

Abstract Submitted  
for the MAR05 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**Magnetic, Transport, and Optical Properties of LaGa<sub>1-x</sub>Mn<sub>x</sub>O<sub>3</sub> Alloys** NATALIA NOGINOVA, FENG CHEN, GEOFFREY CHELULE, VLADIMIR GAVRILENKO, Center for Materials Research, Norfolk State University, PEROVSKITES COLLABORATION — Manganese doped perovskites are materials promising for data storage, demonstrating optically and field induced memory effects. Optical absorption, electric conductivity, and magnetic resonance of LaGa<sub>1-x</sub>Mn<sub>x</sub>O<sub>3</sub> crystals with Mn-content  $x = 0$  to 1.0 have been measured at different temperatures. Non-linearity and hysteresis were observed in voltage-current dependencies for all Mn-concentrations studied. Electron energy structure and optical functions of LaGa<sub>1-x</sub>Mn<sub>x</sub>O<sub>3</sub> are calculated by generalized gradient approximation method within density functional theory using *ab initio* pseudopotentials. Analysis of predicted total (TDOS) and projected densities of states (PDOS) data for higher  $x$ -values clearly indicate the dominance of  $3d$  antibonding Mn states in the region around Fermi level. Observed significant modifications of optical absorption spectra and transport properties are related to the enhancement of  $3d(\text{Mn})$ - $2p(\text{O})$  interactions with increase of  $x$ .

Vladimir Gavrilenko  
Center of Materials Research, Norfolk State University

Date submitted: 29 Nov 2004

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