

# Lead-free antiferroelectric energy storage dielectric ceramics

Are lead-free antiferroelectric ceramics suitable for energy storage applications?

Lead-free dielectric ceramics with high recoverable energy density are highly desired to sustainably meet the future energy demand. AgNbO<sub>3</sub>-based lead-free antiferroelectric ceramics with double ferroelectric hysteresis loops have been proved to be potential candidates for energy storage applications.

Are lead-free AFE energy storage ceramics possible?

Therefore, the development of new lead-free AFE energy storage ceramics is extremely urgent. In 2016, Zhao et al. reported that pure AgNbO<sub>3</sub> lead-free ceramics showed typical double P - E loops (antiferroelectric behavior) and a high W<sub>rec</sub> of 1.6 J/cm<sup>3</sup> at 14 kV/mm [13].

What is the optimal energy storage performance for lead-free ceramics?

Finally, optimal energy storage performance is attained in 0.85Ba (Zr<sub>0.183</sub>;1 Ti<sub>0.9</sub>)O<sub>3</sub>-0.15Bi (Zn<sub>2/3</sub> Ta<sub>1/3</sub>)O<sub>3</sub> (BZT-0.15BiZnTa), with an ultrahigh  $\eta$  of 97.37% at 440 kV/cm (an advanced level in the lead-free ceramics) and an excellent recoverable energy storage density (W<sub>rec</sub>) of 3.74 J/cm<sup>3</sup>.

Can a relaxor/antiferroelectric composite improve the energy storage performance of lead-free ceramics?

Furthermore, the newly developed composites exhibit better energy storage characteristics at 120 °C, with a high W<sub>rec</sub> of 3.5 J cm<sup>-3</sup> as well as a high  $\eta$  of 91%. This study demonstrates that the design of a relaxor/antiferroelectric composite provides a highly effective method to improve the energy storage performance of lead-free ceramics.

Which antiferroelectric materials have double hysteresis loops?

Lead-free antiferroelectric materials, which show double hysteresis loops, are becoming increasingly popular due to their superior energy storage capacity. Ta-modified AgNbO<sub>3</sub> ceramics achieving a recoverable energy density of 4.2 J/cm<sup>3</sup> with an efficiency ( $\eta$ ) of 69% was reported by Zhao et al. .

Are lead-free relaxor ferroelectrics a good energy storage material?

Moreover, considering the significant environmental harm caused by the presence of lead, lead-free relaxor ferroelectrics are regarded as materials with tremendous potential to achieve high energy storage efficiency and energy storage density[.,].

As a matter of fact, based on the relationship between polarization and the applied electric field of E, dielectric energy storage ceramics can be classified into four types of dielectric material: linear dielectric, ferroelectric (FE), relaxor ferroelectrics (RFE) and antiferroelectrics (AFEs)-based dielectric ceramic capacitors. Linear dielectrics materials such as CaTiO<sub>3</sub> and ...

Antiferroelectrics (AFEs) exhibit giant potentials in energy-storage capacitors owing to their high saturated polarization (P<sub>max</sub>) and near-zero remanent polarization (P<sub>r</sub>) during electric field induced reversible

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AFE-ferroelectric (FE) phase transition [1], [2]. The recoverable energy storage density ( $W_{\text{rec}}$ ) of dielectric capacitors can be calculated from polarization ...

These results not only suggest that the  $\text{NaNbO}_3$ -based relaxor antiferroelectric ceramics are promising candidates for advanced energy storage capacitors, but also provide ...

Dielectric capacitors are critical energy storage devices in modern electronics and electrical power systems. Compared with ceramics, polymer dielectrics have intrinsic advantages of ...

Dielectric ceramic capacitors, as one of three passive electronic components, are widely used in numerous cutting-edge electronic devices and high-power pulsed systems including hybrid electric vehicles, surgical lasers, directed energy weapons, and distribution devices, owing to their merits in terms of larger power density ( $P_D$ ), faster charge/discharge ...

Recently developed  $\text{Na}_{1/2}\text{Bi}_{1/2}\text{TiO}_3$  (NBT)-based relaxor ferroelectric ceramics are promising lead-free candidates for dielectric energy storage applications because of their non-toxicity ...

Lead-free dielectric ceramics with high recoverable energy density are highly desired to sustainably meet the future energy demand.  $\text{AgNbO}_3$ -based lead-free antiferroelectric ceramics with double ferroelectric hysteresis loops ...

$\text{NaNbO}_3$  (NN)-based lead-free antiferroelectric (AFE) ceramics with ultrahigh energy-storage density ( $W_{\text{rec}}$ ) have attracted increasing attention for applications in high power electronic devices. However, large polarization hysteresis induced by the AFE-ferroelectric (FE) phase transition tends to cause high energy dissipation. In this work, a relaxor AFE ...

Lead-free ceramic-based dielectric capacitors have attracted extensive investigation due to their potential applications in pulsed power devices. However, the main drawback of dielectric ceramics is the relatively low energy storage density. ... Realizing stable relaxor antiferroelectric and superior energy storage properties in  $(\text{Na}_{1-x}/2 \text{La}_x) \dots$

The comparable free energy between antiferroelectric (AFE) and ferroelectric (FE) phases in  $\text{NaNbO}_3$  (NN) leads to unstable ferroelectricity, restricting future applications for energy storage devices. In this work, lead-free NN ceramics based on different sintering aids have been rigorously synthesized and the microstructural, dielectric, and ferroelectric properties of ...

In this paper, the basic principle of the capacitor for electric energy storage was introduced firstly and then the research advances of  $\text{BaTiO}_3$ -based,  $\text{BiFeO}_3$ -based,  $(\text{K}_{0.5}\text{Na}_{0.5})\text{NbO}_3$  ...

The development of renewable, efficient, and clean energy storage devices has been highlighted with energy

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consumption soaring in recent decades [[1], [2], [3]]. Dielectric capacitors with high density, fast charging speed and stable operating cycle are used in advanced power devices [[4], [5], [6]]. For practical applications of pulsed capacitors, environmentally ...

Lead-free antiferroelectric materials, which show double hysteresis loops, are becoming increasingly popular due to their superior energy storage capacity. Ta-modified ...

Dielectric materials have drawn increasing attention due to their high power density and fast charge-discharge speed. Although satisfactory energy storage performance has been achieved in lead-based ceramics, the exploration of suitable lead-free substitutions is highly desired since the rising environmental concerns caused by lead-based compounds.

Ceramic-based dielectrics have been widely used in pulsed power capacitors owing to their good mechanical and thermal properties. Bi<sub>0.5</sub>Na<sub>0.5</sub>TiO<sub>3</sub>-based (NBT-based) solid solutions exhibit relatively high polarization, which is considered as a promising dielectric energy storage material. However, the high remnant polarization and low energy efficiency limit ...

The primary AFE materials for energy storage applications have been the La-doped Pb-based ceramics [7, [9], [10], [11]], in which a  $W_{rec}$  up to 12.8 J/cm<sup>3</sup> has been obtained [11]. However, the high toxicity of Pb-containing compounds continuously raises severe problems [12]. Thus, the intensive researches have been performed on lead-free counterparts [13, 14].

Pulse power technology can compress various energy forms into electrical energy and store them in dielectric energy storage capacitors. This stored energy can be released rapidly in the form of a pulse with very short durations, ranging from milliseconds to microseconds or even nanoseconds [[1], [2], [3]]. Thus, pulse power systems based on dielectric capacitors ...

Meanwhile, recent progress on lead-free antiferroelectric ceramics, represented by AgNbO<sub>3</sub> and NaNbO<sub>3</sub>, is highlighted in terms of their crystal structures, phase transitions and potential dielectric energy storage applications. ...

Single-crystal growth has been explored as a means to improve the piezoelectric properties of lead-free materials, because, as shown for lead-based ferroelectrics, single crystals generally possess much higher dielectric and piezoelectric properties than their polycrystalline counterparts []. For example, the piezoelectric coefficients of Pb(Mg<sup>1/3</sup>Nb<sup>2/3</sup>)O<sub>3</sub>-PbTiO<sub>3</sub> ...

Dielectric ceramic capacitors are critical components in pulse power systems due to their ultrafast discharge capabilities and high power density [1], [2], [3]. A key factor limiting the broader application of these capacitors is energy storage density [4]. Consequently, significant efforts have been directed toward enhancing energy density while considering cost-effectiveness and ...

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Overall, the combined large  $U_e$  of  $215.8 \text{ J cm}^{-3}$ , high  $\eta$  of 80.7%, and ultrahigh  $E_b$  of  $7.4 \text{ MV cm}^{-1}$  in the P 50 M 50 film with optimized thickness of around 100 nm (figs. S19 to S21) exceeds energy storage performance of ...

Consequently, superior energy storage ceramics necessitate a higher  $W_{rec}$ . Hence, the pursuit of a high  $W_{rec}$  constitutes the primary research focus in the field of energy storage ceramics [10].  $\text{NaNbO}_3$  (NN) is a lead-free antiferroelectric (AFE) dielectric material [11]. NN, spontaneous polarization dipoles are oriented in opposite directions within adjacent ...

Compared to polymers or films, ceramic-based dielectric capacitors with perovskite structure are the promising candidates for energy storage application due to their superior thermal stability, large absolute energy storage and distinctive mechanical performance [[1], [2], [3], [4]]. Among various dielectric ceramics, the antiferroelectric (AFE) ceramics exhibit excellent ...

It is crucial to discover lead-free materials with ultrahigh recoverable energy density ( $W_{rec}$ ) that can be employed in future pulse power capacitors. In this work, a high  $W_{rec}$  of  $4.51 \text{ J/cm}^3$  was successfully obtained in lead-free Nd-doped  $\text{AgNb}_{0.8}\text{Ta}_{0.2}\text{O}_3$  antiferroelectric ceramics at an applied electric field of 290 kV/cm. It is discovered that Nd ...

A typical antiferroelectric P-E loop is shown in Fig. 1. There are many researchers who increase the  $W_{re}$  by increasing DBDS [18, 19], while relatively few studies have increased the  $W_{re}$  by increasing the  $E_{FE-AFE}$ . In the pursuit of a simpler method to achieve PLZST-based ceramic with higher  $W_{re}$ , energy storage efficiency and lower sintering temperatures, many ...

Lead-free antiferroelectric  $\text{AgNbO}_3$ : phase transitions and structure engineering for dielectric energy storage applications. J. Appl. Phys., 128 (7) ... Multiscale structural engineering of dielectric ceramics for energy storage applications: from bulk to thin films. Nanoscale, 12 (33) (2020), pp. 17165-17184, 10.1039/D0NR04479B.

$\text{NaNbO}_3$  (NN) is considered to be one of the most prospective lead-free antiferroelectric energy storage materials due to the merits of low cost, nontoxicity, and low density. Nevertheless, the electric field-induced ferroelectric phase remains dominant after the removal of the electric field, resulting in large residual polarization, which prevents NN ...

Lead-free antiferroelectric  $\text{AgNbO}_3$  (AN) ceramics have attracted significant attention due to their potential in energy storage applications. However, the presence of the ferroelectric phase and field-induced phase transitions result in substantial remnant polarization ( $P_r$ ) and hysteresis loss, which substantially diminishes their energy storage properties.

# Lead-free antiferroelectric energy storage dielectric ceramics

Antiferroelectrics (AFE) are ideal candidates in dielectric, electromechanical, and electrothermal applications.  $\text{NaNbO}_3$  (NN), as a lead-free antiferroelectric (AFE) material under extensive investigation, exhibits ferroelectric (FE)-like polarization-electric field (P-E) hysteresis loops, characterized by high remnant polarization and large hysteresis.

The lead-free antiferroelectric material  $\text{NaNbO}_3$  (NN) is highly regarded for its exceptional breakdown electric field strength ( $E_b$ ) and substantial recoverable energy storage density ( $W_{\text{rec}}$ ). However, the significant energy loss of NN reduces its  $W_{\text{rec}}$  and  $i$  under a strong electric field, constraining its application in energy storage domains. This study explores a ...

Although  $\text{NaNbO}_3$ -based antiferroelectric ceramic is considered as a potential lead-free energy storage material, the field-driven antiferroelectric-ferroelectric phase transition greatly hinders its energy storage performance. Here the strategy of synergetic phase-structure construction and relaxation regulation is proposed to solve this issue. The strategy is conducted via A/B-site ...

In this work, we systematically investigated the effects of single-step and two-step sintering methods on the structural, dielectric and energy storage properties of pure  $\text{AgNbO}_3$  ...

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