

Direct Patterning of Silicon by Photoelectrochemical Etching

Tech ID: 20633 / UC Case 2002-144-0

TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION

Researchers at UC San Diego have invented a resistless projection lithographic method to generate three-dimensional patterns on silicon substrates. A porous silicon layer is formed first by projecting an image or test pattern onto a silicon substrate during standard electrochemical etching. The porous layer is then removed in a wet etch revealing a 3-D image or test pattern in micrometer resolution. This technique does not involve the use of complicated, multi-step lithography or mask aligners. It is also quick; a multilayered master can be made from a computer design in less than 60 minutes. Feature sizes of 70 microns have been demonstrated, but smaller features should be possible.

APPLICATIONS

A wide variety of fields, such as sensors, microfluidics, microanalysis, MEMS, and cell biology might benefit from this invention.

RELATED MATERIALS

- ▶ Visit the inventor's lab link at <http://chem-faculty.ucsd.edu/sailor/research>.

PATENT STATUS

Country	Type	Number	Dated	Case
United States Of America	Issued Patent	7,433,811	10/07/2008	2002-144

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OTHER INFORMATION

CATEGORIZED AS

- ▶ Imaging
 - ▶ 3D/Immersive
- ▶ Medical
 - ▶ Imaging
- ▶ Nanotechnology
 - ▶ Tools and Devices
- ▶ Engineering
 - ▶ Other

RELATED CASES

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