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# ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PROCESSING OF LEAD FREE SODIUM POTASSIUM NIOBATE THICK FILMS BY ELECTROPHORETIC DEPOSITION

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# Environmentally friendly processing of lead free KNN thick films by EPD

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This is a team work



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Amit Mahajan



Morgane Dolhen



Rui Pinho



M. Elizabete Costa

TEAM WORK

- There is a need ...
- Our approach
- Our results
- What I´ve just said ...



- There is a need ...
- Our approach
- Our results
- What I've just said ...

# Sustainable World



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# Smart World



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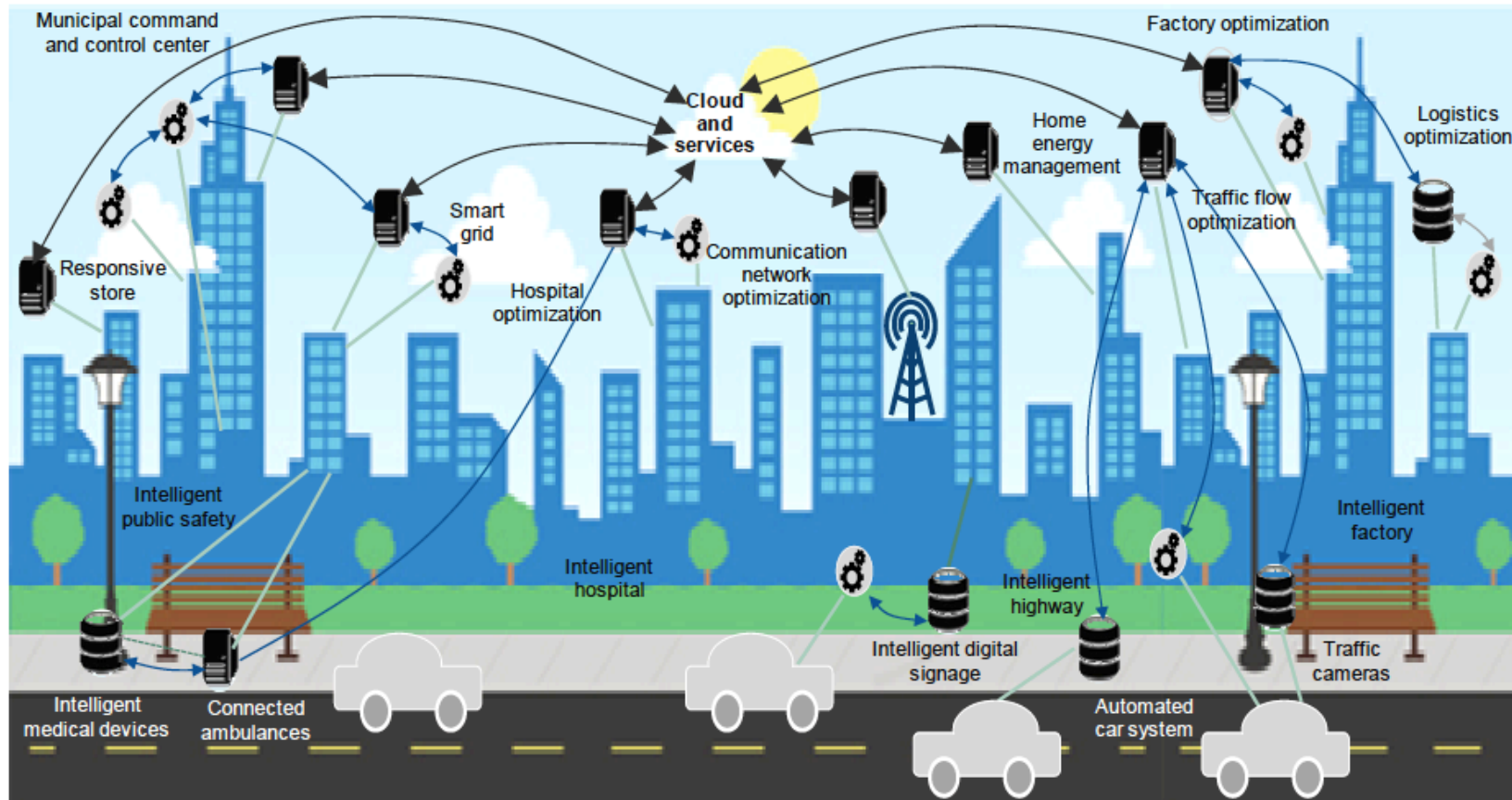
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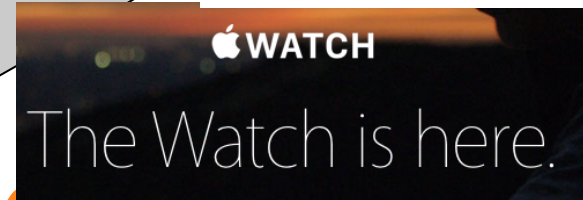
THE WORLD IN 2025  
10 PREDICTIONS OF INNOVATION, by Thomson Reuters

## A City with a Digital Overlay

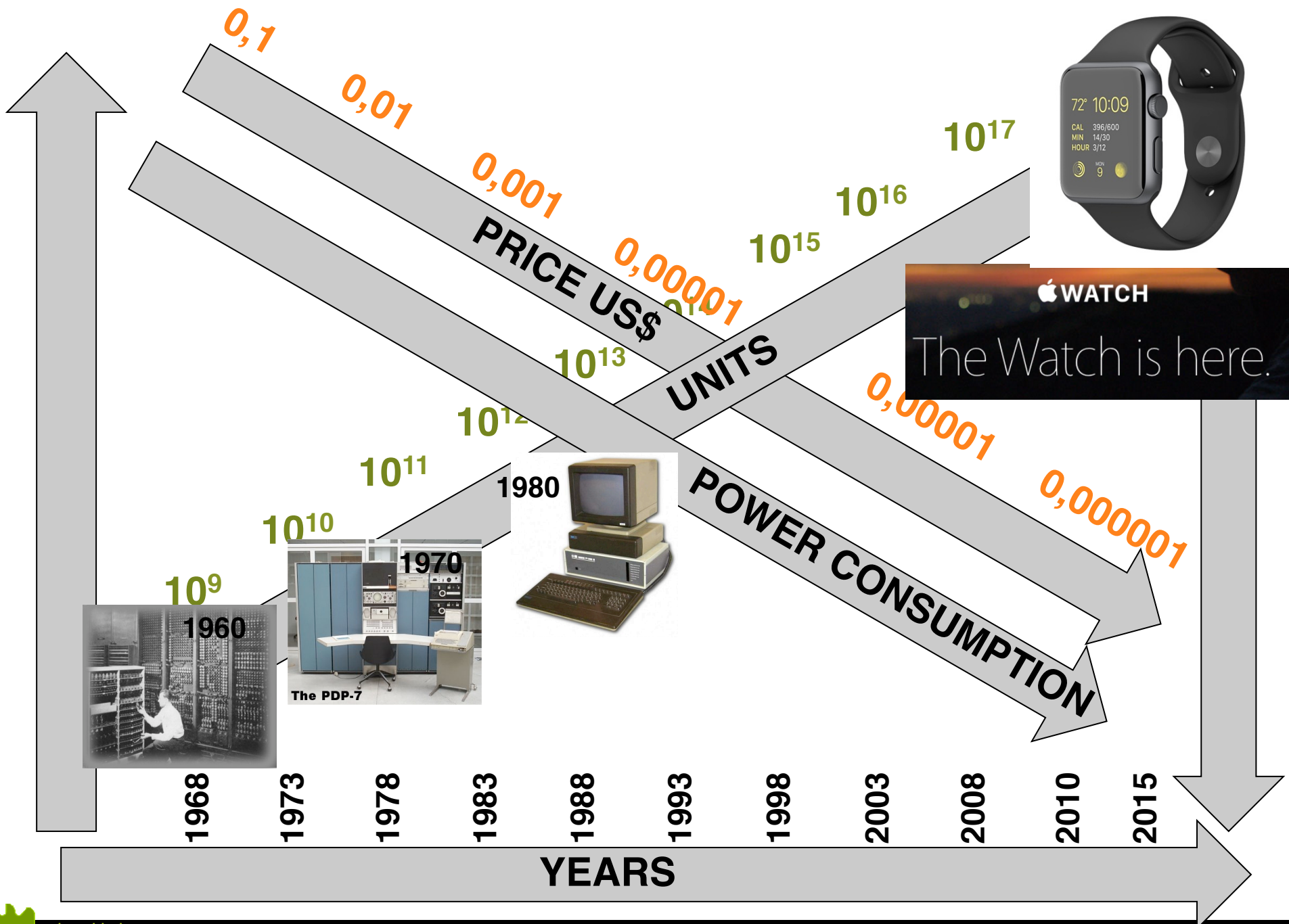


Source: IDC Government Insights, 2013

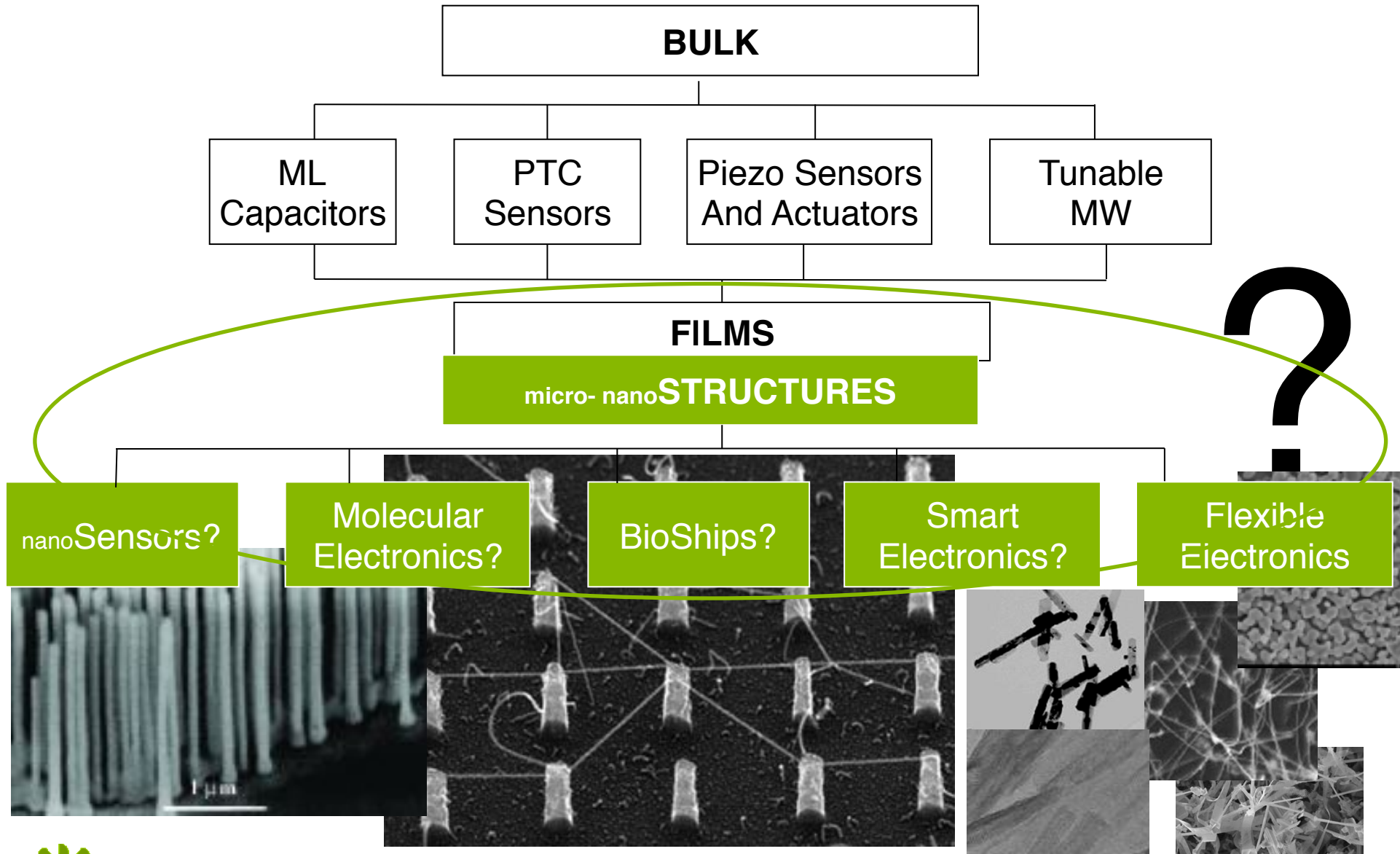
In 2020, 212 billion things will be talking to each other ...



Scaling device size



# Electrofunctional nanoStructures



# Films and Thick Films



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## Thin Film Techniques

### Physical Vapour Deposition

Sputtering (rf magnetron, dc, ion beam)  
Evaporation (e-beam, resistance, molecular beam epitaxy)  
Laser Ablation

### Chemical Deposition

#### Chemical Vapour Deposition

MOCVD (Metal-organic CVD)  
PECVD (plasma-enhanced CVD)  
LPCVD (low pressure CVD)  
ALD (atomic layer deposition)

#### Chemical Solution Deposition

Sol-gel (solution gelation)  
MOD (metallorganic deposition)  
Langmuir–Blodgett

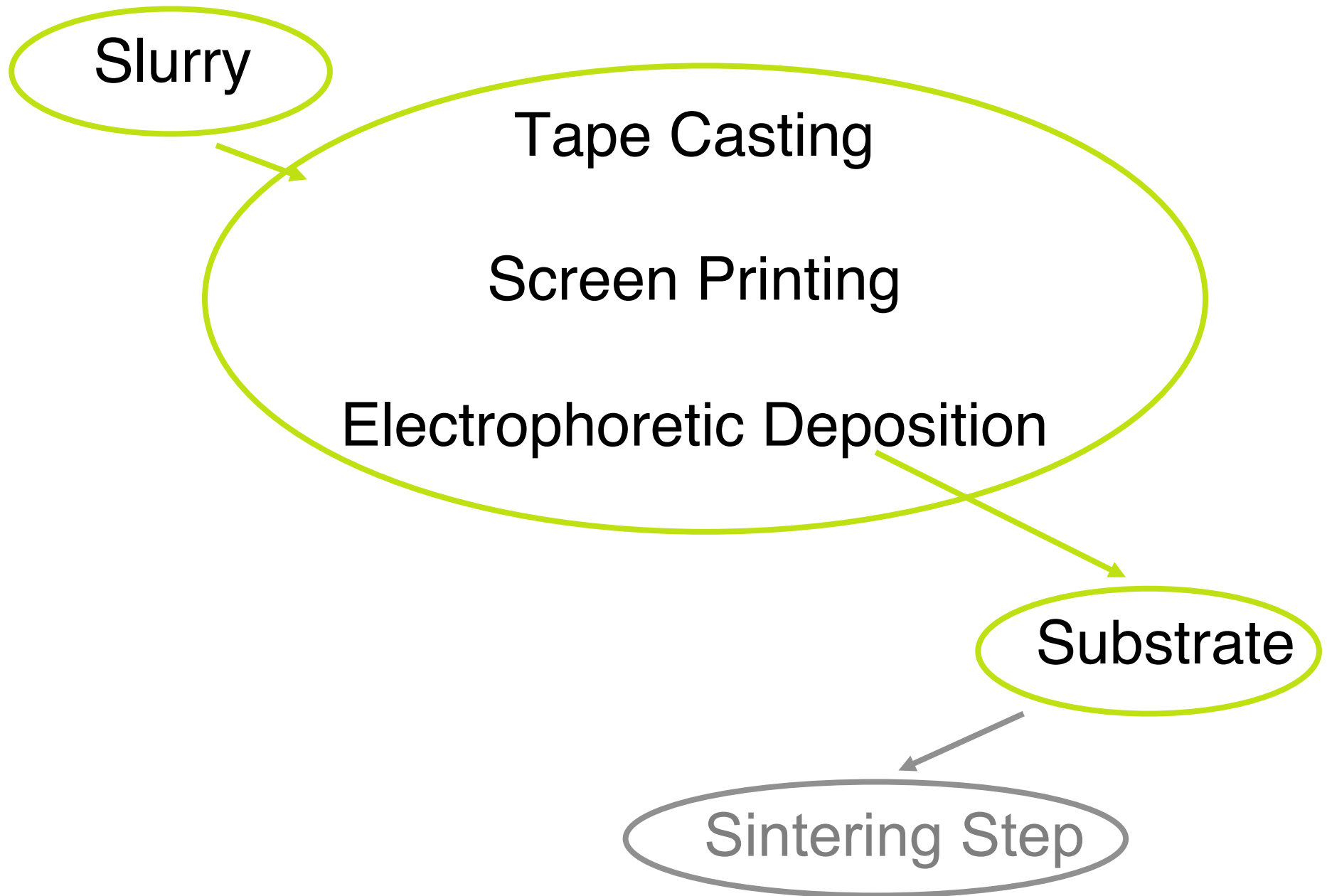
## Thick Films Techniques

Tape casting  
Screen printing  
Electrophoretic deposition  
Hybrid sol-gel technique

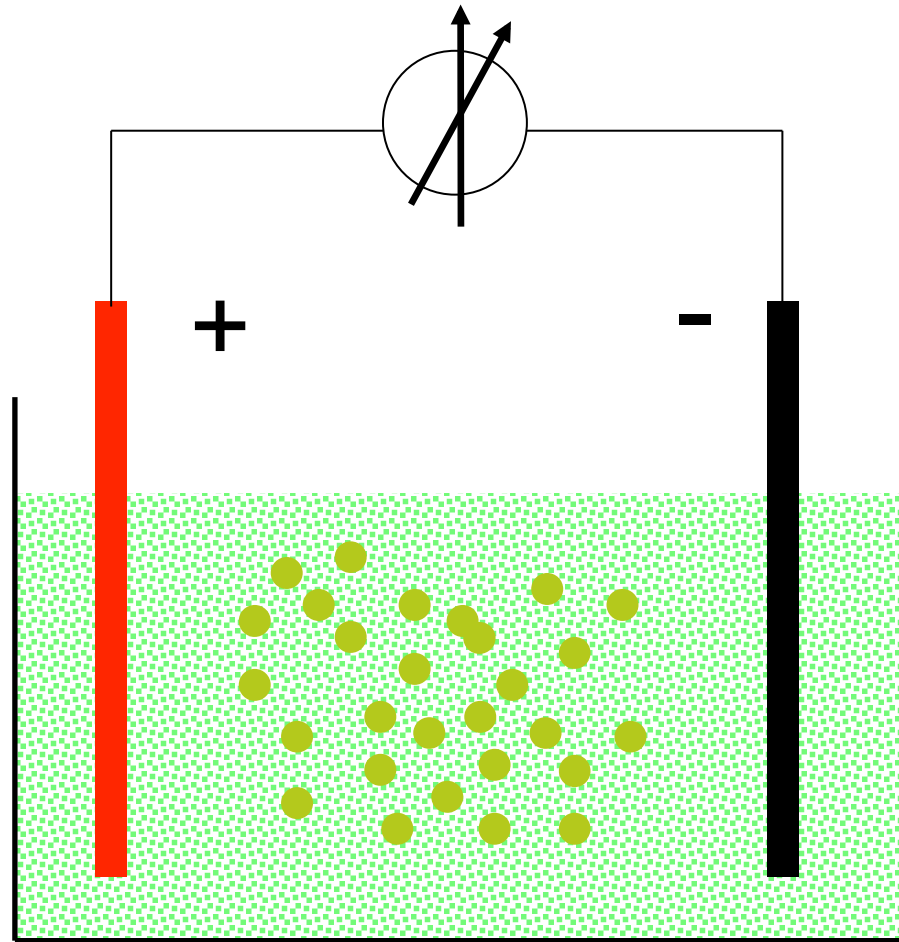
Thin films  $< 1 \mu\text{m}$   
Thick films  $> 1 \mu\text{m}$



## Thick films preparation



# Electrophoretic Deposition



EPD technique



Tape Casting	Free standing films	Until mm
Screen Printing	Flexible and rigid substrates	Until mm
EPD	Metal or metal covered substrates <b>Conformal shaping</b>	$>1\mu\text{m}$ $<50\mu\text{m}$

*P. M. Vilarinho et al, Recent Research Developments in Materials Science, 5, 1-24, Research Sign Post, 2004 (ISBN: 81 – 7736 – 203 – 8)*

Tape Casting	Free standing films	Until mm
Screen Printing	Flexible and substrates	Until mm
EPD	Metal covered substrates Final shaping	$>1\mu\text{m}$ $<50\mu\text{m}$

P. M. Vilarinho et al. *Research Developments in Materials Science*, 5, 1-24, *Research Sign Post*, 2004 (ISSN 14736 – 203 – 8)

Absence of binders and ligants ...

Thick films preparation

## EPD advantages :

- High flexibility and simplicity
- Complex conformal patterns
- Cost effectiveness
- Embedding integration
- Ability to deposit large areas
- Ability to be scaled up
- Suitable for fabrication of thin films
- Applications in nanotechnology

*I. Corni, M. P. Ryan, A. R. Boccaccini, Journal of the European Ceramic Society, 28, 1353, 2008*

# Piezoelectrics

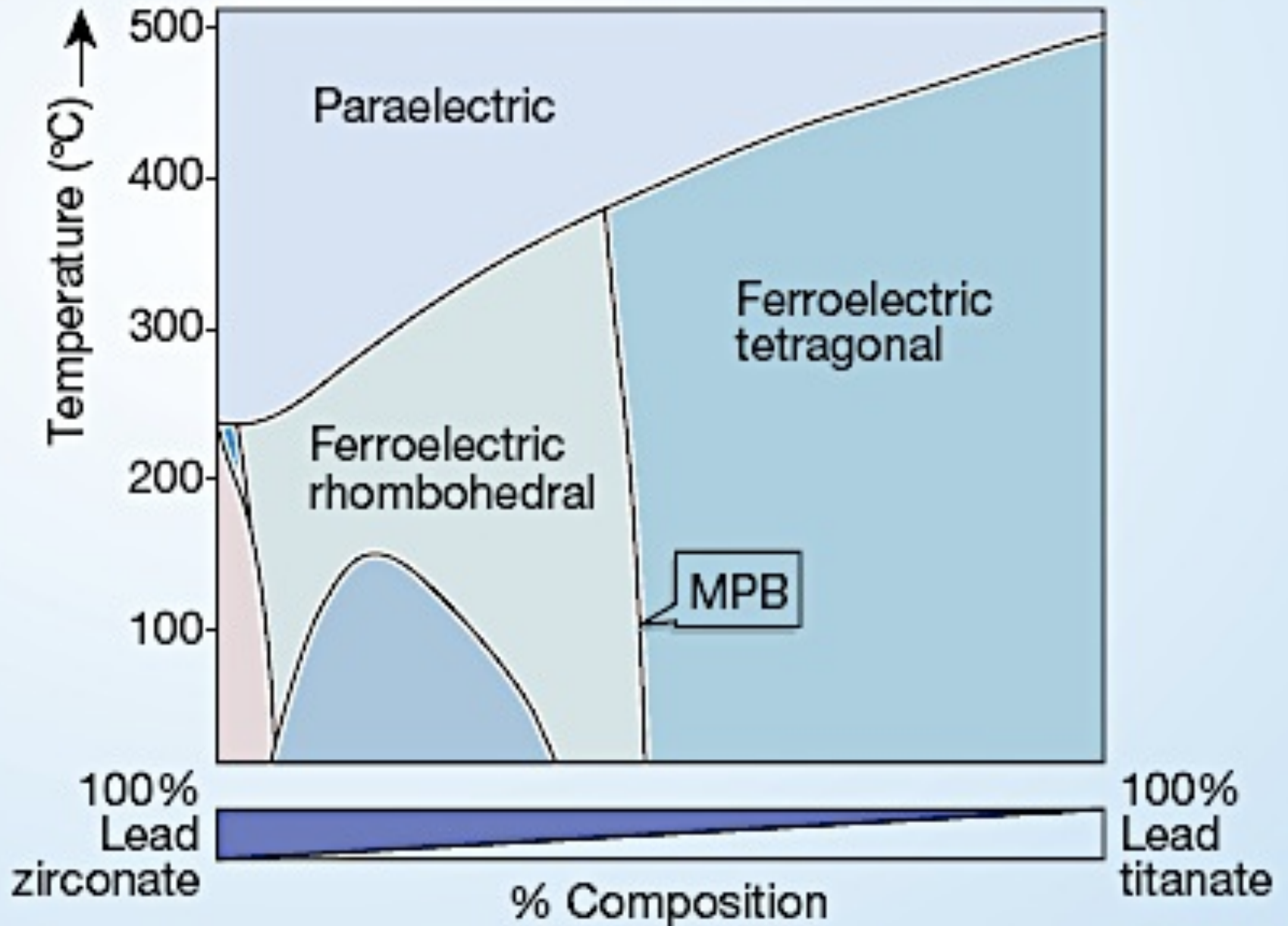


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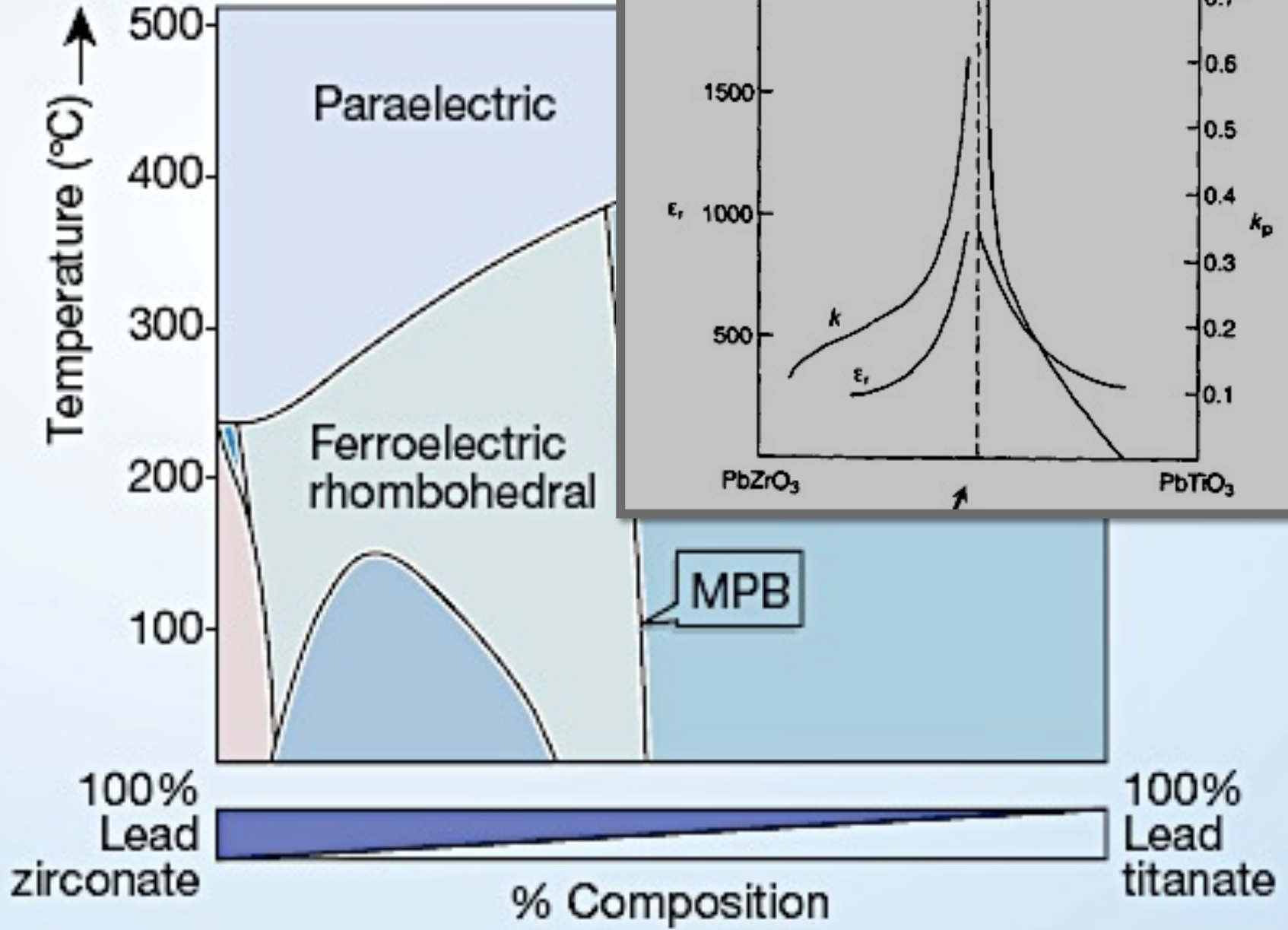
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$\text{PbZrO}_3 - \text{PbTiO}_3$ 



PbZrO<sub>3</sub> – PbTiO<sub>3</sub>

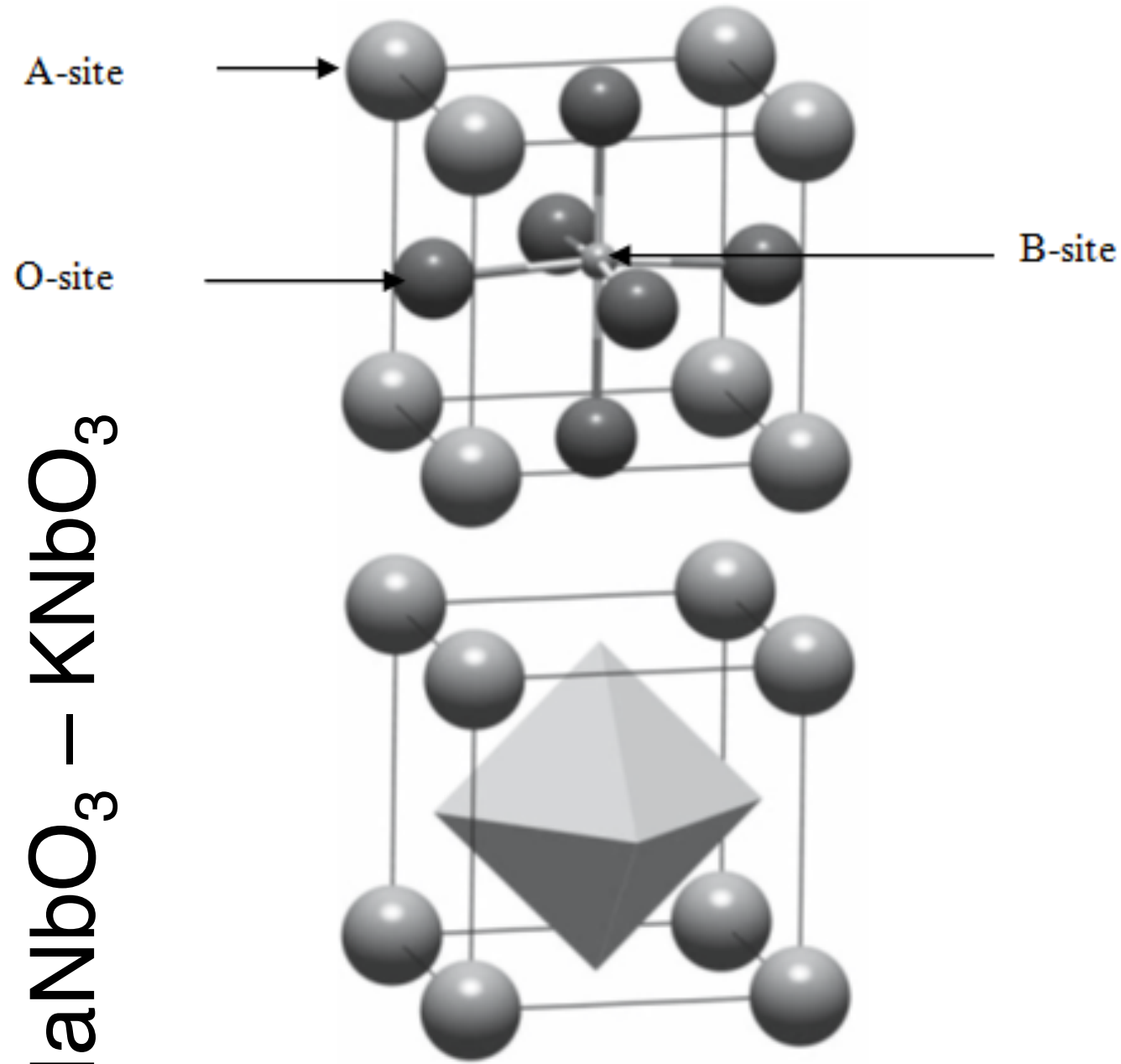


# Lead free piezoelectrics

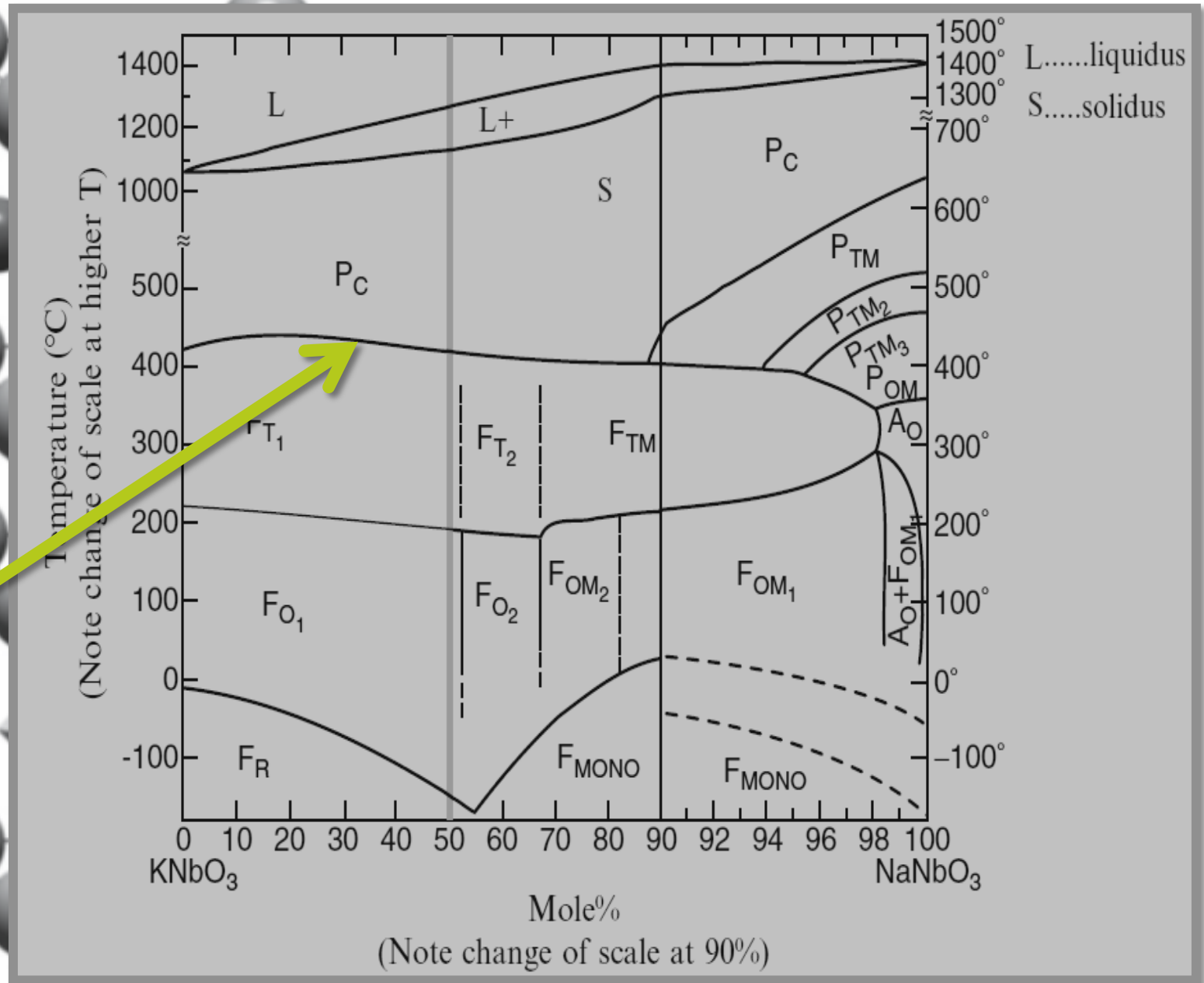
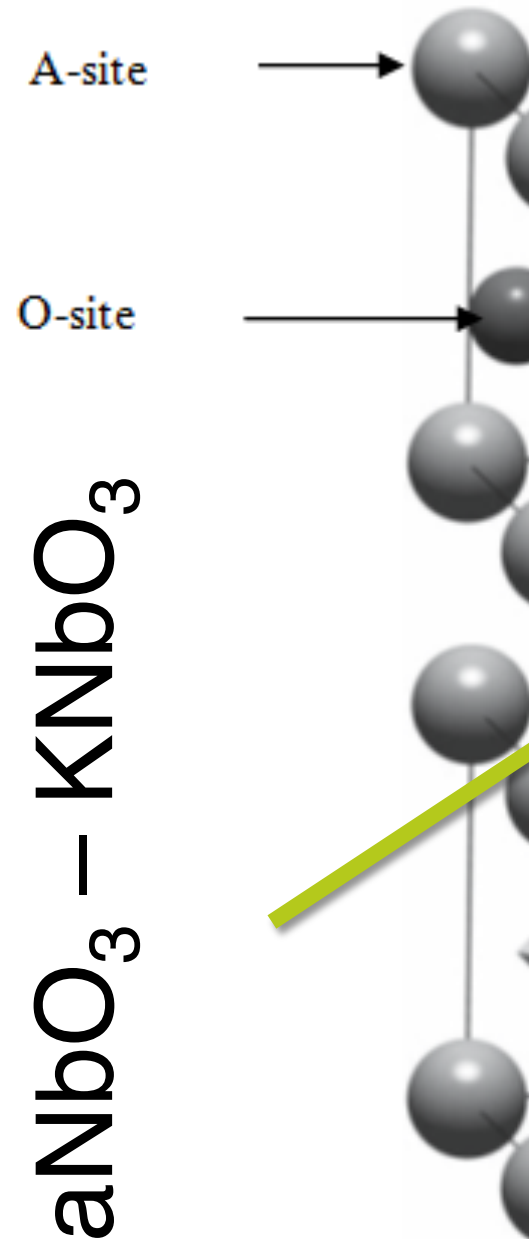
## $\text{NaNbO}_3 - \text{KNbO}_3$ (KNN)



$\text{NaNbO}_3 - \text{KNbO}_3$

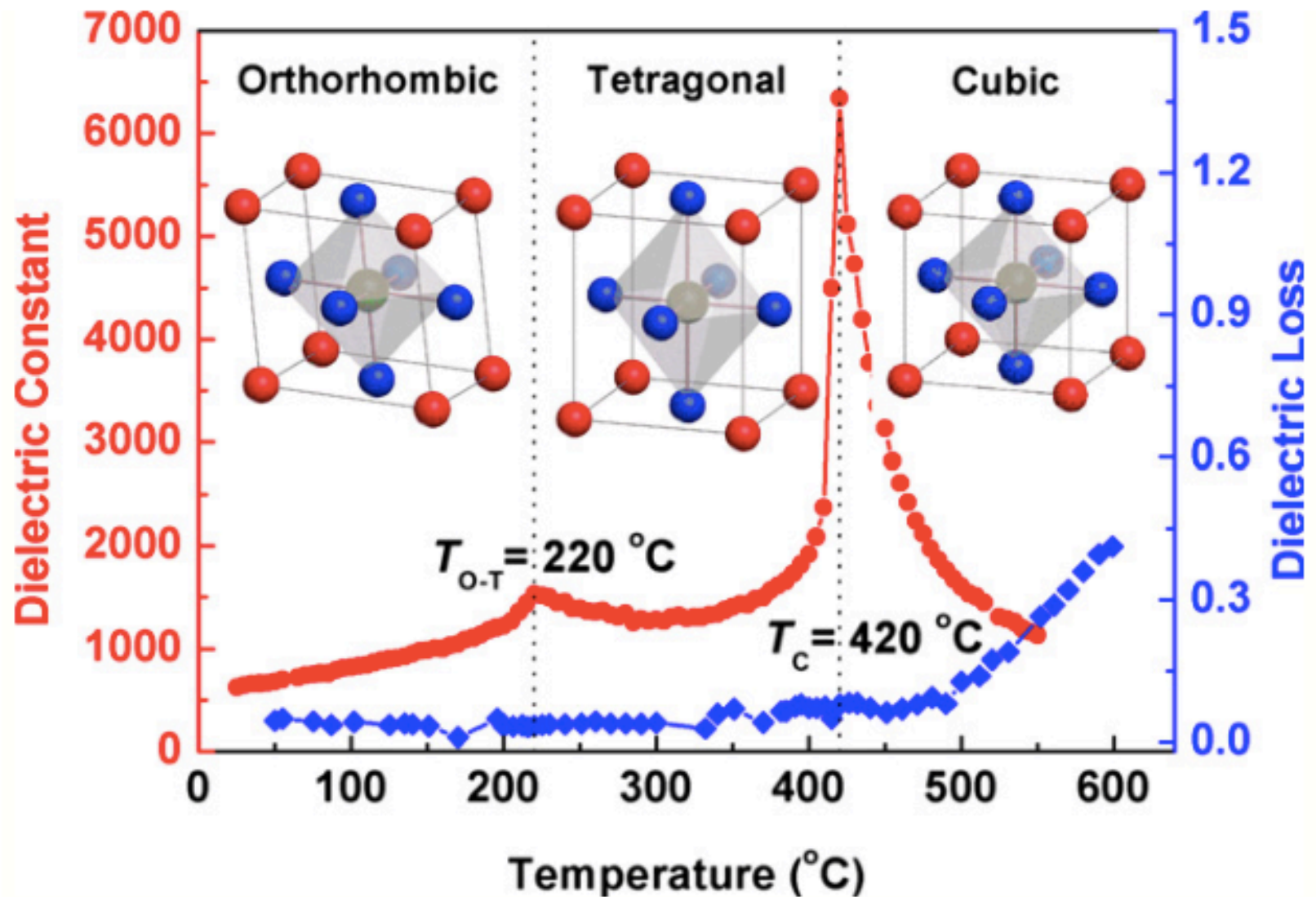
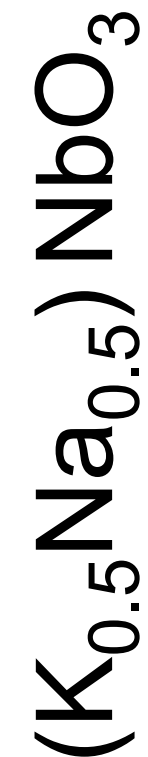


# NaNbO<sub>3</sub> – KNbO<sub>3</sub>

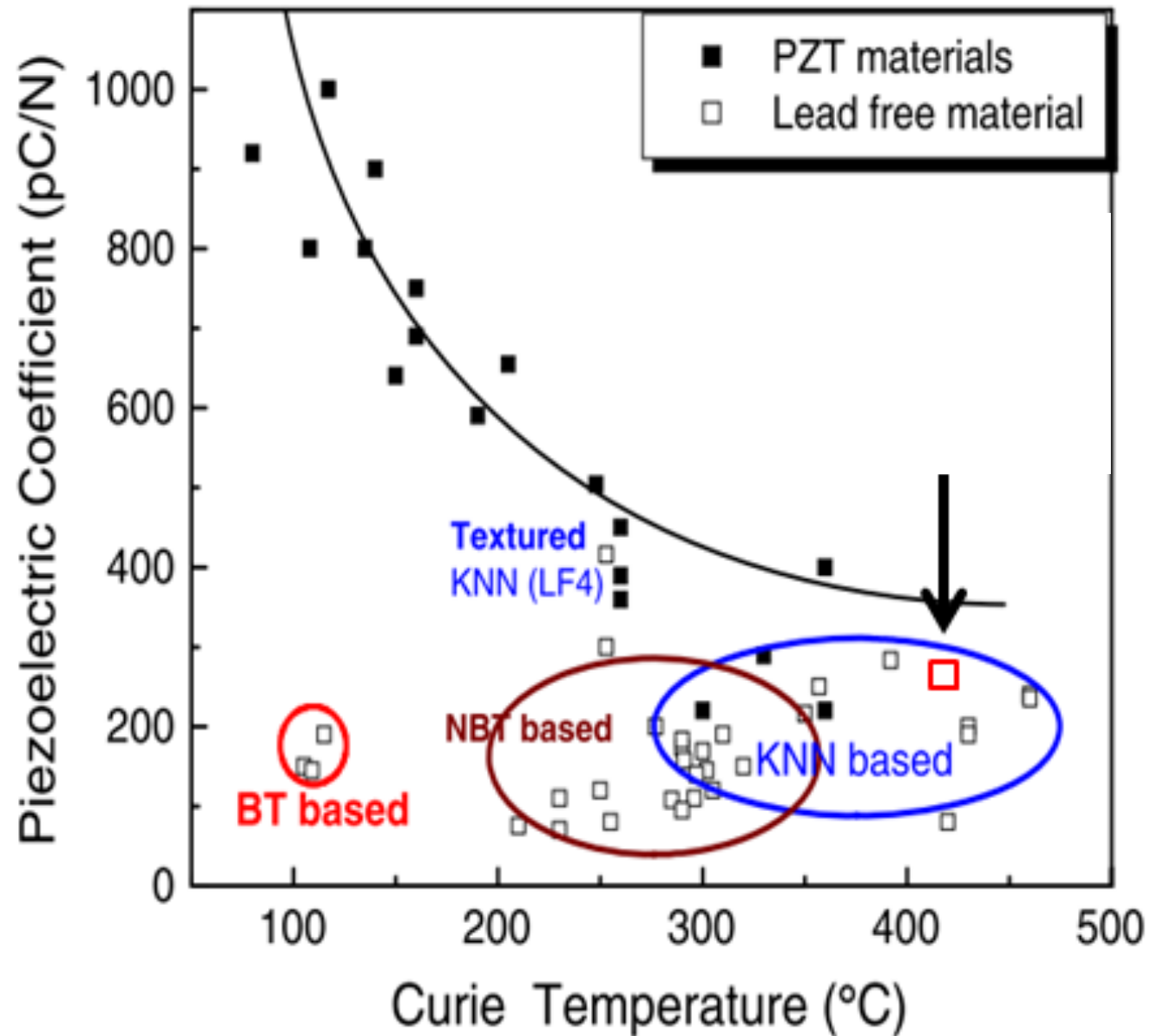


Jaffe, B., W.R. Cook, and H. Jaffe, *Piezoelectric ceramics*. Vol. 3. 1971: AcadEmic Press, London





Jing-Feng Lu, et al, J. Am. Ceram. Soc. 96, 12, 3696, 2013



Material	Dielectric constant	Dielectric loss	$d_{33}$ (pC/N)	$k_p$	$k_{33}$	$T_c$ (°C)	Ref.
$(K_{0.5}Na_{0.5})NbO_3$ (Hot-Pressed)	500	0.2	127	0.46	0.6	420	[1, 2]
$(K_{0.5}Na_{0.5})NbO_3$	290	0.4	80	0.35	0.51	420	[3]
KNN-LF4 (textured)	1570		410	0.61		253	[4]
PZT (Type Navy I)	1250	0.4	290	0.59	0.72	325	[5]
Morgan type 402 Hard Piezoceramic	1200	0.003	285	0.56	0.70	320	[6]
PZT (Type VI) Soft Piezoceramic	3400	1.70	650	0.77		180	[5]

1.R. E. Jaeger and L. Egerton, J. Am. Ceram. Soc. 45, 209-213 (1962)

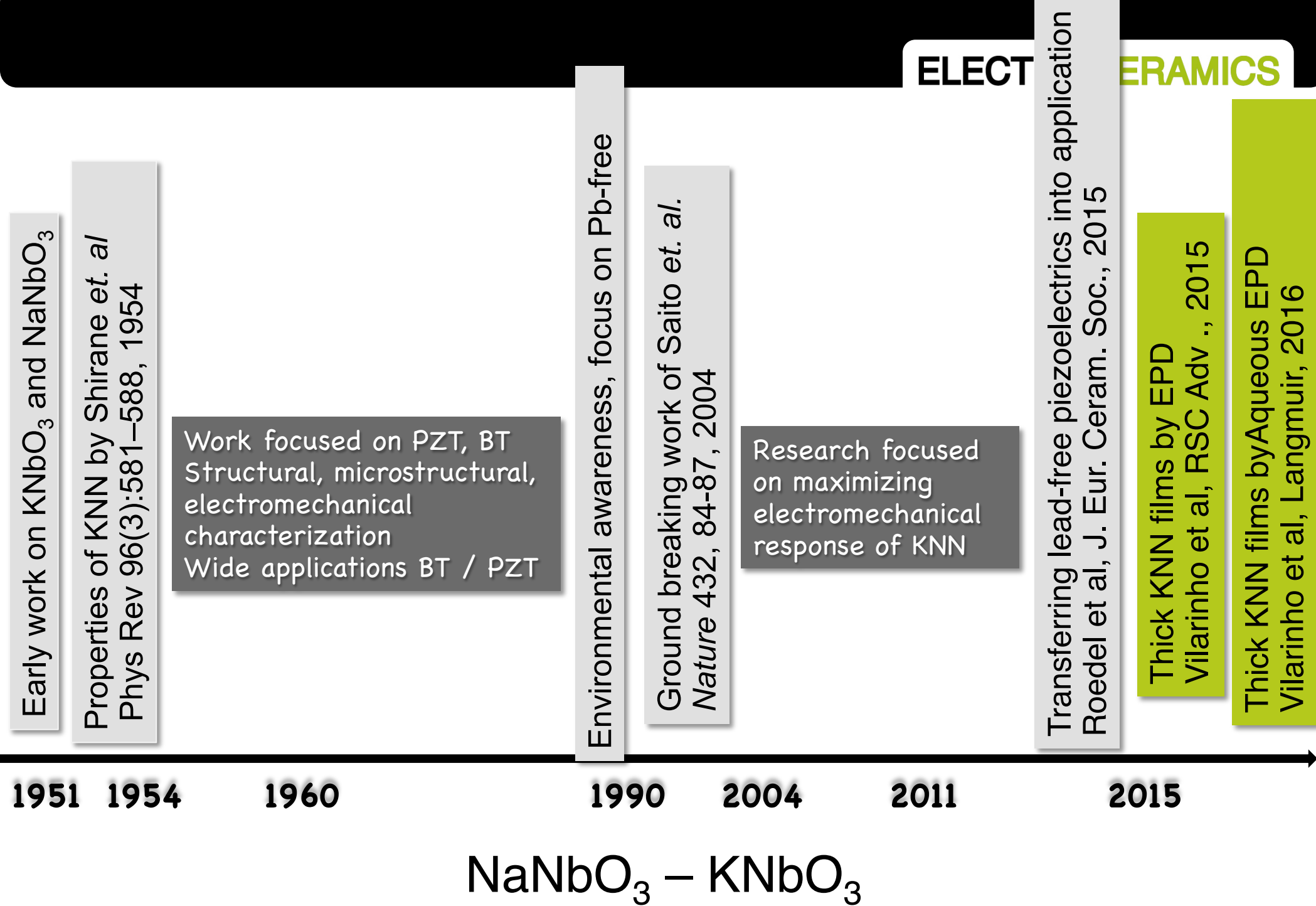
2.G. H. Haertling, J. Am. Ceram. Soc. 50, 329-330 (1967)

3.L. Egerton and D. M. Dillon, J. Am. Ceram. Soc. 42, 438-442 (1959)

4.Y. Saito, et al, Nature, 432, 84-87 (2004).

5.<http://www.americanpiezo.com/apc-materials/piezoelectric-properties.html> retrieved on 28-06-2011

6.<http://www.morganelectroc ceramics.com/materials/piezoelectric/> retrieved on 28-06-2011





- There is a need ...
- **Our approach**
- Our results
- What I've just said ...



# Aqueous based EPD of KNN



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Materials preparation

**Preparation  
KNN powders**

- XRD
- Thermal Analysis

**Preparation  
KNN aqueous  
suspensions**

- UV transmittance
- Zeta potential

**EPD**

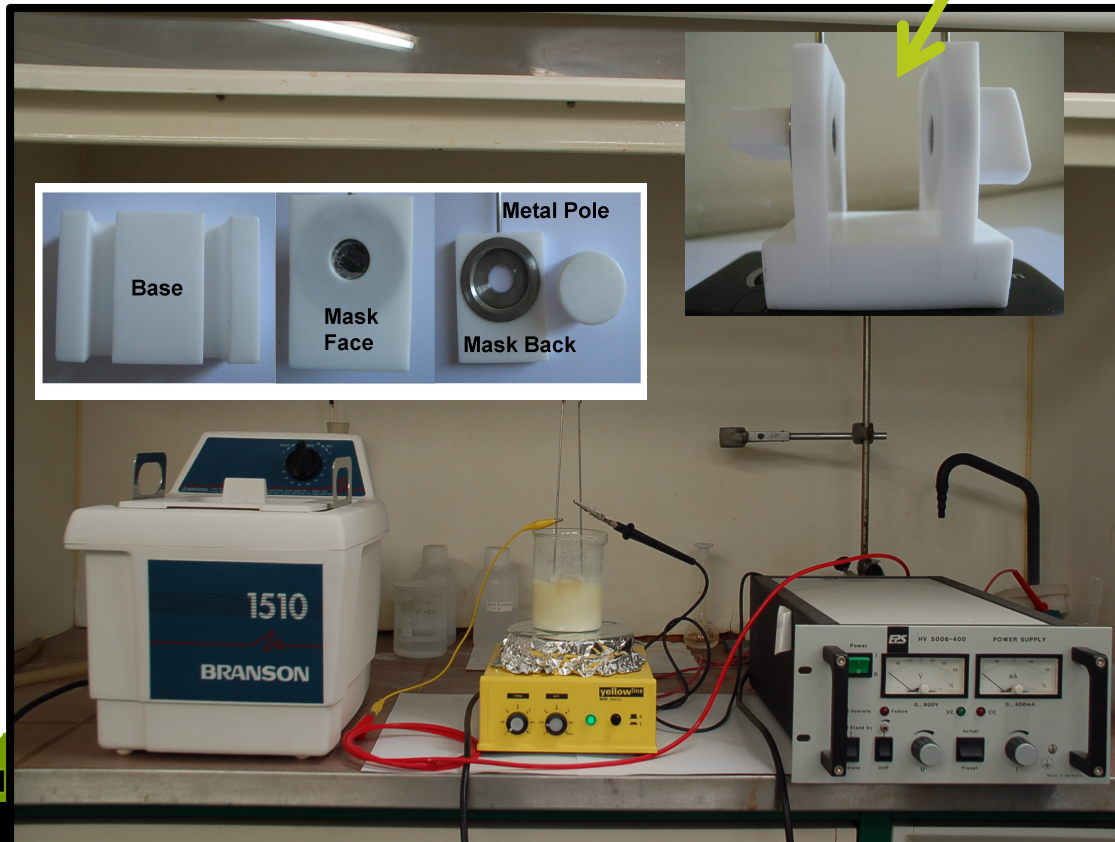
- potencial
- time

**Densification**

Isostatic Pressing  
(200 Mpa/2h)

Sintering (1100°C/2h)

- Densiy
- SEM
- Dielectric measurements



- There is a need ...
- Our approach
- **Our results**
- What I've just said ...



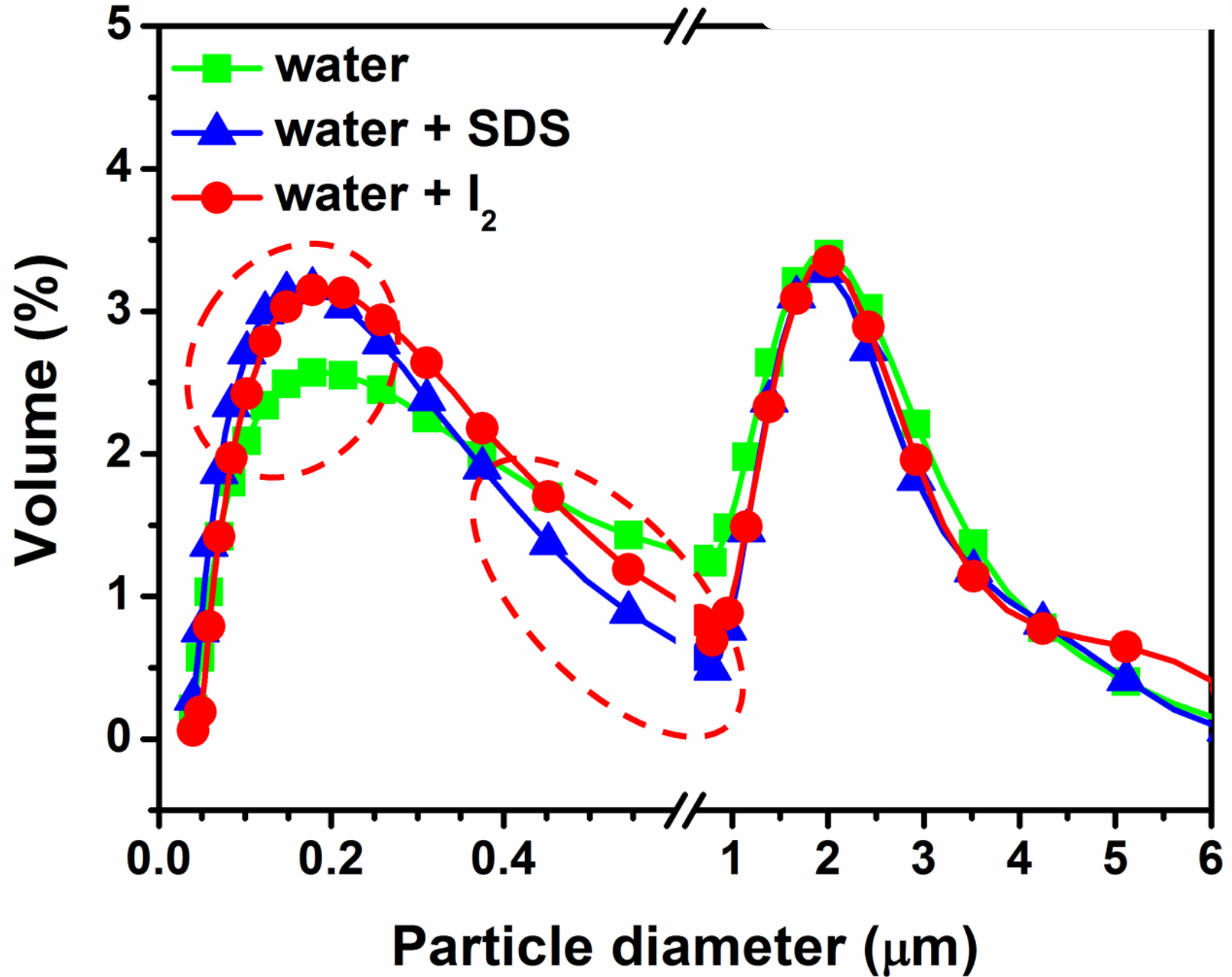
# Powders and suspension characterization

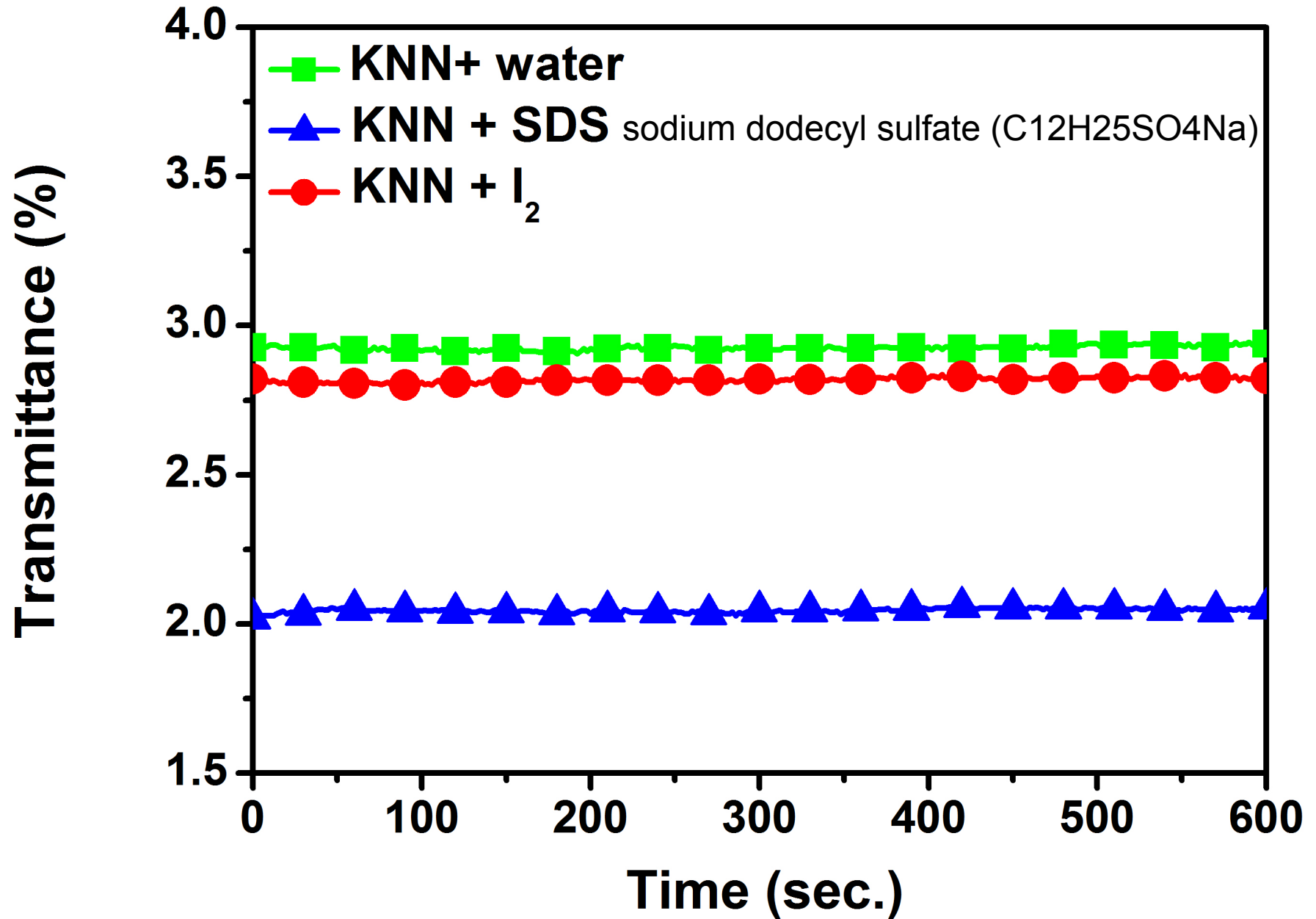


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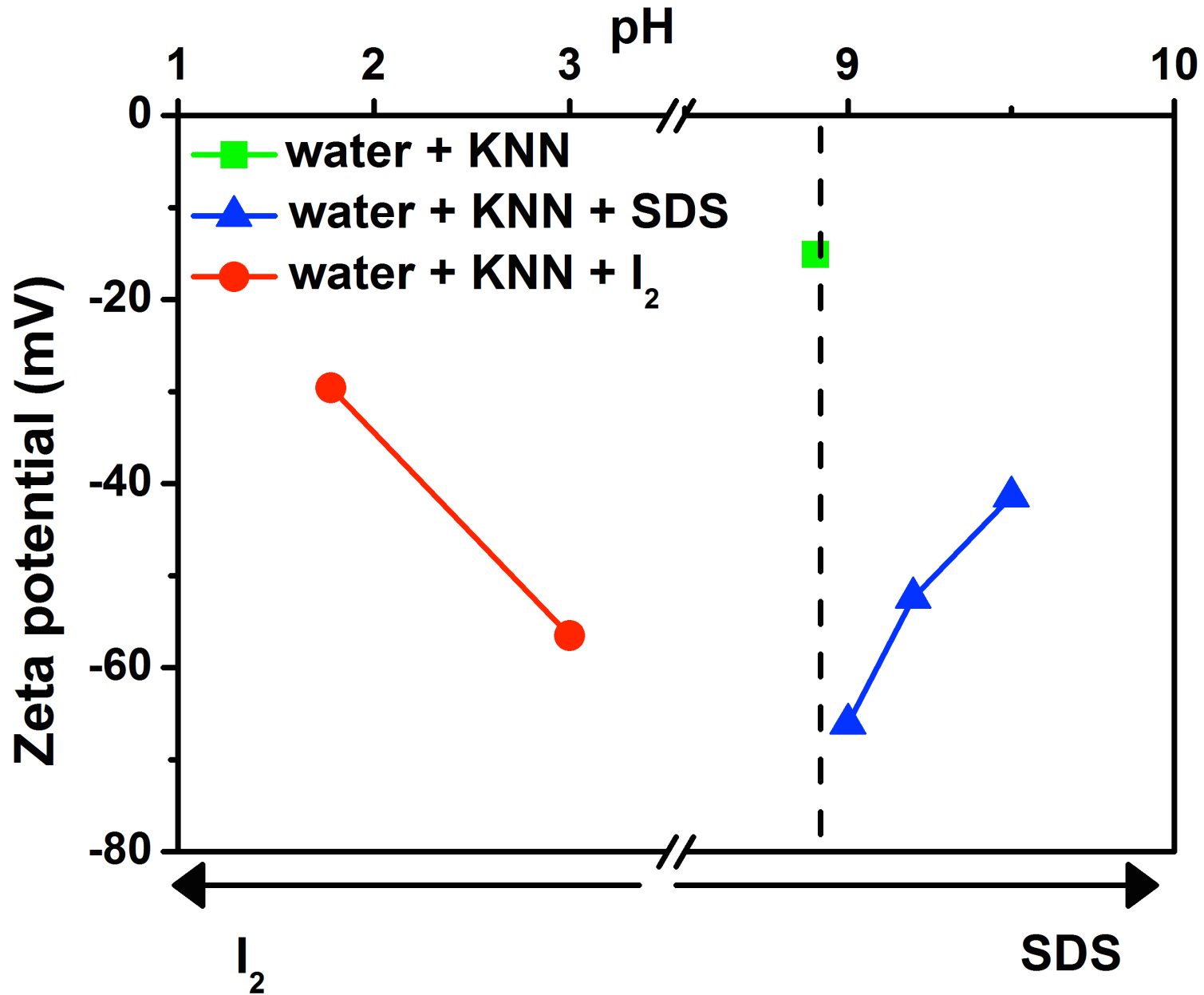
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## Suspension characterization





Suspension media	Zeta potential (mV)	pH	Deposition Electrode	Film quality
Water	-15.1	8.9	Anode	Poor
Water + SDS (0.02 : 100 wt. ratio of SDS solution in KNN suspension)	-76.9	8.7	Anode	Uniform
Water + iodine (0.02 : 100 wt. ratio of iodine solution in KNN suspension)	-56.7	3	Anode	Very poor

Summary of aqueous suspension parameters such as pH and zeta potential for which  $K_{0.5}Na_{0.5}NbO_3$  thick films were obtained with the application of 10 V for 20 min.

# Films characterization

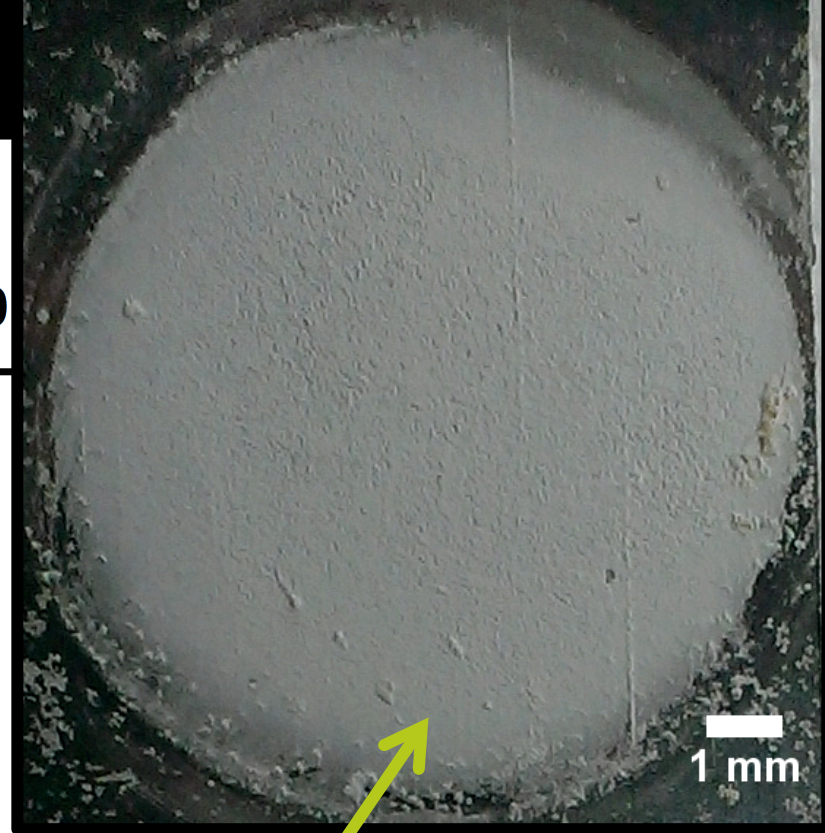
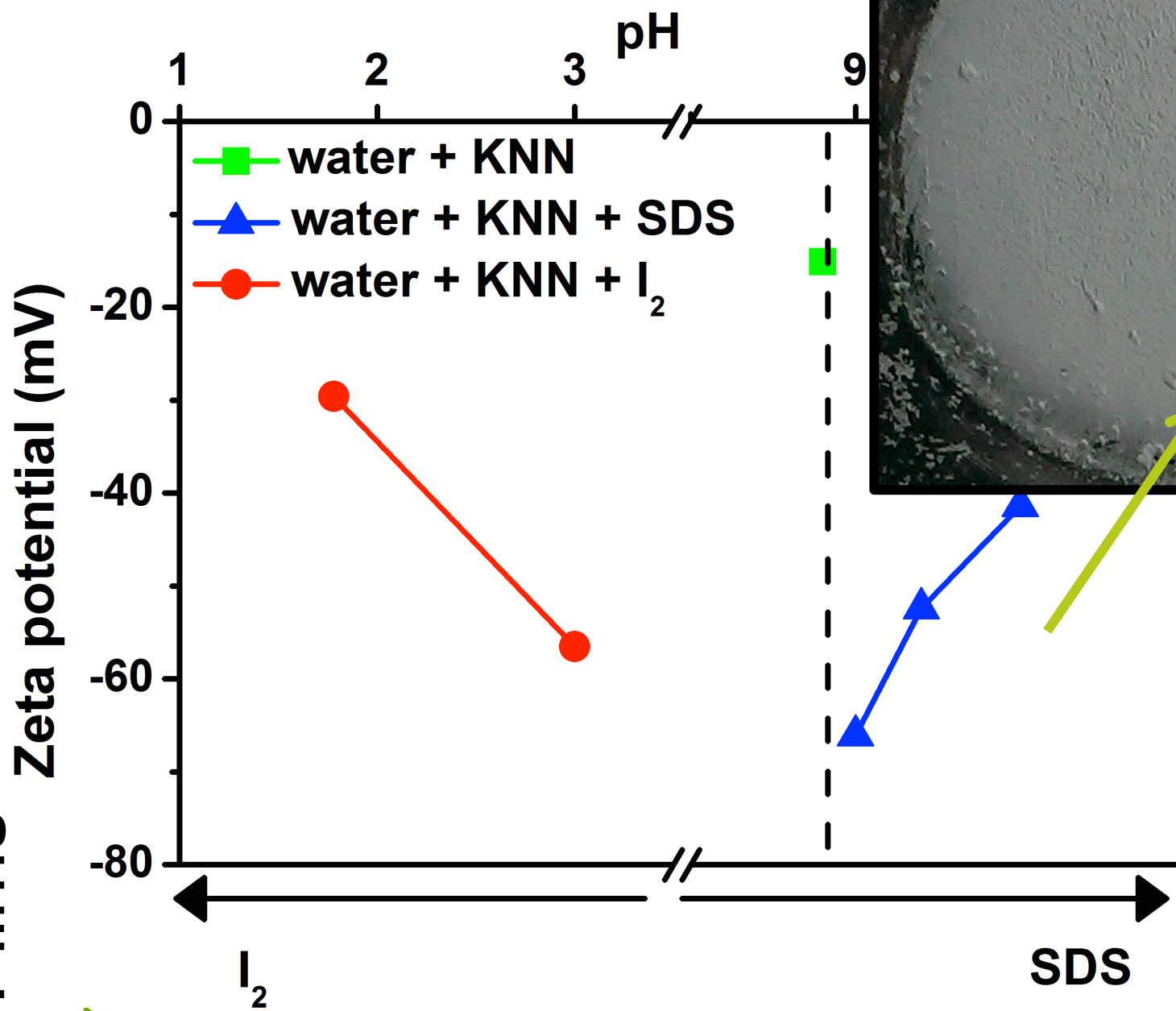


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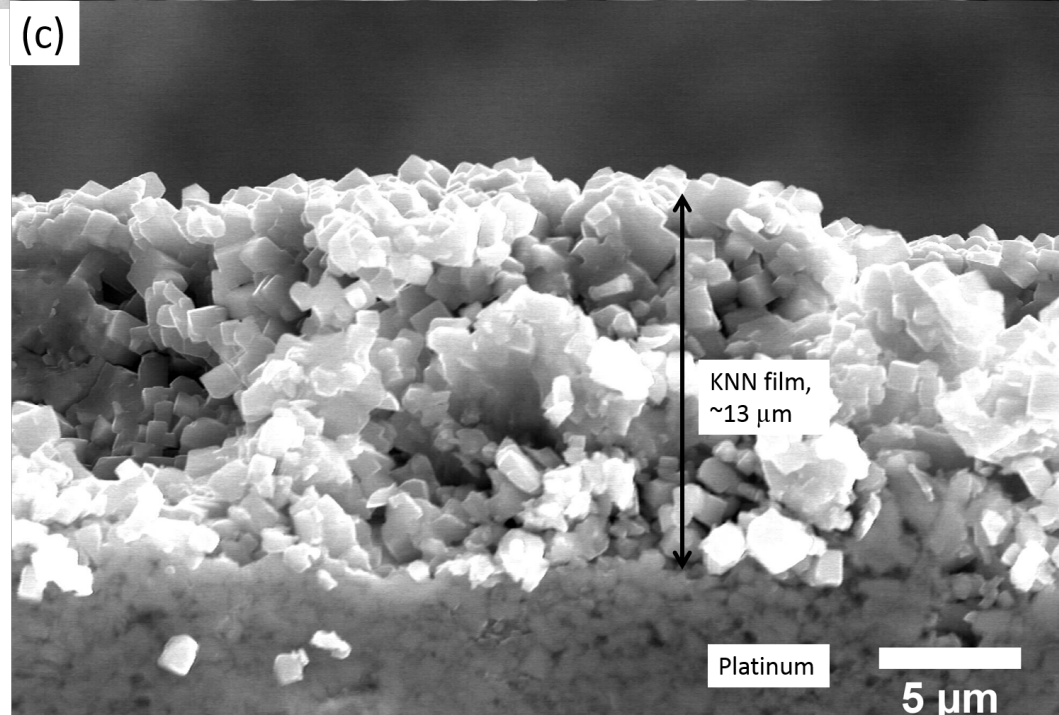
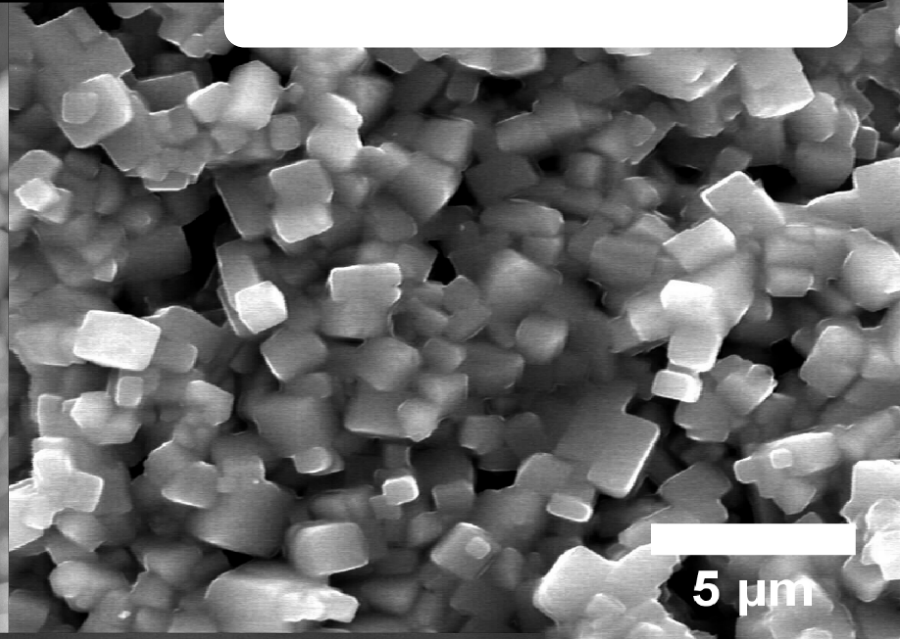
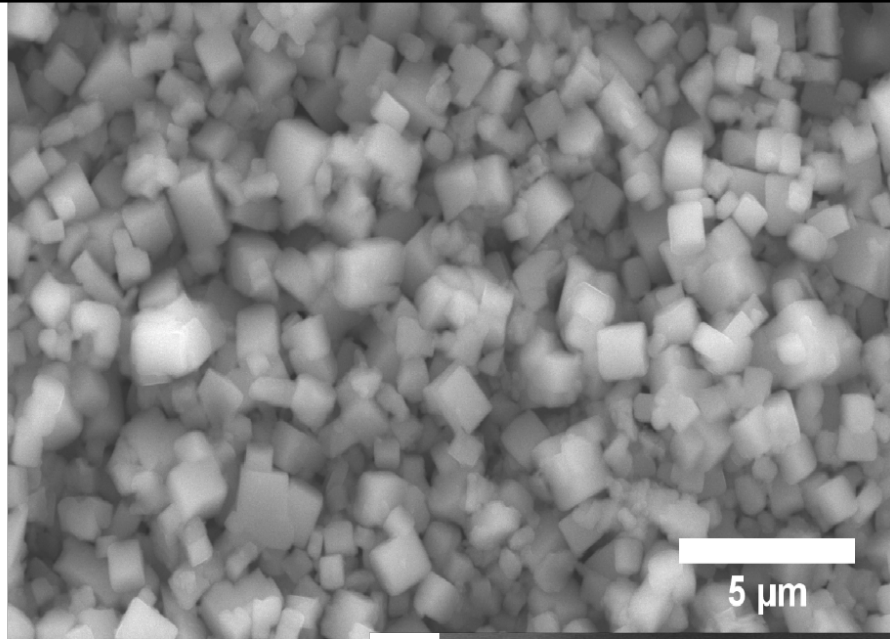
[www.electroceraamicsgroup.org](http://www.electroceraamicsgroup.org)

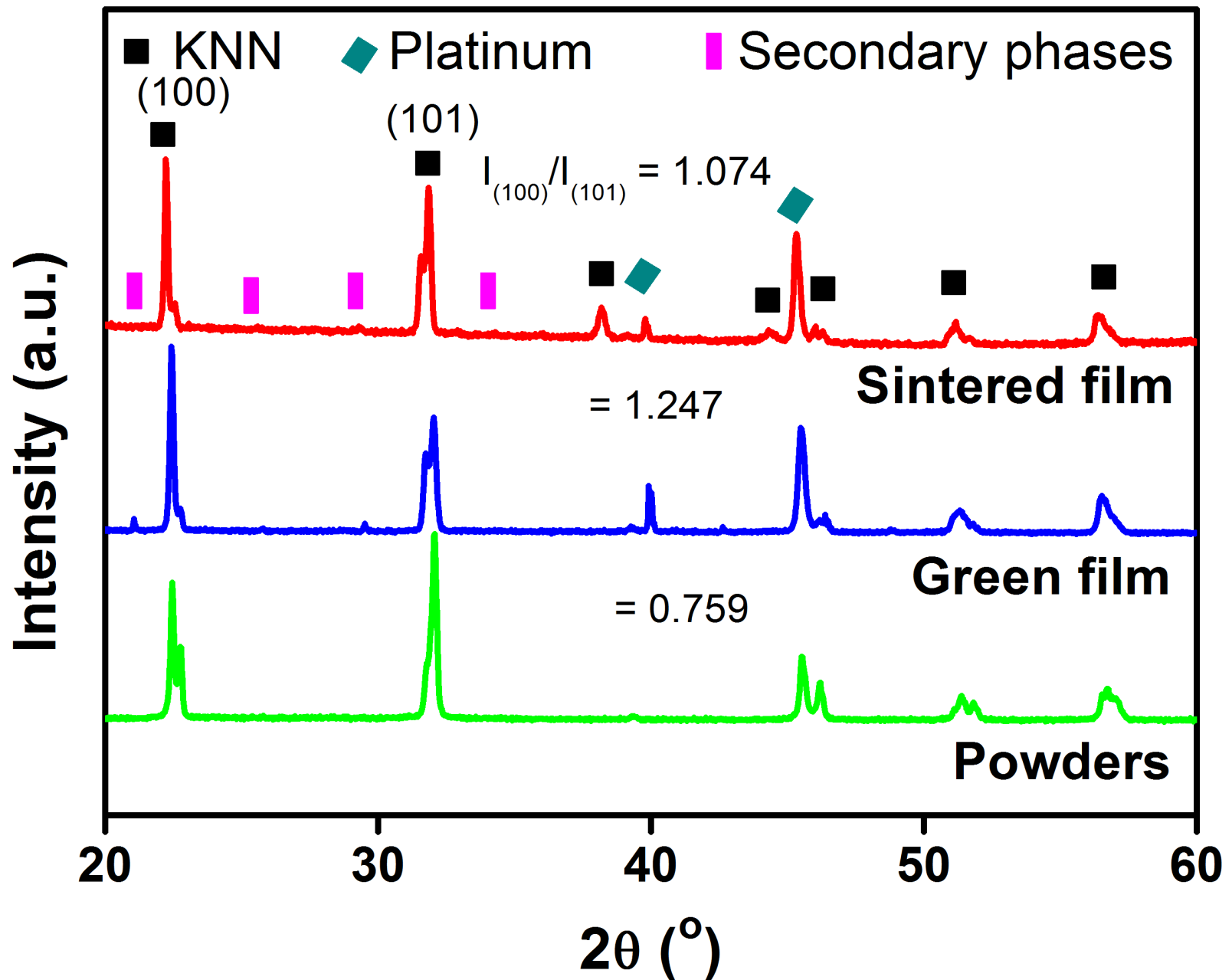
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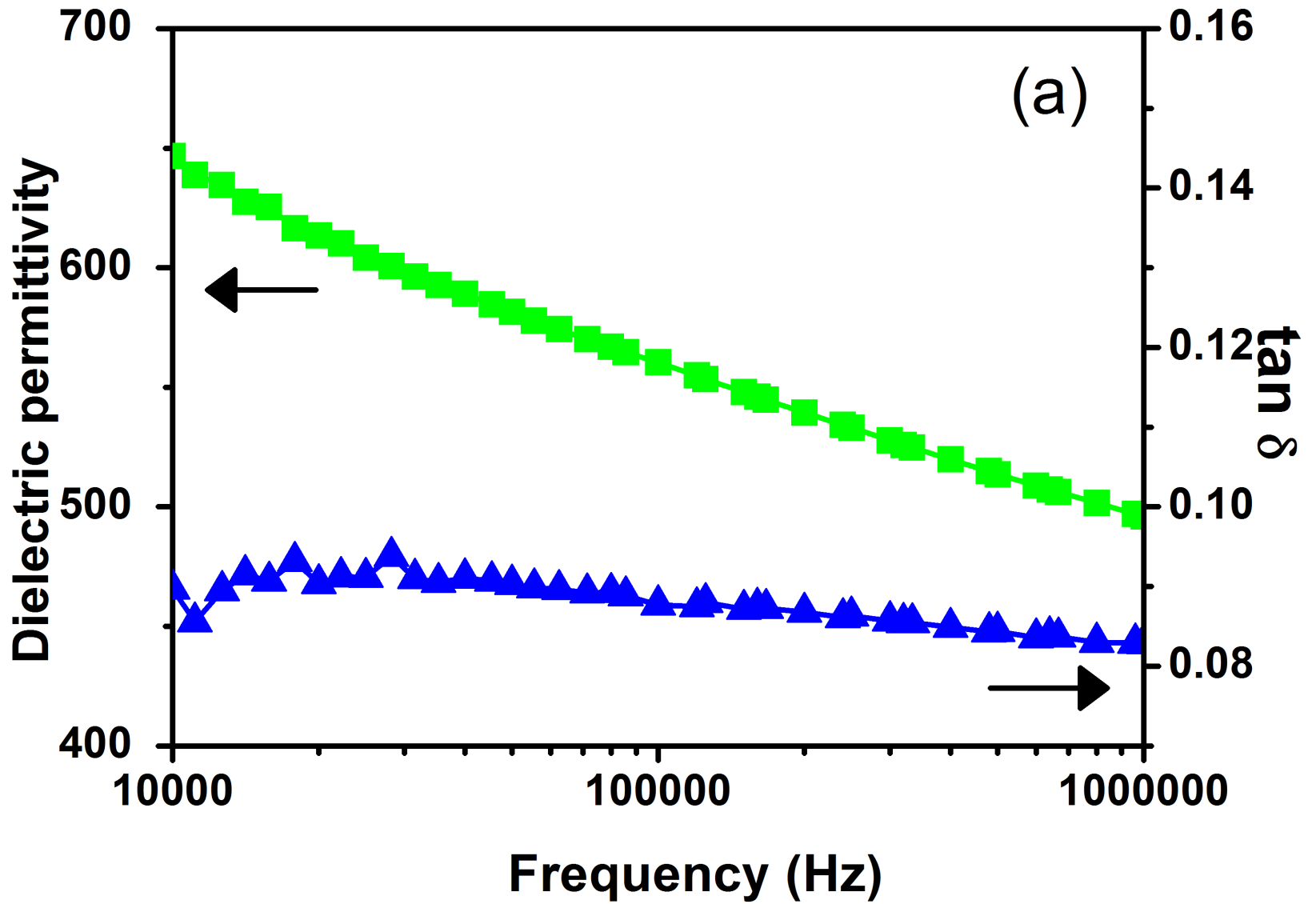
Films

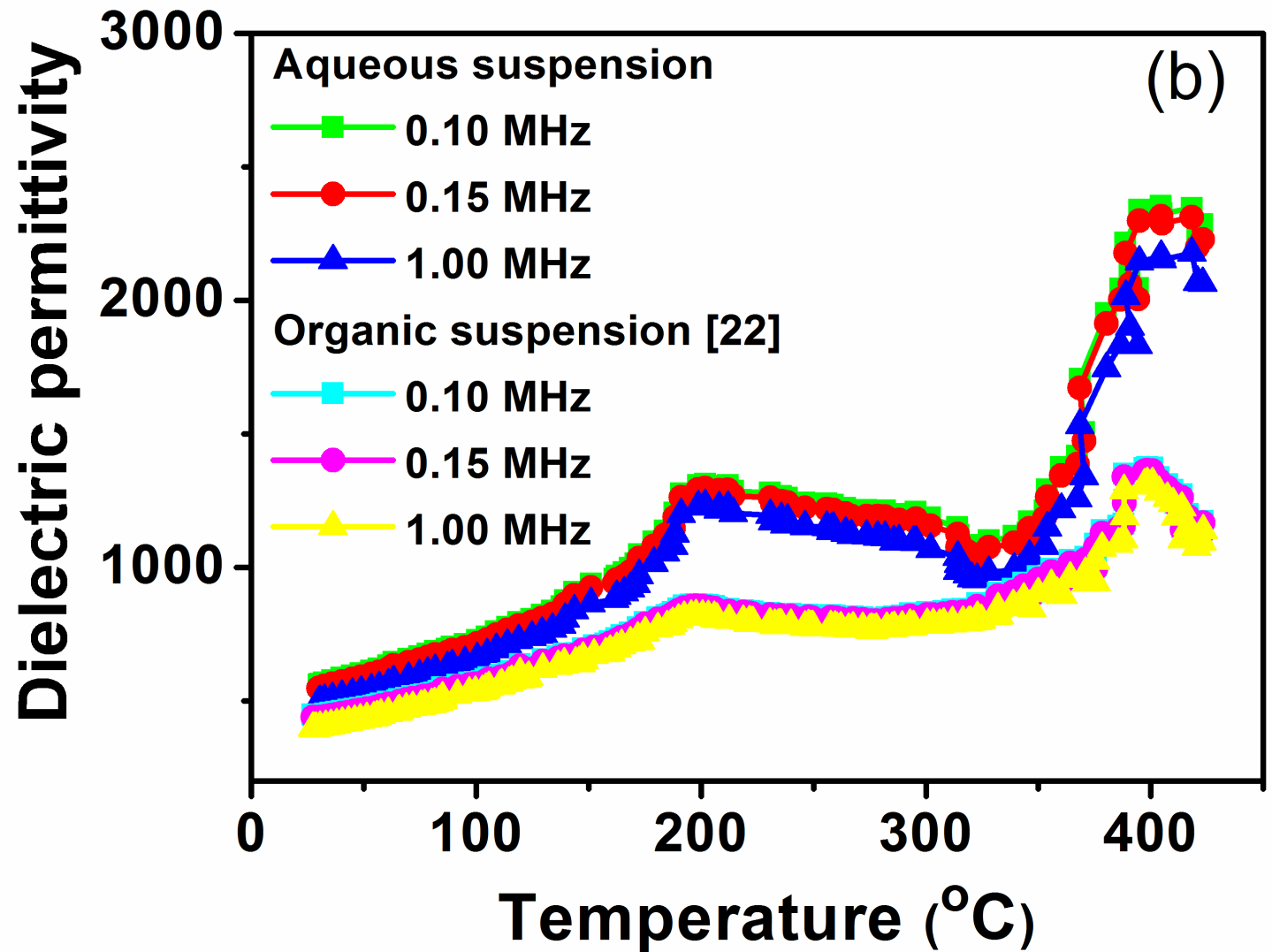


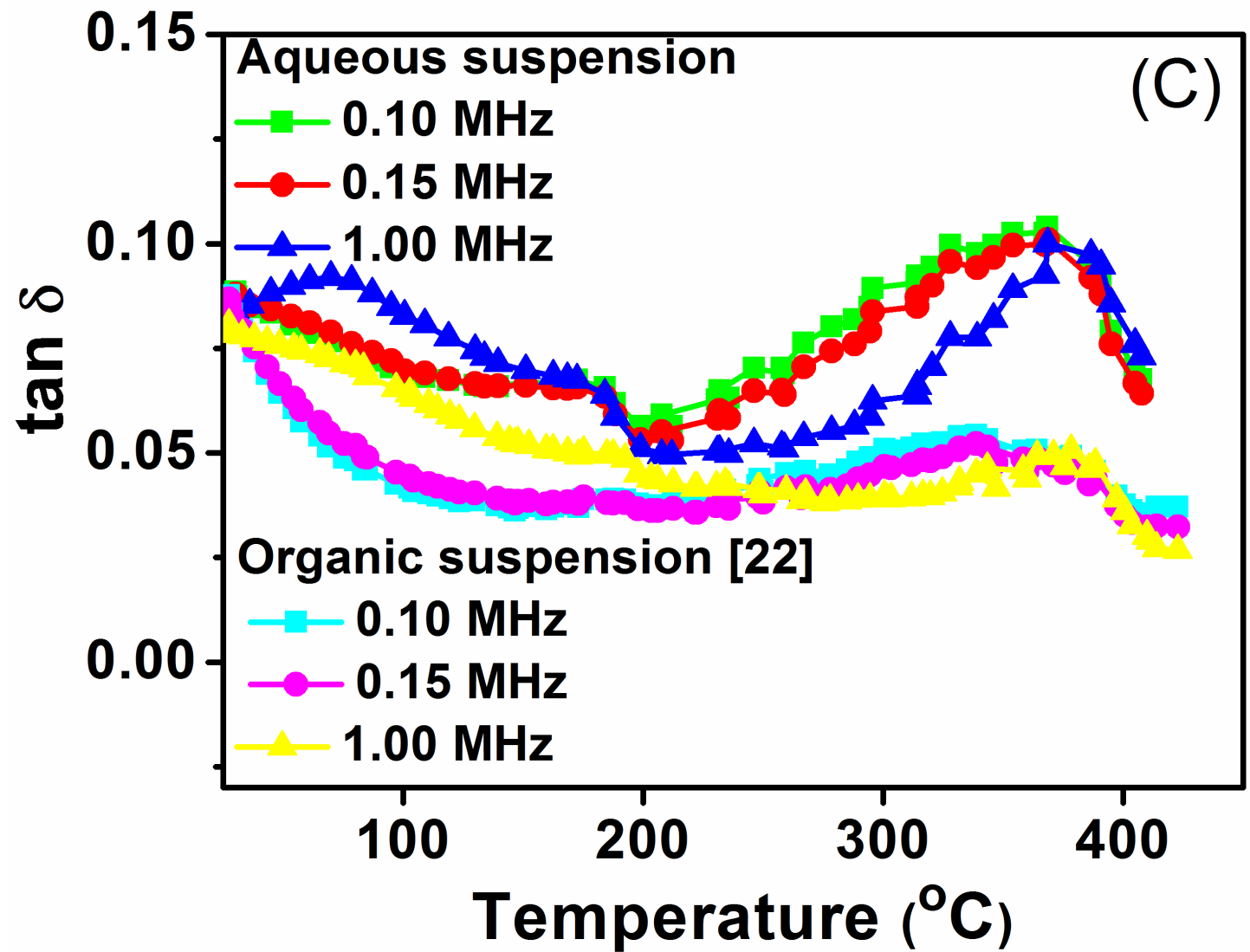
# Films characterization



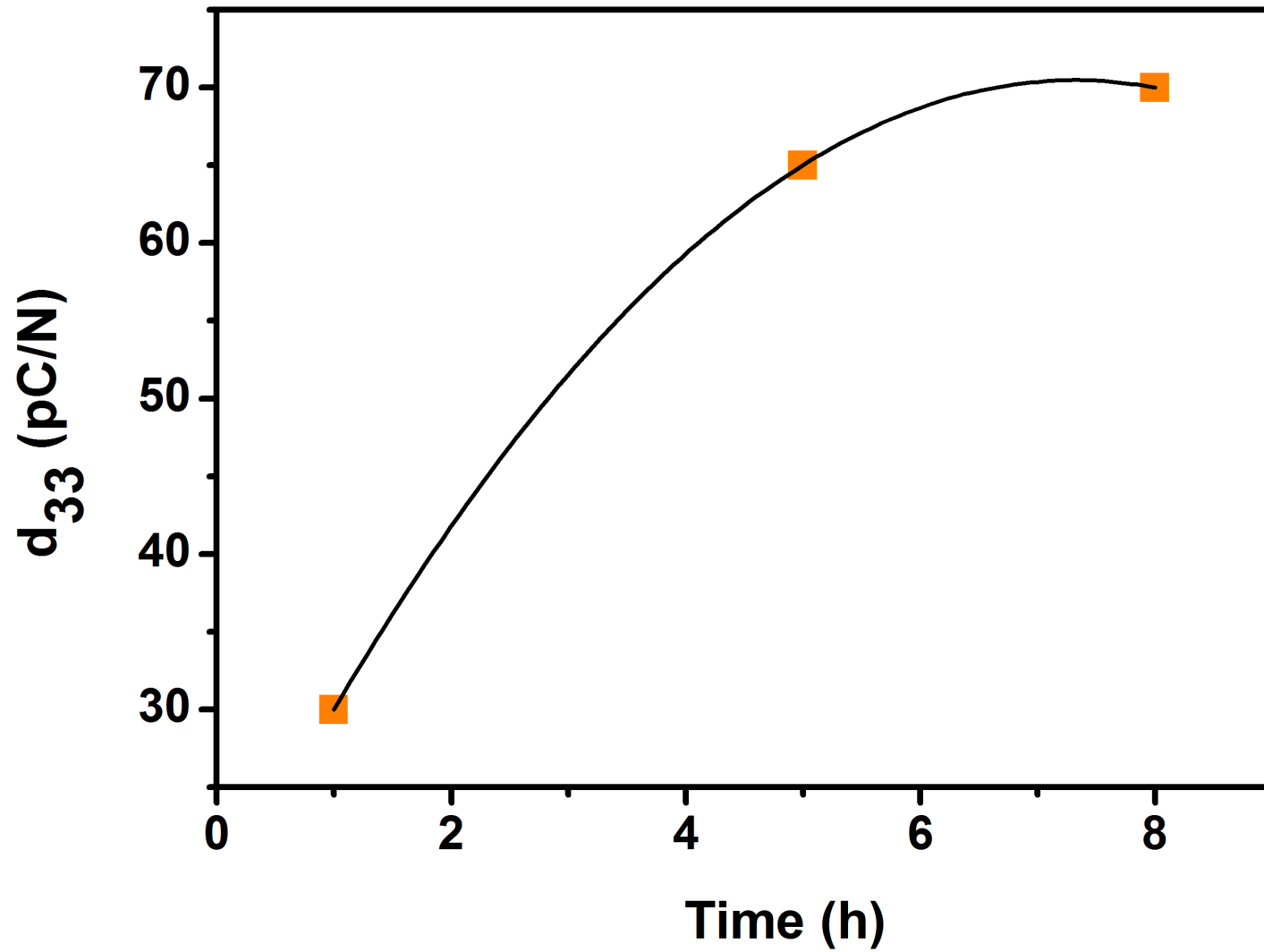












Dielectric and piezoelectric coefficient  $d_{33}$  data for  $K_{0.5}Na_{0.5}NbO_3$  (KNN) single crystals, ceramics and thick films of this work and previously reported.

Material	$\epsilon_r$ ( $T_{\text{meas}}$ )	$T_c$ ( $^{\circ}C$ )	$\tan\delta$	$d_{33}$ (pC/N)	Reference
KNN (1:1) thick films by EPD using aqueous suspension	495 (1 MHz)	404	0.08 (1MHz)	68	Present work
KNN (1:1) thick films by EPD using organic suspension	392 (1 MHz)	400	0.07 (1MHz)	40	22
KNN thick films by sol gel	250 (1 KHz)		1.3	18	48
KNN thick films by aerosol deposition	116 (as-deposited) 545 (annealed) (1 kHz)		0.04		51
KNN (1:1) ceramics	290 (1 kHz)	420	0.04 (1 kHz)	80	41
KNN (1:1) hot pressed ceramics	420 (1 kHz)			160	43
$(K_{0.44}Na_{0.52}Li_{0.04})(Nb_{0.84}Ta_{0.10}Sb_{0.06})O_3$ ceramic (LF4T) textured ceramics	1570 (1 kHz)	253		410	7
KNN (1:1) single crystals [001]	300 (1 kHz)	429		160	52
KNN (1:1) single crystals [001]	240 (100 kHz)	393	0.02 (100 kHz)	160	50
KNN (1:1) single crystals [131]	1015 (100 kHz)	410	0.01 (100 kHz)	50	53
KNN (1:1) single crystals [323]	650 (100 kHz)	409	0.01 (100 kHz)	-	53

# Unleashing the Full Sustainable Potential of Thick Films of Lead-Free Potassium Sodium Niobate ( $K_{0.5}Na_{0.5}NbO_3$ ) by Aqueous Electrophoretic Deposition

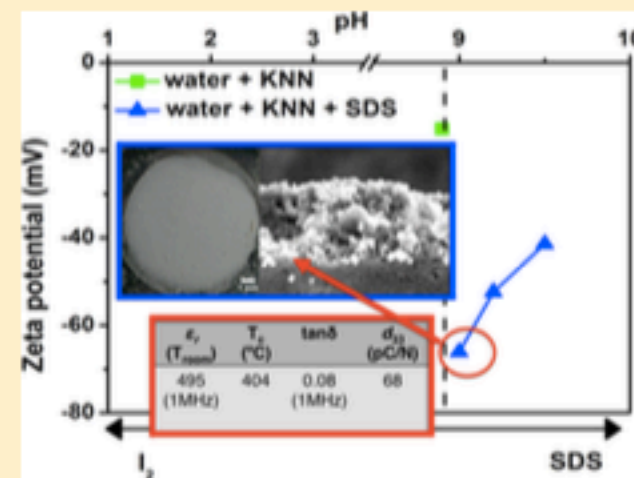
Amit Mahajan,<sup>†,‡</sup> Rui Pinho,<sup>†</sup> Morgane Dolhen,<sup>†,§</sup> M. Elisabete Costa,<sup>†</sup> and Paula M. Vilarinho<sup>\*,†</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Department of Materials and Ceramic Engineering, CICECO, Aveiro Institute of Materials, University of Aveiro, 3810-193 Aveiro, Portugal

<sup>§</sup>Science of Ceramic Processing and Surface Treatments, University of Limoges, 87060 Limoges, France

## Supporting Information

**ABSTRACT:** A current challenge for the fabrication of functional oxide-based devices is related with the need of environmental and sustainable materials and processes. By considering both lead-free ferroelectrics of potassium sodium niobate ( $K_{0.5}Na_{0.5}NbO_3$ , KNN) and aqueous-based electrophoretic deposition here we demonstrate that an eco-friendly aqueous solution-based process can be used to produce KNN thick coatings with improved electromechanical performance. KNN thick films on platinum substrates with thickness varying between 10 and 15  $\mu\text{m}$  have a dielectric permittivity of 495, dielectric losses of 0.08 at 1 MHz, and a piezoelectric coefficient  $d_{33}$  of  $\sim 70$  pC/N. At  $T_C$  these films display a relative permittivity of 2166 and loss tangent of 0.11 at 1 MHz. A comparison of the physical properties between these films and their bulk ceramics counterparts demonstrates the impact of the aqueous-based electrophoretic deposition (EPD) technique for the preparation of lead-free ferroelectric thick films. This opens the door to the possible development of high-performance, lead-free piezoelectric thick films by a sustainable low-cost process, expanding the applicability of lead-free piezoelectrics.



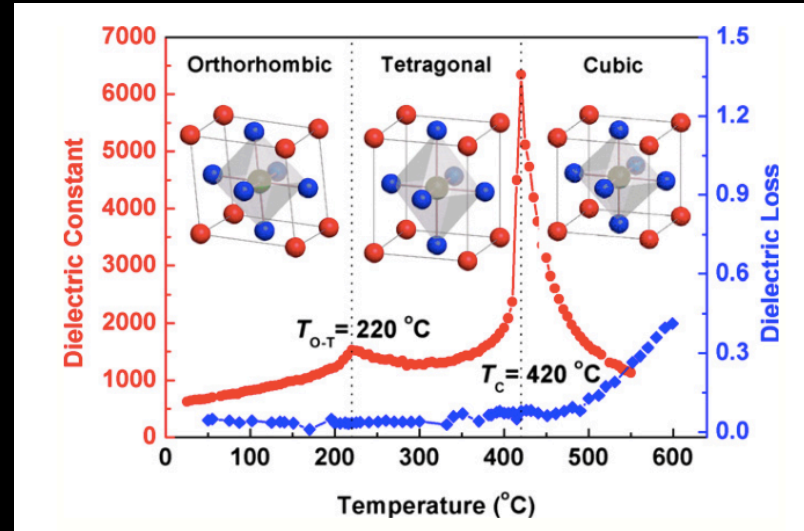
- There is a need ...
- Our approach
- Our results
- What I´ve just said ...



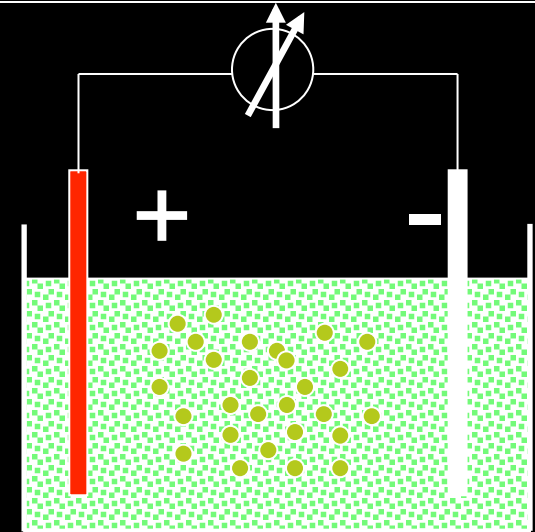
# Sustainability



# Lead Free Piezos



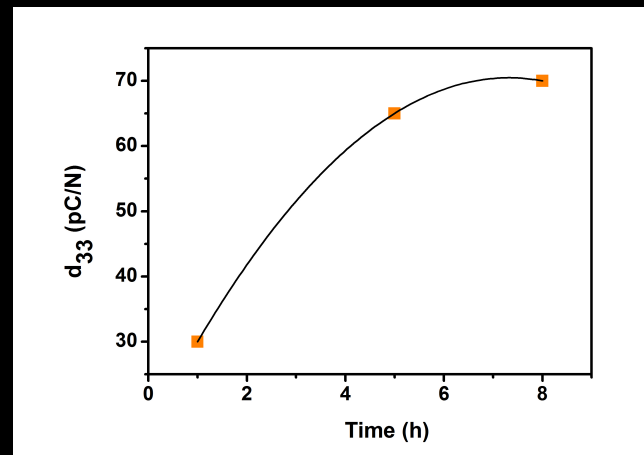
# Miniaturization



# Aqueous EPD



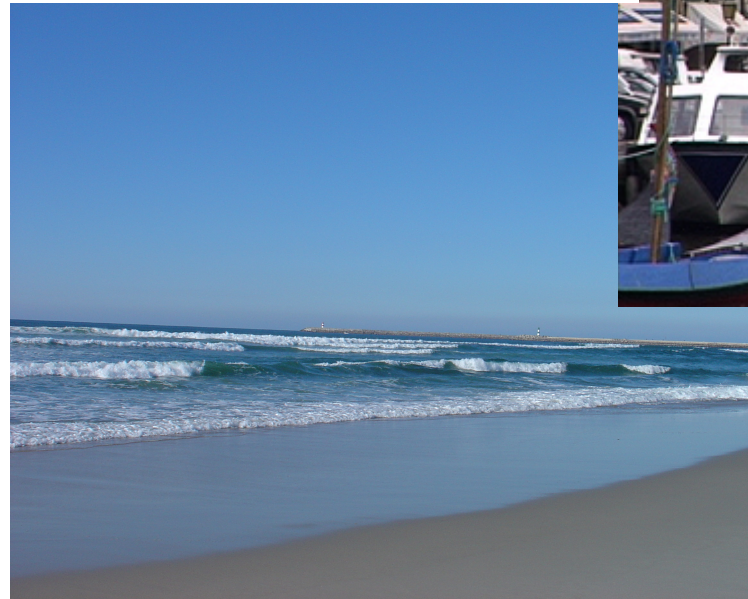
# Sustainable piezoelectrics



# Sustainable wearables



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



Thanks for your attention  
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# PORTUGAL // The Beauty of Simplicity

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kXsQif3QLjs#t=175>

