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Response to “Comment on ‘Bandgap and effective mass determination of epitaxial cadmium oxide’” [Appl. Phys. Lett. 92, 106103 (2008)]

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In our recent letter,¹ we used a combination of infrared reflectivity, optical absorption, and Hall effect measurements to determine that the room temperature band gap and conduction band minimum effective mass of CdO are 2.16 ± 0.02 eV and $0.21 \pm 0.01m_0$, respectively. In their comment,² Coutts and Young correctly point out that, while we cited their review article on transparent conducting oxides (TCOs), we did not compare our result with their value of $0.14m_0$ for the conduction band minimum effective mass of CdO,³ obtained from the method-of-four coefficients. However, their comment does not mention that in Table I of their article, when summarizing the properties of three binary TCOs, they give the effective mass of CdO as between $0.18m_0$ and $0.25m_0$,³ a range our value of $0.21m_0$ falls within.

Additionally, Coutts and Young stated that we¹ did not comment that their “estimate agreed closely with that obtained by Koffyberg,⁴ whereas [our¹] value does not agree.”² We did not make this comment because it is not correct. Koffyberg did not obtain an electron effective mass in his paper.⁴ As we noted in our letter,¹ the “calculations on which [Koffyberg’s] work is based used a parabolic conduction band and an electron effective mass of $0.14m_0$. No justification for the choice of effective mass value was given.” Koffyberg’s data modeling used the ratio of the reduced mass and the conduction band effective mass $|\mu|/m_c^*$.⁴ Therefore, the conduction band effective mass itself was not deter-

mined. Furthermore, Koffyberg himself questioned the value of $|\mu|/m_c^*$ that he obtained from the data analysis. According to Koffyberg’s earlier papers on CdO,^{5,6} it would appear that the conduction band effective mass value of $0.14m_0$, stated in Ref. 4 without any citation of the work from which it was taken, is actually from the work of Finkenrath and von Ortenberg.⁷

It is not completely clear why our conduction band minimum effective mass value of $0.21m_0$ for CdO differs from the value of $0.14m_0$ determined by Finkenrath and von Ortenberg⁷ and Coutts *et al.*³ However, the fact that our samples are single crystal CdO(001) films,^{1,8} while those of Coutts *et al.* are polycrystalline CdO films,³ may have a significant effect on both the electronic properties and how these properties manifest themselves in the different experimental techniques.

Finally, we dispute the claim of Coutts and Young that their measurements are more detailed than ours.² Our respective methods are simply different.

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