### **PROCEEDINGS**

# Size Dependent Structures and Properties of Na<sub>0.5</sub>Bi<sub>0.5</sub>TiO<sub>3</sub>-Based Ceramics for Piezoelectric Sensors

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### ABSTRACT

Generally, film dielectric materials often exhibit size-dependent structure and electric properties. In this work, we demonstrate a similar behavior in bulk Na<sub>0.5</sub>Bi<sub>0.5</sub>TiO<sub>3</sub> (NBT)-based polycrystalline ceramics. According to the results from X-ray diffraction, the (Na<sub>0.5</sub>Bi<sub>0.5</sub>)<sub>0.9</sub>2Ba<sub>0.08</sub>Ti<sub>0.99</sub>Mg<sub>0.01</sub>O<sub>2.99</sub> (NBT8M1.0) ceramic showed a complex structure that consists of rhombohedral, tetragonal and cubic symmetries. We found, when decreasing the thickness of a  $\phi$  10 mm NBT8M1.0 ceramic from 1230 µm to 230 µm, the ceramic showed increased content of cubic symmetry (CC) from 28% to 56%. Meanwhile, the piezoelectric response (*d*<sub>33</sub>) increased from 107 pC/N to 134 pC/N and the depolarization temperature (*T*<sub>d</sub>) decreased from 170 °C to 142 °C. Similarly, when decreasing the diameter of a 1 mm thick NBT8M1.0 ceramic from  $\phi$  22 mm to  $\phi$  6 mm, the ceramic showed increased CC from 18% to 44%. Meanwhile, the *d*<sub>33</sub> increased from 125 pC/N to 135 pC/N and the *T*<sub>d</sub> decreased from 165 °C to 156 °C. The origin of size-dependent structure and properties in macroscopic size range of NBT8M1.0 ceramics were further studied by investigating the difference of the size-dependence between the ceramics sintered from green bodies prepared by uniaxial pressing and isostatic pressing. The results demonstrated that the size-dependent structure and properties of NBT-based polycrystalline ceramics are closely related to the residual stress from the inhomogeneous densification during sintering process, as a result of the inhomogeneous density distribution in the pressed green body.

## **KEYWORDS**

Size-dependence; piezoelectric ceramics; Na0.5Bi0.5TiO3; inhomogeneous densification

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