

---

# DEGRADATION IN MOSFET MULTI-STACK HIGH-K GATE DIELECTRICS DUE TO HOT CARRIER AND CONSTANT VOLTAGE STRESS

*Z. Celik-Butler and M. S. Rahman*

*The Nanotechnology Research and Teaching Facility,  
Electrical Engineering Department  
University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX 76019*



UNIVERSITY OF  
TEXAS  
ARLINGTON

The University of Texas at Arlington - College of Engineering  
**NANOFAB**

# Outline

---

- **Motivation for / Significance of High-k Dielectrics**
- **Low – Frequency Noise**
  - **Importance**
  - **Current Models**
- **MSUN Model**
- **Effect of Nitridation on 1/f Noise**
- **Effect of Nitridation on Stress Induced Degradation**
- 
- **Summary**

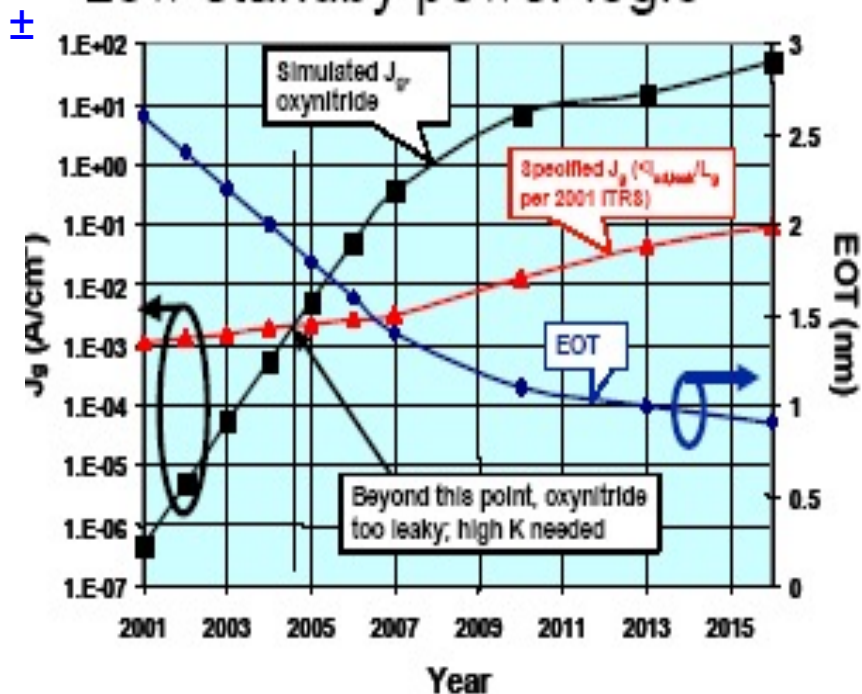
# The ITRS Road Map

## Power trends

Year of Production	2000	2001	2003	2005	2006	2008	2009	2012	2015	2018	2020
Technology - Contacted M1 H-P (nm)	180	151	107	80	71	57	50	45	32	22	14

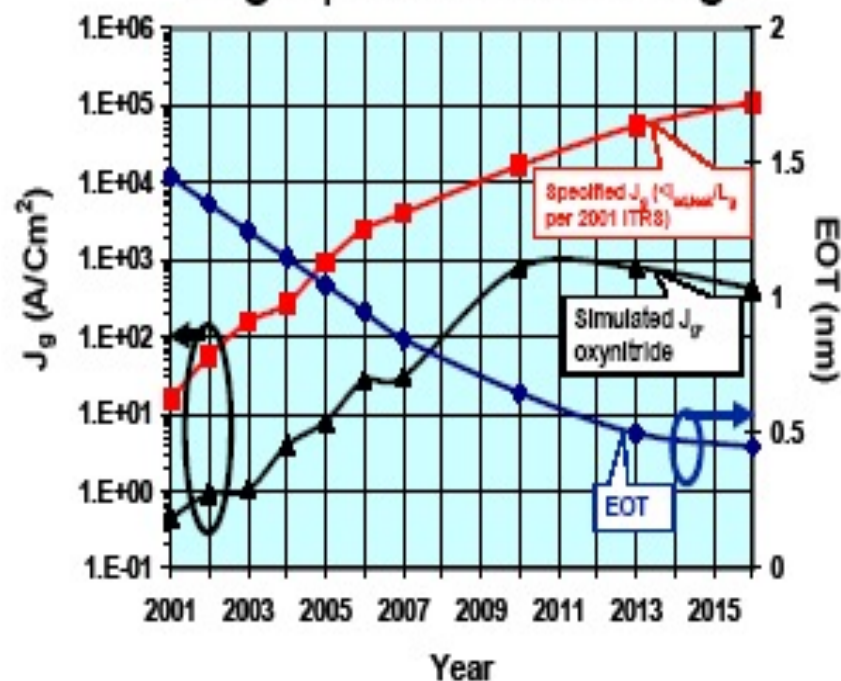
\$2007 Roadmap

### Low standby power logic



High-k is needed to reduce leakage current ±2005 Roadmap

### High performance logic

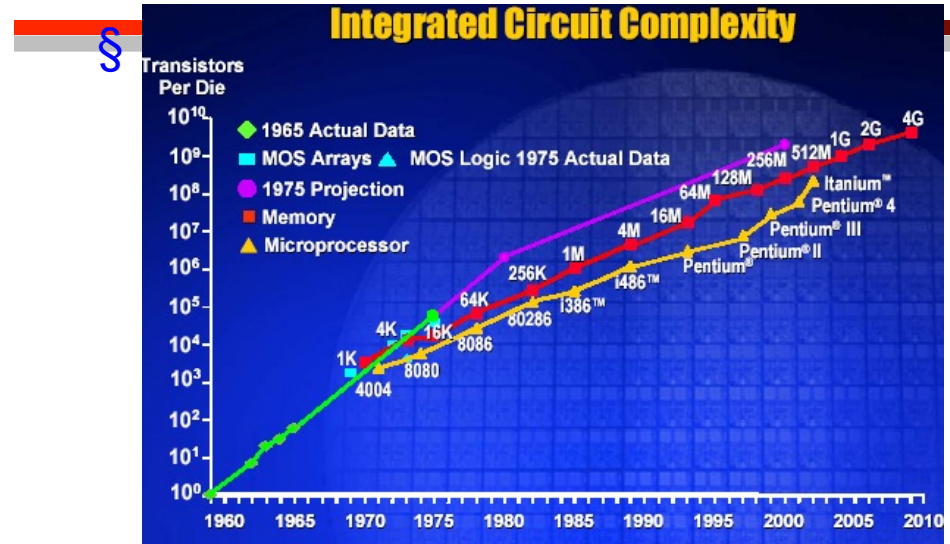
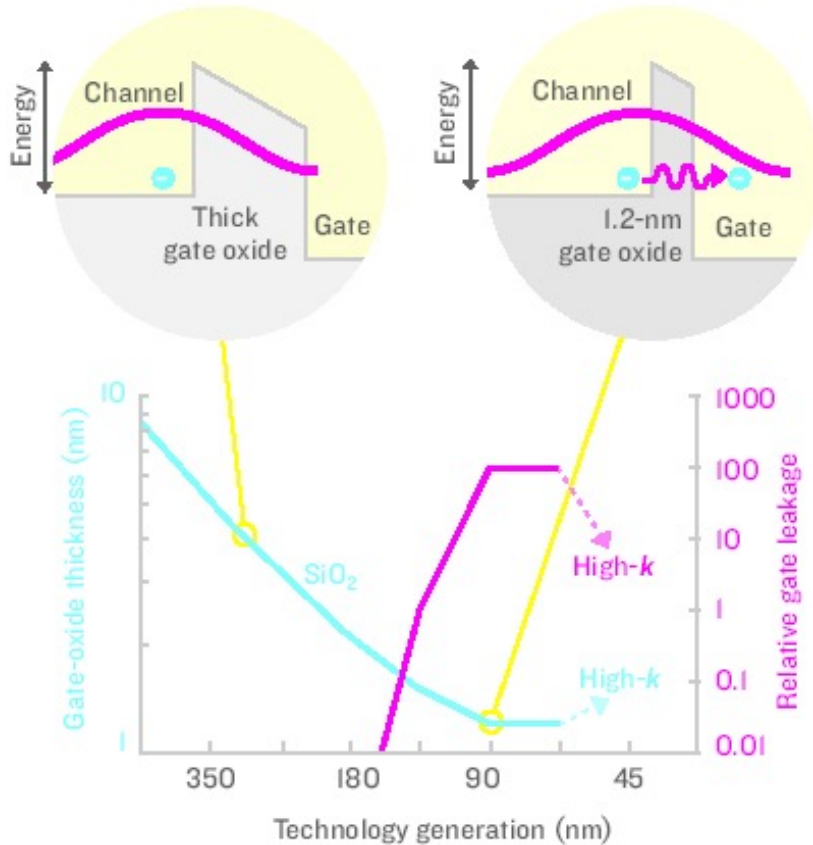


High-k is needed to enable manufacturing

## Power Consumption in Digital CMOS

- **Standby Power**
  - Power when no function is occurring.
  - Critical for battery driven.
  - Can be reduced through circuit optimization
  - Temperature dependent leakage current.
- **Active Power**
  - Switching power plus passive power.
  - Critical for high performance applications.
- **Other Sources of Power Consumption**
  - Analog and I/O power.
  - Dynamic memory refresh power.

# Motivation for High-k Gate Dielectric Materials-II



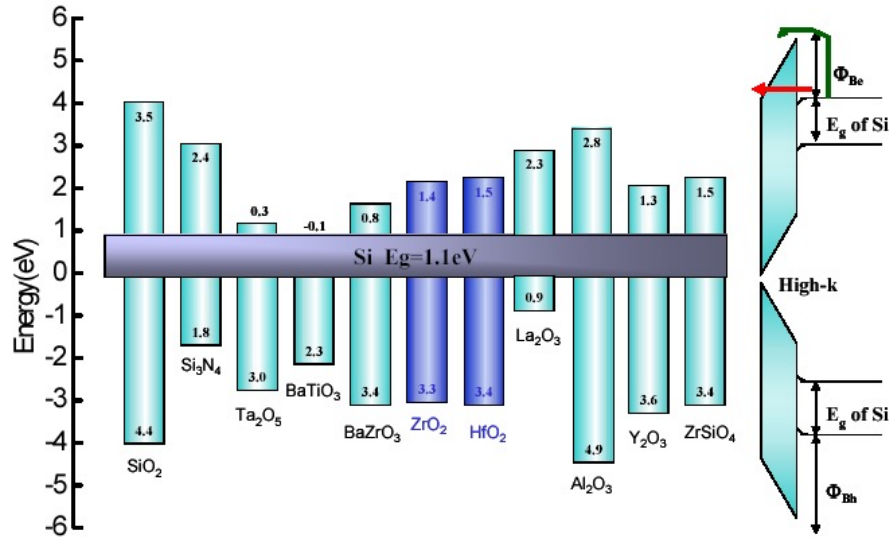
## Problems associated

- Fixed charges
- Compatibility with gate material
- Interfacial layer
- Charge trapping
- Threshold voltage instability
- Mobility degradation

‡M. Bohr et al, *IEEE Spectrum*, pp.30-35, Oct 2007

§<http://www.intel.com/technology/silicon/high-k.htm?iid=search>

# Candidates for High-k Gate Dielectric Materials



## Dielectric constant

- ▶ Most Suitable value: 7~35
- Very high : causes FIBL
- Very low : difficult to decrease I<sub>g</sub>

## Interface state/Oxide trap charge density

- ▶ Comparable with SiO<sub>2</sub> (~10<sup>10</sup> /eV.cm<sup>2</sup>)

## Thermal stability

- ▶ Endurance up to ~700°C

J Robertson, *et al* J. V. S. T. B v. 18(3), 1785 (2000)

## Hafnium Silicon Oxide

- ✓ High dielectric constant and large bandgap (E<sub>g</sub>=5.68eV)
- ✓ Thermally stable in contact with silicon.
- ✓ Close lattice matching with silicon (a= 5.11Å° a-Si=5.43Å°).
- ✓ Can be wet etched by HF acid.

# Challenges in Implementation of High-k Materials

---

- The incorporation of the high-k materials greatly decreases the leakage current, but introduces the following drawbacks:
  - Charge trapping in the dielectric
  - Lower carrier mobility
  - Threshold voltage instability
  - Soft optical phonon scattering
  - Higher low frequency  $1/f$  noise

# Low Frequency Noise: Significance

---

- Also known as  $1/f$  noise or flicker noise
- Dominant source of noise for  $f < 10\text{kHz}$
- The power spectral density is characterized by  $1/f^\delta$  with  $\delta$  between 0.7 and 1.4
- Serves as a figure-of-merit for the reliability and stability issues of semiconductor devices
- Sets the limit for the achievable dynamic range (signal to noise ratio) for baseband/LF circuits
- An important design constraint for RF and microwave circuits as it gets modulated to HFs



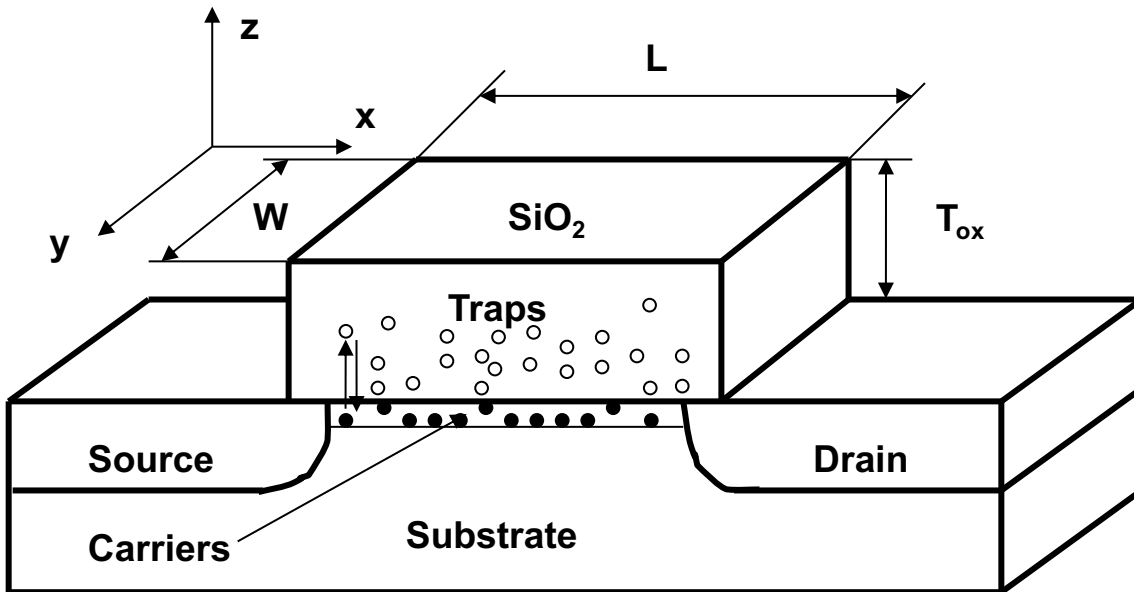
# Introduction to Low-Frequency Noise Models

- Unified Noise Model (UN Model):<sup>‡</sup>
  - Successful for native oxide MOSFETs
  - Based on dielectric trap induced correlated number and mobility fluctuation
  - Incorporated into BSIM and PSP simulators.
- Discrepancies in applying UN to high-k MOSFET devices: <sup>#</sup>
  - Extracted trap density values differ even for the same material and process.
  - Extracted trap density values show dependence on interfacial layer thickness which is not a model parameter.

<sup>‡</sup> K.K. Hung et al. IEEE Trans. Electron Devices **37**, 654 (1990).

<sup>#</sup> Z. Çelik-Butler. Proc SPIE fluctuations and noise 2006 **5844**, 177.

# Physical Mechanisms for LF Noise in MOSFETs



Channel carriers tunnel back and forth from the traps in the gate oxide causing fluctuations in the number of carriers. By virtue of Coulomb scattering from oxide trapped charges there are fluctuations in carrier mobility that cause additional noise in correlation with the carrier number fluctuations.

K. K. Hung, P. K. Ko, C. Hu, Y. C. Cheng, "A unified model for the flicker noise in metal-oxide-semiconductor field-effect transistors," *IEEE Trans. Electron Devices*, vol. 37, pp.654-665, 1990.

# Unified Flicker Noise Model: Assumptions

---

- Correlated carrier number and surface-mobility fluctuations
- Equi-energy tunneling process
- Traps in the gate dielectric trap/de-trap channel carriers
- Trapping/de-trapping phenomenon causes fluctuations in the carrier number
- Fluctuations in carrier mobility in correlation to the carrier number fluctuation
- Uniform distribution of traps in the gate dielectric with respect to distance and energy level

# The Unified Noise Model

- Correlated number and mobility fluctuation theory predicts<sup>1</sup>

$$S_{\Delta I_d}(x, f) = \left[ \frac{I_d}{\Delta N} (1 + \alpha \mu N) \right]^2 S_{\Delta N_t}(x, f) \quad \text{repulsive trap-carrier interactions}$$

- PSD for fluctuation in the trapped carriers is given by:

$$S_{\Delta N_t}(x, f) = \int_{E_v}^{E_c} \int_0^W \int_0^{T_{ox}} 4N_t(E, x, y, z) \Delta x f_t (1 - f_t) \frac{\tau(E, x, y, z)}{1 + \omega^2 \tau(E, x, y, z)^2} dz dy dE$$

- Simplifications :

$$\int_{E_v}^{E_c} N_t(E, z) f_t (1 - f_t) dE \approx kT N_t(E_{fn}, z) \quad \text{only traps at the Fermi level are active}$$

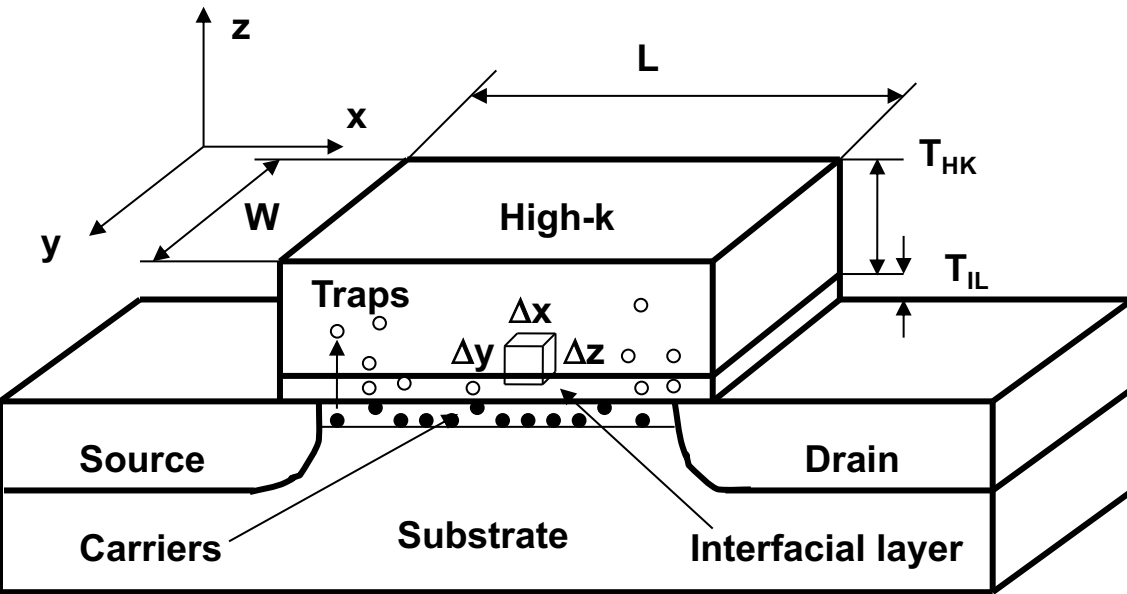
$$S_{\Delta N_t}(x, f) = N_t(E_{fn}) \frac{kTW\Delta x}{\gamma f} \quad \text{uniform trap density/ infinitely thick dielectric}$$

- The total drain current noise power becomes

$$S_{I_d}(f) = \frac{1}{L^2} \int_0^L S_{\Delta I_d}(x, f) \Delta x dx = \frac{kT I_d^2}{\gamma f W L^2} \int_0^L N_t(E_{fn}) \left[ \frac{1}{N} + \alpha \mu \right]^2 dx$$

- The resultant noise is always pure 1/f

# Noise Mechanisms in High-k Gate Stack



Channel carriers tunnel into the traps in high-k and interfacial layer causing fluctuations in carrier number and mobility in a correlated way.

The uniform dielectric trap density assumption does not hold.

The different trap profiles and various physical properties of high-k/interfacial layer materials like physical thicknesses, barrier heights etc. affect the  $1/f$  noise.

# Why Doesn't UFN Model Work for High- $\kappa$ MOSFETs?

- **High- $\kappa$  gate MOSFETs differ in many respects from their native oxide ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ) counter-parts, for which the Unified Model was developed :**
  - **Higher trap densities compared to  $\text{SiO}_2$ .<sup>1</sup>**
  - **Multilayered gate stack<sup>2</sup> compared to single layer of  $\text{SiO}_2$ .**
  - **Spatial<sup>3</sup> and energy dependence<sup>4</sup> of active trap densities.**
  - **Carrier mobility degradation by remote phonon scattering<sup>5</sup>.**

<sup>1</sup> B. Min; et al. IEEE Trans Electron Dev **51**, 1679 (2004).

<sup>2</sup> G.D. Wilk; et al. J Appl Phys **89**, 5243 (2001).

<sup>3</sup> Z. Celik-Butler; et al. IEEE Trans Electron Dev **35**, 1651 (1988)

<sup>4</sup> P. Srinivasan; et al. J Electrochem Soc **153**, G819 (2006).

<sup>5</sup> M. V. Fischetti; et al. J Appl Phys **90**, 4587 (2001)

## The Multi-Stack Unified Noise (MSUN) Model: Assumptions<sup>♦</sup>

---

- **A new flicker noise model for high- $\kappa$  dielectric MOSFETs**
- **Based on the correlated number and surface mobility fluctuation model (Unified Flicker Noise Model)**
- **Equi-energy tunneling of charge carriers in the dielectric**
- **Scalable with regards to the high- $\kappa$ /interfacial layer physical thicknesses**
- **Takes different dielectric material properties into account**
- **Considers non-uniform distribution of traps in the high- $\kappa$  /interfacial layer with respect to distance and energy level**

♦ T. Morshed, M. S. Rahman *et al.* *IEDM Tech. Dig.*, 2007, pp. 561-564.

# Total Noise

Power spectral density of the mean square fluctuations in the number of occupied traps for high-k/interfacial layer stack

$$S_{\Delta N_t}(x, f) = \int_{E_v}^{E_c} \int_0^W \int_0^{T_{IL}} 4N_{tIL}(E, x, y, z) \Delta x f_t (1 - f_t) \frac{\tau(E, x, y, z)}{1 + \omega^2 \tau^2(E, x, y, z)} dE dy dz$$

$$+ \int_{E_v}^{E_c} \int_0^W \int_{T_{IL}}^{T_{HK} + T_{IL}} 4N_{tHK}(E, x, y, z) \Delta x f_t (1 - f_t) \frac{\tau(E, x, y, z)}{1 + \omega^2 \tau^2(E, x, y, z)} dE dy dz$$

Z. Çelik-Butler, "Different noise mechanisms in high-k dielectric gate stacks," in *Proc. SPIE—Noise and Fluctuations*, pp. 177–184, 2005.

B. Min, S. P. Devireddy, Z. Çelik-Butler, A. Shanware, L. Colombo, K. Green, J. J. Chambers, M. R. Visokay, and A. L. P. Rotondaro, "Impact of interfacial layer on low-frequency noise of HfSiON dielectric MOSFETs," *IEEE Trans. Electron Devices*, vol. 53, pp. 1459–1466, 2006.

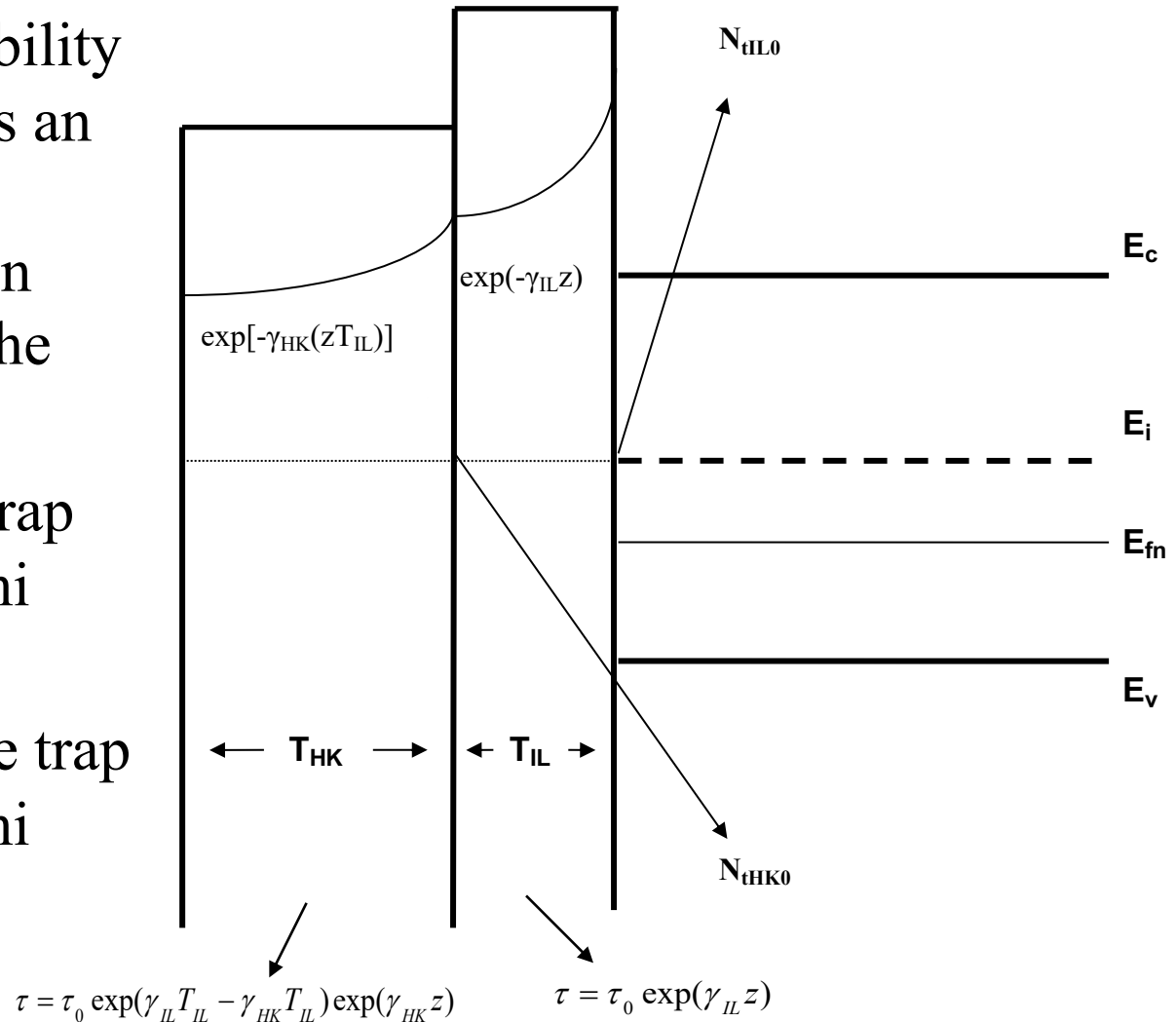


# Typical Band Diagram for High-k Gate Stack

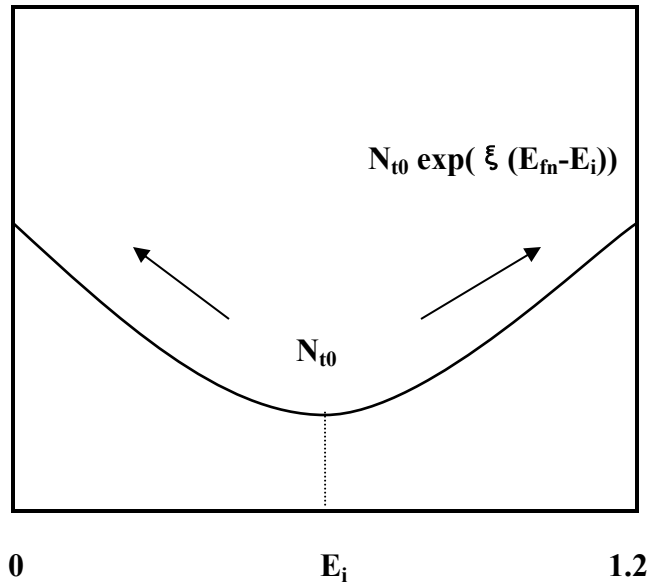
Carrier tunneling probability into the gate dielectric is an exponentially decaying function with attenuation rates corresponding to the dielectric material.

$N_{tIL0}$  – IL/Si interface trap density at intrinsic Fermi level

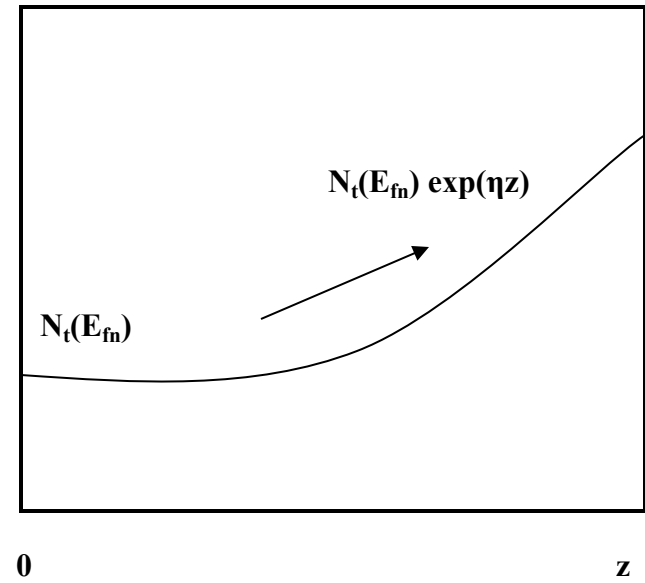
$N_{tHK0}$  – HK/IL interface trap density at intrinsic Fermi level



# Trap Density Profile in SiO<sub>2</sub>



$$N_{t0} \exp(\xi(E_{fn} - E_i)) = N_t(E_{fn})$$



$N_{t0}$  is the trap density at the Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> interface and intrinsic Fermi level. Trap density increases exponentially towards the band edges at a rate defined by parameter  $\xi$ .

$N_t(E_{fn})$  is the trap density at the Si/SiO<sub>2</sub> interface and quasi-Fermi level. Trap density increases exponentially into the gate dielectric.

$$N_{iLL}(E_{fn}, z) = N_{iLL0} \exp[\xi_{iLL}(E_{fn} - E_i) + (q\lambda_{iLL} V_{gLL} / T_{iLL})z + \eta_{iLL} z] \quad N_{iHK}(E_{fn}, z) = N_{iHK0} \exp[\xi_{iHK}(E_{fn} - E_i) + (q\lambda_{iHK} V_{gHK} / T_{iHK})z + \eta_{iHK} z]$$

Z. Çelik-Butler, and T. Y. Hsiang, "Spectral dependence of 1/f noise on gate bias in n-MOSFETs," *Solid State Electron.*, vol. 30, pp. 419-423, 1987.

# MSUN Noise Model Simplification

---

- $f_t(1-f_t)$  ensures that only traps within few  $kT$  of  $E_{fn}$  contribute to fluctuations.
- Integral along the channel (x) approximated.
- The shape of the spectral density is modified from pure  $1/f$  through functional form of  $N_t$ .
- Contribution to fluctuations from the high-k dielectric layer is much higher than that from the interfacial layer.

# MSUN Noise Model Expressions

After appropriate substitution of various parameters, the power spectral density of the mean square fluctuations can be written as

$$S_{\Delta N_i}(x, f) = \frac{X}{\omega} \frac{4kTW\Delta x}{\omega} \left[ \frac{N_{iIL0} \exp[\xi_{iL}(E_{fn} - E_i)]}{\gamma_{iL} (\omega\tau_0)^{(\beta_{iL}/\gamma_{iL})}} \int_{\omega\tau_0}^{\omega\tau_0 \exp(\gamma_{iL}T_{iL})} \frac{u^{(\beta_{iL}/\gamma_{iL})}}{1+u^2} du + \frac{N_{iHK0} \exp[\xi_{iH}(E_{fn} - E_i)]}{\gamma_{iH} [\omega\tau_0 \exp\{(\gamma_{iL} - \gamma_{iH})T_{iL}\}]^{(\beta_{iH}/\gamma_{iH})}} \int_{\omega\tau_0 \exp(\gamma_{iL}T_{iL})}^{\omega\tau_0 \exp(\gamma_{iH}T_{iH} + \gamma_{iL}T_{iL})} \frac{u^{(\beta_{iH}/\gamma_{iH})}}{1+u^2} du \right]$$

Conduction Band Offset with Si

Tunneling Coefficients

$$\begin{cases} \gamma_{iL} = \frac{4\pi}{h} \sqrt{2m_{iL}^* \Phi_{iL}} \\ \gamma_{iH} = \frac{4\pi}{h} \sqrt{2m_{iH}^* \Phi_{iH}} \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} \beta_{iL} = [(q\lambda_{iL} V_{gIL} / T_{iL}) + \eta_{iL}] \\ \beta_{iH} = [(q\lambda_{iH} V_{gHK} / T_{iH}) + \eta_{iH}] \end{cases}$$

# The MSUN Model Expressions

$$S_{\Delta N_i} = 4kTW\Delta x \left[ \frac{N_{i0IL} \exp[\xi_{IL} (E_{fn} - E_i)]}{\gamma_{IL} \tau_{0IL}^{(\beta_{IL} V_{IL} + \eta_{IL})/\gamma_{IL}} (2\pi f)^{1+(\beta_{IL} V_{IL} + \eta_{IL})/\gamma_{IL}}} \int_{2\pi f \tau_{0IL}}^{2\pi f \tau_{0IL} \exp(\gamma_{IL} T_{IL})} \frac{u_{IL}^{(\beta_{IL} V_{IL} + \eta_{IL})/\gamma_{IL}}}{1 + u_{IL}^2} du_{IL} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{N_{i0HK} \exp[\xi_{HK} (E_{fn} - E_i)]}{\gamma_{HK} \tau_{0HK}^{(\beta_{HK} V_{HK} + \eta_{HK})/\gamma_{HK}} (2\pi f)^{1+(\beta_{HK} V_{HK} + \eta_{HK})/\gamma_{HK}}} \int_{2\pi f \tau_{0HK}}^{2\pi f \tau_{0HK} \exp(\gamma_{HK} T_{HK})} \frac{u_{HK}^{(\beta_{HK} V_{HK} + \eta_{HK})/\gamma_{HK}}}{1 + u_{HK}^2} du_{HK} \right]$$

$$\omega \tau_{IL} = u_{IL}$$

$$\omega \tau_{HK} = u_{HK}$$

- The final expression of  $S_{id}(A^2/Hz)$**

$$S_{\Delta N_i} \rightarrow S_{\Delta I_d}(x, f) = \left[ \frac{I_d}{\Delta N} (1 + \alpha \mu N) \right]^2 S_{\Delta N_i}(x, f) \quad \frac{1}{L^2} \int_0^L S_{\Delta I_d}(x, f) \Delta x dx \Rightarrow$$

$$S_{I_d}(f) = \frac{4kTI_d^2}{WL^2} \int_0^L \left( \alpha \mu_{eff} + \frac{1}{N(x)} \right)^2 \left[ \frac{N_{i0IL} \exp[\xi_{IL} (E_F - E_i)]}{\gamma_{IL} \tau_{0IL}^{(\beta_{IL} V_{IL} + \eta_{IL})/\gamma_{IL}} (2\pi f)^{1+(\beta_{IL} V_{IL} + \eta_{IL})/\gamma_{IL}}} \int_{2\pi f \tau_{0IL}}^{2\pi f \tau_{0IL} \exp(\gamma_{IL} IL)} \frac{u_{IL}^{(\beta_{IL} V_{IL} + \eta_{IL})/\gamma_{IL}}}{1 + u_{IL}^2} du_{IL} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{N_{i0HK} \exp[\xi_{HK} (E_F - E_i)]}{\gamma_{HK} \tau_{0HK}^{(\beta_{HK} V_{HK} + \eta_{HK})/\gamma_{HK}} (2\pi f)^{1+(\beta_{HK} V_{HK} + \eta_{HK})/\gamma_{HK}}} \int_{2\pi f \tau_{0HK}}^{2\pi f \tau_{0HK} \exp(\gamma_{HK} HK)} \frac{u_{HK}^{(\beta_{HK} V_{HK} + \eta_{HK})/\gamma_{HK}}}{1 + u_{HK}^2} du_{HK} \right] dx$$

- PSD  $\sim 1/f^\delta$ , where  $\delta = 1 + (\beta V + \eta)/\gamma$ , noise spectral form depends on trap distribution and material properties of individual dielectric layers.**

# MSUN Model Expressions (con.)

Power spectral density for local current fluctuations

$$S_{\Delta I_d}(x, f) = \left[ \frac{I_d}{W\Delta x} \left( \frac{1}{N(x)} \pm \alpha_{sc} \mu_{eff} \right) \right]^2 S_{\Delta N_t}(x, f)$$

Total noise power spectral density

$$S_{I_d}(f) = \frac{1}{L^2} \int_0^L S_{\Delta I_d}(x, f) \Delta x dx$$

# MOSFET Specifications

- **TiN/HfSiON NMOS with same high-k physical thickness and different process split.**

<b>Dielectrics</b>	<b>EOT(nm)</b>	<b>Nitrogen</b>	<b>W/L</b>
2nm HfSiON			
10% SiO <sub>2</sub>	1.06	Plasma	10/0.25
10% SiO <sub>2</sub>	1.03	Thermal	10/0.25
10% SiO <sub>2</sub>	1.17	None (HfSiO)	10/0.25

\*

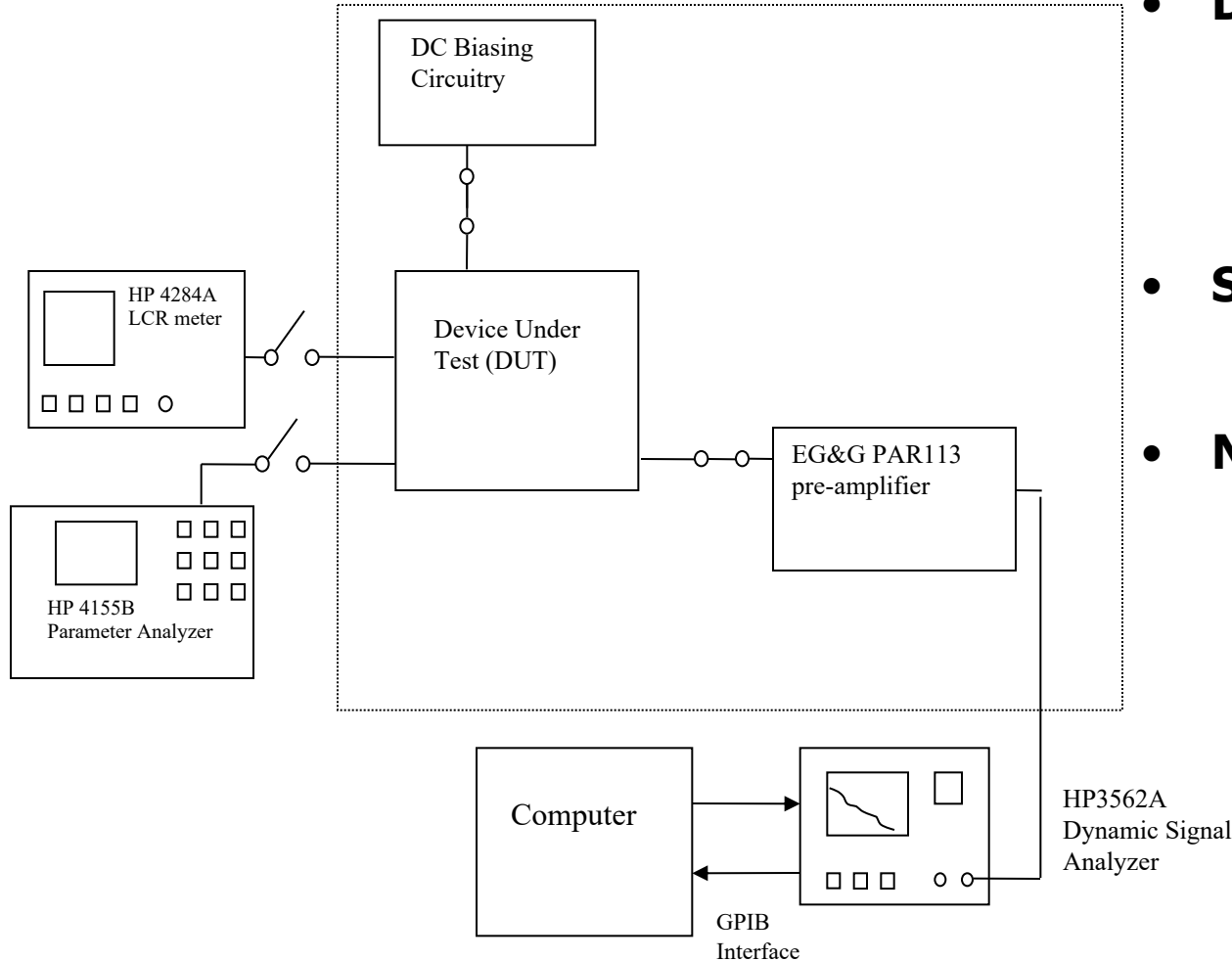
**None:** ALD 2nm HfSiO (10% SiO<sub>2</sub>)

**Plasma Nitridation:** Commercially available plasma nitridation chamber. Nitrogen content was controlled by processing time.

**Thermal Nitridation:** Nitridation was performed in NH<sub>3</sub> ambient. Nitrogen content was controlled by increasing NH<sub>3</sub> anneal temperature.

\* M.A. Quevedo-Lopez et al., IEDM, p425, 2005

# Noise Measurement Set-up



- **DC Characterization**
  - Threshold voltage
  - Conductance
  - Transconductance
  - Gate leakage
- **Split C-V Measurement**
  - Inversion charge
  - Mobility
- **Noise Characterization**
  - Oxide trap density
  - Coulomb scattering parameter



# MSUN Model Parameter List

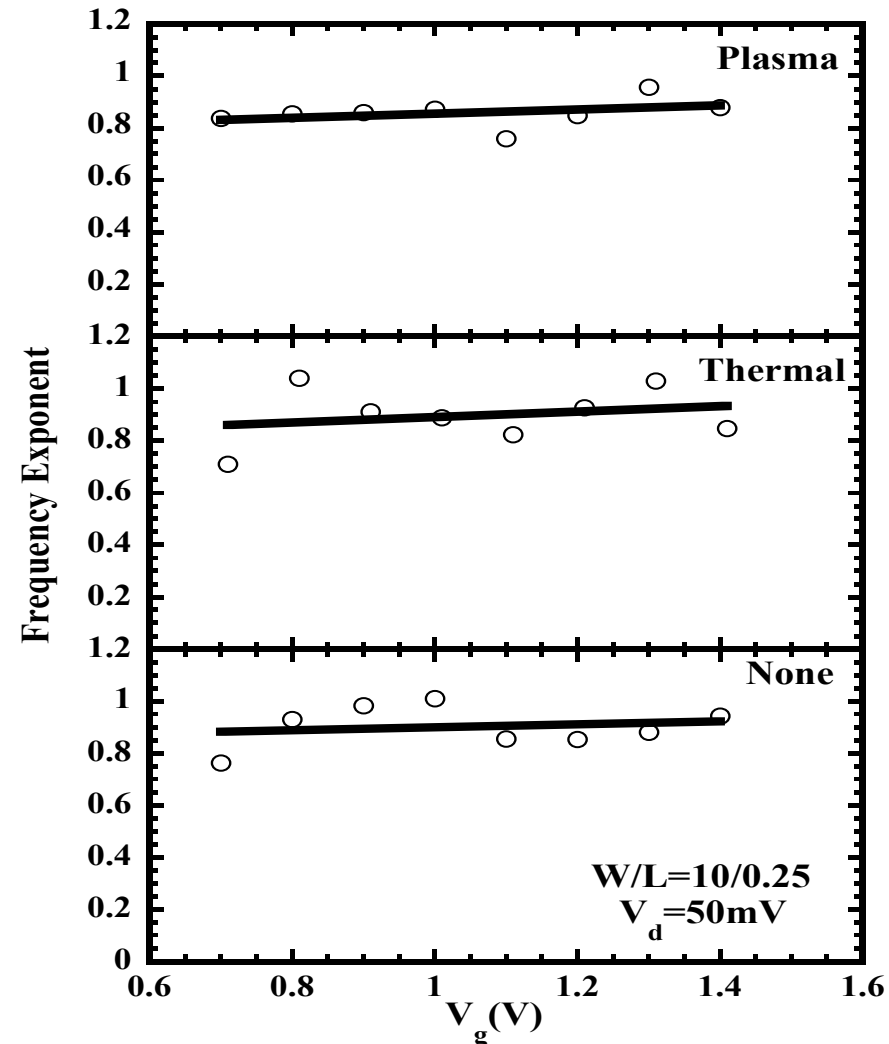
High-k dielectric layer parameters		Interfacial layer parameters	
$N_{tHK0}$	Mid-gap trap density at the IL/high-k interface	$N_{tIL0}$	Mid-gap trap density at the substrate/IL interface
$\mu_{c0}$	Mobility fluctuation coefficient	$\mu_{c0}$	Mobility fluctuation coefficient
$\lambda_{HK}$	Band bending parameter corresponding to the high-k layer	$\lambda_{IL}$	Band bending parameter corresponding to the IL
$\eta_{HK}$	Spatial trap distribution parameter for the high-k layer	$\eta_{IL}$	Spatial trap distribution parameter for the interfacial layer
$\xi_{HK}$	Parameter for the energy distribution of traps in the high-k dielectric layer	$\xi_{IL}$	Parameter for the energy distribution of traps in the interfacial layer

- If the published trap density values are chosen for  $N_{tIL0}$  and  $N_{tHK0}$  the noise contribution of the interfacial layer is insignificant when compared to the total device noise. The interfacial layer parameters do not play any effective role in the data fitting
- For the high-k layer, as discussed earlier,  $\lambda_{HK} = \xi_{HK}$ , so the number of effective fitting parameters reduce to 4.

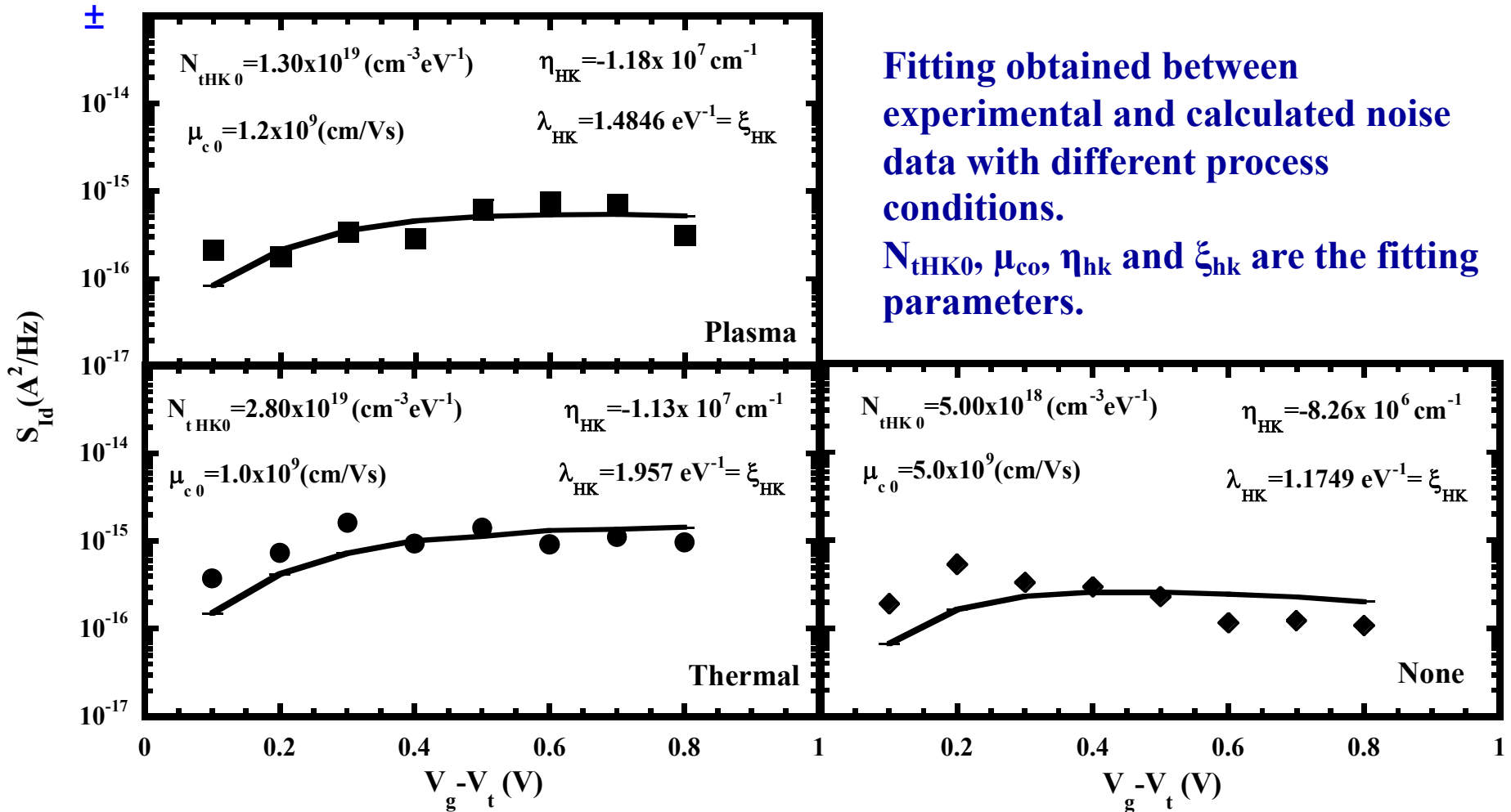
# Parameter Extraction

The frequency exponent  $\delta$  for the 1-100Hz region is plotted against the applied gate bias.

A straight line fit is made to the data from which  $\eta_{HK}$ ,  $\xi_{HK}$  are extracted



# MSUN Model Compatibility-I

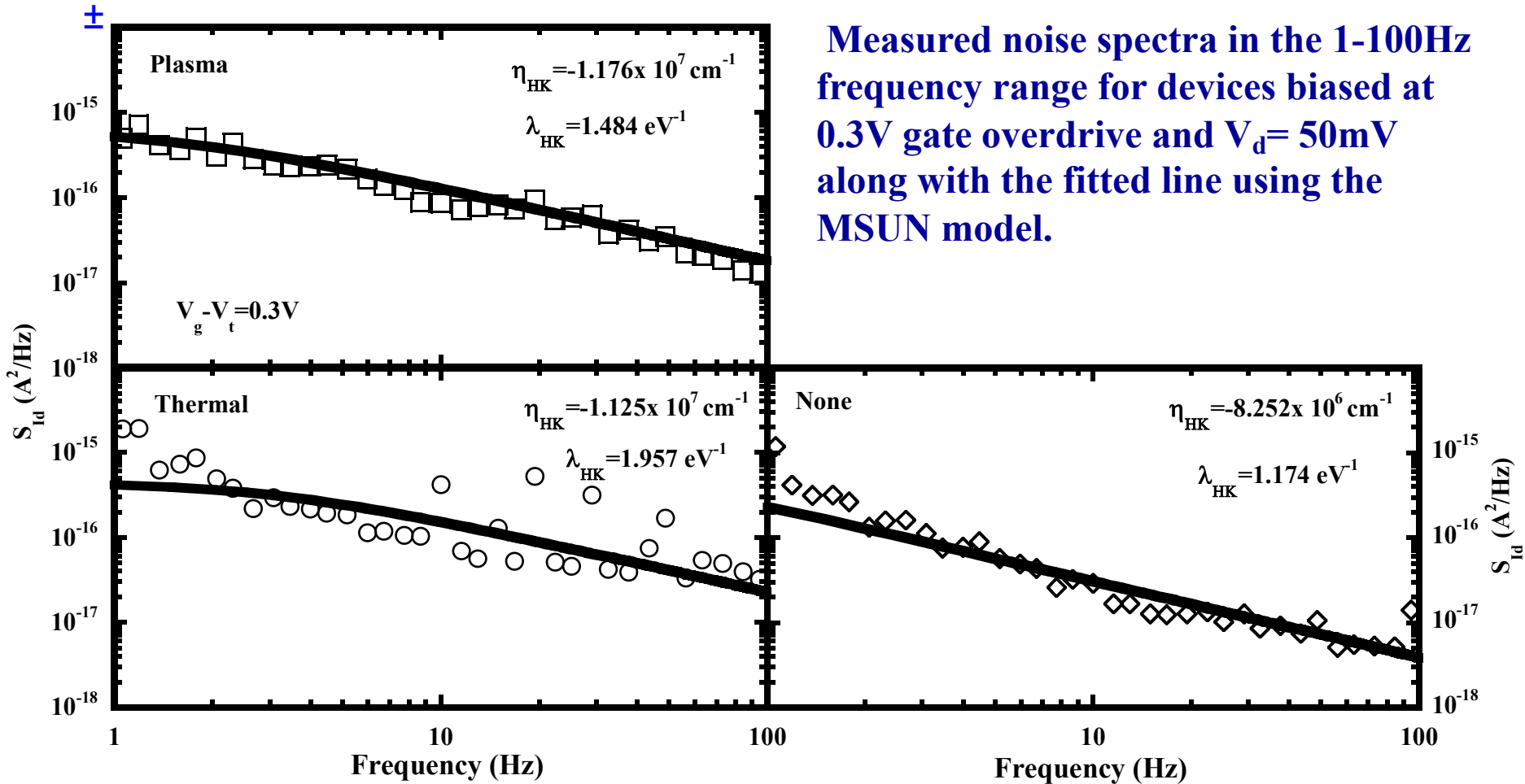


Fitting obtained between experimental and calculated noise data with different process conditions.

$N_{tHK0}$ ,  $\mu_{c0}$ ,  $\eta_{hk}$  and  $\xi_{hk}$  are the fitting parameters.

<sup>±</sup>M S Rahman et al, *JAP*, 103, 033706 (2008)

# MSUN Model Compatibility - II

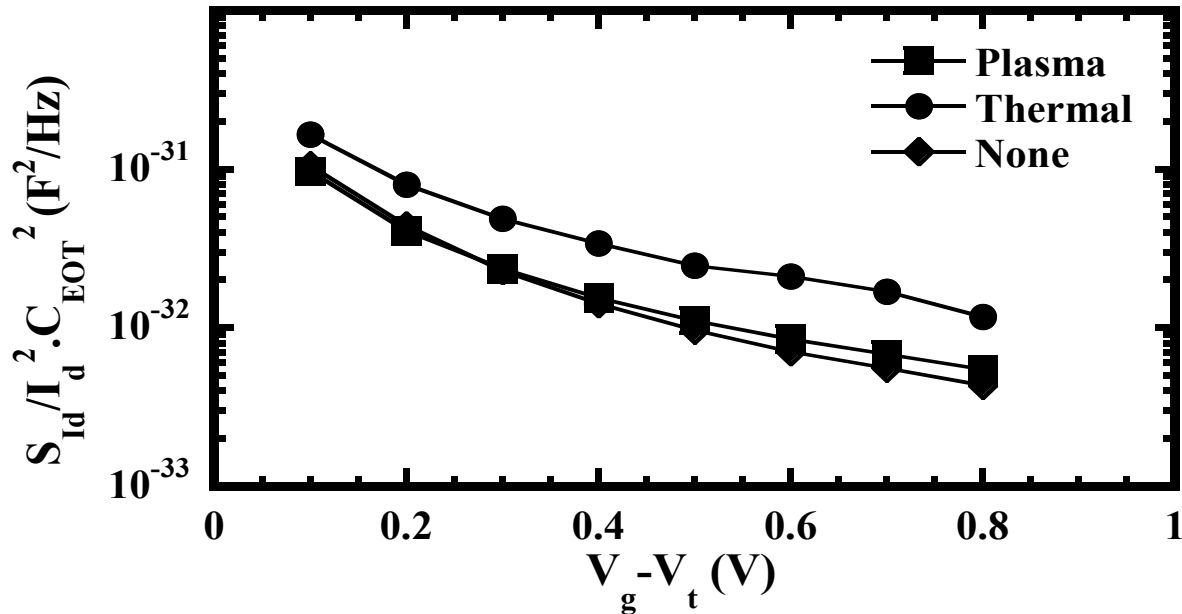


Measured noise spectra in the 1-100Hz frequency range for devices biased at 0.3V gate overdrive and  $V_d = 50\text{mV}$  along with the fitted line using the MSUN model.

± M S Rahman et al, *JAP*, 103, 033706 (2008)

# Effect of Processing on $1/f$ Noise

±



Thermal nitrided sample shows highest  $1/f$  noise than that of Plasma and HfSiO sample.

The expression for power spectral density of local current fluctuation  $S_{\Delta I_d}(x, f)$  in channel length  $\Delta x$  and width  $W$  for high-k gate oxide devices is given by

§

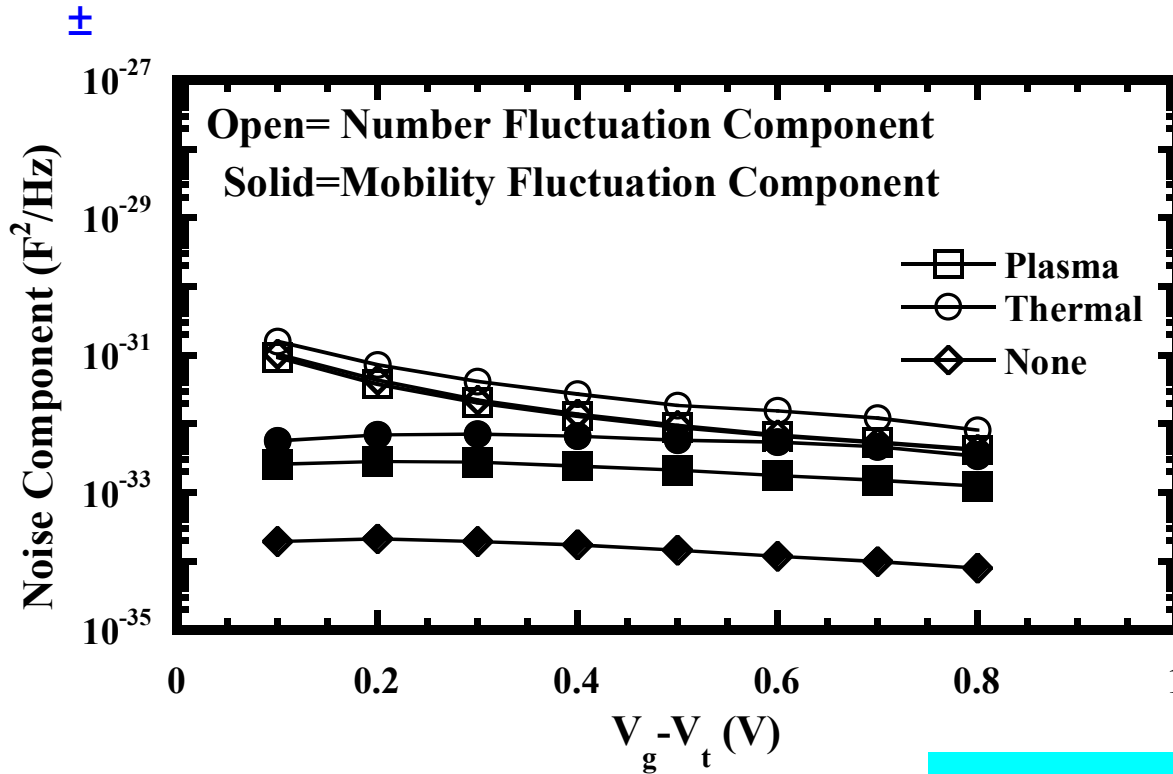
$$S_{\Delta I_d}(x, f) = 4kTW\Delta x \left[ \frac{I_d}{W\Delta x} \left( \frac{1}{N(x)} \pm \alpha_{sc} \mu_{eff} \right) \right]^2 \left[ \left( \int_0^{T_{HK}} N_{tHK}(E_{fn}, z) \frac{\tau(z)}{1 + \omega^2 \tau^2(z)} dz \right) \right]^2$$

$$N_{tHK}(E, z) = N_{tHK0} \exp \left[ \xi_{HK} (E - E_i) + (q\lambda_{HK} (V_g - V(x)) / T_{HK}) z + \eta_{HK} z \right]$$

§ T Morshed et al *IEDM 2007* pp.581

± M S Rahman et al, *ICNF, Japan, 2007*

# Effect of Processing on Number & Mobility Fluctuation Components



➤ Mobility fluctuation components are two to three orders of magnitude lower than number fluctuation components.

➤ Number fluctuation components are not affected by nitrogen incorporation method.

➤ Mobility fluctuation components are affected by the nitridation method.

$$S_{\Delta_d}(x, f) = 4kTW\Delta x \left[ \frac{I_d}{W\Delta x} \left( \frac{1}{N(x)} \right) \right]^2 \left[ \int_0^{T_{HK}} N_{iHK}(E_{fn}, z) \frac{\tau(z)}{1 + \omega^2 \tau^2(z)} dz \right]$$

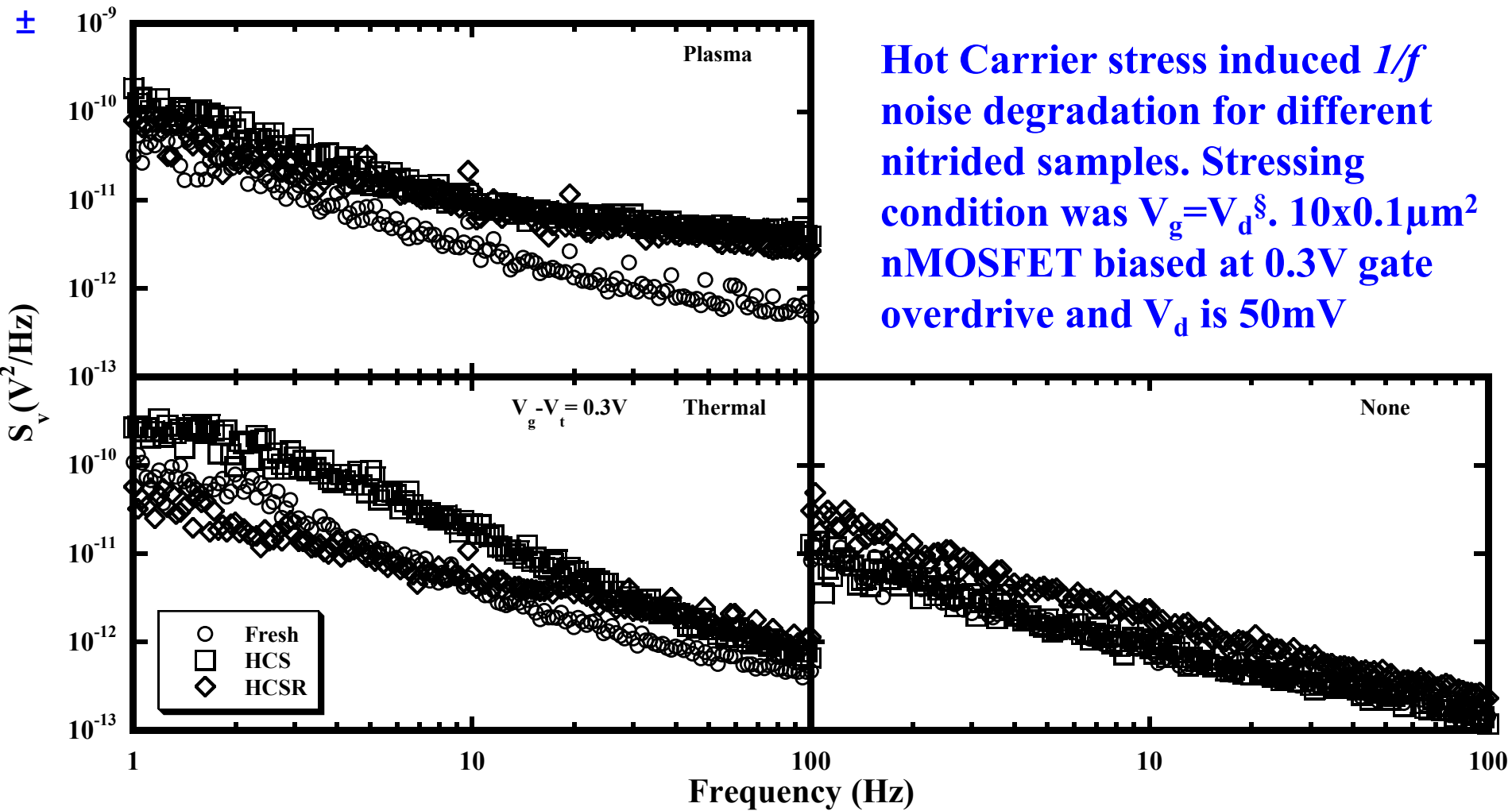
$$S_{\Delta_d}(x, f) = 4kTW\Delta x \left[ \frac{I_d}{W\Delta x} (\alpha_{sc} \mu_{eff}) \right]^2 \left[ \int_0^{T_{HK}} N_{iHK}(E_{fn}, z) \frac{\tau(z)}{1 + \omega^2 \tau^2(z)} dz \right]$$

Mobility fluctuation component for  $\Delta x$  channel length

Number fluctuation component for  $\Delta x$  channel length

± M S Rahman et al, *JAP*, 103, 033706 (2008)

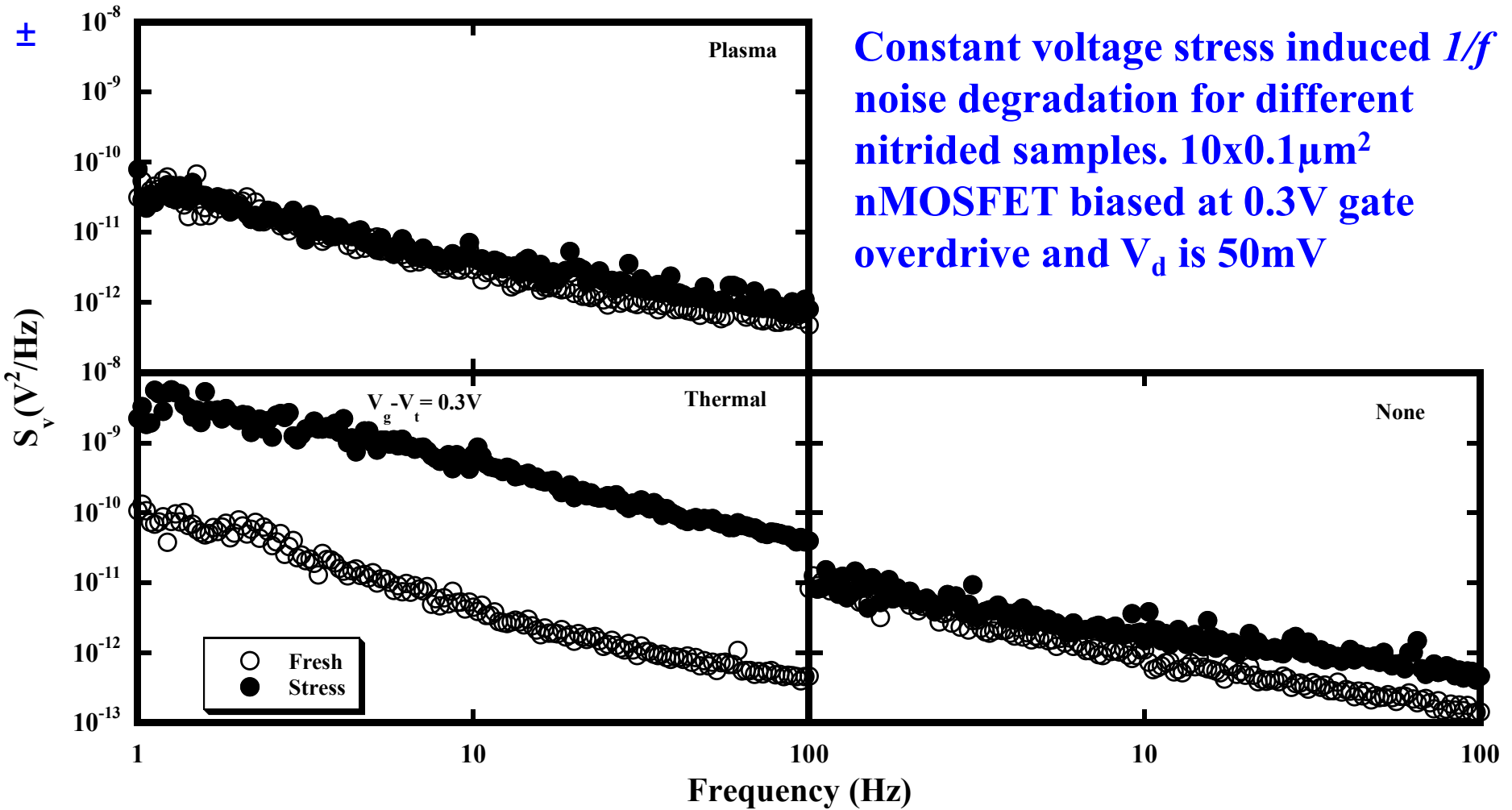
# Hot Carrier Stress Induced Noise Degradation



§B. H. Lee et al., *Proc. IRPS*, p.691, 2004

±M S Rahman et al, *ICNF*, Italy, 2009

# Constant Voltage Stress Induced Noise Degradation

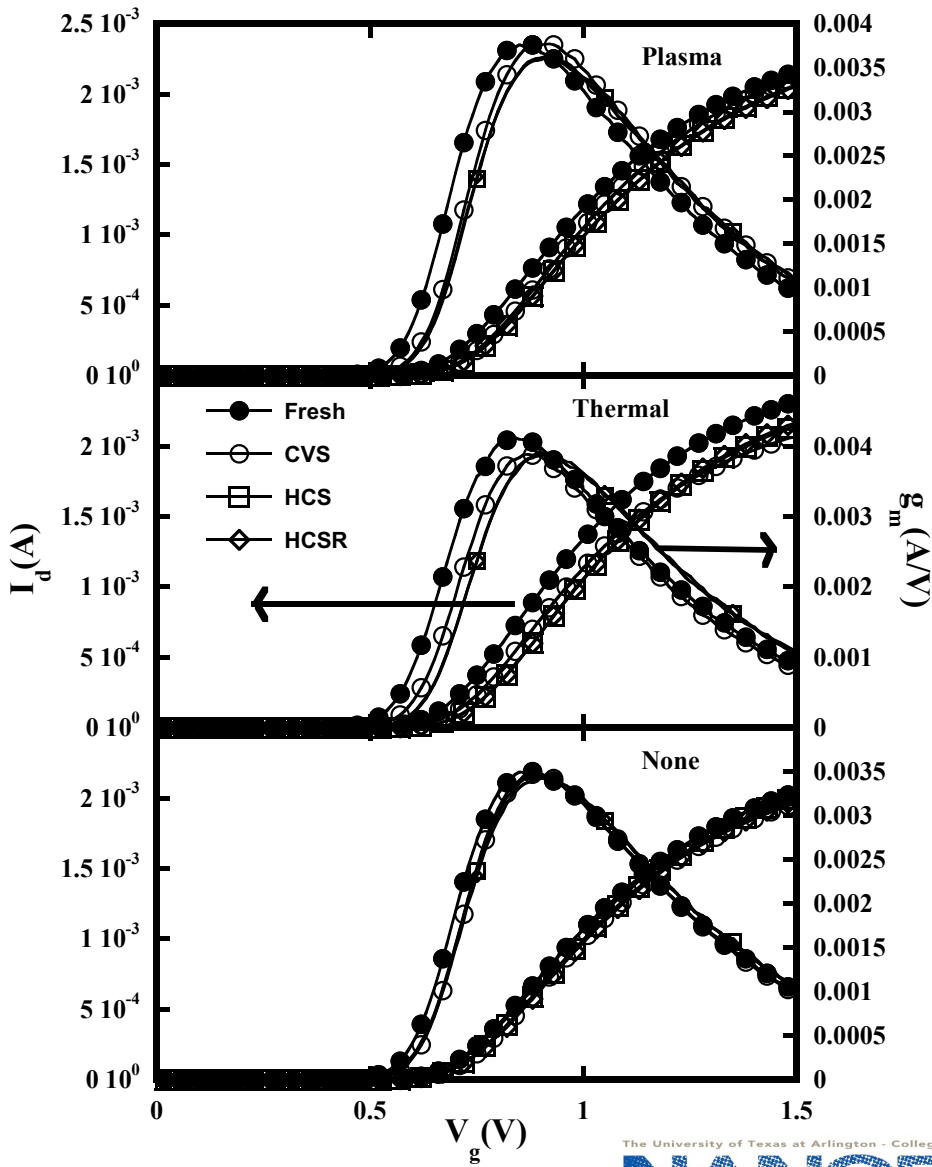


±M S Rahman et al, *ICNF*, Italy, 2009



# Drain Current and Transconductance Characteristics After HCS and CVS

±



➤ Due to high thermal budget for thermally nitrated sample, most of the nitrogen is driven to the HK/Si interface.

➤ Si-N bond at the HK/Si interface is responsible for negatively impacting the carrier mobility, which in turn reduces the transconductance value in thermally nitrated sample than that of plasma and HfSiO sample.

± M S Rahman et al, *IEEE TDMR*, vol. 9, no. 2, p. 203, 2009

# Summary

---

- **Correlated number and mobility fluctuation mechanism are the main reason for  $1/f$  noise in high-k MOSFETs.**
- **Noise characteristics of different nitrided devices agreed well with MSUN model.**
- **Different nitridation techniques affect the  $1/f$  noise characteristics as well as device reliability.**
- **Plasma nitridation shows lower  $1/f$  noise and less stress induced noise degradation than that of thermal nitrided sample.**
- **Due to better control of nitrogen profile across the bulk and high-k/Si interface, plasma nitridation led to lower levels of mobility fluctuations than thermal nitrided sample.**
- **Higher mobility fluctuation components in thermal nitrided sample might be explained by the increased number of Coulomb scattering sites, caused by Si-N bond at the interface due to high thermal budget.**

# Publications

## *Journal Papers*

- ◆ **M. Shahriar Rahman**, T. Morshed, Z. Celik-Butler, S. Prasad Devireddy, M. A. Quevedo-Lopez, A. Shanware, and L. Colombo, “Effect of Nitrogen Incorporation on 1/f Noise performance of MOSFETs with HfSiON Dielectric” *J. Appl. Phys.*, **103**, 033706,(2008).
- ◆ **M. Shahriar Rahman**, T. Morshed, Z. Celik-Butler, M. A. Quevedo-Lopez, A. Shanware, and L. Colombo, “Hot carrier and constant voltage stress induced low frequency noise in nitrided high-k dielectric MOSFETs ” *IEEE Transactions on Materials and Device Reliability* vol. 9, no. 2, p 203, June 2009.

## *Conference Papers*

- ◆ **M. Shahriar Rahman**, Zeynep Celik-Butler, M. A. Quevedo-Lopez, Ajit Shanware, and Luigi Colombo, “ Low Frequency Noise Degradation in 45nm High-k MOSFETs due to Hot Carrier and Constant Voltage Stress” accepted at *20th International Conference on Noise and Fluctuation; ICNF 2009*, pp.263-266.
- ◆ T. Morshed, S. P. Devireddy, **M. S. Rahman**, Z. Celik-Butler, H-H. Tseng, A. Zlotnicka, A. Shanware, K. Green, J. J. Chambers, M. R. Visokay, M. A. Quevedo-Lopez, and L. Colombo, “A new model for 1/f noise in high-k MOSFETs,” in *IEDM Tech. Dig.*, 2007, pp. 561-564.
- ◆ **M. Shahriar Rahman**, Tanvir Morshed, Zeynep Celik-Butler, Siva Prasad Devireddy, M. A. Quevedo-Lopez, Ajit Shanware, and Luigi Colombo, “ Effect of Nitrogen Incorporation Methods on 1/f Noise and Mobility Characteristics in HfSiON NMOSFETs” *19th International Conference on Noise and Fluctuation; ICNF 2007*, pp.25-28
- ◆ T. Morshed, Z. Celik-Butler, S. Prasad Devireddy, **M. Shahriar Rahman**, A. Shanware, K. Green, J J Chambers, M R Visokay, and L. Colombo, “ Variable Temperature Characteristics Effect of high pressure deuterium annealing on electrical and reliability characteristics on MOSFET with high-k gate dielectric ” *19th International Conference on Noise and Fluctuation; ICNF 2007*, pp.281-284.
- ◆ Z. Celik-Butler, S. Prasad Devireddy, T. Morshed, **M. S. Rahman**, H-H Tseng, P. Tobin, and A. Zlotnicka, “ Low Frequency Noise Characterization of TaSiN/HfO<sub>2</sub> MOSFETs Below Room Temperature” *19th International Conference on Noise and Fluctuation; ICNF 2007*, pp.19-24

# Acknowledgements

---

- **UTA NanoFAB Facility**
- **SRC- 2004-VJ-1193**
- **Thanks to**
  - **Luigi Colombo, Texas Instruments**

---

*Thank you*



# Back-up slides

# Role of Nitrogen in HfSiO

---

- **Reduction in impurity (B, P) & oxygen diffusion.**
  - **Reduction in leakage current.**
  - **Increased crystallization temperature.**
  - **Increased breakdown voltage & enhance device scaling.**
- 
- **Higher interface trap density & fixed charge.**
  - **Increased hysteresis & BTI.**