Atomic Layer Deposition of Lanthanide Oxides: Exemplified by Europium Oxide

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Abstract Lanthanide oxides are important components in a range of optoelectronical materials such as lasers, diodes and light conversion materials. We have investigated the possibilities to use atomic layer deposition (ALD) for deposition of thin films of of the Ln_2O_3 (Ln=Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb) systems using the precursor combinations $Ln(thd)_3+O_3$ (thd=2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-3,5-dionato). The advantage of ALD is the possibilities of mixing different materials at the atomic level and at relatively low temperatures. This opens for synthesis of many new materials where controlled intermixing of elements is important. The results from this work have been used to deposit down conversion films based on europium doped titanium oxide.

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