

Atomic layer deposition of HfO₂ thin film using a novel heteroleptic Ethylenediamine based Hf precursor

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Group 4 metal oxide materials such as ZrO₂, TiO₂, and HfO₂ have attracted considerable attention for dielectric materials for microelectronic devices. HfO₂ film has an outstanding high-dielectric constant ($\kappa \sim 20-25$, t-HfO₂), large band gap Energy ($E_g, \sim 6.0$ eV) and good thermal stability. For these reasons, the HfO₂ thin film is applicable to microelectronic devices such as the dynamic random access memory (DRAM) capacitors and central processing memory (CPU) gate dielectric application.

In this study, we propose a novel heteroleptic ethylenediamine based Hf precursor namely HEA. The physical characteristics of HEA were investigated by NMR Spectroscopy. Also, we measured the properties of the HfO₂ thin film of HEA against usually used CpTDMAH by thermal atomic layer deposition (TALD).

The evaporation characteristics of HEA and CpTDMAH were carried out in a thermogravimetric analysis (TGA). The amount of residue was about < 0.45 % for HEA, which had a less residue compared to CpTDMAH (< 0.98 %). For both precursors HEA and CpTDMAH, the characteristic self-limiting ALD growth mode was confirmed. The growth rate of HEA was 1.19 Å/cycle with ozone as a reactant gas and showed a low temperature ALD window in a range of 150–250°C.

HfO₂ thin film properties were investigated by SIMS depth profile and Transmission electron microscope (TEM). The deposited film of HEA represented better step coverage and improved carbon impurity compared to that of CpTDMAH. From this study, HEA is expected to be an advantageous precursor for low temperature thin film deposition technique.

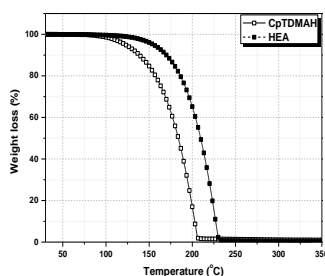


Fig 1. Thermogravimetric analysis

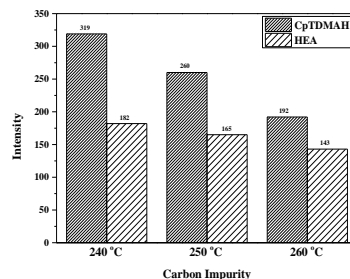


Fig 2. SIMS depth profile

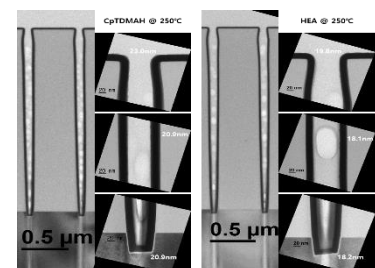


Fig 3. TEM image