

iemn Institute of Electronics, Microelectronics and Nanotechnology

UMR CNRS 8520

Multi-Physics Characterization Platform

PCMP Plateforme de Caractérisation Multi-Physique

С Η 0 Ρ

The CHOP service covers 900m², in a ISO8certified environnement, of the IEMN's common resources enabling the characterization of the main electrical parameters of electronic components and subsystems in a wide range of frequencies, from DC to TeraHertz. Most of the measurement benches are modular in order to best meet the needs of research. Engineers develop the test setup in a continuous improvement in order to work in line with technological innovations. Some experiments have been designed to electrically test components under «hard» conditions such as low temperature (5.5 K) or high voltage (10 kV). The expertise in characterizing ultrafast devices is internationally recognized and allows the CHOP to also play a very important role in the joint laboratory created between the IEMN and French manufacturer ST Microelectronics or foreign research centers. The CHOP hosts 22 research groups, several innovation projects and start-ups (Vmicro, Zymoptig).

> Head of CHOP S. Eliet Barois

• Nano-characterization II. 1-2

- → Sophie Eliet Scanning Microwave Microscope (SMM)
- DC Low Frequency
 - \rightarrow Etienne Okada \rightarrow Vanessa Avramovic **DC-CV-PULSE-SOLAR** measurements Laser Vibrometer
- Hyper-frequency

→ Vanessa Avramovic → Sylvie Lepilliet DC-110 GHz RF-Characterization Opto-Hyper measurements Cryogenic RF measurements

• Millimetric & THz

→ Sylvie Lepilliet → Sophie Eliet Millimeter waves up to 1.1THz THz-TDS: TeraHertz Time Domain Spectroscopy Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometer (FTIR) coupled with Microscope

• Noise measurement II. 13-14

→ Sylvie Lepilliet Noise measurement

• Power Measurement II. 15-18

→ Etienne Okada

40 & 94 GHz Load-Pull characterization I/V Measurements High Voltage or High Current Infrared Microscopy

SNOM MIR-THz: Scanning Near-Field Optical Microscopy

11. 3-4

II. 5-8

II. 9-12



NANO-**CHARACTERIZATION**

SNOM MIR-THZ: SCANNING NEAR-FIELD OPTICAL MICROSCOPY

💂 Sophie Eliet

The SNOM MIR-THz is a near-field optical measurement bench allowing the acquisition of images respectively in the mid-infrared and TeraHertz range with a spatial resolution of the order of 30 nm (limitation by the size of the AFM tip). For this, two laser sources are currently available: a 10µm quantum cascade laser and a THz molecular laser pumped by a CO_2 laser.

\rightarrow EXAMPLE

• This technique is well suited for the qualitative study of 2D materials such as graphene, molecular electronic nanostructures, doped materials (even weakly) or the study of waveguides induced by laser inscription in glasses. • It is a complementary with others Scanning Probe techniques (cf PCP service)

→ ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

• The spatial resolution is linked to the apex of the probe (almost few tens of nanometers).

O Materials must have a MIR or THz contrast (plasmons resonance ...)

Sample must be relatively flat few hundreds nanometers of relief maximum

Example of SNOM-THz image of Logarithmic Spiral Antenna @ 2,5 THz (up), simultaneously recorded with AFM topography IRMMW Conference, 2021

SCANNING MICROWAVE MICROSCOPE (SMM)

Sophie Eliet

Scanning Microwave Microscopy is Scanning probe technique. It is based on a AFM technique coupled with VNA (Vector Network Analyzer). The probe is specially designed and integrated into a specific support and radio-frequency connectors.

- At CHOP, there are 2 types of SMM:
- At air , 3600 LS Keysight, up to 12 GHz
- Under vacuum, a home-made system integrated in a Tescan SEM, up to 67 GHz

→ APPLICATIONS

The technique is based on AFM but develops a specific contact electric mode at microwave frequencies (2-67 GHz) that allows to map material or device surfaces at the nanoscale for topography and microwave reflectivity. The sample must be compatible with AFM topography measurements.

Example SMM in SEM illustration





(a)







→ ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

It combines topography and microwave nanoscale measurement over a large microwave range. The spatial resolution is linked to the apex of the probe (a few tens of nanometers) but also to the microwave frequency. It allows to observe surface contrasts of microwave dielectric properties. The resolution is in the aF range. It can be combined with DC biasing up to 10 V. Traceability to microwave standards is still under study. Calibration based on the probe shape is possible but indicative with several µS uncertainty. The sample must be flat within a few hundreds of nanometers maximum.





700 nm

0.0719

Combined AFM, SMM and SEM images obtained in the homemade system (a) SEM image of the apex tip. (b) AFM topography image of a set of metallic dots deposited on a SiO₂/Si substrate to form capacitances, (c) real part and (d) imaginary part images of the complex reflection coefficient ΓM at 30 GHz. The dots diameters range from 1 to 4 µm. From Appl. Sci. 2021, 11, 2788

0.0409

DC - LOW FREQUENCY

DC-CV-PULSE-SOLAR MEASUREMENTS

💄 Vanessa Avramovic 💄 Etienne Okada

Mandatory for any electric component, DC characteristics can be provide by several equipment. To make a technological return as soon as it comes out of production.

Benches can be adapted to supply several circuits or study one device. With connector or on wafer (from 1 to 16 pins

simultaneously) we can measure characteristics to identify performances, homogeneity of manufacturing and also robustness. Several environments can be use (ask for compatibility), temperature,

- pressure, lighting/darkness.
- \bullet DC are made from 0 to 210 V with current up to 2A.

 \bullet Impedance meter is available to highlight capacitance effect. CV from 1 kHz to 100 MHz.

• Pulsed measurements are helpful to mark trapping effect on GaN

transistor or to eliminate heating effect. Pulse from 300nsec up to msec. • Solar Simulator is used to characterize solar cells. Laser beam can be also provided on device

→ ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

High voltage and current are available but power is limited by the setup.Both can be perform on or off wafer.

LASER VIBROMETER MSA 500

💂 Vanessa Avramovic

Visualizing surface deformations, knowing the speed, frequency and distance of displacement of a vibrating element, are essential information for MicroElectroMechanical Systems (MEMS). This equipment is based on Doppler effect. Thanks to a laser and an interferometer it is possible to know how an elements vibrates. It is possible to map vibrations modes of a device.

→ ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

• Max displacement +/- 75nm, frequency 0 up to 24MHz



Experimental and modelled resonance curves of a microcantilever fabricated the mixed SF_a/X_EF_2 process. (a) 5-10 kHz frequency sweep, (b) zoom over 1kHz, and (c) modelled resonant frequency curve. The inset to (b) shows a microcantilever fabricated using this process.



CHOP **HYPER-FREQUENCY**

DC-110GHz - RF-CHARACTERIZATION

💄 Vanessa Avramovic 💄 Sylvie Lepilliet

CHOP has acquired and developed several test benches made up of vector network analyzers, power supplies and marble stations fitted with coplanar tips. This equipment and the know-how of CHOP allow in DC regime the establishment of current-voltage characteristics and in RF-regime, the measurement of S parameters.

It is possible to characterize components on wafer or in package (coax) according to different frequency bands. The design of the electrical accesses for placing the probes or the connectors must correspond to the available materials and physical possibilities (see "limits of the technique"). Meet the CHOP team!

To make a technological return as soon as it comes out of production or for the design of complex circuits (frequency converter, amplifier, micro processor, etc.), small signal measurements up to 110GHz are at the core of the CHOP expertise.

\rightarrow This can be a first step before other types of measures:

- Millimeter-waves measurements
- Noise measurements
- In power regime
- At High Voltage or High Current measurements

If microwave measurements are required (up to 67 GHz) in cryogenic mode, this is also possible in CHOP

→ ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

O Designed of electrical access must be taken into account, come in CHOP for more details!

Coaxial availlable up to 67GHz versus 110GHz under probing method.



OPTO-HYPER MEASUREMENTS

& Vanessa Avramovic

Objectif: establissement of electrical model for material and knwoledge of performances

Technical Specifications:

- Lasers: 780 nm/1064 nm/1300nm/1550 nm. Output power :<10 mW
- Optical Amplifier: 780 nm/1550 nm. Output power: <500 mW
- Near diffraction limit optical focusing capabilities (free space and fiber coupled)
- Optical beam characterization (powermeter / optical spectra analyzer)

Expertise:

- On-wafer S parameter characterization of device under CW illumination up to 320 GHz (limited by RF probes)
- Frequency response (up to 320 GHz) and noise characterisation (up to 50 GHz) of photodetectors
- Optical waveguide and grating coupler characterization

→ ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

OProbing on wafer with several type of wavelenght, come in CHOP for more details!





CHOP HYPER-FREQUENCY

CRYOGENIC DC AND RF MEASUREMENT

2 Sylvie Lepilliet

Cryogenic & Vacuum Micro-manipulated Probe Systems

Characterizing components or devices in cryogenics presents an interest in the analysis of specific changes in the physical parameters of components, such as transistor, diode, amplifier. Cryogenic characterization extends to optoelectronic components.

JANIS probe station cryogenic RF/DC Features : • Low Temperature : 5.5K

- Low lemperature : 5.5K
- High Temperature : 380K
- Liquid helium or liquid nitrogen
- Without vibrations to sample
- 2 probes RF 0 to 67GHz
- 4 probes DC

LAKESHORE probe station cryogenic DC/field magnetic Features :

- Low Temperature : 5.5K
- High Temperature : 380K
- Liquid helium or liquid nitrogen
- Without vibrations to sample
- Verticaly Field supraconducting magnetic : to +/- 2.5T
- 4 probes DC













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CHOP **MILLIMETRIC & THz**



MILLIMETER WAVES UP TO 1.1THz

📕 Sylvie Lepilliet

Thanks to technological advances in the field of micro and nano electronics, more and more applications are emerging and are being considered in the millimeter frequency band (mmW) above 100 GHz. The millimeter frequency band is defined between 30 GHz and 300 GHz, corresponding to wavelengths between 10 mm and 1 mm respectively. Beyond 100 GHz, the millimeter frequency band intersects with the Terahertz (THz) spectrum up to 300 GHz. This frequency band (100 GHz - 300 GHz) commonly known as Sub-THz offers an important lever for increasing the performance of existing systems and opens up prospects for new applications. This part of the millimeter band is of interest mainly in the fields of spectroscopy, imaging and telecommunications.

→ Vectorial measurement capabilities

3 VNAs with 6 converters :

- 75-110GHz WR10
- 140-220GHz WR05
- 220-325GHz WR03
- 325-500GHz WR2.2
- 500-750GHz WR1.5
- 750-1100GHz WR1.0



- Spectrum analyzer mixers up to 1 THz
- Absolute power (PM5 Erickson) 60GHz 2THz, 1µW 200mW
- Multiplication chains (80-360, 580-720 GHz)
- Pyroelectric detector: 100GHz 30THz, 100nW 100mW free space
- Waveguide integrated zero-bias detectors (Schottky): WR 3.4 (220-325 GHz), WR 1.5 (500-750 GHz) 100GHz, 140-220GHz, 750-1100GHz

→ Photonics-based sources/receivers for THz communications & instrumentation, 200-340 GHz:

- Sources for amplitude modulation and I/Q measurements, in THz range (yp to 340 GHz)
- Receivers for wideband signal reception (60-340 GHz)
- Bit error testers (realtime, 2 channels 25 GBit/s)
- Generation & Analysis of I/Q signals (developed with PhLAM, Lille)

• IP3 bench of scalar evaluation of active devices intermodulations based on photonics techniques (up to 330 GHz)





(b)

Figure 3 Measurement results in the 1 GHz to 235 GHz band as a function of V_{ctrl} (a) S₊₁ (b) R_{an} and C_{an}, and (c) Q-factor «Highly Tunable High-Q Inversion-Mode MOS Varactor in the 1–325-GHz Band,» in IEEE Transactions on Electron Devices, vol. 67, no. 6, pp. 2263-2269, June 2020, doi: 10.1109/TED.2020.2989726.

Example 2





Example datacom





(dBm)

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In free space

CHOP **MILLIMETRIC & THz**

THz-TDS: TERAHERTZ TIME DOMAIN SPECTROSCOPY

Sophie Eliet

Terahertz Time-domain-spectroscopy is the most spread THz spectroscopy setup for broadband THz spectral measurements. It is based on a femtosecond laser of which pulse is transferred in the THz spectral range thanks to a photoconductive antenna (in our case). The resulting THz pulse is, then, time sampled using another photoconductive antenna trigged by the femtosecond laser after a controlled delay. It leads to time traces that a Fourier transform transfers in the spectral domain.

→ APPLICATIONS

TDS spectroscopy is used on all kinds of samples: gaseous, liquid solid and even plasma. It is used to probe the rovibrational lines of gas with a very good specificity when molecules have from ~3 to ~10 atoms. It is very sensitive to polar liquid such as water and thus plays an important role in biology. THz broadband spectroscopy is used on semiconductor sample to probe very low level of doping and on molecular crystal to study their conformation.

FTIR: FOURIER TRANSFORM INFRARED SPECTROMETER, COUPLED WITH MICROSCOPE

🧢 Sophie Eliet

This N₂-purged FTIR allows spectral acquisition from the mid-IR to the THz spectral range Total Spectral range: 8 000 – 50 cm⁻¹ (1,25µm- 200µm) (240 THz-1,5 THz) Spectral resolution: = $0,4 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ Detectors: Internal DLATGS 8000-350cm⁻¹; Internal DTGS/PE 680-50cm⁻¹ External MCT (cooled 77K): 12000-600cm⁻¹ Internal source: Blackbody Coupled to a MIR microscope and internal MCT detector (cooled 77K): 12000-600cm⁻¹ Microscope mapping: • Precision of step: 0.1µm • Repeatability: 1µm

• Positioning precision: +/-3µm



→ ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

- Spectral range: 0,2 5 THz
- Total scan range: 850 ps

NIC

- Spectral resolution limited by the Fast Fourier Transform : <1,2 GHz
- Opynamic range : 100 dB
- Setter resolution possible by temporal signal processing
- Type of sample: Solids (wafers, powder, pellets...) , gases or suspended particles



→ ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

O Spectral range depend of the couple beamsplitter / detector • Type and dimensions of sample for Hyperion module: flat sample of maximum dimensions ~5x7cm



Example 2

Reflectivity spectra of 2D periodic array (1μm period) of square metallic patch cavities of different side



The cavities consist of a GaAs/AlGAs heterostructure sandwiched between metallic top contact and ground plane. Spectra are measured in reflection geometry with the mid-infrared microscope.

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NOISE MEASUREMENT



NOISE MEASUREMENTS

🧢 Sylvie Lepilliet

The term "Noise" is normally used to express the unwanted fluctuations that may disturb the information propagation within the signal, or reduce the quality of its contents.

Noise figure (NF) is measures of degradation of the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR), caused by components in a signal chain. It is a number by which the performance of an amplifier or a radio receiver can be specified, with lower values indicating better performance.



Block diagram of noise measurement

For the extraction of the four noise parameters [gamma opt, Nfmin and Rn] of semiconductor devices studied, several automated measurement benches make it possible to measure the available gain and the noise figure (Noise Figure) of microwave components. according to the following frequency ranges:





- 20-40GHz
- 75-110GHz
- 110-170GHz
- 170-260GHz
- 260-325GHz





lock diagrams of on- and off-wafer setup configurations used to perform on-wafer noise figure extraction of an LNA by the use of an integrated noise source. (a) standalone noise source for ENR extraction on plane A, (b) noise source and LNA for noise characterization of the LNA.



Example 2





IEEE Transactions on Microwave Theory and Techniques (MTT), vol.67, Issue 9.

POWER MEASUREMENT

40 & 94 GHz LOAD-PULL CHARACTERIZATION

💂 Etienne Okada

In order to measure the power performance of transistors, the CHOP developed specific "Load-Pull" measurement benches. Theses system make it possible to determine the Gp (Power Gain), the Pout (Power available at the Output) as well as the Pae (Power Added Efficiency) of transistors and amplifiers.

Up to 40 GHz:

Since these parameters can only be determined under saturated conditions, a high power level is required to energize the device under test. For this, several power amplifiers are available and the bench have been optimized to carry the measurement up to the saturation of the DUT at 6, 10, 18 and 40GHz. At these frequencies, we can apply up to +30dBm at wafer level. Devices under test can be bias up to 50V. These measurements can be made in «load-pull» mode to modify the impedance presented at the output of the device under test. For this, we developed an active Load-Pull setup to reach high magnitude reflection coefficients. This helps determine the optimal impedance to maximize Gp, Pout or Pae.

All these measurements are possible in CW condition (continuous) or pulsed condition (pulsed bias + pulse RF) with a pulse width of 1µs and a duty cycle of 1%. Pulse measurements make it possible to overcome trap and thermal phenomena, thus maximizing the performance of the components under test.

Large signal reliability test can also be made with this bench. We apply a large signal to the DUT and we measure its performance versus time for hours.

@94 GHz:

The 94GHz Load-Pull measurement bench is based on an active Load-Pull technique also. It is quite similar to the 40GHz bench with specific modification due to the high frequency. Big improvements are underway on this bench to reach higher power. Only CW measurement are available for now, pulsed measurements are in development.







POWER MEASUREMENT

I/V MEASUREMENTS HIGH VOLTAGE OR HIGH CURRENT

💂 Etienne Okada

Based on a Keysight B1505A device analyzer coupled with a MPI TS150-HP probe station, this system allows on-wafer measurement up to 10kV DC for breakdown characterization. It also permit high current measurements: 20A @ 20V (Pulsed). We can also extract Dynamic RDS-ON of transistors by switching the device OFF to ON in just 50µs and monitoring the evolution of the current versus time.

Coupled with our HP-4294A Impedance Analyzer we are able to carry capacitance measurement from 1kHz up to 1MHz under bias voltage up to 3kV.

• This equipment can test components or materials up to voltages of 10 kV for breakdown measurements or 20 A @ 20 V.

→ ADVANTAGES & LIMITATIONS

• High voltage and current are available but power is limited by the setup.

INFRARED MICROSCOPY

💄 Etienne Okada

• MW InfraRed Camera (InSb / 3-5µm) for microscopic temperature measurement

• Measurement range: from room temperature up to 500°C with 0.1°C resolution

• Thermal mapping or transient IR measurement with 3-microseconds rise time resolution • 3 magnifications:

Objectif	Résolution spatiale minimum	Champ de vision (mm²)
*1	36 μm	12.3
*4	10 µm	3.07
*12	3 μm	1.02

• On-wafer measurement available under DC bias and/or RF power













Coordinator: Sylvie GODEY
sylvie.godey@iemn.fr
© 03 20 19 78 64 / Office 034

Dominique DERESMES dominique.deresmes@iemn.fr © 03 20 19 78 63 / Office 036

A Maxime BERTHE

PCP-SPM

IEMN Central Lab pcp-contact@iemn.fr

CHOP

IEMN Central Lab chop-contact@iemn.fr maxime.berthe@iemn.fr © 03 20 19 78 64 / Office 034

Sylvie GODEY sylvie.godey@iemn.fr @ 03 20 19 78 64 / Office 034

Sophie ELIET sophie.eliet@iemn.fr © 03 20 19 79 30 / Office 277

Po Vanessa AVRAMOVIC vanessa.avramovic@iemn.fr © 03 20 19 79 30 / Office 277

Sylvie LEPILLIET sylvie.lepilliet@iemn.fr © 03 20 19 78 45 / Office 277

Etienne OKADA etienne.okada@iemn.fr © 03 20 19 79 30 / Office 277

SIGMACOM

IRCICA sigma-contact@iemn.fr



University of Lille - Building P3 C2em-contact@iemn.fr Rédha Kassi redha.kassi@univ-lille.fr © 03 62 53 16 04

2. David Delcroix

david.delcroix@univ-lille.fr @ 03 62 53 16 04

Lamine Kone lamine.kone@univ-lille.fr © 03 20 43 48 41 / Office 114

Pierre Laly pierre.laly@univ-lille.fr © 03 20 33 59 59 / Office 002 Access to the PCPM Platform is regulated. Please contact the head of each PCMP Service to request access.

C2EM \rightarrow Bât. P3

Université de Lille

PCP-SPM & CHOP \rightarrow IEMN Central Lab

SIGMACOM → IRCICA Haute-Borne Site

pcmp-contact@iemn.fr

iemn Institute of Electronics, Microelectronics and Nanotechnology

IEMN - Laboratoire Central UMR CNRS 8520 Cité Scientifique Avenue Poincaré BP 60069 59652 Villeneuve d'Ascq Cedex - Franc Phone: +33 (0)3 20 19 79 79 Fax: +33 (0)3 20 19 78 78

IEMN - Antenne Université de Lille Cité Scientifique, Bât. P.3 & P.5 Avenue Poincaré BP 60069 59652 Villeneuve d'Ascq Cedex - France Phone: +33 (0)3 20 43 67 06 Fax: +33 (0)3 20 43 65 23

IEMN - Antenne OAE Université Polytechnique Hauts-De-France 59313 Valenciennes Cedex 9 - France Phone: +33 (0)3 27 51 12 39 Fax: +33 (0)3 27 51 11 89

IEMN - Antenne CCHB CAMPUS Haute-Borne CNRS IRCICA-IRI-RMN Parc Scientifique de la Haute Borne 50 Avenue Halley BP 70478 59658 Villeneuve d'Ascq - France Phone: +33 (0)3 62 53 15 00

IEMN - Antenne JUNIA 41, Boulevard Vauban 59046 Lille Cedex - France Phone: +33 (0)3 20 30 40 50 Fax: +33 (0)3 20 30 40 51

https://www.iemn.fr pcmp-contact@iemn.fr





Université de Lille





