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# Detailed electrical characterization of 200mm CMOS compatible GaN/Si HEMTs down to deep cryogenic temperatures

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## Abstract

A detailed electrical characterization and transistor parameter extraction on 200mm CMOS compatible GaN/Si HEMTs was performed down to deep cryogenic temperatures. The main transistor parameters (threshold voltage  $V_{th}$ , low-field mobility  $\mu_0$ , subthreshold swing  $SS$ , source-drain series resistance  $R_{sd}$ ) were extracted in linear region using the Y-function and the Lambert-W function methods for gate lengths down to  $0.1\mu m$ . The Y-function method was also employed in saturation region for the extraction of the saturation velocity. The results indicate that these GaN/Si HEMT devices demonstrate a very good functionality down to very low temperature with improvement of mobility and subthreshold slope. It was also shown by TLM analysis that the source-drain series resistance  $R_{sd}$  is more limited by the contact resistance than by the 2DEG access region resistance as temperature is lowered.

**Keywords:** GaN/Si, HEMT, transistor, parameter extraction, mobility, threshold voltage, access resistance, cryogenic temperature.

## 1. Introduction

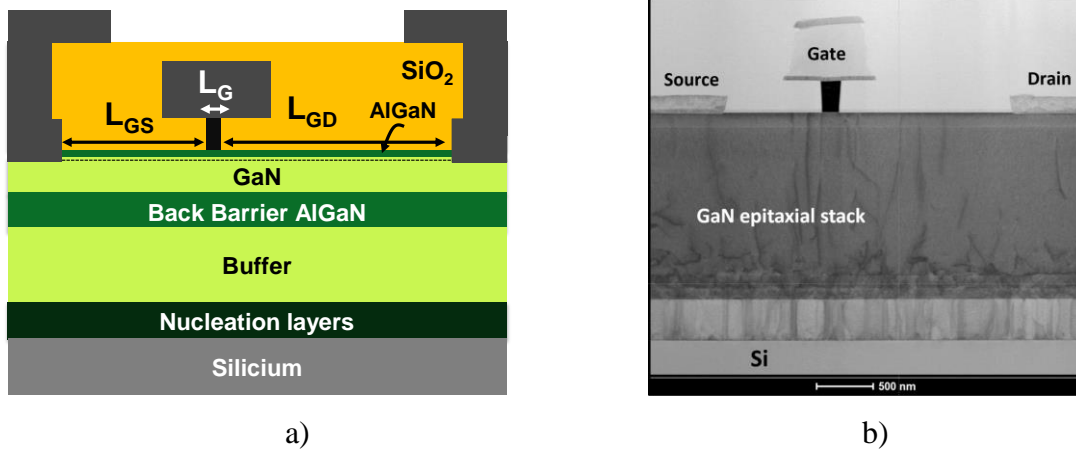
Cryogenic power electronics is a key enabling technology for various applications such as electromechanical drives, transportation, renewable systems and power networks [1-2]. It will bring higher power density, higher efficiency and superior performances due to higher operation speed, lower power dissipation stemming from reduced voltage, better switching characteristics, shorter transmission times due to lower metal resistance, increased integration density, better digital and analog device/circuit performances [1-2]. In this context, GaN HEMT technology has emerged as a promising candidate in cryogenic power electronics for high frequency and high power microwave applications due their high two dimensional electron gas (2DEG) mobility when operated at very low temperatures [3-9]. However, although several studies have already been reported about the cryogenic performances of GaN HEMT devices [10-13], there is still a lack of detailed analysis of the electronic properties of the channel and access regions under cryogenic operation.

Therefore, in this work, we present, for the first time, a complete electrical characterization of the transistor parameters (especially mobility, saturation velocity, threshold voltage, subthreshold swing, source-drain resistance...) as a function of gate length for 200mm CMOS compatible GaN/Si HEMTs operated down to deep cryogenic temperatures. We demonstrate that the 2DEG mobility is enhanced by phonon scattering reduction, and that the switching behaviour is considerably improved at very low temperatures. Moreover, we propose a TLM analysis of the source-drain series resistance, discriminating the contribution of contact and 2DEG access region resistances depending on temperature.

## 2. Experiments and methods

The HEMT devices under investigation belong to a GaN technology processed on 200 mm Silicon wafer designed for high frequency applications [14]. Figure 1 illustrates the device structure and cross section. The epitaxial stack was grown using metal organic vapor phase epitaxy (MOVPE) on a 200 mm high resistivity (111) silicon substrate. The structure consisted in transition layers and a 1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  GaN carbon doped buffer layer followed by an AlGa<sub>N</sub> back barrier (300 nm) and a 150 nm unintentionally doped (UID) GaN channel. The back barrier is a patented structure consisting in a thin 10nm AlGa<sub>N</sub> 30% on top of a AlGa<sub>N</sub> gradient. It is designed as a compromise between good confinement efficiency and low thermal resistance [15]. An AlN spacer (1 nm) and a thin Al<sub>0.28</sub>Ga<sub>0.72</sub>N (7 nm) layer formed the barrier. A capping layer of 10 nm SiN was used for passivation. Ohmic contact formation began with passivation and AlGa<sub>N</sub> barrier etching before Ti/Al deposition, chemical mechanical polishing (CMP) and annealing at 590 °C. Gate feet were patterned by ebeam lithography followed by passivation etching, TiN/W deposition and CMP. The gate head was formed

by Ti/TiN/Al/TiN deposition and dry etching. Finally, vias were opened through the SiO<sub>2</sub> passivation and 1.4 μm Al deposition followed by lithography and dry etching formed the first level of interconnection. The test structure device gate length varied between L<sub>g</sub>= 0.1μm and 3μm, the source-gate length L<sub>gs</sub>=1μm or 5.5μm, the drain-gate length L<sub>gd</sub>=1.5μm or 5.5μm. The device gate width was W<sub>g</sub>=100μm or 125μm.



**Figure 1.** Schematic of the epitaxial stack and TEM cross section of GaN/Si HEMTs.

The  $I_d$ - $V_g$  transfer characteristics were measured in linear ( $V_d=50mV$ ) and saturation ( $V_d=5V$ ) regions using an HP 4156B semiconductor parameter analyser. The gate-to-channel capacitance was measured at room temperature with an HP 4284 LCR meter at a frequency of 1MHz, providing here a maximum capacitance of about  $0.9\mu F/cm^2$  above threshold, which is equivalent to an AlGaN/AlN thickness of about 8nm. The cryogenic measurements were performed on a 200mm liquid helium Susstec cryo-probe station with temperature varying between 10K and 300K.

On one hand, the transistor parameter extraction was carried out using the Y-function method, originally developed for Si MOSFETs [16] and recently validated on MIS-HEMT GaN devices at 300K [17], which allows removing the influence of the source-drain series resistance. The Y-function is defined from drain current  $I_d$  and transconductance  $g_m$  by [16],

$$Y(V_g) = I_d / \sqrt{g_m} \approx \sqrt{\frac{W_g}{L_g} \cdot C_{ox} \cdot \mu_0 \cdot V_d \cdot (V_g - V_{th})}, \quad (1)$$

where  $C_{ox}$  is the maximum gate-to-channel capacitance associated to the coupling capacitance between the metal gate and GaN 2DEG through the AlGaN layer,  $\mu_0$  is the low field mobility and  $V_{th}$  the threshold voltage. The source-drain series resistance  $R_{sd}$  is then extracted, in linear operation, from the plateau of the quantity defined below plotted in strong inversion,

$$R_{sd} = \frac{V_d}{I_d} - \frac{L_g}{W_g \cdot C_{ox} \cdot \mu_0 \cdot (V_g - V_{th})}. \quad (2)$$

On the other hand, the transistor parameter extraction was performed using the Lambert-W function modelling approach developed for Si MOS transistors at 300K [18] and recently extended at cryogenic temperatures [19]. In this case, the drain current in linear region including the  $R_{sd}$  influence is given by,

$$I_d = \frac{\frac{W_g}{L_g} \mu_0 \cdot Q_i \cdot V_d}{1 + R_{sd} \cdot \frac{W_g}{L_g} \mu_0 \cdot Q_i} \quad (3)$$

where the inversion charge  $Q_i$  is modelled from weak to strong inversion as,

$$Q_i = C_{ox} \cdot \frac{n \cdot kT}{q} \cdot LW\left(e^{\frac{V_g - V_{th}}{n \cdot kT/q}}\right), \quad (4)$$

where  $kT/q$  is the thermal voltage,  $n$  the subthreshold ideality factor and  $LW$  is the Lambert-W function [18]. This  $LW$  method presents the advantage to extract the MOSFET parameters over the full gate voltage range below and above threshold.

Finally, the Y-function method was applied in the saturation region for the extraction of the carrier saturation velocity  $v_{sat}$  as was originally demonstrated in Si MOSFETs [20]. In this case, Eq. (1) is used to extract the mobility degraded by the longitudinal electric field  $V_d/L_g$ ,  $\mu_{0d} = \mu_0 / (1 + \mu_0 V_d / (v_{sat} L_g))$ , from the slope of the linear trend of  $Y(V_g)$  characteristics measured in saturation, such that the saturation velocity can be obtained from [20],

$$v_{sat} = \frac{\mu_0 V_d}{L_g \left( \frac{\mu_0}{\mu_{0d}} - 1 \right)} \quad (5)$$

For comparison purpose, the saturation velocity was also extracted using the standard method based on the saturation drain current  $I_{dsat}$  and inversion charge at source terminal given by [20],

$$v_{sat} = \frac{I_{dsat}}{W_g \cdot C_{ox} \cdot (V_g - V_{th} - R_s \cdot I_{dsat})}, \quad (6)$$

where  $R_s$  is the source series resistance.

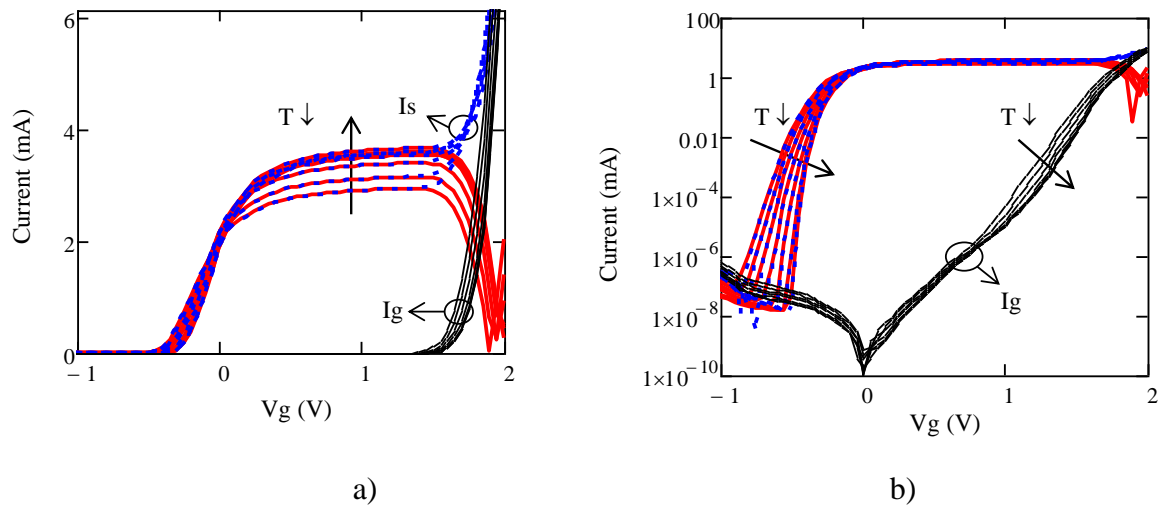
### 3. Results and discussion

#### 3.1. Transfer characteristics

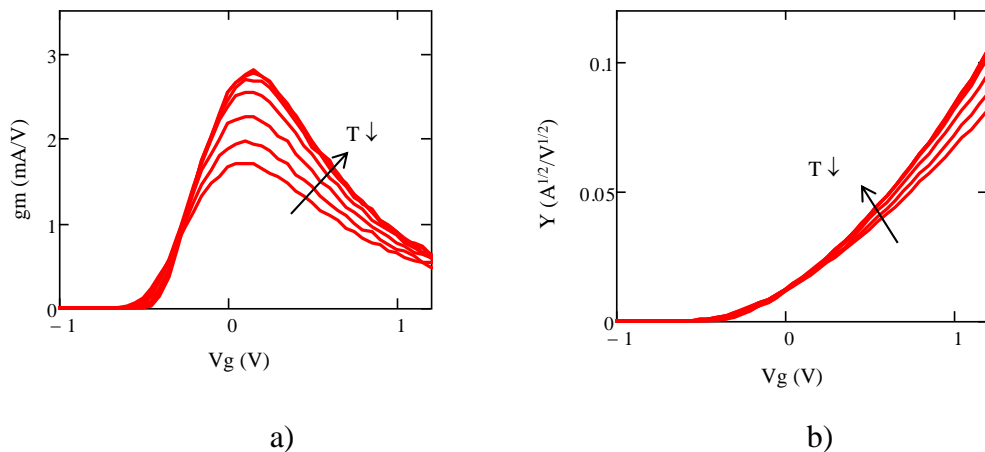
Typical drain and source current transfer characteristics  $I_d-V_g$  and  $I_s-V_g$  measured in the linear region ( $V_d=50mV$ ) are shown in Fig. 2. They were obtained on GaN HEMT devices with a gate length of  $L_g=150nm$  at various temperatures (10K-300K). As can be seen from the figure, there was a strong gate current  $I_g$  for high gate voltage in such Schottky gate devices. Indeed, drain current  $I_d$  strongly differed from source current  $I_s$  for  $V_g > 1.5V$ . For this reason, the transistor parameter extraction was restricted to  $V_g$  up to 1V in order to avoid any gate leakage influence. Nonetheless, note that the  $I_d-V_g$  curves exhibited a very good behaviour below threshold as the temperature was lowered with an improved subthreshold slope, specific of cryogenic operation. Note also that the  $I_d-V_g$  curves were

saturating well above threshold due to the strong impact of the series resistance effect caused by the contact and access regions as will be discussed below.

The corresponding transconductance  $g_m$ - $V_g$  and Y-function  $Y$ - $V_g$  characteristics up to  $V_g=1V$  are shown in Fig. 3, illustrating the increase of the maximum transconductance with temperature lowering and the linear behaviour of Y-function well above threshold.



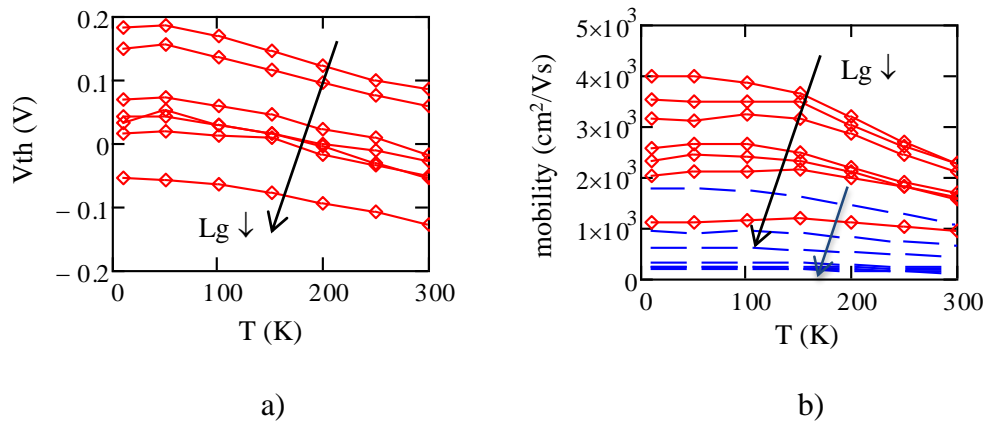
**Figure 2.** Typical  $I_d$ - $V_g$  characteristics in linear (a) and log (b) scale as obtained on GaN/Si HEMT devices for various temperatures  $T(K)=10, 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300$  ( $V_d=50mV$ ,  $L_g=150nm$ ,  $L_{gs}=1\mu m$ ,  $L_{gd}=1.5\mu m$ ,  $W_g=100\mu m$ ).



**Figure 3.** Typical  $g_m$ - $V_g$  (a) and  $Y$ - $V_g$  (b) characteristics as obtained on GaN/Si HEMT devices with various temperatures  $T(K)=10, 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300$  ( $V_d=50mV$ ,  $L_g=3000nm$ ,  $L_{gs}=1\mu m$ ,  $L_{gd}=1.5\mu m$ ,  $W_g=100\mu m$ ).

### 3.2. Y-function based transistor parameter extraction

Based on Eq. (1), the threshold  $V_{th}$  and low field mobility  $\mu_0$  were extracted respectively from the x-axis intercept and slope of the Y-function linear trends above threshold [16], for each gate length and temperature. Figure 4 shows the variations with temperature of the obtained threshold voltage  $V_{th}$  and low field mobility  $\mu_0$  for various gate lengths. As expected from cryogenic operation, one observes a linear increase of  $V_{th}$  with temperature lowering due to the evolution from Boltzmann to Fermi-Dirac carrier statistics as is usual in Si MOS transistors [21]. Note also that the  $V_{th}$  roll-off versus gate length was nearly independent of temperature, as mainly arising from electrostatic-induced short channel effect as is usually observed in Si MOSFETs [21]. Moreover, the low field mobility  $\mu_0$  was also increasing with temperature reduction due to phonon scattering diminution, especially for long channel devices, where  $\mu_0$  improved from  $2000 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$  up to  $4000 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$  for long channel, e.g.  $L_g=3000\text{nm}$ . It should be mentioned that these mobility values are in good agreement with literature results obtained on GaN HEMTs by Hall effect or transistor parameter extraction [10, 22], pointing out the good quality of our GaN/Si technological process. In Fig. 4(b) are also reported, for comparison purpose, the variations with temperature of the maximum field effect mobility deduced from the maximum transconductance and defined as  $\mu_{femax}=g_{mmax}\cdot L_g/(W_g\cdot C_{ox}\cdot V_d)$  [23], clearly revealing the huge underestimation of the mobility values obtained using this method, which is indeed inappropriate in the presence of large  $R_{sd}$  effect [24].



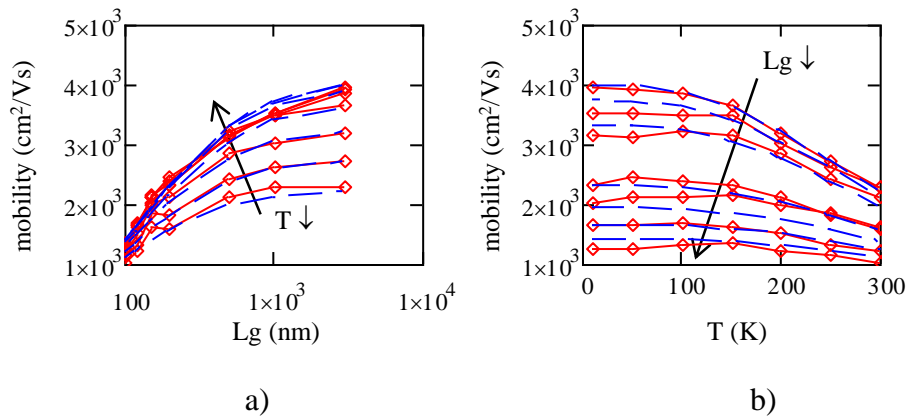
**Figure 4.** Variations with temperature of a) threshold voltage  $V_{th}$  and b) electron low field mobility  $\mu_0$  (red solid line) and  $\mu_{femax}$  (blue dashed lines) as obtained on GaN/Si HEMT devices with various gate lengths  $L_g(\text{nm})= 100, 120, 150, 200, 500, 1000$  and  $3000$  ( $V_d=50\text{mV}$ ,  $L_{gs}=1\mu\text{m}$ ,  $L_{gd}=1.5\mu\text{m}$ ,  $W_g=100\mu\text{m}$ ).

As can also be seen from Fig. 4, the low field mobility  $\mu_0$  was significantly reduced as the gate length was decreased. This is better illustrated in Fig. 5(a) where  $\mu_0$  has been plotted versus gate

length for various temperatures. It clearly appears that the low field mobility for short channel is much less temperature dependent than for long channels, revealing a clear change in scattering mechanism as reducing the gate length. Indeed, in long channels,  $\mu_0$  is likely dominated by phonon scattering explaining the mobility increase at lower T. Instead, in short channels,  $\mu_0$  is almost constant with temperature, which is indicative of neutral scattering domination as was observed in scaled Si MOSFETs [19]. Therefore, these low field mobility data versus temperature and gate length were tentatively modelled using the same approach employed in Si MOSFET, where the mobility can be described as [19],

$$\mu_{0,mod} = \left[ \frac{1}{\mu_{ph}} \cdot \left( \frac{T}{300} \right)^\alpha + \frac{1}{\mu_N} \cdot \left( 1 + \frac{L_c}{L_g} \right)^\beta \right]^{-1} \quad (7)$$

where  $\mu_{ph}$  is the phonon-limited mobility at room temperature,  $\mu_N$  is the temperature independent neutral defect-limited mobility for long channel,  $L_c$  being a critical gate length and  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  fitting parameters. As can be seen from Fig. 5, the simple model of Eq. (7) provided a good description of mobility variations both with gate length and with temperature. It clearly shows that the mobility degradation in short channel GaN HEMTs is also well interpreted by an increased contribution of neutral scattering defects. The latter ones should be mostly localized close to source-drain gate edges and could stem from the metal gate etching process.



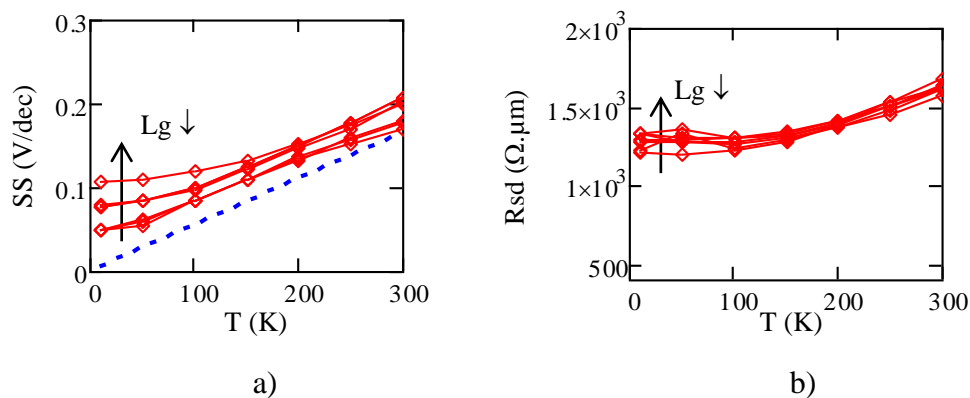
**Figure 5.** a) Experimental (red solid lines) and Eq. (7) modeled (blue dashed lines) variations of electron low field mobility  $\mu_0$  with gate length  $L_g$  for various temperatures  $T(K)=10, 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300$  and b) variations of low field mobility  $\mu_0$  with temperature  $T$  for various gate lengths  $L_g(nm)= 100, 120, 150, 200, 500, 1000$  and  $3000$  as obtained on GaN/Si HEMT devices ( $V_d=50mV$ ,  $L_{gs}=1\mu m$ ,  $L_{gd}=1.5\mu m$ ,  $W_g=50\mu m$ ). Model parameters:  $\mu_{ph}=5000cm^2/Vs$ ,  $\mu_N=4100cm^2/Vs$ ,  $L_c=160nm$ ,  $\alpha=3$ ,  $\beta=1.3$ .

The variations with temperature of the subthreshold swing  $SS=dV_g/d\log(I_d)$  are shown in Fig. 6(a) for various gate lengths. As expected from cryo-operation, the subthreshold swing  $SS$  mostly followed



the Boltzmann linear trend vs temperature over 100K before saturating at low temperature, likely due to some specific interface trap energy profile and/or to charge-induced-disorder potential fluctuations, as found in Si MOS devices [25, 26].

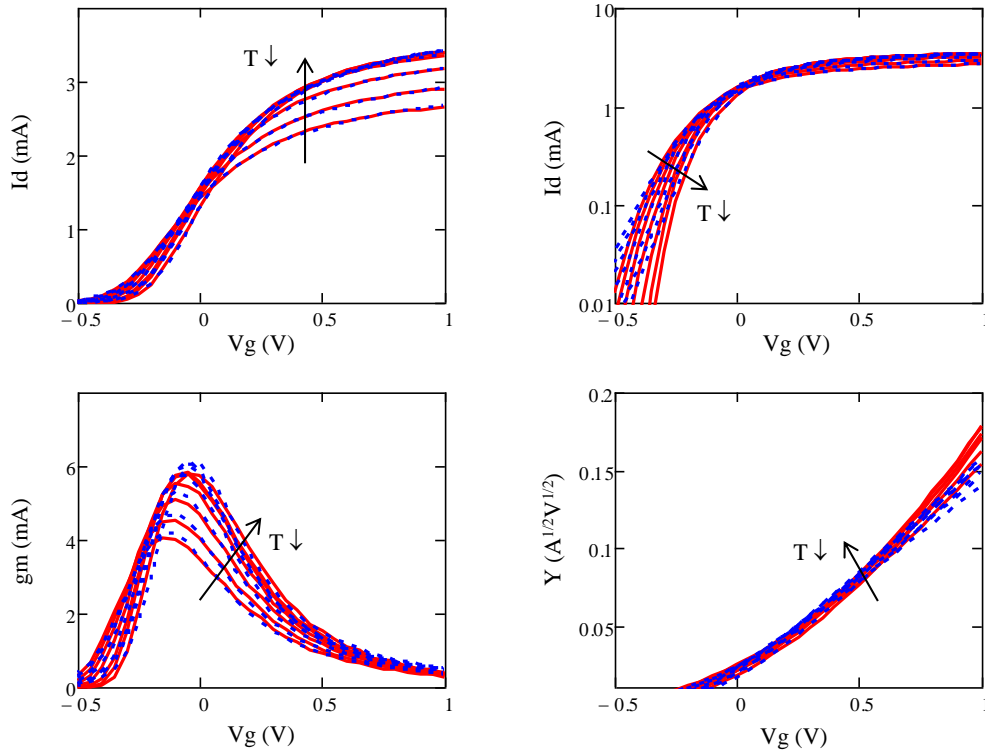
The access series resistance  $R_{sd}$  was extracted using Eq. (2) at strong inversion where its impact is maximized. The variations with temperature of the series resistance  $R_{sd}$  for various gate lengths are shown in Fig. 6(b). The access resistance  $R_{sd}$  values ranged typically around  $\approx 1400 \Omega \cdot \mu\text{m}$  and increased linearly with temperature above 100K, whatever the gate length, emphasizing the  $R_{sd}$  extraction consistency against  $L_g$ . These  $R_{sd}(T)$  variations are in line with the metallic degenerate behaviour observed for the sheet resistance of AlGaN/AlN/GaN HEMT structures with  $\approx 10^{13} \text{q/cm}^2$  2DEG carrier density [22, 27]. These variations will be discussed in more details below.



**Figure 6.** Typical variations with temperature of subthreshold swing SS (a) and access series resistance  $R_{sd}$  (b) as obtained on GaN/Si HEMT devices for various gate lengths  $L_g$  (nm)= 100, 120, 150, 200, 500, 1000 and 3000 ( $V_d=50\text{mV}$ ,  $L_{gs}=1\mu\text{m}$ ,  $L_{gd}=1.5\mu\text{m}$ ,  $W_g=100\mu\text{m}$ ).

### 3.3. Lambert-W-function based transistor parameter extraction

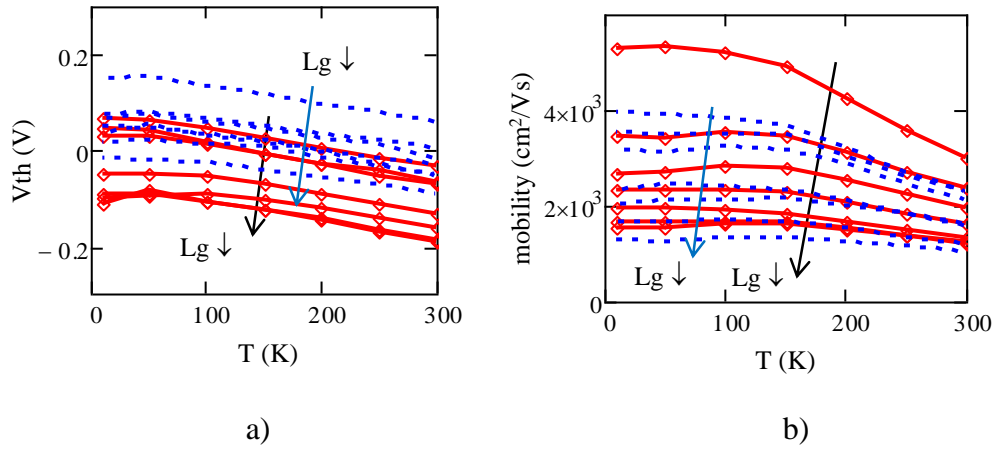
Lambert W function-based transistor parameter extractions were carried out using Levenberg-Marquardt procedure based on Eqs (3)-(4). Typical fits of the transfer characteristics obtained by LW function modelling, with optimized parameters ( $V_{th}$ ,  $\mu_0$ ,  $n$ ,  $R_{sd}$ ), are illustrated in Fig. 7 over a wide gate voltage range from below to above threshold. Note that excellent fits of the characteristics can be obtained, especially around and above threshold i.e.  $V_g > -0.25\text{V}$ , for both  $I_d(V_g)$ ,  $g_m(V_g)$  and  $Y(V_g)$  curves.



**Figure 7.** Experimental (red solid lines) and Lambert-W model fits (blue dashed lines) of the  $I_d(V_g)$ ,  $g_m(V_g)$  and  $Y(V_g)$  characteristics for various temperatures  $T(K)=10, 50, 100, 150, 200, 250$  and  $300$  as obtained on GaN/Si HEMT devices ( $V_d=50\text{mV}$ ,  $L_g=500\text{nm}$ ,  $L_{gs}=1\mu\text{m}$ ,  $L_{gd}=1.5\mu\text{m}$ ,  $W_g=100\mu\text{m}$ ).

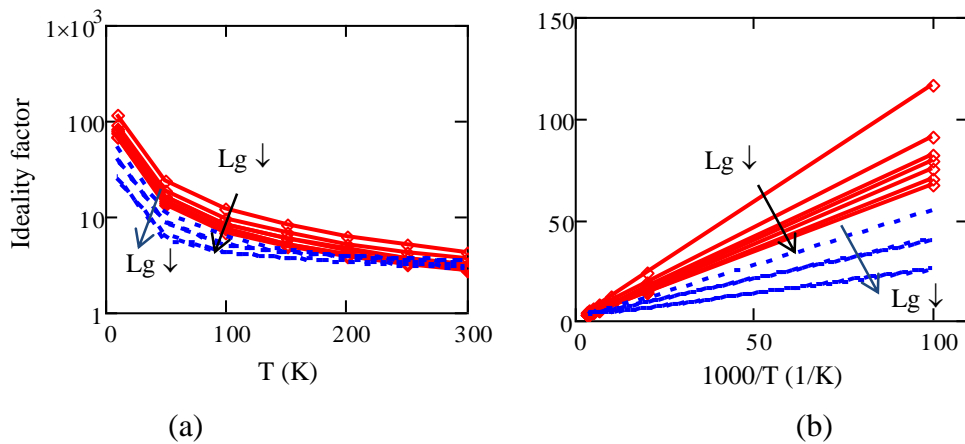
In Fig. 8 are shown the variations with temperature of the threshold voltage  $V_{th}$  and of the low field mobility  $\mu_0$  obtained with the LW function fitting method (red solid lines) for devices with various gate lengths. For comparison purpose, the  $V_{th}(T)$  and  $\mu_0(T)$  curves extracted with Y-function method (blue dashed lines) are also reminded. Although slightly different, the  $V_{th}$  and  $\mu_0$  parameters extracted by both methods displayed the same behaviour with temperature and gate length, which was also observed in Si MOS devices [18, 19]. The good mobility values obtained by the LW function method again confirmed the quality of such GaN/Si HEMT devices.

In Fig. 9 are reported the variations with temperature and reciprocal temperature of the subthreshold ideality factor  $n_L$  obtained from the LW function fittings for various gate lengths (red solid lines). The ideality factor values directly deduced from the subthreshold swing  $SS$  (see Fig. 6a),  $n_{SS}=SS/(2.3 \times kT)$ , are also reported in blue dashed lines. As can be seen, the LW function fitting procedure tended to overestimate the ideality factor, especially at low temperature. However, this inconvenience does not alter the validity of the transistor parameter extraction just below and above threshold. It should also be noticed that the  $1/T$  dependence of the ideality factor has been previously found in Si MOSFETs and can be explained by the  $SS$  plateauing behaviour at low temperature [19].

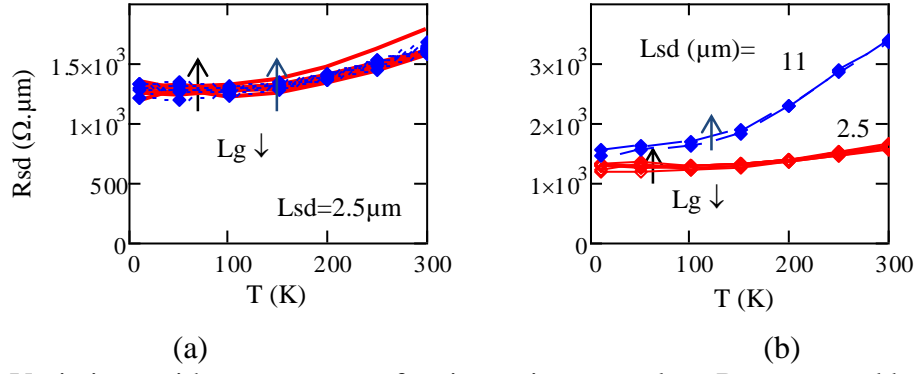


**Figure 8.** Variations with temperature of a) threshold voltage  $V_{th}$  and b) electron low field mobility  $\mu_0$ , as obtained from LW function extraction (red solid line) and from Y-function method extraction (blue dashed lines) on GaN/Si HEMT devices with various gate lengths  $L_g$ (nm)= 100, 120, 150, 200, 500, 1000 and 3000 ( $V_d=50$ mV,  $L_{gs}=1\mu\text{m}$ ,  $L_{gd}=1.5\mu\text{m}$ ,  $W_g=100\mu\text{m}$ ).

The access series resistance values  $R_{sd}$  extracted by the LW function fitting method (red solid lines) are displayed in Fig. 10(a) along with those obtained by Y-function method (blue dashed lines) for a transistor with an access region distance  $L_{sd}=L_{gs}+L_{gd}=2.5\mu\text{m}$ , emphasizing the consistency of the two extraction methodologies. In Fig. 10(b), are reported the temperature dependence of the source and drain resistance  $R_{sd}$  extracted from Y-function method for two access region distances  $L_{sd1}=2.5\mu\text{m}$  and  $L_{sd2}=11\mu\text{m}$  for various gate lengths. In this case, a larger temperature dependence of  $R_{sd}$  can be noticed for the devices with the longer access region distance.



**Figure 9.** Variations of subthreshold ideality factors  $n_L$  (red solid lines) and  $n_{SS}$  (blue dashed lines) and b) with temperature (a) and reciprocal temperature (b) as obtained on GaN/Si HEMT devices for various gate lengths  $L_g$ (nm)= 100, 120, 150, 200, 500, 1000 and 3000 ( $V_d=50$ mV,  $L_{gs}=1\mu\text{m}$ ,  $L_{gd}=1.5\mu\text{m}$ ,  $W_g=100\mu\text{m}$ ).



**Figure 10.** a) Variations with temperature of series resistance values  $R_{sd}$  extracted by LW function method (red solid lines) and by Y-function method (blue dashed lines) as obtained on GaN/Si HEMT devices for various gate lengths  $L_g(\text{nm})= 100, 120, 150, 200, 500, 1000$  and  $3000$  ( $V_d=50\text{mV}$ ,  $L_{gs}=1\mu\text{m}$ ,  $L_{gd}=1.5\mu\text{m}$ ,  $W_g=100\mu\text{m}$ ). b) Variations with temperature of series resistance values  $R_{sd}$  extracted by Y-function method for two access region distances  $L_{sd}=2.5\mu\text{m}$  and  $11\mu\text{m}$  as obtained on GaN/Si HEMT devices for various gate lengths  $L_g(\text{nm})= 1000$  and  $5000$  ( $V_d=50\text{mV}$ ,  $L_{gs}=5.5\mu\text{m}$ ,  $L_{gd}=5.5\mu\text{m}$ ,  $W_g=125\mu\text{m}$ ).

In order to discriminate the contribution brought by the contact resistance  $R_c$  and by the 2DEG access region resistance  $\rho_{2DEG} \cdot L_{sd}$ ,  $\rho_{2DEG}$  being the 2DEG sheet resistance, a TLM analysis of the source-drain series resistance  $R_{sd}$  for two  $L_{sd}$  values was carried out using Eq. (8),

$$R_{sd}(L_{sd}) = 2 \cdot R_c + \rho_{2DEG} \cdot L_{sd} \quad (\Omega \cdot \mu\text{m}). \quad (8)$$

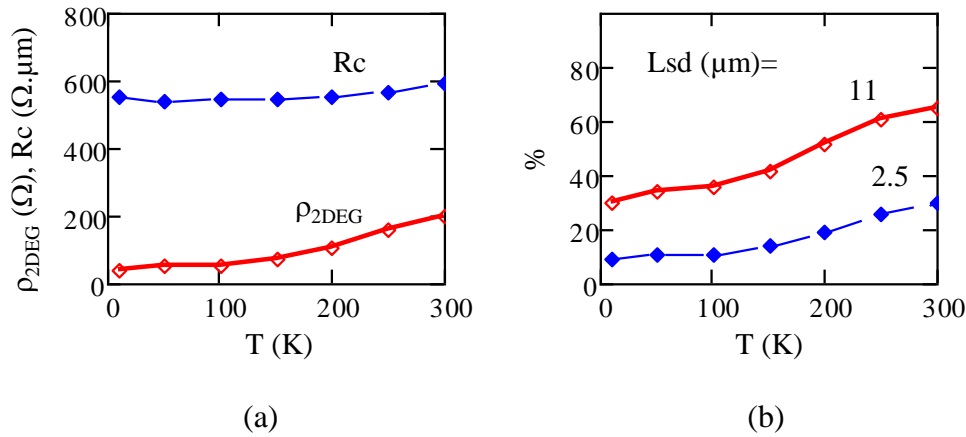
By this way,  $\rho_{2DEG}$  and  $R_c$  can be obtained from,

$$\rho_{2DEG} = \frac{R_{sd}(L_{sd2}) - R_{sd}(L_{sd1})}{L_{sd2} - L_{sd1}} \quad (9a)$$

$$R_c = \frac{R_{sd}(L_{sd1}) - \rho_{2DEG} \cdot L_{sd1}}{2} = \frac{R_{sd}(L_{sd2}) - \rho_{2DEG} \cdot L_{sd2}}{2}. \quad (9b)$$

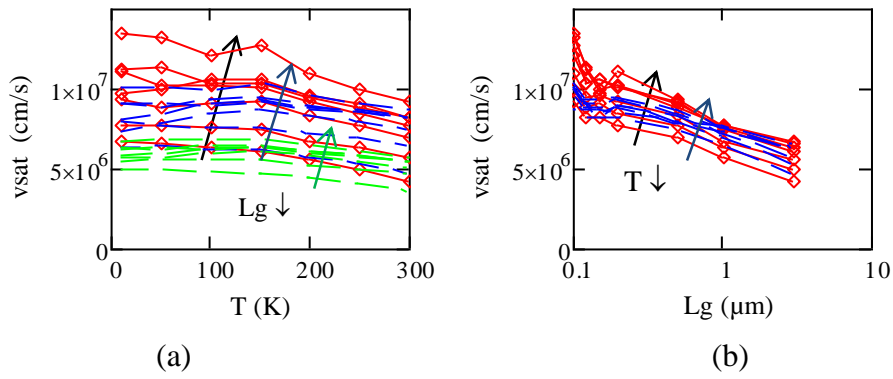
In Fig. 11(a) are displayed the variations of the contact resistance  $R_c$  and the 2DEG sheet resistance  $\rho_{2DEG}$  as obtained from Fig. 10(b) data using Eqs (9) for  $L_{sd1}=2.5\mu\text{m}$  and  $L_{sd2}=11\mu\text{m}$ . As can be seen, the contact resistance  $R_c$  was rather temperature independent ( $\approx 550\Omega \cdot \mu\text{m}$ ), which reveals a quasi-metallic behaviour. Instead, the 2DEG sheet resistance  $\rho_{2DEG}$  increases significantly with temperature, likely due to the mobility reduction with temperature increase, as observed for long channel mobility in Figs 8(b), associated to a constant polarization-induced 2DEG carrier density. Since, at room temperature,  $\rho_{2DEG} \approx 200\Omega$  and  $\mu_0 \approx 2000\text{cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$ , it follows that the 2DEG electron density in the access regions is about  $\approx 1.5 \times 10^{13}/\text{cm}^2$ , which, for some reason, is about  $\approx 30\%$  larger than the standard polarization-induced value for the AlGaIn/GaN system as measured e.g. by Hall effect in devices from the same technology [27, 28]. In Fig. 11(b) are shown the variations with temperature of the percentage contribution of the 2DEG access region resistance to the total source-

drain resistance  $R_{sd}=2.R_c+\rho_{2DEG}.L_{sd}$ . As can be seen, the contact resistance contribution is enhanced as the temperature is lowered and can reach up to 90% (resp. 70%) for an access region length  $L_{sd}=2.5\mu\text{m}$  (resp.  $11\mu\text{m}$ ).



**Figure 11.** a) Variations with temperature of the 2DEG sheet resistance  $\rho_{2DEG}$  (red solid lines) and of contact resistance  $R_c$  (blue dashed lines) as obtained from  $R_{sd}$  TLM analysis on GaN/Si HEMT devices with various access region lengths  $L_{sd}=2.5$  and  $11\mu\text{m}$ . b) Variations with temperature of percentage contribution of 2DEG access region resistance to the total source-drain resistance  $R_{sd}$  for two access region distances  $L_{sd}=2.5\mu\text{m}$  and  $L_{sd}=11\mu\text{m}$  as obtained from Fig. 10(b) data.

Finally, the saturation velocity  $v_{sat}$  was extracted using the Y-function (Eq. (5)) and standard (Eq. (6)) methods after having recorded the  $I_d(V_g)$  characteristics in saturation region ( $V_d=5\text{V}$ , not shown here). In Fig. 12(a) are reported the variations with temperature of such extracted saturation velocities for various gate lengths. It should be mentioned that the value of the source resistance  $R_s$  needed in Eq. (6) was taken, according to Ohm's law, as a portion of the total resistance  $R_{sd}$  such as  $R_s=R_c+L_{gs}.\rho_{2DEG}$ . As can be seen from Fig. 12(a), the  $v_{sat}$  values obtained by the standard method (Eq. (6)) were significantly underestimated with respect to those deduced from Y-function, especially when the  $R_s$  correction was overlooked ( $R_s=0$  in Eq. (6)) for short channels. It should be noted that the overall temperature dependence of  $v_{sat}$  is in agreement with those obtained on Si MOS transistors [21]. In Fig. 12(b) are shown the corresponding variations of  $v_{sat}$  with gate length, revealing as is usual the increase of  $v_{sat}$  with channel length reduction, which is inherent to the extraction procedure and/or velocity overshoot effect [20, 21]. It is worth noting that these saturation velocity values, found around  $10^7\text{cm/s}$ , are in good agreement with those previously reported in GaN HEMTs [29-33].



**Figure 12.** a) Variations with temperature of saturation velocity  $v_{\text{sat}}$  as extracted from Y-function (Eq. (5), red solid lines), or using the standard method with (blue dashed lines) or without (green dashed lines)  $R_{\text{sd}}$  correction (Eq. (6)), as obtained for various gate lengths  $L_g(\text{nm})= 100, 120, 150, 200, 500, 1000$  and  $3000$  ( $V_g=1.5\text{V}$ ,  $V_d=5\text{V}$  &  $V_d=50\text{mV}$ ,  $W_g=100\mu\text{m}$ ). b) Variations with gate length of saturation velocity  $v_{\text{sat}}$  as extracted from Y-function (Eq. (5), red solid lines), or using the standard method (blue dashed lines) with  $R_s$  correction (Eq. (6)), as obtained on GaN/Si HEMT devices for various temperatures.

### 3. Summary and Conclusion

We carried out a detailed electrical characterization and a thorough transistor parameter extraction on 200mm CMOS-compatible GaN/Si HEMTs down to deep cryogenic temperatures. The main transistor parameters (threshold voltage  $V_{\text{th}}$ , low-field mobility  $\mu_0$ , and subthreshold swing, SS, source-drain series resistance  $R_{\text{sd}}$ ) were extracted in linear region ( $V_d=50\text{mV}$ ) using Y-function and Lambert-W function methods for gate lengths from  $3\mu\text{m}$  down to  $0.1\mu\text{m}$ . The Y-function method was also employed in saturation region ( $V_d=5\text{V}$ ) for the extraction of the saturation velocity. The results indicate that those 200mm CMOS-compatible GaN/Si HEMT devices display very good functionality down to very low temperature (10K), with significant improvement of mobility and subthreshold slope. In long channels, the low field mobility  $\mu_0$  was found to increase from  $2000 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$  up to  $4000 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$  from 300K down to 10K due to phonon scattering reduction. In contrast, in short devices, the low field mobility was nearly temperature independent, likely due to neutral defect scattering dominance. The saturation velocity  $v_{\text{sat}}$  was found to exceed  $10^7 \text{ cm/s}$  at low temperature. The source-drain series resistance  $R_{\text{sd}}$  was shown, by TLM analysis, to be more controlled by the contact resistance  $R_c$  than by the 2DEG access region resistance as temperature was decreased. Finally, it is worth noting that the Lambert-W function modelling of the drain current characteristics,

which has demonstrated its power in the case in Si MOSFETs [19], could provide a simple compact model for such GaN/Si HEMTs operation, down to deep cryogenic conditions.

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