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**Université Montpellier II** 

# Ion diffusion in chalcogenide glasses Application in ionics and optics

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## Chalcogenide Glasses

**Chalcogenide glasses are glasses containing chalcogens (Se, S, Te).** 

#### Chalcogenide homologous of oxide glasses

 $SiO_2$ ;  $GeO_2 \rightarrow SiS(e)_2$ ;  $GeS(e)_2$ 

Ia	1																0
1 <b>H</b>	IIa											IIIa	IVa	Va	VIa	VIIa	2 <b>He</b>
3	4											5	6	7	8	9	10
Li	Be									-		В	<u>C</u>	Ν	0	F	Ne
11	12	IIIb	IVb	Vb	VIb	VIIB		VIII	b	Ib	IIb	13	14	15	16	17	18
Na	Mg											AI	Si	Ρ	S	CI	Ar
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	<mark>34</mark>	35	36
Κ	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Со	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
Rb	Sr	Υ	Zr	Nb	Мо	Тс	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Те	I	Хе
55	56	57	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86
Cs	Ba	La	Hf	Та	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	TI	Pb	Bi	Ро	At	Rn
87	88	89	104	105	106	107						1	,	1	_	4	J
Fr	Ra	Ac	Ung	Unp	Unh	Uns											
							-										
				58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71
				Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Но	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu
				90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103
				Th	Ра	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr

# Chalcogenide Glasses

Presence of S, Se, Te --> polarisable environment with lone-pair (LP)

Specific property of chalcogenide glasses compared to oxide ones

They exhibit semiconductor properties and thus form a large group of amorphous semiconductors Intrinsically metastable, they can undergo various structural transformations under the action of external stimuli, in particular light.

Semiconductor	Photoinduced phenomena
As <sub>2</sub> S <sub>3</sub> glass σ~10 <sup>-14</sup> Scm <sup>-1</sup> Eg ~ 2,15 eV	hv -> hole-electron pair -> change in n Ovshinsky effect (amorphous state <-> crystalline state)
Transp	arency in the IR

Application of ion diffusion in chalcogenide glasses

Interface ion exchange
Ion sensors

Diffusion under E

Electrochemical energy storage : batteries

Diffusion under photons h∨➡ Photoinduced phenomena



— Ion exchange : Chemical Sensor

# Principle of a sensor

#### CHEMICAL or PHYSICAL SENSOR



Sensitivity, reversibility, selectivity and stability

### Ion-selective electrode

**Slope of the response** 

determination of e.m.f between the ISE and a reference electrode.



Potentiometric analysis of a chemical sensor depends on the relationship between the concentration of the species and the e.m.f. The ideal relationship is known as the Nernst equation :

$$E = E_0 + \frac{RT}{z_i F} Log a_i$$

E Linear range and detection limit s = 59 eV T = 25 °CD. L.  $10^{-1}$   $10^{-2}$   $10^{-3}$   $10^{-4}$   $10^{-5}$   $10^{-5}$   $10^{-7}$  M

Typical calibration curve of an ionselective electrode obtained with the well known addition method.

#### Development of ISE chemical microsensors

### Analytical device for $Cu^{2+}$ ion detection based on $(1-X)Sb_{12}Ge_{28}Se_{60} - XCu$ glassy thin films.



C.Cali, D.Foix, E.Siebert, D.Gombeau, A.Pradel, M. Ribes; Solid. State. Engineering C21 (2002) 3-8

#### Elaboration of the (Sb-Ge-Se)/(Cu) material

Thin films produced by r.f. sputtering of a composite target



#### S.E.M cross sectional view of a thin film



Film thickness varies from 0.4 to 1  $\mu$ m depending on sputtering conditions and sputtering time.

#### Electrode response



The material with x = 0.6 gives the best electrode performance.

Mixed solution method with constant a interfering ion concentration.

Interfering Ion	$\log K_{Cu}2+_{j}$
<b>K</b> <sup>+</sup>	-5.1
Na <sup>+</sup>	-5.3
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	-5.1
<b>Ni</b> <sup>2+</sup>	-4.1
$\mathbf{C}\mathbf{d}^{2+}$	-4.1
<b>Pb</b> <sup>2+</sup>	-2.5
Mn <sup>2+</sup>	-3.4

# Influence of pH on electrode response

## Diffusion under $\vec{E}$ : chemical energy storage



#### Superionic Conductive Glasses

Conductivity 100-1000 times larger than that of their oxide counterpart

 $\epsilon_r > 10$  (Weak electrolyte theory)  $\sigma_{Ag+} \sim 10^{-2} \text{ Scm}^{-1}$  $\sigma_{Li+} \sim 10^{-3} \text{ Scm}^{-1}$ 

Application: all solid state batteries based on solid electrolytes

Rocking-chair Li-ion batteries for various portable equipments

- Safety: prevent from igniting and leaking (liquid combustible organic solvent)
- miniaturisation



#### At the begining: Li batteries

- ✓ our first works (1983) Li/LiI-Li<sub>2</sub>S-GeS<sub>2</sub>(g)/V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>
- ✓ Eveready (USA)(90 's) Li/ sulfide (oxysulfide) (g)/various cathodic materials

#### Now Li-ion batteries (mainly japanese teams)

 ✓ Minami-Tatsumisago group (Osaka) In/Li<sub>2</sub>S-P<sub>2</sub>S<sub>5</sub>glass-ceramics/LiCoO<sub>2</sub> (Chem.Letters 2002)
 ✓ Takada et al (NIMS-Tsukuba) C/LiI-Li<sub>2</sub>S-P<sub>2</sub>S<sub>5</sub> (g)//Li<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>3</sub>-Li<sub>2</sub>S-SiS<sub>2</sub>(g)/LiCoO<sub>2</sub> (SSI 2003)

## Li (or Li-ion) microbattery

Reduction of power supply of electronics devices

Active power sources:

implantable medical devices, remote sensors, miniature transmitters, smart cards

Standby power sources:

CMOS-SRAM memory devices (few mWh.cm<sup>-2</sup> are required to back up a CMOS memory chip)

Thin-films lithium battery developped at ORNL



Neudecker BJ, Dudney NJ and Bates JB ; J. Electrochem. Soc. 147 (2000) 517 Levasseur group Bordeaux Fr; Industrialization HEF Group (SVF Gazette du Vide 2 march 2003)

# **Diffusion under photons hv: Photoinduced phenomena** – Photodissolution (« photodoping »)

Illumination of a chalcogenide film in contact with silver -> rapid penetration of the metal into the semiconductor(Kostyshin (1966))

#### Typical features :

 large amount of Ag can be dissolved 30-40 at%, and even 57% in GeS<sub>3</sub>
 rate of dissolution depends on chalcogenide composition (excess in chalcogen) Light



### Mechanism

ionization of Ag (semiconductor  $\rightarrow$  presence of holes or electrons) Ag + h<sup>+</sup>  $\rightarrow$  Ag<sup>+</sup> Ag<sup>+</sup> Ag<sup>+</sup> + e<sup>-</sup>

 $\begin{array}{c} \hline \blacksquare \ reduction \ of \ chalcogenide \\ 2Ag + Se \rightarrow Ag_2Se \ \Delta G^{\circ}_{298} \sim -25 \ kJ/mol \\ 4Ag + 2As_2Se_3 \rightarrow 2Ag_2Se + As_4Se_4 \ \Delta G^{\circ}_{298} \sim -12 \ kJ/mol \\ \end{array}$ 

hv close to bandgap energy Photo-enhanced solid state reaction

T. Kawaguchi, K. Tanaka and S.R.Elliott; Handbook of advanced electronic and photonic materials and devices AP, N.H Nalwa ed. (2001) p 91

#### Application of photodissolution

## Very sharp edges between doped and undoped regions

Local creation of pairs « electron-hole » + small diffusion length of free carriers Hardly any lateral diffusion

Solubility of doped region in alkaline solvents much reduced

Local change in chemical composition

photoresists -

etched gratings





#### Photomigration - Photodeposition

Phenomenon observed in highly doped chalcogenide: Ag-Ge-S(e), Ag-As-S(e). For example in  $(Ge_{0.3}S_{0.7})100-xAgx$  films when x > 0.45

Illumination

lower silver content (x < 0.45) increase in Ag density in the illuminated part



higher silver content  $(Ag_{45}As_{15}S_{40})$ precipitation of Ag



200mW/cm<sup>2</sup> 530mW/cm<sup>2</sup> Small clusters or crystals 10nm in diameter and 1nm in thickness

Reversible process Annealing  $\rightarrow$  dissolution of the Ag clusters

T. Kawaguchi et al JNCS 212 (1997) 1666

#### Mechanism of photomigration-photodeposition



#### Point of view of chemist

Photodecomposition = decomposition of an oversaturated Ag solid solution

Under illumination the metastable system approaches equilibrium with excess Ag segregation.

Annealing at higher temperature allows Ag to dissolve again in the solid solution

### Application of photomigration-phodeposition

#### Gratings/ microlenses

# $\frac{200 \text{nm}}{14 \, \mu \text{m}}$ $\frac{X = S}{x = 60}$ as-prepared $\frac{X = S}{x = 60}$ illuminated $\frac{S}{10 \text{ m}}$ $\frac{S}{10 \text{ m}}$

Au addition  $\rightarrow$  increase in the photosensitivity of photodeposition by two orders of magnitude (Au clusters = nucleation centers for Ag)

T. Kawaguchi, K. Tanaka and S.R.Elliott; Handbook of advanced electronic and photonic Materials and devices AP, N.H Nalwa ed. (2001) p 91

#### **Optical memories**

#### Photocrystallisation (phase change)



Different reflectivity for amorphous and crystalline AgSbTe<sub>2</sub>

#### Application of photocrystallisation





Rewritable optical disk memory Phase change: Write/Erase phenomena

# Laser-induced annealing/melting

Pulse structure



#### Very big change in EXAFS and XANES



The transition between the crystalline and amorphous states can be viewed as an umbrella-switch of Ge atoms from a octahedral to tetrahedral symmetry position within the Te fcc sublattice

> A.Kolobov et al, 2004, Nature Mater. 3, 703

#### **Real disc structure**



Fig. 6. Cross-sectional TEM observation of the basic 4-layer phase-change optical disk.

T. Ohta, JOAM 2001

# WHY PHOTOSTRUCTURAL CHANGES OCCUR ONLY IN AMORPHOUS CHALCOGENIDES?

- •Excitation of lone-pair electrons is a trigger of the structural change - presence of LP-electrons is crucial - group VI elements (chalcogens);
- Localization of photo-excited carriers and hence disorder is important - amorphous;
- •Low coordination number is beneficial since it makes the structure floppy.

Amorphous chalcogenides are the only materials that satisfy all these requirements

# Diffusion under $\overrightarrow{E}$ and $h_V$ : PMC memories

« Programmable Metallization Cell Memory Devices »



Reversing the bias breaks down the silver and restore the initial resistive state (« off » state)

Anode: Ag or Ag-containing material Solid electrolyte: Ag photodissolution in GeS(Se)y Cathode: inert metal (Cr,Ni..)

M. N. Kozicki, M. Mitkova, M. Park, M. Balakrishnan, C. Gopalan, *Superlattices and Microstructures* 34 (2003) 459.

#### Ionic conductive chalcogenide glasses

Glasses exist in large composition domains



Ag (Na)- based chalcogenide glasses



Ag (Na) content varying from 0.01 - 30 at%

# evolution of conductivity with composition non-Arrhenius behaviour (log $\sigma \propto$ 1/T)

\*M.Kawasaki, Kawamura J, Y. Nakamura and M. Aniya; SSI 123 (1999) 259 M.A. Urena, A.A Piarristeguy. M. Fontana and B. Arcondo; SSI 176 (2005) 505 Variation of conductivity (298 K) with Ag(Na) content (at %) in Ag(Na)-X-Y glasses (X=Ge,As; Y=S,Se)



#### **3 different behaviours**

- Na2S-GeS2: Change in the transport regime at about 1 at % in sodium (electronic to ionic ?)
- Ag2S-GeS-GeS2 and Ag-based glasses: Change in the transport regime at about 5-8 at % in silver
- Ag-based glasses: large increase of 4-5 orders of magnitude in the conductivity at about 5-8 at % in silver

#### Ag2S-GeS-GeS2 and Ag-based glasses Structural studies (microscopic, nanoscopic scale)

#### **FE-SEM (Field Effect - Scanning Electron Microscopy)**

#### **Chemical inhomogeneities**

EFM (Electric Force Microscopy) Surface potential imaging and surface electric modification

**Electrical inhomogeneities** 

**FE-SEM** (LEO-982)

Log (Conductivit)/Scm<sup>1</sup>

Ag<sub>2</sub>S-GeS-GeS<sub>2</sub>

# phase separation



0.8at.%

1.00kV KUWATA 8.3 at%As 3.00KU KUWATA 5KV KUHATA

5.8at.%

# Ag-based glasses showing a large increase (4-5 orders of magnitude) in the conductivity at about 5-8 at % in silver



FE-SEM (LEO-982)



the change in the conductivity regime occurs when the Ag-rich phase starts connecting FE-SEM (LEO-982)

 $Ag_2S - GeS_2$ 

Glasses are phase separated

Ag-rich phase

Ag-poor phase



the change in the conductivity regime occurs when the Ag-rich phase starts connecting

# Comparison FE-SEM / EFM (Ag2S-GeS2 glasses)

Y[µm]

- Weak conductivity domain : Ag-poor phase connected
- High conductivity domain : Ag-rich phase connected



Clear areas (Ag-rich phase) d~0,3µm



Dark areas (Ag-poor phase) d~0,8-0,9µm



EFM -3V **Clear-areas** (Ag poor phase)



0

 $X[\mu m]$ 

(Ge<sub>25</sub>Se<sub>75</sub>)Ag:10%

#### **Electrons retrodiffusés**



Clear areas (Agrich phase in a Ag-poor matrix)

#### EFM







Dark areas in a clear matrix but a weaker contrast !

(Ge<sub>25</sub>Se<sub>75</sub>)Ag:15%

**Electrons retrodiffusés** 







d~1µm

#### EFM









(Ge<sub>25</sub>Se<sub>75</sub>)Ag:25%

#### **Electrons retrodiffusés**





#### EFM









#### Variation of conductivity (298 K) with Ag content (at %) in Ag<sub>2</sub>S - GeS<sub>2</sub> and Ag<sub>2</sub>S - As<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> glasses



The glasses are phase separated

The jump in the conductivity occurs when the phase previously embedded in the connecting phase becomes the connecting one

percolation threshold with the Agpoor phase (Ag-rich phase) being responsible for the conductivity at low silver (high silver) content

At low Ag content, power law dependence:  $\sigma = Cx^{\dagger\sigma}$ 

Nature of the charge carriers (electrons to ions)? EMF <---> Tracer diffusion coefficient  $Ag_2S - As_2S_3$  glasses



Bychkov E, Tsegelnik V, Vlasov Y, Pradel A and Ribes M., JNCS 208 (1996) 1. Bychkov E, Bychkov A, Pradel A and Ribes M., SSI 113-115 (1998) 691. Non-Arrhenius behaviour (log  $\sigma \propto 1/T$ ) in glasses and more generally in super-ionic conductors



1000/T

#### Arrhenius plots of $\sigma$ for different « superionic » Crystallised phases



Log (sigma) [Scm<sup>-1</sup>]

Because of super-Arrhenius behaviour below Tg in glasses one can think that it exists a « Mobile ion » glass transition

Such a transition cannot be observed easily because its weakness. (To date it has only been reported by Hahashi and Ojuni – AgPO3-AgI glass at ~80K).

It is also possible to imagine a « mobile ion Tg »for superionic crystalline compounds with disorder in the mobile ion sub-lattice (for temperature higher than this hypothetical temperature ions move in a quasi-liquid sub-lattice) F

For temperature greater than that of « mobile ion Tg» cooperative cation motions — super-Arrhenius behaviour

#### Scaled Arrhenius plots of $\sigma$ for different « superionic » Glass and Crystalline compounds

In the absence of experimental data one can tentatively take for « mobile ion Tg » the temperature where the conductivity is about  $10^{-9}$  Scm-1, allowing a scaling of the variation of the conductivity



