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# MEMS VARIABLE OPTICAL ATTENUATORS: SINGLE AND MULTI-CHANNEL

#### Features:

- Telcordia GR-1209 and GR-1221 qualified
- Small size, low cost
- Available in the following configurations:
- Single channel discrete VOA
- 4 & 8 channel VOA arrays
- Higher port counts up to 40 VOAs per module
- Normally-open or Normally-closed
- Low voltage (6.5 V) or high voltage (18 V)
- Singlemode or PM fiber
- Analog DC voltage control
- Independent continuous attenuation control for each channel
- Fast response
- Low insertion loss
- High dynamic range
- Low WDL, PDL, TDL

**Product Description:** 

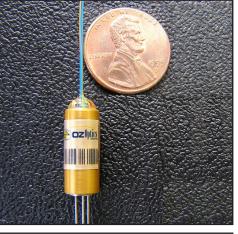
- Very low power consumption
- Very low crosstalk
- Stable and repeatable in open loop operation
- High attenuation accuracy
- Best-in-class resistance to shock & vibration

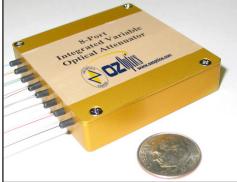
## Architecture:

- Uni-axial, uni-directional, MEMS mirror
- Electrostatic comb
- Fully symmetric

## **Applications:**

- Signal power management in optical networks
- Dynamic optical power control and channel equalization in add/drop multiplexers
- Power balancing before modulation and multiplexing
- Active gain equalization in DWDM systems
- Power control into receivers
- Gain tilt control in EDFAs
- Channel balancing for optimizing transmission performance in long-haul and metro networks
- Test equipment

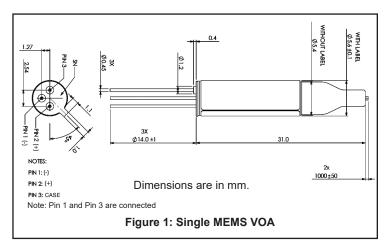




OZ Optics Ltd. offers MEMS-based variable optical attenuator (VOA) in a fast, low cost miniature package. These best-in-class attenuators are available either as single units or as arrays of attenuators in which each VOA has its own independent continuous control. Attenuation is controlled by an analog DC voltage input signal.

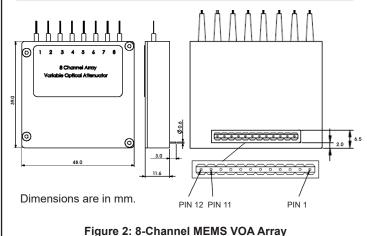
OZ Optics Ltd. offers MEMS-based VOAs with either Singlemode or Polarization Maintaining (PM) fibers. Our ingenious manufacturing techniques ensure optimum alignment of PM fibers, allowing high Polarization Extinction Ratios while dramatically minimizing assembly costs.

OZ Optics Ltd. MEMS VOAs are available in any combination of the following parameters: (1) Single VOAs with 0-6.5 volt or 0-18 volt driving power (2) VOA arrays with 5 volt power supply to the module and 0-6.5 volts on each driving pin (3) normally open or normally closed.



Pin Definition

Pin Definition			
Pin NO	Function	Pin NO	Function
1	No Connection	7	VOA5+
2	VOA1+	8	Ground
3	VOA2+	9	VOA6+
4	Ground	10	VOA7+
5	VOA3+	11	Ground
6	VOA4+	12	VOA8+



#### DTS0078

## Standard Product Specifications: for units at telecom wavelengths

Parameter	Single Channel	Multi Channel	Unit	
Number of channels	1	4, 8, 40		
Operating wavelength range <sup>(1)</sup>	C or L band			
Dynamic attenuation range	Max. 40		dB	
Attenuation without power	Normally Closed or Open			
Attenuation resolution	Continuous			
Insertion loss (2)	< 0.8		dB	
Return loss (4)	Min. 45		dB	
Response time (typical)) (3)	For 6.5 Volt VOA	2.0		msec
Polarization Dependent Loss <sup>(4)</sup> (PDL)	at 0 dB attenuation at 10 dB attenuation at 20 dB attenuation	0.10 0.30 0.50	0.10 0.30 0.60	dB dB dB
Wavelength Dependent Loss <sup>(4)</sup> (WDL)	at 0 dB attenuation at 10 dB attenuation at 20 dB attenuation	0.20 0.60 1.50		dB dB dB
Temperature Dependent Loss <sup>(4)</sup> (TDL)	at 0 dB attenuation at 10 dB attenuation	0.30 1.10		dB dB
Repeatability (after 100 cycles)	0.1		dB	
Polarization Mode Dispersion (PMD)	0.05		psec	
Ripple <sup>(5)</sup>	0.2		dB	
Maximum optical power	500		mW	
Operating temperature range	-5 to +70	-5 to +65	°C	
Storage temperature	- 40 to +85		°C	
Hermeticity (MEMS only)	< 10 <sup>-7</sup>		atm.cm <sup>3</sup> /s	
Electrical Interface	Analog			
Driving voltage <sup>(6)</sup>	0–6.5V or 0–18		V DC V DC	
Power consumption	< 10	< 10 x n <sup>2</sup>	mW	
Mechanical Dimensions	See Drawing			
Fiber Type	SMF 28e +			
Telcordia spec	GR-1209, GR-1221			

#### $^{\scriptscriptstyle (1)}$ Wavelengths from 532 to 2000 nm are also available.

(2) Excluding connectors.

<sup>(3)</sup> Response time max 5 msec.

(4) For all polarization states, over operating temperature range, measured over operating wavelength range i.e. ITU defined C or L band.

(5) The worst case variation in attenuation (peak to peak) over any 0.4 nm window for all polarization states, over operating temperature and wavelength range.

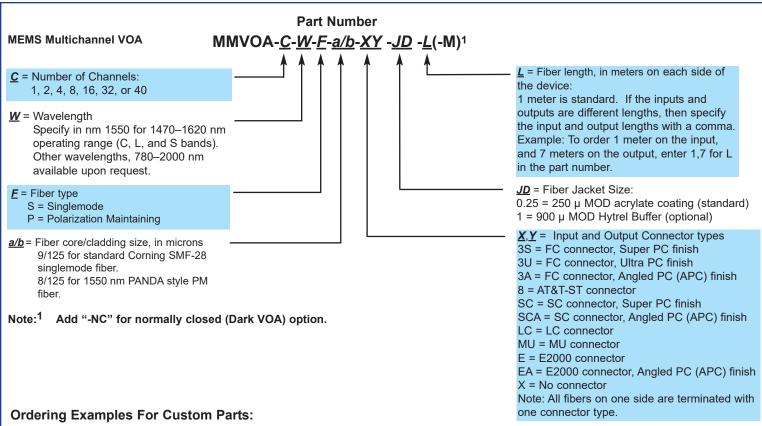
<sup>(6)</sup> Maximum DC voltage for full attenuation range.

## **Ordering Information for Custom Parts:**

OZ Optics welcomes the opportunity to provide custom designed products to meet your application needs. As with most manufacturers, customized products take additional effort so please expect some differences in pricing compared to our standard parts list. In particular, we will need additional time to prepare a comprehensive quotation, and lead times may be longer than normal. In most cases non-recurring engineering (NRE) charges, lot charges, and a 50 piece minimum order will be necessary. These points will be carefully explained in your quotation, so that your decision is as well-informed as possible. We strongly recommend buying our standard products.

## **Questionnaire for Custom Parts:**

- 1. How many fiber channels do you intend to control?
- 2. What wavelengths are you using?
- 3. Are you using single mode or polarization maintaining fiber? What core/cladding size?
- 4. What type of connectors are you using?
- 5. How long should the fibers be? What size jacketing?
- 6. Do you need integrated power monitoring?
- 7. Are there any other special requirements?



A customer needs an eight channel, 1550nm Singlemode MEMS VOA. The fibers on each side are 1 meter long, with 900 micron loose tube hytrel jacketing. The ends of the fibers are to be terminated with FC/APC connectors. The part number and description are as follows:

Part Number	Description		
MMVOA-8-1550-S-8/125-3A3A-1-1	MEMS Multichannel VOA, with eight channels. Each channel uses SM fiber for 1550 nm, 1 meter long on both ends, 900 micron loose tube hytrel jacketing, with FC/APC connectors on each end.		

#### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

Q: How does the integrated power monitoring work?

A: Integrated power monitoring is achieved through the use of a unique tapping process and a photodiode. The output signal from the photodiode can be measured by a feedback circuit to control the attenuation.

#### **Application Notes:**

#### Application example: Load balancing on a WDM network

As illustrated in figure 2, an eight channel wavelength multiplexed signal from a trunk line is demultiplexed into individual signals. The signals are of different intensities, and have to be balanced to avoid saturating any of the receivers. To do so, each channel is sent through a corresponding port on an eight channel MEMS VOA. The signal strength through the attenuator outputs is monitored by a control circuit. If the output signal on one channel gets too high or too low, the corresponding attenuator is adjusted to bring the light level to the correct range. The complete module is very compact.

