

Applications of carbon nanotubes

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Multiwall tubes







CVD system adaptation and qualification.

Differences at BYU

- 1. Furnace length and number of zones
- 2. Gas control via MFC- We calibrate.
- 3. Tube Diameter same







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High Aspect Ratio Microfabrication by Chemical Infiltration of Carbon Nanotube Frameworks

MRS 2009 Talk by Prof. Robert C. Davis Department of Physics and Astronomy Brigham Young University

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CNT MEMS Researchers

BYU Physics

- David Hutchison
- Brendan Turner
- Katherine Hurd
- Matthew Carter
- Nick Morril
- Jun Song
- Adam Konniker
- Ricky Wymant
- Taylor Wood
- Dr. Richard Vanfleet
- Dr. Robert Davis
- Dr. David Allred

BYU Mechanical Engineering

- Quentin Aten
- Dr. Brian Jensen
- Dr. Larry Howell

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VACNT growth details



30 nm Al₂O₃ (Barrier Layer)



SEM - VACNT forest



30000X - edge



VACNT growth process

o Photolithography & lift-off





Dependence on Fe Thickness





Good repeatability





Rate strongly dependant on thickness



2 nm Fe on Al2O3

 Small voids (< 200 nm across)
 Sharp features (few stray tubes); Sidewall roughness < 200 nm

High growth rate ~50 µm/min



TEM Grid





Bistable Mechanisms





Nanotube "forest" growth

	 Height: up to 1mm+ Feature size: a few microns Speed: 10-100µm/min Density: 		
((U))/((V))	Material	Density (kg/m ³)	((U))/ \ <i> </i>
	Air Silica aerogel: lowest density Measured density	1.2 1.9 9.0	{{\ /\\\
KINKYK	Silica aerogel: usual density range Expanded polystyrene	5 – 200 25 – 200	<u>XINK I K</u>



Vertically Aligned Carbon Nanotube (VACNT)Growth

Individual nanotubes wander but...



...forest grows perpendicular to growth substrate

Extraordinary growth among materials growth systems



High Aspect Ratio Micromachining

Deep Reactive Ion Etching (Si)



"Vertical Mirrors Fabricated by DRIE for Fiber-Optic Switching Applications," C. Marx et al., J. MEMS **6**, 277, (1997)

SU-8 / C-MEMS (photoresist / carbon)

VIAs 1.0kV 3.2mm x150 9/24/03 16:5

"C-MEMS for the Manufacture of

3D Microbatteries," Wang et al., Electrochem.

Solid-State Lett. 7 (11) A435-8 (2004)

MARIO Process (Titanium)



"High-aspect-ratio bulk micromachining of titanium," Aimi *et al.*, Nature Mat. **3**, 103-5 (2004)

LIGA process (photoresist)



"Micromechanisms," H. Guckel, Phil. Trans. R. Soc. Lond. **353**, 355-66 (1995)



VACNT: Extreme Aspect-Ratio Microstructures <1 micron roughness • Tall... up to several millimeters 20 µm Acc.V Spot Magn 5.00 kV 3.0 300x Det WD Exp SE 5.7 17 200 µm DAVIS

3 μm hole pattern 400 μm tall





Patterned forest structure



- Lateral feature size: down to 1 micron
- Speed: 10-100 µm/min
- Density:

Material	Density (kg/m ³)
Air	1.2
Silica aerogel: lowest density	1.9
Measured density	9.0
Silica aerogel: usual density	5 – 200
range	25 – 200
Expanded polystyrene	



Low density, weakly bound material



As-grown forests are flimsy and tear off the surface at the slightest touch



Dense Nanotube Structures



Liquid Induced Densification



Submerged nanotube structures





Dried structure





Vapor Condensation Induced Densification -- Lines



Longer exposure to vapor Shorter exposure to vapor







Surface forces dominates





Unequal angles become equal angles. Final structure depends on initial structure surface forces Difficult to control what results!



Horizontal Aligned CNT films









AIST Japan group working on in-plane aligned CNT MEMS

SI-pillars

SWNT water



Yuhei Hayamizu, Takeo Yamada, Kohei Mizuno, Robert C. Davis, Don N. Futaba, Moto Yumura, & Kenji Hata **Nature Nanotechnology** 3, 241 (2008).



Microstructured VACNT Composites



Leave the nanotubes vertical?





VACNT Composites


Filling in with Si by LPCVD





Nearly complete Si infiltration





Microstructure: Poly-Si









Properties: Poly-Si







Properties: Poly-Si











Si



VACNT Composite MEMS Process















VACNT Templated Microstructures





Bi-stable Mechanism



M2U00075.MPG



Comb Drive









Bistable Mechanisms



Thermomechanical In-Plane Microactuator (TIM)





Solid High Aspect Ratio Structures



Acc.V Spot Magn Det WD Exp

SE 9.4 17

DAVIS

5.00 kV 3.0 258x

200 µm





A variety of materials?

Filled with amorphous Si:





Filled with amorphous C:





High aspect ratio structures in a variety of materials? Si, SiNx, C and SiO2



FROM: Chemical Vapor Deposition, ed. Jong-Hee Park, ASM International (2001)



- Isolated nanotubes: Can exhibit ballistic conduction over distances of several microns
- Undoped poly-Si: $\rho \sim 10^2 \ \Omega \ cm$
- Si-coated nanotubes: ρ ~ ?
- Coat tubes with insulator → Conductive MEMS made from insulating materials?





Sheet resistance versus thickness for silicon-filled forests (red circles), silicon nitride-filled forests (green squares), and 20 nm of silicon followed by filling with silicon nitride (blue diamonds) reveals the expected inverse proportionality relationship. The solid line is calculated for an infinitely thin sample with resistivity of 3.6 Ω cm.





Sheet conductivity versus thickness



$$R_{sheet} = \frac{K_1}{t + K_2} \approx \frac{K_1}{t}$$

 $K_1 = 42.6 \ \Omega \ m$ $K_2 = 0.04 \ \mu m$





Resistivity of Si-coated forests



 $\rho_{forest} \sim 4 \ \Omega \ cm$

 $ρ_{poly-Si alone} \sim 10000 \ \Omega \ m$





Resistivity of Si-coated (blue) and SiN-coated (red) forests



Approximately the same resistivity as previously reported for other CNT-composites



Mechanical Characterization



Filled forests are solid and well adhered (can withstand the scotch tape test)



Beam Bending Measurement of Elastic Modulus



38um



Reported bulk polySi modulus ~ 140-210 GPa, dependent on deposition conditions



Actuated device: thermomechanical in-plane microactuator (TIM)





Developing Engineering Design Rules

• Height to width ratio for dimensional stability

- Maximum feature width for filling of forest interior
- Role of geometry LPCVD fill-factor









Si



VACNT Composite MEMS Process















VACNT Templated Microstructures





Bi-stable Mechanism



M2U00075.MPG



Comb Drive









Bistable Mechanisms



Thermomechanical In-Plane Microactuator (TIM)





Other infiltration materials

Filled with amorphous C:



Fills most completely

Filled with Silicon nitride:



Forms stable high aspect walls



Developing Design Rules

• Height to width ratio for dimensional stability

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Nanostructured Materials as templates for fabrication





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Vapor Condensation Induced Densification -- Lines



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Complementary logic gate geometry

