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Overview

The RA24 module (28 X 16mm) is a general purpose radio transceiver with a serial USART interface. The module is intended to be coupled with a microcontroller. The module is available with an on-board chip antenna and external antennas.

The communication protocol has been designed for flexibility and has communication models for Request/Response and broadcast scenarios as well as built-in support for sleep/wake, binding, identification and diagnostics.

The Radio operates in the 2.4GHz band and utilises direct sequence spread spectrum. The modulation format is Offset Quadrature Phase Shift Keying (O-QPSK) with half-sine chip shaping. This is equivalent to MSK (Minimum Shift Keying) modulation.

15 channels operate over the 2.400 to 2.480 band.

The module uses the Chipcon CC2430 radio transceiver chip and so leverages the 802.15.4 compliance of this chip but uses a non 802.15.4 compliant sync word and MAC Protocol Data Unit (MPDU) structure.

Designed to operate over 2.1 to 3.6 volts dc allowing for battery operation.

Hardware Specifications

Environmental

Parameter	Minimum	Typical	Maximum	Units	Notes
Supply voltage Range	2.1	3	3.6	Volts	
Sleep Current	-	0.6		uA	
RX current	-	22		mA	
TX current	-	-	70	mA	
Operating Temperature Range	-20	-	55	Deg C	
Storage Temperature Range	-40	-	85	Deg C	

Radio Specification 2.4Ghz

Parameter	Minimum	Typical	Maximum	Units	Notes
Frequency	2.4	-	2.4835	GHz	
Radio Bit Rate	-	250	-	Kbps	Note 1
RX sensitivity		-88		dBm	Note 2
TX Output Power	-5		+15	dBm	
Antenna matching impedance	45	50	55	Ohms	
Modulation method		MSK (QPSK)			
Crystal Tolerance			+/-40	ppm	Note 3
Crystal ESR			100	Ohms	
Crystal Loading Capacitance			16	pF	
Range	-	-	600	m	4

Notes

1. Device is capable 250Kbps.
2. For 250Kbps and MSK, 1% packet error rate, 20 bytes packet length, 540 kHz digital channel filter bandwidth
3. Includes Initial Tolerance + Ageing + Temperature. IE 26.000/10/10/10/16.
4. Based on Chip to PCB antenna in an open field site 3m above ground.

Physical

This module is a single sided constructed module using a 4 layer PCB.
The physical size is 16 x 28 x 3.5mm. Including integral antenna.
Connection to application PCB is via surface mounting pads.

Communications Interface

The Hardware interface is 3V/3.3V logic level.
The communications UART configuration is 500000, 8 bit word, no Parity and 1 Stop bit.

Hardware Interfacing

Pin	Direction	Radio Module
1	■	0V
2	■	+3V
3	➔	RST (Reset in)
4	➔	SPICK (SPI Serial Clock)
5	➔	CTS (App is ready)
6	➔	Srx (Serial RX) [SPI MO]
7	➔	RTS (Ready Out)
8	➔	Stx (Serial TX) [SPI MI]
9	■	0V

Data Transfer

To send radio data for transmission the main module will wait until the radio module **ready** line is active. Then the main module **ready** line will be set inactive and the data transmitted. The main module **ready** line will then become active once the last byte has gone out.

On receiving the data the radio module will drop its **ready** line and only enable it again when the data has been sent or in the case of requiring a response, activate again when the message has been sent back to the main module or the response has not arrived within the timeout period.

A no response will cause a response packet to be sent serially containing zero data and a null RSSI.

Data received with bad a checksum is just ignored by the main module.

If a response is required then the radio module will keep the **ready** line inactive until it has received the response or timed out.

When un-requested data arrives at the radio and if the packet is correctly addressed or broadcast then the data is sent to the main module by waiting until the **ready** line is active then dropping its own **ready** line then sending the data before raising its own **ready** line again.

Radio data arriving while the module is busy will be buffered and handled when ready again.

The radio module can be awakened by its CTS line.

Packet Protocol

Packet Format:

Key

	= variable number of bytes
	= Fixed function bytes required by module
	= Generated by chip

Format of packets to module, from module and transmitted.

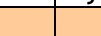


Serial data into module

Length	Packet Type	Data
		
= Length indicates number of bytes above		



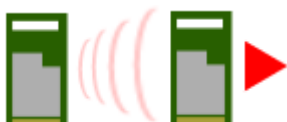
Radio transmission Non Encrypted

PRE1	PRE2	PRE3	PRE4	SYNC1	Length	Packet Control	Packet Type	Data	CRC1	CRC2
										
= Length indicates number of bytes above										



Radio transmission Encrypted

PRE1	PRE2	PRE3	PRE4	SYNC1	Length	Packet Control	Len	CRC1	CRC2	Packet Type	Data	CRC1	CRC2
00	00	00	0A	E5									
							Encrypted Block						
							Encryption Control Block						
										Checksummed			



Serial data out of module

Length	Packet Type	Data	RSSI	CV
				
= Length indicates number of bytes above				

RSSI and CV bytes will only be appended to packets received via radio.

Packet Type Byte

The Packet control bytes indicate the type of packet and hold
The packet Type byte will be set by the instrument and passed to the module.

Packet Type

b7	b6	B5	B4	b3	b2	b1	b0
Error	LoBatt	Broadcast		Packet Type			
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Bit	Function
Error	Bit indicated an error is present. This is set and reset by the device which will include this information in the packet sent to the module.
LoBatt	Bit indicated a low battery. This is set and reset by the device which will include this information in the packet sent to the module.
Broadcast	Used to indicate that a routed packet was broadcast so the receiver knows not to respond.

Value	Type	Description
0	Broadcast	Broadcast packet
3	Broadcast Data Provider	Used to transfer data - See later Broadcast data
4	Routed Msg	Send message to specific ID - no response required.
5	Routed Read	Read data from a specific ID
6	Routed Write/command	Write a value or execute a command to a specific ID
7	Routed Response ACK	Response - Acknowledged. May also contain data
8	Routed Response NAK	Response - Not Acknowledged
9	Routed Response Timeout	Response Timed out
10	Routed Response Data Invalid	Response - Data invalid
17	Identify Request	Broadcast to which all modules will reply with ID
18	Identify Response	Identify response
19	Bind Request	Request a link. Used for example to automate linking of devices. Module will now wait for 5 seconds and return the ID of the first device that responded or reply null.
20	Bind Accept	The response containing ID and data
21	Module Read	Read internal module parameter
22	Module Write	Write to an internal module parameter
23	Module ACK	Acknowledged internal write or return data
24	Module NAK	Command not acknowledged

Packet Control Byte

This byte is only present in the radio packet and is generated by the module.

The sequence number increments as each device sends a packet except when retrying and repeating. This way a receiver will only react once to a packet even if received more than once. However if a second packet is received that requires a response it will be sent. But if the packet requested an action and that action has already been executed it will not execute again even though a response will be sent.

b7	b6	B5	B4	b3	b2	b1	b0
Repeated	Encrypted	Repeat Group		Sequence Number			
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Bit	Function
Repeated	The byte is set when the packet is repeated so that packets are not repeated by repeaters.
Encrypted	Data includes extra 2 byte CRC checksum that must be checked after decryption. If a module uses an encryption key it will reject packets that are not encrypted and vice versa.
Repeat Group	Contains the repeat group code 0-3 which determines which packets are repeated by repeater modules. 0 is repeated by all. (See Repeater later)
Sequence Number	This increments for each packet sent but not when retries are made.

Packet SubData Formats

Depending on the packet type the data area will contain the following. Note that the radio data does not show the enclosing control bytes and CRC. The radio module in and out indicates the exact bytes involved.

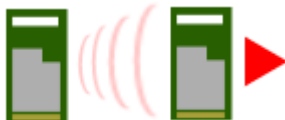
Broadcast (0)



Packet Type	Data
00	[...]



Data
[...]



Packet Type	Data	RSSI	CV
00	[...]	00	00

Simple broadcast packet which every module will receive. The source of the broadcast cannot be determined by receiving this packet.

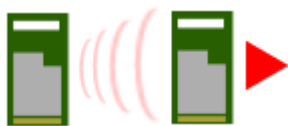
Broadcast Data Provider (3)



Packet Type	Data Tag	Status	Data Type	Data
03	00 00	00	00	[...]



Data Tag	Status	Data Type	Data
00 00	00	00	[...]



Packet Type	Data Tag	Status	Data Type	Data	RSSI	CV
03	00 00	00	00	[...]	00	00

This format will be used by Mantracourt products to allow Provider/Consumer ability to a range of products.

2 byte data Tag is set in the provider and conditionally captured by the consumer.

The datatype will support fixed data types of signed and unsigned 8, 16 and 32 bit values, float and string.

The status will be device specific and only used when the consumer knows where the data is coming from or can be configured to use certain bits from this byte. i.e. a Display module may set an LED to mimic bit 4 from the status of a TSC data packet which will indicate overrange.

The data will be of a type defined by datatype.

Function	Display As			Data Type				
Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Sample	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1

Display As	Type	Description
0	Undefined	
1	Numeric	Numeric representation based on Data Type
2	Boolean	The data may be in any format but represents a boolean result where non zero numeric is True and string length > 1 or > 0 is True
3	Text	Can display as ascii text
4	Binary (unprintable)	Unprintable characters
5	Hex	Best represented as hex
6	Bit Map (10110101)	Each bit value should be shown
7	Percent	Numeric or string value has a value 0 - 100

Data Type	Description	Size	Example	Note
0	No content/unknown	0		
1	UINT8	1	01	
2	UINT16	2	00 01	
3	INT32	4	00 00 00 01	
4	Float	4	3F 80 00 00	
5	String	0-64	Hello World	
6	Binary	0-64	"£\$%^&*(	

The Display As bits should be used where possible as this can help in presenting the data for display purposes.

Status will where possible have the following bit meanings to allow handhelds and displays to gather common info.

Status Byte							
7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
					Integrity	Digital Input	Shunt Cal

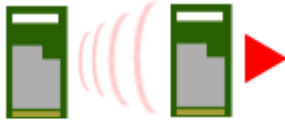
Routed Message (4)



Packet Type	To ID			Data
04	00	00	00	[...]



From ID			To ID			Data
00	00	00	00	00	00	[...]



Packet Type	From ID			Data	RSSI	CV
04	00	00	00	[...]	00	00

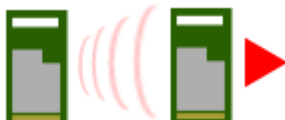
Routed Read (5)



Packet Type	To ID			Command
05	00	00	00	[...]



From ID			To ID			Command
00	00	00	00	00	00	00



Packet Type	From ID			Command	RSSI	CV
05	00	00	00	[...]	00	00

Although the radio does not enforce the following, Mantracourt will adopt:
Where Command consists of

Data Type	Data
00	[...]

The data will be of a type defined by Data Type.

Function	Display As						Data Type		
Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
Sample	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	

Display As	Type	Description
0	Undefined	
1	Numeric	Numeric representation based on Data Type
2	Boolean	The data may be in any format but represents a boolean result where non zero numeric is True and string length > 1 or > 0 is True
3	Text	Can display as ascii text
4	Binary (unprintable)	Unprintable characters
5	Hex	Best represented as hex
6	Bit Map (10110101)	Each bit value should be shown
7	Percent	Numeric or string value has a value 0 - 100

Data Type	Description	Size	Example	Note
0	No content/unknown	0		

1	UINT8	1	01	
2	UINT16	2	00 01	
3	INT32	4	00 00 00 01	
4	Float	4	3F 80 00 00	
5	String	0-64	Hello World	
6	Binary	0-64	"£\$%^&*(	

The Display As bits should be used where possible as this can help in presenting the data for display purposes.

Routed Write (6)



Packet Type	To ID			Command/Data
06	00	00	00	[...]



From ID			To ID			Command/Data
00	00	00	00	00	00	[...]



Packet Type	From ID			Command/Data	RSSI	CV
06	00	00	00	[...]	00	00

Although the radio does not enforce the following, Mantracourt will adopt:
Where Command/Data consists of

Command	Data Type	Data
00	00	[...]

The data will be of a type defined by Data Type.

Function	Display As						Data Type	
Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Sample	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1

Display As	Type	Description
0	Undefined	
1	Numeric	Numeric representation based on Data Type
2	Boolean	The data may be in any format but represents a boolean result where non zero numeric is True and string length > 1 or > 0 is True
3	Text	Can display as ascii text
4	Binary (unprintable)	Unprintable characters
5	Hex	Best represented as hex
6	Bit Map (10110101)	Each bit value should be shown
7	Percent	Numeric or string value has a value 0 - 100

Data Type	Description	Size	Example	Note
0	No content/unknown	0		
1	UINT8	1	01	
2	UINT16	2	00 01	
3	INT32	4	00 00 00 01	
4	Float	4	3F 80 00 00	
5	String	0-64	Hello World	
6	Binary	0-64	"£\$%^&*(	

The Display As bits should be used where possible as this can help in presenting the data for display purposes.

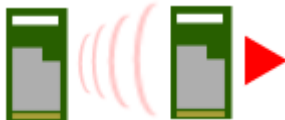
Routed Response Data ACK (7)



Packet Type	Data
07	[...]



From ID			Data
00	00	00	[...]



Packet Type	From ID			Data	RSSI	CV
07	00	00	00	[...]	00	00

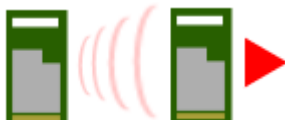
Routed Response NAK (8) | Timeout (9) | Data Invalid (10)



Packet Type
08



From ID		
00	00	00



Packet Type	From ID			RSSI	CV
08	00	00	00	00	00

Identify Request (17)



Packet Type	Data
11	[...]



Data
[...]



Packet Type	Data	RSSI	CV
11	[...]	00	00

The identify request may include optional data with which the responder may decide whether to respond or not. All devices will respond when there is no data.

Identify Response (18)

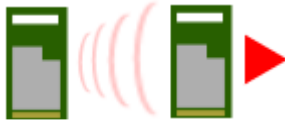


Packet Type	Data
12	[...]

Only required to manually respond to an Identify when data is attached to the request.



From ID			Data
00	00	00	[...]



Packet Type	From ID			Data	RSSI	CV
12	00	00	00	[...]	00	00

The responder may optionally provide data which may be dependant on the data supplied during the request.

Bind Request (19)

Packet Type	Data Tag		Direction	Config	Duration (optional)
13	00	00	00	00	00



Data Tag: Use zeros if not required.

Direction: 0=remote to local

1=local to remote

Config: When set will indicate the remote should be able to be configured. i.e. exit any low power modes.

If Direction is one the Channel and Key will **not** be sent in the Bind Set packet and the local module will bind to the remote channel and key.



Packet Type	To ID			Data Tag	Config	Channel	Key	RSSI	CV
13	00	00	00	00 00	00	00	[..16..]	00	00

Sent only if Bind Accept received. Channel and Key are only sent when binding remote to local settings.



Packet Type	Data Tag		Config	RSSI	CV
13	00	00	00	00	00

Sending the serial packet to the module puts in into listen mode on channel 16 with secret fixed key for 2 seconds or the optional duration in seconds.

If a PT_BIND_ACCEPT is received within this time the PT_BIND_REQUEST response is sent over radio which optionally includes the channel and key to change to which are the current key and channel of this radio module. Once transmitted or the time period has elapsed the module reverts to normal channel and operation. No response is expected or waited for. A PT_BIND_ACCEPT serial packet is sent so the requester can see the ID and data tag.

Bind Accept (20)



Packet Type	Data Tag
14	00 00

	<table><tr><td colspan="3">From ID</td><td colspan="2">Data Tag</td><td>Channel</td><td>Key</td></tr><tr><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>[..16..]</td></tr></table>	From ID			Data Tag		Channel	Key	00	00	00	00	00	00	[..16..]						
From ID			Data Tag		Channel	Key															
00	00	00	00	00	00	[..16..]															
	<table><tr><td>Packet Type</td><td colspan="3">From ID</td><td colspan="2">Data Tag</td><td>Channel</td><td>Key</td><td>RSSI</td><td>CV</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>[..16..]</td><td>00</td><td>00</td></tr></table>	Packet Type	From ID			Data Tag		Channel	Key	RSSI	CV	14	00	00	00	00	00	00	[..16..]	00	00
Packet Type	From ID			Data Tag		Channel	Key	RSSI	CV												
14	00	00	00	00	00	00	[..16..]	00	00												
	<table><tr><td>Packet Type</td><td colspan="3">From ID</td><td colspan="2">Data Tag</td><td>RSSI</td><td>CV</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td></tr></table>	Packet Type	From ID			Data Tag		RSSI	CV	14	00	00	00	00	00	00	00				
Packet Type	From ID			Data Tag		RSSI	CV														
14	00	00	00	00	00	00	00														

This is sent by a device wishing to be bound so can be triggered from a button or on power cycle. The radio switches to channel 16 with a secret fixed key and transmits the above packet. It then waits 50mS for a PT_BIND_REQUEST packet. If it receives no response then it will revert to normal channel and key. If it does receive PT_BIND_REQUEST then the channel and key will be set to that contained in the packet (if it is present) and the settings saved to flash. The PT_BIND_REQUEST packet will then be sent serially. Operation will then continue as normal.

Module Read (21)



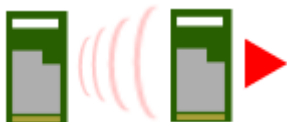
Packet Type	Command
15	00

Module Write (22)



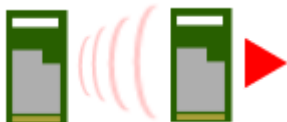
Packet Type	Command	Data
16	00	[...]

Module Response ACK (23)



Packet Type	Data
17	[...]

Module Response NAK (24)



Packet Type
18

RSSI And CV

RSSI can be calculated from the RSSI byte which is stored in 2's complement format. To convert the binary value to RSSI use the following algorithm.

```
If RSSI > 127 Then RSSI = (RSSI - 1 Xor 0xFF) * -1
RSSI = RSSI - 45
```

The binary value of CV (0-255) can be directly used where a poor CV is around 55 and a good CV is 110.

Mantracourt may also refer to Link Quality which is derived from the RSSI and CV values:

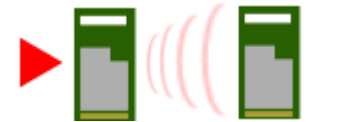
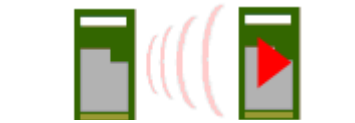
$$LQI = ((94 + RSSI) + (CV - 55)) / 2 * 3.9$$

Which should give a total usable range of 0 to 255.

If a link quality is to be represented to an end user then from this range only portion 50 to 128 should represent 0-100% quality.

See Module Parameters for command table and structures.

Bind Example Sequence

	<table><tr><th>Packet Type</th><th colspan="2">Data Tag</th><th>Direction</th><th>Config</th><th>Duration (optional)</th></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td></tr></table> Handheld enters Bind Request mode via serial packet. Handheld does nothing until timeout or receipt of a Bind Accept packet via radio.	Packet Type	Data Tag		Direction	Config	Duration (optional)	13	00	00	00	00	00										
Packet Type	Data Tag		Direction	Config	Duration (optional)																		
13	00	00	00	00	00																		
	<table><tr><th>Packet Type</th><th colspan="2">Data Tag</th></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>00</td><td>00</td></tr></table> Remote device issues a Bind Accept packet via serial	Packet Type	Data Tag		14	00	00																
Packet Type	Data Tag																						
14	00	00																					
	<table><tr><th colspan="3">From ID</th><th colspan="2">Data Tag</th><th>Channel</th><th>Key</th></tr><tr><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>[..16..]</td></tr></table> The Bind Accept packet is sent via radio.	From ID			Data Tag		Channel	Key	00	00	00	00	00	00	[..16..]								
From ID			Data Tag		Channel	Key																	
00	00	00	00	00	00	[..16..]																	
	<table><tr><th>Packet Type</th><th colspan="3">From ID</th><th colspan="2">Data Tag</th><th>Channel</th><th>Key</th><th>RSSI</th><th>CV</th></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>[..16..]</td><td>00</td><td>00</td></tr></table> The handheld receives this packet	Packet Type	From ID			Data Tag		Channel	Key	RSSI	CV	14	00	00	00	00	00	00	[..16..]	00	00		
Packet Type	From ID			Data Tag		Channel	Key	RSSI	CV														
14	00	00	00	00	00	00	[..16..]	00	00														
	<table><tr><th>Packet Type</th><th colspan="3">To ID</th><th colspan="2">Data Tag</th><th>Config</th><th>Channel</th><th>Key</th><th>RSSI</th><th>CV</th></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>[..16..]</td><td>00</td><td>00</td></tr></table> The handheld transmits a Bind Request packet.	Packet Type	To ID			Data Tag		Config	Channel	Key	RSSI	CV	13	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	[..16..]	00	00
Packet Type	To ID			Data Tag		Config	Channel	Key	RSSI	CV													
13	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	[..16..]	00	00													
	<table><tr><th>Packet Type</th><th colspan="3">From ID</th><th colspan="2">Data Tag</th><th>RSSI</th><th>CV</th></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td><td>00</td></tr></table> The handheld constructs a Bind Accept serial packet to inform the application of the remote device that accepted.	Packet Type	From ID			Data Tag		RSSI	CV	14	00	00	00	00	00	00	00						
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Packet Type	Data Tag		Config	RSSI	CV																		
13	00	00	00	00	00																		

Module Parameters

* = Requires unlock to write

Parameter / Command	Number	Bytes / Format	Data Example
User Level			
CMD_NAME	10	12 bytes Must include null terminator	Station1<00>
CMD_CHANNEL	11	1 byte unsigned char	00
CMD_POWER	12	1 byte unsigned char	00
CMD_REPEATER	13	1 byte unsigned char	00
CMD_REPEATER_GROUP	14	1 byte unsigned char	00
CMD_GROUP_KEY	15	16 bytes	
CMD_WAKE_CHECK_INTERVAL	16	2 bytes unsigned int	00 00
CMD_WAKER_DURATION	17	2 bytes unsigned int	00 00
CMD_ALWAYS_WAKE	19	1 byte unsigned char	00
CMD_QUALITY	20	2 bytes RSSI Level and CV (chipcon format)	00 00
CMD_RSSI	21	1 bytes unsigned int -70 db represented by 70	00
Commands			
CMD_WAKER_MODE	22	4 bytes	00 00 01 FF
CMD_SLEEP	23	1 bytes (5 bytes) 0=Sleep only 1=Sleep with wake check at WakeCheckInterval 2=Sleep for SleepPeriod then wake where sleep period is specified by following 4 bytes	01 Or 02 00 00 00 FF
CMD_SAVE_FLASH	24	0 bytes	
CMD_RESET	25	0 bytes	
CMD_SPECTRUM	26	1 byte 0=Turn off spectrum mode 1=Turn on spectrum mode When activated the radio will no longer communicate except serially and will supply Extended Read packets containing spectrum analyser data.	01
CMD_WAIT_WAKE_OVERRIDE	28	1 bytes Overrides default wait for wakeup command from 6 milliseconds to this value when non zero.	64
CHANGE_CHANNEL_IMMEDIATE	55	1 byte as channel to change to. When written between 1 and 16 this module will attempt to move all other modules with same group key and channel to the new stated channel. Set again to zero to end this mode. Supported from V3.0 firmware onwards	01
Test Modes			
CMD_TX_TEST_MODE*	27	1 byte 0=1000 packets of Data Provider 1=Un-modulated carrier 2=Modulated carrier	
Reserved			
Reserved	29		
Reserved	30		
Reserved	31		
Reserved	32		
Reserved	33		
Diagnostics			
CMD_LED_MODE	34	1 byte	02

		0=Normal Flash 1=On when awake 2=Radio TX 3=Radio RX 4=Serial	
--	--	---	--

Retries

Retries are made on packet types 5 and 6. After a timeout period where no response is forthcoming the packet will be resent without changing the sequence number but setting the Retry bit. Three attempts will be made. The same sequence number stops a device from reacting twice to a retried packet.

Operation

Repeaters

Each Radio module will have the ability to act as a repeater. The module will support the following parameters to enable routing.

Repeater	Set whether the module will act as a repeater.
RepeatGroup	Set the group code for packets to repeat. Zero will be repeated by all repeaters but packets with non zero will only be repeated when the repeater is set to the matching code.

If a packet is received at the module that is not specifically addressed to that module and the repeated bit indicator is not set then if the packet matches **RepeaterGroup** code or is zero then the repeated bit will be set and the packet will be repeated without altering anything except the CRC values. Broadcast packets and all packets that are not routed will always be repeated whenever **Repeater** is non enabled.

There will be no hold off period on repeated packets. As soon as clear channel assessment reports clear the packet will be resent.

Note that only one repeater may be involved with a packets journey. If we allow more repeater hops then the traffic will increase and we will have to configure devices to let them know they are in a multi repeater environment so as to increase timeouts. Also packet structures would have to include extra routing info and routers will have to be identified with a unique code.

With one repeater we can work transparently and remember that we can increase range or avoid obstacles and also install multiple repeaters to increase coverage but cannot use more than one repeater to carry a packet over multiple hops.

Sleep & Sniff Mode (Radio module sleeping)

The radio module can enter sleep/sniff mode via an external or internal command and will wake at intervals set in its flash variables (radioint).

Board will wake at this interval and power up radio and send a wake request as broadcast using the packet Type **WakeReq**.

The module will then wait for a set period to see if it receives a packet marked as **WakeUp** type. The **WakeUp** packet must be addressed to this ID.

If the radio module detects a **WakeUp** command the **SClk** line will activate which will wake the main device.

NOTE: The time to wait for a response will be length of 100 (or max) byte packet + 320uS. So wait for 5mS.

NOTE: In repeater environments this may double the time spent transmitting the wakeup command but should still fit in to 5mS.

680uS to transmit. Repeater picks up and retransmits with no CSMA delay $450\text{uS} * 2 = 900\text{uS}$. Now a 100 byte packet appears after $320\text{uS} + 7900\text{uS}$ now response $680\text{uS} + 900\text{uS}$.

Total = 9.8mS. We should wait 10 mS in repeater environment.

Wakeup Mode (Radio module waking another device)

To wake a device the wake 'command' is now executed on the waker. In the main module a parameter called **WAKE** will accept a 6 char ID. On writing an ID to this parameter the device will go into wake mode. I.e.

Wake='FFE123'

The radio module will spend a duration, set in flash, to listen for a **WakeRequest** type packet from either the specified device or any device if the Wake target is broadcast ID.

If the **WakeRequest** is received a response packet is sent of type **WakeUp**.

The radio module ready line will return to ready after the data has been received from the main module. I.e. this mode is asynchronous and the module is ready to handle other tasks. Being in wake mode really means that for the duration any packet received marked as WakeReq will be tested to see if it should be responded to. At the end of the duration or when a response to wake has been set the internal **WakeState** variable will be updated.

A **WakeState** parameter will also be supported that will query the radio module for the state of the last Wake procedure. This will return 0=Failed 1=OK 2=Busy

A **WakeCancel** command will cancel an in-progress wake mode.

Unslotted CSMA/CA

Algorithm is based on back-off periods where one back-off period is equal to 8 symbols (128uS or 4 bytes).

1. Transmission requested
2. Wait random jitter time of between 1 and 7 back-off periods. (128uS to 896uS)
3. Perform CCA
4. If channel is clear then transmit data and exit
5. Goto step 2

The time between requesting that a data frame is transmitted and it actually being transmitted is therefore dependent upon the back-off period and the result of the CCA. The time taken to complete a single back-off period is 128uS.

When JITTER is enabled a random initial back-off time varying from 128uS to 896uS will be waited before CCA is checked. If CCA is not clear then a random back-off time of between 128uS and 896uS will be waited before CCA is checked again. There will always be at least a 128uS gap between packets that have detected non clear CCA. This will allow for sleep/wake or response packets to slot in as soon as CCA indicates clear.

Power Saving Modes

Via comms it must be possible to set the radio into various levels of sleep and to be able to wake via interrupt using one of the handshaking lines.

Mode	Description
Deep Sleep	Radio module is effectively off. Can be woken with CTS line or comms.
Deep Sleep + Period	Asleep for preset period. Will fully awake after period elapses.
Deep Sleep Wakable	Radio is asleep but wakes periodically to request whether it should fully awake.
Awake	Fully awake.

Unique Addressing

Each radio module will be allocated a unique 3 byte address allocated at manufacture.

LED

The module will have a low current LED fitted.

In normal operation (non sleep modes) this LED will flash once a second. This will enable visual indication of operation.

Where the module has other operational modes such as packet monitor or repeater the LED may flash differently to indicate this.

Also the module may be put into diagnostic modes where the LED may flash on packet receive or transmit for example.

Diagnostics

The modules could enter diagnostic modes whereby they perform a lot of checks to minimise requirements externally at test time.

Channels

Channels can be programmed from 2400 to 2480 MHz. We will use 5 MHz channels giving 15 possible.

Channels 1 to 15.

Frequency = 2405 + 5 (Channel-1) MHz, k=1 to 15

Link Quality

RSSI and Correlation Value data will be present in each packet from the radio. These values are useful in their own right.

Further link quality can be calculated by correlation Value and RSSI level.

This value could be passed via radio or serial and gives an LQI for the last received packet.

LQI is calculated as follows:

$$LQI = (((94 + RSSI) + (CV - 55) / 2)) * 3.9$$

Where RSSI has already been converted to dB i.e. 2s compliment taken into account and -45 added.

This will be calculated when LQI is asked for and results in a value from 0 to 255.

Where LQI is to reported to a user it will range from 1 to 100 and we will use a window into the values 0-255 ranging from 50-128.

```
LQI = (LQI - 50) * 1.3  
If LQI < 0 Then LQI = 0  
If LQI > 100 Then LQI = 100
```

Application Device

When the module is used as part of another device and that device supports parameters that affect the module, such as power level and channel etc, then the application device would need to read these parameters from the radio module at startup and write to it when its own parameters are updated.

Max Data Lengths

The maximum transmitted packet size will be 59 bytes at a rate of 200Hz.

Binding

Using the built in binding process we have removed the need for a reset to defaults mechanism for communications.

Binding can be used to change the channel and encryption key of any device to match another. The bind also gives details of ID and default Data Tag so coordinating comms settings a more intimate data bind may take place.

Some applications will bind using switches but inaccessible items such as T24-SA will send a Bind Request on power cycle.

OEM module integrators

The Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) must ensure that FCC labelling requirements are met. This includes a clearly visible label on the outside of the final product enclosure that displays the contents as shown:

Contains FCC ID: VHARA24

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.

▫ This equipment complies with FCC radiation exposure limits set forth for an uncontrolled environment. End users must follow the specific operating instructions for satisfying RF exposure compliance. This transmitter must not be co-located or operating in conjunction with any other antenna or transmitter.

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

The transmitter modules have been tested with T24-ANTA and T24-ANTC external antennas. When integrated in OEM products, fixed antennas require installation preventing end-users from replacing them with non-approved antennas. Antennas other than T24-ANTA, T24-ANTC and those listed in the antenna selection table must be tested to comply with FCC Section 15.203 (unique antenna connectors) and Section 15.247 (emissions). Transmitter modules have been certified by the FCC for use with other products without any further certification (as per FCC section 2.1091). Changes or modifications not expressly approved by Mantracourt could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

In order to fulfil the certification requirements, the OEM must comply with FCC regulations:

1. The system integrator must ensure that the text on the external label provided with this device is placed on the outside of the final product.
2. The transmitter modules with external antennas may be used only with Approved Antennas that have been tested by Mantracourt.

Antenna Selection

The module is approved for use with the Antenna's listed in the following table.

Antenna	Gain (dBi)	Antenna Type	Manufacturer/Vendor
Ant A	3	Inverted F	Mantracourt
Ant D	3	Inverted F	Mantracourt
Ant E	3	Inverted F	Mantracourt
Ant i	1.3	Chip antenna	Mantracourt
Ant B	1.1	½ wave Dipole	Mantracourt
Ant C	2.2	½ wave Dipole	Mantracourt
Delta7A	2.1	½ wave Dipole	Sequoia
Delta14 Stub	2.0	½ wave Dipole	Sequoia
Delta15	2.0	½ wave Dipole	Sequoia
ANT.RP SMA 2.4GHZ	2.0	½ wave Dipole	Aurel Wireless
FBKR35068-RS-KR	2.0	½ wave Dipole	EAD Ltd
CTM-2400-TR	2.0	½ wave Dipole	Atex System
SFC36CTM2400	2.0	½ wave Dipole	Atex System

RF Exposure Limits

In order to meet the exposure limits for the general population the module must be mounted more than 5 cm away from the body.

FCC, ETSI and IC Approvals

Family: RA24

Models: i and e for internal and external antenna variants.

IC:7224A-RA24

FCC ID: VHARA24

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operation.

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