

In-situ Fabrication of Ceramic/Metal Nanocomposites by Reduction Reaction in Barium Titanate–Metal Oxide Systems

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(Received 6 February 1998; revised version received 10 June 1998; accepted 16 June 1998)

Abstract

Novel ceramic/metal nanocomposites were prepared by in-situ reduction method in $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{NiO}$, $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{WO}_3$ and $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{MoO}_3$ systems. The fabrication processes and the phase stability of these metal and metal oxides were studied using X-ray diffraction analysis and thermodynamic consideration. For $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{NiO}$ system, NiO was entirely reduced at 500°C for several hours and dense BaTiO_3/Ni nanocomposites were obtained without additional reaction phases. However, it was confirmed that a small amount of Ni^{2+} was dissolved in the BaTiO_3 lattice. In the $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{WO}_3$ system, in parallel with the reduction of WO_3 , BaTiO_3 reacted with WO_3 or WO_2 to produce BaWO_4 . BaTiO_3/W composite powder having no reaction products was difficult to fabricate by in-situ reduction process. On the other hand, BaTiO_3/W composite could be obtained from BaTiO_3 and W powder mixture when sintering below 1200°C . In contrast, the fabrication of BaTiO_3/Mo composite was successfully achieved after reducing $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{MoO}_3$ powder mixture at 800°C . © 1998 Elsevier Science Limited. All rights reserved

1 Introduction

Because of the peculiar electrical characteristics originating from the perovskite type crystal structure, barium titanate (BaTiO_3) and its related compounds have been technologically important electroceramics widely used as high-capacitance capacitors, PTC thermistors and so on. With the

development of the electronic industries, high-performance ferroelectric devices exhibiting specific functions and good reliability are increasingly required. Many investigators have tried to modify the microstructure and properties of these compounds by different means to achieve stable electronic devices with satisfactory operational capacity.^{1–4} Previously, Newnham *et al.*⁵ has stated that single phase materials could no longer satisfy the demand for the high-performance and multifunctional ferroelectric devices, and they have proposed novel piezoelectrics-based composites composed of two or more phases.

In the past few years, the authors have proposed ceramic nanocomposite, and have reported high strength and toughness ferroelectrics-based nanocomposite such as $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{SiC}$ ⁶ and PZT/Ag .^{7,8} Of the nanocomposites, metallic particle-dispersed piezoelectric ceramics showed unique properties; relative dielectric constant increased with increasing a volume fraction of a metal particle. The metal particle relieved transformation-induced internal stress of ferroelectric ceramics, and ferroelectric-to-paraelectric phase transition temperature, the Curie temperature could be controlled in PZT/Ag composite system. Both fracture toughness, K_{IC} and fracture strength was enhanced, which was considered to result from the increased fracture energy due to the ductile behavior of a metal particle.^{9,10} In addition, it would be expected that the metal particle can modify domain structure, which are frequently observed in the ferroelectric ceramics, and also domain wall movement because an electric field can be modified around the metal particle.

The present study is concerned with establishing the fabrication processes of BaTiO_3 /metal composites. To fabricate the metal particle-dispersed ferroelectrics, the matrix should be not reacted with

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the metal particle during the fabrication processing. However, ferroelectric ceramics like BaTiO₃ easily react with metal and oxides to produce unwanted reaction products. The focus was placed on reviewing the phase stability of metal and metal oxides mainly using X-ray diffraction analysis and thermodynamic considerations. Various BaTiO₃-based composites containing fine metal particles such as Ni, W, Mo were fabricated by in-situ reduction method.

2 Experimental Procedure

In-situ fabrication of BaTiO₃-based composites ceramics containing fine metal particles were performed by the hydrogen reduction of BaTiO₃ and metal oxide powder mixtures and subsequent pressureless sintering or hot-pressing in an inert atmosphere.

Chemically pure BaTiO₃ (BT01, Sakai Chemical Co. Ltd., Osaka, Japan), nickel monoxide (NiO), tungsten trioxide (WO₃) and molybdenum trioxide (MoO₃) were used as starting materials. BaTiO₃ and metal oxide powder was wet-milled in a polyethylene jar using ethyl alcohol and ZrO₂ balls for 24h. The mixed slurry was dried and dry-milled, and then sieved through a 320 μm mesh screen. The mixed powders of BaTiO₃/metal oxide were reduced in about 99% H₂ atmosphere at 500 to 800°C and subsequently hot-pressed at 1100 to 1300°C at 30 MPa for 1 h in an argon atmosphere. Some specimens were pressurelessly sintered at 1200 to 1350°C for 2 h in the same atmosphere.

For phase characterization, X-ray diffraction pattern (50 kV–150 mA, RU-200B, Rigaku Co. Ltd., Japan) was obtained at 25°C. The diffraction pattern was taken using Ni-filtered CuK_α radiation. The lattice constant was calculated by using reflections from (200), (002), (112), (211), (202), (220), (212) and (221) planes that are sensitive to the crystal structure change of the perovskite crystal structure. Pure silicon powder (99.999%) was used as internal standard material. The temperature dependence of crystal structure was investigated using a high temperature X-ray diffractometry (35 kV–25 mA, Automated Powder Diffraction APD1700HL, Phillips Co., Ltd., USA). X-ray diffraction data were collected on heating at 25°C to 150°C. The bulk density was determined by the Archimedes method in water. The microstructures of the sintered specimens were observed with a scanning electron microscope (SEM, 20 kV, S-5000, Hitachi Co., Ltd., Japan) and a transmission electron microscope (TEM, 200 kV, H-8100, Hitachi Co., Ltd., Japan).

3 Results and Discussion

3.1 Thermodynamic considerations

Consider the reaction equilibrium between a solid metal M, its metal oxide MO and oxygen gas at temperature T and pressure P . The standard Gibbs free energy change, ΔG° , is written as follows;



$$\Delta G^\circ = -RT \ln K \quad (2)$$

where equilibrium constant K is equal to $1/(pO_2)^{1/2}$. As ΔG° is a function only of temperature, then K is a function only of temperature, and therefore at any fixed temperature the establishment of reaction equilibrium occurs at a unique value of pO_2 , i.e. equilibrium oxygen partial pressure pO_2 (eq, T). If, at any temperature T , the actual oxygen partial pressure in a closed M–MO–O₂ system is greater than pO_2 (eq, T), then spontaneous oxidation of the metal will occur, thus consuming oxygen and decreasing the oxygen partial pressure in the gas phase. When the actual oxygen pressure has thus been lowered to pO_2 (eq, T), then provided that both solid phases are still present, the oxidation reaction ceases and equilibrium prevails. Conversely, if the oxygen partial pressure was less than pO_2 (eq, T), then spontaneous reduction of the oxide would occur until pO_2 (eq, T) was reached.

Figure 1 shows the ΔG° versus temperature relationships (Ellingham diagram) for various

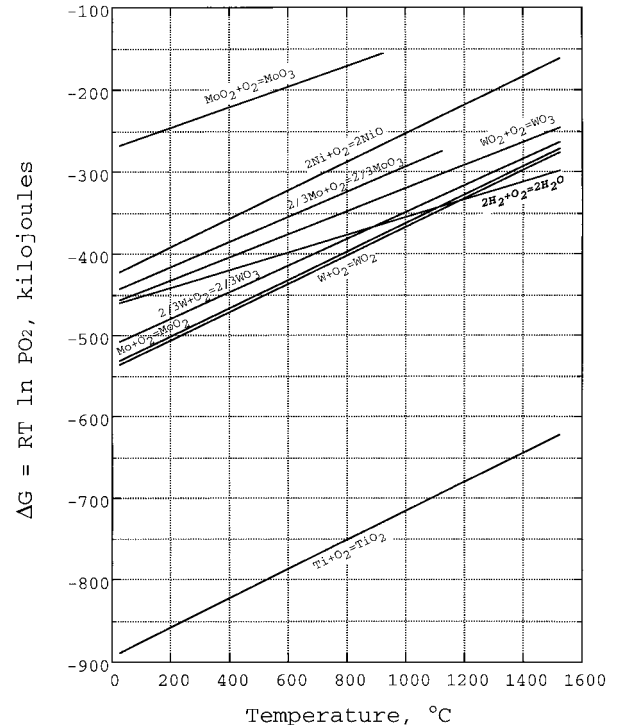
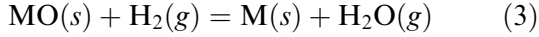


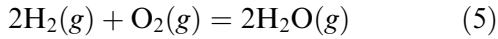
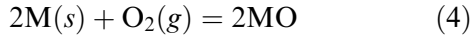
Fig. 1. ΔG° versus temperature relationships for various metal–metal oxide systems.

metal–metal oxide systems that will be dealt with in the present study. In comparing with any oxides illustrated in Fig. 1, TiO_2 is extremely difficult to reduce unless the reduction is carried out at high temperature and the oxygen partial pressure $p\text{O}_2$ is sufficiently lower than the equilibrium value. On the other hand, NiO is expected to be easily reduced even at low temperatures and high oxygen partial pressures.

As the reduction process is carried out using an H_2 – H_2O gas mixture as the reducing agents, as in the present study, the reduction reaction can be expressed as follows



If the ΔG_3^o of reaction (3) is positive, the reduction reaction is not likely to go on, and while the ΔG_3^o is negative, the metal oxide MO will be reduced spontaneously. As a matter of convenience, reaction (3) can be divided into the two following equations.



for which $\Delta G_3^o = 1/2(\Delta G_5^o - \Delta G_4^o)$. The estimate of the sign for reaction (3), i.e. whether the reduction reaction proceeds or not, is determined by the difference between the ΔG_5^o and ΔG_4^o . The Ellingham line for reaction, $2\text{H}_2(g) + \text{O}_2(g) = 2\text{H}_2\text{O}(g)$ ($p\text{H}_2/p\text{H}_2\text{O} = 1$) is also included in Fig. 1. If the Ellingham line of any metal–metal oxide system is higher than that of reaction (5), reduction is thermodynamically possible.

Figure 2 shows the variation of $\log p\text{O}_2(\text{eq}, T)$ with $1/T$ for various metal and metal oxides systems in the present study. Also $\log p\text{O}_2 - 1/T$

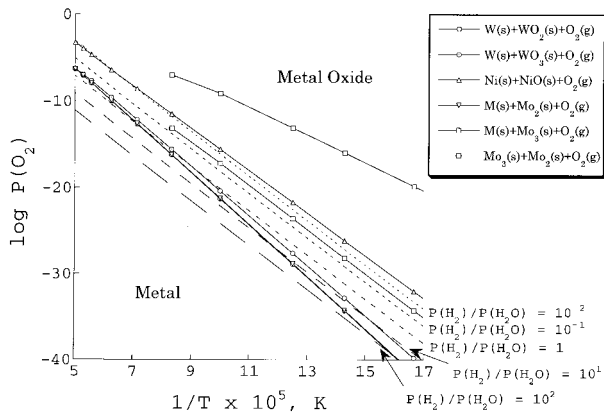


Fig. 2. Temperature dependence of oxygen partial pressure required for maintenance of equilibrium $\text{M}(s) + \text{O}_2(g) = \text{MO}_2(s)$.

relationships are shown for reaction (5) at various $p\text{H}_2/p\text{H}_2\text{O}$ value. All points on these lines represent the oxygen pressure $p\text{O}_2(\text{eq}, T)$ required for equilibrium between metal(s), metal oxide(s) and oxygen(g) at the particular temperature T . If $p\text{O}_2 > p\text{O}_2(\text{eq}, T)$, i.e. above each line, the metal oxide phase is stable, and if $p\text{O}_2 < p\text{O}_2(\text{eq}, T)$, i.e. below the lines the metal is stable. As mentioned earlier, at the particular $p\text{H}_2/p\text{H}_2\text{O}$, the temperature at which the reduction proceeds can be determined from the interception between two $p\text{O}_2(\text{eq}, T) - 1/T$ lines.

3.2 Barium titanate–nickel oxide system

Table 1 shows the relative density for BaTiO_3/Ni composites hot-pressed or pressureless-sintered at various temperatures. In all cases, almost fully-densified BaTiO_3/Ni composites could be obtained when sintered above 1200°C and 1250°C by hot-pressing and pressureless sintering methods, respectively. For the hot-pressed specimens, the relative density increased with the sintering temperature and decreased with Ni content. In the case of pressureless-sintered BaTiO_3/Ni composites, although the relative density decreased compared with those of the hot-pressed specimens, high density over 98% of theoretical density was achieved when sintering above 1250°C for 2 h.

As illustrated in Fig. 2, if the $p\text{H}_2/p\text{H}_2\text{O}$ is approximately higher than 10^{-2} to 10^{-3} , from a thermodynamic point of view, NiO is reduced to Ni metal in the entire temperature range. If the $p\text{H}_2/p\text{H}_2\text{O}$ used in the present study is assumed to be approximately 10^2 (the purity of H_2 gas is approximately 99%), it is not surprising that the reduction of NiO occurs even at low temperatures. The X-ray diffraction patterns for $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{NiO}$ system are shown in Fig. 3. Neither NiO nor other unwanted reaction compounds were detectable after reducing the powder mixture at 500°C for 2 h, as is evident in Fig. 3(a) and (b). Following the reduction of NiO , dense BaTiO_3/Ni composites were successfully fabricated *in situ* by sintering at 1300°C for 2 h [see Fig. 3(c)–(e)]. BaTiO_3/Ni

Table 1. Relative densities for BaTiO_3/Ni composites

Ni content (vol%)	Hot-pressed			Pressureless sintered	
	1100°C	1200°C	1300°C	1250°C	1300°C
0	98.52	99.70	99.78	96.10	97.42
3	97.34	99.95	99.82	98.56	99.08
5	96.78	99.97	99.82	98.85	99.27
10	95.91	98.33	99.95	98.83	98.86
20	—	—	—	98.62	—
30	—	—	—	99.42	—
40	—	—	—	97.41	—
50	—	—	—	98.46	—

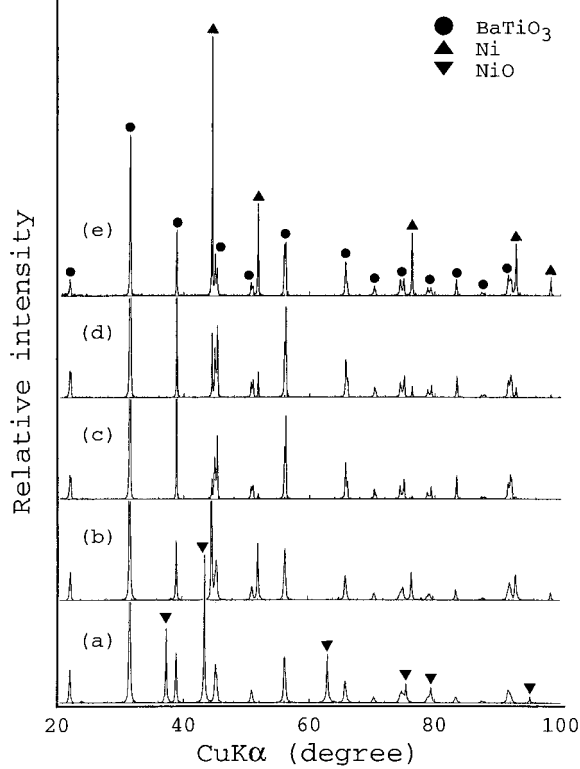


Fig. 3. The X-ray diffraction patterns for BaTiO₃/Ni systems; (a) BaTiO₃/NiO starting powder for BaTiO₃/40 vol% Ni, (b) BaTiO₃/40 vol% Ni composite powder after reducing powder (a) at 500°C for 2 h, (c) BaTiO₃/3 vol% Ni composite reduced at 500°C in H₂ and sintered at 1300°C for 2 h in Ar, (d) BaTiO₃/20 vol% Ni composite fabricated by the same condition of (c), and (e) BaTiO₃/40 vol% Ni composite fabricated by the same conditions of (c).

composites consisted only of BaTiO₃ and Ni metal and thus the incorporation of the Ni particle into BaTiO₃ matrix gave no additional phases, i.e. reaction compounds between BaTiO₃ and Ni or NiO. The crystal structure of the BaTiO₃ matrix of both hot-pressed and pressureless-sintered BaTiO₃/Ni composites was tetragonal regardless of the Ni content and sintering temperature. Some BaTiO₃/Ni composites that contain high volume percent of Ni and were sintered below 1200°C were, however, not tetragonal, but pseudo-cubic, judging by the split of tetragonal characteristic peaks at around $2\theta = 45^\circ$.

Here, notice the diffraction peaks of (002) and (200) planes of BaTiO₃/Ni composites between $2\theta = 44.8^\circ$ and $2\theta = 45.6^\circ$ in Fig. 3(c)–(e). The ratio of the two intensities, $I_{(002)}/I_{(200)}$ in BaTiO₃/Ni composites sintered at 1250°C and 1300°C is summarized in Table 2. The typical value of the ratio $I_{(002)}/I_{(200)}$ in pure BaTiO₃ ceramics is known to be about 0.32 which means that domains are randomly oriented.¹¹ In the present study, $I_{(002)}/I_{(200)}$ increased gradually with increasing Ni content regardless of the sintering temperature, and when the Ni content is equivalent, $I_{(002)}/I_{(200)}$ of composites sintered at 1300°C is larger than those

Table 2. $I_{(002)}/I_{(200)}$ change with the Ni content for BaTiO₃/Ni composites sintered at 1250°C and 1300°C for 2 h in Ar atmosphere

Ni content (vol%)	$I_{(002)}/I_{(200)}$	
	1250°C	1300°C
0	0.32	0.32
3	0.58	0.71
5	0.57	0.70
10	0.62	0.77
20	0.74	0.79
30	0.85	0.95
40	1.00	1.15
50	1.11	—

of the composites sintered at 1250°C. Generally, the increase in $I_{(002)}/I_{(200)}$ occurs in piezoelectric ceramics such as BaTiO₃ and Pb(Zr,Ti)O₃ when the 90° domains are aligned along the poling direction, i.e. suggesting the occurrence of domain reorientation due to the domain switching under an electric field or mechanical stress.¹¹ However, as the X-ray beam, in the present study, was scanned on the pristine (annealed) surface with no electrical or mechanical field the increase in $I_{(002)}/I_{(200)}$ is caused not by the 90° domain reorientation, but by other reasons, which as will be discussed in the next paragraphs.

From the microstructure evaluation by SEM and TEM (Fig. 4), the reduced Ni particles were dispersed within the BaTiO₃ matrix grains and at grain boundaries. When Ni particles are dispersed within the matrix grains, BaTiO₃ lattices may experience complex stresses, just as the same reason as the foreign ions substituted for BaTiO₃ lattice do, and thus a change in domain structure appears to results in the increase in the intensity ratio $I_{(002)}/I_{(200)}$.

The presence of the foreign ions in the BaTiO₃ lattice can result in strong restriction of motion of domain boundaries, which is due to lattice strain at the sites of foreign ions.^{12,13} Therefore, the observed $I_{(002)}/I_{(200)}$ variation with Ni content may be attributable to the substitution of Ni ions into the BaTiO₃ lattice. Examination on lattice constants variation with the Ni content (Fig. 5) indicates that, with increasing Ni content up to 30 vol%, the *c*-axis lattice constant decreased and, by contrast, *a*-axis increased as the Ni content increased. Thereafter, both *a*-axis or *c*-axis were nearly saturated and no remarkable change was observed. These observed increase in *a*-axis and decrease in *c*-axis results in the decrease in tetragonality. Lattice constants and tetragonality variation with increasing Ni content must be caused by the substitution of Ni²⁺ for Ti⁴⁺ of the perovskite crystal structure. Figure 6 shows the relationship between the unit cell volume and Ni content for the

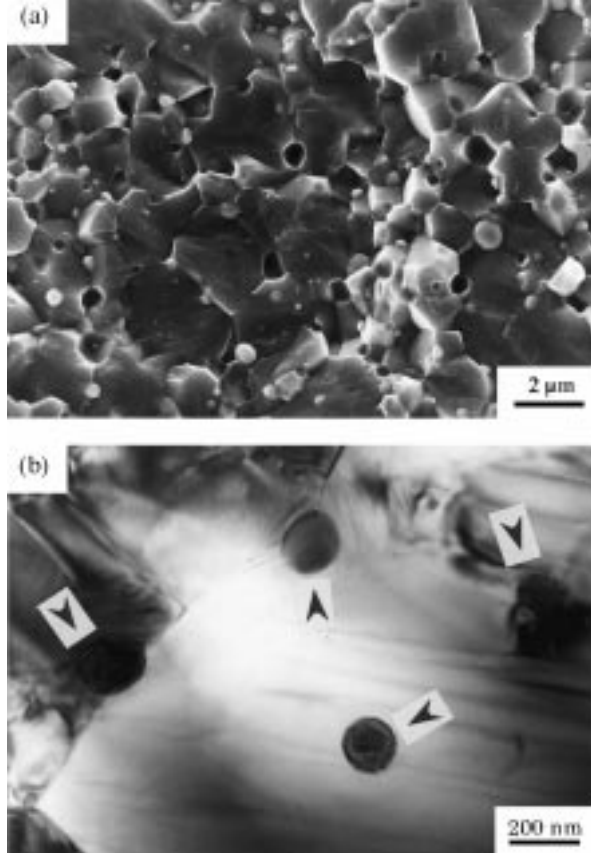


Fig. 4. SEM and TEM photographs for BaTiO₃/5 vol% Ni composite hot-pressed at 1300°C for 1 h; (a) SEM photograph showing fracture surface and (b) TEM photograph showing intra- and intergranular Ni. Arrows indicate Ni particles.

same specimens as in Fig. 5. The unit cell volume is expanded with Ni content. The effective ionic radii of Ti⁴⁺ in perovskite crystal structure are 0.61 Å. That of the Ni²⁺ is 0.70 Å.¹⁴ Therefore, the substitution for Ti⁴⁺ site leads to an expansion of the unit cell. From the results of Figs 5 and 6, it is concluded that a small amount of Ni²⁺ was dissolved into the BaTiO₃ lattice and substituted mainly for Ti⁴⁺ sites.

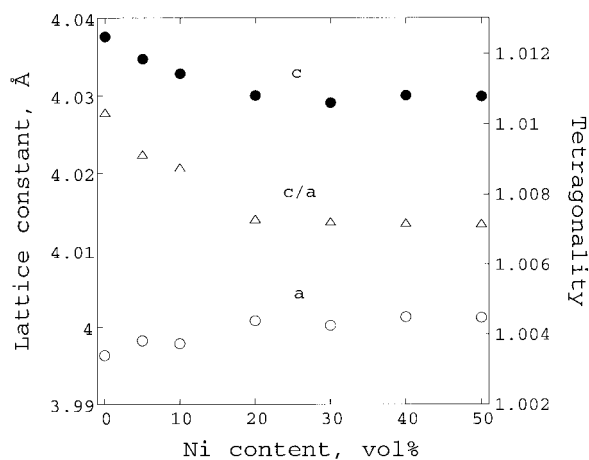


Fig. 5. Lattice constants and tetragonality variation with Ni content for BaTiO₃/Ni nanocomposites sintered at 1300°C for 2 h.

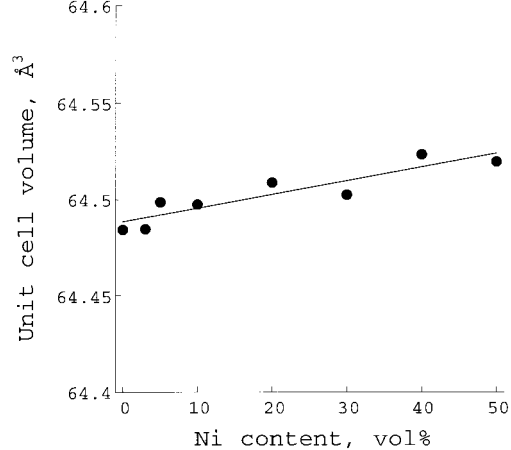


Fig. 6. Unit cell volume variation with Ni content for BaTiO₃/Ni nanocomposites sintered at 1300°C for 2 h.

Figure 7 shows the temperature dependence of the X-ray diffraction pattern for the BaTiO₃/20 vol% Ni composite sintered at 1300°C. The tetragonal to cubic phase transformation temperature can be roughly estimated from the split of (002) and (200) diffraction lines. In Fig. 6, as is obvious that with increasing temperature the split of (200) and (002) move closer together and finally coalesces into a single peak. The split was clearly observed up to 90°C, became ambiguous at 95°C, and thereafter coalesced into a single peak above 100°C. Therefore, the tetragonal to cubic transformation probably occurred at around 100°C that is lower than transformation temperature of monolithic BaTiO₃ ceramics sintered at the same temperature under an inert atmosphere, i.e. 110°C. From the X-ray diffraction patterns in Fig. 6, it is clear that a small amount of Ni is dissolved into the matrix lattice.

3.3 Barium titanate–tungsten oxide system

As is evident from the Ellingham lines related to W, WO₂ and WO₃ (Fig. 1), log *p*O₂ for WO₃

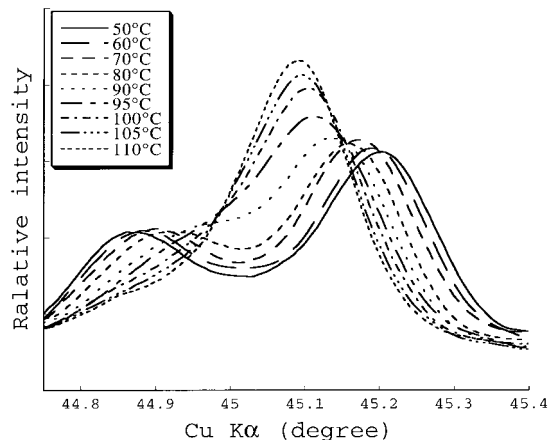


Fig. 7. Temperature dependence of X-ray diffraction profiles for BaTiO₃/20 vol% Ni composite sintered at 1300°C.

intercepts $p\text{H}_2/p\text{H}_2\text{O}$ curves at about 550°C and 850°C for $p\text{H}_2/p\text{H}_2\text{O} = 10^1$ and $p\text{H}_2/p\text{H}_2\text{O} = 1$, respectively. As $p\text{H}_2/p\text{H}_2\text{O}$, in the present study, is at least higher than 10^2 and the known reduction path is $\text{WO}_3 \rightarrow \text{WO}_{2.90}$ or $\text{WO}_{2.72} \rightarrow \text{WO}_2 \rightarrow \text{W}$, WO_3 is thermodynamically favorable below 550°C . Nevertheless, the reduction reaction did not proceed below 800°C . Figure 8 shows the X-ray diffraction profiles for $\text{BaTiO}_3/5 \text{ vol}\% \text{ W}$ composite powder held at 600 , 700 and 800°C for 2 h in H_2 atmosphere. Also shown is the X-ray diffraction pattern for a $\text{BaTiO}_3/20 \text{ vol}\% \text{ W}$ composite hot-pressed at 1200°C for 1 h. Specimen (d) was prepared by sintering BaTiO_3 and tungsten metal mixture. When reduced at 600°C , the color of the $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{WO}_3$ powder changed from yellow to deep blue, indicating the presence of $\text{WO}_{2.90}$. Also from the X-ray analysis the existence of $\text{WO}_{2.90}$ was confirmed, but there was no $\text{WO}_{2.72}$ phase. These results are in good agreement with the sequence of reduction for the $\text{W}-\text{O}$ system.¹⁶ As the reduction temperature increases, it is suggested that the reaction between BaTiO_3 and $\text{WO}_{2.90}$ or WO_2 coincide with the reduction of $\text{WO}_{2.90}$. Rather than reduced metal tungsten peaks, BaWO_4 phase, i.e. reaction compound between BaTiO_3 and $\text{WO}_{2.90}$ or WO_2 was more clearly observed. From the facts that no WO_2 peaks were observed over the entire temperature range and the relative intensities of BaWO_4 phase is high compared with those of the

reduced W, it was concluded that the reaction of $\text{BaTiO}_3 + \text{WO}_{2.90}$ or $\text{WO}_2 \rightarrow \text{BaWO}_4$ is extremely rapid. Although the tungsten metal peaks were first confirmed by the X-ray diffraction analysis when reduced at 800°C for 2 h, its intensities are weak compared with those of BaWO_4 phase. Since the reactivity between $\text{WO}_{2.90}$ and BaTiO_3 is even faster than the reduction of $\text{WO}_{2.90}$, it seems to be extremely difficult to reduce WO_3 completely to fabricate BaTiO_3/W composite by the in situ reduction method, unless the reduction is performed at lower temperatures for extended times.

On the other hand, $\text{BaTiO}_3/20 \text{ vol}\% \text{ W}$ composites containing no reaction compounds could be fabricated by a commercial method, i.e. from the mixture of BaTiO_3 and fine W powder [Fig. 8(d)]. $\text{BaTiO}_3/20 \text{ vol}\% \text{ W}$ composites sintered below 1200°C were composed only of BaTiO_3 and W. BaWO_4 started to appear after sintering at 1250°C for 1 h. The metal W and BaTiO_3 matrix might react to produce the BaWO_4 phase. The details of the reaction processes between BaTiO_3 and metal W are not clear. It is concluded, therefore, in order to fabricate BaTiO_3/W composites having no additional secondary phases, low temperature sintering below 1200°C is required. Alternative processes are now under investigation.

3.4 Barium titanate–molybdenum oxide system

Figure 9 shows the X-ray diffraction patterns for the $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{MoO}_3$ composite powder exposed at

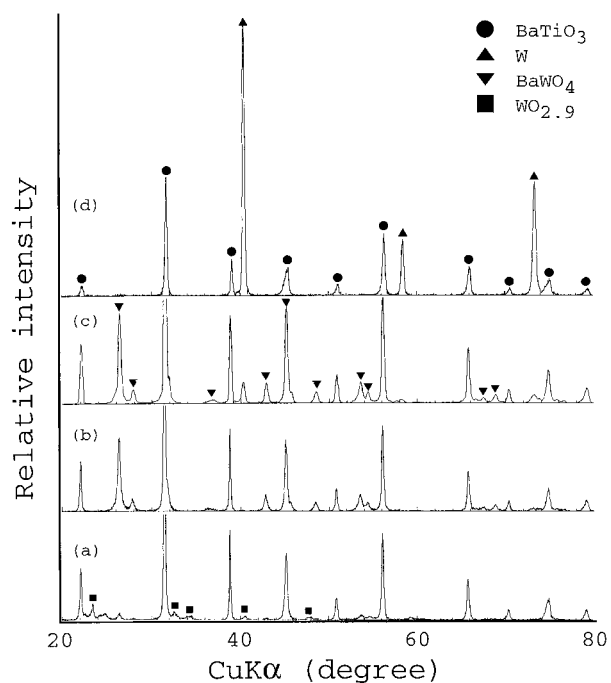


Fig. 8. The X-ray diffraction patterns showing the process of WO_3 reduction for $\text{BaTiO}_3/5 \text{ vol}\% \text{ W}$ composite powder reduced at 500°C for 2 h, (b) $\text{BaTiO}_3/5 \text{ vol}\% \text{ W}$ composite powder reduced at 700°C for 2 h, (c) $\text{BaTiO}_3/5 \text{ vol}\% \text{ W}$ composite powder reduced at 800°C for 2 h, and (d) $\text{BaTiO}_3/20 \text{ vol}\% \text{ W}$ composite hot-pressed at 1200°C for 1 h.

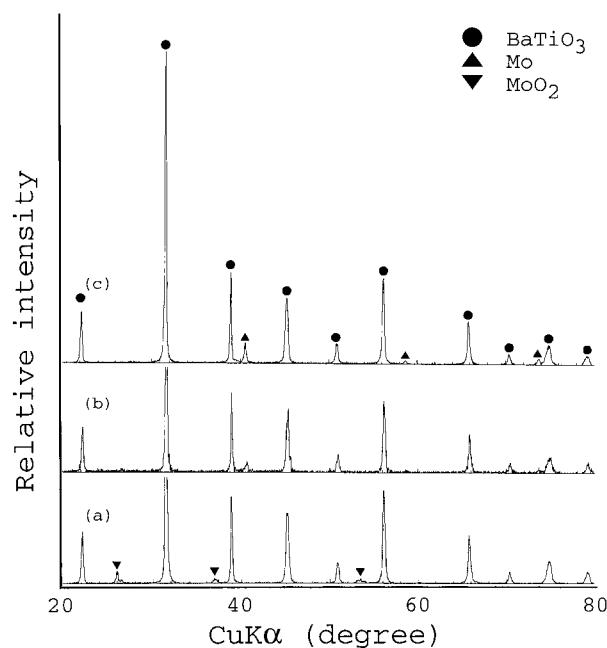


Fig. 9. The X-ray diffraction patterns showing the processes of MoO_3 reduction for BaTiO_3/Mo system; (a) $\text{BaTiO}_3/5 \text{ vol}\% \text{ W}$ composite powder reduced at 700°C for 4 h, (b) $\text{BaTiO}_3/5 \text{ vol}\% \text{ W}$ composite powder reduced at 750°C for 4 h, and (c) $\text{BaTiO}_3/5 \text{ vol}\% \text{ W}$ composite powder reduced at 800°C for 2 h.

700°C (4 h), 750°C (4 h) and 800°C (2 h). As is evident from Fig. 9, the reduction of molybdenum trioxide is $\text{MoO}_3 \rightarrow \text{MoO}_2 \rightarrow \text{Mo}$ and there were no reaction phases between BaTiO_3 and MoO_3 or MoO_2 throughout all reduction processes. Please note thermodynamic data in Fig. 1. The $p\text{O}_2$ versus $1/T$ curve of $\text{MoO}_3\text{--MoO}_2\text{--O}_2$ is much higher than those of $\text{Mo--MoO}_3\text{--O}_2$ and $\text{Mo--MoO}_2\text{--O}_2$ and showing that the reduction of MoO_3 to MoO_2 is likely to occur even at lower temperatures. The rate controlling step for the reduction of molybdenum oxide is, therefore, the reduction of MoO_2 to Mo . The starting MoO_3 powder was completely reduced to MoO_2 and there were only BaTiO_3 and MoO_2 when reducing at 700°C and below. MoO_2 peaks disappeared completely and, at the same time, Mo peaks started to appear after reducing at 750°C for 4 h.

4 Conclusion

Novel ceramic/metal nanocomposites were fabricated by in-situ reduction from BaTiO_3 and various metal oxide systems, $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{NiO}$, WO_3 and MoO_3 systems.

For $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{NiO}$ system, NiO started to be reduced at 350°C and BaTiO_3/Ni composites with 3 to 50 vol% Ni were successfully fabricated without additional reaction phases between BaTiO_3 and Ni (NiO). It was confirmed that a small amount of Ni^{2+} was dissolved into the BaTiO_3 matrix and, as a consequence, the lattice constants and unit cell volume were modified as Ni content increased. The Curie temperature shifted to approximately 100°C for $\text{BaTiO}_3/20$ vol% Ni . As is evident from the change in the intensity ratio of (200) to (002), the domain structure was modified by the incorporation of Ni and it was attributed to either the Ni^{2+} substitution or the incorporation of Ni particles within the BaTiO_3 matrix.

In $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{WO}_3$ system, since the reaction between BaTiO_3 and WO_3 or WO_2 occurred in parallel with the reduction of WO_3 , BaTiO_3/W composite powder without any kinds of reaction products is impossible to fabricate by in-situ reduction process. Alternately, $\text{BaTiO}_3/20$ vol% W composite could be obtained from BaTiO_3/W powder mixture when sintered at 1200°C.

As the reactivity between BaTiO_3 and $\text{MoO}_2/\text{MoO}_3$ was small, if any, at the temperature that MoO_2 could be reduced to Mo metal, the fabrication of BaTiO_3/Mo composite powder was successfully

achieved by reducing $\text{BaTiO}_3/\text{MoO}_3$ powder at 800°C.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank Mr Kazunobu Abe and Mr Masashi Aoki, Sakai Chemical Industry Co. Ltd for supplying the barium titanate powder used in the present study.

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