

## Nucleating agent controlled crystallization and thermal properties of K-Mg-B-Al-Si-F glasses

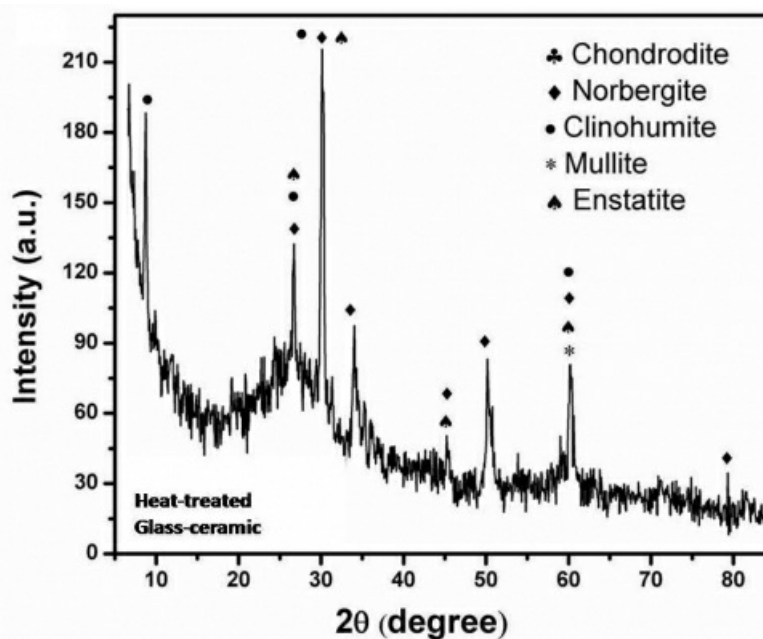
Mrinmoy Garai<sup>1</sup>, Basudeb Karmakar<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>Materials Science Centre, IIT Kharagpur, Kharagpur, India, <sup>2</sup>Glass Science and Technology Section, CSIR-Central Glass and Ceramic Research institute, Kolkata, India  
E-mail: mrinmoygarai@yahoo.in

In exploring the nucleating agent controlled crystallization of aluminosilicate glass, the K<sub>2</sub>O-MgO-B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-SiO<sub>2</sub>-MgF<sub>2</sub> glass-system with excess TiO<sub>2</sub> and ZrO<sub>2</sub> content (5 wt%) were studied by means of a non-isothermal DSC technique, X-ray diffraction, FESEM and dilatometry. The aluminosilicate glasses were synthesized by single step melt quench technique at 1550°C (2 h). Addition of TiO<sub>2</sub> and ZrO<sub>2</sub> effectively increased the glass transition temperature (T<sub>g</sub>) as well as softening point (T<sub>d</sub>). According to the DSC study, the crystallization exotherm exhibited the highest peak in the temperature range 800-950°C; and the crystallization temperature (T<sub>c</sub>) considerably decreased in presence of ZrO<sub>2</sub> content. The addition of 5 wt.% ZrO<sub>2</sub> furthermore affects in increasing the glass phase stability due to formation of crystallization onset point at higher temperature. Opaque glass-ceramics were derived from the K<sub>2</sub>O-MgO-B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-SiO<sub>2</sub>-MgF<sub>2</sub> glasses by the controlled heat treatment at 800°C, and the evolved crystalline phases were identified (XRD) as norbergite (Mg<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>.MgF<sub>2</sub>), clinohumite [Mg<sub>7</sub>F<sub>2</sub>(SiO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>], chondrodite [Mg<sub>5</sub>F<sub>2</sub>(SiO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>], mullite (3Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.2SiO<sub>2</sub>) and enstatite (MgSiO<sub>3</sub>). After heat treatment at 950°C, the glasses were converted into fluorophlogopite mica (KMg<sub>3</sub>AlSi<sub>3</sub>O<sub>10</sub>F<sub>2</sub>) glass-ceramics; and such fluorophlogopite crystallization was enhanced in presence of ZrO<sub>2</sub> content. Higher value of thermal expansion coefficient (CTE) is evaluated for these glass-ceramics; and it is ascribed due to the formation of mica crystals. The interlocked type mica containing glass-ceramic microstructure is achieved in such glass-ceramic when contains ZrO<sub>2</sub>. This directly suggests the usability of this ZrO<sub>2</sub> containing K<sub>2</sub>O-MgO-B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-SiO<sub>2</sub>-MgF<sub>2</sub> glass as solid oxide fuel cell (SOFC) sealant.

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