

Platform of Reliability tOOls for Failure analysis dedicated to wide bandgap devices



COS PROOF jeudi 4 février 2021

Méthode d'analyse électrique et en bruit BF pour un diagnostic précis des défauts dans les technologies III-N

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LES OUTILS DU LAAS, L'EXPERIENCE et LE POSITIONNEMENT NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL

LES PROJETS DEPUIS 2002 + SUIVI DES ÉVOLUTIONS TECHNOLOGIQUES GaN (substrats SiC, Si, GaN, Diamant)

QUELQUES CAS D'ÉTUDES

LES PROSPECTIVES ET LES OPPORTUNITÉS VIA PROOF

SYNTHÈSE et DISCUSSIONS



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Electrical noise : from single device to complex system EUROPEAN KNOW-HOW – labelled by Keysight

Main scientific fields :

- > New devices :
 - Modelling and noise sources identification process improvement

> Reliability :

Reliability through noise measurement, at device and circuit level – process improvement

> Linear & Nonlinear circuits and noise :

- Noise sources modelling under nonlinear conditions
- Low Noise Amplifier design harshness vs jamming (+ nonlinear noise figure)^{Need} to strengthen the
- Phase noise modelling (oscillator, amplifier...)

> Noise in complex systems :

- Noise in frequency synthesis,
- Noise in Tx/Rx RF links...

Noise metrology :

- Low frequency noise (1/f GR RTN)
- Microwave linear noise (NF50, 4 parameters)
- Nonlinear HF noise
- Phase noise (RF and microwave sources)
- additive phase noise
- Optical noise (ex : laser RIN, Δv)



LF noise measurement



Only 1 to 3 active

dedicated researchers!

HF noise parameters measurement 1-40 GHz



NOISE @ LAAS: NATIONAL - INTERNATIONAL POSITION

Université

5

Positioned at a European excellence level:

- Cited in European Microwave Journal 2012
- Referenced by Keysight as European
 Reference Center for LFN in 2016
- Unique experimental setup for LF and HF linear and non linear noise measurement facilities (in Europe at least !)



Cooperation with academic laboratories has often specialized in specific topics (for instance, **IEMN** on device processing, simulation, and characterization; **XLIM** on microwave components and systems modelling and simulation; **LAAS on noise**; **IMS** on silicon devices and reliability; **LabSTICC** on filtering; and **IETR** on antenna design and characterization

From IEEE Microwave Magazine, "European Microwaves", Sept-Oct 2012



NOISE @ LAAS: NATIONAL - INTERNATIONAL POSITION

Noise in France:

How is LAAS is positioned in this area ? →IEMN Lille (<u>HF noise</u>) →IMS Bordeaux (<u>LF Noise</u> & reliability) →IES montpellier (<u>LF noise-Silicon</u>) →XLIM Limoges (LF Noise and N.L. circuits)

Noise in Europe & Worldwide ?

A small but active community (almost 500 active researchers mainly in Europe, USA, Japan) -ICNF conference (every 2 years), ESREF, ... -IEEE Trans. Microwave Theory and Technique, Microelectronics Journal, IEEE Elec. Device Letters, IEEE Trans. Elec. Device



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Electrical improvement by frequency & power increase

 \rightarrow various technologies (III-V, SiGe, GaN, ...)

→ various active devices (HBT, LDMOS, MESFET, HEMT, m/pHEMT, FinFET, nanoFET...)







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BLIND TEST ON TECHNOLOGY

NOISE REVEALS EVENTS (DEFECTS) THAT :

-SET THE LIMIT OF ELECTRICAL PERF. -REVEAL WEAKNESSES OF A DEVICE

MEASUREMENTS TOOLS

NON-INVASIVE DETECTION TOOLS OF MICROSCOPIC DEFECTS

STARTING POINT OF OUR STUDIES !

... and opportunities to play with the latest technologies !



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GaN for HF market



"In the end, power is voltage times current, and a higher operating voltage makes high power easier. In regard to comparing GaN versus silicon, in general, that's a complicated answer as they are very different. GaN is still expensive from a wafer cost, but the mask cost is far less than cutting-edge CMOS (28nm CMOS)" *K. Benson, Analog Devices*

GaN for HF markets – EVOLUTION & TRENDS



LAAS

CNRS

MTTF: a survey for GaN devices

Reliability, defect analysis \rightarrow pushing the time-temperature limits

Performances are not necessarily better, but Security Operating Area improves (junction temperature increase for a given MTTF)

Then it is possible to push the x3 x4 power ratio vs GaAs towards the theoretical limit (x8 to x10)

Inspired form a survey of the literature by Glen David Via from the US Air Force Research Laboratory; this figure indicates a steady increase in the mean-time-to-failure of GaN HEMTs.

PROJETS ET COLLABORATIONS INDUSTRIELLES DEPUIS 2002 et 11 thèses GaN sous la (co)direction de JG Tartarin)

Programmes Européens

▷ <u>Projet européen TARGET (Top Amplifier Research Groups in a European Team) (2004-2005) :</u>

-(R) étude sur "Transmitter impact by non-linear and linear effects on Receiver Noise Figure degradation".

-(P) mesures du bruit BF et modélisation large-signal des transistors HEMT AlGaN/GaN : "Metric criterion comparisons for LS and noise models assessments"

Contrat ESA AO/1-3916/01/NL/CK (P & R de WorkPackages)(2002-2005) : étude des défauts structurels des transistors HEMT AlGaN/GaN développés sur substrats Si, SiC et saphir.

Programmes Nationaux

▷ <u>Projet OMMIC</u> (2015-2019 et 2020-2023): développement de structures MMIC GaN bandes X-Ku-Ka (thèses CIFRE et collaboration Afrique du Sud)

▷ <u>Projet GaNEX (2017)</u> (**P**) : robustesse de nouvelles structures HF GaN (avec CHREA et IEMN)

 \triangleright <u>Projet GaNEX (2016)</u> (**R**) : développement d'une plateforme d'évaluation des contraintes RF-Thermiques sur les transistors GaN en bande X et bande Ka

▷ <u>Projet ANR GENGHIS KhAN</u> (2011-2014) (**P&R**) : conception de *Transceivers* GaN MMIC en bande K et bande Ka.

▷ <u>Projet ANR REAGAN</u> (2011-2014) (**P&R**) : étude et modélisation des mécanismes de défaillance des transistors HEMT AlGaN/GaN, filière industrielle UMS.

▷ <u>Projet ANR blanc 'MOREGAN'</u> (2007-2010) (**P**) : caractérisation de structures MOSFET GaN de commutation de puissance rapide.

Contrat 'ANDRO' (RNRT) (2004-2007) (P&R) : identification des défauts corpusculaires intrinsèques des transistors HEMT, (filière GaN sur substrats Si et SiC), élaboration d'un modèle électrique fort-signal et réalisation d'un oscillateur 10 GHz.

 \triangleright <u>Action Spécifique 'Bruit'</u> (2002-2004) (**P**) : outils et techniques de mesure et de modélisation du bruit linéaire et non-linéaire/ bruit des dispositifs avancés.

<u>Collaborations directes Universités</u>: Canada (LN2- 2 thèses), et France (IEMN- 2 thèses), Suède (Chalmers), Allemagne (Cottbus) <u>Collaborations bi-tri-partites</u>: DGA (2 thèses + projets), CNES, RFHIC, OMMIC, UMS, III-V Lab etc.

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SYNTHÈSE et DISCUSSIONS

- ► CASE STUDIES: PROCEDURE FOR RELIABLE DATA ANALYSIS
- Analyses and Qualification Tools & techniques for low TRL studies

Experimental analysis

Model assisted feedback

LFN measurement: few reminders

Non-Linear LF noise (1Hz-1MHz, 2 exp. tools) : \rightarrow Si_{in} – Si_{out} & correlation

►GaN technologies –studies on AlGaN/GaN and InAlN/GaN technologies from III-V Lab, UMS (GH50 and GH25-10), IEMN lab, RFHIC, OMMIC, (Eudyna)

Faraday shielded room (LF noise)

Since 2017, LAAS-CNRS has been selected . by Keysight as a **European Platform for LFN and RTN characterization**

LFN measurement: few reminders

.AAS CNRS

► DC-RF-thermal stresses performed at LAAS (TRL 2-3-5)

Ref : D. Saugnon, IEEE EuMW 2018

DC-RF-thermal stresses performed at LAAS (TRL 3-5)

Temperature profile: -40°C +90°C Driver correction mode on the calibration path

S-parameters measured without removing the device from its environment (X-parameters under development i.e. measurements under same RF stress condition)

time (h)

Device Level : strong interactions between electrical, thermal, mechanical effects

The know-how on perf/reliability of GaN technologies will be improved by T-CAD models maturity

based on

Cross experiments :

► non invasive techniques (I-V-T static and pulsed, [S] CW / pulsed / large-signal, ?-DLTS, TLS & EL, Low Frequency Noise, nanostructural analysis by Raman spectr., OBIRCh ...)

► destructive techniques (FIB-cut, TEM & EDX, ...) ? (still uncertainty on the weight of the detected defects; DOES IT PLAY A ROLE IN THE FAILURE PROCESS ?)

► HTOL and HTRB stresses, various batches, samples and techn. declinations

AAS

CASE STUDY: AIGaN/GaN GH50 & GH25-10 (UMS)

markets

LAAS-CNRS / Laboratoire d'analyse et d'architecture des systèmes du CNRS

AAS

CASE STUDY: AIGaN/GaN GH50 & GH25-10 (UMS)

CASE STUDY: AIGaN/GaN GH50 & GH25-10 (UMS)

Leakage current as marker of failure events ! S_{ig} also gives a finest signature of carrier's path/interactions in the control zone and lateral/vertical leakage zones

AAS

CNRS

CASE STUDY: AIGaN/GaN GH50 & GH25-10 (UMS)

Noise spectroscopy

 Image: space spac

► LFN (#Leaky and #NonLeaky) dim. 0,5x4x400µm²

-diode alone -transistor (saturated) mode

i.e. same leakage mechanisms, same defects in Transistor and Diode biasing mode

Reliability studies; example of an academic methodology AAS and tools for non destructive defect analysis CASE STUDY: AIGaN/GaN GH50 & GH25-10 (UMS) Noise spectroscopy GR centers evolution vs temperature (saturated zone) 1.00E-10 T° increases from The magnitude of S_{ID} x frequency is constant Extraction of GR₁ and GR₂ from each GR 'bulge' (T°) 35°C to 114°C Extraction of E_A from Arrhenius plots 1.00E-11

Ref : Soubercaze IEEE MTTS 2006

1E+4

1E+5

1E+6

. V_{th} also depends on the sweeping \$. Sweeping conditions conditions for V_{GS} (increasing/decreasing V_{GS})

Increasing V_{GS} from -6V to +3V:

Donor are ionized (N_{D}^{+}) at very low V_{GS} . These positive charges act as an internal generator which field is opposite to the applied voltage V_{GS} , and $V_{th-incr.} > V_{th-decr.}$ (thus $n_{i-incr.} < n_{i-decr.}$), till $V_{th-incr.}$. When the 2DEG starts to conduct electrons, ionized donor-traps recombine with electrons from the 2DEG (few electrons that do not change ni), and become passivated. The internal generator disappears and V_{th} changes to a lower value as for the decreasing sweep)

Thermal charac: V_{inv.} drift (incr. decr. V_{GS} sweeps)

 \bullet Also noticed : $V_{\text{inv.}}$ drifts with temperature and depends on V_{GS} sweep direction

CASE STUDY: AIGaN/GaN GH50 & GH25-10 (UMS)

Considering an accurate procedure for T-CAD model instruction

CASE STUDY: AlGaN/GaN GH50 & GH25-10 (UMS)

Considering an accurate procedure for T-CAD model instruction SENTAURUS Software Sentaurus Software Source SiN GaN Cap Al_{0,235}Ga_{0,765}N CaN Nucléation Substrat SiC

 Δ FC at AlGaN/GaN/2DEG are the more sensitive (vs AlGaN/GaN GaNcap or GaNcap SiN)

 Δ FC=3.10¹² cm⁻² explains both

- 1V V_{th} shift
- 30% I_{DS} reduction

► RF-stresses of HEMT at x-dB compression (AIGaN/GaN 2x0,15x50µm²)

-Under 1dB, 3dB, 5dB output compression, also tracking [S] parameters

Static-Dynamic correlations: ORIGIN(S) of the defects (direct proof? Speculative assumptions?)

Static+RF+[S]-param \rightarrow useful for technological development to remove speculative assumptions on degrad. Origin \triangleright RF stresses @P_{xdB}, each for a 156h period (624h cumulated)

▶ 3 D.U.T.s biased under V_{DS}=15V & I_{DS}=0,33 A/mm, class A operation

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RF-stresses of HEMT at x-dB compression (AlGaN/GaN 2x0,15x50µm²)
 S21 variations correlated to P

Assessment for location and nature of defects (but destruction of device) Destructive tests performed by DGA (French DoD) and SERMA

Ref : Lazar, IEEE IMS 2013

Ref : Tartarin, ESREF 2017

Ref : Lazar, IEEE IMS 2013

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Evolution du banc de vieillissement

Synoptique général banc de vieillissement thermique à haute fréquence Configuration stress circuit en mode pulsé

AAS CNRS

VNA : Vector Network Analyzer

Evolution du banc de vieillissement

AAS

Synoptique général banc de vieillissement thermique à haute fréquence Configuration Load Pull stress transistor en mode pulsé

LAAS-CNRS DUT : Device Under Test HF : Haute Fréquence VNA : Vector Network Analyzer / Laboratoire d'analyse et d'architecture des systèmes du CNRS

positionnement au niveau national et international (plat. PROOF) Collaborations par projet possibles avec Labo. (inter)nationaux

-BRUIT HF (IEMN – couverture très hautes fréquences jusqu'à 300 GHz):

(LAAS 1-40 GHz, pas de spécificité LAAS sur les 4 param. de bruit) PROOF → banc de stress avec NF50 intégré au VNA (LAAS)

-BRUIT BF (XLIM et IMS - aquitaine):

LAAS référencé centre Européen (4 bancs, LFN + RTN – $S_{ID} \& S_{IG}$). LAAS : Nombreuses études de cas multi-physiques (DC, transitoire, pulsé, param. S, TCAD) **PROOF** \rightarrow analyses de reprises durant stress (analyse fine des évolutions des défauts)

-Analyse pulsée P2P (IEMN et XLIM): bancs sous pointes solution AMCAD

PROOF : PIV-param-S pulsés INTÉGRÉ au banc de stress RF – thermique (<u>unique</u>) Ajout mesures émulation « multi-porteuses par bruit blanc » (court/moyen terme) Selon besoins, analyses multi-signaux EVM-APCR-NPR (diag. Œil) –selon intérêt partenaires et financement – toujours en approche STRESS RF

-Analyse de fiabilité (IMS et LPN)

PROOF : STRESS RF +thermique avec mesures intégrées S_{pulsées}, NF50, PIV mesures de reprises LFN et

- PULSÉ : sous pointe @ Temp.stress constante (<u>1 voie</u>)
 - en boitier avec cyclage thermique (<u>1 voie</u>, sinon duplication des PIV pour chaque voie)
 - CW (déjà en place [S-CW]) : possibilité d'aménagement [S-pulsé] et NF50 en mesures intermédiaires

(effets de charges en quasi isotherme) sur <u>4 voies</u>.

