EFFECT OF Cr SUBSTITUTION AT Mn SITES ON MAGNETIC AND TRANSPORT PROPERTIES IN CHARGE ORDERED $Nd_{0.5}Ca_{0.5}Mn_{1-x}Cr_xO_3$ (x = 0, 0.02, 0.05) MANGANITES

ZAINAB BINTI MOHAMAD ASRI

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This Final Year Project Report entitled "Effect of Cr substitution at Mn sites on magnetic and transport properties in charge ordered $Nd_{0.5}Ca_{0.5}Mn_{1.x}Cr_xO_3$ (x = 0, 0.02, 0.05) manganites" was submitted by Zainab Binti Mohamad Asri, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Science (Hons.) Physics, in the Faculty of Applied Sciences, and was approved by

Prof. Dr. Ahmad Kamal Hayati Yahya Supervisor

B. Sc. (Hons.) Physics Faculty of Applied Sciences Universiti Teknologi MARA 40450 Shah Alam Selangor

Prof Madya Md. Yusof Theeran Project Coordinator B.Sc. (Hons.) Physics Faculty of Applied Sciences Universiti Teknologi MARA 40450 Shah Alam Selangor

Prof Madya Ab Malik Marwan Ali Coordinator of Programme B.Sc. (Hons.) Physics Faculty of Applied Sciences Universiti Teknologi MARA 40450 Shah Alam Selangor

Date: ____ 2 9 IAN 2013

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Zainab Binti Mohamad Asri

Faculty of Applied Science
University Teknologi MARA (UiTM)

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ABSTRACT

Charge ordered Nd_{0.5}Ca_{0.5}Mn_{1-x}Cr_xO₃ (x = 0, 0.02, 0.05) have been investigated using electrical resistivity and magnetic susceptibility to explain the effect of Cr substitution on electrical transport and magnetic properties. Electrical resistivity and magnetic susceptibility measurements showed that the x = 0 sample exhibits an insulating behavior and an anti-ferromagnetic (AFM) transition at 230K which can be related due to Mn³⁺ - O²⁻ - Mn⁴⁺ interaction. With increasing of Cr content, a metal-insulator (MI) was observed and the transition shifted to higher temperature from $T_{MI} \sim 133$ K (x = 0.02) to $T_{MI} \sim 136$ K (x = 0.05) accompany with the ferromagnetic (FM) transition which is observed around $T_C \sim 148$ K and $T_C \sim 152$ K for x = 0.02 and x = 0.05 respectively. This can be suggested to be due to the double exchange (DE) mechanism of Mn³⁺ - O²⁻ - Mn⁴⁺. Apart from that, the magnetic susceptibility and resistivity measurement indicated the existence of charge ordering (CO) state at a sharp peak. With increasing Cr substitution, the CO states weakened due to weakening of Jahn Teller (JT) effect.