC-177.5M

## (3,4) Planar Filters

(3) Band Pass Filter, XM-A265-0604D, DLI AFL05158, [PCB 079], CF=15G BW=7.5G  
 (4) Band Pass Filter, XM-A2B3-0404D, DLI B096QC2S [PCB 082], CF=10G BW=5.4G

## (5) Digital Step Attenuator

DSA, XM-A7D4-0604D, IDT F1956, [PCB 0701], F=1M-6G, 31.75dB, 7bit

## (6) Transmission Line w/ Interconnect

0404 Transmission Line, XM-A2M7-0404D, [PCB 306], F=DC-50 GHz

## (7) Switch

SPDT Switch, XM-A6J9-0409D, pSemi PE42525, [PCB 0456], F=40M – 60GHz

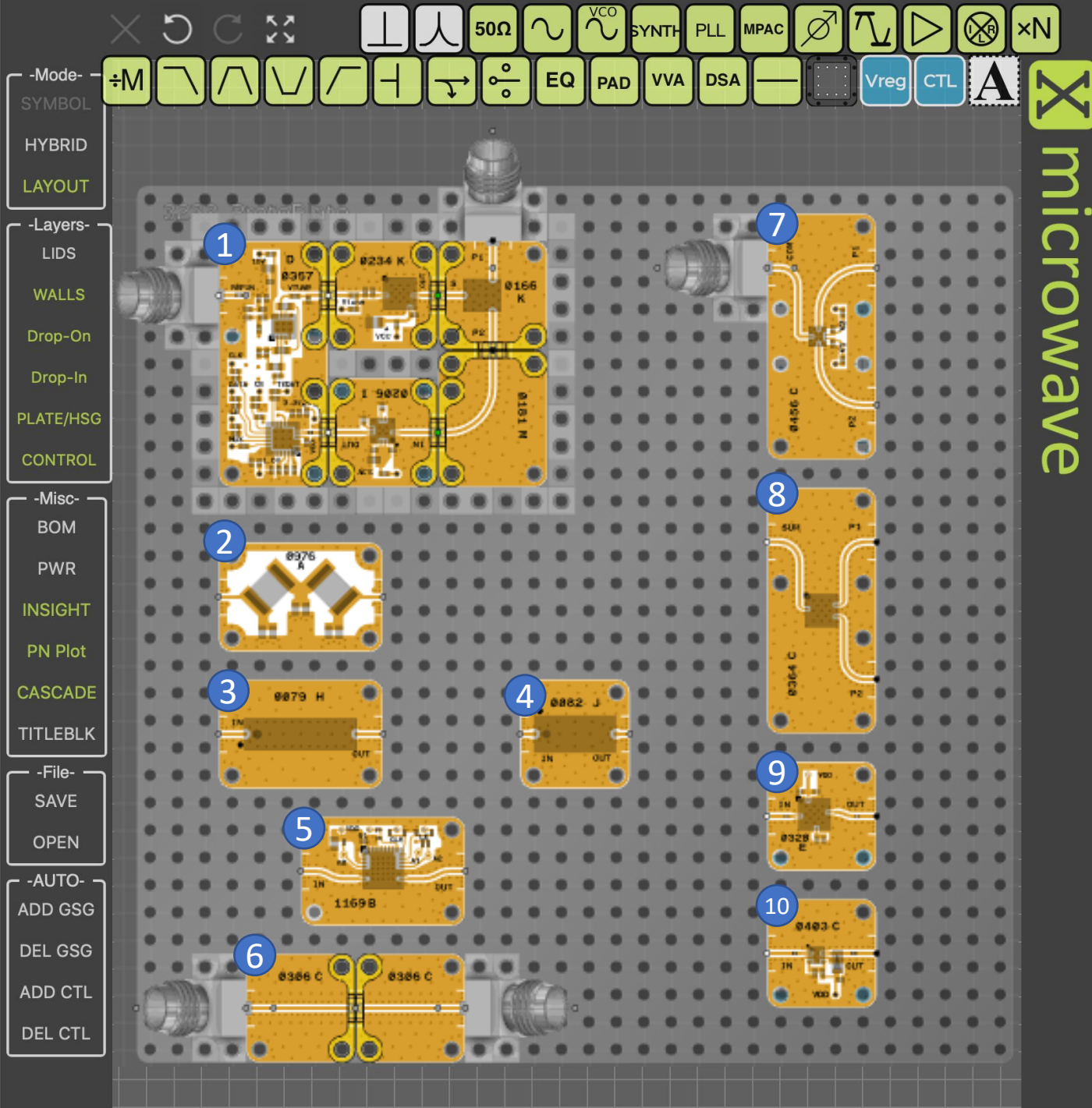
## (8) Splitter

2-Way Splitter, XM-A3R3-0409D, Mini-Circuits EP2K1+, [PCB 364B], F=2G-26.5G

## (9,10) Amplifiers

(9) 15.5dB Amp, XM-C7E8-0404D, Custom MMIC CMD317C4 [PCB: 320], F=1G-22G  
 (10) 20dB Amp, XM-A3Y2-0404D, MACOM MAAL-011130, [PCB 403], F=2.4G-18.5G





## Powering the Prototyping Plate

**(A1) +25.2 VDC**

PLL OpAmp(1)

**(A2) +9 VDC**

PLL(1), VCO(1), Divider(1), Amps(9,10)

**(B1) +5 VDC**

DSA(5), Switch-pos(7)

**(B2) -5 VDC**

Switch-neg(7)

## Control Information (X-MWcontroller)

LE0 = XM-A3X3-0409D-04, PLL

LE 1 = XM-A7D4-0604D, DSA

PIN 7 = Switch Control Line (0VDC = P1 | 3.3VDC = P2)

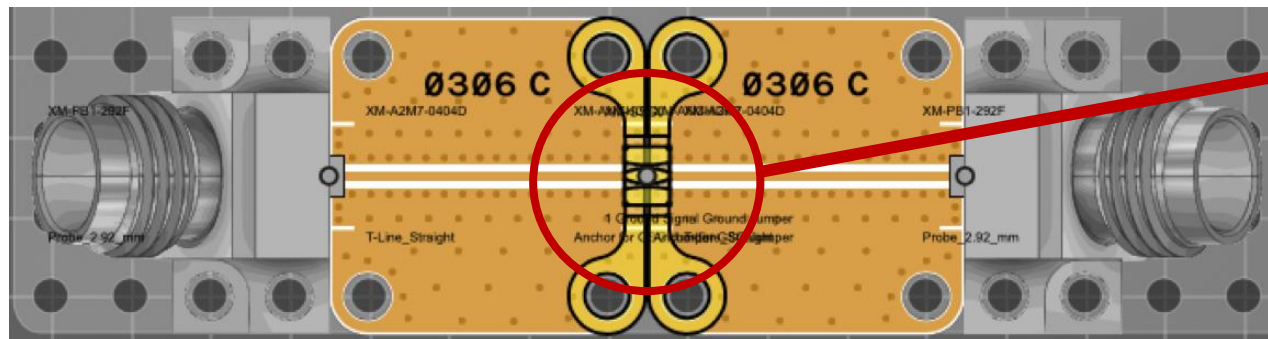


*Recommended for your first measurement...*

## (6) Transmission Line

### Instructions

1. Attach network analyzer to RF ports
2. Set frequency range from DC – 67 GHz
3. Capture S2P of the transmission line



4. Probes can be moved to other devices  
\*\* Review the getting started guide for best practices. \*\*
5. Repeat measurements as desired for filters (2), (3), (4)
6. Apply power (+9V DC to A2) and move probes to Measure gain of amplifiers (9), (10)

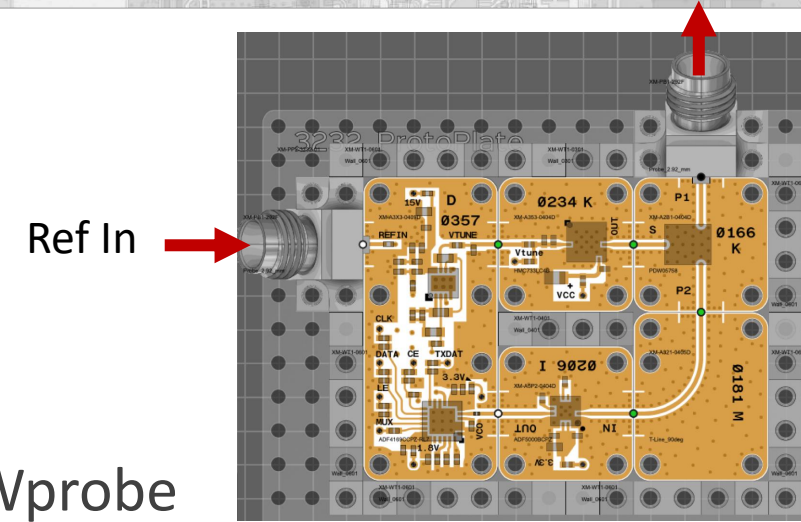
### Note:

The 2.92 mm X-MWprobes provide high performance measurements from DC - 40 GHz. 1.85mm X-MWprobes are also available for measurements to 67 GHz.

# (1) Synthesizer

## Instructions

1. Attach the X-MWcontroller, 40 pin IDC Cable
2. Prepare to generate a 100 MHz @ 0dBm @ Ref In X-MWprobe
3. Attach spectrum analyzer to splitter output X-MWprobe
4. Power the circuit (A1) +25.2 VDC, (A2) +9V VDC & enable 100 MHz Reference
5. Program the XM-A3X3-0409D-04, ADI ADF4169CCPZ-RL7\*\* using the following slides as a step-by-step guide.

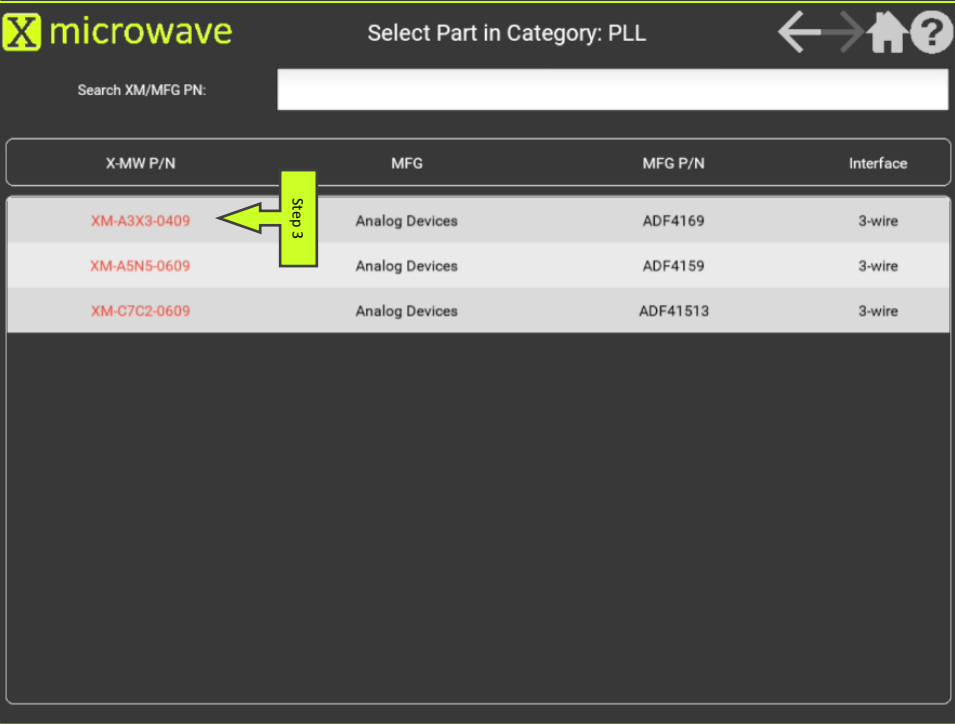
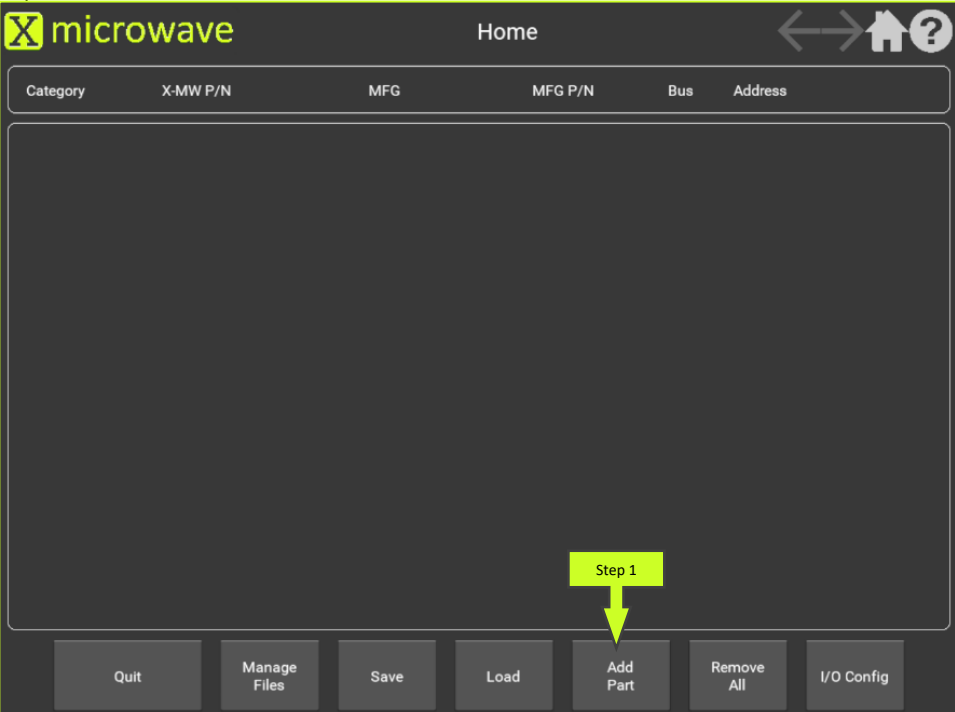




# Programming the Synthesizer(1) (Case 1)

Step 1.)  
Once the Raspberry Pi powers up, Select 'Add Part'.

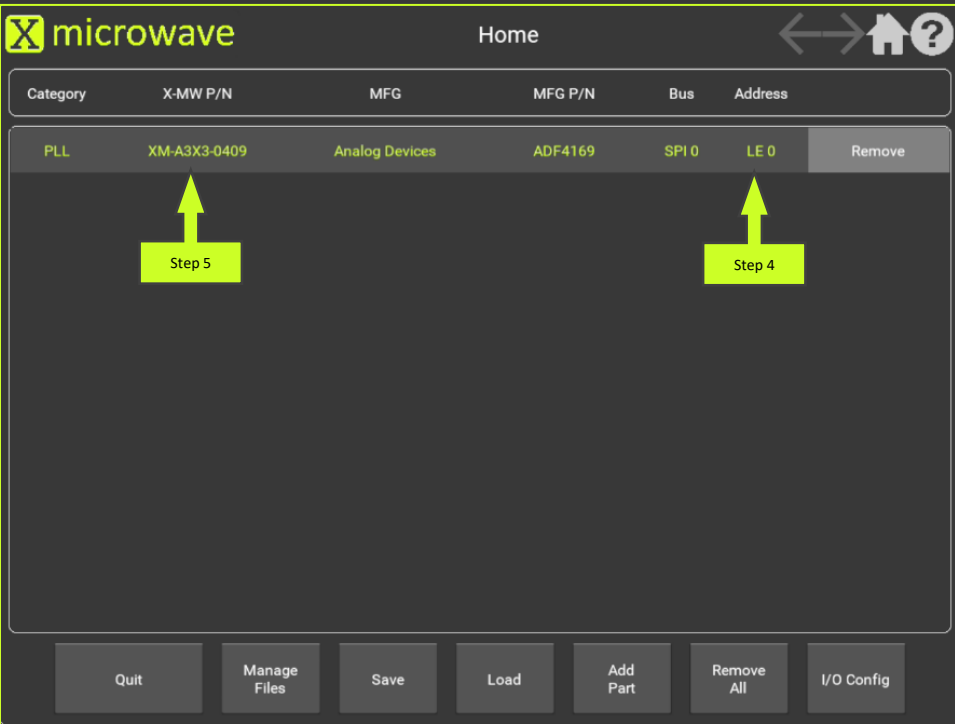
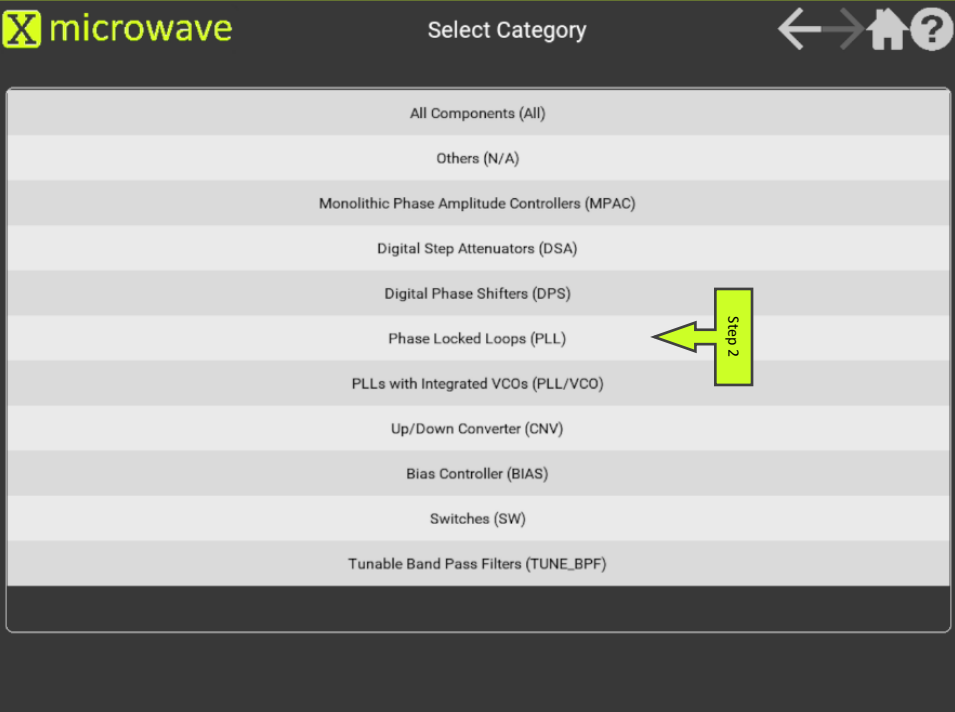
Step 3.)  
Next select the PLL being used, 'XM-A3X3-0409'.



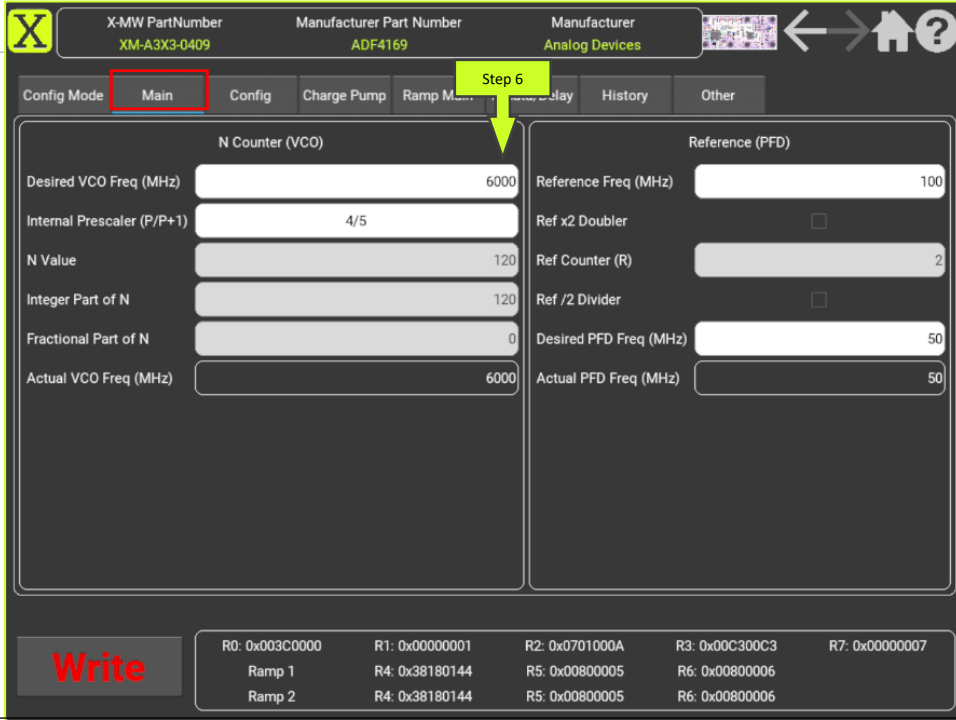
Step 2.)  
Next select 'Phase Locked Loops (PLL)'.

Step 4.)  
Ensure that 'Address' is set to 'LE 0'. If this criteria is not met, visit the Appendix to see how to change this setting.

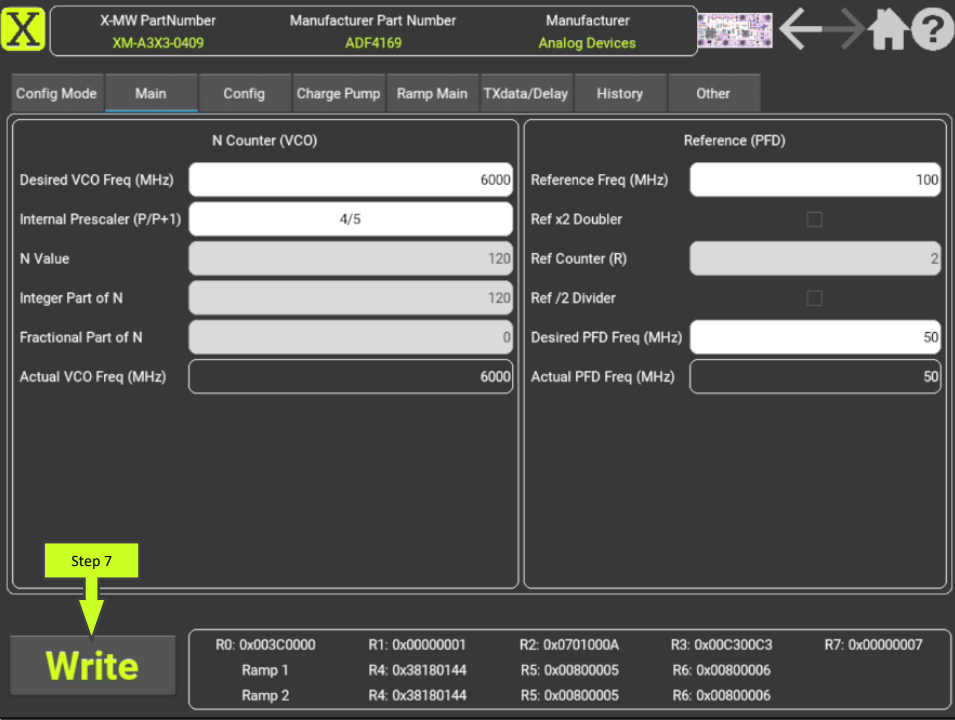
Step 5.)  
Click on the PLL that was just added to interact with the settings.







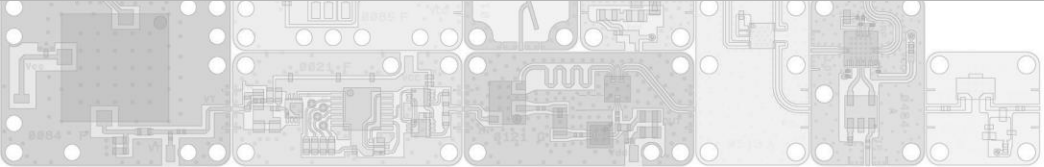
Step 7.)  
Select the 'Write'  
button. The text  
should turn green  
once the command is  
sent to the device.



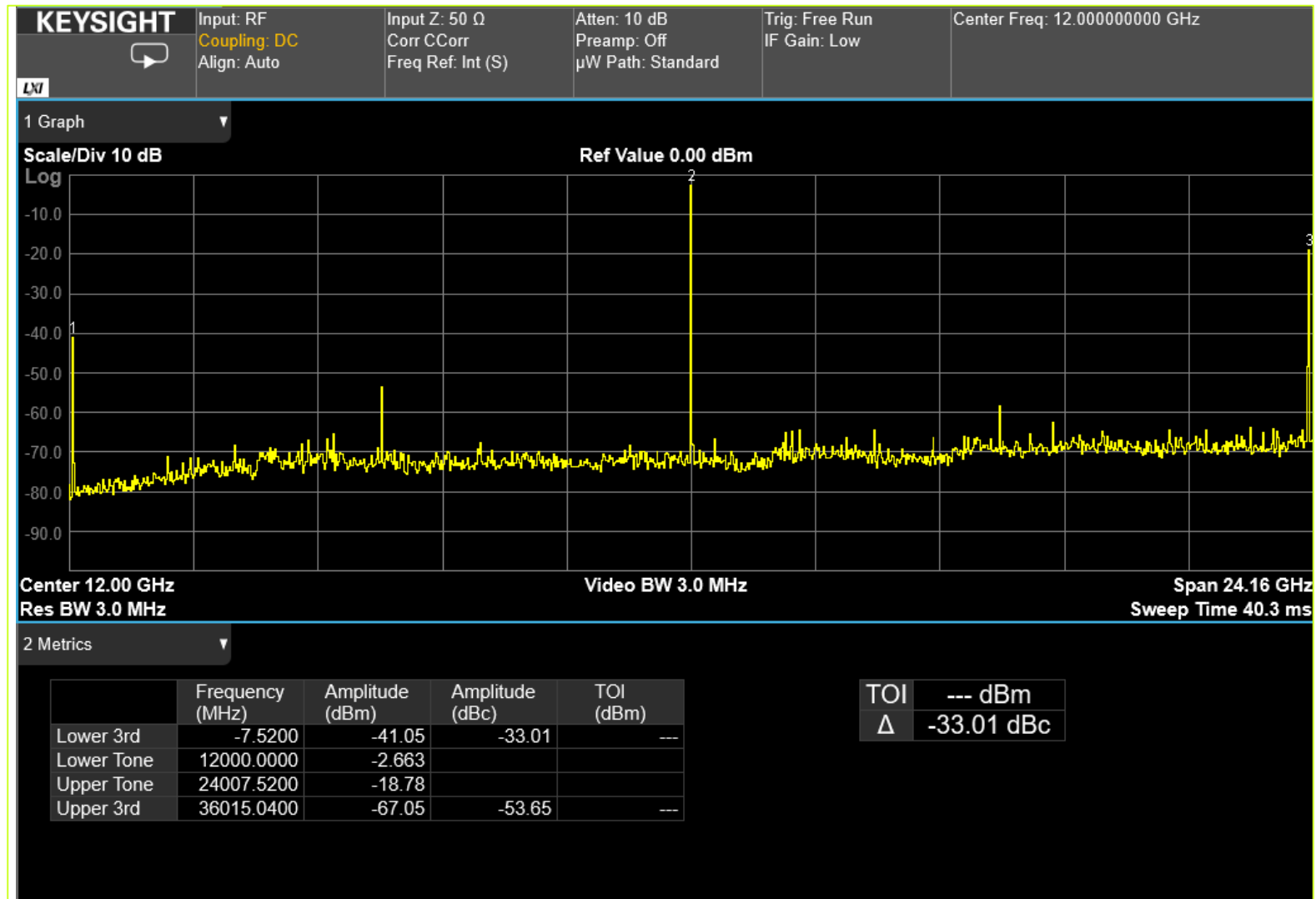
The following registers will be written to the chip:

R0: 0x003C0000	R1: 0x00000001	R2: 0x0701000A	R3: 0x00C300C3	R7: 0x00000007
Ramp 1	R4: 0x38180144	R5: 0x00800005	R6: 0x00800006	
Ramp 2	R4: 0x38180144	R5: 0x00800005	R6: 0x00800006	

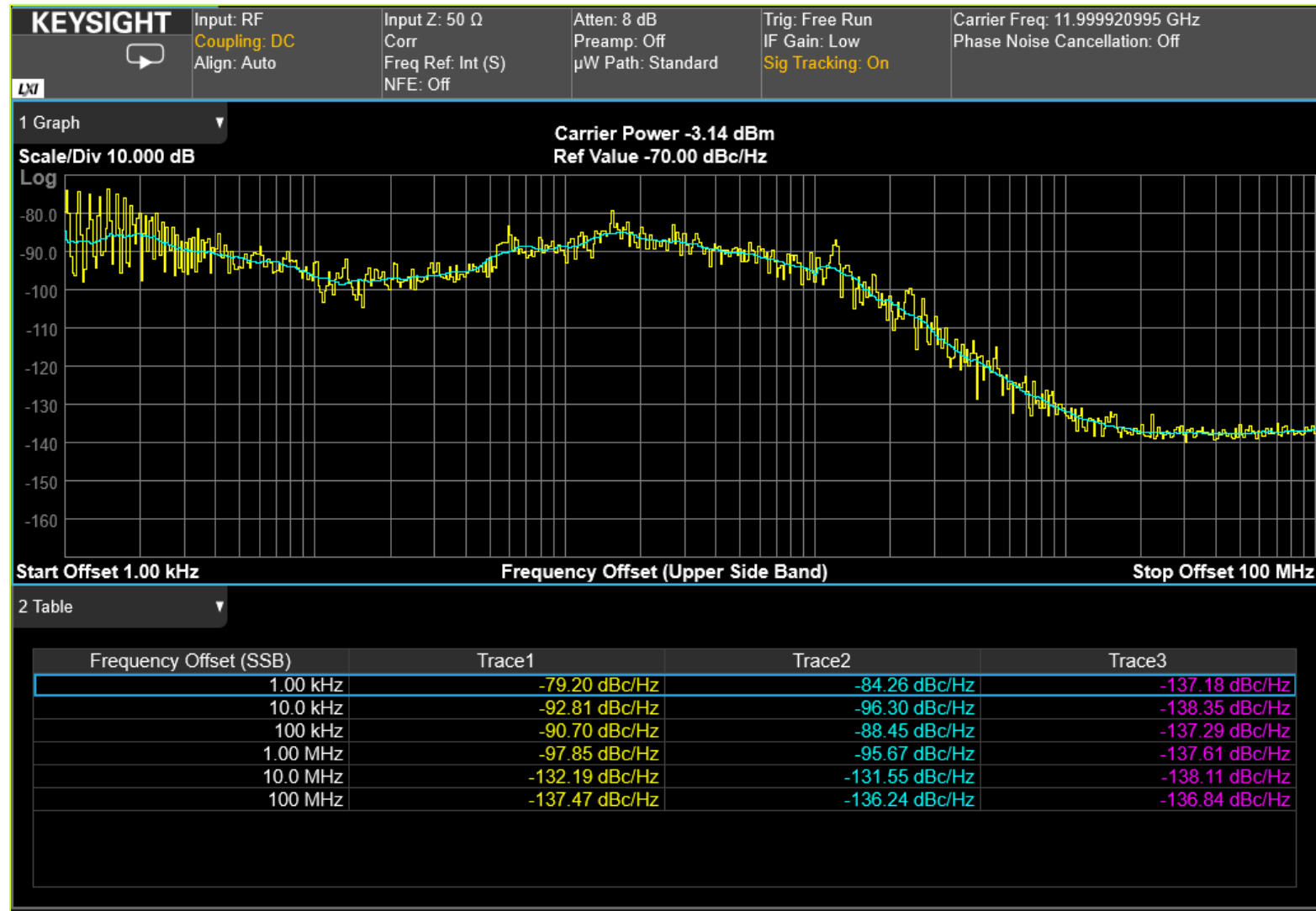
Register	Values
R0	0x003C0000
R1	0x00000001
R2	0x0701000A
R3	0x00C300C3
R4	0x38180144
R5	0x00800005
R6	0x00800006
R7	0x00000007



# (1) Synthesizer Output (Case 1) – 12GHz



# (1) Synthesizer Phase Noise (Case 1) – 12GHz





# (1) Synthesizer Programming Continued

## Instructions continued:

6. To change the output frequency, set the 'Desired VCO Freq' to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the actual desired frequency.
  - Case 1: Enter 6000MHz, Read 12000MHz (shown previously)
  - Case 2: Enter 10000MHz, Read 20000MHz
7. If the 'Desired VCO Freq' is higher than 8GHz the 'Internal Prescaler' must be adjusted to '8/9'. Case 2 is shown in the following slides.



## (Case 2)

Step 8.)  
Navigate to the  
'Main' tab. Change  
the 'Desired VCO  
Freq' to '10000MHz'  
which will output  
'20000MHz'.

Config Mode **Main** Config Charge Pump Ramp Main **Step 8** Play History Other

N Counter (VCO)

Desired VCO Freq (MHz) 10000

Internal Prescaler (P/P+1) 8/9

N Value 200

Integer Part of N 200

Fractional Part of N 0

Actual VCO Freq (MHz) 10000

Reference (PFD)

Reference Freq (MHz) 100

Ref x2 Doubler ☐

Ref Counter (R) 2

Ref /2 Divider ☐

Desired PFD Freq (MHz) 50

Actual PFD Freq (MHz) 50

**Write**

R0: 0x00640000 Ramp 1 R1: 0x00000001 R2: 0x0711000A R3: 0x00C300C3 R7: 0x00000007  
Ramp 2 R4: 0x38180144 R5: 0x00800005 R6: 0x00800006

Step 9.)  
When changing the  
'Desired VCO Freq'  
above 8GHz, Change  
the 'Internal  
Prescaler' to '8/9'.

Step 10.) Press  
'Write' to send the  
command to the  
synthesizer.

Config Mode **Main** Config Charge Pump Ramp Main TXdata/Delay History Other

N Counter (VCO)

Desired VCO Freq (MHz) 10000

Internal Prescaler (P/P+1) **Step 9** 8/9

N Value 200

Integer Part of N 200

Fractional Part of N 0

Actual VCO Freq (MHz) 10000

Reference (PFD)

Reference Freq (MHz) 100

Ref x2 Doubler ☐

Ref Counter (R) 2

Ref /2 Divider ☐

Desired PFD Freq (MHz) 50

Actual PFD Freq (MHz) 50

**Write**

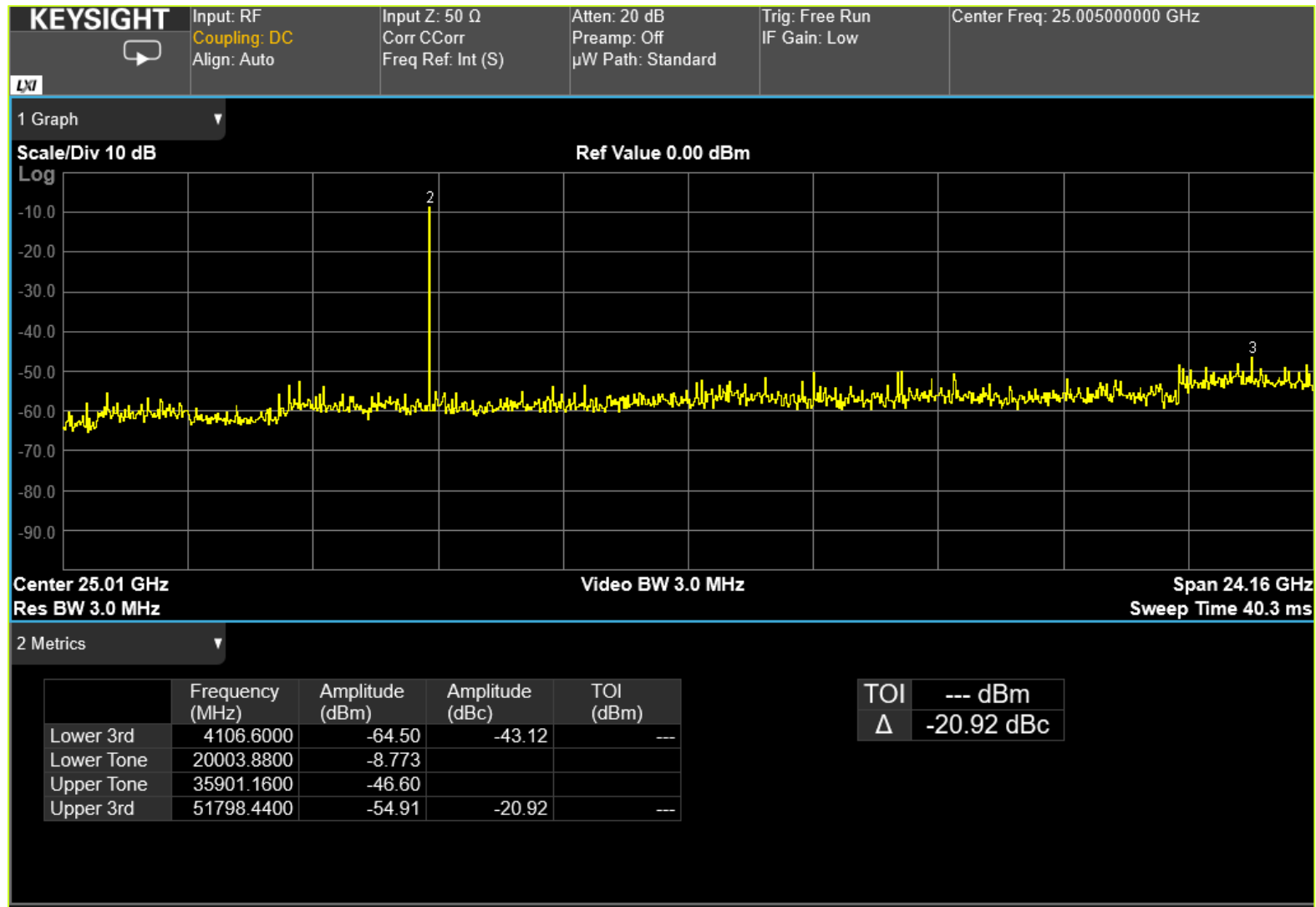
R0: 0x00640000 Ramp 1 R1: 0x00000001 R2: 0x0711000A R3: 0x00C300C3 R7: 0x00000007  
Ramp 2 R4: 0x38180144 R5: 0x00800005 R6: 0x00800006

The following registers will be written to the chip:

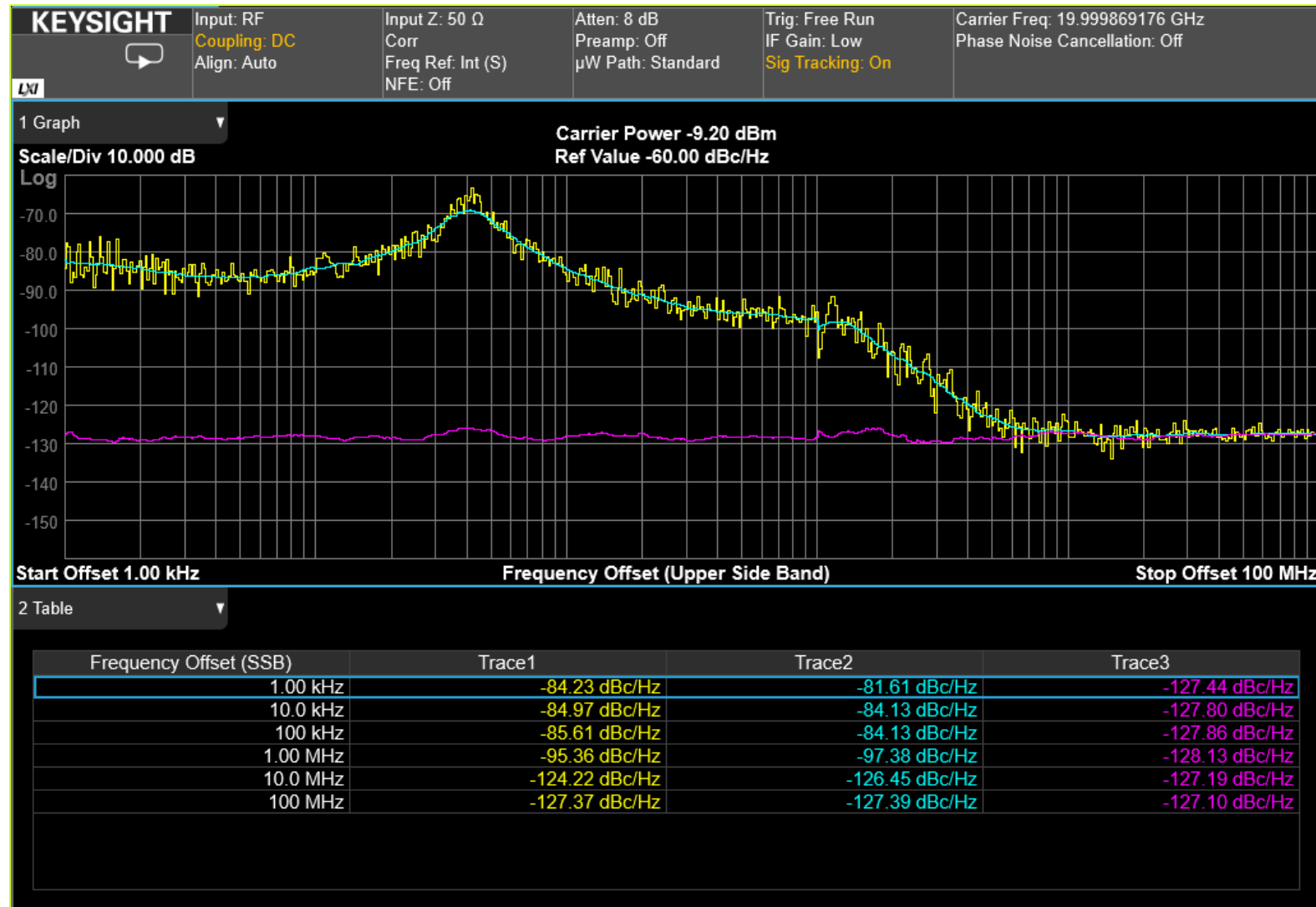
R0: 0x00640000	R1: 0x00000001	R2: 0x0711000A	R3: 0x00C300C3	R7: 0x00000007
Ramp 1	R4: 0x38180144	R5: 0x00800005	R6: 0x00800006	
Ramp 2	R4: 0x38180144	R5: 0x00800005	R6: 0x00800006	

Register	Values
R0	0x00640000
R1	0x00000001
R2	0x0711000A
R3	0x00C300C3
R4	0x38180144
R5	0x00800005
R6	0x00800006
R7	0x00000007

# (1) Synthesizer Output (Case 2) – 20GHz




# (1) Synthesizer Phase Noise (Case 2) – 20GHz

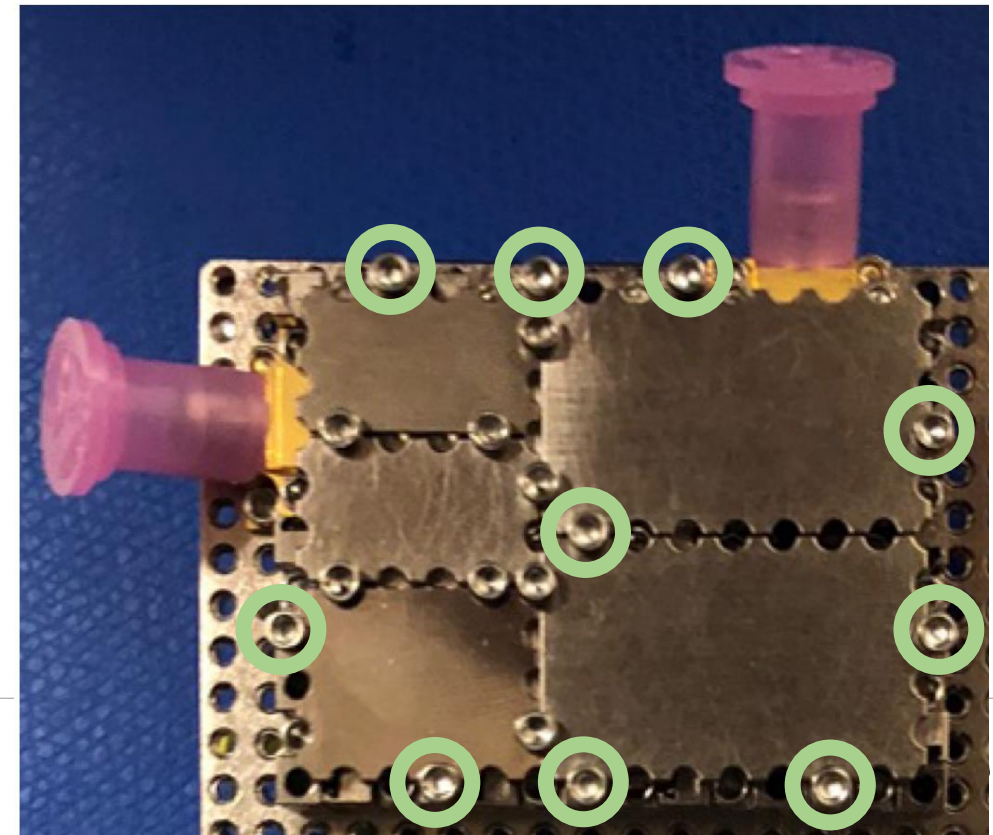
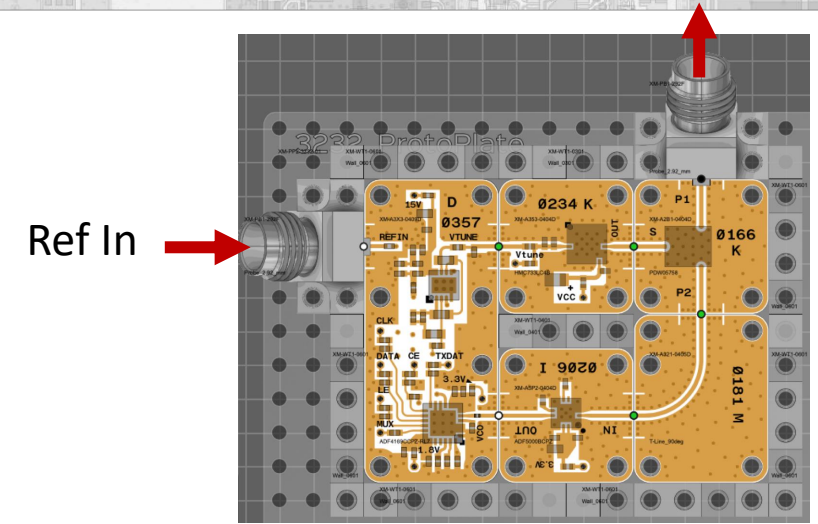


# (1) Synthesizer

## Look Under the Lid

- Only 10 screws are holding the lid in place.
- Remove the  screws to see inside.
- Please replace them when finished.

(Note: All screws can be removed without damaging anything)



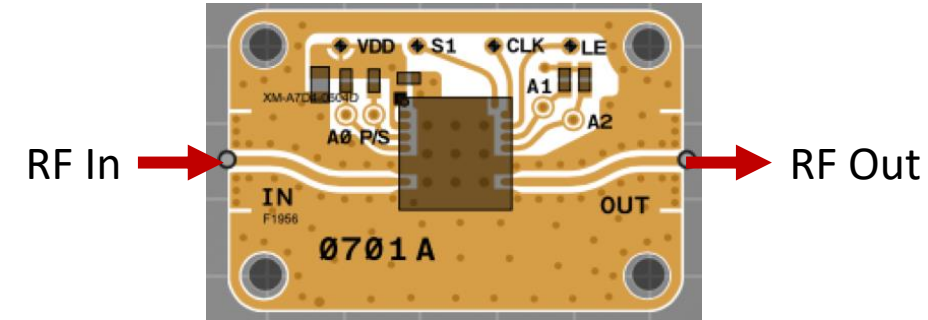




## (5) Digital Step Attenuator

### Instructions

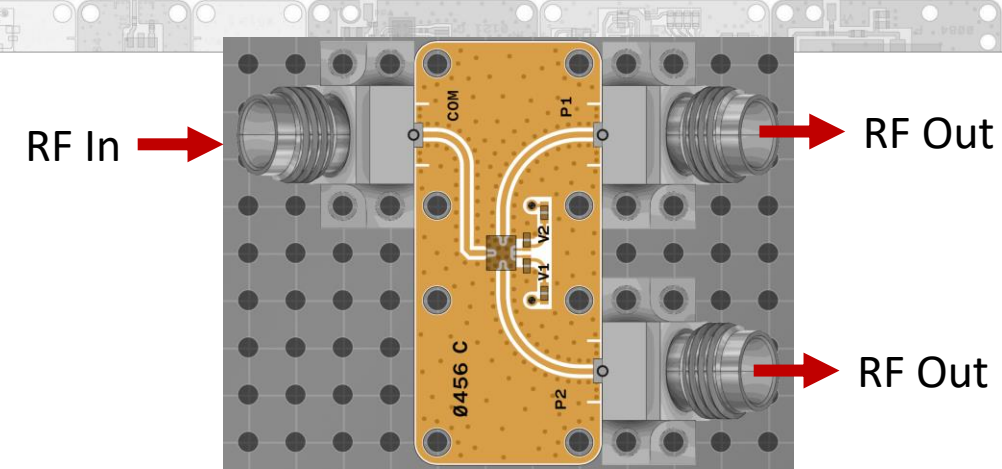
1. Attach the X-MWcontroller, 40 pin IDC Cable
2. Attach X-MWprobes to the input and output ports
3. Attach a network analyzer to the X-MWprobes
4. Power the circuit (B1) +5 VDC
5. Program the XM-A7D4-0604D, IDT F1956\*\*
  - a. Add X-MWblock to home screen of the X-MWcontroller (set line enable to LE1)
  - b. Set desired attenuation level
  - c. Press 'Write' to program
6. Measure S2P of the device (DC – 10G)



## (7) SPDT Switch

### Instructions

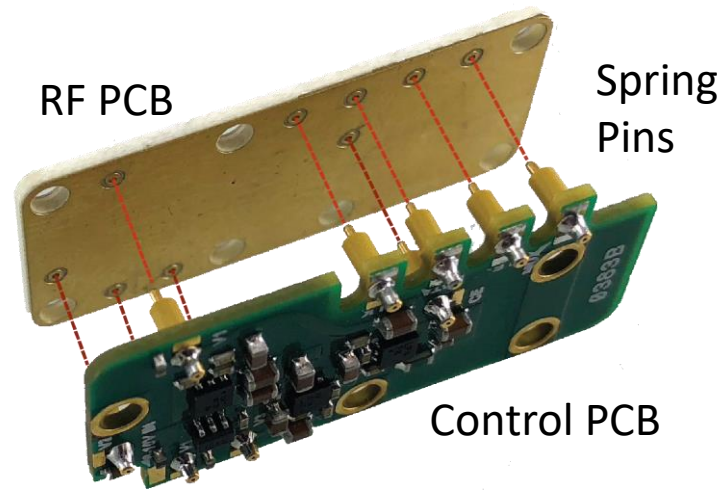
1. Attach the X-MWcontroller, 40 pin IDC Cable
2. Attach X-MWprobes to the input and output ports of the switch
3. Attach a network analyzer to the X-MWprobes
4. Power the circuit (B1) +5 VDC and (B2) -5 VDC
5. Control the XM-A6J9-0409D, pSemi PE42525\*\*
  - a. Add X-MWblock to home screen of the X-MWcontroller (choose Pin 7 to Control)
  - b. Set desired switch value
  - c. Press 'Write' to program
6. Measure S3P of the device (DC – 50GHz)



# Appendix



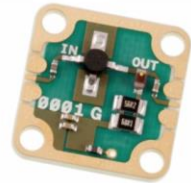
# X-Microwave Essentials



## X-MWsystem Vocabulary

X-MWblock

RF



X-MWprobe



Anchor



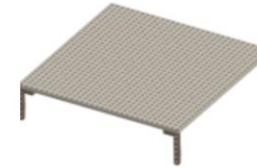
gsg Jumper



X-MWblock  
Bias and Control



X-MWprotoplate



X-MWwall



X-MWlid



X-MWblocks  
(bottom of plate)

1-72 x 1/8"  
(0.125")



X-MWblocks (top)  
X-MWprobe (short)

1-72 x 5/32"  
(0.156")



Lid (top)

1-72 x 3/16"  
(0.187")



X-MWanchor  
Pinbridge

1-72 x 1/4"  
(0.25")



X-MWProbe (tall)  
X-MWwall (short)

1-72 x 3/8"  
(0.375")



X-MWwall (tall)

1-72 x 1/2"  
(0.5")



X-MWwall  
Edge with Lid

1-72 x 5/8"  
(0.625")





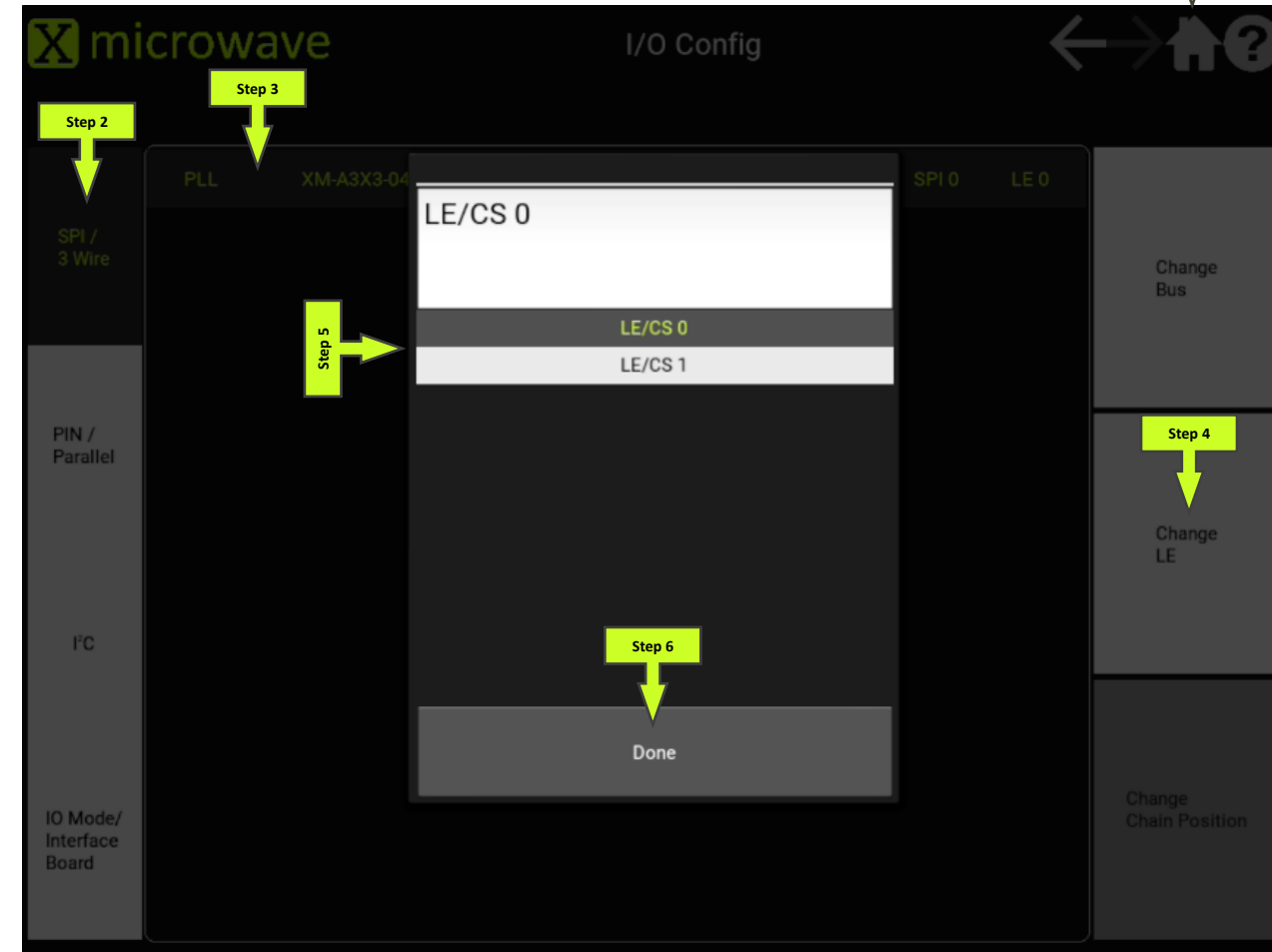




# Part Address Configuration

After adding the XM parts that are to be programmed and returning to the home screen:

- Step 1: Tap 'I/O Config'. The screen will redirect.
- Step 2: Tap 'SPI/ 3 Wire.'
- Step 3: Tap the part that needs the LE address to change.
- Step 4: Tap 'Change LE.'
- Step 5: Tap the appropriate LE pin the part is attached to.
- Step 6: Tap 'Done.'
- Step 7: Tap the home icon to return to the home screen.



- Loop Bandwidth: 234kHz
- Phase Margin: 52.1 deg
- VCO Range: 10-20GHz



# Verifying Synthesizer Lock

- A locked state can be verified if the lid is removed from the synthesizer assembly.
- Measure with a voltmeter at the 'MUX' via. (Shown at the arrow's tip)
- A locked state will output 1.8V.
- An unlocked state will output 0V.

