High Chi Block Copolymers for Lithography

Grant Willson a), Christopher Ellison, Michael Maher, William Durand, Gregory Blachut, Yusuke Asano and Matthew Carlson

The University of Texas, The Department of Chemical Engineering, 1 University Station, Austin,

Texas 78712

^{a)}American Vacuum Society member.

b) Electronic mail: willson@che.utexas.edu

Various incredibly clever tricks based on chemical engineering principles have been

devised by that extend the resolution limits of photolithography, some of which are

already in use in full scale manufacturing. One promising approach for patterning future

generations of devices is based on the directed self-assembly of block co-polymers. We

have tried to design block co-polymers that are optimized for this application. Doing so

requires blocks with very high interaction parameters (chi) and for some applications,

incorporation of silicon into one of the blocks. Aligning these structures and orienting

them in a way that is useful for microelectronics has been a challenge. We have worked

to develop new high chi block copolymers and processes that enable very fast, thermal

annealing of these materials and developed new methods for orientation, alignment and

pattern transfer with these high resolution patterning materials. A progress report on

these efforts will be presented. Polymers of this sort can be dry developed to form very

small, high aspect ratio structures

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