TENSOR PROPERTIES OF COHERENT DOMAIN CONFIGURATIONS IN POTASSIUM NIOBATE CRYSTALS

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1. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Piezoelectric materials

 \hookrightarrow more than seven decades of commercial use

 \hookrightarrow a wide variety of applications ranging from crystal-controlled oscillators to small size active elements of modern electronic devices

Piezoelectric effect

material response to electric field $\boldsymbol{E} = (E_i)$, or stress field $\boldsymbol{T} = (T_{jk})$ piezoelectric tensor $\boldsymbol{d} = (d_{ijk}) \sim V[V^2]$: 18 components direct effect: stress field (e.g. sound pressure) \longrightarrow polarization, appearance of electric field

$$P_i = \sum_{j,k=1}^{3} d_{ijk} T_{jk} \qquad \dots \text{ transducers}$$

converse effect: electric field \longrightarrow induced strain, change in shape

$$\sigma_{jk} = \sum_{i=1}^{3} d_{ijk} E_i \qquad \dots \text{ actuators}$$

piezolectric coefficient d_{333} :

(a) $P_3 = d_{333}T_{33}$ – induced polarization along [001] under stress applied in the 3-direction

(b) $\sigma_{33} = d_{333}E_3$ – induced strain in the 3-direction under $\boldsymbol{E} \parallel [001]$

Structural forms of piezoelectrics:

A single domain crystals

- SiO₂ (oscillators), LiNbO₃ (SAW devices), \cdots

B polycrystalline ceramics:

typical material: solid solution $Pb(Zr_{(1-x)}Ti_x)O_3$ (PZT)

compositional tuning of material parameters: doping

soft PZT (donors): sensors, ultrasonic imaging systems

hard PZT (acceptors): autofocusing in cameras, tuning of lasers C single multidomain crystals:

1997 – ultrahigh piezoelectric coefficient d_{33} in rhombohedral single crystals of ferroelectric Pb(Zn_{1/3}Nb_{2/3})O₃-8%PbTiO₃ (PZN-PT) poled along the non-polar direction [001]

– new generation of high sensitive actuators and transducers

structural form	material	$d_{33}\left[pC/N\right]$
single domain crystals	SiO_2	~ 50
polycrystalline texture	'soft' PZT	~ 600
	'hard' PZT	~ 200
single crystals	PZN-PT	> 2000

 Table 1. Piezoelectric response of piezoelectric materials.

Engineered domain configurations

1999 – stable domain structure in the PZN-PT crystals after poling suggestion: equal distribution of four equivalent domain states with polarizations along [111], $[\overline{11}1]$, $[\overline{11}1]$ and $[1\overline{1}1]$ (S. Wada *et al.*) QUERY: ¿ engineered domain configuration – is it a factor supporting enhanced piezoelectric response to appear?

experiments with non-lead single crystals of $BaTiO_3$ and $KNbO_3$

 \longrightarrow similar enhancement of piezoelectric coefficient d_{33}

poling direction	ferroic phase	$\begin{array}{l} compound \\ (T = 25\ ^\circ C) \end{array}$	$d_{33}\\[pC/N]$	polarization vectors
[111]	4mm	$BaTiO_3$	203	[100], [010], [001]
	3m	(b)	145	$[111]^{(a)}$
[001]	4mm	$BaTiO_3$	125	$[001]^{(a)}$
	3m	(c)	350	$[111], [\overline{11}1], [\overline{1}11], [1\overline{1}1]$
[110]	$mm2_{xy}$	KNbO ₃	18.4	$[110]^{(a)}$
[001]	4mm		51.7	$[101], [\overline{1}01], [011], [0\overline{1}1]$
(a) single	domain s	state	(b) E > 4	40 kV/cm

Table 2. Piezoelectric properties of $BaTiO_3$ and $KNbO_3$ single crystals.

 $^{(c)} T = -100 \,^{\circ}C$

PROBLEM:

DETERMINE ALL POSSIBLE ENGINEERED DOMAIN CONFIGURATIONS WHICH CAN BE PRODUCED BY EXTERNAL FIELDS

2. DOMAIN CONFIGURATIONS, AVERAGE TENSOR PROPERTIES AND EXTERNAL FIELDS

A simple model of a multidomain crystal

Basic characteristics:

- \bullet point groups of prototypic and ferroic phase, ${\sf G}$ and ${\sf F},$ resp.
- n = |G|/|F| possible single domain states <1>,..., <n>
 |G|, |F| the number of operations in those point groups

all states equivalent under **G**:

$$\langle j \rangle = g_{i \to j} \langle i \rangle$$
 for any $i \neq j, g_{i \to j} \notin \mathsf{F}_i = Stab_{\mathsf{G}}(\langle i \rangle)$
the stabilizer of the *i*th state

numbering through left cosets of F_1 in G

- cosets $G = F_1 + g_2 F_1 + \cdots + g_n F_1$ states $<1>, <2>=g_2<1>, \ldots, <n>=g_n<1>$
- partial volumes v_i of the *n* states, $v_1 + \cdots + v_n = 1$

Domain configuration (DC) $C(v_i) = v_1 < 1 > \sqcup v_2 < 2 > \sqcup \ldots \sqcup v_n < n >$ $\ldots \sqcup \sim \text{coexists with}$

Some concepts in use:

 $\textbf{H-orbit of the state <} i >, \textbf{H} \subset \textbf{G}: \qquad \textbf{H} \star i = \{h < i >; h \in \textbf{H}\}$

 \rightarrow H-decomposition: $\{1, \ldots, n\} = H \star i_1 \cup \cdots \cup H \star i_p$

The closure H^c of the group H with respect to the group pair $G \supset F$:

$$\mathsf{H}^{\mathsf{c}} = Stab_{\mathsf{G}}(\mathsf{H} \star i_1) \cap \dots \cap Stab_{\mathsf{G}}(\mathsf{H} \star i_p) \supseteq \mathsf{H}$$

Characteristics of domain configurations

1. Effective symmetry K of domain configuration $C(v_i)$

$$\mathsf{K} = \{g \in \mathsf{G}; gC(v_i) = v_1g_{<1>} \sqcup \cdots \sqcup v_1g_{} = C(v_i)\}$$

... the stabilizer
$$\mathsf{K} = Stab_{\mathsf{G}}(C(v_i)) \text{ of } C(v_i)$$

stability condition of a DC $C(v_i)$ exposed to an external field F:

$$\begin{split} &\mathsf{K} \subseteq \mathsf{J}^{\mathsf{c}}, \, \mathsf{J} = Stab_{\mathsf{O}(3)}(\boldsymbol{F}) \cap \mathsf{G} \\ &Stab_{\mathsf{O}(3)}(\boldsymbol{F}) \!=\! \{g \!\in\! \!\mathsf{O}(3); g\boldsymbol{F} \!=\! \boldsymbol{F}\} \quad \dots \text{ orthogonal stabilizer of } \boldsymbol{F} \end{split}$$

Statement 1. A subgroup H of G is the stabilizer of some DC $C(v_i)$ if and only if it coincides with its closure, $\mathsf{H} = \mathsf{H}^{\mathsf{c}}$.

2. Unique expression of any DC through coherent configurations

Coherent DC $\langle j_1, \ldots, j_q \rangle$ with the stabilizer K:

all states $\langle j_1 \rangle, \ldots, \langle j_q \rangle$ form an orbit $\mathsf{K} \star j_1$

 $\implies v_{j_1} = \dots = v_{j_q} = \frac{1}{q} \quad \& \quad \mathsf{K} = Stab_\mathsf{G}(\mathsf{K} \star j_1)$

Statement 2. Any DC with stabilizer K is coherent or a unique combination of s coherent DC's $\langle i_{j,1}, \ldots, i_{j,r_j} \rangle$, $s \leq n$:

$$C(u_j) = u_1 < i_{1,1}, \dots, i_{1,r_1} > \sqcup \dots \sqcup u_s < i_{s,1}, \dots, i_{s,r_s} >$$

 $-\mathsf{K} = Stab_{\mathsf{G}}(\mathsf{K} \star i_{1,1}) \cap \cdots \cap Stab_{\mathsf{G}}(\mathsf{K} \star i_{s,1})$

 $-u_j$ is a partial volume of the *j*th coherent DC, $u_1 + \cdots + u_s = 1$

3. Example of potassium niobate: ferroelectric Amm2-phase.



prototypic group $G = m\overline{3}m$ ferroic group $F = 2_{xy}m_{x\overline{y}}m_z$ twelve ferroelectric states

*i*th state – polarization $P^{(i)}$ \leftrightarrow oriented line with arrow

ightarrow initial non-ferroelectric coherent DC <1, 2, ..., 12> Stabilizer K = m3m

Non-ferroelectric coherent DC's produced by mechanical stress \boldsymbol{T}



Stress field $T_{11} = T_{22} \neq T_{33}$ $Stab_{O(3)}(T) = \infty_z/m_zmm$ Configurations: <1, 2, 3, 4>, <5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12>Stabilizer $K = 4_z/m_zm_xm_{xy}$



Stress field $T_{11} = T_{22} = T_{33}$, $T_{23} = T_{31} = T_{12}$ $Stab_{O(3)}(T) = \infty_{xyz}/m_{xyz}mm$ Configurations: <1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11>, <2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12>Stabilizer $K = \overline{3}_{xyz}2_{x\overline{y}}/m_{x\overline{y}}$

4. Average tensor properties of a DC $C(v_i)$. The average \overline{T} of a tensor property T (first approximation): $\sim \overline{T} = v_1 T^{(1)} + \cdots + v_n T^{(n)}$ $T^{(i)}$ – contribution from the *i*th state

Final expressions:

coherent DC $\langle j_1, \ldots, j_q \rangle \sim \overline{T} = \frac{1}{q} (T^{(j_1)} + \cdots + T^{(j_q)})$ general DC $C(u_j) = u_1 \langle i_{1,1}, \ldots, i_{1,r_1} \rangle \sqcup \cdots \sqcup u_s \langle i_{s,1}, \ldots, i_{s,r_s} \rangle$

> $\sim \quad \overline{T} = u_1 \overline{T}^{(1)} + \dots + u_s \overline{T}^{(s)}$ $\overline{T}^{(j)}$ – contribution from the *j*th coherent DC

3. TENSOR PROPERTIES OF COHERENT CONFIGURATIONS

Tensor representation S of rank m

Tensor space
$$L$$
: basis – $\{e_{jk...}; j, k, ... = 1, 2, 3\}$, dim $L = 3^m$
 m -indices
 $S: O(3) \ni g \to S(g) \in GL(L)$,
 $S(g)e_{jk...} = \sum_{j'k'...=1}^{3} \varepsilon(g)D_{j'j}(g)D_{k'k}(g) \cdots e_{j'k'...}, \quad j, k, ... = 1, 2, 3$
 $\varepsilon(g) = \begin{cases} 1 & -\text{polar} \\ |D(g)| & -\text{axial} \end{cases}$ tensors $m = 1: S \sim \begin{cases} D_{1u} \\ D_{1g} \end{cases}$
 $m \ge 2:$ a tensor property $T = \sum_{jk...=1}^{3} T_{jk...}e_{jk...}$
permutational symmetry of m indices $\dots \quad Q_T \subseteq S_m$
 $\pi \in Q_T: \quad S(\pi)e_{j_1j_2...} = e_{j'_1j'_2...}, \quad j'_k = j_{\pi^{-1}(k)}, \quad k = 1, 2, ...$
projection operator $P_{Q_T} = \frac{1}{|Q_T|} \sum_{\pi \in Q_T} S(\pi): P_{Q_T}L = L^T$
 \dots carrier space of tensor T
polar tensor $T: Q_T = C_1 \Longrightarrow L^T = L, S \sim D_{1u}^m$

 $Q_T \neq C_1 \Longrightarrow L^T \subset L, S \sim [D_{1u}^m]^{Q_T} \dots$ symmetrized power

Neumann's principle: $Stab_{O(3)}(\mathbf{T}^{(1)}) \supseteq \mathsf{F}_1$ $\iff \mathsf{F}_1 < 1 > = <1 > \Rightarrow \text{ tensor property } \mathbf{T}^{(1)} \in L_{\mathsf{F}_1} \subseteq L^{\mathbf{T}}$ $L_{\mathsf{F}_1} = \{ \mathbf{x} = \sum_{jk...=1}^3 x_{jk...} \mathbf{e}_{jk...} \in L^{\mathbf{T}}; S(f)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x} \text{ for all } f \in \mathsf{F}_1 \}$... stability space of F_1

projection operator $P_{\mathsf{F}_1} = \frac{1}{|\mathsf{F}_1|} \sum_{f \in \mathsf{F}_1} S(f)$: $P_{\mathsf{F}_1} L^T = L_{\mathsf{F}_1}$

a coherent DC $\langle j_1, \ldots, j_p \rangle$, $Stab_{\mathsf{G}}(\langle j_1, \ldots, j_p \rangle) = \mathsf{K}$: $\overline{\mathbf{T}} = \frac{1}{p}(\mathbf{T}^{(j_1)} + \cdots + \mathbf{T}^{(j_p)}) = P_{\mathsf{K}}\mathbf{T}^{(j_1)} = \cdots = P_{\mathsf{K}}\mathbf{T}^{(j_p)} \in L_{\mathsf{K}}$ Statement 3. The average property \overline{T} of a coherent configuration $\langle j_1, \ldots, j_p \rangle$ will have the same form as the tensor T of a single domain crystal with equal macroscopic symmetry K if $P_{\mathsf{K}}L_{\mathsf{F}_{j_1}} = L_{\mathsf{K}}$.

Basic observations: $P_{\mathsf{K}}L_{\mathsf{F}_{j_1}} = 0 \iff L_{\mathsf{K}} \perp L_{\mathsf{F}_{j_1}}.$

Four cases:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P_{\mathsf{K}}L_{\mathsf{F}_{j_{1}}} = 0 & \Longrightarrow & \overline{T} = 0 \\ \bullet & P_{\mathsf{K}}L_{\mathsf{F}_{j_{1}}} = L_{\mathsf{K}} & \Longrightarrow & Stab_{\mathsf{O}(3)}(\overline{T}) = Stab_{\mathsf{O}(3)}(T) \\ \Box & 0 \subset P_{\mathsf{K}}L_{\mathsf{F}_{j_{1}}} \subset L_{\mathsf{K}} & \& & Stab_{\mathsf{O}(3)}(\overline{T}) = Stab_{\mathsf{O}(3)}(T) \\ \Delta & 0 \subset P_{\mathsf{K}}L_{\mathsf{F}_{j_{1}}} \subset L_{\mathsf{K}} & \Leftarrow & Stab_{\mathsf{O}(3)}(\overline{T}) \supset Stab_{\mathsf{O}(3)}(T) \end{array}$$

Similar four cases after projection $P^{R_{q_i}}: L^T \to L^{T, R_{q_i}}, T \to T^{R_{q_i}}$ R_{q_i} - an irreducible representation (irep) of G $L^{T, R_{q_i}}$ - maximal G-invariant subspace of L^T whose G-irreducible subspaces afford just the irep R_{q_i} $L_{\mathsf{F}_{j_1}} \to L_{\mathsf{F}_{j_1}}^{R_{q_i}} = L_{\mathsf{F}_{j_1}} \cap L^{T, R_{q_i}}, L_{\mathsf{K}} \to L_{\mathsf{K}}^{R_{q_i}} = L_{\mathsf{K}} \cap L^{T, R_{q_i}}$

Ferroelectric monoclinic coherent DC produced by electric field



Electric field (E_1, E_1, E_3) , $|E_1| < |E_3|$ $Stab_{O(3)}(E) = \infty_{[11\kappa]} m_{x\bar{y}}m$. Configuration <5, 9>Stabilizer $K = m_{x\bar{y}}$

TENSOR PROPERTIES OF A COHERENT DOMAIN CONFIGURATION

with average symmetry K = mx-y in $KNbO_3$

 $L = Stab_{O(3)}(T)$ - orthogonal stabilizer of a tensor **T**



4. FERROELECTRIC COHERENT CONFIGURATIONS OF Amm2-PHASE OF POTASSIUM NIOBATE CRYSTALS

Coherent configurations



Electric field $(E_1, E_1, 0)$ $Stab_{O(3)}(E) = \infty_{xy}m_{x\overline{y}}m_z$ Configurations <1> and <5, 8, 9, 10>Stabilizer $K = 2_{xy}m_{x\overline{y}}m_z$



Electric field $(0, 0, E_3)$ mech. stress T_{11}, T_{22}, T_{33} $Stab_{O(3)}(\mathbf{E}) = \infty_z m_x m_y$ $Stab_{O(3)}(\mathbf{T}) = m_z m_x m_y$ Configuration <5, 6>Stabilizer $K = m_x m_y 2_z$

Minimal incoherent configurations



Electric field $(E_1, E_2, 0)$ $Stab_{O(3)}(E) = \infty_{[1\kappa 0]}m_zm.$ Configurations $u_1 < 1 > \sqcup u_2 < 2 >,$ $u_1 < 5, 8 > \sqcup u_2 < 9, 10 >,$ $u_1 < 1 > \sqcup u_2 < 5, 8 >,$ $u_1 < 2 > \sqcup u_2 < 9, 10 >$ Stabilizer $K = m_z$

Non-coherent DC $C(u_j)$: $C(u_j) = u_1 \langle i_{1,1}, \dots, i_{1,r_1} \rangle \sqcup \dots \sqcup u_s \langle i_{s,1}, \dots, i_{s,r_s} \rangle$ $Stab_{\mathsf{G}}(\langle i_{j,1}, \dots, i_{j,r_j} \rangle) = \mathsf{K}_j, \ j = 1, \dots, s$ $Stab_{\mathsf{G}}(C(u_j)) = \mathsf{K} = \mathsf{K}_1 \cap \dots \cap \mathsf{K}_s = \bigcap_{j=1}^s \mathsf{K}_j$ $\mathsf{K} \neq \bigcap_{j \neq k} \mathsf{K}_j, \ k = 1, \dots, s \implies \text{minimal incoherent DC}$

DOMAIN CONFIGURATIONS IN POTASSIUM NIOBATE:

FORM OF STRAIN TENSOR *e* and its orthogonal stabilizer $L = \text{Stab}_{O(3)}(e)$



5. CONCLUSIONS

Tensor properties (summary): Coherent DC's vs. single domain states

Table 3. Non-equivalent coherent DC's produced by electric field.Comparison with hypothetic single domain states of same symmetry.

Electric field	Cohoront DC'a	Stabilizer	Stabilizers:	Tensor
E	Concrete DC s	K of DC	\overline{T} vs. T	form
$(0, 0, E_3)$	<5, 6, 9, 12>	$4_z m_x m_{x \overline{y}}$	=	=
(E_1, E_1, E_1)	<1,5,9>	$3_{xyz}m_{x\overline{y}}$	=	\neq
$(E_1, E_1, 0)$	<1>;<5,8,9,10>	$2_{xy}m_{x\overline{y}}m_z$	= ; ≠	$=; \neq$
(E_1, E_1, E_3)	-5 9	m. –		\neq
$ E_1 < E_3 $		Шху		
	Minimal incoherent			
	DC's			
$(E_1, E_2, 0)$	$u_1 < 1 > \sqcup u_2 < 2 >;$		\neq	\neq
	$u_1 < 5, 8 > \sqcup u_2 < 9, 10 >;$	m	\neq	\neq
	$u_1 < 1 > \sqcup u_2 < 5, 8 >;$	111 _Z	=	\neq
	$u_1 < 1 > \sqcup u_2 < 6, 7 >$		=	\neq

DC's will not have minimal free energy in electric field alone

Table 4. Non-equivalent coherent DC's produced by electric field and mechanical stress.

El. field	Stress	Coherent	Stabilizer	Stabilizers:	Tensor
$oldsymbol{E}$	T	DC's	K of DC	\overline{T} vs. T	form
$(0, 0, E_3)$	T_{11}, T_{22}, T_{33}	<5,6>	$m_x m_y 2_z$	\neq	\neq
$(E_1, -E_1, 0)$	$T_{11} = T_{22}, T_{33}, T_{23} = T_{31}$	<5,11>	2 _{xy}	=	\neq

Main results

• 6 non-equivalent coherent DC's can be, theoretically, produced by electric field, possibly in combination with additional stress

• In 5 coherent DC's form of odd rank and/or even rank tensors differs from tensor form in a single domain crystal with same symmetry:

- for 2 orthorhombic coherent DC's the stabilizers of even rank tensors are different than for respective single domain states

- in 4 cases, $3_{xyz}m_{x\overline{y}}$, $m_xm_y2_z$, $2_{x\overline{y}}$ and $m_{x\overline{y}}$, pseudo-spontaneous tensor components are forbidden in the ferroelectric *Amm2*-phase

- for coherent DC's whose stabilizer is one of ferroic groups, certain spontaneous tensor component(s) will be zero due to the orthogonality of relevant stability spaces, e.g.

 ${}_{<}5,8,9,10{}_{>}\colon L^{T_{2g}}_{\mathsf{K}=2_{\mathsf{xy}}\mathsf{m}_{\mathsf{x}\overline{\mathsf{y}}}\mathsf{m}_{\mathsf{z}}}\perp L^{T_{2g}}_{\mathsf{F}_{5}=\mathsf{m}_{\mathsf{x}}2_{\mathsf{y}\mathsf{z}}\mathsf{m}_{\mathsf{y}\overline{\mathsf{z}}}} \Rightarrow \overline{e}_{12}=0$

• Quite similar features were established for 4 incoherent DC's with the monoclinic stabilizer m_z .

Concluding remarks

non-equivalent coherent configurations \longrightarrow new materials

- \bullet stabilizer ${\sf K}$ of a coherent DC stands as 'fake' ferroic symmetry
- average properties are given by single domain parameters

Five basic cases:

Comparison of average tensor form with single domain form for odd- and even-parity tensors.

tensor parity		stabilizer K of		
cas	e	odd	even	coherent DC $[m{T}]$
A		same	same	4mm
В		different	different	m _{xy}
C		same	different	$m_x m_y 2_z, 2_{xy} m_{x\overline{y}} m_z$
D		different	same	_
	a_1	same	mixed case	-
	a_2	mixed case	same	$3m[\mathbf{P}] \approx D$
E	b_1	different	mixed case	-
	b_2	mixed case	different	$2_{x\bar{y}}[\mathbf{P}] \approx B$
	С	mixed case	mixed case	_

mixed case - not for all tensors with same parity both forms coincide

 $[\boldsymbol{T}]$ - both forms coincide/differ for tensor \boldsymbol{T}