



Article Phonon Characteristics of Gas-Source Molecular Beam Epitaxy-Grown InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP (001) with Identification of Si, Mg and C Impurities in InAs and InN

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Abstract: The lattice dynamical properties of dilute $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ (001) epilayers ($0 \le x \le 0.03$) grown by gas-source molecular beam epitaxy were carefully studied experimentally and theoretically. A high-resolution Brüker IFS 120 v/S spectrometer was employed to measure the room-temperature infrared reflectivity (IRR) spectra at near-normal incidence ($\theta_i = 0$). The results in the frequency range of 180–500 cm⁻¹ revealed accurate values of the characteristic In-As-like and In-N-like vibrational modes. For $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ alloys, a classical "Drude–Lorentz" model was constructed to obtain the dielectric functions $\tilde{\epsilon}(\omega)$ in the far IR regions by incorporating InAs-like and InN-like transverse optical ω_{TO} modes. Longitudinal optical ω_{LO} phonons were achieved from the imaginary parts of the simulated dielectric loss functions. The theoretical results of IRR spectra for $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ (001) epilayers using a multi-layer optics methodology provided a very good agreement with the experimental data. At oblique incidence ($\theta_i \neq 0$), our study of s- and p-polarized reflectance ($R_{s,p}(\omega)$) and transmission $(T_{s,p}(\omega))$ spectra allowed the simultaneous perception of the ω_{TO} and ω_{LO} phonons of the InAs, InN and InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03} layers. Based on the average t-matrix Green's function theory, the results of local vibrational modes for light Si_{In}^+ donors and Si_{As}^- , C_{As}^- acceptors in InAs were found in good agreement with the existing Raman scattering and infrared spectroscopy data. InInN, however, the method predicted an in-band mode for the $\mathrm{Mg}_{\mathrm{In}}^-$ acceptor while projecting an impurity mode of the Si⁺_{In} donor to appear just above the maximum $\omega_{max}^{InN} \equiv 595 \text{ cm}^{-1}$] phonon frequency region. In $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ (001) epifilms, the comparison of reflectivity/transmission spectra with experiments and the predictions of impurity modes for isoelectronic donor and acceptor impurities in InAs and InN can be valuable for appraising the role of defects in other technologically important semiconductors.

Keywords: $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ (001) epilayers; gas-source molecular beam epitaxy; infrared reflectivity; Raman scattering spectroscopy; Drude–Lorentz method; Berreman's effect; Green's function theory

1. Introduction

In recent years, solid-state emitters and detectors operating in the near-wavelength infrared (NWIR) range (1.0–2.5 μ m) or mid-wavelength IR (MWIR) region (3–5 μ m) have been intensively [1–10] studied for their use in photonics/optoelectronics applications. Without photonics, the interconnectedness of smart electronic devices with the ability to share and/or analyze information about their surroundings is not possible. In photonics/optoelectronics research, the key requirement has been the choice of high-quality/low-cost materials for designing/engineering structures to enhance the performance and reliability of appropriate devices. Earlier, many conventional zinc-blende (zb) III–V compound



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Copyright: © 2023 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https:// creativecommons.org/licenses/by/ 4.0/). semiconductors (viz., GaAs, InP, InAs, InSb and GaSb) were exploited in a wide range of applications due to their superior electrical characteristics (viz., high electron mobility, direct bandgap, low exciton binding energies, etc.) for constructing optical switches, emitters, detectors, and high-performance optoelectronic devices [4–10]. More recently, III-V-Ns have attracted considerable attention with great promises of extending their use in photonic applications beyond the NWIR range [11–46]. The presence of small-size nitrogen (N) in III-V semiconductors has strong implications for altering their electronic and vibrational properties. For instance, in GaAs, GaSb, InP and InAs, the addition of N (\leq 3%) has demonstrated large bandgap (Eg) bowing due to its sizable electronegativity and mismatch between the sizes of anion (P, As, Sb) atoms. Besides the dilute ternary GaAs(Sb)_{1–x}N_x, InP_{1–x}(As)N_x and quaternary alloys, N-based multi-quantum wells (MQWs) have also emerged valuable for engineering a wide range of optoelectronic devices. Due to their vital electronic traits, the p-/n-type junctions of III-V-N materials are frequently employed for manufacturing high-quality laser diodes (LDs), visible-light-emitting diodes (LEDs) and vertical-cavity surface-emitting lasers (VCSELs) [11–46].

Consequently, many growth techniques are used [31–57] to prepare ultrathin III-V-N alloys, MQWs and superlattices (SLs) on different (Si, GaAs, InAs, InP) substrates by exploiting gas-source molecular beam epitaxy (GS-MBE), [40-44], hydride vapor phase epitaxy (HVPE) [45], liquid phase epitaxy (LPE), chemical beam epitaxy (CBE), atmosphericpressure metal-organic vapor-phase epitaxy (AP-MOVPE) and low-pressure MOVPE (LP-MOVPE) [46–48]. As the importance of these materials for designing different device structures in photonic applications is intensified, so are the obligations of many scientists and engineers to characterize them by using nondestructive experimental techniques [49–52]. Accordingly, photoreflectance (PR), photoluminescence (PL), time-resolved photoluminescence (TR-PL), IR reflectivity/transmission, micro-Raman spectroscopy (μ -RS), reflection high-energy electron diffraction (RHEED), high-resolution transmission electron microscopy (HR-TEM), spectroscopic ellipsometry (SE), high-resolution X-ray diffraction (HR-XRD), cross-sectional transmission electron microscopy (X-TEM), Hall effect measurements, Fourier transformed infrared (FTIR) spectroscopy and Raman scattering spectroscopy (RSS) are commonly used [37-61] to investigate the basic properties of ternary $InP_{1-x}(As)N_x$, quaternary alloys and MQWs.

In In(Ga)As_{1-x}N_x alloys, it has been and still is quite challenging to obtain accurate knowledge of alloy composition x, the site selectivity of n- and/or p-type dopants, and the bonding of N with its neighboring In(Ga) atoms, i.e., "N-In(Ga)" [11–16]. From a practical perspective, it is equally stimulating to obtain the correct thickness-dependent structural, electronic and phonon characteristics of III-V-N alloys, MQWs and SLs [1–10]. One must note that in the conventional III-V (GaAs, InAs) materials, the role of n- and/or p-type dopants has been fully established [53–57]. In GaAs and InAs, the behavior of Si as an amphoteric defect is well known; i.e., Si acts as a donor Si⁺_{In(Ga)} if it occupies In(Ga)-sites and an acceptor Si⁻_{As} if sits on As-sites. The role of Mg and C impurities in GaAs and InAs, InN), the behavior of Si, Mg and C dopants has not been fully ascertained [48–52,58–68].

Earlier, FTIR and RSS measurements offered strong testimonies of observing the localized vibrational modes (LVMs) for light iso-electronic (i_{III}, i_V), donor (d⁺_{III}, d⁺_V) and acceptor (a⁻_{III}; a⁻_V) impurities in III-V semiconductors [53–57]. However, no such evidence exists spectroscopically for III-Ns, especially for InN for recognizing the LVMs of the Si⁺_{In} donor and Si⁻_N acceptor and Mg⁻_{In} and C⁻_N acceptors. Recent Raman and FTIR measurements in Siand Mg-doped InN nanowires [48–52,58–68] have revealed strong coupling of electron and hole plasma oscillations with the longitudinal optical ω^{InN}_{LO} phonons. Undoubtedly, in InN, the influence of Si and Mg carrier concentrations, $\eta (\equiv 1 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}-2 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3})$, on ω_{LO} coupled plasmons (ω^{\pm}_{LOPC}) has been explicitly recognized [48–52,58–68]. Moreover in n- and p-doped III-V compounds, the comparison of simulated ω^{\pm}_{LOPC} modes with experimental (RSS and FTIR) data has helped assess charge carrier concentration η [48–68]. Similar studies of Si-, Mg- and C-doped InN are very much needed to apprehend their role as n- and p-type dopants.

The purpose of this paper is to report the results of comprehensive experimental and theoretical studies on several zb $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ (001) samples (#Sa₁, Sa₂, Sa₃ and Sa₄) grown by VG V-80 GS-MBE (Section 2.1) having N compositions x, $0.002 \le x \le 0.030$, with epifilm thickness d \sim 2.5 μ m. To understand the influence of x and d on the vibrational characteristics of these samples, we used an FTIR spectrometer (Brüker IFS 120 v/S) to measure the RT reflectivity spectra in the frequency range of 150 cm^{-1} to 1100 cm^{-1} (Section 2.2). Least square fits to the IR reflectivity (IRR) data of InAs, InN, $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ and InP were carefully achieved (Sections 3 and 3.1) by exploiting a CERN library MINUIT program based on the Metropolis algorithm. For IRR simulations, the standard deviations $\chi (\equiv \le 5 \times 10^{-3})$ were attained for accurately obtaining the necessary phonon mode parameters of each sample. Appropriate dielectric dispersions were meticulously determined by invoking Kramers–Krönig analyses to attain frequency-dependent [69–76] complex dielectric functions $\tilde{\epsilon}(\omega)$ and refractive indices $n(\omega)$. A two-phonon mode behavior is expected in the $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ alloy epifilms where the effects of the InP substrate cannot be ignored. By using a multi-layer optics methodology in the framework of a three-phase model, we performed systematic calculations of the reflectivity spectra at near-normal incidence $(\theta_i = 0)$. The results of s- and p-polarized reflectance $(R_{s,p}(\omega))$ and transmission $(T_{s,p}(\omega))$ spectra of binary InAs/InP (001), InN/InP (001) and ternary alloyed InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03}/InP (001) epifilms are also reported at oblique incidence ($\theta_i \neq 0$) by considering apposite Fresnel coefficients (Sections 3.2 and 3.3) [69]. By appropriately including the angle of incidence θ_i , alloy composition x, film thickness d and charge carrier concentration η , the theoretical results of IRR spectra are compared very well with the experimental data. Methodical calculations of LVMs for isolated light impurities in InAs and InN were also performed (Sections 3.4 and 3.5) by exploiting the average t-matrix Green's function (ATM-GF) [76] theory in the framework of a realistic rigid-ion model (RIM) [77]. The RIM parameters of InAs and InN bulk materials were carefully optimized by considering successive leastsquare fitting procedures. In this process, the critical point phonon frequencies from X-ray thermal diffuse (XRTD) [78] scattering and first-principles [79] calculations were employed as input while the lattice and elastic constants were used as constraints [80]. In InAs, our ATM-GF study has provided LVMs of amphoteric ²⁸Si⁺_{In} donors (²⁸Si⁻_{As} acceptors) and ${}^{12}C_{As}^{-}$ acceptors in very good agreement with the experimental data. In InN, however, the ATM-GF theory predicted an in-band mode of the ²⁶Mg_{In}⁻ acceptor falling in the band mode region, while for the $^{28}\text{Si}_{111}^+$ donor, it appeared just above the maximum phonon frequency $\omega_{\text{max}}^{\text{InN}}$ (=595 cm⁻¹). Systematic calculations of $\omega_{\text{LOPC}}^{\pm}$ modes were also performed to comprehend the charge-carrier-concentration-dependent Raman scattering results in Si-doped InN. The simulated results of reflectivity spectra in $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ epifilms as well as the impurity vibrational modes for light impurities in InN and InAs are compared/contrasted against the existing experimental data with a discussion (Sections 4.1-4.4), and concluding remarks are presented in Section 5.

2. Experimental Section

2.1. The Growth of zb $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ (001) Heterostructures

The epitaxial growth of InAsN on an InAs and/or GaAs substrate is relatively more difficult than that on InP [40–43]. Hence, we prepared four different GS-MBE InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP (001) samples (# Sa₁, Sa₂, Sa₃ and Sa₄) with $x \le 0.03$ by using a VG V-80 system. Elemental In and thermally cracked hydride (AsH₃) sources were considered for achieving the molecular beams. Active N species were generated from an EPI UNI-bulb RF plasma source. In the growth of InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP epifilms of thickness d (\equiv ~2.5 µm), we set the RF power, N flow rates and temperature between 300 and 480 W, between 1.2 and 1.8 sccm and at 460 °C, respectively (see Table 1) [40–43]. The structural features were carefully examined by HR-XRD using a Cu Ka₁ line with a wavelength of 1.54 Å. In InAs_{1-x}N_x samples, the N compositions x, were determined by fitting the double-crystal HR-XRD spectra and utilizing the commercially available dynamical simulator Brüker RADS (QC 3) software.

Table 1. Gas-source MBE-grown $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ on InP with appropriate conditions employed to achieve the nitrogen composition *x*, on InP substrate (see text).

InAs _{1-x} N _x /InP	RF Plasma Power	Flow Rate of N ₂	Nitrogen Composition
Sample	(W)	(sccm)	x
Sa ₁	300	1.2	0.002
Sa ₂	480	1.8	0.020
Sa ₃	400	1.2	0.024
Sa_4	480	1.2	0.030

The estimated composition x, on fully relaxed $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ films, upheld Vegard's law. This was justified by the fact that epifilm thickness retained much larger values than the critical thickness estimated from the Matthews and Blakeslee model [81]. Electrical measurements were performed by conducting Hall measurements in the Van der Pauw configuration using soldered indium dots as ohmic contacts [40–43]. The Hall data on undoped $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ revealed some intriguing features as x gradually increased up to 3% (x ≤ 0.03) (see Table 2), viz., (a) a large increase in electron charge carrier concentration η , (b) an increase in electron effective mass m_e^* , (c) a decrease in electron mobility μ , and (c) N exhibiting characteristics like those of Si-donors in InAs. The origin of such a high carrier concentration η in these samples is not yet clear.

Table 2. Transport and electrical parameters estimated by fitting the infrared spectra of GS-MBEgrown $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ samples at 300 K (see text).

Sample -	Carrier	Mobility	Effective	Conductivity	ω_P
	conc. $\eta \ 10^{18}$ (cm $^{-3}$)	μ (cm²/Vs)	Mass m [*] /m _e	σ (Ohm-cm) $^{-1}$	cm^{-1}
Sa ₁	1.91	1740.0	0.051	390.68	513
Sa ₂	2.80	1010.0	0.058	318.00	601
Sa ₃	3.24	713.73	0.088	416.70	540
Sa ₄	16.88	176.93	0.320	477.86	631

2.2. Reflectivity of $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ (001) Epifilms and Raman Spectra of InP Substrate

The RT results of IRR spectra of GS-MBE-grown zb $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ epifilms were obtained in the frequency range of 150 cm⁻¹ to 1100 cm⁻¹ by exploiting a high-resolution Brüker IFS 120 v/S FTIR spectrometer. The reflectivity measurements including the InP substrate were meticulously accomplished with a 2 cm⁻¹ resolution using 100 coadditions. The experimental results were analyzed theoretically by adopting a standard methodology of multilayer optics in the framework of a three-phase (ambient/film/substrate) model.

In the IRR measurements, we employed a Globar-source, high-efficiency mylar beamsplitter and a mercury cadmium telluride detector. Unpolarized reflectivity studies were also carried out by using a deuterated triglycine sulfate detector. The RT Raman scattering study of the InP substrate was accomplished in the double subtractive configuration by using a Jobin-Yvon T64000 spectrometer (HORIBA, Ltd., Fukuoka, Japan) equipped with a liquid N₂-cooled charged coupled device (CCD). The estimated optical phonon frequencies of InP (ω_{TO}^{InP} , ω_{LO}^{InP}) from IRR and RSS (Section 4) measurements were found in very good agreement.

3. Theoretical Section

Two different theoretical schemes are frequently employed for assessing the structural, phonon and electronic traits of the perfect/imperfect materials: (a) microscopic methods [19–21,79], which start with ionic potentials screened by electron gas for determining the optical, electronic and phonon properties, and (b) macroscopic techniques [69–76], which employ phenomenological models for attaining the lattice dynamics of perfect materials as well as impurity-induced vibrational characteristics. In the former methods, the interatomic forces of perfect/imperfect materials are normally evaluated using selfconsistent density functional theory (SC-DFT) for comprehending the structural, optical, and phonon properties by employing commercially available ABINIT software V9.10. As compared to the ab initio techniques, the benefits of using macroscopic methods to investigate the lattice dynamics of perfect/imperfect semiconductors are quite discernable.

Here, we have adopted the macroscopic theories for simulating (Sections 3.1–3.4) the IRR spectra of zb $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ (001) and comprehending the impurity vibrational modes of isolated light defects (Section 3.5). By using a classical methodology of multilayer optics [69], we have calculated the reflectivity/transmission spectra of ultrathin binary InAs(InN) /InP (001) and ternary InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03}/InP (001) alloyed epilayers. In Section 3.5, we briefly outline the theory of a realistic RIM to study the lattice dynamics of perfect zb InAs and InN. An ATM-GF [73–76] approach requiring appropriate perturbation models for isolated defects is adopted for simulating the impurity vibrational modes of Si⁺_{III} donors and Si⁻_V, Mg⁻_{III} and C⁻_V acceptors in InAs and InN [53–57]. The calculated results are discussed and compared/contrasted against the existing FTIR and RSS (Section 4) data.

3.1. The Reflectivity Calculations of Binary and Ternary Alloys

To study the IRR spectra of binary and ternary alloys, the process involving interactions between electromagnetic (EM) radiation and materials can be articulated using the complex refractive indices $\tilde{n}(\omega)$ via their dielectric functions $\tilde{\varepsilon}(\omega)$ [$\tilde{n}(\omega) = \sqrt{\tilde{\varepsilon}(\omega)}$]. In a classical "Drude–Lorentz" approach, we have obtained $\tilde{\varepsilon}(\omega)$ by using the following [69]:

$$\widetilde{\epsilon}(\omega) = \epsilon_{\infty x} \left[1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega(\omega + i\gamma)} \right] + \sum_{j=1,2} \frac{S_{jx} \omega_{TOxj}^2}{\omega_{TOjx}^2 - \omega^2 - i\Gamma_{j_x} \omega}$$
(1)

where the term $\varepsilon_{\infty x}$ represents a high-frequency dielectric constant taken as a weighted average between the corresponding values of InAs-InN; S_{jx} is the x-dependent oscillator strength; $\omega_P \left(\equiv \sqrt{\frac{4\pi e^2 \eta}{\epsilon m_*}}\right)$ is the plasma frequency and γ is its damping; ω_{TOjx} and Γ_{jx} represent, respectively, the frequency of *j*th ω_{TO} mode of a different x and its damping.

Once the $\tilde{\epsilon}(\omega)$ is constructed (cf. Section 4) for each binary and/or ternary material, the reflectance coefficient \tilde{r} at near-normal incidence, $\theta_i = 0$, can be obtained [69]:

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{r}} = \frac{1 - \sqrt{\widetilde{\varepsilon}(\omega)}}{1 + \sqrt{\widetilde{\varepsilon}(\omega)}},$$
(2)

to model the power reflection $R(\omega) = |\tilde{r}|^2$. A least-square fit to the reflectance spectra of InAs, InN and $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ materials and InP (substrate) is achieved by exploiting the CERN library MINUIT program based on the Metropolis algorithm. We have carefully evaluated (see Table 3) the values of the high-frequency dielectric constant ε , film thickness d, ω_{TO} mode frequency; phonon damping constant Γ_i and oscillator strength S_i by minimizing the least-square deviations using a regression program. In the IRR calculations, appropriate values of ω_P estimated from the effective mass and carrier concentration η as well as the plasmon damping constants γ are included.

InAs ₁	N_x		InAs-Lil	ke Mode			InN-Li	ke Mode	
Sample	x	d µm	ϵ_∞	S_1	$\omega_{ m TO1}$ (cm ⁻¹)	Γ_1 (cm ⁻¹)	S ₂	$\omega_{ m TO2}$ (cm ⁻¹)	Γ_2 (cm ⁻¹)
Sa ₁	0.002	2.465	12.76	4.02	218.66	7.88	0.02	438.10	5.46
Sa ₂	0.022	2.670	12.00	3.55	219.04	15.14	0.06	438.57	8.61
Sa ₃	0.024	2.460	11.32	3.11	220.09	12.66	0.11	439.03	13.05
Sa_4	0.030	2.580	11.87	2.91	220.60	13.47	0.13	440.61	11.85

Table 3. Optical parameters and high-frequency dielectric constant of $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ at 300 K by fitting (see text).

3.2. Reflectivity and Transmission Spectra at Near-Normal Incidence in Thin Epifilms

In infrared spectroscopy, a polar film of thickness d is considered thin if $c/\omega >> d$ (or equivalently $\lambda >> d$), with ω being the frequency of incident EM wave and c being the speed of light [69]. In such films, one can distinguish two uniform normal modes of vibrations: one with atomic motions parallel to the plane of the film (ω_{TO} modes) and the other having atomic motions perpendicular to the plane of the film (ω_{LO} modes). For simulating the reflectivity spectra of InAs/InP (001), InN/InP (001) and InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03}/InP (001) epifilms with thickness d, we have adopted a standard methodology of multilayer optics in the framework of a three-phase (ambient/film/substrate) model [69].

The amplitude of the reflection coefficient \tilde{r}_{123} and the IRR spectra $R(\omega) = |\tilde{r}_{123}|^2$ is calculated at near-normal incidence ($\theta_i = 0$) by using the following:

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{r}}_{123} = \frac{\mathbf{r}_{12} + \mathbf{r}_{23} \exp(2\mathbf{i}\beta)}{1 + \widetilde{\mathbf{r}}_{12} \widetilde{\mathbf{r}}_{23} \exp(2\mathbf{i}\beta)},\tag{3}$$

where $\tilde{r}_{12} = \frac{1-\tilde{n}_2}{1+\tilde{n}_2}$ and $\tilde{r}_{23} = \frac{\tilde{n}_2-\tilde{n}_3}{\tilde{n}_2+\tilde{n}_3}$ with $\tilde{n}_2 = \sqrt{\tilde{\epsilon}_2}$ (film) and $\tilde{n}_3 = \sqrt{\tilde{\epsilon}_3}$ (substrate)

are the Fresnel coefficients. The term $\beta = 2\pi d \frac{\sqrt{\tilde{\epsilon}_s(\omega)}}{\lambda}$ in Equation (3) represents the phase multiplier, with $\tilde{\epsilon}_s(\omega)$ being the dielectric constant of the substrate and λ being the wavelength of the incident light. An expression (like Equation (3)) for the IR transmission (IRT) coefficient \tilde{t}_{123} at near-normal incidence can be derived for evaluating the IRT spectra $T(\omega) = |\tilde{t}_{123}|^2$ [82].

3.3. Reflectivity and Transmission Spectra at Oblique Incidence: Berreman Effect

The articulation to simulate the reflectivity $R(\omega) = |\tilde{r}_{123}|^2$ (transmission $T(\omega) = |\tilde{t}_{123}|^2$) spectra at an oblique angle of incidence $\theta_i \ (\neq 0)$ is, however, a little more involved [82]. If the EM wave is incident on a film with an electric field polarized perpendicular to the plane of incidence (the s-wave), the radiation only interacts with ω_{TO} modes regardless of the angle of incidence θ_i [82]. In contrast, both ω_{TO} and ω_{LO} modes are excited by radiation that impinges on a film at an angle θ_i with an electric field polarized parallel to the plane of incidence (the p-wave), known as the Berreman effect (BE) [71]. In such a situation, the electric field has a component in the direction of atomic motions for exciting both the ω_{TO} and ω_{LO} phonons.

This simple and elegant method was first introduced by Berreman for measuring the FIR transmission spectra at oblique incidence [83] on thin LiF prepared on a collodion film. Clearly, the BE has demonstrated its elegance and ease of exercising: the only restriction is that the film must be thinner than the wavelength of EM radiation corresponding to that of the Reststrahlen band. In many epitaxially grown films, this condition can be easily maintained [84–86]. One must also note that there exist no IR measurements on the reflectance ($R_s(\omega)$, $R_p(\omega)$) and/or transmittance ($T_s(\omega)$, $T_p(\omega)$) spectra at oblique incidence for epitaxially grown binary InAs/InP (001) and InN/InP (001) epilayers and/or ternary InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP (001) alloy epifilms. In Sections 4.1–4.3, we report our systematic

calculations of IRR and IRT spectra at oblique incidence θ_i ($\neq 0$) by exploiting a three-phase model in the multilayer optics formalism [69].

3.4. The ω_{LO}

Plasmon Coupled Modes in n-Doped InN

In Si-doped InN, the ω_{LO} phonon can strongly couple with the collective oscillations of free charge carriers (plasmons). The plasmon–phonon coupling, or their mixing, is found with the greatest value when the two modes exhibit comparable frequencies. Again, the plasmon–phonon coupling is strongly dependent on the charge carrier concentration η . In the long-wavelength limit (i.e., $\vec{q} \rightarrow 0$), the coupled ω_{LOPC}^{\pm} modes in n-InN are calculated (Section 4.4.1 (b)) from the zeros of "Drude–Lorentz" dielectric response function $\tilde{\epsilon}(\omega)$ [69].

3.5. Lattice Dynamics of Perfect/Imperfect InAs and InN

To comprehend the lattice dynamical traits of perfect bulk InAs and InN materials, we have adopted a realistic RIM [77]. The vibrational properties of isolated donor and acceptor defects in InAs and InN are studied by using the ATM-GF theory [73–76]. The significance of these two methodologies has been discussed in several review articles and monographs [69–76]. Hence, the discussion (Section 4.4) of presenting our results on the impurity vibrational modes for both isolated Si⁺_{In} donors and Si⁻_{As} acceptors in InAs and Mg_{In}^- and C_N^- acceptors in InN will be very brief, especially in commenting on and/or clarifying the existing FTIR and RSS data on impurity vibrational modes [48–52,58–68].

4. Numerical Computations, Results and Discussion

Numerical simulations of the dielectric functions $\varepsilon(\omega)$ and refractive indices $n(\omega)$ for different zb InAs, InN, InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03} and InP materials are the bases of relating the optical phonon frequencies (see Figure 1a–c) to their IRR spectrum. A "Drude–Lorentz" method [69] is employed here to carry out the least-square fit to the IR reflectivity spectra and obtaining the necessary phonon mode parameters (Table 3).

4.1. Reflectivity Spectra

The experimental results of IRR measurements at RT (see Figure 1a) on the GS-MBEgrown zb $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ epifilms and InP substrate (Figure 1b) were obtained by using a high-resolution Brüker IFS 120 v/S FTIR spectrometer in the frequency range of ~150 cm⁻¹ to 1100 cm⁻¹. All the experimental measurements were performed with a 2 cm⁻¹ resolution and the use of 100 coadditions. The Raman scattering study of the InP substrate at RT was also accomplished (see Figure 1c) in the double subtractive configuration by using a Jobin-Yvon T64000 spectrometer equipped with a liquid N₂-cooled CCD.

The simulated results of IR reflectivity spectra of binary materials are displayed in Figure 2a using different color lines: black for InAs, red for InP, blue for InN and green for InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03}. We drew sky-blue color vertical arrows for binary (InAs, InP, InN) materials and grey color arrows for the InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03} alloy to signify their respective Reststrahlen band regions. The perusal of Figure 2a clearly reveals that the spectrum of each binary material drops to a minimum value at the plasma edge and exhibits a peak near the ω_{TO} phonon frequency. As expected, the calculated spectra of the ternary InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03} alloy demonstrate two Reststrahlen peaks, one related to the InAs-like phonon region and the other related to the InN-like phonon region. However, the frequencies of ω_{TO}^{InN} - and ω_{LO}^{InN} -like modes overlap each other due to the small N composition x and are difficult to distinguish. This has also been confirmed by the simulated results of ε_1 , ε_2 and n, k (cf. Figure 2b,c). The calculations of ε_1 , ε_2 and n, k displayed in Figure 2b,c for InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03} have revealed ω_{TO}^{InAs} - and ω_{TO}^{InN} -like phonon energies at the peaks of $\varepsilon_2(\omega)$, while the ω_{LO}^{InAs} -like phonon mode has appeared near n = k, $\varepsilon_1(\omega) = 0$.

4.2. Reflectivity Spectra of $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ Epifilms

In the framework of a standard methodology of multilayer optics and adopting a three-phase (ambient/film/substrate) model, we have studied the reflectivity spectra of four different GS-MBE-grown InAs_{1-x}N_x/inP (001) samples [40–43] having different thicknesses d and compositions ($0.002 \le x \le 0.03$). For each sample, the amplitude of the reflection coefficient \tilde{r}_{123} or reflectivity R(ω) = $|\tilde{r}_{123}|^2$ is calculated at near-normal incidence ($\theta_i = 0$) following the methodology reported in Section 3.2 [69]. The theoretical results displayed in Figure 3a–d are compared with the experimental data.



InAs_N



Figure 1. (a) Experimental room-temperature (300 K) high-resolution infrared reflectance spectra of four gas-source MBE-grown zb $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ (001) samples (#Sa₁, Sa₂, Sa₃ and Sa₄) with different N composition x, revealing ω_{TO}^{InAs} -like and ω_{TO}^{InN} -like modes shown by vertical magenta color arrows (see text). (b) Experimental room-temperature high-resolution infrared reflectance spectra of InP substrate (see text). (c) Experimental Raman scattering spectra of InP substrate (see text).



Figure 2. (a) The simulated results of reflectivity spectra for InAs (black), InP (red), InN (blue) and InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03} (green). Vertical arrows of different colors are drawn to signify their respective Reststrahlen band regions (e.g., sky blue for binary and grey for ternary InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03} alloy). (b) The calculations of ε_1 , ε_2 and (c) n, κ for InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03} revealed ω_{TO}^{InAs} - and ω_{TO}^{InN} -like phonon energies at the peaks of $\varepsilon_2(\omega)$ while ω_{IO}^{InAs} -like phonon modes appeared near n = k, $\varepsilon_1(\omega) = 0$.

In the absence of accurate results of ε_{∞} and d for $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ alloys, we have extracted these parameters by calculating/comparing the experimental reflectivity results using least-square fitting procedures, especially in the high-frequency region (1100 cm⁻¹ $\ge \omega > 500$ cm⁻¹). In Figure 4a,b, the simulated results of composition-dependent ε_{∞} and thickness d-dependent IRR spectra of $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ (for x = 0.002) are displayed, respectively. Similar calculations have also been performed for the other samples (not shown here), and the best-fit results of ε_{∞} and d are reported in Table 3. The estimated values of high-frequency dielectric constants ε_{∞} and epifilm thickness d for the $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ alloys fall in the ranges of 11.32–12.76 and 2.460–2.670 µm, respectively. To fit the reflectivity spectra of the semi-insulating InP substrate ($\omega_P = 0$), we have used the value of $\varepsilon_{\infty} (\equiv 9.61)$. The key parameters derived for the ternary alloy $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ (001) samples by fitting the RT reflectivity spectra are reported in Tables 2 and 3. The elements included in the IRR simulations are the film thickness d; mobility μ ; carrier concentration η ; transverse-optical phonon frequencies ω_{TO1} , ω_{TO2} ; optical strengths S_1 , S_2 ; damping constants $_1$, $_2$; and effective mass m*/me.



Figure 3. (a) Comparison of the experimental (open circles) room-temperature infrared reflectance spectra of gas-source MBE-grown zb $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ (001) samples with the theoretical results (full lines) using the parameter values from Table 2, for (0.002); (b) same as (a) but for (0.022); (c) same as (a) but for (0.024); (d) same as (a) but for (0.03) (see text).



Figure 4. Comparison of the experimental (open circles) room-temperature infrared reflectance spectra of GS-MBE-grown zb $InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP$ (001) sample x = 0.002 (as an example) with the simulated (colored lines) spectra by varying (**a**) ε_{∞} and (**b**) d. The best-fit values are reported in Table 3.

From Table 2, one may note that all the intentionally undoped GS-MBE-grown zb $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ samples exhibit n-type conduction. In Figure 5a,b, we display the impact of increasing N content x on the electron charge carrier concentration η , mobility μ and the effective electron mass (m^{*}/m_e). In samples with the largest value of x = 0.03, it is quite surprising to notice that the effective mass estimated from the IRR fitting revealed a significantly large value of m^{*} = 0.32 m_e.



Figure 5. (a) Simulated results of the N composition-dependent carrier concentration η , mobility μ and (b) effective mass (m^{*}/m_e) estimated by fitting reflectivity spectra (Table 3) for InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP samples.

Although the maximum N content x, in $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ is nearly 3%, we have noticed the effective electron mass m^{*}/m_e increasing almost fourteen times from the nitrogenfree case of InAs (m^{*} = 0.023 m_e). The effective mass enhancement can be attributed to the size quantization, band nonparabolicity and the nitrogen-induced band structure modification. The origin of higher background n-type behavior in the intrinsic GS-MBEgrown zb $InAs_{1-x}N_x$ samples is still under investigation. However, we speculate that (a) in InAs, the smaller-size N atoms (with larger host lattice constants) are possibly occupying the interstitial sites, and (b) in the narrower-bandgap $InAs_{1-x}N_x$, the defect levels are ionized. which might have resulted in the higher residual carrier density, η .

Again, from Table 3, it is obvious that the increase in x caused higher InAs-like TO₁ phonon frequencies and damping constants Γ_1 and lower oscillator strengths S₁. The increase in x also resulted in higher values of InN-like TO₂ phonon frequencies, oscillator strengths S₂ and damping constants Γ_2 .

4.3. Berreman Effect

The articulation of simulating the IR reflectivity $R(\omega) = |\tilde{r}_{123}|^2$ (transmission $T(\omega) = |\tilde{t}_{123}|^2$) spectra at oblique incidence $\theta_i \ (\neq 0)$ is, however, a little more involved [82]. If an EM wave is incident on a film with an electric field polarized perpendicular to the plane of incidence (i.e., the s-wave), it interacts only with ω_{TO} modes regardless of the angle of incidence θ_i . In contrast, both the ω_{TO} and ω_{LO} modes are excited by radiation that impinges on a film at an angle θ_i with an electric field polarized parallel to the plane of incidence (i.e., the p-wave) [83–88]. In such a situation, the electric field has a component in the direction of atomic motions for both the ω_{TO} and ω_{LO} phonons. In Figure 6a–c, we report our simulated results of IR reflectivity and transmission spectra in both the s- and p-polarization for InAs/InP (001), InN/InP (001) and InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03}/InP (001) epilayers of thickness d ($\equiv 0.2 \ \mu m$) at an oblique incidence $\theta_i \ (\equiv 45^\circ)$, respectively.



Figure 6. (a) Simulated polarization-dependent transmission (**lower panel**) and reflectivity (**upper panel**) spectra of 0.2 µm thick InAs/InP epifilm, where the sky-blue color vertical arrows represent the ω_{TO}^{InAs} and ω_{LO}^{InAs} phonons while the magenta color vertical arrows signify the Reststrahlen region of InP (substrate); (b) same as (a) but for InN/InP epifilm; (c) same as (a) but for InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03}/InP epifilm (see text).

4.3.1. InAs/InP (001)

In Figure 6a, the results of IR reflectivity (red and blue color lines: upper panel) and transmission spectra (green and black color lines: lower panel) are reported in the s- and p-polarization for the InAs/InP (001) epifilm of thickness d ($\equiv 0.2 \mu m$) at the incidence angle θ_i ($\equiv 45^\circ$). Clearly, the outcomes of the simulated spectra can be divided into two zones: (a) the InAs-like phonon region which falls between the mode frequencies of 219 and 243 cm⁻¹ and (b) a broad InP-like Reststrahlen band region (see Figure 6a) of the substrate occurring in the range of ~305 to ~350 cm⁻¹. While the reflectivity spectra of InP shown by magenta color vertical arrows remained nearly unaffected, the transmission and reflectivity spectra of InAs indicated by sky-blue color vertical arrows changed significantly in the s- and p-polarizations. Obviously, the simulations of $R_p(\omega)/(T_p(\omega))$ spectra in

InAs/InP (001)

p-polarization of the InAs/InP (001) epilayer (see Figure 6a) have confirmed the ω_{TO} mode appearing at $\omega_{TO}^{InAs} \sim 219 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ as a distinct maximum (minimum). In addition, a sharp minimum is noticed emerging at a higher frequency indicating the ω_{LO} mode at $\omega_{LO}^{InAs} \sim 243 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. In s-polarization, however, the simulated $R_s(\omega)/(T_s(\omega))$ spectra revealed only the ω_{TO} mode as a maximum (minimum), in excellent agreement with the XRTD [78] and RSS [83–88] results.

4.3.2. InN/InP (001)

In Figure 6b, we report the calculated results of reflectivity (red and blue color lines: lower panel) and transmission spectra (green and black color: upper panel) in the s- and p-polarization for the InN/InP (001) epifilm of thickness d ($\equiv 0.2 \mu m$) at the incidence angle $\theta_i \ (\equiv 45^\circ)$. Like what was observed for InAs/InP (001), the reflectivity spectra in s- and p-polarization of InN/InP (001) also exhibited two separate phonon zones: (a) a broad InPlike Reststrahlen band region of the substrate indicated by sky-blue color vertical arrows occurring in the frequency range of $\sim 305 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ to $\sim 350 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ and (b) the InN-like phonon band region which falls within the mode frequencies of \sim 476 cm⁻¹ to \sim 595 cm⁻¹. While the reflectivity spectra of InP shown by magenta color vertical arrows remained nearly unaffected, the transmission and reflectivity spectra of the InN bands indicated by sky-blue color arrows are, however, perceived to significantly change in the s- and p-polarizations. Obviously, the simulations of $R_p(\omega)/(T_p(\omega))$ spectra in the p-polarization of the InN/InP (001) epilayer (see Figure 6b) have confirmed the ω_{TO} mode appearing at ω_{TO}^{InN} ~476 cm⁻¹ as a distinct maximum (minimum). In addition, a sharp minimum is also seen emerging at a higher frequency indicating the ω_{LO} mode of $\omega_{LO}^{InN} \sim 595$ cm⁻¹. In s-polarization, the simulated $R_s(\omega)/(T_s(\omega))$ spectra, however, revealed only the ω_{TO} mode as a maximum (minimum), in excellent agreement with the results of first-principles calculations [79] and Raman scattering spectroscopy measurements [83–88].

4.3.3. InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03}/InP (001)

Like the results presented for the InAs/InP (001) and InN/InP (001) epifilms (cf. Sections 4.3.1 and 4.3.2), our simulated results of reflectivity and transmission spectra in the s- and p-polarization for an InAs_{0.97} $N_{0.03}$ /InP (001) epilayer of thickness d (\equiv 0.2 µm) at an oblique incidence θ_i (\equiv 45°) are also reported in Figure 6c. Unlike binary materials (see Figure 6a,b), the calculated results of IR reflectivity (red and blue color lines: upper panel) and transmission spectra (green and black color lines: lower panel) of the $InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03}$ alloy epifilm exhibit three zones: (a) a broad InP-like Reststrahlen band region indicated by magenta color vertical arrows occurs in the frequency range of ~ 305 cm⁻¹ to ~ 350 cm⁻¹, (b) the InAs-like phonon band shown by sky-blue color vertical arrows falls between the mode frequencies of ~ 220 cm⁻¹ and ~ 243 cm⁻¹, and (c) the InN-like phonon mode region indicated by sky-blue color vertical arrows appears in the frequency range of \sim 441 cm⁻¹ to ~443 cm⁻¹. While the reflectivity spectra of InP shown by magenta color vertical arrows remained nearly unaffected, the transmission and reflectivity of InAs and InN bands shown by sky-blue color arrows are, however, perceived to change significantly in the s- and p-polarizations. Once again, our results of p-polarized $R_p(\omega)/(T_p(\omega))$ spectra for the InAs_{0.97}N_{0.03} /InP (001) epilayer (see: Figure 6c) have confirmed ω_{TO} modes emerging as a distinct maximum (minimum) at $\omega_{TO}^{InAs} \sim 220 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ and $\omega_{TO}^{InN} \sim 441.0 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, respectively. In addition, sharp minima appear at higher frequencies, indicating the ω_{LO} mode of $\omega_{LO}^{InAs} \sim 243 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, while the InN-like ω_{LO} mode, due to low x, was not fully resolved $(\omega_{TO}^{InN} = \omega_{LO}^{InN} \sim 442 \text{ cm}^{-1})$. In the s-polarization, however, the calculated $R_s(\omega)/(T_s(\omega))$ spectra have revealed only the ω_{TO}^{InAs} and ω_{TO}^{InN} modes as a maximum (minimum), in excellent agreement with the results from XRTD, [78] Raman scattering spectroscopy [83–88] and first-principles [79] calculations.

4.4. Lattice Dynamics of InAs and InN

By exploiting a realistic RIM [77] and using the optimized set of force constants (Table 4), we have calculated the phonon dispersions $\omega_j \begin{pmatrix} \vec{q} \\ \vec{q} \end{pmatrix}$ (see Figure 7a,b) and one-phonon density of states (DOS) (Figure 7c) for the bulk InAs and InN materials, respectively. The $\omega_j \begin{pmatrix} \vec{q} \\ \vec{q} \end{pmatrix}$ results reported in Figure 7a,b along the high-symmetry directions ($\Gamma \rightarrow X \rightarrow K \rightarrow \Gamma \rightarrow L \rightarrow X \rightarrow W \rightarrow L$) are compared/contrasted reasonably well with the existing XRTD [78] and first-principles [79] calculations. The perusal of Figure 7a,b clearly reveals the correct separation between the acoustic and optical phonon branches where the lighter As and N atoms provided major contributions to the optical phonons while the heavier In atoms contributed effectively to the acoustic modes.

One may also note that going from As to N (i.e., from higher to lower atomic number), the optical phonon frequencies of InN increased with respect to the InAs material. This fact is also reflected in our simulations of the one-phonon DOS (Figure 7c) where a larger phonon gap is evidenced between the acoustic and optical branches of InN (~236–458 cm⁻¹) as compared to the InAs (160–185 cm⁻¹). Our results of $\omega_j \left(\overrightarrow{q} \right)$ and DOS for InN are in very good agreement with the first principles calculations [79] performed within the DFT formalism using local-density approximation.



Figure 7. Comparison (Table 4) of the rigid-ion model (RIM) calculation (full lines) of phonon dispersions for (**a**) InAs with the XRTD scattering data (shown by symbols), for (**b**) InN with first-principles calculation (shown by symbols). (**c**) Calculated one-phonon density of states for InAs and InN.

Model Parameter	InAs	zb InN
A	-0.3456	-0.485
В	-0.25	-0.230
C1	-0.0075	-0.0830
C ₂	-0.0195	-0.0231
D1	-0.059	-0.196
D ₂	0.0113	0.02243
E ₁	0.055	-0.063
E ₂	-0.053	0.0231
F ₁	0.0993	0.188
F ₂	-0.077	-0.044
Z _{eff}	0.756	0.99

Table 4. Optimized set of rigid-ion model parameters (10^5 dyn/cm) [77] for calculating the lattice dynamics of the zinc-blende InAs and InN materials.

4.4.1. ATM-GF Study of Impurity Modes of Donors/Acceptors in InAs and InN

The calculated phonons (eigenvalues and eigenfunctions) of the perfect InAs and InN are meticulously incorporated for simulating the Green's functions $\tilde{G}^{0}(\omega)$ of the host materials. Appropriate perturbation $\tilde{P}(\omega)$ matrices are considered in the ATM-GF theory [73–76] for comprehending the impurity vibrational modes [53–57] of different isoelectronic donors and acceptors in InAs and InN. In the nearest-neighbor (NN) configuration (T_d-symmetry), it is possible to obtain the LVM frequencies of isolated light defects occupying either the cation or anion sites in various irreducible representations ($\mu\Gamma$: A₁, E, F₂) by solving the following equation [73]:

$$\prod_{\mu\Gamma} \det \left[\widetilde{I} - \widetilde{G}^{0}_{\mu\Gamma} \widetilde{P}_{\mu\Gamma} \right] = 0.$$
(4)

The results of ATM-GF calculations will help us identify the observed LVMs of Si_{In}^+ donors and Si_{As}^- and C_{As}^- acceptors in InAs [53–57] and provide clarification to the ambiguous picture of impurity modes for Mg_{In}^- and C_N^- acceptors and Si_{In}^+ donors in InN [58–68]. Here, we discuss the following cases.

4.5. LVMs of Isolated Defects in InAs and zb InN

In InAs, the light Si impurities are amphoteric, i.e., they act as donors Si_{In}^+ when occupying the In sites and acceptors Si_{As}^- if substituted on the As sites. By using Raman scattering spectroscopy, Uematsu [54] has confirmed the observation of the LVMs of isolated ${}^{28}Si_{In}^+$ donors and ${}^{28}Si_{As}^-$ acceptors with T_d -symmetry as well as a donor-acceptor pair ${}^{28}Si_{In}^+$ ${}^{28}Si_{As}^-$ mode of C_{3v} -symmetry. In InN, one also expects ${}^{28}Si_{In}^+$ to act as a donor and ${}^{26}Mg_{In}^-$ and ${}^{12}C_N^-$ as acceptors. Except for ${}^{12}C_{As}^-$ in InAs [53–57], conflicting reports of impurity modes are known for the ${}^{26}Mg_{In}^-$ acceptors [58–68].

Calculations of impurity modes using ATM-GF theory require accurate perturbation matrices $\tilde{P}(\omega)$ with mass ε_1 (ε_2) and force-constant change t (u) parameters [73] for the defects occupying In (As or N) sites in InAs and InN. If we assume that only the NN lattice sites are perturbed by the presence of isolated substitutional defects, then the decomposition

of a 15 \times 15 total representation of Equation (4) in a given irreducible representation (A₁, E, F₁ and F₂) can be expressed as follows [73]:

$$\Gamma(T_d) = A_1 + E + F_1 + 3F_2.$$
(5)

One must note that an irreducible representation that transforms like a polar vector is infrared-active. In this situation, the triply degenerate F₂ mode is IR-active while the A₁, E and F₂ modes are Raman-active. To simulate the LVMs of light impurities in semiconductors, we have first estimated the lattice relaxations around each defect by using a first-principles bond-orbital model (BOM) [89]. The second derivatives of bond energies enabled us to assess the force-constant variations t (u) for ²⁸Si⁺_{In} donor and (²⁸Si⁻_{As}, ²⁶Mg⁻_{In}, ¹²C⁻_{As}, ¹²C⁻_N) acceptor defects in InAs and InN matrices. Appropriate force-constant and mass change parameters of isolated impurities are used to establish the perturbation $\widetilde{P}(\omega)$ matrices while the necessary GFs ($\widetilde{G}^{0}(\omega)$) of the host lattices are obtained by integrating the RIM [77] phonons fitted to the XRTD data of InAs [78] and the first-principles data of InN [79]. The LVM frequencies of several isolated impurities in III-V compounds are obtained in Raman- and IR-active F₂ irreducible representation using Equation (4) from the zeroes of the real part of the determinant.

After meticulously analyzing [76] the Raman scattering and infrared spectroscopy data [53–57] of many isolated defects in semiconductors, we noticed large variations in the impurity–host interaction parameters Δt and (Δu) between the closest mass isoelectronic i and donor d⁺ (i and acceptor a⁻) occupying the III and (V) sites in III-V compounds, i.e., strong stiffening with Δt (d⁺_{III} – i_{III}) < 0 and (Δu (a⁻_V – i_V) < 0). However, for the closest mass isoelectronic i and acceptor a⁻ (i and donor d⁺) occupying the III and (V) sites in III-V compounds, the study has provided strong softening (i.e., Δt (a⁻_{III} – i_{III}) > 0 and (Δu (d⁺_V – i_V) > 0)). These observations have convincingly suggested that the charged impurities in semiconductors can only affect the short-range forces via the redistribution of electron charge density [76].

With the choice of appropriate values of both the mass change ε_1 (ε_2) and forceconstant change t (u) parameters, the LVMs of light impurities occupying either In or (As, N) sites are calculated from the crossing of zeroes (Equation (4)) above the maximum phonon frequencies of InAs (InN) $\omega_{\text{max}}^{\text{InAs}} \sim 243 \text{ cm}^{-1} (\omega_{\text{max}}^{\text{InN}} \sim 595 \text{ cm}^{-1})$. For InAs, our results have provided the LVMs of the ²⁸Si_{In}⁺ donors (²⁸Si_{As}⁻ acceptors) near ~359 cm⁻¹ (~328 cm⁻¹) and the ${}^{12}C_{As}^{-}$ acceptors at ~530 cm⁻¹, offering strong corroborations of the existing experimental [53-57] data. Recent RSS and FTIR [54] measurements of the isotopic shifts by ~19 cm⁻¹ for ${}^{12}C_{As}^{-}$ (${}^{13}C_{As}^{-}$) modes also supported our predictions that the LVM near ~530 cm⁻¹ is related to the isolated ${}^{12}C_{As}^{-}$ -acceptor in InAs. Due to the weak ${}^{26}Mg_{In}^{-}$ -N bonding as compared to the strong ²⁸Si⁺_{In}-N bonding, our ATM-GF theory has predicted the vibrational mode of ${}^{26}Mg_{In}^-$ (acceptor) to fall in the band mode region (~569 cm⁻¹) and $^{28}\text{Si}_{\text{III}}^+$ (donor) to appear just above the $\omega_{\text{max}}^{\text{InN}}$. While the impurity vibrational mode for the ${}^{26}Mg_{In}^{-}$ in InN agrees very well with the existing RSS data [49], we, however, assigned this as an impurity-activated phonon mode, and certainly, it is not the LVM. There also exist many other studies conducted to comprehend the role of Mg dopants η (1 \times 10¹⁶ to 4×10^{21} cm⁻³) in InN [58–68]. Besides the strain-induced modes, the observation of highfrequency LVMs involving Mg-H complexes confirmed the evidence of p-type conduction in InN. The possible occupation of Mg impurities and their site selectivity were also investigated by Chen et al. [58] using a diffusion-collision model of LVMs. For the Mg concentration $\eta < 1.8 \times 10^{20}$ cm⁻³, the authors [58] argued that the dominant defects are either Mgi interstitials and/or MgIn-N-Ini complexes. By increasing the Mg concentration to $\eta > 2 \times 10^{20}$ cm⁻³, the authors suggested the formation of Mg_{in}-N-Mg_i centers which can cause high-frequency impurity vibrational modes [58].

Again, C impurities are often present in the growth process of III-nitrides. Unlike III-V materials, the role of C in AlN, GaN and InN is not fully understood [58–68]. Many electronic and phonon energy calculations of C defects using first-principles density functional

methods are known in the literature [58–68]. These calculations indicated that carbon in the interstitial C_i site in InN is stable and contributes to n-type conduction [65,68]. Due to a short bond length between C-N split interstitials, the predicted stretching C-N mode near ~2270 cm⁻¹ [68] should be observed by FTIR and/or RSS spectroscopy.

4.6. Longitudinal Optical–Plasmon Coupling ω_{LOPC}^{\pm} Modes in n-Doped InN

One must note that both Raman scattering and infrared spectroscopies [53–68] are considered the most powerful and complementary tools for investigating the lattice dynamical properties of semiconductor materials, including (a) the estimation of doping concentration, (b) the identification of the site selectivity of defects, (c) the study of crystal orientation, and (d) comprehending the phonon dynamics. Being a nondestructive and contactless method, RSS is especially valuable for probing the free charge carrier concentration in nanostructured Si-doped InN nanowires [58–68]. In the framework of "Drude–Lorentz" model (Section 3.4), the calculated results of the $\omega_{\text{LOPC}}^{\pm}$ modes in n-InN are displayed in Figure 8 as a function of the charge carrier concentration $\eta (1 \times 10^{17}-2 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3})$.



Figure 8. Calculated results of LO-phonon plasmon coupled (ω_{LOPC}^{\pm}) modes in heavily Si-doped InN (see text) as a function of charge carrier concentration η (cm⁻³). Symbols represent the Raman scattering experimental data of ω_{LOPC}^{-} .

Using the visible 514.5 nm and UV 325 nm energy excitations, Raman scattering spectroscopy measurements have detected a weak vibrational mode in Si-doped InN between ~375 and 450 cm⁻¹ [58–68]. As η is increased, the Si-related mode shifts upwards and its line shape is sharpened, attaining a phonon-like character (ω_{LOPC}^{-}), confirming our calculations (see Figure 8)). While no ω_{LOPC}^{+} mode has been detected, a weak and broad band near ~600 cm⁻¹ is linked, however, to the disorder-activated longitudinal optical mode (DALO) [58–68]. These experimental observations have completely supported our ATM-GF calculations for the impurity mode characteristics of ²⁸Si⁺_{In} donors in InN.

5. Concluding Remarks

We have successfully grown zb InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP (001) epilayers of different N composition x by using the GS-MBE technique. High-resolution IR reflectivity measurements have revealed a ω_{TO}^{InAs} -like phonon line near ~219 cm⁻¹ and an LVM mode at ~439 cm⁻¹ linked to an isoelectronic ¹⁴N_{As} inInAs. Based on our comprehensive ATM-GF theory (Section 4.4.1), (a) nearly ~30% force-constant stiffening ($\Delta u (a_V^- - i_V) < 0$) is noticed between the closest mass C-acceptor "¹³C_{As}-In" and N-isoelectronic "¹⁴N_{As} – In" bonds. In InAs, this force variation provided an accurate shift in ¹²C_{As} LVM frequency from ~530 cm⁻¹ to a lower value, ~511 cm⁻¹, for the ¹³C_{As} isotopic defect. Compared to the local mode of ¹⁴N_{As} isoelectronic mass, our ATM-GF result for ¹³C_{As} acceptor agreed very well with the FTIR [53] results. On the contrary, our study of ²⁶Mg_{In}⁻ and ²⁸Si_{In}⁺ in *In*N has revealed weaker "²⁶Mg_{In}⁻-N" and stronger "²⁸Si_{In}⁺-N" bonding compared to the closest mass

isoelectronic ²⁷Al_{In} defect. Accordingly, the simulation of impurity vibrations for ²⁶Mg_{In}⁻ and ²⁸Si_{In}⁺ has predicted lower and higher values at ~569 cm⁻¹ and ~600 cm⁻¹, respectively. While the vibrational frequency of ²⁶Mg_{In}⁻ in *In*N agrees very well with the Raman scattering result [49], we feel that this mode needs to be re-assigned as an impurity-activated phonon and certainly not as an LVM. Besides the ATM-GF calculations of impurity modes, the reflectivity/transmission studies at oblique incidence in InAs_{1-x}N_x/InP (001) epilayers have confirmed the perception of ω_{TO} phonons in s-polarization and ω_{TO} and ω_{LO} modes in p-polarization. Consistent with infrared and Raman scattering measurements [53–57], our results have established the impurity identification and characterization of ¹⁴N_{As} (isoelectronic) ¹³C_{As}⁻, ²⁸Si_{In}⁺ and ²⁸Si_{As}⁻ in InAs [53–57]. The predicted impurity vibrational modes for ²⁸Si_{In}⁺ (donor) and ²⁶Mg_{In}⁻ (acceptor) in InN also agreed reasonably well with the existing spectroscopic data. We strongly feel that our systematic theoretical approach can be equally valuable for studying the lattice dynamics of other technologically important perfect and imperfect semiconductors.

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