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Comparative Study Between Different Metal Gates Engineered Structures

L. M. Gupta¹, Neeraj Gupta²

Assistant Professor, ECE Department, ASET, Amity University, Haryana

Abstract: *In this paper, comparative study between different metal gate structures has been presented. Short channel effect acts as barrier for further reduction in size of conventional MOSFETs. So looking for new device structures with different materials and property. But this alone cannot help us to catch up the ITRS roadmap. To achieve this, proportional decrease in oxide thickness are required. But SCEs are come into the picture again and degrade the device performance. So introduced the concept of dual dielectric along with different metal gate and this concept enhance the performance of device. The comparisons between devices are carried out by using surface potential and electric field parameters. The triple metal dual dielectric cylindrical gate all around MOSFETs are the best device among all. The comparisons are carried out with the help of MATLAB.*
Keywords: *MOSFET, Metal Gates, Dielectrics, potential, field, Work function*

I. INTRODUCTION

MOSFET has become the most essential and fundamental building block of VLSI circuits due to its inimitable properties. The aggressive downscaling of conventional MOSFETs is required to fulfill the demand for higher packing density, high speed, low power consumption and low cost.

Obviously, the motive of miniaturization is to deliver high performance at lower cost. Smaller circuit dimensions reduce the overall chip area, thereby allowing more transistors to be fabricated on single ICs. On decreasing the MOSFET dimensions, the switching delay of devices decreases linearly.

This is mainly due to the delay time is approximately equal to channel length/carrier velocity.

The tremendous advantage of miniaturization is the reduction of power consumption which is not only useful for mobiles to lengthen battery life, but also for improving the reliability of high performance systems. But conventional MOSFET suffers from effect known as "short-channel effect" (SCE) of MOSFETs and is often measured as the threshold voltage reduction of MOSFETs with short-channel length. To improve the immunity against the short channel effects, the dual metal gate, triple metal gate has been used. As the name suggests, the gate terminal consists of three/ two metals in this structure with different work functions. Such a structure provides simultaneous increase in

transconductance to drain current ratio and suppressed SCEs due to a step change in the surface-potential profile in comparison with a single gate MOSFETs. In order to include the advantages of both gate material and gate stack structures, a new device structure is introduced which is known as metal gate dual dielectric (MGDD) structures.

Section 2 describes the design approaches for MOSFETs. In section 3 the comparative study between the single metal, double metal and triple metal gates are presented using MATLAB. The section 4 closed with conclusion and future work.

II. DESIGN APPROACHES

There are various design approaches. Some authors used multi gate approaches and some used dual dielectric approaches. But this paper presents mixture of two approaches. This mixed approach is used to carry out the comparative study.

The key advantage of the multi-gate devices is to enhance the protection against short channel effects. Since the conducting channel is controlled electro statically by the gate from multiple sides. So the channel is better-controlled by the gate electrode in comparison to the conventional transistor. Another advantage of the multi-gate devices is the better ratio of on-state drive current (Ion) to the off-state leakage current (Ioff) and therefore faster circuit speed. The amount of gate controllability increases further with the quadruple-gate, the Omega/Pi-gate and the gate-all-around (GAA) structures respectively. The gate-all-around MOSFETs offer the lowest characteristic length and hence the highest capability to be scaled for a given gate oxide thickness. One of the well known techniques to reduce hot carrier effect (HCE) is using multi gate structure consisting of two or more metals of different work functions. This structure is commonly known as Double-Material-Gate (DMG) structure as proposed in 1999 by Long et al. [1]. The metal gates are so combined that the gate near the drain end is a metal (M2) with lower work-function and the source end metal

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(M1) is of relatively higher work function. As a result of this, the electron velocity and the lateral electric field along the channel increases sharply at the interface of the two gate material which further results in the increased gate transport efficiency [2-3].

The Cylindrical Gate all around (CGAA) MOSFET is considered as one of the most promising devices for downscaling below 100 nm. The CGAA MOSFETs can achieve a higher packing density due to their enhanced current drive compared to planar MOSFETs. However, even in CGAA MOSFET devices, SCEs such as the threshold roll-off, DIBL and the subthreshold swing degradation cannot be neglected from channel lengths below 100 nm. But by incorporating the triple metal/dual metal gate structure along with dual dielectric improve the performance. In the Metal gate structure, The field at the drain end is decreased, which ensures that the field under the gate is increased. This step change in the function profile of the surface potential ensures screening of the channel region under the material on the source side from drain-source potential variations. After saturation higher metal gate work function region absorbs any additional drain-source voltage and hence, the region under lower metal gate work function region is screened from drain –source variations[6-7].

Miniaturization of the devices also requires the gate oxide thickness to be reduced in proportion to channel length. This is essential in order to keep better gate control over the channel as compared to drain. However, continuous scaling of gate dielectric thickness results in enhancement in gate leakage current and which causes increase in static power consumption. In order to resolve the above issues, alternative gate dielectrics are considered. Traditional SiO₂ is being replaced by high-K dielectrics to reduce the gate leakage current. Silicon with high-K material systems might suffer from interface trap states and low mobility.

High-K gate dielectric along with SiO₂ is a possible solution to replace thinner silicon-dioxide layer in a nanoscale MOSFETs [3], [8].

III. SIMULATION AND RESULTS

All the simulations are done using MATLAB tool. The present simulation is carried out for surface potential and electric field for SMDDCGAA, DMDDCGAA and TMDDCGAAA MOSFETs. Simulation parameters are: $V_{gs}=0.2V$, $V_{ds}=0.05V$, $t_{oxeff}=2\text{ nm}$, $N_{ak}=10^{20}\text{ cm}^{-3}$, $N_d=10^{20}\text{ cm}^{-3}$, $L=50\text{nm}$. The surface potential of multi gate MOSFETs structure is shown in figure 1.

Figure 1 depicts that triple metal dual dielectric structure has two step function profile which clearly indicates reduction in SCEs. These steps function profile at the interface of two metal regions suppress the higher metal gate work function region from the variation of drain bias. Increased drain bias is dropped across the lower metal gate work function region. It is also noticed that triple metal dual dielectric MOSFETs have minimum surface potential, an extra step profile as compared to the single metal and dual metal dual dielectric CGAA MOSFETs. So TMDDCGAA have better performance and enhanced immunity against SCEs [4-5].

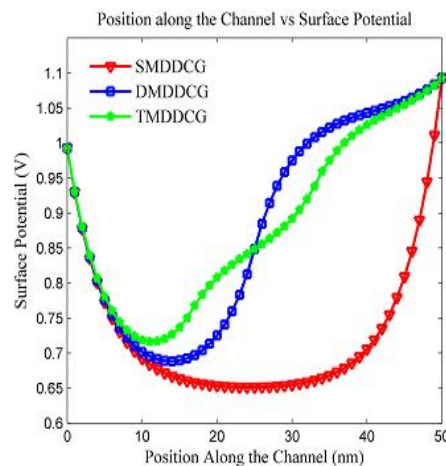


Figure 1: Position along the channel length and surface potential for SMDDCGAA, DMDDCGAA and TMDDCGAA MOSFETs

The Figure 2 shows the electric field distribution of TMDDCG, DMDDCG and SMDDCG MOSFET structure. The drain end having lower metal gate work function region indicates reduction in electric field. The charge carriers along the channel exhibit reduction in the electric field at the drain end which means reduction in hot carrier effects. In comparison to SMDDCGAA and DMDDCGAA MOSFETs structure, there are extra peak in Triple metal structure, thereby improving immunity against SCEs.

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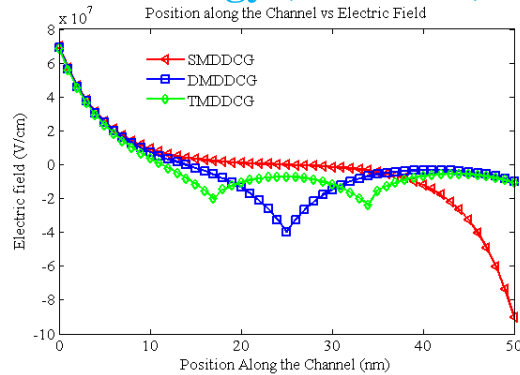


Figure 2: Position along the channel length and electric field for SMDDCGAA, DMDDCGAA and TMDDCGAA MOSFETs

IV. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

This paper concludes that triple metal dual dielectric cylindrical gate all around MOSFETs shows superior performance as compared to SMDDCGAA and DMDDCGAA MOSFETs. The surface potential and electric field exhibits extra step function profile in TMDDCGAA MOSFETs which significantly reduce the SCEs. In future, the performance can be further enhanced by using halo concept.

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