

**Electronic Supplementary Information**

**NANOCRYSTALLINE CERIA: A NOVEL MATERIAL FOR  
ELECTRORHEOLOGICAL FLUIDS**

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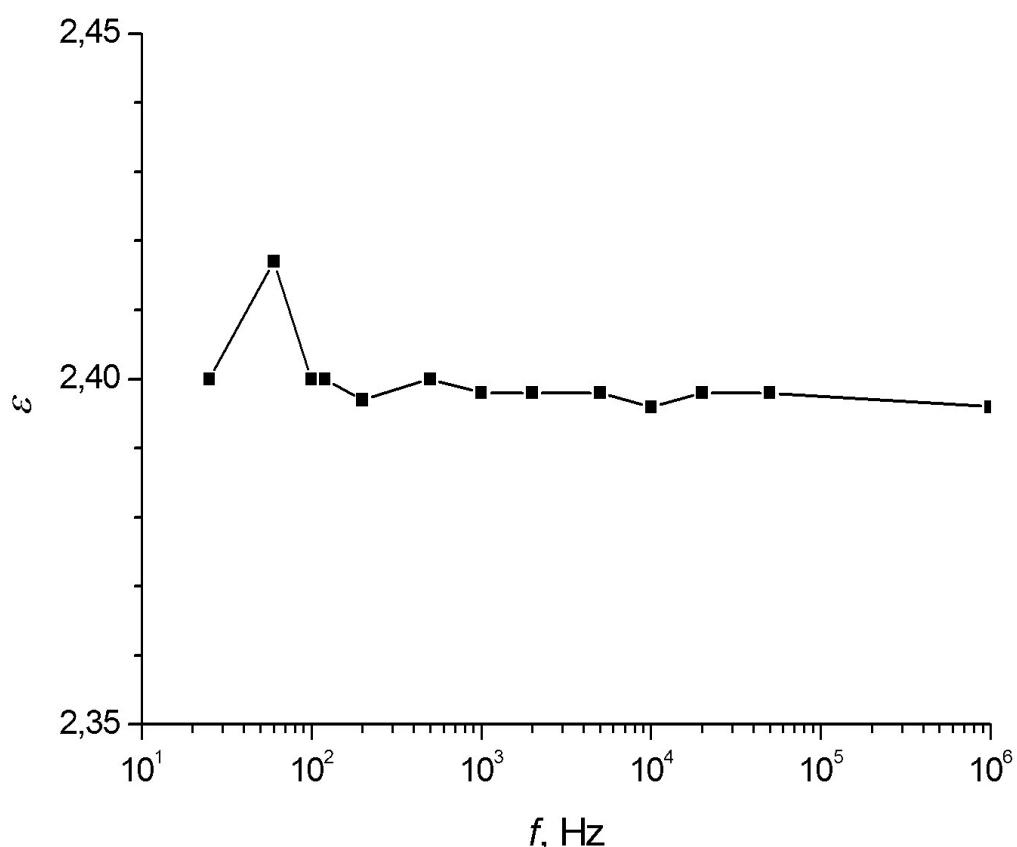


Fig. S1. Dielectric spectrum of PDMS.

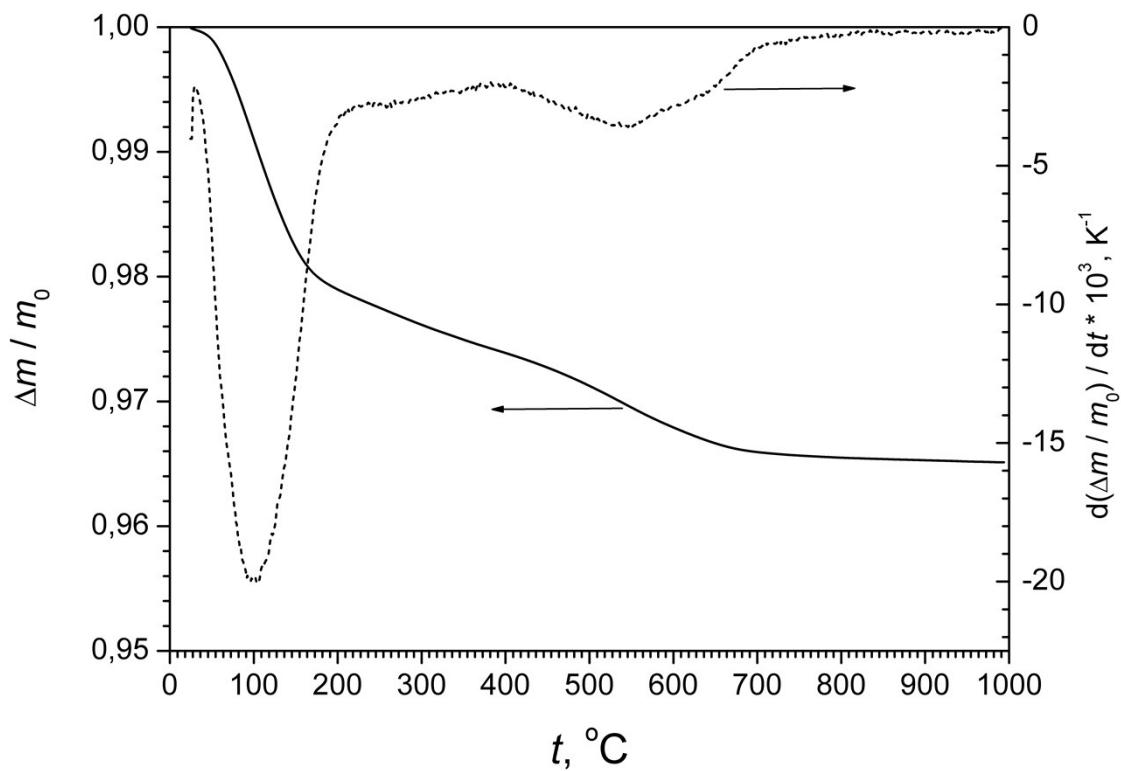


Fig. S2. Results of thermogravimetric analysis of the ceria sample.

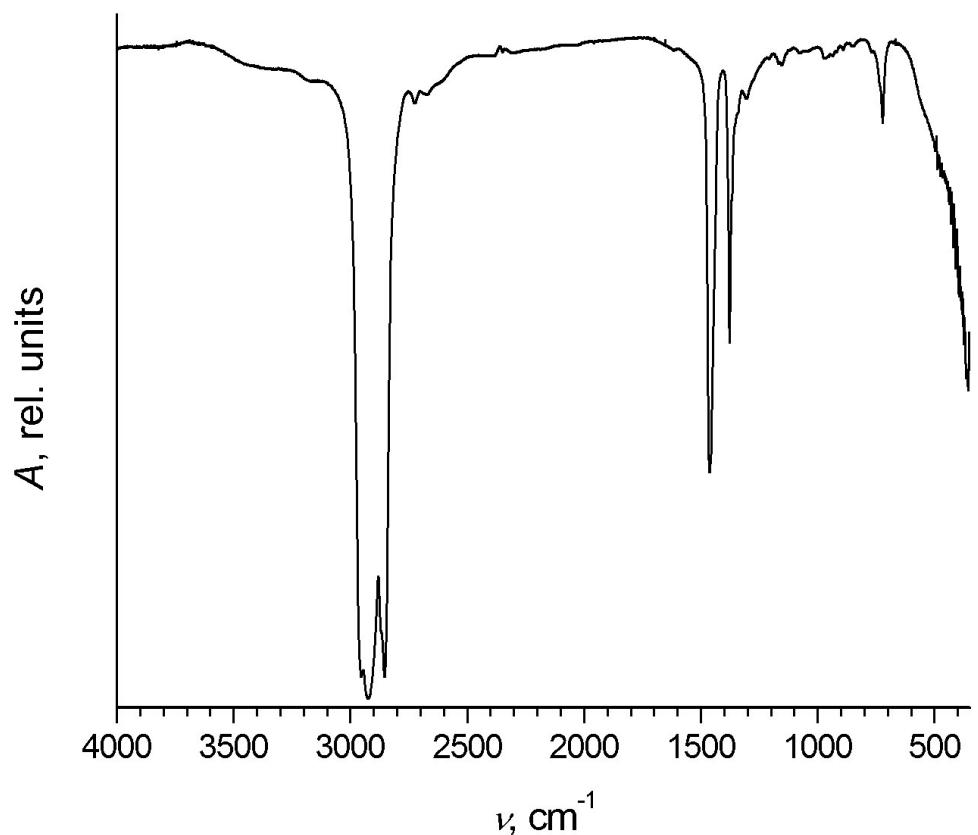


Fig S3. IR-spectrum of ceria sample.

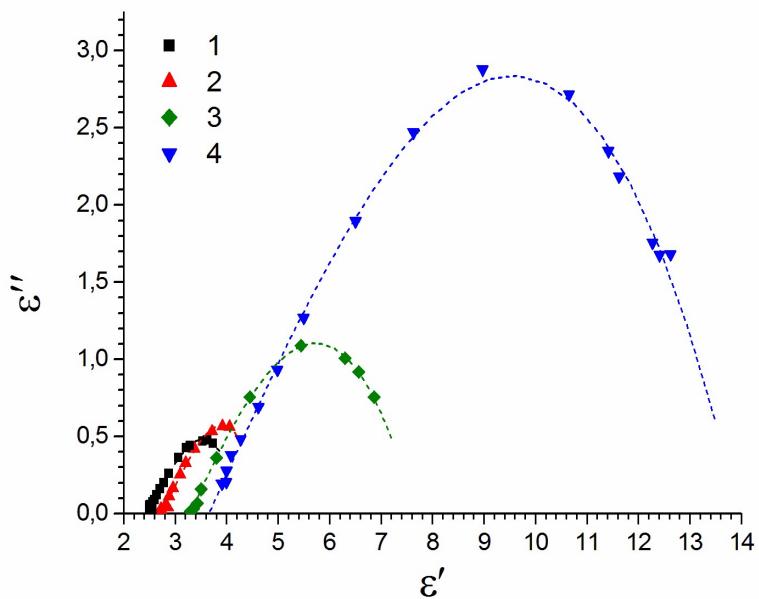


Fig. S4. Cole-Cole arcs for  $\text{CeO}_2$  based ER fluids containing 30 wt.% (1), 40 wt.% (2), 50 wt.% (3) and 60 wt.% (4)  $\text{CeO}_2$  in silicone oil.

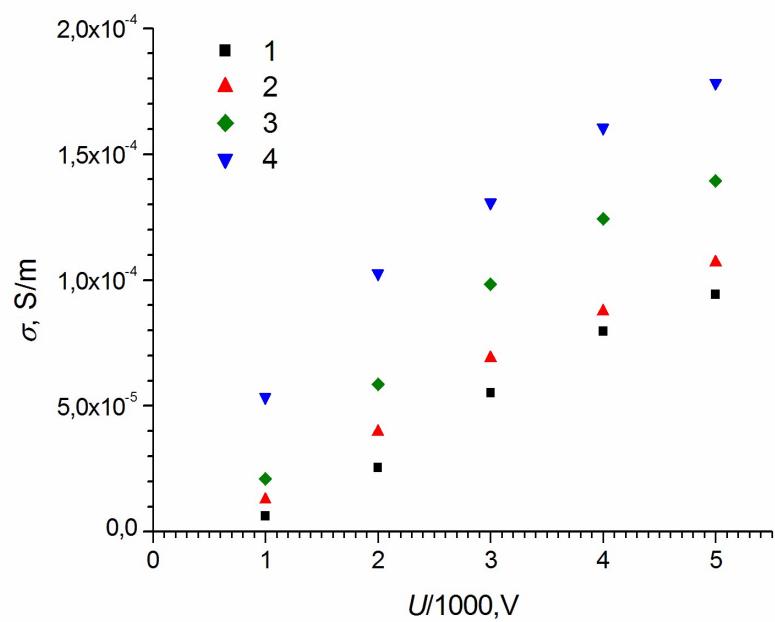


Fig. S5. Electric conductivity versus electrical field strength for electrorheological fluids containing 30 wt.% (1), 40 wt.% (2), 50 wt.% (3) and 60 wt.% (4)  $\text{CeO}_2$ . Electrode gap is 1 mm.

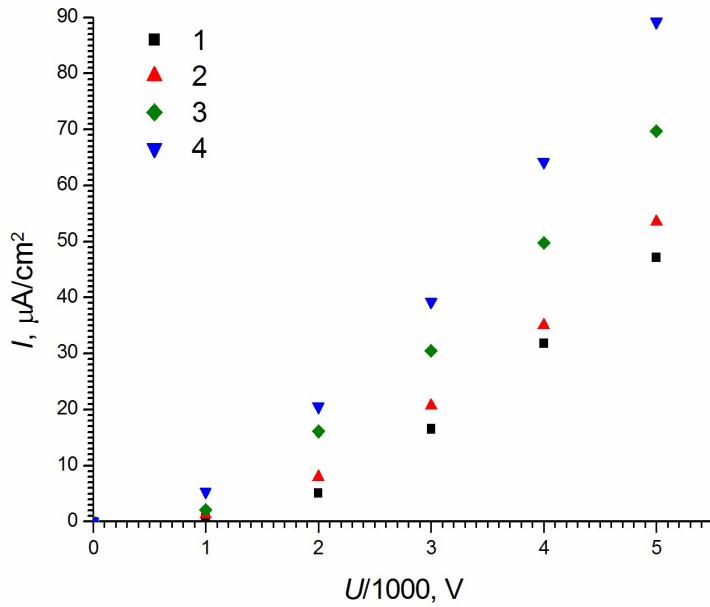


Fig. S6. Current density versus electrical field strength for electrorheological fluids containing 30 wt.% (1), 40 wt.% (2), 50 wt.% (3) and 60 wt.% (4)  $\text{CeO}_2$ . Electrode gap is 1 mm.

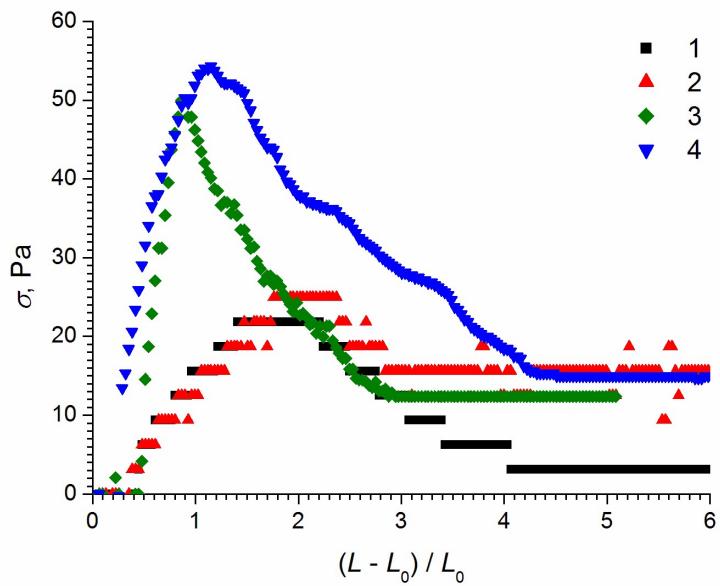


Fig. S7. Tensile stress ( $\sigma$ ) versus relative deformation  $((L - L_0)/L_0)$  plot for ceria/PDMS-based ER fluids with 30 (1), 40 (2), 50 (3) and 60 (4) wt.% of CeO<sub>2</sub>, in the absence of an electric field.

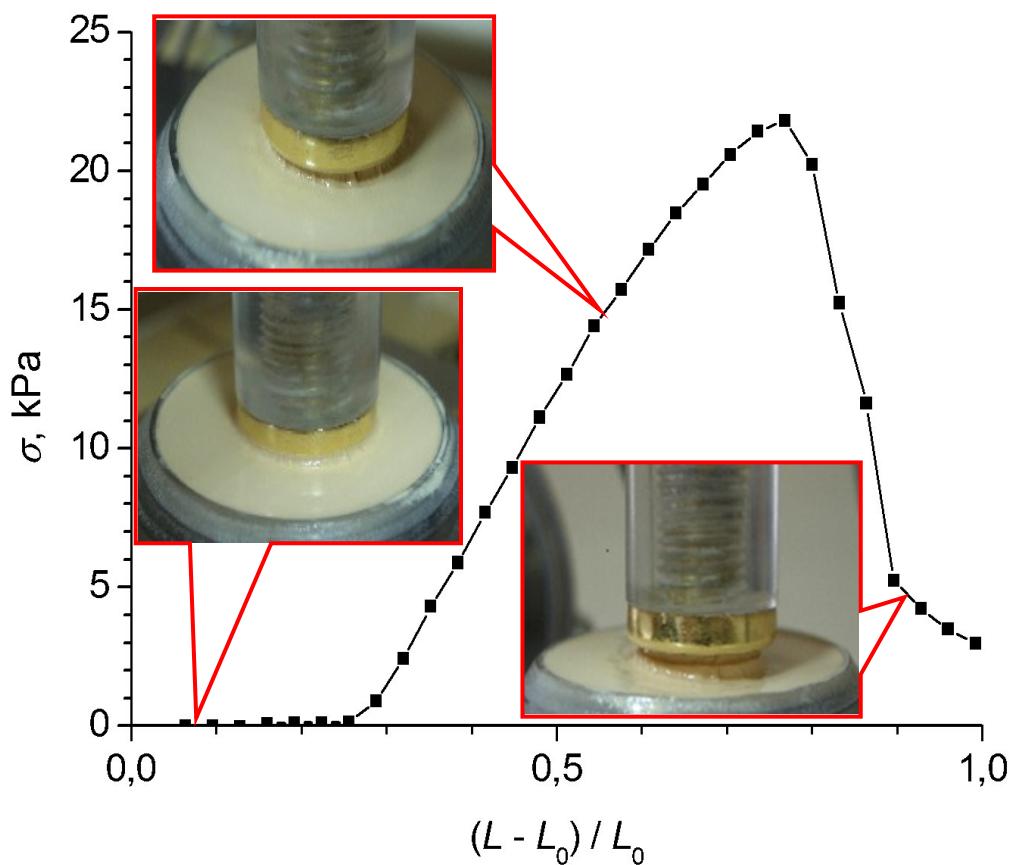


Fig. S8. The appearance of ceria-based ER-fluid comprising 60 wt.% CeO<sub>2</sub>, in a 5 kV/mm static electric field.

Table S1. The influence of ceria concentration (vol.%) and electric field strength on the yield strength of the corresponding ER fluids.

$E$ , kV/mm	Yield strength, kPa				Yield strength normalized to the yield strength at 1 kV/mm			
	5.3 vol.%	8.4 vol.%	12.1 vol.%	16.8 vol.%	5.3 vol.%	8.4 vol.%	12.1 vol.%	16.8 vol.%
1	0.4	0.7	3.0	4.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
2	1.0	1.5	7.0	11.1	2.5	2.1	2.3	2.8
3	2.0	2.6	11.1	17.9	5.0	3.7	3.7	4.5
4	3.0	4.4	13.9	19.9	7.5	6.2	4.6	5.0