

# Effect of different sputter power on ITO/p-GaN and their interface investigations

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## ABSTRACT

Interface and contact properties of Indium-tin-oxide (ITO) on p-GaN has been investigated, in which ITO was deposited by RF sputtering with different power. It is found that with increasing of sputtering power, the nitrogen vacancies increase on the surface of p-GaN by using Auger electron spectroscopy (AES). The nitrogen vacancy will act as a donor and thus increase the electron concentration between ITO and p-GaN interface. The increase in electron concentration will compensate the holes of p-GaN films therefore the contact resistance of ITO to p-GaN will increase as a result of the decreasing of concentrations in p-GaN. While increasing sputtering power further, the electron concentration of surface below ITO will increase further and then the surface of p-GaN will be inverted into n-type. This phenomenon will be confirmed by using current-voltage (I-V) characteristics, in which the I-V curve transfers from quasi-ohmic to rectifying behavior. Following, the ITO/p-GaN devices were annealed in rapid thermal annealing (RTA) system with temperature ranging from 600 to 800 °C under nitrogen ambient. In 800 °C annealing temperature, the I-V curve transfers from rectifying to quasi-ohmic. Possible reason is that the nitrogen vacancies below the ITO surface are compensated.

Keywords : GaN, Indium-tin-oxide, sputter

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