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Direct beam patterning on metal/protein/organic material coated ITO substrates is investigated using laser light for submicron scale lithography. A laser writing lithography method is developed using the 400nm Ti:Sapphire laser. Using a microscope objective lens, a laser beam is focused onto a glass slide coated with metal/protein/organic material film. Localized laser absorption results in partial melting and ablation of film. Spatially moving the laser spot, a stable etched pattern is obtained at submicron resolution. This result opens many possibilities for microfabrication of bioelectronic devices.

Keywords: direct beam lithography; laser; bioelectronic device

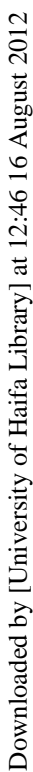
INTRODUCTION

Lithographic methods are at the heart of modern-day microfabrication, nanotechnology and molecular bioelectronic device^[1]. The method of direct beam lithography at a submicron scale has been developed. It can be used to create patterns on bioelectronic device surface. This method has simple but powerful tool for direct patterning on metal/protein/organic material film surface compared with another patterning method because the easy handling, high resolution and no wholly heating.

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amplifier (Clark MXR, CPA-1000) pumped by a Q-switched Nd:YAG laser (ORC-1000), a pulse stretcher/compressor, OPG-OPA system. A femtosecond Ti:sapphire oscillator pumped by a CW Nd:YVO₃ laser (Spectra physics, Millennia) produces a train of 60fs mode-locked pulses with an averaged power of 250mW at 800nm. The seed pulses from the oscillator were stretched (~250ps) and sent to a Ti:sapphire regenerative amplifier pumped by a Q-switched Nd:YAG laser operating at 1kHz. The wavelength of laser pulse through the BBO crystal has 400nm. Fig.1 shows the experimental setup of direct patterning system. The laser beam is focused to a spot on the MIM film surface using a microscope objective lens. Laser absorption results in local melting and ablation of the MIM film. The patterned surface was observed using optical microscope and Atomic Force Microscope (Autoprobe CP, PSI USA).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Figure 2 shows the surface image of patterned surface using an optical microscope of 400 magnification. Direct beam lithography has been performed with ca.0.5~1 μ m resolution trace leaves on the surface of proposed device.

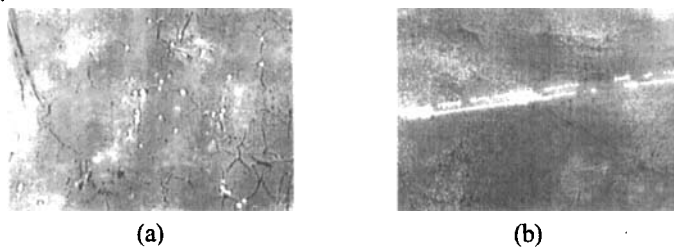


FIGURE 2. Optical microscopy image($\times 400$): a, spot ablation; b, patterned trace

White dot and white line indicates the patterned trace. The patterned point of MIM film surface observed with 1 μ m resolution ablation and the

permanent trace line observed with $1\mu\text{m}$ width. The trace line was formed to irregular. The patterned line trace was shown in Fig 3 using AFM with $5\mu\text{m}$ scale. The patterned line has 0.8nm depth and $1\mu\text{m}$ width. The ablation surface showed irregular and rarely cut off of patterned trace but the beam traces were shown in clearly and depth was almost uniformly. It was also observed that the Al/GFP/viologen hetero film does not form a uniform layer but a grainy pattern, with some areas more densely covered.

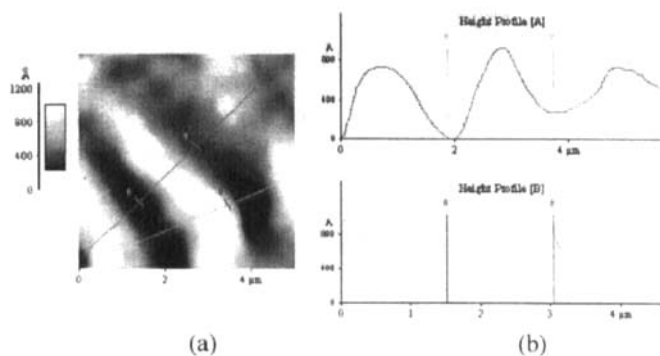


FIGURE 3. AFM image of patterned line trace with $5\mu\text{m}$ scale: a, surface morphology; b, height analysis of AFM image

Direct beam lithography on the metal/protein/organic film surface has been successfully done. This result opens the way to fabricate the molecular scale bioelectronic device.

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References

- [1] G. V. Shivashankar and A. Libchaber, *Applied Physics Letters*, **73**, 417 (1998).