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Infrared optical properties of Mn_{1.56}Co_{0.96}Ni_{0.48}O₄ thin films prepared by chemical solution deposition¹ YANQING GAO, ZHIMING HUANG, YUN HOU, JING WU, WEI ZHOU, LEIBO ZHANG, JUNHAO CHU, Shanghai Institute of Technical Physics — Mn_{1.56}Co_{0.96}Ni_{0.48}O₄ (MCN) films have been prepared on Al₂O₃ substrate by chemical solution deposition method. X-ray diffraction and microstructure analyses show a cubic spinel structure and the thickness of the films is 2.12 μm . Mid-infrared optical properties of MCN films have been investigated using transmission spectra and infrared spectroscopic ellipsometry. The transmission spectra can roughly be divided in two regions: a transparent oscillating one at longer wavelength and a strongly absorbing one for wavelength less than 2.2 μm . The optical band gap of the MCN film has been derived to be 0.64 eV by assuming a direct transition between valence and conduction bands. The optical constants and thickness of the thin films have been obtained by fitting the measured ellipsometric parameter data with classical infrared model. The refractive index n of the MCN films decreases as the wavelength increases, but the extinction coefficient k monotonously increases in the wavelength range of 2-7 μm . The maximal n value is 2.63, and the maximal k value is only 0.024. The above results are instructive for the applications of MCN films in infrared detecting.

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Yanqing Gao
Shanghai Institute of Technical Physics

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