FIRST PRINCIPLE DFT+U STUDY ON THE STRUCTURAL,
DYNAMICAL, AND ELECTRONIC PROPERTIES OF
MULTIFERROIC BiFeO₃

MUHAMAD ZAFROL BIN JUSOH

Final Year Project Report submitted in
Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the
Degree of Bachelor of Science (Hons.) Physic
in the Faculty of Applied Sciences
Universiti Teknologi Mara

JANUARY 2013
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, I want to express my gratitude to my supervisor, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Salleh for his guidance in the preparation of my final year project. With his helps and advice, I had completed my proposal successfully. Special thanks to senior that also contribute to the success of this project.

Deepest thanks to my family and friends who are constantly supported me all the way through. Last but not least, I would like to thanks to all individuals involved in helping me to complete my proposal and final year project.

Muhamad Zafrol Bin Jusoh

Faculty of Applied Science

University Teknologi MARA (UiTM)
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ABSTRACT

First principle DFT+U study in the structural and electronic properties of multiferroic BFO (Bismuth Ferrite)

The structural and electronic properties of BiFeO$_3$ (BFO) were investigated employing the first principles within LSDA+U method. In this work the orthorhombic perovskite structure is used. The value correlation U is varied at 0eV, 3eV and 6eV which found that 6eV calculated band gap is more closed to the experimental one. For geometry optimization the volume is found to be underestimation when it is compared to experimental data. The band gap of BFO was found to be 2.0eV by the electronic structure calculation. Analysis of the density of states indicated that the valence band was consisted with Fe-d and O-p states, and the conduction band was composed of Fe-d and Bi-p states.
CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND STUDY

Multiferroic materials are very promising nowadays since they can exhibit more than one good characteristics and properties. Multiferroic is a material that can exhibit more than one ferroic group for example ferroelectric and ferromagnetic. The multiferroic is being proposed in 2003, when the large polarization in epitaxially grown thin film of bismuth ferrite and also magnetic and electric coupling by orthorhombic TbMnO$_3$ are being discovered. For material that can consider as ferroelectric, it must be able to switch between these states with an applied electric field, which changes the relative energy of the states through the coupling of the field to the polarization.

The presence of both magnetic and ferroelectric above room temperature with potential coupling between the two order parameters makes BFO a good candidate for with have immense potential for technological device applications and at the same time they pose very interesting and fundamental physics problems.