#### 2.76/2.760 Multiscale Systems Design & Manufacturing

#### Fall 2004

### Piezoelectric Transducers

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#### What is Piezoelectricity ?



### Piezoelectricity

- Piezoelectric Ceramics
- Thin film fabrication
- Piezoelectric Transducers



G. Binnig & H. Rohrer, Nobel Prize, 1986

Photos removed for copyright reasons. Medical ultrasound, disk drive heads, naval submarine.

### Piezoelectric Transducers

1-layer (unimorph)



2-layer





bender (bimorph)



Sang-Gook Kim, MIT

www.piezo.com

### Transducers



Sang-Gook Kim, MIT

free deflection

### Dielectric Constant

- Dielectric materials, atoms are ionized, + and charged, causing electric dipoles. – electric polarization
- Polarization, quantitatively, electric dipoles/unit volume, C/m<sup>2</sup>
- Dielectric Displacement, D,

stored electric charge/unit area

$$D = \varepsilon_{0} + P = \varepsilon E = K\varepsilon_{0} E$$
  
 $\varepsilon_{0}$  • Vacuum permittivity (8.854x10<sup>-12</sup> F/m)

K :Relative Permittivity or dielectric constant



### **Origins of Polarization**



### Capacitance



**Capacitance of a parallel plate capacitor** 



**Relative Dielectric Constant (K), or permittivity** 

$$\mathcal{E} = \frac{C}{C_{Vac}}$$

### **Dielectric Constants**

- Water 81.1
- Silicon 11.8
- Glass 6.9
- Epoxy 4.0
- Ice 3.0
- Polyethylene 2.3
- Air 1.000576

- BaTiO3 6000
- KNbO3 700
- Rochelle salt 170
- PZT 1200

### **Dielectric Loss**

- Frequency dependency of polarization
- When  $\tau$  and f are in the same order, energy absorbed and phase lag occurs.
- Dielectric Loss,  $\tan \delta = \epsilon'/\epsilon'$
- Dielectric breakdown: 60kV/cm for PZT



# Ferroelectricity

- Ionic and electronic polarization
- S<sup>2</sup>P or d<sup>0</sup> cations
- Crystal structure with no inversion center
- Ferroelectricity;
  - Spontaneous polarization wrt external electric field
  - Reversible, Remanent polarization, hysterisis
- Pyroelectricity; strong variation in polarization with temperature
- Piezoelectricity; large mechanical strain response to applied electrical field

### Perovskite Phase

 PZT, (Pb(Zr<sub>1-x</sub> Ti<sub>x</sub>)O3, the most important piezoelecric material.

PbZrO3:PbTiO3 → 52:48

rhombohedral  $\rightarrow$ cubic $\rightarrow$ tetrahedral

- Curie Temperature
- Pyrochlore phase



### Spontaneous polarization





Sang-Gook Kim, MIT

Homework: Calculate the magnitude of spontaneous polarization. a=3.992 A, c=4.036a 1e=1.602x10<sup>-19</sup> C

### Energy of polarization



# Piezoelectricity

- Polarization does not disappear when the electric field removed.
- The direction of polarization is reversible.



Sang-Gook Kim, MIT

FRAM utilize two stable positions.

### Hysterisis



### **Domain Polarization**

- Poling: 100 C, 60kV/cm, PZT
- Breakdown: 600kV/cm, PZT
- Unimorph cantilever

### Piezoelectricity

Direct effect  

$$D = Q/A = dT$$
  
Converse effect  
 $S = dE$   
 $E = -gT$   
 $T = -eE$   
 $g = d/\mathcal{E} = d/K\mathcal{E}_{o}$   
 $E = -hS$ 

- D: dielectric displacement, electric flux density/unit area
- T: stress, S: strain, E: electric field
- d: Piezoelectric constant, [Coulomb/Newton]

Boundary	Free	Т	$\mathbf{d} = \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{S}}{\partial \mathbf{E}}\right)_{\mathrm{T}} = \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial \mathbf{T}}\right)_{\mathrm{E}}$
Conditions	Short circuit →	E	$\mathbf{g} = (-\partial \mathbf{E}/\partial \mathbf{T})_{\mathrm{D}} = (\partial \mathbf{S}/\partial \mathbf{D})_{\mathrm{T}}$
	Open circuit →	D	$\mathbf{e} = (-\partial T/\partial E)_{s} = (\partial D/\partial S)_{E}$
Sang-Gook Kim	Clamped $\longrightarrow$	S	$\mathbf{h} = (-\partial T/\partial \mathbf{D})_{s} = (-\partial E/\partial \mathbf{S})_{D}$

# **Principles of piezoelectric**



#### Equation of State

#### **Basic equation**

 $\begin{array}{ll} d\mbox{-form} & S_{ij} = s_{ijkl}{}^E T_{kl} + d_{kij} E_k \\ & D_i = d_{ikl} T_{kl} + \epsilon_{ik}{}^T E_k \\ g\mbox{-form} & S = s^D T + g D \\ & E = -g T + \beta^T D \\ e\mbox{-form} & T_{ij} = c_{ijkl}{}^E S_{kl} - e_{kij} E_k \\ & D_i = e_{kij} S_{kl} + \epsilon_{ik}{}^S E_k \\ h\mbox{-form} & T = c^D S - h D \\ & E = -h S + \beta^S D \end{array}$ 

$$c^{E} = 1/s^{E}$$

$$e = dc^{E}$$

$$\epsilon^{E} = \epsilon^{T} \cdot dc^{E}d_{t}$$

$$\beta^{T} = 1/\epsilon^{T}$$

$$g = d/\epsilon^{T}$$

$$s^{D} = s^{E} \cdot d_{t}(\epsilon^{T})^{-1}d$$

$$D = Q/A$$

$$S = F/A$$

### Equation of states

 $D = dT + \varepsilon^{T}E$ direct

 $S = s^{E}T + dE$ converse

Tensor to Matrix notation

For cylindrical symmetry, and poling in axis 3,

$$D_{1} = \varepsilon_{1}E_{1} + d_{15}T_{5}$$

$$D_{2} = \varepsilon_{1}E_{2} + d_{15}T_{4}$$

$$D_{3} = \varepsilon_{3}E_{3} + d_{31}(T_{1} + T_{2}) + d_{33}T_{3}$$

$$S_{1} = S_{11}T_{1} + S_{12}T_{2} + S_{13}T_{3} + d_{31}E_{3}$$

$$S_{2} = S_{11}T_{2} + S_{12}T_{1} + S_{13}T_{3} + d_{31}E_{3}$$

$$S_{3} = S_{13}(T_{1} + T_{2}) + S_{33}T_{3} + d_{33}E_{3}$$

$$S_{4} = S_{44}T_{4} + d_{15}E_{2}$$

$$S_{5} = S_{44}T_{5} + d_{15}E_{1}$$

$$S_{6} = S_{66}T_{6}$$



# **Applications of piezoelectric**

Actuators

Sensors

Pressure sensors Accelerometers Gyroscopes Power generators Vibrators Ultrasonic transducers **Resonators / Filters / Switches** Surface Acoustic wave(SAW) devices Transformers Actuators Ultrasonic motors

#### Piezoelectric Charge Constants



#### Piezoelectric Charge Constants



# d<sub>31</sub> vs d<sub>33</sub>



### Design of a Z-positioner



#### Fabrication Methods for PZT thin Films



### Sol-Gel spin coating

#### Advantages

- Vacuum chamber not necessary (simple)
- Easy composition control
- Deposition on large flat substrate

#### Disadvantages

- Difficult to deposit on deep trenched surface
- Higher raw material consumption

# Advantage and disadvantage of PZT film

Advantage	Disadvantage
Unlimited resolution Large force generation Fast expansion No magnetic fields (low cross talk) Low power consumption No wear and tear for actuation Vacuum and clean room compatible Operation at cryogenic temperature	Complex fabrication Hysteresis Life cycle (10 <sup>12</sup> cycles) ; Fatigue, retention

#### Typical Layer Structures for Sol-Gel PZT

Top electrode Pt (e-beam evaporation lift-off)

Piezoelectric PZT (sol-gel spinning)

/ Bottom electrode Pt/Ti (e-beam evaporation lift-off)

Diffusion barrier SiO2 or SiNx (CVD)

Diffusion barrier ZrO2(sol-gel spinning)

Si substrate

Si substrate

d<sub>33</sub> mode

d<sub>31</sub> mode Sang-Gook Kim, MIT

#### **Thermal Oxide Growth and Bottom Electrode Evaporation**



#### **Fabrication of the PZT Film**



Spin-coat Mitsubishi PZT sol-gel: 15% PZT(118/52/48) A6 Type

#### **Fabrication of the PZT Film**





#### **PZT Patterning**



Patterned PZT on device

#### **PZT Patterning (Wet ethcing)**

#### PZT wet-etching with thick photoresist



#### **PZT Patterning (Wet ethcing)**



#### • large undercuts with thin (1 $\mu$ m) photoresist material

<sup>1</sup> W. Liu *et al, Thin Solid Films*, 2000.

<sup>2</sup> K. Yamashita *et al*, *Transducers* '01, Munich.

**PZT Patterning (Dry etching)** 

#### PZT dry-etching with thick resist



using RIE, Plamaquest (in TRL) or Plasmatherm (in EML) with  $BCI_3:CI_2$  (30:10)

 $\bullet$  stiff sidewall with thick (10  $\mu m)$  photoresist material

#### **Top Electrode Lift-Off**



d31 mode sandwich structure

Pt/Ti top electrode pattern by lift-off, 220 nm thick.

#### **Micro-structure of PZT Thin Film**

#### SEM of PZT film surface



Average grain size :  $0.1 \mu m$ 

Cross sectional image of PZT film



PZT thickness =  $510 \pm 40$  nm; Pt thickness = 200 nm.

Using SEM

#### PZT XRD On Various Bottom Electrode Combinations





- hysteresis due to domain reorientation growth, merging and shrinkage
- saturation polarization,  $P_s$  at 65  $\mu C/cm^2$
- remnant polarization, 2P  $_{\rm r}$  at 50  $\mu$  C/cm^2

#### **Piezoelectric Fatigue Analysis**



- PZT electrical fatigue up to more than 1E10 cycles
- characteristics recovered on 2<sup>nd</sup> run with same device

#### **Piezoelectric Displacement Analysis**

