

A121 - Pulsed Coherent Radar (PCR)

Datasheet v1.5



#### A121 Overview

The A121 is a radar system based on pulsed coherent radar (PCR) technology and is setting a new benchmark for power consumption and distance accuracy – fully integrated in a small package of 29 mm<sup>2</sup>.

The A121 60 GHz radar system is optimized for high precision and ultra-low power, delivered as a one package solution with integrated Baseband, RF front-end, and antenna. This will enable easy integration into any portable battery driven device.

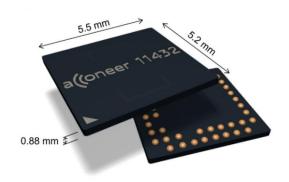
The A121 is based on leading-edge patented pulsed coherent radar technology with picosecond time resolution. The sensor can measure up to 20 meters and the actual measurable distance is dependent on object size, shape, and dielectric properties. For example:

- Water level measurement up to 20 meters with lens utilization
- Human presence detection up to 7 meters with lens-free utilization

The A121 60 GHz radar remains uncompromised by any natural source of interference, such as noise, dust, color and direct or indirect light.

## Applications

- High precision distance measurements with mm accuracy and high update rate
- Proximity detection with high accuracy and the possibility to define multiple proximity zones
- Presence detection and velocity measurement
- Material detection and classification
- High precision object tracking, enabling robot navigation
- Gesture control
- Monitoring of vital life signs such as breathing and pulse rate



#### **Features**

- Accurate distance ranging and movements
  - Measures absolute range up to 20 m
    - Absolute accuracy in mm
    - Relative accuracy in μm
  - Possible to recognize movement and gestures for several objects
  - Support continuous and single sweep mode
  - HPBW typical of 65 (H-plane) and 53 degrees (E-plane)

#### • Easy integration

- 60 GHz Pulsed Coherent Radar (PCR)
- Integrated Baseband, RF front-end, and Antenna in Package
- 5.5 x 5.2 x 0.88 mm fcCSP, 0.5 mm pitch
- Can be integrated behind plastic or glass without any need for a physical aperture
- Single reflowable component
- 1.8 V single power supply, enable with Power on Reset (PoR)
- 1.8 V or 3.3 V IO interface power supply
- Clock input for crystal 24 MHz.
- SPI interface for data transfer, up to 50 MHz SPI clock support
- INTERRUPT support



## **Table of Contents**

| 1  | F          | Revision History  | 4   |
|----|------------|---|-----|
| 2  | [          | Description   | 5   |
|    | 2.1        | Functional Block Diagram                                  | 6   |
| 3  | F          | Pin Configuration and Functions                           | 7   |
| 4  | 5          | Specifications  | 9   |
|    | 4.1        | Absolute Maximum Ratings                                  | 9   |
|    | 4.2        | Environmental Sensitivity                                 | 9   |
|    | 4.3        | Recommended Operating Conditions                          | 10  |
|    | 4.4        | Electrical Specification                                  | 10  |
|    | 4.5        | Current Consumption                                       | l 1 |
|    | 4.6        | RF Specification  | 12  |
|    | 4.7        | Distance Accuracy   | 12  |
|    | 4.8        | Distance Resolution.                                      | 13  |
|    | 4.9        | Absolute RLG.   | 14  |
|    | 4.1        | 0 A121 Temperature Sensor                                 | 14  |
| 5  | ٦          | Timing Requirements                                       | 15  |
|    | 5.1        | Serial Peripheral Interface                               | 15  |
| 6  | ŀ          | Hardware integration                                      | 17  |
|    | 6.1        | Bill of Materials (BOM)                                   | 18  |
|    | 6.2        | Z XTAL  | 18  |
|    | 6.3        | Sensor startup  | 19  |
|    | 6.4        | Layout Recommendations                                    | 19  |
|    | 6.5        | VDIG power Supply2  | 20  |
| 7  | 5          | Software  | 21  |
| 8  | F          | Regulatory Approval2                                      | 22  |
|    | 8.1        | ETSI  | 22  |
|    | 8          | 8.1.1 EU type examination certificate                     | 23  |
|    | 8.2        | FCC Approval  | 24  |
|    | 8          | 8.2.1 FCC Grant Authorization                             | 25  |
| 9  | ľ          | Mechanical Data2  | 26  |
|    | 9.1        | Moisture Sensitivity Level and Recommended Reflow Profile | 28  |
|    | 9.2        | RoHS and REACH Statement                                  | 28  |
| 1( | ) <i>A</i> | Abbreviations2  | 29  |
| D  | iscl       | aimer   | 30  |



# 1 Revision History

| Revision | Comment  |
|----------|--|
| v0.1     | Preliminary revision.  |
| v0.2     | Table 4.6 updated.   |
| v0.3     | Table 4.1, 4.3, 4.6, 7.1 updated.  |
| v0.4     | Characterization data added: Ch 4.5, 4.7, 4.8, 4.10, 4.11 ETSI Regulatory approval added: Ch 8.1 |
| v1.0     | Released version.  |
| v1.1     | Updated chapter 6.2 XTAL (corrected typo 0.3 to 0.58, corrected reference to crystal capacitors) |
| v1.2     | FCC regulatory approval added: Ch 8.2  |
| v1.3     | Table 2 updated.   |
| v1.4     | Table 10 updated.  |
| v1.5     | Table 7 updated.   |



# 2 Description

Note that explanations of definitions can be found at docs.acconeer.com/handbook.

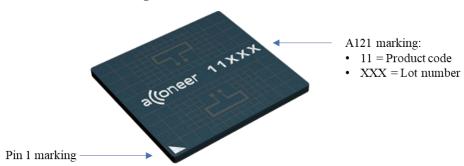
The A121 is an optimized low-power, high-precision, 60 GHz radar sensor with integrated Baseband, RF front-end, and Antenna in Package (AiP).

The sensor is based on pulsed coherent radar (PCR) technology, featuring a leading-edge patented solution with picosecond time resolution. The A121 is the perfect choice for implementing high-accuracy, high-resolution sensing systems with low power consumption.

#### **Ordering information**

| Part number  | Package | Size (nom)          | Primary component container |
|--------------|---------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| A121-001-T&R | fcCSP50 | 5.2 x 5.5 x 0.88 mm | Tape & reel                 |
| A121-001-TY  | fcCSP50 | 5.2 x 5.5 x 0.88 mm | 13" Tray                    |

#### **Acconeer A121 marking**





### 2.1 Functional Block Diagram

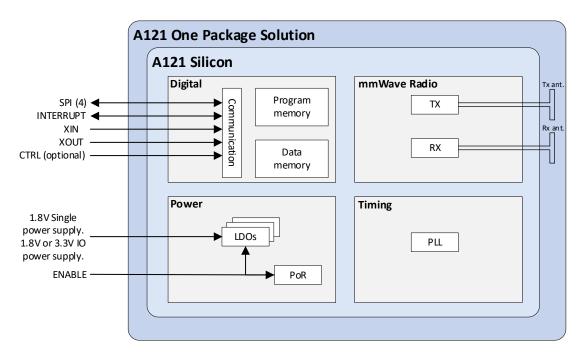


Figure 2.1 The A121 functional block diagram.

The A121 silicon is divided into four functional blocks: Power, Digital, Timing and mmWave radio.

The Power functional block includes LDOs and a Power on Reset (PoR) block. Each LDO creates its own voltage domain. The PoR block generates a Reset signal on each power-up cycle. To operate the A121, an external host CPU such as a microcontroller (MCU) is required.

The host application interfaces the Power functional block of the sensor via 1.8 V Single power supply, 1.8 V or 3.3 V IO power supply and ENABLE.

The Digital functional block includes sensor control and the data memory stores the radar sweep data. The external host CPU interfaces the A121 via an SPI interface, INTERRUPT signal and optional CTRL signal. The SPI, INTERRUPT, CTRL and ENABLE interfaces support 1.8 V or 3.3 V IO voltage levels.

The Timing block includes the timing circuitry. The PLL digital clock output is used to drive internal digital logic and is generated by a crystal oscillator that requires an external crystal (XIN/XOUT). Supported frequency of the external crystal is 24 MHz.

The mmWave radio functional block generates and receives radar pulses and includes transmitter (TX), receiver (RX) and interfaces toward the antennas in package. The A121 operates in the 57-64 GHz band.



# 3 Pin Configuration and Functions

The below figure shows the A121 pin configuration, top view:

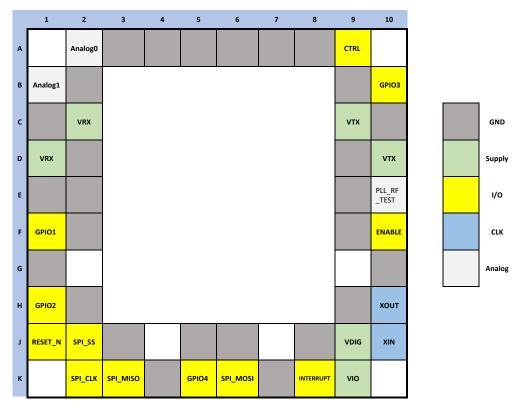


Figure 3.1. Pin configuration of the A121 sensor, top view.

Table 1 shows A121 pin functions.

| Pin   | Pin name | Pin type       | Pin type Description   |  |
|---|----------|----------------|--|--|
| A3-A8, B2, B9,<br>C1, C10, D2,<br>D9, E1, E2, E9,<br>F2, F9, G1,<br>G10, H2, H9,<br>J3, J5, J6, J8,<br>K4, K7 | GND      | Ground         | Must be connected to solid ground plane                                  |  |
| A2  | Analog0  | Analog         | Not connected or ground.  Ground recommended for optimized ground plane. |  |
| A9  | CTRL     | I/O            | For future use. Connect to ground  |  |
| B1  | Analog1  | Analog         | Not connected or ground.  Ground recommended for optimized ground plane. |  |
| B10   | GPIO3    | I/O            | For future use. Connect to ground  |  |
| C2, D1  | VRX      | Supply voltage | Supply voltage, RF part  |  |
| C9, D10   | VTX      | Supply voltage | Supply voltage, RF part  |  |



| Pin | Pin name    | Pin type       | Description   | Comment   |
|-----|-------------|----------------|---|-----------|
| E10 | PLL_RF_TEST | Analog         | Must be connected to solid ground plane   |           |
| F1  | GPIO1       | I/O            | For future use. Connect to ground   |           |
| F10 | ENABLE      | I/O            | To control OFF/ON/Hibernate/Reset   |           |
|     |             |                | Recommended to be connected to host MCU GPIO. ENABLE is active high                                   |           |
| H1  | GPIO2       | I/O            | For future use. Connect to ground   |           |
| H10 | XOUT        | CLK            | XTAL output   |           |
| J1  | RESET_N     | I/O            | RESET_N must be connected to VIO  |           |
| J2  | SPI_SS      | I/O            | SPI slave select, active low select.  |           |
| J9  | VDIG        | Supply voltage | Supply voltage, digital part  |           |
| J10 | XIN         | CLK            | XTAL input  |           |
| K2  | SPI_CLK     | I/O            | SPI Serial Clock  |           |
| K3  | SPI_MISO    | I/O            | Master Input – Slave Output   |           |
| K5  | GPIO4       | I/O            | For future use. Connect to ground   |           |
| K6  | SPI_MOSI    | I/O            | Master Output – Slave Input   |           |
| K8  | INTERRUPT   | I/O            | Interrupt signal, used as an interrupt to the host. More details are found in section 7, Description. | Mandatory |
| K9  | VIO         | Supply voltage | Supply voltage, digital part  |           |

Table 1. A121 sensor pin list.



## 4 Specifications

## 4.1 Absolute Maximum Ratings

The below table shows the A121 absolute maximum ratings over operating temperature range, on package, unless otherwise noted:

| Parameter        | Description                 | Min. | Max. | Unit |
|------------------|-----------------------------|------|------|------|
| VRX (1)          | 1.8 V RF power supply       | -0.3 | 2.0  | V    |
| VTX (1)          | 1.8 V RF power supply       | -0.3 | 2.0  | V    |
| VDIG             | 1.8 V digital power supply  | -0.3 | 2.0  | V    |
| VIO              | I/O supply voltage          | -0.5 | 3.63 | V    |
| T <sub>OP</sub>  | Operating temperature range | -40  | 125  | °C   |
| T <sub>STG</sub> | High temperature storage    |      | 150  | °C   |
| Tj               | High temperture junction    |      | 125  | °C   |

Table 2. Absolute maximum ratings.

Stresses beyond those listed in Table 2 may cause permanent damage to the device. These are stress ratings only and functional operation of the device at these conditions or at any other conditions beyond those indicated under Recommended Operating Conditions is not recommended. Exposure to absolute-maximum-rated conditions for extended periods of time may affect device reliability.

### 4.2 Environmental Sensitivity

The below table shows the A121 environmental sensitivity:

| Parameter                      | Standard         | Min  | Max. | Unit |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------|------|------|
| Storage temperature            | JESD22-A103      |      | 125  | °C   |
| Reflow soldering temperature   | J-STD-020        |      | 260  | °C   |
| Moisture Sensitivity Level     | JESD22-A113      | MSL3 |      |      |
| ESD, Charge Device Model (CDM) | JS-002, Class C3 | 1000 |      | V    |
| ESD, Human Body Model (HBM)    | JS-001, Class 2  | 2000 |      | V    |
| Latch-up                       | JESD78, Class I  | PASS |      |      |
| JEDEC                          | JESD47           | PASS |      |      |

Table 3. Environmental sensitivity.

<sup>(1)</sup> VRX and VTX must never exceed VDIG.



### 4.3 Recommended Operating Conditions

The below table shows the A121 recommended operating conditions, on package:

| Parameter                                  | Min. | Тур. | Max.    | Unit |
|--|------|------|---------|------|
| Operating power supply voltage, VRX        | 1.71 | 1.8  | 1.89    | V    |
| Operating power supply voltage, VTX        | 1.71 | 1.8  | 1.89    | V    |
| Operating power supply voltage, VDIG       | 1.71 | 1.8  | 1.89    | V    |
| Operating power supply voltage, VIO (1.8V) | 1.71 | 1.8  | 1.89    | V    |
| Operating power supply voltage, VIO (3.3V) | 2.97 | 3.3  | 3.45    | V    |
| I/O operating range                        | -0.3 |      | VIO+0.3 | V    |
| Operating temperature (T <sub>op</sub> )   | -40  |      | 105     | °C   |

Table 4. Recommended operating conditions.

### 4.4 Electrical Specification

The below table shows the A121 electrical DC specification conditions, on package,  $T_{op} = -40^{\circ}\text{C}$  to 105°C:

| Parameter                                     | Min.     | Тур. | Max.     | Unit |
|---|----------|------|----------|------|
| Current into any power supply                 | 0        |      | 100      | mA   |
| I/O V <sub>IL</sub> Low-level input voltage   | -0.3     |      | 0.10*VIO | V    |
| I/O V <sub>IH</sub> High-level input voltage  | 0.90*VIO |      | VIO+0.3  | V    |
| I/O VoL Low-level output voltage              | 0        |      | 0.4      | V    |
| I/O V <sub>OH</sub> High-level output voltage | 1.6      |      | VIO      | V    |
| I/O I <sub>OL</sub> (VOL = 0.4 V)             | 4.56     | 7.8  | 12.4     | mA   |
| I/O I <sub>OH</sub> (VOH = VIO-0.4)           | 3.42     | 5.8  | 9.16     | mA   |
| I/O I <sub>IL</sub> Low-level input current   |          |      | <1       | μΑ   |
| I/O I <sub>IH</sub> High-level input current  |          |      | <1       | μΑ   |

Table 5. Electrical DC conditions.

The below table shows the A121 electrical AC specification conditions, on package, at  $T_{op} = -40$ °C to 105°C:

| Parameter                                     | Min. | Тур. | Max. | Unit |
|---|------|------|------|------|
| I/O output operating frequency <sup>(1)</sup> | 0    |      | 100  | MHz  |
| I/O minimum positive and negative pulse       | 6.25 |      |      | ns   |

Table 6. Electrical AC conditions.

(1) Load capacitance 2 pF



## 4.5 Current Consumption

Table 7 summarizes the steady-state current consumption for the sensor states at all power terminals (VDIG, VIO, VRX, VTX), VIO 1.8 V, at  $T_{op} = 25^{\circ}$ C. A power state defines in what mode the sensor waits in between measurements and where DEEP\_SLEEP, SLEEP and READY states are configurable.

| Parameter          |      | Тур.  | Unit |
|--------------------|------|-------|------|
| OFF                | VDIG | 0.34  | μA   |
| OFF                | VIO  | 0     | μA   |
| OFF                | VRX  | 0     | μA   |
| OFF                | VTX  | 0.06  | μA   |
| HIBERNATE          | VDIG | 11.0  | μA   |
| HIBERNATE          | VIO  | 0.05  | μA   |
| HIBERNATE          | VRX  | 0.03  | μA   |
| HIBERNATE          | VTX  | 0.02  | μA   |
| DEEP_SLEEP         | VDIG | 922   | μA   |
| DEEP_SLEEP         | VIO  | 43.4  | μA   |
| DEEP_SLEEP         | VRX  | 34.1  | μA   |
| DEEP_SLEEP         | VTX  | 39.3  | μA   |
| SLEEP              | VDIG | 1.35  | mA   |
| SLEEP              | VIO  | 43.4  | μA   |
| SLEEP              | VRX  | 55.7  | μA   |
| SLEEP              | VTX  | 59.9  | μA   |
| READY              | VDIG | 58.1  | mA   |
| READY              | VIO  | 43.8  | μΑ   |
| READY              | VRX  | 3.57  | mA   |
| READY              | VTX  | 1.91  | mA   |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 1 | VDIG | 64.1  | mA   |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 1 | VIO  | -0.01 | μΑ   |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 1 | VRX  | 5.31  | mA   |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 1 | VTX  | 5.12  | mA   |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 2 | VDIG | 64.4  | mA   |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 2 | VIO  | -0.01 | μΑ   |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 2 | VRX  | 5.49  | mA   |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 2 | VTX  | 3.77  | mA   |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 3 | VDIG | 64.6  | mA   |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 3 | VIO  | 0.04  | μΑ   |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 3 | VRX  | 5.93  | mA   |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 3 | VTX  | 4.86  | mA   |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 4 | VDIG | 64.6  | mA   |



| MEASURE, PROFILE 4 | VIO  | 0.03  | μΑ |
|--------------------|------|-------|----|
| MEASURE, PROFILE 4 | VRX  | 6.32  | mA |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 4 | VTX  | 5.38  | mA |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 5 | VDIG | 64.6  | mA |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 5 | VIO  | -0.02 | μA |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 5 | VRX  | 7.09  | mA |
| MEASURE, PROFILE 5 | VTX  | 6.40  | mA |

*Table* 7. *Steady-state current ratings at power terminals for the sensor states.* 

## 4.6 RF Specification

The below table shows the A121 RF specification at  $T_{\text{op}} = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$ :

| Parameter                 | Min. | Тур. | Max. | Unit    |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|---------|
| Operating frequency range | 57   |      | 64   | GHz     |
| EIRP                      |      | 11   |      | dBm     |
| TX HPBW, E-plane (1)      | 42   | 53   | 64   | degrees |
| TX HPBW, H-plane (1)      | 52   | 65   | 78   | degrees |

Table 8. A121 RF specification.

### 4.7 Distance Accuracy

Table 9 summarizes the distance accuracy in terms of typical standard deviation over units for all profiles at  $T_{op} = 25$ °C. Results based on distance detector output.

| Profile | Typ. std | Unit |
|---------|----------|------|
| 1       | 2.67     | mm   |
| 2       | 3.45     | mm   |
| 3       | 2.83     | mm   |
| 4       | 3.38     | mm   |
| 5       | 5.05     | mm   |

Table 9. Distance accuracy.

<sup>(1)</sup> Based on simulation



### 4.8 Radial Resolution

Table 10 summarizes the radial resolution given as FWHM power in terms of typical mean value and standard deviation over units for all profiles at  $T_{op} = -40$ °C to 105°C. Radial resolution gives the minimum measurable radial distance between two objects.

| Profile | T (°C) | Тур. |      | Unit |
|---------|--------|------|------|------|
|         |        | mean | Std. |      |
| 1       | -40    | 33   | 1.0  | mm   |
| 1       | 25     | 30   | 1.0  | mm   |
| 1       | 105    | 26   | 0.7  | mm   |
| 2       | -40    | 56   | 1.3  | mm   |
| 2       | 25     | 55   | 1.4  | mm   |
| 2       | 105    | 54   | 1.4  | mm   |
| 3       | -40    | 95   | 2.6  | mm   |
| 3       | 25     | 89   | 2.7  | mm   |
| 3       | 105    | 85   | 2.0  | mm   |
| 4       | -40    | 134  | 4.2  | mm   |
| 4       | 25     | 129  | 4.7  | mm   |
| 4       | 105    | 122  | 3.4  | mm   |
| 5       | -40    | 230  | 18.0 | mm   |
| 5       | 25     | 222  | 20.3 | mm   |
| 5       | 105    | 204  | 16.7 | mm   |

Table 10. Radial resolution



#### 4.9 Base RLG

Table 11 summarizes the typical radar loop gains for different sensor profile configurations, HWAAS=1, typical ratings at  $T_{op}$  = -40°C to 105°C. SNR and RLG scales linearly with HWAAS, meaning a 3dB increase for every doubling of HWAAS.

| Profile | T (°C) | Тур. |      | Unit |
|---------|--------|------|------|------|
|         |        | mean | Std. |      |
| 1       | -40    | 15   | 0.7  | dB   |
| 1       | 25     | 11   | 0.8  | dB   |
| 1       | 105    | 4    | 1.1  | dB   |
| 2       | -40    | 17   | 0.7  | dB   |
| 2       | 25     | 13   | 0.7  | dB   |
| 2       | 105    | 9    | 0.6  | dB   |
| 3       | -40    | 22   | 0.6  | dB   |
| 3       | 25     | 19   | 0.7  | dB   |
| 3       | 105    | 15   | 0.6  | dB   |
| 4       | -40    | 24   | 0.7  | dB   |
| 4       | 25     | 20   | 0.7  | dB   |
| 4       | 105    | 17   | 0.6  | dB   |
| 5       | -40    | 25   | 0.9  | dB   |
| 5       | 25     | 22   | 0.9  | dB   |
| 5       | 105    | 18   | 0.8  | dB   |

Table 11. Typical RLG values for the sensor profile configurations.

## 4.10 A121 Temperature Sensor

The A121 includes an internal temperature sensor that can be used for relative temperature measurements. Such measurements can, for example, be used to predict change of the signal and noise components. The typical relative deviation from true temperature change is 4.4%. I.e., given a change in temperature x, the measured temperature typically changes  $x \pm x \cdot 4.4\%$ .



# 5 Timing Requirements

### 5.1 Serial Peripheral Interface

The Serial Peripheral Interface (SPI) is a 4-wire serial bus, used for configuration and reading output from the A121 radar sensor. The A121 radar sensor is an SPI slave device connected to the SPI master, as described in <u>Figure 5.1 Figure 5.1</u>. The A121 allows several devices to be connected on the same SPI bus, with a dedicated slave-select signal. Daisy-chain is not supported.

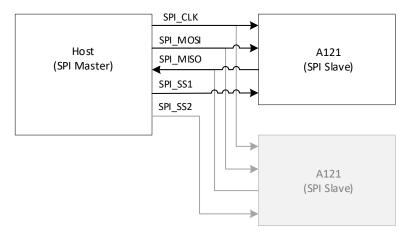


Figure 5.1. SPI master-slave connection.

The serial data transfer input (MOSI) and output (MISO) to the A121 are synchronized by the SPI\_CLK. The Slave Select signal (SS) must be low before and during transactions. The MOSI is always read on the rising edge of SCLK and the MISO changes value on the falling edge of SPI\_CLK (SPI mode 0, CPOL/CPHA = 0). SS requires release in between transactions. See <u>Figure 5.2</u> and Table 12 for timing characteristics.

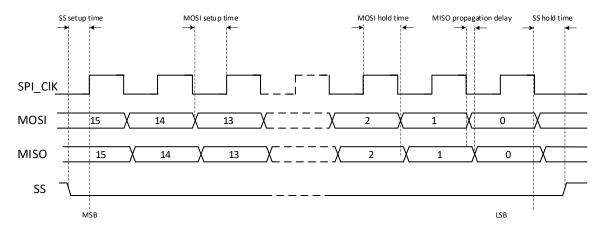


Figure 5.2. Timing diagram of SPI, CPOL=0 and CPHA=0.



| Parameter   | Min. | Тур. | Max. | Unit |
|---|------|------|------|------|
| Clock frequency   |      |      | 50   | MHz  |
| SS setup time   | 1.0  |      |      | ns   |
| SS hold time  | 2.0  |      |      | ns   |
| MOSI setup time   | 1.0  |      |      | ns   |
| MOSI hold time  | 2.5  |      |      | ns   |
| MISO Propagation delay VIO=3.3V and 10 pF<br>Load                     | 2.0  |      | 5.5  | ns   |
| MISO Propagation delay (VIO=1.8, Radar System Software Setting, 10pF) | 3.0  |      | 7.5  | ns   |

Table 12. SPI timing characteristics.



# 6 Hardware integration

The A121 sensor can be configured for a 3.3 V or 1.8 V host interface as shown in Figure 6.1 and Figure 6.2.

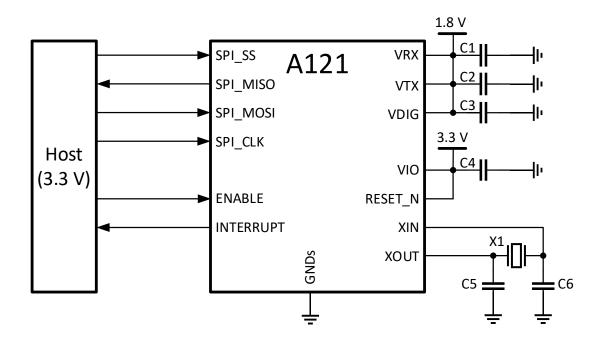


Figure 6.1. Recommended integration of the A121 radar sensor for 3.3 V host interface.

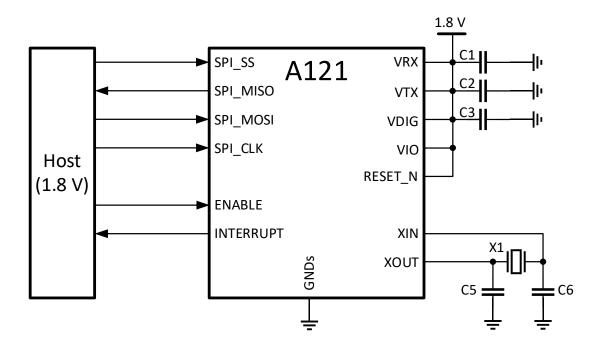


Figure 6.2 Recommended integration of the A121 radar sensor for 1.8 V host interface.



### 6.1 Bill of Materials (BOM)

Table 13 shows BOM for integration of the A121 using a crystal as input clock source:

| Component      | Value       | Description                            |
|----------------|-------------|--|
| C1, C2, C3, C4 | 1 μF        | Decoupling for VRX, VTX, VDIG and VIO. |
| X1             | 24 MHz      | Crystal resonator                      |
| C5, C6         | See Ch. 6.2 | XTAL frequency tuning capacitors       |

Table 13. BOM list.

#### 6.2 XTAL

The A121 sensor has a built-in crystal oscillator that requires an external crystal component (XTAL) that is shown in Figure 6.3.

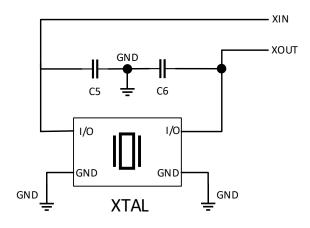


Figure 6.3. External XTAL schematics.

To enable the internal XTAL oscillator to drive the external resonator, Equation 1 must be fulfilled.

$$f * C_{pin}^{0.8} * R_{ESR}^{0.61} < 0.7$$
 (Equation 1)  
 $C = 2(C_L - C_{stray})$  (Equation 2)  
 $C_{pin} = C + C_{stray} * 2$  (Equation 3)

The capacitance values are calculated in Equation 2.  $C_L$  and  $R_{ESR}$  are XTAL parameters and vary from XTAL to XTAL. The stray capacitance is the sum of the capacitance between XIN and XOUT, that is, the PCB trace capacitance plus package capacitance; 2 to 5 pF is a general estimation.

#### Example:

- f = 24 MHz
- $C_L = 9 pF$
- $R_{ESR} = 40 \text{ ohm}$

Assuming  $C_{stray} = 5 \text{ pF}$  gives C5, C6 = 8 pF and that the condition is met with the result 0.58 < 0.7.



#### 6.3 Sensor startup

The power-up and power-down sequences are shown in Figure 6.4.

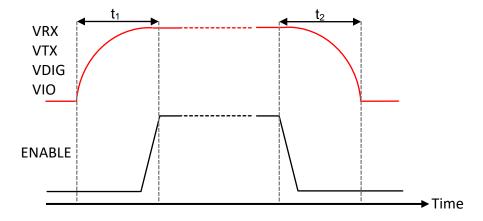


Figure 6.4. Power-up and power-down sequences.

The power supplies VRX, VTX, VDIG and VIO can be turned on and off in any order. ENABLE should be turned on after or simultaneously with VDIG and VIO, whichever is turned on last. The A121 should however not be considered as in state "ON" until all supply voltage levels are stable and ENABLE is high. The time constant  $t_1$  in Figure 6Figure 6.4 denotes this time. The actual value of  $t_1$  depends on the power supply and the decoupling capacitors used. Any I/O must be held at 0 V during time  $t_1$ .

After power-up is complete, the sensor is ready for SPI communication and can be loaded with a program. Note that time between ENABLE high until start of SPI communication is dependent on XTAL startup time, typically 2 ms.

Up until the point where the sensor's program is started, the INTERRUPT is in a high impedance state. After the sensor's program has started, the INTERRUPT is configured as a push-pull CMOS output.

The power down sequence is initiated by setting ENABLE low. After that, all supplies can be turned off. Any I/O inputs on A121 must be set to 0 V before or simultaneously with VIO going low to avoid forward-biasing the internal ESD protection diodes.

### 6.4 Layout Recommendations

The sensor antennas are of a folded dipole type, with its main ground reference being the internal package ground plane, extending below the whole area of the sensor. To further enhance the directivity of the sensor, the package ground plane should be extended by soldering all GND pads to the PCB top layer ground. In terms of regulatory compliance, any openings in the ground plane inside the A121 footprint must be significantly smaller than the wavelength (5 mm in free space) to effectively shield off any disturbance.

It is important to consider PCB layout for optimal RLG performance. PCB layout guidelines can be found in the document "Hardware and physical integration guideline".



## 6.5 VDIG power Supply

The A121 power domain "VDIG" is sensitive to power supply ripple which may result in performance degradation. Table 14 provides the power supply ripple specification for VDIG.

| Frequency (Hz) | Min. | Тур. | Max. | Unit      |
|----------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| 10 000         |      |      | 25   | $mV_{pp}$ |
| 100 000        |      |      | 25   | $mV_{pp}$ |
| 1 000 000      |      |      | 25   | $mV_{pp}$ |
| 4 000 000      |      |      | 25   | $mV_{pp}$ |

Table 14. Power supply ripple specification for VDIG.

If the VDIG voltage source violates the power supply ripple specification, an LC filter as displayed in Figure 6.5 can be used. This filter has a cut-off frequency of 30 kHz. The exact values for the LC filter depend on the frequency and amplitude of the ripple. Be aware of the LC filter peaking at the series resonance frequency  $f=1/(2\pi\sqrt{LC})$ . A small snubber resistor, 250 m $\Omega$  in the example filter, can be inserted to lower the Q factor.

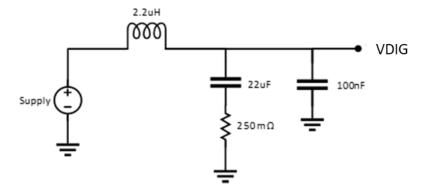


Figure 6.5. LC supply filter.



#### 7 Software

The Acconeer software is written in C and is portable to any OS and HW platform. The Acconeer software is executed on Host MCU.

The below figure shows the A121 software offer.

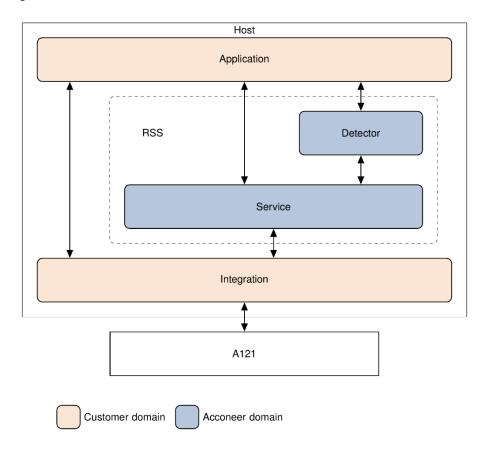


Figure 7.1. Acconeer Software offer.

RSS (Radar System Software) provides an API for controlling and retrieving data from the sensor. The data output can be on two different levels, Service and Detector.

Service output is radar data with some pre-processing.

Detector output is based on Service output but uses further processing to create a result such as a distance or presence detection.

Customer can either use Acconeer detector or develop their own signal processing based on Service data.

Acconeer provides several example applications to support customer own application development. Also, guidelines are provided for application development utilizing the Acconeer RSS API.

Integration software shall implement functions defined in a definitions file provided in Acconeer Software offer. This includes handling of SPI, ENABLE, INTERRUPT and CTRL, as well as potential OS functions.

See reference A121 User Guide HAL Software Integration for guideline on software integration and HAL implementation (https://www.acconeer.com/products).

Acconeer provides reference integrations as source code.



## 8 Regulatory Approval

To bring a product emitting radio waves to the market it is required to certify or declare conformity for the device to assure that necessary regulatory conditions are met, and necessary approvals have been obtained for the customer's specific product and use case.

#### 8.1 ETSI

Hereby, Acconeer declares that the A121 sensor is compliant with the European commission radio equipment directive 2014/53/EU article 3.1 and 3.2.



#### 8.1.1 EU type examination certificate





#### 8.2 FCC Approval

Hereby, Acconeer declares that the A121 sensor has limited single-modular transmitter approval granted by FCC. Acconeer has not approved any changes to this device. Any changes or modifications to this device could invalidate the FCC approval.

The A121 sensor meets the title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 15 section 15.255 (c)(3) for pulsed field disturbance sensors/radars operating in the 57–64 GHz band. The transmit duty cycle is evaluated during any  $0.3~\mu s$  time window by summing the total time that pulses are emitted during this time window. The A121 sensor is not permitted for use on satellites or aircrafts, where there is little attenuation of RF signals by the body/fuselage of the aircraft. The host product manufacturer is responsible for compliance with any other FCC rules that apply to the host not covered by the modular transmitter grant of certification, including Part 15 Subpart B and Suppliers declaration of conformity, unless final device is expressly exempted by the rules.

The host manufacturer should refer to guidance in KDB 996369 and ensure that the module limiting conditions are fulfilled for the host product and that the installation instructions provided by Acconeer in this document have been followed. Host product manufacturers are responsible to perform a limited set of transmitter module verification testing, including radiated spurious emissions test, to ensure that the product is in compliance with the FCC rules.

The product has integrated antennas in package, it is not possible to connect trace antenna.

MPE RF exposure testing is not needed as the available maximum time-averaged power of the module is no more than 1 mW, according to 47 CFR 1.1307(b)(3)(i)(A). Co-location of this module with other transmitters that operate simultaneously are required to be evaluated using the FCC multi-transmitter procedures.

The modular approval covers use with dielectric lens that converge or diverge the electromagnetic waves at least in one plane of radiation (E or H plane). Only lenses that result in the same or lower EIRP are covered by the limited single-modular transmitter approval.

The host device shall be labelled to identify the modules within the host device, which means that the host device shall be labelled to display the FCC ID of the module preceded by words "Contains transmitter module" or "Contains", E.g.

Contains FCC ID: 2AQ6KA1201

The module integrator must include below statement:

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.



#### 8.2.1 FCC Grant Authorization

**TCB** 

## GRANT OF EQUIPMENT AUTHORIZATION

**TCB** 

Certification

Issued Under the Authority of the Federal Communications Commission By:

> CTC advanced GmbH Untertuerkheimer Strasse 6-10 66117 Saarbruecken, Germany

Date of Grant: 09/05/2023

Application Dated: 08/21/2023

Acconeer AB mikael.rosenhed@acconeer.com mikael.egard@acconeer.com Malmo, 21177 Sweden

Attention: Mlkael Rosenhed, Product Manager

#### NOT TRANSFERABLE

EQUIPMENT AUTHORIZATION is hereby issued to the named GRANTEE, and is VALID ONLY for the equipment identified hereon for use under the Commission's Rules and Regulations listed below.

FCC IDENTIFIER: 2AQ6KA1201 Name of Grantee: Acconeer AB

Equipment Class: Part 15 Field Disturbance Sensor Notes: Pulsed coherent radar module

Modular Type: Limited Single Modular

Grant Notes FCC Rule Parts Range (MHZ) Use Tolerance Emission Designator

15.255 57000.0 - 64000.0 0.012 Emission Designator

Output power listed is average EIRP.

This limited modular approval is valid for the configuration as tested. The radar module A121 was tested when mounted on the reference board XS121. All measurements were performed with and without lenses LH113.

Measured average EIRP of EUT within 0.3µs with lenses LH113: 11.6 dBm

Measured average EIRP of EUT within 0.3µs without lenses: -3,7 dBm

RF exposure compliance is addressed for 1.1310 and 2.1093 limits. The module must not transmit simultaneously with any other antenna or transmitter, except in accordance with FCCs multi-transmitter product procedure. Any variation from tested design requires new evaluation and may result in Permissive change procedure or new certification.



### 9 Mechanical Data

The A121 is available in fcCSP package for mounting on a substrate. The below table shows mechanical data:

| Parameter       | Min. | Тур.  | Max.  | Unit |
|-----------------|------|-------|-------|------|
| Body X          | 5.15 | 5.20  | 5.25  | mm   |
| Body Y          | 5.45 | 5.50  | 5.55  | mm   |
| Body Z (height) |      | 0.821 | 0.899 | mm   |
| Ball pitch      | 0.45 | 0.50  | 0.55  | mm   |
| Ball diameter   | 0.25 | 0.30  | 0.35  | mm   |
| Ball height     | 0.15 | 0.24  |       | mm   |
| Ball count      |      | 50    |       | #    |

Table 15. Mechanical data.

#### The A121 footprint is shown in Figure 9.1.

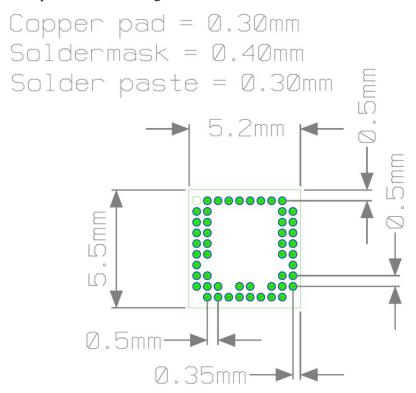


Figure 9.1. A121 footprint.



The physical layout of the A121 sensor is shown in Figures 9.2, 9.3 and 9.4.

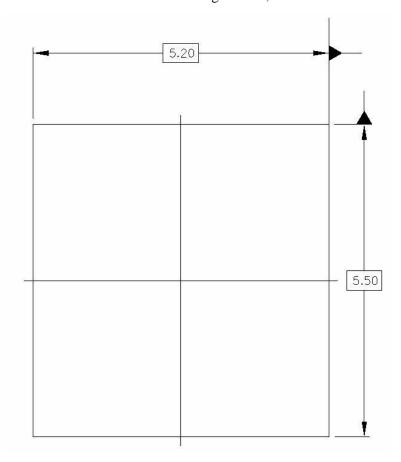


Figure 9.2. Physical layout of the A121 sensor, top view.

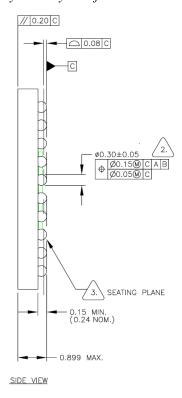


Figure 9.3. Physical layout of the A121 sensor, side view.

Primary datum C and seating plane are defined by the spherical crowns of the solder balls. Dimension is measured at the maximum solder ball diameter, parallel to primary datum C. All dimensions and tolerances conform to ASME Y14.5 - 2009.



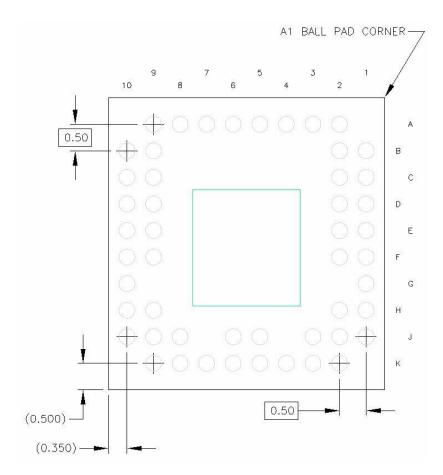


Figure 9.4. Physical layout of the A121 sensor, bottom view.

The bottom view shows 50 solder balls. The pitch of the BGA balls is 500  $\mu m$ , the ball diameter is 300  $\mu m \pm 5 \ \mu m$  and the collapsed ball height is 0.244  $\pm$  0.050 mm.

### 9.1 Moisture Sensitivity Level and Recommended Reflow Profile

Acconeer A121 sensor is a Moisture Sensitive Devices (MSD) in accordance to the IPC/JEDEC specification. The Moisture Sensitivity Level (MSL) relates to the packaging and handling precautions required. A121 sensor is rated at MSL level 3.

Maximum number of reflow passes recommended for A121 is 2.

Soldering process qualified during qualification with "Preconditioning MSL 3: 30°C. 60%r.h., 192h, according to JEDEC JSTD20", and qualified for soldering heat resistance according to JEDEC J-STD-020.

#### 9.2 RoHS and REACH Statement

Acconeer A121 sensor meet the requirements of Directive 2011/65/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) and the requirements of the REACH regulation (EC 1907/2006) on Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals.



# 10 Abbreviations

| ADC   | Analog digital converter   |
|-------|--|
| AiP   | Antenna in package   |
| API   | Application programming interface                                    |
| BGA   | Ball grid array  |
| BOM   | Bill of materials  |
| CE    | "Conformité Européene" (which literally means "European Conformity") |
| СРНА  | Clock phase  |
| CPOL  | Clock polarity   |
| EIRP  | Equivalent isotropically radiated power                              |
| ESD   | Electrostatic discharge  |
| ETSI  | European Telecommunications Standards Institute                      |
| FCC   | Federal Communications Commission                                    |
| fcCSP | Flip-chip chip-scale package   |
| FWHM  | Full Width at Half Maximum   |
| GND   | Ground   |
| HAL   | Hardware abstraction layer   |
| HPBW  | Half power beamwidth   |
| HWAAS | Hardware Accelerated Average Samples                                 |
| LDO   | Low-dropout regulator  |
| MCU   | Microcontroller unit   |
| MISO  | Master input, slave output   |
| MOSI  | Master output, slave input   |
| NC    | No connect   |
| PCR   | Pulse coherent radar   |
| PLL   | Phase locked loop  |
| PoR   | Power on reset   |
| RCS   | Radar cross section  |
| RF    | Radio frequency  |
| RLG   | Radar Loop Gain  |
| RX    | Receiver   |
| SNR   | Signal-to-Noise Ratio  |
| SPI   | Serial peripheral interface  |
| SS    | Slave select   |
| STD   | Standard deviation   |
| TCXO  | Temperature compensated crystal oscillator                           |
| TX    | Transmitter  |
| XTAL  | Crystal  |



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