

# Preparation and property control of fine powder in dry processes

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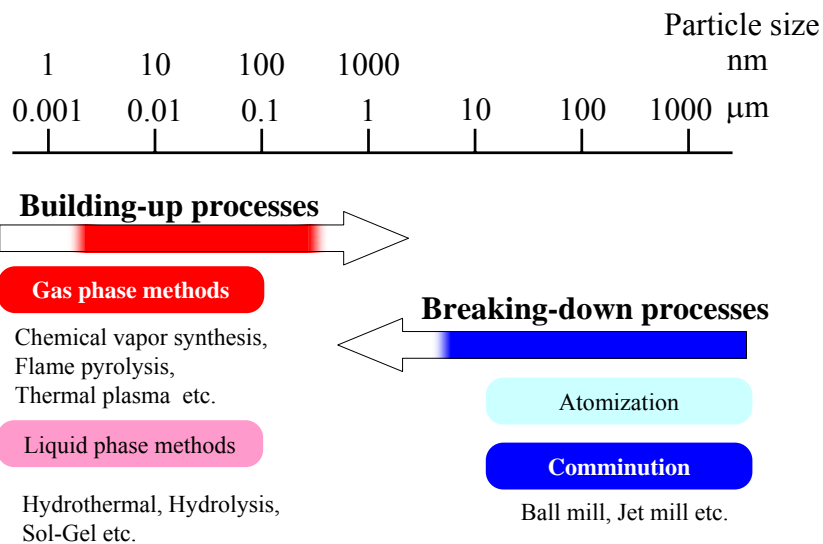
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President  
AAAmachine, Inc.

Event: Powder & Bulk Solids (PTXi) 2008  
Seminar: Technical Session 404: Nano powders  
Place: Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont IL  
Date: May 8 (Thu), 2008 10:00 AM -11:00 AM

## Contents

- **Introduction**
- **Grinding and classification for fine powders**
- **Synthesis of nano powders by RF plasma method**
- **Property control of nano powders**
- **Summary**

## Preparation of fine powders



## Dry grinding and classification

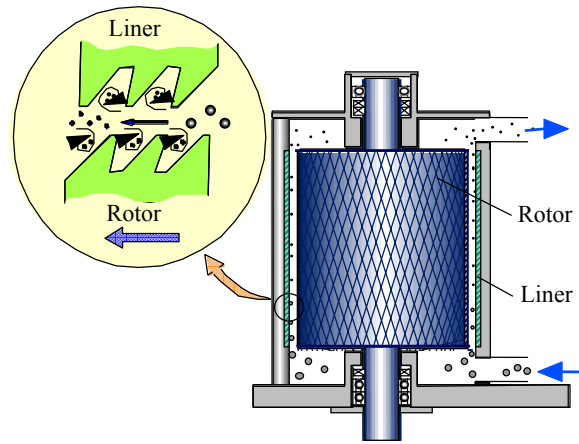
### Grinding equipment

- Ball mill
- Mechanical mill (High speed rotor mill)
- Jet mill (Fluid-energy mill)

### Classification equipment

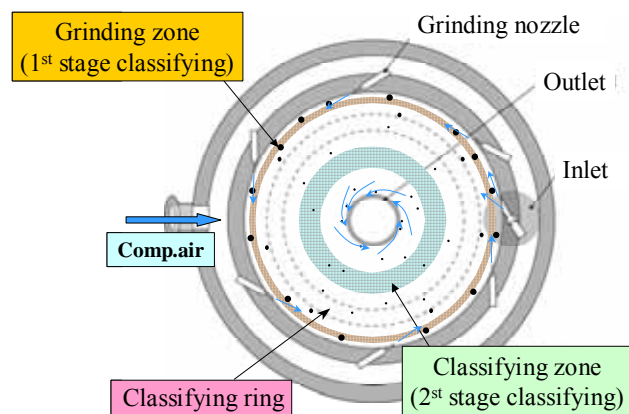
- Inertial classifier
- Free vortex type centrifugal classifier  
(Centrifugal classifier without a rotor)
- Forced vortex type centrifugal classifier  
(Centrifugal classifier with a rotor)

## Structure of a mechanical mill



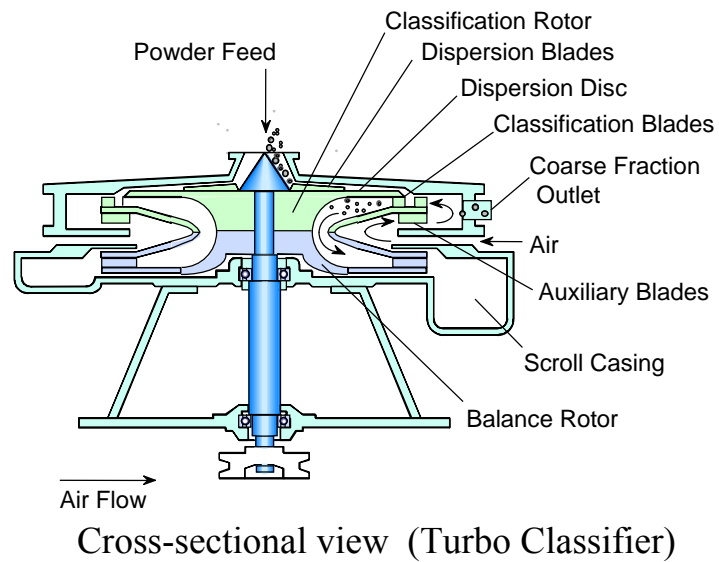
Cross-sectional View (Super Rotor)

## Structure of a jet mill

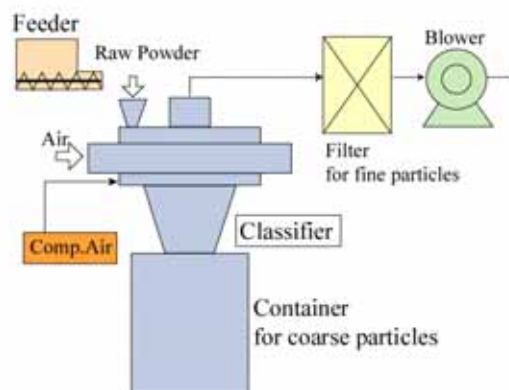


Cross-sectional view (Super Jet Mill)

## A forced-vortex-type centrifugal classifier

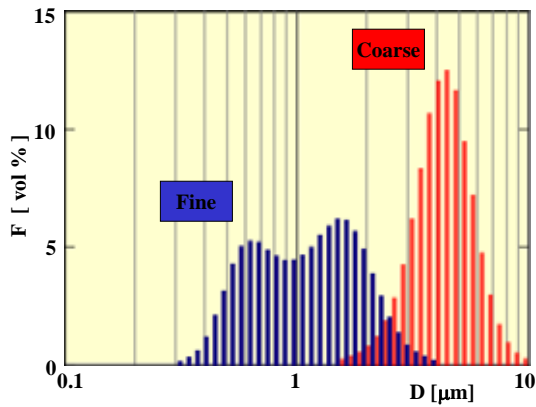


## A new free-vortex-type centrifugal classifier

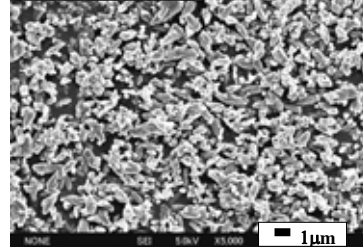


## Performance of the free-vortex-type classifier

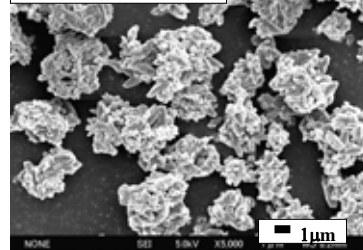
### Calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ )



Fine  $D_{50} : 1.1\mu\text{m}$

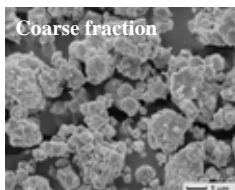
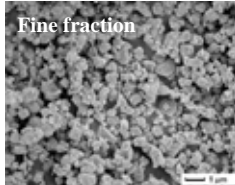
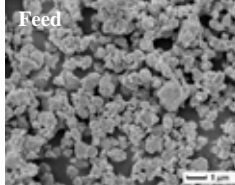
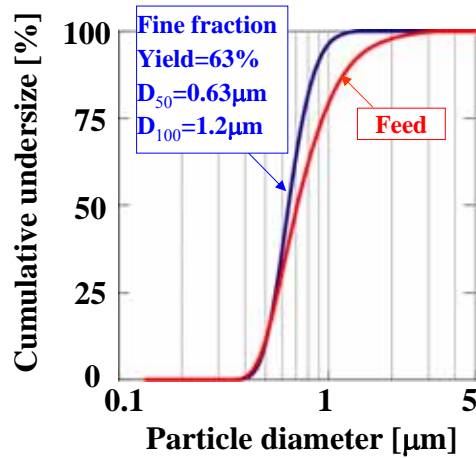


Coarse  $D_{50} : 3.9\mu\text{m}$

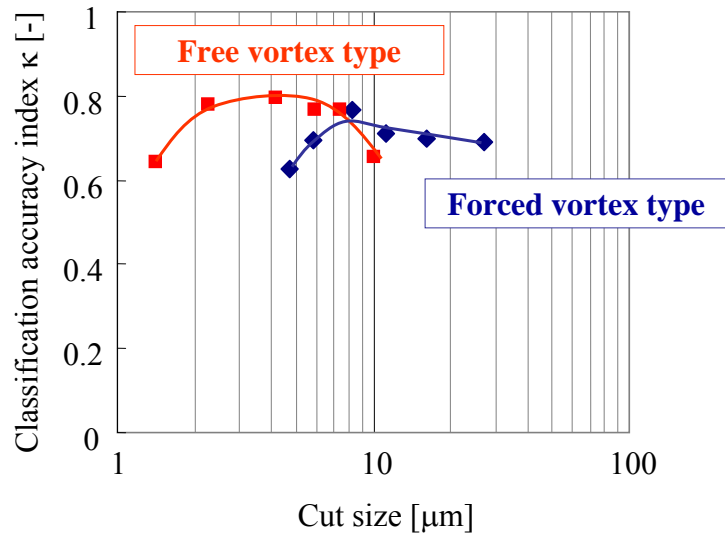


## Performance of the free-vortex-type classifier

### Barium titanate ( $\text{BaTiO}_3$ )

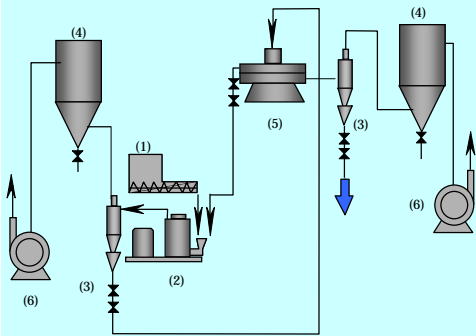


## Classification accuracy of the two classifiers



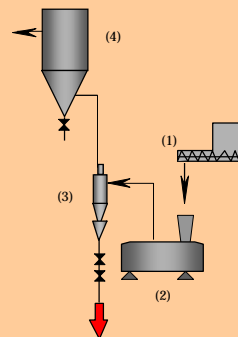
## Flowsheets of two grinding systems for toner

- (1) Screw feeder
- (2) Mechanical mill
- (3) Cyclone
- (4) Bag house
- (5) Classifier
- (6) Blower



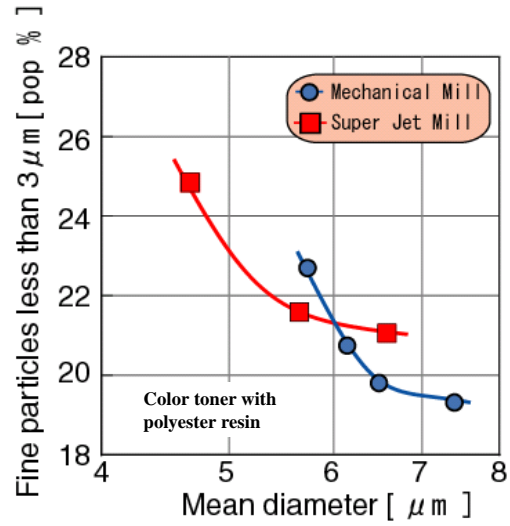
Closed circuit grinding system of mechanical mill and classifier

- (1) Screw feeder
- (2) Super Jet Mill
- (3) Cyclone
- (4) Bag house

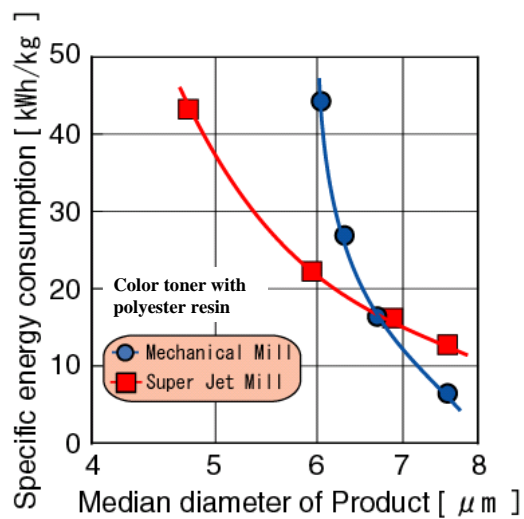


Grinding system of Super Jet Mill

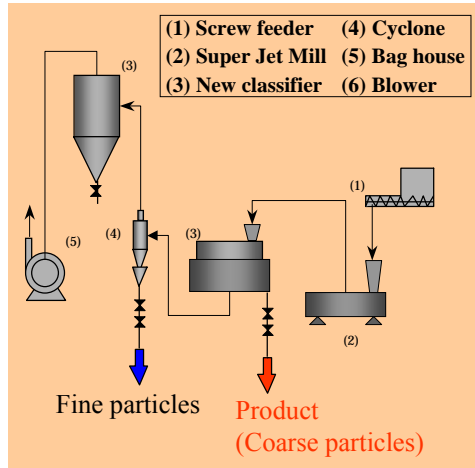
## Over-grinding for two grinding systems



## Energy efficiency for two grinding systems

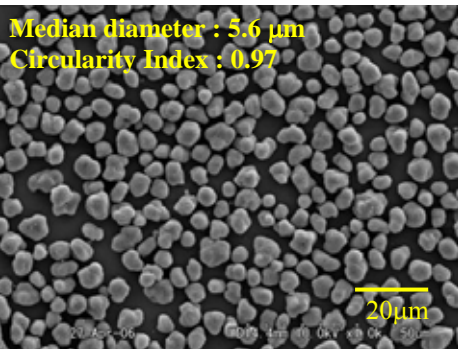


## Super Jet Mill system with a new classifier

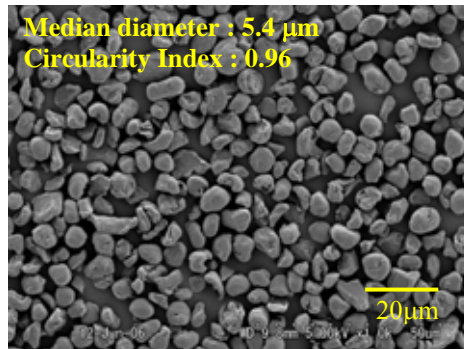


A new classifier for fine classification

## Comparison of chemical and pulverized toners



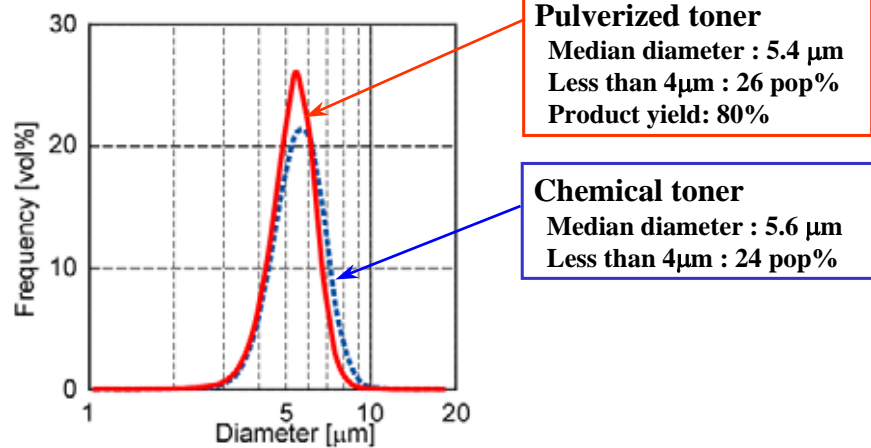
**Chemical toner**  
**(Building-up process)**



**Pulverized Toner**  
**(Super Jet Mill system)**



## Comparison of chemical and pulverized toners



## Nano powders by a thermal plasma method

### Apparatus for preparation of nano powders

What's a RF(radio-frequency) thermal plasma?

Experimental setup

Features of nano powders by a RF plasma method

### Single component nano powders

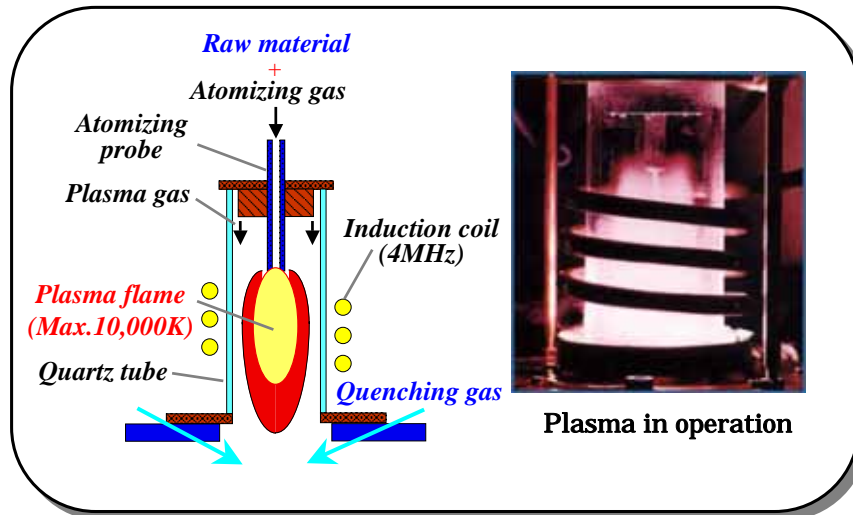
Control of particle size

### Composite of nano powders

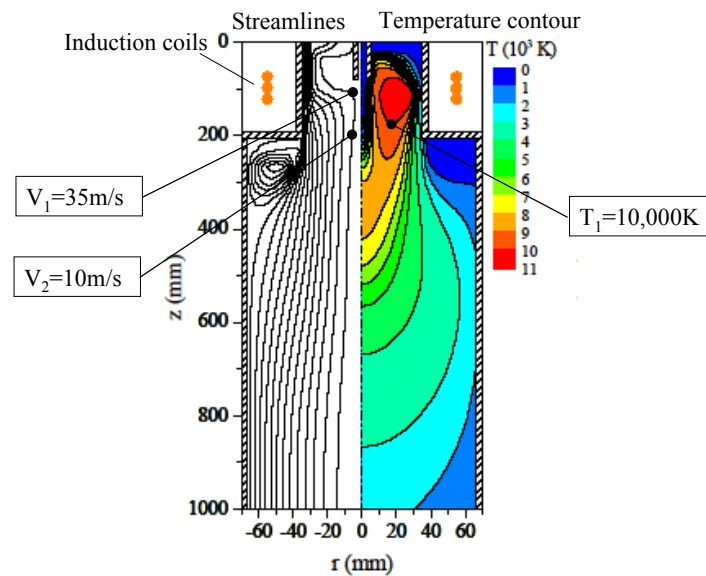
Synthesis of composite nano powders

Control of the particle size and crystal structure

## Detailed schematic of RF plasma torch



## Numerical simulation of a plasma field



R. Ye, J. Li, T. Ishigaki: Thin Solid Films, 4251, 515(2007)

## Advantages of RF thermal plasma

### Electrodeless

Reduce contamination in nanopowders

### Large volume and low velocity of plasma flame

Melt and evaporate raw materials at high throughputs

### High chemical reaction atmosphere

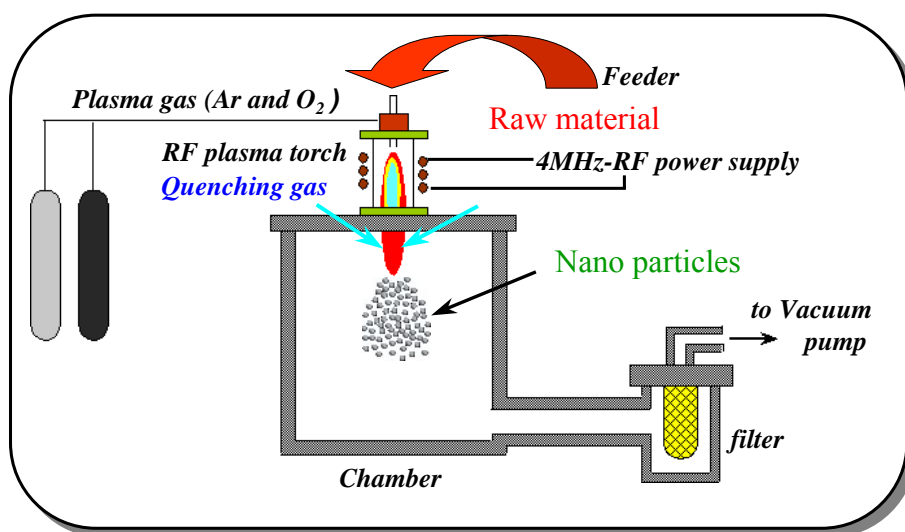
Oxide, nitride, carbide metal(reduction) etc.

### Rapid quenching (quenching rate: $10^6\text{K/s}$ )

Preparation of composite materials

Control of particle properties(size and crystal structure)

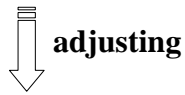
## Manufacturing reactor of nano powders



## Control of particle size

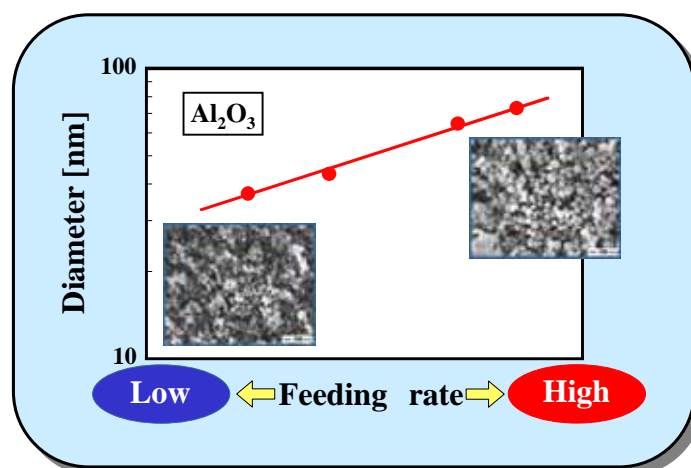
Nucleation and growth of nano powders are influenced by

**Feed rate of materials**  
**Flow rate of quenching gas**  
**Reactor pressure**  
**Generator power input**  
**Position of probe**

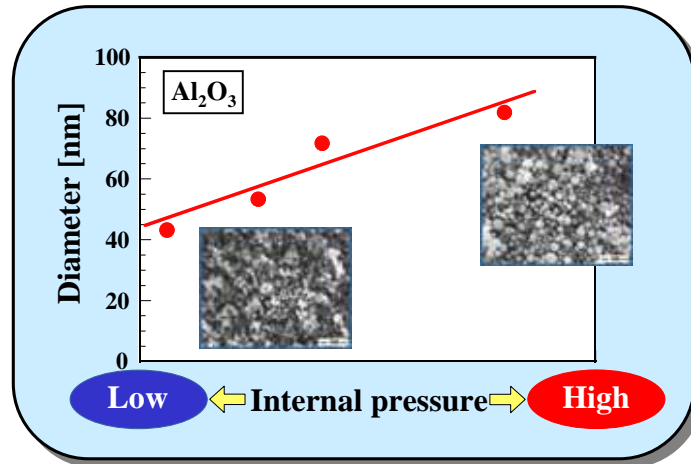


**Control of particle size**

## How to control particle size



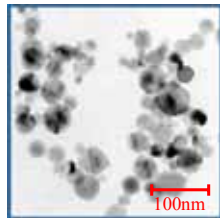
## How to control particle size



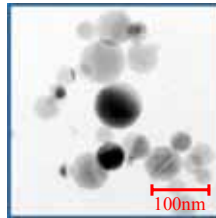
## Nano powders prepared by RF plasma

Material	Diameter (BET)	Shape (SEM)	Crystal System (XRD)
$\text{SiO}_2$	10-50nm	Sphere	Amorphous
$\text{TiO}_2$	30-100nm	Sphere	Tetragonal
$\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$	30-80nm	Sphere	Monoclinic
$\text{BaTiO}_3$	30-80nm	Sphere	Cubic(Tetragonal)
Ni	50-200nm	Sphere	Cubic
Cu	50-200nm	Sphere	Cubic
TiN	30-60nm	Sphere	Cubic
SiC	30-60nm	anisotropy	Cubic+Hexagonal

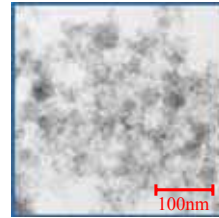
## TEM image of nano powders



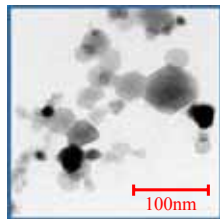
Titania( $\text{TiO}_2$ )



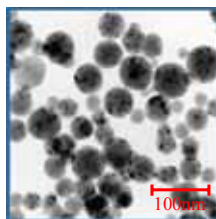
Alumina( $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ )



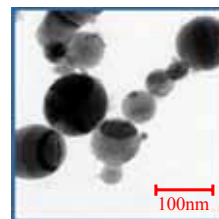
Silica( $\text{SiO}_2$ )



Yttria( $\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$ )

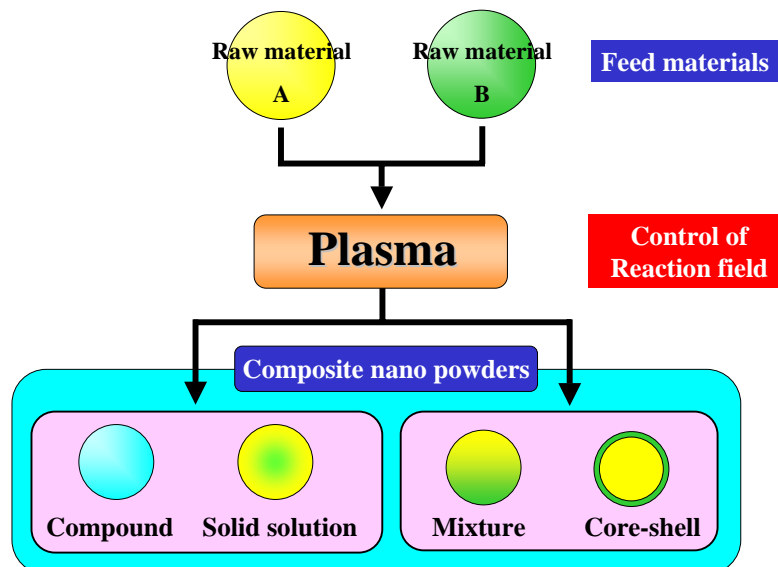


Barium Titanate( $\text{BaTiO}_3$ )

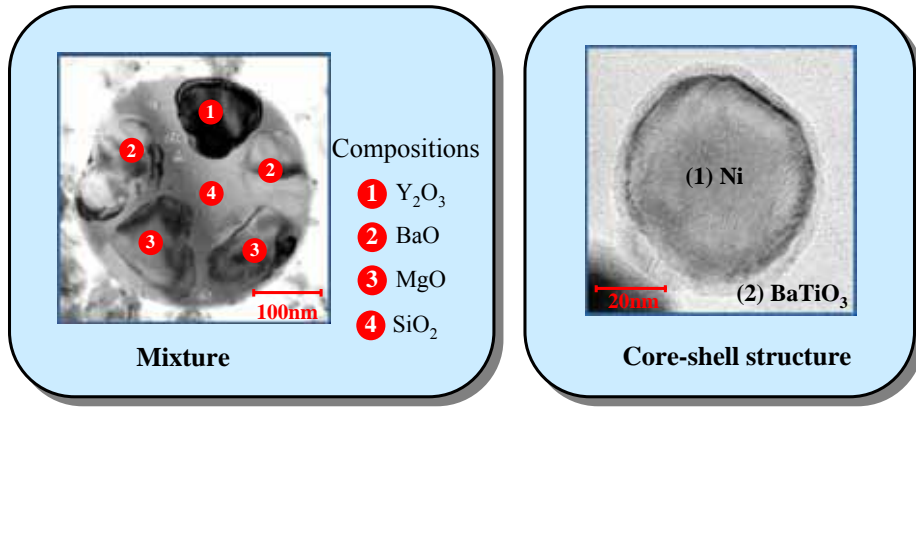


Nickel(Ni)

## Preparation of composite nano powders



## Examples of composite nano powders



## Other examples of composite nano powders

### $Y_2O_3-Al_2O_3$ system

Raw material has a composition of Y:Al= 3:5.

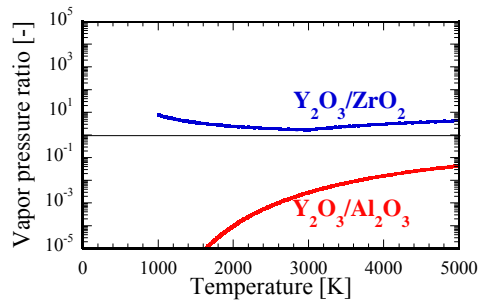
(corresponding to YAG, Yttrium-Aluminum-Garnet)

Large difference of vapor pressure values for each material.

### $Y_2O_3-ZrO_2$ system

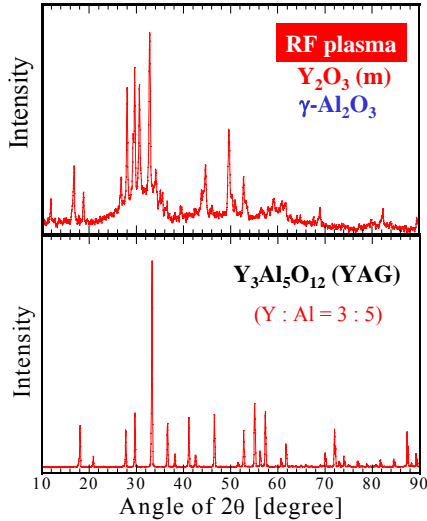
Raw materials have compositions of Y : Zr = 0 : 100, 3 : 97, 10 : 90.

Small difference of vapor pressure values for each material.



Comparison of the vapor pressure ratio

## XRD profiles of $Y_2O_3$ - $Al_2O_3$ (YAG) system

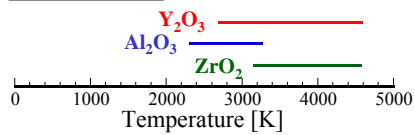


Two crystallographic phase

High crystallinity of  $Y_2O_3$

○ Boiling point

△ Melting point

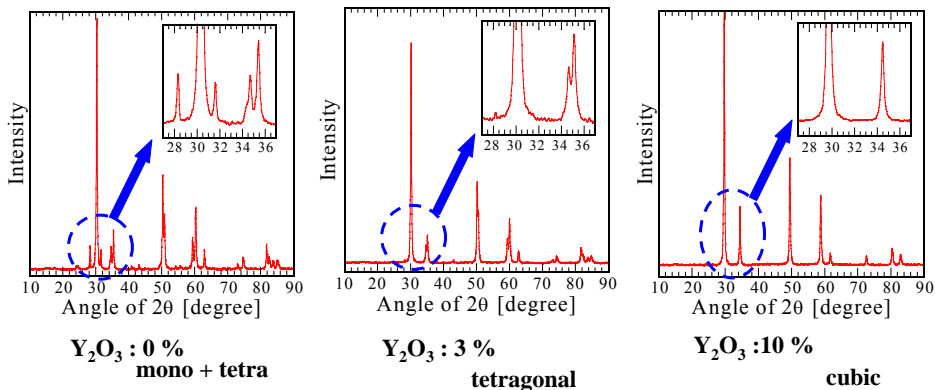


Vapor pressure:  $Al_2O_3 \gg Y_2O_3$

→ Mixture of  $Al_2O_3$  &  $Y_2O_3$

Mixture type is prepared when the materials have a large difference of vapor pressure.

## XRD profiles of $Y_2O_3$ - $ZrO_2$ system



The solid solution type is prepared when the materials have a small difference of vapor pressure.

The vapor pressure ratio is a key parameter to prepare the composite nano powders



## Property control of BaTiO<sub>3</sub> nano powders

Barium titanate(BaTiO<sub>3</sub>) ceramics

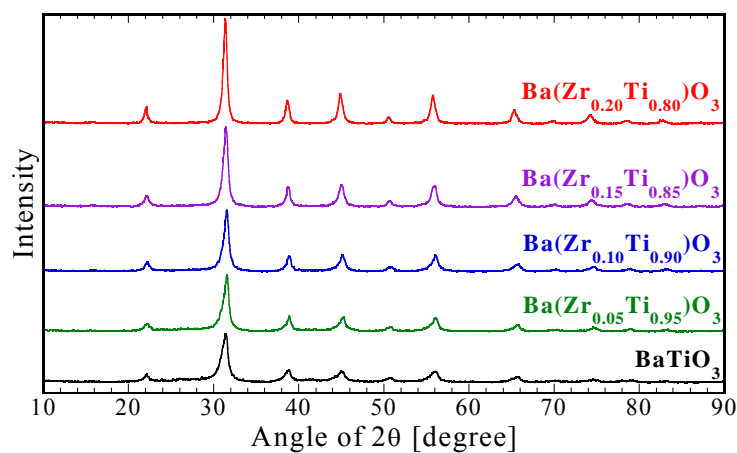
High dielectric constant, Low dielectric loss ···

MLCC, Piezoelectric transducers , etc.

**Property control of barium titanate(BaTiO<sub>3</sub>)  
nano powders by doping Zr**

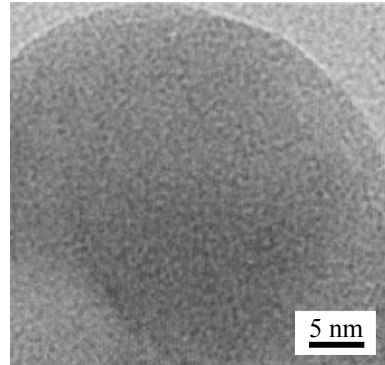
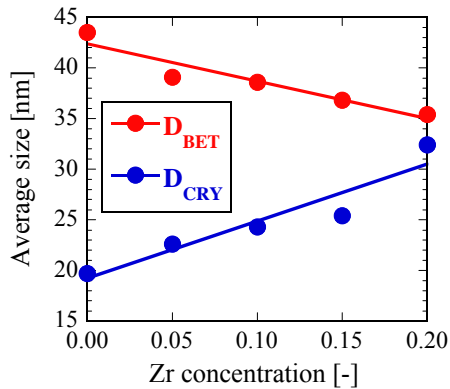
High crystallinity (tetragonal phase)  
Narrow size distribution and small size  
Weak aggregation

## XRD profiles of Ba(Zr<sub>x</sub>Ti<sub>1-x</sub>)O<sub>3</sub> composite



**Intensities of Zr doped barium titanate nano powders  
increase with increasing Zr concentration**

## Effect of Zr concentration on crystallinity



TEM photo:20% doped BT

The Crystallinity(crystal size) increases and the particle size decreases as Zr concentration increases.

## Summary

- 1) In order to efficiently prepare fine powders, it is important to use a suitable grinding or classification machine for particle size and characteristics.
- 2) Using grinding and classifying technologies, it is possible to produce toners similar to chemical ones in particle shape and size distribution.
- 3) The RF plasma is a useful method for the synthesis of many kinds of nano powders.
- 4) The vapor pressure ratio is a key parameter to prepare the composite nano powders
- 5) The particle size and crystallinity of barium titanate ( $\text{BaTiO}_3$ ) nano powders could be controlled by doping Zr.

Thank you very much  
for your kind attention.

Experimental conditions ( $Y_2O_3$ - $Al_2O_3$ , - $ZrO_2$  system)

Plasma gas	100 slpm(Ar), 20 slpm(O <sub>2</sub> )
Atomizing gas	10 slpm(Ar)
Plate voltage & current	9 kV, 6A
Power	54 kW
Chamber pressure	50 kPa
Solution	$Y(NO_3)_3, Al(NO_3)_3$ (Y : Al = 3 : 5) <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> $Y(NO_3)_3, ZrO(C_2H_3O_2)_2$ (Y : Zr = 0 : 100, 3 : 97, 10 : 90)
Solid content of the solution	20 wt%
Solution feeding rate	10 g/min

### Typical experimental conditions for oxide

Plasma gas	100 slpm(Ar), 20 slpm(O <sub>2</sub> )
Atomizing gas	10 slpm(Ar)
Plate voltage & current	9 kV, 6A
Power	54 kW
Chamber pressure	50 kPa
Feed rate of raw material	500 g/min

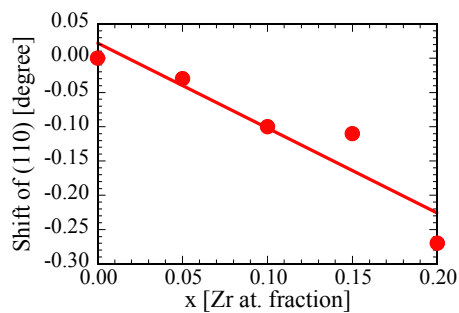
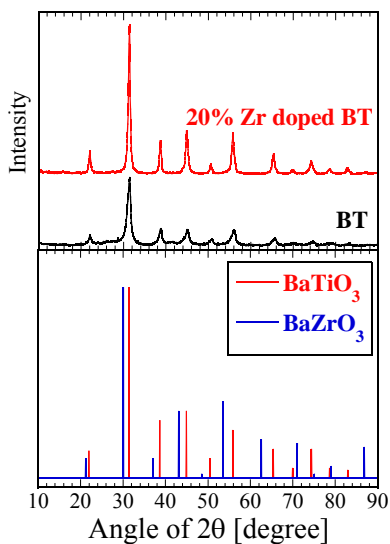
### Experimental conditions (Ca, Zr doped BaTiO<sub>3</sub>)

Plasma gas	100 slpm(Ar), 20 slpm(O <sub>2</sub> )
Atomizing gas	10 slpm(Ar)
Plate voltage & current	9 kV, 6A
Power	54 kW
Chamber pressure	50 kPa

**Suspension** 1 μm BaO and TiO<sub>2</sub>, ZrO(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>  
(Ti : Zr = 100 : 0 ~ 80 : 20)  
1 μm BaO and TiO<sub>2</sub>, Ca(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>  
(Ba : Ca = 100 : 0 ~ 90 : 10)

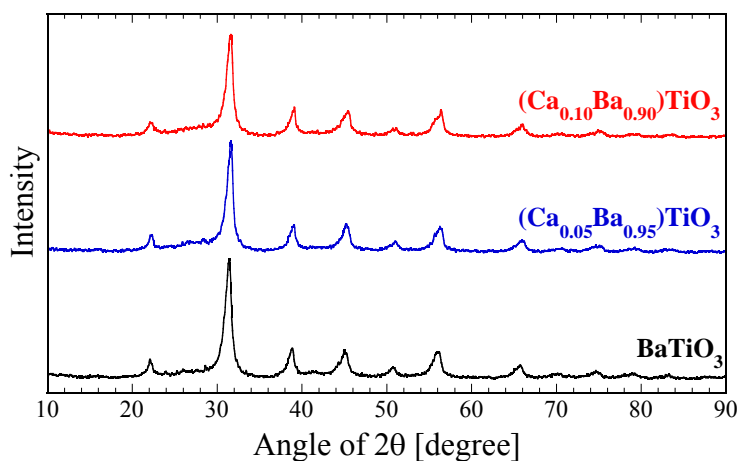
Solid content of the solution	20 wt%
Solution feeding rate	10 g/min

## Characteristics of Zr doped BaTiO<sub>3</sub>



**Solid solution nano powders**

## XRD profiles of (Ca<sub>y</sub>Ba<sub>1-y</sub>)TiO<sub>3</sub> composite



**Peak intensities are independent of Ca concentration**

## Kelvin effect

### Pure liquid droplet

$$\frac{p_1}{p_s} = \exp\left(\frac{4\gamma M}{\rho R T d_p}\right)$$

### Containing dissolved materials

$$\frac{p_2}{p_s} = \left(1 + \frac{6imM}{M_s \rho \pi d_p^3}\right) \exp\left(\frac{4\gamma M}{\rho R T d_p}\right)$$

$$p_1 = p_2 \times \left(1 + \frac{6imM}{M_s \rho \pi d_p^3}\right)$$

$$p_1 > p_2$$

$m$  : mass of the dissolved materials

The vapor pressure decreases by impurities.



Acceleration of the physical condensation

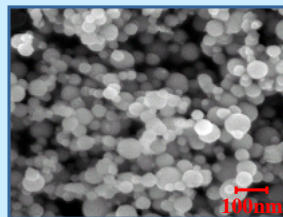
High crystallinity

	<b>BaTiO<sub>3</sub></b>	<b>CaTiO<sub>3</sub></b>	<b>BaZrO<sub>3</sub></b>
<b>Mp.[K]</b>	<b>1890</b>	<b>2250</b>	<b>2770</b>

## BTO nanoparticles

### Analysis of nano - BTO

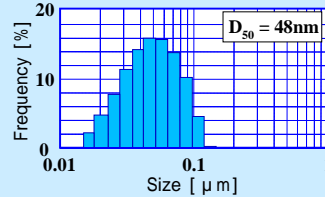
SEM image



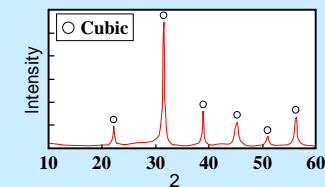
Specific surface area (BET method)

24m<sup>2</sup>/g (42nm)

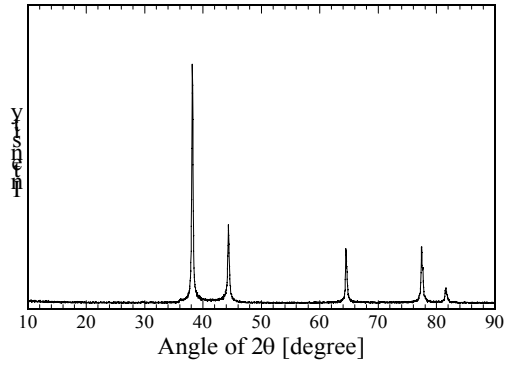
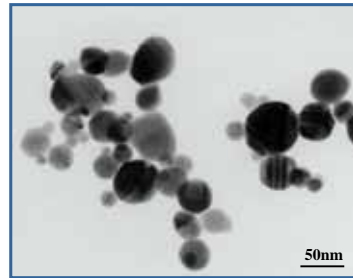
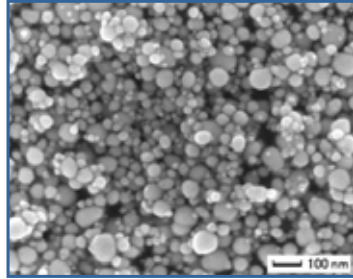
Size distribution



XRD



## Ag nanoparticles



SSA : 14 m<sup>2</sup>/g

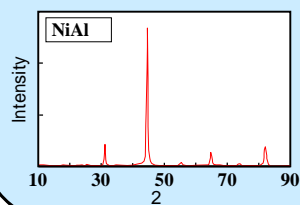
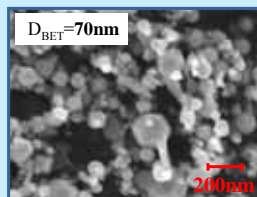
D<sub>SSA</sub> : 41 nm

D<sub>DLS</sub> : 79 nm

## Alloy nanoparticles

### Nano alloy

Ni:Al=1:1



Ni:Ti=1:1

