

1 Logic circuits (flip-flops, inverters, oscillators, and more) implemented in 4H-SiC operable at high temperatures

4H-SiC HIGH TEMPERATURE SENSING & ELECTRONICS

SENSORS, SIGNAL PROCESSING AND ACTUATORS OPERABLE UP TO 600 °C

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General Description

- Mixed-signal circuits operating at temperatures beyond 250 °C
- Combination of sensing function with on-chip amplification and Smart-Power IC for actuation

Features

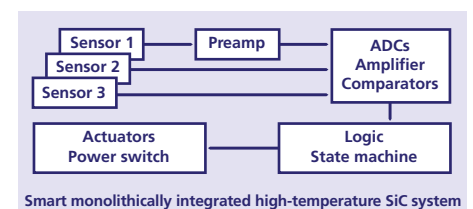
- Wide range of applications:
 - Temperature
 - UV emission
 - Particles and radiation
 - Magnetic field
 - Chemical compounds
 - Pressure
- Operating temperatures up to 600 °C
- Amplification circuits and logic
- Actuators like HV switches

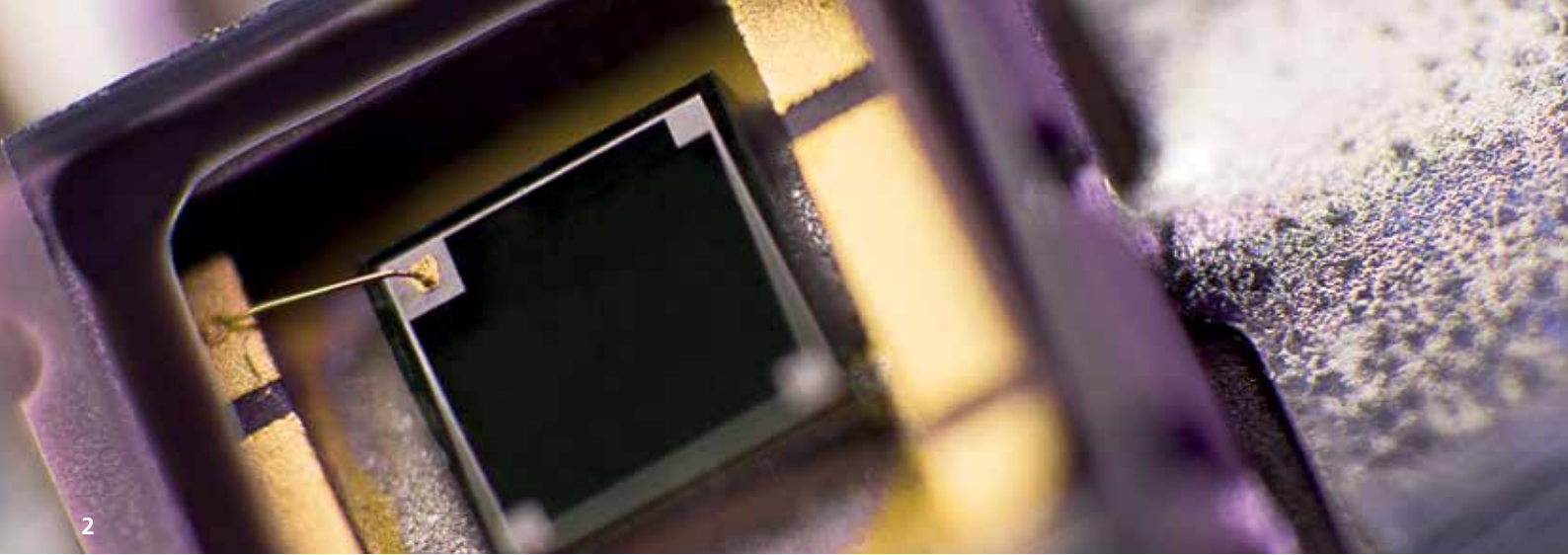
Advantages

- Higher thermal stability than Si
- Robust to harsh environments
- Compact single chip solution

Benefits

- Less effort for sensor maintenance (stability)
- Cost reduction by monolithic integration
- Best-in-class high temperature performance of semiconductor-based sensors





Sensor Functions

Temperature

- Temperature-sensitive diodes operating in constant current forward bias mode (CCFB)
 - High sensitivity (dV/dT): up to 4.5 mV/K
 - High linearity up to 500 °C

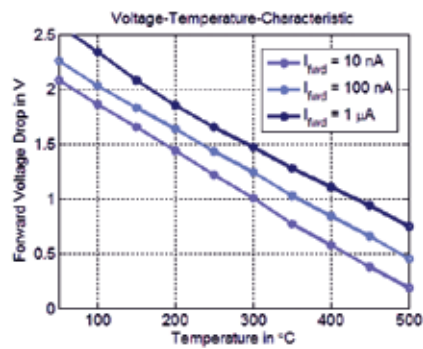


Fig. 1: V-T-characteristic of a 1.3 x 1.3 mm² temperature sensor in CCFB mode

- PTAT circuits
 - Sensitivity: 0.2 mV/K
 - Tunable (area and current ratio)
 - Sat. current independent

UV emission

- Tunable responsivity
- Maximum at 260 nm: 110 mA/W
- Near-constant responsivity from 270-300 nm
- Typical maximal external quantum efficiency of 55%
- Sensor arrays

Fast particles and radiation

- Soft x-ray detection
- Neutron detection

Pressure

- Piezo resistivity
- Capacitance 3.9 mV/bar at 300 °C

Magnetic fields

- Hall effect based Magnetic FETs

Chemical Compounds

- ISFET mode for detection of distinct elements and compounds

Signal Processing

Analog electronic circuits

- Amplifier
- Comparators
- Current mirrors

Electronic sensing and actuation circuits

- ADCs
- pre-Amps

Digital electronic circuits

- Inverters, Flip-flops
- State-machines
- Technology Details
 - High-temperature CMOS
 - $\mu_{\text{NMOS}}/\mu_{\text{PMOS}} = 3.8 @ 300 \text{ °C}$

Inverter Characteristic V_{DD} = 10 V

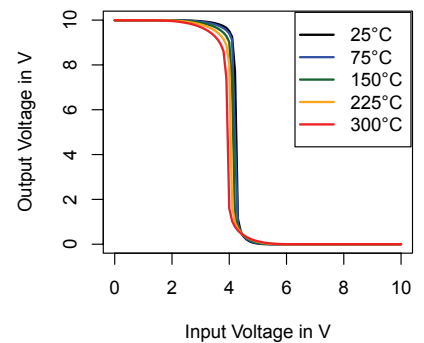


Fig. 2: Transfer characteristic of a 4H-SiC CMOS inverter at different temperatures

Actuation

- High voltage devices
 - LDMOS transistors based on pin or RESURF
 - High-side capability by well-isolation
- Excellent Power-FOM at 600 V compared to silicon
- On-state resistance < 10 mΩ cm² @ 650V

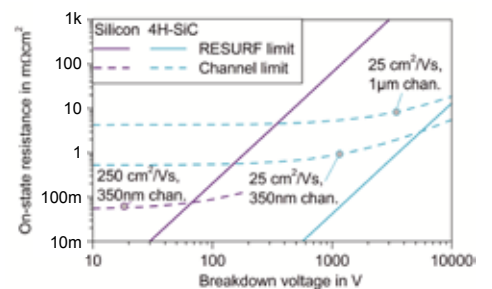


Fig. 3: On-state resistance as a function of the breakdown voltage of 4H-SiC HV-switches exceeding the silicon limit