

# **Synthesis and Characterization of Bismuth Sodium Titanate- Barium Titanate Ceramics**

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**In**

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Submitted by

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July, 2019**



## CERTIFICATE

I, hereby declare that the work which has been presented in this dissertation entitled "Synthesis and Characterization of Bismuth Sodium Titanate-Barium Titanate Ceramics" is an authentic record of my own work carried out for the partial fulfilment of the requirement for the award of the degree of Masters of Science in Physics at Thapar Institute Of Engineering And Technology, Patiala (Punjab), under the guidance of **Dr. Poonam Uniyal**, Associate Professor, School of Physics and Materials Science. The intellectual content of this dissertation is the product of my own work and contains no material which to a substantial extent has been accepted for the award of any other degree at this or any other educational institution, except where due acknowledgment is made in the dissertation.

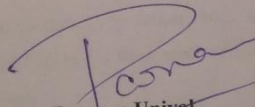
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It is to certify that the above statement made by the candidate is correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.



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*Dedicated to my beloved  
Parents and  
Grandparents*



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## LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| ABBREVIATIONS     | FULL FORMS  |
|-------------------|---|
| BT                | Barium Titanate, BaTiO <sub>3</sub>   |
| PZT               | Lead Zirconate Titanate   |
| NBT               | Sodium Bismuth Titanate, Bi <sub>0.5</sub> Na <sub>0.5</sub> TiO <sub>3</sub> |
| T <sub>c</sub>    | Curie temperature   |
| P <sub>r</sub>    | Remanent polarization   |
| E <sub>c</sub>    | Coercive field  |
| MPB               | Morphotropic Phase Boundary   |
| d <sub>33</sub>   | Piezoelectric coefficient   |
| XRD               | X-ray Diffraction   |
| SEM               | Scanning Electron Microscopy  |
| θ                 | Diffraction angle   |
| DX                | Energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy  |
| tanδ              | Dielectric loss   |
| a                 | Lattice parameter   |
| λ                 | Wavelength  |
| ε <sub>r</sub>    | Dielectric constant   |
| Z'                | real part of impedance  |
| Z''               | imaginary part of impedance   |
| (P <sub>s</sub> ) | Spontaneous polarization  |
| ε <sub>0</sub>    | Permittivity of free space (8.85×10 <sup>-12</sup> F/m)                       |

## Abstract

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Ferroelectric ceramics have always been a area of huge attention, in the era of science. These ceramics have pyroelectric, piezoelectric, dielectric and ferroelectric properties which make them suitable for multifunctional device applications. Among the lead-free ferroelectric ceramics,  $(\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{0.5})\text{TiO}_3$  (NBT) has extremely good properties with a relatively large  $P_r$  ( $\sim 38\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ ) and a high  $E_c$  ( $\sim 73\text{ kV}/\text{cm}$ ), high Curie temperature  $T_c \sim 320^\circ\text{C}$  with diffuse phase transition and a moderate piezoelectric coefficient ( $d_{33}$ )  $\sim 73\text{pC}/\text{N}$ .

In the present work,  $(1-x)$   $(\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{Na}_{0.5})\text{TiO}_3$  (BNT) -  $x$   $\text{BaTiO}_3$  (BT) where ( $x= 0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3$ ) ceramics were prepared via solid-state reaction method. X-ray diffraction pattern revealed the perovskite phase with small amount of secondary phase  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{4.5}\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{15}$ . The SEM micrograph showed dense microstructure and non-uniform grain size. Dielectric and impedance properties of the samples were measured at temperatures ranging from  $(50^\circ\text{C}$  to  $500^\circ\text{C}$ ) at various applied frequency ranging from  $100\text{Hz}$  to  $1\text{MHz}$ .

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

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In today's era of device miniaturization, novel ceramic materials are gaining attention and are widely utilized in sensors, memory, resonators, transducer, and capacitor devices. These ceramic materials alter their physicochemical features under the impact of outside stimuli. Because of their unique properties, these materials are also known as electroceramics. A simultaneous development in electroceramics with interesting ferroelectric properties paves a new pathway along with the progress of new technologies. In the electronics industry and other related sectors, these ceramic compounds are widely used because they have high dielectric constant. Moreover, most of the materials with high dielectric constant contains lead in a major proportion which negatively impacts human health and environment due to high toxicity levels of a lead oxide such as lead-zirconium titanate ceramic, PZT [1]. In addition to this, the handling of lead during the manufacturing process is a tedious task as it requires high vapour pressure. The direct consumption of lead by human bodies results in severe diseases like blood clotting, neurological disorders and heart-related issues [2]. Addressing the aforementioned issues, some countries have even banned the utilization of lead-based devices. To overcome problems related to lead-based materials, more eco-friendly materials are gaining attraction. So, there is a need to build up lead-free ferroelectric ceramics with tremendous ferroelectric and piezoelectric performance to overcome the issue of environmental degradation and the health of human beings [3]. Perovskite, a lead free ferroelectric material has wide applications in electronic industry such as capacitors and high energy storage devices. The ferroelectric properties of Non-perovskite Bismuth layered structure ferroelectrics (BLSFs) are weak as compared to their perovskite counterparts, yet they possess the superior polarization fatigue endurance property.

### 1.1 Dielectrics

Dielectrics are the insulating materials, which have no free charge carriers. But the special characteristic of dielectrics is the induction of polarization in the dielectric material under an applied external electric field. As electric field is applied to these materials, the negative charges get displaced reverse to the applied field direction and positive charges are displaced along the field direction. Therefore the creation of the electric dipoles in the field direction is known as

dielectric polarization. This polarization in a dielectric material can occur by several phenomena [4].

**Ionic polarization:** When the displacement of charged ion occurs comparative to rest ions under influence of the applied electric field. This is known as ionic polarization.

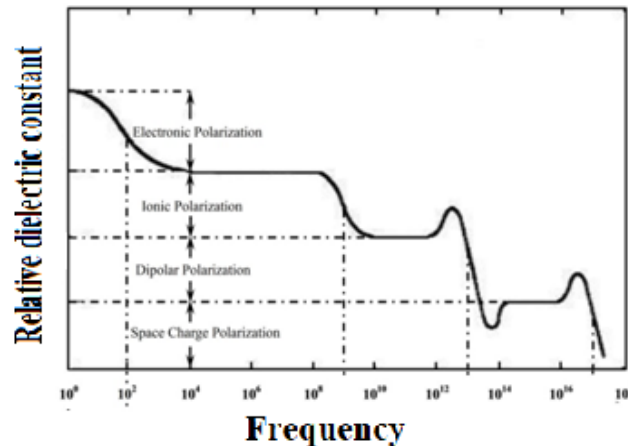
**Electronic polarization:** Electronic polarization occurs due to a dislocation of the electron cloud of an atom from its a nucleus under an external electric field.

**Dipolar or Orientation polarization:** Dipolar polarization arises when the permanent dipoles get aligned in presence of an applied field.

**Space charge polarization:** When the charges get accumulated at the surface of the material, space charge polarization is induced, and diffusion of ions along the electric field gives the redistribution of charges in the dielectric medium.

### 1.1.1 Frequency dependence of dielectric constant

Owing to irregular distribution, the dielectric material shows decrease in the permittivity ( $\epsilon$ ) when applied field frequency is increased as shown in Figure 1.1. With the appliance of an electric field (frequency  $\leq 10^6$  Hz), electric dipoles of the dielectric material gets oriented. As applied electric field frequency is increased from  $10^6$  to  $10^{11}$  Hz, polarization drops back with field also the orientational polarization halts. Therefore permittivity changes, while ionic and electronic polarization present.



**Figure 1.1:** Frequency dependence of different polarizations [5]

The +ve as well as the -ve ions of the material doesn't go well with the variations of the field, when there is increase in the frequency from  $10^{11}$  Hz to  $10^{14}$  Hz. This results in halt of ionic

polarization and there is change in the value of dielectric constant as well. The existence of electronic polarization is up to  $10^{15}$  Hz [5].

## 1.2. Ferroelectrics

The first ferroelectric material (Rochelle salt) was discovered by Valasek in 1921. Most ferroelectric materials are dielectric materials which show spontaneous polarization even when electric field is not present. This phenomenon is called ferroelectricity. In this case, the positive and negative charges do not coincide with each other even without the electric field thus creates the non-zero value of dipole moment. Ferroelectric materials are majorly used in high dielectric constant capacitors such as multilayer ceramic capacitors (MLCCs), piezoelectric, and biomedical sensors [6].

Ferroelectric materials may be classified into two types:

**Relaxor ferroelectrics:** These ferroelectrics show a wide transformation of phase from the paraelectric to ferroelectric form. They have weak remanent polarization. Relaxor ferroelectric materials are used as capacitor materials. Near the Curie temperature, they show high dielectric constant and capacitance. The materials like  $\text{BaTiO}_3$ (BT),  $\text{K}_{1/2}\text{Bi}_{1/2}\text{TiO}_3$ - $\text{BaTiO}_3$ ,  $\text{Pb}(\text{Mg}_{1/2}\text{Nb}_{2/3})\text{O}_3$  etc. show relaxor behaviour.

**Normal ferroelectrics:** These ferroelectrics exhibit first or second order transition at Curie temperature ( $T_c$ ) and follow Curie-Weiss law. Curie temperature vary with change in the frequency. At Curie temperature, they do not show any hysteresis loop. Remanent polarization is large in case of the normal ferroelectric as compared to relaxor ferroelectrics.

## 1.3 Classification of Ferroelectrics

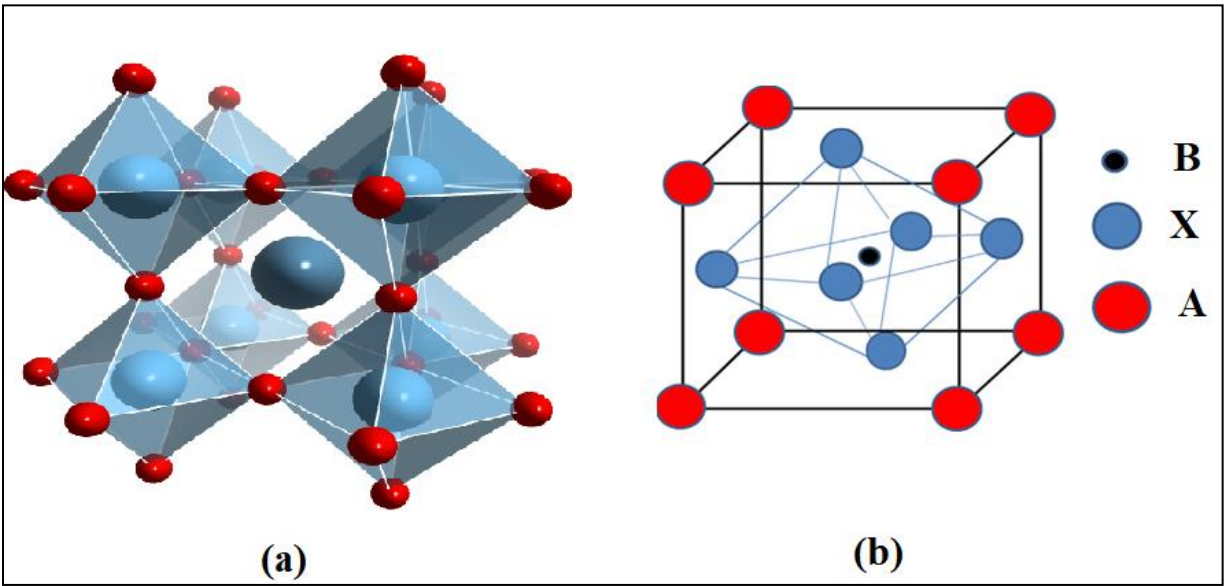
The ferroelectrics ceramics may be categorized into main four structural types: [7].

- (1) Perovskites like  $\text{BaTiO}_3$ ,  $\text{KNbO}_3$ , and  $\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{TiO}_3$
- (2) Pyrochlore like  $\text{Cd}_2\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_7$
- (3) Tungsten bronze like  $\text{PbNb}_2\text{O}_6$
- (4) Bismuth layer-type compounds like  $\text{Bi}_{4.5}\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{15}$

### 1.3.1 Ferroelectrics with Perovskite Structure

The first perovskite structure was discovered by Gustav Rose in 1839 in Ural Mountains of Russia and it was named after the name of Russian Mineralogist C.L.A. Von Perovski. The general formula of Perovskites is  $\text{ABX}_3$  where A and B represent the two cations of unequal

sizes and X bonded to both is an anion. Here, the A-site is occupied by the cations like  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  and these cations are larger than the cations which occupy the B-site like  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  and  $\text{Sn}^{4+}$  and oxygen atoms is represented by  $\text{O}^{2-}$ . The A site cation is located at corner position (0, 0, 0). The tetravalent B cations occupy the body centre position ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ). Every corner atom is shared by eight other corner atoms while the centre atom is shared by two cubes. The oxygen atoms are located at the face centre of the cubic lattice at position ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 0) [8].



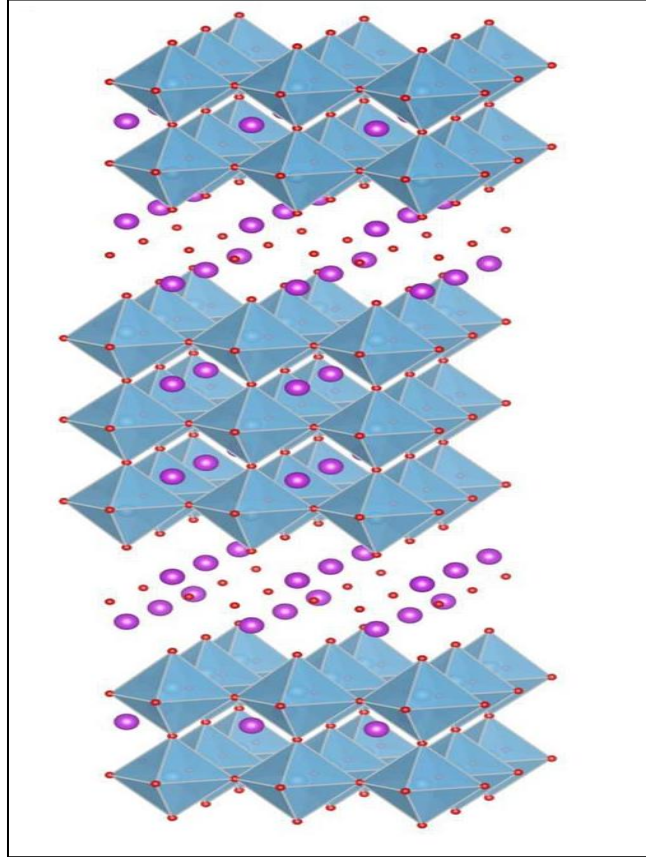
**Figure 1.2:** (a) Three-dimensional network of perovskite structure and (b) Representation of  $\text{ABX}_3$  perovskite unit cell [9-10]

Figure 1.2 (a) shows the three-dimensional network of perovskite structure and (b) shows the perovskite structure of a cubic unit cell. The A sites atom has 12 fold coordination numbers, B sites atom has 6 fold coordination number, and the X sites atom is coordinated by 6-fold symmetry. The perovskite structure is mainly an arrangement of  $\text{BO}_6$  octahedral where each B-O-B angle is  $180^\circ$ . [11-12]

### 1.3.2 Ferroelectrics with Bismuth Layer Structure

The family of ferroelectrics which have bismuth layered-structure (BLSFs) was firstly studied by Aurivillius in 1949 [13]. BLSFs have a chemical formula  $(\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3)^{2+} (\text{A}_{m-1} \text{B}_m \text{O}_{3m+1})^{2-}$  where, m is ( $m = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ ), which consists of pseudo-perovskite layers. In this Aurivillius formula, A can be mono-valent, di-valent or tri-valent cation (e.g.,  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ , or  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$ ), and B

belonging to transition element series (e.g.  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$ ,  $\text{Nb}^{5+}$ , or  $\text{W}^{6+}$ ) is tetravalent, pentavalent or hexavalent cation. Some examples of bismuth-layered structured ferroelectrics are  $\text{Bi}_2\text{WO}_6$  ( $m=1$ ),  $\text{SrBi}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_9$  ( $m=2$ ),  $\text{Bi}_4\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_{12}$  ( $m=3$ ),  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{4.5}\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{15}$  ( $m=4$ ),  $\text{Ba}_2\text{Bi}_4\text{Ti}_5\text{O}_{18}$  ( $m=5$ ) etc.



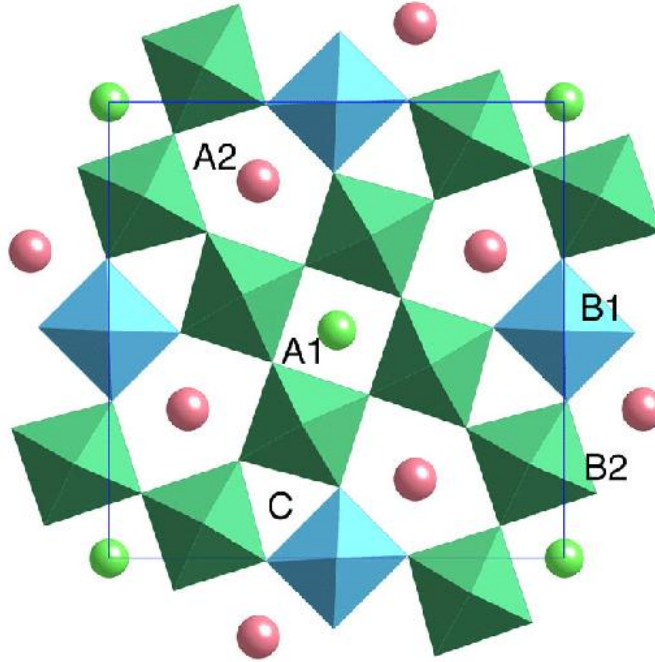
**Figure1.3:** Bismuth-layered structure

$(\text{A}_{m-1} \text{B}_m \text{O}_{3m+1})^{2-}$  perovskites are sandwiched between the  $(\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3)^{2+}$  layers. BLSFs possess tremendous dielectric, piezoelectric, pyroelectric and ferroelectric properties. Bismuth layer-structured ferroelectrics (BLSFs) are included in lead-free ceramics which are widely used in potential applications like high-temperature piezoelectric equipment and non-volatile ferroelectric random access memory devices. Figure 1.3 represents the typical structure of bismuth layered ferroelectrics [7].

### 1.3.3 Ferroelectrics with Tungsten Bronze Structure

The first tungsten bronze type structure was the lead niobate ( $\text{PbNb}_2\text{O}_6$ ). It shows interesting ferroelectric properties [14]. Till now, hundreds of ferroelectric materials having tungsten bronze structure are enlisted. Figure 1.4 shows the tetragonal tungsten bronze type structure [15]. The

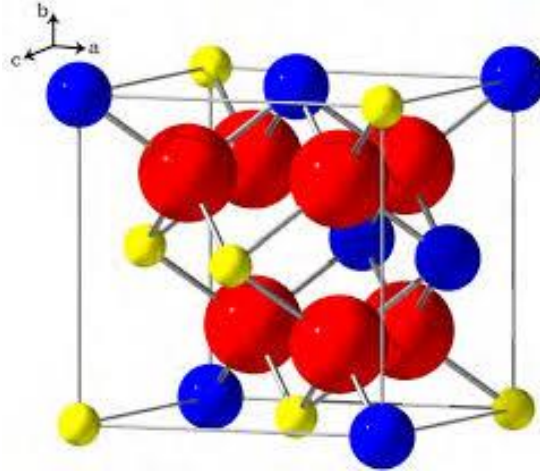
general occupancy formula of tetragonal tungsten bronze (TTB) structure is  $((A1)_2(A2)_4(C)_4(B1)_2(B2)_8O_{30})$ . The TTB structure in perovskite unit cell, corner-sharing  $BO_6$  octahedra, generates three types of sites in a structure: two A-sites are different and one C-site. There are 12-coordinated two A1 sites specified 8 octahedral, 15-coordinated larger four A2 sites specified by 10 octahedral and 9-coordinated four trigonal C-sites specified by six (6) octahedra.



**Figure 1.4:** Representation of Tetragonal tungsten bronze crystal structure [15]

### 1.3.4 Ferroelectrics with Pyrochlore Structure

The pyrochlore structure of the materials is represented by the general formula  $A_2B_2O_7$ , where A represents adivalent or trivalent cation where as B is a tetra- or pentavalent cation. In Figure 1.5 one octant part of pyrochlore is shown in which  $A^{3+}$  ions are shown by blue spheres,  $B^{4+}$  ions by yellow spheres, and  $O^{2-}$  ions by red spheres, respectively. Ferroelectric materials, such as  $Cd_2Nb_2O_7$  and  $Nd_2Ti_2O_7$  exhibit pseudo-pyrochlore structure. Pyrochlore compounds show interesting properties which are useful for sensors, catalysts, dielectrics and materials [16].



**Figure 1.5:** Representation of pyrochlore structure [16].

#### 1.4 Interrelation between Perovskite and Aurivillius Structure

The constant intergrowth of perovskite  $(A_{m-1} B_m O_{3m+1})^{2-}$  and  $(Bi_2O_3)^{2+}$  fluorite-like layers is described by Aurivillius compound. In the formula 'm' tells the no. of perovskite type units sandwiched between bismuthyl layers. The  $BO_6$  octahedra layers associated with their vertices are a sign of interrelation of bismuth-layer structure and perovskite structure. In NBT-BT structure the concentration is greater than 65 mol% of BT and NBT's concentration greater than 50% the formation of the perovskite structure takes place. At lower concentration Aurivillius phase exist [17].

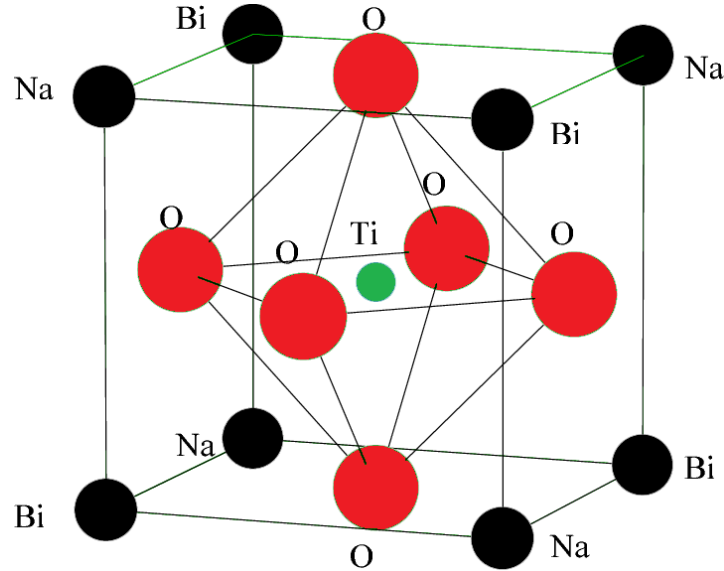
#### 1.5. Bismuth Sodium Titanate ( $Bi_{0.5} Na_{0.5} TiO_3$ )

Among all the lead-free materials, perovskite (BNT) has gained more attention due to its superior ferroelectric properties. Bismuth Sodium Titanate (BNT) was discovered in 1961 by Smolenskii and his co-workers. It is a distorted  $ABO_3$  perovskite structure along with a rhombohedral phase at optimum room temperature [18]. BNT exhibits strong ferroelectricity due to high (Curie temperature) ( $T_c = 320\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ), remanent polarization ( $P_r = 38\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ ), and with a large coercive field ( $E_c = 73\text{ kV}/\text{cm}$ ) [19].

##### 1.5.1. Crystal structure

The distorted  $ABO_3$  structure of BNT can be demonstrated by two different ways: one way is sodium and bismuth occupy the corner position in a unit cell, titanium cation occupies the position in the centre, and oxygen cations occupy at face centres which form octahedra. Another way is three-dimensional arrangements of 8-corners occupied by  $TiO_6$  octahedra with bismuth and

sodium cations are at the centre position in the unit cell. Figure 1.9 shows the cubic unit cell structure of BNT.



**Figure 1.6:** Sodium Bismuth Titanate (BNT) crystal structure [20]

### 1.5.2 Phase transition in BNT

Two-phase transformation is observed in this material. BNT undergoes the following transformation from cubic phase to tetragonal to a rhombohedral phase when mixed with compounds such as barium titanate (BT), potassium sodium niobate (KNN) etc. of perovskite-ferroelectric phase structure. The transformation from cubic to tetragonal corresponds as paraelectric to anti-ferroelectric phase and tetragonal to rhombohedral corresponds as anti-ferroelectric to ferroelectric with varying temperature. Yet, the two other characteristic transition temperatures  $T_d$  and  $T_m$  were obtained is known to be depolarization temperature and maximum dielectric constant temperature. It shows high dielectric constant and high tangent loss at low temperatures [21-22]. BNT is polar in the rhombohedral phase and it behaves as relaxor ferroelectric in this phase.

Besides all the good ferroelectric properties, it has some issues like high dielectric loss, high coercive field, high conductivity. The main limitation of high conductivity is due to volatilization of  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  ions during the sintering process. Although several studies on NBT based systems with various substitutions, solid solutions of NBT exhibit improved properties. These systems near

their MPB exhibit piezoelectric, ferroelectric and electromechanical properties comparable with the Pb-based ferroelectric materials.

The primary aim of the present study is to synthesize BNT and BT-doped ceramics. For this purpose, a detailed literature survey on synthesis of Bismuth Sodium Titanate (BNT) has been done. The important key findings investigated by different research groups have been discussed and outlined in the chronological order:

### 2.1 Literature Survey

**Chu et al. in 2002 [23]** examined the morphotropic phase boundary of lead-free piezoelectric  $(1-x)\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{TiO}_3-x\text{BaTiO}_3$  ( $x = 0.1, 0.08, 0.06, 0.04, 0.02$ ) ceramics near ( $x=0.06$ ). X-ray data confirmed the rhombohedral-tetragonal MPB exists in this compound. With the increasing composition of (0.08, 0.1) the rhombohedral phase turned into tetragonal phase. From these results found that the ( $T_m$ ) maximum temperature is higher than depolarization temperature ( $T_d$ ). These ceramics possess the properties of low dielectric permittivity, high frequency, and thus, can be used for ultrasonic applications.

**Li et al. in 2004 [24]** investigated the effects of  $\text{Nb}^{5+}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{3+}$ , or  $\text{La}^{3+}$  substitution on BNBT-6 system by studying the dielectric, piezoelectric, and microstructural properties. It was observed that with the doping of  $\text{Nb}^{5+}$  and  $\text{La}^{3+}$ , there is a change in dielectric constant near  $100^\circ\text{C}$ , after that peak begins to broaden. That indicate the intermediate phase transition. The intermediate phase transition disappears with doping  $\text{Co}^{3+}$ . microstructural analysis showed that all compounds of  $\text{Co}^{3+}$  doped BNBT6 have larger grain size than  $\text{Nb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{La}^{3+}$ .

**Guo et al. in 2004 [25]** prepared the  $(\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{K}_{0.5})\text{NbO}_3\text{-BaTiO}_3$  by a Mixed-oxide route method. The addition of  $\text{BaTiO}_3$  in KNN increase the grain size and it completely diffuses into KNN to form solid-solution. XRD analysis revealed that phase changes from orthorhombic to tetragonal at  $x = 0.06$ , and tetragonal to cubic at  $x= 0.20$ . At low concentration of BT, it showed good piezoelectric and ferroelectric properties with ( $P_r = 7.5 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ ,  $E_c = 12\text{kV}/\text{cm}$ ,  $\epsilon_r = 1003$ ,  $\tan\delta = 3.8\%$ ,  $T_c = 358^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $d_{33} = 104\text{pC}/\text{N}$ ).

**Sanson et al. in 2005 [17]** studied the  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{TiO}_3\text{-Bi}_4\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_{12}\text{-BaTiO}_3$  compounds. They reported the Aurivillius structure present by XRD analysis below  $20^\circ$ . At higher angles it shows perovskite structure. XRD results showed that at greater than 65 mol% of BT and NBT greater than 50% the perovskite structure appeared. At lower concentration Aurivillius phase exist.

**Wang et al. in 2008 [26]** investigated that piezoelectric properties of cobalt-modified NBT ceramics were enhanced. The incorporation of Co into NBT improved the piezoelectric ceramics which leads to Curie temperature  $T_c$  ( $663^\circ\text{C}$ ) and piezoelectric constant  $d_{33}$  (30 pC/N).

**Zhao et al. in 2008 [27]** prepared  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{4.5}\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{15}\text{-(x-1)Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{TiO}_3$  composite ceramics. Over the composition range upto ( $x = 2 - 99$ ), the coexistence of perovskite and layered bismuth-structure phase was confirmed by XRD technique. The two dielectric behaviour  $350^\circ\text{C}$  and  $670^\circ\text{C}$  of this composite ceramics in this range also confirmed the coexistence of two phases. SEM studies showed plate-like grains with small cubic shape grains indicating the bismuth-layered structure and perovskite structure.

**Wang et al. in 2009 [28]** investigated the dielectric, ferroelectric, piezoelectric, and electromechanical properties of NBT-Li, Ce ceramics. They reported that piezoelectric properties enhance with the addition of Li, Ce. Because of high Curie temperature ( $T_c = 660^\circ\text{C}$ ), these ceramic are used for high-temperature applications.

**Rout et al. in 2009 [29]** reported that the presence of rhombohedral-tetragonal morphotropic phase boundary in  $(100-x)\text{Na}_{1/2}\text{Bi}_{1/2}\text{TiO}_3\text{-xBaTiO}_3$  solid solution ceramics with varying the composition ( $0 \leq x \leq 10$ ). It was observed that the MPB lies in the system at composition of ( $x = 5.5$ ). The splitting into two peak at 5.5 is completely show the phase transformed from rhombohedral into tetragonal. It was also confirmed by Raman spectroscopy.

**Cernea et al. in 2009 [30]** prepared the BNT-BT0.08 ceramics by sol-gel method. These ceramics were sintered at  $1100^\circ\text{C}$  and  $1150^\circ\text{C}$ . Dielectric properties ( $\epsilon_r = \sim 4500$  and  $\tan\delta = \sim 0.03$ ) and high ( $Q_m \sim 500$ ) were observed from these results.

**Ahn et al. in 2010 [31]** studied the  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{4.5-x}\text{La}_x\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{15}$  (NBLT) and  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{4.5-x}\text{Nd}_x\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{15}$  (NBNT) lead-free bismuth layered structure. In the (NBLT) and (NBNT) ceramics with increasing the concentration the Nd and La, the Curie temperature and permittivity was decreased but broadened the dielectric constant curve.

**Gao et al. in 2011 [32]** prepared  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{4.5}\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{15} + 0.375 \text{ wt\% MnCO}_3$  lead-free piezoelectric ceramics. These results signify that with the  $\text{MnCO}_3$  addition, the ferroelectric and piezoelectric properties had been increased while dielectric loss get decreased ( $d_{33} = 28 \text{ pC/N}$ ,  $E_r = 140$ ,  $k_p = 0.06$ ,  $Q_m = \sim 3290$ , and  $\tan\delta = 0.3 \%$ ). Based on this study, it was found that ceramic has high thermal stability up to  $500^\circ\text{C}$  and it promotes grain growth and densification.

**Sun et al. in 2011 [33]** synthesized  $(1-x)\text{BT}-x\text{NBT}$  ceramic by doping of Nb, Co samples via solid- route method with varying concentration of  $x$  (0- 0.4). At  $x = 0.2$ , the dielectric constant at optimum room temperature was observed to be 2500.

**Parija et al. in 2013 [34]** synthesized the  $(1-x)\text{BNT}-x\text{BT}$  ceramic where ( $x = 0.07, 0.05, 0.03, 0.01$ ) via solid route method and sintered at  $1150^\circ\text{C}$  for 4 hours. At 0.07, MPB was found between rhombohedral and tetragonal phase, which was confirmed by XRD and Raman spectroscopy analysis. They have studied that the phase transition temperature ( $T_m$ ) gradually decreases, permittivity and diffusivity increases with rise of Ba content. The dielectric and piezoelectric properties like  $E_c$ ,  $P_r$  increases with an rise of BT content.

**Jiang et al. in 2014 [35]** studied the effect of (Nd, Ce) substitution for A-site on NBT -based ceramics. They investigated that  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{4.3}(\text{Nd}_{0.5}\text{Ce}_{0.5})_{0.2}\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{15}$  ceramic is a promising material for high-temperature piezoelectric equipment because it has high  $T_c$  ( $630^\circ\text{C}$ ), high  $d_{33}$  ( $28\text{pC/N}$ ), high  $Q_m$  (3239). With increased (Nd, Ce) content, the Curie temperature  $T_c$  is decreasing from  $638^\circ\text{C}$  to  $618^\circ\text{C}$ .

**Hussin et al. in 2015 [36]** studied that bismuth layered structure BNT4 ( $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{4.5}\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{15}$ ) transformed into a single phase perovskite structure through a topo-chemical conversion process using reactants  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  and  $\text{TiO}_2$  at  $950^\circ\text{C}$  for 4 h. The BNT templates result showed the formation of pseudo-cubic structure, relaxor behaviour, good ferroelectric response at ( $E = 90\text{Kv/cm}$ ,  $P_r = 32 \mu\text{C/cm}^2$ ,  $E_c = 56 \text{ kV/cm}$ .)

**Jiang et al. in 2016 [37]** synthesized the  $(\text{NBT}-\text{KNN}-100x)$  where ( $x = 0.15, 0.10, 0.05$  and  $0.00$ ) ferroelectric ceramics. Ferroelectric properties were improved by addition of KNN with permittivity increase upto  $24\text{pC/N}$ . They concluded that as KNN increases with weak structural distortion of  $\text{TiO}_6$  octahedral show lower Curie temperature.

**Shamim et al. in 2017 [38]** prepared the lead-free  $(\text{Na}_{0.47}\text{K}_{0.47}\text{Li}_{0.06}) \text{NbO}_3$  ceramics by microwave sintering method at  $1050^\circ\text{C}$  and  $1150^\circ\text{C}$  and their structural, dielectrical and electrical properties were measured. The existence of orthorhombic symmetry with a minor

secondary impurity phase of tungsten bronze structure was confirmed by XRD analysis. These results informed that Curie temperature shift to the lower side then they increase the dielectric permittivity and decrease the tangent loss. A non-Debye relaxation nature is observed for the sample.

**Zhang et al. in 2017 [39]** prepared  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{4.5}\text{Ti}_4\text{Mg}_x\text{O}_{15+x}$  and  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{4.5}\text{Ti}_{4-x}\text{Mg}_x\text{O}_{15-x}$  ceramics ( $x = 0.04, 0.08$ ), shows that a single phase formation of bismuth layer-structured ferroelectrics. All the dielectric and ferroelectric properties enhanced with the variation in Mg content. These results inform that Curie temperature  $T_c$  ( $660^\circ\text{C}$ ) is high for all the samples. In this ceramics, a wide temperature range with high permittivity and low tangent loss was obtained that is useful in the application of high-temperature capacitors.

**Sahoo et al. in 2017 [40]** examined the BNT ceramic with the addition of (8 wt %) barium titanate (BT) by mixed-oxide method, shows the two-phase formation orthorhombic (major) and tetragonal (minor) phase at room temperature. Less porosity, high density and grain growth were observed by SEM technique. The dielectric constant increase and tangent loss decrease, with the small substitution of BT in BNT ceramic that is suitable for many devices. A non-Debye relaxation phenomenon is observed by dielectric and impedance spectroscopy. The results revealed that activation energy is also calculated at the different frequency by electrical conductivity.

**Liu et al. in 2018 [41]** examined the effect of MgO doping on the  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{TiO}_3\text{-BaTiO}_3$  ceramic and their structural, ferroelectric, and dielectric properties. As the doping content of MgO is 0.5% , it shows good ferroelectric properties with ( $P_r = 52.57 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ ). If doping amount is 1.5% or above, it depicts large permittivity and low tangent loss with strong relaxation.

**Hajra et al. in 2018 [42]** prepared the BNT-BT-4 ceramic using the conventionally solid-state reaction method. The results showed that the homogenous distribution of grains with high-density formed in the sample. They observed that with rising temperature; decrease the size of grain show a negative temperature coefficient of the material.

**Munir et al. in 2018 [43]** synthesized the  $0.965\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{TiO}_3\text{-}0.035\text{BaTiO}_3$  (BNT-BT) ceramics using sol-gel technique and powder were Calcined at  $600^\circ\text{C}$ . By XRD analysis pure perovskite structure of BNT-BT samples is observed. The  $P_r$  is  $34.8 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$  with a  $E_c$  of  $23\text{kV}/\text{cm}$  obtained at sintering temperature  $1150^\circ\text{C}$ . The high piezoelectric constant ( $d_{33}=138 \text{ pC}/\text{N}$ ) was also measured at  $1150^\circ\text{C}$  temperature.

**Jiang et al. in 2019 [44]** reported that ferroelectric and piezoelectric properties of  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{4.5}\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{15}$ -BT ceramics improved by the addition of Mg using solid-state reaction method and were sintered at 1040 °C. They examined that the piezoelectric coefficient ( $d_{33}$ ) is 20pC/N and maximum ( $2P_r$ ) is  $3.08\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$  with a field ( $E_c$ ) of 18.01kV/cm. Moreover, permittivity and tangent loss were found to be 486 and 0.17 at frequency 10kHz. They optimized that with Mg doping enhance the electrical-BT composite properties which imply that it has a great range of applications in electronic devices.

**Munir et al. in 2019 [45]** prepared the  $\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{TiO}_3$  nanopowders by using the sol-gel technique and were sintered at different temperatures (950 °C – 1150 °C). This result shows that P-E loops at these (950 °C and 1000 °C) are leaky. But it enhanced with above 1050 °C sintering temperature.

**Turki et al. in 2019 [46]** investigated the  $(\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{0.5})_{0.94}\text{Ba}_{0.06}\text{TiO}_3$  (NBT-6BT) ceramic with the doping of Sm, by conventionally mixed route method. The doping of Sm in lower amount ( $\leq 8\text{mol. \%}$ ) signify the presence of two of tetragonal and rhombohedral structures, while with a higher composition of Sm (11mol. %) show pseudo-cubic structure. The temperature dependence of dielectric permittivity indicates that the change of phase from ferroelectric to anti-ferroelectric at low temperature, after that to paraelectric phase at higher temperatures. It was found that the dielectric measurement exhibit relaxor behaviour at transition ' $T_d$ ', ' $T_m$ '. With the small amount of Sm doping, it improves the dielectric permittivity, ferroelectric and piezoelectric properties. ( $P_r = 31\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ ,  $d_{33} = 140\text{pC}/\text{mm}$ ,  $k_p = 0.28$  and  $k_t = 0.18$ .)

Based on the literature survey, it is evident that  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{TiO}_3$  exhibit rhombohedral phase and  $\text{BaTiO}_3$  exhibit tetragonal at room temperature. When the concentration of BT is increased in BNT is then the system depicts mixed phase of perovskite and Aurivillius structure. The different parameters together with synthesis method, Curie temperature, dielectric constant, Morphotropic phase boundary are summarised in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 Properties of various compounds

| S. No. | Compound   | Synthesis method                  | $\epsilon_r$ | $\tan\delta$ | $T_d$<br>°C | $T_C$<br>°C | $d_{33}$<br>pC/N | $P_r$<br>$\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ | $E_c$<br>kV/cm |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1.     | (1-x) BNT-xBT<br>(x = 0.01, 0.03, 0.05, 0.07) [34]   | Solid-state reaction method       | 4773         | 0.01         | 165         | -           | 134              | 16.4                               | 16.8           |
| 2.     | NBT-BT-xMgO<br>(x = 0, 0.5, 1, 1.5, 2) [41]  | Solid-state reaction method       | -            | -            | -           | -           | 164              | 41.0                               | 39.2           |
| 3.     | 0.965BNT-0.035BT<br>[43]   | Sol-gel technique                 | -            | -            | -           | -           | 138              | 34.8                               | 23             |
| 4.     | (1-x)BT-xNBT<br>(x = 0.02, 0.04, 0.06, 0.08, 0.1) [23].                                    | Conventionally mixed-oxide method | 601          | 0.017        | 100         | -           | 122              | 40                                 | -              |
| 5.     | $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{4.5}\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{15+}$<br>0.375 $\text{MnCO}_3$<br>[32] | Conventionally Solid-state method | 140          | 0.3          | 3290        | 500         | 28               | -                                  | -              |
| 6.     | NBT-Co doped<br>[26]   | Mixed-oxide route                 | 152          | 0.10         | -           | 663         | 30               | -                                  | -              |
| 7.     | $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{4.5}\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{15-}$<br>BT [44]                       | Conventionally mixed-oxide route  | 486          | 0.17         | -           | 543         | 20               | 3.08                               | 18.0           |

### **3.1. Materials**

BNT (Sodium bismuth titanate) and BT (Barium Titanate)-BNT (Sodium bismuth titanate) samples were synthesized using solid-state reaction method.

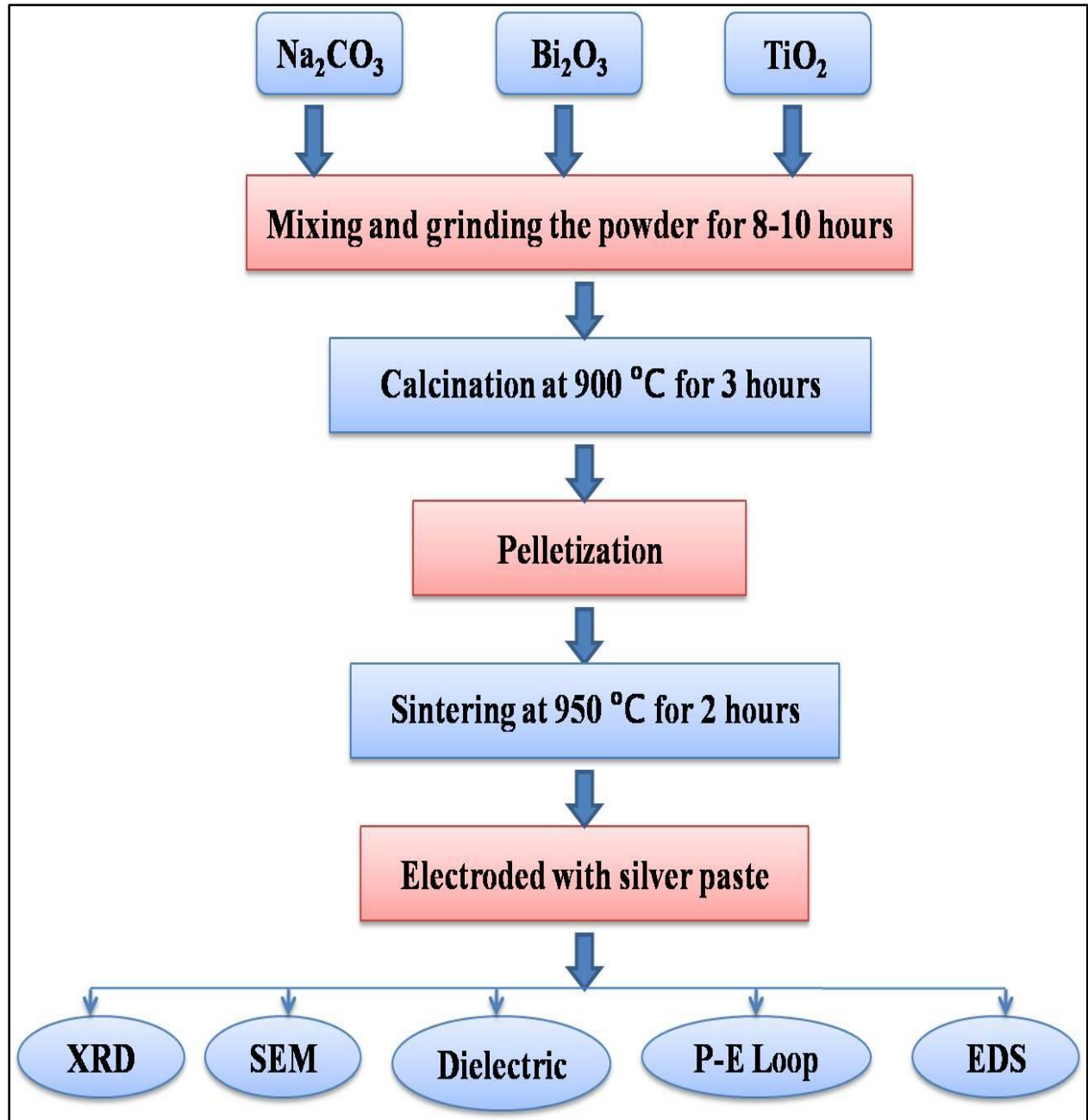
$(1-x)(\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{Na}_{0.5})\text{TiO}_3-x\text{BaTiO}_3$  ( $x = 0, 0.1, 0.2, \text{ and } 0.3$ ) (abbreviated as BNT-BT0, BNT-BT10, BNT-BT20, BNT-BT30) samples were synthesized and have been characterized for their crystallographic structure, morphological, compositional, dielectric and ferroelectric properties.

### **3.2. Synthesis of BNT and doped BNT ceramics**

The BNT ceramics are synthesized via conventional solid-state reaction method. This method is performed through mixing two or more compounds. The ingredients consist of oxides and carbonates which were bismuth oxide, sodium carbonate, barium carbonate and titanium oxide. These compounds were weighed based on their stoichiometric formulae. For the preparation of BNT, compounds were thoroughly mixed using agate mortar and pestle and ground for 8-10 h in acetone medium to make a homogenous mixture. After the mixing and grinding, the mixture of NBT powder was calcined at 900 °C for 3h and sintered at 950 °C for 2h. The calcined fine powder was pressed and compacted into pellets using polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) as a binder into a disc of diameter 10 mm and thickness 1 to 2mm by hydraulic press machine. For the preparation of BT doped NBT ceramics, the same procedure was followed. After the mixing and grinding, we calcined the  $(1-x)(\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{Na}_{0.5})\text{TiO}_3-x\text{BaTiO}_3$  powder with composition ( $x = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3$ ) at the 900 °C, 1000 °C, 1000 °C temperature for 3h and sintered at 950 °C for 2h, (1010 °C, 1010 °C) for 3 h, respectively.

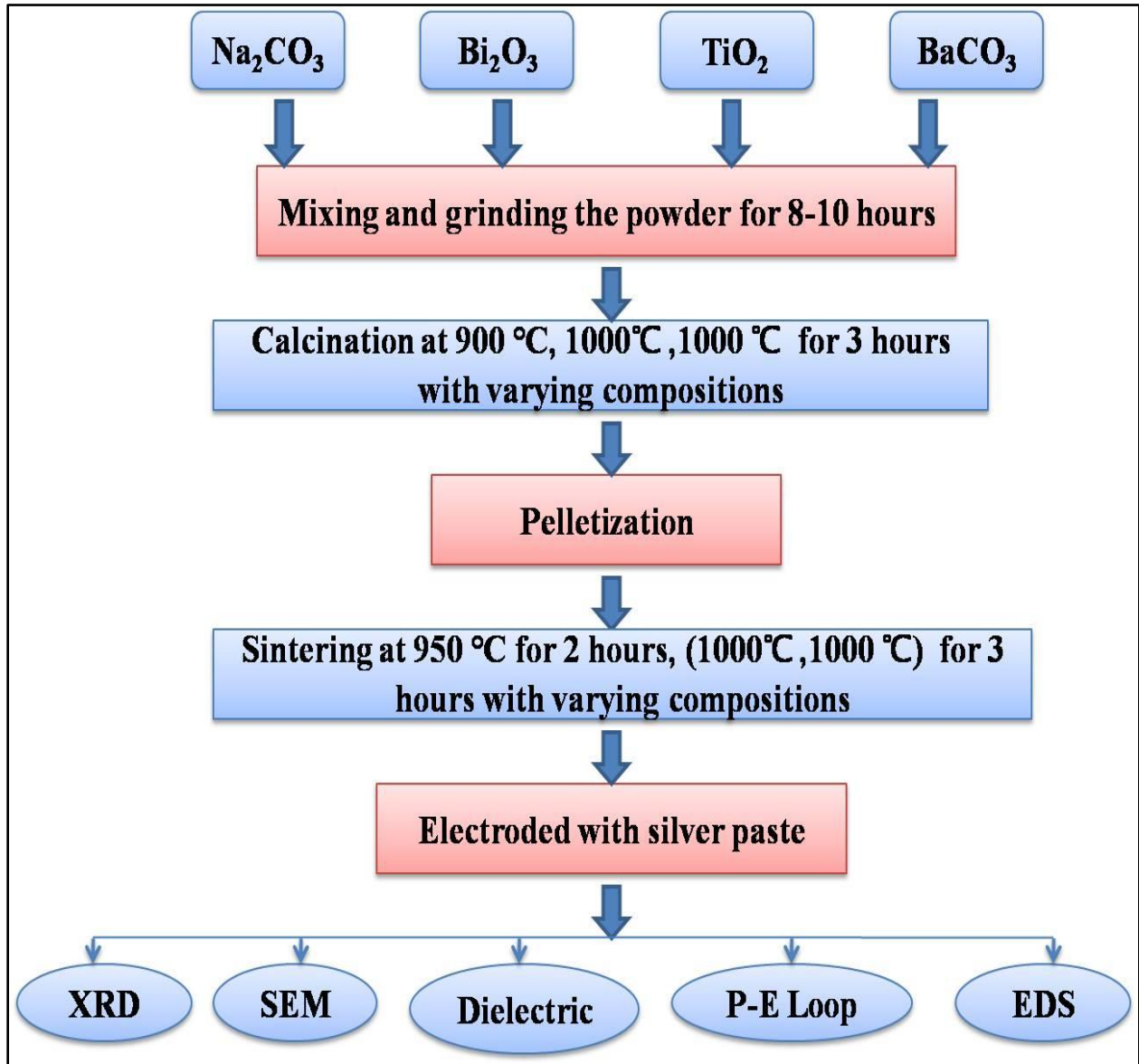
### 3.3. Flow Chart of work:

#### Flow chart for the preparation of BNT ceramic –



**Figure 3.1:** Flow chart for BNT powder preparation

**Flow chart for the preparation of Ba doped BNT ceramic-**



**Figure 3.2:** Flow chart for Ba doped BNT preparation

### **3.4 Characterization Techniques**

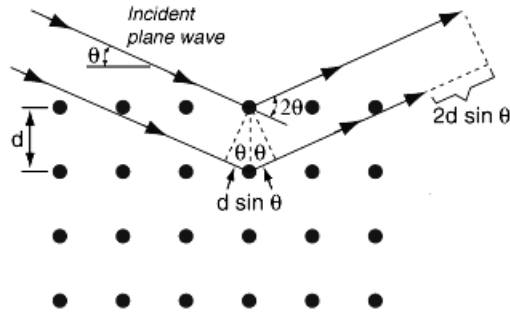
#### **3.4.1 X-ray Diffraction**

X-Ray Diffraction broadly helps in structural characterization from which phase identification, crystallite size and lattice constant or unknown crystalline substance can be easily determined. This method is based on determining the scattering intensity of the X-ray beam. The X-rays are

electromagnetic in nature having range between 120eV-120keV. The X-Ray diffraction follows Bragg's law principle.

### 3.4.1.1 Bragg's law

It is used for examining the structural properties of the materials and arrangement of atoms which satisfies Bragg equation.



**Figure 3.3:** Bragg's law of diffraction

The Bragg's equation is given as:

$$2d \sin \theta = n\lambda$$

Where 'd' is the inter-planar spacing, n is a positive integer,  $\lambda$  corresponds to wavelength of incident X-Rays and  $\theta$  corresponds to Bragg's angle.



**Figure 3.4:** XRD apparatus

The X-Ray diffraction measured by PANalytical's XPERT PRO (SAIF PU) using Cu-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.54\text{\AA}$ ) with Ni-filter. The angle of measurements was  $20^\circ$  to  $80^\circ$  in  $2\theta$  range at room temperature.

### 3.4.2. Scanning Electron Microscopy

The scanning electron microscopy is a powerful method to analyze the morphology and topography of synthesized materials providing high resolution. SEM works on the principle where highly energetic beam of electrons are used to bombard the sample using various radiations like x-rays, secondary electrons, ejecting back-scattered electrons from the surface of sample. A High energetic ray of electrons raster scans the surface. The radiations collected by the detector are displayed on a screen after getting converted into signal. It provides information about the shape of grains, grains boundaries, variation in size and porosity of the materials. The samples were coated with an ultrathin layer of gold by a sputtering method. We used JEOLJSM-6510LV model for SEM analysis from SAI Labs TIET Patiala.



**Figure 3.5:** SEM apparatus

### 3.4.3 Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy (EDS)

Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy(EDS or EDX) is a useful technology helps to identify the line intensities, chemical composition, and elemental mapping of the materials. It is conjugate with the SEM and it can detect all elements from 4(Be) to 92(U). A highly energetic beam of electrons by SEM is a strike on the sample, the various interactions take place and the radiations like x-rays and secondary electrons. During the ejection of electrons, some vacancies are created at the surface of atom.To fill these vacancies, electrons having high energy jumps to lower energy state with the emission of x-rays. Thus, an atom can be identified by the measuring of the amount of energy released.



**Figure 3.6:** EDS attached with SEM

### 3.4.4 Dielectric Measurement

The NumetriQ model PSM 1735 was used for this measurement. LCR meter measure the dielectric permittivity and tangent loss at different frequencies (100Hz-1MHz) with various temperatures ranges (50 °C - 600 °C). For the dielectric measurement the conductivity of the pellets were managed by using silver paste. The dielectric constant was calculated by using this formula:

$$C = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r \frac{A}{d}$$

$$\epsilon_r = \frac{C_P}{C_0}$$

$$C_0 = \epsilon_0 \frac{A}{t}$$

$$A = \frac{(\pi d^2)}{4}$$

Where A= Area of the pellet (mm<sup>2</sup>), t= Thickness of the pellet (m), d = diameter of the pellet (m),  $\epsilon_0$  = free space permittivity (8.85 x 10<sup>-12</sup> F/m), C<sub>P</sub> = parallel capacitance, C<sub>0</sub>= capacitance in vacuum.



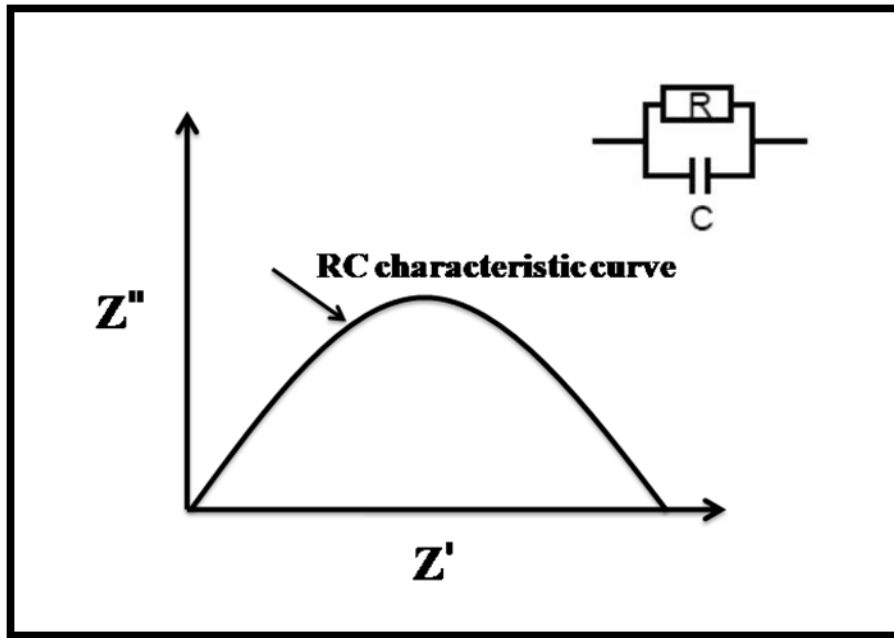
**Figure 3.7:** Dielectric instruments

The dielectric properties of the material tells us about the material's stability. The nature of the material, like normal or relaxor ferroelectric is confirmed after observing the dielectric data. Dielectric of the material provides information about the impedance of the sample. Real and imaginary components represents the impedance of the sample. The real part of impedance has the ability in order to store electrical energy while the imaginary part is the dissipation factor of the material. Impedance parameters are given as:

$$Z^* = Z' - jZ''$$

$$Z'' = \frac{1}{\omega C_S}$$

Where  $\omega = 2\pi f$  is the angular frequency,  $z'$  is real component and  $z''$  is imaginary component of relative permittivity. The plots between  $z'$  is on the x-axis and  $z''$  is on the -axis is known as Cole-Cole plot.



**Figure 3.8:** Cole-Cole plot

### 3.4.5 Ferroelectric P-E loop tracer

The ferroelectric property of the substance is confirmed by hysteresis loop. This loop tracer depicts the plot between the polarizations (P) versus applied field (E). The value of electric parameters like spontaneous polarization ( $P_s$ ), remnant polarization ( $P_r$ ) and the coercive field ( $E_c$ ) are determined by studying the hysteresis curve. The basic principle of the P-E loop tracer is depend on the Sawyer-Tower circuit. The Sawyer-tower circuit measures the voltage across the sample. For P-E loop measurement, the sample was placed in silicone oil. The data was collected at optimum room temperature with a voltage applied in a series of steps.



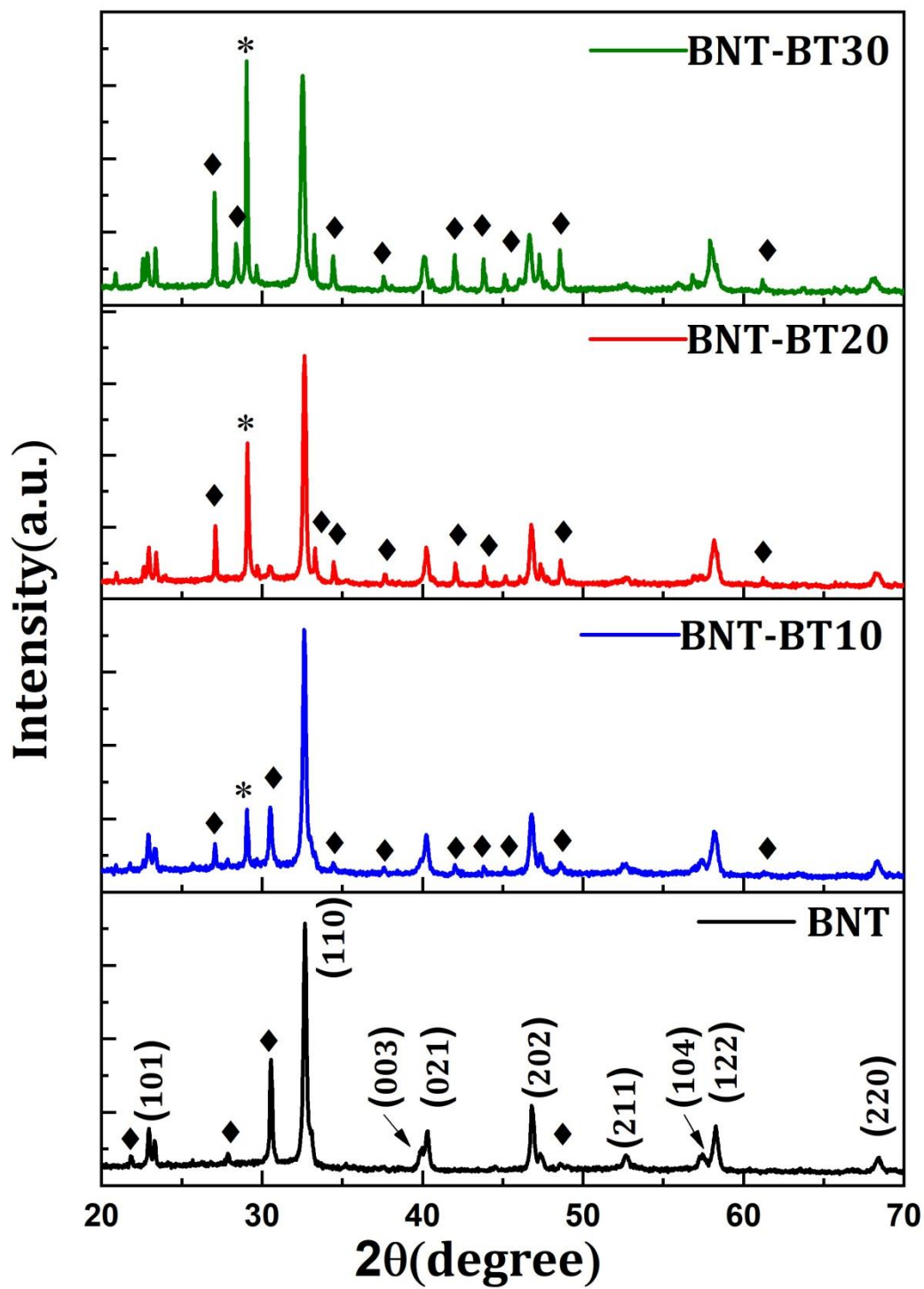
**Figure 3.9:** P-E loop tracer

Automatic PE Loop Tracer by MARINE INDIA was used for ferroelectric studies.

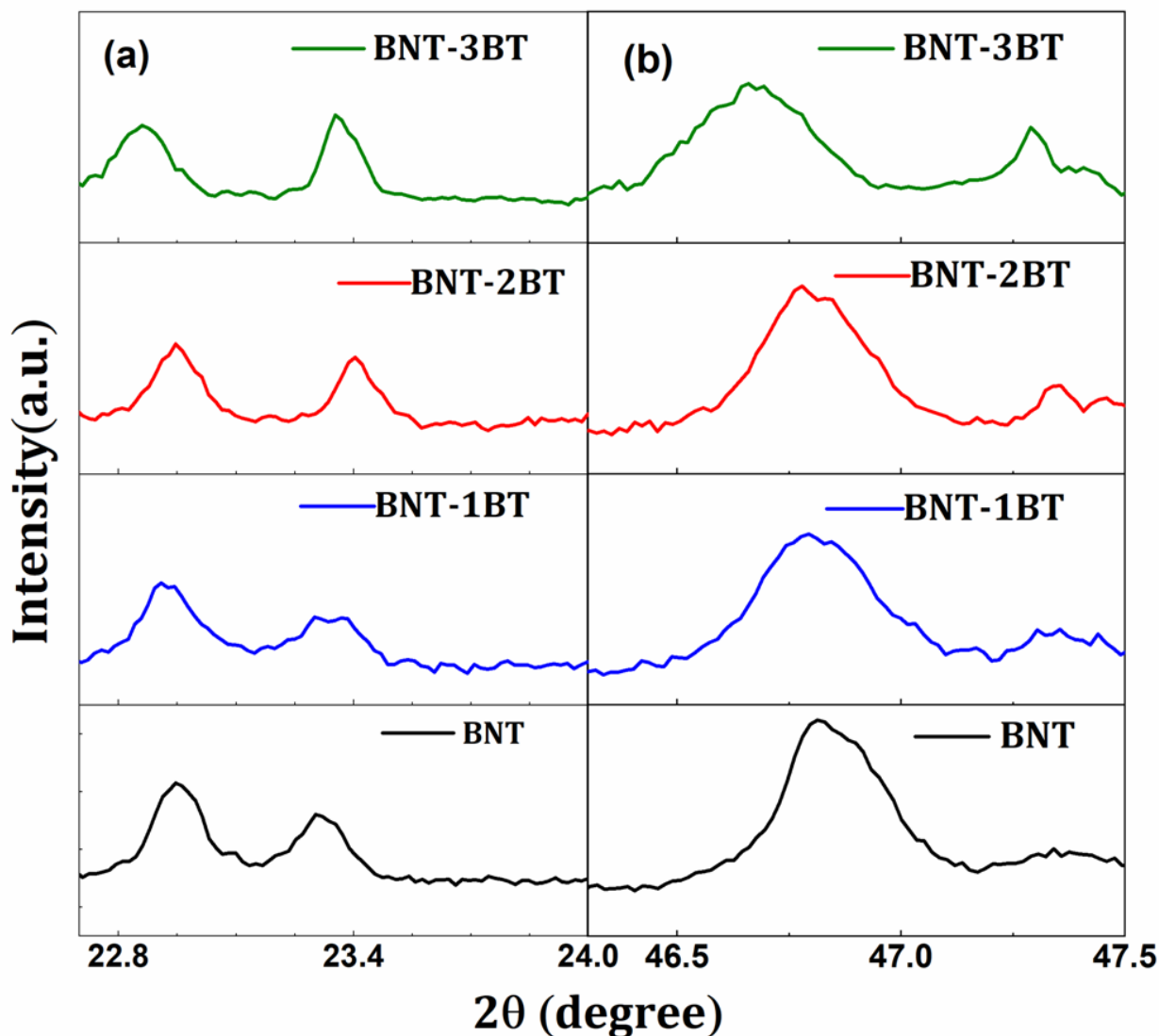
### 4.1. X-ray diffraction (XRD)

The XRD spectra of BNT-BT0, BNT-BT10, BNT-BT20, and BNT-BT30 are shown in Figure 4.1. The peaks were matched and indexed with the standard ICDD cards (ICDD card No.00-036-0340), which provided information about the phases occurring in the compounds. The preliminary structural analysis of this pattern suggests that the compound has a major  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_3$  perovskite phase with a small peak near  $30^\circ$  corresponding to  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Ti}_4\text{Bi}_{4.5}\text{O}_{15}$  (Aurivillus phase) phase. It is usually formed along with  $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_3$  at the time of heating at higher-temperature [40]. Though there is a mixture of two phases in the sample viz rhombohedral and tetragonal, the amount of the tetragonal phases is lesser than that of the rhombohedral phases. It is observed that with increasing the composition of  $\text{BaTiO}_3$ , the rhombohedral phase may be transformed into Aurivillus phase. At higher concentration, we observed that many peaks of aurivillus phase (i.e. marked by  $\blacklozenge$ ) appeared. A peak of Barium titanate (ICDD card No.00-042-0457) occurred near  $28^\circ$  for BNT-BT20 and BNT-BT30 (marked by  $*$ ). Secondary tetragonal phase is because of solubility gap, differences in the composition and metastable coexistence [40]. Similar results have been reported by Zhao et al. [27].

The calculated lattice parameters (hexagonal equivalent) are  $a=b=5.47 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c=6.69 \text{ \AA}$  for BNT-BT0,  $a=b=5.48 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c=6.75 \text{ \AA}$  for BNT-BT10,  $a=b=5.48 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c=6.68 \text{ \AA}$  for BNT-BT20 and  $a=b=5.5 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c=6.79 \text{ \AA}$  for BNT-BT30. From 4.2 it is clear that diffraction peaks shift to lower  $2\theta$  angles with doping of Barium Titanate because the ionic radius of  $\text{Ba}^{2+}$  ( $1.42 \text{ \AA}$ ) is greater than that of both  $\text{Bi}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Na}^+$  ( $1.17 \text{ \AA}$  and  $1.18 \text{ \AA}$  respectively), which distorts the lattice. [29].



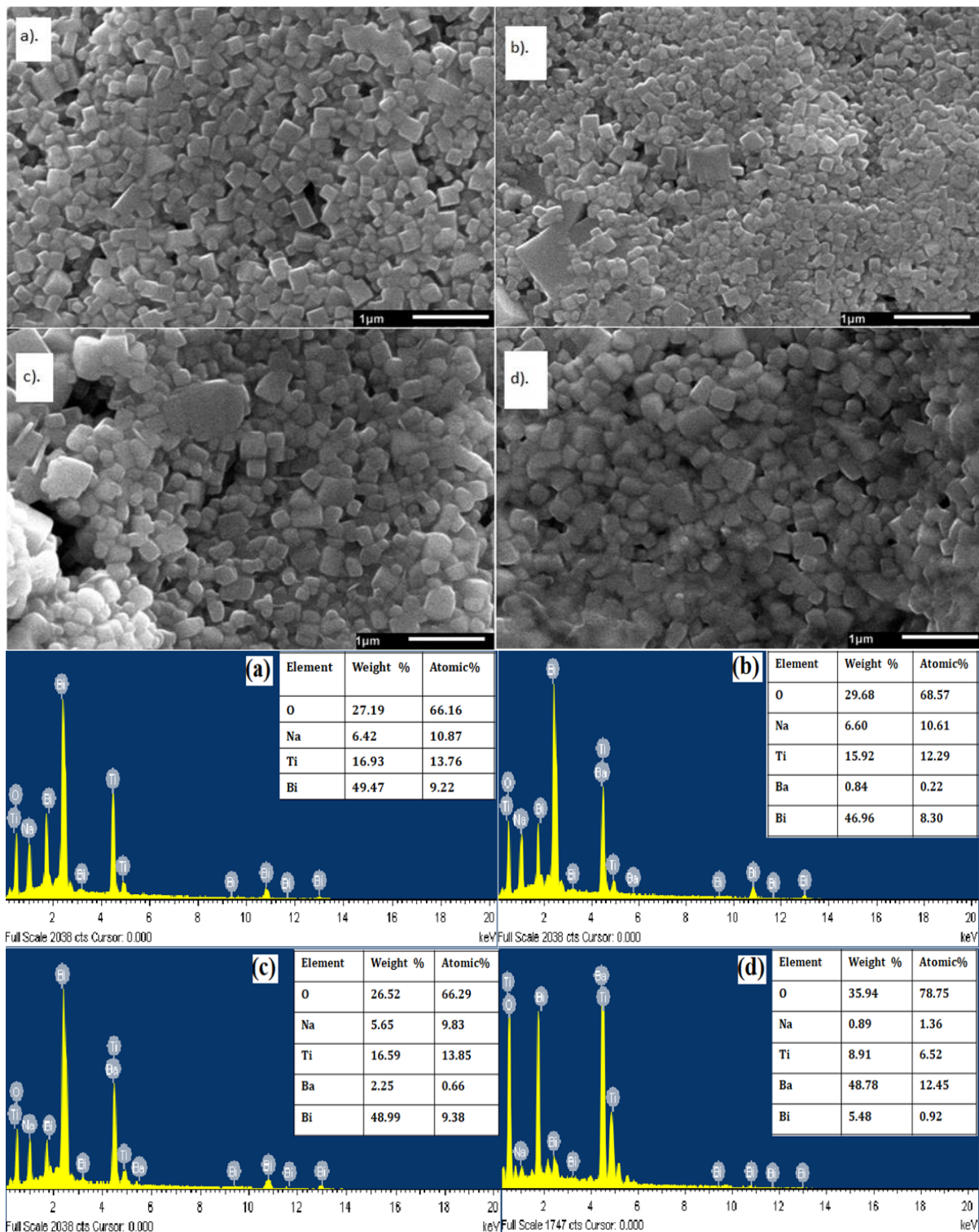
**Figure 4.1** XRD patterns of the BNT-BT0, BNT-BT10, BNT-BT20, and BNT-BT30 ceramics



**Figure 4.2** Zoomed XRD patterns of BNT-BT0, BNT-BT10, BNT-BT20, and BNT-BT30 ceramics

## 4.2. SEM and EDS Analysis

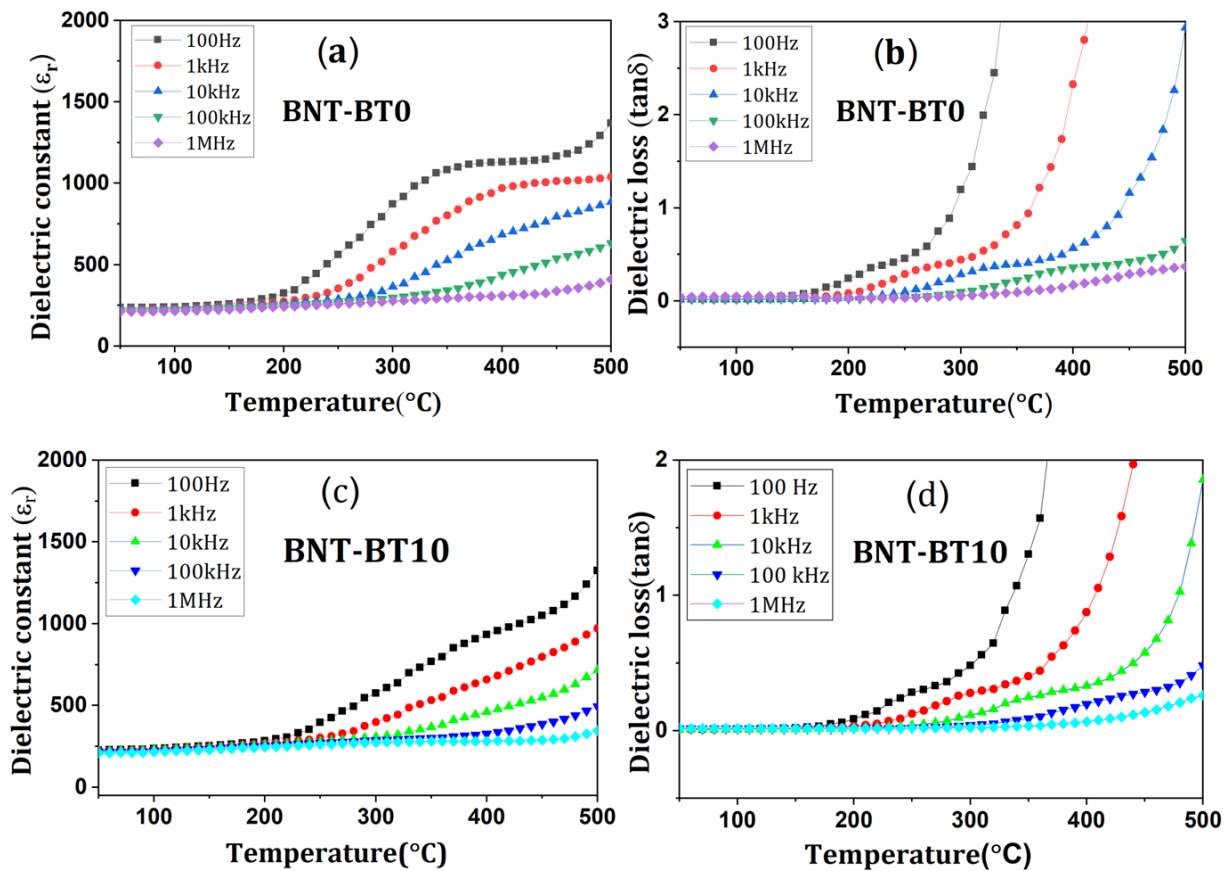
The microstructure and morphological features of samples were analyzed using a scanning electron microscope. Figure 4.3 shows the SEM and EDS photographs of the sintered sample which is taken at a magnification of 20000. The SEM micrograph shows, there is a non-uniform distribution of grains with dense microstructure. Energy dispersive spectroscopy (EDS or EDX) is used to examine the chemical composition of the sample. All the elements (O, Ti, Bi, Ba, Na) are distributed homogeneously.

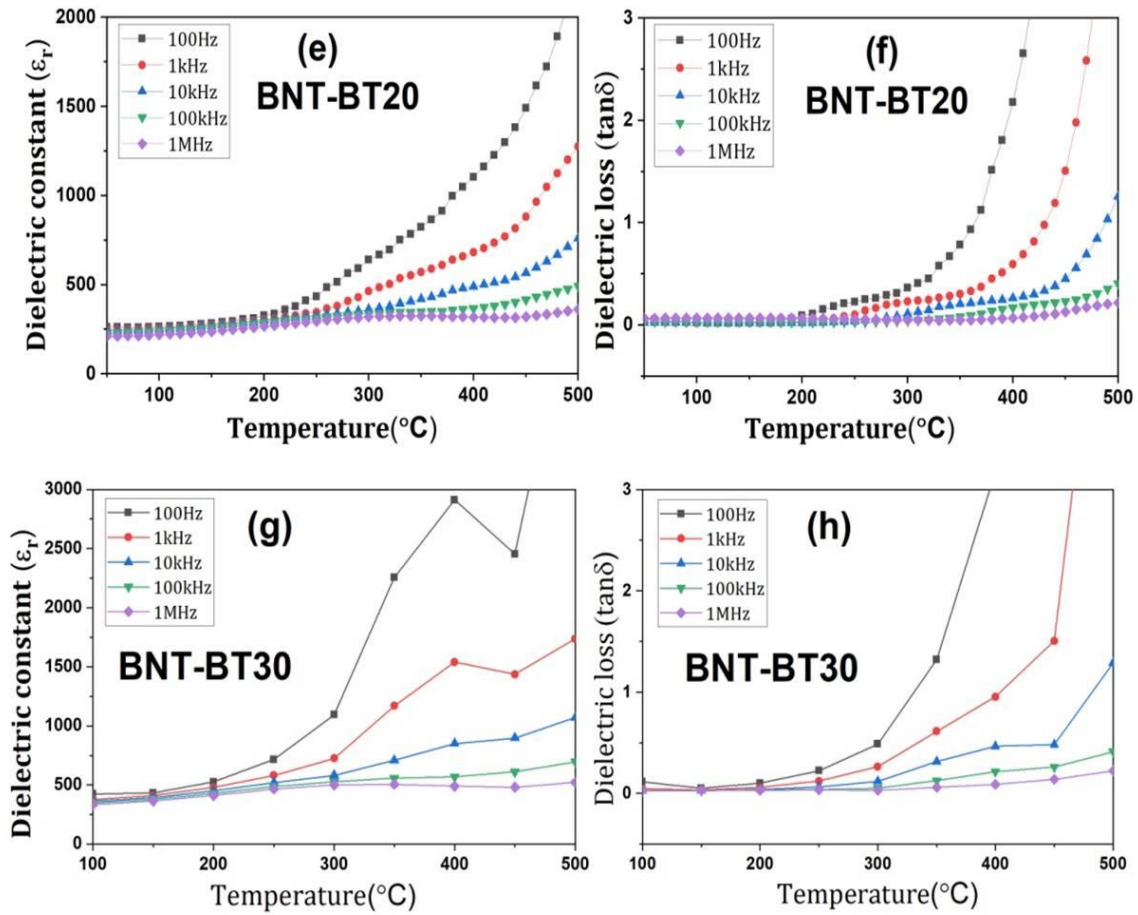


**Figure 4.3:** Microstructure and EDS (spectra or table) of (a) BNT-BT0, (b) BNT-BT10, (c) BNT-BT20, and (d) BNT-BT30 ceramics at magnification of 20000.

### 4.3. Dielectric measurements

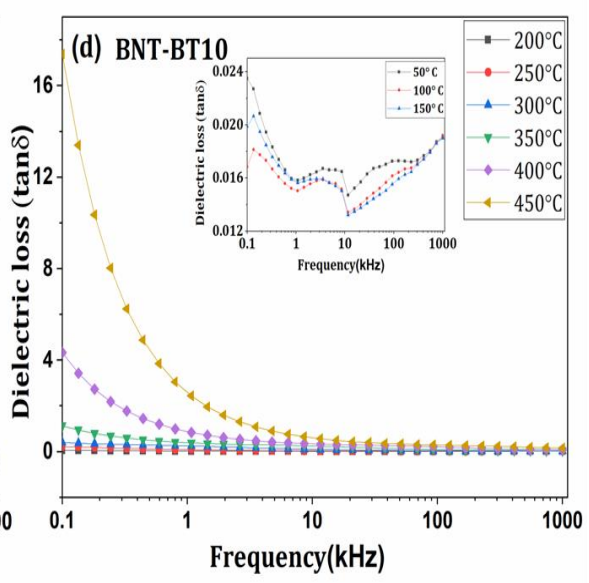
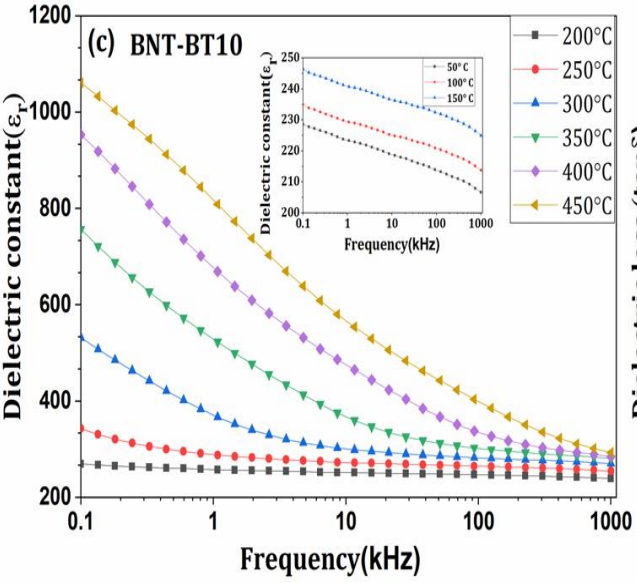
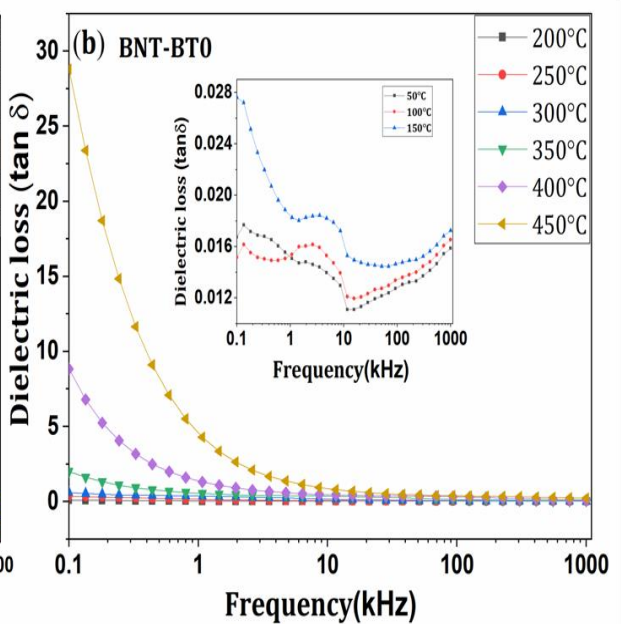
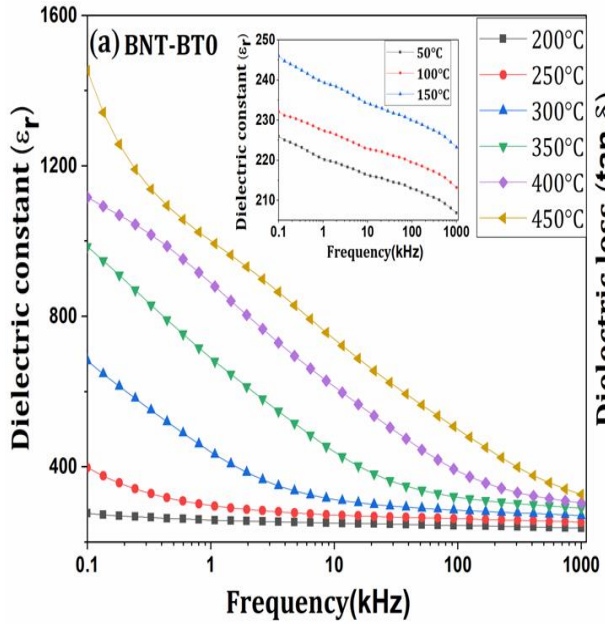
Figure 4.4 (a-h) depicts the variation of dielectric constant and dielectric loss with temperature for BNT and doped BNT ceramics ranging from room temperature to 500 °C at frequencies of 1 MHz, 100 kHz, 10 kHz, 1 kHz, and 100 Hz respectively. They show a broad diffuse peak at Curie temperature at all the frequencies for all the compositions. This could be attributed to the relaxor behaviour. [49]. The dielectric constant is found to decrease with increase in frequency. With increasing the Ba<sup>2+</sup> amount, dielectric constant increase except for 0.1 composition due to space charge polarization.

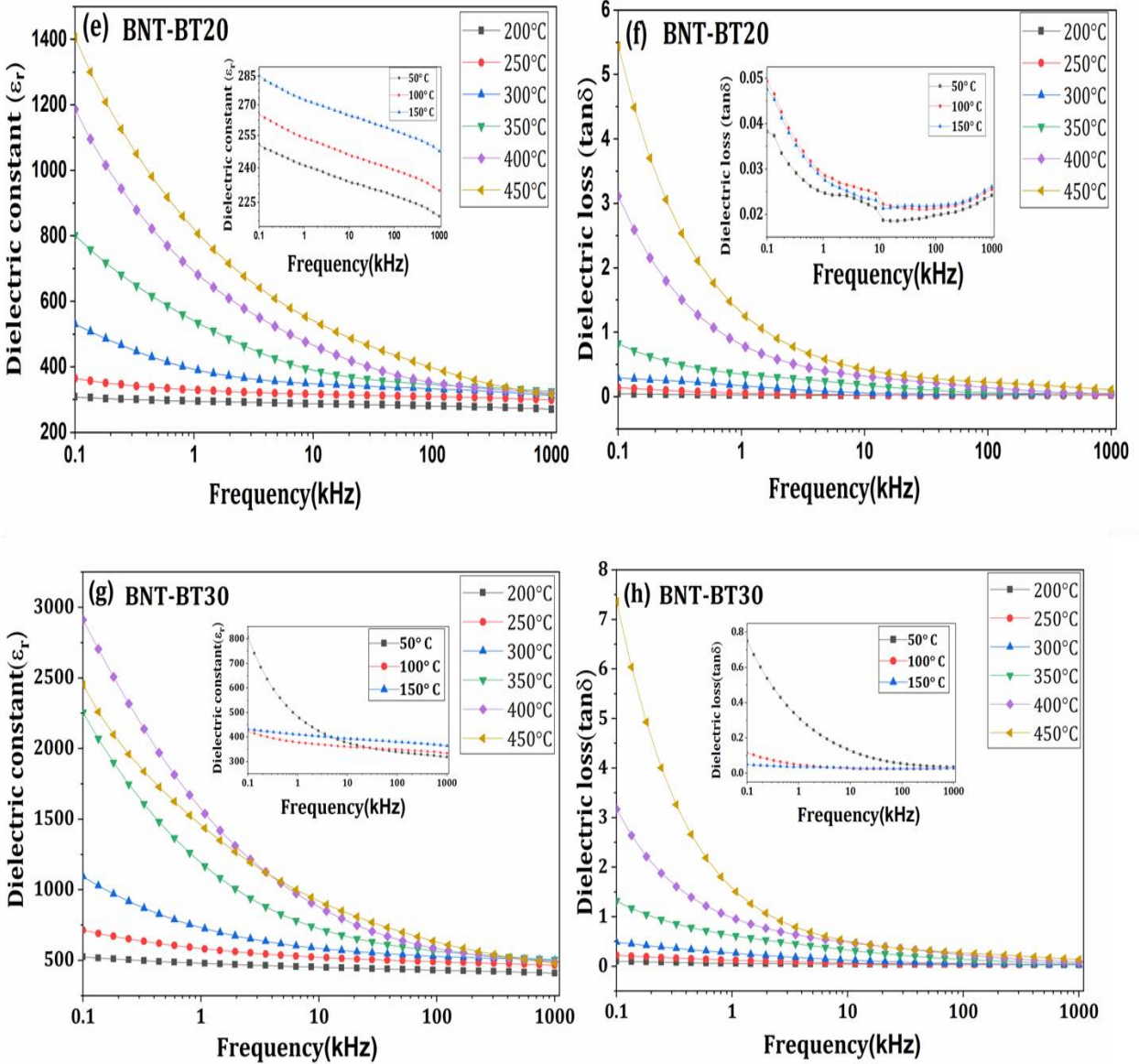




**Figure 4.4:** Plots of Dielectric constant and Dielectric loss with different temperature for BNT-BT0 , BNT-BT10 , BNT-20BT, and BNT-30BT ceramics

Variation of dielectric constant ( $\epsilon_r$ ) and tangent loss ( $\tan\delta$ ) with frequency at different temperatures (200 °C - 450 °C) have been shown in Figure 4.5(a-h) and the inset of Figure 4.5 shows the dielectric constant and tangent loss at low temperatures. It was found that dielectric constant and dielectric loss decreases with the rise in frequency and reaches a constant limit. The high dielectric constant in the low-frequency range than the high-frequency region is due to the space charge polarization. The tangent loss is relatively larger in low-frequency range than high-frequency zone. At higher temperature, the tangent loss is increased due to the existence of some impurity phases in the sample [48].



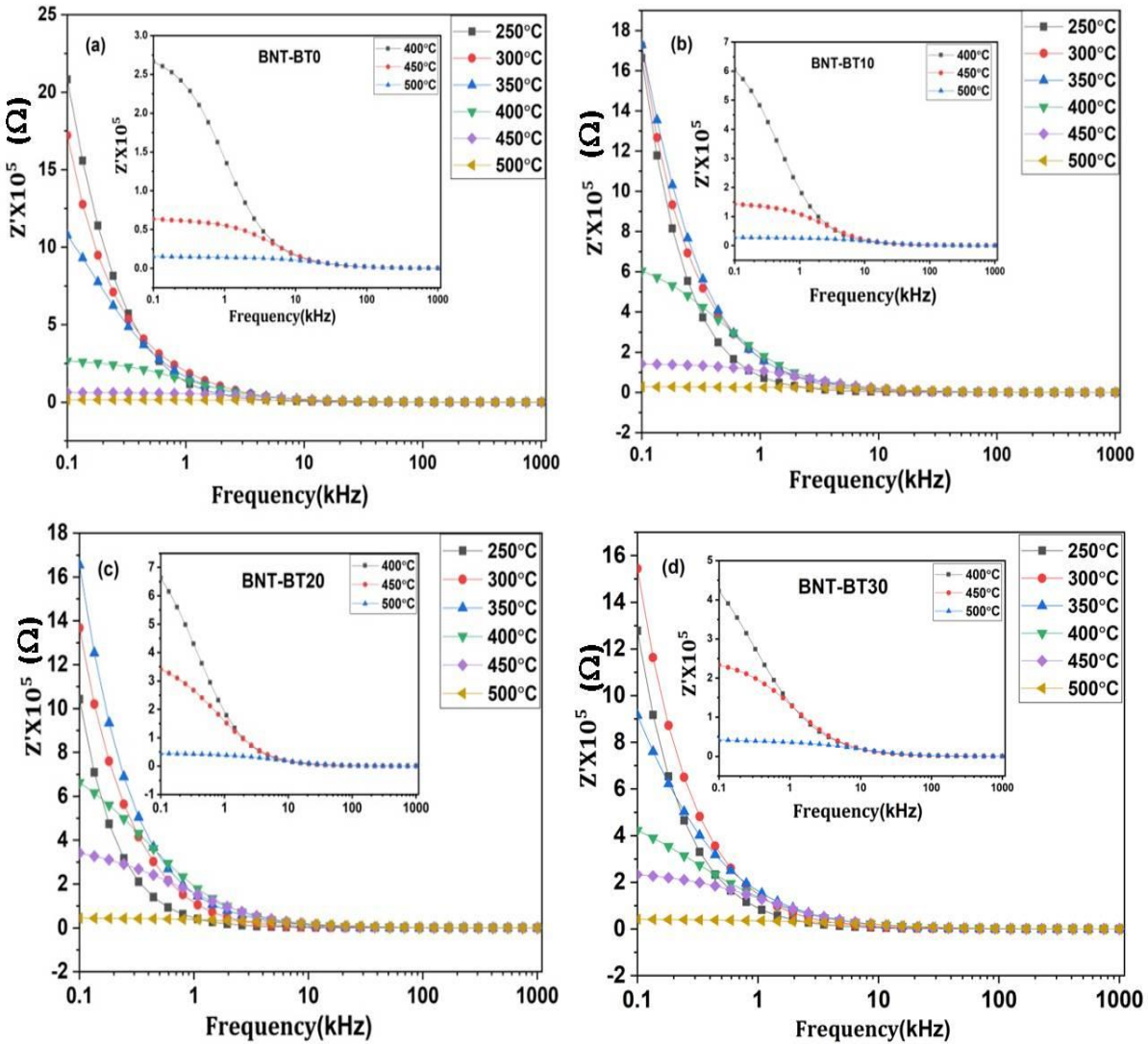


**Figure 4.5:** Plots of Dielectric constant and Dielectric loss with frequency dependence for BNT-BT0, BNT-BT10, BNT-BT20, and BNT-BT30 ceramics

#### 4.4. Impedence analysis

Figure 4.6 (a-d) represents the frequency dependence of real component of impedance ( $Z'$ ) at various temperatures varying from 250 °C to 500 °C for BNT-BT0, BNT-BT10, BNT-BT20, and BNT-BT30. It is seen that real ( $Z'$ ) impedance decreases monotonically with increasing frequency upto 10 kHz, after that it becomes frequency-independent for all the samples.

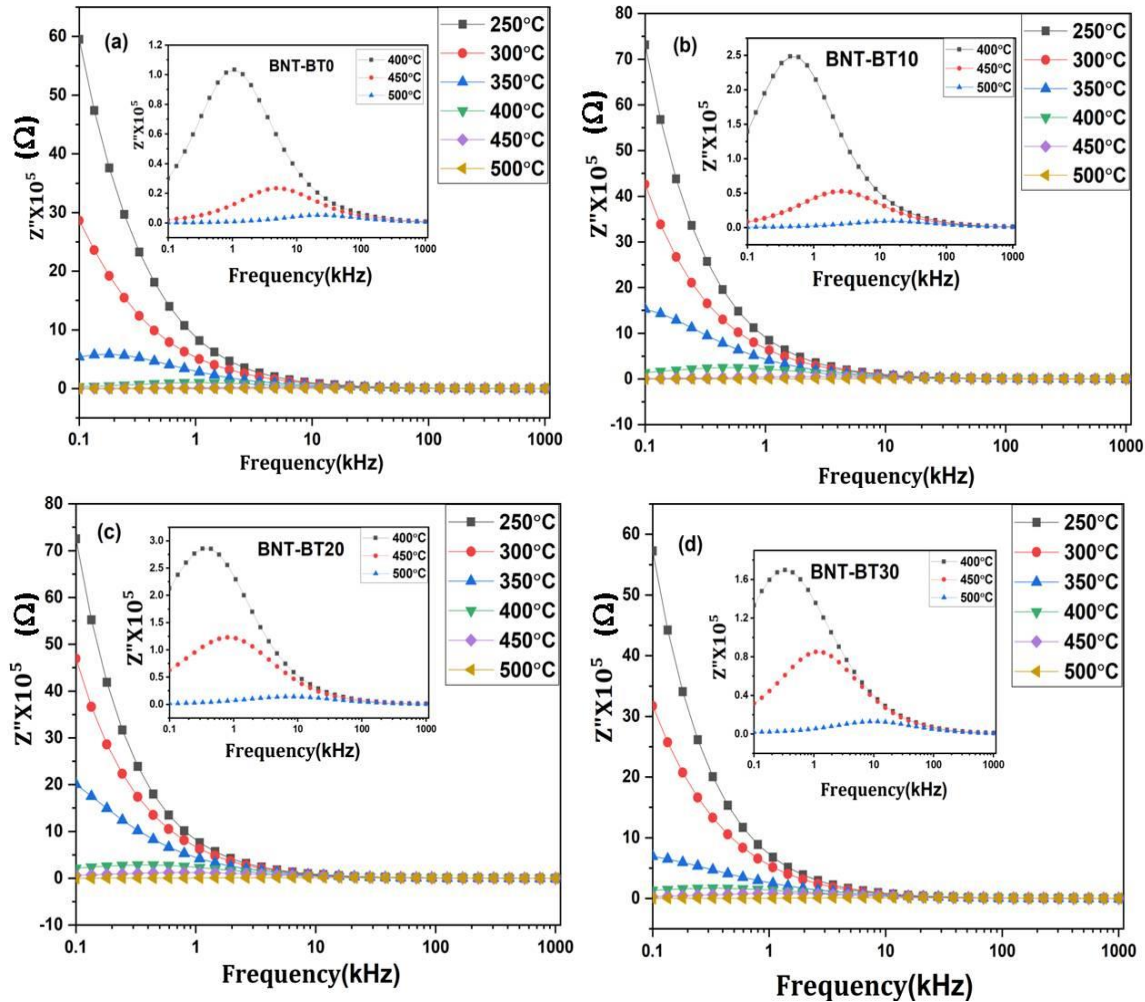
$Z'$  vs frequency plots show broadened peaks at lower frequency at higher temperature ranging from 400 °C to 500 °C (as shown in inset of Figure 4.6). At lower frequency, higher value of  $Z'$  indicate that polarization is larger in the compound and the value of  $Z'$  slightly decreases with increasing both frequency and temperature owing to space charge polarization. With increase the doping of BaTiO<sub>3</sub>, the real part of impedance decreases slightly due to space charge polarization [48].



**Figure 4.6:**  $Z'$  vs. frequency of BNT-BT0, BNT-BT10, BNT-BT20, and BNT-BT30 ceramics

Figure 4.7 represents the frequency dependent imaginary component of impedance ( $Z''$ ) at several temperatures. The value of  $Z''$  is higher at lower frequencies, which shows the relaxation

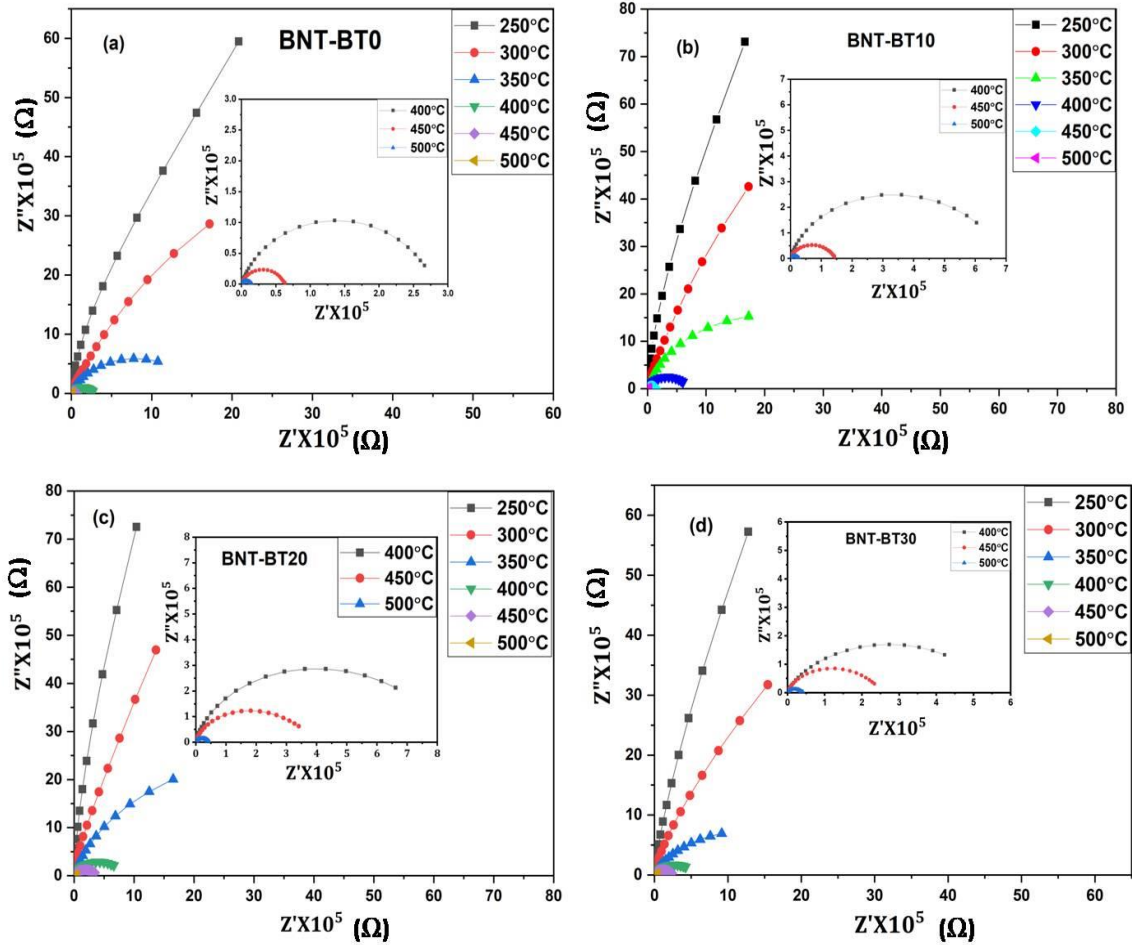
process. The reason of the electrical relaxation process occurs due to defects or oxygen vacancies in the material. Similar behaviour is observed for all the compositions. The inset of the Figure 4.7 shows asymmetric broadening of peaks which shift towards the high-frequency region with increase in temperature. With increasing the  $Ba^{2+}$  amount,  $Z''$  increase except for 0.3 composition due to space charge polarization. [48] [50]



**Figure 4.7:**  $Z''$  vs. frequency of BNT-BT0, BNT-BT10, BNT-BT20, and BNT-BT30 ceramics

The Cole-Cole plot ( $Z''$  vs.  $Z'$ ) are taken at various temperature ranges from 250 °C to 500 °C (as shown in Figure 4.8). Semicircular arcs are observed in this spectrum. The radius of semicircle gradually decreases with the increase in temperature. It indicates that the bulk resistance of the material decreases and conductivity increases with increase in temperature. This signifies the

non-ideal Debye type behaviour and negative temperature coefficient of resistivity (NTCR) that may be due to the orientation of the grains boundary and defects [50-51]

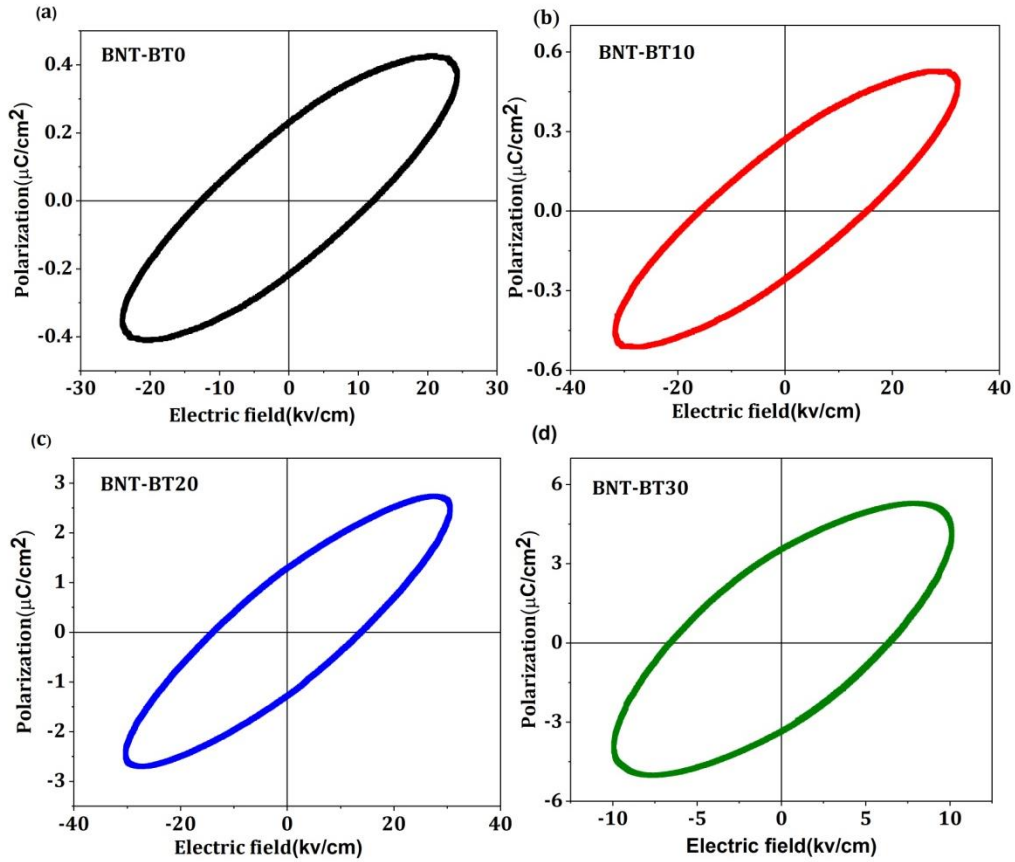


**Figure 4.8:**  $Z''$  vs.  $Z'$  (Cole-Cole plot) of BNT-BT0, BNT-BT10, BNT-BT20, and BNT-BT30 ceramics

#### 4.5. P-E loop Measurements

The room temperature P-E hysteresis loops of BNT and BNT-BT samples at maximum applied electric field are shown in Figure 4.9. The typical hysteresis loop were not observed because of the increase in concentration of  $Ba^{2+}$  resistivity of material decreases and conductivity increases, sample becomes overloaded due to coexistence of two phases and impurity in the sample. Therefore, the electric field cannot be applied. It is observed from figures that the values of remanent polarization ( $P_r$ ) increase with the concentration of BT content. The maximum

polarization, remnant polarization, and coercive field value are shown in the following Table 4.10



**Figure 4.9:** Room temperature P-E loop of BNT-BT0, BNT-BT10, BNT-BT20, and BNT-BT30 ceramics

**Table 4.10** Ferroelectric properties of BNT-BT0, BNT-BT10, BNT-BT20, and BNT-BT30 ceramics

| Sample name | Maximum polarization<br>(in $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ ) | Remnant polarization( $P_r$ )<br>(in $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ ) | Coercive field ( $E_c$ )<br>(in kV/ cm) |
|-------------|---|--|---|
| BNT- BT0    | 0.419   | 0.222  | 12.36                                   |
| BNT- BT10   | 0.443   | 0.263  | 15.62                                   |
| BNT- BT20   | 2.718   | 1.285  | 13.88                                   |
| BNT- BT30   | 5.153   | 3.457  | 6.47                                    |

**5.1 Conclusion**

A systematic study of structural, micro-structural, dielectric and ferroelectric properties of (1-x)BNT-xBT(x=0, 0.1, 0.2, and 0.3) ceramics have been reported. BNT-BTx ceramics were synthesized via conventionally solid-state method.

1. X-ray diffraction pattern showed the BNT-BTx series show coexistence of perovskite and aurivillius phase. This aurivillius phase is found to increase in BaTiO<sub>3</sub> content. The lattice parameters are found to increase with increase in BaTiO<sub>3</sub> concentration.
2. The SEM micrographs of the samples depict the non-uniform distribution of grains with unequal size.
3. The temperature dependent Dielectric constant and dielectric loss shows relaxor behaviour of all the samples.
4. Impedance studies should a decrease in the real impedance and increase in the imaginary value of impedance due to release of space charge polarization. From Cole-Cole plots studied that the bulk resistivity decrease with increase in the conductivity, it shows negative temperature coefficient nature of the ceramic.
5. The P-E Hysteresis loop shows that the remanent polarization is found to increase with increase in BaTiO<sub>3</sub> concentration and maximum polarization obtained is  $P_{\max} = 5.153 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$  for BNT-BT-30.

## **5.2 Suggestions for future work**

The work done in the present dissertation is related to the study of ferroelectrics and dielectric properties of BNT. Following are the suggestions which can be opted for future research work:

1. The variation in dielectric and ferroelectric properties at different sintering temperatures can be done
2. Piezoelectric properties could be studied.
3. Studies for the higher concentration of  $\text{BaTiO}_3$  could be done.

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