An Ultraincompressible Titanium Pernitride (TiN₂)

Scientific Achievement

Synthesis of a new transition metal pernitride, TiN₂, that is the only non-noble metal pernitride exists to date.

Significance and Impact

Titanium pernitride (TiN₂) is ultaincompressible (bulk modulus >360GPa) due to the presence of single bonded nitrogen units (pernitride ions) in its crystal lattice. The structure-property relation exhibited by TiN₂ is useful in discovering similar superhard materials.

Research Details

- Reaction between TiN and N₂ at 73GPa resulted in the formation of TiN₂. As synthesized TiN₂ was recovered at ambient conditions.
- TiN₂ was characterized by synchrotron x-ray diffraction, EDS on SEM, Raman spectroscopy, and first principles calculations made possible by the EFree ERFC.

Crystal Structure Electron Localization Function

Bhadram, V.S.; Kim, D.Y.; Strobel, T.A., High-pressure synthesis and characterization of incompressible titanium pernitride,. chem mater (2016). doi:10.1021/acs.chemmater.6b00042.

Facilities: APS, Argonne







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0.9 0.8

0.7 0.6

0.5

0.4 0.3

0.2 0.1