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Research Article

Fresnel calculations of double/multi-layer antireflection coatings on silicon substrates

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Abstract

Reflectance spectra calculations of double and multi-layer antireflection coating (ARC) structures based on Fresnel equations were studied in this work. A detailed explanation of Fresnel equations was presented with different polarization of incoming light for multi-layer antireflection coatings for solar cell applications. $\text{TiO}_2/\text{SiN}_x$, MgF_2/ZnS thin film stacks for double layer ARC and $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$, $\text{MgF}_2/\text{SiO}_2/\text{TiO}_2$ thin film stacks for multi-layer ARC were studied. Transfer matrix method and PC1D simulation software were used additionally to simulate crystalline silicon solar cells with considered double and multi-layer ARC films on their front surface with calculated thicknesses. Average reflectance (400-1100 nm) of silicon surface by Fresnel equations with triple layer ARC was around 2.72%. Solar cell performances with each ARC structure were compared to evaluate the achieved output of reflectance of investigated thin films. Simulated short circuit current density of solar cells with tri-layer ARC was 39.71 mA/cm^2 , was significantly higher than that of the ARC-free solar cells resulting in an efficiency of 19.1%.

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1. Introduction

Solar cell industry is dominated by crystalline silicon solar cells with a global market share of 93% [1]. The highest confirmed efficiency for monocrystalline and multicrystalline are 26.7% and 22.3% respectively [1,2]. Achieving high efficiencies with low cost is important to expand the use of solar energy based on photovoltaics. To establish high efficiencies of solar cells, numerous researchers and scientists have been looking for various ways in utilizing the basic techniques to improve the efficiency of solar cells. One the most important part of the production of modern high-efficiency solar cell is the integration of antireflection coating [3]. Antireflection coating (ARC) is a thin film layer of dielectric material deposited on top of the surface of solar cell to reduce optical losses due to reflection and increase the transmittance of light, thus improving current generation of solar cell and improve its overall efficiency. Silicon nitride is the most widely used antireflection coating in industrial level production of solar cells due to various advantages such as bulk and surface passivation properties and proven stability [4,5]. As a result, deposition of SiN_x using plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition (PECVD) became an integral part in the production of modern silicon solar cells [4,6]. Other than that, alternative ARCs including TiO_2 , SiO_2 , Al_2O_3 , ZrO_2 , HfO_2 etc. has been studied and applied to the solar cell structures by a variety of deposition techniques both as a single layer or as in stacks [3,7–11]. On the other hand, solar cell simulation softwares support researchers to design, develop and optimize solar cells. Softwares such as Silvaco TCAD, Sentaurus TCAD and PC1D are used to study the significance of antireflection coating in improving the efficiency of solar cells [12–14]. Lenie et. al demonstrated the effect of SiO_2 and Si_3N_4 as

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ARC on short circuit current (J_{sc}), open circuit voltage (V_{oc}), fill factor (FF) and efficiency (η) of silicon solar cell using Silvaco software [9]. Islam et. al used Sentaurus TCAD in simulation of ITO/ Si_3N_4 /ZnO:Al as antireflection coating and studied the effect of ARC in J_{sc} , V_{oc} and efficiency of silicon solar cells [8]. These studies of antireflection coatings using simulation softwares have shown a significant increase in J_{sc} , and η of antireflection coated silicon solar cell when compared to an uncoated solar cell. Due to the vast amount of research data that are compiled in order to make these softwares, they can predict and give accurate output on up to sub-90nm semiconductor manufacturing processes and provide atomic-level accuracy [15].

Various mathematical equations are available for solving the reflectance spectra of solar cells with ARC. The 'transfer matrix method' is the most commonly used equation for solving reflectance spectra of multi-layer thin film stacks due to abundance of available sources [16–18]. For 'N number' layers of thin films deposited on a substrate, multiple reflected and transmitted light are accounted and calculated using a transfer matrix form of each layer. Another way of calculating the reflectance spectra of ARC is through the use of 'Fresnel's equations' using Rouard's Method [19,20]. In this method, the reflectance and transmittance coefficients are calculated using Fresnel's equations which are simplified by Rouard's method. The total reflectance can be calculated by adding all the interacting light waves at the top surface of the ARC. Application of single layer antireflection coating (SLARC) equations using O.S. Heaven's equations, transfer matrix method, and Fresnel equations are available in literature. Besides that, explanations of Fresnel equations for multilayer combinations along with application in solar cells is crucial for simulating its effects for future design of solar cells.

In this work, basic structures and working principles behind double and multi-layer antireflection coatings were presented. Fresnel's equation with the use of Rouard's method were studied and compared with commonly used transfer matrix method in order to solve the reflectance spectra of double and multi-layer ARC. Introduced solutions are valid not only for silicon substrate but also for any type of substrate. Equations regarding the reflectivity of different polarities of light with respect to the incidence angle of the light source were also shown with detailed calculations. Additionally, PC1D simulation software was used to obtain various characteristics and behaviors of a silicon solar cell with up to three layers of antireflection coating which was also used for comparison purposes.

2. Simulation Model and Fresnel's Equations

A conventional p-type silicon solar cell consists of <front metallic contacts/antireflection coating/n-type emitter/p-type silicon substrate/p-type back surface field/back contact>. An effective ARC structure has an important role for maximum absorption and minimum reflection of the incoming light. Light is an electromagnetic wave which have both electric and magnetic fields propagating perpendicularly with each other. The light emitted by the sun incident to the Earth's surface is a non-polarized light [21]. The direction of the oscillation of the electric field in an electromagnetic wave determines the polarization direction. S-polarization or sometimes known as 'perpendicular polarization' occurs when the direction of propagation of electric field is perpendicular to the incident surface while P-polarization or 'parallel polarization' occurs when the electric field is parallel to the incident surface [18]. The light emitted by the sun is a combination of different wavelengths and polarization combined with each other which results in a white light that can be seen by the naked eye. When sunlight hits an interface, i.e. silicon, the intensity of reflection will vary depending on the polarization and angle of incidence. Those incoming waves resulting in total wave either by constructively or destructively interfering with each other. Fig. 1a and 1b illustrates the various interacting waves between the substrate and the incident medium for double layer antireflection coating (DLARC) and multi-layer

antireflection coating (MLARC) composed of three layers on silicon substrate. The variable n_0 stands for the refractive index of air while n_s stands for refractive index of the silicon substrate. The refractive index of antireflection coating in between air and silicon are denoted with subsequent numbers from top to bottom layer.

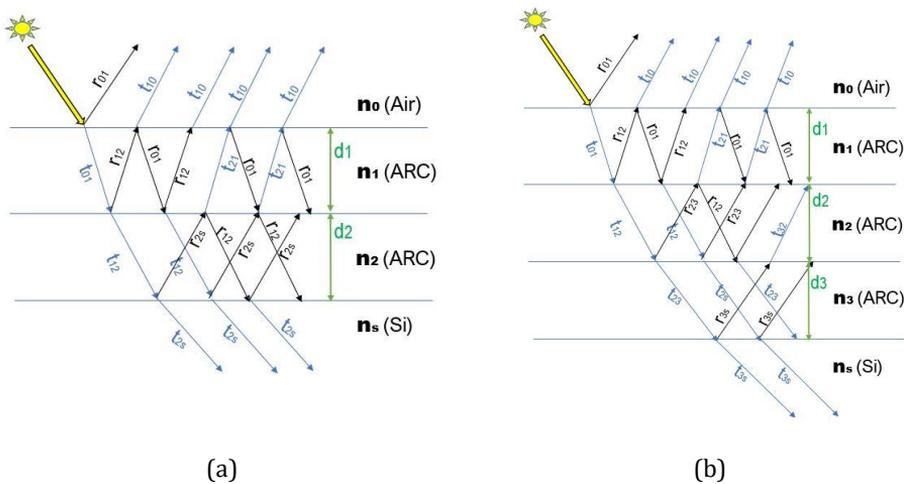


Fig. 1 (a) Interaction of light waves in a silicon, (b) Interaction of light waves in a silicon solar cell with DLARC solar cell with MLARC

When incoming light hits an interface and propagates from one medium to another medium with different refractive index, while a part of the light is transmitted or absorbed into the latter medium, some portion of the light is reflected back, as explained in literature [8,22-24]. During this transaction, the diffraction of transmitted light bends in an angle and changes the angle of propagation. At the end, the sum of all the interacting waves at the top surface figures the total intensity of the reflected light in the solar cell. Therefore, double, and multi-layer ARC can reduce the reflection more effectively than that of the single layer ARC by utilizing destructive interference of waves in multiple interfaces.

3. Double and Multi-Layer Anti Reflection Coating (DLARC and MLARC)

A highly efficient solar cell must have very low reflectance in wide range of wavelengths, so it can utilize as much the energy from the sun. SLARC can only achieve near-zero reflection at a specific wavelength. In order to further reduce the reflections in wider range of wavelengths with DLARC and MLARC, a combination of lower refractive index material as the outer layer and higher refractive index at the bottom layer can be stacked to lower average reflectance in wider range of wavelengths compared to SLARC. DLARC and MLARC have more complex reflections which can interfere with other reflected and transmitted waves that results in a lower total reflectance [21]. As a result, detailed calculations are needed to solve the total reflection at the surface of the solar cell due to the multiple interacting waves in a silicon solar cell with DLARC and MLARC (Fig. 1a and 1b).

3.2 DLARC Equations Using Fresnel’s Equation and Rouard’s Method

Rouard’s method simplifies the calculation of the reflectance spectra of any ‘N’ number of dielectric stacks deposited on a substrate. Reflectance spectra of the solar cell with DLARC can be solved by following equations [8,19,24]:

$$\delta_1 = \frac{2\pi n_1 d_1 \cos\theta_1}{\lambda_0} \tag{1}$$

$$\delta_2 = \frac{2\pi n_2 d_2 \cos\theta_2}{\lambda_0} \tag{2}$$

$$r_1 = r_{0,1} + [(t_{0,1}e^{-i\delta_1})(r_{1,2}e^{-i\delta_1})(t_{1,0})] + [(t_{0,1}e^{-i\delta_1})(t_{1,2}e^{-i\delta_2})(r_{2,s}e^{-i\delta_2})(t_{2,1}e^{-i\delta_1})(t_{1,0})] + [(t_{0,1}e^{-i\delta_1})(r_{1,2}e^{-i\delta_1})(r_{1,0}e^{-i\delta_1})(r_{1,2}e^{-i\delta_1})(t_{1,0})] + \dots \tag{3}$$

Simplifying by using Rouard’s method

$$r_2 = \frac{r_{1,2} + r_{2,s}e^{-2i\delta_2}}{1 + r_{1,2}r_{2,s}e^{-2i\delta_2}} \tag{4}$$

$$r_1 = \frac{r_{0,1} + r_2e^{-2i\delta_1}}{1 + r_{0,1}r_2e^{-2i\delta_1}} \tag{5}$$

$$R = \left| \frac{r_{1(s)}^2 + r_{1(p)}^2}{2} \right| + \dots \tag{6}$$

3.2. DLARC Equations Using Transfer Matrix Method

The transfer matrix method alternative for double layer ARC can also be calculated by using the following equation:

$$R = \frac{n_0^2 \left[\cos \delta_1 \cos \delta_2 - \frac{n_2}{n_1} \sin \delta_1 \sin \delta_2 \right]^2 + (n_0 n_3)^2 \left[\frac{\cos \delta_1 \sin \delta_2}{n_2} + \frac{\cos \delta_2 \sin \delta_1}{n_1} \right]^2 + [n_1 \sin \delta_1 \cos \delta_2 + n_2 \sin \delta_2 \cos \delta_1]^2 + n_3^2 \left[\cos \delta_1 \cos \delta_2 - \frac{n_1}{n_2} \sin \delta_1 \sin \delta_2 \right]^2 - 2n_0 n_s}{n_0^2 \left[\cos \delta_1 \cos \delta_2 - \frac{n_2}{n_1} \sin \delta_1 \sin \delta_2 \right]^2 + (n_0 n_3)^2 \left[\frac{\cos \delta_1 \sin \delta_2}{n_2} + \frac{\cos \delta_2 \sin \delta_1}{n_1} \right]^2 + [n_1 \sin \delta_1 \cos \delta_2 + n_2 \sin \delta_2 \cos \delta_1]^2 + n_3^2 \left[\cos \delta_1 \cos \delta_2 - \frac{n_1}{n_2} \sin \delta_1 \sin \delta_2 \right]^2 + 2n_0 n_s} \tag{7}$$

3.2. MLARC Equations Using Fresnel’s Equation and Rouard’s Method

In order to further reduce the reflectance in a broad spectrum, multi-layer combination of different dielectric materials can be stacked on top of each other. The equation used for solving the total reflectance of MLARC can be calculated using Rouard’s method by:

For k number of layers:

$$\delta_k = \frac{2\pi n_k d_k \cos\theta_k}{\lambda_0} \tag{8}$$

For the kth layer:

$$r_k = \frac{(r_{k-1,k}) + (r_{k,k+1})e^{-2i\delta_k}}{1 + (r_{k-1,k})(r_{k,k+1})e^{-2i\delta_k}} \tag{9}$$

For $k-1$ layer until $k=2$:

$$r_k = \frac{(r_{k-1,k}) + (r_k)e^{-2i\delta_k}}{1 + (r_{k-1,k})(r_k)e^{-2i\delta_k}} \quad (10)$$

$$r_1 = \frac{r_{0,1} + r_2e^{-2i\delta_1}}{1 + r_{0,1}r_2e^{-2i\delta_1}} \quad (11)$$

Then the total reflectance at the surface of ARC can be calculated by Eq. (6). n_1 and n_2 are the refractive indexes of the 1st and 2nd medium, respectively. θ_1 is the angle of incidence from the source to medium 1, θ_2 is the angle of light entering from medium 1 to 2, $r_{s,p}$ is the coefficient of reflection for s and p polarizations, $t_{s,p}$ is the coefficient of transmission for s and p polarizations. d_1 and d_2 are the thicknesses of the medium 1 and 2, respectively in nm . δ_1 is the phase change of the wave, δ_2 is the phase change at the 2nd layer, r_1 is the total reflection coefficient, r_2 is the total reflection coefficient at the 2nd layer, λ_0 is the wavelength at free space in nm , $r_{a,b}$ is the coefficients of reflection from medium a to b, $t_{a,b}$ is the coefficients of transmission from medium a to b, R is the total reflection at the surface of ARC.

4. DLARC and MLARC Simulation Results

Fig. 2 shows the reflectance spectra of silicon surface with DLARC comparing to the SLARC and bare silicon surface calculated by Fresnel equations. The values of refractive index ' n ' and extinction coefficient ' k ' of Silicon [25], TiO₂ [26], MgF₂ [27], ZnS [28] and SiN_x [29] were also obtained from [30,31]. SiN_x and ZnS SLARC with various thicknesses were given in Fig. 2a and 2b where a significant decrease of the reflectance is clear comparing to the bare flat silicon surface. Minimum of spectra shifts to the higher wavelengths as the thickness of SLARC increases. Experimental measurement of TiO₂/SiN_x DLARC was performed in a polished p-type FZ Silicon wafer and deposited using PECVD at a substrate temperature of 200°C [32]. MgF₂/ZnS DLARC was deposited using electron beam with a substrate temperature of 125°C for ZnS and 200°C for MgF₂ [33]. These experimental data were used to assess the accuracy of the calculations under consent of related reference. Comparisons found to be relatively in agreement with simulated data in current work. Table 1 shows the average reflectance of each device using various methodologies. Simulated data were in good agreement with the experimental data especially in visible spectrum between 400 nm to 700 nm where the solar intensity is in its maximum. Additionally, spectra of the TiO₂/SiN_x and MgF₂/ZnS DLARC with different thicknesses in stacks were given in Fig. 2e and 2f, respectively. Minimum of the TiO₂/SiN_x spectra shifts through the higher wavelengths as the thickness of the stack increases. Reflectance of MgF₂/ZnS DLARC coated surface in the range of 400-800 nm increases significantly when the thickness of MgF₂ is less than 100 nm in the stack. The one minimum characteristic of TiO₂/SiN_x DLARC coated wafers with high average reflectance than that of the wafers coated with MgF₂/ZnS is due to the high/low ' n ' order of the stack where MgF₂/ZnS has a gradually increasing order of ' n ' with optimum values from surface to bulk.

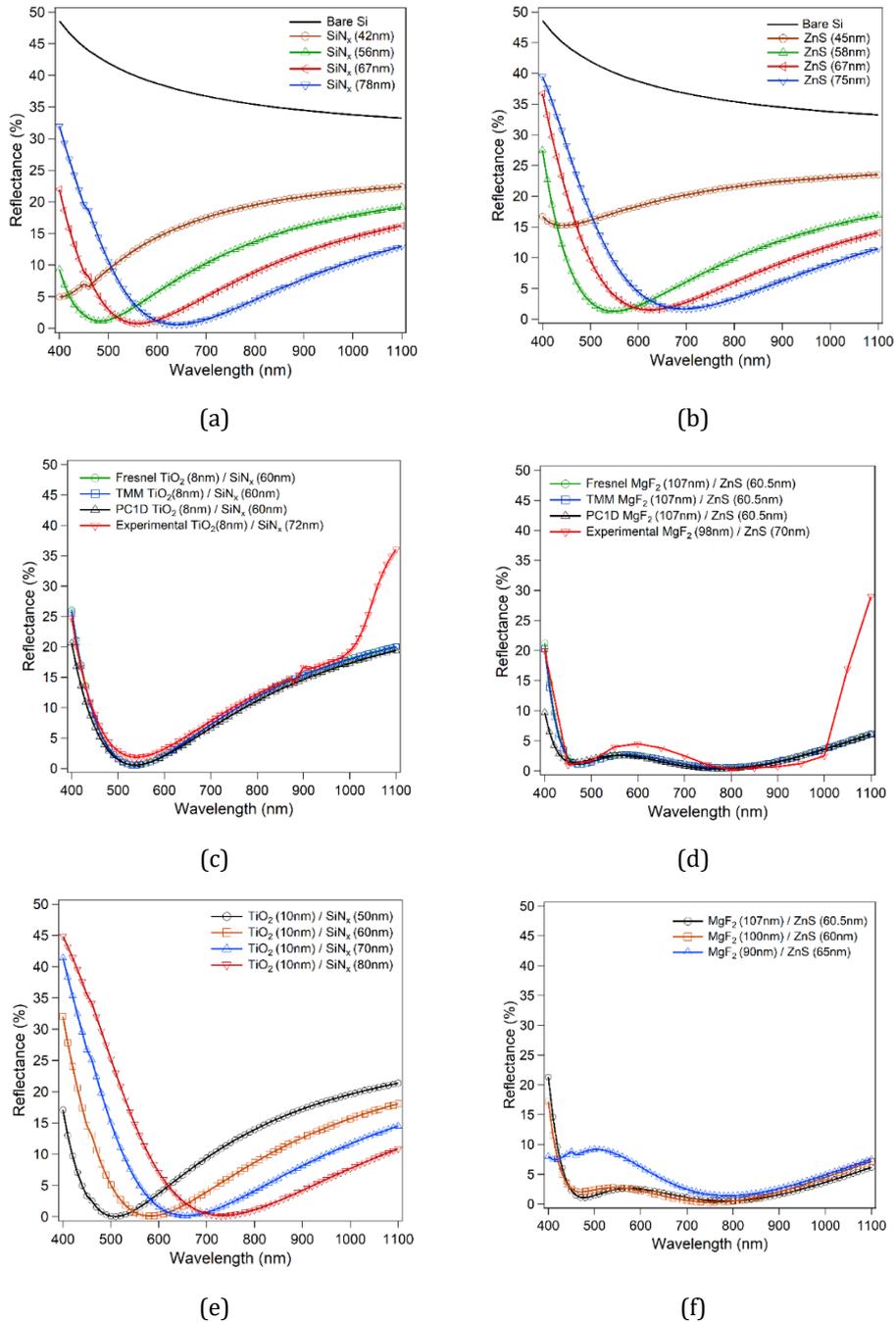


Fig. 2 Reflectance spectra of silicon substrate with (a) SiN_x SLARC, (b) ZnS SLARC, (c) TiO₂/SiN_x DLARC, (d) MgF₂/ZnS DLARC, (e) TiO₂/SiN_x DLARC with various thicknesses, (f) MgF₂/ZnS DLARC with various thicknesses

Table 1. Average reflectance (400-1100 nm) of silicon substrate with DLARC achieved by using different methods

| | Fresnel's Eq. | TMM | PC1D | Experimental |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|--------------|
| TiO ₂ /SiN _x | 10.899 | 10.848 | 10.107 | 12.729 |
| MgF ₂ /ZnS | 2.802 | 2.755 | 2.266 | 5.973 |

MgF₂/ZnS combination provided a 2.2% average reflectance based on simulation with PC1D. Average reflection of MgF₂/ZnS DLARC was estimated by Fresnel Equations as 2.8% which is slightly closer estimation than that of the TMM method.

Alternative MLARC simulations using combination of three layers of ARC on silicon substrate were shown in Fig. 3a and 3b. Table 2 summarizes the average reflectance of each device using different methodologies.

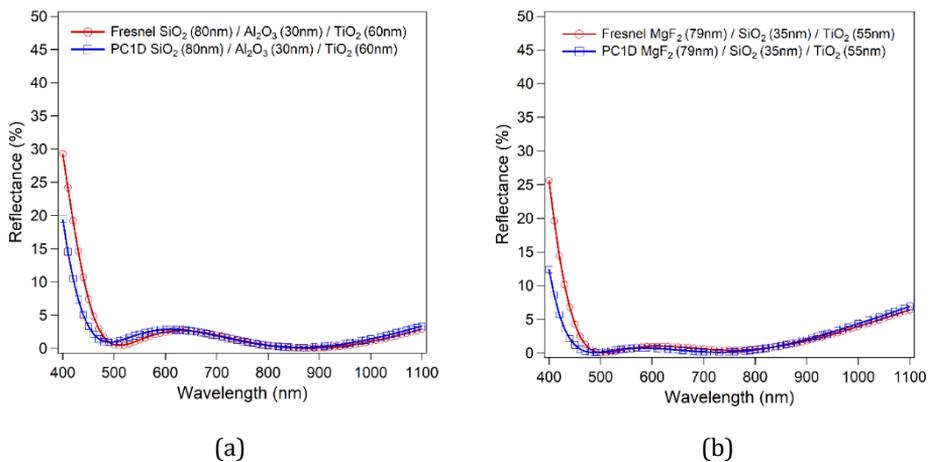


Fig. 3 Reflectance spectra of silicon substrate with (a) SiO₂/Al₂O₃/TiO₂ MLARC and (b) MgF₂/SiO₂/TiO₂ MLARC

Table 2. Average reflectance (400-1100 nm) of silicon substrate with MLARC achieved by different methods

| | Fresnel's Eq. | PC1D |
|--|---------------|-------|
| SiO ₂ /Al ₂ O ₃ /TiO ₂ | 2.799 | 2.111 |
| MgF ₂ /SiO ₂ /TiO ₂ | 2.720 | 2.228 |

TiO₂ with high 'n' of 2.59 (at 550 nm) was used as the bottom layer of the ARC for MLARC where TiO₂ with lower 'n' of 2.11 (at 550 nm) were used for DLARC which can be achieved by different processing conditions [23]. Although MLARC layers provides similar reflection values, MgF₂/SiO₂/TiO₂ combination achieved the best results in device performance due to very low reflectance at the peak of solar spectrum with high spectral irradiance. Estimated average reflectance of the silicon surface with SiO₂/Al₂O₃/TiO₂ and MgF₂/SiO₂/TiO₂ MLARC were 2.8% and 2.72%, respectively. Reflectance of SiO₂/Al₂O₃/TiO₂ coated wafers provides less reflectivity especially in the range of 800-1100 nm than that of the wafers coated with MgF₂/SiO₂/TiO₂. On the other hand, MgF₂/SiO₂/TiO₂ coated wafers have lower reflectivity in the range of 500-800 nm which covers the peak region of solar spectrum.

For the analysis of DLARC and MLARC, both TMM and Fresnel calculations can predict the behavior of reflectance spectra of antireflection coatings with different combinations of dielectric materials. Although, results by Fresnel equations were slightly closer to the experimental values than that of the values achieved by TMM, both techniques were in a good agreement with the experimental measurements. In general, a combination of a lower refractive index materials such as MgF₂ or SiO₂ with refractive index of less than 1.5 can be appropriate for the first layer while higher refractive index materials such as TiO₂ and ZnS are suitable materials at the bottom layer.

In case of double or multi-layer stackings, combination of materials with lower refractive index to higher refractive index in ascending order can have achieve a lower reflectance spectrum on wide range of wavelengths. Various data show the difference in the values of n and k of the same material due to different deposition techniques and parameters used such as annealing temperature [27, 28]. The output spectra of the simulation would vary depending on different values of refractive index and extinction coefficients of materials that are used. Due to the gradual refractive indexes and thicknesses of materials in MgF₂/ZnS structure a reduced overall reflectivity could be achieved in DLARC. Spectra was achieved in W shape which means reflectivity reaches minimum corresponding to two wavelengths and contribute to reduce reflectivity over a broad range of spectrum [34]. MLARC provides further reduced reflectance especially in visible range and in overall spectrum. It is worth to bear in mind that the properties of the materials other than ARC effect plays an important role on silicon solar cell performances as well, such as passivation of defects etc. Therefore, all materials with good ARC may not lead high efficiencies as expected in real devices.

5. Silicon Solar Cell Simulations by PC1D

PC1D version 5.9 is a semiconductor modeling software made by UNSW Australia which is widely used in solar cell research [14]. High efficiency silicon solar cell with DLARC and MLARC were simulated with PC1D. Simulations were carried out by fixing the solar cell parameters except of the ARC films. The same ARC films were applied with the same thicknesses as in Figs. 2-3 to investigate the impact of each ARC film on the performance of a silicon based solar cell. Table 3 shows the parameters of the solar cell that were used in the simulation.

Table 3. Solar cell device parameters using PC1D

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Front surface texture depth | 3 μm |
| Internal optical reflectance | Enabled |
| Series Resistance | 0.8 Ω |
| Shunt Resistance | 50000 Ω |
| Emitter Sheet Resistance | 60 Ω/square |
| Thickness | 180 μm |
| Front diffusion (N-type) | $2 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ peak |
| Rear diffusion (P-type) | $3 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ peak |
| Front SRV | $1 \times 10^2 \text{ cm/s}$ |
| Rear SRV | $1 \times 10^6 \text{ cm/s}$ |
| Bulk recombination | $\tau_n = \tau_p = 30 \mu\text{s}$ |
| Temperature | 25°C |

Table 4 presents the electrical performance of each solar cell with and without ARC where relationship of the electrical parameters can be given as $\eta = (V_{MP} \times J_{MP}) / P_{IN} = (V_{OC} \times J_{SC} \times FF) / P_{IN}$. η is the conversion efficiency, V_{MP} and J_{MP} are the voltage and current at the maximum power point, respectively. P_{IN} is the standard 1 sun input power for measurements (100 mW/cm^2). The values of refractive index used in the simulation were obtained [27, 28]. I - V curves of the best solar cells with ARC compared with the simulated solar cell without ARC is shown in Fig. 4. The antireflection effect of DLARC and MLARC layers on the short circuit current density can be clearly confirmed.

Table 4. Performance of solar cells with various layers of ARC

| | ARC film (thickness in nm) | J_{SC} (mA/ cm^2) | V_{OC} (mV) | J_{MP} (mA/ cm^2) | V_{MP} (mV) | FF (%) | η (%) |
|--------|---|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|---------------|
| No ARC | No ARC | 26.28 | 609.7 | 24.25 | 517 | 78.25 | 12.54 |
| SLARC | SiN _x (67) | 37.03 | 618.7 | 35.00 | 508.1 | 77.62 | 17.79 |
| | ZnS (67) | 36.18 | 618.1 | 33.76 | 515.2 | 77.78 | 17.39 |
| DLARC | TiO ₂ (8) / SiN _x (60) | 37.08 | 618.7 | 35.03 | 508.6 | 77.66 | 17.82 |
| | MgF ₂ (107) / ZnS (60.5) | 39.58 | 620.4 | 36.96 | 515.2 | 77.55 | 19.04 |
| MLARC | SiO ₂ (80)/Al ₂ O ₃ (30)/TiO ₂ (60) | 39.45 | 620.4 | 36.91 | 514.3 | 77.56 | 18.98 |
| | MgF ₂ (79)/SiO ₂ (35)/TiO ₂ (55) | 39.71 | 620.5 | 37.01 | 516.2 | 77.53 | 19.10 |

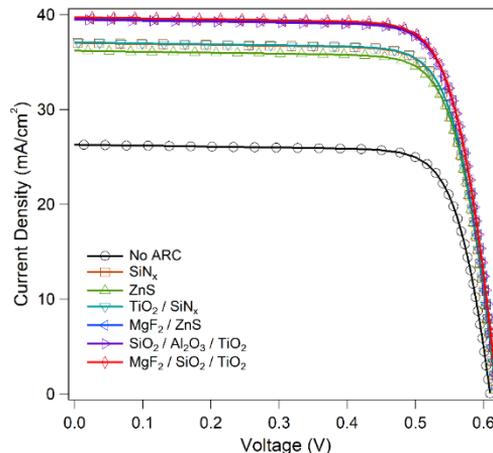


Fig. 4 I - V curve of best solar cells with SLARC, DLARC and MLARC compared with the solar cell without ARC

An uncoated solar cell reflects more than 35% or one third portion of incoming light due to inherent reflective properties of silicon. Increase in conversion efficiency can be confirmed by DLARC and MLARC coated solar cells due to the significant decrease in reflectance. Improvement in solar cell performances were achieved by using MgF₂/ZnS as DLARC and MgF₂/SiO₂/TiO₂ as MLARC. The best J_{SC} values of the solar cells with MLARC is 39.71 mA/cm^2 which is significantly higher than the J_{SC} of uncoated cell (26.28 mA/cm^2) due to the impact of ARC coatings on trapping the incoming light. As a result of using ARCs,

the best simulated efficiencies for corresponding cells with SLARC was 17.79% with SiN_x which was improved up to 19.1% with $\text{MgF}_2/\text{SiO}_2/\text{TiO}_2$ MLARC. DLARC provided a J_{sc} of 39.58 mA/cm^2 leading an efficiency of 19% owing to the reduced reflection in a broad range of spectrum. It is worth to mention that considering the properties of materials and interfaces in the device depend on the source of the materials and the deposition/processing techniques, it is challenging to compare simulation results with real devices based on the antireflection-only effect with exact set of device parameters. However, simulations and experimental results can be compared by the total increment in the conversion efficiency for an estimation. For instance, an increase on efficiency of 6.1% with MgF_2/ZnS DLARC was reported comparing to the solar cells without an ARC [34] which is similar to the results in current work providing the possible increase of 6.32% on efficiency with MgF_2/ZnS DLARC. One of the conclusions can be that a significant reduction of surface reflectance achieved by an optimized DLARC for silicon solar cells would be sufficient for high efficiencies. However, alternative ARC structures can be developed by utilizing Fresnel equations for more complex solar cells such as multijunction, perovskite or other emerging solar cells.

6. Conclusion

The reflectance spectra of double and multi-layer antireflection coatings based on Fresnel equations were studied in this work. Various experimental measurements were used to validate the accuracy of the equations besides the comparison of results with transfer matrix method. PC1D simulation results were also added to further validate and measure the overall performance of each combination of ARC. The average reflection of the solar cell without any antireflection coating from 400 to 1100 nm around 37% which results to a huge loss in the overall efficiency of the solar cell due to the reflection of more than 1/3 of incoming light. It was shown that a proper selection of antireflection coating material with optimum thickness can result to such huge decrease of reflectance from the surface and increase in the overall performance of solar cells. And the Fresnel equations can be supportive for estimating the reflectance behavior of coated surfaces. For the MgF_2/ZnS DLARC stack, it was concluded that the thickness of MgF_2 less than 100 nm is not favorable due to the significant increase of the reflectance of MgF_2/ZnS DLARC coated surface in the range of 400-800 nm, from 2% to up to peak of 10%. Estimated average reflectance of the silicon surface when with $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$ and $\text{MgF}_2/\text{SiO}_2/\text{TiO}_2$ MLARC were 2.8% and 2.72%, respectively. $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{TiO}_2$ coating wafers provides less reflectivity than that of the wafers coated with $\text{MgF}_2/\text{SiO}_2/\text{TiO}_2$ especially in the range of 800-1100 nm. On the other hand, $\text{MgF}_2/\text{SiO}_2/\text{TiO}_2$ coated wafers have lower reflectivity in the range of 500-800 nm which is valuable as it covers the peak region of solar spectrum. $\text{MgF}_2/\text{SiO}_2/\text{TiO}_2$ MLARC achieved the overall best result with simulated efficiency of 19.1%. Selection and combination of materials are crucial in achieving the reduced reflectance which results to a more efficient device. Therefore, an accurate simulation can be rewarding for researchers and manufacturers in selecting the best combination of materials to optimize their devices.

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