Far-infrared dielectric function and phonon modes of spontaneously ordered $(Al_xGa_{1-x})_{0.52}In_{0.48}P$

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T. Hofmann[#,1)], V. Gottschalch[2)], M. Schubert[1)]

1) Solid State Physics Group, Faculty of Physics and Geosciences, University of Leipzig, Germany
2) Faculty of Chemistry and Mineralogy, University of Leipzig, Germany

[#]E-mail: Tino.Hofmann@physik.uni-leipzig.de

Our Messages

Far-infrared ellipsometry:

The far-infrared dielectric function of spontaneously (partially) CuPt-ordered AlGaInP has tensor character.

Observation:

Ternary and quaternary III-V-semiconductor alloys (here: AlGaInP) have ir-active lattice modes with small polarity which can not assigned to the binary components.

Conjecture:

Locally the bonding relationship (segregation, partial local ordering) fluctuates and induces lattice modes of small polarity (alloy-induced modes: AM) in the alloy.

Evidence:

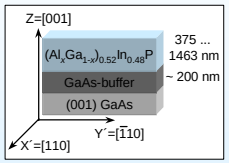
The alloy-induced modes show an increasing directional response (anisotropy, transition to C_{3v}-symmetry) and polarity (TO-LO splitting) with increasing degree of ordering.

Experiment

The phonon modes with A_1 and E-symmetry in quaternary CuPt-ordered $(Al_xGa_{1-x})_{0.52}In_{0.48}P$ with 0 ... *x* ... 1 are determined employing far-infrared-spectroscopic ellipsometry (FIR-SE).

Frequencies of the local modes AM_1 and AM_2 correspond to ordering induced modes observed in spontaneously CuPt-ordered $GaInP_2$ (~ 312 cm^{-1} und ~ 351 cm^{-1}).

- MOCVD:
  - $(Al_xGa_{1-x})_{0.52}In_{0.48}P$ unstrained on (001) GaAs:Te substrate with different misorientations
  - T_G=720°C
  - Al-content x=0, 0.32, 0.7, and 1
- TEM:
  - domain structure
  - CuPt-ordering
- uv-vis ellipsometry:
  - layer thickness, band-band transitions
  - degree of ordering
- fir-ellipsometry:
  - phonon modes and direction dependence of phonon modes



model dielectric function:

Infrared active lattice modes

$$e^{(L)} = e_\infty \prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{w^2 + ig_{LO,i}w - w_{LO,i}^2}{w^2 + ig_{TO,i}w - w_{TO,i}^2}$$

Alloy induced modes (TO-LO << TO, LO)

$$e^{(L+AM)}(w) = e^{(L)}(w) \prod_{k=1}^{m} \left(1 + \frac{idg_k w - dw_k^2}{w^2 + ig_{AM,k}w - w_{AM,k}^2}\right)$$

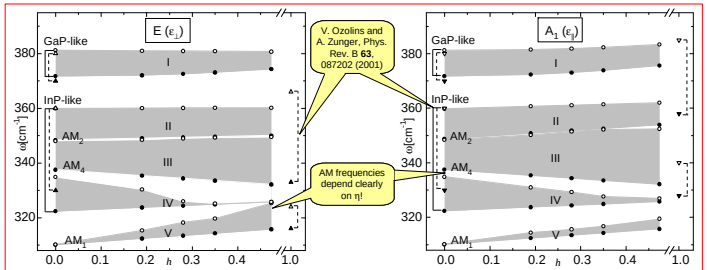
Two FIR-SE measurements at different sample orientations allow the determination of the anisotropic dielectric function tensor:

Setup A: Plane of incidence *perpendicular* to [110]

Setup B: Plane of incidence *parallel* to [110]

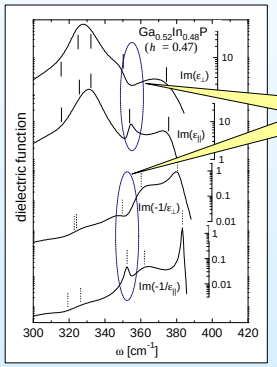
$Ga_{0.52}In_{0.48}P$

Phonon modes



T.Hofmann *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B **66**, 195204 (2002)

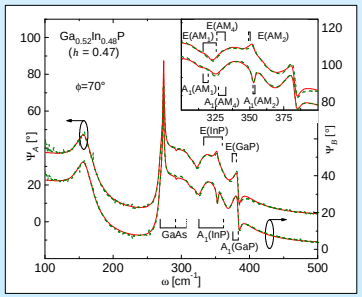
FIR-dielectric tensor

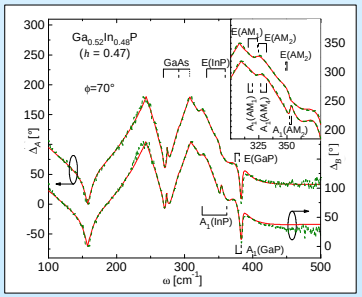


CuPt-ordering induced FIR birefringence

- Im(ε)- and Im(1/ε)-model dielectric function spectra parallel $e_\parallel$ and perpendicular $e_\perp$ to the direction of ordering
- TO- and AM-modes are local maxima of Im(ε) (vertical solid and dotted lines)
- LO- and AM-modes are local maxima of Im(1/ε) (vertical solid and dotted lines)

FIR-SE analysis





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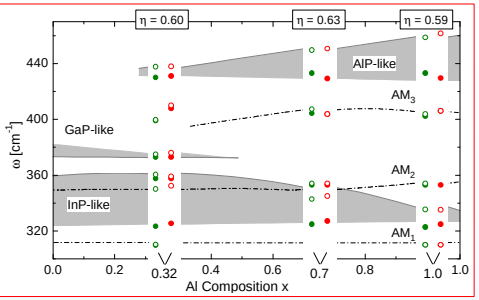
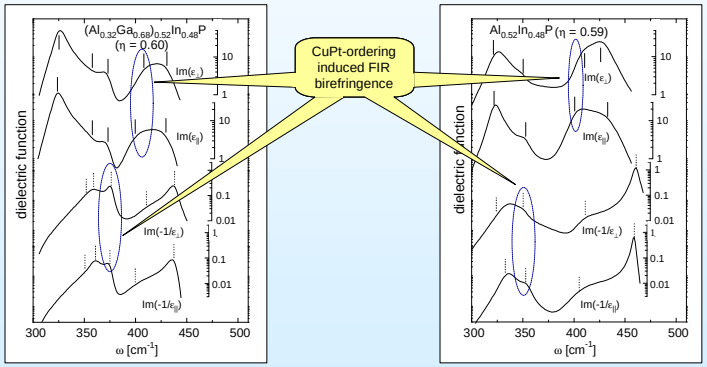
Phonon modes

- phonon modes of highly *disordered* AlGaInP show in addition to „GaP"-, „InP"-, and „AlP"-like modes alloy induced modes
  T.Hofmann *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B **64**,155206 (2001)
- depends on composition
- CuPt-ordering induced splitting of modes with E and A_1 symmetry
- degree of ordering:
  M.Schubert *et al.* (unpublished)



FIR-dielectric tensor



CuPt-ordering induced FIR birefringence

FIR-SE analysis