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Characterization of M -plane GaN film grown on β -LiGaO₂ (100) by plasma-assisted molecular beam epitaxy CHIA-HSUAN HU, IKAI LO, CHENG-HUNG SHIH, WEN-YUAN PANG, YING-CHIEH WANG, Department of Physics, National Sun Yat-Sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan, MITCH M.C. CHOU, Department of Materials and Optoelectronic Science, National Sun Yat-Sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan — Lithium gallate (LiGaO₂) has an orthorhombic crystal structure that can be described as a wurtzite-like structure. The M -plane basis of GaN wurtzite structure is nearly matched to the selected lattice axes of pseudo-hexagonal LiGaO₂. M -plane GaN thin films have been grown on β -LiGaO₂ (100) substrates by plasma-assisted molecular-beam epitaxy in our group. Pure M -plane GaN crystal films have been verified by the measurements of x-ray diffraction, micro-Raman scattering, polarization-dependent photoluminescence and atomic force microscopy. The measurements of x-ray diffraction and micro-Raman scattering exhibited the evidences of large compressive stress on the M -plane GaN thin films. Based on experimental results, we showed that the large compressive stress is the major source leading to the peeling of M -plane GaN thin film off substrate after thermal recycles.

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