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### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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PHYSICAL REVIEW B

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 10

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# Reflectivity of ZnSe<sub>x</sub> Te<sub>1-x</sub> Single Crystals

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Reflectivity spectra of  $ZnSe_{x}Te_{1-x}$  single crystals were measured from 2.0 to 6.6 eV through the whole range of mole fraction x at room temperature. The variation of the band gaps such as the  $E_0$ ,  $e_1$ ,  $E_1$ , and  $E_2$  with x is reported. The  $E_0$ ,  $e_1$ , and  $E_1$  gaps exhibit spin-orbit splitting. The lowest gap  $E_0$  shows a minimum in energy at x = 0.33. The minimum value is 2.13 eV.

### I. INTRODUCTION

Since an early report by Larach *et al.*<sup>1</sup> on the diffuse reflectance of the microcrystalline powders of the ZnSe-ZnTe system, few papers have reported

on the variation of the band gaps with composition. The variation of the lowest band gap with composition in the  $ZnSe_{r}Te_{1-r}$  alloys has been investigated by the crystal color observed under a microscope<sup>2</sup> and by the reflection spectra.<sup>3</sup> Aven  $et al.^4$  have

reported the crystal growth of  $ZnSe_{x}Te_{1-x}$  using a closed vapor-phase technique in an excess Te atmosphere.

Single crystals of  $ZnSe_{x}Te_{1-x}$  of uniform composition were grown through the whole range of composition by a slightly modified version of the technique reported in Ref. 4 without the addition of extra Te. The present paper describes the reflectivity measurements for the  $ZnSe_{r}Te_{1-r}$  single crystals. The reflectivity spectra reveal welldefined peaks, which are assigned using the assignment of the end-point compounds ZnSe and ZnTe.<sup>5,6</sup> The variation of the band gap with composition is satisfactorily explained by a dielectric method reported recently by Van Vechten and Bergstresser.<sup>7</sup> Present reflectivity measurements of the  $ZnSe_{x}Te_{1-x}$  alloys provide the first report on the reflectivity experiment over the several band gaps for the zinc-blende semiconductoralloy systems of the popular Zn and Cd chalcogenides, although reflectivity measurements have been reported for the wurtzite II-VI alloy systems.<sup>8,9</sup>

#### **II. EXPERIMENT**

Single crystals were grown on a small (110) cleaved plane of ZnSe or ZnTe seed crystal using a modified version of the closed vapor-phase technique reported by Aven *et al.*<sup>4</sup> The single crystals with the grown surfaces (110) and (111) were up to  $4 \times 3$  mm. The grown crystal can be cleaved along the (110) plane and contains no inclusions of other substances such as Te metal. The details of the crystal growth will be presented elsewhere.

Using an electron-probe x-ray microanalyzer, it was found that the single crystal is homogeneous in composition and the transition region from the seed to the  $ZnSe_{x}Te_{1-x}$  crystal is about 25  $\mu$ m in thickness. The uniformity in composition of the grown crystal was also estimated from x-ray lattice-constant measurements. On the basis of the well-known Vegard's law, the mole fraction x was determined from the lattice constant.<sup>1</sup> The value of x can be determined with great accuracy, because the difference in lattice constant between ZnSe and ZnTe is large. The lattice constant was determined from high-angle x-ray diffraction measured on the small pieces cut from a crystal. The lattice constant of ZnTe grown by a vapor-phase technique is  $6.1033 \pm 0.0006$  Å, which is in agreement with the reported value 6.1037  $\text{\AA}^{.10}$  The lattice constants measured on the small pieces cut from various sections of a grown crystal are in agreement with each other within  $\pm 0.02\%$ . These results also indicate that the deviation in composition of the grown crystal is within  $\pm 0.2\%$ . The (110) surfaces, grown to a size of  $4 \times 3$  mm, are optically flat and sufficiently homogeneous and can be used directly for reflectivity measurements.

The reflectivity measurements were made on the as-grown or the cleaved (110) surfaces using a conventional Hitachi-Perkin-Elmer grating monochromator from 2.0 to 6.6 eV at room temperature. Measurements for as-grown and cleaved surfaces are in agreement with each other within the experimental error. Because of the small size of the reflecting plane, only relative reflectivity was measured except in the case of ZnSe and ZnTe, for which the absolute reflectivity was measured. The measured absolute reflectivity is in satisfactory agreement with previous work.<sup>11-13</sup> These results indicate that the reflectivity measurements for the ZnSe, Te1-, crystals are reliable enough for the analysis of the peak positions. The reflectivity measurements were thoroughly made several times over the whole spectrum, and it was found that the energy positions of the structures in the spectra are satisfactorily reproducible.

# **III. RESULTS**

The spectra of  $ZnSe_xTe_{1-x}$  are shown in Fig. 1. All of the peak positions indicated by arrows in the figure are quite reproducible to within a few hundredths of an eV. As can be seen in Fig. 1, the spectra for both x=0 (ZnTe) and x=1 (ZnSe) reveal more and generally better-defined structures than reported in any previous work.<sup>11-14</sup> The weak peaks at 4.32 and 4.85 eV for ZnTe and the very weak peak at about 4.3 eV for ZnSe were observed for the first time. The crystal of ZnTe was grown by a vapor-phase technique of Piper and Polich,<sup>15</sup> and its color is more pure than that of melt-grown



FIG. 1. Reflectivity spectra of  $\text{ZnSe}_x \text{Te}_{1-x}$  for x = 0, 0.08, 0.35, 0.68, 0.93, and 1.0 at room temperature. Arrows in the figure indicate the energy positions of the structures in the spectra.

crystals. This crystal shows the very steep absorption rise at the fundamental absorption edge. The cleaved surface used for measurements is as large as  $10 \times 5$  mm. The lattice constant of vaporphase-grown ZnTe is in agreement with the reported value, as mentioned in Sec. II, while that of the melt-grown crystal shows slight deviation in lattice constant. These results as well as the clear pattern of x-ray diffraction of the vaporphase-grown ZnTe crystal indicate that the vaporphase-grown crystal is free of crystallographic strains. The ZnSe crystal was also grown by a vapor-phase technique and as a purer color than melt-grown crystals. The cleaved-surface size of ZnSe was sufficient for measurements of the absolute reflectivity, although its size was about one-half of that of the ZnTe crystal. Thus, the crystals of ZnTe and ZnSe are seemingly of good quality, and free of impurities and crystallographic strains. The better-refined structures for ZnSe and ZnTe than reported in previous work may be mainly related to the high quality of the cleaved surface and to the large surface size, and partly related to the measurement technique.

Figure 2 shows the variation of peak positions as a function of x. In the case of x = 0.48, only crystals of small size with rough surfaces were grown. The reflectivity spectrum of this material was so broad at the photon energies between 3 and 5 eV that it did not show any discernible structure: the structure being seen only for the photon energy lower than 3 eV and higher than 5 eV. The peak positions at low photon energies are reproducible, while those at high photon energies were not. Roughness of the reflecting plane is probably responsible for the unreliable results. Thus, in this case, only two peaks at low photon energies are presented in Fig. 2. The tentative assignments of the peaks are also shown in this figure, where generally used notations defined by Cardona et al.<sup>11,14</sup> are employed except for the two curves from the top for which the notations used by Walter et al.<sup>6</sup> are employed. These peak positions are summarized in Table I. Two values 6.30 and 6.20 eV for  $x \approx 1$  in the table correspond to the weak shoulders on the low-energy side of the main peak. These values had larger uncertainty than the others.

Figure 3 shows the variation of the lowest band gap  $E_0$  with x, along with the results of Larach *et al.*<sup>1</sup> and of Shiozawa and Jost.<sup>2</sup> The least-squares fit to an expression quadratic in x, which is usually assumed, gave  $E_0 = 2.26 - 0.82x + 1.23x^2$  eV. This fit shows the minimum value of 2.13 eV at x = 0.33. Figure 4 shows the spin-orbit splittings  $\Delta_0$  and  $\Delta_1$  as a function of x. Both  $\Delta_0$  and  $\Delta_1$  are seemingly nonlinear but quadratic in x with a bowing parameter (a measure of the deviation from



FIG. 2. Variation of the peak positions in the reflectivity spectra as a function of x for  $ZnSe_xTe_{1-x}$ . The tentative assignments of the band gaps are also shown.

linearity)<sup>7</sup> of the negative sign. Quadratic leastsquares fits to  $\Delta_0$  and  $\Delta_1$  are shown as the solid lines in the figure. These nonlinear relations are rather unusual. Niculescu<sup>16</sup> has reported that for ZnTe-HgTe system,  $\Delta_1$  shows the nonlinear variation with composition having a bowing parameter of the positive sign. For the GaAs-GaP system<sup>17</sup> and the GaAs-InAs system<sup>18</sup> the nonlinear variation of  $\Delta_1$  with composition has also been reported. It is noted that while the present results indicating the nonlinear variation are of interest, they must be considered to be tentative, because the experimental uncertainty in the determination of the gap energy from reflectivity measurements is not as small as the case of the electroreflectance or thermoreflectance measurements. The quadratic least-squares fits to the  $E_0$ ,  $E_0 + \Delta_0$ ,  $E_1$ , and  $E_1$ + $\Delta_1$  gaps give  $\Delta_0$  (ZnSe)=0.42 eV,  $\Delta_0$  (ZnTe) =0.95 eV,  $\Delta_1$  (ZnSe)=0.20 eV, and  $\Delta_1$  (ZnTe) =0.59 eV. These values are in good agreement with the previously measured values,<sup>5, 19, 20</sup> and the calculated values<sup>21</sup> reported recently.

Van Vechten and Bergstresser<sup>7</sup> have recently treated the band gaps as a function of composition for alloy systems of the IV, III-V, and II-VI semiconductors by both a dielectric and an empirical

descent of the second	the second s								
Tentative	Peak positions (in eV)								
assignment	<i>x</i> = .	0	0.03	0.08	0.35	0.48	0.68	0.93	1.0
E <sub>0</sub>		2.26	2.23	2.20	2.14	2.18	2.27	2.54	2.70
$E_0 + \Delta_0$		3.22	3.18	3.14	3.03	2.97	2.97	3.06	3.10
$e_1$		3.48	3.45	3.44	3.45		4.00		
$e_1 + \Delta_1$		4.04	4.05	4.03	3.96		4.40		
$E_1$		3.58	3.59	3.60	3.75		4.20	4.70	4.80
$E_1 + \Delta_1$		4.16	4.18	4.19	4.26		4.60	4.90	5,04
$E_2$		4.32	4.38	4.41	4.78		5.34	5.82	5,95
Δ(8-10)		4.85	4.93	5.04	5.40		5.90	≈6,20	≈6.30
$\Delta(6-10)$		5.45	5.50	5.57	5.74		6.08	6.30	6.40
$\Delta_0$		0.96	0.95	0.94	0.89		0.70	0.52	0.40
$\Delta_1$		0.57	0.60	0.59	0.51		0.40	0.20	0.24

TABLE I. Peak positions in the reflectivity spectra and the spin-orbit splittings  $\Delta_0$  and  $\Delta_1$  for  $\text{ZnSe}_x\text{Te}_{1-x}$ .

pseudopotential method. These authors have indicated that the dielectric method gives good agreement with experiment. Thus, we analyze the present results using this method. Figure 5 shows the deviation from linearity in the variation of the  $E_0$ and  $E_1$  gap with x, where the spin-orbit splitting is eliminated by the addition of  $\frac{1}{3}\Delta_0$  and  $\frac{1}{2}\Delta_1$  to the measured  $E_0$  and  $E_1$  gap, respectively. The calculated curves for  $E_0$  and  $E_1$  using the bowing parameters  $c_0 = 1.10$  and  $c_1 = 1.13$ , respectively, are also shown. The value  $c_0$  is given in Ref. 7, and  $c_1$  is estimated from the parameters given in Ref. 7. The least-squares fit to experimental values gave  $c_0 = 1.04$  and  $c_1 = 0.96$ . The agreement between experiment and the dielectric method is satisfactory.

# **IV. DISCUSSION**

The assignments of the reflectivity structures of  $ZnSe_{x}Te_{1-x}$  are made on the basis of the early reflectance data and its assignment given by Cardona



FIG. 3. Lowest band gap  $E_0$  of  $ZnSe_xTe_{1-x}$  as a function of x at room temperature. The least-squares fit to an expression quadratic in x gives  $E_0 = 2.26 - 0.82 x$ +1.23  $x^2$  eV, which is presented as the solid line. This fit shows the minimum gap of 2.13 eV at x = 0.33. Previously reported values are also shown (see Refs.1 and 2).

and co-workers<sup>5, 11, 12, 14</sup> and of the recent reflectance data and the theoretical calculations including the spin-orbit interaction given by Walter, Cohen, Petroff, and Balkanski<sup>6</sup> (hereafter referred to as WCPB) for the end-point compounds ZnSe and ZnTe.

The assignments of the  $E_0$ ,  $e_1$ , and  $E_1$  gaps including the spin-orbit splitting component of these gaps are made on the basis of the assignments for ZnSe and ZnTe given by Cardona and co-workers.<sup>5, 11, 12, 14</sup> For these gaps, the assignments by WCPB, based on theoretical calculations, are the same as those by Cardona and co-workers.

For the three upper curves in Fig. 2, the assignments are made in terms of the assignments of WCPB given for ZnSe and ZnTe. The third curve from the top in this figure is probably attributed to  $X_7$ - $X_6$  transitions, which corresponds to the  $E_2$  gap of Cardona's notation. The theoretical calculations of WCPB have shown that  $X_7 - X_6$  transitions cause the reflectivity structure at 4.65 and 5.97 eV for ZnTe and ZnSe, respectively. The present experiments for ZnSe gave the peak at 5.95 eV, in agreement with the theoretically calculated value



FIG. 4. Variation of the spin-orbit splittings  $\Delta_0$  and  $\Delta_1$  as a function of x for  $ZnSe_x Te_{1-x}$ . The solid lines are the least-squares fits to an expression quadratic in х.

<u>6</u>



FIG. 5. Deviation from linearity of the band gaps  $E_0$ and  $E_1$  without spin-orbit splitting for  $\text{ZnSe}_x\text{Te}_{1-x}$ . The solid lines for the  $E_0$  and  $E_1$  gaps are calculated using the dielectric method with the bowing parameters  $c_0$ = 1.10 and  $c_1$ =1.13.

of WCPB. The measured peak position of 4.32 eV of ZnTe is lower than the calculated position of 4.65 eV. Taking into account of the slope in the variation of the measured 4.32-eV peak with x for  $x \approx 0$ , this peak may be related to the 5.95-eV peak of ZnSe. These results suggest that the 4.32eV peak of ZnTe is caused by  $X_7$ - $X_6$  transitions. The first curve from the top in Fig. 2, which corresponds to the main peak in the reflectivity spectrum, is attributed to K(7-10),  $\Delta(6-10)$ , and  $\Sigma(7-10)$ 10) transitions for ZnTe and to  $\Delta(6-10)$ ,  $\Delta(8-10)$ ,  $\Sigma(7-9)$ , and  $\Sigma(8-10)$  transitions for ZnSe. The calculations by WCPB have indicated that these transitions are responsible for the peak at 5.45 eV for ZnTe and at 6.47 eV for ZnSe. These transitions are referred to as  $\Delta(6-10)$  transitions in Fig. 2. The second curve from the top in Fig. 2 is attributed to  $\Delta(8-10)$  transitions, which produce the reflectivity peak at 4.95 eV for ZnTe and at 6.20 eV for ZnSe on the basis of the calculations of WCPB. Thus, the assignments of  $\Delta(6-10)$ ,  $\Delta(8-10)$ 10), and  $X_7 - X_8$  transitions derived from the calculations of WCPB may explain quite satisfactorily the measured structures in the reflectivity spectra

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of the  $ZnSe_{x}Te_{1-x}$  alloys.

On the other hand, according to the early assignments of Cardona and co-workers<sup>5, 11, 12, 14</sup> for ZnTe and ZnSe, there is no reasonable assignment for the third curve from the top in Fig. 2, as far as the direct transitions are concerned. In view of the dielectric method,<sup>22</sup> which employs the assignments of Cardona and co-worker, this curve may be assigned to the indirect  $\Gamma \rightarrow X$  transitions. The first curve from the top may be assigned to the  $E_2$ gap  $(X_7 - X_6 \text{ transitions})$ , on the basis of the assignment of the 6.7-eV peak of ZnSe by Cardona and co-workers. The second curve may be assigned to the  $E'_0$  gap on the basis of the  $E'_0$ -gap assignment of Cardona and co-workers for ZnTe. Thus, the assignments based on the early report for ZnTe and ZnSe by Cardona and co-workers cannot be ruled out completely.

In conclusion, the assignments of the band gaps based on the calculations of WCPB may explain the measured peaks in the reflectivity spectra of  $\text{ZnSe}_{x}\text{Te}_{1-x}$ . The structure at about 4.3 eV for the materials with  $x \approx 1$  was not assigned. Although this structure is very weak, its energy position is reproducible. If indirect transitions are involved besides the direct transitions, this structure may be attributed to  $\Gamma - L$  transitions (or  $\Gamma - \Lambda$  transitions).<sup>22</sup>

The structures in the reflectivity spectra of  $ZnSe_{x}Te_{1-x}$  are less sharp compared to those of the end-point compounds. The increase of x from zero to as small as 0.08 does broaden the structure remarkably, as can be seen in Fig. 1. Similar behavior was observed for the decrease of xfrom one to 0.93. The greater the deviation of xfrom zero or one, the more the peaks broaden, while line profiles of x-ray diffraction pattern show no significant change with x. This broadening effect on the reflectivity spectra cannot be attributed to impurities. Since the absorption cutoff at the fundamental absorption edge in  $ZnSe_{r}Te_{1-r}$  is as sharp as in ZnTe. Therefore, this effect may be due to the difference in the form factor between Te and Se, i.e., to the aperiodicity in the crystal potential of the  $ZnSe_{x}Te_{1-x}$  alloys.<sup>7</sup> It may be difficult to estimate the aperiodicity using x-ray-diffraction profiles.

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PHYSICAL REVIEW B

#### VOLUME 6, NUMBER 10

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# Thermal Conductivity of II-VI Compounds and Phonon Scattering by Fe<sup>2+</sup> Impurities

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The thermal conductivities  $\kappa$  of over twenty different single crystals of synthetic ZnO, ZnS, ZnSe, ZnTe, CdTe, and of natural, cubic ZnS have been measured from temperatures of 3 to 300 K. The results for the undoped crystals above 30 K can be scaled using the parameter  $\overline{M}\delta\Theta^3$ , where  $\overline{M}$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\Theta$  are the average mass, interatomic spacing, and Debye temperature, respectively. A comparison of these results with those in the literature for BeO, CdS, CdSe, HgSe, HgTe, Si, Ge, GaAs, and InSb show that the same scaling parameter applies for most of them. The compounds HgSe and HgTe exhibit anomalously low  $\kappa$  values. Crystals doped with Fe<sup>2+</sup> show a resonant-type one-phonon scattering from the five low-lying energy levels of this  $3d^6$  ion. Group theory shows that the strongest scattering occurs for phonons of energy  $2\Delta$ , where  $\Delta$  is the interlevel spacing of the Fe<sup>2+</sup> ion.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The present work is a review of the thermal conductivity of undoped II-VI compounds with new data on ZnO, ZnS, ZnSe, ZnTe, and CdTe. With this knowledge of the behavior of pure crystals, the extra phonon scattering produced by Fe<sup>2+</sup>-ion impurities in ZnS and CdTe has been studied.

# A. Pure Crystals

The II-VI compound with the highest thermal conductivity  $\kappa$  is BeO. Results for BeO have recently been published, <sup>1</sup> and will not be reviewed here. Some comments on the  $\kappa$  of BeS have also been made.<sup>1</sup> Nothing is known about the  $\kappa$  of BeSe or BeTe. The  $\kappa$  of ceramic samples of  $ZnO^{2,3}$  has been published, as well as a measurement<sup>4</sup> of the anisotropy of its  $\kappa$ . In addition there are some unpublished results of Martin and Wolf<sup>5</sup> and Pohl.<sup>6</sup> Pohl's results are reported here. There is one report<sup>7</sup> in the literature for a single crystal of ZnS, as well as two<sup>8,9</sup> for ZnSe. The  $\kappa$  of ZnTe has been reported<sup>10-12</sup> several times. For the Cd compounds there exists a lot of work<sup>13-18</sup> on CdS, and some work<sup>19,20</sup> on CdSe. The work on CdTe has been

reviewed, <sup>21</sup> but a number of papers <sup>9,13,21-26</sup> on CdTe were not included in that review. Of these references, three (Refs. 13, 25, and 26) give  $\kappa$ values in reasonable agreement with Slack and Galginaitis.<sup>21</sup>

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Numerous measurements of  $\kappa$  have been made for the compounds HgSe <sup>10,11,20,27-32</sup> and HgTe.<sup>10-12,20,33-36</sup> These  $\kappa$  results are more complicated because there is an electronic as well as a lattice contribution to  $\kappa$  at 300 K. Both HgSe and HgTe are classed as semimetals instead of semiconductors.

Note that the compounds CdO, HgO, and HgS have been omitted because they do not possess the adamantine (diamondlike) crystal structure.

# B. Crystal Doped with Fe<sup>2+</sup>

Previous measurements  $^{21,37-47}$  have shown that substitutional Fe ions can drastically lower the thermal conductivity of crystals of Ge,  $^{37}$ ZnSO<sub>4</sub>· 7H<sub>2</sub>O,  $^{38}$  CdTe,  $^{21,42}$  MgCr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>,  $^{39}$  MgAl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>,  $^{40,41}$ ZnS,  $^{42}$  KZnF<sub>3</sub>,  $^{43}$  and MgO.  $^{44-47}$  In these crystals the Fe<sup>2+</sup> ions have either tetrahedral<sup>21,39-42</sup> or nearly octahedral<sup>38,43-47</sup> coordination with their nearest neighbors. The interaction of the phonons with the Fe<sup>2+</sup> ions appears to be strong for