

# Progress Towards a 40nm GaN Foundry LLD

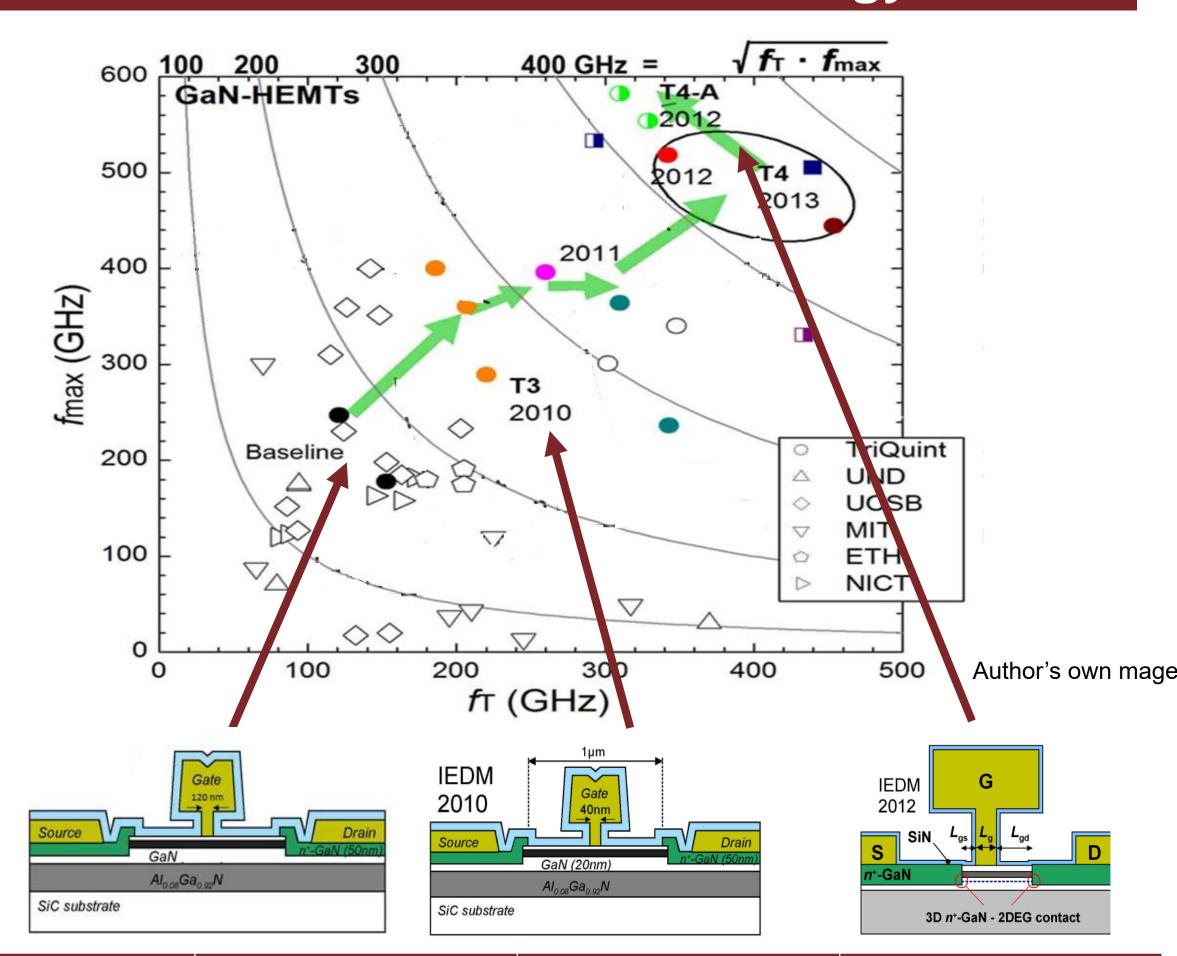
Florian Herrault, Andrea Corrion, Daniel Denninghoff, Michael Johnson, Erdem Arkun, Ignacio Ramos, Joel Wong, Shawn Burnham, Ara Kurdoghlian, David Chow – HRL Laboratories, LLC

## mm-wave GaN Maturation Program (MGM)

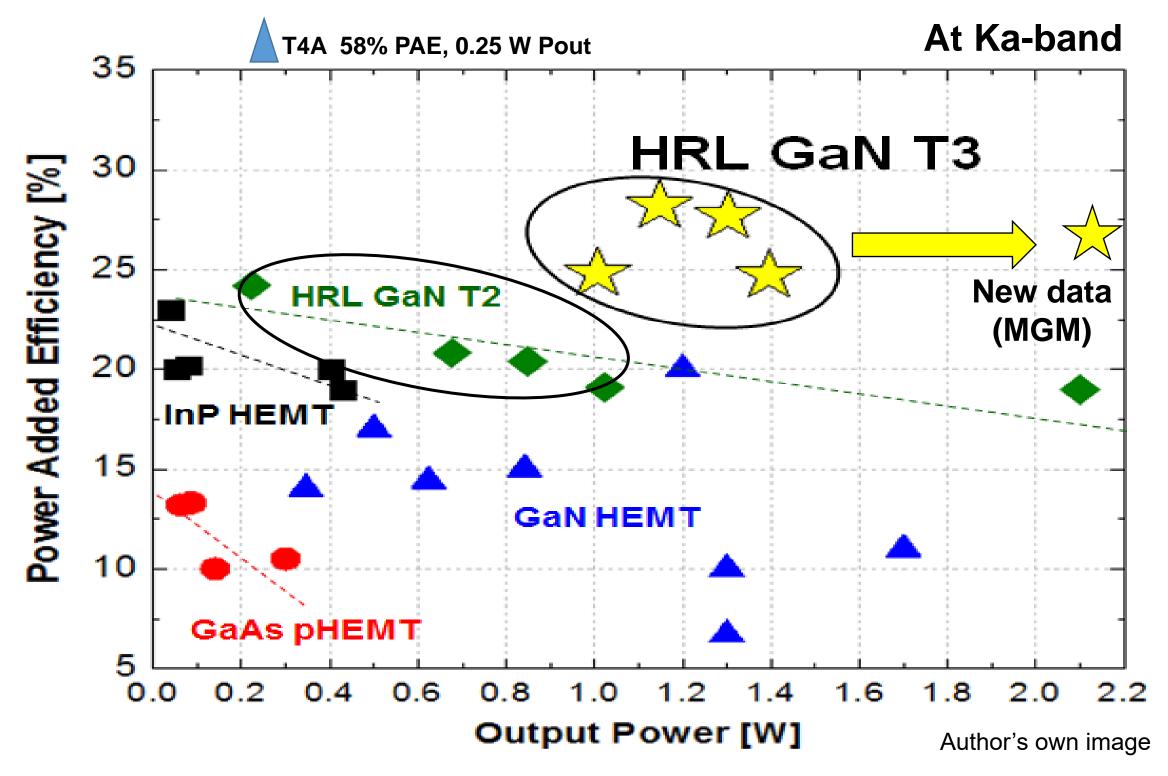
# Heterogeneous 3D

#### Background

The DARPA MTO NEXT Program established the world's fastest GaN technology at HRL



Process	HRL T2	HRL T3	HRL T4a
Key Feature	Baseline	Vertical & Lateral Scaling	Asymmetric Self- Aligned Gate, 3D n+ Contact
Gate Length	150 nm	40 nm	20 nm
$f_T/f_{MAX}$	90/220 GHz	200/400 GHz	320/550 GHz
Breakdown	>40 V	>40 V	17 V
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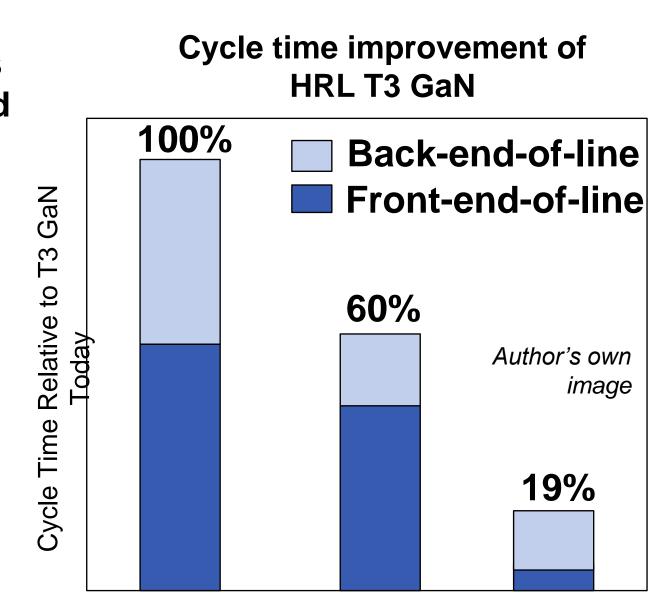


HRL's GaN T3 and T4A device technologies enable unprecedented millimeter-wave phased-array radar power and efficiency

#### Approach

MGM Program: 1) Process maturation to enhance production readiness 2) provide external access to HRL technology, and 3) develop novel manufacturing techniques with unprecedented low cycle time & cost

- Decrease T3 cycle time by 40% through re-engineering process flow to alleviate bottlenecks and redundancies & equipment acquisition
- Physics-of-failure & targeted experimentation to increase T3 fabrication yield by 50%
- **Develop novel manufacturing** approach (Metal-Embedded **Copper Chip Assembly** Microwave ICs = MECAMIC) for unprecedented short cycle time
- **Advance Manufacturing** Readiness Level (MRL) to 6



T3 GaN

Phase '

**MECAMIC** 

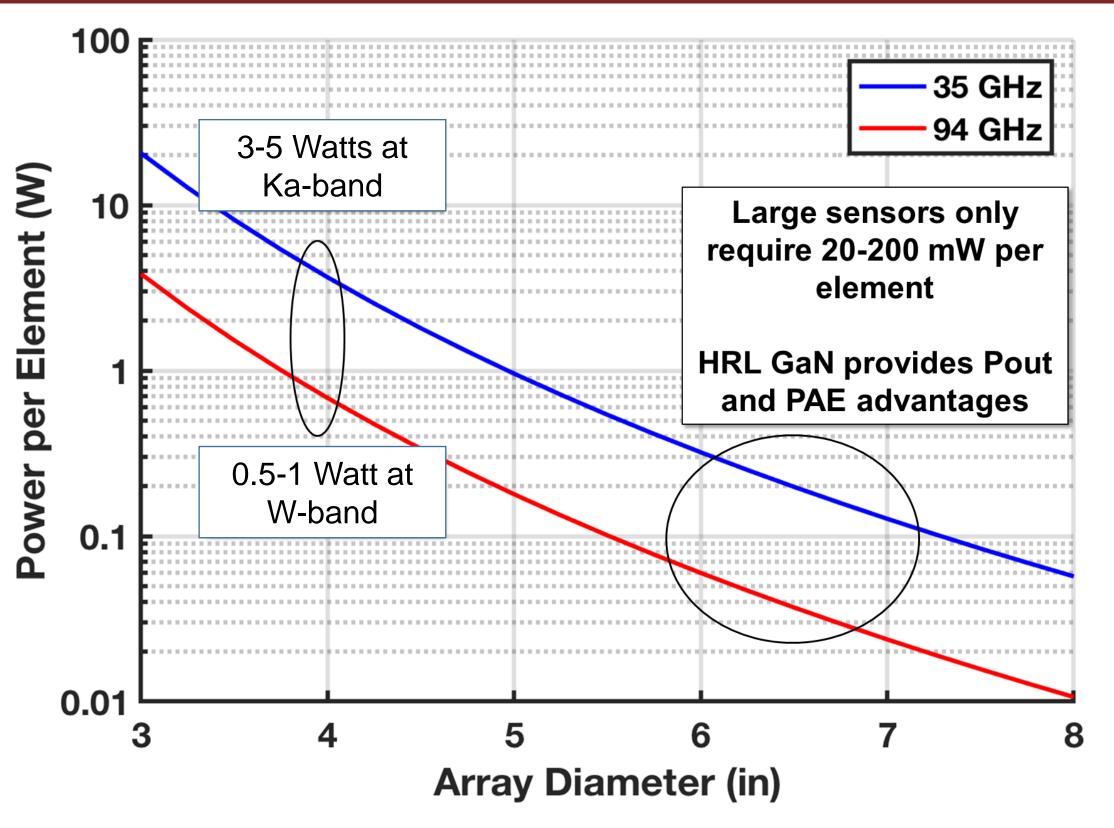
Phase 1

Perform Multi-Project-Wafer (MPW) foundry runs for external designers

T3 GaN

Today

#### **Application Pull & Circuit Demonstrations**



- T3 Ka-band MMIC: >4 Watts, >40% efficiency
- T4A W-band MMIC: >0.5 Watts, >35% efficiency

Goal – Achieve high power & high efficiency at mm-wave to enabling high-power arrays & with reduced cooling

### Results and Impact

Optimization of critical processing steps with decreased cycle time

Robust 40-nm gate process

acquisition

All images author's own

SiC etcher

*mprove* ( Legacy gate

Process Design Kit (PDK) improvements, highpower Ka-band & W-band amplifiers, MPW Foundry runs available to external customers, Metal-Embedded Chip Assembly for Microwave Integrated Circuits (MECAMIC) for potential unprecedented short cycle time

