Contents

1 Introduction 1
1.1 RF Filters in GHz Wireless Applications 1
1.1.1 The Requirement of RF Filters 1
1.1.2 Types of RF Filters 2
1.2 Bulk Acoustic Wave (BAW) Resonator and Its Development 5
1.2.1 BAW Resonator 5
1.2.2 Micro Electromechanical Systems (MEMS) Applied in BAW 6
1.3 The Principle and Configurations of FBAR 7
1.3.1 The Principle of FBAR 7
1.3.2 Typical FBAR Configurations 8
1.3.3 Current Status of FBAR Filters 10
1.4 The Application of FBAR in Mass Loading Sensors 11
1.4.1 Acoustic Resonant Mass Sensors 11
1.4.2 FBAR Mass Loading Sensors 12
1.5 Overview of the Chapters 13
References 13

2 Propagation of Acoustic Wave in Crystals 15
2.1 The Equation of Acoustic Plane Wave 16
2.1.1 The Equation of Elastic Deformation 16
2.1.2 Christoffel Equation 17
2.2 Propagation of Plane Wave in Isotropic Medium 19
2.3 Propagation of Plane Wave in Anisotropic Medium 20
2.3.1 Dispersion Relation and Inverse Velocity Face 20
2.3.2 The Solution of Wave Equation in Cubic Crystal 21
2.4 Piezoelectrically Active Wave Propagation 24
2.5 The Plane Wave Propagating in Piezoelectric Hexagonal Crystal 26
References 29

3 The Theory of FBAR 31
3.1 The Electric Impedance of the Ideal FBAR 31
3.1.1 The Analytic Expression of the Electric Impedance 31
3.1.2 The Resonance of FBAR 34
3.2 The Electric Impedance of the Compound FBAR 36
3.2.1 The Definition of the Acoustic Impedance 36
3.2.2 The Boundary Condition of Compound FBAR 36
3.3 The Loss and Performances of FBAR 38
3.4 The Equivalent Electromechanical Mode of FBAR 39
3.4.1 The Equivalent Mode of the Layers 39
3.4.2 The Universal Equivalent Mode of FBAR 43
3.4.3 The Equivalent Circuit Nears the Resonance of FBAR 45
3.5 The Calculated Influence of the Materials and Structure on the Device Performance 47
3.5.1 The Effects of the Electrode 47
3.5.2 The Influences of Supporting Layer and the Residue Silicon Layer 48
References 50

4 The Deposition and Etching of AlN Film 51
4.1 Deposition of AlN Film by RF Magnetron Sputtering 51
4.1.1 Introduction 51
4.1.2 Experimental 52
4.1.3 The Effect of RF Power on the Film Texture 52
4.1.4 The Influence of Ambit Pressure and the Ratio of N_2/Ar on the Film Structure 53
4.1.5 The Influence of the Substrate Temperature on the Film Texture 54
4.1.6 The Microstructure and Chemical Component 55
4.2 The Structural Characteristics of AlN Films Deposited on Different Electrodes 56
4.3 Dry Etching of AlN Films Using Fluoride Plasma 57
4.3.1 The Dry Etching of AlN Films 57
4.3.2 Experimental 58
4.3.3 The Etching Rate 59
4.3.4 The Morphologies 60
4.3.5 The Etching Mechanism 61
4.4 The Wet Etching of AlN 62
4.4.1 The Wet Etching Process 62
4.4.2 Experimental 63
4.4.3 The Influence of the Film Texture 63
4.4.4 The Effects of Crystal Quality 65
References 68

5 The FBAR with Membrane Structure 71
5.1 The Structure and Testing Method 71
5.1.1 The Structure of the Device 71
5.1.2 The Testing Method 72
5.2 The Fabrication of Membrane Structured FBAR 73
5.3 The Preparation and Properties of PZT Film 75
5.3.1 Preparation of PZT Film Using Sol-Gel Method 75
5.3.2 The Structure and Properties of PZT Film 76
5.4 The Etching Process of the Films 77
5.4.1 The Etching of PZT Film 77
5.4.2 The Etching of SiO_2 78
5.4.3 The Etching of Si 78
5.5 The Testing Results 78
References 80

6 Solidly Mounted Acoustic Resonator 81
6.1 The Design of SMR 81
6.1.1 The Structure of SMR 81
6.1.2 The Theory of the SMR 82
6.1.3 The Simulation of Frequency Response for SMR 85
6.2 The Preparation of SMR 87
6.2.1 The Bragg Reflector 87
6.2.2 The Fabrication of SMR 87
6.2.3 The Textures and Morphologies of the AlN Films 89
6.2.4 The Stress of Multilayer Film 91
6.3 Performance Test of SMR 92
6.3.1 The Parameter S11 of SMR 92
6.3.2 Impedance Characteristics of SMR 93
References 95

7 The Applications of FBAR in RF Filters 97
7.1 The Topology of the FBAR Filters 98
7.2 The Design of FBAR Filters 99
7.2.1 The Working Principle of FBAR Filters 99
7.2.2 The Design of the FBAR Filters 100
7.2.3 The Acoustic Coupled FBAR Filter 102
7.3 The Example of a FBAR Filter for PCS CDMA 103
7.4 The Duplexer and Oscillator Based on FBAR 105
7.4.1 Duplexer Based on the FBAR 105
7.4.2 The Oscillator Based on FBAR 106
7.4.3 The Integration of FBAR in RFIC 106
References 108

8 The FBAR Excited by Lateral Filed 109
8.1 Introduction 110
8.1.1 Two Kinds of Excitation Mode in Piezoelectric Resonator 110
8.1.2 Lateral Filed Excitation FBARs 111

8.2 Theoretical Backgrounds 112
8.2.1 The Excitation and Thickness Shear Mode Wave Propagation 112
8.2.2 Electric Characteristics of LFE Resonators 115
8.3 LFE FBAR Fabrication and Performances 119
8.3.1 Device Structure and Design 119
8.3.2 Device Fabrication 121
8.3.3 The Device Performances 122
References 124

9 High Sensitive Sensors Based on FBAR 125
9.1 Microbalance Sensor Based on Piezoelectric Quartz Crystal 125
9.1.1 Quartz Crystal Microbalance 125
9.1.2 The Sensing Principle of Piezoelectric Crystal 126
9.1.3 Measuring Method of Piezoelectric Crystal Resonance Sensor 129
9.2 The Sensitive Material of Piezoelectric Crystal Sensor 129
9.2.1 The Requirement and Mechanism of Adsorption 129
9.2.2 Coating Methods of Sensitive Material 130
9.2.3 Application of Piezoelectric Crystal Sensor 131
9.3 Carbon Nanotubes Sensitive Material 134
9.3.1 Adsorption Property of CNTs 134
9.3.2 Application of CNTs as Adsorbed Layer 135
9.4 Sensors Base on FBAR 136
9.4.1 The Sensing Principle of FBAR 136
9.4.2 MBVD Circuits of FBAR Sensor 139
9.4.3 Substance Testing with FBAR 140
9.4.4 Other FBAR-Based Detections 143
9.5 FBAR Sensor Coated with CNTs Sensitive Material 143
9.5.1 Formation Method of CNTs Selective Layer 144
9.5.2 Example of FBAR Sensor 144
9.5.3 Mass Sensitivity of Sensor Frequency 145
9.5.4 Frequency Response to Added Mass of CNTs Deposition Layer 146
9.5.5 The Frequency Response to CNTs Adsorption 147
References 148

Index 151