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Densification of Glasses at the Glass Transition: Universal Behavior and Trends

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Densified glasses recovered from a high-pressure state are of potential technological interest due to their modified physical and chemical properties. Here we apply hot isostatic compression to study structureproperty relations in compressed oxide glasses. Although this approach is somewhat modest in both temperature and pressure (T_g and 2 GPa), it enables the densification of relatively large glass pieces (cm²) suitable for comprehensive characterization. We show that permanent densification at 1 GPa sets in at temperatures above $0.7T_g$ and the degree of densification increases with increasing compression temperature and time, until attaining an approximately constant value for temperatures above T_g . For glasses compressed at the same temperature/pressure conditions, we demonstrate direct relations between the degree of volume densification and the pressure-induced change in mechanical properties such as elastic moduli and extent of the indentation size effect across a variety of glass families.