marking is that the solar substrate is distorted thereby, with properties of the relevant portion being degraded.

The prior art references pertinent to the present invention include the following documents.

Citation List

Patent Document

[0013]

Patent Document 1: JP-A 2004-064028

Patent Document 2: JP-A 2005-123447

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

Technical Problem

[0014]

EmbodimentsAn ~~object~~ of the present invention seek~~, which is made under the above circumstances, is~~ to provide a substrate in which the direction of the substrate can be~~is~~ easily identifiable, and the direction of the substrate can be easily kept in register throughout the process of manufacturing a solar cell so that a solar cell with consistent properties may be manufactured.

Solution to Problem

[0015]

According to a first aspect of ~~ly,~~ the present invention, there is provide~~d~~ a method for manufacturing a~~solar cell forming substrate and a solar cell, as defined below.~~

~~[1] A~~ solar cell using a ~~forming~~ silicon substrate of square shape with corners as viewed in plan view, which is provided with a chamfer at a first~~one~~ corner or a notch at or

near a first corner, wherein the first corner has a different shape from other corners whereby the direction of the silicon substrate is judged to keep the silicon substrate in the identical direction throughout the process of manufacturing a solar cell, wherein said first corner having chamfer at the first corner or notch at or near the first corner is used to identify the direction of the substrate during manufacturing~~one corner~~.

There is disclosed a~~[2] A~~ solar cell-forming silicon substrate of square shape as viewed in plan view, having a first corner and a second corner not diagonal to the first corner, which is provided with a chamfer at the first corner or a notch at or near the

first corner and with a notch at or near the second corner or a chamfer at the second corner, the notch or chamfer at the second corner is selected to be different from the chamfer or notch at the first corner.

According to a second aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method for manufacturing a ~~[3] A~~ solar cell using a ~~forming monocrystalline~~ silicon substrate of square shape with ~~rounded~~ corners as viewed in plan view, which is a monocrystalline silicon substrate with rounded corners, provided with an orientation flat at a first~~one~~ corner or a notch at or near a first~~one~~ corner, wherein the first corner has a different shape from other corners whereby the direction of the silicon substrate is judged to keep the silicon substrate in the identical direction throughout the process of manufacturing a solar cell, wherein said first corner having notch at or near the first corner or orientation flat at the first corner is used to identify the direction of the substrate during manufacturing.

There is disclosed a ~~[4] A~~ solar cell-forming monocrystalline silicon substrate of square shape with rounded corners as viewed in plan view, having a surface in (100) plane, which substrate is provided with an orientation flat or notch in a crystal orientation <110> passing substantially the center of the substrate.

There is disclosed a ~~[5] A~~ solar cell-forming monocrystalline silicon substrate of square shape with rounded corners as viewed in plan view, which is provided with an orientation flat at one corner and a notch at or near another corner not diagonal to the one corner.

There is disclosed a~~[6] A~~ solar cell comprising the substrate of the first and second aspect~~any one of [1] to [5]~~, wherein a low-concentration diffusion layer is formed on the light-receiving surface of the substrate, and a high-concentration diffusion layer is formed where a finger electrode is to be formed.

As used herein, the term "at or near a corner" refers to not only a right-angled corner of a square or a point at the center of a rounded corner, but also a surrounding portion, and encompasses a rounded portion.

Advantageous Effects of Invention

[0016]

Since the position of a substrate may be~~is~~ easily ascertainable according to the invention, the direction of the substrate can be easily identified in the process of