



v00.0202

HMC425LP3

0.5 dB LSB GaAs MMIC 6-BIT DIGITAL POSITIVE CONTROL ATTENUATOR, 2.4 - 8.0 GHz

Typical Applications

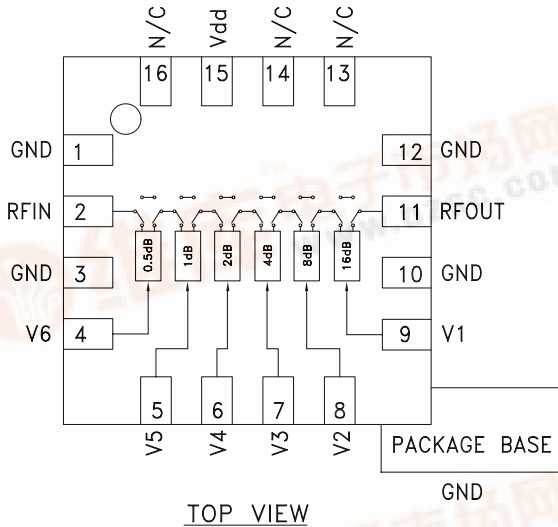
The HMC425LP3 is ideal for:

- WLAN & Point-to-Multi-Point
- Fiber Optics & Broadband Telecom
- Microwave Radio & VSAT
- Military

Features

- 0.5 dB LSB Steps to 31.5 dB
- Single Control Line Per Bit
- +/- 0.5 dB Typical Bit Error
- Single +5V Supply
- 3 mm x 3 mm x 1 mm SMT Package

Functional Diagram



General Description

The HMC425LP3 is a broadband 6-bit GaAs IC digital attenuator in a low cost leadless surface mount package. Covering 2.4 to 8.0 GHz, the insertion loss is less than 3.8 dB typical. The attenuator bit values are 0.5 (LSB), 1, 2, 4, 8, and 16 dB for a total attenuation of 31.5 dB. Attenuation accuracy is excellent at ± 0.5 dB typical step error with an IIP3 of +40 dBm. Six control voltage inputs, toggled between 0 and +3 to +5V, are used to select each attenuation state. A single Vdd bias of +3 to +5V is required.

Electrical Specifications,

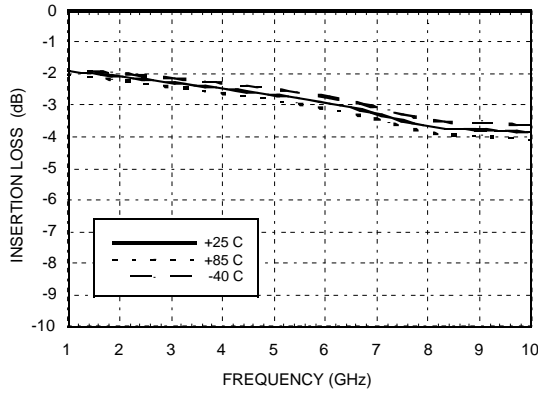
$T_A = +25^\circ C$, With $V_{dd} = +5V$ & $V_{ctl} = 0/+5V$ (Unless Otherwise Noted)

| Parameter | Frequency (GHz) | Min. | Typ. | Max. | Units |
|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------|------|-------|
| Insertion Loss | 2.4 - 6.0 GHz | | 3.0 | 3.5 | dB |
| | 6.0 - 8.0 GHz | | 3.8 | 4.3 | dB |
| Attenuation Range | 2.4 - 8.0 GHz | | 31.5 | | dB |
| Return Loss (RF1 & RF2, All Atten. States) | 2.4 - 8.0 GHz | 11 | 15 | | dB |
| Attenuation Accuracy: (Referenced to Insertion Loss) | All States 2.4 - 8.0 GHz | $\pm 0.5 + 5\%$ of Atten. Setting Max. | | | dB |
| Input Power for 0.1 dB Compression | 2.4 - 8.0 GHz | | Vdd = 5V | 22 | dBm |
| | | | Vdd = 3V | 19 | dBm |
| Input Third Order Intercept Point (Two-Tone Input Power = 0 dBm Each Tone) | 2.4 - 8.0 GHz | | REF - 16.0 dB States | 45 | dBm |
| | | | 16.5 - 31.5 dB States | 35 | dBm |
| Switching Characteristics | 2.4 - 8.0 GHz | | | | |
| tRISE, tFALL (10/90% RF) | | | 160 | | ns |
| tON, tOFF (50% CTL to 10/90% RF) | | | 180 | | ns |

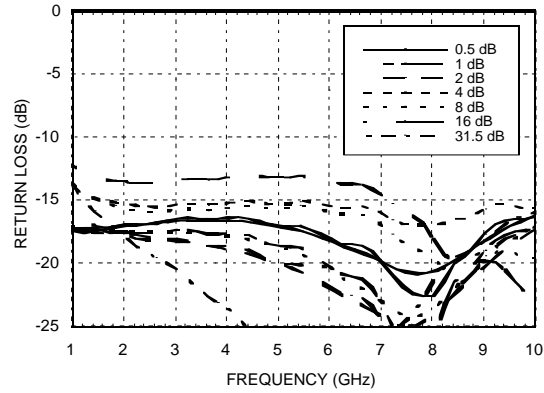


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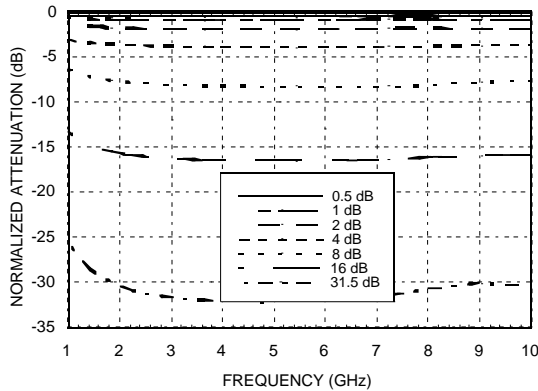
Insertion Loss



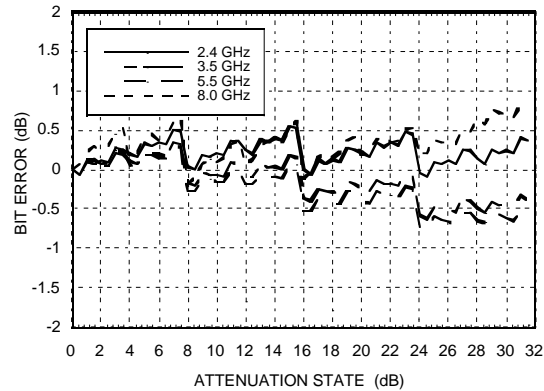
Return Loss RF1, RF2 (Only Major States are Shown)



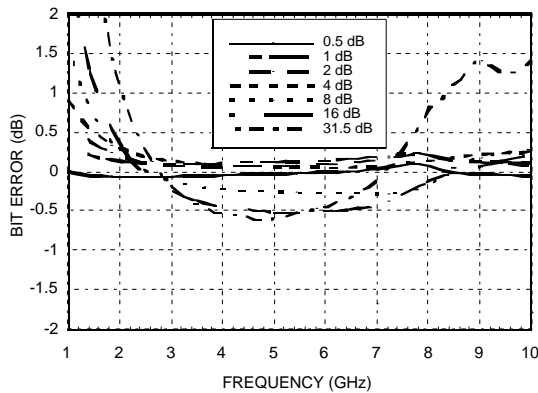
Normalized Attenuation (Only Major States are Shown)



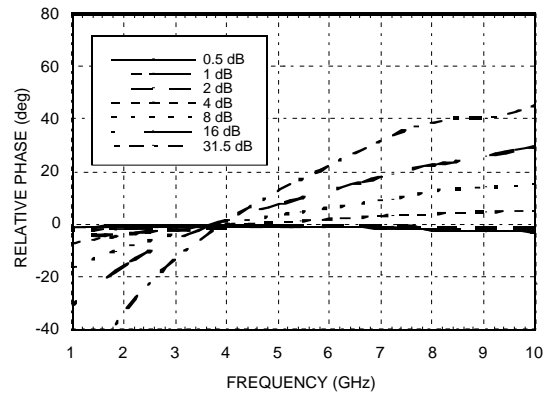
Bit Error vs. Attenuation State



Bit Error vs. Frequency (Only Major States are Shown)

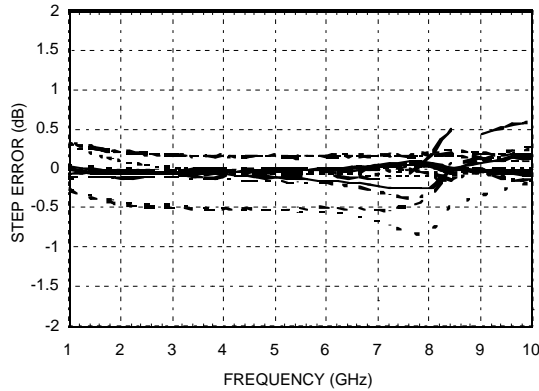


Relative Phase vs. Frequency (Only Major States are Shown)



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Worst Case Step Error Between Successive Attenuation States



Bias Voltage & Current

| Vdd Range = 3.0 to +5.0 Vdc | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Vdd (VDC) | Idd (Typ.) (µA) |
| +3.0 | 10 |
| +5.0 | 30 |

Control Voltage

| State | Bias Condition |
|-------|------------------------|
| Low | 0 to 0.2V @ 10 uA Typ. |
| High | Vdd ± 0.2V @ 5 uA Typ. |

Note: Vdd = +3V to +5V

Truth Table

| Control Voltage Input | | | | | | Attenuation State RF1 - RF2 |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| V1 16 dB | V2 8 dB | V3 4 dB | V4 2 dB | V5 1 dB | V6 0.5 dB | |
| High | High | High | High | High | High | Reference I.L. |
| High | High | High | High | High | Low | 0.5 dB |
| High | High | High | High | Low | High | 1 dB |
| High | High | High | Low | High | High | 2 dB |
| High | High | Low | High | High | High | 4 dB |
| High | Low | High | High | High | High | 8 dB |
| Low | High | High | High | High | High | 16 dB |
| Low | Low | Low | Low | Low | Low | 31.5 dB |

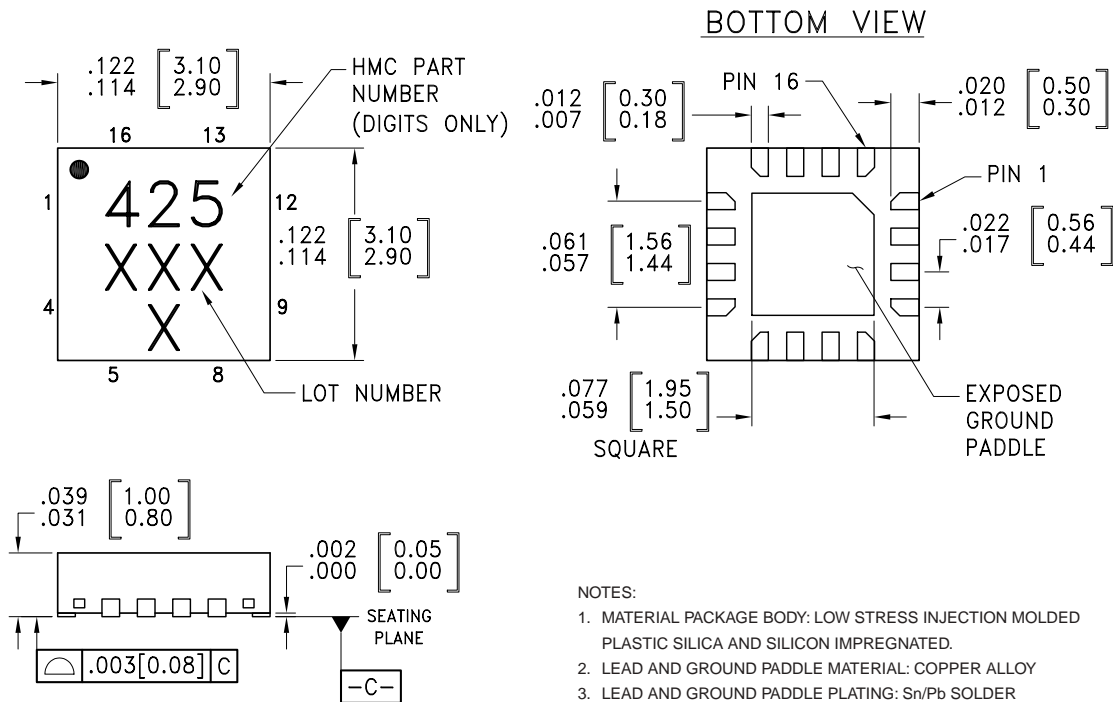
Any combination of the above states will provide an attenuation approximately equal to the sum of the bits selected.

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Absolute Maximum Ratings


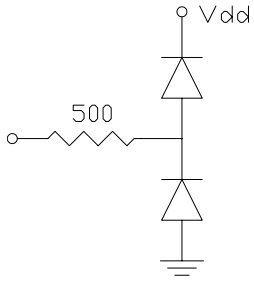
| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Control Voltage (V1 to V6) | Vdd +0.5 Vdc |
| Bias Voltage (Vdd) | +7.0 Vdc |
| Storage Temperature | -65 to +150 °C |
| Operating Temperature | -40 to +85 °C |
| RF Input Power (2.4 - 8.0 GHz) | +30 dBm |

Outline Drawing



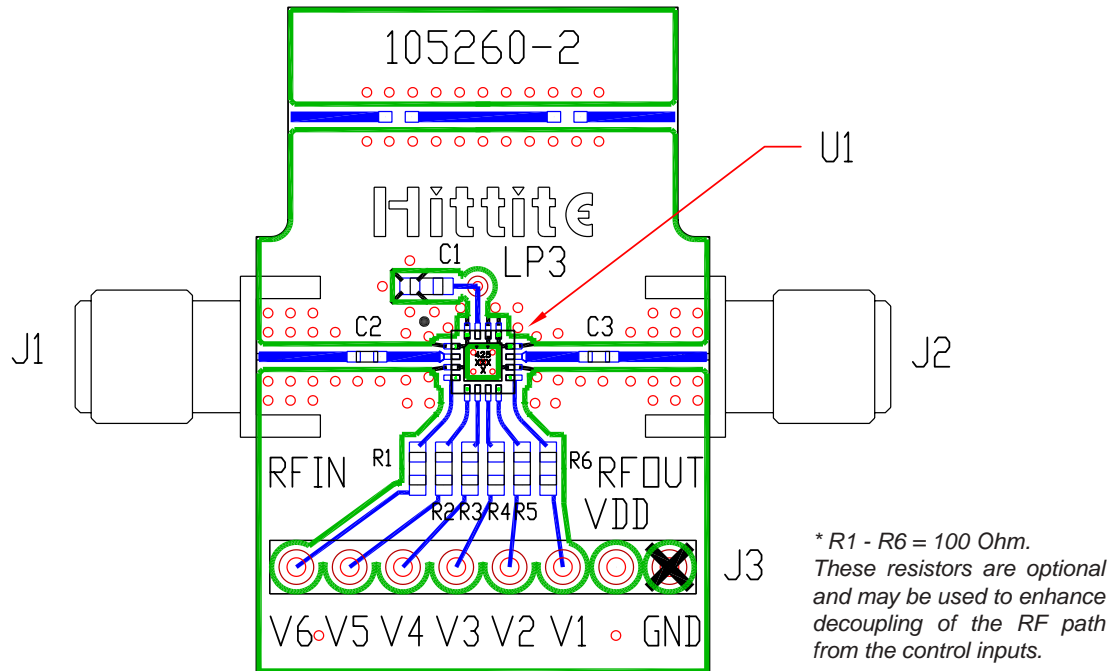
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Pin Descriptions

| Pin Number | Function | Description | Interface Schematic |
|------------------|-------------|--|--|
| 1, 3, 10, 12 | GND | Package bottom has an exposed metal paddle that must also be connected to RF Ground. |  |
| 2, 11 | RFIN, RFOUT | This pin is DC coupled and matched to 50 Ohm. Blocking capacitors are required. | |
| 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 | V1 - V6 | See truth table and control voltage table. |  |
| 13, 14, 16 | N/C | This pin should be connected to PCB RF ground to maximize performance. | |
| 15 | Vdd | Supply Voltage. | |

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Evaluation PCB



The circuit board used in the final application should use RF circuit design techniques. Signal lines should have 50 ohm impedance while the package ground leads and exposed paddle should be connected directly to the ground plane similar to that shown. A sufficient number of via holes should be used to connect the top and bottom ground planes. The evaluation circuit board shown is available from Hittite upon request.

List of Material

| Item | Description |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| J1 - J2 | PC Mount SMA Connector |
| J3 | 8 Pin DC Connector |
| C1 | 0.01 μ F Capacitor, 0603 Pkg. |
| C2, C3 | 100 pF Capacitor, 0402 Pkg. |
| R1 - R6 | 100 Ohm Resistor, 0603 Pkg. |
| U1 | HMC425LP3 Digital Attenuator |
| PCB* | 105260 Evaluation PCB |

* Circuit Board Material: Rogers 4350