

Crystalline SrTiO₃ nanoparticles obtained by Hydrothermal Microwave synthesis

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Abstract: Ultrafine SrTiO₃ powders were prepared by Microwave-Hydrothermal synthesis (M-H) at 180°C for different times (30 min, 1 and 2 hours). X-Ray diffraction (XRD) STUDIES showed single crystalline phase for samples treated from one hour. Photoluminescence (PL) properties at room temperature and morphology these powders have been investigated.

There are many advantages in the hydrothermal preparation of nanoparticles of oxides with morphological control⁽¹⁾. The SrTiO₃ (STO) is a well-known perovskite with a large dielectric constant chemically stable because of that is a good candidate for optical applications. The nanoparticles were synthesized by microwave hydrothermal method (M-H)^(2,3) at 180°C for different times (30 min, 1 and 2 hours) without the presence of templates or additives. Aqueous solution of strontium nitrate [Sr(NO₃)₂] 0,31 mol.L⁻¹ and titanium (IV) isopropoxide [C₁₂H₂₈O₄Ti] were used as starting chemicals. KOH aqueous solution 1,8 mol.L⁻¹ was used as catalyst of hydrothermal reaction. M-H heating was done in a microwave digestion system (CEM Corporation - MARS 5 Microwave Accelerated Reaction System). After the M-H treatment the solid and solution phase were separated by centrifugation before characterization. The X-ray diffraction, SEM-FEG as well as measurements of photoluminescence (PL) emission were used for monitoring the formation of a perovskite phase with random polycrystalline distortion in the structure. DRX, Fig 1, show the formation of pure SrTiO₃ crystalline phase goes materials obtained starting from 1 hour of synthesis, for smaller times, 30 min, it was also observed the phase SrCO₃. Emission spectra, Fig 2, with fixed excitation wavelength 350.7nm, showed higher value to powder obtained with 2 hours of treatment. The high intensity of photoluminescence emission in the 470 nm range was found to be correlated with the presence of nanoparticles size⁽⁴⁾.

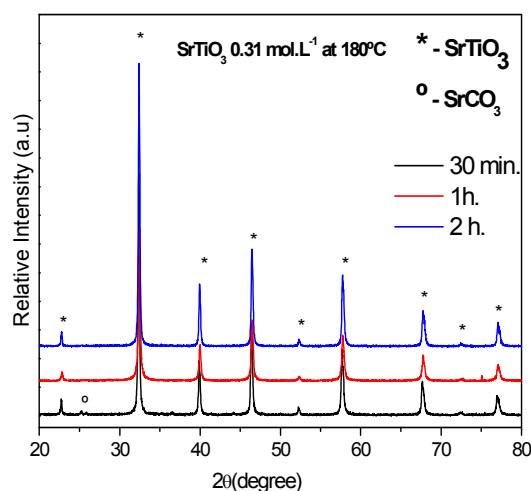


Figure 1: X-Ray diffraction patterns of SrTiO₃ synthesized by M-H at 180 °C for different times laser

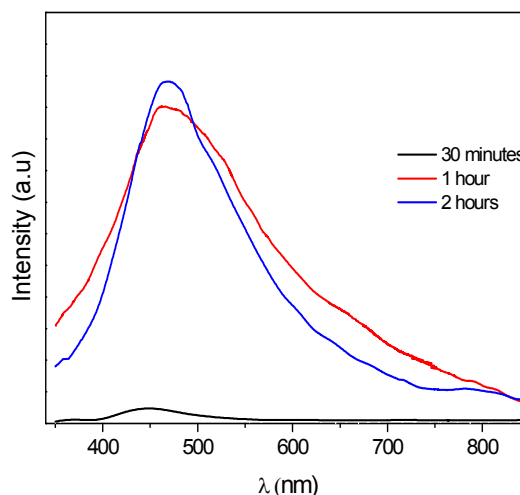


Figure 2: Room temperature photoluminescence spectra of crystalline SrTiO₃, excited with the 350,7 nm.

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