



Application Software Pack: Power Optimized Wearables User Interface for the i.MX RT595

Lab Hand Out - Revision 1

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1 Lab Overview

The application in this lab showcases the power optimization techniques for a Voice UI use case. This lab covers how to run, customize, and profile this application. Lastly, it explains how to add power optimizations in your own application.

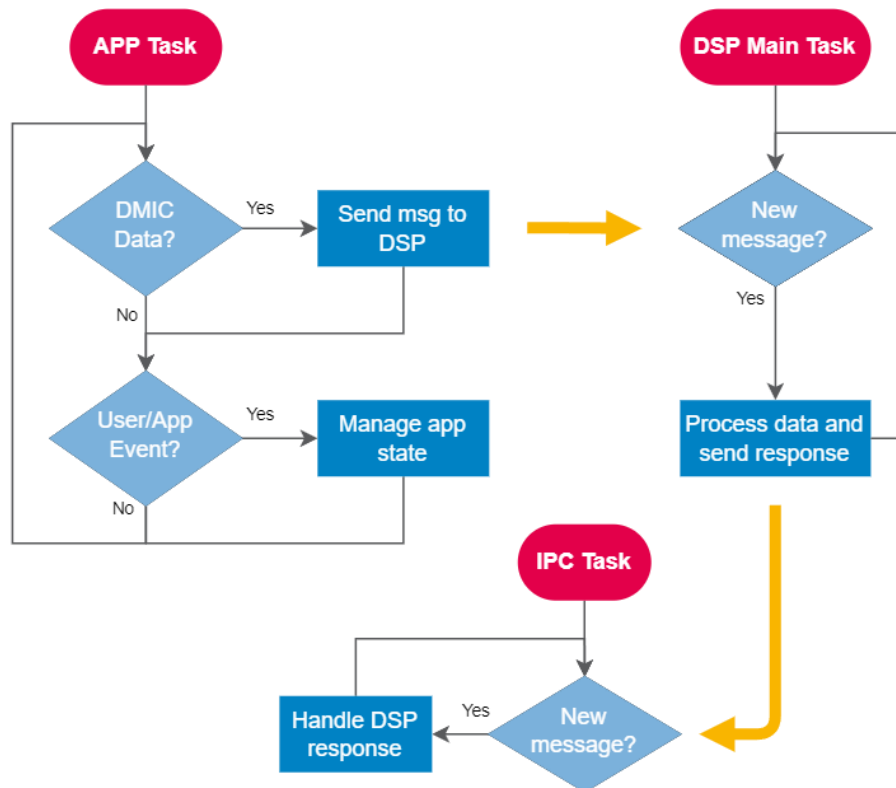
1.1 Application Description

The application first initializes the *main_clk* to use the 96 MHz FRO and sets the CPU divider to 8, meaning that the core frequency is set to 12 MHz. Next, it initializes the common peripherals used by all the application states, copies the DSP image from external Flash to SRAM and powers down the unused peripherals, including the Flash and runs the rest of the application from SRAM.

After initializing the necessary hardware, it launches the following tasks:

1. **[CM33] APP_Task:** Main application task to handle the user/application events and manage the current application state.
2. **[CM33] APP_DSP_IPC_Task:** Inter-processor communication (IPC) task to handle the DSP response messages.
3. **[CM33] APP_Idle:** Function called from the RTOS idle task to handle the power mode entry of the device.
4. **[DSP] DSP_Main:** DSP main task to handle the CM33 messages.

The general flow of the tasks is shown below.



2 Equipment

The following equipment is needed for this lab:

- [MIMXRT595-EVK](#)
- Micro-B USB cable
- [MCUXpresso IDE](#) V11.8.0+
- TeraTerm (or any other terminal emulator)
- Power measurement tool (optional)

3 Resources

The following are helpful resources for this lab:

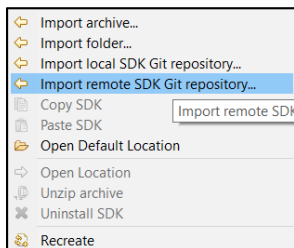
- [Software Pack Repository](#)
- Application Note [AN13758](#)

4 Import the App Software Pack Into MCUXpresso IDE

There are two methods to get the application software pack. This section will cover both options, but only one needs to be done. It is recommended to use the first option as it is more straight forward.

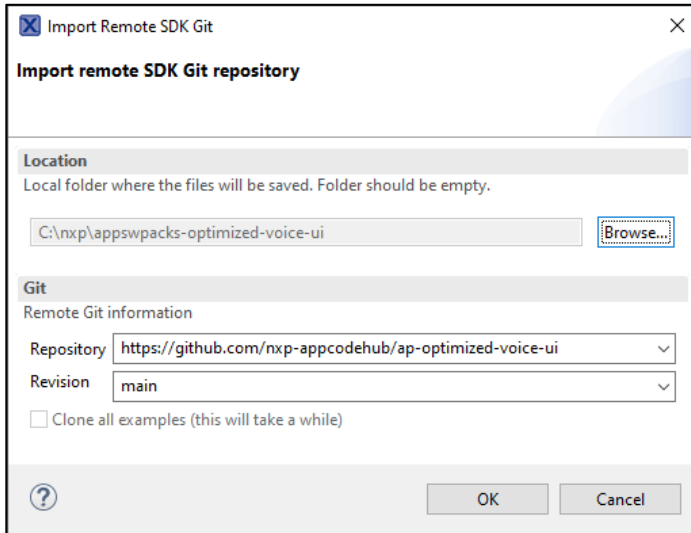
4.1 Option #1: Get the App Software Pack with MCUXpresso IDE

1. Open MCUXpresso IDE and select a workspace location in an empty directory.
2. Right click in the blank area of the **Installed SDKs** panel at the bottom and select **Import remote SDK Git repository...**

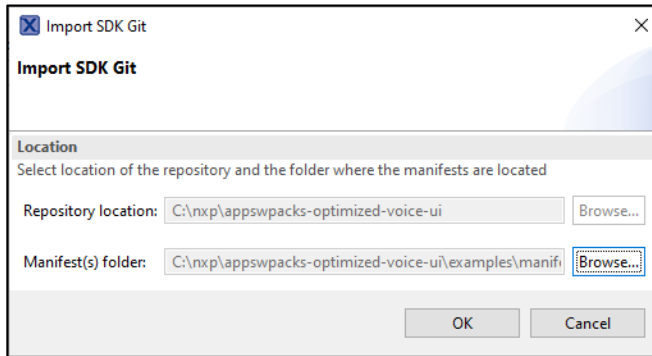


3. In the dialog box that comes up:
 - a) In the **Location** field, click on the Browse button and select or create an empty directory for the application software pack to be downloaded to. Make note of this location as it'll be used throughout this lab.
 - b) In the **Repository** field put: <https://github.com/nxp-appcodehub/ap-optimized-voice-ui>
 - c) In the **Revision** field put: **main**

Then hit **OK** to download the application software pack.

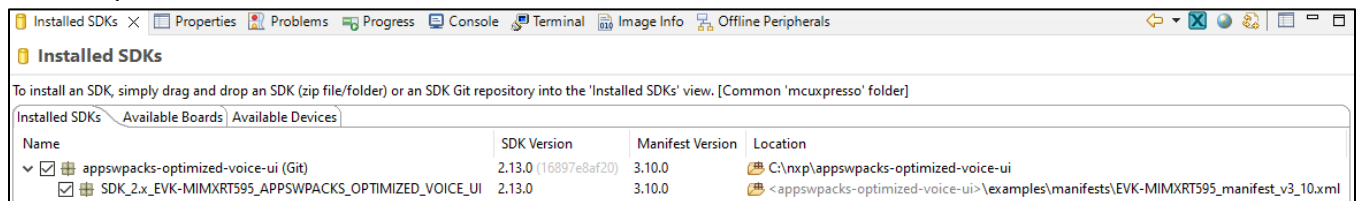


4. In the dialog box that comes up:
 - a) In the **Manifest(s) folder:** field, select the **manifests** folder under the **examples** folder.



Click **OK** to continue importing the application software pack.

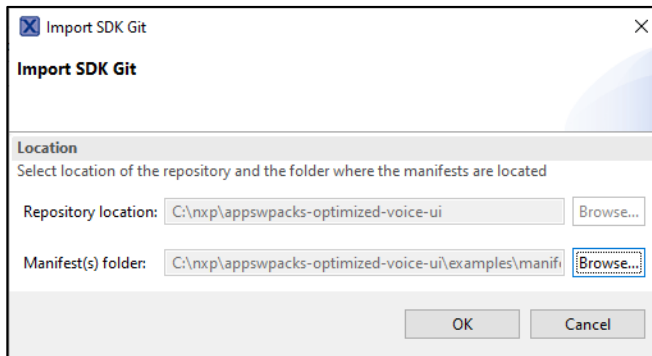
5. Once imported the Installed SDKs tab will look like this:



4.2 Option #2: Use the Command Line

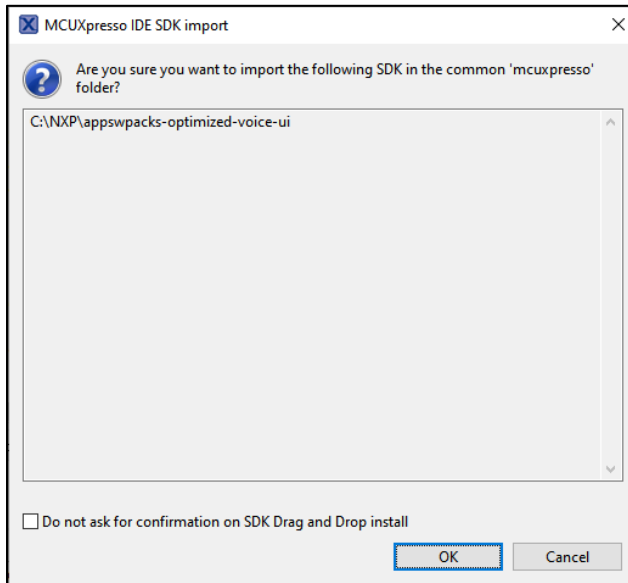
1. Open up a Windows command line and execute the following lines:

```
west init -m https://github.com/nxp-appcodehub/ap-optimized-voice-ui --mr main appswpacks_optimized_voice_ui
cd appswpacks_optimized_voice_ui
west update
```
2. Next open MCUXpresso IDE and select a workspace location in an empty directory.
6. Drag-and-drop the **\appswpacks_optimized_voice_ui** directory that was created in the previous step into the **Installed SDKs** window, located on a tab at the bottom of the screen named "Installed SDKs".
7. In the dialog box that comes up:
 - a) In the **Manifest(s) folder:** field, select the **manifests** folder under the **examples** folder.

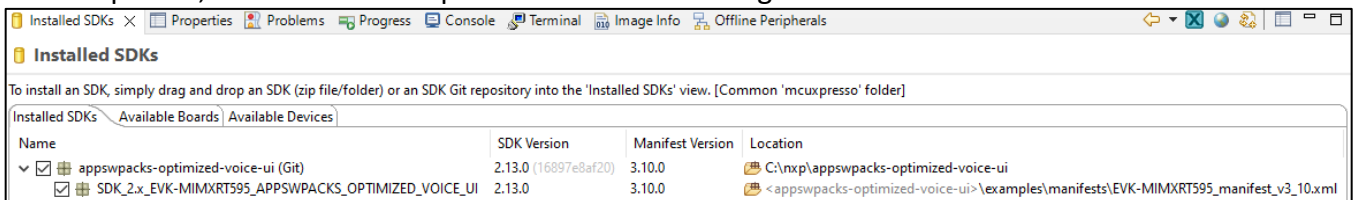


Click **OK** to continue importing the application software pack.

3. Click **OK** to confirm.



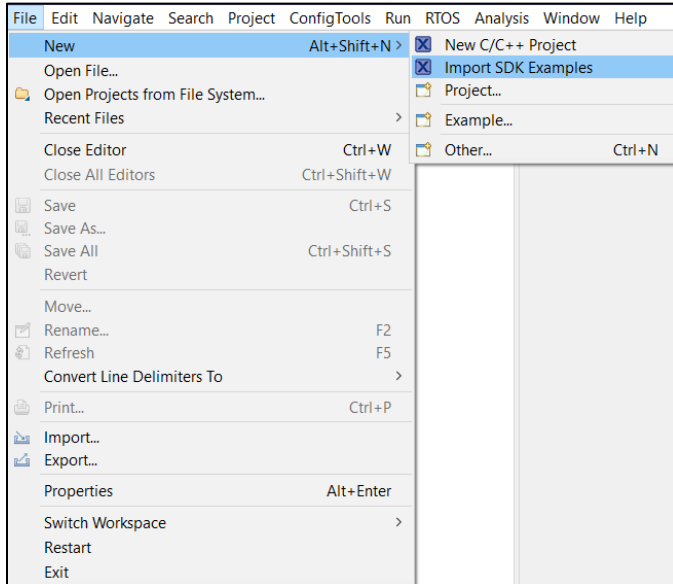
4. Once imported, the Installed SDK panel will look something like this:



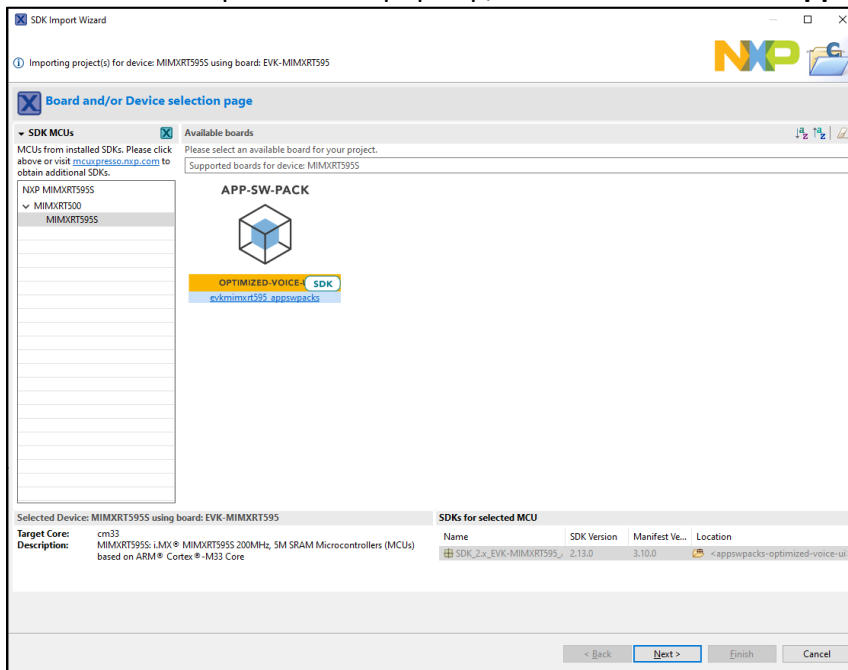
4.3 Importing the Project Into Your Workspace

Once you finish importing the Software Pack into the Installed SDKs, it is time to import the project into your workspace.

1. Go to **File -> New -> Import SDK Examples**

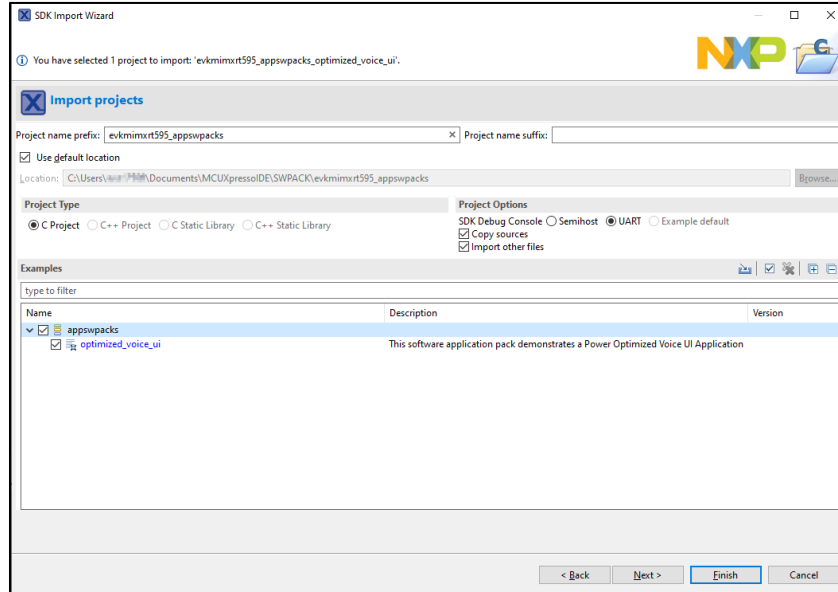


2. Once the SDK Import Wizard pops up, select **evkmimxrt595-appswpacks** and click **Next**

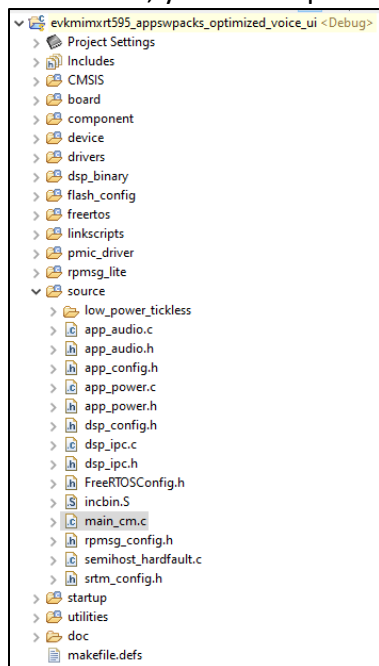


3. Check the **appswpacks** checkbox.
4. Check or Uncheck the **Copy sources** checkbox.
 - a. If checked, MCUXpresso will make copies of all project files and place them in your selected workspace directory.

- b. If unchecked, MCUXpresso will link the project files to the files in the repository that was cloned in the previous sections (i.e. appswpacks_optimized_voice_ui)



5. Click **Finish**.
6. Once done, your workspace should look like below.



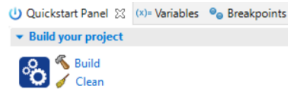
5 Running the Application

This section describes how to configure your EVK jumpers for the application and then walks you through the steps to build, flash, and run the application.

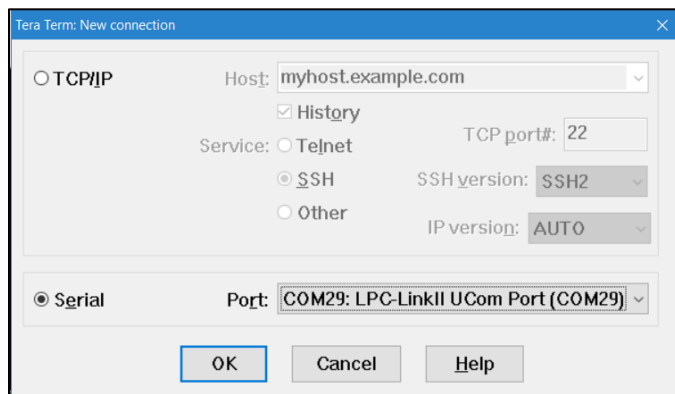
5.1 Building, Flashing, and Running

Once you finish configuring the EVK jumpers, you can build, flash, and run the application.

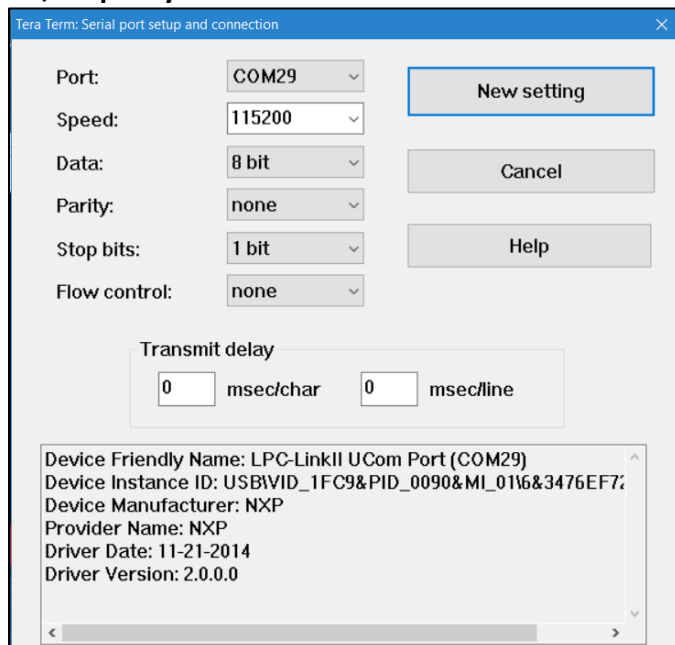
1. Build the project by clicking **Build** in the Quickstart Panel.



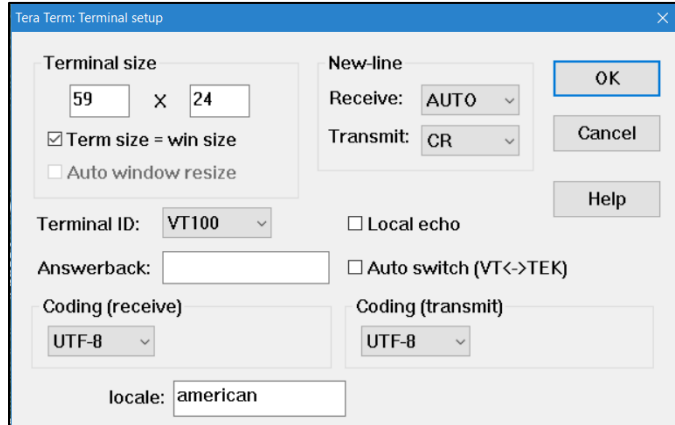
2. Once the build finishes, the output console should look like below.
3. Connect the micro-B USB cable to **J40** on the EVK.
4. Open TeraTerm or a different terminal emulator, and connect to the COM port belonging to the EVK.



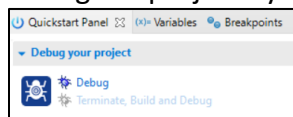
5. In TeraTerm, go to **Setup -> Serial Port** and configure the settings to use **115200 baud, 1 stop bit, no parity**.



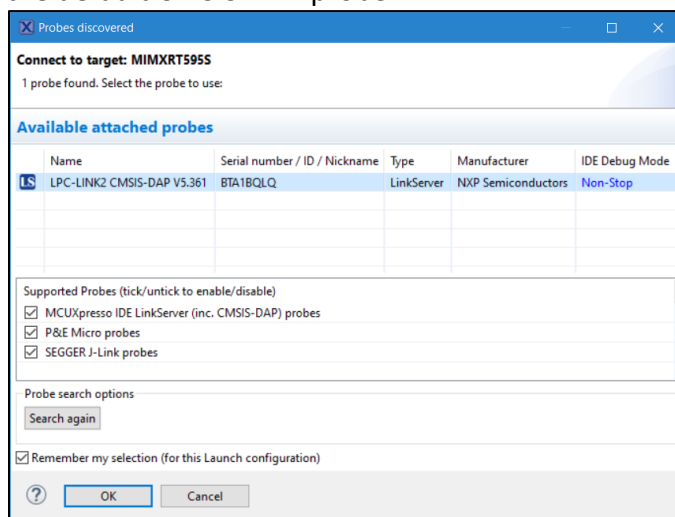
- In TeraTerm, go to **Setup -> Terminal** and change the **New-line Receive** to **Auto** or **LF**. This is necessary for the Coremark results to print correctly.



- Debug the project by clicking on **Debug** in the Quickstart Panel.



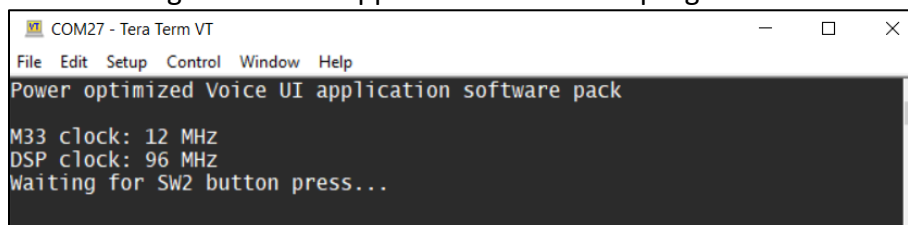
- It will ask what interface to use. Select the detected debug probe. The screenshot below shows the default CMSIS-DAP probe.



- The debugger will download the firmware and open up the debug view. Click on the Resume button to start running.



- The following text should appear in the terminal program.



6 Customizing the Application

There are several ways to customize the application to help you adapt to different application requirements. The following defines are located in **app_config.h**.

6.1 Enable/Disable the User Action state

You can disable the User Action state by setting **USER_ACTION_ENABLE** to 0.

6.2 Enable/Disable the HWVAD state

You can disable the User Action state by setting **HWVAD_ENABLE** to 0.

6.3 Enable/Disable the SWVAD state

You can disable the User Action state by setting **SWVAD_ENABLE** to 0.

6.4 Enable/Disable the audio buffering in HWVAD state

You can disable the audio buffering during the HWVAD state by setting **HWVAD_BUFFERING** to 0.

6.5 DMIC Clock source

The DMIC clock source can be selected from the 1 MHz low-power oscillator (LPOSC) or from the 96 MHz free-running oscillator (FRO). The FRO is selected when **DMIC_USE_FRO** is set to 1, otherwise the LPOSC is selected.

6.6 Timeout duration

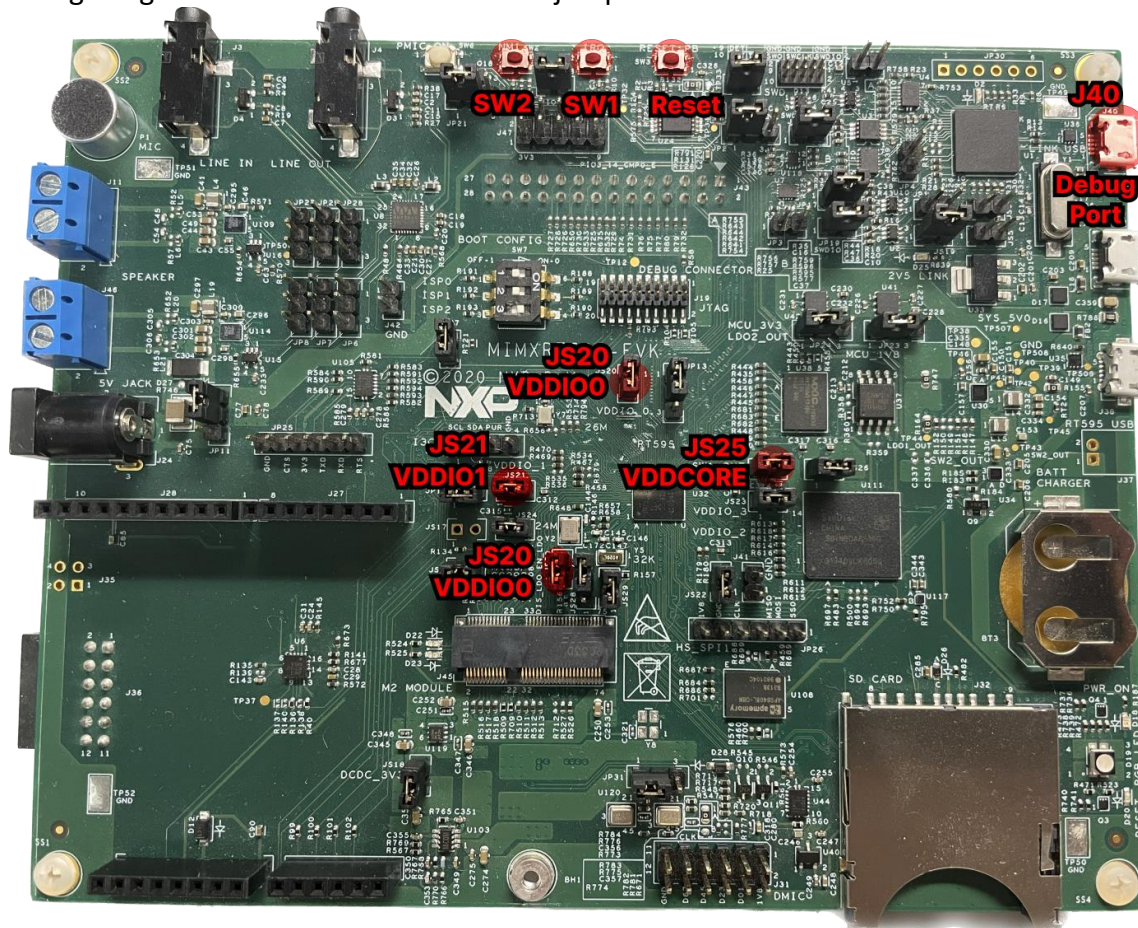
The timeout duration can be configured with the **TIMEOUT_SECS** macro definition.

7 Taking power measurements

The EVK has jumpers available to take power measurements on different power rails. The relevant power rails for this application software pack are the following:

- JS25: PMIC_SW1_OUT – VDDCORE
- JS30: PMIC_SW2_OUT - VDD1V8
- JS20: PMIC_SW2_OUT - VDDIO0
- JS21: PMIC_SW2_OUT - VDDIO1

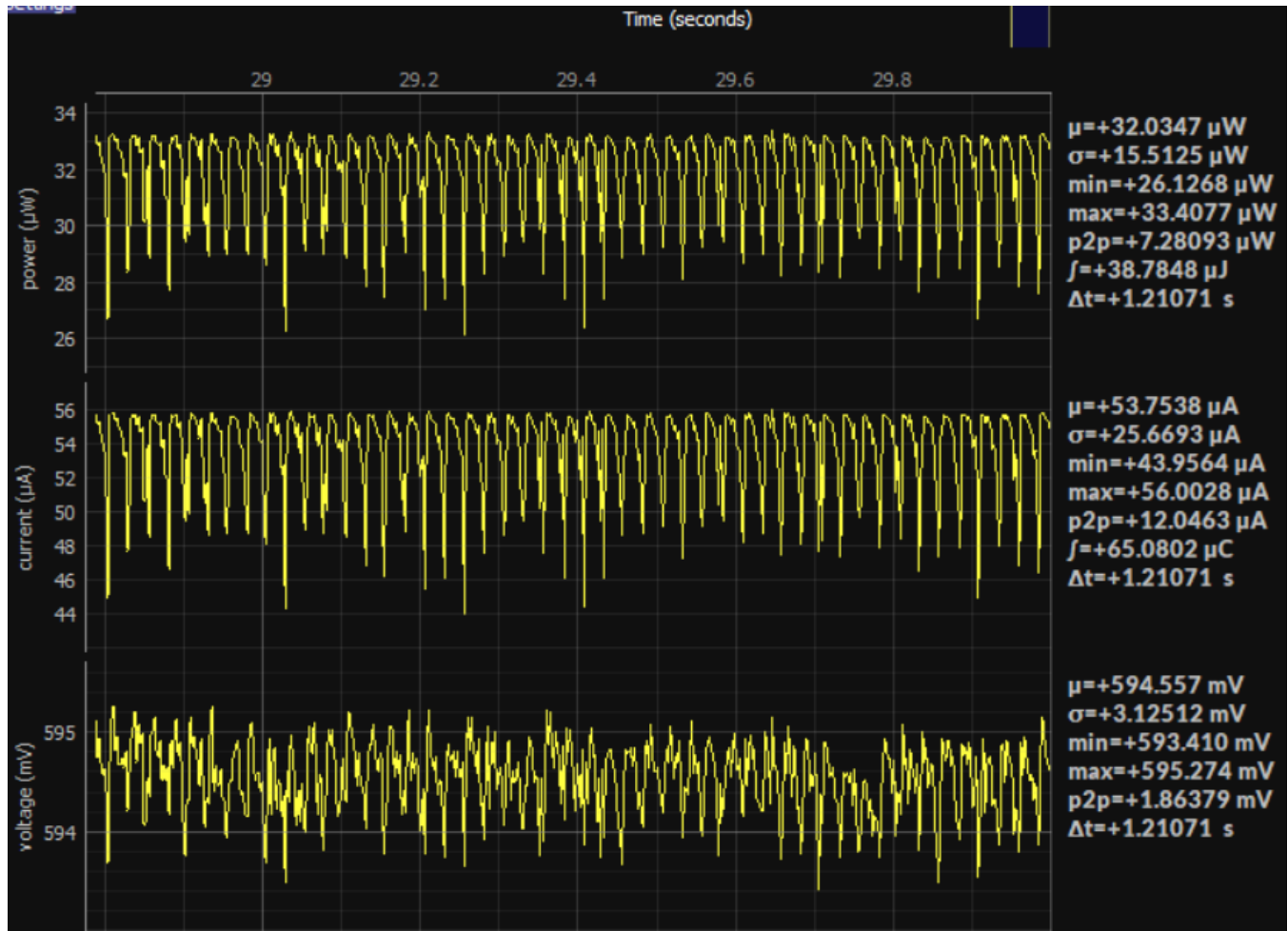
The following image shows the locations of these jumpers on the EVK:



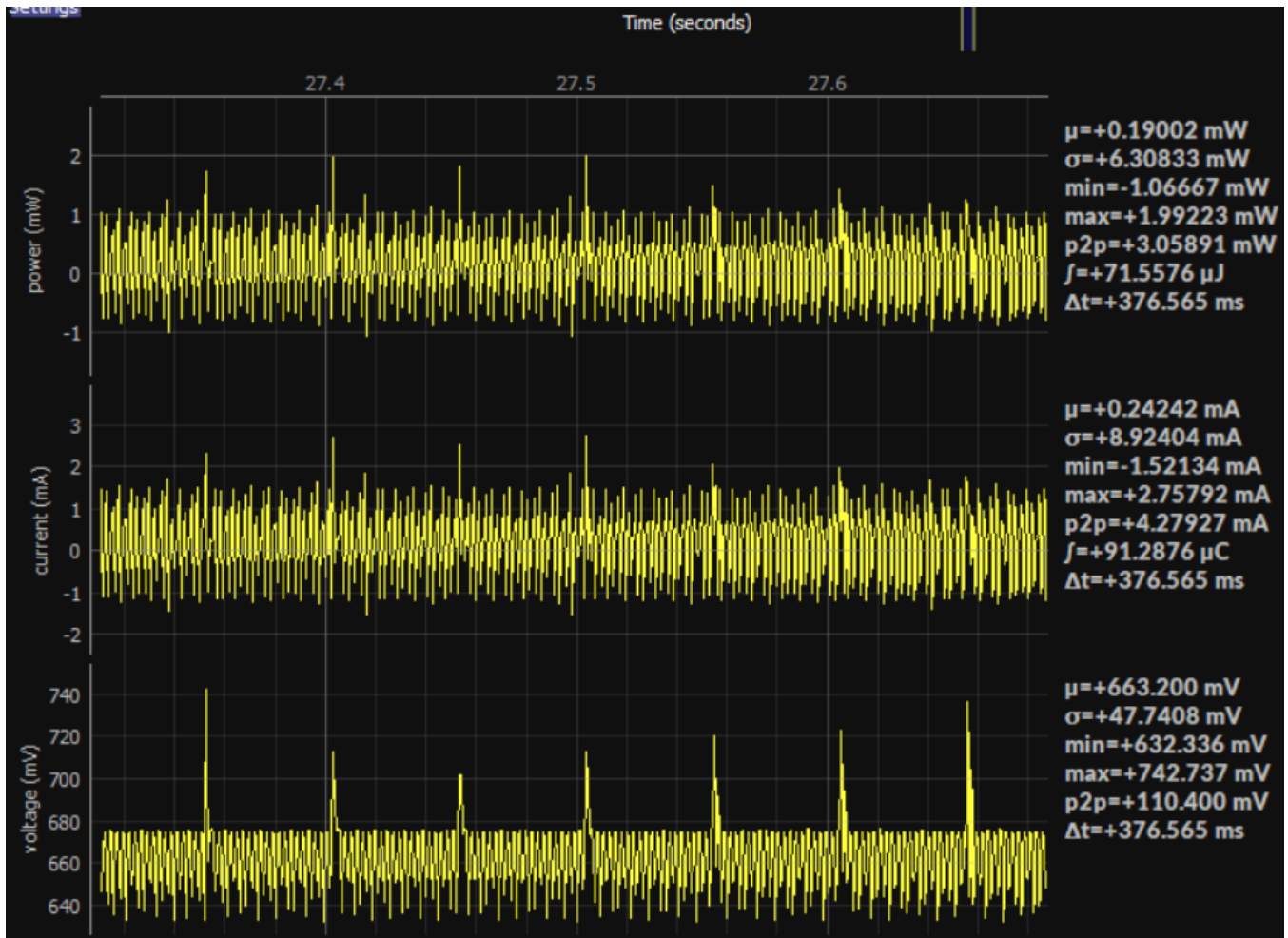
7.1 VDDCORE Power measurement

Below are some sample captures of the power consumption from the VDDCORE power rail during the different application states.

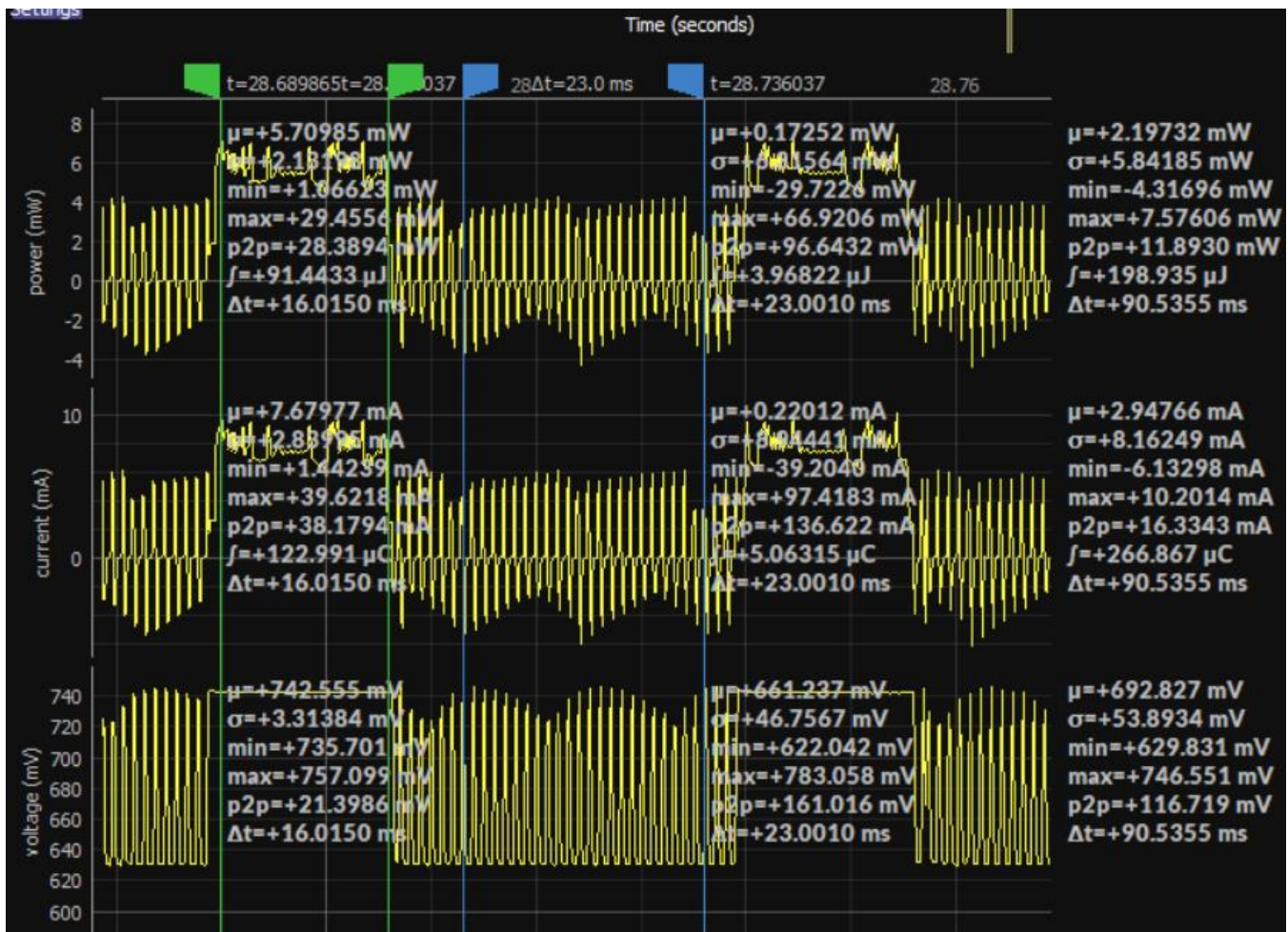
7.1.1 User Action



7.1.2 HW VAD



7.1.3 Processing



8 Adding power optimizations in your application

The power mode handling used in this application can be adapted to any application. Where there are different application states defined, where each of them has different power settings. Each application state has a structure with the configuration registers that specify which peripherals or modules will remain powered during the low power modes.

```
typedef struct _state_power_config
{
    uint32_t pd_sleep_config[4];
} state_power_config_t;

static state_power_config_t s_PowerConfig[MAX_APP_STATE];
```

The application will then select the corresponding power configuration for each state.

```
void APP_Idle(uint32_t xModifiableIdleTime)
{
    /* Enter Deep Sleep mode if allowed (DSP is idle) */
    if (PWR_DeepSleepAllowed())
    {
        POWER_EnterDeepSleep(&s_PowerConfig[s_AppState].pd_sleep_config[0]);
    }
    else
    {
        BOARD_DisablePeripheralsDuringSleep();
        POWER_EnterSleep();
        BOARD_RestorePeripheralsAfterSleep();
    }
}
```

8.1 Important Notes to Remember

Please refer to “Designing Power-Optimized Voice UI Application on i.MX RT595” application note ([AN13758](#)) for further details.

9 Conclusion

This lab described the power optimized voice UI application and demonstrated an approach to do power optimization techniques on the i.MX RT500.