

Thin Film MBE Growth and Characterization of Rare Earth Doped GaN

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Abstract

Thanks to pioneering works, which have been carried out during the last 3 decades, GaN and its alloys formed as combined with indium (In) and aluminum (Al) became indispensable materials for novel optical applications such as green, blue and ultra violet (UV) light emitting diodes (LEDs), laser diodes (LDs), etc. Splendid accomplishments attained by single or multi-quantum well (SQW, MQW) structures using InGaN led to the commercialization of devices mentioned above, and InGaN still plays a pivotal role in these optical applications.

Red emission based on GaN, however, has not yet been (although it has been demonstrated by Zn-doped GaN in early '70s) realized commercially, due to the difficulty of increasing In content in InGaN. If RGB (red, green, blue) emission would be achieved monolithically, the fabrication process of full color display based on GaN would become much simpler, and more efficient white light LED with adjustable mood coloring would be possible.

In this dissertation, the author will introduce rare-earths (REs) doping into GaN for the realization of full color emission on GaN based material. REs have long been widely utilized for various optical devices using their narrow-line-width, their almost-host-independent emission properties of intra-4f transition. Magnetic properties for DMS utilization are also an important aspect of RE in GaN.

Researches based on structural, optical, magnetic properties of RE doped GaN were carried out, and this dissertation is a general summarization of those research results.

Contents

Abstract	i
Contents	ii
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Introduction and backgrounds	2
1.2 Rare Earths (REs)	2
1.3 REs in GaN.	4
Chapter 1 References	9
2 Experimental	11
2.1 Sample growth using gas source molecular beam epitaxy (GSMBE)	12
2.2 Characterization	12
2.2.1 Reflection High Energy Electron Diffraction (RHEED)	12
2.2.2 Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)	15
2.2.3 Transmission electron microscope (TEM)	16
2.2.4 Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM)	17
2.2.5 X-ray diffraction (XRD)	17
2.2.6 Rutherford back-scattering (RBS)	19
2.2.7 RBS/ ion channeling	22
2.2.8 Extended X-ray absorption fine structure (EXAFS)	22
2.2.9 Photoluminescence (PL) Spectroscopy	24
2.2.10 Photoluminescence Excitation (PLE)	27
2.2.11 Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR)	27
2.2.12 Superconducting quantum interference device (SQUID)	27
2.3 Characteristics of undoped GaN	28
Chapter 2 References	30

3	Structural and optical properties of Eu doped GaN.	32
3.1	Structural properties of Eu doped GaN.	33
3.1.1	Surface structure of Eu doped GaN observed by RHEED.	33
3.1.2	Micro-graphical structure of Eu:GaN observed by AFM, SEM, TEM.	33
3.1.3	Crystalline qualities studied by XRD.	38
3.1.4	Incorporation site and local structure around Eu ion in Eu doped GaN studied by RBS/C and EXAFS analysis.	46
3.2	Optical properties of Eu doped GaN.	50
3.2.1	Luminescence properties measured by PL.	50
3.2.2	Indirect (carrier mediate) excitation mechanism confirmed by PLE analysis. . .	56
3.2.3	Energy transfer mechanism in Eu doped GaN.	56
3.2.4	RED electroluminescence (EL) from metal/insulator/semiconductor (MIS) structured LED	63
	Chapter 3 References	64
4	Luminescence properties of Tb, Er doped GaN and comparative studies with Eu doped GaN.	66
4.1	The growth and characterization of Tb, Er doped GaN.	67
4.2	Comparative studies with Eu doped GaN.	72
4.2.1	Difference in Energy transfer efficiency.	72
4.2.2	Symmetry around RE ions.	76
	Chapter 4 References	80
5	Magnetic properties of RE:GaN	81
5.1	Semiconductor spintronics	82
5.2	Magnetic properties of RE doped GaN	83
	Chapter 5 References	88
6	Concluding remarks	89
	Index	91
	Acknowledgment	95
	List of Publications	97