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Author: M. Faramarzi Nezhad N. Shahtahmassebi M. Behdani

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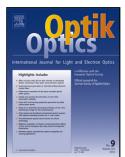
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Improvement efficiency of thin-film solar cell by plasmonic properties of silver

M Faramarzi nezhad^a, N Shahtahmassebi^{a^{*}} and M Behdani^a

^aDepartment of Physics, Ferdowsi University of Mashhad, Mashhad, Iran

E-mails: <u>nasser@ferdowsi.um.ac.ir</u>

Abstract

Thin-film silicon solar cells need light trapping mechanisms to enhance the efficiency due to silicon's weak absorption of light. In this paper, by use of rigorous coupled-wave analysis (RCWA), we propose and simulate a light-trapping quasi-photonic crystal plasmonic thin-film silicon solar cell consist of an anti-reflection coating (ARC) with refractive index n_{AR} =1.9 and thickness (T_{AR} =0.06 µm), a silicon active layer with thickness $T_c = 0.45$ µm, a grating surfaces composed of silver and a one-dimensional quasi-photonic crystal composed of SiO₂/Si layers. Results show that for proposed structure the cell efficiency arrive to 14.3% for TM with p=0.181µm and 11.71% for TE mode with p=0.42µm which has a significant increase compare usual and similar thin-film silicon solar cells.

Keywords: Thin film solar cell, silver Nano grating, anti-reflection (AR) coating, plasmonic effect.

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