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## 中文摘要

近年來，以氧化鋁為主的高介電材料已經逐漸取代傳統的閘極二氧化矽層，原因在於氧化鋁跟複晶矽閘極的相容性很高，且熱穩定性及微縮能力也很傑出。在計畫的第二年，我們研究以氧化鋁作為電晶體的閘極絕緣層，並使用快速熱退火技術來改善薄膜的電性與降低熱預算。此外，在進行後續熱處理的過程當中，矽跟高介電材料之間很容易成長出原生氧化層，因而大幅提高介電層的等效氧化層厚度，為了解決這個問題，我們也嘗試在沈積氧化鋁之前，先將矽基板表面以 800 度 1 小時的氮氣處理來抑制原生氧化層的成長。

在氧氣環境下的快速熱退火處理能夠有效地降低閘極漏電流，也會促進介面氧化層的成長，相對地，氮氣熱退火處理能夠填補氧化鋁薄膜內的斷鍵，並小幅降低表面粗糙度，此外，氮氣表面處理可以有效提高高介電氧化鋁薄膜的可靠度，藉著等效能障高度的提升，閘極漏電流也可以明顯地降低。

此外，我們接續第一年的成果，針對無塵室內來自空氣濾網當中的硼污染進行研究，目前使用的高效率空氣濾網多由玻璃纖維所製造，當它們在長時間使用下遭遇到氫氟酸的侵蝕時，就會放出硼離子，進而造成奈米元件的特性漂移。利用長時間之 HF 蒸氣的加速實驗和晶圓暴露實驗，輔以 TDS-APIMS 和 SIMS 量測，即可觀察到包括各種有機分子團和硼離子在 HF 蒸氣下的增加情況，又使用 PTFE 材質的空氣濾網則能夠有效地防止硼污染。

## Abstract

Recently, MOSFETs with high-k gate dielectrics have been studied intensively and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  is a promising candidate because of its compatibility with the poly-Si gate process and relatively superior scalability. In the second year of this proposal, we utilized rapid thermal annealing technique to improve the quality of high-k film and reduce the thermal budget. Besides, a native oxide layer would easily formed at Si/ $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  interface during RTA process, resulting in significant increase of effective oxide thickness (EOT) and therefore we applied a  $\text{NH}_3$  treatment at 800 degree C for 1 hr prior to  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  deposition to suppress the growth of native oxide layer.

From the experimental data, it is obviously that  $\text{O}_2$  penetration would induce the increase of the interfacial layer during RTA process. However, for samples with RTA in a  $\text{N}_2$  ambient, the void-defect of sputtered  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  film would be eliminated and the surface roughness after annealing also reduced. The dielectric reliability was enhanced with  $\text{NH}_3$  pre-treatment. The conduction mechanism in  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  thin film is dominated by Schottky conduction which occurred in the insulators with fewer defects and a more perfect metal-insulator interface. Samples after  $\text{NH}_3$  treatment have higher barrier high to reduce the gate leakage current.

Besides, following the results of this proposal in the 1<sup>st</sup> year, we investigated the possible boron contamination from various HEPA and ULPA filters. Most commercial ULPA filters are made of glass-fiber, which may corrode in an acid vapor environment and release boron ions, resulting in the electrical property shifts of nano-devices. Through long term acceleration experiments and wafer exposure experiments in an bench with HF vapor, the increase of organic molecular and boron ions due to filter corrosion can be observed. The usage of PTFE ULPA filter can effectively prevent the boron contamination.

## I. Introduction

Recently, MOSFETs with high-k gate dielectrics have been studied intensively and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  is a promising candidate because of its compatibility with the poly-silicon gate process and relatively superior scalability. As the dielectric constant of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  is higher than  $\text{SiO}_2$ , it will provide a significant increase in capacitance without scaling down the oxide thickness. Rapid thermal Annealing (RTA) is a short time processing technique that can contribute to reduce the thermal budget, low levels of surface roughness, and improve film qualities. Generally, there are many methods to passivate the Si surface such as surface nitridation, nitrogen-contained ambient annealing, or nitride deposition as the bottom layer. Nitridation of the Si surface using  $\text{NH}_3$  treatment before the deposition of high-k materials has been shown to be effective in achieving the low EOT and preventing the boron penetration. However, this technique results in higher interface charges, which leads to higher hysteresis and reduced channel mobility. In this report, we studied the effect of suppressing interfacial layer growth by  $\text{NH}_3$  surface treatments. The  $\text{NH}_3$  treatment would nitridize the Si surface to form a silicon nitride layer. Silicon nitride is a superior barrier for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and oxygen, and it can suppress oxygen to diffuse into Si substrate.

The cleanliness of a clean room environment must be tightly controlled to achieve high-yield and high-performance ULSI manufacturing. Recently developed filters, such as HEPA and ULPA filters, effectively eliminate traditional contamination. However, the controllability of airborne molecular contamination (AMC) using present cleanroom technologies has not yet been validated because AMC is a kind of atomic or molecular level gas-phase contamination like organic and inorganic ones. In the near future, especially in the nanodevice era, contamination by organic compounds, inorganic ions and trace doping impurities in air in a cleanroom may dominate the characteristics, reliability, and even yield of devices. Acid vapor generated from the cleaning process is another important issue. Most commercial ULPA filters are made of glass-fiber, which may corroded in an acid vapor environment. Contaminants in a ULPA filter corroded by acid vapor will be released into the cleanroom air and adsorbed onto the surface of wafers, degrading the manufactured devices. Technologies for eliminating AMC from the manufacturing environment must be developed to solve these problems completely. Therefore, the development of a new filter material, which has minimal AMC and is resistant to acid vapor corrosion, is important to the fabrication of high-performance devices.

## II. Experiments

### (A) $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ Gate Dielectrics Using Rapid Thermal Annealing Technology

The 6-inch P-type Si (100) wafers are cleaned by the RCA cleaning process. The high-k material  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  was then deposited by reactive sputtering in Ar/O ambient. After  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  deposition, a high temperature post deposition annealing is performed at  $750^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $850^\circ\text{C}$  and  $950^\circ\text{C}$  respectively for 30 sec by RTA Rapid Thermal Annealing (RTA). In our experiment, the gate electrode formations were used the Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD) systems. We deposit the TiN film ( $2000\text{\AA}$ ) as the top gate electrode and the thermal evaporation system to deposit the Al film ( $5000\text{\AA}$ ) as the backside contact. The cross-sectional view and total experimental procedures of the structure were shown in Fig. 1. At last the Capacitance-Voltage (C-V) and Current-Voltage (I-V) characteristics were measured by HP-4284 and HP-4156C systems. The capacitance equivalent thickness (CET) was extracted from C-V curve.

## **(B) Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> Gate Dielectrics using NH<sub>3</sub> Surface Nitridation Technology**

First, the 6-inch P-type Si(100) wafers were cleaned with standard RCA clean. The samples were divided into two groups. One was without any surface treatment before Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> deposition, and the other was with a NH<sub>3</sub> surface treatment before Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> deposition. The NH<sub>3</sub>-treatment is performed in high temperature furnace, 800°C for 1 hour. After NH<sub>3</sub>-treatment, a SiN<sub>x</sub> layer (~10 Å) was deposited. Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> dielectric was then deposited various thickness (30Å, 40Å, and 50Å) by reactive sputtering in the Ar/O (ratio = 24/1) ambient. After Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> deposition, a high temperature post deposition annealing was performed at 900°C in the O<sub>2</sub> or N<sub>2</sub> ambient. Finally, the gate electrode formation was performed by the Physical Vapor Deposition (PVD) systems. We deposited the TiN film (2000Å) as the top gate electrode and the thermal evaporation system to deposit the Al film (5000Å) as the backside contact. The cross-sectional view and total process flow were shown in Fig. 10. The Capacitance-Voltage (C-V) and Current-Voltage (I-V) characteristics were measured by HP-4284 and HP-4156C systems, respectively. The capacitance equivalent thickness (CET) was extracted from C-V curve. In order to study the conduction mechanism in the Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> film, the current-voltage characteristics with various temperature were measured at room temperature (RT), 50°C, 75°C, 100°C, and 125°C, respectively.

## **(C) Evaluation of AMC through Air Sampling**

A specially controlled and fabricated clean bench (CB) was set up in a clean room of class 10k. Figure 19(a) schematically depicts the CB. Clean room air, from the air inlet of the CB, was initially filtered through a filter module that included inorganic and organic ion chemical filters, before flowing through the main filter, which was designed to be changeable. Two main filters were used, the NEUROFINE PTFE filter (PTFE) and the glass-fiber ULPA filter (GF). The air flow rate and turnover rate inside the CB were set to 0.4 m/s and 5 %, respectively. The exposure experiments were conducted in a 1ppm HF vapor environment.

Figure 19(b) presents the air sampling tools, Impinger and TENAX, which were equipped with a flow meter and a pump. The flow rate and sampling time of Impinger were 2 L/min and 24-72 hrs while those of TENAX were 100 mL/min and 5 hrs. Impingers collected mainly both metals and boron elements. These were analyzed using an inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer (ICP-MS). Organic substances were collected by a TENAX (a kind of absorbent) tube, and quantitatively analyzed by gas chromatograph mass spectrometer (GC-MS). The air in the CR was also analyzed for comparison. Table 2 summarizes the air sampling experimental conditions.

## **(D) Evaluation of AMC through Wafer Sampling**

The AMC absorbed on the surfaces of actual 6" P-type (100) Si wafers was analyzed for each filter module. After standard RCA cleaning, wafers were divided into two parts, and exposed to the air in the CR and the CB for 24-72 hrs. The metal contaminants on these wafer surfaces were analyzed using total reflection X-ray fluorescence (TRXRF), while the organic contaminants were analyzed by thermal desorption system-atmospheric pressure ionized mass spectrum (TDS-APIMS). For comparison, the contamination of a wafer not exposed to any environment was evaluated as a control. Table 3 is the summary of wafer sampling experimental conditions.

### III. Results and Discussion

#### (A) Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> Gate Dielectrics Using Rapid Thermal Annealing Technology

After the Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> deposition, the following processes may go through many high temperature treatments during the VLSI fabrication. Such high-temperature treatments are likely to change the morphology and properties of thin films. Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 shows the high frequency (100kHz) capacitance-voltage (C-V), and Fig. 4 shows the CET of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples (without surface treatment) after various post deposition annealing (PDA) temperature at 750°C, 850°C, 950°C in the O<sub>2</sub> or N<sub>2</sub> ambient. The capacitance of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples annealing in an O<sub>2</sub> ambient decreases with the increasing annealing temperature. Therefore, the CET increases after annealing in an O<sub>2</sub> ambient. This is because an O<sub>2</sub> penetration will induce the increasing of the interfacial layer at Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/Si-substrate and higher annealing temperature increasing will speed up interface layer growth rate. On the contrary, the capacitance of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples annealing in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient is increasing when annealing temperature increases. Therefore, the CET decreases after annealing in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient. The void-defects generated after the sputtered Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> formation and it could be densified followed a RTA process in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient. The current density (J) in the J-E curve was defined by  $J = I / A$ , where A is the area of capacitor. The CET determined by the C-V measurement.

Fig. 5 shows the J-E characteristics of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> film with RTA process in an O<sub>2</sub> ambient. It shows that the thicker Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> film will resist large leakage current, and the lower leakage current was observed. However, the thicker dielectric thickness will reduce capacitance and the driving current. Fig. 6 shows the J-V characteristics of the fabricated Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> film with RTA in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient. The capacitor can have a lower leakage current with thinner CET. This is due to RTA process in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient can improve Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> film by eliminating void-defect. Fig. 7 shows J versus PDA temperature in the O<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> ambient. Obviously, higher PDA temperature can reduce leakage for both annealing ambient. Consequentially, the sputtered Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> film can be improved after a N<sub>2</sub> RTA process. If the leakage current density in the oxide (J<sub>ox</sub>) is kept constant during the stress test (implying that the applied current is held constant), the stress time to breakdown becomes the variable. The length of stress time t<sub>BD</sub> elapsed until dielectric breakdown occurred. The time-to-breakdown behavior of a group of oxide samples under such test conditions is referred to as time-dependent dielectric breakdown (TDDB). The Weibull plot of charge to breakdown for Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples with various PDA temperature in an O<sub>2</sub> ambient is shown in Fig. 8. Obviously, distribution of the samples with thinner CET is better than others. However, the level of the charge to breakdown is lower than we expect. Fig. 9 shows the Weibull plot of charge to breakdown for Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples with various PDA temperature in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient. For various PDA temperatures, their distribution and charge to breakdown are almost the same and they are not dependent on Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> thickness. This means that the interfacial layer determines the breakdown of the whole stack.

#### (B) Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> Gate Dielectrics Using NH<sub>3</sub> Surface Nitridation Technology

Figure 11 shows the comparisons of the C-V curves of the samples with and without surface treatment after PDA 900°C in an O<sub>2</sub> ambient. It is clear that samples with a NH<sub>3</sub> treatment had higher capacitance at strong accumulation than samples without a NH<sub>3</sub> treatment. The CET of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> film is effectively reduced after NH<sub>3</sub> nitridation since NH<sub>3</sub> surface can suppress the growth

of interfacial layer. In Fig. 11, we can also found the C-V curves shift negatively after NH<sub>3</sub> nitridation can be observed due to the nitridation-induced fixed positive charges. Since positive fixed charges in conventional NH<sub>3</sub> nitridation film is due to N–H bonds at the interface. Fig. 12 shows the comparisons of the C-V curves of the samples with or without surface treatment after PDA 900°C in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient. We still can find that the CET of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> film is effectively reduced after NH<sub>3</sub> treatment. However, the amount of the C-V curves shift negatively after NH<sub>3</sub> nitridation is decreasing. The reason is due to that PDA in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient will enhance the magnitude of fixed charge in Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> film Fig. 13 shows the variation of deposited thickness (measured by ellipsometer ) versus CET after PDA 900°C in an O<sub>2</sub> ambient. The NH<sub>3</sub> treatment can effectively reduce the CET despite the initial oxide thickness, which shows the excellent CET scalability of this nitridation process. Because the presence of Si<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> layer can effectively suppress the diffusion of oxygen species into the high-k/Si substrate interface. Without surface nitridation, Al and O atoms are easier to react with Si and are likely to form additional silicon dioxide and/or aluminum silicate layer with relatively lower k value. Fig. 14 shows the variation of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> thickness versus capacitance equivalent thickness (CET) after PDA 900°C in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient. We can see almost the same result in an O<sub>2</sub> ambient as in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient, except in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient with higher k value. Figure 15 (a) and (b) show the relationship of gate leakage current versus gate bias after PDA 900°C in the O<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> ambient, respectively. The NH<sub>3</sub> –treatment samples show lower leakage current even with thinner CET. It is postulated that the NH<sub>3</sub>-treatment can improve the quality of interface between high-k and silicon substrate and effectively reduce the leakage current. Fig. 16 shows the curve of Current density versus CET curves at V<sub>g</sub> = -1V with NH<sub>3</sub> treatment and without NH<sub>3</sub> treatment. It is clear that NH<sub>3</sub> treatment can effectively reduce leakage current. Fig. 17(a) and (b) show the Weibull plots of the charge to breakdown (Q<sub>BD</sub>) of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples with nearly the same CET after PDA 900°C in the O<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub> ambient, respectively. The samples with NH<sub>3</sub> treatment shows more charge to breakdown (Q<sub>BD</sub>). Thus, we suspect that surface nitridation may effectively reduce the concentration of oxygen vacancies during PDA due to its capability to suppress oxygen diffusion. On the other hand, the stronger Si-N bonds bring a stronger interface layer. When part of voltage drop across the Si<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> interfacial layer in samples, the voltage drop across the Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> film is lower than expectance and the influence of the electric field stress is not as severe as the un-NH<sub>3</sub> treatment Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples. As the result, it will enhance the Q<sub>BD</sub> for NH<sub>3</sub> treated Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples.

It is important to study the conduction mechanisms of leakage current in Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> film to improve its electrical and dielectric properties. Typically, two possible effects are in the metal-insulator interface, one is Schottky effect, the other is Frenkel-Poole effect. The Schottky-Richardson emission generated by the thermionic effect is caused by the electron transport across the potential energy barrier via field-assisted lowering at a metal-insulator interface. The leakage current equation is:

$$J = A^* T^2 \exp\left(\frac{\beta_s E^{1/2} - \phi_s}{k_B T}\right)$$

where  $\beta_s = (e^3 / 4\pi\epsilon_0\epsilon)^{1/2}$ , A\* effective Richardson constant,  $\phi_s$  the contact potential barrier. We

can find the slope of the leakage current equation.

$$\ln J = \frac{\beta_s}{k_B T} \sqrt{E} + \left[ \ln(A^* T^2) - \frac{\phi_s}{k_B T} \right]$$

$$slope = \frac{\beta_s}{k_B T}$$

The Frenkel- Poole (F-P) emission is due to field-enhanced thermal excitation of trapped electrons in the insulator into the conduction band. The leakage current equation is:

$$J = J_0 \exp \left( \frac{\beta_{FP} E^{1/2} - \phi_{PF}}{k_B T} \right)$$

where  $J_0 = \sigma_0 E$  is the low-field current density,  $\sigma_0$  the low-field conductivity,  $\beta_{FP} = (e^3 / \pi \epsilon_0 \epsilon)^{1/2}$ ,  $e$  the electronic charge,  $\epsilon_0$  the permittivity of free space,  $\epsilon$  the high frequency relative dielectric constant,  $T$  absolute temperature,  $E$  the applied electric field,  $k_B$  the Boltzmann constant,  $\phi_{PF}$  the contact potential barrier. We can find the slope of the leakage current equation.

$$\ln J = \frac{\beta_{FP}}{k_B T} \sqrt{E} + \left[ \ln(J_0) - \frac{\phi_{PF}}{k_B T} \right]$$

$$slope = \frac{\beta_{FP}}{k_B T}$$

From the equations as shown above, leakage current behaviors of insulate films can be investigated further on the leakage current density ( $J$ )-electric field ( $E$ ) characteristics such as  $\ln J$  vs.  $E^{1/2}$  plots. The plot of the nature log of leakage current density versus the square root of the applied electric field was observed. It is found that the leakage current density is linearly related to square root of the applied electric field. The linear variations of the current correspond either to Schottky emission or to Frenkel-Poole conduction mechanism. For trap states with Coulomb potentials, the expression is virtually identical to that of the Schottky emission. The barrier height, however, is the depth of the trap potential well, and the quantity  $\beta_{FP}$  is larger than in the case of Schottky emission by a factor of 2. Distinction between the two processes can be done by comparing the theoretical value of  $\beta$  with the experimental one obtained by calculating the slope of the curve  $\ln J-E^{1/2}$ . The dielectric constant of  $Al_2O_3$  is 7.63 at PDA  $O_2$  ambient and 8.29 at PDA  $N_2$  ambient extracted by Fig. 20, the theory  $\beta$  values are  $4.40 \times 10^{-23}$  for Frenkel-Poole and  $2.20 \times 10^{-23}$  for Schottky after PDA in an  $O_2$  ambient and the theory  $\beta$  values are  $4.22 \times 10^{-23}$  for Frenkel-Poole and  $2.11 \times 10^{-23}$  for Schottky after PDA in a  $N_2$  ambient. Table 1 (a) and (b) shown the experimental  $\beta$  and Schottky barrier high of  $Al_2O_3$  samples with  $NH_3$  and without  $NH_3$  treatment after PDA  $900^\circ C$  in an  $O_2$  ambient and after PDA  $900^\circ C$  in a  $N_2$  ambient, respectively. Fig. 18 (a) and (b) show the conduction mechanism fitting of  $Al_2O_3$  samples with  $NH_3$  and w/o  $NH_3$  treatment after PDA  $900^\circ C$  in an  $O_2$  ambient and after PDA  $900^\circ C$  in a  $N_2$  ambient, respectively. We find the conduction mechanism in  $Al_2O_3$  thin film is dominated by Schottky

conduction.

### **(C) Pre- and Post-corroded Fiber Structure in HF Vapor Environment**

Figure 20 shows the fiber structure of PTFE-fiber and glass-fiber after the HF vapor corrosion. The pre- and post-corroded fiber structure of PTFE did not reveal any difference and this meant the PTFE-fiber was resistive for HF vapor. On the contrary, the fiber structure of glass-fiber shown in Fig. 20(b) displayed the serious degradation in HF vapor environment. The glass-fiber was inevitable to be corroded due to the strong reduction of HF to glass. It is worthy to notice that the corrosion of glass-fiber may release the boron and organic contaminants contained in glass-fiber ULPA filter, thus causing the degradation of device characteristics. Therefore, the PTFE ULPA filter is suitable to be used in acid vapor environment.

### **(D) Air Sampling Results in HF Vapor Environment**

Figure 21 is the ICP-MS analysis results of metals and boron for different filter modules in HF vapor environment. The PTFE and the glass-fiber ULPA filter can effectively filter the metals including Na, K, Ca, Mg and Al. The CB with the PTFE and the GF ULPA filter, however, showed higher concentration of Fe ions than CR. It was suggested that the steel construction of clean bench corroded by HF vapor, releasing the Fe ions to air. Besides, the CB with GF filter showed large concentration of boron than the CB with PTFE filter. This may due to the corrosion of glass-fiber in HF vapor, releasing the boron atoms contained in glass-fiber as mentioned above. The detail analysis results of ICP-MS are listed in Table 4.

The organic compounds were considered to be another contamination the glass-fiber will release in HF vapor. Figure 22 shows the analysis results of GC/MS. It was found that all the organic contaminants were removed in the CB with PTFE filter. But for the CB with GF filter, high concentration of organic contaminants appeared. According to our study in Chapter 2, these organic contaminants may come from the binder in GF ULPA filter. In HF vapor environment, the degradation of glass-fiber will release more organic contaminants as show in Fig. 22. Table 5 shows the detail analysis results of GC/MS.

## **IV. Conclusion**

In this thesis, characteristics and reliability of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  gate dielectrics with pre-deposition  $\text{NH}_3$  treatment and rapid thermal annealing in  $\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{N}_2$  ambient have been investigated. Several important phenomena were observed and summarized as follows. PDA can effectively reduce leakage current. For the samples with PDA at  $\text{O}_2$  ambient, the interfacial layer increases with the higher PDA temperature. It is obviously that  $\text{O}_2$  penetration will induce the increasing of the interfacial layer at  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{Si}$ -substrate and higher annealing temperature will speed up interface layer growth rate. For samples with PDA in a  $\text{N}_2$  ambient, the void-defect of sputtered  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  film will be eliminated. The as deposited  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  film shows larger roughness, and after PDA it will become smoother. However, with higher PDA temperature, surface rough will slightly increase.

The surface  $\text{NH}_3$  treatment can lower the CET value and reduce the leakage current. In addition, the dielectric reliability was enhanced with  $\text{NH}_3$  treatment. The low Weibull slope of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  film may result from sputter-induced defects causing weak spots. Significant process improvements are necessary to enhance dielectric quality, such as MOCVD, ALCVD. The conduction mechanism in  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  film was investigated by the various temperature measurement



and fitting. The conduction mechanism in  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  thin film is dominated by Schottky conduction which occurred for insulators with fewer defects and a more perfect metal-insulator interface. Samples after  $\text{NH}_3$  treatment will have higher barrier high to reduce the leakage current.

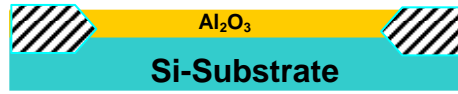
The qualitative and quantitative analyses of AMC in the CB with different filter module in HF vapor environment were investigated. The experimental results showed that the GF ULPA filter will release boron and organic contaminants in HF vapor environment, while the PTFE ULPA filter still maintained low concentration of contaminants. The effects of the materials from which air filters are made on device characteristics were also investigated. The glass-fiber ULPA filter released AMC when exposed in an HF vapor environment. These contaminants included organic compounds and boron trace dopants and degraded the device characteristics. In contrast, the HF vapor did not affect the PTFE ULPA filter. These results suggested that the PTFE fiber can be a good ULPA filter material for providing a very clean environment.

### 計畫成果自評

本計畫為三年期計畫，依原訂計畫第二年目標，本計畫完成了奈米級閘極介電層關鍵製程技術之研發以及奈米級微污染分析防治，相關論文仍在投稿當中。在奈米級閘極介電層關鍵製程技術之研發方面，開發出未來奈米元件用之高介電常數  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  閘極介電層，並研究其特性及最佳化條件，此高介電氧化鋁薄膜經過  $\text{NH}_3$  的前處理及  $\text{N}_2$  RTA 製程退火處理，可獲得最佳電性，適用於未來的奈米元件製程；最後在奈米級微污染分析防治方面，我們以氫氟酸加速實驗檢驗了目前無塵室空氣濾網的適用性，並採用新開發之 PTFE 濾網來控制無塵室中之硼微污染跟有機污染。本計畫未來一年將以前兩年為基礎，繼續進行氧化鋁和臭氧水製程之奈米閘極絕緣層跟無塵室微污染對於奈米元件之影響等相關研究。

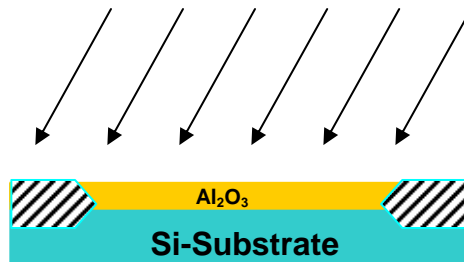
**Si-Substrate**

**1. RCA clean and LOCOS**



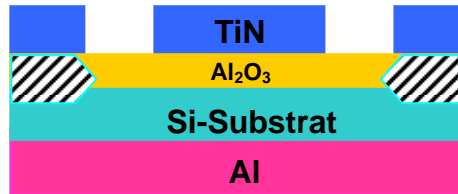
**2. Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> deposition ( 60Å )**

by **Reactive Sputter**



**3. RTA treatment N<sub>2</sub>/ 5 slm/30 sec or**

**O<sub>2</sub>/ 5 slm/30 sec 750°C , 850°C ,950°C**



**4. Top electrode formation TiN-2000 Å &**

**Backside contact formation Al -5000Å**

Fig.1 Process flows of experimental samples

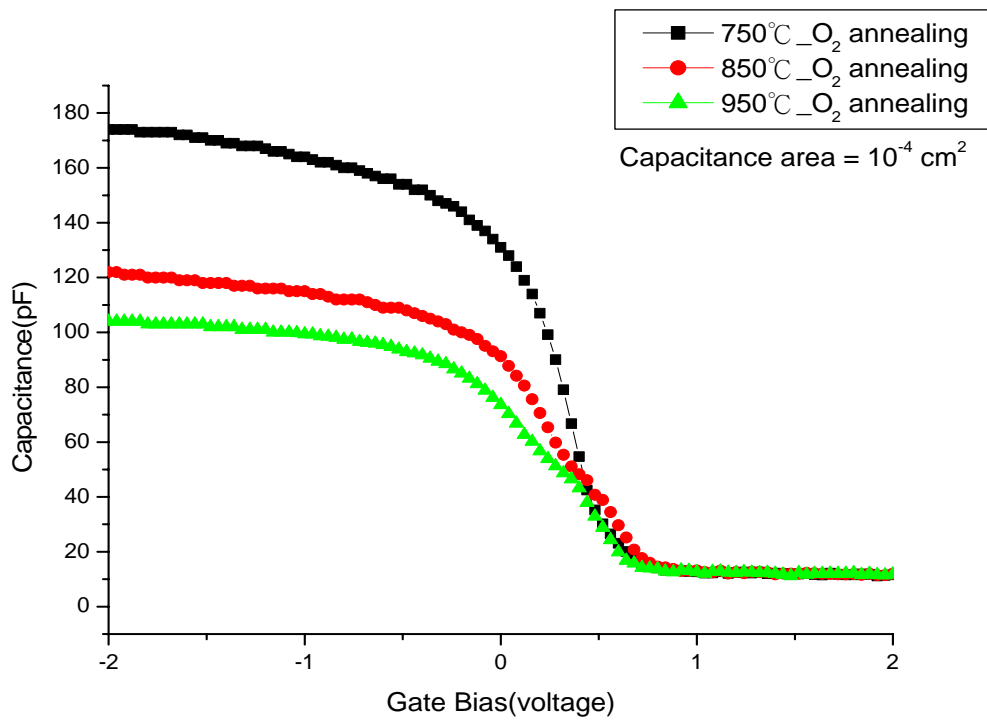


Fig.2 The C-V curves of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  samples annealing in an  $\text{O}_2$  ambient

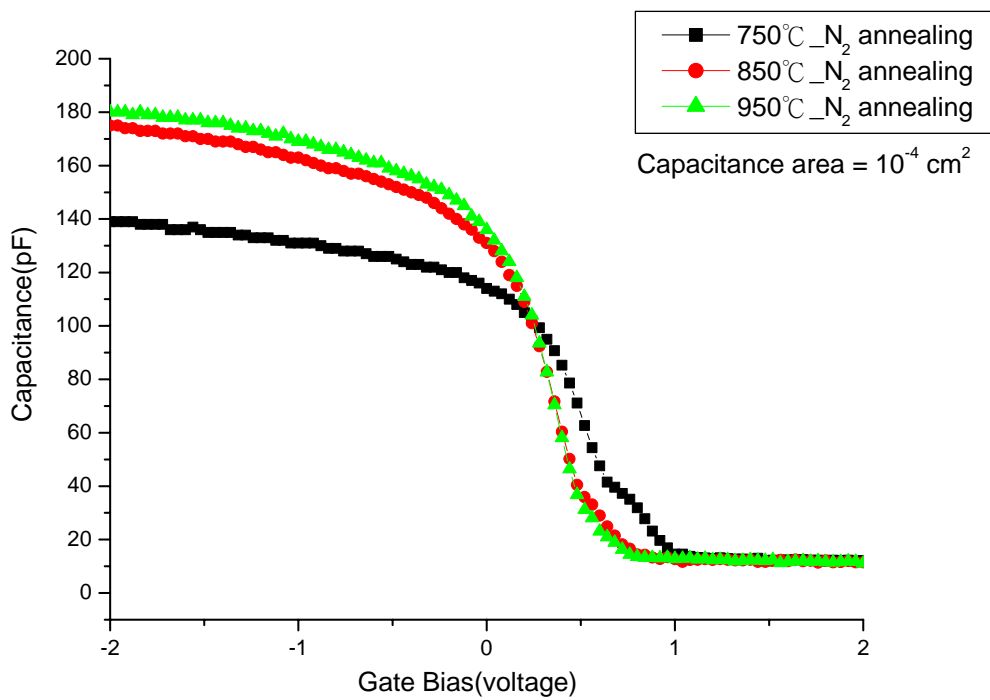


Fig. 3 The C-V curves of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  samples annealing in a  $\text{N}_2$  ambient

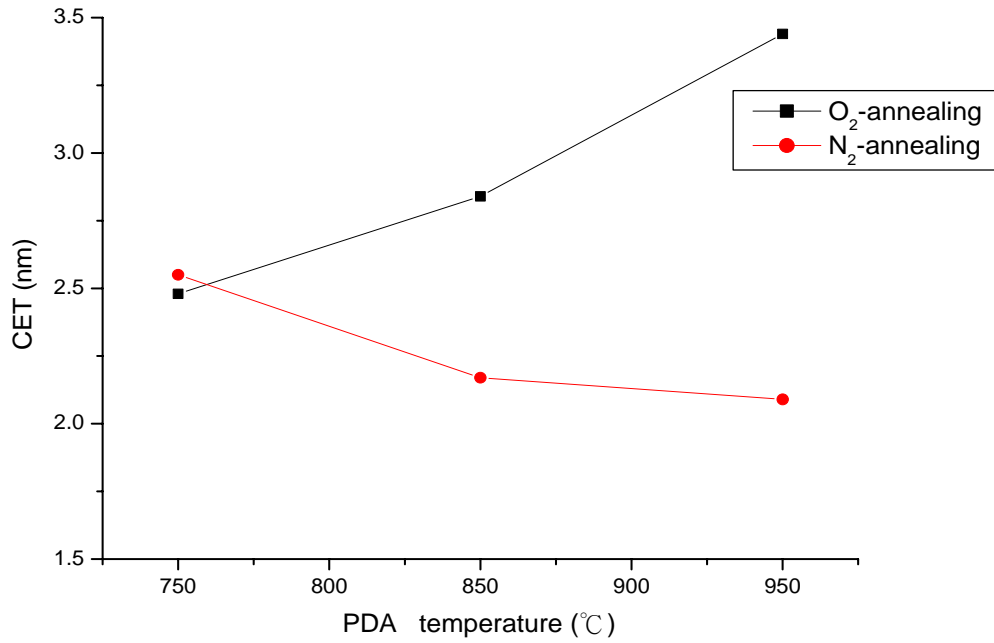


Fig. 4 The CET of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples after various post annealing temperature 750°C, 850°C, 950°C

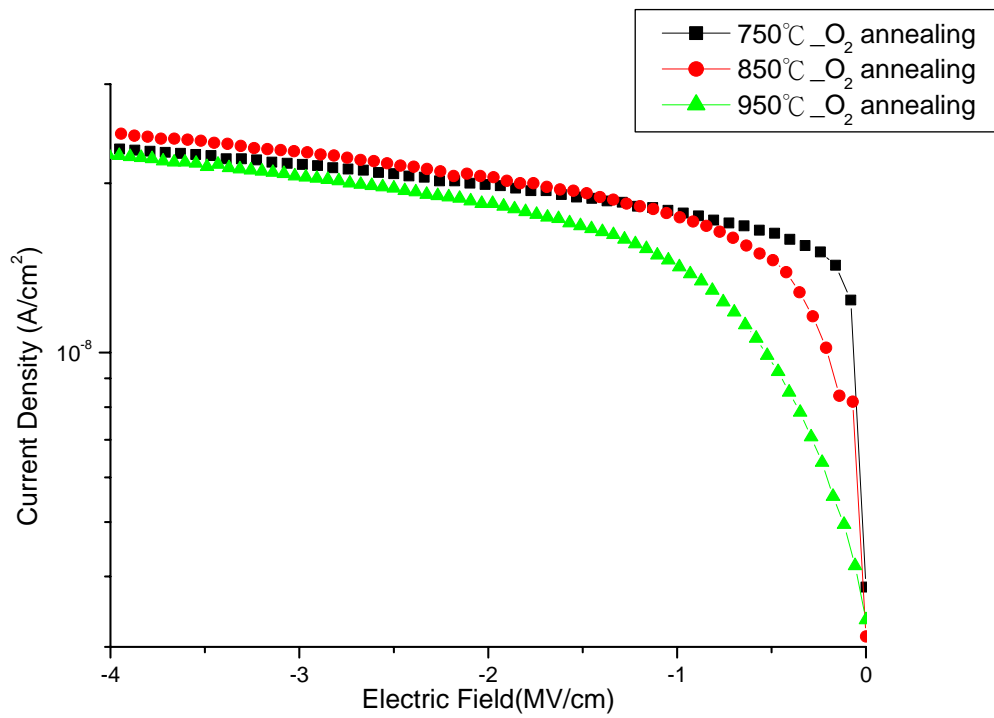


Fig. 5 The J-E curves of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples with various PDA temperature in an O<sub>2</sub> ambient.

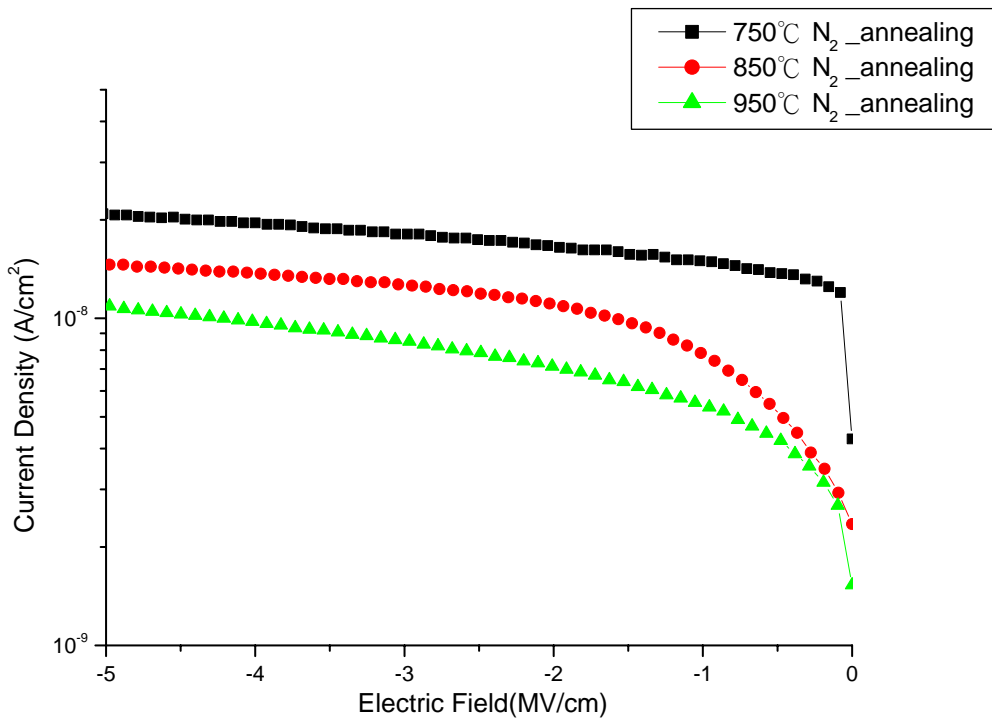


Fig. 6 The J-E curves of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples with various PDA temperature in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient.

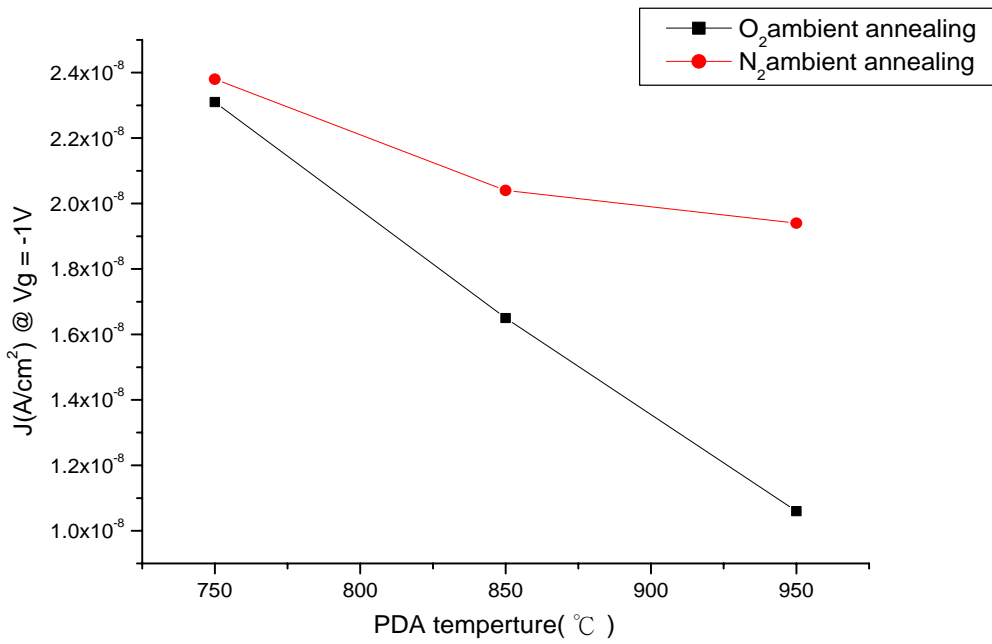


Fig. 7 The J at V<sub>g</sub> = -1 V of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples with various PDA temperature

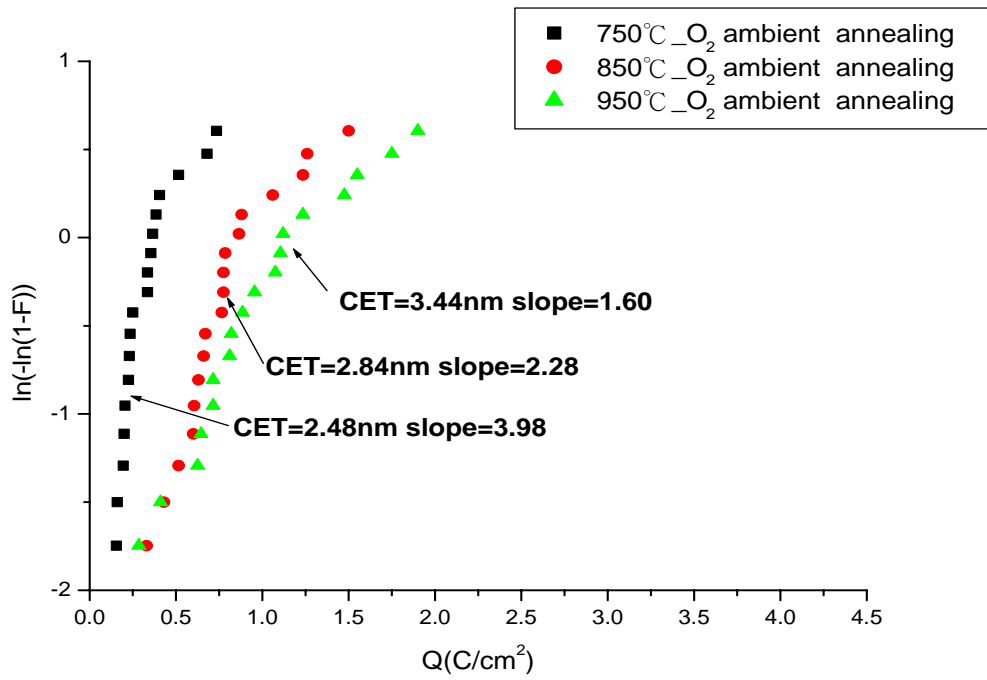


Fig. 8 The Weibull plot versus the charge to breakdown  $Q$  ( $C/cm^2$ ) of  $Al_2O_3$  samples with various PDA temperature in an  $O_2$  ambient.

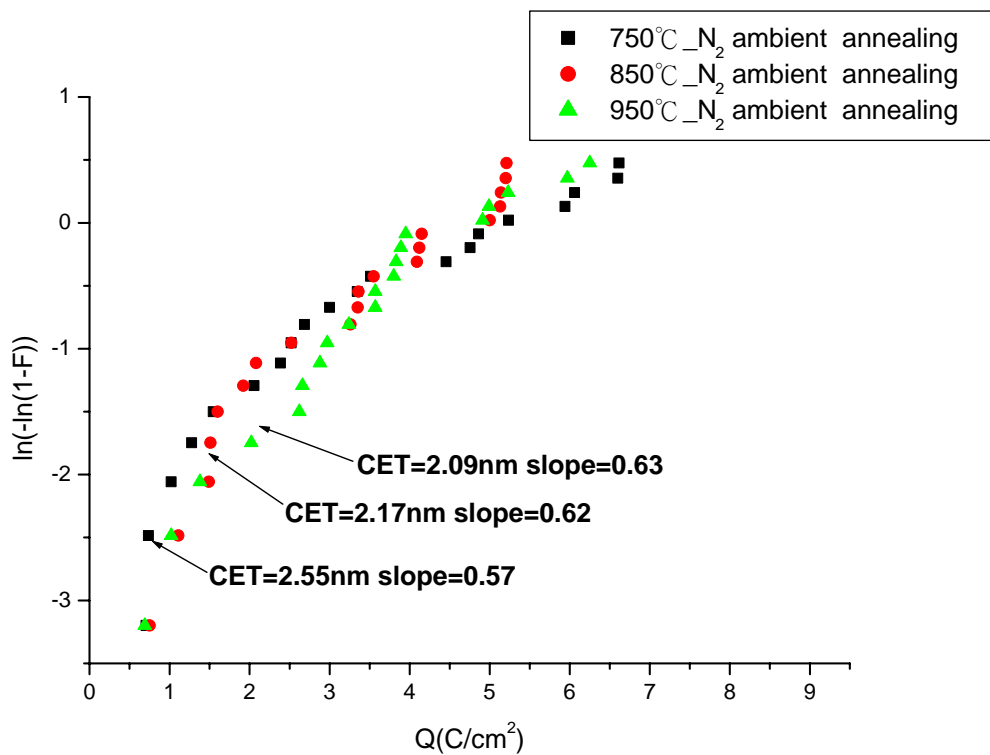


Fig. 9 The Weibull plot shows the charge to breakdown  $Q$  ( $C/cm^2$ ) of  $Al_2O_3$  samples with various PDA temperature in a  $N_2$  ambient.

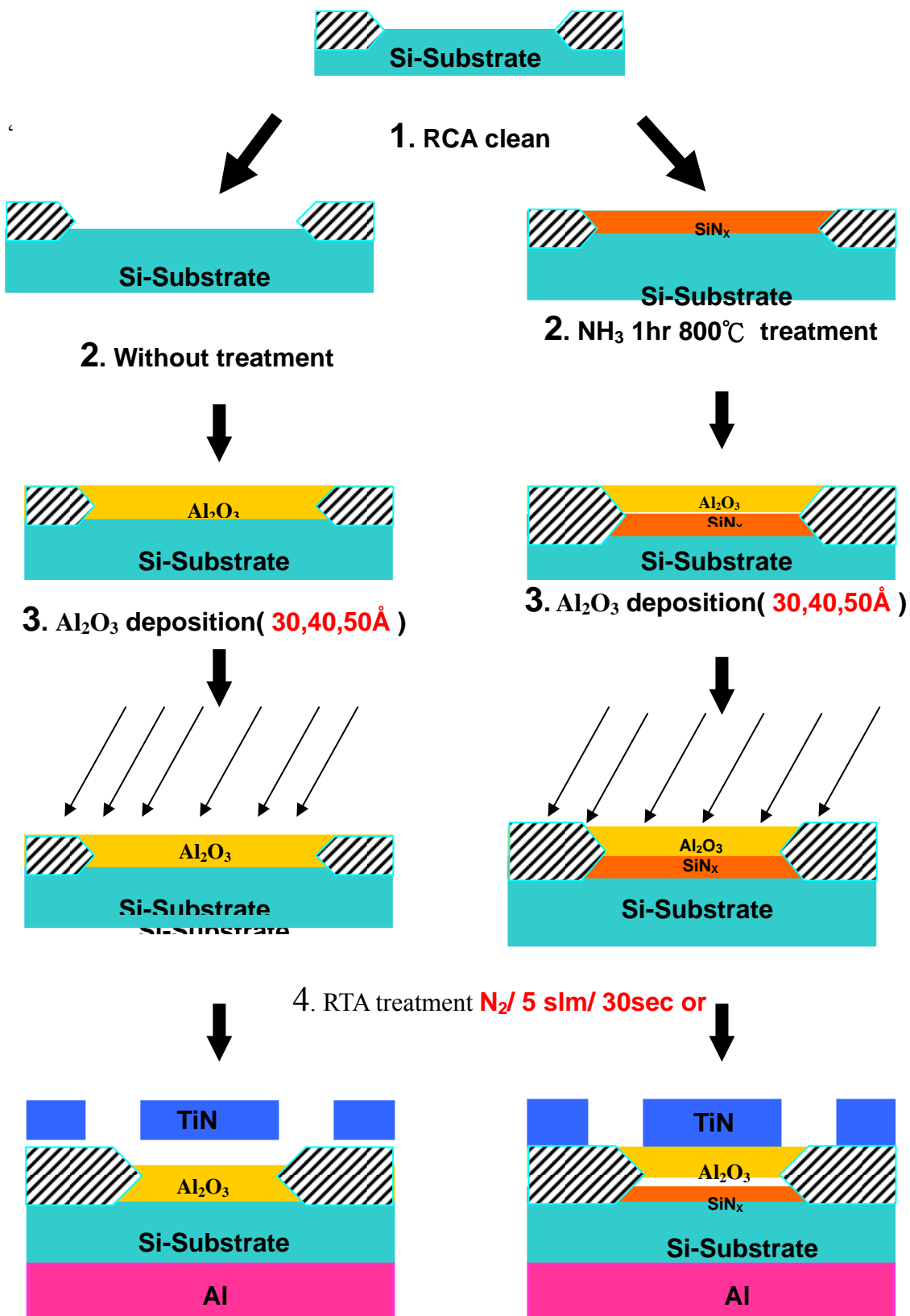


Fig.10 Process flows of experimental samples

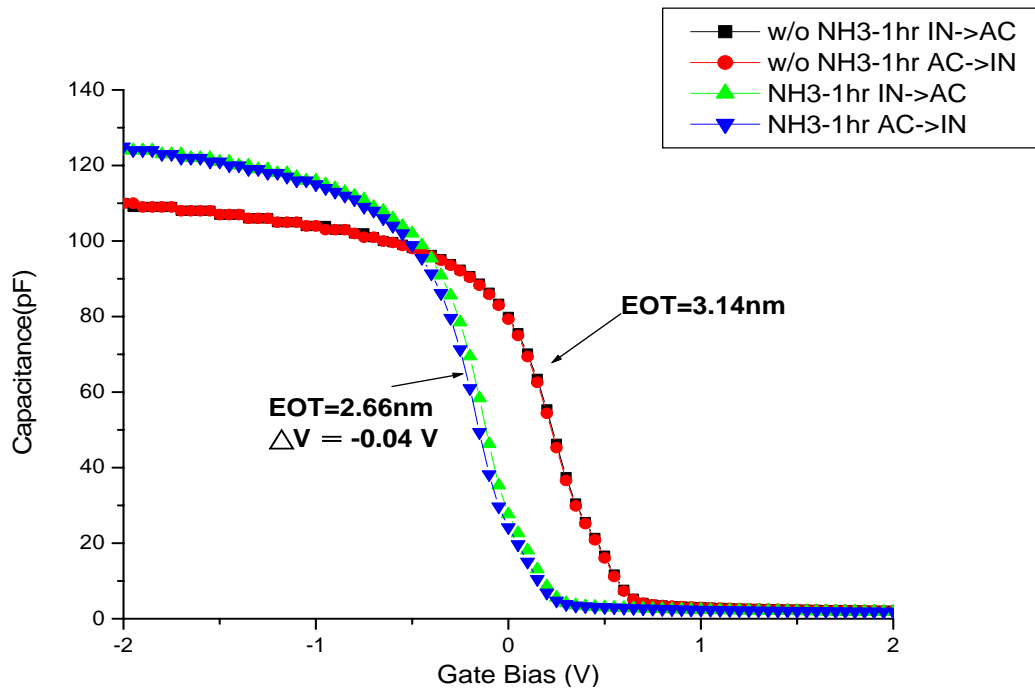


Fig. 11: C-V curve of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  sample with surface treatment compare to  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  sample without surface treatment after PDA  $900^\circ\text{C}$  in an  $\text{O}_2$  ambient

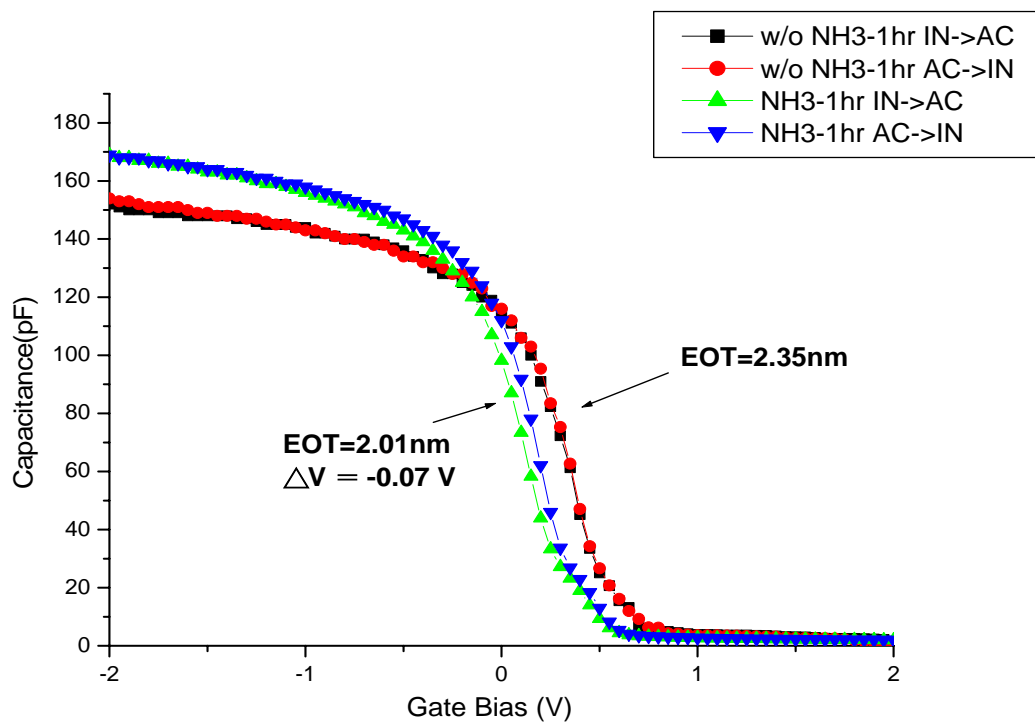


Fig. 12: C-V curve of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  sample with surface treatment compare to  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  sample without surface treatment after PDA  $900^\circ\text{C}$  in a  $\text{N}_2$  ambient



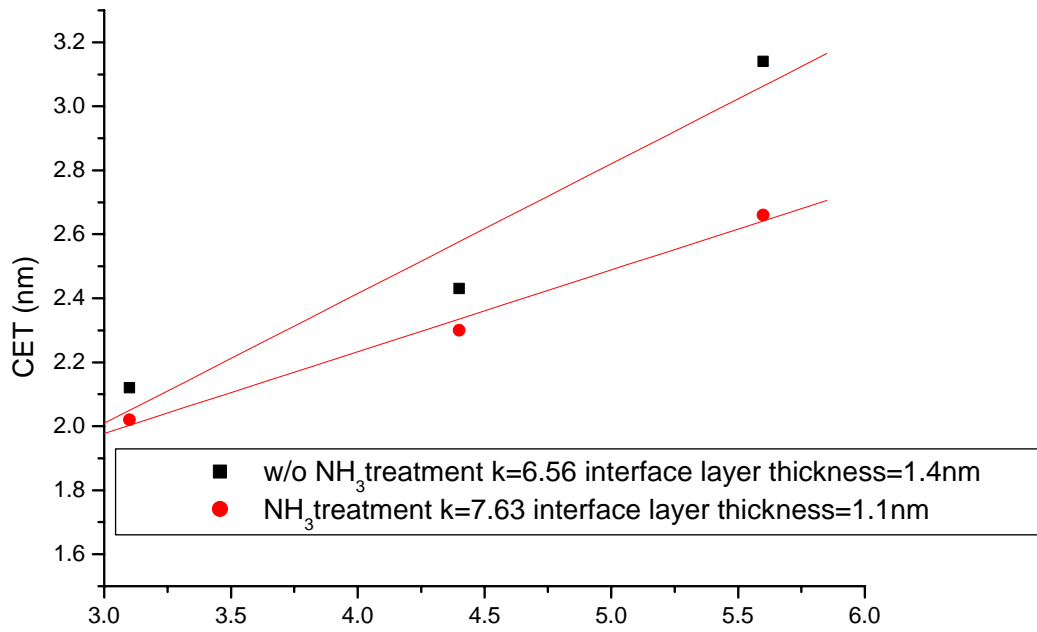


Fig. 13: CET versus Optical thickness of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> sample with surface treatment compare to Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> sample without surface treatment after PDA 900°C in an O<sub>2</sub> ambient

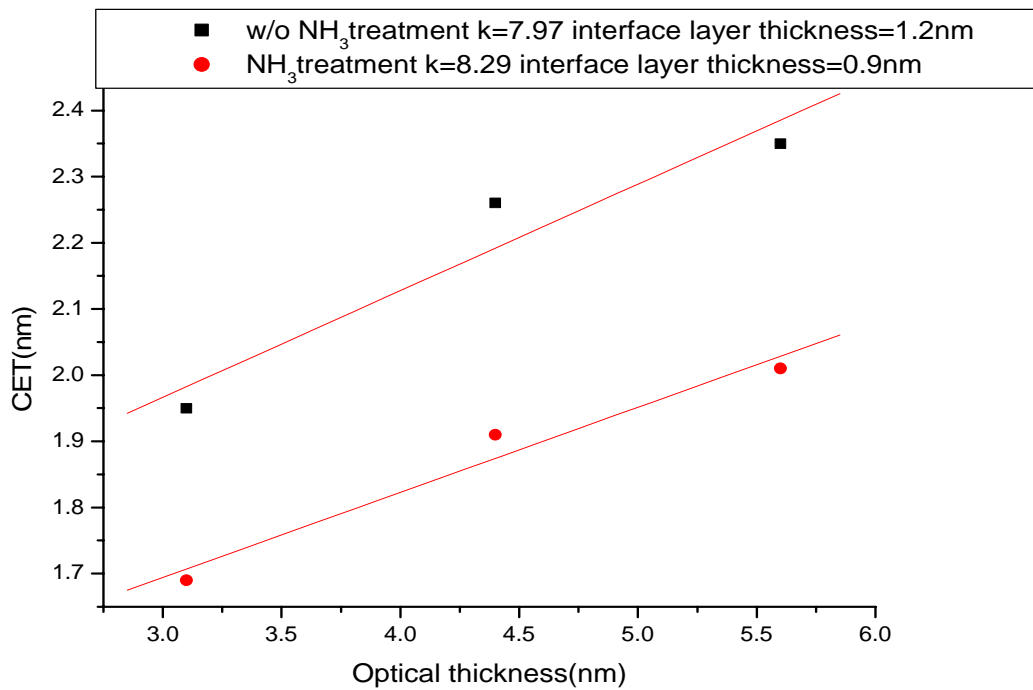


Fig. 14: CET versus Optical thickness of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> sample with surface treatment compare to Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> sample without surface treatment after PDA 900°C in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient

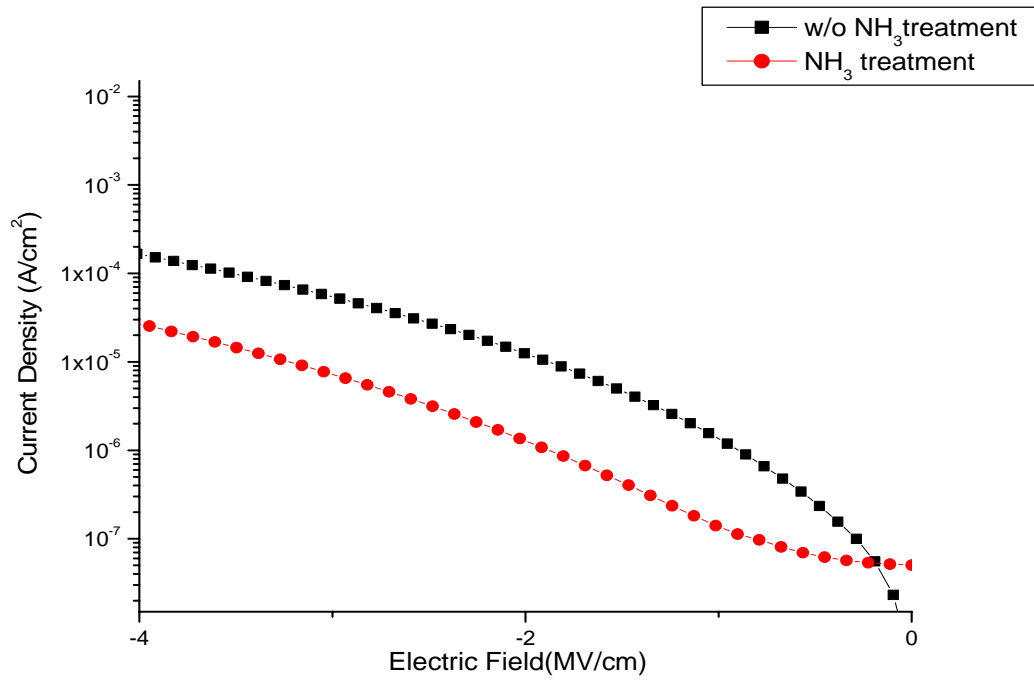


Fig. 15(a): The gate leakage current density (J) versus electric field (E) curves for NH<sub>3</sub> nitrided and w/o NH<sub>3</sub> nitrided after PDA 900°C in an O<sub>2</sub> ambient

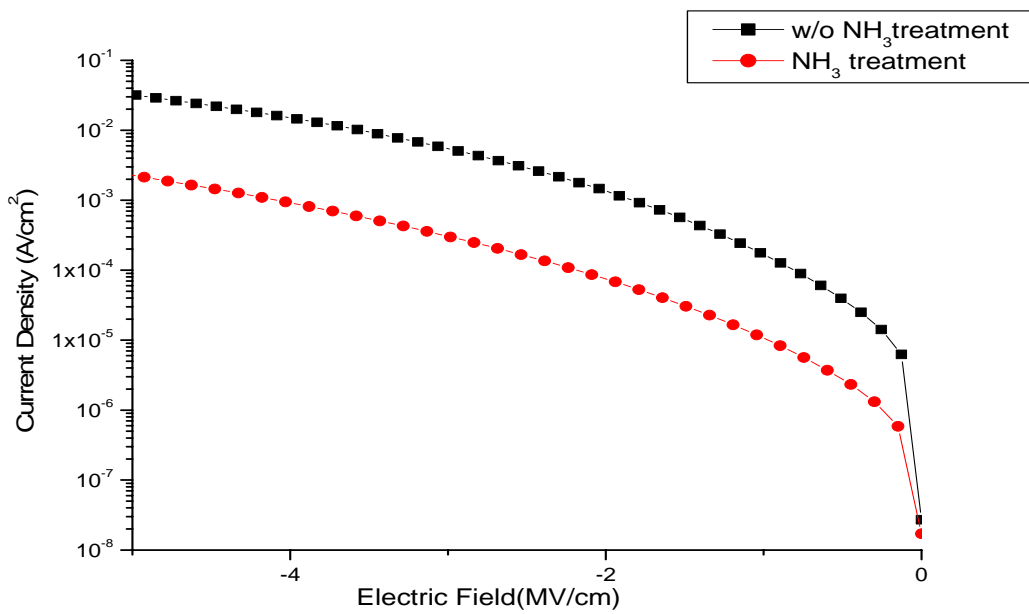


Fig. 15(b): The gate leakage current density (J) versus electric field (E) curves for NH<sub>3</sub> nitrided and w/o NH<sub>3</sub> nitrided after PDA 900°C in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient

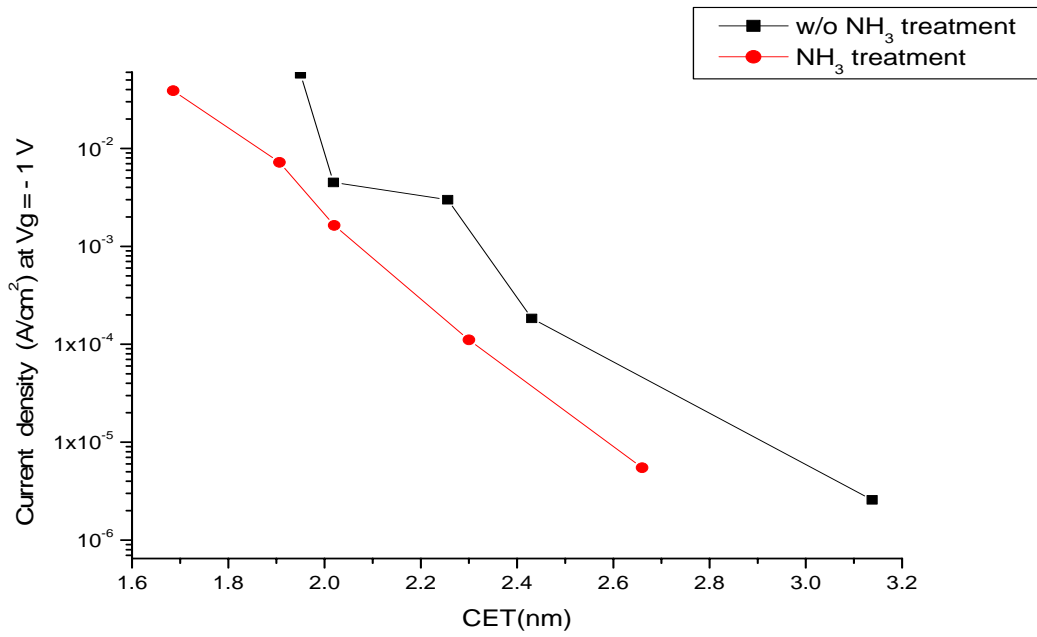


Fig. 16 Current density at  $V_g = -1V$  versus CET curves for  $NH_3$  treatment and without  $NH_3$  treatment.

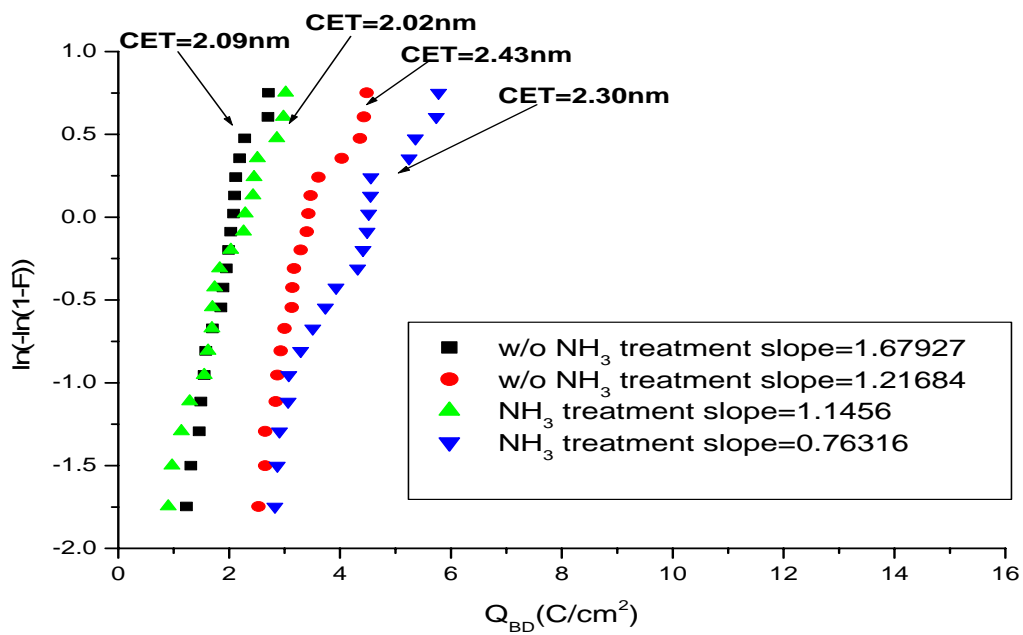


Fig. 17 (a) The weibull plot shows charge to breakdown for  $Al_2O_3$  samples with  $NH_3$  and w/o  $NH_3$  treatment at PDA after PDA  $900^\circ C$  in an  $O_2$  ambient

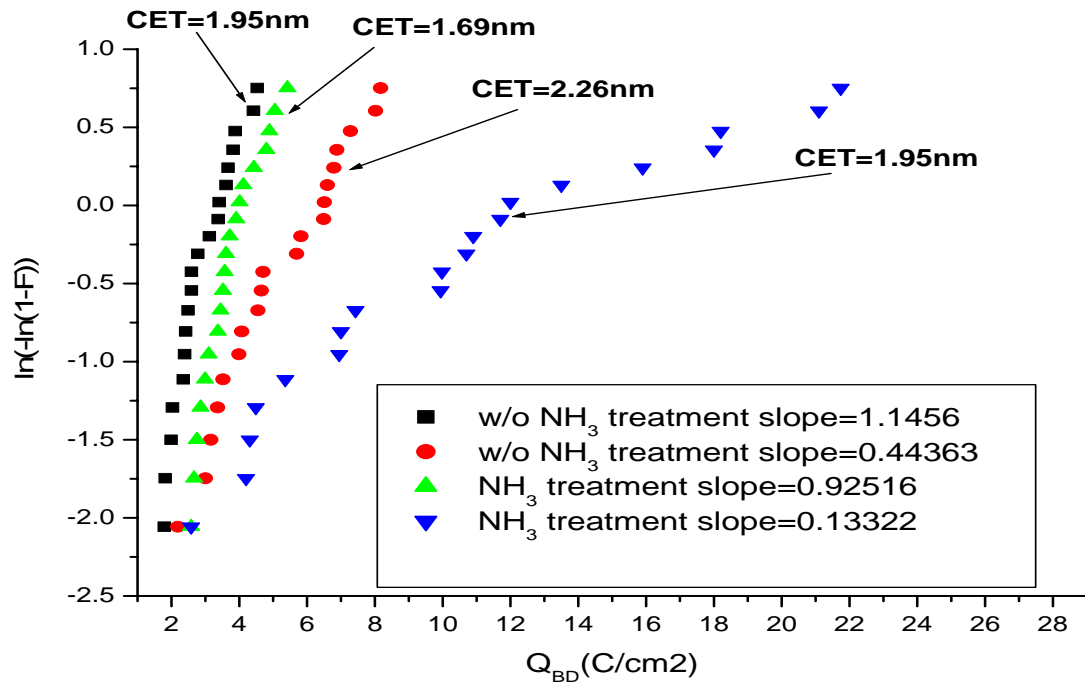


Fig. 17 (b) The weibull plot shows charge to breakdown for Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples with NH<sub>3</sub> and w/o NH<sub>3</sub> treatment at PDA after PDA 900°C in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient

	w/o NH <sub>3</sub> treatment		With NH <sub>3</sub> treatment	
	$\beta_{exp}$	Schottky barrier high	$\beta_{exp}$	Schottky barrier high
25°C	$1.88 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.71ev	$2.37 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.97ev
50°C	$2.18 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.72 ev	$2.37 \cdot 10^{-23}$	1.06ev
75°C	$2.48 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.70 ev	$2.49 \cdot 10^{-23}$	1.13ev
100°C	$2.59 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.74 ev	$2.59 \cdot 10^{-23}$	1.20ev
125°C	$2.71 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.70 ev	$2.71 \cdot 10^{-23}$	1.28ev

Table. 1(a) The experimental  $\beta$  and Schottky barrier high of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples with NH<sub>3</sub> and w/o NH<sub>3</sub> treatment after PDA 900°C in a O<sub>2</sub> ambient

	w/o NH <sub>3</sub> treatment		With NH <sub>3</sub> treatment	
	$\beta_{exp}$	Schottky barrier high	$\beta_{exp}$	Schottky barrier high
25°C	$1.93 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.73 ev	$1.98 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.83ev
50°C	$1.83 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.65 ev	$2.15 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.89ev
75°C	$2.04 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.69 ev	$2.32 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.96ev
100°C	$2.13 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.72 ev	$2.45 \cdot 10^{-23}$	1.03ev
125°C	$2.01 \cdot 10^{-23}$	0.77 ev	$2.61 \cdot 10^{-23}$	1.10ev

Table.1(b) The experimental  $\beta$  and Schottky barrier high of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples with NH<sub>3</sub> and w/o NH<sub>3</sub> treatment after PDA 900°C in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient

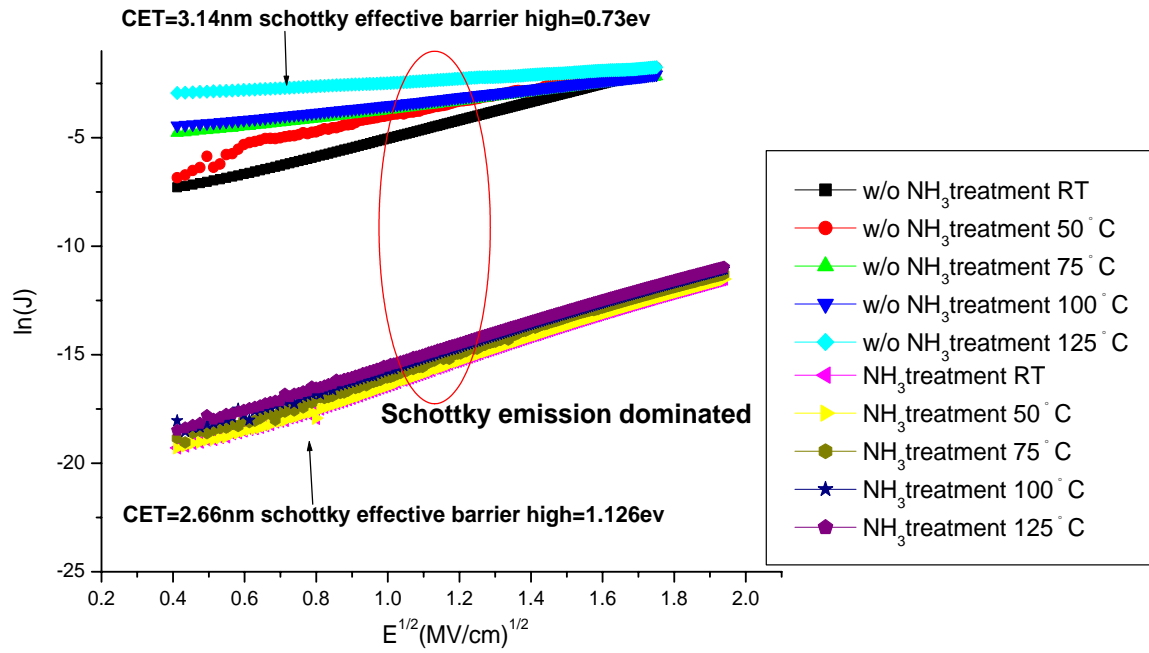


Fig.18(a) The conduction mechanism fitting of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples with NH<sub>3</sub> and w/o NH<sub>3</sub> treatment after PDA 900°C in an O<sub>2</sub> ambient

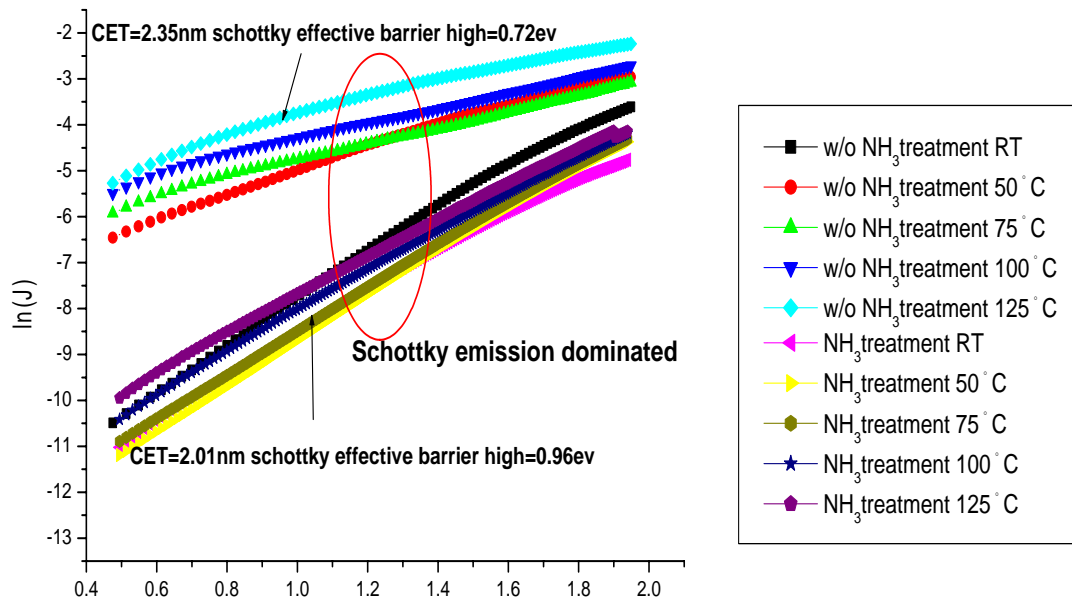


Fig.18(b) The conduction mechanism fitting of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> samples with NH<sub>3</sub> and w/o NH<sub>3</sub> treatment after PDA 900°C in a N<sub>2</sub> ambient

**TABLE 2**  
Summary of Air Sampling Experimental Conditions

Contamination Type	Sampling Equipments	Flow Rate	Sampling Time	Analysis Method
Organic Compounds	TENAX Tube	100 mL/min.	5 hrs	GC/MS (Gas Chromatograph Mass Spectrometer)
Metals & Boron	Impinger	2 L/min.	72 hrs	ICP-MS (Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometer)

Bench Condition  
 Filter module: 1. PTFE ULPA filter + Chemical filter  
                   2. Glass-Fiber ULPA filter + Chemical filter  
 Air flow rate: 0.4 m/s  
 Turnover rate: 5%  
 Temperature: 23 °C  
 1ppm HF Vapor

**TABLE 3**  
Summary of Wafer Sampling Experimental Conditions

Contamination Type	Exposing Location	Exposing Time	Analysis Method	Elements
Organic Compounds	CR and	24 hrs	TDS-APIMS (Thermal Desorption System – Atmospheric Pressure Ionized Mass Spectrum)	D3, D4, D5, D6, DEP, DBP, TEP, TBP, BHT
Metals	CB	72 hrs	TRXRF (Total Reflection X-Ray Fluorescence)	Na, K, Ca, Mg, Fe, Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn

Filter module: 1. PTFE ULPA filter + Chemical filter  
                   2. Glass-Fiber ULPA filter + Chemical filter  
 Air flow rate: 0.4 m/s  
 Turnover rate: 5%  
 Temperature: 23 °C  
 1ppm HF Vapor

**TABLE 4**

## Air Sampling Results of Metals and Boron in HF Vapor Environment

Metals & Boron ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	CR	Detection Limit	CB_PTFE	Detection Limit	CB_GF	Detection Limit
Inlet Filter	-		Chemical Filter		Chemical Filter	
Main Filter	-		PTFE Filter		Glass-Fiber Filter	
Na	0.25	0.002	<0.004	0.004	<0.002	0.002
K	0.006	0.004	<0.004	0.004	<0.004	0.004
Ca	0.004	0.004	<0.004	0.004	<0.004	0.004
Mg	<0.004	0.004	<0.004	0.004	<0.004	0.004
Al	<0.004	0.004	<0.004	0.004	<0.004	0.004
Fe	<0.004	0.004	0.008	0.004	0.05	0.004
B	0.024	0.0008	0.0036	0.0008	0.062	0.0009

**TABLE 5**

## Air Sampling Results of Organic Compounds in HF Vapor Environment

Organic Compounds ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	CR	Detection Limit	CB_PTFE	Detection Limit	CB_GF	Detection Limit
Inlet Filter	-		Chemical Filter		Chemical Filter	
Main Filter	-		PTFE Filter		Glass-Fiber Filter	
D3:C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>18</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Si <sub>3</sub>	2.1	0.03	<0.03	0.03	*1	0.03
D4:C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>4</sub> Si <sub>4</sub>	<0.07	0.07	<0.07	0.07	0.11	0.07
D5:C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>30</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Si <sub>5</sub>	0.34	0.03	<0.03	0.03	0.14	0.03
D6:C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>36</sub> O <sub>6</sub> Si <sub>6</sub>	0.04	0.03	<0.03	0.03	0.14	0.03
DEP:C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	<0.03	0.03	<0.03	0.03	0.27	0.03
DBP:C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	0.27	0.22	<0.22	0.22	1.4	0.22
TEP:C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>15</sub> O <sub>4</sub> P	<0.03	0.03	<0.03	0.03	<0.03	0.03
TBP:C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>27</sub> O <sub>4</sub> P	<0.03	0.03	<0.03	0.03	<0.03	0.03
BHT:C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O	<0.03	0.03	<0.03	0.03	0.04	0.03

\*1: Can not separate organic compounds peaks

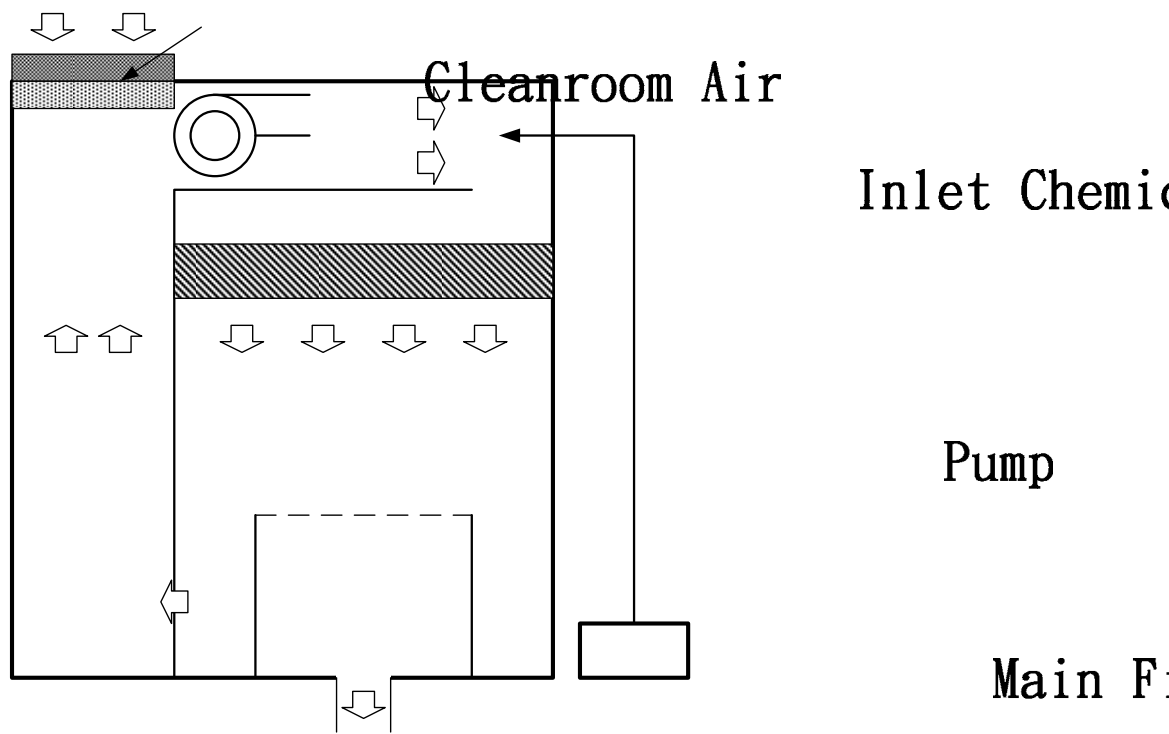


Fig. 19(a) Schematic diagram of specially designed clean bench with the HF vapor.

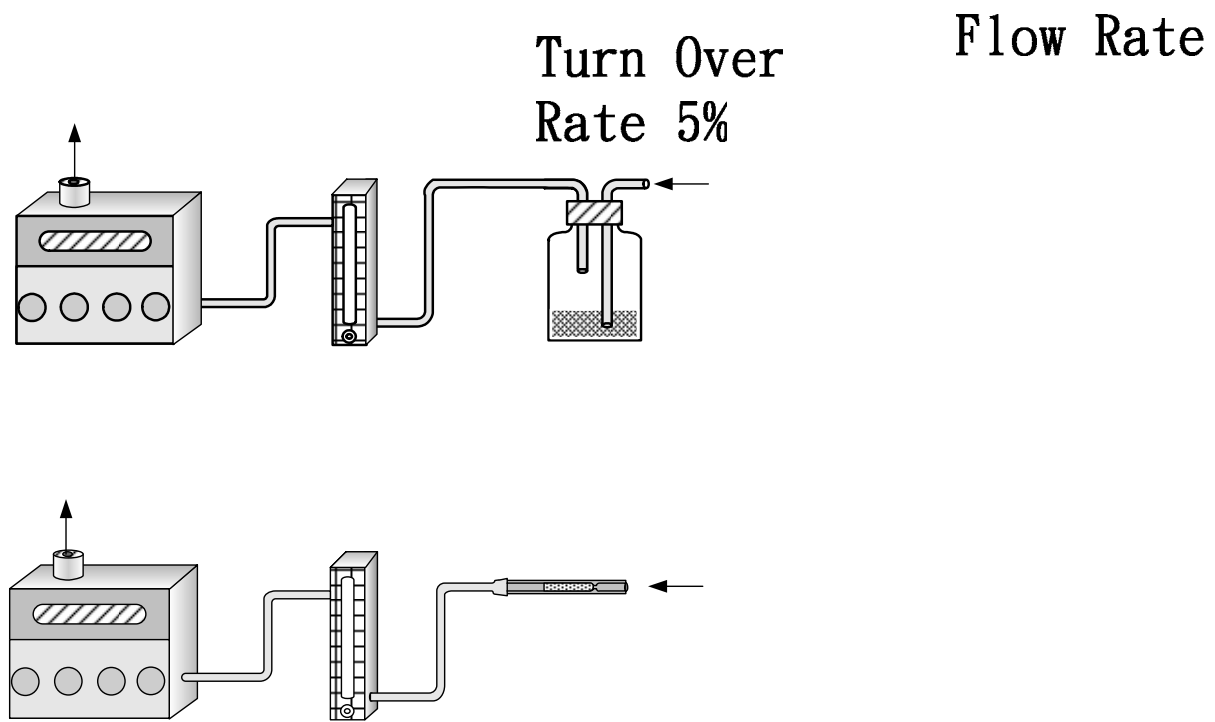


Fig. 19(b) Air sampling equipments used for the evaluation of metals and organic contaminations.



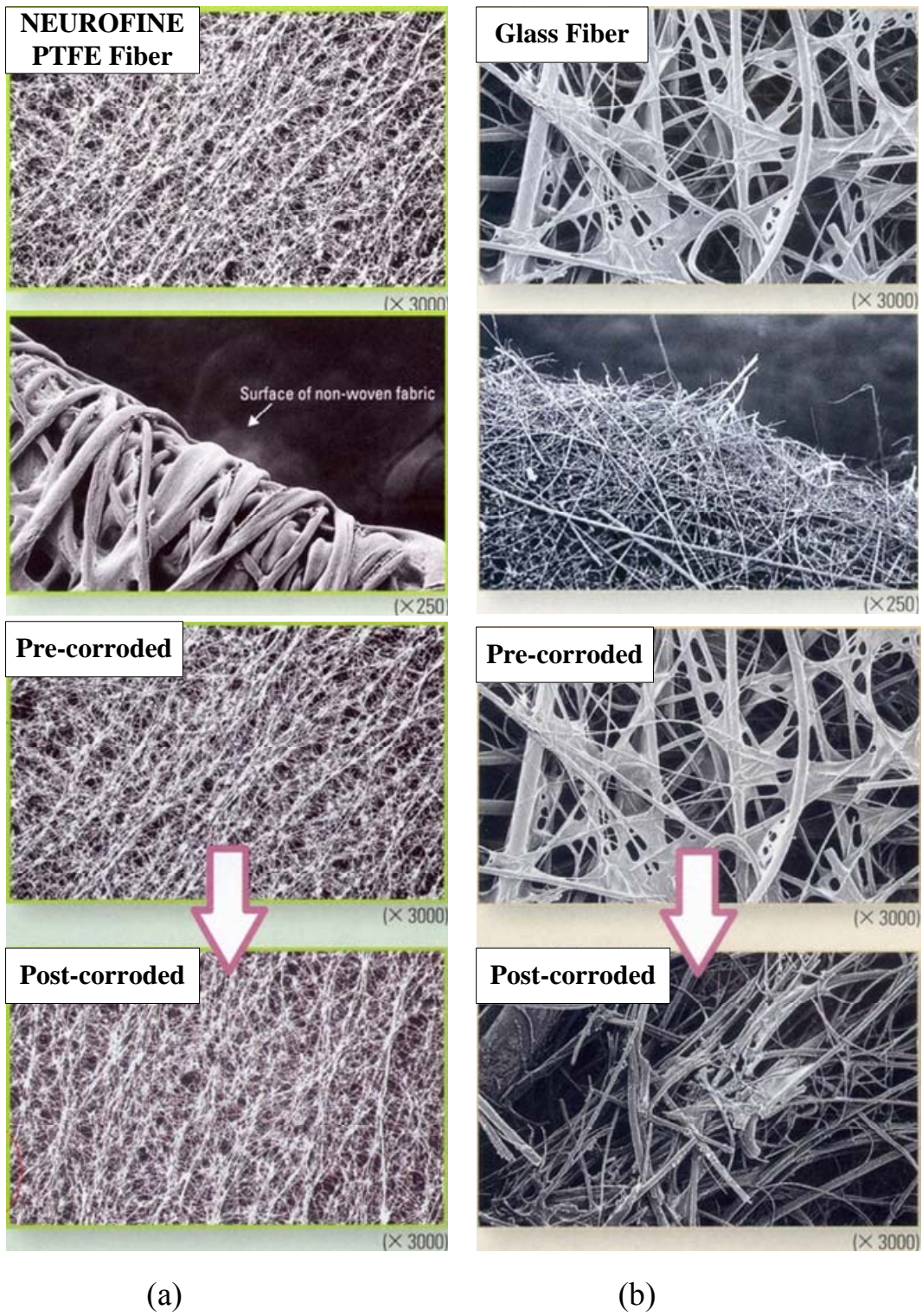


Fig. 20 The SEM photographs of (a) PTFE-fiber and (b) Glass-fiber structures.

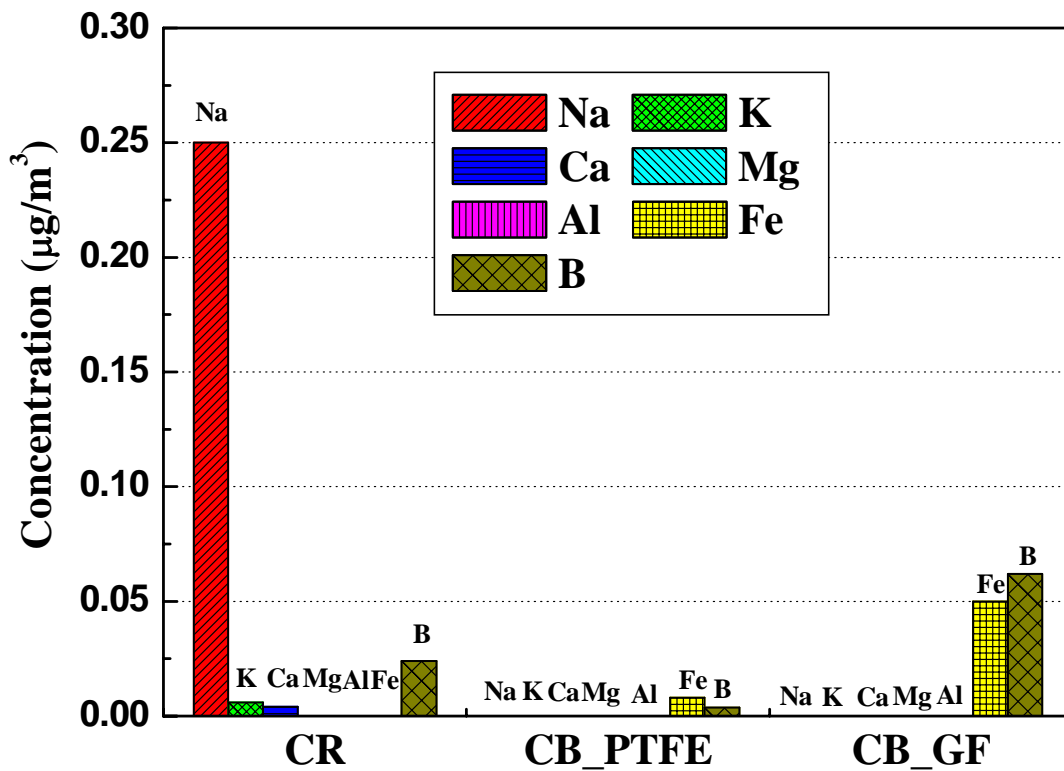


Fig. 21 Air sampling results of metals and boron in HF vapor environment.

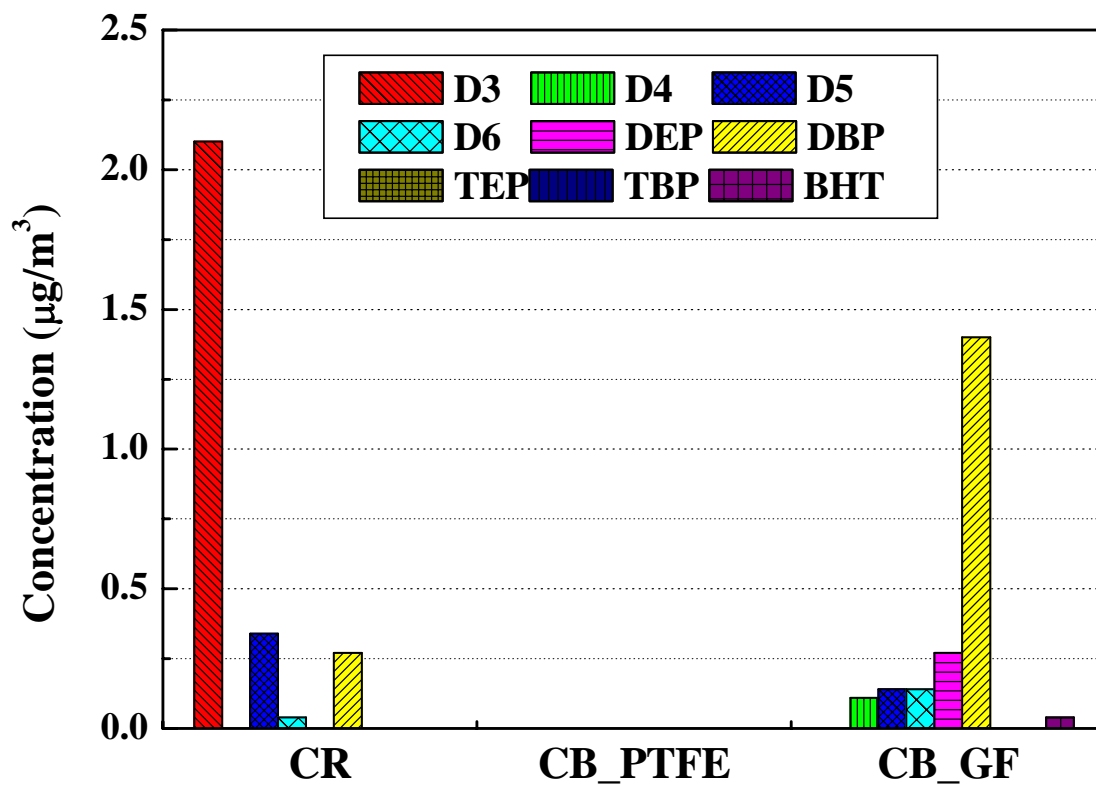


Fig. 22 Air sampling results of organic compounds in HF vapor environment.