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ION IMPLANTATION - Chapter 8

Basic Concepts

- Ion implantation is the dominant method of doping used today. In spite of creating enormous lattice damage it is favored because:
 - Large range of doses 10¹¹ to 10¹⁶/cm²
 - Extremely accurate dose control
 - Essential for MOS V_T control
 - Buried (retrograde) profiles are possible
 - Low temperature process
 - Wide choice of masking materials
- There are also some significant disadvantages:
 - Damage to crystal
 - Anomalous transiently enhanced diffusion (TED) upon annealing this damage
 - Charging of insulating layers



A. Implant Profiles

- At its heart ion implantation is a random process.
- High energy ions (1-1000keV) bombard the substrate and lose energy through nuclear collisions and electronic drag forces.



• Profiles can often be described by a Gaussian distribution, with a projected range and standard deviation. (200keV implants shown below.)



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$$C(\mathbf{x}) = C_{\mathbf{P}} \exp\left(-\frac{(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}})^{2}}{2\Delta \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{2}}\right) \qquad (1)$$
$$\mathbf{Q} = \int_{0}^{\infty} C(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} \text{ or } \mathbf{Q} = \sqrt{2\pi} \Delta \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}} C_{\mathbf{P}} \qquad (2)$$

where Q is the dose in ions cm⁻² and is measured by the integrated beam current.

• The ranges and standard deviation △Rp of the common dopants in randomly oriented silicon are shown below.





• Monte Carlo simulations of the random trajectories of a group of ions implanted at a spot on the wafer show the 3-D spatial distribution of the ions. (1000 phosphorus ions at 35 keV.)



• This appears as an elongated ellipse because most of the high energy ions undergo only small angle collisions.



• Side view shows **Rp** and △**Rp** while the beam direction view shows the lateral straggle.

• The two-dimensional distribution is often assumed to be composed of just the product of the vertical and lateral distributions.

$$\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{C}_{\text{vert}}(\mathbf{x}) \exp\left(-\frac{\mathbf{y}^2}{2\Delta \mathbf{R}_{\perp}^2}\right)$$
(3)

• Now consider what happens at a mask edge - if the mask is thick enough to block the implant, the lateral profile under the mask is determined by the lateral straggle. (35keV and 120keV As implants at the edge of a poly gate from Alvis et al.)



• The description of the profile at the mask edge is given by a sum of point response Gaussian functions, which leads to an error function distribution under the mask.

B. Masking Implants

How thick does a mask have to be?



• For masking,

$$\mathbf{C}^{*}(\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{m}}) = \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{P}}^{*}\left(\exp -\frac{\left(\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{m}} - \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{*}\right)^{2}}{2\Delta \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{*2}}\right) \leq \mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{B}} \qquad (4)$$

• Calculating the required mask thickness,

$$\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{m}} = \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{*} + \Delta \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{*} \sqrt{2 \ln \left(\frac{\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{P}}^{*}}{\mathbf{C}_{\mathbf{B}}}\right)} = \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{*} + \mathbf{m} \Delta \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{*} \quad (5)$$

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• The dose that penetrates the mask is given by

$$\mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{P}} = \frac{\mathbf{Q}}{\sqrt{2\pi\Delta\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{*}}} \int_{\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{m}}}^{\infty} \exp\left[\frac{\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{*}}{\sqrt{2\Delta\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{*}}}\right]^{2} \mathbf{dx} = \frac{\mathbf{Q}}{2} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{m}} - \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{*}}{\sqrt{2}\Delta\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{*}}\right)$$
(6)

• Real structures may be more complicated because mask edges or implants are not vertical.



C. Profile Evolution During Annealing

• Comparing Eqn. (1) with the Gaussian profile from the last set of notes, we see that ΔRp is equivalent to $2\sqrt{Dt}$. Thus

$$C(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{t}) = \frac{Q}{\sqrt{2\pi \left(\Delta \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^2 + 2\mathbf{D}\mathbf{t}\right)}} \exp\left(-\frac{\left(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}\right)^2}{2\left(\Delta \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^2 + 2\mathbf{D}\mathbf{t}\right)}\right) (7)$$



- Thus if the implanted profile is Gaussian, later thermal cycles produce a Gaussian profile as well (assuming the surface doesn't come into play).
- The only other profile we can calculate analytically is when the implanted Gaussian is shallow enough that it can be treated as a delta function and the subsequent anneal can be treated as a one-sided Gaussian. (Recall example in diffusion notes.)



- Real implanted profiles are more complex.
 - Light ions backscatter to skew the profile upwards.
 - Heavy ions scatter deeper.
- 4 moment descriptions of these profiles are often used (with tabulated values for these moments).

Range:
$$\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}} = \frac{1}{Q} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{x} C(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$
(8)Std. Dev: $\Delta \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{Q}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}})^{2} C(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$ (9)Skewness: $\gamma = \frac{-\infty}{\int (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}})^{3} C(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}}$ (10)Skewness: $\gamma = \frac{-\infty}{Q} \Delta \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{3}$ (10)Kurtosis: $\beta = \frac{-\infty}{Q} \Delta \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{P}}^{4}$ (11)

D. Implants in Real Silicon - Channeling

- At least until it is damaged by the implant, Si is a crystalline material.
- Channeling can produce unexpectedly deep profiles.





• Screen oxides and tilting/rotating the wafer can minimize but not eliminate these effects. (7[•] tilt is common.)



• Sometimes a dual Pearson profile description is useful.

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• The total energy loss during an ion trajectory is given by the sum of nuclear and electronic losses (these can be treated independently).

$$\frac{dE}{dx} = -N(S_n + S_e)$$
(12)

$$R = \int_{0}^{R} dx = \frac{1}{N} \int_{0}^{E_{0}} \frac{dE}{S_{n}(E) + S_{e}(E)}$$
(13)

- A. Nuclear Stopping
- An incident ion scatters off the core charge on an atomic nucleus, modeled to first order by a screened Coulomb scattering potential.



• This potential is integrated along the path of the ion to calculate the scattering angle. (Look-up tables are often used in practice.)

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$$S_{n}(E) = 2.8 \times 10^{-15} \frac{Z_{1}Z_{2}}{\left(Z_{1}^{2/3} + Z_{2}^{2/3}\right)^{1/2}} \frac{m_{1}}{m_{1} + m_{2}} eV - cm^{2}$$
(15)

where Z_1 , m_1 = ion and Z_2 , m_2 = substrate.

B. Non-Local and Local Electronic Stopping

• Drag force caused by charged ion in "sea" of electrons (non-local electronic stopping).

Dielectric Medium



Retarding E-field

• Collisions with electrons around atoms transfers momentum and results in local electronic stopping.



• To first order,

 $S_e(E) = cv_{ion} = kE^{1/2}, \ k \cong 0.2x10^{-15} \ ev^{1/2} \ cm^2$ (16)

<u>C. Total Stopping Power</u>



• The critical energy E_c when the nuclear and electronic stopping are equal is $B: \approx 17 \text{keV}$ $P: \approx 150 \text{keV}$ As, Sb :> 500 keV

Damage Production

• Consider a 30keV arsenic ion, which has a range of 25 nm, traversing roughly 100 atomic planes.

• The number of displaced particles created by an incoming ion is given by



• Molecular dynamics simulation of a 5keV Boron ion implanted into silicon [de la Rubia, LLNL]

Amorphization

• For high enough doses, the crystal becomes amorphous and loses all long range order. At this point, the arrangement of lattice atoms is random and the damage accumulation has saturated.



 Cross sectional TEM images of amorphous layer formation with increasing implant dose (300keV Si -> Si) [Rozgonyi]

Damage Annealing

Goals:

- Remove primary damage created by the implant and activate the dopants.
- Restore silicon lattice to its perfect crystalline state.
- Restore the electron and hole mobility.
- Do this without appreciable dopant redistribution.



- Bulk and surface recombination take place on a short time scale.
- "+1" I excess remains. These I coalesce into {311} defects which are stable for longer periods.
- {311} defects anneal out in sec min at moderate temperatures (800 1000°C) but eject I ⇒ TED.



• Stable dislocation loops can form when the damage is greater (amorphizing implant - see below).

Solid Phase Epitaxy

• If the substrate is amorphous, it can regrow by SPE.



• Cross sectional TEM images of amorphous layer regrowth at 525°C, from a 200keV, 6e15 cm⁻² Sb implant [Fletcher].



• BUT - the tail of damage beyond the a/c interface can nucleate stable, secondary defects and cause transient enhanced diffusion (TED).

- When the substrate is amorphous, SPE provides an ideal way of repairing the damage and activating dopants.
- At lower implant doses, activation is much more complex because stable defects form.



- Plot (above) of fractional activation versus anneal temperature for Boron. The intermediate temperature range represents reverse annealing.
- Reverse annealing is though to occur because of a competition between the native interstitial point defects and the boron atoms for lattice sites.



Transient Enhanced Diffusion

- TED is the result of interstitial damage from the implant enhancing the dopant diffusion for a brief transient period.
- It is the dominant effect today that determines junction depths in shallow profiles.
- It is anomalous diffusion, because profiles can diffuse more at low temperatures than at high temperatures for the same Dt.

• The basic model for TED assumes that all the implant damage recombines rapidly, leaving only 1 interstitial generated per dopant atom when the dopant atom occupies a substitutional site (the +1 model) [Giles].



• TED effects may be very non-local. Here the As profile recrystallizes by SPE without much TED. The buried boron layer is drastically affected by the +1 interstitials in the As tail region.

Atomic Level Understanding Of TED

• {311} clusters form rapidly and then are stable for extended periods (sec - min), driving TED by emitting I while they shrink.



- By 0.1 sec (750°C), the {311} defects have formed and C_I is down to $\approx 10^{13}$ cm⁻³ (SUPREM).
- But $C_{I}^{*} \approx 10^{8} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ at 750°C, so the enhancement is $> 10^{5}!$



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- This enhancement decays over a time period of sec min as the {311} clusters break up.
- Given this picture, we can model the {311} behavior as follows:

$$\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{Cl}_{\mathbf{n}} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{Cl}_{\mathbf{n}+1} \tag{18}$$

where Cl_n is a cluster with n interstitials.

$$-\frac{\partial C_{I}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial Cl}{\partial t} = k_{f}C_{I}Cl - k_{r}Cl$$

$$= \text{growth} - \text{shrinkage}$$
(19)

- The most important part of the transient is while the {311} clusters are evaporating I, maintaining a constant supersaturation of I.
- During this period, dopant diffusivity enhancements are ≈ constant and given by (see text):

$$\frac{C_{I}^{max}}{C_{I}^{*}} = \frac{1}{4\pi a^{3}C_{I}^{0}} \exp\left(-\frac{E_{b}-E_{F}}{kT}\right) \qquad (20)$$



• Example - Boron TED. Note that C_I / C_I^* has dropped from 10⁴ to 10² in 10 min at 750 °C.

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• The excess I diffuse into the bulk and recombine at the surface.



- The flux towards the surface is $d_I C_I^{max} / R_P$ where R_P is the range of the implant.
- The time to dissolve the clusters is given by the dose divided by the flux (see text):





• Thus the general picture of TED that emerges is:

• Because the {311} clusters exist for longer times at low T, there can actually be greater dopant motion during low T anneals.

