STUDY OF GRAPHENE-BASED PEROVSKITE SOLAR CELL

HANI ZUNNUR BT MOHD SHUKRI



STUDY OF GRAPHENE-BASED PEROVSKITE SOLAR CELL

HANI ZUNNUR BT MOHD SHUKRI

THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING WITH HONOURS

FACULTY OF ELECTRONIC AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA

UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA

2023



UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA FAKULTI KEJUTERAAN ELEKTRONIK DAN KEJURUTERAAN KOMPUTER

BORANG PENGESAHAN STATUS LAPORAN PROJEK SARJANA MUDA II

Study of Graphene-based Perovskite Solar Cell 2022/2023

Saya <u>HANI ZUNNUR BT MOHD SHUKRI</u> mengaku membenarkan laporan Projek Sarjana Muda ini disimpan di Perpustakaan dengan syarat-syarat kegunaan seperti berikut:

- 1. Laporan adalah hakmilik Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka.
- 2. Perpustakaan dibenarkan membuat salinan untuk tujuan pengajian sahaja.
- 3. Perpustakaan dibenarkan membuat salinan laporan ini sebagai bahan pertukaran antara institusi pengajian tinggi.
- 4. Sila tandakan (\checkmark):



*CATATAN: Jika laporan ini SULIT atau TERHAD, sila lampirkan surat daripada pihak berkuasa/organisasi berkenaan dengan menyatakan sekali tempoh laporan ini perlu dikelaskan sebagai SULIT atau TERHAD.

DECLARATION

I declare that this report entitled "Study of Graphene-based Perovskite Solar Cell" is the result of my own work except for quotes as cited in the references.



APPROVAL

I hereby declare that I have read this thesis and in my opinion this thesis is sufficient in terms of scope and quality for the award of Bachelor of Electronic Engineering with



DEDICATION

I am dedicating my Final Year Project (FYP) of bachelor's degree to my supportive supervisor, Ts. Siti Aisah Binti Mat Junos@Yunus and Ts. Dr. Faiz Bin Arith the most important pillars in carrying out the project and my supportive parents, my family, and all my fellow friends who have supported me in many ways during the completion of this paper and have always accompanied my ups and downs.

اونيۈم سيتى تيكنيكل مليسيا ملاك

UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA

ABSTRACT

Perovskite solar cell is a new generation of photovoltaic technologies due to its super power conversion technologies. This project aims to study about the performance of PSC containing graphene base layer. Graphene is indeed very exciting, but producing high quality materials is still a challenge. The main purpose of this study is to simulate, fabricate and analyse the graphene base layer in PSC. The potential of graphene as an hole transporting layer and in electron transport layer the application on perovskite solar cell is analyse using Scaps (a solar cell capacitance simulator) TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA software. Through Scaps software, the parameters of graphene can be observed to know the characteristic of graphene in perovskite solar cell. The efficiency of this solar cell will be optimized by controlling the parameter of this material. The parameter includes the Voc, Jsc, fill factor and power conversion efficiency. All the parameters mention above measured using scanning electron microscope (SEM), UV-visible spectrometer and Keithley 2401 source meter. The simulated data from the software results will be the guidance to fabricate and optimize the performance of solar cell. This study will prove and show the results of the performance and efficiency of

ABSTRAK

Sel solar Perovskite ialah generasi baharu teknologi fotovoltaik kerana teknologi penukaran kuasa supernya. Projek ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji tentang prestasi PSC yang mengandungi lapisan asas graphene. Graphene sememangnya sangat mengujakan, tetapi menghasilkan bahan berkualiti tinggi masih menjadi cabaran. Tujuan utama kajian ini adalah untuk mensimulasikan, mengarang dan menganalisis lapisan asas graphene dalam PSC. Potensi graphene sebagai lapisan pengangkut lubang dan dalam lapisan pengangkutan elektron aplikasi pada sel solar UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA perovskite dianalisis menggunakan perisian Scaps (Simulator Kapasitan Sel Suria). Melalui perisian Scaps, parameter graphene boleh diperhatikan untuk mengetahui ciri-ciri graphene dalam sel suria pervoskite. Kecekapan sel suria ini akan dioptimumkan dengan mengawal parameter bahan ini. Parameter termasuk Voc, Jsc, faktor isian dan kecekapan penukaran kuasa. Semua parameter yang disebut di atas diukur menggunakan mikroskop elektron pengimbasan (SEM), spektrometer boleh dilihat UV dan meter sumber Keithley 240. Data simulasi daripada hasil perisian akan menjadi panduan untuk mereka dan mengoptimumkan prestasi sel suria. Kajian ini akan membuktikan dan menunjukkan hasil prestasi dan kecekapan lapisan asas graphene dalam PSC melalui perisian Scaps.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost, all praises be to Allah S.W.T, the most Gracious the most Merciful, for His showers of blessings giving us strength and patience in finishing this PSM 1 Project work to complete it successfully. Throughout this project, I would like to acknowledge and give my warmest thanks to my supervisor Ts. Siti Aisah Binti Mat Junos @ Yunus and Ts. Dr. Faiz Bin Arith who made this work possible. Their guidance and advice carried me through all the stages of writing and completing this project. Without their encouragement and guidance, I could not be able to complete this project successfully.

Next, I would like to say thanks to my friends and research colleagues Nur Ismahani, Nur Aliesa and others senior for their encouragement and very helpful with the constant of ideas and information regarding with this project. I sincerely appreciated with all of the efforts and precious time they spent in making this project more memorable. In addition, my special thanks also go to my family who always give moral support to keep me motivated and never give up in whatever I do. With their blessings, the success is inspiring me to give the best while completing this project. Apart from that, I also would like to extend my thanks to my University for providing me with the place to do my research and provide all the necessities such aslab, material and equipment needed while doing this project. Finally, my thanks go toall the people who have supported me to complete the research work directly or indirectly.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Declaration Approval Dedication Abstract i Abstrak ii Acknowledgements iv **Table of Contents** vi List of Figures Х EKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA UNIVERSI **List of Tables** xii List of Symbols and Abbreviations xiii **List of Appendices** xiv **CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION** 1 1.1 Project background 1 1.2 2 Problem statement Project objective 3 1.3

1.4	Project scope	4
CHA	PTER 2 BACKGROUND STUDY	5
2.1	Perovskite solar cell	5
2.2	Type of graphene	7
	2.2.1 Graphene oxide	9
	2.2.2 Reduced graphene oxide	10
	2.2.3 Graphene quantum dots	11
2.3	Parameter of solar cell	12
	2.3.1 Density of short circuit current (Jsc)	12
	2.3.2 Open circuit voltage (Voc)	13
	2.3.3 Fill factor (FF)	13
	2.3.4 Power conversion efficiency (PCE)	14
2.4	Fabrication SITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA	15
	2.4.1 Spin coat method	15
	2.4.2 Graphene on SEM images	17
CHA	PTER 3 METHODOLOGY	19
3.1	Gantt chart	20
3.2	Flow chart	21
	3.2.1 Flow chart for SCAPS-1D simulation	21
	3.2.2 Flow chart for GO fabrication process	23

3.3	SCAPS-1D Software	viii 24
3.4	Method Design	25
	3.4.1 SCAPS-1D Action Panel and Problem setting	25
	3.4.2 SCAPS-1D Simulation for Graphene Oxide	27
3.5	GO Fabrication	29
	3.5.1 ITO substrate cleaning process	29
	3.5.2 Deposition of GO on ITO glass	30
	3.5.3 GO conductivity measurement	31
СНА	PTER 4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	32
4.1	Analysis of optimum parameter for GO on PSC	32
	4.1.1 Analysis of thickness of GO	33
	4.1.2 Analysis of working temperature	35
	4.1.3 Analysis of defect density at interface	37
4.2	UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA Fabrication process	39
	4.2.1 The structure of GO with variation mixture of solution	39
	4.2.2 GO layer conductivity	40
	4.2.3 Conductivity of the sample with variation of place on the substrate	40
4.3	Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)	44
	4.3.1 Graphene oxide and ethylene glycol	44
	4.3.2 Graphene oxide and monoethanolamine	45

4.4	Analysis of efficiency based on optimum value for all parameter	ix 46
СНА	PTER 5 CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORKS	48
5.1	Conclusion	48
5.2	Future works	49
REFI	ERENCES	50
APPI	ENDICES	54



LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1: Mesoporous structure of PSC [7]	6
Figure 2.2: Type of graphene [15]	9
Figure 2.3: Schematic of common GO synthesis methods [9]	10
Figure 2.4: Schematic of the mechanism involved in the reaction for GQD from GO [12]	formation of 12
Figure 2.5: IV curve of a solar cell showing the short circuit current	12
Figure 2.6: IV curve of a solar cell showing the open circuit voltage	13
Figure 2.7: The area of fill factor	14
Figure 2.8: Four types of steps in spin coating method	15
Figure 2.9: Comparison PCE using different concentration of graphene di	-
Figure 2.10: GO and RGO image on SEM [21].	16 17
Figure 2.11: SEM images of Graphite, Graphene oxide, Graphene nand 1000, 2500 and 5000 magnification.	o sheets with 18
Figure 3.1: Gantt of project	20
Figure 3.2: Flowchart of project	21
Figure 3.3: Fabrication process	23
Figure 3.4: Main user interface (action panel) of SCAPS-1D software	24
Figure 3.5: SCAPS-1D action panel	25
Figure 3.6: SCAPS-1D solar cell definition panel	26
Figure 3.7: SCAPS-1D layer properties panel	26
Figure 3.8: Simulated device structure of PSC	27
Figure 3.9: Cleaned ITO substrate in petri dish	29
Figure 3.10: Excess water is removed from the ITO surface	29
Figure 3.11: ITO substrate in Spin coater	30

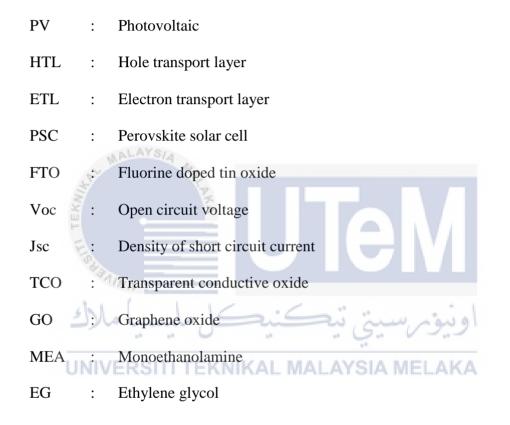
Figure 3.12: ITO substrate annealed in the oven	31
Figure 3.13: Sample is measured using Keithley 2401	31
Figure 4.1: Optimization of thickness GO	33
Figure 4.2: The variation of temperature on GO	35
Figure 4.3: Defect density of GO	37
Figure 4.4: Annealed graphene oxide thin film with ethanolamine and ethylene gl	ycol 39
Figure 4.5: The conductivity of GO layer for both mixture is measured	40
Figure 4.6: The conductivity of GO and EG layer for both solvent	41
Figure 4.7: The conductivity of GO and MEA for both solvent	41
Figure 4.8: The conductivity of MEA and EG	42
Figure 4.9: The resistivity of MEA and EG	42
Figure 4.10: SEM image for GO and EG	44
Figure 4.11: SEM image for GO and MEA	45
Figure 4.12: Simulation graph in SCAPS-1D	46
اونيۈم سيتي تيكنيكل مليسيا ملاك	

UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2.1 : The parameters obtain from J-V curves for PSC design [9]	8
Table 3.1 : SCAPS-1D input parameter for GO at HTL layer.	28
Table 4.1 : Analysis variation of thickness	34
Table 4.2 : Operating temperature from 300K to 400K	36
Table 4.3 : Total defect density of interface	38
Table 4.4: Conductivity value with two different types of solution	43
Table 4.5: Optimum parameter	46
UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA	

LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS



LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A: Equipment use in this project	54
Appendix B: Chemical solution use in the experiment	55



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION



This chapter explains about the overview of the project, which includes project background, problem statement, objective, scope of project and literature review.

UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA

1.1 **Project background**

Solar technologies is used to convert sunlight into electrical energy either through photovoltaic (PV) panels that concentrate on solar radiation. The PV cell is composed of semiconductor that can conduct electricity. In semiconductor there is pn junction and it is mainly use composed to attain high solar cell efficiency. P-junction is called as a hole transport layer (HTL) where it has a high concentration of holes while N- junction or call as an electron transport layer (ETL) has a high concentration of electrons. Solar panel technology has been improving in terms of efficiency and cost, resulting in a surge in demand. There are many type of material used to build up the solar panel. PV cell are used in solar panels and are produced mostly from silicon crystalline wafers.

Perovskite solar cells have become a rising star in the photovoltaic field. PSC is one of the type solar cell that have shown potential for high performance and remarkable progress in solar cells. The PSC uses ABX3 crystal structure known as perovskite structure as an active light-harvesting layer. PSC devices are evaluated based on the roughness of the interface, device cost, PCE values and stability [1]. PSC basic structure consist of an ETL and a hole HTL, where the free electrons and holes transfer. Fluorine-doped tin oxide (FTO) glass and metal are commonly used as the anode and cathode in perovskite solar cells. There are two types of structure in PSC which classified as regular n-i-p and inverted p-i-n structures where it depend on which transport material on the exterior portion of the perovskite encounters light rays first. The electron ETL is deposited first in n-i-p perovskite solar cells, whereas the HTL is deposited first in p-i-n structures. The research regarding PSC is still getting interest because of it high power conversion efficiency and inexpensive compared to existing photovoltaic cell technologies. Perovskite solar cells lose less photon energy during the conversion of light to electricity than conventional solar cells which good in open-circuit voltage to bandgap.

1.2 Problem statement

The third generation of solar cell has been experimented over 2 decades to replace the silicon-based solar cells in the future. However, the efficiency of the solar cell still need an improvement due to several factors. The low mobility and conductivity issues due to the hygroscopic and corrosive behavior of the methoxyphenylamine and Spiro- OMeTAD. The Spiro-OMeTAD layer underwent a severe morphological deformation at high temperature, showing large voids in it, which reduced the cell performance further [2]. Lithiated salts as additives in Spiro-OMeTAD are the most efficient p- dopants and improve conductivity and hole mobility by rapidly reacting with oxygen and oxidizing Spiro-OMeTAD. PSCs performance may degrade when the films are exposed to high temperatures during the fabrication process [3]. Graphene will serves as a moisture-resistant layer that enhances device lifetime and overcome the efficiency issues in PSCs. This unique structure is used as an alternative as it have high carrier mobility at room temperature, high transparency and high thermal conductivity. Graphene is an exciting material that is getting a lot of attention especially since the 2010 Nobel Prize in physics went to Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov, who first isolated Graphene in 2004. Further improvements are necessary for practical device operation such as implementing new high refractive index nanostructured materials to fabricate ultrathin, exible, stable and lightweight solar cells [4]. Thus in this project, the SCAPS-1D software is used to know the performance and suitable parameter of graphene will be used in the PSC.

1.3 Project objective

UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA This project has three objectives which are:

• To simulate the Perovskite Solar Cell utilizing graphene-base using SCAPS-1D software simulator.

اوىۋىرس

- To fabricate the graphene layer as the base layer for Perovskite Solar Cell (PSC) application.
- To analyze the parameters such as power conversion efficiency (PCE), fill factor (FF), short-circuit current (Isc), open-circuit voltage (Voc) in graphenebase layer.

1.4 Project scope

The project aims to simulate and analyze graphene base layer on the emerging solar cell which is PSC. The analysis is conducted by simulation method using SCAPS-1D software. The structure of the solar cell is designed by using different type of graphene material. The efficiency of the solar cells will be optimized by controlling the parameter of this material. The four main parameter includes the Voc, Jsc, fill factor and power conversion efficiency. To achieve maximum efficiency, those parameters that includes in this project of the solar cell were researched thoroughly. Graphene layer that has been simulated will then be fabricate by using spin coat method. Spin coating method will be depositing different concentrations of graphene dispersion for graphene layer formation. This method is to apply a uniform film onto a solid surface by using centrifugal force and requires a liquid-vapor interface [5]. The advantage of this method is its modest deposition procedure and low cost preparation while obtaining a high quality of thin films.

UNIVERSITI TEKNIKAL MALAYSIA MELAKA

اونيۆم سيتى تيكنيكل مليسيا ملاك