Effects of Dy$_2$O$_3$ doping on physical and mechanical characteristics of B$_2$O$_3$-TeO$_2$-BaO glass

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Abstract

A new oxide glass host of the form (50-x) B$_2$O$_3$-25TeO$_2$-25BaO-xDy$_2$O$_3$ (where x was varied from 0 to 1.25 mol%) was prepared using the conventional melt-cast quenching method. The study investigated how the glasses’ structural, physical, and elastic properties were affected by varying amounts of Dy$_2$O$_3$. The XRD patterns of the samples indicated that they possessed an amorphous nature. FTIR spectrum displayed the vibration mode of trigonal and bipyramidal units like TeO$_4$, TeO$_3$, BO$_4$, and BO$_3$ together with Te-O-Te and Te-O linkages, indicating bridging oxygen (BO). The observed increase in the density (from 4.535 - 4.772 gm$^{-3}$) was ascribed to the network structure contraction. The improvement in the elastic moduli of the glasses (obtained from the measured shear and longitudinal acoustic velocity) was mainly due to Dy$_2$O$_3$ doping with higher molecular weight. Consequently, it increased the glass rigidity by forming more BO in the glass network, altering the physical and structural characteristics. The obtained rise in the Debye temperature (from 334.0107 – 351.383 K) and softening temperature (from 399.6075-451848 K) was due to BO-mediated changes in CN. (coordination number) of the glass network. It was shown that the mechanical and structural characteristics of the proposed glass host can be tailored by tuning the Dy$_2$O$_3$ contents. These glasses may be useful for making high-strength optical fibers.

1. Introduction

Amongst all oxide glass hosts, barium-borotellurite glasses have several distinctive characteristics suitable. A significant amount of optically active ions can be dissolved (10–50) times more than in silica; nonlinear optical properties and chemical resistance make this material an excellent choice. As a result of these unique properties, tellurite glasses are ideal for fabricating various photonic devices. Furthermore, they exhibit good thermal stability against crystallization and a low glass transition temperature [1]. Compared to silicate, borate, phosphate, or chalcogenide glass, tellurite-based glass provides better shielding, elastic, and optical properties [2]. Among the many applications of barium tellurite glasses are optical fibers, LCD projector lenses, Monitors with back projection, interference meters, Optical magnifiers, and Optical systems for photography. Adding alkali metals, rare earths, transition metals, and oxides of heavy metals into TeO$_2$ makes it possible to significantly increase the ability of glass forming (GFA) [2]. By disrupting the random network, glass modifiers like BaO, ZnO, and PbO can make TeO$_3$ units and non-bridging oxygen (NBO) more compact [3]. The occurrences of weak Te-O linkages in the tellurite host matrix make the atomic network structure more porous than silicate glass. The matchless structural characteristics of tellurite glass make it an ideal host for some rare systems. The rare-earth and heavy metals-based glassy system shows small multiphoton decay rates [4].

Conversely, the unique properties of rare-earth-doped tellurite glass systems with low-phonon cut-off enable them to be used in a variety of applications, including high dielectric constants, refractive indexes, thermal and chemical stability, and low melting and phonon cut-off points [5]. In this work, two glass formers, tellurite (TeO$_2$) and boron oxide (B$_2$O$_3$), are blended to achieve the best structural and physical properties. B$_2$O$_3$, as a versatile glass former, has been added to various types of materials to create specific physicochemical attributes for various practical applications. Borate glass systems have generated much

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A HIGHLIGHTS

- Barium-boro-tellurite glasses with 0-1.25% Dy$_2$O$_3$ were made using melt-quench method
- Glasses were characterized to evaluate the effects of varying Dy$_2$O$_3$ content on properties
- Increasing Dy$_2$O$_3$ density by modifying the glass network created a more compact, connected structure
- FTIR analysis provided chemical bonding and vibration information as a function of Dy$_2$O$_3$ content
- Mechanical properties improved with increased BO bonds forming from Dy$_2$O$_3$, enhancing rigidity

A B S T R A C T

A new oxide glass host of the form (50-x) B$_2$O$_3$-25TeO$_2$-25BaO-xDy$_2$O$_3$ (where x was varied from 0 to 1.25 mol%) was prepared using the conventional melt-cast quenching method. The study investigated how the glasses’ structural, physical, and elastic properties were affected by varying amounts of Dy$_2$O$_3$. The XRD patterns of the samples indicated that they possessed an amorphous nature. FTIR spectrum displayed the vibration mode of trigonal and bipyramidal units like TeO$_4$, TeO$_3$, BO$_4$, and BO$_3$ together with Te-O-Te and Te-O linkages, indicating bridging oxygen (BO). The observed increase in the density (from 4.535 - 4.772 gm$^{-3}$) was ascribed to the network structure contraction. The improvement in the elastic moduli of the glasses (obtained from the measured shear and longitudinal acoustic velocity) was mainly due to Dy$_2$O$_3$ doping with higher molecular weight. Consequently, it increased the glass rigidity by forming more BO in the glass network, altering the physical and structural characteristics. The obtained rise in the Debye temperature (from 334.0107 – 351.383 K) and softening temperature (from 399.6075-451848 K) was due to BO-mediated changes in CN. (coordination number) of the glass network. It was shown that the mechanical and structural characteristics of the proposed glass host can be tailored by tuning the Dy$_2$O$_3$ contents. These glasses may be useful for making high-strength optical fibers.
research interest because of their unique coordination structures, strong bond formation tendency, excellent transparency, low melting temperature, and excellent solubility of rare earths [4]. Over time, many research studies have explored the impact of various rare-earth dopants on the physical characteristics of tellurite glass with different compositions. As an illustration, in the research conducted by Umar et al., [6]. I produced a set of glass samples by employing the conventional melt-quenching technique. I observed a substantial enhancement in their overall properties as the concentration of rare-earth ions increased. Kaur et al., [1]. The characteristics of barium-tellurite glass were investigated, focusing on their thermal and optical properties. Furthermore, the impact of doping with trivalent lanthanides (Eu$^{3+}$, Dy$^{3+}$, Er$^{3+}$, Y$^{3+}$, Lu$^{3+}$ and Nd$^{3+}$) on the elastic and photoluminescence properties was evaluated [1].

Abdulbaset et al., [7] a study was carried out on the characteristics of a range of zinc-tellurite glasses. These glasses were doped with Neodymium and mixed with Ag$_2$O. The FTIR analysis results showed that there were two active functional groups, material suitable for solid-state lasers, photonics, and optoelectronics applications. Our research showed that when Dy$_2$O$_3$ was added, the glass composition became highly ionic, increasing the rigidity of the glass and its susceptibility to devitrification. The physical properties, and elasticity of the glasses. The primary reason for doping Dy$_2$O$_3$ was to develop a high-performance glass method. This study sheds light on the photoluminescence properties was evaluated [1].

A total of six glass samples were prepared to study their composition. These samples were made using the melt-quenching method and had a composition of $(50-x)$ B$_2$O$_3$-25TeO$_2$-25BaO-xDy$_2$O$_3$. Where x represented different mol% values ranging from 0 to 1.25 high purity oxides of TeO$_2$ (99.99%, Aldrich), B$_2$O$_3$ (99.99%, Aldrich), BaO (99.99%), and Dy$_2$O$_3$ (99.99%, Aldrich) were homogeneously mixed and melted in a (pt crucible) in an electrical furnace (970°C) for 30 minutes. In this process, the glass composition became highly ionic, increasing the rigidity of the glass and its susceptibility to devitrification. The main focus of this study is to analyze the impact of Dy$_2$O$_3$ on the structural changes, morphology of the barium boro-tellurite network, and elastic properties of the glass that has been prepared, employing ultrasonic techniques. Furthermore, X-ray diffraction patterns and FTIR spectrum analysis were conducted to provide additional evidence for the collected data. Typically, the strength of amorphous materials is closely related to their elastic moduli. Thus, we can indirectly evaluate the material's strength by analyzing the elastic properties.

This search focused on a significant contribution to understanding rare earth doping in B$_2$O$_3$-TeO$_2$-BaO glass compositions. The key novelty of our work lies in the systematic approach employed, revealing a clear correlation between rare earth doping and enhanced mechanical properties in the glass. This extends the applicability of our findings beyond the specific glass composition studied and establishes a valuable precedent for future research in materials science and engineering.

### 2. Experimental work details acknowledgment

A total of six glass samples were prepared to study their composition. These samples were made using the melt-quenching method and had a composition of $(50-x)$ B$_2$O$_3$-25TeO$_2$-25BaO-xDy$_2$O$_3$. Where x represented different mol% values ranging from 0 to 1.25 high purity oxides of TeO$_2$ (99.99%, Aldrich), B$_2$O$_3$ (99.99%, Aldrich), BaO (99.99%), and Dy$_2$O$_3$ (99.99%, Aldrich) were homogeneously mixed and melted in a (pt crucible) in an electrical furnace (970°C) for 30 minutes. In this process, and then quenched. Later, the quenched material was thermally annealed at 350°C for 3 hrs. to reduce mechanical stress, ensuring thermal and mechanical stability. To ensure consistent and uniform surfaces, all samples underwent polishing with sandpapers before proceeding with further characterizations. For XRD Crushing, a portion of each sample was necessary to obtain a fine powder for the measurements. Toluene was utilized as an immersion liquid for density measurement, following Archimedes' principle. Table 1 presents the composition of the prepared glass and its physical characteristics. The density of the glass was determined by calculation via [8]:

$$\rho = \frac{w_a}{w_a - w_l} \times \rho_{\text{toluene}} \quad (1)$$

The weight of the glass in air (wa) and the weight of the glass in liquid (wl) are the variables we are considering in this context. The estimation of the “molar volume” $v_m$ of the glasses samples was calculated via [10]:

$$v_m = \frac{M}{\rho} \quad (2)$$

$$(\text{OPD}) \text{ of glasses was calculated by [5]:}$$

$$\frac{(\text{OPD})}{\text{OPD}} = \frac{1000xN}{v_m} \quad (3)$$

The room temperature “longitudinal ($v_l$)” and “shear ($v_s$) velocity” in the glass sample were obtained in terms of “longitudinal modulus (L)” and “shear modulus (G)” using [7]:

$$L = \rho (v_l)^2 \quad (4)$$

$$G = \rho (v_s)^2 \quad (5)$$
The bulk modulus \((K)\) was calculated via [11]:

\[
K = L - \frac{4}{3} G
\]  

(6)

The “Young's modulus \((E)\)” and “Poisson's ratio \((\sigma)\)” were estimated using [12]:

\[
E = (1 + \sigma)2G
\]  

(7)

\[
\sigma = \frac{(L-2G)}{2(L-G)}
\]  

(8)

The values of “Debye temperature” \((\theta_D)\), “micro-hardness” \((H)\) and “softening temperature” \((T_s)\) were calculated using [5] [6,13]:

\[
\theta_D = \frac{h}{k} \left[ \frac{3nN_A}{4\pi V_m} \right]^{1/3} U_m
\]  

(9)

where \(h\), \(k\), and \(N_A\) are the Plank constant, Boltzmann constant, and Avogadro number, respectively.

\[
H = \frac{(1-2\sigma)E}{6(1+\sigma)}
\]  

(10)

\[
T_s = \frac{M_w v_s^2}{c^2 n}
\]  

(11)

where \(c\) the values of constant. The value of mean ultrasonic velocity was calculated using:

\[
U_m = \left[ \frac{\frac{1}{v_l^3} + \frac{2}{v_s^3}}{3} \right]^{1/3}
\]  

(12)

The thermal expansion coefficient \((\alpha_p)\) was evaluated via [8]:

\[
\alpha_p = 23.2(v_l - 0.5745)
\]  

(13)

The value of “fractal bond connectivity” \((d)\) was evaluated using [14]

\[
d = \frac{4G}{K}
\]  

(14)

3. Details of results and discussion

The XRD profiles of the samples are displayed in Figure 1, and it can be observed that no intense Bragg's diffraction peaks are present. A wide hunch indicated the amorphous nature of all samples. Investigating the density parameter allows for exploring the various fluctuations present in glass structures [13]. Figure 2 illustrates the FESEM micrographs of selected glass samples without doping (a) 0 mol%, with doping Dy₂O₃ (b) 0.25 mol%, (c) 0.5 mol%, (d) 0.75 mol%, (e) 1 mol%, and (f) 1.25 mol%. It showed varying particle morphology (non-spherical with sharp edges). It has been noted that as the concentration of Dy⁺³ increases, the particles undergo distortion in their shape and also experience an increase in size. Most particles in the sample were with a size range of 20 - 53 \(\mu\)m.

![Figure 1: XRD Patterns for fabrication glasses](image-url)
Figure 2: FESEM Images at magnification 5.00-10 Kx resolution of the glass powder without doping (a) 0 mol% with doping Dy2O3 (b) 0.25 mol%, (c) 0.5 mol%, (d) 0.75 mol%, (e) 1 mol% and (f) 1.25 mol%
As shown in Figure 3, the glass density values gradually rose from 4.535 to 4.772 g/cm³ as the concentration of Dy₂O₃ was progressively increased. Replacing the lighter B₂O₃ (69.62 amu) with the heavier Dy₂O₃ (372.9 a.m.u) could be a possible reason for the observed increase in density [15]. Moreover, the presence of Dy₂O₃ in the glass systems can affect the density increment since it modifies the glass network. This, in turn, results in a more tightly packed and interconnected glass structure [16]. The decrease in molar volume of all glass variants is depicted in Figure 4 as the concentration of Dy₂O₃ increases. One important point is that density and molar volume exhibit contrasting behaviors. An increase in Dy₂O₃ caused the molar volume of glasses to decrease from 26.493 cm³ to 25.993 cm³. The variations in inter-atomic spacing led to a corresponding shift in the molar volume, which can be attributed to the modifications in the structure [14]. Factors such as the length of the bond and the spacing between atoms directly influence the glass matrix and lead to a decrease in molar volume [17]. The reason that leads to a decrease in the porosity of glass is the presence of modifying ions such as Dy³⁺ at the interface sites of the glass network. The number of bridging bonds in the matrix and its network determined the strength and weakening of the matrix. Glass structures become more compact as atomic ring sizes decrease, thereby decreasing molar volumes in the glass. Moreover, the cross-linking density increased, indicating increased connectivity [18]. Using oxygen packing density, a measure of how tightly the oxide network packs, it can be determined whether the oxide network is compact or not can be calculated using relation (3). Table 1 reports an increase (OPD) of 103.797 to 105.796 g. atom/l, which is connected to increasing glass density [19]. Developing more BO could make the glass network more compact, decreasing the extent of the disorder and increasing OPD [12].

Table 1: Compositions of glasses, density, molar volume, and Oxygen packing density

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Composition of Glasses mol%</th>
<th>Sample name</th>
<th>ρ (g/cm³)</th>
<th>Vm (cm³/mol)</th>
<th>O.P.D (gm/liter)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50 B₂O₃-25TeO₂-25BaO-0 Dy₂O₃</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>4.535</td>
<td>26.493</td>
<td>103.797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49.75B₂O₃-25TeO₂-25BaO-0.25Dy₂O₃</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
<td>4.586</td>
<td>26.368</td>
<td>104.289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49.5B₂O₃-25TeO₂-25BaO-0.5Dy₂O₃</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>4.622</td>
<td>26.316</td>
<td>104.436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49.25B₂O₃-25TeO₂-25BaO-0.75Dy₂O₃</td>
<td>0.75%</td>
<td>4.671</td>
<td>26.222</td>
<td>104.873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49.0B₂O₃-25TeO₂-25BaO-1.0Dy₂O₃</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>4.722</td>
<td>26.103</td>
<td>105.349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48.75B₂O₃-25TeO₂-25BaO-1.25Dy₂O₃</td>
<td>1.25%</td>
<td>4.772</td>
<td>25.993</td>
<td>105.797</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 3: Density & molar volume Vs Dy₂O₃ mol% concentration

Figure 4: O.P.D & Vm of glasses of in (50-x) B₂O₃-25TeO₂-25BaO- xDy₂O₃

Figure 5 displays the FT-IR spectrum of the samples, providing information about chemical bonding and vibrations in the material as a function of Dy₂O₃ contents. Table 2 shows the locations and functions of the band in the glasses. The 464-471 cm⁻¹ band (q₁) was caused by the vibration of the Te–O–Te bond between TeO₄ and BO [14, 20]. There are three-dimensional networks of TeO₂ rich glasses that contain oxygen at two equatorial and axial sites, where only one equatorial site is connected to a lone pair electron ofTeO₂ polyhedron having 1 short and 3 extended Te-O bonds. The TeO₂ trigonal pyramid with NBO are formed when rare earth ions are integrated [21]. The bands q₂ and q₃ around 514-522 cm⁻¹ and 683-692 cm⁻¹ were due to axial symmetric stretching modes of TeO₂ units (tetrahedral) and (Teeq-O) as well as (Teeq-O) vibrations of polyhedral or Tri pyramids. The observed shift in the band position from lower to higher wavenumbers in the glass matrix was related to the changes in the glass network structure [22]. There is generally a correlation between the absorption band range and emission frequency of TeO₂ trigonal pyramids (tp) [6].

A transformation of certain [TeO₃] groups into [TeO₂] groups, including BO, was indicated by the shift in the q₁ band towards lower wavenumber [23]. The band q₂ appears in the range of BaO content in the glass system, creating a new absorption peak at 1019 cm⁻¹, which may be due to the vibrations of the NBO in the form of a (BO₃) unit [16]. On the other hand, q₃ appears in the range 1414-1420 cm⁻¹ assigned to stretching vibration modes of B–O linkage in BO₃ groups from different types of borate units [24]. The band q₄ appears in an area around 1572-1574 cm⁻¹ and is affected by stretching vibrations of BO₃ units connected to large borate matrixes [25]. The bands q₅, q₆ and q₇ appear in the range (2934-2947,1637-1643,3425-3475), 2934-2947cm⁻¹ was identified, which may be caused by the stretching mode of the Te-O-H groups hydrogen-bonded [26]. Band 1637-1643 cm⁻¹ assigned H-O-H
3425-3475 cm\(^{-1}\) was ascribed to OH groups [27] stretching vibration modes in water molecules [17,28]. Such vibrations may be caused by H\(_3\)BO\(_3\) formation during sample preparation. The dysprosium oxide mode of vibration was not detected, possibly because the dopant concentration was too low for the instrument to detect [23]. Recent studies in glass science have increasingly utilized FTIR spectroscopy to gain insights into the structural characteristics of materials. FTIR provides a detailed fingerprint of molecular vibrations, offering valuable information about the arrangement of atoms in a material. More tightly packed network formation with fewer defects suggests a well-organized and ordered structure in glasses with Dy\(_2\)O\(_3\).

### Table 2: FT-IR spectral peaks positions and assignments of the fabrication glasses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position of Bands</th>
<th>Band Frequency (cm(^{-1}))</th>
<th>Band Assignments</th>
<th>Ref.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>q1</td>
<td>464-471</td>
<td>Te–O–Te bond vibration between TeO(_4) and BO.</td>
<td>[14,20]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q2</td>
<td>514-522</td>
<td>axial symmetric stretching modes of TeO(_4) units (tetrahedral) and (Teeq-O) as well as (Teeq-O) vibrations of polyhedra or tripyramids. The shift in the band position from lower to higher wavenumbers in the glass network was observed and found to be connected to changes in the glass structure.</td>
<td>[22]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q3</td>
<td>692 -683</td>
<td>The transformation observed involved the conversion of certain [TeO(_4)] groups into [TeO(_3)] groups that also incorporated BO.</td>
<td>[23]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q4</td>
<td>1019-1021</td>
<td>vibrations of NBO in the form of (BO(_4)) unit.</td>
<td>[16]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q5</td>
<td>1414-1420</td>
<td>BO(_3) groups from various borate units exhibit distinct stretching vibration modes in the B–O linkage.</td>
<td>[24]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q6</td>
<td>1572-1574</td>
<td>stretching vibrations of BO(_3) units connected to large borate matrixes.</td>
<td>[25]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q7</td>
<td>1637-1643</td>
<td>H-O-H</td>
<td>[21]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q8</td>
<td>2934-2947</td>
<td>The hydrogen-bonded Te-O-H groups exhibit a stretching mode.</td>
<td>[26]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q9</td>
<td>3425-3475</td>
<td>OH groups.</td>
<td>[27]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Figure 5: FT-IR Spectrum of prepared glasses](image)

Figure 6 illustrates the impact of different quantities of Dy\(_2\)O\(_3\) on the longitudinal and shear velocities of glasses. Figure 7 shows that different concentrations of Dy\(_2\)O\(_3\) affect the elastic modulus of glasses. The value of ultrasonic speed was increased with the increase of Dy\(_2\)O\(_3\) level from 0 to 1.25% Figure 6. This increase was ascribed to improving the glasses’ O.P.D, bond strengths, cross-link density, and CN (coordination number) [18]. The correlation between rigidity, bond strength, BO number (TeO\(_3\)), and ultrasonic velocity was observed, indicating that as these factors increased, the resulting glass became more rigid and contained more Dy\(_2\)O\(_3\) [29]. Reduced molar volume leads to higher ultrasonic velocities, strengthening glass [30]. Increased networking between atoms makes the glass more rigid and increases the BO number [31]. The change from TeO\(_3\) to TeO\(_4\) induced by Dy\(_2\)O\(_3\) profoundly impacts the glass network's organization, [32]. This transformation leads to a more tightly packed network incorporating bridging oxygen atoms (BOs) [32]. The increase in elastic moduli, as depicted in Figure 7, is attributed to multiple factors.

One significant factor is the rise in cross-link density, which refers to the number of chemical bonds formed between the glass network. As the cross-link density increases, the glass becomes more tightly packed, and the intermolecular forces between the chains become stronger, resulting in increased rigidity. Another contributing factor is the oxygen packing density (O.P.D),
which refers to the distance that oxygen molecules can diffuse within the glass structure. When the OPD decreases, oxygen molecules are more confined within the glass, enhancing bond formation and improving material rigidity. The bond energy within the glass structure is crucial in determining its mechanical properties. Higher bond energy means stronger interactions between atoms, resulting in stiffer and more rigid glass [33]. The formation of more BO inside the glass structure improved its elastic moduli via the network structure compactness. Poisson's ratio measures the lateral and longitudinal strains. Poisson's ratio reveals the nature of a material's chemical bonding. The observed increase in the Poisson ratio value from 0.25 to 0.42 indicated an ionic bond dominance in semiconductors, glasses, and ceramics [34] conducted many studies and showed a strong relationship among the glass Poisson ratio and cross-link density (the bridging bond numbers/cation).

**Figure 6:** Longitudinal and shear velocity Vs Dy2O3 mol%

**Figure 7:** Elastic modulus of B2O3-TeO2-BaO- Dy2O3 glasses

Figure 8 illustrates the variation of the Poisson ratio and Debye temperature of the glasses against Dy2O3 contents, Figure 9 depicts the effects of varying Dy2O3 contents on the glasses' softening temperature and thermal expansion coefficient [34]. Table 3 shows the obtained values of the Poisson ratio, micro-hardness, fractal bond connectivity, Debye temperature, softening temperature, and thermal expansion coefficient of the glasses. The progressive increase in micro-hardness in correlation with Dy2O3 content implies strengthening the glass structure. The rearrangement of atoms and the creation of a more rigid structure with bridging oxygen bonds contribute to this improvement in mechanical performance. The value of Debye temperature was increased mainly due to Dy³⁺ inclusion in the glass matrix, making the network more rigid [18]. Debye temperature is a significant parameter in studying solid material properties. The material's rigidity and elasticity are related to this property. Micro-hardness determined the material's resistance against permanent penetration [18]. Micro-hardness values were increased from 4.99 to 5.474 GPa as Dy2O3 content was increased.

TeO₃ units were transformed into TeO₄ units because bridging oxygen formed, resulting in a more compact glass structure due to the change in structural units [35]. Micro-hardness measurement indicated the deformation of a glass network via the elimination of free spaces in the glass network. The available free spaces were reduced at higher hydrostatic pressure in the glass, resulting in more compact glass network structures [32]. Viscosity is transformed into plasticity at softening temperature (Ts). The values of Ts must be correlated with the ultrasonic speed of shear waves to confirm the thermal stability of the prepared glasses [36]. With the increase of Dy2O3 contents Figure 9, the values of Ts were increased from 334 to 351.3 K. Improvement in the Debye and softening temperature and coefficient of thermal expansion was ascribed to the generation of more BO in the glass structure [32,37]. At room temperature, d values for prepared glasses were determined from 4G/K. With the rise of Dy2O3 contents, the fractal bonds in the glass series tend to get stronger. This observation was ascribed to the increasing cross-link strength between TeO₂ chains [37].

**Table 3:** Values of Poisson ratio, micro-hardness, fractal bond connectivity, Debye temperature, softening temperature, and coefficient of thermal expansion of (50-x) B₂O₃-25TeO₂-25BaO-x Dy₂O₃ glasses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample code</th>
<th>δ</th>
<th>H (GPa)</th>
<th>d</th>
<th>θ₀ (k)</th>
<th>Ts (k)</th>
<th>αp</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0.288839</td>
<td>4.994241</td>
<td>1.966049</td>
<td>334.0107</td>
<td>399.6075</td>
<td>9238.25175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.25%</td>
<td>0.288235</td>
<td>5.197470</td>
<td>1.972603</td>
<td>338.6723</td>
<td>413.4302</td>
<td>9349.1382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>0.28932</td>
<td>5.23227</td>
<td>1.960782</td>
<td>338.7018</td>
<td>420.2500</td>
<td>9381.1363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.75%</td>
<td>0.29236</td>
<td>5.25398</td>
<td>1.927931</td>
<td>340.9508</td>
<td>421.1800</td>
<td>9445.6949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0.294603</td>
<td>5.5886</td>
<td>2.005188</td>
<td>345.1871</td>
<td>437.1891</td>
<td>9466.7522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.25%</td>
<td>0.301242</td>
<td>5.47541</td>
<td>1.832936</td>
<td>351.3834</td>
<td>451.8486</td>
<td>9855.7671</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Conclusion

By utilizing melt-quenching techniques, we successfully synthesized and characterized six B₂O₃-TeO₂-BaO glass samples that were doped with different levels of Dy₂O₃. By adjusting the concentration of Dy₂O₃, it was found that the glasses’ physical and mechanical properties can be tailored to meet specific requirements. Excellent transparency, thermal stability, and strong glasses were confirmed by the XRD and ultrasonic velocity measurement. Adding Dy₂O₃ to the glass systems may influence the increase in density as it modifies the glass network. As a result, the glass structure becomes more compact and connected. The molar volume of glasses decreased from 26.493 cm³ to 25.993 cm³ due to an increase in Dy₂O₃. Changes in the inter-atomic spacing caused a change in molar volume caused by changes in the structure.

IR spectral analysis provides information about chemical bonding and vibrations in the material and offers valuable information about the arrangement of atoms in a material. Poisson ratio and fractal bond connectivity showed that the glass structure gradually formed two-dimensional network structures, improving bond strength. Poisson's ratio reveals the nature of a material's chemical bonding. The observed increase in the Poisson's ratio value from 0.25 to 0.42 indicated an ionic bond dominance in semiconductors.

Poisson's ratio increases from 0.2888 to 0.3012. This increases the related relationship between the content of Dy₂O₃ and the enhancement of ultrasonic velocities and elastic moduli, implying a direct impact on the mechanical properties of the glass due to the formation of a greater number of bridging oxygen (BO). This study's novelty lies in the comprehensive exploration of mechanical properties in B₂O₃-TeO₂-BaO glass samples, introducing rare earth dopants at varying concentrations. Findings reveal a noteworthy enhancement in mechanical performance, including factors such as tensile strength, flexibility, and fracture resistance. This is a departure from conventional studies that may not have explored these glass compositions' full spectrum of mechanical characteristics. The connection established between oxygen bridge formation, network structure reinforcement, and subsequent improvement in mechanical performance offers exciting prospects for developing and using advanced glass materials. A deep understanding of the correlation between glass composition, structure, and mechanical properties is important for numerous industries and technology advancements. This knowledge allows the objective to enhance the strength and mechanical performance of glass materials, which will positively impact various applications.

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Author contributions

Conceptualization, S. Hathor, B. Al dabbagh and H. Aboud; writing review and editing, S. Hathor; supervision, H. Aboud; project administration, B. Al dabbagh and H. Aboud. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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Data availability statement

The data that support the findings of this study are available on request from the corresponding author.
Conflicts of interest
The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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