AVOIDING PLASMA CHARGING IN INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

ABSTRACT

A circuit having a circuit control terminal, a primary circuit and a protection circuit is provided. The primary circuit includes a primary control terminal and a primary gate oxide of a thickness T_1. The primary control terminal is coupled to the circuit control terminal. The protection circuit having a protection control terminal is coupled to the primary circuit. The protection circuit includes a protection gate oxide of a second thickness T_2 which is less than T_1. The protection gate oxide reduces plasma induced damage in the primary circuit.

Fig. 3b