

Advanced technologies for heterodyne radio astronomy instrumentation



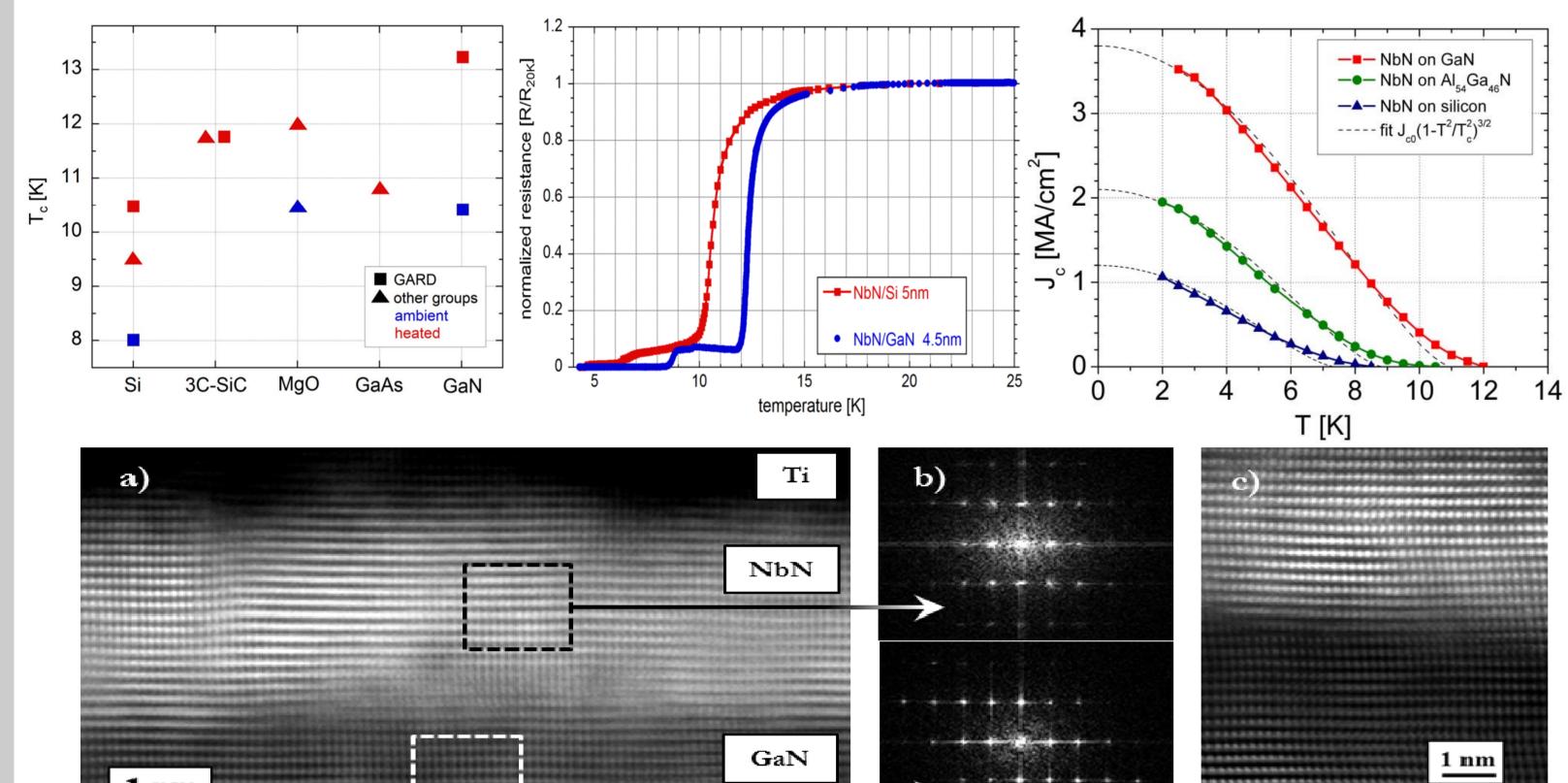
Group for Advanced Receiver Development, **Chalmers University of Technology (Sweden)**

Ultra-thin NbN on GaN buffer-layer

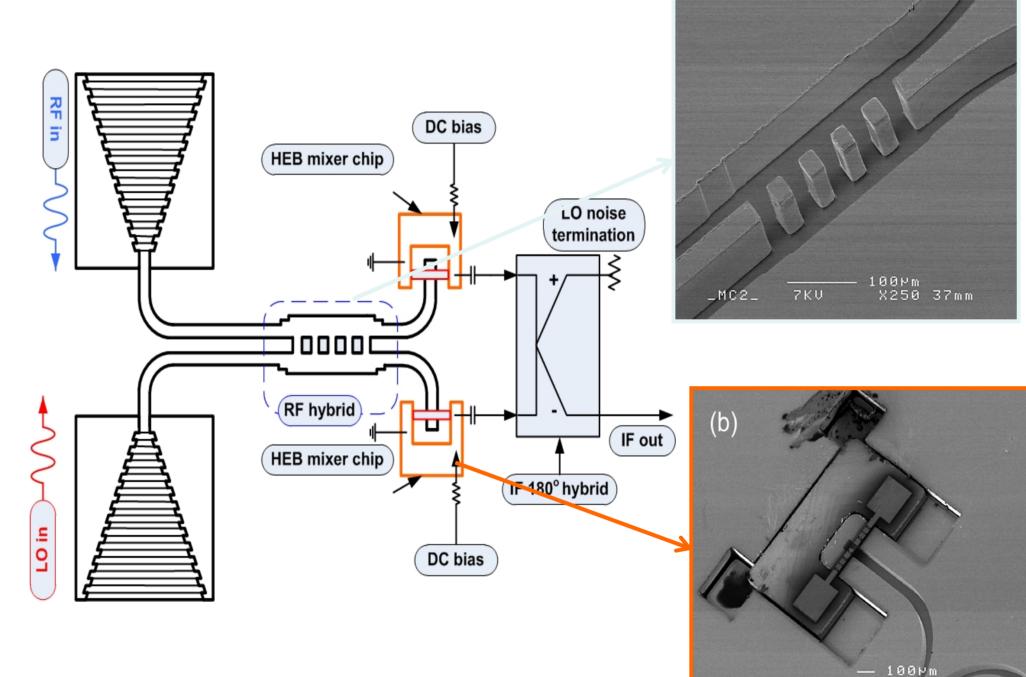
Balanced NbN on GaN HEB receiver

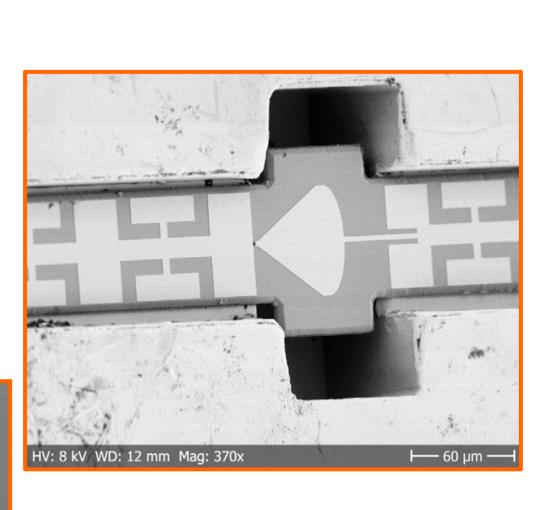
Development of in-house reactive DC magnetron sputtering process yielding high quality films:

- Epitaxial growth
- $Tc > 13K, Jc > 3.5 MA/cm^2$
- Possibility to grow epitaxial NbN for ambient temperature deposition



- Based on NbN grown in-house on GaN buffer layers
- Combination of All-metal waveguide micromachining and Si DRIE etching
- Co-design of chips and waveguide circuits
- Self-alignment of chips to waveguide structures (better than 2 micrometer placement accuracy)



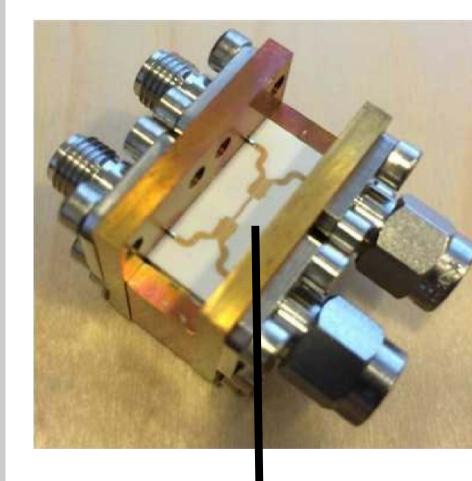


. = 6.7 GHz

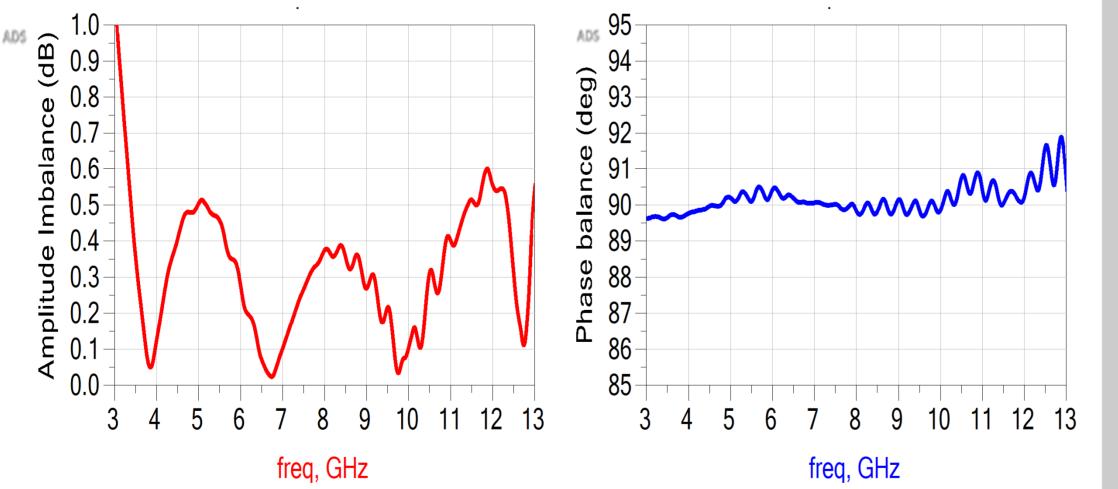


Wideband compact IF circuits

- Wideband Passives with excellent phase and amplitude imbalances
- Compact, fabricated in house
- Nb or Au microstrip lines and air-bridges
- Can include built-in BiasT



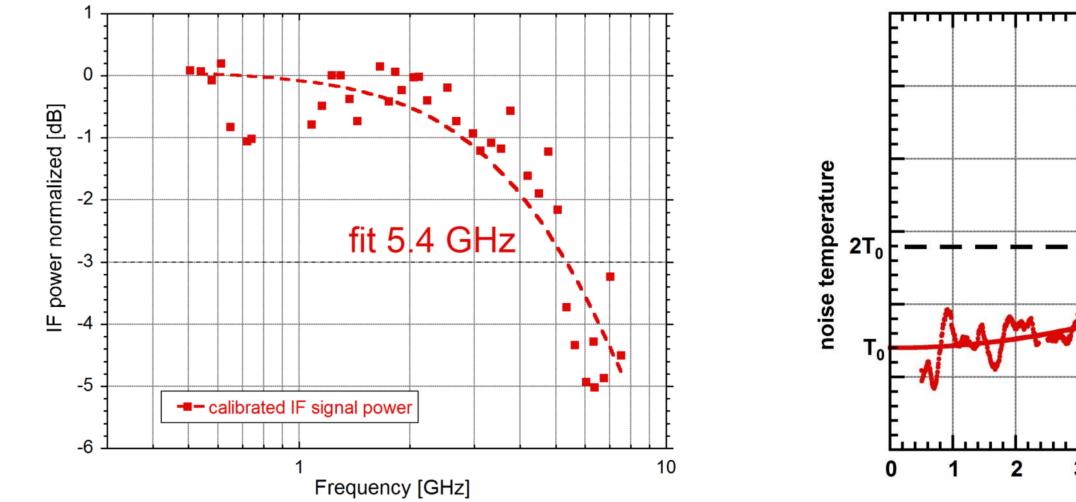
<u>3.5-13 GHz hybrid coupler operating from 300 K to 4 K:</u>



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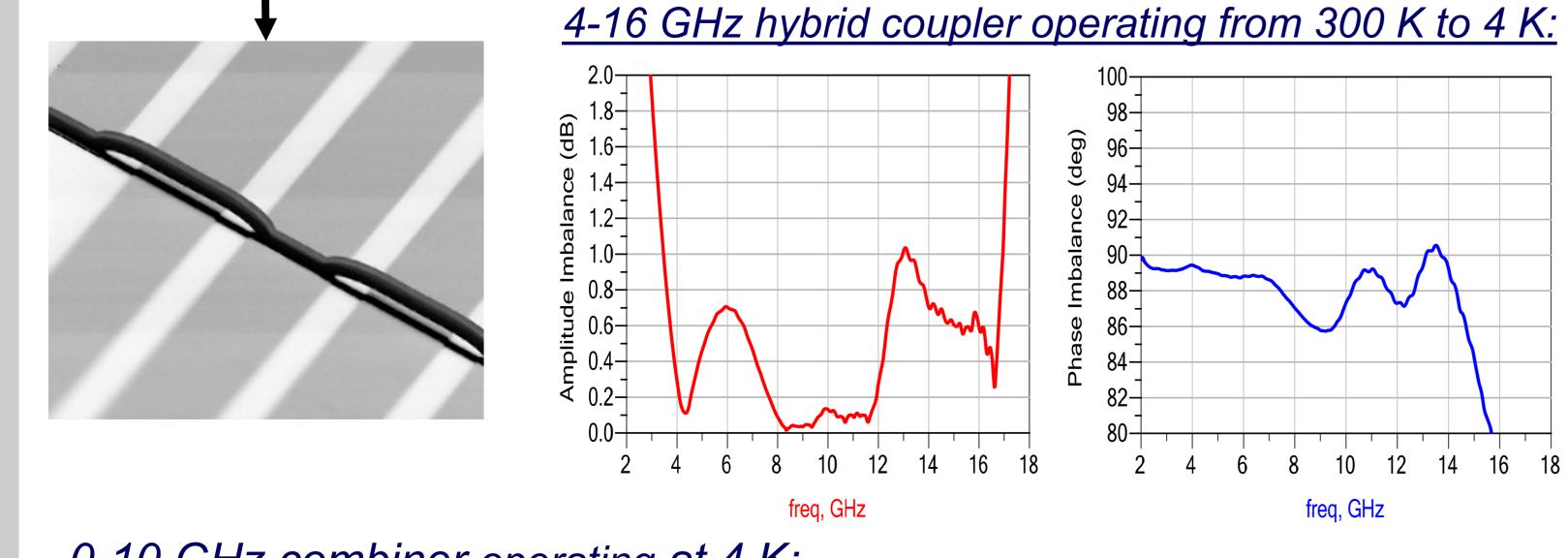
Gain and noise bandwidth measurements at 1.3 THz:



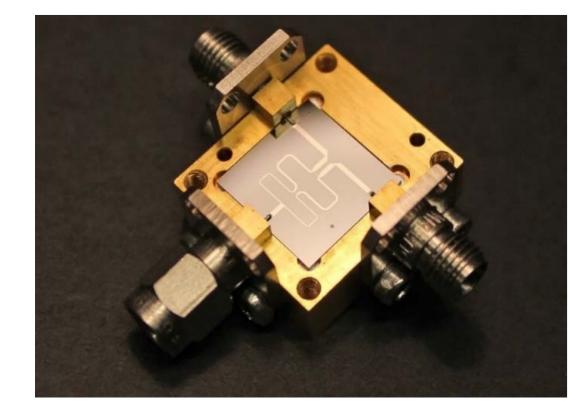
Freq [GHz] Unprecedented bandwidth for HEB mixers made of NbN on GaN: $f_n \sim 7$ GHz

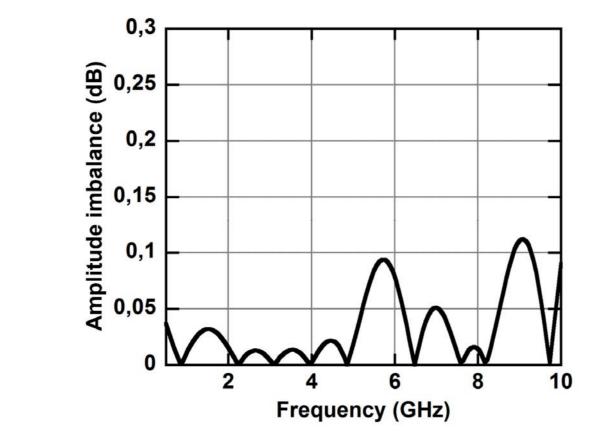
Wideband waveguide hybrid couplers

- Wideband (~30% fractional bandwidth) waveguide hybrids with excellent phase and amplitude imbalances.
- Easy to manufacture using standard CNC



0-10 GHz combiner operating at 4 K:





Implemented in ALMA band5 receivers

