

GaAs MMIC SMT VOLTAGE-VARIABLE ATTENUATOR, DC - 10 GHz

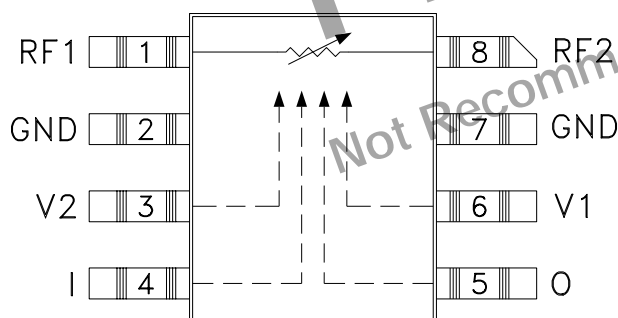
Typical Applications

- Base Station Infrastructure
- Portable Wireless CATV & DBS
- MMDS & Wireless LAN
- Wireless Local Loop
- Military, Space, & Test Equipment

Features

- Wide Bandwidth: DC - 10 GHz
- Low Phase Shift vs. Attenuation
- 25 dB Attenuation Range
- Simplified Voltage Control

Functional Diagram



General Description

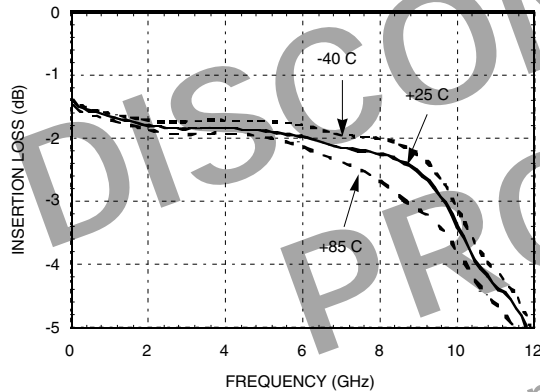
The HMC121C8 is an absorptive Voltage Variable Attenuator (VVA) in a non-hermetic surface-mount package covering DC - 10 GHz. It features an on-chip reference attenuator for use with an external op-amp to provide simple single voltage attenuation control, 0 to -3V. The device is ideal in designs where an analog DC control signal must control RF signal levels over a 25 dB amplitude range. Applications include AGC circuits and temperature compensation of multiple gain stages in microwave point-to-point and VSAT radios. See HMC121G8 for a hermetic SMT version of this device.

Electrical Specifications, $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$, 50 ohm system

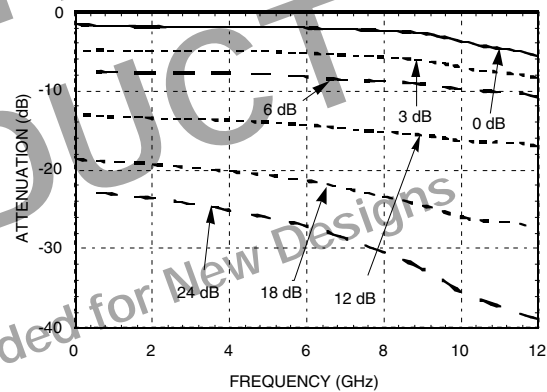
Parameter		Min.	Typ.	Max.	Units
Insertion Loss	DC - 6 GHz		2.0		dB
	DC - 8 GHz		2.2		dB
	DC - 10 GHz		3.5		dB
Attenuation Range	DC - 6 GHz	20	25		dB
	DC - 10 GHz	25	30		dB
Return Loss	DC - 8 GHz	11	15		dB
	DC - 10 GHz	8	12		dB
Switching Characteristics	tRISE, tFALL (10/90% RF)		3		ns
	tON, tOFF (50% CTL to 10/90% RF)		6		ns
Input Power for 0.25 dB Compression (0.5 - 10 GHz)	Min Atten:		+3		dBm
	Atten. >2 dB:		-3		dBm
Input Third Order Intercept (0.5 - 10 GHz) (Two-tone Input Power = -8 dBm Each Tone)	Min Atten:		+18		dBm
	Atten. >2 dB:		+10		dBm

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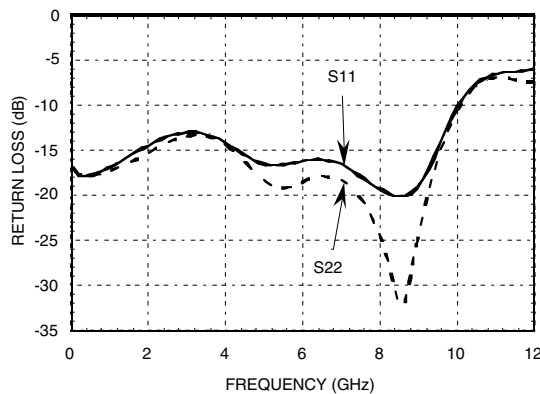
Insertion Loss



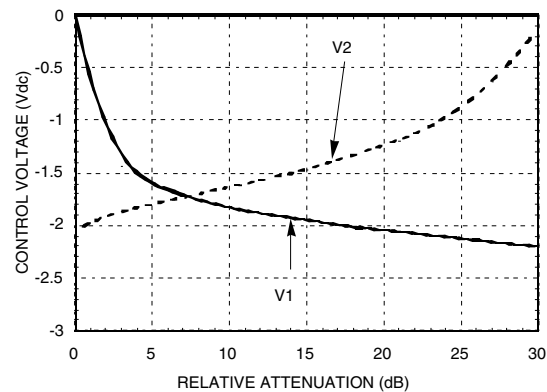
Relative Attenuation



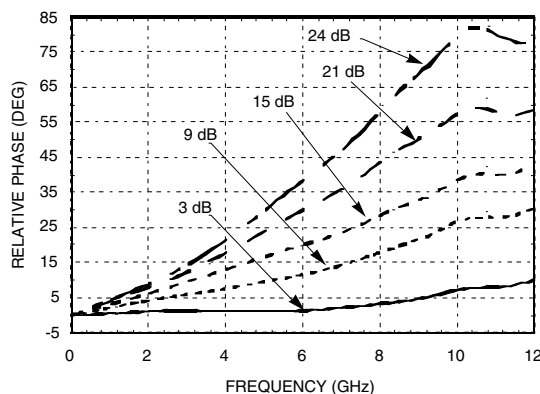
Return Loss



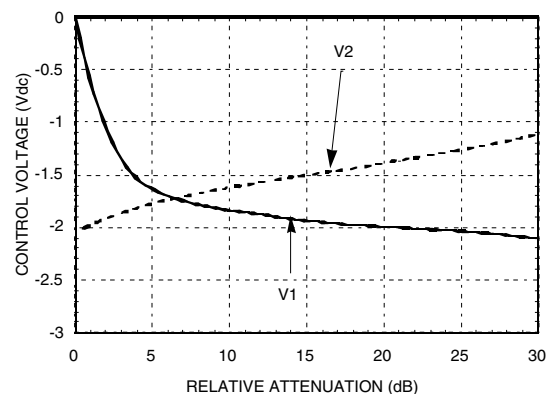
**Relative Attenuation vs.
Control Voltage @ 4.2 GHz**



Relative Phase

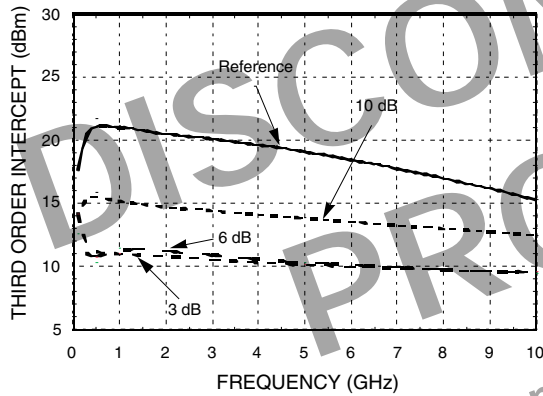


**Relative Attenuation vs.
Control Voltage @ 10 GHz**

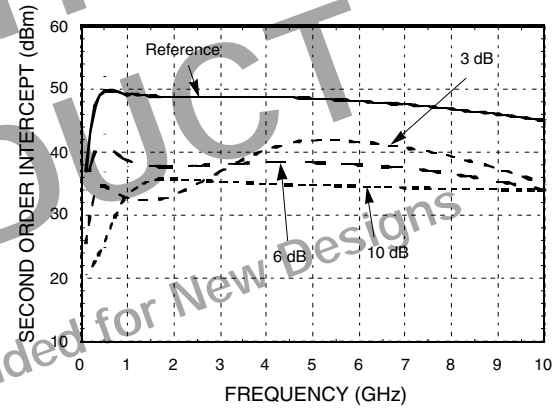


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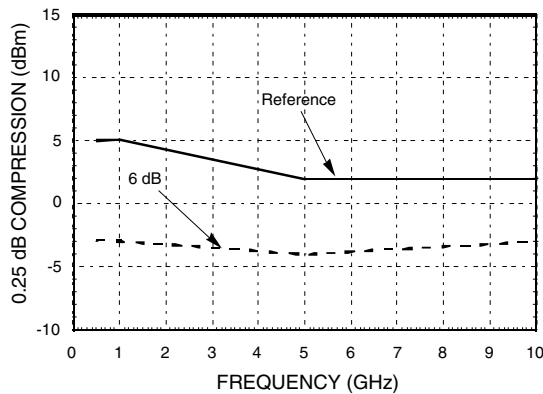
**Input Third Order
Intercept vs. Attenuation**



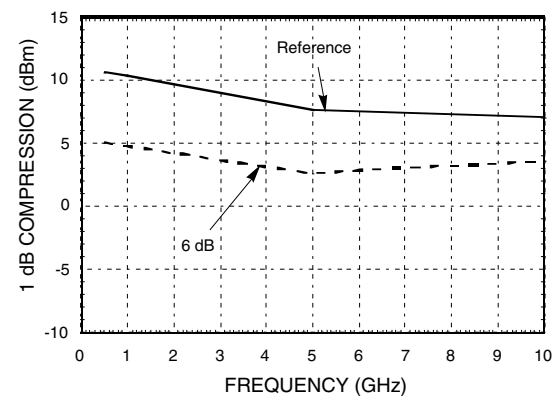
**Input Second Order
Intercept vs. Attenuation**



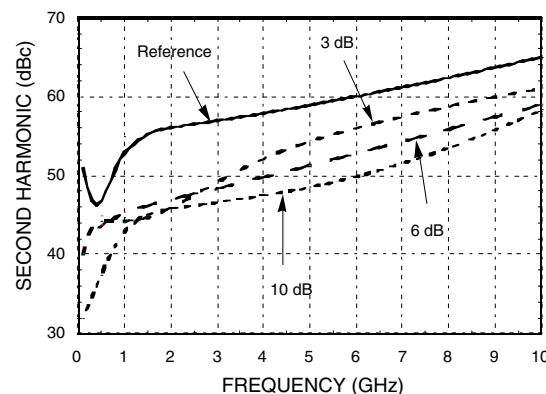
**0.25 dB Compression
vs. Attenuation**



**1 dB Compression
vs. Attenuation**



Second Harmonic vs. Attenuation

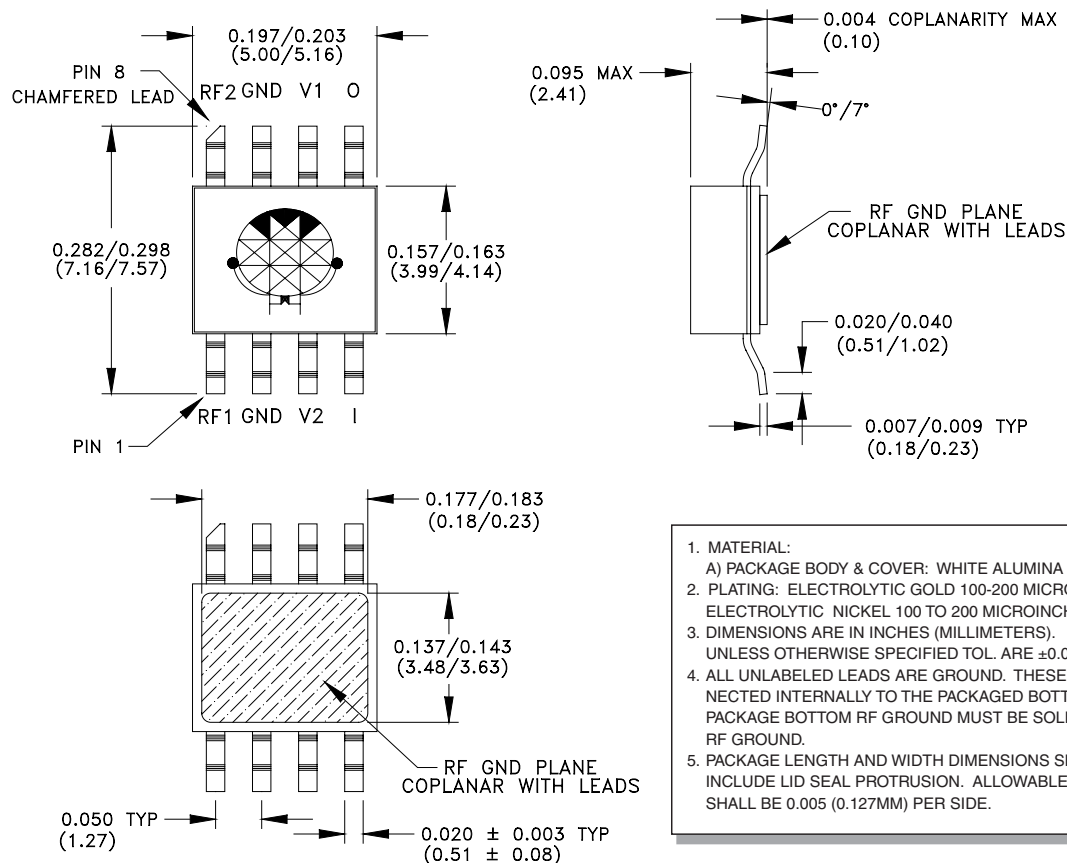


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Absolute Maximum Ratings

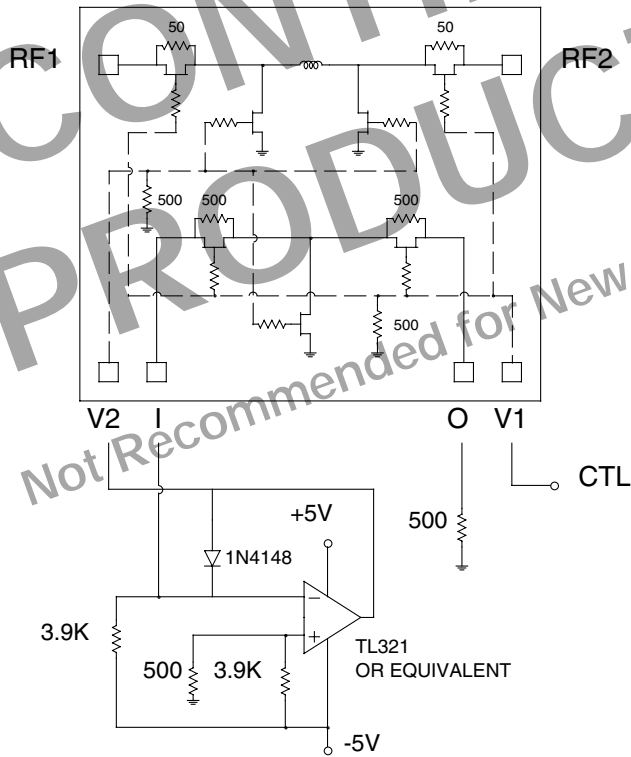
RF Input Power	+16 dBm
Control Voltage Range	+1.0 to -6.0 Vdc
Storage Temperature	-65 to +150 deg C
Operating Temperature	-55 to +125 deg C

Outline Drawing



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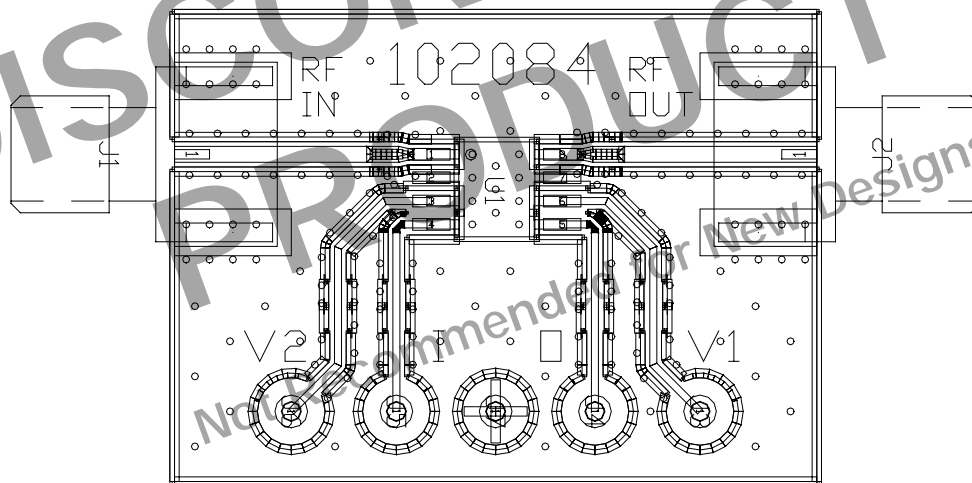
Single-Line Control Driver



External op-amp control circuit maintains impedance match while attenuation is varied. Input control ranges from 0 Volts (min. attenuation) to -2.5 Volts (max. attenuation).

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Evaluation PCB for HMC121C8



The circuit board used in the final application should be generated with proper RF circuit design techniques. Signal lines at the RF port should have 50 ohm impedance and the package ground leads and package bottom ground should be connected directly to the ground plane similar to that shown above. The evaluation circuit board shown above is available from Hittite Microwave Corporation upon request.

List of Material

Item	Description
J1 - J2	PC Mount SMA RF Connector
J3 - J7	DC PIN
U1	HMC121C8 VVA
PCB*	102084 Eval Board
*Circuit Board Material: Rogers 4350	