

Ferroelectromagnetic Properties of BiFeO₃-BaTiO₃ Thin Films

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Ferroelectromagnetic materials, which show ferroelectricity and ferromagnetism simultaneously, have been an interesting subject not only for the possible applications in the electronic devices but also from the view point of materials science. Recently, ferroelectromagnetic property on BiFeO₃ or BiFeO₃-BaTiO₃ thin films has been reported.[1,2] Ueda et al. reported that the epitaxial 0.7BiFeO₃-0.3BaTiO₃ thin film prepared by PLD showed ferroelectricity ($P_r = 2.5 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$) and ferromagnetism ($M_r = 0.2 \text{ emu/g}$) simultaneously at room temperature.[1] Epitaxial thin films grown by PLD has also been reported to show $P_s = 50\sim 90 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ and $M_s = 5\sim 150 \text{ emu}/\text{cm}^3$ at room temperature.[2] Kumar et al. have explored the crystal structure and the magnetic property of (1-x)BiFeO₃-xBaTiO₃ solid solutions and showed the field induced ferromagnetism at low temperature in the rhombohedral phase with the composition of $x < 0.3$. [3] They reported that the remanant magnetization(M_r) and coercive field(H_c) of the 0.8BiFeO₃-0.2BaTiO₃ ceramic were 0.8 emu/g and 2.2 kOe. The reported values of ferroelectric and ferromagnetic properties are inconsistent and depend on the manufacturing process in BiFeO₃ or BiFeO₃-BaTiO₃. The origin of ferroelectromagnetism in these materials is also unclear up to now.

In this work, ferroelectromagnetic properties of (1-x)BiFeO₃-xBaTiO₃ ($x = 0\sim 0.3$) thin films were studied. (1-x)BiFeO₃-xBaTiO₃ thin films were prepared on Si substrates by chemical solution deposition. Magnetic properties were measured using VSM(vibrating sample magnetometer) and SQUID (Quantum Design, MPMS5) in the temperature range of 300K ~ 5K. Dielectric and ferroelectric properties of the thin films were measured using impedance analyzer(HP 4192A) and ferroelectric tester (Radiant Technologies, Ltd., RT66A) at room temperature. Ferroelectric and magnetic properties of (1-x)BiFeO₃-xBaTiO₃ thin films with $x = 0\sim 0.3$ will be presented.

References

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- [2] J. Wang et al., Science, Vol. 299, 1719-1722, 2003.
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