

Humboldt-Kolleg NANO-2024

"Quo Vadis – Ethics of the Scientific Research"

Chişinău, Republic of Moldova, 15-18 April 2024

GOLD DECORATED GALIUM OXIDE NANOWIRES FOR MULTIFUNCTIONAL APPLICATIONS

Elena I. Monaico¹, Eduard V. Monaico^{1,*}, Veaceslav V. Ursaki^{1,2}, Ion M. Tiginyanu^{1,2,*}

¹ National Center for Materials Study and Testing, Technical University of Moldova, Bv. Stefan cel Mare 168, Chisinau 2004, Republic of Moldova

² Academy of Sciences of Moldova, Bv. Stefan cel Mare 1, Chisinau 2001, Republic of Moldova

* Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow

A three-step fabrication process for the production of hybrid nanostructures consisting of Ga₂O₃ nanowires decorated with gold nanodots on GaAs substrates is reported. The process involves electrochemical etching of GaAs substrates in the first technological step to produce GaAs nanowires with good electrical conductivity [1,2], followed by electrochemical deposition of gold nanodots on these nanowires in the second step [3]. Subsequently, thermal treatment in argon atmosphere with a small amount of oxygen is employed in the third technological step to selectively convert GaAs nanowires into Ga₂O₃ nanowires covered by gold nanodots. Moreover, it was demonstrated that this approach offers a controlled fabrication route, enabling precise tuning of nanowire dimensions, their crystallographic orientation, as well as modulation of their diameter [4]. Characterization techniques such as SEM, EDX and XRD validated the morphology and structure of the produced Ga_2O_3 nanowires. The fabricated hybrid nanostructures exhibit promising properties for various applications in sensing, photodetection, and catalysis, with potential for further optimization through parameter adjustments and functionalization for reaching tailored properties.

UNTERSTUTZT VON / SUPPORTED BY

Alexander von

STIFTUNG

HUMBOLDT

I-step of fabrication process flow

The semiconductor nanowires are prepared by a costeffective electrochemical etching of n-GaAs substrates.

A selective modulation of nanowires via anodization at two different applied potentials is demonstrated.

- *smooth wall GaAs nanowires at 4 V;*
- 3D modulated GaAs nanowires obtained at 4,7 V.



GaAs nanowires with smooth or modulated walls

Il-step of fabrication process flow

Functionalization of GaAs nanowires array with Au nanodots via pulsed electrochemical deposition.



References

- 1. Monaico, E.I., Monaico, E.V., Ursaki, V.V., Honnali, S., Postolache, V., Leistner, K., Nielsch, K., Tiginyanu, I.M. Electrochemical Nanostructuring of (111) Oriented GaAs Crystals: From Porous Structures to Nanowires. Beilstein J. Nanotechnol. 2020, 11, 966–975. https://doi.org/10.3762/bjnano.11.81.
- 2. Monaico, E., Tiginyanu, I., Ursaki, V. Porous Semiconductor Compounds. Semicond. Sci. Technol. 2020, 35, 103001, https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6641/ab9477.
- 3. Monaico, E.I., Monaico, E.V., Ursaki, V.V., Tiginyanu, I.M. Controlled Electroplating of Noble Metals on III-V Semiconductor Nanotemplates Fabricated by Anodic Etching of Bulk Substrates. Coatings 2022, 12, 1521, https://doi.org/10.3390/coatings12101521.
- 4. Monaico, E.V., Monaico, E.I., Ursaki, V.V., Tiginyanu, I.M. Porous Semiconductor Compounds with Engineered Morphology as a Platform for Various Applications. Physica status solidi (RRL) – Rapid Research Letters 2023, 2300039, https://doi.org/10.1002/pssr.202300039.

Ref. 1	Ref. 2	Ref. 3	Ref. 4

Corresponding author: Dr. Elena MONAICO

National Center for Materials Study and Testing, Technical University of Moldova Bv. Stefan cel Mare 168, Chisinau 2004, Republic of Moldova e-mail: elena.monaico@cnstm.utm.md www.ncmst.utm.md ORCID 0000-0002-9486-2589

Ill-step of fabrication process flow

Transformation of GaAs nanowires with Au nanodots in Ga₂O₃ nanowires via thermal treatment.



1 h of GaAs nanowires with deposited gold nanodots

* E.V. MONAICO and I.M. TIGINYANU acknowledge support from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

20 (grade)