

National Synchrotron Radiation Research Center

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The Application of X-ray Scattering in the Studies of Nanomaterials

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Introduction of X-ray scattering The growth of ZnO on Si using a Y_2O_3 buffer layer Domain Matching Epitaxy Summary



The Properties of Synchrotron Radiation

- High Intensity 10²⁰ $I_{SR} > 10^6 * I_{tube}$ Brightness (Photons/sec/mrad²/mm²/0.1%BW) • Continuous Spectrum 10¹⁸ (NSRRC 35 keV > E > 0.05 eV) 10¹⁶ • Excellent Collimation 1014 Low Emittance 10¹² • Pulsed-time Structure (NSRRC) bunch length: 25 ps 10¹⁰ pulse separation: 2 ns no. of buckets: 200 10⁸ Polarization 10⁶ linear polarization, elliptical pola 10-4
- Coherence (laser)





(Elastic) X-ray Scattering



Crystal Structure



in 3-D basis vectors: $a_1, a_{2,} a_3$

Any lattice point \overline{R} can be obtained by translation

$$\vec{R} = n_1 \vec{a}_1 + n_2 \vec{a}_2 + n_3 \vec{a}_3$$



Lattice



Fourier Transfer







Size Effect - Diffraction Pattern of A Row of Atoms

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NSRRC

Effect due to Lattice Constant Change (Strain Effect)







Structural and Optical Properties of ZnO films Gown on Si with a Y₂O₃ Buffer Layer

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ZnO



II-VI wide direct band gap (3.37eV) wurtzite-type semiconductor

Large binding energy of free exciton (60 meV)

Free exciton emission at room temperature

GaN (25 meV) ZnSe (22 meV)

Thermal Energy (26 meV)

Why ZnO on Si



or being an buffer for GaN on Si (small lattice mismatch between GaN and ZnO)

Obstacles for the growth of high quality ZnO on Si

Large lattice mismatch (-15%) between ZnO (a = 3.24 Å) and Si (a√2) = 3.84 Å)
Large thermal mismatch between ZnO (α = 4.75×10⁻⁶ K⁻¹) and Si (α = 2.56×10⁻⁶ K⁻¹) thermal stress → the formation of cracks
Formation of an amorphous SiO₂ layer → polycrystalline or textured ZnO layer
(ΔH _{SiO2}= -910.7 kJ/mole, ΔH_{ZnO} =-350.5 kJ/mole, ΔH_{Y2O3}=-1905.31 kJ/mole)



Sample preparation and characterization



Growth condition

Pulsed laser deposition (PLD) or laser MBE KrF pulsed excimer laser: 248 nm,10 Hz, 7 J/cm² Substrate : Y₂O₃/Si(111) (grown by MBE); Target : 5N ZnO target Growth rate and sample thickness: 0.27 Å/s and ~0.21 μ m Chamber basic pressure: 2.4x10⁻⁸ torr

Characterization

XRD : 4-circle diffractometer at BL17A, NSRRCTEM : Philips Tecnai F-20.PL : He–Cd laser (325 nm).



Radial scan along surface normal



Sharp interface and good crystalline quality

Azimuthal scans across off-normal reflections



Selected Area Electron Diffraction (SAED) Pattern



 $(0001)_{ZnO} || (111)_{Y_2O_3} || (111)_{Si}$ $\{11\overline{2}0\}_{ZnO} || \{4\overline{4}0\}_{Y_2O_3} || \{2\overline{2}0\}_{Si}$

Lattice mismatch ~ -15.9%



Domain Matching Epitaxy (DME)

Strain
$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{d_f}{d_s} - 1 > -7\%$$

$$(m+\alpha)d_f = (n+\alpha)d_s, m, n: integer; \alpha < 1$$

Residual strain
$$\mathcal{E}_r = \frac{md_f}{nd_s} - 1$$

Residual strain of ZnO grown on Y_2O_3 reduces down to ~1%



TEM Contrast Analysis (two-beam condition)





 $g=(11\overline{2}0)$ edge + mixed



Invisible criterion $\vec{g} \cdot \vec{b} = 0$

g: diffraction vectorb: dislocation Burgers vector

pure edge $\boldsymbol{b}_E = 1/3 \cdot < 11\overline{2}0 >$ pure screw $\boldsymbol{b}_C = <0001 >$

Defect structure is predominantly screw and mixed type TDs. Near the interface, there are high density of misfit dislocations.



Summary

- High quality ZnO epitaxial films have been successfully grown by pulsedlaser deposition on Si (111) substrates with a thin Y2O3 buffer layer.
- Two (111) oriented domains with 60° in-plane rotation coexist in the Y_2O_3 buffer layer. The in-plane epitaxial relationship between the wurtzite ZnO, cubic Y_2O_3 and cubic Si follows .
- The growth of ZnO on Y_2O_3 can be well described by domain matching epitaxy.
- The photoluminescence spectra of ZnO epi-films exhibit superior optical properties at room temperature even for films of thickness as thin as 0.21 μ m.

