Fraunhofer
EMFT

Fraunhofer Research Institution
for Microsystems and Solid State
Technologies EMFT

Heterogeneous 3D Integration

Key technology for miniaturized devices

Applications

Heterogeneous 3D integration is a key technology for the development of miniaturized, multifunctional, high-performance devices and sensor systems. Potential applications comprise all fields of ambient assisted living, smart buildings (e.g. wireless gas sensors for air quality systems), safety and security (e.g. IR imagers), biosensors and smart medical systems (e.g. active medical implants).

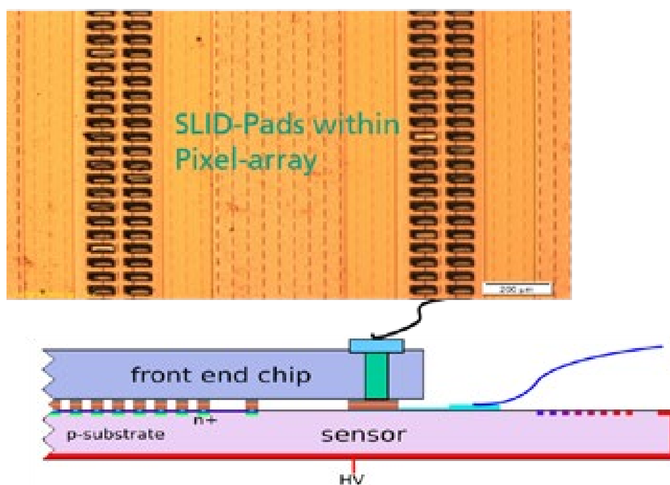
Fraunhofer EMFT has a long-standing experience in vertical integration of subsystems, especially in the field of inter-chip interconnections. This allows for highly integrated devices and systems for diverse applications, e.g.

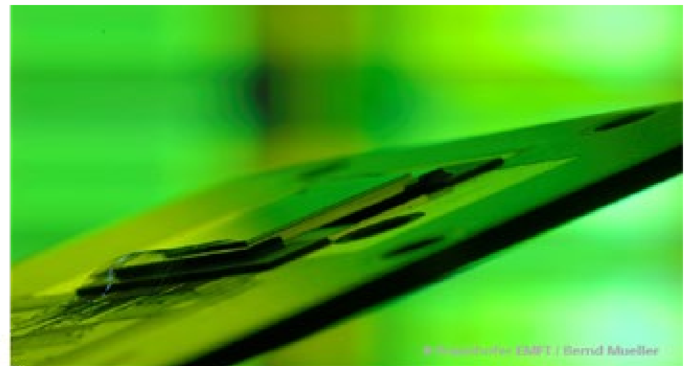
- Miniaturized sensor systems for automotive applications
- Wireless sensor systems for near field communication (e.g. 60 GHz)

Technical innovation

- Flexible solutions for diverse components supplied by the customer
- Depending on individual requirements specific process modules are available, e.g. inter-chip interconnections, deep etching of Through-Silicon Vias (TSV), low temperature processes, solid-liquid-interdiffusion bonding
- Implementation of highly reliable heterogeneous sensor/ IC systems

Flexible solutions for diverse components





Heterogeneous 3D integration of sensor and readout circuit for ATLAS detector

- 3D TSV based high frequency components for RF-MEMS and RFIC- applications (e.g. high-Q inductors and 60 GHz antennas)
- Robust low-temperature wafer and die/wafer bonding technologies: SLID, ZiBond® & DBI®
  (ZiBond® & DBI® licenced from Invensas)

Technical data

Fraunhofer EMFT competences in the field of 3D integration comprise:

- Physical design and layout for system integration
- Ultra thin silicon devices
- Wafer level technologies for embedding thin chips
- Integration of silicon devices in/ on foil substrates and foil packages
- TSV-processes (deep etching, isolation, CVD-TiN, W)
- Backend process integration, substrate processing, assembly and connecting technology
- Low temperature wafer bonding
- Electroplating (Cu, Sn) for IMC bonding, SMD soldering, passive devices
- Wire bonding (Au, Al)
- Analytics
- Specific performance and reliability tests (e.g. Highly Accelerated Stress Test)

Outlook

Sensor integration can be considered as the main driver for heterogeneous 3D integration. The integration of sensors with ICs and passive components, such as energy harvesters, actuators and batteries, is becoming more and more important. This knowhow is becoming increasingly important especially for the high growth market area of distributed wireless sensor-systems – which will constitute the key connected hardware infrastructure of the Internet of Things.

We will also apply heterogeneous 3D integration to the field of quantum computing, i.e. cryo-compatible interposer and inter-connections technologies, to allow for future scaling of qubit systems.

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Dr. Peter Ramm
Area of competence: Silicon devices
Phone +49 89 5475 90
Fax +49 89 5475 50
Peter.Ramm@emft.fraunhofer.de

Fraunhofer EMFT
Hansastrasse 27 d
80686 München
www.emft.fraunhofer.de

Picture front side: Heterogeneous 3D integration of sensor and readout circuit for ATLAS detector (Fraunhofer EMFT in co-operation with Max-Planck MPP)