

Drive High Power UVC-LED Wafer into Low-Cost 4-Inch Era: Effect of Strain Modulation

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Ultraviolet-C light-emitting diodes (UVC-LEDs) have great application in pathogen inactivation under various kinds of situations, especially in the fight against COVID-19. Unfortunately, its epitaxial wafers are so far limited to a size of 2 inches, which greatly increases the cost of massive production. In this work, a 4-inch crack-free high-power UVC-LED wafer is reported. This achievement relies on a proposed strain-tailored strategy, where a 3D to 2D (3D-2D) transition layer is introduced during the homo-epitaxy of AlN on the high temperature annealed (HTA)-AlN template, which successfully drives the original compressive strain into a tensile one and thus solves the challenge of realizing a high-quality Al_{0.6}Ga_{0.4}N layer with a flat surface. This smooth Al_{0.6}Ga_{0.4}N layer is nearly pseudomorphically grown on the strain-tailored HTA-AlN template, leading to 4-inch UVC-LED wafers with outstanding performances. The strategy succeeds in compromising the bottlenecked contradictory in producing a large-sized UVC-LED wafer on pronounced crystalline AlN template: The compressive strain in HTA-AlN allows for a crack-free 4-inch wafer, but at the same time leads to a deterioration of the AlGa_N morphology and crystal quality. The launch of 4-inch wafers makes the chip fabrication process of UVC-LEDs match the mature blue one, and will definitely speed up the universal application of UVC-LED in daily life.

light-emitting diodes (LEDs) at the ultraviolet-C (wavelength ≤ 280 nm) emission range. It has been confirmed encouragingly perspective for the ultra-fast sterilization toward SARS-CoV-2 within 1 s.^[1–7] In the past decades, in order to fabricate high-performance UVC-LED, various techniques have been proposed to seek excellent crystalline AlN templates on UVC-transparent sapphire substrates.^[8–19] In spite that the epitaxial lateral overgrowth (ELOG)^[4,20–22] and high-temperature annealing (HTA)^[23,24] strategies act as landmarks to fulfill the demands, both of them expose respective fatal shortcomings. Although 2-inch single-crystalline AlN templates with threading dislocation (TD) density down to $\approx 10^8$ cm⁻² is achieved by ELOG on a nanopatterned sapphire substrate (NPSS), the lateral coalescing process produces intensive tensile strain that depressingly causes terrible cracks in 2-inch wafer.^[25] On the other hand, from the viewpoint of industrial production, the complex

preparation procedure of NPSS and necessary 3–4- μ m-thick AlN layer for coalescing and dislocation annihilation^[26,27] unambiguously raise the cost. Recently, HTA is another highly admired technique for producing excellent crystalline AlN template due to its capability of reducing TD density down to 5×10^8 cm⁻² at a thickness < 1 μ m.^[23,24] And UVC-LEDs with wavelengths of 268 and 265 nm have been successfully fabricated on HTA-AlN.^[28,29] Moreover, the existence of compressive strain in HTA-AlN templates successfully suppresses cracks that happen on AlN/NPSS templates,^[25] thus illuminating the avenue toward 4-inch crack-free UVC-LED wafers, which directly matches the current mature industry process of GaN-based blue LED. Nevertheless, the exhibiting compressive-strain leads to serious surface roughening, lattice relaxation, and fresh-born TDs in the AlGa_N epilayer especially when the Al mole fraction is 60% or lower:^[30–33] The intensive compressive strain increases the surface diffusion barrier energy of Ga and Al adatoms, leading to hexagonal spiral island-growth of AlGa_N layers along the screw- and mix-type dislocations that exhibit a component of the displacement vector normal to the growth surface.^[34–36] Furthermore, due to the larger diffusion capability and incorporation efficiency of Ga adatoms than those of Al, compositional inhomogeneity occurs along the


1. Introduction

The explosion of COVID-19 has been greatly impacting the world and intensively activated the development of

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slope of the hexagonal hillocks, resulting in a degradation of device performance.^[35,37] Thus, the compressive strain caused morphology roughening yields a series of terrible problems in following UVC-LED epitaxy, acting as the main obstacle of HTA-AlN in UVC-LED fabrication.

Therefore, exploring a strategy solving crystalline quality, cracks, and surface roughening by controlling strain is of significant importance, especially for driving the high-performance UVC-LED into a 4-inch size era that has never been approached in the field.

In this work, we initialize the high-performance 4-inch crack-free UVC-LED wafer. Through a strain-tailored strategy, i.e., introducing a 3D to 2D (3D-2D) transition layer on a 4-inch high-crystal-quality HTA-AlN template, the original compressive strain is successfully tuned into a tensile one without sacrificing crystalline quality in the epitaxy process. As a result, crack and surface roughening are simultaneously suppressed. This work will promote the universalization of UVC-LED by utilizing low-cost 4-inch HTA-AlN templates particularly in terms of its compatibility with the current GaN-based blue LED process.

2. Results and Discussion

2.1. Epitaxy and Characterization of 4-Inch AlN Templates

The 4-inch HTA-AlN template was prepared via an ex-situ high-temperature recrystallization process of 500-nm-thick AlN film deposited by physical vapor deposition (PVD). For comparison, a 4-inch AlN template on NPSS (AlN/NPSS) with a hole-type pattern was grown by metal-organic chemical vapor deposition (MOCVD) through performing the ELOG technique presented in our previous work.^[2,38] Herein, the X-ray diffraction (XRD) rocking curves of (002) and (102) planes of HTA-AlN are shown in Figure S4 (Supporting Information), with the full width at half maximums (FWHM) of 52 and 197 arcsec, respectively. According to the mosaic model, the total threading dislocation density (TDD) is estimated as $5 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-2}$,^[39] which is comparable to that of AlN/NPSS (TDD: $\approx 7 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-2}$, estimated from $\text{FWHM}_{002/102} = 95/254 \text{ arcsec}$). Therefore, it is good enough to act as a promising platform to construct UVC-LED.^[33,40] Before UVC-LED epitaxy, the 200-nm-thick AlN regrowth layer was homo-epitaxially grown by MOCVD on two kinds of AlN templates to ensure the fresh surface for subsequent UVC-LED epitaxy. In an attempt to develop an intuitive observation of our concerned surface-cracking situation, wafer-scaled mappings of the surface cracks were performed for the two types of AlN templates, where the green area denotes the crack region (Figure 1a,b). It is clearly shown that the AlN/NPSS endures terrible cracks in the wafer, as presented in Figure 1a. The quantitative count of cracks is 1607 pieces, as shown in Figure S2 (Supporting Information). On these two AlN templates, a conventional UVC-LED structure was epitaxially grown, which consists of AlGaIn buffer layer, *n*-AlGaIn layer, multiple quantum wells (MQWs), electron blocking layer, and the *p*-AlGaIn/*p*-GaIn layers, as schematically shown in Figure 5a. Figure 1c presents the optical microscopy image of as-grown UVC-LED epilayer on the AlN/NPSS template. The cracks in AlN/NPSS are reprinted

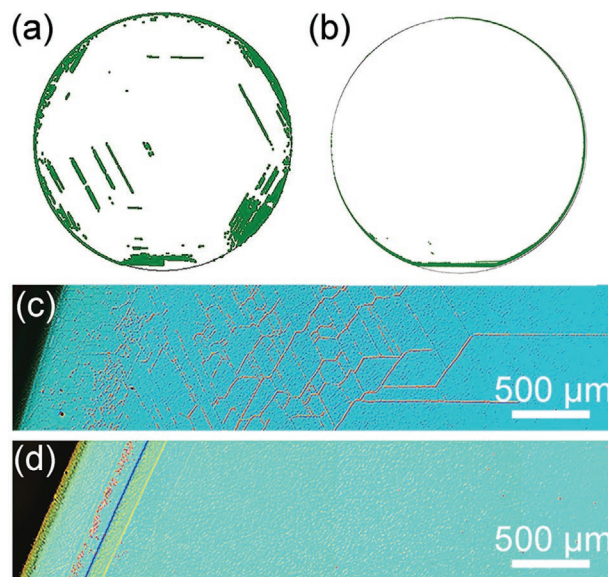


Figure 1. (Color online) The crack distributions in a) 4-inch AlN/NPSS and b) 4-inch HTA-AlN templates, as well as the corresponding optical microscopy images of LED wafers based on c) 4-inch AlN/NPSS and d) 4-inch HTA-AlN templates.

in the LED wafer, even in the central part of the wafer as shown in Figure S3 (Supporting Information). Such a terrible crack is caused by the intensive tensile strain in the AlN template which is induced by the continuous AlN grain nucleation and merging during the ELOG process,^[27,41] as schematically shown in Figure 2a. Compared with AlN on NPSS, AlN grown on flat sapphire substrate usually presents more cracks at the same thickness, as depicted in Figure 2b, because there is no naturally existing air void structure in the AlN epilayer to release tensile stress.^[33,42] Whereas for our 4-inch HTA-AlN template, both the high crystalline quality and the crack suppression are simultaneously compromised, as shown in Figure 2c: After the recrystallization process at high temperature, the quality of as-sputtered AlN film is improved by rearrangement of the AlN crystal lattice.^[43,44] Then in the cooling process, the thermomismatch between AlN and sapphire results in a compressive strain in AlN. As shown in Figure 1b,d, in contrast to the crack morphology on both AlN/NPSS and corresponding LED wafer, only a slight peeling happens at the edge region which is less than 0.5 mm away from the wafer boundary in both HTA-AlN template and LED epilayer. To quantitatively verify the different roles of the strain in the epitaxial layer, X-ray diffraction (XRD) reciprocal spacing mappings (RSM) of the AlN (105) plane were performed, and results are shown in Figure 2d,e, respectively. The free-standing AlN exhibits Q_x and Q_z values of 0.2858 and 0.7730, respectively, and the position is marked as white stars in the figures. According to the Bragg rule, Q_x is in reverse proportion of the in-plane lattice constant a [$Q_x = \lambda/(\sqrt{3}a)$, where $\lambda = 0.15406 \text{ nm}$ is the wavelength of X-ray]. It is observed that the mapping peak position of HTA-AlN has larger Q_x and smaller Q_z values than those of free-standing AlN, indicating the existence of compressive strain. On the contrary, the AlN/NPSS presents smaller Q_x and larger Q_z values in comparison with those of free-standing AlN, suggesting the presence of tensile strain.

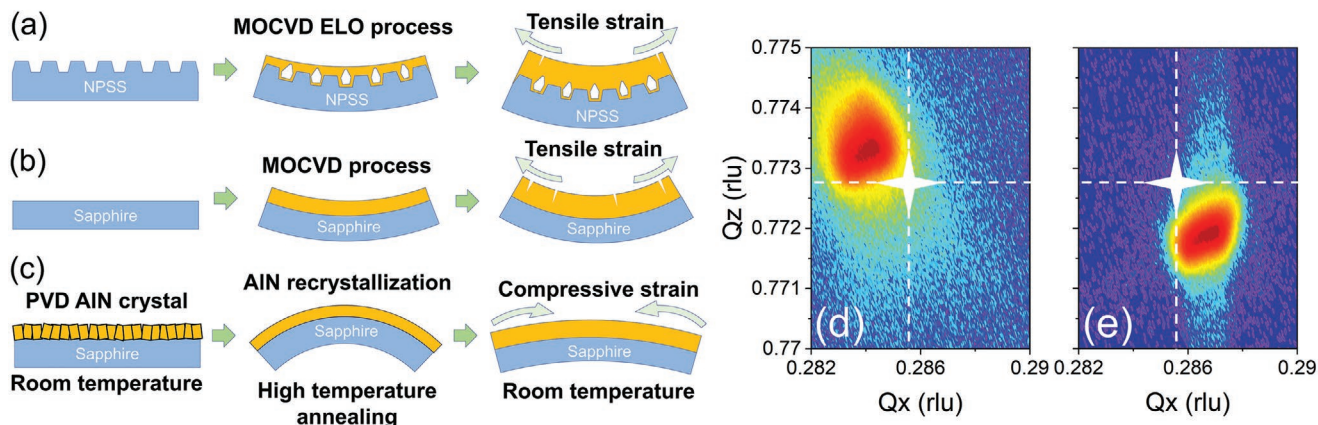


Figure 2. (Color online) The scheme of a) AIN/NPSS, b) AIN/flat sapphire substrate, c) HTA-AIN template preparation which present different types of inner-strain; The X-ray diffraction of (105) plane RSMs of d) AIN/NPSS and e) HTA-AIN. The diffraction peak of strain-free (105) plane AIN is star-marked.

2.2. UVC-LED Fabrication on 4-Inch HTA-AIN

As mentioned, the homo-epitaxial AIN layer was grown on the HTA-AIN template by MOCVD and the morphology is recorded by atomic force microscopy (AFM). As shown in **Figure 3b**, a nice step bunching microscopic morphology with a root-mean-square roughness of 3 nm is observed. However, although the

crystalline quality and surface morphology of HTA-AIN both satisfy the requirement for following AlGaIn layer epitaxy, the compressive strain conceivably poses a tough challenge in the subsequent AlGaIn growth: Due to the initial spiral steps provided by screw- and mixed-type dislocations and the larger diffusion mobility and incorporation efficiency of Ga adatoms at steps compared with Al adatoms, AlGaIn layer presents

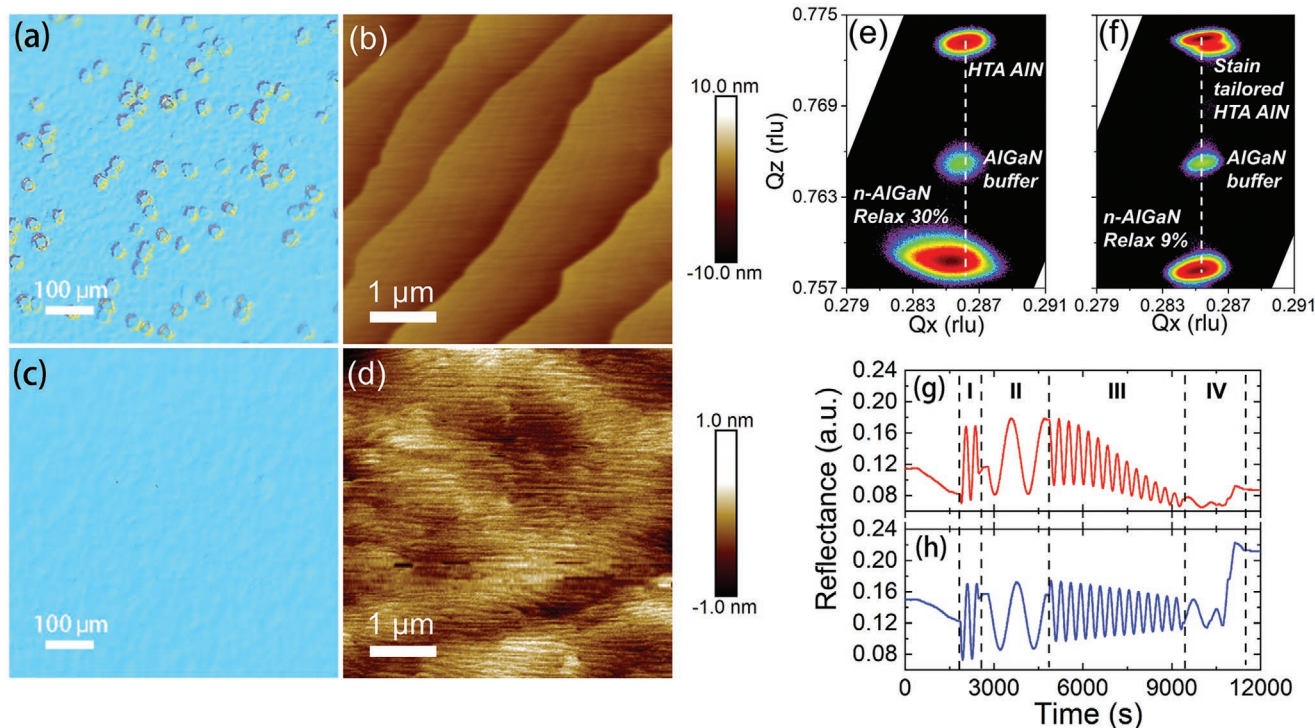


Figure 3. (Color online) The optical microscopy images of the UVC-LED wafers on HTA AIN a) without and c) with 3D-2D transition layer. The atomic force microscopy images of the HTA-AIN after AIN regrowth b) without and d) with 3D-2D transition layer. The X-ray (105) plane RSMs of UVC-LED structure on HTA-AIN templates e) without and f) with 3D-2D transition layer. The diffraction pattern broadening is generally considered a distinctive reference for the quality of AlGaIn layer. From the peak positions of n-AlGaIn and AIN RSM, the relaxation ratios are calculated to be 30% and 9%. The in-situ 405 nm reflectance curves of the UVC-LED grown on HTA-AIN g) without and h) with 3D-2D transition layer. The corresponding different stages in the UVC-LED epitaxy are marked with dashed lines: Zone I (AIN regrowth), Zone II (AlGaIn buffer layer), Zone III (n-AlGaIn layer), and Zone IV (MQW and p-type region).

hexagonal-hillock morphology with composition inhomogeneity.^[37,45–47] Such a phenomenon is further enhanced by compressive strain, leading to serious hexagonal island growth mode of the *n*-type AlGa_N layer and thus terrible surface roughening in following UVC-LED epitaxy,^[30,33,48–50] as shown in Figure 3a. It is worth noting that the growth mode of *n*-type AlGa_N layer is the dominant factor to influence the quality of subsequent epitaxy. On one hand, the island-growth mode introduces tremendous dislocations into the *n*-AlGa_N layer whose crystalline quality is continuously deteriorated upon increasing thickness. The freshly generated dislocations are harmful to the radiative recombination in multiple quantum wells (MQWs).^[35,51] On the other hand, serious lattice relaxation takes place with surface roughening due to the compressive strain relaxation. Such a relaxation further decreases the transverse electric (TE)-polarized (which is perpendicular to *c*-plane) emission from the MQWs by modulating the valence bands of AlGa_N.^[52] Therefore, the light extraction efficiency is reduced. In our experiment, by referring to the 0% relaxation line (represented by white dashed line), the relaxation ratio is $\approx 30\%$ in *n*-AlGa_N, as estimated from XRD RSM of (105) plane shown in Figure 3e. It is observed that the average intensity, as well as the amplitude of the in-situ recorded reflectance at 405 nm both, decrease rapidly as shown in Figure 3g, indicating surface deterioration. Embarrassingly, it seems that the advantage of compressive strain towards crack-suppression is becoming an obstacle when taking into account of *n*-AlGa_N morphology.

From the above discussion, we can conclude that strain control is the key point to solve the trade-off between crack generation and morphology degeneration of *n*-AlGa_N. We then propose a 3D-2D transition layer on the HTA-AlN template to smoothen the surface of the *n*-AlGa_N epilayer as well as the upper UVC-LED structure, i.e., a strain-tailored strategy. The 3D-2D transition layer growth process is schematically shown in Figure 4a and the corresponding in-situ reflectance curve is shown in Figure 4b. During the 3D growth stage, a lot of AlN crystal grains homo-epitaxially grow on the HTA-AlN. Because the crystallographic orientation of these introduced AlN islands is highly identical to that of the HTA-AlN template, the outstanding crystalline quality of AlN is well kept as the small AlN grains merge into larger ones. The 3D growth process results in surface roughening, therefore the surface reflectance decreases at this stage as shown in Figure 4b. During the subsequent 2D recovery process, the AlN crystal grains introduced in the 3D growth procedure tend to interconnect to reduce the effective area of the surface, because the tensile strain energy created by the coalescing is smaller than the surface free energy of 3D island-like surface.^[41] As a result, the recovery of surface flatness in the 2D growth stage successfully restores the surface reflectance intensity.

To confirm the crystal merging induced strain-modification, the (105) RSM of the modulated HTA-AlN is performed as shown in Figure 4c. An obvious position shift of the AlN diffraction peak representing the tensile strain is shown and the pattern broadening does not show deterioration, which confirms that our growth strategy succeeds in reversing the strain state without obviously deteriorating the crystal quality. After adding the 3D-2D transition layer, different from the step bunching morphology of native HTA-AlN after regrowth, the surface

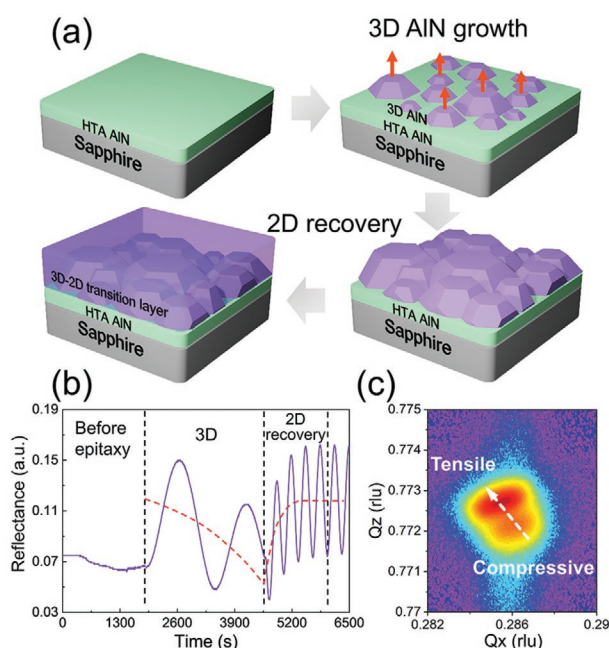


Figure 4. (Color online) a) Schematic and b) corresponding in-situ 405 nm reflectance curve of the 3D-2D transition layer growth process on HTA-AlN. The red dashed line is a guideline for eyes to catch the trend of the average intensity of the reflectance curve. c) The X-ray (105) plane RSM of strain-tailored HTA-AlN template. The trace of strain shift is marked by the white dashed arrow.

dramatically transforms to a step-flow morphology (root-mean-square roughness = 0.2 nm), as shown in Figure 3d. The crystalline quality of the HTA-AlN with transition layer is characterized by XRD and the FWHMs are 58/237 arcsec for (002)/(102) plane rocking curves, respectively, as shown in Figure S4 (Supporting Information). Such a tiny increase of FWHMs is negligible for the subsequent LED epitaxy. It is worth noting that, in conventional 3D AlN growth on sapphire, the lattice mismatch between AlN and sapphire causes lots of dislocations in the AlN islands and the inhomogeneous orientation of AlN grains induces new dislocations when the crystal grains merge. For our proposed strategy, the homo-epitaxially grown 3D AlN grains have very consistent *c*-axis orientation and rotation angle (indicated by the parallel red arrows in Figure 4a). Hence tensile strain is induced without obviously deteriorating the crystal quality at the 2D coalescing stage.

Thanks to the strain modulation, a UVC-LED wafer with a smooth surface is achieved, as shown in Figure 3c. The (105) plane RSM shown in Figure 3f was performed to demonstrate the epitaxy quality of the *n*-AlGa_N layer on the modified HTA-AlN.^[53,54] It is observed that the broadening of the *n*-AlGa_N diffraction pattern is close to that of the AlN pattern and is narrower than that of the untreated sample (Figure 3e). Accordingly, a relaxation degree of only 9% is estimated from the *n*-AlGa_N diffraction pattern. Therefore, the *n*-AlGa_N layer is nearly pseudomorphically grown and has excellent crystal quality. Figure 3g,h presents the in-situ reflectance curves of the whole UVC-LED epitaxy process on the treated and untreated HTA-AlN templates, respectively. In Zone III shown in Figure 3h (the *n*-AlGa_N growth part), the reflectance curve

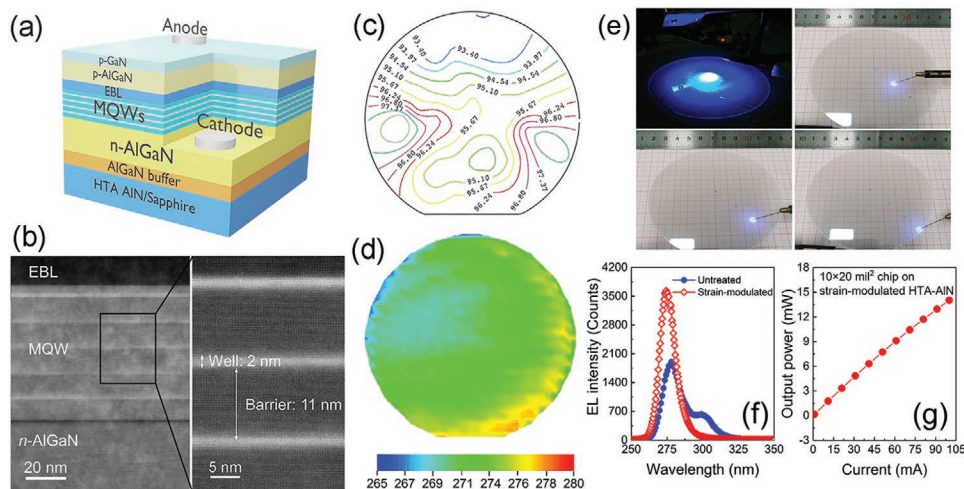


Figure 5. (Color online) a) Schematic diagram of the UVC-LED structure prepared by MOCVD on 4-inch strain-modified HTA-AlN template; b) HAADF-STEM images of the UVC-LED as well as MQWs region. It is observed that the 5-period MQW region consists of 2-nm-thick $\text{Al}_{0.43}\text{Ga}_{0.57}\text{N}$ wells and 11-nm-thick $\text{Al}_{0.52}\text{Ga}_{0.48}\text{N}$ barriers; c) The sheet resistance mapping (unit: Ω/sq), d) PL wavelength mapping (unit: nm) and e) the photographs of EL of the 4-inch UVC-LED wafer on strain-tailored HTA-AlN template; f) The wavelength-dependent EL and g) output power as a function of current for flip-chip UVC-LED on HTA-AlN templates.

of the strain-modified sample shows a stable oscillation with a large average intensity, indicating 2D-growth and a flat surface of the $n\text{-AlGaIn}$ layer. Whereas the reflectance intensity for the native HTA-AlN continuously decreases to a small value, indicating surface roughening of the $n\text{-AlGaIn}$ layer (Figure 3g). As a result, with the aid of a 3D-2D transition layer, we achieved an excellent UVC-LED structure with flat surface.

To demonstrate the following epitaxy quality, the high-angle annular dark-field scanning transmission electron microscopy (HAADF-STEM) was performed and the result is shown in Figure 5b that focuses on the MQWs region. The shallow and dark regions represent quantum wells and barriers, respectively. It is clearly shown that the thicknesses of the quantum well and barrier are 2 and 11 nm, respectively. Within the detection limit, no visible dislocation is observed in the scan region. Moreover, the atomically sharp interface between the well and barrier regions indicates the excellent crystalline quality of MQWs.^[55]

Despite the strain-tailored HTA-AlN based 4-inch UVC-LED displays promising prospects, it exists a shortage. Due to the strong compressive strain and large lattice and thermo-coefficient mismatch between epitaxial AlGaIn/AlN and sapphire substrate, there exists a serious bow with a value as large as $\approx 200 \mu\text{m}$. The bowing results in an inhomogeneous temperature and flow field over the wafer during epitaxy in MOCVD, acting as a challenge to obtain a homogeneous layer especially when wafer size is scaled up.^[33,56] Besides, the large bow leads to difficulties in the UVC-LED chip fabrication such as vacuum chuck handling and a curved focus plane in lithography.^[33] Therefore, how to reduce the above-mentioned bow is regarded as one of the bottlenecks to match UVC-LED fabrication with the conventional blue-LED chip process. Here, we propose a scratching idea on the backside of the sapphire substrate and successfully reduce the bow down to $\approx 150 \mu\text{m}$ by scratching a line. It is known that the umbrella shape bow of UVC-LED originates from thermal stress between the AlN/AlGaIn epitaxial

layer and the sapphire substrate during the cooling process of epitaxy. By introducing a scratch along the radial direction of the sapphire substrate, the created gap-space partially releases thermal stress. In spite that our scratch line is not completely cut through, the bow is partially reduced and the excellent AlN crystal quality is well kept. This strategy does do a great favor in improving the process and further promoting the HTA-AlN template in large UVC-LED wafers.

To demonstrate the uniformity of our UVC-LED wafer quantitatively, the sheet resistance and photoluminescence (PL) mapping were measured. As shown in Figure 5c, the results verify superior electrical uniformity of the UVC-LED wafer with an average sheet resistance of $95 \Omega \text{sq}^{-1}$ and an excellent wafer non-uniformity of $\approx 1\%$. This promises the working voltage stability and electrical uniformity of LED chips within the wafer. Moreover, as described by the wafer-scaled wavelength mapping measured by PL shown in Figure 5d, excellent emission homogeneity is demonstrated by the small standard deviation of emission wavelength with a value of 2 nm at center emission wavelength of 275 nm. To intuitively test the electric-driven emission of the 4-inch UVC-LED wafer, the wafer-scale electroluminescence (EL) was measured and illustrated in Figure 5e: Four points were randomly selected to roughly examine the emission uniformity. It is seen that all points present UV-irradiation that qualitatively proves the homogeneity. Figure 5f shows the EL spectra of the fabricated UVC-LEDs on the strain-modulated and untreated HTA-AlN templates. The sample without transition layer shows a double-peak emission that is ascribed to phase separation in AlGaIn layers of MQWs, while the modulated one shows single peak emission. Besides, the output power of the untreated sample is much lower than that of the strain-tailored one. Figure 5g shows the current dependent output power of a $10 \times 20 \text{ mil}^2$ UVC-LED chip on strain-modulated HTA-AlN. At a forward current of 100 mA, an output power of 14 mW is obtained at the wavelength of 275 nm, where the FWHM is as small as 11 nm.

3. Conclusion

In conclusion, we initiated the crack-free 4-inch high power UVC-LED on the HTA-AlN template by setting up a 3D-2D transition AlN layer. This strategy solves the most challenging issue of HTA-AlN based LED epilayer: surface roughening induced by compressive strain. Moreover, the intensive wafer bowing induced by thermo-mismatch between the AlGaN and sapphire substrate is reduced by 25% through the strategy of “backside scratch”. Our 4-inch UVC-LED will promote UVC-LED popularization by both reducing cost and enhancing productivity.

4. Experimental Section

Preparation of AlN Templates: The preparation of a 4-inch high-quality AlN template was carried out by combing sputtering with high-temperature face-to-face annealing. C-plane sapphire with miscut angles of c to m $0.2 \pm 0.1^\circ$ and c to a $0 \pm 0.1^\circ$ was used as the substrate. During the sputtering process, pure aluminum (99.999%) was used as the sputtering target. The sputtering power and temperature were set as 3000 W and 550 °C, respectively. The mixture of argon and nitrogen was the sputtering atmosphere with the volume ratio of 1:4. Calibrated by ellipsometry, the thickness of the obtained layer was determined as 500 nm. During the annealing operation, a specific face-to-face operation was used, and the annealing ambient was set as nitrogen (99.99%). The annealing condition was set as 1700 °C for 5 h. Subsequently, the sample was cooling down to room temperature under nitrogen ambient. The AlN films on NPSS were epitaxially grown in the Prismo HiT3™ MOCVD system. H₂ and N₂ were used as the carrier gas for the epitaxial process. Trimethyl-aluminum (TMAI) and ammonia (NH₃) were used as Al and N precursors, respectively. Prior to the epitaxy of AlN films, a 15-nm-thick AlN layer was deposited on NPSS by magnetron sputtering as a nucleation layer. The AlN epitaxy growth on NPSS was consisted of three stages: (i) a 200-nm-thick layer growth in three-dimensional (3D) model (temperature = 1100 °C, pressure = 100 Torr); (ii) the lateral overgrowth with a thickness of 1.8 μm (temperature = 1250 °C, pressure = 40 Torr); (iii) a 2-μm continuing growth (temperature = 1200 °C pressure = 30 Torr).

Epitaxial Growth of UVC-LED on HTA-AlN Template: UVC-LED structure epitaxy was grown on the obtained HTA-AlN templates by Prismo HiT3™ MOCVD system. Trimethylgallium (TMGa), trimethylaluminum (TMAI), and ammonia (NH₃) were used as Ga, Al, and N precursors, respectively. H₂ and N₂ were used as carrier gases. SiH₄ and CpMg were used as the doping source of *n*-type and *p*-type AlGaN. For the 3D-2D transition layer, the AlN 3D growth was performed at 1100 °C with the chamber pressure of 100 Torr. The thickness was 160 nm. The 2D recovery layer growth was performed at 1250 °C with the chamber pressure of 30 Torr. The thickness was 400 nm; The growth continued with a 140 nm thick Al_{0.8}Ga_{0.2}N buffer layer and 1100 nm thick Si-doped *n*-Al_{0.60}Ga_{0.40}N layer at 1100 °C. The subsequent MQWs region consisted of five pairs of 2 nm thick Al_{0.43}Ga_{0.57}N quantum well layers and 11 nm thick Al_{0.52}Ga_{0.48}N quantum barrier layers. Subsequently, a Mg-doped 15 nm thick Al_{0.8}Ga_{0.2}N layer was grown on the MQW region as an electron blocking layer (EBL). The growth was terminated with a *p*-Al_{0.6}Ga_{0.4}N layer and a subsequent 20 nm *p*-GaN layer. After epitaxial growth, the standard UVC-LED chip processing was performed by mask layer deposition, photolithography, reactive ion etching, and sputtering techniques to fabricate 10 mil × 20 mil chips.

Characterization: The surface crack mappings of the 4-inch wafer were measured by KLA-Tencor Candela CS20. The crystalline quality and RSM patterns of AlN templates and UVC-LED structures were characterized by a PANalytical X'Pert3 MRD XL system operating at 40 mA and 45 kV using Cu Kα1 radiation (0.154056 nm). The sheet resistance mapping was measured by Semilab LEI-1510 to demonstrate the uniformity

of electrical properties. The PL mapping of the UVC-LED wafer was performed by the Etamax PLATO PL system including a laser (216 nm) as an excitation source.

Supporting Information

Supporting Information is available from the Wiley Online Library or from the author.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Data Availability Statement

Research data are not shared.

Keywords

4-inch, AlN, high-temperature annealing, strain modulation, ultraviolet-C light-emitting diode

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