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Growth of epitaxial Al₂O₃ films on silicon by ionized beam deposition

Y. K. Choi, S. W. Whangbo, K. B. Chung, H. K. Jang, and C. N. Whang
Atomic-scale Surface Science Research Center and Institute of Physics and Applied Physics,
Yonsei University, Seoul, 120-749, Korea

Epitaxial Al₂O₃ films have been successfully grown on silicon substrate by the ionized beam deposition using Al ion beam in oxygen atmosphere. The crystalline quality dependence of the Al₂O₃ films on the growth temperatures and the substrate states was investigated. Using in situ reflection high energy electron diffraction, the orientation relationships between epitaxial Al₂O₃ films and Si substrate were found to be (100) Al₂O₃//(100) Si with [110] Al₂O₃//[110] Si and (111) Al₂O₃//(111) Si with [112] Al₂O₃//[112] Si. The stoichiometry of the grown films was found to be similar to that of sapphire from XPS measurements. The epitaxial films were formed at lower temperature on the oxidized Si substrate than the clean ones.