

A Novel sub-10 nm Half Pitch Pattern Transfer Process using Directed Self-Assembly Lithography

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Directed self-assembly (DSA) technology is one of the promising candidates for next generation lithography¹⁻³. DSA lithography has a potential to fabricate sub-10 nm half pitch patterns combined with conventional lithography or new generation lithography technologies. In order to realize sub-10 nm half pitch patterning using the DSA lithography, a combination of DSA materials with high χ (chi) parameter and suitable surface modification processes on substrate such as chemical or physical guide patterns is required⁴. In addition, in order to transfer the sub-10 nm half pitch patterns to the substrate successfully, pattern transfer properties should closely be investigated.

In this work, we report a novel sub-10 nm half pitch pattern transfer process using DSA lithography. As one of the promising DSA materials with high etching selectivity we applied Si containing DSA materials to realize sub-10 nm half pitch patterning. Figure 1 shows a scanning electron microscope (SEM) image of 7 nm half pitch patterns using a poly(methyl methacrylate-block-polyhedral oligomeric silsesquioxane methacrylate) (PMMA-b-PMAPOSS) material with horizontal cylinder structure. We verify effects of DSA materials, guide patterns and surface modification processes on pattern transfer properties for practical sub-10 nm half pitch patterning.

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¹ J. Y. Cheng, et al., "Simple and Versatile Methods to Integrate Directed Self-Assembly with Optical Lithography Using a Polarity-Switched Photoresist", ACS Nano , 4(8), 4815-4823 (2010).

² C. Bencher, et al., "Self-Assembly Patterning for sub-15 nm Half-Pitch: A Transition from Lab to Fab", Proc. SPIE , 7970, 79700F-1 (2011).

³ C. Liu, et al., "Towards an all-track 300 mm process for directed self-assembly", J. Vac. Sci. technol. B 29(6), Nov/Dec (2011).

⁴ T. Hirai et al., "Hierarchical Nanostructures of Organosilicate Nanosheets within Self-Organized Block Copolymer Films", Macromolecules 41, 4558-4560 (2008)

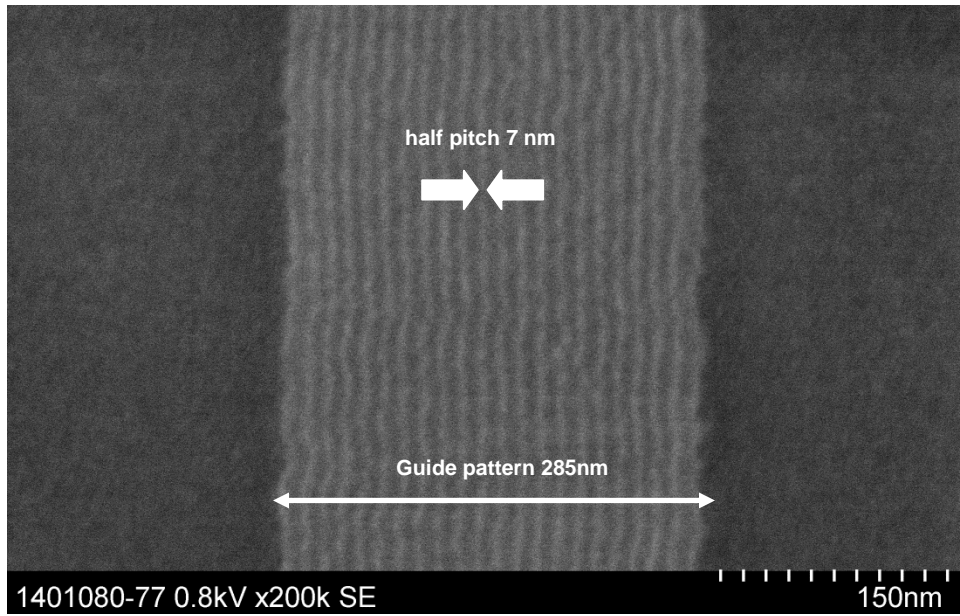


Figure 1: SEM image of half pitch 7 nm lines and spaces patterns using PMMA-b-PMAPOSS with horizontal cylinder structure.