EVBUM2595/D

DVK-AXM0F243-xxx-x-GEVK Evaluation Kit User's Manual

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EVAL BOARD USER'S MANUAL

Introduction

The *DVK−AXM0F243−868−x−GEVK* and *DVK−AXM0F243−915−x−GEVK* kits are designed as quick start solution for the development of applications with the AXM0F243 RF System On Chip (SoC). This SoC combines an ARM Cortex M0+ ultra−low power microcontroller with the AX5043 ultra−low power RF transceiver in a single IC package. The DVK−AXM0F243−868−x−GEVK is optimized for 868 MHz frequency, and the DVK−AXM0F243−915−x−GEVK development kit is enhanced for 915 MHz. The DVK−AXM0F243−xxx−x−GEVK's are compatible with AX−RadioLab and AxCode::Blocks development software for the PC.

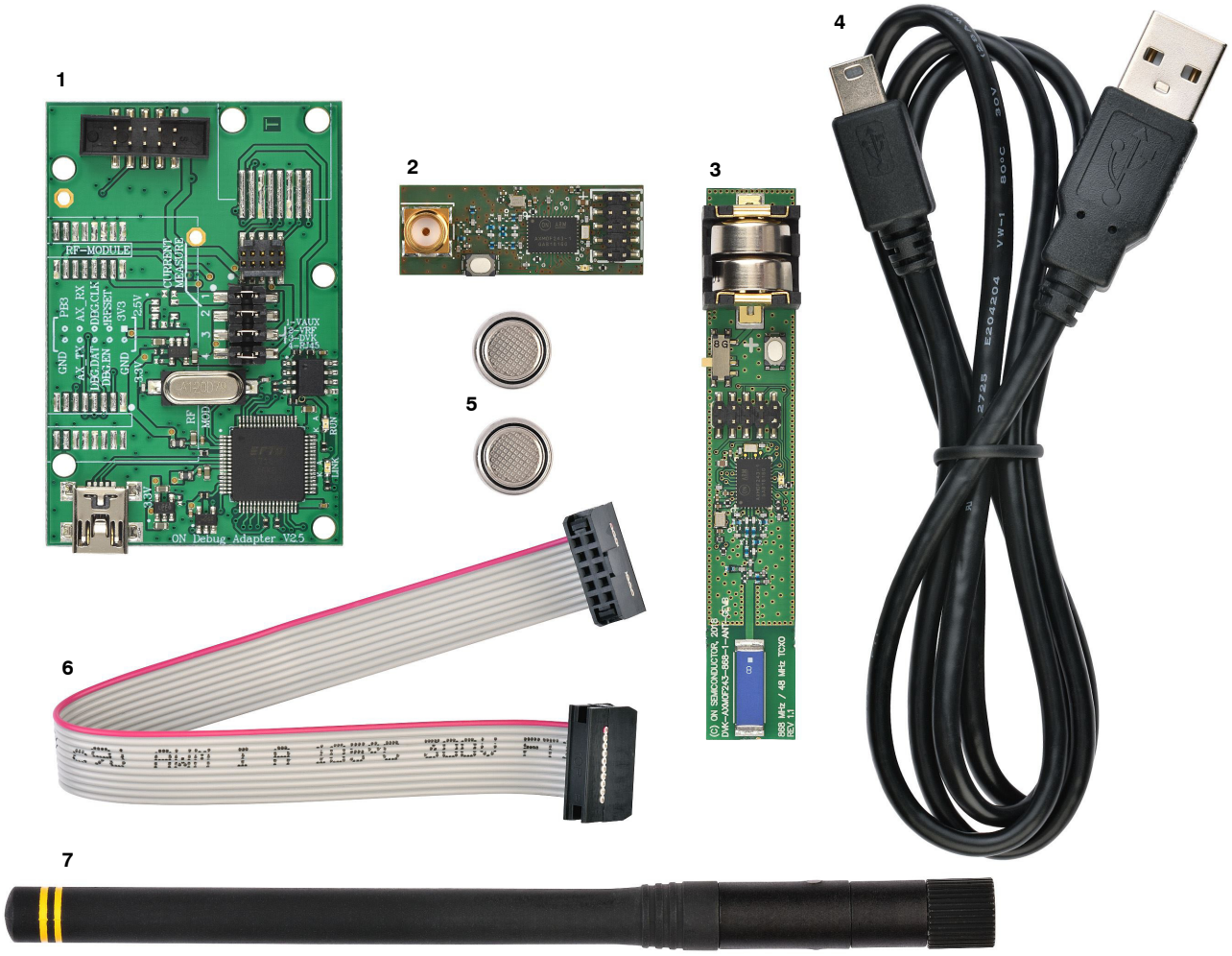

Figure 1. DVK−AXM0F243−868−x−GEVK Kit

The development kits DVK−AXM0F243−868−x−GEVK and DVK−AXM0F243−915−x−GEVK come with:

Designator	DVK−AXM0F243−868−x−GEVK	DVK−AXM0F243−915−x−GEVK	Quantity
1	AXDBG Debug adapter		1 piece
2	DVK−AXM0F243−868−x−SMA−GEVB (SMA connector)	DVK−AXM0F243−915−x−SMA−GEVB (SMA connector)	1 piece
3	DVK−AXM0F243−868−x−ANT−GEVB (chip antenna, LR44 button cell battery holder)	DVK−AXM0F243−915−x−ANT−GEVB (chip antenna, LR44 button cell battery holder)	1 piece
4	Mini USB cable		1 piece
5	LR4 cell batteries		2 pieces
6	Flat Debug cable		1 piece
7	Antenna 868 MHz 1/2 wave SMA	Antenna 915 MHz 1/2 wave SMA	1 piece

DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−SMA−GEVB Overview

The *DVK−AXM0F243−868−x−SMA−GEVB* mainboard is the first of two boards in the DVK−AXM0F243−868−x−GEVK kit. It features the AXM0F243 ultra−low power SoC, as well as a LED, a button, and a 50 Ω SMA port. In addition to the antennas shipped with the kit, various 50 Ω antennas with male SMA connector can be used. The SMA port can also be used to connect the DVK to RF measurement equipment for conducted−mode testing.

Similarly the DVK−AXM0F243−915−x−SMA−GEVB mainboard is the first of two boards in the DVK−AXM0F243−915−x−GEVK kit.

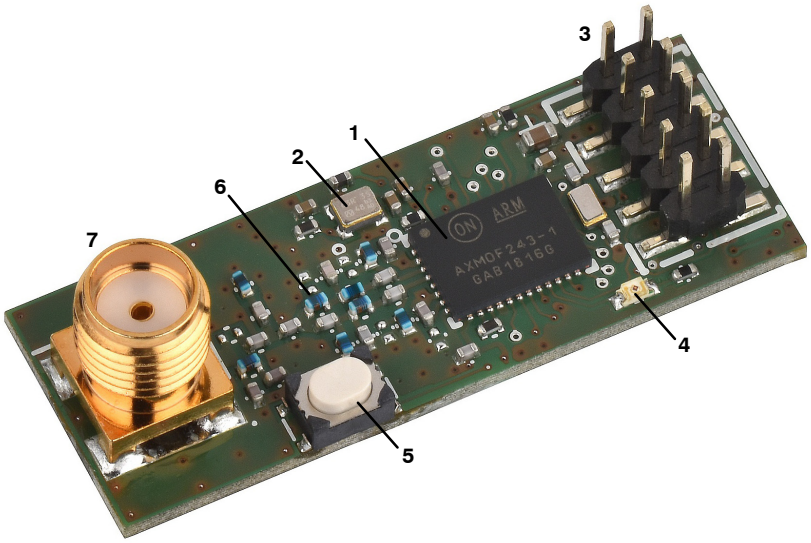

Figure 2. DVK−AXM0F243−xxx−x−SMA−GEVB

Designator	DVK−AXM0F243−868−x−SMA−GEVB	DVK−AXM0F243−915−x−SMA−GEVB
1	AXM0F243 ultra−low power RF SoC	
2	48 MHz TCXO	
3	AX debug link connector	
4	Programmable LED	
5	Programmable button	
6	Matching circuit optimized for 868 MHz	Matching circuit optimized for 915 MHz
7	50 Ω SMA connector	

DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−ANT−GEVB Overview

The *DVK−AXM0F243−868−x−ANT−GEVB* mainboard is the second of two boards in the DVK−AXM0F243−868−x−GEVK kit.

It features the AXM0F243 ultra−low power SoC, as well as a LED, a button, battery, and chip antenna.

Similarly the DVK−AXM0F243−915−x−ANT−GEVB mainboard is the first of two boards in the DVK−AXM0F243−915−x−GEVK kit.

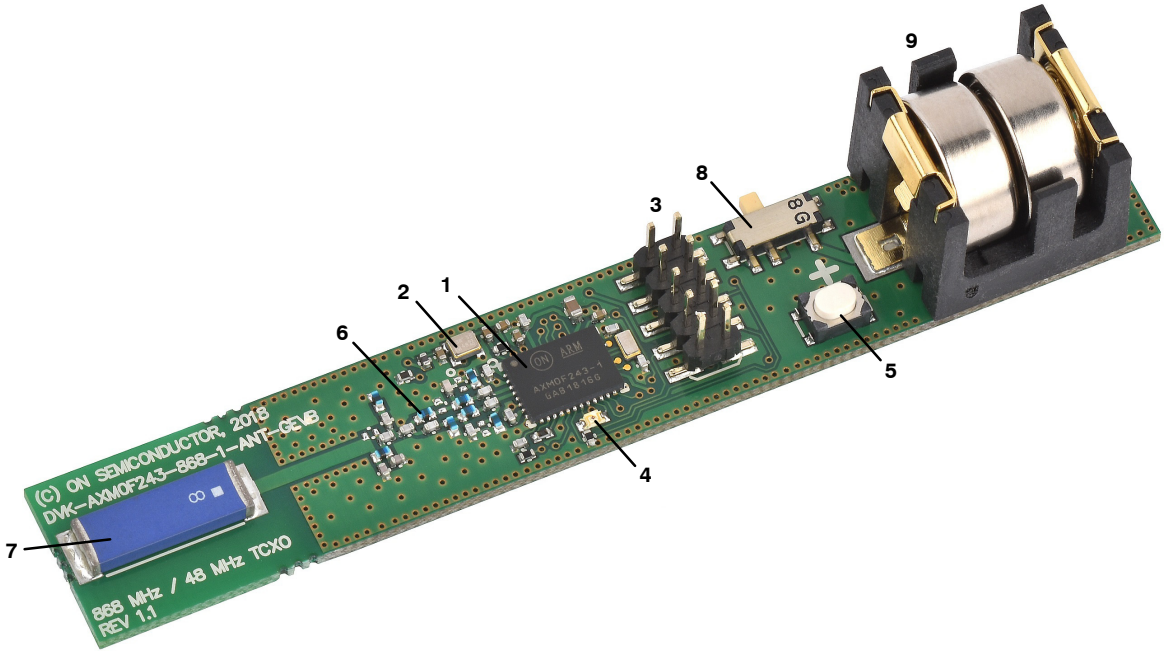

Figure 3. DVK−AXM0F243−xxx−x−ANT−GEVB

Designator	DVK−AXM0F243−868−x−ANT−GEVB	DVK−AXM0F243−915−x−ANT−GEVB
1	AXM0F243 ultra−low power RF SoC	
2	48 MHz TCXO	
3	AX debug link connector	
4	Programmable LED	
5	Programmable button	
6	Matching circuit optimized for 868 MHz	Matching circuit optimized for 915 MHz
7	868 MHz Chip antenna	915 MHz Chip antenna
8	Power supply switch (select between debug link and battery powered operation)	
9	LR44 Button cell battery holder	

AXDBG Debug Adapter Overview

The *AXDBG debug adapter* is the interface between the PC and the mainboards. It can be used for programming and debugging the AXM0F243 microcontroller. It interfaces with the PC via windows drivers and the AXSDB software interface, which is then used by AX−RadioLab and AxCode::Blocks development software for the PC. The AXSDB can also be used in mass production with the scriptable AXSDB software.

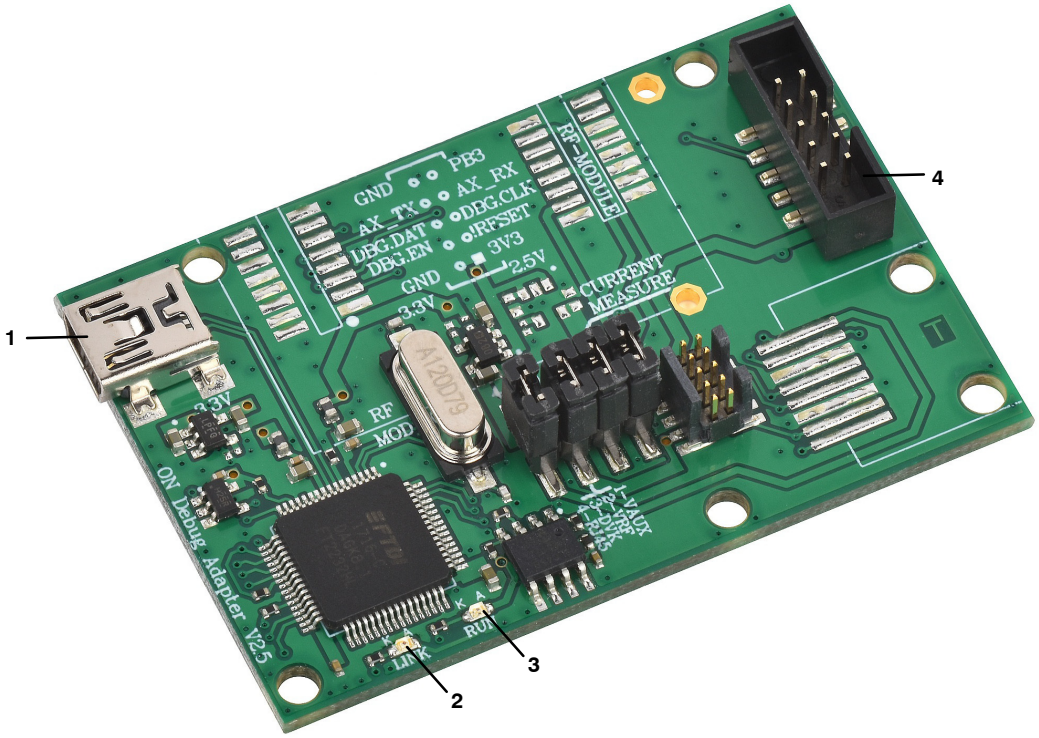

Figure 4. AXDBG Debug Adapter

Designator	AXDBG Debug Adapter
1	Mini USB PC interface
2	LED red indicating the debug link is active, MCU in debug mode
3	LED green indicating a program is executed on the MCU
4	Debug link connector

Out of the Box RF Functionality

RF functionality are already programmed on both mainboards. It's possible to make the first RF experience sending data packages from DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−**SMA**−GEVB, programmed as transmitter, to the DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−**ANT**−GEVB, programmed as receiver, just following these simply steps.

Preparing DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−**SMA**−GEVB:

- Screw the antenna to the *DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−**SMA**−GEVB* board
- Connect the *DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−**SMA**−GEVB* board to the *AXDBG Debug adapter board* with the *Flat Debug cable*
- Connect the *AXDBG Debug adapter board* to the PC with *Mini USB cable*
- DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−**SMA**−GEVB LED is blinking when transmitting data packages

Preparing DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−**ANT**−GEVB:

- Insert the *LR4 cell batteries* in *DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−**ANT**−GEVB* battery holder.
- Set the DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−**ANT**−GEVB *Power supply switch* in position 1 for battery powered operation. Position 2 is for *debug link connector* powered operation.

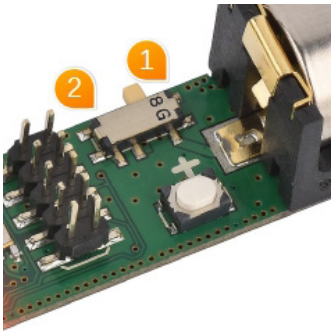

Figure 5. Power Supply Switch. Position 1 − Battery Powered Operation, Position 2 − Debug Link Connector Powered Operation

- DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−**ANT**−GEVB LED is blinking when receiving data packages from DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−**SMA**−GEVB

See *Figure 6: DVK−AXM0F243−xxx−x−SMA−GEVB connection* for more details.

Figure 6. DVK−AXM0F243−xxx−x−SMA−GEVB Connection

Required Software

To build applications and configure the AXM0F243 is necessary to install the *AX−IDE Development tool for Windows*. It contains all tools for developing and debugging C source code applications and can be found on the AXM0F243 Product page under Software:

http://www.onsemi.com/PowerSolutions/product.do?id=AXM0F243−1−TX40

The development system architecture is visible in Figure 7: Development System Architecture.

Radio Link parameters are set using the AX−RadioLAB GUI. AX−RadioLAB produces source code, compiles it and downloads it into the target board.

AxCode::Blocks is the graphical Integrated Development Environment (IDE) for AXM0F243 projects. It is a customized version of the popular Code::Blocks IDE.

It can be used to further customize the AX−RadioLAB generated code, or it can be used to create new projects (such as those that do not involve a radio link).

Both AX−RadioLAB and AxCode::Blocks talk to the Symbolic (command line) Debugger AXSDB for programming and debugging the microcontroller. Normally, users need not directly interact with AXSDB. AXSDB can however be useful for automated or scripted tasks, thanks to its command line and TCL scripting features.

For AXM0F243 microcontroller, OpenOCD debug interface software is used for programming and debugging using the GDB (GNU) debugger.

The *AXDBG debug adapter* provides the link between the developer's workstation and the target board.

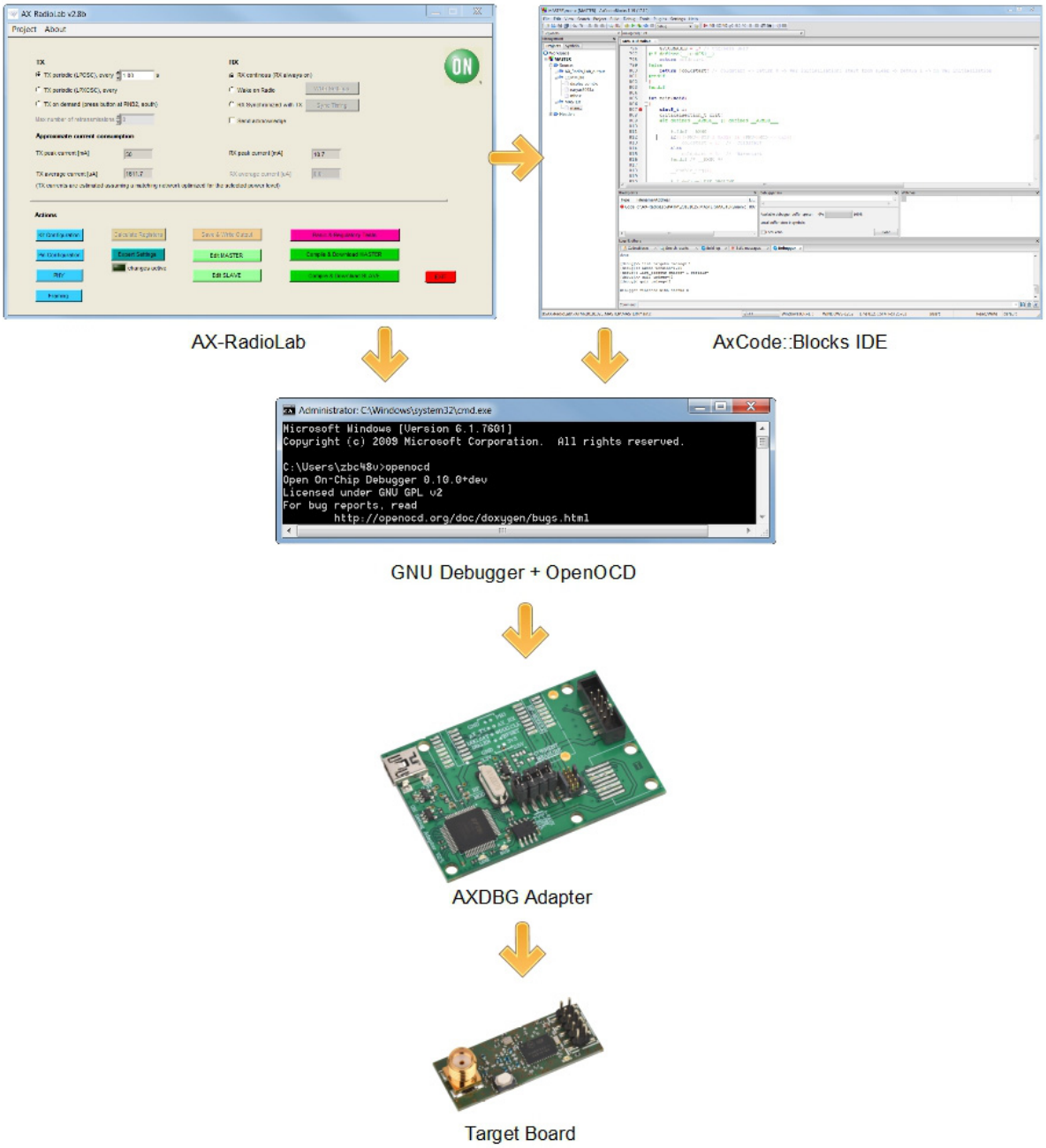

Figure 7. Development System Architecture

Installing AX−IDE

The AX−IDE installer contains everything you need: the SDCC compiler, GNU GCC Compiler for ARM, AxCode::Blocks, AX−RadioLab, debug adapter drivers, the AXSDB debugger software, OpenOCD software, example files and libraries.

- Launch the installer

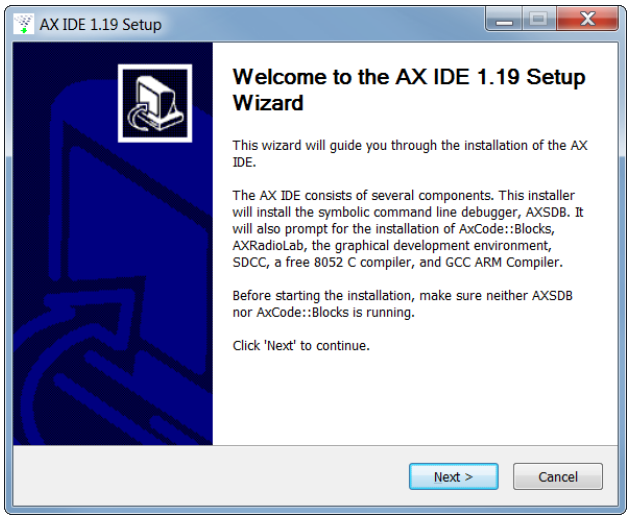

Figure 8. AX−IDE Installer Wizard

- After accepting the terms of agreement you are asked to select the components to be installed. It's strongly suggested to install all components.

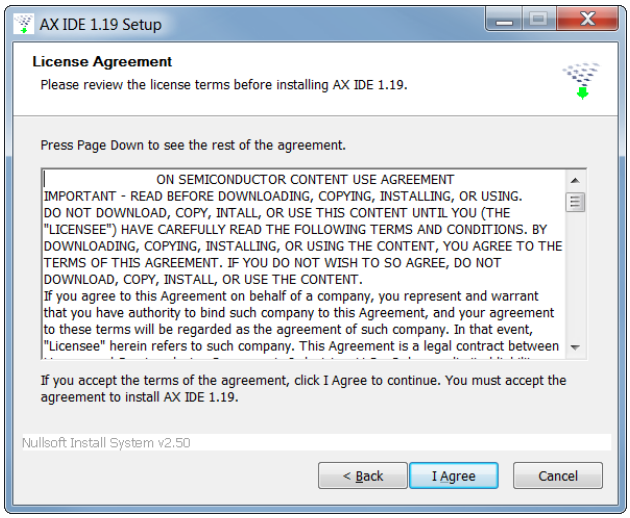

Figure 9. License Agreement

- Continue installing all software packages

Getting Started

Before building the first application is **necessary** to set the AxCode::Blocks compiler.

This operation has to be executed only once.

- Start AxCode::Blocks.
- The first time AxCode::Block starts, it scans for installed compilers and presents a list of the compilers found. Select *GNU GCC Compiler for ARM* as default, see Figure 9: GNU GCC compiler for ARM.

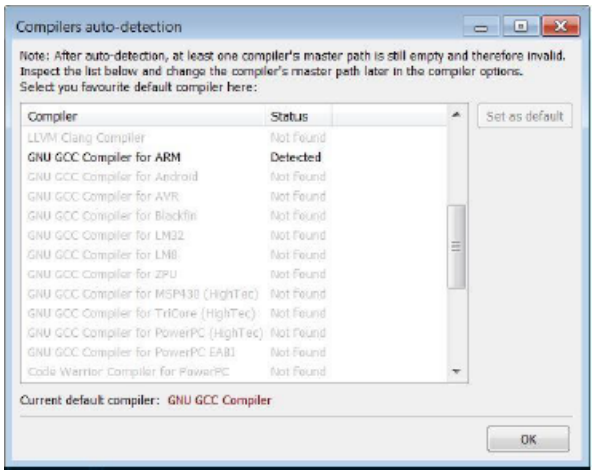

Figure 10. GNU GCC Compiler for ARM

Connection

- Connect one of the *DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−ANT−GEVB* or *DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−SMA−GEVB* mainboards to the *AXDBG Debug adapter board* with the *Flat Debug cable*
- Connect the *AXDBG Debug adapter board* to the PC with *Mini USB cable*

More connection details are visible in *Figure 11: DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−SMA−GEVB connection to AXDBG Debug Adapter* or *Figure 12: DVK−AXM0F243−XXX−x−ANT−GEVB connection to AXDBG Debug Adapter.*

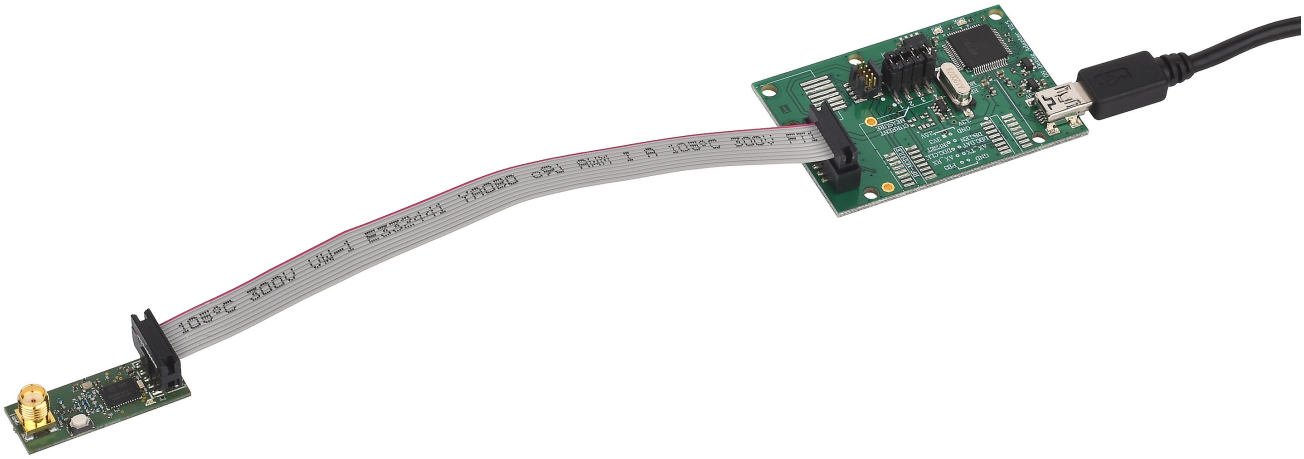

Figure 11. DVK−AXM0F243−xxx−x−SMA−GEVB Connection to AXDBG Debug Adapter

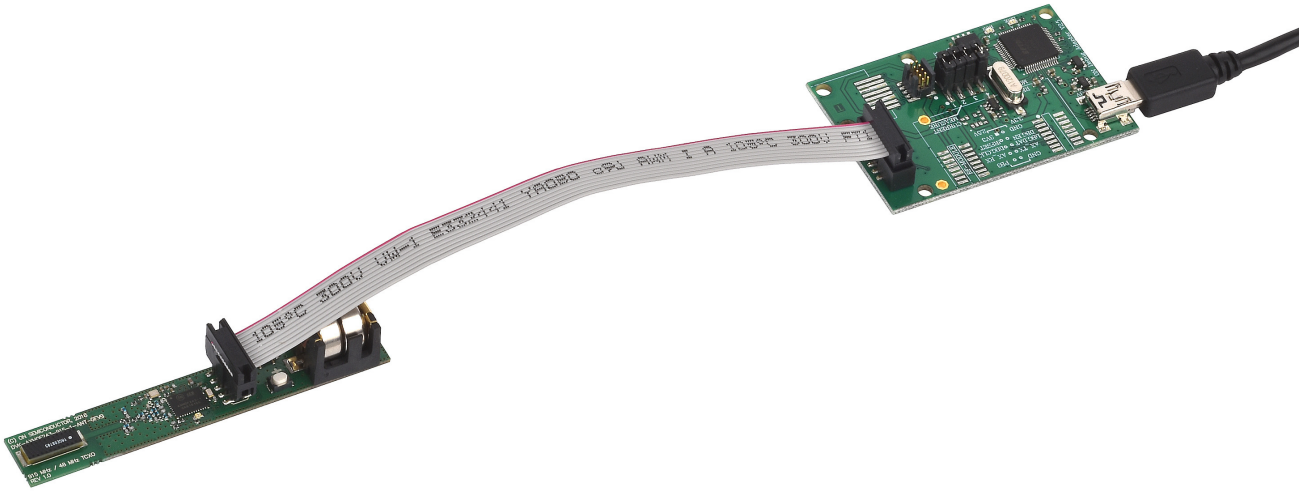

Figure 12. DVK−AXM0F243−xxx−x−ANT−GEVB Connection to AXDBG Debug Adapter

Working with AX−RadioLab

AX−RadioLab is the most advanced development tool for Software Defined Radio (SDR) applications.

It offers a variety of transmitter and receiver options such as

- periodic transmission of packets timed with the RC oscillator of the radio block
- periodic transmission of packets timed with the 32 kHz XTAL oscillator of the MCU
- Transmit on push−button
- Wake−on−radio reception with programmable wake−up interval
- Synchronous transmit and receive with programmable wake−up interval
- Optional acknowledge package send for all modes

Additionally, AX−RadioLab allows the user to configure the packet format, as well as Physical (PHY) parameters.

Since AX−RadioLab is a source code generator, the developer can use the generated C code example project as a robust foundation upon which to build the end application.

Additional documentation for AX−RadioLab can be found directly under Start −> All Programs −> AX−RadioLab −> AX−RadioLAB_AX5043_user_manual

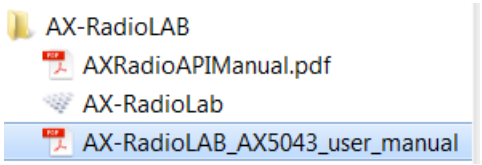

Figure 13. AX−RadioLab Manual

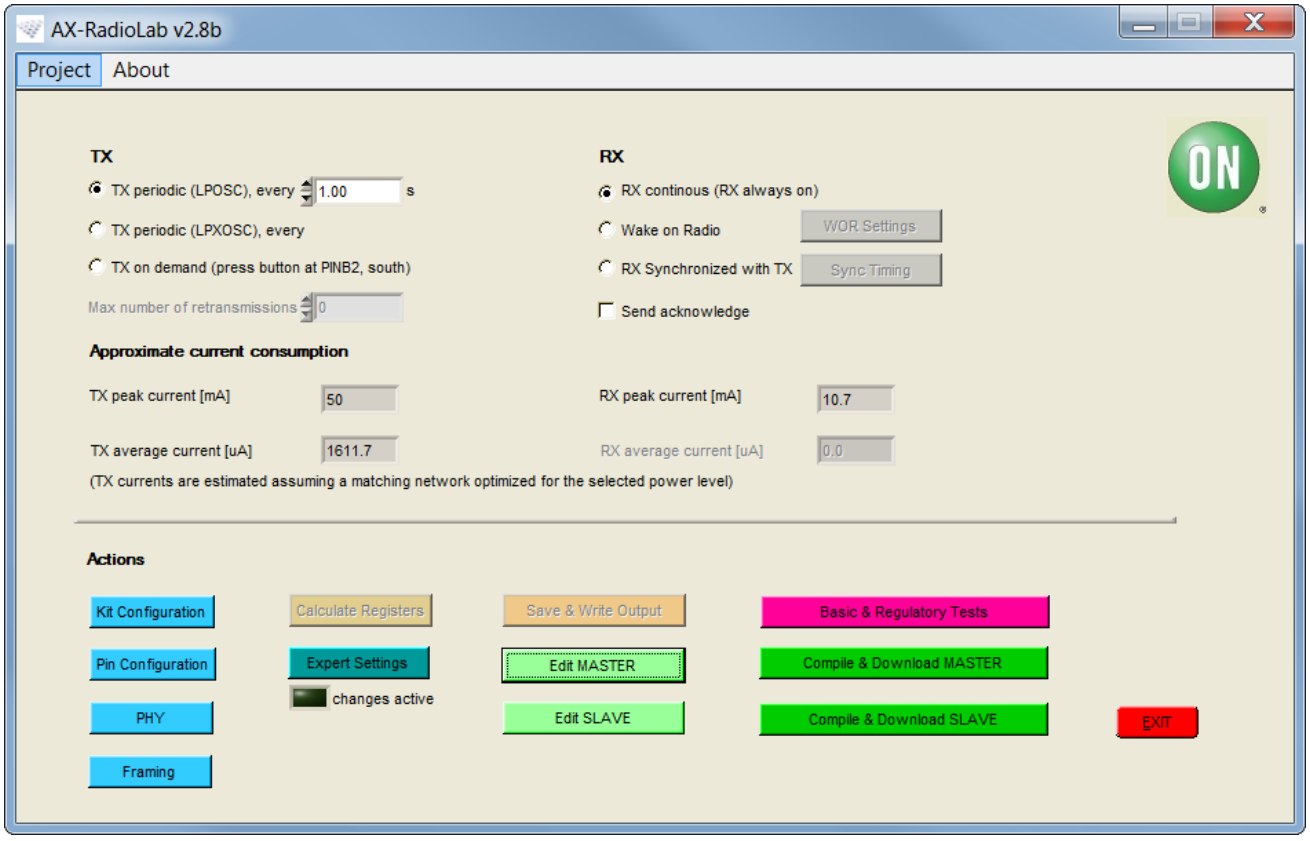

Figure 14. AX−RadioLab

Working With AxCode::Blocks

AxCode::Blocks is the graphical IDE for code development on AX micro−controllers. It enables the developer to access all the debugging features of the AX microcontrollers, in particular:

- Setting break points
- Access to AXM0F243 MCU registers as well as to all AX radio chip registers
- Debug link UART in a window for debugging printf style without the need of extra hardware
- GNU GCC Compiler for ARM installed and ready to go

Additional documentation for AxCode::Blocks can be found under

- Start −> All Programs −> AxCodeBlocks −> AxCodeBlocksQuickStart
- Start −> All Programs −> AxCodeBlocks −> CodeBlocksDoc

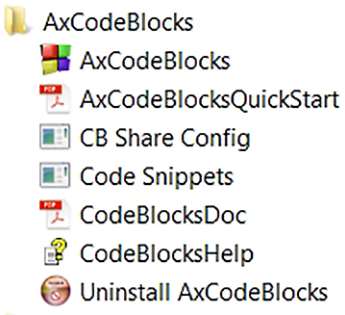

Figure 15. AxCode::Blocks Manuals

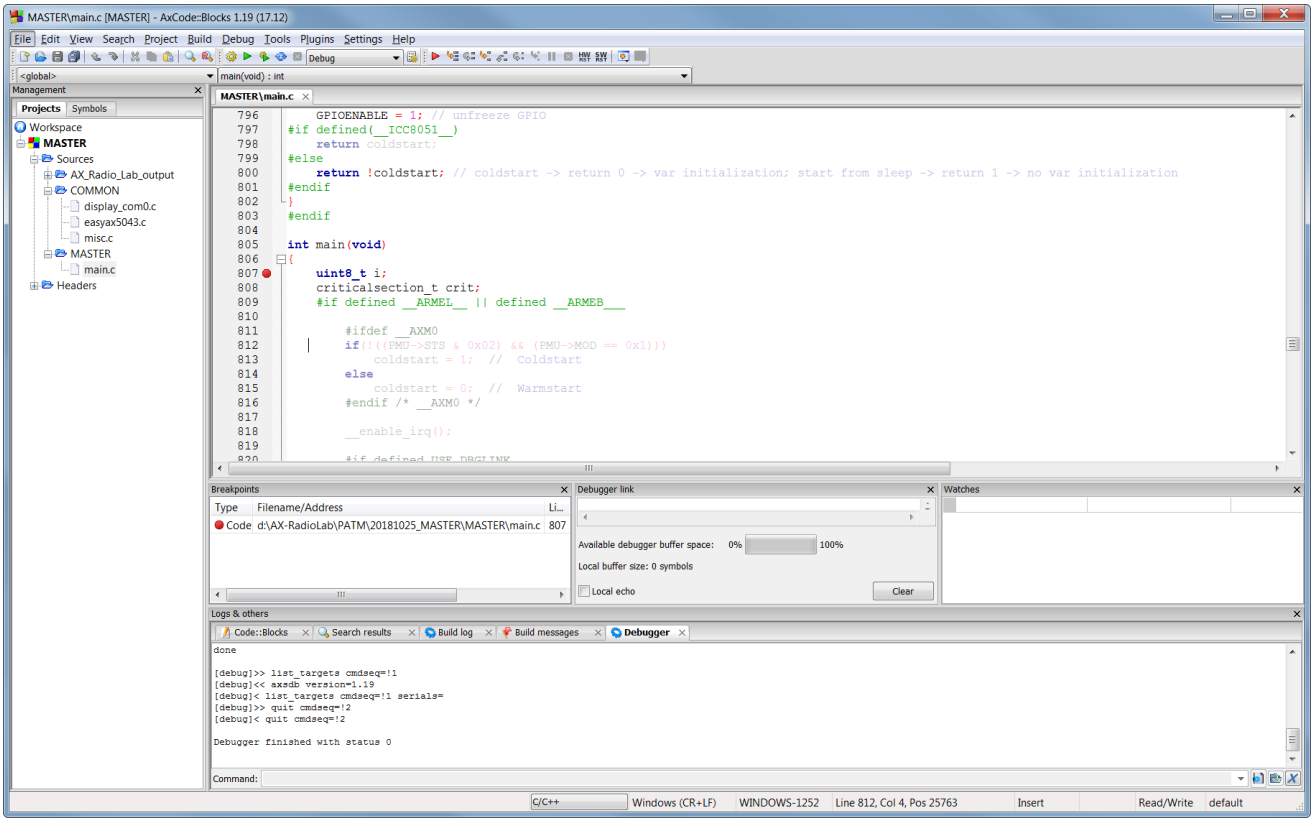

Figure 16. AxCode::Blocks

UART Communication

Debug link data are transmitted and received on the PC via UART communication. Any serial terminal software is suitable utilizing the following settings:

- baud rate 9600 bit/s
- data bits 8
- stop bit 1
- parity none

The actual active COM port number is visible in the Control Panel –> Device Manager console under Ports (COM & LPT).

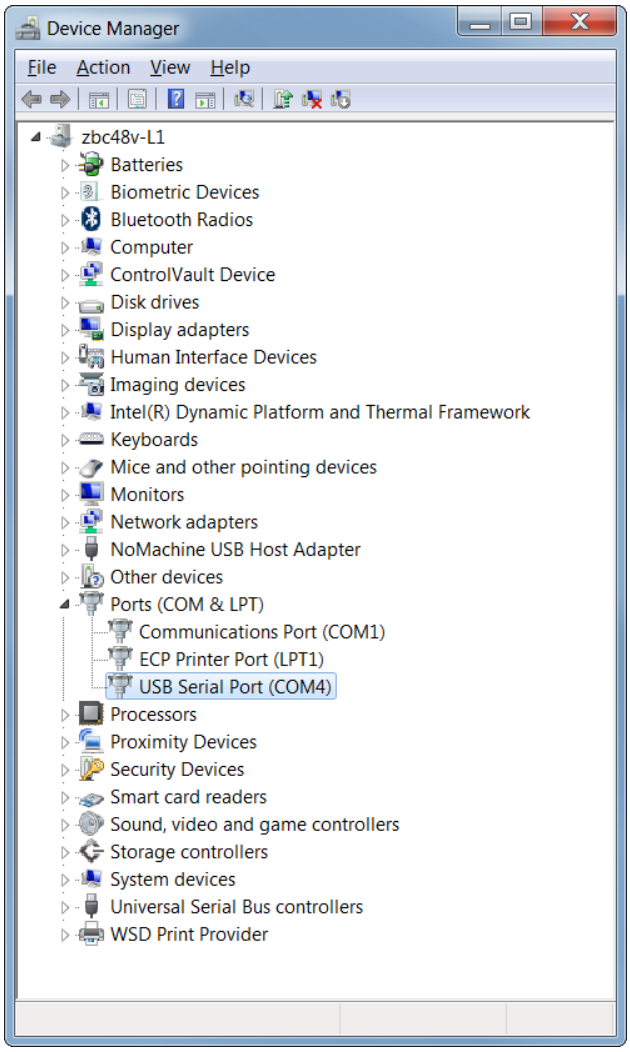

Figure 17. Device Manager

Typical received data are for example packages data, RSSI, frequency offset values

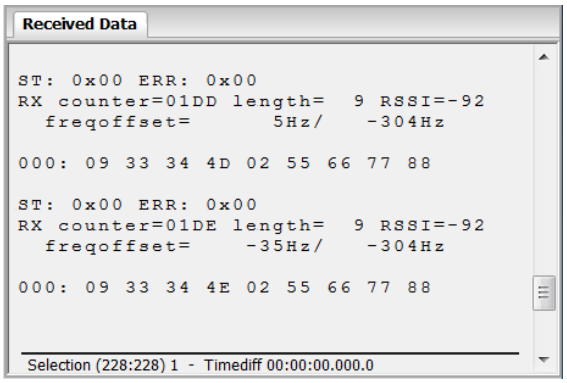

Figure 18. Terminal Software Received Data

Glossary

AxCode::Blocks: an Integrated Development Environment (IDE) for AXM0F243 SoC.

AX−RadioLab: advanced development tool for Software Defined Radio (SDR) applications. Is a source code and settings generator.

Debug link: the interface between AXDBG debug adapter and AXM0F243 SoC microcontroller.

AXSDB: Symbolic command line Debugger.

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