Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0167-577X(18)30391-4

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.matlet.2018.03.035

Reference: MLBLUE 23996

To appear in: Materials Letters

Received Date: 11 January 2018 Revised Date: 2 March 2018 Accepted Date: 4 March 2018



Please cite this article as: S.A. Bashkirov, U.S. Hekkel, M.S. Tivanov, A.M. Saad, Cu₂ZnSnS₄ thin films by sulfurization in melted sulfur, *Materials Letters* (2018), doi: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.matlet.2018.03.035

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Cu₂ZnSnS₄ thin films by sulfurization in melted sulfur

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Abstract

Cu₂ZnSnS₄ (CZTS) thin films were synthesized by sulfurization of subsequently electrochemically deposited Cu/Sn/Zn metal precursors on Mo foil substrates in melted sulfur on air at the temperature of 440 °C close to the sulfur boiling point for 1 hour. The films contain only CZTS phase with lattice parameters $a = 5.422 \pm 0.002$ Å and $c = 10.811 \pm 0.006$ Å and components at. % ratio: Cu/(Sn+Zn) = 1.05, Zn/Sn = 1.22, (Cu+Sn+Zn)/S = 0.93. The film surface is densely packed without cracks or pinholes. The obtained results show the practical ability to obtain CZTS thin films by a novel technically simple and low-cost liquid-based process.

Keywords: Cu₂ZnSnS₄; CZTS; thin films; electrochemical deposition; sulfurization; liquid-based process.

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