Electrical characteristics of N2 plasma treatments on SnO2 nanowires FET

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 SnO_2 (tin oxide) are widely used in various research fields such as thin film transistors (TFTs) and sensors because of high electron mobility, flexibility and transparency. However, generally a large electrical hysteresis is often observed with voltage sweeps. To improve the device reliabilities of SnO_2 nanowires FETs, the N_2 plasma were treated. The N_2 plasma treatment on SnO_2 nanowires FET led to positive shift(4V) of Vth with a decrease of the hysteresis width on transfer characteristics. Despite the advantage of the reduction of hysteresis, the On-Off current ratio was significantly decreased and the degradation of the devices was observed with time. The threshold voltage shifted to the positive direction and the overall current was decreased. Furthermore, the hysteresis widths significantly increased. Passivation process was carried out with PMMA coating to prevent unnecessary changes of electrical properties after N_2 plasma treatment. The deterioration of the electrical properties is estimated by the recombination between oxygen vacancies on the surface of NWs and oxygen molecules in an ambient environment.

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