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Silicon-on-Insulator Waveguide Structures for Electro-optic Applications

By

Christopher T. Harvey

A Thesis Submitted in
Partial fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Science
In
Microelectronic Engineering

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Silicon-on-Insulator Waveguide Structures for Electro-optic Applications

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Student _____
Christopher T. Harvey

ABSTRACT

Silicon based photonic devices have been demonstrated by industrial leaders in the microelectronic industry. The need for system integration has pushed the development of silicon as a photonic material to new levels. This report presents details on a silicon-on-insulator waveguide structure based on a metal Bragg reflection diffraction grating, which utilizes a change in refractive index caused by a carrier change to induce optical modulation. The motivation of the device was for use as an electrically controlled optical modulator operating in the near infrared region; an optically controlled device has been demonstrated in previous work. This study has thoroughly examined the process development and electrical characteristics of the device through use of Silvaco™ simulation software and experimentation. The device has exhibited excellent optical characteristics and has shown promise as an optical modulator and a sub-bandgap photon detector. A silicon-on-insulator waveguide structure specified to operate at a wavelength of 1053nm has been simulated, designed, fabricated and tested both optically and electrically. Future iterations have been simulated and designed to take advantage of advanced microelectronic processes.

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CHAPTER 1

Introduction

The semiconductor and microelectronics industry has a large working infrastructure for use with silicon and silicon based products. Integrated circuits and micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMS) have become well-established industries using silicon as a substrate. The latest trends involve “system on a chip” technology where integrated circuits are combined with MEMS through clever changes in front-end and back-end processing. The advantage of system on a chip is a drastic reduction in cost by combining fabrication and packaging.

Optical systems have not yet been integrated with device driver/controller technology, primarily due to material incompatibility. For optical modulators the material of choice is lithium niobate (LiNbO_3). Current phase modulators from New Focus™ operate at frequencies from 100MHz to 9.2GHz with costs ranging \$3,375 to \$5,570 [1]. These optical components are discrete, non-integrated modulators that rely on external drivers and controllers.

Cost is the major factor driving silicon based optoelectronics research. The large infrastructure for silicon processing combined with the widespread use of silicon in microprocessors would allow for integration between various components at a much lower expense. While packaging would remain a large portion of the cost of a device, it would be possible to dramatically reduce manufacturing costs by utilizing the large 300mm substrates compared to the 100mm substrates available for LiNbO_3 ; the 300mm wafer has 9 times the area of the 100mm substrate. The devices can be seamlessly integrated with controller and microprocessor technology, reducing packaging costs. Silicon offers decreased packaging costs, improved interconnect performance and decreased fabricating costs. The reasons why silicon is preferable are clear and one of the major semiconductor manufacturers is leading the way.

Intel Corporation fabricated a silicon-based waveguide that functioned as a bridge between traditional optical modulator technology and current MOSFET technology [2]. By combining a Mach-Zender waveguide with a polysilicon MOS capacitor it was

possible to induce a phase shift in the waveguide by operating the capacitor in an accumulation mode.

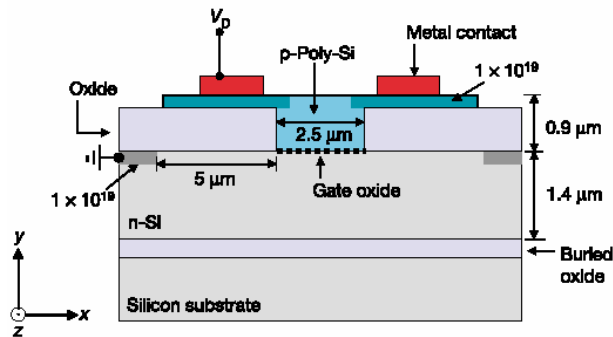


Figure 1: This device is constructed using silicon-on-insulator. A MOS capacitor is fabricated by a 120Å gate oxide on the n-type doped 1.4μm single crystal silicon layer. The gate material is polysilicon, doped p-type $3 \times 10^{16} \text{cm}^{-3}$. The polysilicon is formed into a rib by depositing it within a 2.5μm contact opening created in oxide. The polysilicon rib represents the center of the waveguide. The rib is controlled on both sides by metal contacts.

The phase shift was induced over an 8mm distance. Operating in accumulation mode, only a depth of 5nm of free carriers are manipulated within the waveguide. This accumulation happens at the semiconductor/gate dielectric interface of the waveguide, not in the center of the rib. Since the free carriers are added in a weak region of the electric field there will be a small Δn that must be propagated over a long distance to shift the phase.

The Intel design has some drawbacks, which are addressed by the design presented in this thesis. First, packaging becomes more difficult as the incoming radiation must be coupled into the edge of the device, rather than using normal incidence to the waveguide structure. Second, the size of the device consumes CMOS real estate, reducing the integration advantage of using silicon. Other groups have demonstrated silicon optical modulators using a p-i-n waveguide that have only modulated in the low MHz range [3-6]. Both the MOS and p-i-n devices have exhibited frequencies that are still below that of LiNO_3 . By switching to a voltage driven design, the current density issue has been replaced by an electric field (capacitance) issue. The voltage is limited by the maximum electric field that the gate dielectric can withstand. This maximum voltage can be extended beyond the classical electrostatic model used in most textbooks if the device operates in a deep depletion state [7].

There are three major factors limiting the use of silicon in optoelectronic technology: First, due to the centrosymmetry of silicon, Pockel's effect is not present. Second, no linear electrooptic effect exists in silicon. Third, since silicon is an indirect semiconductor, photonic emission is statistically improbable and practically impossible [8].

Silicon does exhibit some optoelectronic effects and has been thoroughly studied by Soref and Bennett [8]. The optical absorption spectrum of silicon can be modified by an external electric field. This is known as the Franz-Keldysh effect [8] and when referring to refractive index is known as electrorefraction. Another phenomenon caused by a change in electric field is the Kerr effect, where a birefringent state is created through the application of an electric field. The relationship between Δn and $\Delta\alpha$ has been discussed in several textbooks and journal articles [8, 9]. Unfortunately the Franz-Keldysh effect and the Kerr effect are weak in silicon with an expected Δn of around 1×10^{-4} requiring an electric field approaching the dielectric breakdown strength of silicon [8].

Another phenomenon that strongly modifies the refractive index of silicon is free carrier effects. By changing the free carriers in a silicon sample, the refractive index can be modified. Free carrier absorption, Burstein-Moss bandfilling and Coulombic interactions between carriers and impurities [8] are all important effects that occur simultaneously. Bandfilling and Coulombic effects affect the refractive index change in an opposite manner in silicon. Bandfilling causes a shift to shorter wavelength and Coulombic effects result in a shift to longer wavelength. The Coulombic effects are strongest as a spectrum shift to longer wavelengths is observed [10]. The change in free carriers can come from an injection of carriers into an undoped sample (ΔN) or it can come from removal of carriers from a doped sample ($-\Delta N$). When absorption is negligible it makes little difference optically whether the free carriers are added or removed. Changes in effective index of refraction are around 1×10^{-2} for a change in free carriers of $1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ for an incident wavelength of 1550nm [9].

In order to realize a monolithic photonic device in silicon technology, a design must be drafted to exploit the optoelectronic effects that are present in silicon. The key constituent of the device is the optically resonant periodic electrode (ORPEL)

arrangement. The ORPEL based device is highly sensitive to changes in the effective index of refraction, as well as the structural parameters.

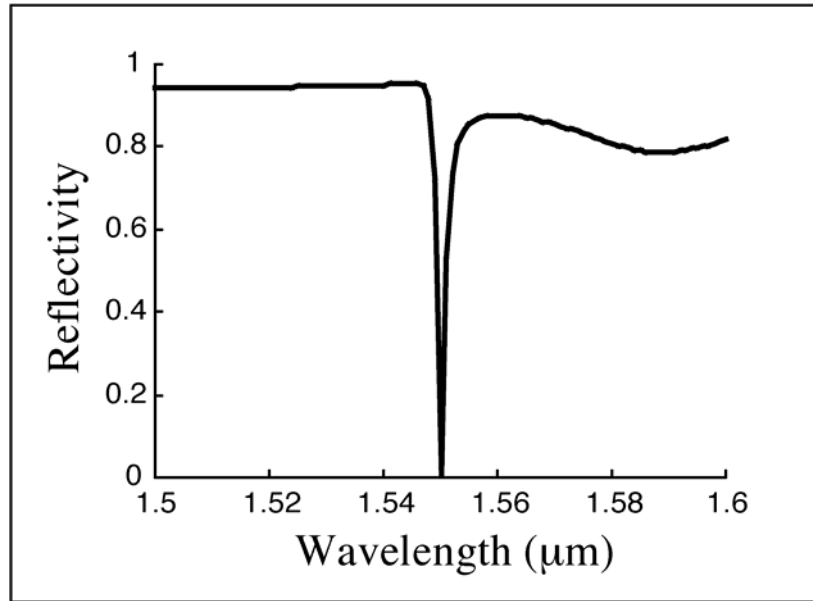


Figure 2: In this figure an ideal resonant situation is applied. The y-axis represents normalized reflectivity and the x-axis is the incident light wavelength. The reflectivity is very high in all regions except at a wavelength equal to $1.55\mu\text{m}$. This is the resonant wavelength for the modulator structure where the device is tuned to have a very abrupt drop in specular reflection. This figure demonstrates that a small shift in resonance would create a large shift in specular reflection.

An ORPEL structure is a diffraction grating embedded into a waveguide. Normal incidence radiation is coupled into the waveguide, while the diffraction gratings also work to confine the radiation via Bragg reflection. Finally, the ORPEL structures provide the necessary stimulus to electrically perturb the effective refractive index of the waveguide. Unperturbed structures have a high specular reflectivity with a well defined low in the reflectance spectra at the resonance wavelength. By changing the effective index of refraction of the waveguide, the resulting resonance wavelength shift can enable optical switching.

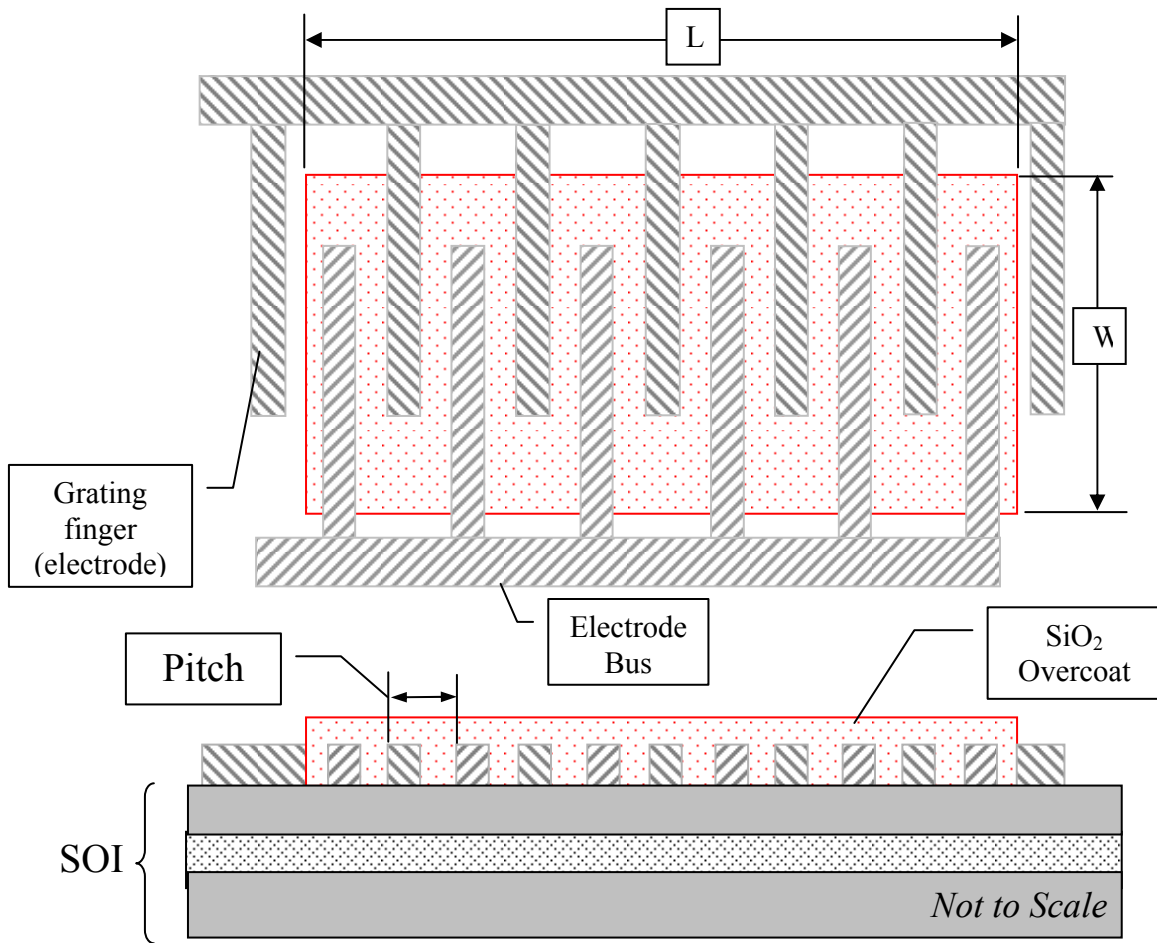


Figure 3: The device dimensions of importance are the pitch and material thicknesses. These dimensions provide the necessary resonance for the device to operate at the proper wavelength.

All parameters except for the effective refractive index, n_{eff} , are constant for a given structure. The structure is very sensitive to small changes in any changes to the parameters of the structure. By changing n_{eff} , the resonant wavelength of an ORPEL structure can experience a spectral shift. Figure 4 demonstrates switching in an optically modulated mode of operation [11]. As the intensity of the source increased, more carriers are being generated due to absorption. At a certain point the carrier generation was sufficient for the resonant wavelength to shift, resulting in an intensity induced change (decrease) in the reflected intensity.

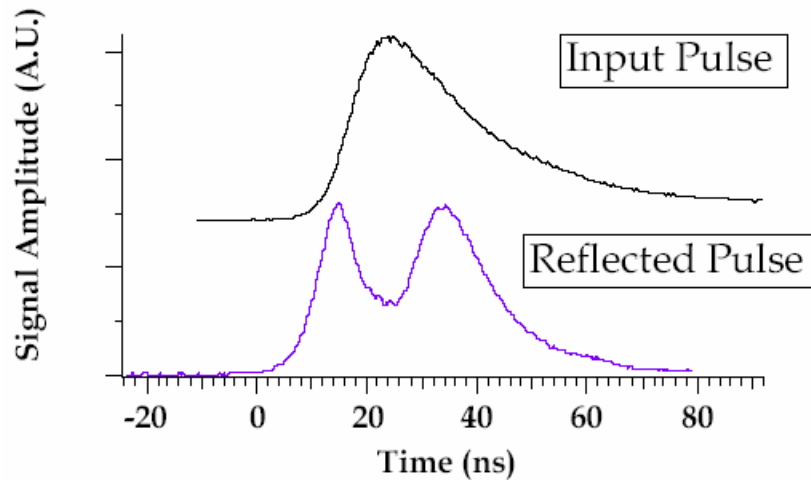


Figure 4: Time resolved graph that shows a rise in intensity of the reflected pulse as the input pulse intensity increases. When the input intensity is high enough a decrease in reflected intensity is observed. This is due to an increase in free carriers causing a resonant shift in the ORPEL structure to specular intensity minima [11].

Three device generations have been designed and fabricated. Each device builds on experience from the previous model. The first-generation device relied upon a Schottky diode to provide carrier injection. The second-generation device used Schottky injection, but also grounded one set of electrodes through an ohmic contact to eliminate back-to-back diode leakage. The current third generation device is using a different strategy. A gate dielectric is used to steer carriers that have been optically generated.

The first-generation device was set up to modulate the telecommunication wavelength of 1550nm. The test structure was designed to allow for variations in film thickness by including a range of pitches in the waveguide. The device was fabricated at the Rochester Institute of Technology by Charles F. Faisst [12] and tested by Jason D. Neiser at the University of Rochester. Testing was accomplished by scanning an incident light beam's wavelength from 1510 –1590nm and measuring the light intensity that was reflected from the structure. A well-defined drop in reflectance at 1550nm was observed with the 0.78 μ m pitch device, providing a good correlation between theoretical and experimental data.

The second-generation device utilized the same mask set as the first generation. The major fabrication differences were the switch from a titanium/aluminum stack to using only aluminum. This allowed for better Schottky contacts to be formed. The

second change was a masked implant that created ohmic contacts for every other electrode by implanting high doses of phosphorus. One advantage of this device was for IR detection, made possible through the improved contact arrangement.

The third-generation device uses the same principles for optical operation as device gen. one and two, but applies them to a different wavelength. New electrical schemes for modulating the device were developed and a preliminary ‘passive’ device was fabricated to verify optical operation and gather high-speed electrical performance data. This latest device offers new opportunities since it employs a wavelength absorbed by silicon.

SOI waveguides operating as an optical modulator have been designed, simulated, fabricated and tested. An evolutionary process has led to the most recent device design and test chip layout. Various designs were examined before deciding on final device specifications. Optical and electrical modeling combined with experimental data from previous generations was used to determine the final design for use in the third generation.

This thesis will be presented ideologically rather than chronologically to improve cohesiveness of ideas. Chapter two will be devoted to the theory and application of the ORPEL structure, including a comparison between ORPEL and Intel’s device. The Intel modulator is based on a Mach-Zender interferometer and uses free carrier effects in silicon to modify the index of refraction. The ORPEL device uses a Bragg diffraction grating to couple light into a waveguide region and is sensitive to changes in the index of refraction; free carrier effects are also used in the ORPEL device.

Chapter three will discuss process development and integration for the ORPEL device. A process flow that is not device specific is presented. Development of the thin film processes and metal electrode definition process are explained in greater detail than the general process flow outlined at the beginning of this chapter. Finally, passive optical spectra is presented and evaluated.

Chapter four will explain the active, or electrically modulated, device design, theory and operation. The active device design and theory is described along with the details of device simulation. The impact observed using different modulation schemes

was factored into the final design used in testing the active and passive devices. Simulation results are presented which can be used in future devices.

Chapter five will be a summary and conclusion of the work presented in this thesis. Future designs are considered that could be implemented as the technology advances.

CHAPTER 2

ORPEL Structures: Theory, Operation and Application

The theory and application behind the Mach-Zender Interferometer (MZI) will be examined. The MZI-based optical modulator designed and fabricated by Intel Corp. will be compared in detail to the device presented in this thesis. The ORPEL device design procedure will be investigated by describing iterative modeling process used to determine the specific device parameters needed to achieve desired optical characteristics.

2.1. Mach-Zender Interferometer

An interferometer works by splitting an optical wave into two waves using a beamsplitter. The two waves travel different optical path lengths, are directed using mirrors and finally recombined using a beamsplitter. The final superpositioned waves intensity can then be detected.

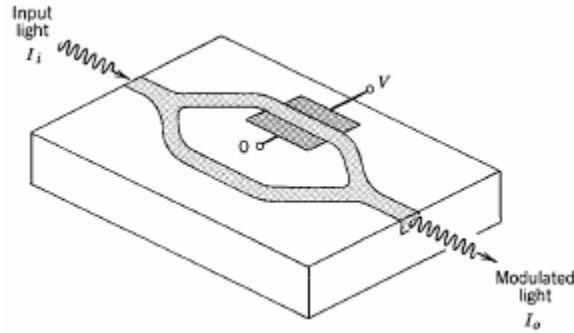


Figure 5: Mach-Zender interferometer showing equal length legs with electrical contacts around one of the legs. An applied bias will change the refractive index of the material (through the Pockel's effect in the case of LiNbO_3) and allow for total destructive interference. Image taken from Photonics [9].

The intensity of the superpositioned wave is can be represented by the following equation [9]:

$$I = 2I_o \left[1 + \cos \left(2\pi \frac{d}{\lambda} \right) \right] \quad (1)$$

The path-length difference changes the phase of the two beams. When they are superimposed, there is either constructive or destructive interference that will determine the exit intensity. Fully destructive interference will result in a final intensity of zero. This occurs when the path difference is equal to $\lambda/2$. When $d = \lambda/2$ the normalized intensity is zero as seen in the following graph.

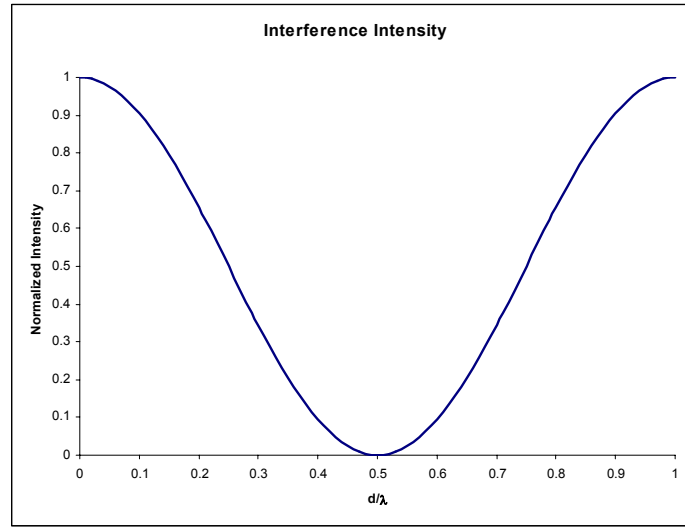


Figure 6: When d/λ is equal to 0.5 the normalized intensity of the beam is zero, due to completely destructive interference.

A Mach-Zender interferometer operates by splitting a beam into two legs and inducing a π phase shift in one of the legs. When the two beams are brought back together the phase shift will create destructive interference and give an effective output intensity of zero. This design is currently used in LiNbO_3 optical modulators as this material exhibits Pockel's effect allowing electrical manipulation of optical properties. Silicon does not exhibit Pockel's effect, so a less direct method needs to be used if a MZI design is desired.

The device reported by Intel is a MZI-based design that uses electrorefraction of silicon to induce a phase shift [2]. The device uses a MOS structure in accumulation mode in order to increase the electron concentration significantly at the semiconductor surface. The phase shift is prompted by altering the carrier concentration in one leg of the structure; modifying the effective index of refraction, n_{eff} . The change in refractive index is predicted by equation 2.2 [8].

$$\Delta n = - \left[\frac{e^2 \lambda^2}{8\pi^2 c^2 \epsilon_o n} \right] \times \left[\frac{\Delta N_e}{m_{ce}^*} + \frac{\Delta N_h}{m_{ch}^*} \right] \quad (2)$$

By inducing a Δn_{eff} it is possible to change the speed of the traveling wave relative to the other leg of the MZI. Given a specific Δn_{eff} it is necessary for the length of the leg to be long enough to allow for a superpositioned wave intensity to be zero; Intel reported a length of 8mm for their MZI design [2].

2.2. ORPEL Structures

ORPEL structures are essentially a guided-mode resonant filter operating in a linear waveguide. A narrow wavelength band is allowed to couple into the waveguide based on waveguide device parameters. Electrorefraction is the effect used to alter the refractive index of the waveguide region. By changing the number of free carriers it is possible to change the refractive index. Either an increase or a decrease in free carriers, through injection or by redistribution of carriers can be used. More importantly the effects can be localized to the most intense portion of the electric field through tuning of the ORPEL design. The parameters presented in table 1 have a very small tolerance that must be met for the on-resonance reflectance spectrum to match figure 3.

Table 1: The design parameters for the ORPEL structures.

Design parameters – 1053 nm device	
Substrate type	p-type
Buried oxide thickness	3.006 μm
Silicon on insulator thickness – manufacturer	1.5 μm
Silicon on insulator thickness – final	0.7495 μm
Oxide thickness	0.01 μm
Aluminum thickness	0.005 μm
Gold thickness	0.045 μm
Oxide overcoat thickness	0.39 μm

Design parameters – 1550 nm device	
Substrate type	p-type
Buried oxide thickness	3.006 μm
Silicon on insulator thickness – manufacturer	1.5 μm
Silicon on insulator thickness – final	1.26 μm
Aluminum thickness	0.05 μm
Oxide overcoat thickness	0.39 μm

2.3. Modulation of ORPEL

The motivation behind the SOI waveguide structure was for an optical modulator designed to work in the near-infrared region. The modulation of the device is achieved by altering one of the parameters in table 1, which will change the resonant wavelength of the device. A change in resonant wavelength changes the reflectivity of the device, allowing for a reflectance low when on-resonance to a reflectance high when off-resonance.

The incident wave is coupled into the waveguide via the diffraction grating; a first order approximation of this waveguide coupling is presented in equation 3 [11].

$$\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \cdot n_{\text{eff}} = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \sin \theta + m \frac{2\pi}{\Lambda} \quad (3)$$

Where λ is the wavelength of the incident light, Λ is the grating period, θ is the incident angle, n_{eff} is the effective index of refraction, and m is an integer corresponding to the mode number.

The wave must be confined to the waveguide to operate at a low loss level. In addition to waveguide coupling the metal electrodes provide Bragg reflection, establishing a standing wave within the waveguide. The Bragg detuning is determined in equation 4 [13]; when δ goes to zero, the Bragg condition is satisfied.

$$\delta = \pi \left[\frac{2n_{\text{eff}}}{\lambda} - \frac{1}{\Lambda} \right] \quad (4)$$

Where λ is the wavelength of the incident light, Λ is the grating period, and n_{eff} is the effective index of refraction.

For the on-resonance situation, both the waveguide coupling and the Bragg reflection equations must be satisfied. The resonant wavelength, λ , will change if any of the parameters in equations 3 and 4 are modified either through physical changes in the structure, a change in incident wavelength, a change in incident angle or a change in refractive index.

In silicon, free carrier effects will change the refractive index. This follows the parameters set forth in equation 2. The change in refractive index is based on the magnitude of the free carrier change; the change in reflectance spectra is dependent on the sensitivity of the device. A small change in refractive index will create a large

change in reflectivity with a device designed to have a narrow resonance. This has been demonstrated through optical generation of carriers. As the intensity of the input laser increased, the number of free carriers increased up to the point where the refractive index change allowed for a shift in resonant wavelength. This situation has driven the research to move from optical carrier manipulation to electronic carrier manipulation.

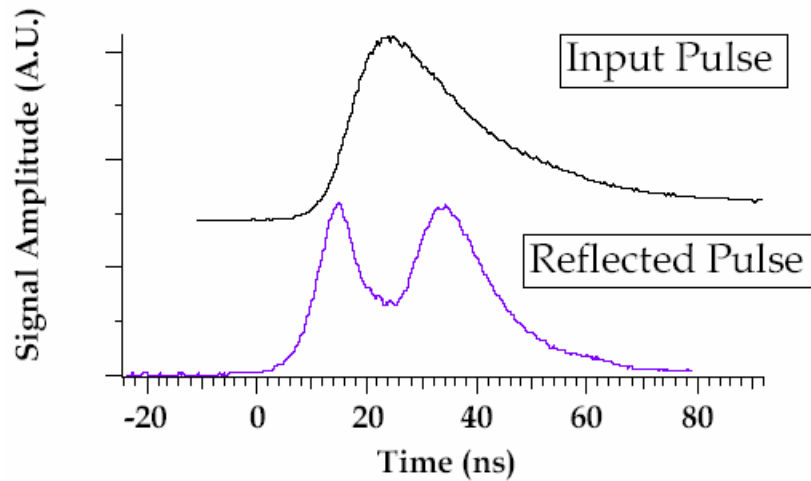


Figure 7: This is a time resolved graph that shows a rise in intensity of the reflected pulse as the input pulse intensity increases. When the input intensity is high enough a decrease in reflected intensity is observed. This is due to an increase in free carriers causing a resonant shift in the ORPEL structure to specular intensity minima [11].

2.4. Rigorous Coupled Wave Analysis

Rigorous coupled wave analysis or RCWA is used to determine the physical device parameters that will yield the most defined on-resonance state. The goal is to have the largest difference in reflectivity between on-resonance and off-resonance. RCWA calculates the reflectance, transmittance and absorption of the waveguide based on the material optic properties, material thickness and electrode spacing (pitch). Small changes in materials used, thickness and pitch can be utilized to provide an optimized design for fabrication.

Modeling of the ORPEL device is accomplished by solving Maxwell's equations using a differential form. The method used is rigorous coupled wave analysis (RCWA). The permittivity of the grating layer is represented as a Fourier series. A solution to the eigenvalue problem derived from Maxwell's equations is found for the grating structure. Boundary conditions are then applied to the input and output filters of the structure to

determined diffraction efficiencies (for reflection, transmission and absorption) [14]. These are then plotted (against designed pitch or wavelength) to determine the device resonance. Where the diffraction efficiency for reflectance is at a minimum establishes the resonant wavelength of the device. The goal of the design iterations (testing different parameters) is to provide the deepest and narrowest reflectance spectra possible at the desired resonance wavelength.

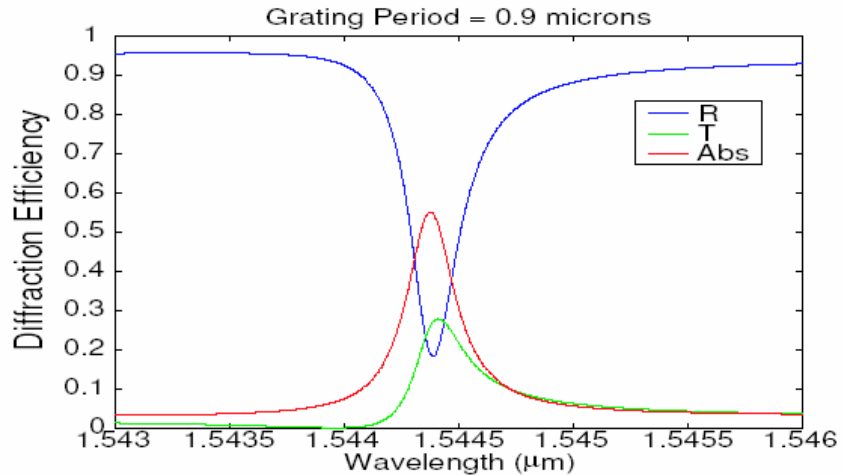


Figure 8: TE reflection, transmission and absorption spectra for a 0.9 micron grating period design.

The RCWA method is exact and does not rely upon approximations. This allows for excellent theoretical and experimental matching (see figure 9). The software developed by the Institute of Optics at the University of Rochester [15,16] requires an iterative process to determine optimal device specifications. The variables available for modeling are material thicknesses, diffraction grating pitch, and refractive indices of materials. Small variations in these parameters are applied systematically to determine what variables have the most impact over resonant wavelength.

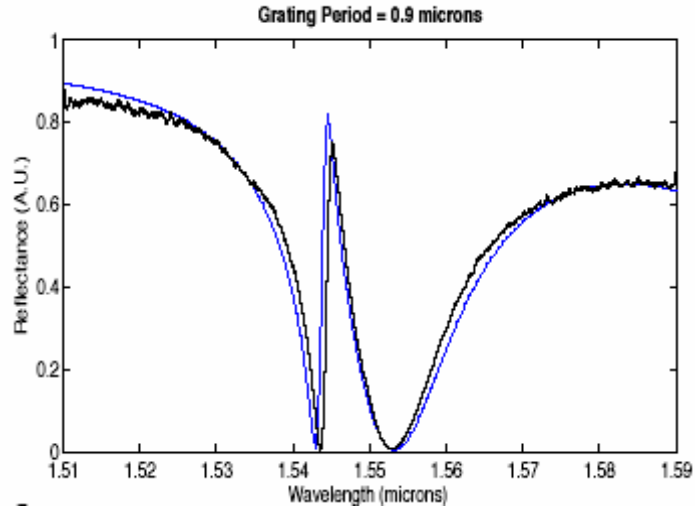


Figure 9: Excellent experimental to theoretical matching is observed in this figure. The reflectance of the device follows the RCWA generated plot.

Pattern definition of the grating electrodes has the most direct influence on the resulting spectral response. The following section describes the electrode layout that was used in device fabrication.

2.5. Mask Design

Due to the requirements on critical dimension control and defects, the ORPEL electrode reticles were manufactured by outside photomask vendors (Photronics, Inc. & Dupont Photomask). Both masks utilized various pitch arrangements to allow the device to be used for different wavelengths, and/or to account for any process variation that could affect the final resonance. The most recent mask design utilized script files for layout to ensure exact dimensions were maintained for the various grating periods ranging from $0.68\mu\text{m}$ to $1.08\mu\text{m}$. The ORPEL structures were configured large enough to avoid losses (light escape) and ensure there was adequate interaction distance within the waveguide. They were arranged as both rectangles ($1\text{mm} \times 150\mu\text{m}$) and circles ($500\mu\text{m}$ diameter) to explore geometric differences. An example script file for the circular devices can be found in appendix B.

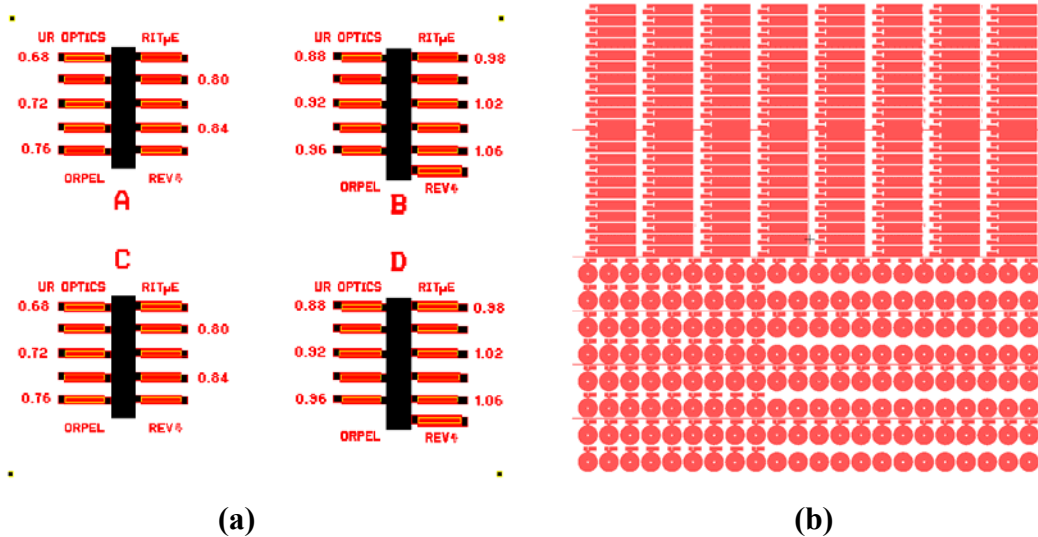


Figure 10: **a)** The first electrode mask. **b)** The most recent mask design, which utilizes a higher device density to allow for more optical experiments. The mask was designed using scripts written in Ample and C-programming.

CHAPTER 3

Fabrication and Optical Performance of ORPEL Waveguides

The SOI electro-optic project utilized unit processes that are standard to the Semiconductor and Microsystem Fabrication Laboratory (SMFL). These processes will not be covered in this thesis, as they are part of the common knowledge base in microelectronics. The general fabrication sequence is presented in this section.

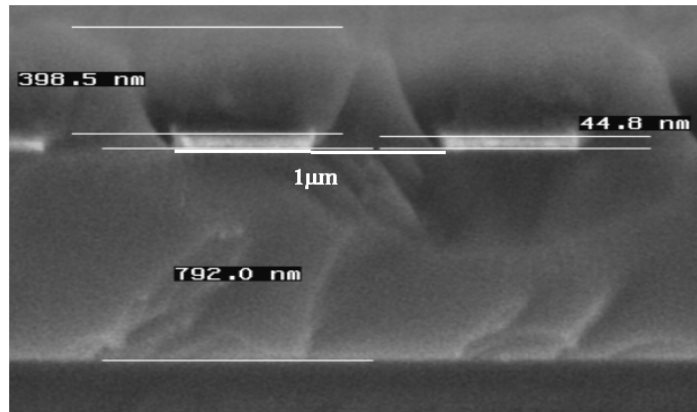


Figure 11: Cross-section of the finished device. The dimensions laterally and vertically of the device are critical to proper operation.

The crystalline silicon layer of the SOI substrate must be thinned to the correct thickness based on the wavelength used. This is done by oxide growth and etchback until the desired thickness is met, providing superior control over the layer thickness. Growth is performed using a dry oxygen ambient and etch is completed using a hydrofluoric buffered oxide etch (BOE). A thin oxide is grown to provide electrical isolation for the device. This region could either be left to remain or etched away from the active area dependent on the mode of operation. Oxide removed would be applied for a bipolar device or diode (i.e. Schottky, p-i-n) and oxide remaining would be used for field effect modulation. Outside of the active region, local oxidation of silicon (LOCOS) isolates the power supply lines from the substrate.

Metal is deposited via evaporation over a previously patterned photoresist to define the ORPEL structures. Evaporation is preferred over sputtering to improve liftoff yield and uniformity by providing a non-conformal (line-of-sight) deposition. Using a solvent to dissolve the patterned photoresist, which removes the metal from unwanted

regions, completes the pattern transfer. Overcoat material (typically an oxide or silicon thin film) is sputtered onto the wafer to complete the waveguide region. The material used is dependant on the wavelength of operation. Silicon and silicon dioxide have been used for the 1550nm and 1053nm devices, respectively. Other materials could be sputtered depending on the optical properties and desired device operation.

A final contact cut through the overcoat layer completes the device. The thin metal can be contacted directly or an optional secondary layer of metal can be deposited to allow for probing and wire bonding. This section will discuss the unit process development and integration of the most current device iteration, ORPEL 1053nm.

3.1. Thin Film Process Development

3.1.1. Starting Substrate

The initial substrate as received from vendor SOITECH had a crystalline silicon (c-Si) thickness of 1.5 μm and the design specifications require a silicon thickness of 0.7495 μm . In order to meet the design specifications it was necessary to subject the wafers to a series of dry oxidation and oxide removal steps. Oxide growth was measured using monitor wafers and the average thickness grown was then used to determine the c-Si thickness consumed by using the ratio of 46% silicon consumed for a given oxide thickness grown. The accuracy of this method was verified using variable angle spectroscopic ellipsometry at the University of Rochester by measuring the c-Si thickness at two times during the thinning process.

3.1.2. Local Oxidation of Silicon (LOCOS)

LOCOS isolation was used to isolate the power supply lines from the c-Si. Silicon nitride was deposited and patterned to protect the active region of the device. A steam ambient oxidation was performed to grow 2500 \AA of oxide.

3.1.3. Thin Film Processes

The overcoat layer for the waveguide region was chosen to be SiO_2 . SiO_2 is a good choice since it is compatible with silicon, easy to pattern and exhibits a higher refractive index than air, allowing for total internal reflection. SiO_2 had to be deposited

onto the wafer surface instead of grown in order to allow for a conformal coat of the electrodes. Initially three methods of SiO₂ deposition were investigated: LPCVD oxide, PECVD oxide and sputtering. Each method presented unique challenges.

LPCVD oxide or low temperature oxide (LTO) is performed using a hot-wall vacuum system that introduces SiH₄ and O₂ to the system. At the temperature of 425°C, the SiH₄ and O₂ breakdown and form SiO₂ on the wafer surface. The main problem with both CVD systems was the choice of metal for the electrode definition. By choosing gold as the electrode metal, the wafers must be quarantined from any front-end CMOS tools after gold is deposited. Both CVD systems are used in MOS manufacturing and therefore can never have gold placed in the system.

An RF sputter system was located that was not used for MOS manufacture and would be safe to process post-gold deposition. The system was run in an RF mode with a forward power of 500W using a quartz target. The deposition rate was 10Å/min requiring 390 minutes to complete the overcoat layer. The within wafer uniformity was improved by breaking vacuum halfway through the sputter and rotation the wafer 180 degrees. The optical properties of the film were verified through variable-angle spectroscopic ellipsometry (VASE).

3.2. Electrode Definition

3.2.1. Resist Profile Engineering

The capabilities of i-line lithography presented unique challenges to electrode imaging. The electrode dimensions were between 0.34µm and 0.5µm and the i-line tool had a specified CD of 0.5µm. In order for these images to be resolved multiple process steps needed to be examined including the resist sidewall profile and critical dimension. Due to these challenges, lithography was the factor that required the majority of process engineering time.

The patterning of metal lines and spaces is most commonly performed using either a wet etch process or a chlorine based RIE. The metal used in this process, gold, requires a cyanide-based wet etch. With proper precautions this etch can be safely performed and is commonly used in III-V fabrication. Unfortunately the line sizes were too small to use a wet etch due to the isotropic nature of the etchant. Gold also presented

challenges to use in a dry etch since the SMFL is primarily a CMOS laboratory; etching gold in any front-end tool would be disastrous for CMOS processing. The only way to pattern gold at the SMFL was through a lift-off process.

The entire lithography system was examined thoroughly to identify and separate problem areas to optimize the process. Device dimensions (periods) on the new reticle were very similar to those found on the older design. A screening experiment using process parameters from previous device designs was implemented to determine how far from the baseline the new mask would be. Negative resist, Clariant (AZ) nLOF 2010, was coated onto a sample wafer at 3750RPM for a thickness of $\sim 6500\text{\AA}$. An exposure of $78\text{mJ}/\text{cm}^2$ and a develop time of 45 seconds was used to pattern the resist. The lines and spaces of these devices are on the order of $0.4 - 0.5\mu\text{m}$, which is at the very limit of what can be seen using optical microscopy. Under an optical microscope the samples appeared well within tolerance.

Resist scum or scumming (figure 12) is the incomplete removal of resist from areas that should be resist free. In the case of the optical waveguide, it was hypothesized that resist was still in the spaces where metal should be contacting the substrate. This would prevent proper adhesion and cause the metal lines to be removed from the device.

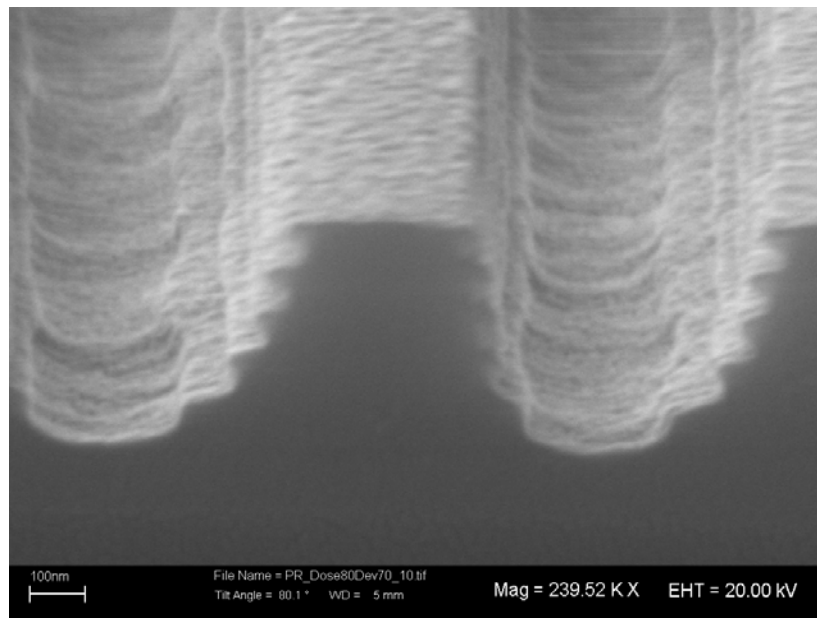


Figure 12: In the picture it can be seen that there is a significant stringer left on the resist base. This stringer translates directly to the deposited metal..

Since the resist profile was not conducive to liftoff after only increasing the develop time another option was examined. By dry etching the resist in a short timed reactive ion etch (RIE) it was possible to remove the scum at the bottom of the open space, leaving a bare substrate for metal to deposit and adhere. The develop time of 60 seconds was used as the resist lines and spaces were well controlled and the amount of scum necessary to remove less than that the amount of scum found in the 45 second develop time.

An oxygen RIE was used to develop the descum recipe. Various etch times were examined and finally an etch time of 30 seconds was chosen as it had the best resist profile. It was necessary to examine these samples under a SEM to inspect for the stringers seen in figure 12 above. Since the stringers would adversely impact the optical characteristics of the device it was beneficial that the RIE removed the stringer leaving a bare substrate and straight sidewalls.

The descum recipe called for 200W 50sccm O₂ and 50mT. Etch depth is a function of etch time so after a preliminary screening experiment using a 30 second etch time, 15 seconds, 45 seconds and 60 seconds were used and the resulting resist profile was inspected using scanning electron microscopy. The 30 second etch time had the most uniform resist profile and was chosen as the descum process (figure 13).

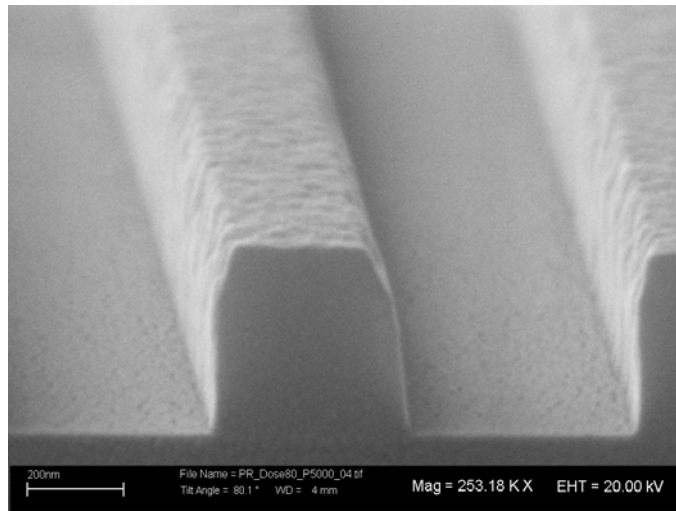


Figure 13: Nearly optimal resist edge profile for a lift-off process. These resist fingers were manufactured using a 60sec develop time and a 30sec O₂ RIE at 200W forward power. Note the resist footer is completely removed.

By analyzing the resist profiles it was possible to determine the major problem that was plaguing liftoff: scumming. The solutions to this problem were twofold. First, the develop time was increased to remove the majority of unexposed resist in the clear areas between resist lines. Second a reactive ion etch descum process was developed to remove any stringers left over from the develop process.

After the resist profile had been deemed satisfactory aluminum and gold was deposited using evaporation. By removing the stringers the final metal lines were planar as seen in figure 14.

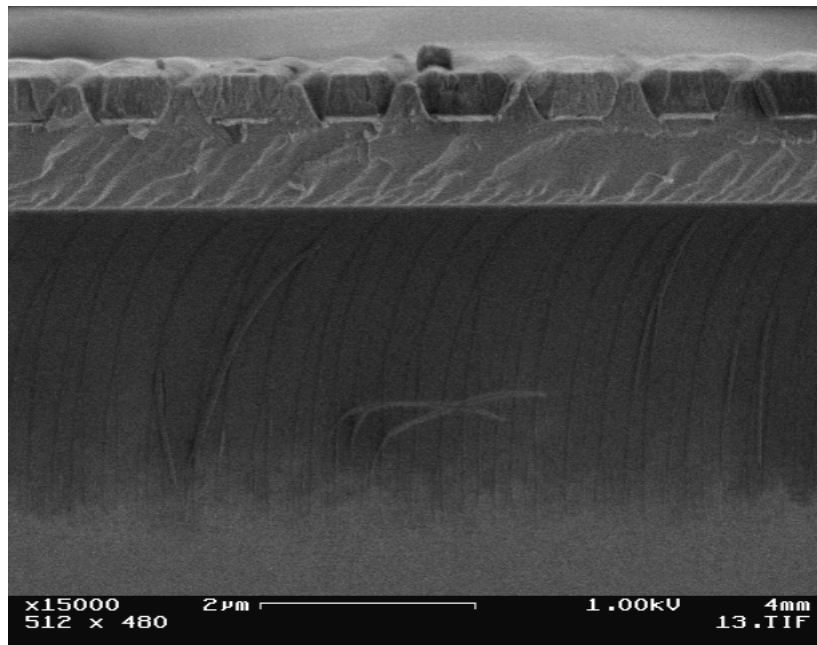


Figure 14: The final device cross-sectioned showing the final gold electrodes which are perfectly flat and do not exhibit any sort of resist footer induced metal deformation.

3.2.2. Lithographic Critical Dimension

At the same time that liftoff was being examined the resolution in the resist within chip was under close scrutiny. The resist thickness of 6500\AA seemed to be too thick since the depth of focus on the canon is only 5000\AA . A large portion of devices were not imaging properly, or were being overexposed resulting in no metal lines after liftoff. The easiest solution was to make the resist thinner. The first attempt to reduce the film thickness was to spin the wafer at a higher speed. The current process uses a speed of

3750RPM. Using a high-speed hand spinner at 5500RPM it was possible to get the film thickness down.

Use of the high-speed spinner improved resolution but had an undesirable effect of redepositing solvent on the film surface. Affected areas no longer had a uniform film thickness. Instead there was a high degree of irregular circular anomalies on the wafer surface. These translated directly to exposure and develop, resulting in poor yield. It was found that the thinner resist had a higher resistance to scumming, although a stringer was still present on the resist lines. This necessitated the descum process to be performed.

The second attempt utilized a solvent to reduce the viscosity of the resist. PGMEA was added to the nLOF 2010 in a 1:1 ratio. 30ml of PGMEA and 30ml of nLOF 2010. This changed the viscosity enough to allow a thickness of 1750Å at the standard coat track maximum speed of 3750RPM. This allows a greater latitude in film thickness since the film is already thinner than what is possible on the specialized hand spinner at 5500RPM, and the spin speed can be decreased to get a thicker resist.

Inspection determined that the 1750Å resist developed good line space pairs in the proper duty cycle with sufficient resist remaining after descum to allow successful liftoff. Before the described changes were implemented, liftoff results were inconsistent; based almost solely on chance. By analyzing the resist profiles it was possible to attack the problem using science. This has created a repeatable, reliable and in control process for liftoff and has removed one of the greatest hurdles that faced the fabrication of the device.

3.2.3. Focus/Exposure Array

The focus exposure check (FEC) was used to determine the optimal focus distance and exposure dose for the devices. The pitch is a fixed value set by the mask. Altering the dose can vary the duty cycle of the pitch. By applying a focus exposure matrix and examining the resist profiles using a scanning electron microscope (SEM) it is easy to determine the optimal focus and exposure.

The focus is varied by rows starting at -0.5µm and increasing by 0.1µm. This gives a fairly good range (1µm) for the focus to pass through. The sharpest image was found at a focus offset distance of -0.2µm. This focus was best throughout all exposure

doses used and was set to the standard focus setting when shooting electrode lithography. Dose was started at $75\text{mJ}/\text{cm}^2$ and increased by $1\text{mJ}/\text{cm}^2$. The best dose was found to be $80\text{mJ}/\text{cm}^2$.

3.2.4. Metal Deposition and Liftoff

Metal was deposited using evaporation and lifted off using Clariant AZ300T heated to 85°C followed by an ultrasonic bath. The fingers had all lifted off and were no longer in the device region or even on the wafer. The experiment was repeated with the same results. The metal lines were removed after liftoff but large area metal remained. These results indicated that the problem was resist scum.

The metal deposition needed to provide the same result every time, so the source to wafer distance of $12.75''$ was held constant for every process run. An in-situ deposition monitor was used to measure the metal thickness as seen on the wafer. This monitor was calibrated by measuring the actual metal thickness using a profilometer. This in turn was used to create a film specific tooling factor for the Inficon in-situ thickness monitor.

A pre-evaporation was performed on a shutter to remove surface impurities from the metal source. The evaporation shutter blocked the thickness monitor requiring the chamber pressure gauge to be used to determine when evaporation was being performed. After the metal evaporated on the shutter for 15 seconds, as indicated by the pressure gauge, the shutter was opened. When the thickness was 1 second away from the target (as determined by the material thickness and material deposition rate) the shutter would be closed. This process was found to be very repeatable.

The wafer was always placed perpendicular to the metal source. This was to improve the line of sight deposition characteristic of evaporation. By keeping the wafer normal to the evaporated metal sphere it is more likely for the metal to deposit only on the horizontal portions of the wafer and not deposit on the vertical sidewalls. The more vertical the sidewalls, the better the metal deposition (less conformal). A best-case scenario would be a sidewall that was beyond 90 degrees.

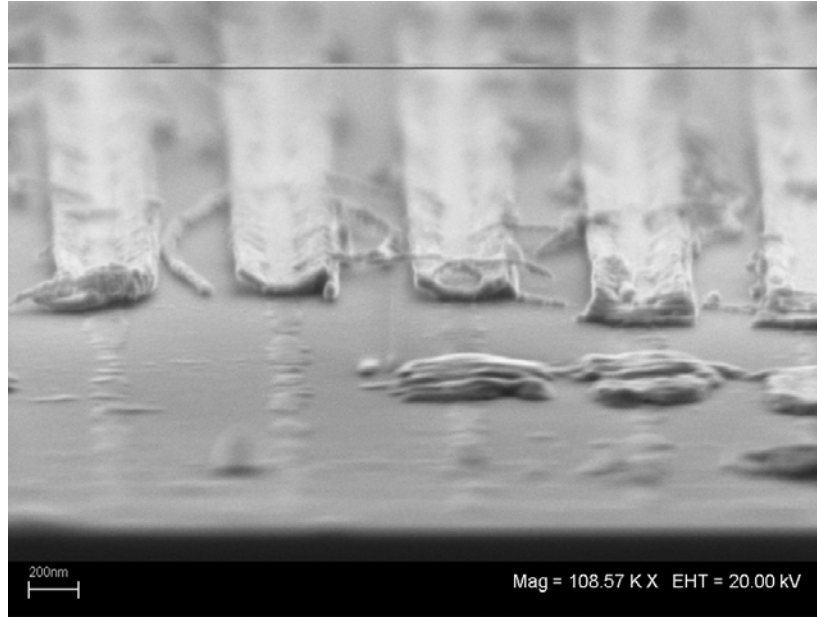


Figure 15: Note the metal 'wings' on this device. A resist stringer preventing an intimate contact between the silicon and metal caused this. The liftoff of these lines was compromised since only a small portion of the metal made contact with the substrate surface.

Metal thickness plays a crucial role in the operation of the waveguide region. The original specifications called for a 100\AA aluminum adhesion layer, with a 400\AA gold layer on top. For optical reasons it was desirable to have the aluminum adhesion layer as thin as possible while still providing adequate adhesion, defined by the ability of the fingers to remain on the substrate. It was found that a $30\text{-}50\text{\AA}$ aluminum layer was still able to provide adhesion for the gold, while removing the percent aluminum from the metal stack.

3.2.5. Liftoff Process

The final problem associated with liftoff is redeposition of lifted off materials. Suspended metal can redeposit on the wafer, creating killer defects. When the wafer is removed from the solvent bath, metals suspended in the bath stick to the wafer instead of washing away with the solvent. Since the solvent cools when the bath is placed in the ultrasonic tank the best solution for eliminating redeposition is to a) never allow the wafer to dry while particulates are still on the surface and b) use high pressure water to remove any remaining solvent or particulate matter. This produces a clean wafer surface devoid of lifted off material.

3.3. Scanning Electron Microscopy

The scanning electron microscope (SEM) was a vital tool in the development and analysis of the SOI modulator application. The primary application for the SEM was to examine the resist features throughout the electrode lithography process. Resist features were examined before and after descum, varying develop times, varying descum times and finally after liftoff. The information from the SEM proved invaluable in the development process.

Additionally the SEM provided final measurements of device parameters that could not be accurately measured during fabrication. Such parameters include final device metal line width, LOCOS thickness, overcoat thickness and metal thickness. Reasons for the inability to measure some features during fabrication are related to the specific process used. For example, the metal thickness could not be measured because the LOCOS thickness removed any known zero point, and the overcoat biased the measurement due to close proximity of metal lines to each other. The SEM allows for improvements to be made in future process iterations.

The photolithography experimental responses were line width and the presence of resist scumming. Line width was measured using measurement annotation bars available on the SEM. These were verified correct by examining the pitch of the line/space pair (not influenced by process shifts). Small changes in the dose applied to the resist resulted in appreciable differences in the resist line width and ultimately electrode duty cycle.

3.4. Optical Reflectance Spectra

Final optical reflectance spectra have been obtained through testing by the Institute of Optics at the University of Rochester. The optical performance of the device can be evaluated and the electrical modulation can be extrapolated by examining the narrowness of the on resonance response. The results in figure 16 demonstrate that the tight tolerances set forth by the RCWA software has been achieved.

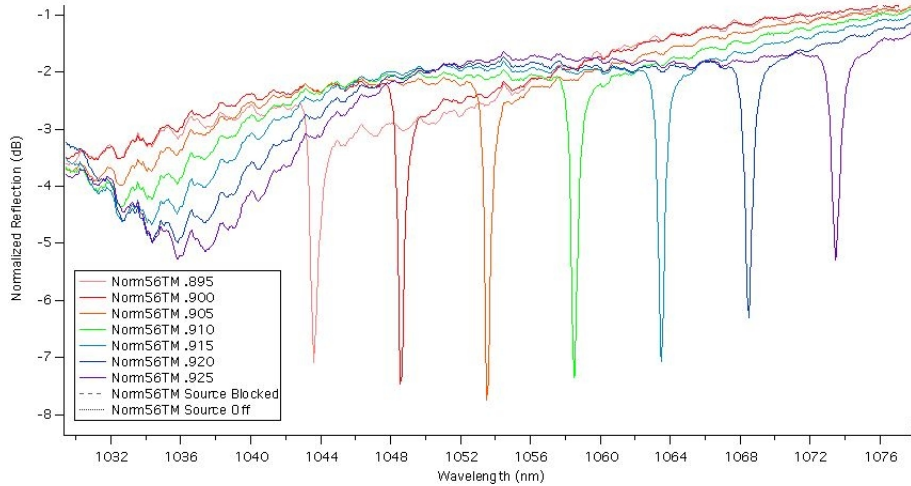


Figure 16: Final reflectance spectra of the 1053nm device. The results demonstrate excellent on/off resonant behavior and narrow FWHM. This proves that the tight tolerances of the RCWA software have been achieved and that the device design is would require only small changes in refractive index to induce modulation.

The third resonance from the left demonstrates a very desirable spectrum. The difference in reflectance between on resonance (specular reflection minimum) and off resonance (specular reflection maximum) is 5dB and the FWHM of the device is ~ 1 nm. This response shows that switching between on resonance and off resonance by electrically stimulating the carrier concentration is optically feasible. Electro-optic modulation is discussed further in Chapter 4.

CHAPTER 4

Device Designs for Electro-optics and Optoelectronics

Active devices operate by applying an external electrical signal to the electrodes. This signal perturbs the free carriers enough to cause a distinct change in refractive index. Different methods were investigated for electrical modulation of the ORPEL device. The Schottky diode, MOS capacitor and p-i-n diode were all evaluated for use in the device where each modulation method required a specific device design. Use of silicon is a constant for all device designs limiting the current density and electric field to which the waveguide could be subjected.

The main advantage for Schottky diodes is speed; Schottky devices have been demonstrated at speeds in excess of 70GHz [17]. Although high-level injection using Schottky contacts is possible, the carrier concentration is increased only near the electrodes at the silicon surface. This reduces the effectiveness of the modulation scheme by only perturbing carriers at the fringe of the optical field. In the ORPEL design, the carrier concentration must be increased several orders of magnitude in the waveguide region where there will be the most interaction with the optical energy. While there is optical energy near the electrodes, in most designs the peak intensity was central to the silicon layer as shown in figure 17.

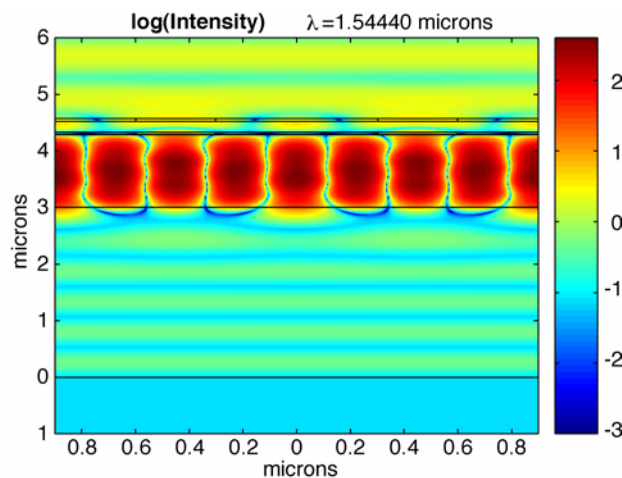


Figure 17: Optical field intensity within the ORPEL waveguide. The darkest regions are the most intense where changes in refractive index will have the largest effect on the device operation.

Another method that has been utilized by industry leaders was the MOS capacitor. The MOS capacitor in accumulation mode can increase the carrier concentration into the range of $1e20\text{cm}^{-3}$. This carrier concentration change is limited to the silicon surface within the first 3-5nm; this is outside of the highest intensity of the optical field for the device (see figure 17). Using the capacitor in a deep depletion mode where the carriers are removed will occur further into the silicon substrate, however, the carrier concentration that can be depleted is limited to the breakdown strength of the insulator and silicon. Depleting a $1e20\text{cm}^{-3}$ doped region in the central portion of the waveguide would be virtually impossible, not ignoring the fact that it would be extremely difficult to fabricate.

A forward bias p-i-n diode configuration has been utilized in silicon optical modulators [3-6]. This method operates around the 20MHz range, and the change in carriers is limited to $3e17\text{cm}^{-3}$ due to excessive current density [3-6]. Although the forward bias strategy does not appear as suitable for high-speed and low-power applications, the p-i-n diode does offer a modulation solution to the ORPEL structure.

An alternative to injection or accumulation/depletion modulation schemes is utilizing optically generated carriers to provide the modulation stimulus, as demonstrated by Sankey *et. al.* [11,18-20]. While carrier generation provides the necessary change in refractive index, a method for carrier removal that is faster than thermal recombination is required. Optical pumping is also used in a silicon laser built by Intel, and the same concerns over carrier removal are present. The solution for fast carrier removal is to utilize a reverse bias p-i-n diode.

4.1. Silicon Lasing

Intel Corporation has demonstrated a continuous wave silicon Raman laser [21] that operates by optically pumping a waveguide structure with a 1550nm laser. The laser output is then 1686nm. One of the biggest barriers that needed to be overcome was the nonlinear optical loss caused by two-photon absorption (TPA) induced free carrier absorption. TPA was reduced through the use of a p-i-n diode which would sweep excess carriers out of the waveguide region, allowing a Raman gain to occur.

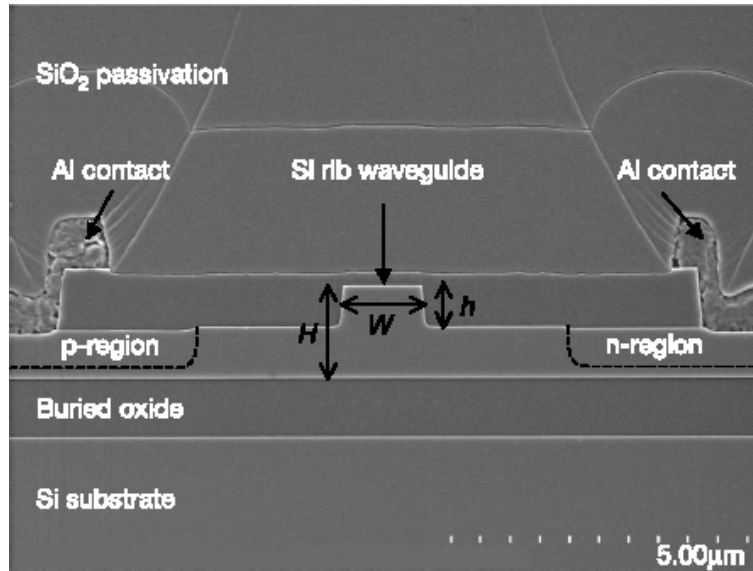


Figure 18: Intel continuous-wave Raman silicon laser. The p-region and n-region along with the center silicon rib make up the p-i-n diode. By applying a reverse bias to this diode it is possible to eliminate the free carrier absorption problem caused through two-photon absorption through removal of excess carriers.

This principle has been applied to the ORPEL waveguide structure in a way to quickly sweep carriers out of the system allowing for a change in refractive index. Optical modulation of the device has been demonstrated and shows that it is possible to create enough carriers to shift the resonance of the waveguide. By including an electrical control a higher degree of speed and freedom can be provided to the system.

4.2. Methods of Operation

Photogeneration of carriers occurs when light that possesses a photon energy ($h\nu$) greater than the semiconductor bandgap is absorbed, creating an electron-hole pair. For ORPEL modulation, the photogenerated carriers must increase to a high-level which can change the refractive index and normal-incidence reflectivity. Self-modulation of the ORPEL device has been demonstrated through the introduction of photogenerated carriers, as shown in figure 19.

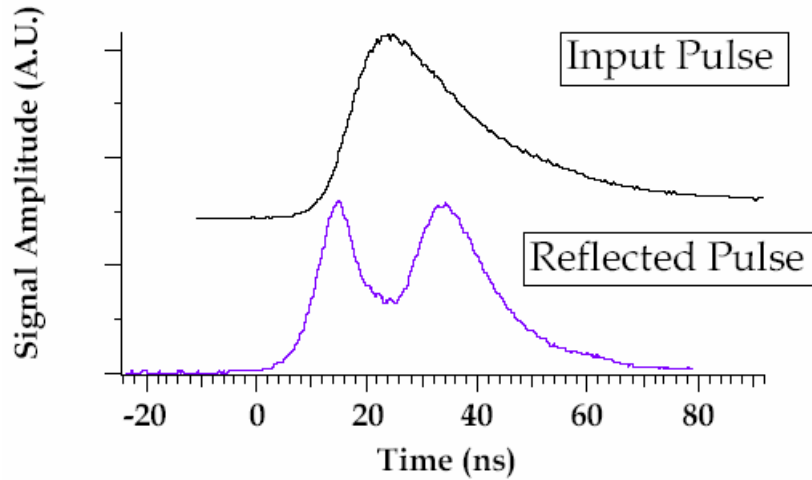


Figure 19: Time resolved input pulse and reflection response. When the input intensity is high enough, the structure establishes resonance and a decrease in reflected intensity is observed. This is due to an increase in free carriers causing a resonant shift in the ORPEL structure toward specular intensity minima [11].

4.2.1. Reverse Bias P-I-N Diode

Once the carriers are generated they can be redirected electrically. This is demonstrated using Silvaco Athena and Atlas modeling software by simulating a reverse bias vertical p-i-n diode structure. In this configuration the silicon carriers are altered through optical pumping. The device is shifted out of resonance due to the increase in carriers in the intrinsic region of the diode. A rapid sweeping of carriers out of the intrinsic region will allow the device to return to its resonant wavelength.

The photogenerated carriers are not bound to any specific donors or acceptors so they are able to freely move through the silicon. The reverse bias application enhances the built-in electric field, and quickly reduces carrier concentrations to pre-illuminated levels. The internal electric field must be countered by applying a forward bias in order to allow the photogenerated carriers to build up in the intrinsic region.

Similar to a solar cell, the open circuit voltage (V_{OC}) and short circuit current (I_{SC}) must be measured. To determine the open circuit voltage the device is illuminated with a beam that will give a photogeneration rate equal which yields a carrier increase that is high enough to produce a resonant shift, taken to be $5e19cm^{-3}$. The beam is incident on the device while the anode is current forced to zero amps. In photovoltaic simulations, the photogeneration rate was set through an iterative process until the required carrier

concentrations were achieved. The value of V_{OC} represents the required bias condition for a net current flow of zero under illumination; found to be 1.16V using this procedure.

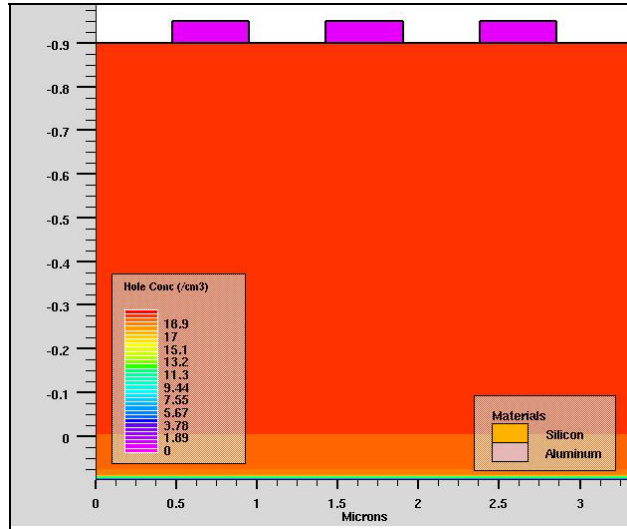


Figure 20: Silvaco® Athena simulation of the photogeneration of carriers. The carrier generation is shown to be very uniform.

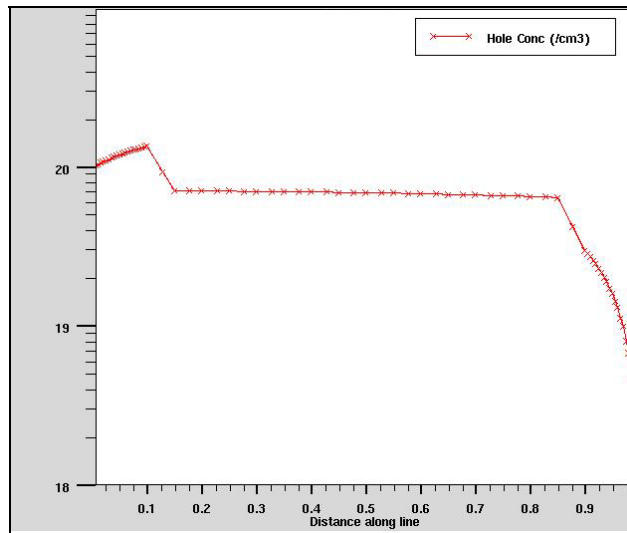


Figure 21: The open circuit condition is set by setting drift current equal to diffusion current resulting in a net current of 0. Once the open circuit voltage was determined to be 1.16V. The carrier generation has been set to the required level of $5e19\text{cm}^{-3}$.

Under a zero-bias (short-circuit) condition, the built-in field will cause carriers to drift to the appropriate electrode, as shown in figure 22. The resultant current caused by the built in field is referred as the short circuit current. I-V characteristics of the device with and without incident light are shown in figure 23.

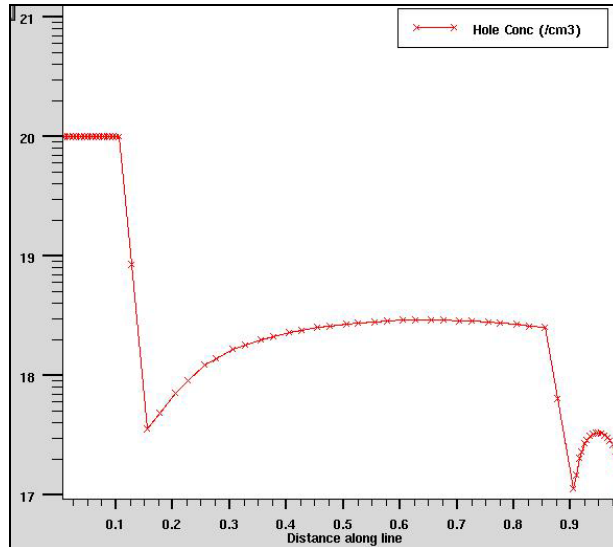


Figure 22: Hole concentration within the device when set to short circuit conditions. The electron concentration (not shown) exhibits a complementary distribution.

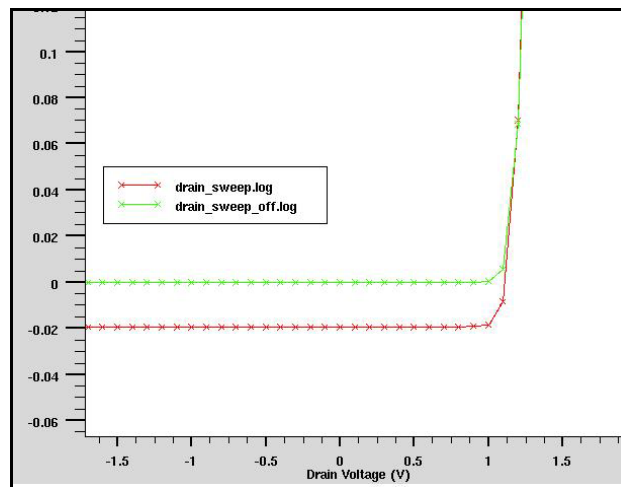


Figure 23: Steady-state I-V characteristics with and without photogeneration. The line drain_sweep_off.log represents no photogenerated carriers. The curve drain_sweep.log represents the current when carriers are photogenerated. The current levels are well within the operational parameters of silicon at 20mA.

Although the steady-state current under short-circuit and reverse-bias conditions do not exhibit differences (see figure 23), the carrier distribution and transient situations are quite different. The time required for carrier sweeping is significantly decreased using an applied reverse bias. The reverse bias enhances the built in electric field of the device. Carriers are drawn out of the intrinsic region, causing a change in the refractive index. The speed is measured through a transient analysis of the structure as it switches from the open circuit voltage to a large reverse bias, -20V. Figure 24 shows an overlay of the steady state condition and a step-input transient simulation over 1ns. This demonstrates that R-C delay will most likely be the limiting factor on modulation.

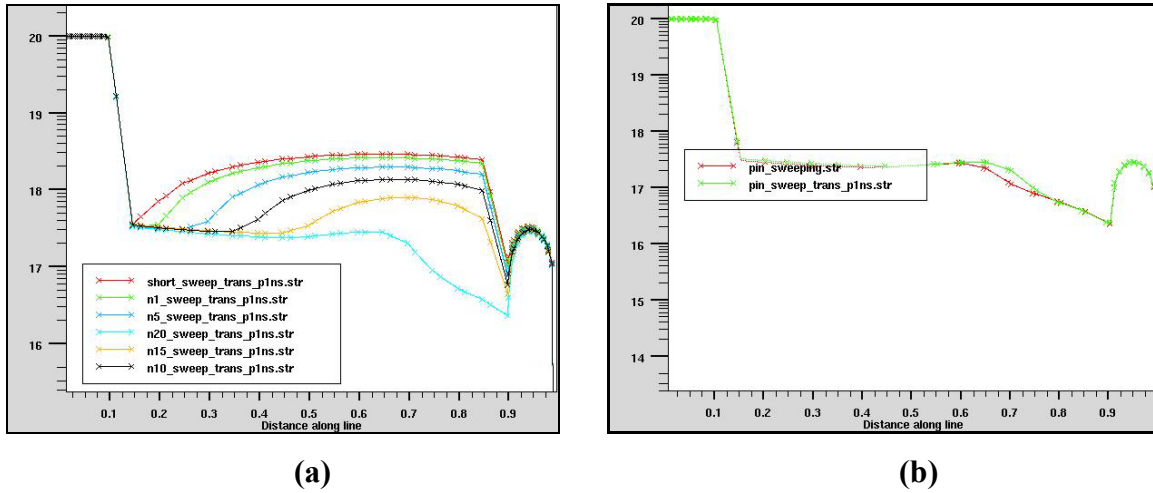


Figure 24: **a)** A distribution based on applied voltage demonstrates that the device is RC delay limited. As the applied bias is increased, more carriers are removed from the intrinsic region. **b)** The carrier concentration of a steady state reverse bias and a reverse bias applied within 1ns are essentially identical at $2e17cm^{-3}$.

The optical generation of carriers using carrier sweep out for modulation is a viable scheme. Previous work has shown that optical powers of 110W are sufficient for refractive index shift through carrier generation [11]. Investigation and fabrication of reverse bias lateral p-i-n diodes is currently in progress [22,23].

4.2.2. Schottky Diode Based Sub-bandgap Photodetector

Aluminum deposited on lightly doped n-type silicon makes a rectifying contact [24]. This was proven experimentally, though a sintering process is necessary to complete the contact formation. Other experiments were performed to optimize the sinter

time and temperature. A 6" wafer was coated with 500Å of aluminum and broken into 4 quadrants. Each quadrant was then sintered at different temperatures [25,26]. The best Schottky diode characteristics were then used for device wafers.

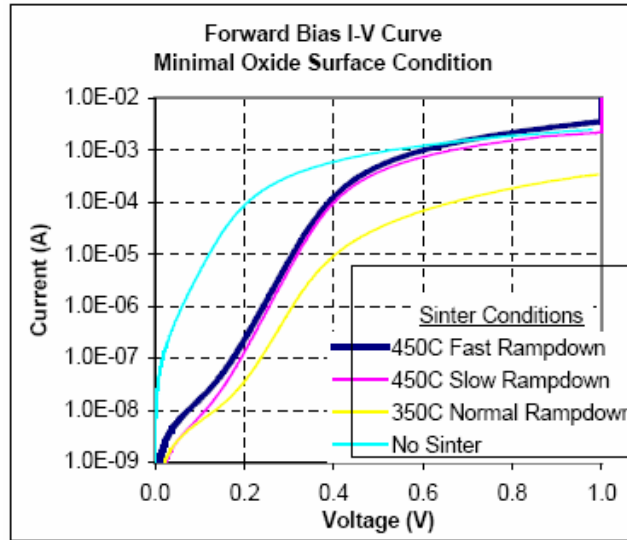


Figure 25: IV characteristics of Schottky diodes. It was found that a sintering process of 450°C was necessary to provide rectifying behavior for aluminum on n-type diode. [21]

Schottky-Ohmic devices were built using a dual contact scheme. One contact (the active contact) was a Schottky diode and would be the free carrier injection source for the system. An ohmic contact was created for ground biasing by implanting phosphorous under every other electrode in the silicon region of the waveguide. This allows for increased control over the Schottky diode and avoids the back-to-back Schottky diode behavior that eliminates reverse bias blocking.

The Schottky-Ohmic devices were found to operate as infrared detectors. A photocurrent was observed when 1550nm was coupled into a reverse biased device. By biasing the substrate ground, and keeping the device in a reverse bias state the dark current was measured. Light was illuminated upon the device and a new current was measured. The dark current and illuminated graphs have been appended to each other to demonstrate the photocurrent.

The infrared detector works similar to a PtSi detector [9]. The metal absorbs the infrared radiation; free carriers are injected into the semiconductor. The PtSi detector

operates in a broadband mode down to wavelengths of approximately 6nm. The ORPEL detector is different in that it will only absorb specific wavelengths that are tuned to the device.

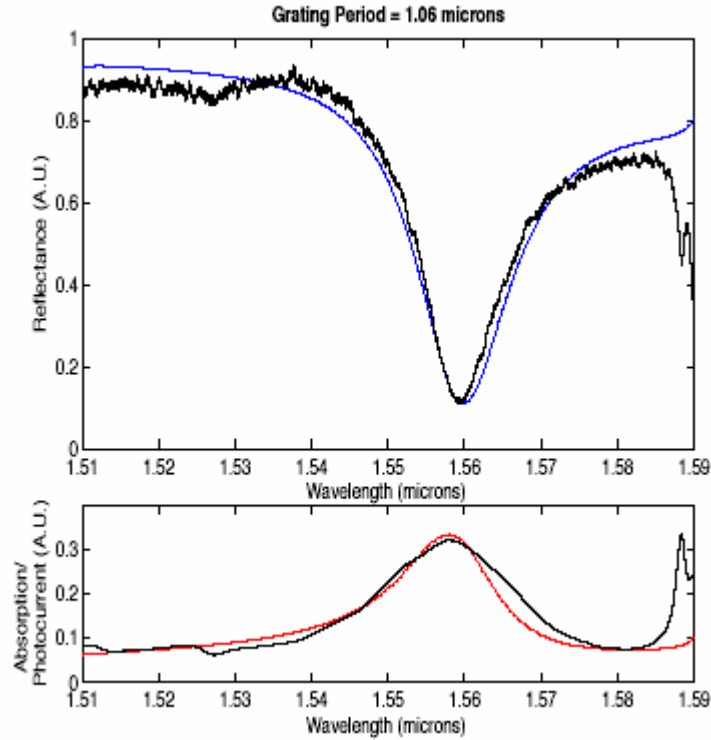


Figure 26: Unlike a PtSi infrared detector the ORPEL device is tunable to a specific wavelength. In this figure the wavelength is 1.56 micron where the photocurrent is greatest.

The wavelength tuning for the detector is the same wavelength that will provide resonance. The reflectivity low in the device spectra corresponds to a transmission and absorption high. As can be seen in figure 26, the photocurrent follows the absorption curve for the device. A primary advantage for a wavelength tunable system is the elimination of a filter, increasing integration of optical components with silicon.

CHAPTER 5

Conclusion

5.1. Summary of work performed

This experiment has focused on the simulation, fabrication and testing of an optical modulator designed to operate at 1053nm wavelength. RCWA software modeling allowed for material layer thicknesses, electrode pitch and electrode duty cycle to be specified for fabrication. From these parameters a process has been developed for the ORPEL device.

5.1.1. Device design

A new device has been designed, and a new mask has been fabricated, which has been discussed in section 2.5. The new mask design is flexible by incorporating various electrode pitches that are optimized for different wavelengths. The overall device design is modular in nature, allowing for the addition and removal of different device elements to provide a final device that meets all operating requirements.

5.1.2. Process development and optical spectrum

Processes were brought into control to reach target values for electrode metal thickness, pitch and duty cycle. A silicon thinning process was developed for incoming SOI substrates. This allowed precise control over the thickness of silicon remaining on the SOI. SiO₂ was sputtered using an RF sputter tool and a special rotation process was developed to improve within wafer film uniformity.

Lithographic processes were optimized for critical dimension, duty ratio, feature imaging, resist profile and resist preparation for metal deposition. This provided a stable process for precision sub-0.5 μ m electrode patterning and metal liftoff. The liftoff process was developed to be robust and repeatable allowing excellent pattern transfer from photoresist to metal lines and spaces. The process development translated directly to optical spectrum that were both narrow (\sim 1nm) in bandwidth and high contrast (5dB) between on-resonance and off-resonance states (section 3.4, figure 16).

5.1.3. Electrical device simulation

Simulation of reverse bias p-i-n diode carrier sweeping has been demonstrated to effectively reduce the carrier concentration within the waveguide region to levels. By using an optical carrier generation mode vs. a carrier injection mode a higher level of carriers could be manipulated throughout the entire waveguide region. Use of a wavelength absorbed by the waveguide further improves the optical pumping configuration, as no outside pump laser is required. Simulation shows that the p-i-n structure is RC-delay limited, and can provide modulation speeds greater than 1GHz.

The incorporation of this modulation method to the device requires the addition of epitaxial silicon. The epitaxial layer allows for fabrication of a vertical p-i-n diode, the basis of the design. Work is currently being performed at the Rochester Institute of Technology and the University of Rochester to bring the simulated modulation to a fabricated device.

5.1.4. Sub-bandgap detectors

Infrared detectors have been fabricated and demonstrated using a reverse bias Schottky contact. The detectors operate similar to a PtSi infrared detector but are wavelength tunable, negating the need for an external wavelength filter. This has been verified by matching the theoretical optical absorption spectra with the photocurrent characteristics as seen in section 4.2.2.

5.2. Future Work

In order to further the development of ORPEL structures and allow the integration with modern CMOS, new technologies that are being investigated by CMOS researchers are being examined. Epitaxial silicon is important for the vertical p-i-n structure to be realized. The epitaxial layer would sit upon a heavily doped n+ buried layer, which would provide the necessary bottom contact for the device. The epi-silicon layer would act as the intrinsic portion of the vertical p-i-n structure and must be defect free to allow for optical pumping. Current work is underway between Rochester Institute of Technology and the University of Rochester to investigate the use of epitaxial silicon for a vertical p-i-n structure.

Frontside contact to the ground plane is an ideal situation for high speed testing. This would be the easiest design to use for packaging the device. Planarity of the device must be maintained to provide sufficient processing latitude. The frontside via would be best achieved through a high energy, high dose implant of a fast diffuser such as phosphorous and an example is shown in figure 27.

After activation the implanted region will act as a conductive path between the ground plane and the frontside of the wafer. The current probe tips are high-speed microwave probes with a signal/ground/signal configuration that are spaced 100 μ m apart and planar. The frontside contact is the only way to utilize the high performance probes. Researchers at Rochester Institute of Technology and University of Rochester are currently exploring this design.

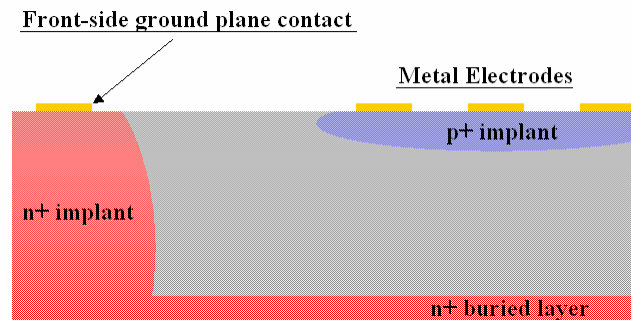


Figure 27: The n+ implant acts as the front-side contact for the n+ buried ground plane layer. The frontside contact allows for use of microwave probes suitable for high speed electronic testing, by providing a planar probing surface.

The drive for monolithic integration of optical devices in silicon is becoming reality. In a long haul optical network, size and cost of optical components are not issues when compared to the network as a whole; but in an optical interconnect network, size and cost do play a dramatic role. Two key components for an optical interconnect system are the modulator and detector, which are capable of being fabricated in silicon using the ORPEL device design. Integration of optical devices with silicon will provide higher levels of performance to all users and ORPEL provides a vehicle for this evolution to occur.

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APPENDIX A

Process Flow

The first step in the process is to prepare the crystalline silicon layer. This layer must be processed to a specific thickness to allow for waveguide coupling. The c-Si is thinned to the desired thickness by repeatedly oxidizing and etching the silicon dioxide. The original c-Si thickness was $1.5\mu\text{m}$ from the manufacturer, SOITECH. The thickness of the c-Si layer is critical to the operation of the waveguide coupling therefore it was necessary to approach the desired thickness of $0.745\mu\text{m}$ with extreme care. This was accomplished by using a 2000\AA dry oxide recipe to remove the bulk of the silicon. The SiO_2 thickness was measuring using four control wafers, two wafers in front (P1 & P2) and two wafers behind the SOI wafer (P4 & P5). By using a ratio of 46% silicon consumed during oxidation it was possible to calculate the remaining crystalline silicon. This was verified using variable angle spectroscopic ellipsometry at University of Rochester and directly measuring the SOI thickness. After each oxidation run the glass was etched off using BOE for 5 minutes to reveal a bare silicon surface. A final oxidation recipe had to be customized to allow for precise 380\AA oxide growth that was subsequently removed using BOE. VASE was not able to be used because it was undesirable to subject the wafer to a non-cleanroom environment. Previous data between VASE and the SpectraMap was in good correlation.

A final 100\AA oxide layer was grown using a N_2O recipe for added control over the oxidation rate. This layer will remain as part of the final structure.

Level 0 lithography places alignment die on the wafer. A positive resist is used and the standard 140 mJ/cm^2 dose is used. The two alignment die are used to align subsequent layers to each other. Using an alignment die offers greater versatility to the mask set by allowing the first level to be used at different stages of fabrication. This permitted the addition of a LOCOS process to the device design before electrode lithography. Another advantage is robustness in stepper operation since the stepper baseline mask is used as the alignment die. Anytime the tool is serviced it is calibrated to the baseline mask. Therefore any necessary alignment offsets are automatically incorporated into the stepper job.

After the alignment marks are patterned in resist it is necessary to transfer the pattern to the wafer. A plasma etch tool running SF₆ for 40 seconds is used. This etches ~5500Å into the silicon surface, making the alignment die easily identifiable. The wafers are ashed using a downstream O₂ Asher and ready for level 1 lithography; active (LOCOS) definition.

The capacitance of the power rails is approximately equal to the capacitance of the device region since the area of the electrodes and the area of the power rails are approximately equal. When operated in the GHz range, this could have the unwanted effects of creating a high frequency short to the substrate [ref]. Isolation of the power rails is therefore necessary and is accomplished using the local oxidation of silicon technique. A major advantage of LOCOS is that the silicon in the active region is never subjected to processing. It is always passivated by SiO₂ and Si₃N₄.

The active region (waveguide region) is protected using a pyrolytic silicon nitride deposited in a hot wall LPCVD system. Deposition pressure is 400mT with gas flows of NH₃ of 120 sccm and SiCl₂H₂ of 60sccm. Temperature is 810°C in each temperature zone (source, center, pump). Deposition time was set for 25 minutes with a final thickness of 1386Å measured using the Prometrix SpectraMap. The deposition rate was calculated to be 55.4Å/min.

The next step in LOCOS isolation is to pattern the nitride film. A clear field mask was used to delineate the active and isolation regions of the device. By protecting the nitride over the active region it was possible to etch away nitride in the field regions. The etch was performed using a SF₆/CHF₃ RIE. The tool experienced a large reflected power during processing, which was traced to the use of CHF₃. Unfortunately time constraints dictated that the etch be performed even though the tool was not functioning optimally. This resulted in an etch selectivity between nitride and pad oxide that was less than perfect with approximately 300Å of overetch observed. After the nitride was etched the resist was stripped off using PRS1000 and PRS2000 followed by an RCA clean.

The field oxide was grown using recipe 513 on the Bruce furnace. This recipe should produce 2500Å of oxide. Nitride provides a very adequate oxygen diffusion barrier. 2600Å of oxide was grown in the field region, with no additional oxide grown in the active region. At the edges of the active region, SiO₂ grows under the nitride due to

lateral oxygen diffusion. This region is known as “bird’s beak” and is a transition between active and field [ref wolf and tauber]. The bird’s beak that forms is beneficial to imaging over the step height that develops since the transition is smoother than the step height in an RIE type of etch process.

Nitride removal is accomplished by first etching away the oxy-nitride film that forms over the nitride. This film is removed using an unmasked 30 second BOE etch, which results in a final field oxide thickness of 1600Å further reducing the step height between field and active. The nitride is then removed using heated phosphoric acid. The acid bath is heated to 175°C and the wafer is etched for 60 minutes. A water condenser and water injection system is used to keep the water from boiling off changing the acid concentration of the bath.

Level 1 lithography is the most critical layer. A high contrast negative resist, AZ nLOF 2010 is used. The resist is mixed in a 1:1 ratio with RER-600, a commercially available propylene glycol methyl ether acetate or PGMEA, C₆H₁₂O₃. This reduces the resist thickness from ~6500Å to 1900Å. By thinning the resist much greater latitude is gained in within chip depth of focus. The thinner resist still lifts off well as the metal is still 3-4 times thicker than the resist.

Resist is dispensed manually using a pipette on the SSI track. Coating is performed at 3750RPM, the upper limit for the track for 60 seconds. A 90°C softbake for 60 seconds drives off solvents and prepares the wafer for exposure.

A new source was installed in the Canon stepper immediately prior to level 1 lithography. Using a focus-exposure matrix the optimal dose and focus were found to be 79mJ/cm² with -0.2µm of focus. The device wafer was shot using a FEM starting at 75mJ/cm² and increasing by 1mJ/cm² to a final dose of 84mJ/cm². This provides a proper *43% duty cycle (43% metal/57% open)*. A 60 second puddle develop is used to complete the resist image (*resist duty cycle is 57%*).

A descum process is necessary to guarantee that metal deposited will adhere to the substrate surface. The process uses a reactive ion etch system to anisotropically etch the resist, leaving vertical sidewalls to improve liftoff performance. The descum recipe uses 70W of power, 25sccm of O₂, 15sccm of Ar, 45mT pressure and a time of 30 seconds. This removes about 400Å of resist, enough to remove the scum and eliminate

the footer but not so much that the metal thickness is approaching the resist thickness. A lower pressure combined with RIE helps promote anisotropic etching.

Aluminum and gold are evaporated using resistive heating. First 50Å of aluminum is deposited using a tri-wire tungsten basket to hold the Al. Next 450Å of gold is deposited using a molybdenum boat. The wafer is 12.75” from the sources, and each source is in the same place thanks to a rotary source selection system. Vacuum is never broken between aluminum to gold deposition.

The excess metal is removed using lift-off. AZ 300T is heated to 85°C and the wafer is soaked for 5 minutes in the solution. The heated bath is transferred to an ultrasonic bench for 1 minute. Finally the lifted off metal is removed from the surface using isopropyl alcohol and water rinse. The IPA is applied under high pressure, as is the H₂O. This is the best way to ensure any redeposited metal is removed from the surface. Nitrogen is then used to dry the wafer.

SiO₂ is deposited using RF sputtering. 3500Å of SiO₂ makes up the overcoat layer finalizing the waveguide structure. The tool is pumped down to 5e-8 Torr. The deposition parameters are 500W, 30sccm Ar, 188 minutes. Vacuum is broken and the wafer is rotated 180° and the wafer undergoes another 188 minutes of deposition. After measuring the thickness of the monitor wafers it was determined that the oxide thickness was ~200Å short of the 3900Å target. The wafers were reloaded into the sputter tool and deposition commenced for an additional 30 minutes. Optically the film is acceptable showing an index of refraction, n_{SiO_2} of 1.458 measured via ellipsometry.

The overcoat layer is patterned using level 2 lithography. A dedicated wet etch (pad etch) *chemical formula?* is used to remove the overcoat layer. Sputtered SiO₂ etches much faster than thermally grown oxide. An etch rate of ~3500Å/min was measured for this film. The pad etch use is necessary to prevent any undercut etching of the aluminum adhesion layer. An etch time of 1.5 minutes was used to etch the sputtered oxide. The wafer was then rinsed in H₂O and dried using N₂.

Finally the resist from lithography was removed using acetone, isopropyl alcohol and H₂O with an N₂ dry for completion. The wafer was then delivered to University of Rochester Institute of Optics PhD candidate Jason Neiser for optical testing. Individual

die will be separated using a diamond scribe cleaving method to avoid contamination from the wafer saw.

Process Flow Details

1. SOI Thinning

- a. Recipe 762 JNeiser 2000 Å oxide
 - i. Tool name and tube number
 1. Bruce Furnace 1 tube 4
 - ii. Push in
 1. 800°C, N2 ambient, 5 LPM
 2. Push rate 12 in/min
 - iii. Stabilize
 1. 20 minutes, N2 ambient, 5 LPM
 - iv. Ramp Up
 1. 1000°C, Dry O2 , 5 LPM, 20 minutes
 - v. Stabilize
 1. 5 minutes, Dry O2, 5 LPM
 - vi. Soak
 1. 1000°C, Dry O2, 10 LPM, 480 minutes
 - vii. Ramp Down
 1. 25°C, N2 ambient, 5 LPM 35 minutes
 - viii. Pull Out
 1. Pull rate 12 in/min
- b. Recipe #759 – 380A dry O2
 - i. Tool name and tube number
 1. Bruce Furnace 1 tube 4
 - ii. Push in
 1. 800°C, N2 ambient, 10 LPM
 2. Push rate 12 in/min
 - iii. Stabilize
 1. 20 minutes, N2 ambient, 10 LPM
 - iv. Ramp Up
 1. 1000°C, Dry O2, 5 LPM, 20 minutes
 - v. Stabilize
 1. 5 minutes, N2 ambient, 10 LPM
 - vi. Soak
 1. 1000°C, Dry O2, 10 LPM, 26.5 minutes
 - vii. Ramp Down
 1. 25°C, N2, 10 LPM, 35 minutes
 - viii. Pull Out
 1. Pull rate 12 in/min, N2, 5 LPM
- c. Repeat oxidation until the desired single crystal silicon layer thickness is reached.
 - i. Target single crystal silicon thickness 7500 Å

- ii. Calculated single crystal silicon thickness 7495 Å
 - 1. Calculated from the measured oxide grown using the average from the control wafers.
 - 2. Thickness of control wafers is measured after each SOI thinning run using SpectraMap
- 2. Measure oxide thickness after each oxidation step
 - a. 4 control wafers for measuring the SiO₂ film thickness
 - i. The film thickness cannot be directly measured on the SOI wafer so control wafers are used.
 - b. SpectraMap thin film measurement tool
 - i. 81 points per wafer
- 3. Final oxide growth
 - a. Recipe 213 LFull 100Å oxide w/ N₂O
 - i. Tool name and tube number
 - 1. Bruce Furnace 1 tube 4
 - ii. Push in
 - 1. 650°C, N₂ ambient, 5 LPM
 - 2. Push rate 12 in/min
 - iii. Stabilize
 - 1. 30 minutes, N₂ ambient, 5 LPM
 - iv. Ramp Up
 - 1. 900°C, N₂ ambient, 5 LPM, 30 minutes
 - v. Soak N₂O
 - 1. 900°C, N₂O, 10 LPM, 30 minutes
 - vi. Soak
 - 1. 900°C, Dry O₂, 10 LPM, 30 minutes
 - vii. Ramp Down
 - 1. 25°C, N₂ ambient, 5 LPM 30 minutes
 - viii. Pull Out
 - 1. Pull rate 12 in/min
 - b. Target thickness 100 Å
 - c. Measured thickness 92.1 Å
 - i. Calculated from average of the measured oxide grown from the four (4) control wafers
 - d. Target final SOI thickness 7450 Å
 - e. Final SOI thickness 7454.5 Å
 - i. Calculated from the oxide grown using the average from the control wafers
- 4. Measure oxide thickness after each SOI thinning run
 - a. 4 control wafers for measuring the SiO₂ film thickness
 - i. The film thickness cannot be directly measured on the SOI wafer so control wafers are used.
 - b. SpectraMap thin film measurement tool
 - i. 81 points per wafer
- 5. Level 0 Lithography (Alignment)
 - a. SSI track

- i. COAT recipe
 - 1. 60 sec 140° C HMDS vapor prime
 - 2. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
 - 3. Olin OiR 620 photoresist dispense
 - 4. 50 RPM 10 second dynamic dispense
 - 5. 3000 RPM 60 second
 - 6. 60 sec 90° C soft bake
 - 7. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
 - b. Canon FPA-2000 i1
 - i. Focus 0.0 μm
 - ii. 140 mj/cm^2 dose
 - iii. Mask name
 - 1. Canon Test Mask 365-01
 - iv. Stepper job name
 - 1. ORPEL1_L0
 - c. SSI Track
 - i. DEVELOP recipe
 - 1. 60 sec 120° C Post Exposure Bake (PEB)
 - 2. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
 - 3. CD-26 Developer Dispense (5 step process)
 - a. Spin dispense
 - i. 50 RPM 7 sec
 - b. Puddle
 - i. 0 RPM 2 sec
 - c. Puddle
 - i. 0 RPM 48 sec
 - d. Water
 - i. 500 RPM 30 sec
 - e. Spin dry
 - i. 3750 RPM 30 sec
 - 4. 60 sec 120° C Post Develop Bake
 - 5. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
6. LAM 490 Etch
 - a. Poly recipe to etch alignment die into silicon
 - b. 40 second SF_6
 - i. Etch Time
 - 1. 60 seconds
 - ii. Base Pressure
 - 1. 0.300 Torr
 - iii. Gasses
 - 1. SF_6 / O_2
 - iv. Gas Flow
 - 1. 150 sccm / 40 sccm
 - v. Forward Power
 - 1. 140 Watts
 - vi. Reflected Power

- 1. 0 Watts
 - vii. Electrode Gap
 - 1. 0.9 cm
 - 7. Resist strip
 - a. Branson asher
 - b. EPD recipe
 - 8. RCA Clean
 - a. Standard RCA process
 - 9. Nitride deposition
 - a. ASM 6" LPCVD
 - b. Factory 810 Nitride Recipe
 - i. Load wafers at 400° C
 - ii. Ramp up to 810° Load, Center, Source
 - iii. Deposition time 25 minutes
 - 1. Target thickness 1500 Å
 - iv. Deposition pressure 300 mTorr
 - v. SiH₂Cl₂ 120 sccm
 - vi. NH₃ 60 sccm
10. LOCOS Lithography
 - a. SSI track
 - i. COAT recipe
 - 1. 60 sec 140° C HMDS vapor prime
 - 2. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
 - 3. Olin OiR 620 photoresist dispense
 - 4. 50 RPM 10 dynamic dispense
 - 5. 3000 RPM 60 second
 - 6. 60 sec 90° C soft bake
 - 7. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
 - b. Canon FPA-2000 i1
 - i. Focus 0.0 μm
 - ii. 140 mj/cm² dose
 - iii. Mask name
 - 1. Oxide Mask
 - iv. Stepper job name
 - 1. ORPEL1_L2
- c. SSI Track
 - i. DEVELOP recipe
 - 1. 60 sec 120° C Post Exposure Bake (PEB)
 - 2. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
 - 3. CD-26 Developer Dispense (5 step process)
 - a. Spin dispense
 - i. 50 RPM 7 sec
 - b. Puddle
 - i. 0 RPM 2 sec
 - c. Puddle
 - i. 0 RPM 48 sec

- d. Water
 - i. 500 RPM 30 sec
- e. Spin dry
 - i. 3750 RPM 30 sec
- 4. 60 sec 120° C Post Develop Bake
- 5. 30 sec 25° C chill plate

11. Nitride etch

- a. Drytek Quad
- b. FACNIT Recipe
 - i. Etch Time
 - 1. 30 minutes
 - ii. Base Pressure
 - 1. 0.300 Torr
 - iii. Gasses
 - 1. O₂ / Ar
 - iv. Gas Flow
 - 1. 25 sccm / 15 sccm
 - v. Forward Power
 - 1. 300 W
 - vi. Reflected Power
 - 1. 130 Watts
 - 2. Indicates that there was an error with the tool

12. Resist strip

- a. Heated PRS1000
 - i. Bath temperature
 - 1. 90° C
 - ii. Soak time
 - 1. 5 minutes
- b. Heated PRS2000
 - i. Bath temperature
 - 1. 90° C
 - ii. Soak time
 - 1. 5 minutes

13. Spin Rinse Dry (SRD)

14. RCA Clean

- a. Standard RCA process
- b. APM – used for organic removal
 - i. 4500 ml H₂O
 - ii. 300 ml NH₄OH
 - iii. 900 ml H₂O₂
 - iv. Heated to 75° C
- c. 5 minute H₂O rinse
- d. 50:1 H₂O:HF soak
 - i. 1 minute
- e. 5 minute H₂O rinse
- f. HPM – used for metallic removal

- i. 4500 ml H₂O
 - ii. 300 ml HCl
 - iii. 900 ml H₂O₂
 - iv. Heated to 75° C
 - g. 5 minute H₂O rinse
- 15. SRD
- 16. LOCOS Growth
 - a. Target oxide thickness 2500 Å
 - b. Recipe 513
 - i. Tool name and tube number
 - 1. Bruce Furnace 1 tube 1
 - ii. Push in
 - 1. 800°C, N2 ambient, 10 LPM
 - 2. Push rate 12 in/min
 - iii. Stabilize
 - 1. 20 minutes, N2 ambient, 10 LPM
 - iv. Ramp Up
 - 1. 1000°C, N2 ambient, 5 LPM, 20 minutes
 - v. Stabilize
 - 1. 10 minutes, N2 ambient, 5 LPM
 - vi. O2 Flood
 - 1. 5 minutes, Dry O2 ambient, 5 LPM
 - vii. Soak
 - 1. 1000°C, O2,2 LPM / H2, 3.6 LPM, 37 min
 - viii. N2 Purge
 - 1. 5 minutes, N2 ambient, 15 LPM
 - ix. Ramp Down
 - 1. 25°C, N2,10 LPM, 35 minutes
 - x. Pull Out
 - 1. Pull rate 12 in/min, N2, 5 LPM
- 17. Oxynitride etch
 - a. 30 second BOE
- 18. SRD
- 19. Nitride etch
 - a. Bath heated to 175° C
 - b. 60 minute etch
- 20. SRD
- 21. Electrode Lithography
 - a. SSI track
 - i. ORPEL1 recipe
 - 1. 60 sec 140° C HMDS vapor prime
 - 2. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
 - 3. 1:1 nLOF 2010:PGMEA
 - a. Static manual dispense using pipette
 - 4. 3750 RPM 60 second
 - 5. 60 sec 90° C soft bake

- 6. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
 - b. Canon FPA-2000 i1
 - i. Mask name
 - 1. 1053 nm electrode mask - Photronics™
 - ii. Stepper job name
 - 1. ORPEL1_L1
 - iii. Exposure matrix
 - iv. 75-84 mj/cm² dose increasing +1 mj/cm² by column
 - v. Focus -0.2 μm
 - c. SSI Track
 - i. DEVORPEL recipe
 - 1. 60 sec 120° C Post Exposure Bake (PEB)
 - 2. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
 - 3. CD-26 Developer Dispense (5 step process)
 - a. Spin dispense
 - i. 50 RPM 7 sec
 - b. Puddle
 - i. 0 RPM 2 sec
 - c. Puddle
 - i. 0 RPM 60 sec
 - d. Water
 - i. 500 RPM 30 sec
 - e. Spin dry
 - i. 3750 RPM 30 sec
 - 4. 0 sec 25° C Post Develop Bake
 - a. NO HARD BAKE
 - 5. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
22. O2 Descum
 - a. Drytek Quad RIE
 - b. O2 ASH recipe
 - i. Etch Time
 - 1. 30 seconds
 - ii. Base Pressure
 - 1. 0.045 Torr
 - iii. Gasses
 - 1. O2 / Ar
 - iv. Gas Flow
 - 1. 25 sccm / 15 sccm
 - v. Forward Power
 - 1. 80 W Program – Actual 70 W
 - vi. Reflected Power
 - 1. 0 Watts
23. Metal Deposition
 - a. CVC Evaporator
 - i. Thickness measured using Inficon in-situ measurement gauge
 - ii. 50Å Al

- iii. 450Å Au
 - 1. 0.2 grams for gold conservation
 - iv. Base pressure
 - 1. 5e-7 Torr
- 24. Lift off
 - a. Heated AZ-300T
 - i. Location under fume hood
 - ii. Soak wafer at 85° C for 5 minutes in AZ-300T in Pyrex container
 - b. Ultrasonic
 - i. Transfer heated AZ-300T and wafer to ultrasonic system in Pyrex container
 - ii. 1 minute ultrasonic
 - c. IPA rinse
 - d. H₂O Rinse
 - e. N₂ dry
- 25. SiO₂ Deposition
 - a. PE-2400A with quartz target
 - b. 500W RF
 - c. Place wafer and two (2) monitors flat towards center of the table
 - d. Sputter for 188 minutes
 - e. Break vacuum
 - f. Measure control wafer thickness
 - i. Target thickness
 - ii. Measured thickness
 - g. Rotate wafer 180°
 - h. Sputter for 188 more minutes
 - i. Check wafer for proper thickness using SpectraMap
 - j. Finish with 30 minutes sputter
- 26. Level 2 Lithography (overcoat)
 - a. SSI track
 - i. COAT recipe
 - 1. 60 sec 140° C HMDS vapor prime
 - 2. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
 - 3. Olin OiR 620 photoresist dispense
 - a. 500 RPM 10 dynamic dispense
 - b. 3000 RPM 60 second
 - 4. 60 sec 90° C soft bake
 - 5. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
 - b. Canon FPA-2000 i1
 - i. Focus 0.0 μm
 - ii. 140 mj/cm² dose
 - iii. Mask name
 - 1. Oxide mask
 - iv. Stepper job name
 - 1. ORPEL1_L2
 - c. SSI Track

- i. DEVELOP recipe
 1. 60 sec 120° C Post Exposure Bake (PEB)
 2. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
 3. CD-26 Developer Dispense (5 step process)
 - a. Spin dispense
 - i. 50 RPM 7 sec
 - b. Puddle
 - i. 0 RPM 2 sec
 - c. Puddle
 - i. 0 RPM 48 sec
 - d. Water
 - i. 500 RPM 30 sec
 - e. Spin dry
 - i. 3750 RPM 30 sec
 - ii. 60 sec 120° C Post Develop Bake
 - iii. 30 sec 25° C chill plate
27. SiO₂ etch
 - a. Dedicated wet etch since gold is the etch stop
 - b. Pad etch used to decrease etch time and protect aluminum adhesion layer
 - c. 90 second etch
 - d. Pad etch kept at room temperature ~ 27° C
28. Resist strip
 - a. Acetone spray
 - b. Isopropyl spray
 - c. Water rinse
 - d. N₂ dry

APPENDIX B L-Edit Mask Code

```
/* Rochester Institute of Technology */
/* Microelectronic Engineering */
/* Author: Christopher T. Harvey, MS candidate */
/* Project: SOI Optical Modulator */
/* Date: June 18, 2004 */

/* Title: Optoelectronic fresnel lens mask generation program */

/* Purpose: This program will generate an interdigitated */
/* fresnel lens array using the commercially available */
/* layout software L-Edit. This mask will be integrated into */
/* the rectangular layout already in use in the SOI optical */
/* modulator project. */

module fresnel_module {

#include <stdlib.h>
#include <math.h>
#include "ldata.h"

/* Main Fresnel Lens Macro */
void FresnelLensMacro (void)
    {

/* Variable Definition */
LCell tCell = LCell_GetVisible();
LFile tFile = LCell_GetFile (tCell);

LCoord inner_radius, outer_radius, avg_radius;
LPoint tri_arr [3];

double period, period_array [31], period_array2 [13], first_ring [4];
double center_x, center_y, start_angle, stop_angle, theta, start_ulx, start_uly;

int lateral_count, x, device_mode;

/* Constant Definition */
start_ulx = -6050000;
start_uly = -500000;
start_angle = 90;
stop_angle = 90;

/* The four corners of the design space */
/* These are drawn to define the design space and allow for easy integration */
/* Of L-Edit and Mentor Graphics Files. */
LCoord x0 = -6250000;
LCoord y0 = 6200000;
LCoord x1 = -6200000;
LCoord y1 = 6250000;

LBox_New(tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ), x0, y0, x1, y1); /* Upper Left */
```

```

x0 = 6200000;
y0 = 6200000;
x1 = 6250000;
y1 = 6250000;

LBox_New(tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ), x0, y0, x1, y1); /* Upper Right */

x0 = -6250000;
y0 = -6250000;
x1 = -6200000;
y1 = -6200000;

LBox_New(tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ), x0, y0, x1, y1); /* Lower Left */

x0 = 6200000;
y0 = -6250000;
x1 = 6250000;
y1 = -6200000;

LBox_New(tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ), x0, y0, x1, y1); /* Lower Right */

/* Variable initialization */
lateral_count = 0;
x = 0;
device_mode = 0;
center_x = start_ulx + 250000; /* This allows for correct spacing of lenses */
center_y = start_uly - 400000;

/* Fill period_array and period_array2 with proper period values */
/* First, fill the standard 31 devices */
period = 700;
for (x = 0; x < 31; x++)
{
    period_array[x] = period;
    period = period + 10;
}

/* Next, fill the 13 control devices periods */
period = 730;
for (x = 0; x < 8; x++)
{
    period_array2[x] = period;
    period = period + 10;
}
period = 940;
for (x = 8; x < 13; x++)
{
    period_array2[x] = period;
    period = period + 5;
}

/* Now fill the first_ring and second_ring arrays */

```



```

/* These arrays are the inner_radius values for the */
/* first and second rings in each of the 4 device modes */

first_ring[0] = 1; /* d=LAMDA case */
first_ring[1] = 0; /* d=0 case */
first_ring[2] = 0.75; /* d=0.75*LAMDA case */
first_ring[3] = 0.5; /* d=LAMDA/2 case */

/* A nested for-loop is used to run through all the possible cases */
/* The first loop determines the device_mode (inner radius of first ring) */

for (device_mode = 0; device_mode < 4; device_mode++)
{

    /* The second loop generates the 31 standard devices */
    for (x = 0; x < 31 ; x++)
    {

        inner_radius = floor(first_ring[device_mode]*period_array[x]/2);
        outer_radius = ceil(inner_radius + period_array[x]/2);

        /* Assigns torus parameters using parameter variables as input */
        LTorusParams tParams;
        tParams.ptCenter.x = center_x;
        tParams.ptCenter.y = center_y;
        tParams.nInnerRadius = inner_radius;
        tParams.nOuterRadius = outer_radius;
        tParams.dStartAngle = start_angle;
        tParams.dStopAngle = stop_angle;

        /* Create center torus using user specified parameters */
        LObject FirstTorus = LTorus_CreateNew (tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ),
&tParams);

        /* Increment radius by 2*period to offset rings */
        inner_radius = inner_radius + 2*period_array[x];
        outer_radius = outer_radius + 2*period_array[x];
        avg_radius = (inner_radius+outer_radius)/2;

        /* Theta is used to setup the opening between the tori */
        /* to allow for a constant spacing between power and ground */
        /* rails. Theta will also be used to offset rings so that */
        /* every other rail is connected to the same potential. */

        theta = 180*atan(2*period_array[x]/avg_radius)/3.14159265359; /* Theta must
be converted to degrees */

        tParams.nInnerRadius = inner_radius;
        tParams.nOuterRadius = outer_radius;
        tParams.dStartAngle = (start_angle + 2.25*theta); /* Places ring away from left
rail */

        tParams.dStopAngle = (stop_angle - theta);
        LObject NextTorus = LTorus_CreateNew (tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ),
&tParams);

```

```

/* Loop to make Fresnel structure */

while (outer_radius < 250000)

{

/* Increment radius by 2*period to offset rings */
inner_radius = inner_radius + 2*period_array[x];
outer_radius = outer_radius + 2*period_array[x];
avg_radius = (inner_radius+outer_radius)/2;

/* Theta is used to setup the opening between the tori */
/* to allow for a constant spacing between power and ground
*/

/* rails. Theta will also be used to offset rings so that */
/* every other rail is connected to the same potential. */

theta =
180*atan(2*period_array[x]/avg_radius)/3.14159265359; /* Theta must be converted to degrees */

tParams.nInnerRadius = inner_radius;
tParams.nOuterRadius = outer_radius;
tParams.dStartAngle = (start_angle + 2*theta); /* Places ring
away from left rail */

tParams.dStopAngle = (stop_angle - theta);
LObject FirstTorus = LTorus_CreateNew (tCell, LLayer_Find
(tFile, "Poly" ), &tParams);
}

/* Draw second torus from center */
inner_radius = floor(first_ring[device_mode]*period_array[x]/2) +
period_array[x];

outer_radius = ceil(inner_radius + period_array[x]/2);
avg_radius = (inner_radius+outer_radius)/2;
theta = 180*atan(2*period_array[x]/avg_radius)/3.14159265359;

tParams.nInnerRadius = inner_radius;
tParams.nOuterRadius = outer_radius;
tParams.dStartAngle = (start_angle + theta);
tParams.dStopAngle = (stop_angle - 2*theta);
LObject SecondTorus = LTorus_CreateNew (tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly"
), &tParams);

while (outer_radius < 250000)

{

/* Increment radius of torus by 2*period to offset rings */
inner_radius = inner_radius + 2*period_array[x];
outer_radius = outer_radius + 2*period_array[x];
avg_radius = (inner_radius+outer_radius)/2;

/* Theta is used to setup the opening between the tori */
/* to allow for a constant spacing between power and ground
*/

```

```

        /* rails. Theta will also be used to offset rings so that */
        /* every other rail is connected to the same potential. */

        theta =
180*atan(2*period_array[x]/avg_radius)/3.14159265359; /* Theta must be converted to degrees */

        tParams.nInnerRadius = inner_radius;
        tParams.nOuterRadius = outer_radius;
        tParams.dStartAngle = (start_angle + theta);
        tParams.dStopAngle = (stop_angle - 2*theta); /* Places ring
away from right rail */

        LObject FirstTorus = LTorus_CreateNew (tCell, LLayer_Find
(tFile, "Poly" ), &tParams);

    }

    /* This will generate the power and ground rails of the device */
    x0 = center_x - 2*period_array[x];
    y0 = center_y + first_ring[device_mode]*period_array[x]/2 + period_array[x]/2;
    x1 = x0 + period_array[x];
    y1 = center_y + 300000;
    /* Generate left power rail */
    LBox_New(tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ), x0, y0, x1, y1);

    x0 = center_x + period_array[x];
    y0 = center_y + first_ring[device_mode]*period_array[x] +
1.25*period_array[x]; /*Start the power rail high enough to put a curved region in to connect center */
    x1 = x0 + period_array[x];
    y1 = center_y + 300000;
    /* Generate right power rail */
    LBox_New(tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ), x0, y0, x1, y1);

    /* Next the bond pads are created and placed on the structure */
    x0 = center_x - 110000 - period_array[x];
    y0 = center_y + 300000;
    x1 = x0 + 100000;
    y1 = center_y + 400000;
    /* Generate left pad */
    LBox_New(tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ), x0, y0, x1, y1);

    x0 = center_x + 10000 + period_array[x];
    y0 = center_y + 300000;
    x1 = x0 + 100000;
    y1 = center_y + 400000;
    /* Generate right pad */
    LBox_New(tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ), x0, y0, x1, y1);

    /* A third bond pad is created 4 micron to the right of the right pad to allow for
an optical switch */
    x0 = center_x + 114000 + period_array[x];
    y0 = center_y + 300000;
    x1 = x0 + 100000;

```

```

y1 = center_y + 400000;
/* Generate right pad */
LBox_New(tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ), x0, y0, x1, y1);

/* Put a triangle into the bonding pad structure to keep current levels */
/* below anything that could damage the wires. */

tri_arr [0] = LPoint_Set(center_x-period_array[x],center_y+260000);
tri_arr [1] = LPoint_Set(center_x-100000-period_array[x],center_y+300000);
tri_arr [2] = LPoint_Set(center_x-period_array[x],center_y+300000);
LPolygon_New(tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ),tri_arr,3);

tri_arr [0] = LPoint_Set(center_x+period_array[x],center_y+260000);
tri_arr [1] = LPoint_Set(center_x+period_array[x],center_y+300000);
tri_arr [2] = LPoint_Set(center_x+100000+period_array[x],center_y+300000);
LPolygon_New(tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ),tri_arr,3);

/* Finally connect the center ring to the power rail system */
inner_radius = first_ring[device_mode]*period_array[x]/2 + period_array[x]/2 -
100;

outer_radius = inner_radius + 2*period_array[x] + 100;

tParams.nInnerRadius = inner_radius;
tParams.nOuterRadius = outer_radius;
tParams.dStartAngle = 35;
tParams.dStopAngle = 65;
LObject LastTorus = LTorus_CreateNew (tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ),
&tParams);

center_x = center_x + 550000;
lateral_count = lateral_count + 1;
if (lateral_count > 21)
{
    center_x = start_ulx + 250000;
    center_y = center_y - 700000;
    lateral_count = 0;
}
}

/* This nested loop is to generate the control devices */
for ( x = 0; x < 13; x++)
{

    inner_radius = floor(first_ring[device_mode]*period_array2[x]/2);
    outer_radius = ceil(inner_radius + period_array2[x]/2);

    /* Assigns torus parameters using parameter variables as input */
    LTorusParams tParams;
    tParams.ptCenter.x = center_x;
    tParams.ptCenter.y = center_y;
    tParams.nInnerRadius = inner_radius;
    tParams.nOuterRadius = outer_radius;
    tParams.dStartAngle = 90;

```

```

tParams.dStopAngle = 90;

/* Create center torus using user specified parameters */
LObject FirstTorus = LTorus_CreateNew (tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile, "Poly" ),
&tParams);

while (outer_radius < 250000)
{
/* Increment radius by 2*period to offset rings */
inner_radius = inner_radius + period_array2[x];
outer_radius = outer_radius + period_array2[x];

tParams.nInnerRadius = inner_radius;
tParams.nOuterRadius = outer_radius;
tParams.dStartAngle = 90;
tParams.dStopAngle = 90;
LObject NextTorus = LTorus_CreateNew (tCell, LLayer_Find (tFile,
"Poly" ), &tParams);
}

center_x = center_x + 550000;
lateral_count = lateral_count + 1;
if (lateral_count > 21)
{
center_x = start_ulx + 250000;
center_y = center_y - 700000;
lateral_count = 0;
}
}

}

}

/* This function registers the Fresnel Lens function as a Macro */
void fresnel_lens_macro_register ( void )
{
LMacro_Register ( "Fresnel Lens Lamda Center Matrix", "FresnelLensMacro" );
}

} /* End of module hierarchy */

/* Call macro registration function */
fresnel_lens_macro_register();

```