

11<sup>TH</sup> CONFERENCE FOR YOUNG SCIENTISTS IN CERAMICS



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## BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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around 600–700 °C. However, such low temperature is not suitable for singly doped-ceria operations, as SOFC's electrolyte material has a high resistance. Structural modification of ceria solid solutions is one possible way to improve their electrical conductivity.

The objective of this work is to investigate the phase relations in the binary system CeO<sub>2</sub>-Dy<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> at 1500 °C in air in the whole concentration range. Powders of CeO(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> and Dy<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (99.99 %) were used as raw materials. The samples were prepared in steps 5 mol% from nitrate solutions with their subsequent evaporation and decomposition at 1000 °C for 2 h. Thermal treatment of as-prepared samples was carried out in two stages: at 1100 °C (452 h) and then at 1500 °C (150 h) in the furnaces with heating elements based on Fecral (H23U5T) and Supercantal (MoSi<sub>2</sub>), respectively. The heating rate was 3.5 °C/min. The phase composition of the samples was investigated by X-ray (DRON-1.5, Burevestnik, Leningrad), petrographic (MIN-8, optical microscope, LOMO, Leningrad).

The study of solid state reaction of CeO<sub>2</sub> (fluorite-type, F) and Dy<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (cubic modification of rare-earth oxides, type C) at 1500 °C showed that two types of solid solutions based on cubic modifications of F-CeO<sub>2</sub> and C-Dy<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> in the CeO<sub>2</sub>-Dy<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> system. These solid solution regimes were separated from end to end with the two-phase field: (F+C).

The boundaries of the homogeneity fields for the solid solutions based on F-CeO<sub>2</sub> and C-Er<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, as well as lattice parameters of the unit cells for solid solutions F-CeO<sub>2</sub> and C-Er<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> were determined. The solubility of Dy<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> in F- modification of CeO<sub>2</sub> is about 20 mol % at 1500 °C. The lattice parameter of the unit cell decreased from  $a = 0.5409$  nm in pure CeO<sub>2</sub> to  $a = 0.5398$  nm for the solid solution of boundary composition. The solubility of CeO<sub>2</sub> in cubic C- erbium oxide attain ~10 mol%. The lattice parameters of the unit cell C phase varies from  $a = 1.065$  nm in pure Dy<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> to  $a = 1.066$  nm for the solid solution of boundary composition.

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### **FEATURES OF THE STRUCTURE AND PROPERTIES OF CERAMIC COMPOSITE B<sub>4</sub>C–EUTECTIC ALLOY (B<sub>4</sub>C-TiB<sub>2</sub>) SYSTEM**

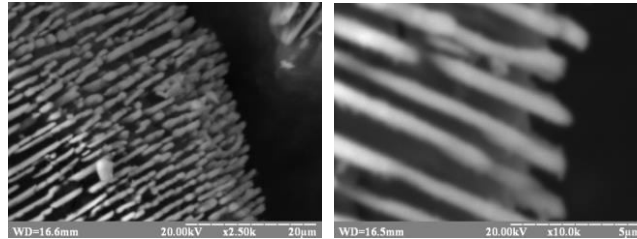
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In this paper by combination of methods of crucibleless zone melting and spark plasma sintering (SPS) was obtained a new polycrystalline ceramic composite material of B<sub>4</sub>C–E(B<sub>4</sub>C-TiB<sub>2</sub>) system. For its production were developed eutectic powders B<sub>4</sub>C-TiB<sub>2</sub> with modified surface morphology, which mixed with the boron carbide powder and compacting by SPS. The unique surface morphology is that the reinforcement fiber and plate TiB<sub>2</sub> appear on the surface of each particle (Fig. 1), creating the effect of

traction. SPS was conducted in an atmosphere of nitrogen and argon. The relative density of the samples after sintering was 98 %.



*Figure. 1 Surface morphology of eutectic powders of B<sub>4</sub>C-TiB<sub>2</sub> system*

The microstructure of the composite is a matrix of boron carbide and evenly distributed in the matrix of eutectic grains. The grain boundaries of in the sintered samples are the perfect joints eutectic grains without visible defects and pores that may indicate their relatively high strength.

This composite showed sufficiently high mechanical properties. Bending strength at room temperature reaches 387.2 MPa, which exceeds the strength of directionally solidification eutectic alloy B<sub>4</sub>C-TiB<sub>2</sub> (190 MPa) in 2 times. Bending strength at 1600 °C respectively amounted to 399.8 MPa. The unique morphology of the particle surface can increase adhesion eutectic powder B<sub>4</sub>C-TiB<sub>2</sub> with matrix B<sub>4</sub>C. By the results of X-ray diffraction and Electron studies it is no interactions between the matrix and eutectic grains are observed. This fact indicates good grip of eutectic grains with matrix and indicates an increase of flexural strength due to increase content of eutectic grains in the material. The strength of composites of B<sub>4</sub>C-E(B<sub>4</sub>C-TiB<sub>2</sub>) sintered in a nitrogen atmosphere is up to 16 % higher than strength of samples sintered in argon atmosphere, that can explain by the formation of nitride phases, creating the effect of rigidity.