PS-11.02.23 PREPARATION OF C-ORIENTED POLYCRYSTALLINE ZnO THIN FILM BY SOL- GEL TECHNIQUE. By Zuyan Fangtian Gong, Jingyi Chang. China Building Material Academy, Beijing 100024, China.

Oriented polycrystalline ZnO thin films were prepared from metallo-organic compounds by a sol-gel method. The precursor solution was synthesized with zinc acetate, acetylacetone, and alcohol through refluxing. Thin films were deposited on single-crystal Si(100), Si(111) and fused silica using dip-coating technique. C-oriented polycrystalline ZnO thin films were obtained with a special isothermal treatment. The pyrolysis and crystallization of powder and films were investigated by differential thermal analysis, thermogravimetric analysis, X-ray diffraction and scanning electron microscope. The effects of substrate, sintering and other processing parameters on the crystal structure were also investigated.

In this experiment, the crystal structure of thin films had a strong dependency on the heat treatment, while the substrate played a smaller role than we expected.

Decomposition or gel films occurred below 200°C. Nucleation of films started at about 300°C. The densified crystalline films were obtained above 500°C, they transformed to c-oriented films with increasing the temperature to 600°C.

PS-11.02.24 A STUDY OF Fe-Dy MULTILAYERED FILMS. By Peixuan Wang, Shengli Li* and Ruzhang Ma. Department of Materials Physics, University of Science and Technology Beijing, Beijing 100083.

Fe/Dy compositionally modulated films were prepared by alternate evaporation of the two elements onto substrates in the vacuum of 10⁻⁷ Pa range. RBS and AES were used for the composition profile determinations, and XRD and TEM for microstructure observations. Measurements of magnetic properties were also performed with vibrating sample magnetometer. Two kinds of multilayers have been investigated. The first group has short periodic length, A=4.6nm and constant chemical ratio Fe80Dy20. The second group has longer periodicity A=25–50nm and various compositions ranged between Fe90Dy10 and Fe40Dy60.

TEM shows that the Dy layers are in the amorphous state when their thickness <2.4nm, whereas Fe layers >2.4nm give typical diffraction patterns of bcc structure. These as-deposited structures are very unstable against the film heating. Sharp diffraction rings characteristic of hcp-Dy will take the place of diffuse rings of amorphous Dy in ~60 sec during irradiation with intense electron beam (100 keV). Meanwhile the aggregation of Fe can also be observed. However, these processes occurred relatively slowly (in tens of minutes) when the films were heated at TEM hot stage.

For samples of the second group ion beam mixing have been studied with Ar ions. The ion energy of 95–110 keV was selected so that the mean projected range of bombarding ions is about in the middle of the multilayers (~150nm thick). The amount of mixing, Q, of adjacent elemental layers can be determined from RBS spectra (Hewett C. A. et al, Nucl. Instr. Meth., 1985, B78, 57). It is found that Q increases with increasing the ion fluence. For all the compositions studied, complete mixing (i.e. Q=1) can be achieved at 1x10¹⁷ ions/cm². In particular, the samples of ~Fe60Dy40 exhibit a striking contrast to those of other compositions. For that, Q~0.8 can already be obtained at 1x10¹⁶ /cm². After irradiations with 1x10¹⁷ /cm², these films consist of only amorphous compound as shown by XRD, while those of other compositions give extra reflections contributed either by excess bcc-Fe (e.g. in Fe60Dy20) or by excess hcp-Dy (e.g. in Fe40Dy60). As is expected, the saturation magnetization, Ms, of the as-deposited multilayers varies with respect to their Dy content. For all the films Ms drops sharply after bombardments with the least fluence used (~1x10¹⁵/cm²). Further increase in ion fluence up to 1x10¹⁷ merely results in small change of Ms. Among all samples, those of ~Fe60Dy40 show maximum reduction of Ms induced by ion beam mixing.

In this paper the behavior of multilayers depending on the composition is discussed in the connection with the phase diagram, the entropy of compounds formation and the magnetic coupling of Fe-Dy atoms.