Antiferromagnetic bipolar semiconductor LaMnPO with ZrCuSiAs-type structure

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(Received 30 January 2009; accepted 26 March 2009; published online 7 May 2009)

Electronic and magnetic properties of a layered compound LaMnPO are examined in relation to a newly discovered iso-structural superconductor LaFeAs(P)O. Neutron diffraction measurements, together with temperature dependent magnetic susceptibility, clarify that LaMnPO is an antiferromagnet at least up to 375 K. The spin moment of a Mn ion is determined to be 2.26 μB at room temperature, and the spin configuration is antiparallel in the Mn–P plane and parallel between the Mn–P planes, which is rather different from that of LaFeAsO. Optical absorption spectra, photoemission spectra, and temperature dependent electrical conductivity indicate that LaMnPO is a semiconductor. Furthermore, nominally undoped LaMnPO exhibits n-type conduction while the conduction type is changed by doping of Cu or Ca to the La sites, indicating that LaMnPO is a bipolar conductor. Density functional calculation using the GGA+U approximation supports the above conclusions; the electronic band structure has an open band gap and the antiferromagnetic spin configuration is more stable than the ferromagnetic one. © 2009 American Institute of Physics. [DOI: 10.1063/1.3124582]

I. INTRODUCTION

Layered transition-metal compounds have been studied intensively as correlated electron systems originating from the 3d electrons in the transition metal ions. Their distinct electronic and magnetic properties invoke unconventional functions such as high transition temperature (high-Tc) superconductivity,1 tunneling magnetoresistance,2 and large thermoelectric power.3 Our group has studied mixed anion layered compounds containing transition metals, which include a LnMZO system (Ln=lanthanoid; M=Fe, Co, Ni; Zn=As, P) with the ZrCuSiAs-type crystal structure. Electronic transport and magnetic properties of the mixed anion layered compounds vary in a wide range by changing the combination of the transition metal and the anions even if the same crystal structure is maintained. Since the crystal structure of LnMZO is composed of alternate stacks of Ln-O and M-X layers as shown in Fig. 1, the chemical composition is expressed as (LnO)(MX) in a structural formula. First-principles calculations have revealed that the 3d electrons in LnMZO are concentrated in the M-X layer and form the Fermi level.4–6 which are thought to be related closely to the appearance of high-Tc superconductivity in electron-doped LaFeAsO and related compounds.

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Actually, we have reported that electronic transport and magnetic properties of LaMZO change largely with the transition metal element. For example, LaFePO and LaNiPO, whose transition metal ions (nominally Fe2+ and Ni2+) have even numbers of 3d electrons (six for Fe2+ and eight for Ni2+), undergo superconducting transitions 7, 8 Undoped LaFeAsO is a poor metal with an antiferromagnetic (AFM) spin configuration at the ground state. While, electron doping induces superconductivity at Tc ~ 26 K, 9 which is further enhanced up to ~ 55 K by an external pressure10 or replacing La with other lanthanide ions (chemical pressure).11–15 These findings triggered the new fever in high-Tc superconductor research. On the other hand, the magnetic moments of LaCoXO (seven 3d electrons for Co2+) do not vanish completely, leading to an itinerant ferromagnetic (FM) phase at < 43 K for LaCoPO.16 Further, LaZnXO exhibit a nonmagnetic semiconductive behavior due to the closed shell (3d) configuration of the Zn2+ ion.17, 18 The Mn compound LaMnPO is also of great interest because Mn2+ has an odd number of 3d electrons and is expected to form a spin configuration different from those of the other LaMZO compounds because many Mn2+ compounds have a half-filled pseudoclosed shell configuration (3d5). In addition, investigation of LaMnPO is considered to provide complementary information to understand the electron correlation of 3d electrons in these layered compounds and further the superconducting mechanism in LaFeXO and LaNiXO.
The single-phase polycrystalline samples were obtained through a two-step solid-state reaction process using La (Shin-etsu Chemical, purity 99.5%), P (Rare Metallic, 99.9999%), and MnO (Soekawa Chemical, 99.9%) as starting materials. This process is different from that reported by Nientiedt et al.\textsuperscript{19} In the first step of the synthesis, single-phase LaP was prepared by heating a mixture of powdered La and P with an atomic ratio of 1.00:0.97 in an evacuated silica tube at 400 °C for 12 h and then temperature was increased to 700 °C and kept for 6 h; this was because the resulting LaMnPO samples synthesized with stoichiometric LaP (La:P = 1:1) contained an impurity phase of MnP. Then, a mixture of the LaP and the MnO was pressed into a pellet and heated at 1000 °C for 12 h in an evacuated silica tube. It was confirmed that the residual MnP contents in the samples were below the detection limits of our high-power x-ray diffraction (XRD) equipment (detection limit <0.1% \textsuperscript{8,20,21}) and magnetic measurements (<0.1%). Ca\textsubscript{3}P\textsubscript{2} and CuO were added to the starting materials in the second step to form doped LaMnPO samples, La\textsubscript{1−x}Ca\textsubscript{x}MnPO, and LaMn\textsubscript{1−x}Cu\textsubscript{x}PO, respectively.\textsuperscript{22}

The prepared samples were characterized by a high-power XRD (D8 ADVANCE-TXS, Bruker AXS) with Cu Ka radiation at 24 °C. Rietveld analyses were carried out using the code TOPAS\textsuperscript{23} to refine crystallographic parameters of LaMnPO. Neutron diffraction experiments were performed using a high-resolution powder diffractometer installed at JRR-3 of the Japan Atomic Energy Agency (JAEA). The collimations were open (the effective value was 35°)-open-40°-6° and the neutron wavelength λ was 0.182 33 nm. The data were collected at room temperature (RT). Neutron Rietveld analyses were carried out using the code RIETAN-2000.\textsuperscript{24}

Diffuse reflectance spectra were measured on fine-powdered undoped LaMnPO samples. Optical absorption spectra were taken on 150 nm thick (001) oriented epitaxial LaMnPO films on MgO (001) single-crystal substrates prepared by pulsed laser deposition in order to evaluate the optical band gap. Details in the film deposition procedure will be reported elsewhere.\textsuperscript{25}

The electrical conductivities of the sintered pellets were measured in the temperature range 1.8–305 K with a four-probe technique (PPMS, Quantum Design). Ohmic electrodes were formed using sputtered Au films. The magnetic susceptibility were measured with a vibrating sample magnetometer (PPMS, Quantum Design) from 2.5 to 375 K under a magnetic field of 5000 Oe in a zero field cooling procedure.

Resonant photoemission spectroscopy (RPES) measurements were performed with several excitation photon energies from 636 to 639 eV, which correspond to the energy at the Mn L\textsubscript{3} absorption edge, in the BL23SU beam line at the Japan Synchrotron Radiation Research Institute (SPring-8). The energy resolution estimated from the Fermi edge broadening of a gold reference was ~130 meV. To prevent a charging effect, Ca-doped p-type conductive LaMnPO was employed for the measurements. Before the measurement, polycrystalline samples were fractured in a vacuum preparation chamber, which is attached to the measurement chamber, to obtain clean surfaces. All the measurements were performed at 20 K in an ultrahigh vacuum of ~10\textsuperscript{−8} Pa.

DFT periodic calculations were performed with the Vienna \textit{ab initio} simulation package (Ref. 26) code using a projector augmented plane wave method\textsuperscript{27,28} and PBE96 generalized gradient approximation (GGA) functionals. Crystal structure parameters obtained by the XRD Rietveld analyses were employed as initial values, and then the lattice parameters and internal ionic coordinates were optimized so as to take the minimum total energy. Two different spin configurations were examined; one was a FM configuration where both of the two Mn ions in the unit cell were assumed to be identical, and the other was an AFM configuration where the two Mn ions were treated independently with the
spin configuration obtained by the neutron Rietveld analyses. For the latter case, self-consistent cycles converged to a total spin moment of zero, indicating an AFM configuration. GGA + U calculations were also performed because the simple GGA calculation did not reproduce the energy position of the Mn 3d states observed by RPES. The simplified rotationally invariant approach of Dudarev et al.,25 was used, where two empirical parameters, the Coulomb parameter $U$ and the exchange parameter $J$, are required but appear as one independent parameter (effective Coulomb parameter) $U_{\text{eff}} = U - J$, for each localized orbital. $U_{\text{eff}}$ for Mn 3d electrons was varied from 0 to 6 eV, and that for La 4f was fixed at 11 eV.30

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### A. Structure analyses

Figure 2 shows a powder XRD pattern for LaMnPO. All the peaks agree with those of a simulated pattern by the Rietveld analyses and no extra peak was observed, which confirms the sample was a single phase. Table I summarizes the refined structural parameters, which substantiates LaMnPO has the same crystal structure as those of LaMnPO and NdMnXO. It belongs to the tetragonal ZrCuSiAs-type structure ($P4/nmm$), composed of alternating stacks of Mn–P and La–O layers. The Mn–P layer is built from the edge-sharing networks of MnP$_4$ tetrahedrons, which is distorted from the regular tetrahedron. The distortion is evaluated from deviation of the P–M–P bond angles from that of the regular tetrahedron (109.47°). Those for LaMnPO are 111.2° and 108.59°, whose distortions are smaller than those of LaFePO [120.2° and 104.4° (Ref. 7)], LaCoPO [127.4° and 101.3° (Ref. 31) or 121.7° and 103.7° (Ref. 16)], and LaNiPO [126.4° and 101.7° (Ref. 8)]. On the other hand, the ZnP$_4$ tetrahedron in LaZnPO (108.1° and 110.2° in Ref. 32 and 108.4° and 110.0° in Ref. 17) is the closest to the regular tetrahedron among the LaMPO compounds.

Figure 3(a) shows a neutron diffraction pattern (crosses), a simulated one (red line), and a difference between the observed and simulated patterns (gray line at the bottom). Table II summarizes refined structural and magnetic parameters. The obtained structural parameters agree with those obtained from the XRD measurements with the differences less than 0.5%. Figure 3(b) shows decomposition of the simulated pattern into nuclear (blue) and magnetic (red) scattering contributions. It indicates that the spin ordering information is clearly obtained from the 100 and 101 diffractions at ~25.9° and ~28.5°, respectively. The 100 diffraction disappears in the nuclear scattering due to the extinction rule originating from the $n$ glide plane along the [110] direction in the space group $P4/nmm$, but is clearly observed in the magnetic scattering, indicating that the two Mn ions in the unit cell have different spin moments. Furthermore, when we assumed the direction of the magnetic moment on Mn was perpendicular to the $c$-axis, a weighted profile reliability factor, $R_{wp}$, became 7.18%. The value decreased to 6.18% provided that the direction was assumed to be parallel to the $c$-axis. Consequently, we concluded that the direction of the magnetic moment is parallel to the $c$-axis. The refined magnetic moment is 2.26(2) $\mu_B$/Mn, which is much smaller than the value expected from the high-spin configuration in the localized spin scheme (5 $\mu_B$/Mn), but much larger than that expected from the low-spin configuration (1 $\mu_B$/Mn). The most reliable magnetic structure obtained is illustrated in Fig. 3(c), where the in-plane magnetic structure is AFM; the magnetic coupling with the nearest Mn ions, which lie in the [110] direction, is antiparallel to each other, whereas the spins couple in parallel with the second nearest Mn ions, which lie in the [100] and [010] directions. On the other hand, the interlayer spin coupling is parallel. Note that the spin configuration of LaMnPO is different from that of LaFeAsO, where the Fe spin moments are perpendicular to the $c$-axis, orders in the stripe type configuration in the Fe–As layer, and are antiparallel between the adjacent layers.33 These results indicate that magnetic interactions among the transition metal ions in LaMnXO are sensitive to kind of 3$d$ transition metal elements (i.e., number of $d$ electrons).

#### TABLE I. Crystallographic parameters of LaMnPO refined by powder x-ray Rietveld analysis. The XRD data were collected at 24 °C. Occupancy and $B$ values of O were fixed at 1.0 and 0.9, respectively. The reliability factor was $R_{wp}=11.91\%$ and the goodness of fit parameter was $S=2.39$.

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<tr>
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<td>1/4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>P</td>
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<td>1/4</td>
<td>0.6569(2)</td>
<td>0.25(3)</td>
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</table>

Figure 2. (Color online) Powder XRD patterns of the LaMnPO sample and the results of the Rietveld analysis. (Upper row) Observed pattern (+) and simulated pattern obtained by the Rietveld analysis (red line). (Middle row) The difference profile between the observed and simulated patterns. (Bottom row) The positions of the Bragg reflections from LaMnPO.
an indirect band gap of ~0.9 eV. The band gap energies, obtained in this procedure, are not so confirmative because similar absorption tail structures have frequently been observed in similar compounds including LaCuClO (Ch=S, Se, Te).\cite{36} For instance, LaCuSeO has the band gap energy of ~2.7 eV and exhibits an absorption tail extended to ~2.5 eV even in undoped samples and to ~2.0 eV in hole-doped ones, where the tails are assigned to subgap states related to defects. Therefore, we also measured optical absorption spectra using epitaxial films of LaMnP0 to further examine the band gap energy. As shown in Fig. 4(b), the $(\alpha \times h\nu)^2$-$h\nu$ plot exhibits a straight line at $>1.6$ eV, providing a direct band gap of ~1.4 eV. On the other hand, the $\alpha^{1/2}$-$h\nu$ plot exhibits a straight line in a wide energy region

**B. Optical spectra, electrical transports, and magnetization**

Optical absorption spectra were obtained from diffuse reflectance spectra by using the Kubelka–Munk relation.\cite{34, 35} To evaluate the band gap energy, two types of plots, a $[(\alpha/s) \times h\nu]^2$-$h\nu$ plot for the allowed direct transition model and a $(\alpha/s)^{1/2}$-$h\nu$ plot for the indirect transition model, where $\alpha$ denotes the optical absorption coefficient, $h\nu$ denotes the photon energy, and $s$ denotes the scattering factor, are examined in Fig. 4(a). Straight lines are found in the $[(\alpha/s) \times h\nu]^2$-$h\nu$ plot in two different regions, between 1.0 and 1.5 eV and between 2.0 and 2.5 eV, which may provide direct transition gaps of ~0.9 and ~1.4 eV, respectively. On the other hand, the $(\alpha/s)^{1/2}$-$h\nu$ plot shows a straight line in a narrow photon energy region of 0.9–1.0 eV, which may give

### TABLE II. Crystallographic parameters refined by powder neutron Rietveld analysis. The neutron diffraction data were collected at RT. The reliability factor was $R_w=6.18\%$ and the goodness of fit parameter was $S=1.32.$

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<td>1/4</td>
<td>0.1381(2)</td>
<td>0.52(3)</td>
<td>⋯</td>
</tr>
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<td>1/4</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>0.67(4)</td>
<td>2.26(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1/4</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>0.67(4)</td>
<td>−2.26(2)</td>
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<td>⋯</td>
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<td>P</td>
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<td>1/4</td>
<td>0.6586(2)</td>
<td>0.77(4)</td>
<td>⋯</td>
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![FIG. 3.](image1.png)  
![FIG. 3.](image2.png)  
![FIG. 3.](image3.png)  

**FIG. 3.** (Color online) (a) Neutron powder diffraction patterns of the LaMnPO sample and the result of the Rietveld analysis. (Upper row) Observed pattern (+) and simulated pattern obtained by the Rietveld analysis (red line). (Bottom row) The difference profile between the observed and simulated patterns. (b) The simulated patterns by nuclear scattering (blue line) and magnetic scattering (red line). Inset shows a magnified view around the 100 diffraction. (c) Magnetic structure of LaMnPO.

**FIG. 4.** (a) Optical absorption spectra of LaMnPO converted from diffuse reflectance spectra with the Kubelka–Munk relation. Direct band gap and indirect band gap are estimated from the $[(\alpha/s) \times h\nu]^2$-$h\nu$ plot (black line) and the $(\alpha/s)^{1/2}$-$h\nu$ plot (gray line), respectively. (b) Optical absorption spectra of a LaMnPO epitaxial film.
between 1.3–1.8 eV, although lower-energy absorption was still observed below 1.3 eV. Based on these analyses, along with the fact that the profile of the lower-energy absorption (<1.3 eV) resembles that of the subgap absorption in LaCu-SeO films, we concluded that the lower-energy absorption comes from subgap states and the fundamental band gap of LaMnPO is of an indirect transition type with the band gap value of ~1.3 eV. These conclusions are consistent with the electronic band structure obtained by the GGA+U calculations described below.

Seeebeck coefficients (S) of undoped and doped samples at RT are plotted against electrical conductivity (σ) in Fig. 5(a). All the S values in undoped samples show negative signs and the absolute S value decreases monotonically with an increase in σ, indicating that the undoped samples are n-type conductors. The S and σ values of the undoped samples scattered largely from ~1 to ~3 mV K⁻¹ and from ~10⁻⁶ to ~10⁻⁴ S cm⁻¹, respectively. These scatterings are attributable to compositional deviation among the different preparation batches because similar scatterings have been observed in other family compounds such as LaZnPO.¹⁷ The conduction carriers in the undoped LaMnPO are thought to originate in the nonstoichiometry of the synthesized samples because the chemical compositions, especially the anion ratio O:P, are difficult to control precisely in these complex compounds. On the other hand, the Ca and Cu doping gave positive S values and the |S| value decreases monotonically with the σ values, clearly indicating that the carrier polarity is converted from n-type to p-type by the Ca and Cu doping.

Figure 5(b) shows the temperature dependence of σ for the most conductive samples of undoped, Ca-doped, and Cu-doped LaMnPO. The σ value of 10 at. % Cu doped LaMnPO reaches ~1 S cm⁻¹ at RT and larger than that of the Ca doped LaMnPO, suggesting the Cu doping is more effective than the Ca doping to achieve better p-type conductivity. The σ values of all the samples exhibit thermally activated behaviors, and the apparent activation energies (Eₐ) are 0.06 eV for Cu 10 at. % doped LaMnPO, 0.08 eV for Cu 5 at. % doped LaMnPO, 0.21 eV for the Ca 7 at. % doped LaMnPO, 0.24 eV for the Ca 5 at. % doped LaMnPO, and 0.29 eV for Cu 10 at. % doped LaMnPO, suggesting the Cu doping is more effective than the Ca doping.

Figure 6 shows mass magnetic susceptibility (χₘ) as a function of temperature from 375 to 2.5 K. The χₘ value at 300 K is very small at only 2.9 × 10⁻⁶ emu/g, and gradually decreases as the temperature decreases from 375 to 150 K. The small χₘ is not explained by ferromagnetism, and the small positive slope of the χₘ–T plot suggests that a phase
transition occurs at a higher temperature. Along with the result of the neutron diffraction Rietveld analysis, an AFM spin ordering is concluded to occur in this higher temperature range. Similar results are reported for BaMnP2F, whose crystal structure is the same as LaMnP2O except that the La–O insulating layer is replaced with the Ba–F layer.37 It would also be worth comparing with BaMnP2 with the ThCr2Si2 structure, which is composed of similar Mn–P layers and Ba layers.38 BaMnP2F exhibits similar electronic and magnetic properties; i.e., it is an AFM semiconductor with the Neél temperature >750 K. The spin configuration in the Mn–P layer is the same as that in LaMnP2O. On the other hand, the interlayer spin coupling in BaMnP2 is antiparallel and different from that in LaMnP2O (parallel). It indicates that significant magnetic interaction exists between the Mn–P layers in BaMnP2, although the interlayer distance is rather large at 0.65 nm. While, the present neutron diffraction study for LaMnP2O did not exhibit a c-axis superlattice diffraction, which must be observed if the interlayer spin coupling is of antiparallel. We, therefore, concluded that the interlayer spin coupling is of parallel, but we like to note that the same result is obtained for the case that the spins are not ordered between the Mn–P layers. We consider that the latter case would also be reasonable because the larger interlayer distance in LaMnP2O (0.88 nm) weakens the magnetic interaction. In addition, the spin moment of an Mn ion in BaMnP2 is determined to be 4.2 μB/Mn by neutron diffraction at RT, which is rather larger than that in LaMnP2O (2.26 μB/Mn), although the local coordination structures around the Mn ions are almost the same in BaMnP2 and LaMnP2O; i.e., the differences of the Mn–P distances and the P–Mn–P bonding angles are less than 1%. Furthermore, GGA+U calculations (details will be discussed later for LaMnP2O) also gave almost the same spin moments for LaMnP2O and BaMnP2F. We speculate that the observed smaller spin moment in LaMnP2O suffers from the Larmor precession and reflects the projection of the total spin to the c-axis; while, the spin moments in BaMnP2 are close to the full moment of high-spin configuration Mn2+ ion (5 μB) and the precession effect would be negligible.

On the other hand, χg starts increasing as the temperature decreases at <150 K. The increase in the low-temperature region seems to follow the Curie–Weiss law (CW), and the effective magnetic moment estimated from the CW curve is in the order of 0.1 μB/formula unit (f.u.). Because the high-power XRD measurements verified the impurity phase was less than 0.1%, the increase is not simply attributed to paramagnetic crystalline impurities in the sample. Figure 6(b) shows the magnetic moment–magnetic field (M–H) curves at 300, 100, and 2 K. The observed magnetic moments (e.g., 1.3 × 10−2 μB/f.u. at 2 K at 50 000 Oe) are far below the values obtained by fitting the Brillouin function to both high and low spin configurations of a Mn2+ ion (4.9 μB/Mn and 0.93 μB/Mn, respectively), which is also consistent with the AFM ordering. The M–H curves show very small but finite hysterises below 100 K, displayed in the inset of Fig. 6(b). The spontaneous magnetic moment is estimated from the extrapolation of the linear region (>30 000 Oe) in the M–H curve and is 0.004 μB/f.u. at 2

K. If the spontaneous magnetic moment comes from Mn ions in an impurity phase, it should correspond to an impurity fraction >0.4%. However, because our XRD measurements have a detection limit of ~0.1%, this magnetic moment value is hardly attributable to a crystalline FM impurity. Another possible explanation is that the hysterises in the M–H curves and the sharp increase in χg at <150 K come from a magnetic phase transition from the antiferromagnetism to a weak ferromagnetism. However, further experiments are required to make a final conclusion.

C. Electronic structures

Figure 7 shows the PES spectra of the Ca-doped p-type LaMnP2O measured with excitation photon energies near the Mn L3 edge. The energy is measured from the Fermi level. In the off-resonant spectrum, the clear signals appear at binding energies below ~0.1 eV, which correspond to the valence band maximum (VBM), and the valence band width is estimated to be ~6 eV. It turns out that the Fermi level is ~0.1 eV above the VBM, which is consistent with the p-type conduction of this sample. To distinguish the contribution of the Mn 3d orbitals, resonant photoemission spectra at the Mn L3 edge are also shown in Fig. 7. Besides the main peak of the on-resonant spectra at 3.7 eV, almost all the valence band regions are enhanced by increasing the excitation photon energy from 636 to 639 eV, indicating that Mn 3d orbitals largely contribute to the band near 3.7 eV, but also spread over the valence band as well.

Figure 8 shows the total density of states (TDOS) obtained by the GGA+U calculations with Ueff parameters varied from 0 to 4 eV, along with the projected densities of two spin states (denoted α and β states, respectively) in Mn 3d. The RPES spectrum is also shown in the top panel for comparison. LaMnP2O is found to be highly spin-polarized even for small Ueff ≤1 eV, while the larger Ueff correspond to almost completely spin-polarized states. The spin moment of a Mn ion is 3.25 μB for Ueff=0 eV and increased to >4 μB for Ueff ≥2 eV. The latter value is close to the full magnetic moment of the high-spin configuration for Mn (3d5)5. A
plausible $U_{\text{eff}}$ parameter would be determined based on the experimental results such as the RPES spectrum, the crystal structure, and the optical band gap. The energy positions of the calculated Mn 3d main peaks are deeper than 4 eV from the Fermi energy for $U_{\text{eff}} \geq 4$ eV, which do not correspond to the RPES result where the main resonant peak is located at $\sim 3.7$ eV. Figure 9 summarizes the parameters of the optimized crystal structures (the lattice parameters $a$ and $c$, and the $z$ coordinates of the La and P ions), the total energies ($E$), the spin moments ($M$) of the Mn ion, and the band gaps ($E_g$) obtained from the GGA+U calculations for the FM and AFM configurations plotted against the $U_{\text{eff}}$ value. The gray horizontal lines and shadowed areas indicate the ranges of the experimental values. They suggest that the experimental optical band gap ($\sim 1.3$ eV) is reproduced reasonably when $U_{\text{eff}}=3–4$ eV. The magnetic moment value obtained by the neutron Rietveld analysis (2.26 $\mu_B$) is much smaller than all the values obtained by the GGA+U calculations, but those from $U_{\text{eff}}=0–1.5$ eV (3.25–3.8 $\mu_B$ in the AFM phase) are reasonably close to the experimental values compared with the others obtained for the larger $U_{\text{eff}}$ values. All the crystal structure parameters are reproduced well with the $U_{\text{eff}}$ values of 1–2 eV. The total energy values indicate that the AFM phase is more stable than the FM phase, which is consistent with the experimental result of the AFM phase at RT. Considering these results, the $U_{\text{eff}}$ parameter of 1.5 eV is considered to be the safest value at present. Figure 10(a) shows the projected density of states (PDOS) decomposed to the respective ions and Mn 3d spin states. The Mn 3d and P 3p orbitals spread to almost all the valence band region and the conduction band region, while the O 2p orbitals are concentrated in the deep valence band region at $-2$ to $-4$ eV. The

**IV. SUMMARY**

Electrical and optical measurements clarified that LaMnPO is a bipolar semiconductor with an indirect band gap energy of $\sim 1.3$ eV. The AFM ordering structure was observed by the magnetic and the neutron diffraction measurements. Neutron diffraction analyses revealed that the spin configuration in LaMnPO is of antiparallel in the Mn–P plane while of parallel between the Mn–P planes. The magnetic moment was estimated to be 2.26 $\mu_B$/Mn from the neutron diffraction analysis.
22Y-ray photoemission spectroscopy measurements revealed that the va-lence state of doped Cu ion was not divalent (Cu$^{2+}$) but monovalent (Cu$^+$).

FIG. 10. (Color online) (a) Total and PDOSs for Mn 3d ($\alpha$ and $\beta$ spin states), P 3p, and O 2p orbitals calculated with $U_{eff}=1.5$ eV for Mn 3d electrons using the AFM configuration obtained by the neutron Rietveld analysis [Fig. 3(c)]. (b) Calculated band structure of LaMnPO with the AFM configuration. The energy is measured from the Fermi energy.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

We are indebted to Dr. N. Igawa (JAEA) for his help in the neutron diffraction measurement, to Dr. Yuji Saitoh and Dr. Shin-ichi Fujimori (JAEA) for their help in the resonant photoemission spectroscopy measurements, and to Dr. H. Hiramatsu (ERATO-SORST, JST) for his help with the measurements and his valuable discussions. The synchrotron radiation experiment was performed under the Common-Use Facility Program of JAEA (Proposal No. 2006B-E22).