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Deposition of thin Cr₃C₂ hard coatings using Radio Frequency Magnetron Sputtering for SBS characterization

Cr₃C₂ films on Si have been grown by RF sputtering at 0 and -60V bias to observe stress relaxation using surface Brillouin scattering. A RF power of 175W and Ar₂ working gas pressure of 5.0 x10⁻³mBar was used to yield a deposition rate of 0.16nm/s. Surface Brillouin studies on the -60V biased and the unbiased samples show high frequency Sezawa modes indicative of high film quality. The dispersion curves have shown an increase in the elastic constants corresponding to an increase in residual stress upon biasing. The elastic constants will be extracted from the dispersion curves.

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