Unusual compositional dependence of the exciton reduced mass in $GaAs_{1-x}Bi_x$ (x=0-10%)

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- Bismuth in GaAs:
- electronic properties
- magneto-photoluminescence (0-30 T) and exciton reduced mass determination
- evidence for a largely perturbed band structure

Ga(As,Bi) expected trends



P. Carrier and S.-H. Wei, Phys. Rev. B 70, 035212 (2004)

Ga(As,Bi) expected trends

A. Janotti, S.-H. Wei, and S. B. Zhang, Phys. Rev. B 65, 115203 (2002)



Predicted E_g = -1.45 eV for GaBi density functional formalism and LDA (64-atom cell calculation) Expected *band gap reduction* following (heavier anion)-(smaller gap) rule

Y. Zhang, A. Mascarenhas, and L. –W. Wang, Phys. Rev. B 71, 155201 (2005)



- Localization of <u>valence band</u> states at Bi atoms
- Bi generates an impurity state (E_{Bi}) 80 meV
 <u>below</u> the VBM
- Pressure coefficient of E_{Bi} similar to GaAs, <u>no</u> Bi state emerging from the VB density functional formalism and LDA

Ga(As,Bi) observed trends



Ga(As,Bi) observed trends

B. Fluegel et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 97, 067205 (2006)



$$\Delta_0(\text{GaAs}_{1-x}\text{Bi}_x) = x \Delta_0^{\text{GaBi}} + (1-x)\Delta_0^{\text{GaAs}} - \boldsymbol{b}x (1-x)$$
$$\Delta_0^{\text{GaBi}} = 2.15 \,\text{eV} \quad \Delta_0^{\text{GaAs}} = 0.34 \,\text{eV}$$

 $b = -6.0 \, \text{eV}$ (GaAs_{1-x}N_x; Δ_0 constant)

Potential for spintronics

10 Ultrafast photoresponse in the NIR 0.8 for emitters and detectors of 0.6 0.4 pulsed THz radiation

K. Bertulis et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 88, 201112 (2006)



FIG. 3. Optical pump induced temporal changes of the transmitted THz field magnitude measured on two different GaBiAs samples.

S. Francoeur et al., Phys. Rev. B 77, 085209 (2008)

Ga(As,Bi): what about the carrier mass?



We address the carrier effective mass in Ga(As,Bi) by magneto-photoluminescence

The samples



The samples



High-magnetic field measurements



B = 0 - 33 T Model of a helix-stacked magnet coil. The white discs are insulators.

Nijmegen

The Netherlands

- Chilled by 10⁴ l/min deionised water at 30 atm at 10 °C.

1 hour magnet time costs 1,000 €

Why 200 K?



Localized excitons dominate low-T photoluminescence

G. Pettinari et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 92, 262105 (2008)

Why 200 K?



Accurate choice of measurement power and temperature

R. Kudrawiec et al., J. Appl. Phys. 106, 023518 (2009)



S. Imhof et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. 96, 131115 (2010)





At high power carrier scattering disrupts the coherence of the electron/hole cyclotron orbit

G. Pettinari et al., Phys. Rev. B 81, 235211 (2010)



At high power carrier scattering disrupts the coherence of the electron/hole cyclotron orbit

G. Pettinari et al., Phys. Rev. B 81, 235211 (2010)





. . . back to GaAsBi



Localized excitons behave differently

Magneto-PL: analysis

B-induced shift of given by

(see D. Cabib, E. Fabri, and G. Fiorio, Il Nuovo Cimento 10B, 185 (1972))



The exciton reduced mass does not depend on excitation power

Magneto-PL: analysis

High-temperature PL: free-exciton or free-carrier ?



Magneto-PL: analysis

High-temperature PL: free-exciton or free-carrier ?



Magneto-PL: results



Non monotonic dependence of the exciton reduced mass on Bi concentration

G. Pettinari et al., Phys. Rev. B 81, 235211 (2010)

Magneto-PL: results



G. Pettinari et al., Phys. Rev. B 81, 235211 (2010)

Exciton reduced mass



Non conventional compositional dependence followed by a $k \cdot p$ -like behavior

۰C 6

 Γ_5^{V}







Tendency to Bi atom clustering may perturb CB structure

The *unexpected* increase of the carrier mass indicates a highly perturbed band structure.

The plateau value (0.08 m_0) is not conceivable with a perturbation exerting on the VB only.

 $1/\mu_{\rm exc}=1/m_{\rm e}+1/m_{\rm h}$ $m_{\rm h}\rightarrow\infty,\ \mu_{\rm exc}=0.067\ m_{\rm 0}$ <u>The CB has to be perturbed, too</u>



G. Pettinari *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B **81**, 235211 (2010)

... alternatively



The plateau value $(0.08 m_0)$ is not conceivable with a perturbation exerting on the VB only. The CB has to be perturbed, too

 $m_{\rm h} \rightarrow \infty$, $\mu_{\rm exc}$ =0.067 m_0

Bi is assumed to substitute As (valence 5) But, Bi is usually trivalent due to large separation between 6s² and 6p³ electrons (A. Zunger, private communication) A rather strong tendency of Bi to substitute for Ga could be expected



In fact, . . .

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

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Identification of the Bi_{Ga} heteroantisite defect in GaAs:Bi

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H. M. Hobgood and R. N. Thomas

Westinghouse Science and Technology Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (Received 8 December 1992)

GaAs lightly doped with the heaviest group-V atom, bismuth (Bi), has been studied by conventional electron-spin resonance (ESR) and by ESR detected via the magnetic-circular-dichroism (MCD) absorption. A new Bi-related sharp-line MCD band has been observed on which two MCD-ESR lines have been discovered. They are shown to arise from the singly ionized Bi_{Ga} double donor. Most remarkably, a substantial fraction, about 10%, of the total Bi content is found to occupy the Ga site. The Bi_{Ga} MCD absorption band is tentatively assigned to an exciton deeply bound to the singly ionized double donor Bi_{Ga}^+ .



FIG. 2. The Bi_{Ga}^+ MCD absorption band following quenching of the $As_{Ga} EL2^+$ MCD band.

IDENTIFICATION OF THE Bi_{Ga} HETEROANTISITE DEFECT ...

| | g | A (GHz) | A / A_f | Formation probability <i>f</i> | (0/+) level below E_c (eV) |
|---------------------------|-------|---------|-----------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| P _{Ga} | 1.99 | 1.80 | 0.140 | \frown | |
| As _{Ga} | 2.04 | 2.70 | 0.184 | $\sim 10^{-6}$ | 0.75 |
| 121 Sb _{Ga} | 2.02 | 6.61 | 0.188 | $\sim 10^{-3}$ | 0.48 |
| Bi _{Ga} | 2.055 | 10.96 | 0.141 | $\sim 10^{-1}$ | 0.35-0.50 |

TABLE I. Parameters for group-V antisites in GaAs.

M. Kunzer et al., Phys. Rev. B 48, 4437 (1993)



Then, what CB structure is expected for (<u>GaBi</u>)As?



The recovery of a conventionalalloy behaviour above *x*>8% points toward a restoration of a random atomic distribution of Bi atoms.

 $N_3(A)$

G. Ciatto et al., private communication

(e)

N₄(A+1)

 $N_3(B)$

(c)

(d)



The recovery of a conventionalalloy behaviour above *x*>8% points toward a restoration of a random atomic distribution of Bi atoms.



G. Ciatto et al., private communication



Alternatively, the formation of Bi antisites is less likely above a certain Bi concentration The peculiar dependence of the exciton reduced mass reveals an transition of the nature of the band extrema from impurity-like to band-like.

The compositional dependence of the carrier effective mass mirrors major changes occurring in the structural properties of the lattice:

- disorder to order transition

- formation of Bi_{Ga} antisites highlighting the competing characteristics of Bi as a metal and a group V element

The decrease in the carrier effective mass for x>8% turns out to be of particular interest in all those applications where carrier mobility is a relevant issue.