

Optical Band Gap Characterization of Indium Telluride (In:Te) Crystal

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Abstract: The single crystal of indium telluride have been grown by zone melting method in growth condition. The energy band gap of indium telluride was 0.28 eV. The proportion of constituent material was confirmed by EDAX. The infrared transmission of crystal in the region from 400 to 4000 cm^{-1} was determined by FTIR, which decreases with the increase of wavenumber due to absorption.

Keyword: Crystal, Growth from melt, Band gap

I. INTRODUCTION

Semiconductor technology has always shown interest to grow binary material of III-VI compound in the field of detection. (1-4). Binary III-V materials like InSb, InAs, InBi etc. had been considered for the same. The photo detectors operating with low wavelength used in medical diagnosis, pollution monitoring device etc. (5) it has been seen that the materials studied so far in systems are all Te rich quasi binary or ternary alloys. But less studied reported on Indium rich alloys. (6) Indium telluride is a chemical compound. It is an intermetallic compound, so it has properties intermediate from a metal alloy and a metal-nonmetal ionic crystal. As so, it has intermediate conductivity and is classified as a semiconductor. Hence this work on InTe is given importance.

II. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

The stoichiometric amount of indium and tellurium were weighed accurately. A melt stirring method was used. It consists of a resistance furnace with a cylindrical core. A ceramic tube was passed through the furnace core. A uniform temperature zone of about 10-12 cm length was obtained inside the tube. A quartz ampoule evacuated to about 10^{-4} Pa pressure was sealed & inserted in the ceramic tube for melting & stirring the charge.

The maximum temperature inside the furnace core was about 100°C above the melting point. The rotation of the quartz tube gives stirring effect to the molten charge. For thorough mixing of the charge, this treatment was continued for 2 to 3 days. The molten was then slowly cooled to room temperature. The ingot so prepared was subjected to crystal growth.

Single crystal has been grown by various methods like Bridgman, Czochralski, zone melting etc. by various researchers. The study is mainly focused on the zone melting method. Now in zone melting method gradients at the melting point of $35^\circ\text{C}/\text{cm}$ given to a zone length of about 8 mm to 10 mm to remove impurities. The single crystal had a bright shining cylindrical surface was made.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Concentration distribution of InTe which is shown in Fig. 1, was determined by the X-ray energy dispersive spectroscopy (EDAX).

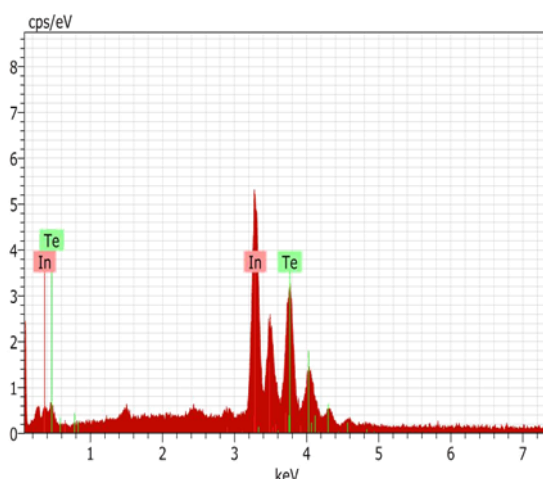


Fig. 1

Table 1

Element	Series	[at.%]
Indium	L-series	57.07
Tellurium	L-series	43.03

The I.R. Spectrophotometer was used for measurement of optical absorption of the samples. The spectra were obtained in the wave number range 400 to 4000 cm^{-1} . In this procedure the material was taken in powder form with small converted in pellets of thickness about 1mm. This pellets used in FTIR spectrophotometer to get the data of absorbance versus photon energy.

The plots of $(\alpha h\nu)^2$ vs $h\nu$ were used to evaluate the optical band gap of InTe. The plots are observed to be linear in the region of strong absorption near the fundamental absorption edge. Hence by extrapolating the linear portion to $(\alpha h\nu)^2 = 0$, the band gap was evaluated. (9-11). The value of the band gap is obtained. 0.2832

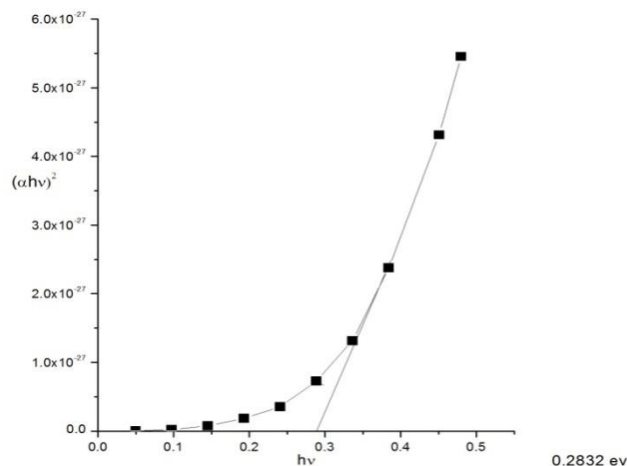


Fig.2

CONCLUSION

The zone melting method is very useful to grow In:Te. The crystal can be successfully grown by zone melting technique with the optical band gap found 0.2832

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