Lecture 7: Manufacturing

CSCE 5730
Digital CMOS VLSI Design

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Lecture Outline

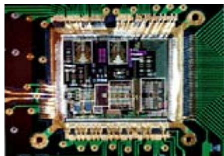
- CMOS Fabrication
- Packaging
- Testing

Introduction

- Integrated circuits: many transistors on one chip.
- *Very Large Scale Integration* (VLSI): very many
- *Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor*
  - Fast, cheap, low power transistors
- How to build your own simple CMOS chip
  - CMOS transistors
  - Building logic gates from transistors
  - Transistor layout and fabrication

MOSFET: 3D Perspective

Polysilicon
Aluminum
Gate Oxide
Field Oxide
GATE
N+
N+
Source / Drain Regions
P-Type
Field Oxide



A Modern CMOS Process

gate-oxide

TiSi$_2$

AlCu

SiO$_2$

Tungsten

poly

p-well

n-well

SiO$_2$

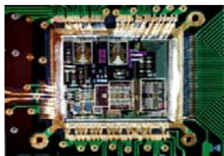
n+

p-epi

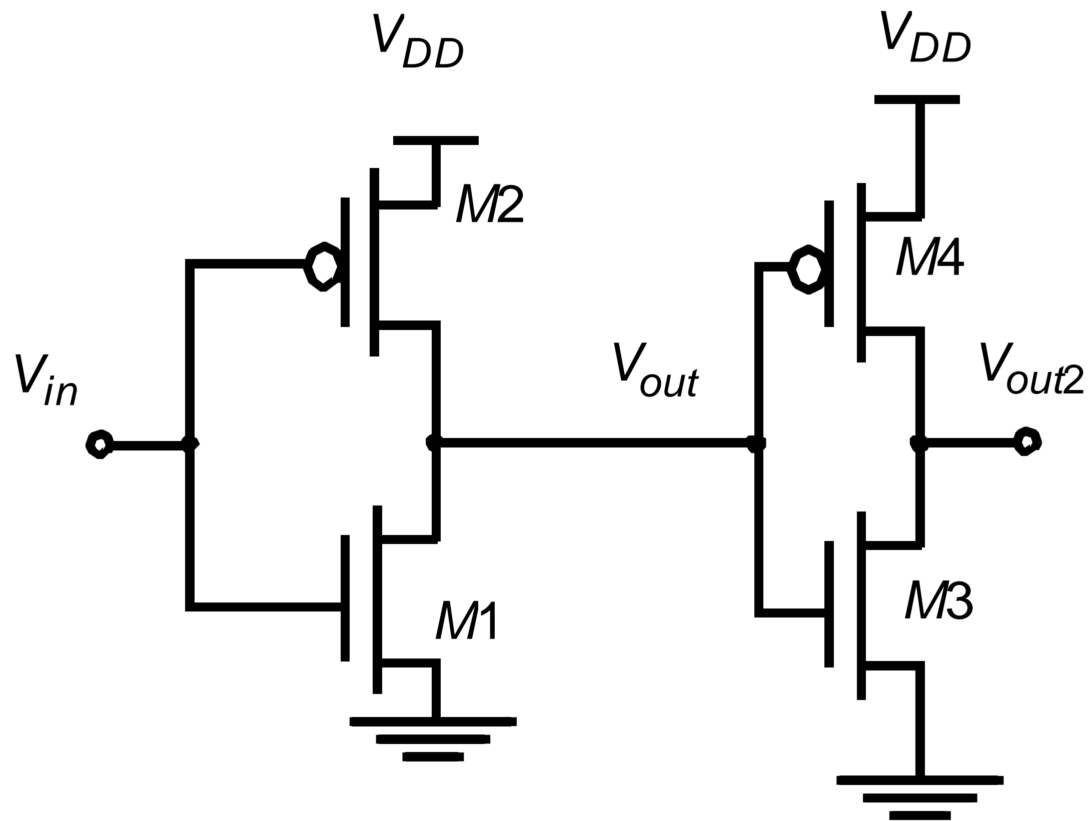
p+

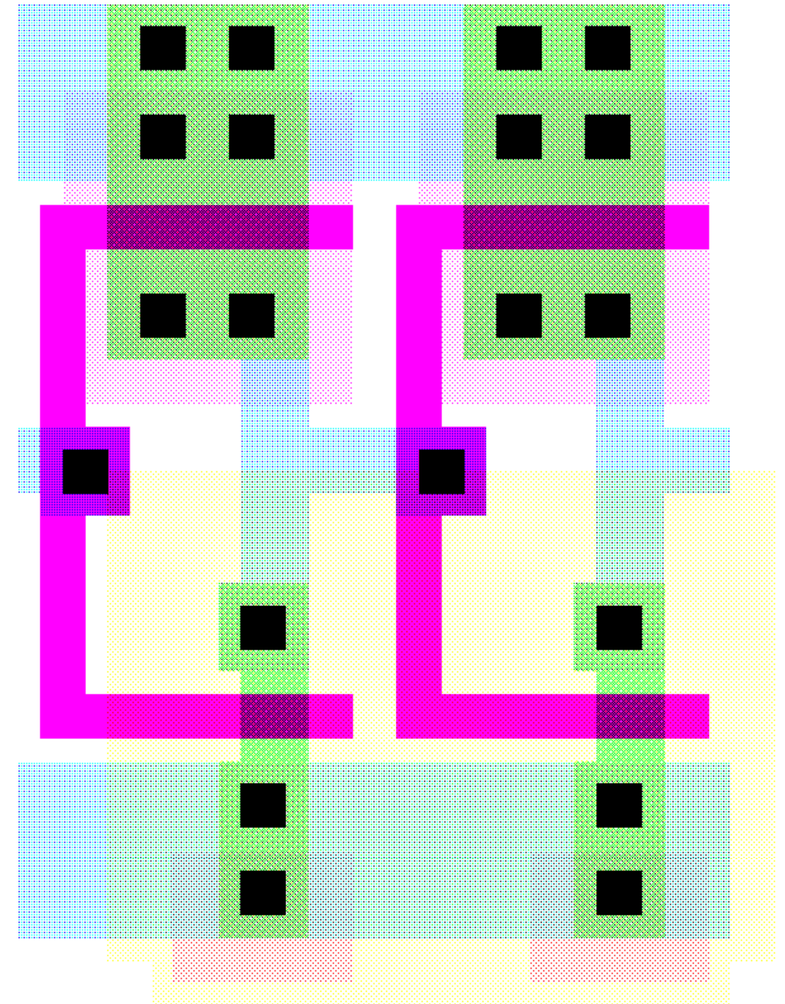
p+

Dual-Well Trench-Isolated CMOS Process



Circuit Under Design and Its Layout





CMOS Fabrication

- CMOS transistors are fabricated on silicon wafer.
- Lithography process similar to printing press is used for the fabrication.
- On each step, different materials are deposited or etched.
- Easiest to understand by viewing both top and cross-section of wafer in a simplified manufacturing process.

Photo-Lithographic Process

optical mask

oxidation

photoresist coating

photoresist removal (ashing)

stepper exposure

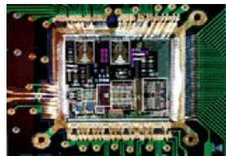
Typical operations in a single photolithographic cycle (from [Fullman]).

photoresist development

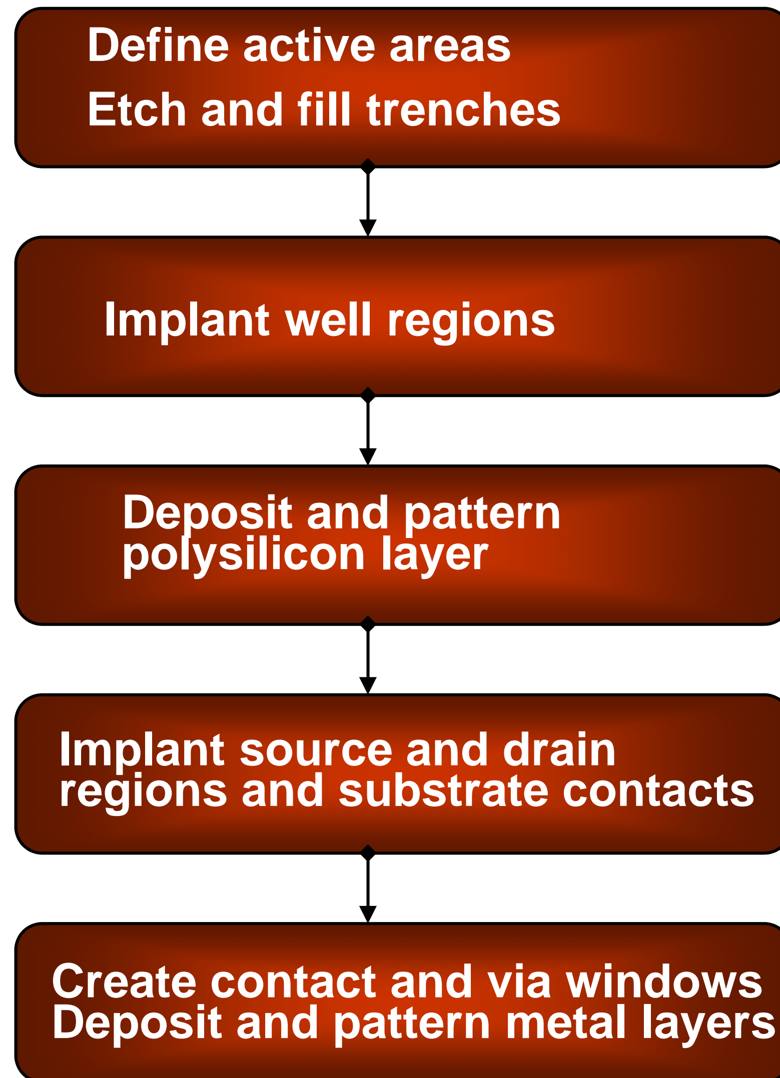
acid etch

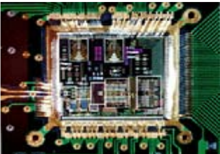
spin, rinse, dry

process step



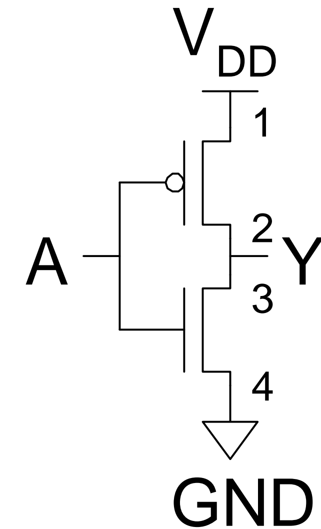
CMOS Process at a Glance

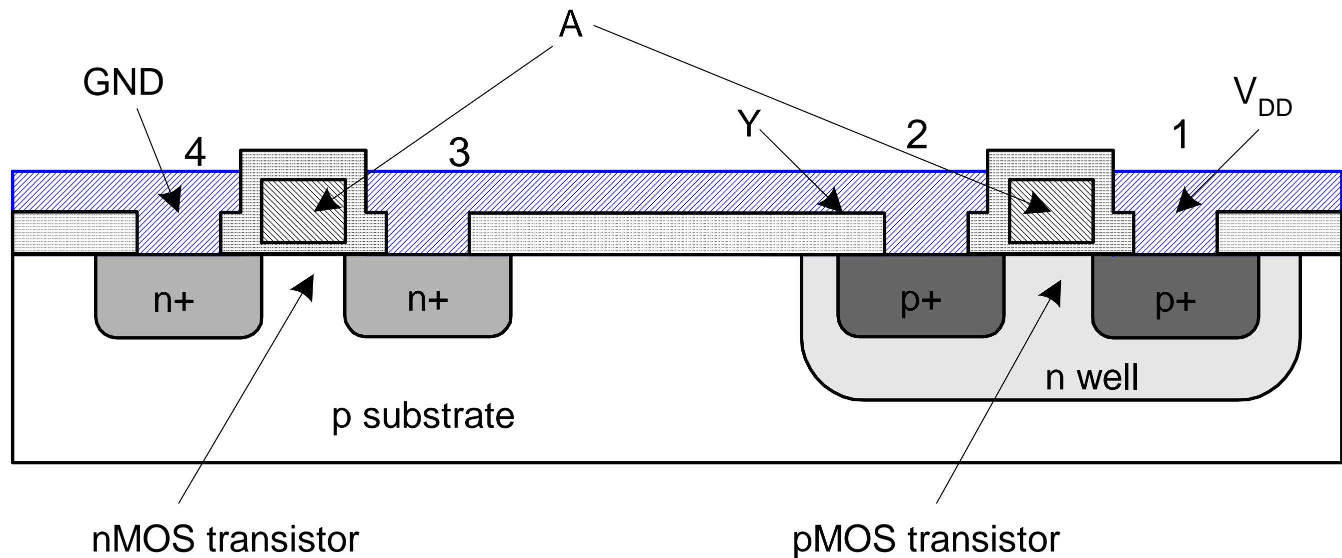


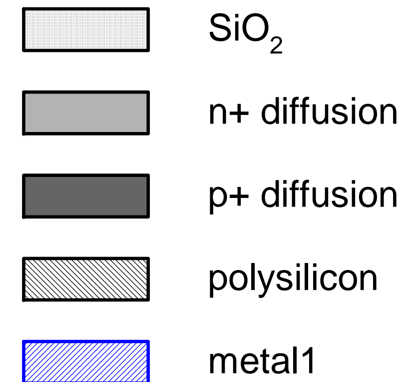


Inverter Cross-section

- Typically use p-type substrate for nMOS transistors.
- Requires n-well for body of pMOS transistors.

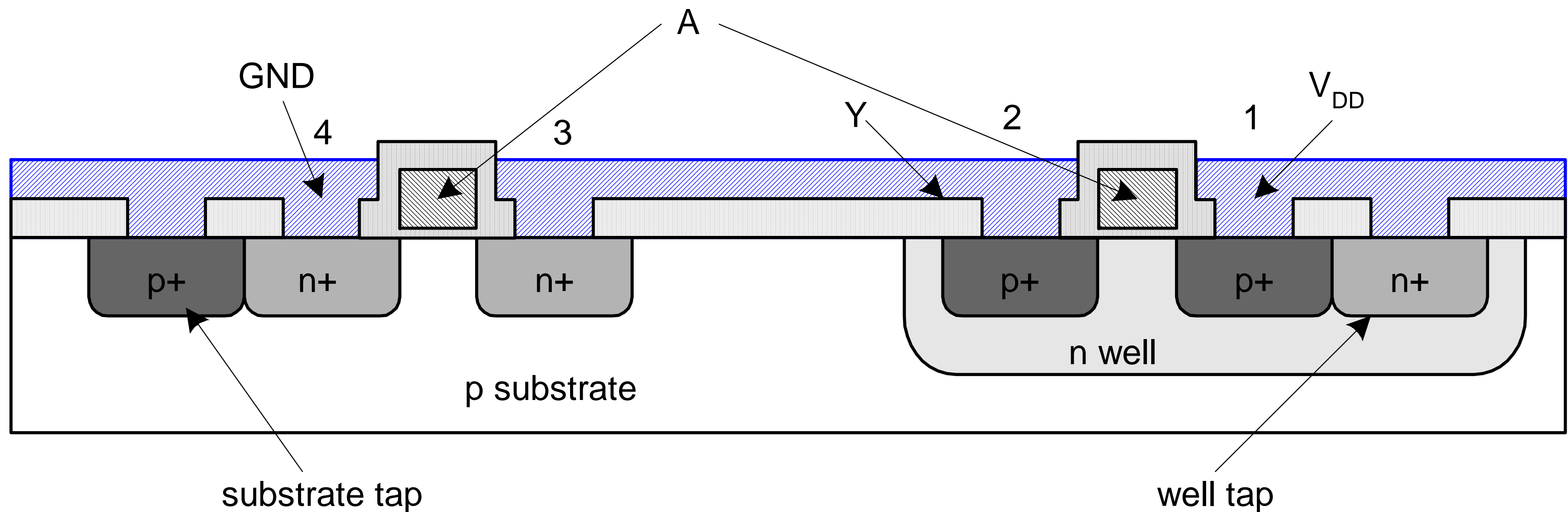


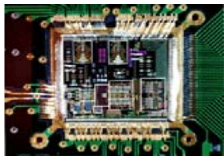




Well and Substrate Taps

- Substrate must is tied to GND and n-well to V_{DD}
- Metal to lightly-doped semiconductor forms poor connection called Shottky Diode
- Heavily doped well and substrate contacts or taps form good ohmic contacts.





Inverter Mask Set

- Transistors and wires are defined by *masks*
- Cross-section taken along dashed line

GND
Y
V_{DD}
substrate tap
nMOS transistor
pMOS transistor
well tap

Detailed Mask Views

- Six masks
  - n-well
  - Polysilicon
  - n+ diffusion
  - p+ diffusion
  - Contact
  - Metal

n well

Polysilicon

n+ Diffusion

p+ Diffusion

Contact

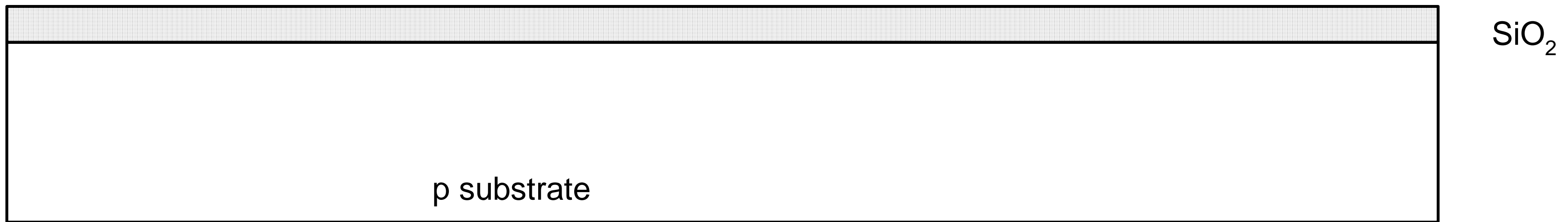
Metal

Fabrication Steps: Creation of n-well

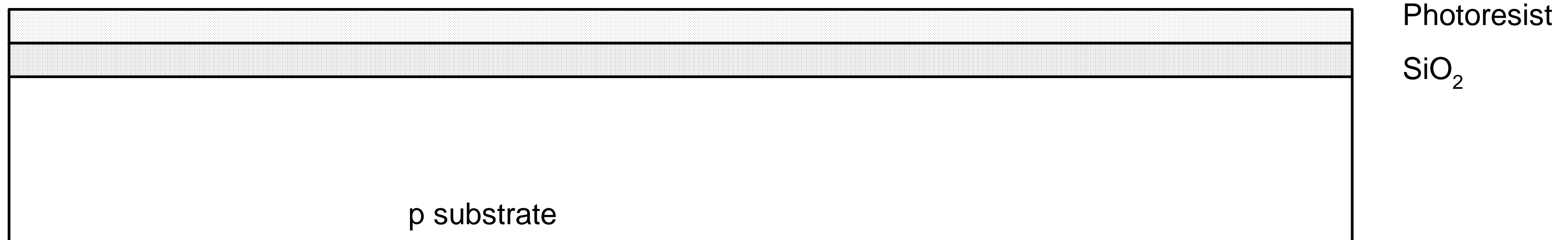
- Objective is to build inverter from the bottom up
- First step will be to form the n-well
  - Cover wafer with protective layer of SiO_2 (oxide)
  - Remove layer where n-well should be built
  - Implant or diffuse n dopants into exposed wafer
  - Strip off SiO_2
- n-well : Start with blank p-type silicon wafer

Fabrication Steps: Creation of n-well

- n-well: Grow SiO_2 on top of Si wafer
  - 900 – 1200 C with H_2O or O_2 in oxidation furnace
  - The oxide is patterned to define n-well.

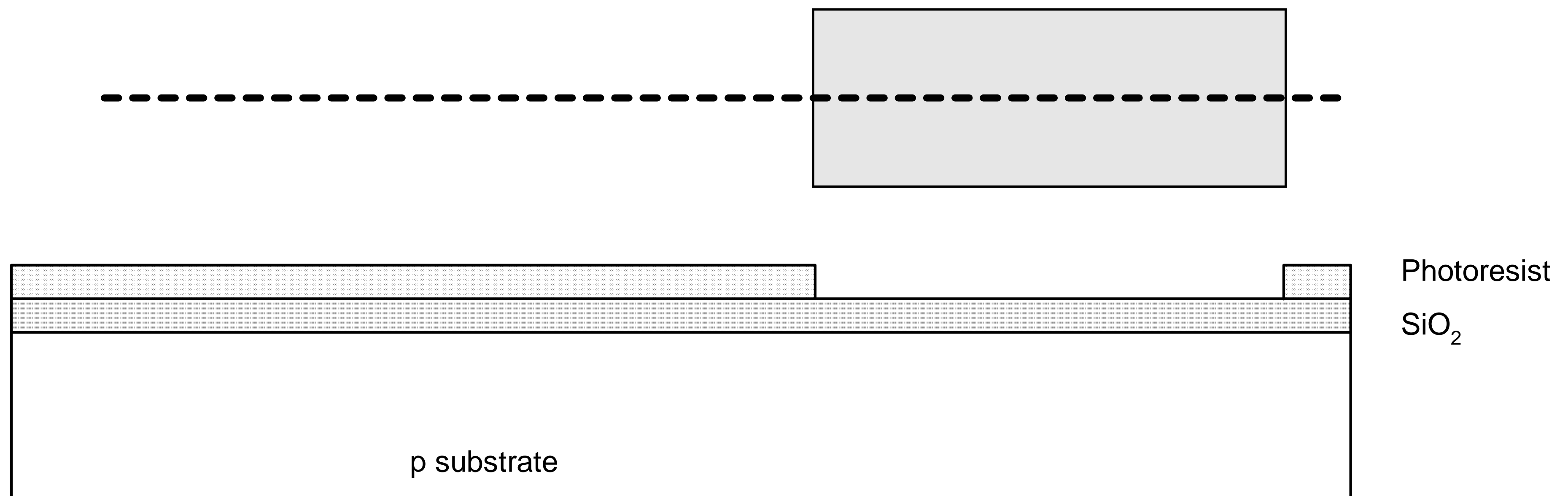


- n-well: Spin on photoresist
  - Photoresist is a light-sensitive organic polymer
  - Softens where exposed to light



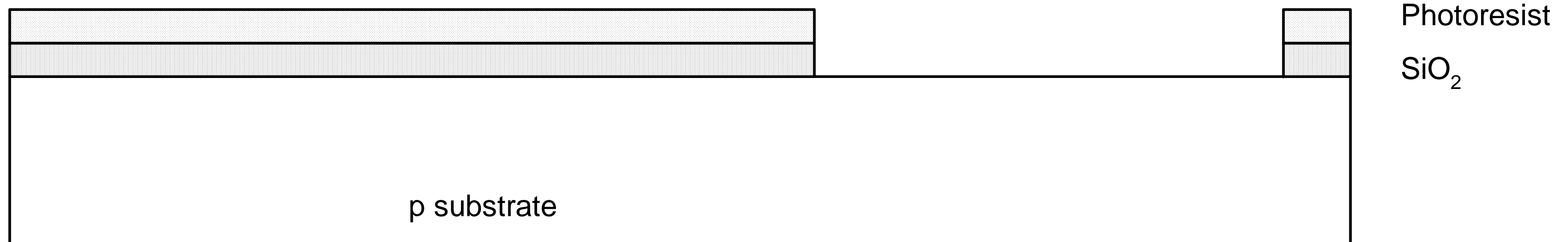
Fabrication Steps: Creation of n-well

- n-well: Expose photoresist through n-well mask
  - Allows light to pass through only where the n-well need to be created.
  - Strip off exposed photoresist

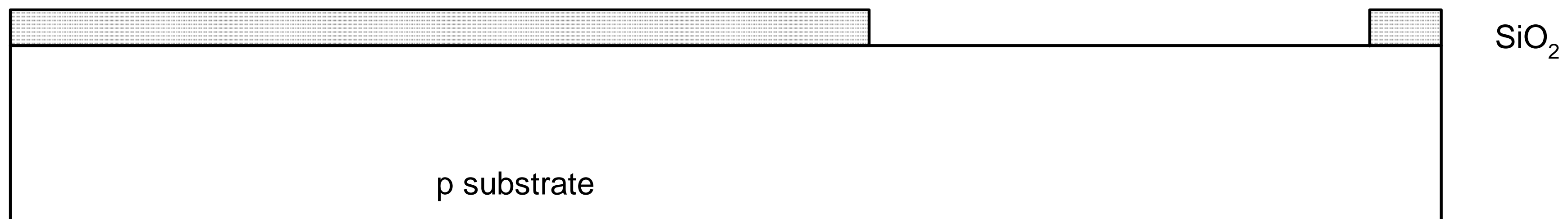


Fabrication Steps: Creation of n-well

- n-well: Etch oxide with hydrofluoric acid (HF)
  - Only attacks oxide where resist has been exposed

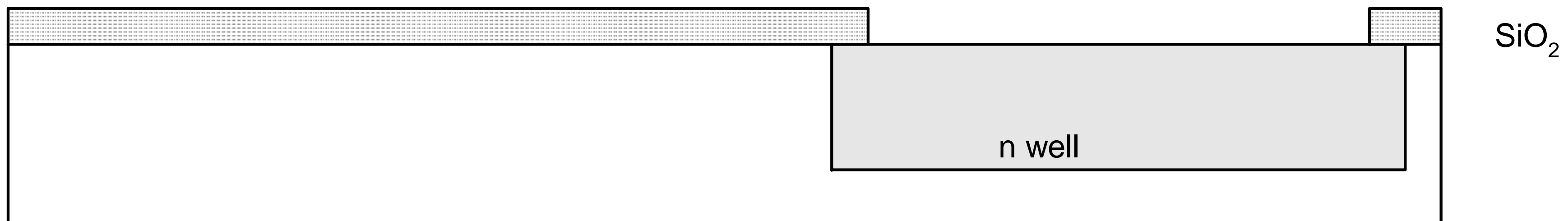


- n-well: Strip off remaining photoresist
  - Use mixture of acids called piranah etch
  - Necessary so resist doesn't melt in next step



Fabrication Steps: Creation of n-well

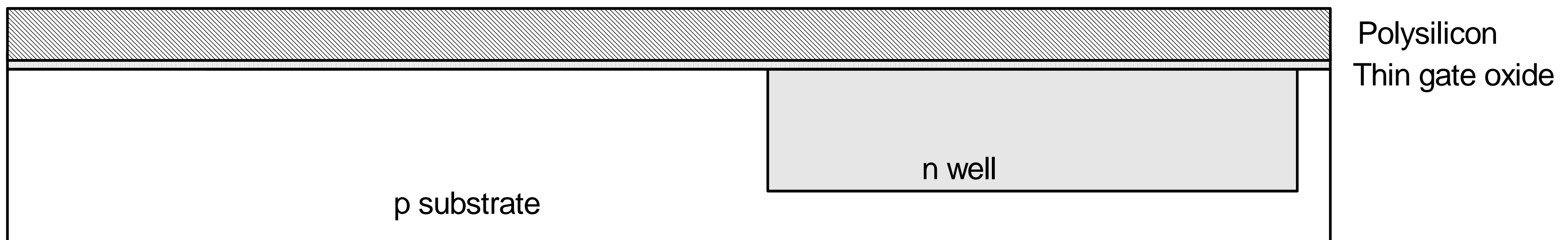
- n-well: created with diffusion or ion implantation
  - Diffusion: Place wafer in furnace with arsenic gas and heat until As atoms diffuse into exposed Si
  - Ion Implantation: Blast wafer with beam of As ions



- n-well: Strip off the remaining oxide using HF
  - Back to bare wafer with n-well
  - Subsequent steps involve similar series of steps

Fabrication Steps: Creation of Gates

- Gate consists of polysilicon over thin layer of silicon oxide.
- Very thin layer of gate oxide is grown in furnace
  - < 20 Å (6-7 atomic layers)
- Chemical Vapor Deposition (CVD) of silicon layer for polysilicon deposition
  - Place wafer in furnace with Silane gas (SiH_4)
  - Forms many small crystals called polysilicon
  - Polysilicon is heavily doped to be a good conductor

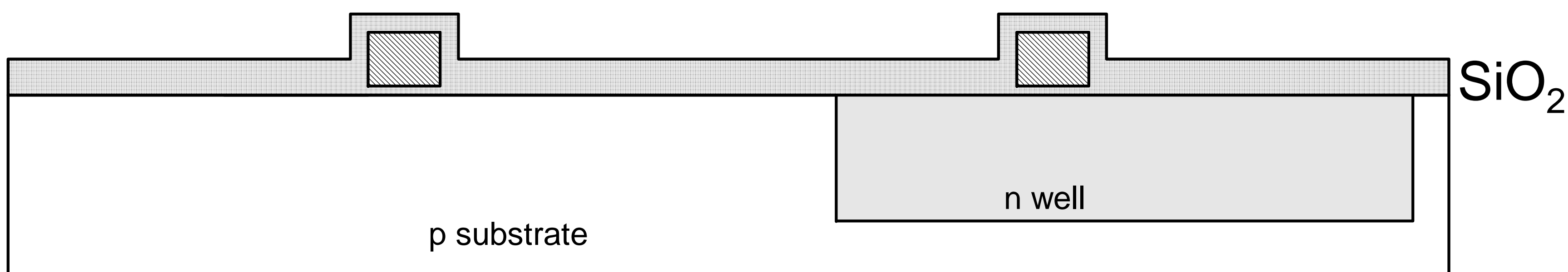


Fabrication Steps: Creation of Gates

- Use same lithography process that used to create n-well to pattern polysilicon using photoresist and the polysilicon mask.

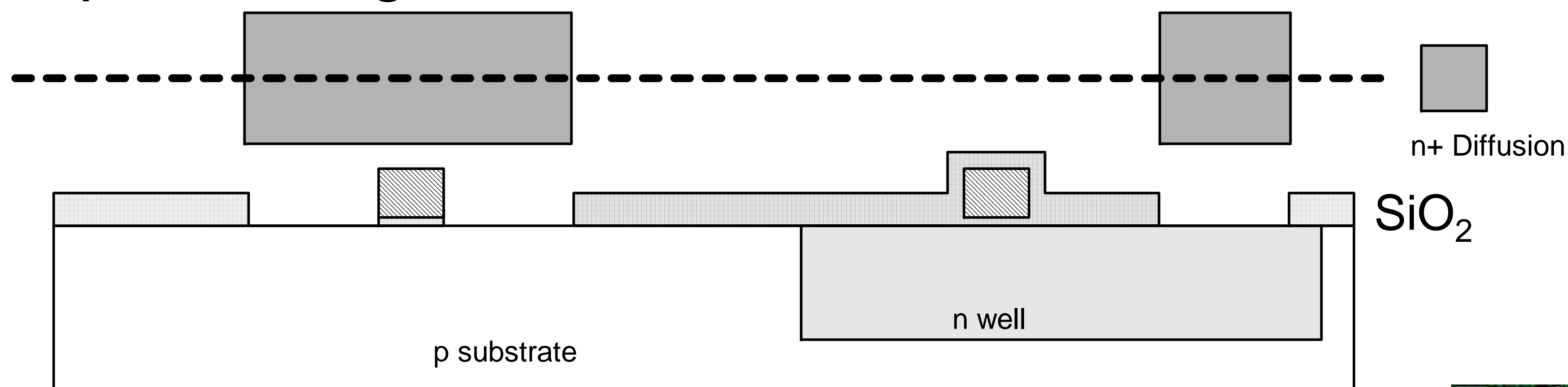
Fabrication Steps: Creation of n+

- Transistor active area and well contact are n+.
- N-diffusion forms nMOS source, drain, and n-well contact
- Use oxide and masking to expose where n+ dopants should be diffused or implanted



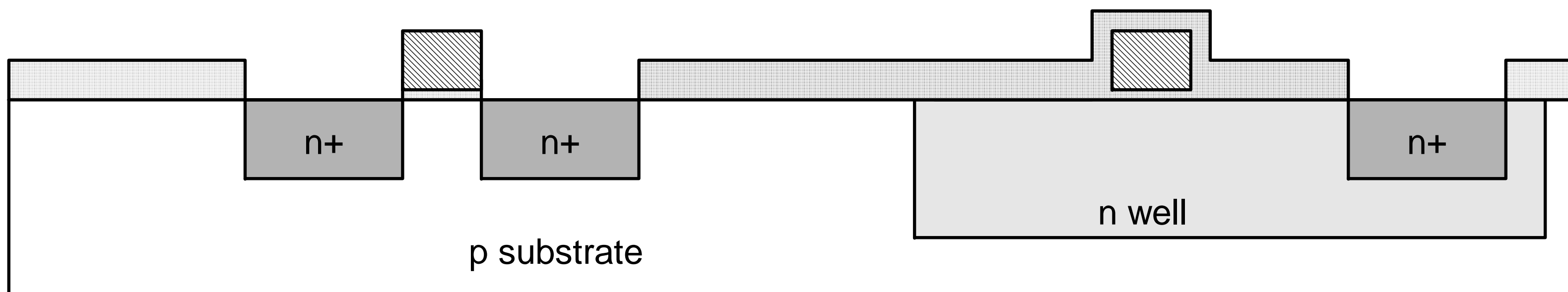
Fabrication Steps: Creation of n+

- Pattern oxide with the n-diffusion mask and form n+ regions
- *Self-aligned process* where gate blocks diffusion
- Polysilicon is better than metal for self-aligned gates because it doesn't melt during later processing

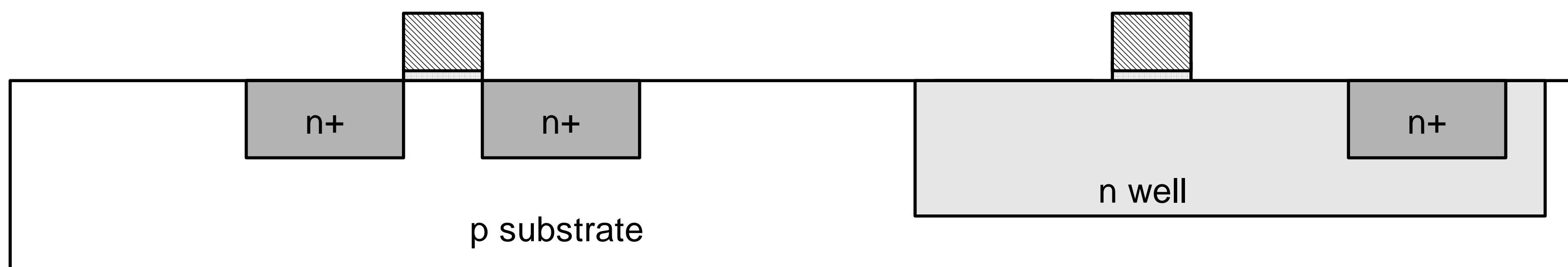


Fabrication Steps: Creation of n+

- Historically dopants were diffused
- Usually ion implantation today
- But regions are still called diffusion

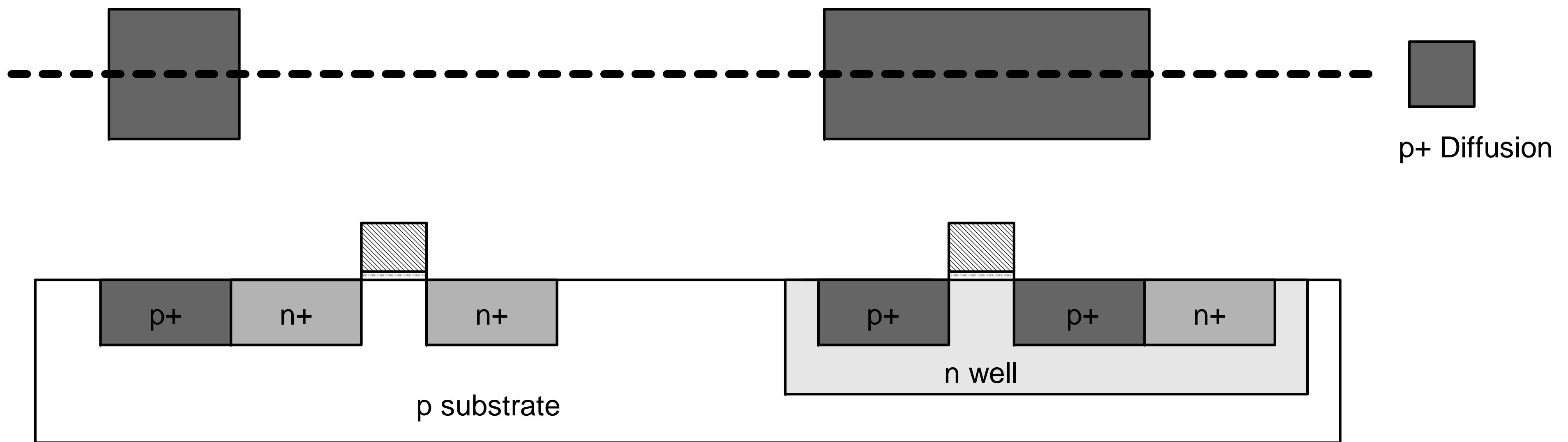


- Strip off oxide to complete patterning step



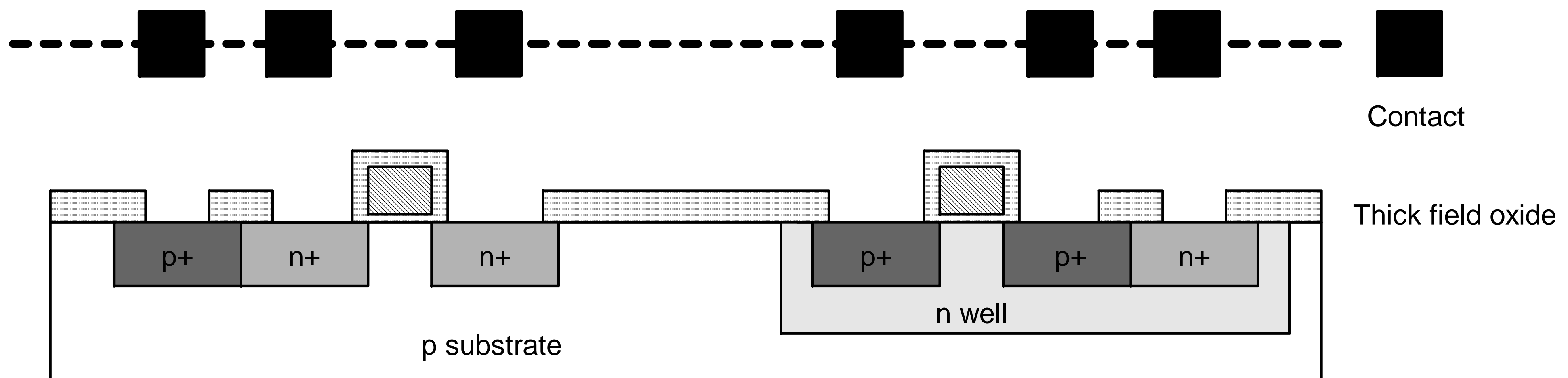
Fabrication Steps: Creation of p+

- Similar set of steps form p+ diffusion regions for pMOS source and drain and substrate contact
- Pattern oxide with the p-diffusion mask and form p+ regions



Fabrication Steps: Creation of Contacts

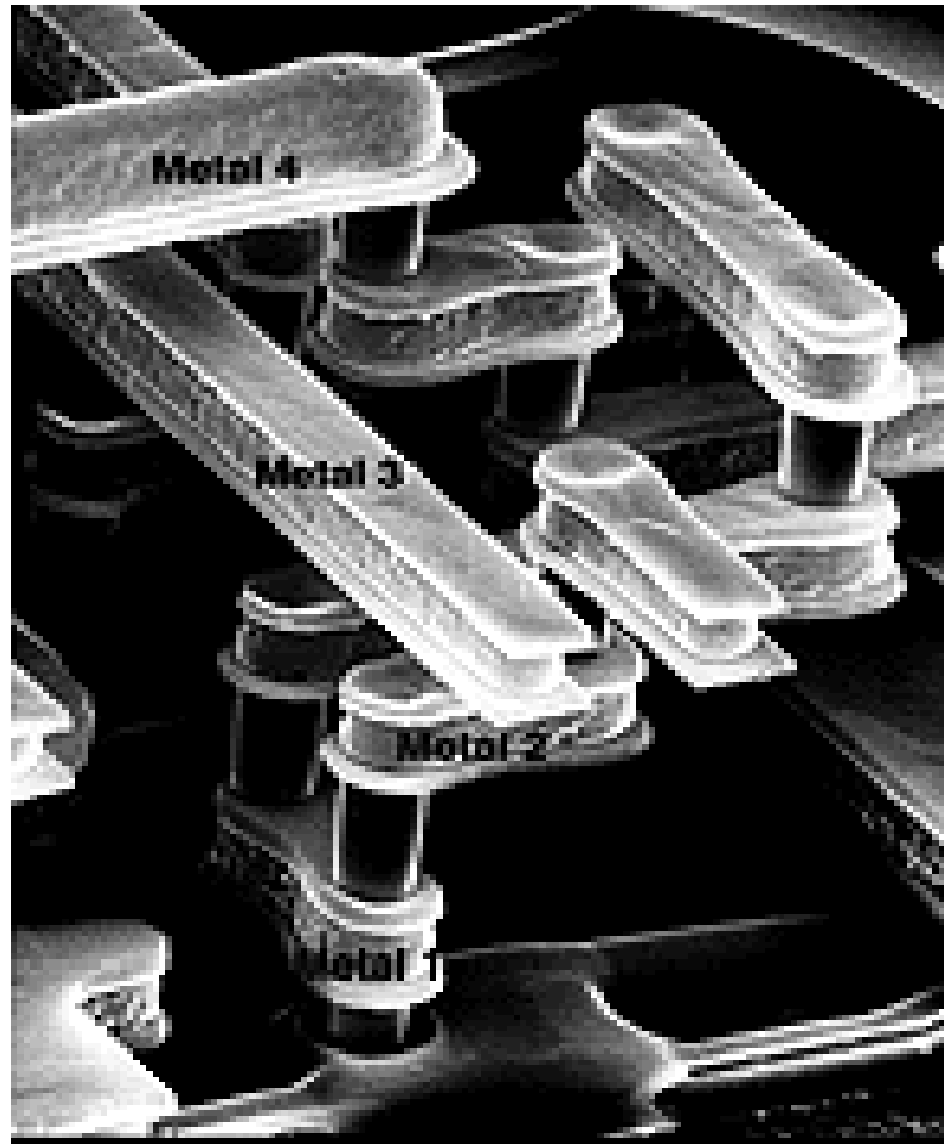
- Now we need to wire together the devices
- Cover chip with thick field oxide
- Etch oxide where contact cuts are needed using contact mask.



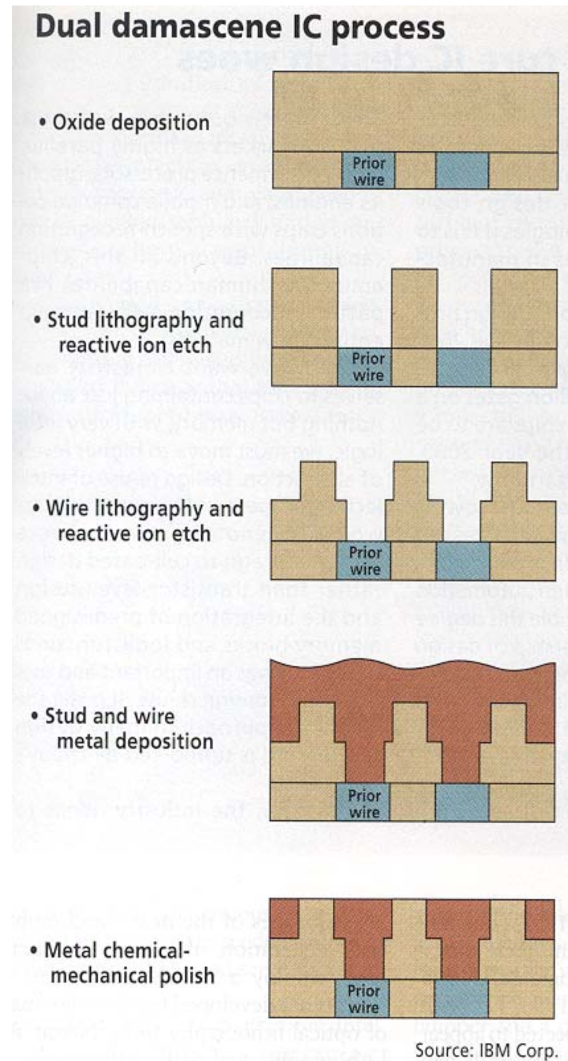
Fabrication Steps: Metalization

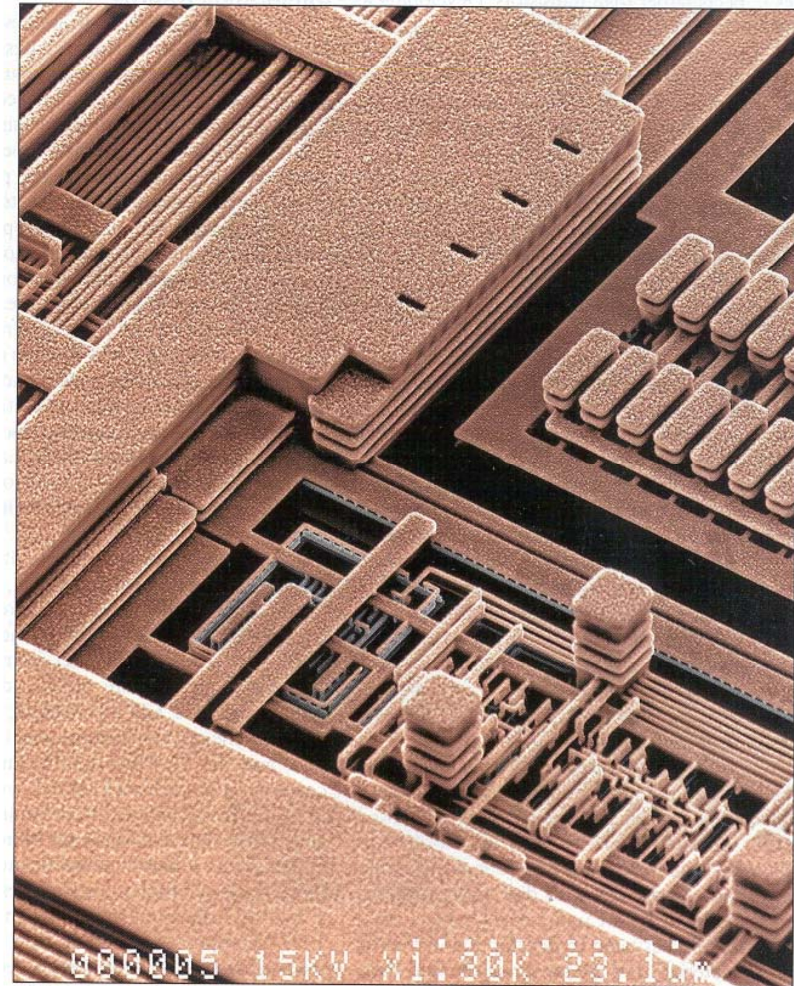
- Sputter on aluminum over whole wafer
- Pattern to remove excess metal, leaving wires
- Metal mask is used during this step.

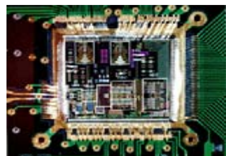
Advanced Metallization



Advanced Metallization

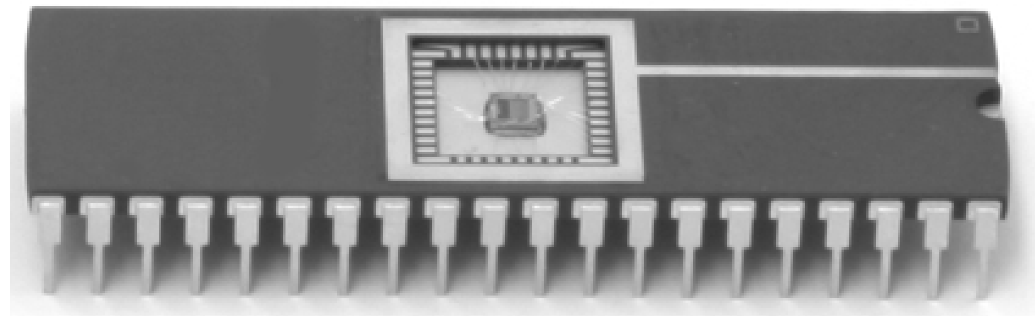






Packaging

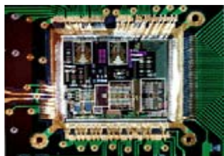
- Tapeout final layout
- Fabrication
  - 6, 8, 12" wafers
  - Optimized for throughput, not latency (10 weeks!)
  - Cut into individual dice
- Packaging
  - Bond gold wires from die I/O pads to package



Packaging Requirements

- Electrical: Low parasitics
- Mechanical: Reliable and robust
- Thermal: Efficient heat removal
- Economical: Cheap

Package Types



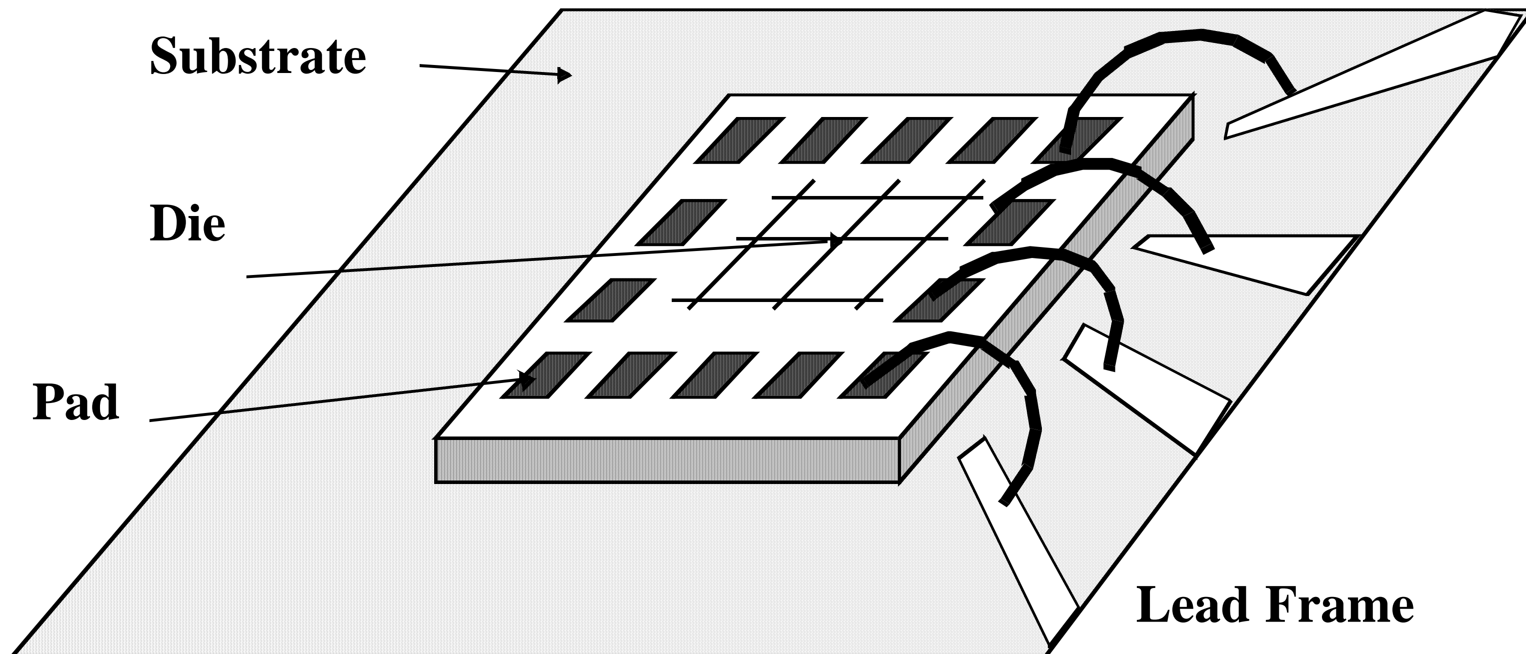
Package Parameters

Package Type	Capacitance (pF)	Inductance (nH)
68 Pin Plastic DIP	4	35
68 Pin Ceramic DIP	7	20
256 Pin Pin Grid Array	5	15
Wire Bond	1	1
Solder Bump	0.5	0.1

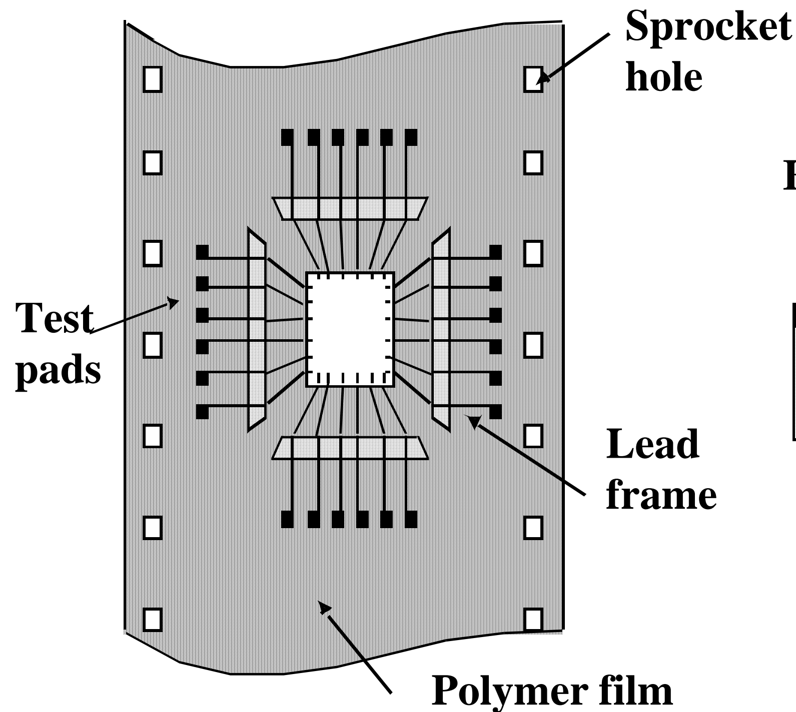
Typical Capacitances and Inductances of Various Package and Bonding Styles (from [Sze83])

Bonding Techniques

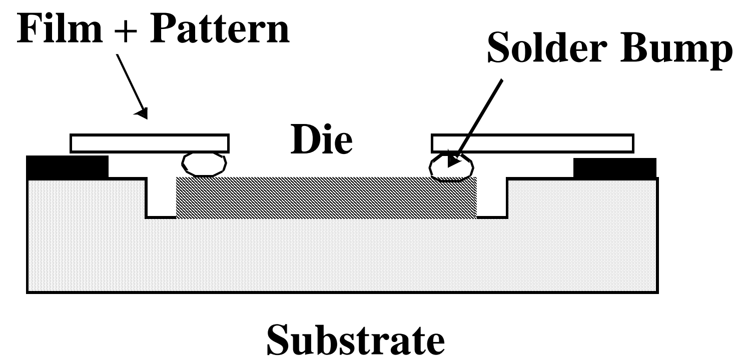
Wire Bonding



Tape-Automated Bonding (TAB)

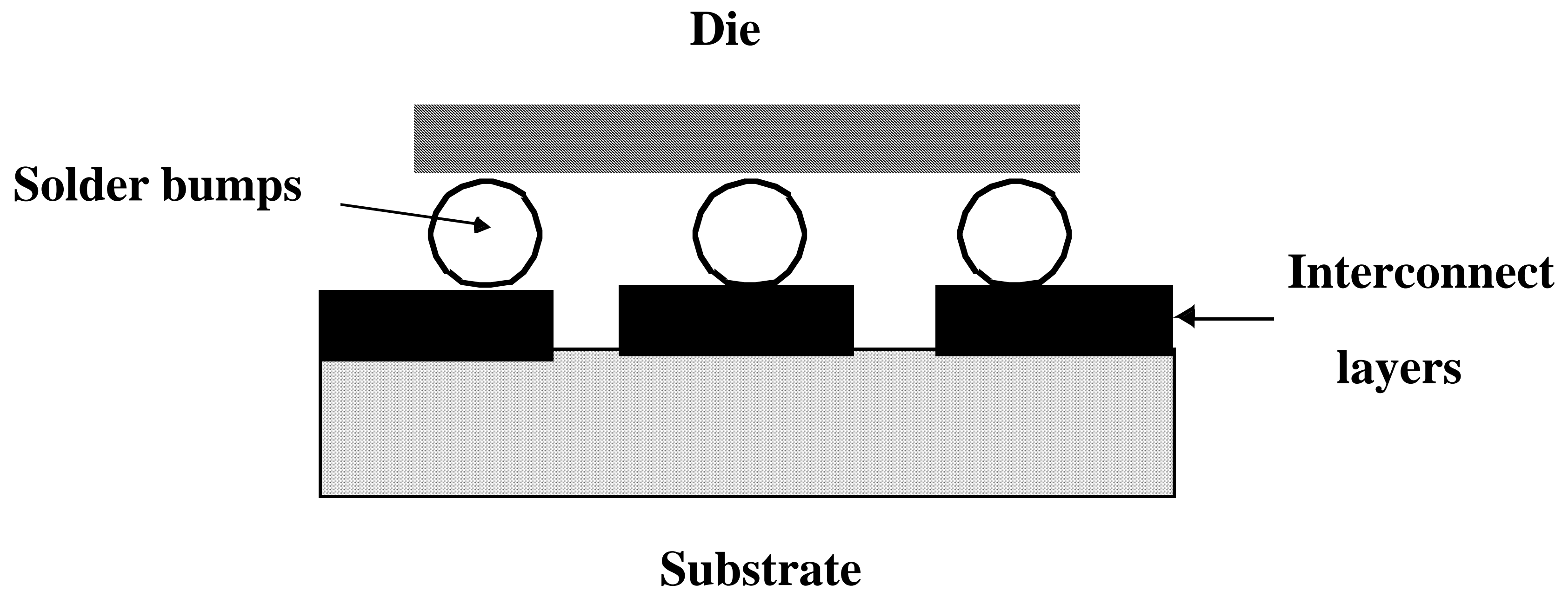


(a) Polymer Tape with imprinted wiring pattern.

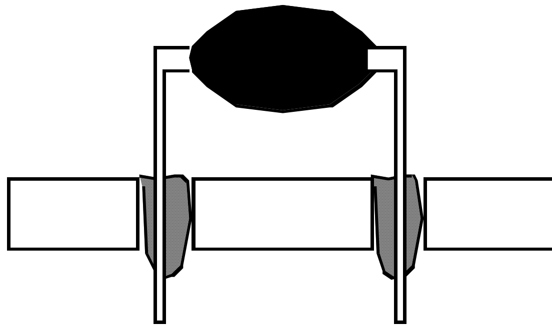


(b) Die attachment using solder bumps.

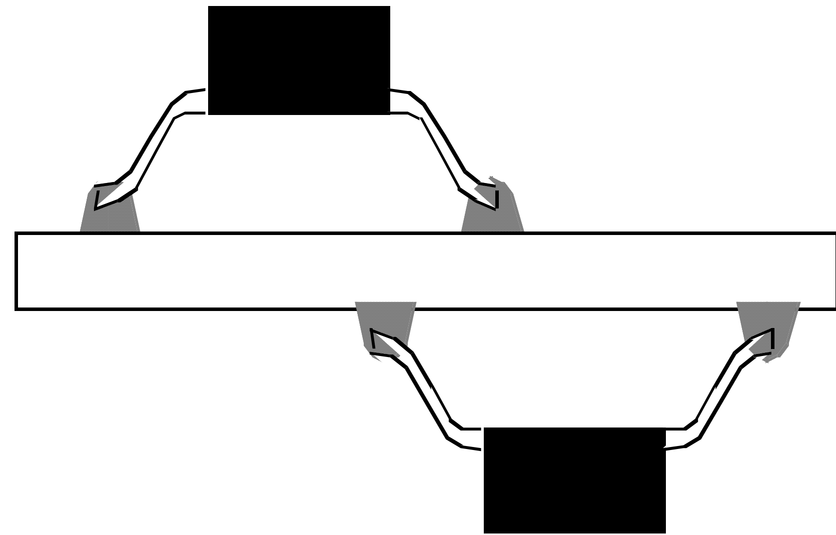
Flip-Chip Bonding



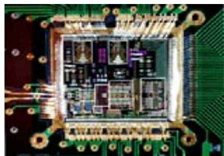
Package-to-Board Interconnect



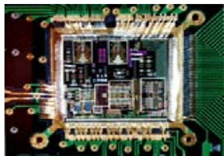
(a) Through-Hole Mounting



(b) Surface Mount



Multi-Chip Modules



Testing

- Test that chip operates
  - Design errors
  - Manufacturing errors
- A single dust particle or wafer defect kills a die
  - Yields from 90% to < 10%
  - Depends on die size, maturity of process
  - Test each part before shipping to customer