



US006911351B2

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Kidoguchi et al.**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,911,351 B2**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Jun. 28, 2005**

(54) **METHOD OF FABRICATING NITRIDE SEMICONDUCTOR, METHOD OF FABRICATING NITRIDE SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE, NITRIDE SEMICONDUCTOR LIGHT EMITTING DEVICE AND METHOD OF FABRICATING THE SAME**

(51) **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... **H01L 21/00**  
(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **438/46; 438/44; 438/47; 438/604; 257/103**  
(58) **Field of Search** ..... **438/37-44, 46-48, 438/604, 606, 607, 687, 589, 51; 257/103**

(56) **References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

4,840,922 A 6/1989 Kobayashi et al.  
4,855,256 A 8/1989 Kobayashi et al.  
5,549,747 A \* 8/1996 Bozler et al. .... 117/43

(Continued)

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

JP 60161489 1/1984

(Continued)

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

Tsvetanka et al., "Pendeo-Epitaxy: A new Approach for Lateral growth of Gallium Nitride Films", Journal of Electronic Materials, vol. 28, No. 4., L5-L8, Apr. 1999.

(Continued)

*Primary Examiner*—Amir Zarabian  
*Assistant Examiner*—Khanh Duong

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—McDermott Will & Emery LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The method of fabricating a nitride semiconductor of this invention includes the steps of forming, on a substrate, a first nitride semiconductor layer of  $Al_uGa_vIn_wN$ , wherein  $0 \leq u, v, w \leq 1$  and  $u+v+w=1$ ; forming, in an upper portion of the first nitride semiconductor layer, plural convexes extending at intervals along a substrate surface direction; forming a mask film for covering bottoms of recesses formed between the convexes adjacent to each other; and growing, on the first nitride semiconductor layer, a second nitride semiconductor layer of  $Al_xGa_yIn_zN$ , wherein  $0 \leq x, y, z \leq 1$  and  $x+y+z=1$ , by using, as a seed crystal, C planes corresponding to top faces of the convexes exposed from the mask film.

**87 Claims, 43 Drawing Sheets**

(75) **Inventors:** **Isao Kidoguchi**, Hyogo (JP); **Akihiko Ishibashi**, Osaka (JP); **Ryoko Miyanaga**, Nara (JP); **Gaku Sugahara**, Nara (JP); **Masakatsu Suzuki**, Osaka (JP); **Masahiro Kume**, Shiga (JP); **Yuzaburo Ban**, Osaka (JP); **Kiyoyuki Morita**, Kyoto (JP); **Ayumu Tsujimura**, Osaka (JP); **Yoshiaki Hasegawa**, Osaka (JP)

(73) **Assignee:** **Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.**, Osaka (JP)

(\*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 90 days.

(21) **Appl. No.:** **10/345,377**

(22) **Filed:** **Jan. 16, 2003**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

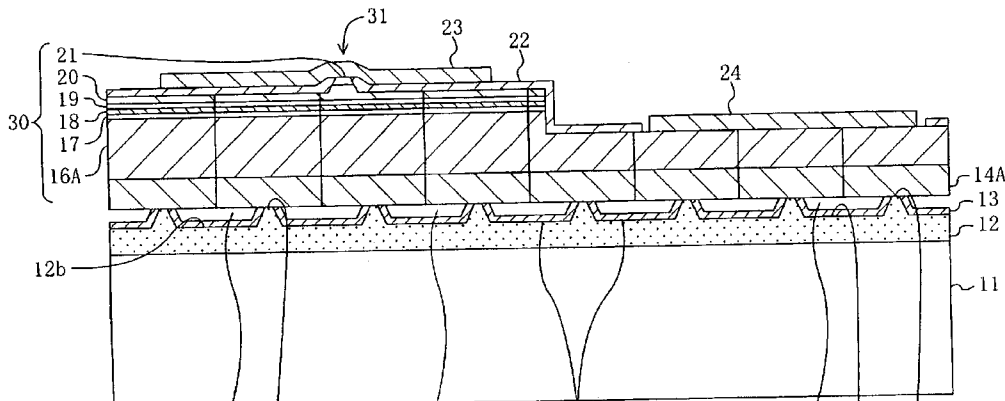
US 2003/0143771 A1 Jul. 31, 2003

**Related U.S. Application Data**

(62) Division of application No. 09/712,127, filed on Nov. 15, 2000.

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Nov. 15, 1999 (JP) ..... 11-324010  
Dec. 24, 1999 (JP) ..... 11-367169  
Dec. 27, 1999 (JP) ..... 11-369834  
Jan. 27, 2000 (JP) ..... 2000-018407  
Feb. 3, 2000 (JP) ..... 2000-025931  
Feb. 25, 2000 (JP) ..... 2000-048824  
Apr. 21, 2000 (JP) ..... 2000-120760  
Apr. 21, 2000 (JP) ..... 2000-120761



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,625,637 A 4/1997 Mori et al.  
 5,739,554 A 4/1998 Edmond et al.  
 5,972,730 A 10/1999 Saito et al.  
 6,046,465 A 4/2000 Wang et al.  
 6,153,010 A \* 11/2000 Kiyoku et al. .... 117/95  
 6,252,894 B1 6/2001 Sasanuma et al.  
 6,335,546 B1 1/2002 Tsuda et al.  
 6,448,102 B1 9/2002 Kneissl et al.  
 6,608,327 B1 \* 8/2003 Davis et al. .... 257/76  
 6,764,932 B2 \* 7/2004 Kong et al. .... 439/589  
 2001/0010372 A1 8/2001 Takeuchi et al.  
 2001/0026658 A1 10/2001 Althaus et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

JP 62282474 A 5/1986  
 JP 02214182 A 2/1989  
 JP 11068256 A 8/1997  
 JP 11251631 9/1999  
 JP 11312825 11/1999

JP 2002-518826 12/1999  
 JP 2000-106455 4/2000

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

I. Kim et al., "Crystal tilting in GaN grown by pendeopitaxy method on sapphire substrate", *Applied Physics Letters*, vol. 75, No. 26, pp. 4109–4111, Dec. 27, 1999.

A. Sakai, "Transmission electron microscopy of defects in GaN films formed by epitaxial lateral overgrowth", *Applied Physics Letters*, vol. 73, No. 4, pp. 481–483, Jul. 27, 1998.

H. Sone et al., "Optical and Crystalline Properties of Epitaxial-Lateral-Overgrown-GaN Using Tungsten Mask by Hydride Vapor Phase Epitaxy", *Jpn. J. Appl. Phys.* vol. 38 (1999), Part 2, No. 4A, pp. L356–L359, Apr. 1, 1999.

Tsvetanka et al., "Pendeo-Epitaxy: A new Approach for Lateral growth of Gallium Nitride Films", *Journal of Electronic Materials*, vol. 28, No. 4., L5–L8, Apr. 1999.

\* cited by examiner

FIG. 1

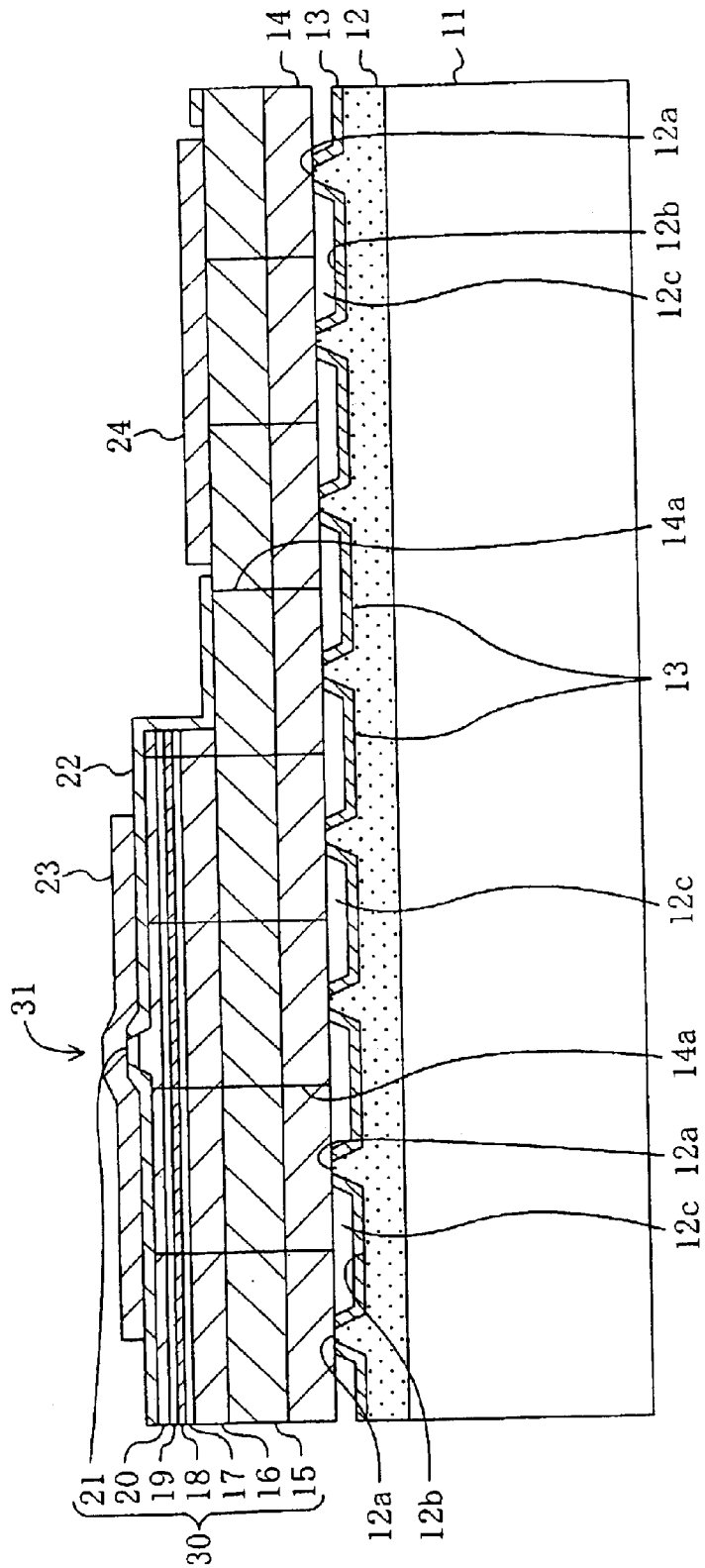


FIG. 2(a)

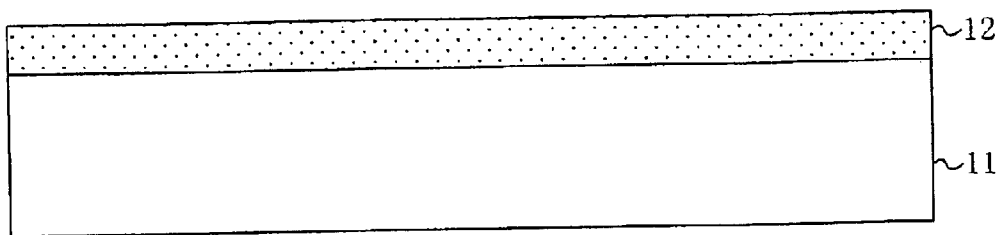


FIG. 2(b)

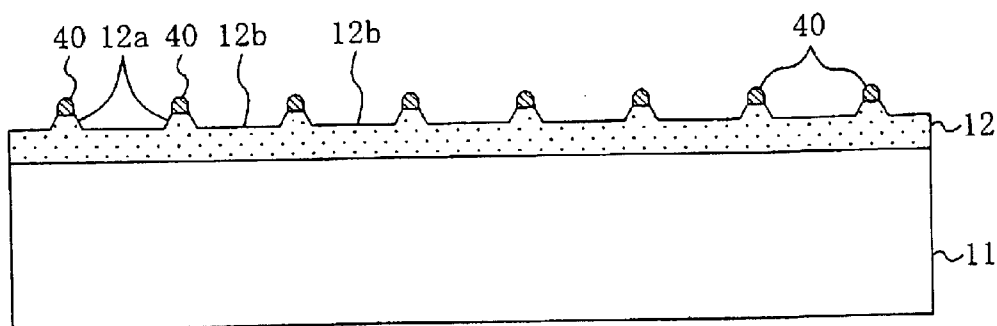


FIG. 3(a)

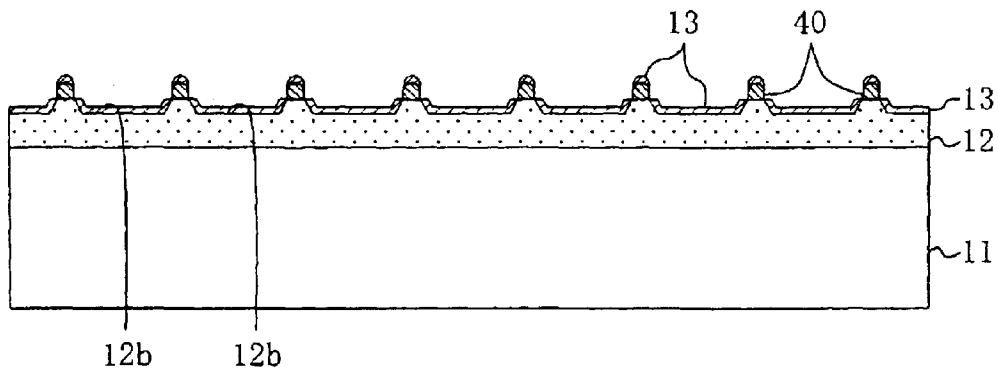
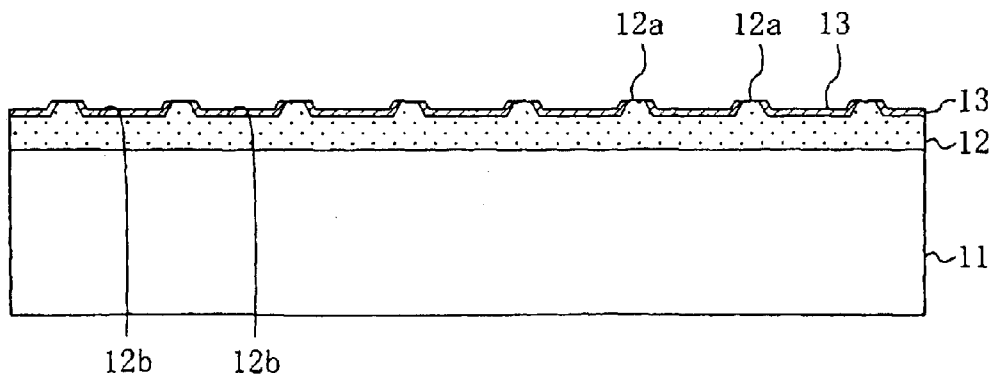


FIG. 3(b)



# Explore Litigation Insights

Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

## Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time alerts** and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

## Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

## Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

## API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

## LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

## FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

## E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.