

Magnetic properties of silicide nanoparticles ion-beam-synthesized in the external magnetic field

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It has been shown that ion-beam synthesis in the external magnetic field leads to the formation of anisotropic ferromagnetic silicide films [1]. The synthesized films exhibit a high value of the effective saturation magnetization and the pronounced in-plane anisotropy. Earlier [2], the anisotropy of these films has been investigated by radio-frequency autodyne method. The goal of this work is to study the nature of magnetic anisotropy in the films ion-beam-synthesized in the applied magnetic field.

Iron ions with energy of 40 keV were implanted into the (111) single-crystal silicon wafers at room temperature. The implantation dose was $3 \cdot 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, the ion current density being $5 \text{ } \mu\text{A/cm}^2$. During implantation a magnetic field H_i of 500 Oe was applied parallel to the plane of the substrate. Samples were investigated by X-ray diffraction (XRD), fluxgate magnetometry, L-band ferromagnetic resonance (FMR) and conversion electron Moessbauer spectroscopy (CEMS).

XRD at grazing angles and CEMS indicate that the synthesized films contain two phases: FeSi and ferromagnetic Fe₃Si. Easy magnetization axes in the plane of the films were observed depending on the orientation of the field H_i regarding to the crystal axes of the substrate. FMR and fluxgate magnetometry measurements also confirm the appearance of in-plane anisotropy. Using the three-dimensional Stoner-Wohlfarth model we showed that the observed in-plane magnetic anisotropy is the result of superposition of the threefold magnetocrystalline and the induced uniaxial anisotropies. The mechanisms of the induced anisotropy appearance are discussed.

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References:

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