

Growth and characterization of unstrained GaAs/AlGaAs quantum dots

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Epitaxial semiconductor quantum dots are attracting much interest for their potential use in emerging quantum technologies. These fascinating structures can be created by different approaches, such as the Stranski-Krastanow growth mode, the overgrowth of patterned pits¹ or self-assembled nanoholes² with an optically active AlGaAs/GaAs heterostructure. In turn, nanoholes can be obtained by using Al droplets to locally etch AlGaAs³. This has the versatility of being fully performed in a III-V molecular beam epitaxy system and does not require any kind of ex-situ process. These dots can grow with a highly symmetric shape, resulting exciton emission with a small fine structure splitting⁴ that could be applied for entangled photon generation⁵. However some unknown slow relaxation mechanism⁵ resulting in a time-jitter in the photon emission for these dots when excited non-resonantly. We present here results on the growth of GaAs/AlGaAs dots and the correlation between decay dynamics and dot size. The latter is controlled systematically by changing the amount of GaAs used to fill the AlGaAs nanoholes.

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