

## Si interstitial contribution of F+ implants in crystalline Si

**Citation for published version (APA):**

López, P., Pelaz, L., Duffy, R., Meunier-Beillard, P., Roozeboom, F., Tak, van der, K., Breimer, P., Berkum, van, J. G. M., Verheijen, M. A., & Kaiser, M. (2008). Si interstitial contribution of F+ implants in crystalline Si. *Journal of Applied Physics*, 103(9), Article 093538. <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.2917297>

**DOI:**

[10.1063/1.2917297](https://doi.org/10.1063/1.2917297)

**Document status and date:**

Published: 01/01/2008

**Document Version:**

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of Record (includes final page, issue and volume numbers)

**Please check the document version of this publication:**

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## Si interstitial contribution of F<sup>+</sup> implants in crystalline Si

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(Received 26 October 2007; accepted 5 March 2008; published online 13 May 2008)

The F effect in crystalline Si is quantified by monitoring defects and B diffusion in samples implanted with 25 keV F<sup>+</sup> and/or 40 keV Si<sup>+</sup>. We estimate that about +0.4 Si interstitials are generated per implanted F<sup>+</sup> ion, in agreement with the value resulting from the net separation of Frenkel pairs. For short annealings, B diffusion is lower when F<sup>+</sup> is coimplanted with Si<sup>+</sup> than when only Si<sup>+</sup> is implanted, while for longer annealings, B diffusion is higher. This is consistent with a lower but longer-lasting Si interstitial supersaturation set by the additional defects generated by the F<sup>+</sup> implant. © 2008 American Institute of Physics. [DOI: 10.1063/1.2917297]

### I. INTRODUCTION

In the fabrication of ultrashallow *p*-type junctions in complementary metal oxide semiconductor technology, B<sup>+</sup> has been traditionally coimplanted with F<sup>+</sup> because of the technological advantage of using BF<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>. More recently, specially designed cocktail implants combine separate B<sup>+</sup> and F<sup>+</sup> implants in preamorphized Si to optimize the junction formation.<sup>1</sup> It has been clearly demonstrated that the presence of F inside the recrystallized layer strongly reduces B diffusion.<sup>2,3</sup> This beneficial effect has been related to the formation of F-vacancy complexes (F<sub>n</sub>V<sub>m</sub>) during solid phase epitaxial regrowth of the preamorphized layer, acting as annihilation centers for Si interstitials (*I*'s) released from end of range (EOR) defects, reducing Si *I*'s supersaturation, and thus, B diffusion.

The mechanisms governing F behavior in crystalline Si (*c*-Si) and its effect on B diffusion have not been fully elucidated yet. There is not even an agreement about a possible beneficial effect of F<sup>+</sup> implantation in *c*-Si. Some experiments indicate that medium energy F<sup>+</sup> implants cause B transient enhanced diffusion (TED) although less than that caused by equivalent Si<sup>+</sup> or Ne<sup>+</sup> implants.<sup>4</sup> Other studies with high energy F<sup>+</sup> implants have reported a B diffusion even lower than equilibrium in the vacancy-rich region of the damage profile,<sup>5</sup> but this also occurs for other high energy ion implants.<sup>6</sup> Park *et al.* showed that annealed B profiles of nonamorphizing BF<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> implants are shallower than the equivalent B implants but they have a higher electrical resistivity.<sup>7</sup> The clarification of the role of F in *c*-Si is important because sometimes, amorphization should be avoided due to the excessive leakage caused by residual EOR defects or because the imperfect recrystallization degrades device performance, as it occurs in thin fin field effect transistor structures.<sup>8</sup> The aim of this work is to elucidate the role of the F<sup>+</sup> coimplantation on B diffusion in *c*-Si.

### II. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

In our experiments, two B doped layers were grown by chemical vapor deposition at depths of 120 and 440 nm to act as diffusion markers. B peak concentration was low, approximately  $2.5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ , to minimize the formation of boron interstitial clusters (BICs). Two different nonamorphizing F fluences ( $1 \times 10^{14}$  and  $5 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ ) were chosen to analyze the effect of the amount of damage and F fluence on B diffusion. F<sup>+</sup> was implanted at 25 keV whose mean projected range ( $R_p$ ) ( $\sim 56 \text{ nm}$ ) is located close to the position of the shallow B spike. A 40 keV  $5 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  Si<sup>+</sup> implant, whose  $R_p$  is similar to that of the F<sup>+</sup> implants, was also performed alone or combined with one of the two F<sup>+</sup> implants to study the effect of F with additional damage. A sample with no implants was used as a reference for equilibrium B diffusion. All samples were annealed at 850 °C for 18, 180, or 1800 s. Secondary ion mass spectrometry (SIMS) was used to analyze B and F profiles and transmission electron microscopy (TEM) to detect the presence of extended defects.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

SIMS B profiles for the samples implanted with F<sup>+</sup>, Si<sup>+</sup>, and F<sup>+</sup> plus Si<sup>+</sup> after annealing at 850 °C for 18 s are plotted in Fig. 1. We observe that F<sup>+</sup> implants alone lead to enhanced B diffusion compared to equilibrium, which indicates that a F<sup>+</sup> implant generates a Si *I*'s supersaturation, as previously reported.<sup>4</sup> However, for this short annealing, B diffusion is reduced when a F<sup>+</sup> implant is added to the Si<sup>+</sup> implant, compared to the samples that are only implanted with Si<sup>+</sup>. This reduction is observed in both B spikes and for the two F<sup>+</sup> fluences but it is clearer for the lower F<sup>+</sup> fluence. When  $10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  F<sup>+</sup> is coimplanted with Si<sup>+</sup>, B diffusivity in the deep B spike is about 0.6 times that obtained in the sample implanted only with Si<sup>+</sup>. The situation changes as the annealing proceeds, as we can see in the SIMS profiles plotted in Fig. 2 corresponding to 180 s annealings. For the lower F<sup>+</sup>

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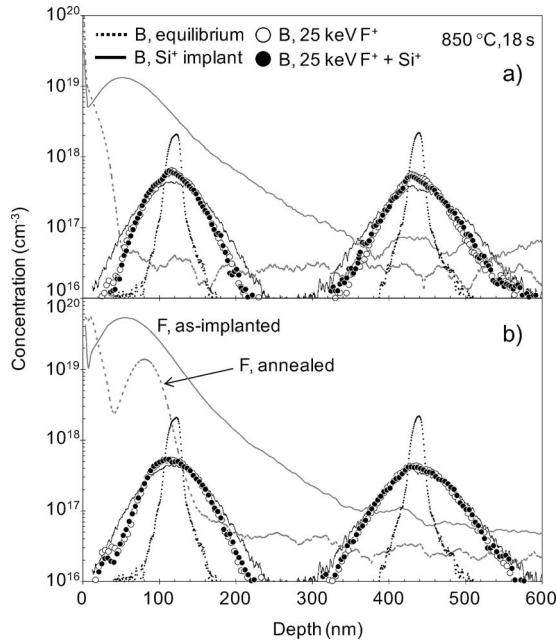


FIG. 1. B SIMS profiles after annealing at 850 °C for 18 s in the samples implanted with  $5 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  40 keV  $\text{Si}^+$  (solid black line), 25 keV  $\text{F}^+$  (open symbols), or coimplanted with  $\text{Si}^+$  and  $\text{F}^+$  in the same conditions (solid symbols). Two F fluences were implanted: (a)  $10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ F}^+$  and (b)  $5 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ F}^+$ . The diffused B profiles in equilibrium conditions (dotted black line) are plotted for comparison. The as-implanted and annealed F profiles for both implants are also shown (solid and dotted gray lines).

fluence, the advantage of  $\text{F}^+$  coimplantation is no longer observed and a higher B diffusion appears when  $\text{F}^+$  and  $\text{Si}^+$  are coimplanted compared to the sample only implanted with  $\text{Si}^+$  (approximately 1.7 times higher). At this time, samples im-

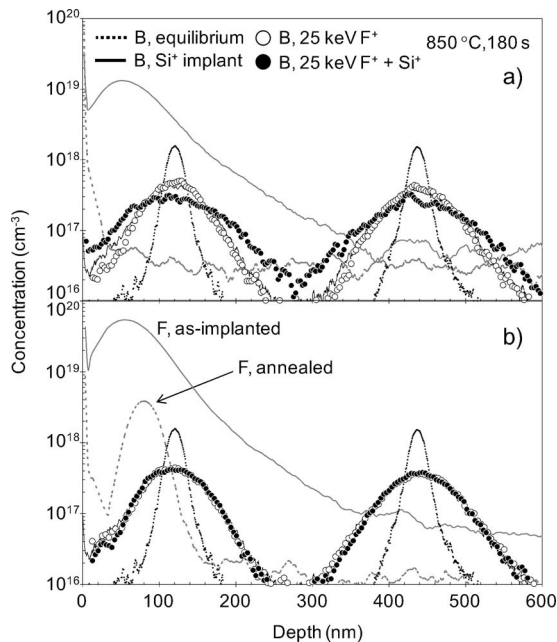


FIG. 2. B SIMS profiles after annealing at 850 °C for 180 s in the samples implanted with  $5 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  40 keV  $\text{Si}^+$  (solid black line), 25 keV  $\text{F}^+$  (open symbols), or coimplanted with  $\text{Si}^+$  and  $\text{F}^+$  in the same conditions (solid symbols). Two F fluences were implanted: (a)  $10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ F}^+$  and (b)  $5 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ F}^+$ . The diffused B profiles in equilibrium conditions (dotted black line) are included. The as-implanted and annealed F profiles are also plotted (solid and dotted gray lines).

planted with  $5 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ F}^+$  (alone or coimplanted) present similar B diffusion to the one implanted only with  $\text{Si}^+$ . The B SIMS profiles for 1800 s (not shown) are similar to those at 180 s.

The as-implanted and annealed F SIMS profiles are also plotted in Figs. 1 and 2 for 18 and 180 s annealings, respectively. Only the shallow B spike is initially covered by F and a significant fraction of F is lost upon annealing. For the higher  $\text{F}^+$  implant fluence, there is a F peak located around  $R_p$  that remains long. For the  $10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ F}^+$  implant, only 24% of F fluence is retained after 18 s annealing and it is located very close to the surface. It has almost completely outgassed after 180 s. Since F rapidly outdiffuses, and theoretical calculations indicate that the F–B interaction is weak,<sup>3</sup> it is unlikely that the immobilization of B atoms by F is responsible for the reduction of B diffusion. It is worthy to note that less B diffusion is observed in the shallow B spike (initially covered by F) than in the deepest one but this also happens for the  $\text{Si}^+$  implant. This behavior could be explained by the temporal immobilization of B due to the formation of BICs in the damaged region of the  $\text{F}^+$  or  $\text{Si}^+$  implants,<sup>9</sup> which reduces the amount of B available for diffusion. The additional damage cascades generated by the  $\text{F}^+$  coimplantation with  $\text{Si}^+$  would favor BIC formation in the shallow B spike, and thus, a reduction in B diffusion. In fact, Park *et al.* reported a significantly lower effective solubility of B in  $\text{BF}_2^+$  implants compared to equivalent  $\text{B}^+$  implants.<sup>7</sup> In our experiment, since B concentration is low, only a small B fraction is expected to be in BICs and they would easily dissolve at 850 °C. In any case, the deep B spike is not covered by F or by the implant damage (no BICs are formed) and it also undergoes a reduced B diffusion for short annealing times in samples coimplanted with  $\text{F}^+$  and  $\text{Si}^+$  compared to those only implanted with  $\text{Si}^+$ . Therefore, F has a nonlocal effect on B diffusion, which may be attributed to a modification in the  $\text{Si}^+$ 's supersaturation set by the defect evolution.

In the sample implanted only with  $\text{Si}^+$ , no defects are observed in TEM images (not shown) after annealing at 850 °C for 18 s. It is known that a  $5 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2}$  40 keV  $\text{Si}^+$  implant produces small  $\text{Si}^+$ 's clusters and  $\{113\}$  defects that set a high  $\text{Si}^+$ 's supersaturation but quickly dissolve.<sup>10</sup> TEM images of the sample coimplanted with  $\text{Si}^+$  and  $10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ F}^+$ , included in Fig. 3, show a high defect density after 18 s annealing. After 180 s annealing, most defects have dissolved and only a few  $\{113\}$  defects are visible [Fig. 3(b)]. TEM analysis of the sample implanted with  $5 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ F}^+$  reveals a large number of  $\{113\}$  defects and dislocation loops for 18 s annealing [Fig. 3(c)]. After 1800 s annealing, many dislocation loops still remain [Fig. 3(d)].

An important difference between  $\text{F}^+$  implantation in amorphous Si (*a*-Si) and *c*-Si is that in *a*-Si, some vacancies ( $V$ 's) can be retained into the lattice as  $\text{F}_n\text{V}_m$  complexes while excess Si atoms are swept to the surface during regrowth, resulting in a net excess vacancy contribution associated to the presence of F. In *c*-Si,  $I$ 's and  $V$ 's are created in pairs, plus one additional excess Si interstitial per implanted ion if this becomes substitutional (not likely in the case of F).<sup>11</sup> If  $\text{F}_n\text{V}_m$  complexes are formed, the amount of excess

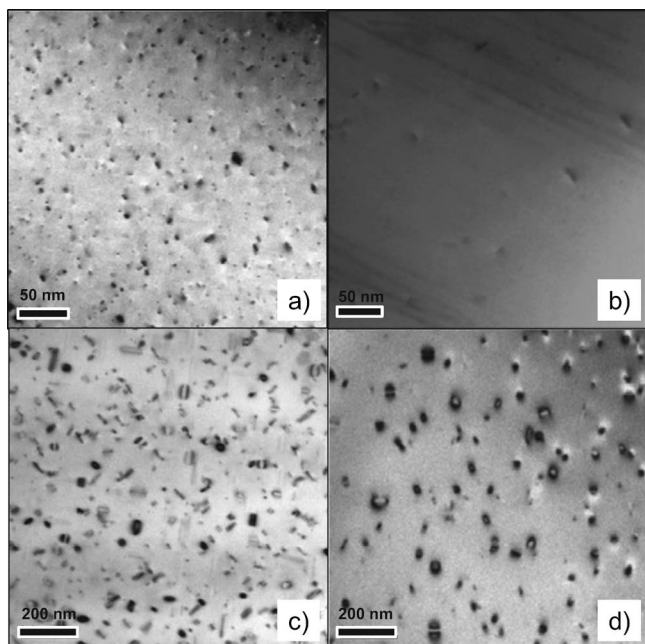


FIG. 3. [(a) and (b)] Plan-view TEM images for  $10^{14}$   $\text{cm}^{-2}$  25 keV  $\text{F}^+$  plus  $5 \times 10^{13}$   $\text{cm}^{-2}$  40 keV  $\text{Si}^+$  after annealing at 850 °C for 18 and 180 s, respectively. [(c) and (d)] Plan view TEM images for  $5 \times 10^{14}$   $\text{cm}^{-2}$  25 keV  $\text{F}^+$  after annealing at 850 °C for 18 and 1800 s.

$\text{Si } I$ 's per  $\text{F}$  atom would correspond to the number of  $V$ 's retained per  $\text{F}$  atom ( $m/n$ ). Frenkel pairs can be locally separated due to the momentum transfer of the energetic incoming ions, and a vacancy-rich region is created near the surface and a  $\text{Si}$  self-interstitial-rich region deeper.<sup>12</sup> In the  $\text{Si}$  interstitial-rich region,  $\text{F}_n\text{V}_m$  complexes are not likely to survive because the excess  $\text{Si } I$ 's will easily recombine them<sup>3</sup> and  $\text{F}$  would outdiffuse or segregate to extended defects. A chemical role of  $\text{F}$  could be derived from the trapping of  $\text{Si } I$ 's in  $\text{F}_n\text{I}_m$  complexes,<sup>13</sup> although theoretical calculations indicate that  $\text{F}$  and  $\text{Si } I$ 's are not strongly bound.<sup>3</sup> Some authors suggested the modification of  $\text{Si}$  self-interstitial defect stability,<sup>14</sup> while others indicated that  $\text{F}$  did not have an effect on defect evolution.<sup>15</sup> In any case, a change in defect stability or the temporary trapping of  $\text{Si } I$ 's would alter  $\text{B}$  diffusion during the transient period (while defects or complexes exist), but once defects had been completely annealed out and all  $\text{Si } I$ 's were released, the overall  $\text{B}$  diffusion should correspond to the excess  $\text{Si } I$ 's generated independently of the stability of defects or complexes where they may have been temporarily stored.<sup>16</sup> An additional contribution of  $\text{F}$  could be attributed to its transport capability of point defects. If the dominant diffusing species were interstitial  $\text{F}$  ( $\text{F}_i$ ),<sup>3</sup>  $\text{F}$  would only transport itself and the implanted ion would outdiffuse without altering the damage balance associated with the Frenkel pair separation. Nevertheless, if the  $\text{F}_i$ -interstitial pair ( $\text{F}_i\text{-I}$ ) significantly diffused as it has been recently suggested,<sup>17</sup> the presence of  $\text{F}$  would favor the removal of  $\text{Si } I$ 's, leaving excess  $V$ 's behind. The contrary would hold if the main diffusing species were the  $\text{F}_i\text{-V}$  pair.

In order to quantify the  $\text{Si}$  interstitial damage produced by the  $\text{F}^+$  implant and its net contribution to  $\text{B}$  diffusion, we have determined from TEM images (according to the quan-

tification method described elsewhere)<sup>18–20</sup> that approximately  $2 \times 10^{14}$   $\text{Si } I$ 's/ $\text{cm}^2$  are stored in the  $\{113\}$  defects and dislocation loops for the 25 keV  $5 \times 10^{14}$   $\text{cm}^{-2}$   $\text{F}^+$  implant after 18 s annealing (typical error is 20%). The defects observed in TEM images at short times (when defects have ripened enough to be visible but before a significant part of them has dissolved) give an estimate of the initial amount of defects. This value is a lower limit since some defects may not be visible or may have already dissolved. Thus, we experimentally estimate that around 0.4,  $\text{Si } I$ 's per implanted  $\text{F}^+$  ion are stored in defects. An estimate of the effective number of  $\text{Si } I$ 's can also be derived from diffusion experiments when TED is complete. For the longest annealing time analyzed (defects are completely dissolved), the averaged value of the  $\text{B}$  diffusivity multiplied by time (which is proportional to the time integrated free  $\text{Si}$  interstitial concentration) in the deep  $\text{B}$  spike for the 25 keV  $10^{14}$   $\text{cm}^{-2}$   $\text{F}^+$  implant alone is about 0.7 times that of the 40 keV  $5 \times 10^{13}$   $\text{cm}^{-2}$   $\text{Si}^+$  implant, while for the  $\text{F}^+$  and  $\text{Si}^+$  coimplantation, this value is equal to 1.7 times that of the  $\text{Si}$ . Therefore, the contribution of this  $\text{F}^+$  implant (whose  $R_p$  is similar to that of the  $\text{Si}^+$  implant) is about 0.7 times that of the  $\text{Si}^+$  implant, although the  $\text{F}^+$  implant fluence is double the  $\text{Si}$  fluence. Considering that the effective  $+n$  factor for the  $\text{Si}^+$  implant is approximately  $+1.3$ ,<sup>12</sup> this indicates that the number of effective  $\text{Si } I$ 's per implanted  $\text{F}^+$  ion in  $c\text{-Si}$  is about  $+0.5$ , which is significantly lower than unity. Theoretical calculations reveal that  $\text{F}$  prefers to remain interstitial rather than to occupy a substitutional position,<sup>11</sup> which explains this low value, and why  $\text{F}^+$  implants produce less TED than similar  $\text{Si}^+$  or  $\text{Ne}^+$  implants.<sup>4</sup>

Kinetic Monte Carlo simulations of the 25 keV  $\text{F}^+$  implant reveal that once the Frenkel pairs have locally recombined, there are approximately 0.4  $\text{Si } I$ 's per implanted  $\text{F}^+$  ion in the interstitial-rich region, in good agreement with the values estimated experimentally. Therefore, the net separation between  $\text{Si } I$ 's and the corresponding  $V$ 's resulting from the  $\text{F}^+$  implant in  $c\text{-Si}$  accounts for the presence of  $\text{Si}$  interstitial-type defects and the measured enhanced  $\text{B}$  diffusion. This also indicates that  $\text{F}_i$  has no significant transport capability of additional point defects. Although we cannot rule out a chemical role of  $\text{F}$  stabilizing extended defects, the additional damage created by the  $\text{F}^+$  coimplant with  $\text{Si}^+$  also contributes to the formation of a larger defect density, favoring their growth by the capture of emitted  $\text{Si } I$ 's and setting a lower  $\text{Si } I$ 's supersaturation responsible for the reduced  $\text{B}$  TED for short annealing times. The coimplantation of  $\text{Si}^+$  and the lower  $\text{F}^+$  fluence causes a higher  $\text{B}$  TED for longer annealings because more  $\text{Si } I$ 's (those generated by both  $\text{Si}^+$  and  $\text{F}^+$  implants) have contributed to it. The samples implanted with a higher  $\text{F}^+$  fluence ( $5 \times 10^{14}$   $\text{cm}^{-2}$ ) do not show more  $\text{B}$  diffusion than that implanted only with  $\text{Si}^+$ , even for the longest analyzed annealing (1800 s), in spite of the much larger effective  $\text{Si}$  interstitial fluence contribution for the  $\text{F}^+$  implant [ $\sim 2 \times 10^{14}$   $\text{cm}^{-2}$  for  $\text{F}^+$  ( $0.4 \times$  implant fluence) versus  $\sim 6.5 \times 10^{13}$   $\text{cm}^{-2}$  for  $\text{Si}^+$  ( $1.3 \times$  implant fluence)] because many  $I$ 's still remain stored in stable dislocation loops<sup>21</sup> and have not effectively contributed to enhance  $\text{B}$  diffusion.

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

In summary, from TEM images and B diffusion experiments, we have estimated that approximately +0.4 Si *I*'s are generated per implanted 25 keV F<sup>+</sup> ion, in good agreement with the value resulting from the net separation of Frenkel pairs. Although other effects cannot be completely ruled out, the overall resulting effect of F on B diffusion can be explained on the basis of the defect evolution. The additional Si *I*'s generated by F<sup>+</sup> coimplants contribute to the formation of a larger amount of more stable extended defects, which set a lower but longer-lasting Si interstitial supersaturation. As a result, at short annealing times a reduction of B diffusion is observed, but if the annealing is complete (which is desirable to reduce junction leakage), B diffusion is enhanced by the additional F<sup>+</sup> implant. Our results clearly indicate that F<sup>+</sup> coimplantation with Si<sup>+</sup> (or normally B<sup>+</sup> implant) in *c*-Si causes additional Si interstitial defects and it has an overall negative effect on junction formation.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work has been funded by the Spanish DGI under Project No. TEC2005-05101 and the JCyL Consejería de Educación y Cultura under Project No. VA070A05.

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