

21<sup>st</sup> International Conference on

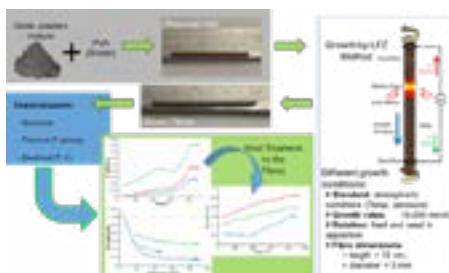
# Advanced Energy Materials and Research

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## Ceramic based thermoelectric materials processed by laser

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Today a particular interest is given to the oxide-based thermoelectric materials, due to enhanced thermal and redox stability, attractive properties at high temperature, together with the absence of toxicity, and natural abundance of the constituent compounds. The objective of this work is to assess the possibilities for processing oxide thermoelectrics through laser floating zone (LFZ) method, including identification of the appropriate treatment conditions and main structural and microstructural factors affecting the thermoelectric performance. Known that Nb and La substituted calcium manganite-based materials possesses promising thermoelectric properties, they were selected as a model system. Detailed structural (XRD) and microstructural (SEM/EDS) studies were performed for the samples grown at various pulling rates. The results on electrical conductivity, Seebeck coefficient and thermal conductivity indicate that high thermoelectric performance can be triggered by laser processing. Effects of pulling rate, dopants nature and thermal treatment to the fibres on that properties are discussed, suggesting that careful optimization of the laser treatment conditions is necessary, when seeking high thermoelectric performance in oxides by LFZ processing.



## Recent Publications

1. N M Ferreira, F M Costa, A V Kovalevsky, M A Madre, M A Torres, J C Diez and A Sotelo (2018) New environmentally friendly Ba-Fe-O thermoelectric material by flexible laser floating zone processing. *Scripta Materialia* 145:54–57.
2. N M Ferreira, M C Ferro, A R Sarabando, A Ribeiro, A Davarpanah, V Amaral, M A. Madre, A V Kovalevsky, M A Torres, F M Costa and A Sotelo (2018) Improvement of thermoelectric properties of  $\text{Ca}_{0.9}\text{Gd}_{0.1}\text{MnO}_3$  by powder engineering through  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  additions. *Journal of Materials Science* 54:3252–3261.
3. Kovalevsky A V, Aguirre M H, Populoh S, Patrício S G, Ferreira N M, Mikhalev S M, Fagg D P, Weidenkaff A and Frade J R (2017) Designing strontium titanate-based thermoelectrics: insight into defect chemistry mechanisms. *Journal of Materials Chemistry A*, 5(8):3909-3922.
4. A Sotelo, F M Costa, N M Ferreira, A Kovalevsky, M C Ferro, V S Amaral, J S Amaral, S Rasekh, M A Torres, M A Madre and J C Diez (2016) Tailoring  $\text{Ca}_3\text{Co}_4\text{O}_9$  microstructure and performances using a transient liquid phase sintering additive. *J. Eur. Ceram. Soc.* 36 1025.

5. M A Madre, F M Costa, N M Ferreira, S I R Costa, Sh Rasekh, M A Torres, J C Diez, V S Amaral, J S Amaral and A Sotelo (2016) High thermoelectric performance in  $\text{Bi}_{2-x}\text{Pb}_x\text{Ba}_2\text{Co}_2\text{O}_x$  promoted by directional growth and annealing. Journal of the European Ceramic Society 36:67-74

### **Biography**

N M Ferreira is a PhD in Physics Engineering; currently is a Researcher at i3N, Physics Department at University of Aveiro, Portugal. He had participated in several R&D projects on Material Science. He have experience as researcher in study and development of ceramics-based materials, prepared through conventional methods by melting, solid stated, with particular focus on laser processing (crystal growth – LFZ and surface sintering/modification). Present sample characterization skills include various techniques such as, electrical conductivity and magnetic properties of various oxide materials. Current focus materials are thermoelectrics, ferroelectrics and glass matrices doped with transition metals and rare earth for energy storage and conversion applications. Main expertise is related to structural, magnetic and electrical properties of materials prepared by laser processing.

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### **Notes:**