

# **Pi 2 Design**

**PI2AES-LITE  
Digital Pro Audio Hat  
Hardware Reference Manual  
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## I WARRANTY

The enclosed product ("the Product"), a part of the P2 2 Design Shield/Hat series, is warranted by Pi 2 Design for a period of one year for reasonable development, testing and use, all as further described and defined below. This warranty runs solely to the individual or entity purchasing the Product and is not transferable or assignable in any respect. This warranty is valid only for so long as the product is used intact as shipped from Pi 2 Design. Any attempt or effort to alter the Product, including but not limited to any attempt to solder, de-solder, unplug, replace, add or affix any part or component of or onto the Product, other than components specifically intended for the user to plug and unplug into appropriate sockets and/or Connectors to facilitate user programming, development and deployment, all as specifically described and authorized in this Product Hardware Reference Manual, shall void this warranty in all respects. Coverage under this warranty requires that the Product be used and stored at all times in conditions with proper electrostatic protection necessary and appropriate for a complex electronic device. These conditions include proper temperature, humidity, radiation, atmosphere and voltage (standard commercial environment, 0C to +70C, <60%RH). Any Product that has been modified without the express, prior written consent of Pi 2 Design is not covered by this warranty. The use or connection of any test or bus Connector, adapter or component with any device other than a Pi 2 Design Connector or adapter shall void this warranty and the warranty of all other components, parts and modules connected to the rest of the system. Pi 2 Design shall not be responsible for any damage to the Product as a result of a customer's use or application of circuitry not developed or approved by Pi 2 Design for use on or in connection with the Product.

This warranty does not cover defects caused by electrical or temperature fluctuations or from stress resulting from or caused by abuse, misuse or misapplication of the Product. Any evidence of tampering with the serial number on the Product shall immediately void this warranty. This Product is not intended to be used on or embedded in or otherwise used in connection with any life-sustaining or life-saving product and this warranty is not applicable nor is Pi 2 Design liable in any respect if the Product is so used. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, Pi 2 Design expressly disclaims any implied warranty of merchantability or implied warranty of fitness for a particular purpose in connection with the manufacture or use of the Product.

## 2 OPERATING SPECIFICATIONS

### 2.1 PI2AES-LITE OPERATING SPECIFICATIONS

The PI2AES-LITE conforms to the following specifications:

Specification	Value
Dimensions	65mm x 56.5mm
Weight	~5g
Storage Temperature	-20C to +85C
Operating Temperature	0C to +70C
Humidity	0% to 95% RH, Non-Condensing
Input Voltage (VIN)	+5V +/-10%
Power Consumption	250mw Typical, 1W Maximum

Table 1 – PI2AES-LITE Operating Specifications

## 3 OVERVIEW

### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

The PI2AES-LITE, designed and manufactured by PI 2 Design, is a professional I/O Shield designed to bring Professional Studio Grade Audio to the Raspberry Pi® 3, 3+ and 4 series of Single Board Computers. This HAT compatible board converts the Raspberry Pi® I2S Interface to High Definition AES Coax, S/PDIF and Toslink Digital Audio Outputs.

The addition of Parallel I2S Output along with LVDS Differential over HDMI allows the PI2AES-LITE to interface with virtually any High Performance DAC on the market.

The major features of the PI2AES-LITE are as follows:

- **FORM FACTOR** – Raspberry Pi® HAT Size w/40-Pin mating connector.
- **AES TRANSMITTER** – The industry standard WM8804 converts the PI I2S stream to AES3/SPDIF formatted data at 24-Bit up to 192Khz Frame Rate. The PI2AES-LITE works with the industry standard WM8804 w/multiple clocks, Linux driver.
- **MULTIPLE SIMULTANEOUS OUTPUTS** – All output ports are active with the same Digital Audio Data , Bit Depth and Frame Rate at the same time. No further configuration required.
- **AES COAX OUTPUT** – A 1:1 Isolation Transformer provides Bit Perfect Impedance Controlled Coaxial Transmission of the Digital Audio Data
- **SPDIF OUTPUT** – A 1:1 Isolation Transformer provides Bit Perfect Transmission of the Digital Audio Data via RCA Jack.
- **SPDIF OPTICAL OUTPUT** – Isolated Optical Transmitter Drives Consumer Level DAC and AVR
- **HIGH RESOLUTION CLOCKS** – A pair of Ultra-Low Noise NDK NZ2520SD oscillators allow the WM8804 to operate in non-PLL mode for the lowest possible noise.
- **ULTRA-LOW NOISE LDO's** – Dual Ultra-Low Noise LT3042 LDO's (0.9uV noise and 80dB PSRR) is used to Supply the WM8804 Transmit Section and the High-Resolution NDK Clocks.
- **LOW NOISE PCB LAYOUT** – Constructed with 4-layer Split Ground PCB with noise reduction techniques refined from years of High-Speed Mixed-Signal Design work.
- **EXTERNAL 5V POWER** - The PI2AES-LITE is designed to operate on 5V from the Raspberry Pi. Optionally, external 5V can be supplied for use with low noise Linear PSU's

### 3.2 BLOCK DIAGRAM

Refer to the following figure for a block diagram of the PI2AES-LITE Shield.

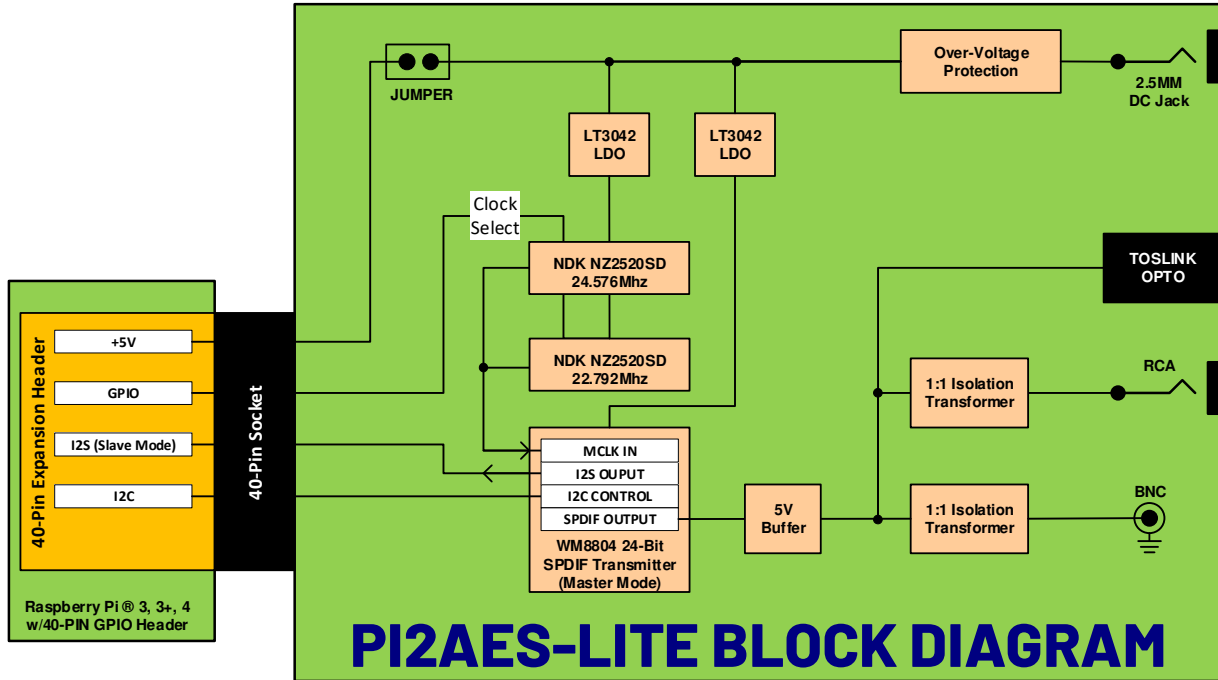


Figure 1 – PI2AES-LITE Block Diagram

## 4 ON-BOARD DEVICES

### 4.1 OVERVIEW

The PI2AES-LITE interfaces to the RPi via the 40-Pin GPIO Connector. This section describes in detail the devices located on the PI2AES-LITE.

#### 4.1 PI2AES-LITE I2C BUS DEVICES

The following table describes the CPU I2C Bus usage of the PI2AES-LITE. Most of these addresses are set by the startup script supplied by Pi2Design. Refer to the respective device documentation for more detail.

I2C Bus	7-Bit I2C Address	Description
I2C	0x3B	WM8804 SPDIF Transmitter

Table 2 – PI2AES-LITE I2C Bus Devices

#### 4.1 WM8804 SPDIF TRANSMITTER

At the core of the PI2AES-LITE is the Cirrus Logic WM8804 AES Digital Audio Transmitter. This device interfaces to the Raspberry Pi via I2S and I2C. The signals used to interface with the WM8804 are shown in the following table.

WM8804 Signal	RPi Signal	Description
MCLK	-	Unused
BCLK	BCLK	I2S Bit Clock Output to Pi
LRCLK	LRCLK	I2S Word Clock Output to Pi
SDIN	SDOUT	I2S Serial Audio Data Input from Pi
SCL	SCL	I2C Clock from Pi
SDA	SDA	I2C Data to/from Pi
XIN	GPIO5	1 = Select 22.5792Mhz Input Clock for 44.1Khz, 88.2Khz and 176.4Khz Frame Rates
XIN	GPIO6	1 = Select 24.576Mhz Input Clock for 48Khz, 96Khz and 192Khz Frame Rates

TXO	-	AES3/SPDIF encoded digital audio output
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Table 3 – RPi to WM8804 Connections

#### ***4.1.1 WM8804 SPDIF TRANSMITTER NOTES***

1. The WM8804 is controlled using the I2C port. Refer to the WM8804 documentation and Pi 2 Design supplied driver code for more detail.
2. The PI2AES-LITE is designed to operate the WM8804 in Master mode. In this mode the WM8804 receives its master clock from XIN and drives MCLK (unused), BCLK and LRCLK to the Pi. Serial Data in is received from Pi.
3. Pi GPIO's 6 and 13 are used to select the desired clock input. GPIO 6 and 13 are pulled low by default. CAUTION - Do not select more than one clock at a time!

#### ***4.2 DUAL HIGH RESOLUTION NDK CLOCKS***

A pair of NDK NZ2520SD Ultra-Low Noise clocks provide the critical timing signals for the WM8804. They are selected via Raspberry PI GPIO5 (22.5792Mhz) and GPIO6 (24.576Mhz).



## 5 RPI GPIO

### 5.1 OVERVIEW

The PI2AES-LITE uses a number of signals from the RPi GPIO header for control and status purposes. This usage is defined in the following table.

RPI PIN	DIR	AF	PUP/PDN	PI2AES-LITE Name	Description/Notes
1	-	-	-	-	RPi +3.3V - Unused
2	-	-	-	+5V	+5V Power to/from the RPi
3	I/O	Y	PUP	I2C_SDA	I2C Bus Data
4	-	-	-	+5V	+5V Power to/from the RPi
5	OUT	Y	PUP	I2C_SCL	I2C Bus Clock
6	-	-	-	GND	
7	OUT	-	-	GPIO4	Unused
8	-	-	-	GPIO14	Unused
9	-	-	-	GND	Unused
10	-	-	-	GPIO15	Unused
11	-	-	-	GPIO17	Unused
12	IN	Y	-	BCLK	I2S Bit Clock from WM8804
13	-	-	-	GPIO27	Unused
14	-	-	-	GND	
15	-	-	-	GPIO22	Unused
16	-	-	-	GPIO23	Unused
17	-	-	-	-	RPi +3.3V – Used to generate WM8804 reset
18	-	-	-	GPIO24	Unused
19	-	-	-	GPIO10	Unused
20	-	-	-	GND	
21	-	-	-	GPIO9	Unused

RPi PIN	DIR	AF	PUP/PDN	PI2AES-LITE Name	Description/Notes
22	-	-	-	GPIO25	Unused
23	-	-	-	GPIO11	Unused
24	-	-	-	GPIO8	Unused
25	-	-	-	GND	
26	-	-	-	GPIO1	Unused
27	I/O	Y	-	ID_SDA	Unused
28	OUT	Y	-	ID_SCL	Unused
29	-	-	-	GPIO5	1 = Select 22.5792Mhz Clock Input to WM8804
30	-	-	-	GND	
31	OUT	-	PUP	GPIO6	1 = Select 24.576Mhz Clock Input to WM8804
32	-	-	-	GPIO12	Unused
33	OUT	-	-	GPIO13	Unused
34	-	-	-	GND	
35	IN	Y	-	LRCLK	I2S Left/Right Clock from WM8804
36	-	-	-	GPIO16	Unused
37	-	-	-	GPIO26	Unused
38	-	-	-	GPIO20	Unused
39	-	-	-	GND	
40	OUT	Y	-	SDOUT	Pi I2S Serial Audio Data Out

Table 4 – CPU GPIO Pin Assignments

**5.1.1 RPI GPIO NOTES**

1. DIR is from the point of view of the RPi.
2. Y in the Alternate Function (AF) column indicates that the use of this pin requires the pin to be assigned to the function as defined by the RPi specifications.
3. PUP/PDN indicates if the GPIO should have its associated Pullup (PUP) or Pulldown (PDN) resistor enabled.
4. An asterisk “\*” at the beginning of the name indicates a low true signal.



## 6 PI2AES-LITE POWER

### 6.1 OVERVIEW

The PI2AES-LITE is designed to be powered the Raspberry PI +5V Pins. Optionally, external 5V can be used, such as Linear Power Supplies. When jumper W2 is removed, separate 5V power must be supplied to the Raspberry PI. Note that when the PI2AES-LITE and the PI are powered separately, the PI2AES-LITE *must be powered first for proper operation*.

Note that an on-board protection circuit ensures proper operation when jumper W2 is installed while power is applied via J1 AND from the PI (P1) simultaneously. In this instance, whichever voltage rail is higher supplies the power.

See the below block diagram for a simplified view of the PI2AES-LITE power.

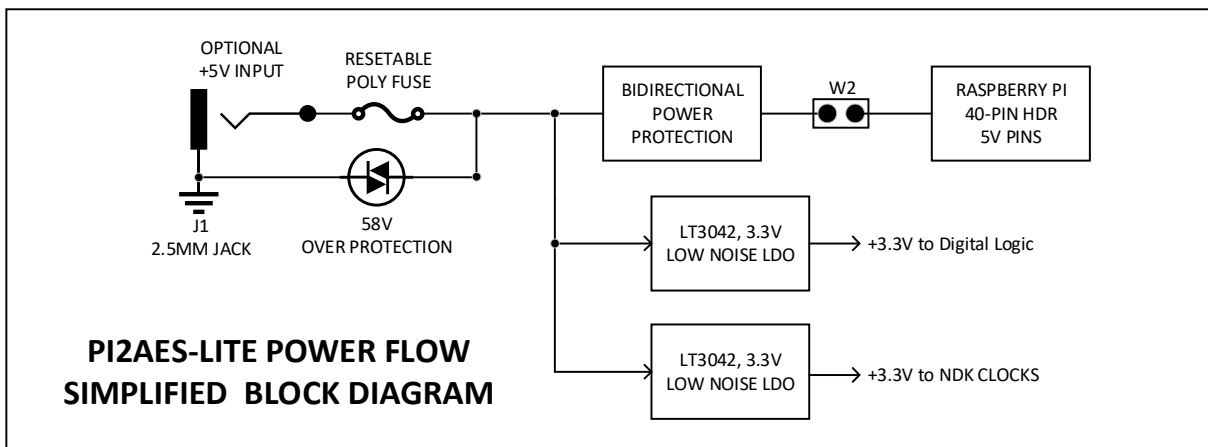


Figure 2 – PI2AES-LITE Power, Simplified Block Diagram

## 7 PI2AES-LITE SOFTWARE

### *7.1 OVERVIEW*

Due to the various resources interfaced on the PI2AES-LITE, both internal and external to the RPi, it is necessary to initialize a large number of CPU registers and external devices before correct operation can begin. These values and their proper sequencing are beyond the scope of this document. For most Raspberry Pi Software (Volumio, Moode, Ropiee, etc), the HifiBerry Digi+ Pro driver can be selected. There are no additional options beyond that.

## 8 TOP SIDE CONNECTORS

### *8.1 OVERVIEW*

This section provides the type, location, and pinout for the various connectors on the PI2AES-LITE. Top View and Side View are shown in the following 3D renders.

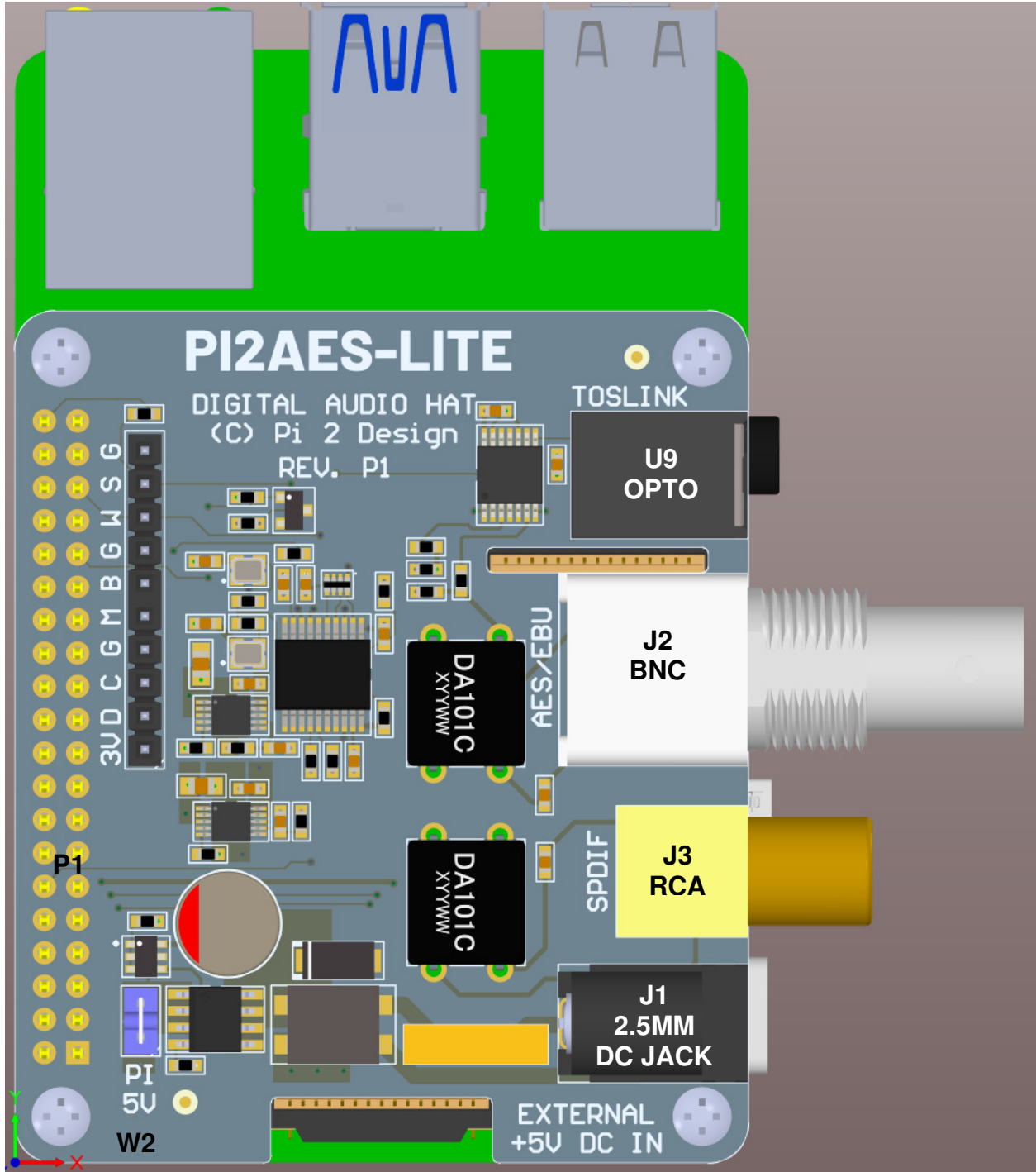


Figure 3 – PI2AES-LITE Top View

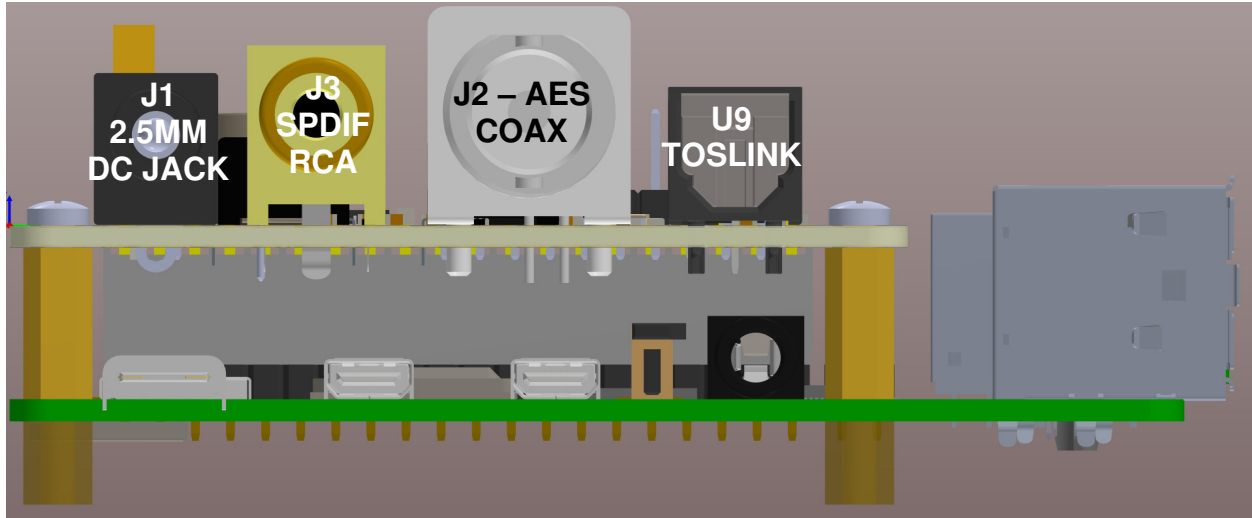


Figure 4 – PI2AES-LITE Side View (shown mounted on Raspberry Pi 4)

### ***8.2 J1 - DC JACK***

This jack is designed to accept a 5.5mm x 2.5mm center positive plug for external power in. Voltage must be 5V +/-10%.

### ***8.3 J2 – BNC***

This jack is designed to carry the AES COAX Digital Audio Signal. Voltage level is 1.0V

### ***8.4 J3 - RCA***

This jack is designed to carry the SPDIF COAX Digital Audio Signal. Voltage level is 0.6V

### ***8.1 U9 –OPTO TRANSMITTER***

U9 is a Toslink Transmitter for SPDIF Optical Digital Audio output.

### ***8.2 P1 – 40-PIN GPIO HEADER***

This is a standard 40-Pin .1” Dual Row Female Header. It is designed to accept a Raspberry Pi single board and conforms to the standard Raspberry Pi 40-Pin GPIO Header pinout.

### ***8.3 W1 – 2.54MM JUMPER PLUG***

W1 connects the PI2AES-LITE to the PI 5V Pins when installed.



## 9 DOCUMENT REVISIONS

Date	Revision	Change
05/22/2022	P0.1	Preliminary Release

Table 5 – Document Revisions

# IO ERRATA

## *10.1 OVERVIEW*

There are currently no known errata for the PI2AES-LITE Rev. P1.