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Structural characterization of Zr-doped ZnO films deposited on quartz substrates by reactive radio frequency magnetron co-sputtering

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Abstract

Zr-doped ZnO (Zn_{1-x}Zr_xO, $0 \le x \le 0.067$; ZZO) thin films were grown at room temperature

by reactive radio frequency co-sputtering on quartz substrates The ZZO films have a strong preferred orientation toward the c-axis but this orientation weakened as x increased. The size of crystallites of the ZZO films decreased and the surfaces of the ZZO films smoothened as x increased. The Zn atom were divalent and slightly affected only in the c-axis. Zn K-edge X-ray absorption near edge structure (XANES) spectra of the ZZO films show that the Zn atom were divalent and slightly affected only in the c-axis. The Zr atoms were tetravalent and their

edge extended x-ray absorption fine-structure (EXAFS) spectra revealed that the local structural variation was stronger along the c-axis than along other axes. The Zn atom site was well replaced by Zr atom regardless of x. Average optical transmittance in the visible region

K-edge XANES spectra were slight different from that of ZrO₂. Polarization-dependent Zn K-

was \geq 90%, and as x increased, optical band gap increased and blue-shifted.

Keywords: Transparent Conducting Oxide, X-ray Diffraction, X-ray Absorption Near Edge Spectroscopy, Extended X-ray Absorption Fine Structure, Energy Band Gap.

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