Ain Shams University Faculty of Education Physics Department

Some Physical Properties Of Sputtering Cu-Ag And Cu-Sn Alloys And Redeposition Of Sputtered Thin Films In Different Plasma Atmospheres

#### THESIS

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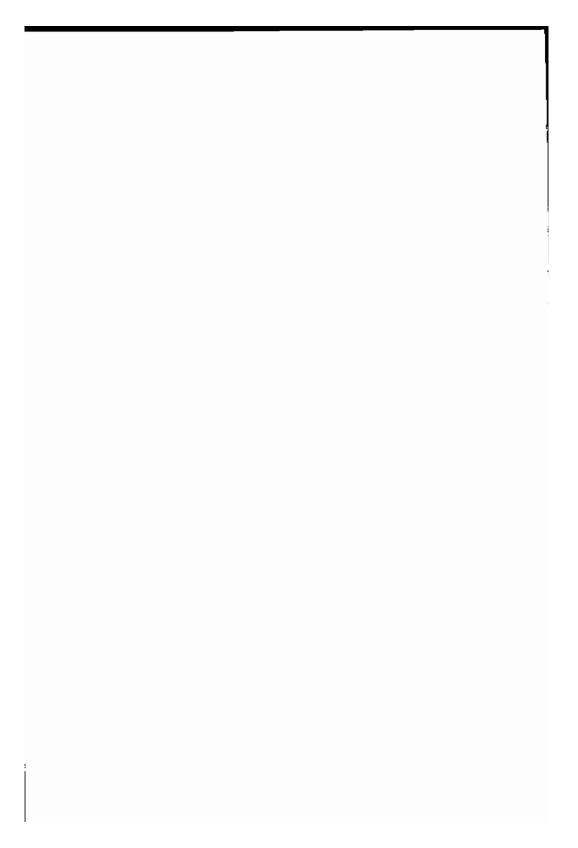
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# الهــــداء

الى أهل العلم أهدى عملى المتواضع .. قطرة من بحر علمهم الفياض . جزاهم الله عنا خير الجراء . والى امى وأبى وزوجسى وبفضل كعواتهم .. اتقدم

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# Lists of Figures and Plates

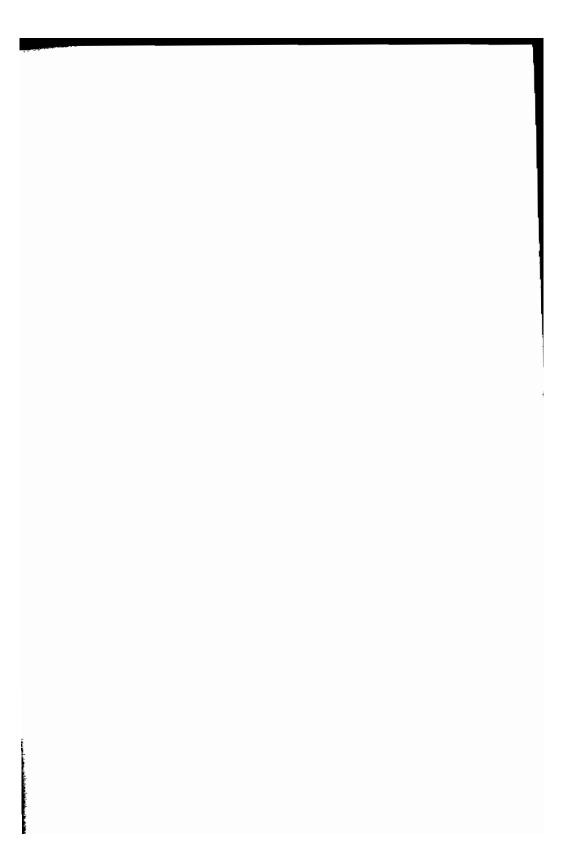
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#### Abstract

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The present work is devoted to investigate:

- The glow discharge and sputtering characteristics of the two mentioned copper alloys.
- Surface topography and sputtering behaviour of Cu-6 wt% Ag and Cu-10 wt% Sn in different plasma atmospheres.
- Some physical parameters affecting deposition rates of films formed in a magnetron sputtering system, and
- Target profile change due to magnetron sputtering of Cu-Ag and Cu-Sn alloys.

### Summary

The work presented in this thesis is devoted to investigate the physical properties of sputtering Cu-Ag & Cu-Sn alloys and redeposition of sputtered thin films in different plasma atmospheres. Four topics are discussed: 1) Glow discharge and sputtering characteristics of Cu-6 wt% Ag & Cu-10 wt% Sn targets. 2) Surface topography and sputtering behaviour of the two binary alloyed targets due to their ionic bombardment in different plasma atmospheres. 3) Physical parameters affecting deposition rates of thin films formed in a magnetron sputtering system, and 4) Target profile change due to deposition of backscattered material.

In the first topic, the effects of alloying silver and tin individually with copper on the glow discharge and sputtering characteristics of the two copper alloys are discussed. It was found that alloying either silver or tin with copper generally enhanced the glow discharge characteristics of pure copper in the two formed binary alloys. On the other hand, alloying silver with copper activated both oxidizing and nitriding processes of the Cu-Ag target where as tin in the Cu-Sn target hindered the two processes.

The second topic deals with surface topography and sputtering behaviour of the two alloys after treatment in different plasma atmospheres. Scanning electron microscopy was used to examine the bombarded surfaces. It was found that Ag in the Cu-Ag target increased its overall sputtering yield and consequently its surface erosion rate, while Sn on the other hand substantially reduced the sputtering yield of the Cu-Sn target.