

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

TITLE

Resistive Switching Dependence on Atomic Layer Deposition Parameters in HfO₂-based Memory Devices

AUTHORS

Raúl Zazpe^a, Mariana Ungureanu^a, Federico Golmar^{a,b}, †Pablo Stoliar^{a,c,d}, Roger Llopis^a, Fèlix Casanova^{a,e}, David F. Pickup^{f,g}, Celia Rogero^{f,h}, and Luis E. Hueso^{a,e,*}

^a CIC nanoGUNE Consolider, Tolosa Hiribidea 76, 20018 Donostia - San Sebastian, Basque Country, Spain.

^b I.N.T.I. - CONICET, Av. Gral. Paz 5445, Ed. 42, B1650JKA, San Martín, Bs As, Argentina.

^c LPS, CNRS UMR 8502, Université Paris Sud, Bât 510, 91405 Orsay, France

^d ECyT, UNSAM, Martín de Irigoyen 3100, B1650JKA, San Martín, Bs As, Argentina

^e IKERBASQUE, Basque Foundation for Science, 48011 Bilbao, Basque Country, Spain.

^f Material Physics Center (MPC), Centro de Física de Materiales (CSIC-UPV-EHU), 20018 San Sebastián, Spain.

^g Departamento de Física Aplicada I, Universidad del País Vasco, 20018 San Sebastián, Spain.

^h Donostia International Physics Center (DIPC), 20018 San Sebastián, Spain.

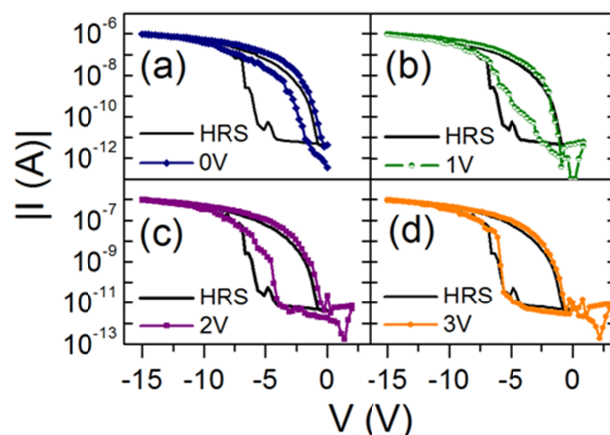


Fig. S1. Minor loops (a-d) obtained for the negative branch of the I-V curve for the Co/HfO₂/Ti device (HfO₂ deposited at 300 °C and 5 seconds of purge time) when applying different A voltage values indicated at the legend. The SET and RESET processes occur at opposite polarity indicating bipolar resistive switching behavior.

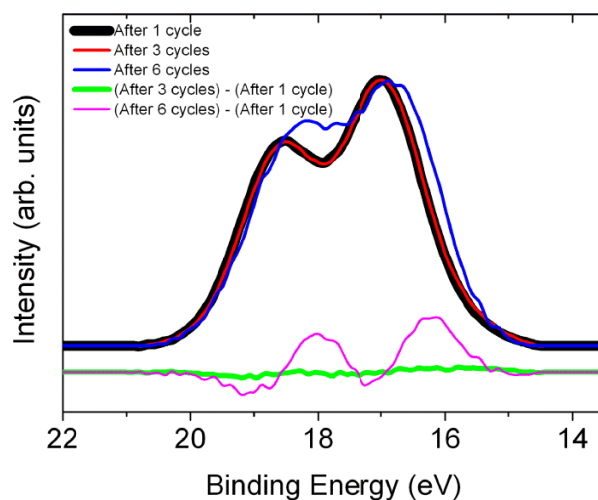


Fig. S2. XP Hf 4f spectra from a hysteretic 200°C, 5s purge sample are shown after various sputter cycles, with subtracted spectra to highlight the differences. The data shows that no changes in the Hf 4f spectra were observed whilst sputtering through the bulk of the HfO₂ film (up to 4 sputter cycles), as shown by comparing spectra after 1 (black line) and 3 (red line) sputter cycles and the corresponding

difference spectrum (green line). This indicates that we don't have any preferential sputtering. Further sputtering cycles lead to the detection of the underlying Ti at which stage a significant change in the Hf 4f spectrum is observed as shown by the 'After 6 cycles' spectrum (blue line) and the corresponding difference spectrum (pink line). This change is attributed to the presence of Hf suboxides.

Table S1. Relative nitrogen content in HfO₂ films in the bulk and at the underlying Ti interface from samples prepared under different deposition condition.

Deposition Temperature (°C)	Purge Time (s)	% Nitrogen in the HfO ₂ film	
		Bulk	At Ti interface
125	5	23	25
200	5	8	6
	35	6	2.5
	70	9	7
300	5	10	10
	35	11	10

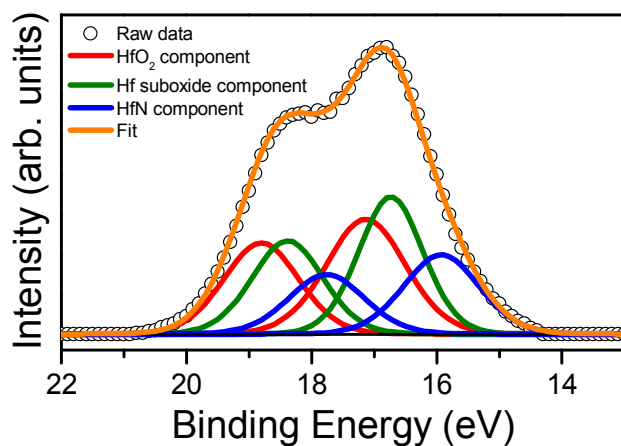


Fig. S3. XPS Hf 4f spectra of a sample deposited at 125 °C with a 5s purge time.

Table S2. Peak positions and spin-orbit splittings of the different components used to fit the Hf 4f and Ti 2p spectra.

XPS Region / Component	Binding Energy (eV) (± 0.1 eV)	Spin-orbit splitting (eV)	References
Hf 4f_{7/2}			
HfO ₂	17.1	1.7	1,2,3
HfO _{2-x}	16.5	1.7	4
Hf-N	15.9	1.9	2, 5
Ti 2p_{3/2}			
Ti	453.7	5.9	6, 7
TiN	454.5	5.8	6, 8, 9
TiO _x N _y	456.4	5.5	6, 8, 10
TiO ₂	458.2	5.6	6, 8, 10

REFERENCES

1. R. Jiang, E. Q. Xie and Z. F. Wang, *J. Mater. Sci.* 2007, **42**, 7343-7347.
2. G. He, G. W. Meng, L. D. Zhang and M. Liu, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 2007, **91**, 232910.
3. G. HeG. W. Meng, L. D. Zhang, and M. Liu, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 2002, **81**, 3627-3629.

4. A. R. Chourasia, J. L. Hickman, R. L. Miller, G. A. Nixon M. A. Seabolt, *Int. J. Spectrosc.* 2009, **1** 439065.
5. C. Vallée, P. Gonon, C. Mannequin, T. Chevolleau, M. Bonvalot, H. Grampeix, C. Licitra, N. Rochat and V. Jousseume, *J. Vac. Sci. Technol. A* 2011, **29**, 041512.
6. P. W. Shum, Z. F. Zhou, K. Y. Li, and Y. G. Shen, *Mater. Sci. Eng. , B.* 2003, **100**, 204-213.
7. M. C. Biesinger, L. W. M. Lau, A. R. Gersonn and R. S. C. Smart, *Appl. Surf. Sci.* 2010, **257**, 887-898.
8. J. F. Marco, J. R. Gancedo, M. A. Auger, O. Sanchez, and J. M. Albella, *Surf. Interface Anal.* 2005, **37**, 1082-1091.
9. I. Bertóti, *Surf. Coat. Technol.* 2002, **151-152**, 194-203.
10. A. Trenczek-Zajac, M. Radecka, K. Zakrzewska, A. Brudnik, E. Kusior, S. Bourgeois, M. C. Marco de Lucas and L. Imhoff, *J. Power Sources.* 2009, **194**, 93-103.