

1. Brief introduction

RF-EVB is an evaluation board which is used to test the RF COB modules from HOPERF. Simple and practical way of demonstration lets users to understand the corresponding COB module of radio frequency characteristics easily and intuitively. This board has moderate size, simple operation, easy to carry these advantages which are suitable for R&D evaluation and out door distance evaluation

2. Functions

- Working voltage:
battery: 3 AA 1.5V battery (AA size battery)
DC voltage: 3.6 V~5.5 V
- Support modules:
RFM01/02/12B;
RFM22B/23B/31B/42B/43B;
RFM63W/64W/65W/66W/67W/68W/69W/69HW;
RFM68CW/65CW/69CW/69HCW;
RFM92/93/95/96/97/98;

If you want more modules used on this EVB ,you can update the hardware of EVB, For more details please pay attention to www.hoperf.com.

- Simple instruction: press the trigger button to transmitter status, lose the trigger button to monitor status;
- Current test: via the current test interface, you can test the transmit/receive current easily;
- Identify the model automatically and demonstrate corresponding functions.
- Working abnormal condition remind
- Support hardware update: customers can upgrade EVB hardware to test more models by this annual. Typical version of the hardware you can refer to website of HOPERF.

3. Hardware layout and description of interfaces.

- Frontage layout of RF-EVB is the figure on the right

item	functions
1	Power switch
2	Power supply indicator: LED
3	RFM_COB working current test lead Note: resistance beside or inside must be move away
4	Error/abnormal indicator LED
5	The factory test mode status indication LED
6	Work normal status indication LED
7	Launches trigger buttons
8	buzzer receive effective signals
9	Receive status indicator LED
10	Transmitter status indicator LED
11	Frequency band selection jumper
12	RF_COB Module conversion socket

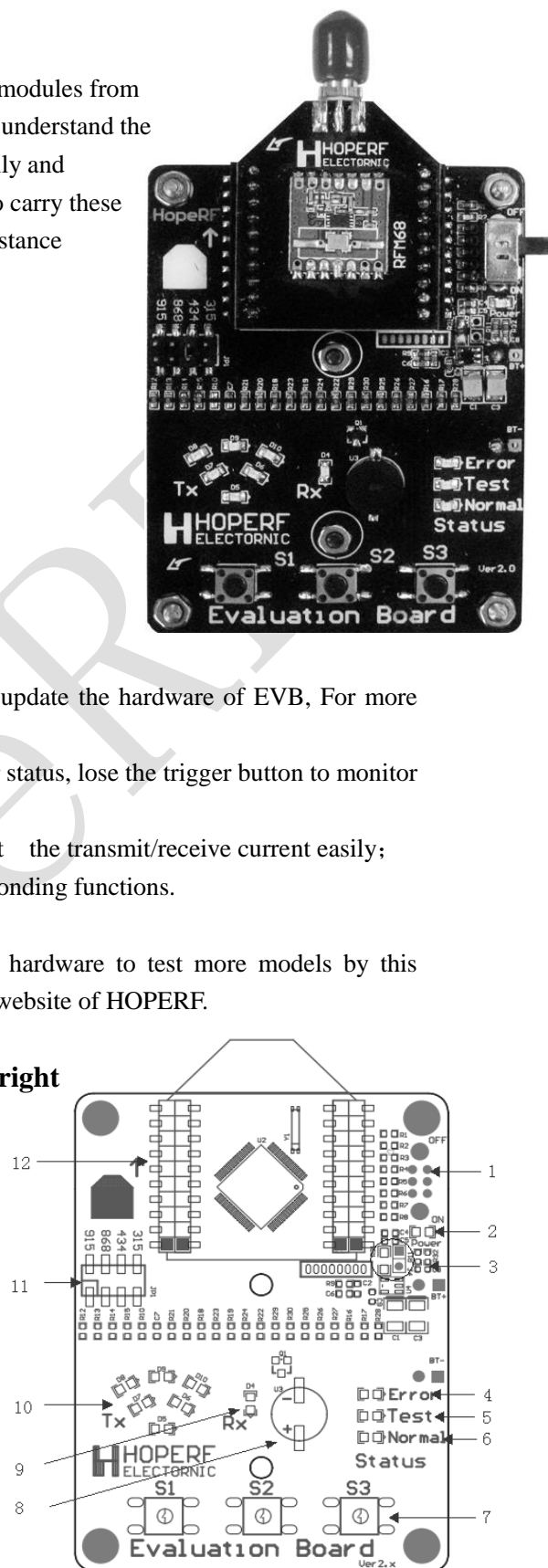


figure1 EVB layout figure

- Description of RF_COB interfaces:

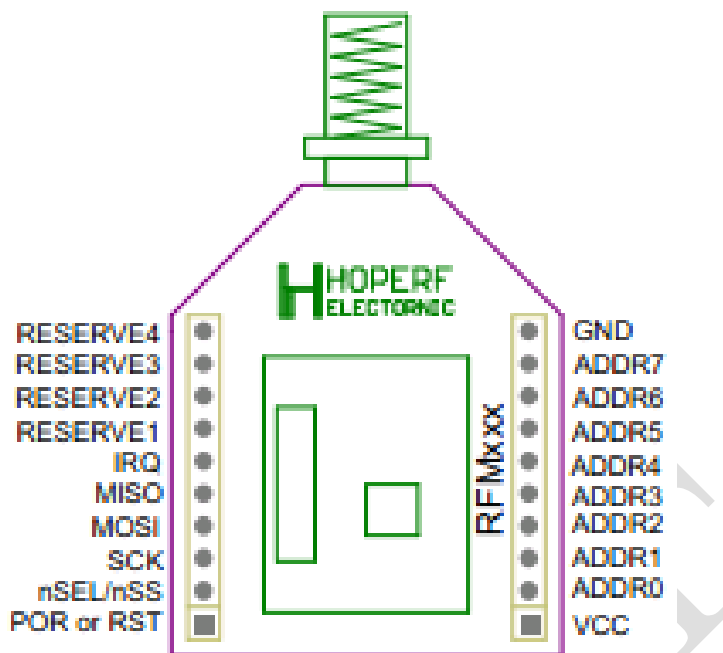


Figure 2 Description of RF interfaces

Definition	functions
POR or RST	Restoration (IO)
nSEL/nSS	Chip selection of SPI (Input)
SCK	Clock of SPI (Input)
MOSI	Data input interface of SPI (Input)
MISO	Data output interface of SPI (Output)
IRQ	IRQ of module (IO version)
RESERVE1	Refer to specific description of module
RESERVE2	Refer to specific description of module
RESERVE3	Refer to specific description of module
RESERVE4	Refer to specific description of module
GND	Negative
ADDR7~ADDR0	Module identification address
VCC	Positive

4. Instruction Description

- embed 3 AA battery;
- inset COB module;
- The power switch toggle to ON,LED lights up at this time which shows the power supply normally;
- Under normal working circumstance , Normal LED rights up;
- Modules in received or transmitted/ received status, when Rx_LED is lighten which shows the module is in the receiving state
- When modules in single transmit status, Rx_LED turned off which shows the module is in stand-by status, wait until the trigger switch and turn to transmit status.
 - i. Press the button to transmit, If the module is transmitted/ received or single transmit module, the Tx_LED lights will be lighten up regularly which shows the module is in transmit status. When lose the button, the module stop transmit and Tx_LED lights turns off.
 - ii. Press the button to transmit, If the module is single receive module, the error_LED light will be lighten up and error.
- If there are two EVB, one of which is in a state of normal emission and the other one of which is under a state of normal received, the buzzer of the receiver will ring until the transmitter stop sending.

5. Transmit/receive message format of EVB

● Content of the message

Definition	Preamble	SYNC. Word	HopeRF Series	Message
Length	5 Bytes	2 Bytes	14 Bytes	7 Bytes
content	0xAAAAAAAAAA	0x2DD4	"HopeRF RFM COB"	"RFMxxxx"

For examples:

RFM69H-S2 module: data 0xAAAAAAAAAA2DD4+"HopeRF RFM COB"+"RFM69HS";

RFM69-S2module: data 0xAAAAAAAAAA2DD4+"HopeRF RFM COB"+"RFM69-S";

RFM23B-S2 module: data 0xAAAAAAAAAA2DD4+"HopeRF RFM COB"+"RFM23BS"

● RF parameters

definition	Parameters	remarks
Centre frequency	315/434/868/915MHz	Can be set
Transmit deviation	+/-35KHz	
Wireless speed rate	2400bps	
Coded format	NRZ	
Frame time	≈100ms	

LoRa Modulation

● Content of the message

Name	HopeRF Series	Message
Length	14 Bytes	7 Bytes
content	"HopeRF RFM COB"	"RFMxxxx"

For example:

RFM92-S module: Date "HopeRF RFM COB"+"RFM92-S";

RFM95-S module: Date "HopeRF RFM COB"+"RFM95-S";

RFM96-S module: Date "HopeRF RFM COB"+"RFM96-S";

● Parameter settings

Name	Reference value	remarks
Center frequency	315/434/868/915MHz	Can be set
SpreadingFactor	9	
BandWidth	125KHz	
CodingRate	4/5	
CRC	Enable	
PreambleLength	12 + 4 Byte	
HeaderMode	ExplicitMode	

6. Notes and application tips

● Error LED shows kinds of effective circumstance

- 1) No RF module in it, it will work normally when you inset the module
- 2) Not choose specific work frequency, frequency increase insert selection jumper cap is solved
- 3) Without the work status, such as: single receiving module, there is no emission features
- 4) Frequency is not allowed. For example, RFM63W just work in the frequency of 868MHz and 915MHz, if you set the working frequency to 433MHz,EVB will shows error
- 5) The modules work abnormally, please contact our engineers of our company.
- 6) Insert the RF module, but there is no short circuit current test interface which can lead to the mistakenly to upgrade mode. Insert short current test end, when the power is back this problem can be solved.

● Easy and convenient access to the RF performance assessment instrument

With SMA connector, you can use the SMA for wiring, simple and direct access to the RF performance assessment instrument.

Please refer to the bellowing picture:

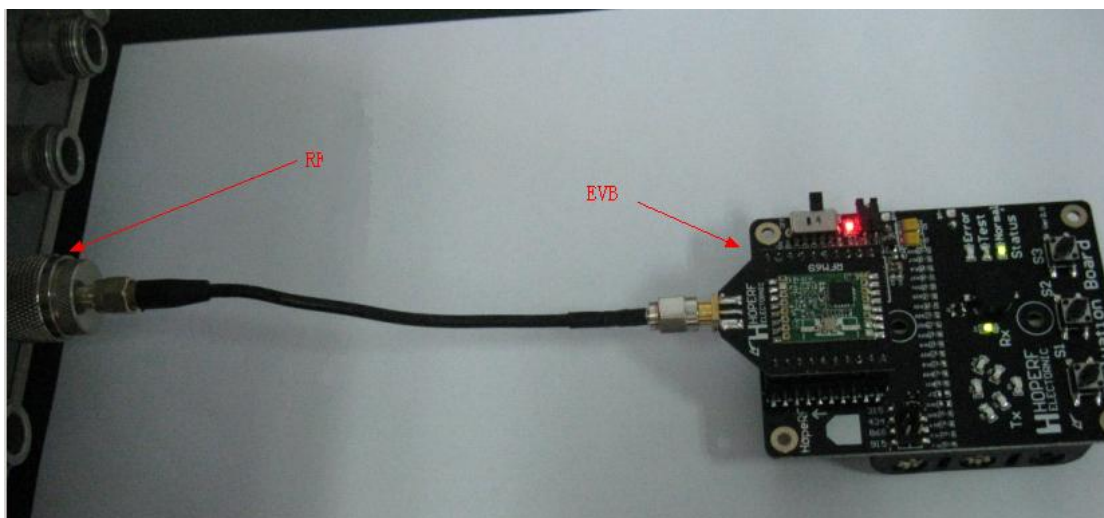


Figure 3 EVB access equipment testing the RF parameters

Notes:

1. Due to RF module using conversion plate, so there will be a certain difference in the antenna line setting.
 2. SMA will affect the connections, so the users have to ensure the quality of the wire
- Practical interface of logic analyzer

RF socket on EVB is double row patch which the same lines are connected together. Via a row of 90 degrees 10 pin bent needle, you can simply connect the oscilloscope/logic analyzer. Direct analysis of sequence control, you can refer to the diagram bellowing

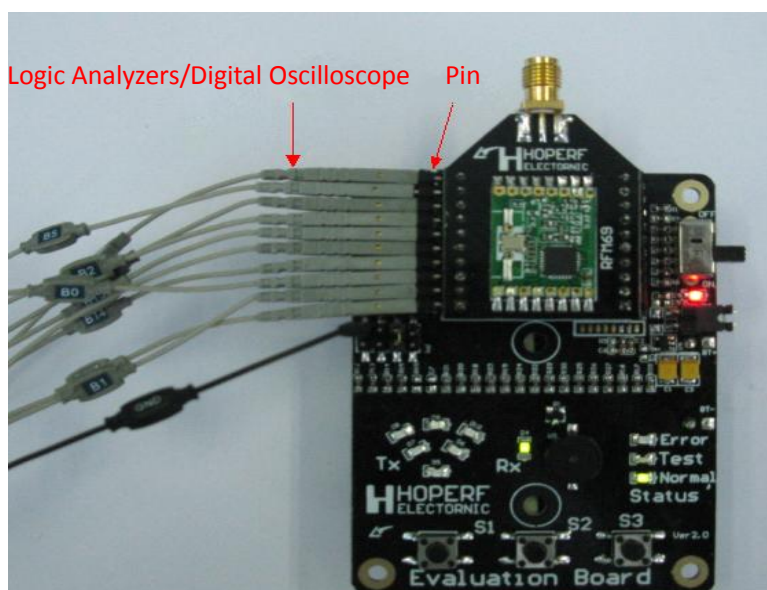


Figure 4 EVB with row needles connecting logic comparison with RF module sequence control analyzer

- test kinds of the working power consumption

To evaluate the modules can meet the specifications or not, you can test the RF received current, transmit current .For more details, you can refer to bellowing pictures.

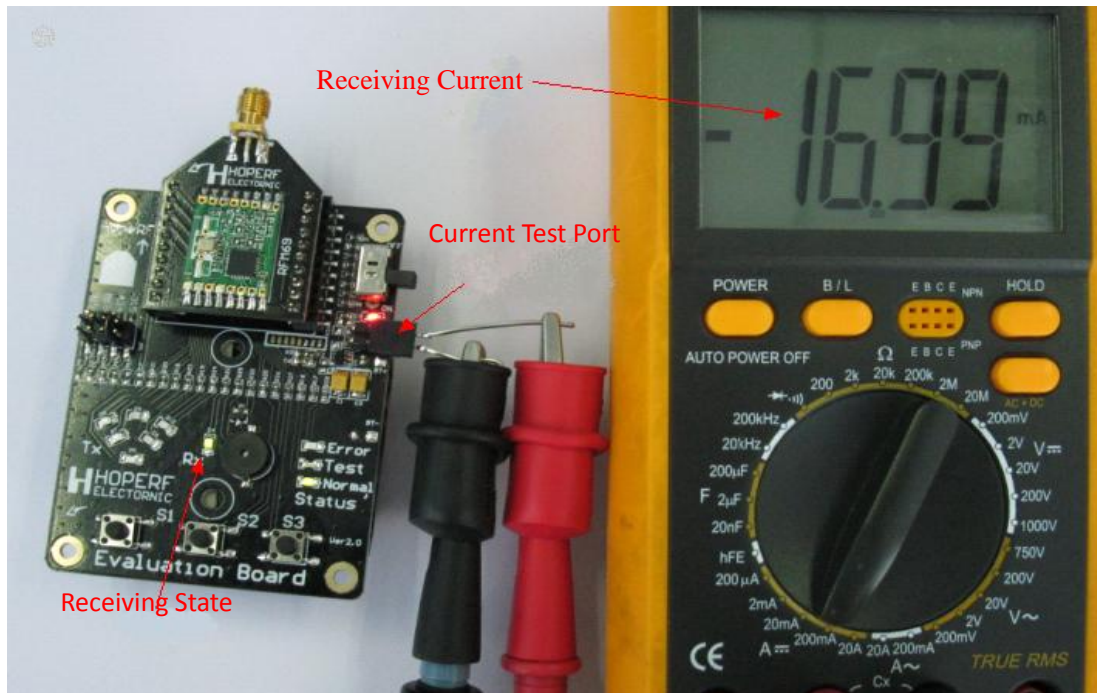


Figure 5 received current

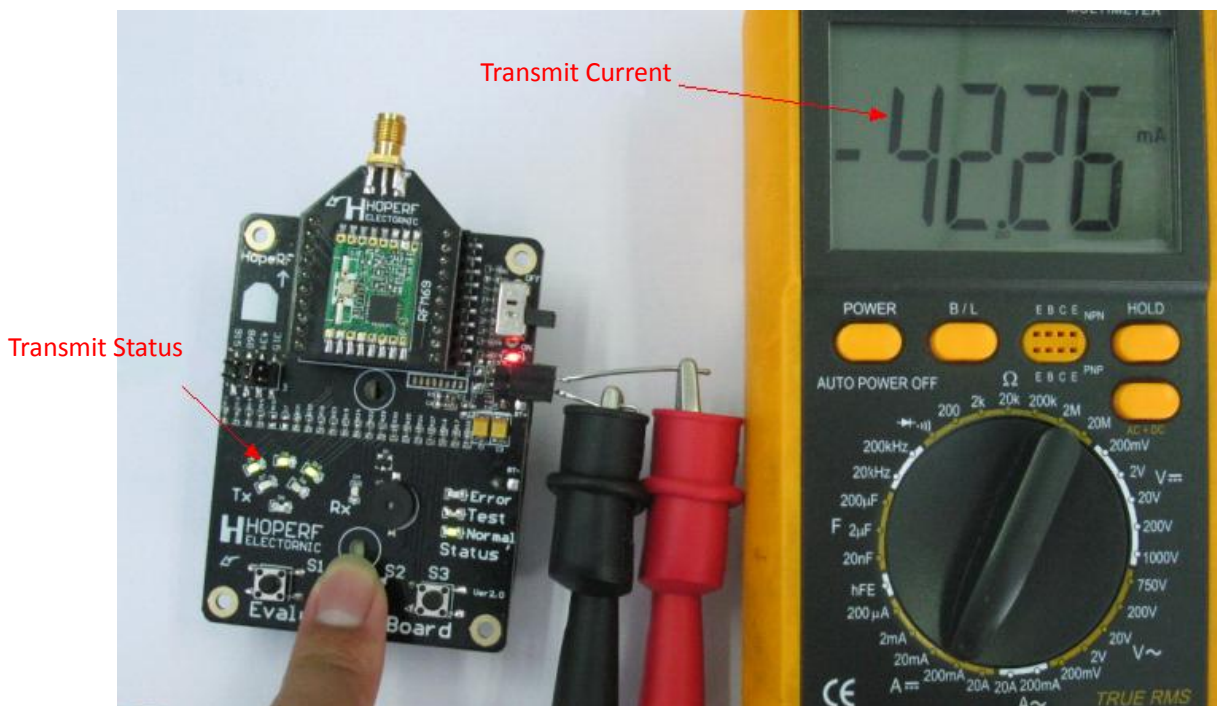


Figure 6 transmit current

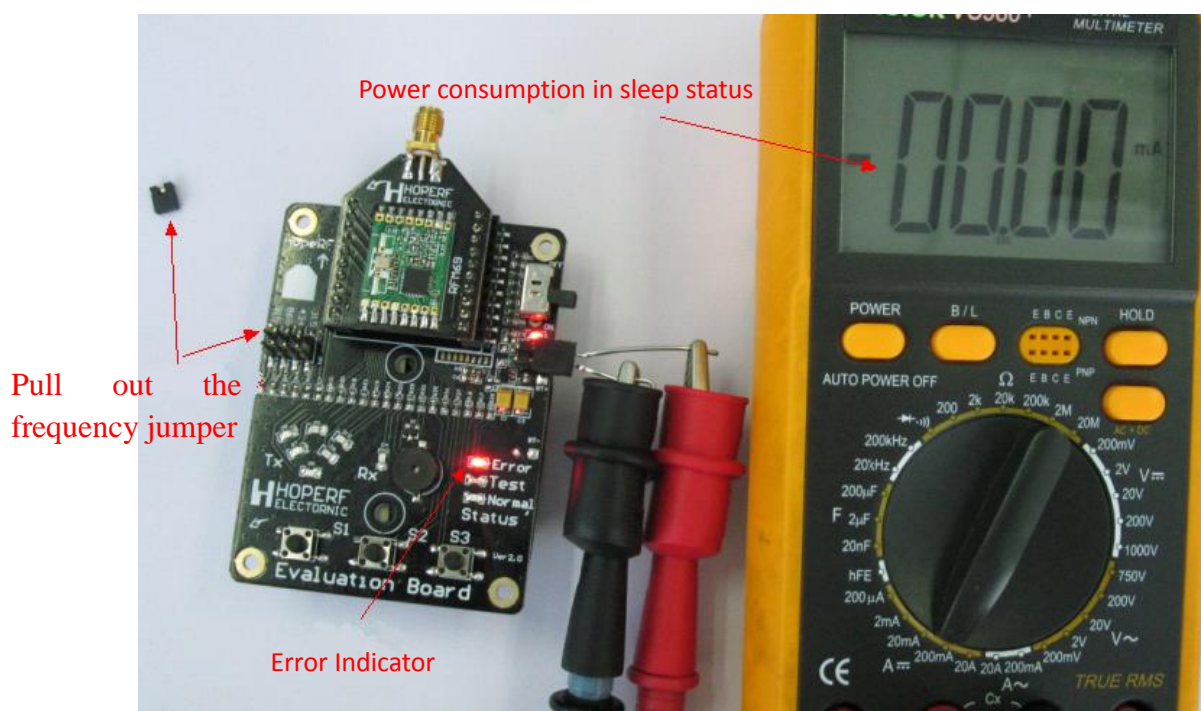


Figure 7 Low power consumption mode

● EVB hardware inquire

An interface UART at the back of EVB board (no welding row needle, just leaving bonding pad location). Under normal working condition, the UART just receiving signals. UART sends a baud rate to 9600 BPS, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no check, no flow control message information regularly. The specific content of message is Sx.x Hx.x "S" shows the software, "x.x" means the version of software, "H" represents the hardware and "x.x" means the version of hardware. So you can determine whether to upgrade your software or not by the hardware version.

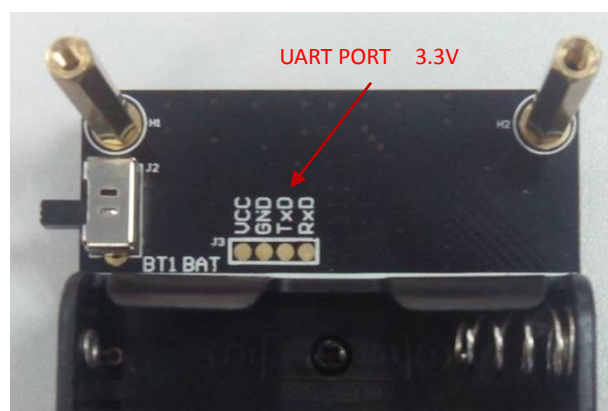
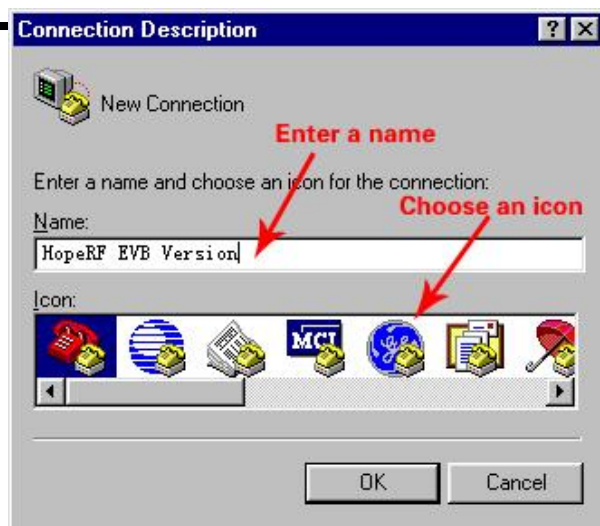


Figure 8 back of the UART interface and the corresponding display effect

Via the PC "start -> programs -> accessories -> communication -> super terminal" to establish a connection. Settings are as follows

Step 1: establish a connection, name and select the icon, Then click "ok";



Step 2: set the connection equipment, select the COM and Setting the COM, then click "ok";



Step 3: set the communication parameters,
Specific parameters are as follows:

Digits per second (B): 9600

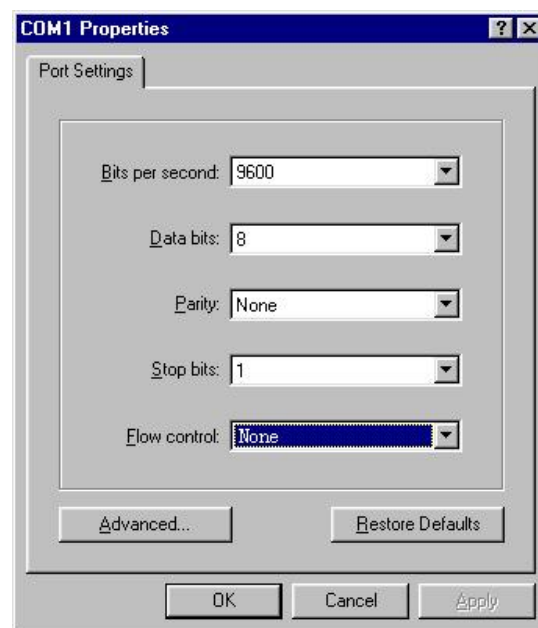
Data bits (D):8

Parity (P): no

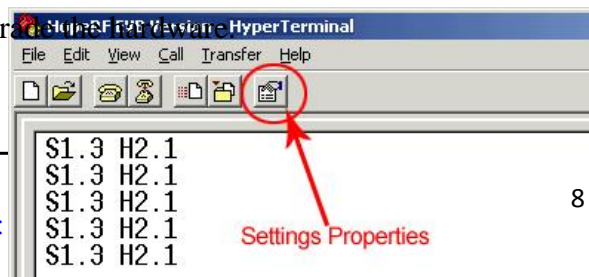
Stop bit (S): 1.

Data flow control (F) : no

click "application" and then "ok" to complete the setup.

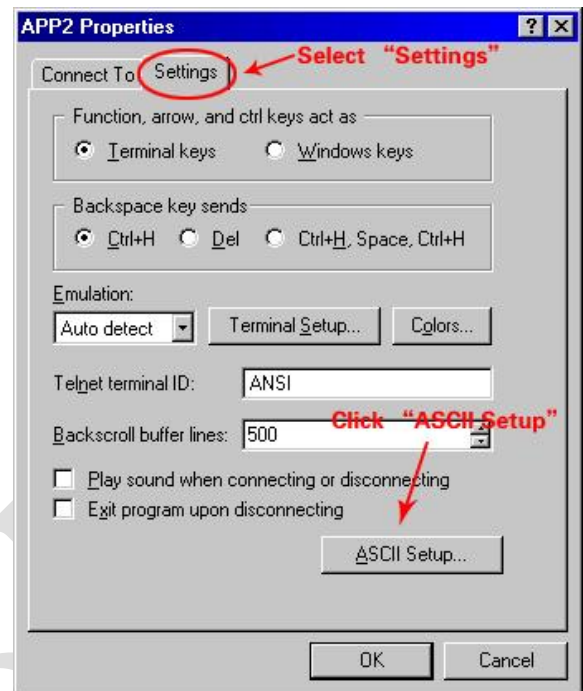


Notes: baud rate should be set to 19200 when upgrade



Step 4: click the right red circle icon on the right to Modify the attribute.

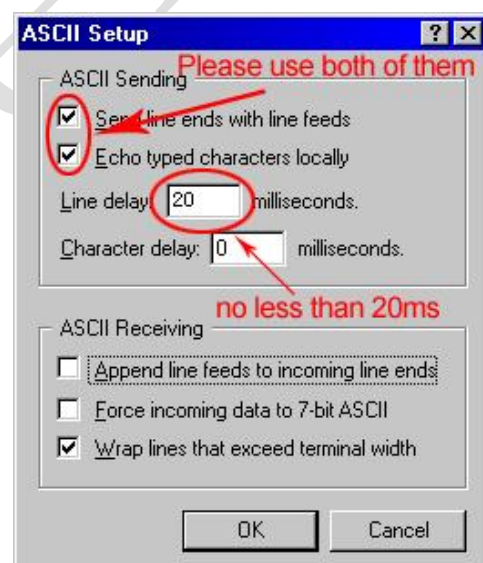
Step 5: select "Settings" and then click on the "ASCII Set (A)".



Step 6:

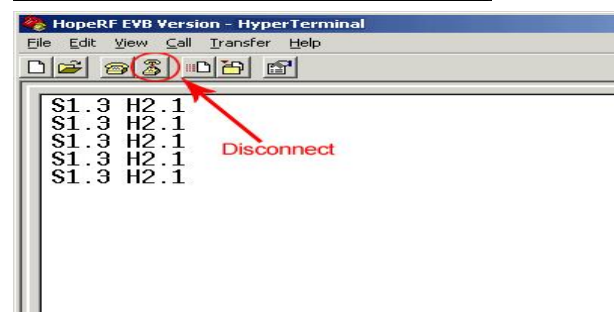
- 1、 tick the box name "line break as end of the sending line" and "local echo type character"
- 2、 line delay should not be less than 20ms if not it will affect the upgrading software,
- 3、 then click "confirm"

After that, the setting is finished and connect with UART of EVB and receive corresponding version information.



Step 7:

Click on the red circle icon to disconnect and then close the dialogue box. Before close, we always suggest that you save this Setting for your continued application.



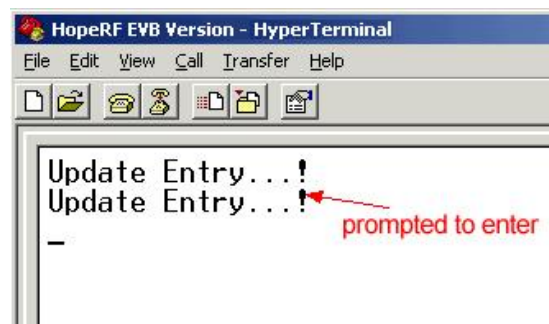
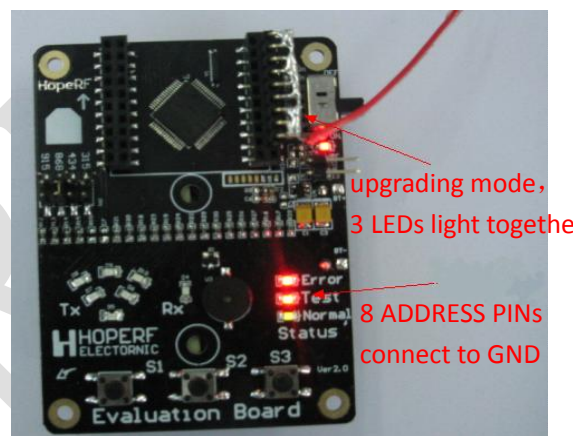
● upgrade firmware of EVB

The firmware upgrade of EVB can make more HopeRF rf module to be used on this EVB which is much more convenient for users evaluation. EVB firmware version information please pay attention to HopeRF website.

Based on the previous detection version which has introduced how to set up the super terminal connection, So what you need to do is repeating the above process and change baud rate to 19200, after that to build a "HopeRF EVB Bootloader", then follow the belowing 3 simple steps to upgrade the firmware.

Step1: enter into upgrade

1. EVB Power off to EVB and let the eight feet of RF modules ADDR0~ADDR7 to the ground, after That power on.(note: the power must not be cut When upgrading or it will cause unpredictable damage.
2. About 1ms later, Error、Test、Normal three lights on EVB lighten up which shows the firmware enter into upgrade background program
3. Shown as the right figures;
4. UART connect with PC, and open the setting of Supper terminal "HopeRF EVB Bootloader".
5. Tips as shown on the right figure
6. please pull the address line of short circuit tools to enter into background program repeatedly conveniently



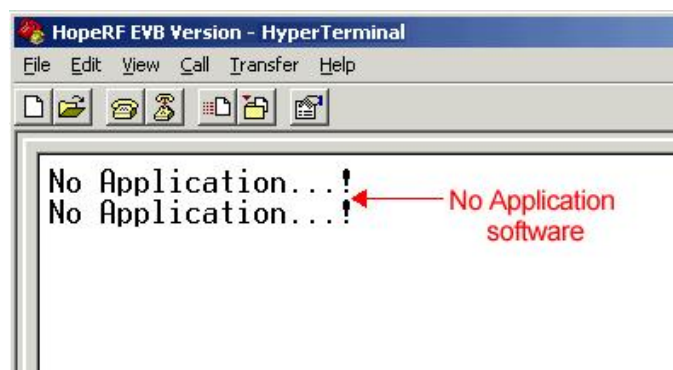
Step 2: wipe software

1. Under the super terminal interface, press "e" to wipe applications Layer of software
2. working sketch is shown on the right;
3. Turn off the power of EVB,(the Power supply line of UART should be removed)



Step3: Upgrade software

1、Turning on power of EVB again. As the software of App has been wiped so it can only upgrade background software without Address short circuit tools the connection of Supper terminal, you can refer to the figure on the right



2、 Under the super terminal interface, press the "u" form to Update software, refer to the picture on the right;



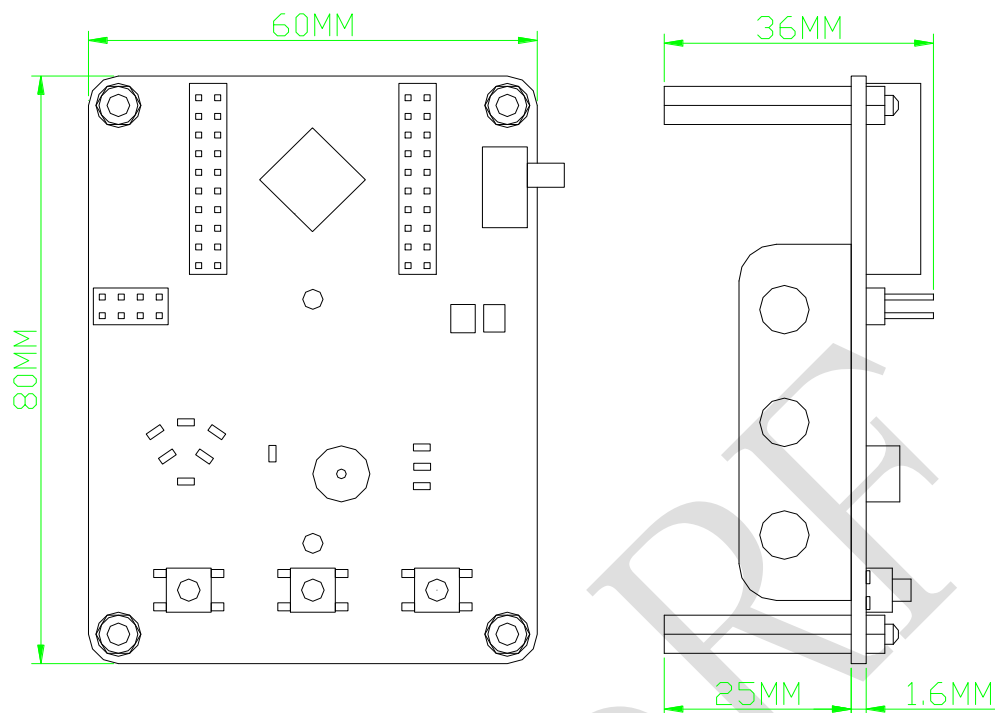
3、 Click "send" in the menu bar, and select "Send a text file ", and then open the Upgrade TXT file, the file through the super Terminal to transmit, EVB is upgrading!

The file transfer is completed, please exit this connection, use the version to check the upgrade success or not. After the success of the upgrade, with version information query can see the correct version of firmware.

Notes:

1. EVB upgrade process, please do not interrupt or unplug connecting cable, so as not to cause irreversible damage when upgrading the EVB.
2. If upgrade failed, please power off and energized again, if enter the backend upgrade mode, you can still through the operation to restore the application layer operation; If could not enter the background update mode, the system program will be damaged, please contact HopeRF technical personnel for support.
3. The firmware upgrade requires technical knowledge background, so please do above process operation according requirements to avoid unrecoverable damage.
4. "line delay" is a must as EVB automatic update burn needs certain reaction time, we suggest the time setting is 30ms not less than 20 ms,
- 5 Do not mistakenly to short circuit the positive of the battery while using address short circuit tools.

8. Product appearance size figure



9. More products

- HopeRF EVB combination with kinds of RF modules



Figure 15 EVB and kinds of RF modules

- More related RF modules



Figure16 Development board for function test

- For more information, please log on www.hoperf.cn

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