

اعتماد الخواص التركيبية والكهربية للشرائح الرقيقة CuInse₂ على درجة حرارة التلدين

د . عبد الرحمن سالم العجيلي د . محمد إبراهيم السماحي
قسم الفيزياء – كلية التربية ككلة – جامعة غريان

الملخص :

أعدت شرائح رقيقة من CuInse₂ بطريقة التبخير للمادة المستخدمة تحت التفريغ ، تم المعالجة بالتسخين للشرائح المترسبة من المادة عند درجات حرارة ثابتة (تسمى درجة حرارة التلدين) ومتدرجة في الزيادة حتى درجة حرارة 723K . دلت هذه الدراسة باستخدام الأشعة السينية على الشرائح الرقيقة من CuInse₂ المعالجة حراريا على كون الشرائح متعددة البلورة (Polycrystalline) ، وتتركب في الطور الرباعي القائم (Tetragonal Phase) . كذلك تناولت دراسة الخواص التركيبية لتغير القيم المحسوبة لمعاملات الشبكة البلورية (A , C) وتغير متوسط حجم الحبيبات واعتمادهما على درجة حرارة التلدين ، كذلك تناولت الدراسة لمدى اعتماد الخواص الكهربائية للشرائح الرقيقة من CuInse₂ على درجة حرارة التلدين . ولذا تم قياس الموصلية الكهربائية لهذا الشرائح المعالجة عند درجات حرارة تلدين مختلفة كدالة في التغير في درجة الحرارة أثناء القياس ، ولقد تم الحصول على منطقتين جوهريتين مختلفتين لطاقة التنشيط ، وكذلك نجد أنه كلما زادت درجة الحرارة التلدين فإنه تقل طاقة التنشيط ، كما أنه ثبت من الدراسة أن زيادة درجة حرارة التلدين تكون مصاحبة بتحسن الخواص الفيزيائية ونوعية الشرائح الناتجة

Annealing temperature Dependence of the Structural and Electrical Properties of Cu In Se₂ Thin Films .

A.ALageli * , M.El Samahi

* Physics Department ,Faculty of Education, GRIAN University ,

Physics Department , Faculty of Science, Suez Canal University ,I smailia ,

CuInSe₂ thin films were prepared under vacuum by conventional evaporation method .The films were heat treated at different annealing temperatures up to 723 K .X-ray diffraction of the films indicated that films are polycrystalline with tetragonal phase.

The variation of the calculated lattice parameters and mean grain size with annealing temperatures were showed .The electrical properties of CuInSe₂ thin films were studied at different annealing temperatures .The dark conductivity of the films was measured as a function of temperature .Two regions were obtained corresponding to two activation energies. The activation energy decreases with increasing the annealing temperature. Increasing the annealing temperature improves the physical properties and quality of the films.

1-INTRODUCION

CuInSe₂ (CIS) has received considerable attention in the last years because of its potential application for photovoltaic devices (1).*Polycrystalline thin film have been obtained by using different methods, for example spray pyrolysis(2),vacuum evaporation(3),and sputtering(4). Various methods namely R-F-Sputtering(5), electro deposition(6),and vacuum deposition(7) techniques have been described to prepare CIS thin films.*

In this paper the structure and the effect of the annealing temperature on some physical properties of the films have been investigated.

2.Experimental procedure

2.1-Film preparation:

CuInSe₂ was prepared from its constituent elements of purity 99.999%. The elements in its stoichiometric proportions were placed in silica tube. 10 gr. of CuInSe₂ were sealed in a fused silica tube under a vacuum (10⁻⁴ Torr) and Kept the ampoule in a rotating oven at sufficiently elevated temperature, at start, slowly to 473 k for 30 minutes and at 573 k for 30 minutes until all the selenium vapor disappeared. This was necessary to avoid explosive reactions, particularly between indium and selenium. As the temperature is raised, selenium vapor becomes visible and it disappears abruptly when the selenium was all reacted .When this has occurred, the furnace temperature was safely raised to 1323 k for 8 hours and at(1073,1023,973,923,873 and 823 k)each for ¹/₂ hour the constituents became molten; the rocking motion ensures that thorough mixing of the mixture take place. Finally the tube was left to cool to room temperature.

CuInSe₂ Prepared films deposited by vacuum evaporation in a coating unit model E.306A EDWARD CO.

2.2-measurements :

The thickness of the films determined Using Zeiss leink Micklessin interferometer (8)-X-ray diffraction(XRD) analysis of the as- prepared powder and as- deposited films was carried out using X-ray diffractometer (philips PW1730) with Cu (k_α) radiation (1.54Å⁰) .Scanning Electron microscope model (JOEL JSM-T20) was used to study the surface morphology of the films.

EDAX/unit attached to SEM was used for the elemental analysis of CuInSe₂ films (441nm), prepared at two different annealing temperature 573 and 673k.at 30min .Three different points were analyzed along the surface of each film with area (1mm²).

The electrical properties measurements were carried out for CuInSe₂ thin films in vacuum 10⁻² Torr at the temperature range from room temperature up to 500k⁰ .Figure (1) shows the schematic representation of CuInSe₂ thin films and its indium electrodes.

The resistivity ρ of samples was calculated from the formula /9/,

$$\rho = \frac{RS}{L} (\Omega \cdot Cm) \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

S=cross sectional area of the samples, L=distance between the electrodes
R=measured resistance

Figure (2) show the circuit used during the conductivity Measurement with keithley 616 digital electrometer

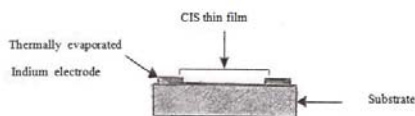


Fig (1) The substrate with its Indium electrode

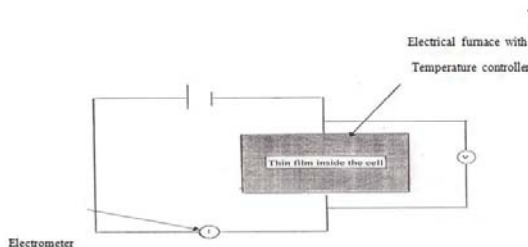


Fig (2) The circuit diagram

3-Results and discussion.

3.1-structural properties and surface morphology

X-ray diffraction patterns were obtained for as-prepared CuInSe₂ in powder form and XRD show that CuInSe₂ has tetragonal polycrystalline structure with (112) preferred crystal orientation. X-ray pattern for the prepared powder is shown in figure (3) and as indicated from table (1).

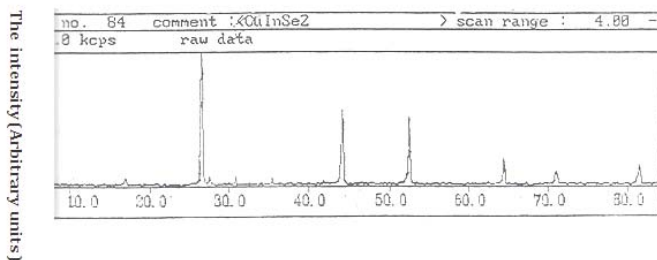


Fig (3) X – ray diffraction pattern for the prepared powder

It is in good agreement with the data reported for CuInSe₂.

Table (1) X-ray powder diffraction

| <i>Experimental</i> | | <i>JCPDS Card</i> | | |
|---------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| $D(A^{\theta})$ | I/I_0 | $D(A^{\theta})$ | I/I_0 | (hkl) |
| 3.35 | 100 | 3.34 | 100 | 112 |

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|----------------|
| 2.05 | 59 | 2.04 | 70 | 220,204 |
| 1.75 | 46 | 1.743 | 85 | 116,312 |
| 1.44 | 28 | 1.446 | 25 | 400 |
| 1.33 | 20 | 1.327 | 35 | 316,332 |
| 1.18 | 21 | 1.181 | 60 | 424 |
| 1.11 | 15 | 1.114 | 25 | 336 |

The as-deposited films with the substrate at room temperature appeared to be of a mixed amorphous- microcrystalline nature, as shown in f:g.(4)

The as-deposited films and the heated films under vacuum of 10^{-3} torr for 30 minutes at isochronal annealing temperatures (473, 573, 673 and 723 k are shown in figure (4).

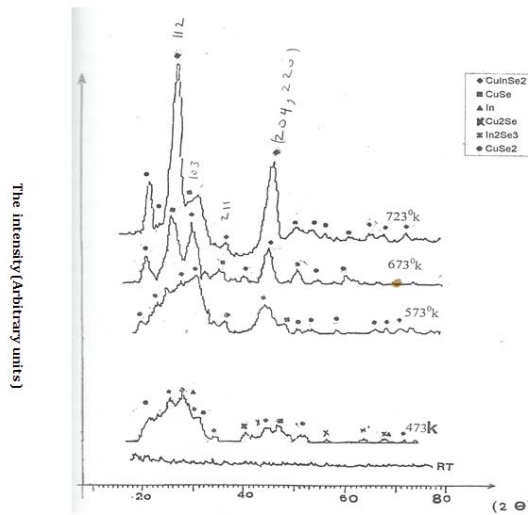


Fig (4) X-ray diffraction pattern for CuInSe₂ thin films with thickness (44nm) annealed at different annealing temperatures under vacuum ; a-as deposited, b - annealed at 473, c- annealed at 573K , d-annealed at 673K,e- annealed at 723K

For films annealed at annealing temperature of about 473k ,the XRD pattern (fig .4 b) shows that some peaks start to grow which may be due to the formation of CuInSe₂ JCPDS23-0209 , In JCPDS 05-0642, Cu₂ s_e JCPDS 79-1841,CuSe₂ JCPDS 71-0046, CuSe JCPDS 20-1020 and In₂Se₃ JCPDS 71-0250. This can be attributed to an early stage of crystallization between RT and 473k . For films annealed at about 573k, the XRD pattern (fig4C) Shows the disappearance of some phases such as In, Cu₂Se and In₂Se₃ and the continuous grows of CuInSe₂ on account of them. This finding agrees with

Vikas(10), which had referred to the formation of CuInSe₂ phase at about 500k due to the reaction of In with Cu₂Se phase .The other compounds mentioned above still exist. X-ray diffraction was used in identifying the different phases formed .Along with the knowledge of different phases formed at increasing annealing temperatures, it was concluded that CuInSe₂ is formed at temperatures as low as 235⁰C . the experiments performed show that even at relatively low temperatures CuSe₂ is formed . The copper selenite phases changed from Se –rich to Se deficient with increasing temperature.

Increasing the annealing temperature up to 673k ,the XRD pattern (fig.4 d)shows the disappearance of CuSe phase .Many reflections corresponding to CuInSe₂ could be seen as in table (2) .Fig (4 c,4d) also shows the transformation of CuInSe₂ from random (204 reflex is greater than 112 reflex) to crystallized CuInSe₂ phase as reported by vikas(10), at such range of temperature .

Increasing the annealing temperature up to 723k, the XRD pattern (fig.4e) shows that no essential change takes place except that the reflexes of CuInSe₂ at (d=3.34 and d=2.04 A⁰) becomes larger and the reflex at (d=2.88) becomes very weak .Therefore, one can notice the increase of the preferred crystal orientation (112) shown in fig (4,d and 4e) due to the increase in the annealing temperature .This finding agrees with the reported data (11)

Table (2) XRD of CuInSe₂ thin films annealed at different annealing temperatures

| <i>JCPDS CARD</i> | | <i>CIS Annealed at (573 k)</i> | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>D(A⁰)</i> | <i>I/I₀</i> | <i>D(A⁰)</i> | <i>I/I₀</i> |
| 5.2 | 6 | 5.1 | 30 |
| 3.34 | 100 | 375 | 50 |
| 3.33 | 70 | 3.015 | 100 |
| 2.88 | 10 | 2.83 | 56 |
| 2.04 | 35 | 1.992 | 53 |
| 1.327 | 35 | 1.3 | 26 |

Table (2) (a)

| <i>JCPDS CARD</i> | | <i>CIS Films Annealed at (623 k)</i> | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>D(A⁰)</i> | <i>I/I₀</i> | <i>D(A⁰)</i> | <i>I/I₀</i> |
| | | | |

| | | | |
|-------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| 5.2 | 6 | 5.36 | 33 |
| 3.34 | 100 | 3.35 | 100 |
| 2.52 | 15 | 2.46 | 30 |
| 2.15 | 6 | 2.34 | 30 |
| 2.04 | 70 | 1.9813 | 66 |
| 1.7 | 85 | 1.65 | 23 |

Table (2) (b)

| JCPDS CARD | | CIS Films Annealed(723k) | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| D(A⁰) | I/I₀ | D(A⁰) | I/I₀ |
| 5.2 | 6 | 5.108 | 30 |
| 3.34 | 100 | 3.35 | 100 |
| 2.52 | 15 | 2.619 | 8 |
| 2.15 | 6 | 2.16 | 12 |
| 1.9 | 6 | 1.97 | 40 |
| 2.04 | 70 | 1.99 | 53 |
| 1.39 | 4 | 1.36 | 26 |

Table (2) (c)

Therefore, according to the heat treatment, it is seen from the figure (4), and from table (2) that as increasing the annealing temperature as the half width of the diffracted peaks is decreasing, as well as increasing the sharpness of the peaks. This decrease in the half-width and the increase in the sharpness of the peaks are associated with the increase of the crystal size and the increase in the crystallinity as indicated from table (2)

This means that increasing the annealing temperature up to 723 k for CuInSe₂ thin films cause, better growth of the films and improves crystal orientation and the crystallinity of the films.

The lattice –parameters a and c of the chalcopyrite CuInSe₂ films were calculated according to the following formula (12),

$$1/d^2 = (h^2+k^2)/a^2 + l^2/c^2 \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

The lattice parameter values are tabulated in table (3) for CuInSe₂ thin films at different annealing temperatures.

| The annealing temperature (k) | A (A ⁰) | C (A ⁰) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 573 | 5.73 | 11.16 |
| 673 | 6.011 | 11.32 |
| 723 | 6.07 | 11.61 |

Table (3) the lattice parameters a and c of CuInSe₂ thin films at different annealing temperatures.

The Effect of Heat Treatment on Crystallite Size

The peak profile of (112) is used to calculate the approximate crystallite size using the Scherer's formula (13),

$$L = (k\lambda) / (B \cos \theta) \dots\dots\dots(3)$$

Where (k) is a constant known as the shape factor factor (k=0.95), λ is the X-ray wavelength (λ=1.541⁰Å), B is the angular half width .And θ is the Bragg's angle.

The crystallite size was determined as a function of the annealing temperature for CuInSe₂ thin films with thickness 441nm which annealed at 573 ,673 and 723 k for 30min .The crystal size was found to increase with increasing the annealing temperature .The obtained values of the crystal size are shown in /fig(5) .The increase in the crystal size may be due to the filling of the vacancies. In case of CuInSe₂ thin films, the heat treatment produces loss of selenium and the vacancies are nucleated from selenium vacancy clusters, as reported by (14) .Figure(5) shows the variation of the crystal size with the heat treatment for CuInSe₂ thin films annealed at 473, 573, 673 and 723 k for 30 min .

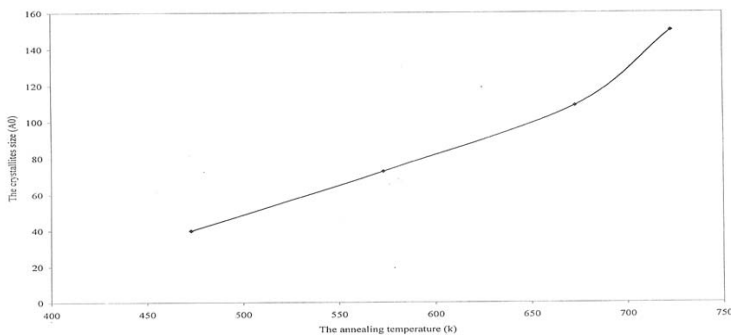


Fig (5) The variation of the crystallites size with annealing for CuInSe₂ thin films with thickness (441)nm and annealed (473, 573, 673 and 723 K)

The obtained results for CnInSe₂ films annealed at two different annealing temperatures (573 and 673k) are shown in table (4) .

The EDAX data show that the annealing is accompanied by a decrease of the Se concentration in the films. The average change in the composition ratio due to the annealing process was about 4.53%. This shows that at higher annealing temperatures, there is a significant re-evaporation of Se as reported (15).

| <i>Sample</i> | <i>Composition At %</i> | | | <i>Composition Wt %</i> | | |
|---|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | <i>Cu</i> | <i>In</i> | <i>Se</i> | <i>Cu</i> | <i>In</i> | <i>Se</i> |
| <i>CuInSe₂ thin films Annealed at 573 k for 30 min</i> | <i>25.5</i> | <i>20.54</i> | <i>53.96</i> | <i>19.67</i> | <i>28.62</i> | <i>51.71</i> |
| | <i>27.49</i> | <i>7.13</i> | <i>65.39</i> | <i>22.61</i> | <i>10.59</i> | <i>66.81</i> |
| | <i>25.57</i> | <i>20.01</i> | <i>54.41</i> | <i>19.77</i> | <i>27.96</i> | <i>52.27</i> |
| <i>CuInSe₂ thin films Annealed at 673k For 30min</i> | <i>24.85</i> | <i>21.52</i> | <i>53.63</i> | <i>19.06</i> | <i>29.83</i> | <i>51.12</i> |
| | <i>24.46</i> | <i>21.12</i> | <i>54.42</i> | <i>18.78</i> | <i>29.30</i> | <i>51.92</i> |
| | <i>24.66</i> | <i>23.19</i> | <i>52.15</i> | <i>18.77</i> | <i>31.9</i> | <i>49.33</i> |

Table (4) The film composition of CuInSe₂ thin films with thickness (441 nm) and annealed at (573 and 673 k) for 30 min .

It is clear from table (4) that there are homogeneity and compositional improvements towards stoichiometry in the films as the annealing temperature rises .

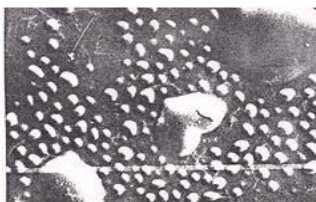
A typical micrographs of CIS thin films are shown in fig. (6a, b and c).



Fig (6,a) Scanning electron microscopy micrograph for as deposited CuInSe₂ thin films with thickness 441nm.



Fig (6,b) Scanning electron microscopy micrograph for CuInSe₂ thin films with thickness 441 nm and annealed at 573K.



Fig(6,c) Scanning electron microscopy micrograph for CuInSe₂ thin films with Thickness 441 nm and annealed at 673 K.

The effects of annealing in CIS thin films surface roughness are clear. The as deposited film contains random distribution of well –defined small crystallites, which formed at certain preferred sites on glass substrate.

The annealed samples showed an enhanced growth of grains which could be attributed to the decrease of the Se content as a result of vacuum annealing such decrease was reported by many workers (16,17) G.K.Padam (18) Have also reported the decrease in the grain size with increase the Se contents in CIS thin films.

3.2 Electrical Properties of CuInSe₂ Films

It is found that CuInSe₂ thin films obey the Arrhenious equation (19) , which given by

$$\sigma = \sigma_0 e^{(-Ea/kT)} \tag{4}$$

Which in polycrystalline materials is attributable to thermal excitation of the charge carries from grain boundaries to the neutral region of the grain .

The conductivity of CuInSe₂ thin films were measured as a function of the temperature . For all films the conductivity is found to increase very slowly with temperature in the lowest temperature range, while in the high temperature region the dark conductivity is found to increase more sharply. CuInSe₂ thin films were subjected to the following annealing temperatures 373k ,473 k and 573k, for 30min . The activation energy was found to decrease with increasing the annealing temperatures.

The obtained values from fig(7) are tabulated in table (5) .The conduction improvement due to heat treatment can be attributed to the improvement of the crystallinity as well as the composition variation which in turn affecting the energy states of the films as reported (20).

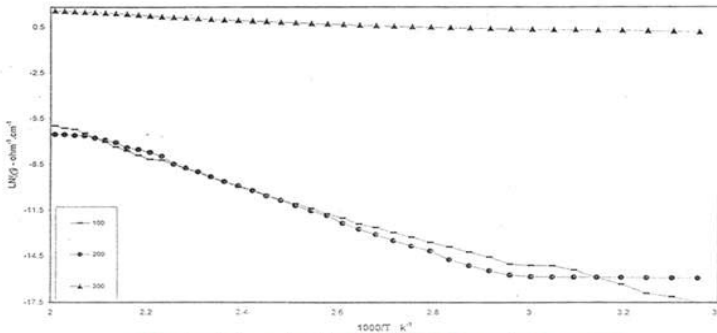


Fig (7) the dark conductivity for different annealing temperatures

| Annealing temperature | Measuring | | Measuring temp | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| | Temp.(k) | Activation Energy(eV) | Temp.(k) | Activation energy(eV) |
| 373k | 298-423 | 0.063 | 428-498 | 0.908 |
| 473k | 298-358 | 0.021 | 362-498 | 0.832 |
| 600k | 298-338 | 0.014 | 343-498 | 0.153 |

Table (5) the activation energy for annealed CuInSe₂ thin films with the thickness 441 nm.

Two essential regions ,i.e. two values of E_a , were obtained At high temperatures, the thermal energy is sufficiently great to create vacancies and the activation energy is a sum of the energies required for vacancy generation and the motion of ions into the vacancies(21)

At lower temperatures the thermal energy is only large enough to allow the migration of atoms into vacancies already present in the crystal . The above conclusion indicates why the activation energy at high temperature regions is larger than the activation energy at low temperature regions.

Conclusion

Thin films were deposited in glass substrate by thermal evaporation technique .The CuInSe₂ ingot material is to be prepared by direct fusion of stoichiometric proportions of the constituent elements . The film thickness were controlled during the evaporation by a quartz thicknessmonitor. Michleson interferometer were used to determine the film thickness.

Structure characterization is to be undertaken by X-ray diffraction and

Scanning electron microscopy. X-ray diffraction studies show that as deposited CuInSe₂ in powder form and annealed films has tetragonal polycrystalline structure with (112) preferred crystal orientation .The as deposited films were of mixed amorphous- microcrystalline nature . Annealing the films improves the crystallinity of the films. This behavior is in good agreement with other investigators.

The existence of binary phases with in the film will affect optical and electrical characteristic of the material .Care is therefore required in attributing specific measurement of intrinsic property of "singleCuInSe₂ phase". We see compositional improvement toward stoichiometric with increasing the annealing temperature .Such approach suggests that the optimization of CuInSe₂ thin films by annealing made by grain enhancement. That large grained CuInSe₂ aggregate with a minimum of excess minority phases.

SEM shows that the as deposited CuInSe₂ films containing substantial numbers of defects within the grains .By annealing CuInSe₂ thin films large grain size appear. Accordingly, the influence of the annealing temperature on the surface roughness of CuInSe₂ thin films is significant.

The dark conductivity of the films was measured as a function of temperature. It is observed that the conductivity increases with increasing the temperature. Two regions are clearly seen corresponding to two activation energy as shown in table (5). The activation energy decreases with increasing the annealing temperature.

References

- 1-S.M.Sze,physics of semiconductor Devices, Wiley ,New York, 1981.
- 2-p.Rajaram,R.Thangaraj, A.k .Sharma ,A. Raza and O.P. Agnihotn.
- 3-L.L.Kasmersky ,M.S. Ayyagan and G. ASanbom. J,APPL,phys.46.
- 4-H.L.Hwang,C.L.Cheng,L.M.Liu,Y.C.Liu and C.Y.Sun.Thin solid .
- 5-A.N.Y.samaan,s.M.Wasim,AE Hill,D.G Armour and R.D.
- 6-N.G Hodes,T. Engelhard ,D.cahen,L.L Kazmerski and C.R Herrington, Thin solid Films ,128(1985)93.
- 7-Y.L.Wu,H.Y.Lin,Cy.sun,M.H Yang and H.L Hwang, Thin solid Films ,168(1989)113.
- 8-S.Tolansky:Introduction to Interferometry (Longmans Green ,London 1955)
- 9-R.G.Long Hand book of thin films technology, Mc Grow. I lill, New York (1970).
- 10-Vikas and John, D.Meakin; solar energy materials and Solar Cells ,30 (1993) 147-160.
- 11-A.N.Molin and Y.G. Saltounsovsky; Thin solid films, 237(1994)66-71.
- 12-E.S.T erra; Appl. A62,169-173(1996).
- 13- G. Ssikala, R.Dhansehran, C. Subrmnian ; Thin Solid Films 302(1997)71.
- 14-Rann. Janam and o .N.srivstaa; Solar energy materials 11(1985) 409-417.
- 15-P.J.Sebtin, S.A.Gamboa, O.Solorza; Thin solid Films 298(1997)92-97.
- 16-M.Nishitani and T.wada; Solar energy Materials and solar cells 35(1994)203-208.
- 17-H.Tanino,T.Maeda and S.Endo; phys. Rev. B.45,13323(1992)
- 18-G.kpadam and G.L.Mlhoutra; Solar energy Materials and solar cells,22(1991)303-318.
- 19- H.Wemple; J,Chem. PHYS.67(1977)2151.
- 20-M.V.Garcia, M.Mnchon, A.Lousa and J.L.Morenza ; Solar energy Materials and Solar Cells 17(1988)347-352.
- 21-Leonid .V.Azaroff, Introduction to Solid, NEW YORK, MCGRAWHILL (1960).