
A Solution processed Hybrid gate dielectric prepared with cross-linkable metal ligand

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Since the use of plastic substrates is essential for the implementation of next-generation display, stretchable and flexible displays, the development of low-temperature processes is becoming more important. However, the conventional process using chemical vapor deposition or sputtering equipment has excellent device performance, but it has a disadvantage in that the process temperature is over 300 °C and expensive manufacturing equipment and long process time are required. Therefore, a method using a sol-gel method which can manufacture a solution-type material as an alternative and can manufacture a device at a low temperature has been emerging. [1-2]. It is expected that the device fabrication becomes simple and economical by fabricating the gate insulating film in the thin film transistor (TFT) at a temperature lower than 250 °C by using the sol-gel method.

In this work, we fabricated the ZrO₂ and ZrO₂-Polymer hybrid gate dielectric with UV treatment and low temperature annealing. We proposed a cross-linking mechanism of ZrO₂ monomers exposed by UV treatment [3]. As shown in FT-IR analysis, this mechanism was confirmed that C=C double bonding is changed to C-C single bonding. We also speculated that the cross-linkable ZrO₂ monomers were connected to polymer-backbone via UV treatment. As a result of the optimization of UV treatment and low temperature annealing, hybrid gate dielectric of network structure was obtained through crosslinking between ZrO₂ and polymer.

To measure the electrical characteristics and dielectric constant, Metal-insulator-metal (MIM) structures were fabricated using the hybrid gate dielectric. We obtained a low leakage current density (J_g) of 5.80×10^{-7} A/cm² (at 1 MV/cm), a reasonable breakdown voltage of 2.99 MV/cm and a high dielectric constant of 9.24 at ZrO₂ gate dielectric.

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