



<b>Thesis Title</b>	Effect of ZnO Anti-reflection Layer to Efficiency of ZnO Dye-sensitized Solar Cells
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### Abstract

In this research, we investigated the effects of ZnO thin films as an anti-reflection layer for ZnO dye-sensitized solar cells (DSSCs). ZnO thin films were prepared by thermal evaporation and sparking technique with 0.5, 1.5 and 2.5 sparking cycles onto glass substrates. Surface morphology was investigated by field emission scanning electron microscopy (FE-SEM) and showed that sparking ZnO thin films have roughness surface with nanoparticles compared with reference film and ZnO film prepared by thermal evaporation. The optical properties were measured via transmittance and reflectance using UV-vis spectroscopy. The optical reflective index and thickness of the films were obtained via ellipsometry. It was found that the films prepared by sparking technique can reduce reflection and also increase transmission of light more than that of the reference film and the film prepared by thermal evaporation. Also, the optical reflective index of the sparking films has value between that of the substrate and air. The thicknesses of sparking films are in the range of 20-100 nm. For the ZnO DSSCs assembly, the photoelectrochemical parameters of DSSCs were monitored under stimulated sunlight AM 1.5 with the radiant power of  $100 \text{ mW/cm}^2$ . The results showed that the solar cell with sparking film 1.5 cycles has a short circuit current density ( $J_{sc}$ ) of  $4.34 \text{ mA/cm}^2$  and the maximum efficiency ( $E_{ff}$ ) of 0.8%, compared with the reference cell of  $3.00 \text{ mA/cm}^2$ , 0.43%, respectively. Moreover, the DSSCs with sparking films exhibited higher efficiency, suggesting an efficiency improvement due to anti-reflection layer.