

Abstract Submitted  
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**Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>/Co-solvents Extraction of Porogen and Surfactant to Obtain** JORGE LUBGUBAN, ARNOLD LUBGUBAN, MASLINA OTHMAN, RAJESH SHENDE, SHUBHRA GANGOPADHYAY, Dept. of Electrical Engineering, Univ. of Missouri-Columbia, H-C. KIM COLLABORATION, W. VOLKSEN COLLABORATION, R.D. MILLER COLLABORATION<sup>1</sup> — A method of pore generation by supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> (SCCO<sub>2</sub>)/co-solvents extraction for the preparation of nanoporous organosilicate thin films for ultralow dielectric constant materials is investigated. A nanohybrid film was prepared from poly(propylene glycol) (PPG) and poly(methylsilsesquioxane) (PMSSQ) whereby the PPG porogen are entrapped within the crosslinked PMSSQ matrix. Another set of thin films was produced by liquid crystal templating whereby non-ionic (polyoxyethylene 10 stearyl ether) (Brij76) and ionic (cetyltrimethylammonium bromide) (CTAB) surfactant were used as sacrificial templates in a tetraethoxy silane (TEOS) and methyltrimethoxy silane (MTMS) based matrix. These two types of films were treated with SCCO<sub>2</sub>/co-solvents to remove porogen and surfactant templates. As a comparison, porous structures generated by thermal decomposition were also evaluated. It is found that SCCO<sub>2</sub>/co-solvents treatment produced closely comparable results with thermal decomposition. The results were evident from Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy and optical constants data obtained from variable angle spectroscopic ellipsometry (VASE).

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