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# The structure, electrical and magnetic properties of M-doped $PbPdO_2$ (M = Cu, Co, Fe) thin films: A first-principles and experimental study



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#### ABSTRACT

PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and M-doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films were prepared using pulsed laser deposition (PLD) method. The structures, electrical and magnetic properties were systematically investigated by XRD, Raman, SEM, XPS, AFM and VSM. Our results indicate that PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) film with (0 0 2) preferred orientation can be well fabricated. The valence states of magnetic atoms in M-doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) thin films are identified to be Cu<sup>1+</sup>, Co<sup>2+,3+</sup> and Fe<sup>3+</sup>, respectively. All Pb(Pd,M)O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films exhibit ferromagnetism with high metal-insulator transition temperatures at around 330–370 K. Moreover, the resistivity of Fe doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> films are lower. At the same time, Fe, Co and Cu dopants do enhance the ferromagnetism of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> film, while the enhancement of magnetic moment for Fe dopant is most evident. Lastly, based on Pb vacancy and O<sup>-1</sup> observed experimentally, the band gaps and magnetic moments of Pb(Pd,M)O<sub>2</sub> films were calculated by first-principles, and the results explain well the experimental facts.

#### 1. Introduction

A novel class of materials named spin gapless semiconductor (SGS) was proposed by Wang in 2008 [1]. The exotic character that both electron and hole can be fully spin-polarized in these materials highlights the application potential in spintronic or electronic devices [2,3]. The SGS, which bridges semiconductors and half-metals, has generated great interest including PbPdO<sub>2</sub>-based semiconductors [4-14] and Heusler alloys [15], such as CoFeMnSi ( $T_{\rm C} = 620$  K) [16] and Mn<sub>2</sub>CoAl [17], CoFeCrGa [18] and Fe<sub>2</sub>CoSi [19].

Particularly, Co-doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> exhibits many extraordinary properties, such as high-temperature ferromagnetism [4], colossal electroresistance (CER) [5] and giant magnetoresistance (GMR) [5,20,21]. These fascinating properties make Co-doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> to be a prospective spintronic material. Experimentally, magnetic properties of Co doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> have been reported by Jung et al. [20,21]. Su et al. have prepared the PbPd<sub>0.81</sub>Co<sub>0.19</sub>O<sub>2</sub> film using sol-gel spin-coating technique, and the room temperature ferromagnetism was also observed [4,11,22]. PbPdO<sub>2</sub> was also found to be a *p*-type gapless semiconductor with intrinsic hole carriers, and the unusual high-temperature ferromagnetism was reported in Co-doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> [6,23]. Co-doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> films were also prepared by pulsed laser deposition (PLD) technique, and their magnetotransport and magnetoresistance were studied [9,10,24].

Different magnetic atoms have been introduced into PbPdO<sub>2</sub> for modulating the physics properties of SGSs. Single-phase samples of Cu doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> have been synthesized via solid-state reaction, and a metal-insulator transition was identified [25,26]. Similar metal-insulator-like transitions were reported in Co and Mn doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub>, with the transition temperature of 150 K and 70 K, respectively. In addition, Co doping enhanced the ferromagnetic interactions, whereas Mn doping favors antiferromagnetic in PbPdO<sub>2</sub> [21]. Kim et al. [8] found that Co-doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> was indeed a small-gap semiconductor, while the phase separation was observed in the Mn doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub>. PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Zn<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Cu<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> were revealed to exhibit diamagnetic and paramagnetic, respectively [10]. Fe [27], Mn [28] and Ni

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Fig. 1. The crystal structure of PbPdO<sub>2</sub>: (a) pure, (b) with vacancies, (c) with vacancies and doping. A unit cell containing 32 atoms and the blue atoms M represents magnetically doped atoms (Cu, Co, Fe).



Fig. 2. XRD patterns of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films.



Fig. 3. Raman spectra of  $PbPdO_2$  and  $PbPd_{0.9}M_{0.1}O_2$  (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films.

[29] doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> can be also synthesized by sol-gel spin-coating method. High-temperature ferromagnetism was reported in Fe and Ni doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> nanograin films [10,27], while ferromagnetism and antiferromagnetism were found to coexist in Mn doped films [28].

However, although many studies have been found in transition metal doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub>, up to now, high quality thin films of doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> is still difficultly prepared. Especially, great difficulties still should be conquered upon the growth of preferred orientation. Furthermore, the origin of intriguing magnetism in transition metal doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> is still elusive and controversial. Consequently, it is crucial to study systematically the structure, electrical and magnetic properties for different transition metal doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub>.

In this paper, based on the prepared experimentally high quality thin films, combined with first-principles calculations, the structures, electrical and magnetic properties of the M-doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) thin films have been studied. The PLD method was adopted to fabricate the PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films with (0 0 2) preferred orientation. The element concentration and valence states of M-doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) thin films were characterized. Temperature-dependent resistivity curves show that Fe doped film has higher resistivity than the pristine PbPdO<sub>2</sub>, while Co and Cu doped films have lower resistivity. All samples possess a wide temperature of metal-insulator transition ( $T_{\rm MI}$ ) at around 330–370 K. Finally, four samples exhibit the room ferromagnetism, while the magnetic moment of PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Fe<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> is the largest. Our theoretical calculated results confirm the experimental observations.

## 2. Materials and methods

## 2.1. Synthesis of $PbPd_{0.9}M_{0.1}O_2$ (M = Cu, Co, Fe)

The PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) bulk samples synthesized by sol-gel method were used as the PLD target. Pb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Pd(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Cu (NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Co(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and Fe(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> were used as raw materials. The chelating agent and solvent were citric acid monohydrate and deionized water, respectively. An additional 5 mol % Pb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> was used to supplement the volatilization of Pb in the process of the subsequent heating treatment. The thin films were deposited on the substrate of (1 0 0) oriented MgO single crystal by PLD technique. A KrF excimer laser with a wavelength of 248 nm was used as a source of target ablation and the



Fig. 4. SEM images of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films.

Table 1 Element concentrations of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub> $M_{0.1}O_2$  (M = Cu, Co, Fe) film.

Sample	ОК	Pb M	Pd L	Cu K	Со К	Fe K
PbPdO <sub>2</sub> PbPd <sub>0.9</sub> Cu <sub>0.1</sub> O <sub>2</sub> PbPd <sub>0.9</sub> Co <sub>0.1</sub> O <sub>2</sub> PbPd <sub>0.9</sub> Fe <sub>0.1</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	60.60 68.75 67.82 64.63	13.37 (0.81) 11.86 (0.71) 14.23 (0.79) 16.20 (0.85)	15.98 15.13 16.32 17.92	0 1.52 (Cu <sup>1+</sup> ) 0 0	0 0 1.63 (Co <sup>2+,3+</sup> ) 0	0 0 1.25 (Fe <sup>3+</sup> )



Fig. 5. XPS spectra of Pd 3d for  $PbPdO_2$  and  $PbPd_{0.9}M_{0.1}O_2$  (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films.

repetition rate is 3 Hz. The deposited time was 30 min, and the thickness of the samples is about 400 nm. The substrate temperature is 550 °C. After deposition, the samples were ex-situ annealed with 6 h in air at 650 °C.

## 2.2. Characterization methods

The powder X-ray diffraction patterns (XRD) of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> were characterized by Rigaku Ultima (Cu K $\alpha$ ,  $\lambda = 0.15418$  nm). The Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) was characterized by Hitachi SU-8010. The Raman spectroscopy was recorded at room temperature using HORIBA Jobin Yvon Evolution with laser excitation at 532 nm. The electronic properties were measured by semiconductor characterization systems (HALL8686). The surface morphologies and work functions of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) thin films were characterized using atomic force microscopy (AFM, Bruker Dimension). X-ray photoelectron spectra (XPS) were measured by Thermo Fisher ESCALAB250Xi, and the binding energy of the XPS spectra was calibrated. The magnetic properties were measured by VersLab.



Fig. 6. XPS spectra of Pb 4f for  $PbPdO_2$  and  $PbPd_{0.9}M_{0.1}O_2$  (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films.

#### 2.3. First-principles method

Our first-principles calculations were carried out by using Vienna *ab initio* simulation package (VASP) [30,31], and the pseudopotential plane-wave method with projected augmented wave potentials was used [32]. Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (PBE) formulation of generalized gradient approximation (GGA) for exchange-correlation functional was

implemented [33,34]. The cutoff energy was set to 550 eV. A  $6 \times 8 \times 1$ Monkhorst k-point mesh was adopted for  $2 \times 2 \times 1$  PbPdO<sub>2</sub> (0 0 2) film supercells. To simulate the two-dimensional infinite sheet, periodic boundary condition was used. The slab with 15 Å vacuum layer was adopted for PbPdO<sub>2</sub> (0 0 2) film with the experimental lattice constants of a = 9.572 Å, b = 5.508 Å and c = 4.751 Å. Fig. 1 shows the crystal structures of PbPdO<sub>2</sub>. For systems involving magnetic calculations, spin polarization calculation was adopted. All the atoms were fully relaxed lower than 0.02 eV/Å.

# 3. Results and discussion

Fig. 2 shows the XRD patterns of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films. All the samples were well confirmed with the standard PDF (No. 38-1357). They are single phase with the bodycentered orthorhombic structure. The diffraction peaks were observed at  $2\theta = 26.27^{\circ}$ ,  $31.55^{\circ}$  and  $38.65^{\circ}$  correspond to  $(111)^{*}$ , (211), and (002) planes of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> phase, respectively. And the peak that at  $2\theta = 38.65^{\circ}$  has the strongest intensity. Apparently, all the samples have (002) preferred direction which is similar with the results in Ref. [5]. Especially, compared to the standard PDF (25.17°), the peak around  $2\theta = 26.27^{\circ}$  has 1.1° shift to larger angle and it can be explained as the follows: The lattice constant of (100) oriented MgO single crystal is 4.212 Å, which is close to (002) oriented PbPdO<sub>2</sub> (c = 4.66 Å). When the thickness of film is small, the samples are more likely to grow along the (100) plane. As a result, the lattice mismatch may exist in the samples. According to our calculations, the lattice mismatch will make the (111) peak shift to higher angle [13]. Thus, the peak around  $2\theta = 26.27^{\circ}$  can be attributed to the (1 1 1) planes of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> phase.

Fig. 3 is the Raman spectra of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films. From the figure, only two main peaks (around 127 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 567 cm<sup>-1</sup>) were observed in PbPdO<sub>2</sub> film which correspond to the vibration modes in the structure of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> [12]. For the three doped samples, one more peak was detected besides the above-mentioned ones. The peak around 650 cm<sup>-1</sup> can be assigned to the B1g mode of Pd-O in single crystal PdO. Apparently, Cu, Co and Fe dopants do have the evident influence on Pd-O bonding state. For Pb(Pd,Fe)O<sub>2</sub> sample, there was another peak around 471 cm<sup>-1</sup> was detected, which needs further to be investigated. So far, the study in the microstructure of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> is seldom, so the explanation of the Raman results needs to be further depicted in theoretically.

Fig. 4 displays the SEM images of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films. From the figure, one notices that, the PbPdO<sub>2</sub> film exhibits a nanograin structure, and the average grain size reached about 20 nm, which is similar to the results from Su et al. [4]. Moreover, it is obviously observed that the surface morphologies of the samples are changed from granular structure to rod-like structure after Cu, Co and Fe dopants. The length of rod reaches about 200 nm and the density of the films is decreased.

Table 1 lists the element concentrations of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films from EDS measured results. The Pb:(Pd + M) atomic ratios are 0.81, 0.71, 0.79, 0.85 for PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Cu<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Co<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Fe<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, respectively. Apparently, some Pb vacancies exist in all samples and they can be caused by the volatilization of Pb during the heating process. Moreover, the PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Cu<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> possessed most Pb vacancies, and Pb vacancies in PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Fe<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> are fewest.

To determine the valence state of the elements in the samples, the Xray photoelectron spectra (XPS) were measured. Fig. 5 illustrates the XPS spectra at Pd 3d for PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub> $M_{0.1}$ O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe)



Fig. 7. XPS spectra of O 1s for PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub> $M_{0.1}O_2$  (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films.

films. The energy scale was calibrated by assigning 284.8 eV to the C1s peak. From the figure, one can see that the peaks for Pd 3d are symmetric and centered at around 336 eV and 342 eV, standing for Pd  $3d_{5/2}$  and Pd  $3d_{3/2}$  respectively. The two peaks can be attributed to the formation of Pd<sup>2+</sup> [14,22,35,36].

The XPS spectra of Pb 4f for PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films are shown in Fig. 6. The binding energy of Pb 4f contains 2 peaks, coming from the excitation of Pb 4f<sub>5/2</sub> and Pb 4f<sub>7/2</sub>, respectively [12,22]. The Pb 4f<sub>5/2</sub> spectra (the high BE line) can be separated into two characteristic peaks: a main peak at 141.3 eV and a satellite peak at 142.5 eV. Similarly, the Pb 4f<sub>7/2</sub> (the lower BE line) spectra can be decomposed into two peaks: a main peak at 136.4 eV and a satellite peak at 137.5 eV. Both main peaks can be attributed to the lattice Pb (Pb<sup>2+</sup>), while both satellite peaks can be assigned to Pb vacancy. According to the results of peak area percentage, PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Cu<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> contains most Pb vacancies, while PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Fe<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> sample has fewest ones. These results on the Pb vacancy are consistent with EDS measured data in Table 1.

The XPS spectra of O 1s for PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films are shown in Fig. 7. The shape of O 1s spectra can be decomposed into three peaks: a main peak at around 529 eV (named as peak I) and two satellite peaks at around 530.5 (529.9  $\sim$  530.8) eV (named as peak II) and 532.8 (532.5  $\sim$  533.4) eV (named as peak III). The peak I can be assigned to the lattice O in PbPdO<sub>2</sub>. The satellite peaks II and III can be assigned to surface absorbed oxygen and

hydroxyl, respectively [12,27,28]. Especially, the peak III can be associated with Pb vacancy, which can be explained as following: the valence state of Pb shifts from +2 to +0 due to Pb vacancy, which makes the superfluous  $O^{2-}$  to be oxidized to  $O^{1-}$ . As a result, the  $O^{1-}$  will absorb hydroxyl and  $CO_2$ . Therefore, the surfaces of the samples will absorb hydroxyl and  $CO_2$  after explosion to the atmosphere. From the measured XPS spectra, it is obtained that the area percentages of the peak III for PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films are 8%, 37%, 28% and 25%, respectively. Thus, the content of Pb vacancies in undoped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> is lowest. Doping increases the content of Pb vacancies. These results are also consistent with the EDS results above.

The XPS spectra of 2p states of Cu, Co and Fe for PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> films are shown in Fig. 8. For PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Cu<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, the peaks locate at 952.08 eV and 932.26 eV correspond to  $2p_{1/2}$  and  $2p_{3/2}$  of Cu<sup>1+</sup>, respectively [37]. Thus, the valence state of Cu ion in the sample should be +1. For PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Co<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, the binding energy of 796.1 eV and 781.0 eV correspond respectively to  $2p_{1/2}$  and  $2p_{3/2}$  of Co<sup>2+</sup>, while the 794.7 eV and 779.6 eV correspond to  $2p_{1/2}$  and  $2p_{3/2}$  of Co<sup>3+</sup> [38–40]. These results are similar with that in Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [41,42]. It is reasonable to deduce that the valence state of Co ion in our sample is also a mixed one. For PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Fe<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, the peaks locate at 710.7 eV and 724 eV can be assigned to  $2p_{3/2}$  and  $2p_{1/2}$  of Fe<sup>3+</sup> [43]. The valence state of Fe ion in the sample is considered to be +3.



Fig. 8. XPS spectra of Cu 2p (a), Co 2p (b) and Fe 2p (c) for  $PbPd_{0.9}M_{0.1}O_2$  (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films.



Fig. 9. Temperature dependence of resistivity for  $PbPdO_2$  and  $PbPd_{0.9}M_{0.1}O_2$  (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films.

Fig. 9 shows the temperature dependence of the electrical resistivity ( $\rho$ ) for PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films. The individual enlarged figures are shown in Fig. 10. From the figures, it is found that, the Cu and Co dopants have  $\rho$  value of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> reduce, while the Fe dopant has  $\rho$  value of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> enhance. Therefore, doping has an evident influence on the electric properties of PbPdO<sub>2</sub>. In addition, it can be noticed that all samples possess a wide temperature of metal-insulator transition  $(T_{\rm MI})$  at around 330–370 K. The values of  $T_{MI}$  for PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films are respectively 370 K, 333 K, 342 K and 353 K, which means that doping makes the value of  $T_{\rm MI}$  to be reduced. The high value of  $T_{\rm MI}$  are similar to the experimental that in Ref. [9], but much higher than other reports [3-7,14]. This clear difference of  $T_{\rm MI}$  may be associated with the various microstructures resulting from the different prepared conditions. The underlying mechanism calls for further study.

Fig. 11 shows the *M*-*H* hysteresis loops (at room temperature) for PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films. All samples exhibit room ferromagnetism. The saturation magnetization values for PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films are 1.95 emu/cm<sup>-3</sup>, 2.4 emu/cm<sup>-3</sup>, 3.2 emu/cm<sup>-3</sup> and 15.8 emu/cm<sup>-3</sup>, respectively. Apparently, doping enhances the magnetization of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> film, and Fe doping increases evidently the magnetization of PbPdO<sub>2</sub>.

In theory, the valence state of Pd in PbPdO<sub>2</sub> is supposed to be +2, so the highest filled orbital of Pd<sup>2+</sup> is d<sub>xy</sub> [5] and it is filled with a pair of spin-up and -down electrons. Thus, the expected effective spin magnetic moment is zero. The weak magnetism in our samples can be explained as follows. From the EDS and XPS results above, one can see that Pb vacancies exist in the samples, and they are supposed to be the origin of the magnetism. Due to the existence of Pb vacancies, the valence state of Pb shift from +2 to +0, making O<sup>2-</sup> oxide to O<sup>1-</sup>. The outer electron of O<sup>1-</sup> is 2p<sup>5</sup>, contributing 1  $\mu_B$  to magnetic moment. Fig. 12 demonstrates density of states (DOS) of pure PbPdO<sub>2</sub> with Pb vacancy (Pb<sup>2-</sup>) and Pb(Pd,M)O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu<sup>1+</sup>, Co<sup>2+,3+</sup>, and Fe<sup>3+</sup>) films from first-principles calculations. The calculated results indicate that Pb vacancy (Pb<sup>2-</sup>) may induce magnetism in PbPdO<sub>2</sub>, with 2.81  $\mu_B$  for the system. For doped samples, the magnetism should



Fig. 10. Temperature-dependent resistivity of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films.



**Fig. 11.** *M*-*H* curves at room temperature (300 K) for PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films.

come from two ways: Pb vacancies and effective moment from the doped ion. Fe<sup>3+</sup> doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> is found to have a largest magnetic moment up to 10.92  $\mu_B$ , while Co<sup>2+,3+</sup> and Cu<sup>1+</sup> dopants produce magnetic moments of 9.46  $\mu_B$  and 6.03  $\mu_B$ , respectively. The calculated results are consistent with the measured ones in Fig. 11.

Moreover, from Fig. 12(a), PbPdO<sub>2</sub> with Pb vacancy (Pb<sup>2-</sup>) is insulating with the band gap of 0.028 eV. As Cu<sup>1+</sup> and Co<sup>2+,3+</sup> doped, the band gap of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> reduced to 0.01 and 0.008 eV in Fig. 12(b) and (c), respectively. This result indicates an increase in the conductivity of the Cu and Co doped system, which is also verified by the resistance measurement in Fig. 9. Fe<sup>3+</sup> doped film, on the contrary, increase the band gap of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> to 0.032 eV from Fig. 12(d), which is also consistent with experimental result in Fig. 9. In addition, for PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Co<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, the valence state of Co is a mix of +2 and +3. No Co cluster exists in the sample, so the magnetism is not caused by Co cluster. On the other hand, the oxide of Co is nonmagnetic. Thus, the magnetism detected in the PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Co<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> sample are intrinsic. It results from the Co getting into the lattice of PbPdO<sub>2</sub>.

To understand the magnetism of PbPdO<sub>2</sub> in depth, ZFC-FC M-T curves were measured at a magnetic field of 1000e and they are shown in Fig. 13. Apparently, as the temperature decreases from 360 K to 70 K, the FC and ZFC curves diverges from each other, indicating that the coexistence of the ferromagnetism, paramagnetism and antiferromagnetism in the samples [22]. When it rises to around 350 K, two curves merge gradually, indicating that the ferromagnetism in the samples persists up to around 360 K. The results are consistent with the other those [11,22].

# 4. Conclusions

We prepared PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub> $M_{0.1}O_2$  (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films



**Fig. 12.** Density of states of (a) (b) pure PbPdO<sub>2</sub> with Pb vacancy  $(V_{Pb}^{2-})$  and (c) (d) Cu<sup>+</sup>, (e) (f) Co<sup>2+,3+</sup>, (g) (h) Fe<sup>3+</sup> doped PbPdO<sub>2</sub> films with Pb vacancy. (b), (d), (f) and (h) are the magnified views of the corresponding DOS. The dotted line represents the Fermi level.

using PLD technique. XRD, Raman, SEM, XPS, AFM and VSM measured results indicate that PbPdO<sub>2</sub> film can be well fabricated, magnetic atoms Cu, Co and Fe can be introduced into (0 0 2) orientation preferred PbPdO<sub>2</sub> film. We found the valence states of M in PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films were Cu<sup>1+</sup>, Co<sup>2+</sup> and Co<sup>3+</sup> coexistence and Fe<sup>3+</sup>, respectively. Ferromagnetism was measured for PbPdO<sub>2</sub> and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films with high metal-insulator transition temperatures at around 330–370 K. Moreover, PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>Fe<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> has largest electrical resistivity and magnetic moment, and PbPd<sub>0.9</sub>M<sub>0.1</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M = Cu, Co) have more magnetic moment and lower resistivity than PbPdO<sub>2</sub> film. The changes of electrical and magnetic properties due to dopant has been also confirmed by our first-principles calculations.

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Fig. 13. ZFC-FC M-T curves for  $PbPdO_2$  and  $PbPd_{0.9}M_{0.1}O_2$  (M = Cu, Co, Fe) films.

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