
Direct-imaging Metal Interconnection and User Targeted Reliability Techniques for Stretchable Displays and FHE (Flexible Hybrid Electronic) Devices

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A FHE (flexible hybrid electronic) devices are recently recognized as the next generation technique combining benefits from both sides such as flexible organic fields and rigid Si-based fields. While the organic based field gives much flexibility with the characteristics of low cost production, they also suffer from its inherent limitations such as low charge transport, process temperature limitation, and etc. Those limitations, based on material itself, make the flexible electronic device very difficult to compete with Si-based rigid electronics that have excellent device performance. However, the rigid Si based devices are also very weak when they are in use for the flexible applications. This is why we think the FHE is the next generation technique. In order to achieve and visualize this new concept, thin device ($\pm 50\mu\text{m}$) showing high device performance was attached on the surface of deformable/flexible polymer substrates to construct flexible electronic device circuits and it is required to interconnect the thin Si based chip on the flexible polymer substrate. For this specific interconnection, we utilized an ElectroHydroDynamic (EHD) micro-patterning system which is not damaging the flexible substrate unlike the conventional wire bonding method that mechanically damages during the bonding process. To form narrow Ag based metal interconnections, we optimized various experimental parameters (flow rate [$\mu\text{l}/\text{min}$], applying voltage [kV], working distance [μm], jetting velocity and acceleration [mm/s , mm/s^2]) and the metal lines were sintered at 150 °C for 30 mins to remove any solvent contained in the solution based Ag ink.

In conclusion, we expect our work will provide the platform that can be used in various 3D interconnection situations showing a high device performance with great mechanical flexibility.

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