

GaAs pHEMT MMIC POWER AMPLIFIER, 17 - 24 GHz

Typical Applications

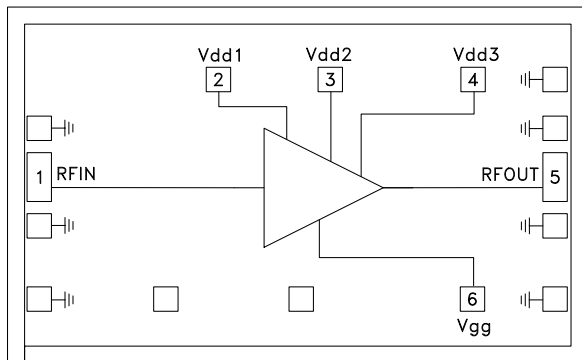
The HMC498 is ideal for:

- Point-to-Point Radios
- Point-to-Multi-Point Radios
- VSAT
- Military & Space

Features

- Output IP3: +34 dBm
- Saturated Power: +27 dBm @ 25% PAE
- Gain: 24 dB
- Supply Voltage: +5V
- 50 Ohm Matched Input/Output
- Die Size: 2.38 x 1.46 x 0.1 mm

Functional Diagram



General Description

The HMC498 is a high dynamic range GaAs pHEMT MMIC Power Amplifier which operates between 17 and 24 GHz. The HMC498 provides 24 dB of gain, +27 dBm of saturated power and 25% PAE from a +5V supply voltage. The HMC498 amplifier can easily be integrated into Multi-Chip-Modules (MCMs) due to its small size. All data is with the chip in a 50 Ohm test fixture connected via 0.025mm (1 mil) diameter wire bonds of minimal length 0.31mm (12 mils).

Electrical Specifications, $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$, $V_{dd} = 5\text{V}$, $I_{dd} = 250\text{mA}^*$

Parameter	Min.	Typ.	Max.	Min.	Typ.	Max.	Min.	Typ.	Max.	Units
Frequency Range	17 - 19			19 - 22			22 - 24			GHz
Gain	20	23	28	21	24	28	20	23	28	dB
Gain Variation Over Temperature		0.03	0.04		0.03	0.04		0.03	0.04	dB/°C
Input Return Loss		11			11			8		dB
Output Return Loss		20			18			15		dB
Output Power for 1 dB Compression (P1dB)	20	23.5		22	25		21	24		dBm
Saturated Output Power (Psat)		27			26.5			25.5		dBm
Output Third Order Intercept (IP3)		34			34			34		dBm
Noise Figure		3.5			4.0			4.5		dB
Supply Current (Idd)(Vdd = 5V, Vgg = -0.8V Typ.)		250	275		250	275		250	275	mA

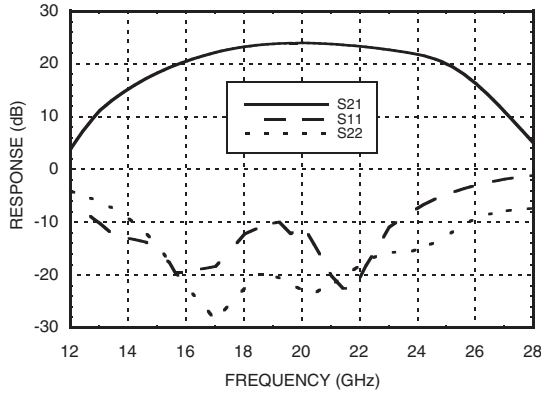
* Adjust Vgg between -2 to 0V to achieve Idd = 250mA typical.

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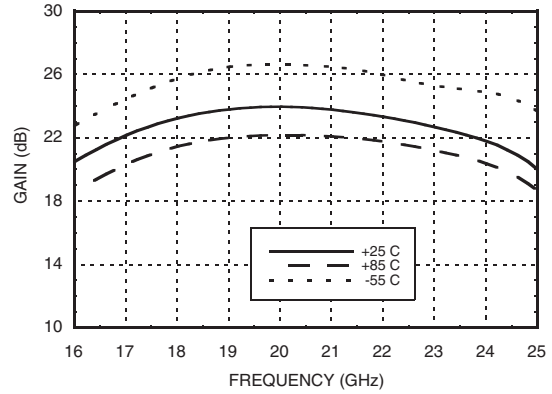
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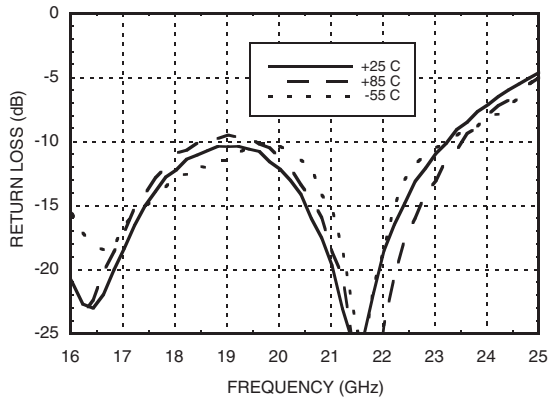
Broadband Gain & Return Loss



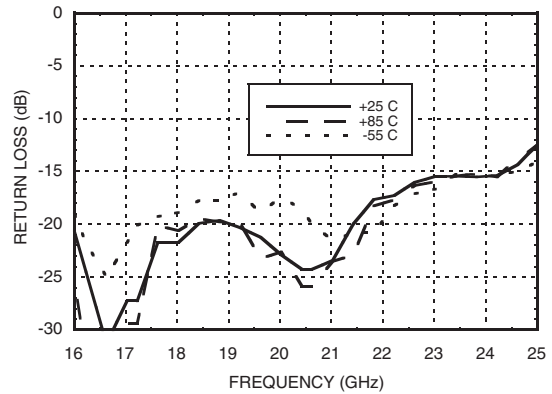
Gain vs. Temperature



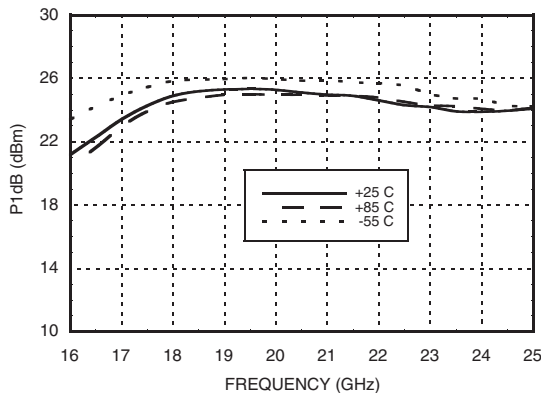
Input Return Loss vs. Temperature



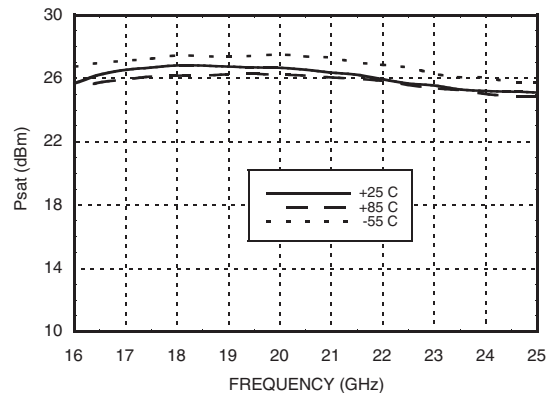
Output Return Loss vs. Temperature



P1dB vs. Temperature



Psat vs. Temperature

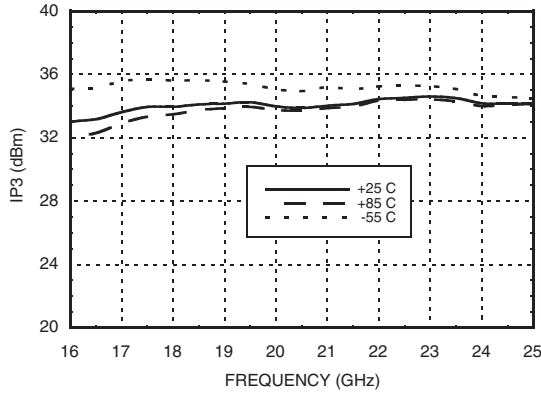


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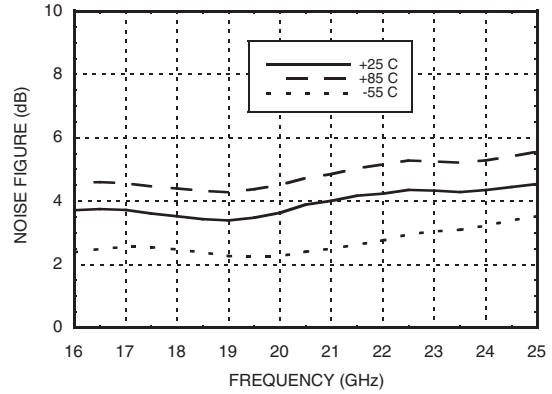
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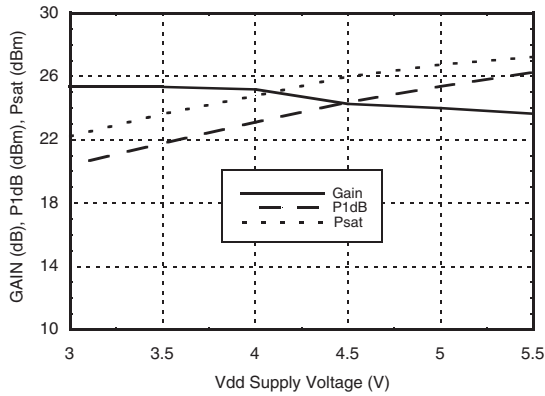
Output IP3 vs. Temperature



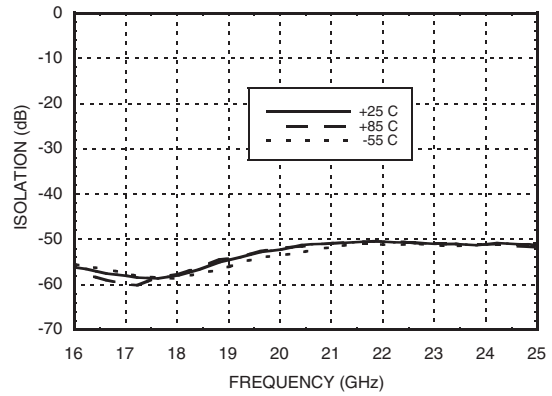
Noise Figure vs. Temperature



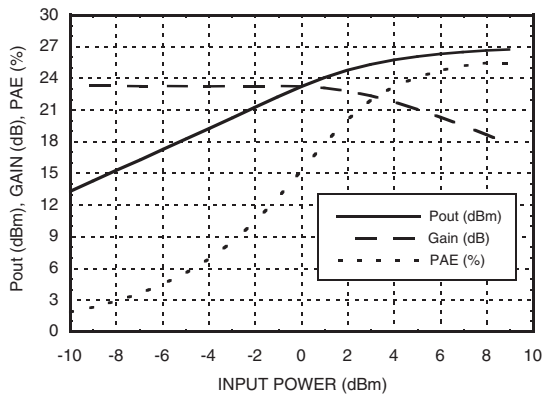
**Gain & Power vs. Supply
Voltage @ 20 GHz, I_{dd}= 250mA**



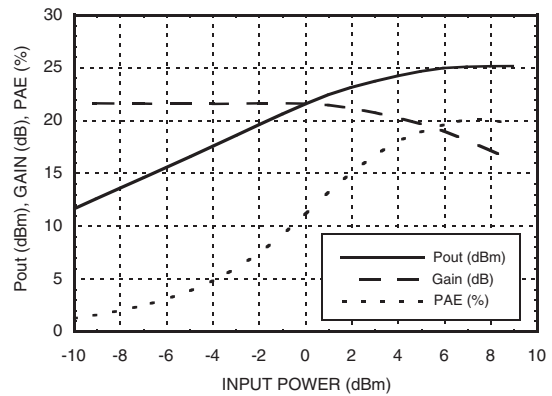
Reverse Isolation vs. Temperature



Power Compression @ 20 GHz



Power Compression @ 24 GHz



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Absolute Maximum Ratings

Drain Bias Voltage (Vdd1, Vdd2, Vdd3)	+5.5V
Gate Bias Voltage (Vgg)	-4 to 0V
RF Input Power (RFIN)(Vdd = +5V)	+10 dBm
Channel Temperature	175 °C
Continuous Pdiss (T= 85 °C) (derate 29 mW/°C above 85 °C)	2.65 W
Thermal Resistance (channel to die bottom)	34 °C/W
Storage Temperature	-65 to +150 °C
Operating Temperature	-55 to +85 °C
ESD Sensitivity (HBM)	Class 1A

Typical Supply Current vs. Vdd

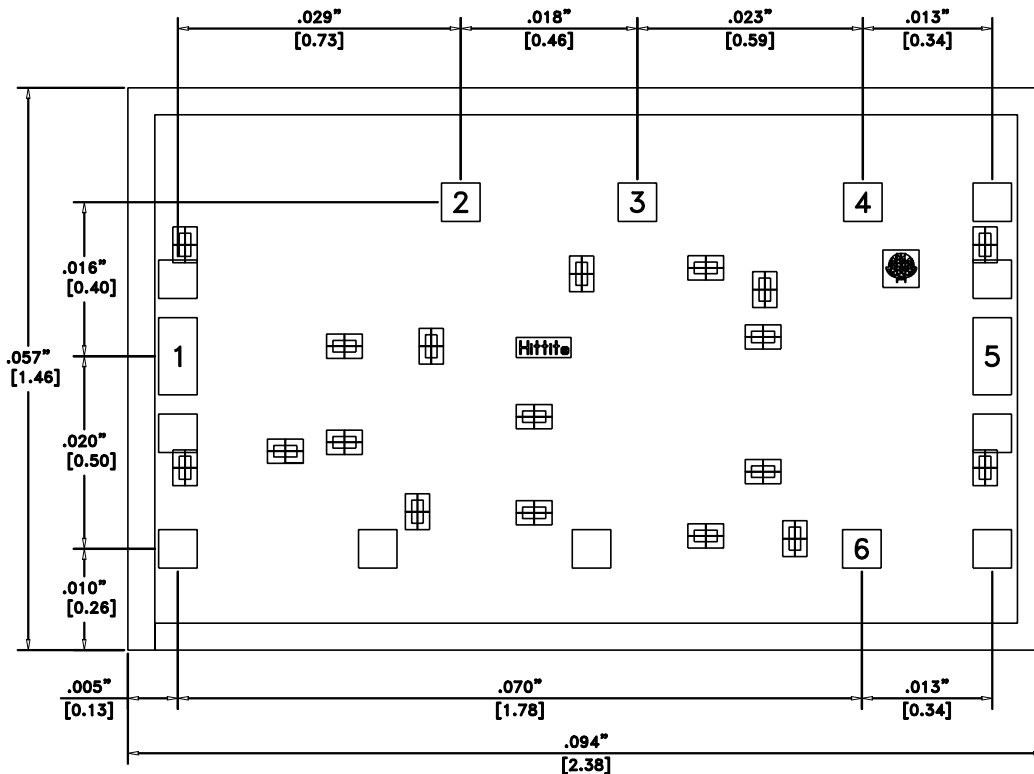
Vdd (V)	Idd (mA)
+4.5	241
+5.0	250
+5.5	258
+3.0	240
+3.5	250
+4.0	259

Note: Amplifier will operate over full voltage ranges shown above. Vgg adjusted to achieve Idd= 250mA at +5V and +3.5V.



**ELECTROSTATIC SENSITIVE DEVICE
OBSERVE HANDLING PRECAUTIONS**

Outline Drawing



Die Packaging Information [1]

Standard	Alternate
GP-2 (Gel Pack)	[2]

[1] Refer to the "Packaging Information" section for die packaging dimensions.

[2] For alternate packaging information contact Hittite Microwave Corporation.

NOTES:

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES [MM]
2. DIE THICKNESS IS .004"
3. TYPICAL BOND IS .004" SQUARE
4. BACKSIDE METALLIZATION: GOLD
5. BOND PAD METALLIZATION: GOLD
6. BACKSIDE METAL IS GROUND.
7. CONNECTION NOT REQUIRED FOR UNLABELED BOND PADS.

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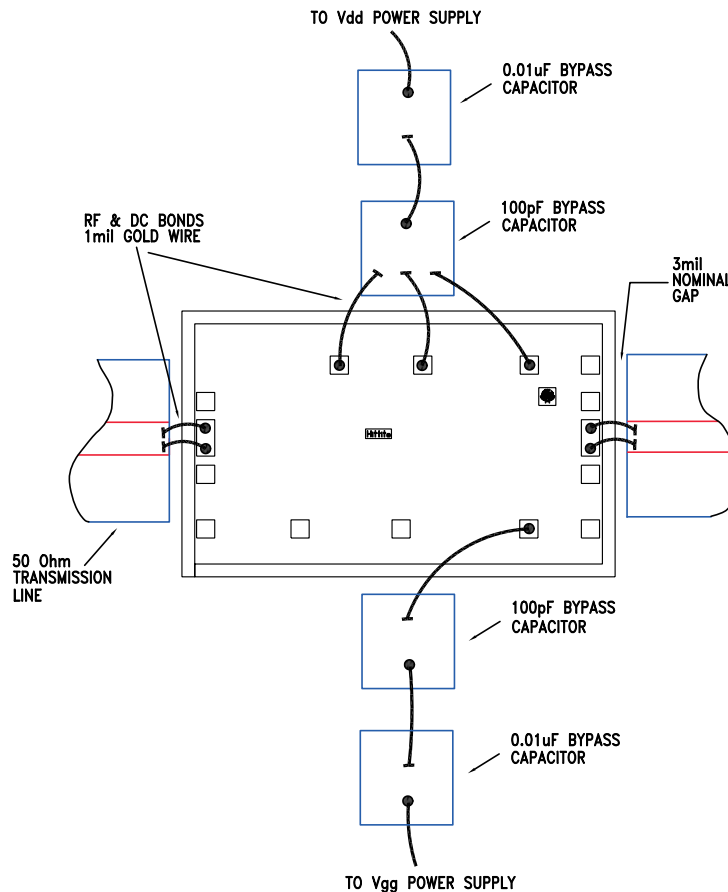
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Pad Descriptions

Pad Number	Function	Description	Interface Schematic
1	RFIN	This pad is AC coupled and matched to 50 Ohms.	RFIN
2 - 4	Vdd1, Vdd2, Vdd3	Power Supply Voltage for the amplifier. External bypass capacitors of 100 pF and 0.01 μF are required.	
5	RFOUT	This pad is AC coupled and matched to 50 Ohms.	
6	Vgg	Gate control for amplifier. Adjust to achieve Idd of 250mA. Please follow "MMIC Amplifier Biasing Procedure" Application Note. External bypass capacitors of 100 pF and 0.01 μF are required.	
Die Bottom	GND	Die bottom must be connected to RF/DC ground.	

Assembly Diagram



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Mounting & Bonding Techniques for Millimeterwave GaAs MMICs

The die should be attached directly to the ground plane eutectically or with conductive epoxy (see HMC general Handling, Mounting, Bonding Note).

50 Ohm Microstrip transmission lines on 0.127mm (5 mil) thick alumina thin film substrates are recommended for bringing RF to and from the chip (Figure 1). If 0.254mm (10 mil) thick alumina thin film substrates must be used, the die should be raised 0.150mm (6 mils) so that the surface of the die is coplanar with the surface of the substrate. One way to accomplish this is to attach the 0.102mm (4 mil) thick die to a 0.150mm (6 mil) thick molybdenum heat spreader (moly-tab) which is then attached to the ground plane (Figure 2).

Microstrip substrates should be brought as close to the die as possible in order to minimize bond wire length. Typical die-to-substrate spacing is 0.076mm to 0.152 mm (3 to 6 mils).

Handling Precautions

Follow these precautions to avoid permanent damage.

Storage: All bare die are placed in either Waffle or Gel based ESD protective containers, and then sealed in an ESD protective bag for shipment. Once the sealed ESD protective bag has been opened, all die should be stored in a dry nitrogen environment.

Cleanliness: Handle the chips in a clean environment. DO NOT attempt to clean the chip using liquid cleaning systems.

Static Sensitivity: Follow ESD precautions to protect against ESD strikes.

Transients: Suppress instrument and bias supply transients while bias is applied. Use shielded signal and bias cables to minimize inductive pick-up.

General Handling: Handle the chip along the edges with a vacuum collet or with a sharp pair of bent tweezers. The surface of the chip may have fragile air bridges and should not be touched with vacuum collet, tweezers, or fingers.

Mounting

The chip is back-metallized and can be die mounted with AuSn eutectic preforms or with electrically conductive epoxy. The mounting surface should be clean and flat.

Eutectic Die Attach: A 80/20 gold tin preform is recommended with a work surface temperature of 255 °C and a tool temperature of 265 °C. When hot 90/10 nitrogen/hydrogen gas is applied, tool tip temperature should be 290 °C. DO NOT expose the chip to a temperature greater than 320 °C for more than 20 seconds. No more than 3 seconds of scrubbing should be required for attachment.

Epoxy Die Attach: Apply a minimum amount of epoxy to the mounting surface so that a thin epoxy fillet is observed around the perimeter of the chip once it is placed into position. Cure epoxy per the manufacturer's schedule.

Wire Bonding

Ball or wedge bond with 0.025mm (1 mil) diameter pure gold wire. Thermosonic wirebonding with a nominal stage temperature of 150 °C and a ball bonding force of 40 to 50 grams or wedge bonding force of 18 to 22 grams is recommended. Use the minimum level of ultrasonic energy to achieve reliable wirebonds. Wirebonds should be started on the chip and terminated on the package or substrate. All bonds should be as short as possible <0.31mm (12 mils).

