

PHOTOLUMINESCENCE OF NANOLAMELAR STRUCTURES WITH METAL DOTS OBTAINED BY GaS MONOCRYSTAL INTERCALATION

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In this work are studied photoluminescence (PL) spectra from *GaS* crystals and *GaS* crystals intercalated with *Zn* and *Cd* atoms. Metal atoms were intercalated by 6 hours heat treatment at the temperature of 750 K in metal vapor atmosphere. Gallium dots are created on external surface and between *S-Ga-Ga-S* packages. These dots are arranged as distorted hexagons. *Zn* intercalation leads to formation of two PL bands with maximum at 2.12 eV and 2.84 eV, energies. PL spectra of *Cd* intercalated crystals contains one simple contour band at 293 K, and two bands at 78 K. Band with maximum at 2.424 eV has a complex structure, composed by phononic repeats of indirect excitons emission.

Keywords: *GaS*, single crystals, intercalation, photoluminescence, thermal treatment.

În lucrare sunt studiate spectrele de fotoluminescență (FL) a cristalelor de *GaS* și *GaS* intercalat cu atomi de *Zn*, și *Cd*. Intercalarea cu *Zn*, și *Cd*, a lamelor de *GaS* s-a efectuat prin tratament termic la temperatura 750 K, timp de 6 ore, în atmosferă de vapori ai metalului. Pe suprafața exterioară și în spațiul dintre împachetările *S-Ga-Ga-S* se formează puncte de *Ga*, aranjate preponderent sub formă de hexagoane deformate. Intercalarea cu *Zn* conduce la formarea a două benzi de FL cu maxim la 2,12 eV și, respectiv, 2,84 eV. Spectrul de FL a cristalelor *GaS* intercalate cu *Cd* conține o bandă cu contur simplu la temperatura T=293 K; și două benzi la T=78 K. Banda cu maxim la 2,424 eV are structura compusă din repetări fononice ale emisiei excitonilor indirecti.

Cuvinte-cheie: *GaS*, monocristale, intercalare, fotoluminescență, tratament termic.

INTRODUCTION

GaS compound is a *n* type semiconductor, with large band gap. The conduction band absolute minimum is localized on *M* point of Brillouin zone. Because valence band maximum is localized in the center of the Brillouin zone, *GaS* is a typical semiconductor with an indirect band gap. Researchers are interested in this material because it has optical and electrical properties making it a perspective material for optico-electronical devices in UV and visible spectra region [1-3]. Practical utilization possibility is strongly related to the problem of absorption and emission properties control. These properties depend on impurity levels' energy localized in the band gap. Impurity levels' characteristics can be established from photoluminescence and light absorption measures in undoped and doped crystals with various chemical elements. In undoped crystals by means of electrical and photoelectrical properties measures impurity levels' energies, localized at 0,17 eV, 0,45 eV, 0,56 eV have been determined [4]. The *n* and *p-GaS* crystals PL occurs by donor-acceptor recombination. At low temperatures (78 K), in *n* type samples three bands are differentiated: two with low intensity, at 2,22 eV and 2,02 eV,

and one intensive band at 1,59 eV [5]. *GaS* crystals doping with elements from I, II, V groups (*Cu*, *Zn*, *P*) leads to formation of new PL bands. So, in *Zn* doped crystals, in absorption band edge region, at the same time with emission bands of indirect excitons with phonon emission at 2,510 eV, 2,550 eV, 2,534 eV, 2,521 eV, 2,480 eV, one band in red-orange region, with maximum at 1,55 eV can be observed. This band can be interpreted as emission from acceptor-vacancy complex center [6, 7]. Also, formation of recombination PL centers, by vacancy-acceptor type, which emits a large PL band, with maximum at 2,12 eV takes place. *I₂* molecules form deep donor levels (0,44 eV) in *GaS* crystals. *GaS* compound crystallizes as layered packages of *S-Ga-Ga-S* type. Valence bonds at packages' surface are closed. This ensures a low density of surface states. The chemical bonds between packages are weak, this permits intercalation of different nature atoms and molecules between *S* atoms planes, which in some conditions (concentration, temperature) forms new valence bonds. In this work PL from *GaS* lamella in which were obtained metal dots complex structures, by intercalation with *Cd* and *Zn* atoms are studied.

EXPERIMENTAL METHOD

GaS monocrystals were grown by Bridgman method, from elementary components *Ga* (5 N) and *S* (5 N) taken in stoichiometrical quantities. From massive crystals, plates of 0,1...0,5 mm thickness, and 3÷5 cm² surface were cleaved. *GaS* plates together with *Zn* (*Cd*), taken in 5 % quantity of *GaS* plate weight, were introduced in *SiO*₂ ampulla, which were welded after air evacuation (remanent pressure $\sim 5 \cdot 10^{-6}$ Torr). *Cd* (*Zn*) atoms diffusion process occurs 6 hours at ~ 750 K. Metal vapors pressure at this temperature was ~ 10 mm col. Hg, for *Cd*, and ~ 2 mm col. Hg, for *Zn*.

Primary crystals had *n* type conductivity. In result of heat treatment in *Cd*, and *Zn*, vapors conductivity type has changed in *p*. Electrons concentration in undoped *GaS*, measured at 420 K, was $5 \cdot 10^{13}$ cm⁻³. PL was measured from 78 K to 300 K. Sample temperature was measured with a T type thermocouple. PL activation was performed with *He-N*₂ laser radiation ($\lambda=337,4$ nm; average power ~ 100 mWt). Laser radiation intensity could be attenuated by ~ 30 times, using neutral filters. PL spectra from perpendicular surface to *C* axis, were analyzed with MDP-2 monochromator with 600 mm⁻¹ diffraction grating and registred with a ФЭУ-59 photomultiplier with multialkalin cathode.

EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

In Fig. 1 AFM image of *GaS* lamella (0001) surface, treated in *Zn* vapors at the temperature of ~ 750 K 30 min (a) and 6 h (b) (*Zn* concentration was ~ 2 mg/cm³) is shown.

In this figure, liquid points can be clearly observed at the temperature of 303 K. Because *Zn* and his *S* and *Ga* solutions have a highest melting temperature, this points can be interpreted as *Ga* liquid points. As it can be seen, *Ga* nodes have ~ 10 nm dimension. Metal points are arranged in hexagones.

It can be observed that this spectrum is composed of 2 bands. The first band localized in the fundamental band region has low intensity. This band is composed from two subbands at less, with maximum at 2,49 eV and 2,52 eV.

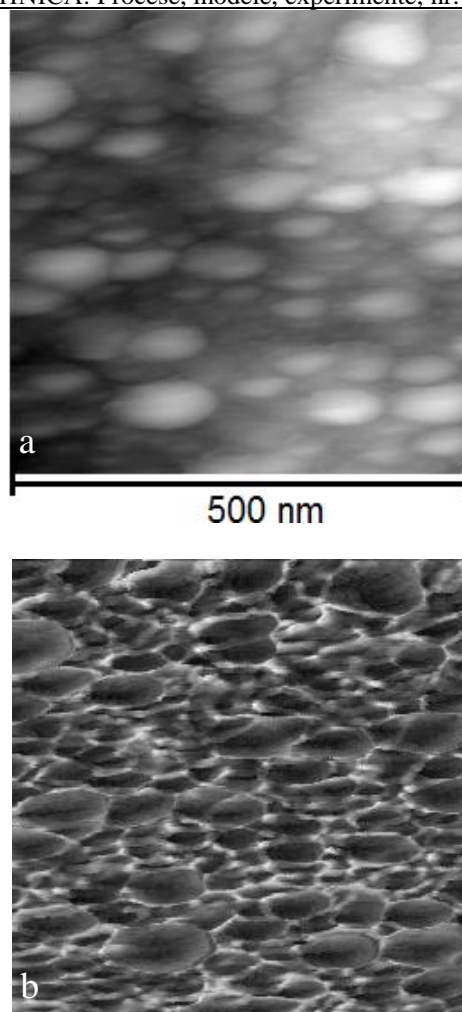


Fig. 1. AFM image of (0001) *GaS* lamella surface, treated in *Zn* vapors, at the temperature of ~ 750 K, 30 min (a) and 6 h (b).

In Fig. 2, *GaS* lamella PL spectrum (at the temperature of 78 K) before *Zn* vapor treatment, is shown.

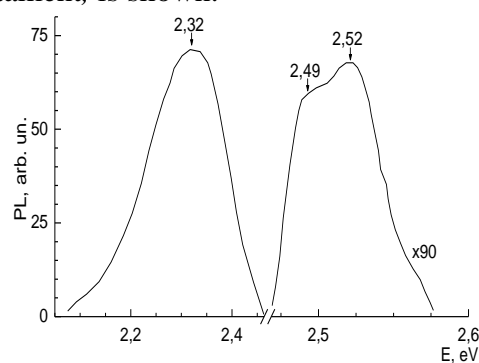


Fig. 2. *GaS* lamella PL specter, at the 78 K temperature.

This band presence is associated to radiative transitions with indirect exciton participation, with ~ 30 meV energy bond. The second band, has medium intensity. This band is located in the yellow-orange region, with maximum at 2,32 eV. This band is determined by distorsional defects presence, atomar planes

and *S-Ga-Ga-S* packages sliding. As a result of this distortions acceptor type centers are formed, localized near *S*-donor centers.

In Fig. 3 micrometrical lamella heat treated (in *Zn* vapors, at ~ 2 mm col. Hg pressure) PL spectra at chamber temperature (curve 1) and at 78 K (curve 2) are shown.

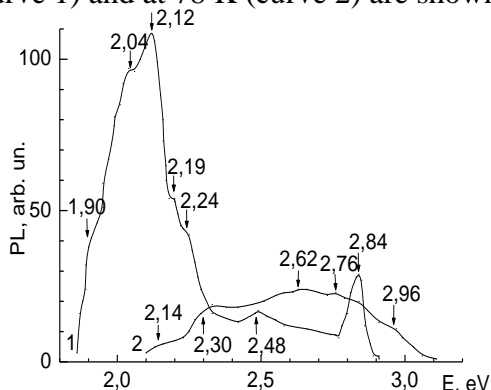


Fig. 3. *GaS-Zn* composite PL spectra, at 293 K (curve 1) and the temperature of 78 K (curve 2).

PL maximum bands' energies from Fig. 2 and Fig. 3, and their interpretations are indicated in the table below.

Table. PL maximum bands energies shown in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 and their interpretation

Compound	Energy, eV	Interpretation
<i>GaS</i>	2,52; 2,49	exciton-fonon
	2,32;	donor-acceptor tranzition
<i>GaS:Zn</i> , at 78 K	2,84	-
	2,54÷2,35	band-band tranzition
	2,24; 2,19; 2,12; 2,04; 1,90	impuritar bands in <i>GaS-ZnS</i> compound
<i>GaS:Zn</i> , at 293 K	2,96	-
	2,62÷2,36	-
	2,44	-

PL spectra from *Cd* intercalated *GaS* lamella at 293 K (Fig. 4) and at 78 K (Fig. 5) are shown.

As it can be seen in Fig. 4, *GaS* PL spectra at the temperature of 293 K occurs by conduction band (in Brillouin zone *M* point) – valence band (Brillouin zone center) transitions, with 34 meV energy transversal optic phonon participation. Temperature decreasing, from 300 K to 78 K, leads to edge

band displacement with ~ 70 meV to highest energies (Fig. 6).

Heat displacement coefficient of PL edge band at 140÷280 K is $4,2 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ eV} \cdot \text{K}^{-1}$ and it corresponds to absorbtion spectra measures at 78 K to 293 K (Fig. 6, curve 2). Indirect optic band width in *GaS* crystals at 78K is equal to 2,457 eV. By this we can judge that PL band with maximum at 2,424 matches the indirect radiative transitions with 34 meV phonon emission.

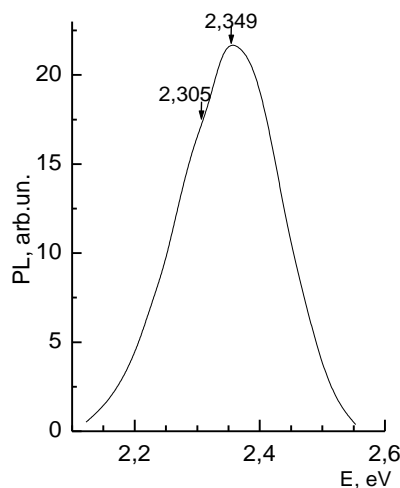


Fig. 4. PL spectrum of *GaS* lamella, *Cd* intercalated at the temperature of 750 K, 6 h. T = 293 K.

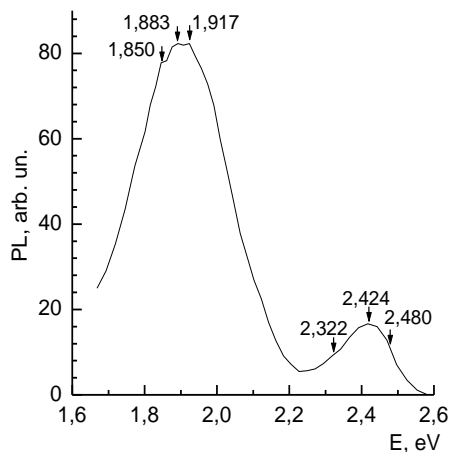


Fig. 5. PL spectrum of *GaS* lamella, *Cd* intercalated at the temperature of 750 K, 6 h. T = 78 K.

In Fig. 6 temperature dependence of edge band maximum energy is shown. Heat displacement coefficient coincidence of indirect band decreases at temperature increase with edge PL band heat displacement coefficient is a criterion that allows us to assign this band to radiative transition with phonon participation category.

In PL spectra at 78 K band with maximum of 1,883 eV prevails. Symetric contour of this band allows us to suppose that it is about emission from acceptor center associated to *Cd* donor ion. It is known that luminescence by center is strongly attenuated at temperature increase and at the same time bands' contour increases. In reality this band completely attenuates at ~ 130 K.

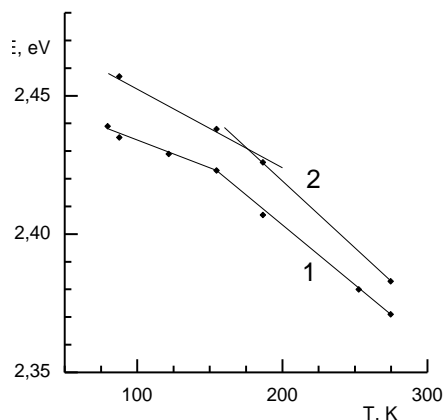


Fig. 6. Temperature dependence of edge band maximum energy, $h\nu=2,43$ eV (curve 1) and indirect band gap width (curve 2)

CONCLUSIONS

- *GaS* monocristalline lamella PL at chamber temperature is determined by indirect radiative transitions, with 34 meV phonon participation.

- At 78 K indirect transitions with exciton and transversal optic phonon participation (with 33 meV energy) contribute to PL bands formation. Also deep impuritar levels participation transitions contribute to this PL bands formation.

- *Cd* atoms intercalated in *GaS* crystals, stimulate indirect radiative transitions with phonon emission and at the same time create donor-acceptor type PL centers.

- *Zn* atoms intercalated in *GaS* crystals form deep acceptor levels and donor-acceptor type luminescence centers associated to *Zn* ion.

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