

## 4.5W (36.5dBm), 8GHz to 12GHz, GaN Power Amplifier

### FEATURES

- ▶ Internally matched and AC-coupled, 4.5W, GaN power amplifier
- ▶ Integrated temperature-compensated RF power detector
- ▶  $P_{OUT}$ : 36.5dBm typical with  $P_{IN} = 1$ dBm from 9.5GHz to 11.5GHz
- ▶ Small signal gain: 38.5dB typical from 9.5GHz to 11.5GHz
- ▶ Power gain: 35.5dB typical with  $P_{IN} = 1$ dBm from 9.5GHz to 11.5GHz
- ▶ PAE: 47% typical with  $P_{IN} = 1$ dBm from 9.5GHz to 11.5GHz
- ▶ Supply voltage: 20V at 50mA on 10% duty cycle
- ▶ 32-lead, 5mm × 5mm, LFCSP

### APPLICATIONS

- ▶ Weather radars
- ▶ Marine radars
- ▶ Military radars

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The ADPA1120 is a 8GHz to 12GHz power amplifier with a saturated output power ( $P_{OUT}$ ) of 36.5dBm, power added efficiency (PAE) of 47%, and a power gain of 35.5dB typical from 9.5GHz to 11.5GHz at an input power ( $P_{IN}$ ) of 1dBm. The RF input and RF output are internally matched and AC-coupled. A drain bias voltage of 20V is applied to the VDD1-2, VDD3, and VDD4 pins. The drain current is set by applying a negative voltage to the VGG1-2 pin.

The ADPA1120 is fabricated on a gallium nitride (GaN) process, is housed in a 32-lead, 5mm × 5mm lead frame chip scale package [LFCSP] and is specified for operation from -40°C to +85°C

### FUNCTIONAL BLOCK DIAGRAM

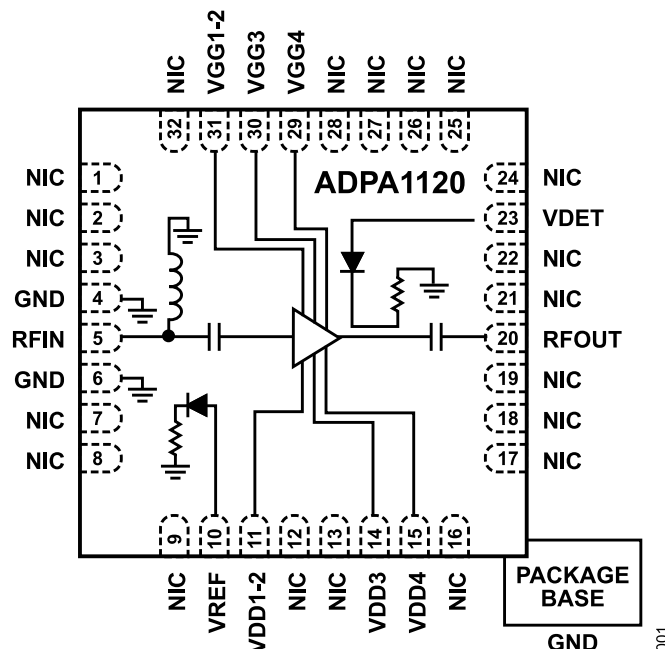


Figure 1. Functional Block Diagram

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REVISION HISTORY

10/2025—Revision 0: Initial Version

## SPECIFICATIONS

## ELECTRICAL SPECIFICATIONS

$T_{CASE} = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$ , supply current ( $V_{DD}$ ) = 20V, quiescent current ( $I_{DQ}$ ) = 50mA, pulse width = 100 $\mu\text{s}$ , 10% duty cycle, and frequency range = 8GHz to 9.5GHz, unless otherwise noted.

Table 1. 8GHz to 9.5GHz Frequency Range

Parameter	Min	Typ	Max	Unit	Test Conditions/Comments
FREQUENCY RANGE	8		9.5	GHz	
GAIN					
Small Signal Gain (S21)		39		dB	
Gain Flatness		$\pm 1.37$		dB	
RETURN LOSS					
Input (S11)		15		dB	
Output (S22)		20		dB	
POWER					
$P_{OUT}$	34.5	36.5		dBm	$P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$
Gain	33.5	35.5		dB	$P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$
PAE		50		%	$P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$
$I_{DQ}$		50		mA	Adjust the gate control voltage ( $V_{GG1}$ ) between -3V and -1V to achieve an $I_{DQ} = 50\text{mA}$ , $V_{GG1} = -2.0\text{V}$ typical to achieve $I_{DQ} = 50\text{mA}$

$T_{CASE} = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $V_{DD} = 20\text{V}$ ,  $I_{DQ} = 50\text{mA}$ , pulse width = 100 $\mu\text{s}$ , 10% duty cycle, and frequency range = 9.5GHz to 11.5GHz, unless otherwise noted.

Table 2. 9.5GHz to 11.5GHz Frequency Range

Parameter	Min	Typ	Max	Unit	Test Conditions/Comments
FREQUENCY RANGE	9.5		11.5	GHz	
GAIN					
S21		38.5		dB	
Gain Flatness		$\pm 1.13$		dB	
RETURN LOSS					
S11		15		dB	
S22		11		dB	
POWER					
$P_{OUT}$	34.5	36.5		dBm	$P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$
Gain	33.5	35.5		dB	$P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$
PAE		47		%	$P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$
$I_{DQ}$		50		mA	Adjust $V_{GG1}$ between -3V and -1V to achieve an $I_{DQ} = 50\text{mA}$ , $V_{GG1} = -2.0\text{V}$ typical to achieve $I_{DQ} = 50\text{mA}$

## SPECIFICATIONS

$T_{CASE} = 25^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $V_{DD} = 20\text{V}$ ,  $I_{DQ} = 50\text{mA}$ , pulse width =  $100\mu\text{s}$ , 10% duty cycle, and frequency range = 11.5GHz to 12GHz, unless otherwise noted.

**Table 3. 11.5GHz to 12GHz Frequency Range**

Parameter	Min	Typ	Max	Unit	Test Conditions/Comments
FREQUENCY RANGE	11.5		12	GHz	
GAIN					
S21		35.5		dB	
Gain Flatness		$\pm 2.33$		dB	
RETURN LOSS					
S11		11		dB	
S22		12		dB	
POWER					
$P_{OUT}$		34.5		dBm	$P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$
Gain		33.5		dB	$P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$
PAE		42		%	$P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$
$I_{DQ}$		50		mA	Adjust $V_{GG1}$ between $-3\text{V}$ and $-1\text{V}$ to achieve an $I_{DQ} = 50\text{mA}$ , $V_{GG1} = -2.0\text{V}$ typical to achieve $I_{DQ} = 50\text{mA}$

## ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS

**Table 4. Absolute Maximum Ratings**

Parameter	Rating
Bias Voltage	
Drain (VDD1-2, VDD3, and VDD4)	35V DC
Gate (VGG1-2, VGG3, and VGG4)	-8V DC to 0V DC
Continuous Wave RF Input Power (RFIN)	12dBm
Maximum Power Dissipation, $P_{DISS}$	
Drain Bias Pulse Width = 100 $\mu$ s at 10% Duty Cycle, $T_{CASE} = 85^{\circ}\text{C}$	17W
Continuous Drain Bias, $T_{CASE} = 85^{\circ}\text{C}$	14W
Temperature	
Maximum Channel	225 $^{\circ}\text{C}$
Storage Range	-65 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ to +150 $^{\circ}\text{C}$
Operating Range	-40 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ to +85 $^{\circ}\text{C}$

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

## THERMAL RESISTANCE

Thermal performance is directly linked to printed circuit board (PCB) design and operating environment. Careful attention to PCB thermal design is required.

$\theta_{JC}$  is the junction to case thermal resistance.

**Table 5. Thermal Resistance**

Package Type <sup>1,2</sup>	Pulsed 10% Duty Cycle, 100 $\mu$ s Pulse Width, $\theta_{JC}$	Continuous Wave $\theta_{JC}$	Unit
CP-32-13	8.20	10	$^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{W}$

<sup>1</sup>  $\theta_{JC}$  was determined under the following conditions: the heat transfer is due solely to the thermal conduction from the channel through the ground pad to the PCB, and the ground pad is held constant at the operating temperature of 85 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

<sup>2</sup> Drain bias pulse width = 100 $\mu$ s at 10% duty cycle.

## ELECTROSTATIC DISCHARGE (ESD) RATINGS

The following ESD information is provided for handling of ESD sensitive devices in an ESD protected area only.

Human body model (HBM) per ANSI/ESDA/JEDEC JS-001.

### ESD Ratings for ADPA1120

**Table 6. ADPA1120, 32-Lead LFCSP**

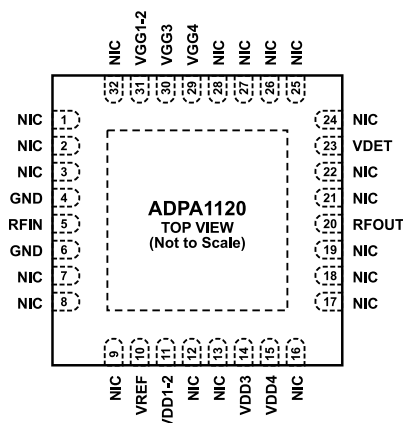
ESD Model	Withstand Threshold (V)	Class
HBM	200	0B

## ESD CAUTION



**ESD (electrostatic discharge) sensitive device.** Charged devices and circuit boards can discharge without detection. Although this product features patented or proprietary protection circuitry, damage may occur on devices subjected to high energy ESD. Therefore, proper ESD precautions should be taken to avoid performance degradation or loss of functionality.

## PIN CONFIGURATION AND FUNCTION DESCRIPTIONS



## NOTES

1. NOT INTERNALLY CONNECTED. THE NIC PINS ARE NOT CONNECTED INTERNALLY. HOWEVER, ALL DATA SHOWN WAS MEASURED WITH THE NIC PINS CONNECTED TO RF AND DC GROUND EXTERNALLY.
2. EXPOSED PAD. THE EXPOSED PAD MUST BE CONNECTED TO RF AND DC GROUND.

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Figure 2. Pin Configuration

Table 7. Pin Function Descriptions

Pin No.	Mnemonic	Description
1 to 3, 7 to 9, 12, 13, 16 to 19, 21, 22, 24 to 28, 32	NIC	Not Internally Connected. The NIC pins are not connected internally. However, all data shown was measured with the NIC pins connected to RF and DC ground externally.
4, 6	GND	Ground. The GND pins must be connected to RF and DC ground. See Figure 3 for the interface schematic.
5	RFIN	RF Input. The RFIN pin is AC-coupled in the signal path and is matched to 50Ω. See Figure 4 for the interface schematic. If the RFIN pin is externally connected to a DC bias level other than 0 V, AC-couple the RFIN pin externally because of the internal DC path to ground.
10	VREF	Reference Diode for Temperature Compensation of VDET RF P <sub>OUT</sub> Measurements. See Figure 8 for the interface schematic.
11, 14, 15	VDD1-2, VDD3, VDD4	Drain Bias Voltages. First, second, third and fourth stage drain bias. See Figure 7 for the interface schematic.
20	RFOUT	RF Output. The RFOUT pin is AC-coupled and is matched to 50Ω. See Figure 6 for the interface schematic.
23	VDET	Detector Diode to Measure RF P <sub>OUT</sub> . P <sub>OUT</sub> detection via the VDET pin requires the application of a DC bias voltage through an external series resistor. Used in combination with the VREF pin, the difference voltage (VREF voltage (V <sub>REF</sub> ) – VDET voltage (V <sub>DET</sub> )) is a temperature compensated DC voltage that is proportional to the RF P <sub>OUT</sub> . See Figure 8 for the interface schematic.
29, 30, 31	VGG4, VGG3, VGG1-2 EPAD	Gate Bias Voltages. First, second, third and fourth stage gate bias. See Figure 5 for the interface schematic. Exposed Pad. The exposed pad must be connected to RF and DC ground.

PIN CONFIGURATION AND FUNCTION DESCRIPTIONS

INTERFACE SCHEMATICS



Figure 3. GND Interface Schematic

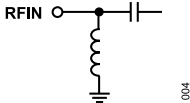


Figure 4. RFIN Interface Schematic



Figure 5. VGG1-2, VGG3, VGG4 Interface Schematic



Figure 6. RFOUT Interface Schematic

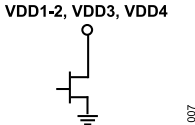


Figure 7. VDD1-2, VDD3, VDD4

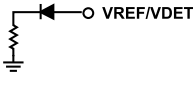


Figure 8. VREF/VDET Interface Schematic

## TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

$V_{DD} = 20V$ ,  $I_{DQ} = 50mA$ ,  $V_{DD}$  is pulsed at 10% duty cycle, 100 $\mu s$  pulse width, and  $T_{CASE} = 25^{\circ}C$ , unless otherwise noted.

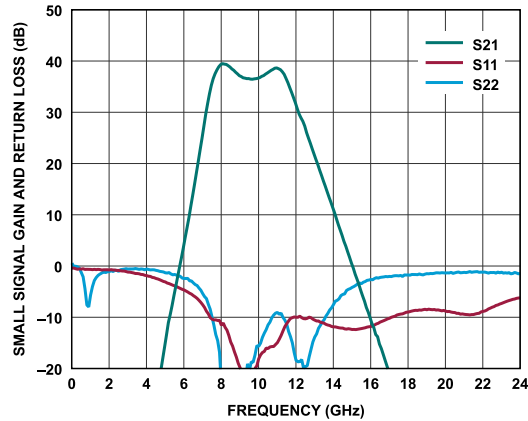


Figure 9. Small Signal Gain and Return Loss vs. Frequency

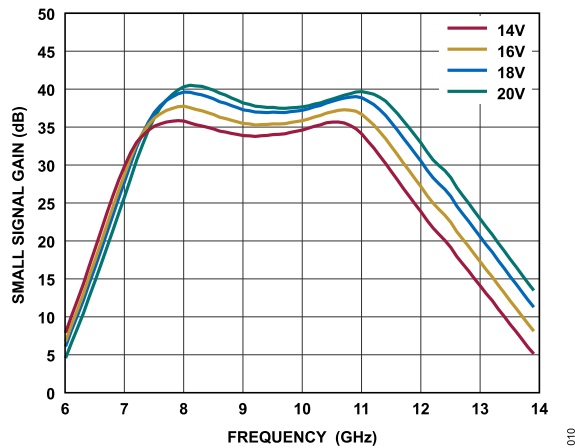


Figure 10. Small Signal Gain vs. Frequency for Various Supply Voltages

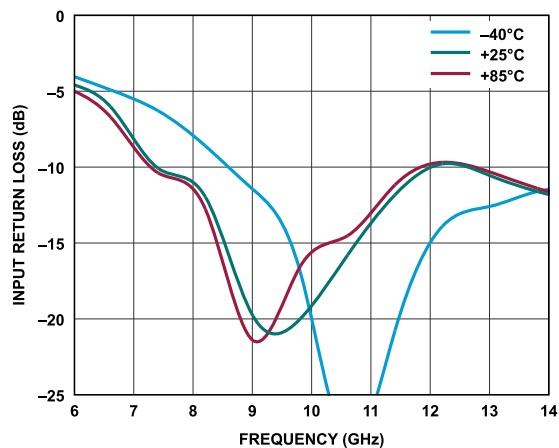


Figure 11. Input Return Loss vs. Frequency for Various Temperatures

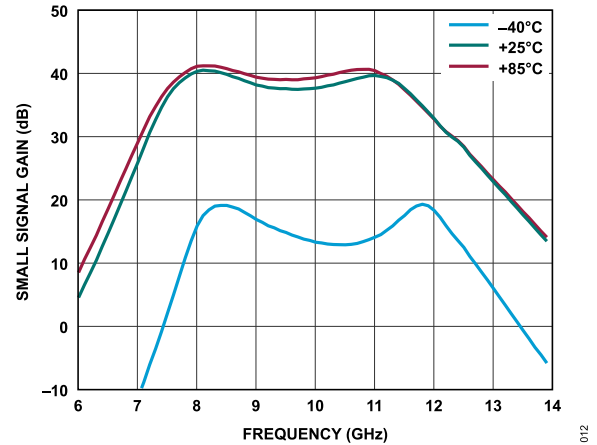


Figure 12. Small Signal Gain vs. Frequency for Various Temperatures, Small Signal Gain Varies by  $\pm 6dB$ ,  $-40^{\circ}C$  Behavior Expected, See Figure 46

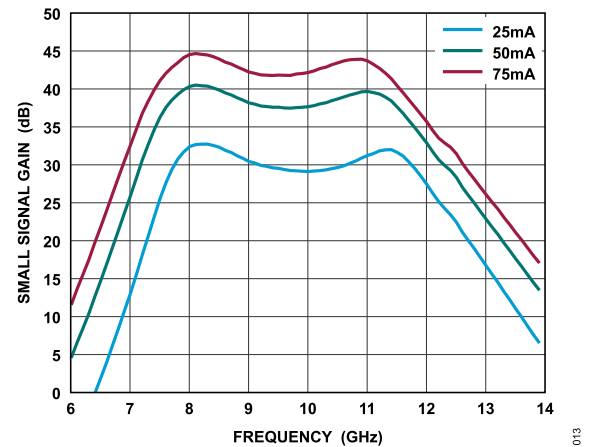


Figure 13. Small Signal Gain vs. Frequency for Various Supply Currents

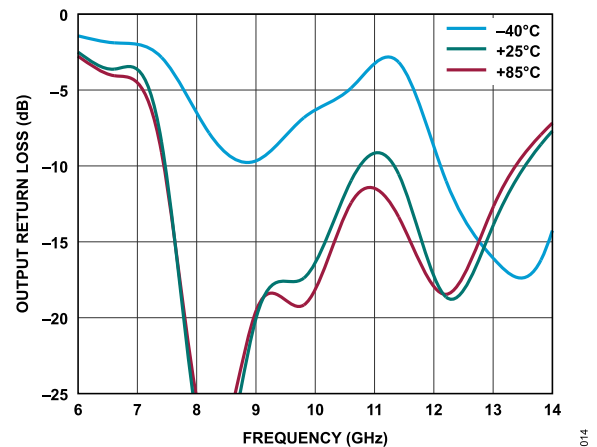
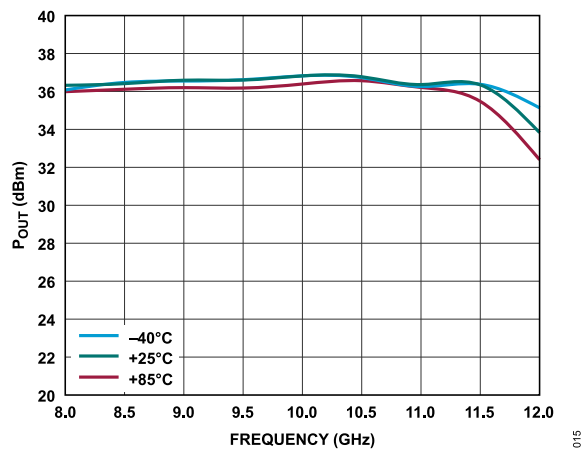
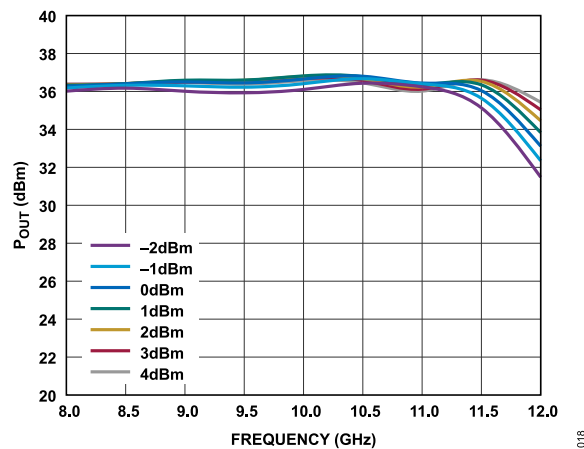
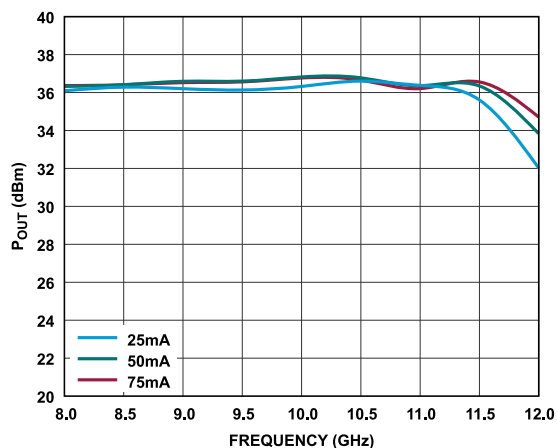
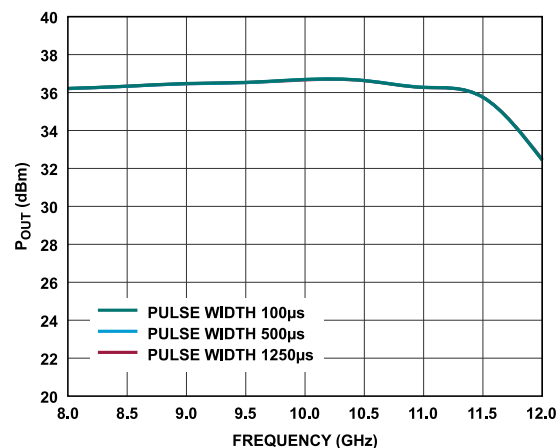
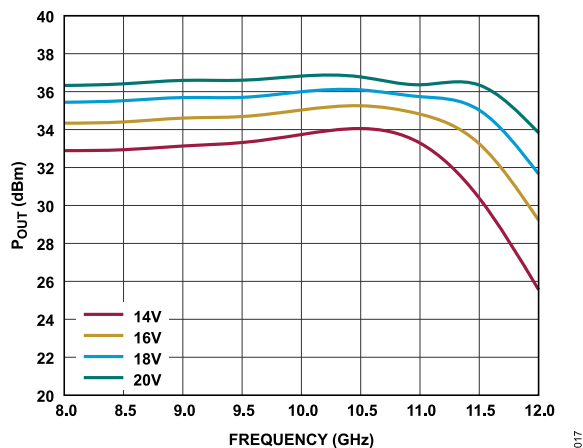
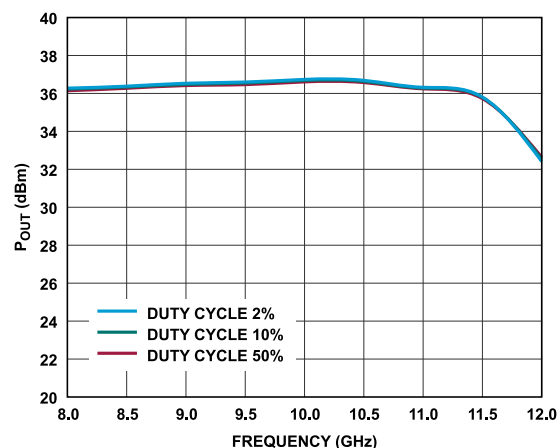


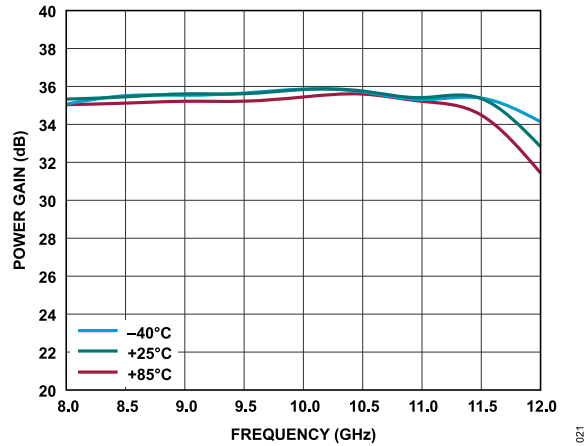
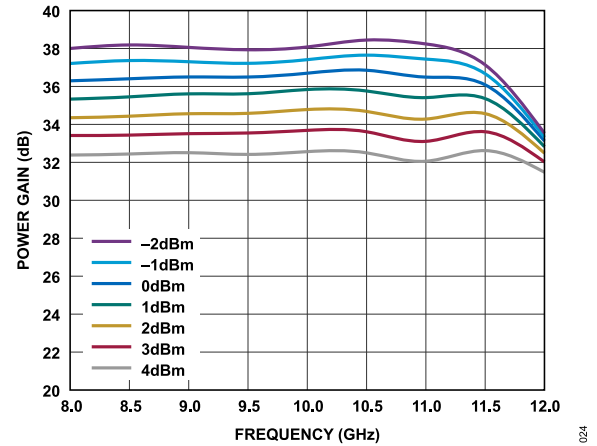
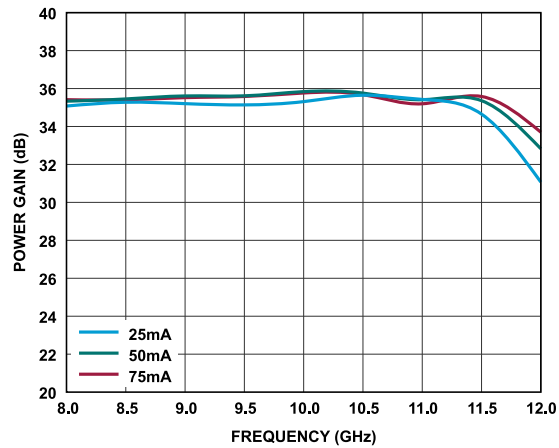
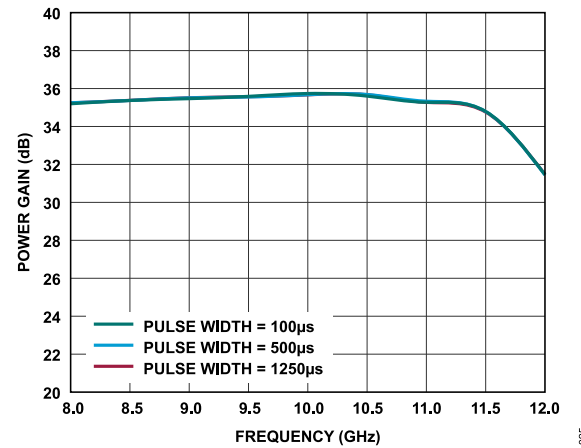
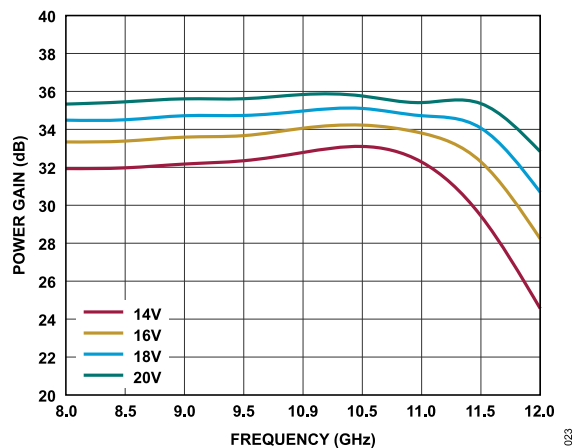
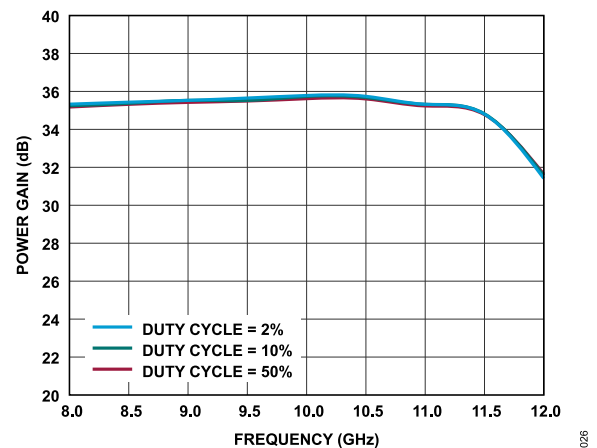
Figure 14. Output Return Loss vs. Frequency for Various Temperatures



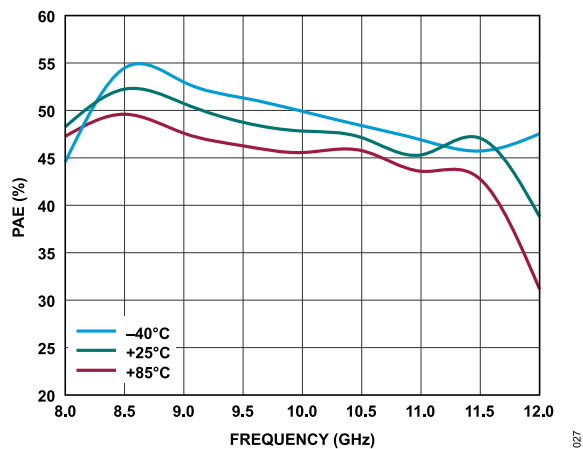
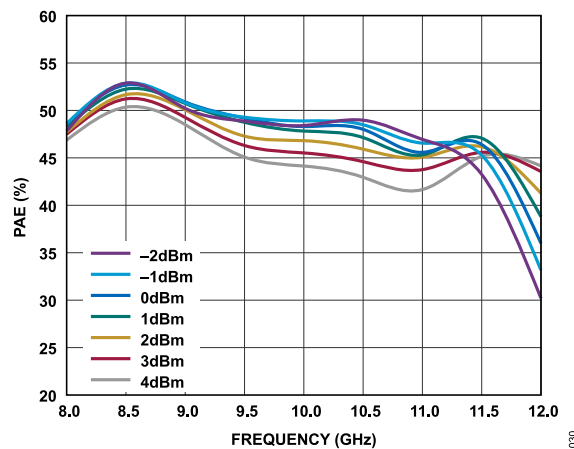
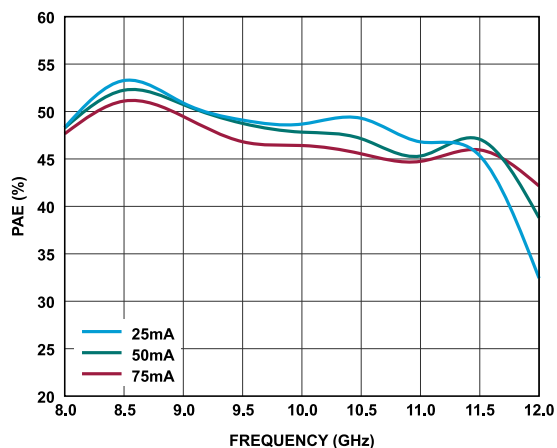
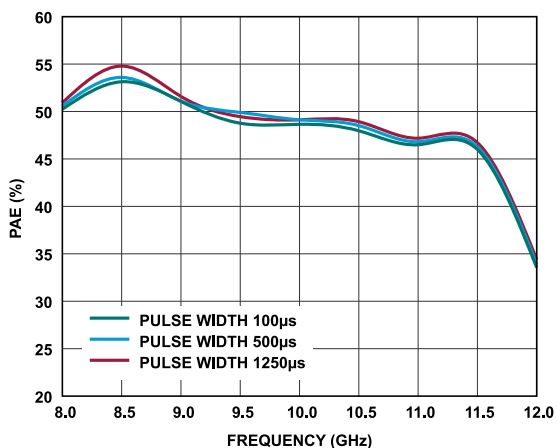
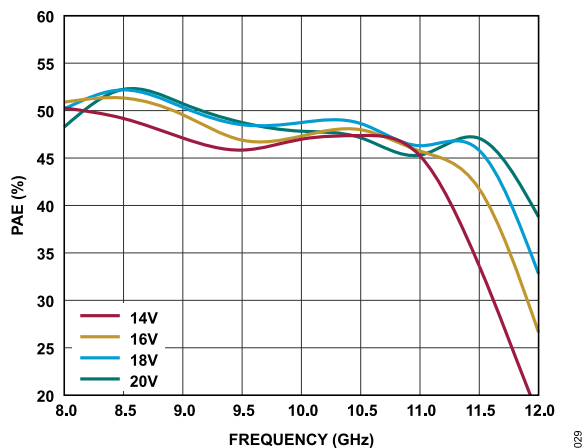
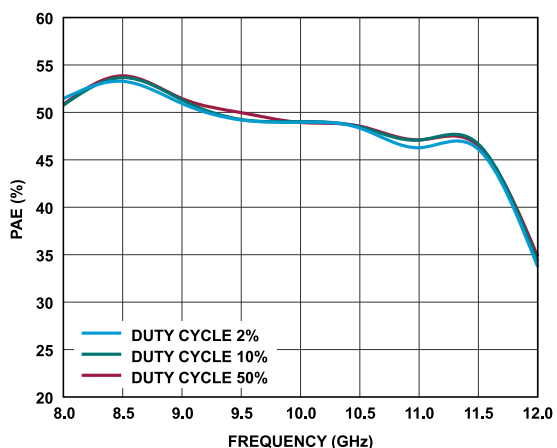
## TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Figure 15.  $P_{OUT}$  at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various TemperaturesFigure 18.  $P_{OUT}$  vs. Frequency at Various  $P_{IN}$  ValuesFigure 16.  $P_{OUT}$  at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Supply CurrentsFigure 19.  $P_{OUT}$  at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Pulse Widths at 10% Duty CycleFigure 17.  $P_{OUT}$  at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Supply VoltagesFigure 20.  $P_{OUT}$  at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Duty Cycles at 100µs Pulse Width

## TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Figure 21. Power Gain at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various TemperaturesFigure 24. Power Gain vs. Frequency at Various  $P_{IN}$  ValuesFigure 22. Power Gain at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Supply CurrentsFigure 25. Power Gain at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Pulse Widths at 10% Duty CycleFigure 23. Power Gain at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Supply VoltagesFigure 26. Power Gain at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Duty Cycles at 100μs Pulse Width

## TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Figure 27. PAE at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various TemperaturesFigure 30. PAE vs. Frequency for Various  $P_{IN}$  ValuesFigure 28. PAE at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Supply CurrentsFigure 31. PAE at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Pulse Widths at 10% Duty CycleFigure 29. PAE at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Supply VoltagesFigure 32. PAE at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Duty Cycles at 100µs Pulse Width

## TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

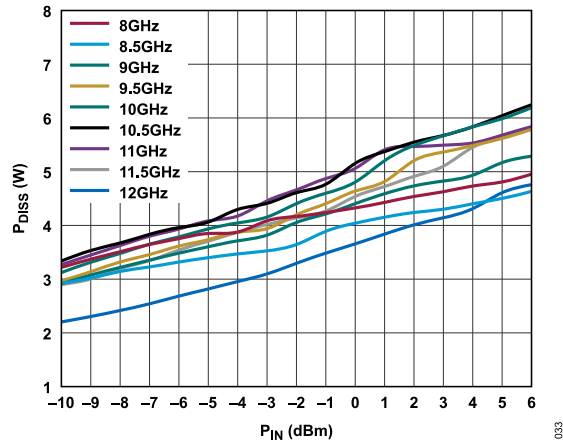
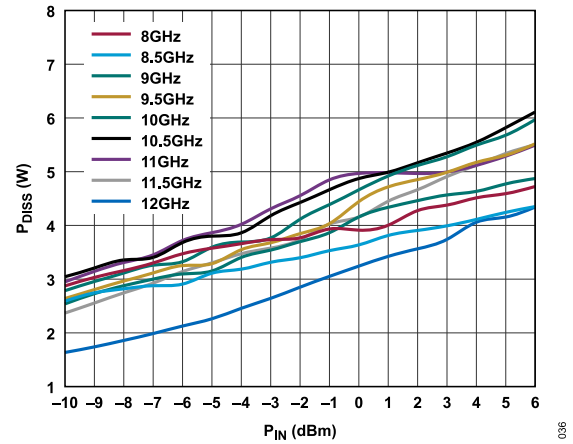
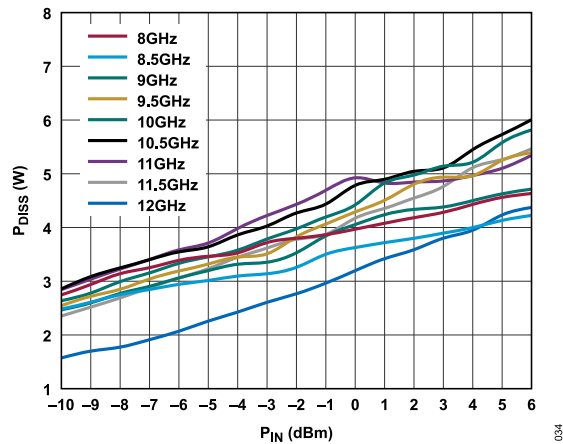
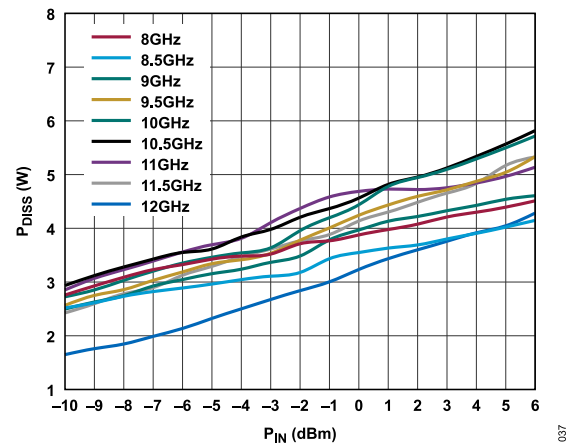
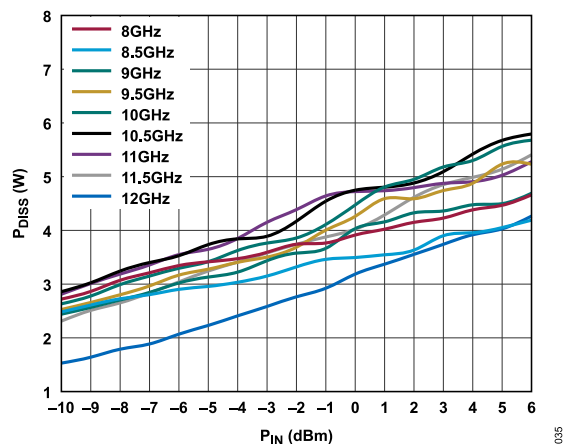
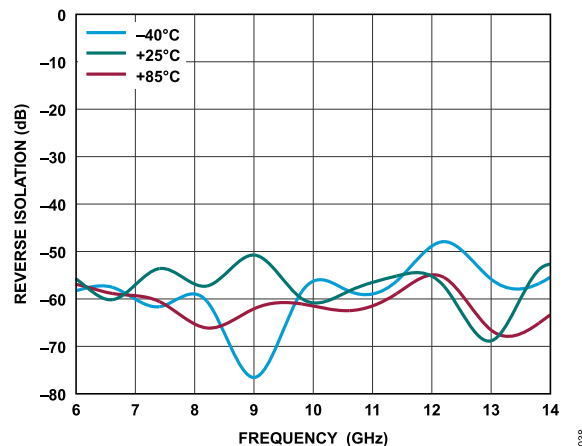
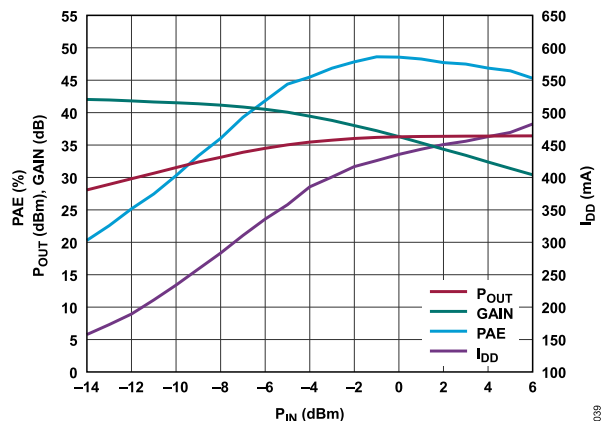
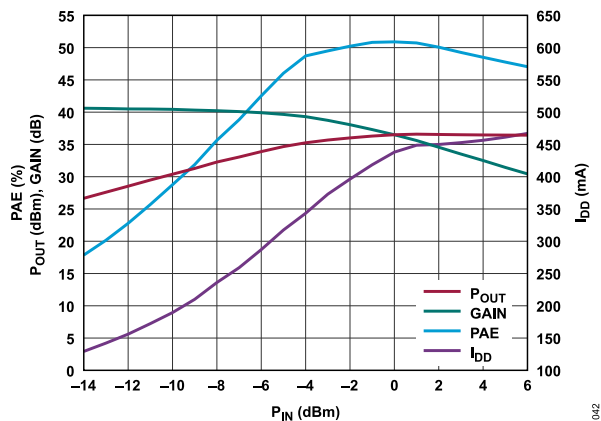
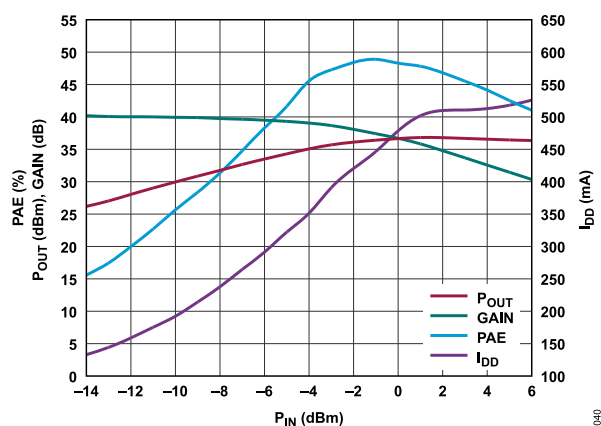
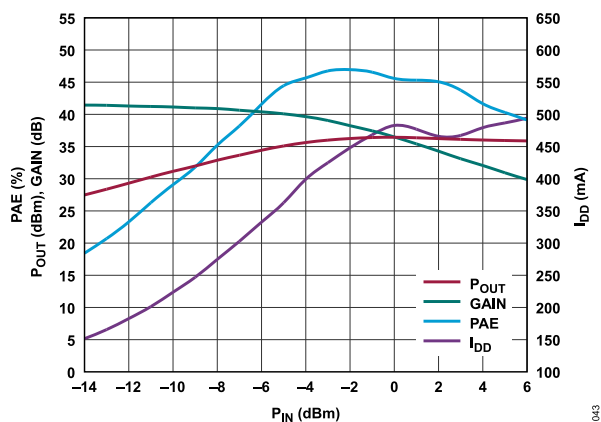
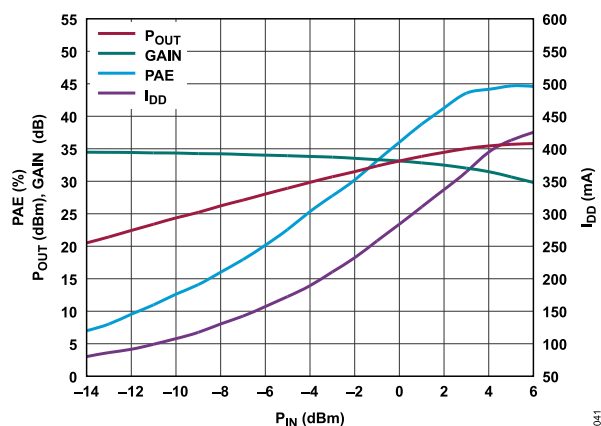
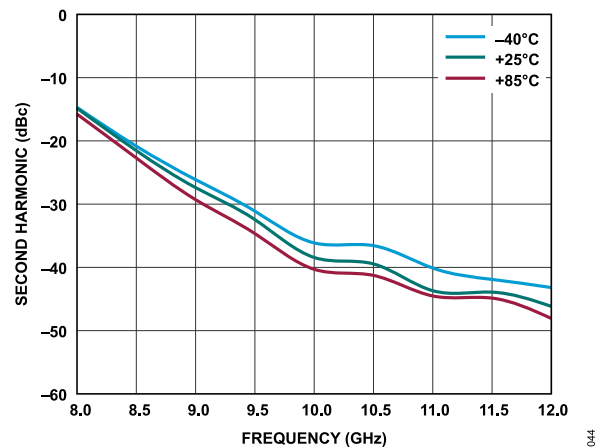
Figure 33.  $P_{DISS}$  vs.  $P_{IN}$  at Various Frequencies at 85°CFigure 36.  $P_{DISS}$  vs.  $P_{IN}$  at Various Frequencies, Pulse Width = 100µs at 2% Duty CycleFigure 34.  $P_{DISS}$  vs.  $P_{IN}$  at Various Frequencies, Pulse Width = 500µs at 10% Duty CycleFigure 37.  $P_{DISS}$  vs.  $P_{IN}$  at Various Frequencies, Pulse Width = 100µs at 50% Duty CycleFigure 35.  $P_{DISS}$  vs.  $P_{IN}$  at Various Frequencies, Pulse Width = 1250µs at 10% Duty Cycle

Figure 38. Reverse Isolation vs. Frequency at Various Temperatures

## TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Figure 39. PAE,  $P_{OUT}$ , Gain, and Supply Current ( $I_{DD}$ ) vs.  $P_{IN}$  at 8GHzFigure 42. PAE,  $P_{OUT}$ , Gain, and  $I_{DD}$  vs.  $P_{IN}$  at 9GHzFigure 40. PAE,  $P_{OUT}$ , Gain, and  $I_{DD}$  vs.  $P_{IN}$  at 10GHzFigure 43. PAE,  $P_{OUT}$ , Gain, and  $I_{DD}$  vs.  $P_{IN}$  at 11GHzFigure 41. PAE,  $P_{OUT}$ , Gain, and  $I_{DD}$  vs.  $P_{IN}$  at 12GHzFigure 44. Second Harmonic at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Temperatures

## TYPICAL PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

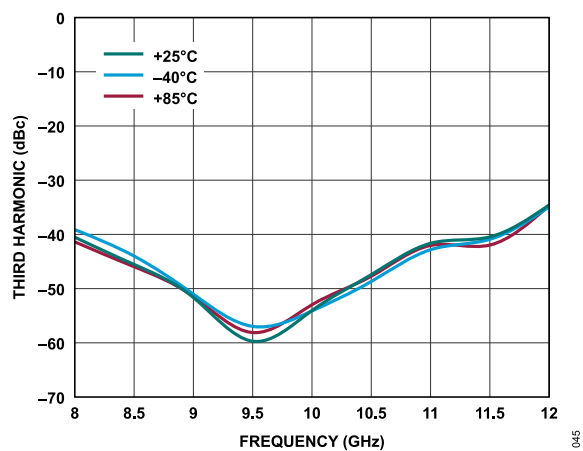


Figure 45. Third Harmonic at  $P_{IN} = 1\text{dBm}$  vs. Frequency for Various Temperatures

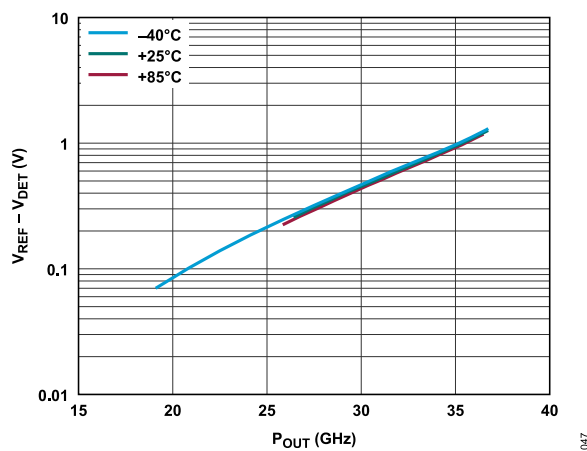


Figure 47.  $V_{REF} - V_{DET}$  vs.  $P_{OUT}$  for Various Temperatures

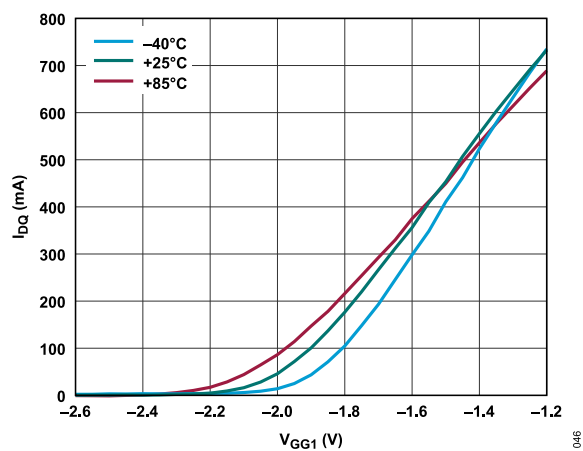


Figure 46.  $I_{DQ}$  vs.  $V_{GG1}$  for Various Temperatures

## THEORY OF OPERATION

The ADPA1120 is a GaN power amplifier that delivers 36.5dBm (4.5W) of pulsed power. The device consists of four cascaded gain stages. A simplified block diagram is shown in [Figure 48](#).

The positive bias voltage that applied to the VDD1-2, VDD3, and VDD4 pins provides bias to the drains of the first, second, third and fourth gain stages, respectively (a single common supply voltage must be used). The negative DC voltages are applied to the VGG1-2, VGG3, and VGG4 gates bias pins of the first, second, third and fourth gain stages, respectively, to allow control of the drain currents for each stage.

The recommended DC biasing results in a typical pulsed RF  $P_{OUT}$  and PAE of 36.5dBm and 47%, respectively, across the band of 9.5GHz to 11.5GHz when the input power is 1dBm.

The ADPA1120 has single-ended RFIN and RFOUT ports that are AC-coupled. The impedance of these ports are nominally 50Ω over the 8GHz to 12GHz operating frequency range. Consequently, the ADPA1120 can be directly inserted into a 50Ω system without the need for external impedance matching components or AC coupling capacitors.

A portion of the RF output signal (RFOUT) is directionally coupled to a diode to detect the RF  $P_{OUT}$ . When the diode is DC biased externally through a resistor, it rectifies the RF power and makes

it available as a DC voltage at VDET. To allow temperature compensation of VDET, the reference DC voltage detected through an identical diode that is not coupled to the RF power is available on the VREF pin. The difference of  $V_{REF} - V_{DET}$  provides a temperature-compensated detector voltage that is proportional to the RF  $P_{OUT}$ .

The small signal gain drops significantly at  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$  because the device is biased close to the transistor pinch-off voltage. At cold temperatures, the pinch-off voltage shifts more positive as can be seen in [Figure 46](#). As a result, a more positive gate voltage is required to turn on the transistor and have current flow. The gain at small signal levels and cold temperatures are much lower than room temperature; however, the performance at large signal levels is as expected and shown in [Figure 21](#).

The data in this data sheet was captured by setting the drain current to a nominal  $I_{DQ}$ , that is, 50mA. After this initial  $I_{DQ}$  was determined, the gate voltage was kept constant in subsequent testing and operation. It is possible that the  $I_{DQ}$  will increase by some amount with continued operation at that fixed VGG gate voltage. Keeping the gate voltage constant during long-term operation provides more consistent RF performance than keeping a nominal  $I_{DQ}$  constant.

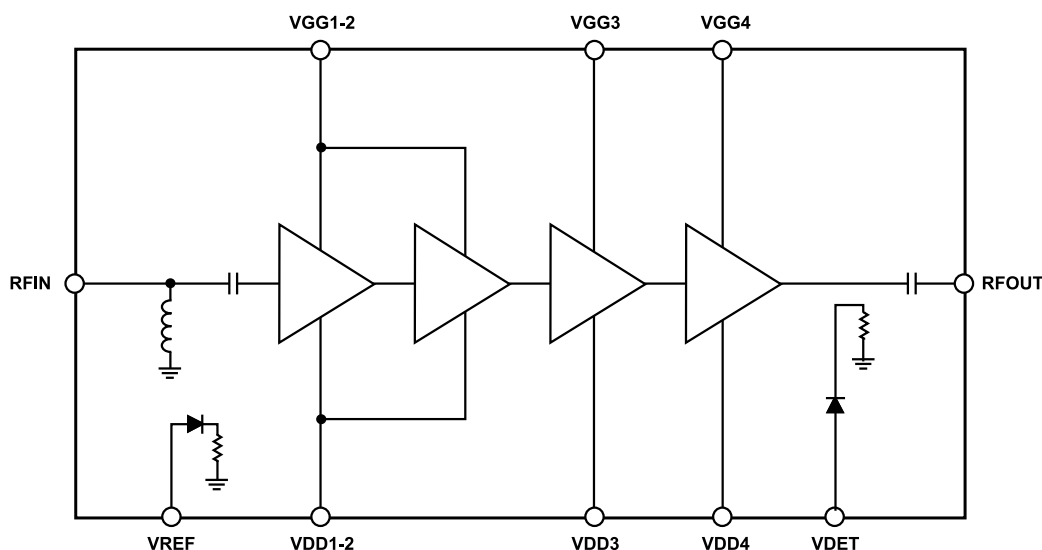


Figure 48. Basic Block Diagram

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## APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

## BASIC CONNECTIONS

The basic connections for operating the ADPA1120 are shown in Figure 49. Apply a power supply voltage between 14V and 20V to the VDD1-2, VDD3, and VDD4 pins. Decouple the VGG1-2, VGG3, VGG4, VDD1-2, VDD3, and VDD4 pins with the capacitor and resistor values shown in Figure 49. The gate bias pins, VGG1-2, VGG3, and VGG4, are used to bias the ADPA1120. Pin 1 to Pin 3, Pin 7 to Pin 9, Pin 12, Pin 13, Pin 16 to Pin 19, Pin 21, Pin 22, Pin 24 to Pin 28, and Pin 32 are designated as the not internally connected (NIC) pins. Although these NIC pins are not internally connected, the NIC pins were all connected to ground during the characterization of the device.

Apply a voltage between -3V and -1V to the VGGx pins to set the bias level and drain current. The ADPA1120 can support both continuous and pulsed operation; however, pulsed operation provides better thermal management by pulsing either the gate voltage or the drain voltage.

In gate pulsed mode,  $V_{DD}$  is held at a fixed level (nominally 20V) while the gate voltage is pulsed between -4V (off) and approximately -3V to -1V (on). The exact on level can be adjusted to achieve the desired  $I_{DQ}$ .

In drain pulsed mode, the  $V_{DD}$  voltage is pulsed on and off while the gate voltage is held at a fixed negative level between -3V and -1V. Because high currents and voltages are being switched on and off, a metal-oxide semiconductor field effect transistor (MOSFET) and a MOSFET switch driver are required in the circuit. Large capacitors are also required, which act as local reservoirs of charge, and these capacitors help provide the drain current required by the ADPA1120 while maintaining a steady drain voltage during the on time of the pulse.

The ADPA1120-EVALZ evaluation board package includes a plugin pulser board that contains the required circuitry to implement drain pulsed mode. See the ADPA1120-EVALZ user guide for more information.

To safely turn power on, the VGGx pins must be set to -4V before  $V_{DD}$  is applied. After the VGGx pins are increased to achieve the desired drain bias current, the RF input can be applied. Trigger the RF source so that the RF is applied only during the time the drain pulse is high. To safely turn power off, remove the RF input signal and decrease the VGGx pins to -4V.  $V_{DD}$  can then be decreased to 0V before increasing VGG1-2 to 0V.

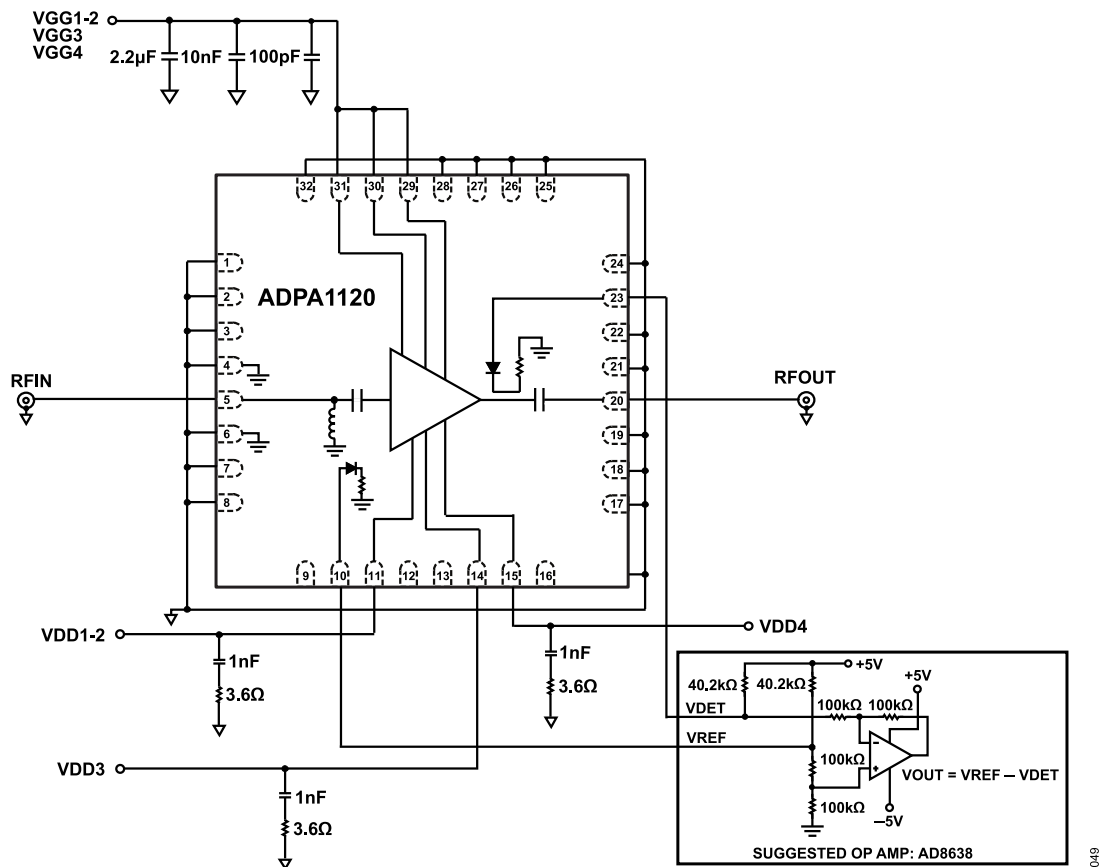


Figure 49. Basic Connections



## APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

## RECOMMENDED BIAS SEQUENCE

The recommended bias sequence for power-up is as follows:

1. Connect all GND pins to ground.
2. Set the voltages on the VGG1-2, VGG3, and VGG4 pins to -4V.
3. Set the voltages on the VDD1-2, VDD3, and VDD4 pins to 20V.
4. Increase the voltages of the VGG1-2, VGG3, and VGG4 pins from -3V to -1V to achieve the desired  $I_{DQ}$ , nominally 50mA.
5. Apply the RF signal to the RFIN pin.

The recommended sequence for the transmit state during power-down is as follows:

1. Turn off the RF signal.
2. Decrease the voltages of the VGG1-2, VGG3, and VGG4 pins to -4V.
3. Set the voltages on the VDD1-2, VDD3, and VDD4 pins to 0V.
4. Set the voltages on the VGG1-2, VGG3, and VGG4 pins to 0V.

All measurements and data shown in this data sheet were taken using the basic connections circuit (see [Figure 49](#)) and biased per the conditions in this section, unless otherwise noted. The bias conditions described in this section are the operating points recommended to optimize the overall device performance. Operation using other bias conditions can result in performance that differs from what is shown in the [Typical Performance Characteristics](#) section. To obtain optimal performance while not damaging the device, follow the recommended biasing sequences described in this section and adhere to the values shown in the [Absolute Maximum Ratings](#) section.

## DRAIN PULSING

To implement drain pulsed operation on the ADPA1120, apply a negative voltage to the gate pins of the power amplifier while the voltage on the drain pins are pulsed between 0V and 20V.

The power supplies used to provide the drain voltages to the ADPA1120 must have a fast transient response to minimize voltage droop.

## Drain Pulsing Setup

Take the following steps to set up drain pulsing:

1. Connect all power supply, ground, and control signals to the ADPA1120, see [Figure 49](#).
2. To pulse the power amplifier, set the voltages on the VGG1-2, VGG3 and VGG4 pins to -4V and set the voltages on the VDD1-2, VDD3, and VDD4 pins to 20V.
3. Turn on the drain voltage pulse pins, VDD1-2, VDD3 and VDD4, pulsing between 0V and 20V, 100 $\mu$ s, and 10% duty cycle typical.
4. Adjust the voltages on the VGG1-2, VGG3 and VGG4 pins between -3V and -1V until the target pulsed  $I_{DQ}$  is reached (nominally 50mA).
5. Apply the RF input signal.

## GATE PULSING

To implement gate pulsed operation on the ADPA1120, apply a pulsed negative voltage to the gate pins of the power amplifier while the voltage on the drain pins are held constant.

The power supplies used to provide the drain voltages to the ADPA1120 must have a fast transient response to minimize voltage droop.

## Gate Pulsing Setup

Take the following steps to set up gate pulsing:

1. Connect all power supply, ground, and control signals to the ADPA1120, see [Figure 49](#).
2. To pulse the power amplifier, set the voltages on the VGG1-2, VGG3 and VGG4 pins to -4V and set the voltages on the VDD1-2, VDD3 and VDD4 pins to 20V.
3. Turn on the gate voltage pulse pins, VGG1-2, VGG3 and VGG4, pulsing between -4V and approximately -3V, 100 $\mu$ s, and 10% duty cycle typical.
4. Adjust the gate voltage pulse high-voltage between -3V and -1V to achieve the target pulsed  $I_{DQ}$  (nominally 50mA) while maintaining the pulse off voltage level at -4V.
5. Apply the RF input signal

## APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

## THERMAL MANAGEMENT

Proper thermal management is critical to achieve the specified performance and rated operating life. The ADPA1120 can support both continuous and pulsed operation; however, pulsed biasing provides better thermal management to maintain a safe channel temperature ( $T_{\text{CHAN}}$ ).  $T_{\text{CHAN}}$  (or the die temperature) correlates closely with the mean time to failure.

Consider a continuous bias case (see Figure 50). When bias is applied, the  $T_{\text{CHAN}}$  of the ADPA1120 rises through a turn-on transient interval and eventually settles to a steady state value. Calculate the thermal resistance ( $\theta_{\text{JC}}$ ) of the device as the rise in  $T_{\text{CHAN}}$  above the starting base temperature ( $T_{\text{BASE}}$ ) divided by the total device  $P_{\text{DISS}}$  with the following equation:

$$\theta_{\text{JC}} = t_{\text{RISE}} / P_{\text{DISS}}$$

where:

$t_{\text{RISE}}$  is the rise in  $T_{\text{CHAN}}$  of the ADPA1120 above the  $T_{\text{BASE}}$  ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).

$P_{\text{DISS}}$  is the power dissipation (W) of the ADPA1120.

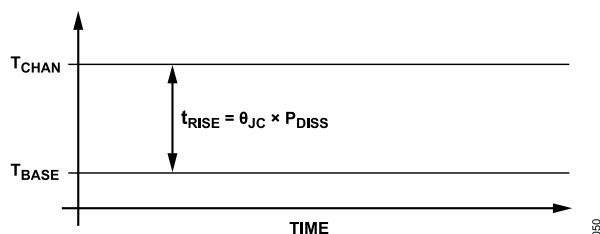


Figure 50. Channel Temperature Rise for Continuous Bias Condition

Next, consider a pulsed bias case at low duty cycle (see Figure 51). When bias is applied, the  $T_{\text{CHAN}}$  of the ADPA1120 can be described as a series of exponentially rising and decaying pulses. The peak  $T_{\text{CHAN}}$  reached during consecutive pulses increases during the turn-on transient interval, and eventually, this temperature settles to a steady state condition where the peak  $T_{\text{CHAN}}$  from pulse to pulse stabilizes.

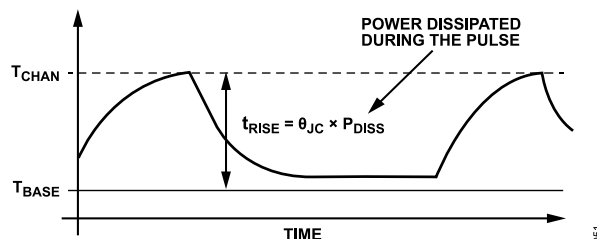


Figure 51. Pulsed Bias at Low Duty Cycle

**OUTLINE DIMENSIONS**

Package Drawing Option	Package Type	Package Description
<a href="#">CP-32-13</a>	LFCSP	32-Lead Lead Frame Chip Scale Package

For the latest package outline information and land patterns (footprints), go to [Package Index](#).

**ORDERING GUIDE**

Model <sup>1</sup>	Temperature Range	Package Description	Packing Quantity	Package Option
ADPA1120ACPZN	-40°C to +85°C	32-Lead Lead Frame Chip Scale Package [LFCSP]	Tape, 1	CP-32-13
ADPA1120ACPZN-R7	-40°C to +85°C	32-Lead Lead Frame Chip Scale Package [LFCSP]	Reel, 1500	CP-32-13

<sup>1</sup> Z = RoHS Compliant Part.