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# New tellurite glasses within the TeO<sub>2</sub>-NbO<sub>2.5</sub>-WO<sub>3</sub> system: relevant correlations between structural and optical properties

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## Abstract

Tellurium oxide based glasses have been of attractive scientific and technological interest due to their physical properties such as a high refractive index (around 2.2) high dielectric constants, a wide band infrared transmittance (up to 6  $\mu\text{m}$ ), a low phonon energy (600-700  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and large third order nonlinear optical susceptibilities  $\chi(3)$  (50 times higher than those of silica-based glasses) [1-3].

The glass-forming domain of new glasses within the TeO<sub>2</sub>-NbO<sub>2.5</sub>-WO<sub>3</sub> system was investigated. The structural evolutions upon adding NbO<sub>2.5</sub> and WO<sub>3</sub> were analysed using Raman spectroscopy; the linear and nonlinear optical properties were studied using optical transmission and spectroscopic ellipsometry. Consistent correlations have been revealed between structural and optical properties in these glasses.

Globally, no striking evolutions take place upon adding NbO<sub>2.5</sub> and WO<sub>3</sub>. Adding WO<sub>3</sub> leads to (i) uniformly dispersed WO<sub>6</sub> octahedra throughout the Te–O–Te network (at low WO<sub>3</sub> contents) and (ii) amorphous WO<sub>3</sub>-rich regions (at higher WO<sub>3</sub> contents). Adding NbO<sub>2.5</sub> engenders (i) a weak structural depolymerization of the Te–O–Te network and (ii) occurrence of NbO<sub>2.5</sub>-rich regions. The investigated glasses exhibit high linear refractive indices of 2.13 in average and remarkable nonlinear susceptibilities  $\chi(3)$  of 5.48 \*10<sup>-13</sup> esu in average, i.e., about 37 times higher than  $\chi(3)$  of silica SiO<sub>2</sub> glass.

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