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n-strip readout single-sided sensor

• N-side microdischarge breakdown

n-side requires an isolation structure between n⁺ readout strips: p-stop structure

Bulk is p-type, after heavy irradiation

Main p-n junction in the n⁺ strips

After irradiation, accumulation of positive oxide charge creates conductive accumulation layer in Silicon

Edge of p-stop is where the electric field concentrate and defect initiates microdischarge



Electron accumulation layer

Passivation with Oxide over the surface is not drawn in the figures

Microdischarge at the p-stop edge



Individual (atoll) p-stop Red: Hot spot viewed with a highly sensitive IR camera

Novel p-stop structure

Extended Polysilicon dc-coupled plate over the pstop structure



Unit: µm



Polysilicon - high resistivity not to deteriorate the interstrip capacitance

p-strip readout single-sided sensors

• p-in-n sensors after irradiation

Main p-n junction moved to the backside -- still work p-side, after heavy irradiation, is the ohmic contact Positive oxide charge keeps the Silicon in n-type No need of an isolation structure between p⁺ strips

Large bias voltage creates high electric field at the edge of p⁺ strips, and hence, microdischarge



ATLAS98 p-in-n Silicon microstrip sensor

• 6.36 x 6.40 mm2, 80 μm pitch, AC-coupled



ATLAS98 variants

 ATLAS SCT uses the AC-coupled p-in-n sensors in the configuration that the p-implant and the readout metal are in the same potential, namely ground

This allows to use the readout metal to move the electric field concentration from the edge of the implant to the edge of the metal in the oxide

4variants: narrow metal, narrow Polysilicon, wide metal, wide polysilicon



Irradiation

Narrow metal or narrow Polysilicon



3x10¹⁴ p/cm²





Irradiation (cont'd)

• Wide metal



Summary

- We have succeeded to suppress microdischarges in the n-in-n and p-in-n Silicon microstrip sensors, after the irradiation of 3x10¹⁴ protons/cm²
- Our key concept is to have an extended electrode over the edge of the implant in the Silicon, where the electric field gets strong enough to generate the microdischarge, specially the early ones associated with defects, so that the strongest field is inside oxide
- In the n-in-n sensors, DC-coupled Polysilicon over the p-stop structure
- In the AC-coupled p-in-n sensors, when the potential of the implant and the metal is the same, wide AC metal over the p-implant strip