

**OPTIMIZATION OF 19 NM SOI MOSFET WITH HIGH-K  
MATERIAL AS GATE SPACER USING STATISTICAL METHOD**

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**UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA**

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MATERIAL AS GATE SPACER USING STATISTICAL  
METHOD**

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**This report is submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements  
for the degree of Bachelor of Electronic Engineering with Honours**

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**BORANG PENGESAHAN STATUS LAPORAN**  
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Materials as Gate Spacer using Statistical Method  
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## **DEDICATION**

I dedicated this thesis to my beloved parents, Sahul Hameed Bin Raj Mohamed and Saniyah Binti Junid and my siblings whom always support and encourage me.

## ABSTRACT

As scaling down MOSFET device degrade the device performance in term of leakage current and short channel effect (SCE). To overcome the problem, the SOI MOSFET device with high-k material such as titanium dioxide (TiO<sub>2</sub>) as gate spacer has been introduced. However, the fluctuation and variation of ion implantation process will impact the overall power dissipation and performance. Therefore, analysis of variability has become a very important tool to predict the response variation very early in the design cycle due to process parameter spreads. This project execution is based on simulation and program development of the device. Simulation of this device fabrication will be performed by using ATHENA module while for simulation of electrical characteristics will be implemented by using ATLAS module from semiconductor TCAD tools. Semiconductor TCAD tools are computer programs which allow for the creation, fabrication and simulation of semiconductor devices. These 2 modules will be combined with Taguchi method to aid in design and optimizer the process parameter. The parameters that will be considered in this project are the drive current ( $I_{on}$ ), leakage current ( $I_{off}$ ), threshold voltage ( $V_{th}$ ), current state ratio ( $I_{on}/I_{off}$  ratio), subthreshold swing (SS), halo implant energy, halo implant dose, Source/Drain (S/D) implant dose and S/D implant energy. These parameters must achieve the most optimum value that accepted by Low Power (LP) technology by International Technology Roadmap for Semiconductor (ITRS).

## ABSTRAK

*Pengecilan peranti MOSFET merendahkan prestasi peranti dari segi kebocoran arus dan kesan saluran pendek (SCE). Untuk mengatasi masalah ini, peranti SOI MOSFET dengan bahan high-k seperti Titanium dioksida ( $TiO_2$ ) sebagai “gate spacer” telah diperkenalkan. Walau bagaimanapun, turun naik dan variasi proses implantasi “ion” akan memberi kesan kepada pelepasan kuasa dan prestasi kuasa keseluruhannya. Oleh itu, analisis kebolehubahan telah menjadi alat yang sangat penting disebabkan oleh penyebaran parameter proses. Pelaksanaan projek ini berdasarkan kepada simulasi dan pembangunan program peranti. Simulasi fabrikasi peranti ini akan dilakukan dengan menggunakan modul Athena sementara untuk simulasi ciri-ciri elektrik akan dilaksanakan dengan menggunakan modul Atlas dari alat TCAD semikonduktor. Peralatan TCAD semikonduktor adalah program komputer yang membolehkan penciptaan, fabrikasi dan simulasi peranti semikonduktor. Kedua-dua modul ini akan digabungkan dengan kaedah Taguchi untuk membantu dalam reka bentuk dan pengoptimum parameter proses. Parameter yang akan dipertimbangkan dalam projek ini ialah arus pemacu ( $I_{on}$ ), kebocoran arus ( $I_{off}$ ), voltan ( $V_{th}$ ), nisbah  $I_{on}/I_{off}$ , sub-ambang voltan ( $SS$ ), tenaga implan halo, dos implan halo, Imun implan ( $S/D$ ) implan dan tenaga implan  $S/D$ . Parameter ini mesti mencapai nilai paling optimum yang diterima oleh teknologi Kuasa Rendah (LP) oleh Roadmap Teknologi Antarabangsa untuk Semikonduktor (ITRS).*



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## LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

$\text{Al}_3\text{O}_2$	Aluminium oxide
ANOVA	: Analysis of Variance
BJT	Bipolar junction transistor
BOX	: Buried oxide
BPSG	: Boron Phosphor Silicate Glass
CMOS	: Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor
CVD	: Chemical Vapor Deposition
D	: Drain
DIBL	Drain-Induced Barrier Lowering
FD	Fully depleted
FET	Field effect transistor
$I_D$	Drain current
$I_{OFF}$	Leakage current
$I_{ON}$	Drive current
$I_{ON}/I_{OFF}$	: Current state ratio
ITRS	International Technology Roadmap for Semiconductor
$\text{HfO}_2$	: Hafnium oxide
k	Dielectric constant
$\text{La}_2\text{O}_3$	Lanthanum Oxide

$L_G$	Gate Length
MOSFET	: Metal Oxide Semiconductor Field Effect Transistor
nm	Nanometer
NMOS	N-channel MOSFET
PECVD	Plasma Enhanced Chemical Vapor Deposition
PD	Partially depleted
S	: Source
SCE	: Short Channel Effect
$Si_3Ni_4$	Silicon nitride
S/N	Signal-to-noise
SNR	Signal-to-noise ratio
$SiO_2$	Silicon dioxide
SOI	Silicon-on-insulator
SS	Sub-threshold voltage
STI	Shallow trench isolation
TCAD	Technology Computer Aided Design
$TiO_2$	Titanium Dioxide
$TiSi_2$	: Titanium Silicide
$V_D$	Drain voltage
$V_{DS}$	Drain-to-source voltage
$V_G$	Gate voltage
$V_{GS}$	Gate-to-source voltage
$V_{TH}$	Threshold voltage
$Y_2O_3$	Yttrium Oxide
$ZrO_2$	Zirconium Dioxide

## LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: Predict S/N Nominal-the-better L9 Orthogonal Array

Taguchi Method ( $V_{TH}$ )

APPENDIX B: Predict S/N Mean L9 Orthogonal Array Taguchi Method

( $V_{TH}$ )

APPENDIX C: Predict S/N Nominal-the-better L9 Orthogonal Array

Taguchi Method ( $I_{OFF}$ )

APPENDIX D: Predict S/N Nominal-the-better L9 Orthogonal Array

Taguchi Method (SS)

APPENDIX E: Predict S/N Nominal-the-better L9 Orthogonal Array

Taguchi Method ( $I_{ON}$ )

APPENDIX F: Predict S/N Nominal-the-better L9 Orthogonal Array

Taguchi Method ( $I_{ON}/I_{OFF}$  Ratio)

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

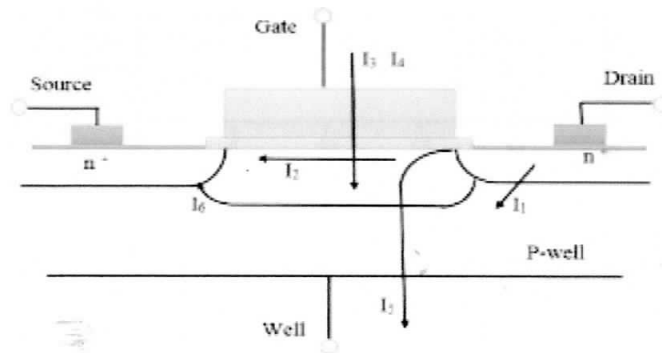
This chapter presents the brief introductory of project background which contains the problem statement, objectives, scope and significance of the project.

### 1.1 Background of Project

As technology is advancing by years, demand of high performance and accuracy of digital chips is increasing as well. Faster the switching rate can indicate the performance of the transistor is at its best and the microprocessor able to operate at a high speed. This could be achieved by scaling the dimension of MOSFET by using nanometer technology [1]. However, minimization of the gate dimensions increases the short channel effect (SCE) and the extension for drain (D) and source (S) junctions. A major obstacle of SCE is the gate current leakage that occurs when channel attached



together as drain (D) and (S) are too near due to scaling the MOSFET dimension. This resulting a static power current leaks through transistor even when device is turned off. Besides, scaling limits the driving current of MOSFET device because increased in parasitic resistances and capacitances.



**Figure 1.1: Leakage current mechanism in nanoscale MOSFET**

Through a study of leakage reduction techniques for CMOS in 2015, a 22nm NMOS was designed and simulated by using ATHENA and the electrical characteristics were simulated by using ATLAS modules from Silvaco software [2]. Here, they emphasized the use of high-k materials as the dielectric metal gate in improving the current state ratio ( $I_{ON}/I_{OFF}$  ratio). Higher  $I_{ON}/I_{OFF}$  ratio indicates the device is suitable for low power application. Titanium silicide ( $TiSi_2$ ) has been used as the metal gate while silicon nitride ( $Si_3Ni_4$ ) and hafnium oxide  $HfO_2$  are chosen as the gate dielectrics. The simulation result has shown that  $HfO_2$  was the best dielectric material when  $TiSi_2$  became the metal gate, which indicates that high-k dielectric is a possible candidate to replace  $SiO_2$ . Hence, it is proven that high-k materials could be one of the best mechanisms to limit leakage current in CMOS devices. Figure 1.2 shows the variation in  $I_{OFF}$  with SOI thickness ( $T_{SOI}$ ).