



# Thermal and Mechanical Studies of Cerium Molybdenum Borosilicate Glasses and Glass–Ceramics

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Received: 15 February 2023 / Accepted: 23 March 2023 / Published online: 29 March 2023  
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## Abstract

This investigation will focus on a particular molybdenum borosilicate glass with the form  $61\text{B}_2\text{O}_3 - 19\text{SiO}_2 - (20-x)\text{MoO}_3 - x\text{CeO}_2$ ,  $x = (0 \leq x \leq 12 \text{ mol. \%})$ . DTA examination was conducted using a Shimadzu -DTA equipment. The powder glass samples (10 mg) were placed in a platinum pan and heated to 800 °C in nitrogen medium at various rates. The temperatures of the glass transition,  $T_g$ , the crystallization extrapolated onset,  $T_c$ , the crystallization peak,  $T_p$ , and melting  $T_m$ , were determined. The quantity of  $\text{CeO}_2$  in the checked glass had a significant impact on its crystallization behavior, with an increase in  $\text{CeO}_2$  content increasing  $\Delta T$  and thus making the glasses more stable. With increasing  $\text{CeO}_2$  concentrations, both  $E_G$  &  $E_c$  values decrease, as expected given the rise in  $T_g$  &  $T_p$  values. XRD and SEM were used to identify the crystallizing phases and microstructural morphology for each composition. Based on XRD observations, Molybdenum Silicide ( $\text{Mo}_3\text{Si}_2$ ), Molybdenum Boride ( $\text{B}_2\text{Mo}_1$ ), Cerium Borate ( $\text{B}_1\text{Ce}_1\text{O}_3$ ), Cerium Molybdenum Oxide ( $\text{Ce}_{16}\text{Mo}_{21}\text{O}_{56}$ ) and Cerium Silicide Oxide ( $\text{Ce}_{10}\text{O}_3\text{Si}_8$ ) phases were detected. The presence of particles with different shapes in both compositions was revealed by SEM micrographs. As  $\text{CeO}_2$  concentrations increased, the ultrasonic velocities & elastic moduli increased.

**Keywords**  $\text{CeO}_2$  · Borosilicate · DTA · Crystallization · Hardness

## 1 Introduction

Uniformity, good stability, greater chemical resistance, and optical transparency are all advantages of borosilicate glass [1–10]. Borosilicate glasses can be employed as a laser host by doping them with rare earth ions (REis) because of their

fascinating features [11–22]. An extensive study has been conducted on (REis) -containing glasses. As a result, numerous glasses containing various (REis) have been developed. Specific implementations have been shown to support from  $\text{CeO}_2$  glasses [23–25]. The structure of  $\text{CeO}_2$ - $\text{B}_2\text{O}_3$ - $\text{SiO}_2$ - $\text{MoO}_3$  glass system has yet to be determined, according to the researchers' knowledge. FT-IR Spectra was used to investigate the structure of silicate, borosilicate and aluminosilicate glasses containing  $\text{CeO}_2$ . With increasing  $\text{CeO}_2$  concentration,  $\text{CeO}_4$ , also increases [23–25].

Qingshun Shi et.al [26]. investigated the structure and chemical stability of  $\text{La}_2\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{CeO}_2$  doped calcium iron phosphate glasses. Impacts of  $\text{Ce}^{+3}$  on  $\text{La}_2\text{O}_3$ :  $\text{Ce}^{+3}$  phosphors were investigated by M. Ajmal et al. [27]  $\text{Ce}^{+3}$  is observed to be more uniformly distributed in borosilicate glass, with no clustering. This study investigated the characterization of  $\text{CeO}_2$  was replaced by  $\text{MoO}_3$  at various doping ratios. There two valance states of  $\text{MoO}_3$  in glasses:  $\text{Mo}^{+5}$  and  $\text{Mo}^{+6}$ . In the thermal and optics industries, glasses containing  $\text{MoO}_3$  have become important materials. Crystallization is a crucial topic in both glass science and technology. Although crystallization is usually undesirable when making glass, it is a significant procedure for preparing glass ceramics under controlled conditions [28–34].

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We decided to use a new vitreous matrix,  $B_2O_3$ - $SiO_2$ - $MoO_3$  containing  $CeO_2$ , to learn more about the structure and thermal and crystallization kinetics characteristics of fabricate glass systems. This experiment manufactured  $CeO_2$  co-doped  $B_2O_3$ - $SiO_2$ - $MoO_3$  glasses. The objective of this article is to examine the thermal, mechanical, and crystallization kinetics of the  $B_2O_3$ - $MoO_3$ - $SiO_2$  glass containing  $CeO_2$  using DTA, XRD and SEM.

## 2 Materials and Methodology

These glasses in Table 1 are taken from [1]. The status of the glasses determined using a Rigaku-Top XRD. DTA examination was conducted using a Shimadzu -DTA equipment. The powder glass samples (10 mg) were placed in a platinum pan and heated to 800 °C in nitrogen medium at various rates. The glass-ceramics were fabricated at  $T_c$  for 4 h. Using a scanning electron microscope model A Jeol, the surface morphology of several chosen bulk glass samples is examined (JSM-T20, Tokyo, Japan). The ultrasonic measurements were carried out using a system that included the Echo—graph (Krautkramer model USM3 pulsar/receiver instrument). Archimedes' principle determines the density ( $\rho$ ) of prepared glass-ceramics. The longitudinal and shear  $V_L$  &  $V_T$  velocities were determined using this method. Besides the density, the  $V_L$  &  $V_T$  were used to calculate elastic moduli, longitudinal waves  $L = \rho v_l^2$ , transverse waves  $G = \rho v_t^2$ , young's modulus  $Y = (1 + \sigma)2G$ , and bulk modulus  $= L - \left(\frac{4}{3}\right)G$ . Conductivity of fractal bonds  $d = \left(\frac{G}{K}\right) * 4$ . Hardness;  $H = \frac{(1-2\sigma)Y}{6(1+\sigma)}$ .

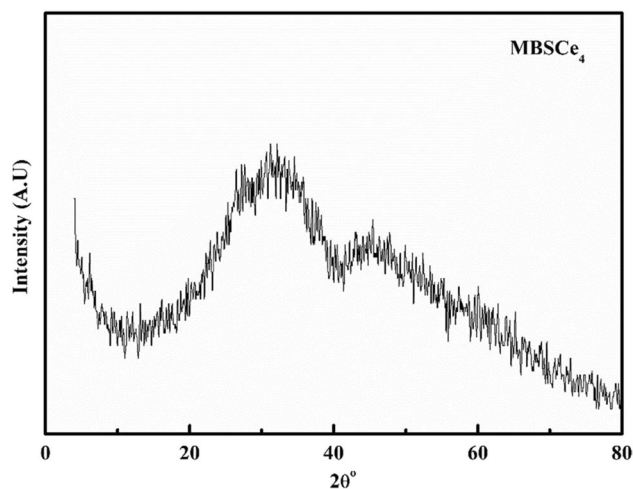
## 3 Results and Discussion

### 3.1 Physical Investigations

To ensure that the fabricated samples are in the amorphous phase, XRD were measured. Figure 1 depicts the XRD spectrum of the MBSCe4 sample. While all manufactured glasses have similar XRDs, only this sample's

**Table 1** Fabricated glasses with mol.%

| Code                | $B_2O_3$ | $SiO_2$ | $MoO_3$ | $CeO_2$ |
|---------------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| MBSCe <sub>0</sub>  | 61       | 19      | 20      | 0       |
| MBSCe <sub>2</sub>  | 61       | 19      | 18      | 2       |
| MBSCe <sub>4</sub>  | 61       | 19      | 14      | 6       |
| MBSCe <sub>8</sub>  | 61       | 19      | 12      | 8       |
| MBSCe <sub>10</sub> | 61       | 19      | 10      | 10      |
| MBSCe <sub>12</sub> | 61       | 19      | 8       | 12      |

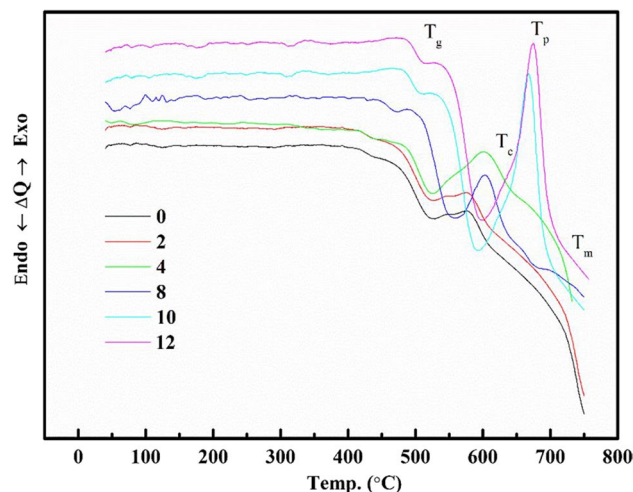


**Fig. 1** XRD of glass samples

XRD is displayed herein. In their X-ray diffraction patterns, MBSCe<sub>4</sub> has broad and diffused humps, indicating that it is amorphous [35–39].

### 3.2 DTA Examination

$T_g$ ,  $T_c$ ,  $T_p$ , and  $T_m$ , were determined from DTA [40–50]. For  $61B_2O_3 - 19SiO_2 - (20 - x)MoO_3 - xCeO_2$ , glasses, typical DTA are revealed in Fig. 2. The values of  $T_g$ ,  $T_c$ ,  $T_p$  and  $T_m$  for examined samples are presented in Figs. 3(a, b, c and d). These Figs. shows an increasing trend of  $T_g$ ,  $T_c$ ,  $T_p$  and  $T_m$  as  $CeO_2$  content increment. Thermal stability ( $\Delta T$ ) was calculated using the  $(T_c - T_x)$  value where  $T_x$  is the onset glass transition temperature. For  $61B_2O_3 - 19SiO_2 - (20 - x)MoO_3 - xCeO_2$ , glasses,  $\Delta T$  are revealed in Fig. 4. It was found that  $\Delta T$  often increases along with an increase in



**Fig. 2** DTA typical of glass samples

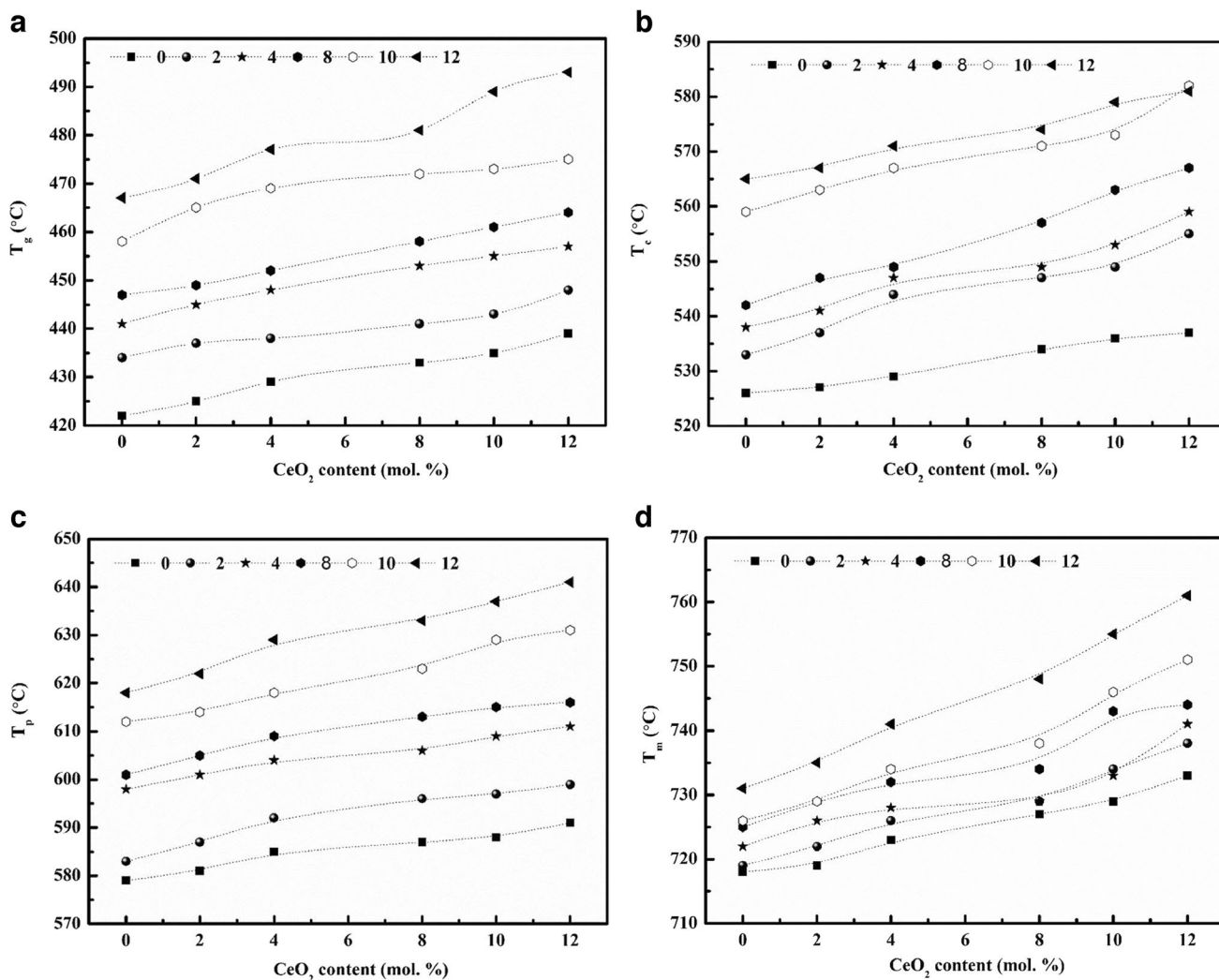


Fig. 3 a  $T_g$  of the glasses. b  $T_c$  of the glasses. c  $T_p$  of the glasses. d  $T_m$  of glass samples

CeO<sub>2</sub> concentration. With increasing CeO<sub>2</sub> concentration, CeO<sub>4</sub>, also increases and the establishment of (BO) increases, therefore  $\Delta T$  increases (from 88 to 107 °C) as CeO<sub>2</sub> increases. The quantity of CeO<sub>2</sub> in the checked glass had a significant impact on its crystallization behavior, with an increase in CeO<sub>2</sub> content increasing  $\Delta T$  and thus making the glasses more stable.

Figures 5 and 6 show an increasing trend of weighted thermal stability  $H_g$  and  $S$  criterion as CeO<sub>2</sub> content increment.  $H_g = \frac{\Delta T}{T_g}$ ,  $S = (T_p - T_c) \frac{\Delta T}{T_g}$ . This observation due to increase  $\Delta T$  of the samples. Hruby parameters can be considered as:  $H_u = \frac{(T_c - T_g)}{(T_m - T_c)}$ .  $H_u$  values for various compositions are shown in Fig. 7. The glass with the highest CeO<sub>2</sub> content is the one that is the most thermally stable.

Lasocka [51] proposed the following expression to describe changes in glass ( $T_g$ ) and heating rate ( $\beta$ ):  $T_g = A_g + B_g \ln(\beta)$ ,

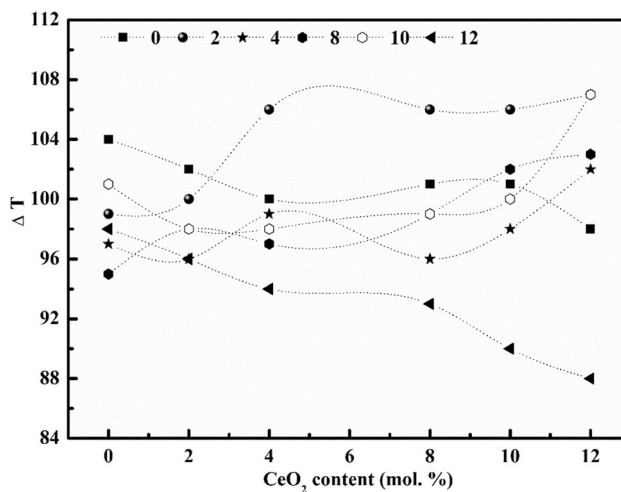


Fig. 4  $\Delta T$  of glass samples

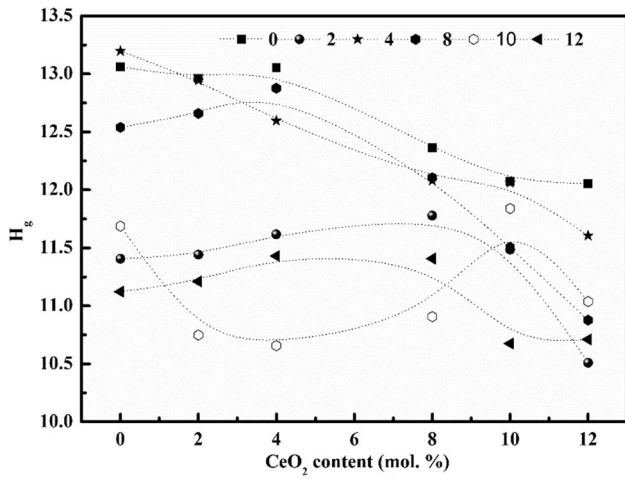


Fig.5  $H_g$  of glass samples

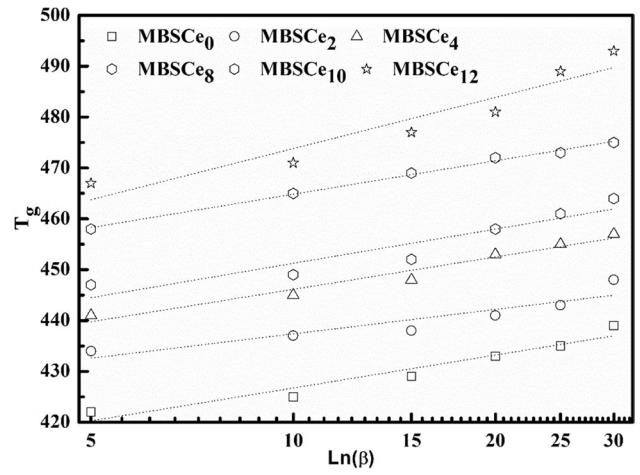


Fig.8  $T_g$  vs. $\ln(\beta)$  for glass samples

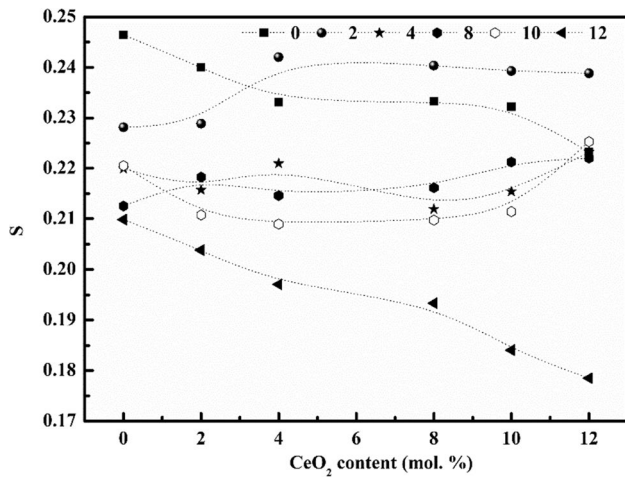


Fig.6  $S$  of glass samples

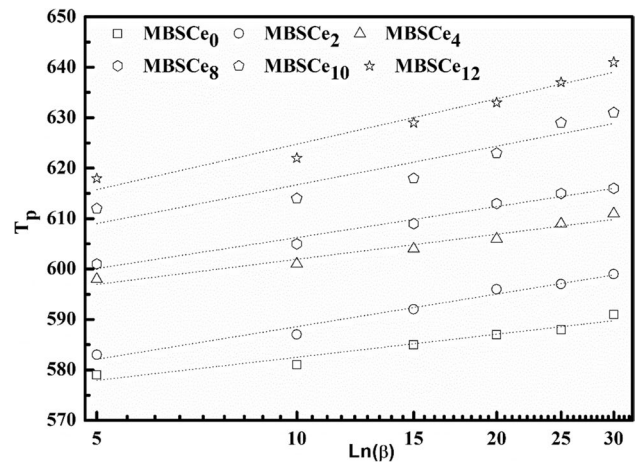


Fig.9  $T_p$  vs. $\ln(\beta)$  for glass samples

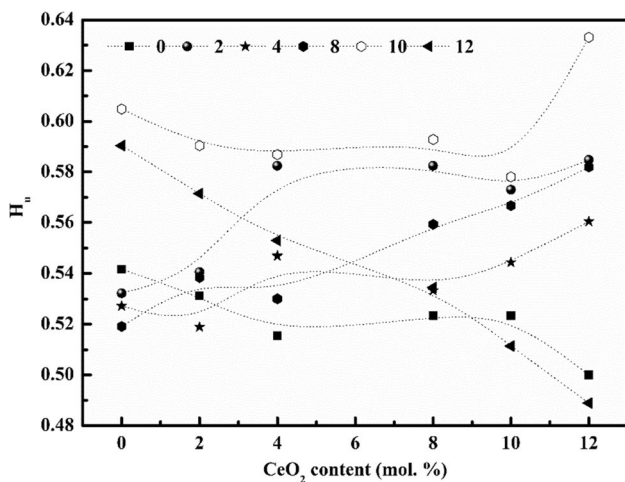


Fig.7  $H_u$  of glass samples

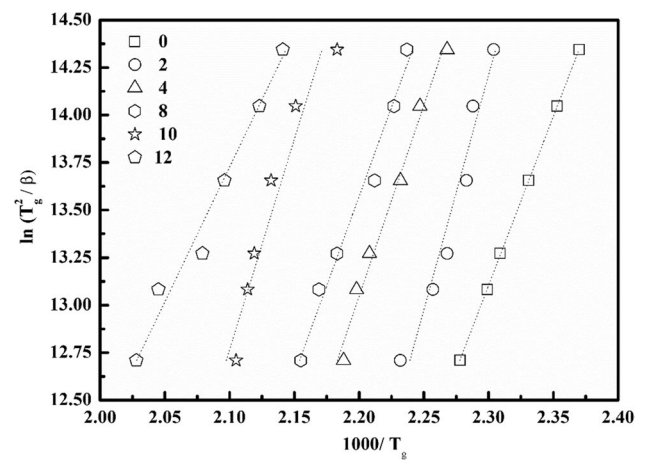


Fig.10  $\ln(T_g^2/\beta)$  versus  $10^3/T_g$  for glass samples

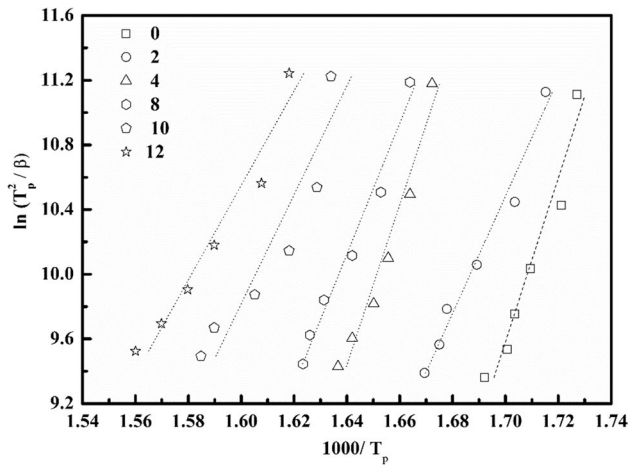


Fig. 11  $\ln(T_p^2/\beta)$  versus  $10^3/T_p$  for glass samples

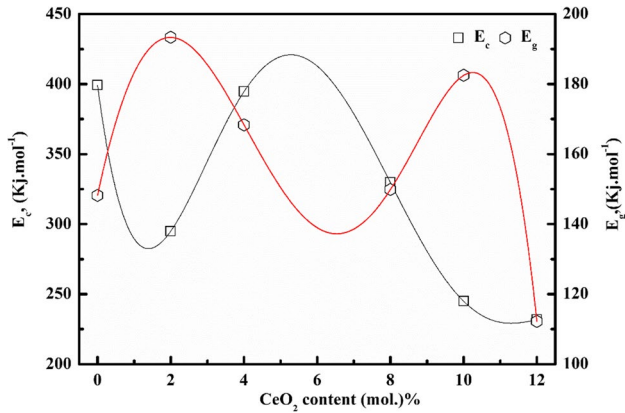


Fig. 12  $E_g$  &  $E_c$  for glass samples

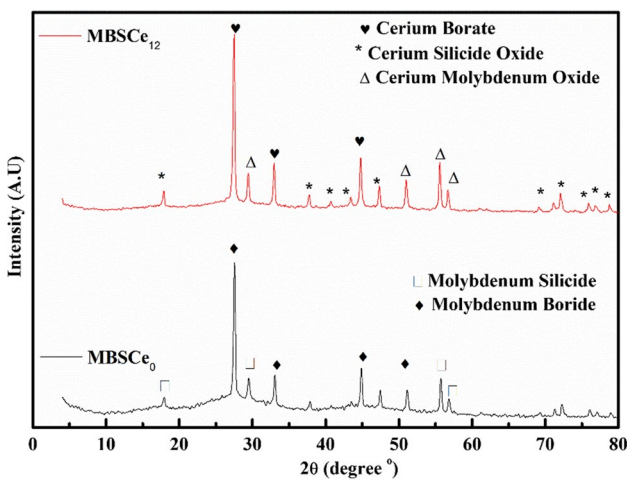


Fig. 13 XRD for glass–ceramic samples

Table 2 XRD results glass–ceramic samples

| Sample  | Code        | Compound Name<br>Chemical Formula                                    |
|---------|-------------|--|
| MBSCe0  | 98–064-4412 | Molybdenum Silicide ( $\text{Mo}_3\text{Si}_2$ )                     |
|         | 98–007-6410 | Molybdenum Boride ( $\text{B}_2\text{Mo}_1$ )                        |
|         | 98–009-9689 | Cerium Borate ( $\text{B}_1\text{Ce}_1\text{O}_3$ )                  |
| MBSCe12 | 98–007-2525 | Cerium Molybdenum Oxide ( $\text{Ce}_{16}\text{Mo}_{21}\text{O}_5$ ) |
|         | 98–017-3576 | Cerium Silicide Oxide ( $\text{Ce}_{10}\text{O}_3\text{Si}_8$ )      |

which could be used for ( $T_p$ ) as:  $T_p = A_p + B_p \ln(\beta)$ , where  $A_g$  and  $A_p$  are the values of  $T_g$  &  $T_p$ , respectively.  $B_g$  &  $B_p$  are constants that depend on the composition of the glass. As shown in Figs. 8 and 9,  $T_g$  &  $T_p$  values were plotted against  $\ln(\beta)$ .  $T_g$  &  $T_p$  values increase with increasing heating rate and  $\text{CeO}_2$  concentrations, as shown in these Figs. The observed increase in  $T_g$  &  $T_p$  values is consistent with previously published data, which can be explained in this way.

Glass transition activation energy  $E_g$ , crystallization energy  $E_c$ , and the frequency factor  $k_o$ , on the other hand, can be easily assigned based on changes in the values of  $T_g$  &  $T_p$  with  $(\beta)$ , as well as the previously described method. Figures 10 and 11 show plots of  $\ln(T_g^2/\beta)$  versus  $10^3/T_g$  and of  $\ln(T_p^2/\beta)$  versus  $10^3/T_p$  for investigated samples. The linear relationship of the formula used is represented.

Table 3 XRD investigation of glass–ceramic samples

| Sample  | Pos $2\theta^\circ$ | Height [cts] | FWHM $2\theta^\circ$ | d-spacing [Å] | Size nm |
|---------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------|---------|
| MBSCe0  | 27.546              | 1175.54      | 0.2362               | 3.238         | 121.96  |
|         | 29.4852             | 184.18       | 0.3542               | 3.03          | 81.68   |
|         | 33.0553             | 265.58       | 0.2362               | 2.7           | 123.55  |
|         | 44.8794             | 327.65       | 0.2362               | 2.012         | 128.15  |
|         | 51.1464             | 179.35       | 0.2362               | 1.786         | 131.31  |
|         | 55.7307             | 290.07       | 0.2362               | 1.65          | 133.98  |
|         | 56.851              | 116.45       | 0.3542               | 1.62          | 89.82   |
|         | 57.9307             | 290.07       | 0.2362               | 1.65          | 133.98  |
|         | 72.0912             | 289.78       | 0.3542               | 1.31016       | 97.69   |
|         | 75.95               | 96.83        | 0.7085               | 1.25291       | 50.09   |
| MBSCe12 | 17.8347             | 205.75       | 0.3542               | 4.97348       | 79.95   |
|         | 27.4621             | 2563.83      | 0.2362               | 3.24790       | 121.93  |
|         | 29.4133             | 470.04       | 0.1771               | 3.03674       | 163.33  |
|         | 32.9618             | 671.30       | 0.2362               | 2.71748       | 123.52  |
|         | 37.7457             | 198.32       | 0.2362               | 2.38334       | 125.18  |
|         | 44.7722             | 774.55       | 0.1771               | 2.02427       | 170.85  |
|         | 47.3235             | 337.96       | 0.2362               | 1.92093       | 129.32  |
|         | 51                  | 452.13       | 0.2952               | 1.79075       | 105.00  |
|         | 55.5936             | 743.33       | 0.2362               | 1.65318       | 133.90  |
|         | 56.7145             | 312.61       | 0.2362               | 1.62314       | 134.60  |
| 76.9359 | 84.06               | 0.4723       | 1.23930              | 75.66         |         |

**Fig. 14** **a** SEM of MBSCe<sub>0</sub> glass-ceramics at magnifications 100, 200, 500, 1000, and 2000. **b**: SEM of MBSCe<sub>12</sub> glass-ceramics at magnifications 100, 200, 500, 1000, and 2000

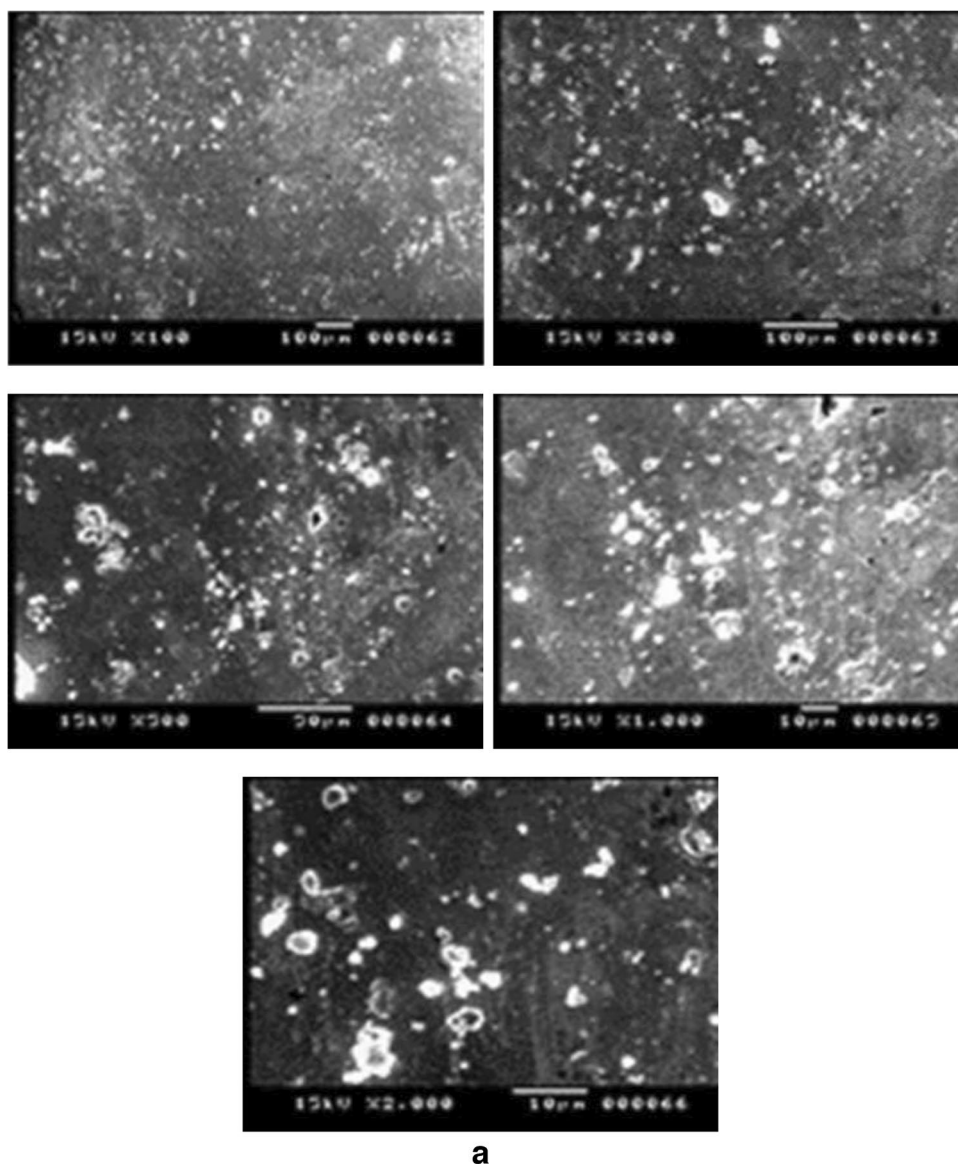


Figure 12 shows the values obtained for the glass transition activation energy  $E_G$  &  $E_c$ . With increasing of CeO<sub>2</sub> concentrations,  $E_G$  &  $E_c$  values decrease, as expected given the rise in  $T_g$  &  $T_p$  values. It is predicted that CeO<sub>2</sub> will be transformed into CeO<sub>4</sub> because of the addition of CeO<sub>2</sub>. The CeO<sub>4</sub> structural unit has a shorter bond-length than CeO<sub>2</sub>, resulting in enhanced bond strength, which could explain why  $E_G$  &  $E_c$  decrease as CeO<sub>2</sub> content rises.

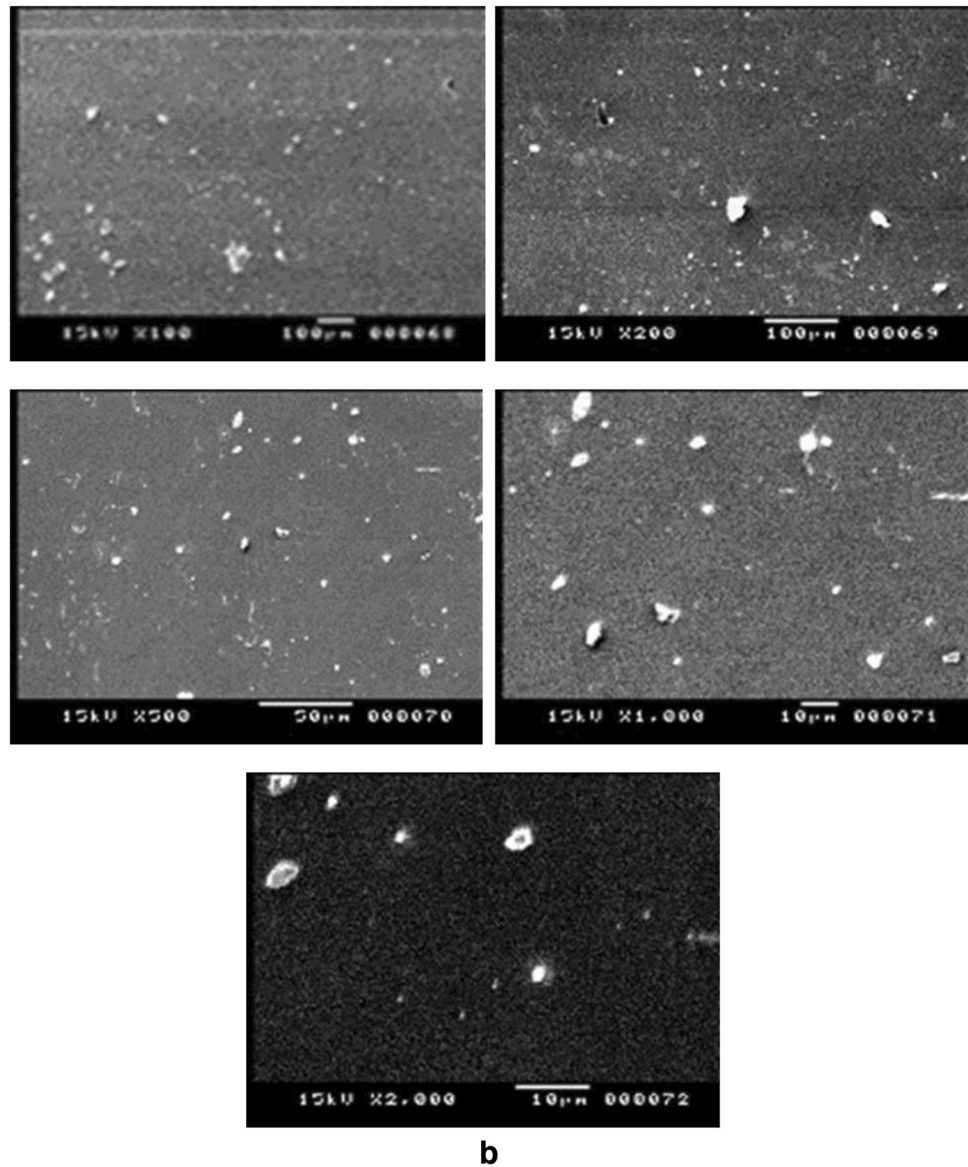
### 3.3 Crystallization

The nucleation and growth of crystallites in an amorphous solid is a complicated process that occurs at the same time. MBSCe ceramics samples are chemically resistant and have a variety of applications. Figure 13 shows the XRD of selected

ceramic glasses with varying CeO<sub>2</sub> content. In order to identify a structure that appears in X-ray patterns, samples were annealed at temperatures below and above the characteristic points shown in DTA curves. XRD results reveal the formation of crystalline phases as well as an amorphous phase. XRD describe the generated crystalline phases, which were then compared to diffraction patterns of known crystalline compounds containing B, Si, Mo, Ce, and O in the PDF2 database. The XRD for selected samples show a semi-profile. All the expected phases were observed to be present [52–55]. Tables 2 and 3 show the phases and parameters of a variety of glass ceramics.

SEM backscattered of chosen glass-ceramic photographs are shown in Figs. 14a and b. The crystalline surface has a lot of bulky interstitial gaps, revealing the exceptional glass matrix. XRD results support this observation. Microcrystalline extended paths or fibrils, anhedral microcrystals, and a

Fig. 14 (continued)



fine-grained texture are among the morphological characteristics discovered among the formed crystalline phases. Various precipitated cerium and boron phases are attributed with these different microcrystalline phases throughout heat treatment. The presence of particles with different shapes in both compositions was revealed by SEM micrographs.

### 3.4 Mechanical Characterization

Non-destructive examinations as ultrasonic can be used to characterize glass–ceramics, investigate their structure, and calculate their elastic constants [56–66]. Figures 15 and 16 show plots of  $V_L$  &  $V_T$ , as well as elastic moduli ( $L$ ,  $G$ ,  $K$ , &  $Y$ ) of the investigated ceramic samples as a function of  $\text{CeO}_2$  concentration. As the  $\text{CeO}_2$  increases,  $V_L$  &  $V_T$ , increased. The network's coordination number increased as the mol

present of  $\text{CeO}_2$  increased, increasing the cross-link density.  $V_L$  &  $V_T$  were increases due to increase in the packing and connectivity of the glass–ceramic configurations.

Figure 16 shows that as  $\text{CeO}_2$  concentrations increased, the elastic moduli  $L$ ,  $G$ ,  $K$ , &  $Y$  increased. As a result, the observed increase in  $L$ ,  $G$ ,  $K$ , &  $Y$  with increasing  $\text{CeO}_2$  content can be explained by former role of cerium in the ceramic samples. This behavior indicates that the addition of  $\text{CeO}_2$  enhanced the packing density and rigidity. Figure 17 depicted ( $\rho$ ,  $H$  &  $d$ ) of the ceramics sample. Heat treatment increases the ( $\rho$ ,  $H$  &  $d$ ) of the ceramics investigated. Heat treatment, in my opinion, resulting in some order and compactness. As a result, new properties should originate, and  $\rho$ ,  $H$  should increase. In all ceramic samples, ( $d$ ) was close to 2 i.e. 2-dimensional layer structure network is present in all the ceramic samples.

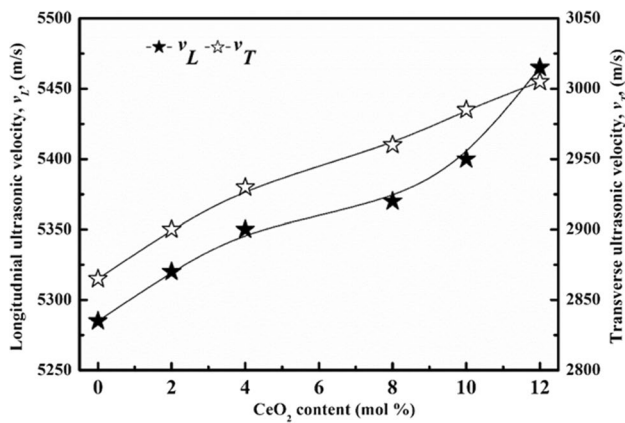


Fig. 15  $V_L$  &  $V_T$  for glass-ceramic

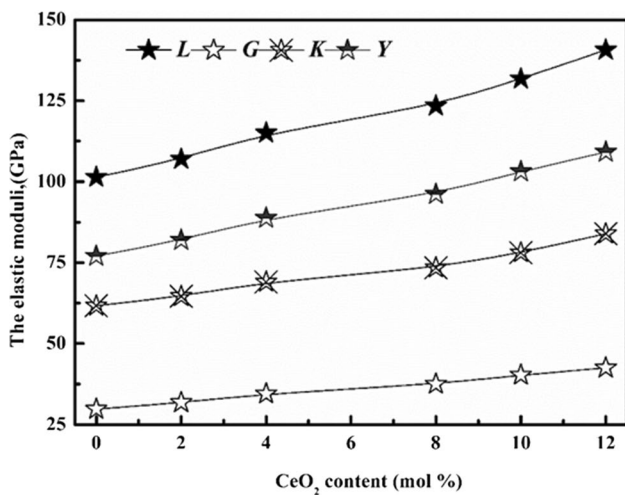


Fig. 16  $L$ ,  $G$ ,  $K$ , &  $Y$  for glass-ceramic

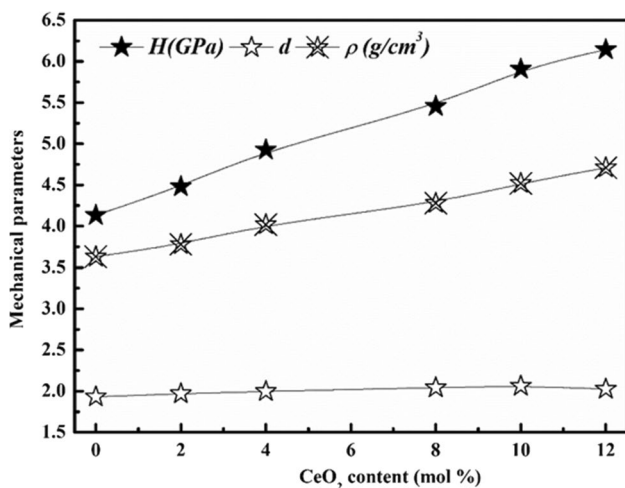


Fig. 17  $\rho$ ,  $H$  &  $d$  for glass-ceramic

## 4 Conclusions

The combined techniques of DTA, XRD, SEM, and mechanical were used to characterize the thermal behavior and crystallization of CeO<sub>2</sub> co-doped B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-SiO<sub>2</sub>-MoO<sub>3</sub> glasses. The thermal stability of glasses was demonstrated in DTA studies. The quantity of CeO<sub>2</sub> in the checked glass had a significant impact on its crystallization behavior, with an increase in CeO<sub>2</sub> content increasing  $\Delta T$  and thus making the glasses more stable. With increasing CeO<sub>2</sub> concentrations both  $E_G$  &  $E_C$  values decreases, as expected rise in  $T_g$  &  $T_p$  values. The most important aspect of crystalline result characterization is, of course, XRD. XRD measurements were confirmed by mechanical and SEM analysis of crystalline samples. The establishment of glass-crystalline phases in the analysed glass series and the thermal stability of glasses were also revealed by this analysis. This behavior indicates that the addition of CeO<sub>2</sub> enhanced the packing density and rigidity. Therefore, the ultrasonic velocities & elastic moduli increased. Heat treatment, in my opinion, resulting in some order and compactness.

**Acknowledgements** This work was supported by the King Khalid University through grant RCAMS/KKU/04-22 under the Research Center for Advance Materials (RCAMS) at King Khalid University, Saudi Arabia. The authors express their gratitude to princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, Researchers Supporting Project (Grant No. PNURSP2023R32) Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

**Author contributions** Khamies Saber Shaaban, methodology, writing the manuscript, review the manuscript, and Badriah Mesfer Alotaibi, review the manuscript. Z.A. Alrowaili, reviews the manuscript M. S. Al-Buriah, review the manuscript, A.Ashour, review the manuscript, and El Sayed Yousef, review the manuscript.

**Data Availability** My manuscript and associated personal data.

## Declarations

**Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate** The manuscript has not been published.

**Consent to Participate and Publication** The authors consent to participate and publication.

**Competing Interests** The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests.

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