EFFECTS OF Mg SUBSTITUTION AT Sr SITE ON SUPERCONDUCTIVITY OF Tl_{0.5}Pb_{0.5}Sr_{2-x}Mg_xCa_{0.8}Yb_{0.2}Cu₂O_{7-δ} (x=0.0-1.0) CERAMICS

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This Final Year Project Report entitled "Effects of Mg substitution at Sr site on superconductivity of $Tl_{0.5}Pb_{0.5}Sr_{2-x}Mg_xCa_{0.8}Yb_{0.2}$ O_{7- δ} (x=0.0-1.0) ceramics" was submitted by Suhadir Shamsuddin, in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Science (Hons.) Physics, in the Faculty of Applied Science, and was approved by

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ABSTRACT

EFFECTS OF Mg SUBSTITUTION AT Sr SITE ON SUPERCONDUCTIVITY OF Tl_{0.5}Pb_{0.5}Sr_{2-x}Mg_xCa_{0.8}Yb_{0.2}Cu₂O_{7.δ} (x=0.0-1.0) CERAMICS

In this project, Mg substituted Tl1212 type phase high temperature superconductor with nominal starting compositions of $Tl_0 {}_5Pb_0 {}_5Sr_{2,x}Mg_xCa_0 {}_8Yb_0 {}_2Cu_2O_7$. δ (x=0.0-1.0) were synthesized using conventional solid-state synthesis method. Power X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns showed all samples consist of major 1212 phase and minor 1201 phase. Temperature-dependent resistance measurement on (x=0.0) showed metallic normal state behavior. Substitution of Mg caused deterioration of superconductivity and gradual change of normal state resistance from semi-metallic behavior (x=0.2-0.8) to semiconductor-like behavior (x=1.0). The (x=1.0) sample was non-superconducting. The best superconducting behavior of the series was observed for $Tl_{0.5}Pb_{0.5}Sr_2Ca_{0.8}Yb_{0.2}Cu_2O_7$ with T_c zero and T_c onset are 92K and 103K respectively. Results of critical temperature (T_c) measurements, microstructure investigation using scanning electron microscope (SEM) and power X-ray diffraction (XRD) analysis are presented. The effects of Mg substitution are discussed in terms of lattice parameter which is decrease on both *a*-lattice and *c*-lattice parameter and the concepts of an average Cu valence as well as the changing in normal state behavior.