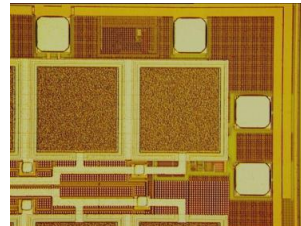
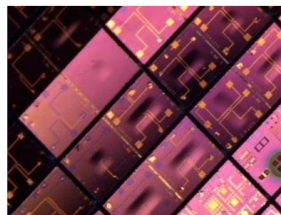
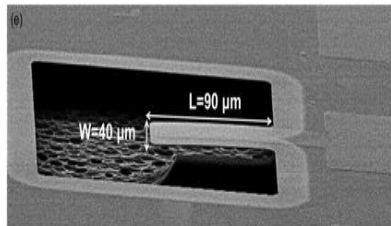
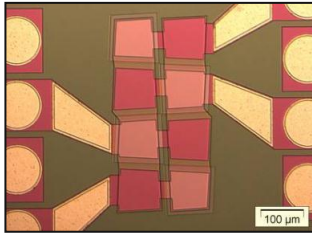
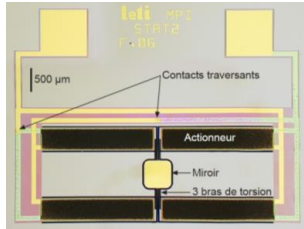


# SENSORS AND ACTUATORS WITH FERROELECTRIC MATERIALS

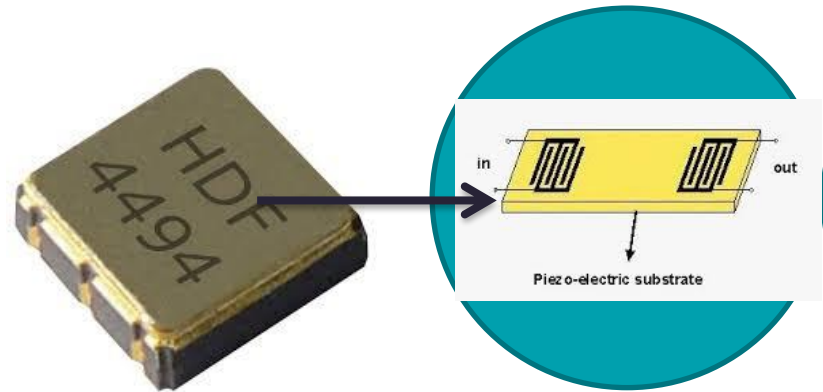
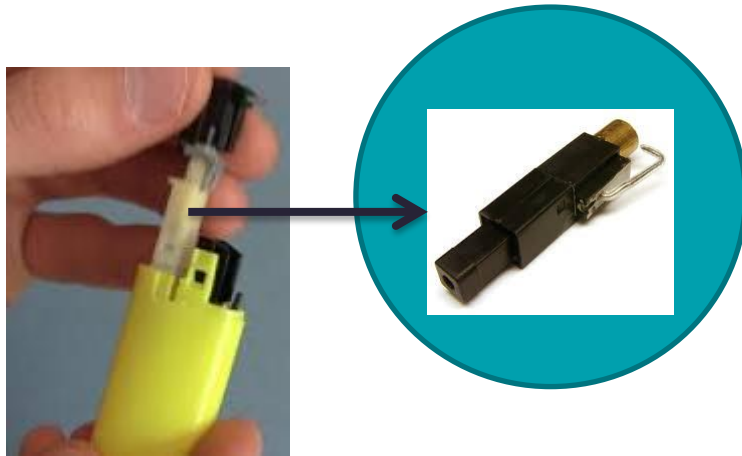
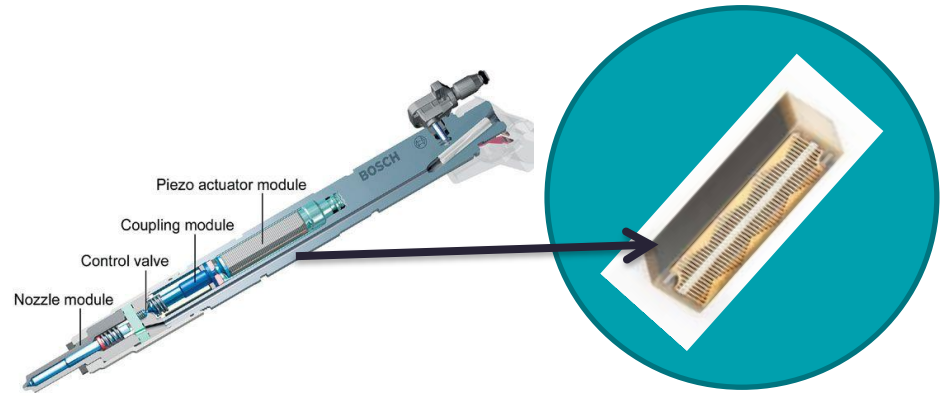
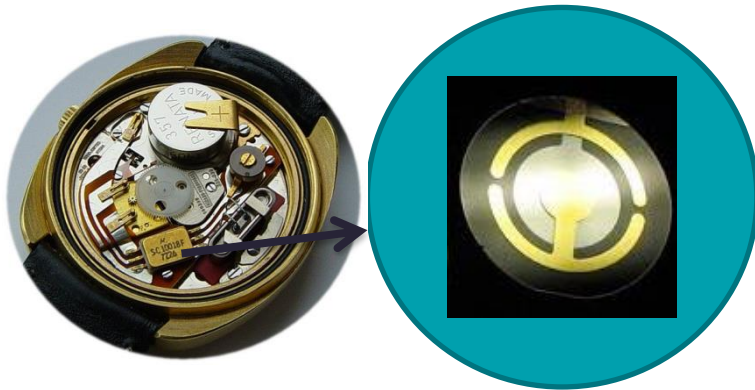
—  
*Emmanuel Defay*



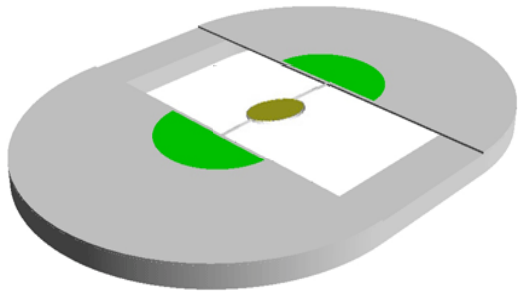
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OF SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY



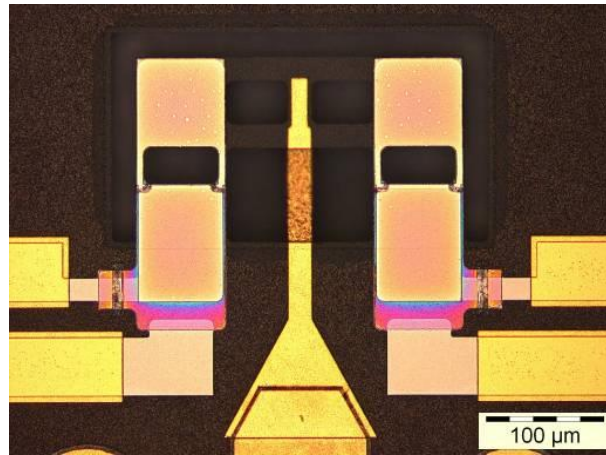
# PIEZOELECTRIC DEVICES



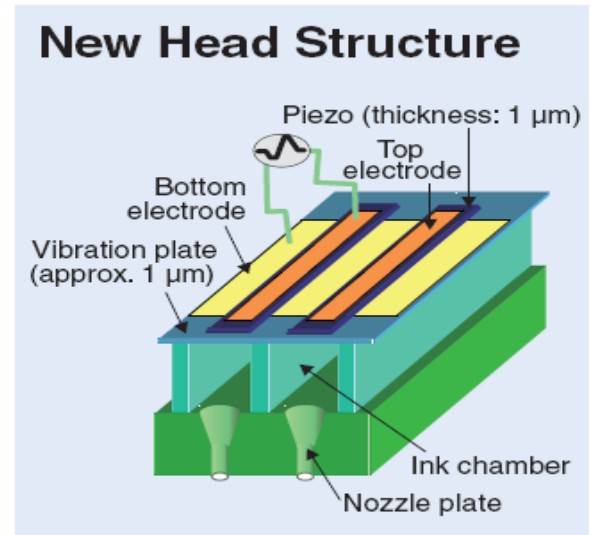
# PIEZOELECTRIC DEVICES



**Micro-mirror**



**RF MEMS Switches**



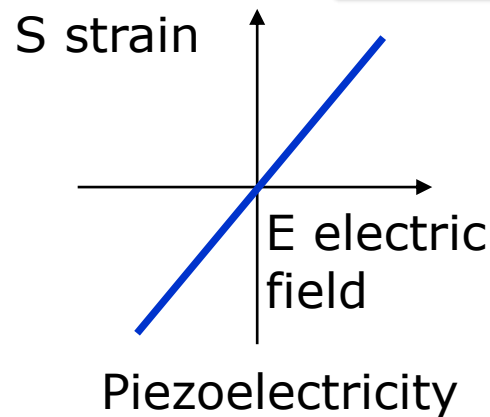
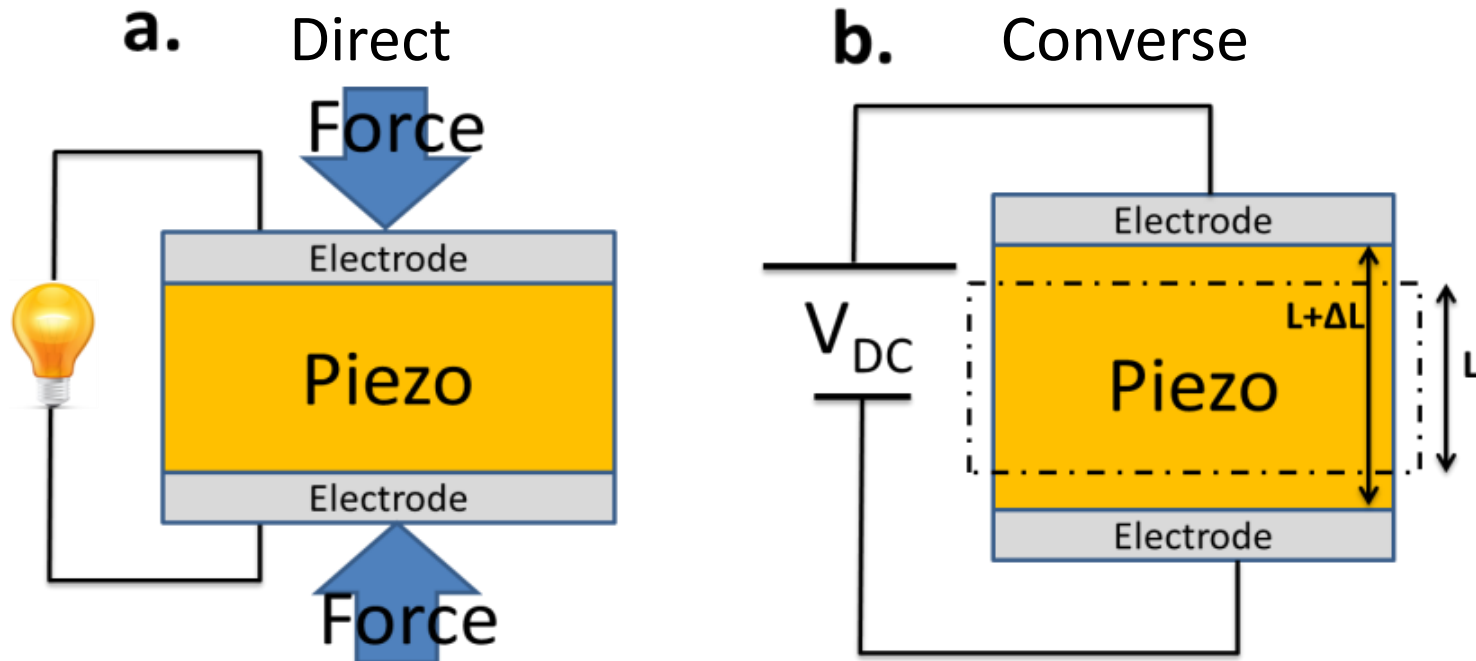
**Inkjet print-heads**

# FERROELECTRIC SENSORS AND ACTUATORS

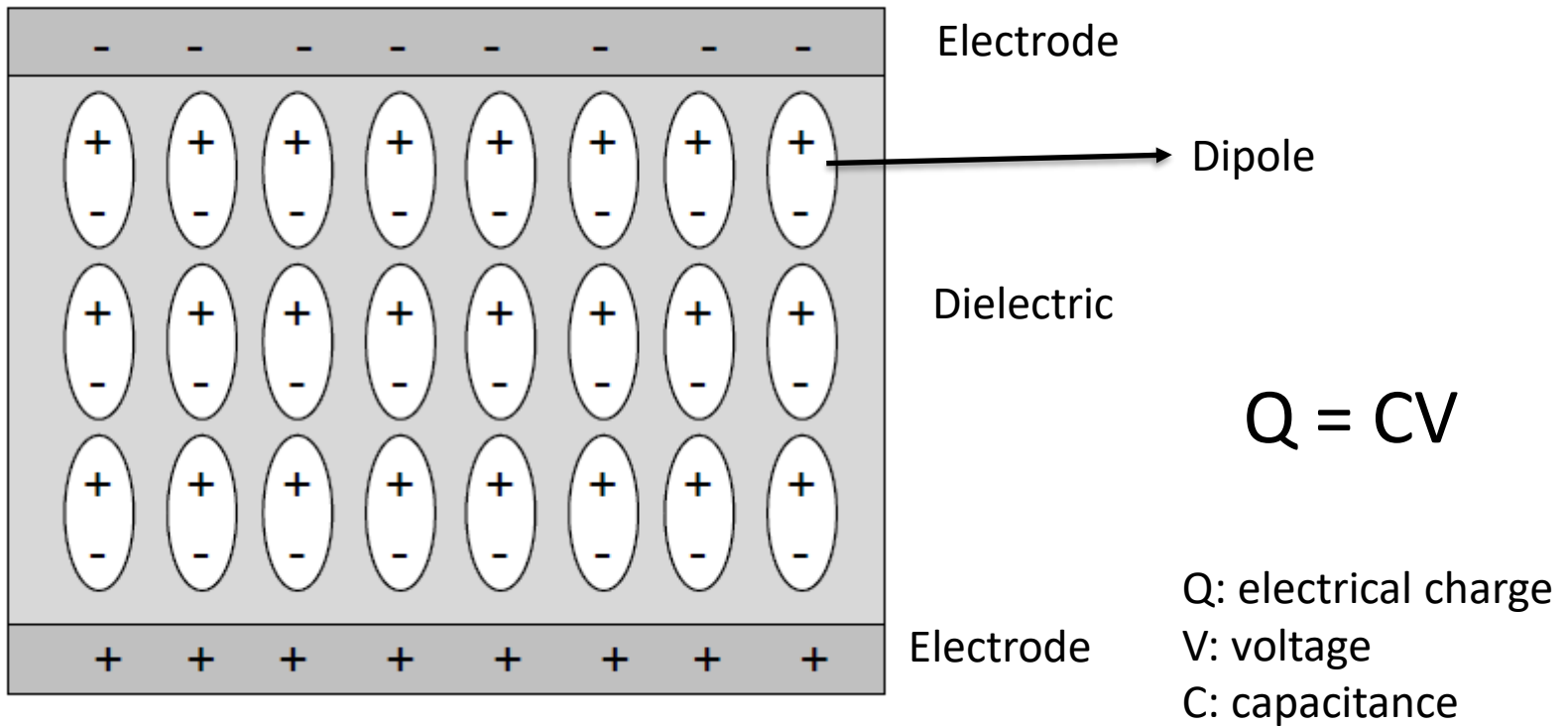
## A materials approach

- Piezoelectricity and other effects
- Piezoelectric formalism
- Materials and depositions means
- Applications

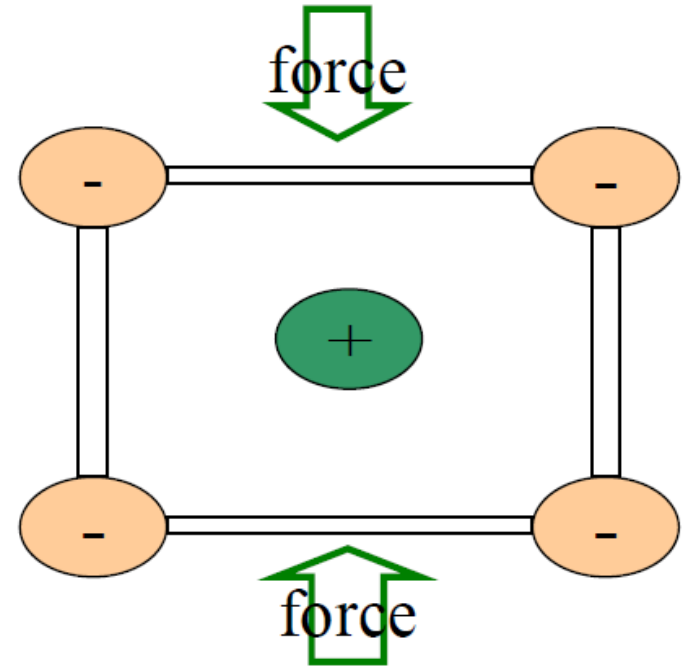
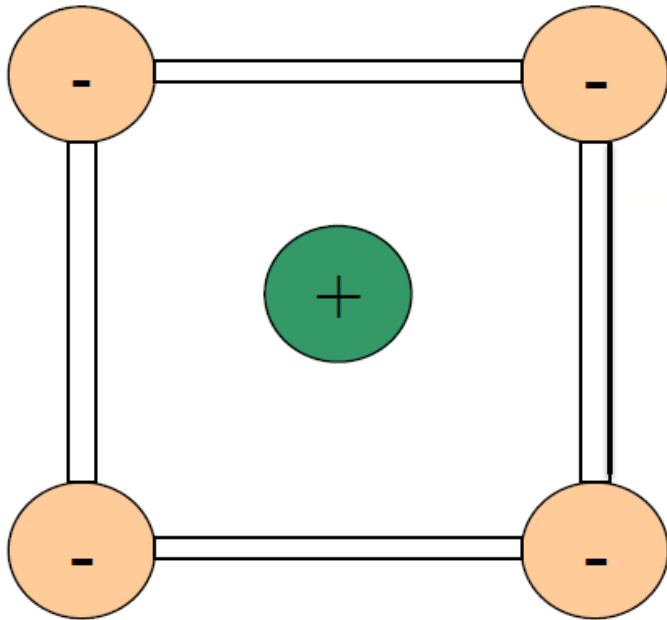
# Piezoelectricity



# The dielectric effect

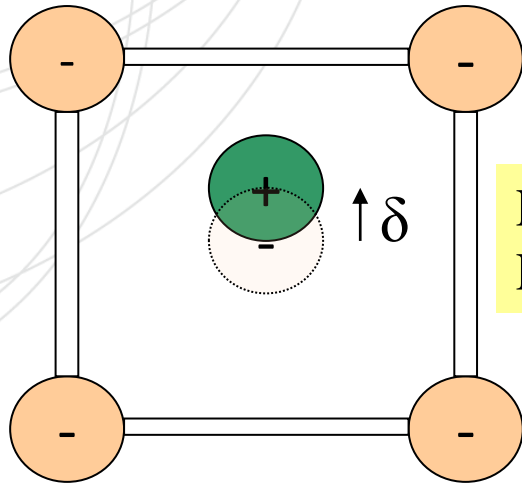


# Non-piezoelectric dielectric

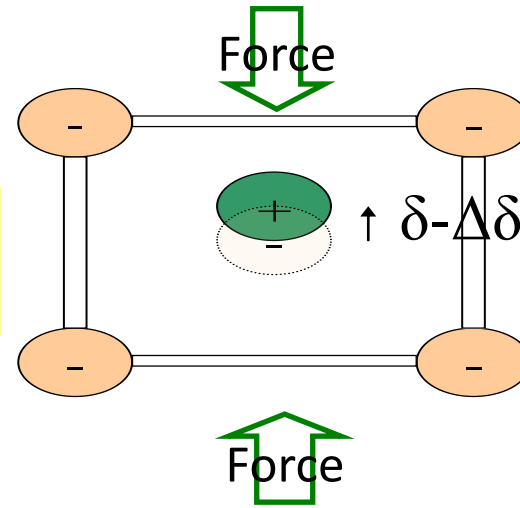


- When force is on, no dipole appears

# Piezoelectric (and pyroelectric)

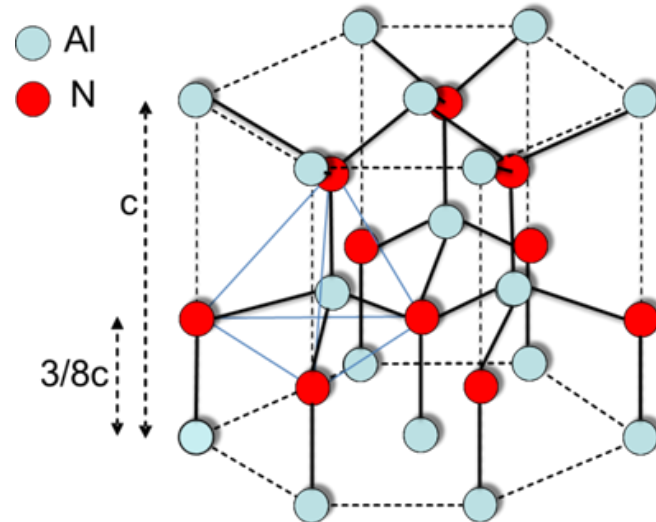


Piezoelectric  
Pyroelectric



$\Delta\delta \Rightarrow$   
dipole  
variation

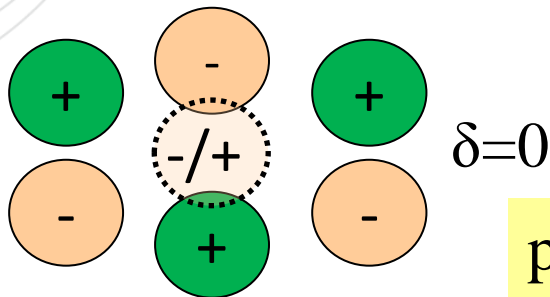
Example - AlN



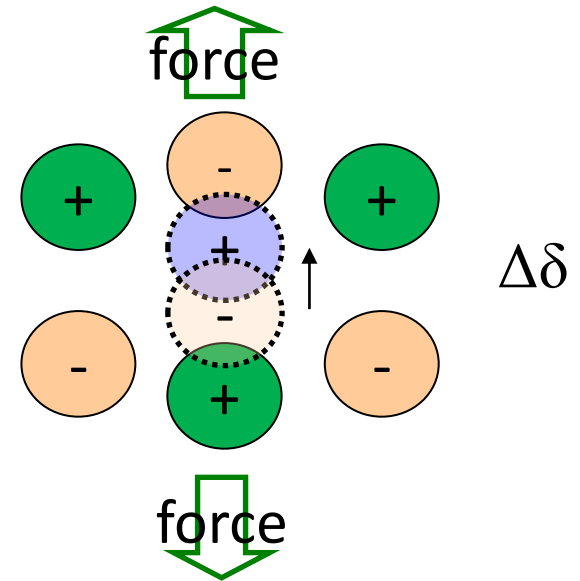


# Piezoelectric (non pyroelectric)

Quartz: no dipolar moment at zero strain  $\delta = 0$

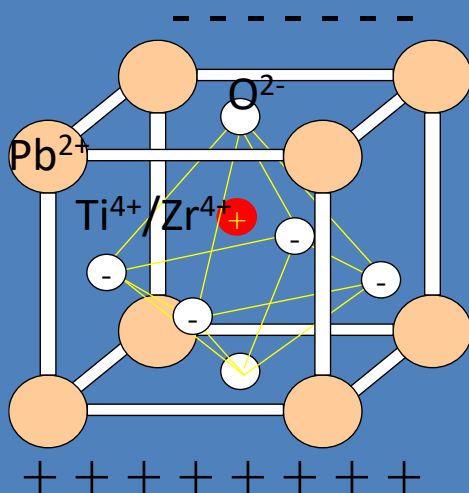


piezoelectric  
non pyroelectric



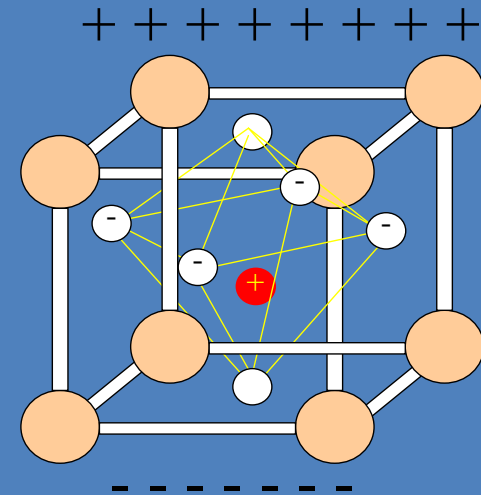
# Piezoelectric (ferroelectric)

- Perovskite structure –  $\text{Pb}(\text{Zr},\text{Ti})\text{O}_3$



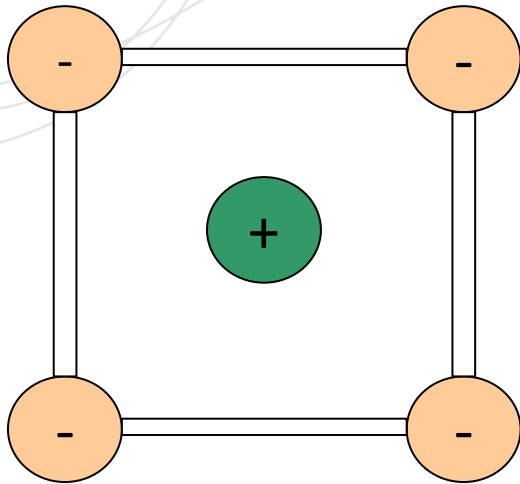
Dipole controlled  
by external  
electric field  
Stable

Piezoelectric  
Pyroelectric  
Ferroelectric

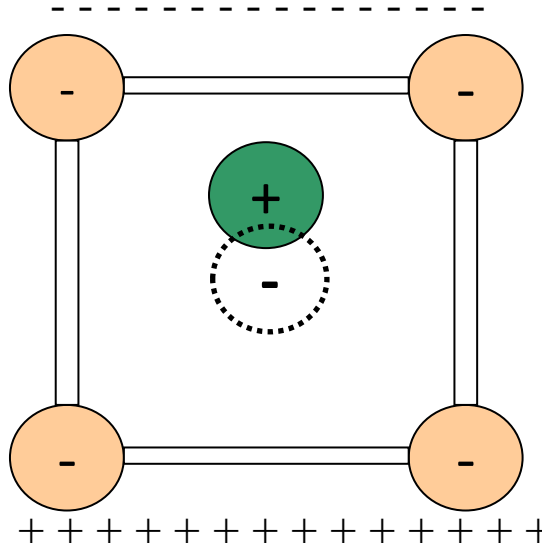


# Electrostriction

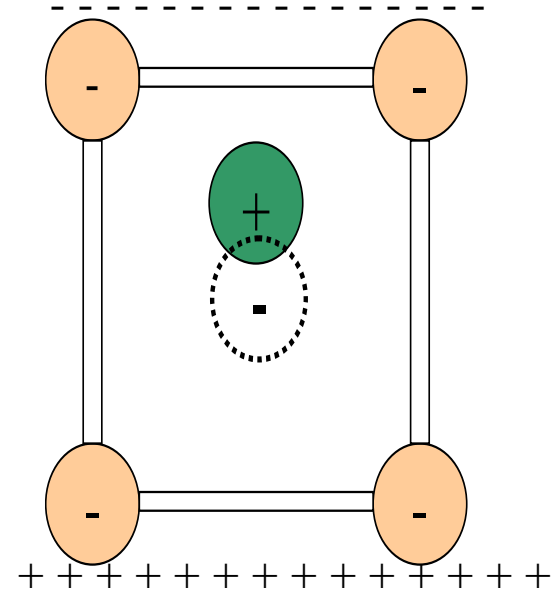
Symmetrical  
dielectric



1st effect:  
dipole appearance



2<sup>nd</sup> effect:  
induced piezo



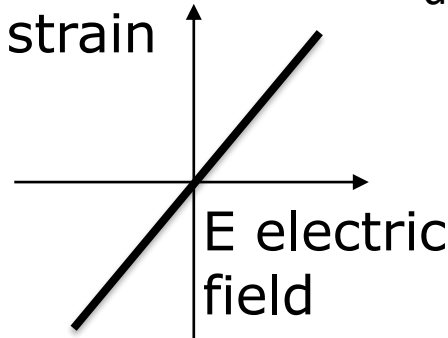
Quadratic effect

# Electrostriction vs piezoelectricity

- Piezoelectricity

$$S = dE$$

S strain

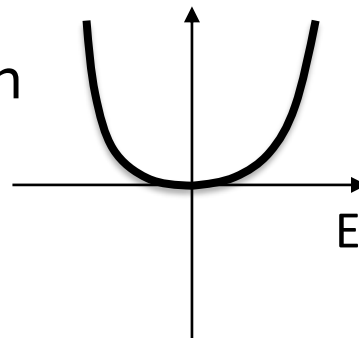


d - piezoelectric coefficient

- Electrostriction

$$S = ME^2$$

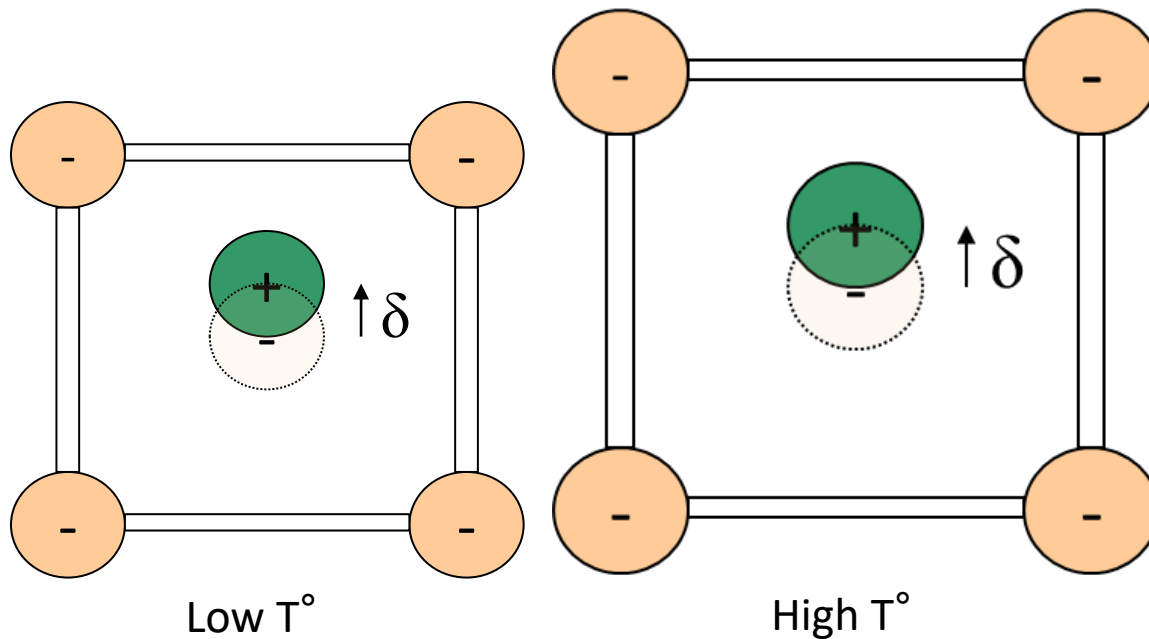
S strain



M - electrostrictive coefficient

# Pyroelectric effect

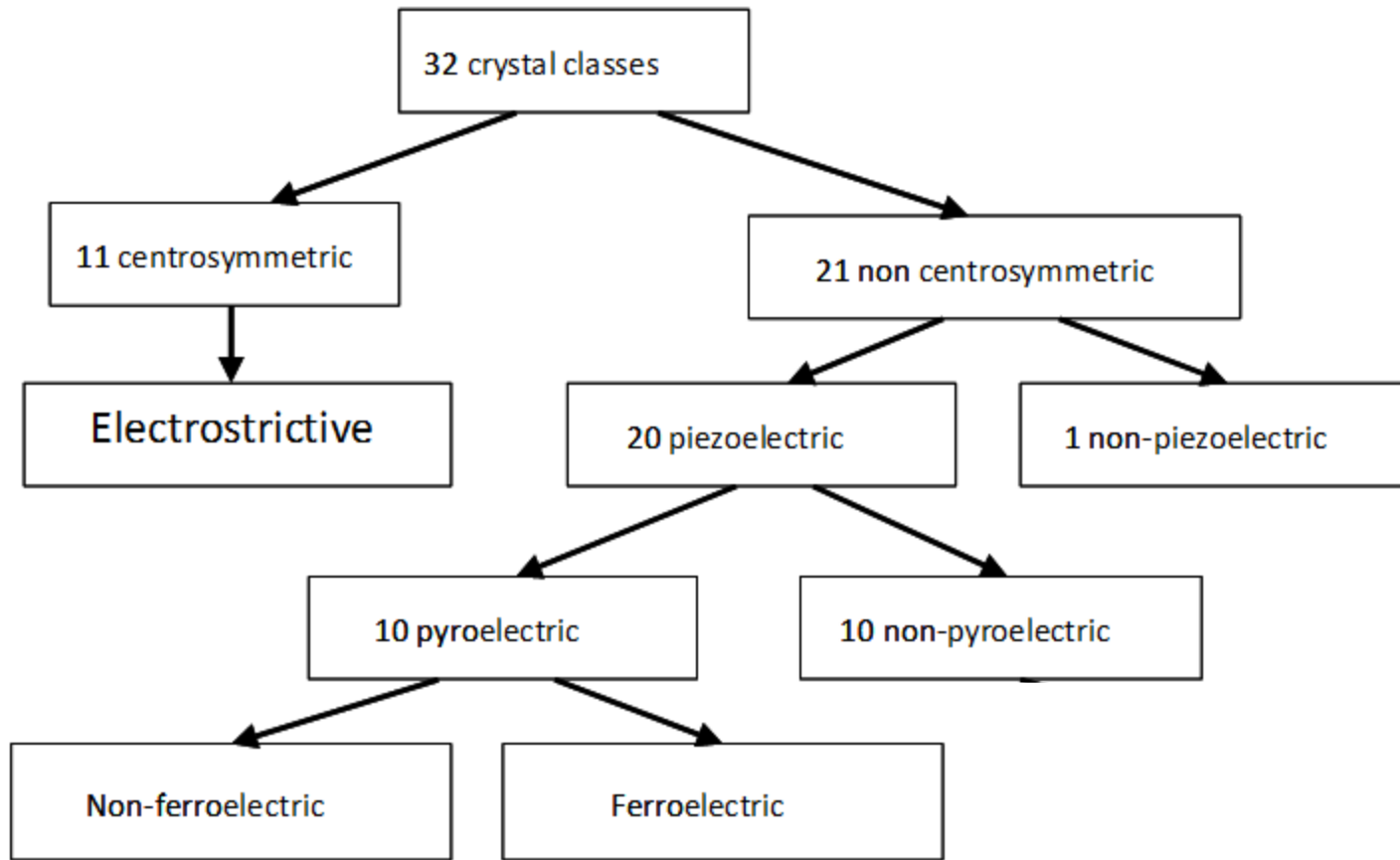
- Permanent spontaneous polarization  $\delta$
- Pyro, because  $\delta$  changes with  $T^\circ$



$$\Delta Q = p A \Delta T$$

$\Delta Q$ : electrical charge variation  
 $p$ : pyroelectric coefficient  
 $A$ : electrodes area  
 $\Delta T$ : temperature variation

# How to be piezoelectric



# Thermodynamics for piezo

- Internal energy – state function ( $\Delta U = \delta W + \delta Q$ )

$W$ : work       $Q$ : heat

- $dU$ : total differential

$$dU = \theta d\sigma + TdS + EdD$$

$S$ : strain       $T$ : stress

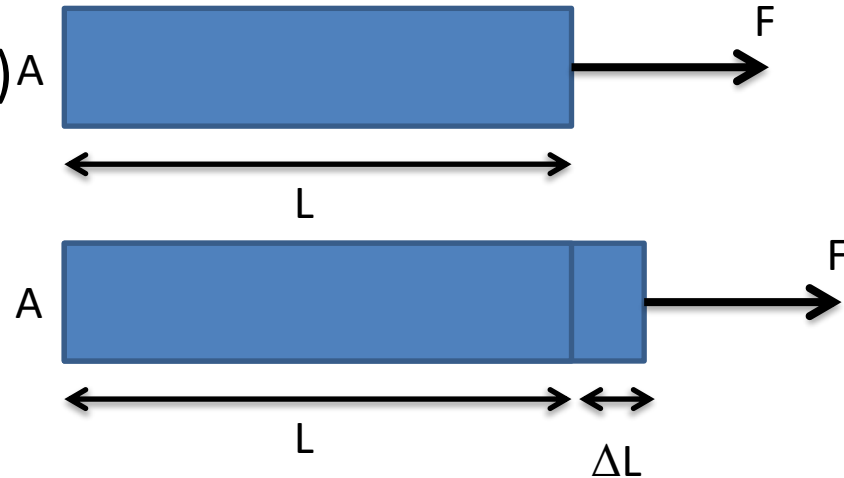
$D$ : electric displacement     $E$ : electric field

$\sigma$ : entropy       $\theta$ : temperature

- Intensive x d (extensive) in  $dU$
- $dU = 0 \Rightarrow$  equilibrium according to  $\sigma$ ,  $S$  and  $D$

# Mechanical variables

- Strain  $S = \Delta L/L$  (%)
- Stress  $T = F/A$  ( $\text{N/m}^2 = \text{Pa}$ )
- $L$  = length
- $F$  = force
- $A$  = area

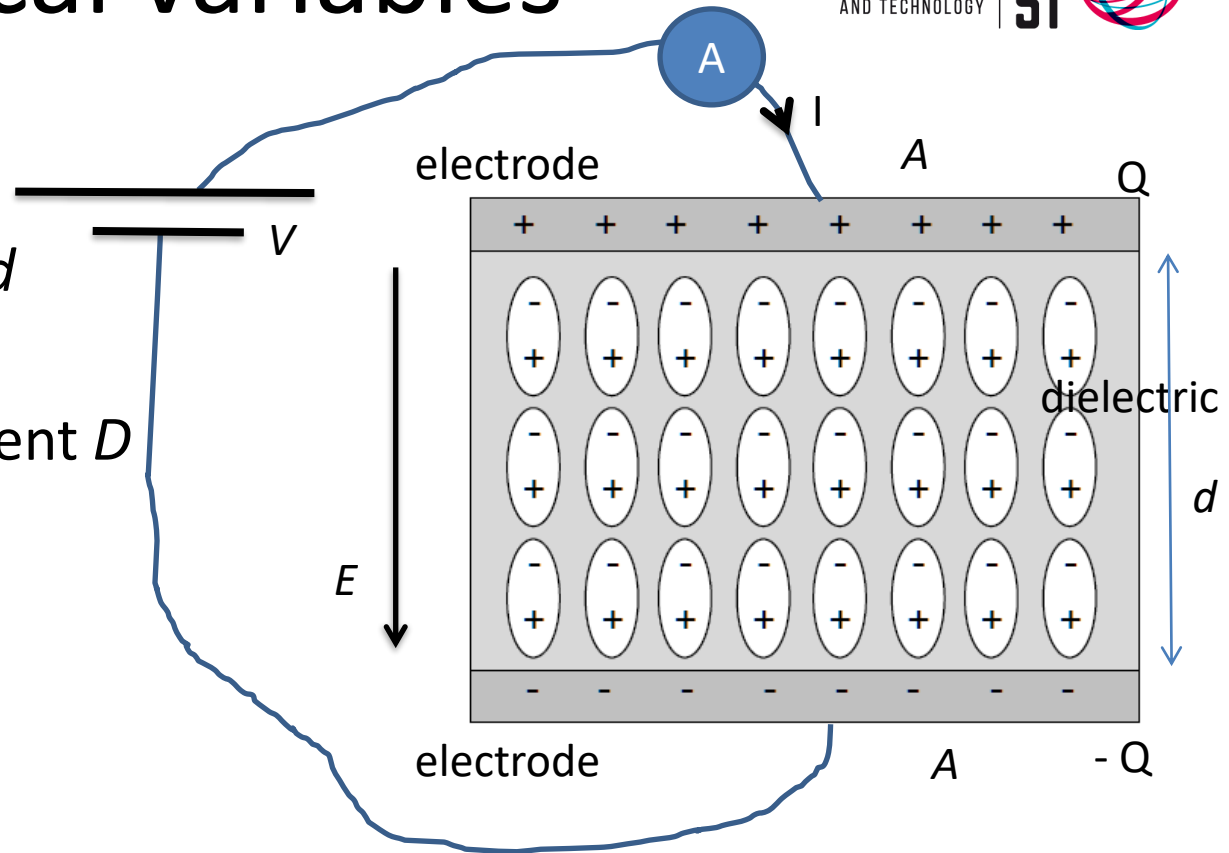


- Independent of sample size
- Hooke's law :  $F = k x$  ( $k$ : spring constant,  $x$ : extension)
- $T = c S$  ( $c$  : stiffness)



# Electrical variables

- Voltage  $V$
- Electric field  $E = -V/d$
- Current  $I$
- Electrical displacement  $D$
- Electrode area  $A$
- $Q = D A$
- $I = dQ/dt$
- $Q = C V$
- $C = \text{capacitance}$
- $C = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r A/d$
- Electrostatic equation :  $D = \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r E$



# Legendre transform

- Other free energies to describe other equilibrium
  - Constant  $\theta$  rather than constant  $\sigma$
  - Constant  $E$  rather than constant  $D$
  - Constant  $T$  rather than constant  $S$
- Adding an energy term to internal energy: Legendre transform
- Helmholtz free energy  $F = A = U - \sigma\theta$
- Gibbs energy:  $G = U - \sigma\theta - TS - ED$
- Gibbs elastic energy:  $G_1 = U - \sigma\theta - TS$
- Gibbs electric energy:  $G_2 = U - \sigma\theta - ED$

# Piezoelectric formalism

Internal energy  $U$

$$dU = TdS + EdD$$

$T, E$  – intensive  
 $S, D$  – extensive  
 $d$  - differential

$S$ : strain       $T$ : stress

$D$ : electric displacement       $E$ : electric field

Free energy  $G$  (if  $T$  and  $E$  main variables) – Legendre transform

$$G = U - TS - ED$$

$$dG = dU - TdS - SdT - EdD - DdE$$

$$dG = -SdT - DdE$$



Linear hypothesis  
 $S$  depends on  $T$   
 $D$  depends on  $E$

It means quadratic terms in energy + 1 coupling term (piezo)

$$G - G_0 = -\frac{1}{2} s^E T^2 - \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^T E^2 - dTE$$

$s^E$  material compliance at constant  $E$   
 $\varepsilon^T$  material dielectric constant at constant  $T$   
 $d$  piezoelectric coefficient

# Piezoelectric formalism

$$dG = -SdT - DdE$$

$$G - G_0 = -\frac{1}{2} s^E T^2 - \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^T E^2 - dTE$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial T} \right)_E = -S$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial E} \right)_T = -D$$

S: strain

T: stress

E: electric field

D: electric displacement

s: compliance

$\varepsilon$ : dielectric constant

d: piezoelectric coef

$$S = s^E T + dE$$

$$D = \varepsilon^T E + dT$$

Three other possible formalisms (by using other free energies)

$$T = c^E S - eE$$

$$S = s^D T + gD$$

$$T = c^D S - hD$$

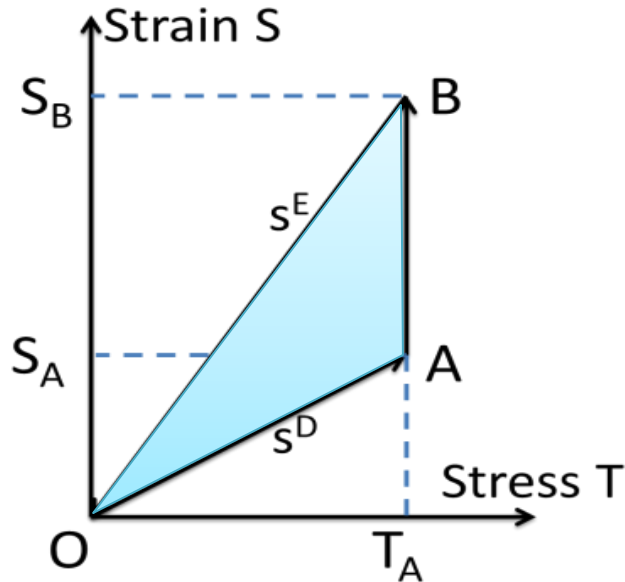
$$D = \varepsilon^S E + eS$$

$$E = \beta^T D - gT$$

$$E = \beta^S D - hS$$

# The electromechanical coupling factor k

How to convert mechanical energy in electricity ?



Harvesting cycle

1. OA – stress piezo @ open circuit up to  $T_A$
2. AB – Short circuit piezo @  $T_A$ - harvesting
3. BO – release stress

$$Work_{OA} = \frac{1}{2} s^D T_A^2 \quad Work_{OB} = \frac{1}{2} s^E T_A^2$$

$$Work_{harvested} = Work_{OB} - Work_{OA}$$

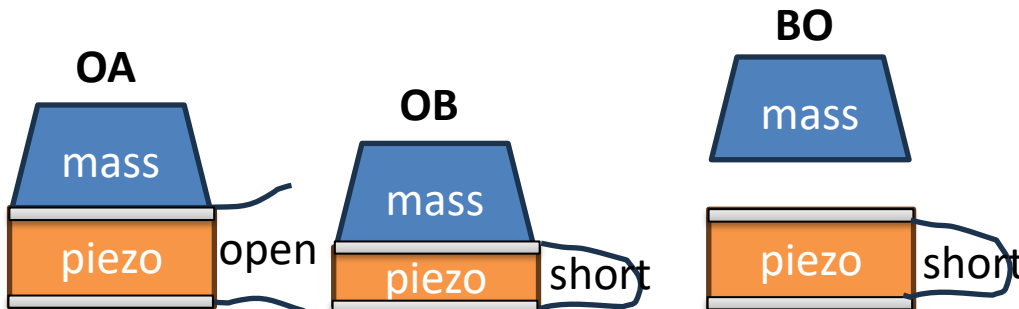
$s^D$  and  $s^E$  – piezo compliances at constant  $D$  and constant  $E$  ( $s^D < s^E$ )

$$k^2 = \frac{W_{OB} - W_{OA}}{W_{OB}} = 1 - \frac{W_{OA}}{W_{OB}}$$

$$k^2 = 1 - \frac{s^D}{s^E}$$

$$k^2 = \frac{d^2}{s^E \epsilon^T}$$

$k^2$  can reach 85 % !



# Ferroelectric formalism

- Landau theory of phase transition
- Free energy description, as simple as possible
- Hypothesis
  - Free energy is the same between phases
  - Identify the order parameter that changes during a phase transition

# Ferroelectric formalism

- Order parameter - Polarisation
  - zero when cubic
  - Non-zero in tetragonal / rhombohedral phases
- Landau free energy  $G_1$ , with only even terms in  $P$

$$G_1(P, X, T) = \frac{1}{2} a (\theta - \theta_C) P^2 + \frac{1}{4} b P^4 - \frac{1}{2} s T^2 - Q P^2 T$$



$G_1$ : Gibbs elastic energy

$$dU = EdD + TdS$$

$$D \sim P$$

$$G_1(P, T) = U - ST$$

$$dG_1 = EdD - SdT$$

# Ferroelectric formalism

$$G_1(P, X, T) = \frac{1}{2} a (\theta - \theta_C) P^2 + \frac{1}{4} b P^4 - \frac{1}{2} s T^2 - Q P^2 T$$

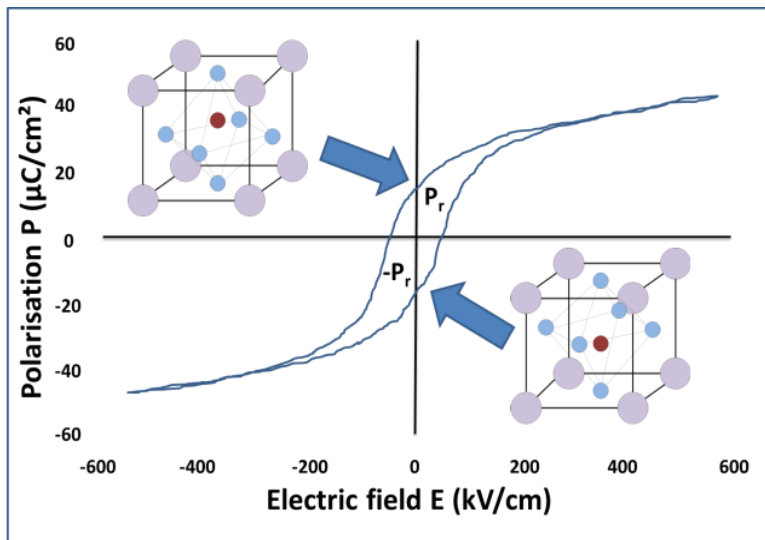
$$dG_1 = EdP - SdT \quad \left( \frac{\partial G_1}{\partial T} \right)_P = -S$$

$$\left( \frac{\partial G_1}{\partial T} \right)_P = -S = -sT - QP^2$$

$$S = sT + QP^2$$

Pure piezo  
 $S = s^E T + dE$

Let's dig deeper



$$P = P_r + \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r E$$

$$S = sT + Q(P_r + \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r E)^2$$

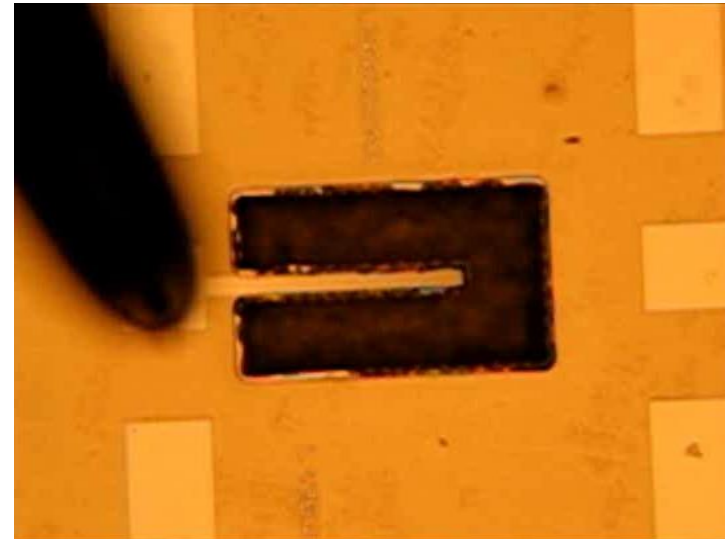
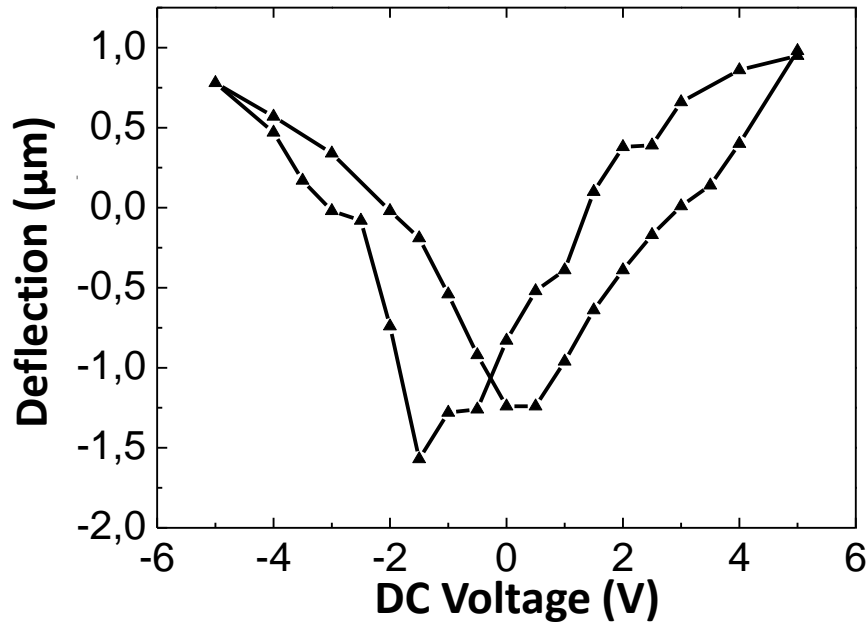
$$S = sT + QP_r^2 + \underbrace{2QP_r \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r E}_{d \text{ piezo}} + \dots$$

$$d = 2QP_r \epsilon_0 \epsilon_r$$



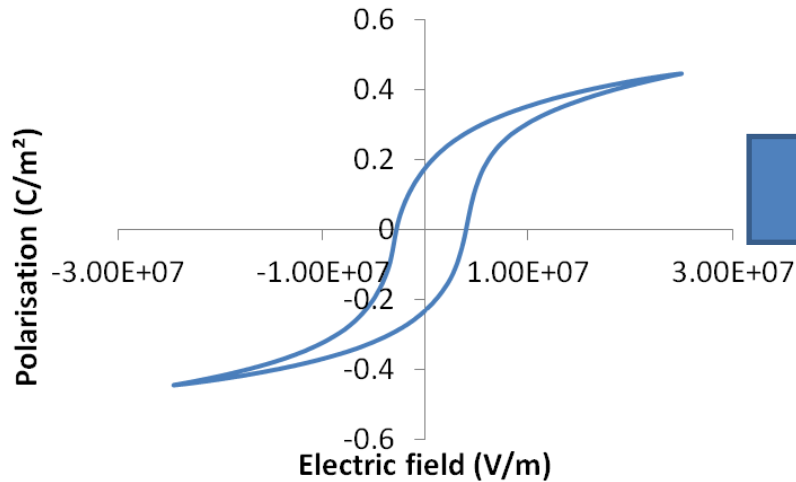
# Ferroelectric actuator

- PZT : if field < coercive field => linear
- If field > coercive field: one-way deflection !

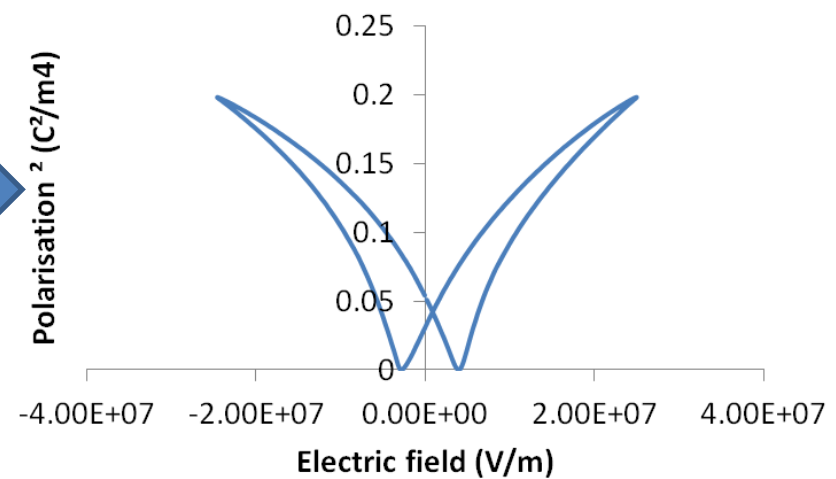


# Ferroelectric actuator

- Electrostriction : strain  $S = Q$  (Polarisation  $P$ )<sup>2</sup>
- $P = f(\text{field } E)$



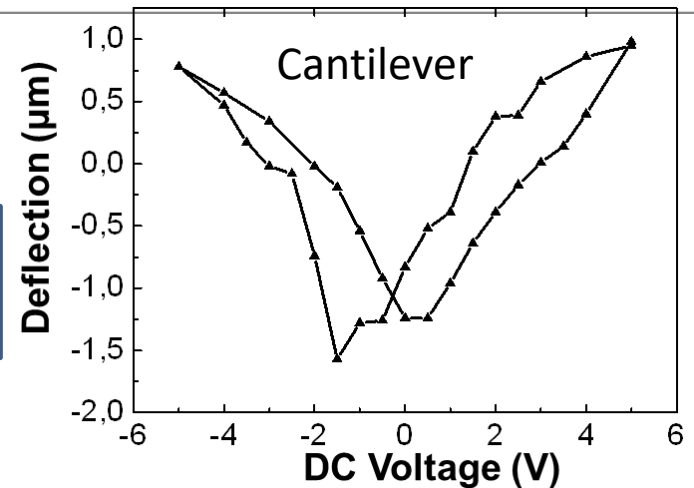
$P^2$



Cantilever made of PZT

Deflection explained  
by electrostriction

$$S = QP^2$$
$$Q = \text{cst}$$



# PIEZOELECTRIC MATERIALS (FILMS)

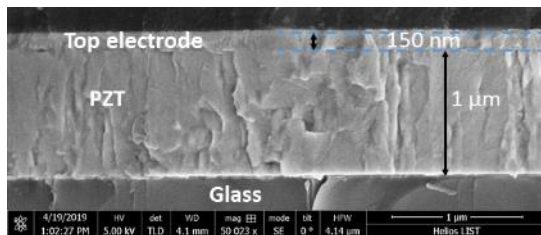
# MATERIALS

## Lead-based and lead free ferroelectric piezoelectric films

### Lead zirconate titanate films (PZT)

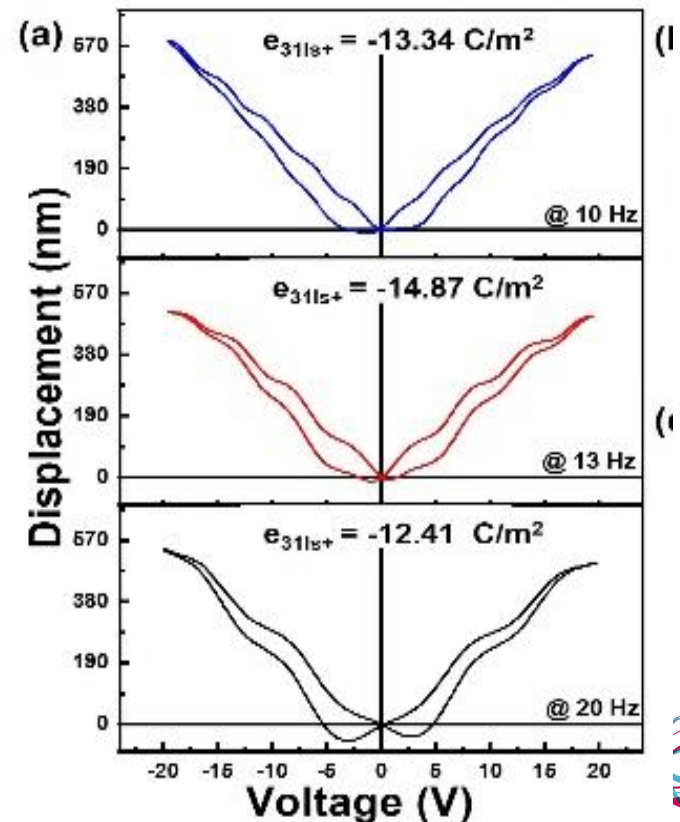
Grown by sol gel spin coating and inkjet printing

$$e_{31,eff} = -18 \text{ C/m}^2$$



*L Song, S Glinsek, E Defay, Applied Physics Reviews 8 (4), 041315 (2021)*

### Best alternative to PZT – (K,Na)NbO<sub>3</sub> (KNN)

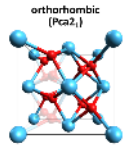


# MATERIALS

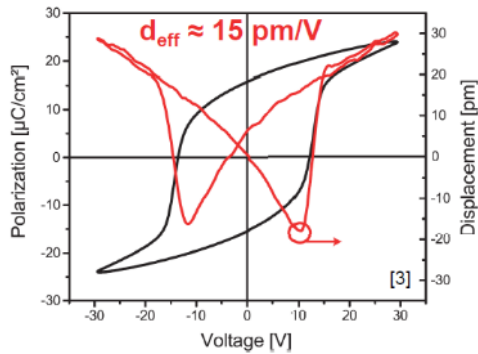
## Non perovskite lead free piezoelectric materials

### Hafnia via sol gel

1  $\mu\text{m}$ -thick films with  
15 pm / V (> AlN)



### Piezoelectric Properties



T. Schenk et al., *Applied Physics Letters* 118 (16), 162902 (2021)

### AlN via sputtering

$d_{33} = 5 \text{ pm/V}$

### Sc-AlN via sputtering

$d_{33} = 25 \text{ pm/V}$

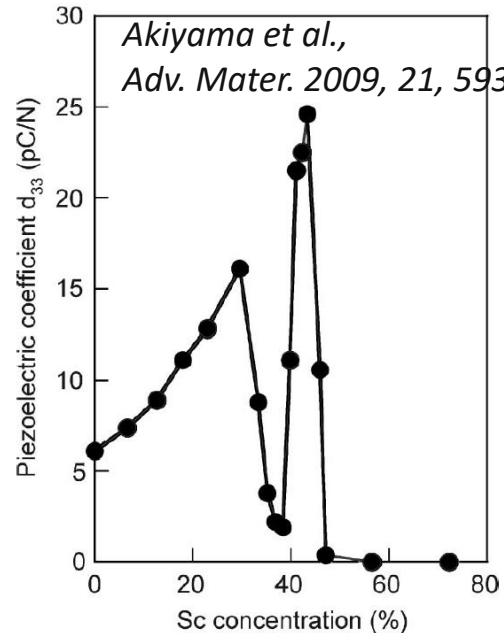


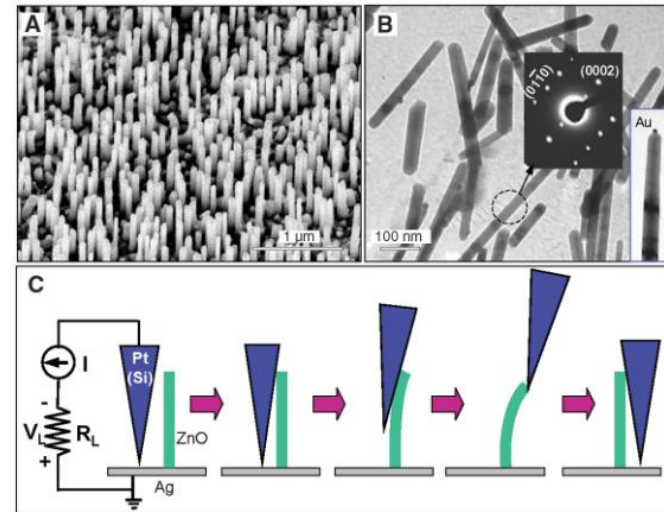
Figure 3. Dependence of piezoelectric coefficient  $d_{33}$  of  $\text{Sc}_x\text{Al}_{1-x}\text{N}$  alloys on Sc concentration.

### ZnO nanowires

14 APRIL 2006 VOL 312 SCIENCE www.sciencemag.org

## Piezoelectric Nanogenerators Based on Zinc Oxide Nanowire Arrays

Zhong Lin Wang<sup>1,2,3\*</sup> and Jinhui Song<sup>1</sup>

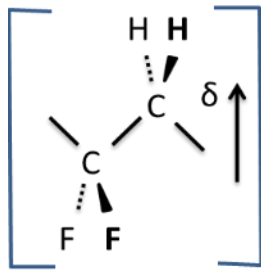


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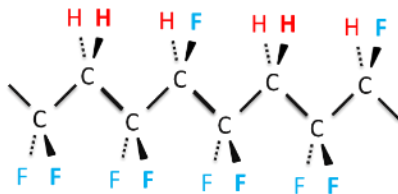


### Piezoelectric polymers

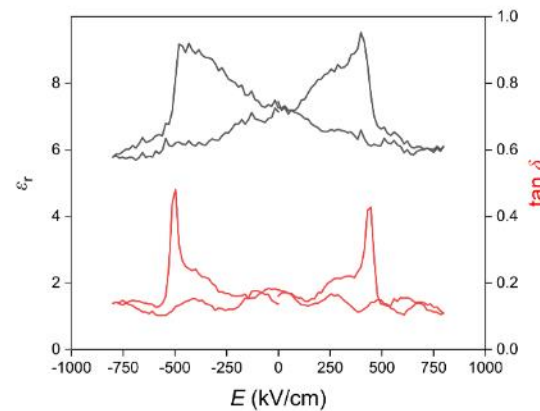
#### Polyvinylidene Difluoride



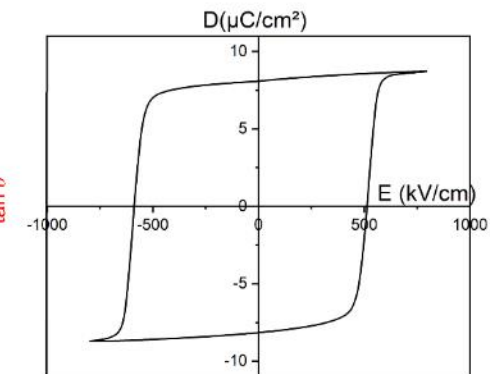
P(VDF-TrFE) => better piezo



#### Dielectric characterization



#### Ferroelectric characterization



## 3 types of materials

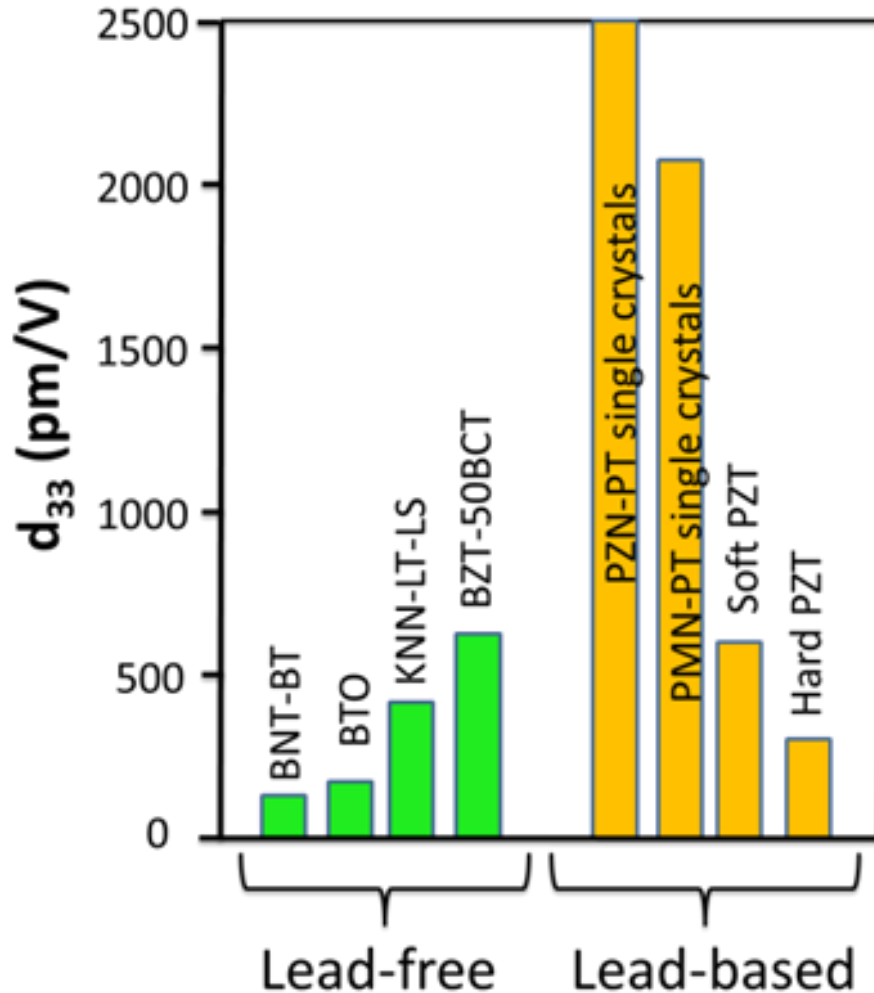
Perovskites (PZT) - large piezo properties

Wurtzite (AlN) – low acoustic losses

Polymers (PVDF) – low temperature fabrication

Material	Type	$d_{33}$ (pm/V)	$d_{31}$ (pm/V)	$-e_{31,eff}$ (C/m <sup>2</sup> )	$\epsilon$	$c_{33}^E$ (GPa)
PZT 5H	Ceramic	650	-320	25	3800	50
PZT	Poly-film	250	-150	20	1500	80
AlN	Poly-film	5	-2.5	1.0	10	300
ScAlN	Poly-film	20	-10	1.5	15	120
PVDF-based	Film / free standing films	-20	+6	0.01	10-30	2

## Bulk perovskites



BNT -  $\text{Bi}_{0.5}\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{TiO}_3$

BTO -  $\text{BaTiO}_3$

KNN -  $(\text{K},\text{Na})\text{NbO}_3$

BZT-BCT -  $(\text{Ba},\text{Ca})(\text{Zr},\text{Ti})\text{O}_3$

PZN-PT -  $\text{Pb}(\text{Zn}_{1/3}\text{Nb}_{2/3})\text{O}_3 - \text{PbTiO}_3$

PMN-PT -  $\text{Pb}(\text{Mg},\text{Nb})\text{O}_3 - \text{PbTiO}_3$

PZT -  $\text{Pb}(\text{Zr},\text{Ti})\text{O}_3$

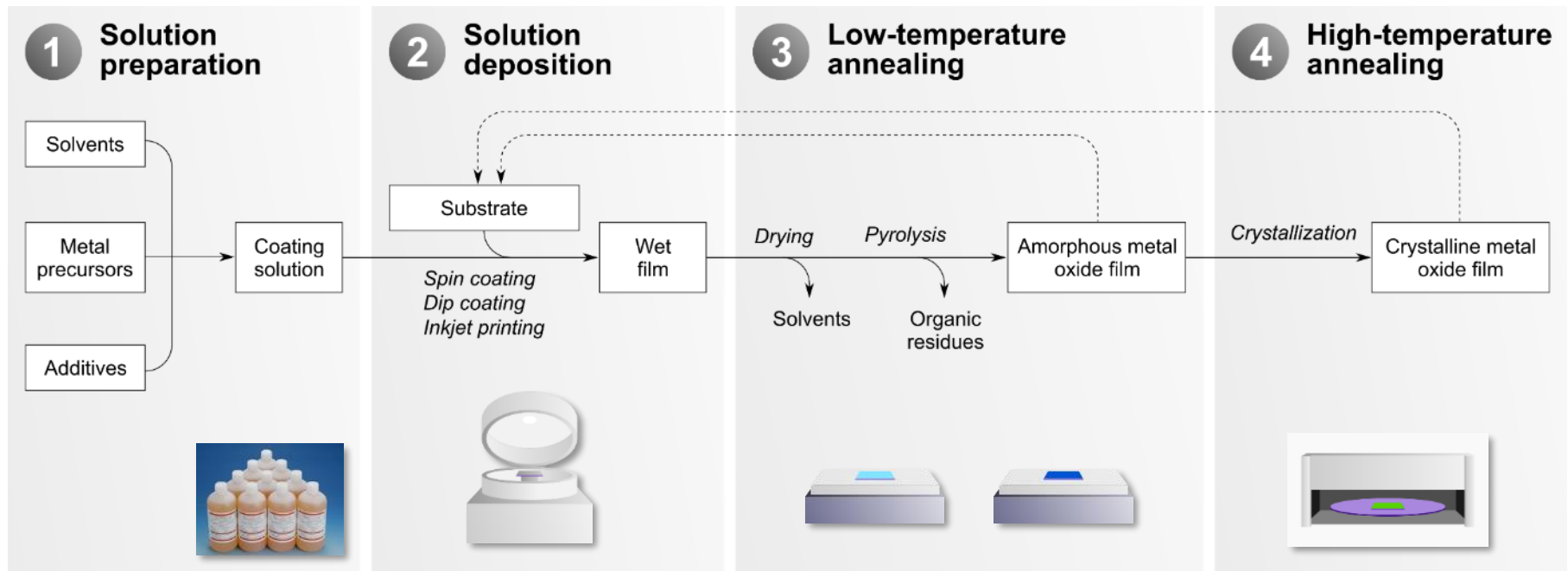


# FABRICATION

# (NON EXHAUSTIVE)

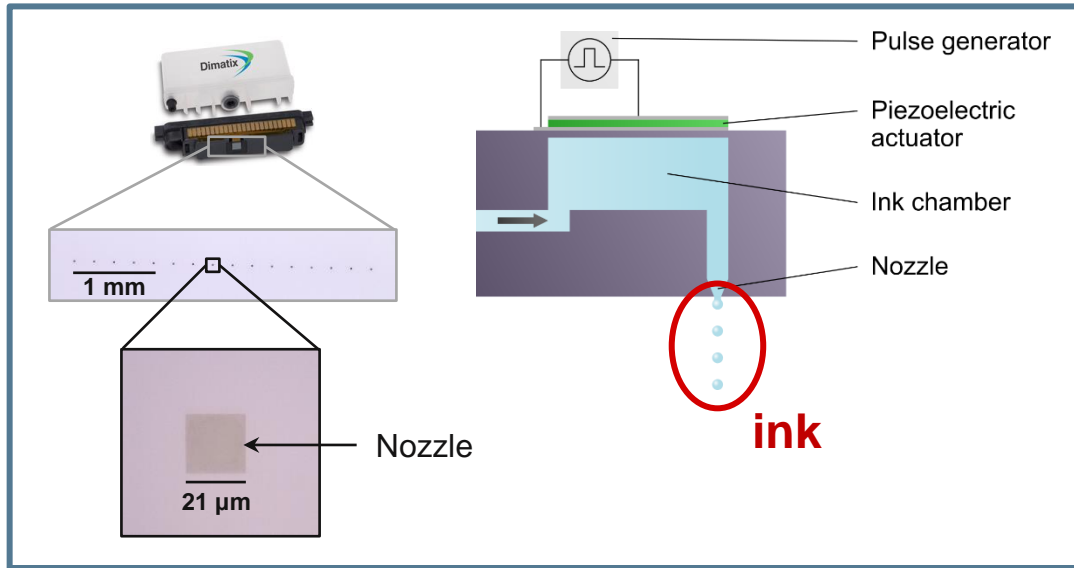
# FABRICATION

## Sol gel technology



# FABRICATION

## Inkjet printing



### Low-cost

No vacuum deposition  
No lithography

### Eco-friendly

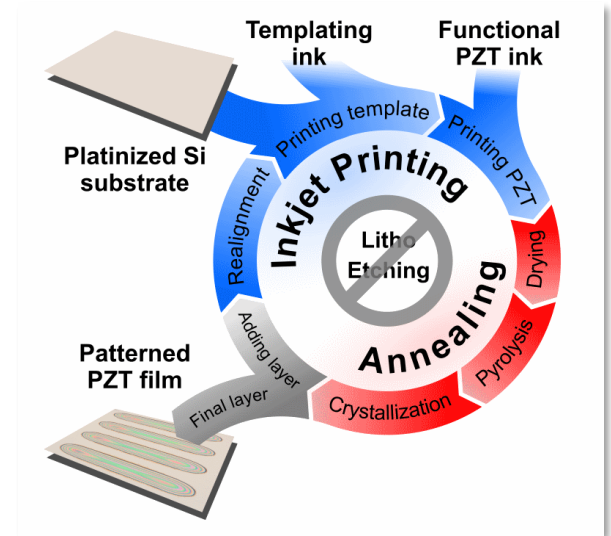
Additive manufacturing  
Reduced waste

### Versatile

Freedom of geometry  
CSD-compatible

### Up-scalable

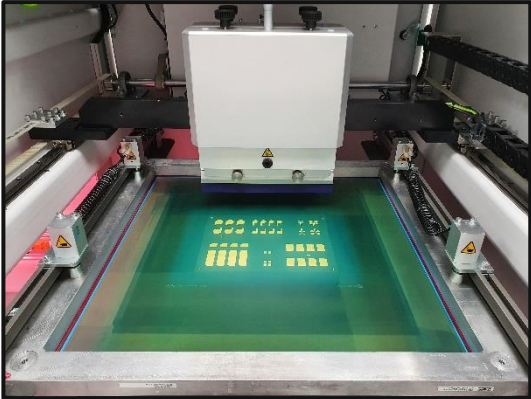
High potential for  
industrial transfer



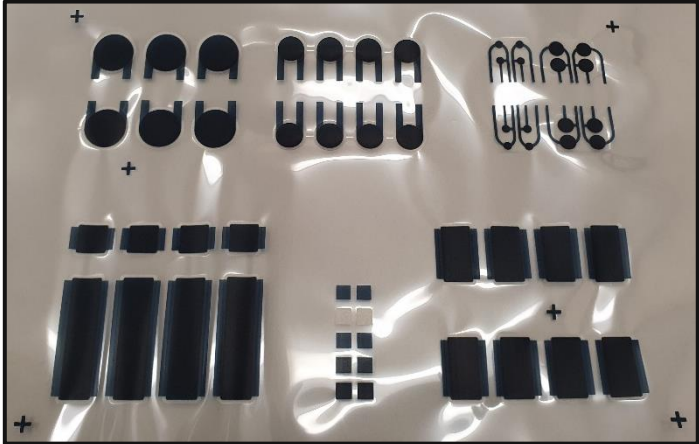
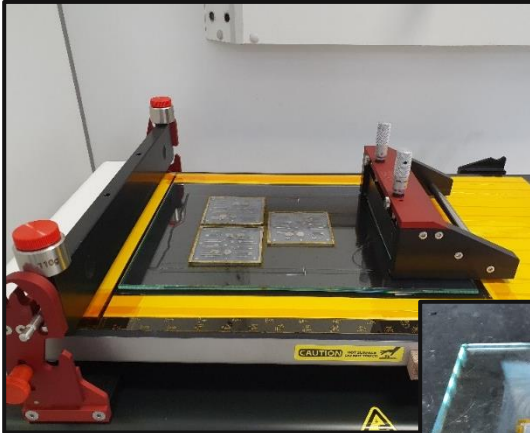
# FABRICATION

## PVDF films

### Screen printing



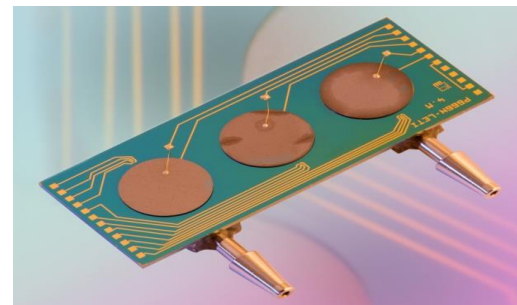
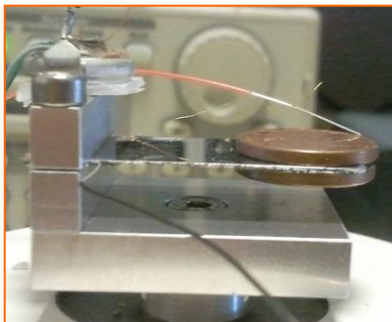
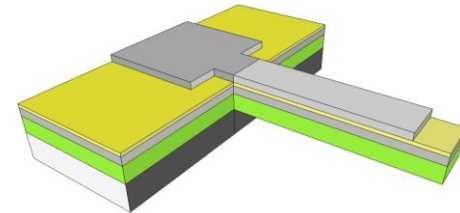
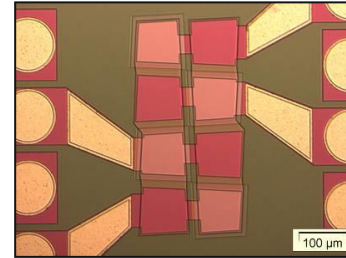
### Bar coating



# APPLICATIONS

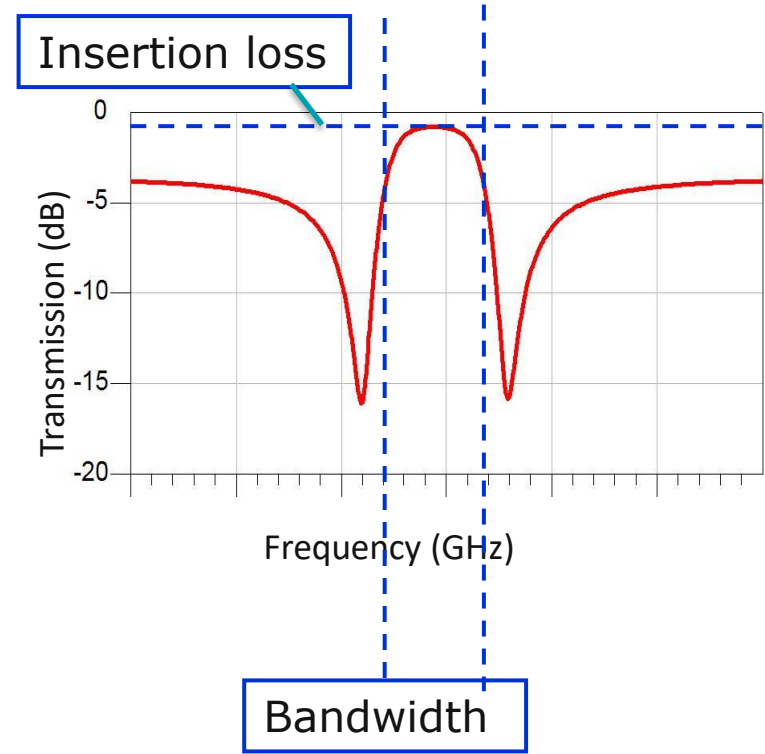
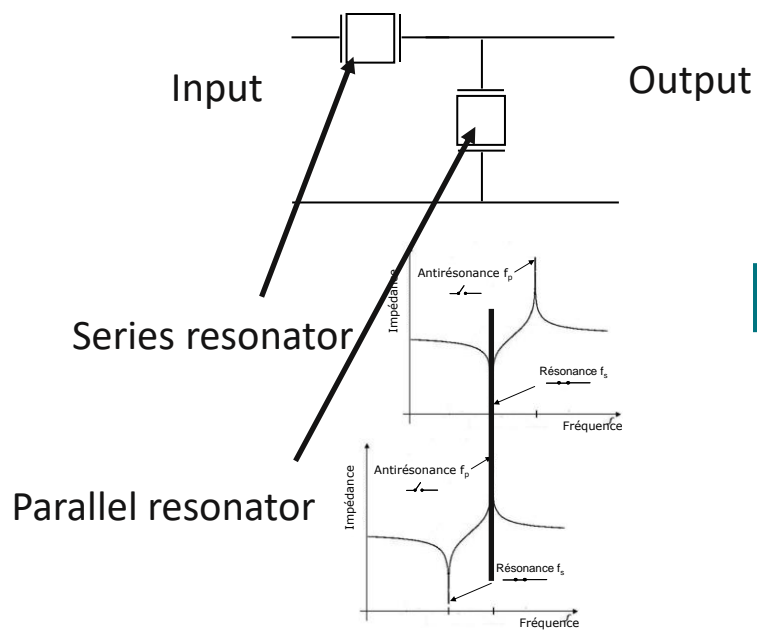
# APPLICATIONS

- Acoustic resonators
  - Filters
  - Gas sensors
- Actuators
  - Micro-pump
- Energy harvester

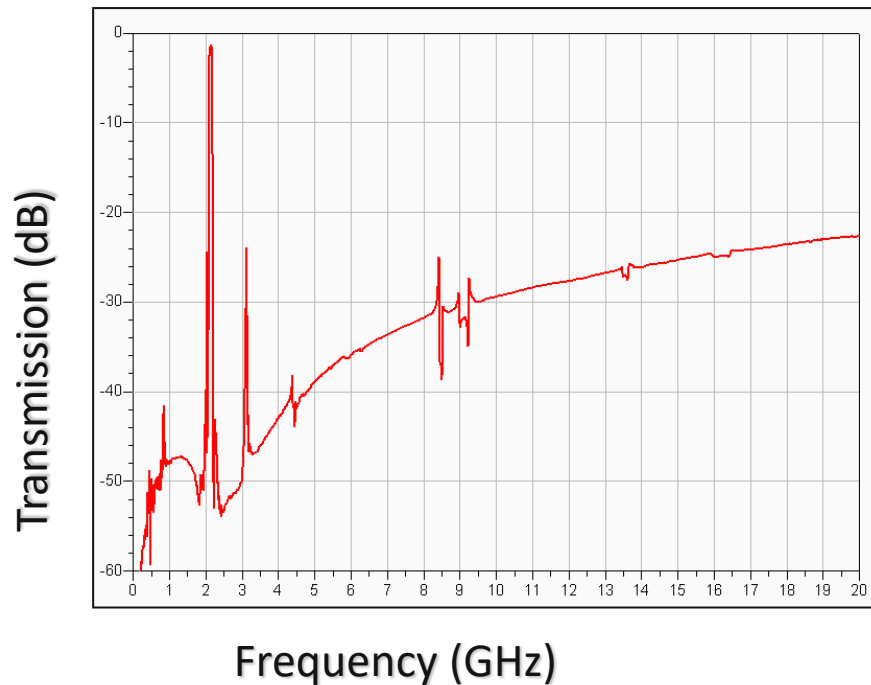
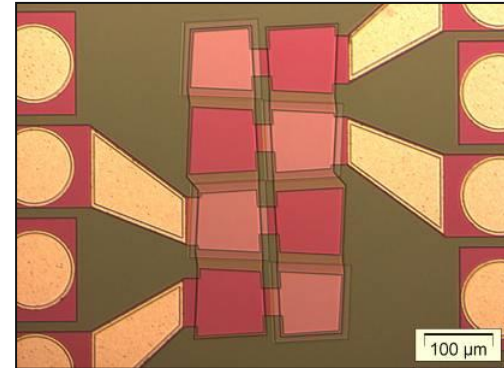
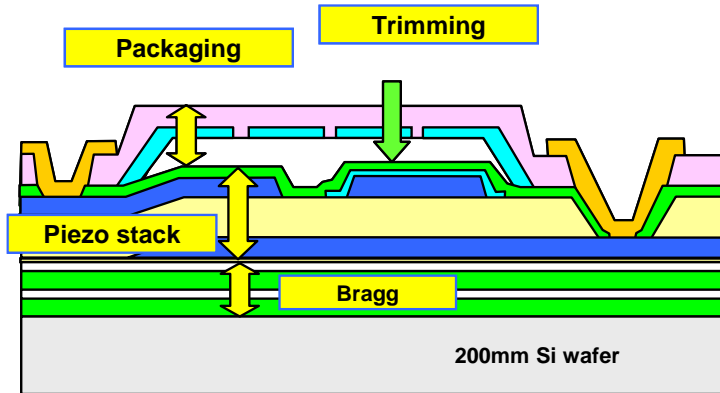


# RF FILTERS

- Electrical coupling between acoustic resonators



# RF FILTERS



Resonator Quality factor = 1800

Insertion losses < 3 dB

Bandwidth = 80 MHz

Central frequency = 2 GHz



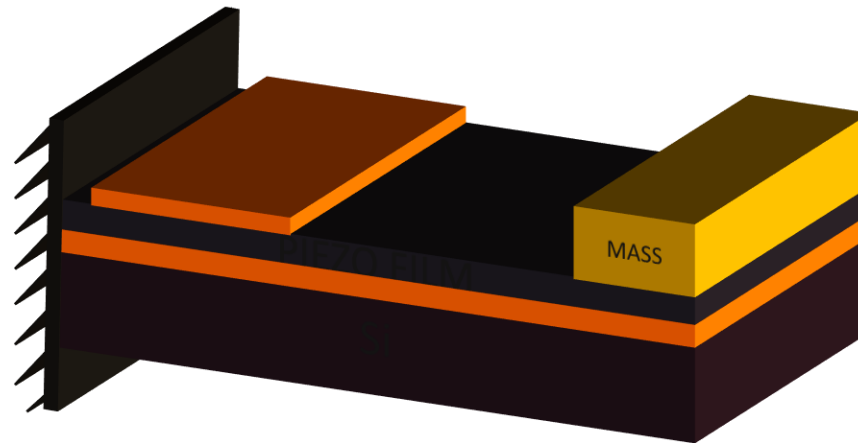
Used in mobile phones

Duplexers



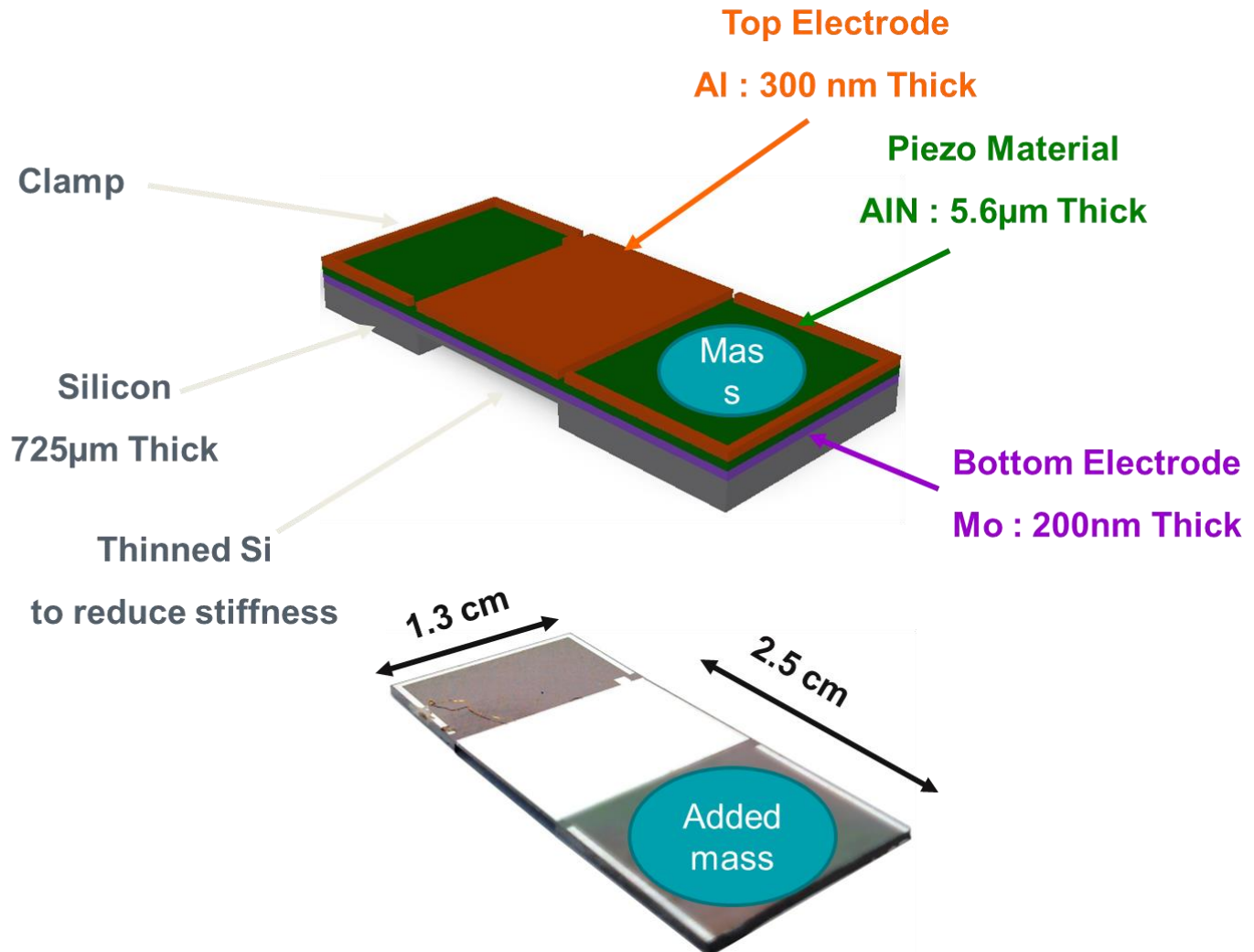
# ENERGY HARVESTING

- AlN thin films
  - Low impedance compared to electrostatic harvesters
  - Simple electronic
- Silicon technology - Microsystems approach
- Added mass to reduce Si area
- Could reduce cost production compared to bulk

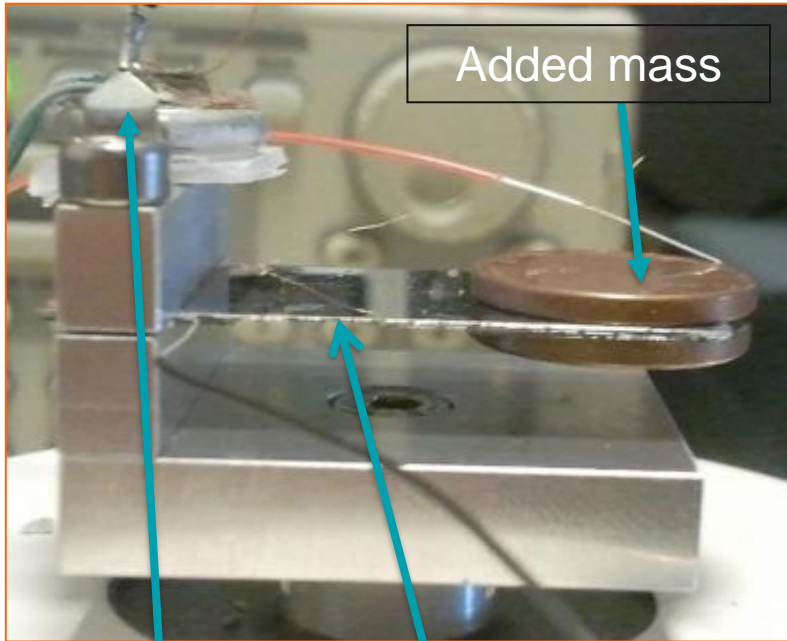


# ENERGY HARVESTER

## 5 $\mu\text{m}$ - AlN films



# EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

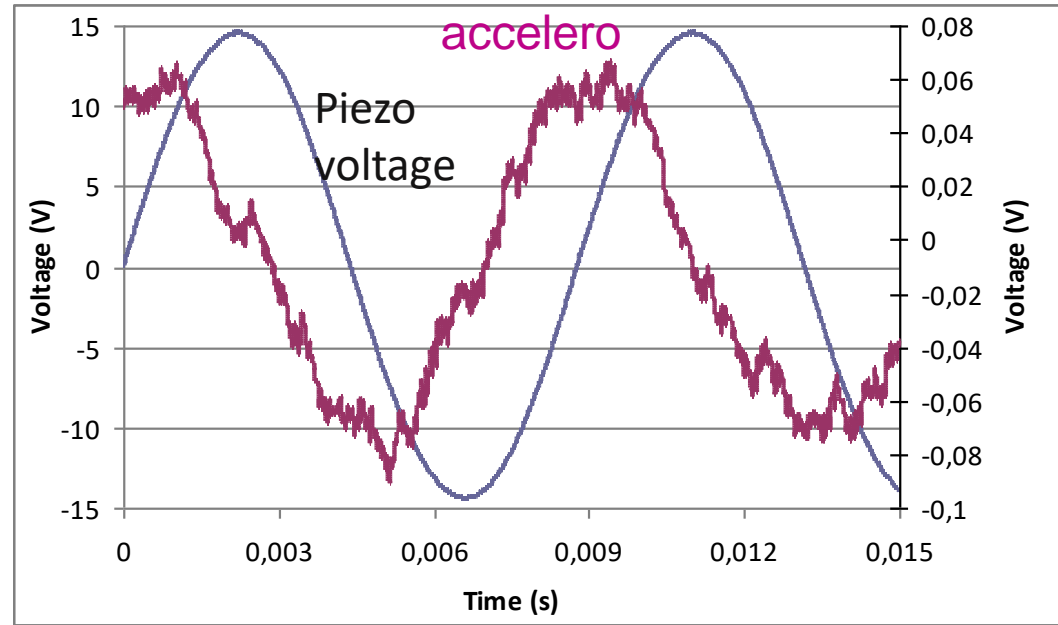


Added mass

Accelerometer

Piezo  
Cantilever

Total mass: 5 g



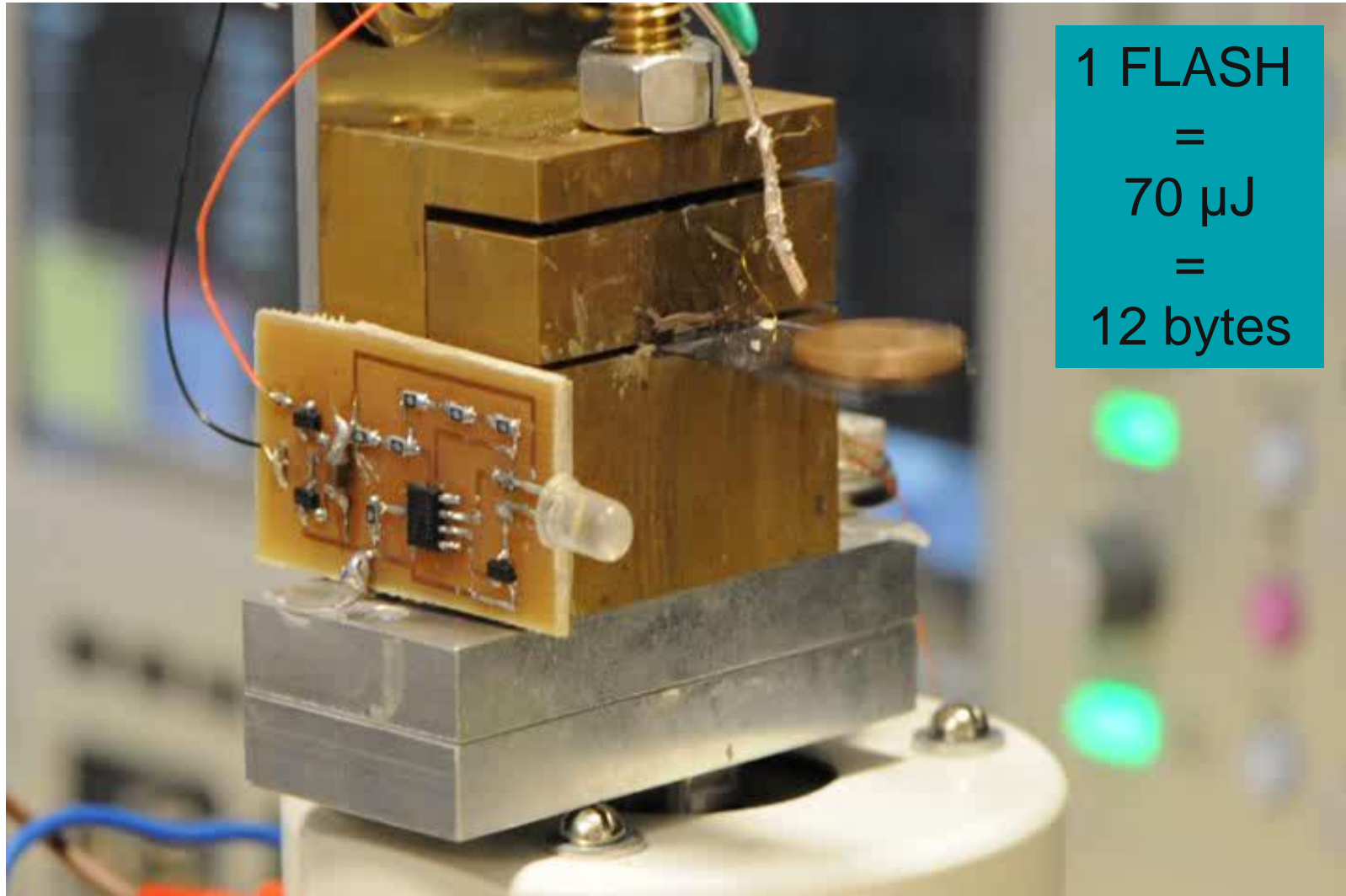
$R_{load} = 1 \text{ MOhm}$

**Acceleration = 1.5m/s<sup>2</sup>**

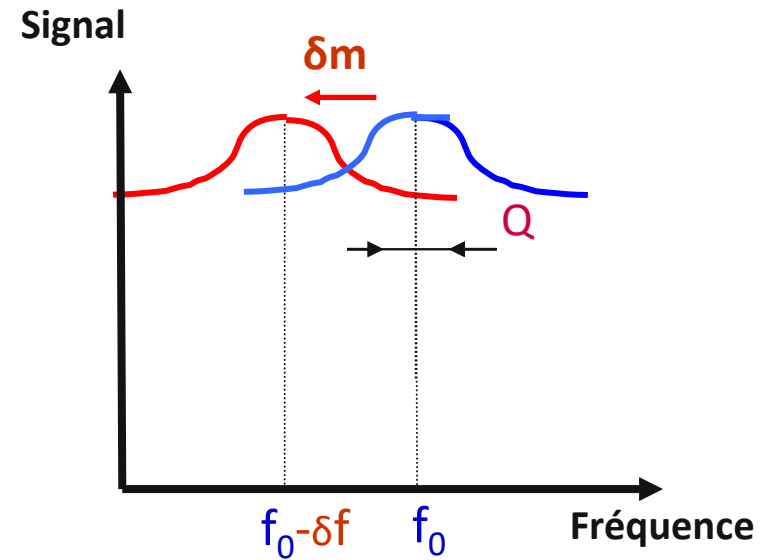
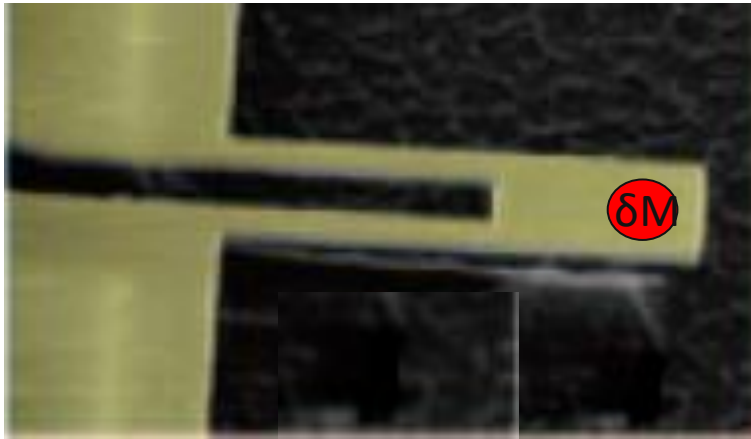
**V = +/- 15V @ 114Hz**

**Harvested power = 110  $\mu$ W**

# « AUTONOMOUS LED »



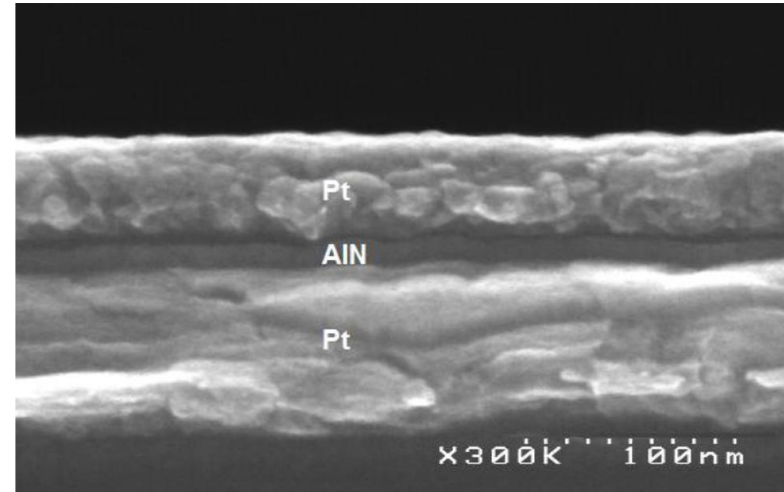
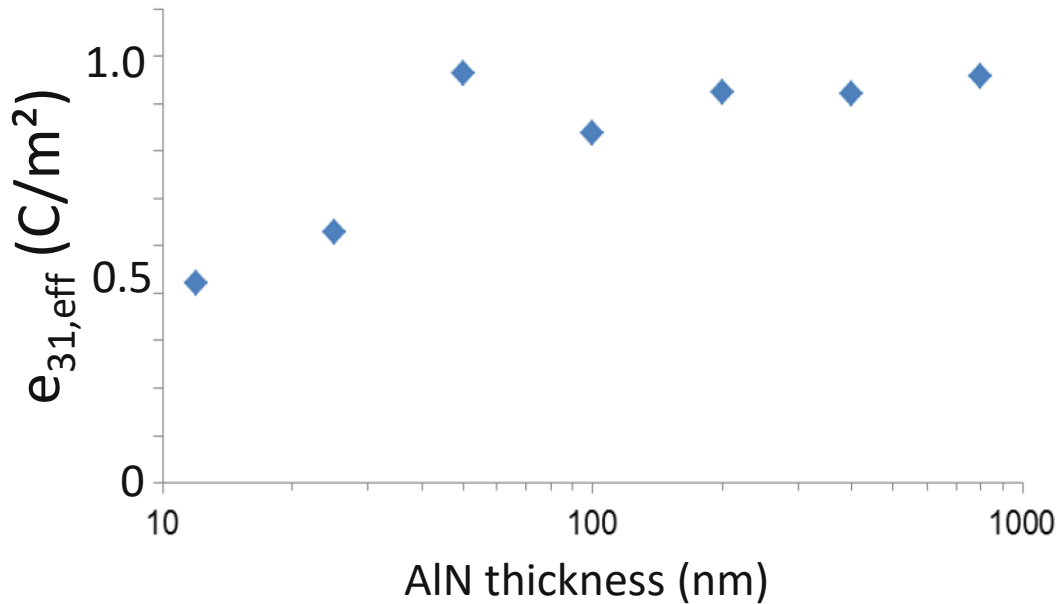
# GAS SENSING



$$\frac{\delta f_0}{f_0} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\delta M}{M}$$

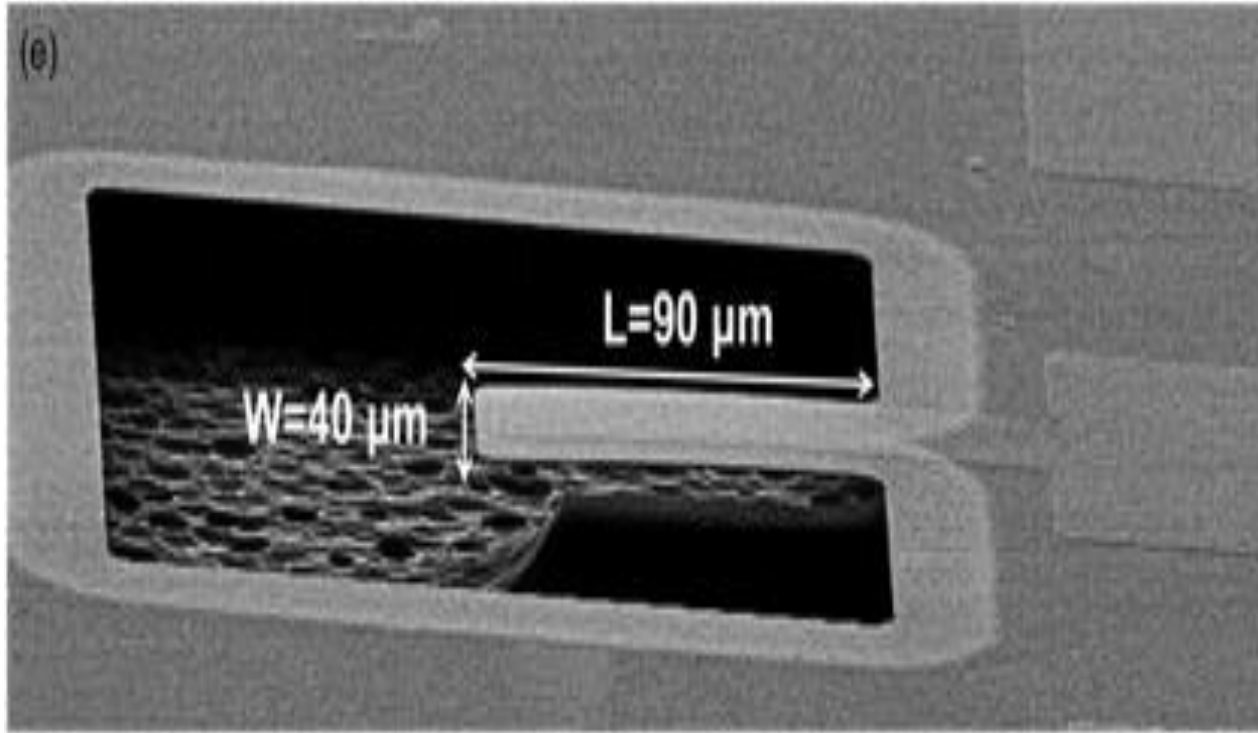
# ULTRA THIN ALN FILMS

- 12 nm-thick AlN piezo !

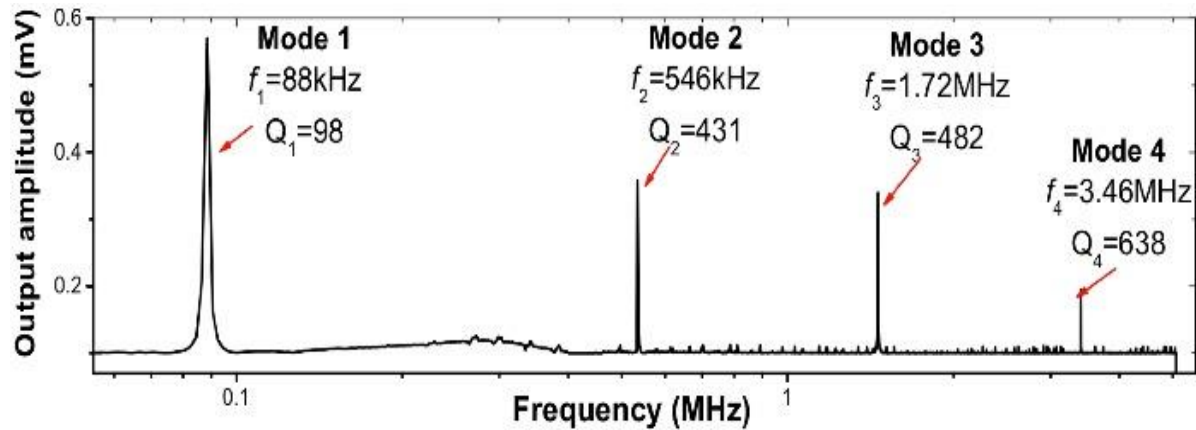
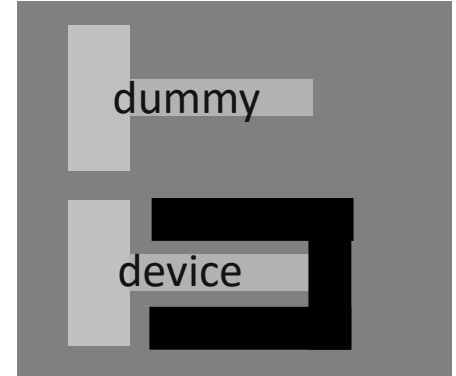
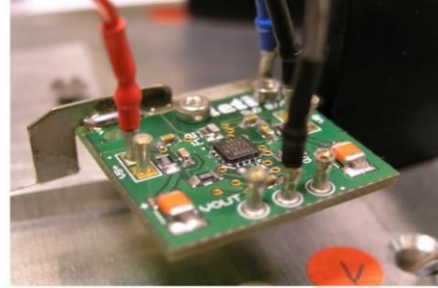


- $e_{31,eff}$  50 nm = - 1.0  $C.m^2$
- Bottom electrode Mo, Pt, W
- Seeding layer AlN

# THIN ALN CANTILEVERS



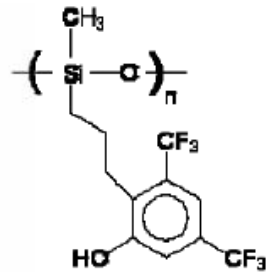
# RESONANCE CHARACTERIZATION



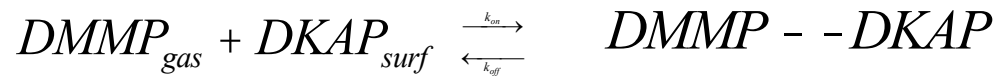
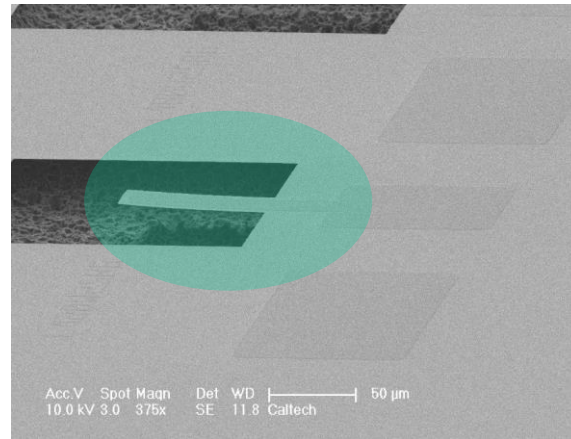


# GAS SENSING

- Surface functionalisation



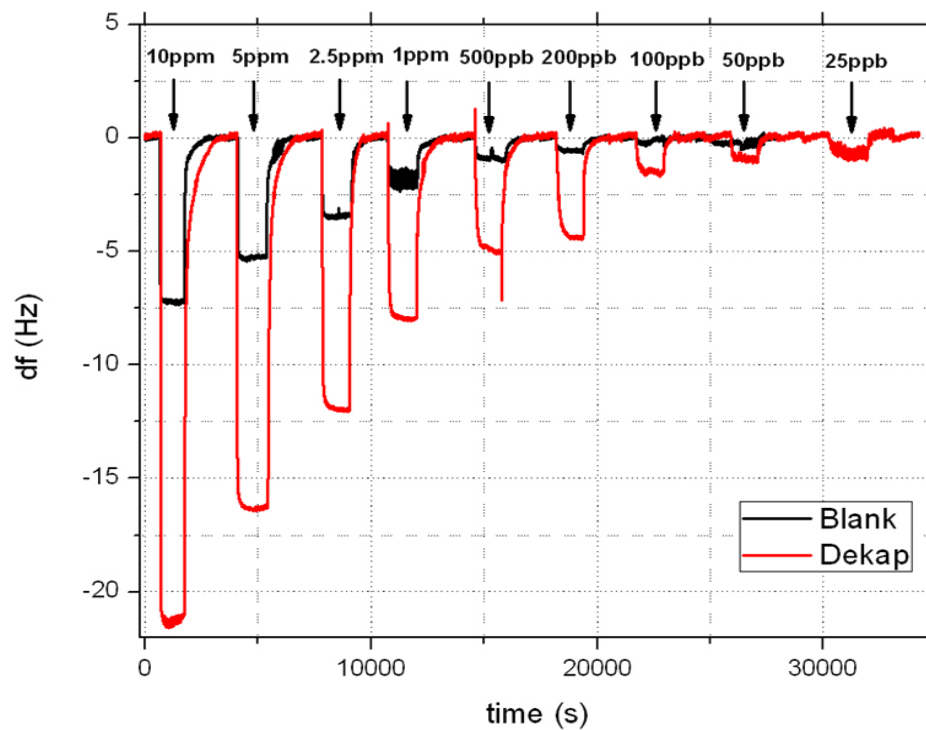
**DKAP**



- DKAP added by drop coating

# GAS SENSING OF DMMP

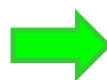
- 10 ppb resolution



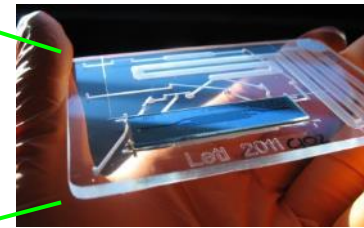
# MICROFLUIDIC FOR HEALTH

## ■ Main goals :

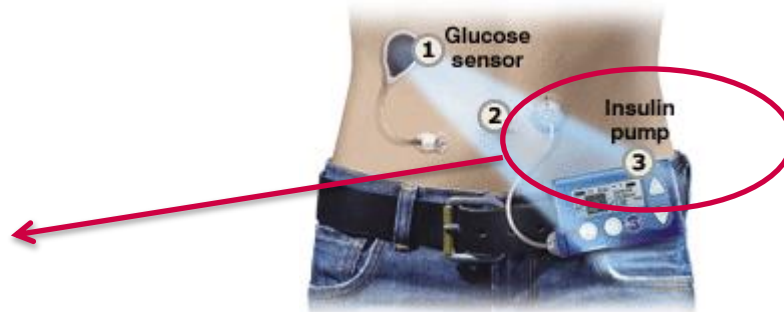
- Reduce diagnostic time
- Improve treatment efficiency
- Improve patient comfort
- Reduce treatment cost



## • Lab-on-chip



Implantable  
Piezo  
Micro-pump



## • Implemented devices

# IMPLANTABLE MICROPUMP

- Required specifications:

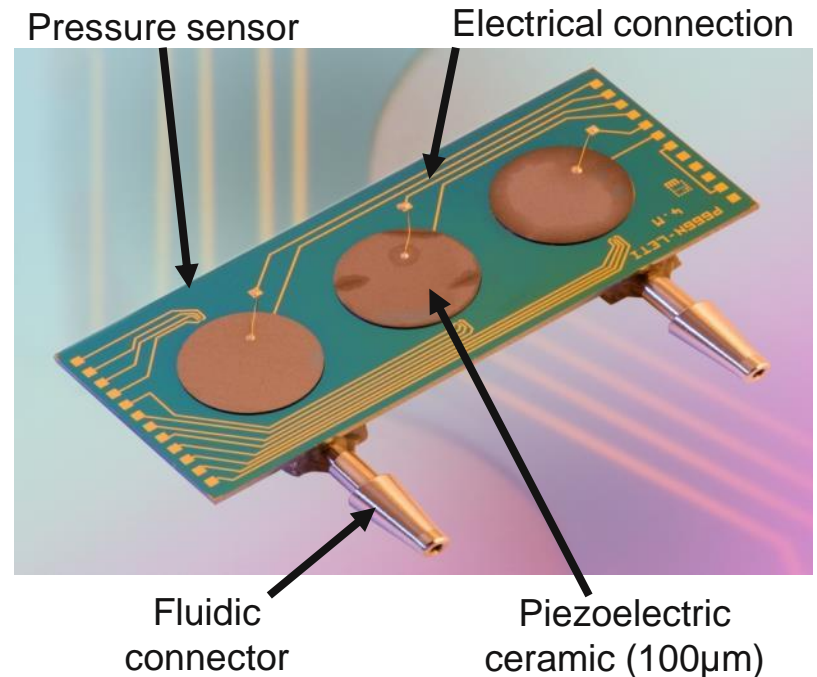
Accurate flow rate control



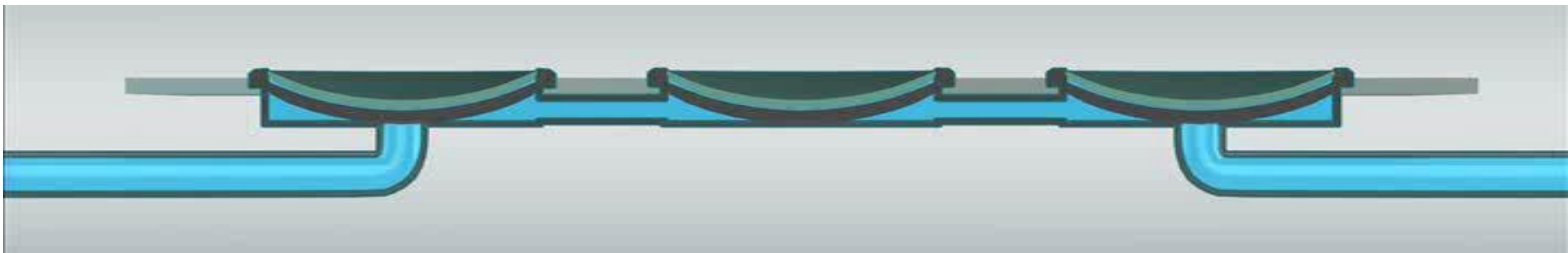
Bio-compatibility

Compactness

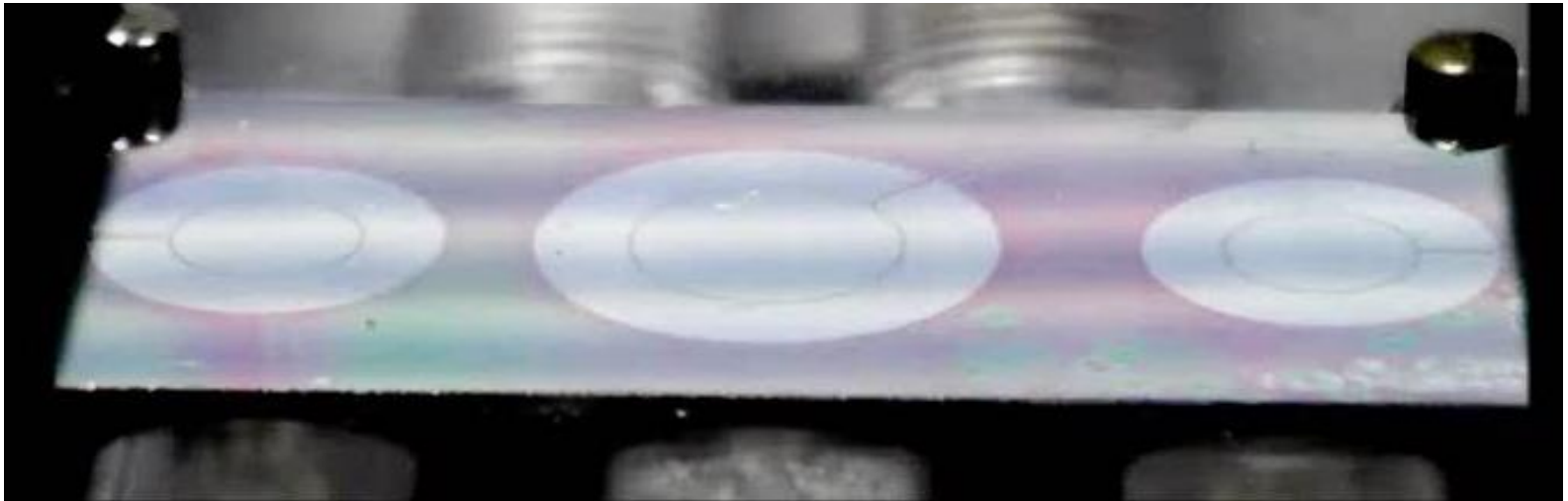
Energy efficiency



- Peristaltic principle



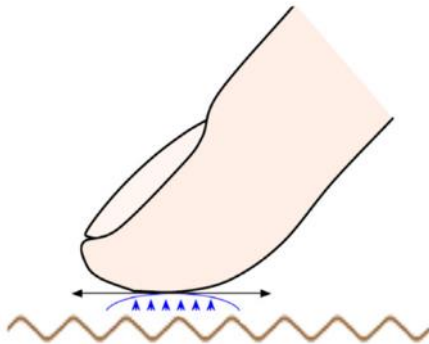
# PERISTALTIC PUMPING



## Lamb Waves

Antisymmetric zero-order  $A_0$  mode in an infinite plate

## Ultrasonic Vibration



Squeeze-film effect

Bernard et al., J. Micromech. Microeng., 2016

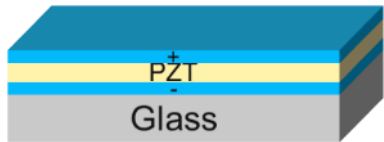
Finite plate – conditions for standing waves can be achieved ( $A_0$ ).

## Conditions for practical use

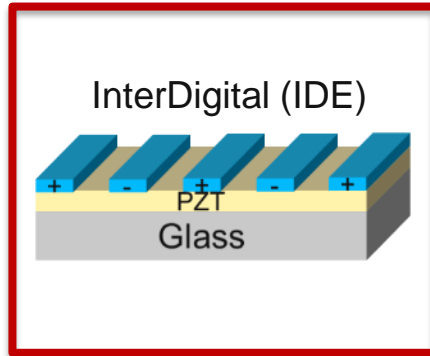
- Actuation frequency  $> 20$  kHz
- Amplitude of normal displacement  $A > 1 \mu\text{m}$
- Wavelength  $\lambda$  between 12 and 20 mm

# ACTUATOR DESIGN

Parallel plate (PPE)



InterDigital (IDE)

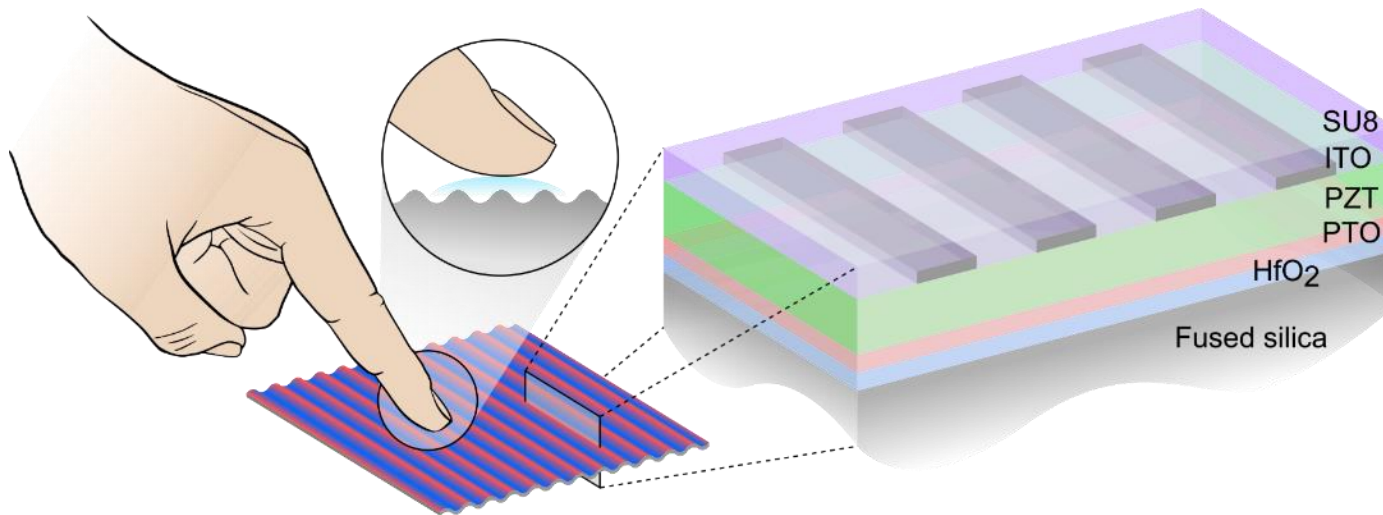


## PPE vs. IDE

	$d_{31}$ mode (PPE)	$d_{33}$ mode (IDE)
Capacitance per unit surface (C/S)	High	Low
Area	Small	Large
Transmittance	Low	High

# STRUCTURE

PTO:  $\text{PbTiO}_3$   
PZT:  $\text{Pb}(\text{Zr}_{0.53}\text{Ti}_{0.47})\text{O}_3$   
ITO:  $\text{In}:\text{SnO}_2$   
SU-8: epoxy-based negative photoresist

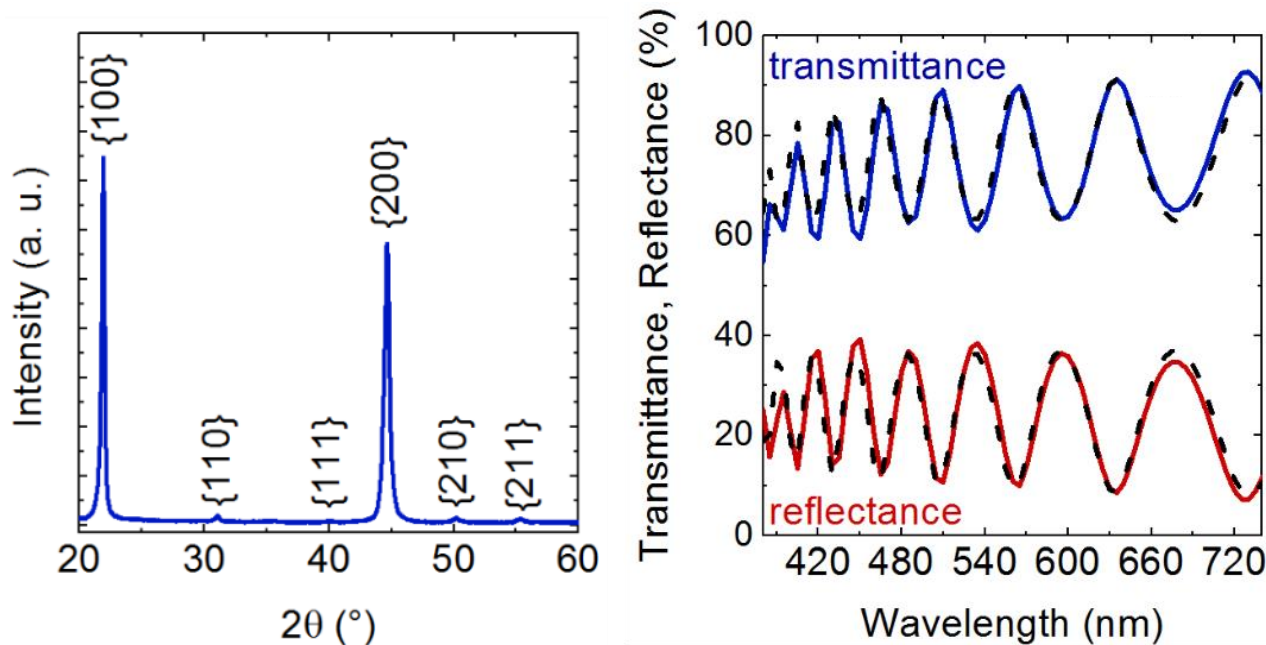


PZT thin-film processing method:  
**Chemical Solution Deposition**



# FULLY TRANSPARENT HAPTICS

## Spin-Coated PZT Thin Films on Glass



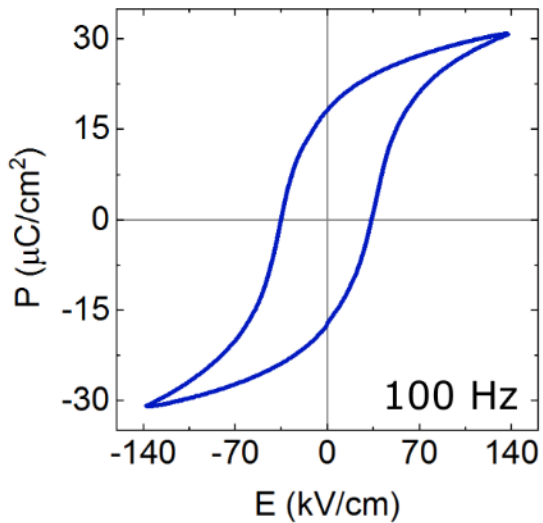
**{100} oriented perovskite phase.**

**Average transmittance in visible spectrum: 75 %.**

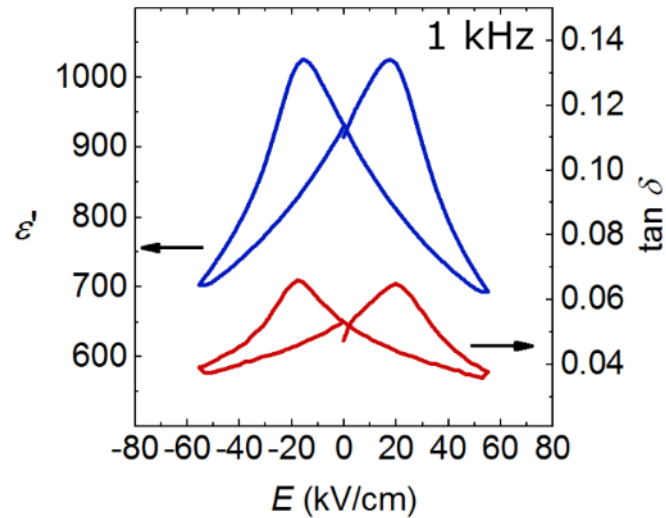
*Glinsek et al., Adv. Funct. Mater., 30, 2003539 (2020)*

# FULLY TRANSPARENT HAPTICS

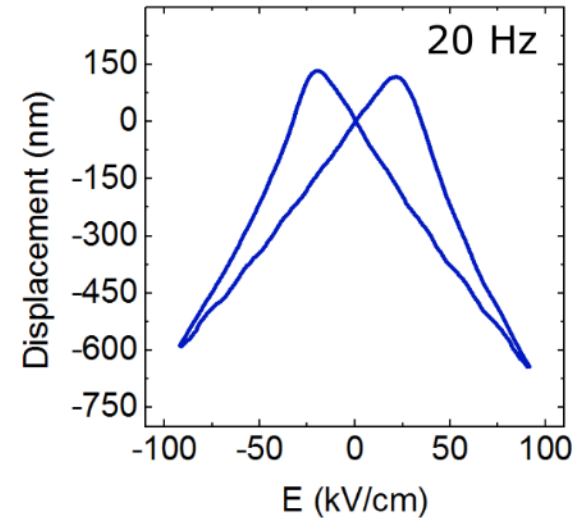
## PZT Film on Glass



$$P_r = 18 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}$$
$$E_c = 35 \text{ kV}/\text{cm}$$



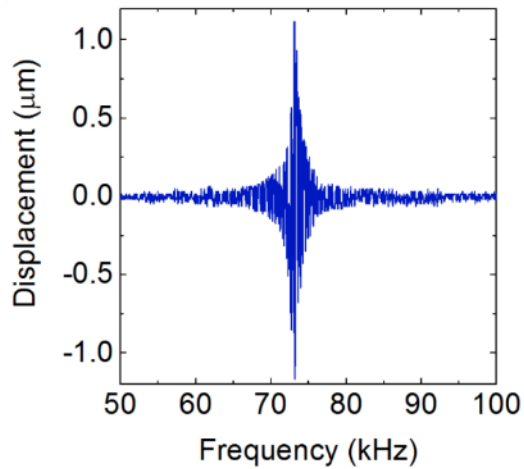
$$\epsilon_r = 950$$
$$\tan \delta = 0.02$$



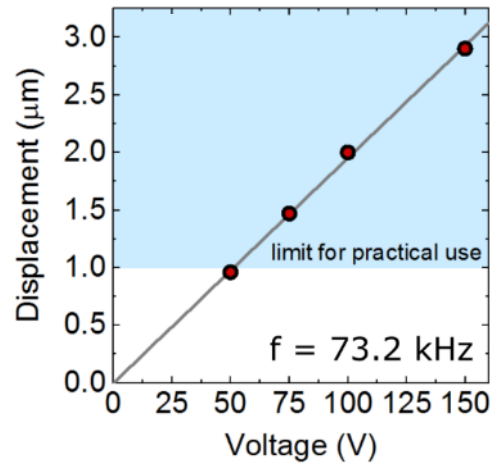
$$e_{33,f} = 8 \text{ C}/\text{m}^2$$

# FULLY TRANSPARENT HAPTICS

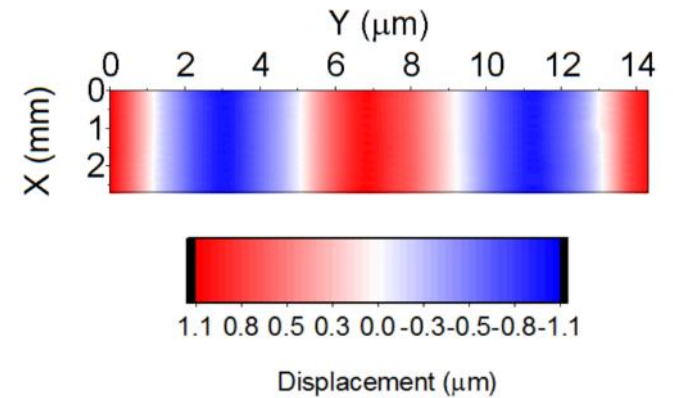
## Characterization of the Device



Resonance: 73.2 kHz



1  $\mu\text{m}$  displacement @60 V

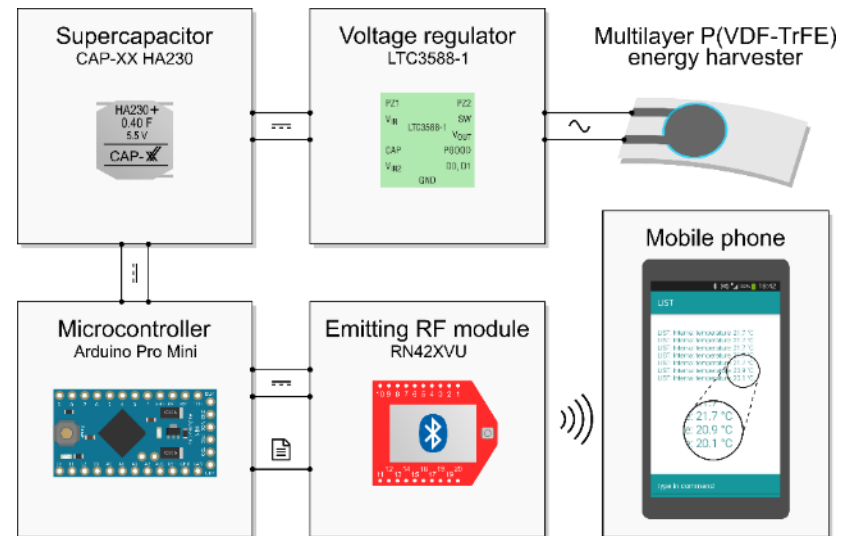
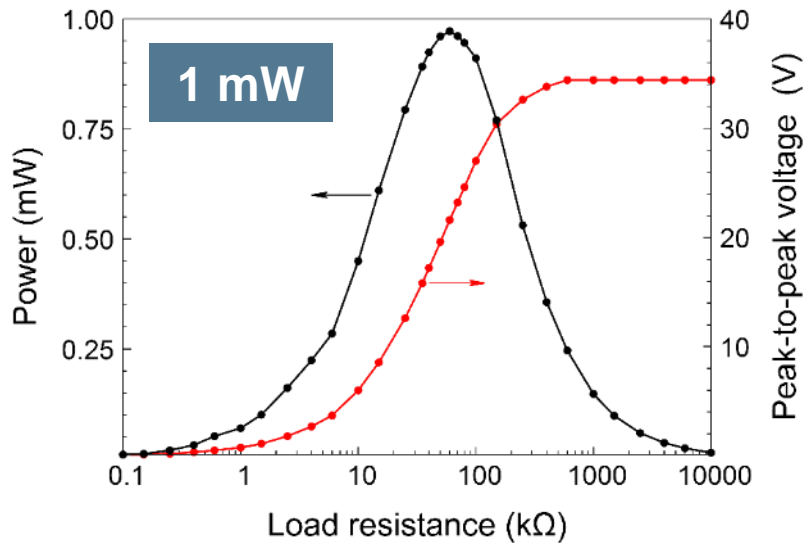
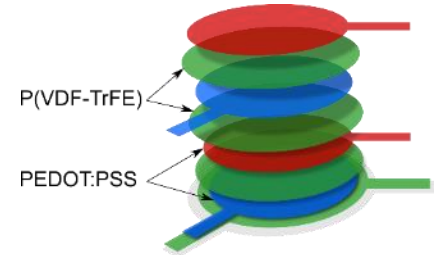


2D Map of the Lamb Wave



# PVDF-based piezoelectric energy harvester

Piezoelectric polymer on flexible substrate: high strain (~1%)



Godard et al., *Cell Reports Physical Science*  
1, 100068 (2020)

# CONCLUSIONS

# CONCLUSIONS

- Ferroelectrics are peculiar piezoelectrics
- Well described by free energy approach
- $\text{Pb}(\text{Zr},\text{Ti})\text{O}_3$  is still leading the race for actuators
- Lead free materials – perhaps  $(\text{K},\text{Na})\text{NbO}_3$  (KNN), but difficult to replace PZT
- PVDF is excellent for energy harvesting
- Hafnia is of strong interest for ferro, but also for piezo
- Inkjet printing and associated methods should enable decreasing the cost
- It takes time to climb up the ladder of maturity

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



Fonds National de la  
Recherche Luxembourg

