

Specification

Patent Pending

Part No.	:	Accura UWC.40
Description	:	3~5GHz Ultra-Wide Band (UWB) SMD Chip Antenna
Features	:	 SMD Chip UWB Antenna For European and USA UWB Applications In Channels 1-4 Uses Automotive sensors Smart airbags Precision surveying Smart home and entertainment systems Centimeter Level Positioning Frequency: 3.1-4.75GHz Dimensions: 6*7*3mm





1. Introduction

The UWC.40 chip antenna, at 6*7*3 mm, is a small form factor Ultra-Wideband (UWB) antenna with high efficiencies across the pulsed UWB communications operational bands. It enables designers to use just one antenna to simultaneously cover all common UWB commercial bands, namely bands 1-4. UWC.40 provides a peak gain of 4 dBi and efficiencies of more than 80% across most of the UWB bandwidth.

The UWC.40 antenna is a durable ceramic antenna designed to be mounted directly to a PCB via standard SMT reflow process. It is an ideal choice for any device maker that needs to keep manufacturing costs down over the lifetime of a product. Care should be taken to mount the antenna at least 1mm from metal components or surfaces, and ideally 5mm for best Radiation efficiency. Nearby metal components should be as small as possible. The antenna will not work within fully enclosed metal enclosures. Minimum recommended ground plane size is 26 mm x 20 mm, and antenna to ground clearance is fixed to 2.5 mm and should not be changed. (Please see section 7. Application Note)

Ultra-Wideband (also known as UWB) is a low power digital wireless technology for transmitting large amounts of digital data over a wide spectrum of frequency bands typically spanning more than 500MHz with very low power for short distances.

The low power requirements of UWB mean increased battery life of sensors and tags leading to reduction in overall operational costs. Taoglas has developed various innovative and new-to-market flexible embedded UWB antennas designed for seamless integration on plastics and using highly flexible micro-coaxial cable mounting while achieving high performance where space is limited. Taoglas UWB series antennas have been designed for use with the recently launched Decawave ScenSor DW1000 module and are also compatible with any other UWB sensor modules on the market.



Note that any embedded antenna is subject to detuning and radiation efficiency decreases in any device environment. Taoglas has a range of services that can characterize the antenna performance in your device and also select and optimize the right antenna for your application. Subject to a minimum order quantity, a fully custom antenna can also be designed and supplied. Check our UWB services pages on our website or contact your regional Taoglas office for more information.



1.1. Applications of Pulsed UWB antenna Technology

Radar - These short-pulsed antennas provide very fine range resolution and precision distance and positioning measurement capabilities. UWB signals enable inexpensive high definition radar antennas which find use in automotive sensors, smart airbags, and precision surveying applications amongst many others.

Home Network Connectivity - Smart home and entertainment systems can take advantage of high data rates for streaming high quality audio and video contents in real time for consumer electronics and computing within a home environment.

Position location & Tracking - UWB antennas also find use in Position Location and Tracking applications such as locating patients in case of critical condition, hikers injured in remote areas, tracking cars, and managing a variety of goods in a big shopping mall. UWB offers better noise immunity and better accuracy to within a few cm compared to current localization technologies such as Assisted GPS for Indoors, Wi-Fi and cellular which are at best able to offer meter level precision. Tethered Indoor positioning UWB systems that measure the angles of arrival of ultra-wideband (UWB) radio signals perform triangulation by using multiple sensors to communicate with a tag device.



2. Specification

Electrical						
STANDARD	USA UWB Channel 1	USA UWB Channel 2	USA UWB Channel 3	USA UWB Channel 4		
Operation Frequency (GHz)	3.24-3.74	3.74-4.24	4.24-4.74	3.32-4.65		
Return Loss (dB)	<-7.5	<-6.5	<-5	<-5		
Efficiency (%)	>82%	>80%	>55%	>65%		
Peak Gain (dBi)	3.5	4.5	4	4		
Max VSWR	2.5:1	2.8:1	3.8:1	2.8:1		
Radiation Properties	Omnidirectional					
Polarization	Linear					
Impedance	50 Ω					
Max Input Power	10 W					
Mechanical						
Dimension	6 x 7 x 3 mm					
Material	Ceramic					
Weight						
Environmental						
Operation Temperature	-40°C to 85°C					
Storage Temperature	-40°C to 85°C					
Humidity	40% to 90%					

* Results obtained for antenna on Standard Evaluation Board size 37*20mm, with 26*20mm ground plane.

See Section 4 for Standard Evaluation Board details.



3. Antenna Characteristics



3.1. Return Loss

3.2. VSWR







3.3. Efficiency

3.4. Peak Gain





3.5. Average Gain





3.6. Antenna Radiation Pattern

3.6.1. Measurement Setup





3.6.2. 2D Radiation Pattern (dBi)





XZ Plane





3.6.3. 3D Radiation Pattern (dBi)











3.7. Group Delay vs. Angle (YZ Plane) in UWB channel 2 (4 GHz)

Total system group delay includes the propagation delay in the transmitting antenna (Tx), propagation channel (Ch), and receiving antenna (Rx). Group delay can vary across directions of propagation (theta or phi angles). This group delay variation over theta or phi represents output signal distortions and should be known and minimized if possible.

The measured and normalized group delay value for UWC.40 is presented below for 4 principal angles in the YZ plane, measured at 4 GHz (UWB channel 2). A group delay variation of 100-150 ps is considered excellent for UWB system implementation. The observed group delay variation of 182 ps for UWC.40 will provide very good performance.

The measurements were performed using the EVK1000 Decawave kit with the UWC.40 antenna as both the receiver and AUT device.





3.8. Fidelity Factor vs. Angle (YZ Plane) in UWB channel 2 (4 GHz)

The fidelity is above 0.9 (benchmark value) for all angles, therefore UWC.40 shows

excellent performance.

UWC.40 Fidelity Factor					
Angle	Fidelity Factor				
0 °	0.99				
45°	0.99				
90°	0.99				
135°	0.99				
180°	0.99				



4. Mechanical Drawing

4.1. Antenna Drawing (Unit: mm)



NOTE:

- 1. Ag Plated area
- 2. Solder Mask area
- 3. Copper area
- 4. Paste area
- 5. Copper Keepout Area

- Ground keepout should extend from top layer through all inner PCB layers to minimize coupling from RF feed to ground.
 Any vigs in pads should be either filled or tented to prevent solder.
- 7. Any vias in pads should be either filled or tented to prevent solder from wicking away from the pad during reflow.
- 8. The dimension tolerances should follow standard PCB manufacturing guidelines



4.2. Recommended PCB Layout

4.2.1. Top Copper

Pad 2 should be connected to a 50 ohm transmission lin



 \rightarrow :Connected to 50 ohm transmission line.

4.2.2. Top Solder Paste



NOTE:

- 1. Ag Plated area
- 2. Solder Mask area
- 3. Copper area
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- 5. Copper Keepout Area
- 6. Ground keepout should extend from top layer through all inner PCB layers to minimize coupling from RF feed to ground.
- 7. Any vias in pads should be either filled or tented to prevent solder from wicking away from the pad during reflow.
- 8. The dimension tolerances should follow standard PCB manufacturing guidelines



4.2.3. Top Solder Mask

This drawing is a negative of solder mask. Black regions are anti-mask.



4.2.4. Composite Diagram



NOTE:

- 1. Ag Plated area
- 2. Solder Mask area
- 3. Copper area
- Paste area
 Copper Keepout Area
- layers to minimize coupling from RF feed to ground. 7. Any vias in pads should be either filled or tented to prevent solder from wicking away from the pad during reflow.
- 8. The dimension tolerances should follow standard PCB manufacturing guidelines

6. Ground keepout should extend from top layer through all inner PCB



4.3. Evaluation Board





5. Packaging









6. Application Notes

6.1. Ground Plane Size

The influence of ground plane length and width on UWC.40 performance is presented below. Increasing the ground plane length does not have a significant impact on efficiency but does affect return loss (S11). Ground plane lengths of less than 26mm are not recommended.

Increasing the ground plane width affects both S11 and efficiency in the high frequency region. Ground plane width greater than 40 mm is not recommended if channel 2 will be used.



Figure 1 - Evaluation Board Layout





Figure 2 - Return Loss for ground plane length variation





Figure 3 - Efficiency for ground plane length variation





Figure 4 - Return Loss for ground plane width variation



Figure 5 - Efficiency for ground plane width variation



6.2. Clearance Study

A metal clearance study is also performed. A 5*5*2mm metal component is placed on different locations around the UWC.40 antenna. Figure 13 shows the right-side positions. Equivalent left-side positions were also tested. The smallest distance was 1 mm between the antenna and the metal component.

The results show that close proximity of components on the left and right will slightly influence antenna impedance matching.

Note that the tests here specifically measure the effects of metal components unconnected to ground on the performance of UWC.40. This is not equivalent to a metal ground plane extension on the antenna sides, which should not be done.



Figure 6 - Clearance study – metal component locations





Figure 7 - Return loss for clearance study



Figure 8 - Efficiency for clearance study



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