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Evaluation Board Document

NE5550979A-EV09-A

Evaluation Board

- o Circuit Description
- o Typical Performance Data
- o Circuit Schematic and Assembly Drawing

Circuit Description

The NE5550979A-EV09-A is an evaluation circuit board for Renesas' power LDMOS FET, NE5550979A optimized for the performance at 915MHz. The circuit board is RoHS compliant.

Matching and Bias Circuits

Both input and output matching networks consist of shunt capacitors and sections of transmission lines (refer to the schematic and assembly drawing on the last page of this document for the component designation). The input matching is tuned for good input return loss while the output matching is for high saturation power. The electrical lengths of the transmission lines labeled on the schematic are estimated and for reference only. Some bench tuning on the actual circuit board is usually required to achieve the optimal performance. The PCB used is a CEL's standard circuit board for power device of 79A package. The lengths of traces labeled TL1 and TL7 are not critical and can be shortened. So the actual circuit size for a 900MHz application can be smaller than that of this evaluation circuit board.

LDMOSFETs essentially draw no gate current under normal operation conditions. Therefore a large value resistor, in the order of $k\Omega$, can be used for the bias at gate so that the RF path is completely isolated from the DC line. At the drain an inductor is used as the RF choke. The current rating for this inductor should be high enough to provide the required current at the operation conditions.

Bias Conditions

This evaluation board was optimized at a specific drain voltage, 7.5V. For different supply voltages, the matching circuits should be adjusted to fully utilize the device capability. The quiescent current is 200mA for the data shown below. The gain is higher at higher quiescent currents, particularly when the device is not completely saturated. For many communication systems, where the PA is never at idle state, a high quiescent current might be used.

PCB Material:

The PCB is Getek 28mil two layer board. The dielectric constant of Getek is 4.2.

Typical Performance Data

Test Conditions:

f=915MHz

Vd=7.5V, Idsq=200mA

Pout, Gain, PAE and Current vs Pin are shown in the following plot.



