



## 0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz

### Typical Applications

The HMC926LP5E is ideal for:

- Cellular Infrastructure
- WiBro, WiMAX and LTE/4G
- Microwave Radio & VSAT
- Test Equipment and Sensors
- IF & RF Applications

### Features

Gain Control Range (in 0.5 dB Steps):

- @ 900 MHz, +6.5 to +38 dB
- @ 1900 MHz, +1 to +32.5 dB
- @ 2600 MHz, -4 to +27.5 dB

High Output IP3: +45 dBm

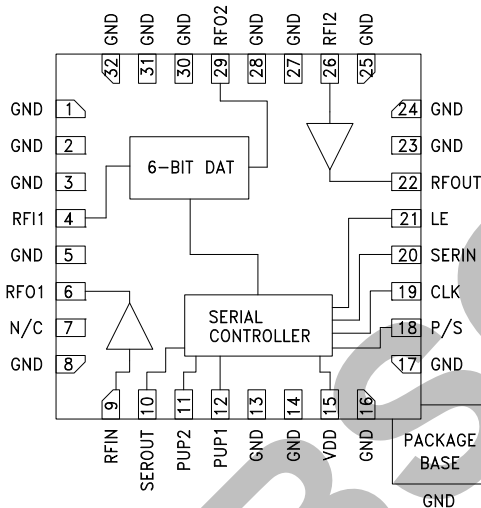
Noise Figure: 4.4 dB

Convenient Serial Control Interface

±0.25 dB Typical Step Error

32 Lead 5 x 5 mm SMT Package: 25 mm<sup>2</sup>

### Functional Diagram



### General Description

The HMC926LP5E is a digitally controlled variable gain amplifier which operates from 700 MHz to 2700 MHz, and can be programmed to provide between +6.5 dB to +38 dB of gain, in 0.5 dB steps at 900 MHz. Gain control range is from +1 dB to +32.5 dB at 1900 MHz and from -4 dB to +27.5 dB at 2600 MHz. The HMC926LP5E delivers noise figure of 4.4 dB in its maximum gain state, with output IP3 of up to +45 dBm. The HMC926LP5E features a serial only gain control interface, a user selectable power up state, and a serial output for cascading other Hittite serially controlled components.

### Electrical Specifications, $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$ , $V_s = +5\text{V}$

| Parameter                                                                          | 900 MHz Tune <sup>[1]</sup>         |      |      | 1900 MHz Tune <sup>[2]</sup>        |      |      | 2600 MHz Tune <sup>[3]</sup>        |              |      | Units |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------|------|-------------------------------------|------|------|-------------------------------------|--------------|------|-------|
|                                                                                    | Min.                                | Typ. | Max. | Min.                                | Typ. | Max. | Min.                                | Typ.         | Max. |       |
| Frequency Range                                                                    | 0.7 - 1.2                           |      |      | 1.8 - 2.4                           |      |      | 2.3 - 2.7                           |              |      | GHz   |
| Gain (Maximum Gain State)                                                          | 36                                  | 38   |      | 30                                  | 32.5 |      | 25.5                                | 27.5         |      | dB    |
| Gain Control Range                                                                 |                                     | 31.5 |      |                                     | 31.5 |      |                                     | 31.5         |      | dB    |
| Input Return Loss                                                                  |                                     | 16   |      |                                     | 19   |      |                                     | 13           |      | dB    |
| Output Return Loss                                                                 |                                     | 13   |      |                                     | 10   |      |                                     | 13           |      | dB    |
| Attenuation Accuracy:<br>(Referenced to Maximum Gain State)                        | ± (0.4 + 5% of Attenuation Setting) |      |      | ± (0.5 + 6% of Attenuation Setting) |      |      | ± (0.5 + 6% of Attenuation Setting) |              |      | dB    |
| Output Power for 1 dB Compression                                                  | 21                                  | 24   |      | 22                                  | 25   |      | 22                                  | 25           |      | dBm   |
| Output Third Order Intercept Point<br>(Pout = 0 dBm per tone, 1 MHz spacing)       |                                     | 45   |      |                                     | 40   |      |                                     | 45           |      | dBm   |
| Noise Figure                                                                       |                                     | 4.4  |      |                                     | 4.8  |      |                                     | 4.9          |      | dB    |
| Switching Characteristics<br>tON (50% CTL to 90% RF) /<br>tOFF (50% CTL to 10% RF) |                                     | -    |      |                                     | -    |      |                                     | 400 /<br>150 |      | ns    |
| Total Current                                                                      | 162                                 | 218  | 262  | 162                                 | 218  | 262  | 162                                 | 218          | 262  | mA    |

[1] See Evaluation PCB and Application Circuit for 900 MHz Tune. Unless otherwise noted, typical performance at 900 MHz, with maximum gain state.

[2] See Evaluation PCB and Application Circuit for 1900 MHz Tune. Unless otherwise noted, typical performance at 1900 MHz, with maximum gain state.

[3] See Evaluation PCB and Application Circuit for 2600 MHz Tune. Unless otherwise noted, typical performance at 2600 MHz, with maximum gain state.

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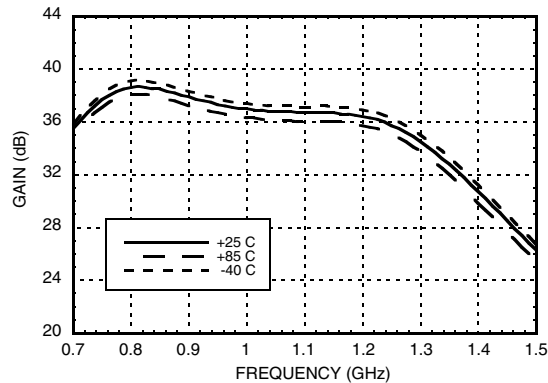
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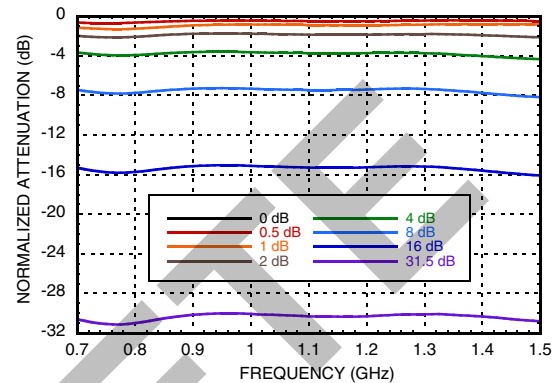
**0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL  
VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz**

**900 MHz Tune [1]**

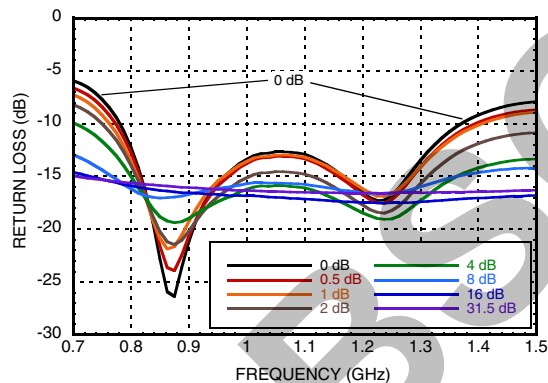
**Maximum Gain vs. Frequency [2]**



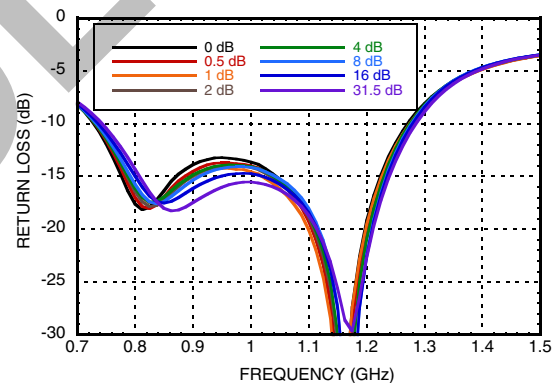
**Normalized Attenuation**  
(Only Major States are Shown)



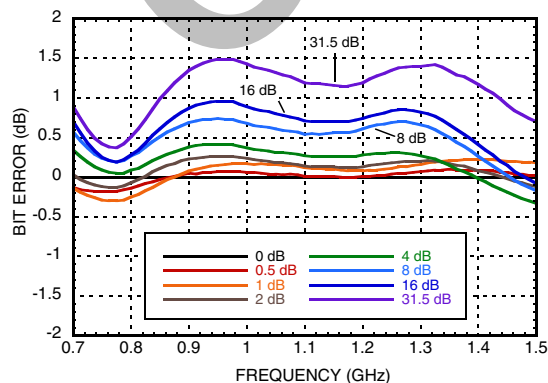
**Input Return Loss**  
(Only Major States are Shown)



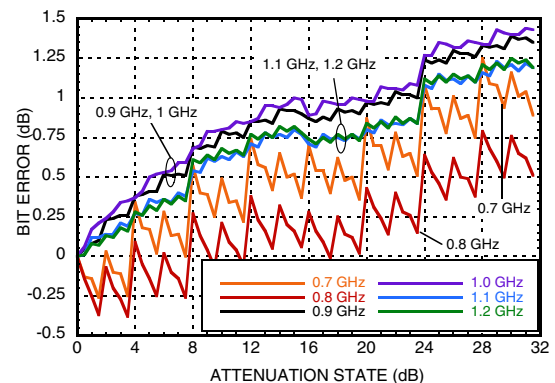
**Output Return Loss**  
(Only Major States are Shown)



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



**Bit Error vs. Attenuation State**



[1] See Evaluation PCB and Application Circuit for 900 MHz Tune.

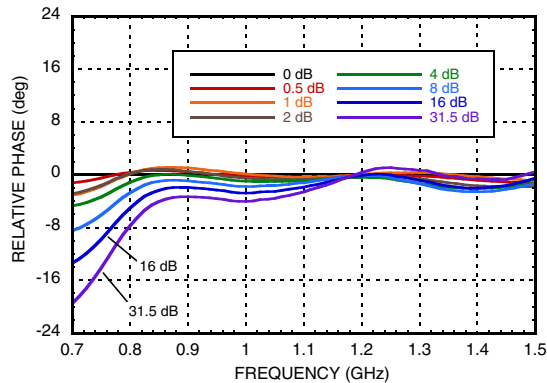
[2] Maximum gain state with digital attenuation set to minimum attenuation.



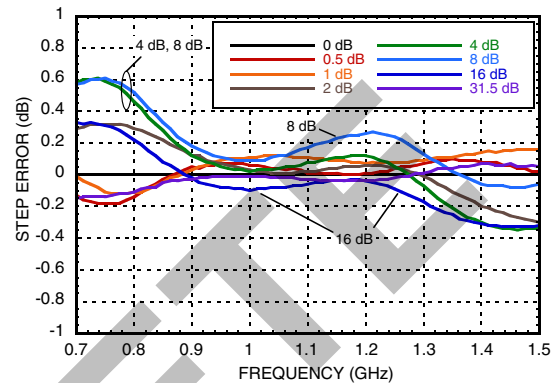
# 0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz

**900 MHz Tune [1]**

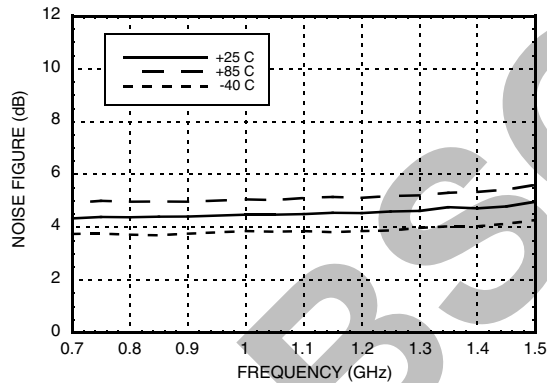
**Relative Phase vs. Frequency**  
(Only Major States are Shown)



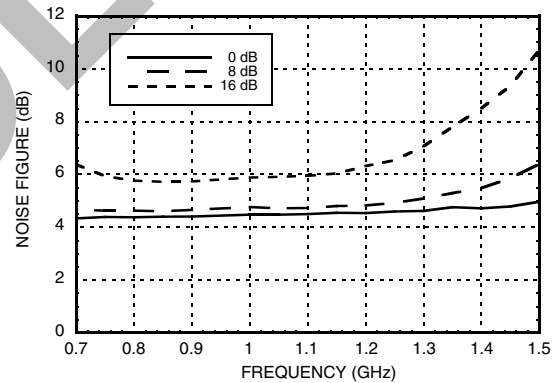
**Step Error vs. Frequency**  
(Only Major States are Shown)



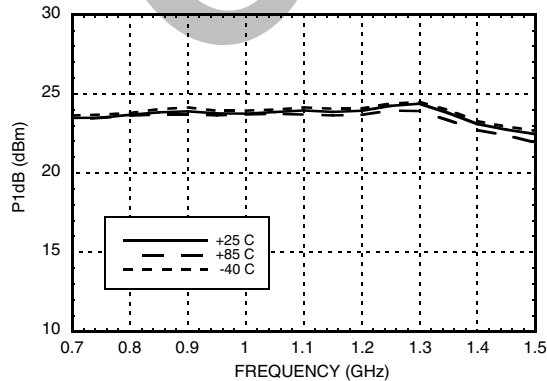
**Noise Figure vs. Temperature [2]**



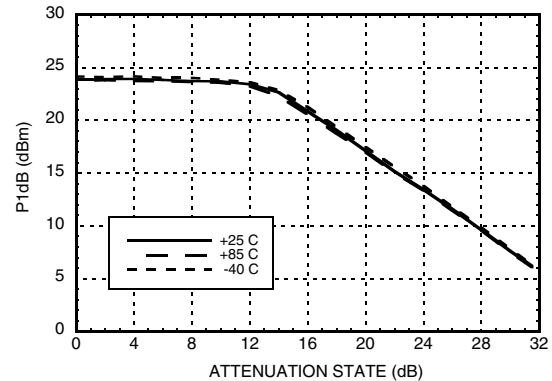
**Noise Figure vs. Attenuation State**



**Output P1dB vs. Frequency [2]**



**Output P1dB vs. Attenuation State  
@ 900 MHz**



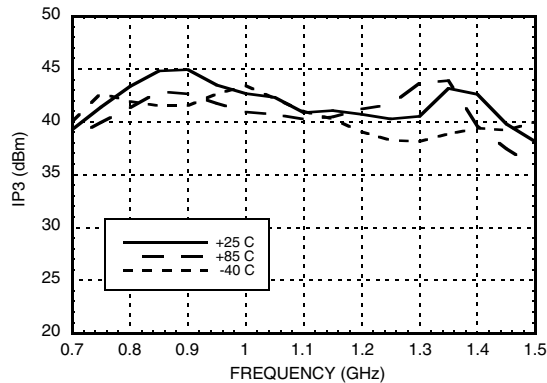
[1] See Evaluation PCB and Application Circuit for 900 MHz Tune.

[2] Maximum gain state with digital attenuation set to minimum attenuation.

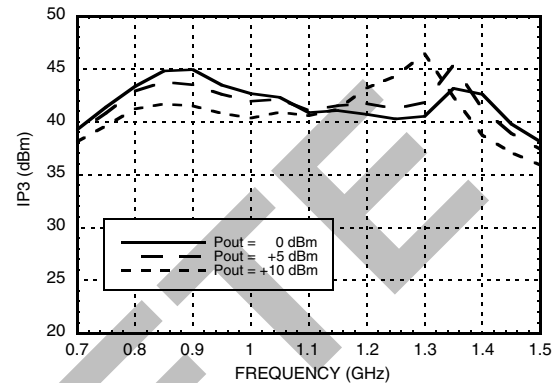
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VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz**

**900 MHz Tune [1]**

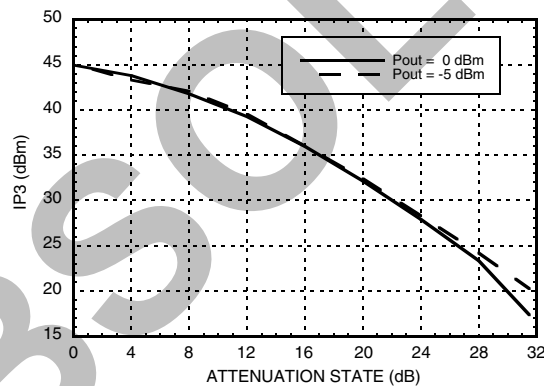
**Output IP3 vs. Temperature [2][3]**



**Output IP3 vs. Tone Power [2]**



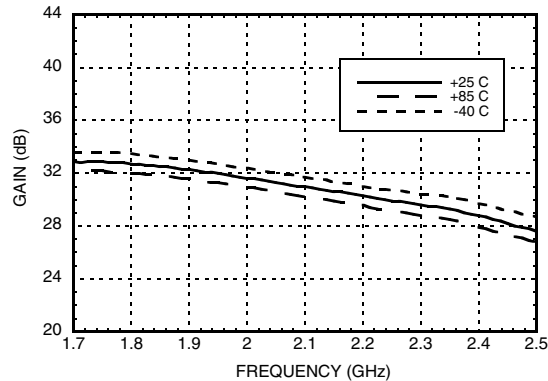
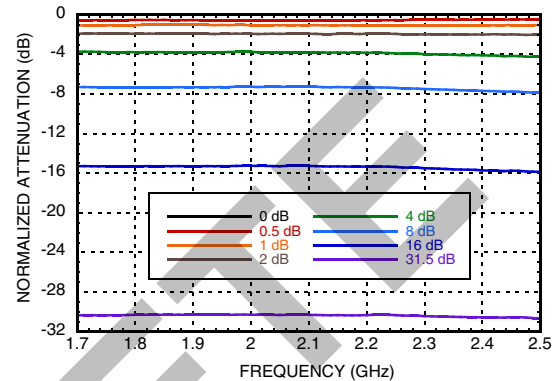
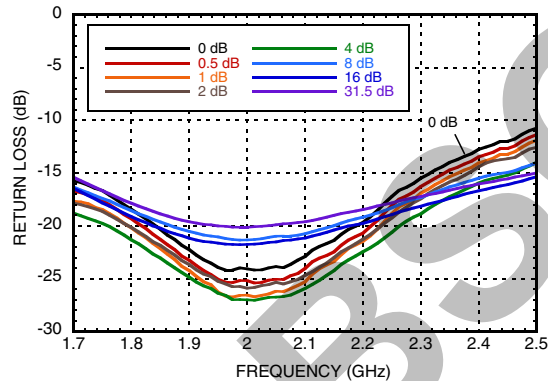
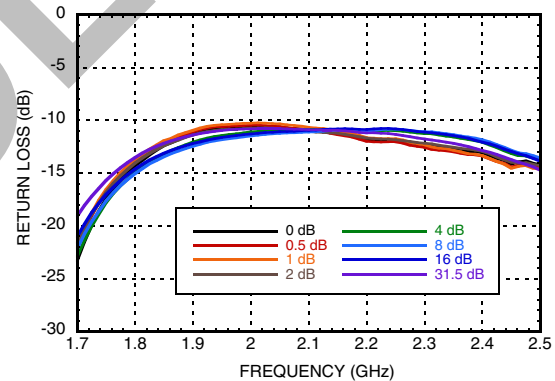
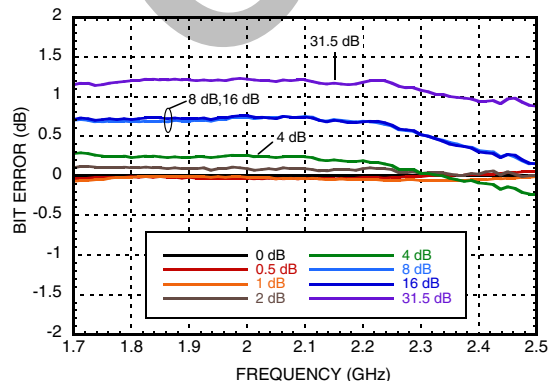
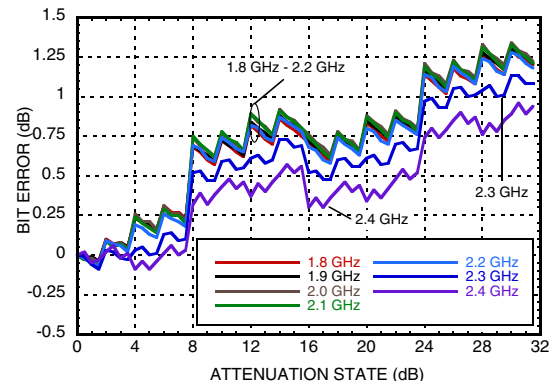
**Output IP3 vs. Attenuation State  
@ 900 MHz**



[1] See Evaluation PCB and Application Circuit for 900 MHz Tune.

[2] Maximum gain state with digital attenuation set to minimum attenuation.

[3] Two-tone output power @ 0 dBm

**0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL  
VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz**
**1900 MHz Tune <sup>[1]</sup>**
**Maximum Gain vs. Frequency <sup>[2]</sup>**

**Normalized Attenuation  
(Only Major States are Shown)**

**Input Return Loss  
(Only Major States are Shown)**

**Output Return Loss  
(Only Major States are Shown)**

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

**Bit Error vs. Attenuation State**


[1] See Evaluation PCB and Application Circuit for 1900 MHz Tune.

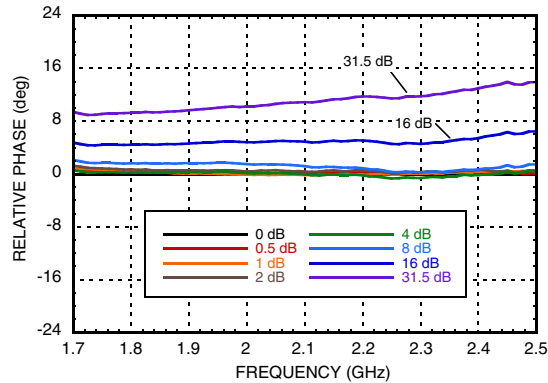
[2] Maximum gain state with digital attenuation set to minimum attenuation.



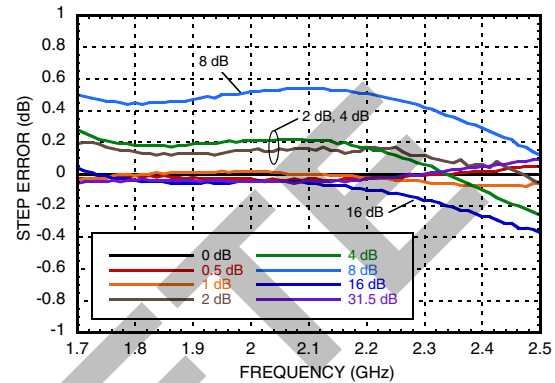
# 0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz

1900 MHz Tune <sup>[1]</sup>

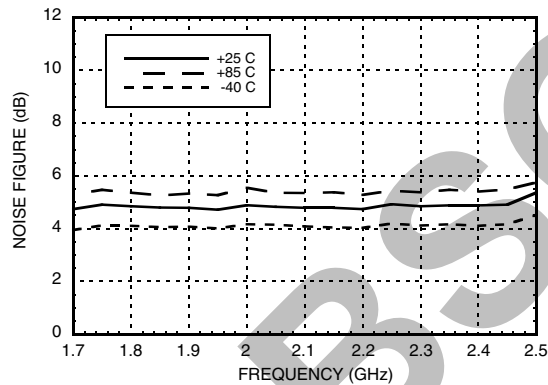
**Relative Phase vs. Frequency**  
(Only Major States are Shown)



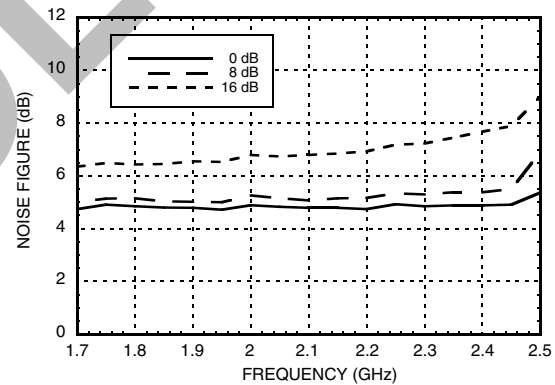
**Step Error vs. Frequency**  
(Only Major States are Shown)



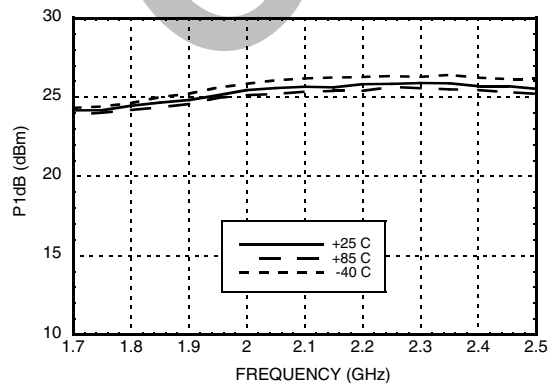
**Noise Figure vs. Temperature <sup>[2]</sup>**



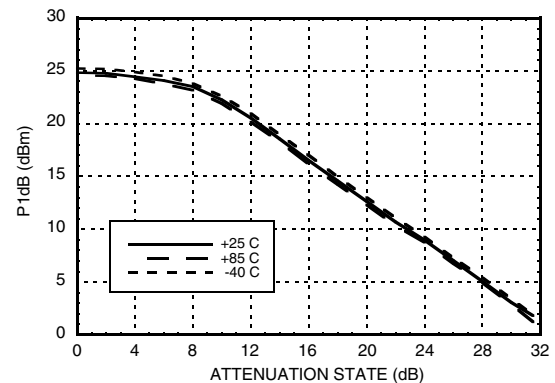
**Noise Figure vs. Attenuation State**



**Output P1dB vs. Frequency <sup>[2]</sup>**



**Output P1dB vs. Attenuation State  
@ 1900 MHz**



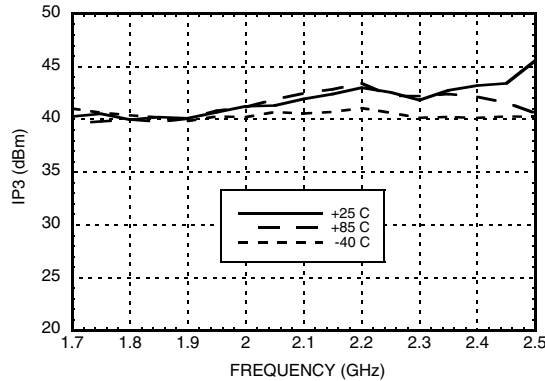
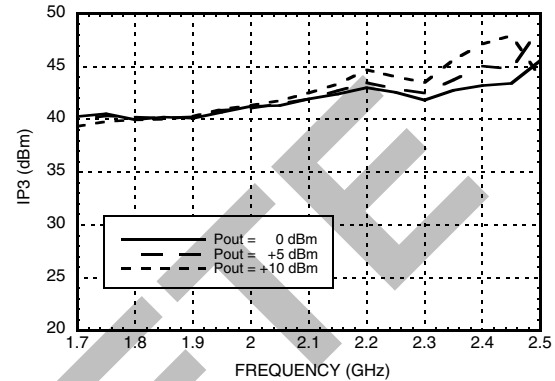
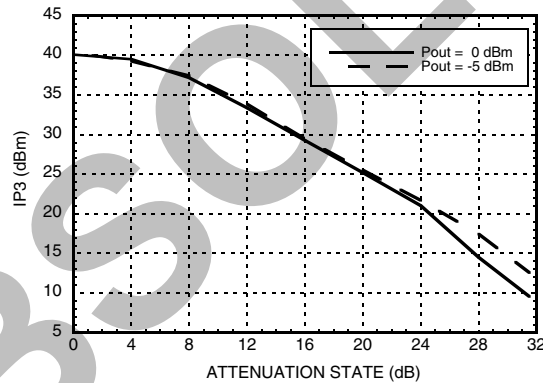
[1] See Evaluation PCB and Application Circuit for 1900 MHz Tune.

[2] Maximum gain state with digital attenuation set to minimum attenuation.



# 0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz

## 1900 MHz Tune <sup>[1]</sup>

**Output IP3 vs. Temperature <sup>[2][3]</sup>**

**Output IP3 vs. Tone Power <sup>[2]</sup>**

**Output IP3 vs. Attenuation State  
@ 1900 MHz**


[1] See Evaluation PCB and Application Circuit for 1900 MHz Tune.

[2] Maximum gain state with digital attenuation set to minimum attenuation.

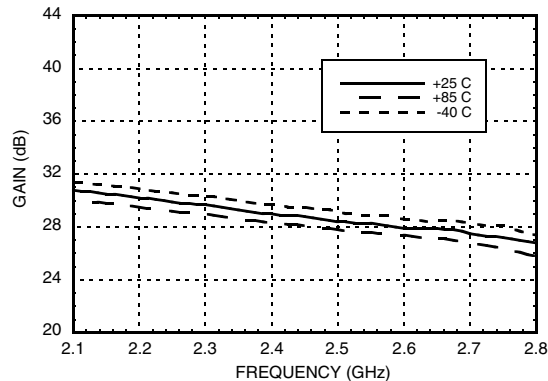
[3] Two-tone output power @ 0 dBm



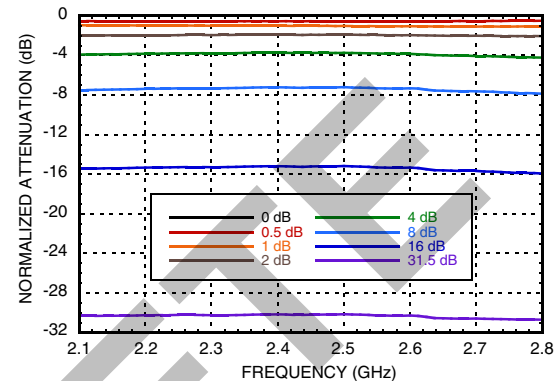
# 0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz

2600 MHz Tune <sup>[1]</sup>

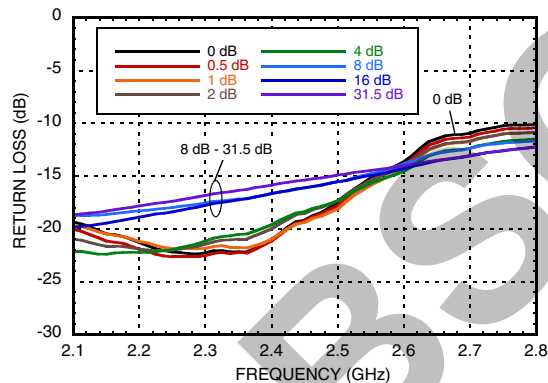
**Maximum Gain vs. Frequency** <sup>[2]</sup>



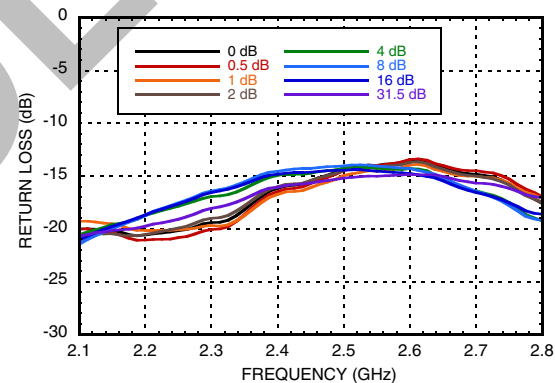
**Normalized Attenuation**  
(Only Major States are Shown)



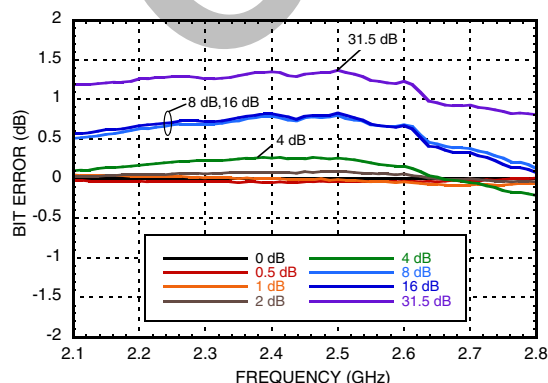
**Input Return Loss**  
(Only Major States are Shown)



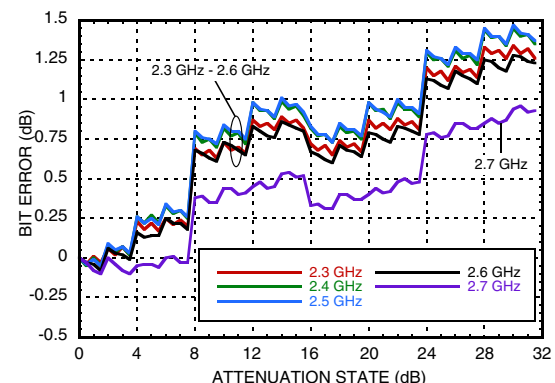
**Output Return Loss**  
(Only Major States are Shown)



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



**Bit Error vs. Attenuation State**



[1] See Evaluation PCB and Application Circuit for 2600 MHz Tune.

[2] Maximum gain state with digital attenuation set to minimum attenuation.

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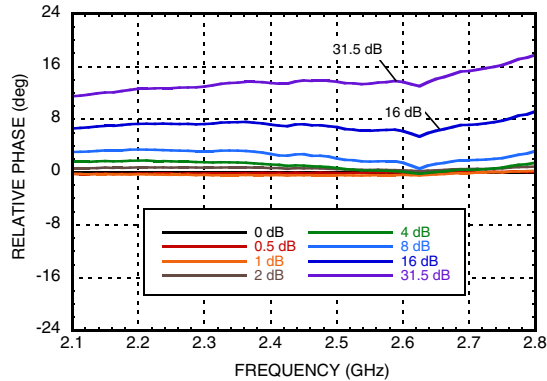
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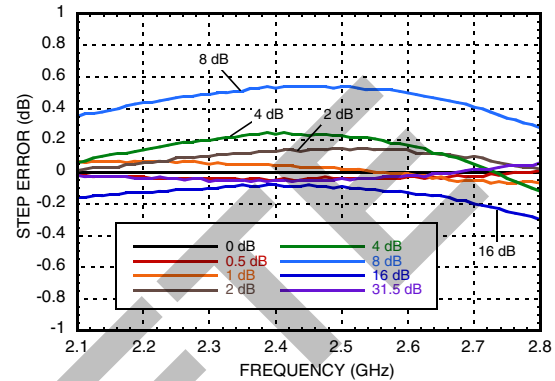
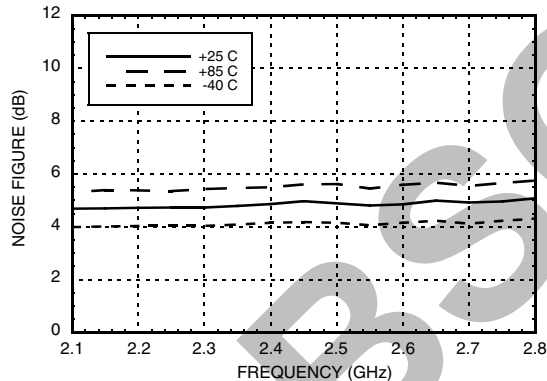
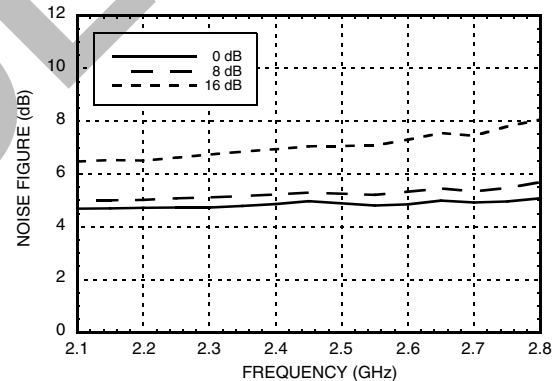
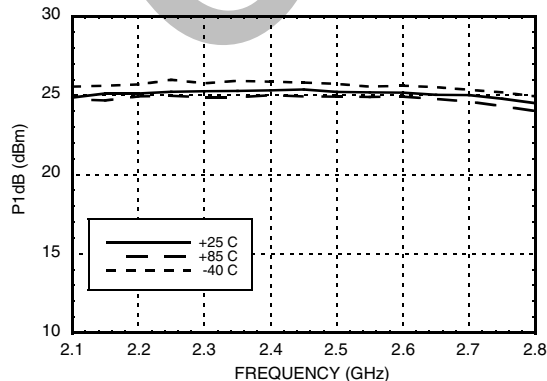
# 0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz

**2600 MHz Tune <sup>[1]</sup>**
**Relative Phase vs. Frequency**

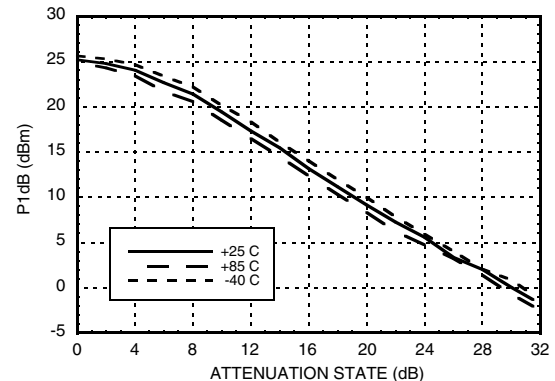
(Only Major States are Shown)


**Step Error vs. Frequency**

(Only Major States are Shown)


**Noise Figure vs. Temperature <sup>[2]</sup>**

**Noise Figure vs. Attenuation State**

**Output P1dB vs. Frequency <sup>[2]</sup>**

**Output P1dB vs. Attenuation State**

@ 2600 MHz



[1] See Evaluation PCB and Application Circuit for 2600 MHz Tune.

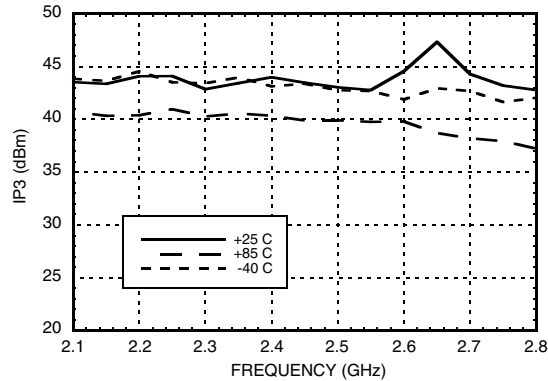
[2] Maximum gain state with digital attenuation set to minimum attenuation.



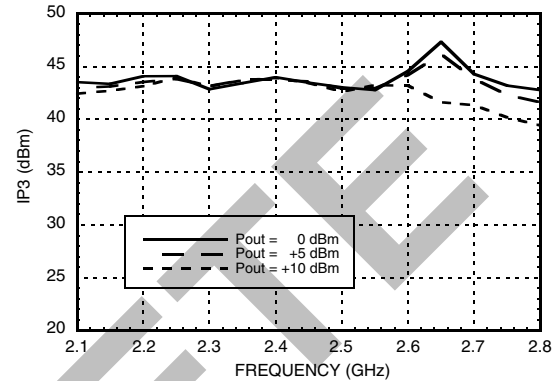
**0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL  
VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz**

**2600 MHz Tune [1]**

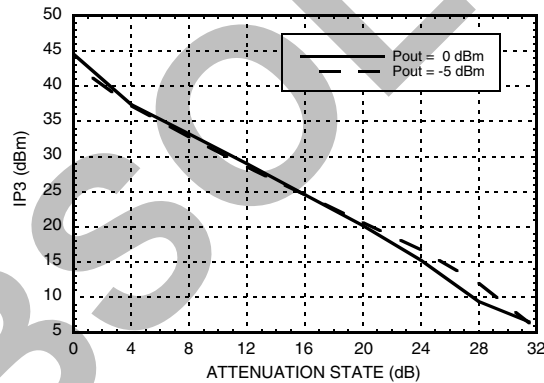
**Output IP3 vs. Temperature [2][3]**



**Output IP3 vs. Tone Power [2]**



**Output IP3 vs. Attenuation State  
@ 2600 MHz**



[1] See Evaluation PCB and Application Circuit for 2600 MHz Tune.

[2] Maximum gain state with digital attenuation set to minimum attenuation.

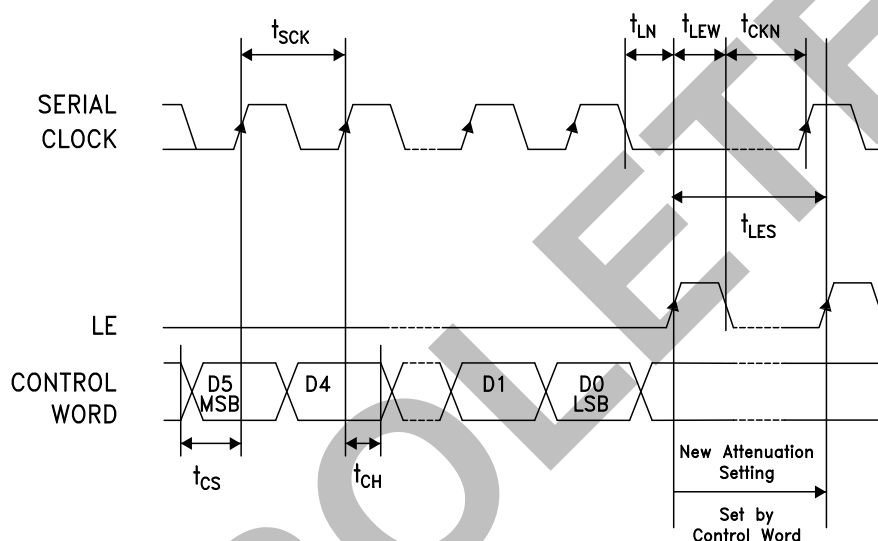
[3] Two-tone output power @ 0 dBm



**0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL  
VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz**

**Serial Control Interface**

The HMC926LP5E contains a 3-wire SPI compatible digital interface (SERIN, CLK, LE). It is activated when P/S is kept high. The 6-bit serial word must be loaded MSB first. The positive-edge sensitive CLK and LE requires clean transitions. Standard logic families work well. If mechanical switches were used, sufficient debouncing should be provided. When LE is high, 6-bit data in the serial input register is transferred to the attenuator. When LE is high CLK is masked to prevent data transition during output loading.



| Parameter                                 | Typ.   |
|-------------------------------------------|--------|
| Min. serial period, $t_{sck}$             | 100 ns |
| Control set-up time, $t_{CS}$             | 20 ns  |
| Control hold-time, $t_{CH}$               | 20 ns  |
| LE setup-time, $t_{LN}$                   | 10 ns  |
| Min. LE pulse width, $t_{LEW}$            | 10 ns  |
| Min LE pulse spacing, $t_{LES}$           | 630 ns |
| Serial clock hold-time from LE, $t_{CKN}$ | 10 ns  |



## 0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz

### Power-Up States

If LE is set to logic LOW at power-up, the logic state of PUP1 and PUP2 determines the power-up state of the part per PUP truth table. The DVGA latches in the desired power-up state approximately 200 ms after power-up.

### Power-On Sequence

The ideal power-up sequence is: GND, Vs, digital inputs, RF inputs. The relative order of the digital inputs are not important as long as they are powered after Vs / GND

### PUP Truth Table

| LE | PUP1 | PUP2 | Gain Relative to Maximum Gain |
|----|------|------|-------------------------------|
| 0  | 0    | 0    | -31.5 dB                      |
| 0  | 1    | 0    | -24 dB                        |
| 0  | 0    | 1    | -16 dB                        |
| 0  | 1    | 1    | Insertion Loss                |

### Control Voltage Table

| State | Vdd = +5V              |
|-------|------------------------|
| Low   | 0 to 0.8V @ <1 $\mu$ A |
| High  | 2 to 5V @ <1 $\mu$ A   |

### Typical Supply Current vs. Vs

| Vs (V) | Total Is (mA) |
|--------|---------------|
| 4.5    | 153           |
| 5.0    | 218           |
| 5.5    | 288           |

Note: Amplifier will operate over full voltage ranges shown above.

### Absolute Maximum Ratings

|                                                                                   |                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Bias Voltage (Vdd)                                                                | 5.5 V                                          |
| RF Input Power (RFIN)<br>(Vdd = +5 Vdc)                                           | +10 dBm up to 1 GHz<br>+8 dBm from 1 - 2.7 GHz |
| Digital I/O<br>(Latch Enable, Clock, Serial Input,<br>Serial Output, P/S, PUP1-2) | -0.5 to Vdd +0.5V                              |
| Junction / Channel Temperature                                                    | 150 °C                                         |
| Continuous Pdiss (T= 85 °C)<br>(derate 26 mW/°C above 85 °C)                      | 1.354 W                                        |
| Thermal Resistance<br>(junction / channel to ground paddle)                       | 48 °C/W                                        |
| Storage Temperature                                                               | -65 to +150 °C                                 |
| Operating Temperature                                                             | -40 to +85 °C                                  |
| ESD Sensitivity (HBM)                                                             | Class 1A                                       |

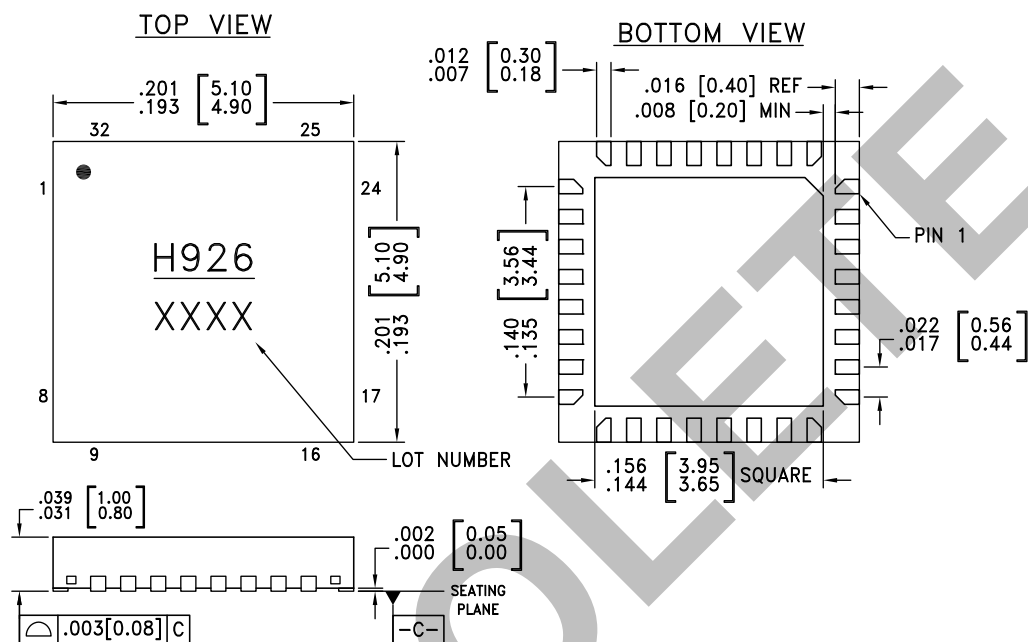


ELECTROSTATIC SENSITIVE DEVICE  
OBSERVE HANDLING PRECAUTIONS



# 0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz

## Outline Drawing



## Package Information

| Part Number | Package Body Material                              | Lead Finish   | MSL Rating          | Package Marking <sup>[1]</sup> |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| HMC926LP5E  | RoHS-compliant Low Stress Injection Molded Plastic | 100% matte Sn | MSL1 <sup>[2]</sup> | H926<br>XXXX                   |

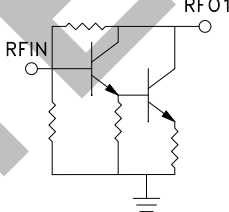
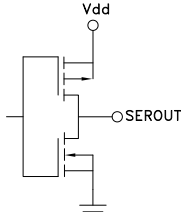
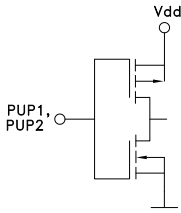
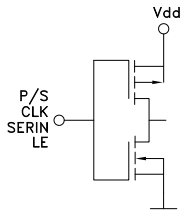
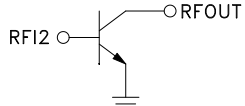
[1] 4-Digit lot number XXXX

[2] Max peak reflow temperature of 260 °C



## 0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz

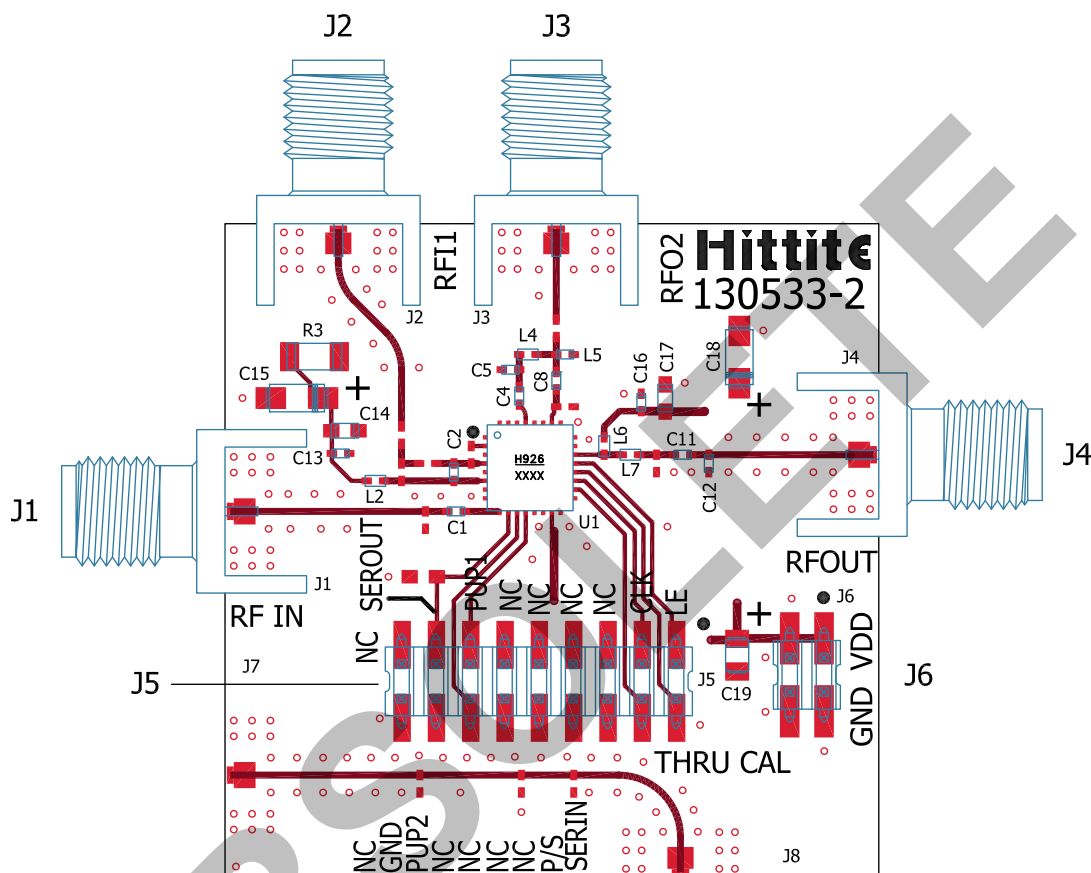
### Pin Descriptions

| Pin Number                                                  | Function   | Description                                                                                                                                                                                            | Interface Schematic                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 - 3, 5, 8, 13, 14,<br>16, 17, 23 - 25, 27,<br>28, 30 - 32 | GND        | These pins and package bottom must be connected to RF/DC ground.                                                                                                                                       |    |
| 4                                                           | RFI1       | Input and output of the 6-bit digital attenuator (6-Bit DAT). These pins are DC coupled and matched to 50 Ohms. Blocking capacitors are required. Select value based on lowest frequency of operation. |    |
| 29                                                          | RFO2       |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                       |
| 9                                                           | RFIN       | This pin is DC coupled. An off chip DC blocking capacitor is required.                                                                                                                                 |    |
| 6                                                           | RFO1       | RF output and DC Bias (Vcc) for the output stage.                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                       |
| 7                                                           | N/C        | The pin is not connected internally; however, all data shown herein was measured with this pin connected to RF/DC ground externally.                                                                   |                                                                                       |
| 10                                                          | SEROUT     | Serial input data delayed by 6 clock cycles.                                                                                                                                                           |   |
| 12, 11                                                      | PUP1, PUP2 | See PUP truth table, control voltage table.                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| 15                                                          | Vdd        | Supply voltage                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                       |
| 18                                                          | P/S        | See truth table, control voltage table and timing diagram.                                                                                                                                             |  |
| 19                                                          | CLK        |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                       |
| 20                                                          | SERIN      |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                       |
| 21                                                          | LE         |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                       |
| 26                                                          | RFI2       | This pin is DC coupled. Off chip matching components are required. See Application Circuit herein.                                                                                                     |  |
| 22                                                          | RFOUT      | RF output and DC Bias input for the amplifier. Off chip matching components are required. See Application Circuit herein.                                                                              |                                                                                       |



**0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL  
VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz**

**Evaluation PCB - 900 MHz**



**List of Materials for Evaluation PCB 131836 [1]**

| Item                      | Description                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| J1 - J4                   | Johnson SMA Connector                |
| J5                        | 2 mm Vertical Molex 18 pos Connector |
| J6                        | 2 mm Vertical Molex 4 pos Connector  |
| C1, C2, C4, C11, C13, C16 | 100 pF Capacitor, 0402 Pkg.          |
| C5                        | 6.8 pF Capacitor, 0402 Pkg.          |
| C8                        | 10 pF Capacitor, 0402 Pkg.           |
| C12                       | 1.2 pF Capacitor, 0402 Pkg.          |
| C14, C17                  | 1 nF Capacitor, 0603 Pkg.            |
| C15, C18                  | 2.2 $\mu$ F Capacitor, Tantalum      |
| C19                       | 4.7 $\mu$ F Capacitor, 0805 Pkg.     |
| L2, L6                    | 18 nH Inductor, 0402 Pkg.            |
| L4                        | 1.8 nH Inductor, 0402 Pkg.           |
| L5                        | 1.2 nH Inductor, 0402 Pkg.           |

| Item    | Description                      |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| L7      | 3.9 nH Inductor, 0402 Pkg.       |
| R3      | 1.8 $\Omega$ Resistor, 1206 Pkg. |
| U1      | HMC926LP5E DVGA                  |
| PCB [2] | 130533 Evaluation PCB            |

[1] Reference this number when ordering complete evaluation PCB

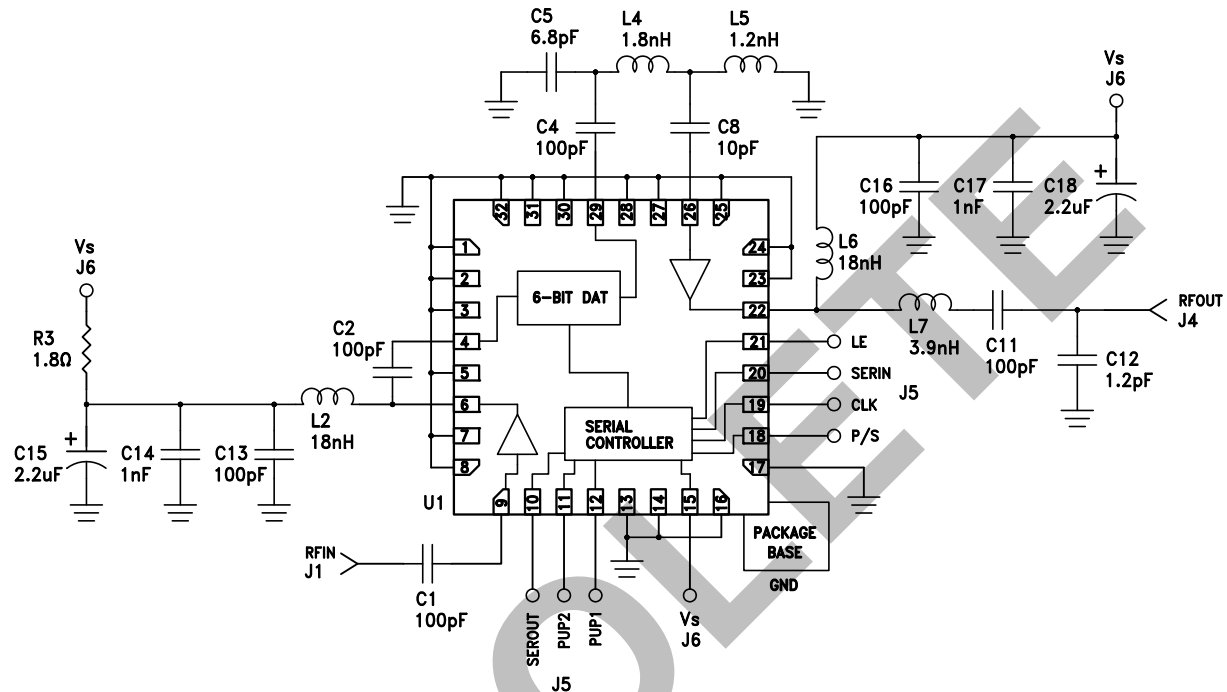
[2] Circuit Board Material: Arlon 25FR or Roger 4350

The circuit board used in the 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.



**0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL  
VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz**

**Application Circuit - 900 MHz**



Note: The HMC926LP5E requires interconnection traces with matching components from RFO1 pin to RFI1 pin, and from RFO2 pin to RFI2 pin. The proper component network (L2, C2, C4, C5, L4, L5, C8, L6, L7, C11 and C12) for 900MHz applications is provided in this schematic. The performance of the HMC926LP5E would be sensitive to the placement of these components and variations in the component values. For best performance use the identical component placement with same length transmission lines as shown in the Evaluation PCB – 900MHz. Contact factory if assistance is required on component placement and selection.

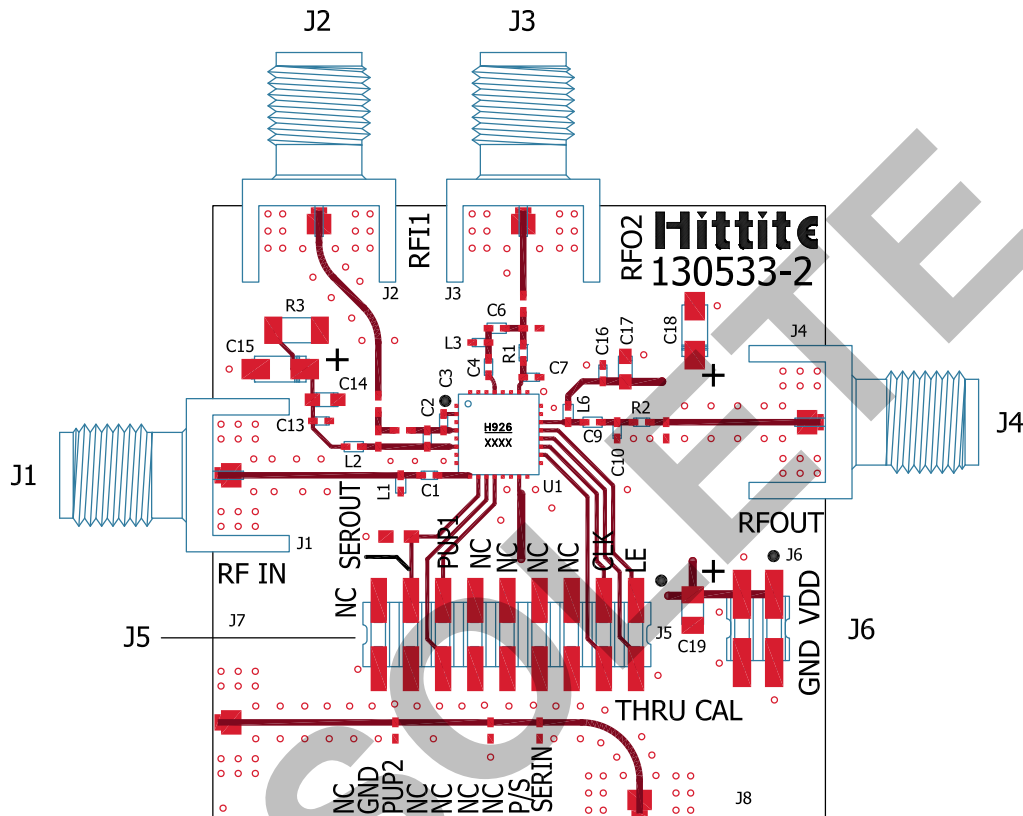
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**0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL  
VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz**

**Evaluation PCB - 1900 & 2600 MHz**



**List of Materials for Evaluation PCB <sup>[1]</sup>**

| Item                 | Description                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| J1-J4                | Johnson SMA Connector                |
| J5                   | 2 mm Vertical Molex 18 pos Connector |
| J6                   | 2 mm Vertical Molex 4 pos Connector  |
| C1                   | 3 pF Capacitor, 0402 Pkg.            |
| C2, C4, C9, C13, C16 | 100 pF Capacitor, 0402 Pkg.          |
| C3                   | 0.6 pF Capacitor, 0402 Pkg.          |
| C6, C10              | 1.5 pF Capacitor, 0402 Pkg.          |
| C7 <sup>[2]</sup>    | Capacitor, 0402 Pkg.                 |
| C14, C17             | 1 nF Capacitor, 0603 Pkg.            |
| C15, C18             | 2.2 $\mu$ F Capacitor, Tantalum      |
| C19                  | 4.7 $\mu$ F Capacitor, 0805 Pkg.     |
| L1                   | 4.7 nH Inductor, 0402 Pkg.           |
| L2                   | 2.0 nH Inductor, 0402 Pkg.           |
| L3 <sup>[2]</sup>    | Inductor, 0402 Pkg.                  |
| L6                   | 2.7 nH Inductor, 0402 Pkg.           |
| R1-R2                | 0 $\Omega$ Resistor, 0402 Pkg.       |
| R3                   | 1.8 $\Omega$ Resistor, 1206 Pkg.     |

| Item               | Description           |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| U1                 | HMC926LP5E DVGA       |
| PCB <sup>[3]</sup> | 130533 Evaluation PCB |

[1] When requesting an evaluation board, please reference the appropriate evaluation PCB number listed in the table "Components for Selected Frequency Tune"

[2] Please refer to "Components for Selected Frequency Tune" table for values

[3] Circuit Board Material: Arlon 25FR or Roger 4350

The circuit board used in the 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.

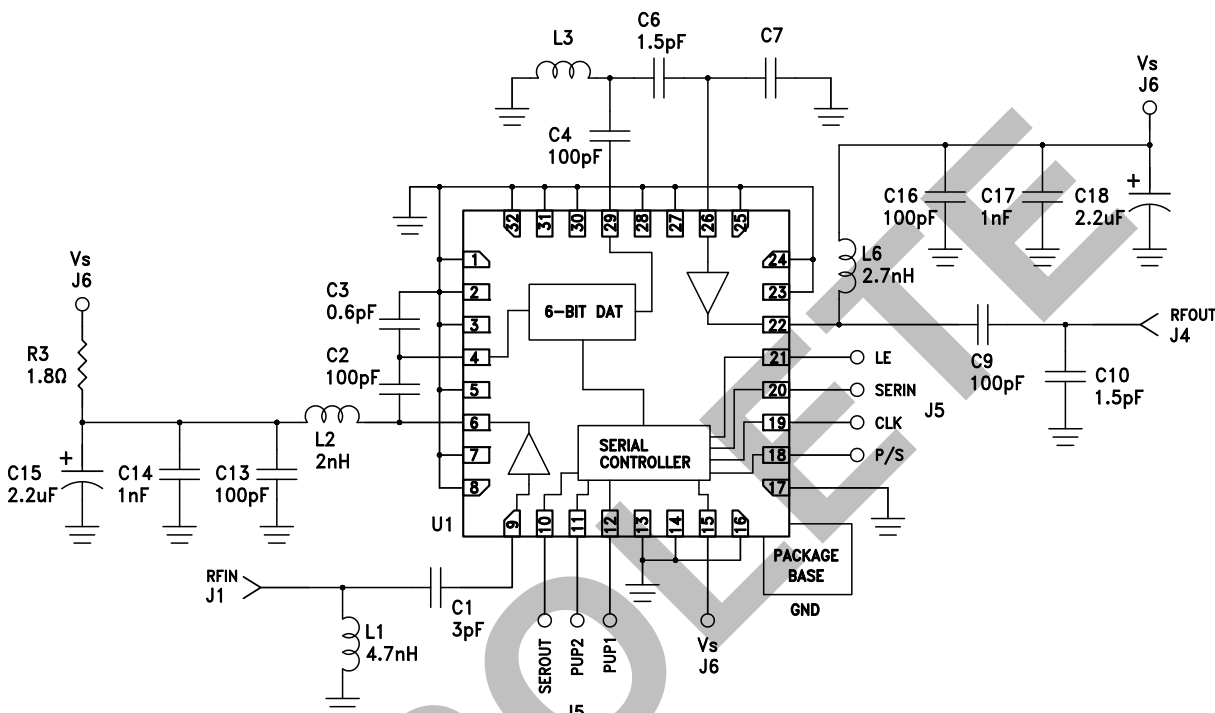
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**0.5 dB LSB 6-BIT DIGITAL  
VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER, 700 - 2700 MHz**

**Application Circuit - 1900 & 2600 MHz**



**Components for Selected Frequency Tune**

| Tune Option | Evaluation PCB Number | L3     | C7     |
|-------------|-----------------------|--------|--------|
| 1900 MHz    | 131838                | 2.7 nH | 3.9 pF |
| 2600 MHz    | 131839                | 3.3 nH | 2.7 pF |

Note: The HMC926LP5E requires interconnection traces with matching components from RFO1 pin to RFI1 pin, and from RFO2 pin to RFI2 pin. The proper component network (L2, C2, C3, C4, L3, C6, C7, L6, C9, and C10) for 1900 & 2600 MHz applications is provided in this schematic. The performance of the HMC926LP5E would be sensitive to the placement of these components and variations in the component values. For best performance use the identical component placement with same length transmission lines as shown in the Evaluation PCB – 1900 & 2600 MHz. Contact factory if assistance is required on component placement and selection.

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