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RD50 talks at VERTEX 2019

• RD50 work program: J.Ott

•CMOS sensors: Eva Vilella

TCAD simulations: F.R.Palomo

Acceptor Removal

Effects of displacement damage involving the shallow acceptor doping in p-type silicon devices

M.Moll, CERN on behalf of RD50

Outline:

- What is acceptor removal?
- Experimental data
 - Macroscopic effects Device degradation
- •LGAD/Timing: S. Otero Ugobono Microscopic effects – Defect formation an defect kinetics
- Parameterizing the acceptor removal
- Mitigation by defect engineering (example: LGAD sensors)
- Outlook on RD50 activities
- Conclusions



Reminder: Doping and p-n junction



- Doping: p-type silicon
 - add elements from IIIrd group ⇒ acceptors (B,..)
 - holes are majority carriers
- Doping: n-type silicon
 - add elements from Vth group
 ⇒ donors (P, As,..)
 - electrons are majority carriers







Reminder: Space Charge - N_{eff}





- p-type silicon:
 - Acceptors (usually Boron) provide free holes that determine conductivity of material
- p-type detectors:
 - Negative space charge (N_{eff}) given by the ionized Boron atoms (B_s = Boron substitutional)

What is acceptor removal?



- The term "acceptor removal" is used with different meanings in different context to describe experimental observations:
 - Decrease of the free carrier concentration in p-type silicon
 - Change of the effective doping (space charge) in p-type silicon detectors
 - Nuclear reaction of thermal neutrons with Boron (...the "real" removal)
 - Removal of the acceptor from its substitutional lattice site
 (i.e. deactivation of shallow dopant properties)
 [My definition]



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Acceptor removal in Silicon detectors

- \cdot N_{eff} is usually extracted from CV measurements
 - Assuming: V_{fd} is a valid parameter to extract N_{eff}
 - Assuming: $N_{\mbox{\scriptsize eff}}$ constant throughout the bulk
- Parameterization of N_{eff}:







Characterization of CMOS sensors

Typical (HV-)CMOS device

- Depleted active pixel detectors in CMOS
- Sensor element is a deep n-well in (usually) low resistivity (~10 Ω cm) p-type substrate; 60 V ~ 10 μ m depleted \rightarrow ~1000 electrons
- Lower resistivity offers bigger active volume
- CMOS sensor characterization with edge-TCT (before irradiation)
 - Study of depleted volume (as function of voltage) allows to measure N_{eff} ≈ [B]



≈ 5µm

Acceptor removal in CMOS sensors



- Measure N_{eff} with edge-TCT (see previous slide) on irradiated sensors
 - Example: neutron irradiation of CMOS sensors



- LFoundry (150nm)
 - 2kΩcm substrate
 - Passive sensors; 50x250µm² pixel (no CMOS circuitry in n-well)

Fit including "removal coefficient" c :

$$|N_{eff}| = |N_{eff,0}| + g_c \Phi_{eq} - N_C [1 - \exp(-\boldsymbol{c} \Phi_{eq})]$$

Acceptor removal in CMOS sensors



- Acceptor removal coefficients reported in literature (CMOS sensors)
 - Note: all given data obtained after neutron irradiation; there are significant differences towards proton irradiations!



- Observation: c parameter drops with increasing doping concentration (decreasing resistivity)
- → "faster removal for higher resistivity" if we take parameterization strict:
- ..but, is the removal really following an exponential decay? (see later)

$$N_B = N_{B0} \exp(-c_A \Phi)$$



Radiation damage to LGADs



- Decrease of signal gain with increasing particle fluence
 - Main reason: Radiation induced degradation of the gain layer
 - Gain layer is (usually) a Boron implant that is suffering from "acceptor removal"
 - Mitigation: Increase of voltage to enhance the impact ionization



Increasing voltage needed to reach a gain of 10

Acceptor removal in LGADs



- Determination of acceptor concentration in the gain layer
 - Shift of the onset voltage V_{mr} for amplification (depletion of gain layer)
 - Assumption: The onset voltage is a clear measure for N_{eff} (i.e. [B]) within the gain layer
 - Measurement methods: (I) Analyze the "foot" in a CV curve
 - (II) Analyze signal vs. voltage using TCT, beta CCE, test beam, ...



Analyses for acceptor removal:

$$V_{mr} \approx V_{mr,0} \times \exp(-c\Phi_{eq})$$
 $\square N_A \approx N_{A,0} \times \exp(-c\Phi_{eq})$

• Shortcomings: The gain layer has not a constant doping; it has an implant profile The electric field in the sensor bulk can influence the measurement

Acceptor removal in Boron doped silicon



- Acceptor removal coefficients reported in literature
 - Values obtained after charged hadron irradiation and neutron irradiation



- c parameter drops with increasing doping concentration (decreasing resistivity)
 - ..but, is the removal really following an exponential decay?
- Strong scattering of data:
 - Different measurement techniques used; different devices; different Silicon (e.g. [O])

 $N_B = N_{B0} \exp(-c_A \Phi)$

LGAD: Gain layer engineering

Defect Engineering of the gain layer

- Carbon co-implantation mitigates the gain loss after irradiation
- · Replacing Boron by Gallium did not improve the radiation hardness

Modification of the gain layer profile

 Narrower Boron doping profiles with high concentration peak (Low Thermal Diffusion) are less prone to be inactivated





A dedicated acceptor removal study



50 μm

2.5 mm

Production of test structures (diodes) from various p-type Silicon materials

Material

Epi Silicon (50 μm grown on CZ) 10, 50, 250 and 1000 Ωcm

- FZ Silicon (100 285 μm)
- Cz/MCz Silicon (50-200 μm)

Samples

- Mainly diodes (CiS & Minsk)
- Metal opening for light injection
- Thinned for TSC and TCT

Characterization

- CV, IV, TCT
- TSC, DLTS

Irradiations

- Protons (23 GeV; 230 MeV)
- Neutrons (reactor)
- Electrons (3.5 MeV)
- Gammas (60Co)
- Alphas (5.15 MeV)









Universität Hamburg

Proton irradiation

Gamma - irradiation

50 kGy, 200 kGy and 1 MGy

IRRAD Proton Facility

Boston General Hospital

BGS

IDEEN PLUS ENERGIE

2 typical test structures (front and back side)

24 GeV /c

230 MeV

⁶⁰Co



CiS Forschungsinstitut für Mikrosensorik GmbH



Neutron irradiation

Institut "Jožef Stefan"

∍ 50 let KEAK IORJA IRGA

Reactor neutrons

Electron irradiation

BEI ARUSIAN

3.5 MeV and 5.5 MeV

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VERTEX 2019 - Michael Moll, CERN



Macroscopic Damage: N_{eff}

N_{eff} extracted from CV measurements

· beware: can be affected by errors for highly irradiated sensors!



- Observation: Samples differing by more than 2 orders in magnitude in initial resistivity behave very similar after very high radiation levels
- Note: Very complex behavior after proton irradiation ("type inversion"; see backup slides)
- Parameterization of data gives a "removal coefficient" c for every resistivity

$$N_{eff}(\Phi_{eq}) = N_{eff,0} \cdot \exp(-c\Phi_{eq}) + g_c\Phi_{eq}$$



Acceptor removal in Boron doped silicon



- Acceptor removal coefficients reported in literature
 - Values obtained after charged hadron irradiation and neutron irradiation



- c_A parameter drops with increasing doping concentration (decreasing resistivity)
 - → "faster removal for higher resistivity" if we take parameterization strict:

$$N_B = N_{B0} \exp(-c_A \Phi)$$

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Displacement Damage



• Mechanism:

- Primary interaction generates displacements (vacancies & interstitials)
- Vacancies and Interstitials migrate, either recombine (~90%) or migrate and form stable defects (point and cluster defects)



- Secondary defect generation due to migration of I Silicon Interstitial and V Vacancy
- Reacting with impurities in silicon:
 Oxygen (O_i), Carbon (C_s), Boron (B_s).....

$$\begin{array}{cccc} V+V \rightarrow V_{2} & V+V_{2} \rightarrow V_{3} \\ V+O_{i} \rightarrow VO_{i} \Rightarrow & V+VO_{i} \rightarrow \underline{V_{2}O_{i}} \\ V+P_{s} \rightarrow VP_{s} \end{array}$$

...and many more reactions

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Parameterization of the c parameter: Torino



• Based on a estimation of the average number of interstitials (N_{Int}) created in the particle interaction (with cross section σ_{Si} and the silicon of atomic density N_{Si}). Fit gives: $g_{Interstitials} \approx 60 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

$$N_{A} = N_{A}(0)\exp(-\mathbf{C}\Phi_{eq}) \qquad \mathbf{c} = k_{cap} \frac{N_{Si} N_{Int} \sigma_{si}}{0.63 N_{A}(0)} \left(1 + \left(\frac{N_{A0}}{N_{A}(0)}\right)^{2/3}\right)^{-1} \qquad k_{cap} \cdot N_{Int} \cdot \sigma_{Si} = 7.6 \times 10^{-22} cm^{2} N_{Si} = 5 \cdot 10^{22} cm^{-3} N_{A0} = 2.5 \cdot 10^{16} cm^{-3}$$

- Fit parameter N_{A0} and the corresponding term in the equation describe the probability to remove an acceptor with an interstitial; the higher $N_A(0)$ the lower the chance that interstitials interact elsewhere
- The **parameter k_{cap}** accounts for the impurity content (i.e. variations in different Si materials)



Acceptor removal in Boron doped silicon



• Initial acceptor removal rate $(g_A = c_A N_{A,0})$ at small fluences

 $N_A = N_{A0} \exp(-c_A \Phi) \approx N_{A0} - c_A N_{A0} \Phi + \dots$



- Is acceptor removal "faster" for lower or higher acceptor concentration?
 - Faster in absolute numbers: The higher the acceptor concentration, the more acceptors get removed
 - Slower in relative numbers: The higher the accepter concentration, the smaller is the removed fraction

Defect Characterization



- Example: TSC (Thermally Stimulated Currents) measurement
 - Comparing damage after proton and neutron exposure



- More point defects and higher [BiOi] after proton irradiation
- In agreement with stronger acceptor removal (i.e. higher c_A value for same [B_S]) after proton exposure (for same NIEL).

Boron defect kinetics





- Boron and Carbon competing for Interstitials
- High rho silicon: [O] >> [C] >> [B] leading to production of mainly C_iO_i
- Increasing Carbon content will "protect" Boron from removal

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Moll 1999, PhD thesis]

Back of envelope approach



- Assumptions: [O] >> [B],[C]
 - Boron is removed by the reaction
 I+Bs→ Bi → Bi+Oi→BiOi
 - Interstitials (I) are "shared" between
 Cs and Bs (i.e. Cs protects Bs from removal)
 - Initial Boron removal rate (i.e. rate of BiOi formation at low fluence):

$$g_B = g_{BiOi} \approx g_I \left(1 + \frac{k_{IC}[C_s]}{k_{IB}[B_s]} \right)^{-1}$$



- BiOi is a donor (i.e. contributes positive space charge)
 - For every removed Boron an acceptor is lost and a donor is created (factor 2!)
- From literature and our own measurements (see Annex of talk):
 - Generation of interstitials (outside clusters): $g_1 \approx 1-3 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (high resitivity silicon)
 - Sharing of interstitials between Bs and Cs: $k_{IB}/k_{IC} \approx 1-7$
 - $[C_s] \approx 1 5 \times 10^{15} \, \text{cm}^{-3}$

Modeling approaches





Model I (Torino parameterization)

- Fit to data, requires an introduction rate of g_i = 60 cm⁻¹ and interstitial gettering center in silicon that is not leading to visible defects and does not react with other defects like Ci and Bi.
- · Fits the data set over 6 orders of magnitude !
- Shortcoming: Not in line with defect/defect kinetics studies which do not indicate an "invisible" gettering center
- Model II (Back of envelope defect kinetics calculation):
 - Simplistic model ignoring defect kinetics complexity; g_I based on experimental data of defect introduction rates
 - · Shortcoming: Does not cover the data and can not explain the LGAD data (low resistivity) at all

BiOi – Introduction Rates



Compare [BiOi] introduction to "acceptor removal rate"



- Missing a factor of 2-4 in defect concentration of [BiOi] to explain the macroscopic acceptor removal
- Contrary to many other effects like e.g. reverse annealing for which we can calculate the macroscopic change in $V_{\rm fd}$ from the microscopic defect concentrations

Conclusions



- Radiation induced acceptor removal effect leads to performance changes
 (mostly degradation) in LGAD, CMOS and standard p-type detectors.
 - It is the limiting factor for LGAD sensor application in high radiation fields!
- Parameterization of acceptor removal existing and covering the range [B]= 10^{12} to 10^{18} cm⁻³ (10 k Ω cm to 5 m Ω cm)
 - i.e. damage prediction can be done
- Defect engineering: Carbon enrichment reduces "removal speed"
 - LGAD sensors can gain a factor of order 2-3 in fluence reach by gain layer engineering
- Microscopic understanding remains incomplete
 - Measured defect concentration does not explain the observed acceptor removal effect
 - Two modelling approaches presented (both lacking some consistency with data)
 - Model I (Torino): Good parameterization to all experimental data measured on macroscopic scale. Can be used for damage predictions. Difficult to include in the microscopic picture as we need an invisible sink for interstitials ("dark interstitial sink")
 - Model II (Defect formation): We can explain the BiOi formation in high resistivity materials up to 10 Ω cm but not beyond (i.e. the strong BiOi formation in LGAD sensors).

Need more data/models: Dedicated RD50 projects started and ongoing



Annex

Annex – Spare Slides



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- Acceptor removal on wafer level
- LGAD: Gain layer defect engineering
- LGAD: Boron is not removed by nuclear reactions
- EPI silicon:
 - SIMS and SR profiling
 - Type inversion after proton irradiation
- Summary: Defects with impact on sensor performance
- Determination of oxygen concentration from defect kinetics after irradiation
- Determination of carbon concentration from defect concentrations after irradiation

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Example: Doping removal in high resistivity wafers (1996 R.Wunstorf et al.)

- Material:
 - Neutron Transmutation Doped (NTD) FZ Silicon
 - Wafers only differing in Phosphorus content
- Measurement: Resistivity as obtained with 4 point probe

Acceptor removal on wafer level



experiment targeted n-type silicon but gave also result for p-type

 $^{30}Si + n \rightarrow ^{31}Si \rightarrow ^{31}P$



Acceptor removal in CMOS sensors



- Acceptor removal coefficients reported in literature (CMOS sensors)
 - Note: all given data obtained after neutron irradiation;





- Observation: c parameter drops with increasing doping concentration (decreasing resistivity)
- → "faster removal for higher resistivity" if we take parameterization strict:
- ..but, is the removal really following an exponential decay? (see later)

$$N_B = N_{B0} \exp(-c_A \Phi)$$

Parameterization of the c parameter: Torino



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$$c = k_{cap} \frac{N_{Si} N_{Int} \sigma_{si}}{0.63 N_A(0)} \left(1 + \left(\frac{N_{A0}}{N_A(0)}\right)^{2/3}\right)^{-1}$$

- Based on a calculation of the average number of interstitials (N_{Int}) created in the particle interaction (with cross section σ_{Si}) and the silicon (of atomic density N_{Si}).
 - Fit parameter N_{A0} and the corresponding term in the equation describe the probability to remove an acceptor with an interstitial; the higher $N_A(0)$ the lower the chance that interstitials interact elsewhere
 - The parameter k_{cap} accounts for the impurity content (i.e. variations in different Si materials)



Initial Acceptor Density $\rho_A(0)$ [cm⁻³]

LGAD: Gain layer engineering



Defect Engineering of the gain layer

Carbon co-implantation mitigates the gain loss after irradiation



[N.Cartiglia, Torino, private communication, October 2019 to be presented on IPRD19, Siena by Marco Ferrero]

SIMS before and after irradiation



- SIMS = Secondary Ion Emission Spectroscopy
 - Measurement of Boron profile before and after irradiation with neutrons ($10^{16} n_{eq}/cm^2$) no difference



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Epitaxial Silicon Sensors



Systematic study on epitaxial p-type silicon

- All wafers produces in same facility/process on same substrate (low resistivity Cz); wafers differ only in Boron content (i.e. resistivity)
- · all wafers processed together and all samples irradiated together
- Characterization on processed devices (destructive)
 - SR (Spreading Resistance) and SIMS (Secondary Ion Emission Spectroscopy)



Type inversion of epi sensors



 Observation of type inversion (negative space charge to positive space charge after 24 GeV/c proton irradiation)



Displacement Damage



• Mechanism:

- Primary interaction generates displacements (vacancies & interstitials)
- Vacancies and Interstitials migrate, either recombine (~90%) or migrate and form stable defects (point and cluster defects)



Radiation induced defects with impact on device performance



RD50 map of most relevant defects for device performance near room temperature:



- Trapping: Indications that E205a and H152K are important (further work needed)
- Converging on consistent set of defects observed after p, π , n, γ and e irradiation.
- Defect introduction rates are depending on particle type and energy, and some on material!

Determine [O_i] from defect kinetics





- With known parameter k_{CO} the oxygen content $[O_i]$ can be determined from the annealing kinetics of the interstitial Carbon C_i

Determine [O_i] from defect kinetics



- Irradiation: electrons (3.5 MeV, 5.5 MeV), alphas (5.5 MeV)
- Isochronal annealing study
 - isochronal: stepwise T increase ($\Delta T=10^{\circ}C$); fixed annealing time (30 min)
 - Study of reaction $C_i + O_i \rightarrow C_iO_i$ with DLTS ; Data shown: Decrease of $[C_i]$



- Ci defect reaction faster in samples produced at CiS than in samples produced in Minsk
- Conclusion: [Oi] depending on foundry, i.e. processing (for identical substrate wafers)
 - Produced in Minsk: $[O_i] \approx 1.5 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3}$
 - Produced at CiS, Erfurt: $[O_i] \approx 2 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

Note: There is a [O] profile (average value determined)

from the ration [CiOi]/[BiOi] and the Boron concentration [B_s]

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Determine [C_s] from defect kinetics

- Carbon usually below SIMS detection limit
- Assume [O] >> [B],[C]
 - valid for high ρ silicon
 - mainly B_iO_i and C_iO_i formed (other reactions can be neglected)
 - C_iO_i and B_iO_i can be measured with the DLTS or TSC technique
- Study sharing of interstitials (Si_i) between Carbon (C_s) and Boron (B_s):

• With known parameter k_{IB}/k_{IC} (\approx 7) the carbon content [C_s] can be determined

 $B_i B_s$ B_iO B_iC_s 10 Si; = C_iC_s C_iP_s C_iO -100 100 200 300 400 0 temperature [°C]





Determine [C_s] from defect kinetics

 $H5(C_iO_i)$

epi 50 Ω cm

epi 10Ωcm

Cz 10Ωcm

Assume

600

400

200

-200

-400

-600

-800

S, fi

0

 $[C_s] \approx \frac{k_{IB}}{k_{IC}} \frac{[C_i O_i]}{[B_i O_i]} [B_s]$

Diodes produced in Minsk

(see last slide)

- MC-DLTS (minority carrier injection)
 - Peak heights give concentrations [CiOi] and [BiOi]
 - Resistivity (i.e.CV measurement) gives [Bs]
 - $k_{IB}/k_{IC} \approx 7$ from literature

Calculated [Cs]

- epi 50Ωcm [Cs] ≈ 1.5-2×10¹⁵ cm⁻³
- epi 10Ωcm [Cs] ≈ 1.5-2×10¹⁵ cm⁻³
- Cz 10Ωcm [Cs] ≈ 3×10¹⁶ cm⁻³

Significantly more Carbon in our Cz samples compared to the epi samples

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