

# Crystal Growth and Characterisation of Strontium on Thiourea

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## ABSTRACT

Thiourea, being a potential organic Non-linear optical material with high SHG efficiency having application in laser technology and photonic applications are grown as single crystals of Strontium chloride doped thiourea by slow evaporation solution growth technique (SEST), one of the best method for crystal growth at room temperature. It is further analysed by single crystal XRD which infers that the Strontium Chloride doped thiourea crystal has monoclinic system. The surface morphology was studied by SEM-EDS, that confirms the presence of Strontium in the doped specimen. FTIR reveals some slight variation in vibrational frequencies and no secondary vibrational bands are found in the doped specimen indicating the presence of some dopant.

**Keywords:** SEST, SEM-EDS, Single crystal XRD, organic material.

## Introduction

Non-linear optic (NLO) material showing second harmonic generation have been in demand over the last few decades due to technological importance in fields of optical communication single processing and instrumentation<sup>[1]</sup>. Recently thiourea has got a wide application in the production of crystal analyser for long wave X-ray spectrometer. Being a good non-linear optical material, thiourea possess piezoelectric, pyroelectric and elastic properties<sup>[2]</sup>. The NLO properties of metal complexes of thiourea have attracted significant attention in the last few years, because both inorganic and organic components contribute specifically to the process of SHG. Metal-organic complexes offer higher environment stability combined with greater diversity of tunable electronic properties by virtue of the co-ordinated metal center. Many metal thiourea complexes possessing second-order NLO activities<sup>[3]</sup> and some of them centrosymmetric in nature have been reported<sup>[4]</sup>. Thiourea crystals attract the attraction of both theoreticians and experiments due to the non-linear optical Piezoelectric properties. Thiourea possesses a large dipole moment which are potentially useful material for frequency doubling of near IR laser radiation. It is also significant impact on laser technology, optical communications and optical data storage<sup>[5-10]</sup>. In the development of science in many areas has been achieved through the growth of thiourea crystals. Non-linear optical (NLO) Materials are expected to play a major role in the technology of photonic including optical information processing. Many research efforts are undertaken to synthesize and characterize new molecules for second order non-linear optical (NLO) applications such as high speed processing, Telecommunications, Remote sensing laser, and optical data storage<sup>[11-16]</sup>. Recently the effect of organic additives Mn(II), Ce(IV), Cs(I) and Mg(I), (N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CO), (N<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>CS). Organic solvent on ZTS

and enhancement of SHG efficiency of thiourea on picric acid<sup>[17]</sup>. Thiourea is an interesting inorganic matrix modifier due to its large dipole moment<sup>[18]</sup> and its ability to form an extensive network of hydrogen bond. It belongs to the orthorhombic crystal system. Only a few of thiourea complexes viz, Zinc thiourea sulphate<sup>[19,20]</sup>, Cadmium thiourea acetate<sup>[21]</sup>, bithiourea cadmium chloride. The search for new and efficient NLO materials has resulted in the development of a new class of materials called organic mixed crystals. In this paper Strontium chloride thiourea single crystal is synthesized and grown by slow evaporation technique at room temperature. The effect of doping is studied using single crystal XRD, Fourier Transformation Infra Red Spectroscopy, and SEM-EDS.

### Experimental Details

Crystals were grown by slow evaporation solution growth technique. Doping of Strontium Chloride (equimolar) to Thiourea is done during the crystallization process. The crystallization process took place around 17-23 days and the transparent macroscopic defect free crystals are harvested. The photographs of Strontium chloride doped TU crystals are shown in figure 1. Bulk crystals are grown using optimized growth parameters.



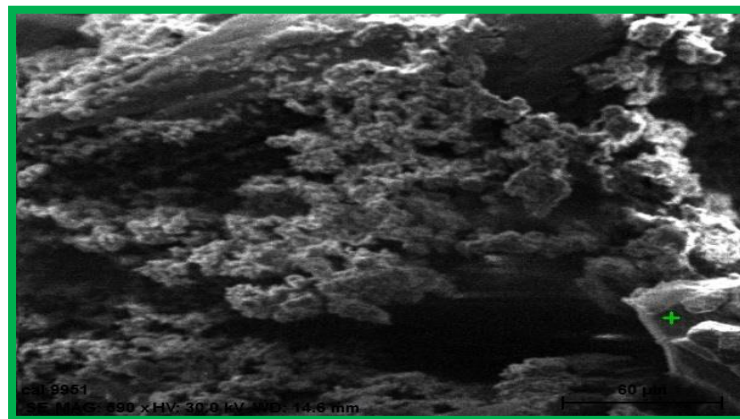
**Fig.1. Images of Sr doped Thiourea crystal**

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPY (SEM) WITH ENERGY DISPERSIVE X-RAY SPECTROSCOPY (EDS)

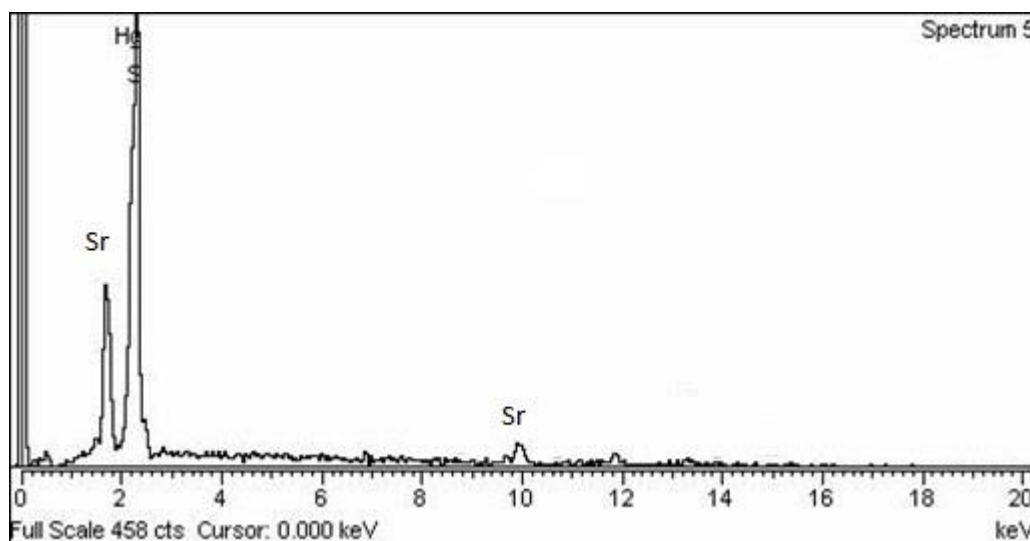
The surface morphology was observed using a JEOL JSM 5610 LV Scanning electron microscope which has a resolution of 3.0nm and an acceleration voltage of 0.3 to having the maximum magnification of 2,00,000 times. EDS is a chemical microanalysis technique performed in conjunction with a SEM. The EDS X-ray detector measured the number of emitted X-ray photons and their energy. [SEM study JEOL JSM 5610lv] gives information about the surface nature and its suitability for device fabrication, also used to check the presence of imperfections. The effectiveness of different impurities in changing the surface morphology is different has been reported<sup>17</sup>.

Figure 2. shows the scanning electron micrographs recorded for Strontium undoped Thiourea crystals. The micrograph depicts the surface features of the doped specimen and shows a reasonably good uniform surface with some roughness which could be due to impurities, the (Seleniumdioxide doped TU) specimen and shows cauliflower like appearance with some bubble voids which could be quite likely due to the evaporation of solvent from the crystal surface.



**Fig 2 SEM graph of Strontium doped TU**

The doping of Strontium resulting in its incorporation into the crystalline matrix is well confirmed by EDS figure 3. The higher concentration of Strontium into the Thiourea crystalline matrix can be clearly seen in the graph. The accommodating capability of Selenium on the surface of the crystal is also non-uniform.



**Fig3 EDS graph of Sr doped TU crystal**

**SINGLE CRYSTAL X-RAY DIFFRACTION :**

Single crystal X-ray diffraction studies were carried out using Bruker AXS (Kappa APEX II) X-ray diffractometer. Data were collected on a diffraction system, which employs graphite mono chromated Mo K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073\text{\AA}$ ).The table -1 shows the cell parameter values for pure Thiourea and Strontium doped thiourea crystals. The pure thiourea crystal belongs to orthorhombic system with a =7.660A<sup>0</sup>, b=8.54A<sup>0</sup>, c=5.52A<sup>0</sup>, and space group Pca21. The lattice constants for Strontium doped

thiourea, obtained by cell refinement with least square fitting of the lines in range of  $20^{\circ} \leq 2\theta \leq 120^{\circ}$  are  $a=6.21\text{Å}$ ,  $b=12.61\text{Å}$ ,  $c=9.31\text{Å}$  with monoclinic system,  $v=697\text{Å}^3$  and  $\alpha=90^{\circ}$ ,  $\beta=106.98^{\circ}$ ,  $\gamma=90^{\circ}$ . Here the changes in the cell parameter values of doped specimen compared to pure one could be due to higher concentration of doping effect leading to structural changes by substituting strontium in the place of 'S' in thiourea.

**Table 1–The cell parameter values of thiourea and Sr doped TU crystal**

Lattice Parameter Values	a Å <sup>0</sup>	b Å <sup>0</sup>	C Å <sup>0</sup>	v Å <sup>03</sup>	System
Thiourea	7.66	8.54	5.52	176	Orthorhombic
Thiourea/ Strontium	6.21	12.61	9.31	697	monoclinic

**FOURIER TRANSFORM INFRARED SPECTROSCOPY (FTIR)**

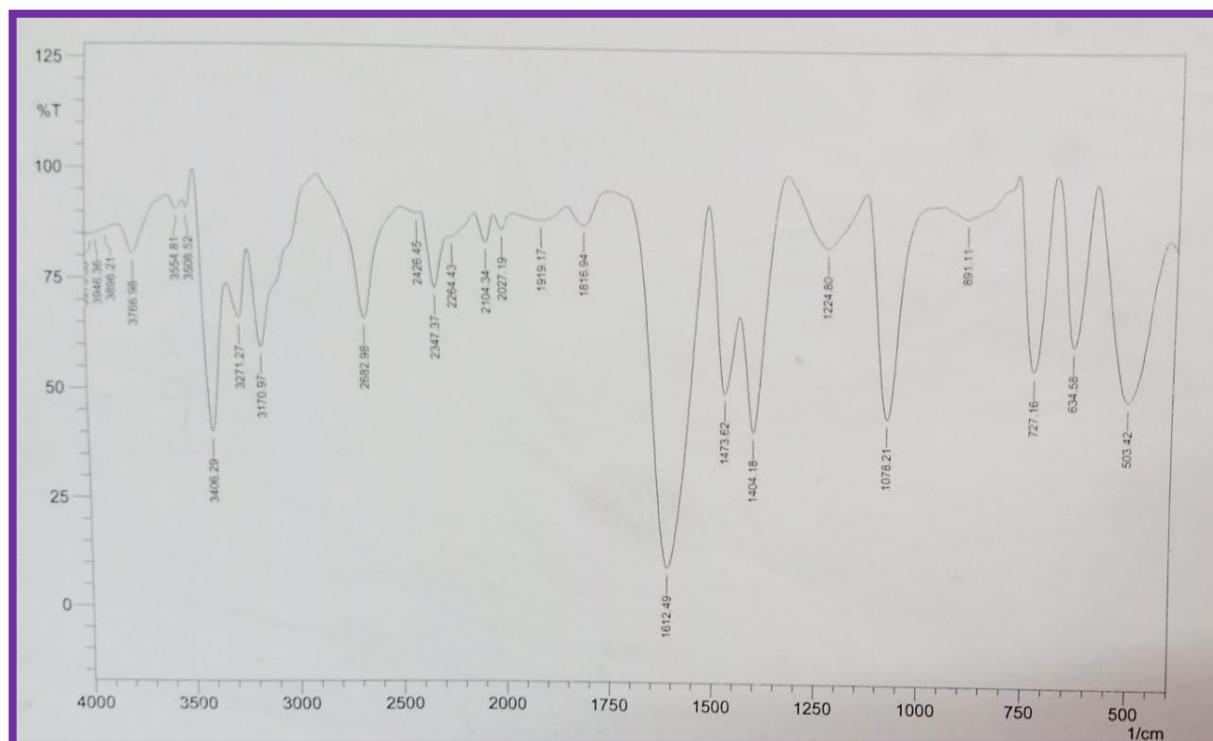
Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) studies were carried out on the grown crystals in order to understand the structure and bonding in them. FTIR spectra are recorded for pure and doped thiourea crystals by using AVATAR 330 FT-IR instrument by KBr pellet technique in the range  $400\text{--}4000\text{cm}^{-1}$  the figure .4 shows the FTIR spectra of thiourea and Strontium doped thiourea crystal investigating the presence of functional groups and their vibrational modes, between the frequencies  $400$  and  $4000\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The shifts in vibrational frequencies of doped specimen compared to pure thiourea are tabulated as follows. Comparison of characteristic frequencies of thiourea and Strontium doped thiourea crystal is shown in table-2

**Table -2: comparison of vibrational frequencies of pure and Selenium doped thiourea crystal**

Wavelength of thiourea $\text{cm}^{-1}$	Wavelength of Se Thiourea $\text{cm}^{-1}$	Tentative assignment
3395	3406.29	$\gamma_{as}(\text{NH}_2)$
3179	3170.97	$\gamma_s(\text{NH})$
2674	2682.98	$\gamma_s(\text{NH}_2)$
2104	2347.37	$\gamma(\text{NCN}), \text{NH}_3^+$
1500	1612.49	$\delta(\text{NH}_2)$
1464	1473.62	$\gamma_{as}(\text{CN})$
1395	1404.18	$\gamma_{as}(\text{C=S})$
1089	1224.80, 1078.21	$\gamma_s(\text{CN})$
729	727.16	$\gamma_s(\text{C=S})$
485	503.42	$\delta_{as}(\text{NCN})$

In the above table a very slight shifts in some of the characteristic vibrational frequencies of pure thiourea is observed because of doping of Strontium which could be due to lattice strain developed. Here the wave number  $\gamma_{as} \text{NH}_2$  absorption bands in thiourea  $3395\text{cm}^{-1}$  was shifted to lower wavenumbers

3406.29 $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in Strontium doped thiourea crystal, the broadening of the band in doped one at 1224.80 $\text{cm}^{-1}$  on comparing to pure thiourea infers that there are no strong hydrogen bonding in the doped specimen instead there is much weaker tendency to form hydrogen bonding. The bonding vibration( $\delta_{\text{as}}\text{NH}_2, \gamma_{\text{C}=\text{S}}$ ) thiourea at 1621 and 1395 $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is shifted to 1612.49 $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 1473.62 and 1404.18 $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in doped specimen indicating the formation of Strontiumthiourea single crystal.



**Fig.4 FTIR Spectra of Strontium doped TU Crystals**

## CONCLUSION

Using single crystal XRD, FT-IR and SEM-EDS techniques, the effect of Strontium doping on thiourea crystals has been investigated in our present study. The surface morphology of the crystal was studied from SEM that shows cauliflower like appearance with some bubble voids which could be quite likely due to the evaporation of solvent from the crystal surface. and EDS Confirms the presence of Strontium in the doped specimen and a slight variation in the intensity of the doped compared to pure TU specimen due to doping effect. Heavy doping of Strontium on thiourea exhibits increased vibrational peaks in FT-IR spectrum compared to pure TU.

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