

# **MODIFICATION OF SILICON SURFACE UNDER MEDIUM ENERGY HEAVY ION BOMBARDMENT**

THESIS SUBMITTED TO JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY FOR THE  
DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (SCIENCE)

By  
**Debi Prasad Datta**

SAHA INSTITUTE OF NUCLEAR PHYSICS

1/AF BIDHAN NAGAR, KOLKATA 700064

April 2008

# Contents

<b>1 General Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Motivation . . . . .	2
1.2 Interactions of energetic ions with solid . . . . .	4
1.3 Sputtering and implantation . . . . .	13
1.4 Ion induced patterned morphology . . . . .	15
1.5 Structural and compositional change in silicon under ion bombardment . .	16
1.6 Luminescence from ion induced silicon nanostructure . . . . .	18
1.7 Outline of this thesis . . . . .	19
<b>2 Experimental Techniques</b>	<b>21</b>
2.1 Introduction . . . . .	22
2.2 Ion Implanter . . . . .	22
2.2.1 Basics . . . . .	22
2.2.2 The 200 kV High Current Ion Implanter . . . . .	23
2.2.3 The sample holder . . . . .	35
2.3 Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM) . . . . .	37
2.3.1 Basics . . . . .	37
2.3.2 AFM Measurements . . . . .	39
2.4 Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) . . . . .	41
2.4.1 Basics . . . . .	41
2.4.2 Energy dispersive x-ray spectrometry (EDS) in a FEGSEM . . . .	45
2.5 Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) . . . . .	51

---

2.6 Photoluminescence . . . . .	54
<b>3 Ripple morphology on amorphous surface induced by off-normally incident inert gas ion bombardment : Theoretical approaches</b>	<b>56</b>
3.1 Introduction . . . . .	57
3.2 Classifying a rough surface in several ways . . . . .	57
3.3 Statistical method of analyzing a randomly rough surface . . . . .	58
3.3.1 The average surface height . . . . .	58
3.3.2 The RMS roughness and scaling properties of surfaces . . . . .	59
3.3.3 Correlation functions . . . . .	60
3.3.4 Lateral correlation length and system correlation length . . . . .	60
3.3.5 The power spectrum . . . . .	62
3.4 Extraction of roughness parameters from AFM images . . . . .	63
3.5 Continuum models of ion bombarded surface . . . . .	64
3.6 Sigmund's theory of Sputtering . . . . .	66
3.7 Linear instability of ion-sputtered surface: Bradley and Harper model . . .	67
3.8 Thermal Surface Diffusion . . . . .	71
3.9 Makeev, Cuerno and Barabási model . . . . .	72
3.9.1 Linear regime: below $t_c$ . . . . .	74
3.9.2 Nonlinear regime: beyond $t_c$ . . . . .	75
3.10 Asymptotic behavior of ion-bombarded surface . . . . .	77
3.11 Morphological Phase Diagram . . . . .	77
3.12 Hydrodynamic theory based model . . . . .	79
3.13 Shadowing Effect . . . . .	81
3.14 The Monte Carlo simulation package SRIM . . . . .	83
<b>4 Experimental investigation on the ripple pattern morphology on Si induced by medium energy Ar ion bombardment</b>	<b>85</b>
4.1 Introduction . . . . .	86
4.2 Part I. Study of 60 keV Ar-ion-induced ripple pattern on Si(100) . . . . .	87

---

4.2.1	Experimental . . . . .	87
4.2.2	Results . . . . .	88
4.2.3	Discussion . . . . .	95
4.3	Part II. Coarsening of surface ripples on Si by 30 keV Ar ion bombardment.	102
4.3.1	Motivation . . . . .	102
4.3.2	Experimental . . . . .	103
4.3.3	Results . . . . .	103
4.3.4	Discussion . . . . .	112
4.3.5	A brief comparison of our results with some recent experimental works . . . . .	116
4.4	Conclusion . . . . .	117
<b>5</b>	<b>Compositional heterogeneity of medium energy Ar ion induced silicon surface ripples</b>	<b>119</b>
5.1	Introduction . . . . .	120
5.2	Experimental . . . . .	121
5.3	Results . . . . .	122
5.3.1	Morphology . . . . .	122
5.3.2	Composition: EDS study . . . . .	123
5.4	Discussion . . . . .	128
5.5	Conclusions . . . . .	131
<b>6</b>	<b>Photoluminescence from amorphous silicon nanostructure formed by medium keV Ar ion bombardment</b>	<b>132</b>
6.1	Introduction . . . . .	133
6.2	Experimental . . . . .	134
6.3	Results . . . . .	134
6.4	Discussion . . . . .	139
6.5	Conclusion . . . . .	141
<b>7</b>	<b>Summary and Outlook</b>	<b>142</b>

A Measurement of sample temperature during Ar ion bombardment	146
B Estimation of $a$ , $\sigma$ and $\mu$	149
C Determination of penetration depth and areal density of 60 keV Ar in Si	151