

Micromachining Technologies for MEMS fabrication

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SILICON MICROMACHINING

- **INTRODUCTION**
- **BULK MICROMACHINING**
- **SURFACE MICROMACHINING**

POLYMER MICROMACHINING

GLASS MICROMACHINING

CERAMICS MICROMACHINING

INTRODUCTION

SILICON as a material for MST/MEMS

Positive:

- Good electrical and mechanical properties e.g. elasticity, piezoresistivity
- Well understood characteristics
- Well established processing methods
- Integration of mechanical/electronic/optical functions

Limitations:

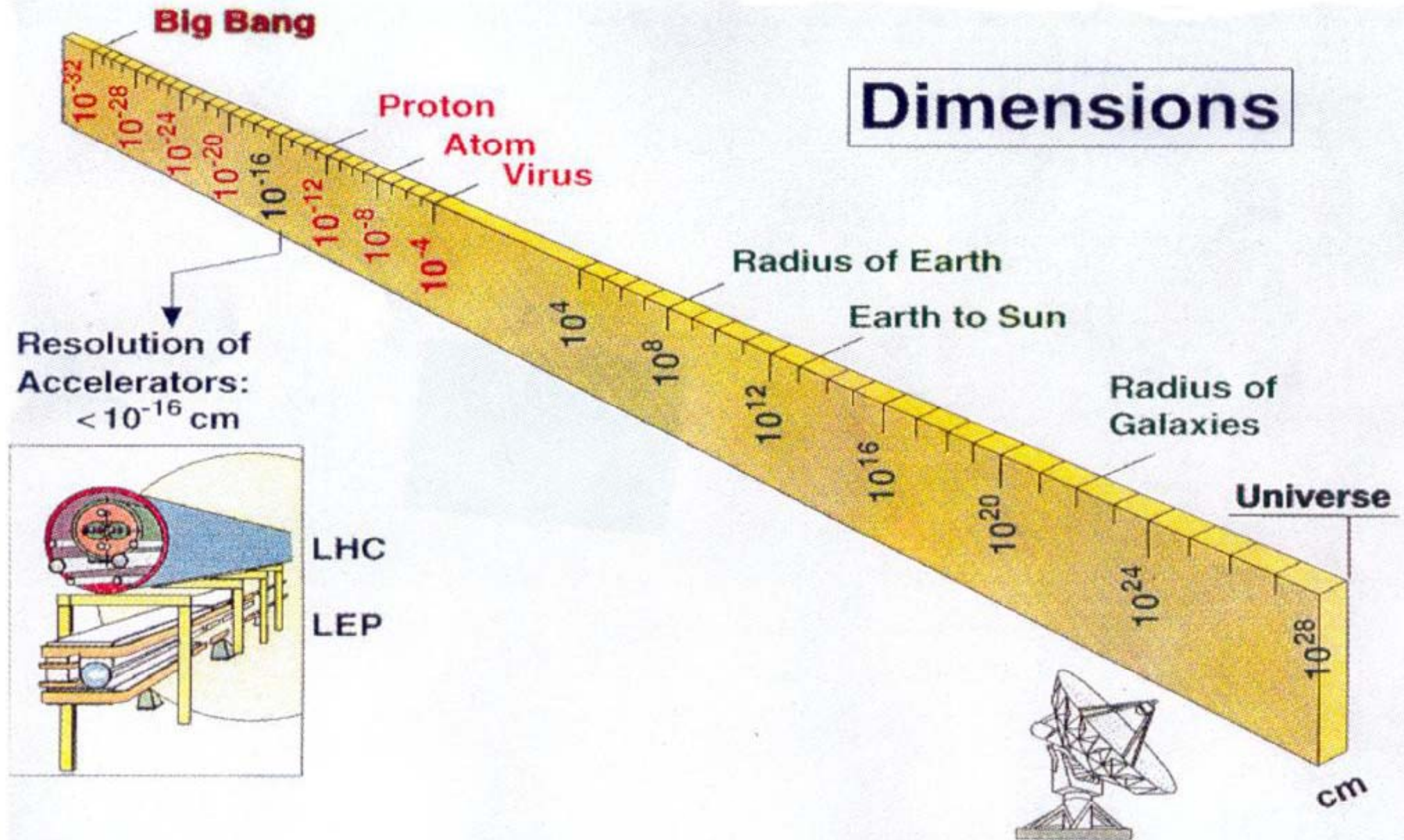
- Limited materials flexibility e.g no magnetic material, no piezoelectric
- Difficult interfacing - interconnections/ packaging problems still under development
- Limited functionality at high temperature

MICROMACHINING TECHNOLOGY

- Micromachining technology allows the fabrication of electro- mechanical optical structures with very small dimensions (in the micrometer range), 3D, using special processes, different of conventional IC technologies.
- Generally the micromachining technology can be classified in : bulk micromachining and surface micromachining
 - *Bulk micromachining is based on single crystal silicon etching, and the micromechanical structures developed with this technology are made of either silicon crystal or deposited or grown layers on silicon.*
- Micromechanical structures produced by micromachining technology can be divided into three groups: static, dynamic, and kinematic.
- **Static micromechanical** structures includes free three dimensional structures such as nozzles, cavities, capillary column, circular orifices, miniature electrical connectors.
- **Dinamic micromechanical** structures: diaphragmes, membranes, microbridges, cantilever beams, resonators. They require control displacement to accomplish the desired function.
- **The kinematic group** includes micromotors, microgears, pin joints, springs, cranks, sliders. The kinematic devices ar considered to be essential in the future for microrobotics and microsurgery.

DIMENSIONS

Dimensions



<u>MATERIALS</u>		<u>STRUCTURES</u>	<u>INFRASTRUCTURE</u>	
nano-level (10 ⁻⁹)	micro-level (10 ⁻⁶)	meso-level (10 ⁻³)	macro-level (10 ⁺⁰)	systems-level (10 ⁺³) m
<i>Molecular Scale</i>	<i>Microns</i>	<i>Meters</i>	<i>Up to Km Scale</i>	
* nano-mechanics	* micro-mechanics	* meso-mechanics	* beams	* bridge systems
* self-assembly	* micro-structures	* interfacial-structures	* columns	* lifelines
* nanofabrication	* smart materials	* composites	* plates	* airplanes

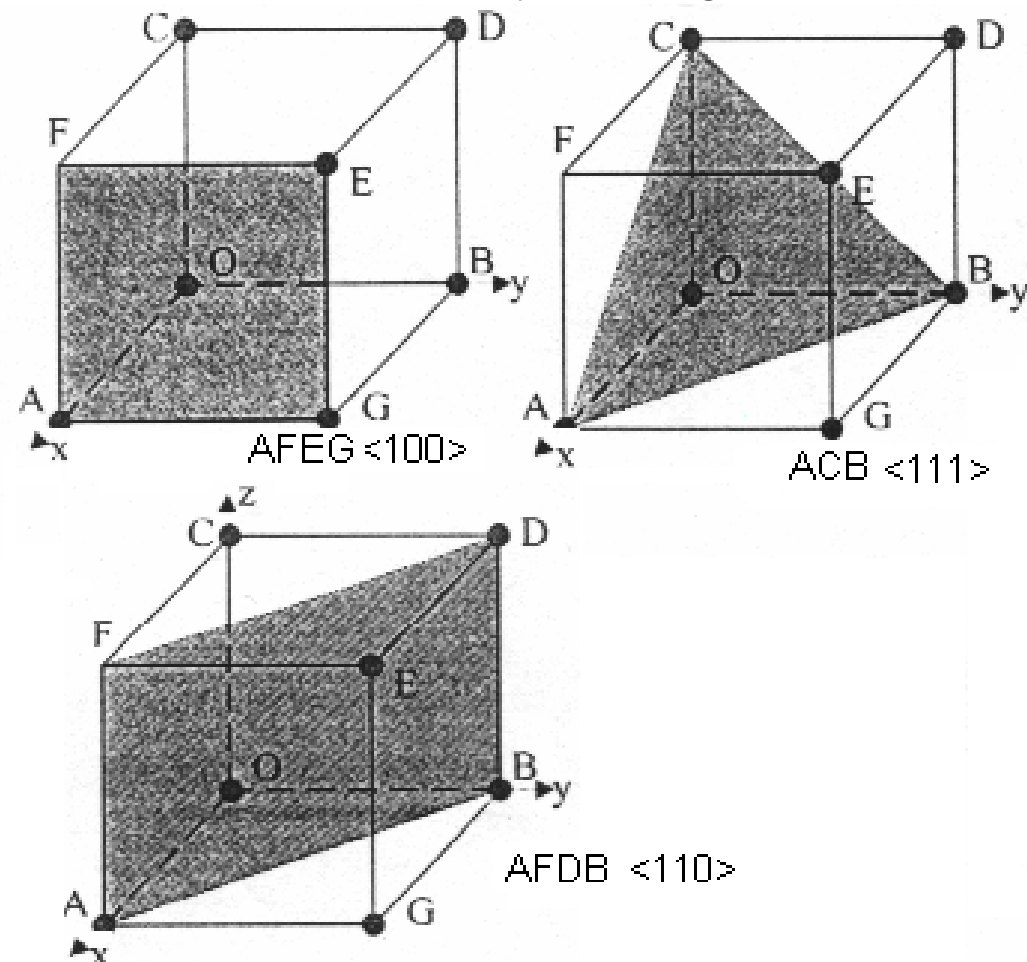
Fig. 1. Physical scales in materials and structural systems

Bulk micromachining = 3D configuration technique of silicon and thin films by using specific processes: chemical and electrochemical anisotropic etching, stop etch technique, assisted laser technique, anodic bonding, double side alignment, LIGA technique.

Bulk micromachining of silicon is based mainly on anisotropic etching. This relies on the fact that certain aqueous alkaline solutions attack silicon at widely differing speeds in the various crystallographic directions

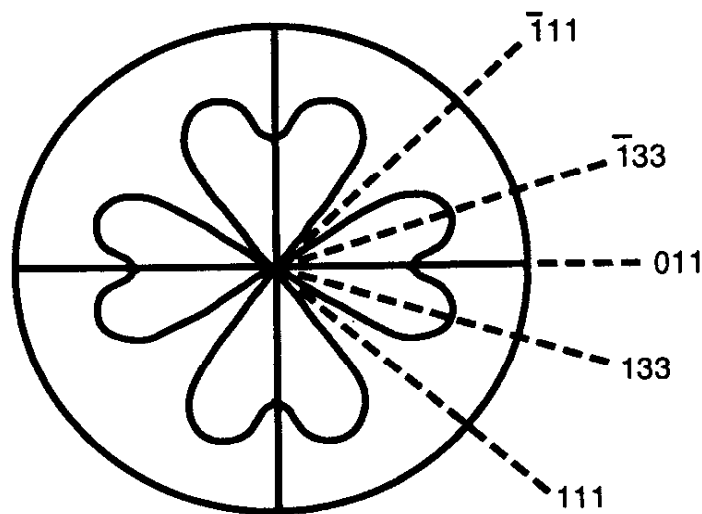
Silicon crystallographic directions

Crystallographic Structure
is a diamond type crystal with
centrated faces, and a constant lattice
of 5,43 Å

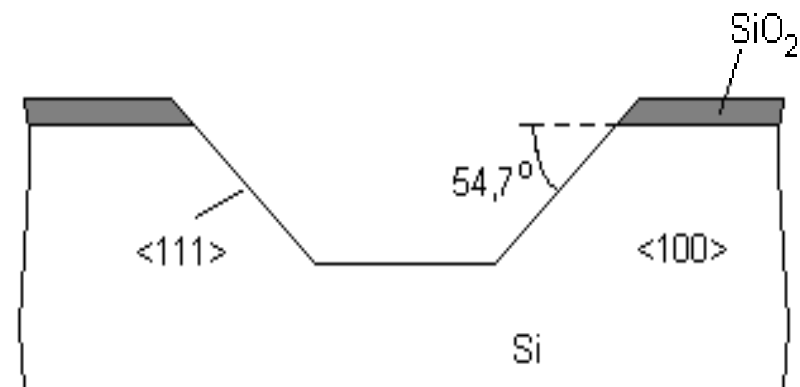


Crystallographic orientation – Dependent Etch rate

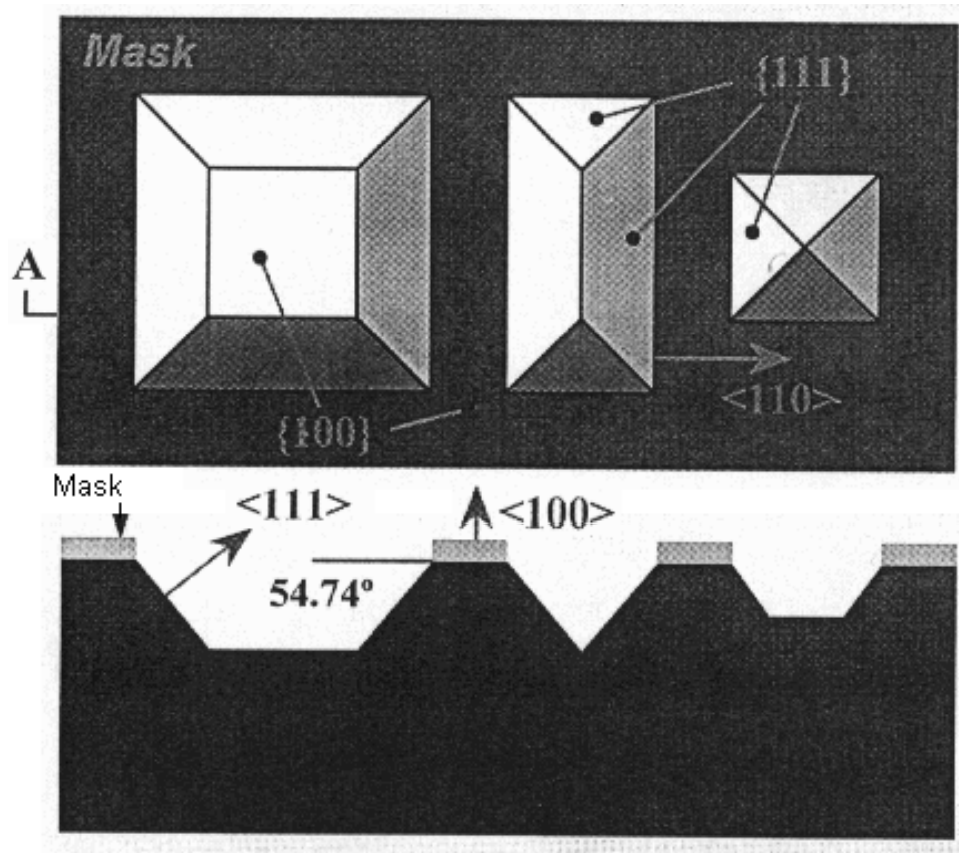
A basic feature of anisotropic etchants is that their etch rates are dependent of the crystallographic planes. $\langle 111 \rangle$ surfaces etch at a slower rate than all other crystallographic planes. This indicates that the dissolution rate will be a function of the crystal orientation of the silicon rate. Anisotropic etching is a function of the density of atoms (number of atoms per square centimetre), the energy needed to remove an atom from the surface, and geometric screening effects (three-dimensional distribution of atoms in the lattice). As a consequences of anisotropy it is possible to develop unique structures not otherwise feasible.



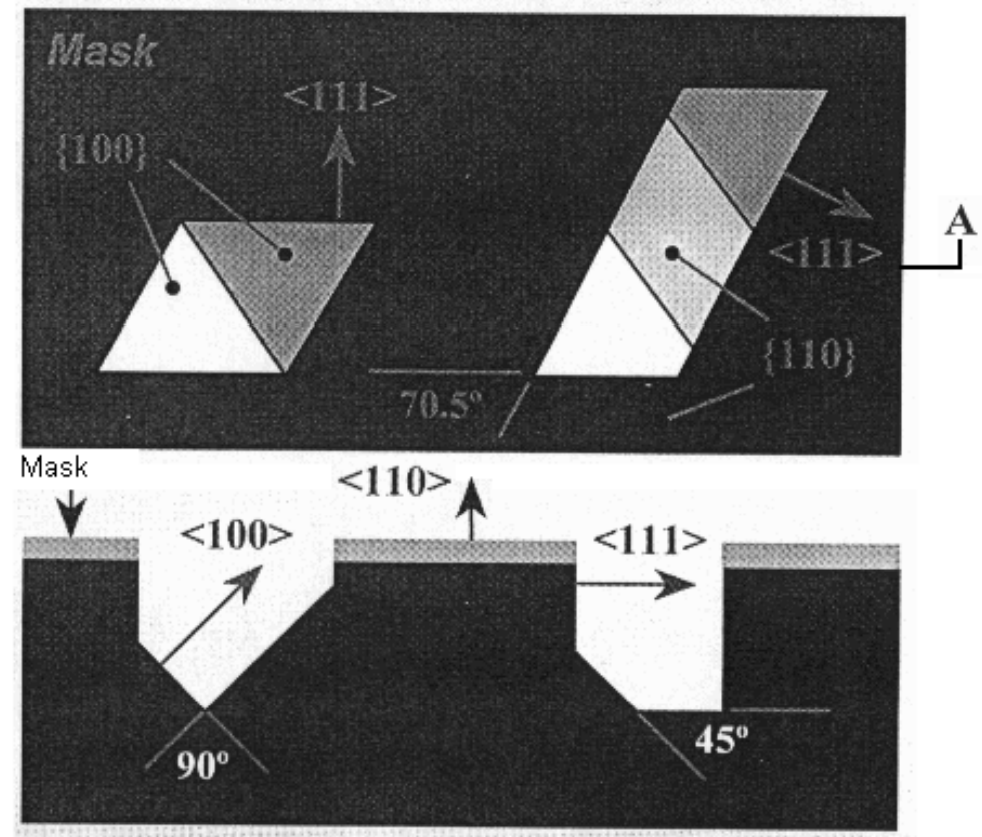
EDP etch rate dependence on crystallographic orientation in $\langle 100 \rangle$ silicon.



Truncated pyramidal pit bounded by silicon $\langle 111 \rangle$ planes



**Etching profile for Silicon <100>
anisotropically etched**



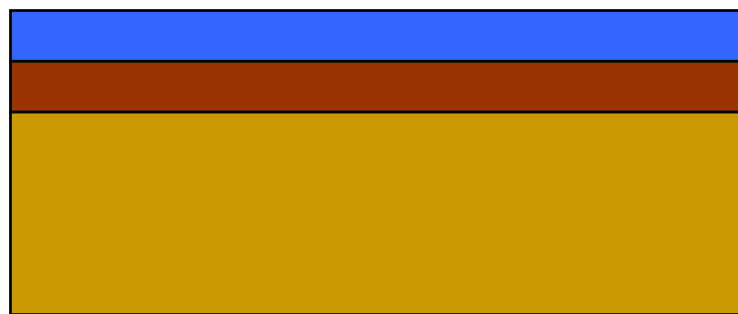
**Etching profile for Silicon <110>
anisotropically etched**

Lithographic Process

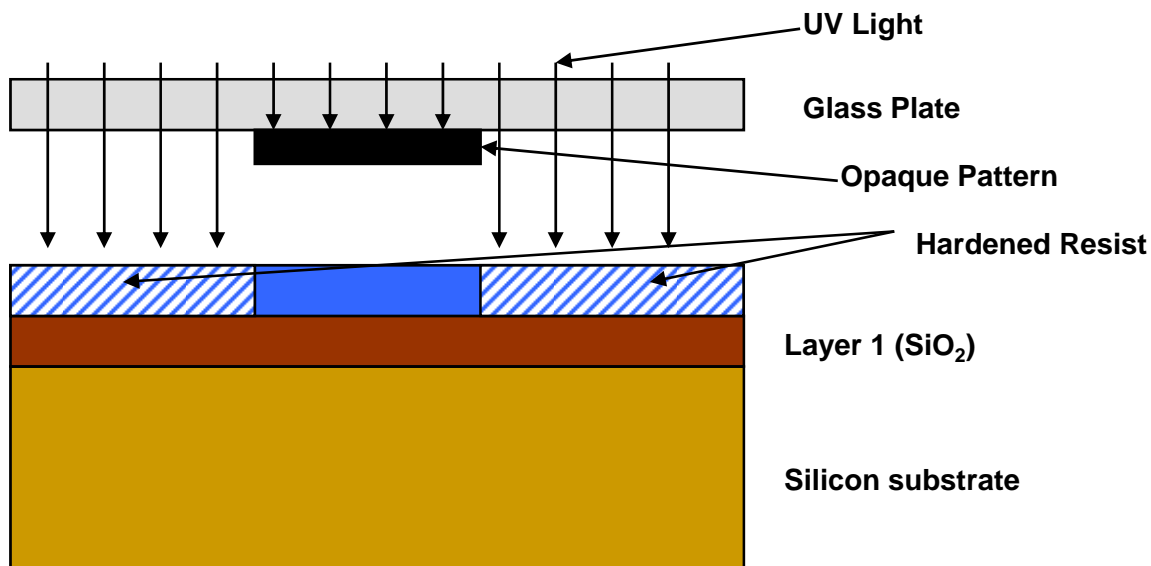
Bulk micromachining technique



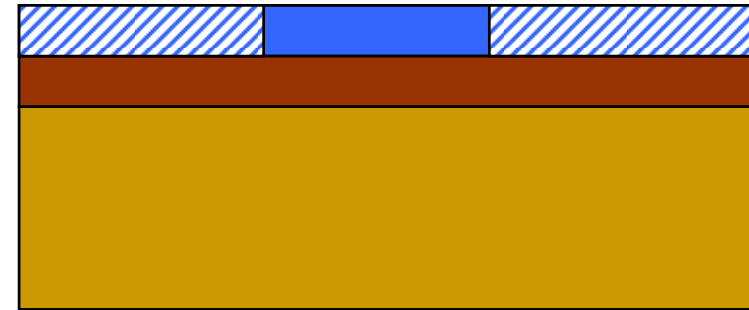
A. Oxidation



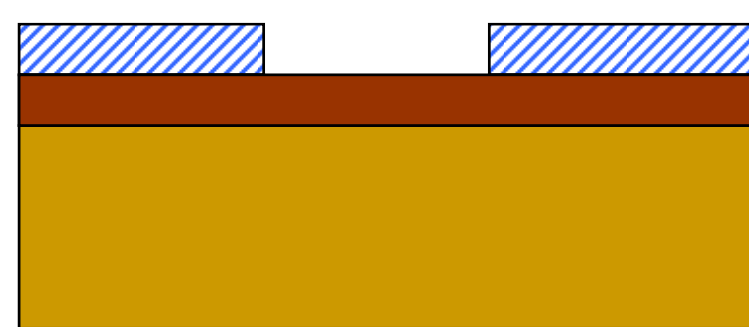
B. Litography preparation



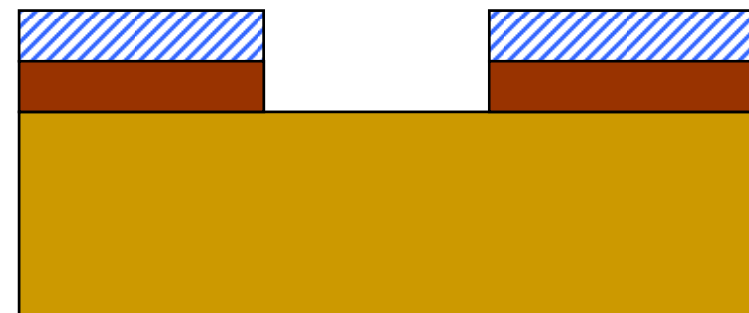
C. Exposure



D. Unexposed Photoresist Removed by Developer



E. SiO₂ etched with NH₄F + HF



F. Exposed Photoresist Removed with H₂SO₄

SILICON BULK MICROMACHINING

- Anisotropic etching**
- Double side alignment**
- Laser machining**
- Anodic Bonding**

SILICON ANISOTROPIC ETCHING

Anisotropic etching of silicon was studied as a function of:

- *Orientation of monocrystalline silicon*
- High dose boron concentration
- Etchant temperature
- *Composition and concentration of the etchant*

The most important anisotropic etchants of silicon

- *Hydroxides of alkaline metals: **KOH, NaOH, LiOH, CsOH***
- *Diamines:EDP(Ethylenediamine-pyrocatechol-Water)*
- *Tetramethylammonium Hydroxide (TMAH)*

ANISOTROPIC ETCHING OF SILICON

KOH (potassium hydroxide) – high etch rate, strong alkaline character, high dependence of the etching rate on the crystallographic orientation and boron concentration of the substrate

Up to now, two aspects of the silicon etching have been generally accepted /3.1/, /3.2/:

a) The general reaction:



b) The intrinsic etching process steps:

b1. Diffusion of the reactant molecules through the boundary layer to the silicon surface;

b2. Adsorption of reactant molecules on the solid surface of silicon;

b3. Surface reaction;

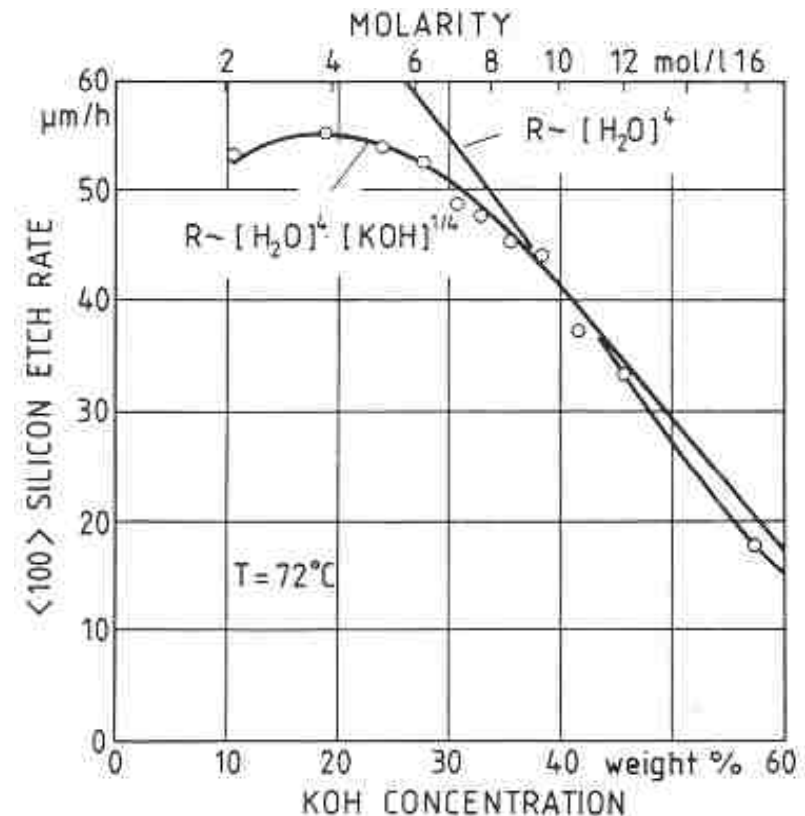
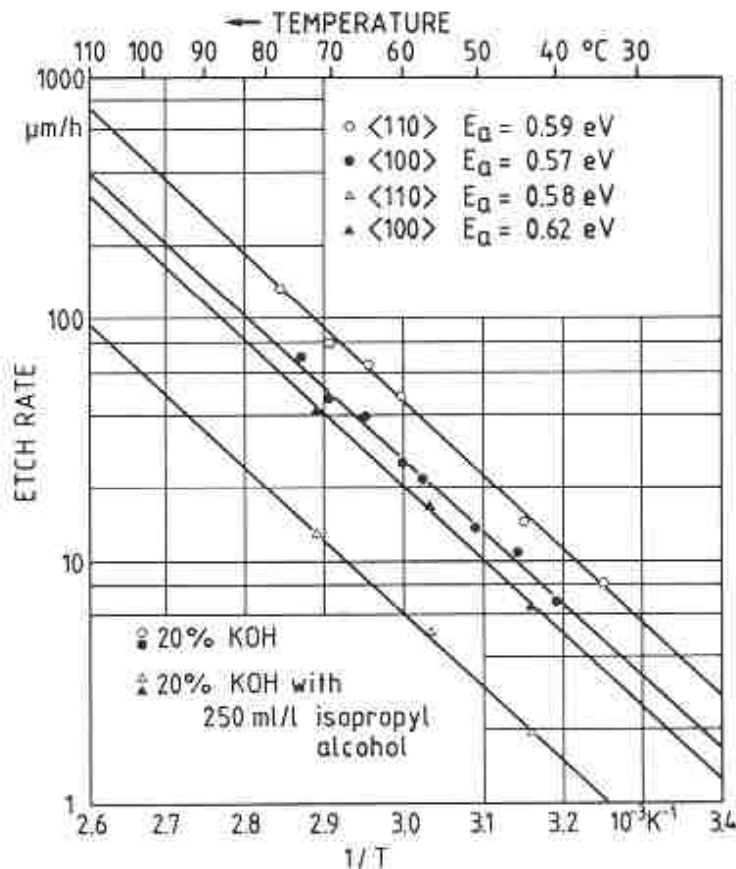
b4. Reaction product desorption;

b5. Diffusion of by-products back across the boundary layer into the bulk of the solution

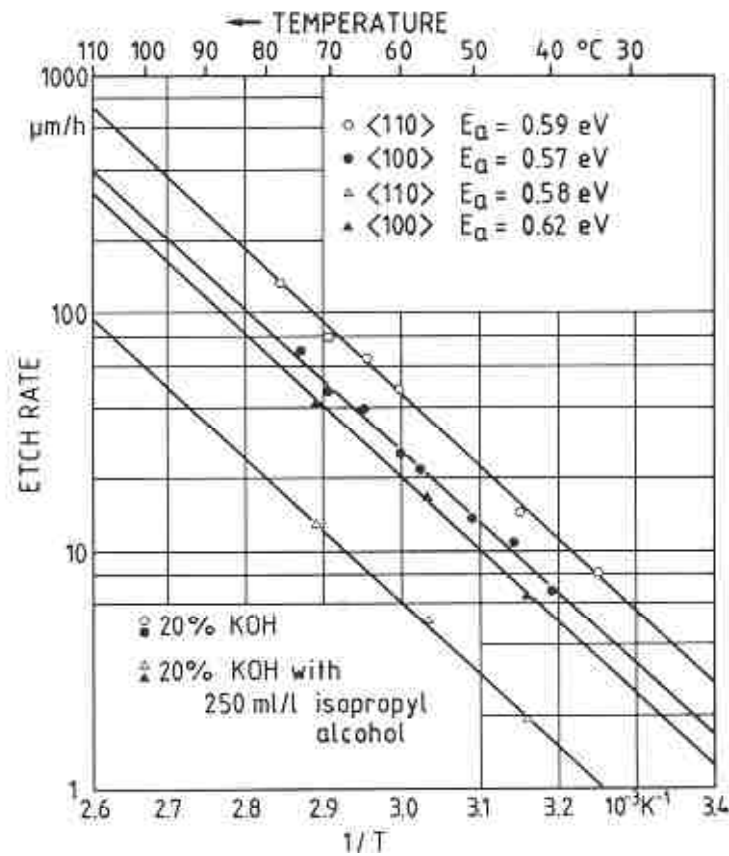
Potassium Hydroxide - KOH

- 1) The highest etch rate has been obtained for a concentration of 10 - 15% simple KOH and ~ 30% KOH + isopropyl alcohol. The isopropyl alcohol in KOH solution leads to the decrease of the etch rate and of the boiling temperature of the solution.
- 2) No effect of the etchant stirring has been found \Rightarrow the reaction is not limited by the diffusion
- 3) The ration between the etch rates of the silicon directions $\text{Si}\langle 100 \rangle / \text{Si}\langle 111 \rangle$ is 35:1

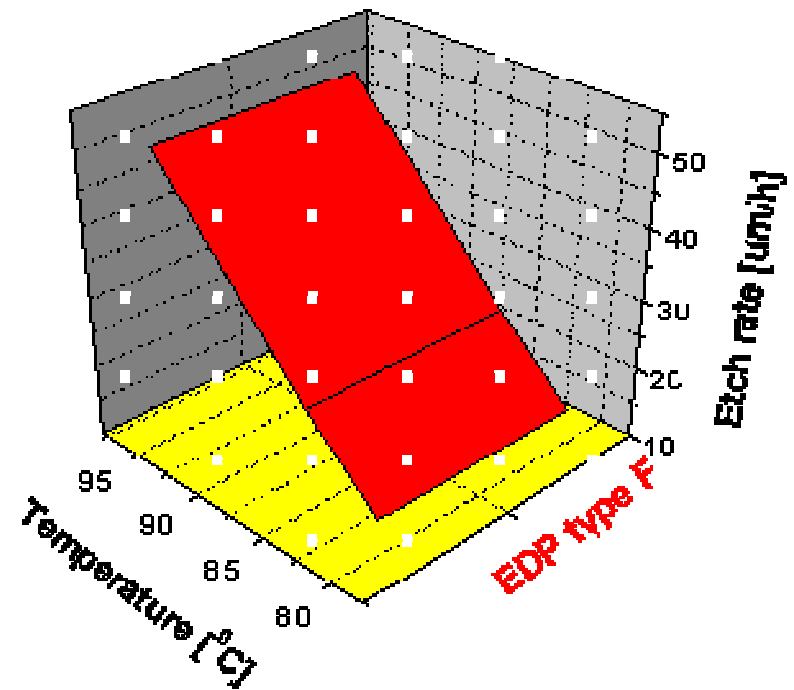
Seidel



Ethylendiamine – pyrocathocol –water (EDP)



Si etch rate in EDP, after Seidel /2.2/



Si etch rate in EDP – experimental/2.5/

Ethylendiamine – pyrocathecol

- The micropiramides are related to the plan $\langle 111 \rangle$, one characteristic of all the anisotropic etchants used for experiment and study.
- Changing the composition of etchants, it is possible to modified the density and the size of micropiramides
- Micropiramides are the results of the anisotropy of the solution, they appear together, the smallest are situated on one of the pyramid side, and make that the edge of the pyramid base to be curved, not right.

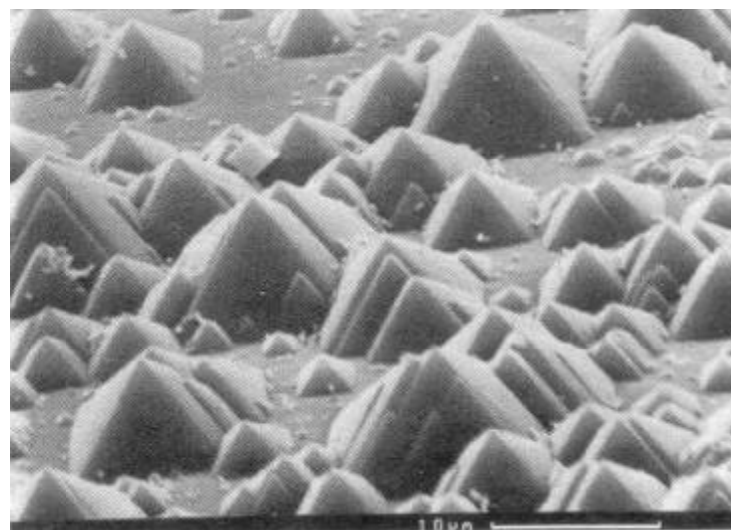
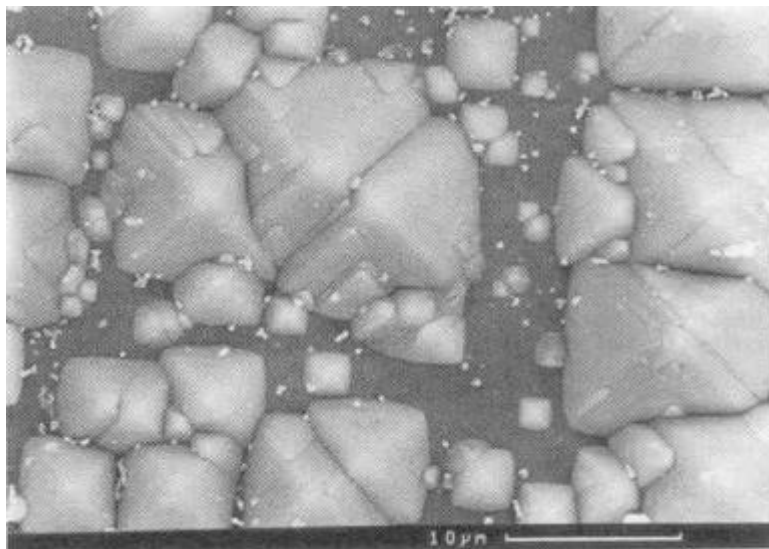
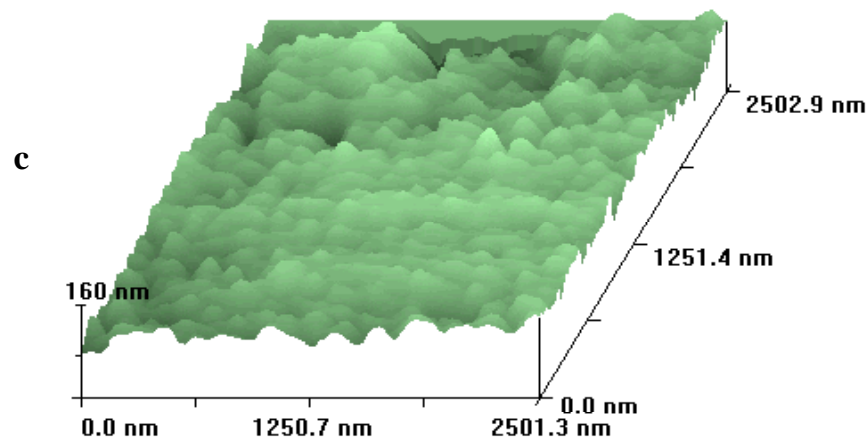
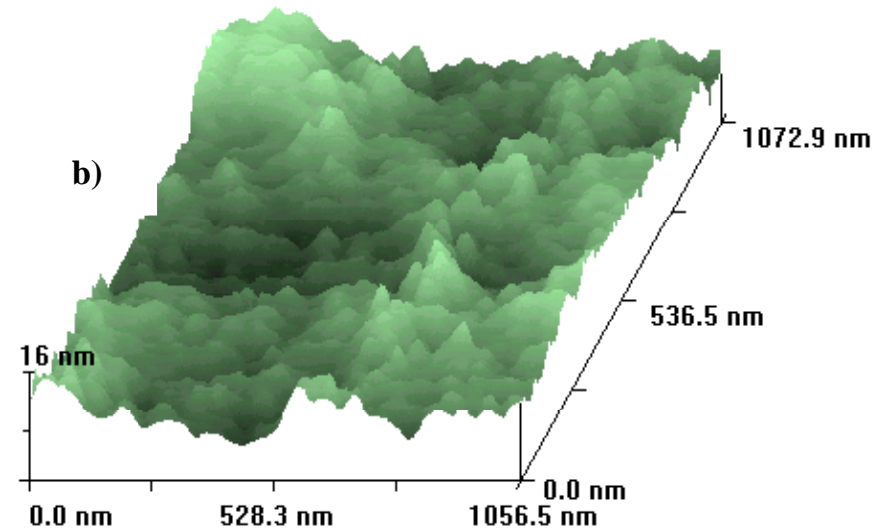
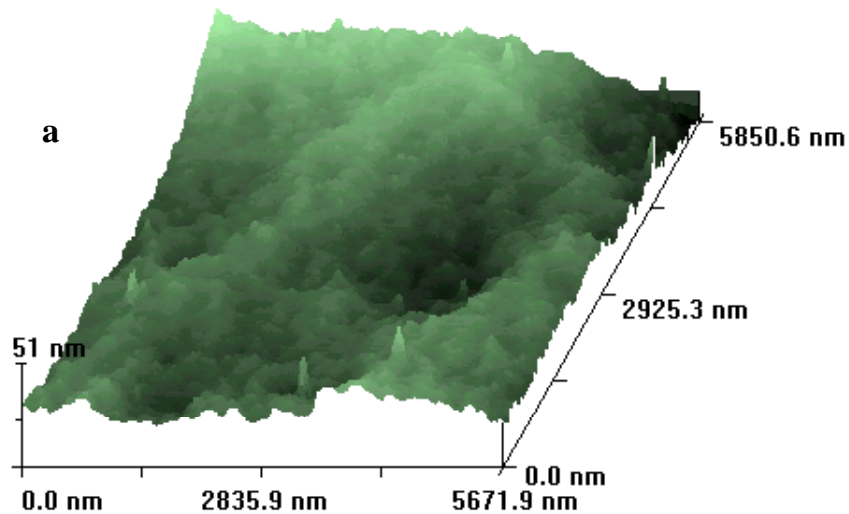


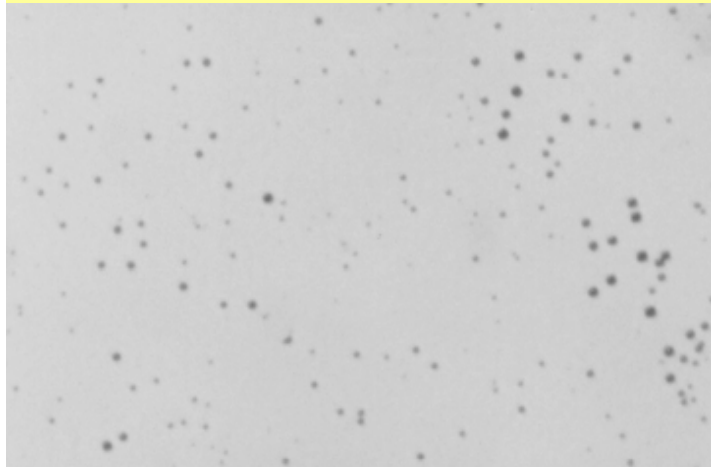
Fig.2. 5. Silicon hillocks during the anisotropic etching in EDP /Tan/.

AFM Investigation of silicon wafer roughness after the anisotropic etching process

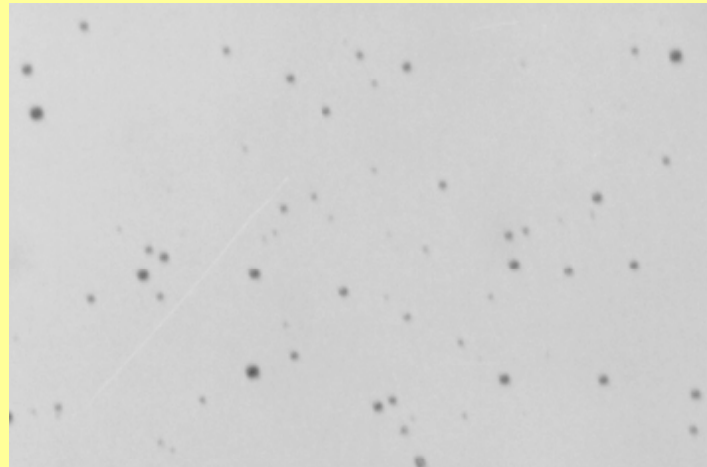


Roughness of a silicon wafer 200 μ m thickness, etched in 4.5M KOH+ redox system + complexant, at 80 $^{\circ}$ C (3D-AFM investigation):
a) calix[4]arene complexant; b) ether crown complexant; c) simple 4.5M KOH

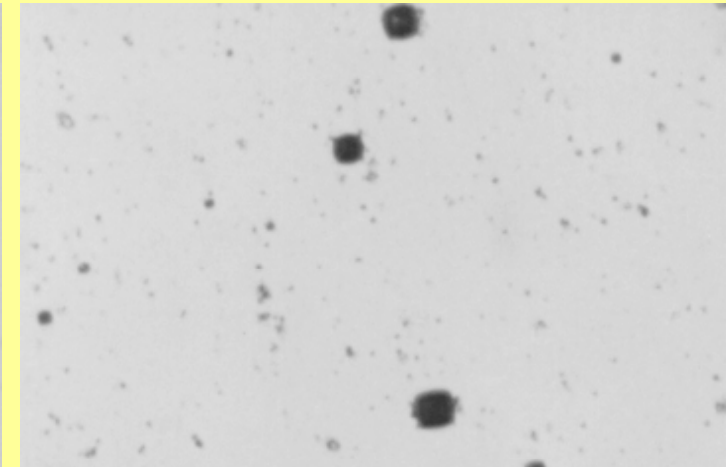
HILLOCKS MINIMIZATION ON THE SILICON SURFACE



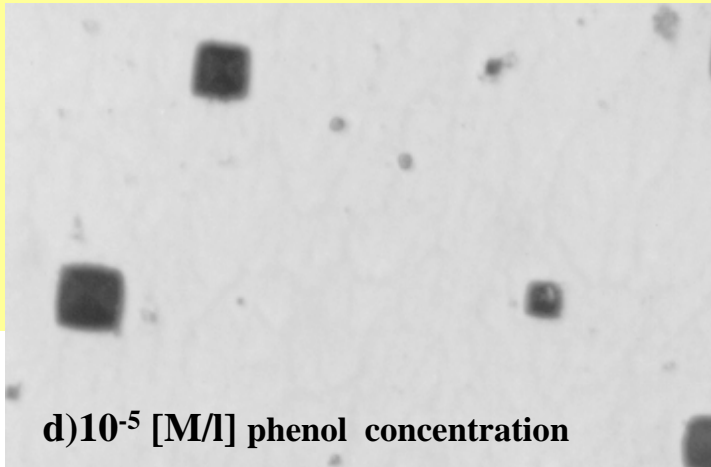
a) 10^{-2} [M/l] phenol concentration



b) 10^{-3} [M/l] phenol concentration



c) 10^{-4} [M/l] phenol concentration



d) 10^{-5} [M/l] phenol concentration

Fig. 2.11. a, b, c, d Top view microscop picture of n type <100> Si etched 1h at 85°C in 4.5M KOH+ phenol at different concentration

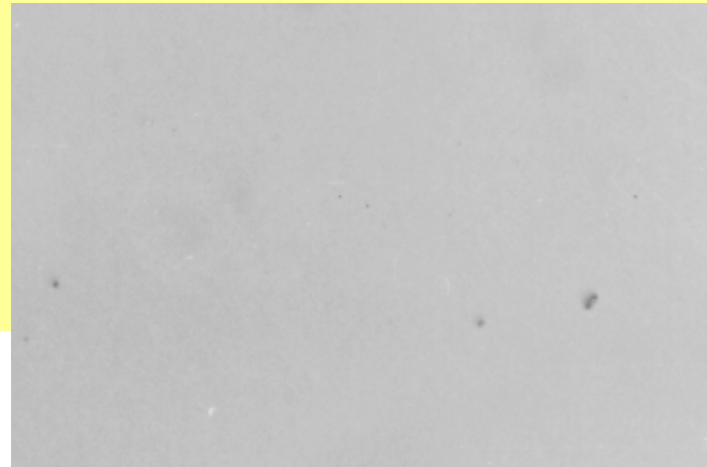


Fig.2.12. Top view microscop picture of n type<100> Si etched 1h at 85°C in 4.5M KOH+ 10^{-4} M/l p-tert butylphenol

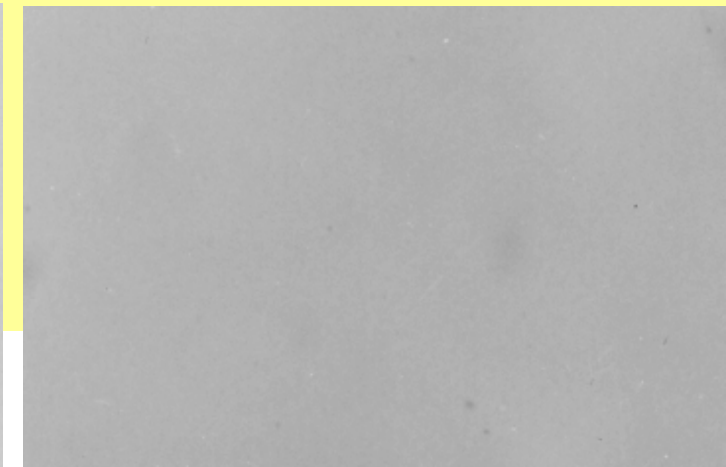


Fig.2.13. Top view microscop picture of n type<100> Si etched 1h at 85°C in 4.5M KOH+ 10^{-5} M/l azo calix[4]arene

SILICON HILLOCKS MINIMIZATION DURING THE ANISOTROPIC ETCHING PROCESS

Bulk micromachining technique

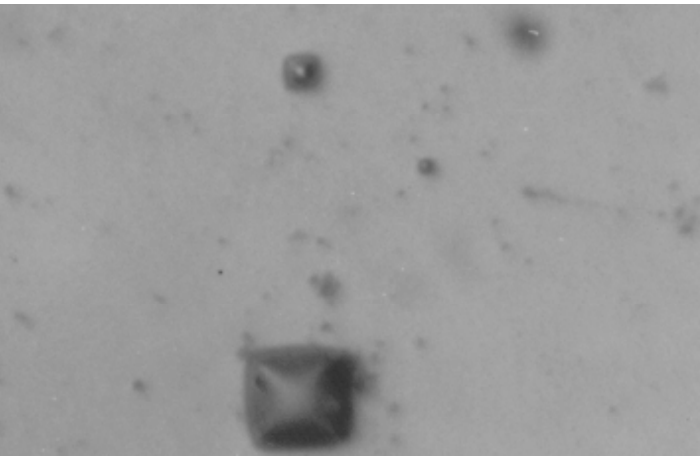


Fig.2.14. Top view microscop detail of n type<100> Si etched 1h at 85°C in 4.5M KOH

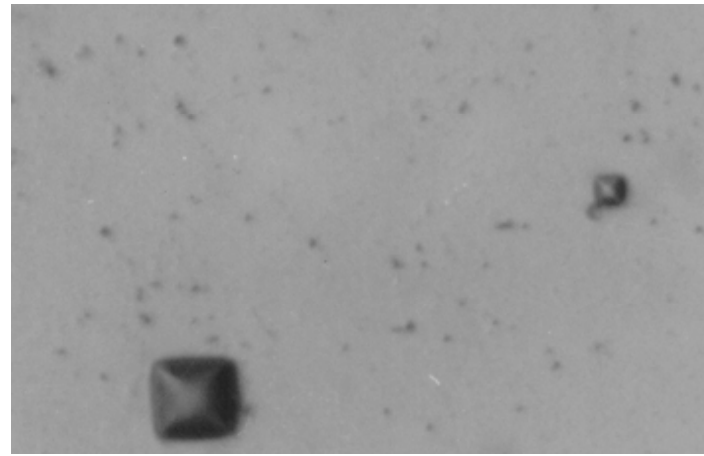


Fig.2.15. Top view microscop detail of n type<100> Si etched 1h at 85°C in 4.5M KOH+ 10⁻⁴ M/l p-tert butylphenol

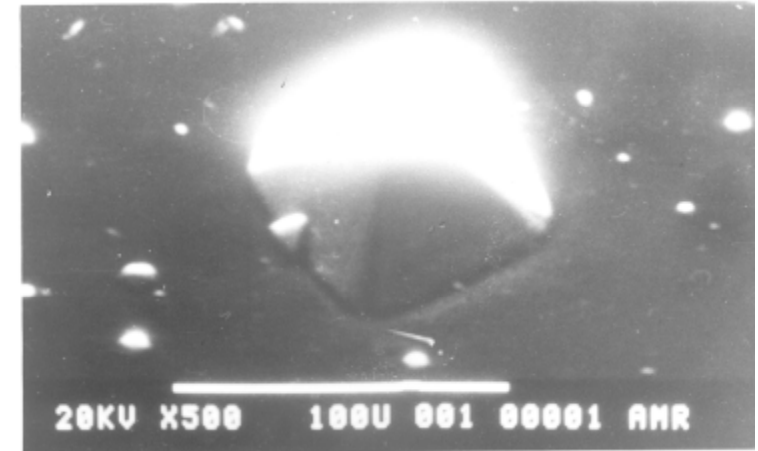


Fig.2.16. SEM picture of hillocks of silicon n<100> etched in KOH+ 10⁻⁴ M/l phenol

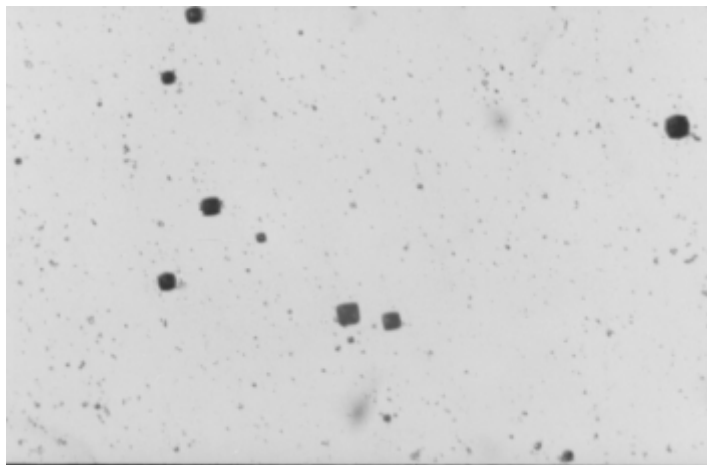


Fig.2.17. T op view microscop picture of n type<100> Si etched 1h at 85°C in 4.5M KOH

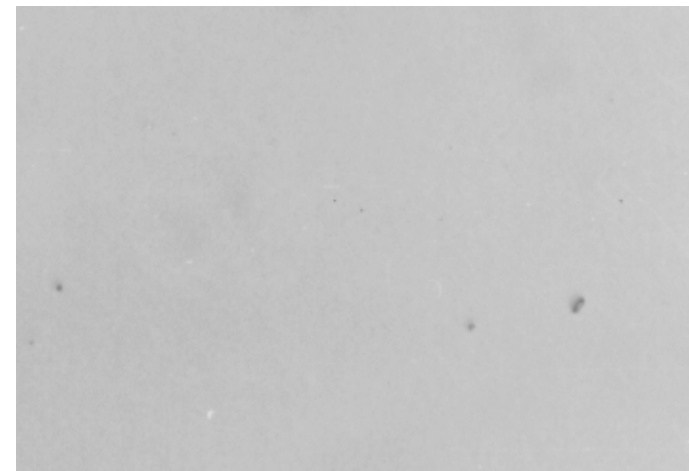


Fig.2.18. T op view microscop picture of n type<100> Si etched 1h at 85°C in 4.5M KOH +redox system

Bulk micromachining technique

COMPARISON STUDY OF SILICON MEMBRANE HILLOCKS FOR ANISOTROPIC ETCHING IN NaOH and $\text{LiOH} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$

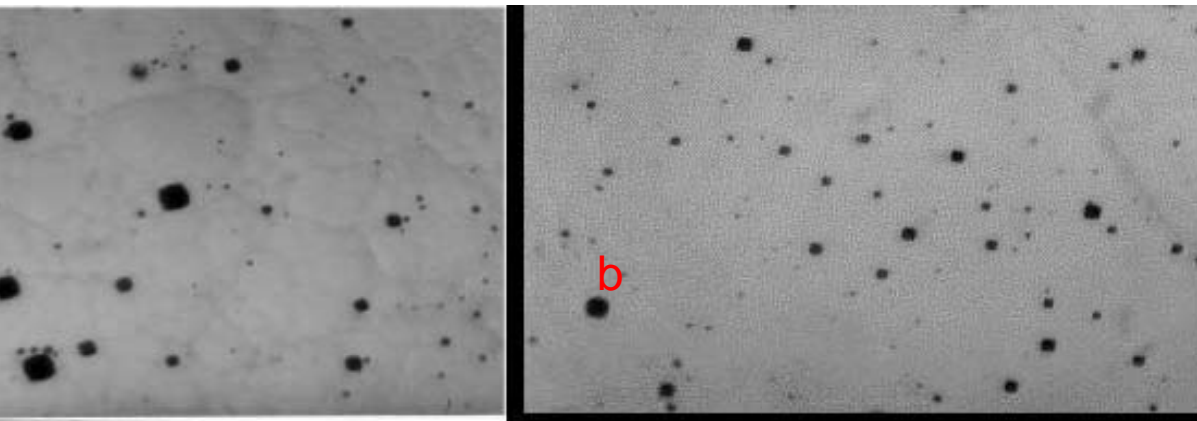


Fig.2.19. Microscop photograph of n type<100> Si membrane, ($150 \times 120 \mu^2$) dimension, etched in

a) 4.5M NaOH

b) 4.5M NaOH+p-tert butylphenol

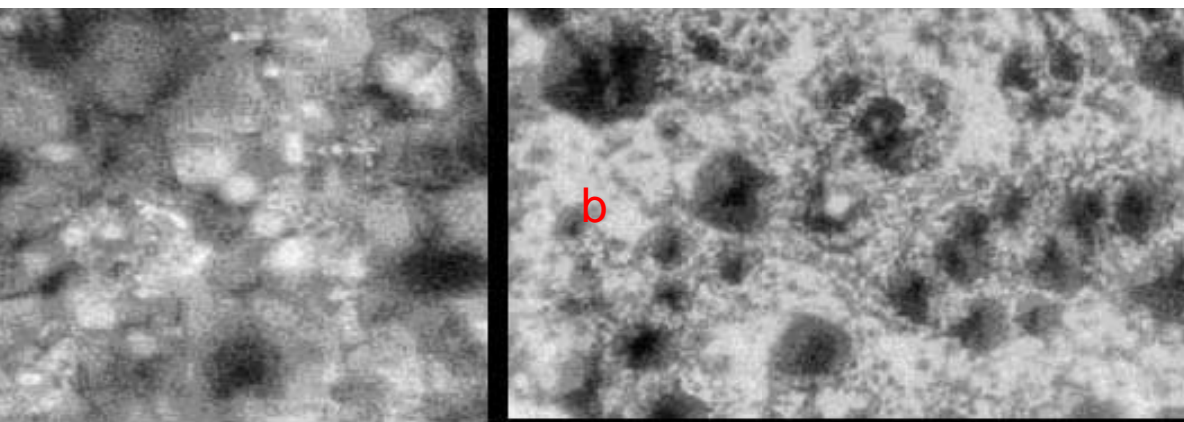


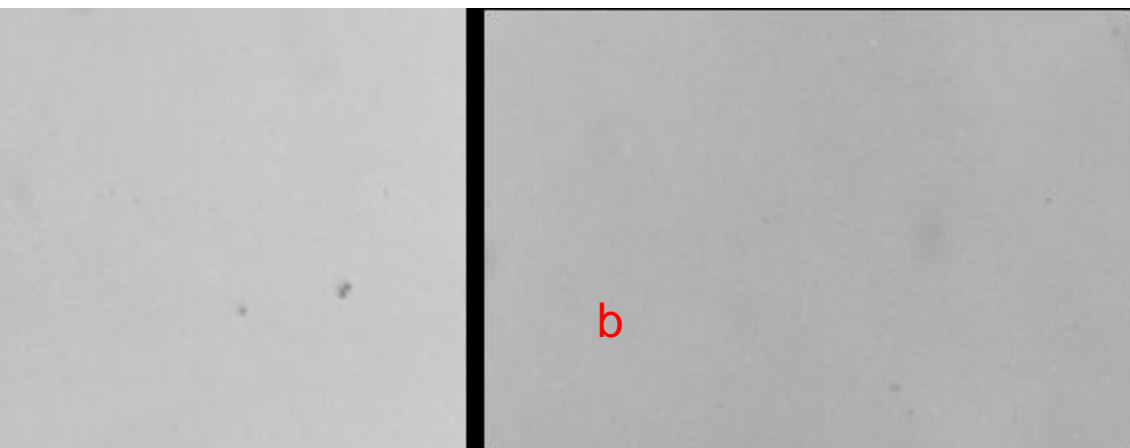
Fig.2.20. Microscop photograph of n type<100> Si membrane ($150 \times 120 \mu^2$) etched in a) $\text{LiOH} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$

b) $\text{LiOH} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O} + 10^{-4} \text{M/l p-tert butylphenol}$



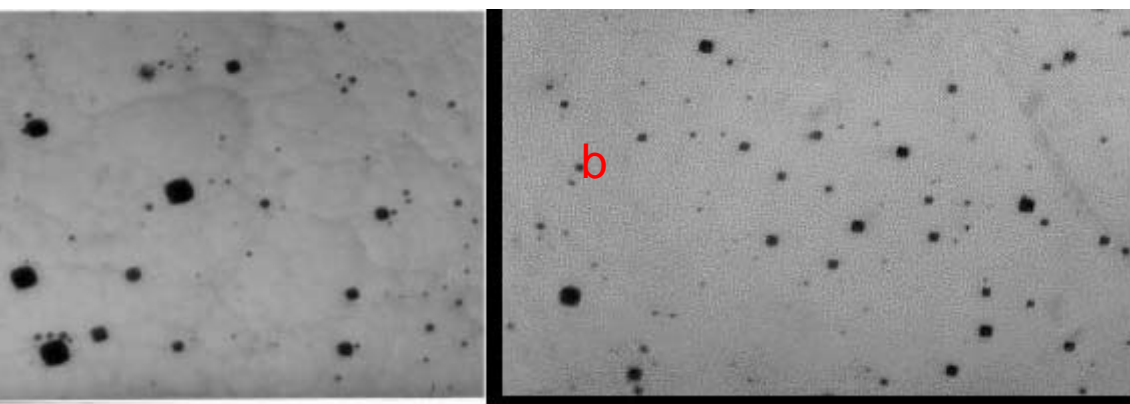
Fig.2.20. SEM picture of n type<100> Si membrane, etched in

COMPARISON STUDY OF SILICON HILLOCKS FOR ANISOTROPIC IN KOH, NaOH and $\text{LiOH} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ without and with complexants added



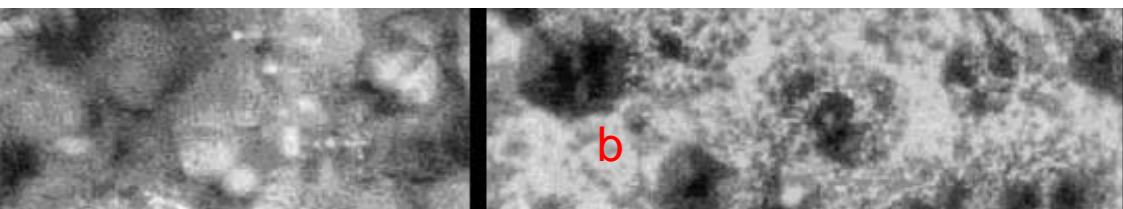
Microscop photograph of silicon surface etched in

- a) 4.5M KOH,
- b) 4.5 M KOH+ptert butyl phenol



Microscop photograph of silicon surface etched in

- a) 4.5M NaOH,
- b) 4.5 NaOH+ptert butyl phenol



Microscop photograph of silicon surface etched in

- a) 0.5M Li OH,

V OF BULK MICROMACHINED SENSORS

Bulk micromachining technology is a complex technique, offering a wide range of capabilities in the field of sensors and microsystems microfabrication.

Design of test structures for bulk micromachining technology characterisation

Design of test structures for characterisation of 3D silicon micromachining technology are important for:

- > minimizing the number of experiments;
- > optimisation and control of anisotropic etching process,
- > mask materials,
- > lithographic configuration,
- > establishing of design rules for 3D microstructures,

DESIGN OF CONTROL AND TEST STRUCTURES

Designing the structures for control and test it is necessary to know:

Silicon has a diamond cubic crystal structure. The Miller indices of the main crystallographic planes of silicon are $\langle 100 \rangle$, $\langle 110 \rangle$, and $\langle 111 \rangle$

Silicon etch rate in anisotropic solutions in the $\langle 100 \rangle$ direction is slightly higher than in the $\langle 110 \rangle$ direction and both are much higher than in the $\langle 111 \rangle$ direction

Three different structures can be defined in a unique process sequence, by using three different masks: one window which penetrates the wafer, a V-groove and a square diaphragm on the back side of the wafer (Fig.2.32, for silicon $\langle 100 \rangle$ and Fig.2.33 for silicon $\langle 110 \rangle$)

The diaphragm is defined by B++ doping.

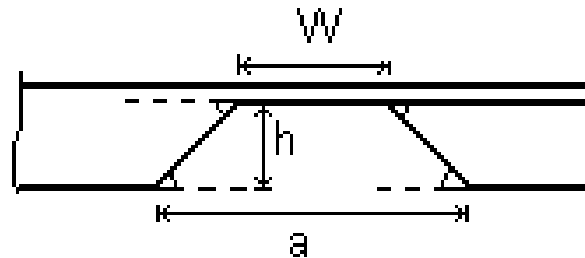
The $\langle 110 \rangle$ planes form (each one) an angle of $54,74^\circ$ (for silicon $\langle 100 \rangle$) and the slope length of $54,74^\circ \arctg \sqrt{2}$

On $\langle 110 \rangle$ two of the planes $\langle 111 \rangle$ form an angle of $35,26^\circ$ with the surface of

Bulk micromachining technique

Etching a diaphragm on silicon <100>

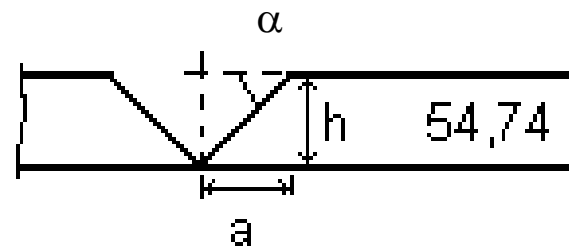
$$L = W + \sqrt{2} \cdot h$$



Etching a V-groove on silicon <100>

Width of the V-groove is $\sqrt{2}$ x thickness of etched silicon

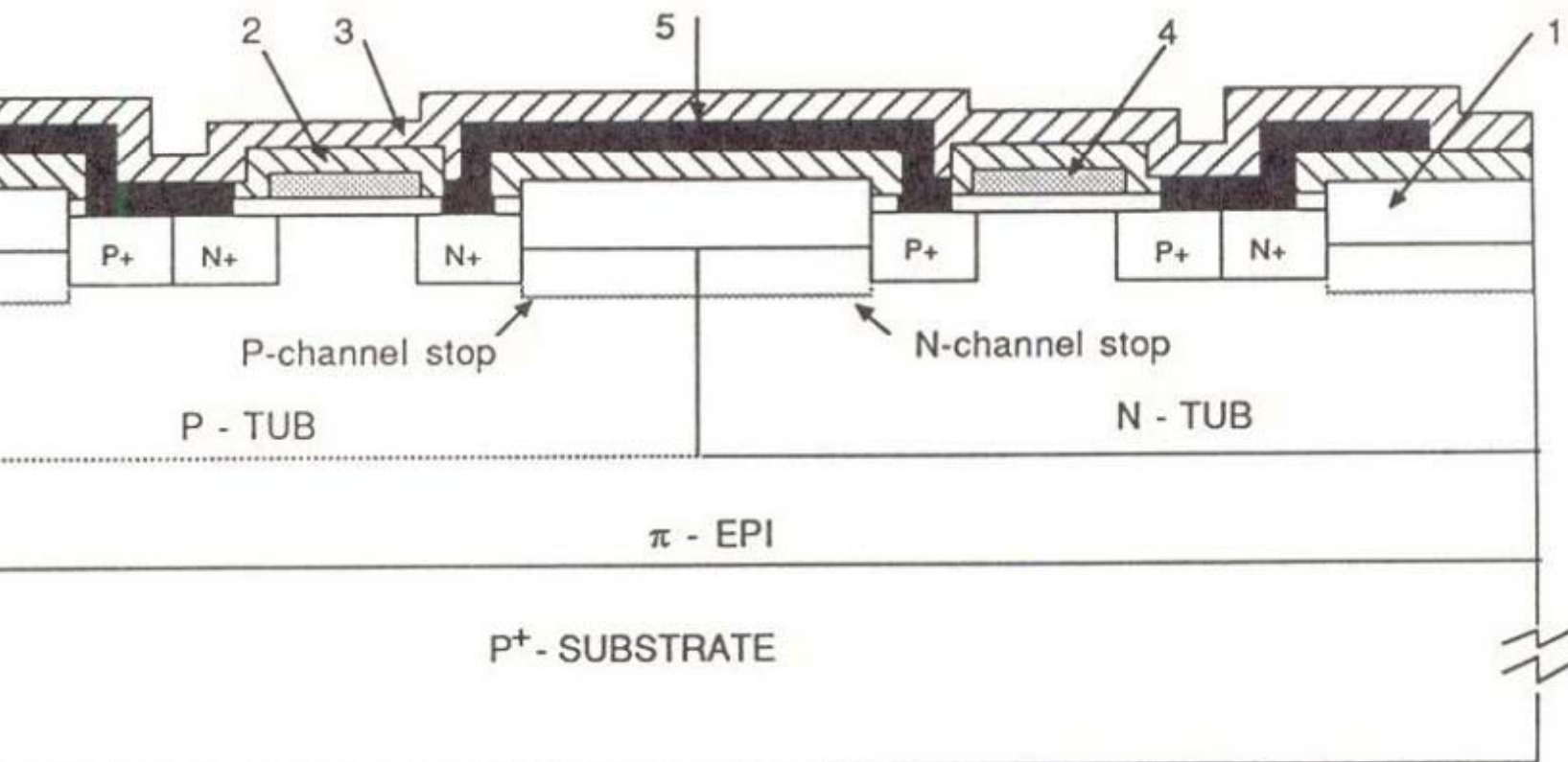
$$L = 2a = \sqrt{2} \times h$$



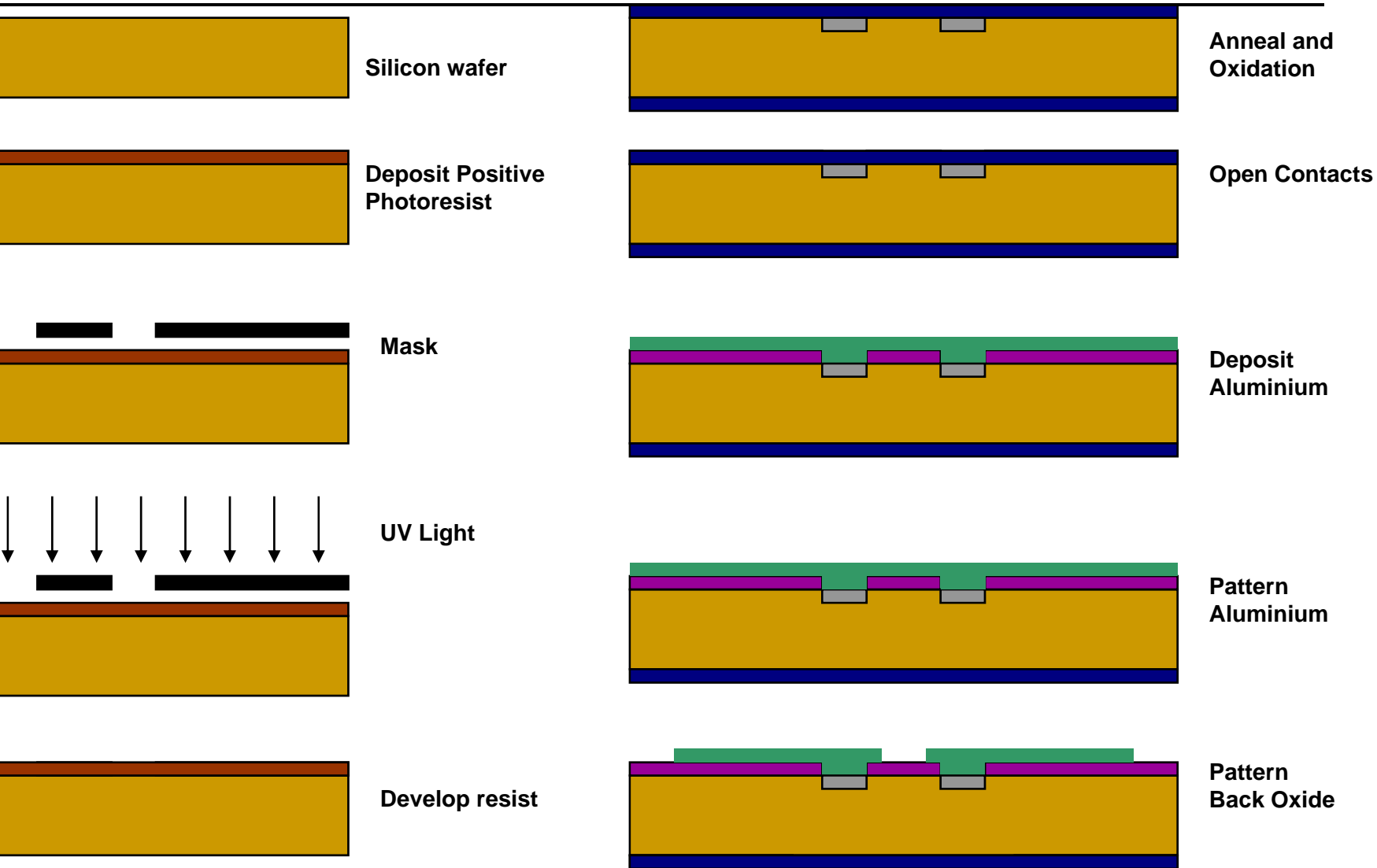
54,74° for Si <100>

Bulk micromachining technique

CMOS TECHNOLOGY AND BULK MICROMACHINING



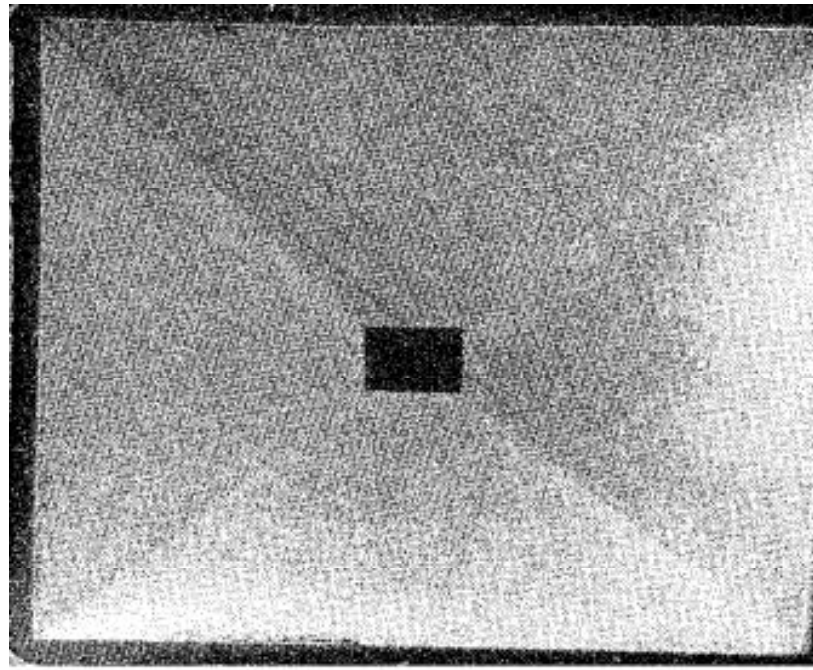
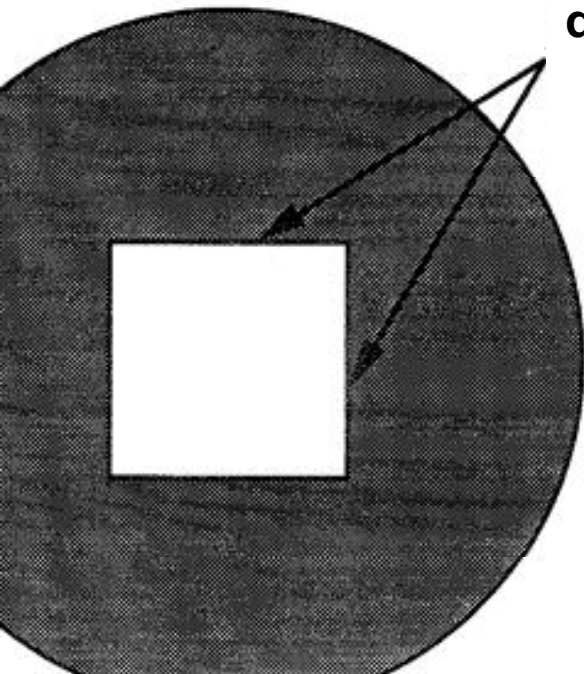
Bulk micromachining technique



PATTERNING -1

shown in Fig. 2.34. has only concave corners, which are not usually if the opening is oriented properly. This way, the truncated pyramidal pit can be etched (Fig.2.35)

ORIENTATION in
the $\langle 110 \rangle$
directions



PATTERNING - 2

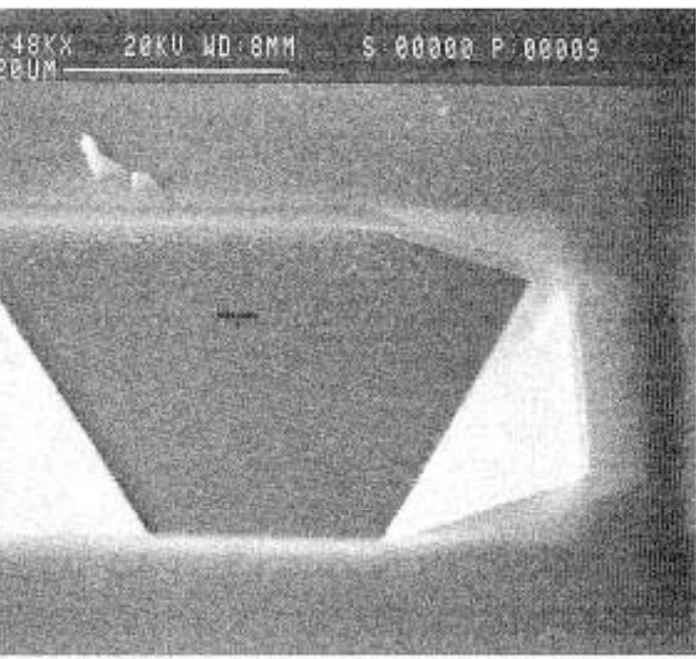


Fig.2.36. Undercutting of improperly aligned edges. Improperly aligned edges are the corners on the right side

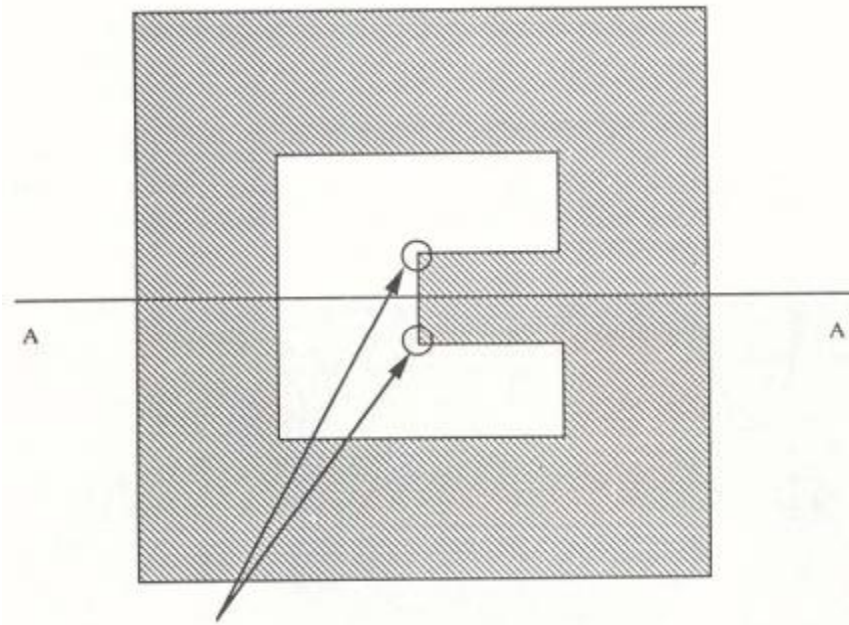
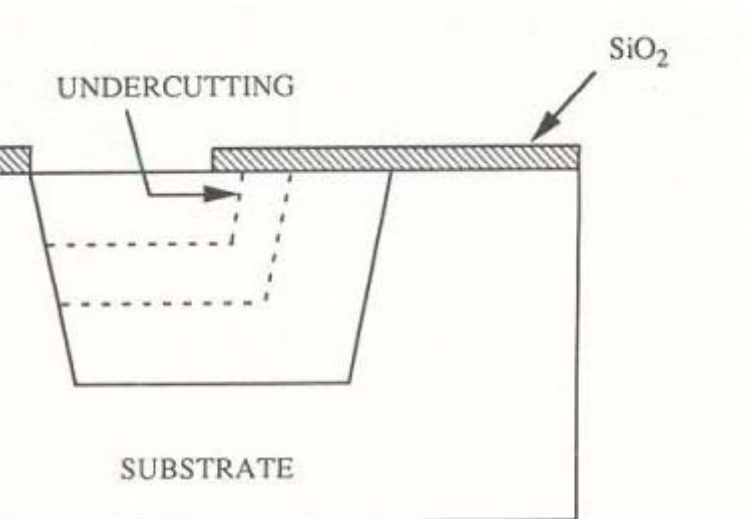
Relationship between opening, surface orientation and structure

Window	Surface orientation	Structure
	$\langle 100 \rangle$	Pyramidal pit or truncated pyramidal pit
	$\langle 100 \rangle$	Rectangular pit (trench)

PATTERNING - 3

and experimentally that the undercutting depends on the total etching time and the amount of local surface area attacked by the etch.

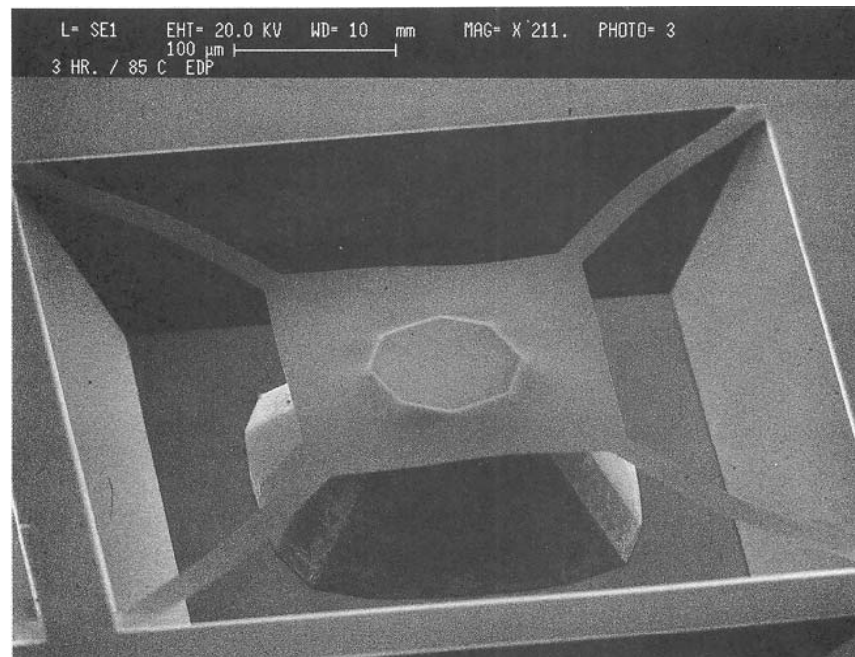
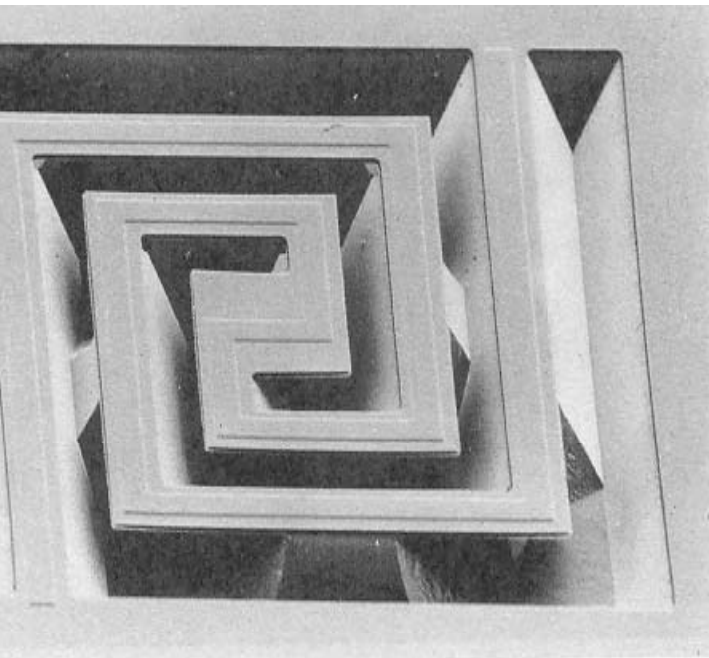
a, illustrates the pattern with two convex corners and the undercutting phenomena taking place during silicon etching, Fig.2.37 b .



Bulk micromachining technique

PATTERNING - 4

Several different examples of undercutting are shown in fig. 2.38-2.40



PATTERNING - 5

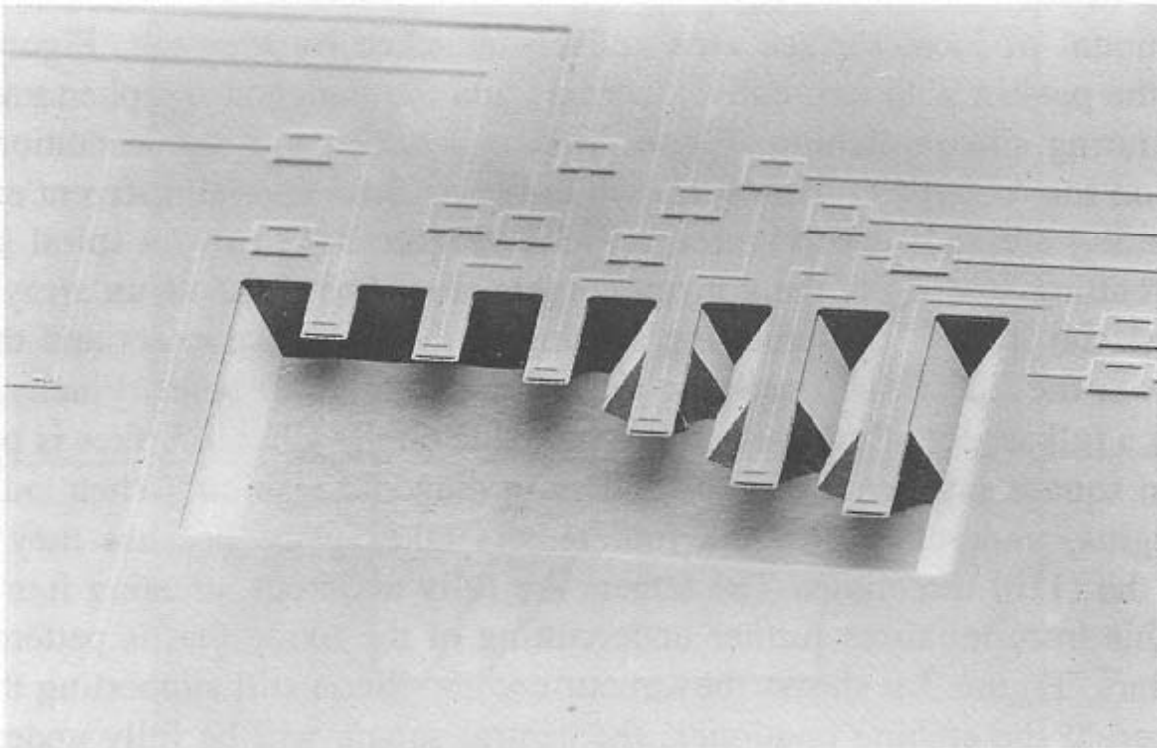
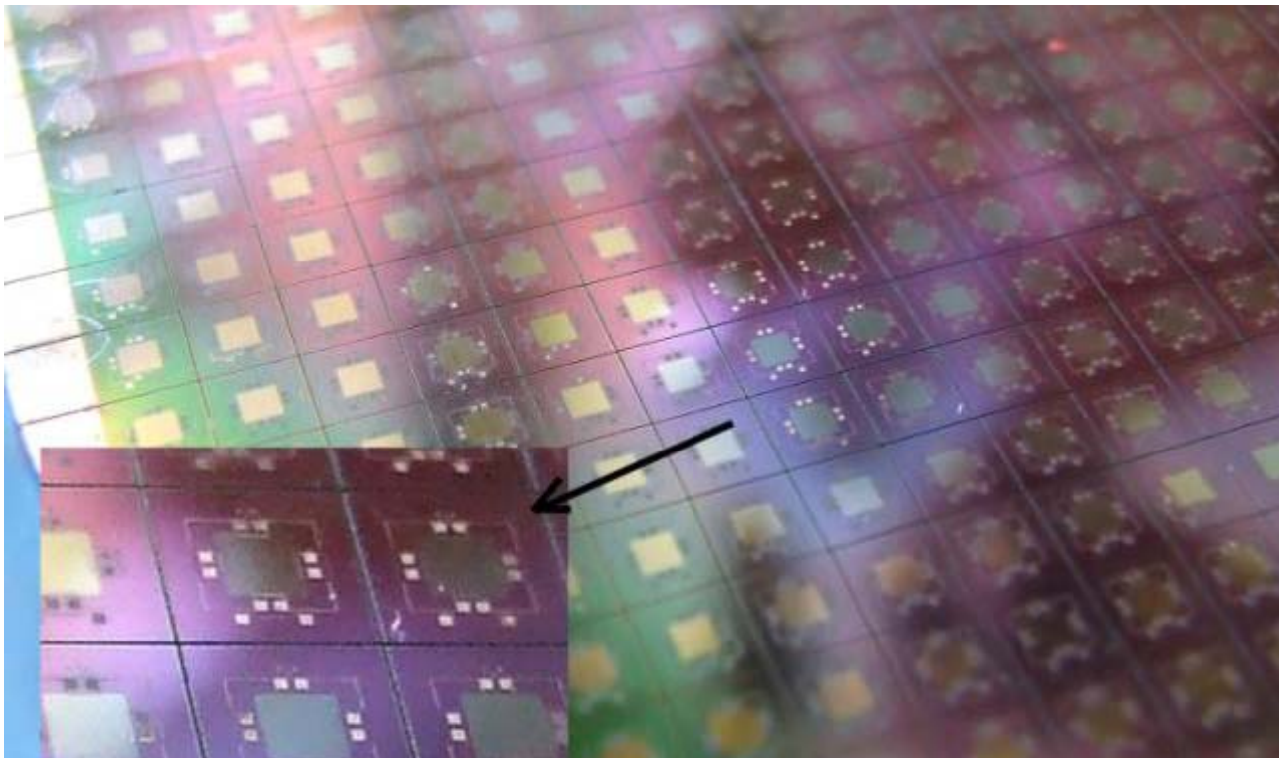
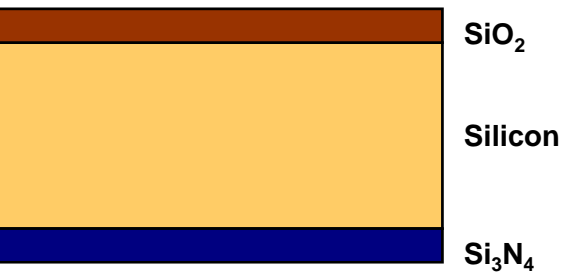


Fig.2.40. Undercutting progress in a cantilever array

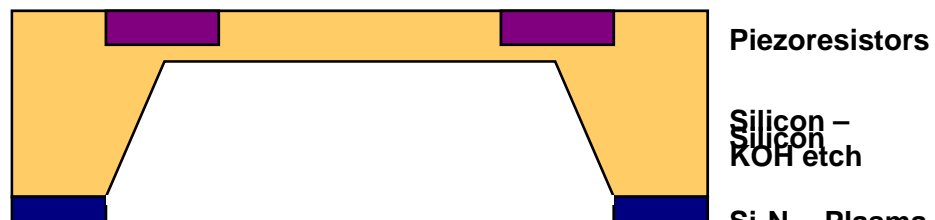
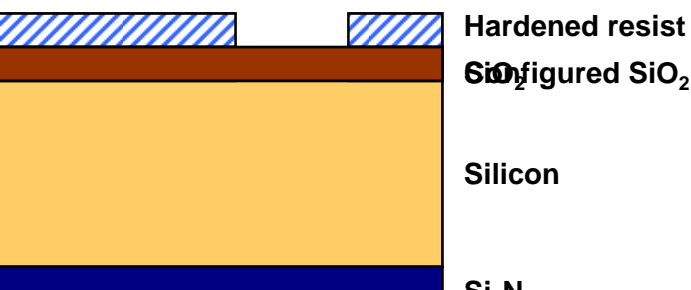
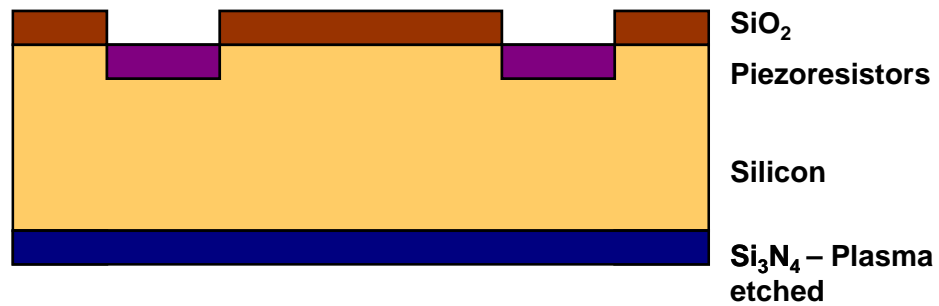
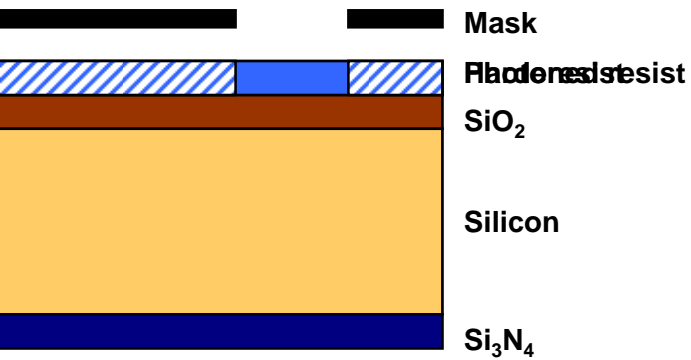
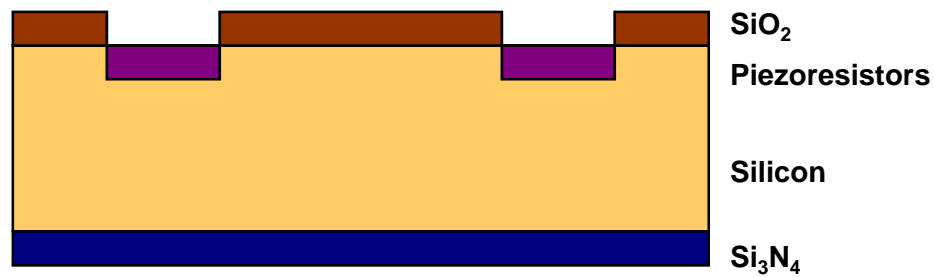
APPLICATIONS AND EXAMPLES

PIEZORESISTIVE PRESSURE SENSOR





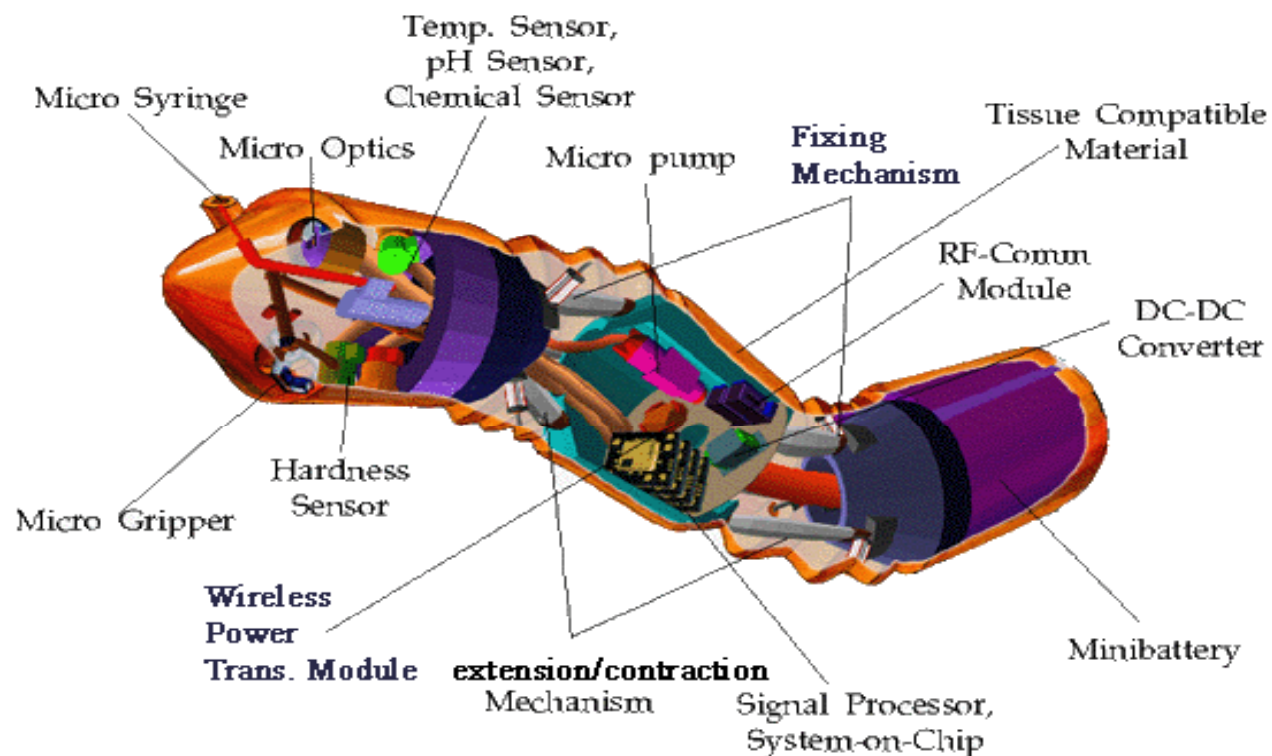
Bulk micromachining technique



Bulk micromachining technique

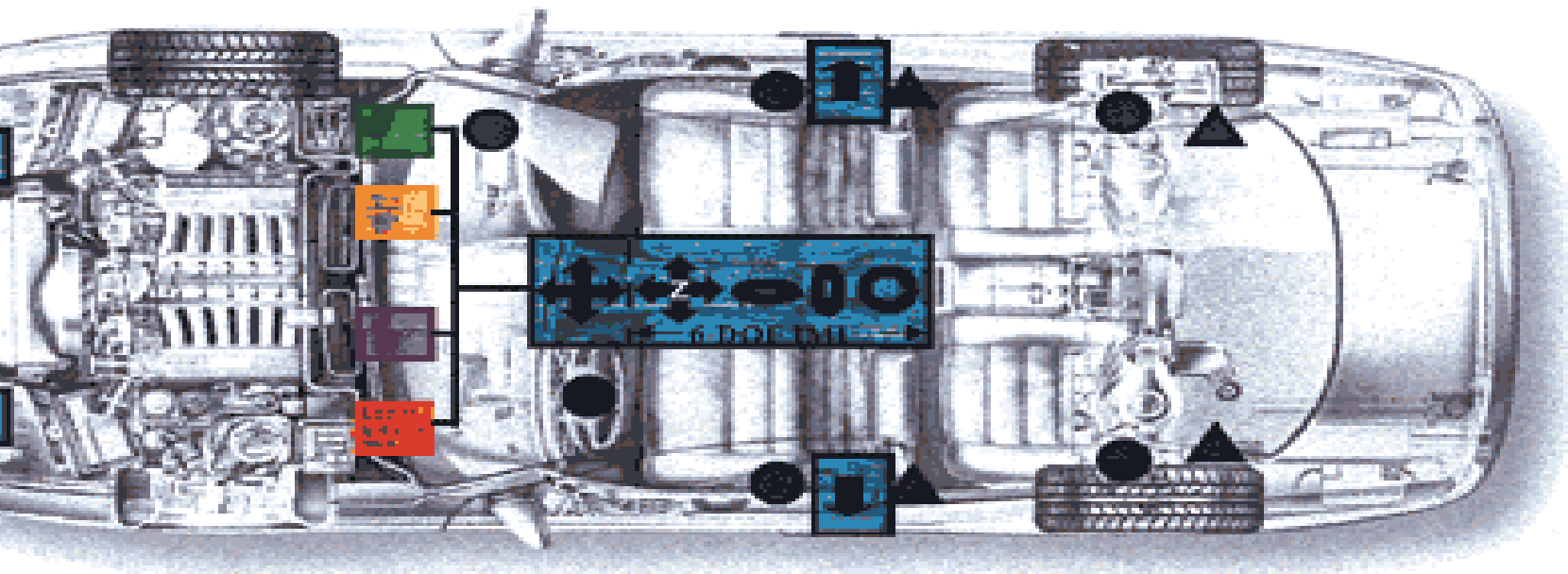
Micro-capsule

of Science & technology
- R&D Programme
cosystem Programme



Bulk micromachining technique

Automotive Sensors



Crash Detection System

Vehicle Dynamic Control System

Navigation Information System

Body / Chassis Control System



Satellite Sensor

Airbag

Seatbelt Sensor

...e of the 21st century

...ns, who are thought to have built the first truly sophisticated bridges, ...e ages has showcased technology as well as beauty. The bridge of ...in. ► Cover story, 1A

...the bridge



By [illegible]

...man stone-arch ...by Emperor ...with truly ...h as this one, ...as well. Mortar, ...was used only in ...were cut to fit ...eight.



...eeders

...properly equipped ...i be guided by a sensor ...n the roadway to a special ...and then sped bumper-to-bumper ...the bridge without need of a driver. ...as on some bridges now, would be ...ted automatically without stopping.



Construction materials

Aluminum, fiberglass-encapsulated steel and high-performance, pre-cast concrete already are finding their way into bridges. The greatest promise lies in so-called advanced composites, the Space Age stuff used in everything from Stealth bomber wings to golf club shafts. Corrosion-resistant composites could replace steel cables and concrete decks, cutting weight by as much as two-thirds and cutting maintenance costs and extending bridge life by decades.

Smart paint

Lehigh University researchers have developed paint that includes tiny, dye-filled capsules. A crack under the paint would cause the surface to break, opening the paint's capsules and releasing a telltale splotch. Crews could find corrosion without close inspection.

Brain of the bridge

A computer would monitor winds, weather, temperature changes, traffic and loads, peeling paint, and internal corrosion—all data fed from sensor locations.

Sensors

Imbedded in support cables, piers, pylons and decks, microphone- or optic fiber-like devices would sense imminent damage or collapse, then alert engineers.

Epoxy binders (matrices)

Multi-directional carbon or other fibers

Self-healing construction

Epoxy, sent through tubes imbedded in bridges like human blood vessels, could repair fractures in decks and support structures.



Environmental sensors

High winds, fog, sudden freezes, earthquakes, traffic accidents or other hazards could be detected at any spot without constant monitoring by personnel. Warning signs and traffic control devices such as lane barriers would be activated automatically.

Approach path sensors

Overweight vehicles would be detected before reaching the bridge, which would be closed automatically.



Natchez Trace Bridge
Franklin, Tenn.

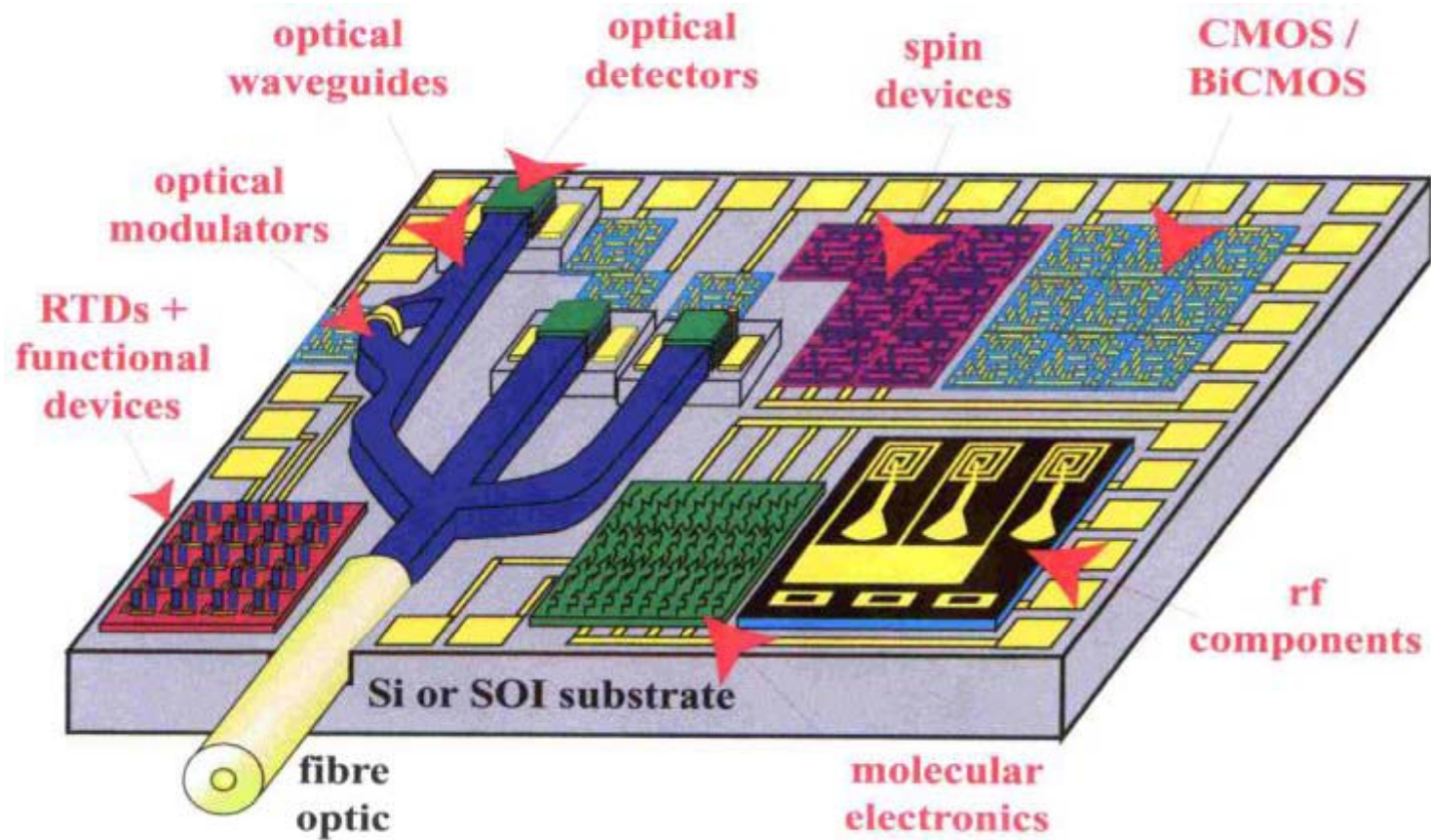
Lauded as revolutionary, elegant and economical, it carries the Natchez Trace Parkway across Route 96. It is the first and longest precast segmental arch bridge in the USA. The 1,500-foot span, designed by the Figg Engineering Group, is without the vertical members called spandrels that support the superstructure of the typical arch bridge.

Surface heaters

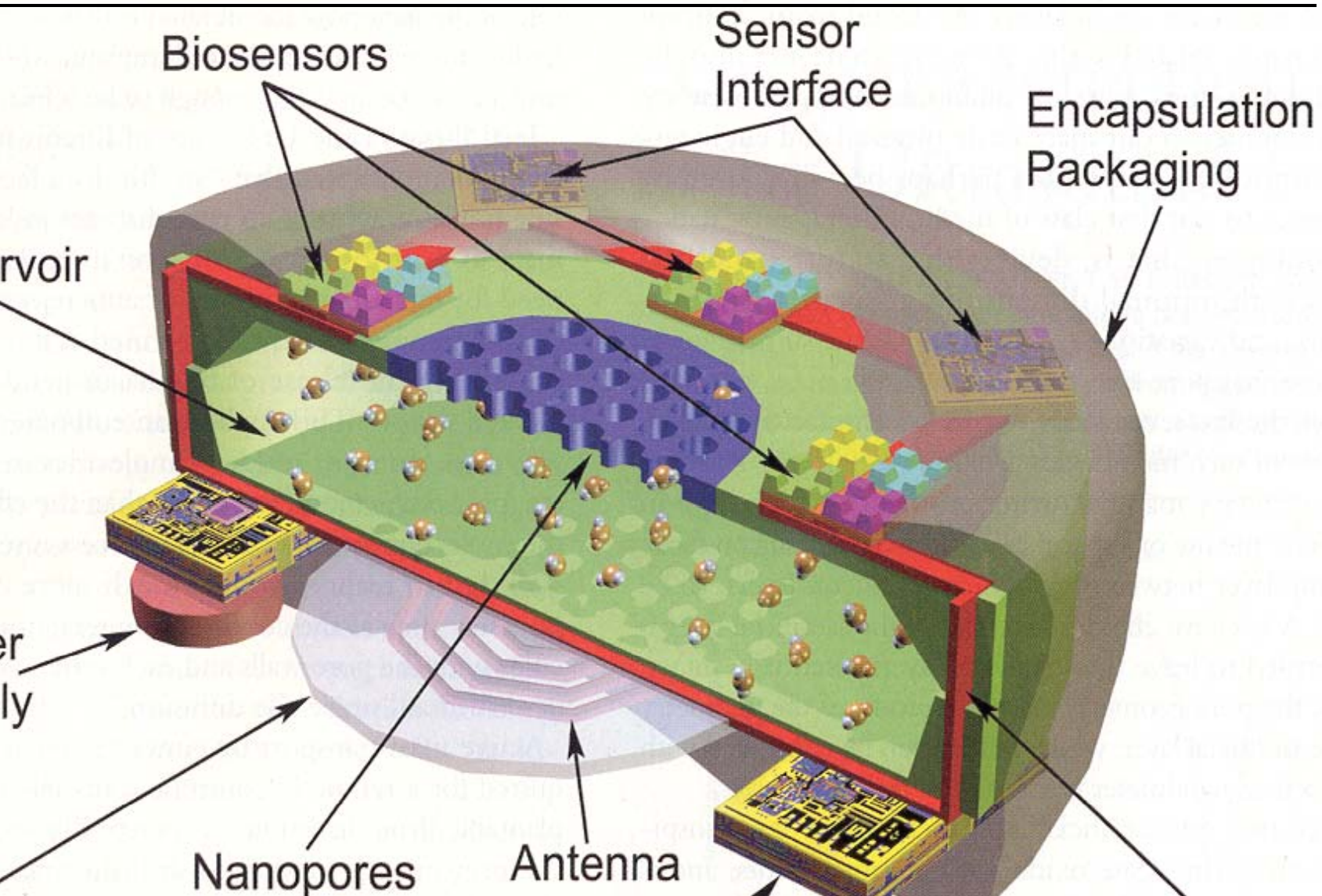
Bridge operators in colder climes could eliminate the need for corrosive de-icing materials by honeycombing the deck with pipes that would heat the deck with a solution from a geothermal energy well or other source.



Bulk micromachining technique



Bulk micromachining technique

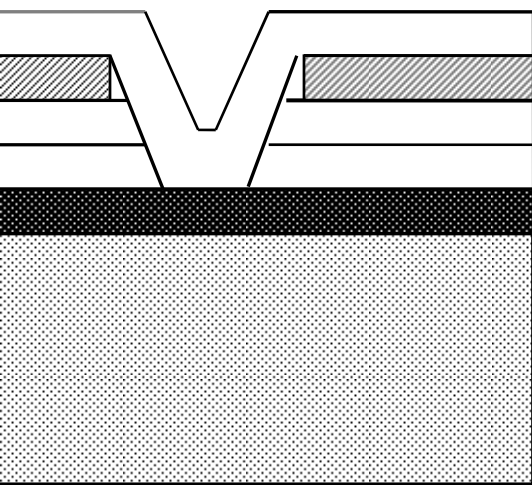


Surface micromachining technique

SURFACE MICROMACHINING

SURFACE MICROMACHINING TECHNOLOGY

Surface micromachining technology is a technology for the realisation of 3D micro-mechanical structures from thin layers of deposited and patterned material on a substrate.

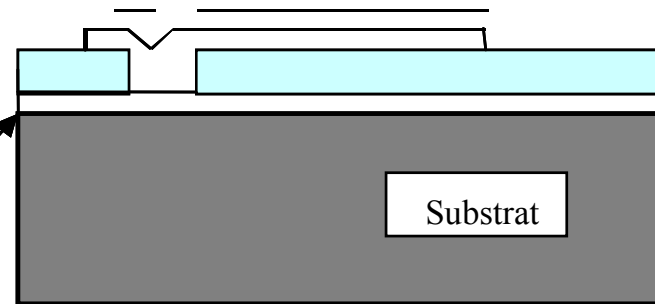
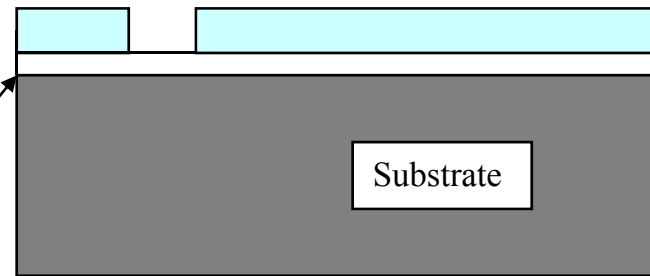


Polysilicon
Oxide undoped 1
PSG
Oxide undoped 2
 Si_3N_4

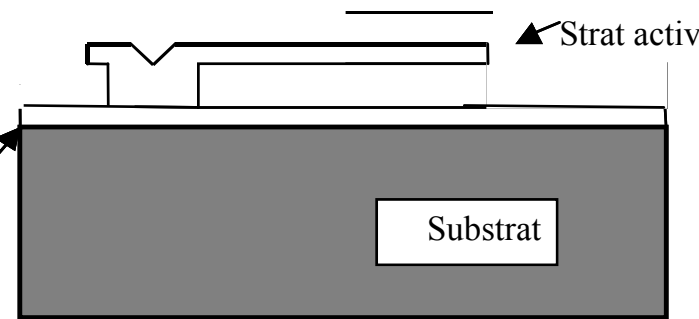
Isolation

Isolation

Sacrificial layer

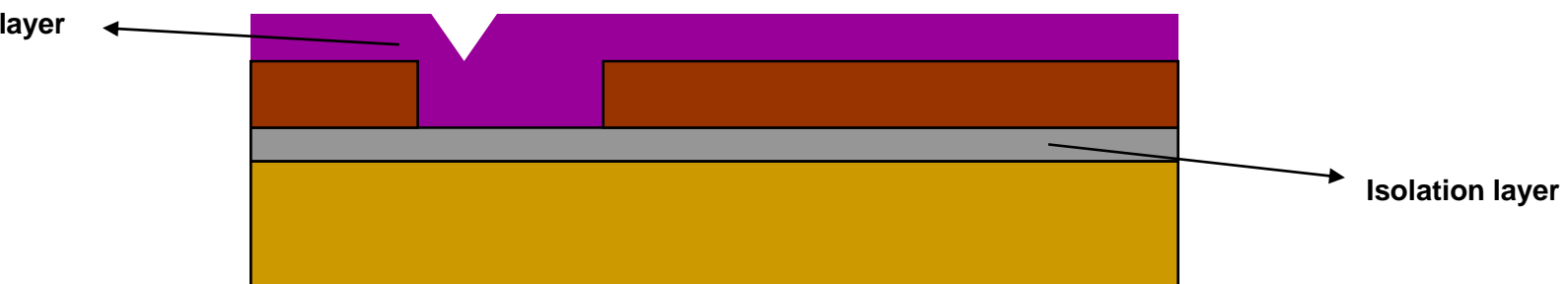
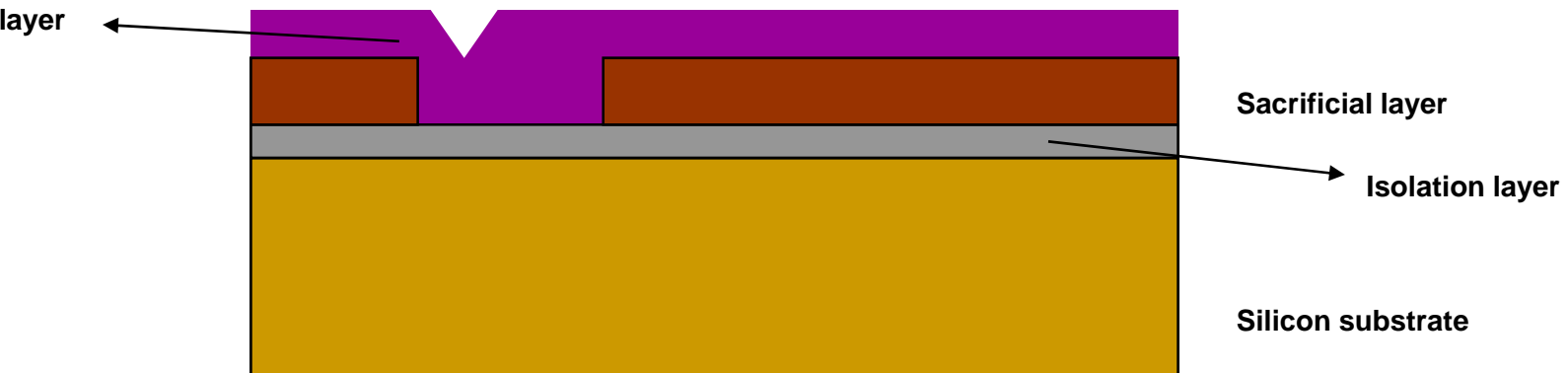


sacrificiu



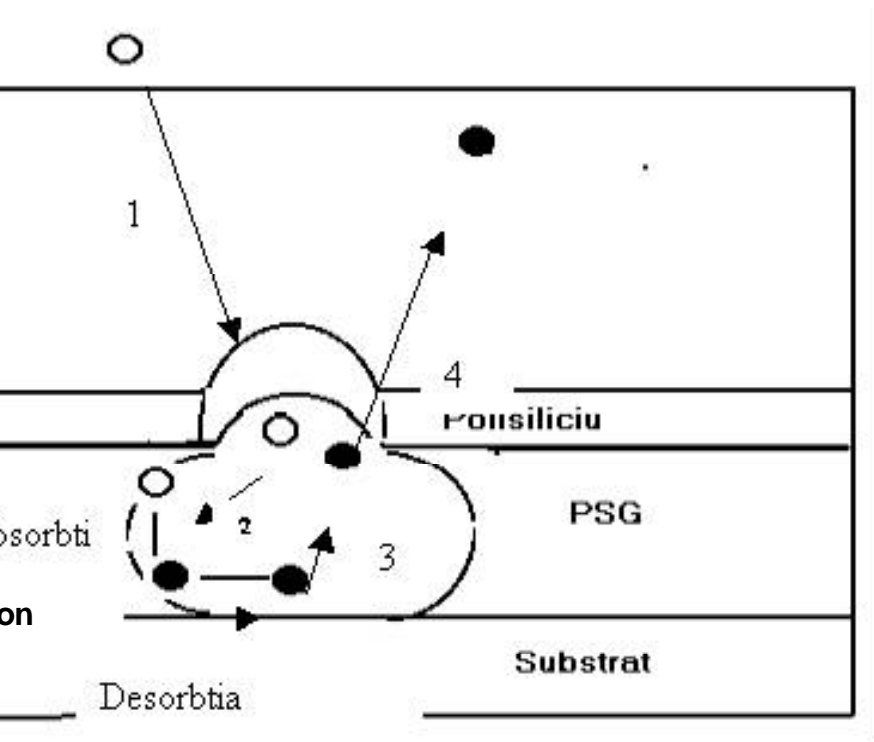
Strat activ

Surface micromachining technique



Surface micromachining technique

Schematic representation of PSG sacrificial etching mechanism



1→External Reactant Mass Transport

2→Reactant diffusion

3→Product Diffusion

4→External product Mass transport

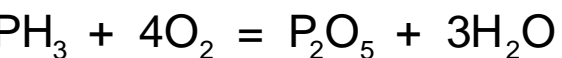
$$\vartheta_{\text{dif}} = D_{\text{HF}} \frac{C^b - C^s}{\delta} \quad \text{with } D_{\text{HF}} = \text{diffusion length}$$

Surface micromachining technique

Technological experiments for the deposition and configuration of the layers – PSG – for surface micromachined membranes

Deposition and etching of PSG thin films

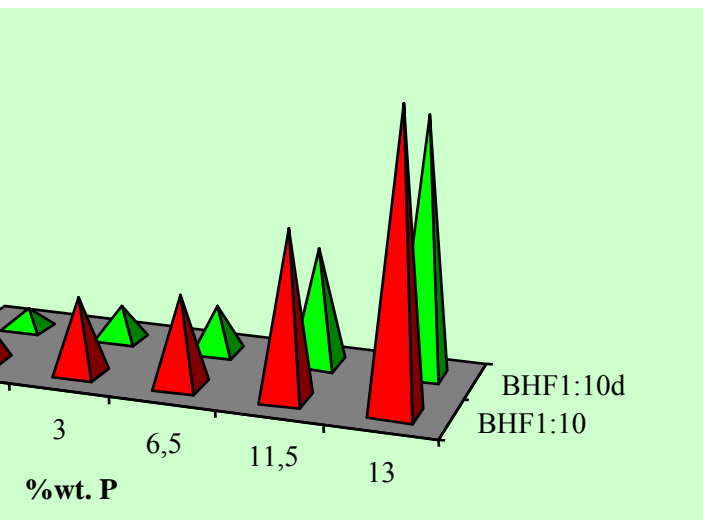
The PSG layers, generally considered to be phosphor-doped silicon dioxide, are deposited using the APCVD method, typically at 400°C and atmospheric pressure, from silane and phosphine (2), in the presence of oxygen.



Thin SiO_2 layers and PSG oxides, with phosphorus concentrations between 3 and 15 at.%, have been studied.

The etching speed has been analysed, for the densified oxides, and also for the porous ones, using BHF-type etching solutions (fluorhydric acid with ammonium fluoride) with concentrations of 1:10 and 1:15, their temperature being 35°C.

Surface micromachining technique



speed for deposited layers, and for deposited and
in BHF 1:10

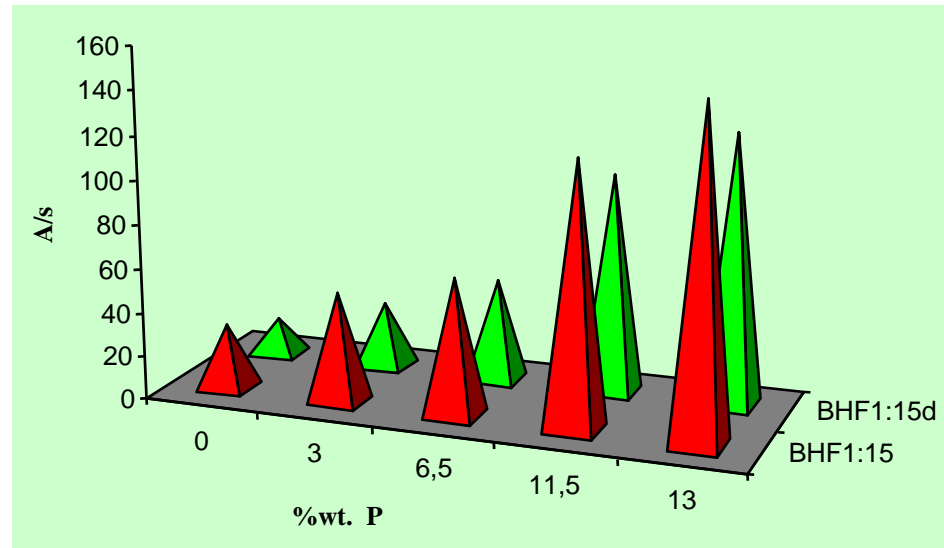
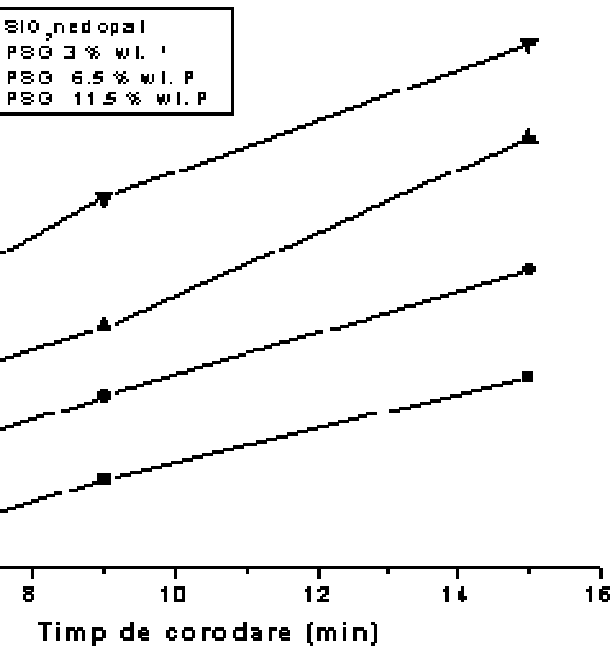


Fig.3.2. Etching speed for deposited layers, and for deposited and densified layers, in BHF 1:15

te of the doped CVD oxides (the PSG ones) and the undoped ones, in BHF 1:10
resent a nonlinear increase vs. the P concentration increase and they are higher
nsified oxides than for the densified ones, except for the very high P doped
e the etching mechanism is different.
se in the etching rate with the P concentration is explained by the fact that the

Etching of the sacrificial layer



the PSG etching under the resist and
con mask in BHF 15:1, vs. the
the SiO_2 deposited layer

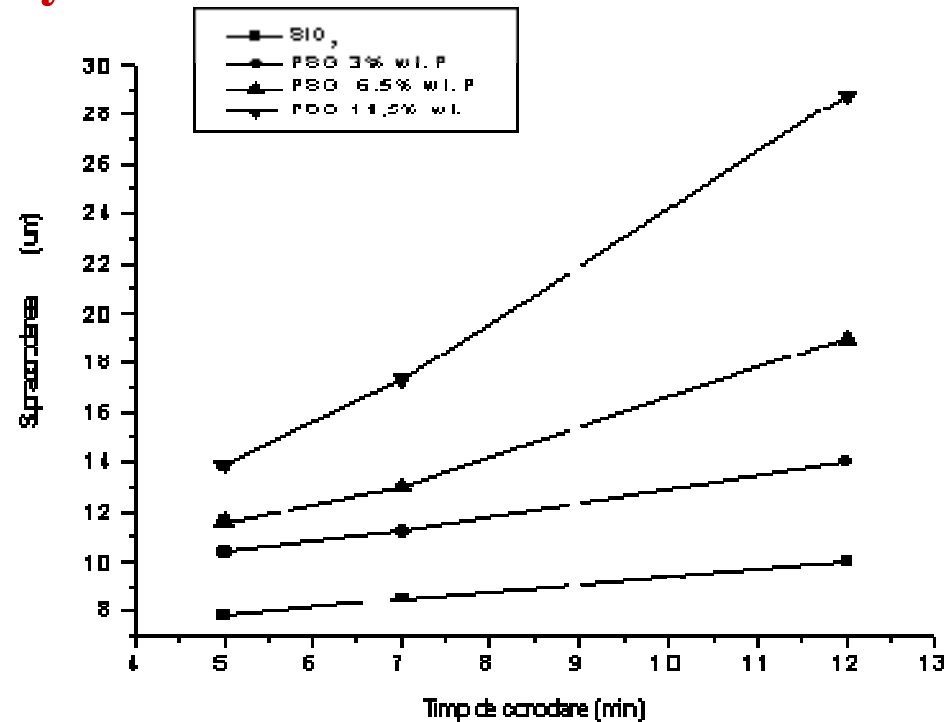
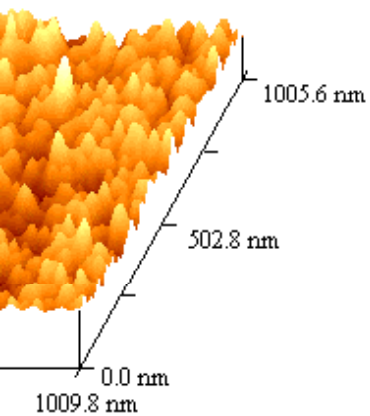


Fig.4.4. The PSG etching under the resist and
the polysilicon mask in BHF 15:1, vs. the
doping of the SiO_2 deposited layer

Surface micromachining technique

THE POLYSILICON LAYER DEPOSITION



0 image of the
"as-deposited" layers
and 53 Pa

e dimensions:
nm.
(Ra): 0.6393

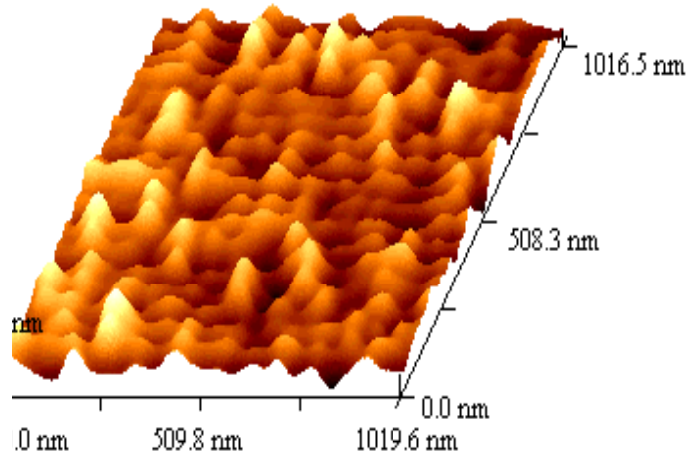
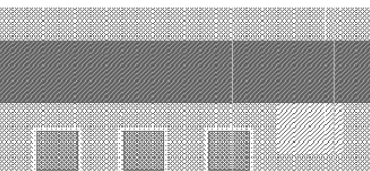


Fig. 3.8-b. AFM 3-D image of the
LPCVD "as-deposited" layers
surface, at 500°C and 100 Pa
pressure.

The scanned surface dimensions:
1009.804 x 1005.637 nm.
Medium rugosity (Ra): 1.0387
nm.

Fig. 3.9-b. AFM 3-D image of the
LPCVD "as-deposited" layers
surface, at 615°C and 100 Pa

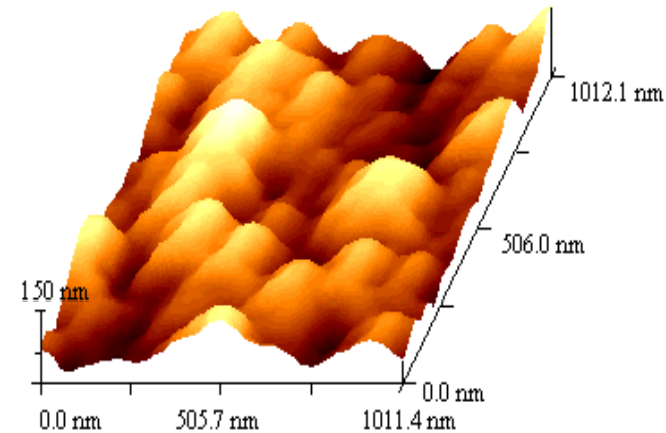
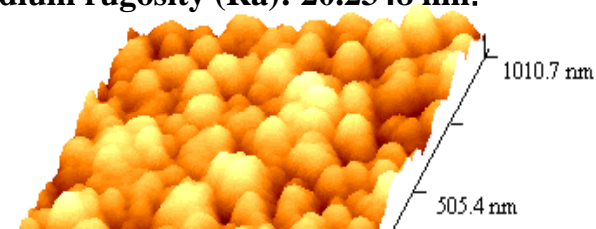


Fig. 3.9-a. AFM 3-D image of the
LPCVD "as-deposited" layers
surface, at 615°C and 20 Pa
pressure.

The scanned surface dimensions:
1011.4 x 1012.1 nm.
Medium rugosity (Ra): 20.2348 nm.

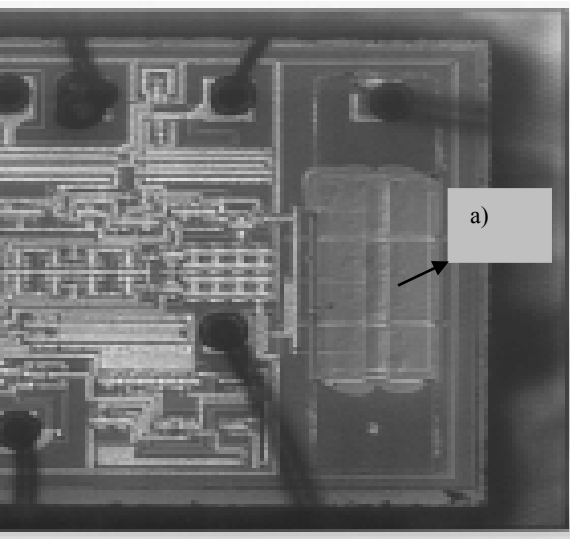


sonant gas sensors surface micromachined



sonant gas sensors -2

Surface micromachining technique



*Sensor chip
top view: a) bridge;
b) electronics*

The polysilicon microbridge is $1\mu\text{m}$ thickness. The polysilicon deposition for the bridge was realised by LPCVD, followed by lithographic configuration and planar plasma ($\text{CF}_4 + \text{O}_2$) etching. The sacrificial oxide was then removed in BHF 10:1,

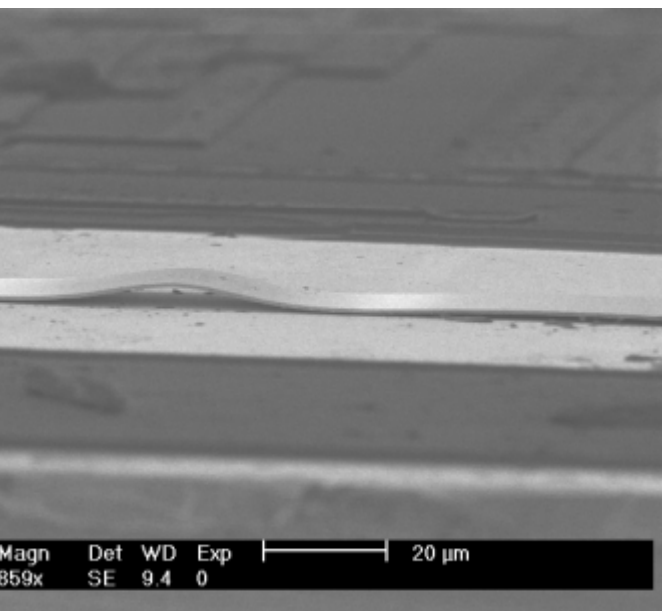
electronic circuits for excitation - detection are integrated on the same chip as the microbridge, having the main aim to amplify the small current (pA) induced by the variable capacitors from detection way.

the microresonator and the excitation-detection circuits are processed on the single-crystal silicon. The technological steps for processing a double-clamped polysilicon bridge with electronics on the same chip are based on MEMS technology.

Surface micromachining technique

Characterization

Bridge oscillation was observed under the electronic microscope SEM (Fig.5.14) optical microscope by applying an AC voltage to the drive electrode (pads 1,2 Fig.5.11). Therefore, we can conclude that the microbridge was released. This can be used on the wafer or on the encapsulated structures (fig.5.15) to differentiate between released and unreleased microbridges.



A SEM of a polysilicon

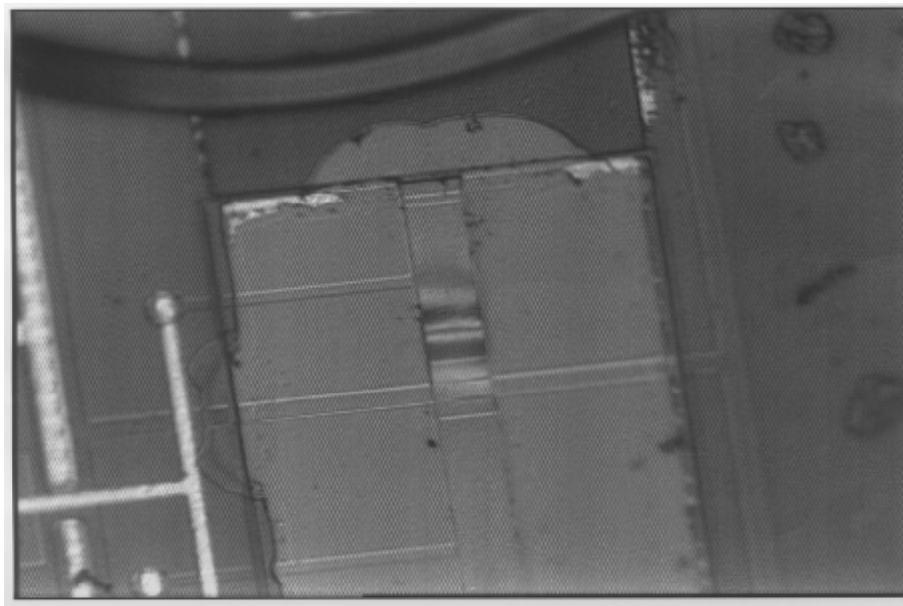


Fig. 5.14.B. Vibration of the silicon microbridge

Surface micromachining technique

INTEGRATED GAS MICROSENSOR WITH APPLICATIONS IN ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

CHARACTERISTICS :

detects gases (NO_x, CO, H₂S) from
various media

Dimensions - chip area: 1,4x1,5 mm²,
- electronic circuits

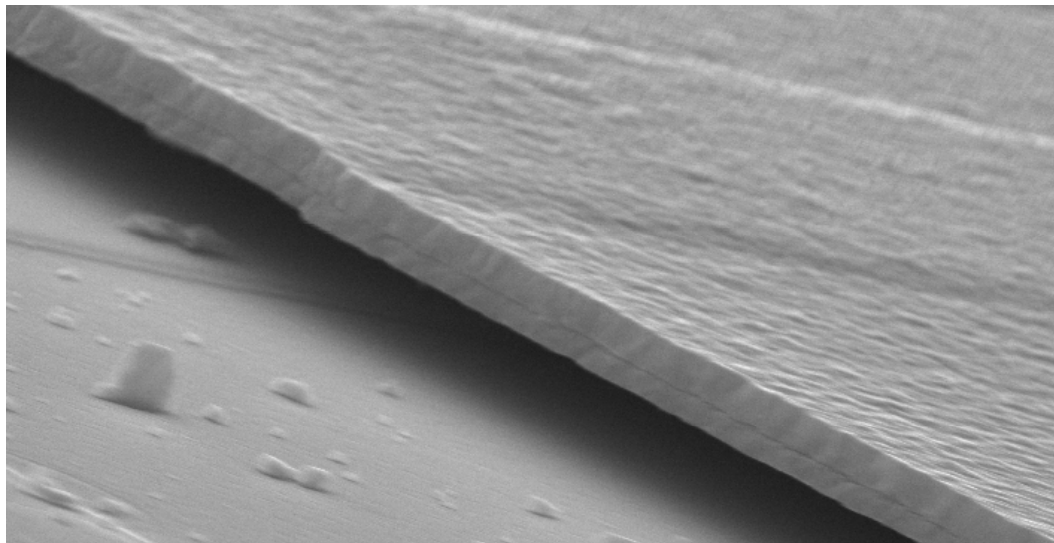
on the same chip with the sensor

Sensitivity factor: 1.000 in air, 20.000 in vacuum

Measurement: ppm ÷ hundred ppm,

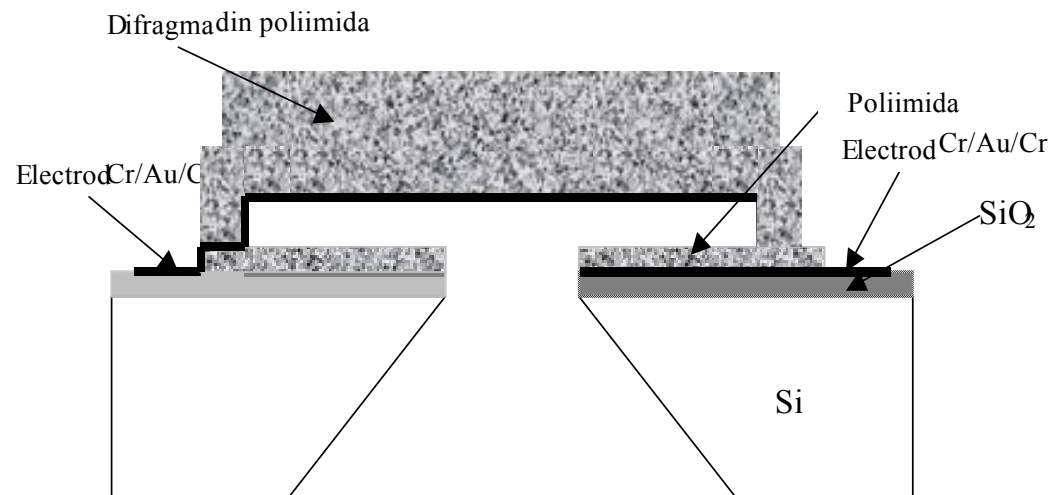
Frequency range: tens kHz÷MHz

SEM picture of a
polysilicon microbridge
(400x30 μm²) in vibration



CAPACITIVE PRESSURE MICROSENSOR

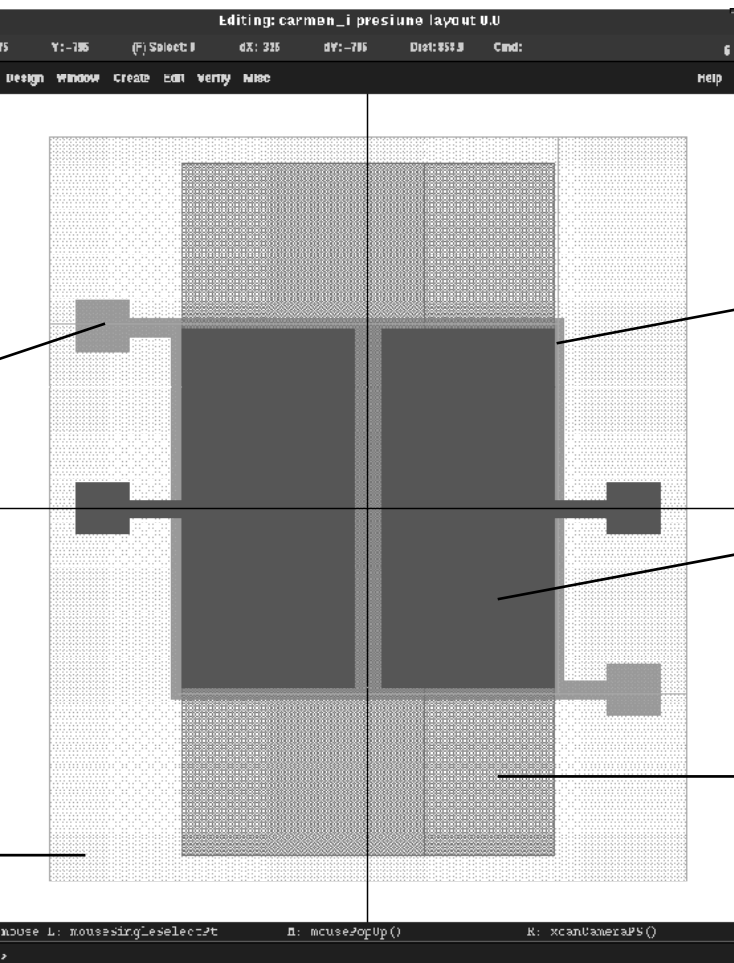
ve sensors convert a change in
d into a change of capacitance
capacitor consist basically of
ode separated by a dielectric
capacitance change can be used
motion of one of the two
s with respect to the other
or by the change in the
between two fixed electrodes.
electrode movement is not
r if the capacitance change is
y deflection of part of the
then the capacitance change
calculated by integrating over
deformed dielectric space:



Cross section of the capacitive pressure microsensor

$$\Delta C = C_0 - \iint \frac{\epsilon}{d - W(x, y)} dx dy$$

the two dimensional function $w(x, y)$ gives



Layout of the capacitive pressure sensor

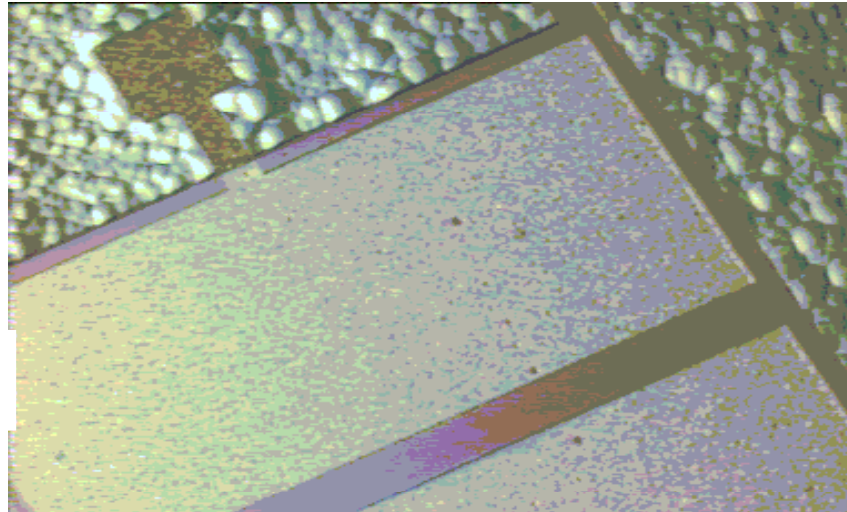


Fig.4.12. Microscopy photograph of the capacitive sensor

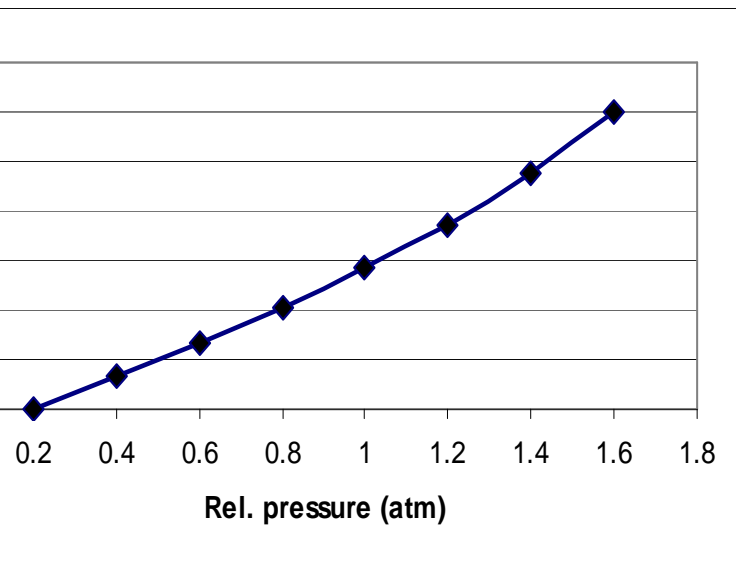
➤ One of the electrodes of the variable capacitor is deposited on the silicon surface and is a sandwich of Cr/Au/Cr (M1)

➤ A sacrificial layer is deposited and patterned M2

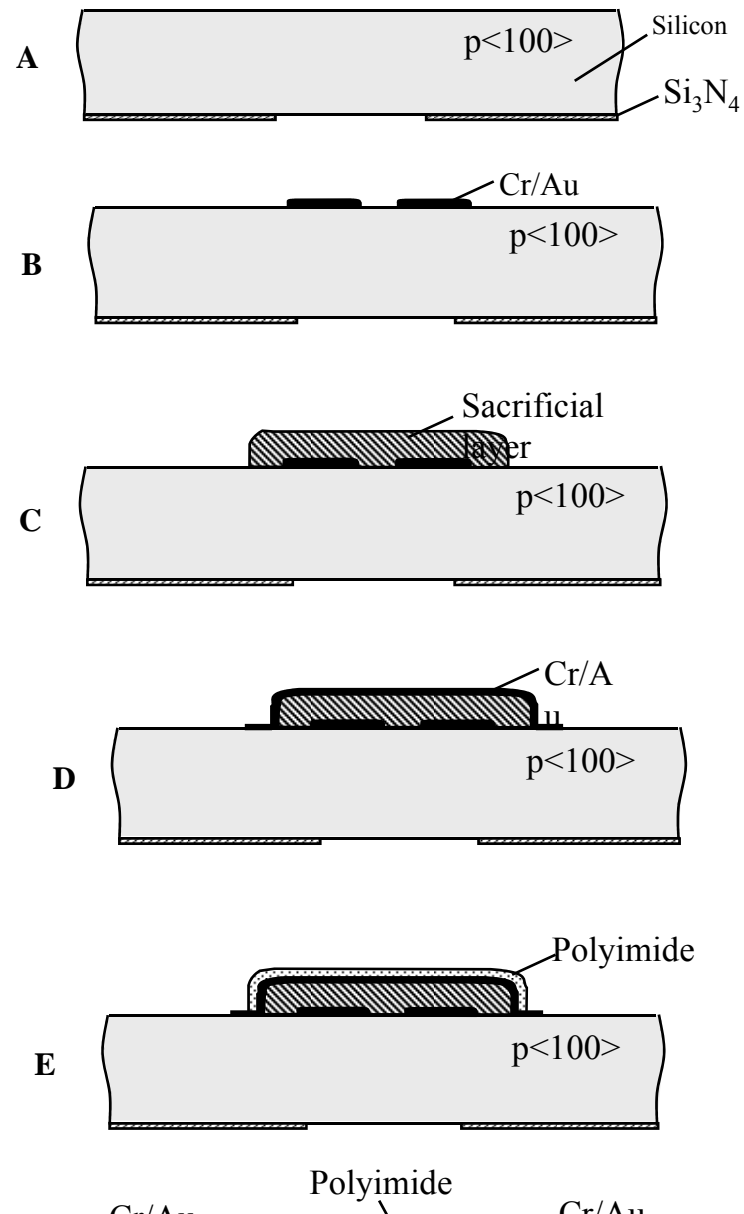
➤ The second electrode Cr/Au/Cr + a polyimide membrane are deposited and patterned in two different steps M3, M4

➤ PSG is used as sacrificial layer

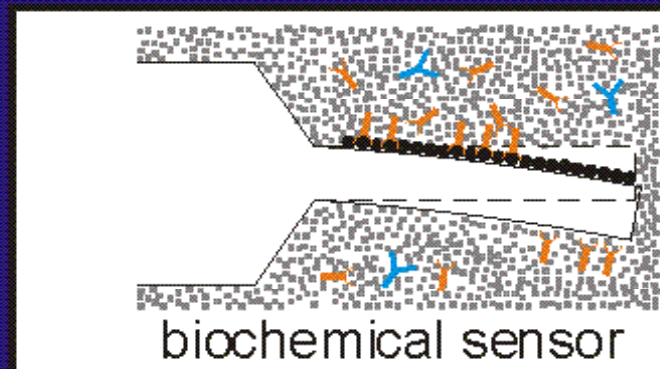
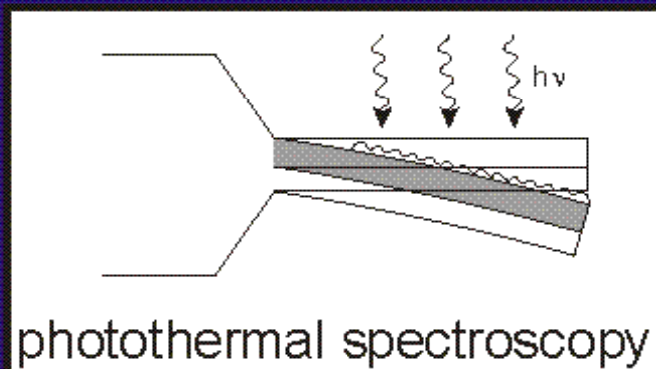
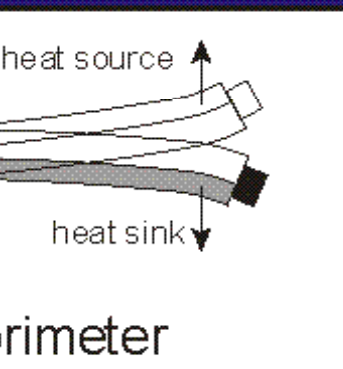
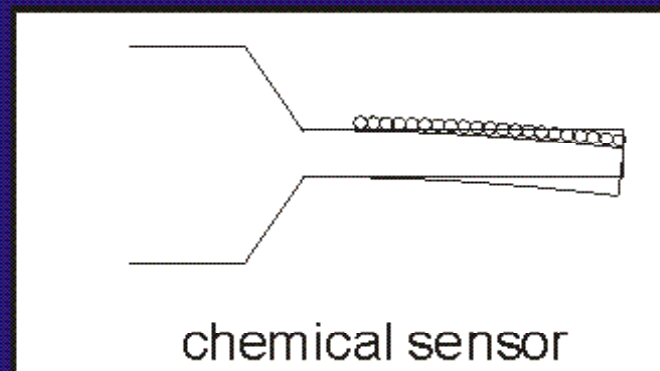
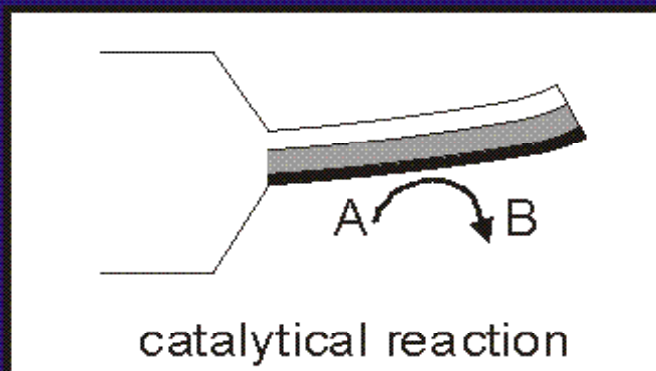
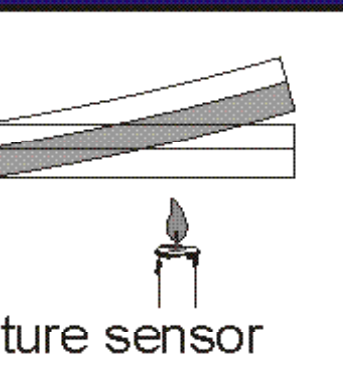
capacitive pressure sensor



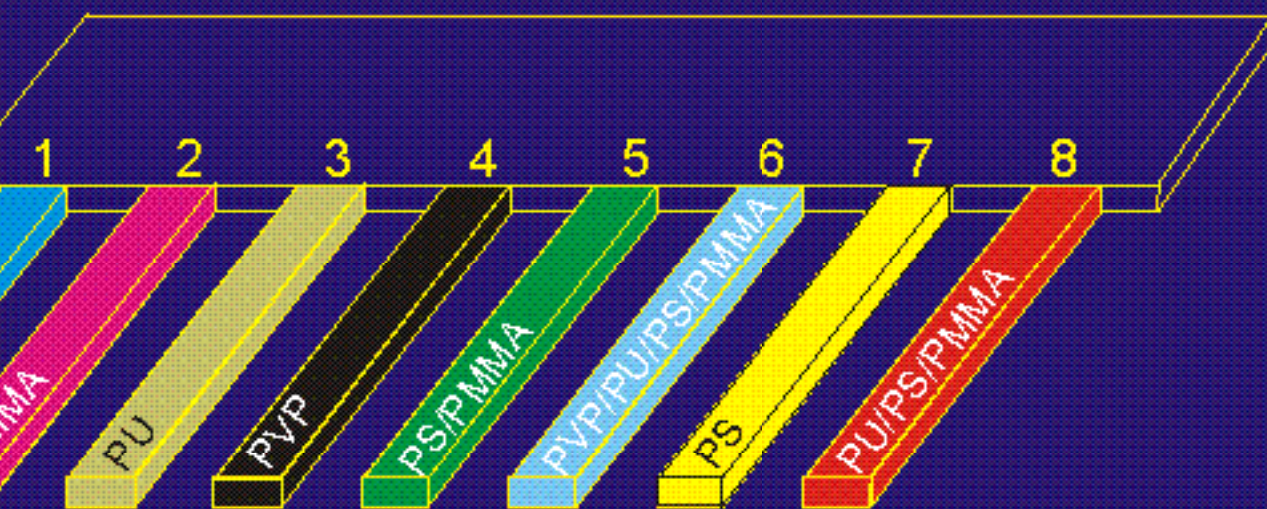
Relative capacitance change vs. applied differential pressure



Cantilever Sensor Applications



NOSE — Operation principle



Eight cantilevers
functionalized with
eight different
polymers or
blends

on mechanism:

layer

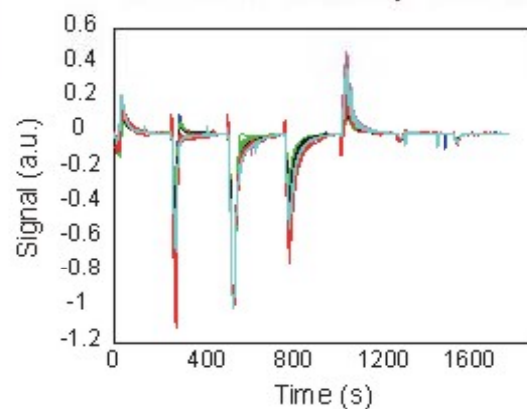
vered Si cantilever



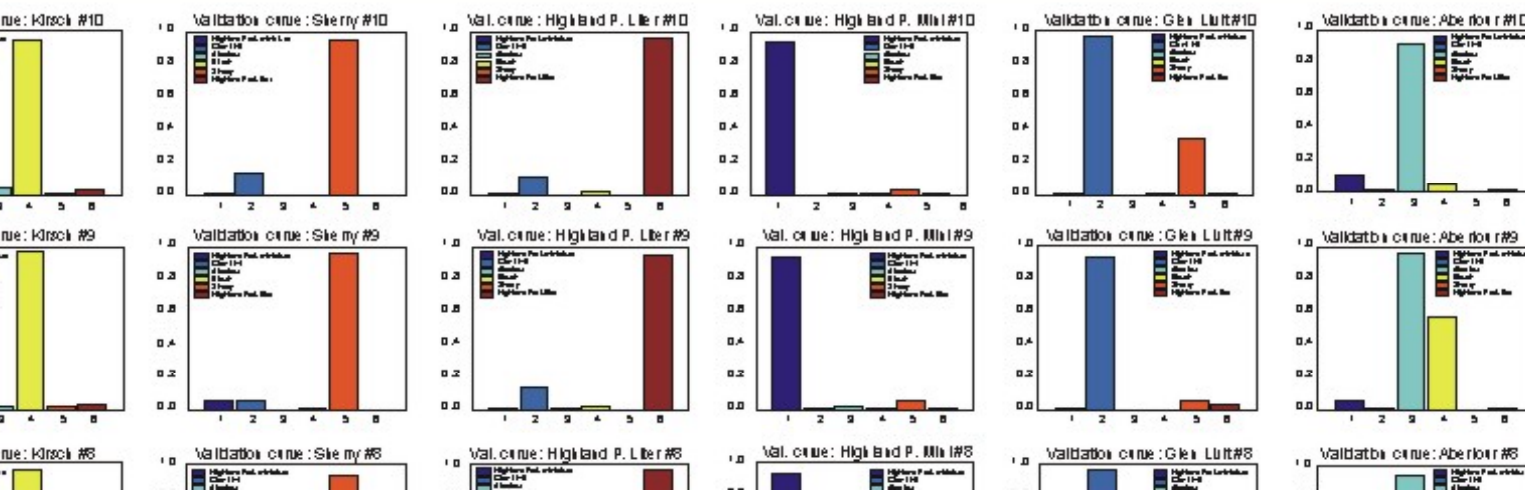
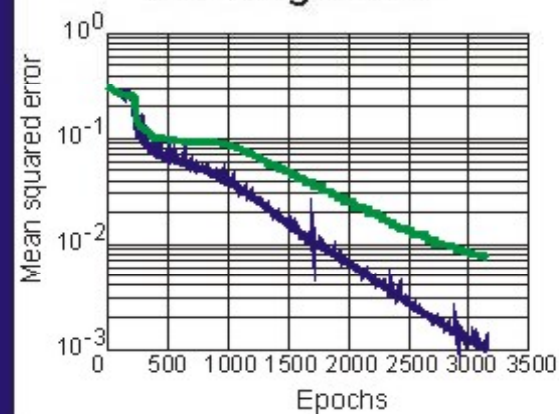
Recognizing Whisky

network
sets
on sets

Measured responses



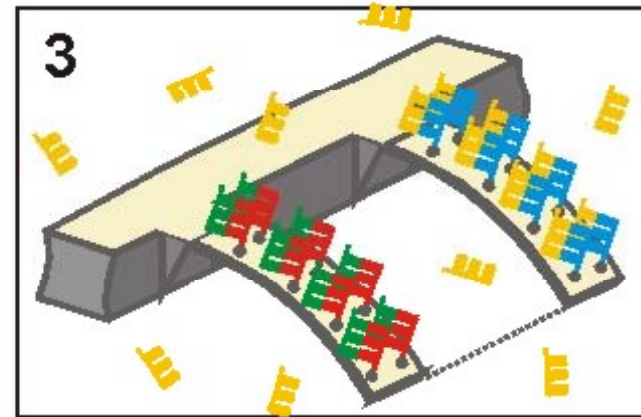
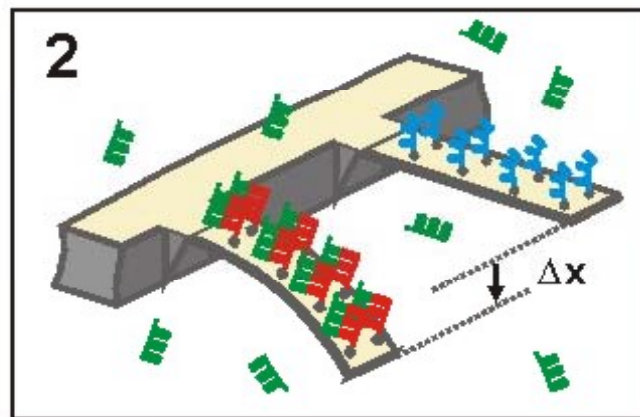
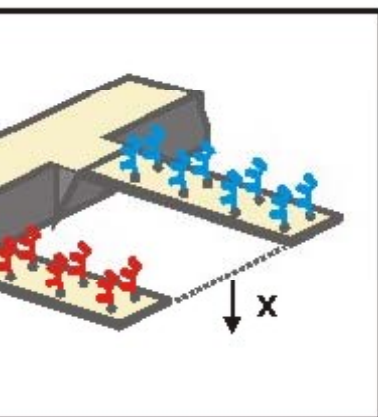
Learning curve



Cantilever Bending by Oligonucleotide Hybridization

base sequence on

Hybridization with matching complementary strands bends cantilevers



Initial signal: lever 1 - lever 2



only one reactive surface

- ☞ bending of lever 1 increases differential signal
- ☞ bending of lever 2 decreases “ “

Potential fields of Application

gas sensing

automotive applications

quality control (food, chemicals, air)

fragrance design

medical application

biochemical analysis

oenology

forensic investigations

drugs and explosives detection

astrobiology . . .

Applications and examples

MEMBRANE BASED SENSORS

RESISTIVE GAS SENSORS - Sensor design and fabrication

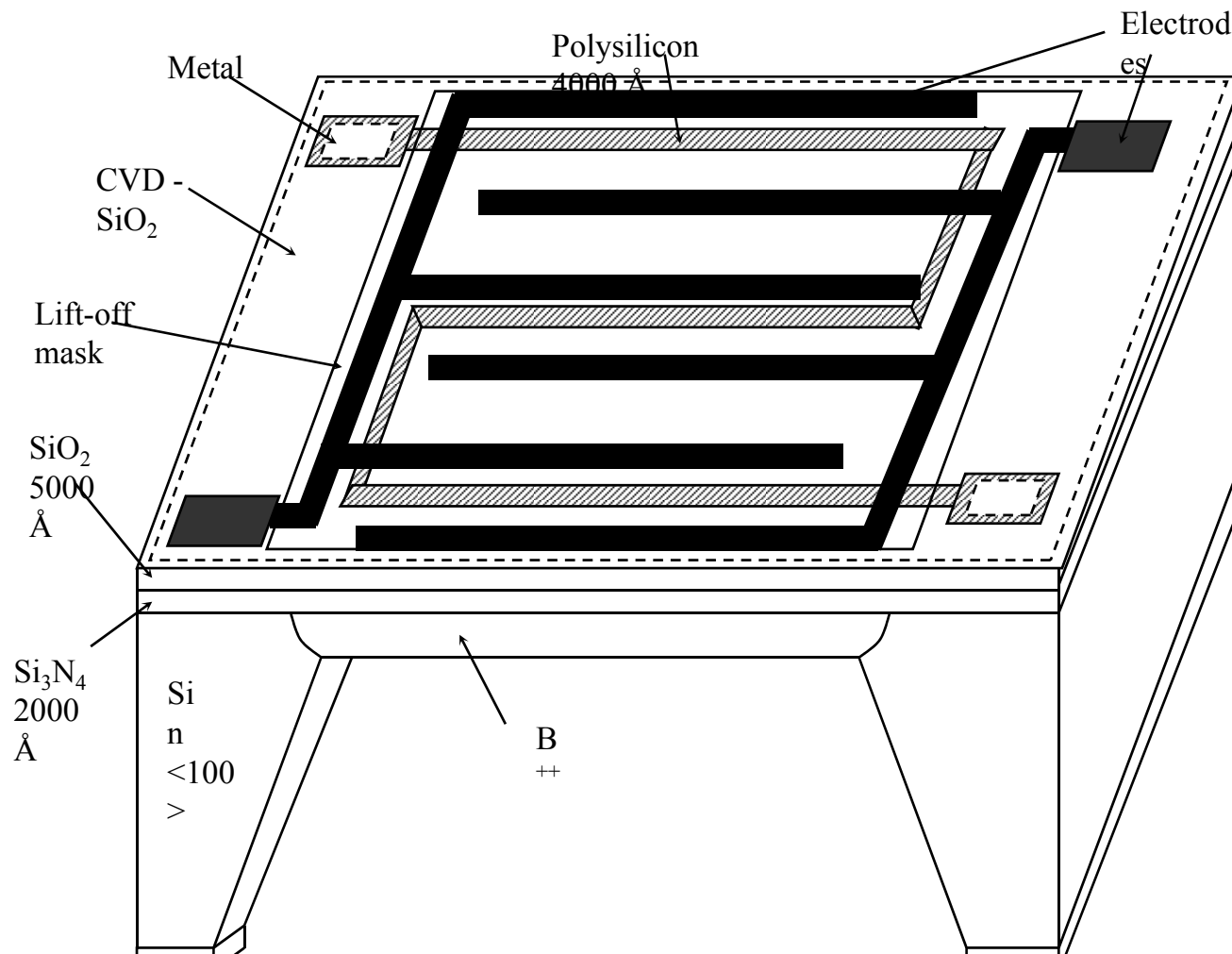
Iron ($9 \cdot 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, 100
planted and diffused
boron doping from
- diffusion (1050°C , 4
p-n junction, $12 \mu\text{m}$
stop etch

layer deposition and
of the masking layer for
etching of silicon

and configuration of a
doped polysilicon layer.

tion could be to use the
e high doped with boron
t polysilicon resistor-

is deposited such as
and the contacts at

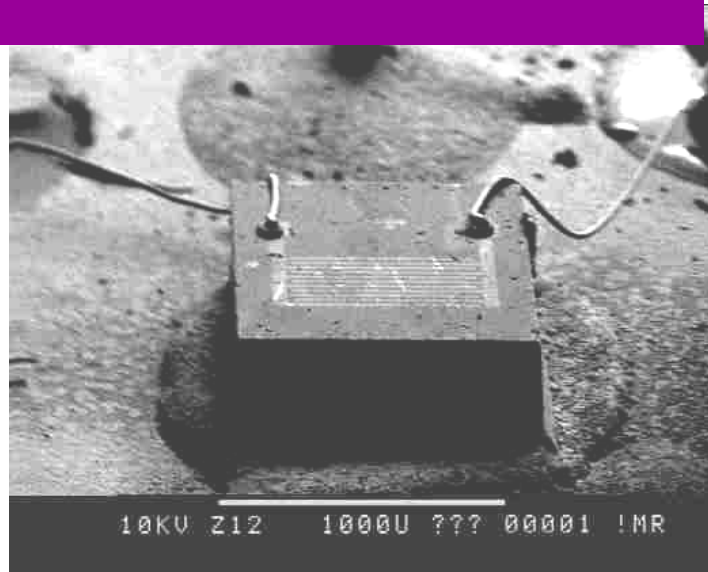


RESISTIVE GAS SENSORS Phtalocyanine based – Experiments -1

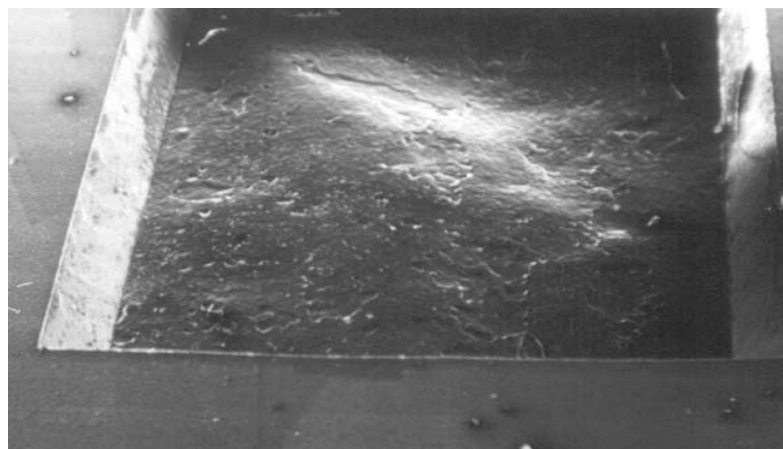
interdigitated electrodes, the resistor for monitoring the chip temperature and the bond pads are defined by photolithography above the insulated heater

(Cr-Au) was used as electrode material to achieve a good contact with the wire bonds. The utilisation of Al as electrode material also give us, also, very good results.

The composition and the configuration by photolithography with side alignment of $2\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ resolution on borophosphosilicate glass (BPSG), as mask for the anisotropic etching, which



SEM picture of the sensor chip



CHEMFET sensors

selective
gas selective
Enzyme selective
Immuno-selective

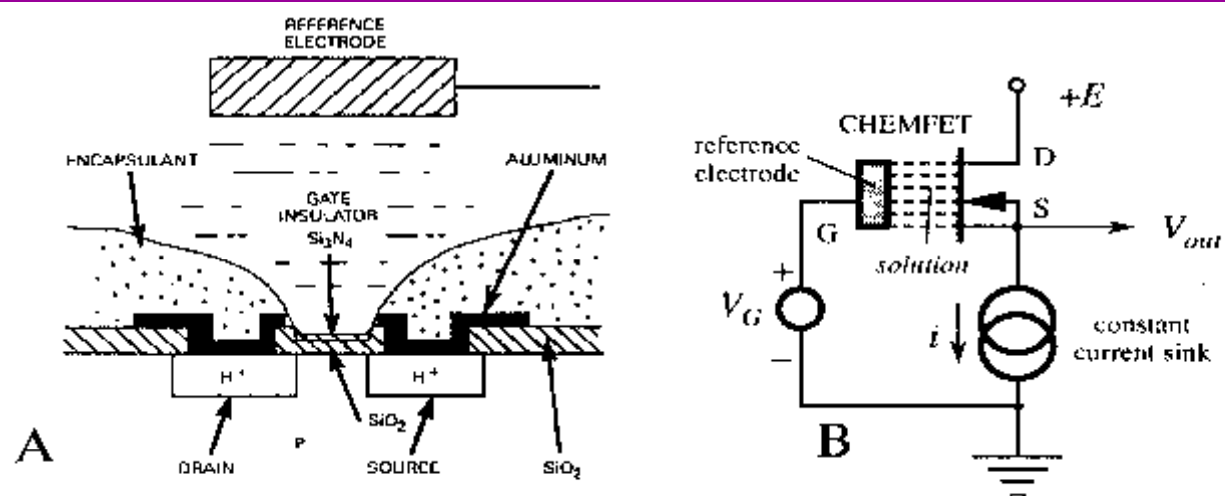
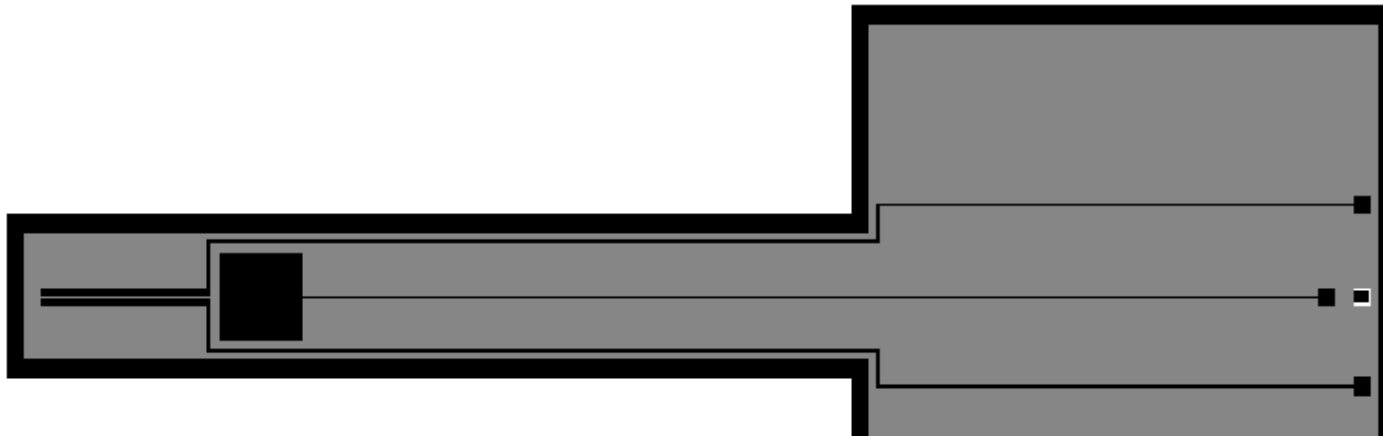


Fig. 1 Structure of an ion selective CHEMFET for monitoring pH (A) and an electrical

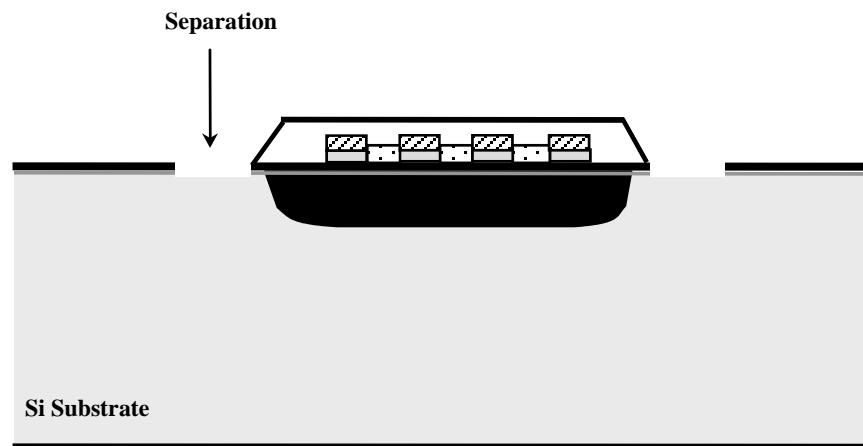
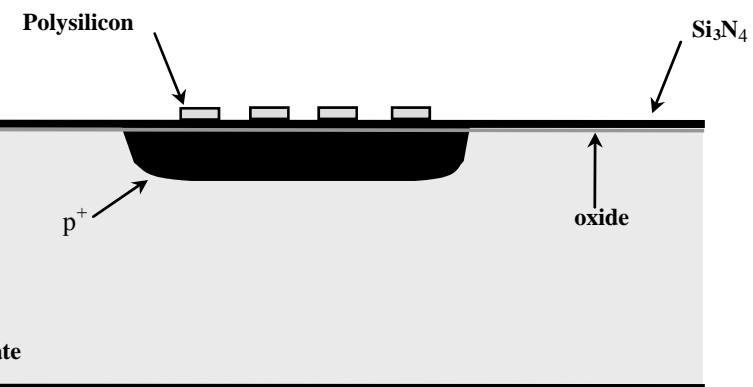
MET BASED SENSORS FOR MONITORING OF GASES

ct gas sensors are based on metal-insulator-semiconductor structures in
metal gate is a catalyst for gas sensing. Typical catalytic metals used in this
n are palladium, platinum, and iridium.

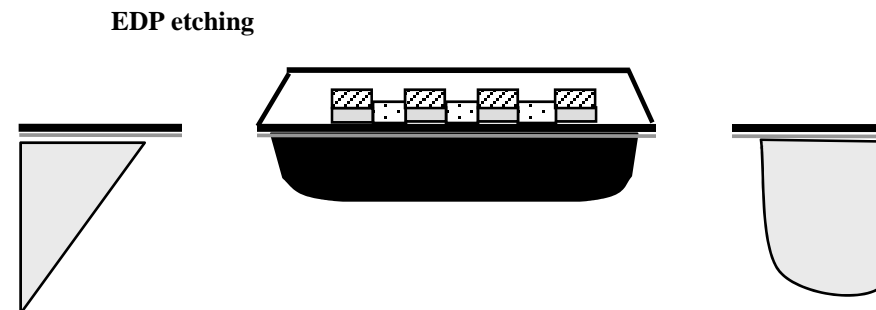
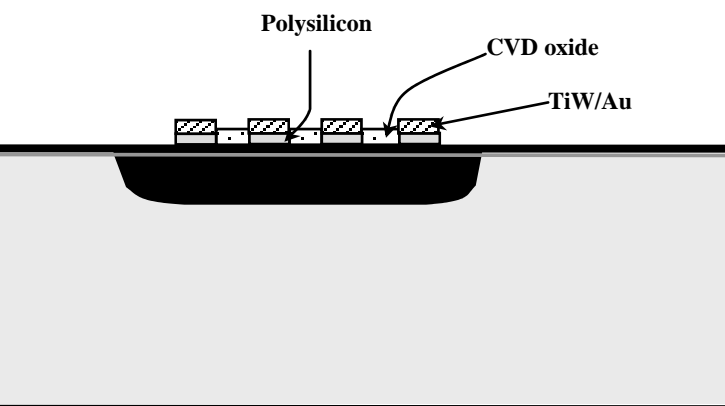
Sensors use the field effect transistors to detect chemical quantities.
are biological and medical applications. The surface field effect is a desirable
m for a generating potential that provides high chemical selectivity and
y. The CHEMFET is essentially an extended gate field effect transistor with the
the transistor and the reference electrode



MANUFACTURING STEPS



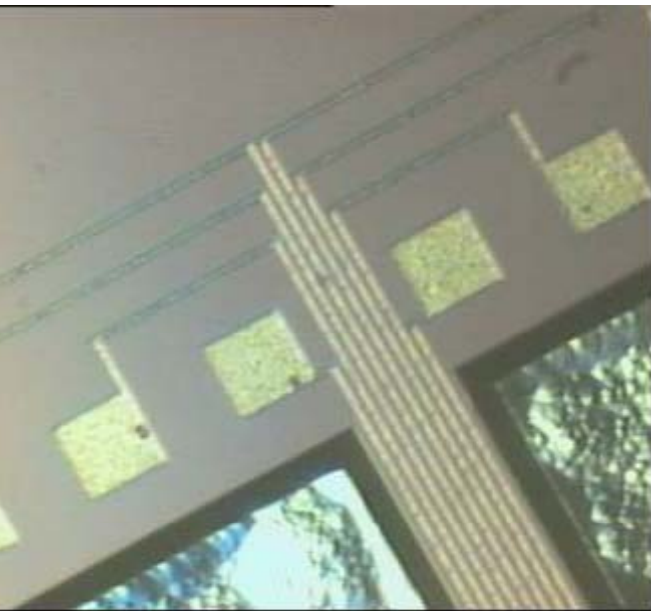
b



1

MICROMACHINED MICROPROBE -1

Optical micrograph of the body of the microprobe which hosts the electronics and allows the connection at the external package is presented in fig.4. and the microprobe tip is presented in



The body of the microprobe and the pads (optical microphotography) after 5h etching in EDP, 96 °C

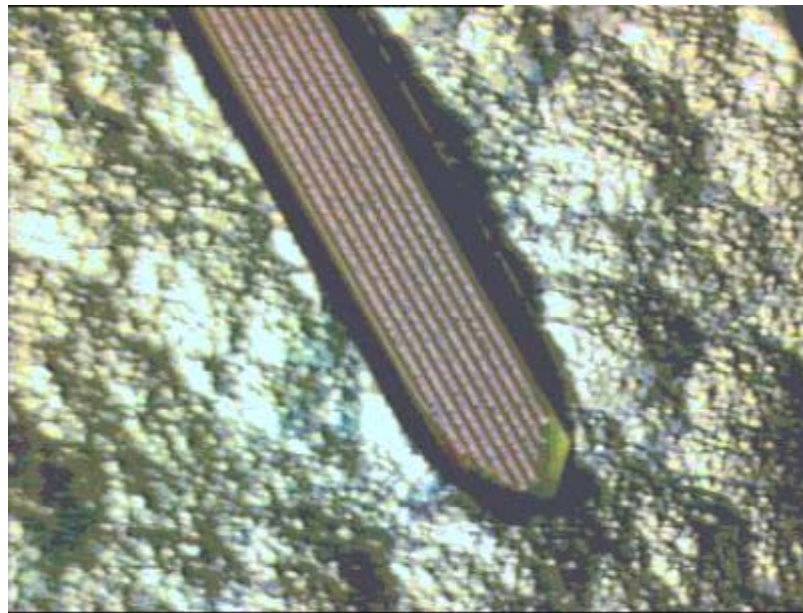
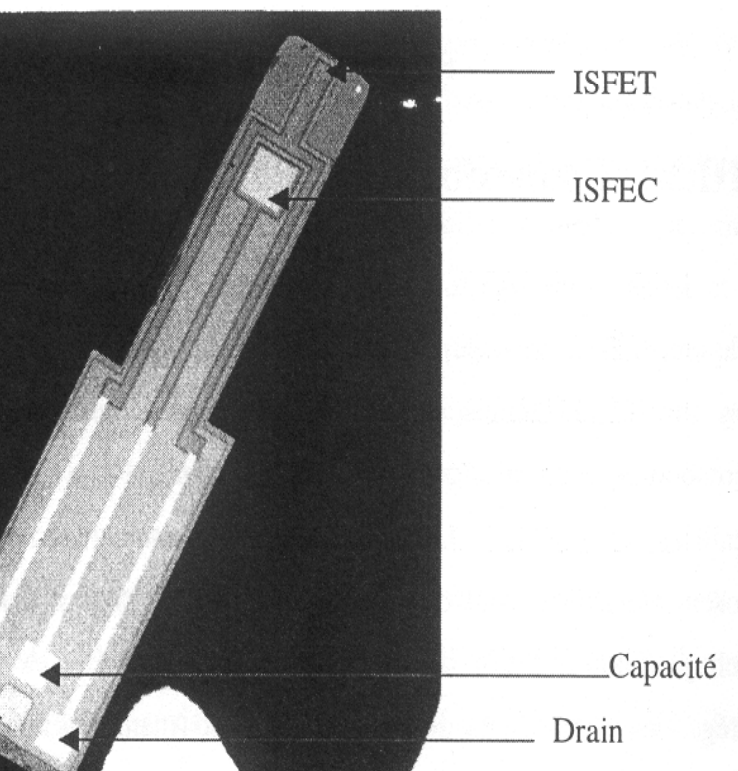


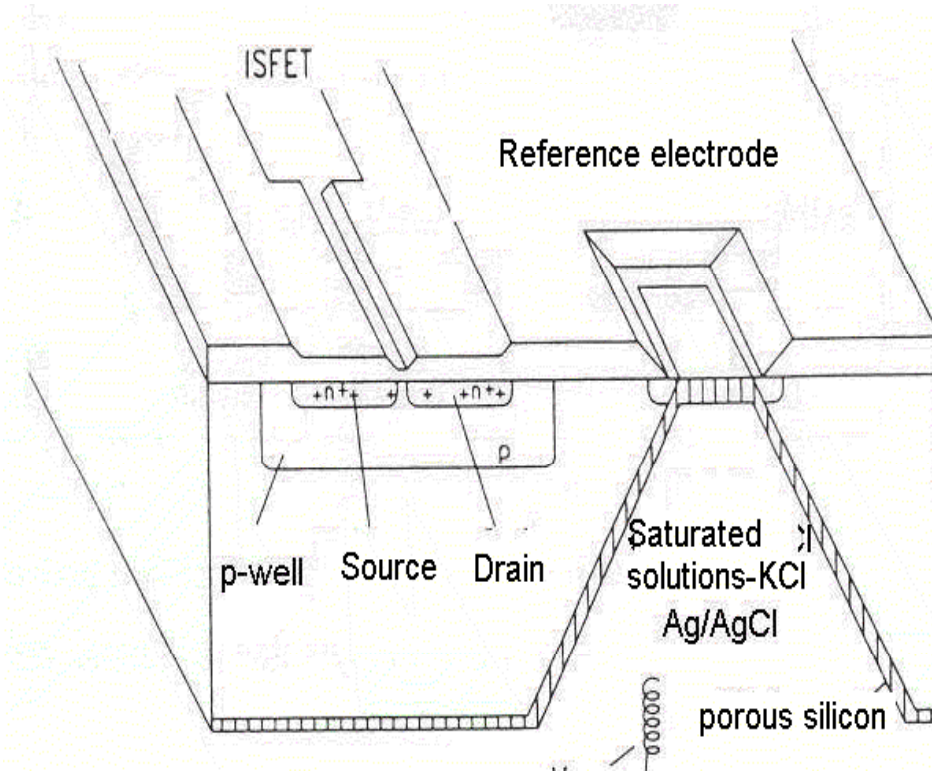
Fig.7.5. Optical microphotography (x100) of the microprobe tip, after 5h etching in EDP, 96 °C

BASED BIOSENSORS FOR MONITORING OF THE Ca^{+2} , Mg^{+2} , IONS AND pH, IN VITRO AND IN VIVO -2

microprobe ISFET biosensors

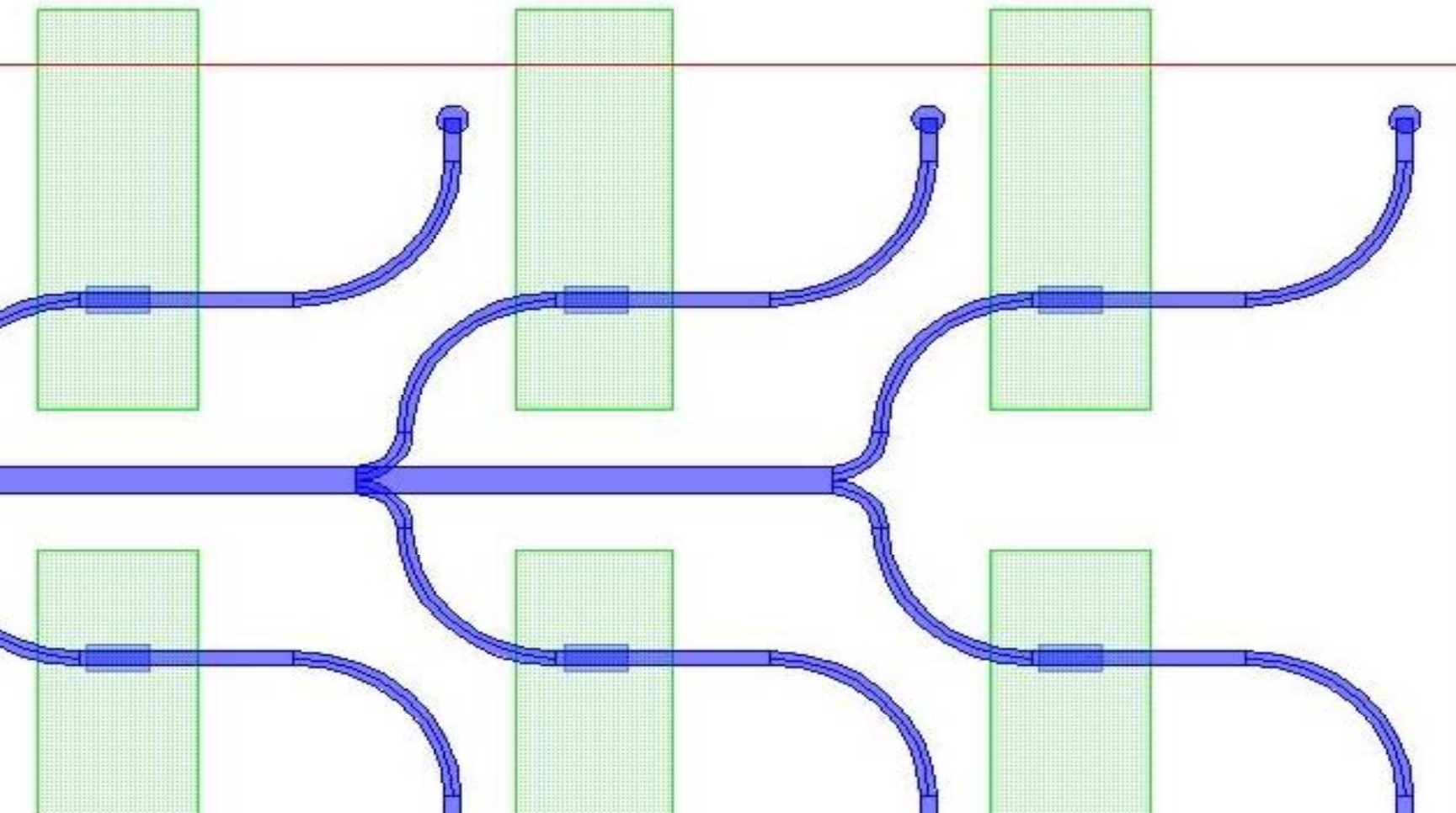


ISFET biosensor with integrated reference electrode

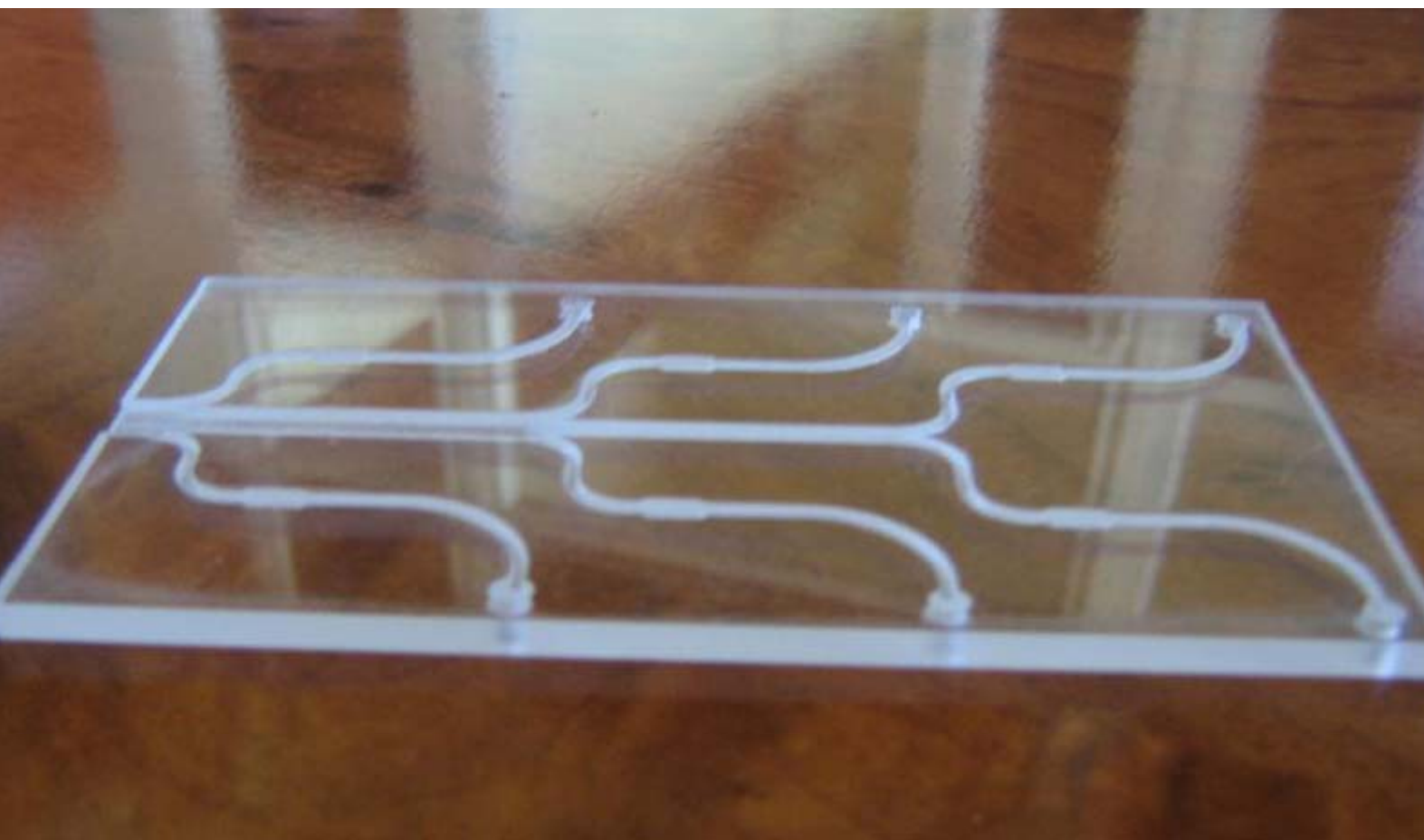


POLYMER MICROMACHINING

Microfluidic channels



er Micromachined platform



glass micromachining

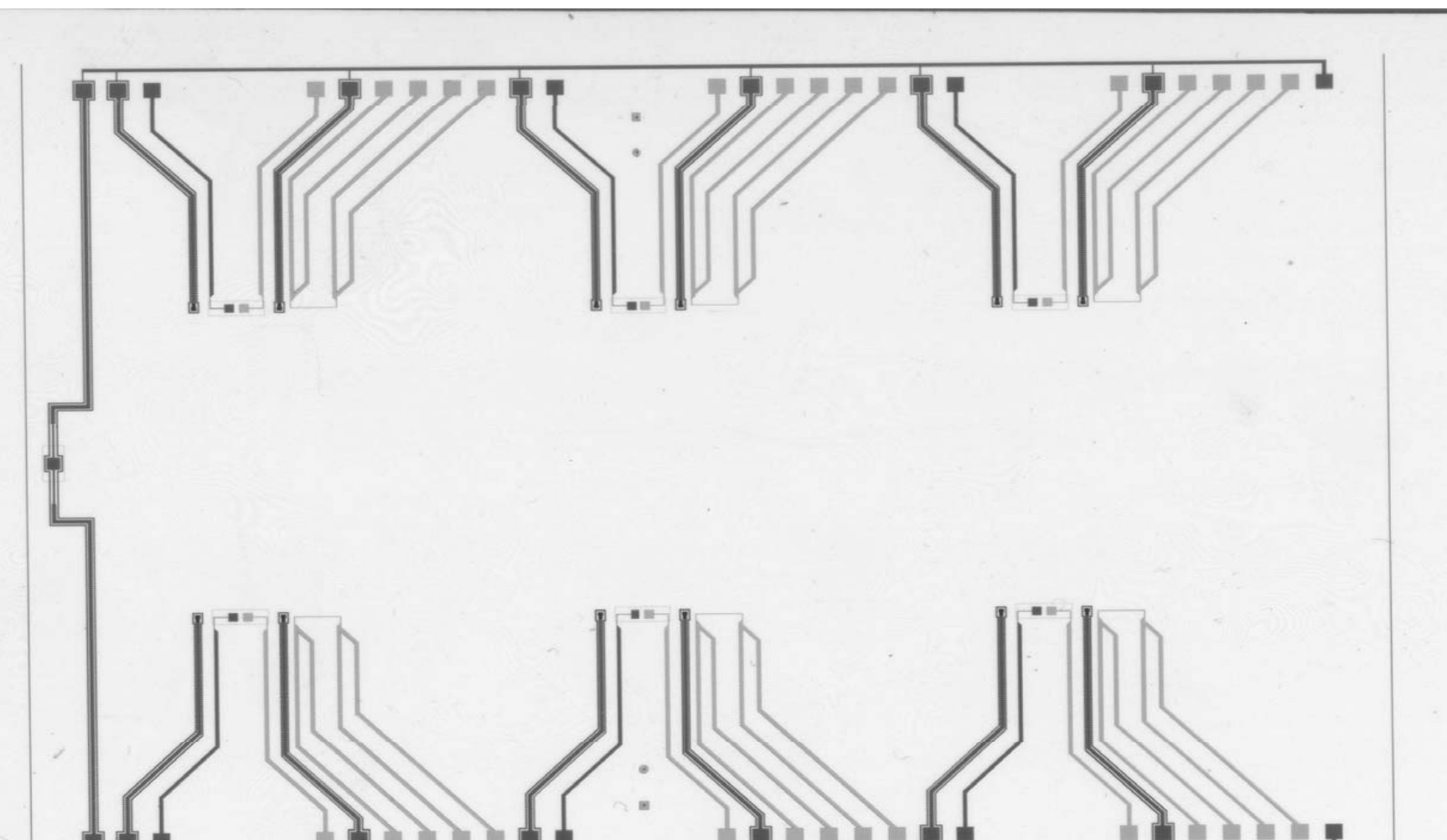
etching (isotropic or anisotropic) of glass

thermal deposition+ lithography for sensor patterning

plasma treatment for resist removal

plasma treatment for surface functionalization

sors platform



machining of ceramics

**developing a novel class of chemoresistive gas
sensors**

miniaturized

low cost

low power consumption

employing mixed techniques such as:

conventional milling techniques;

subtractive ceramic technology;

sol-gel & thick film technology;

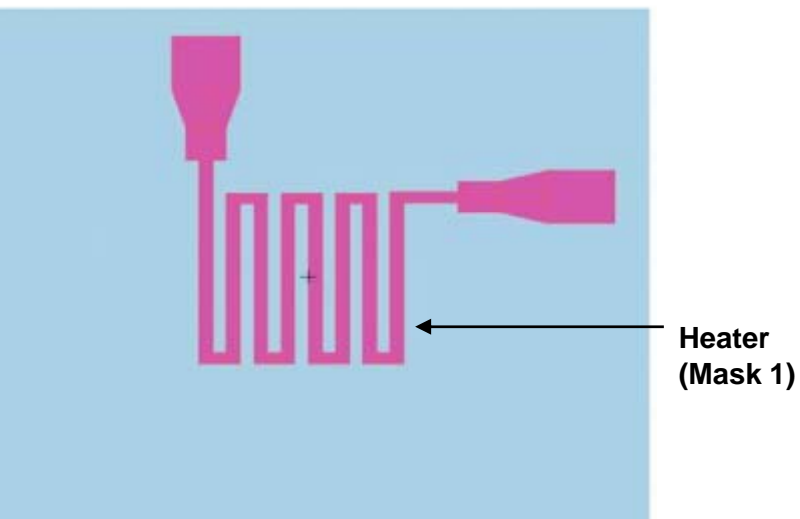
laser micromachining techniques

CAS 2005, 4th October, 30, 2005, Sinaia, Romania

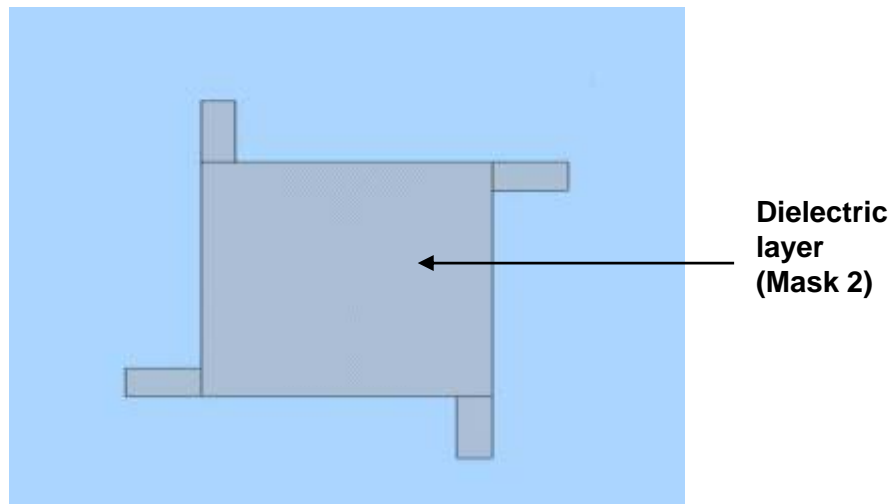
Design and technological steps

The sensor consists of an integrated heater and a platinum temperature sensor on top of a suspended membrane.

STEP A.
Micro-machining of **electroceramic heater channels** (100 μm width) & subsequent filling with conducting ceramic



STEP B.
Deposition and configuration of an electric isolating layer (SiO_2 or ceramic).



CAS 2005, 4th October, 30, 2005, Sinaia, Romania

Design and technological steps

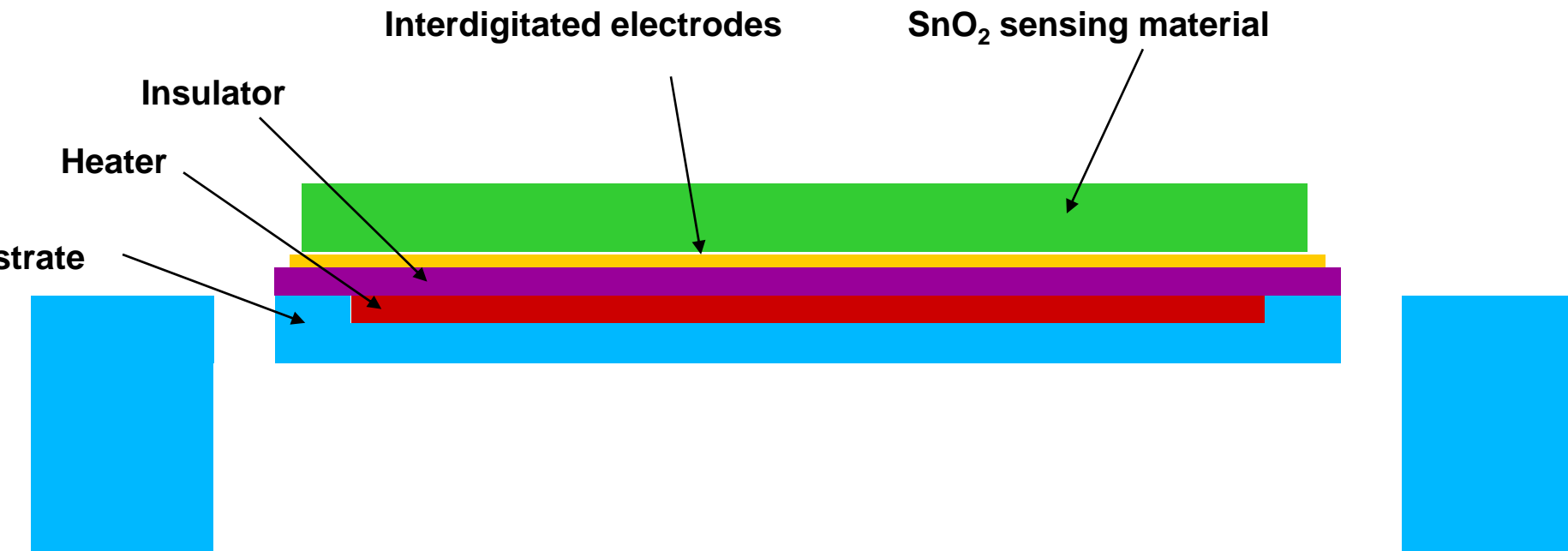


Fig.8. Mask 6 - Membrane releasing

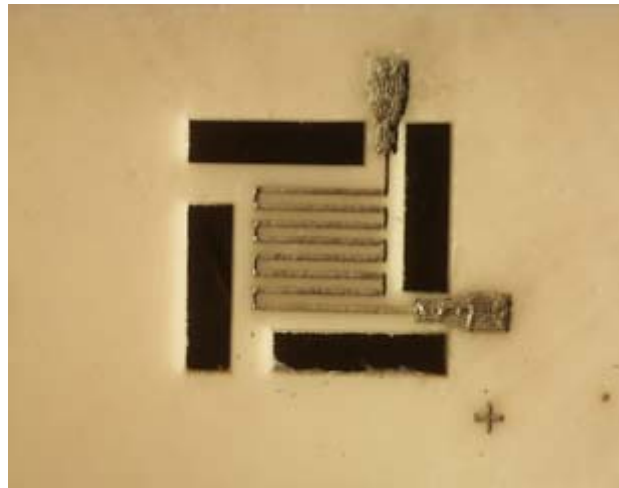
Manufacturing Steps

machining the heater groove

filling the groove with AuPtPd paste

machining and release of the heater. The releasing operation was performed first by machining the bridges around the heater. This operation was completed by traversing the 0.5x2 mm diamond wheels several times until the full thickness of the wafer was machined, resulting in a rectangular hole.

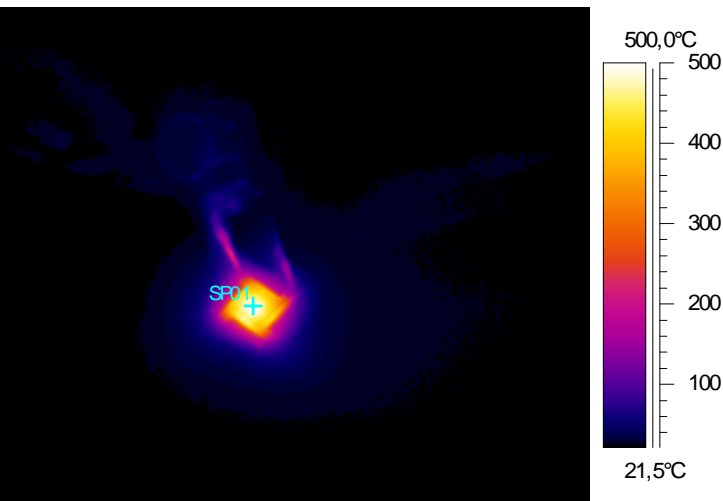
thinning of the ceramic substrate back side. This was performed by “scanning” the 3x3 mm area with the laser beam as shown in the Figure, where the lateral step size (s) was 6 μm .



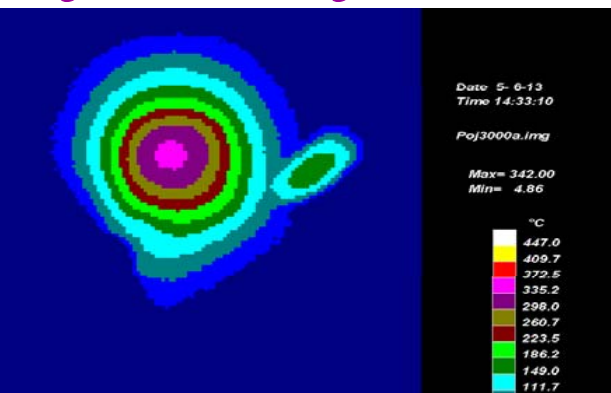
The suspended heating element



ent of the thermal properties

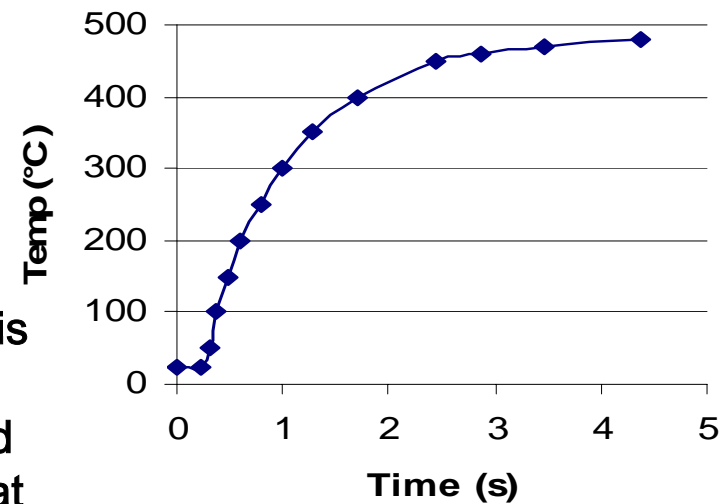


The heat distribution from the released heater element using FLIR 40

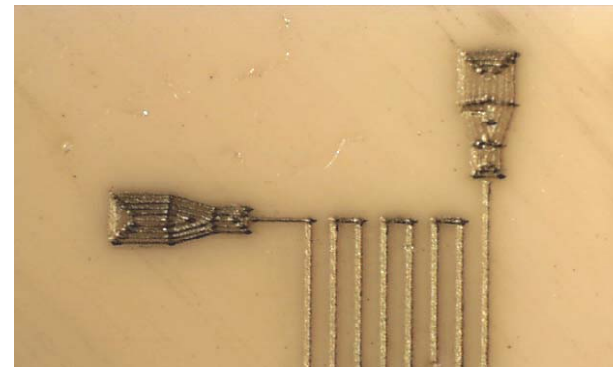


The temperature is uniform at the released area and the outside area at least 400 °C lower temperature.

The input power was 1,1 W and this should be compared with the non-released heater element



The power-on curve for the released heater element.



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