


Experiment title:

Coherent diffraction imaging using focussed X-ray beam of single crystalline InP nanocrystals selectively grown on nanotip-patterned Si wafers

Experiment number:

MA-3063

Beamline:

ID01

Date of experiment:

from: September 1st, 2016 to: September 6th 2016

Date of report:
Shifts:

15

Local contact(s):

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Received at ESRF:

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Report:

The samples consist in highly single crystalline InP nanocrystals, which were selectively grown on nanotip-patterned Si wafers. Due to the highly heterogeneous feature of InP/Si system, defects like dislocations, stacking faults (SFs), microtwins (μ -Tws) and anti-phase domains (APDs) can exist in epitaxial InP materials (see Fig. 1). The innovative Si nanotip approach providing nm-size Si crystalline seeds is expected to effectively decrease the crystalline defect density in InP crystals.

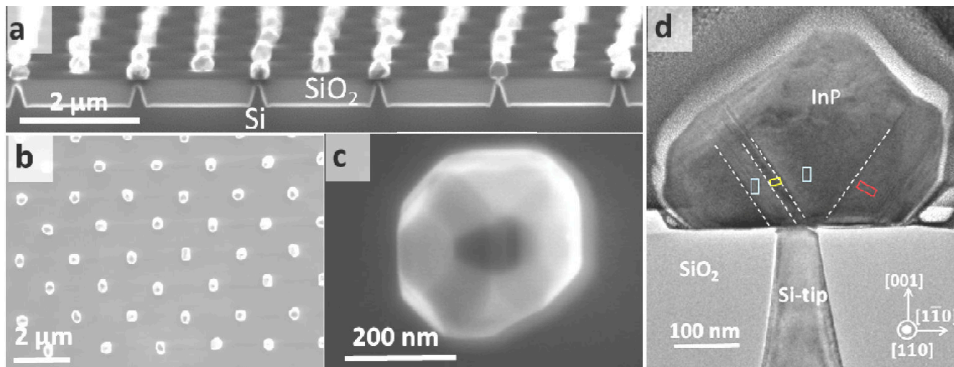


Fig. 1: SEM images of InP nanocrystals on the Si nanotip wafer (a) cross-sectional view; (b) plane-view; (c) plane view on a single island. (d) Cross-sectional TEM image of InP/Si-tip. The rectangles indicate the orientations of SFs and μ -Tws.

We succeeded to perform Bragg coherent diffraction imaging (Bragg-CDI) on single crystalline InP nanocrystals. The coherent X-ray beam, monochromatized to an energy of 8 keV, was focused down to a beam size of 100 nm (V) x 300 nm (H) using a Fresnel zone-plate at the ID01 beamline. We have recorded full three-dimensional (3D) rocking-curves in the vicinity of the the **002** InP Bragg reflection (Bragg angle of 15.2°). Figure 2 displays the 3D diffraction pattern of one selected InP nanocrystal. Interestingly, three well defined streaks are observed. Two of them are along $\langle 111 \rangle$ directions. Along these streaks, the thickness fringes lead to a distance of about 30 nm in real space, which is much smaller than the size of the particle (see Fig. 1c). These streaks may arise from $\{111\}$ stacking faults or μ -Tws, as displayed in Fig. 1d. The third one is an asymmetrical bent streak. This asymmetry is also a clear sign of a strong phase structure (hence, defect structure).

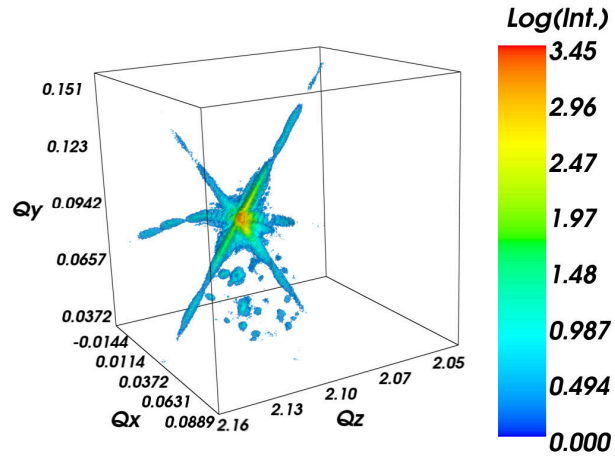


Fig. 2: 3D diffraction pattern of a selected InP nanocrystal displayed as a function of the reciprocal space coordinates (Q_x , Q_y and Q_z) in Angströms and measured at the **002** InP Bragg reflection.

Figure 3 displays the diffraction patterns of two crystalline InP nanocrystals as a function of Q_x , Q_y and Q_z reciprocal space coordinates. The diffraction patterns of these two nanoparticles show similarities: streaks along the same directions are observed in Figs. 3 (c-f) but with different sizes of thickness fringes, implying different sizes of $\{111\}$ -type defects.

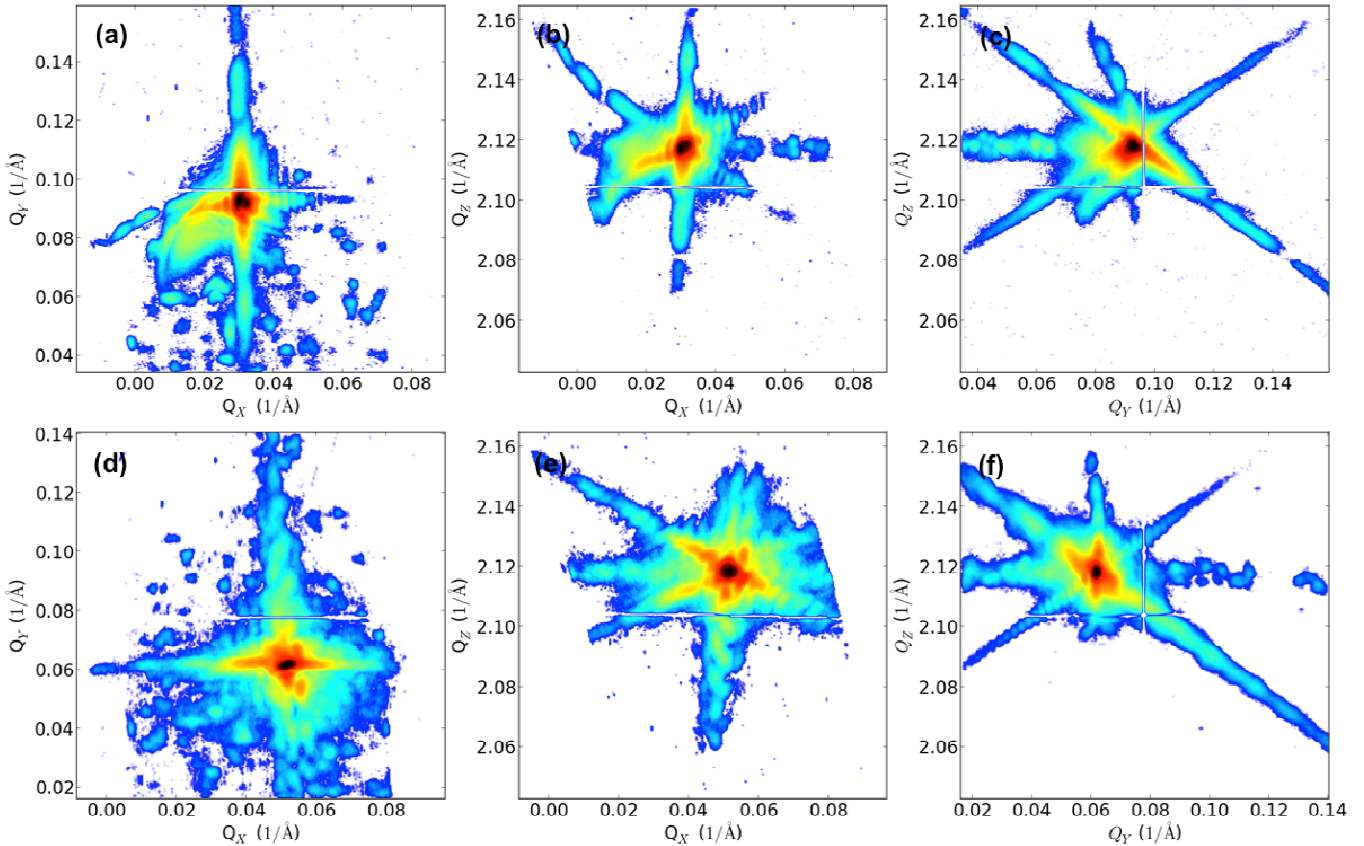


Fig. 3: Summed diffraction patterns displayed in the (Q_x, Q_y) (a, d), (Q_x, Q_z) (b, e) and (Q_y, Q_z) (c, f) of two InP nanocrystals, respectively.

Diffraction patterns of the sample are used to reconstruct the electron density and phase of the nanoislands to reveal stacking-faults and twins by iterative schemes. Work is in progress.