

MRF176GU

MRF176GV



The RF MOSFET Line
200/150W, 500MHz, 50V

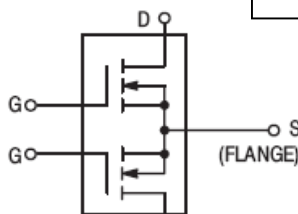
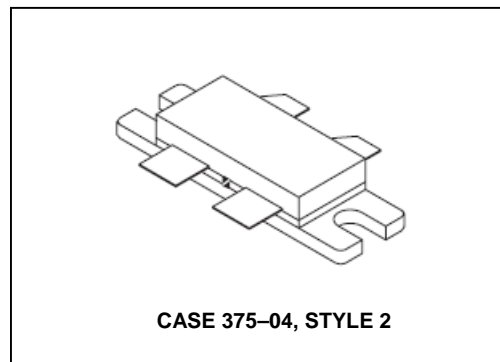
M/A-COM Products
Released - Rev. 07.07

Designed for broadband commercial and military applications using push pull circuits at frequencies to 500 MHz. The high power, high gain and broadband performance of these devices makes possible solid state transmitters for FM broadcast or TV channel frequency bands.

N-Channel enhancement mode

- Electrical performance
 - MRF176GU @ 50 V, 400 MHz ("U" Suffix)
 - Output power — 150 W
 - Power gain — 14 dB typ.
 - Efficiency — 50% typ.
 - MRF176GV @ 50 V, 225 MHz ("V" Suffix)
 - Output power — 200 W
 - Power gain — 17 dB typ.
 - Efficiency — 55% typ.
- 100% ruggedness tested at rated output power
- Low thermal resistance
- Low C_{rss} — 7.0 pF Typ @ $V_{DS} = 50$ V

Product Image



MAXIMUM RATINGS

| Rating | Symbol | Value | Unit |
|--|-----------|-------------|------------------------------|
| Drain-Source Voltage | V_{DSS} | 125 | Vdc |
| Gate-Source Voltage | V_{GS} | ± 40 | Vdc |
| Drain Current — Continuous | I_D | 16 | Adc |
| Total Device Dissipation @ $T_C = 25^\circ\text{C}$ Derate above 25°C | P_D | 400 2.27 | Watts W/ $^\circ\text{C}$ |
| Storage Temperature Range | T_{stg} | -65 to +150 | $^\circ\text{C}$ |
| Operating Junction Temperature | T_J | 200 | $^\circ\text{C}$ |

THERMAL CHARACTERISTICS

| Characteristic | Symbol | Max | Unit |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|------|--------------------|
| Thermal Resistance, Junction to Case | $R_{\theta JC}$ | 0.44 | $^\circ\text{C/W}$ |

Handling and Packaging — MOS devices are susceptible to damage from electrostatic charge. Reasonable precautions in handling and packaging MOS devices should be observed.

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS ($T_C = 25^\circ\text{C}$ unless otherwise noted)

| Characteristic | Symbol | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|----------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|------|
|----------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|------|

OFF CHARACTERISTICS (1)

| | | | | | |
|--|---------------|-----|---|-----|-----------------|
| Drain-Source Breakdown Voltage ($V_{GS} = 0$, $I_D = 100$ mA) | $V_{(BR)DSS}$ | 125 | — | — | Vdc |
| Zero Gate Voltage Drain Current ($V_{DS} = 50$ V, $V_{GS} = 0$) | I_{DSS} | — | — | 2.5 | mAdc |
| Gate-Body Leakage Current ($V_{GS} = 20$ V, $V_{DS} = 0$) | I_{GSS} | — | — | 1.0 | μAdc |

NOTE:

- Each side of device measured separately.

MRF176GU

MRF176GV



The RF MOSFET Line
200/150W, 500MHz, 50V

M/A-COM Products
Released - Rev. 07.07

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS — continued ($T_C = 25^\circ\text{C}$ unless otherwise noted)

| Characteristic | Symbol | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|----------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|------|
|----------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|------|

ON CHARACTERISTICS (1)

| | | | | | |
|--|--------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Gate Threshold Voltage ($V_{DS} = 10\text{ V}$, $I_D = 100\text{ mA}$) | $V_{GS(th)}$ | 1.0 | 3.0 | 6.0 | Vdc |
| Drain-Source On-Voltage ($V_{GS} = 10\text{ V}$, $I_D = 5.0\text{ A}$) | $V_{DS(on)}$ | 1.0 | 3.0 | 5.0 | Vdc |
| Forward Transconductance ($V_{DS} = 10\text{ V}$, $I_D = 2.5\text{ A}$) | g_{fs} | 2.0 | 3.0 | — | mhos |

DYNAMIC CHARACTERISTICS (1)

| | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---|-----|---|----|
| Input Capacitance ($V_{DS} = 50\text{ V}$, $V_{GS} = 0$, $f = 1.0\text{ MHz}$) | C_{iss} | — | 180 | — | pF |
| Output Capacitance ($V_{DS} = 50\text{ V}$, $V_{GS} = 0$, $f = 1.0\text{ MHz}$) | C_{oss} | — | 100 | — | pF |
| Reverse Transfer Capacitance ($V_{DS} = 50\text{ V}$, $V_{GS} = 0$, $f = 1.0\text{ MHz}$) | C_{rss} | — | 6.0 | — | pF |

FUNCTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS — MRF176GV (2) (Figure 1)

| | | | | | |
|---|----------|--------------------------------|----|---|----|
| Common Source Power Gain ($V_{DD} = 50\text{ Vdc}$, $P_{out} = 200\text{ W}$, $f = 225\text{ MHz}$, $I_{DQ} = 2.0 \times 100\text{ mA}$) | G_{ps} | 15 | 17 | — | dB |
| Drain Efficiency ($V_{DD} = 50\text{ Vdc}$, $P_{out} = 200\text{ W}$, $f = 225\text{ MHz}$, $I_{DQ} = 2.0 \times 100\text{ mA}$) | η | 50 | 55 | — | % |
| Electrical Ruggedness ($V_{DD} = 50\text{ Vdc}$, $P_{out} = 200\text{ W}$, $f = 225\text{ MHz}$, $I_{DQ} = 2.0 \times 100\text{ mA}$, VSWR 10:1 at all Phase Angles) | ψ | No Degradation in Output Power | | | |

NOTES:

- Each side of device measured separately.
- Measured in push-pull configuration.

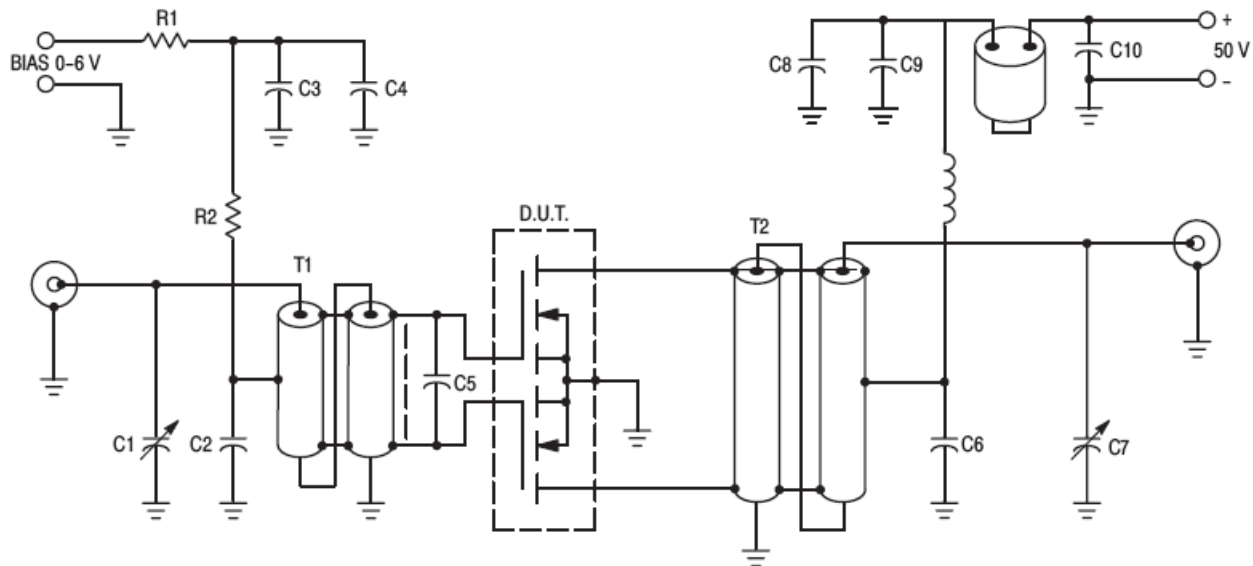
MRF176GU

MRF176GV



The RF MOSFET Line
200/150W, 500MHz, 50V

M/A-COM Products
Released - Rev. 07.07



C1 — Arco 404, 8.0–60 pF
C2, C3, C6, C8 — 1000 pF Chip
C4, C9 — 0.1 μ F Chip
C5 — 180 pF Chip
C7 — Arco 403, 3.0–35 pF
C10 — 0.47 μ F Chip, Kemet 1215 or Equivalent
L1 — 10 Turns AWG #16 Enameled Wire,
Close Wound, 1/4" I.D.

Board material — .062" fiberglass (G10),
Two sided, 1 oz. copper, $\epsilon_r \approx 5$

Unless otherwise noted, all chip capacitors
are ATC Type 100 or Equivalent

L2 — Ferrite Beads of Suitable Material
for 1.5–2.0 μ H, Total Inductance
R1 — 100 Ohms, 1/2 W
R2 — 1.0 kOhms, 1/2 W
T1 — 4:1 Impedance Ratio RF Transformer.
Can Be Made of 25 Ohm Semirigid
Co-Ax, 47–62 Mils O.D.
T2 — 1:4 Impedance Ratio RF Transformer.
Can Be Made of 25 Ohm Semirigid
Co-Ax, 62–90 Mils O.D.

NOTE: For stability, the input transformer T1 should be loaded
with ferrite toroids or beads to increase the common
mode inductance. For operation below 100 MHz. The
same is required for the output transformer.

Figure 1. 225 MHz Test Circuit

MRF176GU

MRF176GV



The RF MOSFET Line
200/150W, 500MHz, 50V

M/A-COM Products
Released - Rev. 07.07

ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS ($T_C = 25^\circ\text{C}$ unless otherwise noted)

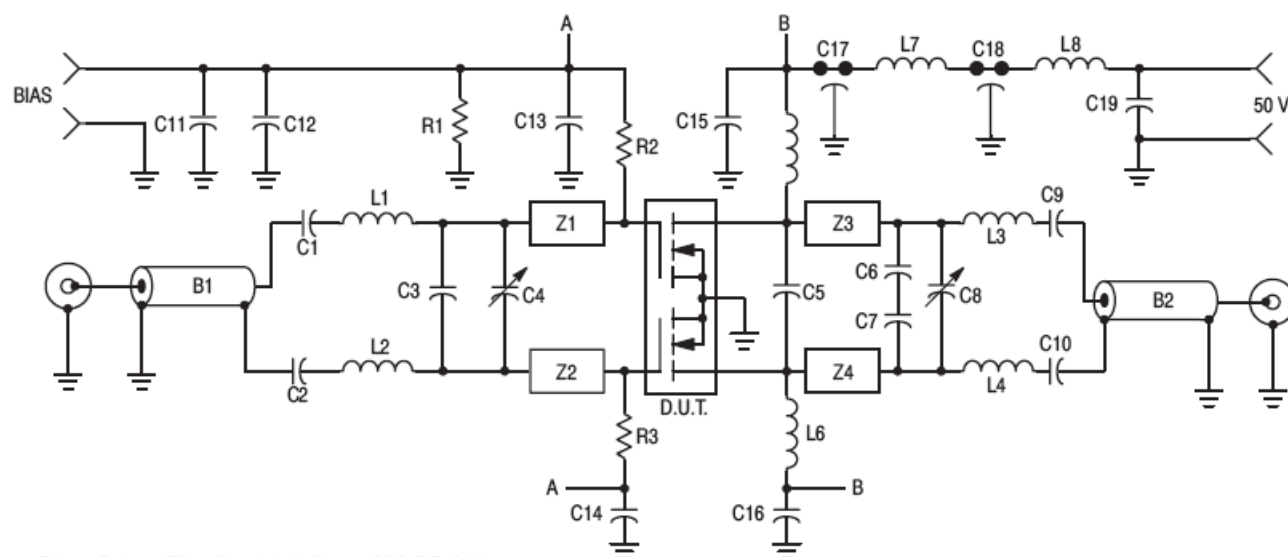
| Characteristic | Symbol | Min | Typ | Max | Unit |
|----------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|------|
|----------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|------|

FUNCTIONAL CHARACTERISTICS — MRF176GU (1) (Figure 2)

| | | | | | |
|---|----------|--------------------------------|----|---|----|
| Common Source Power Gain ($V_{DD} = 50\text{ Vdc}$, $P_{out} = 150\text{ W}$, $f = 400\text{ MHz}$, $I_{DQ} = 2.0 \times 100\text{ mA}$) | G_{ps} | 12 | 14 | — | dB |
| Drain Efficiency ($V_{DD} = 50\text{ Vdc}$, $P_{out} = 150\text{ W}$, $f = 400\text{ MHz}$, $I_{DQ} = 2.0 \times 100\text{ mA}$) | η | 45 | 50 | — | % |
| Electrical Ruggedness ($V_{DD} = 50\text{ Vdc}$, $P_{out} = 150\text{ W}$, $f = 400\text{ MHz}$, $I_{DQ} = 2.0 \times 100\text{ mA}$, VSWR 10:1 at all Phase Angles) | ψ | No Degradation in Output Power | | | |

NOTE:

1. Measured in push-pull configuration.



B1 — Balun, 50 Ω Semirigid Coax .086 OD 2" Long

B2 — Balun, 50 Ω Semirigid Coax .141 OD 2" Long

C1, C2, C9, C10 — 270 pF ATC Chip Capacitor

C3 — 15 pF ATC Chip Cap

C4, C8 — 1.0–20 pF Piston Trimmer Cap

C5 — 27 pF ATC Chip Cap

C6, C7 — 22 pF Mini Unelco Capacitor

C11, C13, C14, C15, C16 — 0.01 μF Ceramic Capacitor

C12 — 1.0 μF 50 V Tantalum Cap

C17, C18 — 680 pF Feedthru Capacitor

C19 — 10 μF 100 V Tantalum Cap

L1, L2 — Hairpin Inductor #18 W

L3, L4 — Hairpin Inductor #18 W

L5, L6 — 13T #18 W .250 ID

L7 — Ferroxcube VK-200 20/4B

L8 — 3T #18 W .340 ID

R1 — 1.0 k Ω 1/4 W Resistor

R2, R3 — 10 k Ω 1/4 W Resistor

Z1, Z2 — Microstrip Line .400L x .250W

Z3, Z4 — Microstrip Line .450L x .250W

Ckt Board Material — .060" teflon-fiberglass, copper clad both sides, 2 oz. copper,
 $\epsilon_r = 2.55$

Figure 2. 400 MHz Test Circuit

ADVANCED: Data Sheets contain information regarding a product M/A-COM Technology Solutions is considering for development. Performance is based on target specifications, simulated results, and/or prototype measurements. Commitment to develop is not guaranteed.

PRELIMINARY: Data Sheets contain information regarding a product M/A-COM Technology Solutions has under development. Performance is based on engineering tests. Specifications are typical. Mechanical outline has been fixed. Engineering samples and/or test data may be available. Commitment to produce in volume is not guaranteed.

• **North America** Tel: 800.366.2266 / Fax: 978.366.2266
• **Europe** Tel: 44.1908.574.200 / Fax: 44.1908.574.300
• **Asia/Pacific** Tel: 81.44.844.8296 / Fax: 81.44.844.8298
Visit www.macomtech.com for additional data sheets and product information.

M/A-COM Technology Solutions Inc. and its affiliates reserve the right to make changes to the product(s) or information contained herein without notice.

MRF176GU

MRF176GV



The RF MOSFET Line
200/150W, 500MHz, 50V

M/A-COM Products
Released - Rev. 07.07

TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS

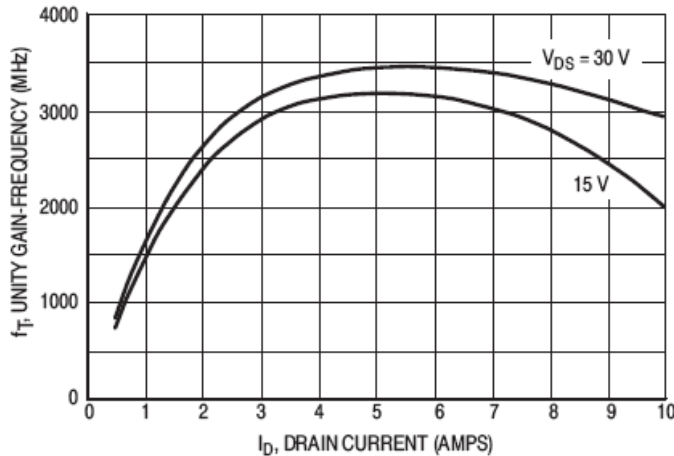


Figure 3. Common Source Unity Current Gain* Gain-Frequency versus Drain Current

* Data shown applies to each half of MRF176GU/GV

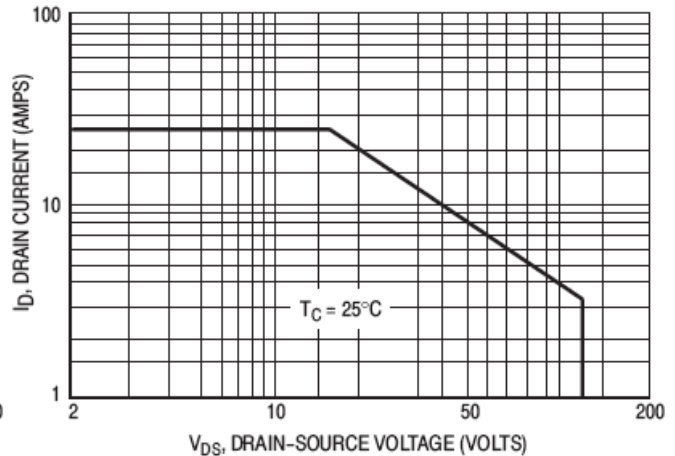
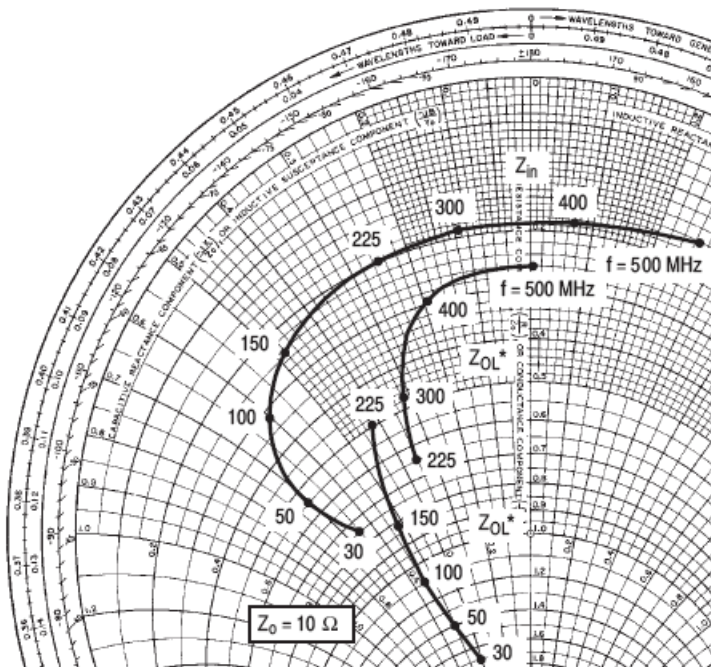


Figure 4. DC Safe Operating Area



NOTE: Input and output impedance values given are measured from gate to gate and drain to drain respectively.

Figure 5. Series Equivalent Input/Output Impedance

INPUT AND OUTPUT IMPEDANCE MRF176GU/GV

$V_{DD} = 50$ V, $I_{DQ} = 2 \times 100$ mA

| f MHz | Z_{in} OHMS | Z_{OL}^* OHMS |
|----------|------------------|--------------------|
|----------|------------------|--------------------|

($P_{out} = 150$ W)

| | | |
|-----|----------------|----------------|
| 225 | $2.05 - j2.50$ | $6.50 - j3.50$ |
| 300 | $2.00 - j1.10$ | $4.80 - j3.10$ |
| 400 | $1.85 + j0.75$ | $3.00 - j1.90$ |
| 500 | $1.60 + j2.70$ | $2.60 + j0.10$ |

($P_{out} = 200$ W)

| | | |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|
| 30 | $7.50 - j6.50$ | $17.00 - j4.00$ |
| 50 | $5.50 - j7.00$ | $14.00 - j5.00$ |
| 100 | $3.20 - j6.00$ | $11.00 - j5.20$ |
| 150 | $2.50 - j4.80$ | $8.20 - j5.00$ |
| 225 | $2.05 - j2.50$ | $5.00 - j4.20$ |

Z_{OL}^* = Conjugate of the optimum load impedance into which the device output operates at a given output power, voltage and frequency.

MRF176GU

MRF176GV



The RF MOSFET Line
200/150W, 500MHz, 50V

M/A-COM Products
Released - Rev. 07.07

TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS

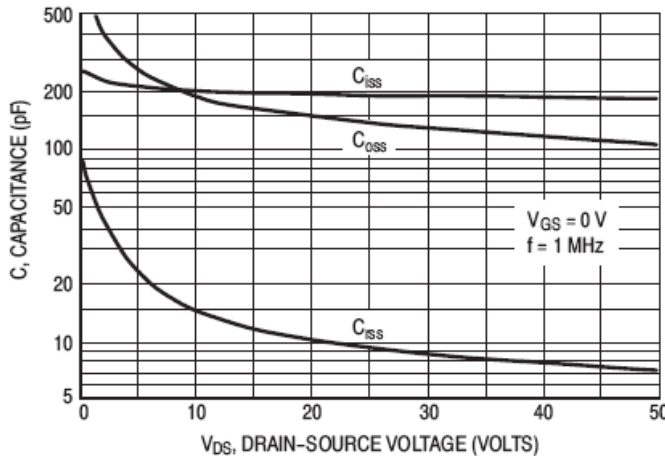


Figure 6. Capacitance versus Drain-Source Voltage*

* Data shown applies to each half of MRF176GU/GV

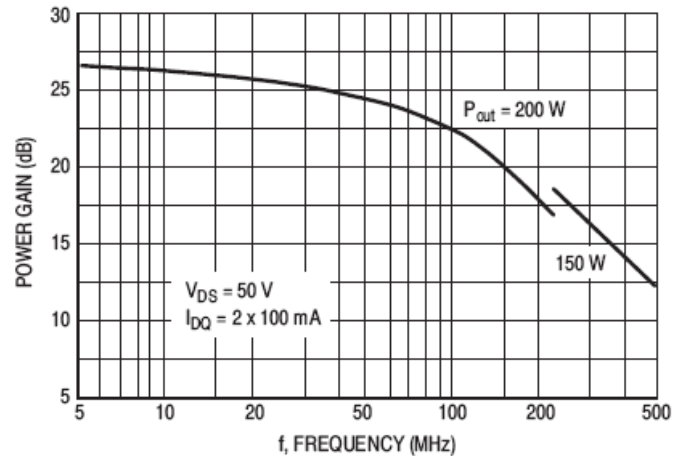


Figure 7. Power Gain versus Frequency

MRF176GV

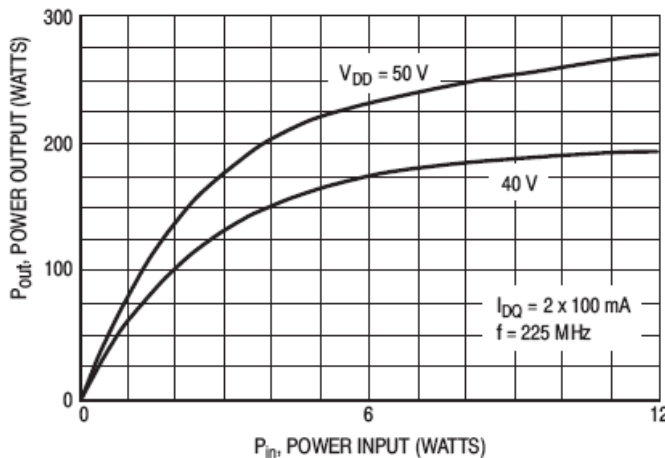


Figure 8. Power Input versus Power Output

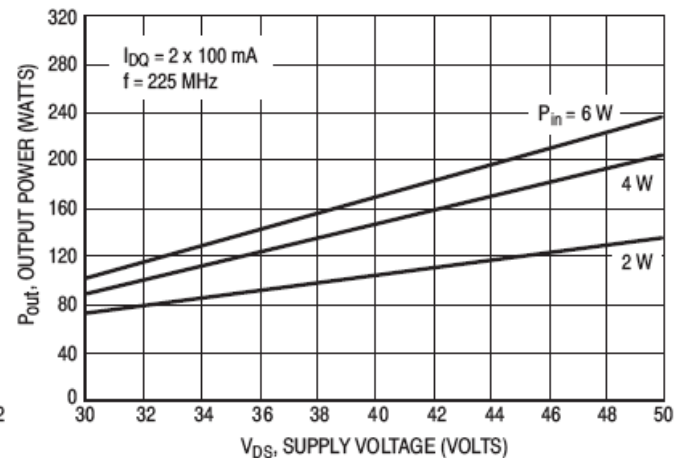


Figure 9. Output Power versus Supply Voltage

MRF176GU

MRF176GV



The RF MOSFET Line
200/150W, 500MHz, 50V

M/A-COM Products
Released - Rev. 07.07

TYPICAL CHARACTERISTICS MRF176GU

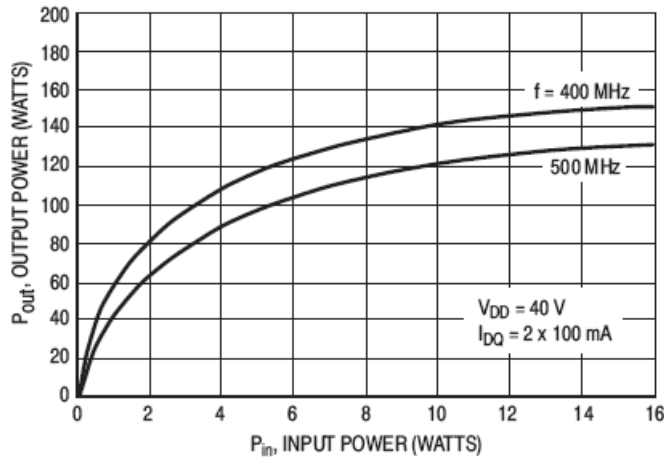


Figure 10. Output Power versus Input Power

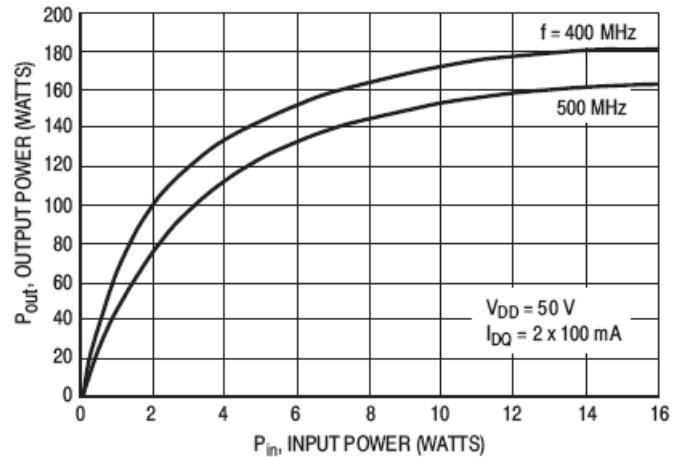


Figure 11. Output Power versus Input Power

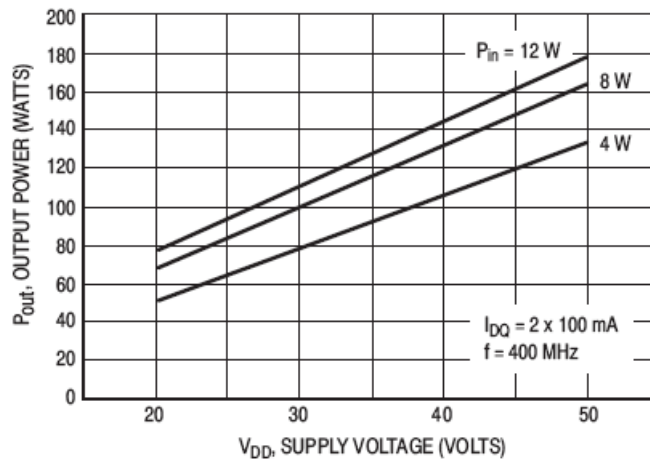


Figure 12. Output Power versus Supply Voltage

MRF176GU

MRF176GV



The RF MOSFET Line
200/150W, 500MHz, 50V

M/A-COM Products
Released - Rev. 07.07

Table 1. Common Source S-Parameters ($V_{DS} = 50\text{ V}$, $I_D = 0.35\text{ A}$)

| f MHz | S ₁₁ | | S ₂₁ | | S ₁₂ | | S ₂₂ | |
|----------|-----------------|------|-----------------|----|-----------------|-----|-----------------|------|
| | S ₁₁ | ∠φ | S ₂₁ | ∠φ | S ₁₂ | ∠φ | S ₂₂ | ∠φ |
| 30 | 0.804 | -159 | 17.80 | 87 | 0.018 | -1 | 0.602 | -149 |
| 40 | 0.851 | -163 | 12.50 | 77 | 0.018 | -9 | 0.606 | -147 |
| 50 | 0.846 | -166 | 10.40 | 70 | 0.018 | -14 | 0.610 | -149 |
| 60 | 0.842 | -167 | 8.45 | 67 | 0.017 | -16 | 0.652 | -154 |
| 70 | 0.846 | -168 | 7.28 | 65 | 0.017 | -15 | 0.708 | -157 |
| 80 | 0.858 | -169 | 6.13 | 63 | 0.016 | -15 | 0.786 | -159 |
| 90 | 0.875 | -170 | 5.36 | 59 | 0.015 | -17 | 0.883 | -158 |
| 100 | 0.890 | -171 | 4.61 | 53 | 0.014 | -22 | 0.916 | -157 |
| 110 | 0.902 | -171 | 4.04 | 46 | 0.013 | -29 | 0.919 | -158 |
| 120 | 0.909 | -172 | 3.41 | 41 | 0.012 | -31 | 0.857 | -156 |
| 130 | 0.915 | -172 | 2.92 | 39 | 0.011 | -29 | 0.819 | -157 |
| 140 | 0.920 | -173 | 2.61 | 38 | 0.010 | -24 | 0.816 | -160 |
| 150 | 0.924 | -173 | 2.41 | 38 | 0.009 | -20 | 0.858 | -162 |
| 160 | 0.928 | -174 | 2.24 | 38 | 0.008 | -21 | 0.951 | -164 |
| 170 | 0.934 | -174 | 2.10 | 35 | 0.007 | -24 | 1.046 | -164 |
| 180 | 0.940 | -175 | 1.96 | 30 | 0.008 | -23 | 1.130 | -163 |
| 190 | 0.945 | -175 | 1.78 | 24 | 0.007 | -18 | 1.120 | -165 |
| 200 | 0.950 | -176 | 1.56 | 22 | 0.006 | -8 | 1.030 | -165 |
| 210 | 0.953 | -176 | 1.36 | 20 | 0.005 | 2 | 0.940 | -165 |
| 220 | 0.955 | -176 | 1.22 | 21 | 0.004 | 7 | 0.900 | -164 |
| 230 | 0.956 | -177 | 1.14 | 21 | 0.004 | 6 | 0.940 | -167 |
| 240 | 0.958 | -177 | 1.08 | 22 | 0.004 | 13 | 0.940 | -170 |
| 250 | 0.960 | -178 | 1.05 | 21 | 0.005 | 29 | 1.010 | -169 |
| 260 | 0.963 | -178 | 1.01 | 18 | 0.006 | 44 | 1.120 | -170 |
| 270 | 0.965 | -178 | 0.96 | 13 | 0.005 | 55 | 1.160 | -172 |
| 280 | 0.967 | -179 | 0.87 | 10 | 0.005 | 57 | 1.150 | -172 |
| 290 | 0.968 | -179 | 0.78 | 8 | 0.005 | 47 | 1.030 | -171 |
| 300 | 0.969 | -180 | 0.72 | 8 | 0.006 | 46 | 0.964 | -170 |
| 310 | 0.970 | -180 | 0.68 | 11 | 0.008 | 58 | 0.926 | -169 |
| 320 | 0.971 | 180 | 0.65 | 11 | 0.009 | 72 | 0.940 | -172 |
| 330 | 0.973 | 179 | 0.61 | 10 | 0.009 | 83 | 0.980 | -173 |
| 340 | 0.973 | 179 | 0.61 | 11 | 0.008 | 82 | 1.053 | -175 |
| 350 | 0.974 | 179 | 0.58 | 7 | 0.008 | 70 | 1.095 | -174 |
| 360 | 0.975 | 178 | 0.55 | 3 | 0.010 | 61 | 1.135 | -173 |
| 370 | 0.975 | 178 | 0.50 | 1 | 0.013 | 65 | 1.086 | -175 |
| 380 | 0.976 | 178 | 0.47 | -1 | 0.013 | 74 | 1.045 | -175 |
| 390 | 0.976 | 177 | 0.44 | 1 | 0.012 | 84 | 0.979 | -174 |
| 400 | 0.976 | 177 | 0.42 | 4 | 0.010 | 84 | 0.940 | -174 |
| 410 | 0.977 | 177 | 0.40 | 4 | 0.011 | 71 | 1.015 | -175 |
| 420 | 0.978 | 176 | 0.39 | 4 | 0.015 | 67 | 1.038 | -177 |

MRF176GU

MRF176GV



The RF MOSFET Line
200/150W, 500MHz, 50V

M/A-COM Products
Released - Rev. 07.07

Table 1. Common Source S-Parameters ($V_{DS} = 50\text{ V}$, $I_D = 0.35\text{ A}$) continued

| f MHz | S ₁₁ | | S ₂₁ | | S ₁₂ | | S ₂₂ | |
|----------|-----------------|-----|-----------------|----|-----------------|----|-----------------|------|
| | S ₁₁ | ∠φ | S ₂₁ | ∠φ | S ₁₂ | ∠φ | S ₂₂ | ∠φ |
| 430 | 0.978 | 176 | 0.38 | 3 | 0.017 | 74 | 1.073 | -178 |
| 440 | 0.979 | 176 | 0.37 | 0 | 0.017 | 83 | 1.091 | -178 |
| 450 | 0.979 | 176 | 0.37 | -2 | 0.015 | 86 | 1.107 | -177 |
| 460 | 0.979 | 175 | 0.32 | -6 | 0.013 | 71 | 1.118 | -178 |
| 470 | 0.979 | 175 | 0.30 | -5 | 0.015 | 60 | 1.003 | -178 |
| 480 | 0.979 | 175 | 0.30 | -3 | 0.019 | 66 | 0.975 | -176 |
| 490 | 0.980 | 174 | 0.29 | -1 | 0.021 | 80 | 0.963 | -178 |
| 500 | 0.981 | 174 | 0.28 | 0 | 0.021 | 92 | 0.993 | -179 |
| 600 | 0.972 | 172 | 0.24 | -5 | 0.012 | 93 | 0.943 | 178 |
| 700 | 0.971 | 169 | 0.15 | -8 | 0.027 | 75 | 0.999 | 176 |
| 800 | 0.971 | 166 | 0.13 | -9 | 0.022 | 70 | 0.977 | 174 |
| 900 | 0.972 | 164 | 0.10 | -5 | 0.032 | 73 | 0.972 | 172 |
| 1000 | 0.972 | 161 | 0.08 | -9 | 0.030 | 83 | 0.999 | 169 |

MRF176GU

MRF176GV



The RF MOSFET Line
200/150W, 500MHz, 50V

M/A-COM Products
Released - Rev. 07.07

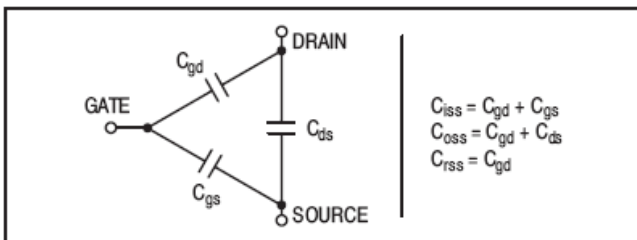
RF POWER MOSFET CONSIDERATIONS

MOSFET CAPACITANCES

The physical structure of a MOSFET results in capacitors between the terminals. The metal oxide gate structure determines the capacitors from gate-to-drain (C_{gd}), and gate-to-source (C_{gs}). The PN junction formed during the fabrication of the MOSFET results in a junction capacitance from drain-to-source (C_{ds}).

These capacitances are characterized as input (C_{iss}), output (C_{oss}) and reverse transfer (C_{rss}) capacitances on data sheets. The relationships between the inter-terminal capacitances and those given on data sheets are shown below. The C_{iss} can be specified in two ways:

1. Drain shorted to source and positive voltage at the gate.
2. Positive voltage of the drain in respect to source and zero volts at the gate. In the latter case the numbers are lower. However, neither method represents the actual operating conditions in RF applications.



The C_{iss} given in the electrical characteristics table was measured using method 2 above. It should be noted that C_{iss} , C_{oss} , C_{rss} are measured at zero drain current and are provided for general information about the device. They are not RF design parameters and no attempt should be made to use them as such.

LINEARITY AND GAIN CHARACTERISTICS

In addition to the typical IMD and power gain, data presented in Figure 3 may give the designer additional information on the capabilities of this device. The graph represents the small signal unity current gain frequency at a given drain current level. This is equivalent to f_T for bipolar transistors. Since this test is performed at a fast sweep speed, heating of the device does not occur. Thus, in normal use, the higher temperatures may degrade these characteristics to some extent.

DRAIN CHARACTERISTICS

One figure of merit for a FET is its static resistance in the full-on condition. This on-resistance, $V_{DS(on)}$, occurs in the

linear region of the output characteristic and is specified under specific test conditions for gate-source voltage and drain current. For MOSFETs, $V_{DS(on)}$ has a positive temperature coefficient and constitutes an important design consideration at high temperatures, because it contributes to the power dissipation within the device.

GATE CHARACTERISTICS

The gate of the MOSFET is a polysilicon material, and is electrically isolated from the source by a layer of oxide. The input resistance is very high — on the order of 10⁹ ohms — resulting in a leakage current of a few nanoamperes. Gate control is achieved by applying a positive voltage slightly in excess of the gate-to-source threshold voltage, $V_{GS(th)}$.

Gate Voltage Rating — Never exceed the gate voltage rating (or any of the maximum ratings on the front page). Exceeding the rated V_{GS} can result in permanent damage to the oxide layer in the gate region.

Gate Termination — The gates of this device are essentially capacitors. Circuits that leave the gate open-circuited or floating should be avoided. These conditions can result in turn-on of the devices due to voltage build-up on the input capacitor due to leakage currents or pickup.

Gate Protection — These devices do not have an internal monolithic zener diode from gate-to-source. If gate protection is required, an external zener diode is recommended. Using a resistor to keep the gate-to-source impedance low also helps damp transients and serves another important function. Voltage transients on the drain can be coupled to the gate through the parasitic gate-drain capacitance. If the gate-to-source impedance and the rate of voltage change on the drain are both high, then the signal coupled to the gate may be large enough to exceed the gate-threshold voltage and turn the device on.

HANDLING CONSIDERATIONS

The gate of the MOSFET, which is electrically isolated from the rest of the die by a very thin layer of SiO_2 , may be damaged if the power MOSFET is handled or installed improperly. Exceeding the 40 V maximum gate-to-source voltage rating, $V_{GS(max)}$, can rupture the gate insulation and destroy the FET. RF Power MOSFETs are not nearly as susceptible as CMOS devices to damage due to static discharge because the input capacitances of power MOSFETs are much larger and absorb more energy before being charged to the gate breakdown voltage. However, once breakdown begins, there is enough energy stored in the gate-source capacitance to ensure the complete perforation of the gate oxide. To avoid the possibility of device failure caused by static discharge, precautions similar to those taken with small-signal MOSFET and CMOS devices apply to power MOSFETs.

When shipping, the devices should be transported only

MRF176GU

MRF176GV



The RF MOSFET Line
200/150W, 500MHz, 50V

M/A-COM Products
Released - Rev. 07.07

in antistatic bags or conductive foam. Upon removal from the packaging, careful handling procedures should be adhered to. Those handling the devices should wear grounding straps and devices not in the antistatic packaging should be kept in metal tote bins. MOSFETs should be handled by the case and not by the leads, and when testing the device, all leads should make good electrical contact before voltage is applied. As a final note, when placing the FET into the system it is designed for, soldering should be done with grounded equipment.

The gate of the power MOSFET could still be in danger after the device is placed in the intended circuit. If the gate may see voltage transients which exceed $V_{GS(max)}$, the circuit designer should place a 40 V zener across the gate and source terminals to clamp any potentially destructive spikes. Using a resistor to keep the gate-to-source impedance low also helps damp transients and serves another important function. Voltage transients on the drain can be coupled to the gate through the parasitic gate-drain capacitance. If the gate-to-source impedance and the rate of voltage change on the drain are both high, then the signal coupled to the gate may be large enough to exceed the gate-threshold voltage and turn the device on.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

The MRF176G is a RF power N-channel enhancement mode field-effect transistor (FETs) designed for HF, VHF and UHF power amplifier applications. M/A-COM RF MOS-

FETs feature a vertical structure with a planar design. M/A-COM Application Note AN211A, FETs in Theory and Practice, is suggested reading for those not familiar with the construction and characteristics of FETs.

The major advantages of RF power FETs include high gain, low noise, simple bias systems, relative immunity from thermal runaway, and the ability to withstand severely mismatched loads without suffering damage. Power output can be varied over a wide range with a low power dc control signal.

DC BIAS

The MRF176G is an enhancement mode FET and, therefore, does not conduct when drain voltage is applied. Drain current flows when a positive voltage is applied to the gate. RF power FETs require forward bias for optimum performance. The value of quiescent drain current (I_{DQ}) is not critical for many applications. The MRF176G was characterized at $I_{DQ} = 100$ mA, each side, which is the suggested minimum-value of I_{DQ} . For special applications such as linear amplification, I_{DQ} may have to be selected to optimize the critical parameters. The gate is a dc open circuit and draws no current. Therefore, the gate bias circuit may be just a simple resistive divider network. Some applications may require a more elaborate bias system.

GAIN CONTROL

Power output of the MRF176G may be controlled from its rated value down to zero (negative gain) by varying the dc

MRF176GU

MRF176GV



The RF MOSFET Line
200/150W, 500MHz, 50V

M/A-COM Products
Released - Rev. 07.07

PACKAGE DIMENSIONS

