PHILIPS

Innovation Services

MEMS devices & micro-assembly

Development & prototyping of MEMS inkjet devices

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Outline

- Intro Philips MEMS foundry & micro-assembly
- Print head challenge
- The solution
 - Print head design
 - Wafer processing
 - Micro-assembly
- Conclusions





Philips MEMS foundry & micro-assembly

- State-of-the-art cleanroom 2650 m²
- Flexibility in materials and substrates
- High-end micro-assembly factory
- Development + Manufacturing
- Certified ISO 9001, ISO 13485



Flow sensor







Micro pump



MEMS mirror



IR sensor for ear thermometer



Micro fluidic chips





Print head challenge

- The classic design = micro-machined parts and micro-assembly
 - > Good performance
 - > Relatively large
 - > Expensive to produce
 - > Limited printing resolution
 - > Limited integration capabilities
- MEMS inkjet devices offer many benefits:
 - > Smaller and lighter physical size
 - > Higher precision and speed
 - > Lower cost price

Main challenge:

Development of efficient manufacturing process in the shortest possible time frame





The solution: *3D integration + advanced technology Design dimensions*



MEMS inkjet head dimensions

- 1-5 um thin film PZT
- Nozzle 20-40um, several nozzle shapes
- 100's x 100's um actuator size
- Membrane thickness ~1-15 um
- d₃₁ in a range 100-150 pm/V
- 1-30 pL droplet
- Resolution 150-1200 dpi







Distribution wafer: double-sided processing



Membrane wafer: SOI wafer processing and PZT structuring





Good performance: capacitance distribution and low defect rate

Capacitance distribution







Nozzle wafer: double-sided processing of SOI wafer







Anti-wetting nozzle plate for stable jetting



Hydrophobic coating on nozzle plate



Hydrophobicity test







+10 cm H2O

concave -10 cm H2O





Advanced adhesive wafer bonding technology











Results alignment DM stack bonding







Alignment (micron)







Bond pad release & dicing







Chip assembly











Conclusions

- Our MEMS foundry and Micro-Assembly factory provide unique capabilities for the development and manufacturing of MEMS inkjet devices
- This is achieved by 3D integration and advanced process technology:
 - Double-sided processing
 - DRIE etching
 - KOH etching
 - Adhesive wafer bonding
 - Chip Assembly
- These capabilities are available to customers that seek efficient development, fast prototyping and smooth scale up to medium volume production of high-quality custom inkjet printheads



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