



***FABRICATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF COLOSSAL  
MAGNETORESISTANCE MANGANITES IN BULK, SINGLE LAYER AND  
TRILAYER THIN FILMS PREPARED BY PULSED LASER DEPOSITION  
TECHNIQUE***

**MANIZHEH NAVASERY**

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COLOSSAL MAGNETORESISTANCE  
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LASER DEPOSITION TECHNIQUE**

The logo of Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) is a shield-shaped emblem. At the top left, the letters 'UPM' are written in white on a red rectangular background. The central part of the shield features a stylized white and red design, including a book and a torch. The shield is set against a light grey background.

**MANIZHEH NAVASERY**

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY  
UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYASIA**

**2012**

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TECHNIQUE**

**By**

**MANIZHEH NAVASERY**

**Thesis submitted to the school of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia,  
In Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

**NOVEMBER 2012**

## Dedication

### **To My Mother**

**From Earth to Heaven...**

The words cannot describe how much I missed her. I lost her at a time when I was studying abroad.

Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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MAGNETORESISTANCE MANGANITES IN BULK, SINGLE LAYER AND  
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By

**MANIZHEH NAVASERY**

**November 2012**

**Chairman: Abdul Halim Shaari, PhD**

**Faculty: Science**

Electronic and magnetic properties of mixed-valent manganites,  $\text{Re}_{1-x}\text{M}_x\text{MnO}_3$  (Re = rare earth, M = alkaline earth), have received a lot of attention in the last decade because of the variety of interesting phenomena exhibited by these materials. This project was aimed at studying the structure and magnetotransport properties of manganites in the form of bulk, single and trilayer thin films prepared by Pulsed Laser deposition (PLD) technique by using Nd-YAG laser on different substrates. A comparison study between the bulk and thin film and the effect of substrate type on the structure, morphology and magneto-transport properties of the thin films was studied. In addition the enhancement of magnetoresistance (MR) and phase transition temperature ( $T_P$ ) on trilayer films are investigated. In the first part, the polycrystalline targets of  $\text{La}_{2/3}\text{Ca}_{1/3}\text{MnO}_3$  (LCMO),  $\text{La}_{5/8}\text{Sr}_{3/8}\text{MnO}_3$  (LSMO),  $\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Na}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3$  (LNMO) and  $\text{Pr}_{0.7}\text{Ca}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3$  (PCMO) were prepared by solid state

reaction. All samples were characterized by X-ray diffraction (XRD, Philips). The XRD data were analyzed by Rietveld refinement technique. It was found from XRD results that the bulks (same as thin films) were single phase with the orthorhombic  $Pnma$  structure for LCMO and PCMO and rhombohedral  $R\bar{3}C$  structure for LSMO and LNMO, where no detectable impurities were observed. A four point probe system which is inserted in the liquid nitrogen cryostat was used to measure the phase transition temperature  $T_P$ , and magnetoresistance of samples by using Hall effect system. LCMO shows metal-insulator transition at 274 K while PCMO is an insulator. In the case of LSMO and LNMO Transition temperature  $T_P$  was above room temperature. The Curie temperature was measured using the CryoBIND T AC Susceptometer.  $T_C$  is found from the peak in the  $d\chi'/dT$  (where  $\chi'$  is the real part of the susceptibility) via temperature curve.  $T_C$  is 94.18 K for PCMO, 330.4 K for LSMO, 319.79 K for LNMO and 285.76 K for LCMO manganite bulks. The PCMO sample is insulating at zero magnetic field, and has a charge ordering transition around 200 K followed by antiferromagnetic and ferromagnetic transitions respectively at 142.21 K and 94.18 K that were obtained from the real and imaginary part of AC susceptibility measurement respectively. Finally, by using the vibrating sample magnetometer (VSM, Lake shore 7400) at the maximum magnetic field (10 KG), the magnetization value was 46.24 emu/g for LSMO, 21.45 emu/g for LNMO, 5.49 emu/g for LCMO and  $1.66 \times 10^{-3}$  emu/g for PCMO bulk manganites. In the second part of this work, the manganite targets of  $La_{2/3}Ca_{1/8}MnO_3$  (LCMO),  $La_{5/8}Ca_{3/8}MnO_3$ ,  $La_{0.3}Na_{0.7}MnO_3$  (LNMO) and  $La_{5/8}Sr_{3/8}MnO_3$  (LSMO) were deposited on different substrates such as corning glass (Cg), silicon wafer and MgO by PLD technique. All the

substrates induce in-plane strains on the films, but the lattice mismatch between the manganites and the substrate is much larger for MgO than for other substrates. Thin film samples showed a much higher resistance compared to the bulk. For LSMO/MgO the high Curie temperature of 363 K is one of the high  $T_C$  in all LSMO thin films and to the best of our knowledge, it is the highest value that is reported in the literature for MgO substrates with high lattice mismatch parameter. In addition, The Curie temperature of LSMO films is around 352 K, which is one of the high  $T_C$  in all LSMO films and it is the highest value that is reported in literature for low cost amorphous substrates such as glass. The Curie temperature,  $T_c$  is 292 K for LNMO/Cg, 304 K for LNMO/Si and 286K for LNMO/MgO thin films. The relatively high resistance of the polycrystalline thin film may be caused by crack-like defaults and grain boundaries. Magnetoresistance was measured via four point probe technique using Hall effect system. The highest MR value obtained was  $-17.21\%$  for LSMO/MgO film followed by  $-15.65\%$  for LSMO/Si film at 80 K in a 1 T magnetic field. Transition temperature ( $T_P$ ) is 224 K for LSMO/MgO and 200 K for LSMO/Si film. The highest MR value obtained was  $-18.86\%$  for LNMO/MgO film followed by  $-17.35\%$  for LNMO/Si and  $16.59\%$  for LNMO/Cg thin film at 80 K in a 1 T magnetic field. The maximum temperature coefficient of resistance (TCR) ( $10.42\% \text{ K}^{-1}$ ) occurs at  $T = 232 \text{ K}$  for LNMO/MgO film. To our knowledge, this is the best TCR value obtained for LNMO film deposited on the not well-matched MgO substrate. The Curie temperature,  $T_c$  is found from the peak in the  $d\chi'/dT$  via the temperature curve that is 275 K for LSMO/Si, 270 K for LCMO/MgO and 292K for LCMO/Cg thin films. The highest MR value was  $-24.90\%$  for LCMO/Si thin film,  $-16.77\%$  for LCMO/Cg and  $-15.40\%$  for LCMO/MgO thin film at 80 K in a 1 T magnetic field. The phase transition temperature ( $T_P$ ) is 266 K for LCMO/Si,

209K for LCMO/MgO and 231 K for LCMO/Cg thin film. The significant observation in this study is the enhancement of magnetoresistance (MR) up to 36% in the LCMO/ PCMO /LCMO trilayer films. The reason for the enhanced MR suggested that it is due to the induced double exchange mechanism in PCMO by applying the magnetic field. The melting of the charge ordered state is associated with a huge CMR effect.





Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk Ijazah Doktor Falsafah

**FABRIKASI DAN PENCIRIAN MAGNETORINTANGAN KOLOSAL  
MANGANIT-MANGANIT DALAM PUKAL, SATU LAPISAN DAN TIGA  
LAPISAN FILEM NIPIS YANG DISEDIAKAN MENGGUNAKAN TEKNIK  
PEMENDAPAN LASER BERDENYUT**

Oleh

**MANIZHEH NAVASERY**

**November 2012**

**Pengerusi: Abdul Halim Shaari, PhD**

**Fakulti: Sains**

Elektronik dan magnet bagi manganit valentioercompur,  $RE_{1-x}M_xMnO_3$  (Re = nadir bumi, M = alkali bumi) telah menerima banyak perhatian dalam dekad yang lalu kerana pelbagai fenomena menarik yang dipamerkan oleh bahan-bahan ini. Projek ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji struktur dan sifat magneto-pengangkutan manganite-manganite dalam bentuk pukal, filem nipis tunggal dan tiga lapisan yang disediakan oleh teknik pemendapan Laser berdenyut (PLD) ke atas substrat-substrat yang berbeza. Satu kajian perbandingan antara filem nipis dan pukal dan kesan jenis substrat ke atas struktur, morfologi dan sifat magneto-pengangkutan filem nipis telah dikaji. Selain itu, peningkatan suhu magnetorintangan (MR) dan fasa peralihan ( $T_p$ ) pada filem tiga lapisan turut diselidik. Dalam bahagian pertama polihablur  $La_{2/3}Ca_{1/3}MnO_3$  (LCMO),  $La_{5/8}Sr_{3/8}MnO_3$  (LSMO),  $La_{0.7}Na_{0.3}MnO_3$  (LNMO) dan  $Pr_{0.7}Ca_{0.3}MnO_3$  (PCMO) telah disediakan dengan kaedah

tindak balas keadaan pepejal. Keputusan XRD menunjukkan bahan pukal dan juga filem nipis adalah fasa tunggal dengan struktur ortorombik  $Pnma$  bagi LCMO dan PCMO dan struktur rombohedral  $R\bar{3}C$  bagi LSMO dan LNMO, dimana tiada bendasing dijumpai. LCMO menunjukkan peralihan logam-penebat pada 274 K, manakala PCMO adalah penebat. Dalam kes LSMO dan LNMO,  $T_p$  adalah di atas suhu bilik. Suhu Curie,  $T_c$ , manganit pukal didapati dari puncak dalam  $d\chi'/dT$  melalui keluk suhu iaitu 94.18K untuk PCMO, 330.42 K untuk LSMO, 319.79 K untuk LNMO dan 285.76 K untuk LCMO. Sampel PCMO berpenebat pada medan magnet sifar, dan mempunyai tertiban caj peralihan sekitar 200 K yang diikuti oleh peralihan antiferromagnet dan ferromagnet pada 142.21 K dan 94.18 K yang diperolehi dari bahagian nyata dan khayalan pengukuran kerentanan AC masing. Akhir sekali, pada medan magnet maksimum (10 kG), nilai kemagnetan manganit pukal adalah 46.24 emu/g untuk LSMO, 21.45 emu/g untuk LNMO, 5.49 emu/g untuk LCMO dan  $1.66 \times 10^{-3}$  emu/g untuk PCMO. Dalam bahagian kedua kerja ini, manganit  $La_{2/3}Ca_{1/8}MnO_3$  (LCMO),  $La_{5/8}Ca_{3/8}MnO_3$   $La_{0.3}Na_{0.7}MnO_3$  (LNMO) dan  $La_{5/8}Sr_{3/8}MnO_3$  (LSMO) telah diempakan di atas substrat yang berbeza seperti kaca Corning, wafer silikon dan MgO dengan menggunakan teknik Pemendapan Laser Berdenyut (PLD). Semua substrat mendorong terikan dalam pelan yang luas di atas filem, tetapi ketidakpadanan kekisi di antara manganit-manganit dan substrat adalah lebih besar bagi MgO berbanding substrat lain. Sampel filem nipis menunjukkan rintangan yang lebih tinggi berbanding sampel pukal. Suhu Curie yang tinggi untuk LSMO/MgO iaitu 363 K adalah salah satu  $T_c$  yang tinggi dalam semua filem nipis LSMO dan sebagaimana pengetahuan kami, nilai  $T_c$  ini adalah nilai tertinggi yang dilaporkan dalam kajian literatur untuk substrat MgO dengan

ketidaksepadanan parameter kekisi yang tinggi. Disamping itu, suhu Curie filem LSMO adalah sekitar 352 K, yang merupakan salah satu  $T_C$  yang tinggi dalam semua filem-filem LSMO dan sebagaimana pengetahuan kami, nilai  $T_C$  ini adalah nilai tertinggi yang dilaporkan dalam kajian literatur untuk substrat amorfus kos rendah seperti kaca. Suhu Curie,  $T_C$ , untuk filem-filem nipis LNMO/Cg adalah 292 K, 304 K untuk LNMO/Si dan 286 K untuk LNMO/MgO. Rintangan yang tinggi untuk polihablur filem nipis adalah disebabkan kemungkinan seperti retak dan sempadan butiran. Nilai MR tertinggi diperolehi adalah -17.21% untuk filem LSMO/MgO yang diikuti oleh -15.65% untuk filem LSMO/Si pada 80 K dalam medan magnet 1 T. Suhu peralihan ( $T_P$ ) adalah 224 K untuk LSMO/MgO dan 200 K untuk filem LSMO/Si. Nilai MR tertinggi diperolehi adalah -18.86% untuk filem nipis LNMO/MgO yang diikuti oleh -17.35% untuk LNMO/Si dan 16.59% untuk filem nipis LNMO/Cg pada 80 K dalam medan magnet 1 T. Pekali suhu rintangan maksimum (TCR) ( $10.42\% \text{ K}^{-1}$ ) berlaku pada  $T = 232 \text{ K}$  untuk filem LNMO/MgO. Ini adalah nilai TCR terbaik yang diperolehi bagi filem LNMO yang dikenakan di atas substrat MgO yang tidak sepadan. Suhu Curie,  $T_C$ , filem nipis didapati dari puncak dalam  $d\chi'/dT$  melalui keluk suhu iaitu 275 K untuk LSMO/Si, 270 K untuk LCMO/MgO dan 292 K untuk LCMO / Cg. Nilai MR tertinggi adalah -24.90% untuk filem nipis LCMO/Si, -16.77% untuk filem nipis LCMO/Cg dan -15.40% untuk filem nipis LCMO/MgO pada 80 K dalam medan magnet 1T. Suhu fasa peralihan ( $T_P$ ) bagi filem nipis LCMO/Si adalah 266 K, 209 K untuk LCMO/MgO dan 231 K untuk LCMO/Cg. Pemerhatian penting dalam kajian ini adalah peningkatan magnetorintangan (MR) sehingga 36% dalam filem tiga lapisan LCMO/PCMO/LCMO. Alasan bagi peningkatan MR dicadangkan berpunca dari pengaruh mekanisme tukarganti berganda dalam PCMO

dengan menggunakan medan magnet. Keadaan tertib caj adalah dikaitkan dengan kesan CMR yang besar.



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I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 5 September 2012 to conduct the final examination of Manizheh Navasery on her thesis entitled “Fabrication and Characterization of Colossal Magnetoresistance Manganites in Bulk, Single layer and Trilayer Thin Films Prepared by Pulsed Laser Deposition Technique” in accordance with the Universities and University College Act 1971 and the Constitution of Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The committee recommends that the student be awarded the Doctor of Philosophy.

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## DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations, which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously and is not concurrently, submitted for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or at any other institutions.

---

**MANIZHEH NAVASERY**

Date: 22 November 2012

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS /NOTATIONS/GLOSSARY OF TERMS

AFM	Antiferromagnetic, Atomic Force Microscopy
AFI	Antiferromagnetic Insulating
CMR	Colossal Magnetoresistance
CE	Charge Exchange
CO	Charge Ordering
CAF	Canted Antiferromagnetic
DE	Double Exchange Mechanism
FWHM	Full Width Half Maximum
GB	Grain Boundary
GMR	Giant Magnetoresistance
RE	Rare Earth element
PM	Paramagnetic
PLD	Pulsed Laser Deposition
MR	Magnetoresistance
FE-SEM	Field Emission- Scanning Electron Microscope
VSM	Vibration Sample Magnetometer
LAO	LaAlO <sub>3</sub>
JT	Jahn-Teller distortion
T <sub>p</sub>	Phase Transition Temperature
T <sub>c</sub>	Curie temperature

$T_N$	Neel Temperature
FMI	Ferromagnetic Insulator
FMM	Ferromagnetic Metallic
LSMO	$\text{La}_{1-x}\text{Sr}_x\text{MnO}_3$ , $\text{La}_{5/8}\text{Sr}_{3/8}\text{MnO}_3$
LNMO	$\text{La}_{1-x}\text{Na}_x\text{MnO}_3$ , $\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Na}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3$
LCMO	$\text{La}_{1-x}\text{Ca}_x\text{MnO}_3$ , $\text{La}_{2/3}\text{Ca}_{1/3}\text{MnO}_3$
PCMO	$\text{Pr}_{1-x}\text{Ca}_x\text{MnO}_3$ , $\text{Pr}_{0.7}\text{Ca}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3$
$T_{MI}$	Metal-Insulator Temperature
STO	$\text{SrTiO}_3$
XPD	X-ray Diffraction
AMR	Anisotropic magnetoresistance
TMR	Tunnelling magnetoresistance
Cg	Corning glass

## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 General Introduction

In the last 20 years, two classes of materials have defined and dominated the landscape of condensed matter physics study of oxide materials: high-temperature superconductivity in doped cuprates and doped manganites. Figure 1.1 typically shows Normalized resistance via temperature for superconductor (YBCO) and manganite (LCMO) at zero magnetic field. The research in the field of spintronics contents phenomena such as giant magnetoresistance (GMR), colossal magnetoresistance (CMR), spin-tunneling in junctions (STJ), spin coherence and spin dephasing have attracted more attention. The spintronics (Daughton et al., 1999; Gregg et al., 2002; Wolf et al., 2001; Žutić et al., 2004) is defined as the branch of electronics that utilizes the spin degree of freedom of the electron together with its charge, to store and transmit information. The discovery of negative magnetoresistance (MR) in rare-earth manganates,  $RE_{1-x}A_xMnO_3$  (RE = rare earth, A = alkaline earth) with the perovskite structure, has attracted wide attention. The magnitude of MR in these materials can be very large, more than of 100%. For this reason, many workers prefer to call this colossal magnetoresistance (CMR), as distinct from giant magnetoresistance (GMR) in layered

or granular metallic materials. In metallic multilayers or granular alloys, the mechanism involves spin-polarized transport. In the manganates also, spinpolarized transport is responsible for the large negative MR, but it is distinctly different from what happens in the metallic multilayers.

The properties of manganites compounds with a  $\text{Mn}^{3+}/\text{Mn}^{4+}$  mixed valence keep attracting attention from both experimentalists and theorists. The rich phase diagram with entangled insulating, metallic, ferromagnetic (FM), antiferromagnetic (AFM) and paramagnetic phases, reveals a strong coupling between the lattice, spin and electronic degrees of freedom. These called double exchange mechanism assuming the oxygen mediated electron exchange between neighboring  $\text{Mn}^{3+}/\text{Mn}^{4+}$  sites is only a starting point of modelling (Haghi-Gosnet and Renard, 2003). The mobility of the conduction electron between  $\text{Mn}^{3+}/\text{Mn}^{4+}$  pairs is greatly enhanced when the magnetic moments on adjacent Mn ions are aligned. The mixed valence also leads to the formation of small polarons, arising from  $\text{Mn}^{3+}/\text{Mn}^{4+}$  valence changes and to Jahn-teller distortion involving Mn that leads to incoherent hopping and high resistivity in the insulating phase. The  $\text{Mn}^{3+}-\text{O}^{2-}-\text{Mn}^{4+}$  bond lengths and angles play a crucial role in determining the magnetotransport in manganites (Teplykh et al., 2004). Moreover, an applied magnetic field enhances the FM order, thus reduces the spin scattering and produces a so-called negative colossal magnetoresistance (CMR) peak.

## 1.2 Applications of CMR materials

The manganite materials are especially interesting since they present large electronic correlations leading to a strong competition between lattice, charge, spin, and orbital degrees of freedom. These manganese-based perovskite oxides exhibit half-metallic character and CMR response rendering them as the ideal materials to develop novel concepts of oxide-electronic devices and for the study of fundamental physical interactions. Due to the close similarity between kinetic energy of charge carriers and Coulomb repulsion, tiny perturbations caused by small changes in temperature, magnetic or electric fields, strain and so forth may drastically modify the magnetic and transport properties of these materials. In addition, the half metallic character may find applications in spintronics. The simplest type of application is the spin-valve device: an insulating tunnel barrier is sandwiched between magnetic metal. Due to the high spin-polarization of carriers in half-metallic manganites, the spin dependent tunneling between two ferromagnetic manganites electrodes across a thin insulating barrier should produce a large magneto-resistance response.

Moreover, because these materials should allow true on-of operations, they would be very appropriate for sensor elements of non-volatile devices. Unfortunately, the CMR effect currently requires very high magnetic fields and low temperatures for most materials making them impractical for use in devices. Therefore, currently, high magnetoresistance at room temperature and under low magnetic field are more

interested. Magnetoresistance (MR) is important in many technological applications, such as magnetic data storage, read - write heads, magnetic - bolometric sensors, magnetic tunnel junction (MTJ) and magnetoresistive random access memory (MRAM).

In summary, few applications of CMR materials are listed below:

1. Magnetic field sensors

- (a) Using the CMR effect in a film
- (b) Using a spin valve structure
- (c) As a microwave CMR sensor

2. Electric field effect devices

- (a) Using a SrTiO<sub>3</sub> gate
- (b) Using a ferroelectric gate

3. Bolometric uncooled infrared (IR) sensors using the metal -insulator transition at Curie temperature

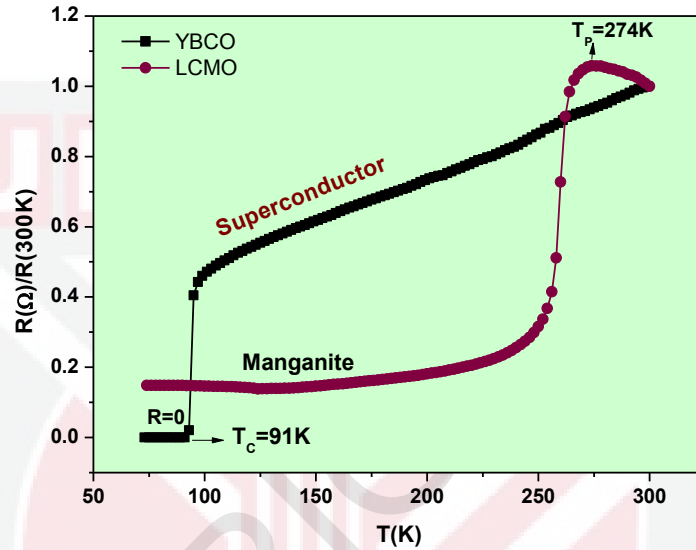
4. Low temperature hybrid HTS-CMR devices

- (a) Flux focused magnetic transducers
- (b) Spin polarized quasi-particle injection devices

The industrial requirements for a magnetic sensor can be summarized as follows.

1. Operation at room temperature and up to 100 K above room temperature.
2. At least a 20% response at a field of 100 Gauss
3. Temperature independent CMR values over 50-350 K
4. Acceptable noise values
5. Retention of magneto-transport properties in patterned films at dimensions

approaching sub-1000Å scales. (The current thinking is that oxide-based CMR sensors will have maximum impact only on memory systems approaching densities of 100 Gb/cm<sup>2</sup>).



**Figure 1.1:** Normalized resistance via temperature for superconductor (YBCO) and manganite (LCMO) at zero magnetic field (The results are taken from my research work at UPM).

### 1.3 Problem Statement

Currently manganite research is one of the research topics in solid state condensed matter physics, aiming to improve the understanding of the behavior of electrons in crystals. There are two main reasons interesting to the manganites as background of this

study. The first reason is the unexpectedly large magnetotransport properties of these materials. By application of relatively small magnetic fields, the resistivity changes by several orders of magnitude. A second motivation to study the manganites is contained in their rich phase diagram, exhibiting a variety of phases, with unusual spin, charge, lattice and orbital order. On the other hand, the high Curie temperature and especially high magnetoresistance of these materials making the multilayer study of manganites is important as it has a direct application in electronic devices and industry.

Currently, important issues in manganite namely are; How could the magnetoresistance in manganite film and polycrystals be improved? How could the room temperature and metal-insulator transition temperature in these materials be increased? What is the effect of substrate type on physical and magneto-transport properties of these materials? What is the effect of insulator manganite if sandwiched between two metallic manganites?

In order to address these questions, we have studied  $\text{La}_{2/3}\text{Ca}_{1/3}\text{MnO}_3$  (LCMO),  $\text{La}_{5/8}\text{Sr}_{3/8}\text{MnO}_3$  (LSMO),  $\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Na}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3$  (LNMO) and  $\text{Pr}_{0.7}\text{Ca}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3$  (PCMO) polycrystalline bulk manganites in the form of bulk and thin films that are deposited on different substrates. In addition a LCMO/PCMO/LCMO trilayer is fabricated to study the effect of multilayers on the enhancement of magnetoresistance.



## 1.4 Objective of Thesis

This thesis is focused on fabrication and characterization of LCMO, LSMO, LNMO and PCMO polycrystalline manganites in the form of bulk, single and trilayer thin films deposited on different substrates by Pulsed Laser Deposition (PLD) technique.

The objectives of this work are presented as follow:

- 1) To prepare and characterize high quality  $\text{La}_{2/3}\text{Ca}_{1/3}\text{MnO}_3$  (LCMO),  $\text{La}_{5/8}\text{Sr}_{3/8}\text{MnO}_3$  (LSMO),  $\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Na}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3$  (LNMO) and  $\text{Pr}_{0.7}\text{Ca}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3$  (PCMO) polycrystalline bulk manganites via solid state reaction method.
- 2) To prepare and characterize high quality  $\text{La}_{2/3}\text{Ca}_{1/3}\text{MnO}_3$  (LCMO),  $\text{La}_{5/8}\text{Sr}_{3/8}\text{MnO}_3$  (LSMO),  $\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Na}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3$  (LNMO) single layer thin films grown on different substrates by PLD technique.
- 3) To investigate the magnetoresistance enhancement in LCMO/PCMO/LCMO trilayers films grown on Si-wafer by PLD method.

## 1.5 Plan of Thesis

The thesis is arranged in the following way:

In Chapter 1, general introduction of manganites, motivation and objectives of thesis are included.

In Chapter 2, a summary of previous work and literature review of manganites are given.

In Chapter 3, an overview of theory of manganites, thin film growth methods and fundamental of laser ablation are described.

In Chapter 4, an overview of sample preparation and the deposition process are described. In addition, the basic instruments used to fabricate and characterize the samples were introduced.

Chapter 5 describes the characterization and measurement details of bulk manganites, single layer and trilayer thin films. Finally the analysis and discussion of results are presented.

In Chapter 6 conclusions and suggestions are included.

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## BIODATA OF STUDENT

Manizheh Navasery was born on the 22<sup>th</sup> December 1971 in Ahvaz, IRAN. She received her primary school in Ahvaz from 1977 to 1982, her secondary school was continued in Hadaf high School from 1982 – 1990. She continued her university education in B. Sc. Degree in Applied Physics at Shahid Chamran University in Ahvaz and graduate in 1997. In 1997 she continued as a Master student in field of Superconductivity at Shahid Chamran University and graduate in 2000. She married on August 2006. Finally she entered University Putra Malaysia in July 2008 for PhD studying in field of Magnetic Materials.

## LIST OF PUBLICATION

- **JOURNAL PUBLICATION**

- **M. Navasery, S.A. Halim, S.K.Chen, K.P.Lim, R.A.Shukor**, Structure, Electrical Transport and Magneto-Resistance properties of  $\text{La}_{5/8}\text{Ca}_{3/8}\text{MnO}_3$  Synthesized with different manganese precursors, Modern Physics Letter B, Vol.26, No.6, **2012**.
- **M. Navasery, S.A. Halim, S.K.Chen, K.P.Lim** “High Curie temperature for  $\text{La}_{5/8}\text{Sr}_{3/8}\text{MnO}_3$  thin films prepared by Pulsed Laser Deposition grown on glass substrate” Journal of Physics: International Journal of Electrochemical Science, 8, **2013**(Accepted).
- **M. Navasery, S.A. Halim, S.K.Chen, K.P.Lim** “Characterization and mechanism of  $\text{La}_{5/8}\text{Sr}_{3/8}\text{MnO}_3$  thin films Prepared by Pulsed Laser Deposition on different Substrates” International Journal of Electrochemical Science, 8, **2013** (Accepted).

- **CONFERENCE PRESENTATION**

- **INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

- **M. Navasery, S.A. Halim, S.K.Chen, K.P.Lim, R.A.Shukor**, Growth and characterization of  $\text{La}_{5/8}\text{Ca}_{3/8}\text{MnO}_3$  film prepared by pulsed laser deposition on silicon wafer substrate, presented in “The seven international of magnetic and



superconducting materials (MSM11) at Avillion Resort Hotel, Port Dickson ,Negeri Sembilan on 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

- **LOCAL CONFERENCE**

- **M. Navasery**, S.A. Halim, K.P.Lim, S.K.Chen , Study of Structure and Electrical properties of  $\text{La}_{1-x}\text{Ca}_x\text{MnO}$  (  $x=1/8, 1/3$  &  $5/8$  ) polycrystalline manganites, presented in “ Fundamental Science Congress 2010, UPM on 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May 2010.
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- **M. Navasery**, S.A. Halim, K.P.Lim, S.K.Chen and R.A.Shukor, “Growth and characterization of  $\text{La}_{2/3}\text{Ca}_{1/3}\text{MnO}_3$  thin films by Pulsed laser deposition on Corning glass substrate” presented in 26<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference on Solid State Science and Technology 2011 (RCSSST 2011) at The Royal Bintang , Seremban,Negeri Sembilan on 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> Novomber2011.
- **M. Navasery**, S.A. Halim, K.P.Lim, S.K.Chen and R.A.Shukor, “Growth and characterization of  $\text{La}_{5/8}\text{Ca}_{3/8}\text{MnO}_3$  thin films by Pulsed laser deposition on Fused silica substrate” presented in “ Fundamental Science Congress 2012, UPM on 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

- **EXHIBITION AND AWARD**

- **Pameran Rekacipta Penyelidikan and Inovasi (PRPI 12) UPM 2012.**

Abdul Halim Shaari, **Manizheh Navasery**, Chen Soo Kien and Lim Kean Pah “  
Enhancement of Magnetoresistance in LCMO/PCMO/LCMO Trilayers Grown  
on Si-Wafer by Pulsed Laser Deposition” **Silver Medal.**

- **Pameran Rekacipta Penyelidikan and Inovasi (PRPI 12) UPM 2012.**

Abdul Halim Shaari, Pan Kai Yap, **Manizheh Navasery**, Chen Soo Kien, Mohd  
Mustapha Awang Kechik, Lim Kean Pah and Wan Mohd Daud Wan Yusoff,  
“Room Temperature Ferromagnetic-Insulator Transition in LKMO prepared via  
Sol-Gel” **Silver Medal.**