



Contribution ID: 258

Type: Oral Presentation

## Nickel substituted Spinel-type zinc ferrite nanostructures prepared by microwave-assisted hydrothermal and their structural, luminiscence and gas sensing properties.

Thursday, 11 July 2019 11:20 (20 minutes)

Various volatile organic compound (VOCs) gases are released from a wide range of products commonly found in buildings resulting in indoor environmental pollution thus posing risks to human health. Much attention has been dedicated on development of spinel-type ferrites as gas sensors for detection of VOCs gases and environmental monitoring. However, the growing demand of highly responsive, selective and stable sensors still persists with the ever growing industrialization. In this work,  $\text{Ni}_x\text{Zn}_{1-x}\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_4$  ( $x = 0, 0.1, 0.3, 0.4$ ) nanostructures were facily prepared using microwave-assisted hydrothermal technique followed by annealing at 500 °C. The effect of Ni substitution on the structural and optical properties as well as specific surface area was investigated through various characterization techniques including scanning electron microscopy (SEM), transmission electron microscopy (TEM), X-ray diffraction (XRD), Brunauer–Emmett–Teller method, and Photoluminescence (PL) spectroscopy. Gas sensing performances of the  $\text{ZnFe}_2\text{O}_4$  nanostructures were investigated for Acetone ( $\text{C}_3\text{H}_6\text{O}$ ), Ethanol ( $\text{C}_2\text{H}_6\text{O}$ ) methane ( $\text{CH}_4$ ), carbon monoxide (CO), ammonia ( $\text{NH}_3$ ) and hydrogen ( $\text{H}_2$ ) gases at an optimized operating temperature of 120 °C.

**Apply to be considered for a student &nbsp; award (Yes / No)?**

Yes

**Level for award (Hons, MSc, PhD, N/A)?**

MSc

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**Session Classification:** Applied Physics

**Track Classification:** Track F - Applied Physics