

Characterization of *N*-Type and *P*-Type Thin Films

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Polycrystalline thin films have been prepared by using several deposition techniques as reported by many researchers [1-10]. Researchers claim that each of the deposition method has its own benefit and disadvantage as well. For instance, chemical bath deposition, electro deposition method, chemical spray pyrolysis and SILAR are some examples of solution based deposition method with many advantages including simple apparatus setup, less monitoring required, economical, large area deposition possible and require less amount of starting precursors. However, some researchers point out some disadvantages such as require a potentiostat, reference electrode and counter electrode in electro deposition method. They also comment that non-uniformity of films, low deposition rate, and low ratio of atoms effectively deposited to those supplied by using chemical spray pyrolysis method. Lastly, they found that there are various experimental parameters have to be optimized in order to prepare good quality films using chemical bath deposition technique. On the other hand, evaporation and sputtering are some examples of physical vapor deposition method. Thin films with smooth surface could be obtained using the evaporation method. Other advantages such as very thin layer could be produced and very low amount of powder needed. However, the disadvantages of this deposition method includes it requires thermal evaporation apparatus, it needs proper ventilation, and large area deposition difficult. As described by many researchers, sputter deposition technique involves ejecting precursors from a target onto substrate. Some benefits such as the obtained films have a composition quite close to that of the source material and precursors with very high melting points are easily sputtered as mentioned. However, disadvantages of this process including active control for layer by layer growth is very hard, more difficult to combine with a lift off for structuring the films, the gas composition must be controlled in order to prevent poisoning, sputtering targets are expensive, and lastly sputtering rates are low if compared to other deposition method.

In recent years, interest in the electrical properties of thin films has considerably increased. There are several techniques have been applied to measure the electrical conductivity of the thin films including thermoelectric power measurement, Hall effect experiment, four point measurement and hot probe experiment. Generally, *n*-type semiconductors such as lead selenide, manganese sulphide, copper indium disulphide, cadmium selenide, copper indium diselenide, zinc sulphide, cadmium sulphide and bismuth telluride thin films have a larger electron concentration than hole concentration. In contrast,

zinc selenide, tin selenide, tin sulphide, lead sulphide, copper zinc tin sulfide, cadmium zinc telluride, copper aluminium sulphide, nickel sulphide, copper indium ditelluride and zinc telluride thin films are examples of *p*-type semiconductors and they have a larger hole concentration than electron concentration. Researchers always explain that the *p*-type and *n*-type are refer to the positive charge of the hole and negative charge of the electron, respectively. The obtained *n*-type and *p*-type semiconductors could be used in many electrical devices such as semiconductor diode, transistors, lasers, photovoltaic cells, photodetectors and field effect transistors. For example, photovoltaic cells consist of *p-n* junction tools in order to create electrical energy from sunlight. In this situation, the energy of the photon that leads to electrons to be promoted into the conduction bands and eventually carries the current.

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