## ARTICLE

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## A STUDY ON ELECTRICAL PROPERTIES OF YTTERBIUM OXIDE DOPED Ba(Zr<sub>0.02</sub>Ti<sub>0.98</sub>)O<sub>3</sub> CERAMICS

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Ytterbium oxide  $(Yb_2O_3)$  (0.02-0.06 wt. %) doped Ba  $(Zr_{0.02}Ti_{0.98})$   $O_3$  were synthesized by mixed oxide route. The powders were calcined at 1100 °C for 4 h, de-agglomerated, granulated pressed into pellets, and sintered at 1450 °C for 2 h. The samples were electrode with silver-palladium paste, cured at 1000 °C for 1 h, poled and characterized. Maximum piezoelectric coefficient  $(d_{33})$ achieved was 345 pC/N and relative dielectric constant (K=14051.2) obtained at Curie temperature  $(T_c)$  and 100 Hz frequency for 0.02 wt.% Yb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> doping. This sample exhibits a higher positive strain of 0.46% at an electric field of 20.94 kV/cm could be a suitable lead-free piezo material for high strain and actuation application.

**Keywords:**  $Yb_2O_3$ -doped BZT; lead-free piezoceramics; piezoelectric charge coefficient; Curie temperature.