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**KIM et al.**(10) **Pub. No.: US 2025/0266351 A1**(43) **Pub. Date: Aug. 21, 2025**(54) **SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND  
MANUFACTURING METHOD OF  
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(57)

**ABSTRACT**

A semiconductor device includes: a peripheral circuit, a stack located over the peripheral circuit, a bonding pad located between the peripheral circuit and the stack, a probing pad located between the peripheral circuit and the stack and connected to the bonding pad, a contact plug extending through the stack and electrically connected to the peripheral circuit through the probing pad and the bonding pad, and a contact structure including a contact connect portion extending in a first direction, a first contact via protruding from the contact connect portion in a second direction intersecting the first direction, and a second contact via spaced apart from the first contact via and protruding from the contact connection portion in the second direction.

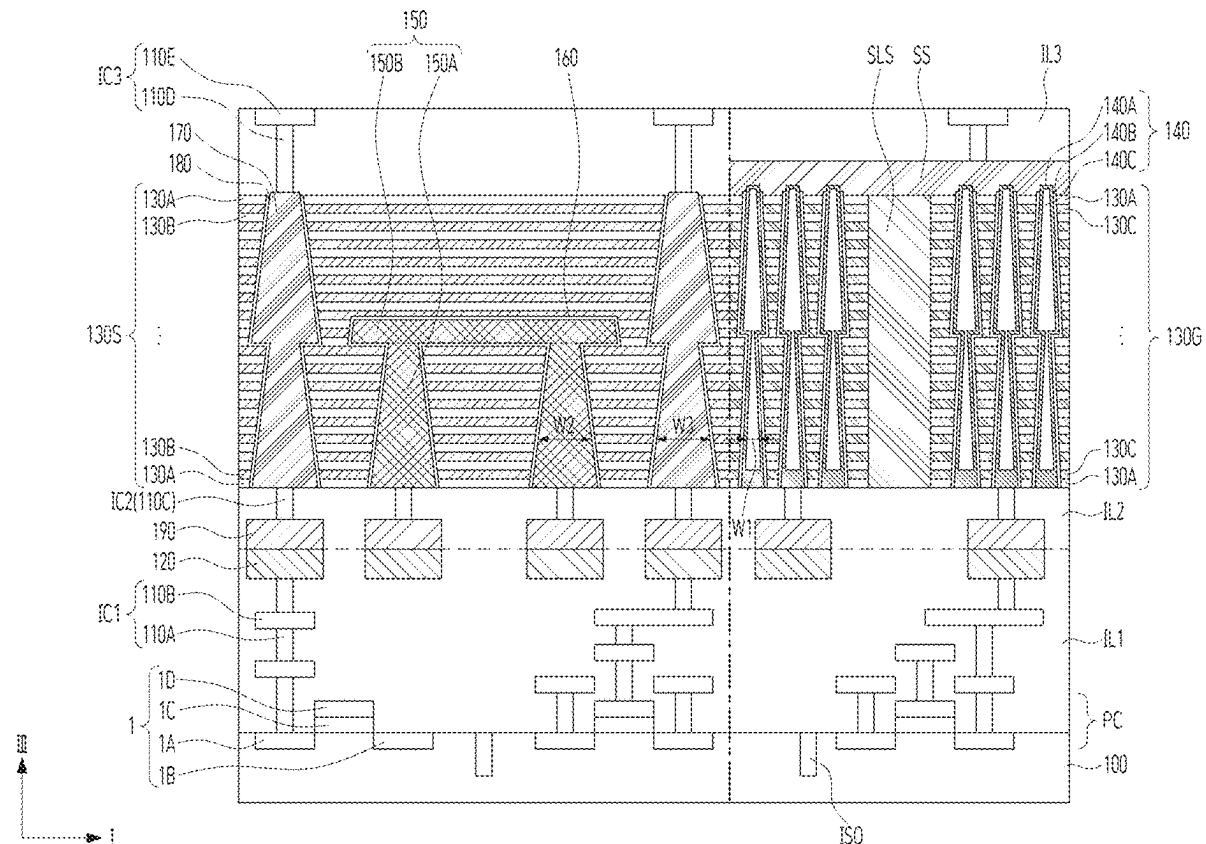






FIG. 3A

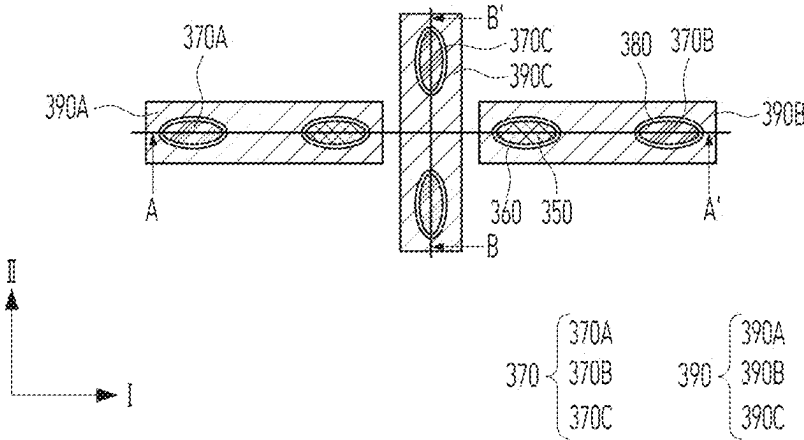


FIG. 3B

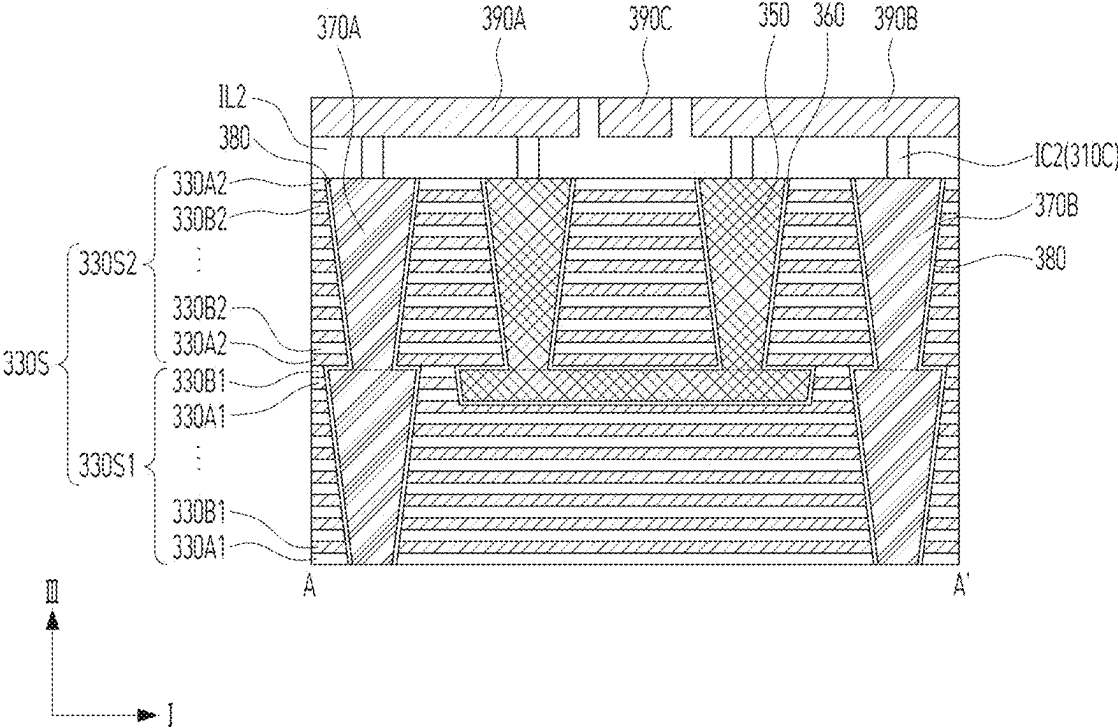


FIG. 3C

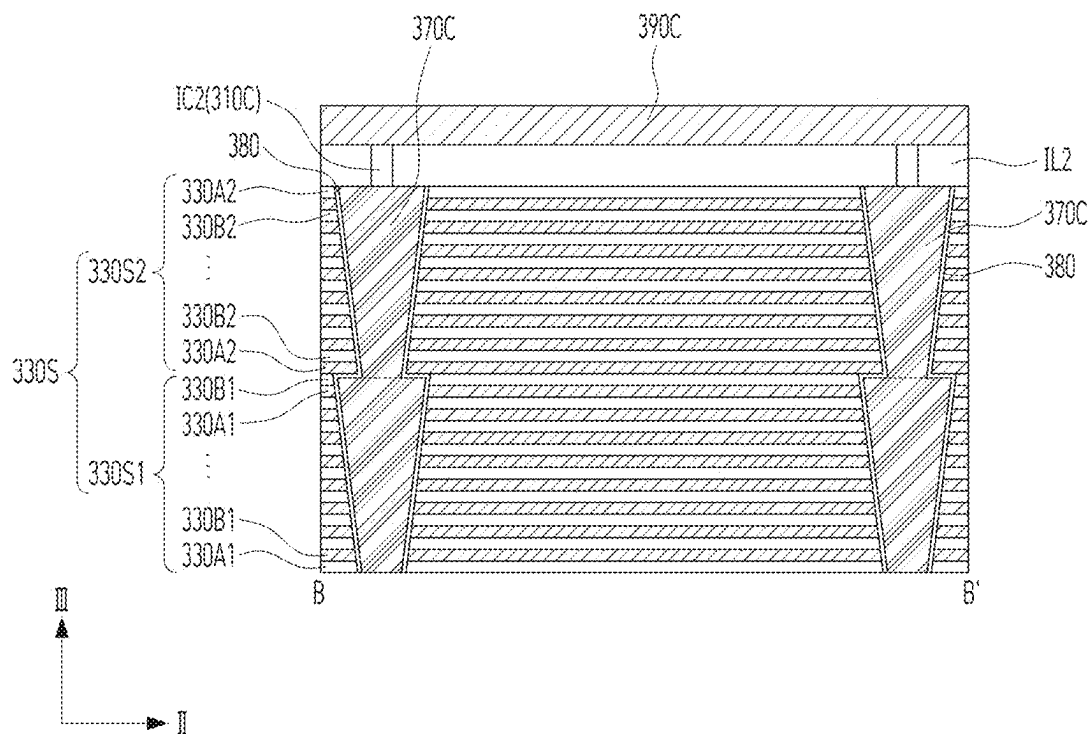




FIG. 5A

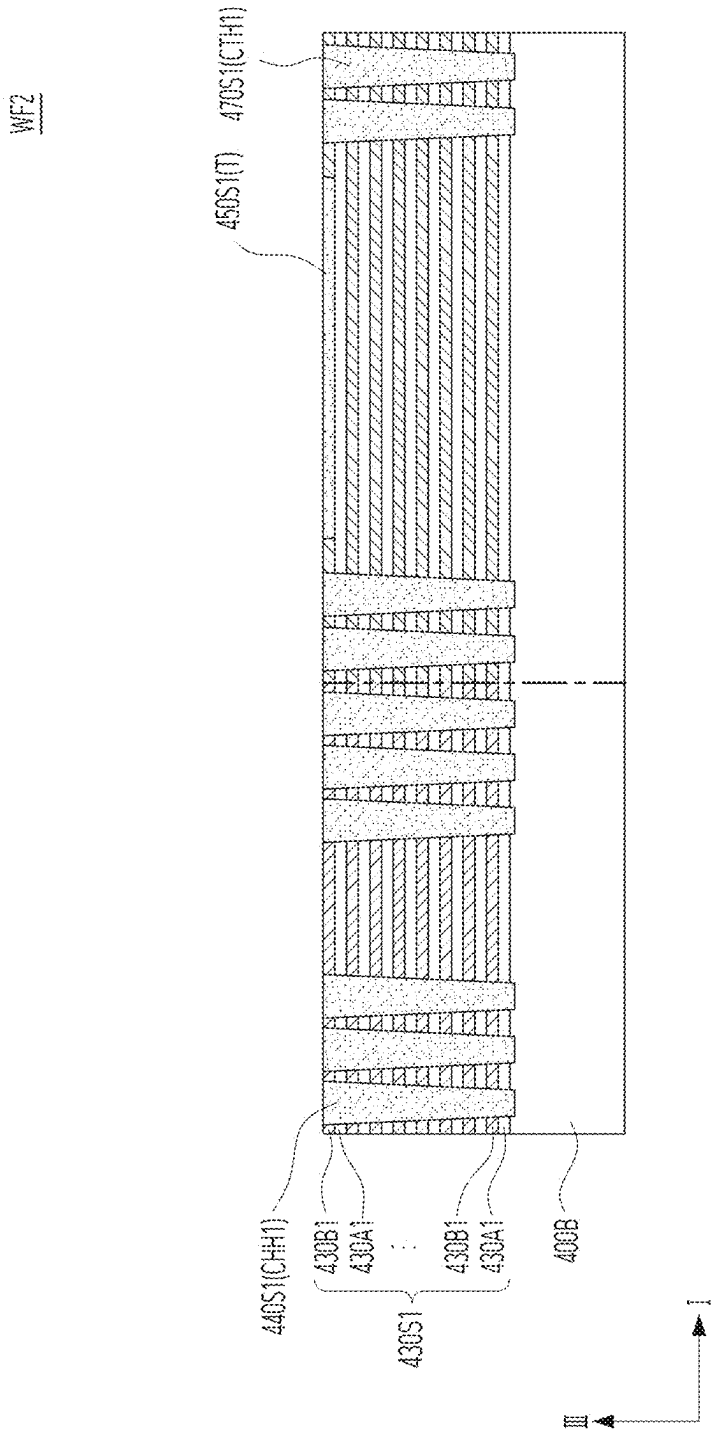




FIG. 5B

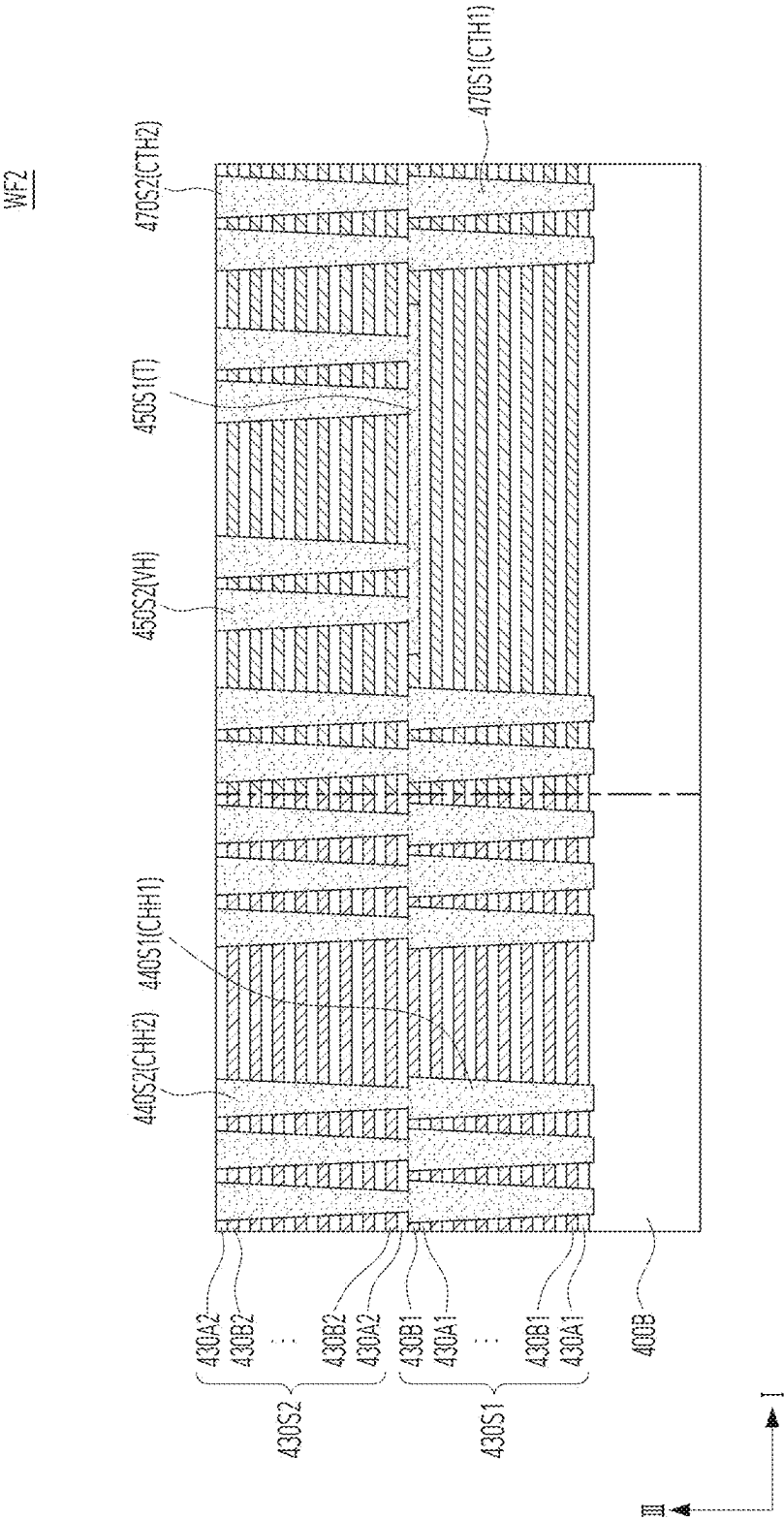


FIG. 5C

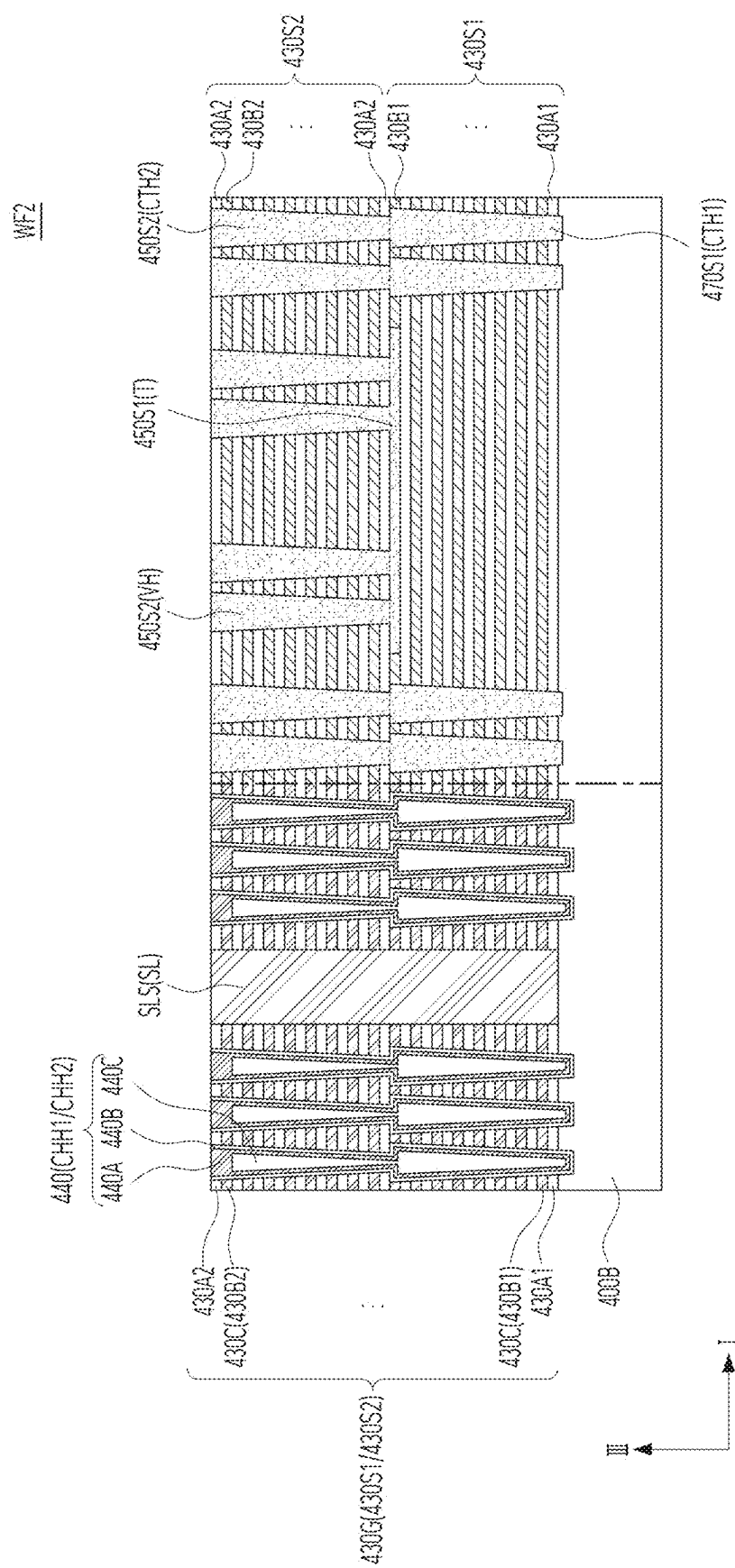


FIG. 5D

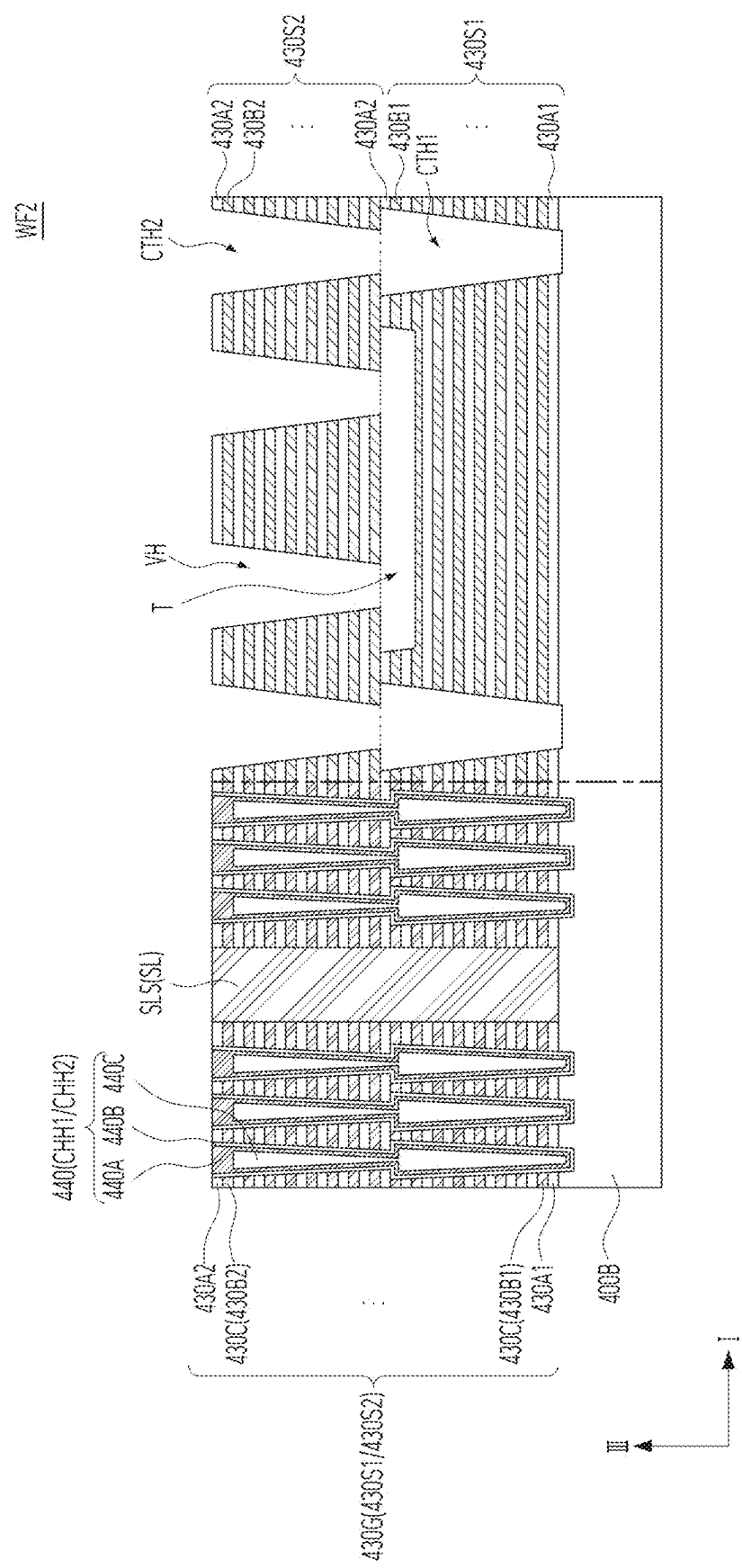


FIG. 5E

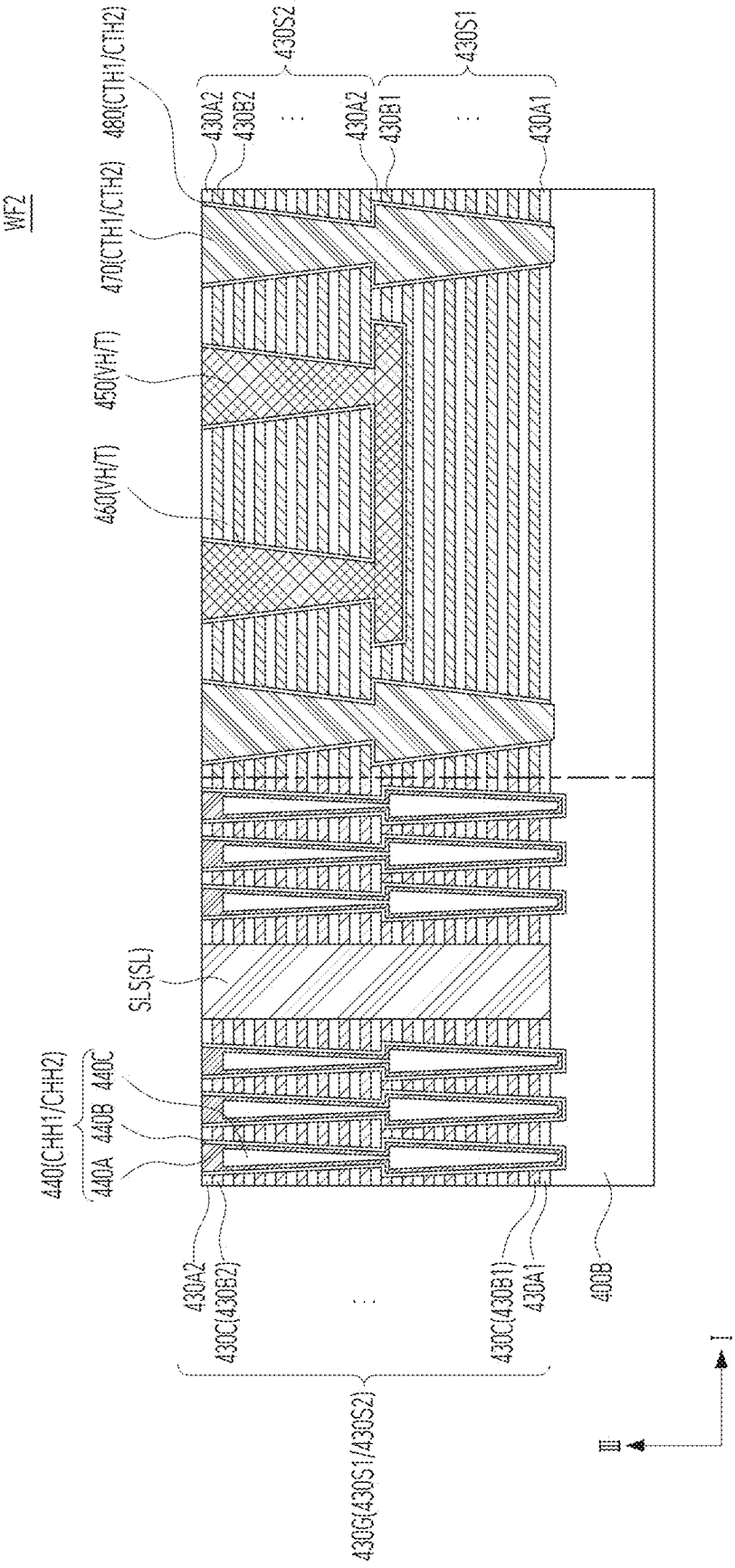


FIG. 5F

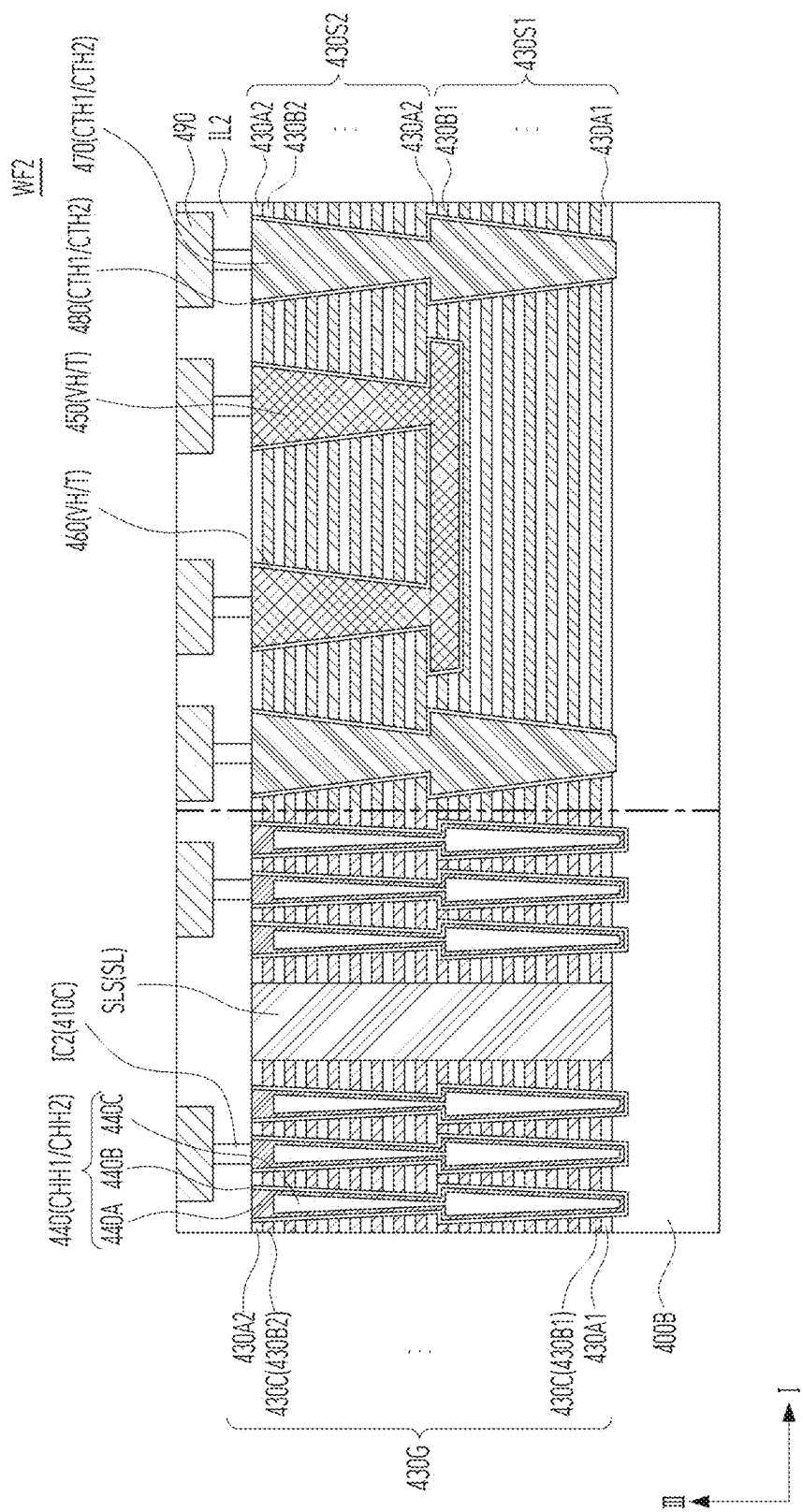
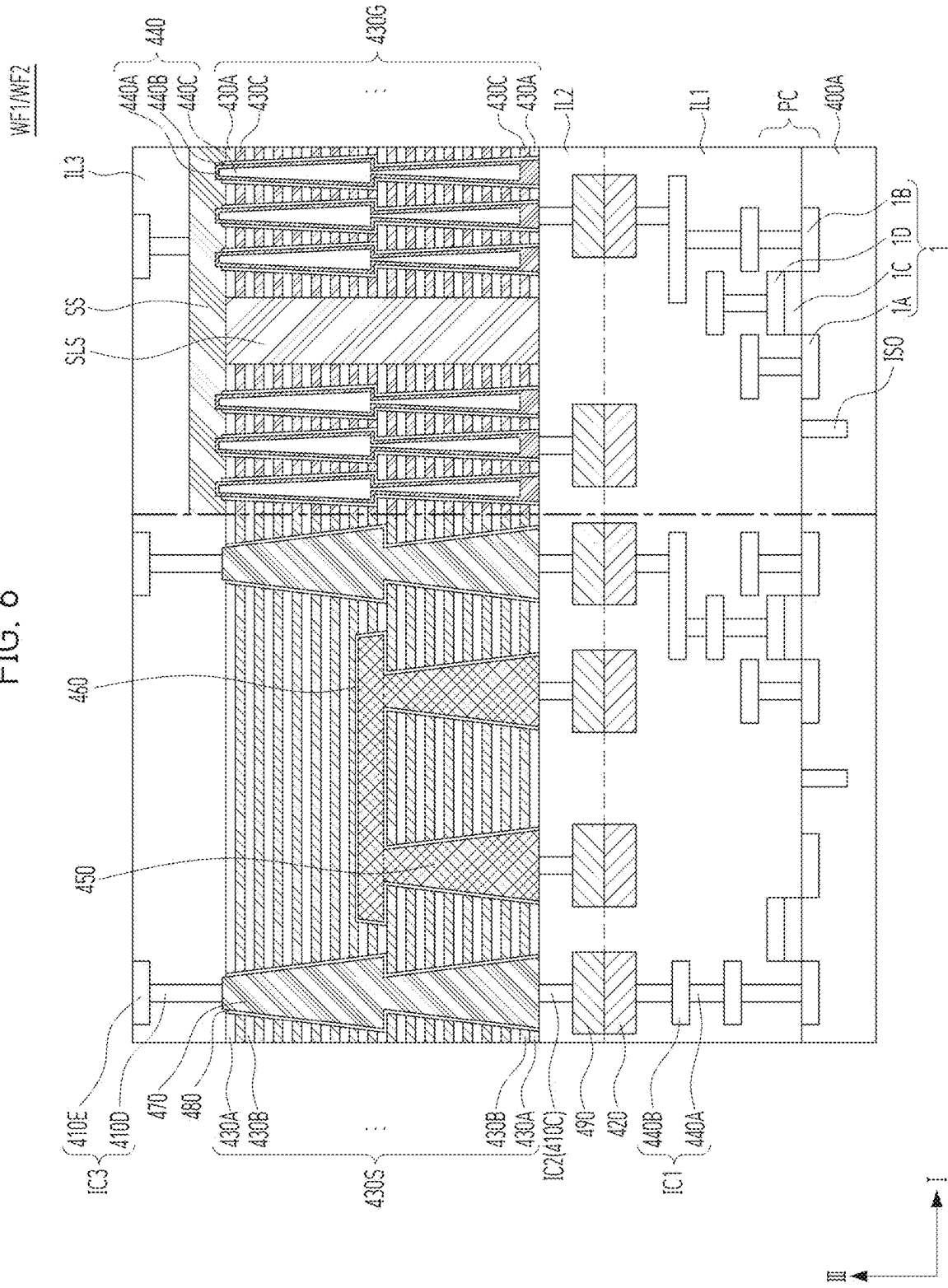


FIG. 6



# SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND MANUFACTURING METHOD OF SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

## CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

[0001] This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a) to Korean Patent Application No. 10-2024-0023821 filed in the Korean Intellectual Property Office on Feb. 19, 2024, which application is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

## BACKGROUND

### 1. Technical Field

[0002] Embodiments of the present disclosure generally relate to an electronic device and a manufacturing method of the electronic device, and more particularly, to a semiconductor device and a manufacturing method of the semiconductor device.

### 2. Related Art

[0003] The degree of integration of a semiconductor device is mainly determined by an area occupied by a unit memory cell. Recently, as the improvement in the degree of integration of a semiconductor device for forming memory cells in a single layer on a substrate reaches a limit, a three-dimensional semiconductor device for stacking memory cells on a substrate has been proposed. Furthermore, in order to improve the operational reliability of such a semiconductor device, various structures and manufacturing methods have been developed.

## SUMMARY

[0004] In an embodiment, a semiconductor device may include: a peripheral circuit; a stack located over the peripheral circuit; a bonding pad located between the peripheral circuit and the stack; a probing pad located between the peripheral circuit and the stack and connected to the bonding pad; a contact plug extending through the stack and electrically connected to the peripheral circuit through the probing pad and the bonding pad; and a contact structure including a contact connect portion extending in a first direction, a first contact via protruding from the contact connect portion in a second direction intersecting the first direction, and a second contact via spaced apart from the first contact via and protruding from the contact connection portion in the second direction.

[0005] In an embodiment, a semiconductor device may include: a stack; a contact structure including contact vias at least partially extending through the stack and spaced apart from each other in a first direction and a contact connection portion extending in the first direction to connect the contact vias to each other and having a U shape in a cross section; and at least one contact plug extending through the stack.

[0006] In an embodiment, a manufacturing method of a semiconductor device may include: forming a first stack; forming a trench in the first stack; forming first contact holes extending through the first stack; forming a second stack on the first stack; forming second contact holes extending through the second stack and respectively connected to the first contact holes; forming via holes extending through the second stack and connected to the trench; expanding the via

holes and the trench; and forming a contact structure in the expanded via holes and the expanded trench.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0007] FIG. 1 is a diagram for describing a semiconductor device in accordance with an embodiment.

[0008] FIG. 2 is a diagram for describing a semiconductor device in accordance with an embodiment.

[0009] FIGS. 3A, 3B, and 3C are diagrams for describing a semiconductor device in accordance with an embodiment.

[0010] FIGS. 4, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, 5E, 5F, and 6 are diagrams for describing a manufacturing method of a semiconductor device in accordance with an embodiment.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0011] Various embodiments are directed to a semiconductor device having a stable structure and improved characteristics and a manufacturing method of the semiconductor device.

[0012] According to an embodiment of the present technology, it is possible to provide a semiconductor device having a stable structure and improved reliability.

[0013] Hereafter, embodiments in accordance with the technical spirit of the present disclosure will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings. It will be understood that, although the terms “first,” “second,” etc. may be used herein to describe various elements, these elements should not be limited by these terms. These terms are only used to distinguish one element from another element, and the order or number of components is not limited by the terms. The cross-hatching throughout the figures illustrates corresponding or similar areas between the figures rather than indicating the materials for the areas. It will be understood that when an element or layer etc., is referred to as being “on,” “over,” or “connected to,” another element or layer etc., it can be directly on, over, or connected to the other element or layer etc., or intervening elements or layers etc., may be present. In contrast, when an element or layer etc., is referred to as being “directly on,” “directly over,” or “directly connected to” another element or layer etc., there are no intervening elements or layers etc., present. Like numerals refer to like elements throughout. As used herein, the term “and/or” includes any and all combinations of one or more of the associated listed items. Spatially relative terms, such as “beneath,” “below,” “lower,” “above,” “upper” and the like, may be used herein for ease of description to describe one element or feature’s relationship to another element(s) or feature(s) as illustrated in the figures. It will be understood that the spatially relative terms are intended to encompass different orientations of the device in use or operation in addition to the orientation depicted in the figures. For example, if the device in the figures is turned over, elements described as “below” or “beneath” other elements or features would then be oriented “above” the other elements or features. Thus, the example of the term “below” can encompass both an orientation of above and below. The device may be otherwise oriented (rotated 90 degrees or at other orientations) and the spatially relative descriptors used herein interpreted accordingly.

[0014] FIG. 1 is a diagram for describing a semiconductor device in accordance with an embodiment.

[0015] Referring to FIG. 1, the semiconductor device may include at least one of a substrate 100, a bonding pad 120,

a stack **130S**, a gate structure **130G**, channel structures **140**, a contact structure **150**, an insulating liner **160**, a contact plug **170**, an insulating spacer **180**, and a probing pad **190**. The semiconductor device may further include at least one of a first interconnection structure **IC1**, a second interconnection structure **IC2**, a third interconnection structure **IC3**, a first interlayer insulating layer **IL1**, a second interlayer insulating layer **IL2**, a third interlayer insulating layer **IL3**, a slit structure **SLS**, an element isolation layer **ISO**, and a source structure **SS**.

**[0016]** A peripheral circuit **PC** may be located on the substrate **100**. The peripheral circuit **PC** may include a transistor **1**. The transistor **1** may include junctions **1A** and **1B**, a gate electrode **1D**, and a gate insulating layer **1C**. Here, the gate insulating layer **1C** may be located between the gate electrode **1D** and the substrate **100**. The element isolation layer **ISO** may be located in the substrate **100**, and an active region of the transistor **1** may be defined by the element isolation layer **ISO**.

**[0017]** The first interconnection structure **IC1** may be located on the peripheral circuit **PC**. The first interconnection structure **IC1** may be located in the first interlayer insulating layer **IL1**. Here, the first interlayer insulating layer **IL1** may be located on the substrate **100**. The first interconnection structure **IC1** may include first vias **110A** and first wiring lines **110B**. At least one of the first vias **110A** may be connected to the transistor **1**, and may connect the first wiring lines **110B** to each other. The first interconnection structure **IC1** may include a conductive material such as tungsten. The first interlayer insulating layer **IL1** may include an insulating material such as oxide or nitride.

**[0018]** The bonding pad **120** may be located between the peripheral circuit **PC** and the stack **130S**. The bonding pad **120** may be located between the peripheral circuit **PC** and the gate structure **130G**. The bonding pad **120** may be located in the first interlayer insulating layer **IL1**. The bonding pad **120** may include a conductive material such as copper.

**[0019]** The probing pad **190** may be located between the peripheral circuit **PC** and the stack **130S**. For example, the probing pad **190** may be located on the bonding pad **120**. The probing pad **190** may be located in the second interlayer insulating layer **IL2**. Here, the second interlayer insulating layer **IL2** may be located on the first interlayer insulating layer **IL1**. The probing pad **190** may be used to apply a voltage in order to derive an electrical parameter of the contact structure **150** in a manufacturing process of the semiconductor device. The probing pad **190** may be connected to the bonding pad **120**. In other words, the probing pad **190** may be used as a bonding pad.

**[0020]** The probing pad **190** may include substantially the same material as or a different material from the bonding pad **120**. As an example, the probing pad **190** may include copper. In such a case, an interface between the probing pad **190** and the bonding pad **120** might not exist. As another example, the probing pad **190** may include aluminum. In such a case, an interface between the probing pad **190** and the bonding pad **120** may exist. However, the probing pad **190** is not limited thereto, and may include a conductive material such as copper, tungsten, or aluminum.

**[0021]** The second interconnection structure **IC2** may be located on the probing pad **190**. The second interconnection structure **IC2** may be located in the second interlayer insulating layer **IL2**. The second interconnection structure **IC2**

may include a second via **110C** (i.e., depicted as **IC2** (**110C**) in FIG. 1). The second via **110C** may be connected to the probing pad **190**. However, the second interconnection structure **IC2** is not limited thereto, and may further include a second wiring line. The second interconnection structure **IC2** may include a conductive material such as tungsten. The second interlayer insulating layer **IL2** may include an insulating material such as oxide or nitride.

**[0022]** The stack **130S** may be located on the peripheral circuit **PC**. The stack **130S** may be located over the peripheral circuit **PC** and extend away from the peripheral circuit **PC** in a third direction **III** as shown in FIG. 1. The stack **130S** may include insulating layers **130A** and sacrificial layers **130B** that are alternately stacked. The insulating layers **130A** may each include an insulating material such as oxide, and the sacrificial layers **130B** may each include a sacrificial material such as nitride.

**[0023]** The contact structure **150** may be located in the stack **130S**. The contact structure **150** may include contact vias **150A** and a contact connect portion **150B**. The contact vias **150A** may extend through the stack **130S**, and may be spaced apart from each other in a first direction **I**. The contact connect portion **150B** may connect the contact vias **150A** to each other in the first direction **I**. Accordingly, in an embodiment, the contact structure **150** may have a U shape. In an embodiment, as shown in FIG. 1, the contact structure **150** may include a contact connect portion **150B** extending in a first direction intersecting the third direction, a first contact via **150A** protruding from the contact connect portion **150B** in the third direction, and a second contact via **150A** spaced apart from the first contact via **150A** and protruding from the contact connect portion **150B** in the third direction. In an embodiment, the width of a first contact via **150A** may increase as it protruded further from the contact connect portion **150B** as shown in FIG. 1. The insulating liner **160** may surround the contact structure **150**. The contact structure **150** may be used as a test pattern in the manufacturing process of the semiconductor device. For example, the electrical parameter of the contact structure **150** may be derived by applying a voltage to the probing pads **190**. An expansion width of contact holes for forming the contact plugs **170** may be determined through the electrical parameter of the contact structure **150**. The contact structure **150** may include a conductive material such as tungsten. The insulating liner **160** may include an insulating material such as oxide.

**[0024]** The contact plugs **170** may extend through the stack **130S**. The insulating spacer **180** may surround each of the contact plugs **170**. The contact plugs **170** may be electrically connected to the peripheral circuit **PC**. For example, the contact plugs **170** may be electrically connected to the peripheral circuit **PC** through the probing pad **190** and the bonding pad **120**. The contact plugs **170** may each include a conductive material such as tungsten. The insulating spacer **180** may include an insulating material such as oxide.

**[0025]** The gate structure **130G** may be located on the peripheral circuit **PC**. The gate structure **130G** may be located at a level corresponding to the stack **130S**. The gate structure **130G** may include insulating layers **130A** and conductive layers **130C** that are alternately stacked. Here, the conductive layers **130C** may be layers that have replaced the sacrificial layers **130B** in the manufacturing process. The



conductive layers **130C** may each include a conductive material such as tungsten, polysilicon, or molybdenum.

**[0026]** The conductive layers **130C** may be gate lines such as source select lines, word lines, or drain select lines. Source select transistors, memory cells, or drain select transistors may be located in regions where the channel structures **140** and the conductive layers **130C** intersect each other. As an example, at least one source select transistor, a plurality of memory cells, and at least one drain select transistor that are stacked along the channel structure **140** may constitute one memory string.

**[0027]** The channel structures **140** may extend through the gate structure **130G**. The source structure **SS** may be located on the gate structure **130G**. The channel structures **140** may extend into the source structure **SS** through the gate structure **130G**. Each of the channel structures **140** may include at least one of a channel layer **140A**, a memory layer **140B** surrounding the channel layer **140A**, and an insulating core **140C** located in the channel layer **140A**. The slit structure **SLS** may extend through the gate structure **130G**. The slit structure **SLS** may include an insulating material, a conductive material, a semiconductor material, or the like.

**[0028]** The channel structures **140** may each have a first width **W1**. The contact vias **150A** of the contact structure **150** may each have a second width **W2**. Here, the second width **W2** may be greater than the first width **W1**. The contact plug **170** may have a third width **W3**. Here, the third width **W3** may be greater than the first width **W1**. The second width **W2** and the third width **W3** may be substantially the same as or different from each other. For example, the second width **W2** and the third width **W3** may be substantially the same as each other.

**[0029]** For reference, widths of structures may refer to widths of upper surfaces, widths of lower surfaces, or widths of portions between the upper surfaces and the lower surfaces of the structures. In addition, comparing the widths of the structures with each other may mean comparing widths located at substantially the same level with each other.

**[0030]** The third interconnection structure **IC3** may be located on the stack **130S** or the gate structure **130G**. The third interconnection structure **IC3** may be located on the source structure **SS** and be electrically connected to the source structure **SS**. The third interconnection structure **IC3** may be located in the third interlayer insulating layer **IL3**. Here, the fourth interlayer insulating layer **IL3** may be located on the gate structure **130G**. Alternatively, the third interlayer insulating layer **IL3** may be located on the source structure **SS**.

**[0031]** The third interconnection structure **IC3** may include third vias **110D** and third wiring lines **110E**. At least one of the third vias **110D** may be connected to the contact plug **170**, and may be connected to the source structure **SS**. At least one of the third wiring lines **110E** may be connected to the third via **110D**. The third interconnection structure **IC3** may include a conductive material such as tungsten. The third interlayer insulating layer **IL3** may include an insulating material such as oxide or nitride.

**[0032]** According to the structure described above, the semiconductor device may include the contact structure **150** having the U shape, and may include the probing pad **190**. In the manufacturing process of the semiconductor device, the electrical parameter of the contact structure **150** may be derived, and the expansion width of the contact holes for forming the contact plugs **170** may be determined. In

addition, the probing pad **190** may be used as a bonding pad connected to the bonding pad **120**.

**[0033]** FIG. 2 is a diagram for describing a semiconductor device in accordance with an embodiment. Hereinafter, the content overlapping with the previously described content will be omitted.

**[0034]** Referring to FIG. 2, the semiconductor device may include at least one of a stack **230S**, contact structures **250**, an insulating liner **260**, contact plugs **270**, an insulating spacer **280**, and probing pads **290**. The semiconductor device may further include at least one of a second interlayer insulating layer **IL2** and a second interconnection structure **IC2**.

**[0035]** The stack **230S** may include a first stack **230S1** and a second stack **230S2** located on the first stack **230S1**. The first stack **230S1** may include first insulating layers **230A1** and first conductive layers **230B1** that are alternately stacked, and the second stack **230S2** may include second insulating layers **230A2** and second conductive layers **230B2** that are alternately stacked. The first insulating layers **230A1** and the second insulating layers **230A2** may each include an insulating material such as oxide, and the first conductive layers **230B1** and the second conductive layers **230B2** may each include a conductive material such as tungsten, molybdenum, or polysilicon.

**[0036]** The contact structures **250** may be spaced apart from each other in the first direction **I**. The contact structure **250** may include contact vias **250A** and a contact connection portion **250B** connecting the contact vias **250A** to each other. The contact structure **250** may be located in the stack **230S**. For example, the contact vias **250A** may be located in the second stack **230S2**. The contact connection portion **250B** may be located between the first stack **230S1** and the second stack **230S2**. The insulating liner **260** may surround the contact structure **250**. The insulating liner **260** may include an insulating material such as oxide. The contact structure **260** may include a conductive material such as tungsten.

**[0037]** The contact plugs **270** may be spaced apart from each other in the first direction **I**. The contact structures **250** may be located between the contact plugs **270**. The contact plug **270** may be located in the stack **230S**. The contact plug **270** may include a first portion **270P1** and a second portion **270P2** located on the first portion **270P1**. The first portion **270P1** may be located in the first stack **230S1**, and the second portion **270P2** may be located in the second stack **230S2**. An upper surface of the first portion **270P1** of the contact plug **270** may be located at substantially the same level as an upper surface of the contact connection portion **250B**. The insulating spacer **280** may surround each of the contact plugs **270**. The insulating spacer **280** may include an insulating material such as oxide. The contact plugs **270** may each include a conductive material such as tungsten.

**[0038]** The probing pads **290** may be located on the contact structures **250**. For example, the probing pads **290** may be located on the contact vias **250A**. The contact structures **250** may be connected to each other through the probing pad **290** and the second interconnection structure **IC2**. For example, one end of one contact structure **250** and one end of another contact structure **250** may be connected to the probing pad **290**. In other words, the contact structures **250** may be connected to each other in a chain form through the probing pad **290**.

**[0039]** In an embodiment, when the contact structures **250** are connected to each other in the chain form, reliable

electrical parameters of the contact structures 250 may be derived in a manufacturing process of the semiconductor device. For example, in an embodiment, the reliable electrical parameters may be derived by connecting a plurality of contact structures 250 to each other in one chain form, deriving electrical parameters of the respective contact structures 250, and calculating an average of the derived electrical parameters. For reference, it has been illustrated in FIG. 2 that two contact structures 250 are connected to each other in the chain form, but it is also possible to connect three or more contact structures 250 to each other in the chain form. The probing pad 290 may include a conductive material such as tungsten, copper, or aluminum.

[0040] For reference, FIG. 2, in an embodiment, may be a diagram illustrating that the plurality of contact structures 250 are connected to each other in the chain form in order to derive the electrical parameters of the contact structures 250 in the manufacturing process of the semiconductor device. After the electrical parameters are derived, a wafer including the probing pads 290 and the contact structures 250 and a wafer including a peripheral circuit may be bonded to each other. In such a case, the probing pads 290 may be used as bonding pads.

[0041] According to an embodiment of the structure described above, the contact structures 250 may be connected to each other in the chain form through the probing pads 290. In such an embodiment, the reliable electrical parameters of the contact structures 250 may be derived in the manufacturing process of the semiconductor device.

[0042] FIGS. 3A to 3C are diagrams for describing a semiconductor device in accordance with an embodiment. FIG. 3A is a plan view, FIG. 3B is a cross-sectional view taken along line A-A' of FIG. 3A, and FIG. 3C is a cross-sectional view taken along line B-B' of FIG. 3A.

[0043] Referring to FIGS. 3A to 3C, the semiconductor device may include at least one of a stack 330S, a contact structure 350, an insulating liner 360, contact plugs 370, an insulating spacer 380, and contact wiring lines 390. The semiconductor device may further include at least one of a second interlayer insulating layer IL2 and a second interconnection structure IC2. In an embodiment, contact plugs 370 include a first contact plug 370A, a second contact plug 370B, and a third contact plug 370C. In an embodiment, contact wiring lines 390 include a first contact wiring line 390A, a second contact wiring line 390B, and a third contact wiring line 390C.

[0044] The stack 330S may include a first stack 330S1 and a second stack 330S2 located on the first stack 330S1. The first stack 330S1 may include first insulating layers 330A1 and first conductive layers 330B1 that are alternately stacked, and the second stack 330S2 may include second insulating layers 330A2 and second conductive layers 330B2 that are alternately stacked. The first insulating layers 330A1 and the second insulating layers 330A2 may each include an insulating material such as oxide, and the first conductive layers 330B1 and the second conductive layers 330B2 may each include a conductive material such as tungsten, molybdenum, or polysilicon.

[0045] The contact structure 350 may be located in the stack 330S. The contact structure 350 may have a U shape. The insulating liner 360 may surround the contact structure 350. The insulating liner 360 may include an insulating material such as oxide. The contact structure 350 may include a conductive material such as tungsten.

[0046] In an embodiment, the contact plugs 370 may include the first contact plug 370A, the second contact plug 370B, and the third contact plugs 370C. Referring to FIG. 3B, the first contact plug 370A and the second contact plug 370B may be spaced apart from each other in the first direction I. Referring to FIG. 3C, the third contact plugs 370C may be spaced apart from each other in a second direction II intersecting the first direction I. The contact structure 350 may be located between the first contact plug 370A and the second contact plug 370B. The contact plugs 370 may be located in the stack 330S. The insulating spacer 380 may surround each of the contact plugs 370. The insulating spacer 380 may include an insulating material such as oxide. The contact plugs 370 may each include a conductive material such as tungsten.

[0047] The contact wiring lines 390 may be located on the contact structure 350. The contact wiring lines 390 may be located on the contact plugs 370. The second interconnection structure IC2 may be located between the contact wiring lines 390 and the contact structure 350 or the contact wiring lines 390 and the contact plugs 370. The contact wiring lines 390 and the contact structure 350 or the contact wiring lines 390 and the contact plugs 370 may be connected to each other through the second interconnection structure IC2.

[0048] The contact wiring lines 390 may include a first contact wiring line 390A, a second contact wiring line 390B, and a third contact wiring line 390C. The first contact wiring line 390A and the second contact wiring line 390B may be spaced apart from each other in the first direction I. The third contact wiring line 390C may be located between the first contact wiring line 390A and the second contact wiring line 390B. In such a case, the third contact wiring line 390C exists between the first contact wiring line 390A and the second contact wiring line 390B, and thus, the first contact wiring line 390A and the second contact wiring line 390B might not be connected to each other.

[0049] According to an embodiment of the present disclosure, even when the first contact wiring line 390A and the second contact wiring line 390B might not be directly connected to each other, the first contact wiring line 390A and the second contact wiring line 390B may be connected to each other using the contact structure 350 having the U shape. In other words, the first contact wiring line 390A may extend in the first direction I to connect the first contact plug 370A and one end of the contact structure 350 to each other. The second contact wiring line 390B may extend in the first direction I to connect the second contact plug 370B and the other end of the contact structure 350 to each other. The third contact wiring line 390C may extend in the second direction II intersecting the first direction I to connect the third contact plugs 370C to each other.

[0050] According to the structure described above, the semiconductor device may have the contact structure 350 having the U shape, and thus, the first contact wiring line 390A and the second contact wiring line 390B may be connected to each other even though the third contact wiring line 390C is located between the first contact wiring line 390A and the second contact wiring line 390B.

[0051] FIGS. 4 to 6 are diagrams for describing a manufacturing method of a semiconductor device in accordance with an embodiment. Hereinafter, the content overlapping with the previously described content will be omitted.

[0052] Referring to FIG. 4, a first wafer WF1 including a peripheral circuit PC and a bonding pad 420 may be formed.

The peripheral circuit PC may be formed on a first substrate **400A**. The peripheral circuit PC may include a transistor **1**. An element isolation layer ISO may be formed in the first substrate **400A**, and may define an active region of the transistor **1**.

[0053] A first interconnection structure IC1 may be formed on the first substrate **400A**. The first interconnection structure IC1 may be formed in a first interlayer insulating layer IL1. Here, the first interlayer insulating layer IL1 may be formed on the first substrate **400A**. The first interconnection structure IC1 may include a first via **410A** and a first wiring line **410B**. The first via **410A** may be connected to the peripheral circuit PC. Alternatively, the first via **410A** may connect the first wiring lines **410B** to each other. The first interconnection structure IC1 may include a conductive material such as tungsten. The first interlayer insulating layer IL1 may include an insulating material such as oxide.

[0054] The bonding pad **420** may be formed on the first interconnection structure IC1. The bonding pad **420** may be formed in the first interlayer insulating layer IL1. The bonding pad **420** may be connected to the peripheral circuit PC through the first interconnection structure IC1. The bonding pad **420** may include a conductive material such as copper.

[0055] Referring to FIG. 5A, a first stack **430S1** may be formed. For example, the first stack **430S1** may be formed by alternately stacking first material layers **430A1** and second material layers **430B1** on a second substrate **400B**. The first material layers **430A1** may each include an insulating material such as oxide, and the second material layers **430B1** may each include a sacrificial material such as nitride.

[0056] Subsequently, first channel sacrificial layers **440S1** may be formed in the first stack **430S1**. First, first channel holes CHH1 extending into the second substrate **400B** through the first stack **430S1** may be formed. Subsequently, the first channel sacrificial layers **440S1** may be formed in the first channel holes CHH1 (i.e., depicted as **440S1** (CHH1) in FIG. 5A). The first channel sacrificial layers **440S1** may each include a sacrificial material such as carbon.

[0057] First contact sacrificial layers **470S1** may be formed in the first stack **430S1**. First, first contact holes CTH1 extending into the second substrate **400B** through the first stack **430S1** may be formed. Here, the first contact holes CTH1 may be formed so that a pair of first contact holes CTH1 are adjacent to each other. When the first contact holes CTH1 are formed, the first channel holes CHH1 may be formed. Subsequently, the first contact sacrificial layers **470S1** may be formed in the first contact holes CTH1 (i.e., depicted as **470S1** (CTH1) in FIG. 5A). The first contact sacrificial layers **470S1** may each include a sacrificial material such as carbon.

[0058] A connection portion sacrificial layer **450S1** may be formed in the first stack **430S1**. First, a trench T may be formed in the first stack **430S1**. For example, the trench T may be formed by etching the uppermost second material layer **430B1** of the first stack **430S1**. However, the present disclosure is not limited thereto, and it is also possible to form a relatively deep trench T by etching the second material layers **430B1** and the first material layers **430A1**. Subsequently, the connection portion sacrificial layer **450S1** may be formed in the trench T (i.e., depicted as **470S2**

(CTH2) in FIG. 5B). The connection portion sacrificial layer **450S1** may include a sacrificial material such as carbon.

[0059] Referring to FIG. 5B, a second stack **430S2** may be formed on the first stack **430S1**. For example, the second stack **430S2** may be formed by alternately stacking third material layers **430A2** and fourth material layers **430B2** on the first stack **430S1**. The third material layers **423A2** may each include an insulating material such as oxide, and the fourth material layers **430B2** may each include a sacrificial material such as nitride.

[0060] Subsequently, second channel sacrificial layers **440S2** may be formed in the second stack **430S2**. First, second channel holes CHH2 extending through the second stack **430S2** and connected to the first channel holes CHH1, respectively, may be formed. Subsequently, the second channel sacrificial layers **440S2** connected to the first channel sacrificial layers **440S1**, respectively, may be formed in the second channel holes CHH2 (i.e., depicted as **440S2** (CHH2) in FIG. 5B). The second channel sacrificial layers **440S2** may each include a sacrificial material such as carbon.

[0061] Second contact sacrificial layers **470S2** may be formed in the second stack **430S2**. First, second contact holes CTH2 extending through the second stack **430S2** and connected to the first contact holes CTH1, respectively, may be formed. Subsequently, the second contact sacrificial layers **470S2** connected to the first contact sacrificial layers **470S1**, respectively, may be formed in the second contact holes CTH2 (i.e., depicted as **470S2** (CTH2) in FIG. 5B). The second contact sacrificial layers **470S2** may each include a sacrificial material such as carbon.

[0062] Via sacrificial layers **450S2** may be formed in the second stack **430S2**. First, via holes VH extending through the second stack **430S2** and connected to the trench T may be formed. Here, the via holes VH may be formed so that a pair of via holes VH are adjacent to each other. When the via holes VH are formed, the second contact holes CTH2 and the second channel holes CHH2 may be formed. Subsequently, the via sacrificial layers **450S2** connected to the connection portion sacrificial layer **450S1** may be formed in the via holes VH (i.e., depicted as **450S2** (VH) in FIG. 5B). The via sacrificial layers **450S2** may each include a sacrificial material such as carbon.

[0063] Referring to FIG. 5C, channel structures **440** may be formed. First, the first channel holes CHH1 and the second channel holes CHH2 may be reopened by removing the second channel sacrificial layers **440S2** and the first channel sacrificial layers **440S1**. Subsequently, the channel structures **440** may be formed in the first channel holes CHH1 and the second channel holes CHH2 (i.e., depicted as **440** (CHH1/CHH2) in FIG. 5C). Each of the channel structures **440** may include a channel layer **440A**, a memory layer **440B** surrounding the channel layer **440A**, and an insulating core **440C** located in the channel layer **440A**.

[0064] A slit SL extending through the second stack **430S2** and the first stack **430S1** may be formed. The second material layers **430B1** of the first stack **430S1** and the fourth material layers **430B2** of the second stack **430S2** may be replaced with fifth material layers **430C** through the slit SL (i.e., depicted as **430C** (**430B2**) and **430C** (**430B1**) in FIG. 5C). The fifth material layers **430C** may each include a conductive material such as tungsten, molybdenum, or polysilicon. Consequently, a gate structure **430G** including the first material layers **430A1** and the fifth material layers **430C**

that are alternately stacked and the third material layers **430A2** and the fifth material layers **430C** that are alternately stacked may be defined. However, when the second material layers **430B1** and the fourth material layers **430B2** each include a conductive material, a process of replacing the second material layers **430B1** and the fourth material layers **430B2** with the fifth material layers **430C** may be omitted. In such a case, the first stack **430S1** and the second stack **430S2** may be used as the gate structure **430G** (i.e., depicted as **430G** (**430S1/430S2**) in FIG. 5C). Subsequently, a slit structure SLS may be formed in the slit SL (i.e., depicted as SLS (SL) in FIG. 5C). The slit structure SLS may include at least one of an insulating material, a conductive material, and a semiconductor material.

[0065] Referring to FIG. 5D, the via holes VH and the trench T may be expanded. First, the via sacrificial layers **450S2** and the connection portion sacrificial layer **450S1** formed in the via holes VH and the trench T, respectively, may be removed. Subsequently, the via holes VH and the trench T may be expanded by etching the second stack **430S2** and the first stack **430S1**. For example, after the via holes VH and the trench T are expanded by etching the first material layers **430A1** and the third material layers **430A2**, the via holes VH and the trench T may be expanded by etching the second material layers **430B1** and the fourth material layers **430B2**. In such a case, the pair of via holes VH formed adjacent to each other may be expanded to become one expanded via hole VH.

[0066] The second contact holes CTH2 and the first contact holes CTH1 may be expanded. For example, when the via holes VH and the trench T are expanded, the second contact holes CTH2 and the first contact holes CTH1 may be expanded. First, the second contact sacrificial layers **470S2** and the first contact sacrificial layers **470S1** formed in the second contact holes CTH2 and the first contact holes CTH1, respectively, may be removed. Subsequently, the second contact holes CTH2 and the first contact holes CTH1 may be expanded by etching the second stack **430S2** and the first stack **430S1**. In such a case, a pair of second contact holes CTH2 formed adjacent to each other may be expanded to become one expanded second contact hole CTH2, and the pair of first contact holes CTH1 formed adjacent to each other may be expanded to become one expanded first contact hole CTH1.

[0067] Referring to FIG. 5E, a contact structure **450** may be formed in the expanded via holes VH and the expanded trench T. For example, the contact structure **450** may be formed to fill the expanded via holes VH and the expanded trench T. Accordingly, the contact structure **450** may have a U shape. The contact structure **450** may include a conductive material such as tungsten.

[0068] Before the contact structure **450** is formed, an insulating liner **460** may be formed in the expanded via holes VH and the expanded trench T. The insulating liner **460** may be conformally formed along profiles of the expanded via holes VH and the expanded trench T. The insulating liner **460** may include an insulating material such as oxide.

[0069] A contact plug **470** may be formed in the expanded second contact hole CTH2 and the expanded first contact hole CTH1 (i.e., depicted as **470** (CTH1/CTH2) in FIG. 5E). When the contact structure **450** is formed, the contact plug **470** may be formed. The contact plug **470** may include a conductive material such as tungsten.

[0070] Before the contact plug **470** is formed, an insulating spacer **480** may be formed in the expanded second contact hole CTH2 and the expanded first contact hole CTH1 (i.e., depicted as **480** (CTH1/CTH2) in FIG. 5E). First, an insulating liner **460** may be conformally formed in the expanded second contact hole CTH2 and the expanded first contact hole CTH1. Subsequently, the insulating spacer **480** may be formed by etching a bottom surface of the insulating liner **460**. The insulating spacer **480** may include an insulating material such as oxide.

[0071] Referring to FIG. 5F, probing pads **490** may be formed on the contact structure **450**. Consequently, a second wafer WF2 including the contact structure **450** and the probing pads **490** may be formed. Here, the probing pads **490** may be respectively formed on locations of the contact structure **450** corresponding to the expanded via holes VH. The probing pads **490** may be formed in a second interlayer insulating layer IL2 formed on the gate structure **430G** or the second stack **430S2**. The probing pads **490** and the contact structure **450** may be connected to each other through a second interconnection structure IC2. Here, the second interconnection structure IC2 may include a second via **410C** (i.e., depicted as IC2 (**410C**) in FIG. 5F). The probing pads **490** may each include a conductive material such as copper, tungsten, or aluminum.

[0072] Referring again to FIGS. 4 and 5A to 5E, when the first channel holes CHH1 are formed, the first contact holes CTH1 may be formed. When the second channel holes CHH2 are formed, the second contact holes CTH2 and the via holes VH may be formed. Accordingly, the first channel holes CHH1 and the first contact holes CTH1 may be formed to have the same width, and the second channel holes CHH2, the second contact holes CTH2, and the via holes VH may be formed to have the same width.

[0073] However, the contact plugs **470** of the second wafer WF2 are used to be connected to the peripheral circuit PC of the first wafer WF1, and it is necessary to expand the first contact holes CTH1 and the second contact holes CTH2. For example, in an embodiment, by expanding the first contact holes CTH1 and the second contact holes CTH2, regions for forming the contact plugs **470** may be secured, and resistance of the contact plugs **470** may be reduced. Accordingly, in an embodiment, it is necessary to determine an expansion width of the first contact holes CTH1 and the second contact holes CTH2.

[0074] When the first contact holes CTH1 and the second contact holes CTH2 are expanded, the via holes VH and the trench T may be expanded. In such a case, a width at which the first contact holes CTH1 and the second contact holes CTH2 are expanded may be substantially the same as a width at which the via holes VH are expanded.

[0075] According to an embodiment of the present disclosure, an electrical parameter of the contact structure **450** may be derived by applying a voltage to the probing pads **490** connected to the contact structure **450**. Here, in an embodiment, the electrical parameter may include a resistive-capacitive (RC) delay value. In an embodiment, the electrical parameter of the contact structure **450** may be compared with a reference value. In such a case, in an embodiment, it may be confirmed whether or not a signal is transmitted at an appropriate speed through the contact structure **450**. For example, in an embodiment, when the electrical parameter is greater than the reference value, it may mean that resistance of the contact structure **450** is high. Here, in an embodiment,

it may be confirmed that the width of the contact structure **450** should be increased in order to reduce the resistance of the contact structure **450**.

**[0076]** In an embodiment, by confirming the electrical parameter of the contact structure **450**, electrical parameters of the contact plugs **470** might not be directly derived. In other words, in an embodiment, it may be confirmed whether or not the contact plugs **470** have an appropriate width by confirming the electrical parameter of the contact structure **450** having substantially the same width as the contact plugs **470**. Accordingly, in an embodiment, the appropriate width of the contact plugs **470** may be calculated through the electrical parameter derived through the contact structure **450**, and thus, the expansion width of the first contact holes CTH1 and the second contact holes CTH2 for forming the contact plugs **470** may be determined.

**[0077]** Referring to FIG. 6, the first wafer WF1 and the second wafer WF2 may be bonded to each other as indicated with reference character WF1/WF2. For example, the first wafer WF1 and the second wafer WF2 may be bonded to each other so that the bonding pads **420** of the first wafer WF1 and the probing pads **490** of the second wafer WF2 are connected to each other. Here, in an embodiment, the probing pads **490** may be used as bonding pads. Subsequently, the second substrate **400B** may be removed. Subsequently, a source structure SS connected to the channel structures **440** may be formed. Before the source structure SS is formed, the channel layers **440A** may be exposed by partially removing the memory layers **440B** of the channel structures **440**. Subsequently, a third interconnection structure IC3 may be formed on the source structure SS. The third interconnection structure IC3 may be formed on the contact plugs **470**. The third interconnection structure IC3 may be located in a third interlayer insulating layer IL3. The third interconnection structure IC3 may include a third via **410D** and a third wiring line **410E**. The third via **410D** may be connected to at least one of the contact plugs **470**. The third via **410D** may be connected to the source structure SS.

**[0078]** According to an embodiment of the manufacturing method described above, the electrical parameter of the contact structure **450** having the U shape may be derived by applying the voltage to the probing pads **490**. In an embodiment, the expansion width of the first contact holes CTH1 and the second contact holes CTH2 may be determined through the electrical parameter of the contact structure **450**.

**[0079]** Although embodiments according to the technical idea of the present disclosure have been described above with reference to the accompanying drawings, this is only for explaining the embodiments according to the concept of the present disclosure, and the present disclosure is not limited to the above embodiments. Various types of substitutions, modifications, and changes for the embodiments may be made by those skilled in the art, to which the present disclosure pertains, without departing from the technical idea of the present disclosure defined in the following claims, and it should be construed that these substitutions, modifications, and changes belong to the scope of the present disclosure.

What is claimed is:

1. A semiconductor device comprising:

- a peripheral circuit;
- a stack located over the peripheral circuit;
- a bonding pad located between the peripheral circuit and the stack;

- a probing pad located between the peripheral circuit and the stack and connected to the bonding pad;

- a contact plug extending through the stack and electrically connected to the peripheral circuit through the probing pad and the bonding pad; and

- a contact structure including a contact connect portion extending in a first direction, a first contact via protruding from the contact connect portion in a second direction intersecting the first direction, and a second contact via spaced apart from the first contact via and protruding from the contact connection portion in the second direction.

2. The semiconductor device of claim 1, wherein the contact structure comprises substantially a U shape.

3. The semiconductor device of claim 1, further comprising:

- a gate structure located over the peripheral circuit; and
- channel structures extending through the gate structure.

4. The semiconductor device of claim 3, wherein the channel structures each have a first width in the first direction, and the first contact via and the second contact via each have a second width in the first direction greater than the first width.

5. The semiconductor device of claim 3, wherein the channel structures each have a first width in the first direction, and the contact plug has a third width in the first direction that is greater than the first width.

6. The semiconductor device of claim 1, further comprising an insulating liner surrounding the contact structure.

7. The semiconductor device of claim 1, further comprising an insulating spacer surrounding the contact plug.

8. A semiconductor device comprising:

- a stack;

- a contact structure including contact vias at least partially extending through the stack and spaced apart from each other in a first direction and a contact connection portion extending in the first direction to connect the contact vias to each other and having a U shape in a cross section; and

- at least one contact plug extending through the stack.

9. The semiconductor device of claim 8, wherein the stack includes a first stack and a second stack located on the first stack, and

- the contact connection portion is located between the first stack and the second stack, and

- the contact vias are located in the second stack.

10. The semiconductor device of claim 9, wherein the contact plugs each include a first portion located in the first stack and a second portion located in the second stack, and an upper surface of the contact connection portion is located at substantially the same level as an upper surface of the first portion.

11. The semiconductor device of claim 8, further comprising probing pads respectively located on the contact vias.

12. The semiconductor device of claim 8, further comprising an insulating liner surrounding the contact structure.

13. The semiconductor device of claim 8, further comprising an insulating spacer surrounding each of the at least one contact plug.

14. The semiconductor device of claim 8, wherein the at least one contact plug includes a first contact plug and a second contact plug, and

the contact structure is located between the first contact plug and the second contact plug.

**15.** The semiconductor device of claim **14**, further comprising:

- a first contact wiring line connecting the first contact plug and one end of the contact structure to each other and extending in the first direction;
- a second contact wiring line connecting the second contact plug and the other end of the contact structure to each other and extending in the first direction; and
- a third contact wiring line located between the first contact wiring line and the second contact wiring line and extending in a second direction intersecting the first direction.

**16.** A manufacturing method of a semiconductor device, the manufacturing method comprising:

- forming a first stack;
- forming a trench in the first stack;
- forming first contact holes extending through the first stack;
- forming a second stack on the first stack;
- forming second contact holes extending through the second stack and respectively connected to the first contact holes;
- forming via holes extending through the second stack and connected to the trench;
- expanding the via holes and the trench; and
- forming a contact structure in the expanded via holes and the expanded trench.

**17.** The manufacturing method of claim **16**, wherein when the via holes are formed, the second contact holes are formed.

**18.** The manufacturing method of claim **16**, further comprising expanding the first contact holes and the second contact holes when the via holes and the trench are expanded.

**19.** The manufacturing method of claim **18**, further comprising forming contact plugs in the expanded first contact holes and the expanded second contact holes.

**20.** The manufacturing method of claim **19**, wherein when the contact structure is formed, the contact plugs are formed.

**21.** The manufacturing method of claim **19**, further comprising, before the forming of the contact structure, forming an insulating liner in the expanded via holes and the expanded trench.

**22.** The manufacturing method of claim **19**, further comprising, before the forming of the contact structure, forming an insulating spacer in the expanded first contact holes and the expanded second contact holes.

**23.** The manufacturing method of claim **16**, further comprising forming probing pads on the contact structure.

**24.** The manufacturing method of claim **23**, wherein the probing pads are respectively formed on locations of the contact structure corresponding to the expanded via holes.

**25.** The manufacturing method of claim **23**, further comprising:

- deriving an electrical parameter of the contact structure by applying a voltage to the probing pads;
- comparing the electrical parameter of the contact structure with a reference value; and
- determining an expansion width of the first contact holes and the second contact holes according to the electrical parameter.

**26.** The manufacturing method of claim **25**, wherein the electrical parameter includes an resistive-capacitive (RC) delay value.

**27.** The manufacturing method of claim **23**, further comprising bonding a first wafer and a second wafer to each other, the first wafer including a peripheral circuit and bonding pads located on the peripheral circuit, and the second wafer including the contact structure and the probing pads.

**28.** The manufacturing method of claim **27**, wherein the first wafer and the second wafer are bonded to each other so that the bonding pads and the probing pads are connected to each other.

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