

A Nanogap Transducer Array on 32 nm CMOS for Electrochemical DNA Sequencing

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Outline

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- System Overview
- Circuit Architecture
- Transducer Integration
- Results
- Scalability
- Summary

Low Cost Sequencing Drives Applications



*http://www.forbes.com/sites/luketimmerman/2015/04/29/qa-with-jayflatley-ceo-of-illumina-the-genomics-company-pursuing-a-20b-market/

Targeted disease management

- Prevention, screening
- Clinical diagnostics
- Treatment, monitoring

Non-clinical industrial monitoring

- Environment/Ecology (metagenomics)
- Bio-defense; epidemiology
- Agriculture/food, beverages

Acceleration of drug development

- Disease association
- Compound screening
- Drug efficacy

DNA: The Blue Print of Life



DNA Sequencing Process Flow



Image credits:

http://biochem.jacobs-university.de/BDPC/BISMA/manual_unique.php, http://www.454.com/products-solutions/how-it-works/index.asp, http://www.odec.ca/projects/2006/bach6k2/background.htm

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System Overview



DNA Sequencing Flow - Pixel



1- A colony derived from a unique DNA strand is immobilized on each sensor

2- Each modified base is introduced sequentially through the solution (~min)

3- The electrochemical tag is released upon incorporation of the base and detected (after cleaving phosphate) (~sec)

Presence of the tag is detected per pixel per base

Transduction Mechanism



Transduction Mechanism



Discharge Measurement



Voltage readout of the bottom electrode instead of current

Pixel Architecture

 V_{ref} V_{sol} R_{int} C_{dl} V_{reset} R_{int} C_{dl} V_{reset} R_{int} V_{reset} R_{int} V_{reset} V_{reset}

Model with Ideal Elements



Per-column analog readout, shared between many rows

3 transistors per pixel: reset, follower, and row select

Chip Architecture



Column parallel readout, cycle through rows

VCO Based ADC



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Post processing on standard CMOS wafer

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4 µm



Measurement System



Bare chip electrical and fluidic interface

Custom board with FPGA connection

Data Collection



Measurement Results



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Transducer Scaling



1M pixel array with 1.5 um pitch devices – Transducer Only

Scalability Comparison



Signal
$$\propto \frac{1}{\text{Capacitance}} \sim \frac{1}{d^2}$$

Signal
$$\propto \frac{\text{Area}}{\text{Volume}} \sim \frac{1}{d}$$

- Relaxed requirements on frame rate
- Lateral dimension independent SNR

	ISFET	Nanogap
Frame Rate	>10 fps*	~1 fps
Noise Scaling	1/d ²	1/d ²
Signal Scaling	1/d	1/d ²
SNR	d	1

* Needed due to fast transient signal

Summary

System		
Technology	32 nm CMOS	
Die size	5 mm x 5 mm	
Number of pixels	8,192	
Number of sensors	224	
Power consumption	27.9 mW	
Supply voltage	1.05 V / 1.8 V	
Pixel		
Area	1 µm²	
Leakage	< 10 pA	
Sensor		
Area	20 µm ²	
Unit capacitance	1 pF/µm²	
Electrode spacing	60 nm	
Signal/pAP molecule	50 fA	
ADC		
FSR	700 mV	
Conversion time	50 ns	
Resolution	8-bit	

- Scalable approach for electronic DNA sequencing on 32 nm process node
- Enabled by co-optimized circuits and transducers
- Demonstration of detection
 of nucleotide incorporation
- Sensitive and dense biosensing platforms can be realized in advanced process nodes

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