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博 士 学 位 论 文

GaN 基蓝紫光激光器制备的理论与 关键技术的研究

Research of the theory and key technology for fabrication
of the GaN-base blue violet laser diodes

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摘 要

宽禁带III—V族 GaN 基半导体材料在发光二极管、激光器、光电探测器以及高温、高频和大功率电子器件等方面有着诱人的应用前景和巨大的市场需求，是近年来光电子材料领域研究的热门课题。特别是发光波段在 400~410nm 的 GaN 基蓝紫光激光器是高密度光存储系统中最有希望的光源，因此制作蓝紫光短波长的激光器一直是人们研究的焦点，但 GaN 基激光器材料的生长和器件的制备方面还存在一些困难，特别是 GaN 基材料的 P 型掺杂、厚且无裂的 AlGaIn 材料生长、高质量的 P 型 GaN 欧姆接触等。

本文针对以上一些问题并结合 GaN 基激光器的研制工作开展了一系列的相关的研究，比如：一维光场模拟、相关材料的生长和低 P 型欧姆接触的研究。主要包括以下内容：

1) 采用传输矩阵的方法对 GaN 基激光器的光场分布进行一维理论模拟，并分析了各层材料及结构对 GaN 基激光器光场分布的影响。模拟发现：当增加 N 型限制层 $\text{Al}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{N}/\text{GaN}$ SLS 的厚度和 Al 组分，或者在 N 型限制层较薄的情况下适当增加波导层厚度时，都能抑制反波导行为；而在保证质量的情况下，N 型接触层的厚度则是越薄越好。值得一提的是，研究中首次发现，当波导层采用 InGaIn 或 InGaIn/GaN SLS 结构时，对光的限制能力将会明显提高，相应地阈值电流密度会降低。以获得大的光场限制因子和低的阈值电流密度为目标，优化出了各层材料参数：分别取 N 和 P 型接触层 GaN 的厚度为 2000nm 和 200nm 情况下，N 型限制层 $\text{Al}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{N}/\text{GaN}$ SLS 厚度 600nm（120 对超晶格），Al 组分为 0.22；N 型波导层 GaN 厚度 90nm，有源区 $\text{In}_{0.14}\text{Ga}_{0.86}\text{N}/\text{GaN}$ 量子阱数为 2；P 型电子阻挡层 $\text{Al}_{0.2}\text{Ga}_{0.8}\text{N}$ 厚度 10nm；P 型波导层 GaN 厚度 70nm；P 型限制层 $\text{Al}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{N}/\text{GaN}$ SLS 厚度 300nm（60 对超晶格），Al 组分为 0.22。

2) 研究了 TMAI 的流量和生长温度对 AlGaIn 材料的影响，重点研究如何获得厚且无裂 AlGaIn 材料，本文采用 AlGaIn/GaN 超晶格代替厚的 AlGaIn 的生长，获得厚且无裂的限制层材料。

3) 理论分析 InGaIn/GaN MQW 有源区发射波长与阱和垒的组分、厚度关系，发现通过适当组合阱和垒的 In 组分与厚度，可以调整发射波长。并通过生长 LED 结构来优化有源区，改变有源区阱的生长温度，发现其温度变化与发射波长呈线性关系，由此可以通过调节阱温，获得特定发射波长，并且还讨论了变温生长对 InGaIn/GaN MQW 光学特

性的影响。

4) 研究了获得p-GaN欧姆接触的低接触电阻方法。

①对p-GaN表面预处理方法和合金化的时间、温度、氛围进行了优化。

②在对该工艺优化的基础上,对比分析了两种不同材料的欧姆接触,即体材料p-GaN和采用p-InGaN/p-GaN超晶格薄层为顶层的P型材料。研究发现,在p-GaN上直接沉积一层p-InGaN/GaN超晶格薄层材料能够有效降低欧姆接触电阻,并在优化接触工艺为550℃、氧气氛围下合金30分钟条件下,获得较低的比接触电阻率 $1.99 \times 10^{-4} \Omega \text{ cm}^2$ 。

③对p-InGaN/p-GaN超晶格薄层形成低阻欧姆接触的原因进行了理论分析,首次研究了超晶格薄层中p-GaN层温度变化对欧姆接触的影响,以及超晶格层生长过程中以p-GaN或者p-InGaN作为终止层时对欧姆接触性能的影响。发现在较低温度下生长p-GaN有利于欧姆接触的形成,而值得注意的是,以p-InGaN作为终止层可以获得更低的欧姆接触,针对此结果,文中进行了较为深入的分析。

④应用应变平衡理论,首次提出用p-InGaN/p-AlGaN超晶格代替p-InGaN/p-GaN超晶格层做p-GaN的顶层,并获得更低的欧姆接触电阻,其比接触电阻率为: $7.27 \times 10^{-5} \Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$ 。并从能带和空穴电荷密度两个方面分析接触电阻降低的原因。最后把应变补偿效应的超晶格材料应用在发光二极管(LED)上,相对常规LED而言,获得较低的工作电压。

关键词: GaN基蓝紫光激光器; MOCVD; AlGaN; InGaN/GaN多量子阱; p-InGaN/p-AlGaN超晶格; 应变补偿; 应变极化效应; P型欧姆接触。

Research of the theory and key technology for fabrication of the GaN-based blue violet laser diodes

Abstract

GaN based III-V nitrides as a wide band gap semiconductor has played a key role in the research field of optoelectronic materials and devices, due to its promising applications and great potential market in LEDs, short-wavelength laser diodes, ultraviolet detectors, high temperature and high power electronic devices. Especially, GaN based blue-violet laser diodes with wavelength from 400 nm to 410 nm is the most promising light resource for high density storage system, therefore fabricating blue-violet short-wavelength laser is research focus of people. While for GaN base lasers, there are still some difficulties in growing the related materials and fabricating devices, in particular, p-type GaN doping, crack-free thick AlGaIn growth, high quality p-type ohmic contact.

For exploring the above-mentioned problems, a series of studies were carried out on GaN base laser diodes, including simulation on one-dimension optical field, growth of related materials, investigation on low-resistance ohmic contact to p-GaN. The main contents were as followings:

- 1) Through adopting transfer-matrix, one-dimension optical-field of GaN-base laser diodes was simulated, and the effect of each layer on GaN-base laser diodes was analysed. It was found that the thickness and Al component of n-typed AlGaIn/GaN superlattice layer (SLS) should be increased in order to avoid the anti-waveguide behavior, If a thicker cladding couldn't be grown, approximate fundamental mode operation could be obtained by increasing the thickness of the GaN waveguide slightly. In the condition of good quality, the thinner the thickness of the n-type contact layer was, the smaller the optical confinement factor was. It is the first time to propose that through adopting InGaIn or InGaIn/GaN SLS as waveguide layer optical can be confined better, and lower threshold current density can be obtained. When the maximum optical confinement factor and the lowest threshold current density were chosen as object functions, the AlGaIn/GaN/InGaIn separate confinement heterojunction (SCH) MQW layer structure was optimized. When the thickness of the n-type contact layer GaN was assumed to

be 2000nm, the p-type contact layer thickness is 200nm, which can be divided as follows: n-type cladding layer AlGaIn/GaN SLS thickness is 600nm (120 pairs SLS), Al composition is 0.22; n-type waveguide layer thickness is 90nm, the number of the quantumwell of active layer is two; the p-type electron blocking layer AlGaIn thickness is 10nm; p-type waveguide layer GaN thickness is 70nm;p-type cladding layer AlGaIn/GaN SLS thickness is 300nm (60 pairs SLS), Al composition is 0.22.

2) the effects of The TMAI flow rate and growth temperature on AlGaIn quality were investigated.We focused on how to obtain crack-free thick AlGaIn material. In the thesis, AlGaIn was substituted by AlGaIn/GaN SLS, and free-crack thick cladding layer was obtained.

3) The relationship between the emitting wavelength of InGaIn/GaN MQW active region and the composition, the thickness of well and barrier was analyzed theoretically.It was found adjusting the composition and thickness of well and barrier properly, the wavelength needed can be obtained.In experiment, the active region was optimized through growing LED structure.Through changing the well growth temperature, we found that the relationship between emitting wavelength and well temperature was a linear function, Thus, we can obtain special emitting wavelength through adjusting well temperature.Finally, we discussed the effect of changing well temperature on the optical character of InGaIn/GaN MQW.

4) The methods to obtain low ohmic contact to p-GaN was investigated.

①The surface treatment, annealing temperature and time and atmosphere of p-GaN were optimized.

② Base on the above mentioned optimization condition, comparing Ni/Au contacting p-GaN with p-InGaIn/p-GaN SLS as capping layer directly, we found that Ni/Au contact p-InGaIn/p-GaN SLS can produce lower specific contact resistivity.When the temperature was chosen to be 550°C, the time of alloying in oxygen atmosphere was 30 minute, the lower specific contact resistivity(ρ_c) was $1.99 \times 10^{-4} \Omega \text{cm}^2$.

③The reason of p-InGaIn/p-GaN SLS forming low specific contact resistivity was investigated further.Firstly, the influence of temperature change of p-GaN in p-InGaIn/p-GaN SLS on ohmic contact is discussed.It is found that the growth temperature of p-GaN in p-InGaIn/p-GaN SLS increased, the contact resistance increased.Moreover, the effect of

surface layer of capping p-InGaN/p-GaN superlattices on the contact to p-GaN was discussed. It was found that the specific contact resistance (ρ_c) to p-type InGaN was lower when p-GaN was used as the surface layer.

④Using strained-balance theory, substituting p-InGaN/p-GaN SLS by p-InGaN/p-AlGaN SLS as p-GaN capping layer was proposed firstly, and lower specific contact resistivity was obtained. the value of ρ_c was $7.27 \times 10^{-5} \Omega \text{ cm}^2$ at room temperature. Furthermore, from the aspects of the band and the hole charge density, we analysed the reason of reduction on the contact resistance. Finally, we obtained low turn-on voltage and series resistance of InGaN-GaN LEDs using strained-compensated and strain-induced piezoelectric p-InGaN/p-AlGaN superlattice as contact layer.

Key Word : GaN base blue-violet laser diode; LP-MOCVD; AlGaN; InGaN/GaN MQW; p-InGaN/p-AlGaN SLS; strained-compensated effect; strain-induced piezoelectric effect; p-type ohmic contact

目录

第一章 绪论	1
1. 1: 课题研究背景	1
1. 2: GaN 基蓝紫光激光器的发展过程	3
1. 2. 1: Nichia 化学公司 GaN 基激光器研究发展史	4
1. 2. 2: 世界上其它公司和研究机构的研究情况	10
1. 3: GaN 基半导体光激光器的应用	12
1. 3. 1: 蓝紫光激光器在下一代光盘产业 (DVD) 中的应用	12
1. 3. 2: GaN 基激光器在其它方面的应用	13
1. 4: 生长和制作 GaN 基激光器存在的问题	14
1. 5: 本论文主要工作和创新点	15
参考文献:	17
第二章 GaN 激光器一维光场模拟	21
2. 1: GaN 基材料	21
2. 1. 1: III 族氮化物材料的性质	21
2. 1. 2: GaN 基材料的生长	22
2. 2: 介质平板波导理论	24
2. 2. 1: 波动方程	24
2. 2. 2: 电学常数和光学常数	26
2. 2. 3: 电磁辐射的 TE 模和 TM 模	27
2. 3: 激光器一维光场模拟的理论基础	28
2. 3. 1: 传输矩阵法求解多层介质平板波导	28
2. 3. 2: 光场限制因子	30
2. 3. 3: 半导体激光器的远场分布和远场垂直发散角	31
2. 3. 4: 半导体折射率的各种理论模型	31
2. 4: AlGaIn/GaN/InGaIn SCH MQW LD 的一维光场模拟	33
2. 4. 1: 采用的结构	33
2. 4. 2: GaN、AlGaIn 和 InGaIn 折射率的确定	34
2. 4. 3: 阈值电流密度采用的公式:	36
2. 4. 4: 各层材料的参数对一维光场分布的影响及各层参数的优化	37
2. 5: 结构参数与优化的结果	51
2. 6: 本章小结	51
参考文献:	52
第三章 AlGaIn 的生长和材料表征	55
3. 1: 引言	55
3. 2: AlGaIn 的生长	56
3. 2. 1: MOCVD 在位监测	56
3. 2. 2: TMAI 流量变化对 AlGaIn 薄膜质量的影响	57
3. 2. 3: 生长温度对 AlGaIn 薄膜质量的影响	62
3. 2. 4: AlGaIn/GaN 超晶格层的生长	64
3. 3: 材料表征方法	64
3. 4: 本章小节	70
参考文献:	71

第四章 InGaN/GaN 多量子阱波长的设计及生长研究	73
4. 1: InGaN/GaN 多量子阱激光器的发射波长设计	73
4. 1. 1: InGaN 的压电极化效应	73
4. 1. 2: 量子阱中导带和价带分立能级 EC1 和 Ehh1 的计算	75
4. 1. 3: 发射波长与阱的组分、厚度及其垒的组分和厚度的关系	78
4. 2: InGaN/GaN 多量子阱材料的生长	81
4. 2. 1: InGaN/GaN 多量子阱生长的研究情况	81
4. 2. 3: 阱的温度变化对 InGaN/GaN 多量子阱的影响	82
4. 2. 3. 1: 实验过程	82
4. 2. 3. 2: 结果分析与讨论	84
4. 3: 本章小结	88
参考文献:	89
第五章 低 P 型 GaN 欧姆接触电阻的研究	93
5. 1: P 型 GaN 欧姆接触的研究情况	93
5. 2: 欧姆接触形成机理	95
5. 2. 1: 金属-半导体接触	95
5. 2. 2: 欧姆接触形成的机制	95
5. 3: 接触电阻率的测量原理和方法	98
5. 3. 1 比接触电阻的数学定义:	98
5. 3. 2: 比接触电阻率 ρ_c 的测量方法	99
5. 3. 3: CTLM 方法测量欧姆比接触电阻的基本原理	100
5. 4: P 型欧姆接触的制备流程	102
5. 4. 1: 化学清洗和表面预处理	103
5. 4. 2: 光刻	103
5. 4. 3: 电子束蒸发金属层 (Ni/Au)	104
5. 4. 4: 剥离电极	104
5. 4. 5: 合金化形成欧姆接触	104
5. 5: 应变 p-InGaN/p-GaN 超晶格薄层作顶层获得低阻欧姆接触电阻的研究	105
5. 5. 1: 引言	105
5. 5. 2: 实验过程	106
5. 5. 3: 测试结果与分析	107
5. 5. 3. 1: P 型 GaN 欧姆接触工艺的优化	107
5. 5. 3. 2: A、B、C 三种结构样品的欧姆接触的 I-V 特性比较	110
5. 5. 4: 结论	114
5. 6: 用应变补偿和应变极化效应的 p-InGaN/p-AlGaN 超晶格层作顶层获得更低的欧姆接触电阻的研究	114
5. 6. 1: 引言	114
5. 6. 2: 理论分析与实验过程	115
5. 6. 3: 结果分析	117
5. 6. 4: 结论	122
5. 7: 低工作电压的发光二极管 (LED) 的研制	122
5. 7. 1: GaN 基 LED 材料的生长和芯片制作过程	122
5. 7. 2: LED 器件特性分析	123

5. 8: 本章小结·····	130
参考文献·····	131
第六章 工作总结和展望·····	134
附录博士期间发表论文·····	137
致谢·····	139

厦门大学博硕士论文摘要库

Contents

Chapter 1 Introduction	1
1. 1: Introduction	1
1. 2: The progress of GaN base blue-violet laser diodes	3
1. 2. 1: The development of Nichia's GaN base laser diodes	4
1. 2. 2: The other groups research progress	10
1. 3: The application of GaN base laser diodes	12
1. 3. 1: Application blue-violet laser diodes in next generation CD-ROM industry (DVD)	12
1. 3. 2: Others application	13
1. 4: The problem of growth and fabricate GaN base laser diodes	14
1. 5: Thesis structure and innovation	15
Reference:	17
Chapter 2 GaN laser diodes one-dimension optical simulation	21
2. 1: The research of GaN base materials	21
2. 1. 1: The characterof III- V nitride	21
2. 1. 2: The growth of GaN base materials	22
2. 2: Medium Planar waveguide theory	24
2. 2. 1: Wave equation	24
2. 2. 2: Electric and optical constant	26
2. 2. 3: TE model and TM model	27
2. 3: Theoretical foundation of laser diodes one-dimension simulation	28
2. 3. 1: Transfer matrix method	28
2. 3. 2: Photon confinement factor	30
2. 3. 3: Far-field distribute and far-field divergence angle	31
2. 3. 4: Theroy models of the semiconductor refractive	31
2. 4: AlGaIn/GaN/InGaIn SCH MQW LD one-dimension optical simulation	33
2. 4. 1: Adopting structure	33
2. 4. 2: The refractive of GaN、AlGaIn and InGaIn	34
2. 4. 3: The formula of threshold current density:	36
2. 4. 4: Materials parameter and optimization result	37
2. 5: Structure parameter and the optimization result	51
2. 6: The chapter summary	51
Reference:	52
Chapter 3 The research of AlGaIn growth and materials characterization	55
3. 1: Introduce	55
3. 2: AlGaIn growth	56
3. 2. 1: MOCVD in-stiu monitor	56
3. 2. 2: TMAI flow rate changing affected AlGaIn quality	57
3. 2. 3: The growth temperature affect AlGaIn quality	62
3. 2. 4: AlGaIn/GaN SLS growth	64
3. 3: Materials characterization	64
3. 4: The chapter summary	70

Reference	71
Chapter4 InGaN/GaN MQW emitting wavelength design and growth research	73
4. 1: InGaN/GaN MQW emitting wavelength design	73
4. 1. 1: InGaN piezoelectric effect	73
4. 1. 2: Conductor band and valence band discrete energy E_{C1} and E_{hh} calculation	75
4. 1. 3: The composition and thickness of well and barrier affect wavelength	78
4. 2: InGaN/GaN MQW growth	81
4. 2. 1: InGaN/GaN MQW growth research progress	81
4. 2. 3: Well temperature change affect InGaN/GaN MQW	82
4. 2. 3. 1: Experiment	82
4. 2. 3. 2: The result and discussed	84
4. 3: The chapter summary	88
Reference:	89
Chapter 5 Research Of low-contact resistance to p-GaN	93
5. 1: Introduction	93
5. 2: Ohmic contact formed mechanism	95
5. 2. 1: Metal-semiconductor	95
5. 2. 2: Ohmic contact formed mechanism	95
5. 3: The theory and measurement methods of ρ_c	98
5. 3. 1 Definition of ρ_c :	98
5. 3. 2: Measurement of ρ_c	99
5. 3. 3: Basic theory of circular transfer length method(CTLM)	100
5. 4: Preparation of electrode to p-GaN	102
5. 4. 1: Chemical cleaning and surface pretreatment	103
5. 4. 2: Lithography	103
5. 4. 3: Electron beam vaporized metal Ni/Au	104
5. 4. 4: Peel off electrode	104
5. 4. 5: Alloy	104
5. 5: Research of strained p-InGaN/p-GaN SLS using p-GaN capping layer can obtain low contact resistance	105
5. 5. 1: Introduction	105
5. 5. 2: Experiment	106
5. 5. 3: The result and discussed	107
5. 5. 3. 1: p-type GaN ohmic contact technology optimization	107
5. 5. 3. 2: The character of I-V curve of structure A、B and C	110
5. 5. 4: Conclusion	114
5. 6: Research of strained-compensated and strained-induced polarization p-InGaN/p-AlGaIn SLS using as p-GaN capping layer, which can obtain more low ohmic contact resistance	114
5. 6. 1: Introduction	114
5. 6. 2: Theory analysis and experiment	115
5. 6. 3: The result and discussed	117
5. 6. 4: Conclusion	122

5. 7: Low-voltage LED research	122
5. 7. 1: GaN base LED structure growth and device fabricate	122
5. 7. 2: The character of LED device	123
5. 8: Chapter summary	130
Reference	131
Chapter 6 Summary and prospect	134
Appendix recent publications	137
Acknowledgements	139

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