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EFFECT OF LINEAR POLARISABILITY AND LOCAL FIELDS ON SURFACE SHG

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A discrete dipole model has been developed to describe Surface Second Harmonic Generation by centrosymmetric semiconductors. The double cell method, which enables the linear reflection problem to be solved numerically for semi-infinite systems, has been extended for the nonlinear case. It is shown that a single layer of nonlinear electric dipoles at the surface and nonlocal effects allow to describe the angle of incidence dependent anisotropic SHG obtained from oxidised Si(001) wafers. The influence of the linear response, turns out to be essential to understand the anisotropic SHG-process.

Keywords: A. surface and interfaces, D. optical properties, E. nonlinear optics

In recent years Surface Second Harmonic Generation (SSHG) has become a widely used surface and interface probe. Its sensitivity to the symmetry of crystalline surfaces has been particularly successful\(^1\)\(^-\)\(^4\). To describe SSHG, commonly use is made of macroscopic continuum models, with a strong emphasis on symmetry arguments\(^5\)\(^-\)\(^6\). Purely microscopic models have as yet not been capable to treat SSHG, although a few authors have used partially microscopic models\(^7\)\(^-\)\(^8\) in order to take into account local field effects.

In this paper we show the first results of an alternative approach to describe SSHG, the nonlinear discrete dipole model. This model is strictly microscopic and goes as such beyond what macroscopic continuum models can treat. It yields the microscopic sources and microscopic electric fields in the surface region, both for the fundamental and second harmonic frequency. Nonlocal electrodynamic interactions, including retardation, are rigorously taken into account and demonstrate how local fields play a role in the SSHG process. The nonlinear behaviour of the discrete dipole theory was already studied by us for thin slabs\(^9\), but the configuration relevant for experiment, is the semi-infinite one.

By means of the linear double cell method the local electric fields can be obtained for arbitrary semi-infinite crystalline systems\(^10\)\(^-\)\(^11\). This method requires the system, represented by lattice planes of dipoles, to be subdivided into a semi-infinite bulk region and a (thin) surface region on top of it. The response of the bulk region is governed by a finite number of normal modes. The double cell method makes the coupling between the surface and the bulk regions using those normal modes. Off-normal incidence cases benefit particularly of the incorporation of retardation.

In this paper we give the nonlinear extension of the double cell method, which enables the description of the angle of incidence dependence and the rotational anisotropy of SHG for semi-infinite crystals. To demonstrate the potential abilities of such an approach, we will apply the method to the Si(001) surface, and make a comparison with experiment. The crystal and surface symmetry, as revealed by the anisotropy of the nonlinear response, is taken into account in the present analysis. We will also investigate the relative contributions of surface and bulk to SHG.

The crystal and its surface are represented by a corresponding semi-infinite crystalline lattice of point-like dipoles, which are induced by the local electric fields. Each lattice plane is spanned by the lateral basis vectors \(s_1\) and \(s_2\). The \(z\)-direction is normal to the surface, pointing to the crystal interior. Parallel translatational symmetry requires that all dipoles within a lattice plane \(i\) parallel to the surface are equivalent, and can be represented by a single characteristic dipole \(p_i\), positioned at \(r_i\). The local fields are superpositions of the externally applied electric field and the electric fields produced by all dipole sources in the system. The incident light has an electric field given by the real part of

\[
E_{\text{inc}}(r,t) = E_0\hat{e}\exp(i|\mathbf{k}r - \omega t|),
\]

where \(E_0\) is the amplitude and \(\hat{e}\) the direction of po-
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The wave vector is \( k \) and the frequency \( \omega \). The fields produced by the dipoles are obtained through the transfer-tensors \( j_{ij} \) which are derived from the microscopical Maxwell equations (SI-units). Techniques to calculate them efficiently can be found in\(^{10,11} \). The interaction equations for the characteristic dipoles follow from the linear induction principle:

\[
p_{i} = \hat{\alpha}_{i}E_{L,i} = \hat{\alpha}_{i}(E_{\text{ext}}(r_{i}) + \sum_{j} \hat{\alpha}_{ij}p_{j}),
\]

where \( \hat{\alpha}_{i} \) is the linear polarisability tensor and \( E_{L,i} \) the local field at \( r_{i} \).

In the double cell method the solution of the collective response of the interacting dipoles to the externally applied field starts by finding the normal modes. They make up the collective oscillations of the bulk region which can be written as:

\[
p_{i} = \sum_{m=1}^{M} v_{m}u_{m} \exp(i[k \parallel q_{m} r_{i}]).
\]

Here \( v_{m} \) is the normal mode strength. The normal mode polarisation \( u_{m} \) and the (complex) normal mode wave number \( q_{m} \) are entirely determined by the bulk properties and obey the bulk secular equation\(^{10,11} \). For bulk silicon only two normal modes \( (q_{m}, u_{m}) \) are needed at optical frequencies for each wave vector \( k \).

The individual dipole strengths \( p_{i} \) of the surface region, and the two normal mode strengths \( v_{m} \) of the bulk region are the only unknowns left, and they can be found by solving the double cell interaction equations:

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
M_{SS} & M_{SB} \\
M_{BS} & M_{BB}
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{bmatrix}
p_{i} \\
v_{m}
\end{bmatrix} =
\begin{bmatrix}
E_{\text{ext}}(r_{i}) \\
E_{0}(k \parallel \hat{\epsilon})
\end{bmatrix}.
\]

The sub-matrix \( M_{SS} \) is a composite matrix of transfer tensors coupling the surface dipoles, and the sub-matrix \( M_{BB} \) is a simple \( 2 \times 2 \) complex matrix coupling the two normal modes. The off-diagonal matrices connect the surface and the bulk regions, which shows that for the bulk region only the normal mode strengths \( v_{m} \) are affected by the surface region. The bulk part of the inhomogeneous vector corresponds to the s- and p-components (generically \( t \)) of the incoming light. From the microscopic sources the microscopic and macroscopic fields can be obtained. The t-polarised component of the reflected field \( E \) is obtained from the superposition of all fields produced by these sources:

\[
E = \frac{i k^2/2e_{0}}{s_{1} \times s_{2} / s_{2}} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} t_{i} \cdot p_{i} \exp(-i[k \parallel q_{m} r_{i}]).
\]

The dipole strengths for the bulk region have to be obtained from Eq. (3).

For a linear bulk the extension of the double cell method to the nonlinear optical response can be made without much difficulty. The nonlinear behaviour is restricted to the surface region only, where the induction principle for the dipoles is given by

\[
p_{i}(2\omega) = \hat{\alpha}_{i}(2\omega)E_{L,i}(2\omega) + \hat{\beta}_{i}(2\omega)E_{L,i}(\omega)E_{L,i}(\omega).
\]
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and $\beta$, as is the case for the macroscopic response tensor $\chi$ used in phenomenological models.

In order to apply this model to an experimental case, we measured the p-polarised anisotropic SHG by Si(001) in air for s- and p-polarised excitation at angles of incidence between 15° and 75°. For the excitation the frequency-doubled output at 532 nm of a seeded Q-switched Nd-YAG laser was used. The fluence of the 8 ns pulses was limited to 30 mJ/cm², well below the damage threshold, and stable within 2%. The sample was an optically flat standard Si wafer, cut within 0.5° to the (001) axis, and with a thin natural oxide. For the oxidised surface we used a bulk truncated geometry and the oxide will only affect the absolute values of the linear and nonlinear surface polarisabilities.

The discrete dipole calculations performed on this model system gave, in agreement with the macroscopic 4mm symmetry, isotropic linear reflection coefficients and anisotropic s- and p-polarised second harmonic fields, which have azimuthal dependences according to:

$$E_{\sigma}(\theta, \Omega) = a_{1}(\theta) \sin(4\Omega)$$  \hspace{1cm} (10)
$$E_{\sigma}^{p}(\theta, \Omega) = b_{0}(\theta) + b_{1}(\theta) \cos(4\Omega).$$  \hspace{1cm} (11)

Here $\Omega$ is the azimuthal angle between the plane of incidence and the in-plane (100) direction, $\theta$ is the angle of incidence and the complex numbers $a_{1}$, $b_{0}$ and $b_{1}$ are linear combinations of the $\beta$ tensor elements, depending on the excitation polarisation. Anisotropy is required for both polarizability $\alpha$ and hyperpolarizability $\beta$ of the surface layer, to get agreement between theory and experiment. For an isotropic $\alpha$ already an anisotropy in the SHG signal is obtained, but the value is too weak (4 orders smaller than the isotropic part of the p-polarised signal), to explain the experiments. For a wide range of $\beta_{\text{anis}}$ we can get excellent agreement with experiment by fitting the elements of $\beta$ to the p-polarised intensities, which can be described by:

$$|E(2\omega)|^2 = A(\theta) + B(\theta) \cos(4\Omega) + C(\theta) \cos(8\Omega).$$  \hspace{1cm} (12)

Here $A$, $B$ and $C$ are real numbers obtained from Eq (11) with $A = |b_{0}|^2 + \frac{1}{2}|b_{1}|^2$, $B = 2Re(b_{*}b_{0})$ and $C = \frac{1}{2}|b_{1}|^2$.

It has been shown that the anisotropy present on a dimer reconstructed Ge(001) surface was removed by exposure to molecular oxygen, but that also some anisotropy remained if atomic oxygen was used instead. We used $\alpha_{\text{anis}} = 1\%$ of the bulk value for both frequencies, which results in an anisotropy of the linear reflection from a single domain of $3 \times 10^{-6}$, well below their experimental resolution. Fig. (1) shows the full anisotropy for a 45° angle of incidence.

In Fig. (2) the angle of incidence dependence of the coefficients $A$ and $B$ is shown for p-polarised SHG under s- and p-polarised excitation. The dots are measurements and the curves are results of the theory for the fitted $\beta$ (listed in table (1) in units of $\beta_{0}$). $A$, $B$ and $|E(2\omega)|^2$ are given in units of $I_{0}^2 = (|E_{0}|^2 \beta_{0}/4\pi \epsilon_{0} a_{3})^2$. All experimental data for s- and p-polarised excitation have the same scaling.

Table (1) shows that a small anisotropy in the linear polarisability of the topmost layer (1%) requires a large anisotropy in the nonlinear coefficients ($\beta_{\text{anis}}/\beta_{\text{iso}} \sim 30$). For the SHG response, this leads to a strong anisotropic response (~10%, see Fig. (2)), whereas this anisotropic linear surface term leads to a fully isotropic linear reflection for a multi-domain sample of 4mm symmetry.

For p-polarised excitation the moduli of the second harmonic dipole strengths (in units of $|E_{0}|^2$) are shown in Fig. (3) as a function of layer index $i$. The figure shows also the modulus of this dipole strength, obtained from the normal mode expansion Eq. (3) extrapolated up to the surface, and the modulus of the difference between the two types of vectors. Within our approach this is

FIG. 1. Azimuthal dependence of the p-polarised SH intensity for Si (100). s/p-polarised excitation, ($\theta = 45^\circ$). Lines: calculation (in units of $I_{0}^2$), dots: experiment (arb. units)

FIG. 2. Coefficients $A$ (isotropic part) and $B$ (anisotropic part) as a function of $\theta$ for Si(001). s/p-polarised excitation. Lines: calculation (in units of $I_{0}^2$), dots: experiment (arb. units)
TABLE I. elements of $\beta$ for $\alpha_{\text{vol}}^{\|} = 0.01\alpha_{\text{surf}}^{\|}$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>value ($\times 10^3$)</th>
<th>value ($\times 10^3$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\beta_{\text{thr}}^{\perp \perp}$</td>
<td>0.2783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\beta_{\text{thr}}^{\perp \parallel}$</td>
<td>$-0.9940 - i 1.869$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\beta_{\text{thr}}^{\parallel \parallel}$</td>
<td>24.591 + $i 45.170$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\beta_{\text{sur}}^{\perp \parallel}$</td>
<td>15.106 - $i 0.4844$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a good way to separate bulk and surface contributions for bulk terminated surfaces, although any such distinction has to be arbitrary\(^6\). It can be seen immediately from Fig. (3), that both components have an exponential decay. They also have about the same contribution in absolute value to the reflection. The second harmonic response of the bulk is caused by the second harmonic local fields and the linear polarisability of the bulk. The only source of nonlinearity is the outermost dipole layer. Since the linear induction term can never be eliminated, surface and bulk can have no independent second harmonic behaviour.

In this paper we have made a microscopic model calculation of the SSHG produced by a Si (100) surface. We have shown the possibility to fit the results to experimental data. Since there is no one to one correspondence between microscopic and macroscopic models, it is not possible to compare our results directly with those obtained by other authors\(^{11,18}\). Our major conclusions however do not depend on the particular Si (100) case given as an example. Purely microscopic models, as treated here, show clearly that linear and nonlinear responses, as a result of second harmonic local field effects, are tightly interwoven. Anisotropy showed this dependence, but we have intentionally assigned the nonlinearity to a single dipole layer, to demonstrate clearly the occurrence of second harmonic sources produced by a linear bulk. Phenomena going beyond the simple model description of this paper, will be subject of future work.