

Application of PEC Processes for The Fabrication of GaN LEDs

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ABSTRACT

In this thesis, we have demonstrated the enhancement in light extraction efficiency of InGaN/GaN LEDs using bias-assisted photoelectrochemical (PEC) technology. The bias-assisted PEC process with high reaction rate can be used to rough n-GaN surface and etch mesa sidewall for the formation of truncated-inverted-pyramid (TIP) shape. Both the surface roughness and TIP shape will benefit the light extraction efficiency due to the reduction of total internal reflection. In this experiment, there are two directions for PEC reactions. One is normal to surface and the other is parallel to surface. Surface roughness on n-GaN can be obtained using PEC process with normal to surface illumination. Both surface roughness and TIP shape can be achieved using PEC process with parallel surface illumination. All processed samples were examined by scanning electronic microscopy (SEM) and atomic force microscopy (AFM). Both I-V and L-I curves for before and after PEC processed LEDs were tested. Various of different KOH concentrations and bias voltages have been studied in this work. The output power can be enhanced by 13.4%, 33.87%, 47.34% and 29.7%, respectively, for the PEC-processed LEDs with 0.1M, 0.5M, 1M and 2M KOH solution and 2-V bias under normal to surface illumination. On the other hand, the output power can be increased by 52.23% for the PEC-processed LEDs with 1M KOH solution and 2-V bias under parallel illumination.

Keywords : photoelectrochemical ; n-GaN surface ; mesa sidewall

Table of Contents

封面內頁 簽名頁 授權書	iii	中文摘要	iii
. . . iv 英文摘要	v	v 誌謝	vi
目錄	vii	vii 圖目錄	ix
.	xii	xii 第一章 序論	1
.	1	1.1 前言	1
.	1	1.2 氮化鎵材料簡介	2
.	2	1.3 氮化鎵發光二極體演進	5
.	5	1.4 發光二極體原理與介紹	7
.	7	1.5 研究動機與背景	9
.	9	第二章 光電化學反應	12
.	12	2.1 濕式蝕刻	12
.	12	2.2 乾式蝕刻	14
.	14	2.3 光電化學原理	17
第三章 實驗步驟	21	3.1 試片結構	21
.	22	3.2 製程步驟	24
.	27	3.3 光電化學製程	24
.	27	第四章 結果與討論	27
.	41	4.1 n型電極平台表面與邊壁之形貌分析	27
.	41	4.2 元件之電壓-電流特性與發光效率	41
.	53	第五章 結論	52
.	53	參考文獻	52

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