

氏名(国籍)	サンカール ビジェイ カルシック (インド)		
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主査	筑波大学教授(関係)	Ph. D.	宝野和博
副査	筑波大学教授(関係)	理学博士	宇治進也
副査	筑波大学教授	工学博士	喜多英治
副査	名古屋大学教授	工学博士	浅野秀文

論文の内容の要旨

The realization of universal memory has stimulated active research interest in the search for spintronics materials with high spin polarization and integrated magnetism into semiconductor devices. Half metallic ferromagnetic (HMF) materials with 100% spin polarization possess a unique band structure that exhibits a semi-conducting gap for the minority spin-down and a metallic behavior for the majority spin-up states. Currently, the most promising high spin polarized HMF materials with high Curie temperature are believed to be $L2_1$ type Co based full Heusler alloys.

We prepared samples of polycrystalline bulk quaternary $Co_2Cr_{1-x}Fe_xAl$, $Co_2Cr_{1-x}V_xAl$, $Co_2Fe_{1-x}V_xAl$ and $Co_2Cr_xFe_{1-x}Si$ Heusler alloys with different concentrations by arc-melting the constituent elements with 99.9% purity in an Ar atmosphere. Also, we fabricated $Co_2Cr_xFe_{1-x}Si$ thin films on oxidized Si and MgO (100) substrates by DC magnetron sputtering in an ultra high vacuum chamber.

The structure, magnetic properties and spin polarization of bulk quaternary $Co_2Cr_{1-x}Fe_xAl$, $Co_2Cr_{1-x}V_xAl$, $Co_2Fe_{1-x}V_xAl$ and $Co_2Cr_xFe_{1-x}Si$ Heusler alloys have been summarized. The $Co_2Cr_{1-x}Fe_xAl$ alloys phase separates into disordered $A2$ and $B2/L2_1$ structure for the lower concentration and forms a single phase $B2$ structure with 17% $A2$ -type disorder. The spin polarization of $Co_2Cr_{1-x}Fe_xAl$ alloys determined by PCAR decreases from $P=0.62$ at $x=0.0$ to $P=0.58$ at $x=1.0$ lower than theoretical prediction owing to the presence of disorders. The addition of vanadium stabilizes the $L2_1$ Structure, exhibiting 20-40% $A2$ -type and 40% $B2$ -type disorders for $Co_2Cr_{1-x}V_xAl$, $Co_2Fe_{1-x}V_xAl$ alloys. The spin polarization of these alloys lie between $P=0.5$ and 0.54 owing to the structural disorders. For the $Co_2Cr_xFe_{1-x}Si$ alloys, we observed an interesting doping effect that increases the spin polarization from $P=0.57$ ($x=0.0$) to $P=0.65$ ($x=0.02$), one of the highest values measured by PCAR owing to an improvement in the ordering, a possible increase in the majority DOS and the shift in the Fermi level to the center of the minority-spin band gap. The $Co_2Cr_xFe_{1-x}Si$ thin films fabricated on oxidized Si and MgO (001) substrates also indicates a high spin polarization ($P>0.65$) at Fermi level and quite promising candidate for spintronic applications.

