Thin Film Optics

- Physics of thin film optics
- Important spectral features
- BaCuSF data

BaCuSF film made by Hiroshi Yanagi, Sang Moon Park Spectra taken by Levi Kilcher Spectrometer built by Ross Brody, Derek Tucker Talk given to TCO group 3-11-02



Unfortunate double use of k as wave vector and as extinction coeff

Sign of ik in n_complex depends on sign of wt-kx

Optical properties depend on 2 quantities (n, k) so generally need to measure 2 things (R,T for us, phase & amp for ellipsometry)

But can get from one to the other with Kramer's-Kronig analysis, but need full spectrum.



Normal idea of absorption used when bulk sample absorbs, for which A+x=1. This leads one to conclude that x=1-A. If this is now applied to the case of a real sample with surfaces, then one gets x=R+T, which is not correct. X should only relate to how much light is absorbed in single pass through a slab of material, but R+T includes info about what happens at each surface and also has info about multiple passes.

We have often taken Tfilm/Tsub to get absorption, which accounts for reflection and absorption of substrate (but not reflection of film)



Formulas are for normal incidence. At and angle the reflection and transmission coeffs depend upon angle and polarization of light.

n ₁	n ₂	R	Т
1	1.5	0.04	0.96
1.5	2.5	0.063	0.937
1	2.5	0.184	0.816



These coeffs are for case where we can neglect fringes from interference. This is case if film (or substrate) is thicker than the coherence length of the light.





"should" have means without reflection from front surface of film,

technique also gets rid of fringes, which is important for small energy gaps which show up in fringe regime



These are exact calcs from maple sheet. Later compare to approx calcs from Siegman notes













see small effect of including reflection of back substrate-air interface (black) vs only film on substrate (no back surface)(red)



blue is x=exp(-alpha d)



red is x obtained from eqn. Shown, which assumes that x is approx T/(1-R) to avoid solving quadratic eqn.











T here is T-normalized on ly to lamp spectrum (not normalized to substrate) Point out possible photoluminescence above gap (orange) Ignore wavelength in legend (due to MS excel oddity)



Direct gap estimate = 3.3 eV





Locations of fringes used to estimate index of film



m too big (3) gives index increasing with wavelength, which is abnormal m too small gives index that appears too small

Index calcs on left come from considering amplitude of reflection from film above gap. 3ways:

1) simple R from film only

2) R using n and k from film only (k from abs)

3) R assuming light incident on substrate first, so have subs and film-subs surface reflections (blue curve)



Expt R compared with R calculated with theory using abs coeef from expt and index n from fit to 6 points obtained from fringe locations

4 ways

- 1) R from film only from film side
- 2) R from film and subs from film side
- 3) R from film-substrate surface only
- 4) R from whole system from subs side

Again ignore wavelength in legend

Shows that R very sensitive to value of n, and which way film mounted



T calculated from theory using alpha from expt and n from fit to 6 points from fringe locations

Shows that T mostly sensitive to alpha, not too much to n