



Contribution ID: 91

Type: Oral Presentation

Structural, Electrical and Electronic Properties of Diamond Like Carbon (DLC) and Carbon-Based Materials

Tuesday, 8 July 2014 10:20 (20 minutes)

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ABSTRACT

In this work, the structural and electronic properties of diverse diamond-like carbon (DLC) also known as hydrogenated amorphous carbon (a-C:H), silicon doped DLC (a-C:H:Si) thin films on (001)Si deposited by plasma enhanced chemical vapour deposition (PECVD) are studied under different applied bias voltages ($100\text{V} < V_b < 600\text{V}$). Silicon doped with DLC thin films was attained by using tetramethylsilane (TMS) as a precursor at different standard centimetre cube per minute (sccm). Nitrogen doping in amorphous carbon (a-C:Nx) thin films was achieved by pulsed laser deposition (PLD) process and studied their different properties. Different nitrogen concentration (at.%) of a-C:Nx thin films were deposited on silicon substrate using nitrogen as a precursor gas. The thicknesses of all thin films were $\sim 150 \pm 15$ nm controlled and monitored during deposition process. Raman spectroscopy of these thin films was measured by using two different laser excitation wavelengths viz 488 nm and 647 nm respectively. The microstructure and electronic property of these samples were investigated by Raman spectroscopy and the electrical property was studied by current-voltage (I-V) characteristics. Finally, a correlation among the electrical properties, electronic properties and microstructure properties were established based on their sp^3 and sp^2 concentration in the thin film structure.

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Session Classification: DPCMM2

Track Classification: Track A - Division for Physics of Condensed Matter and Materials