

**Analog & Mixed Signal Company** 

### **High-Frequency Power Management Technologies**

François Hébert, Michael Sun, Kwangil Kim, Taehoon Lee, Juho Kim, Hanseob Cha, Kyungho Lee, Jung Lee, Yue Chen, Namkyu Park, Taejong Lee

Francois.Hebert@MagnaChip.com









PowerSoC 2014 Workshop

### **Outline**

- Why High-Frequency Power Management?
- What is High-Frequency?
- Silicon-based Power Technologies
- Compound Semiconductor Power Technologies
- Figures Of Merit & Device Performance Analysis
- Comparison of Technologies
- Future Trends
- Acknowledgements





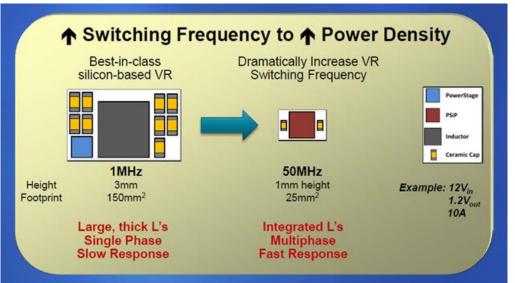




### Why High-Frequency Power Conversion?



- Performance, Cost, Volume, Power Density, Weight, Temperature...
  - Smaller Power Inductor & Output Capacitors
  - Smaller Snubbers
  - Reduced heat sinking and cooling requirements
- Improved Overall System performance
  - High-frequency envelop tracking for RF systems
  - "LDO Killer" products: Switching regulator with integrated compact inductors

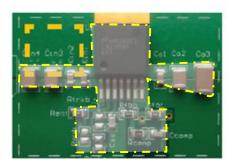


#### PowerSoC Comparison

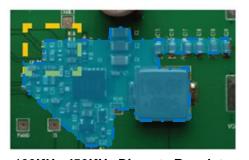


PowerSoC – 25% to 50% smaller footprint than alternative solutions:

4MHz Integrated Inductor Regulator



400KHz-1MHz Regulator Module



100KHz-450KHz Discrete Regulator

http://www.altera.com/literature/br/br-enpirion-brochure.pdf

### What is High-Frequency Power Management



In this work, we focus on technologies which increase the operating frequency over the prior art, for Power Management applications which include:

- Energy Harvesting
- Wearables
- Mobile Devices (Smartphones)
- Internet Of Things
- Computing
- Servers
- Chargers (wired and wireless)

#### Frequency Ranges

- ~GHz: <3V, <0.1A

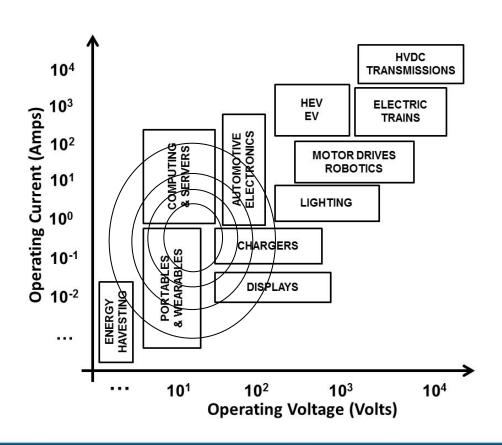
- 10-100's MHz: <10V, <1A

- 1-10 MHz: <30V, <40A

- 100's KHz: <100V, <100A

- 10's KHz: <1KV, <200A

- ≤ 10KHz: >1KV, >200A



# Silicon High-Frequency Power Management Technologies

- Si CMOS
- Si & SiGe Bipolars
- Si-SiGe Strained MOSFETs
- LIGBTs
- LDMOS



### Review of Si-based Technology Options



In this section, Si-based technologies which capable of addressing the needs of high-frequency power management products and PowerSoCs, are considered

- CMOS
- Bipolar
- SiGe HBT
- Strained SiGe nLDMOS
- High-Frequency nLDMOS
- LIGBT

Performance analysis of the technologies and integrated devices, will be carried out in the following sections

- Qualitative review of the key technologies is included in this section

### **CMOS** for High-Frequency Power

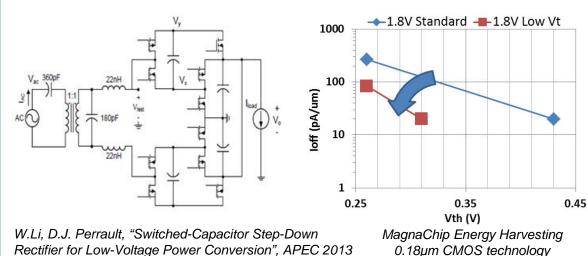


Sub-Micron CMOS and BCD are ideally suited for high-frequency Energy Harvesting SoCs. Key features:

- 0.35, 0.18, 0.13, 0.11 μm, and below
  - to 5MHz, 15MHz, 30MHz, 50MHz and above, respectively [1]
- Low-Vth, Low Leakage Low-Voltage CMOS
- Medium-voltage CMOS for Analog and I/Os
- Low-leakage Bipolars and JFETs
- Low-Leakage Isolation (DTI, SOI, SOI+DTI)
- Fast Switching for GHz operation

**Switched-Capacitor Power Converters is another application of CMOS** 

[1] Wei Fu, Ayman Fayed, 2009 IEEE DCAS Workshop, Dallas TX



0.18µm Energy Harvesting CMOS (Example: MagnaChip HLG18) **1.8V CMOS** LV 1.8V Low Vth CMOS 3.3V or V or 6V CMOS MV DTI, SOI, DTI+SOI Thin-Film (TaN) Resistors **High Value Poly Res** Vertical NPN, Lateral PNP

**Options** 

MV MOS Cap, HV MOS Cap MIM Cap Poly Fuse, OTP, MTP

pJFET, nJFET

Zener Diode, Isolated Diode Schottky Diode

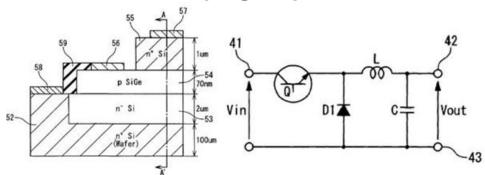
Thick Top AI, Thick Top Cu

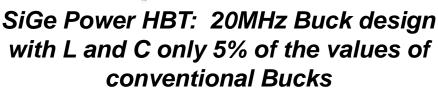
### **Bipolar High-Frequency Power**



# Silicon Bipolar-based technologies have been employed for more than 50 years for high-frequency power converters

- Pure-Bipolar, CBip, BiCMOS, CBiCMOS, BCD
- V-NPN: high Ft, Fmax, BVceo, and low Rb, Vcesat
- Companies such as LTC, National/TI, Analog Devices, Motorola/Freescale, many others
- Today's trend:
  - Bipolar for Analog, and FETs for the Power
  - HBTs are keeping "Bipolar Power Alive and Well"





Synchronous Buck

Two-Stage Synchronous Buck

Two-Stage ZVS Synchronous Buck

A Multi-Stage Interleaved 45MHz Synch Buck Converter with Integrated Output Filter in a 0.18µm SiGe Process

S. Abedinpour et.al.. Session 19.7, ISSCC Conference, February 2006

US Patent 7042293, May 9, 2006

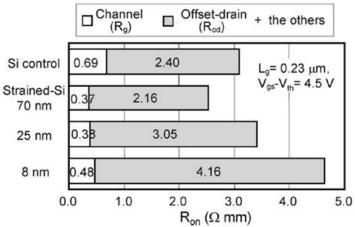
### Strained Si-SiGe nLDMOS

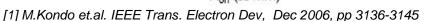


MOSFETs for lower voltage applications, can be improved by "strain engineering"

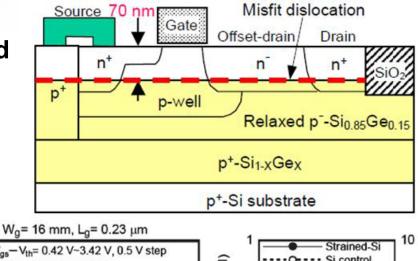
- Strained Si-SiGe nLDMOS with improved performance over Si control devices, have been reported [1]
- This approach may be ideal for highfrequency PowerSoC based on deepsub-micron CMOS with Strain-Layers.

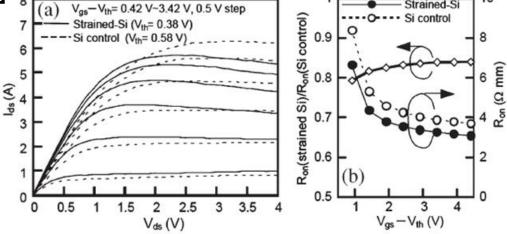
 Intel reports integration of PowerSoC devices in ≤ 22 nm CMOS [2,3,4,5] \_\_\_





[2] http://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc\_id=1263259





[4] http://www.scribd.com/doc/236507605/Intel-14nm-presentation

[5] http://hothardware.com/News/Haswell-Takes-A-Major-Step-Forward-Integrates-Voltage-Regulator/

Strained-Si

[3] http://www.pcper.com/reviews/Processors/Intel-Core-M-Processor-Broadwell-Architecture-and-14nm-Process-Reveal/Broadwell-M

### **High-Frequency LIGBT**



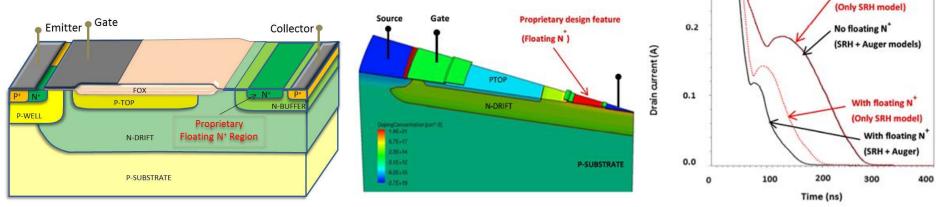
No floating N

#### IGBTs are considered for High-Voltage and Dense solutions

- LIGBT can be integrated with CMOS & BCD technologies
   One challenge is the switching losses associated with bipolar IGBTs
- Innovative solutions are being developed
- Ex: Floating N+ region in collector (Cambridge Semi. and Camutronics (UK))
- 800V-rated LIGBT Drift regions based on Double-RESURF approach
- Can be driven by standard LV CMOS gate drivers (Vgs 3.3/5V)

Width of Floating N+ region adjusted to trade-off between conduction (Rsp 23 to 90 mOhm\*cm², switching time 100-300ns, BVdss 850V) to optimize the total

losses for specific applications



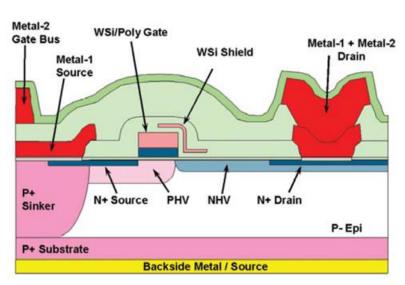
800V Lateral IGBT in Bulk Si for Low Power Compact SMPS Applications T. Trajkovic et.al., ISPSD 2013, Session 11.4

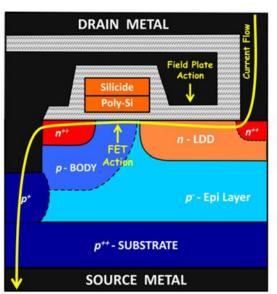
### Discrete Low-Qg Power nLDMOS



### High-Frequency Power LDMOS are typically referred to as RF-LDMOS or Bottom-Source LDMOS

- P+ Substrate connected to the source using sinkers or conductive trenches
- Planar structure with self-aligned body and drift-drain diffusions
- Low-resistance polycide or salicided gate electrode
- Well known examples include: Freescale (Motorola) since 1990's, TI (Ciclon)
- Drawback: not compatible with fully integrated PowerSoC BCD technologies





Ron\*Qg ~38 BVdss>25V

http://www.eetimes.com/document.asp?doc\_id=1229814

http://www.freescale.com/files/rf\_if/doc/white\_paper/50VRFLDMOSWP.pdf

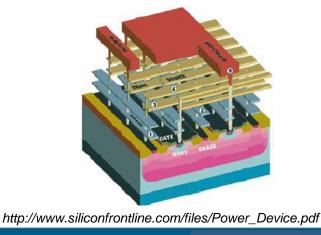
B. Yang et.al. "Advanced Low-Voltage Power MOSFET Technology for Power Supply in Package Applications", IEEE Trans. Power Electronics, Sept 2013, p 4202

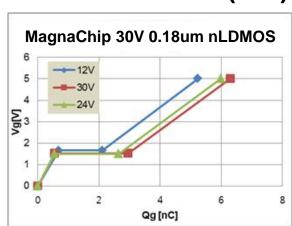
### Low-Qg nLDMOS compatible with BCD



Bottom-Source nLDMOS cannot be integrated in standard High-Frequency BCD Power Management technologies. Requirements of nLDMOS compatible with BCD, include:

- Minimized additional processing steps (Cost)
- Fully Isolated Drain and Body (FISO)
- Optimized N-Drift for low Rsp (<10 mOhm\*mm², BVdss>25V), Ron\*Qg (<50mOhm\*nC)</li>
- Optimized Cell and Metal Layout
- Robust and capable of withstanding high avalanche current (UIS)





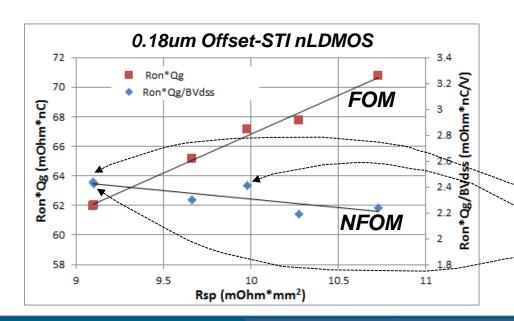
### High-Frequency PowerSoC LDMOS Optimization



High-Frequency PowerSoC require nLDMOS switches which are compatible with highly integrated technologies (i.e. BCD) with performance equivalent to RF LDMOS

A new Figure of Merit is considered to facilitate device optimization

- "Ron\*Qg/BVdss", defined as NFOM (Normalized FOM)
- NFOM takes into account the strong correlation between BVdss & Rsp
- Excessive Trade-off can be identified and minimized



### Offset-STI 0.18um nLDMOS TCAD Simulation Results

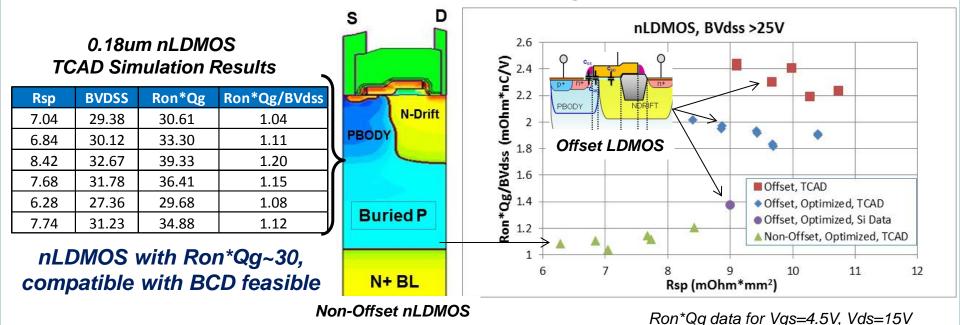
Rsp	BVDSS	Ron*QQg	Ron*Qg/BVdss
10.73	31.62	70.75	2.24
10.27	30.94	67.78	2.19
9.67	28.29	65.18	2.30
9.10	25.60	62.03	2.42
9.98	27.88	67.16	2.41
9.10	25.40	61.94	2.44

### Low-Qg BCD-Compatible nLDMOS Feasibility



# Fully-Isolated nLDMOS with performance equivalent to that of RF-nLDMOS are critical for high-frequency PowerSoCs

- Key Benchmark: 25V-rated nLDMOS Ron\*Qg <40mOhm\*nC (TI/Ciclon)
- "Offset" nLDMOS: Ron\*Qg in the 40-55 mOhm\*nC
- "Offset" nLDMOS Optimized Si Data: Ron\*Qg 43mOhm\*nC
- "Non-Offset" (ex: Planar) nLDMOS: Ron\*Qg <40 mOhm\*nC feasible



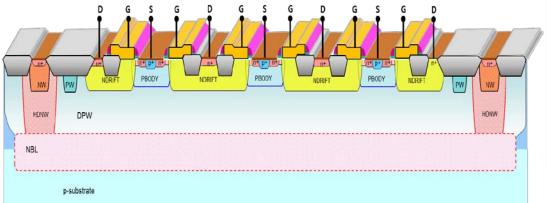
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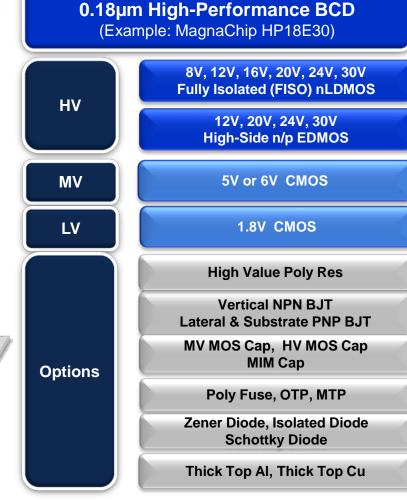
### **High-Frequency PowerSOC BCD**



### Full Function BCD for High-Frequency PowerSoC

- High-Current High-Frequency nLDMOS
  - Ron\*Qg ~40mOhm\*nC (measured) today
  - Ron\*Qg ~30mOhm\*nC (TCAD) feasible!
- Analog Extended drain n/pEDMOS
- CMOS (LV and MV)
- Bipolars (NPN, PNP)
- Passives (Res, Caps, Diodes)
- Power Interconnect (thick Top Al or Cu)





# Compound Semiconductor High-Frequency Power Technologies

- GaAs: pHEMT, pHEMT + HBT
- GaN: HEMT, HEMT + CMOS



### Non-Si High-Frequency Power Management



# Material systems and device structures considered include GaAs

- PHEMT
- PHEMT + Bipolar
- Ron\*Qg FOM reported to be <15 mOhm\*nC for GaAs</li>

#### **GaN**

- HEMT
- HEMT+ Si CMOS
- Ron\*Qg FOM reported to be <25 mOhm\*nC for GaN</li>

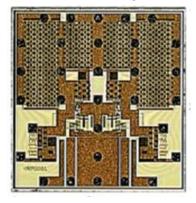
### GaAs FET High-Frequency Converters

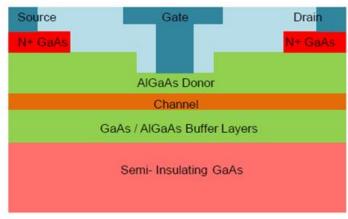


GaAs FET-based high-frequency DC converters considered since

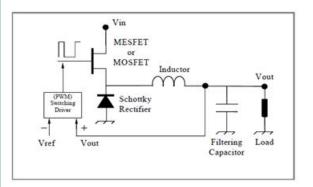
the late 90's

- 100MHz MESFET DC-DC (GaAs 2000)
- 150MHz pHEMT DC-DC (2010 RFIC Symp)
- 100MHz pHEMT DC-DC (2012 PowerSoC)
- Technology features
  - D-Mode MESFETs
  - D and E-Mode pHEMTs
  - D/E-Mode pHEMTs + HBT
  - Passive devices
  - Low Parasitic Interconnect



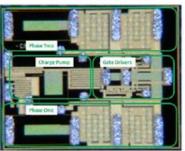


http://www.rpi.edu/cfes/AnnualConference/B6%2 0Mona%20Hella.pdf January 2013

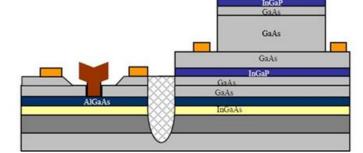


H. Peng et.al., IEEE RFIC Symposium, 2010,

http://powersoc2012.org/session-2/2.6 TPChow.pdf



pp 259-262



http://amsacta.unibo.it/226/1/GAAS11\_4.pdf

http://gaasmantech.com/Digests/2007/2007%20Papers/13c.pdf

### Heterogeneous Integration for PowerSoCs



## Combination of InP HBTs with CMOS logic devices has been under development over the past decade

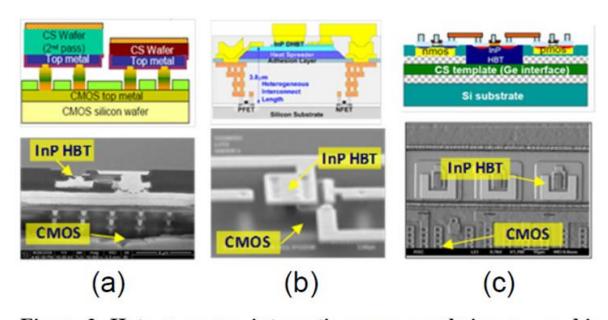


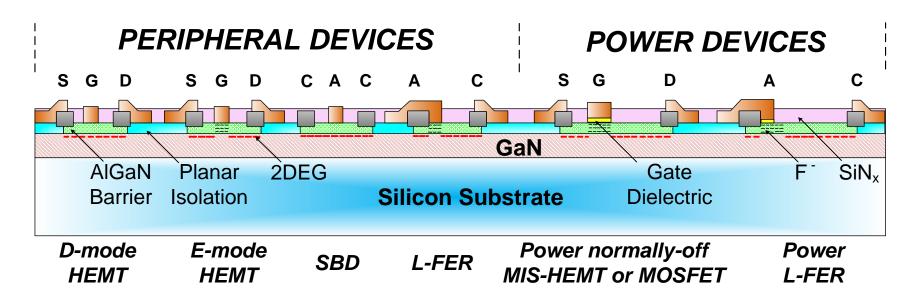
Figure 2: Heterogeneous integration processes being pursued in the COSMOS program, (a) micrometer scale assembly, (b) epitaxial layer printing, and (c) monolithic epitaxial growth using a multi-layered lattice-engineered substrate.

### GaN High-Frequency DC-DC (1)



#### **GaN Monolithic Power IC technology from HKUST:**

- Complementary Devices
- E-Mode MIS-HEMT; E-Mode HEMT; D-Mode HEMT
- L-FER, SBD, Passive, Power Interconnect



[1] K. -Y. Wong, W. Chen, and K. J. Chen, ISPSD, pp. 57-60, 2009.

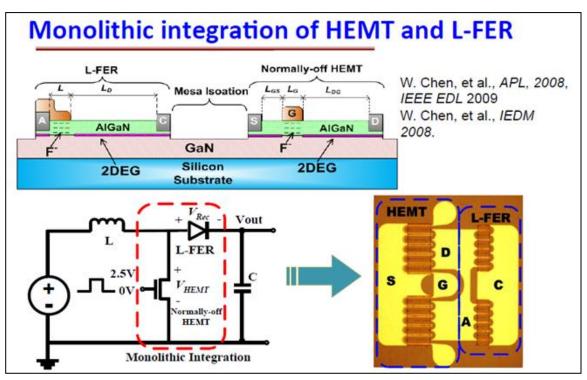
[2] Y. Cai, et al, TED, vol. 53, pp. 2207-2215, 2006.

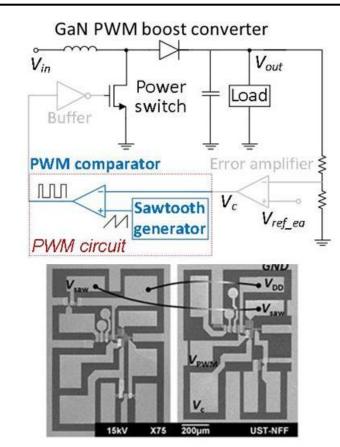
### GaN High-Frequency DC-DC (2)



# High-Frequency Power Circuits based on HKUST's monolithic Complementary GaN HEMT Technology:

- PWM Converter and associated blocks
- Monolithic Boost Converter





http://powersoc2012.org/session-2/2.3\_KevinChen.pdf

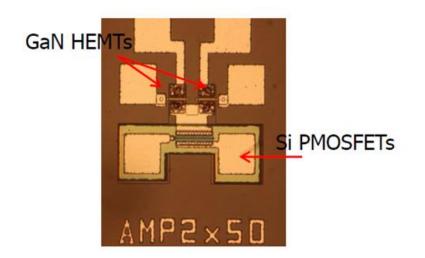
H. Wang, A. M. H. Kwan, Q. Jiang and K. J. Chen, ISPSD, pp.430-433, 2014.

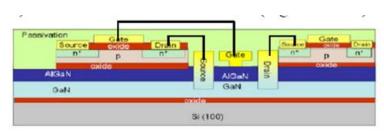
### Monolithic Integration of GaN and Si

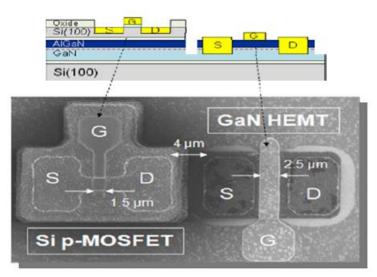


# A critical requirement for PowerSoC applications is integration of dense Logic with the Analog & Power blocks

- MIT & Raytheon, have successfully combined GaN HEMT devices with Si P-MOSFETs monolithically
- Functional circuits demonstrated







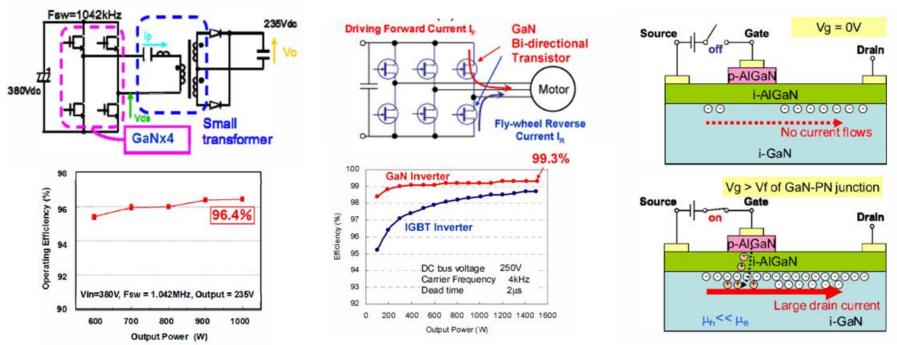
Chung, J. W. et al. "GaN-on-Si Technology, a New Approach for Advanced Devices in Energy and Communications." Proceedings of the European Solid-State Device Research Conference 2010 (ESSDERC). 52–56

### GaN High-Frequency & High Voltage Converters



#### GaN e-mode HEMTS (P-doped Gate) Power Converters

- Resonant LLC converter
  - >350V, 1MHz operation, 96.4% efficiency
  - Equivalent Si-based converters operate at <1/2 frequency, efficiency <95%</li>
- Inverter
  - >250V, 4KHz 99.3% efficiency, >1% higher than Si-based approach



T. Ueda, "Recent Advances and Future Prospects on GaN-Based Power Devices", IEEE 2014 International Power Electronics Conference, p. 2075

### Figures of Merit

- Figures of Merit for Materials
- Figures of Merit for Devices
- Power Device Performance Comparison
- Comparison of High-Frequency Technologies



### **Figures Of Merit - Materials**



## Multiple Figures of Merit have been developed to compare the performance of semiconductor materials and devices

#### Diamond is the best material!

But no Power Devices yet!

#### GaN and SiC are fairly similar

- SiC best for >600V Power (vertical devices, operation similar to Si devices, best thermals)
- GaN best for high-frequency and high-voltage (to ~600V) (lateral devices, compatible with Si fabs)

### GaAs is best for <30V RF Power applications

 Being considered more and more for Power

Table II: Main figures of merit for wide-bandgap semiconductors compared with Si [2].

	Si	GaAs	6H-SiC	4H-SiC	GaN	Diamond
JFM	1.0	1.8	277.8	215.1	215.1	81000
BFM	1.0	14.8	125.3	223.1	186.7	25106
FSFM	1.0	11.4	30.5	61.2	65.0	3595
BSFM	1.0	1.6	13.1	12.9	52.5	2402
FPFM	1.0	3.6	48.3	56.0	30.4	1476
FTFM	1.0	40.7	1470.5	3424.8	1973.6	5304459
BPFM	1.0	0.9	57.3	35.4	10.7	594
BTFM	1.0	1.4	748.9	458.1	560.5	1426711

JFM: Johnson's figure of merit is a measure of the ultimate high frequency capability of the material.

BFM : Baliga's figure of merit is a measure of the specific on-resistance of the drift region of a vertical FET

FSFM: FET switching speed figure of merit

BSFM: Bipolar switching speed figure of merit

FPFM: FET power handling capacity figure of merit

FTFM: FET power switching product

BPFM: Bipolar power handling capacity figure of merit

BTFM: Bipolar power switching product

http://power.eecs.utk.edu/pubs/epe2003\_wide\_bandgap.pdf?origin=publication\_detail

### Figures Of Merit – Device Specific



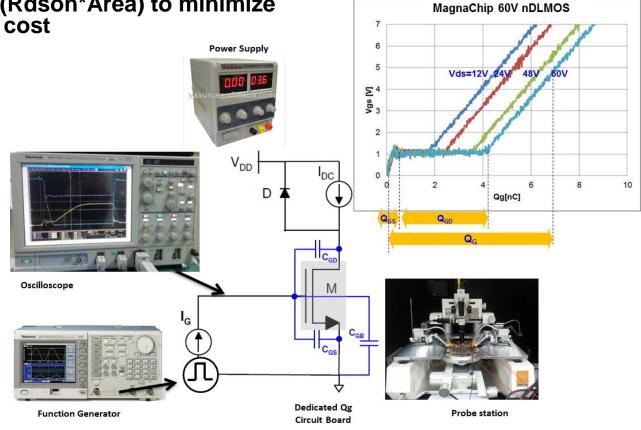
For high-frequency power management, Ron\*Qg is the preferred FOM for selecting the best switching power devices

Minimize Qg to minimize switching losses

 Minimize Ron and Rsp (Rdson\*Area) to minimize conduction losses and cost

Wafer level measurements of low Ron and low Qg power devices established

On-wafer results are within a few percent of packaged device data



### Power Device Performance Comparison



#### **High-Current Power Device Performance Measured Data**

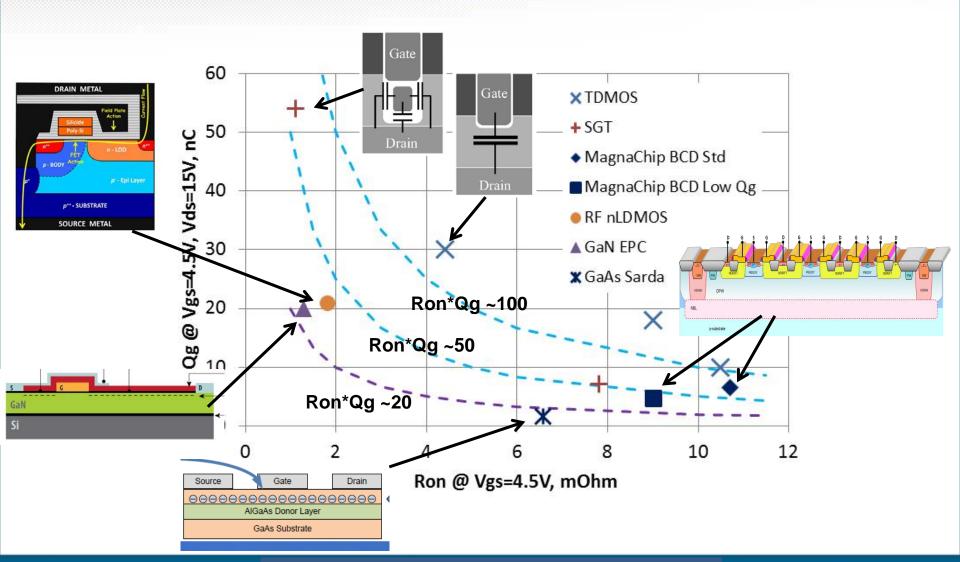
- Si, GaN and GaAs devices are compared
- There is limited BCD-nLDMOS data in the literature!

Device	Device	Ron	Qg @ Vgs=4.5V	Ron * Qg	BVdss
Туре		@ Vgs=4.5V	@Vds=15V	mOhm*nC	Min (V)
TDMOS	Vishay SI7390	10.5	10	105.0	30
TDMOS	IR IRF7811W	9	18	162.0	30
TDMOS	IRF6612	4.4	30	132.0	30
SGT	AOS AON6918	7.8	7.2	56.2	25
SGT	Infineon BSN011NE2LS	1.1	54	59.4	25
RF LDMOS	TI CSD16401Q5	1.8	21	37.8	25
BCD 0.18	MagnaChip BCD Std	10.7	6.55	70.1	30
BCD 0.18	MagnaChip BCD LowQg	9	4.82	43.4	30
GaN P-gate	EPC EPC2023	1.3	20	26.0	30
GaAs PHEMT	Sarda	6.6	1.6	10.6	20

Data from published datasheets and references listed in this report. Measured Data.

### **FOM – High-Current Power Devices**





### Comparison of High-Frequency Technologies



# Si BCD with nLDMOS is the best option for mainstream high-frequency power management PowerSoCs applications

Requirements for High-Frequency PowerSOC	Si BCD + nLDMOS	GaAs pHEMT	GaN HEMT	GaN HEMT + CMOS
Source of Device Data	MagnaChip 0.18 BCD	Sarda PowerSOC 2012	EPC EPC2023	Raytheon+MIT 2011
Logic Density: Low, Med, High	High	Medium	Low	High
Memory, Trimming	Yes	No	No	Yes
Cost: Low, Med, High, Very High	Medium	High	High	Very High
Production Readiness	Mature	Mature	Product R&D	Early R&D
Robustness of Power Devices	High	Medium	Low	Low
Ron or Rsp (Vgs=4.5V) mOhm or mOhm*mm^2	9 mOhm*mm²	6.6 mOhm	1.3 mOhm	n/a
Ron*Qg (Vgs=4.5V, Vds=15V) mOhm*nC	43	10.6	26	n/a
Min BVdss of device considered	>30V	>20V	>30V	n/a

Data from published datasheets and references listed in this report. Measured Data

### **Future Trends**



# Si BCD technologies are expected to continue to dominate Power Management applications over the next 5+ years

- High-Frequency nLDMOS, with Ron\*Qg FOM less than 40 mOhm\*nC will be leveraged in order to increase switching frequencies at high-power, to >1MHz
- Strain-Engineering is expected to be considered more broadly to improve the performance of Silicon-Based technologies

Integration of Power Management Circuits with other Circuit IP blocks will accelerate over the next 3 to 5 years, with a potential for volume production in 5+ years

- GaAs and GaN: High-Frequency envelope tracking DC-DC with RF Circuit blocks
- GaN: High frequency High-Voltage drivers and other DC-DC and AC-DC building blocks, integrated with Si CMOS Controllers

### **Acknowledgements**



We would like to thank the many individuals who contributed to this presentation:

- Greg Miller at Sarda Technologies, USA
- Tanya Trajkovic and team members at Camutronics, UK
- Hanxing Wang, Prof Kevin Chen and other team members at HKUST, Honk Kong
- Excellent prior PowerSoC Workshop presentations

