

# ENERGY HARVESTING TRANSDUCERS - PIEZOELECTRIC (ICT-ENERGY SUMMER SCHOOL 2016)

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# Three Types of Electromechanical Lossless Transduction

1. **Electrodynamic** (also called **electromagnetic** or inductive): motor/generator action is produced by the current in, or the motion of an electric conductor located in a fixed transverse magnetic field (e.g. voice coil speaker)
2. **Piezoelectric**: motor/generator action is produced by the direct and converse piezoelectric effect – dielectric polarization gives rise to elastic strain and vice versa (e.g. tweeter speaker)
3. **Electrostatic**: motor/generator action is produced by variations of the mechanical stress by maintaining a potential difference between two or more electrodes, one of which moves (e.g. condenser microphone)

Credit: This classification and much of the flow from Electromagnetic section is based on the 2013 PowerMEMS presentation by Prof. David Arnold at the University of Florida

# Outline for Short Course

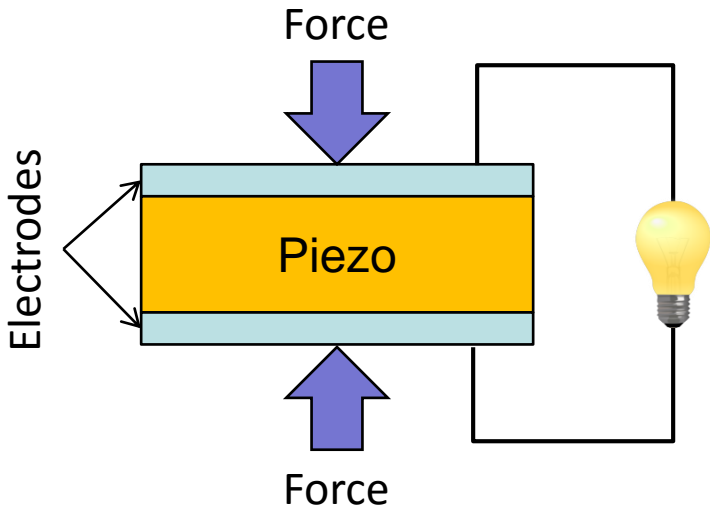
- Introduction and Linear Energy Harvesting
- **Energy Harvesting Transducers**
  - Electromagnetic
  - **Piezoelectric**
  - Electrostatic
- Wideband and Nonlinear Energy Harvesting
- Applications

# Outline

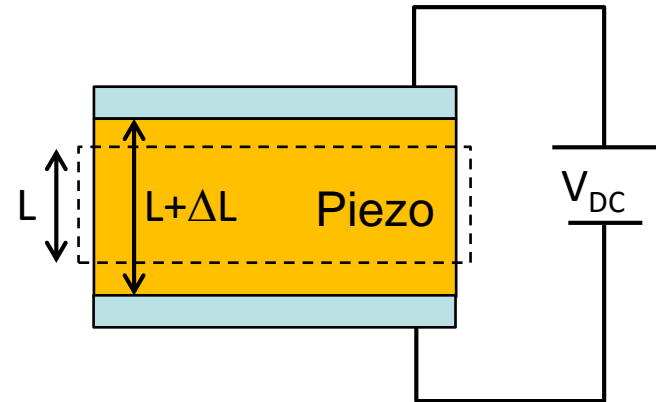
- **Fundamental equations of piezoelectricity**
- Piezoelectric energy harvesting (without dynamics)
- Survey of materials
- Dynamics of vibration energy harvesting
- Current research and examples

# Piezoelectricity

## Direct Effect

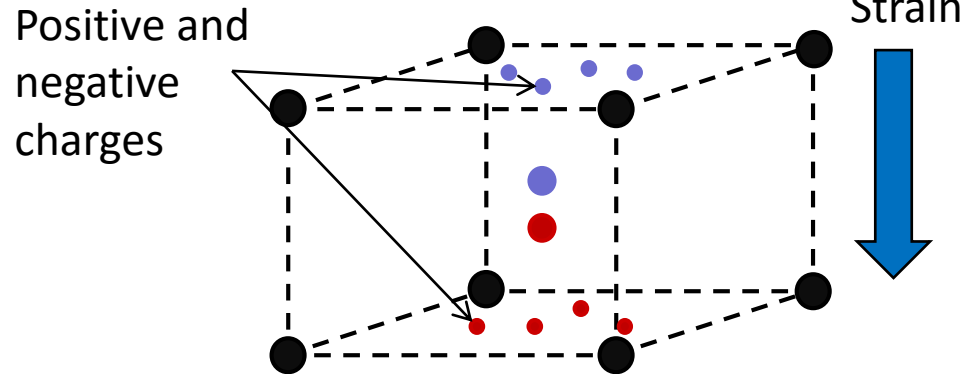
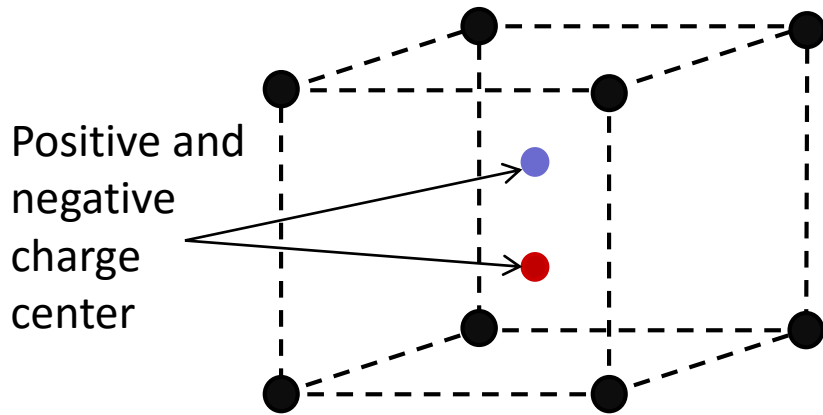


## Converse Effect



- Piezoelectric materials produce charge from an applied mechanical stress (direct effect), or undergo strain in response to an applied electrical field (converse effect).
- Piezoelectric materials can be crystalline, poly-crystalline, or semi-crystalline. The most common piezoelectric materials for energy harvesting are PZT, AlN, and PVDF (which is a semi-crystalline polymer).
- We are mostly concerned with the direct effect, although the equations apply equally to either effect.
- When mechanical stress is applied charge sites shift, creating a net electric field.

# Piezoelectricity



Adapted from Briand, et. al. 2015

- Crystal structure does not have a center of symmetry.
- Under no mechanical force, the system is under equilibrium.
- If material is subjected to mechanical stress or strain, the crystalline structure is deformed, the distance between the charge centers changes.
- In order to keep electrical neutrality, charges appear at the surface of the crystal.

# Fundamental Equations

Strain      Compliance      Stress      Piezoelectric strain coefficient

$$\{S\} = [s^E]\{T\} + [d^t]\{E\}$$

Electrical displacement      Permittivity      Electric field

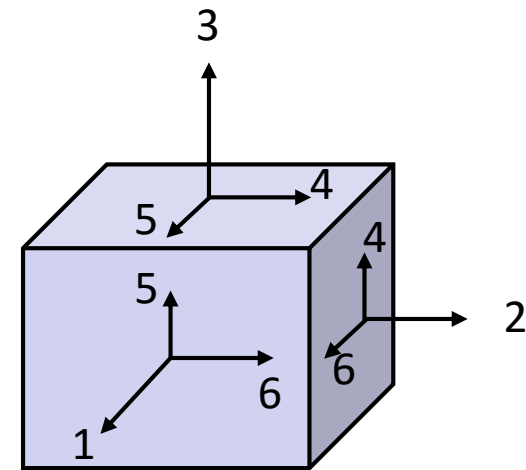
$$\{D\} = [d]\{T\} + [\epsilon^T]\{E\}$$

[ ]<sup>E</sup> – constant electric field (short circuit)  
 [ ]<sup>D</sup> – constant charge (open circuit)  
 [ ]<sup>T</sup> – constant stress (free condition)  
 [ ]<sup>S</sup> – constant strain (clamped condition)

- Note, without the piezoelectric strain coefficient we just have Hooke's law and the equation for a dielectric material.
- The “d” coefficient relates strain to electric field (strain coefficient) and charge to stress (charge coefficient).

# Fundamental Equations

$$\begin{bmatrix} S_1 \\ S_2 \\ S_3 \\ S_4 \\ S_5 \\ S_6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s_{11}^E & s_{12}^E & s_{13}^E & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ s_{21}^E & s_{22}^E & s_{23}^E & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ s_{31}^E & s_{32}^E & s_{33}^E & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & s_{44}^E & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & s_{55}^E & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & s_{66}^E \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_1 \\ T_2 \\ T_3 \\ T_4 \\ T_5 \\ T_6 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & d_{31} \\ 0 & 0 & d_{32} \\ 0 & 0 & d_{33} \\ 0 & d_{24} & 0 \\ d_{15} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E_1 \\ E_2 \\ E_3 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} D_1 \\ D_2 \\ D_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & d_{15} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & d_{24} & 0 & 0 \\ d_{31} & d_{32} & d_{33} & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_1 \\ T_2 \\ T_3 \\ T_4 \\ T_5 \\ T_6 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \varepsilon_{22} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \varepsilon_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E_1 \\ E_2 \\ E_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

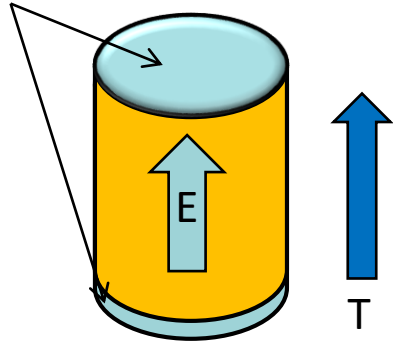
- 4, 5, 6 are the shear stress and strain directions.
- 3 is generally the direction of electrical poling
- In most actual situations, these are reduced to scalar equations due to geometric and constraints and placement of electrodes.



# Common Geometries

33 mode

Electrodes



$$S_3 = s_{33}^E T_3 + d_{33} E_3$$

$$D_3 = d_{33} T_3 + \epsilon_{33}^T E_3$$

31 mode

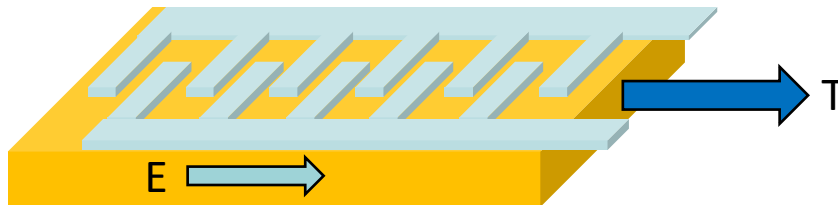
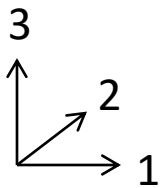
Electrodes



$$S_1 = s_{11}^E T_1 + d_{31} E_3$$

$$D_3 = d_{31} T_1 + \epsilon_{33}^T E_3$$

Inter Digitated Electrodes (IDT)



$$S_3 = s_{33}^E T_3 + d_{33} E_3$$

$$D_3 = d_{33} T_3 + \epsilon_{33}^T E_3$$

# Alternate Forms of the Equations

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

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

$$c = 1/s = \text{stiffness}$$

$$e = \left(\frac{\delta D}{\delta S}\right)^E = -\left(\frac{\delta T}{\delta E}\right)^S = \text{stress coefficient}$$

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

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

$$\beta = \epsilon^{-1}$$

$$g = -\left(\frac{\delta E}{\delta T}\right)^D = \left(\frac{\delta S}{\delta D}\right)^T = \text{voltage coefficient}$$

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

$$E = -hS + \beta^T D$$

$$h = -\left(\frac{\delta E}{\delta S}\right)^D = -\left(\frac{\delta T}{\delta D}\right)^S$$

Note: Subscripts have been dropped here for simplicity.

# Piezoelectric Coupling Coefficient

$$W_{con} = W_{OB} - W_{OA}$$

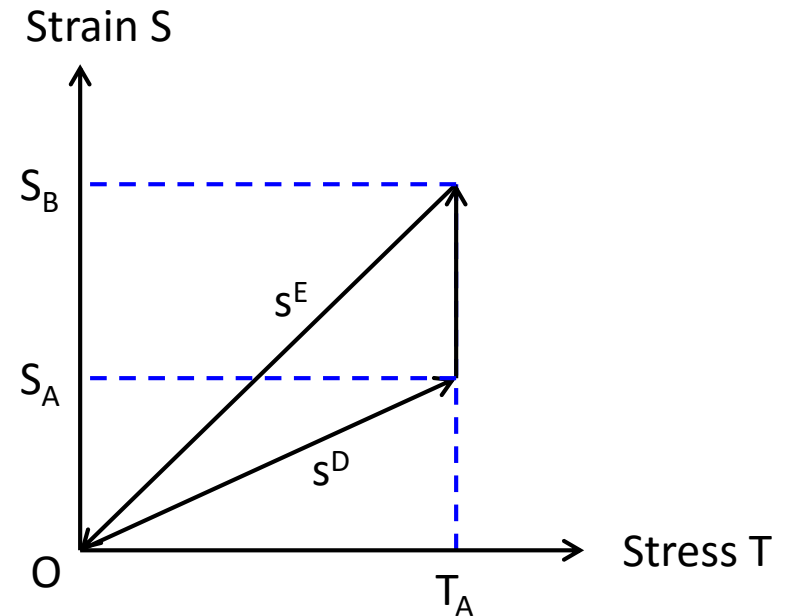
$$k^2 = \frac{W_{con}}{W_{OB}} = 1 - \frac{W_{OA}}{W_{OB}}$$

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

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

Using the constitutive relationships, an equivalent form is:

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



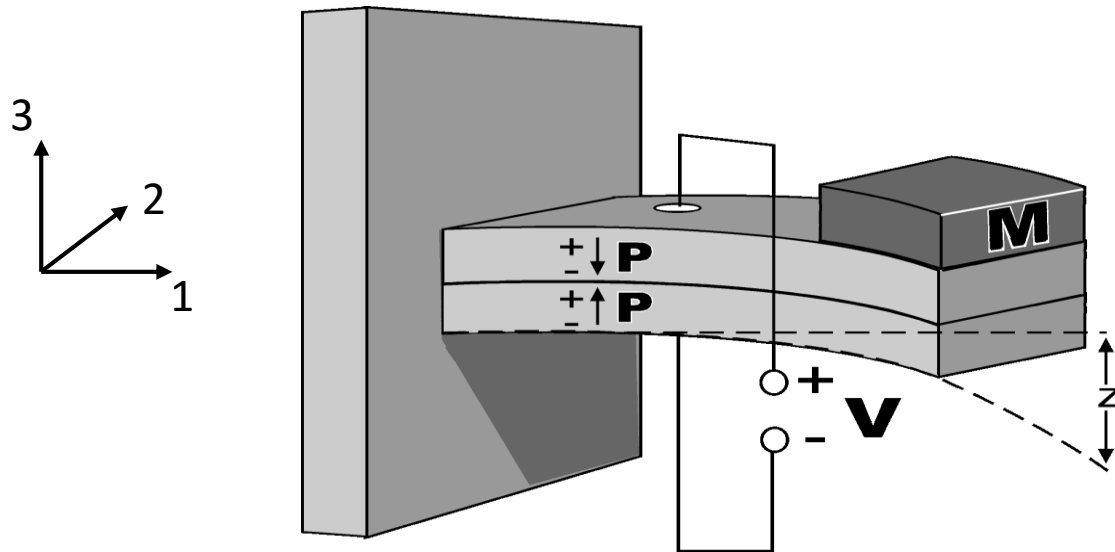
Adapted from Briand, et. al. 2015

- The coupling coefficient squared is the proportion converted energy (e.g. electrical) to the total input (e.g. mechanical) energy
- The coupling coefficient is NOT efficiency. The input energy that is not converted is not lost, but remains stored in the system.
- The coupling coefficient is embedded in the difference between the open and short circuit compliances

# Some Relationships Between Coefficients

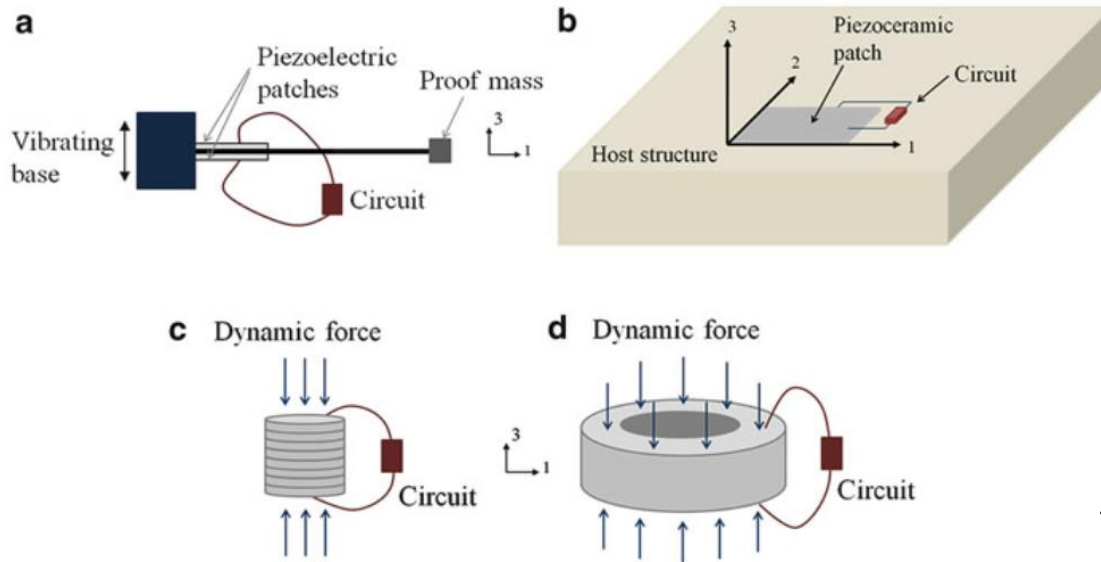
	$d$	$k$	$g$	$e$
$d$	$\frac{\text{Strain Developed}}{\text{Applied Electric Field}}$ $\frac{\text{Short Circuit Charge Density}}{\text{Applied Stress}}$	$d_{31} = k_{31} \sqrt{s_{11}^E \epsilon_{33}^T}$ $d_{33} = k_{33} \sqrt{s_{33}^E \epsilon_{33}^T}$	$d_{31} = g_{31} \epsilon_{33}^T$ $d_{33} = g_{33} \epsilon_{33}^T$	$d_{33} = \frac{e_{33}}{Y_{33}}$
$k$	$k_{31} = \frac{d_{31}}{\sqrt{s_{11}^E \epsilon_{33}^T}}$ $k_{33} = \frac{d_{33}}{\sqrt{s_{33}^E \epsilon_{33}^T}}$	$\left( \frac{\text{Mechanical Converted to Electrical Energy}}{\text{Mechanical Energy Input}} \right)^{1/2}$ $\left( \frac{\text{Electrical Converted to Mechanical Energy}}{\text{Electrical Energy Input}} \right)^{1/2}$	$k_{31} = g_{31} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_{33}^T}{s_{11}^E}}$ $k_{33} = g_{33} \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_{33}^T}{s_{33}^E}}$	
$g$	$g_{31} = \frac{d_{31}}{\epsilon_{33}^T}$ $g_{33} = \frac{d_{33}}{\epsilon_{33}^T}$	$g_{31} = k_{31} \sqrt{\frac{s_{11}^E}{\epsilon_{33}^T}}$ $g_{33} = k_{33} \sqrt{\frac{s_{33}^E}{\epsilon_{33}^T}}$	$\frac{\text{Open Circuit Electric Field}}{\text{Applied Stress}}$ $\frac{\text{Strain Developed}}{\text{Applied Charge Density}}$	

# Cantilever Beam – 31 Coupling



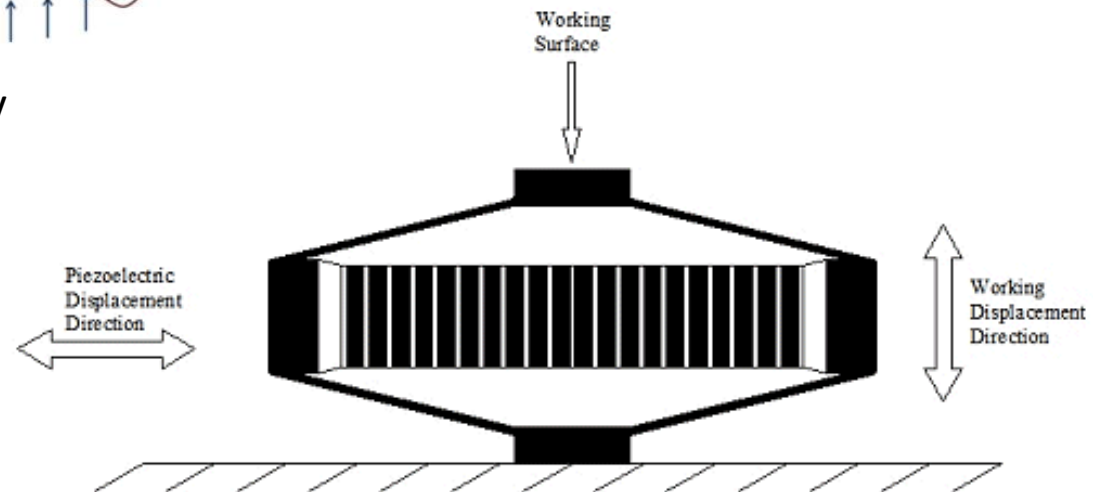
- Although 31 coefficients are generally lower, bending structures are often used because of the ability to produce lower frequency oscillators and generate higher strains

# Common Energy Harvesting Structures



Elvin and Erturk, Advances in Energy Harvesting Methods, 2013

## Flextensional Device

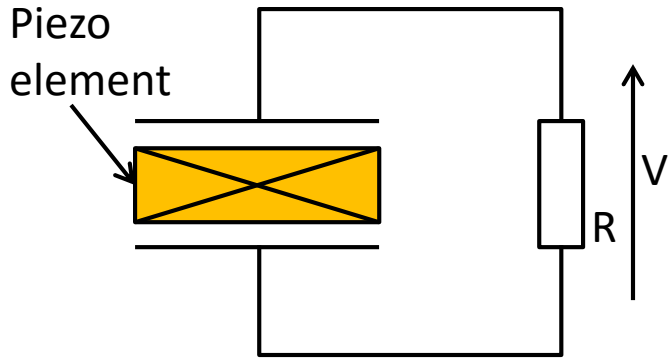


<http://www.morpheus.umd.edu/research/systems/piex-flex-actuators.html>

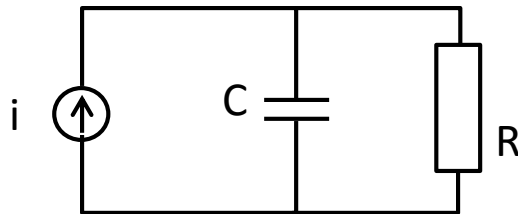
# Outline

- Fundamental equations of piezoelectricity
- **Piezoelectric energy harvesting (without dynamics)**
- Survey of materials
- Dynamics of vibration energy harvesting
- Current research and examples

# Energy Extraction Cycles – Resistive Load



Adapted from Briand, et. al. 2015



$$\text{where } C = \frac{\epsilon_{33}^T A}{t}$$

$t$  = piezo thickness

$A$  = electrode area

$$V = \frac{i}{j\omega C + \frac{1}{R}}$$

$$i = \frac{dQ}{dt} = j\omega D_3 A$$

$$D_3 = d_{3i} S_i$$

Which, after a bunch of algebra, yields:

$$|V| = \frac{\omega R d_{3i} c_{ii}^E (At)}{\sqrt{(\omega R \epsilon_{33}^T A)^2 + t^2}} |S|$$

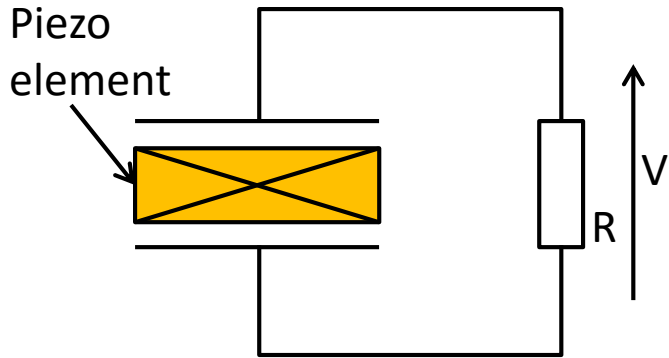
Since  $P_{rms} = \frac{|V|^2}{2R}$  :

$$P_{rms} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\omega^2 k_{3i}^2 R c_{ii}^E (At)}{\frac{\omega^2 R^2 \epsilon_{33}^T A}{t} + \frac{t}{\epsilon_{33}^T A}} |S|^2$$

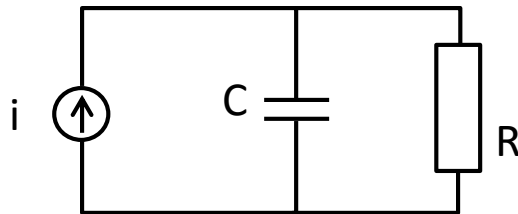
Where we have used:  $k_{3i}^2 = \frac{d_{3i}^2}{s_{ii}^E \epsilon_{33}^T} = \frac{d_{3i}^2 c_{ii}^E}{\epsilon_{33}^T}$



# Energy Extraction Cycles – Resistive Load



Adapted from Briand, et. al. 2015



Where  $C = \frac{\epsilon_{33}^T A}{t}$   
 $t$  = piezo thickness  
 $A$  = electrode area

If we differentiate the previous expression with respect to  $R$ , we find that:

$$R_{opt} = \frac{t}{\omega \epsilon_{33}^T A} = \frac{1}{\omega C}$$

Substituting in:

$$P_{rms} = \frac{\omega}{4} k_{3i}^2 c_{ii}^E (At) S_i^2$$

$$E_{cyc} = \frac{\pi}{2} k_{3i}^2 c_{ii}^E (At) S_i^2$$

Then the material figure of merit (FOM) is:

$$FOM = k_{3i}^2 c_{ii}^E = \frac{d_{3i}^2 c_{ii}^{E2}}{\epsilon_{33}^T} = \frac{e_{3i}^2}{\epsilon_{33}^T}$$

# Increasing Power Output

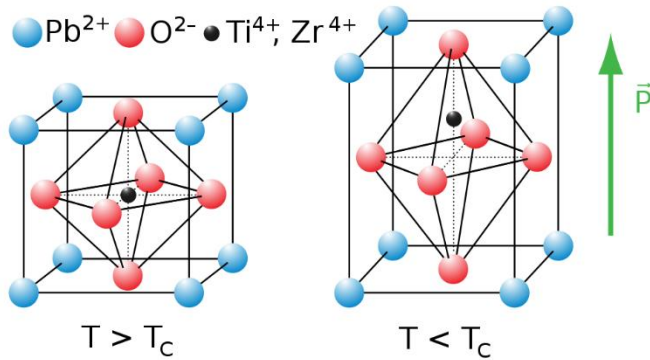
$$P_{rms} = \frac{\omega}{4} k_{3i}^2 c_{ii}^E (At) S_i^2$$

- Increase the strain level of the piezoelectric material
- Improve material Figure of Merit
- Increase volume of material under strain (i.e. thicker piezoelectric films)
- Increase frequency
  - Note usually you have no control over the excitation frequency
  - In quasi-static applications, increasing frequency can result in more power output
  - In base driven vibration applications, frequency up conversion may have practical benefits, but won't fundamentally result in high power output
- Improve energy extraction circuits
- There is ongoing research addressing each of these issues

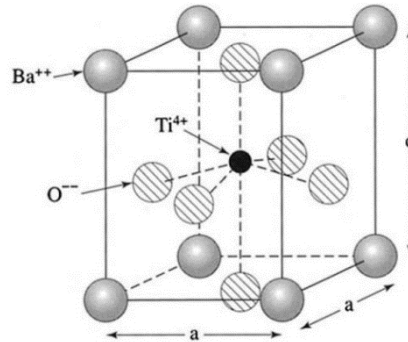
# Outline

- Fundamental equations of piezoelectricity
- Piezoelectric energy harvesting (without dynamics)
- **Survey of materials**
- Dynamics of vibration energy harvesting
- Current research and examples

# Perovskites



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



$\text{BaTiO}_3$  (BTO)



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

- Best performing piezoelectric materials so far
- Exhibit  $\text{ABO}_3$  structure
- Ferroelectric – must be poled and lose piezoelectricity above the Curie temperature
- Best materials contain lead

# Perovskites – Material Comparison

Material	d ( $10^{-12}$ m/V)	c ( $10^9$ N/m <sup>2</sup> )	$\epsilon_{rel}$	k	FOM ( $d^2c^2/\epsilon_{rel}$ )
PZT-5A <sup>1</sup>	$d_{33} = 390$ $d_{31} = -190$	$c_{11}^E = 66$ $c_{33}^E = 52$	1800	$k_{33} = 0.72$ $k_{31} = 0.35$	FOM <sub>33</sub> =0.23 FOM <sub>31</sub> =0.09
PZT-5H <sup>1</sup>	$d_{33} = 650$ $d_{31} = -320$	$c_{11}^E = 62$ $c_{33}^E = 50$	3800	$k_{33} = 0.75$ $k_{31} = 0.44$	FOM <sub>33</sub> =0.28 FOM <sub>31</sub> =0.10
PMN-PT <sup>2</sup>	$d_{33} = 2820$ $d_{31} = -1330$	$c_{11}^E = 11.5$ $c_{33}^E = 10$	8200		FOM <sub>33</sub> =0.10 FOM <sub>31</sub> =0.028
PMN-32PT <sup>3</sup>	$d_{33} = 2000$ $d_{31} = -920$	$c_{11}^E = 20$ $c_{33}^E = 20$	4950	$k_{33} = 0.95$ $k_{31} = 0.78$	FOM <sub>33</sub> =0.32 FOM <sub>31</sub> =0.07

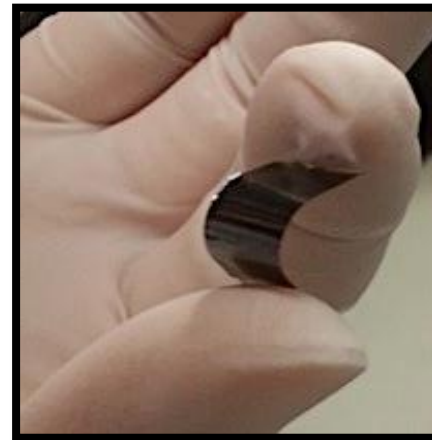
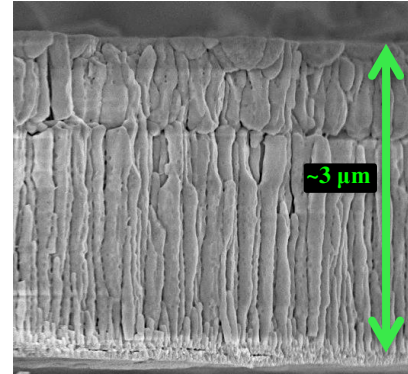
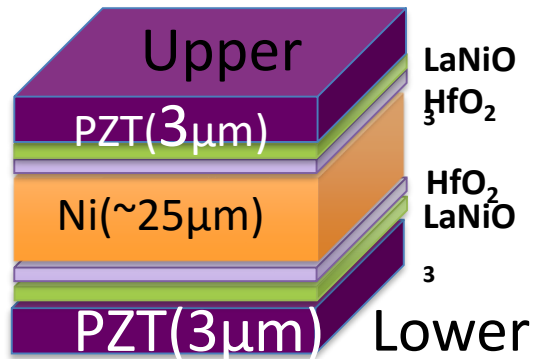
- Bulk material properties
- Thinfilms are generally lower

<sup>1</sup> [www.piezo.com](http://www.piezo.com)

<sup>2</sup> Cao et. al. J. Appl. Phys. Vol. 96, No. 1, 2004

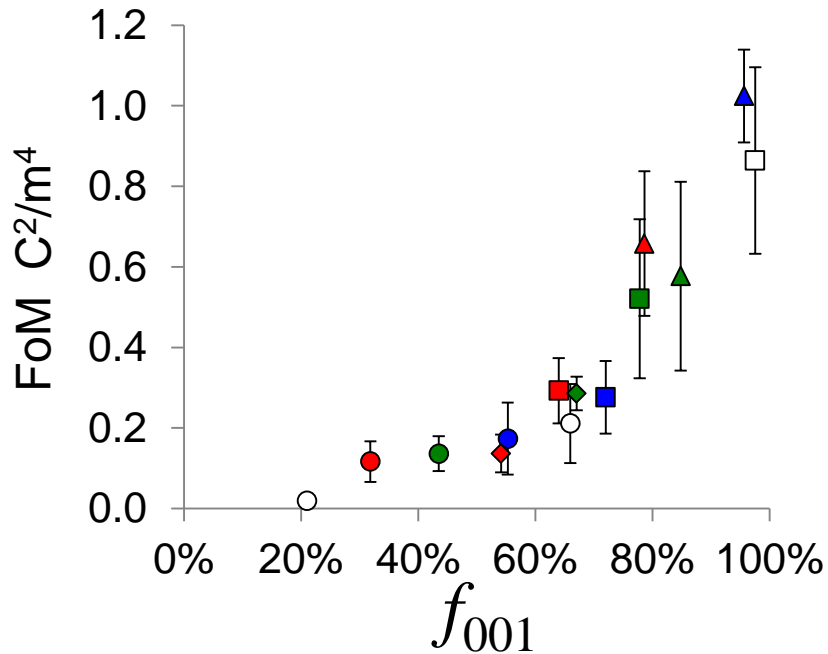
<sup>3</sup> Briand et. al. 2015

# Advances In Thinfilm PZT

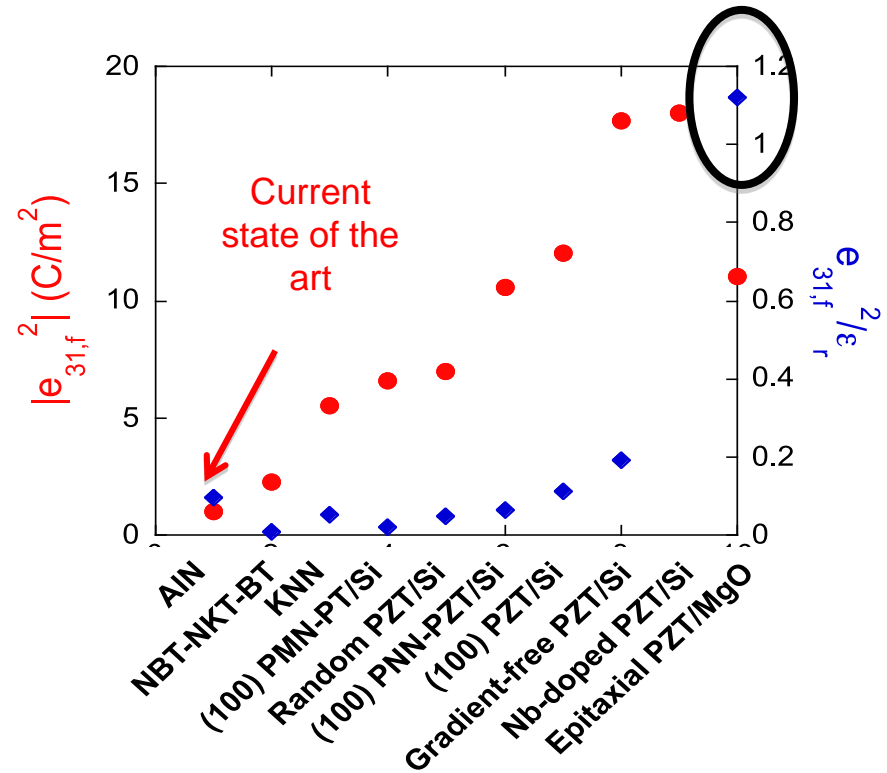


- Susan Troler-McKinstry's group at Penn State has developed very high quality PZT thinfilms fabricated on nickel or silicon substrates

# Advances In Thinfilm PZT

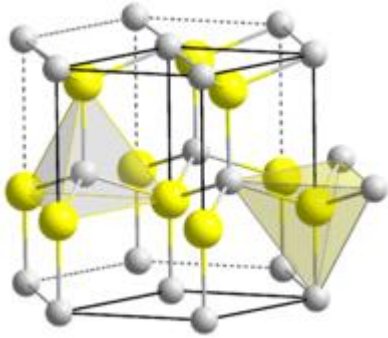


Yeager, Funakubo, Trolier-McKinstry et al., JAP, 2012

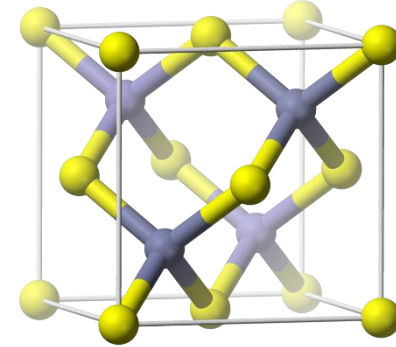
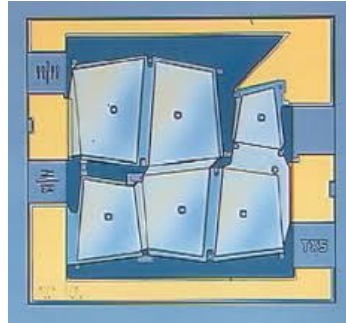


S. H. Baek et. al., Science 2011

# Wurtzites



Aluminum Nitride (AlN)



Zinc Oxide (ZnO)

- Exhibit permanent polarization
  - Can operate to very high temperatures
  - Do not need to be poled
- Wide range of material properties from different groups producing thinfilms



# AlN – Material Comparison

Material	d ( $10^{-12}$ m/V)	c ( $10^9$ N/m <sup>2</sup> )	$\epsilon_{rel}$	k	FOM ( $d^2c^2/\epsilon_{rel}$ )
AlN <sup>1</sup>	$d_{33} = 5$ $d_{31} = -2.5$	$c_{11}^E = 300$ $c_{33}^E = 300$	10	$k_{33} = 0.07$	FOM <sub>33</sub> =0.23 FOM <sub>31</sub> =0.06
AlN <sup>2</sup>	$d_{31} = -147$	$c_{11}^E = 395$ $c_{33}^E = 395$	9.5	$k_{31} = 0.1$	FOM <sub>31</sub> = 0.035
AlN <sup>3</sup>					FOM <sub>31</sub> = 0.1

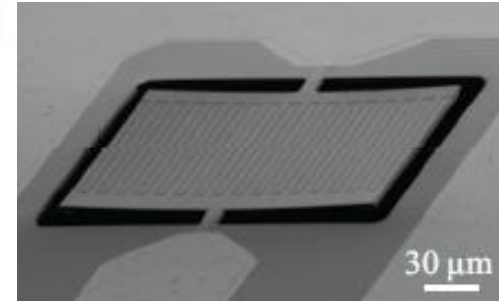
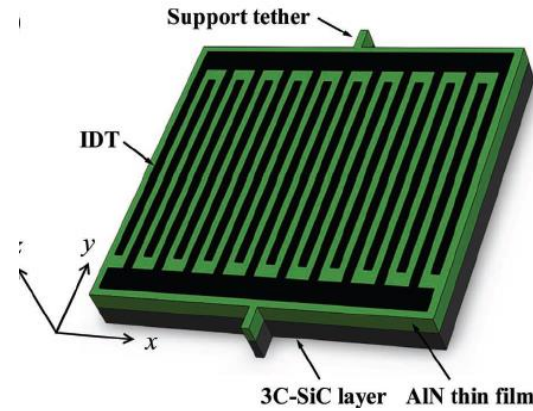
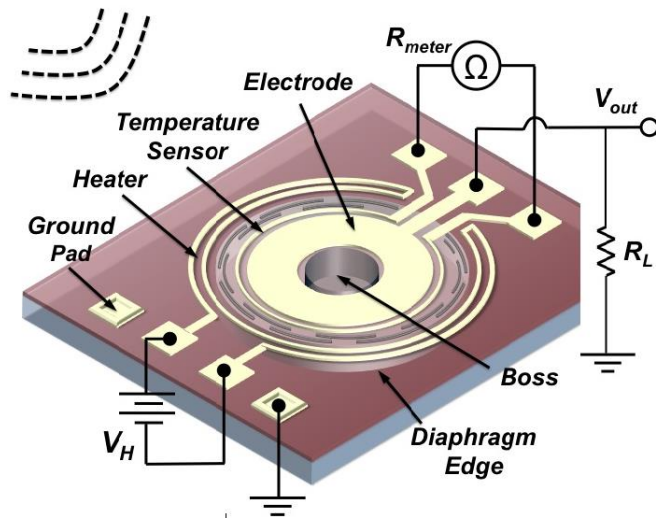
- All thinfilm properties

<sup>1</sup> Defay, *Integration of Ferroelectric and Piezoelectric Thinfilms* (2011)

<sup>2</sup> Lin et. al. *J. Advanced Materials* (2012)

<sup>3</sup> Andosca et al., *Sensors and Actuators A*, 178 (2012) 76

# Harsh Environment Applications

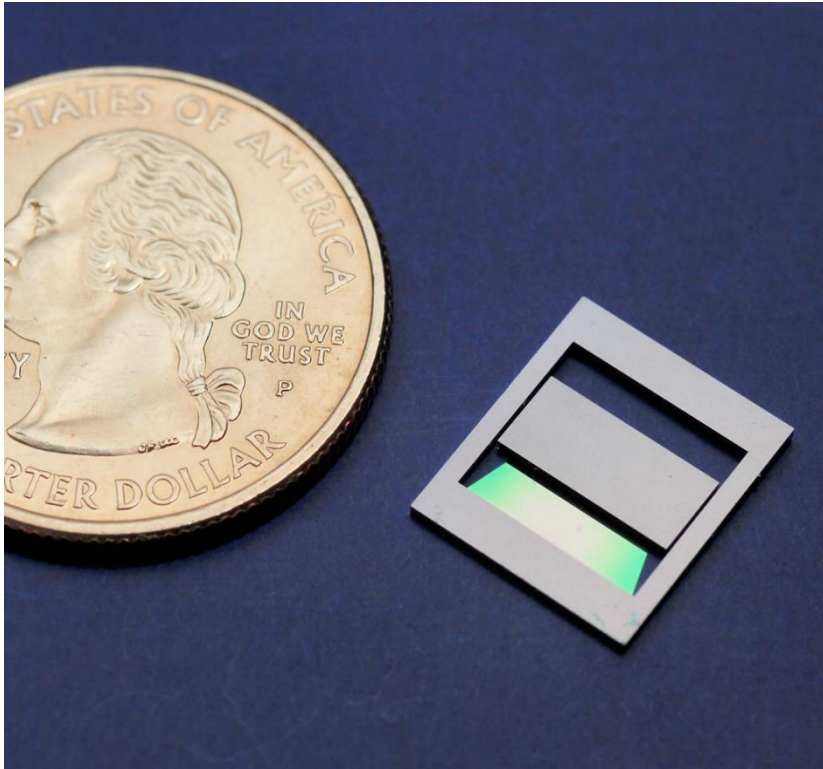


High temperature Energy Harvesters  
Lai et. al. Transducers 2013

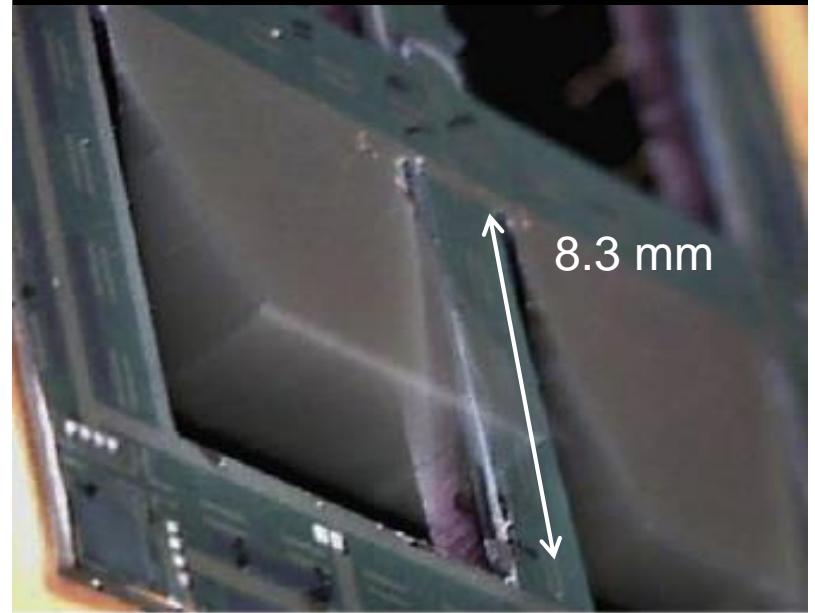
High temperature GHz Resonator  
Li et. al., Adv. Mater. 2012, 24, 2722-2727

- Material is non-ferroelectric
- Maintains piezoelectric properties up to at least several hundred degrees C

# MicroGen Systems



Andosca et al., Sensors and Actuators A, 178  
(2012) 76

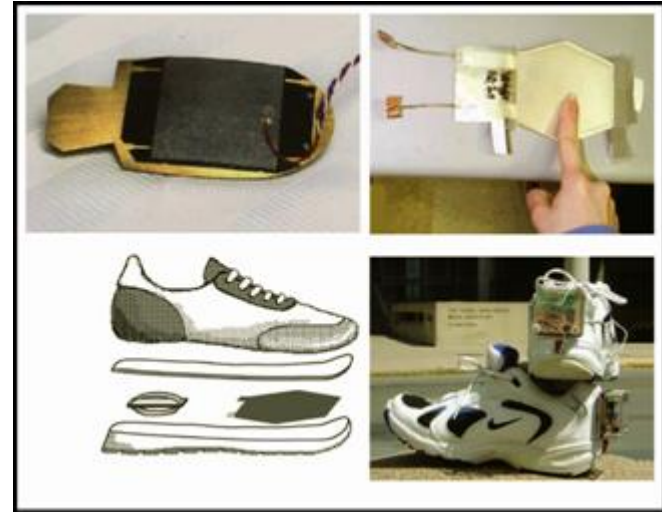


<https://www.microgensystems.com/>

# PVDF



Measurement Specialties Inc.



Paradiso and Starner, *IEEE Pervasive Computing*, 2005.

Material	<b>d</b> ( $10^{-12}$ m/V)	<b>c</b> ( $10^9$ N/m <sup>2</sup> )	$\epsilon_{rel}$	<b>k</b>	<b>FOM (<math>d^2c^2/\epsilon_{rel}</math>)</b>
PVDF <sup>1</sup>	$d_{33} = -30$ $d_{31} = 22$	$c_{11}^E = 8.3$ $c_{33}^E = 8.3$	10		$FOM_{33} = 0.006$ $FOM_{31} = 0.003$

- Very poor material figure of merit
- Useful because of cost, flexibility, and robustness

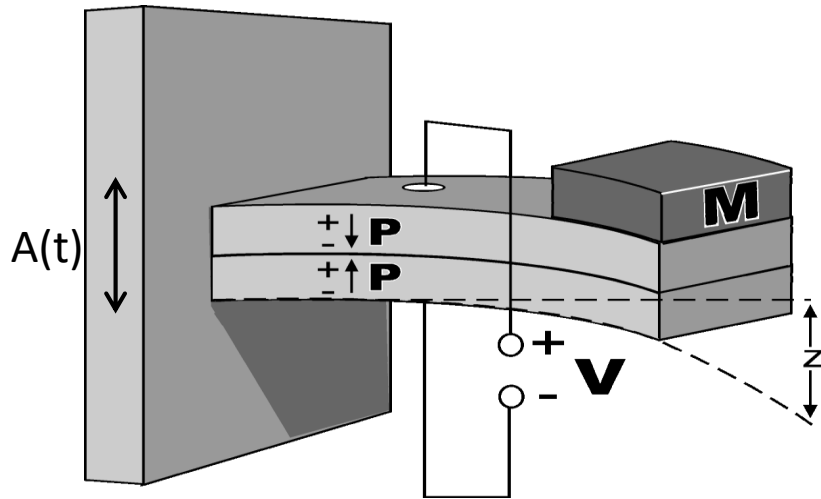
# Other Notes

- Concern over the lead in PZT has led to development of other lead-free piezoelectric materials such as  $(\text{K,Na})\text{NbO}_3$  (KNN)
- For MEMS devices, PZT is commonly fabricated with either a sol-gel process or by sputtering
  - Max thickness is generally 2  $\mu\text{m}$  or less
- AlN is usually fabricated by sputtering
  - Max thickness is generally 2  $\mu\text{m}$  or less
  - Multi-user AlN process form MEMSCAP (PiezoMUMPs)  
<http://www.memscap.com/products/mumps/piezomumps>

# Outline

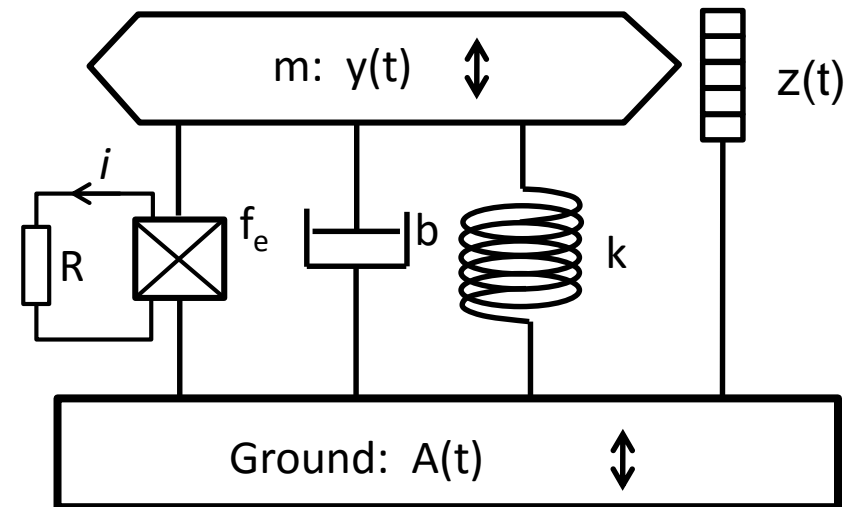
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- Piezoelectric energy harvesting (without dynamics)
- Survey of materials
- **Dynamics of vibration energy harvesting**
- Current research and examples

# Vibration Energy Harvesters (VEHs)



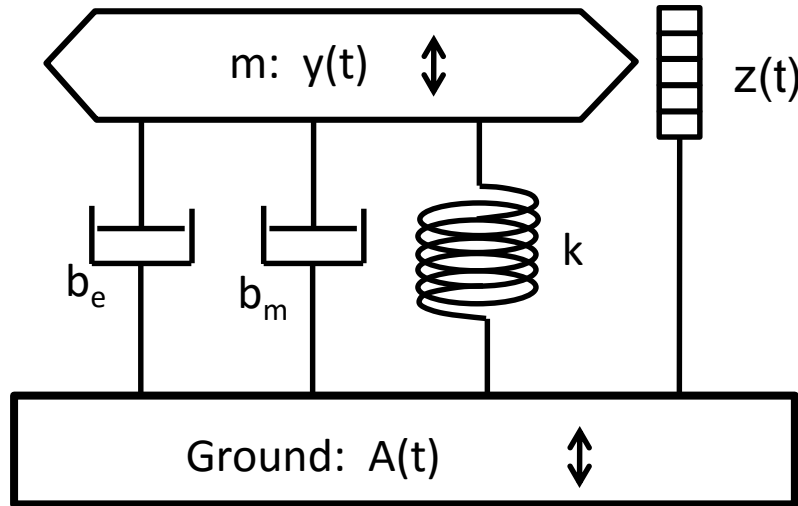
Roundy & Wright, SMS, 2004

- Piezoelectric bimorph beam VEH
- Base (or wall) is driven by vibration with acceleration  $A(t)$
- There is a proof mass at the end of the beam, which flexes causing a 3-1 mode piezoelectric transducer



- Lumped parameter model of the piezoelectric beam VEH
- Mass is the equivalent mass (actual mass and inertial effects of beams)
- Piezo element creates an electrically induced force ( $f_e$ ) on the mechanical oscillator as well as generating current through a load circuit

# VDRG Vibration Energy Harvester Model



- $b_e$  is the electrically induced damping coefficient
- Power dissipated through  $b_e$  is the power extracted by the load circuit
- This model has been shown to produce the upper bound on extractable power from an input dominated by a single, stable frequency

$$Z(j\omega) = \frac{1}{(1-r^2)+j2\zeta r} \frac{A}{\omega_n^2} \quad \text{where } r = \frac{\omega}{\omega_n}$$

$$|Z(j\omega)| = \frac{1}{[(1-r^2)^2+(2\zeta r)^2]^{\frac{1}{2}}} \frac{A}{\omega_n^2}$$

$$P_{rms} = \frac{1}{2} b_e \omega^2 |Z(j\omega)|^2$$

$$P_{rms} = \frac{m\zeta_e r^3 A^2}{\omega[(1-r^2)^2+(2\zeta r)^2]}$$

$$\text{where } \zeta_e = \frac{b_e}{2m\omega_n} \text{ and } \zeta = \zeta_e + \zeta_m$$

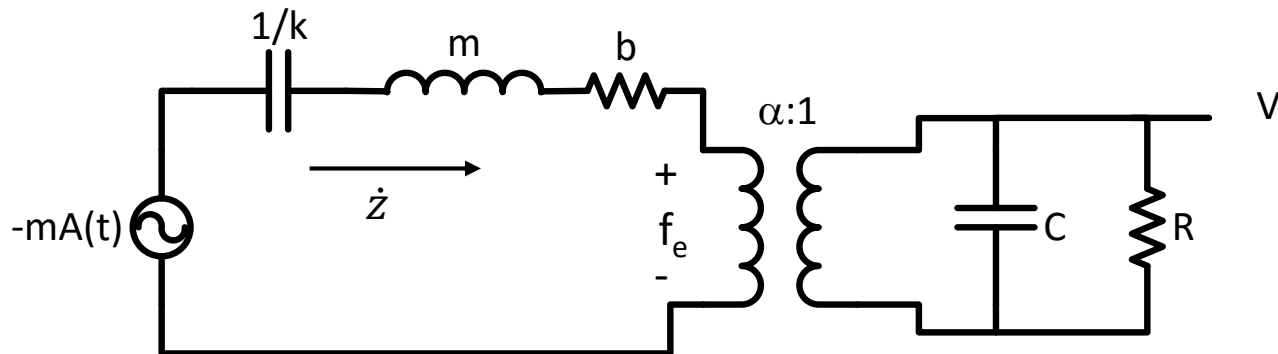
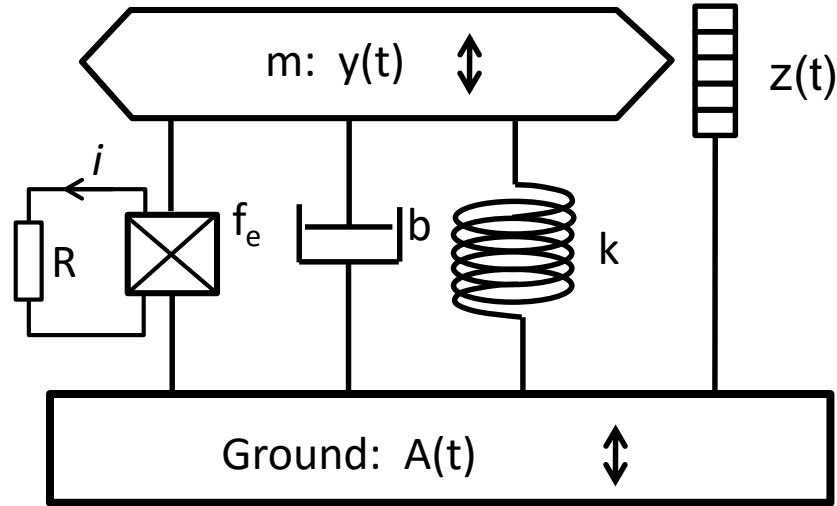
Mitcheson et. al., JMEMS 2004

Halvorsen et. al. J. Phys. Conf. Series, 2013

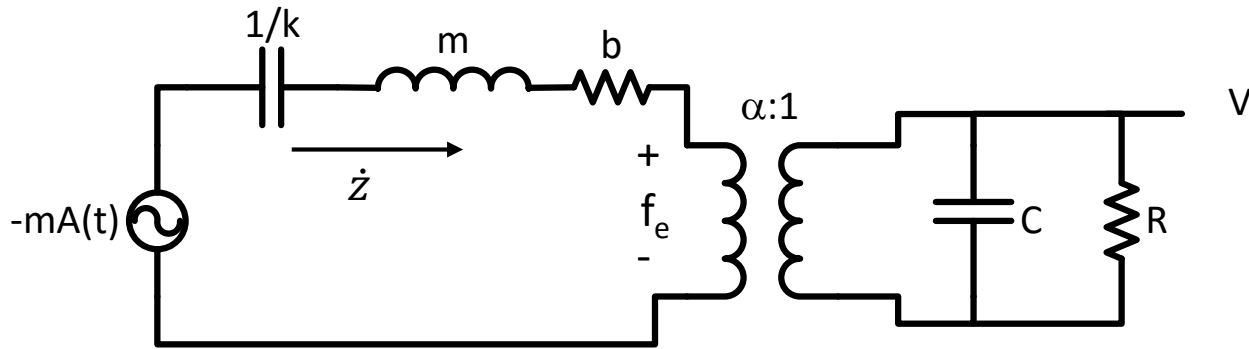
Heit & Roundy, En. Harv. and Sys., 2015



# Adding the Electrical States



# Adding the Electrical States



## Governing Equations

$$m\ddot{z} + b\dot{z} + kz + \alpha V = -mA$$

$$C\dot{V} + \frac{1}{R}V = \alpha\dot{z}$$

where  $\alpha$  is the electromechanical force factor

Note, this is a three state system:  $z, \dot{z}, V$

## Power Output

$$P_{rms} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{|V|^2}{R}$$

# Force Factor $\alpha$ (Cantilever Bimorph)

Transformer Equations

$$f_e = \alpha V$$

$$i = \alpha \dot{z}$$

From piezo relationships

$$S_1 = s_1^E T_1 + d_{31} E_3$$

Assuming a clamped condition:

$$T_1 = -c_1^E d_{31} E_3$$

Get relationship between  $f_e$  and  $V$

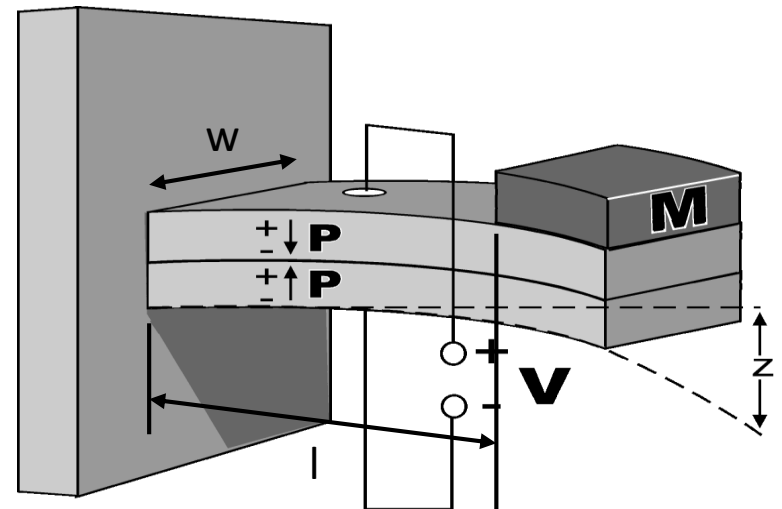
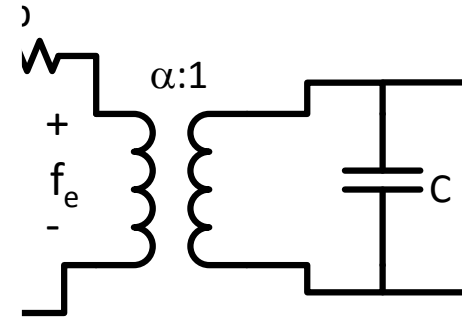
$$V = E_3 t$$

$t$  is the piezo thickness

$$f_e = \frac{2wt^2}{3l} T_1 \quad \text{from beam mechanics}$$

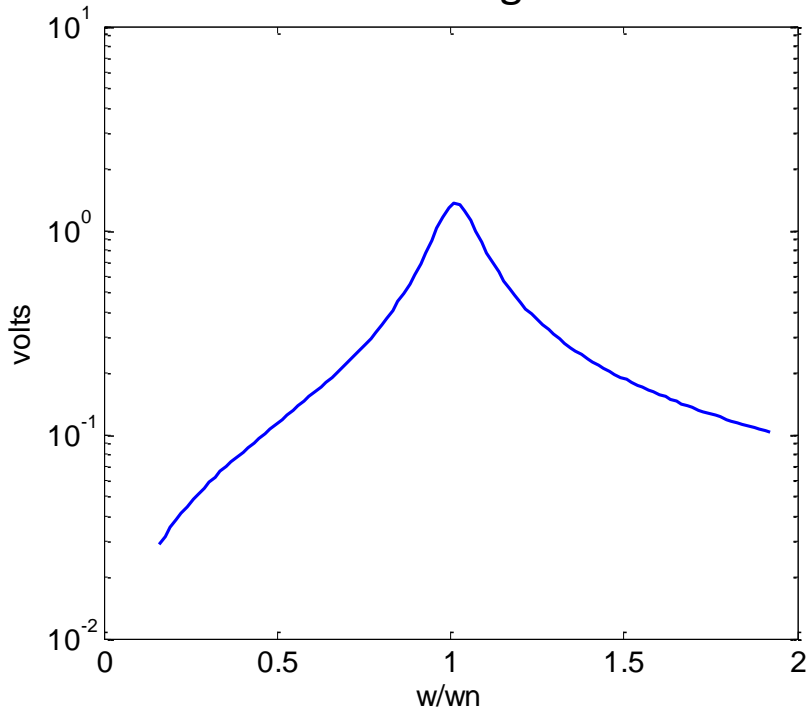
$$f_e = -\frac{2wtc_1^E d_{31}}{3l} V$$

$$\alpha = -\frac{2wtc_1^E d_{31}}{3l}$$

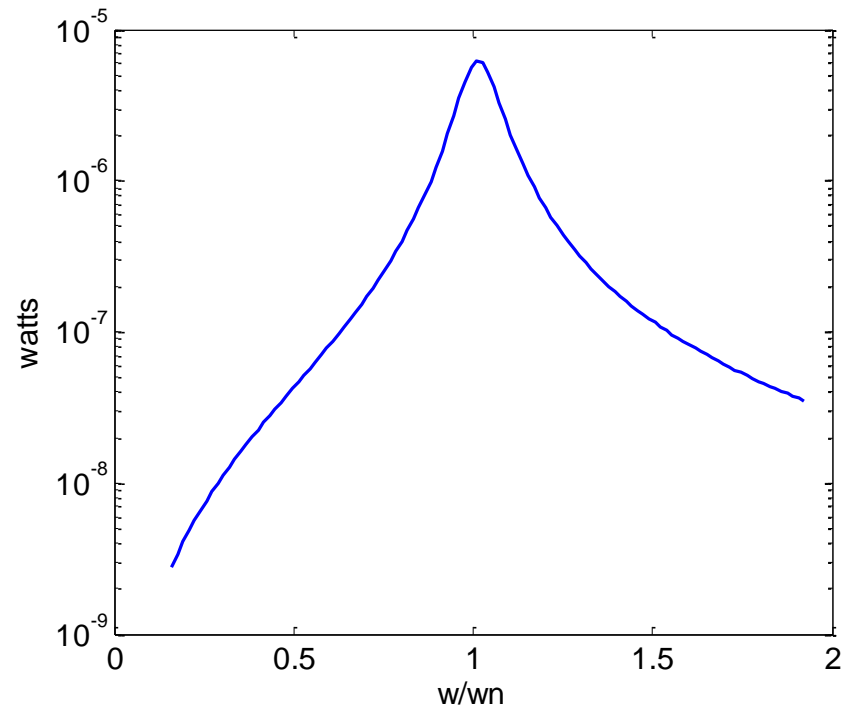


# Power and Voltage vs. Frequency

Voltage



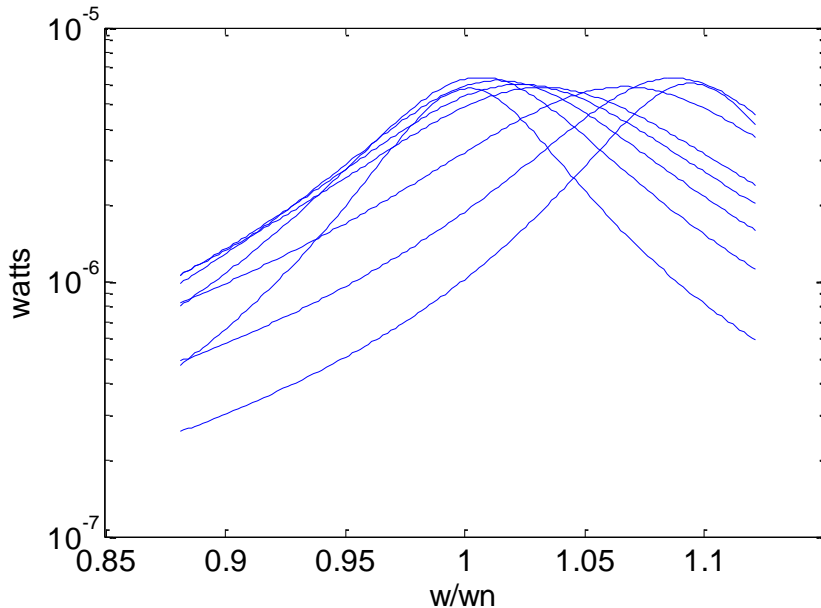
Power



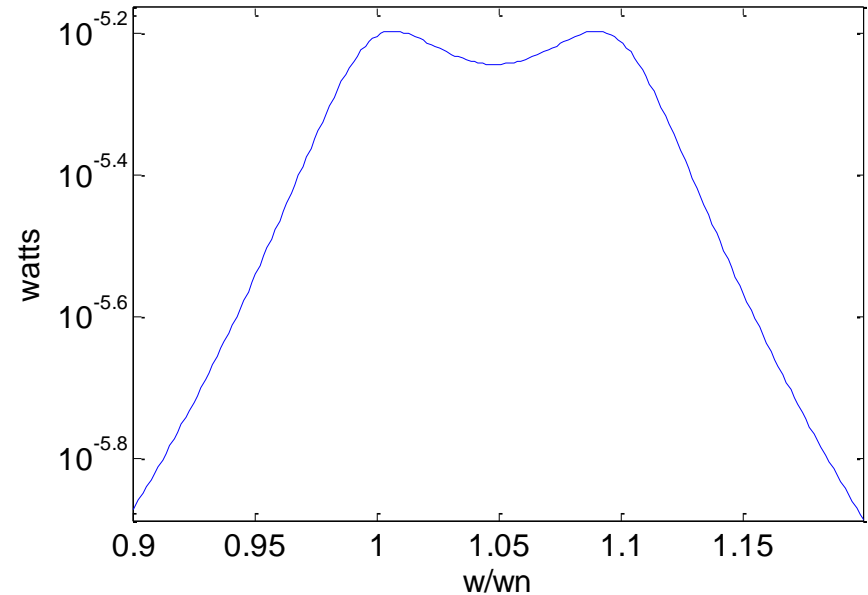
- For PZT-5A bimorph cantilever
  - $w = 5\text{mm}$ ,  $l = 20\text{mm}$ ,  $t = 0.125\text{ mm}$  (one layer)
  - $A = 1\text{ m/s}^2$ ,  $m = 1\text{ gram}$ ,  $\zeta = 0.025$ ,  $R = 100\text{ k}\Omega$

# Power vs. Frequency for Different Loads

$R = 10\text{k}\Omega, 50\text{ k}\Omega, 100\text{ k}\Omega, 150\text{ k}\Omega,$   
 $250\text{ k}\Omega, 500\text{ k}\Omega, 1\text{M}\Omega, 2\text{M}\Omega$

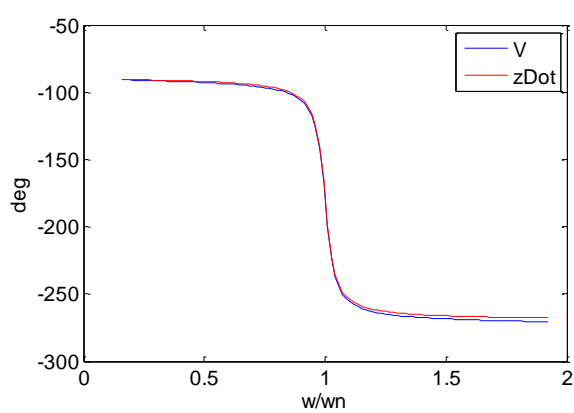


$R = \text{Optimal load at each frequency}$

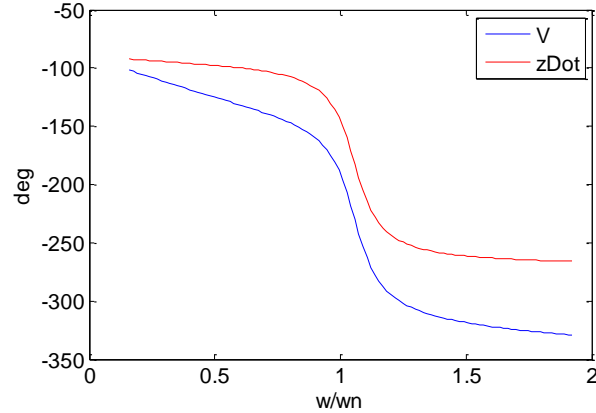


- Resonance frequency shifts from short circuit to open circuit frequencies as resistance moves from low to high
- Highlights ability to shift system resonances with active load circuitry (not part of this lecture).

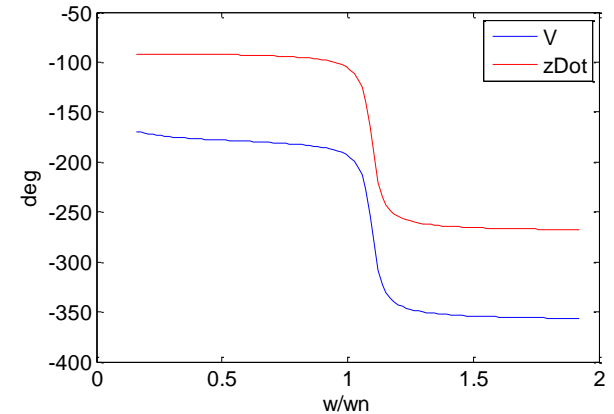
# Phase Relationship Between Voltage and Velocity



$1/RC \gg \omega n$



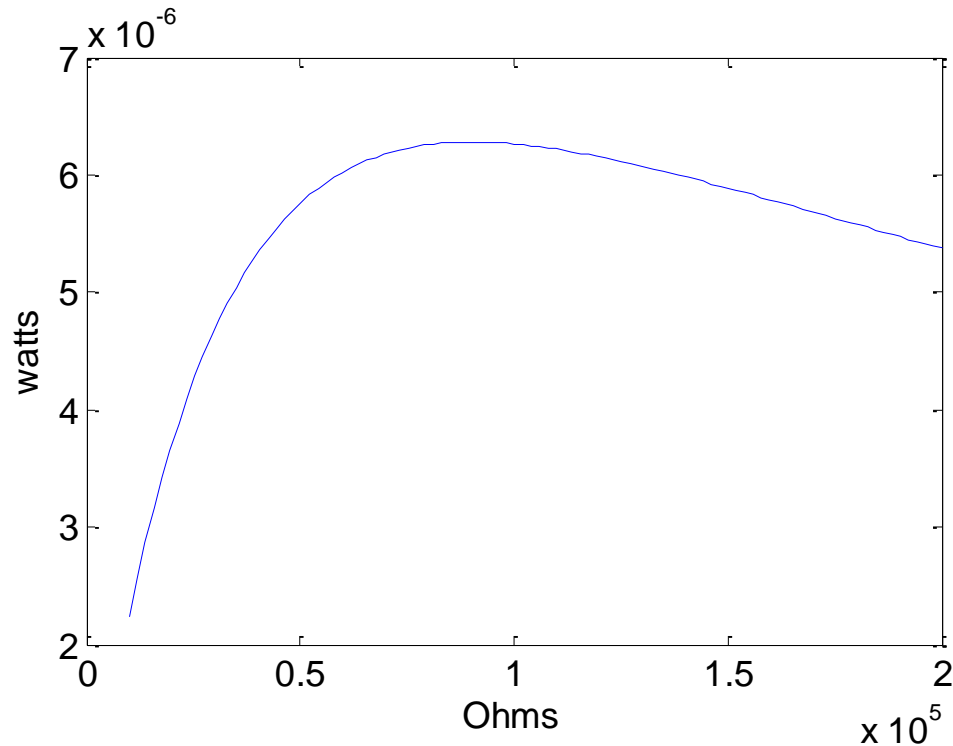
$1/RC = \omega n$   
V lags by about  $45^\circ$



$1/RC \ll \omega n$   
V lags by about  $90^\circ$

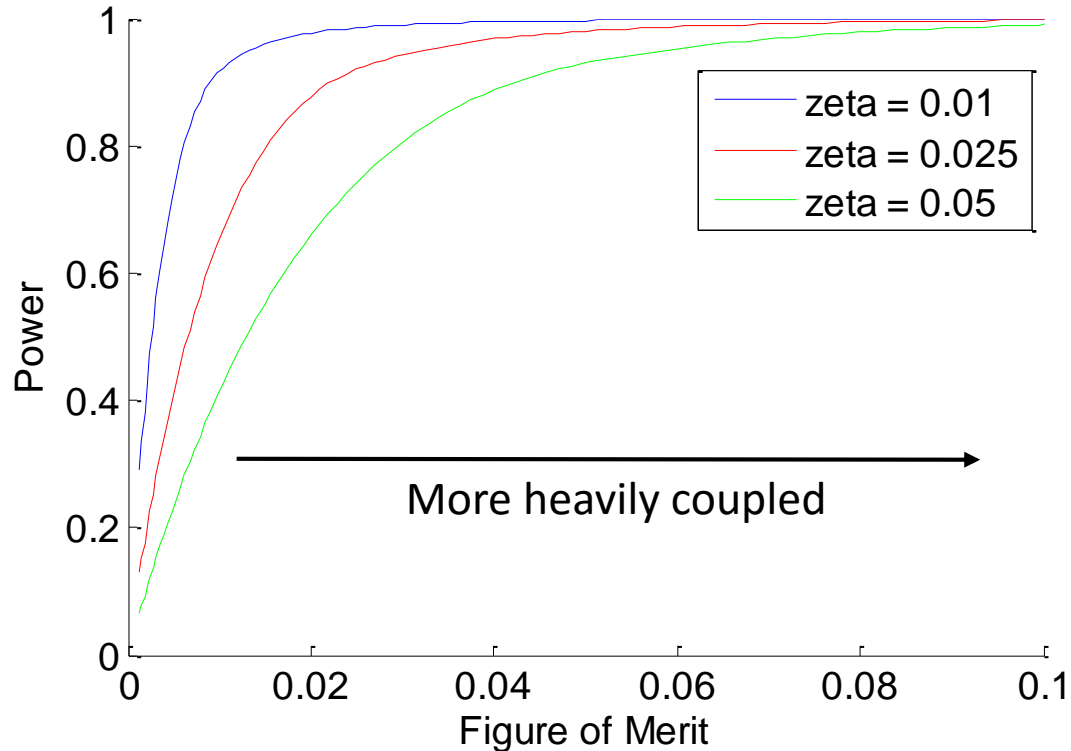
- If piezoelectric coupling could accurately be modeled by a simple viscous damper, voltage and velocity would be exactly in phase as power would be proportional to velocity squared

# Power vs. Load Resistance



- Taken at  $\omega = \omega_n$
- There is another optimal load resistance at  $\omega > \omega_n$
- It's better to miss on the high side of the effective load resistance than on the low side

# Piezoelectric Figure of Merit and Damping

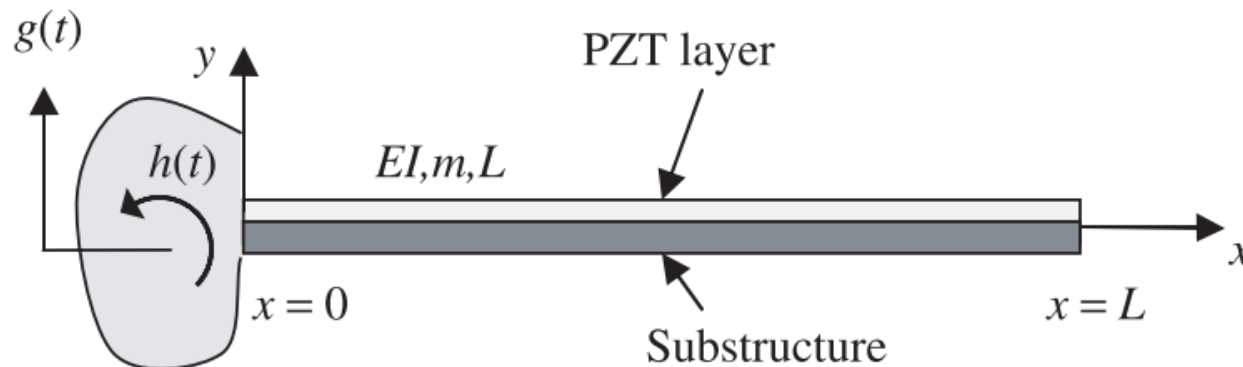


- Resonance is assumed
- For resonant systems, better piezoelectric materials may not make a large difference
- More coupling results in lower displacement (i.e. more damping)
- Once the proof mass displacement is limited by the electromechanical coupling as opposed to mechanical damping, better material no longer helps much



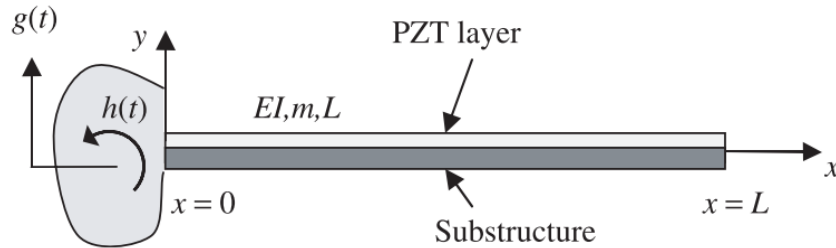
# Continuum Modeling

- Problems with lumped parameter model
  - Can lead to inaccuracies especially near resonance if proof mass is on the same order of magnitude as beam mass
  - Only takes first vibration mode into account
- To correct, use Euler-Bernoulli beam model



Erturk and Inman, 2008

# Continuum Modeling



Erturk and Inman, 2008

Instead of  $m\ddot{z} + b\dot{z} + kz = -mA$  governing the beam mechanics ...

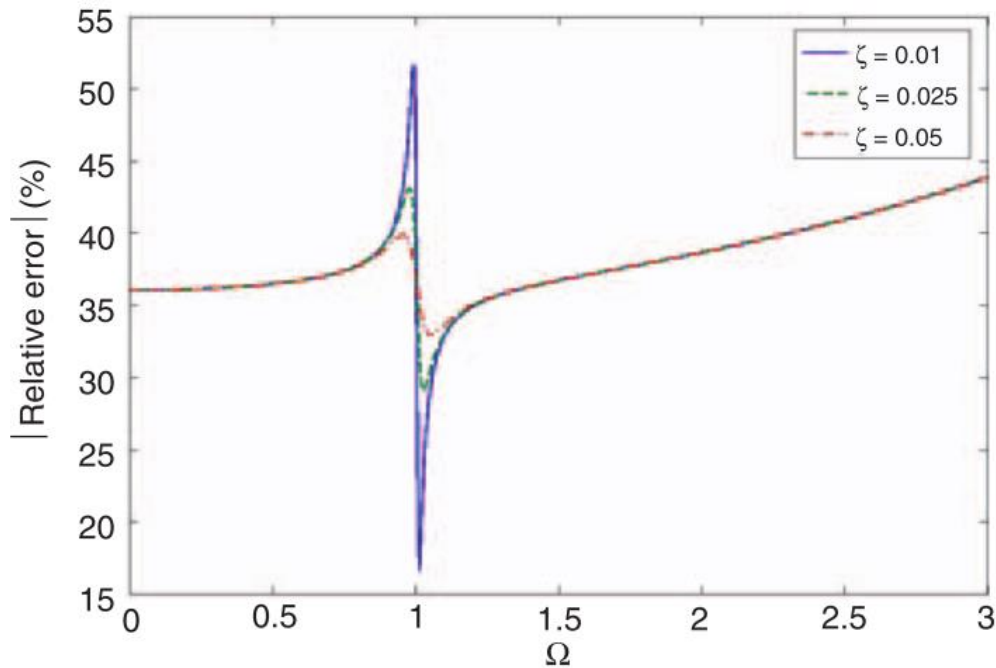
Euler Bernoulli beam model

$$EI \frac{\partial^4 w_{rel}(x,t)}{\partial x^4} + c_s I \frac{\partial^5 w_{rel}(x,t)}{\partial^4 \partial t} + c_a \frac{\partial w_{rel}(x,t)}{\partial t} + m \frac{\partial w_{rel}(x,t)}{\partial t^2} = -m \frac{\partial^2 w_b(x,t)}{\partial t^2} - c_a \frac{\partial w_b(x,t)}{\partial t}$$

Where  $w_{rel}$  = transverse displacement of beam (z-direction) at location  $x$ ,  $w_b$  = displacement of base of beam,  $EI$  = flexural stiffness,  $I$  = area moment of inertial,  $c_s$  = strain rate damping,  $c_a$  = viscous damping,  $m$  = mass of beam per unit length

\*Note the change in notation

# Errors Due to Lumped Parameter Model

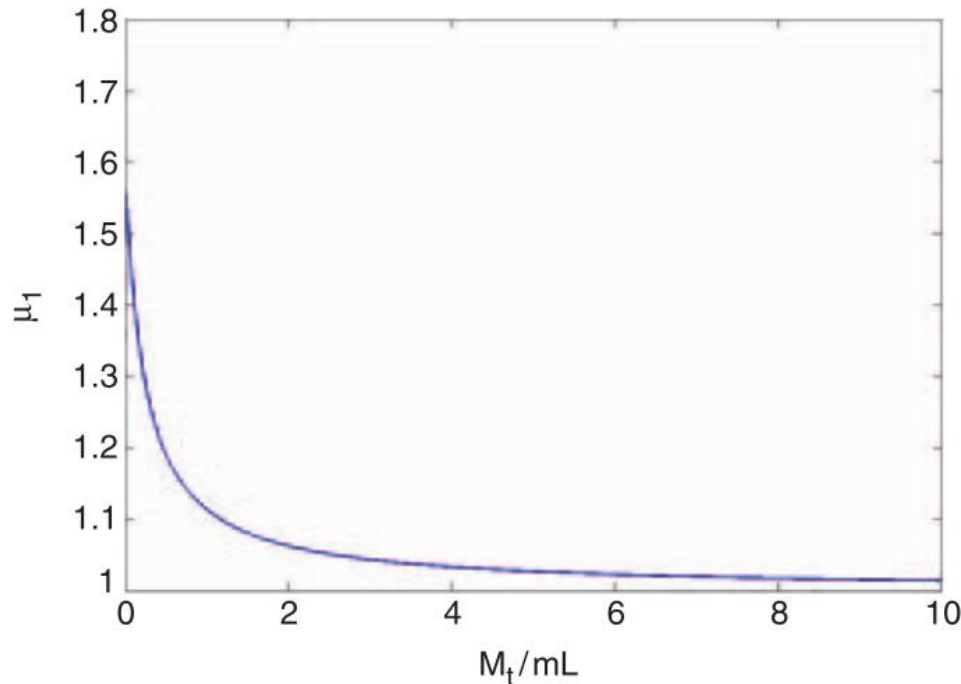


**Figure 5.** Error in the relative motion transmissibility due to using the SDOF model for a cantilevered beam without a tip mass in transverse vibrations.

Erturk and Inman, 2008

- Error for cantilever beam with no proof mass
- For lightly damped beams, large error exists near resonance
- Necessitates the use of a correction factor

# Errors Due to Lumped Parameter Model



**Figure 7.** Variation of the correction factor for the fundamental transverse vibration mode with tip mass to beam mass ratio.

Erturk and Inman, 2008

- Note that the correction factor is only significant if the proof (or tip) mass is of the same order of magnitude or smaller than the beam mass
- As power scales with mass, most designs incorporate large proof masses, and thus lumped parameter modeling provides reasonably accurate results

# Summary

- Piezoelectric harvesters can be more easily miniaturized than electromagnetic harvesters
- At  $\text{cm}^3$  size scales, there isn't much difference in performance between electromagnetic and piezoelectric generators
  - Performance is really about getting the right amount of coupling (i.e. electrical damping)
- Voltages tend to be at a good usable level (1-10 volts)
- Source impedance is relatively high (100's of  $\text{k}\Omega$  to a few  $\text{M}\Omega$ )

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