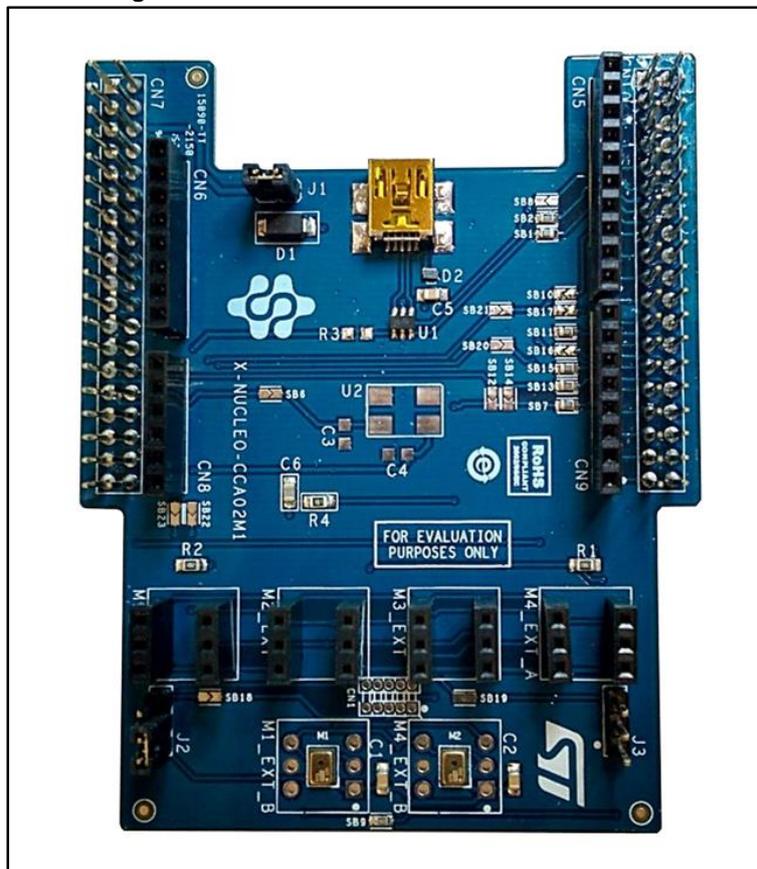


Getting started with the digital MEMS microphones expansion board based on MP34DT01-M for STM32 Nucleo

Introduction

The X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 is an evaluation board based on digital MEMS microphones. It is compatible with the Morpho connector layout and is designed around STMicroelectronics MP34DT01-M digital microphones. It has two microphones soldered on board and it is compatible with digital microphone coupon boards such as STEVAL-MKI129Vx and STEVAL-MKI155Vx. The X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 allows synchronized acquisition and streaming of up to 4 microphones through peripherals I²S, SPI or DFSDM. It represents a quick and easy solution for the development of microphone-based applications, as well as a starting point for audio algorithm implementation.

Figure 1: X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 evaluation board



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1 Getting started

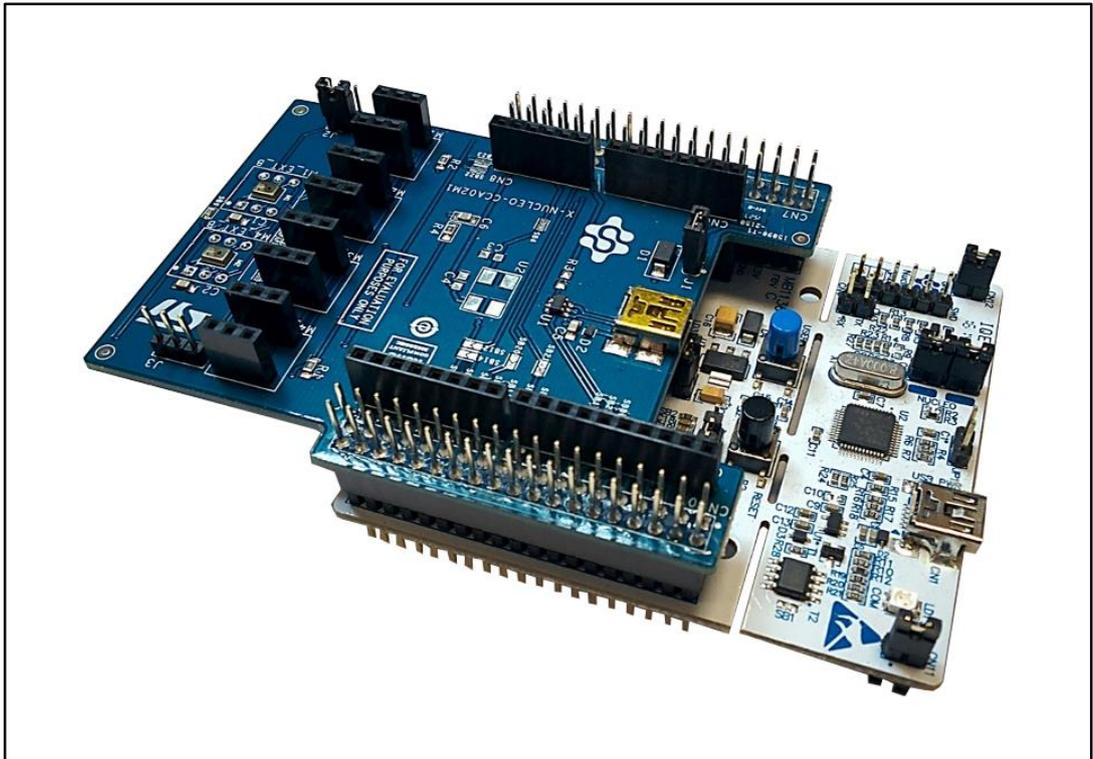
This section describes the hardware requirements for the X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 evaluation board.

1.1 Hardware requirements

The X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 is an expansion board for use with STM32 Nucleo boards (refer to UM1724 on www.st.com for further information).

The STM32 Nucleo board must be connected to the X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 board, as shown in [Figure 2: "X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 on STM32 Nucleo board"](#).

Figure 2: X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 on STM32 Nucleo board



The connection between the STM32 Nucleo and the X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 is designed for use with any STM32 Nucleo board. When mounting the X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 on the STM32 Nucleo, ensure that all the pins are aligned with their corresponding connector. It is very important to handle both boards carefully during this operation to avoid damaging or bending the male/female pins and connectors.

ESD prevention measures must also be implemented to avoid damaging any X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 board components.

2 System requirements

Using the Nucleo boards with the X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 expansion board requires the following software and hardware:

- a Windows® (XP, Vista, 7, 8) PC for the software
- a USB type A to Mini-B USB cable to connect the Nucleo to the PC for installation of the board firmware package (order code: X-CUBE-MEMSMIC1); a utility running on the user's PC will complete the demo.

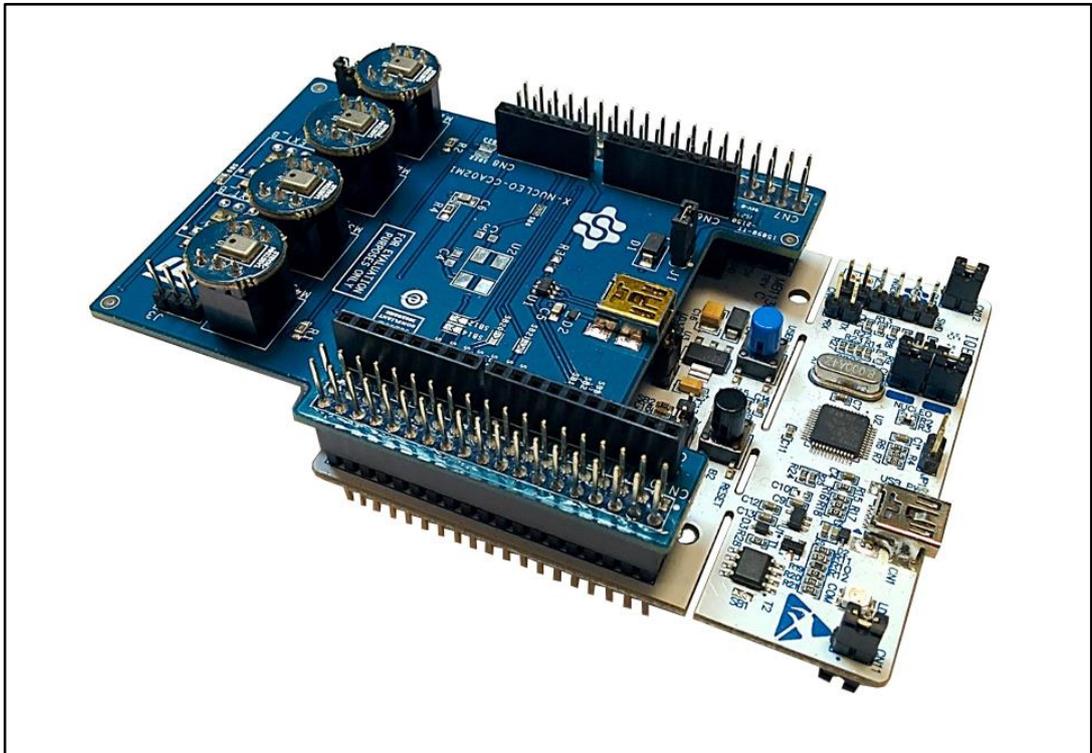
The user's PC must have the following characteristics:

- at least 128 MB of RAM
- 40 MB of available hard disk space for the X-CUBE-MEMSMIC1 firmware package and relative documentation, available on www.st.com.

3 Hardware description

The board allows the user to test the function of the STMicroelectronics MEMS microphones. For this purpose two MP34DT01-M digital MEMS microphone are mounted on the board and 6 headers (4 mounted with 2 additional footprints) are available for connecting additional microphones using digital microphone coupon boards (STEVAL-MKI129Vx or STEVAL-MKI155Vx), for further information refer to www.st.com. The connection between the X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 and the STEVAL-MKI155V1 is shown in [Figure 3: "Connection with STEVAL-MKI155V1"](#). The board interfaces with the STM32 Nucleo microcontrollers via the I²S, SPI or DFSDM peripherals for the synchronized acquisition of up to 4 microphones. The board also provides USB streaming using the STM32 Nucleo microcontroller USB peripheral; for this purpose, a USB connector is available as well as the footprint to mount a dedicated oscillator that can be used to feed the host MCU through the OSC_IN pin. Solder bridges are used in order to choose from different options, depending on the number of microphones and the MCU peripherals involved.

Figure 3: Connection with STEVAL-MKI155V1



3.1 Nucleo 144 support

In order to accept Nucleo-144 boards, morpho header connectors must be soldered on the relevant footprint available on the Nucleo.



A pair of 2 x 38 pin stripline is enough to plug the expansion board, so it is not necessary to solder the whole 2 x 80 pin header.

3.2 USB connector and power source

A USB connector available on the board supports audio streaming to the host PC. It can also be used to power the whole system, Nucleo board included. To enable system power sourcing from the X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 expansion board USB connector:

- close Jumper J1 on the X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 expansion board
- place JP5 in position E5 on the STM32 Nucleo board

3.3 Audio acquisition strategy

This section summarizes the digital MEMS microphone acquisition strategies and principles used in the application. It can simplify the comprehension of the firmware structure and utilization.

A digital MEMS microphone can be acquired via different peripherals, such as SPI, I²S, GPIO or DFSDM. It requires an input clock and it outputs a PDM stream at the same frequency of the input clock. This PDM stream is further filtered and decimated for conversion into PCM standard for audio transmission. Two different digital MEMS microphones can be connected on the same data line, configuring the first to generate valid data on the rising edge of the clock and the other on the falling edge, by setting the L/R pin of each microphone accordingly. On the X-NUCLEO-CCA02M1 expansion board, two microphones share the same data line and can be managed differently, depending on the MCU capabilities.

If a DFSDM (Digital Filter for Sigma Delta Modulators) peripheral is available, the microphones can be routed to DFSDM channels, otherwise use the I²S peripheral (for the first and the second microphone) and SPI peripheral (for the third and the fourth).

3.3.1 DFSDM microphone acquisition

The DFSDM peripheral generates the precise clock needed by the microphones and reads the data on the rising and falling edges of each PDM line. Acquired signals are then input to DSFDM filters for hardware filtering and decimation to generate standard PCM streams.

An additional software high pass filtering stage performed removes any DC offset in the output stream. DMA is adopted in order to reduce MCU load.

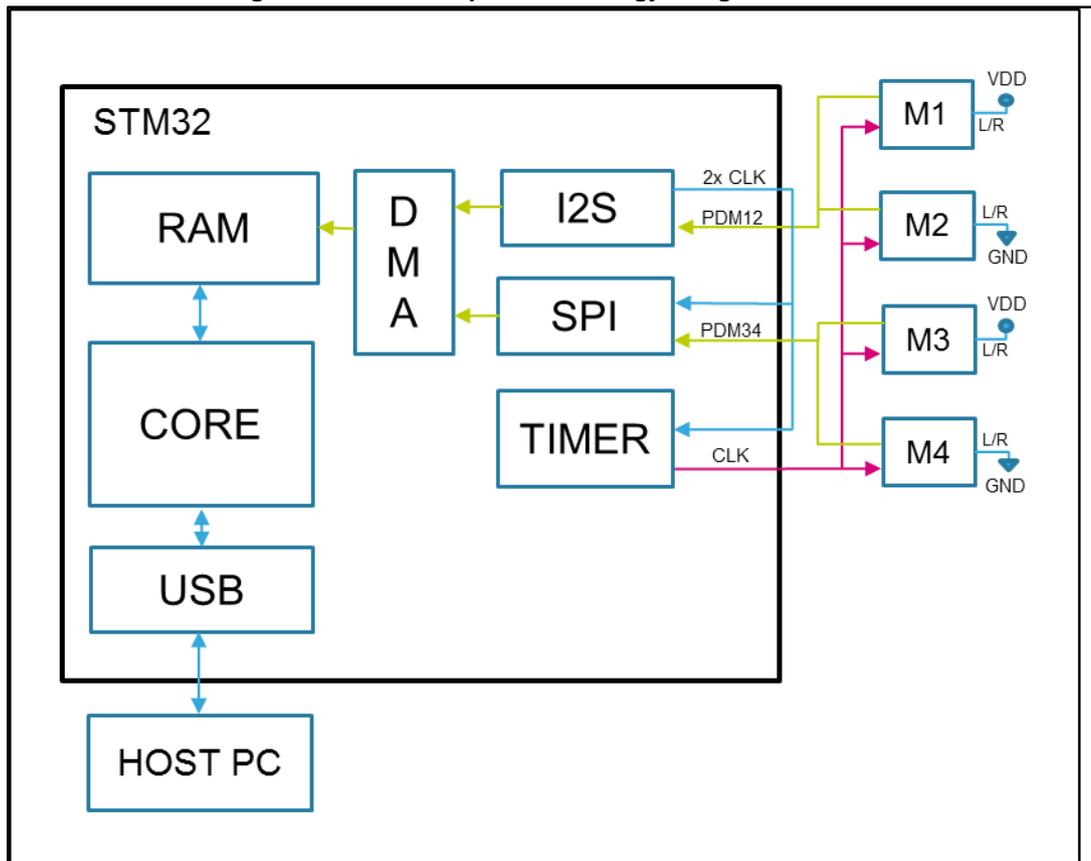
3.3.2 I²S and SPI microphone acquisition

In this scenario, a precise clock signal is generated by the I²S peripheral while the SPI is configured in slave mode and is fed by the same timing signal generated by I²S. This clock is then halved by a timer and input to the microphones. The SPI and I²S peripherals operate at twice the microphone frequency to read the data on both the rising and falling edges of the microphone clock, thus reading the bits of two microphones each.

A software demuxing step separates the signal from the two microphones and allows further processing like PDM-to-PCM conversion. The simplified block diagram summarizes this acquisition process.

For further information regarding MEMS microphone and PDM-to-PCM decimation, please refer to application note AN3998 on www.st.com.

Figure 4: General acquisition strategy using I²S and SPI



For single microphone acquisition, the correct microphone timer is generated directly by I²S and one single microphone data line is read by the same peripheral.

3.4 Solder bridge configurations

Various board configurations are possible, depending on the use cases. MEMS microphones can be plugged into ST morpho pins, and thus to MCU peripherals, using ad hoc solder bridges. Clock routing can also be changed according to specific needs. This section helps the user understand the role of each solder bridge and analyzes some of the more common use cases.

3.4.1 Solder bridge roles

In the table below, the solder bridge functions are summarized with respect to the audio acquisition strategies above.

Table 1: Solder bridge description

| Function | Solder Bridge |
|---|---------------|
| Connects USB DM pin from connector to MCU | SB1 |
| Connects USB DP pin from connector to MCU | SB2 |
| Routes onboard oscillator output to OSC_IN MCU pin | SB6 |
| Connect MEMS clock to MCU timer output channel | SB7 |
| Routes I ² S clock to SPI clock | SB8 |
| Merges onboard microphone PDMs in order to be acquired with 1 interface | SB9 |

| Function | Solder Bridge |
|---|---------------|
| Connects MIC34 PDM to MCU SPI | SB10 |
| Connects MIC12 PDM to MCU I2S | SB11 |
| Clock from the DFSDM peripheral | SB12 |
| I2S clock from MCU | SB13 |
| Connects I ² S clock directly to MIC clock without passing through timer | SB14 |
| Connect I ² S clock to MCU timer input channel | SB15 |
| Connects MIC12 PDM to MCU DFSDM | SB16 |
| Connects MIC34 PDM to MCU DFSDM | SB17 |

3.4.2 Sample use cases

In this section, we analyze specific use cases together with the corresponding solder bridge configurations. Custom setups are also possible for ad-hoc functionalities. Note that SB1, SB2, SB6 are reserved for the USB or Oscillator pins and are not part of the audio acquisition process. These configurations depend on the acquisition peripherals involved. This section is divided according to the two possible scenarios: I²S plus SPI or DFSDM peripherals used.

3.4.2.1 Jumper settings for DFSDM-based systems

1 or 2 microphone acquisition

The clock is generated by DFSDM peripheral and the PDM line of the first and second microphone is routed to the MCU.

Table 2: Solder bridge configuration for 1 or 2 microphone acquisition

| SB | Status |
|------|------------|
| SB7 | Open |
| SB8 | Open |
| SB9 | Open/Close |
| SB10 | Open |
| SB11 | Open |
| SB12 | Close |
| SB13 | Open |
| SB14 | Open |
| SB15 | Open |
| SB16 | Close |
| SB17 | Open |
| SB18 | Open |
| SB19 | Open |
| SB20 | Open |
| SB21 | Open |

In addition, J2 must be placed in position 1-2 for on-board microphone acquisition or 2-3 when using an external microphone while J3 must be left open. When acquiring on-board microphones, close SB9 to acquire both of them.

4 microphone acquisition

In this case, the PDM line of the third and fourth microphone is also routed to the MCU.

Table 3: Solder bridge configuration for 4 microphone acquisition

| SB | Status |
|------|--------|
| SB7 | Open |
| SB8 | Open |
| SB9 | Open |
| SB10 | Open |
| SB11 | Open |
| SB12 | Close |
| SB13 | Open |
| SB14 | Open |
| SB15 | Open |
| SB16 | Close |
| SB17 | Close |
| SB18 | Open |
| SB19 | Open |
| SB20 | Open |
| SB21 | Open |

In addition, J2 and J3 must be placed in position 2-3 for external microphone acquisition.

3.4.2.2 Jumper settings for I²S-plus-SPI-based systems

1 microphone acquisition

The I²S peripheral is used directly to give the right clock to the microphone and thus acquires the same microphone. For this use case, you need the following SB configuration.

Table 4: Solder bridge configuration for 1 microphone acquisition

| SB | Status |
|------|--------|
| SB7 | Open |
| SB8 | Open |
| SB9 | Open |
| SB10 | Open |
| SB11 | Close |
| SB12 | Open |
| SB13 | Close |
| SB14 | Close |
| SB15 | Open |

| SB | Status |
|------|--------|
| SB16 | Open |
| SB17 | Open |
| SB18 | Open |
| SB19 | Open |
| SB20 | Open |
| SB21 | Open |

In addition, J2 must be placed in position 1-2 for on-board microphone acquisition or 2-3 when using an external microphone, while J3 must be left open. If using external microphones, do not plug anything in `M2_EXT` header.

2 microphone acquisition

In this case, the I²S peripheral is used to generate twice the frequency needed by the microphones. In this scenario, the clock is then halved by the timer and routed to the microphones to give them the right clock. I²S therefore reads values from both edges of the merged PDM lines. For this use case you need the following SB configuration:

Table 5: Solder bridge configuration for 2 microphone acquisition

| SB | Status |
|------|-------------|
| SB7 | Close |
| SB8 | Open |
| SB9 | Open /Close |
| SB10 | Open |
| SB11 | Close |
| SB12 | Open |
| SB13 | Close |
| SB14 | Open |
| SB15 | Close |
| SB16 | Open |
| SB17 | Open |
| SB18 | Open |
| SB19 | Open |
| SB20 | Open |
| SB21 | Open |

In addition, J2 must be placed in position 1-2 for on-board microphone acquisition or 2-3 when using external microphones, while J3 must be left open. When acquiring on-board microphones, close SB9 to acquire both of them.

4 external microphone acquisition

In this case, the I²S peripheral is used to generate a clock frequency that is twice the frequency needed by the microphones, and SPI is configured in slave mode in order to use such timing. As in the previous case, the clock is then halved by the timer and routed to the

microphones to give the right clock. I²S and SPI read values from both the edges of the merged PDM lines. For this use case you need the following SB configuration:

Table 6: Solder bridge configuration for 4 microphone acquisition

| SB | Status |
|------|--------|
| SB7 | Close |
| SB8 | Close |
| SB9 | Open |
| SB10 | Close |
| SB11 | Close |
| SB12 | Open |
| SB13 | Close |
| SB14 | Open |
| SB15 | Close |
| SB16 | Open |
| SB17 | Open |
| SB18 | Open |
| SB19 | Open |
| SB20 | Open |
| SB21 | Open |

In addition, J2 and J3 must be placed in position 2-3 for external microphone acquisition.



Other configurations are available, based on the MCU used.

4 Connectors

The pin assignments for the Arduino UNO R3 and the Morpho connectors are shown in [Table 7: "Morpho connector table"](#) and [Table 8: "Arduino connector table"](#) respectively.

Table 7: Morpho connector table

| Connector | Pin | Signal | Remarks |
|-----------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| CN7 | 1 | MIC_CLKx2 | If SB20 is close |
| | 3 | MIC_PDM34 | If SB20 is close |
| | 6 | E5V | |
| | 12 | 3V3 | |
| | 16 | 3V3 | |
| | 18 | 5V | |
| | 20 | GND | |
| | 22 | GND | |
| | 24 | V_IN | |
| | 29 | OSC_CLK_OUT | If SB6 is close |
| 35 | MIC_CLK_NUCLEO | If SB12 is close | |
| CN10 | 11 | MIC_CLKx2 | If SB8 is close |
| | 12 | OTG_FS_DP_NUCLEO | If SB1 is close |
| | 14 | OTG_FS_DM_NUCLEO | If SB2 is close |
| | 15 | MIC_PDM34 | If SB10 is close |
| | 25 | MIC_PDM34 | If SB17 is close |
| | 26 | MIC_PDM12 | If SB11 is close |
| | 27 | MIC_CLKx2 | If SB15 is close |
| | 28 | MIC_PDM12 | If SB16 is close |
| | 29 | MIC_CLK_NUCLEO | If SB7 is close |
| | 30 | MIC_CLKx2 | If SB13 is close |

Table 8: Arduino connector table

| Connector | Pin | Signal | Remarks |
|-----------|-----|----------------|------------------|
| CN6 | 2 | 3V3 | |
| | 4 | 3V3 | |
| | 5 | 5V | |
| | 6 | GND | |
| | 7 | GND | |
| | 8 | V_IN | |
| CN5 | 6 | MIC_CLKx2 | If SB8 is close |
| | 4 | MIC_PDM34 | If SB10 is close |
| CN9 | 7 | MIC_PDM34 | If SB17 is close |
| | 6 | MIC_CLKx2 | If SB15 is close |
| | 5 | MIC_CLK_NUCLEO | If SB7 is close |

Figure 7: Board schematic (Part 3)

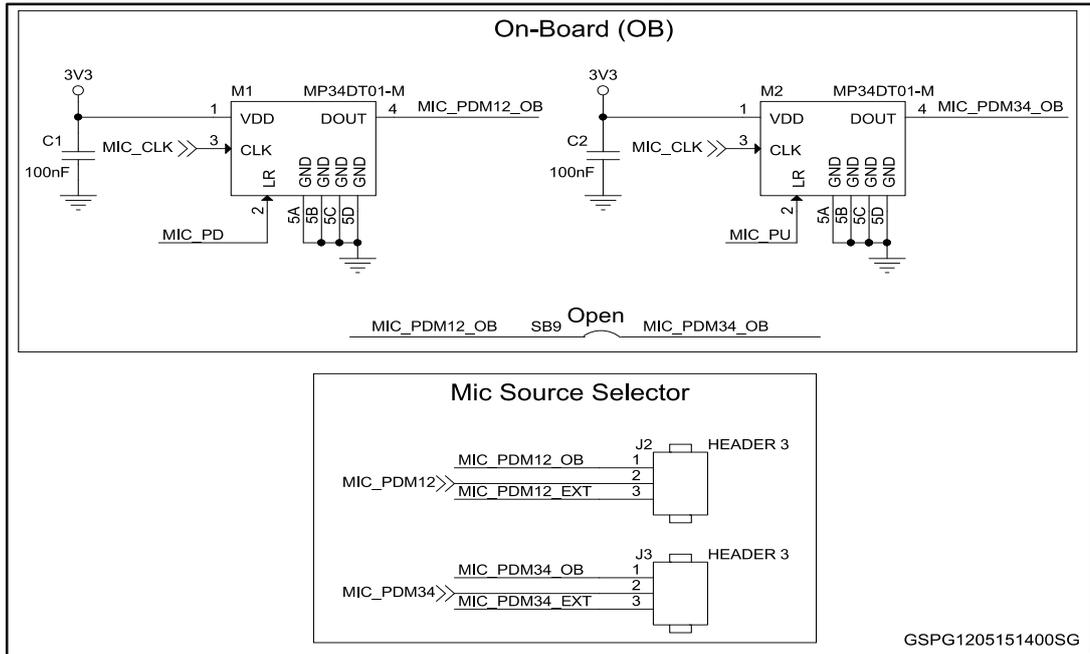
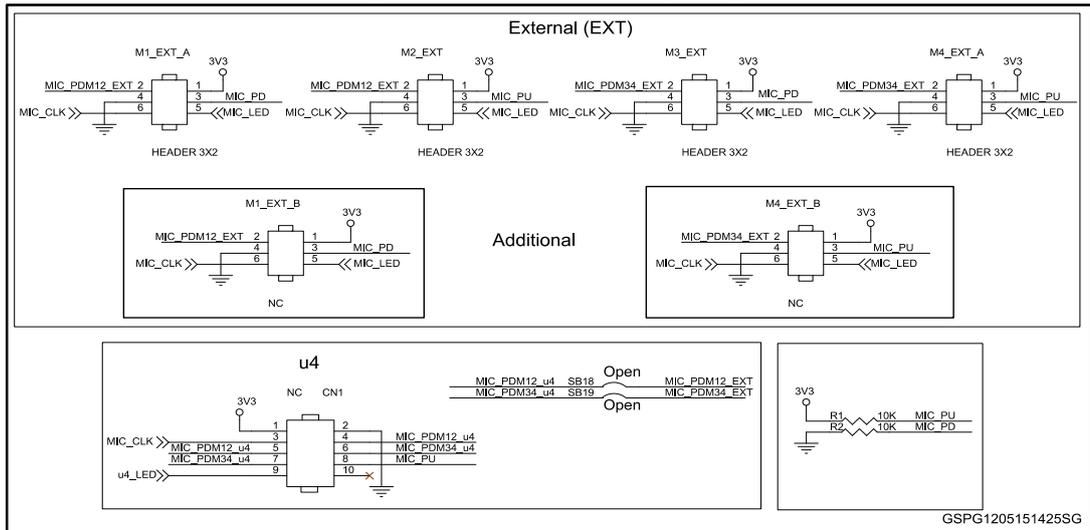


Figure 8: Board schematic (Part 4)



6 Layout

Figure 9: Top layout

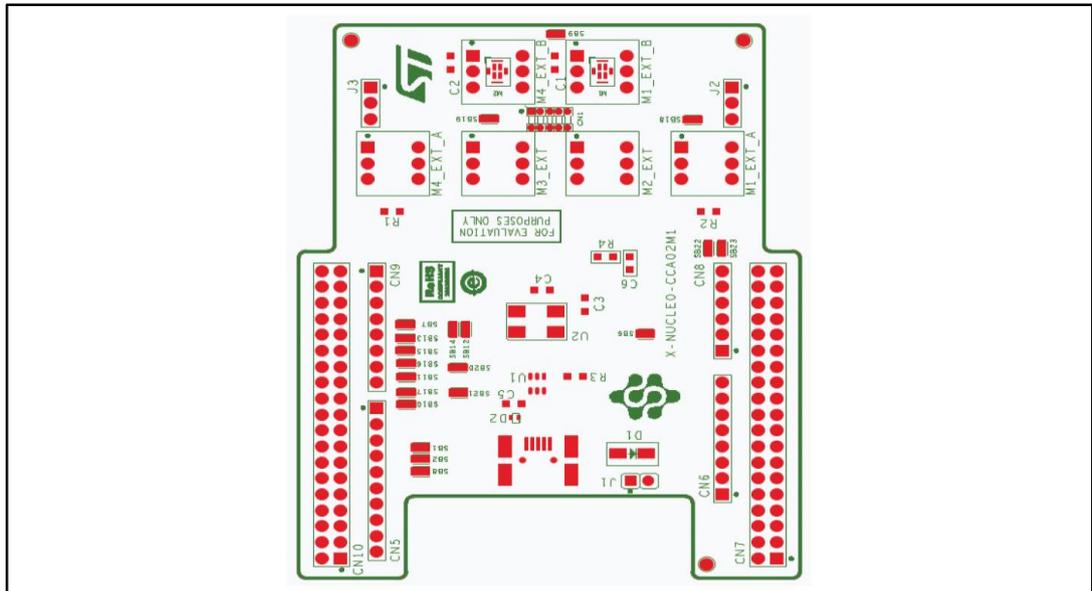
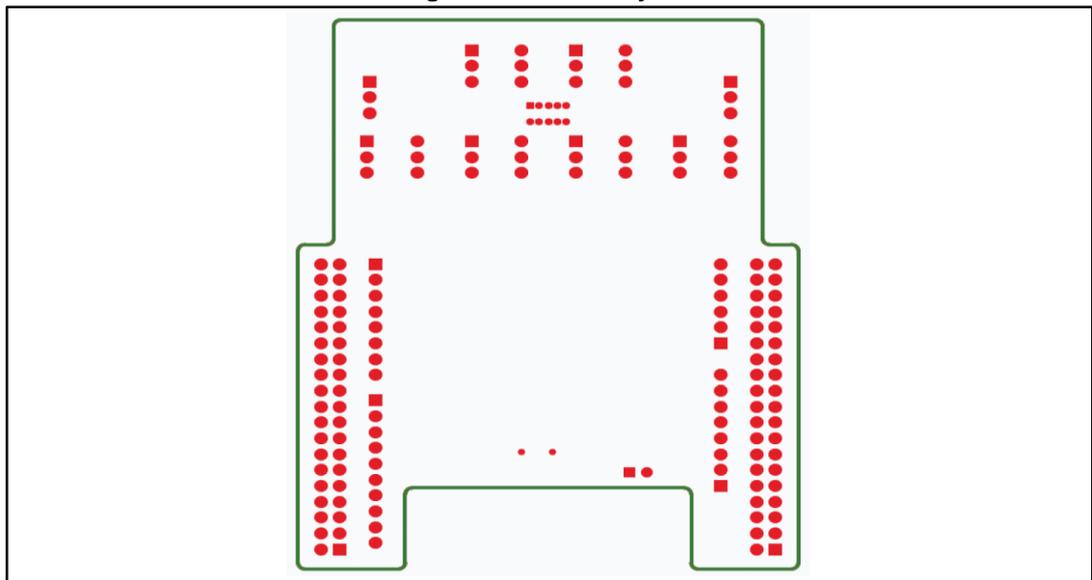


Figure 10: Bottom layout



7 Revision history

Table 9: Document revision history

| Date | Revision | Changes |
|-------------|----------|--|
| 28-May-2015 | 1 | Initial release. |
| 28-Jan-2016 | 2 | Minor text edits throughout document Updated Section "Introduction" Updated Section 3.3: "Audio acquisition strategy" Updated Section 3.4: "Solder bridge configurations" |
| 14-Jul-2016 | 3 | Added Section 3.1: "Nucleo 144 support" |

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