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Title

Terahertz Spectroscopic Investigation of Lanthanide-Doped Nano-TiO₂

Source

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Abstract

Lanthanide-doped nano-TiO₂ samples with different Ti/Ln (Ln = Ce, Nd, and Sm) were synthesized by sol-gel method. The samples were characterized by X-ray diffraction (XRD), Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR), X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) and terahertz time-domain spectroscopy (THz-TDS). The results indicate that Ce, Nd, and Sm ions were uniformly dispersed into the TiO₂; and the infrared activities of lanthanide-doped nano-TiO₂ were much stronger than undoped nano-TiO₂, the refractive index of anatase TiO₂ declines with frequency increasing in the frequency range of 0.2 similar to 1.70 THz at room temperature, and it exhibits anomalous dispersion. Unique characteristic absorption peaks at 1.35 and 1.58 THz were observed from Ce-doped nano-TiO₂. Compared with undoped nano-TiO₂, the absorption edges of Ce-doped nano-TiO₂ were red-shifted remarkably and those of Nd and Sm ions doped nano-TiO₂ were blue-shifted. Sm-doped nano-TiO₂ has induced the least dielectric losses in the frequency range of 0.2 similar to 1.7 THz, and the average value is 0.05.