Growth and Characterization of SnSe Films for Photovoltaic Applications

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Tin monoselenide (SnSe) is considered one of the promising photovoltaic material due to its opto-electrical properties, earth-abundance, low-cost and low-toxicity compared to CdTe and PbTe. Thin films of SnSe have been successfully grown on corning glass substrates using chemical bath deposition (CBD). The as-prepared films were systematically characterized by XRD, Raman analysis and optical measurements. The XRD patterns for the films were recorded in 20 range of 20°-50°, at a scan-rate of 0.05° using CuKa ($\lambda = 0.154$ nm) radiation. All the reflection peaks in the diffraction pattern can be indexed to the orthorhombic crystal structure. The lattice parameters calculated be a=1.1557 nm, b=0.4127 nm and c= 0.4429 nm.Raman scattering analysis allowed the assignment of peaks at 107 cm-1, 130 cm-1 and 151 cm-1 to the orthorhombic SnSe phase. The optical properties of the SnSe deposited were investigated by the UV-Vis-NIR reflectance and transmittance spectrum measured in the wavelength range of 300 - 2500 nm.The refractive index, extinction coefficient and energy band gap of the films was calculated. Hall-effect measurements showed p-type conductivity for all the SnSe films. The results will be presented and discussed.