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Our Message

CuInSe₂ based flexible thin film solar cells on polyimide substrates are possible alternatives for crystalline silicon or GaAs based solar cells in space applications due to their low weight. Still their feasibility has to be proven. In order to achieve high specific power (W/kg), important optimization parameters are, for instance, efficiency and surface heat emittance.

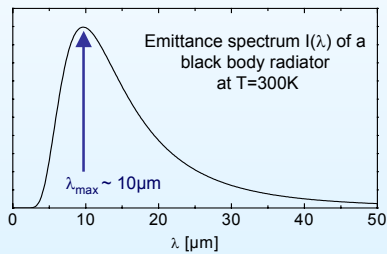
Introduction

No transmission => spectral emittance $E(\lambda) = 1 - R(\lambda)$

(Integrated) Emissivity

$$E = \frac{\int [(1 - R(\lambda)) \cdot I(\lambda)] d\lambda}{\int I(\lambda) d\lambda}$$

R ... Reflectivity at angle of incidence 0°
 I ... Intensity of the blackbody radiator at 300K



Procedure

1. Reflectivity at normal incidence from 0.2 to 40 μm is simulated by model calculations using model dielectric functions
2. Emissivity is calculated
3. Upon variation of parameters maximum of emissivity is determined

Model dielectric functions

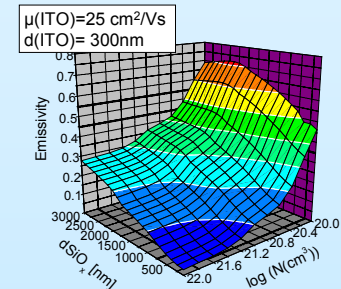
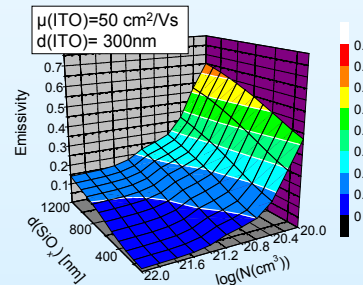
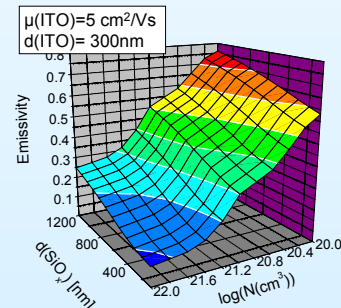
Determined by infrared spectroscopic ellipsometry:
SiO_x, ITO, ZnO, Buffer, CIS, Mo

Taken from reference data:

- a-Al₂O₃ Chu et al., J. Appl Phys. 64, 3727 (1988)
- MgF₂ Hunt et al., Phys. Rev. B 134, A688 (1964)

Basic structure I

SiO _x	d = 0 ... 10000 nm	adjustable parameters
ITO or ZnO	d = 100, 300 or 500 nm, N = 1 · 10 ¹⁹ ... 1 · 10 ²¹ cm ⁻³ , μ = 5, 25, 50 cm ² /Vs	
Buffer	d = 50 nm	fixed parameters
CIS	d = 1500 nm	
Mo	d = 500 nm	
Polyimide	d = 30000 nm	



Results

- In order to increase maximum of emissivity, one has to:
- decrease concentration and mobility of free charge carriers in ITO/ZnO-layer
 - decrease thickness of ITO/ZnO-layer
 - increase layer thickness of SiO_x-layer

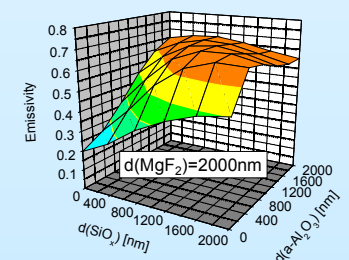
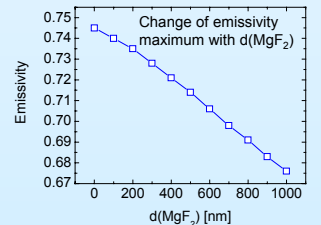
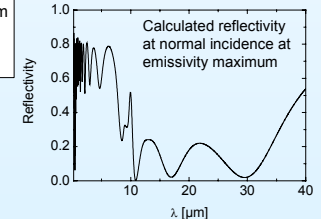
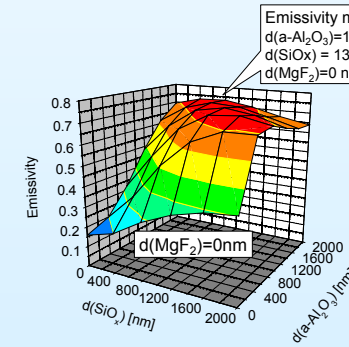
Problems

- Performance of solar cell structure
- Parameters of SiO_x, ITO, ZnO-layers technologically not feasible

Solution => additional optimized layers, see Structure II

Optimized structure II

MgF ₂	d = 0 ... 2000 nm	adjustable parameters
a-Al ₂ O ₃	d = 0 ... 2000 nm	
SiO _x	d = 0 ... 2000 nm	fixed parameters
ITO	d = 400 nm, N = 7 · 10 ²⁰ cm ⁻³ , μ = 20 cm ² /Vs	
intrinsic ZnO	d = 100 nm, N = 1 · 10 ¹⁷ cm ⁻³ , μ = 20 cm ² /Vs	
Buffer	d = 50 nm	
CIS	d = 1500 nm	
Mo	d = 500 nm	
Polyimide	d = 30000 nm	



Results

- Amorphous Al₂O₃-layer increases emissivity up to 75%.
- MgF₂-layer decreases emissivity maximum
- Parameters of SiO_x, ITO, ZnO-layers technologically feasible