# Ioneninduzierte Nanostrukturen Damage and Sputtering

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# Overview

- Last lecture
  - Simulation of ion stopping, ion trajectories, and ranges
    - a. Molecular Dynamic Simulations: MDRANGE
    - b. Monte Carlo Method: TRIM, Crystal-TRIM, TRIDYN
- Today:
  - Radiation Damage
  - Sputtering

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### Radiation damage

- irradiation of solid with energetic particles (100 eV- 10 GeV) causes all kinds of damage in the material by the deposited energy
- for low energy ions, in the nuclear collisional regime (50 eV 100 keV), main "damage" is permanent displacements of atoms from their original position and sputtering
- by this, crystalline materials are amorphized in the depth of ion range and eroded
- In the following irradiations at low temperature and low flux are discussed: few K for metals (high diffusivity of defects) or RT up to ~400K for semiconductors

typical replacement collision sequence "Frenkel pair" is produced when  $E_i > U_d$ 

(displacement threshold)



### Radiation damage

• The formation energy of a Frenkel pair is

$$U_f = U_{vf} + U_{if}$$

- $U_f$  depends on the direction of the momentum with respect to the crystal
- a range of U<sub>f</sub> exists for a target; normally an averaged value is taken its value lies between the binding energy and the displacement threshold

$$U_b < U_f < U_d$$

 $U_b \sim \text{few eV}$  $U_f \sim 5-10 \text{ eV}$  $U_d \sim 20-80 \text{ eV}$ 



# Binding energy

 The binding energy of an elemental solid can be estimated from his sublimation energy

$$-\Delta H_s = \frac{1}{2} n_c N_A U_b$$
  
coordination number

### Calculation of created damage

Displacement damage function:  $N_d(E)$ 

defined as number of displaced atoms in a cascade produced by an ion of energy E

simplest treatment in the hard-sphere model by Kinchin and Pease (1955)

#### Calculation of created damage

Assumptions in the Kinchin Pease model:

1) Hard Sphere Model:

be model:  

$$P(E,T)dT \cong \frac{dT}{\gamma E} = \frac{dT}{E}$$

for M<sub>1</sub>=M<sub>2</sub> (recoil collisions)

- 2) cascade is created by sequence of two-body nuclear collisions
- 3) amorphous solid no effects of crystalline structure
- 4) probability for a displacement is given by:





### Calculation of created damage

Total number of created Frenkel pairs by a recoil with energy T:

$$N_F(T) = \int_{U_d}^T P(E,T) F_E(T,E) dE$$

recoil density in the collision cascade

Calculating  $F_E(T)$  from the Boltzmann transport equation for the hard sphere model one gets the Kinchin Pease formula:

$$N_F(T) = \frac{T}{2U_d}$$

However, corrections have to be made according to the screened Coulomb potential and the threshold for displaments

$$P_{d}(E) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } E < U_{d} \\ 1 & \text{if } U_{d} < T < 2.63U_{d} \\ 0.38\frac{T}{U_{d}} & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



# Calculation of created damage

Total number of created Frenkel pairs by the incident ion with energy  $E_0$ :

$$N_F^{tot}(E_0) = \int_{U_d}^{E_0} \frac{dE}{S_{tot}(E)} \int_{U_d}^{\gamma E} N_F(T) \frac{d\sigma_n(E,T)}{dT} dT$$

 $\gamma$  = energy transfer function

in a dense cascade approximation (large nuclear energy deposition):

$$N_F^{tot}(E) = \frac{E}{2U_d}$$

"Kinchin Pease expression"

this is an upper limit, because dynamic annealing will take place annealing will be highr for denser cascades

$$N_F^{eff}(T) = \xi(T) \frac{T}{2U_d}$$

 $\sim$  "cascade efficiency": lies between 1 and ~0.3



# TRIM simulations of created damage



Depends on displacement energy: therefore, better to use deposited energy Dynamic annealing effects are neglected



# TRIM simulations of created damage

Important value for the created damage in solids by ion irradiation (or general by energetic particles) is the number

displacements per atom

**dpa** gives the number of displacements each atom of the solid has undergone for an ion beam with fluence F [cm<sup>-2</sup>]

 $n_d[dpa] = \frac{N_F F}{\rho N_A / m_A}$  ion fluence

In addition to the effect of "dynamic annealing" the recombination of Frenkel defects on a larger time scale has to be considered For this, diffusion of interstitials and vacancies have to be treated

→ "kinetic Monte-Carlo" (kMC) simulations

Single Ion Incident Simulation – full collision cascade (Binary Collision Approximation)

600 eV Ar<sup>+</sup>  $\rightarrow$  Si, normal incidence

Phase 1 – Ion Displacement

Phase 2 – Recoil Displacement



# Single Ion Incident Simulation: Thermally Activated Defect Movement (kMC)



red – ion (Ar) brown – vacancies green – bulk interstitials grey – lattice atoms (Si) dark grey – ad-atoms

- Defects Annihilation
- Migration of Interstitials and Vacancies
- Creation and Diffusion of Ad-atoms and Surface Vacancies

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# Sputtering

- sputtering is erosion, i.e. the removal of atoms from the surface, by ion irradiation
- dominant effect at low and medium ion energies (100 eV- 1 MeV)
- sputtering changes the implantation profile
- used extensively in industry for material removal, material deposition (ion beam sputter deposition)

sputter yield: 
$$Y \equiv \frac{\text{mean number of emitted atoms}}{\text{number of incident particles}}$$

in the energy range of 100 eV – 1 MeV Y ~ 0.3 -20 depending on ion species, ion energy, incidence angle, and target material

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# Depth of sputtering



- Firstly the surface is amorphized after a fluence of ~10<sup>15</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup>
- around 1 monolayer (ML) is sputtered at this fluence
- ejected atoms are coming from the first atomic ML of the target



Nastasi, Ion-Solid Interactions, Cambridge Solid State Science Series

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- for single-element material sputtering yields can be predicted in the linear cascade regime
- the sputter yield is proportional to the number of recoil atoms moving towards the surface



• Sigmund demonstrated with Boltzmann's transport equation that in the linear cascade regime the number of recoils is proportional to the energy deposited per unit depth in nuclear energy loss  $F_D(E_0, \theta, z)$ 

 $Y = \Lambda F_D(E_0, \theta, 0)$  with  $\Lambda$  a material factor

Λ contains all material parameters including surface binding energy





- correction factor  $\alpha$  is a dimensionless function of incidence angle  $\theta$  and mass ratio  $M_2/M_1$
- for  $M_2/M_1 < 0.5$ ,  $\alpha$  is constant and ~0.2 rises strongly for  $M_2/M_1 > 0.5$ approximation for the regime:  $0.5 < M_2/M_1 < 10$

$$\alpha = 0.3 (M_2 / M_1)^{2/3}$$

- increase of  $\alpha$  with M<sub>2</sub>/M<sub>1</sub> is due to rising importance of large-angle scattering events
- $\alpha$  also increases strongly with incidence angle  $\theta$



- recoils can only be ejected when they have an energy higher than the surface binding energy
- one can assume a planar surface barrier U:

$$P(E_r, \theta_r) = \begin{cases} 1, \ E_r \cos^2 \theta_r \ge U \\ 0, \ E_r \cos^2 \theta_r < U \end{cases}$$

 taking the nuclear stopping with the potential function V(r)~r<sup>-1/m</sup> (e.g. m=1/2)

$$\Lambda = \frac{\Gamma_m}{8(1-2m)} \frac{1}{NC_m U^{1-2m}}$$

$$Y = \frac{\Gamma_m}{8(1-2m)} \frac{\alpha NS_n(E_0,\theta,0)}{NC_m U^{1-2m}}$$



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# Sputtering



Only those particles are sputtered which escape the barrier U<sub>s</sub>



• for low energy recoils  $E_r \sim U$ , Sigmund proposed m=0

$$\Lambda = \frac{3}{4\pi^2} \frac{1}{NC_0 U} \quad \text{with} \quad C_0 = 0.0181 \,\text{nm}^2$$

Total sputtering yield:

$$Y(E,\theta) = 0.042 \frac{\alpha S_n(E)}{U}$$

Differential yield of sputtered atoms of energy  $\mathsf{E}_0$  into the solid angle  $\Omega_0$  around the emission angle  $\theta_0$ 

$$\frac{d^{3}Y}{dE_{0}d^{2}\Omega_{0}} = F_{D}(E,\theta,0)\frac{\Gamma_{m}}{4\pi}\frac{1-m}{NC_{m}}\frac{E_{0}}{(E_{0}+U)^{3-2m}}\cos\theta_{0}$$



### Energy dependence of sputter yield





- Nuclear stopping power: Ar<sup>+</sup> in GaSb
- Regime of 200 2000 eV is approximated by a power law with m=1/4

Energy dependence of sputter yield: TRIM



Sputter yield shows same power law dependence than  $S_n(E)$ 

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Energy dependence of sputter yield: TRIM



TRIM results for sputter yields are good from 50 eV – 1 MeV



### Energy of sputtered particles: TRIM





#### Energy spectrum of sputtered particles





### Sputtering: energy dependence

- at low energy the maximum energy transfer T to the target recoils can be smaller then U
- also single-collision regime is possible for light ions
- in this case the maximum energy received by the surface atom

$$E_0^{\max} = \gamma (1 - \gamma) E$$

• sputtering threshold can be derived from this

$$E_{thr} = \frac{U_s}{\gamma(1-\gamma)}$$



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### Sputtering threshold



threshold energy for sputtering depends on  $U_s$  and  $M_2/M_1$ 

# Sputtering threshold



Q and  $E_{th}$  are fitted to experimental data

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# Sigmund's Theory of Sputtering

- A cosine law is predicted for the angular emission of the sputtered particles (amorphous or polycrystalline materials) for normal incident ions
- This results from an isotropic flux of recoils in the target
- However, often deviation from the cosine law are observed
  - 1. under-cosine at low energies (collision cascade is not fully developed)
  - 2. over-cosine law at higher energies

$$\frac{dY(E,\theta)}{d^2\Omega} \sim \cos^\beta \theta$$

Normally,  $1 < \beta < 2$ , however, it can also have much larger values

- For off-normal angles of incidence cosine laws are not observed
- emission distribution is peaked at or near the specular direction







# Sigmund's Theory of Sputtering: angle dependence

• theoretical prediction:

$$\frac{Y(E,\theta)}{Y(E,0)} = (\cos\theta)^{-b}$$

$$b \sim \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } M_2 / M_1 > 5 \\ 5 / 3 & \text{for } M_2 / M_1 < 3 \end{cases}$$

for high angles of incidence reflection of ions is important

 $Y(\theta)$  decrease for  $\theta > \sim 60^{\circ}$ 



# Sputter yield: angle dependence



Yield increses with  $\theta^2$  until a maximum angle of ~65°

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# Sputtering from single crystals

- sputtering from single crystals are influenced by the crystallographic orientation of the target relative to the beam direction
- the sputter yield  $Y_{(uvw)}$  from a surface (uvw) increases with increasing interatomic distance  $d_{uvw}$  along the [uvw] direction
- for normal incidence on fcc targets:



the reason for this observation is the channeling effect

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# Sputtering of alloys and compounds

- sputtering is only from the first two three atomic layers
- sputtering yield is proportional to the nuclear stopping power of the incident ion in the near-surface region
- in a compound material two species A and B are present
   → "preferential sputtering" and surface segregation will be observed
- start of sputtering:
- partial sputter yield:
- ratio of sputter yields:

$$\frac{N_A^s}{N_B^s} = \frac{N_A^b}{N_B^b}$$

$$Y_{A,B} = \frac{\text{number of ejected atoms } A, B}{\text{number of incident ions}}$$
$$\frac{Y_A}{Y_B} = r \frac{N_A^s}{N_B^s}$$

r includes the effects of different binding energy, sputter escape depth, and energy transfer r~ 0.5 - 2



# Sputtering of alloys and compounds

in steady state:

$$\frac{Y_{A}\left(\infty\right)}{Y_{B}\left(\infty\right)} = \frac{N_{A}^{b}}{N_{B}^{b}}$$

and the surface concentration changes accordingly:

$$\frac{N_A^s(\infty)}{N_B^s(\infty)} = \frac{1}{r} \frac{N_A^b}{N_B^b}$$

if r>1, sputter yield of A is greater than sputter yield of B  $\rightarrow$  B is enriched on the surface

# Sputtering of alloys and compounds







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# **Preferential sputtering**

