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High quality topological insulator Bi₂Se₃ thin film growth on amorphous SiO₂ using MBE NIKESH KOIRALA, Rutgers Univ, NAMRATA BANSAL, MATTHEW BRAHLEK, SEONGSHIK OH, Rutgers University — We report on the growth of Bi₂Se₃ thin films on amorphous SiO₂ by molecular beam epitaxy method. These films show high c-axis crystalline order and sharp interface with SiO₂ substrate. ARPES measurement shows topologically protected surface states in these films. Comparison among Bi₂Se₃ thin films grown on Al₂O₃(0001), Si(111) and amorphous SiO₂ shows that films grown on amorphous SiO₂ are much better than those grown on Si(111) and roughly comparable to those grown on Al₂O₃ in terms of their electrical transport properties. This suggests that chemical inertness of substrate is more important than lattice matching in determining the transport properties of Bi₂Se₃ films. Additionally, our study on a thinner film shows significant modulation of longitudinal resistivity and sign reversal of hall coefficient with application of gate voltage indicating tunability of chemical potential through Dirac point.

Nikesh Koirala
Rutgers Univ

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