

Physics of magnetism in GaN doped with transition metals

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We summarise here our work aiming at elucidating the physics of magnetism in the two dilute magnetic semiconductors (Ga,Mn)N and (Ga,Fe)N and at demonstrating the unanticipated effects of the co-doping of these systems with donors (Si) and acceptors (Mg). According to our experimental and theoretical studies, the ferromagnetism of (Ga,Mn)N is driven by ferromagnetic superexchange between diluted Mn³⁺ ions [1]. Here the co-doping with Si results in Mn²⁺, whose coupling is antiferromagnetic, whereas Mg co-doping leads to the formation of Mn-Mg_k complexes that show room temperature luminescence relevant for optoelectronic applications [2]. In contrast to Mn, the Fe cations aggregate at the growth surface, a process that can be controlled by Si and Mg co-doping, as observed experimentally and confirmed by *ab initio* studies [3]. This aggregation accounts for the formation of either ferromagnetic or antiferromagnetic Fe-rich nanocrystals, whose position can be predefined by the structure design and growth conditions [3,4].

References:

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