

Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge MOS 界面の遅い準位密度に与える界面構造の影響

Influence of Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge MOS interface structures on the slow trap density

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1. Introduction

Ge has become more and more attracting as a next generation MOSFET channel material because of the higher electron and hole mobility than Si. As one of the promising gate stacks, Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge and HfO₂/Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge structures realized by plasma post oxidation (PPO) have been shown to have 1 nm or thinner EOT and low D_{it} of ~10¹¹ eV⁻¹cm⁻² [1,2]. However, one of the remaining critical issues is the existence of a large amount of slow traps [3-5]. We have recently reported that Y-doped Al₂O₃ can decrease the slow trap density of Al₂O₃/GeO_x/p-Ge gate stacks [6]. However, significant reduction in slow trap density near the conduction band edge is still strongly needed. Also, the physical origin of slow traps in Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge MOS interfaces must be clarified to effectively eliminate them. In this study, we investigate the position of slow traps in Al₂O₃/GeO_x/n-Ge MOS interfaces with changing the process and structural parameters of the gate stacks.

2. Experiment

(100) Ge wafers were cleaned by de-ionized water, acetone and HF. After the pre-cleaning, 1.5-, 1.8-, 2.1-nm-thick Al₂O₃ were deposited at 300°C by ALD. Subsequently, PPO was performed by using ECR plasma of Ar and O₂ at 300 °C under 650 W with changing oxidation time and resulting GeO_x thickness. PDA was performed for 30 min at 400 °C in N₂ ambient, followed by Au gate electrode and Al back contact formation by thermal evaporation. The slow trap density (ΔN_{fix}) was estimated by the amount of the hysteresis in C-V sweep as a function of the effective oxide field (E_{ox}), defined by $(V_g - V_{\text{FB}})/\text{EOT}$ [5].

3. Results and Discussion

In Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge interface by PPO, the amount of slow traps is studied by systematically changing the thickness of Al₂O₃ and GeO_x. Fig. 1 shows the slow trap density of 1.5-nm-thick Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge MOS interfaces with the different GeO_x thickness of 0.67, 0.97 and 1.19 nm. The variation of ΔN_{fix} with changing the GeO_x thickness is small, suggesting a constant areal density of slow traps. Fig. 2 shows the Al₂O₃ thickness dependence of ΔN_{fix} under an almost constant GeO_x thickness. While the increase in the initial Al₂O₃ thickness slightly decreases ΔN_{fix} , the dependence seems weak. Fig. 3 summarizes the GeO_x thickness dependence of ΔN_{fix} as a parameter of the Al₂O₃ thickness. It is found that ΔN_{fix} is almost independent of the GeO_x thickness. These results means that slow traps do not simply locate only in the Al₂O₃ layers, but also exist GeO_x layers, in contrast to the previous report [5]. The weak Al₂O₃ dependence of ΔN_{fix} , seen in Fig. 2, may be a consequence of the difference in the interface reaction. Fig. 4 shows the ΔN_{fix} of HfO₂/Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge MOS interface with changing the thickness of HfO₂ and Al₂O₃. Especially

in 0.2-nm-thick Al₂O₃ interlayer case, ΔN_{fix} is also in the same level as those in the thicker Al₂O₃ samples. This result clearly indicates that Al₂O₃ is not a main reason of slow trap generation. Fig. 5 shows schematic diagrams of possible models of the location of slow traps, where any reaction with Ge substrates or any reaction between GeO_x and Al₂O₃ by the PPO process can lead to the generation of defects responsible for the observed slow traps.

4. Conclusions

We have investigated the properties of slow traps existing in the Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge MOS interfaces by systematically changing the gate stack structures. The main slow traps can locate near the interfaces between Ge and GeO_x, or between GeO_x and Al₂O₃.

Acknowledgements

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References

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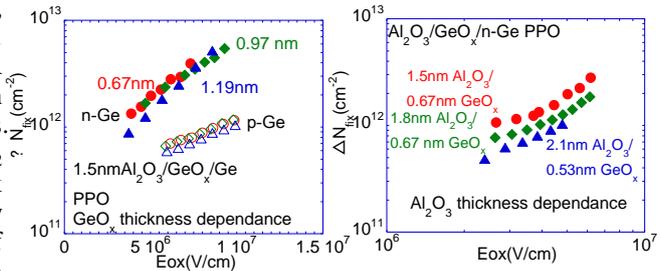


Fig.1: ΔN_{fix} of Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge interface with different GeO_x thickness in changing E_{ox}

Fig.2: ΔN_{fix} of Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge interface with different Al₂O₃ thickness

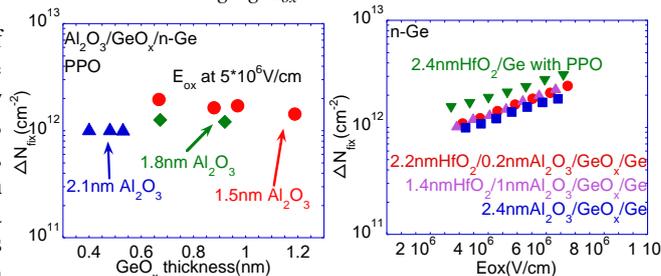


Fig.3: ΔN_{fix} of Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge interface with different GeO_x thickness

Fig.4: ΔN_{fix} of HfO₂/Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge interface with different PPO power

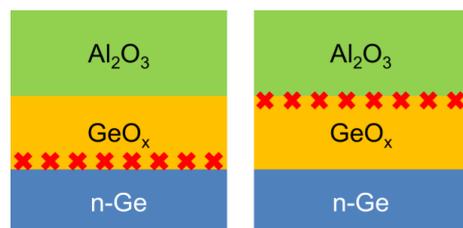


Fig.5: schematic diagram of slow traps in Al₂O₃/GeO_x/Ge interface