

MASTER'S THESIS

A study on the electronic structure of a-C:H deposited using Saddle-field glow-discharge CVD

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**A Study on the Electronic Structure of a-C:H
Deposited using Saddle-field Glow-discharge CVD**

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**A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of
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Abstract

Diamond-like amorphous carbon films prepared using Saddle-field glow-discharge CVD were characterized by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy, Auger electron spectroscopy and optical absorption techniques. DLC films produced under different substrate bias voltages and doped with different boron and phosphorus concentrations were studied. By detailed analysis of the C1s peak of the XPS spectra for samples produced using saddle-field glow-discharge decomposition of methane, the sp^3/sp^2 ratio of the films were determined and found to be dependent on deposition parameters such as substrate bias voltage and impurity doping. These results agree very well with those obtained by Auger electron spectroscopy. Apart from that, a relationship between the Auger KVV spectrum and valence band density of states was derived and applied to the calculation of the electronic structures of the valence band of DLC films. The band gap and band tail states of the films were also measured by photothermal deflection spectroscopy and optical transmission measurement. Results showed that the electronic and optical properties of DLC films were strongly dependent on the deposition conditions and the reasons for these variations were discussed.

Table of Contents

Abstract	i
Acknowledgments	ii
Table of Contents	iii
List of Figures	v
List of Tables	vii
Chapter 1. Introduction	1
Chapter 2. Basic Theory	5
2.1. X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy (XPS)	7
2.2. Auger Electron Spectroscopy (AES)	11
2.3. Optical Absorption	23
Chapter 3. Experimental	27
3.1. DC Saddle-Field Glow Discharge Deposition Apparatus	27
3.2. XPS and AES	29
3.3. Optical Absorption	30
Chapter 4. Results and Discussions	34
4.1. XPS	34
4.2. AES	53
4.3. Optical Absorption	80
Chapter 5. Conclusions	98
Publications and Conferences Attended	100

Appendix	101
I. A programme for determining the valence band density of states from the Auger data	101
References	103
Curriculum Vitae	107