The GNSSCP-TH25L1 is a 25 mm x 25 mm square surface-mount ceramic patch antenna for GPS/GLONASS/GALILEO/BeiDou global navigation satellite system (GNSS) operation. It provides excellent gain and radiation pattern performance supporting solutions with high location accuracy, rapid satellite signal reception and lock, and quick time to first fix.

The GNSSCP-TH25L1 offers an extended temperature range to +105 °C for compliance to automotive standard AEC-Q200 Grade 2. The antenna is mounted via attached adhesive patch and has a solder pin signal connection.

Features
- Performance at 1567.24 MHz to 1583.60 MHz
  - VSWR: ≤ 5.6
  - Peak Gain: 3.5 dBi
  - Efficiency: 62%
- Directional radiation pattern orthogonal to antenna surface
- Right-hand circularly polarized (RHCP)
- Extended operation to +105 °C
- AEC-Q200 Grade 2 compliance
- Adhesive mounting to PCB
- Solder pin signal connection

Applications
- Global navigation GNSS
  - GPS L1
  - Galileo E1
  - GLONASS I L1
  - GLONASS II L1
  - Beidou B1-BOC
  - Beidou B1-2
  - QZSS L1
- Timing solutions
- Automotive location

Ordering Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANT-GNSSCP-TH25L1</td>
<td>GNSS Ceramic Patch antenna with pin-type solder connection</td>
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Available from Linx Technologies and select distributors and representatives.
Electrical Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GNSSCP-TH25L1</th>
<th>GPS L1, GALILEO E1, GLONASS II L1, Beidou B1-BOC, QZSS L1</th>
<th>Beidou B1-2</th>
<th>GLONASS II L1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Center Frequency</td>
<td>1575.42 MHz</td>
<td>1589.74 MHz</td>
<td>1602 MHz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frequency Range</td>
<td>1567.24 MHz to 1583.60 MHz</td>
<td>1587.69 MHz to 1591.79 MHz</td>
<td>1593.31 MHz to 1608.68 MHz</td>
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<tr>
<td>VSWR (max)</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>1.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peak Gain (dBi)</td>
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<td>10 Deg. Elevation (dBi)</td>
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<td>1.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Axial Ratio (dB)</td>
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<td>Average Gain (dBi)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Efficiency (%)</td>
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<td>80</td>
<td>83</td>
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<td>RHCP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radiation</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Max Power</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Wavelength</td>
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<td>Electrical Type</td>
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<td>Impedance</td>
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<td>Connection</td>
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<td>Operating Temp. Range</td>
<td>-40 °C to +105 °C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>9.2 g (0.32 oz)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dimensions</td>
<td>25.1 mm x 25.1 mm x 4.0 (0.99 in x 0.99 in x 0.16 in)</td>
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<td>ESD Sensitivity</td>
<td>NOT ESD sensitive. As a best practice, Linx may use ESD packaging.</td>
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Electrical specifications and plots measured with a 75 mm x 65 mm (2.95 in x 2.56 in) reference ground plane.

Product Dimensions

Figure 1 provides dimensions of the GNSSCP-TH25L1.

Figure 1. GNSSCP-TH25L1 Antenna Dimensions
VSWR
Figure 2 provides the voltage standing wave ratio (VSWR) across the antenna bandwidth. VSWR describes the power reflected from the antenna back to the radio. A lower VSWR value indicates better antenna performance at a given frequency. Reflected power is also shown on the right-side vertical axis as a gauge of the percentage of transmitter power reflected back from the antenna.

![Figure 2. GNSSCP-TH25L1 VSWR](image)

Return Loss
Return loss (Figure 3), represents the loss in power at the antenna due to reflected signals. Like VSWR, a lower return loss value indicates better antenna performance at a given frequency.

![Figure 3. GNSSCP-TH25L1 Return Loss](image)
Peak Gain
The peak gain across the antenna bandwidth is shown in Figure 4. Peak gain represents the maximum antenna input power concentration across 3-dimensional space, and therefore peak performance at a given frequency, but does not consider any directionality in the gain pattern.

![Figure 4. GNSSCP-TH25L1 Peak Gain](image)

Average Gain
Average gain (Figure 5), is the average of all antenna gain in 3-dimensional space at each frequency, providing an indication of overall performance without expressing antenna directionality.

![Figure 5. GNSSCP-TH25L1 Antenna Average Gain](image)
Datasheet

ANT-GNSSCP-TH25L1

Axial Ratio
Axial ratio provides a measure of the quality of circular polarization of an antenna, the lower the value (in dB), the better the circular polarization. A circularly polarized antenna field comprises two orthogonal E-field components. These fields are ideally of equal amplitude, resulting in an axial ratio equal to unity (0 dB). In practice, no antenna is perfectly circular in polarization, the polarization is elliptical as one field has larger magnitude. As the axial ratio increases the antenna gain degrades away from the main beam orthogonal to the antenna surface. The axial ratio for the TH25L1 antenna is shown in Figure 6.

Radiation Efficiency
Radiation efficiency (Figure 7), shows the ratio of power delivered to the antenna relative to the power radiated at the antenna, expressed as a percentage, where a higher percentage indicates better performance at a given frequency.
Radiation Patterns
Radiation patterns provide information about the directionality and 3-dimensional gain performance of the antenna by plotting gain at specific frequencies in three orthogonal planes. Antenna radiation patterns are shown in Figure 8 using polar plots covering 360 degrees. The antenna graphic at the top of the page provides reference to the plane of the column of plots below it. Note: when viewed with typical PDF viewing software, zooming into radiation patterns is possible to reveal fine detail.

**1567.24 MHz to 1583.60 MHz (1576 MHz)**

**1587.69 MHz to 1591.79 MHz (1590 MHz)**
Radiation Patterns
1593.31 MHz to 1608.68 MHz (1601 MHz)

Figure 8. ANT-GNSSCP-TH25L1 Radiation Patterns
Recommended Layout
The recommended printed circuit board (PCB) layout for the GNSSCP-TH25L1 is shown in Figure 9. Contact Linx for availability of PCB layout design files.

The recommended layout includes a matching network, ground plane and PCB transmission line from the antenna to the matching network, and to the connector or radio circuitry. The connector used for the evaluation board is optional, the transmission line may be run directly to the radio if on the same PCB.

Linx recommends inclusion of at least a 3-element, surface mount pi matching network of two parallel capacitors, (C1, C2) and one serial inductor, (L1) in all designs (Figure 10). Surface mount components should be 0603 size. 0402 size components are also supported. The GNSSCP series antennas, as designed, do not require matching, but matching may improve end-product antenna performance depending on the effects of the enclosure, PCB and other electronic components. If no matching is necessary, the serial element may be populated with a zero-ohm resistor and no components in the two capacitor positions. Linx believes in wireless made simple® and offers matching network design support.

Figure 9. Recommended PCB Layout for the GNSSCP-TH25L1

Figure 10. Matching Network Recommendation
Recommended PCB Footprint

Figure 11 shows the recommended printed circuit board footprint and spacing for the GNSSCP-TH25L1 antenna. The footprint recommendation should be used in conjunction with the recommended layout configuration shown in Figure 9.

![Figure 11. ANT-GNSSCP-TH25L1 Antenna Placement on PCB](image)

Ground Plane

Ceramic patch antennas are directional in signal transmission and reception orthogonal to the surface plane of the antenna, and require a ground plane for proper operation. The larger the ground plane, the narrower the antenna signal beam, and generally, the better the VSWR performance of the antenna. Relatively smaller ground planes produce wider signal beams. Linx recommends the ground plane size shown in the Electrical Specifications table to achieve performance similar to that shown in this datasheet.

The GNSSCP-TH25L1 is a 1/4 wave radiating-patch antenna, and requires a ground plane on the PCB to which it is mounted. Linx recommends a minimum 75 mm x 65 mm or larger ground plane. The GNSSCP-TH25L1 should be mounted at the center of the ground plane, (See Figure 11).

Other ground plane sizes and antenna mounting locations are possible. Linx offers PCB design reviews to help optimize solution performance.

Antenna Installation

The GNSSCP-TH25L1 attaches to the PCB surface using a double-sided adhesive (0.12 mm thick) which consists of a flexible pressure sensitive adhesive that adheres to metal, plastic and other non-porous surfaces. The mounting surface should be clean and free of moisture and oily residues for ideal adhesive strength.
Transmission Lines for Embedded Antennas
For most designs, Linx recommends a microstrip transmission line for the GNSSCP-TH25L1 antenna. A microstrip transmission line is a PCB trace that runs over a ground plane to maintain the characteristic impedance for optimal signal transfer between the antenna and radio circuitry. Linx designs all antennas with a characteristic impedance of 50 Ω.

Important practices to observe when designing a transmission line are:

- Keep all transmission lines to a minimum length for best signal performance.
- Use RF components that also operate at a 50 Ω impedance.
- If the radio is not on the same PCB as the antenna, the microstrip should be terminated in a connector, as exemplified on the GNSSCP-TH25L1 evaluation board, enabling a shielded cable to complete the antenna connection to the radio.
- For designs subject to significant electromagnetic interference, a coplanar waveguide transmission line may be used on the PCB.

The design of a PCB transmission line can be aided by many commercially available software packages which can calculate the correct transmission line width and gap dimensions based upon the PCB thickness and dielectric constant used. Linx offers PCB design reviews to help optimize solution performance.

Packaging Specifications
The GNSSCP-TH25L1 antennas are packaged in protective plastic trays as shown in Figure 12. Antennas are packaged 50 per tray, 200 antennas (4 trays) are packed in a carton 10.3 in x 6.0 in x 4.7 in (261 mm x 152 mm x 118 mm). 800 antennas packaged in a shipping box 13.0 in x 11.0 in x 10.6 in (330 mm x 280 mm x 270 mm).

Figure 12. Packaging Specifications for the ANT-GNSSCP-TH25L1
Antenna Definitions and Useful Formulas

**VSWR** - Voltage Standing Wave Ratio. VSWR is a unitless ratio that describes the power reflected from the antenna back to the radio. A lower VSWR value indicates better antenna performance at a given frequency. VSWR is easily derived from Return Loss.

\[
VSWR = \frac{10^{\frac{\text{Return Loss}}{20}} + 1}{10^{\frac{\text{Return Loss}}{20}} - 1}
\]

**Return Loss** - Return loss represents the loss in power at the antenna due to reflected signals, measured in decibels. A lower return loss value indicates better antenna performance at a given frequency. Return Loss is easily derived from VSWR.

\[
\text{Return Loss} = -20 \log_{10} \left( \frac{VSWR - 1}{VSWR + 1} \right)
\]

**Efficiency (η)** - The total power radiated from an antenna divided by the input power at the feed point of the antenna as a percentage.

**Total Radiated Efficiency** - (TRE) The total efficiency of an antenna solution comprising the radiation efficiency of the antenna and the transmitted (forward) efficiency from the transmitter.

\[
\text{TRE} = \eta \left( 1 - \left( \frac{VSWR - 1}{VSWR + 1} \right)^2 \right)
\]

**Gain** - The ratio of an antenna’s efficiency in a given direction (G) to the power produced by a theoretical lossless (100% efficient) isotropic antenna. The gain of an antenna is almost always expressed in decibels.

\[
G_{\text{db}} = 10 \log_{10}(G)
\]

\[
G_{\text{dBi}} = G_{\text{db}} - 2.51 \text{dB}
\]

**Peak Gain** - The highest antenna gain across all directions for a given frequency range. A directional antenna will have a very high peak gain compared to average gain.

**Average Gain** - The average gain across all directions for a given frequency range.

**Maximum Power** - The maximum signal power which may be applied to an antenna feed point, typically measured in watts (W).

**Reflected Power** - A portion of the forward power reflected back toward the amplifier due to a mismatch at the antenna port.

\[
\left( \frac{VSWR - 1}{VSWR + 1} \right)^2
\]

decibel (dB) - A logarithmic unit of measure of the power of an electrical signal.

decibel isotropic (dBi) - A comparative measure in decibels between an antenna under test and an isotropic radiator.

decibel relative to a dipole (dBd) - A comparative measure in decibels between an antenna under test and an ideal half-wave dipole.

**Dipole** - An ideal dipole comprises a straight electrical conductor measuring 1/2 wavelength from end to end connected at the center to a feed point for the radio.

**Isotropic Radiator** - A theoretical antenna which radiates energy equally in all directions as a perfect sphere.

**Omnidirectional** - Term describing an antenna radiation pattern that is uniform in all directions. An isotropic antenna is the theoretical perfect omnidirectional antenna. An ideal dipole antenna has a donut-shaped radiation pattern and other practical antenna implementations will have less perfect but generally omnidirectional radiation patterns which are typically plotted on three axes.