



# Reconfigurable Microsystem Based on Wide Band Gap Materials, Miniaturized and Nanostructured RF-MEMS

## Objectives

### NANOCOM Missions

- ▶ Micro and Nano Technologies for smart systems:
  - ▶ GaN for power and robustness at high frequencies
  - ▶ Sensor for interfacing to real-world
  - ▶ MEMS and Mini-MEMS for reconfigurability and tunability
- ▶ NANOCOM Mission:
  - ▶ Integrate new nanostructured materials in MEMS technology to address charging effect and at the same time enhance thermal performances of the device

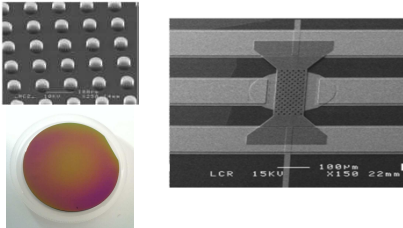
### NANOCOM Objectives

- ▶ Developing innovative solutions for the RF front-end baseband by fabrication of agile RF transceiver and reconfigurable antennas with MEMS switches, sensors and actuators.
  - ▶ Objective 1: Achieve the integration of WBG devices and RF MEMS switches in LCP.
  - ▶ Objective 2: Achieve the long-term reliability of RF-MEMS by solving problems associated with these devices to bring this technology to industrial systems.
  - ▶ Objective 3: Realize and optimise WBG based sensors and actuators and develop the necessary technology for their monolithic integration with WBG MMICs and RF MEMS.
  - ▶ Objective 4: Display the integration of all of these technologies through four demonstrators.
  - ▶ Objective 5: After the fabrication of these demonstrators the fabrication process flow will be transferred by TRT to a foundry for industrialization.

## RT Developments

### Nanostructured materials integration

- ▶ Integration of nanostructured PZT
- ▶ Development and integration of single oriented carbon nanotubes in silicon nitride dielectric
- ▶ Development and first integration of diamond thin layers
- ▶ Dielectric, electrical and thermal characterizations
- ▶ Development and fabrication of MiniMEMS



### Beyond state of the art MEMS performances

- ▶ Design and fabrication on GaN, Si and LTCC of MEMS and MiniMEMS switches, circuits and phase shifters
- ▶ Request:
  - ▶ RF performance
  - ▶ High power handling
  - ▶ Thermal management
  - ▶ Reliability
  - ▶ Complementary SIP functions (passive functions, fluidic interfaces, etc)

Criteria	State of the art	NANOCOM goals
Frequency (GHz)	10 GHz	100MHz-20 GHz
Insertion loss (dB)	0.1 dB	0.1 dB
Isolation (dB)	35 dB	> 35 dB
Power handling (W)	40 dBm (10W)	> 45 dBm (30W)
Switching time	1 μs	0.1 μs

### III-Nitride based sensors

- ▶ GaN & AlN → Gaz & T sensors
- ▶ Fab process compatible with MMIC & MEMS/NEMS process
- ▶ Gaz sensors
  - ▶ SAW sensor;
  - ▶ FBAR sensor;
  - ▶ Sensitivity of the FBAR based gas sensor: 2 (Hz/MHz)/(ng/cm<sup>2</sup>);
  - ▶ Sensitivity of the SAW based gas sensor: 50-500 (Hz/ppm) (depending of coating material and gas species).
  - ▶ Integration into DEM #4
- ▶ T sensor
  - ▶ SAW monolithic with GaN MMIC (HEMT)
  - ▶ T range from - 40 to + 120  
Precision ~ 2-3 C

## Application Demonstrators

### DEM # 1

- ▶ Reconfigurable smart active antennas with RF-MEMS switches
- ▶ X band, 20W peak

### DEM # 2

- ▶ RF-MEMS based agile radio (tunable filter) for air traffic management radars
- ▶ Wideband, high reliability

### DEM # 3

- ▶ RF-MEMS based reconfigurable reflect array antenna
- ▶ X band, 20W peak, short switching times (<500ns)

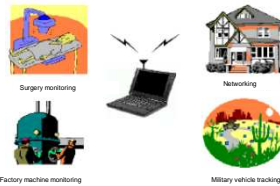
### DEM # 4

- ▶ Miniaturized piezo sensor and actuator based on III-nitride materials



### T/R module for active antenna:

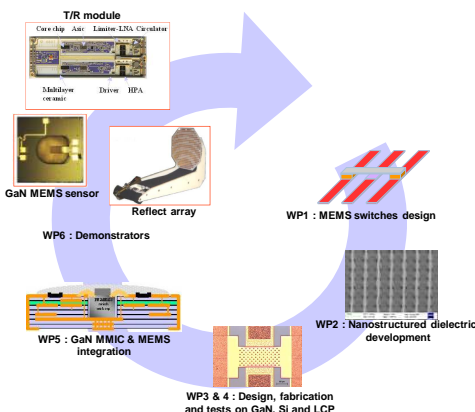
- ▶ Replace circulators by RF-MEMS SPDTs integrated on the same substrate as the HPA and LNA



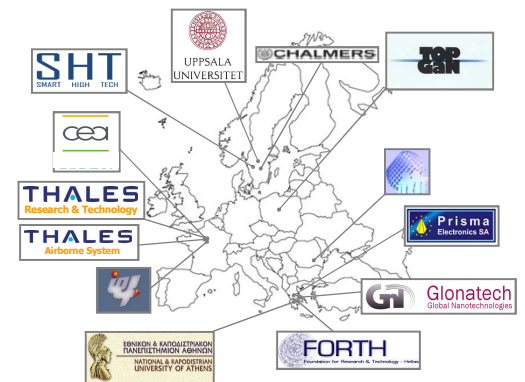
### Sensors and actuators:

- ▶ Applications of wireless microsensor network with integrated sensor/actuator and microwave functions

## Project Fact Sheet



- ✓ **ENIAC Joint Undertaking**  
 SP 2 – Wireless communications  
 SP 3 – Energy efficiency
- ✓ **Total cost: 3,3 M€**  
 ENIAC Contribution: ? M€  
 National Contribution: ? M€  
 Total efforts: 626,25 pm
- ✓ **13 European Partners**  
 5 countries  
 2 large industries  
 4 innovative SMEs  
 7 academic institutes
- ✓ **Coordinator: Thales Research & Technology Fr**
- ✓ **Duration: 3 years**



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