



MEMS Multimorph Capacitive Temperature Sensors in COMSOL Multiphysics®

Level 3 Semiconductor, Physics and Devices

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November 17, 2017

Abstract

This report describes how the C - T characteristics of MEMS multimorph capacitive temperature sensors vary with geometry, material choice and thermal-annealing temperature. The sensors were modelled using FEM and physics simulation software—COMSOL Multiphysics®—so the key design choices for the model and mesh are also included.

Nomenclature

MEMS Microelectromechanical systems

1 Introduction

why sense temperature?

what temperature sensors are available?

why MEMS?

2 Background

what is a multimorph capacitor?

2.1 Construction

how do we build an effective multimorph

how do we make the sensor practical

2.2 Characterisation

multimorph capacitance

how do we characterise sensitivity?

how do we characterise linearity?

3 Modelling

3.1 Geometry

symmetry

dimensions

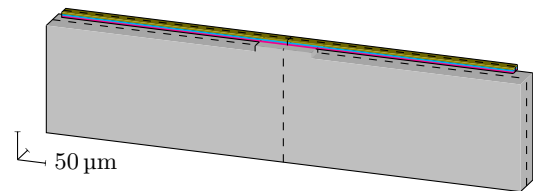


Figure 1: Symmetry lines of the multimorph capacitive temperature sensor—marked with dashed lines.

mesh

3.2 Materials

3.3 Physics

4 Results

5 Analysis

6 Conclusion

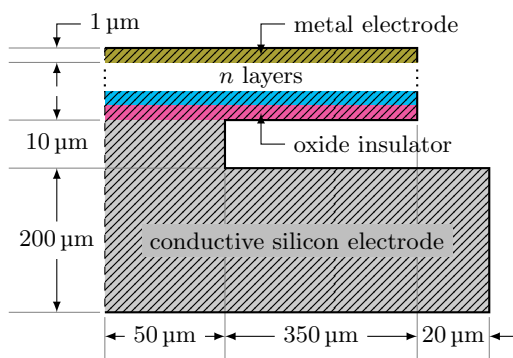


Figure 2: Cross-section of the multimorph temperature sensor—not to scale.