

Band structure and stability of zinc-blende-based semiconductor polytypes

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(Received 21 October 1998)

Using a first-principles generalized one-dimensional Ising model we have studied the band structure and stability of two types of zinc-blende-based polytype series: type-a GaInP_2 and type-b CuInSe_2 . The interaction parameters for the formation energy are found to be short range, while the convergence is slower for the band-gap and conduction-band energies of the type-a GaInP_2 polytypes. We predict that the CuAu-like phase can coexist in nominally chalcopyrite CuInSe_2 and CuInS_2 , while such coexistence is less likely in CuGaSe_2 . We also predict that type-II band alignment can exist between different ordered type-a GaInP_2

A_3B and AB_3 tetrahedral clusters around the common C atom [Figs. 1(a) and 1(b)]. In the type-b plane

method,²⁰ the total-energy, band-gap energy and the energy lineups of the valence-band maximum (VBM) and conduction-band minimum (CBM) of four GaInP₂ polytypes: $\langle\infty\rangle$, $\langle 2\rangle$, $\langle 3\rangle$, and $\langle 4\rangle$ belonging to the type-a series. From these four calculated LDA values we then determine four interactions (J_0 , J_2 , J_4 , and J_6) for each physical property. Using this calculated $\{J_{k\leq 6}\}$ we then predict from Eq. (1) the properties of other polytypes, not used in the fit. Table II shows the directly calculated LDA results for the GaInP₂ polytypes, and in parentheses, the values obtained from the Ising expansion, using the fitted $\{J_{k\leq 6}\}$. Figure 4 plots the band-gap energy and the VBM and CBM energies as a function of the layer thickness n of the APB superlattice $\langle n\rangle$. Similar calculations were performed for type-b polytypes CuInSe₂ (Table III). We note the following observations.

(i) *Formation energies.* The Ising expansion converges rapidly for the formation energies. Within the accuracy of the underlying LAPW calculation, one needs to retain only J_2 and J_4 for the GaInP₂ polytypes. For the CuInSe₂ polytypes, only J_2

little effect on their electrical and optical properties. In contrast, $E_g(\text{CH}) \approx E_g(\text{CuAu}) \approx 232$ meV for CuGaSe_2 . Thus, the effect is larger for CuGaSe_2 .