

同的晶面原子排列。也就是说，实验中蓝宝石衬底的图形表面不是光滑的，而是由两种晶面按照一定顺序组合而成。由于两种晶面的表面原子排列和键结构不同，引起了微米半球生长后出现了两种类型的生长区域。为了证实我们的猜测，对未生长 SnO_2 的图形化蓝宝石衬底的单个微米半球进行了 SEM 测试，如图 3 所示。从图 3 可以看出，半球的坡面上存在三组条纹，且它们相互之间存在一定的角度，因此在坡面上就形成了三个特殊的区域，在图中用 a 面来表示。所以图形化蓝宝石衬底的半圆形表面并不是一个完整的光滑面，是由两部分区域组成，在图中标记为 a 面和 b 面。可见半球就是由 3 个 a 面和 3 个 b 面连续交叠所构成。对比图 2 插图中单个 SnO_2 微米半球表面的选择性分布形貌，可以很容易地将 SnO_2 微米半球表面的密集和稀疏区域与图 3 的区域相对应。

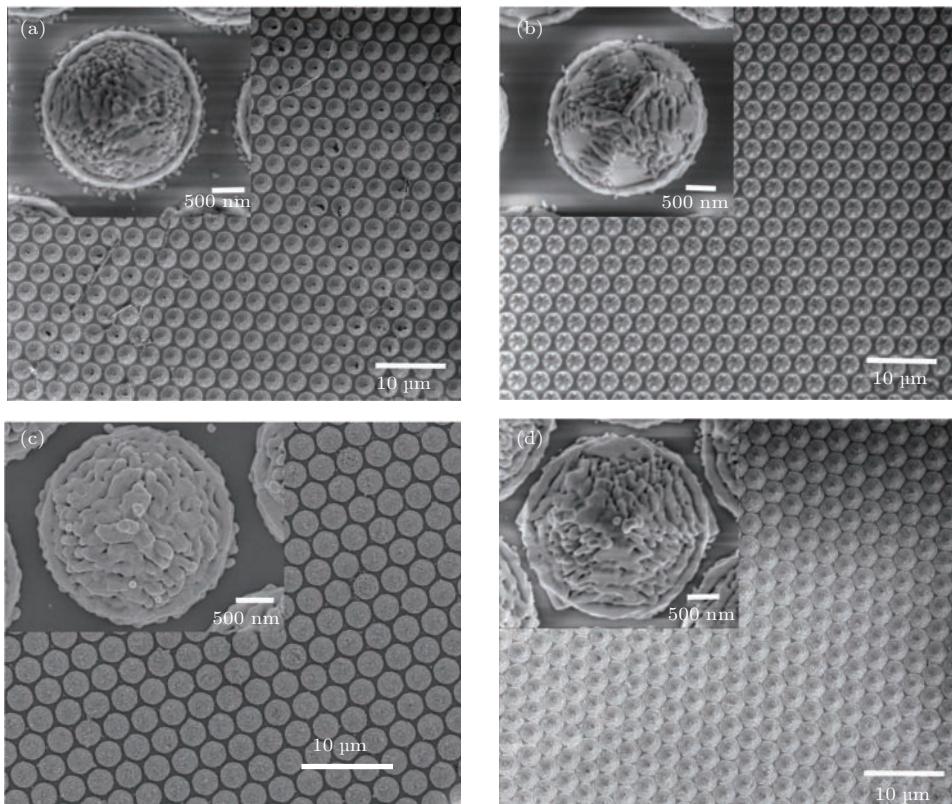


图 2 样品 A—D 的 SEM 图 (a) 样品 A; (b) 样品 B; (c) 样品 C; (d) 样品 D

Fig. 2. FE-SEM images of samples A—D: (a) Sample A; (b) sample B; (c) sample C; (d) sample D.

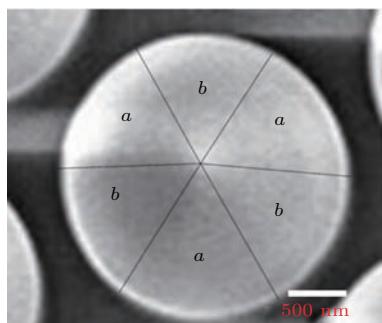


图 3 没有生长 SnO_2 前图形化蓝宝石衬底上单个微米半球的 SEM 图

Fig. 3. SEM image of a single microhemisphere on the patterned sapphire substrate without SnO_2 .

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为了研究不同量的锡粉对样品晶体结构的影响，对样品 A—D 进行了 XRD 测试，测试结果如图 4 所示。从图 4 可以看出，在不同锡粉量下制备的样品均为四方金红石结构 [4,10]，并且样品 A—D 在 37.98° 附近均存在一个很强的 (200) 取向的衍射峰和相对较弱的 (210) 取向的衍射峰。在锡粉量增加到 0.3 g 时，发现样品 D 中 (图 4(d)) 除了 (200) 和 (210) 取向的衍射峰外，还观察到了 (110), (101) 取向的衍射峰，这说明随着锡粉量的增加，样品的结晶质量逐渐变差。此外，对样品 A—D (200) 衍射峰的半高全宽进行了高斯拟合，得到四块样品的半高

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Growth, structural and optical properties of orderly SnO_2 microhemispheres on patterned sapphire substrates*

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Abstract

One-dimensional nanoscaled materials, such as nanotubes, nanowires and nanobelts, have attracted a great deal of attention in recent years because of their unique electronic, optical, and mechanical properties. Their potential applications are found in next generation devices, functional materials, and sensors. A material of particular interest is stannic oxide (SnO_2), which is a novel oxide semiconductor material for ultraviolet and blue luminescence devices due to its wide band gap of 3.6 eV at room temperature. SnO_2 can also be widely used in many fields, such as gas sensors, optoelectronic devices, and transparent conductive glass, because of its high optical transparency in the visible range, low resistivity, and higher chemical and physical stability. In recent years, one-dimensional nanostructures of SnO_2 materials, such as nanobelts, nanotubes, and nanowires, have been reported. However, the preparations of orderly SnO_2 micro/nanostructures have been rarely reported. In this paper, orderly SnO_2 microhemispheres with different sizes are grown on patterned sapphire substrates by a traditional chemical vapor deposition method without using any catalyst. The patterned sapphire substrates are cleaned by using a standard sapphire wafer cleaning procedure. High-purity metallic Sn powders (99.99%) and oxygen gas are used as Sn and oxygen sources, respectively. The flow rate of high-purity Ar carrier gas is controlled at 200 sccm, and the oxygen reactant gas with a flow rate of 100 sccm is introduced into the system. In the growth process, the whole system is kept at 1000 °C for 30 min. The surface morphologies, structural and optical properties of the SnO_2 microhemispheres are investigated by the field emission scanning electron microscope (HITACHI S4800), the X-ray diffraction with a Cu K α radiation (0.15418 nm), the optical absorption spectrometer (UV-3600 UV-VIS-NIR, Shimadzu), and the photoluminescence spectrometer with an excitation source of He-Cd laser ($\lambda = 325$ nm) to identify the As related acceptor emission, respectively. These results show that the diameters of SnO_2 microhemispheres become larger, and the crystal quality is degraded with the increase of Sn powder mass. The special selective growth of SnO_2 microhemisphere on a patterned sapphire substrate is found. In addition, we also find that the optical band gaps of the samples A–D are all redshifted with the increase of Sn powder mass. The shrinkage of E_g in the absorption spectrum should be partly attributed to the degradation of crystal quality because of excess Sn sources. This growth method of SnO_2 microhemisphere provides a feasible and effective way of preparing the high density, orderly arrangement of SnO_2 micro/nanostructures.

Keywords: chemical vapor deposition, patterned sapphire substrate, SnO_2 , microhemisphere

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