

## Deposition of carbon nitride thin films by using radical source

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Carbon nitride (CN<sub>x</sub>) thin films have been extensively studied by the desire to synthesize the  $\beta$ -C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> phase predicted theoretically. Various attempts have been made to synthesize this material by both physical and chemical deposition, such as sputtering, pulsed-laser deposition, ion beam assisted deposition, chemical vapor deposition, and electrolysis. However, most synthesized films were predominantly amorphous with few predicted crystalline CN films.

CN<sub>x</sub> films fabricated by different deposition techniques to synthesize of  $\beta$ -C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> involve two problems; nitrogen deficiency and sp<sup>2</sup> hybridized bonding. Nitrogen contents in most of the thin films are lower than stoichiometric composition 57% and all carbon of the predicted  $\beta$ -C<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub> phase has to be sp<sup>3</sup> hybridized, however, incorporation of N in sp<sup>3</sup>-rich C strongly promotes a transformation of the C to sp<sup>2</sup>. We applied a new method by using radical source to increase the nitrogen content in the carbon nitride thin films. X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) and Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR) were used to analyze the chemical properties of the films.