



### Typical Applications

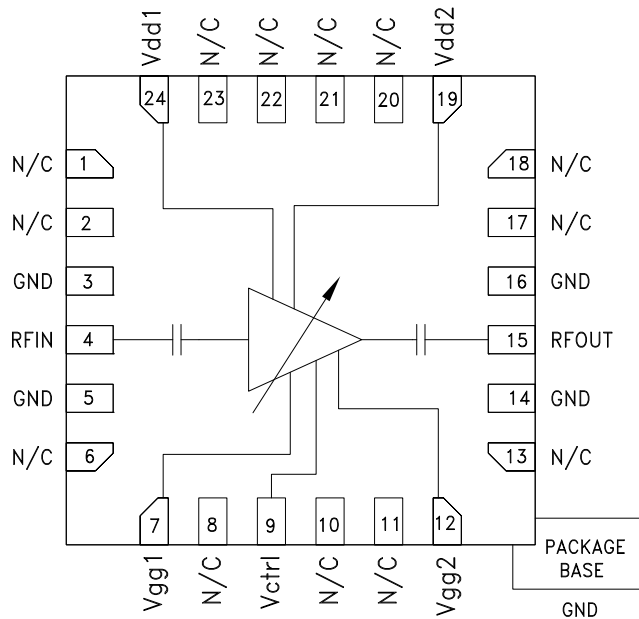
The HMC996LP4E is ideal for:

- Point-to-Point Radio
- Point-to-Multi-Point Radio
- EW & ECM Subsystems
- X-Band Radar
- Test Equipment & Sensors

### Features

- Wide Gain Control Range: 22 dB
- Single Control Voltage: -1 to -4.5V
- Output IP3 @ Max Gain: +34 dBm
- Output P1dB: +22 dBm
- Low Noise Figure 2dB @ max gain
- No External Matching
- 24 Lead 4x4 mm SMT Package: 16 mm<sup>2</sup>

### Functional Diagram



### General Description

The HMC996LP4E is a GaAs PHEMT MMIC analog variable gain amplifier and / or driver amplifier which operates between 5 and 12 GHz. Ideal for microwave radio applications, the amplifier provides up to 18.5 dB of gain, output P1dB of up to +23 dBm, and up to +34 dBm of output IP3 at maximum gain, while requiring only 170 mA from a +5V supply. Gain control voltage pin (Vctrl) is provided to allow variable gain control up to 22 dB. Gain flatness is excellent making the HMC996LP4E ideal for EW, ECM and radar applications. The HMC996LP4E is housed in a RoHS compliant 4 x 4 mm QFN leadless package and is compatible with high volume surface mount manufacturing.

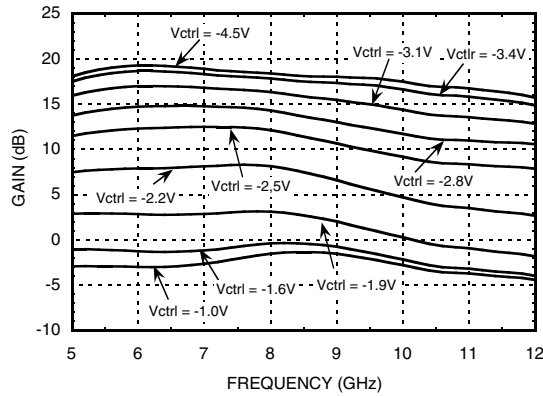
### Electrical Specifications, $T_A = +25^\circ\text{C}$ , $V_{dd1, 2} = 5\text{V}$ , $V_{ctrl} = -4.5\text{V}$ , $I_{dd} = 120\text{ mA}^*$

| Parameter                                | Min. | Typ.    | Max. | Min.     | Typ.  | Max. | Units  |
|--|------|---------|------|----------|-------|------|--------|
| Frequency Range                          |      | 5 - 8.5 |      | 8.5 - 12 |       |      | GHz    |
| Gain                                     | 16   | 18.5    |      | 13       | 16    |      | dB     |
| Gain Flatness                            |      | ±0.5    |      |          | ±1    |      | dB     |
| Gain Variation Over Temperature          |      | 0.006   |      |          | 0.006 |      | dB/ °C |
| Gain Control Range                       | 15   | 22      |      | 15       | 20    |      | dB     |
| Noise Figure                             |      | 2.5     |      |          | 2     |      | dB     |
| Input Return Loss                        |      | 17      |      |          | 9     |      | dB     |
| Output Return Loss                       |      | 23      |      |          | 7     |      | dB     |
| Output Power for 1 dB Compression (P1dB) | 19   | 22      |      | 20       | 23    |      | dBm    |
| Saturated Output Power (Psat)            |      | 23      |      |          | 24    |      | dBm    |
| Output Third Order Intercept (IP3)       |      | 34      |      |          | 34    |      | dBm    |
| Total Supply Current (Idd)               |      | 120     |      |          | 120   |      | mA     |

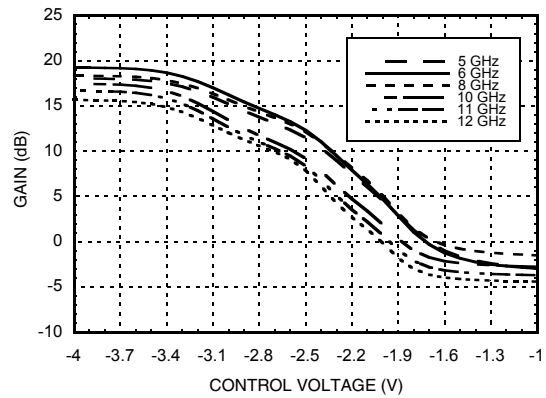
\*Set Vctrl = -4.5V and then adjust Vgg1, 2 between -2V to 0V to achieve Idd = 120 mA typical.



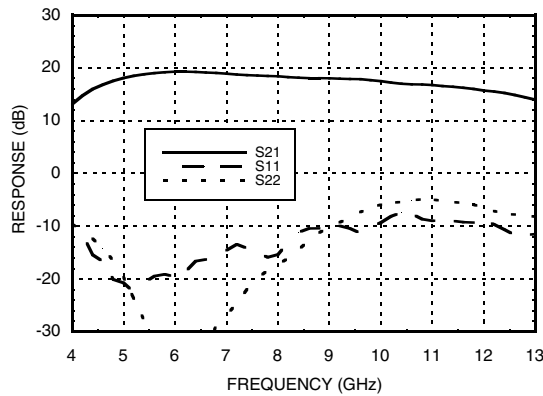
**Gain vs. Control Voltage Range**



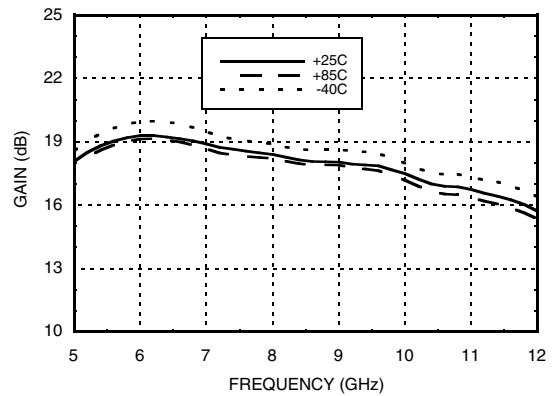
**Gain vs. Control Voltage**



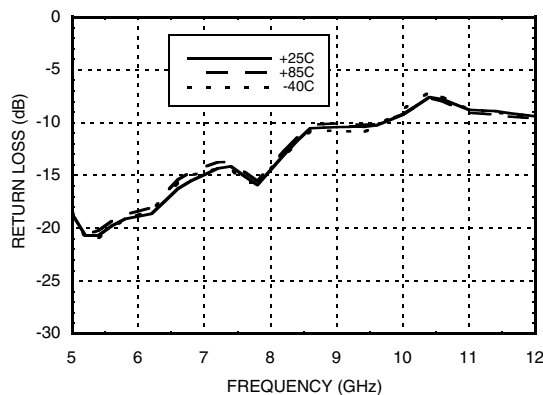
**Broadband Gain & Return Loss**



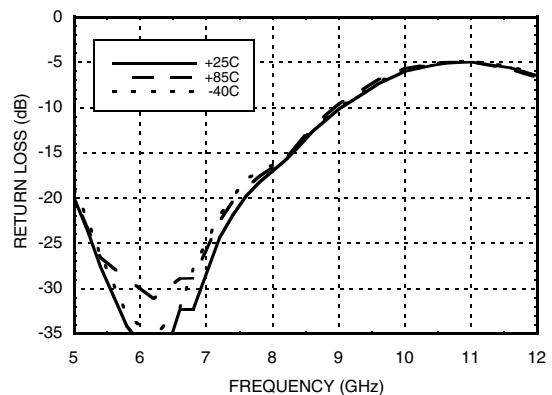
**Gain vs. Temperature**

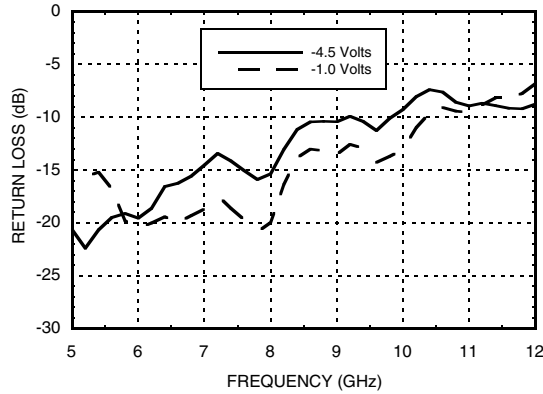
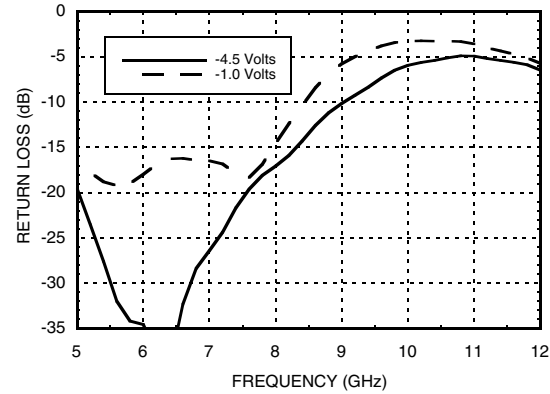
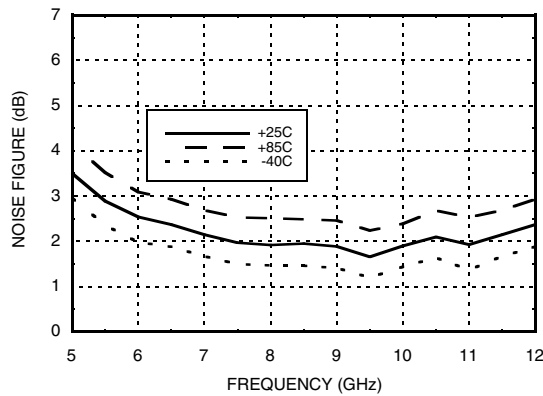
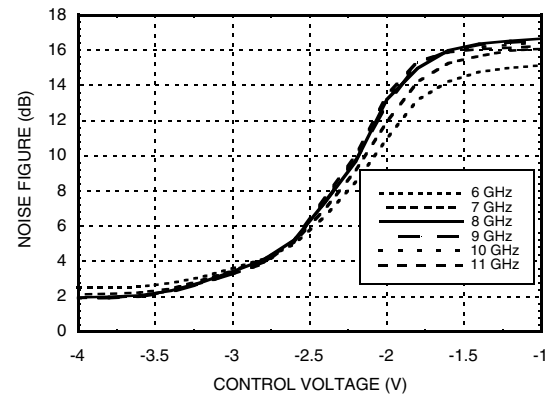
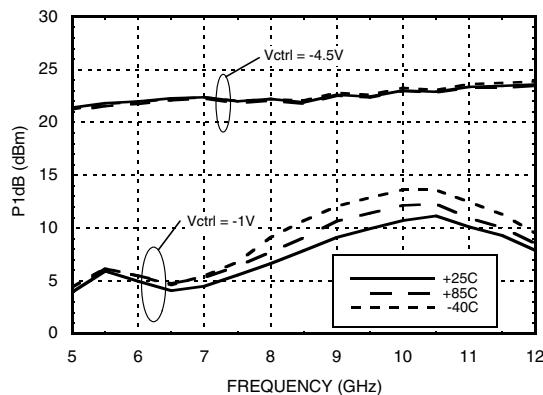
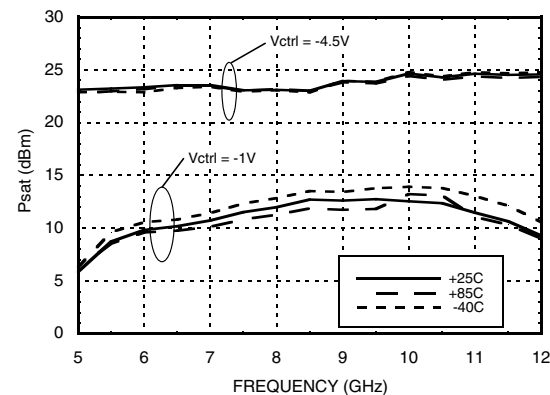


**Input Return Loss vs. Temperature**



**Output Return Loss vs. Temperature**

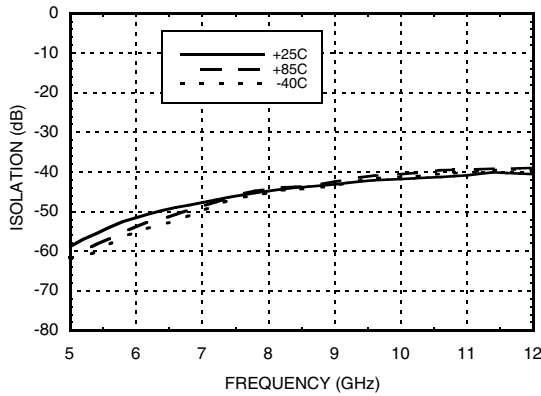



**Input Return Loss @ Control Voltage Extreme**

**Output Return Loss @ Control Voltage Extreme**

**Noise Figure vs. Temperature**

**Noise Figure vs. Control Voltage**

**P1dB vs. Temperature**

**Psat vs. Temperature**


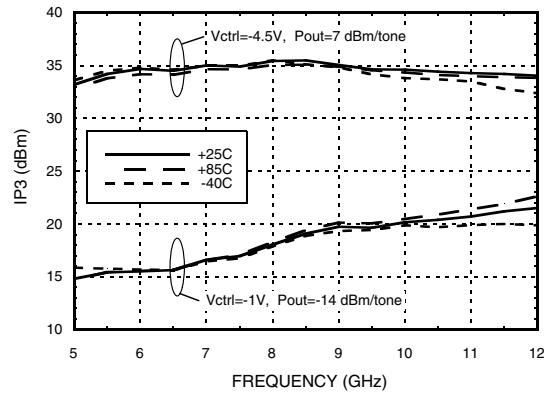


## VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER 5 - 12 GHz

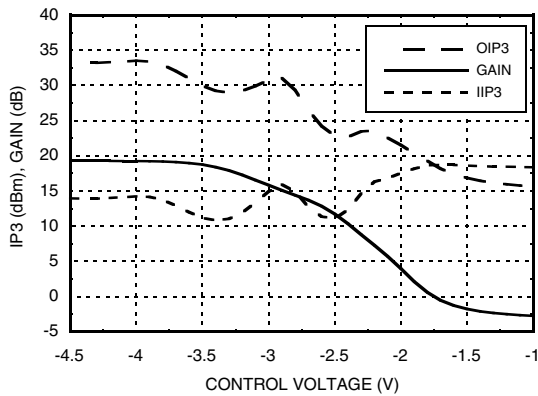
**Reverse Isolation vs. Temperature**



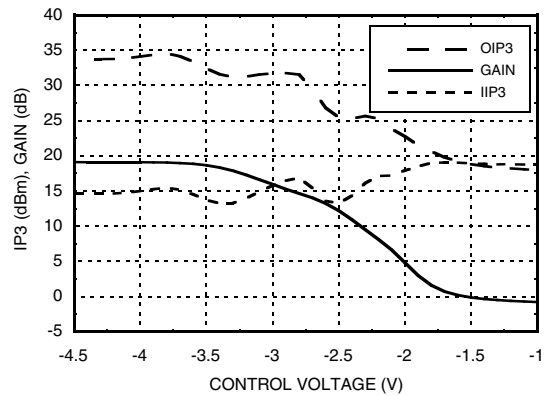
**Output IP3 vs. Temperature**



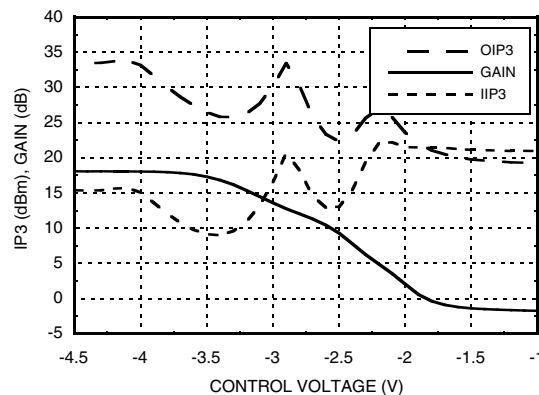
**IP3 and Gain @ 6 GHz, Pin = -10 dBm**



**IP3 and Gain @ 8 GHz, Pin = -10 dBm**



**IP3 and Gain @ 10 GHz, Pin = -10 dBm**





### Absolute Maximum Ratings

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Drain Bias Voltage (Vdd1, 2)  | +5.5V               |
| Gate Bias Voltage (Vgg1, 2)   | -3 to 0V            |
| Gain Control Voltage (Vctrl)  | -5 to 0V            |
| RF Power Input  | +20 dBm             |
| Channel Temperature   | 175 °C              |
| Continuous P <sub>diss</sub> (T = 85 °C)<br>(derate 11.5 mW/°C above 85 °C) [1] | 1.03 W              |
| Thermal Resistance<br>(Channel to ground paddle)                                | 86.7 °C/W           |
| Storage Temperature   | -65 to +150 °C      |
| Operating Temperature   | -40 to +85 °C       |
| ESD Sensitivity (HBM)   | Class 0 Passed 150V |

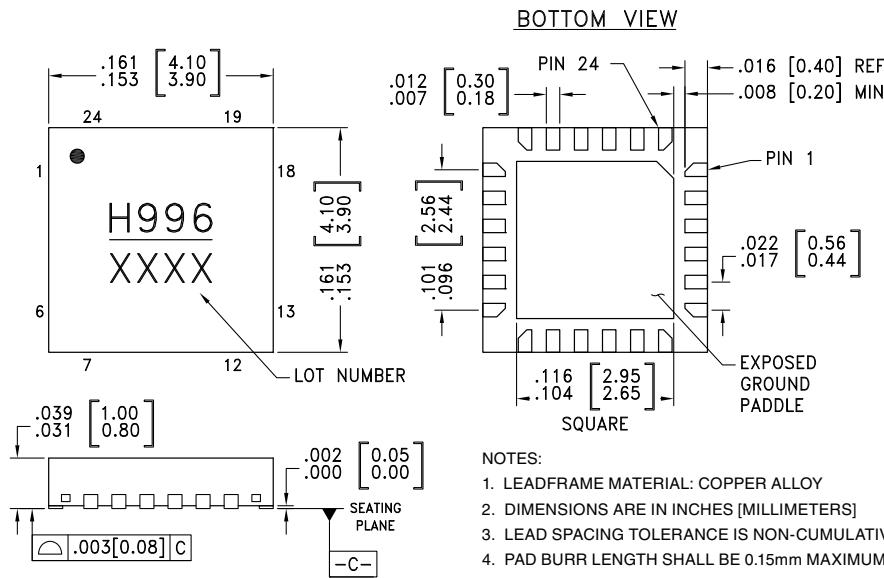
### Bias Voltage

|            |                            |
|------------|----------------------------|
| Vdd1,2(V)  | I <sub>dd</sub> Total (mA) |
| +5V        | 120 mA                     |
| Vgg1,2 (V) | I <sub>gg</sub> Total (mA) |
| 0V to -2V  | <0.1 mA                    |



**ELECTROSTATIC SENSITIVE DEVICE  
OBSERVE HANDLING PRECAUTIONS**

### Outline Drawing



**NOTES:**

- LEADFRAME MATERIAL: COPPER ALLOY
- DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES [MILLIMETERS]
- LEAD SPACING TOLERANCE IS NON-CUMULATIVE.
- PAD BURR LENGTH SHALL BE 0.15mm MAXIMUM.  
PAD BURR HEIGHT SHALL BE 0.05mm MAXIMUM.
- PACKAGE WARP SHALL NOT EXCEED 0.05mm.
- ALL GROUND LEADS AND GROUND PADDLE MUST BE SOLDERED TO PCB RF GROUND.
- REFER TO HITTITE APPLICATION NOTE FOR SUGGESTED LAND PATTERN.

### Package Information


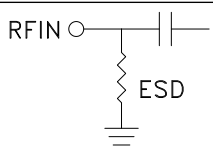
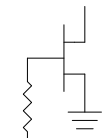
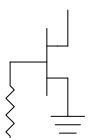
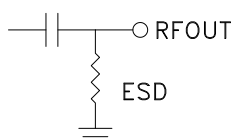
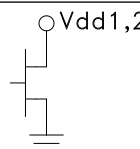
| Part Number | Package Body Material                              | Lead Finish   | MSL Rating | Package Marking [2] |
|-------------|--|---------------|------------|---------------------|
| HMC996LP4E  | RoHS-compliant Low Stress Injection Molded Plastic | 100% matte Sn | MSL1 [1]   | H996<br>XXXX        |

[1] Max peak reflow temperature of 260 °C

[2] 4-Digit lot number XXXX



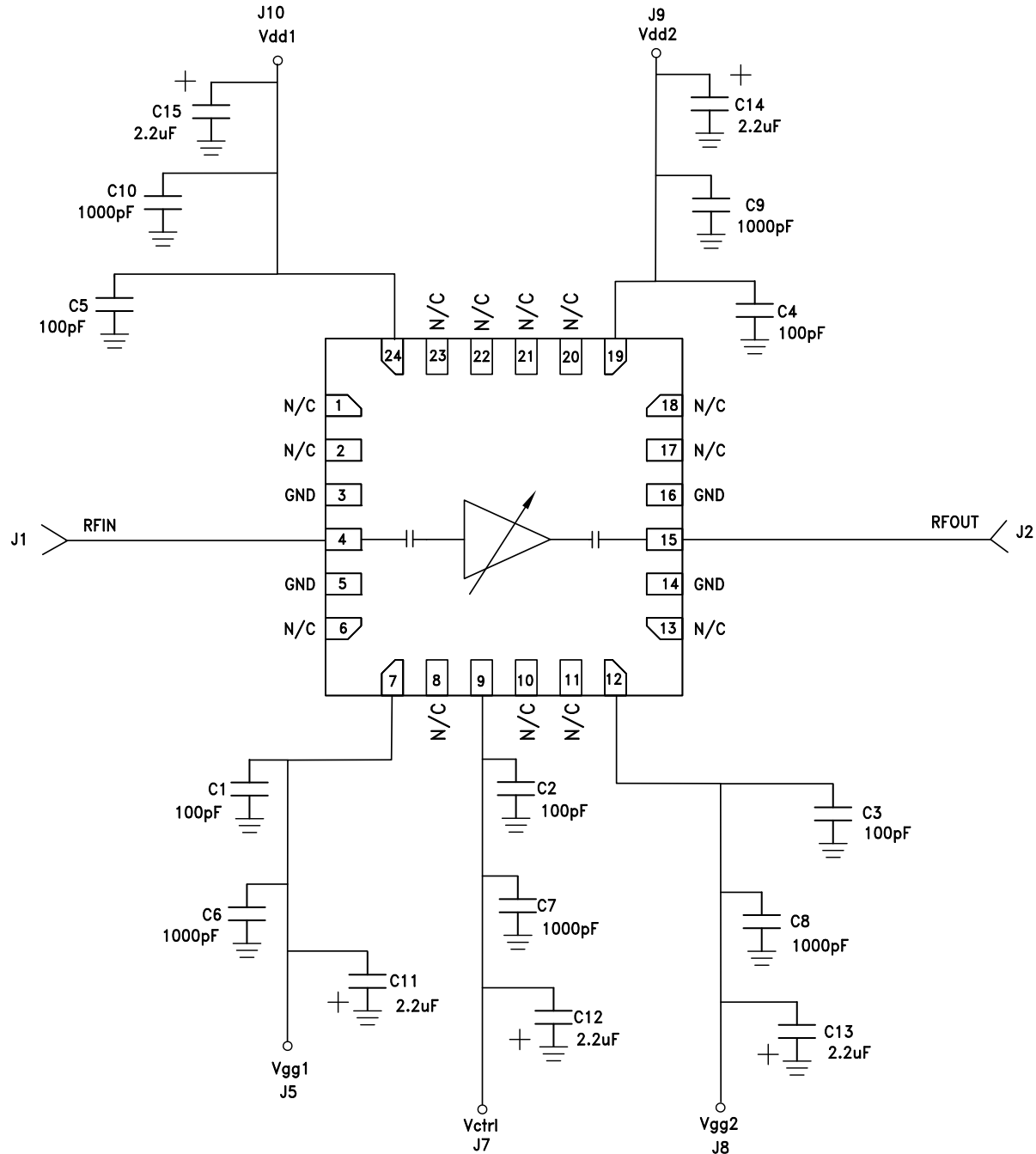
### Pin Descriptions

| Pin Number                                     | Function | Description  | Interface Schematic   |
|--|----------|--|---|
| 1, 2, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23 | N/C      | The pins are not connected internally; however all data shown herein was measured with these pins connected to RF/DC ground externally             |   |
| 3, 5, 14, 16                                   | GND      | These pins and exposed ground paddle must be connected to RF/DC ground.  |    |
| 4  | RFIN     | This pad is AC coupled and matched to 50 Ohm.  |    |
| 7, 12  | Vgg1, 2  | Gate control for amplifier. Adjust voltage to achieve typical I <sub>dd</sub> . Please follow "MMIC Amplifier Biasing Procedure" application note. |    |
| 9  | Vctrl    | Gain control Voltage for the amplifier. See assembly diagram for required external components.   |  |
| 15   | RFOUT    | This pad is AC coupled and matched to 50 Ohm.  |  |
| 19, 24   | Vdd1, 2  | Drain Bias Voltage for the amplifier. See assembly diagram for required external components  |  |

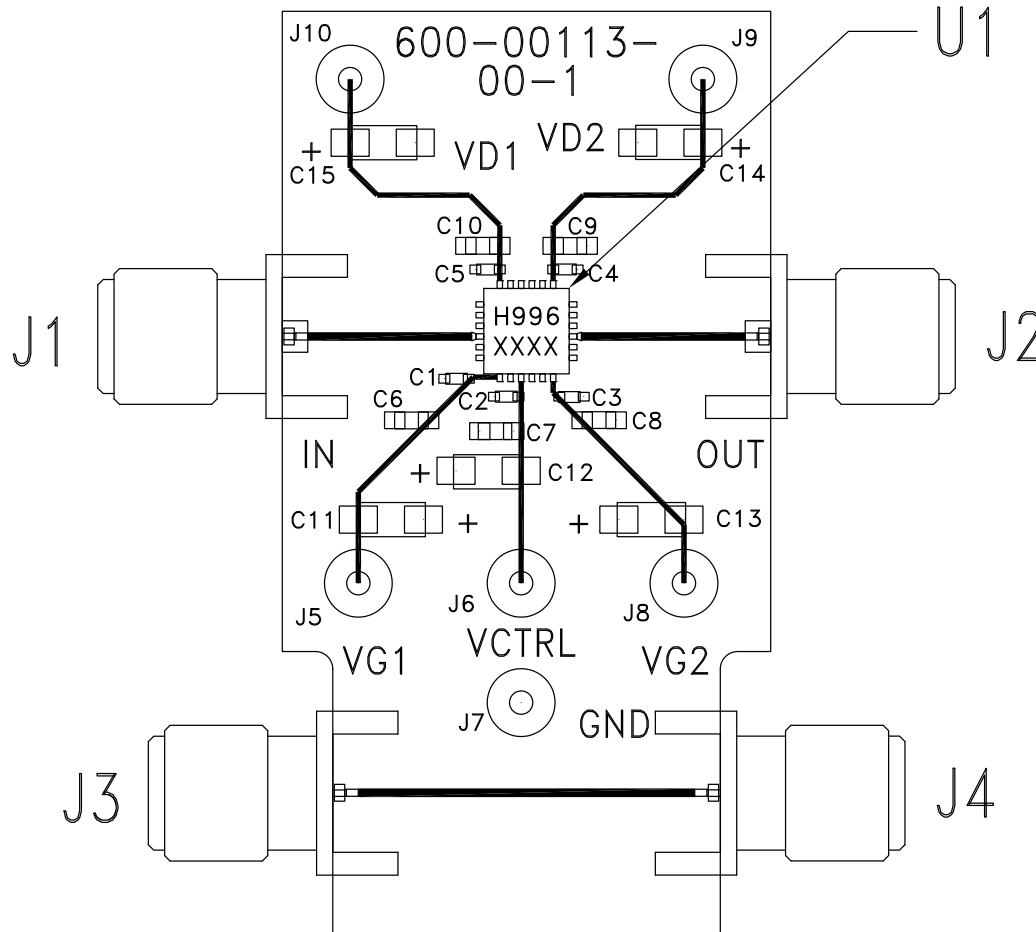


## VARIABLE GAIN AMPLIFIER 5 - 12 GHz

### Application Circuit



### Evaluation PCB



### List of Materials for Evaluation PCB

#### EVAL01-HMC996LP4E [1]

| Item      | Description                        |
|-----------|------------------------------------|
| J1, J4    | PCB Mount SMA RF Connectors        |
| J5 - J10  | DC Pin                             |
| C1 - C5   | 100 pF Capacitor, 0402 Pkg.        |
| C6 - C10  | 1000 pF Capacitor, 0603 Pkg.       |
| C11 - C15 | 2.2 $\mu$ F Capacitor, CASE A      |
| U1        | HMC996LP4E Variable Gain Amplifier |
| PCB [2]   | 600-00113-00 Evaluation PCB        |

[1] Reference this number when ordering complete evaluation PCB

[2] Circuit Board Material: Arlon 25FR

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.