

High-Yield W-Band Monolithic HEMT Low-Noise Amplifier and Image Rejection Downconverter Chips

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High-yield W-band monolithic integrated circuits (a three-stage low-noise amplifier (LNA), and a monolithic image rejection downconverter (IRD) using the LNA as the front end followed by an image rejection mixer (IRM)) are discussed. These MMIC's were fabricated in the 0.1- μm AlGaAs-InGaAs-GaAs HEMT production line at TRW. The LNA demonstrated a typical 17-dB gain and 4.5-5.5-dB noise figure at 94 GHz. The complete monolithic IRD has a measured conversion gain of 7-9 dB with a single side-band (SSB) noise figure of 6 dB when downconverting 93-95-GHz RF signal to 50-500 MHz. The downconversion requires an LO power of 9 dBm. The development of these MMIC's shows the increasing maturity of GaAs based HEMT MMIC technology at W-band.

 [Return to main document.](#)