

AFE74xxEVM User's Guide

This user guide demonstrates how to program an AFE7422EVM or AFE7444EVM (AFE74xxEVM). Details on configurable modes are included in Table 1. Throughout this document, the terms evaluation board, evaluation module, and EVM are synonymous with the AFE74xxEVM.

Mode #	Single/ Dual Band	Max Signal BW (TX/RX) (MHz)	Serdes Rate (Gbps)	FS _{DAC} (Gsps)	TX Resolution (bit)	Inter- polation	TX LMFS	FS _{ADC} (Gsps)	RX Resolution (bit)	Deci- mation	RX LMFS
1		1200/1500	15	9	16	6x	84111	3	16	-	82240
2		800	10	9	16	9x	84111	3	16	Зx	84220
3		800	15	9	12	9x	44320	3	12	Зx	44320
4		600	15	9	16	12x	44210	3	16	4x	44210
5	1	000	15	6	16	8x	44210	3	16	4x	44210
6		300	7.5	9	16	24x	44210	3	16	8x	44210
7			10	9	16	36x	24410	3	16	12x	24410
8		200	10	9	16	36x	24410	2.25	16	9x	24410
9			10	6	16	24x	24410	3	16	12x	24410
10	2	200	10	9	16	36x	48410	3	16	12x	48410
11	2	200	10	9	16	36x	48410	2.25	16	9	48410

Table 1. RF DAC and ADC Operating Mode Configurations for the AFE7422

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1 Introduction

The AFE74xxEVM is an evaluation board used to evaluate the AFE74xxEVM family (AFE7422 and AFE7444) of analog-to-digital converters (ADC) from Texas Instruments.

The AFE74xxEVM is a dual- or quad-channel, wideband, RF sampling transceiver based on 14-bit, 9-GSPS DACs and 14-bit, 3-GSPS ADCs. Operating at RF frequencies up to 5.2 GHz, these devices enable direct RF sampling through the C-band without the need for additional frequency-conversion stages. The AFE74xxEVM contains an 8-lane (8 TX + 8 RX), subclass 1 compliant JESD204B204B interface capable of operating as high as 15 Gbps. A bypassable on-chip PLL simplifies clocking with optional clock output.

The digital data from the AFE74xxEVM board is quickly and easily captured with the TSW14J57EVM or TSW14J56EVM data capture boards. The TSW14J57EVM captures the high-speed serial data, decodes the data, stores the data in memory, and then uploads the data to a connected PC through a USB interface for analysis. The *High-Speed Data Converter Pro* (HSDC Pro) software on the PC communicates with the hardware and processes the data. With proper hardware selection in the HSDC Pro software, the TSW14J57 device is automatically configured to support the wide range of operating speeds of the AFE74xxEVM. In the following sections of this document, the AFE74xxEVM is referred to as the EVM and the AFE74xx device is referred to as the AFE. The TSW14J57EVM is referred to as the TSW14J57EVM. This document describes how to setup the EVM on the bench with the proper equipment to evaluate the full performance of the ADC device.

2 Hardware

2.1 AFE74xxEVM Orientation

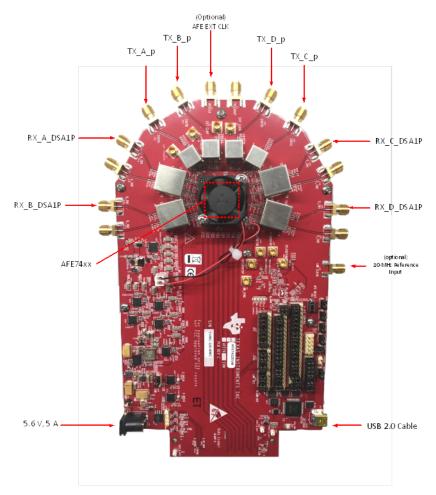


Figure 1. AFE74xxEVM Top View

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2.2 Equipment

The following equipment and documents are included in the EVM evaluation kit:

- Evaluation board (EVM)
- Mini-USB cable
- Power cable

The following equipment is not included in the EVM evaluation kit, but is required for evaluation of this product:

- TSW14J57EVM or TSW14J56EVM data capture board and related items
- HSDC Pro software
- PC computer running Windows[™] XP, 7, or 8 operating systems
- One low-noise signal generator for analog input. TI recommends the following generators:
 - Keysight E8663D
 - Rohde and Schwarz SMA100A
- One spectrum analyzer
- Bandpass filter for analog input signal (1730 MHz or desired frequency). The following filters are recommended:
 - Bandpass filter, greater than or equal to 60-dB harmonic attenuation, less than or equal to 5% bandwidth, greater than 18-dBm power, less than 5-dB insertion loss
 - Trilithic[™] 5VH-series tunable BPF
 - K&L Microwave[™] BT-series tunable BPF
 - TTE KC6 or KC7-series fixed BPF
- Signal-path cables, SMA or BNC (or both SMA and BNC)
 By default, the AFE74xxEVM has an onboard clocking solution. A single onboard jumper modification is required to enable external clocking. Make sure Jumper JP9 on the AFE74xxEVM is set (2.5 VCLK_ENB) to position 1-2. If external clocking is used, the following equipment is recommended:
 - Two low-noise signal generators. TI recommends models similar to the analog input source.
 - A bandpass filter for the DEVCLK input. TI recommends a filter similar to the analog-input path filter.

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2.3 Test Setup

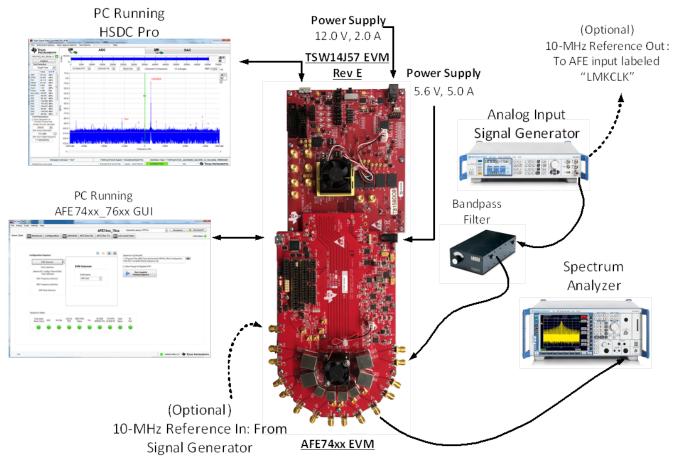


Figure 2. Test Setup

5



Software

3 Software

All required software are available for download at the following link:www.ti.com/licreg/docs/swlicexportcontrol.tsp?form_id=288371&prod_no=AFE7422-DESIGN&ref_url=asc_dc_hsc

After completing the export control form, the link takes you to a list of additional application links. Click each link and follow the instructions to install the associated software. The following subsections provide additional installation instructions.

3.1 Install the High Speed Data Converter (HSDC) Pro Software

Click the link labeled *High Speed Data Converter Pro - Installer vx.x.exe* to download the latest version of the HSDC Pro software, where *vx.x* is the latest version number.

3.2 Install HSDC Pro Patch Files

- 1. Launch HSDCPro Patch vx.x.exe
- 2. As shown in Figure 3, copy and paste the following path into the program: C:\Program Files (x86)\Texas Instruments\High Speed Data Converter Pro
- 3. Press Next

	HSDCPro_Patch	
	Patch v4.90.01 High Speed Data Converter Pro	
	Please make sure that the High Speed Data Converter Pro GUI is not running before proceeding.	
7	If you installed HSDC Pro to a custom folder, then please select that folder below- else leave the path as is C:\Program Files (x86)\Texas Instruments\High Speed Data Converter Pro	
	Files that will be added/replaced Files that will be deleted Release notes	
	C:\Program Files (x86)\Texas Instruments\High Speed Data Converter Pro\Version_info.ini	3
	C:\Program Files (x86)\Texas Instruments\High Speed Data Converter Pro\14J57revE Details\ADC files\AFE7422_	1
	C:\Program Files (x86)\Texas Instruments\High Speed Data Converter Pro\14J57revE Details\ADC files\AFE7422_	
	C:\Program Files (x86)\Texas Instruments\High Speed Data Converter Pro\14J57revE Details\ADC files\AFE7422_	
	C:\Program Files (x86)\Texas Instruments\High Speed Data Converter Pro\14J57revE Details\ADC files\AFE7422_	
	C:\Program Files (x86)\Texas Instruments\High Speed Data Converter Pro\14J57revE Details\ADC files\AFE7/22_	
	C:\Program Files (x86)\Texas Instruments\High Speed Data Converter Pro\14J57revE Details\ADC files\AFE7422_	
	C:\Program Files (x86)\Texas Instruments\High Speed Data Converter Pro\14J57revE Details\ADC files AFE7444_	
	*This patch is only applicable to HSDC EVM GUI version: 4.9 Next Exit	

Figure 3. HSDCPro Patch v4.90.01

3.3 Install the Configuration GUI Software

Launch *Setup_AFE74xx_76xx_EVM.exe* to download the AFE74xxEVM GUI software, and follow the instructions.



4 Setup

4.1 Connect the EVM and TSW14J57EVM

- Confirm that the power switch on the TSW14J57EVM is in the off position. Connect the power cable to a 12-V DC (minimum 3 A) power supply. Make sure the proper supply polarity by confirming that the outer surface of the barrel connector is GND and the inner portion of the connector is 12 V. Connect the power cable to the EVM power connector.
- Confirm that the power supply on the AFE74xxEVM is off. Connect the power cable to a 5.6-V DC (minimum 5 A) power supply.

4.2 Connect the Power Supplies

With the power off, connect the AFE74xxEVM to the TSW14J57EVM through the FMC connector, as shown in the test setup display of Figure 2. Make sure that the standoffs provide the proper height for robust connector connections.

4.3 Connect the Signal Generators

With the RF output signal generator disabled, connect a signal generator to the I_IN_A input of the AFE74xxEVM through a bandpass filter and attenuator at the SMA connector. This signal generator must be low noise. TI recommends a Trilithic-tunable bandpass filter to filter the signal from the generator. Configure the signal generator for 1730 MHz, -11 dBm.

4.3.1 Connect an External Clock (Optional)

- Connect a signal generator to the AFECLK input of the EVM through a bandpass filter. Do not power on until instructed. This signal generator must be a low-noise signal generator. TI recommends a Trilithic-tunable bandpass filter to filter the signal coming from the generator. Configure the signal generator for the desired clock frequency in the range of 0.8 GHz to 9 GHz. For best performance when using an RF signal generator, the power input to the CLK SMA connector must be 18 dBm. The signal generator must increase above 18 dB by an amount equal to any additional attenuation in the clock signal path, such as the insertion loss of the bandpass filter. For example, if the filter insertion loss is 2 dB, the signal generator must be set to 18 dBm + 2 dB = 20 dBm.
- 2. Connect the 10-MHz reference out signal from the signal generator used to clock the AFE74xxEVM to the LMKCLK input of the EVM.

4.4 Connect the Spectrum Analyzer

- 1. Connect a spectrum analyzer to the I_OUTA output of the EVM with an SMA cable.
- 2. Set the center frequency of the spectrum analyzer to 1710 MHz with a span of 50 MHz to 100 MHz.

4.5 Turn On the TSW14J57EVM Power Supply and Connect to the PC

- 1. Turn on the power switch of the TSW14J57EVM.
- 2. Connect a mini-USB cable from the PC to the TSW14J57EVM
- 3. If this is the first time connecting the TSW14J57EVM to the PC, follow the onscreen instructions to automatically install the device drivers. See the *TSW14J57EVM user's guide* for specific instructions.

4.6 Turn On the AFE74xxEVM Power Supply and Connect to the PC

- 1. Turn on the 5-V power supply to power up the EVM.
- 2. Connect the EVM to the PC with the mini-USB cable.

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5 Programming

For the cases in this section, mode 4 is used. Other modes can be used following the same steps. See Table 1 for a list of modes.

5.1 Program the TSW14J57EVM

- 1. Open the HSDC Pro software. Your screen should look like Figure 4.
- 2. Click *OK* to confirm the serial number of the TSW14J57EVM device. If multiple TSWxxxx boards are connected, select the model and serial number of the board connected to the AFE74xxEVM 3.
- 3. When prompted, click Yes to update the firmware.

File Inst	strument	Options D	ata Captu	ire Option	s Test O	ptions	Device G	UI Optio	ns Help													
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]																			

Figure 4. HSDC Pro GUI Connecting to the TSW14J57EVM

5.2 Send Tone

- 1. Navigate to the DAC tab.
- 2. Select the ini file from the drop-down menu, and then select the *AFE74xx_TX_Mode_4* file, as shown in Figure 5).
- 3. Enter the DAC output data rate, which is 737.28M for mode 4. This number must be equal to sample rate of the DAC divided by the interpolation factor.
- 4. Enter the following parameters to generate two tones, as shown in Figure 5.
 - Tone BW = 5 M
 - # = 2
 - Tone Center = 10 M
 - Tone Selection = complex
- 5. Press Create Tones
- 6. Press Send after the LMK is programmed through the AFE74xx GUI

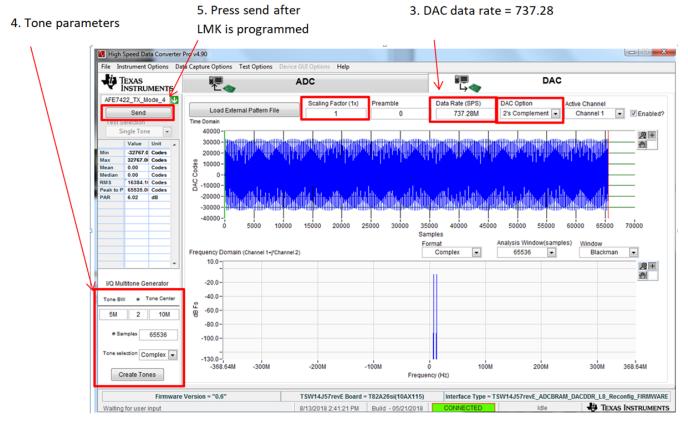


Figure 5. HSDC Pro DAC Tone Setup

Programming



Programming

5.3 Clock Modes

- 5.3.1 External Clock Mode
- 5.3.1.1 Hardware Adjustments for External Clock Mode
 - **NOTE:** To use the external clock, move jumper JP9 to position 1-2. Jumper JP9 is located near the AFE74xxEVM power supply, and is circled in yellow in Figure 6.

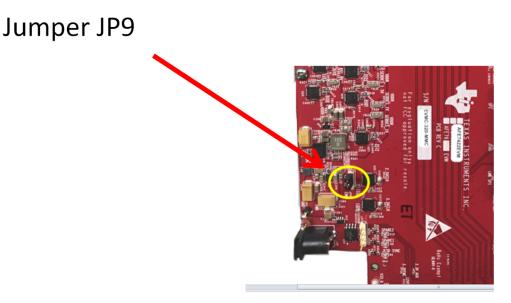


Figure 6. Location of Jumper J9 Circled in Yellow

- 1. Place the external clock signal at the AFE EXT CLK SMA input, as shown in Figure 7. Make sure the frequency of this signal matches the desired DAC clock frequency. Set the signal power to 20 dBm.
 - **NOTE:** Do not power on the external clock signal generator until after the LMK is programmed.

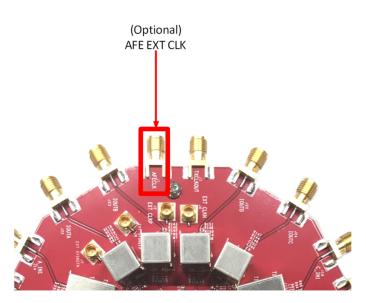


Figure 7. AFE External Clock-In (AFECLK) Location



2. Place the 10-MHz reference out signal from the signal generator that is providing the DAC clock, and connect the signal to the LMK CLKIN SMA connector. Figure 8 shows this connector highlighted by a red box.

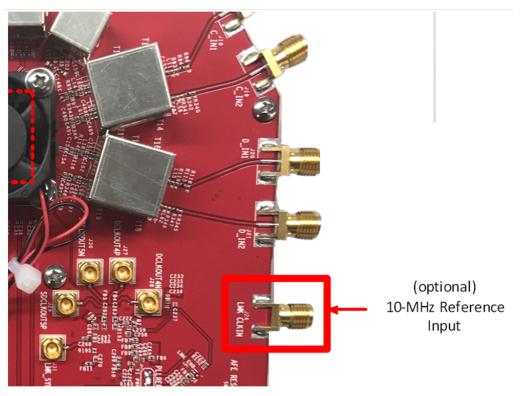


Figure 8. Optional Reference Clock Source Input Location



5.3.1.2 Program the AFE74xxEVM in External Mode

- **NOTE:** To use an external clock, make sure JP9 is moved to position 1-2 (see Figure 6) and verify that AFE CLK signal source is turned off.
- 1. Run the AFE74xx EVM _76xx GUI as administrator. The quick start page shown in Figure 9 appears.
- 2. Under *EVM Selection*, verify that the EVM name shown matches the EVM in operation, labeled as 2 in Figure 9

						AFE7	'4xx_76	XX	Select the	device AFE76xx		 Broadc 	ast	Reconnect	t?
Start Advance	ed Configu	ration	LMK0	428 AFE7	'6xx R)	AFE76x	X TX	Low Lo	evel View					USB Statu	•
Intern D4	ion Sequence EVM Selection Clock Selection I PLL config / Ext Clock Selectio Clock Selectio C Frequency Sele C Frequency Sele AFE Mode Select	n n ection ection		EVM Sele	Name			C F	Show Popu	file path les (dél)(Texas Instruu plete Startup Sequer o for Register R/W? tun Complete artup Sequence	ment:\AFE74xx	76xx\Configurat	ion		
Sequence Chip Efuse		RX DSA	AGC & TDD	JESD SYNC Status	PLL	RX JESD SERDES CFG	TX PATH & JESD RX	Calib Status	RX Perf						

Figure 9. EVM Selection Page

- 3. Navigate to the Clock Selection page, labeled as 3 in Figure 10
- 4. Under the CLK Option drop-down menu, select External CLK, labeled as 4 in Figure 10.

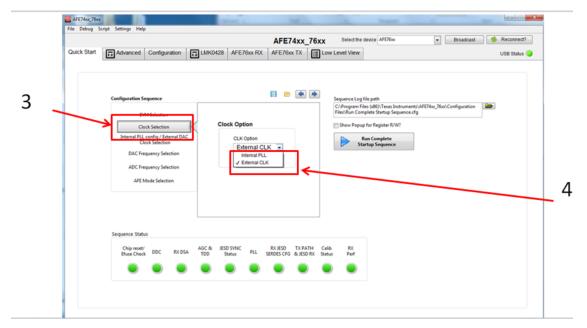


Figure 10. External Clock Selection Page



- 5. Navigate to the Internal PLL config / External DAC Clock Selection page, labeled as 5 in Figure 11.
- 6. As shown by label 6 in Figure 11, type in 8847.36 and press enter.

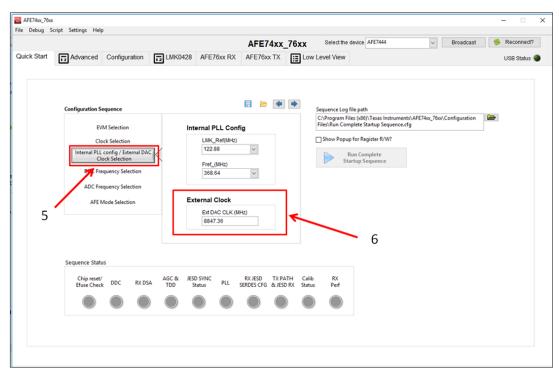
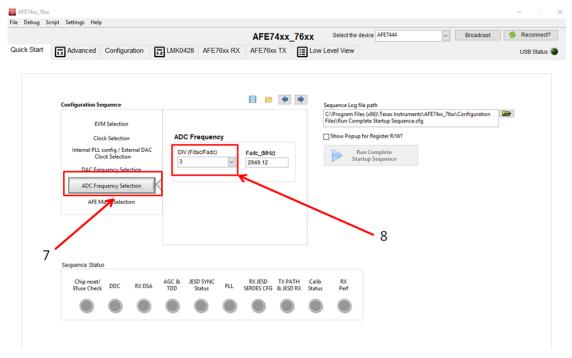


Figure 11. External DAC Clock Selection

- 7. Navigate to the ADC Frequency Selection page, labeled as 7 in Figure 12.
- 8. Select a DIV value of 3, labeled as 8 in Figure 12.

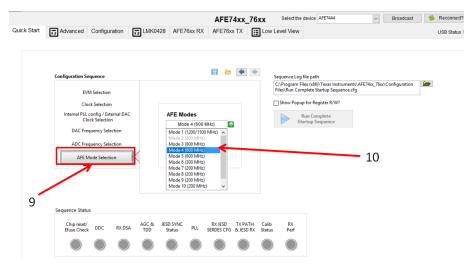






9. Navigate to the AFE Mode Selection page, labeled as 9 in Figure 13.

The AFE EVM Mode Selection page displays a list of the potential AFE74xxEVM configurations based on the previously selected inputs (Fdac, Fadc, and so on). The number displayed by the name is the digital bandwidth that the mode supports. Hover over the modes to see the details of each configuration, such as JESD204b settings, interpolation, decimation factor, and more. The grayed-out modes are not available.



10. Select Mode 4 (600 MHz), labeled as 10 in Figure 13.

Figure 13. AFE Mode Selection Page

- 11. Click the Set Mode button, labeled as 11 in Figure 14. Set Mode initializes the AFE74xxEVM and programs the LMK for the selected mode. Verify that the LMK on the EVM is locked by checking that LED D7 titled *LMK Lock* is illuminated.
 - a. Turn on the AFE external clock signal generator.
 - b. Navigate back to HSDC Pro and click Send, labeled as 5 in Figure 5.
- 12. Click *Run Complete Startup Sequence*, labeled as 12 in Figure 14. *Run Complete Startup Sequence* begins to program the AFE74xxEVM when pressed. Programming the AFE74xx EVM only takes a couple of seconds.

SAFE74xx_76x0																- 0
File Debug S	cript Settings Help)														
							AFE7	4xx_70	5xx	Select the d	levice AFE7444		~	Broadcast	- 参	Reconne
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	EV	M Selection								C:\Program File Files\Run Comp	es (x86)\Texas Ins plete Startup Seq	truments\Al uence.cfg	FE74xx_76xx	Configuration		
	Clo	ck Selection								Show Popup	for Register R/W	?				
		config / Extern	al DAC		AFE Mo	des				R	un Complete					
		ock Selection quency Selecti			Mod	le 4 (600	MHz)			Star	rtup Sequence					
	ADC Fre	quency Selecti	ion			Set Mo	de			12						
	AFE N	Aode Selection			_											
						11										
	Sequence Statu															
	Sequence statu	15														
	Chip reset/ Efuse Check	DDC		AGC & JE TDD	SD SYNC Status	PLL	RX JESD SERDES CFG	TX PATH & JESD RX	Calib Statu							
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13. After this process is complete, navigate to Section 5.4, and read on from there.

5.3.2 Internal PLL Clock Mode

- 1. Run the AFE74xx EVM _76xx GUI as administrator. The quick-start page shown in Figure 15 appears.
- 2. Under EVM Selection, verify that the EVM name matches the EVM in operation, shown by label 2 in Figure 15.

							AFE7	4xx_76	xx	Select the	device AFE76xx		•	Broadc	ast	🔅 Reconn	ect?
T Adv	anced (Configur	ration (E LMKO	428 AFE7	'6xx RX	AFE76x	(TX	Low l	evel View						USB Sta	tus 🧿
Config	uration Seg	uence					8 🖻	•		equence Log f						_	
Int	Clock ternal PLL co Clock DAC Frequ ADC Frequ	k Selection Iency Sele	ernal DAC n ection		EVM Sele	Name	Y	←		Files\Run Com	es (x86)\Texas Ins plete Startup Seq of Register R/W un Complete rrtup Sequence	uence.cfg	E74xx_76xx\	Configurati	ion		
c	nce Status hip reset/ use Check	DDC	RX DSA	AGC & TDD	JESD SYNC Status	PLL	RX JESD SERDES CFG	TX PATH & JESD RX	Calib Status	RX Perf							
					•					•							

Figure 15. Quick-Start Page

- 3. Navigate to the *Clock Selection* page, labeled as 3 in Figure 16. The *Clock Selection* page determines whether to clock the AFE74xxEVM with an external clock or use the internal PLL.
- 4. Select Internal Clock under the CLK Option drop-down menu, labeled as 4 in Figure 16.



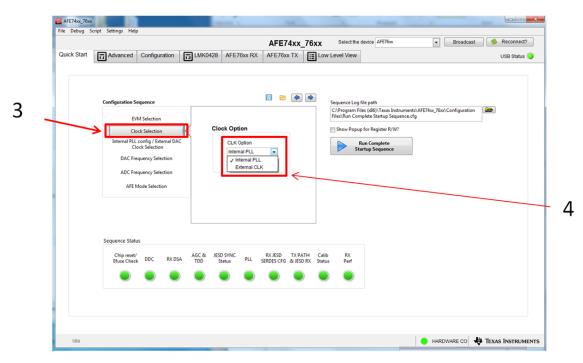


Figure 16. Clock Selection Page

5. Navigate to the AFE Mode Selection page, labeled as 5 in Figure 17.

The *AFE Mode Selection* page displays a list of potential AFE74xxEVM configurations based on the selected Fdac and Fadc in the previous pages labeled *DAC Frequency Selection* and *ADC Frequency*. The number displayed by the name is the digtal bandwidth that the mode supports. Hover over the modes to see the details of each configuration, such as JESD204b settings, interpolation, decimation factor, and so on. The grayed-out modes are not available.

6. Select Mode 4, shown as label 6 in Figure 17.

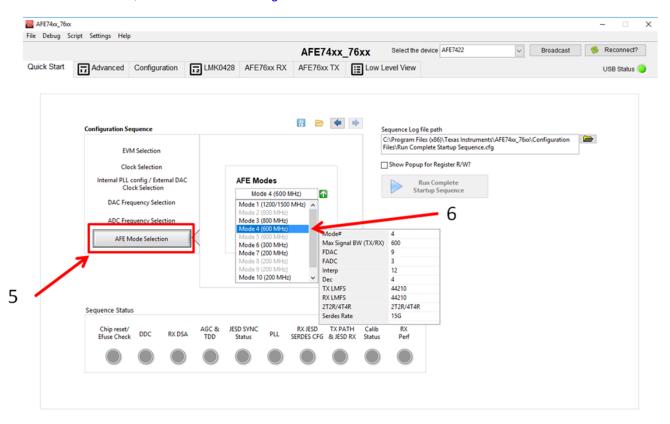


Figure 17. AFE Mode Selection Page Displaying Mode 4



- After the GUI is finished programming, click Set Mode, labeled as 7 in Figure 18. Set Mode initializes the AFE74xxEVM and programs the LMK for the selected mode. Verify that the LMK on the EVM is locked by checking that LED D7 titled LMK Lock is illuminated.
- 8. Navigate back to HSDC Pro and click Send, labeled as 5 in Figure 5
- Click Run Complete Startup Sequence, labeled as 8 in Figure 18. Run Complete Startup Sequence begins to program the AFE74xx EVM when pressed. Programming the AFE74xxEVM takes only a couple of seconds.

						4xx_76x		the device AFE/422			
Advanced	Configurati	ion 🔁	LMK0428	AFE76xx R	X AFE76xx	TX 🔢	Low Level Vie	w			
Clo Internal PLL Clo	equence M Selection ck Selection config / Extern ock Selection quency Selecti		A	FE Modes Mode 4 (60	10 MHz)	•	C:\Program Files\Run (og file path n Files (x88)\Texas Instrur Complete Startup Sequen opup for Register R/W? Run Complete Startup Sequence	ments\AFE74xx_76xx\ ce.cfg	Configuration	
	quency Selection		7	Set N	lode			8			
AFE N	Node Selection		AGC & JESE	Set N	RX JESD SERDES CFG		Calib RX Status Perf	8			

Figure 18. Set Mode and Run Complete Startup Sequence

At this point, green LEDs D6 and D7 are lit. D6 indicates that PLL loop 1 of the LMK04828 is locked. D7 indicates that PLL loop 2 of the LMK04828 is locked. The EVM is still functional without PLL loop 1 running, but PLL loop 2 is necessary for successful bringup.

- If PLL loop 1 is not running, check the 10-MHz reference. This is needed to achieve signal coherency with the signal generators and spectrum analyzer.
- If PLL loop 2 is not locked, contact TI applications for additional support.



5.4 Verify DAC Output on Spectrum Analyzer

Verify that the DAC is outputting two-tones centered at 1710 MHz apart and spaced 5 MHz apart on spectrum analyzer, as shown in Figure 19.

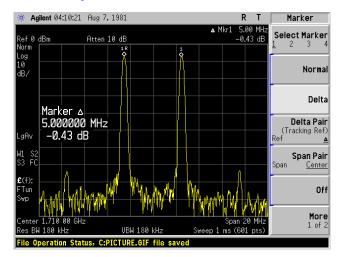


Figure 19. Two-Tone DAC Output Centered at 1710 MHz and Spaced 5 MHz Apart

5.4.1 AFE74xxEVM DAC Troubleshooting

- 1. If you do not see tones on the output, navigate back to the HSDC pro window and click the send button again. Check to see if the tones are now visible on the spectrum analyzer
- 2. If Step 1 does not work, navigate to the advanced panel in the GUI labeled 1 in Figure 20. Click the buttons labeled 2, 3, and 4 in that order. These buttons manually force a handshake of the JESD204B204B links. Check to see if the tones are now visible on the spectrum analyzer.

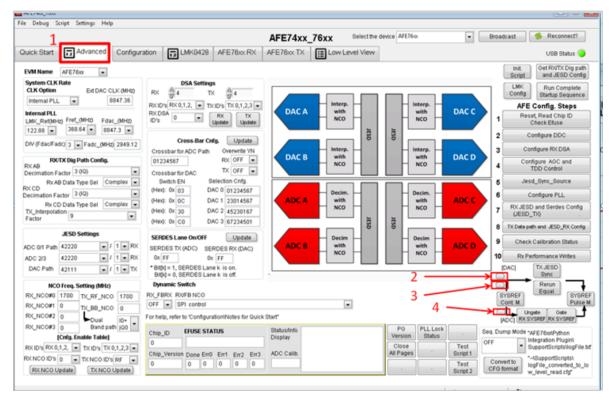


Figure 20. Troubleshooting the AFE74xxEVM DAC



Programming

5.5 Capture Tone

- 1. Switch back to the HSDC Pro window, select the *ADC* tab, and select the *AFE74xx_RX_Mode_4* file, shown as label 1 in Figure 21.
- 2. In the drop-down list that shows Real FFT selected by default, select the Complex FFT option.
- 3. Click the settings (gear) button located next to the ADC Output Data Rate field, and fill in the following parameters:
 - a. Check the enable box (label 2 in Figure 21)
 - b. ADC Sampling Rate = 2.94912G (label 3 in Figure 21)
 - c. ADC Input Frequency = 1.73G (label 4 in Figure 21)
 - d. NCO = -1.7G (label 5 in Figure 21)
 - e. Decimation = 4 (label 6 in Figure 21)
 - f. Press OK.
- 4. Verify that the ADC output data rate is 737.28M.
- 5. Click the Capture button located below the displayed ini file in Figure 21)

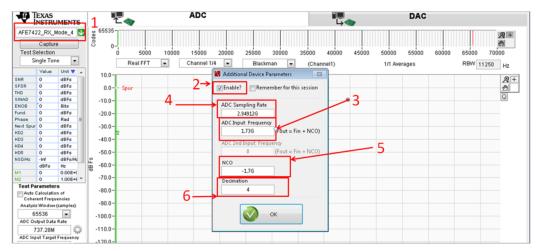


Figure 21. HSDC Pro ADC Settings

6. Verify that the tone is centered at 30 MHz, as shown in Figure 22.

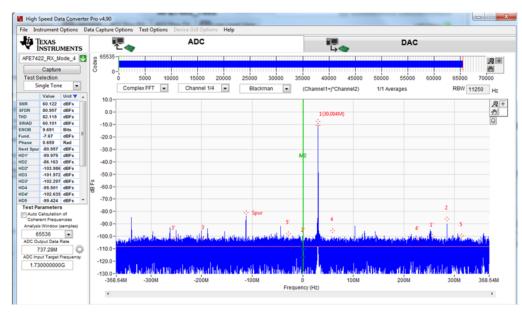


Figure 22. Tone Capture Centered at 30 MHz



5.6 AFE74xx NCO and DSA Settings

Figure 23 shows where the NCO and DSA settings are located in the GUI.



Figure 23. NCO and DSA Settings Location

5.6.1 Adjusting NCO

After a successful capture, the RX NCO can be adjusted using the *Advanced* tab. To change the RF frequency, enter a number in the *RX_RF_NCO* box, and click on the *RX NCO Update* button, shown in Figure 24.

NCO Freq. Setting (MHz)											
RX_NCO #0	1700	TX_RF_NCO	1700								
RX_NCO #1	0	TX_BB_NCO	0								
RX_NCO #2	0		AB 🖵								
RX_NCO #3	0	> TX Path									
	[Cnfg. Er	able Table]									
RX ID's RX 0,	1,2,3 💌	TX ID's TX 0,1	L,2,3 💌								
RX NCO 0 ID's	•	TX NCO ID's RF	•								
RX NCO Update TX NCO Update											

Figure 24. NCO Adjustment Settings



Programming

5.6.2 Adjusting DSA

After a successful capture, the RXDSA can be adjusted on *Advanced* tab page. To lower the RX power, enter a number at the RX DSA box, and click on the *RX Update* button shown in Figure 25. The RX DSA has a range of 0 dB to 28 dB in 1-dB steps each. Enter the numbers in a dB scale.

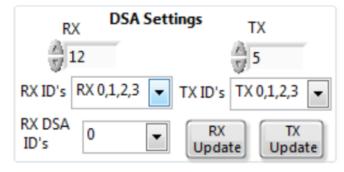


Figure 25. DSA Adjustment Settings

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- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
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