



國立中山大學物理學系

博士論文

Department of Physics

National Sun Yat-sen University

Doctoral Dissertation

前瞻有機與金屬氧化物

薄膜電晶體之電性分析與可靠度研究

Investigation of Reliability on Advanced Organic and Metal
Oxide Thin-film Transistors

研究生：洪揚豪

Yang-Hao Hung

指導教授：張鼎張 博士

Dr. Ting-Chang Chang

中華民國 112 年 1 月

January 2023



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洪揚豪 謹識

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摘要

近年來，隨著科技不斷的演進，臺灣光電顯示與半導體科技產業的蓬勃發展，各類平面顯示器相關應用已成為生活周遭不可或缺的消費性電子產品，像是穿戴式電子顯示器(apple watch)與需高電流驅動的有機發光二極體(OLED)顯示器。而顯示器中又以薄膜電晶體(TFT)最為重要，其扮演著畫素開關以及調變亮度的角色；顯示器的好壞可由薄膜電晶體作為判斷的依據。

薄膜電晶體中又以銦鎵鋅氧(InGaZnO)作為主動層材料最受關注，與傳統的非晶矽(a-Si)與低溫多晶矽(LTPS)相比，非晶態下依然能維持良好的電子雲重疊，使其同時兼具良好的均勻性(uniformity)與載子遷移率(mobility)，且較寬的電子能隙(3.2eV)使其具有低漏電特性，有助於降低功率的損耗，然而其對於光與電場的可靠度問題仍待研究與解決。

本論文首先研究不對稱結構 InGaZnO 薄膜電晶體於照光與熱載子效應(Hot-carriers effect)下的劣化機制與物理模型。電流—電壓(I_D-V_G)與電容—電壓(C-V)曲線在照光與電應力的操作後均觀察到駝峰效應(hump effect)，這是由於不對稱電極導致電場分佈不均而後造成的載子注入行為，最後透過模擬與交流操作(AC operation)做進一步的物理模型驗證。

此外，為了應對可撓與可摺疊柔性顯示器面板的需求，與 InGaZnO 相比，以有機材料製作而成有機薄膜電晶體則更有潛力與發展性。有機材料是由溶液製程所製備，可使用旋轉塗佈(Spin coating)、噴墨(Ink-jet Printing)等製程製作；具有成

本低廉、易於大面積成膜、耐衝擊、製程溫度低可製作於可撓性基板上等特性。使得有機半導體在科技與產業發展上具有極大的吸引力。然而，有機材料易受環境氣氛以及照光的影響，可靠度與性能仍有待改善。

第二部分探討前瞻有機薄膜電晶體的傳輸模型，元件半導體層是使用新穎垂直相態分層所製備而成，與傳統有機薄膜電晶體相比，具有較高的均勻性與載子遷移率。透過量測不同溫度下的 I_D-V_G 曲線萃取活化能，並歸類其物理機制。最後得出結論為活化能的變化率是由於小分子官能基團不穩定的 $\pi-\pi$ 鍵結所導致。

此外，有機半導體容易受到照光以及氣氛的影響。第三部分為探討垂直分層有機薄膜電晶體於可見光後造成的劣化行為，透過雙閘極結構的元件量測，推論出照光所造成的電子注入於高分子層，導致元件閥值電壓右飄，最後透過無高分子層元件驗證其物理機制。

第四部份研究有機薄膜電晶體於熱載子效應下的劣化機制，元件受大汲極電壓影響，有 DIBL 效應的發生；且在熱載子電應力下觀察到開態電流下降及閥值電壓左飄的劣化。最後透過使用終端孔洞結構能有效抑制其劣化，改善元件熱載子以及 DIBL 可靠度。

關鍵字：薄膜電晶體、有機薄膜電晶體、銅鎵鋅氧、熱載子效應、傳輸機制、終端結構

Abstract

Recently, with the continuous evolution of technology and the vigorous development of optoelectronic display and semiconductor technology industries in Taiwan, applications of various flat-panel displays have become indispensable consumer electronic products in our daily life, such as wearable electronic displays (apple watch) and high current-drive organic light-emitting diode (OLED) displays. Thin-film transistors (TFTs), which plays the role in switching pixel and brightness modulation, are the most important in the development of displays. In addition, the quality of displays can be determined by the TFTs.

Indium allium zinc oxide (InGaZnO) has attracted the most attention as the active layer material among TFTs. In contrast to traditional amorphous silicon (a-Si) and low temperature polysilicon (LTPS), a-InGaZnO contains the advantages of both. The overlap of effective electronic cloud in the amorphous state enables InGaZnO to remain better mobility than a-Si, and better uniformity than LTSP due to the grain boundary free. The wider energy gap of InGaZnO (3.2eV) suppresses the Band-to-Band-Tunneling (BTBT), which presents the low leakage current. However, the reliability of illumination and that of the electric field on InGaZnO still need to be investigated and solved.

In this dissertation, the degradation mechanism and the physical model of asymmetric InGaZnO thin film transistors under illumination and the hot-carriers effect

are investigated first. The current-voltage (I_D - V_G) and capacitance-voltage (C-V) curves both showe a hump effect after the operation of illumination and electrical stress. The hump effect is caused by the uneven distribution of the electric field induced by the asymmetric electrode. Finally, the simulation and the pulse modulation are implemented for the further physical model verification.

In addition, in order to meet the needs of flexible and foldable display panels, organic TFTs have more potential and development than InGaZnO. Organic materials are fabricated by the solution process produced by spin coating and ink-jet printing, which contains the advantages of low cost, large-area film formation and impact resistance. The low process temperature enables organic materials to be fabricated on flexible substrates. These advantages of organic semiconductors make it extremely attractive in technology and industrial development. However, organic materials are easily affected by ambient atmosphere and illumination, and its reliability and performance still need to be improved.

The second part of this dissertation discuss the transport model of the novel organic thin film transistor. The semiconductor layer of the device is prepared by using a novel vertical phase-separated method, which helps perform higher uniformity and carrier mobility that traditional organic thin film transistors are not capable of achieving. The activation energy is extracted by measuring the I_D - V_G curves at different temperatures, and the physical mechanism is classified. The variation of activation energy is attributed

to the unstable π - π bond of small molecular functional groups.

In addition, organic semiconductors are easily affected by light and atmosphere. The third part of this dissertation investigates the degradation behavior of the vertical phase separated organic TFT after light illumination. It is inferred regarding the degradation that the electrons generated by illumination are injected into the polymer layer, which cause the device threshold voltage to shift positively. The physical mechanism is verified by the device without the polymer layer.

The fourth part studies the degradation mechanism of organic TFTs under the hot carrier effect. There is a DIBL effect occurring in the device at the high drain voltage. In addition, an on-state current drop and a negative threshold voltage shift are observed under the hot-carrier stress (HCS). The deterioration can be effectively suppressed by using the terminal-via structure, and the device hot carrier and DIBL reliability can be improved.

Keywords: Thin-film Transistors (TFTs), Organic Thin-film Transistors (OTFTs), Indium gallium zinc oxide (InGaZnO), Hot carrier effect, Transport mechanism, terminal structure

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