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### THERMAL TREATMENT OF OXIDES IN DIFFERENT ATMOSPHERES

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## Aim



TiO<sub>2</sub> nanopowder, Alfa Aesar 99.7% anatase with sizes of particles from 10 nm to 15 nm

ZnTiO<sub>3</sub> nanopowder, Aldrich [CAS 112036-43-0] Comercial , Micro powder Composition:  $Mn_{0.63}Zn_{0.37}Fe_2O_4$ , 93 wt.% and  $Fe_2O_3$  7 wt.%



Device: VEGA TS 5130MM

TiO<sub>2</sub>, ZnTiO<sub>3</sub>, Mn<sub>x</sub>Zn<sub>1-x</sub>Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>

Stoichiometric - nonstoichiometriccompounds15 nm30 nm>1µm



Digital Microscopy Imaging



## **Technical approach**









Gas chamber in the dilatometric device and vacuum and atmosphere exits

## Theory about point defects



Pergamon

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#### POINT DEFECTS AND TRANSPORT IN NON-STOICHIOMETRIC OXIDES: SOLVED AND UNSOLVED PROBLEMS

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Figure 6.4 (a) The formation of an oxygen vacancy by the loss of an oxygen atom to the gas phase. This is a nonstoichiometric reaction because the crystal chemistry changes as a result. Note that as drawn, the electrons are localized at the vacancy site, rendering its= effective charge zero. (b) A  $V_0^{\bullet}$  site is formed when one of these electrons is excited intothe conduction band. (c) The escape of the second electron creates a  $V_O^{\bullet\bullet}$  site.



Fig. 3. Schematic plot of the concentrations of cation vacancies,  $[(V_{Me^{2+}})'']$ , and of holes, [h], in a model oxide of the type Me1-4O with cation vacancies and holes as the majority defects and very small point defect concentrations.





**Figure 6.8** (a) Stability domains of various phases in the Mn-O system and the corresponding deviations in stoichiometry.<sup>78</sup> (b) Phase diagram of Fe-O system,  $x_0$  is mole fraction of oxygen, and (c) stability domains of the various phases in Fe-O system.<sup>79</sup>

$$x = \frac{b}{a} \pm \delta \begin{array}{c} M_{a}O_{b} \\ TiO_{2}, b/a=2/1=2 \\ x_{min}=1.992 \\ x_{max}=2.00 \\ \Delta x=0.008 \\ -logP_{O2} \\ Min=25.07 \\ Max= / \end{array}$$



Air  $pO_2 = 21278 Pa$ ,

Nitrogen  $pO_2 = 60 Pa$ 

 $-\log_{10}pO_2 = 4.3279$ 

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Fig. 19. Variation of  $\delta$  in single-crystal and polycrystalline Fe<sub>3- $\delta$ </sub>O<sub>4</sub> at 1100°C.

Fig. 20. Oxygen activity dependence of the iron tracer diffusion coefficient,  $D_{\text{Fe}}^*$ , in single-crystal and polycrystalline Fe<sub>3- $\delta$ </sub>O<sub>4</sub> [35] at 1115°C.

# Results



### Dilatometry and TG/DTA $Mn_{1-x}Zn_xFe_2O_4$







### SEM Mn<sub>1-x</sub>Zn<sub>x</sub>Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>

#### Nitrogen

Air









#### $TiO_2$ nano powder $TiO_2$ micro powder TG/DTA



#### $TiO_2$ nano powder $TiO_2$ micro powder TG/DTA



### SEM TiO<sub>2</sub> sintered - reheated

#### Nitrogen

Air





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#### SEM ZnTiO<sub>3</sub> sintered - reheated



Air

#### Nitrogen

23

#### CONCLUSION

• Oxides  $TiO_2$ ,  $ZnTiO_3$  and  $Mn_{1-x}Zn_xFe_2O_4$ showed different dimension changes behavior during heating in air and nitrogen atmosphere.

• Microstructures observed on breakage showed completely different structure.

• Thermo gravimetric and differential thermal analysis showed that powder particle size plays fundamental role in atmosphere influence.

