



# Dual, Low Noise, Single-Supply Variable Gain Amplifier

## AD605

### FEATURES

- 2 independent linear-in-dB channels
- Input noise at maximum gain: 1.8 nV/√Hz, 2.7 pA/√Hz
- Bandwidth: 40 MHz (–3 dB)
- Differential input
- Absolute gain range programmable
  - 14 dB to +34 dB (FBK shorted to OUT) through
  - 0 dB to 48 dB (FBK open)
- Variable gain scaling: 20 dB/V through 40 dB/V
- Stable gain with temperature and supply variations
- Single-ended unipolar gain control
- Output common mode independently set
- Power shutdown at lower end of gain control
- Single 5 V supply
- Low power: 90 mW/channel
- Drives ADCs directly

### APPLICATIONS

- Ultrasound and sonar time-gain controls
- High performance AGC systems
- Signal measurement

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The AD605 is a low noise, accurate, dual channel, linear-in-dB variable gain amplifier, optimized for any application requiring high performance, wide bandwidth variable gain control. Operating from a single 5 V supply, the AD605 provides differential inputs and unipolar gain control for ease of use. Added flexibility is achieved with a user-determined gain range and an external reference input that provides user-determined gain scaling (dB/V).

The high performance linear-in-dB response of the AD605 is achieved with the differential input, single-supply, exponential amplifier (DSX-AMP) architecture. Each of the DSX-AMPs comprise a variable attenuator of 0 dB to –48.4 dB followed by a high speed fixed gain amplifier. The attenuator is based on a 7-stage R-1.5R ladder network. The attenuation between tap points is 6.908 dB, and 48.360 dB for the entire ladder network. The DSX-AMP architecture results in 1.8 nV/√Hz input noise spectral density and accepts a  $\pm 2.0$  V input signal when VOCM is biased at VP/2.

### FUNCTIONAL BLOCK DIAGRAM

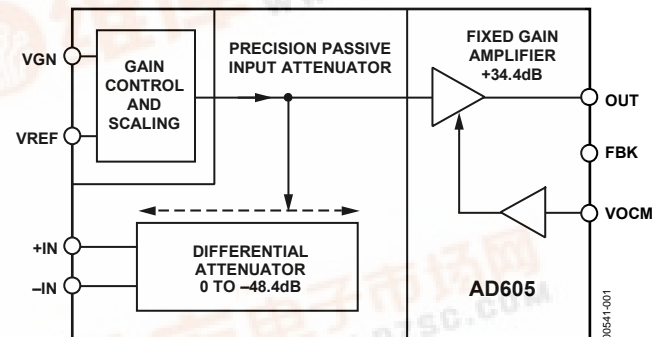


Figure 1.

Each independent channel of the AD605 provides a gain range of 48 dB that can be optimized for the application. Gain ranges between –14 dB to +34 dB and 0 dB to +48 dB can be selected by a single resistor between Pin FBK and Pin OUT. The lower and upper gain ranges are determined by shorting Pin FBK to Pin OUT, or leaving Pin FBK unconnected, respectively. The two channels of the AD605 can be cascaded to provide 96 dB of very accurate gain range in a monolithic package.

The gain control interface provides an input resistance of approximately 2 MΩ and scale factors from 20 dB/V to 30 dB/V for a VREF input voltage of 2.5 V to 1.67 V, respectively. Note that scale factors up to 40 dB/V are achievable with reduced accuracy for scales above 30 dB/V. The gain scales linearly in dB with control voltages (VGN) of 0.4 V to 2.4 V for the 20 dB/V scale and 0.20 V to 1.20 V for the 40 dB/V scale. When VGN is <50 mV, the amplifier is powered down to draw 1.9 mA. Under normal operation, the quiescent supply current of each amplifier channel is only 18 mA.

The AD605 is available in 16-lead PDIP and 16-lead SOIC\_N and is guaranteed for operation over the –40°C to +85°C temperature range.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Features .....	1	Theory of Operation .....	13
Applications.....	1	Differential Ladder (Attenuator).....	14
Functional Block Diagram .....	1	AC Coupling .....	14
General Description .....	1	Gain Control Interface.....	14
Revision History .....	2	Active Feedback Amplifier (Fixed Gain Amp) .....	15
Specifications.....	3	Applications.....	16
Absolute Maximum Ratings.....	5	Connecting Two Amplifiers to Double the Gain Range.....	16
ESD Caution.....	5	Outline Dimensions .....	18
Pin Configuration and Function Descriptions.....	6	Ordering Guide .....	19
Typical Performance Characteristics (per Channel) .....	7		

## REVISION HISTORY

### 1/06—Rev. C to Rev. D

Updated Format.....	Universal
Changes to Table 2.....	5
Changes to the Differential Ladder (Attenuator) Section.....	14
Updated the Outline Dimensions .....	18
Changes to the Ordering Guide.....	19

### 7/04—Rev. B to Rev. C

Edits to General Description.....	1
Edits to Specifications .....	2
Edits to Ordering Guide .....	3
Change to TPC 22.....	6
Updated Outline Dimensions .....	12

## SPECIFICATIONS

Each channel @  $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $V_S = 5\text{ V}$ ,  $R_S = 50\ \Omega$ ,  $R_L = 500\ \Omega$ ,  $C_L = 5\text{ pF}$ ,  $V_{REF} = 2.5\text{ V}$  (scaling = 20 dB/V), -14 dB to +34 dB gain range, unless otherwise noted.

Table 1.

Parameter	Conditions	AD605A			AD605B			Unit
		Min	Typ	Max	Min	Typ	Max	
INPUT CHARACTERISTICS								
Input Resistance			175 ± 40		175 ± 40			Ω
Input Capacitance			3.0		3.0			pF
Peak Input Voltage	At minimum gain		2.5 ± 2.5		2.5 ± 2.5			V
Input Voltage Noise	VGN = 2.9 V		1.8		1.8			nV/√Hz
Input Current Noise	VGN = 2.9 V		2.7		2.7			pA/√Hz
Noise Figure	R <sub>S</sub> = 50 Ω, f = 10 MHz, VGN = 2.9 V		8.4		8.4			dB
	R <sub>S</sub> = 200 Ω, f = 10 MHz, VGN = 2.9 V		12		12			dB
Common-Mode Rejection Ratio	f = 1 MHz, VGN = 2.65 V		−20		−20			dB
OUTPUT CHARACTERISTICS								
−3 dB Bandwidth	Constant with gain		40		40			MHz
Slew Rate	VGN = 1.5 V, Output = 1 V step		170		170			V/μs
Output Signal Range	R <sub>L</sub> ≥ 500 Ω		2.5 ± 1.5		2.5 ± 1.5			V
Output Impedance	f = 10 MHz		2		2			Ω
Output Short-Circuit Current			±40		±40			mA
Harmonic Distortion	VGN = 1 V, V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1 V p-p							
HD2	f = 1 MHz		−64		−64			dBc
HD3	f = 1 MHz		−68		−68			dBc
HD2	f = 10 MHz		−51		−51			dBc
HD3	f = 10 MHz		−53		−53			dBc
Two-Tone Intermodulation Distortion (IMD)	R <sub>S</sub> = 0 Ω, VGN = 2.9 V, V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1 V p-p							
	f = 1 MHz		−72		−72			dBc
	f = 10 MHz		−60		−60			dBc
1 dB Compression Point	f = 10 MHz, VGN = 2.9 V, output referred		+15		+15			dBm
Third-Order Intercept	f = 10 MHz, VGN = 2.9 V, V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1 V p-p, input referred		−1		−1			dBm
Channel-to-Channel Crosstalk	Ch1: VGN = 2.65 V, inputs shorted, Ch2: VGN = 1.5 V (mid gain), f = 1 MHz, V <sub>OUT</sub> = 1 V p-p		−70		−70			dB
Group Delay Variation	1 MHz < f < 10 MHz, full gain range		±2.0		±2.0			ns
VOCM Input Resistance			45		45			kΩ
ACCURACY								
Absolute Gain Error								
−14 dB to −11 dB	0.25 V < VGN < 0.40 V	−1.2	+1.0	+3.0	−1.2	+0.75	+3.0	dB
−11 dB to +29 dB	0.40 V < VGN < 2.40 V	−1.0	±0.3	+1.0	−1.0	±0.2	+1.0	dB
+29 dB to +34 dB	2.40 V < VGN < 2.65 V	−3.5	−1.25	+1.2	−3.5	−1.25	+1.2	dB
Gain Scaling Error	0.4 V < VGN < 2.4 V		±0.25			±0.25		dB/V
Output Offset Voltage	VREF = 2.500 V, VOCM = 2.500 V	−50	±30	+50	−50	±30	+50	mV
Output Offset Variation	VREF = 2.500 V, VOCM = 2.500 V		30	95		30	50	mV

# AD605

Parameter	Conditions	AD605A			AD605B			Unit	
		Min	Typ	Max	Min	Typ	Max		
GAIN CONTROL INTERFACE									
Gain Scaling Factor	VREF = 2.5 V, 0.4 V < VGN < 2.4 V	19	20	21	19	20	21	dB/V	
	VREF = 1.67 V		30			30		dB/V	
Gain Range	FBK short to OUT		−14 to +34			−14 to +34			dB
	FBK open		0 to 48			0 to 48			dB
Input Voltage (VGN) Range	20 dB/V, VREF = 2.5 V		0.1 to 2.9			0.1 to 2.9			V
Input Bias Current			−0.4			−0.4			μA
Input Resistance			2			2			MΩ
Response Time	48 dB gain change		0.2			0.2			μs
POWER SUPPLY									
Supply Voltage		4.5	5.0	5.5	4.5	5.0	5.5	V	
Power Dissipation			90			90		mW	
VREF Input Resistance			10			10		kΩ	
Quiescent Supply Current	VPOS		18	23		18	23	mA	
Power Down	VPOS, VGN < 50 mV		1.9	3.0		1.9	3.0	mA	
Power-Up Response Time	48 dB gain, VOUT = 2 V p-p		0.6			0.6		μs	
Power-Down Response Time			0.4			0.4		μs	

## ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

Table 2.

Parameter	Rating
Supply Voltage +V <sub>S</sub> Pin 12, Pin 13 (with Pin 4, Pin 5 = 0 V)	6.5 V
Input Voltage Pin 1 to Pin 3, Pin 6 to Pin 9, Pin 16	VPOS, 0
Internal Power Dissipation	
16-Lead PDIP	1.4 W
16-Lead SOIC_N	1.2 W
Operating Temperature Range	–40°C to +85°C
Storage Temperature Range	–65°C to +150°C
Lead Temperature, Soldering 60 sec	300°C
Thermal Resistance $\theta_{JA}$	
16-Lead PDIP	85°C/W
16-Lead SOIC_N	100°C/W

Stresses above those listed under Absolute Maximum Ratings may cause permanent damage to the device. This is a stress rating only; functional operation of the device at these or any other conditions above those indicated in the operational section of this specification is not implied. Exposure to absolute maximum rating conditions for extended periods may affect device reliability.

### ESD CAUTION

ESD (electrostatic discharge) sensitive device. Electrostatic charges as high as 4000 V readily accumulate on the human body and test equipment and can discharge without detection. Although this product features proprietary ESD protection circuitry, permanent damage may occur on devices subjected to high energy electrostatic discharges. Therefore, proper ESD precautions are recommended to avoid performance degradation or loss of functionality.



# AD605

## PIN CONFIGURATION AND FUNCTION DESCRIPTIONS

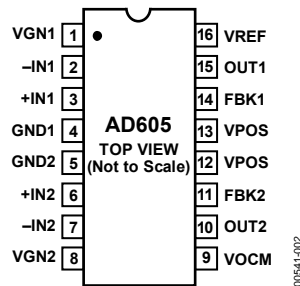


Figure 2. Pin Configuration

Table 3. Pin Function Descriptions

Pin No.	Mnemonic	Description
1	VGN1	CH1 Gain-Control Input and Power-Down Pin. If grounded, device is off; otherwise, positive voltage increases gain.
2	–IN1	CH1 Negative Input.
3	+IN1	CH1 Positive Input.
4	GND1	Ground.
5	GND2	Ground.
6	+IN2	CH2 Positive Input.
7	–IN2	CH2 Negative Input.
8	VGN2	CH2 Gain-Control Input and Power-Down Pin. If grounded, device is off; otherwise, positive voltage increases gain.
9	VOCM	Input to This Pin Defines Common-Mode Voltage for OUT1 and OUT2.
10	OUT2	CH2 Output.
11	FBK2	Feedback Pin That Selects Gain Range of CH2.
12	VPOS	Positive Supply.
13	VPOS	Positive Supply.
14	FBK1	Feedback Pin That Selects Gain Range of CH1.
15	OUT1	CH1 Output.
16	VREF	Input to This Pin Sets Gain Scaling for Both Channels: 2.5 V = 20 dB/V, and 1.67 V = 30 dB/V.

## TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS (PER CHANNEL)

$V_{REF} = 2.5\text{ V}$  (20 dB/V scaling),  $f = 1\text{ MHz}$ ,  $R_L = 500\ \Omega$ ,  $C_L = 5\text{ pF}$ ,  $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $V_{SS} = 5\text{ V}$ .

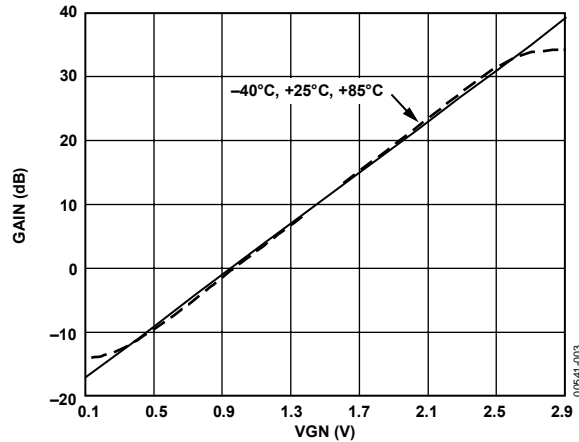


Figure 3. Gain vs. VGN

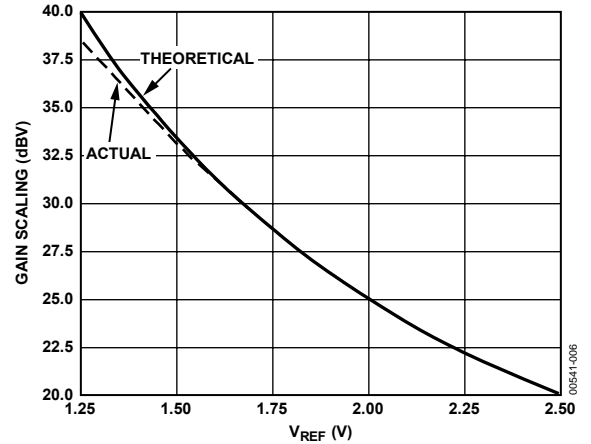


Figure 6. Gain Scaling vs.  $V_{REF}$

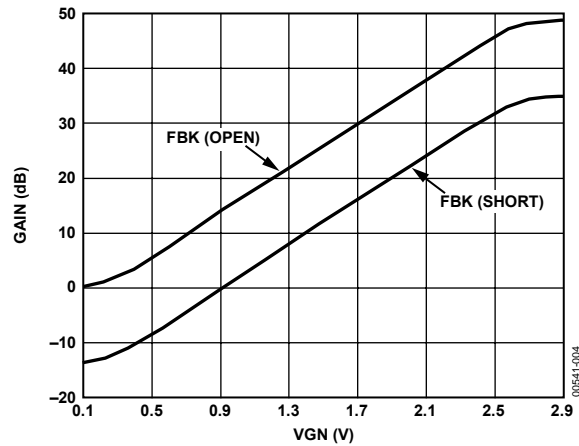


Figure 4. Gain vs. VGN for Different Gain Ranges

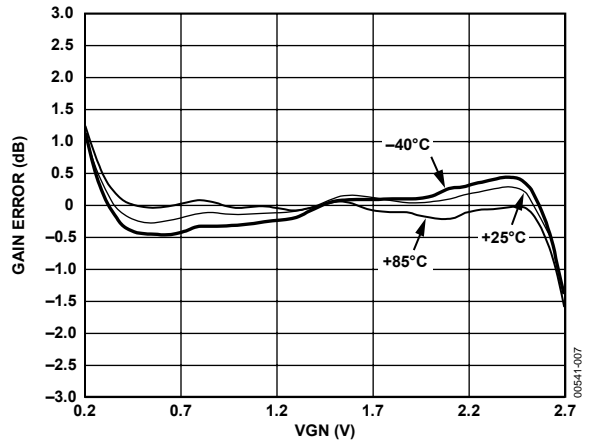


Figure 7. Gain Error vs. VGN at Three Temperatures

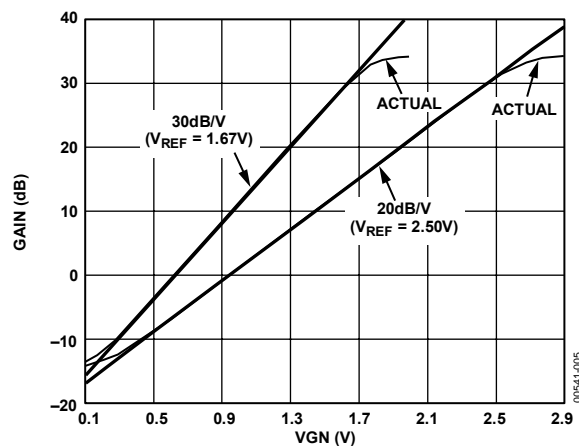


Figure 5. Gain vs. VGN for Different Gain Scalings

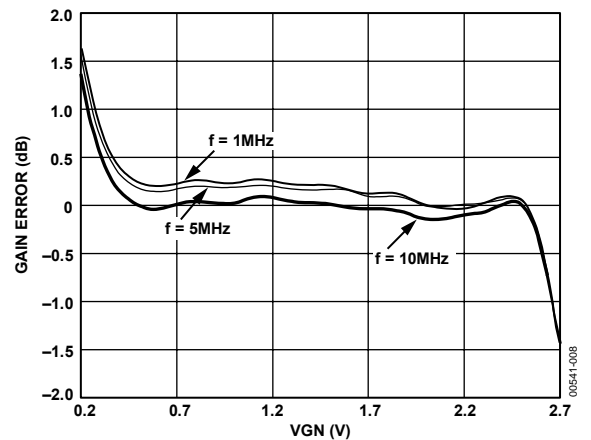


Figure 8. Gain Error vs. VGN at Three Frequencies

# AD605

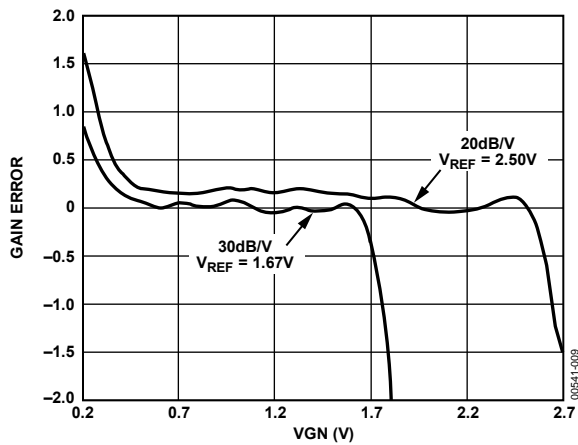


Figure 9. Gain Error vs. VGN for Two Gain Scale Values

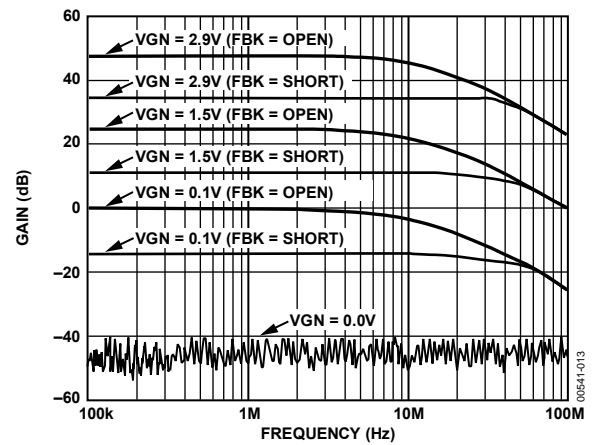


Figure 12. AC Response for Three Values of VGN

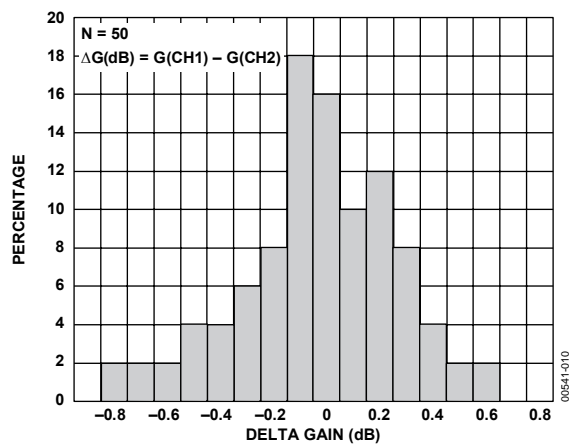


Figure 10. Gain Match, VGN1 = VGN2 = 1.0 V

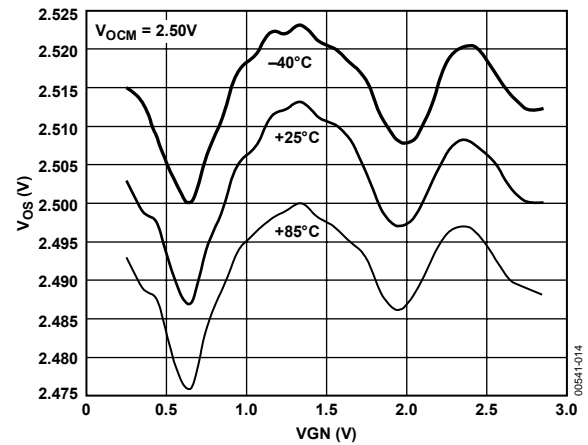


Figure 13. Output Offset vs. VGN at Three Temperatures

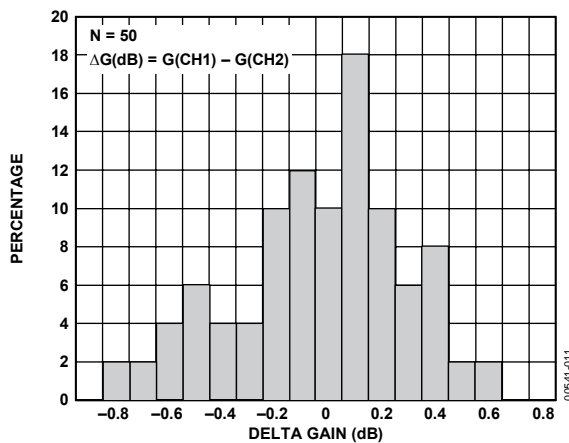


Figure 11. Gain Match, VGN1 = VGN2 = 2.50 V

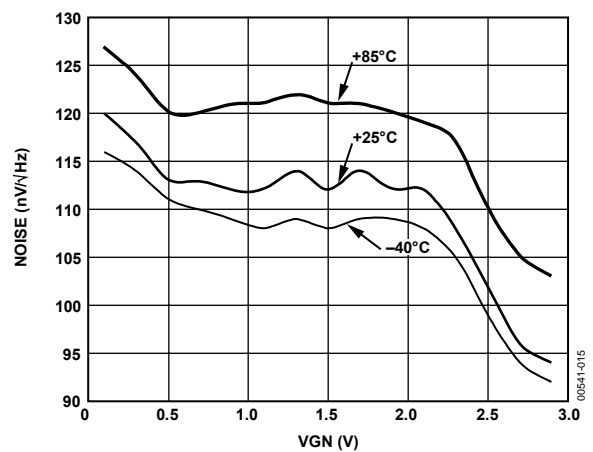


Figure 14. Output Referred Noise vs. VGN at Three Temperatures



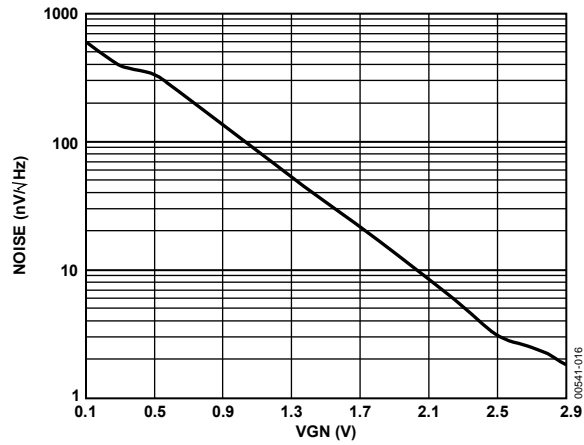


Figure 15. Input Referred Noise vs. VGN

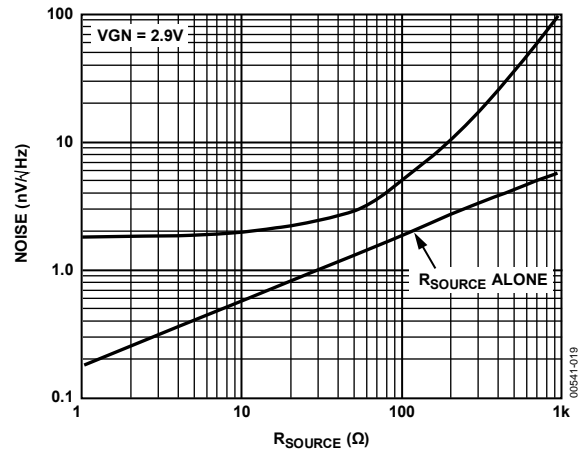


Figure 18. Input Referred Noise vs.  $R_{SOURCE}$

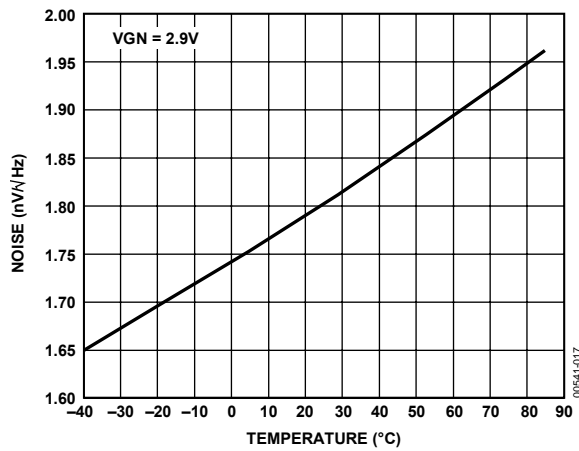


Figure 16. Input Referred Noise vs. Temperature

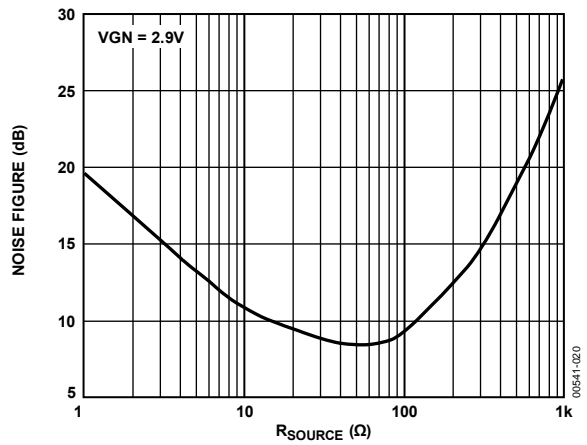


Figure 19. Noise Figure vs.  $R_{SOURCE}$

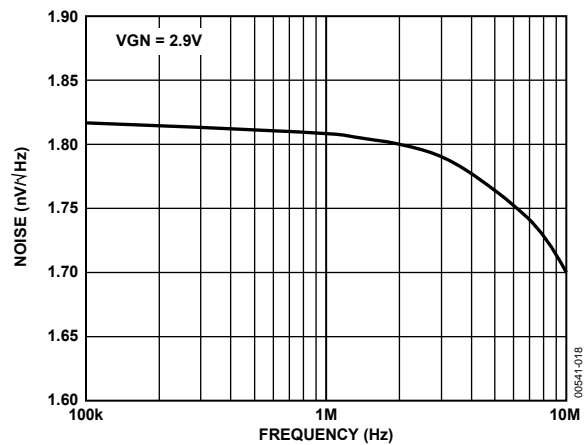


Figure 17. Input Referred Noise vs. Frequency

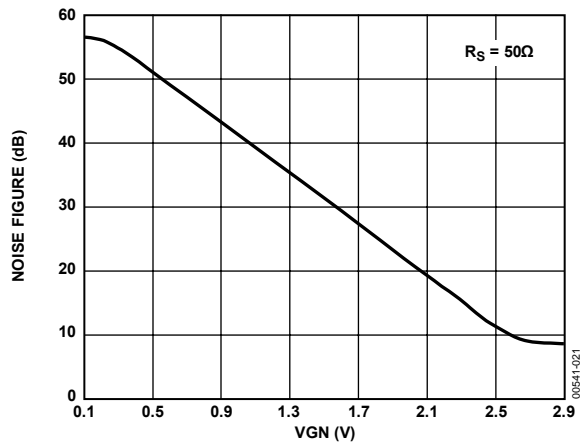


Figure 20. Noise Figure vs. VGN

# AD605

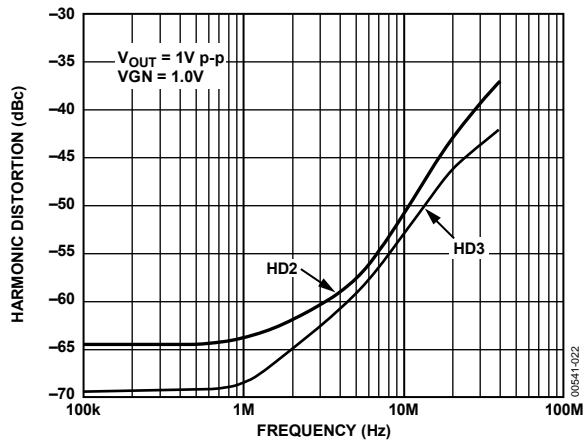


Figure 21. Harmonic Distortion vs. Frequency

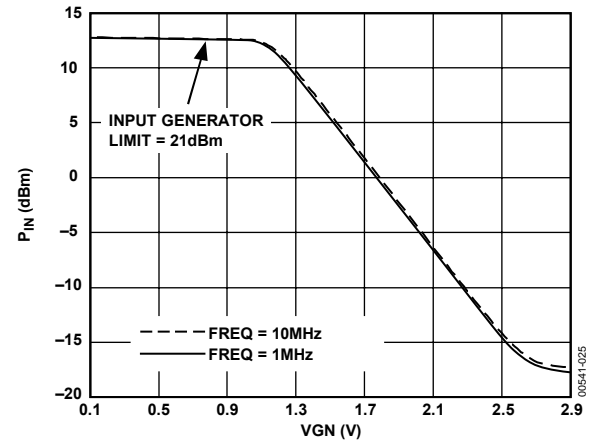


Figure 24. 1 dB Compression vs. V\_GN

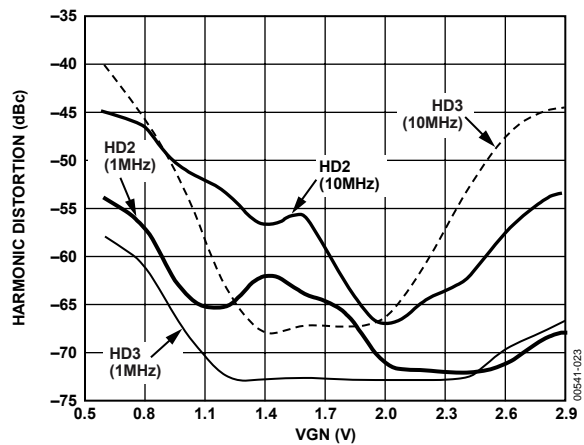


Figure 22. Harmonic Distortion vs. V\_GN at 1 MHz and 10 MHz

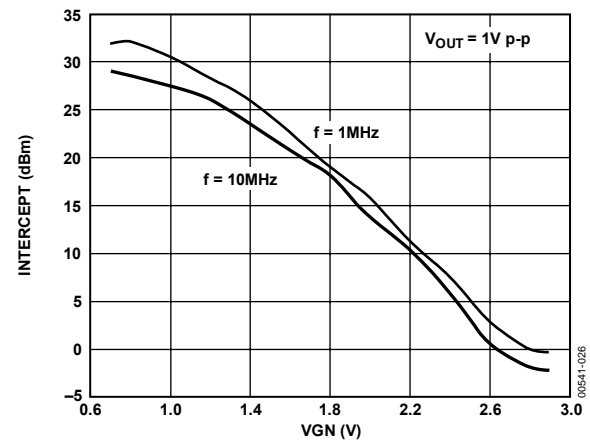


Figure 25. Third-Order Intercept vs. V\_GN at 1 MHz and 10 MHz

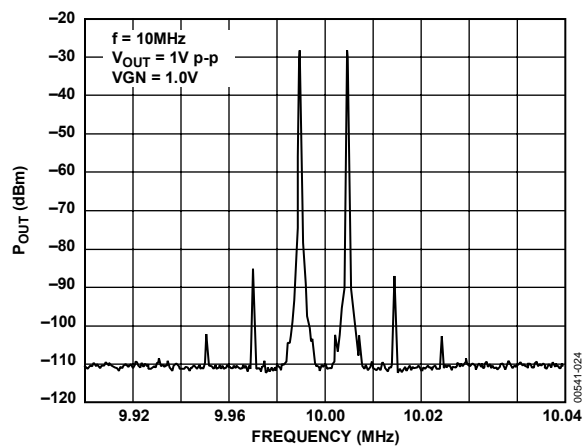


Figure 23. Intermodulation Distortion

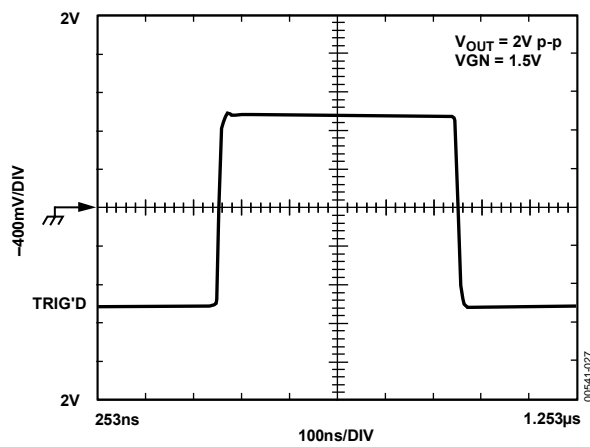


Figure 26. Large Signal Pulse Response

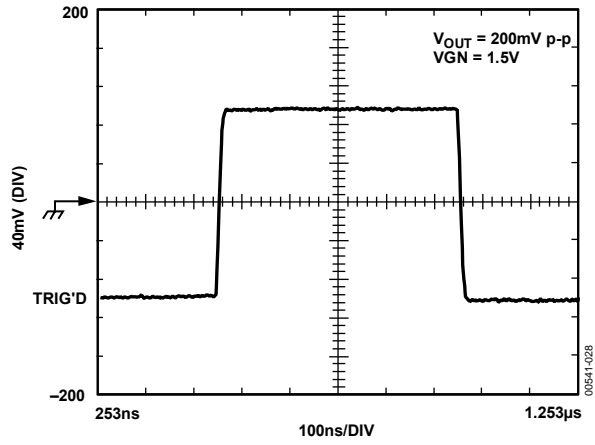


Figure 27. Small Signal Pulse Response

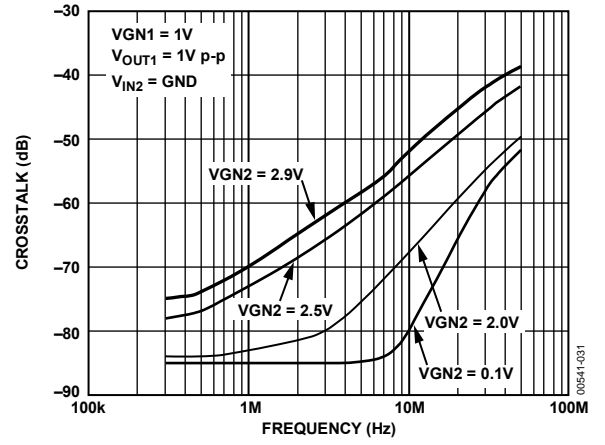


Figure 30. Crosstalk (CH1 to CH2) vs. Frequency for Four Values of VGN2

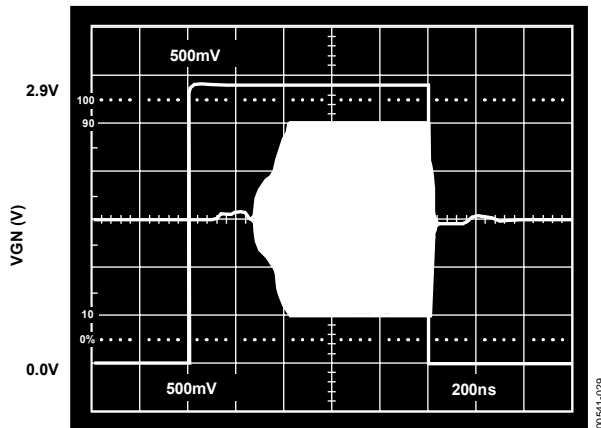


Figure 28. Power-Up/Power-Down Response

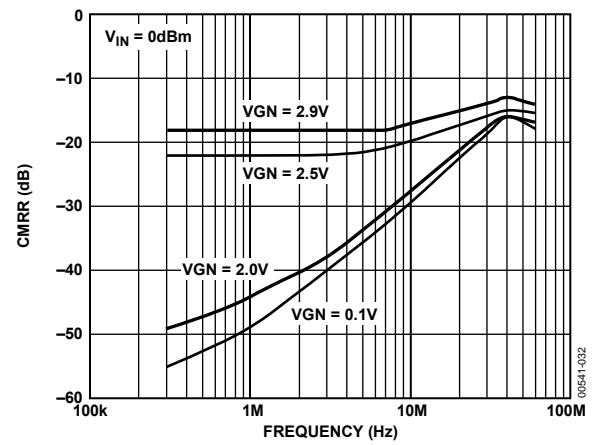


Figure 31. Common-Mode Rejection Ratio (CMRR) vs. Frequency for Four Values of VGN

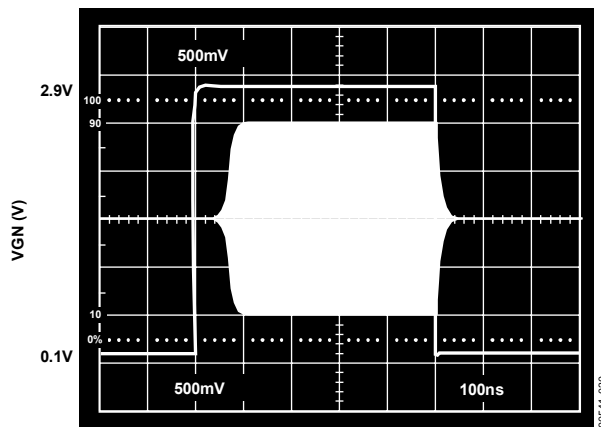


Figure 29. Gain Response

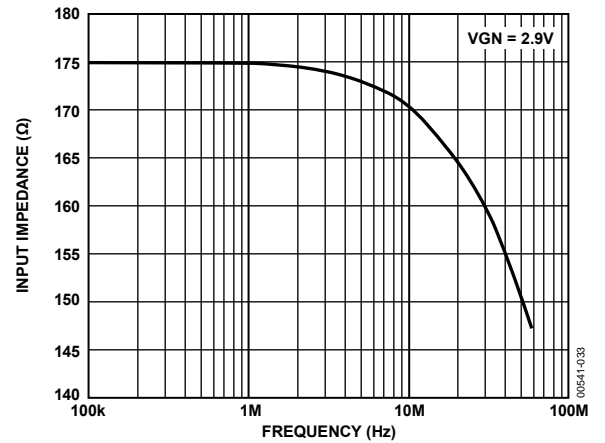


Figure 32. Input Impedance vs. Frequency

# AD605

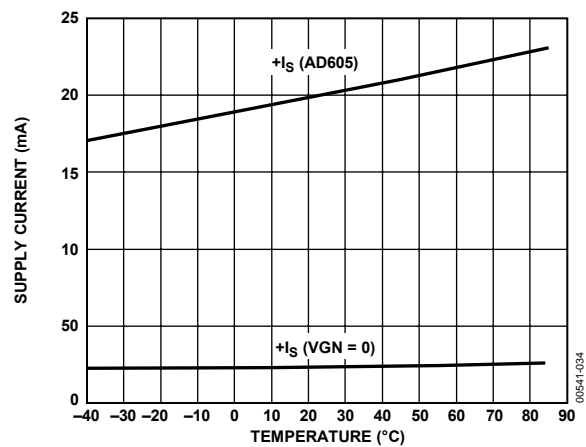


Figure 33. Supply Current (One Channel) vs. Temperature

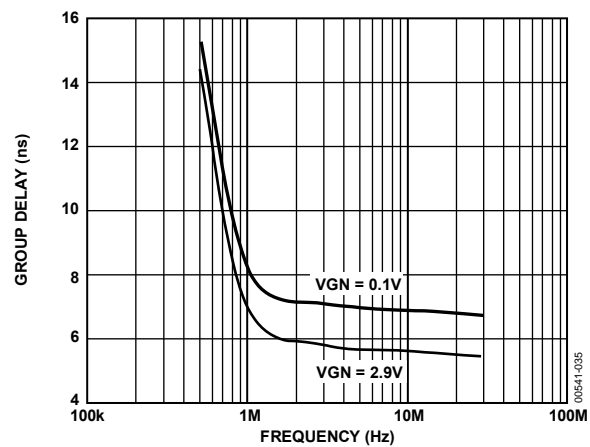


Figure 34. Group Delay vs. Frequency

## THEORY OF OPERATION

The AD605 is a dual channel, low noise variable gain amplifier. Figure 35 shows the simplified block diagram of one channel. Each channel consists of a single-supply X-AMP® (hereafter called DSX, differential single-supply X-AMP) comprised of:

- Precision passive attenuator (differential ladder)
- Gain control block
- VOCM buffer with supply splitting resistors R3 and R4
- Active feedback amplifier<sup>1</sup> (AFA) with gain setting resistors R1 and R2

The linear-in-dB gain response of the AD605 can generally be described by Equation 1.

$$G(\text{dB}) = (\text{Gain Scaling}(\text{dB/V})) \times (\text{Gain Control}(\text{V})) - (19\text{ dB} - (14\text{ dB}) \times (\text{FB})) \quad (1)$$

where:

$FB = 0$ , if FBK-to-OUT are shorted.

$FB = 1$ , if FBK-to-OUT is open.

Each channel provides between  $-14\text{ dB}$  to  $+34.4\text{ dB}$  through  $0\text{ dB}$  to  $+48.4\text{ dB}$  of gain depending on the value of the resistance connected between Pin FBK and Pin OUT. The center  $40\text{ dB}$  of gain is exactly linear-in-dB while the gain error increases at the top and bottom of the range. The gain is set by the gain control voltage (VGN). The VREF input establishes the gain scaling. The useful gain scaling range is between  $20\text{ dB/V}$  and  $40\text{ dB/V}$  for a VREF voltage of  $2.5\text{ V}$  and  $1.25\text{ V}$ , respectively. For example, if FBK to OUT were shorted and VREF were set to  $2.50\text{ V}$  (to establish a gain scaling of  $20\text{ dB/V}$ ), the gain equation would simplify to

$$G(\text{dB}) = (20(\text{dB/V})) \times (\text{VGN}(\text{V})) - 19\text{ dB} \quad (2)$$

The desired gain can then be achieved by setting the unipolar gain control (VGN) to a voltage within its nominal operating range of  $0.25\text{ V}$  to  $2.65\text{ V}$  (for  $20\text{ dB/V}$  gain scaling). The gain is monotonic for a complete gain control range of  $0.1\text{ V}$  to  $2.9\text{ V}$ . Maximum gain can be achieved at a VGN of  $2.9\text{ V}$ .

Because the two channels are identical, only Channel 1 is used to describe their operation. VREF and VOCM are the only inputs that are shared by the two channels, and because they are normally ac grounds, crosstalk between the two channels is minimized. For highest gain scaling accuracy, VREF should have an external low impedance voltage source. For low accuracy  $20\text{ dB/V}$  applications, the VREF input can be decoupled with a capacitor to ground. In this mode, the gain scaling is determined by the midpoint between  $+VCC$  and GND; therefore, care should be taken to control the supply voltage to  $5\text{ V}$ . The input resistance looking into the VREF pin is  $10\text{ k}\Omega \pm 20\%$ .

The AD605 is a single-supply circuit and the VOCM pin is used to establish the dc level of the midpoint of this portion of the circuit. VOCM needs only an external decoupling capacitor to ground to center the midpoint between the supply voltages ( $5\text{ V}$ , GND). However, if the dc level of the output is important to the user (see the Applications section of the [AD9050](#) data sheet for an example), then VOCM can be specifically set. The input resistance looking into the VOCM pin is  $45\text{ k}\Omega \pm 20\%$ .

<sup>1</sup> To understand the active-feedback amplifier topology, refer to the [AD830](#) data sheet. The AD830 is a practical implementation of the idea.

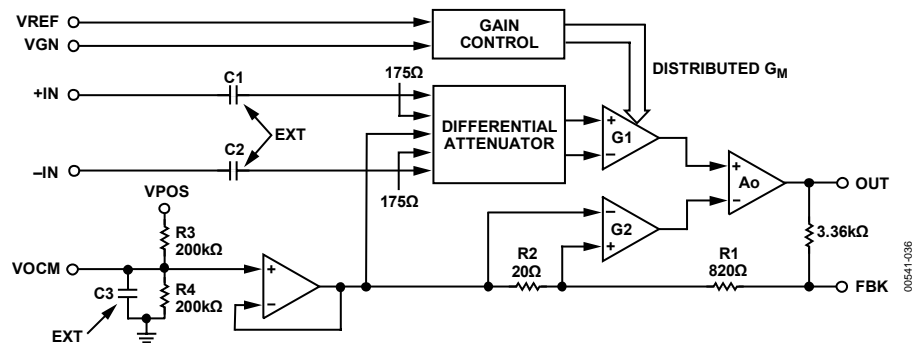


Figure 35. Simplified Block Diagram of a Single Channel of the AD605

## AD605

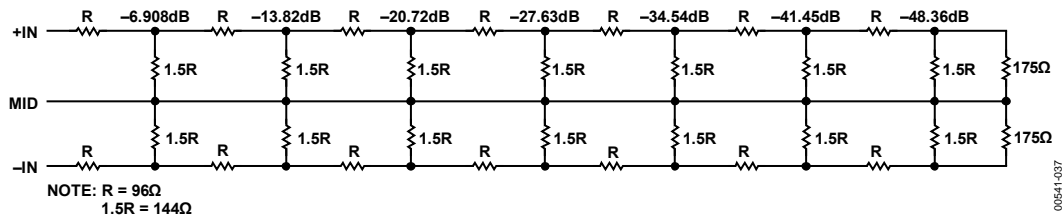


Figure 36. R-1.5R Dual Ladder Network

### DIFFERENTIAL LADDER (ATTENUATOR)

The attenuator before the fixed gain amplifier is realized by a differential 7-stage R-1.5R resistive ladder network with an untrimmed input resistance of 175  $\Omega$  single-ended or 350  $\Omega$  differentially. The signal applied at the input of the ladder network is attenuated by 6.908 dB per tap; thus, the attenuation at the first tap is 6.908 dB, at the second, 13.816 dB, and so on all the way to the last tap where the attenuation is 48.356 dB (see Figure 36). A unique circuit technique is used to interpolate continuously between the tap points, thereby providing continuous attenuation from 0 dB to -48.36 dB. One can think of the ladder network together with the interpolation mechanism as a voltage-controlled potentiometer.

Since the DSX is a single-supply circuit, some means of biasing its inputs must be provided. Node MID together with the VOCM buffer performs this function. Without internal biasing, external biasing is required. If not done carefully, the biasing network can introduce additional noise and offsets. By providing internal biasing, the user is relieved of this task and only needs to ac couple the signal into the DSX. It should be made clear again that the input to the DSX is still fully differential if driven differentially, that is, Pin +IN and Pin -IN see the same signal but with opposite polarity. What changes is the load as seen by the driver; it is 175  $\Omega$  when each input is driven single-ended, but 350  $\Omega$  when driven differentially. This can be easily explained when thinking of the ladder network as two 175  $\Omega$  resistors connected back-to-back with the middle node, MID, being biased by the VOCM buffer. A differential signal applied between nodes +IN and -IN results in zero current into node MID, but a single-ended signal applied to either input +IN or -IN, while the other input is ac grounded, causes the current delivered by the source to flow into the VOCM buffer via node MID.

A feature of the X-AMP architecture is that the output-referred noise is constant vs. gain over most of the gain range. Referring to Figure 36, the tap resistance is approximately equal for all taps within the ladder, excluding the end sections. The resistance seen looking into each tap is 54.4  $\Omega$ , which makes 0.95 nV/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$  of Johnson noise spectral density. Because there are two attenuators, the overall noise contribution of the ladder network is  $\sqrt{2}$  times 0.95 nV/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$  or 1.34 nV/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$ , a large fraction of the total DSX noise. The rest of the DSX circuit components contribute another 1.20 nV/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$ , which together with the attenuator produces 1.8 nV/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$  of total DSX input, referred noise.

### AC COUPLING

The DSX is a single-supply circuit; therefore, its inputs need to be ac-coupled to accommodate ground-based signals. External Capacitor C1 and Capacitor C2 in Figure 35 level shift the input signal from ground to the dc value established by VOCM (nominal 2.5 V). C1 and C2, together with the 175  $\Omega$  looking into each of DSX inputs (+IN and -IN), act as high-pass filters with corner frequencies depending on the values chosen for C1 and C2. For example, if C1 and C2 are 0.1  $\mu\text{F}$ , then together with the 175  $\Omega$  input resistance of each side of the differential ladder of the DSX, a -3 dB high-pass corner at 9.1 kHz is formed.

If the DSX output needs to be ground referenced, then another ac coupling capacitor is required for level shifting. This capacitor also eliminates any dc offsets contributed by the DSX. With a nominal load of 500  $\Omega$  and a 0.1  $\mu\text{F}$  coupling capacitor, this adds a high-pass filter with -3 dB corner frequency at about 3.2 kHz.

The choice for all three of these coupling capacitors depends on the application. They should allow the signals of interest to pass unattenuated, while at the same time, they can be used to limit the low frequency noise in the system.

### GAIN CONTROL INTERFACE

The gain control interface provides an input resistance of approximately 2 M $\Omega$  at Pin VGN1 and gain scaling factors from 20 dB/V to 40 dB/V for VREF input voltages of 2.5 V to 1.25 V, respectively. The gain varies linearly in dB for the center 40 dB of gain range, that is, for VGN equal to 0.4 V to 2.4 V for the 20 dB/V scale, and 0.25 V to 1.25 V for the 40 dB/V scale. Figure 37 shows the ideal gain curves when the FBK-to-OUT connection is shorted as described by the following equations:

$$G (20 \text{ dB/V}) = 20 \times VGN - 19, V_{REF} = 2.500 \text{ V} \quad (3)$$

$$G (30 \text{ dB/V}) = 30 \times VGN - 19, V_{REF} = 1.6666 \text{ V} \quad (4)$$

$$G (40 \text{ dB/V}) = 40 \times VGN - 19, V_{REF} = 1.250 \text{ V} \quad (5)$$

From the equations one can see that all gain curves intercept at the same -19 dB point; this intercept is 14 dB higher (-5 dB) if the FBK-to-OUT connection is left open. Outside of the central linear range, the gain starts to deviate from the ideal control law but still provides another 8.4 dB of range. For a given gain scaling, one can calculate  $V_{REF}$  as

$$V_{REF} = \frac{2.500 \text{ V} \times 20 \text{ dB/V}}{\text{Gain Scale}} \quad (6)$$

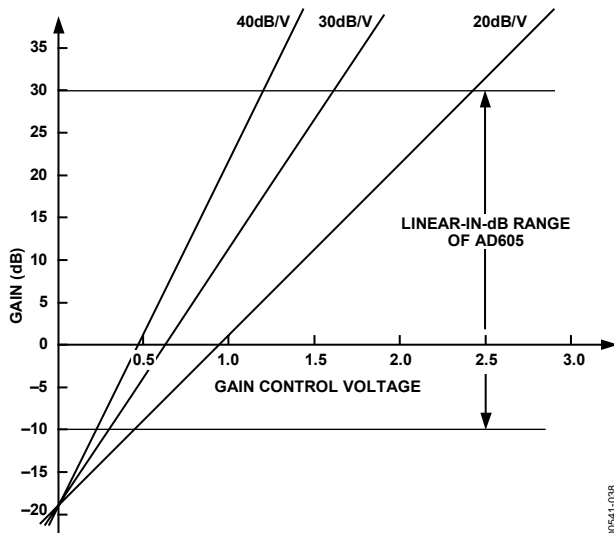


Figure 37. Ideal Gain Curves vs.  $V_{REF}$

Usable gain control voltage ranges are 0.1 V to 2.9 V for the 20 dB/V scale and 0.1 V to 1.45 V for the 40 dB/V scale. VGN voltages of less than 0.1 V are not used for gain control because below 50 mV the channel is powered down. This can be used to conserve power and at the same time gate-off the signal. The supply current for a powered-down channel is 1.9 mA, and the response time to power the device on or off is less than 1  $\mu$ s.

### ACTIVE FEEDBACK AMPLIFIER (FIXED GAIN AMP)

To achieve single-supply operation and a fully differential input to the DSX, an active feedback amplifier (AFA) was used. The AFA is an op amp with *two*  $g_m$  stages; one of the active stages is used in the feedback path (therefore the name), while the other is used as a differential input. Note that the differential input is an open-loop  $g_m$  stage that requires that it be highly linear over the expected input signal range. In this design, the  $g_m$  stage that senses the voltages on the attenuator is a distributed one; for example, there are as many  $g_m$  stages as there are taps on the ladder network. Only a few of them are on at any one time, depending on the gain control voltage.

The AFA makes a differential input structure possible since one of its inputs (G1) is fully differential; this input is made up of a distributed  $g_m$  stage. The second input (G2) is used for feedback. The output of G1 is some function of the voltages sensed on the attenuator taps that is applied to a high-gain amplifier (A0). Because of negative feedback, the differential input to the high gain amplifier is zero; this in turn implies that the differential input voltage to G2 times  $g_{m2}$  (the transconductance of G2) is equal to the differential input voltage to G1 times  $g_{m1}$  (the transconductance of G1). Therefore the overall gain function of the AFA is

$$\frac{V_{OUT}}{V_{ATTEN}} = \frac{g_{m1}}{g_{m2}} \times \frac{R1 \times R2}{R2} \quad (7)$$

where:

$V_{OUT}$  is the output voltage.

$V_{ATTEN}$  is the effective voltage sensed on the attenuator.

$(R1 + R2)/R2 = 42$ .

$g_{m1}/g_{m2} = 1.25$ ; the overall gain is therefore 52.5 (34.4 dB).

The AFA has additional features: inverting the output signal by switching the positive and negative input to the ladder network; the possibility of using the -IN input as a second signal input; and independent control of the DSX common-mode voltage. Under normal operating conditions, it is best to connect a decoupling capacitor to Pin VOCM, in which case, the common-mode voltage of the DSX is half of the supply voltage; this allows for maximum signal swing. Nevertheless, the common-mode voltage can be shifted up or down by directly applying a voltage to VOCM. It can also be used as another signal input, the only limitation being the rather low slew rate of the VOCM buffer.

If the dc level of the output signal is not critical, another coupling capacitor is normally used at the output of the DSX; again, this is done for level shifting and to eliminate any dc offsets contributed by the DSX (see the AC Coupling section).

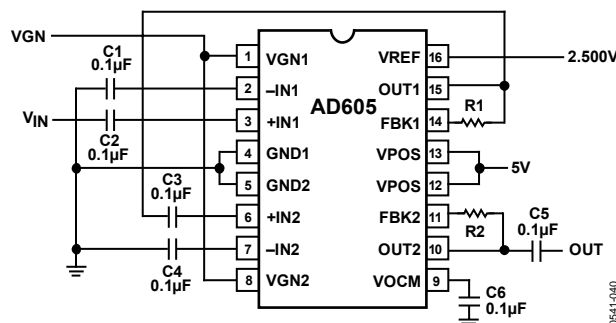
The gain range of the DSX is programmable by a resistor connected between Pin FBK and Pin OUT. The possible ranges are -14 dB to +34.4 dB when the pins are shorted together, or 0 dB to +48.4 dB when FBK is left open. Note that for the higher gain range, the bandwidth of the amplifier is reduced by a factor of five to about 8 MHz because the gain increased by 14 dB. This is the case for any constant gain bandwidth product amplifier that includes the active feedback amplifier.

## APPLICATIONS

As shown in Figure 38, the output is ac-coupled for optimum performance. In the case of connecting to the 10-bit, 40 MSPS ADC, [AD9050](#), ac coupling can be eliminated as long as Pin VOCM is biased by the same 3.3 V common-mode voltage as the [AD9050](#).

Pin VREF requires a voltage of 1.25 V to 2.5 V, with gain scaling between 40 dB/V and 20 dB/V, respectively. Voltage VGN controls the gain; its nominal operating range is from 0.25 V to 2.65 V for 20 dB/V gain scaling, and 0.125 V to 1.325 V for 40 dB/V scaling. When this pin is taken to ground, the channel powers down and disables its output.

Figure 39 shows the two channels of the AD605 connected in series to provide a total gain range of 96.8 dB. When R1 and R2 are shorts, the gain range is from  $-28$  dB to  $+68.8$  dB with a slightly reduced bandwidth of about 30 MHz. The reduction in bandwidth is due to two identical low-pass circuits being connected in series; in the case of two identical single-pole low-pass filters, the bandwidth would be reduced by exactly  $\sqrt{2}$ . If R1 and R2 are replaced by open circuits, that is, Pin FBK1 and Pin FBK2 are left unconnected, then the gain range shifts up by 28 dB to 0 dB to 96.8 dB. As previously noted, the bandwidth of each individual channel is reduced by a factor of 5 to about 8 MHz because the gain increased by 14 dB. In addition, there is still the  $\sqrt{2}$  reduction because of the series connection of the two channels that results in a final bandwidth of the higher gain version of about 6 MHz.



Two other easy combinations are possible to provide a gain range of  $-14$  dB to  $+28.2$  dB: make R1 a short and R2 an open, or make R1 an open and R2 a short. The bandwidth for both of these cases is dominated by the channel that is set to the higher gain and is about 8 MHz. From a noise standpoint, the second choice is the best because by increasing the gain of the first amplifier, the second amplifier's noise has less of an impact on the total output noise. One further observation regarding noise is that by increasing the gain, the output noise increases proportionally; therefore, there is *no* increase in signal-to-noise ratio. It actually stays fixed.

It should be noted that by selecting the appropriate values of R1 and R2, any gain range between  $-28$  dB to  $+68.8$  dB and  $0$  dB to  $+96.8$  dB can be achieved with the circuit in Figure 39. When using any value other than shorts and opens for R1 and R2, the final value of the gain range depends on the external resistors matching the on-chip resistors. Since the internal resistors can vary by as much as  $\pm 20\%$ , the actual values for a particular gain have to be determined empirically. Note that the two channels within one part match quite well; therefore, R1 tracks R2 in Figure 39.

C3 is not required because the common-mode voltage at Pin OUT1 should be identical to the one at Pin +IN2 and Pin -IN2. However, since only 1 mV of offset at the output of the first DSX introduces an offset of 53 mV when the second DSX is set to the maximum gain of the lowest gain range (34.4 dB), and 263 mV when set to the maximum gain of the highest gain range (48.4 dB), it is important to include ac coupling to get the maximum dynamic range at the output of the cascaded amplifiers. C5 is necessary if the output signal needs to be referenced to any common-mode level other than half of the supply as is provided by Pin OUT2.



Figure 40 shows the gain vs. VGN for the circuit in Figure 39 at 1 MHz and the lowest gain range (–14 dB to +34.4 dB). Note that the gain scaling is 40 dB/V, double the 20 dB/V of an individual DSX; this is the result of the parallel connection of the gain control inputs, VGN1 and VGN2. One could of course also sequentially increase the gain by first increasing the gain of Channel 1 and then Channel 2. In this case, VGN1 and VGN2 are driven from separate voltage sources, for instance two separate DACs. Figure 41 shows the gain error of Figure 39.

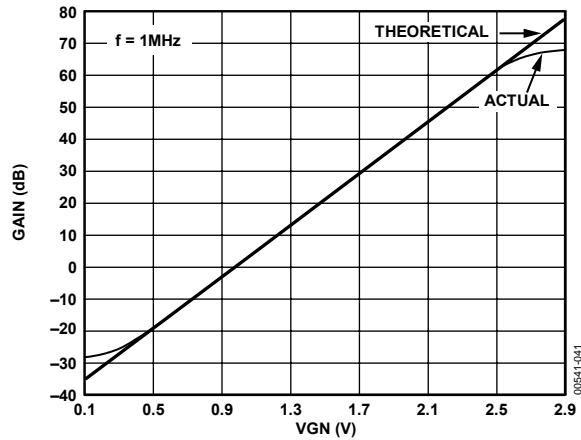


Figure 40. Gain vs. VGN for the Circuit in Figure 39

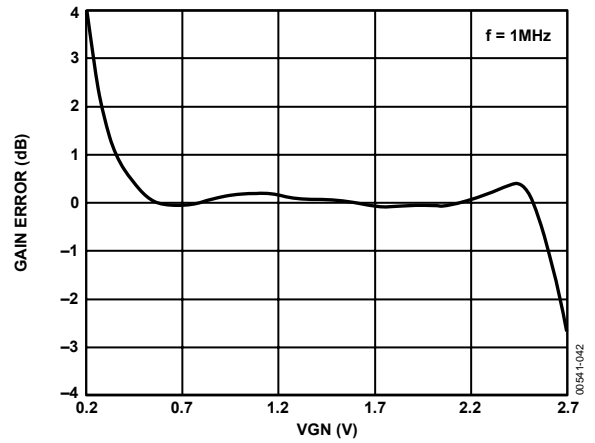
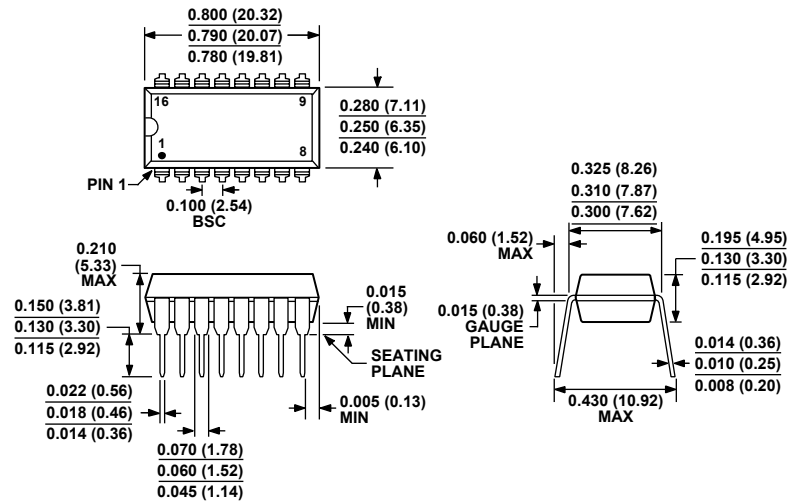


Figure 41. Gain Error vs. VGN for the Circuit in Figure 39

## OUTLINE DIMENSIONS

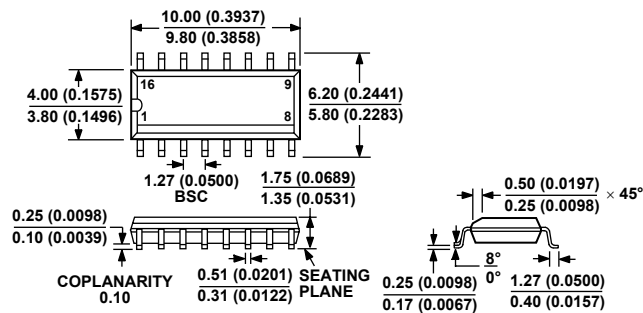


COMPLIANT TO JEDEC STANDARDS MS-001-AB

CONTROLLING DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES; MILLIMETER DIMENSIONS (IN PARENTHESES) ARE ROUNDED-OFF INCH EQUIVALENTS FOR REFERENCE ONLY AND ARE NOT APPROPRIATE FOR USE IN DESIGN. CORNER LEADS MAY BE CONFIGURED AS WHOLE OR HALF LEADS.

Figure 42. 16-Lead Plastic Dual In-Line Package [PDIP]  
(N-16)

Dimensions shown in inches and (millimeters)



COMPLIANT TO JEDEC STANDARDS MS-012-AC

CONTROLLING DIMENSIONS ARE IN MILLIMETERS; INCH DIMENSIONS (IN PARENTHESES) ARE ROUNDED-OFF MILLIMETER EQUIVALENTS FOR REFERENCE ONLY AND ARE NOT APPROPRIATE FOR USE IN DESIGN.

Figure 43. 16-Lead Standard Small Outline Package [SOIC\_N]  
Narrow Body  
(R-16)

Dimensions shown in millimeters and (inches)

**ORDERING GUIDE**

Model	Temperature Range	Package Description	Package Option
AD605AN	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead PDIP	N-16
AD605ANZ <sup>1</sup>	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead PDIP	N-16
AD605AR	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead SOIC_N	R-16
AD605AR-REEL	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead SOIC_N, 13" Reel	R-16
AD605AR-REEL7	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead SOIC_N, 7" Reel	R-16
AD605ARZ <sup>1</sup>	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead SOIC_N	R-16
AD605ARZ-RL <sup>1</sup>	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead SOIC_N, 13" Reel	R-16
AD605ARZ-RL7 <sup>1</sup>	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead SOIC_N, 7" Reel	R-16
AD605BN	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead PDIP	N-16
AD605BR	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead SOIC_N	R-16
AD605BR-REEL	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead SOIC_N, 13" Reel	R-16
AD605BR-REEL7	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead SOIC_N, 7" Reel	R-16
AD605BRZ <sup>1</sup>	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead SOIC_N	R-16
AD605BRZ-RL <sup>1</sup>	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead SOIC_N, 13" Reel	R-16
AD605BRZ-RL7 <sup>1</sup>	−40°C to +85°C	16-Lead SOIC_N, 7" Reel	R-16
AD605-EB		Evaluation Board	
AD605ACHIPS		DIE	

<sup>1</sup> Z = Pb-free part.

**AD605**

**NOTES**