



RF DEVICES: BREAKTHROUGHS THANKS TO NEW MATERIALS

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Leti Devices Workshop | December 3, 2017

CELLULAR RF MARKETS

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- RF cellular markets are still progressing
- Smartphones remain the main driver
 - \rightarrow Declining growth rate but more complex RF content
- **5G** is bringing new RF applications and **new markets**
 - \rightarrow Connected-cars (V2X & V2V), IoT...



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5G WIRELESS TECHNOLOGIES

- 5G priority is to use sub-6 GHz cellular spectrum to get Gigabit per second data throughput
 - \rightarrow Introducing CA + MIMO + 256 QAM
 - \rightarrow Waiting for mm-wave challenges to be solved (power consumption)



NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR 5G (LTE-A FEM EXAMPLE)

• Evolution from 3G to 4G has increased the RF content in smartphones in size and cost!



New requirements are appearing for 5G

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- ✓ Higher integration and lower cost
- Better linearity to support complex modulations
- ✓ **Higher frequency** and **wider bandwidth** to target C-band
- ✓ **Reconfigurabilty** to simplify RF architectures



LETI ROADMAP FOR 5G CELLULAR FEM





OUR DISRUPTIVE RF DEVICES TOOLBOX



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RF FILTERS BASED ON THIN PIEZO LAYER TRANSFER

- Concept: highly efficient piezo materials (LTO, LNO, quartz...) transferring on Si to enhance performances of filters and resonators
- Leti added-value = know-how unique in the world





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 R_{off}/R_{on}

1,E+08

1,E+07

1,E+06

1,E+05

1.E+03

1,E+01

0

1,E+02

02 1,E+04

RF SWITCHES BASED ON PHASE-CHANGE MATERIALS

- **Concept**: use morphable low-cost materials to get bistable and low-loss high-frequency switches with good power handling capabilities
- Leti added-value = a 2D material industrial manufacturing process



TECHNOLOGIES FOR HIGHER INTEGRATION

- **Concept:** integrating high-Q passives in low-cost packaging and using advanced magnetic materials to minimize the size of inductors or antennas
- Leti added-value = ability to implement breakthrough materials at large scale

RF passives in organic interposer packaging

• Solution for thin RF modules <600µm

- High-Q passives (inductors, capacitors...) in organic package RDL
- Breakthrough materials to enhance performances = nanoparticles-based dielectrics and magnetics



Metal polymer nanocomposites

- High loading rate demonstrated > 50%
- High permeability (μ =2) up to 20GHz,
- Zero loss (non conductive, no FMR)

• +30% on inductor Q-factor (with μ =2) thanks nanoparticles encapsulation





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TUNABILITY FOR RECONFIGURABLE RF FEM

- **Concept**: tunable RF components based on morphable materials or MEMS technology
- Leti added-value = broad portfolio of solutions for tuning

Ferroelectric tunable capacitor

- Impedance matching or tunable filters
- Doping elements into ferroelectrics to enhance the tuning ratio and to get lower losses (better Q-factors)
- Sol-gel low cost process
- Tuning ratio > 7:1, Q > 50 @ 1GHz



Innovative concept of tunable inductor

- Frequency-agile antennas
- $\bullet\,\text{piezo}\rightarrow\,\text{stress}$ on magnetostrictive $\rightarrow\,$
- change of $\mu \rightarrow$ change of L value
- Ultra low loss magnetostrictive core
- $L_{max}/L_{min} \ge 3$ (L between 1 to 20 nH),

 $Q > 20, V_{actuation} \le 20V$



RF MEMS

• RF switches, tunable capacitors, compact mmW tunable phase shifters

- 20 years background
- Hermetic thin film packaging ensuring long-term reliability

• Ex : tunable capacitor (tuning ratio = 33:1 up to 20GHz, Q > 120 @ 10GHz)



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YOUR PARTNER TO ADDRESS YOUR RF DEVICES ROADMAPS



- ✓ Ability to work with breakthrough materials and to deal with contamination
- ✓ Joined developments with tools suppliers
- ✓ Physical understanding. Broad range of characterization tools

Vision & Longbreakthrough to gain competitive term advantages



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(intel)



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PLANCHE DE PICTOS

