

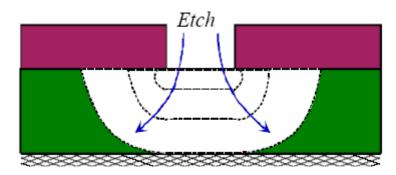
Non Silicon Dry Etching

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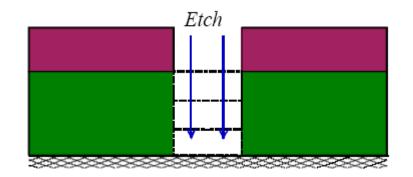
Etching Technology

- Wet etching
 - By Wet chemical solution
 - Isotropic etching



Vertical E/R = Horizontal E/R Pure Chemical Reaction High Selectivity CD Loss or Gain

- Dry Etching
 - By Plasma
 - Anisotropic etching



Vertical E/R >> Horizontal E/R Ion assisted Relatively low Selectivity No CD bias

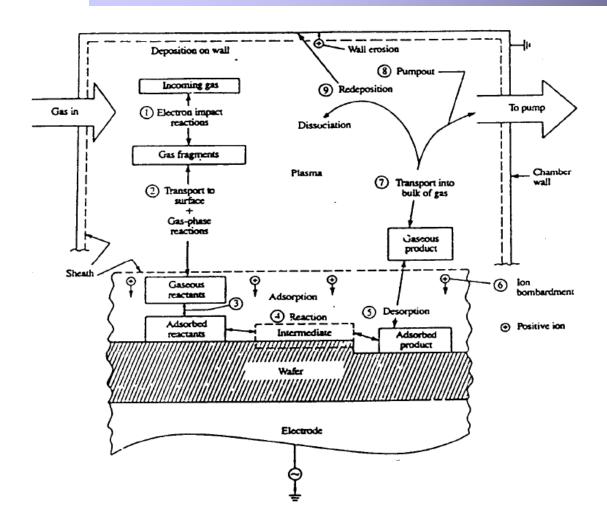


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Plasma Etching Mechanism



★ Glow Discharge * Transport ***** Adsorption \oplus Desorption + Ion Bombardment \diamond Bulk Gas Stream ¤ Pumping Out *♦ Redeposition*



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What is Plasma Etching

Take a Molecular Gas (Usually Relatively Inert)

Establish a Glow Discharge & (Ion and Elctron Formation) **Create Reactive Species**

Chemical Reaction to form A VOLATILE product

Product Desorption & Pumping Away Volatile Product Cl_{2(gas)}

 $e + Cl_2 -> Cl_2^+ + 2e$ $e + Cl_2 -> 2Cl + e$

 $Si + 4CI \rightarrow SiCl_{4}$

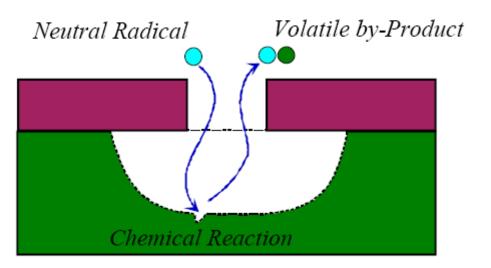
 $SiCl_{4(ads)} \rightarrow SiCl_{4(ads)}$



Basic Method of Plasma Etching(1)

Chemical

Thermalized neutral radicals chemically combine with substrate material formaing volatile products



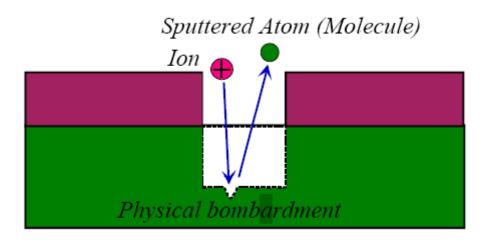
- Isotropic
- Purely Chemical Reaction
- High Pressure
- Batch Wafer Type
- Less Electrical Damage



Basic Method of Plasma Etching(2)

Sputtering

The ion energy mechanically ejects substrate material



- Anisotropic
- By Purely Physical Process
- High Directionality
- Low Pressure
 - : long mean free path
- Single Wafer Type
- Low Etch rate



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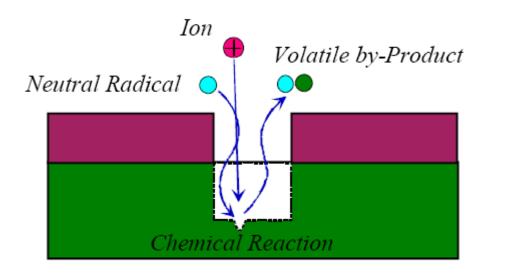
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Basic Method of Plasma Etching(3)

Energetic Ion Enhanced

Ion bombardment enhances or promotes the reaction Between an active species and the substrate material



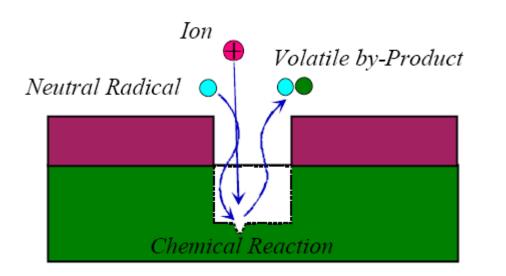
- Damage Enhanced **Chemical Reactivity**
- Chemical Sputtering
- Chemically Enhanced **Physical Sputtering**
- Ion Reaction



Basic Method of Plasma Etching(4)

Protective Ion Enhanced

An inhibitor film coats the surface forming a protective barrier which excludes the neutral etchant



- Sidewall Passivation
- Stopping lateral attack by neutral radical
- Ion directionality
- Involatile polymer film
- Additive film former
 (N₂, HBr, BCl₃, CH₃F)



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Non Silicon Materials

- Silicon dioxide (SiO_2) ٠
 - Insulator, sacrificial layer, passivation film, mask for dry or wet etch
- Silicon nitride (Si_xN_y)
 - Insulator, structure layer, passivation film, mask for wet etch
- Polymer •
 - Mask in photolithography, sacrificial layer
 - AZ series, SU-8, etc.
- Metal (Al, Ti, Au, Cu, Ni...)
 - Structure layer, electric line



Purpose of Etch Gases (1)

- Oxygen (O_2)
 - Pure O_2 plasma is used to etch PR.
 - In plasmas involving CF₄, O atoms displace F in the CF₄ \rightarrow generating more free F.
- Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF₆)
 - SF₆ is one source of very reactive F atoms that etch all of the materials.
 - F atoms are not very selective.
- Tetrafluoromethane (CF₄)
 - CF₄ is a source of C and F.
 - C-F sidewall-polymer formation.
- Trifluoromethane (CHF₃)
 - CHF₃ is a source of C and F \rightarrow with a lower ration of F to C.



Purpose of Etch Gases (2)

- Chlorine (Cl₂)
 - Cl₂ dissociated into Cl atoms.
 - Like F, Cl etches most materials, including aluminum.
- Trichloromethane (CHCl₃)
 - CHCl₃ supplies chlorine for etching.
 - CHCl₃ supplies carbon and chlorine for sidewall polymer.
- Boron Trichloride (BCl₃)
 - BCl₃ etches the native Al oxide on Al.
 - BCI_3 scavenges O_2 and H_2O in the vacuum system.
- Helium (He)
 - He is used in plasma system as a diluent and a plasma stabilizer.
- Nitrogen (N₂)
 - N₂ is used in plasma system as a diluent.

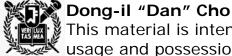


Fluorocarbon-Plasma SiO₂ Etches

Overall reactions

 $3SiO_2 + 4CF_3 \rightarrow 2CO + 2CO_2 + 3SiF_4$ $SiO_2 + 2CHF_2 \rightarrow 2CO_2 + H_2 + SiF_4$

- Etch conditions
 - CF₄+CHF₃+He (90:30:130 sccm), 450 W, 2.8 Torr, gap: 0.38 cm, 13.56 MHz, parallel-plate configuration
 - This etch target is SiO_2 , but also etches silicon nitride well.
 - This etch is anisotropic.
 - CF₄+CHF₃+He (90:30:130 sccm), 850 W, 2.8 Torr, gab: 0.38 cm, 13.56 MHz, parallel-plate configuration
 - This is the faster etch rate than the previous case.
 - Lower selectivity to PR



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Fluorine-Atom-Plasma Nitride Etches (1)

- Reaction •
 - Fluorine atoms are absorbed onto the surface one at a time
 - In a surface reaction, volatile products are formed
 - Overall reactions

 $Si_3N_4 + 12F \rightarrow 3SiF_4 + 2N_2$

- Etch conditions
 - SF₆+He (13:21 sccm), 100 W, 250 mTorr, 50 kHz, gap: 2.6 cm, parallel-plate configuration
 - This etch is used to plasma etch silicon nitride
 - Plasma etching, especially at higher power, heats the chamber, which can effect etch rates and thus selectivity



Fluorine-Atom-Plasma Nitride Etches (2)

- Etch conditions
 - CF₄+CHF₃+He (10:5:10 sccm), 200 W, 250 mTorr, 50 kHz, gap: 2.6 cm, parallel-plate configuration
 - This nitride plasma etch uses fluorocarbons rather than SF₆ as the source of F atoms.
 - SF₆+He (175:50 sccm), 150 W, 375 mTorr, 13.56 kHz, gap: 1.35 cm, parallel-plate configuration
 - Slow etch rate \rightarrow for thin nitride film etch
 - The etch is anisotropic.
 - SF₆+He (175:50 sccm), 250 W, 375 mTorr, 13.56 kHz, gap: 1.35 cm, parallel-plate configuration
 - Fast etch rate \rightarrow for thick nitride film etch



Fluorine-Atom-Plasma Nitride Etches (3)

- Etch conditions
 - SF₆ (25 sccm), 125 W, 200 mTorr, 13.56 MHz, gap: 3.8 cm, parallel-plate configuration
 - This slower etch rate is intended for thinner, stoichiometric silicon nitride films.
 - CF₄+CHF₃+He (45:15:60 sccm), 100 W, 300 mTorr, 13.56 MHz, gap: 3.8 cm, parallel-plate configuration
 - This etch is intended for thicker, silicon rich nitride film.



Plasma Metal Etches (1)

- Cl₂+BCl₃+CHCl₃+N₂ (30:50:20:50 sccm), 250 W, 250 mTorr, 60 °C, 13.56 MHz, gap: 2.5 cm, parallel-plate ground chuck configuration
 - This is an anisotropic Al plasma etch due to the sidewall inhibit formed from CHCl₃.
 - Due to poor selectivity, for thick layer of Al, thicker PR must be used.
 - Overall reaction

 $2AI + 3CI_2 \rightarrow AI_2CI_6$

- Cl₂ rather than Cl appears to be the main etchant.
- The etch product becomes $AlCl_3$ at higher temperatures.



Plasma Metal Etches (2)

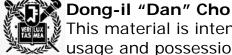
- SF₆ (80 sccm), 200 W, 150 mTorr, 40 °C, 13.56 MHz, gap: 3.8 cm, parallel-plate configuration
 - This W plasma etch is fairly isotropic.
 - CF₄ added to the feed gas increases anisotropy as sidewall polymer form, but decreases etch rate.
 - The chuck is heated to enhanced the etch rate.
 - Overall reaction

 $W + 6F \rightarrow WF_6$



Oxygen Plasma PR Etches (1)

- Reaction
 - Oxygen atoms "burn" or "ash" the organic PR, forming mostly H_2O , CO_2 , and CO
 - Activation energies for O-atom etching of PR have been measured in the range 0.22 eV to 0.65 eV.
- Etch conditions
 - O₂ (51 sccm), 50 W, 300 mTorr, 50 kHz sq. wave, gap: 2.6 cm, parallel-plate configuration
 - This plasma processing step is used for descumming of freshly developed PR, typically for one minute.
 - Unbaked OCG 820 PR was removed 6 % faster than hardbaked PR during a descum test.



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Oxygen Plasma PR Etches (2)

- Etch conditions
 - O₂ (51 sccm), 400 W, 300 mTorr, 50 kHz sq. wave, gap: 2.6 cm, parallel-plate configuration
 - This oxygen plasma is used to ash (strip) PR for 5-10 min.
 - A power of 300 W is also often used.
 - The etch rate decreases when there is more PR surface area.



Plasmaless HF Vapor SiO₂ Etches

- HF vapor etches silicon dioxide.
- It has been used to remove native oxide from silicon before the growth of epitaxial silicon and other processed such as the XeF₂ etching of silicon.
- The nonuniform etching can be reduced by etching in "pulses," removing the wafer from the vapor before droplets form and allowing it to evaporate.
- HF vapor may also be suitable for vapor phase removal of a sacrificial oxide layer for micromechanical fabrication.
- Overall reaction

 $SiO_2 + 4HF \rightarrow SiF_4 + H_2O$

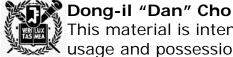


GaAs Dry Etches (1)

- Unique Advantages of GaAs over Si
 - High resistivity
 - High electron mobility
 - High saturated drift velocity
 - Wide direct bandgap
 - Operability over a wide temperature range

GaAs dry etch conditions

	1	2	3
Pressure (mTorr)	40	70	100
RF power (W)	200	250	300
Ar flow (sccm)	5	10	15
Cl ₂ flow (sccm)	5	10	15



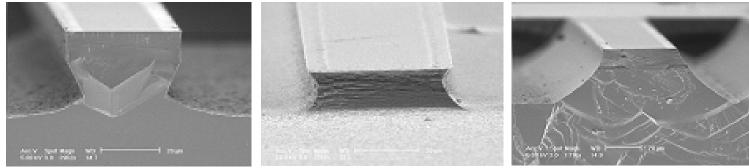
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GaAs Dry Etches (2)

• Dry etch results

Pressure 100 mTorr, RF 250 W, Ar 5 sccm, Cl₂ 15 sccm

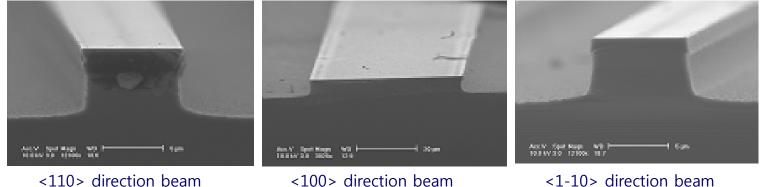


<110> direction beam

<100> direction beam

<1-10> direction beam

Pressure 70 mTorr, RF 250 W, Ar 15 sccm, Cl₂ 5 sccm





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Etch Rate Table (1)

	Etch Rates for								29 July								
	U.C. Berkeley M																
-	The top etc	h rate was	measure	d by the a	athor with	h fresh se	olutions, c	lean chan	nbers, etc								
The center and bottom values are the	-			-		-		-				1 and "dir	-			-	
CF ₄ +CHF ₃ +He (90:30:120 sccm)	Silicon	W	1900	2100	4700	w	4500	7300	6200	1800	1900	-	W	W	w	2200	200
Lam 590 Plasma	oxides		1400 1900	1500 2100	2400 4800			3000 7300	2500 7200								
450W, 2.8T, gap=0.38cm, 13.56MHz CF,+CHF,+He (90:30:120 sccm)	Silicon	w	2200	1700	4800	w	6400	7300	6700	4200	3800		W	W	w	2600	29
Lam 590 Plasma	oxides	w	2200	1700	2500	w	6000	5500	5000	4000	3800	-	w	w	w	2600	29
850W, 2.8T, gap=0.38cm, 13.56MHz	oxides		2700	2100	7600		6400	7400	6700	6800						6700	72
SF_+He (13:21 sccm)	Silicon	300	730	670	310	350	370	610	480	820	620	-	W	W	W	690	6
Technics PE II-A Plasma	nitrides	300	730	670					230		550				122.00	690	
100W, 250mT, gap≈2.6cm, 50kHz sq. wave		1000	800	760					480		800					830	
CF ₄ +CHF ₃ +He (10:5:10 sccm)	Silicon	1100	1900	W	730	710	730	W	900	1300	1100	-	W	W	W	690	6
Technics PE II-A Plasma 200W, 250mT, gap≈2.6cm, 50kHz sq. wave	nitrides																
SF ₆ +He (175:50 sccm)	Thin	W	6400	7000	300	W	280	530	540	1300	870	-	W	W	W	1500	14
Lam 480 Plasma	silicon			2000	220					830						1300	
150W, 375mT, gap=1.35cm, 13.56MHz	nitrides			7000	400					2300						1500	
SF ₆ +He (175:50 sccm)	Thick	W	8400	9200	800	W	770	1500	1200	2800	2100	-	W	W	W	3400	31
Lam 480 Plasma 250W, 375mT, gap=1.35cm, 13.56MHz	silicon nitrides									2100 4200						3100 3400	
SF ₆ (25 scem)	Thin	W	1700	2800	1100	W	1100	1400	1400	2800	2300	-	W	W	W	3400	31
Tegal Inline Plasma 701 125W, 200mT, 40°C	silicon nitrides				1100 1600					2800 2800						2900 3400	
CF ₄ +CHF ₃ +He (45:15:60 sccm)	Si-rich	W	350	360	320	W	320	530	450	760	600	-	W	W	W	400	3
Tegal Inline Plasma 701 100W, 300mT, 13.56MHz	silicon nitrides																
Cl ₂ +He (180:400 sccm)	Silicon	W	5700	3200	8	-	60	230	140	560	530	W	W	-	-	3000	27
Lam Rainbow 4420 Plasma 275W, 425mT, 40°C, gap=0.80cm, 13.56MHz		5000 5000	3400 6300	3200 3700	8 380											2400 3000	
HBr+Cl ₂ (70:70 sccm)	Silicon	W	450	460	4		0	0	0	870	26	W	W	-	~	350	3
Lam Rainbow 4420 Plasma 200W, 300mT, 40°C, gap=0.80cm, 13.56MHz			450 740		4 10											350 500	
Cl ₂ +BCl ₃ +CHCl ₃ +N ₂ (30:50:20:50 scem)	Aluminum	W	4500	W	680	670	750	W	740	930	860	6000	W	-		6300	63
Lam 690 RIE 250W, 250mT, 60°C, 13.56MHz												1900 6400				3700 6300	33 61
SF ₆ (80 sccm)	Tungsten	W	5800	5400	1200	W	1200	1800	1500	2600	2300	-	2800	W	W	2400	24
Tegal Inline Plasma 701 200W, 150mT, 40°C, 13.56MHz					2000 2000						1900 2300		2800 4000			2400 4000	
0 ₂ (51 seem)	Descumming	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	350	3
Technics PE II-A Plasma 50W, 300mT, gap≈2.6cm, 50kHz sq. wave	photoresist					_											
D ₂ (51 sccm)	Ashing	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	3400	36
Technics PE II-A Plasma 400W, 300mT, gap≈2.6cm, 50kHz sq. wave	Photoresist																
HF Vapor	Silicon	-	0	0	660	W	780	2100	1500	10	19	А	0	A	-	P 0	P
1 cm over plastic dish Room temperature and pressure	oxides																

Ref.) K. R. Williams, and R. S. Muller, JMEMS, Vol. 5, No. 4, pp. 256-269, 1996



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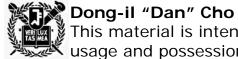
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Etch Rate Table (2)

Material	Gas	Reactor Type	Pressure (torr)	Etch Rate (μm/min)	Etch Selectivity		Comments
	SiF ₄ /O ₂	Barrel	.3	.1	Si_3N_4 : Si : Poly Si : SiO ₂	25:5:2.5:1	Anisotropic
Si_3N_4	SiF ₄ /O ₂ (2%)	Barrel	.75	.08 ~ 1	Si ₃ N ₄ : Poly Si	7.5:1	-
	CF ₄ /O ₂	Barrel	1.1	.02	Si ₃ N ₄ : SiO ₂ 5:1		Isotropic
	C ₂ F ₄	Planar	.4	.043	SiO ₂ : Si	15:1	Anisotropic
	CF ₄ (70%)/H ₂ (30%)	Planar	.03	.004	SiO ₂ : Si	5:1	-
SiO ₂	$GiO_2 \qquad \begin{array}{c c} CHF_3(90\%)/\\ CO_2(10\%) \\ GO_2(10\%) \\ $		Thermal SiO ₂ : Si 4 wt% Phos. doped CVD S 8 wt% Phos. doped CVD S (densified) 8 wt% Phos. doped CVD S	5iO ₂ : Si 33:1	Reactive Ion Etch Anisotropic		
	C ₂ F ₄ (12%)/ CHF ₃ (12%)/ He(76%)	Planar	4.0	.5 .7 1.1 .6	Thermal SiO ₂ : Si CVD SiO ₂ : Si 8 wt% Phos. doped CVD Si Plasma SiO ₂ : Si	CVD SiO ₂ : Si 19:1 8 wt% Phos. doped CVD SiO ₂ : Si 30:1	
	CCI₄He	Planar	.3	.18	AI : SiO ₂ : Poly Si : Si	100:1:1:1	-
Aluminum	CCI ₄	Planar	.1	.06~.36	Al : Si	100:1	Sensitivity to any H ₂ O Present Etches alloys containing Si, but must be heated to 200°C to each copper
	BCI ₂	Planar	.1	.06	Al : Si	100:1	Not sensitive H_2O . Etches alloys Containing Si, but must be heated to 200°C to each copper.

Ref: J. D. Lee, "Silicon Integrated Circuit microfabrication technology," 2nd edition



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Etch Rate Table (3)

Material	Common etch gases	Dominant reactive species	Product	Comment
Aluminum	Chlorine-based	CI, CI ₂	AICI ₃	Toxic gas and corrosive gases
Copper	Chlorine forms low pressure compounds	CI, CI ₂	CuCl ₂	Toxic gas and corrosive gases
Molybdenum	Fluorine based	F	MoF ₆	
Photoresists	Oxygen	0	H ₂ O, CO ₂ , CO	Explosive hazard
SiO ₂	CF ₄ , CHF ₃ , C ₂ F ₆ , C ₃ F ₆	CF _x	SiF ₄ , CO, CO ₂	
Tantalum	Fluorine based	F	TaF ₃	
Titanium	Fluorine or chlorine based	F, CI, CI ₂	TiF ₄ , TiF ₃ , TiCl ₄	
Tungsten	Fluorine containing	F	WF ₆	

Ref.) Marc J. Madou, "Fundamentals of MICROFABICATION," 2nd edition



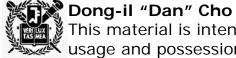
ISRC Non Si Etcher (1)

P-5000 (MEMS) •

	Oxide	Nitride	
Etch rate	>2000 Å/min	>2500 Å/min	
Within wafer uniformity	±3 %	±3 %	
Wafer to wafer uniformity	±5 %	±5 %	
Selectivity to resist	4 : 1	3 : 1	
Etch profile	90°±1°	87°±2°	

	Main-step (oxide etch)													
CHF ₃	CHF ₃ CF ₄ Ar O ₂ RF Power Pressure Gauss He													
25 sccm														

	Main-step (nitride etch)													
CHF ₃	CHF ₃ CF ₄ Ar O ₂ RF Power Pressure Gauss He													
15 sccm	10 sccm	10 sccm	8 sccm	600 W	100 mTorr	30	20 sccm							



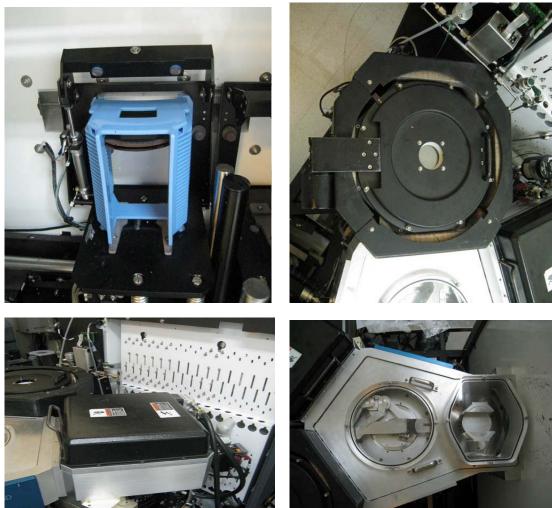
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ISRC Non Si Etcher (2)

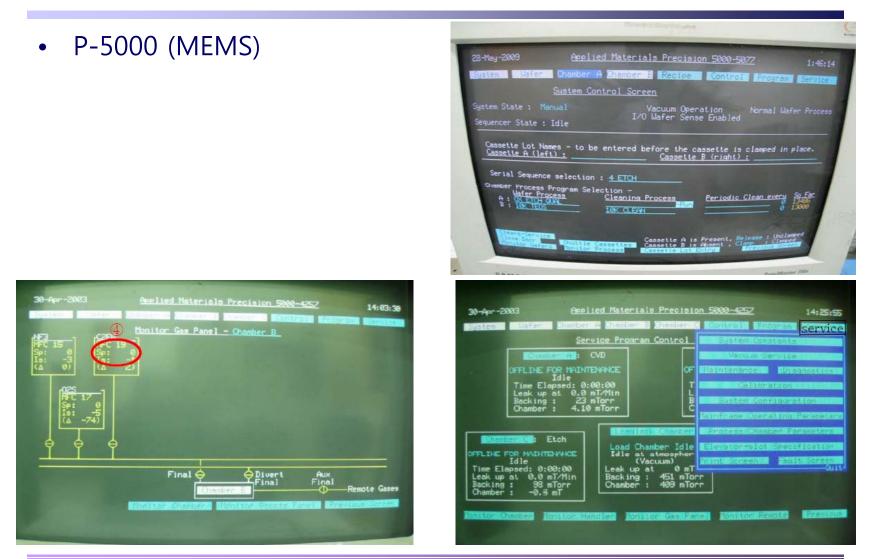
• P-5000 (MEMS)







ISRC Non Si Etcher (2)





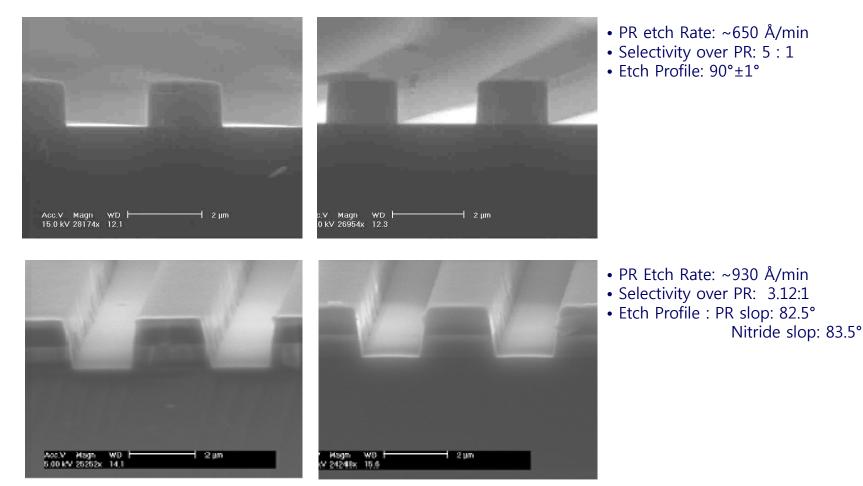
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ISRC Non Si Etcher (3)

MEMS P-5000 etch results •





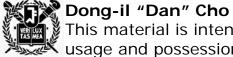
ISRC Non Si Etcher (4)

• P-5000 (CMOS)

	Oxide	Nitride
Etch rate	3519 Å /min	3620 Å /min
Within wafer uniformity	1.23 %	< 4.1 %
Selectivity to resist	3 : 1	2.5 : 1
Etch profile	$85^{\circ} \pm 1^{\circ}$	$85^{\circ} \pm 2^{\circ}$

	Main-step (oxide etch)												
CHF ₃	CHF ₃ CF ₄ Ar O ₂ RF Power Pressure Gauss He												
25 sccm	5 sccm	70 sccm	0 sccm	600 W	130 mTorr	60	20 sccm						

	Main-step (nitride etch)												
CHF ₃	CHF ₃ CF ₄ Ar O ₂ RF Power Pressure Gauss He												
15 sccm	10 sccm	10 sccm	8 sccm	600 W	100 mTorr	30	20 sccm						



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Non Si Etcher in ISRC (5)

- STS poly/metal etcher (MEMS)
- Plasma source type : ICP
- Main feed gas: HBr, Cl₂, Ar, SF₆, O₂, He
- Main power: 13.56 MHz 1000 W
- Operating pressure: tens mTorr
- Bias power: 13.56 MHz 30/300 W





Non Si Etcher in ISRC (6)

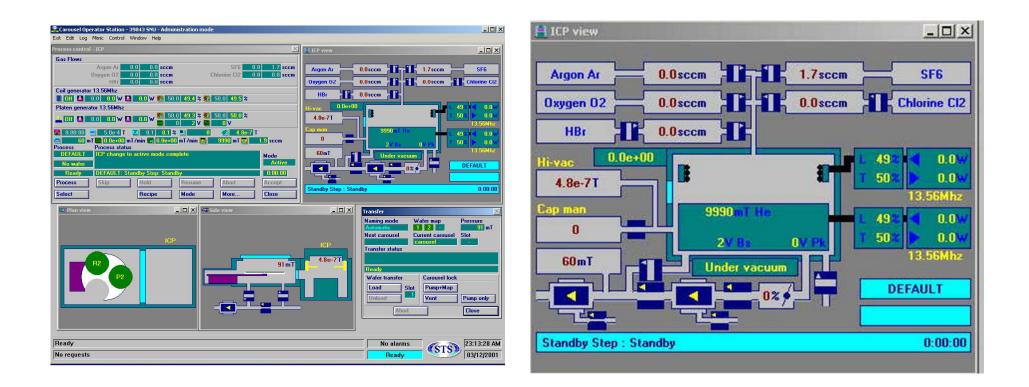
• STS poly/metal etcher (MEMS)





Non Si Etcher in ISRC (6)

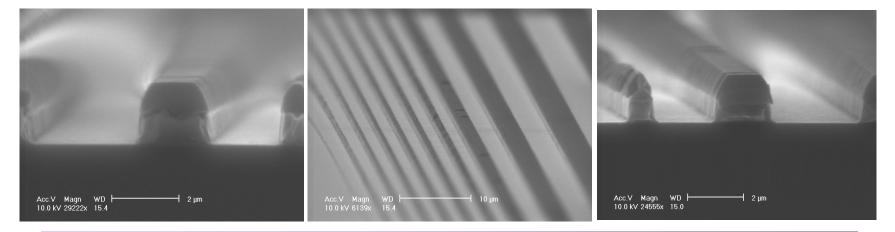
• STS poly/metal etcher (MEMS)



ISRC Non Si Etcher (7)

- Al etch process •
 - Main step
 - Gas: Cl₂ 33 sccm
 - RF Power: 125/1000 W
 - Pressure: 2 mTorr
 - Over etch step
 - Gas: HBr 20 sccm
 - RF Power: 125/600 W
 - Pressure: 5 mTorr

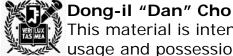
- Etch properties
 - Oxide : Poly 1 : 10
 - PR : AI 1 : 3
 - Etch rate: 3000 Å/min





ISRC Non Si Etcher (8)

- STS metal etcher (CMOS)
 - STS Multiplex ICP
 - Plasma source type: ICP (inductively coupled plasma)
 - Main feed gas: O_2 , Cl_2
 - Main power: 13.56 MHz-1250 W
 - Bias power: 13.56 MHz-300 W
 - Operating pressure: tens mTorr
 - Stand Process Parameter (Main etch step)
 - Main etch step: 1 step
 - Main feed gas: Cl₂ (30 sccm)
 - Main power: 13.56 MHz, 1000 W
 - Bias power: 13.56 MHz, 125 W
 - Operating pressure: 2 mTorr



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ISRC Non Si Etcher (9)

- Oxford etcher
 - Oxford RIE 80 plus
 - Pump (Alcatel)
 - Rotary: 2033CP+, 575 *l*/m
 - Turbo: ATC400C, 400 {/s
 - MFC
 - O₂ 1000 sccm
 - Cl₂ 100 sccm
 - SF₆ 500 sccm
 - CF₄ 200 sccm
 - CH₄ 200 sccm
 - CHF₃ 200 sccm
 - Ar 50 sccm
 - BCl₃ 200 sccm
 - N₂ 200 sccm
 - H₂ 200 sccm
 - RF Generator: ENI, ACG-10B, 200 W, 13.56 MHz





ISRC Non Si Etcher (10)

- Oxford etcher recipes
 - SiO₂
 - O₂ 5sccm
 - CF₄ 50sccm
 - 55 mTorr
 - 150 W
 - 700 Å/m
 - $-Si_3N_4$
 - O₂ 5 sccm
 - CF₄ 50 sccm
 - 55 mTorr
 - 150 W
 - 700 Å/m



ISRC Non Si Etcher (11)

- Asher I (MEMS) •
 - Plasma finish V15-G
 - Lab master V15-G
 - Plasma: micro wave
 - Frequency: 2.45 GHz
 - Plasma power : 600 W
 - Gas: O₂ 500sccm (2chanel)
 - Substrate: Si, glass, Pyrex
 - AZ1512 ashing recipe
 - Plasma power : 300 W
 - Gas flow: O₂ 200 sccm
 - Time: 10~60 min





ISRC Non Si Etcher (12)

- Asher II (MEMS)
 - Lab master V15-G
 - Plasma: micro wave
 - Frequency: 2.45 GHz
 - Plasma power : 600 W
 - Gas: O₂ 500sccm (2chanel)
 - Substrate: Si, glass, Pyrex
 - AZ1512 ashing recipe
 - Plasma power : 300 W
 - Gas flow: O₂ 200 sccm
 - Time: 10~60 min





ISRC Non Si Etcher (13)

- Asher (CMOS)
 - Tepla AG. 200 semi-auto
 - Pump: Leybold, Rotary, D65BCS
 - MFC: Brooks, O2, 2000 sccm
 - RF Generator: Microwave, 2.45GHz, 1000Wss
 - PR ashing recipe
 - O₂ 700 sccm
 - RF 700 W





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