Digital Integrated Circuits – EECS 312

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Review

- 1 Explain each transistor operating region.
- 2 What is pinch-off?
- B How does body bias work?
- 4 What is velocity saturation?
- 5 What is sub-threshold operation?

Device trends

Fabrication Layout and design rules Packaging and board-level integration Homework

Lecture plan

- 1. Device trends
- 2. Fabrication
- 3. Layout and design rules
- 4. Packaging and board-level integration
- 5. Homework

Process variation

Given our current knowledge of transistor operation, what impact will variation in

- dopant concentrations,
- oxide thickness,
- transistor width, and
- interconnect width

have?

Device trends

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FinFETs



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Device trends

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Carbon nanotubes and nanowires



FION AIST.

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Quantum cellular automata

- Binary information encoded in device configuration.
- Signals are propagated through nearest neighbor interaction.



From Professor Xiaobo Sharon Hu.

Device trends

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Quantum cellular automata arithmetic-logic unit



From Professor Xiaobo Sharon Hu.

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Device trends

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Single-electron tunneling transistors



Common problems

- Difficult to get high-quality devices where they are needed.
- High susceptibility to thermal noise.
- High susceptibility to charge trap offsets.
- Low gain.

Device trends

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What does the future hold

- CMOS for another decade or so, until devices consist of a small integer number of atoms.
- Nobody knows what comes next.
- Nothing? New device technology?
- Implications for information technology?

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Review

- List a few different alternatives to CMOS for use in digital systems.
- 2 Indicate their advantages and disadvantages relative to CMOS.

NMOSFET



Insulator properties

- Low- κ : reduced capacitance, useful for isolating wires.
- High-κ: increased capacitance, useful for maintaining k despite increased gate thickness.

High-level fabrication process overview



Dual-Well Trench-Isolated CMOS Process

Schematic of circuit to fabricate



Layout of circuit to fabricate



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Overview of fabrication process



Fabrication process details



FIGURE 1.37. General semiconductor production process.

From Richard C. Jaeger. Introduction to Microelectronic Fabrication. Addison-Wesley, 1993.

SiO_2 patterning



Etching



Fig. 2.5 Etching profiles obtained with (a) isotropic wet chemical etching and (b) dry anisotropic etching in a plasma or reactive-ion etching system.

From Richard C. Jaeger. Introduction to Microelectronic Fabrication. Addison-Wesley, 1993.

Summary of processing steps

- Define active areas.
- 2 Etch and fill trenches.
- Implant well regions.
- 4 Deposit and pattern polysilicon/metal gate layer.
- 5 Implant source and drain regions, and substrate contacts.
- 6 Create contacts and via windows.
- 7 Deposit and pattern metal layers.

Step 1: epitaxial layer



Step 2: gate oxide and sacrificial nitride layer deposition



Step 3: plasma etching



Step 4: trench filling, CMP, etching, SiO₂ deposition



Step 5: n-well and V_{Tn} adjustment implants



Step 6: p-well and V_{Tp} adjustment implants



Step 7: polysilicon/metal deposition and etch



Step 8: n^+ and p^+ source, drain, and poly implantation



Step 9: SiO_2 deposition and contact etch



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Step 10: deposit and pattern first interconnect layer



Step 11: deposit SiO₂, etch contacts, deposit and pattern second interconnect layer



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Interconnect layers



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Al vs. Cu

- For AI, can deposit and etch metal layers.
- Cu alloys with Si.
- Cannot safely deposit Cu directly on Si.
- Cu difficult to controllably etch.
- Instead, build SiO₂ shield and etch contact regions.
Damascene process



From IBM.

Interconnect layers



interconnections, and has effective transistor channel-lengths of only 0.12 µm. It is the first commercial fabrication process to use copper wires (see "The Damascus connection," p. 25].

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Layout production

- Must define 2-D structure for each mask/layer.
- Initial topology planning often done.
- Can be partially or fully automated.
- Must adhere to design rules.

Stick diagrams



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Faults and variation

- Clearly cannot have two wires crossing each other.
- Variation imposes further constraints.













Layout and design rules Packaging and board-level integration

Possible faults



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Design rules

Summary

- Automatically-checked layout rules.
- Reduce fault probabilities.
- · Generally regarded as necessary.

Caveats

- Recent studies show many rules are not beneficial.
- Interaction range is increasing relative to λ .
 - · Complicates design rules, making manual comprehension difficult.
- Design rule checking can be slow.

Meanings of colors in layouts

Layer	Color	Representation
Well (p,n)	Yellow	
Active Area (n+,p+)	Green	
Select (p+,n+)	Green	<u></u>
Polysilicon	Red	
Metal1	Blue	
Metal2	Magenta	
Contact To Poly	Black	
Contact To Diffusion	Black	
Via	Black	

Layout layers



Intra-layer design rules



Via design rules



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Layout editor



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Design rule checker



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Packaging requirements

- Electrical: Good insulators and conductors.
- Mechanical: Reliable, doesn't stress IC.
- Thermal: Low thermal resistance to ambient. In some cases, consistency more important.
- Cost.

Wire bonding



Tape automated bonding



Tape automated bonding die attachment



Flip-chip bonding



Through-hole PCB mounting



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Surface mount



Example package types



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Chip cap



Packaging and board-level integration Homework

Heat pipe



Heat pipe details



Heat pipe thermal cycle

- 1) Working fluid evaporates to vapour absorbing thermal energy.
- 2) Vapour migrates along cavity to lower temperature end.
- Vapour condenses back to fluid and is absorbed by the wick, releasing thermal energy
- 4) Working fluid flows back to higher temperature end.

Example of variation in package parameters

Туре	C (pF)	L (nH)
68-pin plastic DIP	4	35
68-pin ceramic DIP	7	20
256-pin PGA	5	15
Wire bond	1	1
Solder bump	0.5	0.1



- Instead of integrating more ICs, put more on an IC.
- Advantages: Lower cost per device, compact.
- Disadvantages: Requires integration of devices fabricated with different processes.

Move from lead solder

- Tin-lead solder was commonly used.
- Lead is toxic, accumulates in the body, and is difficult to dispose of.
- Pure tin works in the short term.
- May be acceptable as solder in the long term.
- Problems with plating.

Tin whiskers



connector pins after 10 years (courtesy of NASA GSFC)

Screw dislocations, primarily caused by plating.

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Multi-chip modules



- Better C than board-level integration.
- Integrate multiple processes.
- Somewhat compact.
- Expensive.

Multiple active layer 3-D integration



Potential for thermal problems.

Heterogeneous system 3-D integration

Integrate

- Logic.
- Memory.
- Analog.
- Research on discrete components (with soldering).

Microchannel cooling



Credit to David Atienza at EPFL.

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Vapor-phase cooling



Credit to Michael J. Ellsworth, Jr. and Robert E. Simons at IBM.



- CMOS is the most economical way to build digital logic now, but potential alternatives being developed.
- Fabrication process is essentially repeated deposition, masking, etching, and polishing steps to dope and build material layers.
- $AI \rightarrow Cu$.
- $SiO_2 \rightarrow High-\kappa$ and Low- κ .
- Cu interconnects use damascene process.
- Poly-Si→metal.

Upcoming topics

- MOSFET dynamic behavior.
- Wires.
- CMOS inverters.

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Homework assignment

- 24 September: Read Mark T. Bohr, Robert S. Chau, Tahir Ghani, and Kaizad Mistry. The High-k Solution. *IEEE Spectrum*, October 2007.
- 24 September: Homework 1.
- 3 October: Lab 2.