

Figure captions

Chapter 1

Fig. 1-1. Bandgap diagram of III-V compound semiconductors.

Fig. 1-2. Calculated breakdown voltage as a function of doping concentration and thickness of the drift region in GaN M-n⁻-n⁺.

Fig. 1-3. Electron drift velocity at 300 K in GaN, SiC, Si and GaAs computed using the Monte Carlo technique.

Fig. 1-4. Schematic plot of conduction band structure of a AlGaIn/GaN heterostructure.

Chapter 2

Fig. 2-1. The calculated binary phase diagram of GaN.

Fig. 2-2. Schematic diagram of the in-situ monitoring system.

Fig. 2-3. (a) A diagram of thin-film interference with dielectric materials. Coherent light illuminates the wafer surface during the film deposition and the reflected light is sampled with a photodiode. (b) The reflectance spectrum for single layer epitaxy in constant growth rate case.

Fig. 2-4. Thermal profile for the growth of GaN epitaxial layer. The ramping time t_r varied from 525°C to 1025°C after the grown LT-GaN buffer layer.

Fig. 2-5. The FWHM of XRD for (0004) diffraction from the GaN epitaxial layer as a function of the temperature ramping rate between 525°C and 1025°C after grown LT-GaN buffer layer.

Fig. 2-6. The Hall mobility and carrier concentration measured at 300K as a function of the temperature ramping rate between 525°C and 1025°C after grown LT-GaN buffer layer.

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function of the temperature ramping rate between 525°C and 1025°C after grown LT-GaN buffer layer.

Fig. 2-8. The thickness and surface morphology of AlGaN/GaN double layers were observed from the SEM photograph. The GaN (0004) and $\text{Al}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{N}$ (0004) peaks were showed in x-ray diffraction curve.

Fig. 2-9. The AlGaN peak, GaN peak and yellow peak were observed from PL and CL Spectrums at RT.

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Fig. 2-13. Typical PL spectra near the band edge emissions at low temperatures.

Fig. 2-14. PL spectra of the high quality UID GaN at different temperature.

Fig. 2-15. Energy splitting at the top of the valence bands of GaN under the influence of crystal-field and spin-orbit coupling. (The figure is not drawn to scale.)

Fig. 2-16. Typical reflection spectrum of U-GaN and AlGaN/GaN HEMT.

Fig. 2-17. PL Spectra at 10 K for different structures of $\text{Al}_{0.06}\text{Ga}_{0.94}\text{N} / \text{Al}_x\text{Ga}_{1-x}\text{N} / \delta$ -doping / $\text{Al}_{0.15}\text{Ga}_{0.85}\text{N} / \text{GaN}$ HEMTs.

Fig. 2-18. Temperature dependent PL spectra for the sample (c). Notice that the peak red-shift of the GaN D^0X is larger than that in 2-DEG.

Fig. 2-19. Temperature dependence of the energy separation (ΔE) of the 2DEG subbands PL peak form the GaN D^0X emission where $\Delta E_i = E_{\text{D}^0\text{X}} - E_i$ and so on.

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Chapter 3

Fig. 3-1. Schematic of ICP Etcher.

Fig. 3-2. Schematic of the PEC wet etcher.

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Fig. 3-4. Surface roughness as a function of ICP power for $\text{In}_{0.37}\text{Ga}_{0.63}\text{N}$, n-GaN and $\text{Al}_{0.35}\text{Ga}_{0.65}\text{N}$. The controlled conditions are 10/10 sccm of Cl_2/N_2 , 600W of RF power, 2 mtorr for 300 s.

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Fig. 3-6. Surface roughness as a function of $\text{KOH}_{(aq)}$ concentration under $100 \text{ mW}/\text{cm}^2$ of UV exposure.

Fig. 3-7. The I - V curves of Schottky diodes after hybrid etch for GaN.

Fig. 3-8. The I - V curves of Schottky diodes after hybrid etch for AlGaN.

Fig. 3-9. Barrier heights (Φ_b) and ideality factors (n) of Schottky diodes after hybrid etch for n-GaN.

Fig. 3-10. Barrier heights (Φ_b) and ideality factors (n) of Schottky diodes after hybrid etch for $\text{Al}_{0.15}\text{Ga}_{0.85}\text{N}$.

Fig. 3-11. Breakdown voltages (V_B) after hybrid etch of Schottky diodes for n-GaN. All samples were etched by ICP with the flow rate of $\text{Cl}_2/\text{N}_2=10/10$ sccm, ICP/RF powers of 600/100 W, pressure 100 mtorr for 60 s followed by PEC etch by 0.04 M $\text{KOH}_{(aq)}$ under $100 \text{ mW}/\text{cm}^2$ of UV exposure.

Fig. 3-12. Breakdown voltages (V_B) after hybrid etch of Schottky diodes for $\text{Al}_{0.15}\text{Ga}_{0.85}\text{N}$. All samples were etched by ICP with the flow rate of

$\text{Cl}_2/\text{N}_2=10/10$ sccm, ICP/RF powers of 600/100 W, pressure 100 mtorr for 60 s followed by PEC etch by 0.04 M $\text{KOH}_{(\text{aq})}$ under $100 \text{ mW}/\text{cm}^2$ of UV exposure.

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Fig. 3-15. Barrier heights and ideality factors as a function of PEC wet etch time for GaN.

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Fig. 3-17. ESCA spectra of Ga atoms in n-GaN after hybrid etch.

Fig. 3-18. ESCA spectra of Cl atoms in n-GaN after hybrid etch.

Chapter 4

Fig. 4-1. (a) Structure of metal/n-GaN contact, (b) Structure of metal/n-AlGaN contact and (c) Structure of metal/n-GaN contact.

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Fig. 4-7. Total resistance *v.s.* gap spacing at different annealing temperatures for Ti/Al/Ni/Au contact on n-AlGaN.

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Fig. 4-11. Specific contact resistivity as a function of annealing time for Ti/Al/Pt/Au contact on n-AlGaN.

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Fig. 4-13. Current *v.s.* applied voltage for WN_x/n-GaN.

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Fig. 4-15. Schottky barrier height and ideality factor *v.s.* annealing temperature for WN_x/n-GaN.

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Fig. 4-17. Leakage current density *v.s.* applied voltage of WN_x/n-GaN.

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Fig. 4-23. SIMS depth profiles of the WN_x/n-GaN contacts after thermal treatments (a)As-deposited ; (b)After 650°C annealing;(c) After 850°C annealing.

Chapter 5

Fig. 5-1. The leakage currents in (a) Iso-key and (b) between the adjacent devices at room temperature.

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