Novel Unipolar Complementary Field-Effect Transistor Technology

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Description:
Yale researchers have developed an all N-channel CMOS (Complementary Metal-Oxide-Semiconductor) technology that overcomes the problem of low hole mobility. The building block for conventional CMOS technology consists of N-channel (electron) and P-channel (hole) MOSFETs. However, electron mobility is much greater than hole mobility in semiconductors, with the ratio of electron:hole mobility ranging from 2.8 in silicon to >80 in indium arsenide. Yale’s novel technology utilizes the double channel capability of a MOSFET built with a SOI (semiconductor on insulator) structure to eliminate P-channels and replace them with N-channels, resulting in increased switching speed. This technology can be implemented with both silicon and III-V semiconductors.

Advantages: In addition to increased switching speed, this technology is simpler to fabricate than conventional CMOS, as it requires fewer materials and does not require P-well and N-well isolation. Furthermore, the technology allows for higher device density on a chip (leading to reduced cost per function) because channel width does not have to be widened to compensate for reduced hole mobility.

Field of Application: Semiconductor devices, CMOS logic, field-effect transistors.

Stage of Development: Experimental proof-of-principal in progress.
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