

An AlGaIn/GaN Based UV Photodetector Simulation Using COMSOL to Obtain the Fresnel Coefficients

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INTRODUCTION: The proposed cantilever has been modeled in COMSOL in order to compute the Fresnel coefficients like absorbance, reflectance, and transmittance in the wavelength range of 300 nm to 500 nm.

- Fresnel coefficients are calculated for different thickness of bottom GaN layer
- Fresnel coefficients are also calculated by varying Al alloy composition in $Al_xGa_{(1-x)}N$

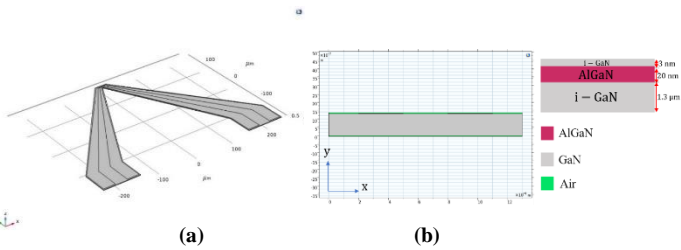


Figure 1. (a) 3D Geometry of GaN- $Al_xGa_{1-x}N$ -GaN ultraviolet photodetector, (b) Longitudinal cross section at the tip region of the cantilever

COMPUTATIONAL METHODS: In this model, for the given 2D geometry a linearly polarized electromagnetic wave was launched in the -y axis. It was assumed that the electric (E) and magnetic (H) field components are along z and x axis, respectively. As the H-field components are along the x axis, perfect magnetic conductor (PMC) boundary condition was applied on both sides of the 2D geometry.

The reflection coefficient (R) is computed by equation (1)

$$R = |S_{11}|^2 \quad (1)$$

The transmission coefficient (T) is computed by equation (2)

$$T = |S_{21}|^2 \quad (2)$$

S_{11} and S_{21} are computed by equation (3) and equation (4), respectively. E_1 and E_2 are electric field pattern at port 1 and port 2 respectively.

$$S_{11} = \frac{\iint ((E_c - E_1) \cdot E_1^*) dA_1}{\iint E_1 \cdot E_1^* dA_1} \quad (3)$$

$$S_{21} = \frac{\iint (E_c \cdot E_2^*) dA_2}{\iint E_2 \cdot E_2^* dA_2} \quad (4)$$

The absorption coefficient (R) is computed by equation (5)

$$A = 1 - R - T \quad (5)$$

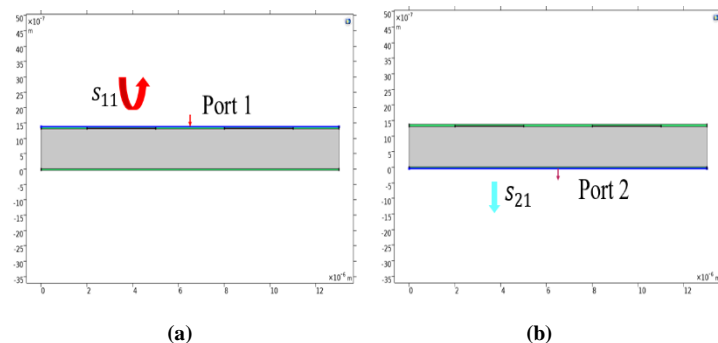


Figure 2. (a) Boundary condition at port 1, (b) Boundary condition at port 2

RESULTS: Plots of the computed Fresnel coefficients (Absorbance, Reflectance, and Transmittance)

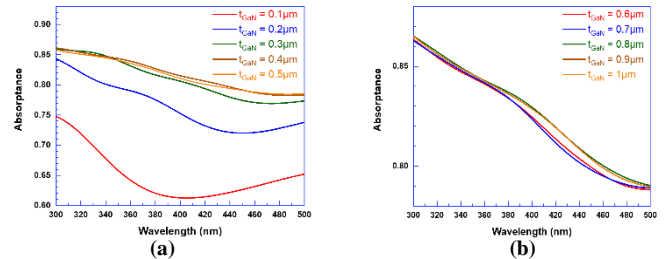


Figure 3. Absorbance plots for (a) GaN thickness of 0.1 μm to 0.5 μm , (b) GaN thickness of 0.6 μm to 1 μm

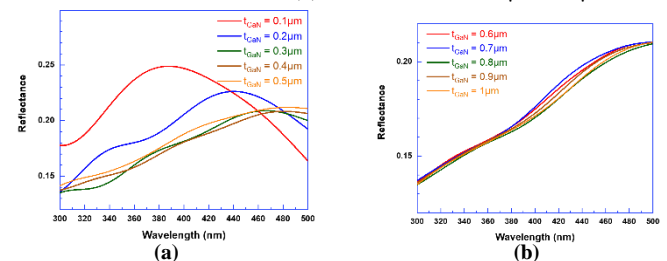


Figure 4. Reflectance plots for (a) GaN thickness of 0.1 μm to 0.5 μm , (b) GaN thickness of 0.6 μm to 1 μm

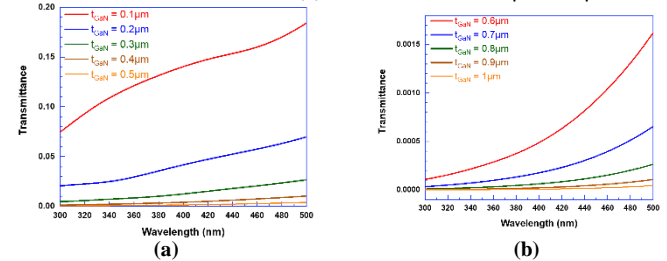


Figure 5. Transmittance plots for (a) GaN thickness of 0.1 μm to 0.5 μm , (b) GaN thickness of 0.6 μm to 1 μm

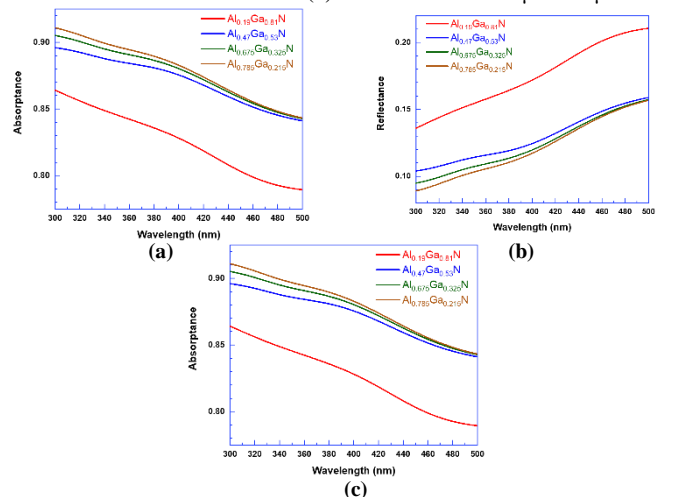


Figure 6. Al% variation in $Al_xGa_{(1-x)}N$ (a) Wavelength Vs Absorbance, (b) Wavelength Vs Reflectance, (c) Wavelength Vs Transmittance

CONCLUSIONS: Fresnel coefficients of the cantilever are computed in the wavelength range of 300 nm to 500 nm, using the wave optics module.

REFERENCES:

1. T. Kawashima, H. Yoshikawa, and S. Adachi, "Optical properties of hexagonal GaN," J. Appl. Phys., 82, 3528 (2003).
2. N. Antoine-Vincent, et al., "Determination of the refractive indices of AlN, GaN, and $Al_xGa_{1-x}N$ grown on (111) Si substrates," J. Appl. Phys., 93, 5222-5226 (2003).