



A Study of Optical, Structural properties of V₂O₅ Thin Films for Light Transmission

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Abstract : Vanadium pent oxide nano composites are prepared using hydrothermal process. The morphological behaviour like crystalline structure, chemical composition are studied using XRD, SEM and Raman analysis. From the results of them, the orthorhombic structure is confirmed. The optical transmission were studied using spectrophotometer. The information is carried by photons in the form of light. The transmission rate of light by varying the temperature is studied.

Keywords : Vanadium pent oxide, hydrothermal process, Surface morphology, Optical transmission.

Introduction

Nowadays, VO, VO₂, V₂O₃ and V₂O₅ and vanadium composites that exhibits both optical and electrical properties are used for various applications. Optical modulation is controlled by the transfer of charge in direction and magnitude¹⁰. Due to their optical properties, the applications of V₂O₅ involves photocatalysis, gas sensors, electrochromic devices, color filters, reflectance mirrors and surfaces with tunable emittance for temperature control of space vehicles and in the synthesis of nanocomposites^{1,2,3,4,5}. Between metal ions in different oxidation states electron hopping occurs in V⁵⁺ and V⁴⁺) gives semiconducting properties and specific optical absorption^{11,14}. Vanadium pentoxide thin films can be prepared using various methods like sputtering¹², thermal evaporation, pulse laser deposition, sol-gel method and e-beam deposition. Vanadium pentoxide (V₂O₅) exhibits metal transition at 250°C and is stable with band gap 2.2 eV. The treatment of heat on V₂O₅ films results in different transmission of rates and the chemical composition and geometry of lattices depends on temperature and atmosphere². It has various physical and chemical surface properties. Because of the presence of differently coordinated oxygen ions this is a rich structure⁷. V₂O₅ has reversibly of change in optical properties by charging or discharging, has proven to change colour⁸. By applying voltage, the two oxides, VO₂ and V₂O₅, can change their optical properties. VO₂ has only anodic electrochromism while V₂O₅ exhibits both anodic and cathodic electrochromism⁹. Vanadium pentoxide is used for various scientific and technological applications¹⁰. In which the oxides VO₂ and V₂O₅ acts as thermally activated optical switching devices

Experimental methods

The steps to be followed for the formation of V₂O₅ nanorods using hydrothermal reaction. At first vanadium acetate is hydrated. Cetyltrimethyl ammonium bromide (Sigma Aldrich) with 0.5 g and 2 g of sodium hydroxide (NaOH) were dissolved in 50 ml of distilled water. Vanadium acetate of 3 g was dissolved with 50 ml of deionized water to form a solution. The solutions were transferred into a 100 ml Teflon lined

stainless steel autoclave. The solution is allowed to heat at 300°C for 20 hrs. The thin film is washed in deionised water and is allowed to anneal at 50°C in air.

The SEM images are taken using FEI Quanta-250 FEG. Raman scattering is taken using JY-1058 Raman spectrometer. PANalytical (X'Pert-Pro) is used to take XRD. PerkinElmer Lambda 900 spectrophotometer with tungsten source is used to detect the transmission rate.

Result and discussion

Morphological analysis of V_2O_5

The XRD, Raman and SEM are taken for the study of morphological analysis of V_2O_5 .

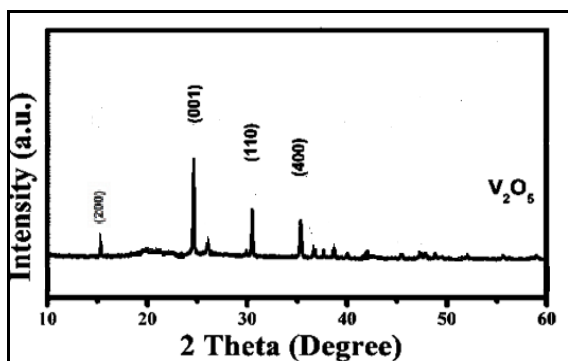


Fig 3.1 XRD results for the V_2O_5 nano rods at the annealed temp at 50°C

This figure represents the X - Ray diffraction (XRD) spectrum of the obtained crystal of V_2O_5 . The peaks of the XRD patterns $2\theta = 15.04^\circ$, 24.01° , 31.02° and 36.05° with (200), (001), (110), (400) diffraction reflective planes respectively represents the orthorhombic structure according to the JCPDS file (no. 77-2418) [1].

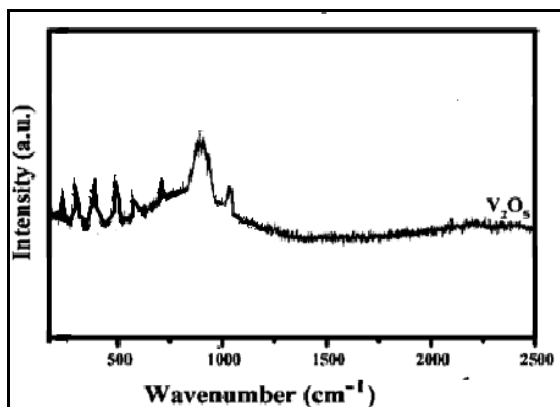


Fig 3.2 Raman spectra for morphological analysis.

The raman spectra is used for morphological analysis which supports the XRD pattern. Raman shift occurs from the change in the molecular polarizability gives different vibrational peaks. The peak 183cm^{-1} represents lattice vibration. The peak 285 and 402cm^{-1} represents the bending vibration of the $V=O$ bonds. The peak 479cm^{-1} represents the bending vibrations of the bridging $V-O-V$. The peak 530cm^{-1} represents the edged-shared oxygen and the other peak at 698cm^{-1} results from corner-shared oxygen. The presence of these vibrations indicates the layer like structure of V_2O_5 films. The peak located at 938cm^{-1} represents the Raman active mode of VO_2 . The peaks located at 989 and 992cm^{-1} correspond to the terminal oxygen stretching mode which results from the unshared oxygen [1].

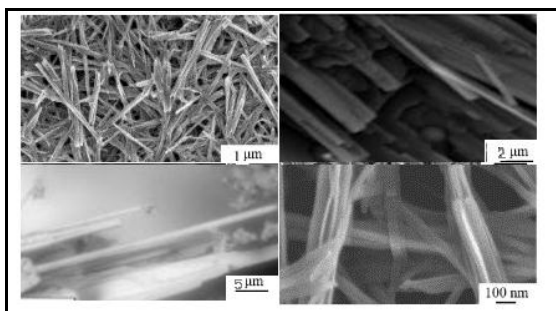


Fig 3.3 SEM images of V_2O_5 for various measurements after annealing at $50^\circ C$

The SEM images confirm the formation of nano rods of V_2O_5 . SEM images are used for identification of bonds between vanadium and oxygen. It clearly shows the edge shared oxygen and corner shared oxygen bondings like $V=O$ and $V-O-V$. The SEM image denotes the formation of crystalline in the form of rods in different magnifications like $1\ \mu m$, $2\ \mu m$, $5\ \mu m$ and $100\ nm$ ranges.

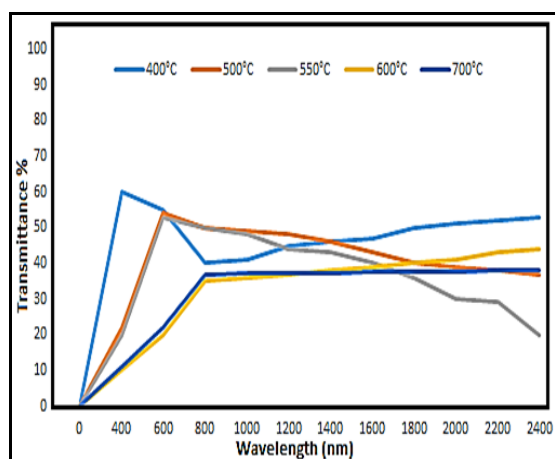


Fig 3.4 Optical transmittance curves of vanadium oxide thin films as a function of growth temperature

Since the source used is tungsten filament the transmission for the visible light is calculated in various temperatures. The spectral transmittance of the films decreases with the increase in temperature⁶.

Conclusion

In this paper optical and structural studies are carried out. The XRD and raman studies confirm the growth and the orthorhombic structure of vanadium pentoxide. The SEM images confirm the formation of V_2O_5 nano rods. The V_2O_5 thin films were slightly transparent in visible light range and the transmission decreases with increase in temperature.

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