



K. Venkateswara Rao  
C.S. Sunandana

# Combustion & Chemical Bath Deposition of Nanopowders and Thin Films

MgO, NiO,  $\text{Mg}_{1-x}\text{M}_x\text{O}$  ( $\text{M} = \text{Ni, Co}$ ;  $0 \leq x \leq 1$ ) and  $\text{Co}_3\text{O}_4$   
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## DEDICATION

**This is dedicated to**

**My parents**

Kalagadda. Lutherpaul and Lurdhamma  
as a mark of honor, for their love and special  
efforts that they devoted towards my studies

&

My wife

Smt K.Rama Laxmi

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# CHAPTER-1

## GENERAL THEME:

The general theme of this thesis is broadly divided into three parts

- I. Synthesis of transition oxide nano materials of (NiO, Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) and MgO by chemical combustion method for different fuel to oxidizer ratio ( $0 < \Psi < 2$ ) in the steps of 0.25) and studies of their structural, electron paramagnetic resonance, optical and microscopic properties.
- II. Synthesis of diluted antiferromagnetic systems Mg<sub>1-x</sub>M<sub>x</sub>O (M=Ni, Co) ( $0 < x < 1$ ) by chemical combustion method and studies of their structural, electron paramagnetic resonance and microscopic properties.
- III. Fabrication of transition oxide nano crystalline thin films by chemical bath deposition and studies of their structural, optical and microscopic properties

Various experimental probes have been utilized for the following characterization studies such as,

- (1) Structural: X-ray diffraction

(2) Microscopic: Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM), Atomic Force Microscope (AFM)

(3) Susceptibility (magnetic studies): Electron Paramagnetic Resonance (EPR)

(4) BET surface area: Specific surface area

(5) Optical: UV-Visible spectrophotometer and FTIR

The objectives of the present investigation are

(1) Study of the formation mechanism of combustion synthesized MgO, NiO, Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nano powders for different fuel to oxidizer ratios ( $\Psi=0.25,0.5,0.75,1,1.25,1.5,1.75,2$ ) and studies of their crystal structure and micro structure analysis.

(2) The optical studies allowed us to determine the band gap of the NiO, Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles, which is changing with  $\Psi$ . FT-IR peaks confirms the functional groups

(3) EPR data allowed to us to calculate the susceptibility of the NiO, Co<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> nanoparticles.



(4) Study of the formation of combustion synthesized  $Mg_{1-x}M_xO$  ( $M=Ni, Co$ ) ( $0 < x < 1$ ) solid solution and their crystal structure and micro structure analysis. EPR susceptibilities of solid solution  $Mg_{1-x}M_xO$  is determined at room temperature. Variable temperature EPR is allowed to check the Curie-Weiss law for solid solution and the linearity of  $C_M(x)$  and  $\Theta(x)$  with concentration of nickel (cobalt) has ruled out chemical clustering in the samples.

(5) Study of fabrication of nano crystalline thin films of  $MgO$   $NiO$ ,  $Co_3O_4$  by chemical deposition method and studies of their crystal structure and micro structure analysis.

## 1. INTRODUCTION:

Ultra fine microstructures having average phase of grain size on the order of a nanometer ( $10^{-9}$  m) are classified as nanostructured materials [1, 2]. Currently, in a wider meaning of the term, any material that contains grains or clusters below 100 nm, or layers or filaments of that dimensions, can be considered to be nanostructured [3]. The interest in these materials has been stimulated by the fact