## ELECTRONIC STATES OF COLLOSAL MAGNETORESISTIVE MANGANITES La<sub>0.67</sub>Pb<sub>0.33</sub> Mn<sub>1-x</sub>Fe<sub>x</sub>O<sub>3</sub> FROM PHOTOEMISSION SPECTROSCOPY

M. Kowalik<sup>1,2\*</sup>, R. Zalecki<sup>1</sup>, and A. Kołodziejczyk<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Faculty of Physics and Applied Computer Science, AGH University of Science and Technology, Al. Mickiewicza 30, PL 30-059, Kraków, Poland

> <sup>2</sup> Department of Physics, Rzeszów University of Technology, Al. Powstańców Warszawy 6, PL 35-959 Rzeszów, Poland

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\*) e-mail: mkowalik@prz.edu.pl

The electron photoemission spectra of the valence bands and the core level states of manganese perovskite  $La_{0.67}Pb_{0.33}(Mn_{1-x}Fe_x)O_3$  with x = 0, 0.01, 0.03, 0.06, 0.1and 0.15 were measured by the Ultraviolet and the X-ray Photoemission Spectroscopy (UPS/XPS) below and above the metal-insulator transition. X-ray diffraction showed that the compounds were phase pure. The magnetic and resistance measurements exhibited the large colossal magnetoresistance behaviour around the metal – insulator transitions. The common feature of the UPS spectra was the two-peak structure at about -4.0 and -6 eV below the upper edge of the valence band (Fig. 1). The same was observed in Refs. [1, 2].



Figure 1. UPS spectra of  $La_{0.66}Pb_{0.33}Mn_{1-x}Fe_x0_3$  for x = 0.01, 0.1, 0.15 at room temperature.

The insulating energy gaps were estimated at room temperature to be about  $1.7\div2.0$  eV and were composition dependent. Total energy scan and low binding energy spectra of X-ray (XPS- Al, Mg  $K_{\alpha}$ ) as well as the Mn 2*p*- and 3*s*- core-level spectra were also measured and analyzed (Fig. 2). Comparison of the spectra with the band structure calculations and with the high-resolution spectra measured at synchrotron radiation for Ca- and Ce- substituted manganites [3, 4] revealed the strong hybridization of the Mn 3*d* and of the O 2*p* states between -3 and -7 eV and no oxygen states between 0 and -2 eV where the Mn- 3*d* states play predominant role. Reasons for this behaviour were discussed taking into account our previous analysis of UPS/XPS spectra of other manganese perovskites [1, 2].



Figure 2. The total X-ray (Mg, K $\alpha$ ) spectra of La<sub>0.66</sub>Pb<sub>0.33</sub>MnO<sub>3</sub> with the core-level and Auger lines indicated at room temperature. Inset: the Mn 2*p* core-level spectrum taken with Al-K $\alpha$  without background.

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