

LIST OF FIGURES

FIG. NO.	TITLE	PAGE
1	Schematic representation of ferroelectric hysteresis loop	4
1.2	Schematic representation of frequency dependence of the several contributions to the total polarizability	10
1.3(a)	Schematic representation of the free energy as function of polarization for various values of $\chi$ for a second-order transition	21
1.3(b)	Schematic representation of the spontaneous polarization and reciprocal susceptibility near the transition temperature $T_c$ for a second-order	21
1.4(a)	Schematic representation of the free energy as a function of polarization for various values of $\chi$ for a first-order transition	23
1.4(b)	Schematic representation of the spontaneous polarization and reciprocal susceptibility near the transition temperature $T_c$ for a first-order transition	23
2.1	Some geometrical stacking possibilities for pyroxenes structures, illustrating the three	

FIG. NO.	TITLE	PAGE
	different chain configurations :	
	(a) O-rotated chain, (b) S-rotated chain,	
	(c) E(Extended) chain	43
2.2	A view of the infinite linear chain of $\text{VO}_4$ tetrahedra along the C-axis. Only one such chain is shown for clarity	43
2.3	A view of the structure looking down the (001) direction. The octahedral co-ordination around sodium ions Na(1) and Na(2) is shown. All the octahedra are not shown for clarity	44
2.4	X-ray diffraction pattern of $\text{NaVO}_3$	46
2.5	X-ray diffraction pattern of $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.025 \text{ mol\% Nd}_2\text{O}_3$	47
2.6	X-ray diffraction pattern of $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.05 \text{ mol\% Nd}_2\text{O}_3$	48
2.7	X-ray diffraction pattern of $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.1 \text{ mol\% Nd}_2\text{O}_3$	49
2.8	X-ray diffraction pattern of $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.5 \text{ mol\% Nd}_2\text{O}_3$	50
2.9	X-ray diffraction pattern of $\text{NaVO}_3 + 1 \text{ mol\% Nd}_2\text{O}_3$	51
3.1	Experimental set-up for studies of the hysteresis loop and coercive field ( $E_C$ )	58

FIG. NO.	TITLE	PAGE
3.2	Sawyer-Tower circuit for the display of the hysteresis loop (modified (form)	59
3.3	Ferroelectric hysteresis loop of $\text{NaVO}_3$ at different temperatures	61
3.4	Ferroelectric hysteresis loop of $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.025$ mol% $\text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3$ at different temperatures	62
3.5	Ferroelectric hysteresis loop of $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.05$ mol% $\text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3$ at different temperatures	63
3.6	Ferroelectric hysteresis loop of $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.1$ mol% $\text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3$ at different temperatures	64
3.7	Ferroelectric hysteresis loop of $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.5$ mol% $\text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3$ at different temperatures	65
3.8	Ferroelectric hysteresis loop of $\text{NaVO}_3 + 1$ mol% $\text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3$ at different temperatures	66
3.9	Variation of coercive field with temperatures for different concentrations	70
4.1	Experimental set-up for measurement of d.c. conductivity	78
4.2	Variation of current density (J) with d.c. electrical field (E)	79
4.3	Variation of logarithmic conductivity with $1/T$ for $\text{NaVO}_3$	81

FIG. NO.	TITLE	PAGE
4.4	Variation of logarithmic conductivity with $1/T$ for $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.025 \text{ mol\% Nd}_2\text{O}_3$	82
4.5	Variation of logarithmic conductivity with $1/T$ for $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.05 \text{ mol\% Nd}_2\text{O}_3$	83
4.6	Variation of logarithmic conductivity with $1/T$ for $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.1 \text{ mol\% Nd}_2\text{O}_3$	84
4.7	Variation of logarithmic conductivity with $1/T$ for $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.5 \text{ mol\% Nd}_2\text{O}_3$	85
4.8	Variation of logarithmic conductivity with $1/T$ for $\text{NaVO}_3 + 1 \text{ mol\% Nd}_2\text{O}_3$	86
4.9	Variation of $\log \sigma$ with $\log t$ for $\text{NaVO}_3$ and $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.05 \text{ mol\% Nd}_2\text{O}_3$ above $T_C$	87
4.10	Variation of $\log \sigma$ with $\log t$ for $\text{NaVO}_3$ and $\text{NaVO}_3 + 0.05 \text{ mol\% Nd}_2\text{O}_3$ below $T_C$	88
5.1	Experimental set-up to study the pyroelectric measurements	100
5.2	Variation of pyroelectric current with temperature for different concentrations	102
5.3	Variation of pyroelectric coefficient with temperature for different concentrations	103