

gram filters and other components of the encoding module 342, decoding module 352, pre-decoding module 350 and RF front end 346 in accordance with the particular RFID standardized protocol of the user interface devices currently communicating with the millimeter wave transceiver 29. However, if communication device 10 or 30 operates in accordance with a single protocol, this flexibility can be omitted. One or more of the protocol processing module 340, encoding module 342, digitization module 348, decoding module 352, and pre-decoding module 350 can be implemented via a shared baseband processing module 190.

[0068] In operation, once the particular protocol has been selected for communication by communication device 10 or 30, the protocol processing module 340 generates and provides digital data to be communicated to the millimeter wave transceiver 121 to the encoding module 342 for encoding in accordance with the selected protocol. This digital data can include commands to power up the millimeter wave transceiver 121, to read user data or other commands or data used by the remote RFID devices 109 or 111 or communication device 10 or 30 in association with its operation. By way of example, but not limitation, the RFID protocols may include one or more line encoding schemes, such as Manchester encoding, FM0 encoding, FM1 encoding, etc. Thereafter, in the embodiment shown, the digitally encoded data is provided to the digital-to-analog converter 344 which converts the digitally encoded data into an analog signal. The RF front-end 346 modulates the analog signal to produce an RF signal at a particular carrier frequency that is transmitted via antenna 360 to one or more remote RFID devices 109 or 111. Antenna 360, when implemented as part of RF IC 50 or 70 can be a on-chip coil such as a near-field coil or other antenna.

[0069] The RF front-end 346 further includes transmit blocking capabilities such that the energy of the transmitted RF signal does not substantially interfere with the receiving of a back-scattered or other RF signal received from one or more remote RFID devices 109 or 111 via the antenna 360. Upon receiving an RF signal from one or more user remote RFID devices 109 or 111, the RF front-end 346 converts the received RF signal into a baseband signal. The digitization module 348, which may be a limiting module or an analog-to-digital converter, converts the received baseband signal into a digital signal. The predecoding module 350 converts the digital signal into an encoded signal in accordance with the particular RFID protocol being utilized. The encoded data is provided to the decoding module 352, which recaptures data, such as user data 102 therefrom in accordance with the particular encoding scheme of the selected RFID protocol. The protocol processing module 340 processes the recovered data to identify the object(s) associated with the user interface device(s) and/or provides the recovered data to the server and/or computer for further processing.

[0070] Millimeter wave transceiver 121 includes a power generating circuit 240, an oscillation module 244, a processing module 246, an oscillation calibration module 248, a comparator 250, an envelope detection module 252, an on-chip coil 262, a capacitor C1, and a transistor T1. The oscillation module 244, the processing module 246, the oscillation calibration module 248, can be implemented with separate components or in a shared baseband processing module, such as a baseband processing module 190.

[0071] In operation, the power generating circuit 240 generates a supply voltage (V_{DD}) from a radio frequency (RF) signal that is received via antenna 254. The power generating

circuit 240 stores the supply voltage V_{DD} in capacitor C1 and provides it to modules 244, 246, 248, 250, 252.

[0072] When the supply voltage V_{DD} is present, the envelope detection module 252 determines an envelope of the RF signal, which includes a DC component corresponding to the supply voltage V_{DD} . In one embodiment, the RF signal is an amplitude modulation signal, where the envelope of the RF signal includes transmitted data. The envelope detection module 252 provides an envelope signal to the comparator 250. The comparator 250 compares the envelope signal with a threshold to produce an inbound symbol stream.

[0073] The oscillation module 244, which may be a ring oscillator, crystal oscillator, or timing circuit, generates one or more clock signals that have a rate corresponding to the rate of the RF signal in accordance with an oscillation feedback signal. For instance, if the RF signal is a 900 MHz signal, the rate of the clock signals will be $n \times 900$ MHz, where "n" is equal to or greater than 1.

[0074] The oscillation calibration module 248 produces the oscillation feedback signal from a clock signal of the one or more clock signals and the stream of recovered data. In general, the oscillation calibration module 248 compares the rate of the clock signal with the rate of the stream of recovered data. Based on this comparison, the oscillation calibration module 248 generates the oscillation feedback to indicate to the oscillation module 244 to maintain the current rate, speed up the current rate, or slow down the current rate.

[0075] The processing module 246 receives the stream of recovered data and a clock signal of the one or more clock signals. The processing module 246 interprets the stream of recovered symbols to determine data, command or commands contained therein. The command may be to store data, update data, reply with stored data, verify command compliance, read user data, an acknowledgement, etc. If the command(s) requires a response, the processing module 246 provides a signal to the transistor T1 at a rate corresponding to the RF signal. The signal toggles transistor T1 on and off to generate an RF response signal that is transmitted via the antenna. In one embodiment, the millimeter wave transceiver 121 utilizes a back-scattering RF communication to send data that includes user data such as user data 102 or 103.

[0076] The millimeter wave transceiver 121 may further include a current reference (not shown) that provides one or more reference, or bias currents to the oscillation module 244, the oscillation calibration module 248, the envelope detection module 252, and the comparator 250. The bias current may be adjusted to provide a desired level of biasing for each of the modules 244, 248, 250, and 252.

[0077] FIG. 12 is a top view of a coil 330 in accordance with the present invention. As shown, the first turns 332 includes metal bridges 334 and 336 to couple various sections of the winding together. In particular a top view of coil 330, such as coil 360 and/or coil 262 is shown as included in a portion of RF IC 50 or 70. The first turn is on dielectric layer 338, while the metal bridges 334 and 336 are on a lower dielectric layer, which enables the first turns to maintain their symmetry. Optional removed dielectric sections 333 and 335 are shown that provides greater magnetic coupling to the second turns that are below. The removed dielectric sections 333 and 335 can be removed using a microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) technology such as dry etching, wet etching, electro discharge machining, or using other integrated circuit fabrication techniques. The remaining elements of the coil 330 can