저온에서 증착된 TiO2 박막의 광촉매 특성 분석

The photocatalytic property of TiO₂ films deposited at low temperature

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1. Introduction

TiO₂ is one of the most extensively studied coating materials, owing to its wide range of applications. The photocatalytic property of TiO₂ film has been studied extensively. However, most studies have focused on the photocatalytic water/air purification property of TiO₂ film. In this study, the production of TiO₂ films at low temperature was attempted, a high deposition rate can be obtained only when the process is controlled precisely in the 'transition region'. The photocatalytic properties of TiO₂ films were investigated by measuring the photocurrent and decomposition abilities of methylene blue in the TiO₂/ITO electrode cell.

2. Experiment

TiO₂ films were produced by inductively coupled plasma (ICP)-assisted reactive magnetron sputtering without extra heating of the substrate. In spite of the low process temperature, the poly-crystalline anatase phase was obtained. A constant dc power of 400W was applied to the target, and the target voltage was controlled by the oxygen flow rate using a PID controller. The deposition time was 30 min and the thickness of TiO₂ films was about 1100~1200Å. The TiO₂ films were characterized by XRD, AES and RBS. The photocatalytic ability of the TiO₂ film was analyzed by measuring the photocurrent and decomposition rate of methylene blue.

3. Conclusion

Crystalline TiO₂ films were produced without extra heating of the substrate by ICP-assisted reactive magnetron sputtering. In spite of the low deposition temperature, TiO₂ films with the anatase phase were produced at a deposition rate of >400 Å/min, which is one of the highest values ever reported. The anatase phase was obtained at a pressure of >10mTorr, while the rutile phase appeared at <10mTorr. The photocatalytic property of the TiO₂ films was analyzed by measuring the photocurrent and the decomposing ability of methylene blue, respectively. The TiO₂ film with the well-crystallized anatase phase generated the current >0.2mA/cm² by irradiation of the UV light. It was also observed that the anatase phase effectively decomposed methylene blue by the UV irradiation.

Reference

[1] R. Wang, K. Hashimoto, A. Fujishima, M. Chikuni, E. Kojima, A. Kitamura, M. Shimohigoshi, T. Watanabe, Nature 388 (1997) 431.