

Removal Rate Enhancers For Silica-based Ru Barrier Slurry

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Introduction

- Motivation for Ru integration.
- <u>Targets:</u> > 150 A/min for ≤ 2 psi downforce. Minimum dielectric loss, lower topo and defects.
 <u>Slurry design:</u> Identify a complexor enabling higher Ru RR at a lower TEOS:Ru selectivity.
- Results
 - Increasing Ru removal rate colloidal silica + chemistry.
 - TEOS:Ru selectivity improvement by the slurry with complexor B.
 - Lower corrosion current and a higher Ru RR by the slurry with complexor B.
- Summary
- Acknowledgements



Ru for interconnects



• Ru or a Ru-based material may be used as a barrier- or liner.

Adapted from "Tokei, IEDM Short Course, 2013"

 Ru has lower resistivity than Ta and is less prone to corrosion than Co.

 Ru liner is expected to meet dimensional needs at 7nm.



Targets for Ru barrier slurry

Ru removal rate > 150 A/min for ≤ 2 psi downforce. Minimum dielectric film loss Lower topography Lower defects



 Identify a complexor, Lx, which enhances [RuLx]^{M+} complex formation. These complexes should ideally be fragile surface complex films.







- The high TEOS RR of slurry A-1 may result in increased oxide erosion, potentially driving metal loss during overpolish.
- Ru RR should ideally be \geq 150 A/min, with TEOS:Ru selectivity \leq 3.
- Slurries A-2 and A-3 do not meet the targets.

Technical gap 2



• 2x higher complexor A concentration does not result in a significant change in Ru RR and TEOS:Ru selectivity.

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Improved Ru RR with complexor B





• Complexor B enables a high Ru RR with reduced TEOS:Ru selectivity.

Tafel plot and corrosion currents for Ru





- Slurry A and slurry B are similar w.r.t ΔE (difference in open circuit potential).
- Slurry B (with complexor B) exhibits a higher Ru RR with a lower corrosion current.
- Oxidation of Ru is not driving RR.

HSAB Working model for selectivity

improvement



• HSAB (Hard soft acids and bases) theory.

• "Hard" species, e.g. Al, are weakly polarizable.

"Soft" species, e.g. Ru, are strongly polarizable.

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HSAB theory applied to Ru



- In general, soft acids react faster and form stronger bonds with soft bases, whereas hard acids react faster and form stronger bonds with hard bases.
- A complexor with a soft donor must be identified to enable a complex to be formed with metallic Ru.



Donor atom(s) for Ru and Ru_xO_y



- Softer donor atoms, e.g. S and P, may work better in complexing metallic Ru.
- The hardness of Ru_xO_y is dependent on the oxidation number of Ru. Donor atom(s) must be chosen to accommodate type of Ru and/or Ru_xO_y to be polished.

Soft donor atom in salt B

commonality which enables

an increased Ru RR.







 $\frac{R}{X} = Backbone$ $\frac{X}{X} = Hard donor atom$

 $\underline{Y} =$ Soft donor atom

Complexor A:

Complexor B:

R-X

Y-R

Proposed model for Ru removal with Complexor B



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- In the left plot (a study by Prof. Babu), it is proposed that Ru-BTA complexes are formed through chemical routes without interfacial charge transfer.
- There is no BTA in the slurries on the right plot, but it is possible that complexor B (ComB) enables enables formation of [Ru-comB] complexes that form fragile surface complex films in a similar way as Ru-BTA in Prof. Babu's study.
- Future work: XPS study under consideration.



- Colloidal silica based Ru slurry was developed using a Ru complexor approach to enable polish rate and defectivity.
- Complexor B, enabling a higher Ru RR at a lower TEOS:Ru selectivity compared with complexor A, was identified.
- HSAB (hard-soft acids and bases) theory was proposed as a working model to help explain the improved RRs for slurries with complexor B.
- Slurries with complexor B exhibit a higher Ru RR at a lower corrosion current compared with slurries with complexor A, proposing complexor B (comB) enables formation of [Ru-comB] complexes that form fragile surface complex films without interfacial charge transfer.



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