Deposition of a lateral gradient chalcogenide glass film via PVD thermal evaporator



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Fun Fact: Corvallis is a hotspot for bird watching.



Background-Chalcogenide Glasses

Chalcogenide glasses are a family of inorganic amorphous materials containing chalcogen elements.

Chalcogenide glasses possess exceptional optical properties such as broadband IR transparency and large optical nonlinearity, making them particularly advantageous for microphotonics.



http://web.mit.edu/hujuejun/www/ My%20Papers/Journal%20Papers/C halcogenide%20glass%20microphot onics%20--%20Stepping%20into%20the%20sp

otlight.pdf

Nonlinear optical functionalities

Supercontinuum generation

- Wavelength-division multiplexing
- λ conversion

Amplification and lasing

Frequency combs

Routing (switching/logic)

Modulation

Signal regeneration

Integrated entangled photon sources



Husko et al., Scientific Reports 3, 3087 (2013)





Moille et al., Laser & Photonics Reviews 10(3) (2016).

L. Zhang, et al., Opt. Express 19, 11584-11590 (2011). K. Nozaki, et al., Nat. Photonics 4, 477–483 (2010).



K.-Y. Wang, et al., IEEE 9th GFP(2012), pp. 308–310.



Background-Chalcogenide Glasses



Wang, Ting, et al. "Systematic z-scan

Express 4.5 (2014): 1011-1022.

measurements of the third order nonlinearity of chalcogenide glasses." Optical Materials

Chalcogenide glasses exhibit exceptional nonlinear properties. Hmm

However, they also display considerable nonlinear losses

Compositions	E_g	Wavelength	n_2	β_2	FOM_{2PA}
	(eV)		$(10^{-14} \text{cm}^2/\text{W})$	(10^{-9}cm/W)	
As ₂ S ₃	2.22	1150 <i>nm</i>	4.33	< 0.01	> 30
		1250nm	3.67	< 0.01	> 25
		1350 <i>nm</i>	3.50	< 0.01	> 24
		1450 <i>nm</i>	3.23	< 0.01	> 22
		1550 <i>nm</i>	2.85	< 0.01	> 20
		1686 <i>nm</i>	2.79	< 0.01	> 19
Ge _{11.5} As ₂₄ Se _{64.5}	1.75	1150 <i>nm</i>	11.8	1.20	1
		1250nm	10.4	0.35	2
		1350 <i>nm</i>	8.83	0.11	6
		1450 <i>nm</i>	7.67	< 0.01	> 57
		1550 <i>nm</i>	7.90	< 0.01	> 59
		1686 <i>nm</i>	6.83	0.10	4
$Ge_{15}Sb_{10}Se_{75}$	1.72	1150 <i>nm</i>	12.5	1.27	1
		1250 <i>nm</i>	9.00	0.35	2
		1350 <i>nm</i>	7.67	0.12	5
		1450 <i>nm</i>	8.30	0.05	11
		1550 <i>nm</i>	7.50	< 0.01	> 52
		1686 <i>nm</i>	7.33	< 0.01	> 51
$Ge_{15}Sb_{15}Se_{70}$	1.62	1150 <i>nm</i>	15.5	5.94	0.2
		1250nm	14.9	2.78	0.4
		1350 <i>nm</i>	13.7	0.81	1
		1450 <i>nm</i>	12.2	0.49	2
		1550 <i>nm</i>	10.0	0.35	2
		1686 <i>nm</i>	10.0	0.27	2
$Ge_{12.5}Sb_{20}Se_{67.5}$	1.57	1150 <i>nm</i>	20.3	7.44	0.2
		1250nm	17.5	3.05	0.5
		1350 <i>nm</i>	13.5	0.94	1
		1450 <i>nm</i>	12.0	0.45	2
		1550 <i>nm</i>	11.4	0.37	2
		1686 <i>nm</i>	9.40	0.22	3

Objectives

In this project, we aimed to fabricate a film that has both low nonlinear losses and high nonlinearities



Direct Electrospray Printing Example

Below is an electrospray printing example of a lateral gradient chalcogenide film.



(a) Cross-sectional schematic and (b) photograph of a multilayer GRIN film



Individual film thickness profiles of $Ge_{23}Sb_7S_{70}$ and $As_{40}S_{60}$ and the resulting bilayer GRIN film thickness as a function of the spatial position. The peaks of the thickness profiles of the individual films are separated by 4 mm, the approximate distance between the films during fabrication of the GRIN film.

PVD



We hope to use the PVD thermal evaporator to deposit a lateral gradient film of $Ge_2Sb_2Se_5$ and $Ge_{23}Sb_7S_{70}$

Early PVD runs

Many first PVD runs were unsuccessful. Because of the size of our substrates, we did not have access to any information from the crystals so we had to use trial and error with various time and power ramps.

Single evaporation of GSS	Single evaporation of GSSe	First coevaporation	Second coevaporation
Too thick (1.6 um average)	Too thick (16.5 um average)	Too thin (40-80 nm)	Too thick on the GSSe side (4-5 um) and GSS side (3- 4.5 um)

Modeling

Before we started modeling, we wanted to first verify that the evaporation followed a line of sight model.





Modeling



$$F_{dep,L} = \frac{N_e}{2\pi r^2} \cos^n(\theta_i) \cos(\theta_k)$$



Figure 9–17 Deposition rate of evaporated film as a function of position on substrate for point and surface sources. $\theta_i = \theta_k$ in this configuration for both point and surface sources. (After [9.6].)

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θ

2.0



Modeling



The GSS model shows a fit of around n=4.5 to n=5

The GSSe model shows a fit of around n=3

Creating Overlap

We needed to add an obstacle to create overlap between the two line of sight models.







However, our film turned out to have an odd gradient—caused by leaking from the sides of the obstacle!

Creating Overlap



We made a new overlap using aluminum foil that wouldn't have leaks.



Our film ended up with a nice region of overlap and without the unusual super thick portion in the middle.

Modeling (COMSOL)



We created a representation of our setup in COMSOL using the ray optics geometric optics module.



Example of a COMSOL model compared to the actual PVD experiment.



COMSOL modeling





Another example of a COMSOL model compared to the actual run. It gives a good prediction of the shape of the film but not of the intensity.

Current Work-Profilometer





Our resulting film shows a very similar depth profile to the GRIN film made in previous works. The red line shows where the profilometer measurements were taken.

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Ring Resonators



We hope to use ring resonators fabricated in a double layer liftoff approach of various lengths to determine the refractive index of our material.

We also plan to simulate this using Lumerical mode solver.

Free Spectral Range

RR Radius	RR length	lambda_0	n_max	n_min	FSR_min (nm)	FSR_max
100	628.318	1.55	2.6	2.18	1.47065413	1.753991164
60	376.9908	1.55	2.6	2.18	2.451090216	2.923318607
20	125.6636	1.55	2.6	2.18	7.353270649	8.76995582

Free Spectral Range calculations for our material. Note: the group index is not the material refractive index but we can still use it to quantify the gradient.

 $FSR = \frac{\lambda_0}{n_g L}$

Future work

3-d print a solidworks holder to further increase sample height.

Other measurements = microTA analysis, EDS (can get a map of the composition of the film but we were unable to get training on it), optical properties (refractive index with RRs), measure NL with D-scan measurements.

Ring Resonator work = shoutout to Skylar

Optimizing of COMSOL model and development of

an optimal obstacle.



Current solidworks holder design

Acknowledgments/What I learned

OPTICS

PVD

Picwriter (shoutout to Derek)

Lumerical

Basic Solidworks

Basic Python

Big shoutouts to Samuel for being a good mentor throughout the entire project and to JJ for the opportunity