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Triggering Incipient Ferroelectricity in Calcium Copper Titanate ($\text{CaCu}_3\text{Ti}_4\text{O}_{12}$) ceramics through partial B-site substitution with Te^{4+} ion. NABADYUTI BARMAN, student, K.B.R VARMA, Retired — Double perovskite structured dielectric ceramic $\text{CaCu}_3\text{Ti}_{4-x}\text{Te}_x\text{O}_{12}$ (CCTTO) ($x = 0, 0.05, 0.1, 0.15, 0.2$) was fabricated from the powder obtained by conventional solid state synthetic route. The room temperature XRD patterns for the $x = 0, 0.05, 0.075$ modified samples were confirmed to possess a single phase with cubic space group $Im\bar{3}$ by Rietveld refinement. But, the Rietveld refinement performed on XRD patterns recorded for the compositions corresponding to $x = 0.1, 0.15, 0.2$ shows the coexistence of the cubic phase (space group $Im\bar{3}$; $a = 7.4065\text{\AA}$) and tetragonal phase (space group $I4/mcm$; $a = 7.369\text{\AA}$ and $c = 6.967\text{\AA}$). The dielectric properties of these ceramics were studied over a wide frequency (40Hz–2MHz) and temperature range (30–400K). The Te^{4+} doped samples (CCTTO) exhibited dielectric permittivity (ϵ_r) value of $\sim 23\text{--}33 \times 10^3$ which is more than twice that of undoped CCTO ($\sim 11 \times 10^3$) at 1kHz. A decreasing trend in dielectric permittivity with increasing temperature, a signature of incipient ferroelectricity, was observed for all the samples. Barrett's formula was invoked to rationalize the dielectric permittivity variation as a function of temperature. The incipient ferroelectric behavior is correlated with soft phonon mode observed in temperature dependent Raman Spectroscopic studies. .

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