1. General

RF1276 series is a low cost, ultra-low power, high performance transparent two way semi-duplex LoRa modulation transceiver with operation at 915Mhz band. It integrates with high speed MCU from ST and high performance RF IC SX1276. Adopting high efficiency forward error correction with interleaving encoding (FEC) technology, it makes anti-interference ability and reception sensitivity greatly improved. That guarantees good performance in the harsh environment such as some industrial application. The FEC technique is advanced and unique in radio data communication field.

RF1276 has the UART/RS232/RS485 interface, that make it is easy to implement wireless data transmission. It is flexible for users to set the baud rate, frequency, output power, air data rate etc parameters. It can transmit transparent data with large data buffer and also can provide over 32 channels. The compact size makes it an ideal option for radio data communication application.

2. Features

- 5000 meters of communication distance（300bps）
- Output power: Max100mW (20dBm) (127 levels adjustable)
- Air data rate: 300 - 19200bps, can be configured through RF tool
- UART data rate: 1200 - 57600bps, can be configured through RF tool
- Frequency: 902.5MHz – 927.5MHz
- Working Current: 90mA(TX), 19.2mA(RX), 2.2mA(idle), 220uA(Sleeping)
- More than 32 channels
- parity of series COM: 8E1/8N1/8O1
- LoRa modulation
- Receive sensitivity: -148dBm(@300bps)
- UART/TTL, RS232, RS485
- Exceed 256 bytes data buffer
- Supply Voltage: 4.5V – 5.5V (2.1V – 3.7V optional)
- Simply tool for configuration
- 125KHz, 250KHz, 500KHz Channel spacing
- Dimension: 44.5mm x 23.6mm x 7.0mm

3. Application:

- Automated Meter Reading (AMR)
- Remote control, remote measurement system
- Access control
- Data collection
- Identification system
- IT household appliance
- Baby monitoring system

4. Maximum specification

Symbol	Parameter	Min	Max	Units
VCC	Supply Voltage	4.5	5.5	V
TOT	Operation Temperature	-30	85	℃
HOH	Operation Humidity	10%	90%	
TST	Storage Temperature	-55	125	°C

5. Pin Out:

RF1276 module has 5 pins. Refers to the Table 1：

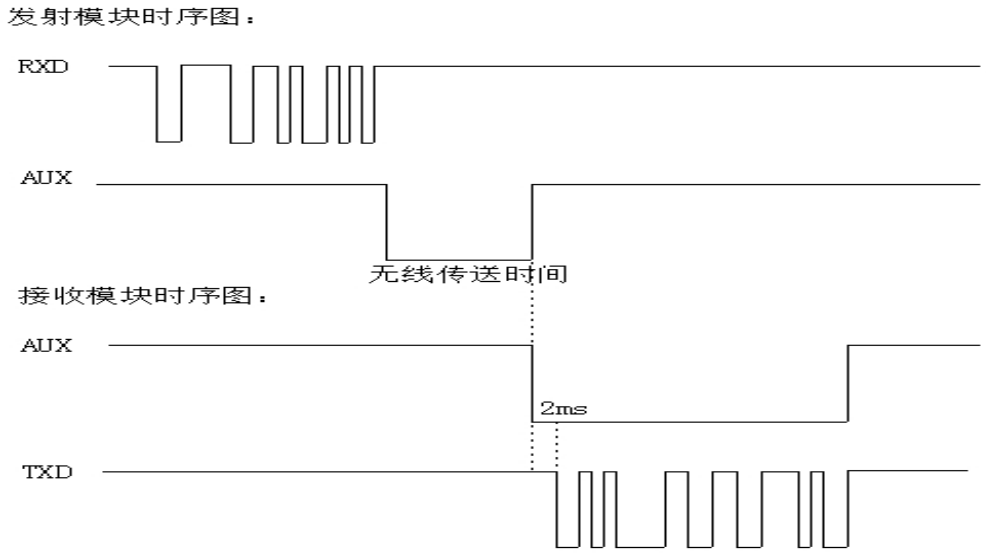
RF1276		
Pin NO.	Pin Name	Description
1	VCC	Power supply DC 4.5V-6.5V
2	GND	Grounding of Power Supply
3	RXD	Serial input, 485+/485A
4	TXD	Serial output, 485-/485B
5	AUX	Data in/out indication

Table 1: Pin definition

6. Working mode

a. Standard mode

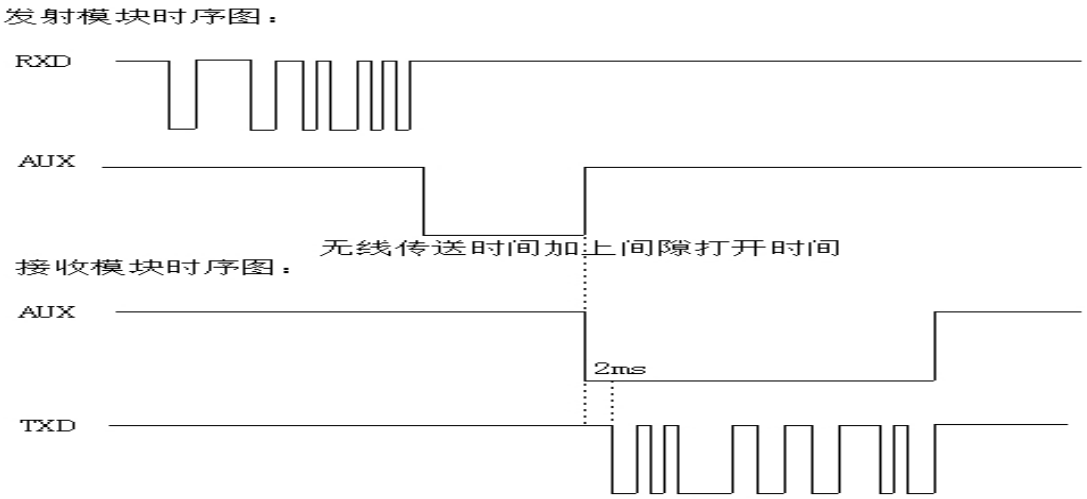
Standard mode is also called transparent mode in which the module receives from or sends data to the host through serial port (RS232 or RS485) at preset data format and users don’t need to care about the proce ss of data inside the module. The AUX pin of RF1276 will give indication about the data IN/OUT of serial port 2ms in advance in order to wake up the host.



Timing Sequence in Standard Mode

b. Low power mode

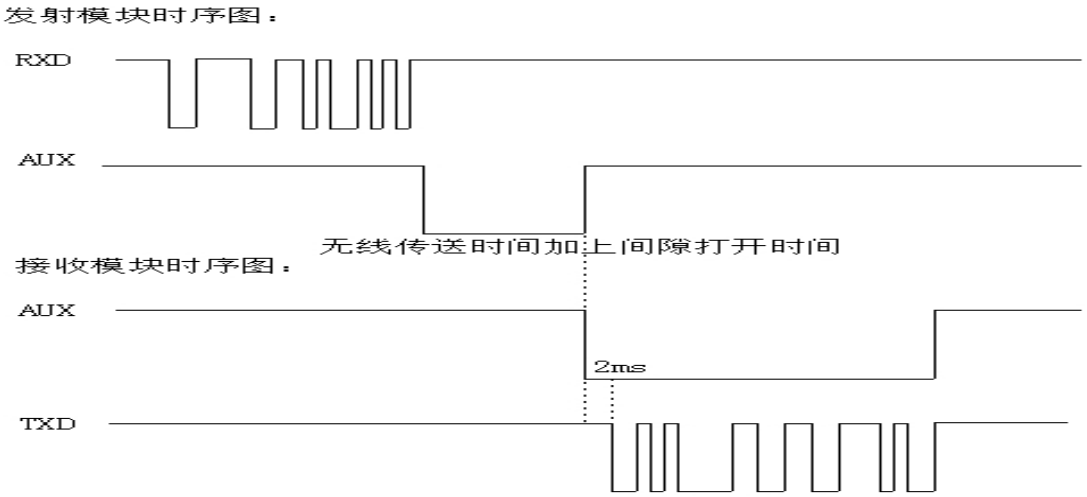
In this mode RF1276 enables serial port and CAD monitor which means the module monitors the wireless link periodically. When it detects the wireless signal in the wake-up period, it will open the receive circuit, pick out the effective data and transfer it to the host through the serial port. The AUX pin will produce a low level signal 2ms in advance to inform he host that the data comes.



Timing Sequence in Low Power Mode

c. Sleep mode

In this mode most functions of the modules are disabled so if two modules are set to the Sleep Mode, they can't communicate with each other so one module must be in Low Power Mode. Comparing to Low Power Mode, the modules in SLEEP MODE will not enable serial port and only keeps CAD monitor. When it detects effective wireless signal, it will then enable the serial port. If there is no data In/Out in 1 seco nd, it will close the serial port and continue the CAD monitor



Timing Sequence in Sleep Mode

7. Dimension

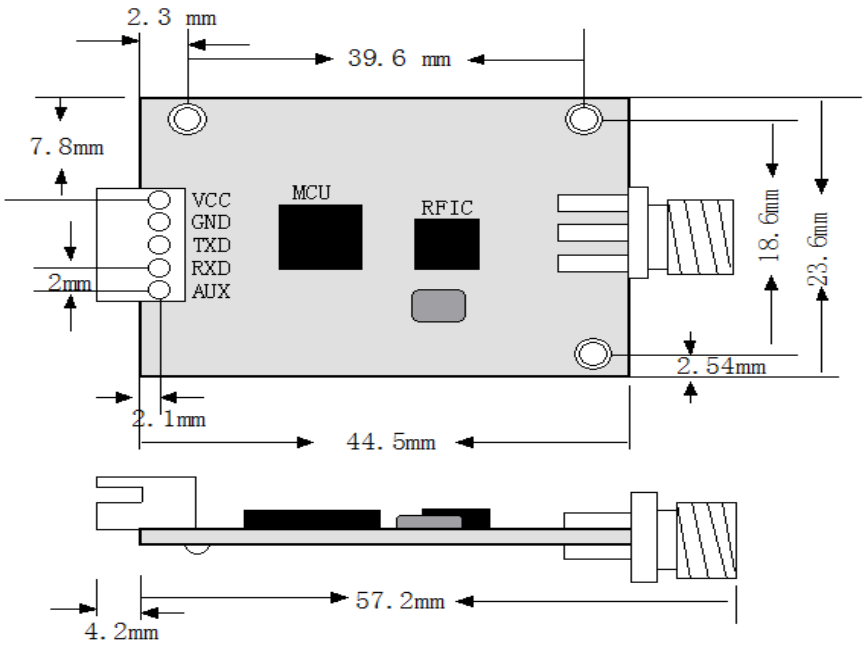


Figure 1: Size of Module

8. Parameter Configuration

Through serial port or using setting tool 'Rf-Tool', users can configure relative parameters such as frequency, UART rate, air rate, checkout mode and so on.

It is very simply for configuration. Based on different requirement, all options can be selected visually. It is shown in Table 2 and Figure 3.

Parameter	Description
UART area	The values are fixed at 9.6k bps & no parity check.
RF frequency	It indicates the center frequency of RF carrier
RF mode	Standard mode, Low Power mode
RF_Factor	Lora spreading factor. Larger value means higher sensitivity but longer air transmission time
RF_BW	Lora bandwidth. Larger value means lower sensitivity. Recommended value: 125K.
Node ID	Reserved
Net ID	Only the modules with the same network ID can communicate with each other. It can avoid interferences from irrelative modules
Power	It is used to set the output power of RF1276. There are 7 power levels. The 7 means the max. output power---20dBm and 0 means the lowest output power.
Serial baudrate	It defines the data rate between RF1276 and the host
Serial parity	It defines the parity check between RF1276 and the host

Table 2: Parameter Specification

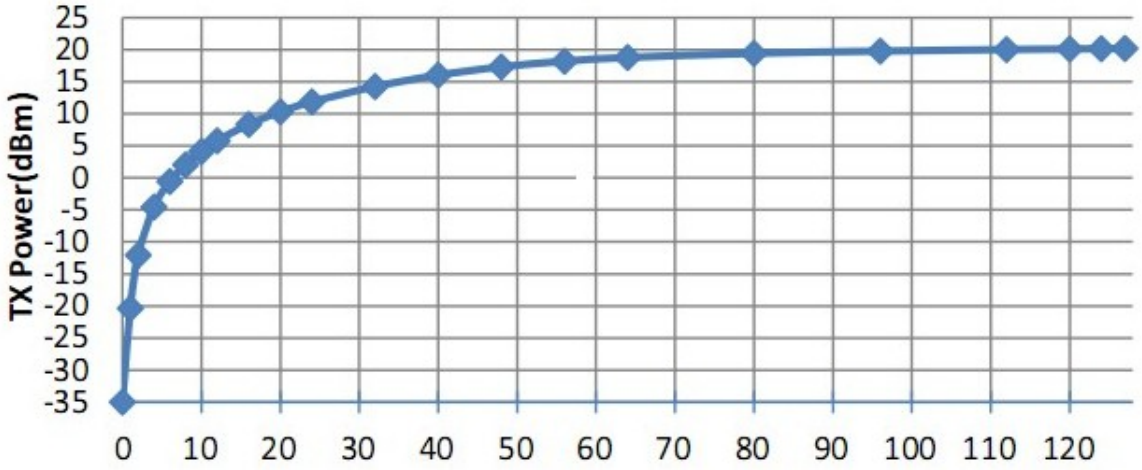


Figure 2: Indication of TX power level

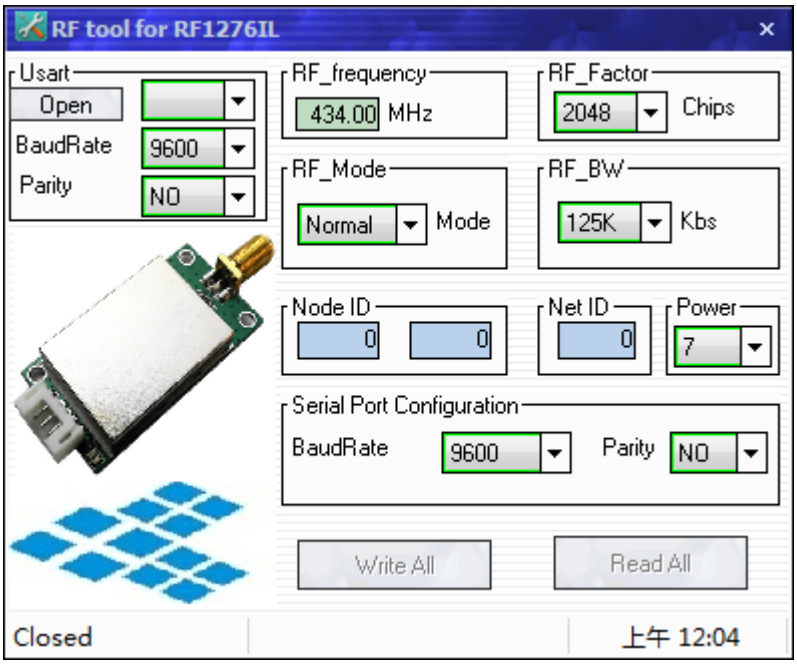


Figure 3: Interface of RF Tool

Users can configure the parameters (frequency, data rate, output power, RF Factor, RF Bandwith etc.) through PC or in circuit.

♦ Setting through PC. RF1276 port is UART/TTL. When RF1276 connecting with PC, users need to use USB adapter. AppconWireless provides USB adapter as accessory. The schematic is shown in Figure 4

Firstly users connect converter board to PC through DB9 cable and open 'RF Tool', then insert module into converter board. After that, the status column of 'RF tool' will give a indication 'Found Device'. Users then can read/write the module.

If users connect USB converter, USB drive ''PL-2303_Driver_Installer''need be installed firstly. The drive has different version for different OS. USB converter has five wires with five different colors: Black, Red, Blue, Yellow. Black wire is GND pin. Red wire is VCC pin. Blue wire is TXD pin.

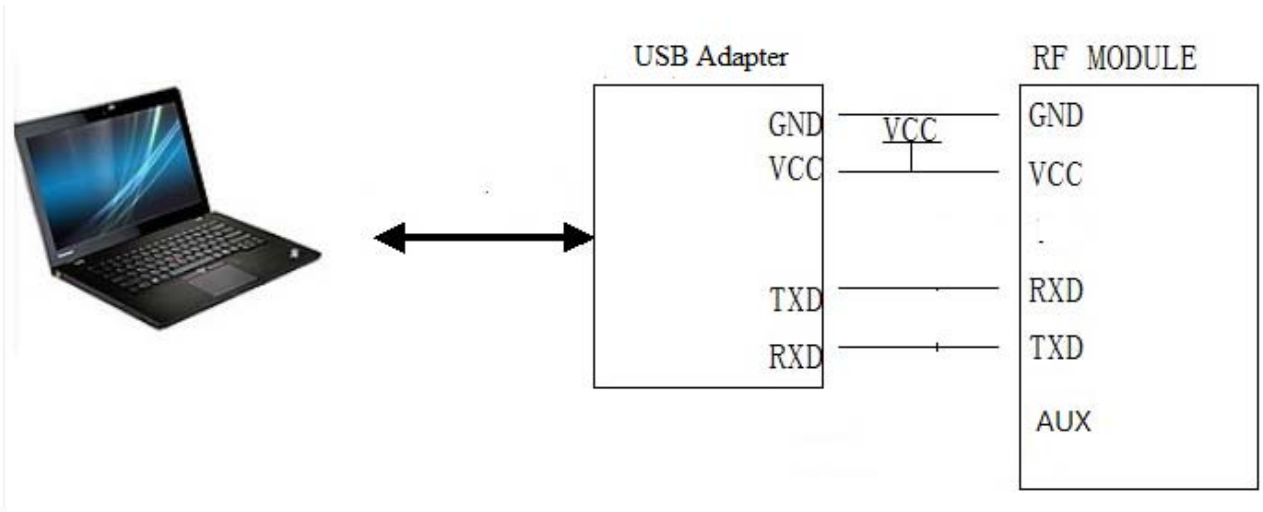


Figure 4: The connection diagram

♦ Setting in circuit . Users also can use microcontroller to change the default parameters. The work mechanism is the same as in PC.

Sync word		ID code		Header	Command		Length	Data	CRC	End code	
0xAF	0xAF	0x00	0x00	0XAF	XX	YY	LEN	XXXX	CS	0X0D	0X0A

RF1276 Command Structure

Notes: 1. The ID code is 0x00 0x00 in command.

2. In command code, XX in sending command is 0x80 and in response command is 0x00. YY is the command type. The work mode of

YY	TYPE	YY	TYPE	YY	TYPE	YY	TYPE	YY	TYPE
0x01	write	0x02	read	0x03	standard	0x04	Central	0x05	Node

Command Type and Value

3. Length refers to the data bytes between Length byte and CRC byte which the two bytes are not calculated in the length.

4. Data refers to the detailed parameters which need to be changed.

Baudrate	Parity	Frequency	RF_Factor	Mode	RF_BW	ID	NetID	Power

Parameter Sequence in Data Section

Parameters	Length	Values
Baudrate	1 byte	1=1200, 2=2400, 3=4800, 4=9600, 5=19200,6=38400, 7=57600
Parity	1 byte	0=no parity check, 1=odd parity, 2=even parity
Frequency	3 bytes	The value=Frequency/61.035. E.g. For 433MHz, the value= 433000000/61.035
RF_Factor	1 byte	7=128, 8=256, 9=512, 10=1024, 11=2048, 12=4096
Mode	1 byte	0=standard, 1=low power, 2=sleep
RF_BW	1 byte	6=62.5k, 7=125k, 8=250k, 9=500k
ID	2 bytes	0x0000 ~ 0xFFFF, high byte first
NetID	1 byte	0x00~0xFF
RF_Power	1 byte	1=4dBm, 2=7dBm, 3=10dBm, 4=13dBm, 5=14dBm, 6=17dBm, 7=20dBm

Parameter Length & Value Range

5. CS refers to CRC code which is the remainder of the sum of data section divided by 256 In order to understand the command, the section will demonstrate the use of commands by some examples.

Write Command Code: 0x01

Command: 0xAF, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x00, 0xAF, 0x80, 0x01, 0x0C, ... CS, 0x0D, 0x0A

Response.: 0xAF, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x00, 0xA F, 0x00, 0x01, 0x0C, ... CS, 0x0D, 0x0A

Read Command Code: 0x02

Command: 0xAF, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x00, 0xAF, 0x80, 0x02, 0x02,0x00,0x00,0x91, 0x0D, 0x0A

Response.: 0xAF, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x00, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x02, 0x02,0x00,0x00,0x91, 0x0D, 0x0A

Standard Mode Command Code: 0x03

Command: 0xAF, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x00, 0xAF, 0x80, 0x03, 0x02, 0x00, 0x00, 0x92, 0x0D, 0x0A

Response.: 0xAF, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x00, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x03, 0x02, 0x00, 0x00, 0x92, 0x0D, 0x0A

Saving Mode Command Code: 0x04

Command: 0xAF, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x00, 0xAF, 0x80, 0x04, 0x02, 0x00, 0x00, 0x93, 0x0D, 0x0A

Response.: 0xAF, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x00, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x04, 0x02, 0x00, 0x00, 0x93, 0x0D, 0x0A

Sleep Mode Command Code: 0x05

Command: 0xAF, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x00, 0xAF, 0x80, 0x05, 0x02, 0x00, 0x00, 0x94, 0x0D, 0x0A

Response.: 0xAF, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x00, 0xAF, 0x00, 0x05, 0x02, 0x00, 0x00, 0x94, 0x0D, 0x0A

Restart Module

Command 0XAF 0XAF 0X00 0X00 0XAF 0X80 0X20 0X02 00 00 CS 0X0D 0X0A

Reply 0XAF 0XAF 0X00 0X00 0XAF 0X00 0X20 0X02 00 00 CS 0X0D 0X0A

Note:The module is restarted after reset and the version number is printed.

Detect air signals

Command 0XAF 0XAF 0X00 0X00 0XAF 0X80 0X23 0X02 00 00 CS 0X0D 0X0A

Reply 0XAF 0XAF 0X00 0X00 0XAF 0X00 0X23 0X02 HH 00 CS 0X0D 0X0A

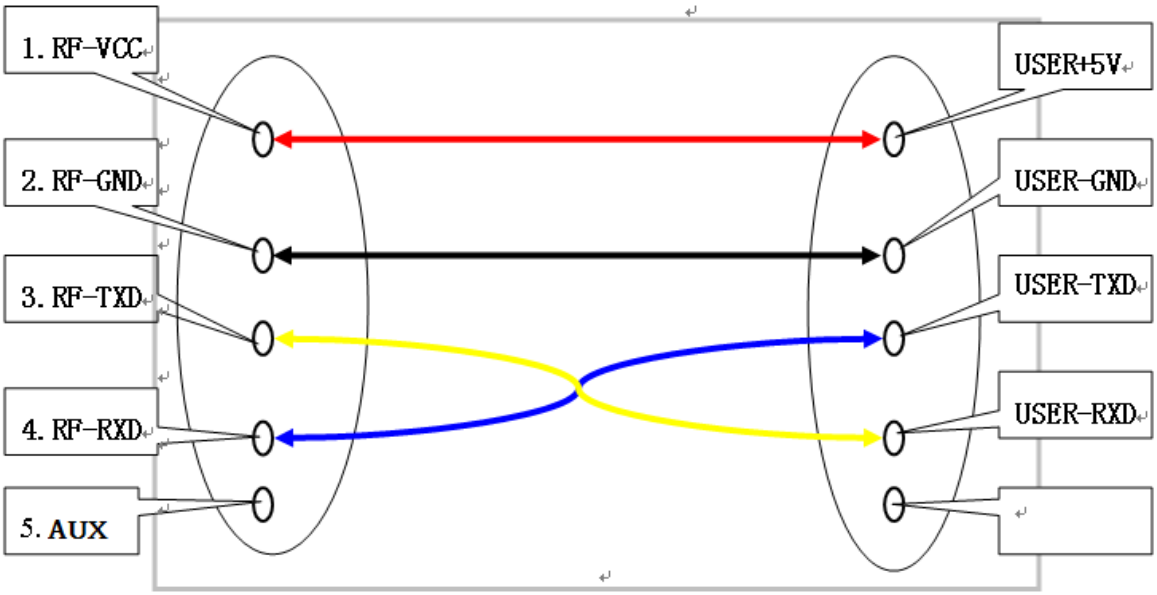
HH:0—There is data in the air 1—There is no data in the air.

Please note that the working modes changed by the 0x03, 0x04 and 0x05 commands will not be written into nonvolatile memory so the working mode will be restored to the former mode before change after power-off. Users can use the WRITE command to change the working mode of module to standard mode or low power mode but the sleep mode will be restored to standard mode after next power-on even if the WRITE command is used.

9. Application Schematic:

The connection schematic between RF1276 and MCU or terminal is shown as below.

The parameter of RF1276'serial port must match with MCU or terminal's (RF1276 has the same serial port baud rate and parity style with MCU or terminal). Two or more RF1276s in a system should have the same parameters such as TX/RX frequency, air date rate and RF channel.



Caution: 1. When RF1276 is installed, make sure the antenna is far away from device to enhance the performance.

2. RF1276 should have the same common ground with MCU or terminal. Otherwise it may cause the module irregular working.

3. When RF1276 works normal, DO NOT touch the module and antenna.

Figure 7: Connection between Module and Device(TTL/RS232 port)

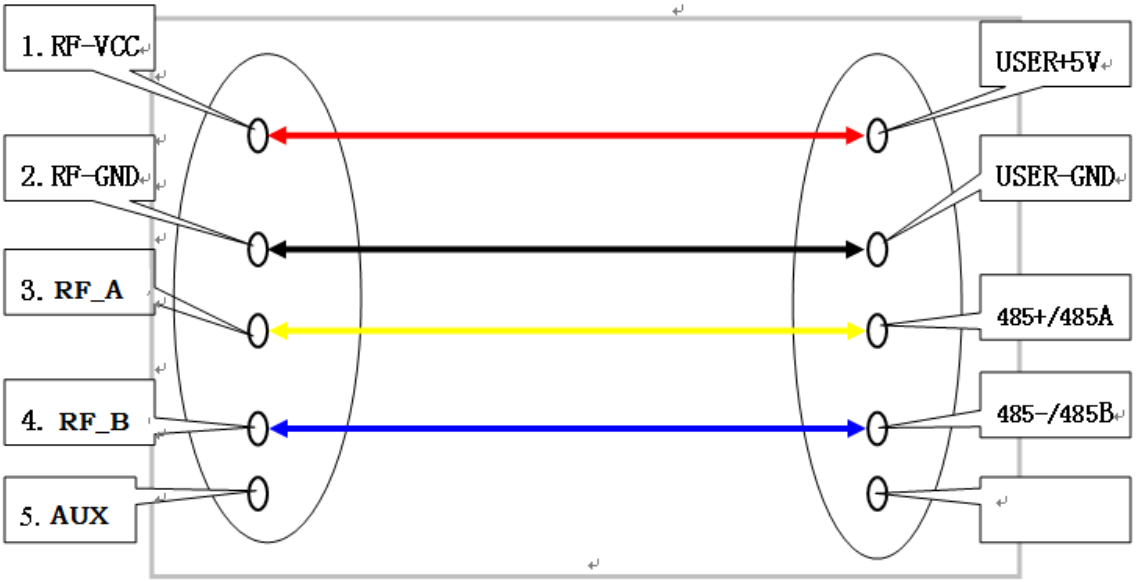


Figure 8: Connection between Module and Device(RS485 port)

10. Constructing Network (one point to multi-point):

RF1276 is a semi-duplex module, which can be communicated by point to point or one point to multi-point. In the second mode, user needs to set one master module, while the others are slave modules. Every module must only have one unique ID. The coordination of communication is controlled by the master module, which sends data or commands including ID information. All slave modules can receive the data packets, and compare the ID with itself. If they are matched, the module will deal with the data packets. Otherwise, it will discard them. In order to avoid interfering each other, only one module can be in transmitting state when the network is working. RF1276 can set many different frequencies so that many networks can work in the same place and at the same time.

User should pay attention to the following questions based on the complex transfers in the air and some inherency characteristics of wireless communication:

1）Latency of wireless communication

The wireless terminal keeps receiving data packets after waiting for a while to ensure no data any more. There should be tens to hundreds mil-seconds latency from transfer to receiver (the exact latency depended

on UART rate, air rate and the size of data package). In addition, it also need consume some time to transmit from module to terminal, but the delay time is permanent in the same condition.

2）Data flux control

Although there is a buffer zone with 256 bytes in the wireless module, when the UART rate is higher than the air rate, there must be a problem about the data flux. It may cause to lose some data because the data overflow from the buffer. Under this condition, it must be ensured that the average UART rate should NOT higher than 60 percent of the air rate. For instance, the UART rate is 9600bps, the air rate is 4800bps. If UART rate is the same as the air rate, the only way is to interval the transmitting time. If terminal transmits 100bytes to UART every time, it will take 104ms every time. (104ms/0.6)*(9600/4800) =347ms. So if the interval time that terminal transmit 100bytes to UART should NOT less than 347ms every time, those mentioned problems can be avoided.

3）Error control

The wireless network module has strong capability of anti-interference because of the high efficiency checking error correction with interleaving encoding technology. However, when it is in a bad circumstance that has strong electric interference, the data may be lost or receive some error data. User can increase the development of the system link layer protocol. For instance, if user can increase TCP/IP slip window and repeat transmitting functions, it will improve the reliability and ability of wireless network communication.

4) Selection of antenna

Antenna is a very important factor of the communication system. The quality of antenna impacts the capability of communication system. So user should strictly choose the quality of antenna. Generally speaking, it mainly contains two points: the type of antenna (size) and its electric capability. The antenna must be matched with the frequency of communication system.

11. Order information

a) RF1276-915

12. Q&A:

Questions and Answers	
Can not communicate between two devices	1. The communication protocol is different between two modules, for instance: data rate and checkout.
	2. The frequency or RF data rate is different between two communicated modules.
	3. They are not the same kind products.
	4. The connection between module and terminal is wrong.
	5、The module is wrong.
	6. The setting of EN is wrong.
	7. The communication distance exceeds the range, or the connection of antenna is bad.
Short communication distance	1. The supply voltage exceeds range
	2. The ripple of power is too big.
	3. The connection of antenna is bad or it is a wrong kind of antenna
	4. Antenna is too close to the surface of metal or the ground
	5. Receiving circumstance is very bad, for instance buildings and strong interference.
	6. There is interference of the same frequency
Receive wrong data	1. Wrong setting of COM, for example, Baud rate is wrong
	2. The connection of UART is wrong.
	3. The cable to the UART is too long.

Federal Communication Commission Statement

- This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules see Ref. 4. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one of the following measures:

– Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna

– Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver

– Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected

– Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help

- OEM integrators instructions

– The OEM integrators are responsible for ensuring that the end-user has no manual instructions to remove or install module

– The module is limited to installation in mobile or fixed applications, according to CFR 47 Part 2.1091(b)

– Separate approval is required for all other operating configurations, including portable configurations with respect to CFR 47 Part 2.1093 and different antenna configurations

- User guide mandatory statements

– User's instructions of the host device must contain the following statements in addition to operation instructions:

* “This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

(1)This device may not cause harmful interference, and

(2)This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation”

* “Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment”

- FCC RF Exposure requirements

– User's instructions of the host device must contain the following instructions in addition to operation instructions:

Avoid direct contact to the antenna, or keep it to a 20 cm minimum distance while using this equipment. This device must not be collocated or operating in conjunction with another antenna or transmitter.

This module has been designed to operate with antennas having a maximum gain of 1 dBi. Antennas having a gain greater than 1 dBi are strictly prohibited for use with this device. The required antenna impedance is 50 ohms.

FCC end product labelling

The final ‘end product’ should be labelled in a visible area with the following:

Contains TX FCC ID: 2APJJ-RF1276 to reflect the version of the module being used inside the product.

Test board infomration:
Model: RF1276
Input: DC5V
Output: DC3.3V

The modular transmitter is only FCC authorized for the specific rule parts (i.e., FCC transmitter rules) listed on the grant, and that the host product manufacturer is responsible for compliance to any other FCC rules that apply to the host not covered by the modular transmitter grant of certification.

Test mode: Transmitting mode： Low Channel: 902.5MHz/Middle Channel: 915.5MHz/High Channel: 927.5MHz
Applicable FCC rules: 15.249