Influence of Crystallographic Phase Transitionsin Small Ferroelec tric Particles on CarbonDioxide Adsorption

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Abstract

The aim of this work is to understand surface properties of ferroelectric crystals towards gas adsorption. Various ferroelectric crystals involved in these studies readily adsorbcarbon dioxide, thus our studies were centered on adsorption studies of this molecule. It has been claimed by other authors that a dipole moment is induced on carbon dioxidemolecules that are near an oxide surface. Thus, our experiments explored the possibility of a dipole-dipole interaction between the gas molecule and the ferroelectric oxide surface in order to explain its adsorption. We describe Raman studies of small particlesof BaTiO 3 and KNbO 3 in order to determine the ferroelectric nature of the particles as well as to study the temperature dependent phase transitions. We were able to correlate desorption of CO 2 with the occurrence of the Curie transition in BaTiO 3 and with the orthorhombic to tetragonal transition in KNbO 3 in particles of 50 w m size.