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Microstructure, Crystallization and Shape Memory Behaviour of Titania and Yttria Co-Doped Zirconia

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Abstract

Small volume zirconia ceramic samples with few or no grain boundaries have been demonstrated recently to exhibit the shape memory effect with large strains. To explore the shape memory properties of yttria stabilized zirconia (YSZ), it is desirable to develop large, microscale grains, instead of the normally submicron grains that result from typical processing of YSZ. In this work, titania has been doped into YSZ ceramics and the effects of titania doping on the grain growth, crystallization and microscale elemental distribution of the ceramics have been systematically studied. With 5 mol% titania doping, the grain size can be increased up to $\sim 3 \mu\text{m}$ through a conventional sintering cycle, while retaining a large quantity of the desired tetragonal

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3 phase of zirconia. Such ceramics partition into two phases with different compositions, i.e.
4 tetragonal phase with ~2 mol% yttria and cubic phase with ~5 mol% yttria. Micro-pillars
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6 machined from the 2 mol% yttria grains, and thus in the tetragonal phase, exhibited significantly
7
8 enhanced shape memory effect in comparison to those without titania.
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13 *Keywords: titania doping, YSZ, microstructure, crystallization, elemental analysis, shape*
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15 *memory effect*
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17 18 **Introduction**

19
20 Tetragonal zirconia has been intensively investigated due to its martensitic transformation
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22 between the metastable tetragonal phase and the thermally stable monoclinic phase at low
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24 temperatures.¹ This diffusionless, displacive transformation can be induced by an external stress
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26 or a change in temperature, and involves a significant shear strain and volume change.² The
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28 resulting dramatic strain evolution and redistribution that occurs upon transformation is the
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30 source of transformation toughening³ in bulk zirconia ceramics, as well as potential shape
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32 memory and superelastic properties⁴. A few oxides have been found effective in stabilizing the
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34 tetragonal phase of zirconia at room temperature, such as CeO₂⁵, MgO⁶ and Y₂O₃⁷. Among these,
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36 Y₂O₃ is considered the most effective stabilizer as less than 4 mol% is sufficient to fully stabilize
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38 the tetragonal phase.⁸ Numerous studies have been made on the phase transformation in yttria
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40 stabilized tetragonal zirconia polycrystals (Y-TZP).^{9, 10} However, there is a general lack of
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42 observations of shape memory properties in Y-TZP, although they have been described in the
43
44 related ceria doped zirconia systems for about three decades.^{11, 12}
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52 Due to the large ionic radius of yttrium, its diffusion in zirconia is slow, and Y-TZP therefore
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54 generally enjoys a low grain growth rate. Typical powder processed Y-TZP generally has
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56 submicron grains as well as an inhomogeneous Y₂O₃ distribution.¹³ Since small grains tend to
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3 suppress the martensitic transformation, when such polycrystals are subjected to applied stress,
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5 cracks are generally initiated before achieving observable shape deformation via the
6
7 transformation. On the other hand, in our recent work¹⁴, we showed that for small-volume
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9 samples with a length scale reduced to a few micrometers, zirconia ceramics will have an
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11 oligocrystalline structure and can exhibit significantly enhanced shape memory properties
12
13 without cracking. In that work, we used Ce-containing zirconia with a grain size of about 2 μm .
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15 While it would be interesting to explore small samples of conventional Y-TZP for shape memory
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17 properties, their small grain size would require commensurately smaller test samples (submicron).
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19 Alternatively, methods to increase the Y-TZP grain size from submicron to micron scale without
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21 suppressing the martensitic transformation behavior are also of interest.
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28 The grain growth of zirconia is found to be controlled by the dopant material and sintering
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30 temperature.¹⁵ For example, large crystals of Y-TZP can be obtained by sintering it at very high
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32 temperatures around 2500°C (skull sintering),¹⁶ while some additives such as MgO, CeO₂,
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34 Nb₂O₅, and TiO₂ are reported to favor larger grains in zirconia during sintering at lower
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36 temperatures.¹⁷⁻¹⁹ In the present work, we favor the latter approach of using dopants to increase
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38 grain size, and such additives should be selected based on at least the following criteria: (1) the
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40 additive oxide should be able to promote grain growth, (2) the martensitic transformation
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42 behavior should be retained, (3) the additive oxide should not lead to the formation of any
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44 undesired phases (i.e. cubic, monoclinic), and (4) the dopant should be stable through high
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46 temperature sintering without considerable evaporation or forming a porous structure.
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52 Based on our preliminary experimental results (not reported here) as well as supporting
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54 information from literature²⁰, titania (TiO₂) was found to satisfy the above criteria. The
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56 experiments in this work were therefore designed with the goal of fabricating Y₂O₃-TiO₂-ZrO₂
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3 ternary ceramics with microscale grains suitable for micromechanical testing of shape memory
4 properties.
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7 8 **Experimental**

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10 Literature work has revealed that about 2 to 4 mol% of Y_2O_3 is effective in stabilizing the
11 majority of zirconia in the tetragonal phase¹. The slightly larger Y^{3+} cations (0.1019 nm)
12 substitute for the host Zr^{4+} cations (0.084 nm) inside the crystal¹⁹, introducing oxygen vacancies
13 to balance the charge between cation and anion²¹. These oxygen vacancies are believed to be
14 stabilizing the tetragonal phase. Less than 10 mol% of TiO_2 was introduced in this work, as
15 excess TiO_2 can react with zirconia to form $ZrTiO_4$ at temperatures above $1400^\circ C$ ²².
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26 The starting materials were commercial 3 mol% yttria doped zirconia with a particle size of 40
27 nm (TZ-3Y-E grade, Tosoh, Japan), TiO_2 ($\geq 99\%$) and Y_2O_3 ($\geq 99.99\%$) (Sigma-Aldrich, USA)
28 powders. The ceramic powders were mixed according to the formula $xY_2O_3-yTiO_2-(100-x-$
29 $y)ZrO_2$ with $x = 0-6$ and $y = 0-10$, by adding pure oxide into the TZ-3Y powders. The mixed
30 powders were ball milled with zirconia milling balls for 24 hours to obtain a homogeneous
31 powder mixture. The powders were then combined with 0.35 wt% polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) with
32 $M_w = 72k$ as binder and pressed into pellets using a hydraulic press at 100 MPa. The green
33 pellets were further pressed at 35 MPa with a cold isostatic press (CIP). To prevent the
34 production of pores as a result of PVA decomposition during sintering, the pellets were pre-
35 sintered to pyrolyze the PVA, followed by a second CIP step to further densify the ceramics. The
36 pellets were then sintered at 1500 or $1700^\circ C$ for 6 hours at a heating rate of $5^\circ C/min$. Finally, the
37 sintered pellets were polished with diamond slurry and hot etched at 1450 or $1650^\circ C$ for 30 min.
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55 Detailed microstructural characterization of the hot-etched ceramic surface was performed with
56 field emission scanning electron microscopy (FESEM, JOEL 7600F). The grain size was
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3 analyzed with image analysis software (ImageJ, National Institutes of Health, West Bethesda,
4 MD).²³ The phase composition of the ceramics was studied by x-ray diffraction (XRD, D8,
5 Bruker) with Cu K α radiation. The spatial elemental distribution across different grains was
6 mapped with electron probe micro-analysis (EPMA, JXA-8500F, JEOL). The crystal structure of
7 some individual grains was studied by synchrotron radiation scanning X-ray micro-diffraction
8 (μ XRD) technique using a white beam²⁴ on beamline 12.3.2 at the Advanced Light Source,
9 Berkeley, CA. The μ XRD patterns were collected using a DECTRIS Pilatus hybrid pixel array
10 detector and analyzed using the XMAS (μ XRD analysis software) software package.
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23 Based on the EPMA maps, some grains were chosen and machined into pillars with dimensions
24 of $\sim 1 \mu\text{m} \times 3.5 \mu\text{m}$ (diameter \times height) using Focused Ion Beam milling system (FIB, FEI Nova
25 600i Nanolab). To study the shape memory effect, the pillars were compressed with a
26 nanoindenter (Hysitron, TI950) equipped with a 20 μm spherical-conical diamond tip. The
27 loading and unloading rate of the compression was 50 $\mu\text{N}/\text{sec}$. After compression, the pillars
28 were heat-treated at 500 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ to explore shape recovery.
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37 **Results & discussion**

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40 To illustrate the effect of TiO₂ on the grain growth of zirconia, its concentration was varied while
41 Y₂O₃ doping was kept constant at 3 mol%. The average grain size with respect to the TiO₂
42 concentration is shown in Figure 1(a), as well as the respective microstructure of each
43 composition. Clear grain boundaries can be observed in the SEM images and no visible pores are
44 found. The grain size was significantly increased from 0.5 μm to 4 μm with 5 mol% TiO₂ added.
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50 This observation is in agreement with literature that TiO₂ could promote grain growth^{25, 26}, as it
51 can enhance the average diffusion rate during sintering. Higher doping of 10 mol% TiO₂ did not
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3 significantly change the grain size, most probability due to the saturation of TiO_2 . Literature work
4 found that the solubility of TiO_2 in Y-TZP is lower than 13 mol% at 1700°C .^{27,28}
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8 Figure 1(b) provides further detail on the effects of doping for the Y_2O_3 - ZrO_2 binary and $x\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$ -
9 5TiO_2 - ZrO_2 ternary systems. Varying the Y_2O_3 concentration at a sintering temperature of
10 1500°C had no clear effect upon the grain size for the binary Y_2O_3 - ZrO_2 system, which remained
11 fairly constant in the range between 0.4 - 0.5 μm . A higher sintering temperature at 1700°C only
12 slightly increased the grain size to an average of 0.55 μm in the binary system. On the other hand,
13 by adding 5 mol% TiO_2 , the grain size of $x\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$ - 5TiO_2 - ZrO_2 for 2 to 4 mol% of Y_2O_3
14 significantly increased to an average of 3.1 μm . Compared to prior studies of 10 mol% TiO_2 at
15 1400°C ,²⁶ we found that 5 mol% of TiO_2 works similarly in promoting grain growth at a higher
16 temperature of 1700°C , but did not lead to the formation of the undesired ZrTiO_4 compound.
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30 ***Effect of TiO_2 and Y_2O_3 co-doping on phase content***

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33 Chemical composition is a key factor for martensitic transformation of zirconia, regardless of the
34 grain size. The phase content of both Y_2O_3 - ZrO_2 binary and Y_2O_3 - TiO_2 - ZrO_2 ternary systems has
35 been studied by XRD, as shown in Figure 2(a) and 2(b). In the effort to resolve the overlapped
36 XRD profiles for monoclinic, tetragonal and cubic phase of the ceramics, a full scan with $2\theta =$
37 25 - 90° and a fine scan with $2\theta = 70$ - 76° were conducted according to Srinivasan *et al.*²⁹.
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Analysis of the peak positions from the XRD spectrum confirmed that there were no non-
zirconia phases such as rutile TiO_2 or ZrTiO_4 present in the ceramics²⁶.

The monoclinic, tetragonal and cubic phases in both Y_2O_3 - ZrO_2 and $x\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$ - 5TiO_2 - ZrO_2 systems
can be discerned from the characteristic peaks for the corresponding phase³⁰. As shown in
Figure 2(a), peak $(111)_m$ and $(11\bar{1})_m$ signify the presence of monoclinic phase, whereas peak

(111)_{t/c} denotes the presence of either the tetragonal or cubic phase. The tetragonal phase can be further differentiated from the cubic phase by resolving the (400)_t and (004)_t peaks of the tetragonal phase from the peak (400)_c of the cubic phase, as shown in Figure 2(a). From the relative intensities of the characteristic peaks in Figure 2, it seems clear that the ceramic is dominated by monoclinic phase for Y₂O₃ ≤ 2mol%, whereas majority of tetragonal phase can be found for Y₂O₃ between 2.5 to 4 mol%. Further increase of the Y₂O₃ level leads to more cubic phase, which is not the desired phase for martensitic transformation, and so of little interest to the present work.

The weight fraction of the monoclinic phase (X_m) with respect to the tetragonal/cubic phase ($X_{t/c}$) can be quantified based on the relative intensities of the peaks according to the following equation:³¹

$$X_m = \frac{I(11\bar{1})_m + I(111)_m}{I(11\bar{1})_m + I(111)_m + I(111)_{t/c}} = 1 - X_{t/c} \quad \text{----- (1)}$$

where $I(111)_m$, $I(11\bar{1})_m$ and $I(111)_{t/c}$ are the integrated intensity from the monoclinic (111), (11 $\bar{1}$) peaks and tetragonal/cubic (111) peak, respectively. Further quantitative differentiation of the tetragonal and cubic phase fractions is not accurate, as the respective peaks are not fully resolved and the intensities are relatively weak compared to the background; we will turn to another method of resolving these two phases in a later section. Nonetheless, the data in Figure 3 show that the weight fraction of monoclinic phase decreases with the introduction of Y₂O₃, which fully stabilizes the tetragonal/cubic phase to room temperature at 4mol% of Y₂O₃.

TiO₂ doping also contributes to the stabilization of the tetragonal/cubic phase and suppresses the formation of monoclinic phase. By adding 5 mol% TiO₂ into the Y₂O₃-ZrO₂ ceramics, the fraction of tetragonal/cubic phase significantly increases for Y₂O₃ ≤ 3.5mol%. According to

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3 Figure 3, there is no monoclinic phase in $x\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3\text{-}5\text{TiO}_2\text{-ZrO}_2$ for $\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3 \geq 2.5\text{mol}\%$, and the
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5 ceramic is fully composed of tetragonal and cubic phases.
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9 The effect of TiO_2 doping on the lattice constants of $3\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3\text{-}y\text{TiO}_2\text{-ZrO}_2$ ceramics is shown in
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11 Figure 4. For TiO_2 doping less than 10 mol%, the tetragonal lattice constant a_t decreases, while c_t
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13 increases with TiO_2 concentration. This can be attributed to the smaller ionic diameter of
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15 titanium (0.074 nm)¹⁹ as compared to zirconium. For $3\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3\text{-ZrO}_2$ binary ceramics, the lattice
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17 constants are $a_t = 5.0983 \text{ \AA}$, $c_t = 5.1814 \text{ \AA}$. These lattice constants are in good agreement with the
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19 tetragonal $2\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3\text{-ZrO}_2$ ceramics reported in the literatures ($a = 5.1003 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 5.1866 \text{ \AA}$)^{32, 33}.
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22 With 5 mol% TiO_2 doping, the lattice constants are changed to $a_t = 5.0930 \text{ \AA}$, $c_t = 5.1840 \text{ \AA}$, and
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24 thus increase the tetragonality (c_t/a_t) of zirconia. This result follows expectations of Vegard's law
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26 of solid solution²⁷.
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29 30 ***Chemical heterogeneity***

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33 Previous work on the $\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3\text{-ZrO}_2$ system³⁴ using processing methods similar to ours has revealed
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35 signatures of inhomogeneous distribution of Y_2O_3 in the zirconia matrix, especially after long
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37 exposures to high sintering temperatures. The characteristic XRD peaks in Figure 2 also
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39 suggested a mixture of tetragonal and cubic phases for $\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3 \geq 2.5\text{mol}\%$, and how the two phases
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41 are distributed at the grain-scale needs further characterization. More importantly, whether co-
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43 doping with TiO_2 can affect the spatial chemical and phase distribution in the ternary $\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3\text{-TiO}_2\text{-}$
44
45 ZrO_2 system remains a question.
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50 Chemical mapping was conducted by EPMA on the surface of both $3\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3\text{-ZrO}_2$ and $3\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3\text{-}$
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52 $5\text{TiO}_2\text{-ZrO}_2$ ceramics, across a typical area of $200 \mu\text{m} \times 200 \mu\text{m}$, as shown in Figure 5. We
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54 identify two distinct elemental compositions that predominate the observations in general, which
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56 we term "high yttrium regions" (HYR) (in green) and "low yttrium regions" (LYR) (in blue).
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3 This elemental segregation is found to take on a finer length scale in the binary $3Y_2O_3$ - ZrO_2
4 ceramic, with typical domain areas of $\sim 1 \mu m^2$ for both HYR and LYR, as compared to $\sim 4 \mu m^2$
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6 in the ternary $3Y_2O_3$ - $5TiO_2$ - ZrO_2 . This size difference is in good agreement with the grain sizes
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8 of the two systems.
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13 Finer elemental maps, together with corresponding SEM images, are illustrated in Figure 6. By
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15 comparing the grain structure seen in the SEM image with the elemental maps, one can see that
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17 the yttrium segregation into LYR and HYR domains occurs in a grain-wise fashion. There is no
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19 clear suggestion of localization at grain boundaries as suggested by Schelling *et al.*¹³ Yttrium has
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21 a low solubility in the tetragonal zirconia crystal structure¹³, so the excess yttrium tends to
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23 accumulate in the cubic phase. The titanium distribution is rather homogeneous as compared to
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25 yttrium, which is expected as titanium solubility in tetragonal zirconia is higher than 5 mol%.
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31 EPMA mapping was carried out on another two ceramics with different Y_2O_3 concentrations, i.e.
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33 $2.5Y_2O_3$ - $5TiO_2$ - ZrO_2 and $4Y_2O_3$ - $5TiO_2$ - ZrO_2 . A quantitative composition analysis on the
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35 respective grains within LYR and HYR are shown in Figure 7(a) for the three ceramics with
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37 different global doping concentrations. Just as seen above, these materials all exhibit chemical
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39 partitioning into HYR and LYR, in a manner that is relatively consistent across the samples of
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41 different global composition. The HYR generally have about 5 mol% Y_2O_3 and are easily
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43 distinguished from the LYR at about 2 mol% Y_2O_3 , as illustrated in Figure 7(a). According to
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45 Matsui *et al.*¹³, the solubility of Y_2O_3 in tetragonal zirconia is less than 3 mol% when sintered at
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47 $1400^\circ C$ and it should be lower for sintering temperature of $1700^\circ C$. Therefore, all of the data
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49 align with the interpretation that the LYR and HYR correspond to tetragonal and cubic phases,
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51 respectively. The volume fractions of the two phases (as assessed stereologically) change
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53 linearly with the global composition, as shown in Figure 7(b). The volume fraction of cubic
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3 phase increases significantly from ~16% to ~38%, while the tetragonal phase decreases from ~84%
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5 to ~62%, as the global Y_2O_3 doping level increases from 2.5 to 4 mol%.

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8 To confirm that the grains in the LYR regions were tetragonal, individual grains were taken out
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10 from the $3Y_2O_3-5TiO_2-ZrO_2$ ceramics using an Omni-ProbeTM attached to an FEI Nova 600i
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12 Nanolab FIB/SEM system, and then analyzed by synchrotron radiation scanning X-ray micro-
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14 diffraction (μ XRD). Figure 8(a) shows one example SEM image of a grain from the LYR region,
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16 with Figure 8(b) the corresponding Laue diffraction orientation map. The color indicates the
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18 misorientation across the sample, and the difference between the red and dark purple regions is
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20 only about 0.1° , confirming that the sample is a single crystal. The diffraction pattern in Figure
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22 8(c) has been indexed to tetragonal zirconia. Similar μ XRD analysis on many grains from similar
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24 LYR areas identified the tetragonal phase exclusively. It is therefore confirmed that the $3Y_2O_3-$
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26 $5TiO_2-ZrO_2$ ceramics consist of tetragonal grains with ~2 mol% Y_2O_3 and cubic grains of HYR
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28 of ~ 5 mol% Y_2O_3 . Since the $xY_2O_3-5TiO_2-ZrO_2$ ternary system comprises a large amount of
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30 tetragonal phase over a larger range of Y_2O_3 concentrations, it is regarded as a promising
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32 candidate as a shape memory ceramic.
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39 *Shape memory effect*

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42 The introduction of TiO_2 not only promotes grain growth in yttria-zirconia ceramics, which
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44 enables the fabrication of single crystal micropillars, it also significantly increases the prevalence
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46 of the tetragonal phase that is amenable to martensitic transformation.
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50 The shape memory effect in $3Y_2O_3-5TiO_2-ZrO_2$ ceramics was studied by machining selected
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52 grains from the LYR area into micro pillars, followed by microcompression and heat treatment.
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54 The results are shown in Figure 9, together with one pillar from a binary $3Y_2O_3-ZrO_2$ ceramic for
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56 comparison. The $3Y_2O_3-ZrO_2$ pillar exhibits brittle behavior with fracture occurring immediately
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3 after elastic deformation. In contrast, the $3Y_2O_3-5TiO_2-ZrO_2$ pillar shows large apparent
4 malleability, sustaining ~ 800 nm of displacement without failure. The rapid burst of
5 displacement without apparent hardening is a signature of the martensitic transformation. After
6 unloading, there is a substantial residual displacement, consistent with direct observation of
7 unrecovered deformation (bending) in the respective SEM image. Treating the pillar as a simple
8 point-loaded cantilever beam, the compressive strain on the inner side of the pillar is estimated to
9 be $\sim 7\%$.

10
11 To examine whether the pillar exhibits the shape memory effect, it was heated to $500^\circ C$ for 30
12 min, following which the SEM shows that the pillar has almost fully recovered its shape. The
13 contrast between this behavior and that of the binary ceramic is significant; although both are
14 tetragonal and capable of stress-induced martensitic transformation; only the ternary ceramics
15 exhibit shape memory properties. We expect that this difference can most likely be attributed to
16 the larger grain size of the ternary alloy, which makes it possible to machine the pillars that
17 contain no (or very few) grain boundaries, yielding an oligocrystal or a single crystal. In our
18 previous work, we showed that in zirconia ceramics polycrystals are brittle, whereas
19 oligocrystals are not³⁵, and this would appear to be the key issue in the present samples.

20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 **Conclusion**

43
44 In conclusion, the effects of TiO_2 doping on the microstructure, crystallization behavior and
45 spatial elemental distribution of $Y_2O_3-TiO_2-ZrO_2$ ceramics have been systematically studied and
46 a corresponding improvement in shape memory properties in micron-scale pillars of the TiO_2
47 doped ceramics has been demonstrated. The introduction of TiO_2 significantly promotes grain
48 growth, and 5 mol% of TiO_2 is enough to achieve microscale tetragonal grains and enable single
49 crystal or oligocrystal pillars for micro-mechanical testing. Doping with TiO_2 is also very
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3 effective at stabilizing the tetragonal phase and suppressing the formation of monoclinic phase,
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5 which is further beneficial for shape memory properties; again the fraction of tetragonal phase is
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7 maintained up to ~84 vol% with 3 mol% of Y_2O_3 . These ceramics comprise two types of grains,
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9 tetragonal grains with ~2 mol% Y_2O_3 and cubic grains with ~5 mol% Y_2O_3 . Micropillars of
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11 $3Y_2O_3$ - $5TiO_2$ - ZrO_2 can be bent to large strains of order ~7% without cracking and almost fully
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13 recover their shape upon heating, hence demonstrating significantly enhanced shape memory
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15 properties.
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31 05CH11231 at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL).
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Figure Capture List

Figure 1: Average grain size of (a) 3Y₂O₃-yTiO₂-ZrO₂ with different amounts of added TiO₂ and sintered at 1700°C, and (b) Y₂O₃-ZrO₂ and xY₂O₃-5TiO₂-ZrO₂ doped with various amount of Y₂O₃, sintered at 1500°C or 1700°C.

Figure 2: XRD spectrum of (a) binary Y₂O₃-ZrO₂ system, and (b) ternary xY₂O₃-5TiO₂-ZrO₂ system.

Figure 3: Calculated weight fraction (wt%) of monoclinic phase and the complementary tetragonal/cubic phases (which are not separated in this analysis) in binary Y₂O₃-ZrO₂ and ternary xY₂O₃-5TiO₂-ZrO₂ system.

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2
3 Figure 4: Lattice constants and tetragonality of the tetragonal phase in $3Y_2O_3$ - TiO_2 - ZrO_2 as a
4 function of TiO_2 concentration.
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8 Figure 5: EMPA mapping of yttrium in (a) $3Y_2O_3$ - ZrO_2 and (b) $3Y_2O_3$ - $5TiO_2$ - ZrO_2 ceramics.
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11 Figure 6: EMPA mapping of $3Y_2O_3$ - $5TiO_2$ - ZrO_2 ceramics, with the SEM images and elemental
12 distributions at the corresponding area. The concentration colour scale is the same as presented
13 in Figure 5.
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17 Figure 7: (a) Localized concentration of Y_2O_3 for high yttrium region (HYR) and low yttrium
18 region (LYR). (b) The phase fraction of tetragonal phase (LYR) and cubic phase (HYR) in
19 xY_2O_3 - $5TiO_2$ - ZrO_2 system.
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26 Figure 8: (a) SEM image of the grain cut from the LYR region of $3Y_2O_3$ - $5TiO_2$ - ZrO_2 ceramics,
27 (b) the orientation map of the grain, (c) the corresponding Laue diffraction pattern.
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31 Figure 9: Load-displacement curves of $3Y_2O_3$ - ZrO_2 and $3Y_2O_3$ - $5TiO_2$ - ZrO_2 pillars, and the
32 corresponding SEM images before and after micro-compression, and after heating at $500^\circ C$.
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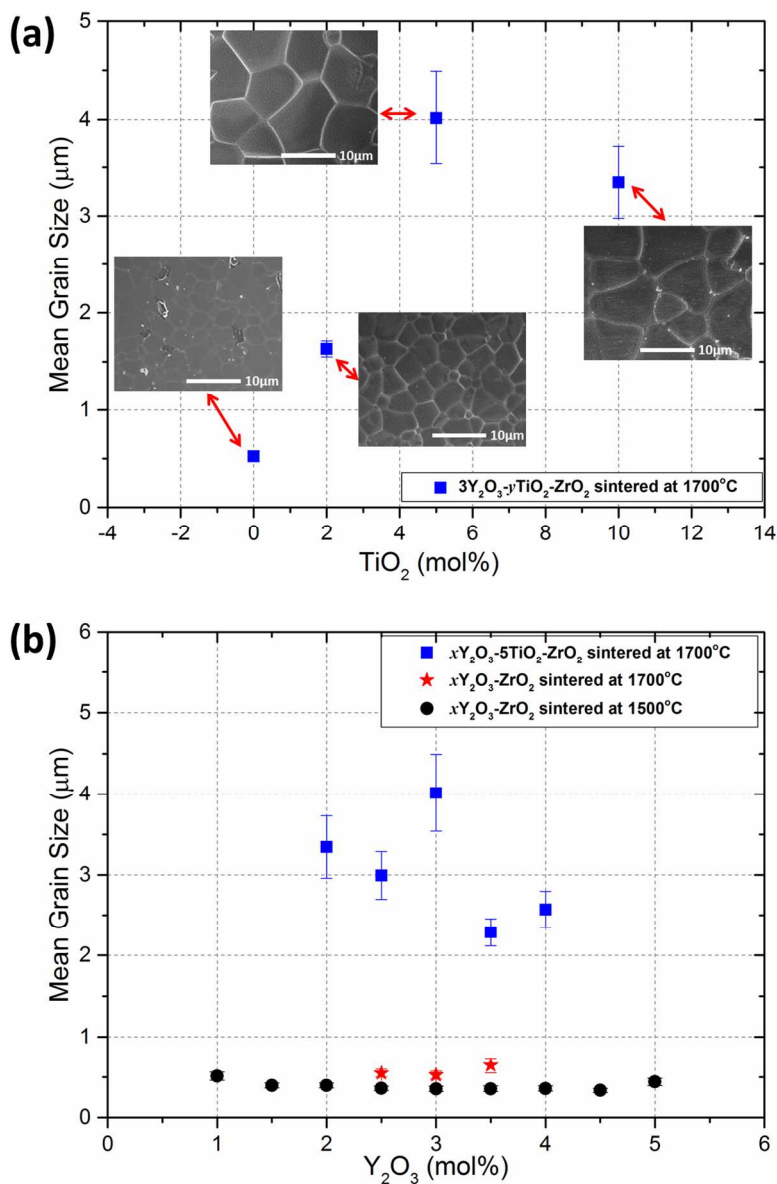


Figure 1: Average grain size of (a) 3Y₂O₃-yTiO₂-ZrO₂ with different amounts of added TiO₂ and sintered at 1700°C, and (b) Y₂O₃-ZrO₂ and xY₂O₃-5TiO₂-ZrO₂ doped with various amount of Y₂O₃, sintered at 1500°C or 1700°C.
238x357mm (150 x 150 DPI)

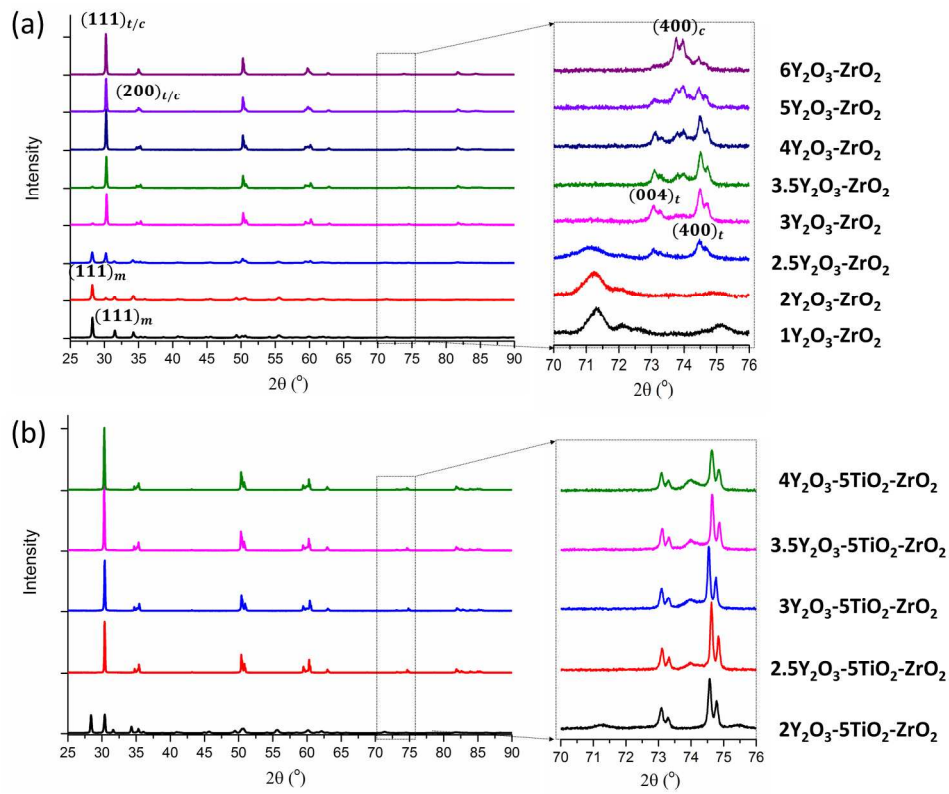


Figure 2: XRD spectrum of (a) binary $Y_2O_3-ZrO_2$ system, and (b) ternary $xY_2O_3-5TiO_2-ZrO_2$ system. 440x354mm (150 x 150 DPI)

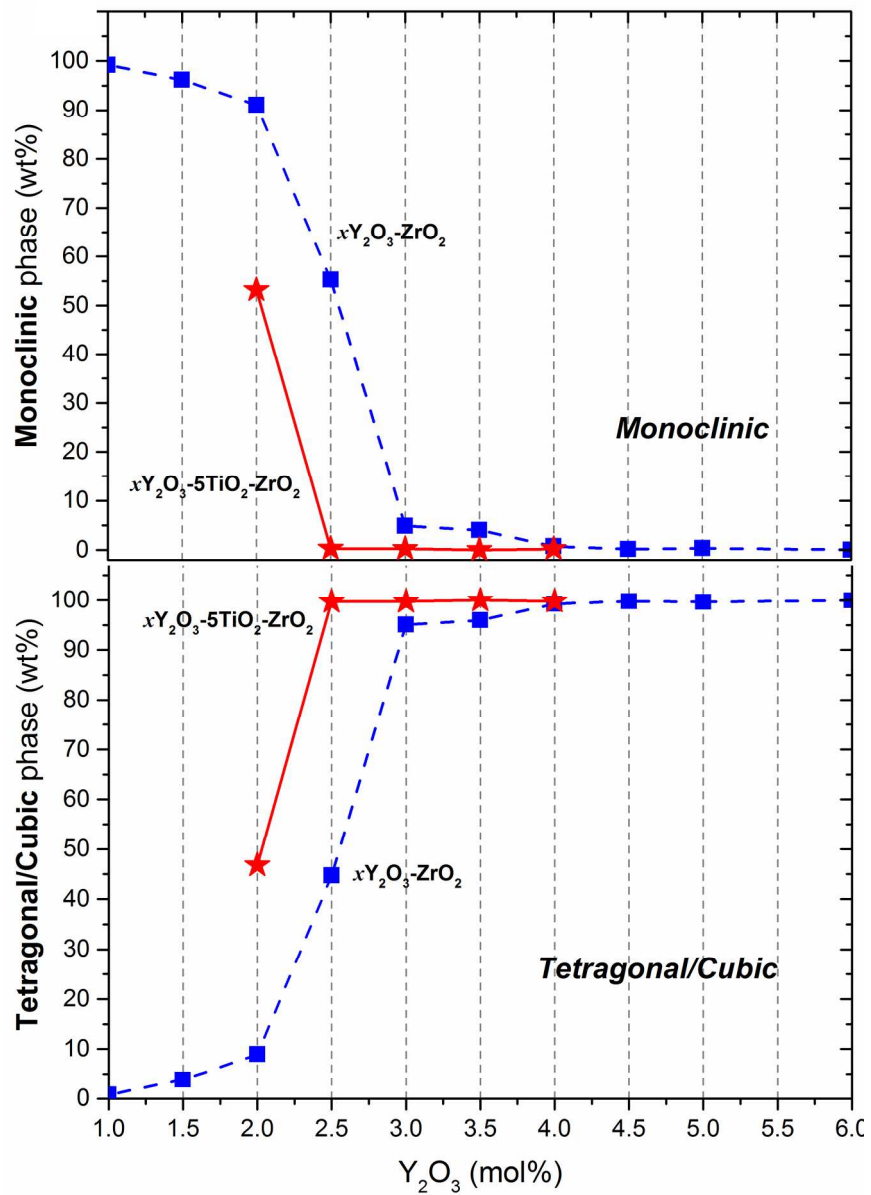


Figure 3: Calculated weight fraction (wt%) of monoclinic phase and the complementary tetragonal/cubic phases (which are not separated in this analysis) in binary Y₂O₃-ZrO₂ and ternary xY₂O₃-5TiO₂-ZrO₂ system.

337x471mm (150 x 150 DPI)

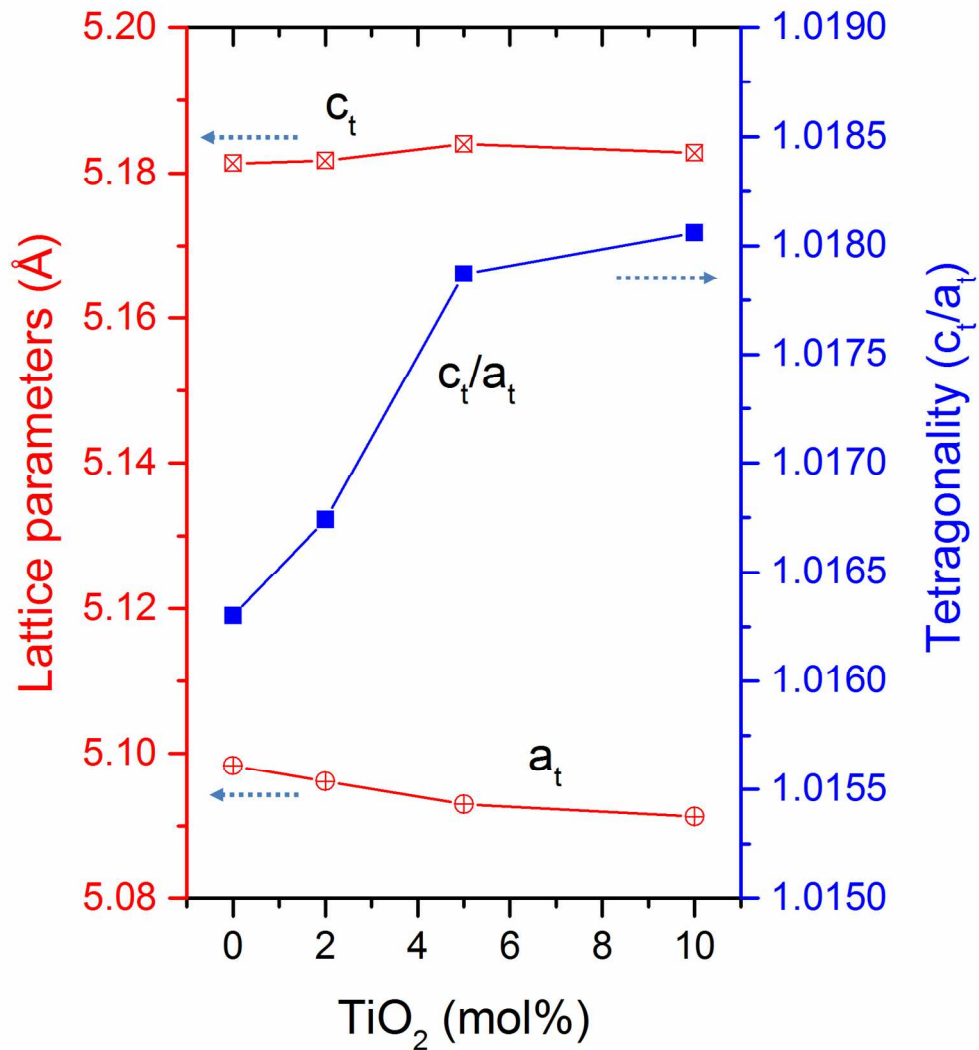
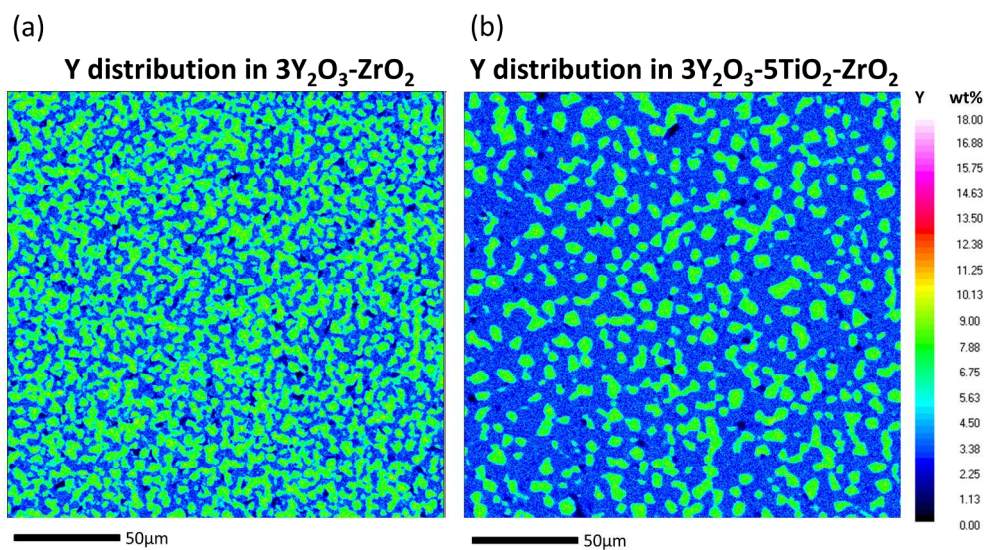
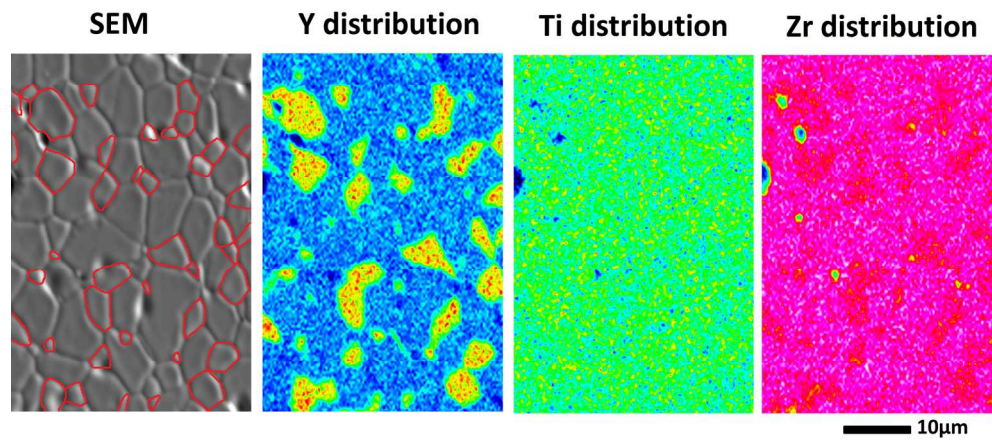


Figure 4: Lattice constants and tetragonality of the tetragonal phase in 3Y2O3-TiO2-ZrO2 as a function of TiO2 concentration.
332x358mm (150 x 150 DPI)



26 Figure 5: EMPA mapping of yttrium in (a) $3Y_2O_3-ZrO_2$ and (b) $3Y_2O_3-5TiO_2-ZrO_2$ ceramics.
27 458x258mm (150 x 150 DPI)
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23 Figure 6: EMPA mapping of $3Y_2O_3-5TiO_2-ZrO_2$ ceramics, with the SEM images and elemental distributions
24 at the corresponding area. The concentration colour scale is the same as presented in Figure 5.
25 389x179mm (150 x 150 DPI)

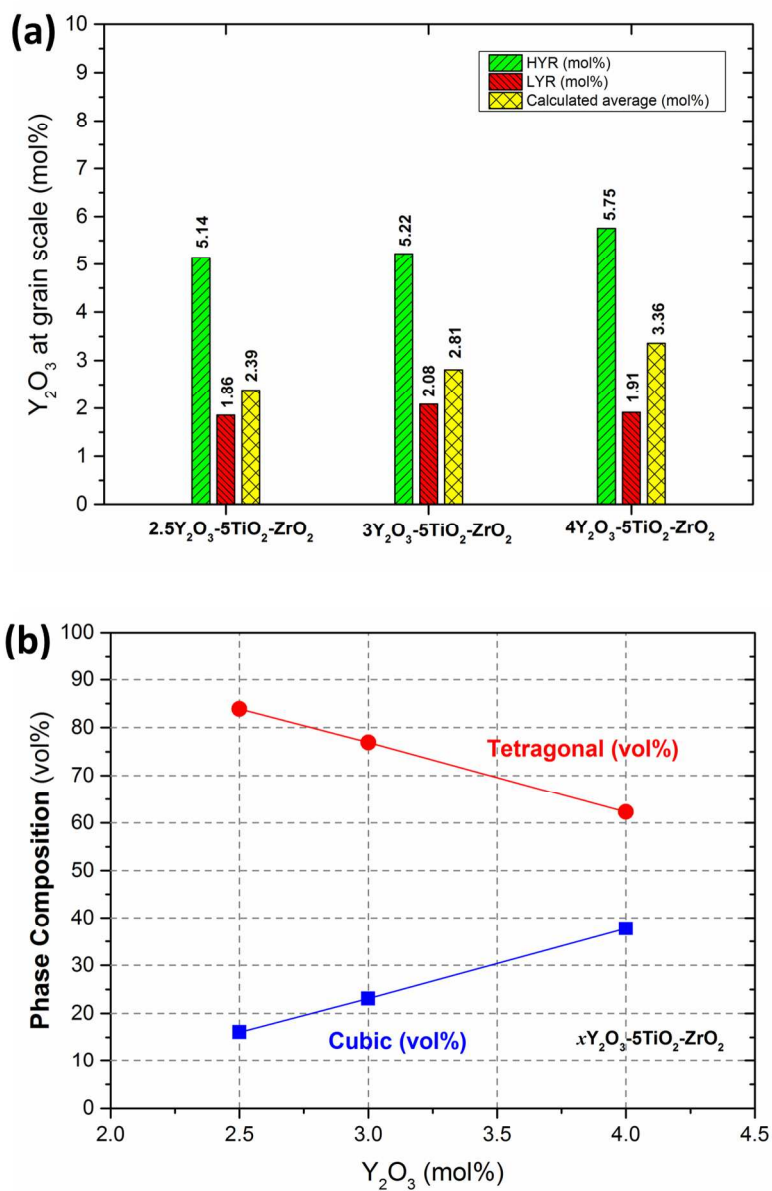


Figure 7: (a) Localized concentration of Y₂O₃ for high yttrium region (HYR) and low yttrium region (LYR).
 (b) The phase fraction of tetragonal phase (LYR) and cubic phase (HYR) in xY₂O₃-5TiO₂-ZrO₂ system.
 241x362mm (150 x 150 DPI)

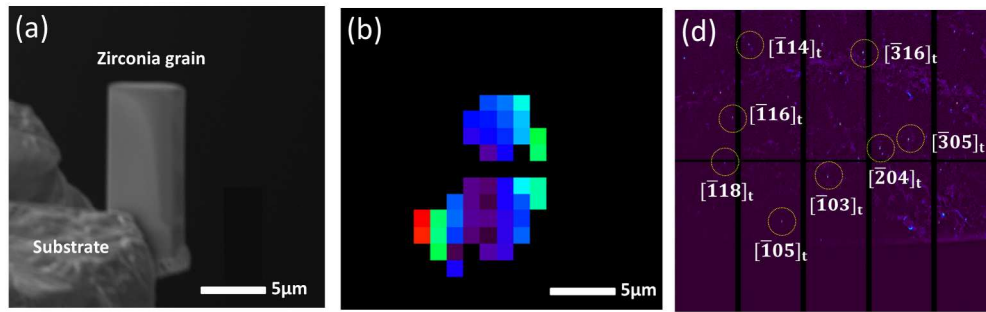


Figure 8: (a) SEM image of the grain cut from the LYR region of 3Y2O3-5TiO2-ZrO2 ceramics, (b) the orientation map of the grain, (c) the corresponding Laue diffraction pattern.
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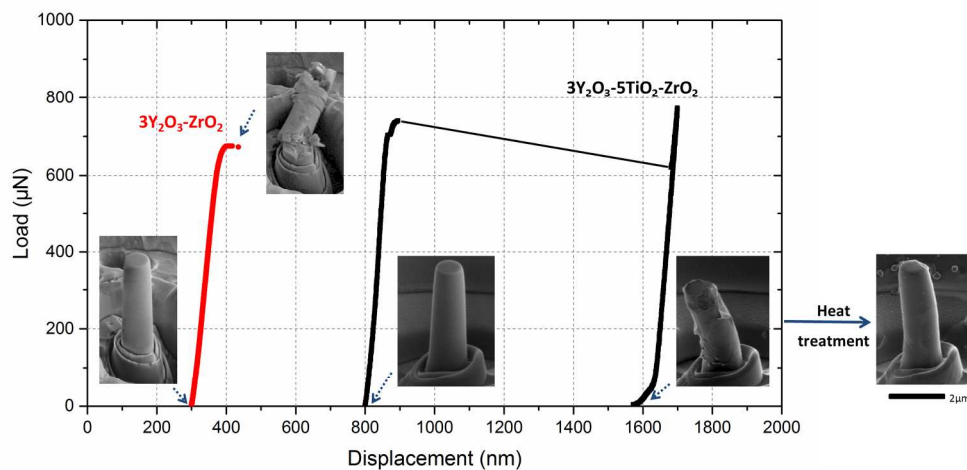


Figure 9: Load-displacement curves of $3\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3\text{-ZrO}_2$ and $3\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3\text{-5TiO}_2\text{-ZrO}_2$ pillars, and the corresponding SEM images before and after micro-compression, and after heating at 500°C.
381x180mm (150 x 150 DPI)