
Characteristics of Tungsten Disulfide Thin Films by RF Sputtering on Soda-lime Glass substrate and Subsequent Rapid Thermal Annealing

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Tungsten diselenide(WSe₂) and tungsten disulfide(WS₂) have been widely used as a two-dimensional(2D) transition metal dichalcogenide(TMDC) material for the p-type channel layer of thin film transistor(TFT) of various future electronic devices. The 2D WSe₂ and WS₂ layers have been mainly obtained using chemical vapor deposition(CVD) and subsequent exfoliation/transfer process. In spite of the high mechanical strengths and high mobilities of CVD-grown WSe₂ and WS₂ layers, it takes a long time to carry out CVD process at high temperature and it may be so difficult to use the exfoliation/transfer process in terms of mass production in the fabrication of 2D WSe₂/WS₂ thin films.

In our previous research, WS₂ thin films were directly formed on sapphire substrate by radio-frequency(RF) sputtering and high temperature rapid thermal annealing(RTA) from 500 to 800 °C. Although the sputtered WS₂ thin films showed high mobilities for all the process conditions and Raman scattering spectra E₁ 2g peaks about 350 cm⁻¹ for some special conditions, it is difficult to lower the fabrication cost of WS₂ thin films because of the high cost of sapphire substrates. It is necessary to develop a new fabrication process without sapphire substrates.

In this study, WS₂ films were deposited on soda-lime glass substrate instead of sapphire substrate by RF sputtering and RTA was carried out at temperatures lower than 600 °C (from 400 °C to 550 °C). The Raman spectra results showed the 2D WS₂ films were formed at the higher RF sputtering powers as a formation of E₁ 2g peak and A₁ g peak and the X-ray photoelectron spectra(XPS) results also showed more dominant sulfur 2P_{1/2} and 2P_{3/2} peaks at a higher RF sputtering power. The structural characteristics showed that 2D WS₂ thin films can be directly formed on soda-lime glass substrates.

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