
LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1	Classification of thin film deposition techniques.	19
Figure 1.2	Flowchart indicating utilization of solar energy.	27
Figure 1.3	The positions of bands under illumination responsible for photo induced charge transfer.	29
Figure 2.1	Schematic block diagram of a chemical solution bath deposition setup.	50
Figure 2.2	Cross-section view of the substrate holder.	51
Figure 2.3	An arrangement for terminal layer thickness measurement using interference technique.	57
Figure 2.4	A water droplet in equilibrium over a horizontal solid surface.	58
Figure 2.5	Schematic representation of an XPS analysis.	62
Figure 2.6	Schematic representation for derivation of Bragg's law.	63
Figure 2.7	Schematic features of X-Ray diffractometer.	65
Figure 2.8	Block diagram of a typical FTIR spectrometer.	67
Figure 2.9	Schematic representation of SEM setup.	69
Figure 2.10	Schematic representation of FESEM setup.	70
Figure 2.11	Schematic representation of AFM measurement technique.	72
Figure 2.12	Graphic representation of MFM measurement technique.	74
Figure 2.13	Schematic arrangement for the measurement of an electrical conductivity.	76
Figure 2.14	Schematic arrangement for the measurement of thermo power.	78
Figure 2.15	A schematic diagram of an electrochemical PV cell.	82
Figure 3.1	Variation in the terminal layer thickness with the molarity of precursors.	98
Figure 3.2	Variation in the terminal layer thickness with the substrate rotation speed.	98
Figure 3.3	Variation in the terminal layer thickness with the deposition temperature.	100

Figure 3.4	Variation in the terminal layer thickness with the deposition period.	100
Figure 3.5	Variation in the terminal layer thickness with the ammonia quantity.	103
Figure 3.6	Variation in the terminal layer thickness with TEA quantity.	103
Figure 3.7	Angle of contact measurement for CoS and Co _{1-x} Zn _x S thin films.	109
Figure 3.8	Variation in the terminal layer thickness with composition parameter (x).	110
Figure 3.9	Variation in colour of the thin films as a function of the composition parameter (x).	111
Figure 3.10 (a)	Typical EDAX spectra for Co _{1-x} Zn _x S (0 ≤ x ≤ 0.05) thin films.	112
Figure 3.10 (b)	Typical EDAX spectra for Co _{1-x} Zn _x S (0.075 ≤ x ≤ 0.2) thin films.	113
Figure 3.10 (c)	Typical EDAX spectra for Co _{1-x} Zn _x S (0.25 ≤ x ≤ 0.4) thin films.	114
Figure 3.11	3D and 2D plots for contents of Co, Zn and S with composition parameter (x).	115
Figure 3.12	Typical XPS survey spectra for CoS and Co _{1-x} Zn _x S thin films.	119
Figure 3.13	Core level XPS spectra for Co 2p spin orbital coupling.	120
Figure 3.14	Core level XPS spectra for Zn 2p spin orbital coupling.	121
Figure 3.15	Narrow scan XPS spectra for S 2p core level.	122
Figure 3.16	Atomic % variation of Co, Zn and S as determined by XPS analysis.	124
Figure 4.1 (a)	X-ray diffractograms for CoS and Co _{1-x} Zn _x S (0 ≤ x ≤ 0.05) thin films.	142
Figure 4.1 (b)	X-ray diffractograms for CoS and Co _{1-x} Zn _x S (0.075 ≤ x ≤ 0.2) thin films.	143
Figure 4.1 (c)	X-ray diffractograms for CoS and Co _{1-x} Zn _x S (0.25 ≤ x ≤ 0.4) thin films.	144
Figure 4.2	Shifting of (101) peak position as a function of Zn-content in the Co _{1-x} Zn _x S thin films.	145

Figure 4.3 (a)	Variation in the lattice parameters (a and c) with the film composition (x).	147
Figure 4.3 (b)	d-spacing and intensity of (101) peak as a function of composition parameter (x).	147
Figure 4.4 (a)	FTIR spectra of CoS and Co _{1-x} Zn _x S (0 ≤ x ≤ 0.1) thin films.	150
Figure 4.4 (b)	FTIR spectra of the Co _{1-x} Zn _x S (0.15 ≤ x ≤ 0.4) thin films.	151
Figure 4.5 (a)	SEM micrographs revealing effect of temperature on CoS thin film growth.	154
Figure 4.5 (b)	SEM micrographs revealing effect of substrate rotation on CoS thin film growth.	155
Figure 4.5 (c)	SEM micrographs revealing effect of time on CoS thin film growth.	156
Figure 4.5 (d)	SEM micrographs emphasizing effect of NH ₃ on CoS thin film growth.	158
Figure 4.5 (e)	SEM micrographs emphasizing effect of TEA on CoS thin film growth.	159
Figure 4.6 (a)	SEM micrographs of the as-grown Co _{1-x} Zn _x S (0 ≤ x ≤ 0.1) samples.	161
Figure 4.6 (b)	SEM micrographs of the as-grown Co _{1-x} Zn _x S (0.15 ≤ x ≤ 0.4) samples.	162
Figure 4.7 (a)	FESEM micrographs of the as-grown Co _{1-x} Zn _x S (0 ≤ x ≤ 0.1) samples.	164
Figure 4.7 (b)	FESEM micrographs of the as-grown Co _{1-x} Zn _x S (0.15 ≤ x ≤ 0.4) samples.	165
Figure 4.8 (a)	AFM topographs highlighting the effect of deposition temperature on CoS film growth.	168
Figure 4.8 (b)	AFM topographs highlighting the effect of substrate rotation on CoS film growth.	169
Figure 4.8 (c)	AFM topographs highlighting the effect of deposition time on CoS film growth.	170
Figure 4.8 (d)	AFM topographs highlighting the effect of NH ₃ concentration on CoS film growth.	171
Figure 4.8 (e)	AFM topographs highlighting the effect of TEA concentration on CoS film growth.	172
Figure 4.9 (a)	AFM topographs of CoS and Co _{1-x} Zn _x S (0 ≤ x ≤ 0.1) thin films.	174

Figure 4.9 (b)	AFM topographs of $\text{Co}_{1-x}\text{Zn}_x\text{S}$ ($0.15 \leq x \leq 0.4$) thin films.	175
Figure 4.10	Plots emphasizing interrelation between RMS roughness and Angle of contact as a function of the composition parameter (x).	176
Figure 4.11 (a)	MFPM topographs revealing the effect of deposition temperature on CoS film growth	179
Figure 4.11 (b)	MFPM topographs revealing the effect of substrate rotation on CoS film growth.	180
Figure 4.11 (c)	MFPM topographs revealing the effect of deposition time on CoS film growth.	181
Figure 4.11 (d)	MFPM topographs revealing the effect of NH_3 concentration on CoS film growth.	182
Figure 4.11 (e)	MFPM topographs revealing the effect of TEA concentration on CoS film growth.	183
Figure 4.12 (a)	MFPM topographs for various CoS and $\text{Co}_{1-x}\text{Zn}_x\text{S}$ ($0 \leq x \leq 0.1$) thin films.	184
Figure 4.12 (b)	MFPM topographs for various $\text{Co}_{1-x}\text{Zn}_x\text{S}$ ($0.15 \leq x \leq 0.4$) thin films.	185
Figure 5.1	Variation of the absorbance vs wavelength (λ) for six representative Co-Zn-S thin film structures.	206
Figure 5.2	Variation of the absorption coefficient (α) vs wavelength (λ) for six representative Co-Zn-S thin film structures.	208
Figure 5.3	Composition dependence of the absorption coefficient (α) at 700 nm and 900 nm wavelengths.	210
Figure 5.4 (a)	$(\alpha h\nu)^2$ vs $h\nu$ plots for CoS and $\text{Co}_{1-x}\text{Zn}_x\text{S}$ ($0 \leq x \leq 0.1$) thin films.	211
Figure 5.4 (b)	$(\alpha h\nu)^2$ vs $h\nu$ plots for CoS and $\text{Co}_{1-x}\text{Zn}_x\text{S}$ ($0.15 \leq x \leq 0.4$) thin films.	212
Figure 5.5	Variation in the optical band gap (E_g) with the composition parameter (x).	213
Figure 5.6	Plots of $\ln(\alpha h\nu)$ vs $\ln(h\nu - E_g)$ for the determination of transition index.	214
Figure 5.7	Variation of an electrical conductivity with working temperature for few of the representative Co-Zn-S thin films.	218

Figure 5.8	Plots of $\log (\sigma T^{1/2})$ versus $100/T^{1/4}$ for seven representative CoS and $\text{Co}_{1-x}\text{Zn}_x\text{S}$ thin films.	220
Figure 5.9	Variation in electrical conductivity (σ) with the film composition parameter (x).	222
Figure 5.10	Plots depicting correlation between lattice parameters (a and c) and conductivity over the whole range of the composition ($0 \leq x \leq 0.4$).	223
Figure 5.11	Plots of variation in thermoelectric power with working temperature for CoS and $\text{Co}_{1-x}\text{Zn}_x\text{S}$ thin films.	225
Figure 5.12	Variation in thermoelectric power with the Zn concentration in CoS and $\text{Co}_{1-x}\text{Zn}_x\text{S}$ films.	226
Figure 5.13	Variation in carrier concentration (n) with the film composition parameter (x).	227
Figure 5.14	Variation in mobility (μ) with Zn concentration in CoS and $\text{Co}_{1-x}\text{Zn}_x\text{S}$ thin films.	228
Figure 5.15	Plots of $\log (\mu T^{1/2})$ versus $1000/T$ for six representative CoS and $\text{Co}_{1-x}\text{Zn}_x\text{S}$ thin film samples.	230
Figure 5.16	The variation in photosensitivity for CoS and various $\text{Co}_{1-x}\text{Zn}_x\text{S}$ thin films.	233
Figure 5.17	The variation of photosensitivity as a function of the film composition (x).	233
Figure 6.1	A semiconductor-electrolyte interface (Stern model).	249
Figure 6.2	Magnified electrode /electrolyte interface highlighting Helmholtz layer.	250
Figure 6.3	Energy band diagram for an n-type semiconductor before and after the equilibration of Fermi levels at the interface and the appearance of band bending and the space charge layer (SCL).	252
Figure 6.4	An equivalent circuit diagram for semiconductor-electrolyte interface showing the presence of surface states and surface adsorbed ions.	254
Figure 6.5	An electron energy level diagram for n-S/E interface under illumination and biasing voltage 'V'.	259
Figure 6.6	The current-voltage characteristics of the electrochemical PV-cells formed with the photoelectrodes of different compositions (x) (in dark).	270
Figure 6.7	Plots of $\log I$ versus V for different PV- cells.	271

Figure 6.8	Variation of C^{-2} vs. V for all the PV- cells to determine the flat band potential, V_{fb} .	273
Figure 6.9	A plot of V_{fb} vs. composition parameter (x).	274
Figure 6.10	Typical plots of $\log (I_0/T^2)$ with $1000/T$ for various cells.	275
Figure 6.11	Power output curves for various PV-cells comprising various electrode compositions (x).	277
Figure 6.12	The action spectra for typical cells formed with the CoS and $Co_{1-x}Zn_xS$ photoelectrodes.	279
Figure 6.13	Typical rise and decay nature of V_{oc} with time for the PV cells.	280
