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**Moriyama et al.**

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(54) **FILM DEPOSITION METHOD**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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See application file for complete search history.

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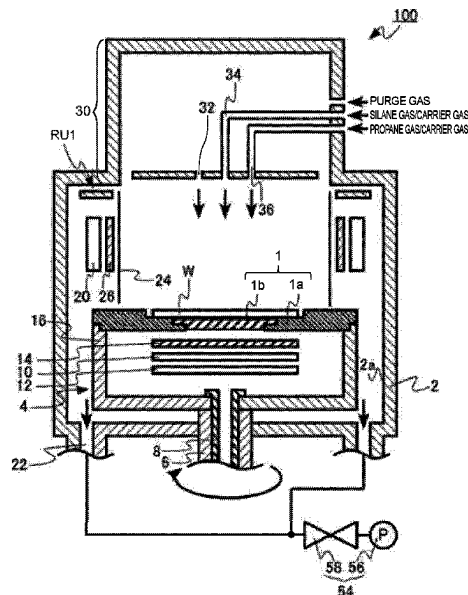
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A film deposition method according to an embodiment includes rotating a wafer mounted on a susceptor in a reaction chamber. Next, a temperature of the wafer is controlled such that, when changing a rotational speed of the wafer before and after a film deposition step of introducing a process gas into the reaction chamber and epitaxially growing a SiC film on the wafer, a force of friction generated on a contact surface between the wafer and the susceptor becomes larger than a force of inertia generated in a direction of rotation of the wafer.

**9 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets**



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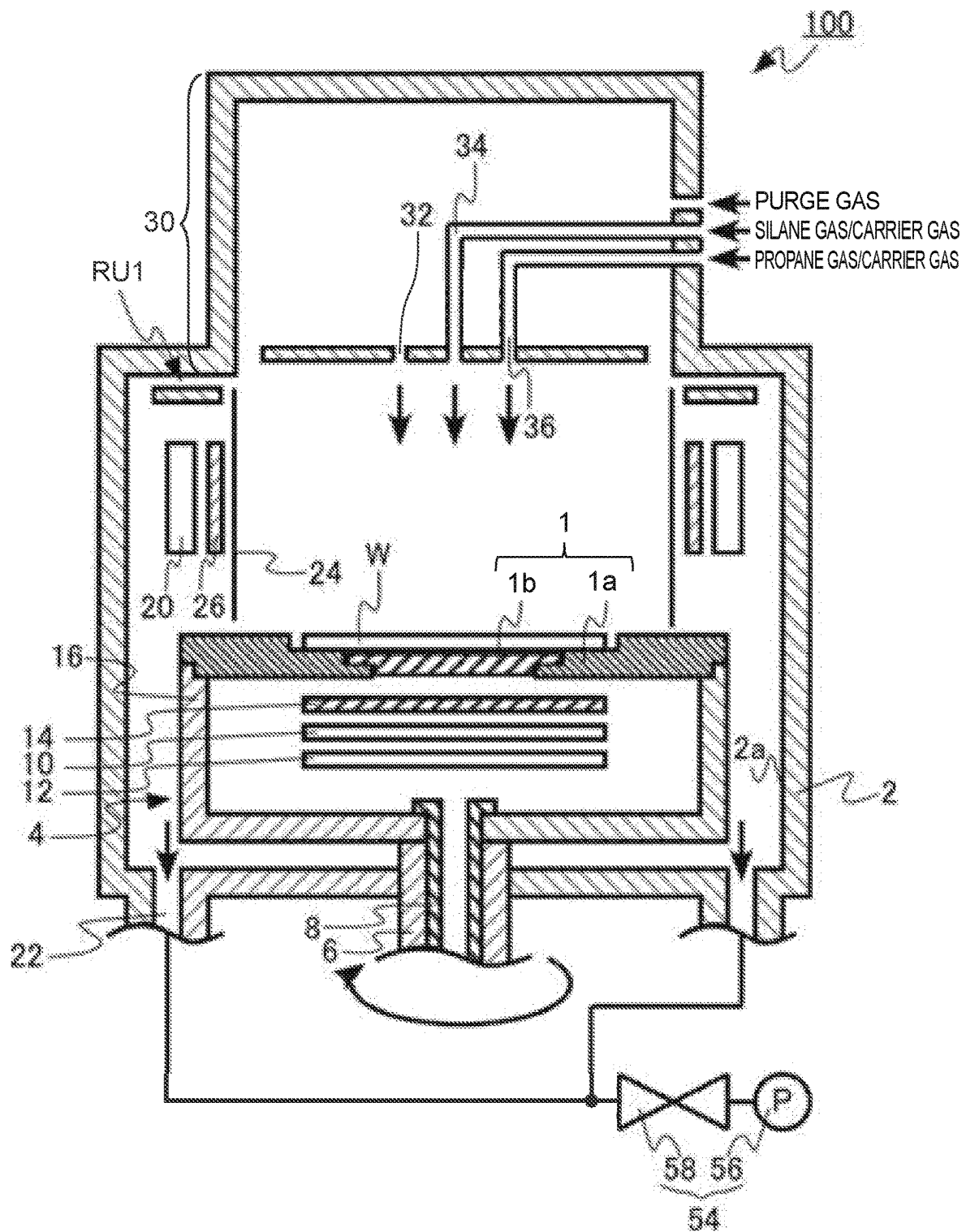


FIG. 1

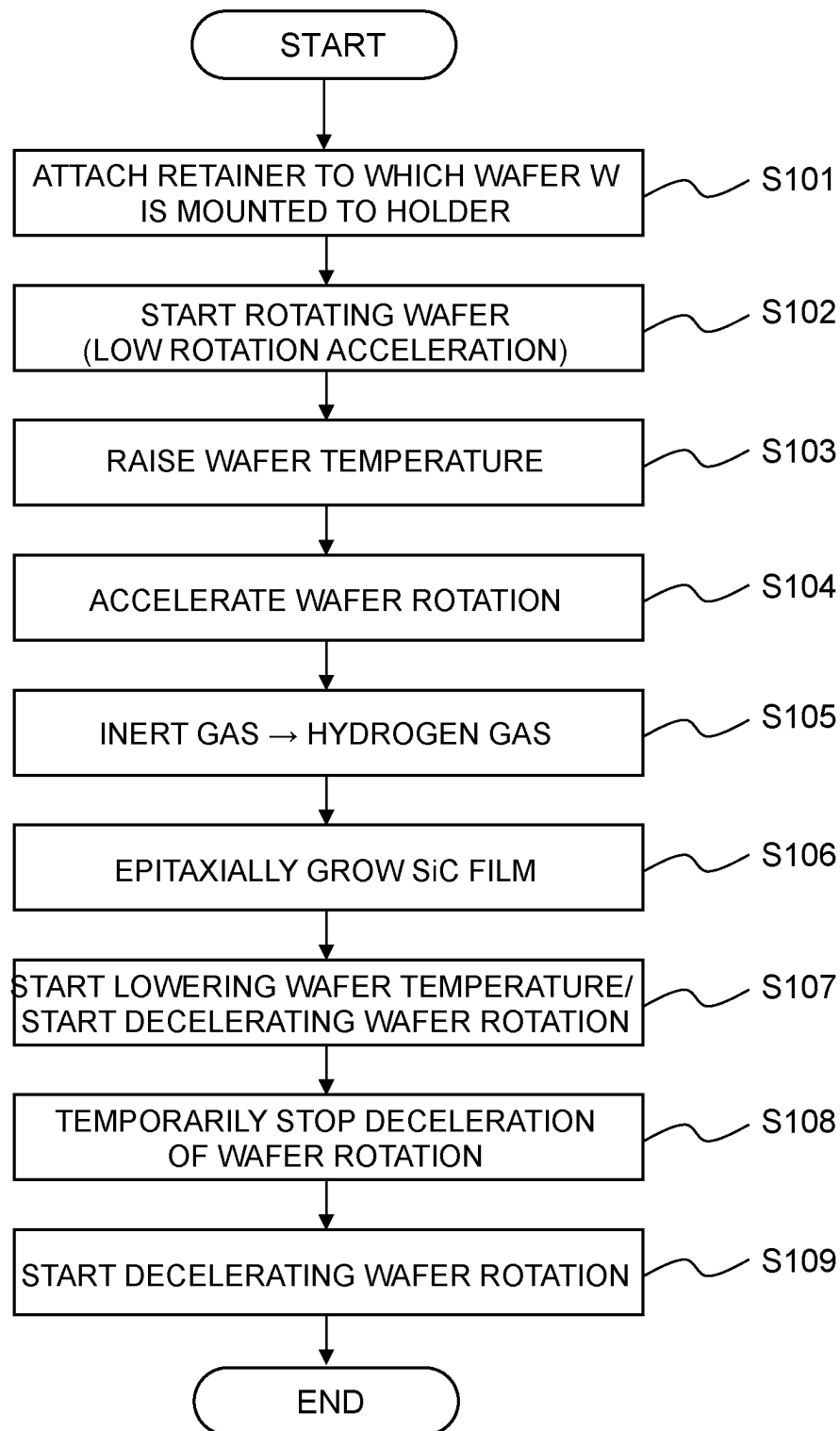


FIG. 2

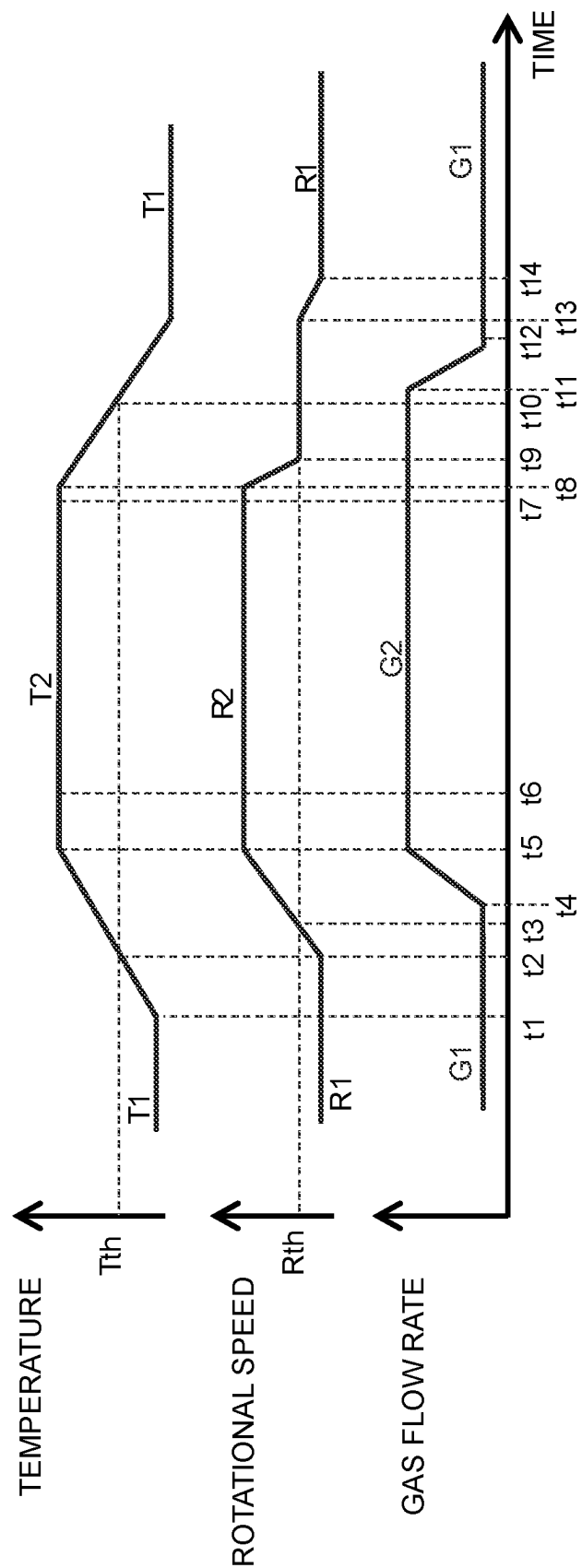


FIG. 3

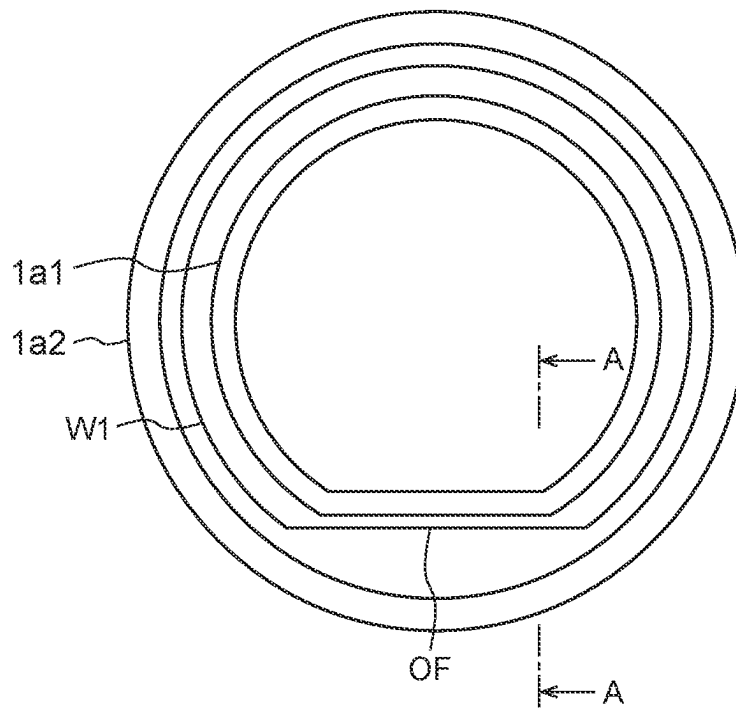


FIG. 4A

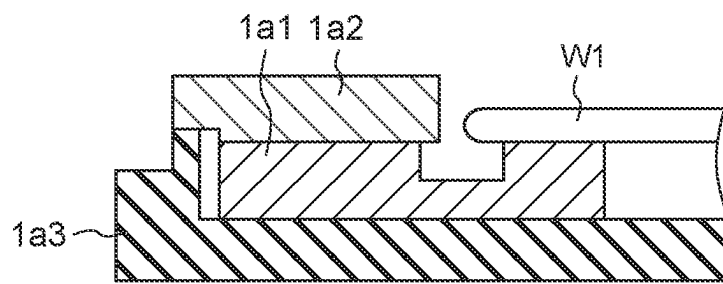


FIG. 4B

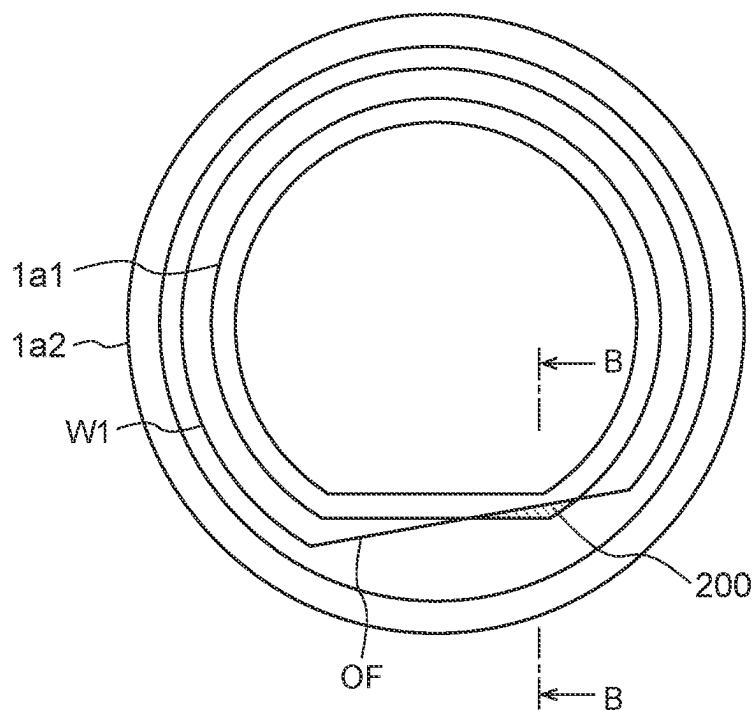


FIG. 5A

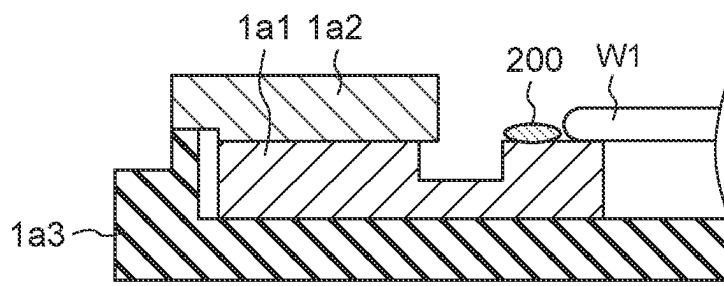


FIG. 5B

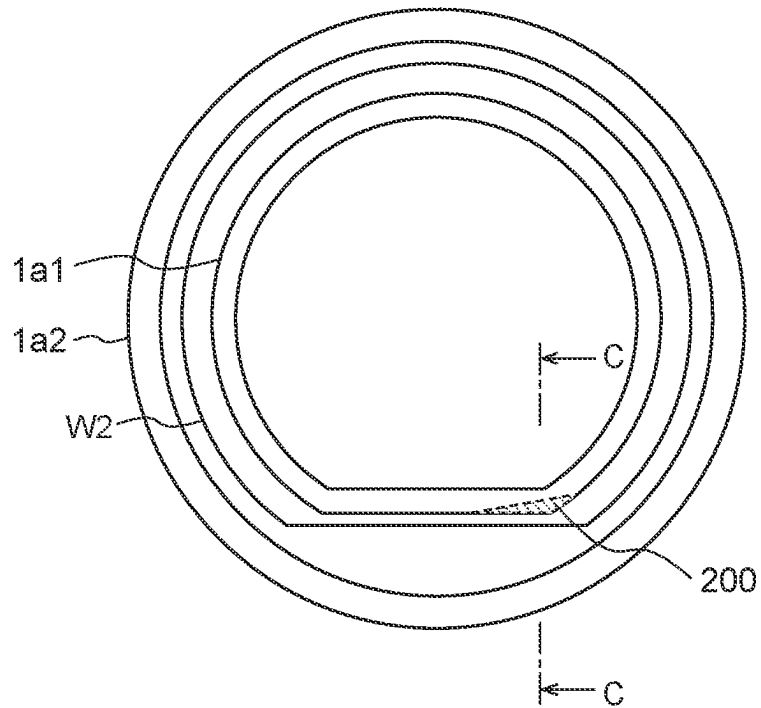


FIG. 6A

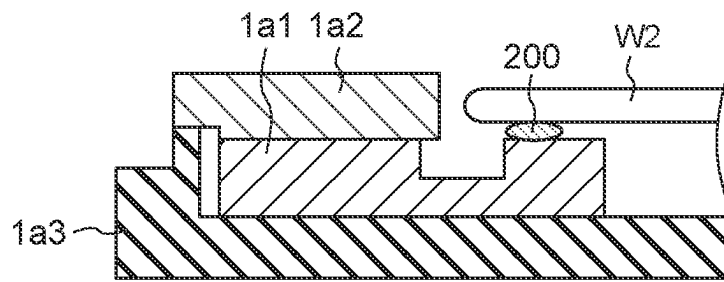


FIG. 6B



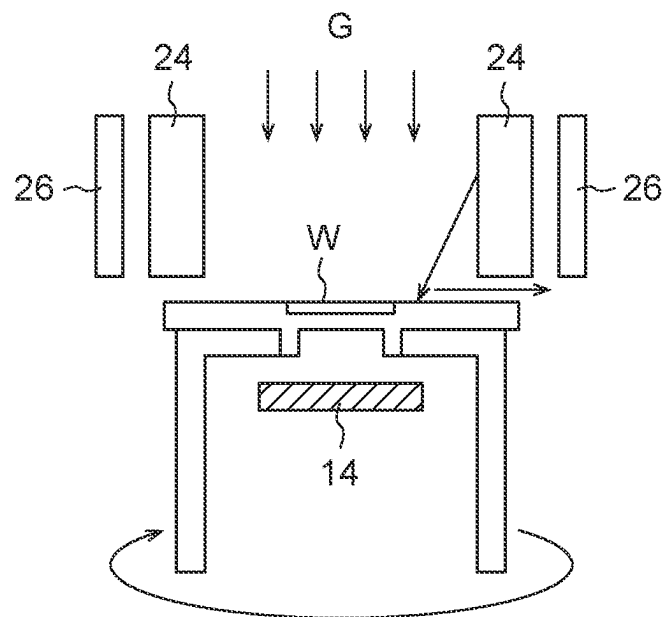


FIG. 7

## 1

## FILM DEPOSITION METHOD

## CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is based upon and claims the benefit of priority from Japanese Patent Application No. 2022-049111, filed on Mar. 24, 2022; the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

## FIELD

The present invention relates to a film deposition method.

## BACKGROUND

When a SiC (silicon carbide) film is deposited by epitaxial growth on a SiC wafer, the SiC wafer is mounted on a susceptor. While the wafer and the susceptor rotate during a film deposition step in which the SiC film is epitaxially grown, a rotational speed of the wafer may be increased or reduced during the film deposition step and before and/or after the film deposition step. Such a change in the rotational speed may cause the wafer to rotate and move on the susceptor and cause a displacement of the wafer.

When a displacement of the wafer occurs, a deposit made of SiC may be formed not only on the SiC wafer but also on a part of a wafer mount of the susceptor during the film deposition step. When a deposit is formed on a part of the wafer mount of the susceptor, a next SiC wafer ends up being installed on the deposit formed on the wafer mount of the susceptor. When a temperature of the SiC wafer is raised to a temperature necessary for epitaxial growth in a state where the SiC wafer is installed on the wafer mount on which a deposit has been partially formed, the deposit may be transferred onto a rear surface of the SiC wafer. A region where such a deposit has been transferred assumes a concavo-convex shape with a large height difference and may cause manufacturing defects to occur in steps subsequent to the film deposition step.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a schematic sectional view of a film deposition apparatus according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a flow chart showing a procedure of a film deposition method according to an embodiment;

FIG. 3 is a diagram showing a time variation of a temperature of a wafer, a rotational speed of the wafer, and a gas flow rate introduced into a reaction chamber;

FIG. 4A is a plan view showing a state where a first wafer is mounted on a first susceptor;

FIG. 4B is a sectional view taken along a cut line A-A shown in FIG. 4A;

FIG. 5A is a plan view showing an example of a state where a wafer is displaced in a direction of rotation on a wafer rear surface mount member;

FIG. 5B is a sectional view taken along a cut line B-B shown in FIG. 5A;

FIG. 6A is a plan view showing a state where a second wafer is mounted on a wafer rear surface mount member;

FIG. 6B is a sectional view taken along a cut line C-C shown in FIG. 6A; and

FIG. 7 is a diagram showing an upper portion of a wafer in a film deposition apparatus in a simplified manner.

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## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Embodiments will now be explained with reference to the accompanying drawings. The present invention is not limited to the embodiments.

A film deposition method according to an embodiment of the present invention includes:

rotating a wafer mounted on a susceptor in a reaction chamber; and

controlling a temperature of the wafer such that, when changing a rotational speed of the wafer before and after a film deposition step of introducing a process gas into the reaction chamber and epitaxially growing a SiC film on the wafer, a force of friction generated on a contact surface between the wafer and the susceptor becomes larger than a force of inertia generated in a direction of rotation of the wafer.

## First Embodiment

FIG. 1 is a schematic sectional view of a film deposition apparatus **100** according to an embodiment of the present invention. The film deposition apparatus **100** according to the present embodiment is an epitaxial growth apparatus which uses CVD (Chemical Vapor Deposition). Hereinafter, a case where a SiC film is epitaxially grown on a SiC wafer will be mainly described as an example.

The film deposition apparatus **100** includes a susceptor **1** on which a wafer **W** is mounted. The susceptor **1** can also be referred to as a susceptor unit and is provided in a reaction chamber **2** which is a film deposition chamber where a SiC epitaxial film is deposited on the wafer **W**.

Due to a reaction of a process gas supplied to the wafer **W** mounted on the susceptor **1**, a SiC film is epitaxially grown on the wafer **W**. In this case, examples of the process gas include an Si-based gas (for example, silane (SiH<sub>4</sub>) gas) as a SiC source gas, a C-based gas (for example, propane (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>) gas), Cl-based gas (for example, hydrogen chloride (HCl) gas) for promoting growth of SiC, argon (Ar) gas as a purge gas, and hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>) gas as a carrier gas. Alternatively, a gas containing Si atoms and Cl atoms such as dichlorosilane (SiH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) gas or trichlorosilane (SiHCl<sub>3</sub>) gas can be used as the Si-based gas.

The susceptor **1** is provided above a rotator **4**. The susceptor **1** includes a first susceptor **1a** which has an annular shape with an opening and a second susceptor **1b** which is provided inside the first susceptor **1a** so as to block the opening. A depression for housing the wafer **W** is provided on an inner circumferential side of the first susceptor **1a**. In addition, a mount which supports an outer circumference of the wafer **W** is provided in the depression. Carbon, SiC, or TaC is preferably used as a material of the susceptor **1**. Alternatively, a material created by coating a surface of carbon with TaC may be used. Furthermore, a structure of the depression in the first susceptor **1a** may be created by counterboring an inner circumferential side of an annular flat-plate material with a bore large enough to house the wafer **W**, arranging an annular member with an inner diameter large enough to house the wafer **W** on an outer circumferential side of an annular flat-plate material, or using a combination of both methods.

The rotator **4** is made up of a rotary shaft **6** and a holder **16** connected to an upper part of the rotary shaft **6**. The holder **16** supports the susceptor **1** by an upper part thereof. The holder **16** rotates as the rotary shaft **6** is rotated by a motor (not illustrated). The susceptor **1** rotates via the rotation of the holder **16**. In this manner, the wafer **W**

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mounted on the susceptor **1** can be rotated with approximately the center of the wafer **W** as a center of rotation.

The holder **16** is structured so that an upper part is open. A first heater **14** is provided inside the rotator **4**. For example, a resistive heater made of a carbon (C) material is used as the first heater **14**. Power is supplied to the first heater **14** by an electrode (not illustrated) which passes inside a quartz shaft **8** with an approximately cylindrical shape provided inside the rotary shaft **6**, and the first heater **14** heats the wafer **W** from a rear surface thereof via the susceptor **1**.

In addition, a reflector **10** is provided below the first heater **14** inside the rotator **4** to ensure that heating by the first heater **14** is performed efficiently. A material with high heat resistance such as carbon or SiC is used as the reflector **10**. Furthermore, a heat insulator **12** is provided below the reflector **10**. Providing the reflector **10** and the heat insulator **12** reduces transfer of heat from the first heater **14** to the shaft **8**, an installation position of the shaft **8**, and the like and enables heater power during heating to be suppressed.

An exhaust **22** for discharging an excess process gas or a gas containing reaction by-products is provided in a lower part of the reaction chamber **2**. The exhaust **22** is connected to an exhaust mechanism **54** which is made up of a regulating valve **58** and a vacuum pump **56**. The exhaust mechanism **54** discharges, to the outside, gas having been discharged from the reaction chamber **2**, and regulates the inside of the reaction chamber **2** to predetermined pressure.

In addition, a cylindrical hot wall-type liner (wall surface) **24** for partitioning a film deposition region where film deposition processing is performed and a side wall (inner wall) **2a** of the reaction chamber **2** from each other and preventing deposits from being generated on the side wall **2a** is provided inside the reaction chamber **2**. A material with high heat resistance such as carbon, carbon coated with SiC, or SiC is used as the hot wall-type liner **24**. Desirably, a cylindrical member (not illustrated) for partitioning the rotator **4** and the side wall (inner wall) **2a** from each other is also provided between the rotator **4** and the side wall (inner wall) **2a** in order to prevent film from adhering to the side wall (inner wall) **2a** and to reduce heat input.

A second heater **26** which heats the wafer **W** from above is provided between the hot wall-type liner **24** and the side wall **2a**. The wafer **W** is mounted below a lower end of the second heater **26**. The hot wall-type liner **24** is heated by the second heater **26**. The second heater **26** is, for example, a resistive heater. In addition, a heat insulator **20** is provided between the second heater **26** and the side wall **2a** to reduce transfer of heat from the second heater **26** to the side wall **2a**. Providing the heat insulator **20** enables heater power during heating to be suppressed. Instead of being a single element, the second heater **26** may be divided into independently controllable elements.

The hot wall-type liner **24** may be inductively heated by a high-frequency coil provided outside of the hot wall-type liner **24**.

A reflector unit RU1 for reflecting radiation from the first heater **14** and the second heater **26** is provided in an upper part of the reaction chamber **2** in order to increase heat efficiency.

The reflector unit RU1 is made of a thin plate using carbon, SiC, or carbon coated with SiC. The reflector unit RU1 may be made of a single thin plate or constructed by laminating a plurality of thin plates.

A gas supplier **30** is provided in an upper part of the reaction chamber **2**. The gas supplier **30** supplies a process gas such as a purge gas or a SiC source gas to the film

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deposition region via gas flow channels (gas pipes) **32**, **34**, and **36**. For example, an argon gas as a purge gas or hydrogen gas is supplied on top of the wafer **W** via the gas flow channel **32**. In addition, silane gas or propane gas as a SiC source gas is supplied together with a carrier gas on top of the wafer **W** via the gas flow channels **34** and **36**. While FIG. **1** shows one gas flow channel being provided with respect to each gas, a plurality of gas flow channels may be provided instead. Furthermore, the gas supplier **30** may have a shower head-type structure.

A radiation thermometer (not illustrated) is provided in an upper part of the reaction chamber **2** and a temperature of the wafer **W** can be measured. In this case, a quartz glass window (not illustrated) is provided in a part of the reaction chamber **2** and the temperature of the wafer **W** is measured by the radiation thermometer via the quartz glass window.

Hereinafter, a film deposition method using the film deposition apparatus **100** configured as described above will be explained.

FIG. **2** is a flow chart showing a procedure of a film deposition method according to an embodiment. In addition, FIG. **3** is a diagram showing a time variation of the temperature of the wafer **W**, a rotational speed of the wafer **W**, and a gas flow rate introduced into the reaction chamber **2**.

In the flow chart shown in FIG. **2**, first, the susceptor **1** on which the wafer **W** is mounted is attached to the holder **16** (step S101). At a time point of step S101, the temperature of the wafer **W** is kept at a first temperature T1 by the first heater **14** and the second heater **26**. The first temperature T1 is a temperature when the wafer **W** is carried in/out to/from the reaction chamber **2** and is, for example, around 900° C. to 1000° C. Although also depending on the temperature of the wafer **W** when the susceptor **1** on which the wafer **W** is mounted is carried into the reaction chamber **2**, the temperature of the wafer **W** usually differs from the first temperature T1 immediately after the susceptor **1** on which the wafer **W** is mounted is attached to the holder **16** but converges to the first temperature T1 once a predetermined amount of time elapses. In FIG. **3**, a transient temperature variation immediately after the mounted susceptor **1** is attached to the holder **16** is not taken into consideration.

In addition, in the present embodiment, an inert gas has already been introduced into the reaction chamber **2** by the time point of step S101. In this case, examples of the inert gas include argon (Ar) gas and helium (He) gas. Note that, instead of using an inert gas as the gas to be introduced into the reaction chamber **2** at the time point of step S101, hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>) gas can be used. A gas flow rate of the inert gas or hydrogen gas in step S101 is set to a first gas flow rate G1 which is lower than a flow rate of gas used for epitaxial growth. This is done in order to reduce gas consumption and reduce cost. However, when cost need not be taken into consideration, the first gas flow rate G1 may be set equal to a second gas flow rate G2 which is the flow rate of gas used for epitaxial growth.

Next, the holder **16** starts to rotate (step S102). At this point, the rotational speed of the holder **16** is set so that the rotational speed of the wafer **W** equals a first rotational speed R1. The first rotational speed R1 is a rotational speed in a state before and after depositing a SiC film on the wafer **W** and is set to, for example, around 50 rpm (revolution per minute).

Next, as shown in FIG. **3**, at a time t1 upon elapse of a predetermined amount of time after the rotational speed of the wafer **W** had reached the first rotational speed R1, the temperature of the wafer **W** is raised by increasing supplied

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power to the first heater **14** while keeping supplied power to the second heater **26** constant (step **S103**).

Next, at a time **t2** where the temperature of the wafer **W** reaches a threshold temperature **Tth** set in advance, the acceleration of the rotation of the wafer **W** is started by increasing the rotational speed of the holder **16** (step **S104**).

Next, at a time **t3** where the rotational speed of the wafer **W** reaches a threshold rotational speed **Rth** set in advance, the process gas introduced into the reaction chamber **2** is switched from an inert gas to hydrogen gas (step **S105**). Note that, if the inside of the reaction chamber **2** need not be replaced with an inert gas when carrying the wafer **W** into the reaction chamber **2** or, in other words, when the wafer **W** is carried into the reaction chamber **2** in a state where the inside of the reaction chamber **2** is filled with hydrogen gas, there is no need to switch gases from an inert gas to hydrogen gas. In addition, desirably, the gas flow rate of the inert gas or hydrogen gas does not change significantly from the first gas flow rate **G1** until the time **t3**.

Furthermore, at the time **t3** where the rotational speed of the wafer **W** reaches the threshold rotational speed **Rth** set in advance, the temperature of the wafer **W** is further raised by increasing supplied power to the second heater **26** in addition to the first heater **14**.

Next, at a time **t4**, an increase of the flow rate of hydrogen gas is started to cause the flow rate to reach the second gas flow rate **G2** set in advance. In addition, at a time **t5**, the temperature of the wafer **W** is caused to reach a second temperature **T2** set in advance. While FIG. **3** shows the time where the temperature of the wafer **W** reaches the second temperature **T2**, the time where the rotational speed reaches a second rotational speed **R2**, and the time where the gas flow rate reaches the second gas flow rate **G2** all coinciding with each other at **t5** for the sake of convenience, the times are not limited to **t5**.

Once the rotational speed of the wafer **W** reaches the second rotational speed **R2**, the temperature of the wafer **W** reaches the second temperature **T2**, and the gas flow rate reaches the second gas flow rate **G2**, at a time **t6**, a Si-based gas, a C-based gas, a Cl-based gas for promoting growth of SiC, and the like are introduced into the reaction chamber **2** together with hydrogen gas to epitaxially grow a SiC film on the wafer **W** (step **S106**). The second temperature **T2** is a film deposition temperature of the SiC film and is, for example, around 1625° C. In addition, the second rotational speed **R2** is, for example, around 600 rpm. Furthermore, the second gas flow rate **G2** is around 100 to 150 slm. Note that, in a graph representing a gas flow rate in FIG. **3**, an increase in the gas flow rate due to the start of supply of the Si-based gas, the C-based gas, the Cl-based gas, and the like is not taken into consideration. Alternatively, before supplying the Si-based gas, the C-based gas, the Cl-based gas, and the like and starting epitaxial growth, a period (between the time **t5** to the time **t6**) of a predetermined amount of time in which the Si-based gas, the C-based gas, the Cl-based gas, and the like are not supplied may be provided to subject a surface of the wafer **W** to etching by hydrogen gas.

Next, at a time **t7** upon elapse of a film deposition time from the time **t6**, the introduction of process gases necessary for epitaxially growing the SiC film such as the Si-based gas, the C-based gas, and the Cl-based gas for promoting growth of SiC is stopped. Accordingly, the epitaxial growth is stopped. Note that hydrogen gas is continuously introduced into the reaction chamber **2**.

Next, at a time **t8**, the temperature of the wafer **W** is lowered by reducing supplied power of the first heater **14** and the second heater **26** (step **S107**). In addition, at the time

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**t8**, the deceleration of the rotation of the wafer **W** is started by reducing the rotational speed of the holder **16**. While the graphs in FIG. **3** show the epitaxial growth being stopped at the time **t7** and, subsequently, at the time **t8**, lowering of the temperature of the wafer **W** is started and reduction of the rotational speed of the wafer **W** is also started, a timing where lowering of the temperature of the wafer **W** is started and a timing where reduction of the rotational speed of the wafer **W** is started may coincide with a timing where the epitaxial growth is stopped. Furthermore, the timing where lowering of the temperature of the wafer **W** is started and the timing where reduction of the rotational speed of the wafer **W** is started need not necessarily coincide with each other.

Next, at a time **t9** where the rotational speed of the wafer **W** reaches the threshold rotational speed **Rth**, deceleration of the rotational speed of the wafer **W** is temporarily stopped (step **S108**). In other words, the rotational speed of the wafer **W** is maintained at the threshold rotational speed **Rth**. Note that the rotational speed of the wafer **W** is maintained at the threshold rotational speed **Rth** until a time **t13** to be described later where further reduction of a rotational speed of the holder **16** is started.

Next, at a time **t11**, the gas flow rate is reduced, and once the gas flow rate drops to the first gas flow rate **G1**, at a time **t12**, the process gas introduced into the reaction chamber **2** is switched from hydrogen gas to an inert gas. Note that, if the inside of the reaction chamber **2** need not be replaced with an inert gas when carrying the wafer **W** out from the reaction chamber **2** or, in other words, when the wafer **W** is carried out from the reaction chamber **2** in a state where the inside of the reaction chamber **2** is filled with hydrogen gas, there is no need to switch gases from an inert gas to hydrogen gas. In addition, as described earlier, when cost need not be taken into consideration, the first gas flow rate **G1** may be set equal to the second gas flow rate **G2** which is the flow rate of gas used for epitaxial growth and, in such a case, the gas flow rate need not be changed.

Next, at a time **t13**, the rotational speed of the wafer **W** is further lowered from the threshold rotational speed **Rth** by further reducing the rotational speed of the holder **16** (step **S109**). The rotational speed of the wafer **W** drops to the first rotational speed **R1** at a time **t14**.

Subsequently, the rotation of the wafer **W** is stopped, the wafer **W** and the susceptor **1** are carried out from the reaction chamber **2**, and a next wafer **W** and the susceptor **1** are carried into the reaction chamber **2**.

Hereinafter, a state of a wafer when a film is deposited by the film deposition method described above will be explained.

FIG. **4A** is a plan view showing a state where a first wafer **W1** is mounted on the first susceptor **1a**. FIG. **4B** is a sectional view taken along a cut line A-A shown in FIG. **4A**. The wafer **W1** is supported by a wafer rear surface mount member **1a1** on a rear surface side thereof. The wafer rear surface mount member **1a1** constitutes a part of the first susceptor **1a** by being housed in a depression of the first susceptor **1a**. The wafer rear surface mount member **1a1** is an annular member made of, for example, carbon (C).

In addition, a side surface (outer circumferential surface) of the wafer **W1** is surrounded by a side surface guide **1a2** arranged on the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1**. The side surface guide **1a2** makes up another part of the first susceptor **1a**. The side surface guide **1a2** is an annular member made of, for example, SiC. The wafer rear surface mount member **1a1** and the side surface guide **1a2** are

supported by a base material **1a3** of the first susceptor **1a**. The base material **1a3** is detachably attached to the holder **16**.

While the first susceptor **1a** is structurally made up of the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1**, the side surface guide **1a2**, and the base material **1a3** in the present embodiment, the structure of the first susceptor **1a** is not limited to this structure. For example, in the structure of the first susceptor **1a**, the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1** and the side surface guide **1a2** may be integrated from a same material.

When the wafer **W1** is mounted on the susceptor **1** and rotation of the susceptor **1** is started, a force of inertia in a direction of rotation and a force of friction in the direction of rotation on a contact surface with the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1** are generated on the wafer **W1**. When a rotational speed of the susceptor **1** is increased, the force of friction with respect to the wafer **W1** is generated in a same direction as the direction in the wafer **W1** rotates (a positive direction) while the force of inertia with respect to the wafer **W1** is generated in an opposite direction to the direction in the wafer **W1** rotates (a negative direction). When angular acceleration of rotation is small, since the force of inertia and the force of friction in the direction of rotation are balanced with each other, the wafer **W1** is not displaced in the direction of rotation on the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1**. However, when the angular acceleration of rotation is large, since the force of inertia exceeds a maximum static frictional force, the wafer **W1** is more likely to be displaced in the direction of rotation on the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1**. Note that, since horizontal movement of the wafer **W1** is suppressed by the side surface guide, the force of inertia and the force of friction in a radial direction of the wafer **W** are not taken into consideration.

For example, using a SiC wafer with a diameter of 150 mm, a thickness of 350  $\mu\text{m}$ , an orientation flat length of 47.5 mm, and warpage of 60  $\mu\text{m}$  or less and the susceptor **1** in which a mount surface in the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1** has a flatness of 0.2 mm and a surface roughness  $R_z$  of 12  $\mu\text{m}$ , when rotating the susceptor **1** under conditions including the threshold temperature  $T_{th}$  described earlier being lower than 1100° C. and angular acceleration when rotating the susceptor **1** being 0.314  $\text{rad/sec}^2$  ( $\approx 3 \text{ rpm/sec}$ ), the position of the wafer **W1** may be displaced by around several degrees to 45 degrees in the direction of rotation on the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1**. Such a displacement in the direction of rotation is likely to occur when the rotational speed changes or, in other words, in FIG. 3, during a period from the time  $t_2$  to the time  $t_5$ , during a period from the time  $t_8$  to the time  $t_9$ , and during a period from the time  $t_{13}$  to the time  $t_{14}$ . The thickness of the SiC wafer favorably ranges from 200 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ . When the thickness is less than 200  $\mu\text{m}$ , the advantageous effect is suppressed due to the force of friction being too small, and when the thickness is more than 500  $\mu\text{m}$ , substrate cost becomes excessive. More preferably, the thickness ranges from 295 to 355  $\mu\text{m}$ . In addition, the flatness of the mount surface preferably ranges from 0.1 to 0.3 mm and more preferably ranges from 0.1 to 0.2 mm, and the surface roughness of the mount surface preferably ranges from 3 to 35  $\mu\text{m}$  and more preferably ranges from 10 to 13  $\mu\text{m}$ . This is because the advantageous effect is suppressed due to the force of friction being too small when the flatness and the surface roughness are lower than a lower limit while characteristics of the film formed on the substrate are adversely affected when the flatness and the surface roughness are excessively high.

FIG. 5A is a plan view showing an example of a state where the wafer **W1** is displaced in a direction of rotation on the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1**. FIG. 5B is a sectional view taken along a cut line B-B shown in FIG. 5A.

As shown in FIG. 5A, a linear orientation flat **OF** is formed in a part of the outer circumferential surface of the wafer **W1**. Therefore, when the position of the wafer **W1** is displaced in the direction of rotation on the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1**, a part of the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1** becomes exposed. Therefore, when such a displacement occurs during the period from the time  $t_2$  to the time  $t_5$  shown in FIG. 3, a SiC film is to be epitaxially grown on the wafer **W1** in a state where a part of the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1** is exposed during the epitaxial growth period from the time  $t_6$  to the time  $t_7$ . In this case, a deposit **200** made of SiC ends up being formed in the exposed portion of the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1**. The deposit **200** remains even after the wafer **W1** is carried out from the reaction chamber **2** after the film deposition step.

FIG. 6A is a plan view showing a state where a second wafer **W2** is mounted on the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1**. FIG. 6B is a sectional view taken along a cut line C-C shown in FIG. 6A.

When the second wafer **W2** is mounted on the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1** in a state where the deposit **200** remains on the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1**, the deposit **200** and the wafer **W2** come into contact with each other. When temperatures of the susceptor **1** and the wafer **W2** are raised in this state, the deposit **200** is transferred onto the rear surface of the wafer **W2**. As a result, manufacturing defects may occur in steps subsequent to the film deposition step.

The generation of the deposit **200** described above is attributable to a displacement of the wafer **W1** in the direction of rotation. In addition, the displacement of the wafer **W1** is attributable to the force of inertia in the direction of rotation which occurs on the wafer **W1** due to rotating the susceptor **1** exceeding a maximum static frictional force on a contact surface between the wafer rear surface mount member **1a1** and the wafer.

However, the maximum static frictional force increases as the temperature of the wafer **W** rises. In consideration thereof, in the present embodiment, the temperature of the wafer **W** is controlled during an acceleration period of the wafer **W** from the time  $t_2$  to the time  $t_5$  so that a relationship in which the maximum static frictional force is higher than the force of inertia can be readily maintained. Specifically, supply power to the first heater **14** and the second heater **26** is adjusted so that the threshold temperature  $T_{th}$  exceeds 1100° C.

When the threshold temperature  $T_{th}$  is higher than 1100° C. and equal to or lower than 1300° C., an amount of displacement of the wafer **W** can be suppressed to around half of an amount of displacement when the threshold temperature  $T_{th}$  is 1100° C.

In addition, when the threshold temperature  $T_{th}$  is higher than 1300° C. and equal to or lower than 1400° C., the amount of displacement of the wafer **W** can be suppressed to or lower than around  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the amount of displacement when the threshold temperature  $T_{th}$  is 1100° C.

Furthermore, when the threshold temperature  $T_{th}$  is higher than 1400° C., the amount of displacement of the wafer **W** can be more readily suppressed to approximately zero. As described above, when the threshold temperature

T<sub>th</sub> is higher than 1100° C., the amount of displacement of the wafer W can be more readily suppressed to within an allowable range.

The displacement of the wafer W1 in the direction of rotation may occur not only during the rotational speed acceleration period from the time t<sub>2</sub> to the time t<sub>5</sub> but also during the rotational speed deceleration periods from the time t<sub>8</sub> to the time t<sub>9</sub> and from the time t<sub>13</sub> to the time t<sub>14</sub> shown in FIG. 3. In particular, in the period from the time t<sub>8</sub> to the time t<sub>9</sub>, hydrogen gas is introduced into the reaction chamber 2 and a high-temperature region which is close to the film deposition temperature of the SiC film is created. Therefore, when the position of the wafer W1 is displaced in the direction of rotation on the wafer rear surface mount member 1a1, a part of the wafer rear surface mount member 1a1 becomes exposed and a surface of the wafer rear surface mount member 1a1 may become damaged due to etching by hydrogen gas or the like. Therefore, in the present embodiment, deceleration of the rotational speed is temporarily stopped during a period in which the wafer temperature is higher than the threshold temperature T<sub>th</sub>. Accordingly, the maximum static frictional force on the contact surface between the wafer rear surface mount member 1a1 and the wafer can be set higher than the force of inertia in the direction of rotation which is generated on the wafer W1 not only during acceleration of the rotation of the wafer W but also during deceleration of the rotation of the wafer W. As a result, displacement of the wafer W can be suppressed and damage to the wafer rear surface mount member 1a1 can be suppressed. Although the rotational speed of the wafer W may be maintained at the second rotational speed R2 from the time t<sub>8</sub> to the time t<sub>13</sub> and the rotational speed of the wafer W may be decelerated from the time t<sub>13</sub>, since this extends a period during which the rotational speed is lowered to the first rotational speed R1, throughput tends to decline.

FIG. 7 is a diagram showing an upper portion of the wafer W in the film deposition apparatus 100 in a simplified manner. As shown in FIG. 7, the hot wall-type liner (wall surface) 24 is provided on an upper side of the wafer W. A process gas G for forming a SiC film on the wafer W is passed through an inner region of the hot wall-type liner 24 and introduced onto the wafer W. Therefore, a deposit made of SiC may be formed on the hot wall-type liner 24. It is presumed that a large distortion has occurred, particularly in a low-temperature region, at an interface between the deposit made of SiC and the hot wall-type liner 24 due to a difference in coefficients of thermal expansion between the deposit made of SiC and the hot wall-type liner 24.

In the low-temperature region, when the hot wall-type liner 24 is subjected to a temperature change due to the second heater 26, the deposit more readily separates from the hot wall-type liner 24. The separated deposit falls onto the wafer W as a particle. Note that switching gases between a noble gas and hydrogen gas and a fluctuation in the gas flow rate also cause a temperature change of the hot wall-type liner 24.

When a particle adheres to the wafer W before film deposition, there is a risk that the particle becomes embedded in the SiC film on the wafer W while the SiC film is being deposited and a film deposition failure such as a defect may occur. In addition, when a particle adheres to the wafer W after film deposition, manufacturing defects may occur in steps subsequent to the film deposition step. In order to prevent such a particle from adhering to the wafer W, the rotational speed of the wafer W is desirably set to or higher

than the threshold rotational speed R<sub>th</sub> at timings where particles are likely to be generated.

Therefore, in the present embodiment, supplied power to the second heater 26 is desirably kept constant during the period prior to the time t<sub>3</sub> and the period after the time t<sub>13</sub> or, in other words, during periods where the rotational speed of the wafer W is lower than the threshold rotational speed R<sub>th</sub>. In addition, desirably, switching between a noble gas and hydrogen gas and a change in the gas flow rate are not performed. Accordingly, an occurrence of a temperature change of the hot wall-type liner 24 can be suppressed during a period where the rotational speed of the wafer W is lower than the threshold rotational speed R<sub>th</sub>. In other words, since the generation of particles can be suppressed in a period where the rotational speed of the wafer W is lower than the threshold rotational speed R<sub>th</sub>, film deposition failures can be reduced.

In addition, during the period from the time t<sub>3</sub> to the time t<sub>13</sub>, desirably, the rotational speed of the wafer W is set to or higher than the threshold rotational speed R<sub>th</sub> and higher power than during the period prior to the time t<sub>3</sub> and the period after the time t<sub>13</sub> is supplied to the second heater 26. By heating a wall surface in a state of a high rotational speed as described above, the wafer W can be heated at a high temperature while preventing particles from adhering to the wafer W.

Furthermore, during the period from the time t<sub>3</sub> to the time t<sub>13</sub>, desirably, switching between a noble gas and hydrogen gas and a change in the gas flow rate are performed as necessary while setting the rotational speed of the wafer W to or higher than the threshold rotational speed R<sub>th</sub>. By controlling the switching of gases and the flow rate at a high rotational speed in this manner, switching between a noble gas and hydrogen gas and a change in the gas flow rate can be performed while preventing particles from adhering to the wafer W. Note that, if the inside of the reaction chamber 2 need not be replaced with an inert gas when carrying the wafer W out from the reaction chamber 2 or, in other words, when the wafer W is carried out from the reaction chamber 2 in a state where the inside of the reaction chamber 2 is filled with hydrogen gas, there is no need to switch gases from an inert gas to hydrogen gas. In addition, when cost need not be taken into consideration, the first gas flow rate G1 may be set equal to the second gas flow rate which is the flow rate of gas used for epitaxial growth and, in such a case, the gas flow rate need not be changed.

While certain embodiments have been described, these embodiments have been presented by way of example only, and are not intended to limit the scope of the inventions. Indeed, the novel embodiments described herein may be embodied in a variety of other forms; furthermore, various omissions, substitutions and changes in the form of the embodiments described herein may be made without departing from the spirit of the inventions. The accompanying claims and their equivalents are intended to cover such forms or modifications as would fall within the scope and spirit of the inventions.

The invention claimed is:

1. A film deposition method, comprising:

rotating a wafer mounted on a susceptor in a reaction chamber; and

controlling a temperature of the wafer such that, when changing a rotational speed of the wafer before and after a film deposition step of introducing a process gas into the reaction chamber and epitaxially growing a SiC film on the wafer, a force of friction generated on a contact surface between the wafer and the susceptor

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becomes larger than a force of inertia generated in a direction of rotation of the wafer,  
 wherein the temperature of the wafer at a starting point of a rotational speed acceleration is a threshold temperature,  
 during a rotational speed deceleration period after stopping the epitaxial growth, the temperature and the rotational speed of the wafer decrease, and when the rotational speed reaches a threshold rotational speed, the rotational speed is maintained at the threshold rotational speed until the temperature of the wafer reaches a first temperature, wherein the point in time when the temperature of the wafer reaches the threshold temperature during the temperature decrease falls within the period when the rotational speed is maintained at the threshold rotational speed,  
 the threshold rotational speed falls between a first rotational speed in a state before and after depositing the SiC film on the wafer and a second rotational speed during epitaxial growth of the SiC film and which is higher than the first rotational speed,  
 wherein the first temperature is a temperature when the wafer is carried in/out to/from the reaction chamber.

2. The film deposition method according to claim 1, wherein a temperature of the wafer when changing the rotational speed of the wafer is higher than 1100° C.

3. The film deposition method according to claim 2, wherein the threshold temperature is higher than 1100° C.

4. The film deposition method according to claim 1, wherein a flatness of the contact surface in the susceptor

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ranges from 0.1 to 0.3 mm and a surface roughness of the contact surface ranges from 3 to 35 μm.

5. The film deposition method according to claim 1, wherein a wall surface of the reaction chamber is heated when the rotational speed of the wafer is equal to or higher than the threshold rotational speed.

6. The film deposition method according to claim 5, wherein the wall surface of the reaction chamber is heated so as to heat the wafer and the susceptor.

7. The film deposition method according to claim 1, wherein the process gas is switched between an inert gas and hydrogen gas when the rotational speed of the wafer is equal to or higher than the threshold rotational speed.

8. The film deposition method according to claim 7, wherein when the temperature reaches the first temperature during the rotational speed deceleration period, the rotational speed is further reduced below the threshold rotational speed and switching between the inert gas and hydrogen gas is not performed.

9. The film deposition method according to claim 1, wherein during the period when the rotational speed is maintained at the threshold rotational speed, a gas flow rate of the process gas is reduced from a second gas flow rate used for epitaxial growth, and before the rotational speed is reduced below the threshold rotational speed, the gas flow rate is changed from the second gas flow rate to a first gas flow rate which is lower than the second gas flow rate.

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