

**FABRICATION OF GOLD NANOPARTICLES USING LOW  
HYDROTHERMAL REACTION FOR MEMORY APPLICATION**

**By**

**NG SOO AI**

**Thesis submitted in fulfilment of the requirements**

**for the degree of**

**Doctor of Philosophy**

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## DECLARATION

I hereby declare that I have conducted, completed the research work and written the thesis entitled “Fabrication of Gold Nanoparticles Using Low Hydrothermal Reaction for Memory Application”. I also declare that it has not been previously submitted for the award of any degree or diploma or other similar title of this for any other examining body or university.

Name of student: Ng Soo Ai

Signature:

Date:

Witness by

Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Khairunisak Abdul Razak

Signature:

Date:

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	ii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iv
LIST OF TABLES	viii
LIST OF FIGURES	xiii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xx
LIST OF SYMBOLS	xxi
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS	xxii
ABSTRAK	xxiii
ABSTRACT	xxv
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Research background	1
1.2 Problem statement	4
1.3 Research objectives	10
1.4 Scope of study	10
1.5 Thesis outline	11
CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW	12
2.1 History of Gold nanoparticles (AuNPs)	12
2.2 Properties of AuNPs	13
2.3 Formation method of AuNPs	15
2.3.1 Self assembly method	16
2.3.2 Langmuir-Blodgett method	21
2.3.3 Heat treatment of Au thin film	23
2.3.4 Template-based approach	26

2.4 Nonvolatile memory devices	31
2.4.1 Hybrid organic-inorganic nonvolatile memory device	34
2.4.2 Transparent memory device	35
2.5 Organic materials	36
2.5.1 Polymethylsilsesquioxane (PMSSQ)	36
2.5.2 Pentacene	38
2.6 Memory properties of AuNPs embedded organic insulator	39
2.6.1 Capacitance-Voltage ( <i>C</i> - <i>V</i> )	41
2.6.2 Current-Voltage ( <i>I</i> - <i>V</i> )	46
2.6.2.1 Conduction Mechanism	58
2.6.2.2 Band diagram of conduction mechanism	62
CHAPTER 3 METHODOLOGY	66
3.1 Introduction	66
3.2 Experimental details	68
3.2.1 Evaporated Al template substrate	68
3.2.2 Sputtered Al template substrate	71
3.2.3 Evaporated Zn template	73
3.2.4 Sputtered Zn template	74
3.2.5 ITO glass substrate: effect of hydrothermal reaction duration on sputtered Al template	75
3.3 Sample characterization	78
3.3.1 Morphological analysis	78
3.3.2 Structural analysis	78
3.3.3 Memory properties analysis	79

<b>CHAPTER 4 RESULT AND DISCUSSION</b>	<b>81</b>
4.1 Introduction	81
4.2 Low temperature hydrothermal reaction using thermal evaporated-Al Template	81
4.2.1 The effect of annealing temperature of template on formation of AuNPs	82
4.2.1.1 Structural and Chemical properties	82
4.2.1.2 Memory properties	93
4.3 Mechanism of AuNPs formation using Al template	101
4.4 Low temperature hydrothermal reactions using sputtered-Al template	102
4.4.1 The effect of annealing temperature of template on the formation of AuNPs	103
4.4.1.1 Structural and Chemical properties	103
4.4.1.2 Memory properties	114
4.4.2 Comparison between sputtered Al template and evaporated Al template on the formation of AuNPs	122
4.4.2.1 Structural and Chemical properties	123
4.4.2.2 Memory properties	128
4.4.3 The effect of hydrothermal reaction duration on formation of AuNPs	130
4.4.3.1 Structural and Chemical properties	130
4.4.3.2 Memory properties	135
4.4.4 The effect of HAuCl <sub>4</sub> concentration on formation of AuNPs	141
4.4.4.1 Structural and Chemical properties	141
4.4.4.2 Memory properties	146
4.4.5 The effect of Al(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> concentration on formation of AuNPs	152
4.4.5.1 Structural and Chemical properties	152
4.4.5.2 Memory properties	156

4.5 Low temperature hydrothermal reactions using evaporated Zn template	161
4.5.1 The effect of annealing temperature of thermal evaporated Zn template on the formation of AuNPs	161
4.5.1.1 Structural and Chemical properties	161
4.5.1.2 Memory properties	167
4.6 Mechanism of AuNPs formation using ZnO template	176
4.7 Low temperature hydrothermal reaction using sputtered ZnO template	177
4.7.1 The effect of Zn(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> on the formation of AuNPs	177
4.7.1.1 Structural and Chemical properties	177
4.7.1.2 Memory properties	181
4.8 Comparison of sputtered Al template and sputtered ZnO on the formation of AuNPs	185
4.8.1 Structural and Chemical properties	186
4.8.2 Memory properties	188
4.9 Formation of AuNPs on ITO glass	191
4.9.1 Effect of hydrothermal reaction duration on formation of AuNPs on ITO glass	191
4.9.1.1 Structural and Chemical properties	191
4.9.1.2 Memory properties	199
4.10 Summary of the Chapter 4	206
<b>CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION AND FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	208
5.1 Conclusion	208
5.2 Recommendations for future work	209
<b>REFERENCES</b>	211

## LIST OF TABLES

	Page
2.1 Work function of various metals, in units of electron volt (eV).	33
2.2 Characteristics of desired memory properties with embedded nanoparticles structure memory devices.	40
2.3 Summary of memory characterization for embedded AuNPs memory devices.	54
3.1 Parameters in hydrothermal reaction on evaporated Al template.	69
3.2 Parameters in hydrothermal reaction on sputtered Al template.	71
3.3 Parameters in hydrothermal reaction on evaporated Zn template.	74
3.4 Parameters in hydrothermal reaction on sputtered Zn template.	74
3.5 Parameters in hydrothermal reaction on ITO glass substrate with Al template.	76
4.1 Grain size, area density and ratio for large and small grain size of the Al template with varying annealing temperatures.	85
4.2 Crystallite size of Al template with varying annealing temperatures.	87
4.3 Particle size and area density of the AuNPs grown with varying annealing temperatures of Al template.	90
4.4 Crystallite sizes of AuNPs grown on the non annealed Al template and Al template annealed at various temperatures.	93
4.5 Summary of $V_{th}$ value and conduction mechanism of samples AuNPs grown on Al template annealed with varying annealing temperatures.	97
4.6 Summary of $\Delta V_{FB}$ value and amount of stored charge per single AuNP of samples with varying annealing temperature of Al template.	99
4.7 Grain size, area density and ratio of large and small grain size of the Al template with varying annealing temperatures.	105
4.8 Crystallite size of Al template with varying annealing temperatures.	107
4.9 Particle size and area density of AuNPs grown with varying annealing temperatures of Al template.	111

4.10	Crystallite size of AuNPs grown with varying annealing temperatures of Al template.	114
4.11	Summary of $V_{th}$ and conduction mechanisms of AuNPs samples with varying annealing temperatures of Al template.	118
4.12	Summary of $\Delta V_{FB}$ and number of charges stored per AuNP with varying annealing temperatures of Al template.	122
4.13	Table 4.13: Summary of sizes and area density of Al template and AuNPs formed.	125
4.14	Summary of average crystallite sizes for Al template and AuNPs.	127
4.15	Summary of conduction mechanism and $V_{th}$ by $I$ - $V$ measurement.	129
4.16	Summary of $C$ - $V$ measurement.	130
4.17	Particle size and area density of AuNPs grown with varying hydrothermal reaction duration.	133
4.18	Crystallite size of AuNPs grown with varying hydrothermal reaction duration.	135
4.19	Summary of $V_{th}$ and conduction mechanism of AuNPs samples with varying hydrothermal duration.	138
4.20	Summary of $\Delta V_{FB}$ and number of charges stored per AuNP with varying hydrothermal reaction duration.	141
4.21	Particle size and area density of the AuNPs grown with varying concentration of HAuCl <sub>4</sub> .	144
4.22	Crystallite size of AuNPs grown with varying concentration of HAuCl <sub>4</sub> precursor.	146
4.23	Summary of $V_{th}$ value of samples with varying concentration of HAuCl <sub>4</sub> precursor.	149
4.24	Summary of $\Delta V_{FB}$ value and number of stored charge per single AuNP of samples with varying HAuCl <sub>4</sub> concentration.	151
4.25	Particle size and area density of the AuNPs grown with varying concentration of Al(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> .	154
4.26	Crystallite size of AuNPs grown with varying concentration of Al(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> precursor.	156

4.27	Summary of $V_{th}$ value and conduction mechanism of samples with varying concentration of $\text{Al}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ precursor.	158
4.28	Summary of $\Delta V_{FB}$ value and amount of stored charges per single AuNP of samples with varying $\text{Al}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ concentration.	160
4.29	Summary of grain size of evaporated Zn template annealed with varying temperature.	163
4.30	Summary of size and area density of AuNPs grown on evaporated Zn template annealed with varying temperature.	166
4.31	<i>I-V</i> measurement obtained for AuNPs embedded in PMSSQ with varying annealing temperatures of evaporated Zn template.	170
4.32	<i>C-V</i> measurement obtained for AuNPs embedded in PMSSQ with varying annealing temperatures of evaporated Zn template.	175
4.33	Size and area density of AuNPs with varying $\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ concentrations.	179
4.34	Crystallite size of AuNPs grown with varying concentrations of $\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ precursor.	181
4.35	Summary of $V_{th}$ and conduction mechanism of AuNPs samples with varying $\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ concentrations in hydrothermal reaction.	183
4.36	Summary of data obtained for AuNPs embedded in PMSSQ with varying $\text{Zn}(\text{NO}_3)_2$ concentrations.	184
4.37	Summary of particle size and area density of AuNPs grown with varying template.	187
4.38	Summary of crystallite size for AuNPs grown with varying types of template.	188
4.39	Summary of <i>I-V</i> measurement of AuNPs on varying types of template.	189
4.40	Summary of <i>C-V</i> measurement of AuNPs grown with varying templates.	190
4.41	Summary size and area density of AuNPs growth with varying hydrothermal reaction duration on ITO substrates.	194
4.42	Crystallite size of AuNPs grown with varying hydrothermal reaction duration.	198
4.43	Summary of $V_{th}$ and conduction mechanism of AuNPs samples with varying hydrothermal reaction duration on ITO glass substrates.	203

- 4.44 Summary of *C-V* measurement of AuNPs samples with varying hydrothermal reaction duration on ITO glass substrates. 205
- 4.45 Optimum memory properties in current and reported works. 207

## LIST OF FIGURES

	Page
2.1 Schematic diagram of charge trapping Organic Field-Effect Transistor (OFET) memory based on AuNPs inside the floating gate.	14
2.2 Photographs of aqueous solutions of gold nanospheres as a function of increasing dimensions. Corresponding transmission electron microscopy images of the nanoparticles are shown (all scale bars 100 nm).	15
2.3 Schematic representation of a AuNP attached to (a) an MPTS coated silica surface and (b) an APhTS coated silica surface.	15
2.4 The schematic process of the self-assembly of AuNPs on APTMS-modified substrate.	18
2.5 High density of AuNPs fabricated on APTMS pre-modified fused (a) silica and (b) silicon oxide substrate by the spin coating method.	18
2.6 Phase image of AuNPs spin coated on Si substrate with spherical agglomeration structure.	19
2.7 Illustration showing the procedure for anchoring AuNPs on (a) APTES- and (b) APS-modified glass slides or optical fibers.	19
2.8 (a) Schematic and (b) FESEM of immobilization the MUD-Capped AuNPs on a Hydroxyl-Terminated Si surface.	20
2.9 Langmuir-Blodgett technique to fabricate nanoscale thin-film structures. a) Langmuir monolayer at the air-water interface. Amphiphilic molecule has hydrophilic head and hydrophobic tail. Surface pressure can be controlled by moving barriers. b) Transfer process of Langmuir monolayer onto substrate surface.	22
2.10 TEM image of AuNPs monolayer of LB film.	23
2.11 TEM images and schematic drawing of nanoparticles formation by self-assembly with increased duration of thermal treatment from (a) to (c); the trapping layer was deposited by reactive sputtering of a metallic layer in an Ar and N <sub>2</sub> environment at room temperature. (d) Major driving forces in nanoparticles formation by self-assembly.	24
2.12 SEM images tilt at 30° of AuNPs deposited on glass substrate for 7 nm layer thickness of Au thin film on a substrate.	25

2.13	Schematic diagram of AuNPs formation by using ordered arrays of hemispherical nanowells as template.	27
2.14	$5 \mu\text{m} \times 5 \mu\text{m}$ AFM images of Au deposited in silica nanowells grown by electroless deposition for (a) 1 min, (b) 15 min, and (c) 3-h exposure times.	27
2.15	A schematic for the formation of AuNPs arrays.	28
2.16	(a) FESEM image of AuNPs grown using the ZnO template. (b) Schematic diagram of AuNPs formation between the ZnO seed layer and the ZnO-seeded template dissolution in the acidic hydrothermal reactive bath.	29
2.17	TEM micrographs of AuNPs synthesized at (a) $R > 1$ , (b) $R >> 1$ and (c) $R < 1$ . ( $R$ =concentration of reducing agent).	30
2.18	(a) Floating gate nonvolatile memory structure. (b) Nanocrystals nonvolatile memory structure. (c) Program and erase mode of the nanocrystal memory device.	31
2.19	Typical device structure and atomic force microscope measurement of the metal cluster layer.	34
2.20	The molecular structure of pentacene.	38
2.21	Energy band diagrams of the memory transistor at hole trapping mode and electron trapping mode.	39
2.22	Typical $C$ - $V$ curves at 1MHz of the gate oxide (a) with the AuNPs (b) without the AuNPs as a function of different sweep voltage. The arrows in (a) mean sweep direction for $C$ - $V$ curves.	42
2.23	(a) High frequency $C$ - $V$ curves for MOS capacitors with or without AuNPs. (b) $C$ - $V$ curves of the MOS capacitor embedded with AuNPs in different sweep voltage ranges.	43
2.24	$C$ - $V$ measurements at 100 kHz on MIS structure with a PS-b-(P4VP/Au) film. The operation bias sweeps from $\pm 3\text{V}$ to $\pm 4\text{ V}$ and to $\pm 5\text{ V}$ , respectively.	44
2.25	Flat band voltage shift as a function of different charging times ( $t$ ) for different loadings of the AuNPs (molar ratio of $\text{HAuCl}_4$ :P4VP = 0.1, 0.2, and 0.3) at pulse voltage ( $V_p$ ) of +5 V and -5 V, respectively.	44
2.26	(a) S-shaped, (b) N-shaped and (c) O-shaped I –V characteristics.	47
2.27	The cross sectional structure of the three fabricated MIS devices as NVM (a) MIS-A, (b) MIS-B.	48

2.28	The <i>I-V</i> characteristics of MIS. (a) MIS-A and (b) MIS-B on a semi-log scale.	48
2.29	<i>I-V</i> characteristics of memory devices with AuNPs/PVK weight ratios of 0 (without Au NPs), 0.083, and 0.2, respectively.	49
2.30	(a) MIS device with structure Au electrode/65nm-Pentacene/120nm-PMSSQ2/100 nm-nanocomposite mixture/ 200 nm-PMSSQ1/ITO coated PET; (b) <i>I-V</i> characteristics of MIS device on a semi-log scale.	50
2.31	<i>I-V</i> curves of the PS + AuNPs memory (solid line) and the PS memory (dashed line). The device structure was sketched as the inset.	51
2.32	log I-log V curves of PS + AuNPs bistable memory.	52
2.33	Schematic band diagrams for the conductance mechanism of trapped filled space-charge limitation conduction. (a) Region I: thermally generated carrier conduction. (b) Region II: with traps. (c) Region III: nearly filled. (d) Region IV: traps filled.	52
2.34	Energy band diagram of TE where electron cross over the insulator barrier.	58
2.35	Energy band diagram of SE where electron cross over the insulator barrier.	59
2.36	Energy band diagram showing PF conduction mechanism.	60
2.37	The energy band diagrams showing (a) TCLC and (b) SCLC conduction mechanisms.	61
2.38	The band diagrams illustrated Au/PMSSQ 2/AuNPs Nanocomposite/ PMSSQ 1/p-type Si memory device being (a) programmed, and (b) erased.	63
2.39	The band diagrams illustrated Au/Pentacene/PMSSQ 2/AuNPs nanocomposite/PMSSQ 1/ITO coated PET being (a) programmed, and (b) erased.	64
3.1	Flow chart of research work overview.	67
3.2	Overview process of fabrication MIS structure memory device.	70
3.3	The image of (a) ITO glass (b) MIS structure of memory device with embedded AuNPs.	76

3.4	The overview process of fabrication MIS structure memory device on ITO glass substrate.	77
4.1	Morphologies of (a) non annealed Al template and in varying annealing temperatures: (b) 200 °C, (c) 300 °C, (d) 400 °C.	85
4.2	XRD patterns of the (a) Non annealed Al, (b) 200 °C annealed Al template, (c) 300 °C annealed Al template, (d) 400 °C annealed Al template.	87
4.3	Morphologies of AuNPs grown using Al template with varying annealing temperature. (a) non annealed, (b) 200 °C, (c) 300 °C and (d) 400 °C.	90
4.4	EDX analysis of AuNPs after hydrothermal reaction.	91
4.5	XRD patterns of the AuNPs grown with Al template annealed at varying temperatures: (a) non annealed Al template, (b) 200 °C Al template, (c) 300 °C Al template and (d) 400 °C Al template.	92
4.6	<i>I-V</i> characteristics of (a) control sample and AuNPs embedded memory devices grown on (b) Non annealed Al template and Al template annealed with varying annealing temperatures: (c) template annealed at 200°C, (d) template annealed at 300°C, (e) template annealed at 400°C. Y-axes are in log scale.	96
4.7	<i>C-V</i> characteristics of (a) control sample and AuNPs embedded memory device with varying annealing temperature of Al template. (a) Non annealed template, (b) template annealed at 200 °C, (c) template annealed at 300 °C, (d) template annealed 400 °C.	98
4.8	Illustration of AuNPs formation via immersing Al template sample in hydrothermal bath.	102
4.9	Illustration of AuNPs formation after dissolution of Al template in hydrothermal bath.	102
4.10	Morphologies of the (a) non annealed Al template (as sputtered) and Al template annealed with varying temperatures by using (b) 200 °C, (c) 300 °C and (d) 400 °C.	105
4.11	XRD patterns of (a) non annealed Al template (as sputtered) and Al template sputtered with varying annealing temperatures: (b) 200 °C, (c) 300 °C, and (d) 400 °C.	107
4.12	Morphologies for AuNPs grown with the (a) non annealed Al template and Al template annealed with varying temperatures by using (b) 200 °C, (c) 300 °C, (d) 400 °C and (e) 45 ° AuNPs formed with non annealed template.	110

4.13	Size distribution of AuNPs grown with (a) non annealed template and varying annealing temperatures of Al template: (b) 200 °C, (c) 300 °C, and (d) 400 °C.	111
4.14	EDX analysis of AuNPs after hydrothermal reaction.	112
4.15	XRD patterns of AuNPs grown on (a) non annealed template and Al template with varying annealing temperatures: (b) 200 °C, (c) 300 °C, and (d) 400 °C.	113
4.16	<i>I-V</i> characteristics of (a) control-sample without AuNPs and AuNPs embedded in MIS structure grown at varying annealing temperatures of Al template: (b) non annealed template, (c) template annealed at 200 °C, (d) template annealed at 300 °C, and (e) template annealed at 400 °C. Y-axes are in log scale.	117
4.17	Energy band diagram. The band diagram describes the electron flows and trap happened when the positive bias on the Au top electrode with respect to the Al bottom contact. (a) forward sweep and (b) reverse sweep. Electrons are illustrated by symbol filled circle.	119
4.18	<i>C-V</i> characteristics of (a) control-sample without AuNPs and AuNPs embedded in MIS structure grown at varying annealing temperatures of Al template: (b) non annealed template, (c) template annealed at 200°C, (d) template annealed at 300°C, and (e) template annealed at 400°C.	121
4.19	Morphologies of (a) non annealed sputtered Al template, (b) non annealed evaporated Al template, (c) AuNPs prepared with non annealed sputtered Al template, and (d) AuNPs prepared with non annealed evaporated Al template.	125
4.20	XRD patterns for (a) Non annealed sputtered Al, (b) Non annealed evaporated Al, (c) AuNPs formed on non annealed sputtered Al and (d) AuNPs formed on non annealed evaporated Al.	127
4.21	<i>I-V</i> measurement of memory devices with (a) AuNPs formed on non annealed sputtered Al and (b) AuNPs formed on non annealed evaporated Al. Y-axes are in log scale.	128
4.22	<i>C-V</i> curves of memory devices with (a) AuNPs formed on non annealed sputtered Al and (b) AuNPs formed on non annealed evaporated Al.	130
4.23	Morphologies of AuNPs growth with varying hydrothermal reaction duration. (a) 0.5 h, (b) 1 h, (c) 2 h, (d) 3 h, (e) 4 h and (f) 5 h.	133
4.24	XRD patterns of AuNPs growth with varying hydrothermal reaction duration: a) 1 h, (b) 2 h, (c) 3 h, (d) 4 h and (e) 5 h.	134

4.25	<i>I-V</i> characteristics of AuNPs embedded in PMSSQ. AuNPs were grown with varying hydrothermal reaction duration. (a) 1 h, (b) 2 h, (c) 3 h, (d) 4 h, (e) 5 h. Y-axes are in log scale.	137
4.26	<i>C-V</i> characteristics of AuNPs embedded in PMSSQ. AuNPs were grown with varying hydrothermal reaction time. (a) 1 h, (b) 2 h, (c) 3 h, (d) 4 h, (e) 5 h.	139
4.27	Morphologies of AuNPs grown with varying concentration of HAuCl <sub>4</sub> : (a) 0.001 M (b) 0.005 M (c) 0.010 M (d) 0.020 M.	144
4.28	XRD patterns of AuNPs grown on Al template with varying concentration of HAuCl <sub>4</sub> precursor. (a) 0.001 M, (b) 0.005 M, (c) 0.010 M, (d) 0.020 M.	146
4.29	<i>I-V</i> characteristics of AuNPs embedded in MIS structure grown with varying concentration of HAuCl <sub>4</sub> precursor. (a) 0.001 M, (b) 0.005 M, (c) 0.010 M, (d) 0.020 M. Y-axes are in log scale.	148
4.30	<i>C-V</i> characteristics of AuNPs embedded in MIS structure grown with varying concentration of HAuCl <sub>4</sub> precursor. (a) 0.001 M, (b) 0.005 M, (c) 0.010 M, (d) 0.020 M.	151
4.31	Morphologies of AuNPs grown with varying Al(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> concentration: (a) 0.01 M, (b) 0.05 M, (c) 0.10 M, (d) 0.20 M.	154
4.32	XRD patterns of AuNPs grown with varying Al(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> concentration: (a) 0.01M, (b) 0.05 M, (c) 0.10 M, (d) 0.20 M.	155
4.33	<i>I-V</i> measurements of AuNPs grown with varying Al(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> concentration: (a) 0.01M, (b) 0.05 M, (c) 0.10 M, (d) 0.20 M. Y-axes are in log scale.	158
4.34	<i>C-V</i> measurement of AuNPs grown with varying Al(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> concentration: (a) 0.01 M, (b) 0.05 M, (c) 0.10 M, (d) 0.20 M.	159
4.35	Morphologies of evaporated Zn seeded template with varying annealing temperature. (a) Non annealed, (b) 200 °C, (c) 300 °C, (d) 350 °C and (e) 400 °C.	162
4.36	XRD patterns of evaporated Zn template with varying annealing temperature. (a) Non annealed, (b) 200 °C, (c) 300 °C, (d) 350 °C and (e) 400 °C. Inset are the XRD spectra between the range 33-37 °.	164
4.37	Morphologies of AuNPs grown on evaporated Zn templated annealed with varying temperature template. (a) Non annealed, (b) 200 °C, (c) 300 °C, (d) 350 °C, (e) 400 °C and (f) cross-section of 400 °C.	165

4.38	XRD patterns of the AuNPs after hydrothermal reaction on evaporated Zn template annealed with varying temperatures. (a) non annealed, (b) 200 °C, (c) 300 °C, (d) 350 °C, and (e) 400 °C.	167
4.39	<i>I-V</i> characteristics of AuNPs grown on evaporated Zn template with varying annealing temperatures. (a) non annealed, (b) 200 °C, (c) 300 °C, (d) 350 °C and (e) 400 °C. Y-axes are in log scale.	169
4.40	Energy band diagram. The band diagram describes the electron flows and trap occurs when the positive bias on the Au top electrode with respect to the Al bottom contact.(a) Forward sweep and (b) reverse sweep. charges are illustrated as filled circle.	171
4.41	<i>C-V</i> characteristics of AuNPs embedded in PMSSQ. AuNPs were grown on evaporated Zn template with varying annealing temperatures. (a) non annealed, (b) 200 °C, (c) 300 °C, (d) 350 °C and (e) 400 °C.	174
4.42	Morphologies of AuNPs with varying $Zn(NO_3)_2$ concentrations: (a) 0.01M, (b) 0.05M, (c) 0.10M and (d) 0.20M.	179
4.43	XRD patterns of AuNPs with varying concentrations of $Zn(NO_3)_2$ in hydrothermal precursor solution; (a) 0.01 M, (b) 0.05 M, (c) 0.10 M and (d) 0.20 M.	180
4.44	<i>I-V</i> characteristics of AuNPs embedded in PMSSQ. AuNPs were prepared on ZnO template with varying $Zn(NO_3)_2$ concentrations in hydrothermal solution. (a) 0.01M, (b) 0.05M, (c) 0.1M and (d) 0.2M. Y-axes are in log scale.	182
4.45	<i>C-V</i> characteristics AuNPs embedded in PMSSQ. AuNPs were prepared on ZnO template with varying $Zn(NO_3)_2$ concentrations in hydrothermal solution. (a) 0.01 M, (b) 0.05 M, (c) 0.10 M and (d) 0.20 M.	184
4.46	Morphologies of AuNPs grown on: (a) sputtered ZnO template, (b) sputtered Al template.	186
4.47	XRD patterns of AuNPs grown on (a) sputtered Al template and (b) sputtered ZnO template.	188
4.48	<i>I-V</i> measurement for AuNPs grown on (a) sputtered Al template and (b) sputtered ZnO template. Y-axes are in log scale.	189
4.49	<i>C-V</i> measurement for AuNPs grown on: (a) sputtered Al template and (b) sputtered ZnO template.	190
4.50	Morphologies of AuNPs growth with varying hydrothermal reaction duration on ITO substrates. (a) 0.5 h, (b) 1 h, (c) 2 h, (d) 3 h, (e) 4 h and (f) 5 h.	194

4.51	EDX of AuNPs grown for 0.5 h hydrothermal reaction duration on ITO substrate.	196
4.52	EDX analysis of AuNPs grown on ITO substrate for 1 h hydrothermal reaction duration.	196
4.53	XRD patterns of AuNPs grown on ITO glass substrate with varying hydrothermal reaction duration. (a) 1 h, (b) 2 h, (c) 3 h, (d) 4 h, and (e) 5 h.	198
4.54	EDX for cross-section of the AuNPs embedded AuNPs memory device on ITO glass substrate.	199
4.55	<i>I-V</i> characteristics of AuNPs embedded structure memory device with varying hydrothermal reaction duration on ITO glass substrates: (a) 1 h, (b) 2 h, (c) 3 h, (d) 4 h and (e) 5 h. Y-axes are in log scale.	202
4.56	<i>C-V</i> characteristics of AuNPs embedded structure memory device on ITO glass substrates with varying hydrothermal reaction duration: (a) 1 h, (b) 2 h, (c) 3 h, (d) 4 h and (e) 5 h.	204

## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

AuNPs	Gold nanoparticles
Al	Aluminum
Zn	Zinc
Si	Silicon
PMSSQ	Polymethylsilsesquioxane
HMT	Hexamethylenetetramine
MIS	Metal-insulator-semiconductor
ITO glass	Indium doped tin oxide coated glass
ITO PET	Indium doped tin oxide coated Polyethyleneterephthalate
FESEM	Field emission scanning electron microscopy
EDX	Energy Dispersive X-ray Spectrometer
XRD	X-ray diffractometer
<i>I-V</i>	Current-voltage
<i>C-V</i>	Capacitance-voltage
TE	Thermionic emission
SCLC	Space Charge Limited Current
TCLC	Trapped Charge Limited Current
NVM	Nonvolatile memory

## LIST OF SYMBOLS

$V_{th}$	Threshold voltage
$\Delta V_{FB}$	Flat band voltage shift
$>$	Greater than
$\propto$	Proportional to
$\approx$	Approximately
$\theta$	Theta
$\epsilon_{PMSSQ}$	PMSSQ dielectric constant.
$\epsilon_i$	Insulator permittivity
$k$	Boltzmann constant
$\phi_B$	Barrier height
$\mu$	Carriers mobility
eV	Electron volt
$\lambda$	Wavelength

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**PENGHASILAN PARTIKEL NANO EMAS DENGAN MENGGUNAKAN  
TINDAK BALAS HIDROTERMA SUHU RENDAH UNTUK APLIKASI  
PERANTI MEMORI**

**ABSTRAK**

Pembentukan partikel nano emas (AuNPs) yang bertaburan pada peranti memori adalah isu utama apabila menghadapi masalah pengecilan peranti memori. AuNPs telah berjaya dihasilkan dengan menggunakan templat Aluminium (Al) atau Zink (Zn) di atas substrat Silikon (Si) atau gelas ITO dengan menggunakan kaedah hidroterma suhu rendah. Al dan Zn telah dipilih sebagai templat kerana sempadan bijian didapati akan menjadi tempat untuk pembentukan AuNPs. Dalam penyelidikan ini, Al dan Zn telah dideposit di atas substrat Si, manakala hanya Al didepositkan di atas substrat gelas ITO. Kesan suhu penyepuhlindapan ke atas templat, tempoh tindak balas hidroterma (1-5 h), kepekatan HAuCl<sub>4</sub> (0.001-0.020 M), kepekatan Al(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (0.01-0.20 M), dan kepekatan Zn(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (0.01-0.20 M) pada pembentukan AuNPs telah dikaji. Hasil optimum diperolehi daripada substrat Si dengan struktur AuNPs kubik berpusat muka (FCC) dibentukkan pada Al terdiri daripada saiz partikel  $80 \pm 4$  nm dan  $42 \pm 7$  nm dengan  $1.29 \times 10^{12}$  dan  $2.71 \times 10^{12}$  m<sup>-2</sup> kawasan kepadatan untuk AuNPs bersaiz besar dan kecil masing-masing. Sampel optima ini mempamerkan sifat memori dengan ambang voltan rendah ( $V_{th}$ ) sebanyak 2.2 V dan 284 caj tersimpan untuk setiap AuNP terbentuk. Mekanisma konduksi AuNPs terbentuk dalam lapisan organik pada voltan rendah mematuhi kesan termionik dengan gabungan Schottky dan Poole Frenkel. Untuk voltan medium, mekanisma konduksi melibatkan pengaliran diikuti caj terperangkap terhad semasa (TCLC). Manakala pada voltan tinggi mekanisma konduksi adalah caj jarak terhad semasa (SCLC). Dalam usaha untuk mengkaji peranti memori yang lut sinar, taburan baik AuNPs dengan  $135 \pm 28$  nm dan  $89 \pm 11$  nm untuk saiz partikel besar dan kecil