

Optical and structural characterisation of electrodeposited CuInSe₂ thin films

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CuInSe₂ thin films were prepared on ITO coated glass substrates by electrodeposition from aqueous solution containing 0.005 M CuCl₂·0.005 SeO₂ and 0.01 M InCl₃ at room temperature for a period of 30 minutes. To obtain better quality films, samples were annealed at different temperatures (200 °C, 350 °C and 500 °C) in Ar.

XRD, optical absorption measurements, photovoltage measurements, spectral measurements and reflectance measurements were performed to characterize the films. According to the results, CuInSe₂ is a p-type semiconductor. XRD shows three sharp CuInSe₂ peaks of (112), (200) and (116) reflections for the samples annealed at 200 °C and 350 °C. Photovoltage of samples annealed at 400 °C and 500 °C were negligible (almost zero). For the sample annealed at 200 °C, photovoltage was around 10 – 15 mV. The highest photovoltage of around 150 mV was shown by the sample annealed at 350 °C.

According to optical absorption measurements and reflectance measurements, the direct band gap was around 1.1 eV for both samples annealed at 200 °C and 350 °C. Only the sample annealed at 350 °C gave spectral responses.