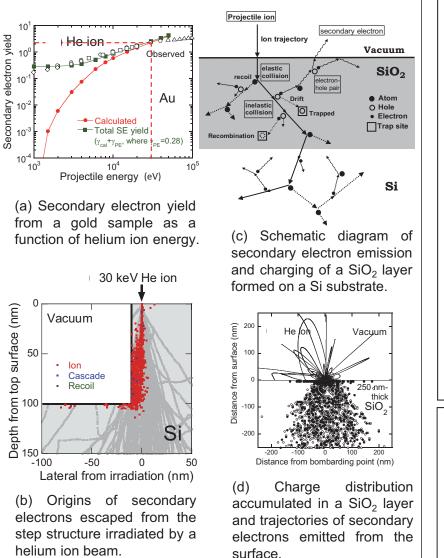


Modeling Secondary Electron Image in Helium Ion Microscope Professor Kaoru Ohya



Content:

A scanning ion microscope (SIM) using a gallium (Ga) focused ion beam, like conventional scanning electron microscopes (SEMs), has been used to detect secondary electrons (SEs) emitted from a sample by scanning the ion beam across it, as an observation tool in micro-fabrication processes.

Recently, a SIM using a helium gas field ion source, generally called HIM, has attracted interest for its impressive capability not only to observe nanostructures but also to fabricate them. Although the image formation mechanisms of the HIM are similar to those in the SEM, there are some differences in image properties.

We have performed Monte Carlo simulations of the SE emission in Ga-SIM and HIM to compare with those obtained using SEM. The approach has revealed the theoretical spatial resolution and the origin of the image differences from those in the SEM.

Recent development of the modeling work presents charging characteristics of insulating layers on a conducting substrate and image contrast for nanostructured materials.

Keywords: ion microscope, ion-solid interaction, secondary electron emission, computer simulation E-mail: ohya@tokushima-u.ac.jp Tel. +81-88-656-7444 Fax: +81-88-656-7444



Inverse Linear Quadratic Regulator of Systems with Time Delay Professor Tomohiro Kubo

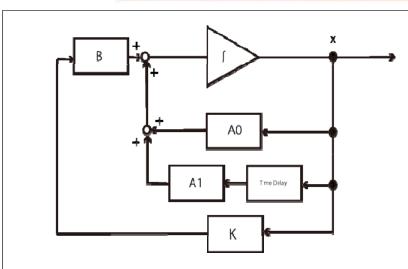
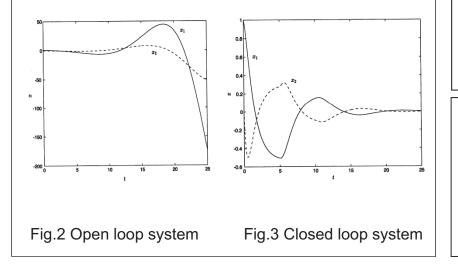


Fig.1 Feedback control of a time delay system



Content:

Systems with time delay belong to a class of infinite dimensional systems. To construct a linear quadratic regulator of such a system, generally a solution of an infinite dimensional Riccati equation is required to calculate the feedback gain and a real-time integral operation is included in the feedback law.

To stabilize such systems, we propose a method to construct an inverse linear quadratic regulator. The feedback gain can be calculated from a solution of a finite dimensional Riccati equation or a finite dimensional linear matrix inequality, and the feedback law is so-called the memoryless feedback which doesn't include a realtime integral operation as shown in Fig. 1. The resulting closed loop system can be shown to be stable (compare Fig.2 and Fig. 3 for example), and to be a linear quadratic regulator for some quadratic cost functional. Moreover, it is assured to have a good robustness property against a class of static nonlinear perturbations or dynamic linear perturbations in the input channel as well as a linear quadratic regulator for systems without time delay.

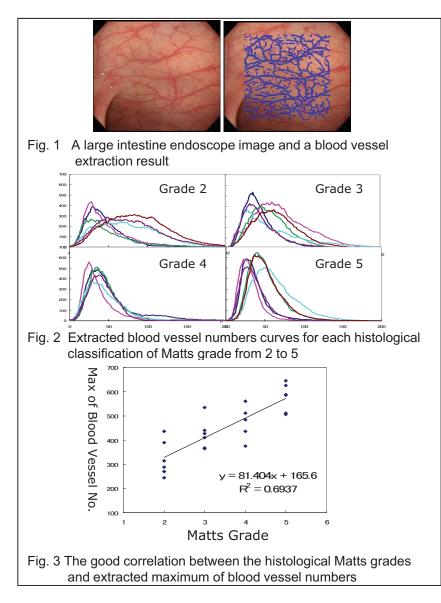
Keywords: time delay, LQ regulator, robust stability

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A study on histological Matts grade estimation by computer-aided blood vessel image processing for the large intestine endoscopic images Prof. Shinsuke Konaka



Content:

The ulcerative colitis is appointed in an intractable disease in Japan to repeat a recurrence by the inflammatory disease that a sore and the ulcer are formed on the mucous membrane (the inside) of the large intestine. The endoscope is used for the diagnosis. The purpose of this study is to support diagnosing it by computer image processing for the blood vessel pictures of the large intestine inside. By the blood vessel image extraction and characteristic parameter research, the degree of inflammation from the state of a mucous membrane would be intended to estimate by the image processing instead of the histological classification.

At first, blood vessels are extracted from an endoscope image, as shown in Fig. 1, and the blood vessel characteristic parameter is researched, that is effective to estimate an inflammatory diagnosis degrees. The matching filter of the Gaussian distribution type is used to extract blood vessels. By changing the threshold value for the binarization, blood vessel number is computed through labeling process for each threshold value. The curve profiles of the blood vessel number are shown in Fig.2 for the histological Matts grades of 2 of slight illness to 5 of most serious case. Figure 2 includes 23 cases so that 23 curves are shown in total. Shapes of curve profile for each the histological grade level are clearly different, that is, the lower grade shows the flatter curve profile. To examine our image processing performance, the correlation between the Matts grade of 2 to 5 and maximum of blood vessel numbers are shown in Fig. 3. As the results, the correlation coefficient is as good as R = 0.833.

Keywords : Large intestine endoscope image, blood vessel extraction, Matts grade evaluation by computer-aided image processing

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A Research of InGaAIN and AIC LEDs

Professor Shiro Sakai

InGaAIN and AIC LEDs are researched.

A high voltage LED is developed. (Fig.1)

Ta-GaN is etched to sapphire during growth, and GaN, the epitaxial layer, is peeled off on Si, for example. (Fig.2)

Nano-pattern is formed on GaN, and their far field pattern are viewed as shown in Fig.3 (a) r=200 nm, (b) r=300 nm, (c) r=400 nm and (d) r=500 nm. It is clear that the 6th fold pattern is clearly visible for 200 nm which is 6 times for the emitting light.

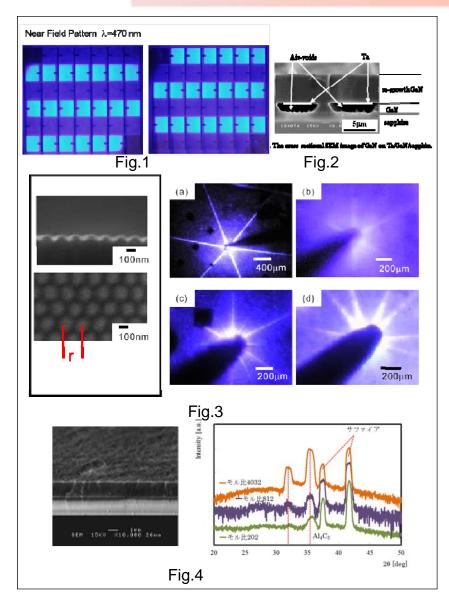
P-type Mg-Ga1-xAlxN for x>0.3 is affected by the too deep level of Mg from the valence band, and it becomes an insulator, while C-doped AlGaN is possible candidate for p-type conduction. We are making an effort to make carbon-doped AlGaN or AlN a p-type conduction.

We are growing AIC on sapphire, SiC and Si. SEM and X-ray rocking curve are shown in Fig.4, where a substrate is sapphire.

Keywords: MOCVD, LED, AlGaInN, AlC E-mail: sakai@ee.tokushima-u.ac.jp Tel.: +81-88-656-7446

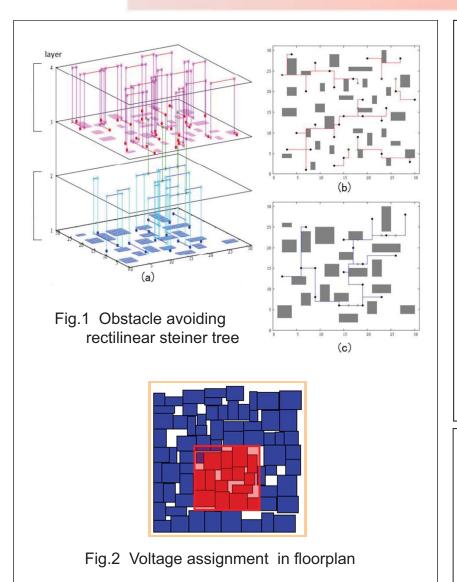
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Faculty of Engineering

Heuristic Algorithm for Optimization Problems Professor Takashi Shimamoto



Content:

Research of heuristic algorithm for optimization problems in LSI layout design

For example,

- Obstacle avoiding rectilinear steiner tree (Fig.1)
- Voltage assignment in floorplan (Fig.2)
- 3-D IC floorplanning with TSV co-placement

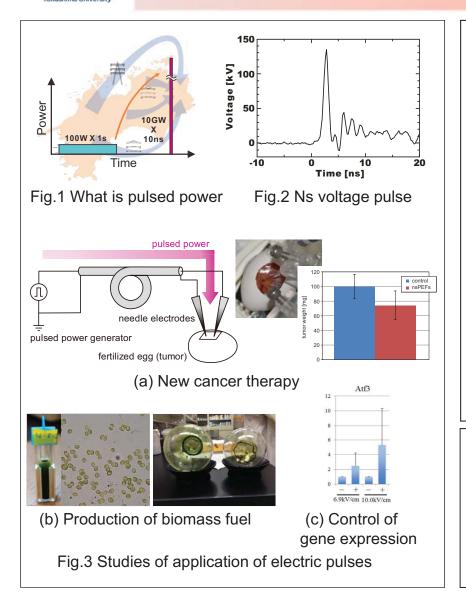
 $Keywords: Heuristic Algorithm, \ Optimization \ Problem,$

LSI Design E-mail: simamoto@ee.tokushima-u.ac.jp Tel. +81-88-656-7483 Fax: +81-88-656-7471



Faculty of Engineering

Effect of Electric Pulses on Biological Body and Its Applications Professor Naoyuki Shimomura



Content:

There must be some electrical and magnetical influences in biological body and bioelectrics is a field of pulsed power applications recently. Pulsed power is technology of applying high compressive power pulse and according to the electric magnetism and we have focused on green technology and bioelectrics in applications of pulsed power. Some applied researches for effects of electrical pulses on biological body are introduced here.

Different parameters of electric pulses as spectrum would bring different actions and responses on biological body or cells. The control of the parameters and responses will introduce new biological applied-technologies. The responses and their mechanisms, however, have not been still clear. The effects of electric pulses on various object and their mechanisms have been studied and gene expression level as a response has been particularly considered. Some examples of applied study using electric pulses are as follows: new cancer therapy, production of biomass fuel from micro algae, and effects on endoplasmic reticulum stress responses for pulsed electric fields for prevention or therapy of disorders.

Keywords: pulsed power, bioelectrics, pulse electric field

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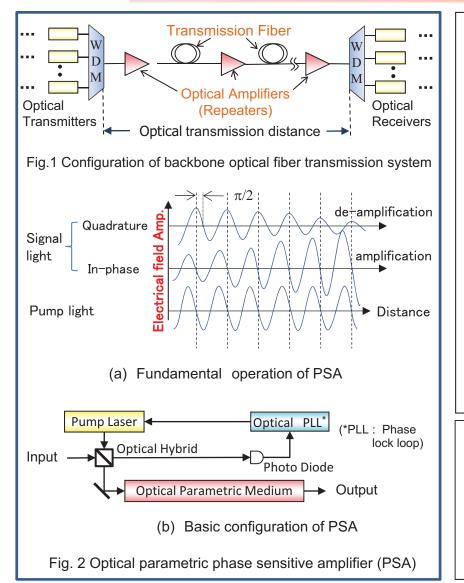
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Optical Fiber Transmission System

Professor Atsushi Takada



Content:

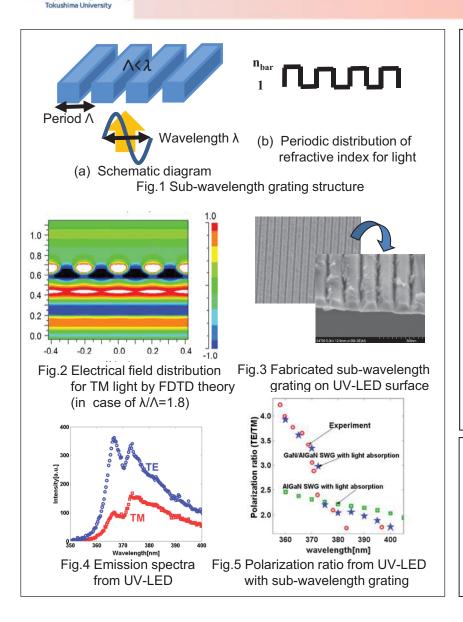
The performance of communication network has been drastically enhanced by adopting fiber-optic transmission technologies into the backbone networks and access networks. Recently, the demand for communication capacity is increasing even more, because of popularization of cloud type-application and transportation of ultra-broadband contents such as highdefinition moving pictures. The purpose of our laboratory is bringing a significant progress of communication network by introduce novel functionality into the optical communication network.

One of our topics of research is expanding optical transmission distance in backbone networks (Fig.1) by introducing phase-sensitive optical amplifiers (PSA) (Fig.2) as optical amplifier repeaters. The PSA amplify inphase and de-amplify quadrature component with reference to phase-locked pump light in parametric amplifiers. From the fundamental operation, significant extension of optical transmission distance is expected.

Keywords: optical communication, optical fiber, optical amplifier optical signal processing E-mail: takada@ee.tokushima-u.ac.jp Tel. +81-88-656-7465 Fax: +81-88-656-7465



Polarization Control in Photonic Devices with Subwavelength Grating Professor Yoshiki Naoi



Faculty of Engineering

Content:

Highly polarized UV emission devices were expected to develop the applications, such as high resolution imaging, high sensitive sensors, etc. The compact polarization control device with high transmittance is required in order to develop integrated device for these applications.

One of the candidates to overcome the issue is the device using high contrast dielectric subwavelength grating (SWG) structure. In SWG, the pitch of the grating is shorter than the wavelength of incident light. The Bloch like eigen-modes within SWG region resulting from the spatial periodicity of refractive index distribution interacts with incident light. As a result, the desirable optical characteristics such as broadband high reflectivity and polarization sensitivity are obtained with optimal structures.

We have investigated the polarization characteristics of AlGaN-based UV-LED with SWG fabricated on the top of LED surface, and demonstrated the feasibility of high polarized UV-LED grown on c-plane sapphire.

Keywords : photonic device, sub-wavelength grating, polarization control, nano device

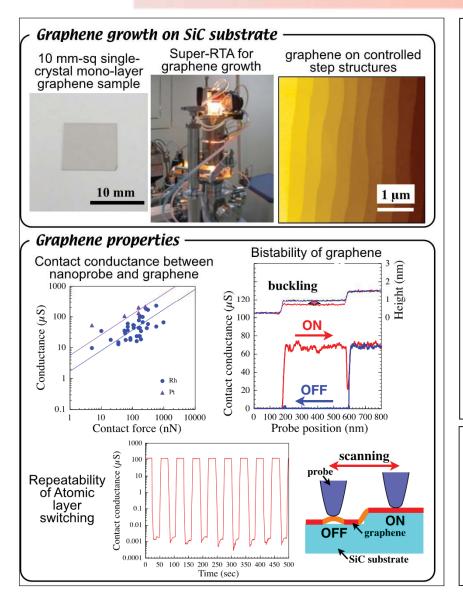
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Research on single-crystal graphene



Professor Masao Nagase

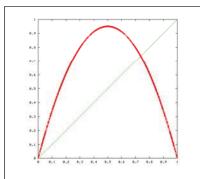
Graphene is very promising for future micro- and nanoelectronic systems, because of its outstanding properties. Now, our main research interest is "graphene on SiC". We can fabricate 10 mm-sq single-crystal mono-layer graphene using super-RTA (rapid thermal annealer). The high-quality and uniform epitaxial graphene was grown on controlled step structures of 4H-SiC (0001) substrate. Graphene properties were evaluated using various kinds of nano-metrology tools. By using scanning probe microscopy (SPM), contact conductance between nanoprobe and graphene was measured. The contact resistance value was estimated to be the order of $10^{-9} \Omega$ cm². The novel phenomena of graphene nanomembrane with bistable contact conductance states was observed. This electro-mechanical bistability of atomic layer switch could represent a new path to nano-electro-mechanical systems. A final goal of our graphene research will be new functional devices for the post-Si era.

Keywords: graphene, SiC, nano-metrology

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Engineering Applications of Chaos

Professor Yoshifumi Nishio



Faculty of Engineering

Fig. 1: Logistic map, one of the most famous one-dimensional map generating chaos.

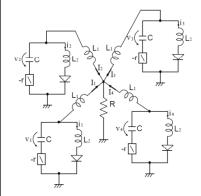


Fig. 3: Four autonomous chaotic circuits coupled by one resistor.

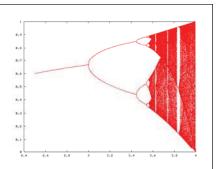


Fig. 2: One-parameter bifurcation diagram of the Logistic map.

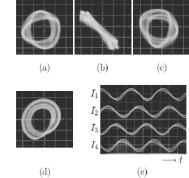


Fig. 4: Four-phase quasi-synchronization of chaos observed from the circuits in Fig. 3.

Content:

1. Chaos Cryptosystems

Sensitive dependence of chaos on initial conditions and parameters is exploited for various security issues.

2. Chaos Communication Systems

Continuity of chaotic sequences generated from an identical chaotic map is exploited to recover data correctly.

3. Complex Networks

Various synchronization phenomena in coupled chaotic circuits are good models of various complex networks.

4. Nonlinear Time Series Analysis

Chaos analysis is utilized to predict a trend of nonlinear time series or to diagnose medical signals.

5. Data Mining

Self-organizing feature of artificial neural networks is exploited to carry out clustering of various data.

Keywords: chaos, chaos cryptosystems, chaos communication systems, complex systems, nonlinear time series analysis E-mail: nishio@ee.tokushima-u.ac.jp> Tel. +81-88-656-7470 Fax: +81-88-656-7471

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Electrical Test of Assembled Printed Circuit Boards Professor Masaki Hashizume

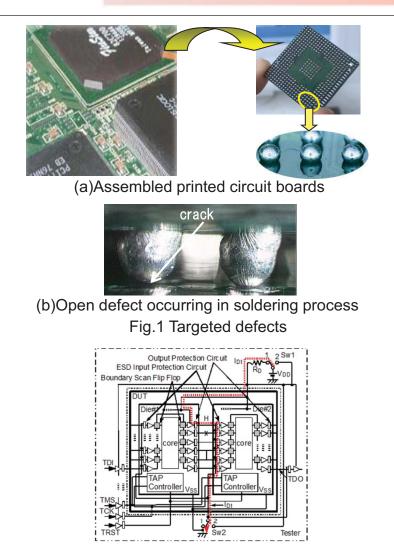


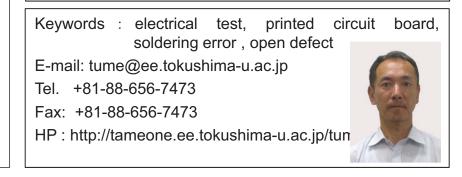
Fig.2 Electrical test of assembled PCB

Content:

BGA ICs have been often used for realizing electric circuits of smaller size. The ICs are soldered on a fine pitched PCB. Open defects may occur at interconnects between the ICs and the PCB in the soldering process. An example of the defects is shown in Fig.1. The interconnects are impossible to be observed by visual inspection. Also, logic signals of the interconnects can not be measured with a test probe. Thus, IEEE 1149.1 test circuit has been implemented inside the ICs.

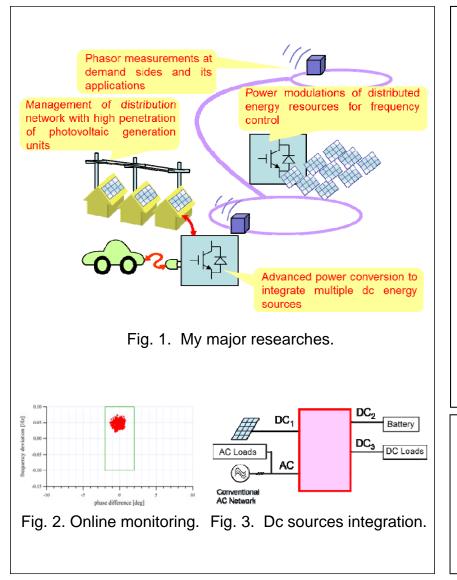
However, open defects may not be detected, even if the circuit is implemented inside an IC. Also, it is difficult to generate test input vectors for detecting open defects and locating defective interconnects. Thus, we are developing electrical test methods and DfT(Design-for-Testability) methods for open defects in the interconnects.

One of our test methods is shown in Fig.2. Our methods are based on supply current that is made flow in our tests. Soft open defects that generate only additional delay time can be detected and the defective interconnects can be located together with hard open defects that generate logical errors with our test methods.





Diversity of Electrical Energy Resources in a Reliable Grid Professor Masahide Hojo



Content:

- <u>Phasor measurements at demand sides and its</u> <u>applications</u> Developing an online monitoring of power system by multiple phasor measurement units with monitoring
- voltages at the outlets on the wall.
 2. <u>Management of distribution network with high penetration of photovoltaic generation units</u> Investigating reasonable voltage regulation on high and low voltage distribution lines by cooperation of photovoltaic generation units and other apparatus.
- 3. <u>Advanced power conversion to integrate multiple dc</u> <u>energy sources</u>

Integrating multiple dc voltage terminals to connect solar cells, batteries and loads easily, based on multilevel converter topology with flying capacitors.

4. <u>Power modulations of distributed energy resources</u> <u>for frequency control</u>

Developing a voltage phasor modulation of gridconnected converters to regulate the system frequency as much as possible.

Keywords: smart grid, reliability, stability, quality, electric

vehicles, renewable energy resources E-mail: hojo @ ee.tokushima-u.ac.jp Tel. +81-88-656-7452 Fax: +81-88-656-7452





Control Applications of Intelligent Information Processing Technique Professor Takashi Yasuno

Developed experimental system in our lab.



Renewable energy system



Quadruped robot



Multiple mobile robots



Remote control mobile robot



Power assist knee orthosis



Electric wheel chair

Content:

In recent years, various systems coexisted within human such as industrial machines and life support systems tend to increase. In addition, a high performance and a high accuracy for these systems are strongly required. To meet these requirements, we make applied researches on a control system using an intelligent information processing technique on the basis of biologically inspired approaches. For example, we propose the design and implementation methods of the control system combining soft-computing techniques (fuzzy, neural network, etc.) and control theories. Current research themes are listed below:

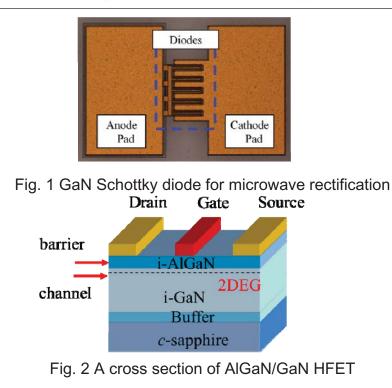
- Output prediction of wind or photovoltaic power generator using weather forecast model
- Cooperative control of multiple mobile robot system
- Adaptive gait control for guadruped robot using central pattern generator network
- Operator's support system for remote controlled robot
- Motion control of power assist knee orthosis
- Safety driving support system of electric wheel chair

Keywords: intelligent control, robot, wind energy and photovoltaic power generation, rehabilitation system E-mail: yasuno@ee.tokushima-u.ac.jp Tel. +81-88-656-7458 Fax: +81-88-656-7458 HP: http://www-sky.ee.tokushima-u.ac.jp





Research on Gallium Nitride Electron Devices Associate Professor Jin-Ping Ao



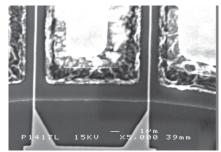


Fig. 3 Sub-micron gate AlGaN/GaN HFET

Content:

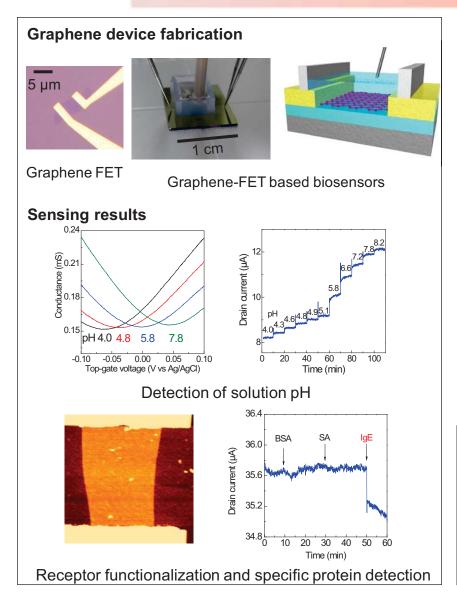
With the miniaturization of silicon transistors in the end of 20th century, there was rapid development in the computer information systems. The guiding principle is the scaling rule. With the decreasing of the device dimensions, high speed, low power consumption, high density integration, low price are spontaneously realized. To expand the potentials of the microelectronics to the application on communication, consumer electrical appliances, lighting and power electronics. it is necessary to achieve high voltage and high power. To maintain the high voltage and miniaturization compatibly, silicon technology is limited. It is necessary to introduce wide bandgap semiconductors. A prospective candidate is gallium nitride (GaN). GaN blue light emitting diodes have already become commercialized. It is also being developed to realize general lighting as a white source. In this laboratory, using the same material of GaN, transistors, diodes, chemical sensors and integrated circuits are being developed for the applications in microwave communication and power electronics. Recently, in detail, we are focusing on GaN Schottky diode for microwave rectification, high-frequency AIGaN/GaN HFET using electron-beam lithography, E-mode GaN MOSFET for power electronics and chemical sensor on AlGaN/GaN heterostructure

Keywords: wide bandgap semiconductor, electron device, sensor monolithic integrated circuit. E-mail: jpao@ee.tokushima-u.ac.jp Tel. +81-88-656-7442 Fax: +81-88-656-7442 HP : http://www.ao-lab.net





Biosensors based on nano-carbon devices Associate Professor Yasuhide Ohno

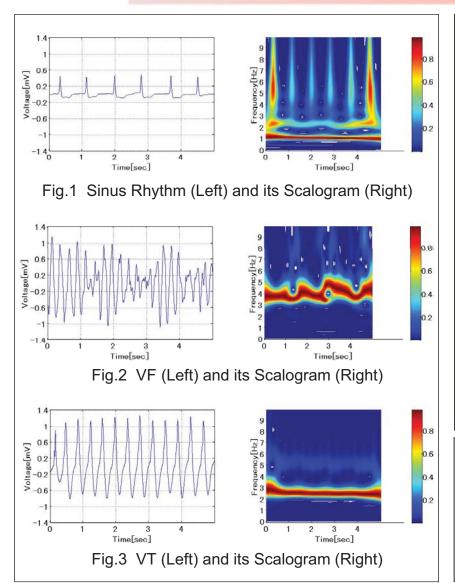


Since the electrical characteristics of graphene fieldeffect transistors (FETs) are very sensitive for their environmental condition, the graphene FETs have high potential for chemical and biological sensors. In our laboratory, various sensors based on graphene FETs are investigated. The graphene FETs can be operated in the buffer solution by top-gated operation from a reference electrode without any passivation film owing to their large potential window. And their transconductance was more than 200 times larger than that of the conventional backgated operation in vacuum. The drain current increased with increasing the solution pH. And the graphene FETs detected the charges in proteins. To detect the specific protein, aptamers were functionalized on the graphene surface. As a result, Aptamer-modified graphene FETs detected the target molecule, and their sensitivity was comparable for other aptamer-based biosensors.

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Wavelet Transform-Based Detection Algorithm for Electrocardiogram Associate Professor Hidetoshi Oya



Content:

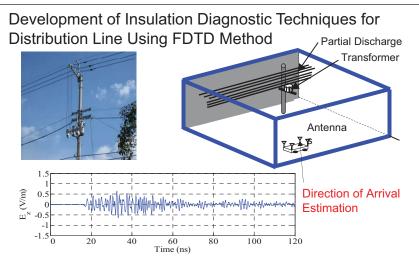
Sudden cardiac arrest is a major public health problem and Ventricular Fibrillation (VF) and Ventricular Tachycardia (VT) are serious arrhythmic events in most of patients suffering from sudden cardiac arrest. For these serious arrhythmic events, the timely employment of an electrical defibrillator may lead to successful results. VF is the most serious variety of arrhythmia which requires accurate and quick detection to save lives. Thus widespread deployment of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) has been suggested and a pivotal component in AEDs is the detection of VF and VT by means of appropriate algorithm. However, reliable, accurate and guick detection of ventricular arrhythmia is not easv.

From this viewpoint, on the basis of Wavelet Transform (WT) we have proposed some detection algorithms for electrocardiogram (ECG). Fig.1--3 show ECG signals and normalized scalogram. The proposed algorithm consists two stage detection and achieves good performance comparing with the existing results.

Keywords: detection algorithm, wavelet transform, defibrillation, VF, VT, PEA, SR, sudden cardiac arrest E-mail: hide-o@ee.tokushima-u.ac.jp Tel. +81-88-656-7467 Fax:+81-88-656-7467



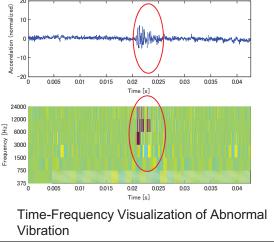
Development of Diagnostic Techniques for Power Equipment Using Radio Remote Sensing and Signal Processing Associate Professor, Masatake Kawada



Electromagnetic Waves Emitted from Partial Discharge, which is a Symptom of Degradation of Insulating Materials.

Detection of Abnormal Vibration Using Wavelet Transform





Content:

1. Subject

Can faults due to deterioration over time or unexpected faults occurring in power equipment be detected beforehand ?

2. Research Contents

How to detect a symptom of faults ?

(1) Radio Sensing, to locate deterioration of insulating materials

(2) Signal Processing, to locate abnormal positions in turbines, generators, and pumps

3. Record of Joint Research

(1) Chubu Electric Power Co. Inc. and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. for diagnosing turbine generators

(2) Chubu Electric Power Co. Inc. and Hitachi Ltd. for diagnosing pumps

(3) Railway Technical Research Institute for diagnosing ground coils of superconducting Maglev

Keywords: Radio Sensing and Signal Processing

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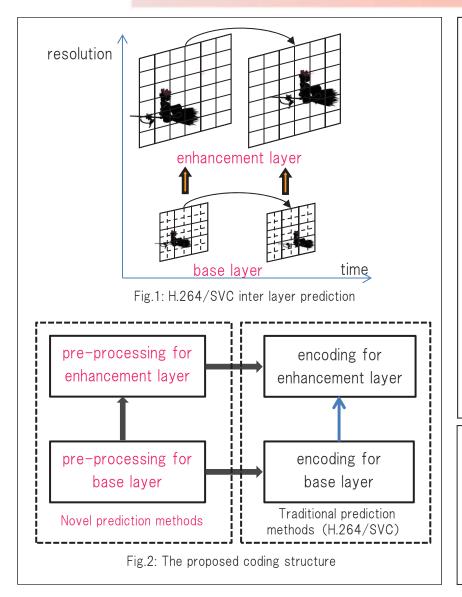
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Video coding algorithm and its VLSI architecture Associate Professor Tian Song



With the widely spread of video applications, novel coding algorithms which can answer many kinds of emerging demands are highly required. Our research group is devoting to propose good ideas concerning the following themes.

- 1. Improvements of the algorithms of HEVC and its low complexity and low power VLSI architecture for the next generation applications which are over 4K resolutions. The algorithms and architectures are concerning the intra coding, motion estimation, and deblocking filter.
- 2. Scalable video coding algorithms which are suitable for high resolution applications. We will make full use of the high correlations between base layer and enhancement layer to propose new algorithms to improve the coding efficiency.
- 3. Highly parallel processing video coding algorithms on many-core platforms. Most of traditional coding algorithms utilize the coding parameters of adjacent blocks to improve coding efficiency. However, this coding structure has essential demerit for parallel processing. As shown in Fig.2, our motivation is to find new coding structure which can achieve higher parallel coding performance.

Keywords : H.265/HEVC, Scalable Video coding(SVC), Parallel Video Coding

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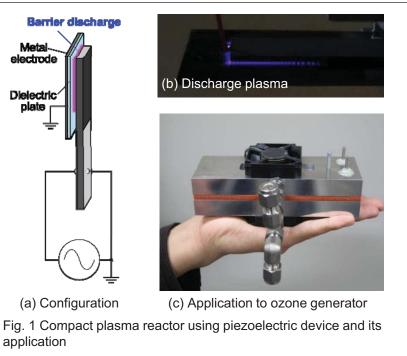
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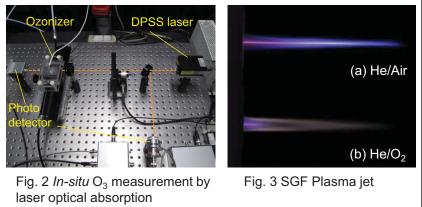
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Generation, Diagnosis and Applications of Discharge Plasma Associate Professor Kenji Teranishi





Content:

Discharge plasma reactors consisting of a massive high voltage generator and discharge electrodes are more likely to become large-scale system. We have proposed and studied various types of compact plasma reactors using piezoelectric devices. Piezoelectric transformers (PTs) that act as compact high-voltage generator have been widely embedded in a backlight invertor for LCDs. Our proposed plasma reactors feature compact configurations because the devices serve as both high-voltage source and discharge electrode. Non-thermal plasmas, such as corona discharge, glow discharge and dielectric barrier discharge (Fig. 1(a)(b)) can be produced using the plasma reactors. Several applications of the plasma reactors to ozone generators (Fig. 1(c)) and vacuum ultraviolet light source have been demonstrated.

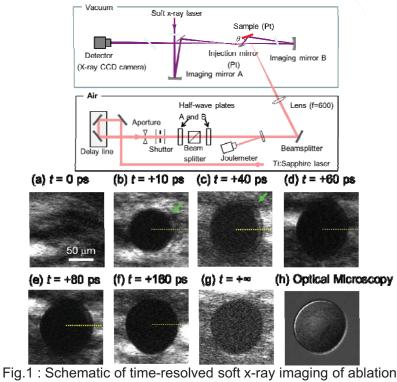
We have also promoted actively other research in generation, diagnosis and applications of non-thermal atmospheric pressure plasma, including *in-situ* measurement of ozone density inside DBD ozone generator (Fig. 2) and surrounding gas-fed (SGF) plasma jet (Fig. 3).

Keywords : Dielectric barrier discharge, ozone, plasma jet E-mail: teranishi@ee.tokushima-u.ac.jp Tel. +81-88-656-7454 Fax: +81-88-656-7454 http://pub2.db.tokushimau.ac.jp/ERD/person/155803/profile-ja.html

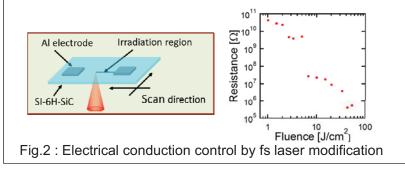




Physics and application of femtosecond laser irradiation Associate Professor Takuro Tomita



processes and the reflective images on platinum at each delay time



Content:

We are studying the ablation and modification of materials associates with femtosecond laser irradiation. In addition, we are also interested in the transient state of materials during femtosecond laser irradiation.

The schematic of time-resolved soft x-ray imaging of ablation processes and the reflective images on platinum at each delay time are show in Fig. 1. From this figure, it was found that the ablation phenomena is already started at 10 ps, and finished at 160 ps. We also observed the nano-bubble formation and nonthermal ablation processes related to the femtosecond laser irradiation.

Fig. 2 shows the schematic of electrical conduction control by fs laser modification. The femtosecond laser beam is irradiated between two metal contacts on semiconductor. With increasing the irradiation fluence, the local electrical conductivity abruptly decreased at the threshold fluence.

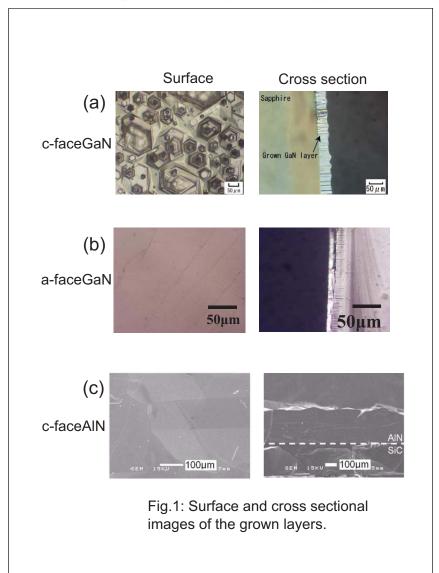
Keywords:femtosecond laser, ablation E-mail: tomita@tokushima-u.ac.jp Tel. +81-88-656-7445 Fax: +81-88-656-7445

HP : http://pub2.db.tokushima-u.ac.jp/ ERD/person/ 82121/profile-en.html



Faculty of Engineering

Bulk Crystal Growth of Nitride Semiconductors Associate Professor Katsushi Nishino



Content:

Nitride semiconductors are one of the most attractive candidates for LEDs. The problem of the crystal growth of nitrides is no suitable substrate with good lattice matching and low price.

In order to obtain nitride substrates at low cost, we grow GaN by a direct synthesis method (DSM) and AIN by a sublimation method (or physical vapor transport). Both methods are low-cost growth method.

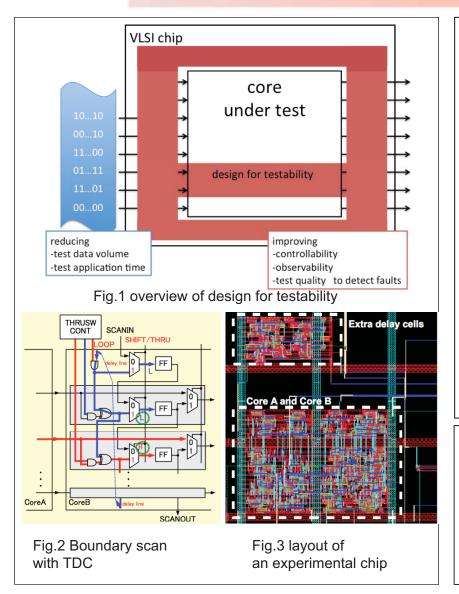
Figure 1(a) shows the surface and cross sectional images of the c-face GaN grown on c-plane sapphire and (b) a-face GaN on r-plane sapphire. Both grown layers are relatively high quality and can be used as substrates for the growth of nitrides.

Figure 1(c) shows the AIN layer grown by a sublimation method. The grown layer is relatively high quality. We grew AIGaN by MOCVD on the AIN substrate and the grown AIGaN layer shows good luminescence.

Keywords:AIN, GaN, bulk crystal growth E-mail: nishino@tokushima-u.ac.jp> Tel. +81-88-656-7464 Fax: +81-88-656-7464



Design for testability of VLSI chips Associate Professor Hiroyuki Yotsuyanagi



Content:

In recent highly integrated VLSIs, cost of testing is a major problem. To alleviate the difficulty in testing, design for testability techniques are widely used. In our research lab, we develop methods for reducing test cost such as test data volume, test application time, area overhead of test circuit, and for improving test quality especially in delay testing. One of the techniques is design for testability method for small delay faults using time-todigital converter embedded in boundary scan called TDCBS, shown in the figures. The boundary scan cells are modified to be able to form a time-to-digital converter that is utilized for detecting delay. Using this architecture, defects like opens and shorts can be detected as extra delay caused by such defects even if the delay is small and cannot be detected by conventional logic test. The feasibility of the proposed methods is estimated by both simulation and experiments of fabricated chips.

Keywords:design for testability, VLSI testing, delay faults, test cost reduction E-mail: yanagi4@ee.tokushima-u.ac.jp Tel. +81-88-656-9183 Fax: +81-88-656-9183





Development of a measurement device for blood flow velocity in the carotid

Fig 1. Prototype of a measurement device for blood flow velocity(BFV) and typical waveform of BFV in the carotid artery

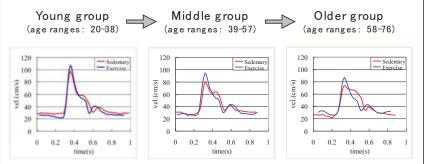


Fig 2. Change of BFV waveforms with age and exercise

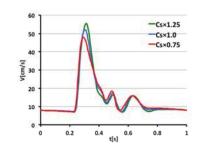


Fig 3. Change of BFV waveforms for different compliance of the arteries (computer simulation)

Associate Professor Masatake Akutagawa

Content:

According to the vital statistics from Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, 33% of Japanese are died by diseases related to the circulatory system. It is wellknown that diet modification and an appropriate exercise are effective to prevent these diseases. If we have a portable device which can evaluate the circulatory system and exercise habit, it is expected to suppress these diseases and medical care costs.

We have developed a portable measurement device (Fig. 1) for blood flow velocity (BFV) and investigated the relationship to various conditions for hundreds of subjects. As results of them, BFV waveforms show remarkable trends corresponding to aging and exercise habit as shown in Fig. 2. These trends may reflect extent of atherosclerosis. We confirmed that they are caused by compliance of the arteries by use of the multi-branched arterial segment as shown in Fig.3.

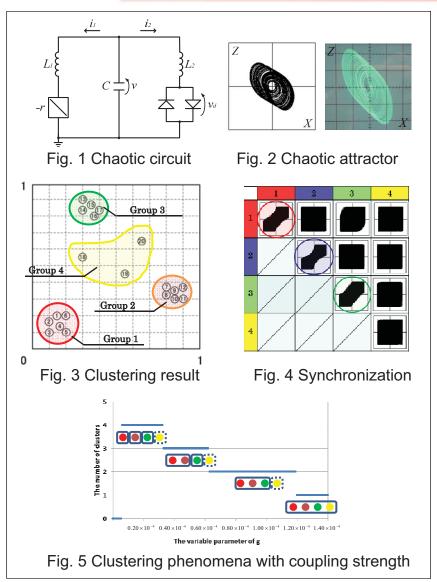
Keywords : Ultrasound doppler, atherosclerosis, blood flow velocity

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Social Network Modeling by Coupled Oscillatory Systems Associate Professor Yoko Uwate

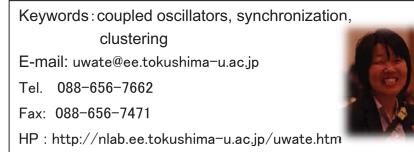


Content:

Coupled oscillatory systems are good models to express essential role of high-dimensional nonlinear phenomena occurring in the field of natural sciences. Recently, many studies have been investigated synchronization of chaotic circuits. It is applied in the field of engineering, physics and biology and so on.

In this study, we apply coupled oscillatory systems to modeling of social network using chaotic circuit (Fig. 1, 2). The chaotic circuits are placed on 2-dimensional space and are coupled with the distance information. By using computer simulations and circuit experiments, we obtain clustering result as shown in Fig. 3. Figure 4 shows the synchronization phenomena between the groups. Furthermore, we confirm that the number of clustering changes when the coupling strength is changed (Fig. 5). In our future works, we would like to apply the proposed system for more complex social network by using

system for more complex social network by using different frequency of oscillators.





Biomedical Sound Analysis for Medical Diagnosis System Associate prof. Takahiro Emoto



Fig.1 A sample of snoring sound recordings



Fig.2 A sample of bowel sound recordings

Content:

There are a lot of patients who suffer from chronic disease (obstructive sleep apnea syndrome (OSAS) and irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)). Recently the prevalence of these disease is likely to be increasing in many countries. Polysomnography(PSG) and endoscopic test have been used for the diagnosis of these disease respectively. However these test are inconvenience and expensive. Our research group hypothesize that the information on these disease should be embedded in biomedical sounds (e.g. snoring and bowel sounds) from patients. Biomedical sounds can be simply acquired via non-contact and/or non-invasive measurements. The target of our study is to develop the automated diagnosis system based on the analysis of biomedical sounds. We are currently in the process of developing new sophisticated techniques for this purpose. Biomedical sound analysis techniques can be expected to provide an attractive alternative to the conventional diagnosis method of chronic disease.

Keywords : Physiological measurement, Pattern recognition, Digital signal processing E-mail: emoto@ee.tokushima-u.ac.jp Tel. +81-88-656-7476 Fax: HP :



Coherent Optical Communication Technologies Assistant Professor Yasuhiro Okamura

Content:

Coherent optical communication technologies have been studied to improve transmission capacity of optical fiber transmission systems that consist of backbone networks and access networks. However, each network has major issues concerning introduction of the coherent technologies.

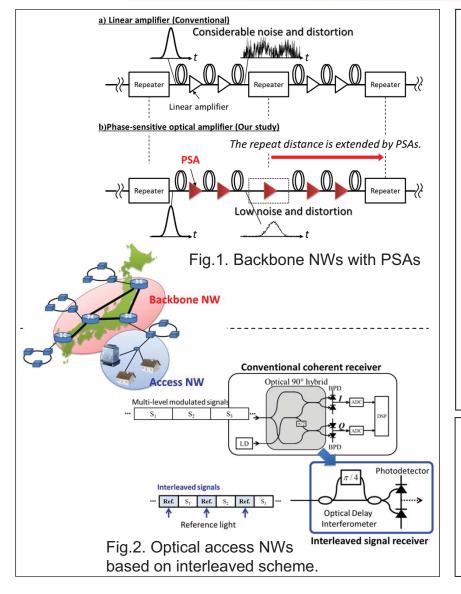
[Backbone networks] The transmission distance is limited by additive noise from linear amplifiers; therefore, the transmitted optical signals frequently need to be regenerate to avoid such noise by repeaters that are relatively expensive.

[Access networks] Cost and power dissipation of the conventional coherent receiver are not acceptable for consumer use.

To solve the above problems, we are studying about phase-sensitive optical amplification as depicted in Fig. 1. and the access networks based on multi-level modulated signals interleaved with reference light as shown in Fig. 2.

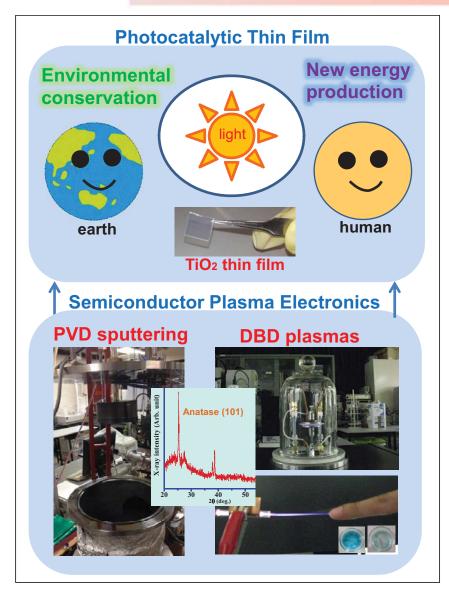
Keywords : Coherent optical communications, Phasesensitive optical amplifier, Multi-level modulated signals interleaved with reference light

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Study on Thin film of Photocatalyst for Environmental Conservation and New Energy Production by use of Plasma Electronics Assistant Professor Retsuo Kawakami



Content:

Photocatalyst has been attracting much attention as a material for environmental conservation and new energy production. It is a strong point that the photocatalytic activity is activated semipermanently while the surface is irradiated with light. TiO_2 is a leading candidate as the photocatalyst. The reason is that the photocatalytic activity is activated easily under irradiation with near UVvisible light and that TiO_2 is hardly dissolved by its own photocatalytic activity. Since TiO_2 is an inorganic compound, TiO₂ is harmless for human and earth, and TiO₂ is stable in aqueous media and reactive gas. The thin film, rather than the powder, is required from the viewpoint of the practical application such as large area coating. The photocatalytic activity induced by use of the thin film, however, is less enhanced than that induced by use of the powder.

We have been studying TiO₂ thin film with excellent photocatalytic activity using a magnetron facing target sputtering deposition device developed by our group. The characteristic of the device is that the anatase film is fabricated without heating the substrate. We have also been studying the anatase film treated using an atmospheric pressure plasma device developed by our group, in order to further enhance the original photocatalytic activity. The characteristic of the device is that the surface treatment is performed easily without expensive vacuum pumps.

Keywords Photocatalyst, Wide band-gap Semiconductor, Plasma electronics E-mail: retsuo@ee.tokushima-u.ac.jp Tel. +81-88-656-7441 Fax: +81-88-656-7441





Simplification of the Motor Controlling Device Assistant Professor Kenji Yamanaka

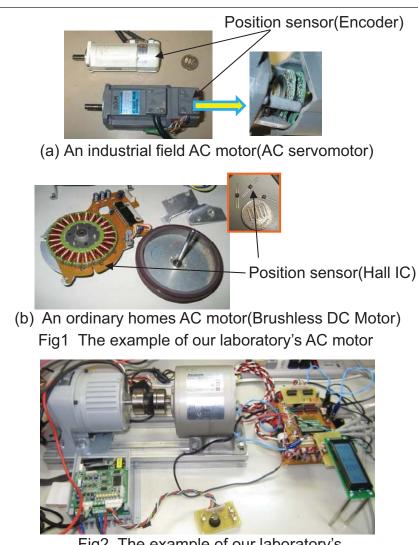


Fig2 The example of our laboratory's developing controlling circuit device

Content:

An electric motor is used in ordinary homes, industrial field, and so on, and an AC motor is especially used from the view of the controllability, efficiency, and miniaturization. However, we need to attach a position sensor to the motor in order to control the motor. This causes the problem which is an increase in costs, increasing in size, and complication of the control device. There is a difference between industrial field motor and ordinary homes motor for method of controlling. Since the industrial field motor requires to control highly, it makes use of an expensive and high precise position sensor which is shown in Fig 1(a). The ordinary homes motor is driven by using a cheap position sensor. Nevertheless, it causes a sacrifice of controlling.

Thus, we are trying to develop controlling system which is able to give the motor high performance using the cheap sensor. It is possible to drive the motor if we add logic circuit and controlling program in order to achieve the object. It can be similar to the controlling system using a high precise position sensor. In addition, we are using a brushless DC motor as an AC motor, and we can keep the driving method which suppresses the switching loss. We also expect the improvement of efficiency.

Keywords: Brushless DC motor,

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