



Name :
Roll No. :
Invigilator's Signature :

CS/M.TECH (VLSI)/SEM-1/PGMVD-104/2010-11

2010-11

MICROELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY & VLSI DESIGN

Time Allotted : 3 Hours

Full Marks : 70

The figures in the margin indicate full marks.

*Candidates are required to give their answers in their own words
as far as practicable.*

GROUP - A

(Multiple Choice Type Questions)

1. Justify any *ten* of the following statements : $10 \times 2 = 20$
- i) Reactive Ion Etching blends both of directionality and selectivity.
 - ii) Hydrofluoric acid is usually buffered with NH_4F to remove SiO_2 .
 - iii) 'Si' is the material of choice for CMOS VLSI technology.
 - iv) Sheet resistance is expressed in ohm/\square .
 - v) 'Al' has been the preferred material for contact.
 - vi) Introduction of halogen species during oxidation stabilizes threshold voltage.
 - vii) Proximity printing is better option over contact printing.



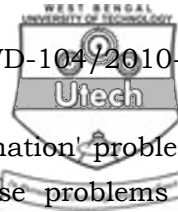
- viii) Growing oxide layer in CMOS VLSI technology the actual sequence involves dry/wet/dry.
- ix) Lift-off technique is extensively used for pattern transferring.
- x) For MOSFET Fabrication p-type <100> orientation Si wafer is preferred over <111> orientation.
- xi) Dry etching is preferred for small feature size.

GROUP – B

(Short Answer Type Questions)

Answer any *four* of the following. $4 \times 5 = 20$

- 2. What is "Piranha cleaning" ? Why is this cleaning procedure required for device fabrication ? Write down the chemical composition of "standard clean" processes ? $2 + 1 + 2$
- 3. What are the different kind of dry etch techniques ? Which parameter is to be controlled to select the particular etching mode ? Point out the important characteristics of dry etch technique ? $2 + 1 + 2$
- 4. Why is local oxidation (LOCOS) required in CMOS VLSI technology ? Give reasons for using pad oxide in case of LOCOS. How does Bird's beak appear in LOCOS ? $1 + 2 + 2$



5. What are 'Junction spiking' and 'Electromigration' problems related to Al metallization ? How can these problems be minimized ? 2 + 2 + 1
6. Write down the important properties of a good photoresist. Compare positive and negative photoresist in terms of image transfer to the water. 2 + 3

GROUP - C

(Long Answer Type Questions)

Answer any *two* of the following. 2 × 15 = 30

7. What issues are to be considered in etching process ?
- 0.6 μm of SiO₂ is to be etched ; rate is 0.2 $\mu\text{m}/\text{min}$. If etch selectivity of oxide relative to mask is 24 : 1 and to slightly over-etch you expose for 3.6 min, how thick should mask be ? How thick is 0.035 μm mask after etch ? How do you conclude that Si water is completely free from oxide film ? What etching technique do you use to make a "V" groove in Si ? 6 + 3 + 2 + 2 + 2
8. What are the different techniques for the formation of oxide layer over any substrate ? Write down the different functions of oxide layer in CMOS VLSI technology ? Starting with oxide growth kinetics develop the growth rate equation. Find the linear and parabolic rate constants from the equation. What factors affect oxidation process ? Comment on the factors. 2 + 3 + 5 + 3 + 2



9. What kind of material is required for multilevel interconnect network ? Why do we need damascene process ? Explain with suitable diagrams. the steps of a dual damascene process ? What benefit can be achieved by the dual damascene process ?

If we replace 'Al' with 'Cu' wire associated with some low-K dielectric ($K = 2.6$) instead of SiO_2 layer, what percentage of reduction of RC time constant will be achieved ?

$$(\rho_{\text{Al}} = 2.7 \mu\Omega\text{-cm} \ \& \ \rho_{\text{Cu}} = 1.7 \mu\Omega \text{ cm}) \qquad 2 + 2 + 6 + 2 + 3$$

