



# 공정 7. Etching (1) : Bulk Micromachining

➤ 관련 과목	
➤ 관련 시험/과제	
➤ 강의 일자	
☰ 상태	완성
📎 강의자료	

## Reminder: General Step

gas의 화학반응을 이용하는 것이 dry, 용액을 이용하는 것이 wet

anisotropic : 방향에 따라 etching 속도 등이 달라짐

isotropic (등감성) : 모든 방향에 대해 같음

한 방향으로 깊이 깎아야 하는 경우 anisotropic을 사용해야 함

## 1. Micromachining

### 1) Bulk ↔ Surface

#### Bulk micromachining

; Bulk micromachining was developed in the late 70's essentially for the fabrication pressure sensor membranes from a silicon monocrystal.

; It is nowadays commonly used to fabricate a variety of mechanical structures (e.g. membranes, valves, and cantilevers) and fluid handling devices (e.g. channels, cavities)



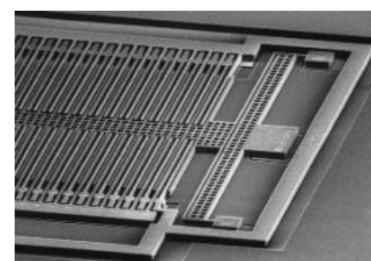
주로 Si wafer를 깎아 만든다고 생각하면 됨

사진과 같은 피라미드 모양으로 깎아서 microfluidic channel에 사용할 밸브 제작, 잉크젯 프린터기의 카트리지 밸브 제작 등에 쓰임

#### Surface micromachining

; Surface micromachining uses several deposition, lithography, and etching processes to build up mechanical features, layer by layer, on a wafer surface.

; It usually requires the use of a sacrificial layer to form cavities or free-standing and moving structures.



주로 MEMS에 사용.

사진은 에어백의 가속도 센서 등에 사용하는 MEMS 구조

beam projector의 pixel 하나하나 구조를 만드는 데도 사용

#### Bulk ↔ Surface 비교

	Bulk-micromachining	Surface-micromachining
Birth	1960's	1980's
Structure (Material)	Single crystal silicon wafer	Thin film on wafer
Etching	Wet/Dry etching	Wet/Dry etching
Etch control	Crystal orientation, Diffusion layer	Material selectivity

규칙적인 배열 없는, 즉 single crystal이 아닌 물질은 bulk에 사용하기 힘들. → 주로 Si Wafer에 사용

공정에서의 핵심은 control임. 각 단위 공정에서 매우 중요!

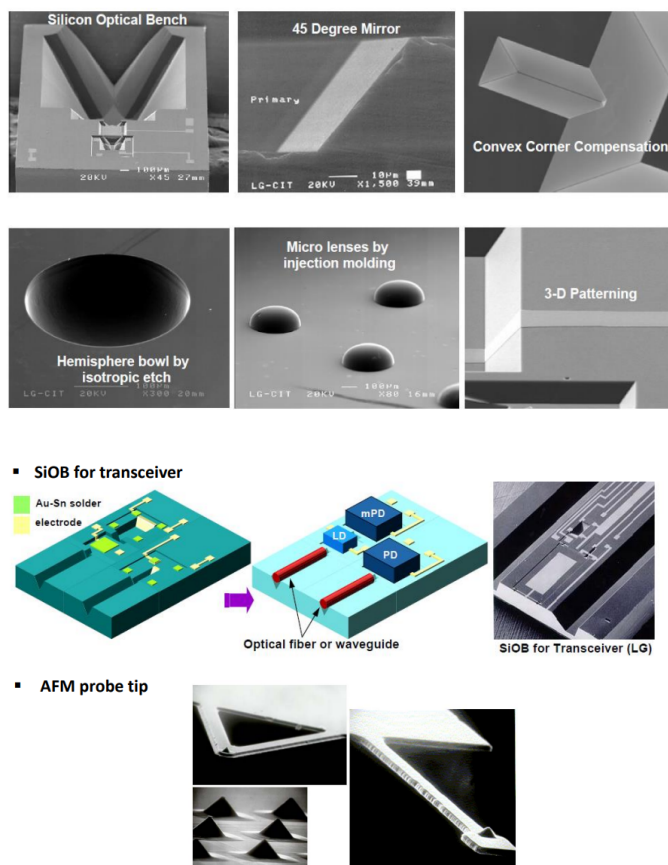
etch control이라는 것은 식각률을 control 한다는 것. 어디는 많이 etch되고 어디는 조금 etch되고를 조절하는 것.

Bulk - crystal orientation에 대한 이해로 control & concentration의 높은 부분, 낮은 부분에 따라 control할 수 있음.

Surface - 각 layer의 재료마다 다른 etch rate에 따라 mask는 etch가 안 되고, target sample은 etch가 되는 등 control 할 수 있음. 따라서 재료와 chemical reaction(dry or wet)의 selectivity가 핵심.

## 2. Bulk Micromachining

### Bulk - Applications



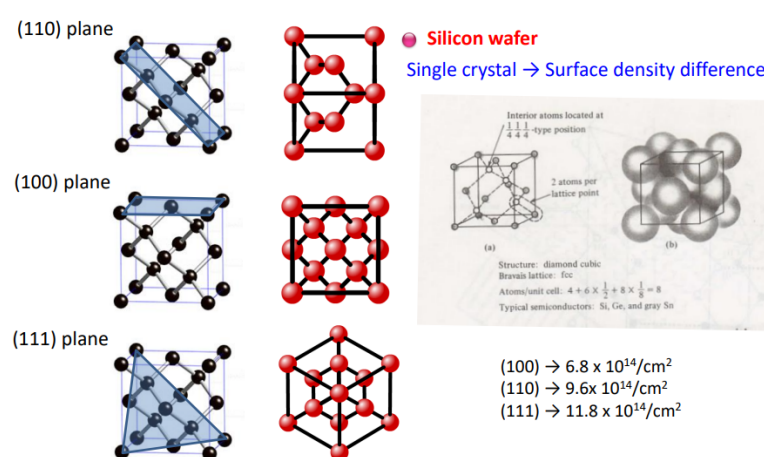
80~90년대 응용 사례들. 최근 응용 사례들은 중간고사 이후 살펴볼 예정

- 1) optical 기기에 wave의 guideline을 잡아주는 bench
- 2) 정확히 45도로 기울어진 거울
- 3) 이렇게 각지게 파인 구조
- 4) isotropic한 etching을 사용하면 구 형태 구조물 제작 가능 → 5) microlens로 응용
- 6) patterning된 구조도 제작 가능

SiOB(Silicon Optical Bench)에서 파인 부분 (위의 1번과 동일) → 활용해서 transceiver를 제작함.

ATM(Atomic Force Measurement) probe의 뾰족한 tip 부분 제작

### Reminder: Silicon Crystallography



파란 면을 수직으로 single crystal을 바라봤을 때의 모양이 오른쪽 그림

orientation : 방향에 따라 110, 100, 111

같은 Si도 바라보는 방향에 따라 구조가 달라지므로 공정 뿐 아니라 열/전기적 특성도 달라짐

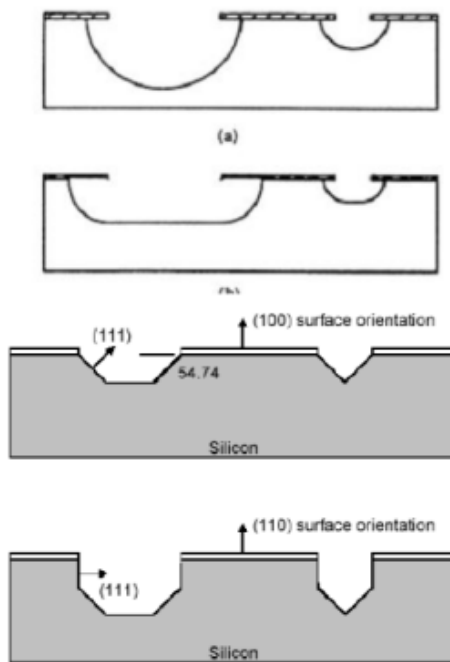
왜 방향에 따라 공정할 때의 식각률(etch rate)이 달라지는가

→ **surface density가 달라져서** ("unit cell 원자 개수 ÷ unit cell 면적"으로 구함)

## 1) Wet Chemical Etching

보통은 wafer를 etch solution에 담금

dry보다 빠름 & higher degree of selectivity 제공함(물질 별로 식각 차이가 많이 나서 좋음)



### isotropic etching

모든 방향에 same etch rate → 반구 모양 만들 수 있음.

그러나 그림 b 모양이 나오기도 하는데, 그 이유는 etching되고 나온 부산물이 표면에 고여서 etching을 방해하기 때문

→ 방지하려면 etching을 하는 동안에 **agitation**을 해줘야 함 (flow를 유도해서 부산물이 떨어져나오게 유도)

### anisotropic etching

**surface orientation에 따라서 etch rate 달라짐.** 100인 면은 111인 면보다 surface density가 2배 가까이 작기 때문에 식각이 더 잘 됨. 그래서 방향에 따라 식각된 모양이 달라질 수 있음.

그림을 보면 111 orientation이 공통적으로 적혀있는데,

bulk machining에서 111 orientation이 가장 etch가 잘 안 되고 남아있는 방향이기 때문에 중요함.

→ 111 방향과 수평면이 이루는 각도가 etch rate 판별에 중요하게 적용됨 (뒤에 더 자세히)

## Wet: Isotropic etching

주로 산성 용액 사용 : HF / HNO<sub>3</sub> / CH<sub>3</sub>COOH ← ← HNA system이라고 불림.

**HNA system** : Hydrofluoric acid / Nitric acid / Acetic acid

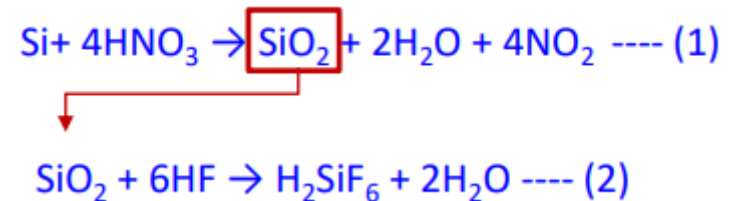
이 3가지를 섞은 HNA solution이 rounded isotropic 특성을 만듦.

overall reaction of HNA system with silicon :

Nitric이 Si를 만나면 SiO<sub>2</sub>가 만들어지고,

Hydrofluoric이 이걸 없애줌.

→ 최종 반응물로 나온 H<sub>2</sub>SiF<sub>6</sub>은 기체라서 날아가고, 물은 이후 반응에 영향 안 줌.



어떤 비율로 섞느냐에 따라 달라지는 것 → Silicon의 etch rate

Nitric이 Si를 SiO<sub>2</sub>로 만드는 가장 큰 역할을 하므로 **Nitric 비율이 높을수록 etch rate가 증가함**

(100)/(111) etch ratio는 비율 무관하게 1:1로 동일함. isotropic이기 때문임.

masking film의 etch rate도 중요.

- masking을 잘 하기 위해서는 etching할 물질보다 film의 etch rate가 작을수록 좋음.

- Nitric 비율 높을수록 같이 증가하긴 하지만, Si가 0.7 → 7um/min으로 증가할 때, SiO<sub>2</sub> film은 30 → 70nm/min으로 증가. Si에 비해 매우 천천히 etch됨.

- Si<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>의 경우 oxidation을 통해 만들 수 없는 물질이기 때문에 etch가 안 됨.

### Masking for isotropic silicon etchant

**SiO<sub>2</sub>**가 주로 쓰임. etch rate 300~800 Å/min (= 30~80 nm/min)

오래, 깊이 etch를 할 때는 nonetching mask 써야 함 → **Au, SiN<sub>4</sub>**

용액이 acid이기 때문에 acid에 약한 photoresist(PR)은 mask 역할을 잘 못함. (i.e. HNO<sub>3</sub>)

## <Masking materials for acidic etchants>

Masking	Piranha (4:1, H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> : H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> )	Buffered HF (5:1NH <sub>4</sub> F: conc. HF)	HNA
Thermal SiO <sub>2</sub>		0.1 μm/min	300–800 Å /min. Limited etch time, thick layers often are used due to ease of patterning.
CVD (450°C) SiO <sub>2</sub>		0.48 μm/min	0.44 μm/min
Corning 7740 glass		0.063 μm/min	1.9 μm/min
Photoresist	Attacks most organic films	OK for short while	Resists do not stand up to strong oxidizing agents like HNO <sub>3</sub> and are not used.
Undoped Si polysilicon	Forms 30 Å of SiO <sub>2</sub>	0.23 to 0.45 Å/min	0.7 to 40 μm/min at RT [at a dopant concentration < 10 <sup>17</sup> cm <sup>-3</sup> (n or p)].
Black wax			Usable at room temperature.
Au/Cr	OK	OK	OK
LPCVD Si <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>		1 Å/min	Etch rate is 10–100 Å/min. Preferred masking material.

Note: The many variables involved necessarily mean that the given numbers are approximate only.

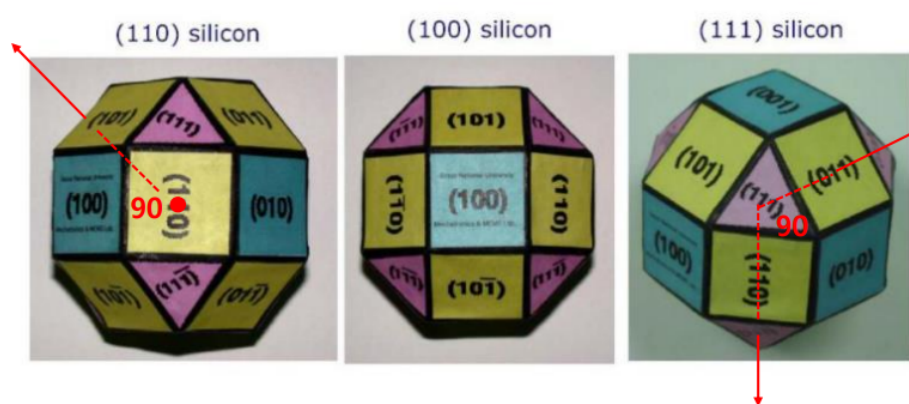
acidic etchant에 대한 대표적인 예 : Piranha, Buffered HF, HNA

각각에 대해 masking이 얼마나 etching되는 지를 표로 쓴 것. 잘 고려해서 masking 선택해야 함

Piranha : 화학반응을 통해 유기 물질(대표적인 예 : PR)을 태워버림. 실제로 보면 끓으면서 열이 엄청 남.

Buffered HF : etching할 때 대표적으로 사용. 매우 위험한 불산이므로 보호장구 착용 필수 (뼈 녹임)

## Wet: Anisotropic etching

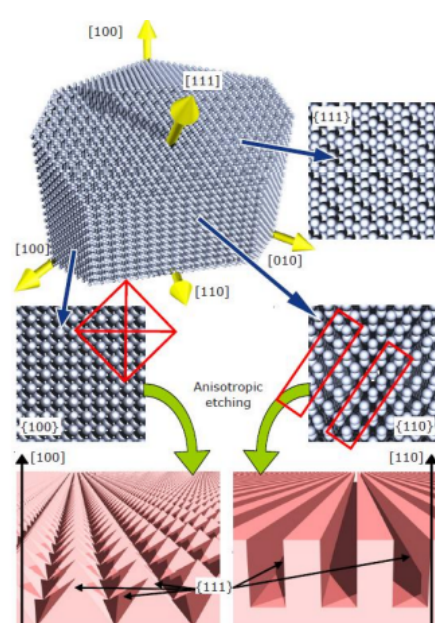


100 & 111 : **54.74°**

→ 피라미드 모양으로 etching 됨

110 & 111 : **90°**

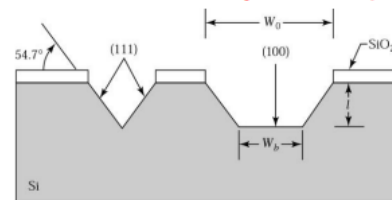
→ 수직으로 etching 됨



e.g.) Etchant : 19wt % KOH in deionized (DI) water at 80°C

Etch rate (100) : (110) : (111) = 100 : 16 : 1

● **Orientation dependent (<100>-oriented silicon)**



$$W_b = W_0 - 2l \cot(54.7^\circ)$$

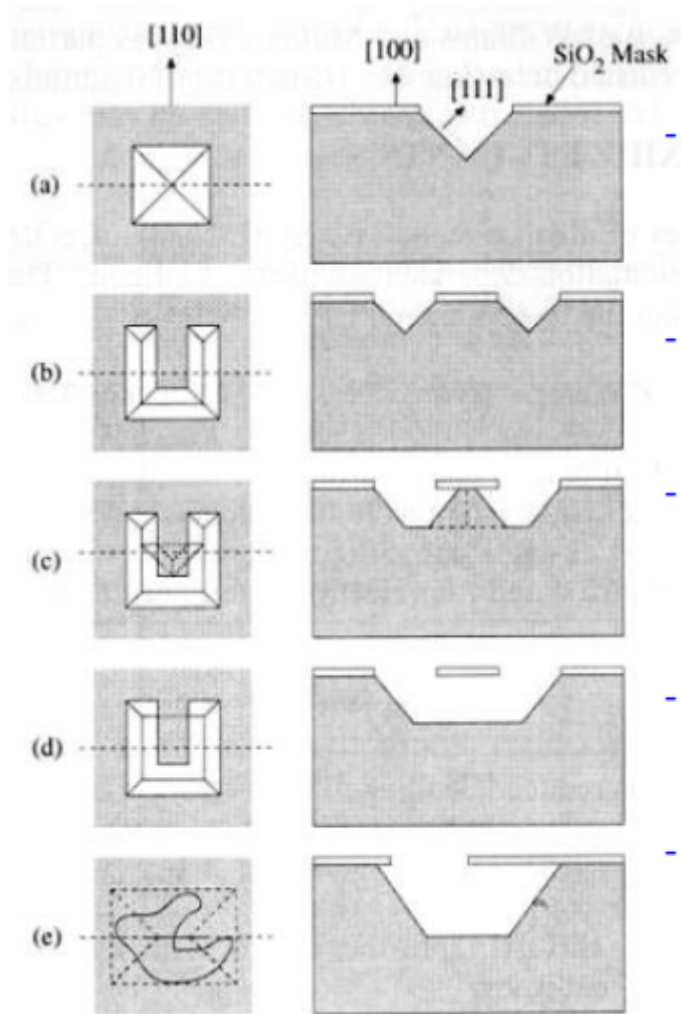
$$W_b = W_0 - \sqrt{2}l$$

그림에서 빨간색 그림 : 100 방향으로 들어가면 보이는 111 방향의 모양

KOH를 사용해서 silicon을 etch하는데, etch rate가 위와 같음. (100)과 (111)이 거의 100배 차이나므로 111은 100에 비해서 거의 etching 안 된다고 봐도 됨.

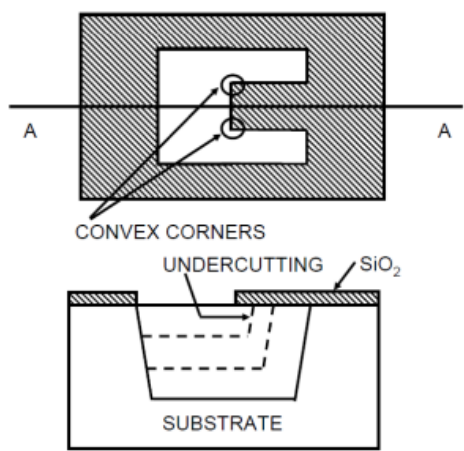


Various etching profile

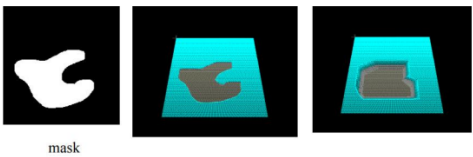


- (a) Typical pyramidal pit, bounded by the (111) planes, etched into (100) silicon with an anisotropic etch through a square hole in an oxide mask.
- (b) Type of pit which is expected from an anisotropic etch with a slow convex undercut rate.
- (c) The same mask pattern can result in a substantial degree of undercutting using an etchant with a fast convex undercut rate.
- (d) Further etching of (c) produces a cantilever beam suspended over the pit.
- (e) Illustration of the general rule for anisotropic etch undercutting assuming a “sufficient time”

Convex corner compensation



- For convex corners, the **fastest etching planes dominate** the three-dimensional shape.
- For concave corners, **the slowest etching planes** dominate the three dimensional shape.
- For an arbitrary(임의의) shaped mask with transparent opening, the **pyramidal shape is bound** by the outside boundary



Mainly used anisotropic etchants

KOH	EDP	TMAH
- <b>High etching rate (400)</b> - Nontoxic	- MOS process compatible (Sodium free) - Good uniformity - Abrupt stop at etching stop	- Nontoxic - MOS process compatible (Sodium free) - Will not attack the silicon doped Al - Stable (will not decompose under 130 degree C)
- Contaminate the MOS process (Potassium ion) - Temperature sensitive - Stratified etching rate	- Toxic - <b>Low etching rate (35)</b>	- Bad surface roughness on the bottom <100> - High undercutting ratio

EDP : Ethylenediamine pyrocatechol, TMAH : Tetramethyl ammonium hydroxide

Etch stop methods

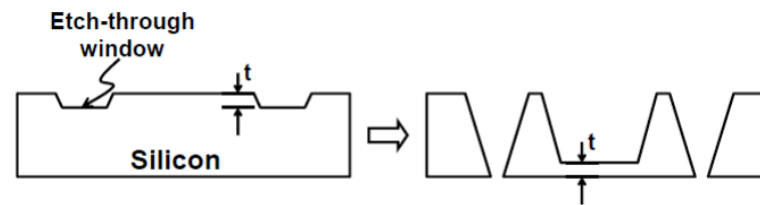
- 1) Dopant dependent etch stop

→ EDP : Boron {  $10^{20} / \text{cm}^3$  - 1:50 (Si : p+)  
 $7 \times 10^{19} / \text{cm}^3$  - 1:20 (Si:p+)

2) Electrochemical etch stop

3) Timed etch stop

4) Etch-through window → thickness of a commercial silicon wafer = 525  $\mu\text{m} \pm$



## Etching for ...

### ● Etching for $\text{SiO}_2$ , $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_4$ , poly-Si (a-Si), and Al

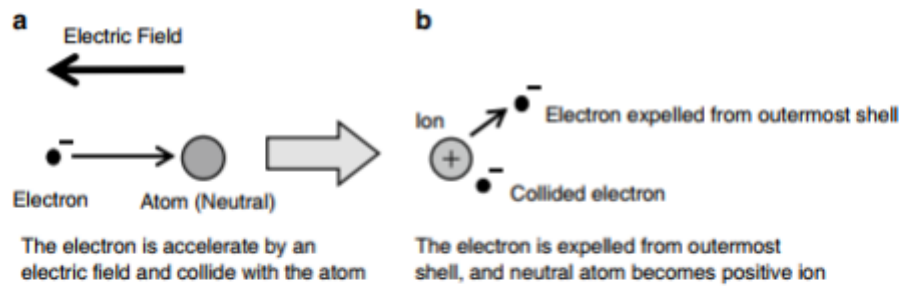
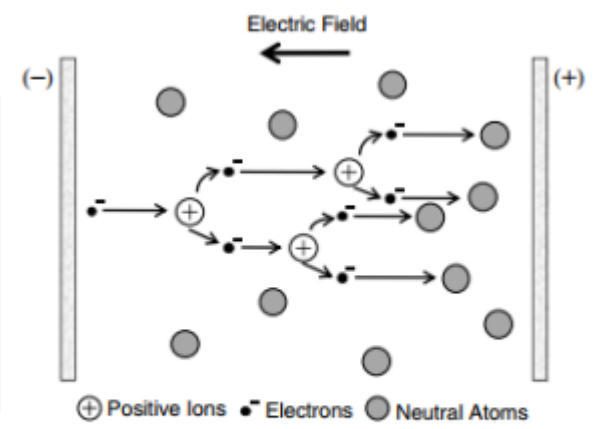
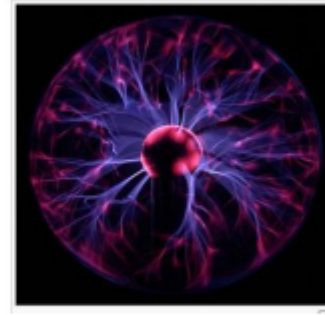
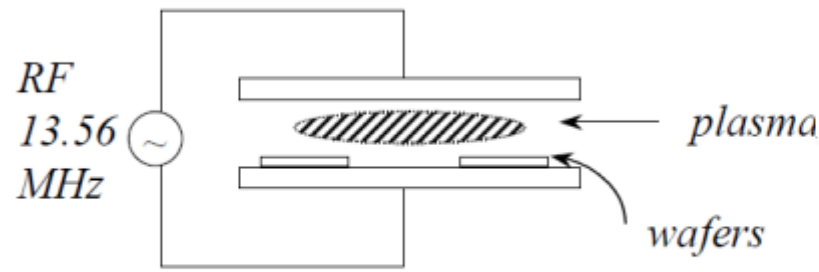
- **$\text{SiO}_2$  etching:** Hydrofluoric acid (HF)  
 : Buffered oxide etch (BOE or BHF)  
 $\text{HF} + \text{NH}_4\text{F}$  (ammonium fluoride)
- **$\text{Si}_3\text{N}_4$  etching:** HF + boiling  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  (phosphoric acid)  
 : BOE or BHF + boiling  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$   
 $85\% \text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  at  $180^\circ\text{C}$   
 → etching selectivity for  $\text{SiO}_2$   
 ; PR has problems as etching mask  
 → Using  $\text{SiO}_2$  mask
- **Poly & a-Si:** Same etchant of Single crystal Si  
 : Etch rate is faster than SC Si  
 : Almost isotropic etching
- **Al etching:**  $73\% \text{H}_3\text{PO}_4 + 4\% \text{HNO}_3$  (nitric acid) +  $3.5\% \text{CH}_3\text{COOH}$  (acetic acid) +  $19.5\% \text{DI water}$   
 : Generally, developer can etch pure Al easily  
 → Al alloy can solve this problem (AlNd)

Ref: Michael Köhler "Etching in Microsystem Technology" Wiley

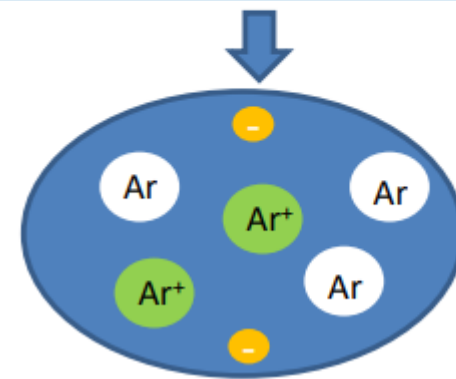
## 2) Dry Etching

### Dry: Anisotropic etching

## ● Dry etching (Plasma assisted etching)



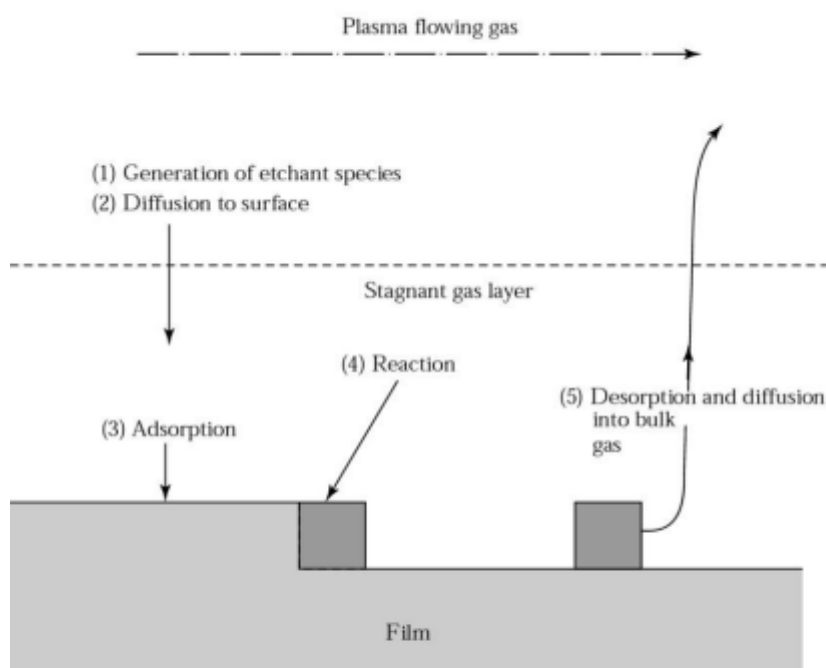
Plasma :  
The ionized gas composed of equal numbers of positive ions and negative electrons and unionized molecules



Plasma :

1. Initiated by free electron (such like field emission from negative biased electrode)
2. The electron gain kinetic energy from electrical field
3. The electron collide with gas molecules → Ion + electron

## ● Sequence: mechanism



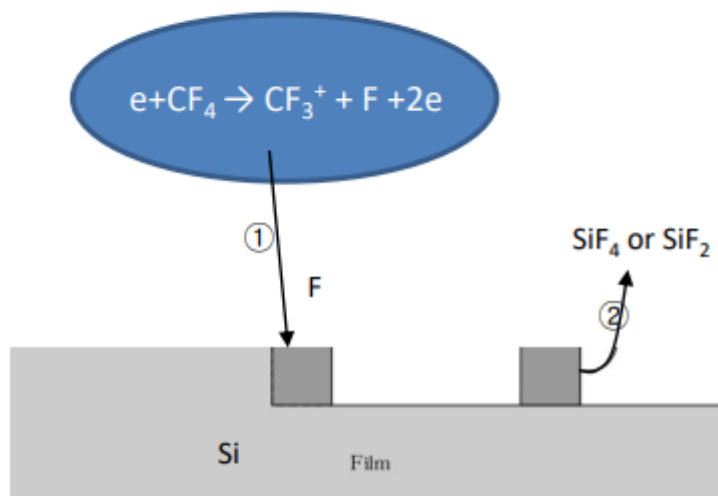
Process

1. The etchant species is generated by plasma
2. The reactant moves to the surface of substrate
3. The reactant is absorbed on the surface
4. Chemical (Physical) reaction
5. The compounds are detached

### <Etching gas for dry method>

SOLID	ETCH GAS	ETCH PROD.
Si, SiO <sub>2</sub> , Si <sub>3</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	CF <sub>4</sub> , SF <sub>6</sub> , NF <sub>3</sub>	SiF <sub>4</sub>
Si	CCl <sub>2</sub> , CCl <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub>	SiCl <sub>2</sub> SiCl <sub>4</sub>
Al	BCl <sub>3</sub> , CCl <sub>4</sub> , SiCl <sub>4</sub> , Cl <sub>2</sub>	AlCl <sub>3</sub> , Al <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>6</sub>
Organic solid	O <sub>2</sub>	CO, CO <sub>2</sub> , H <sub>2</sub> O
	O <sub>2</sub> + CF <sub>4</sub>	CO, CO <sub>2</sub> , HF
Refractory Metal (W, Ta, Mo)	CF <sub>4</sub>	WF <sub>6</sub> , ....

## Physical mode & Chemical mode



<100mTorr

~100mTorr

Higher Pressure

### Physical Sputtering (and Ion Beam Milling)

- Physical momentum transfer
- Directional etch (anisotropic) possible
- **Poor selectivity**
- **Radiation damage possible**

### Reactive Ion Etching (RIE)

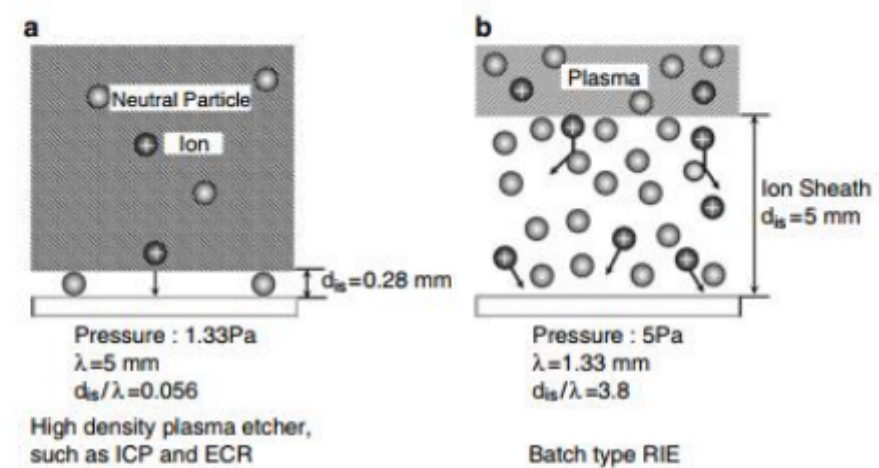
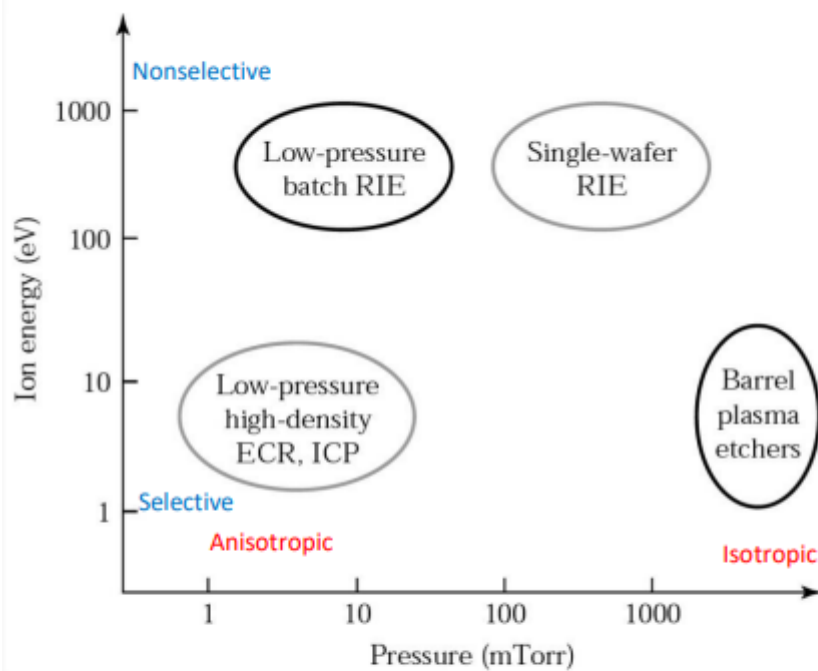
- Physical (ion) and Chemical
- Directional (~ anisotropic)
- More selective than sputtering

### Plasma etching

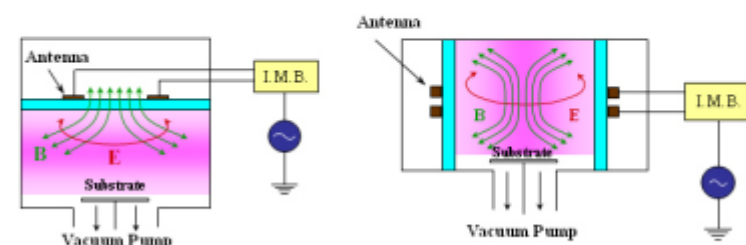
- Chemical, thus faster by 10-1000x
- **Isotropic**
- More selective
- Less prone to radiation damage

Higher  
Excitation  
Energy

## Comparison of ion energy and operating pressure ranges for different types of plasma reactors.



\*ICP: inductively coupled plasma  
ECR: electron cyclotron resonance



<TCP: transformer coupled plasma>

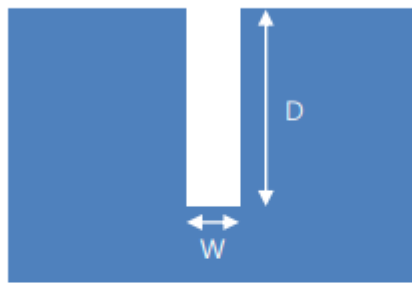
<ICP>

Anisotropic etching & High selectivity : Ultimate target

- - Low pressure
- High plasma density with low power



## Trench structure

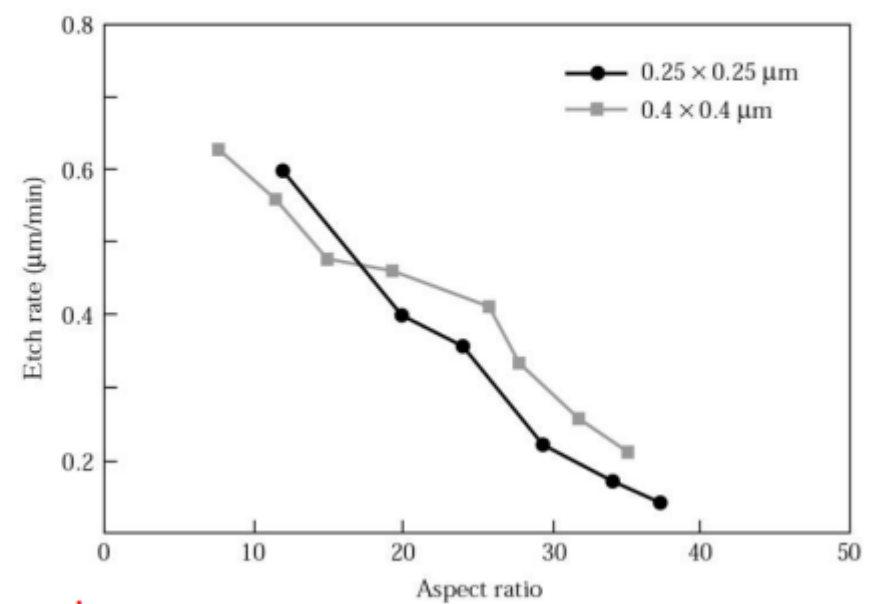


$$\text{Aspect ratio} = \frac{D}{W}$$

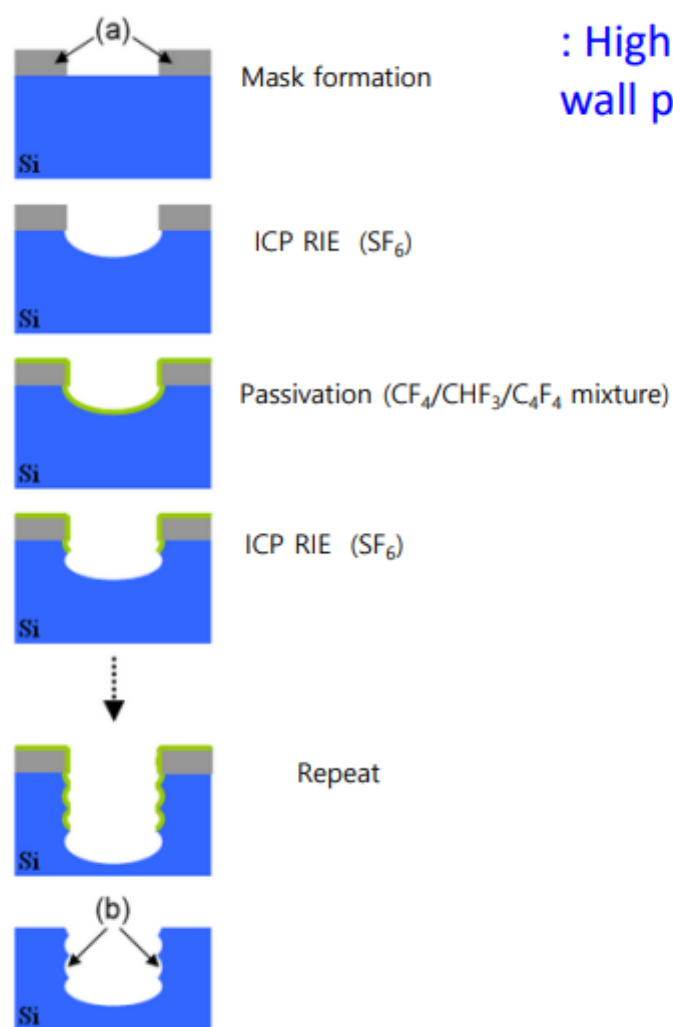
High aspect ratio & Small dimension

→ Low etching rate

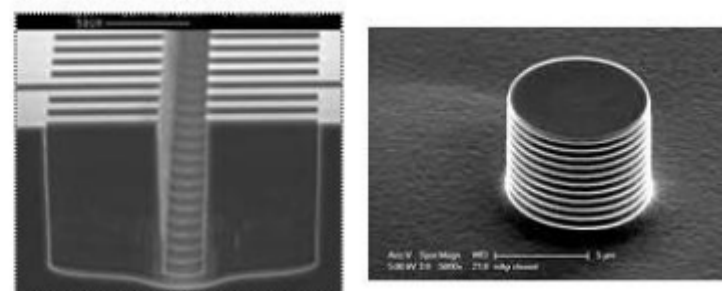
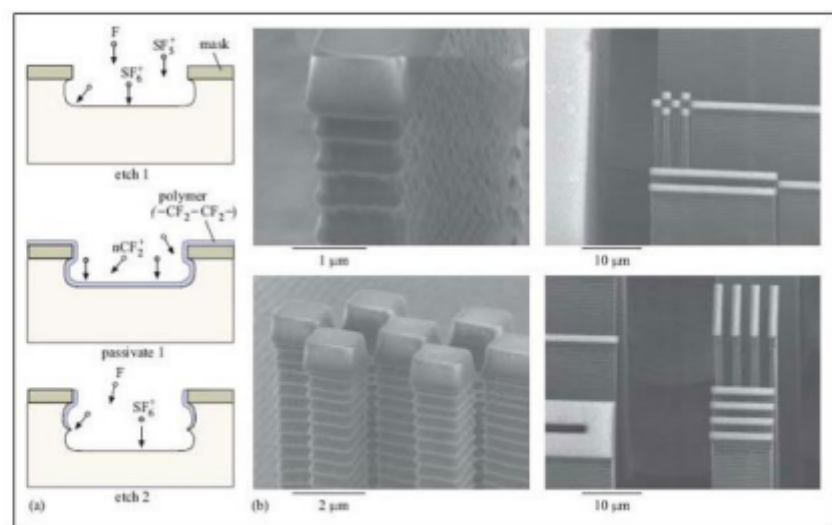
:limitation of ion and neutral transport in trench



## New method (1): Bosch Process (Deep RIE)



: High aspect ratio trench or pillar structure → Side wall passivation



## New method (2): Atomic Layer Etch (ALE)

: self-limiting chemical modification steps -> affect only the top atomic layers of the wafer -> etching steps which remove only the chemically-modified areas, allows the removal of individual atomic layers