

Can germanium be used as a substrate for solar cells?

Germanium has long been a popular material for integrated circuits. Outside the core area of electronic devices, an EU-funded project is showing its great potential as a substrate to lead next-generation multi-junction solar cells.

What are the electrical properties of germanium-based solar cells?

The devices obtained in this study have good electrical properties. The VOC of the germanium-based solar cells under the single-junction CC nanostructure absorber structure array is 0.31 V, and the JSC reaches 45.5 mA/cm². The FF value of the device can be calculated as 72.7% by Equation (4).

Can germanium-based solar cells be used as absorber layer?

Author to whom correspondence should be addressed. In this paper, germanium-based solar cells were designed based on germanium (Ge) materials, and the cross-cone (CC) nanostructures were used as the absorber layer of the solar cells.

What makes germanium solar cells so effective?

The strategic amalgamation of other semiconductor substances like GaAs (Gallium Arsenide) onto the Ge base culminates in multiple junctions that synergistically elevate the overall efficacy of solar cells. Contrasting silicon-based brethren, germanium solar cells showcase reduced recombination frequencies courtesy of superior conductive traits.

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Can germanium be used as a semiconductor material for solar power?

Nonetheless, monetary considerations retain paramount importance while transitioning from laboratory-scale fabrication towards commercialization. In the realm of high-efficiency solar power systems, a profound enigma lies in the utilization of germanium as a semiconductor material.

We report the first Germanium PV cell formed by a MoO_x/n-Ge heterojunction. Photocurrent density is 44.8 mA/cm², comparable to that of conventional Ge PV cells. Open circuit voltage is 138 mV, lower than that of conventional Ge PV cells.

Abstract--Multijunction solar cells with four junctions are expected to be the next-generation technology for both space and concentrator photovoltaic applications. Most commercial triple ...

Germanium (Ge) has been identified as one of the major environmental hotspots of ESA's space missions. As one of the critical raw materials the use of it (mainly driven by solar cells) is a ...

The incorporation of germanium breathes new life into solar cell technology, offering several edges over traditional silicon-based photovoltaic systems. The conversion efficiency - a key yardstick in renewable energy ...

The majority reported that high-efficiency solar cells used perovskite components with a Pb basis [11], [12]. Significant attempts have been made to design substitute B-site cations due to the toxicity concerns with Pb. The ability to partially replace Pb-based perovskites has only been demonstrated for Sn-based perovskites thus far

In this paper, germanium-based solar cells were designed based on germanium (Ge) materials, and the cross-cone (CC) nanostructures were used as the absorber layer of the solar cells. The optical path inside the absorber layer was increased by microstructure reflection, thereby increasing the absorption efficiency of the germanium-based solar ...

We demonstrate a 23.4% efficient single-junction solar cell on sp-Ge under conditions where no spalling defects are present and without the use of a CMP step. These best devices are within 2% relative of nominally ...

Single-junction solar cells use single semiconductor material of P-N junction like silicon. Whereas, the multi-junction solar cells use different semiconductor materials like Gallium Indium Phosphide (GaInP) and Indium Gallium Arsenide (InGaAs) and Germanium (Ge). However, single-junction solar cells are environmentally friendlier. This is ...

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