**Vibrational effects on the surface energy of III-V compound semiconductors using ab-initio thermodynamics**

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The surface energy is important in understanding the surface structure and crystal shape which are crucial to design materials for various applications. The conventional density functional theory (DFT) provided a method to obtain the surface energy, , as a function of chemical potential, . One of the main difficulties of using () is that it cannot be directly compared with the experimental results because (i) () is the electronic energy difference of the ground state; (ii) it is almost impossible to control  through the experimental variables of temperature (T) and pressure (P); and (iii) the surface vibrational and configurational entropy effects which are calculated as a function of T cannot be consistently combined with ().

We reccently estabilished a thorough method to calculate the surface energy as a function of T and P by combining DFT and thermodynamics [1]. In addtion, the surface energy including the effects of surface vibration was obtained for the typical III-V compounds, such as GaAs and InAs by considereing various reconstructions with different stoichiometry and bonding geometry. As a result, we confirmed that some reconstructions which are unstable in terms of electronic surface energy become energetically stable at high T due to the surface vibrational effects. The calculation results were compared with the previous experimental works and showed good agreements. Such a correspondence of the calculations and experiments for a given T and P has not been available in the previous DFT calculations.

1. In Won Yeu *et al.*, Sci. Rep. **7**, 10691 (2017).