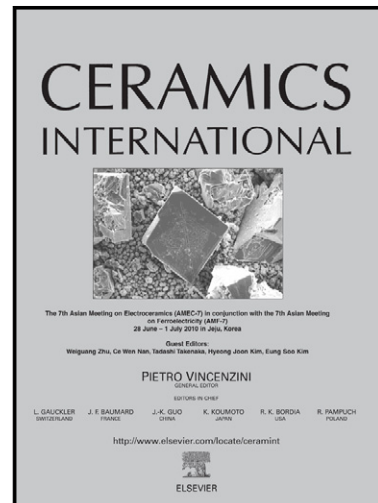


Author's Accepted Manuscript

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www.elsevier.com/locate/ceramint

PII: S0272-8842(14)00749-4
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ceramint.2014.05.026>
Reference: CERI8562

To appear in: *Ceramics International*

Received date: 31 August 2013
Revised date: 26 April 2014
Accepted date: 5 May 2014

Cite this article as: Wenjuan Wu, Jing Li, Dingquan Xiao, Min Chen, Yingchun Ding, Chuanqi Liu, Defect dipoles -driven ferroelectric behavior in potassium sodium niobate ceramics, *Ceramics International*, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ceramint.2014.05.026>

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Defect dipoles -driven ferroelectric behavior in potassium sodium niobate ceramics

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Abstract $K_{0.48}Na_{0.52}NbO_3-0.05 \text{ mol}\%Re_2O_3$ (Re=La, Nd, and Yb) ceramics were prepared by a conventional solid-state sintering method, and defect dipoles -induced ferroelectric behaviors have been investigated. All ceramics show an orthorhombic phase at room temperature. The tolerance factor, X-ray diffraction and Raman spectra analysis show that La^{3+} and Nd^{3+} predominantly dissolve in (K, Na) sites and induces the unit cell shrinkage, while Yb^{3+} occupies both (K, Na) and Nb cationic sites and causes the unit cell expansion, respectively. Due to defect dipoles polarization, P_D^A and P_D^{AB} , KNN- Re_2O_3 ceramics display different ferroelectric properties. Ferroelectric order of KNN- Yb_2O_3 ceramics were stabilized by P_D^{AB} , so their ferroelectric properties ($P_r \sim 32.7 \mu C/cm^2$, $E_c \sim 7.6 \text{ kV/cm}$) and thermal stability were improved. A constricted hysteresis loop in KNN- Yb_2O_3 ceramic at a high measurement temperature is formed because of the domain pinning from Nb^{5+} , K^+ and Na^+ ions.

Keywords: KNN ceramics; Rare earth oxides; Defect dipoles; Ferroelectric properties;

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