

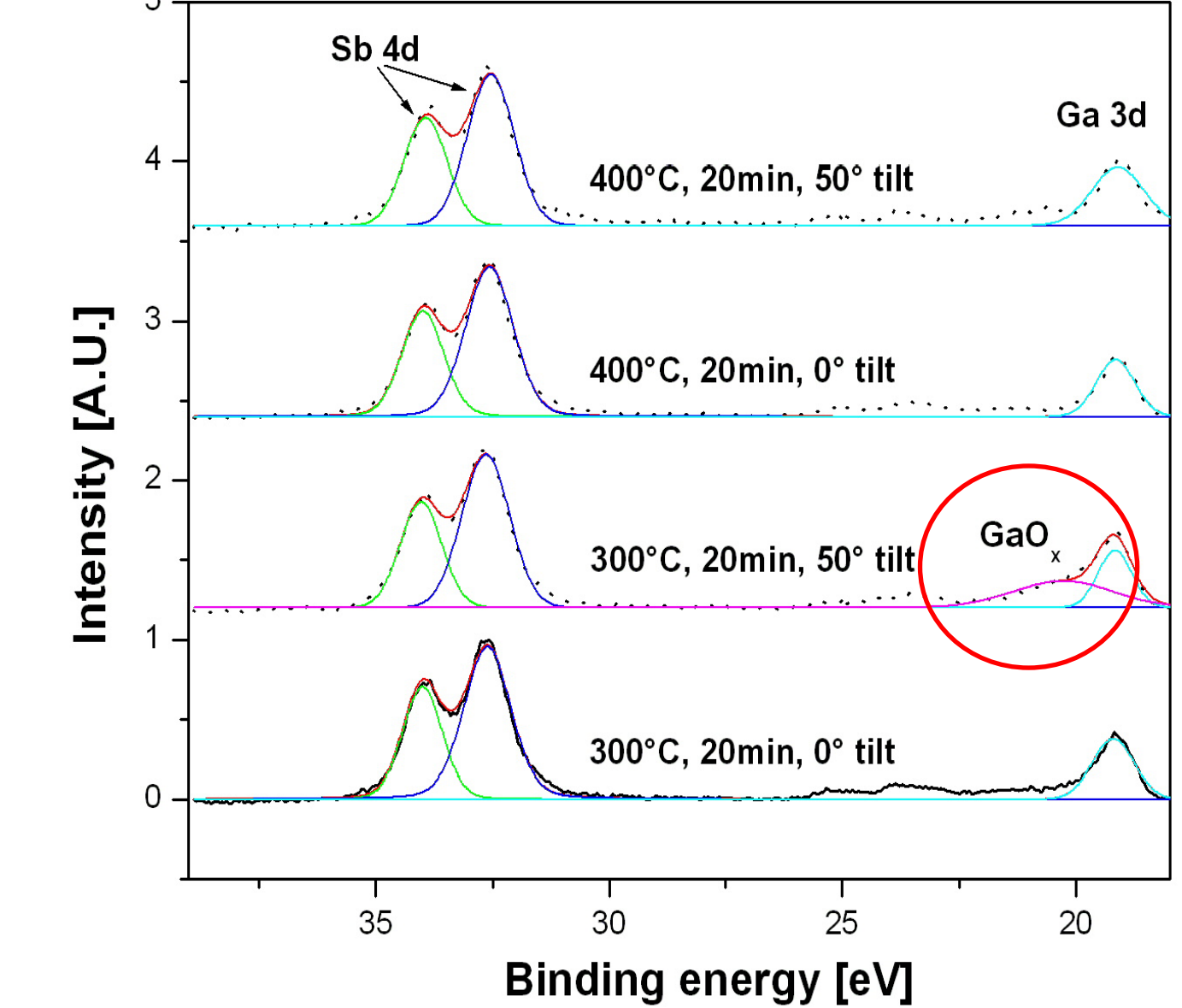
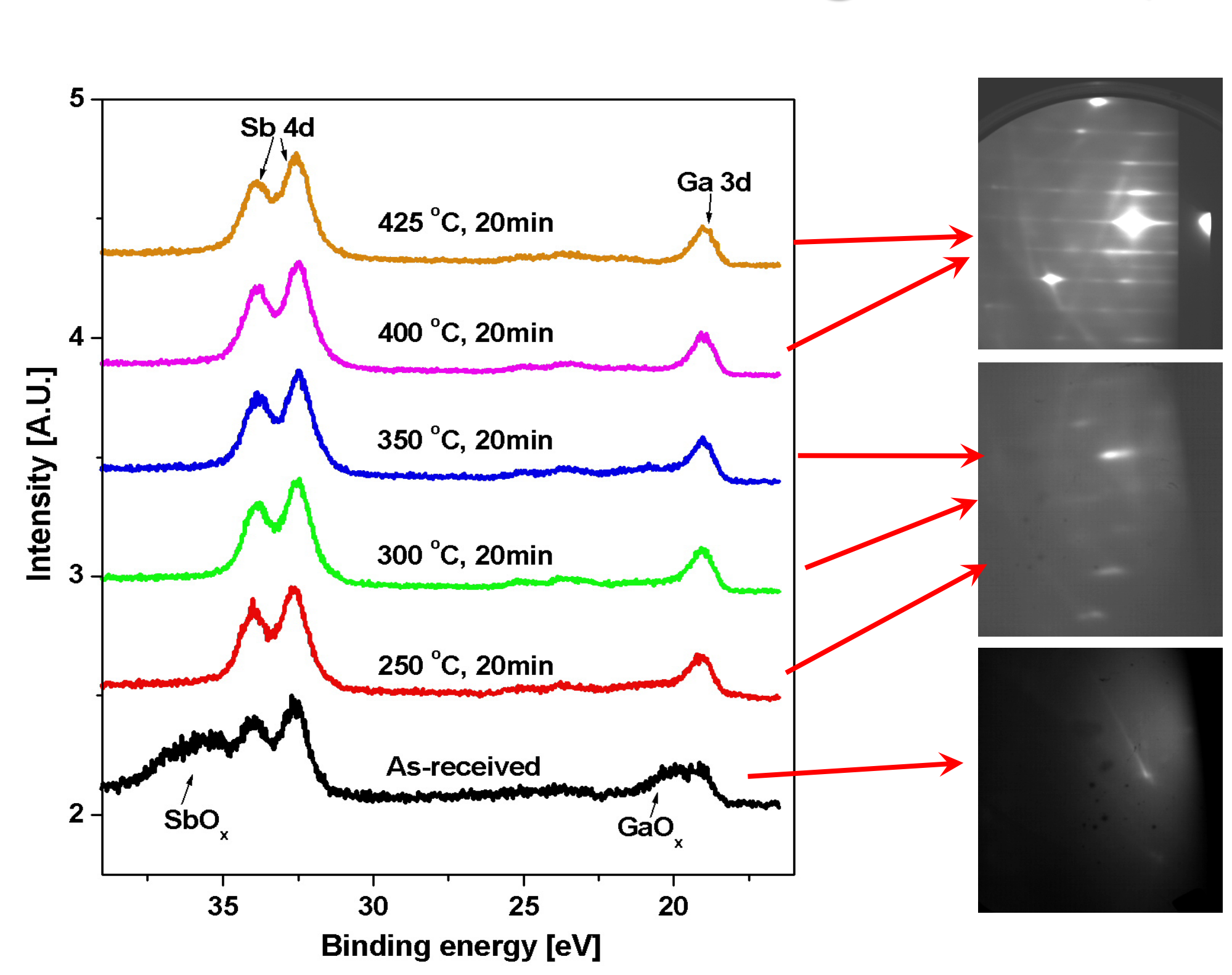
Report Title

Use of atomic hydrogen to prepare GaSb substrates for subsequent ZnTe growth by MBE

ABSTRACT

ZnTe is of current interest for photovoltaic applications and as a possible buffer layer for growth of HgCdTe or HgCdSe. Moreover, the ZnTe/GaSb heterostructure itself is of potential interest for cascade solar cells. Thus, different approaches geared towards optimizing the epitaxial growth of high quality ZnTe/GaSb are under active investigation. Atomic hydrogen was investigated for surface preparation of GaSb for subsequent growth of ZnTe and ZnTeSe. A detailed microstructural study of these ZnTe/GaSb samples was performed using cross-section transmission electron microscopy as well as x-ray photoelectron spectroscopy, x-ray diffraction, atomic force microscopy and imaging photoluminescence measurements. We will present results indicating that we are able to get smooth, clean and stoichiometric GaSb surfaces suitable for subsequent epitaxial growth without using an Sb overpressure. In particular, ZnTe layers with thicknesses of 200 nm and below have highly coherent and sharp interfaces with the GaSb, and exhibit very low densities of dislocations. Thick ZnTeSe/GaSb layers with dislocation densities in the mid- 10^4 cm⁻² have been grown.

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XPS and RHEED indicate atomic-H cleaning at 400°C is required to remove surface oxides

Growth Details

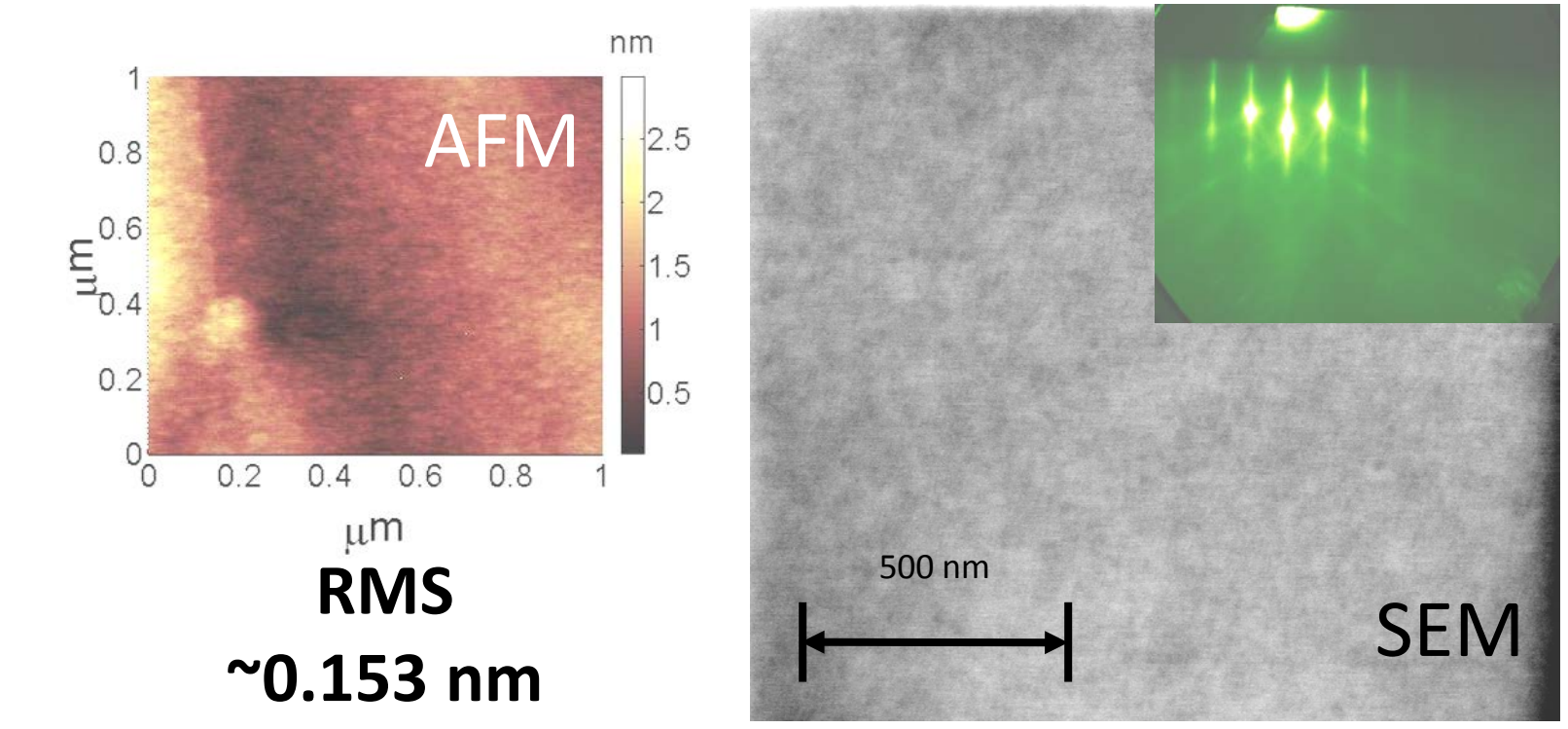
50 - 2100 nm ZnTe	1 - 2 μm ZnTeSe
GaSb(100) or GaSb(211)	~ 150 nm ZnTe GaSb(100) or GaSb(211)

- Grown with Elemental Zn and Te. ZnTe/GaSb study ZnTeSe/GaSb study
- Oxides removed by 20 min exposure at 400°C to atomic
- During nucleation, the substrate temperature was raised to 320°C and the surface was exposed to Zn for 60s
- This was followed by ten periods of alternating exposures of Zn and Te for 5s and Zn for 60s.
- ZnTe layers between 50 to 2100 nm thick were deposited.

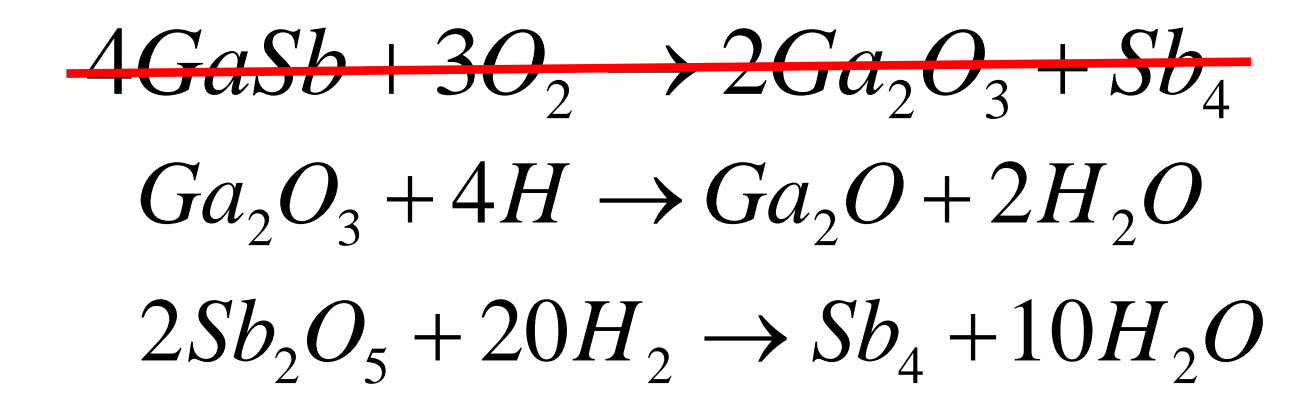
XPS : Composition Analysis on Atomic-H Cleaned GaSb

#	Orientation	Method	Temperature (°C)	Normalized Ga/Sb
(1)	(100)	Thermal, Sb Overpressured	560	0.72
(2)	(100)	MBE GaSb films	560	1.00
(3)	(211)B	Thermal only	400	4.79
(4)	(211)B	aH only at T*, 30min	400	0.97
(5)	(211)B	aH only at T, 60min	400	1.35
(6)	(211)B	aH only at T, 30min	400	1.43
(7)	(211)B	aH from RT T**, 30min	400	1.02
(8)	(211)B	aH from RT T, 60min	400	1.03

*aH only at T : Heating first and H₂ cleaning
**aH from RT : H₂ cleaning at RT first and heating



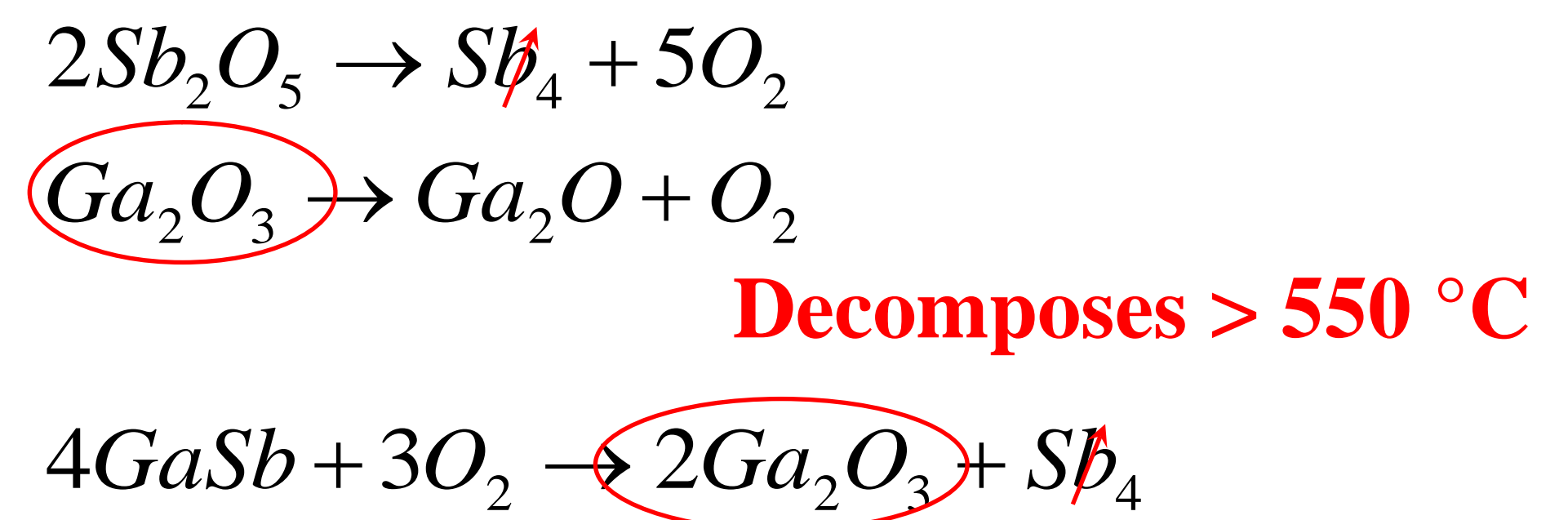
Use Large Atomic-H Overpressure



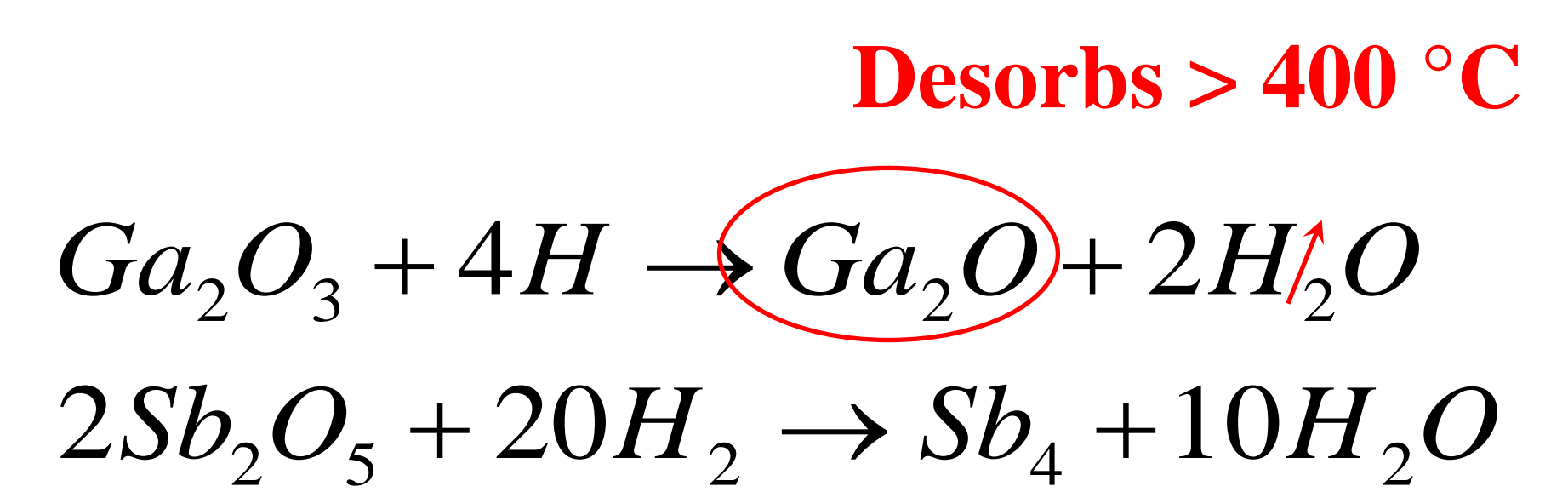
Oxide Removal Methods



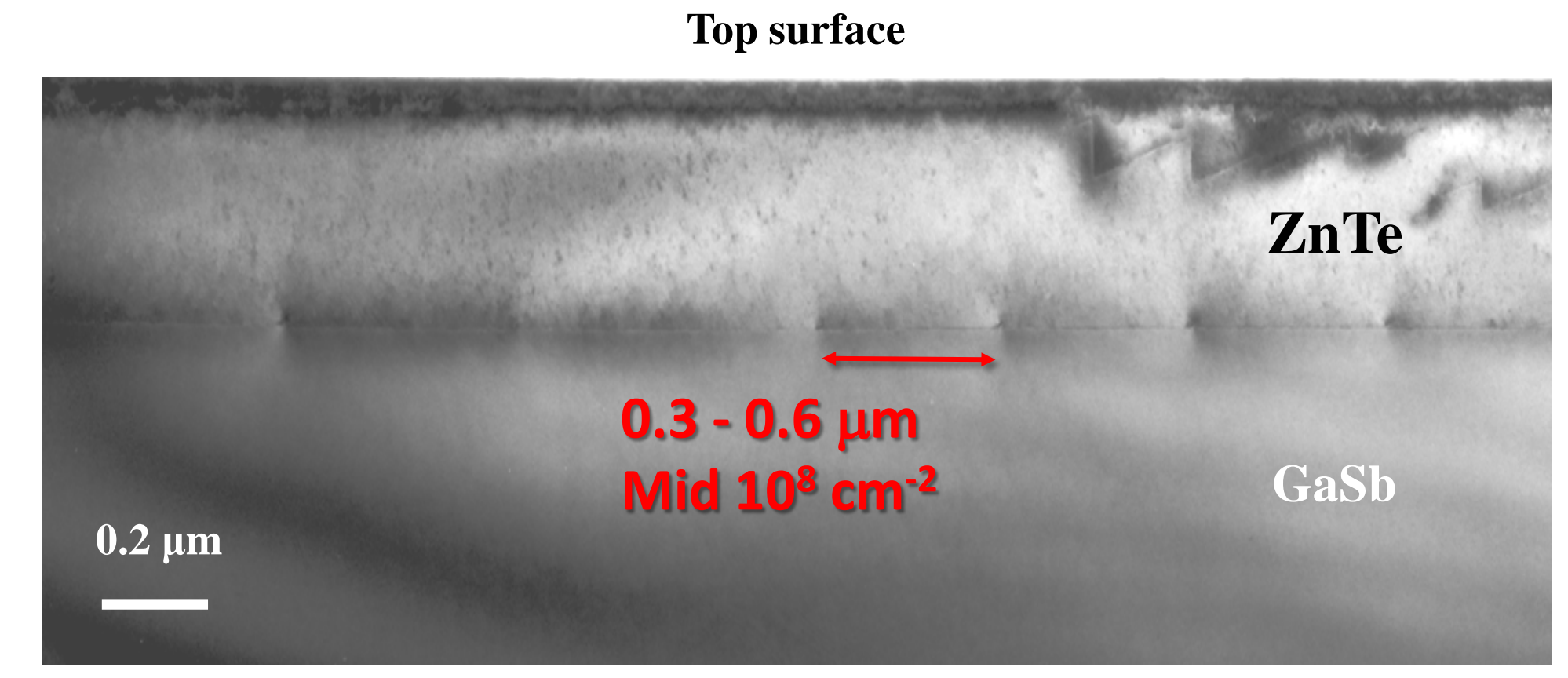
1. Thermal Oxide Desorption



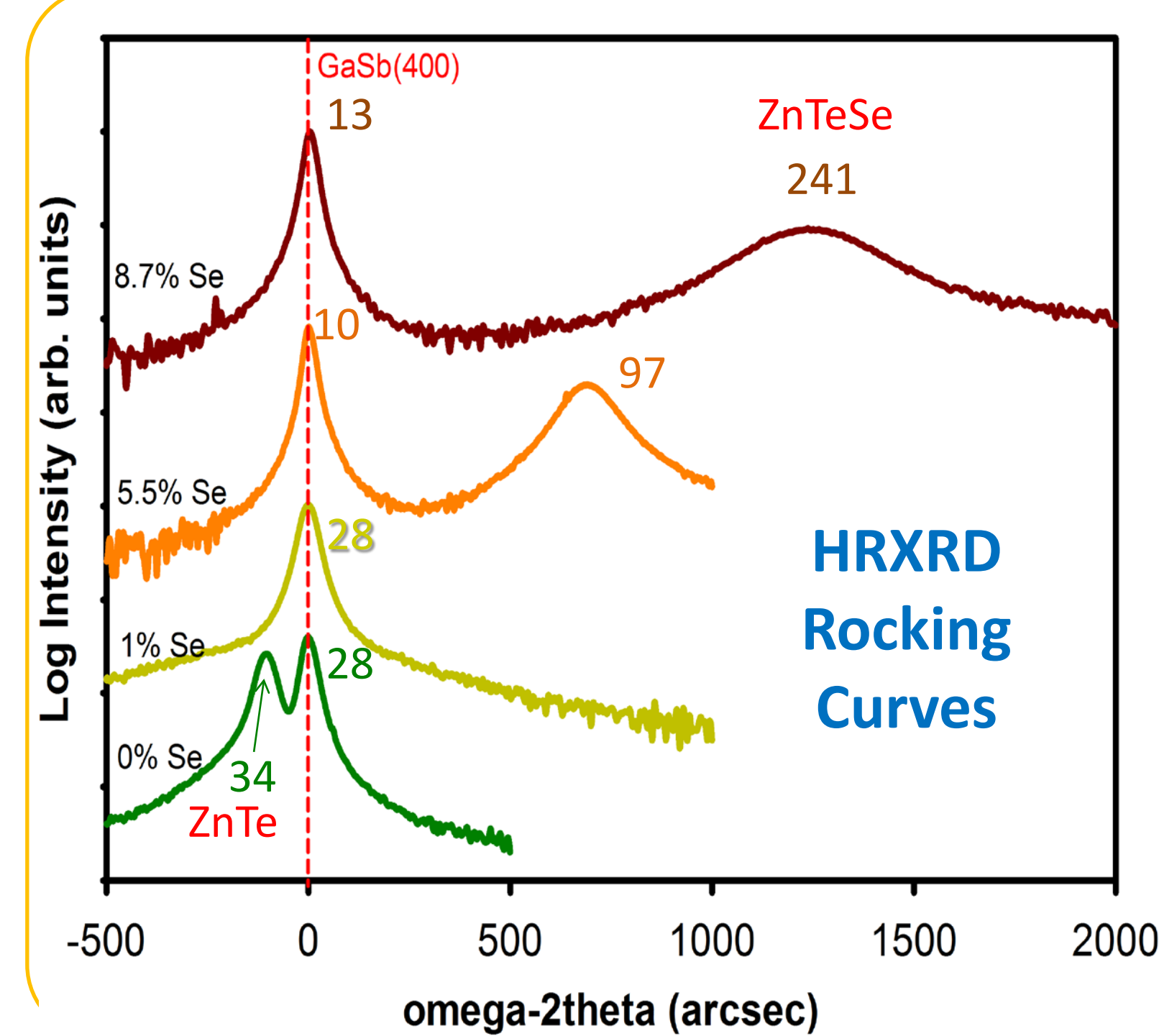
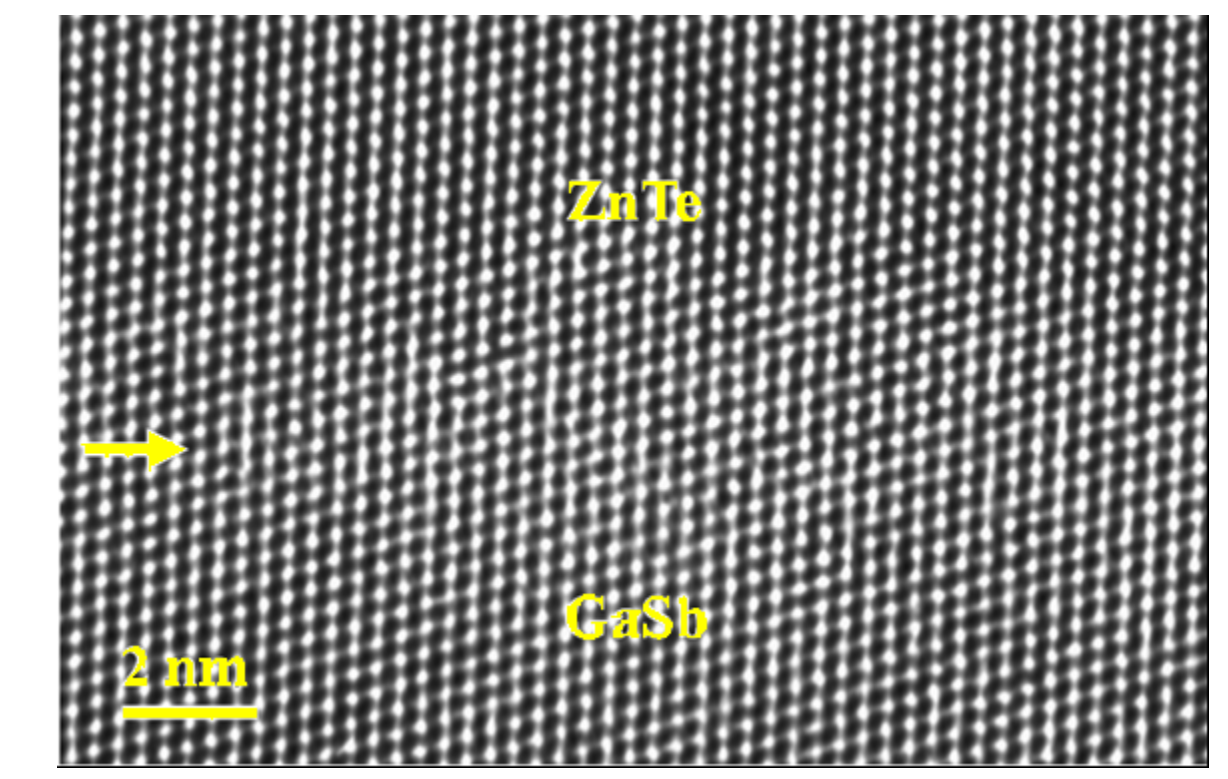
2. Atomic Hydrogen Cleaning



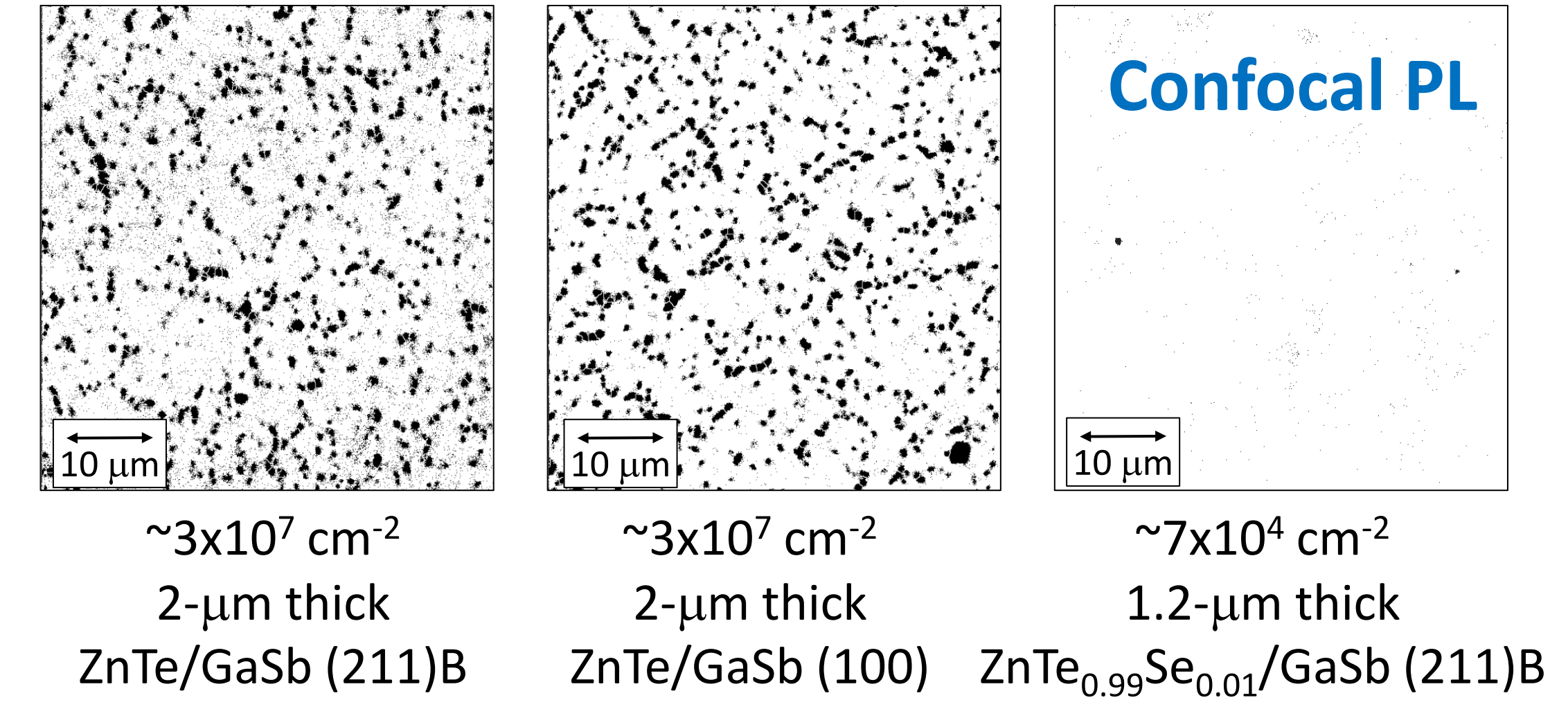
Ref 1, J. Vac. Sci. Technol. A 25(4), Jul/Aug 2007



TEM



Lattice Matching and Atomic-H Cleaning Results in Low Dislocation Epilayers



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