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Micromorphology analysis of sputtered indium tin oxide fabricated with variable ambient combinations

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Abstract

This study experimentally investigates the fractal nature of the DC magnetron sputtered indium-tin oxide (ITO) fabricated utilizing mixed ambient combinations and post-annealed at 450 °C in air towards solar cell applications. The structural properties of the films were examined by X-ray diffraction technique. In addition, three-dimensional (3-D) surface morphology of the films was analyzed using the areal autocorrelation function and pseudo-topology K for the atomic force microscopy images. The fractal nature of films was correlated with respect to electrical and optical properties of ITO films prepared under five different ambient conditions.

Key words: Indium-tin oxide thin film, different sputtering ambient, atomic force microscopy, fractal analysis, and surface topography

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