Superjunction Collector Bipolar Transistors (#4797)

Design for vertical high-speed bipolar transistor

Georgia Tech inventors have developed a design for a vertical high-speed bipolar transistor incorporating superjunction collector designs. A superjunction collector can be utilized to significantly improve avalanche breakdown behavior of SiGe high-speed bi-polar transistors with little or no impact on device speed. This superjunction collector device design is applied in a high-speed silicon-germanium heterojunction bipolar transistor, and significant improvement has been demonstrated in the device speed and breakdown performance.

Benefits/Advantages

- **Higher breakdown voltages** — higher breakdown voltages with no performance degradation
- **Improved design** - involving super junction collector features
- **Scalable** - operable at room temperature and voltage ranges from 1V to 20V
- **Easily implementable** - high-speed semiconductor transistor device

Potential Commercial Applications

- PC’s
- Gaming machines
- Charging stations
- Displays
- Lighting

Background/Context for This Invention

There have been growing markets for high-frequency applications such as mm-wave radars; multi-Gb/s WLANs; 100 Gb/s Ethernet; and THz-imaging systems. The operation frequency of these applications ranges from 10 GHz to 1 THz, and high-speed bipolar transistors (such as InP DHBTs), especially using low-cost silicon-based IC platforms such as SiGe HBTs, are essential in realizing these applications. There exists, however, a fundamental tradeoff between the device cutoff frequency and breakdown voltage. Current approaches to address these issues have undesirable consequences such as compromising both the RF output power and the signal-to-noise ratio of such systems.

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For more information about this technology, please visit:
https://industry.gatech.edu/technology/superjunction-collector-bipolar-transistors