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4 - 9 August 2019 Ecole Polytechnique, Palaiseau, France Conference Detailed Programme

Monday, 5 August 2019

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K. Kandpal, N. Gupta, J. Singh, C. Shekhar

Mo.Mat.P3

Optical properties of amorphous film composites TiO₂<Ag>andC-TiO₂<Ag>

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Currently, the amorphous semiconductor nanocomposite materials based on titanium dioxide and silver nanoparticles (TiO₂<Ag>) have aspecial interest [1, 2]. This is due to the specific features of the composite components. For example, TiO₂ films have the highest refractive index in the visible region of the spectrum among all similar materials used as a matrix. In addition, TiO₂ films have high photoactivity in the UV radiation range, which makes it possible to use them in optoelectronics, solar energy and etc. [3].

In this paper we study the optical plasmon resonance in film composites based on titanium dioxide TiO₂ and C-TiO₂ matrices and silver nanoparticles (TiO₂<Ag> and C-TiO₂<Ag>, respectively). The film composites were obtained by ion-plasma RF co-sputtering of titanium dioxide and silver as well as titanium dioxide, silver and graphite combined targets. It is shown that TiO₂<Ag> film nanocomposites are characterized by an amorphous TiO₂ matrix containing isolated ~ 2 nm sized silver nanoparticles. It is established that the TiO₂ matrix is a wide-gap semiconductor with conductivity at room temperature $\sigma = 6.6 \cdot 10^{-10}$ Ohm⁻¹·cm⁻¹ and the optical band gap $E_g = 3.2$ eV.

Fig. 1 shows the optical density spectra of the $TiO_2 < Ag >$ and C- $TiO_2 < Ag >$ nanocomposites. It follows from the **fig.1** that resonance absorption in $TiO_2 < Ag >$ film composites is characterized by a wide asymmetrical resonance peak with maximum appriximately at 500 nm. Modification of $TiO_2 < Ag >$ nanocomposite with carbon atoms leads to the increase in the intensity of resonance absorption peak and to the shift of the maximum to the short-waveregion of the spectrum, from 500 nm to 484 nm.



Fig. 1 Optical density of the TiO₂<Ag> and C-TiO₂<Ag>films

The differences in the optical resonance absorption spectra for $TiO_2 < Ag >$ and C-TiO₂ <Ag> composites apparently are due to an additional clusterization of silver nanoparticles in the matrix C-TiO₂ <Ag> owing to carbon atoms presence.

Keywords: titanium dioxide, amorphous carbon, film composites, plasmon resonance

References

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[2] Oleg Prikhodko, Svetlana Mikhailova, Yerzhan Mukhametkarimov et all, *Optical properties of a-C:H thin films modified by Ti and Ag*, Proceedings of SPIE, **9929**, p. 99291G-1 – 6 (2016)

[3]William Ghann, Aunik Rahman, Anis Rahman et all, Interaction of Sensitizing Dyes with Nanostructured TiO₂ Film in Dye-Sensitized Solar Cells Using Terahertz Spectroscopy, Scientific Reports **6**, 30140 (2016)

Acknowledgments

This work was supported by the AP05132897 grant of the Ministry of Education and Science of Kazakhstan