

Growth of Germanium Nanowires via a Solid - Liquid - Solid Mechanism

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ABSTRACT

In this study, thin layers of Au and Ni were evaporated onto the germanium substrate as the metal catalyst for germanium nanowires growth. The thickness of Au film is ranged from 1 nm to 9 nm and the thickness of Ni film is 3 nm. In this experiment, different parameters of synthesis condition were varied for nanowires growth, including the thickness of metal layer and growth temperature. The effects of the various parameters on the growth of germanium nanowires were investigated in detail.

In the period of nucleation, the size of catalyst droplet increases with the increasing thickness of metal layer, so is the diameter of germanium nanowires. The influence of growth temperature on the morphology of germanium nanowires is dramatic. The length of nanowire increases with the growth temperature ranging from 550 °C~600 °C. Nevertheless, the quantity of grown nanowire decreases with the growth temperature ranging from 625 °C to 650 °C. It is found that the temperatures 625 °C and 650 °C are too high to grow nanowires appropriately and result in the z-shaped nanowires.

Keywords : germanium nanowire、Au-Ge alloy

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