Optimization of Laser Bar Orientation for Nonpolar Laser Diodes

Tech ID: 24986 / UC Case 2007-425-0

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
A method for the growth and fabrication of nonpolar laser diodes.

BACKGROUND
Growing nitride laser diodes along the polar c-direction causes a polarization-induced electric field that causes a large effective hole mass that is detrimental to performance. Alternatively, growing nitride thin films along a nonpolar axis offers a means of eliminating polarization effects and reducing the effective hole mass in device structures. These changes should help to decrease the current densities necessary to generate optical gain in nitride laser diodes. In particular, nonpolar nitride laser bars should be properly oriented with regards to the planes of semiconductor crystals in order to achieve the aforementioned benefits.

DESCRIPTION
Researchers at UC Santa Barbara have developed a method for the growth and fabrication of nonpolar laser diodes. The structures can be grown either directly on free-standing nonpolar substrates or on nonpolar template layers pre-deposited on a foreign substrate. Many growth techniques are suitable for the method, including metalorganic chemical vapor deposition (MOCVD), hydride vapor phase epitaxy (HVPE), and molecular beam epitaxy (MBE). For m-plane nitride laser diodes, optical gain is maximized when laser bars are oriented along the c-axis and minimized for laser bars oriented along the a-axis; for a-plane devices, optical gain is maximized for laser bars oriented along the c-axis and minimized when oriented along the m-axis. This in-plane, orientation-dependent gain is a phenomenon that is currently unique to nonpolar nitride laser diodes.

ADVANTAGES
· Superior manufacturability of nitride laser diodes
· Improved device performance through elimination of polarization-induced electric fields and reduction of effective hole mass
· Decreased current densities necessary to generate optical gain
· Less heat generation, longer device lifetimes, and higher production yields

APPLICATIONS
- Solid-state lighting systems, including projection displays
- High-resolution printers
- High-density optical data storage systems
- Optical sensing

**PATENT STATUS**

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**ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGIES BY THESE INVENTORS**

- Etching Technique for the Fabrication of Thin (Al, In, Ga)N Layers
- Lateral Growth Method for Defect Reduction of Semipolar Nitride Films
- Vertical Cavity Surface-Emitting Lasers with Continuous Wave Operation
- Eliminating Misfit Dislocations with In-Situ Compliant Substrate Formation
- III-Nitride-Based Vertical Cavity Surface Emitting Laser (VCSEL) with a Dielectric P-Side Lens
- Aluminum-cladding-free Nonpolar III-Nitride LEDs and LDs
- Low-Cost Zinc Oxide for High-Power-Output, GaN-Based LEDs (UC Case 2010-183)
- Defect Reduction in GaN films using in-situ SiNx Nanomask
- Enhanced Light Extraction LED with a Tunnel Junction Contact Wafer Bonded to a Conductive Oxide
- Implantable Light Irradiation Device For Photodynamic Therapy
- Low Temperature Deposition of Magnesium Doped Nitride Films
- Transparent Mirrorless (TML) LEDs
- Improved GaN Substrates Prepared with Ammonothermal Growth
- Method for Enhancing Growth of Semipolar Nitride Devices
- Ultraviolet Laser Diode on Nano-Porous AlGaN template
- Improved Reliability & Enhanced Performance of III-Nitride Tunnel Junction Optoelectronic Devices
- Growth of Polyhedron-Shaped Gallium Nitride Bulk Crystals
- Nonpolar III-Nitride LEDs With Long Wavelength Emission
- Improved Fabrication of Nonpolar InGaN Thin Films, Heterostructures, and Devices
- Growth of High-Quality, Thick, Non-Polar M-Plane GaN Films
- High-Efficiency, Mirrorless Non-Polar and Semi-Polar Light Emitting Devices
- Method for Growing High-Quality Group III-Nitride Crystals
- Controlled Photoelectrochemical (PEC) Etching by Modification of Local Electrochemical Potential of Semiconductor Structure
- Oxyfluoride Phosphors for Use in White Light LEDs
- Technique for the Nitride Growth of Semipolar Thin Films, Heterostructures, and Semiconductor Devices
- (In,Ga,Al)N Optoelectronic Devices with Thicker Active Layers for Improved Performance
- Group III-N Light Emitting Devices Enhanced By Stress From Post-Growth Deposited Films
- Thermally Stable, Laser-Driven White Lighting Device
- MOCVD Growth of Planar Non-Polar M-Plane Gallium Nitride
- Methods for Fabricating III-Nitride Tunnel Junction Devices
- Low-Droop LED Structure on GaN Semi-polar Substrates
Contact Architectures for Tunnel Junction Devices
Semi-polar LED/LD Devices on Relaxed Template with Misfit Dislocation at Hetero-interface
Semipolar-Based Yellow, Green, Blue LEDs with Improved Performance
III-Nitride-Based Devices Grown On Thin Template On Thermally Decomposed Material
Growth of Semipolar III-V Nitride Films with Lower Defect Density
III-Nitride Tunnel Junction LED with High Wall Plug Efficiency
Tunable White Light Based on Polarization-Sensitive LEDs
Cleaved Facet Edge-Emitting Laser Diodes Grown on Semipolar GaN
Growth of High-Performance M-plane GaN Optical Devices
Packaging Technique for the Fabrication of Polarized Light Emitting Diodes
Improved Anisotropic Strain Control in Semipolar Nitride Devices
Novel Multilayer Structure for High-Efficiency UV and Far-UV Light-Emitting Devices
III-V Nitride Device Structures on Patterned Substrates
Method for Increasing GaN Substrate Area in Nitride Devices
High-Intensity Solid State White Laser Diode
Nitride Based Ultraviolet LED with an Ultraviolet Transparent Contact
GaN-Based Thermoelectric Device for Micro-Power Generation
Limiting Strain-Relaxation in III-Nitride Heterostructures by Substrate Patterning
LED Device Structures with Minimized Light Re-Absorption
Growth of Planar Semi-Polar Gallium Nitride
High-Efficiency and High-Power III-Nitride Devices Grown on or Above a Strain Relaxed Template
UV Optoelectronic Devices Based on Nonpolar and Semi-polar AlInN and AlInGaN Alloys
Defect Reduction of Non-Polar and Semi-Polar III-Nitrides
III-Nitride Based VCSEL with Curved Mirror on P-Side of the Aperture
Enhancing Growth of Semipolar (Al,Ga,B)N Films via MOCVD