

Photoelectrochemical Self-Powered Solar-Blind Photodetectors Based on Ga₂O₃ Nanorod Array/Electrolyte Solid/Liquid Heterojunctions with a Large Separation Interface of Photogenerated Carriers

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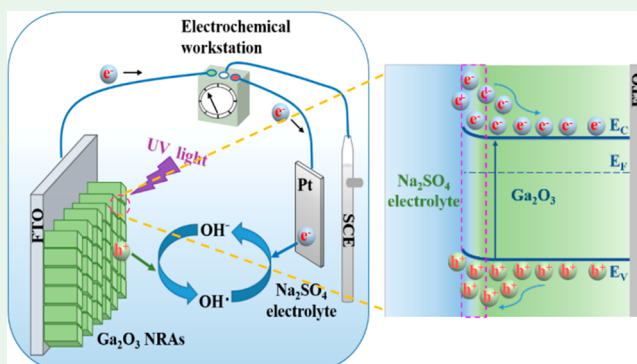
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ABSTRACT: Solar-blind photodetectors have been widely developed because of their great potential application in biological analysis, ultraviolet communication, and so on. Photodetectors constructed by vertically aligned nanorod arrays (NRAs), have attracted intensive interest recently owing to the virtues of low light reflectivity and rapid electron transport. However, limited by the insufficient contact between the upper electrode and NRAs because of uneven NRAs, photogenerated carriers cannot be effectively separated and transferred. In this work, a novel photoelectrochemical (PEC) type self-powered solar-blind photodetectors constructed in the form of Ga₂O₃ NRAs/electrolyte solid/liquid heterojunction with a large photogenerated carrier separation interface has been fabricated, β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs PEC photodetector shows a photoresponsivity of 3.81 mA/W at a bias voltage of 0 V under the 254 nm light illumination with the light intensity of 2.8 mW/cm², thus yielding a $I_{\text{photo}}/I_{\text{dark}}$ ratio of 28.97 and an external quantum efficiency of 1.86%. Our results provide a novel device structure of solar-blind photodetector with high efficient deep-ultraviolet photodetection and low power consumption.

KEYWORDS: Ga₂O₃ NRAs, solar-blind photodetectors, self-powered, photoelectrochemical, solid–liquid heterojunction



1. INTRODUCTION

Solar-blind photodetectors have attracted vast attention because of their all-weather operation environment and accurate detection rate in biological analysis, environmental monitoring, ultraviolet communication, solar-blind imaging, and many other fields.^{1–4} To date, various ultrawide band gap semiconductors such as AlGaN,⁵ ZnMgO,⁶ diamond,⁷ Ga₂O₃,^{8,9} etc., have been employed to fabricate solar-blind photodetectors. Among these materials, Ga₂O₃ is a natural choice for use in solar-blind photodetectors^{10–12} due to the virtues of direct bandgap of ~4.9 eV which is in the solar-blind region. It could be directly used with the necessity to tune the band gap in avoiding phase separation and alloy composition fluctuations.^{5,6,8–12}

A modern solar-blind photodetectors with low energy consumption and 5S (high sensitivity, high spectral selectivity, high signal-to-noise ratio, high speed, high stability) are pursued by researchers.^{2,13–19} Various nanostructures materials

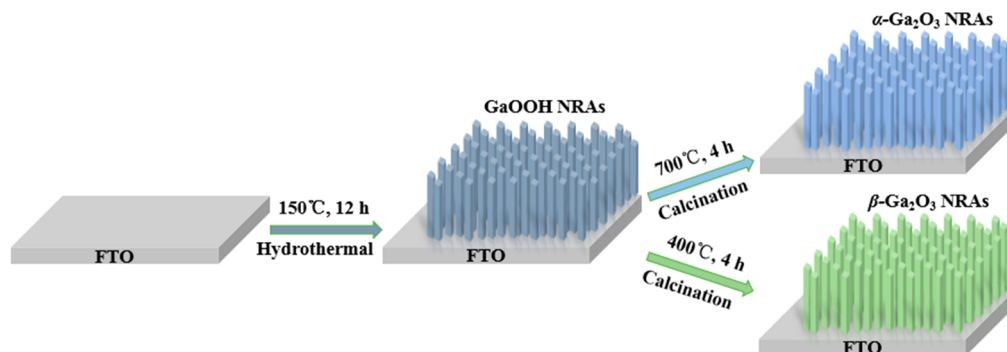
such as nanoparticles,^{20,21} nanowires,^{22,23} films,^{9,24,25} and aligned nanorod arrays (NRAs)^{26–28} have been used to construct the photosensitive layers for solar-blind photodetectors. The one-dimensional vertical NRAs is in particular preferred thanks to its massive surface-to-volume ratio, low light reflectivity and efficient coupling with incident light, which can provide a fast channel for the photogenerated carriers transport.²⁹ Recently, the graphene/vertical Ga₂O₃ nanowire array heterojunction for the solar-blind deep-ultraviolet photodetection has been fabricated.³⁰ However, the photogenerated carriers can not be separated and transferred effectively because the graphene electrode only contacts with part of the upper end of the nanorods due to uneven NRAs. Compared with those conventional photo-

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Scheme 1. Schematic Illustration of the Fabrication Process of Ga₂O₃ NRAs

detectors which must be powered by an external power source, self-powered photodetectors can work without an external power supply and meet the requirements of lightweight, small size, and low power consumption. It has been demonstrated that the self-powered photodetector can be realized by using the *p-n* junction,^{31–33} Schottky junction,^{34,35} heterojunction,³⁶ and photoelectrochemical (PEC) cell.^{37,38} Among them, the Ga₂O₃-based self-powered solar-blind photodetector belonging to family of PEC devices exhibits great promise in due to its large contact area of solid/liquid interface and low-cost, simple manufacturing process.

In this paper, α and β phases Ga₂O₃ vertically aligned NRAs were synthesized by a combined hydrothermal and post-annealed method. A novel PEC self-powered solar-blind photodetector was then assembled by separately using the α and β phases of Ga₂O₃ NRAs as the active photoanodes. The β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs-based device shows a higher photosensitivity and a faster photoresponse time than the α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs-based device. This work provides a novel device structure of solar-blind photodetector with high efficient deep-ultraviolet photodetection and low power consumption.

2. EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS

2.1. Material Synthesis. The details of GaOOH NRAs synthesis were described in previous work.¹⁵ The α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs were obtained by annealing GaOOH NRAs at 400 and 700 °C, respectively, in atmospheric environment for 4 h. The schematic illustration of the Ga₂O₃ NRAs synthesis is shown in Scheme 1.

2.2. Materials Characterization. The morphologies were characterized on a field-emission scanning electron microscope (FESEM) and a transmission electron microscope (TEM). The crystalline structure was examined on a X-ray diffractometer (XRD) and ultraviolet–visible (UV–vis) absorption spectra. The surface compositions checked on a X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) can be referred to in our previous work.¹⁵ The Raman spectra were measured on a LabRam HR high resolution spectrometer equipped with a microscope. Fourier-transform infrared (FTIR) spectra were measured on a Nicolet 5700 FT-IR spectrometer. Photoluminescence (PL) spectra were recorded with an excitation wavelength of 266 nm.

2.3. Device Measurements. The electrical characterization was carried out in a three-electrode configuration on a CHI 760E electrochemical workstation (Chenhua Instrument Company, China). The Ga₂O₃ NRAs grown on FTO substrate was used as the working electrode, platinum foil (10 × 15 mm²) as counter electrode and saturated calomel electrode (SCE) as reference electrode. A 254 nm UV lamp with a power of 7 W was used as the illumination source. A 0.5 M Na₂SO₄ aqueous solution was used as the electrolyte. The active area of Ga₂O₃ NRAs/FTO photoanode was fixed at 1 cm². The Mott–Schottky (M–S) plots and electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) measurements were carried out at 1.0 kHz in dark.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Morphology and Crystal Structure of Ga₂O₃ NRAs. The top-view and cross-sectional FESEM of as-grown α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs are shown in Figure 1(a) and (b), respectively.

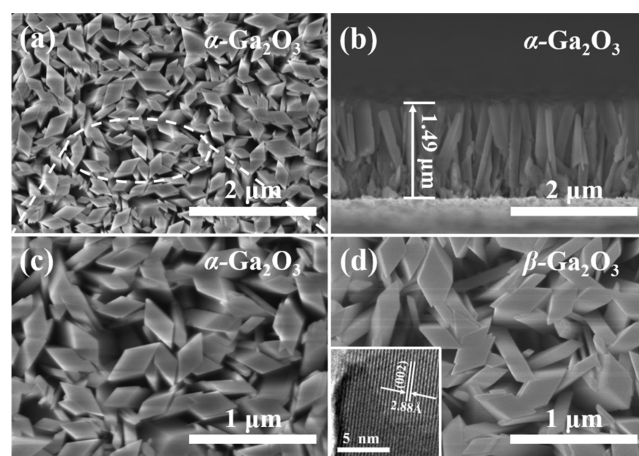


Figure 1. Top views of FESEM images at low (a) and high (c) magnification of α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs grown on the FTO substrate. (b) Cross-sectional FESEM image of α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs. (d) The top view of β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs at high magnification. The inset shows HR-TEM image of β -Ga₂O₃ nanorod.

The nanorod has an average length of 1.49 μ m and a diameter ranging from 100 to 500 nm. The tips of nanorods are diamond-shaped and has not been affected by the postannealing seen from the top-view FESEM of α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs, as shown in Figure 1(c) and (d), respectively. As is shown in the inset of Figure 1(d), the spacing between two adjacent lattice fringes was calculated to be 0.288 nm, which corresponds to that of the β -Ga₂O₃ (002) plane, confirming formation of the monoclinic structure.^{38,39}

Figure 2(a) shows the typical XRD patterns of the FTO/GaOOH, FTO/ α -Ga₂O₃ and FTO/ β -Ga₂O₃, respectively. Impurity SnO₂ peak, which is arisen from the FTO substrate, is observed. Besides the peaks from FTO/GaOOH, two peaks located at 36.0°, 64.7° were observed in FTO/ α -Ga₂O₃, which correspond to the (110) and (300) planes of α -Ga₂O₃ with a trigonal structure (JCPDS file No.06–0180). The α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs show a preferred growth orientation perpendicular to (110) plane. Three diffraction peaks arising from the (002), (111), and (401) planes of β -Ga₂O₃ with a monoclinic structure (JCPDS file No.43–1012) were found at 31.7°, 35.3°, and 37.9°. The sharp and intense diffraction peak of

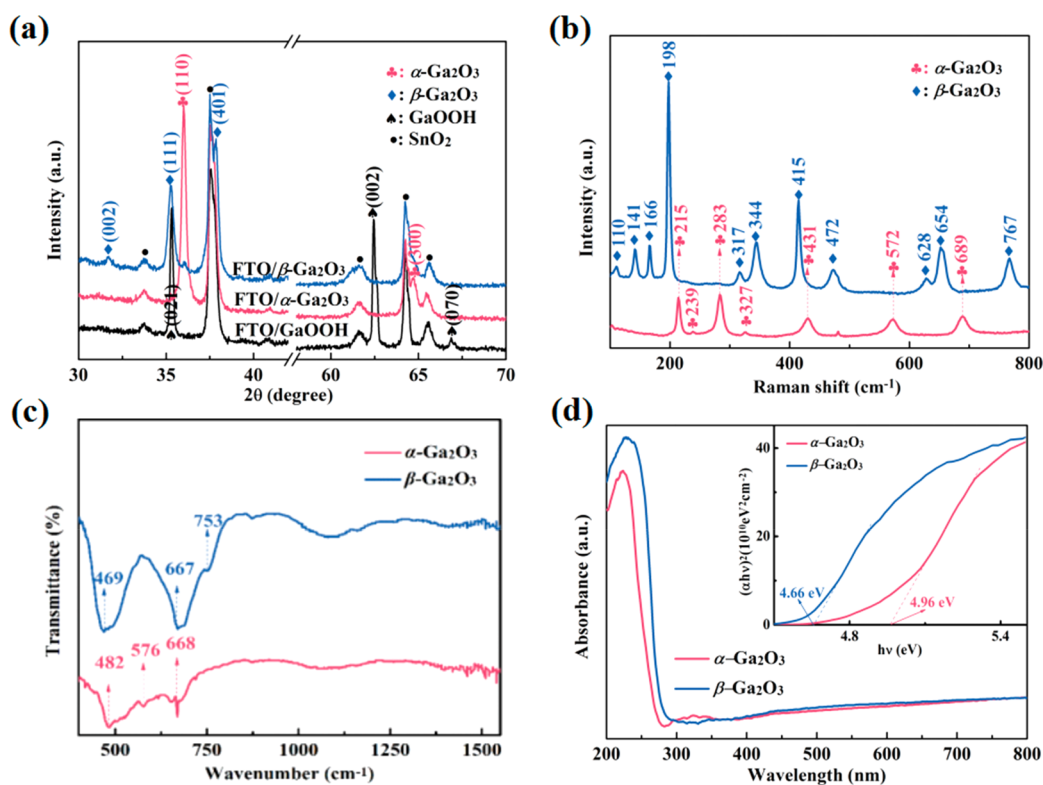


Figure 2. (a) XRD patterns of the FTO/GaOOH NRAs, FTO/ α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs, and FTO/ β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs. (b) Raman and (c) FTIR spectra of α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ nanorods. (d) The absorption spectra of α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ nanorods, insert is the plot of $(\alpha h\nu)^2$ versus the light energy ($h\nu$).

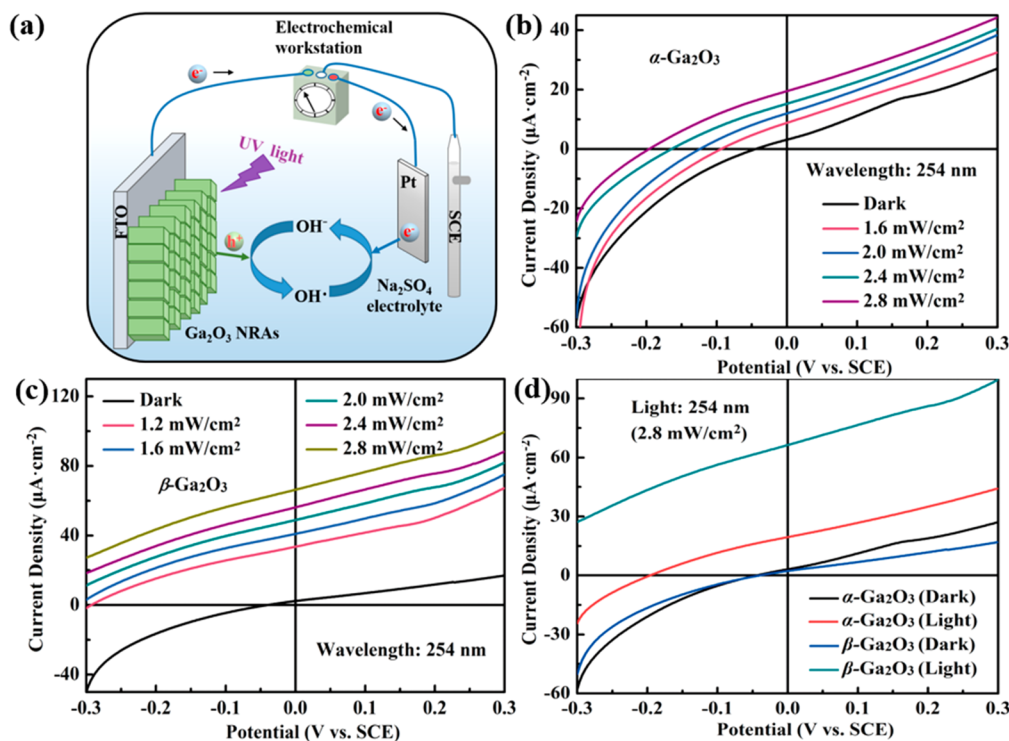


Figure 3. (a) Structural diagram of Ga₂O₃ NRAs PEC photodetectors. LSV curves of (b) α -Ga₂O₃ and (c) β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs PEC photodetector in dark and under the 254 nm light illumination with various light intensities. (d) The LSV curves of α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs photodetector are compared under the same conditions.

the (111) plane indicates that the β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs are grown along the (111) crystal plane. The XRD result indicates that

GaOOH was converted to crystalline α -Ga₂O₃ or β -Ga₂O₃ during the post annealing process.

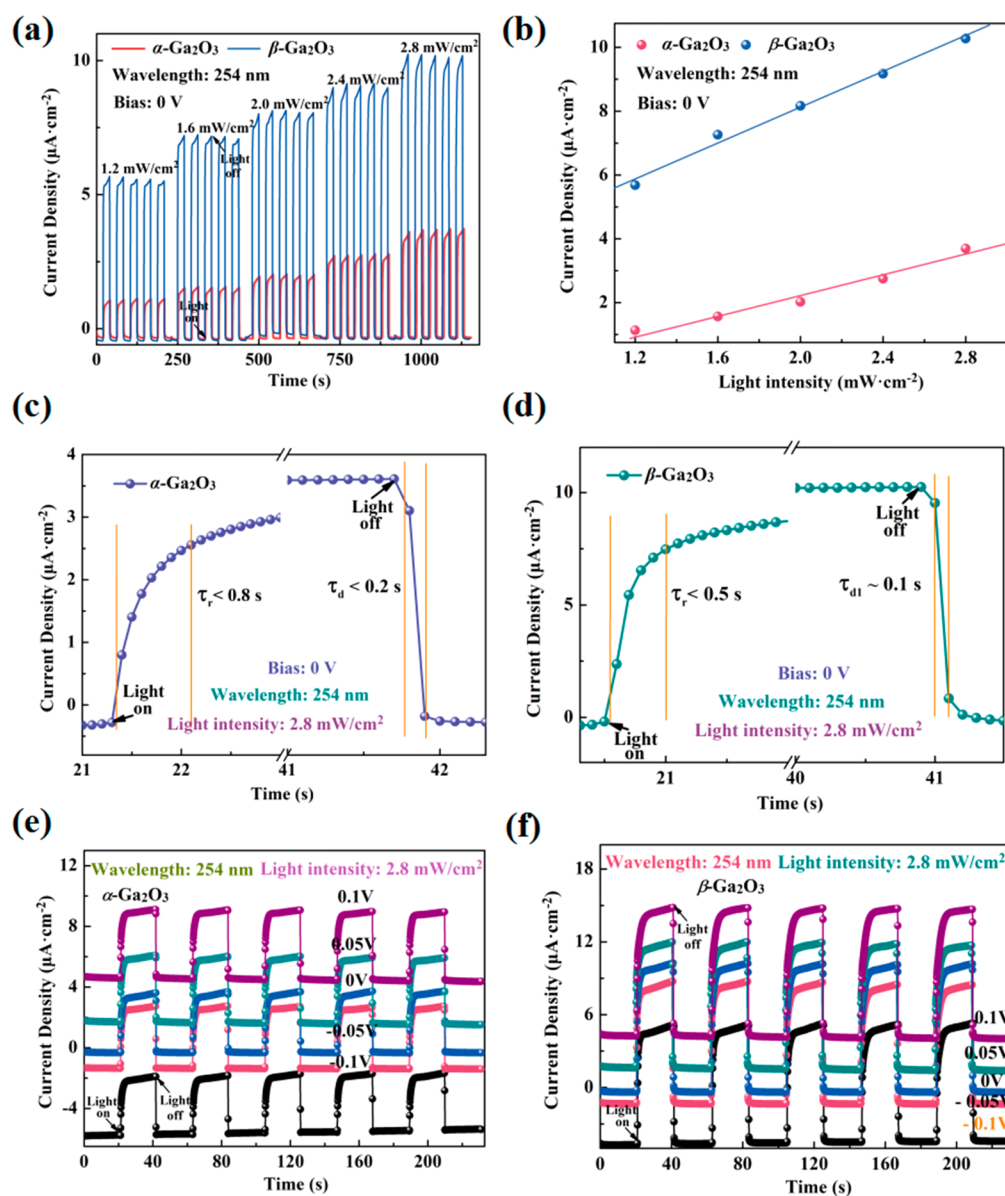


Figure 4. (a) I-t curves of the Ga_2O_3 NRAs PEC photodetectors for the 254 nm light illumination with various light intensities at 0 V vs SCE. (b) The relationship between the light intensity and photocurrent. Rise time and decay time of (c) $\alpha\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ and (d) $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ NRAs PEC photodetectors at 0 V vs SCE under the 254 nm light illumination with the light intensity of 2.8 mW/cm^2 . Photoresponse switching behaviors of (e) $\alpha\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ and (f) $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ NRAs PEC photodetectors at various applied bias.

The trigonal $\alpha\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ with the space group of the R_{3c} symmetry consists of GaO_6 octahedra. While monoclinic $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ in the C_{2h} space group contains of both GaO_6 octahedra and GaO_4 tetrahedra.⁴⁰ The Raman spectra of the $\alpha\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ and $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ nanorods are shown in Figure 2(b). Seven frequencies of 215, 239, 283, 327, 431, 572, and 689 cm^{-1} are detected for the sample annealed at 400°C , which could be assigned to $\alpha\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$.⁴¹ While for the sample annealed at 700°C , 11 active modes at 110, 141, 166, 198, 317, 344, 415, 472, 628, 654, and 767 cm^{-1} appeared, corresponding to the characteristic peaks of $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$.⁴⁰ The strong peaks centered at 667 and 753 cm^{-1} of FTIR spectra in Figure 2(c) are attributed to the contraction vibrations of Ga–O bonds in the lattice formed by the GaO_6 octahedra and the regular GaO_4 tetrahedra of $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ nanorods, respectively.^{42,43} While a broad band peak of $\alpha\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ nanorods centered at 668 cm^{-1} resulted from the Ga–O vibrations of GaO_6 octahedra.^{44,45}

These results of Raman and FTIR spectra consistent with the XRD results indicate the formation of α - and $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ when annealed the sample at 400 and 700°C , respectively.

The band gaps of $\alpha\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ and $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ are calculated from the UV–vis absorbance spectra presented in Figure 2(d) and its inset. The absorption edge of $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ is at $\sim 266 \text{ nm}$ and that of $\alpha\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ exhibits a blue shift. The band gaps of $\alpha\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ and $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ are ~ 4.96 and 4.66 eV respectively estimated from the curves of $(\alpha h\nu)^2$ versus $h\nu$. Both of them are capable of absorbing the deep ultraviolet light, which are promising candidate materials for solar-blind photodetection.

3.2. Photoelectric Characteristic of Ga_2O_3 NRAs PEC Solar-Blind Photodetectors. The schematic illustration for measuring the photoelectric properties of the Ga_2O_3 NRAs PEC photodetectors by using the three-electrode system is presented in Figure 3(a). The typical linear sweep voltammetry (LSV) curves of $\alpha\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ and $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ NRAs photodetectors

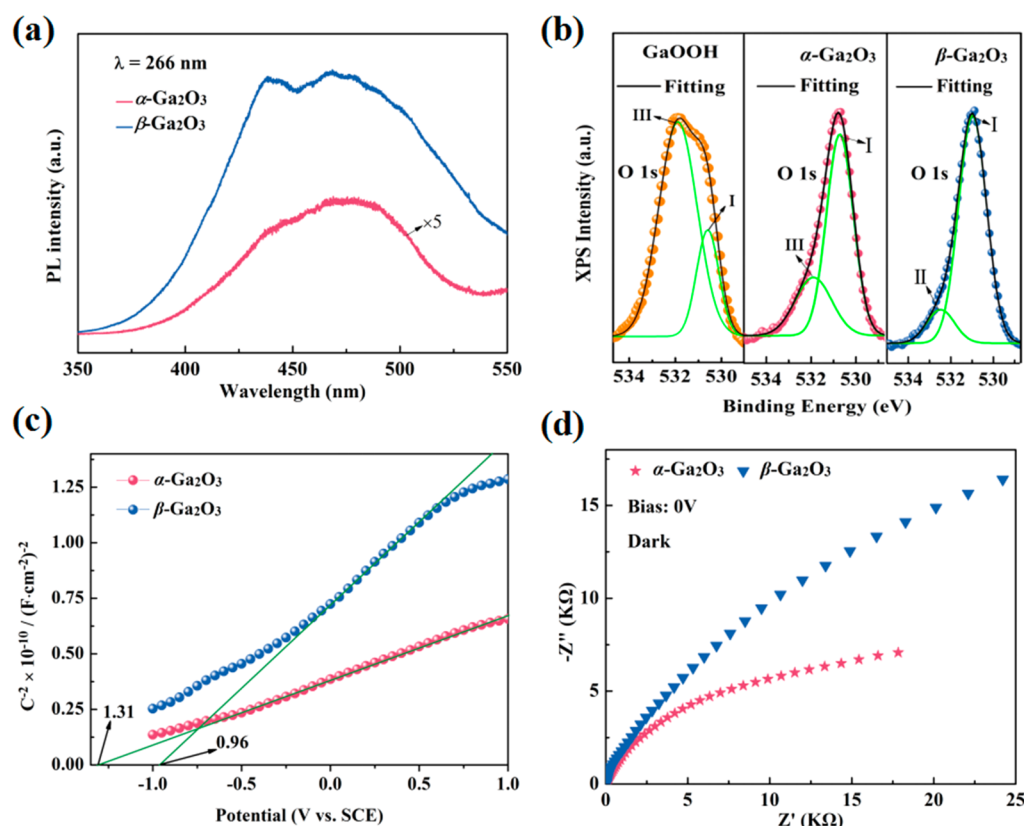


Figure 5. (a) The PL spectra of the α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ nanorods excited by 266 nm laser. (b) XPS spectra of O 1s core levels in GaOOH, α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs and β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs respectively. (b) M - S plots of α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs were measured at a frequency of 1.0 kHz in an aqueous solution of 0.5 M Na₂SO₄. (c) The EIS plots of α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs were measured from 100 kHz to 0.01 Hz at 0 V vs SCE in dark.

are visible in Figure 3(b) and (c), respectively. Dark current densities show typical rectification characteristics, which can be attributed to the energy band bending of Ga₂O₃ NRAs at the interface of solid/liquid. With the increase of the light intensity from 1.6 to 2.8 mW/cm², the photocurrent density of α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs photodetector was increased gradually from 8.80 to 19.49 μ A/cm² under the bias of 0 V. While for the β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs photodetector, the photocurrent density could be increased from 41.14 to 66.34 μ A/cm². The above experimental results demonstrated that the device can work without external power supply. Seeing from the LSV curves in Figure 3(d), the dark current densities of α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs photodetectors are approximately 3.15 μ A/cm² and 2.29 μ A/cm² at 0 V, respectively. The light/dark ratio ($I_{\text{light}}/I_{\text{dark}}$) of β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs photodetector is 28.97 under the 254 nm light illumination with the light intensity of 2.8 mW/cm², which is about 4.7 times the value of α -Ga₂O₃. The above results demonstrated that the β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs photodetector is more photosensitive to solar-blind deep-ultraviolet light than the α -Ga₂O₃ devices.

The time-resolved photoresponse was performed under the illumination of 254 nm light by a switching on/off interval of 20 s at 0 V, as displayed in Figure 4(a). Both the α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs PEC photodetectors perform stably and reproducibly. Meanwhile, the photocurrent increases linearly with the increase of the light intensity, seen in Figure 4(b). The Ga₂O₃ NRAs PEC photodetectors exhibit a maximal photocurrent under the 254 nm light irradiation with the incident light intensity of 2.8 mW/cm². The calculated

photoresponsivity (R_{λ}) and external quantum efficiency (EQE) are 1.44 mA/W and 0.70% for the α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs PEC photodetectors, respectively.^{46,47} Whereas for the β -Ga₂O₃ devices, R_{λ} and EQE are 3.81 mA/W and 1.86%, respectively.

Figure 4(c) and (d) enlarge the view of the rising and decaying edges of the photoresponse to the 2.8 mW/cm² 254 nm light irradiation at 0 V. The rise time (τ_r) is defined as the time required for the current rising from 10% to 90% of the maximum, and the decay time (τ_d) is the time taken by the photocurrent decreasing from 90% of the maximum to 10%.⁴⁸ The τ_r of α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs PEC photodetectors are shorter than 0.5 s and 0.3, s respectively, and both of the τ_d are less than 0.2 s.

Meanwhile, the photoelectric performance of the PEC photodetectors can be apparently improved by the applied bias. The photoresponse curves of α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs PEC photodetectors under various applied bias were obtained, seen in Figure 4(e) and (f). When the applied bias was increased from -0.1 to 0.1 V, both the dark current and photocurrent were clearly increased. For the β -Ga₂O₃ photodetector, the photocurrent is 14.82 μ A/cm² at 0.1 V, which is 2.87 times the value of that at -0.1 V. The improved photocurrent by the external bias potential can be attributed to the more effective separation of electron-hole pairs.

3.3. The Working Mechanism Analysis of Ga₂O₃ NRAs PEC Photodetectors. The room-temperature PL spectra of the α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ nanorods excited by 266 nm laser are depicted in Figure 5(a). Both of them show a broad visible

Table 1. Comparison of the Photoelectric Performance of the Ga₂O₃NRAs PEC Photodetectors in This Work and the PEC Self-Powered Photodetectors Reported by Others

photoelectrode	condition	electrolyte type	electrode system	rise time (s)	decay time (s)	$I_{\text{light}}/I_{\text{dark}}$ ratios	photoresponsivity (mA/W)	efficiency (%)	reference
ZnO NRs	250–600 nm (100 mW/cm ²), 0 V	Na ₂ SO ₄	3-electrode	4.9	134.3	7			54
TiO ₂ NRAs	365 nm (3 mW/cm ²), 0 V	Na ₂ SO ₄	3-electrode	<0.1	<0.1	6	5		55
ZnO NRAs/G/Cu ₂ O	365 nm (0.5 mW/cm ²), 0 V	Na ₂ SO ₄	3-electrode	0.006	0.006	3.5	21.2		56
ZnO NRs	385 nm (1.25 mW/cm ²), 0 V	water	2-electrode	0.1	0.1		22		57
TiO ₂ NRAs	365 nm (1.25 mW/cm ²), 0 V	water	2-electrode	0.15	0.05		25 at 350 nm		58
α -Ga ₂ O ₃ NRAs	254 nm (0.4 mW/cm ²), 0 V	NaOH	2-electrode	0.076	0.056		0.21		59
α -Ga ₂ O ₃ NRAs	254 nm (2.8 mW/cm ²), 0 V	Na ₂ SO ₄	3-electrode	0.43	0.17	6.19	1.44	0.70	this work
β -Ga ₂ O ₃ NRAs	254 nm (2.8 mW/cm ²), 0 V	Na ₂ SO ₄	3-electrode	0.29	0.16	28.97	3.81	1.86	

emission band from 380 to 550 nm, which is usually attributed to oxygen vacancies.⁴⁹ It can be observed that the PL intensity of β -Ga₂O₃ nanorods is much stronger than that of α -Ga₂O₃ due to the more oxygen vacancies.

Figure 5(b) shows the O 1s core level peaks of the GaOOH, α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs, which can be marked as peak I, II, and III. The peak I centered at about 530.7 eV is arisen from the O 1s core level in the Ga₂O₃, the peak II at 532.5 eV is associated with defect sites with a low oxygen coordination such as oxygen vacancies, while the peak III at 531.9 eV is associated with surface adsorbed or chemisorbed hydroxy species. The main peak of III can be found in GaOOH due to the hydroxyl, while the main peak of both α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs is I because of Ga–O bonding. The stronger peak of III in α -Ga₂O₃ is due to that there are many hydroxy species adsorbed or chemisorbed at the surface with a lower temperature annealing, while the stronger peak of II in β -Ga₂O₃ is caused by the more oxygen vacancies. The result of XPS is consistent with that of PL.

To further understand the conductivity and the charge transport properties of the Ga₂O₃ NRAs, M – S plots were obtained in a 0.5 M Na₂SO₄ aqueous solution, seen in Figure 5(c). The capacitance of the space charge region between semiconductor and electrolyte can be quantified by the M – S equation:^{50,51}

$$1/C^2 = (2/e\epsilon\epsilon_0 N_D)[(V - V_{\text{FB}}) - kT/e] \quad (1)$$

where C is the capacitance of the space charge layer, ϵ represents the relative permittivity of the semiconductor (ϵ of Ga₂O₃ is 10), and e , ϵ_0 , k , V , and T represent the electron charge, the vacuum permittivity, the Boltzmann constant, the applied potential, and the absolute temperature, respectively. The kT/e item is often neglected because of the extremely small value. The flat band potential (V_{FB}) can be estimated through an extrapolation of the M – S plots. The concentration of donors (N_D) can be calculated from the slope of the MS plots using the following equation:^{52,53}

$$N_D = (2/e\epsilon\epsilon_0)[d(1/C^2)/dV]^{-1} \quad (2)$$

The positive slope of the plots indicates that Ga₂O₃ is an n -type semiconductor. The estimated V_{FB} of α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ are -1.31 V and -0.96 V (vs. SCE), respectively. The corresponding N_D of α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ are 4.88×10^{19} cm⁻³, 1.97×10^{19} cm⁻³, respectively. The larger carrier

concentration in α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs leads to a larger dark current of the α -Ga₂O₃ photodetector than that of the β -Ga₂O₃ device.

Figure 5(d) shows the EIS plots of the α -Ga₂O₃ and β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs measured at 0 V vs. SCE in dark. The α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs PEC photodetector has a smaller radius than that of the β -Ga₂O₃ device, indicating that the faster transport of electrons at the interface of α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs/electrolyte. The result is consistent with the those derived from the LSV and M – S measurements.

Table 1 lists the parameters of the Ga₂O₃NRAs PEC photodetectors in this work and those of the PEC self-powered photodetectors reported by others.^{54–59} Most of the previously reported PEC self-powered photodetectors are constructed by using the wide bandgap semiconductor materials, such as ZnO and TiO₂, which are photosensitive to the ultraviolet illumination, for example, by using the light with the wavelength of 365 nm.^{54–58} The $I_{\text{light}}/I_{\text{dark}}$ ratio of our PEC photodetector based on β -Ga₂O₃ NRAs is larger than those previously reported, though other parameters are comparable. Recently, Zhang et al. reported a self-powered solar-blind PEC photodetector based on α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs, which shows a fast photoresponse to the UV light of 254 nm with a rise time of 0.076 s and decay time of 0.056 s.⁵⁹ However, the photoresponsivity of their device is only 0.21 mA/W. Our β -Ga₂O₃NRAs PEC photodetector shows a photoresponsivity of 3.81 mA/W at 0 V under the illumination of 254 nm light, which is 18 times larger than their value. Although the α -Ga₂O₃ NRAs PEC photodetector exhibits a poorer photoelectric performance than the β -Ga₂O₃ device in our study, the photoresponsivity is also nearly 7 times larger than the value reported in ref 59.

Figure 6 illustrates the energy band diagram of the Ga₂O₃ NRAs PEC photodetectors. The redox potential of the electrolyte of Na₂SO₄ aqueous is lower than the Fermi level of the n -type Ga₂O₃ NRAs. When they contacts with each other, the space charge layer will form because of the charge distribution difference between the materials. A built-in electric field will then be generated between the Ga₂O₃ NRAs and Na₂SO₄ aqueous. When deep-ultraviolet light irradiate the Ga₂O₃ NRAs PEC photodetectors, the electrons of the valence band (VB) will be excited to the conduction band (CB), thus leaving the holes in the VB. The photogenerated holes in the VB of Ga₂O₃ will then gather at the interface of Ga₂O₃/electrolyte and capture the OH⁻ anions from the Na₂SO₄

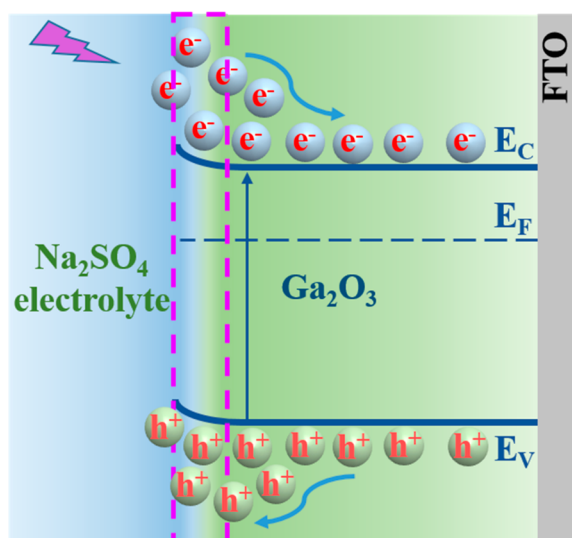


Figure 6. A schematic of the energy band at the Ga_2O_3 NRAs/electrolyte interface.

aqueous ($\text{h}^+ + \text{OH}^- \rightarrow \text{OH}^\cdot$), as shown in Figure 3(a). Meanwhile, the photogenerated electrons will transport onto the CB of Ga_2O_3 and then are collected by FTO substrate directly. The photogenerated electrons reduce radical OH^\cdot to the OH^- anions at the Pt/electrolyte interface ($\text{OH}^\cdot + \text{e}^- \rightarrow \text{OH}^-$).

4. CONCLUSIONS

To solve the inadequate contact problem between the upper electrode and NRAs, the PEC self-powered solar-blind photodetectors with a large separation interface of photogenerated carriers were assembled by using the $\alpha\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ or $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ NRAs as the active photoanode. The $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ NRAs PEC self-powered solar-blind photodetector shows a better photoelectric performance than that constructed by using the $\alpha\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ device. Under 254 nm light illumination with the light intensity of 2.8 mW/cm^2 , a R_λ of 3.81 mA/W , a $I_{\text{light}}/I_{\text{dark}}$ ratio of 28.97, and a photoresponse decay time less than 0.2 s, are obtained for the $\beta\text{-Ga}_2\text{O}_3$ NRAs/electrolyte solid–liquid heterojunction photodetector. These PEC self-powered solar-blind photodetectors based on Ga_2O_3 NRAs/electrolyte solid–liquid heterojunction with highly efficient electrons collection and low power consumption, are promising candidates for the future solar-blind photodetection.

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Notes

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