

# Synthesis And Characterization of ferroelectric material ( $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{TiO}_3$ - $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$

## Ceramics

This thesis is submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the degree  
of  
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PHYSICS

by

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Under the supervision

of

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## Declaration

I declare that this written submission represents my ideas in my own words, and where, and where ideas or words of others have been included, I have adequately cited and referenced the original sources. I also declare that I have adhered to all principles of academic honesty, integrity and have not misrepresented or fabricated or falsified any idea / data / fact / source in my submission. I understand that any violation of the above will be a cause for disciplinary action by the Institute and can also evoke penal action from the sources that have thus not been properly cited, or from whom proper permission has not been taken when needed.



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This thesis entitled **Synthesis and Characterization of Ferroelectric Material** by **Krishna Kant Oditya** is approved for the degree of Master of Science from IIT Hyderabad.

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## ABSTRACT

Lead free  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{(0.5-x)}\text{Eu}_x\text{TiO}_3$  ceramics were prepared by solid state reaction route taking five different composition with  $x=0.005, 0.01, 0.02, 0.03, 0.04$  and  $0.05$ . From XRD pattern it is confirmed that the NBT-Eu single phase were formed at different  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  doping. RAMAN pattern shows roughness or irregularity due to the data taken at high resolution. From morphological study by SEM it is found that the grains were well developed and have the dense structure. Also the grain shape changes from granular to plated with increase in concentration of  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$ . From UV-VIS SPECTROSCOPY it is observed that the band gap increase with increase  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  concentration. The PE-LOOP analysis shows that the remnant polarization ( $P_r$ ) and coercive field ( $E_c$ ) values increase with increase in concentration. The dielectric constant increases with increase in temperature also the broadening of the peaks is observed with increase in concentration.

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## INTRODUCTION

Dielectrics are basically electric insulators. In such materials, electrons are very tightly bound to the atoms and the atoms, and they do not conduct any electric current. In dielectrics, the centers of positive and negative charges coincide. So no conductivity is possible. When a sufficient magnitude of electric field is applied to the crystal, centers of positive charges are slightly displaced in the direction of the field and the negative charges in the opposite direction. This produces electric dipoles throughout the crystal. And the crystal is said to be polarized.

## POLARIZATION

When a dielectric material is placed in an external electric field, it becomes polarized, i.e. in a small volume of substance, the geometrical sum of the electric dipole moment vectors of the molecules becomes non-zero.

The polarization "P" is expressed as the dipole moment per unit volume

$$\text{i.e. } P = p / v$$

If N be the number of molecules per unit volume and if each has a moment p then the polarization is given by

$$P = N * p$$

## Frequency Dependence of Dielectric Properties: Resonance

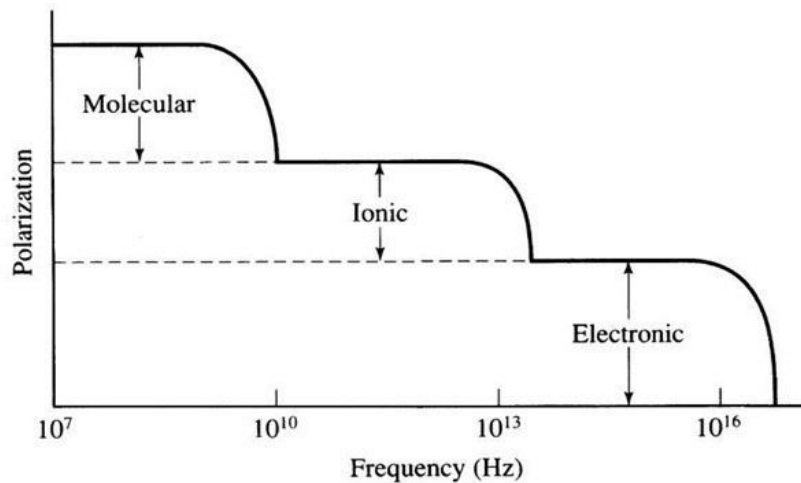
The electric polarizability of the atom is defined as the dipole moment per local electric field

$$\text{i.e. } \alpha = p/E_{\text{loc}}$$

### Mechanisms of Polarization

Basically, there are four mechanisms of polarization:

1. Electronics or Atomic Polarization
2. Ionic Polarization
3. Dipolar or Orientation Polarization
4. Interface or space charge Polarization

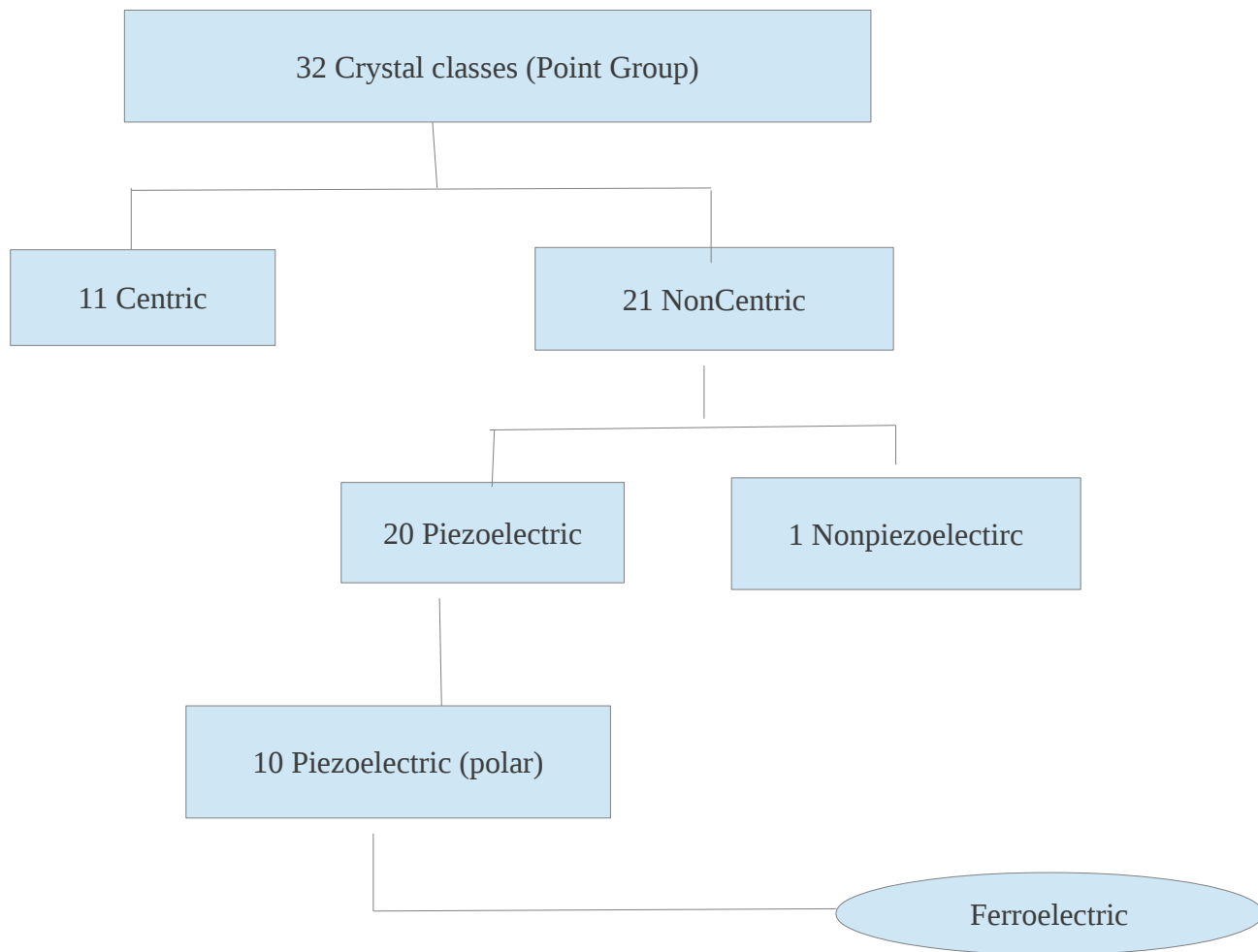




## Classification of symmetry Elements :-

There are 32 symmetry classes ( point groups ) out of which 21 point groups are noncentrosymmetric and 11 are having centre of symmetry . We are interested in these 21 groups as they possess dipoles.

Again out of 21, 20 groups show piezoelectric behaviour. Out of these 20 point groups, 10 point groups have unique polar axis and exhibit pyroelectric effect. These 10 are divided into ferroelectrics and nonferroelectrics.



## PIEZOELECTRICITY

Piezoelectricity forces applied to a segment of material lead to the appearance of electrical charge of the surface of the segment.

In schematic one dimensional notation , the piezoelectric equation are :-

$$P = Z d + \epsilon_0 E \chi \quad \dots\dots\dots(i)$$

$$e = Zs + Ed \quad \dots\dots\dots(ii)$$

Where, P represents polarization , Z the stress , d the piezoelectric strain constant, E the electric field ,  $\chi$  the dielectric susceptibility ,

e the elastic strain and s the elastic compliance constant.

Equation (i) exhibits the development of polarization by an applied stress. And equation (ii) shows the development of elastic strain by applied electric field.

The absence of centre of inversion is the prerequisite for the occurrence of piezoelectricity materials are used to convert electrical energy to mechanical energy and vice versa. They are used in devices such as Microphones , strain gauge , ultrasonic generators etc.

# Ferroelectricity

A ferroelectric material is like a ferromagnetic one exhibits spontaneous polarization even in the absence of an external electric field. The spontaneous polarization gets destroyed and the ferroelectricity disappears above a certain temperature called the transition temperature (or the Curie temperature) where the materials become paraelectric.

The occurrence of ferroelectricity may be understood in terms of either :-

- i) Polarization catastrophe
- ii) Transverse optical phonon mode.

The internal electric dipoles of a ferroelectric material are physically tied to the material lattice so anything that changes the physical lattice will change the strength of the dipoles and cause a current to flow into or out of the capacitor even without the presence of an external voltage across the capacitor.

Two stimuli that will change the lattice dimension of material are force and temperature. The generation of a current in response to the application of a force to a capacitor is called piezoelectricity.

## Introduction to NBT :-

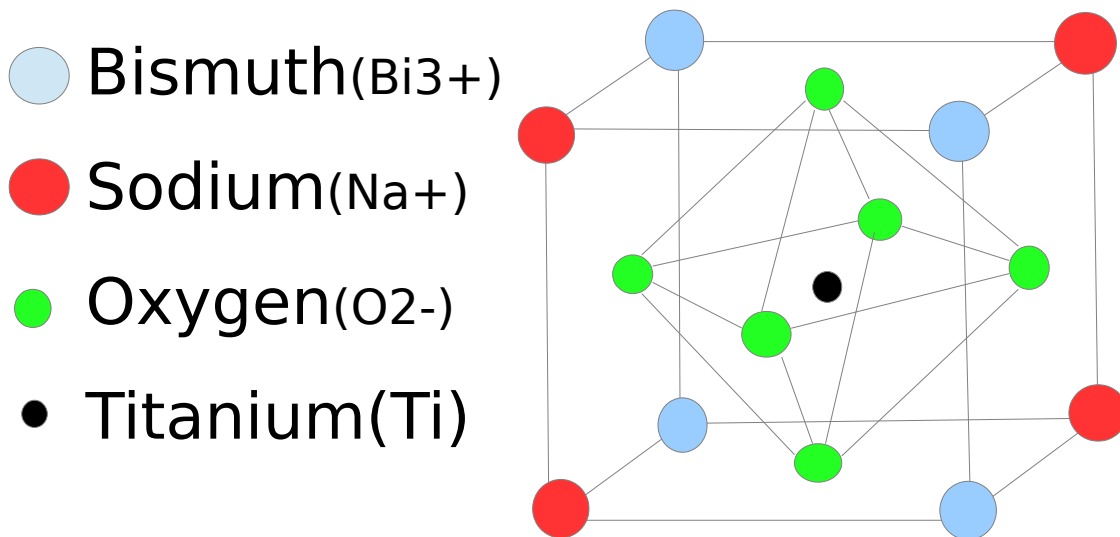
Lead based piezoelectric ceramics with perovskite structure based on Lead zirconate Titanate (PZT) are widely used for sensors, actuators as well as microelectronic device because of their excellent piezoelectric properties due to existence of Morphological Phase Boundary (MPB). Because of the high toxicity of lead oxide, the use of the leadbase ceramics has caused serious lead pollution and enviromental problems. Therefore it is necessary to devlope lead free piezoelectric ceramics for replacing them.

Sodium bismuth titanate is a dielectric material which is being used widley due to its high temperature dielectric constant and it is a lead free material complex having  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Na}^{+}$  on the A-site of  $\text{ABO}_3$  perovskite structure with a rhombohedral symmetry. It is considered as one of the good candidates for leadfree piezoelectric ceramics because of a large remnant polarization at room tempreature.

## Structure of Sodium Bismuth Titanate:-

Sodium bismuth titanate is an  $ABO_3$  distorted perovskite with a rhombohedral  $R3c$  crystal structure at room temperature. The standard  $ABO_3$  perovskite formula for NBT is  $(Na_{0.5}Bi_{0.5}TiO_3)$ . An  $ABO_3$  perovskite can be considered in two ways; one way occupy the corners of a cubic unit cell, oxygen cations occupying the face centers, and a titanium cation in the face centers of the oxygen octahedra that is formed.

The other way, a three dimensional cubic network of 8-corner sharing  $TiO_6$  Octahedra with bismuth and sodium cations as the centre of the cubic formed by the octahedra.



# CHAPTER 2

## THESIS OBJECTIVE

To prepare the different composition of NBT & Europium by using the formula  $(\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{(0.5-x)}\text{Eu}_x\text{TiO}_2)$

### 2.1 Litreature Review :-

The NBT material was discovered in 1960 by Smolenskii et.al. In 1990, by various sources the optical and dielectric properties of NBT were reported by park et al., [1-3]. The existence of rhombohedral symmetry at room temperature was found out by Jones and Thomas in 2002. When heated, structural transition takes place from tetragonal to cubic.

Polycrystalline of Leadfree sodium bismuth titanate (NBT) ferroelectric ceramics doped with rare earth (RE) element are prepared using solid state reaction method. Optical ferroelectric and electrocaloric properties were investigated. The introduction of RE 3+ ions in the NBT host lattice shows different light emissions over the wavelength range from visible to near infrared region.

The P-E hysteresis loop exhibits an antiferroelectric like character near room temperature indicating possible existences of a morphotropic phase boundary. The enhanced electrocaloric response was observed in a broad temperature transition. Coexistence of Optical and electrocaloric properties is very promising for photonics or optoelectronic device application.

R.K. Prusty et al. Investigated Eu doped  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{TiO}_3$  (NBT) shows a plateauing of emission intensity beyond 12% Bi substitution. This occurs at the same doping concentration at which modulus is restored to pure NBT values. This simultaneous effect can be explained using a nanophase segregation model. Nano indentation and spectroscopy based results suggest that the solid state solubility of Eu in  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{(0.5-x)}\text{TiO}_3$  corresponds to  $0.05 \leq x \leq 0.06$ .

The most efficient emitter among the segregated phase is the Eu saturated NBT phase, which is the primary contributor to the luminescence. Here one expects plateauing of PL intensity beyond  $x=0.06$ . The phase segregation model is supported by spectroscopic evidence; i.e., they obtain strong Raman signal of pure NBT at  $x=0.06$ . The precise physico-chemical origins of the decrease in modulus with respect to dilute Eu doping merits further investigation. This may perhaps provide an understanding of the decrease in  $d_{33}$  coefficients in RE doped perovskite system (when compared to the parent perovskite).

# CHAPTER 3

This chapter includes the details about synthesis of NBT-Eu ceramics and different experimental techniques used to characterize it

## EXPERIMENTAL TECHNIQUES

- (A) Preparation of solid of NBT-Eu by solid state reaction route.
- (B) Characterization of the different composition of NBT- Eu ceramics.

## SYNTHESIS METHOD

- (A) Powder preparation
- (B) Ball milling
- (c) Powder calcination
- (D) Pelletization
- (E) Sintering of pellets

## CHARACTERIZATION TECHNIQUES

- (A) X- ray diffraction
- (B) Raman spectroscopy
- (C ) Scanning Electron Microscopy
- (D) uv-visible Spectroscop
- (E) Dielectric study
- (F) P-E loop



The raw material used for synthesis of NBT-EU :-

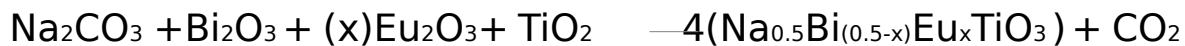
Sodium Carbonate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ )

Bismuth oxide ( $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ )

Europium (iii) oxide ( $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$ )

Titanium dioxide ( $\text{TiO}_2$ )

The chemical equation of NBT-Eu :-



Powder preparation by solid state reaction synthesis :-

Solid state synthesis method was adopted to produce powder  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{(0.5-x)}\text{Eu}_x\text{TiO}_3$  was prepared with  $x=0, 0.005, 0.01, 0.02, 0.03, 0.04, 0.05$ . For powder preparation bismuth oxide ( $\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3$ ) powder, sodium carbonate ( $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ) powder, titanium dioxide ( $\text{TiO}_2$ ), Europium(iii) oxide ( $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$ ) was used. The powders were weighted and mixed properly in a mortar. After mixing in dry condition isopropyl alcohol was added and mixed and again grinding was done till it became dry.

Calcination of Powder :-

The powder was grinding and dried properly and then calcined in alumina crucible at 1073 K for 3 hours. The calcination helps in driving out all volatile and gaseous material from powder.

Compaction into Pellets :-

The calcined powder was mixed with 3% PVA solution (for binding). It was mixed in an agate mortar and left to dry. After drying it was scraped and grounded to fine powder. The different composition powder were separately packed after being weighted (around 0.5 gm). The powder was then pressed into pellet by uniaxial compaction with load of 4 ton.

### Sintering of Pellets :-

The calcined powders of different were sintered at 1100 (degree) C in a furnace for four hours. Sintering is done to densify the pellets and to make compact. The sintering also cause the diffusion of atoms which will help in grain growth and the decrease in porosity is also observed. The type of furnace used is an electrically heated one. To get good result it is necessary to control the heating rate and temperature.

### Explanation of different Characterization Techniques :-

#### X-Ray diffraction (XRD) :-

X-Rays are electromagnetic radiation having shorter wavelength than of visible light . X-ray diffractometer based on the principle Bragg's law which is given by

$$2d \sin(\theta) = n\lambda$$

Where , d is the spacing between the atomic planes.

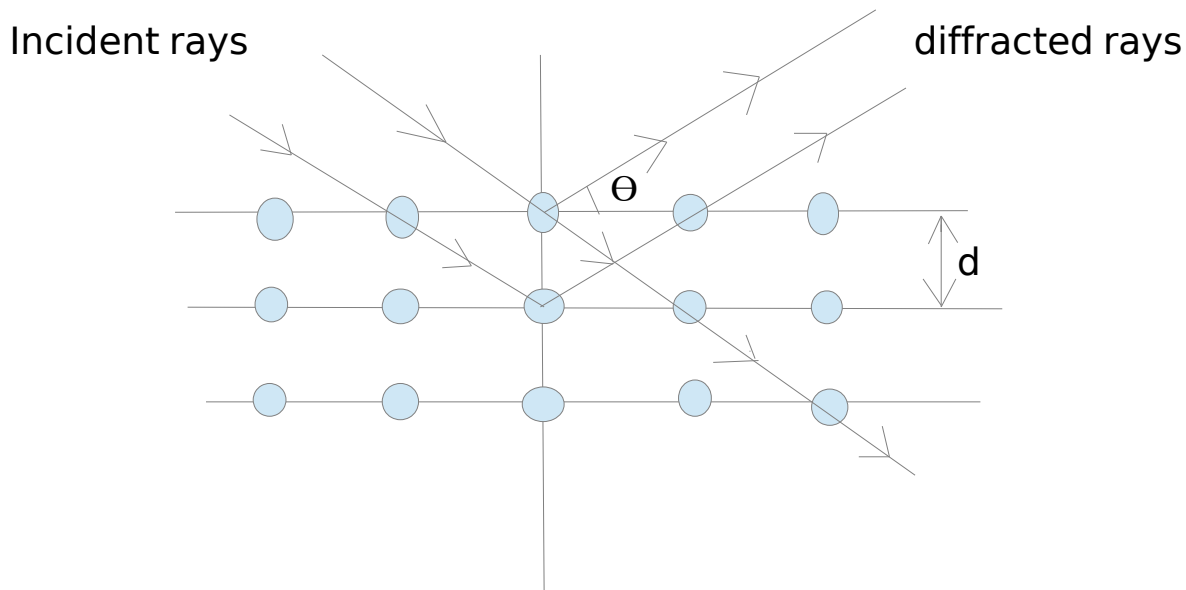
$\lambda$  is the wavelength of X-Ray used

$\theta$  is the angle of diffraction ,

And  $n=1,2,3$

The X-rays diffraction a techniques for determination of different phase present in the sample, crystal structure and the Crystallite size

The pellets of different composition of sodium bismuth titanate and lithium niobate were subjected to X-ray diffraction and the results were obtained.



### Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) :-

In SEM when a beam of high energetic electrons strikes the sample x-rays, secondary electron, and back scattered electron are produced from the sample. The detector collects these electrons and converted into signal and displays on the screen. Since layer of platinum is coated using a sputter coater. Generally SEM provides the information about the surfaces of the specimen and it can't scan deep into surface. In SEM the electrons beam are focused on small area of the sample. This characterization technique provides the information about the surface morphology of the sintered pellets.

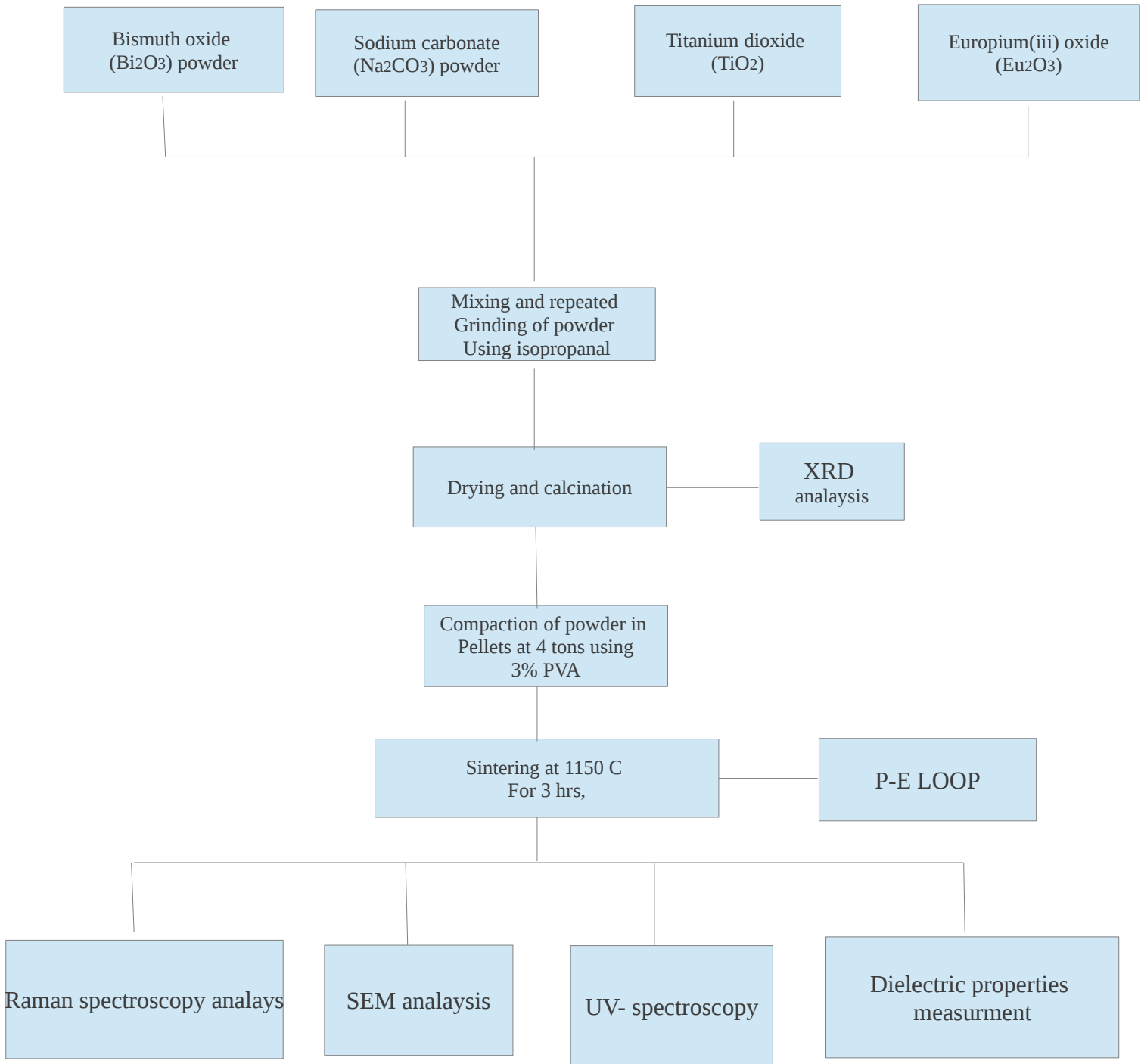
### Dielectric study :-

For dielectric measurement the impedance analyzer was used. The data containing phase, impedance capacitance and conductance are collected as a function of frequencies at different temperatures.

### Raman Spectroscopy study :-

Raman spectroscopy is a technique by which we can analyze the vibrational and rotational modes in a system. The frequency in Raman lines are not determined by the scattered but by the incident frequency.

### Flow chart of the procedure for preparation of NBT-Eu :-

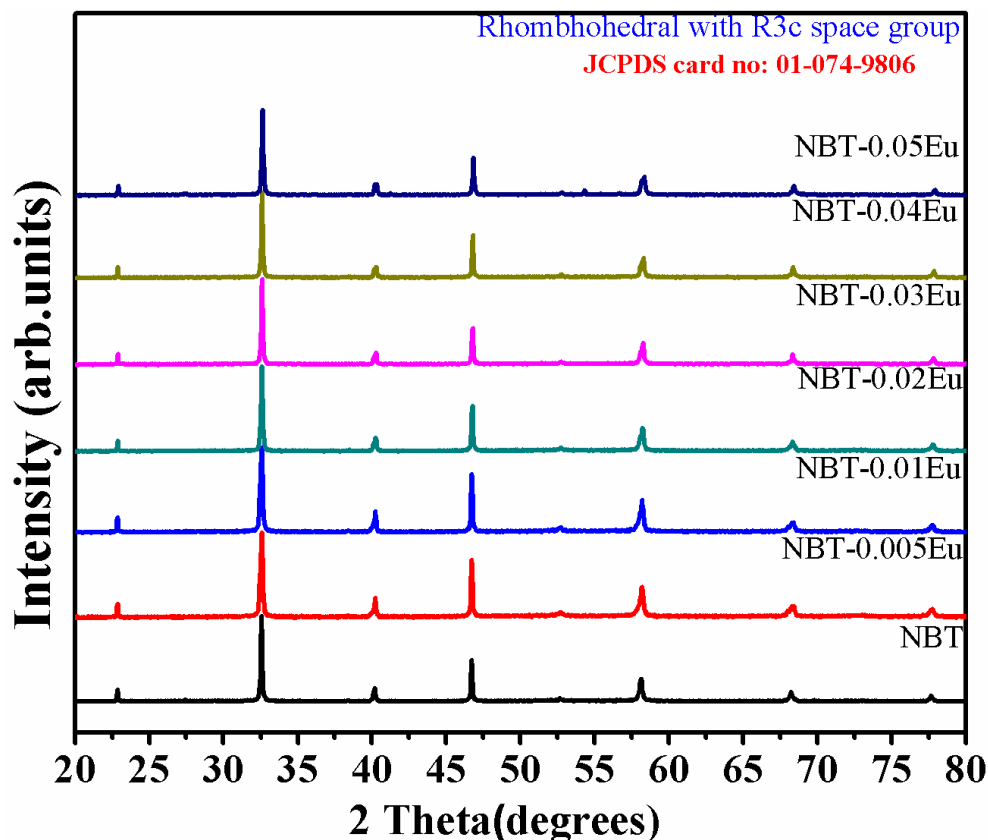


## Chapter 4

### RESULT AND DISCUSSION :-

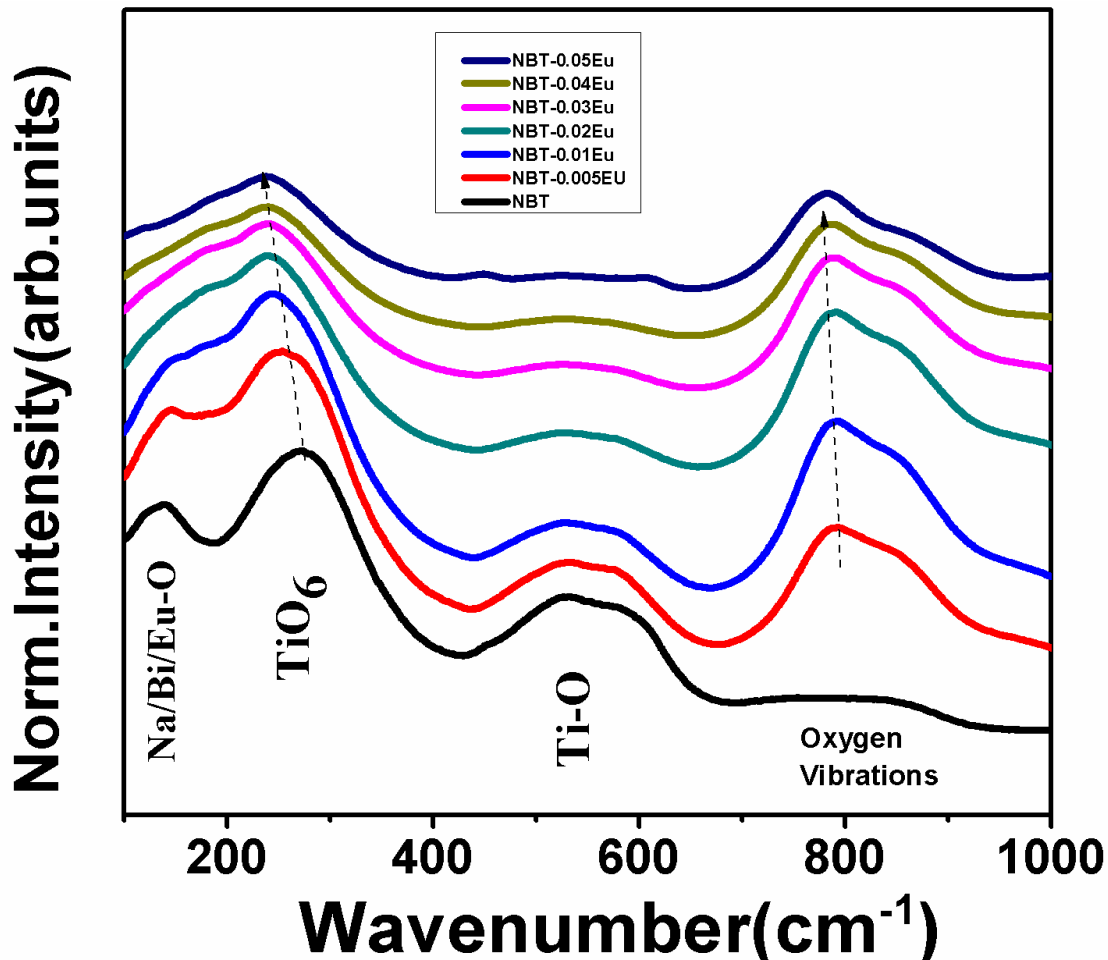
#### 1. XRD ANALYSIS :-

Fig . 1 shows the XRD pattern of  $(\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{(0.5-x)}\text{Eu}_x\text{TiO}_3)$  ceramics with various  $x$  values at room temperature . The XRD peaks of the NBT and the NBT-Eu ceramics were in agreement with those of the previous NBT phase with the  $\text{ABO}_3$  perovskite structure. This indicated that observed. Thus , the NBT-Eu ceramics, as well as the NBT ceramics, had a rhombohedral system. The position of peaks shifted towards lower angle at higher concentration of Eu may be due to sudden rise of strain in the material by the solubility limit of Eu in the NBT lattice were reached.



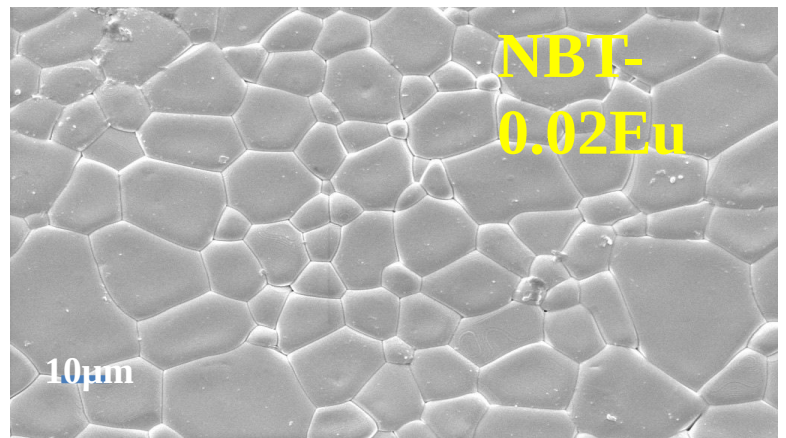
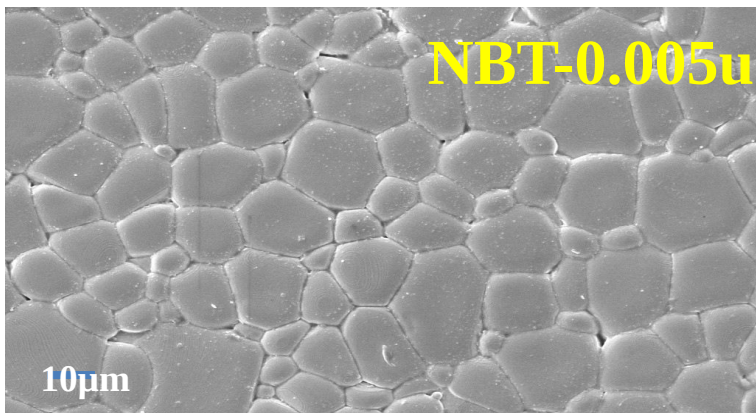
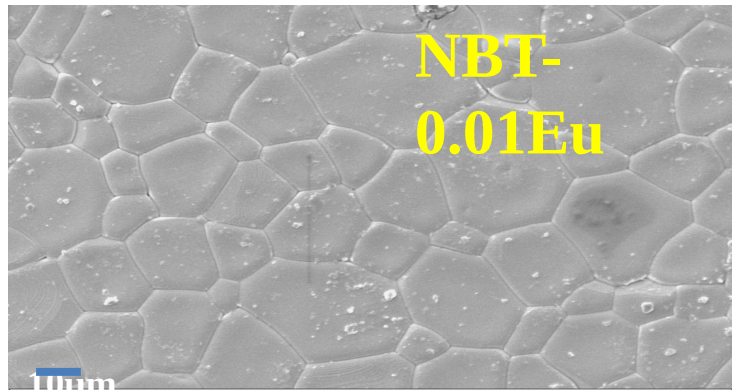
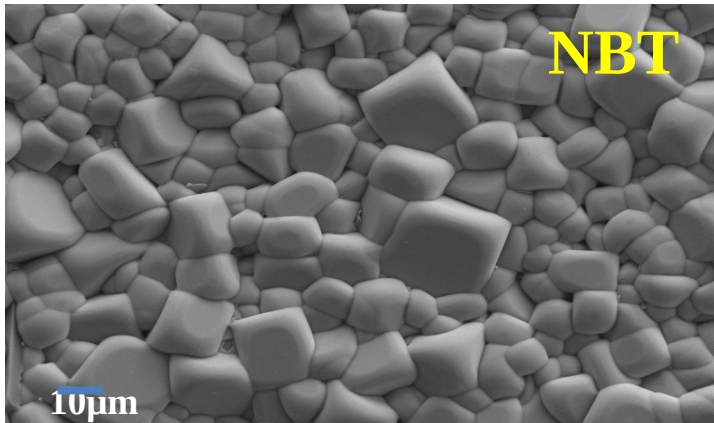
## 2. Raman Spectroscopy :-

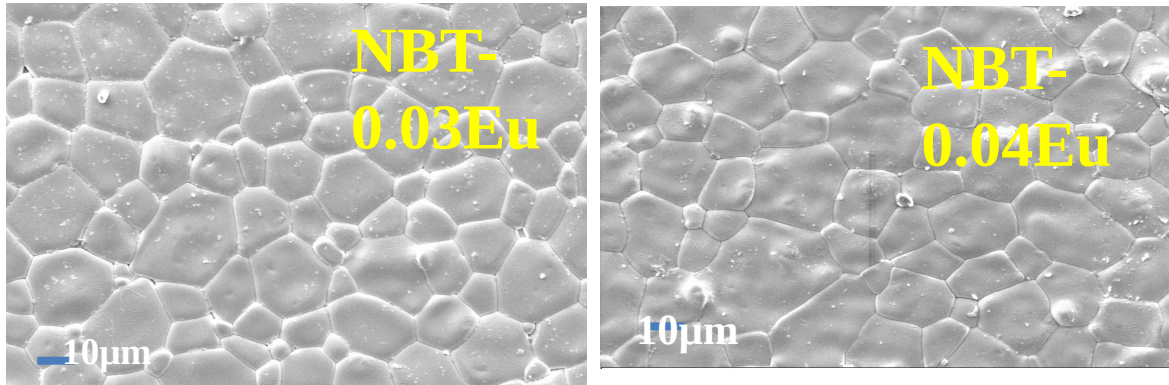
As per the group theory analysis, NBT (rhombohedral,  $R3c$ ) should show 13 Raman active modes; in irreducible representation  $\Gamma_{\text{Raman}} = 7A_1 + 6E$ . Therefore, among the 13 Raman-active vibrational modes it is possible to observe 8 Raman-active from fitting deconvolution of the Raman spectrum of NBT and all the composition of NBT-Eu ceramics (only Lorentzian Area function). This can be attributed to A-site and B-site disorder and the overlapping of Raman modes due to the lattice anharmonicity. The Raman patterns show roughness or irregularity due to the data taken in high resolution, it makes noise while collection of data. If we take the data taken in high resolution, then it is impossible to distinguish the closely bounded molecules.



### 3. Scanning Electron Microscopy Analysis :-

Fig .3 shows SEM images of the pure NBT and the NBT-Eu ceramics. The grains were well developed at sintering temperatures of 1075- 1150 (degree) C for 4 hrs. The grains of the NBT ceramics had a dense structure, which were similar to those of a typical NBT ceramics. With increasing  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$ , the grain shape changed from granular-like grains for NBT to plated grains for NBT-Eu ceramics. Grain growth is slightly inhibited after  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  doping for ceramics ( $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{(0.5-x)}\text{TiO}_3$ ) ceramic system and thus non-uniform grains are formed.





#### 4. UV Visible Spectroscopy Analysis :-

The optical band gap energy ( $E_{\text{gap}}$ ) was estimated for NBT-Eu ceramics by using the method proposed by Wood and Taue and presented in Fig. . According to these authors the optical band gap is associated with the absorbance and photon energy by the following equation :

$$h\nu a \propto (h\nu - E_{\text{gap}})^n$$

Where  $h$  is the Plank constant ,  $a$  is the absorbance,  $\nu$  is the frequency,  $E_{\text{gap}}$  is the optical band gap  $n$  is a constant associated to the different types of electronic transition ( $n=0.5, 2, 1.5$  or  $3$ ) for direct allowed, indirect allowed, direct forbidden and indirect forbidden transition, respectively ). In our work, the UV-visible absorbance spectra indicated an indirect allowed transition and , therefore the value of  $n=2$  are used in the above equation. The literature describes that the band gap energy is indirect when the electronic transitions occur from maximum-energy states located near or in the valence band (VB) to minimum energy states below or in the conduction band (CB), but in different regions in the Brillouin zone. Thus, the  $E_{\text{gap}}$  value for NBT-Eu powders was evaluated extrapolating the linear portion of the curve or tail. The enhanced optical band gap is observed with the increase in LN content in NBT-Eu ceramics in the studied composition range.



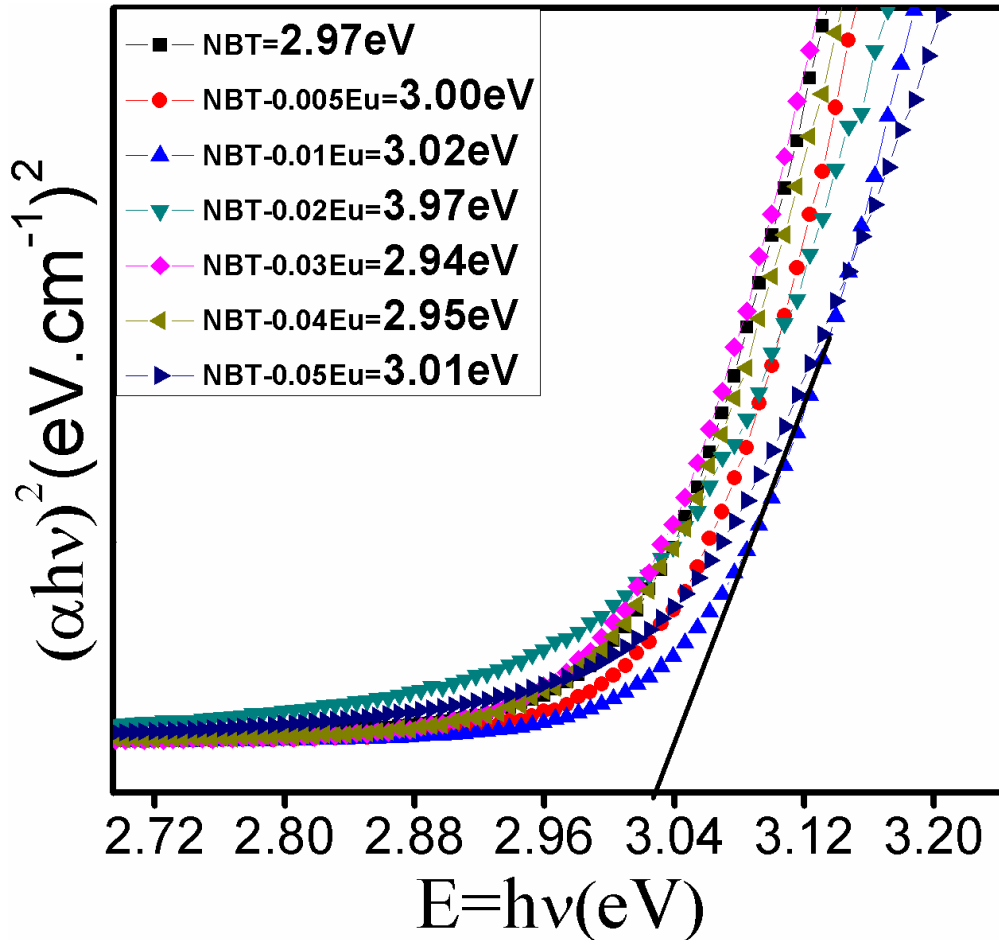


Fig. : The Optical band gap calculated by extrapolating the linear portion of the absorption spectra for NBT-Eu ceramics.

In principle, this behaviour indicates the existence of different intermediary energy levels within the band gap of these materials, which can be arising from the structural order - disorder into the lattice. Thus, the increase of Eu content is able to induce a structural rearrangement, reducing the presence of these energy levels within the band gap and increasing the  $E_{\text{gap}}$  values. Based on this hypothesis, we believe that the intermediary energy levels are composed of deep and shallow holes.

## 5. P-E LOOP :-

Fig. Shows the P-E hysteresis loops of the NBT and NBT-Eu ceramics at room temperature. It can be seen that typical ferroelectric polarization hysteresis loops were obtained for all samples under an electric field of 35 kV/cm at 15 Hz. It is found that the Eu content has an effect on the ferroelectric properties of the ceramics. It can be seen that  $P_r$  and  $E_c$  values generally increase with increasing the Eu content. P-E loops not very slim probably because of slightly high leakage currents as can be seen from the round angle of the P-E loops at the maximum electric field and at the higher concentration of Eu content.

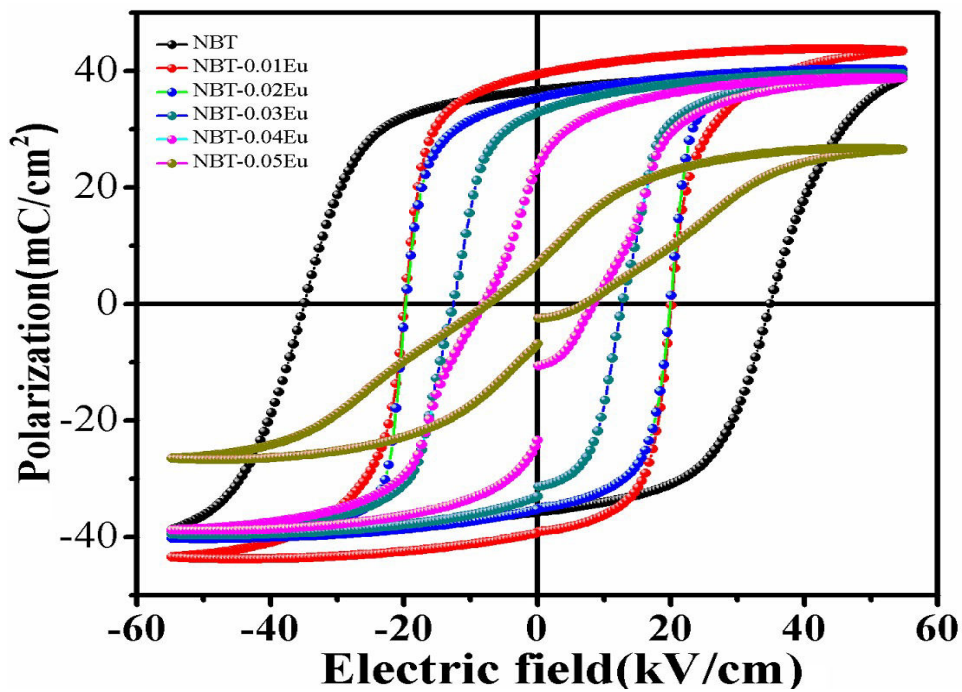


Fig: Ferroelectric P-E loops of the NBT and the NBT-Eu ceramics.

## 6. DIELECTRIC STUDY :-

Fig. Shows the temperature dependence of relative permittivity at a frequency of 100 kHz. There are two dielectric peaks for the NBT ceramic. The first peak around 200°C is the dipolarization temperature ( $T_d$ ), which is similar to that of the phase transition to the ferroelectric to the antiferroelectric phase. The second peak is a phase transition to the paraelectric phase. The variation in the dielectric behaviours are attributed to the increased  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  doping. With increasing  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  doping, the dielectric peak near  $T_m = 350^\circ\text{C}$  broadened and shifted to low temperature. The dielectric properties with a broad dielectric maximum are reported to be due to the contribution of a relaxor behaviour, which is called a diffuse phase transition (DPT). In this work,  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  doping caused an inhomogeneous

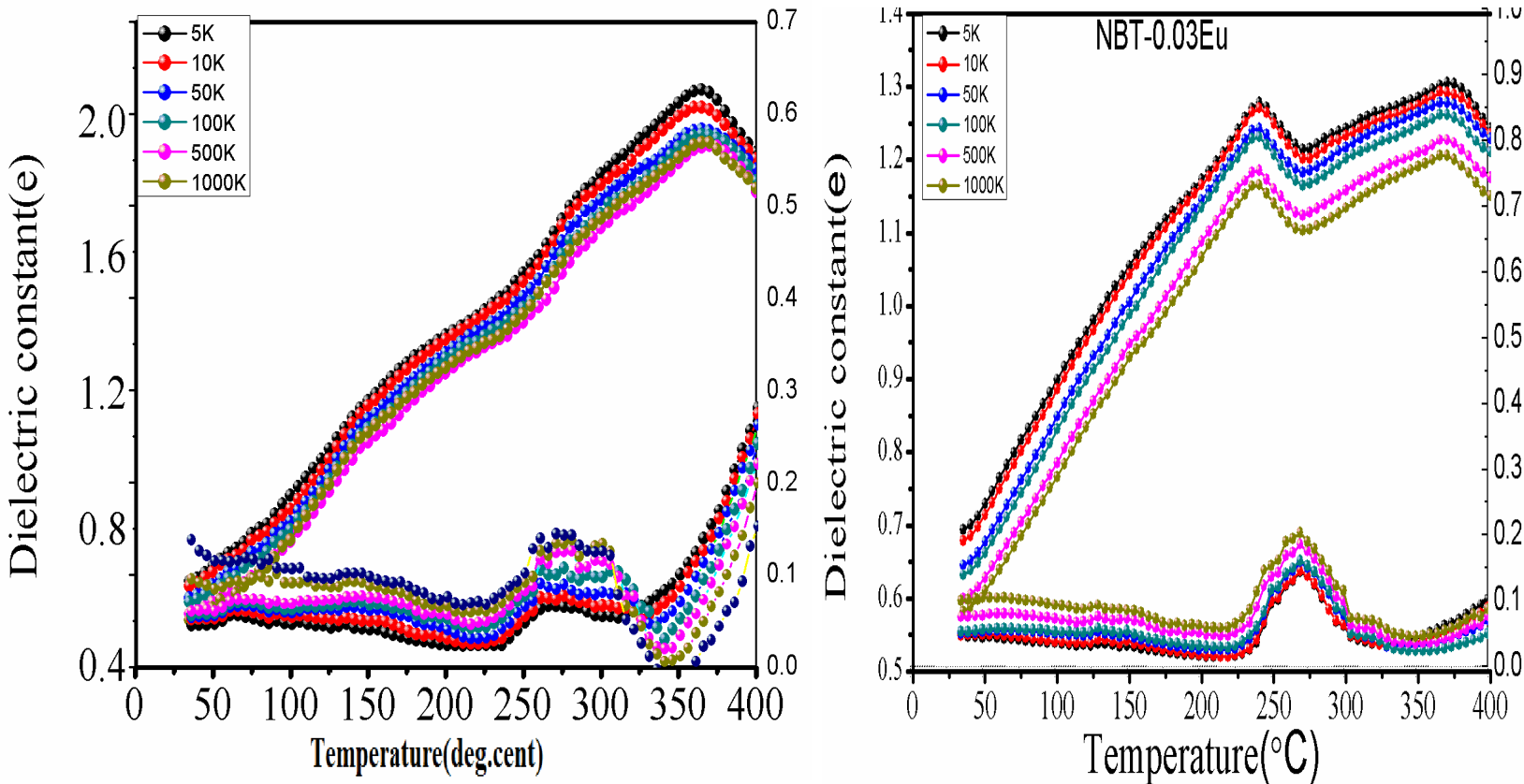


Fig. Dielectric constant to the NBT-Eu 0.01, 0.02 ceramic system.

composition and a more disordered crystal structure, That results the broad maximum. Thus, the diffuse phase transition could be explained by the coexistence of a (Na,Bi,Eu) ion at the B-site .

Fig. Shows the temperature dependence of dielectric loss ( $\tan\theta$ ) at a frequency of 100kHz. With increasing temperature, the dielectric constant of the NBT ceramics decreased temperature of 300°C and then increased due to bismuth and oxygen vacancies are created at high sintering temperature, which cause the low frequency dielectric dispersion and high conductivity . The defects get trapped at sites like grain electrode and grain boundary interfaces and results space charge polarization so electrical conductivity decreased. This implied that  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  doping reduces the contribution of space charge or ionic charge carriers.

## CONCLUSION :-

Single phase Pervoskite NBT, Eu and  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{(0.5-x)}\text{Eu}_x\text{TiO}_3$  ceramic successfully prepared through solid state reaction route.

XRD patterns indicating that the position of peaks shifted towards lower angle at higher concentration of Eu may be due to sudden rise of strain in the material.

The Raman patterns show roughness or irregularity due to the data taken in high resolution.

SEM images show that with increasing the Eu concentration the grain growth is slightly inhibited and the grain shape changed from granular to plate shaped.

UV plot shows that the band gap increases with increase in Eu concentration.

PE loop shows that the remnant polarization ( $P_r$ ) and coercive field ( $E_c$ ) increase with increase in Eu concentration.

Dielectric study shows that with increasing  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  doping, the dielectric peak near  $T_m = 350$  degree C broadens and shifts to low temperature and the dielectric loss study shows the conductivity reduced due to increase in Eu concentration.

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