DIELECTRIC PROPERTIES OF ATiO₃ CERAMICS (A=Ca, Sr, Ba) SINTERED WITH 5 Mol. % OF LiF AND CaF₂

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Topic A: Dielectric, piezoelectric and ferroelectric materials

The spectacular development in new technologies of information and communication (NTIC) during the last decade has tremendously urged the research in engineering ceramics. The perovskite-type family ABO₃ and, specifically the titanates ATiO₃, attracted more and more scientists worldwide because of their large area of applications. Among ATiO₃ ceramics, CaTiO₃ (CTO), SrTiO₃ (STO) and BaTiO₃ (BTO) became the key materials post-PZT. The aim of the present work is the comparison of the dielectric properties of CTO, STO and BTO sintered with 5 mol. % of (LiF + CaF₂).

CTO, STO and BTO were previously synthesized by calcination of stoichiometric amounts of ACO₃ (A = Ca, Sr, Ba) and TiO₂. 95 mol. % of the prepared ATO powders were mixed with 5 mol. % of (LiF + CaF₂) then wet-ground in ethanol. These mixtures were cold-pressed into pellets and air-fired at 1000 ° C for 2 h. The ceramics thus obtained were investigated by X-ray diffraction (XRD) and scanning electron microscopy (SEM). Dielectric measurements (DE) were carried out from 100 K up to 500 K in the frequency range 10^2 Hz – 4 x 10^7 Hz. As results, the XRD patterns show each sample to be a perovskite single phase. In comparison with ATO, the fluorinated ceramics show compact microstructures. The shrinkages $\Delta\Phi/\Phi$ are in the range 13 – 22 %. The oxyfluoride deriving from CTO exhibits a sharp peak of ε_r and tanð around 10 ° C. For STO, no phase transition is detected in the temperature range investigated. On the other hand, the ceramic related to BTO displays a broad maximum of the dielectric permittivity ε_r and a minimum of the dielectric losses tanð at the ferroelectric Curie temperature T_C ~ 20 ° C. Moreover, a dielectric relaxation is observed at about 10 MHz.

Keywords: ATiO₃ perovskite; Oxyfluoride; Ceramics; Dielectric properties.