Vacancy generation during Cu diffusion in GaAs



Martin Luther University-FB Physik IV Halle-Wittenberg



Outlines

- Principles of PAS
- vacancy in Semiconductors and shallow positron traps
- Atomic diffusion mechanisms
- Observation of vacancies during Cu diffusion in GaAs
- **Conclusion**



- positrons:
- thermalize
- diffuse
- being trapped
- When trapped in vacancies:

Lifetime increases due to smaller electron density in open volume





- Positron lifetime is measured as time difference between 1.27 MeV quantum and 0.511 MeV quantum
- PM=photomultiplier, SCA=single channel analyzer (constant fraction type),

TAC=time to amplitude converter, MCA= multi channel analyzer

Measurement of Doppler Broadening



- electron momentum in propagation direction of 511 keV γ-ray leads to Doppler broadening of annihilation line
- can be detected by conventional energy-dispersive Ge detectors and standard electronics



- Both S and W are sensitive to the concentration and defect type
- W is sensitive to chemical surrounding of the annihilation site, due to high momentum of core electrons participating in annihilation
- CDBS
 - 2 γ-detectors (germanium) simultaneously better energy resolution and reduced background

Vacancies in a semiconductor

Vacancies in a semiconductor may be charged



For a negative vacancy:

- Coulomb potential is rather extended but weak
- it supports trapping only at low temperatures
- at higher temperatures: detrapping dominates and vacancy behaves like a vacancy in a metal or a neutral vacancy
 Positive vacancies repel positrons

Puska et al. 1990

Vacancies in a semiconductor

Positron trapping by negative vacancies



- trapping process can be described quantitatively by trapping model
- Coulomb potential leads to Rydberg states
- from there: positrons may reescape by thermal stimulation
- once in the deep state: positron is captured until annihilation
- detrapping is strongly temperature dependent

$$\delta_R = \frac{K_R}{\rho_V} \left(\frac{m^* k_B T}{2\pi\hbar^2}\right)^{3/2} \exp\left(-\frac{E_R}{k_B T}\right)$$

Manninen, Nieminen, 1981

Vacancies in a semiconductor

Negative vacancies show temperature-dependent positron trapping



positron trapping in negatively charged Ga vacancies in SI-GaAs

Le Berre et al., 1995

• dependence of positron trapping on temperature is rather complex

$$\kappa = \frac{\vartheta_{\rm R} \rho_V \kappa_{R_o} T^{-1/2}}{\vartheta_{\rm R} \rho_V + \kappa_{R_o} \left(\frac{m^* k_B}{2\pi \hbar^2}\right)^{3/2} T \exp\left(-\frac{E_R}{k_B T}\right)}$$

- low temperature: ~ T^{-1/2} due to limitation of diffusion in Rydberg states
- higher T: stronger temperature dependence due to thermal detrapping from Rydberg state

Shallow positron traps



- at low T: negatively charged defects without open volume may trap positrons and trapping is based on the capture of positron in Rydberg states
- "shallow" refer to small positron binding energy
- acceptor-type impurities, negative antisite defects
- annihilation parameters close to bulk parameters
- thermally stimulated detrapping can be described by:

$$\delta = \frac{\kappa}{\rho_{\rm st}} \left(\frac{m^* k_B T}{2\pi\hbar^2}\right)^{3/2} \exp\left(-\frac{E_{\rm st}}{k_B T}\right)$$

Atomic diffusion mechanisms

1- Diffusion without involvement of native point defect

- Interstitially dissolved impurity atoms diffuse by jumping between interstitial sites
- Examples: diffusion of Li, Fe and Cu in Si. Also Oxygen diffuse among interstitial sites with so low diffusivity



Atomic diffusion mechanisms

2. Simple Vacancy Exchange & Interstitialcy Mechanisms

• In a simple vacancy exchange mechanism, substitutional atom jumps into a neighbor vacancy on the lattice

$$D_s^v \propto C_v^{eq}$$

• In interstitialcy Mechanism (interstitial), the substitutional atom is first replaced by a self-interstitial and pushed into an interstitial position, it pushes out one of the neighbor atom in the lattice

$$D_s^{I} \propto C_{I}^{eq}$$





Atomic diffusion mechanisms

3- Interstitial- Substitutional Mechanism

3.1- Kick-out mechanism

- closely related to interstitialcy diffusion mechanism
- foreign atom (interstitial) remains for many steps

 $A_i \Leftrightarrow A_s + I$

3.2- Frank Turnbull mechanism



• is qualitatively different from vacancy exchange mechanism

 $\begin{array}{l} D_{s}^{v} \propto 1/C_{v}^{eq} \\ \\ A_{i} + V \Leftrightarrow A_{s} \end{array}$

4- Recombination-Enhanced diffusion

- Thermally activated diffusion of defects may be enhanced by the transfer of energy associated with the recombination of electrons and holes into the vibrational modes of defects and their surrounding
- $C > C^{eq}$ induced by optical excitation or particle irradiation

Observation of vacancies during Cu diffusion in GaAs

- Copper is an unintentional impurity in most semiconductors
- Cu diffuses rapidly already at low temperatures
- GaAs: diffusion coefficient $D = 1.1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ at 500°C [1]
- Cu diffuses very fast by interstitial diffusion (kick-out process) [2]
- The solubility between 2×10^{16} cm⁻³ (500°C) and 7×10^{18} cm⁻³ (1100°C) [1]
- Cu_{Ga} is a double acceptor
- work: comprehensive positron annihilation study of GaAs after Cu in-diffusion
- Experimental: 0.5 mm samples covered by 30 nm Cu, annealed at 1100 °C under different P_{As} (0.2-9.68 bar), quenched in RT water and subject to isochronal annealing
- [1] R.N. Hall and J.H. Racette, J. Appl. Phys. 35 (1964) 379.
- [2] F.C. Frank and D. Turnball, Phys. Rev. 104 (1956) 617.

- as-quenched and for annealing up to 550 K almost no change in τ_{av}
- Up to 800 K, τ_{av} increase strongly to 290 ps- detected vacancy must be lager than $V_{Ga.}$
- Decrease of τ_{av} at low T, shallow positron traps (Cu_{Ga}).
- annealing > 800 K, the vacancy signal disappear.



- τ_d is much higher than that for monovacancies (250-260 ps)
- from τ_d open volume increases during annealing
- this explained by trapping of positron at small microvoids.
- τ₃ reach the value of 600 ps corresponding to vacancy clusters with n > 10 [3].



[3] T.E.M. Staab et. el. Physica B 273-274 (1999) 501.



$$K_{d} = \mu C = \frac{1}{\tau_{b}} \left(\frac{\tau_{av} - \tau_{b}}{\tau_{d} - \tau_{av}} \right)$$

 μ = 10¹⁵ s⁻¹ at RT

n increase from 1 at 466 K up to 4 vacancies at 700 K [3]



[3] T.E.M. Staab et. el. Physica B 273-274 (1999) 501.

- SI GaAs sample was not treated with Cu and annealed at 1100 °Cunder 0.2 bar P_{As}
- As-quenched sample shows a higher $\tau_{av.}$
- In contrary, GaAs samples after Cu indiffusion, almost no change of τ_{av} in the as-quenched state



- Vacancy + shallow traps
- [V] and P_{As} exhibit reciprocal dependence
- $\tau_d = 293 \pm 10 \text{ ps}$
- $\tau_d = 254$ and 262 ps in Te and Si doped GaAs
- $\tau_d = 330 \text{ ps for } V_{Ga} V_{As}$



- P_{As} vacancy concentration dependence - concentration were determined at RT with $\mu = 10^{15} \text{ s}^{-1}$
 - different slopes for GaAs:Si and SI GaAs
 - different vacancy sublattices
- Thermodynamic reactions

$$V_{Ga}: \qquad 1/4As_4^{gas} \leftrightarrow As_{As} + V_{Ga}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} V_{Ga} \end{bmatrix} = K_{VGa} \times P_{As}^{1/4}$$
$$V_{As}: \qquad As_{As} \leftrightarrow V_{As} + 1/4As_4^{gas}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} V_{As} \end{bmatrix} = K_{VAs} \times P_{As}^{-1/4}$$



- for e⁺ annihilation with Cu core e⁻, the ratio of high momentum part > 1 and presence of Cu in neighbor of e⁺ trap seen as such characteristic increase in intensity of e⁻ e⁺ momentum distribution
- no sign of Cu in vicinity of the detected vacancies in annealed GaAs
- Cu is not constitute of the defect complex
- V_{As}-like defect should be related to a native defect-complex



Conclusions

- Positron annihilation is a sensitive tool for investigation of vacancy-like defects and their charge states in semiconductors
- Vacancy-like defect and shallow traps were observed
- from the thermodynamics, defect complex contains V_{As}
- \bullet V_{As} is positively charged, vacancy complex containing an As vacancy was assumed
- CDBS, Cu is not a constituent of the defect complex
- vacancy complex represents a native defect complex but the structure can not be exactly recognized from e⁺ annihilation parameters alone

Vielen Dank fuer Ihre Aufmerksamkeit