

Functional Inorganic Materials

Lecture 7:

Piezo-, pyro-, and ferroelectrics

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Antti Karttunen (antti.karttunen@aalto.fi)
Department of Chemistry and Materials Science

Lecture Assignment 7 is a MyCourses Quiz

Contents

- General overview of **non-centrosymmetric materials**
 - Piezo-, pyro- and ferroelectrics are limited to crystals with certain symmetry properties
- **Piezoelectric** materials
 - Electric polarization from mechanical force
 - Mechanical deformation due to electric field
- **Pyroelectric** materials
 - Electric polarization from fluctuating temperature
 - Temperature change due to electric current (*electrocaloric effect*)
 - Pyroelectric effect is **not** related to thermoelectric Seebeck and Peltier effects!
- **Ferroelectric** materials
 - Subgroup of pyroelectric materials: reversible electric polarization (dipole moment)

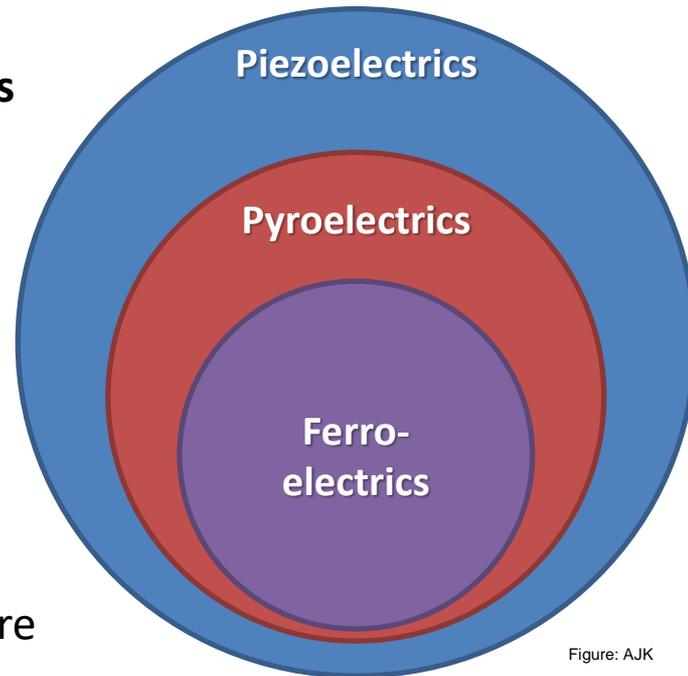


Figure: AJK

Literature on non-centrosymmetric materials

Chem. Mater. **1998**, *10*, 2753–2769

Noncentrosymmetric Oxides

P. Shiv Halasyamani[†] and Kenneth R. Poeppelmeier*

TUTORIAL REVIEW

www.rsc.org/csr | Chemical Society Reviews

Bulk characterization methods for non-centrosymmetric materials: second-harmonic generation, piezoelectricity, pyroelectricity, and ferroelectricity

Kang Min Ok, Eun Ok Chi and P. Shiv Halasyamani*

Received 17th January 2006

First published as an Advance Article on the web 28th April 2006

DOI: 10.1039/b511119f

Let's start with a brief review of crystal systems and crystal classes, because crystal symmetry is very important for understanding non-centrosymmetric functional materials

Crystal systems

Figure 1.3 (a) The seven crystal systems and their unit cell shapes; $a, b, c, \alpha, \beta, \gamma =$ Lattice parameters

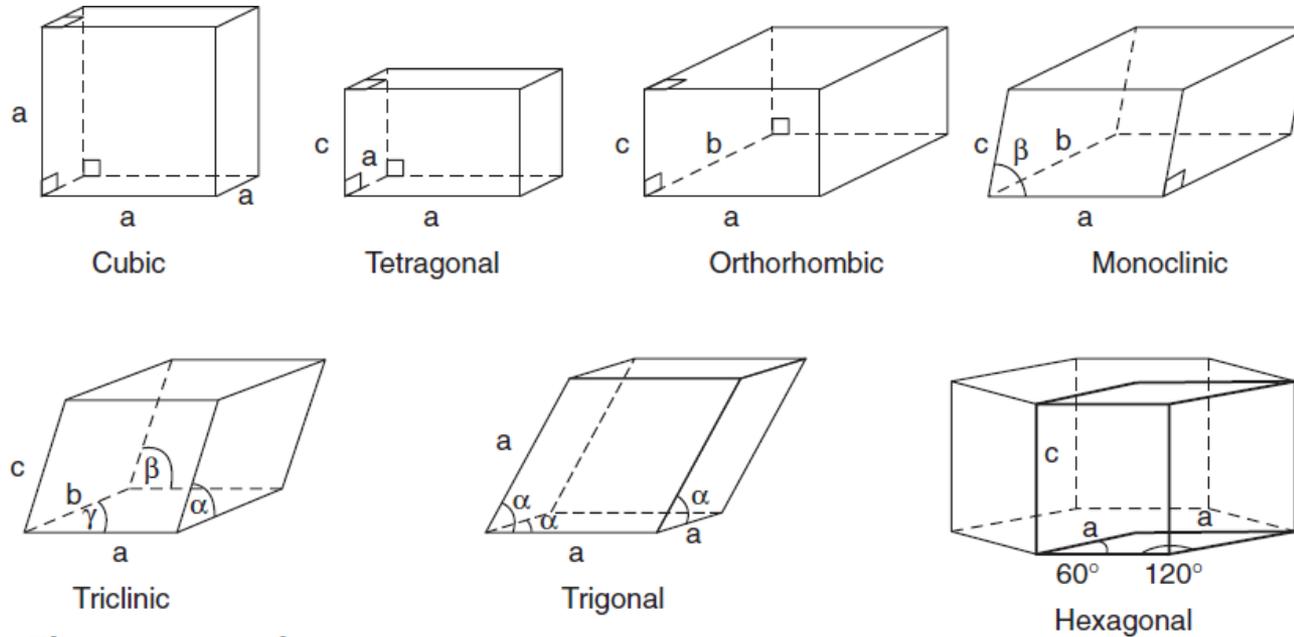


Table 1.1 The seven crystal systems

| Crystal system | Unit cell shape ^b | Essential symmetry | Allowed lattices |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Cubic | $a = b = c, \alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$ | Four threefold axes | P, F, I |
| Tetragonal | $a = b \neq c, \alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$ | One fourfold axis | P, I |
| Orthorhombic | $a \neq b \neq c, \alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$ | Three twofold axes or mirror planes | P, F, I, A (B or C) |
| Hexagonal | $a = b \neq c, \alpha = \beta = 90^\circ, \gamma = 120^\circ$ | One sixfold axis | P |
| Trigonal (a) | $a = b \neq c, \alpha = \beta = 90^\circ, \gamma = 120^\circ$ | One threefold axis | P |
| Trigonal (b) | $a = b = c, \alpha = \beta = \gamma \neq 90^\circ$ | One threefold axis | R |
| Monoclinic ^a | $a \neq b \neq c, \alpha = \gamma = 90^\circ, \beta \neq 90^\circ$ | One twofold axis or mirror plane | P, C |
| Triclinic | $a \neq b \neq c, \alpha \neq \beta \neq \gamma \neq 90^\circ$ | None | P Ref: West p. 3-4 |

Crystal classes

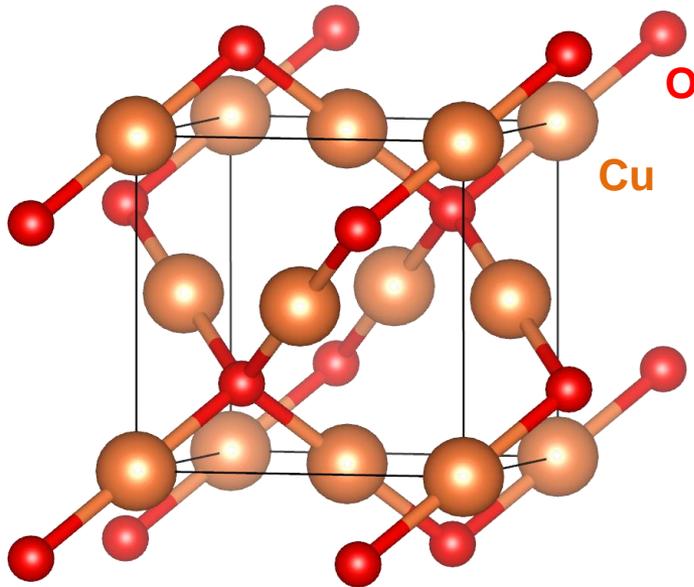
- The seven crystal systems consist of 32 crystal classes corresponding to the 32 crystallographic point groups

| Crystal system | Crystal classes (point groups) in Hermann-Mauguin notation | Crystal classes (point groups) in Schönflies notation |
|----------------|--|---|
| Triclinic | $1, \bar{1}$ | C_1, C_i |
| Monoclinic | $2, m, 2/m$ | C_2, C_s, C_{2h} |
| Orthorhombic | $222, mm2, mmm$ | D_2, C_{2v}, D_{2h} |
| Tetragonal | $4, \bar{4}, 4/m, 422, 4mm, \bar{4}2m, 4/mmm$ | $C_4, S_4, C_{4h}, D_4, C_{4v}, D_{2d}, D_{4h}$ |
| Trigonal | $3, \bar{3}, 32, 3m, \bar{3}m$ | $C_3, S_6 (C_{3i}), D_3, C_{3v}, D_{3d}$ |
| Hexagonal | $6, \bar{6}, 6/m, 622, 6mm, \bar{6}m2, 6/mmm$ | $C_6, C_{3h}, C_{6h}, D_6, C_{6v}, D_{3h}, D_{6h}$ |
| Cubic | $23, \bar{4}3m, m\bar{3}, 432, m\bar{3}m$ | T, T_d, T_h, O, O_h |

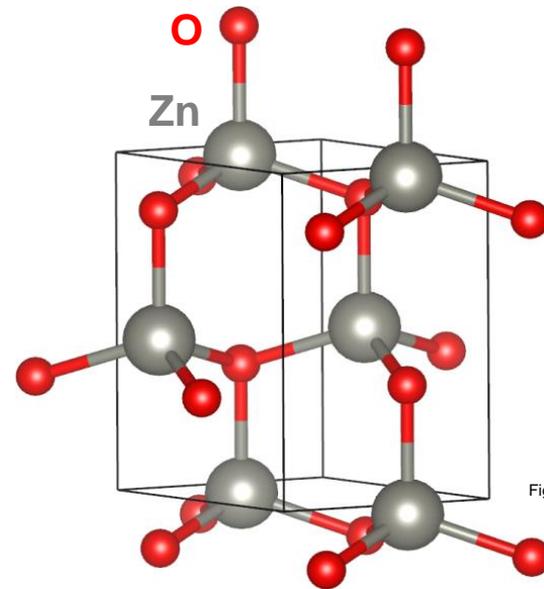
Ref: *Inorganic Structural Chemistry* (2nd ed.), Ulrich Müller, 2006, Wiley p. 24 and [Wikipedia](#)

Centrosymmetric and non-centrosymmetric materials

- Centrosymmetric crystal classes possess an ***inversion center***: for every point (x, y, z) in the unit cell there is an indistinguishable point $(-x, -y, -z)$
- Non-centrosymmetric crystal classes ***do not possess an inversion center***
- Piezo-, pyro-, and ferroelectricity only possible for ***non-centrosymmetric materials***



Cu₂O (space group $Pn-3m$)
Centrosymmetric oxide with
inversion center

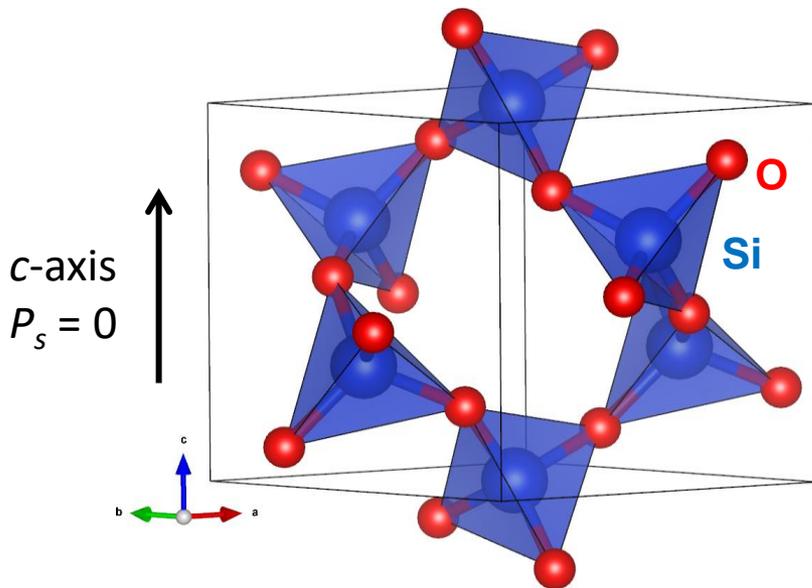


Figures: AJK

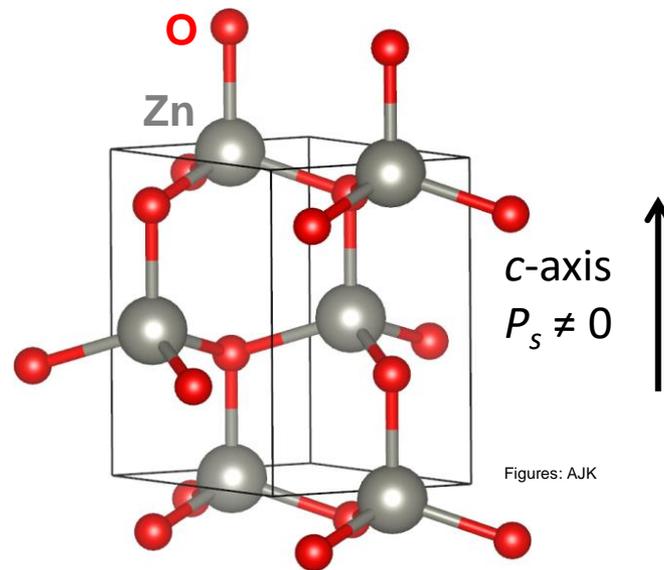
ZnO (space group $P6_3mc$)
Non-centrosymmetric oxide with
no inversion center

Polar and non-polar materials

- Non-centrosymmetric materials can be **polar** or **non-polar**
 - A polar crystal has more than one point that every symmetry operation leaves unmoved
 - For example, a "**polar axis**", with no mirror plane or twofold axis perpendicular to it
 - Physical property (e.g. **dipole moment**) can differ at the two ends of the axis
- Pyro- and ferroelectricity is only possible for **polar materials**
 - Polar materials show **spontaneous polarization P_s**



α -SiO₂, α -quartz (space group $P3_221$)
Non-centrosymmetric oxide with
no polar axis (c has perpendicular C_2 axis)

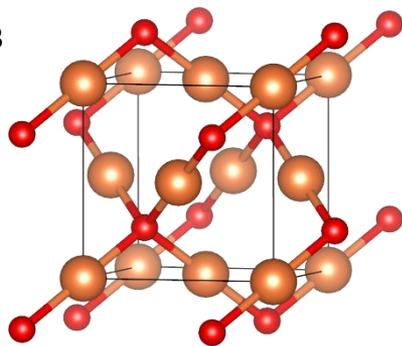


ZnO (space group $P6_3mc$)
Non-centrosymmetric oxide with
a polar axis (c-axis)

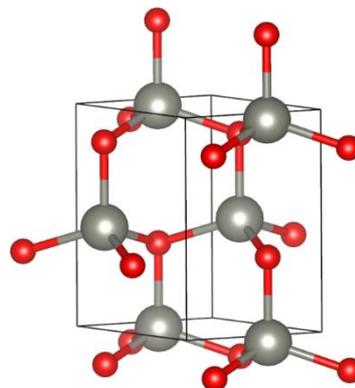
Classification of crystal classes

| Crystal system | Centrosymmetric crystal classes (11) | Non-centrosymmetric crystal classes (21) | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| | | Polar (10) | Non-polar (11) |
| Triclinic | $\bar{1}$ | 1 | – |
| Monoclinic | $2/m$ | $2, m$ | – |
| Orthorhombic | mmm | $mm2$ | 222 |
| Tetragonal | $4/m, 4/mmm$ | $4, 4mm$ | $\bar{4}, 422, \bar{4}2m$ |
| Trigonal | $\bar{3}, \bar{3}m$ | $3, 3m$ | 32 |
| Hexagonal | $6/m, 6/mmm$ | $6, 6mm$ | $\bar{6}, 622, \bar{6}m2$ |
| Cubic | $m\bar{3}, m\bar{3}m$ | – | $23, \bar{4}3m, 432,$ |

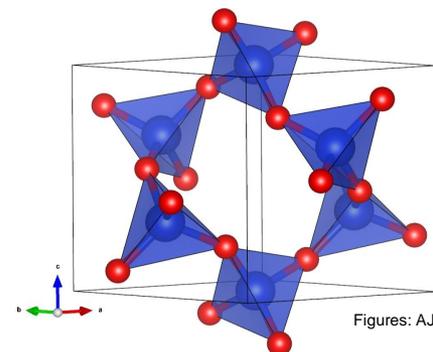
Refs: *Chem. Mater.* **1998**, *10*, 2753
and [Wikipedia](#)



Cu_2O ($Pn-3m$)



ZnO ($P6_3mc$)

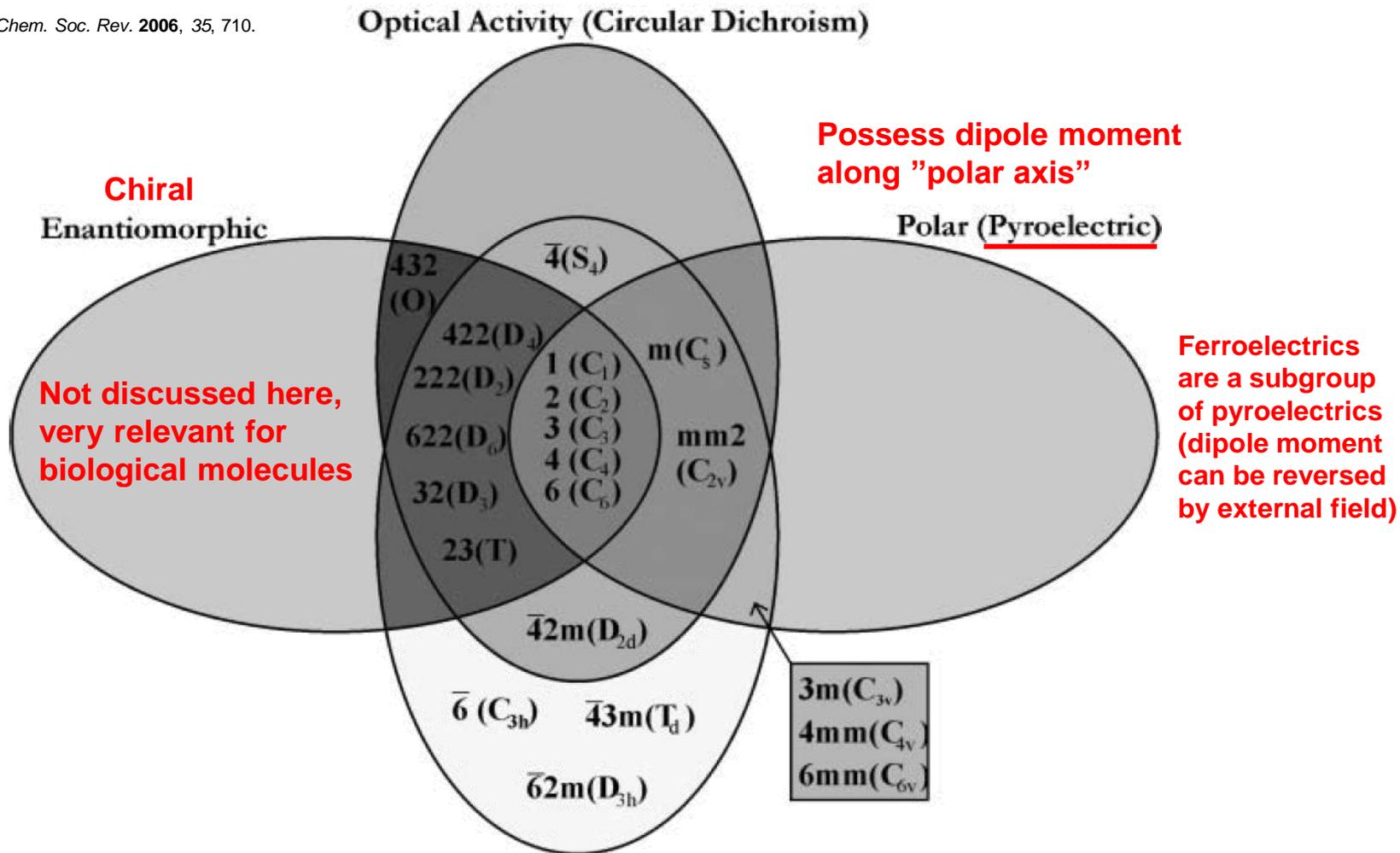


$\alpha\text{-SiO}_2$ ($P3_221$)

Figures: AJK

Non-centrosymmetric crystal classes and functionality

Halasyamani *et al. Chem. Soc. Rev.* 2006, 35, 710.



Piezoelectric, Second-Harmonic Generation "Frequency doubling"

Piezo- and pyroelectric coefficients

Direct piezoelectric effect

$P = d\sigma$, where

- σ = applied tensile **stress** (N m^{-2})
- d = piezoelectric modulus (C N^{-1})
- P = resulting polarization (C m^{-2})

Converse piezoelectric effect

$\varepsilon = dE$, where

- E = applied electric field (N C^{-1})
- d = piezoelectric modulus (C N^{-1})
- ε = resulting **strain** in the crystal

(Primary) pyroelectric effect

$\Delta P_s = p\Delta T$, where

- ΔT = temperature **change** (K)
- p = pyroelectric coefficient ($\text{C m}^{-2}\text{K}^{-1}$)
- ΔP_s = change of **spontaneous polarization** (C m^{-2})

Electrocaloric effect (**not discussed here**)

$$\Delta T = -\frac{1}{\rho} \int_{E_1}^{E_2} \frac{T}{C} \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial T} \right)_E dE,$$

where T is the temperature, P is the polarization, ρ is the mass density, and C is the heat capacity under constant electric field.

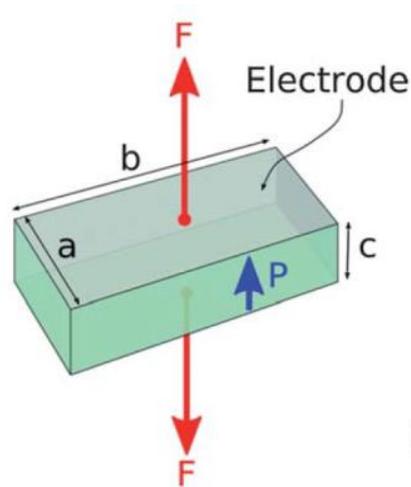
Often piezo- and pyroelectricity are discussed using just scalar coefficients d and p .

In reality they are *tensors* d_{ijk} and p_i and can be specified more accurately with the help of crystal symmetry.

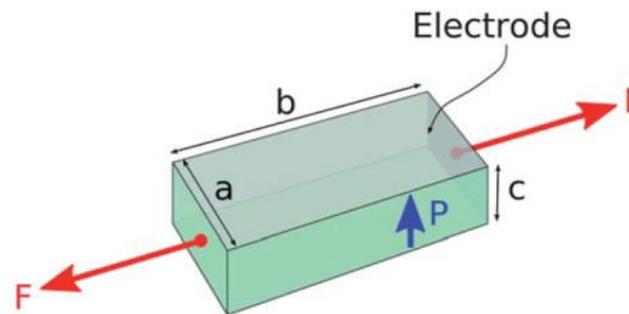
Piezoelectricity in ZnO

Let's use ZnO as an example.

ZnO ($P6_3mc$) has three symmetry-allowed distortions that lead to a piezoelectric response



1. Stress along c ,
polarization along c



2. Stress in ab -plane,
Polarization along c

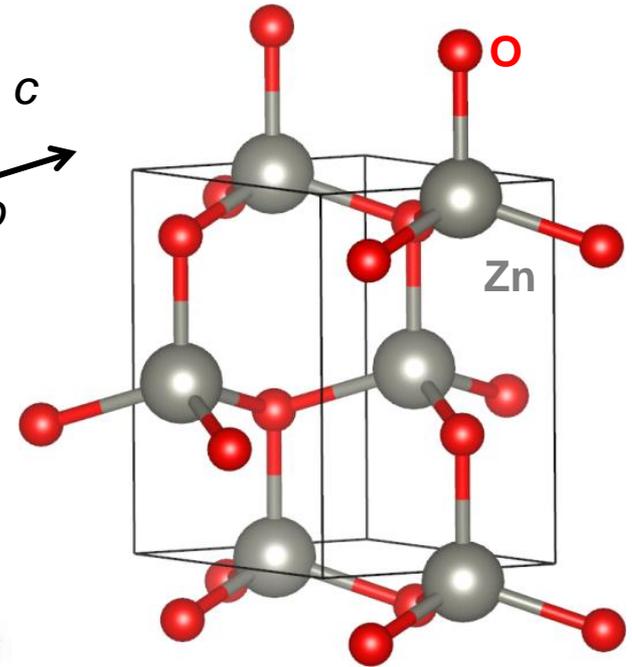
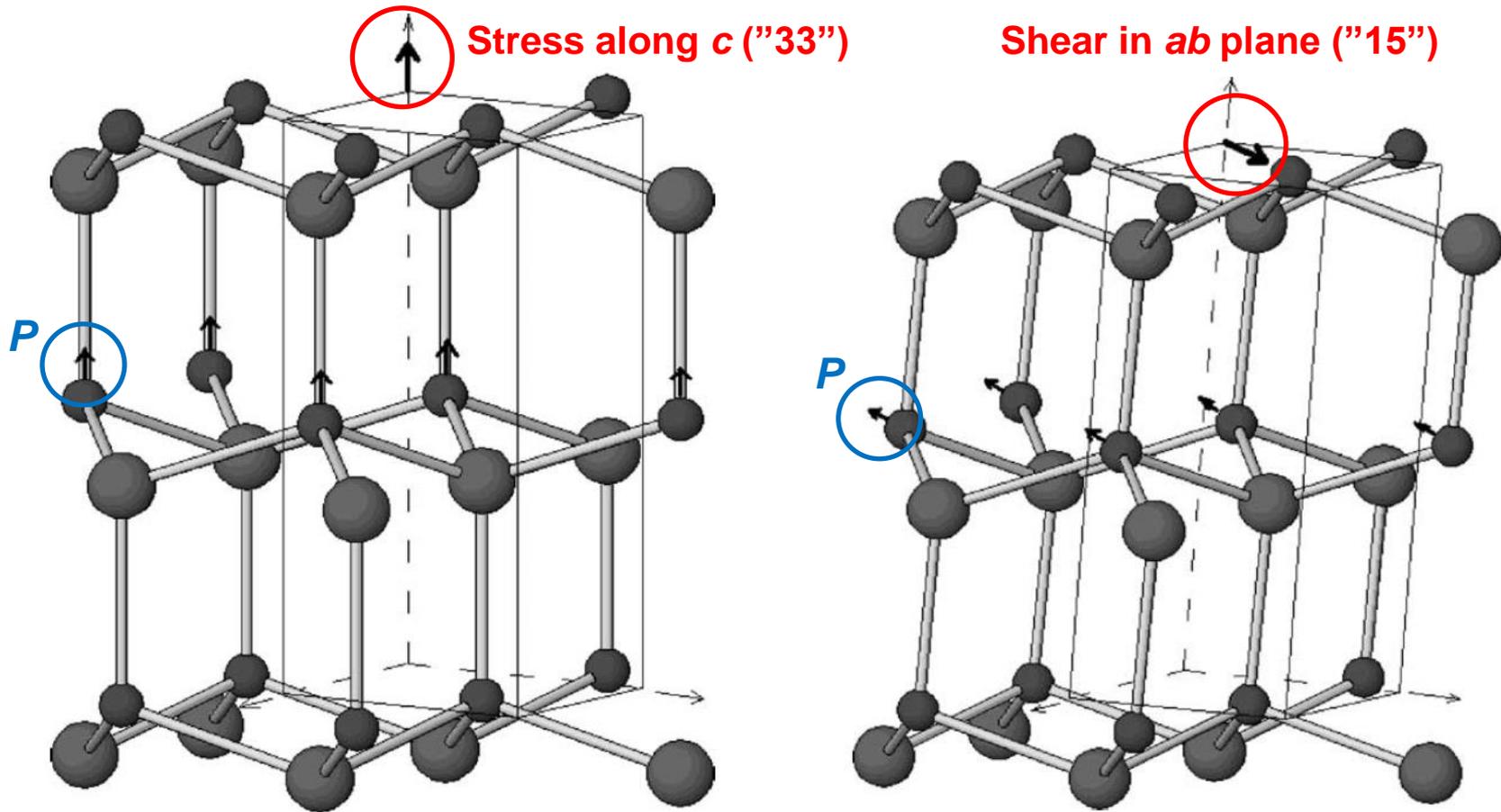


Figure: AJK

3. Shear in ab -plane
(next slide)

Piezoresponse to shear in ZnO



M. Catti *et al.* J. Phys. Chem. Solids **2003**, 64 2183.

The number of symmetry-allowed distortions depends on the crystal class. Listings of these are available in textbooks (*next slide*).

Quantifying the functionalities with physical property tensors (Nye)

APPENDIX E

MATRICES FOR EQUILIBRIUM PROPERTIES IN THE 32 CRYSTAL CLASSES

| | σ | E | ΔT |
|------------|------------|----------|------------|
| ϵ | s | d_t | α |
| D | d | κ | p |
| ΔS | α_t | p_t | C/T |

s = elastic compliances

d = piezoelectric moduli

α = thermal expansion coefficients

κ = permittivities

p = pyroelectric coefficients

C = heat capacity

T = absolute temperature

Physical property tensors (Nye)

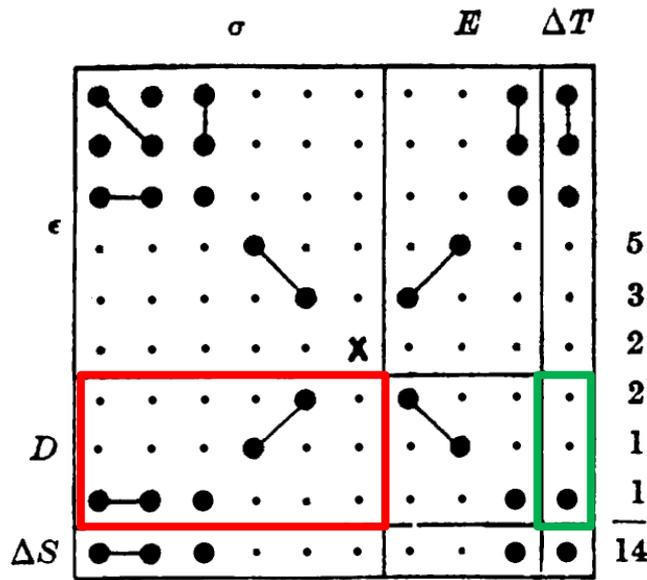
Matrices for equilibrium properties in the 32 crystal classes

KEY TO NOTATION

- zero component
- non-zero component
- equal components
- components numerically equal, but opposite in sign
- ⊙ a component equal to twice the heavy dot component to which it is joined
- ⊗ a component equal to minus 2 times the heavy dot component to which it is joined
- × $2(s_{11} - s_{12})$

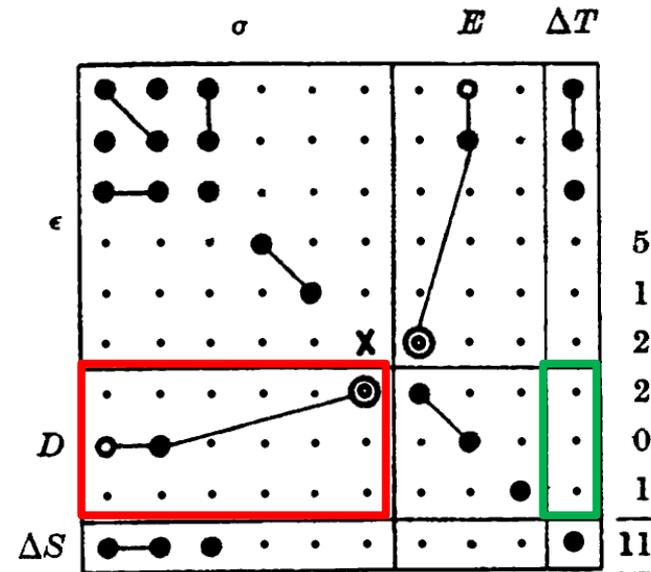
Polar (e.g. ZnO, $P6_3mc$)

Class $6mm$



Non-polar (e.g. $P-6m2$)

Class $\bar{6}m2$



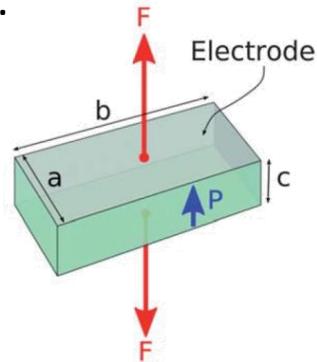
No pyroelectricity

ZnO piezoelectricity tensor

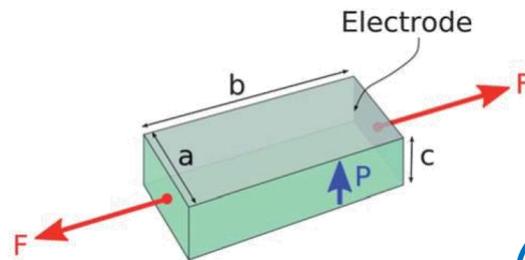
ZnO (space group $P6_3mc$)

Three independent non-zero components in the piezoelectric tensor

What do they actually mean:



"33" component:
Stress along c (3),
polarization along c (3)



"31" component:
Stress along a (1)
polarization along c (3)

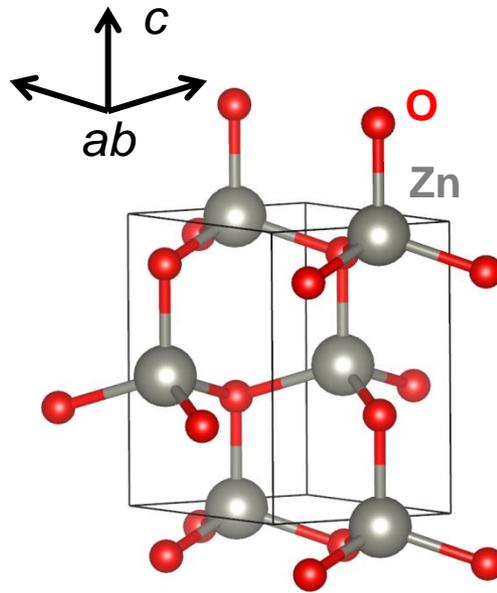
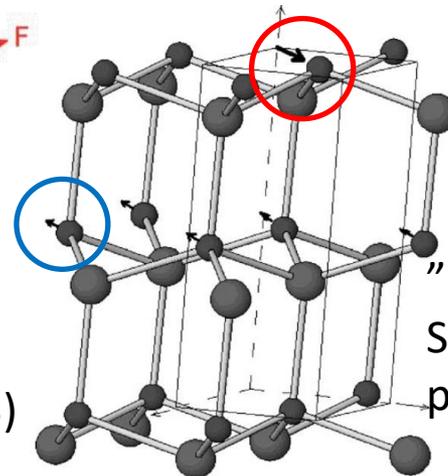


Figure: AJK

Class $6mm$

| | σ | E | ΔT | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|----|
| ϵ | | | | 5 |
| | | | | 3 |
| | | | | 2 |
| D | | | | 2 |
| | | | | 1 |
| | | | | 1 |
| ΔS | | | | 14 |
| | 31 | 33 | 15 | |

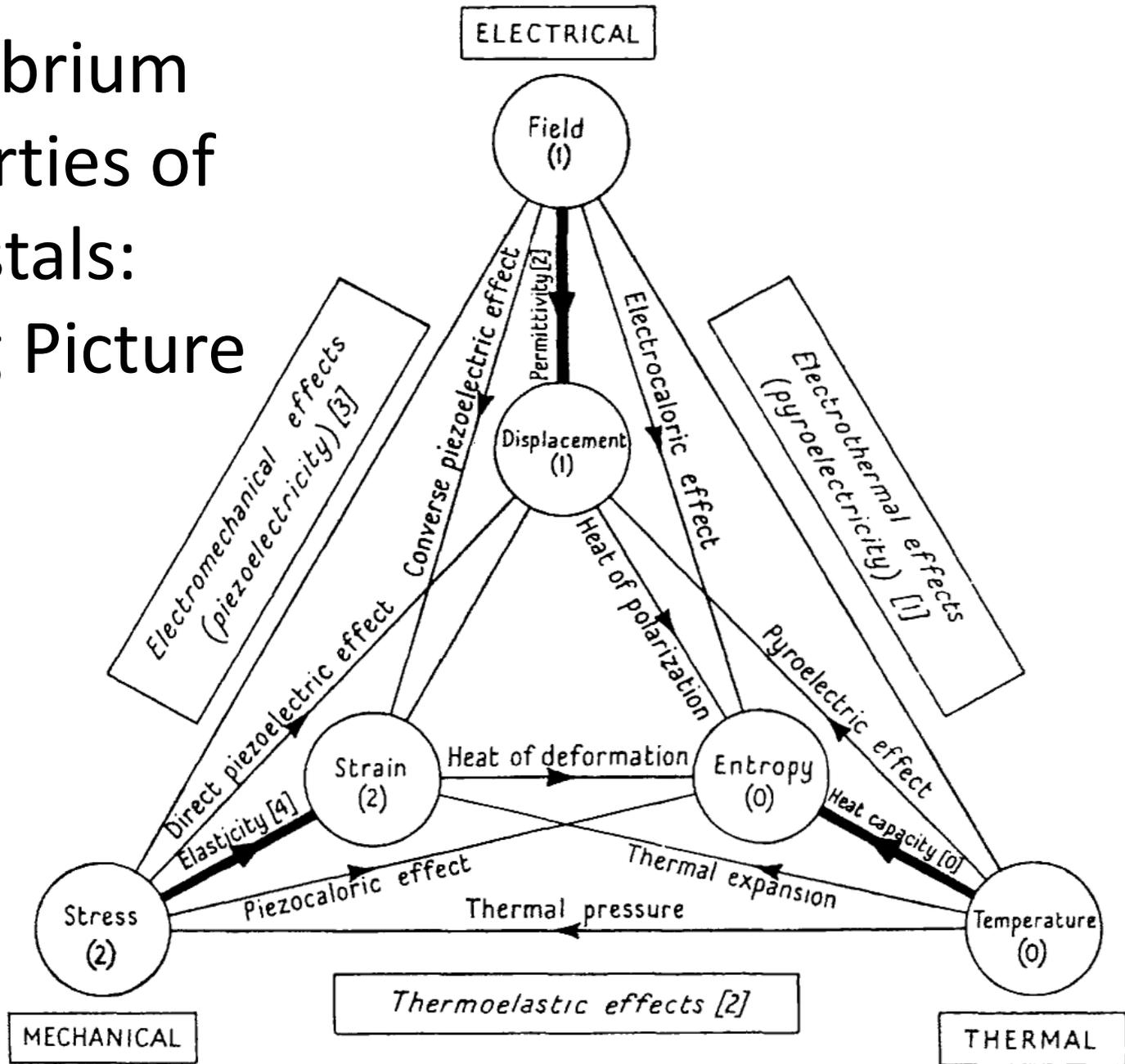


"15" component:
Shear in ab -plane (5),
polarization along a (1)

Piezo- and pyroelectricity are equilibrium properties

- Equilibrium properties may be described by reference to ***thermodynamic equilibrium states*** and ***thermodynamically reversible changes***
 - Example: isothermal expansion of ideal gas confined by external pressure
- The ***thermal***, ***electrical***, and ***mechanical*** properties of a crystal are all related
 - They may be measured when the crystal is in equilibrium with its surroundings
- Compare the equilibrium properties with ***transport properties***, which are concerned with ***transport processes*** and ***thermodynamically irreversible phenomena***
 - Example of an irreversible phenomenon: release gas into vacuum
 - Example properties: thermal and electrical conductivity and thermoelectricity
 - A temperature difference in different parts of a solid leads to a heat flow as the system tries to reach equilibrium

Equilibrium properties of crystals: The Big Picture



Piezoelectricity: applications (1)

- Piezoelectricity was discovered in 1880 by Jacques and Pierre Curie (direct effect)
- Converse piezoelectric effect predicted mathematically by Gabriel Lippmann (1881) and immediately confirmed by Curies
- It only took until 1917 when piezoelectrics were already used in warfare
- Ultrasonic submarine detector created by Paul Langevin and coworkers
 - Ultrasound-generating transducer made out of quartz crystals (transducer = converts one form of energy to another)
 - Hydrophone to detect the returned echo
- The success of piezoelectric sonar resulted in huge boom for discovering new materials
- Discovery of ferroelectric piezoelectrics such as BaTiO_3 during WW2 -> radios

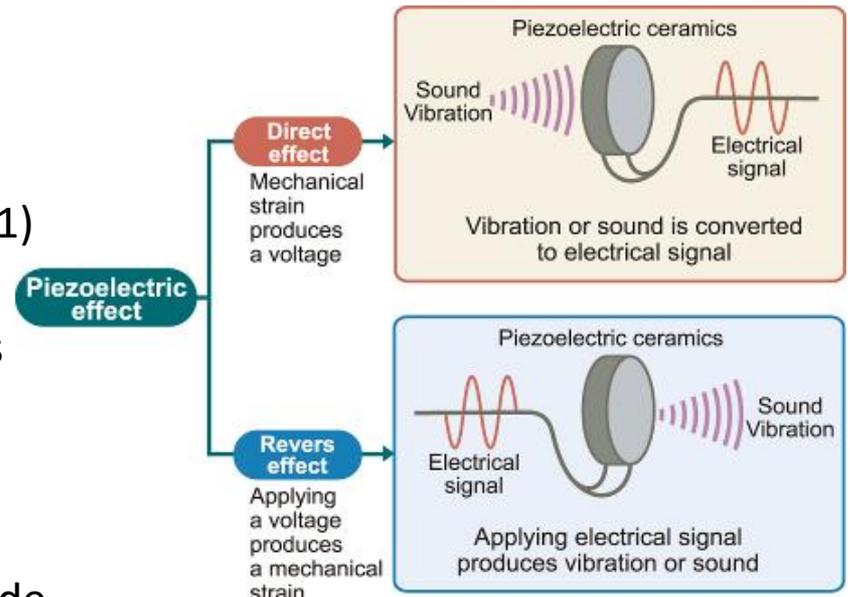


Figure: Honda

Piezoelectric transducer

Piezoelectricity: applications (2)

- Generation of high voltages
- Spark-ignition (gas stoves, cigarette lighters)
 - Piezoelectric voltages can be thousands of volts
- Generation of electronic frequencies (*e.g.* for radio equipment)
- Microbalances
- Vibration sensors
- Actuators (precise positioning, piezomotors)
 - Scanning probe microscopies like AFM and STM
 - Atomic level accuracy of positioning with piezoelectric crystals

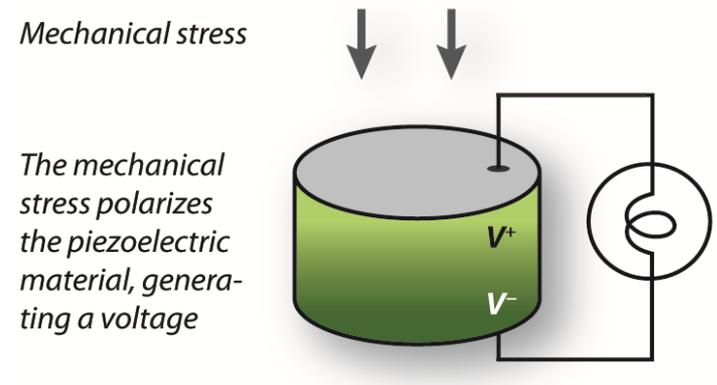


Figure: AJK

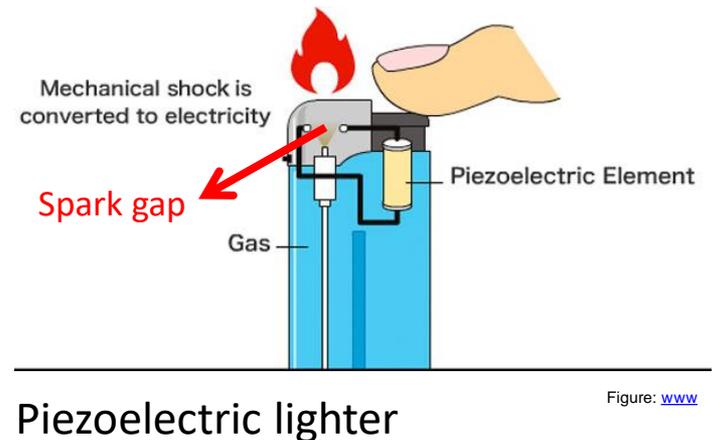


Figure: [www](#)

Property data for piezoelectrics

REVIEW

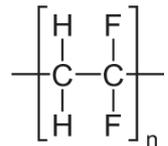
View Article Online
View Journal | View Issue

Piezoelectric and ferroelectric materials and structures for energy harvesting applications

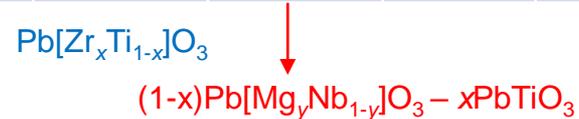
Cite this: *Energy Environ. Sci.*, 2014, 7, 25

C. R. Bowen,^{*a} H. A. Kim,^a P. M. Weaver^b and S. Dunn^c

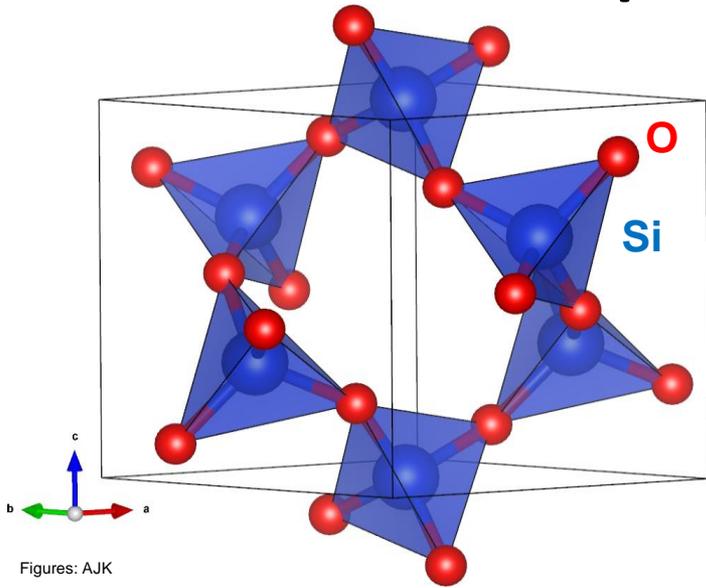
Polyvinylidene fluoride



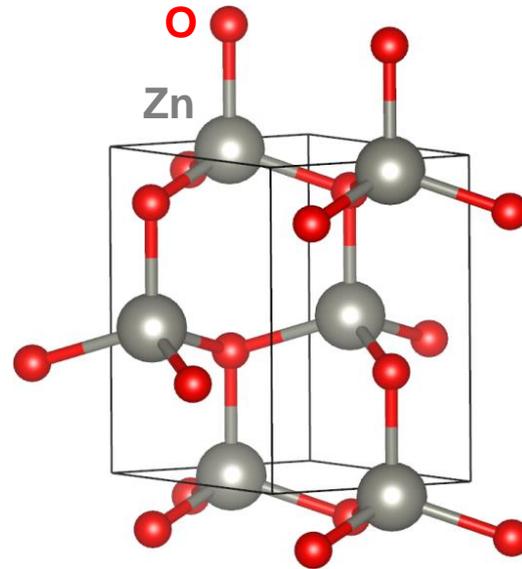
| | GaN | ZnO | SiO ₂ | BaTiO ₃ | PZT-5H ("soft") | PMN-PT | LiNbO ₃ | PVDF |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------|--------------------|---------|
| Structure | Wurzite | Wurzite | α -quartz | Perovsk. | Perovsk. | Perovsk. | LiNbO ₃ | Polymer |
| Piezoelectric | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Pyroelectric | X | X | - | X | X | X | X | X |
| Ferroelectric | - | - | - | X | X | X | X | X |
| d_{33} (pC N ⁻¹) | 3.7 | 12.4 | -2.3 (d_{11}) | 149 | 593 | 2820 | 6 | -33 |
| d_{31} (pC N ⁻¹) | -1.9 | -5.0 | | -58 | -274 | -1330 | -1.0 | 21 |
| d_{15} (pC N ⁻¹) | 3.1 | -8.3 | 0.67 (d_{14}) | 242 | 741 | 146 | 69 | -27 |



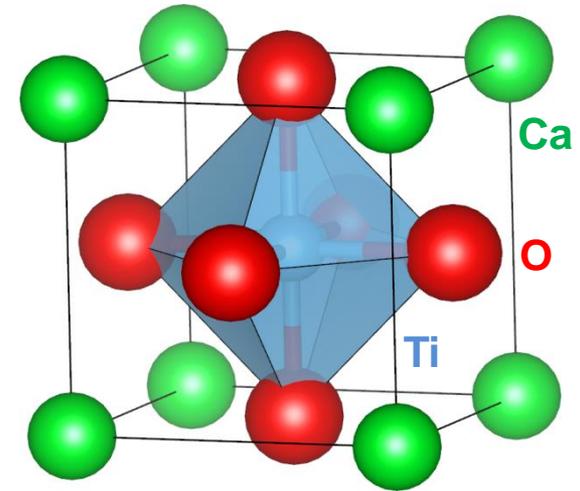
Important crystal structures for piezoelectrics



Quartz
 α -SiO₂ ($P3_221$)



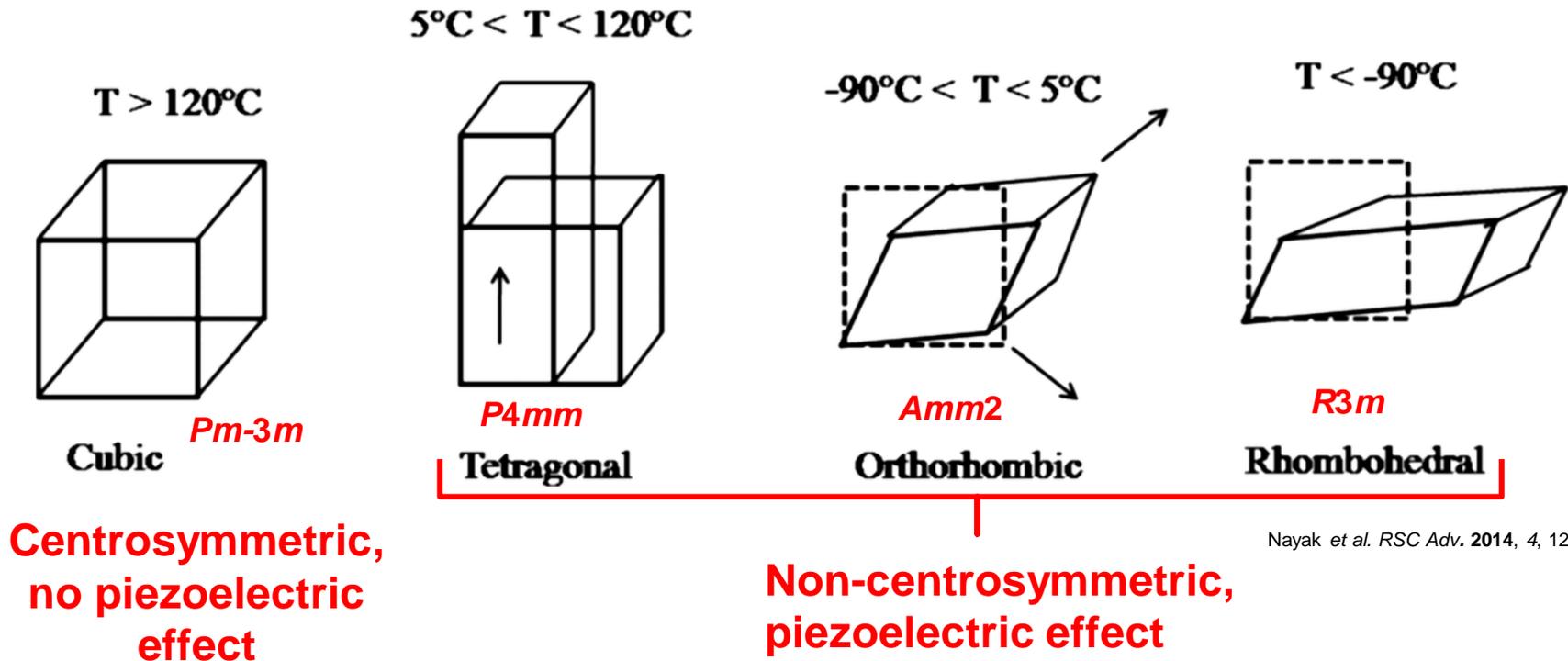
Wurtzite
ZnO ($P6_3mc$)



Perovskite
CaTiO₃ ($Pm-3m$)

The ideal cubic structure is centrosymmetric and not piezoelectric, see the next slide

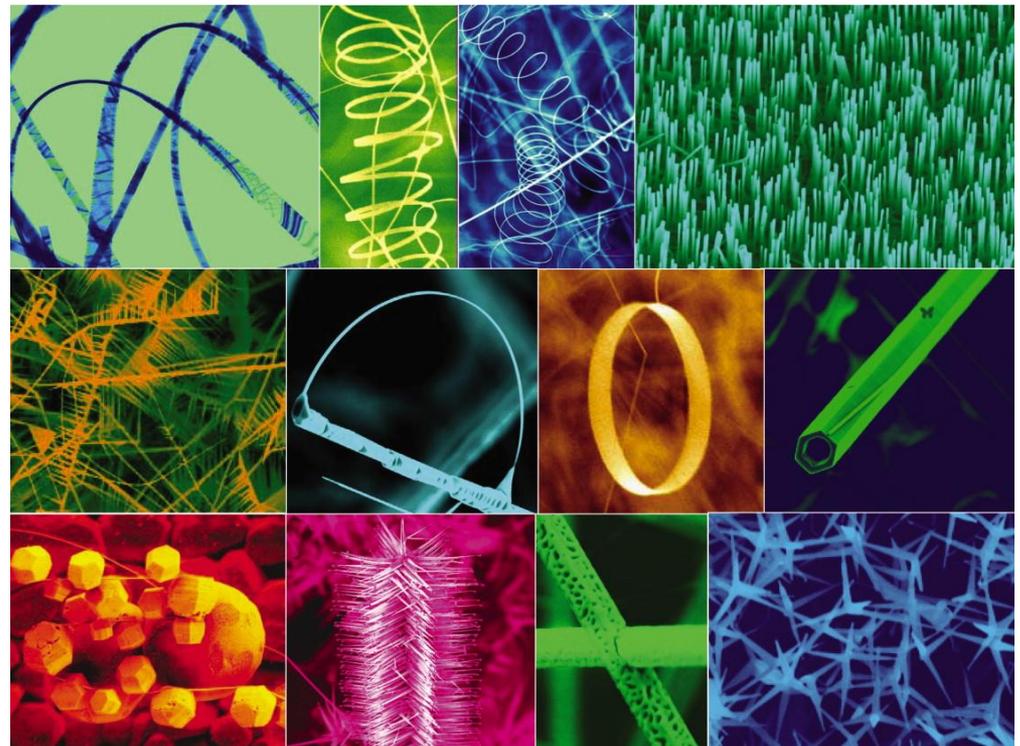
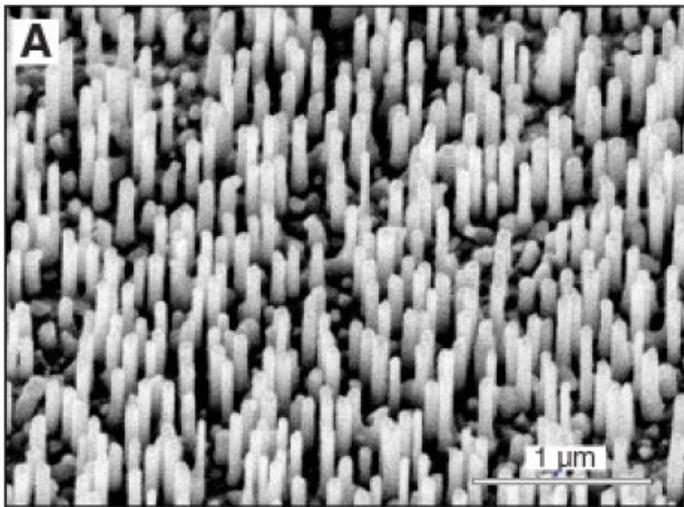
BaTiO₃ phases (perovskite structure)



Nanostructured piezoelectrics

Piezoelectric Nanogenerators Based on Zinc Oxide Nanowire Arrays

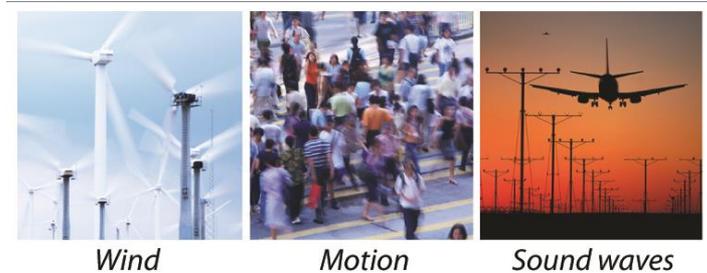
Zhong Lin Wang^{1,2,3*} and Jinhui Song¹ SCIENCE VOL 312 14 APRIL 2006



ZnO nanostructures synthesized under controlled conditions by thermal evaporation of solid powders (Wang, *Materials Today*, **2004**, 7, 26).

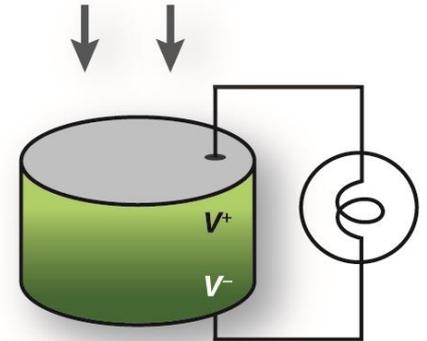
Piezoelectricity: prospective applications

- Nanostructured piezoelectrics are being investigated for several applications
 - Piezotronics (piezo-electronics, e.g. piezopotential-based transistors)
 - Energy harvesting (convert mechanical energy to electricity)



Mechanical stress

The mechanical stress polarizes the piezoelectric material, generating a voltage



Super-Flexible Nanogenerator for Energy Harvesting from Gentle Wind and as an Active Deformation Sensor

Sangmin Lee, Sung-Hwan Bae, Long Lin, Ya Yang, Chan Park, Sang-Woo Kim, Seung Nam Cha, Hyunjin Kim, Young Jun Park, and Zhong Lin Wang*

Adv. Funct. Mater. **2012**,
DOI: 10.1002/adfm.201202867

Energy harvesting

Nanotechnology-Enabled Energy Harvesting for Self-Powered Micro-/Nanosystems

Zhong Lin Wang* and Wenzhuo Wu *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, 51, 11700–11721

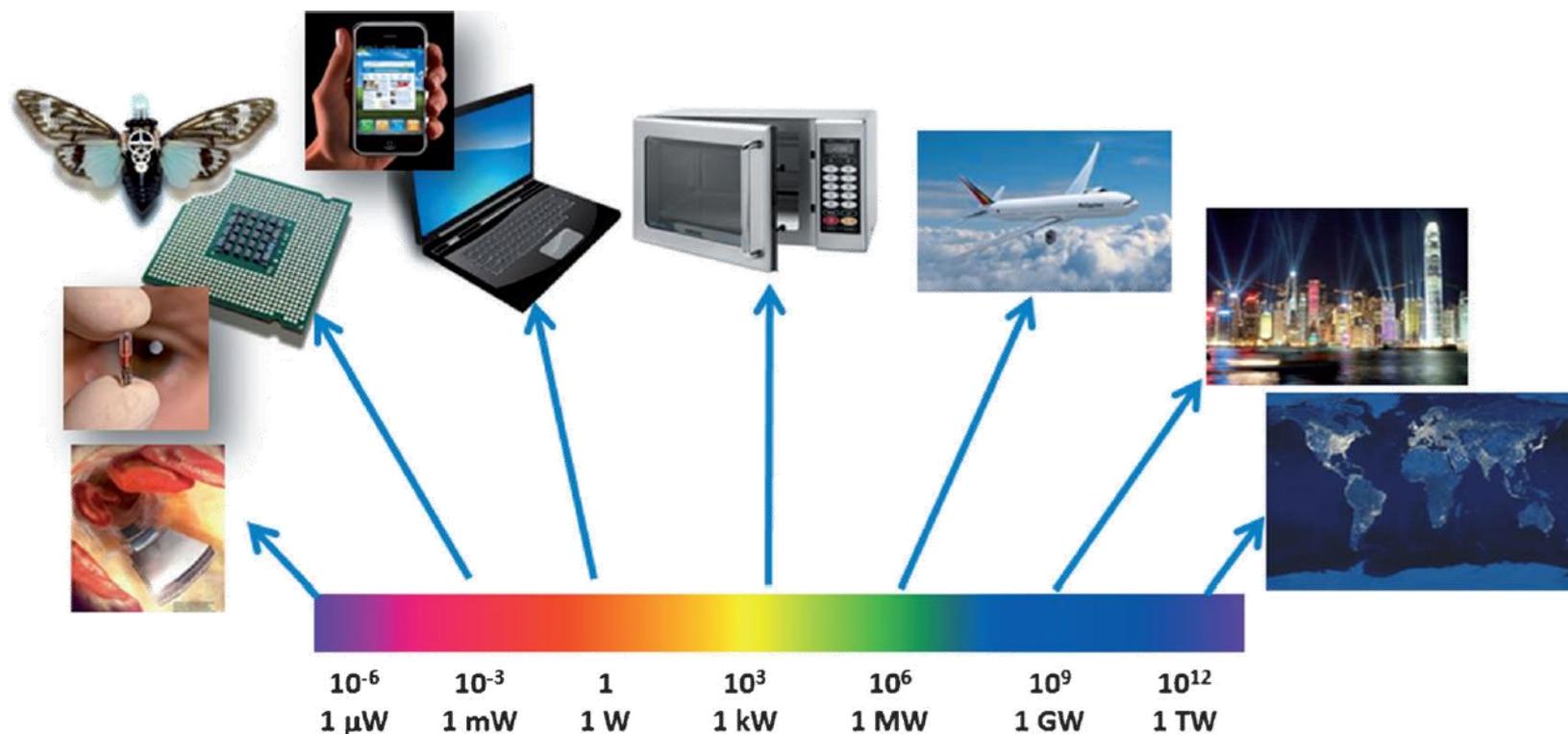


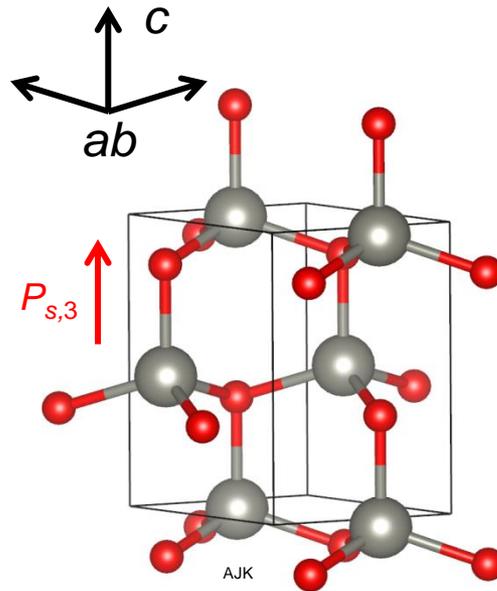
Figure 1. Power requirements for different applications: In the future there will be a great demand for mobile/implantable electronics with extremely low power consumption.

Pyroelectricity

ZnO (space group $P6_3mc$)

One non-zero component in the pyroelectric tensor:

Spontaneous polarization along c -axis ($P_{s,3}$) changes when T changes



Class $6mm$

| | σ | E | ΔT | | |
|------------|----------|-----|------------|--|----|
| ϵ | | | | | 5 |
| | | | | | 3 |
| | | | | | 2 |
| | | | | | 2 |
| | | | | | 1 |
| D | | | | | 1 |
| ΔS | | | | | 14 |

Pyroelectricity actually comprises of several effects: primary, secondary, and tertiary.

The **secondary** effect is actually piezoelectric effect arising from thermal expansion

The **tertiary** effect is also piezoelectric effect, arising from uneven heating (temperature gradients \rightarrow non-uniform thermal stress / strain).

The converse effect of pyroelectricity is called the **electrocaloric effect**.

Pyroelectricity: applications

- In principle the effect was already discussed by the ancient Greeks
- Theophrastus noted in 314 BC that *lyngourion* (perhaps mineral *tourmaline*) could attract sawdust or bits of straw
- Re-discovered in 1707 by Johann Georg Schmidt
- Name coined by Sir David Brewster in 1824
- Studies of pyroelectricity led to the discovery of piezoelectricity
- Sensor applications (already existing since 1970s)
 - Heat-sensing
 - Infra-red detection
 - Thermal imaging
 - Fire alarms

Fluctuating heat input ($dT/dt \neq 0$)

The temperature change polarizes the pyroelectric material, generating a voltage

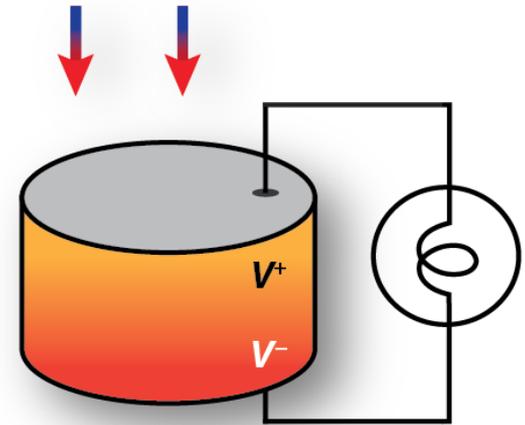


Figure: AJK

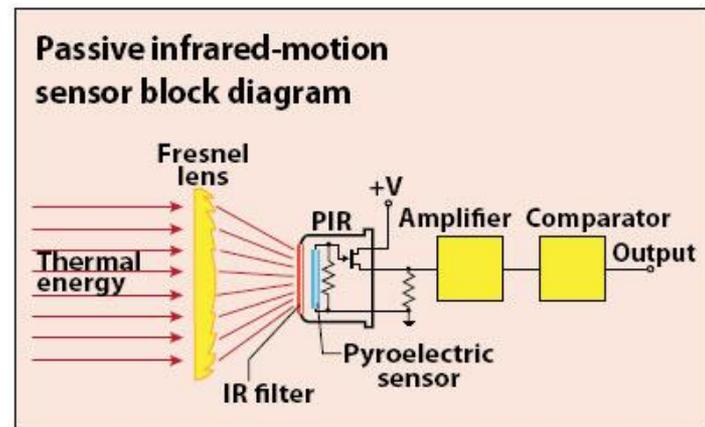


Figure: [www](#)

Property data for pyroelectrics

REVIEW

[View Article Online](#)
[View Journal](#) | [View Issue](#)



Pyroelectric materials and devices for energy harvesting applications

Cite this: *Energy Environ. Sci.*, 2014, 7, 3836

C. R. Bowen,^{*a} J. Taylor,^b E. LeBoulbar,^{ab} D. Zabek,^a A. Chauhan^c and R. Vaish^c

| | GaN | ZnO | BaTiO ₃ | PZT-5H ("soft") | PMN-0.25PT | LiNbO ₃ | PVDF |
|---|---------|---------|--------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------------|---------|
| Structure | Wurzite | Wurzite | Perovsk. | Perovsk. | Perovsk. | LiNbO ₃ | Polymer |
| Piezoelectric | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Pyroelectric | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Ferroelectric | - | - | X | X | X | X | X |
| ρ_3 ($\mu\text{C m}^{-2} \text{K}^{-1}$) | -4.8 | -9.4 | -200 | -380 | -746 | -83 | -27 |

Primary / secondary pyroelectricity for ZnO: -6.9 / -2.5 $\mu\text{C m}^{-2} \text{K}^{-1}$

Primary / secondary pyroelectricity for BaTiO₃: -260 / **+60** $\mu\text{C m}^{-2} \text{K}^{-1}$

Thermoelectrics vs. pyroelectrics

Thermoelectric generator

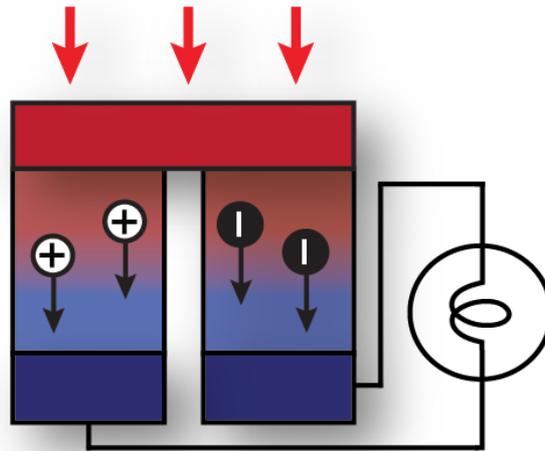
- Constant temperature difference required for optimal operation (temperature gradient)

Heat input

Hot side

The charge carrier diffusion generates an electric current

Cold side (heat sink)

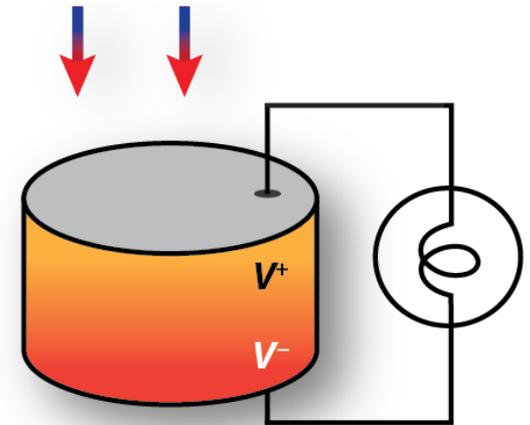


Pyroelectric generator

- Fluctuating heat input required for optimal operation

Fluctuating heat input ($dT/dt \neq 0$)

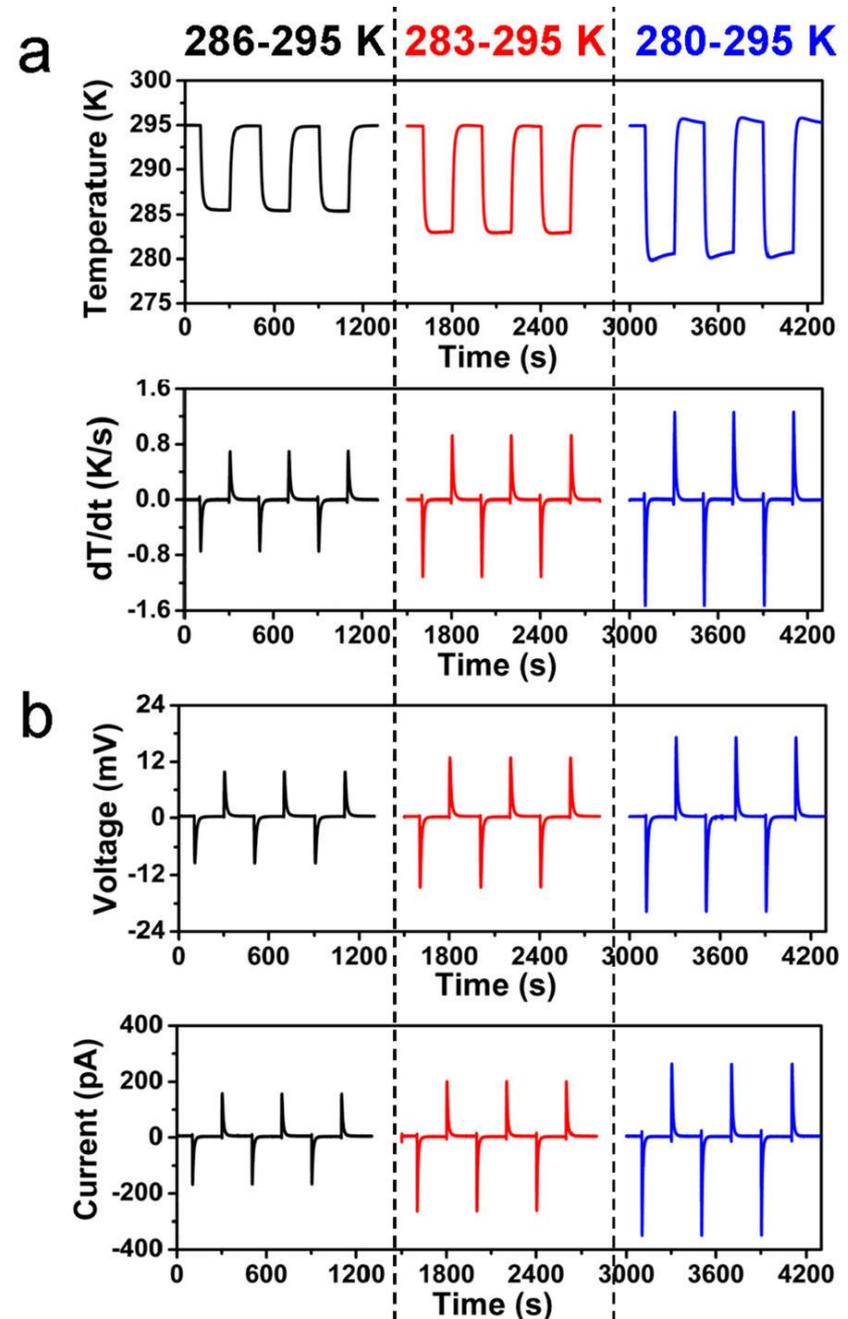
The temperature change polarizes the pyroelectric material, generating a voltage



Figures: AJK

Pyroelectricity: Prospective applications

- Energy harvesting (convert heat fluctuations into electricity)
 - Pyroelectric generators have been suggested to have **higher Carnot efficiency** in comparison to thermoelectrics
 - Sebald *et al. Smart Mater. Struct.* **2009, 18**, 125006
- Cooling applications via the electrocaloric effect (poorly understood, much research required)



Ferroelectricity

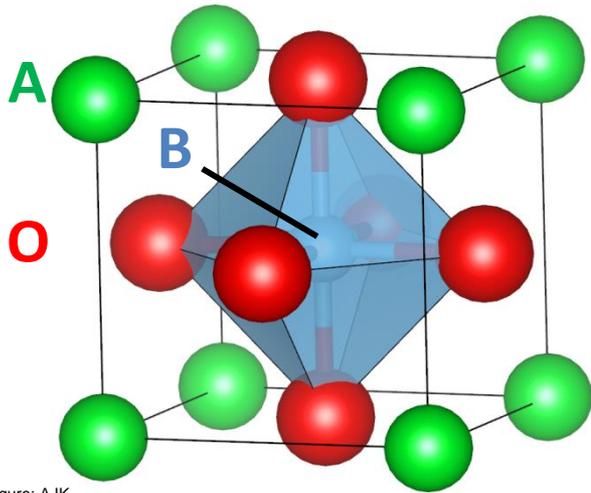
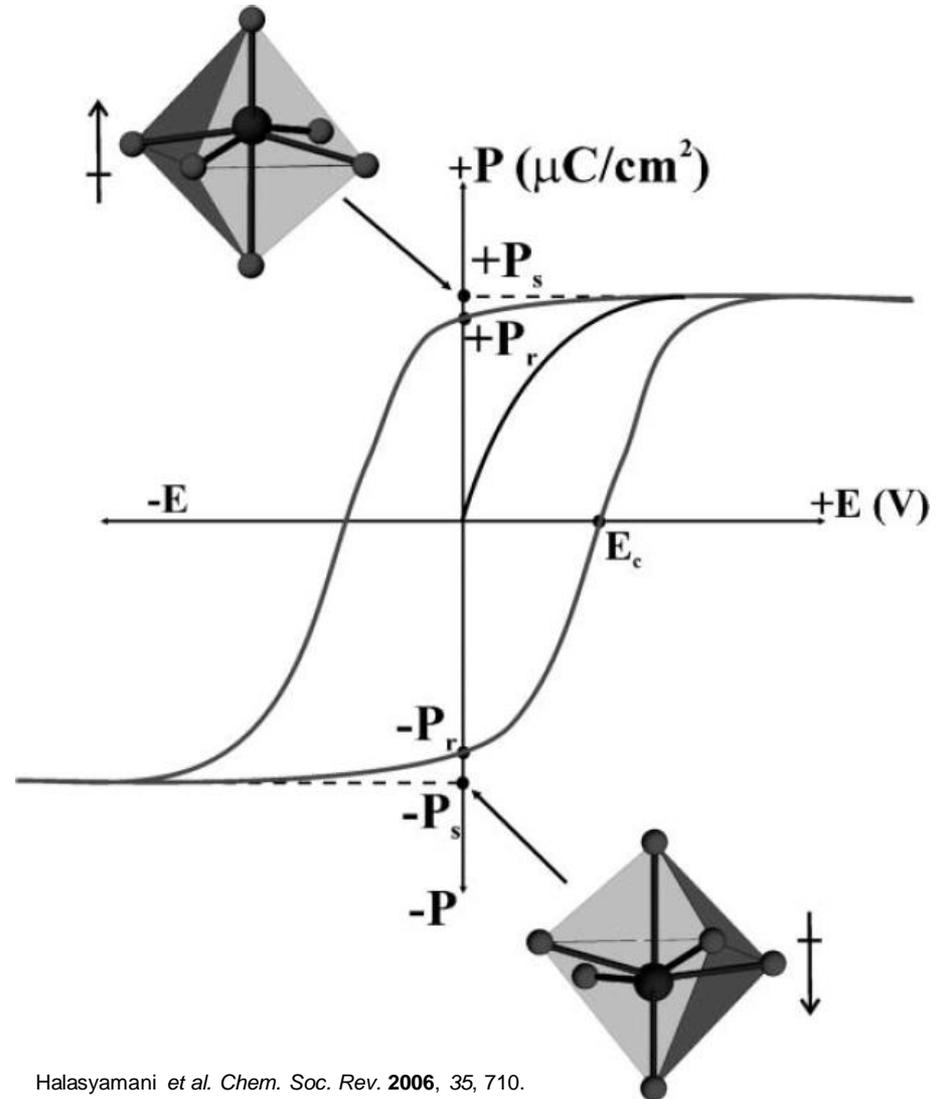


Figure: AJK

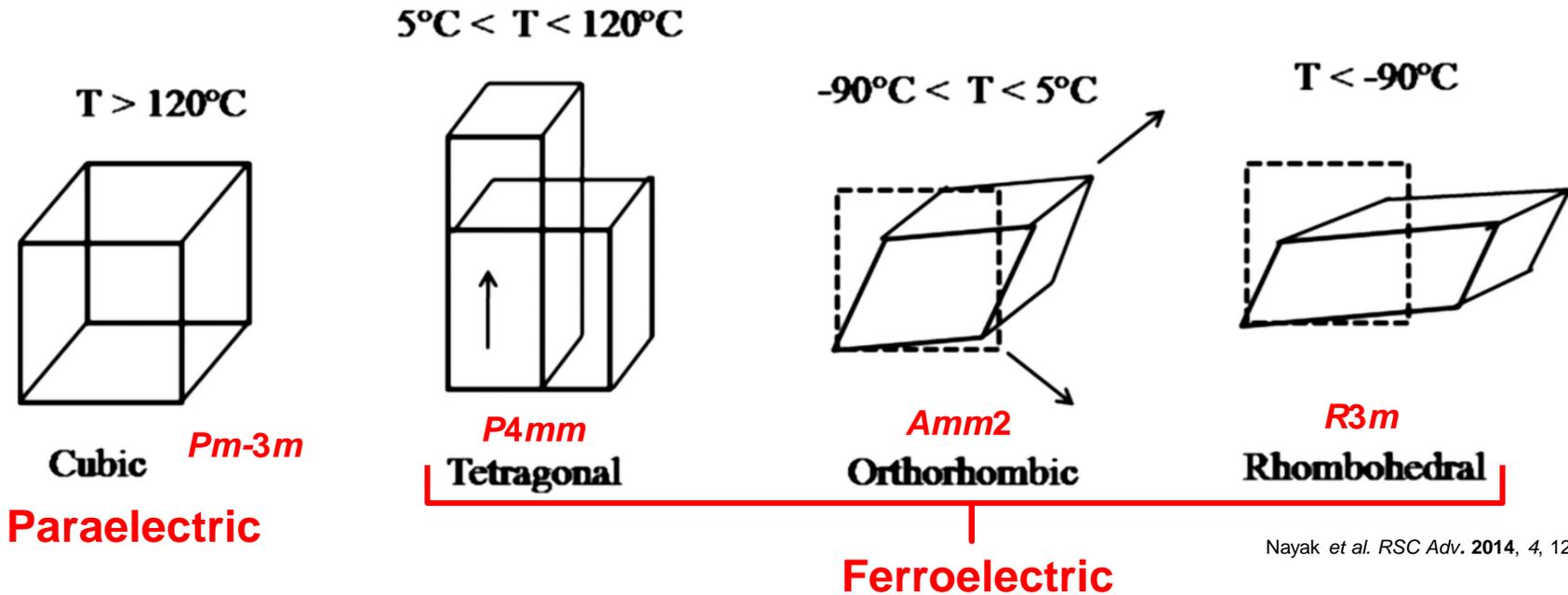
Ideal perovskite structure
(ABO_3 , e.g. $BaTiO_3$)

Non-cubic perovskites can
possess switchable
polarization P

Spontaneous polarization P_s is
related to the displacement
of the **B** atom (Ti)



BaTiO₃ phases



Nayak et al. RSC Adv. 2014, 4, 1212.

| | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------------|-----|
| Spontaneous polarization P_s ($\mu\text{C cm}^{-2}$): | Cubic | \mathcal{P}_s | 0 |
| | ↓ | T_c | 403 |
| | Tetragonal | \mathcal{P}_s | 27 |
| | ↓ | T_c | 278 |
| | Orthorhombic | \mathcal{P}_s | 36 |
| | ↓ | T_c | 183 |
| | Rhombohedral | \mathcal{P}_s | 33 |

Vanderbilt et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 1994, 73, 1861.

Ferroelectric pyroelectrics

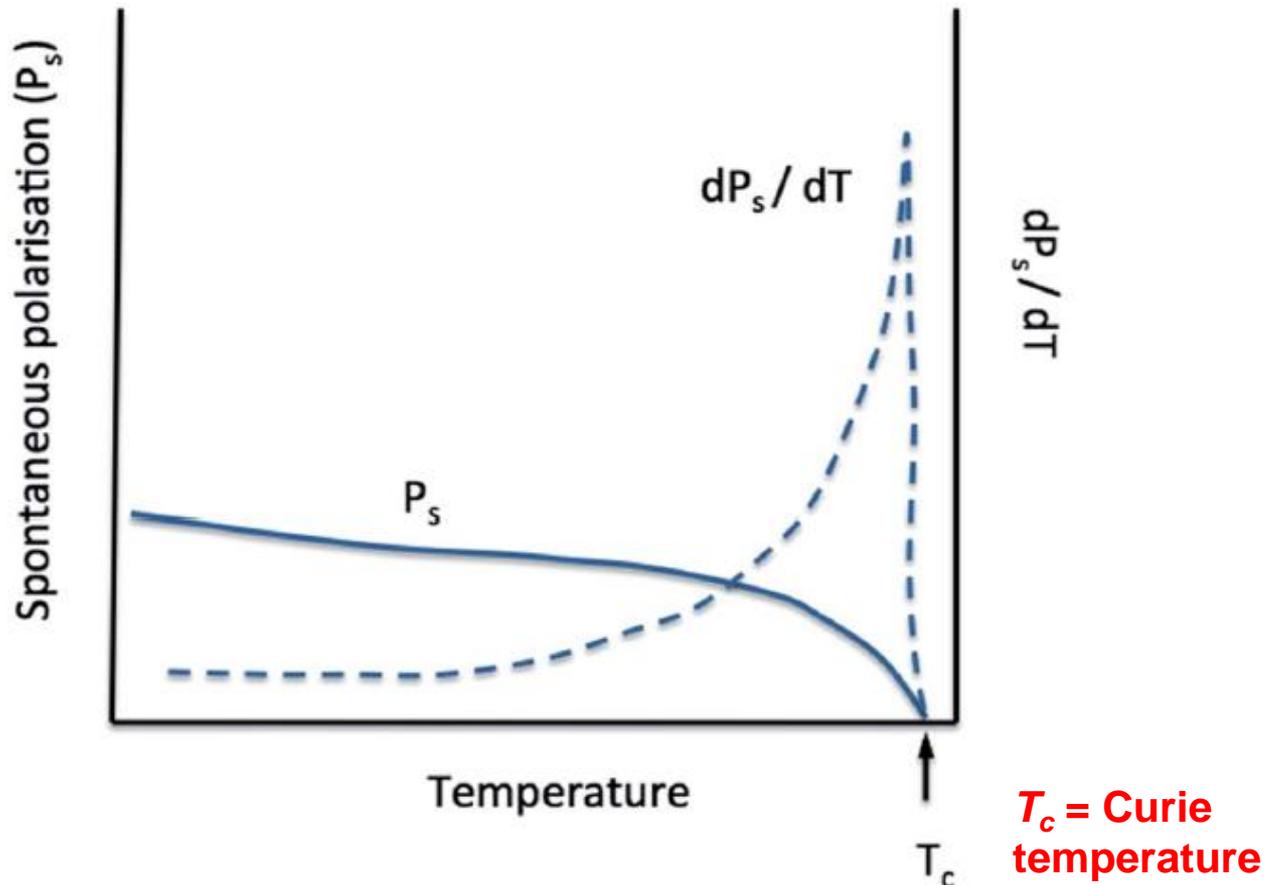


Fig. 1 Temperature dependence of spontaneous polarisation P_s and pyroelectric coefficient dP_s/dT of a ferroelectric material, adapted from.¹⁴

Ferroelectricity: Applications

- Obviously, all **piezoelectric** and **pyroelectric** applications discussed above
- In addition, some new applications arise from the switchable polarization
 - Ferroelectric random-access-memory (not that competitive with DRAM)
 - Capacitors with tunable capacitance
 - Ferroelectric field-effect transistors (rather hypothetical at the moment)