

Abstract Submitted  
for the MAR09 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**Resonant Localized Nanoplasma in Oblique Far Infrared Reflectivity of Transition Metal Granular Films** N.E. MASSA, LANAIS EFO-CEQUINOR, UNLP, CC 962, 1900 La Plata, Argentina, J.C. DENARDIN, Dpto de Física, USACH, Santiago, Chile, L.M. SOCOLOVSKY, ITCI, UBA, Buenos Aires, Argentina, M. KNOBEL, Inst. de Física, UNICAMP, Campinas, Brazil, X.X. ZHANG, INST- HKUST, Hong Kong, China — We report on near normal and angle dependent specular infrared reflectivity of transition metal and SiO<sub>2</sub> cosputtered nanogranular  $\sim 550$  nm thick films in the insulating regime. Their reflectivity is characterized by well defined vibrational bands, an overdamped Drude contribution, due to carriers denoting the existence of conducting critical paths not yet truncated, and a distinctive band at  $\sim 1450\text{cm}^{-1}$  originating in electron promotion, localization, and polaron formation. (TM) P-polarized oblique reflectivity, as from globally insulating Co<sub>0.38</sub>(SiO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>0.62</sub>, Fe<sub>0.34</sub>(SiO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>0.66</sub> or Ni<sub>0.28</sub>(SiO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>0.72</sub>, reveals a remarkable resonance at the  $\sim 1450\text{cm}^{-1}$  band threshold. Its maximum intensity is reached at the radiation tangential component null condition allowing for a collective electronic excitation induced as localized plasma. It is attributed to carriers that are not able to overcome the metal-dielectric rough interface. As the angle of incidence increases the longitudinal highest frequency vibrational band merges with the P-polarized resonance inducing broadening and softening reminiscent to lattice modes undergoing strong electron-phonon interactions.

Nestor Massa  
LANAIS EFO-CEQUINOR, UNLP, CC 962, 1900 La Plata, Argentina

Date submitted: 19 Nov 2008

Electronic form version 1.4