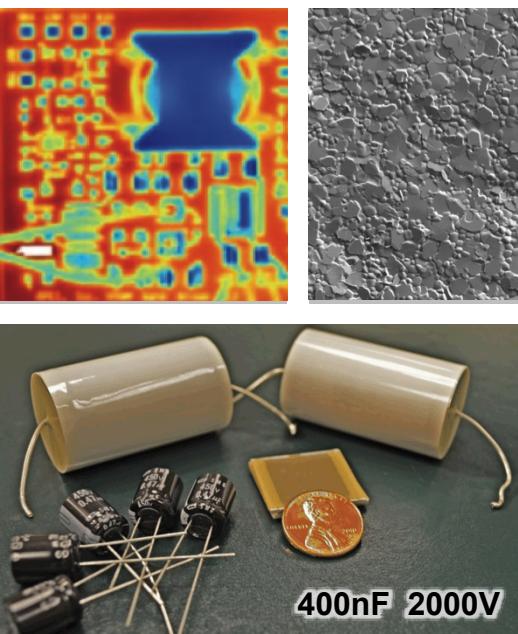


Ceramic Capacitors for Applications Requiring High Reliability under Challenging Operating Conditions



Geoff Brennecka
Sandia National Laboratories



*Exceptional
service
in the
national
interest*

The author gratefully acknowledges the support of Dr. Imre Gyuk and the Department of Energy's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY



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 - Yu Hong Jeon (OSU)
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 - David Shahin (MO S&T, UMD)
 - Ryan Wilkerson (MO S&T, Berkeley)

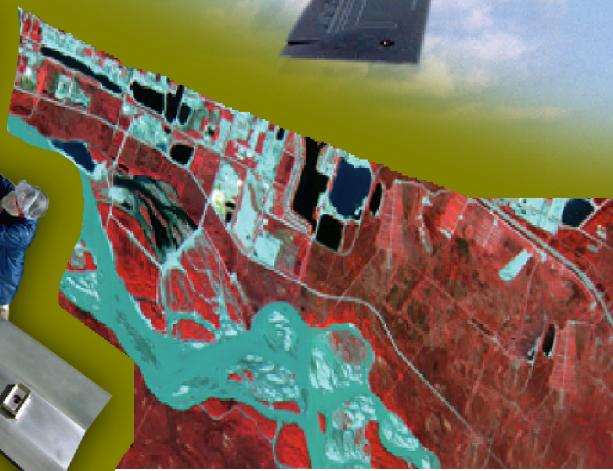
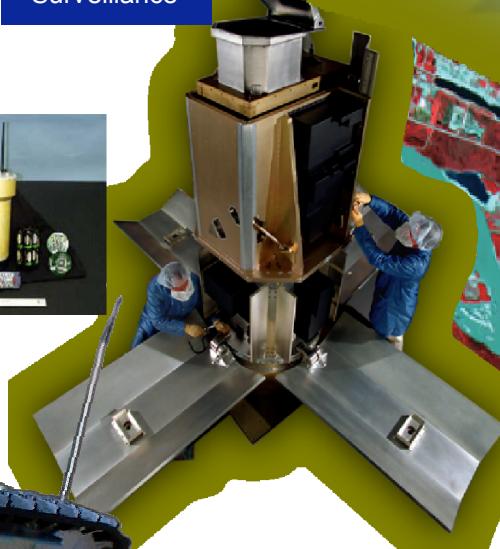
Sandia's Work

Shuttle Orbital
Inspection System



96% of total NW parts

Satellites and
Surveillance



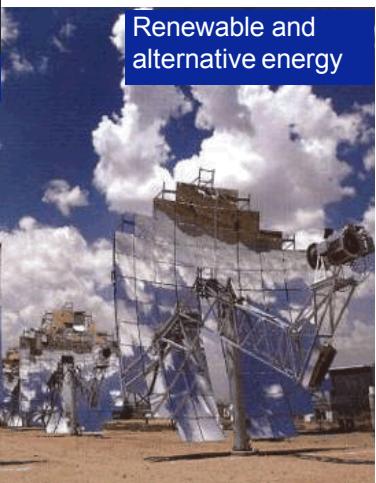
Robotics



Predator UAV
with SAR

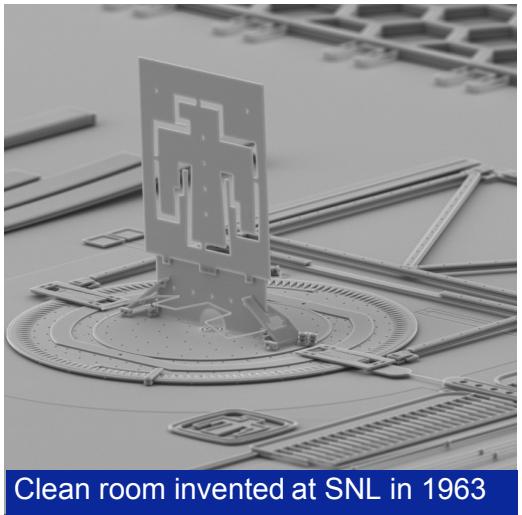
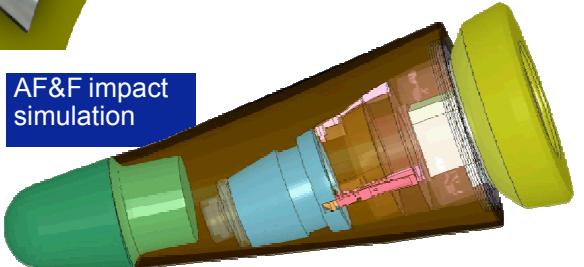


μChemLab

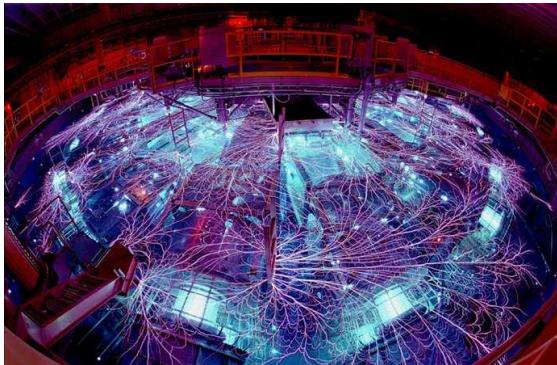


Renewable and
alternative energy

AF&F impact
simulation

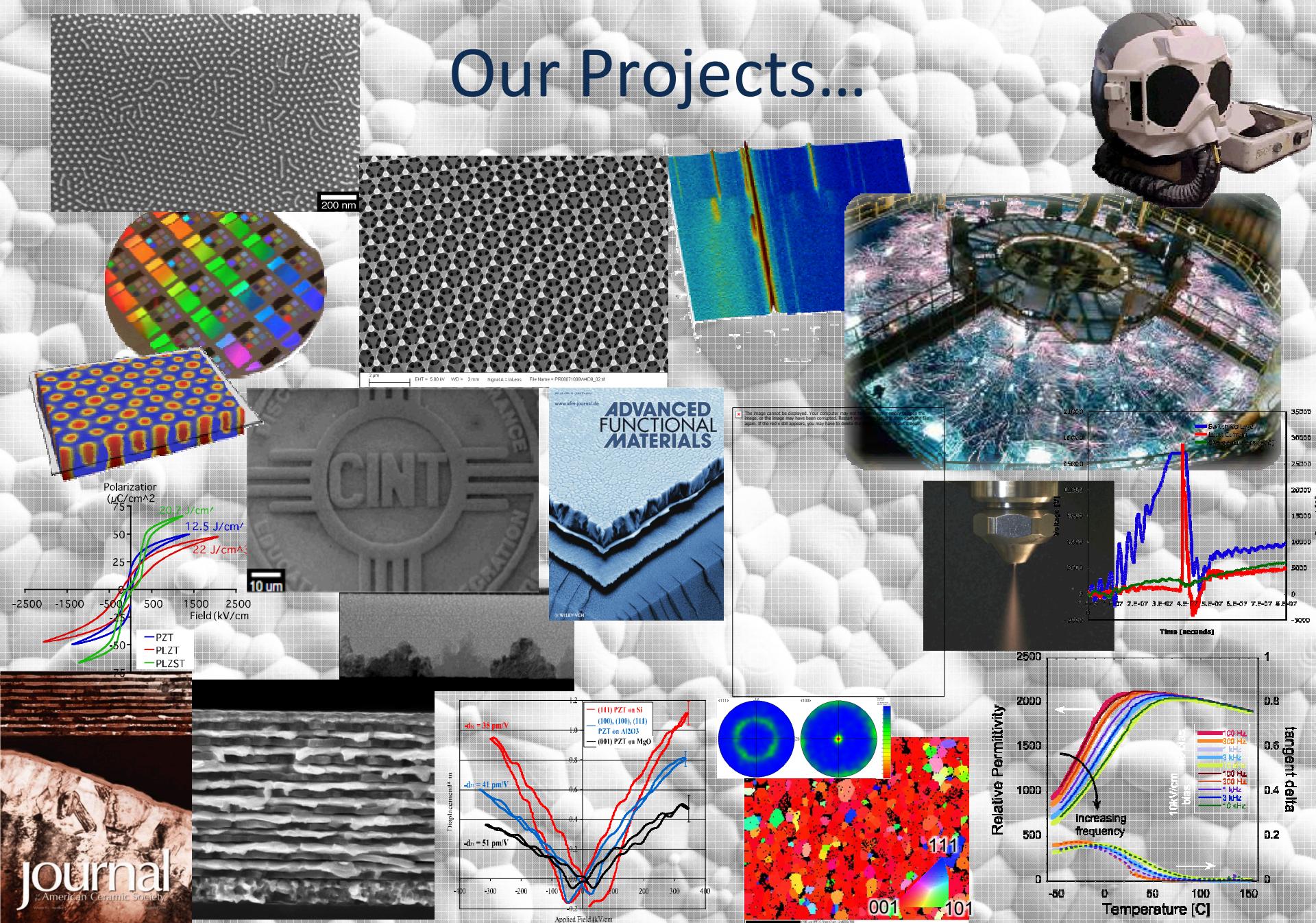


Clean room invented at SNL in 1963



Z machine:
the world's most powerful X-ray source

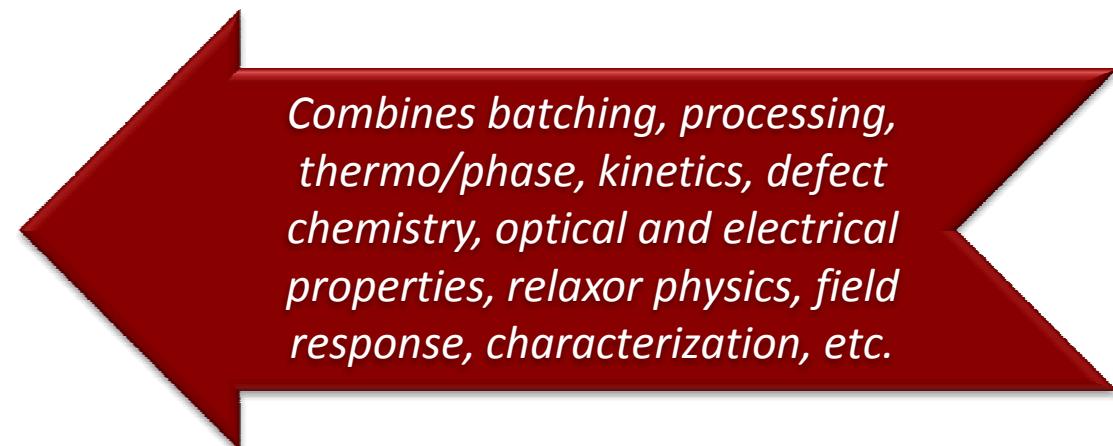
Our Projects...





Outline

- Refresher on Ferroelectrics and Capacitors
- Application drivers:
 - High operating temperatures, high power: low ESR, low loss
 - Small volume: high energy density, low cost
 - Long life, reliable operation: high resistivity, high activation energy
- Material Performance
- Demonstration MLCC Fabrication
- Mechanisms
 - Structure
 - Microstructure
 - Processing
 - Defects



Combines batching, processing, thermo/phase, kinetics, defect chemistry, optical and electrical properties, relaxor physics, field response, characterization, etc.

Anatomy of a Typical Paper...

INTRODUCTION

Capacitors are some sort of magical devices that are key to solving global warming¹, war²⁻³, famine⁴, and delayed flights⁵⁻⁶. Recently, other researchers have suggested that superduper capacitors may even be useful for buzzword⁷ and another totally made up phrase⁸. My funding agency is especially fond of them because they have been funding this work for many years with nothing commercial to show for it, so these papers are how I justify continuing the gravy train⁹⁻¹². Smith and Jones have also published in this area; I disagree with their conclusions, but I'm citing their papers because that's the first thing they'll look for if they review this.¹³⁻¹⁶ The work from Andrews *et al.* is unrelated, but Tim will buy me a beer at the next conference if I cite him¹⁷.

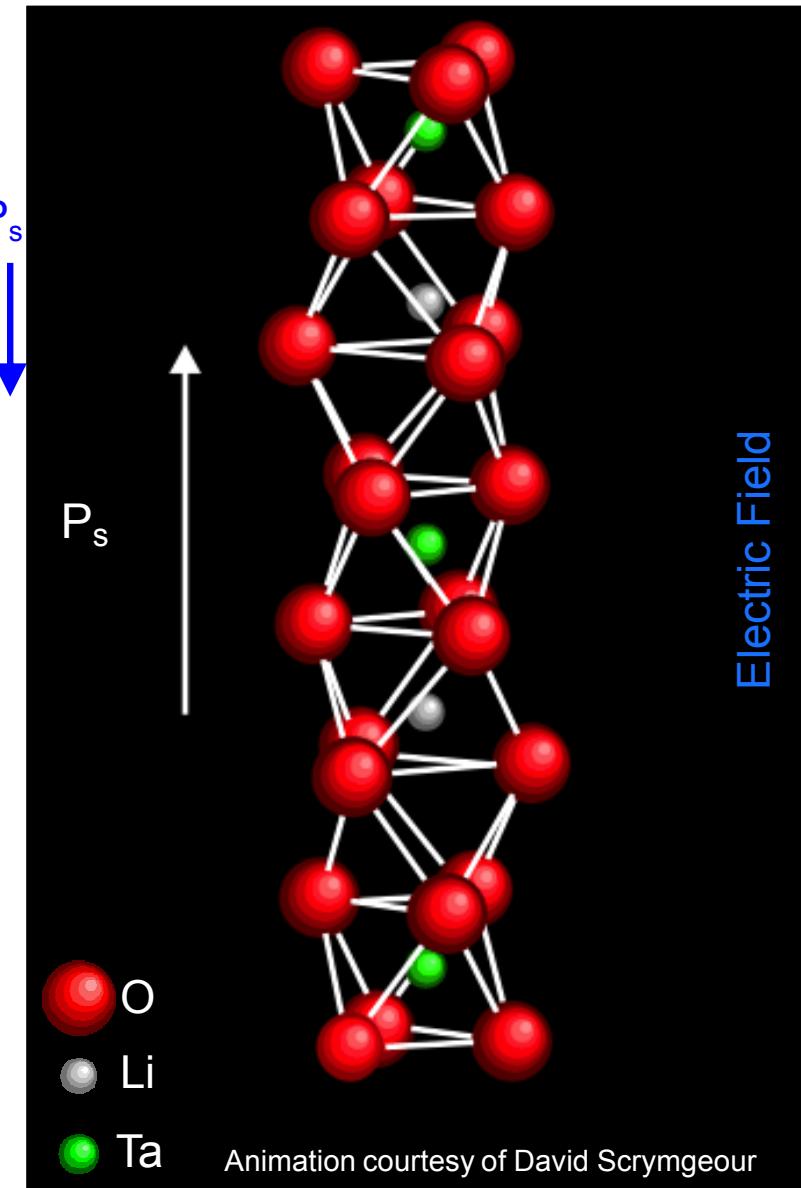
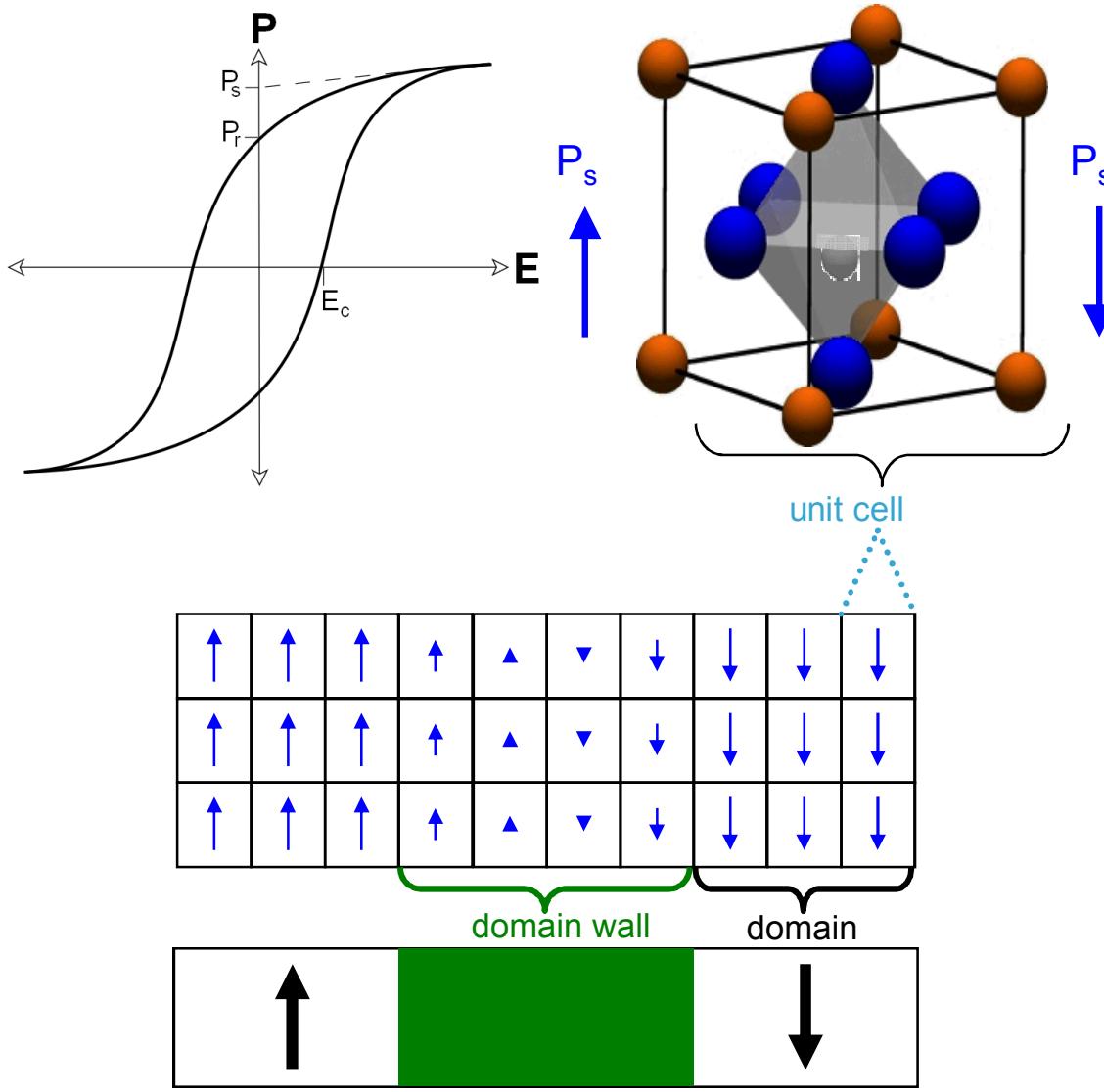
EXPERIMENTAL

Parts were formed by typical ceramic methods. Processing is boring and doesn't matter anyway. Measurements were made using some home-built equipment that I don't understand and some commercial equipment that I *really* don't understand, so I pretend they're all black boxes that give me data I like.

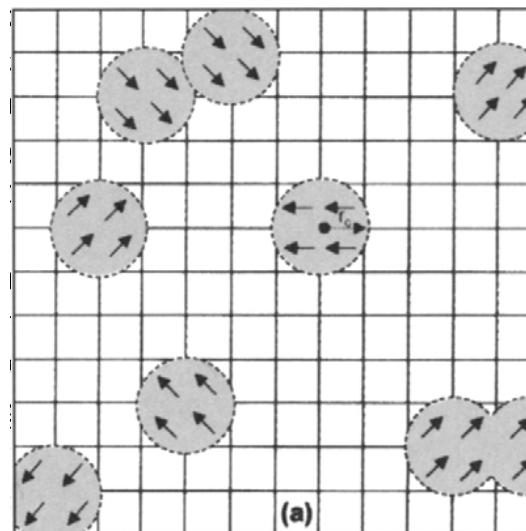
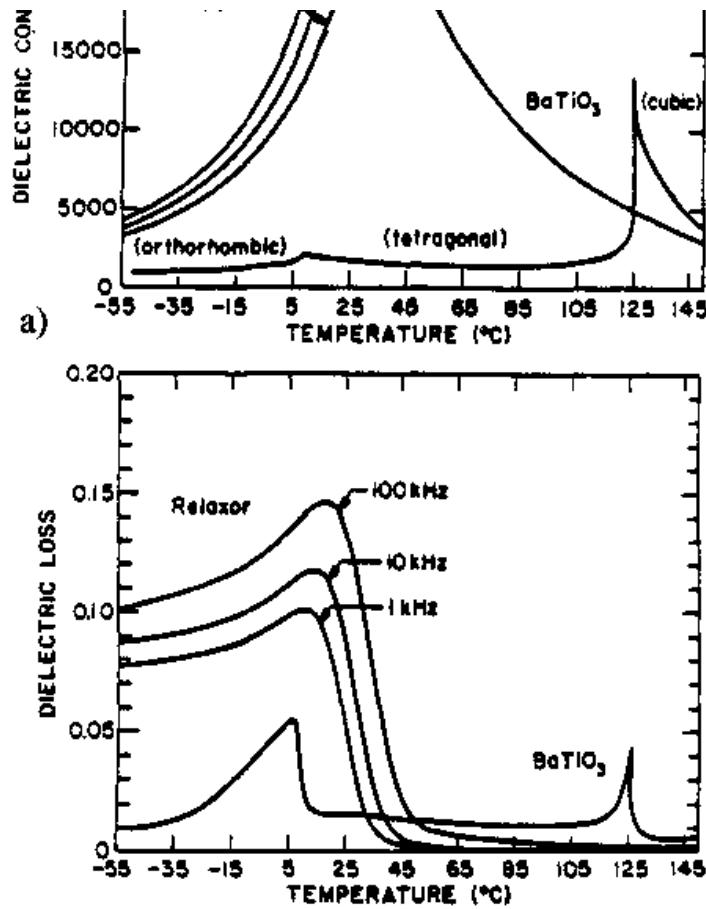
RESULTS

Here's some data. We don't know what it means, but we hope that you're just looking at the figures and title anyway. In fact, it's probably better if you don't pore over every last word of this manuscript. It is readily apparent from the small shoulder on the XRD peak in Fig 1 that we have formed the world's first spontaneous ultralattice. We didn't do any other characterization because it's expensive and slow and never tells us what we want to hear. In Fig 2 we show capacitance data; our instrument gave us other numbers too, but they were weird, so we ignored them...

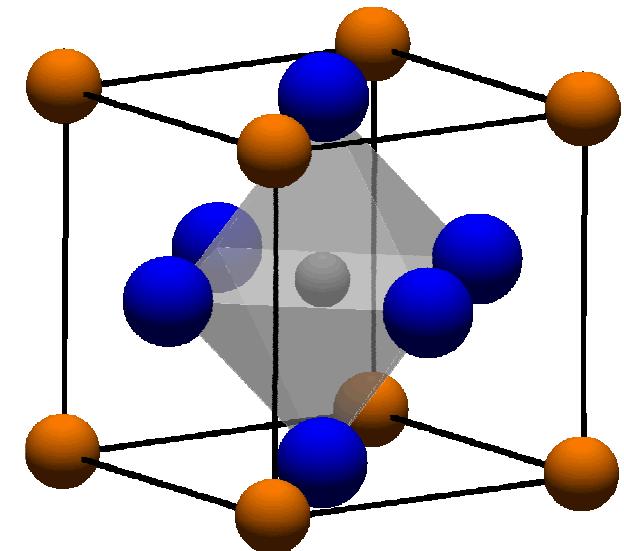
Ferroelectrics



Relaxor Ferroelectrics



Samara, 2001

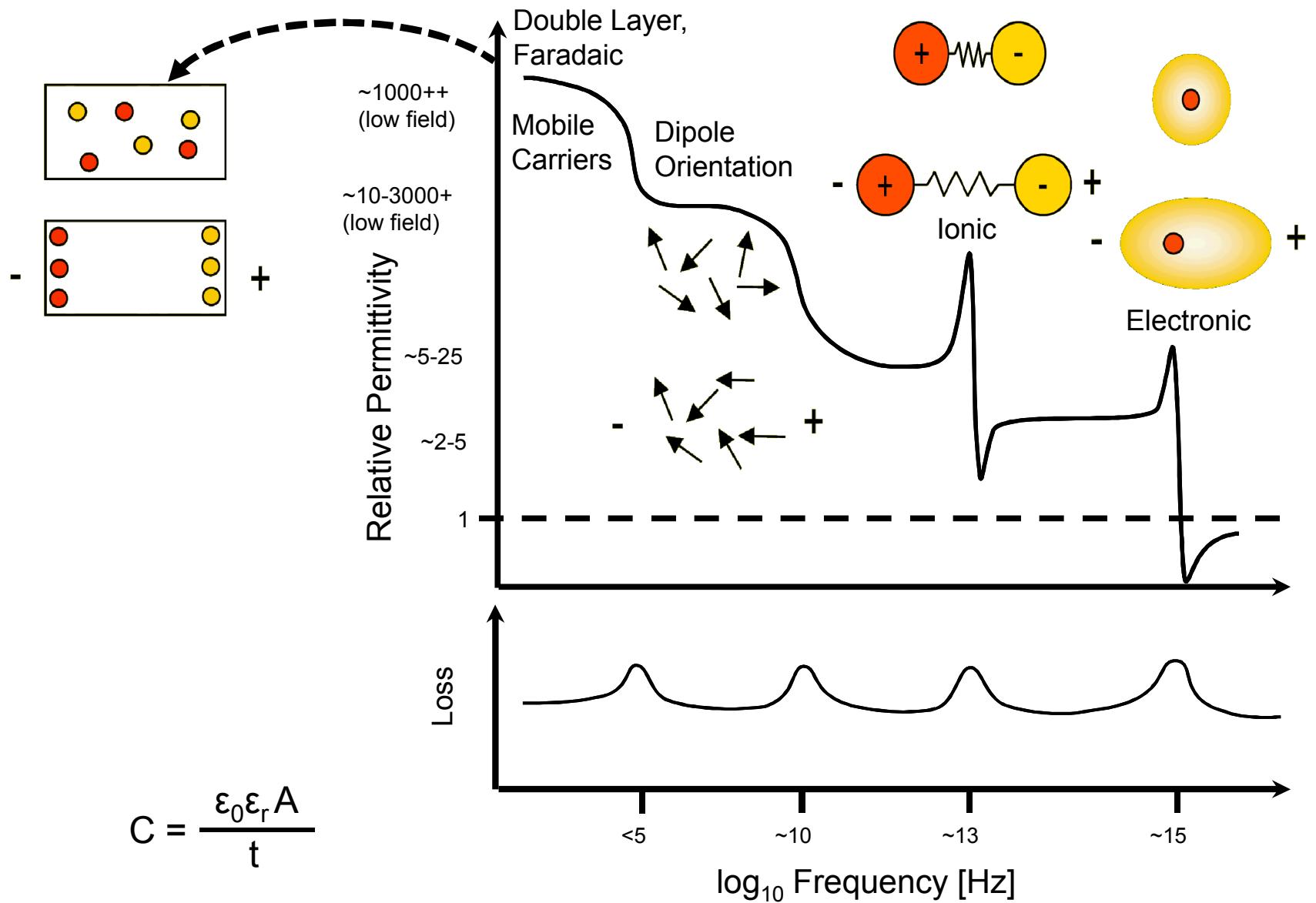


- Prototype is $\text{Pb}(\text{Mg}_{1/3}\text{Nb}_{2/3})\text{O}_3$
- Disorder (on B-site) and highly polarizable matrix lead to polar nanoregions
- Characteristic frequency dispersion in permittivity and loss maxima
- Dielectric response highly sensitive to pressure, electric field

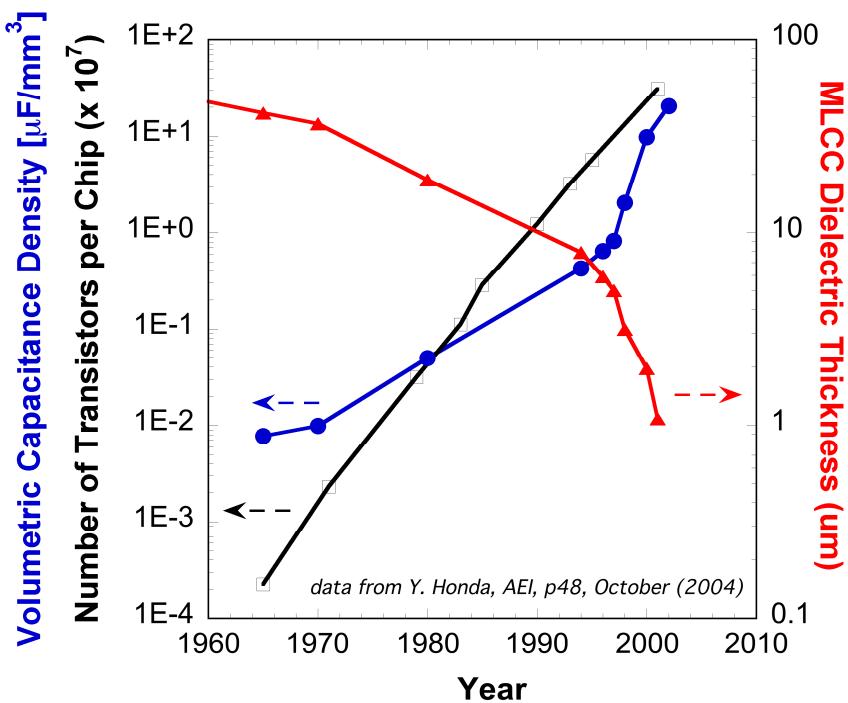
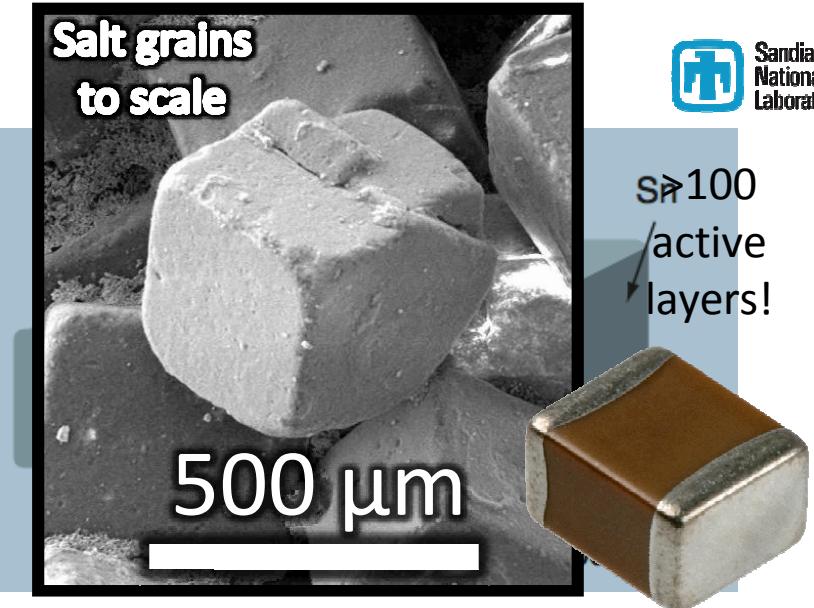
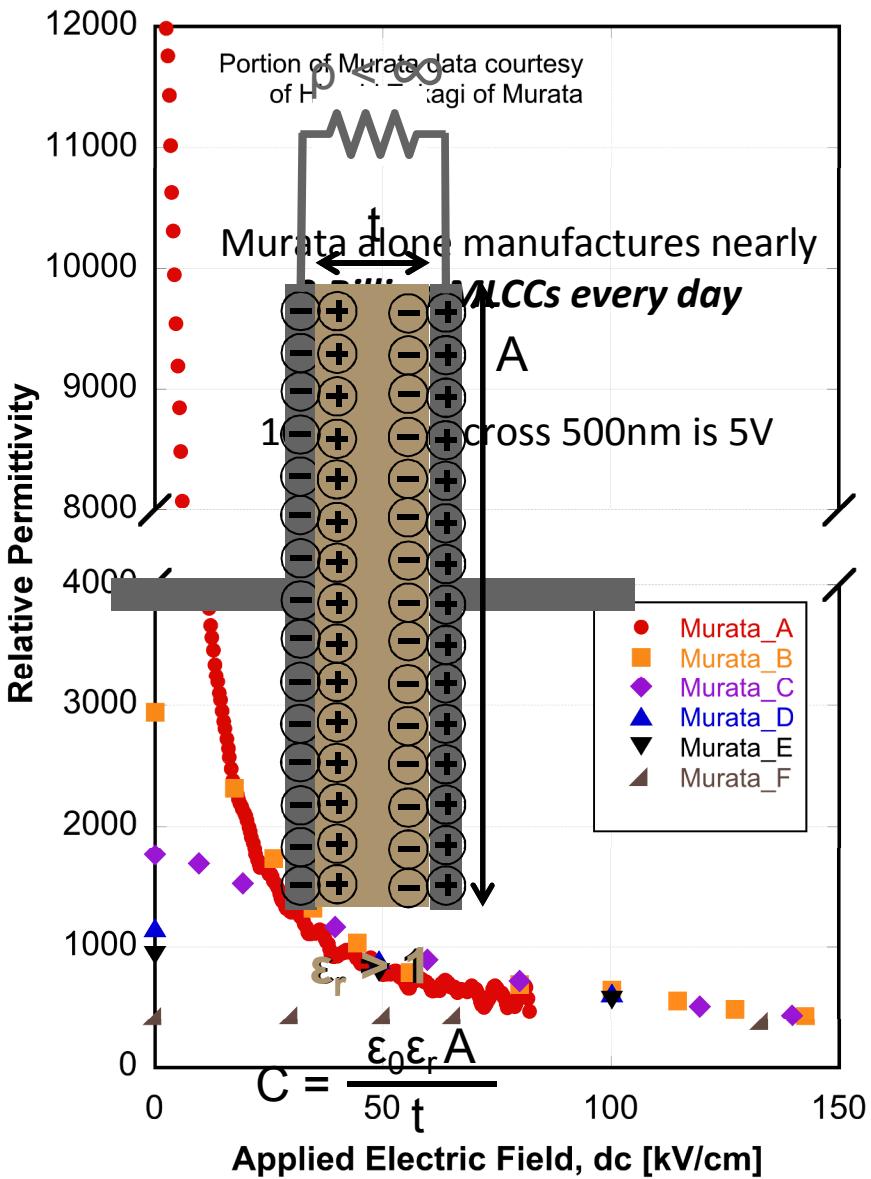
Table I. Property differences between ...

Shroud, ISAF 1990

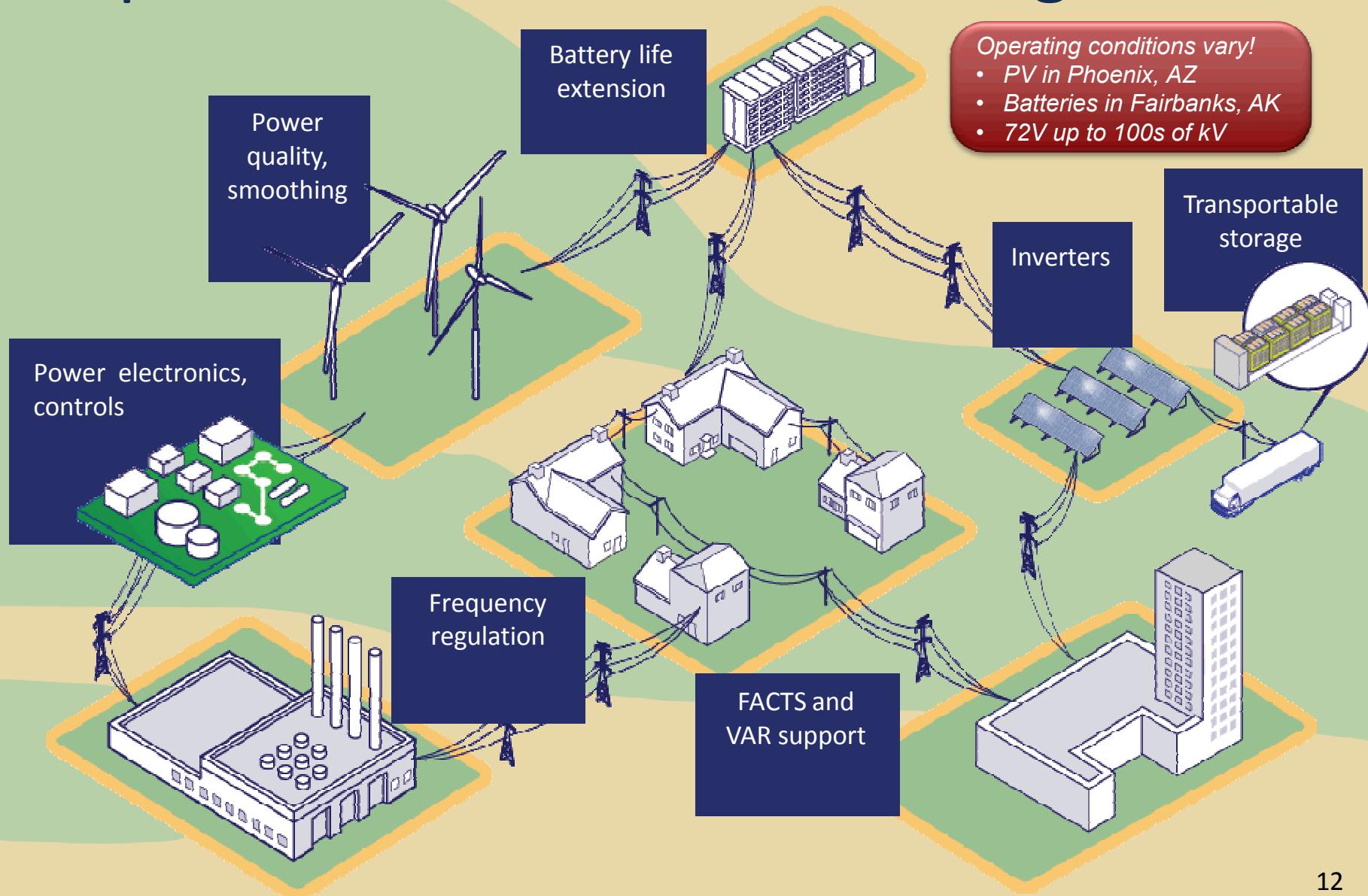
Polarization Mechanisms



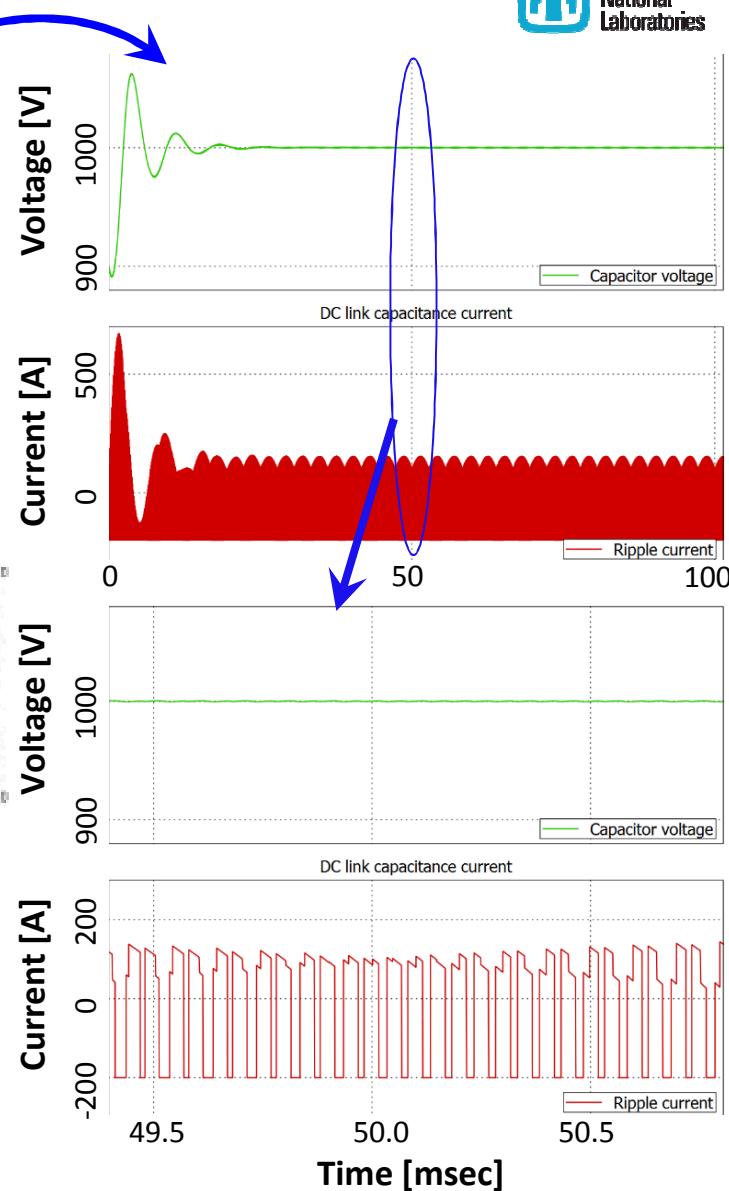
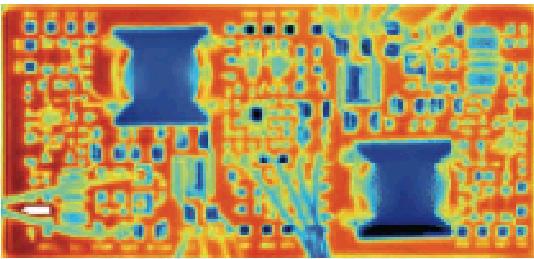
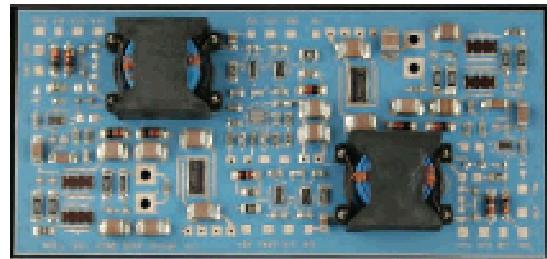
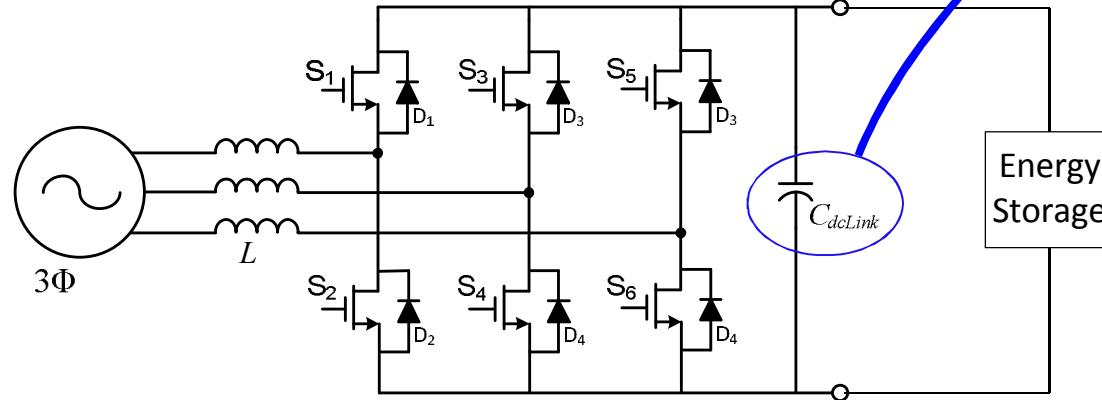
Capacitors



Capacitor Needs for Grid Storage

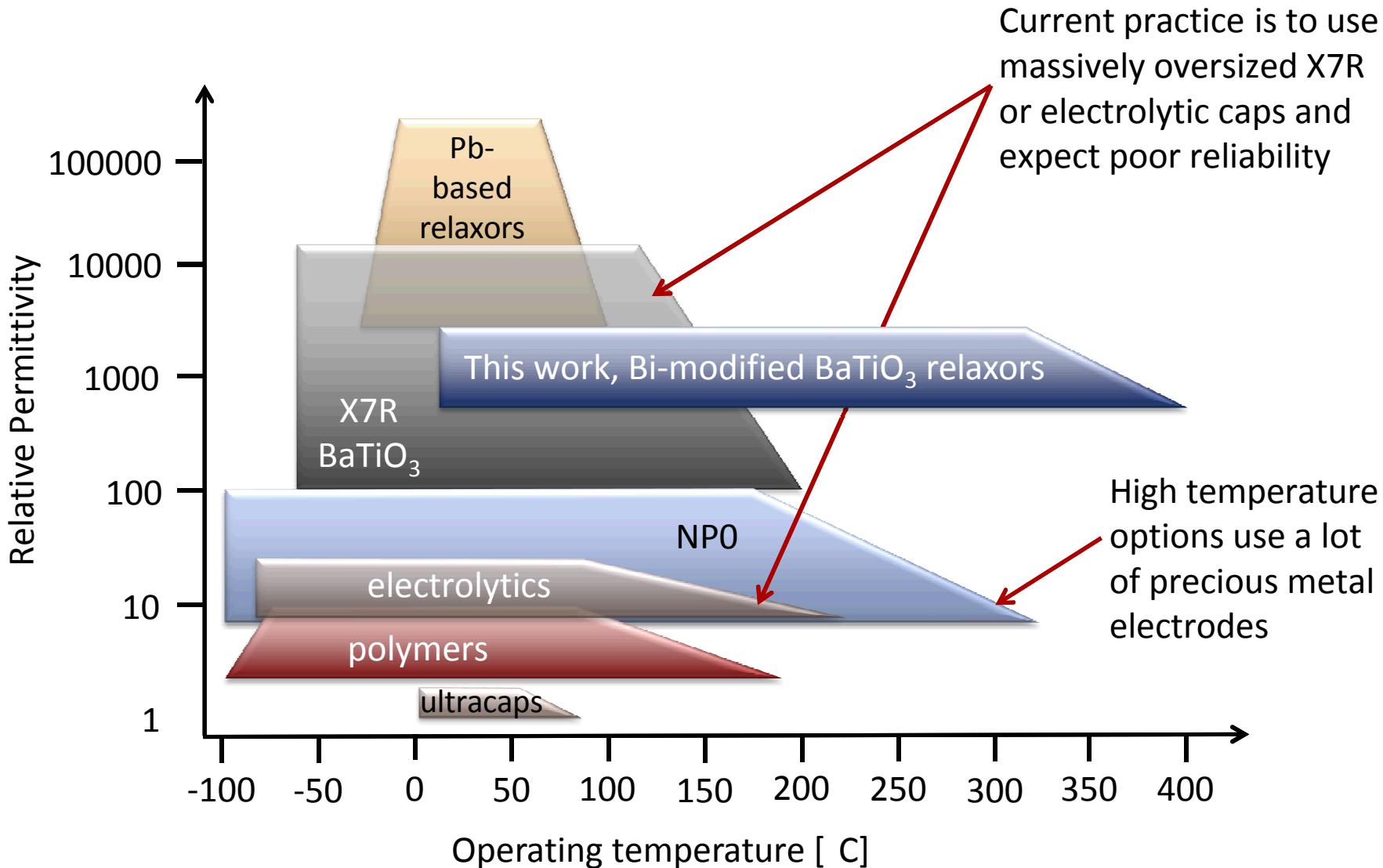


Application Space



- High energy density, high capacitance density
- Operation $>200^{\circ}\text{C}$ needed, $>300^{\circ}\text{C}$ desired
- Low ESR for ripple current and power handling
- Decades of reliable operation

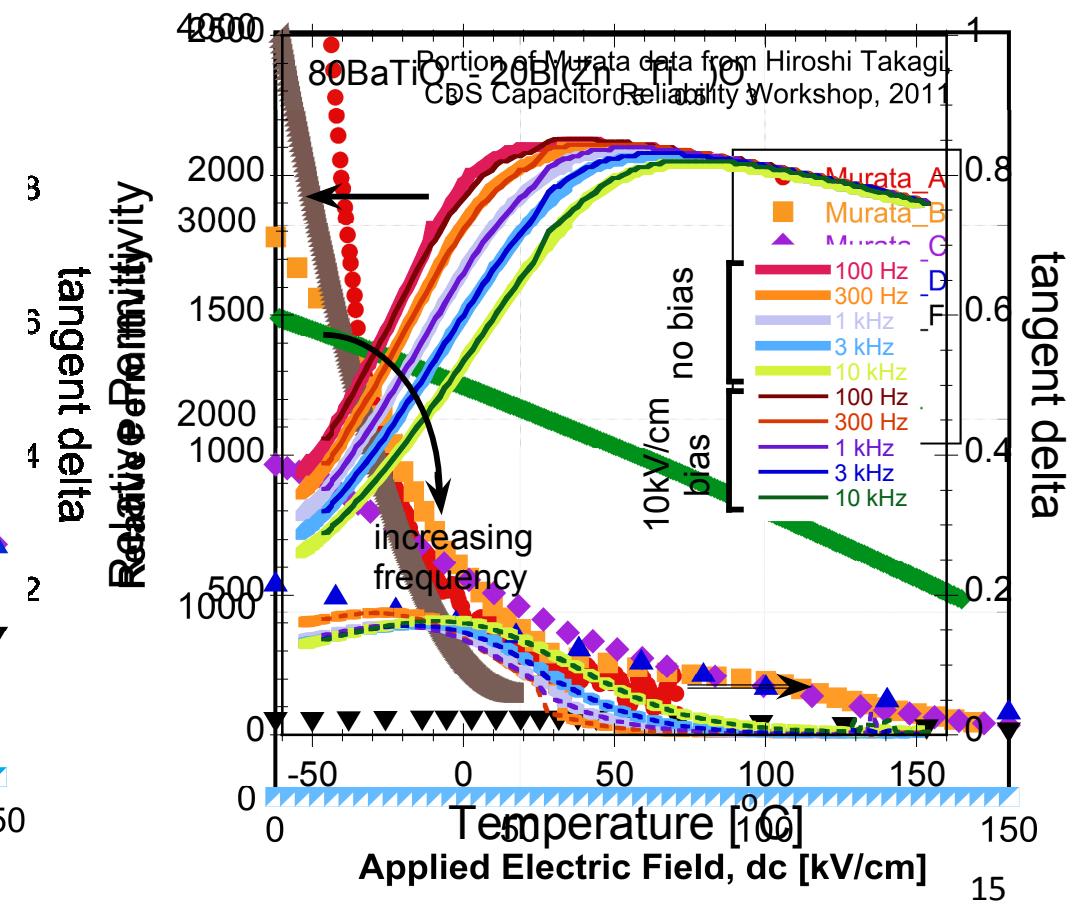
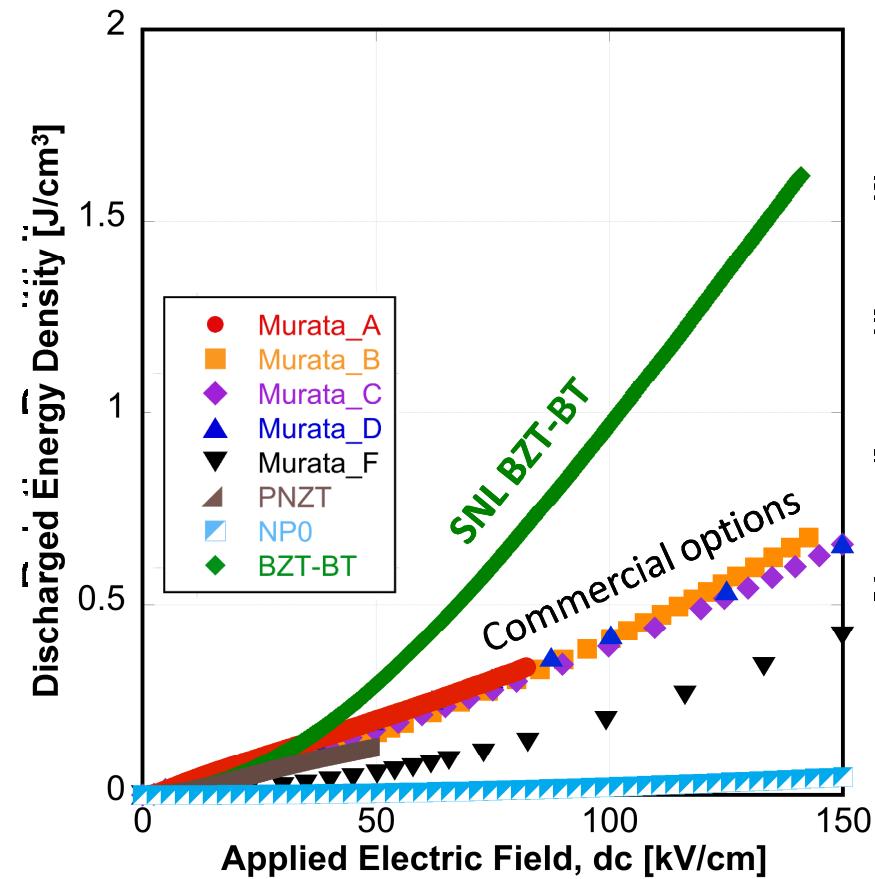
Available Options



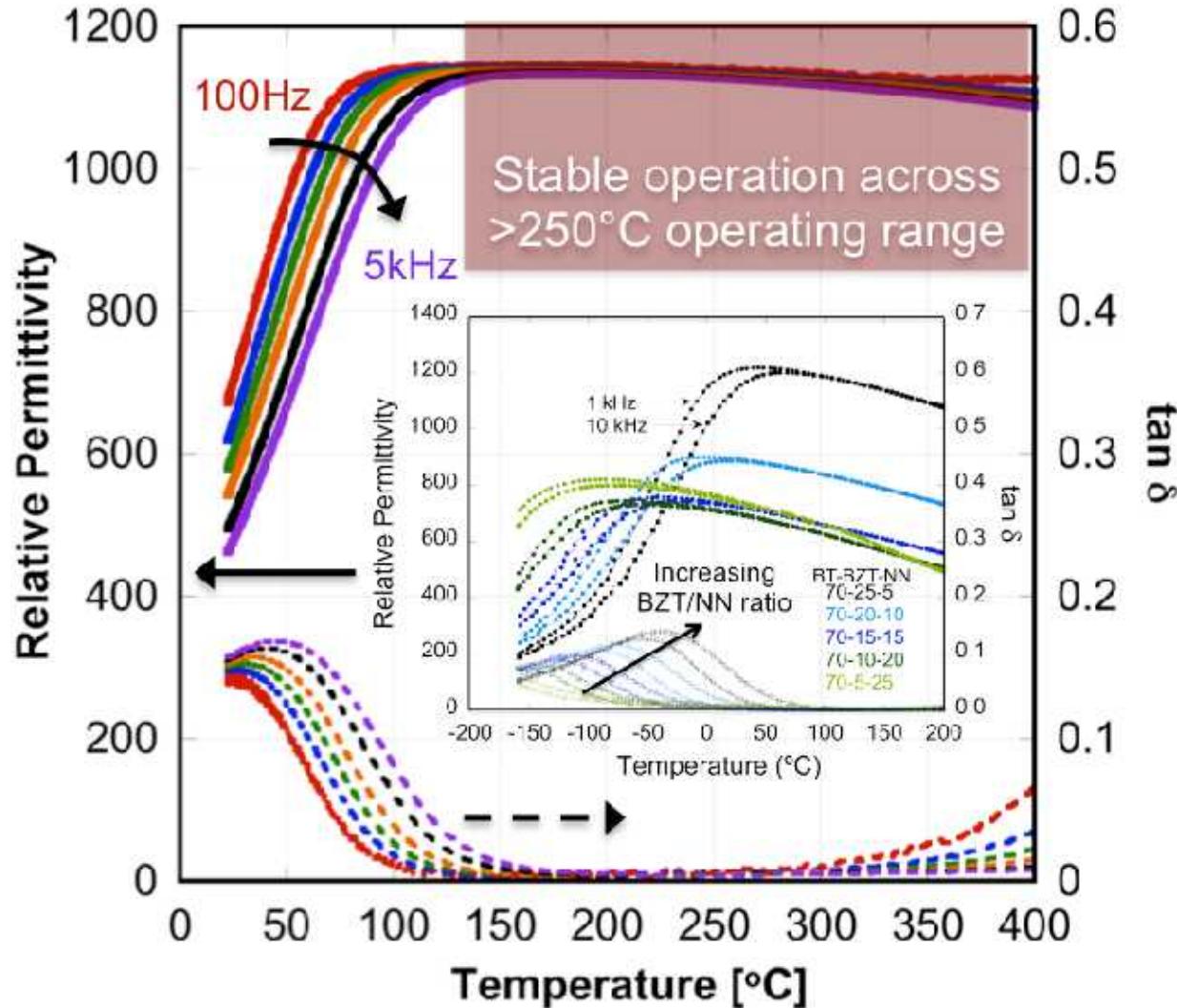
High Energy Density Dielectrics

$$J = \int_0^{V_{\max}} CV^2 \rightarrow \int_0^{E_{\max}} KE^2$$

For high-K materials, $K=K(E)$
→ maintaining high K at high E is important



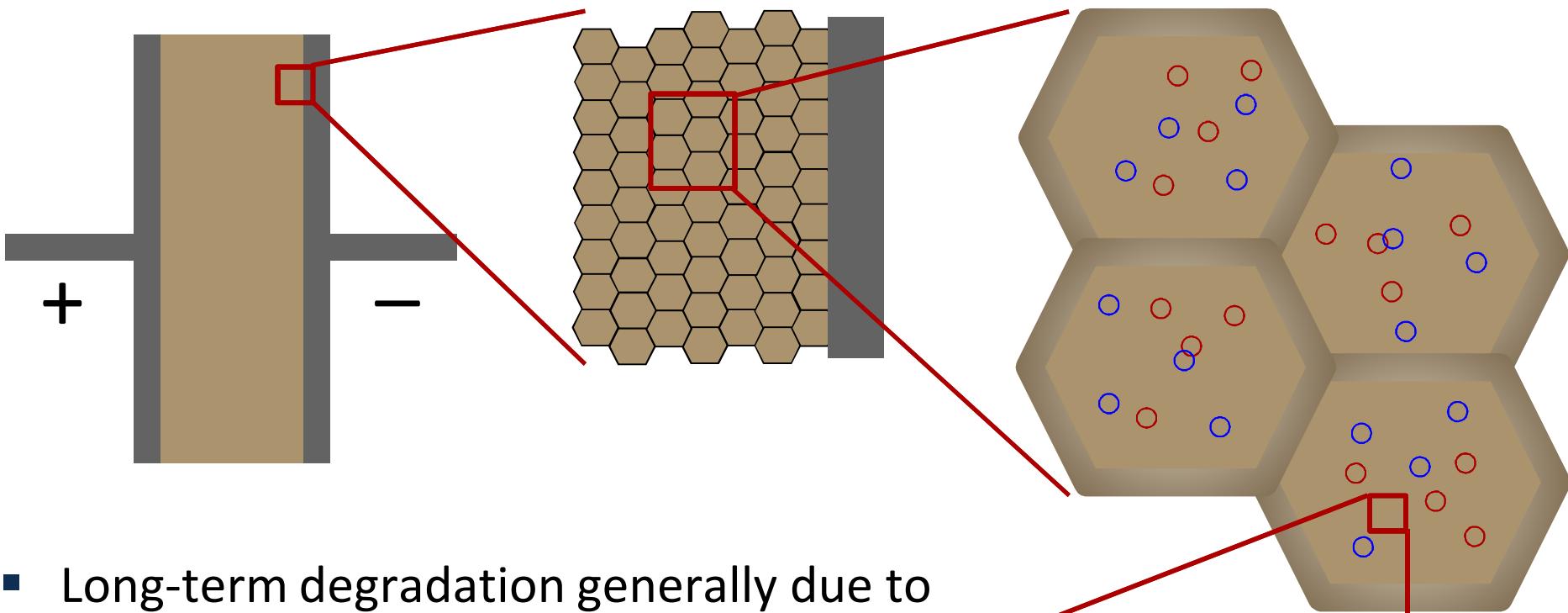
High Temperature Operation



- BiScO_3 stabilizes high temperature permittivity
- SrTiO_3 or NaNbO_3 additions shift relaxor transition to lower temperatures

We can shift the temperature range for stable operation around by $\sim 250^\circ\text{C}$ via chemical modification *without sacrificing voltage stability*

Degradation in Ceramic Dielectrics

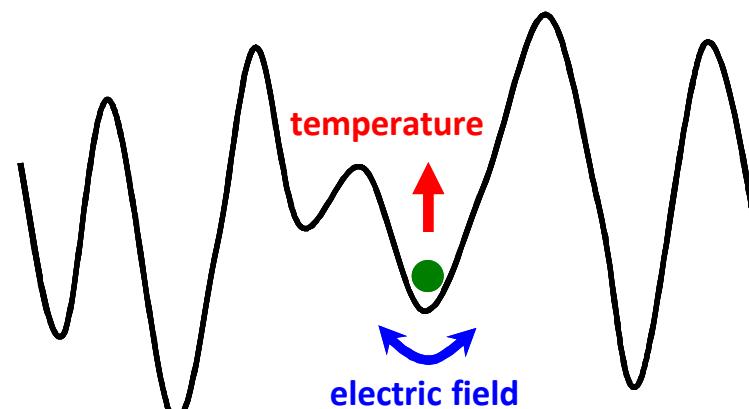
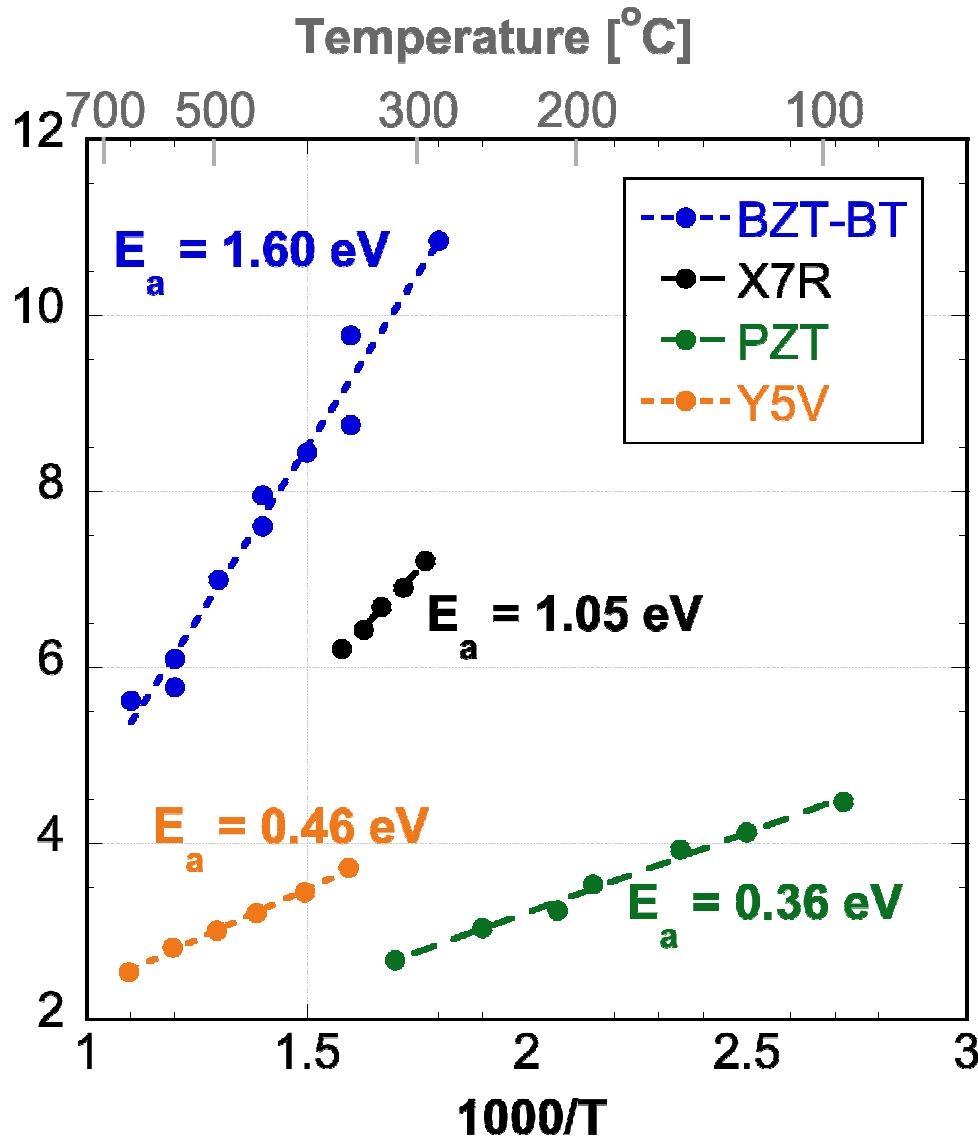


- Long-term degradation generally due to migration of charged ionic defects
- HALT and MTTF prediction require quantitative description of mechanisms

For excellent discussion, see:

Randall *et al.*, *J. Appl. Phys.* **113**, 014101 (2013) doi: 10.1063/1.4772599

High Resistivity → Reliable



Higher resistivity and larger activation energy for conduction both translate into longer lifetimes and higher reliability, particularly at elevated temperatures.

Outline

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 - Microstructure
 - Processing
 - Defects

Prototype MLCCs: 200nF @ 1700V



BaCO_3

ZnO

Bi_2O_3

TiO_2

Mix/mill, calcine @ 950°C, Mill

Single phase by XRD

Prototype MLCCs: 200nF @ 1700V



BaCO_3

ZnO

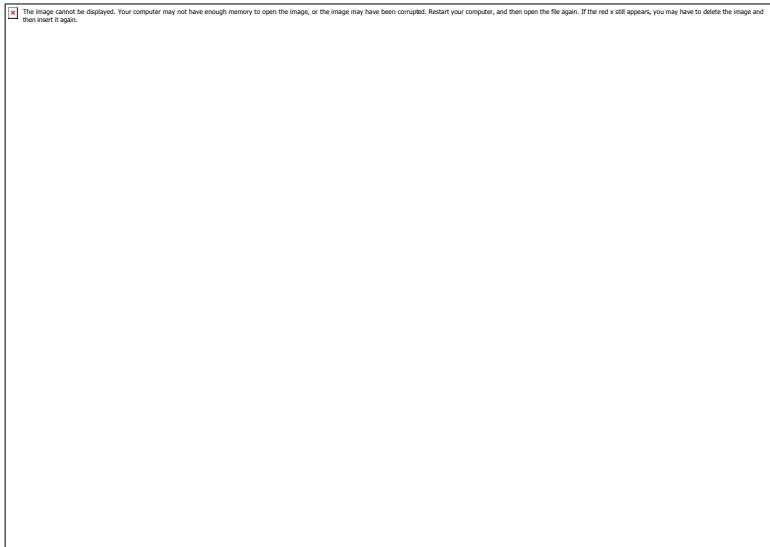
Bi_2O_3

TiO_2

Mix/mill, calcine @ 950°C, Mill

Single phase by XRD

Bind, Press,
Sinter @
1120-1180°C



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Prototype MLCCs: 200nF @ 1700V

BaCO_3

ZnO

Bi_2O_3

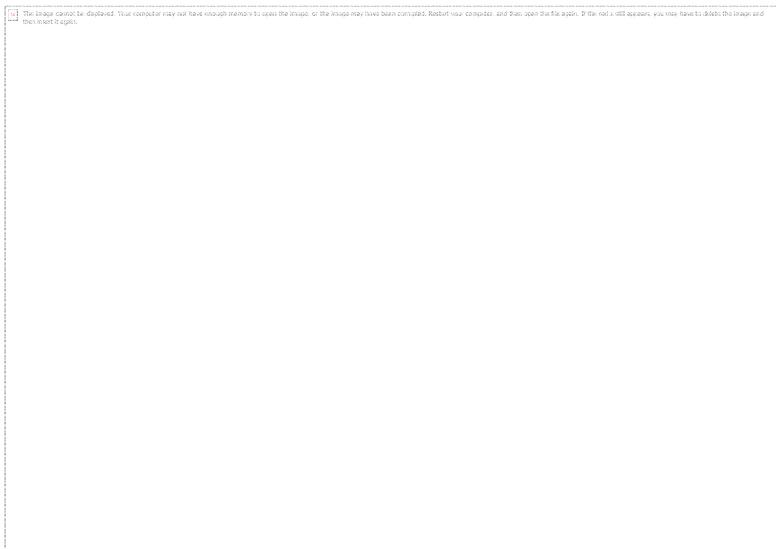
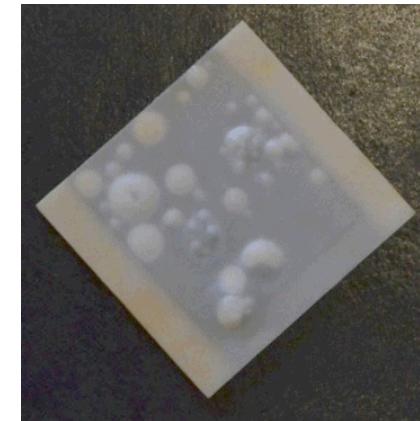
TiO_2

Mix/mill, calcine @ 950°C, Mill

Single phase by XRD

Bind, Press,
Sinter @
1120-1180°C

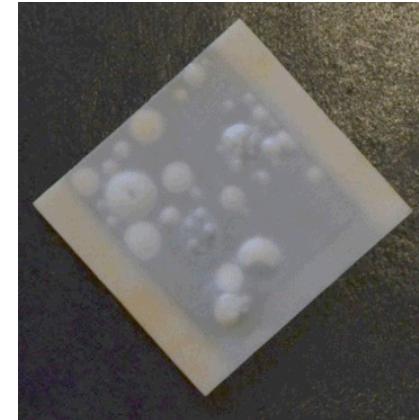
Cast and co-
fire with Pt
@ 1120°C



Prototype MLCCs: 200nF @ 1700V

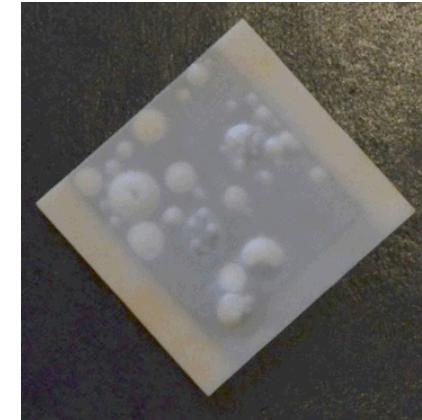
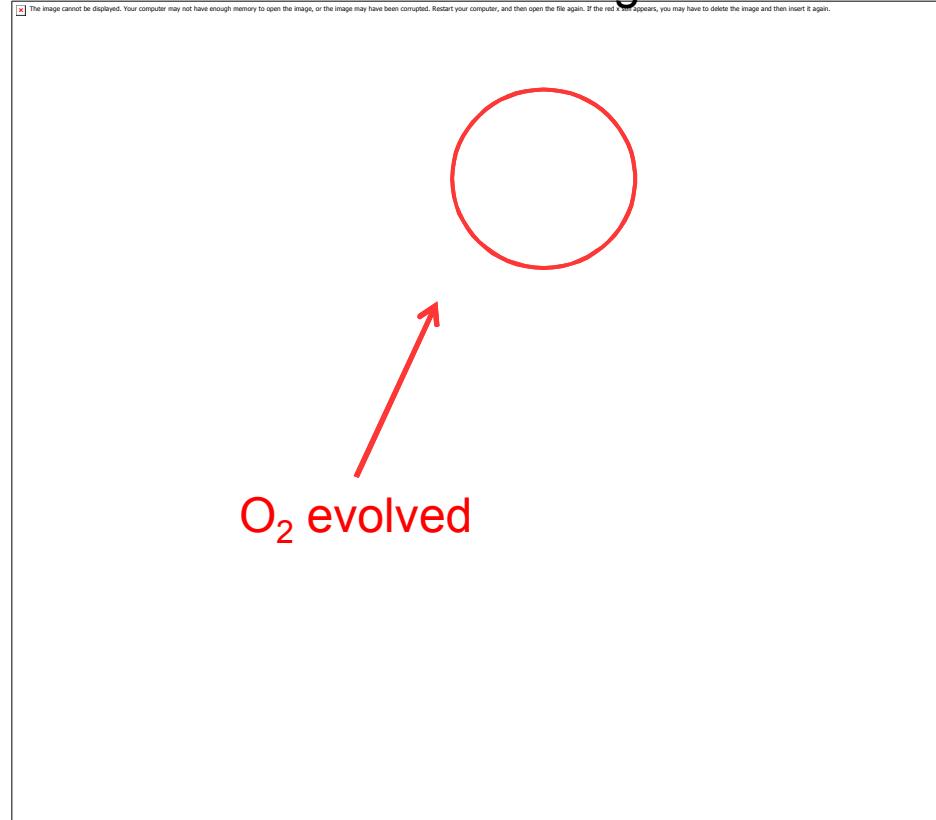
MLCC Binder Burnout

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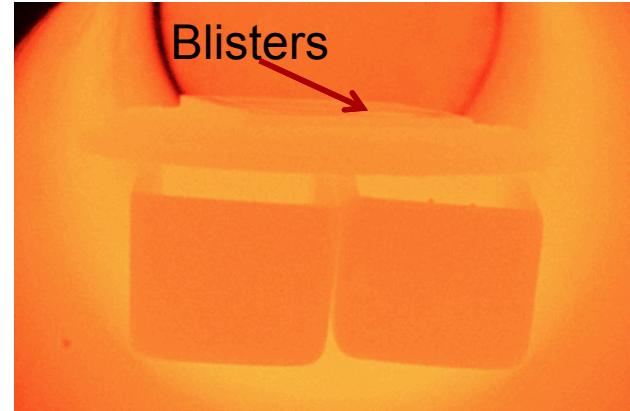


Prototype MLCCs: 200nF @ 1700V

MLCC Sintering



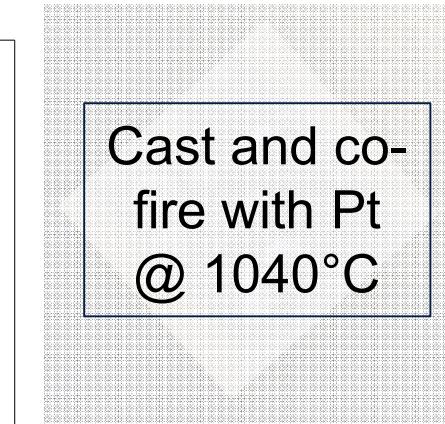
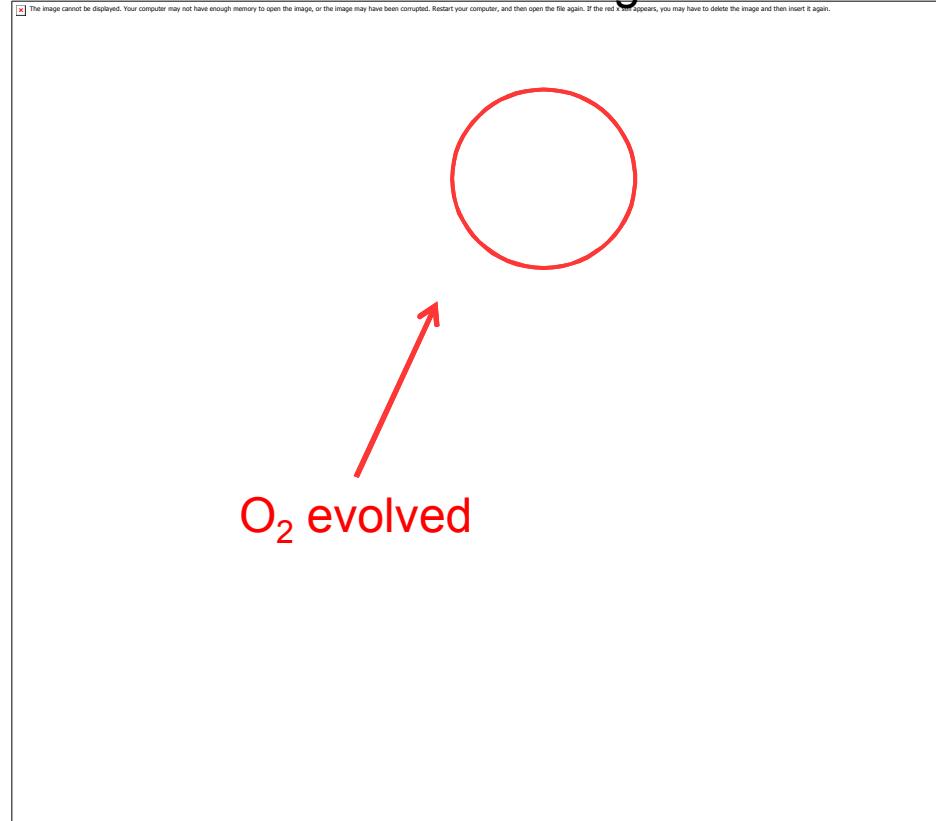
MLCC sintering at 1210°C



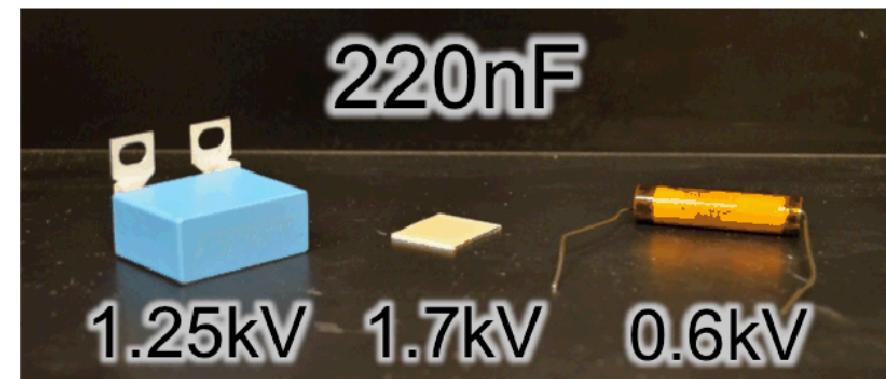
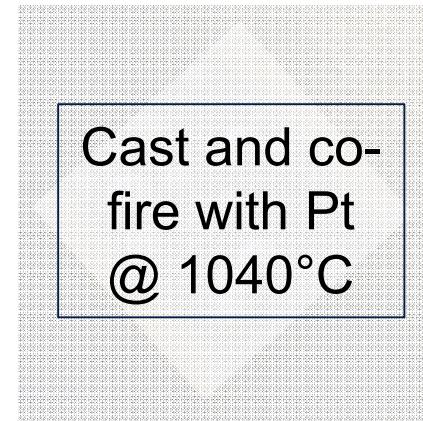
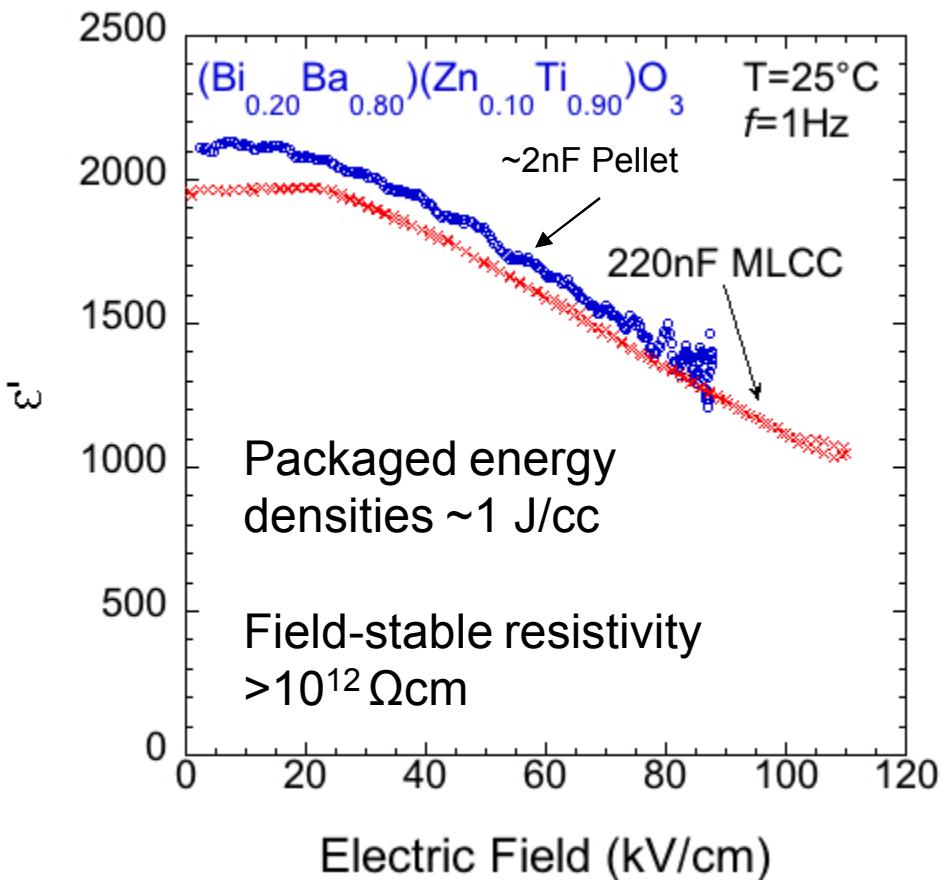
Prototype MLCCs: 200nF @ 1700V



MLCC Sintering

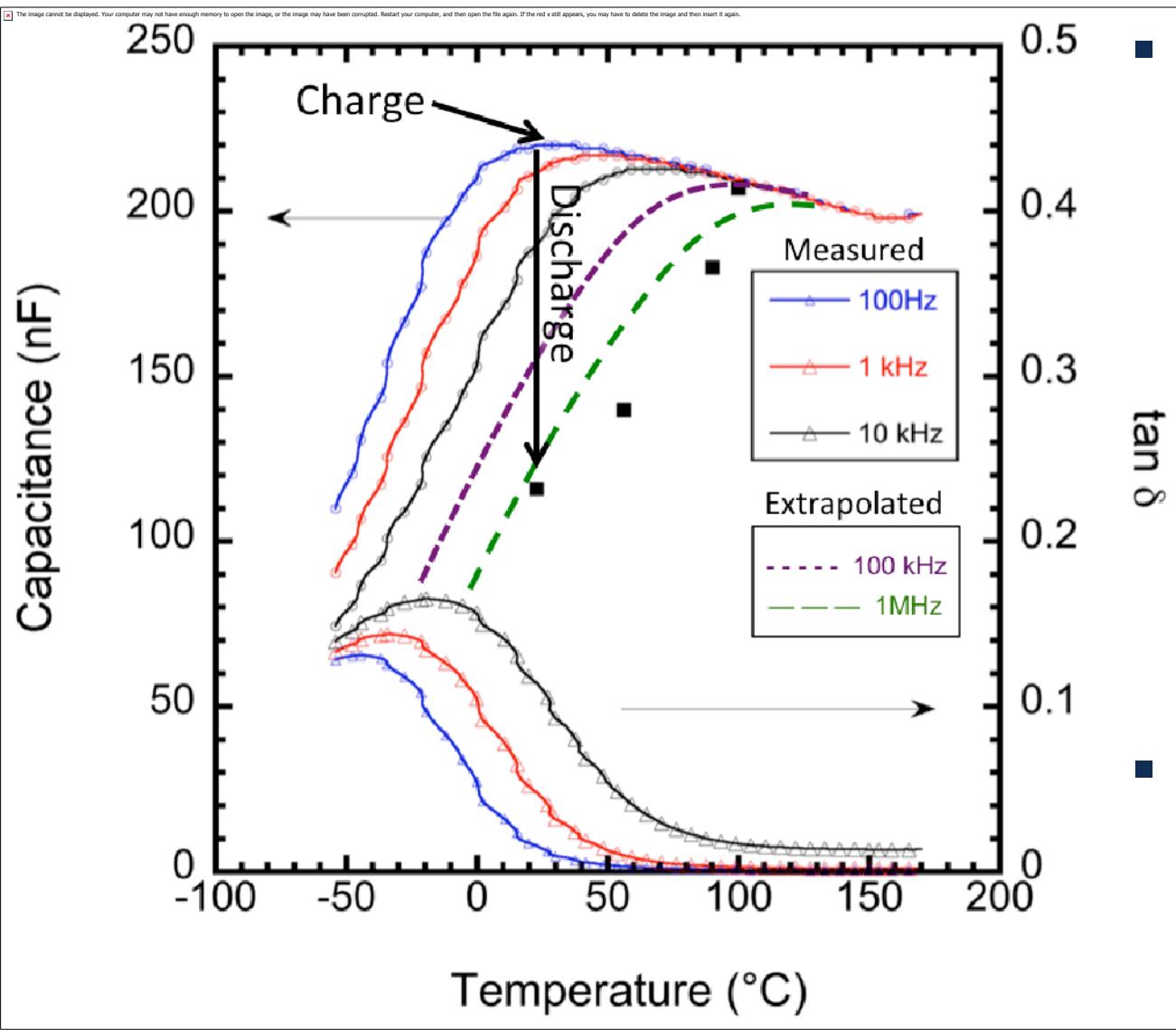


Prototype MLCCs: 200nF @ 1700V



- Large MLCCs retain performance across operating temperatures, electric fields.
- Mechanism(s)??

Time Domain Performance



- Relaxor dielectrics exhibit characteristic frequency dispersion over relatively broad temperature ranges
 - For switched inverter designs which charge slowly and discharge quickly at irregular intervals, which values are relevant?
- Direct time-domain measurements map well to frequency domain data

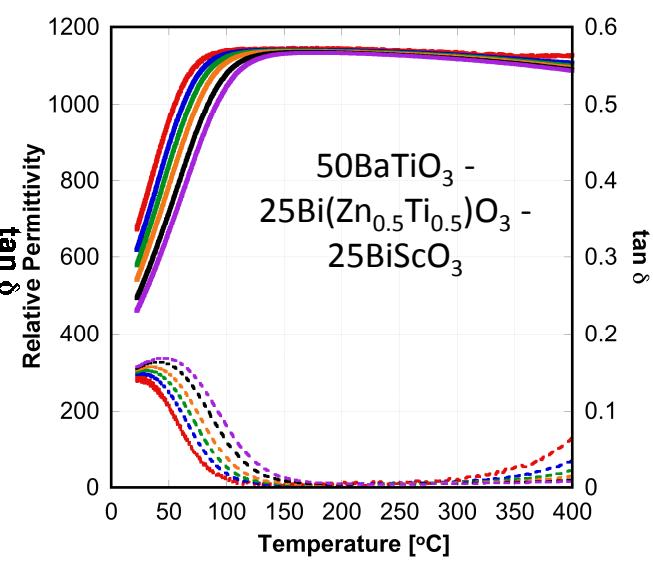
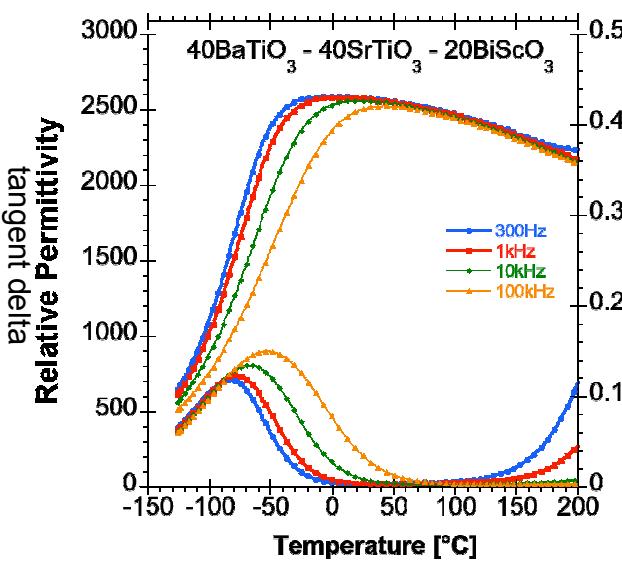
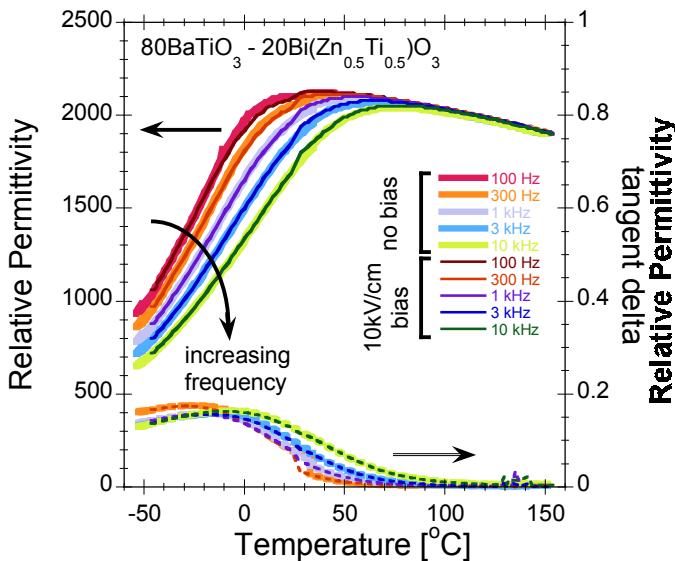
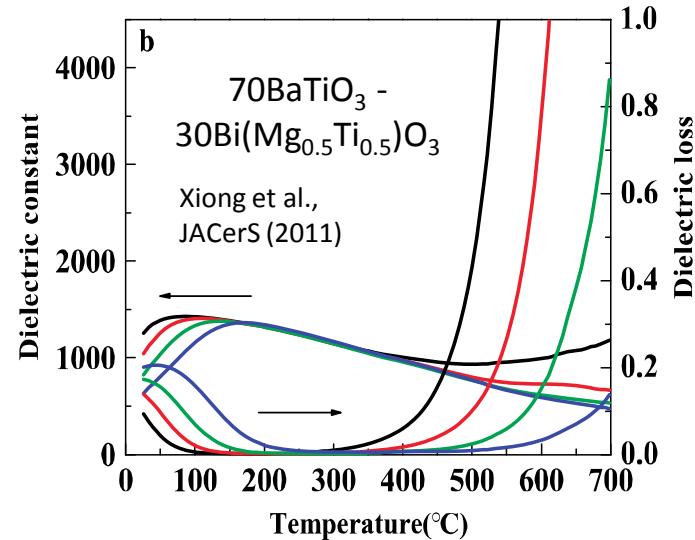
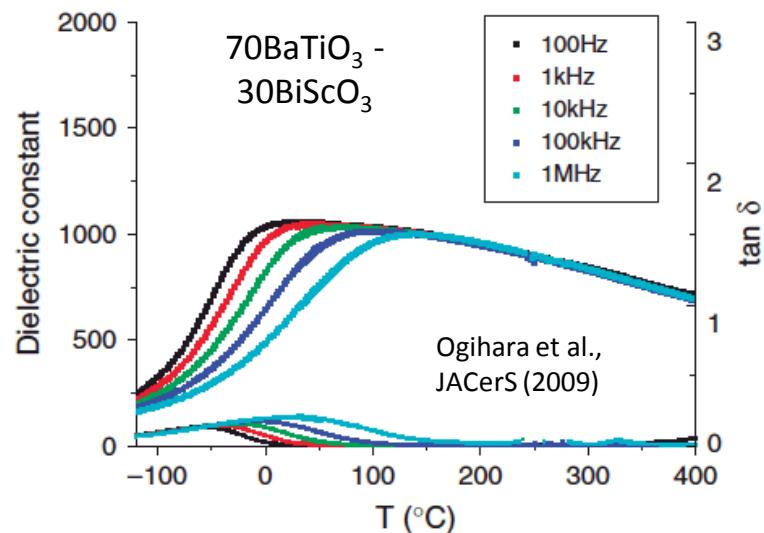
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Bi-modified BaTiO_3 Relaxors

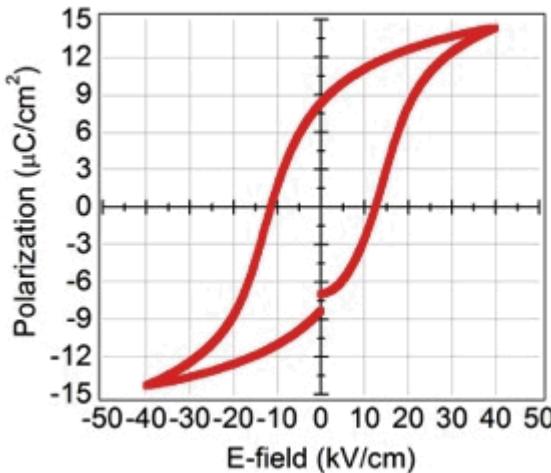
$\text{BaTiO}_3 +$

- $\text{Bi}(\text{Zn}_{0.5}\text{Ti}_{0.5})\text{O}_3$
- $\text{Bi}(\text{Mg}_{0.5}\text{Ti}_{0.5})\text{O}_3$
- BiScO_3
- BiFeO_3
- BiInO_3
- $\text{Bi}(\text{Ni}_{0.5}\text{Ti}_{0.5})\text{O}_3$
- ...

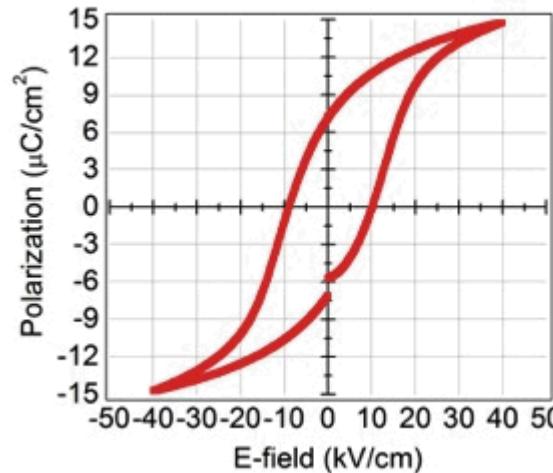


$x\text{BaTiO}_3 - (1-x)\text{Bi}(\text{Zn}_{0.5}\text{Ti}_{0.5})\text{O}_3$

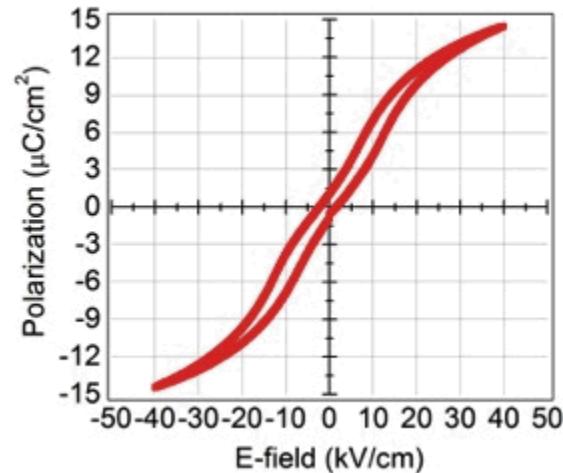
P-E hysteresis of 0.95BT-0.05BZT


 $x = 0.95$

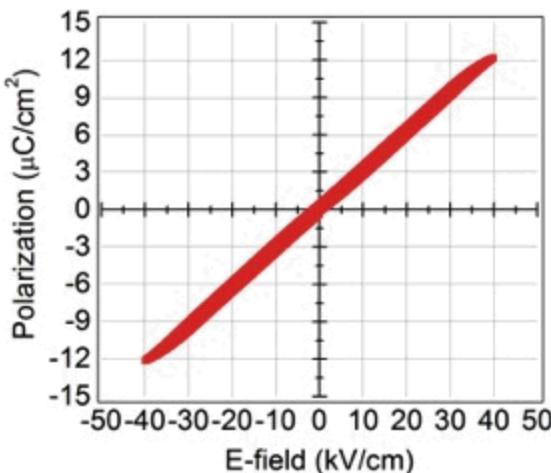
P-E hysteresis of 0.93BT-0.07BZT


 $x = 0.93$

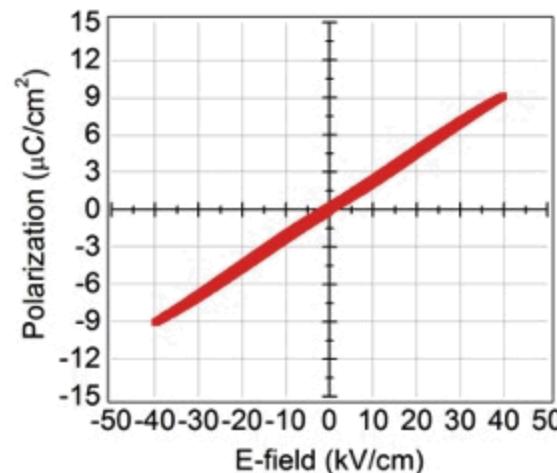
P-E hysteresis of 0.92BT-0.08BZT


 $x = 0.92$

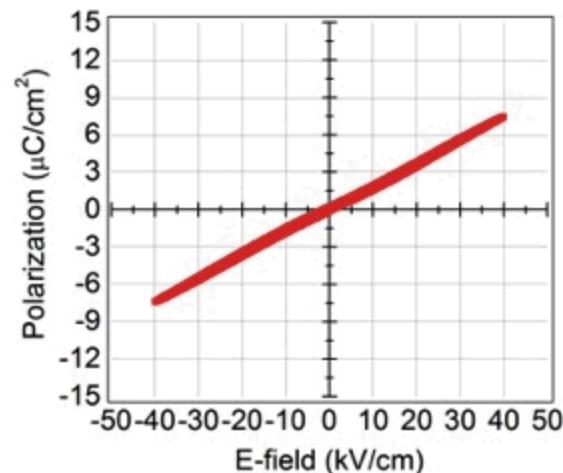
P-E hysteresis of 0.91BT-0.09BZT


 $x = 0.91$

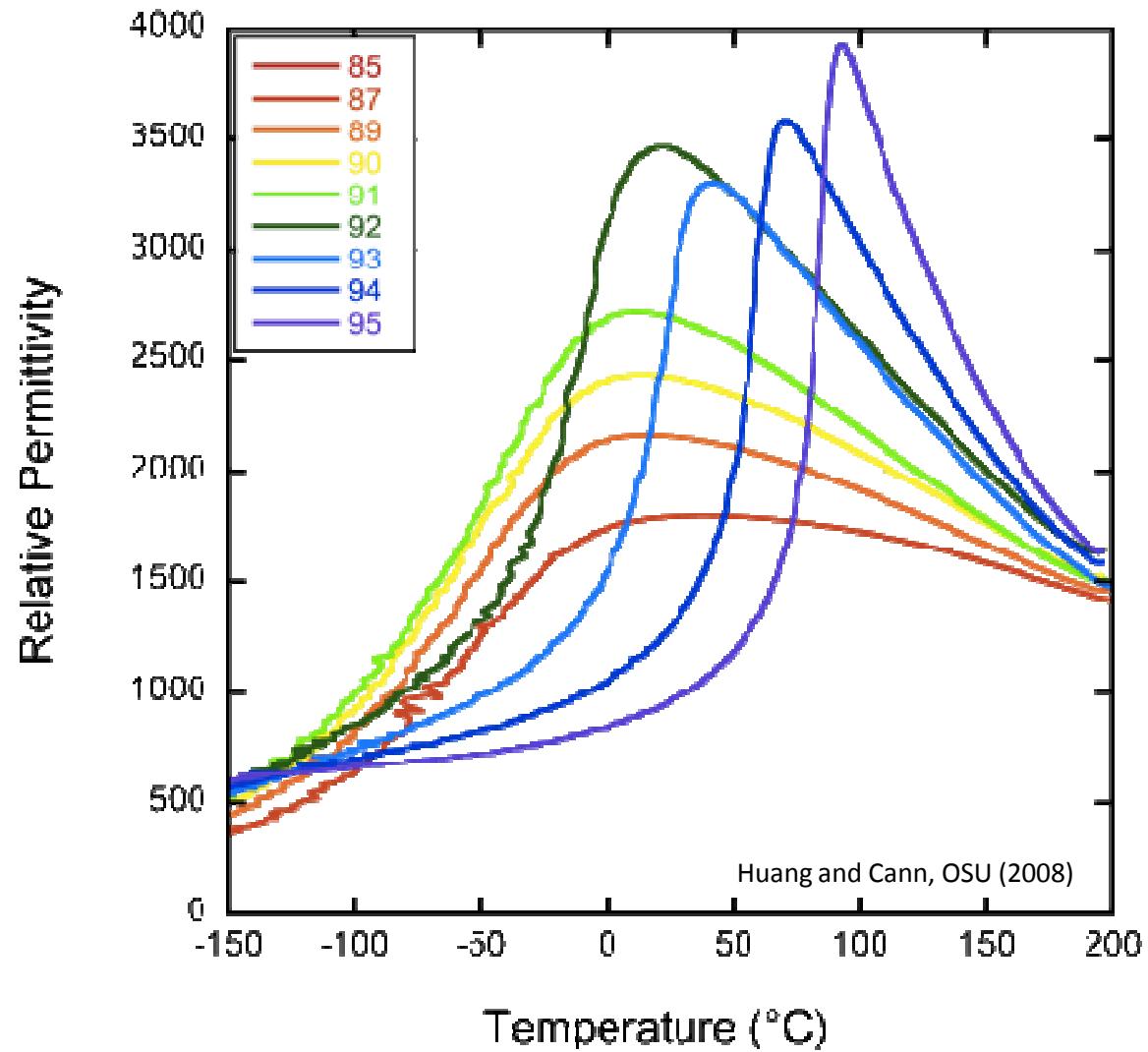
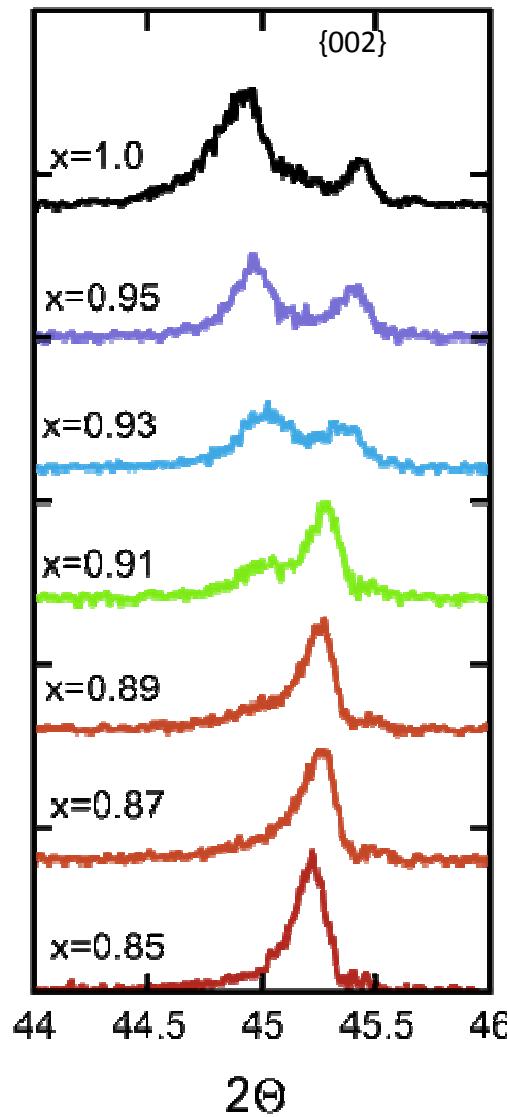
P-E hysteresis of 0.89BT-0.11BZT


 $x = 0.89$

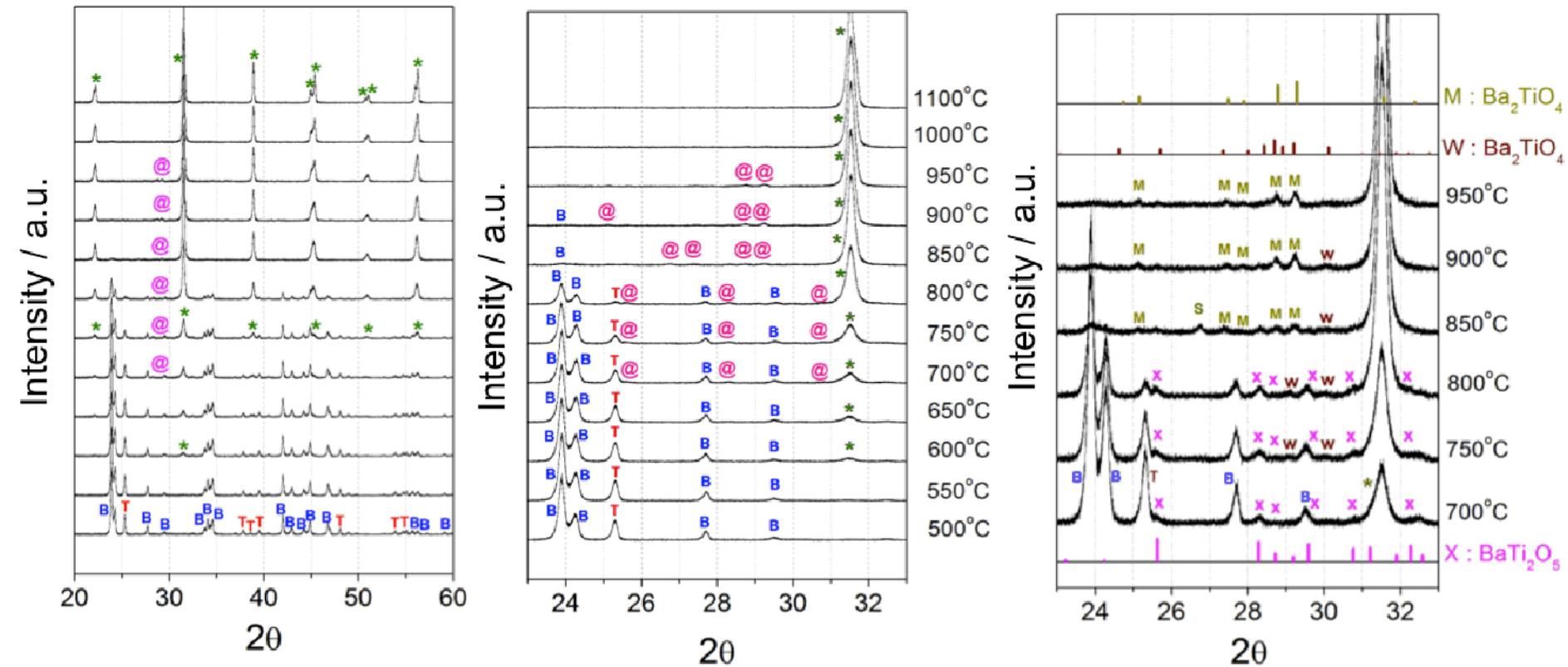
P-E hysteresis of 0.87BT-0.13BZT


 $x = 0.87$

$x\text{BaTiO}_3 - (1-x)\text{Bi}(\text{Zn}_{0.5}\text{Ti}_{0.5})\text{O}_3$

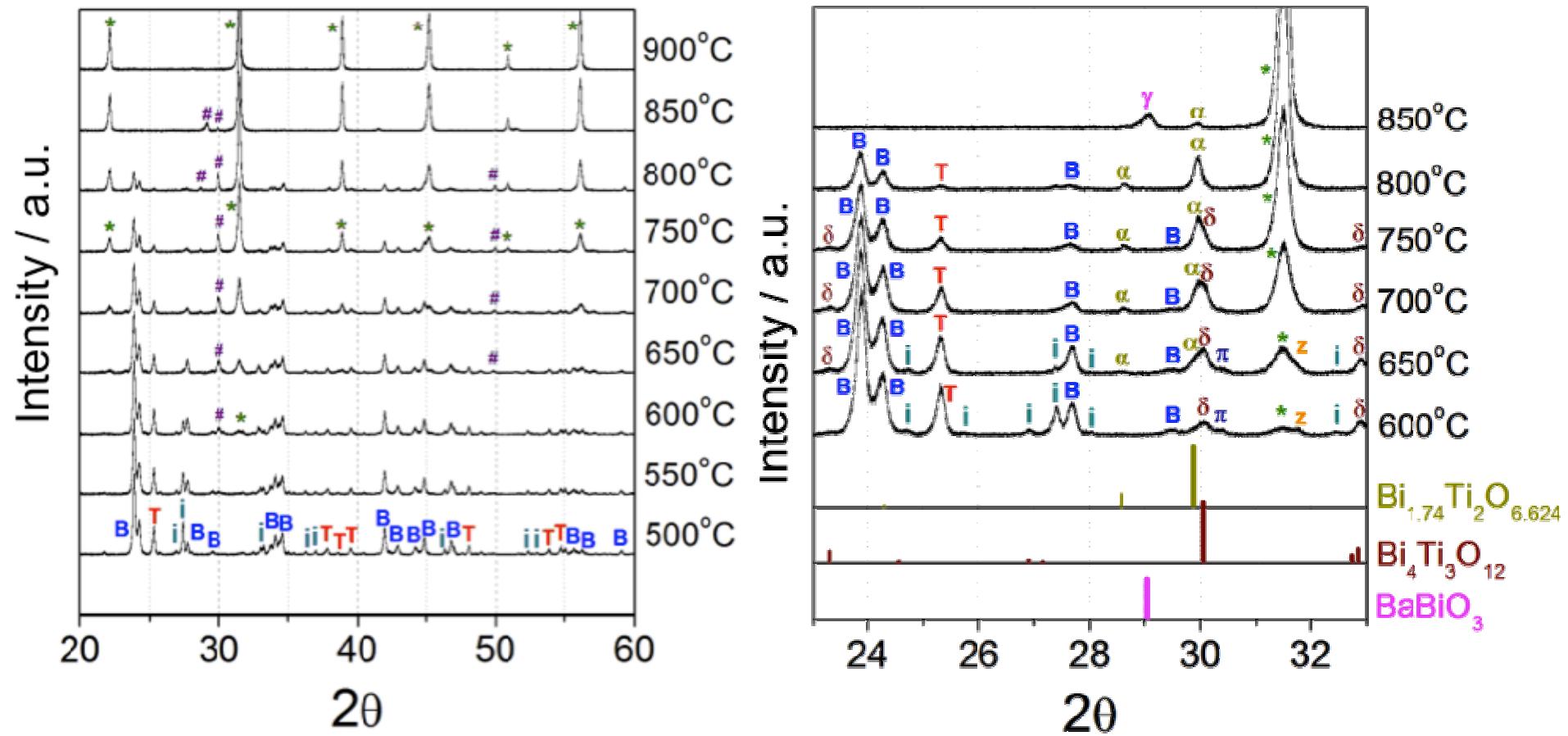


Calcination: BaTiO_3



Phase evolution is limited by reaction of BaCO_3 ,
proceeds via BaTi_2O_5 and Ba_2TiO_4 phases

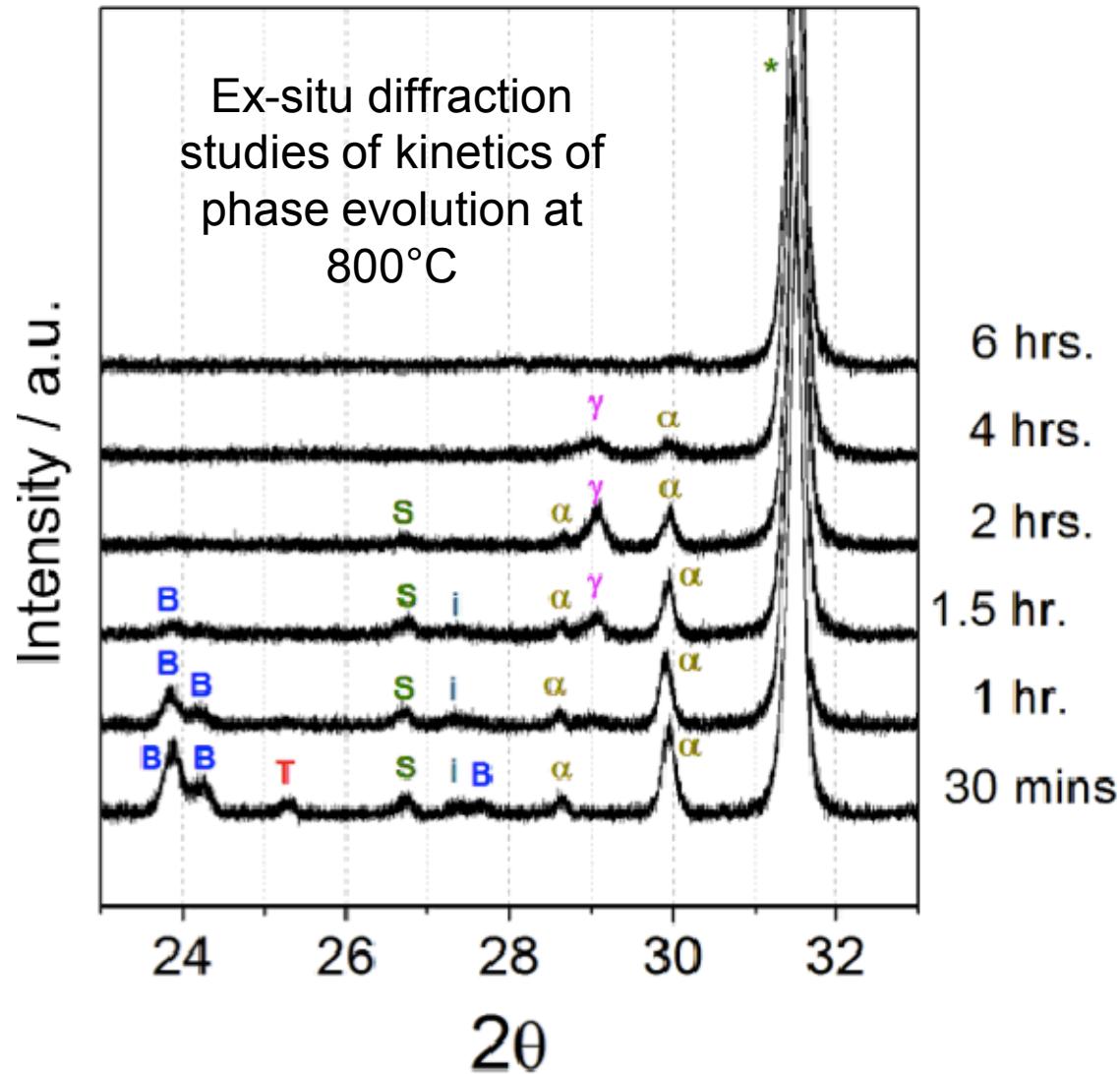
Calcination: BaTiO_3 - $\text{Bi}(\text{Zn}_{0.5}\text{Ti}_{0.5})\text{O}_3$



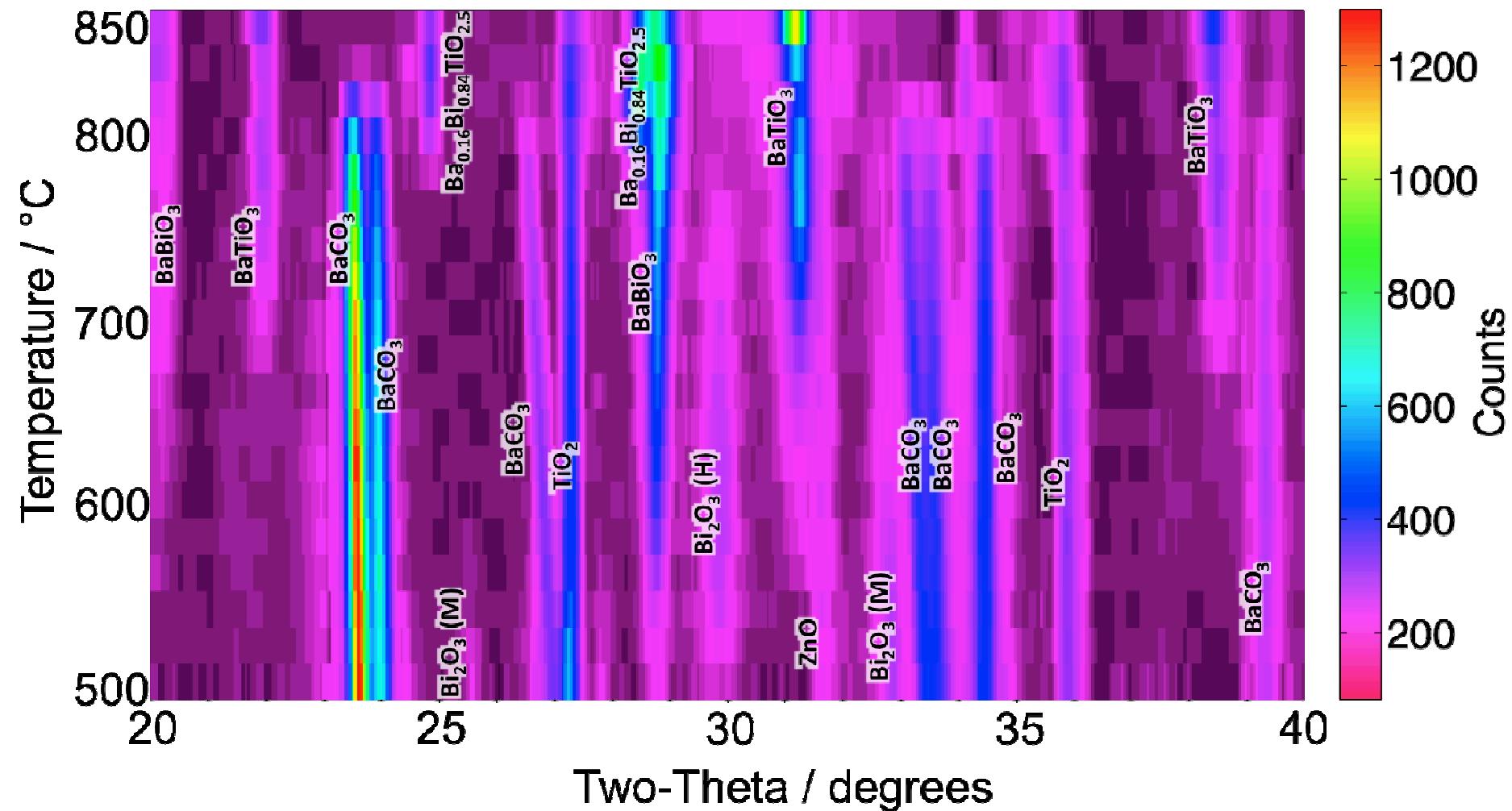
Complex phase evolution with at least 3 intermediate phases, but BZT additions result in single-phase perovskite 200°C lower than pure BaTiO_3

Calcination: BaTiO_3 - $\text{Bi}(\text{Zn}_{0.5}\text{Ti}_{0.5})\text{O}_3$

Phase development via mixed-Bi-valence BaBiO_3 phase (likely with significant substitution on both sites...) appears to be critically important for microstructure development.



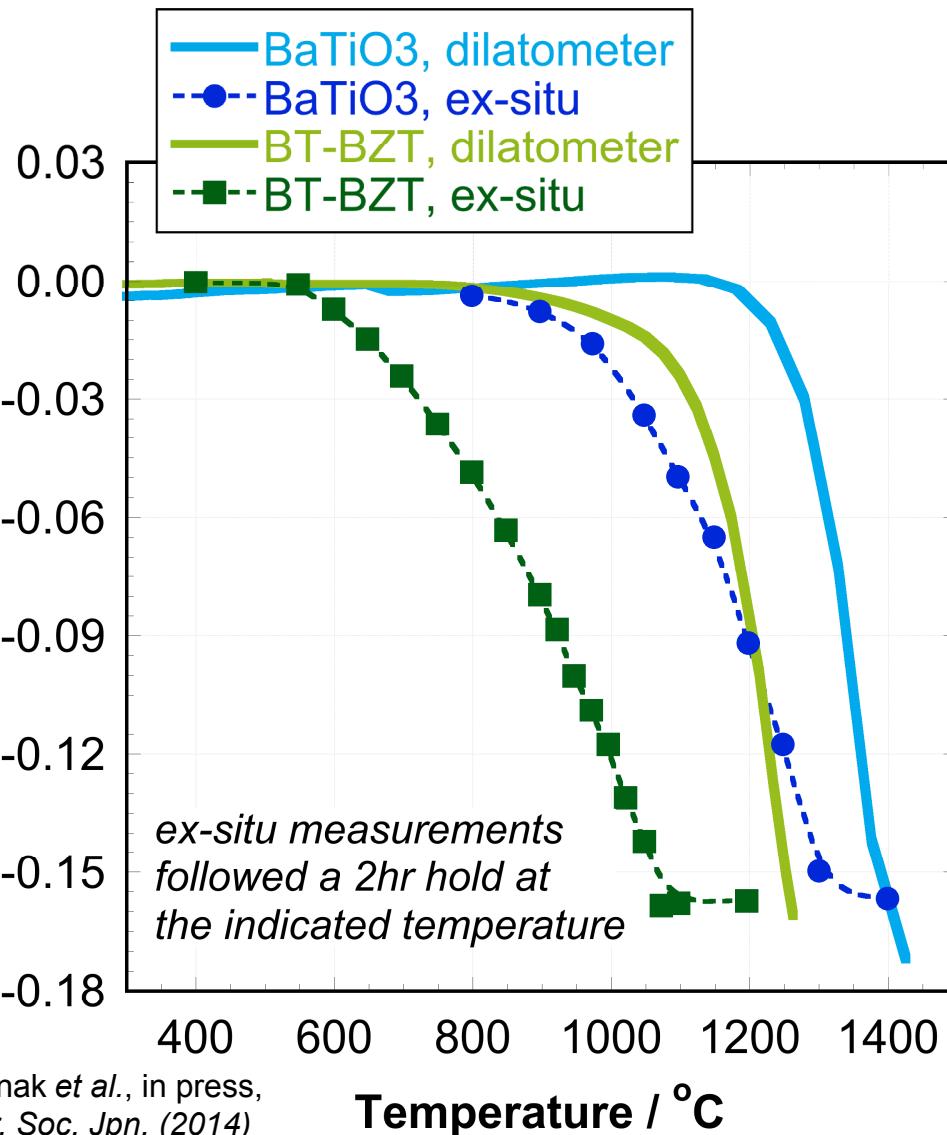
Calcination



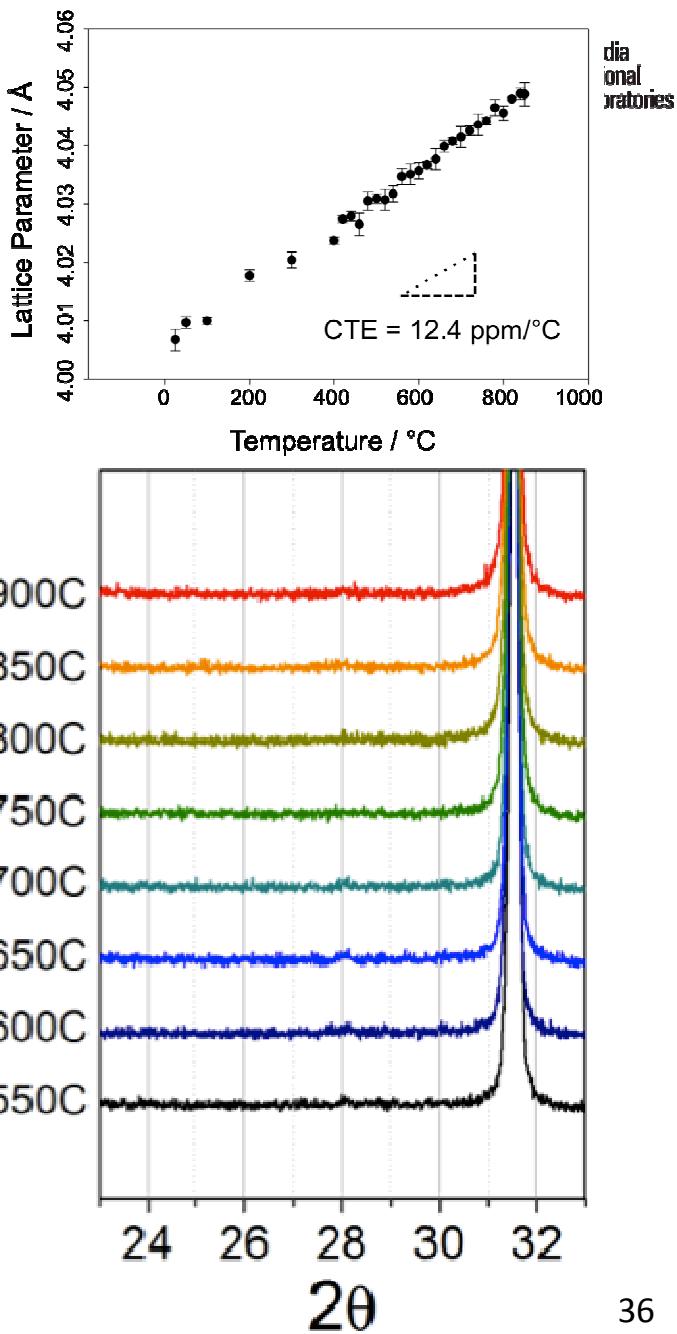
Triamnak *et al.*, in press,
J. Cer. Soc. Jpn. (2014)

Sintering

Relative Linear Shrinkage



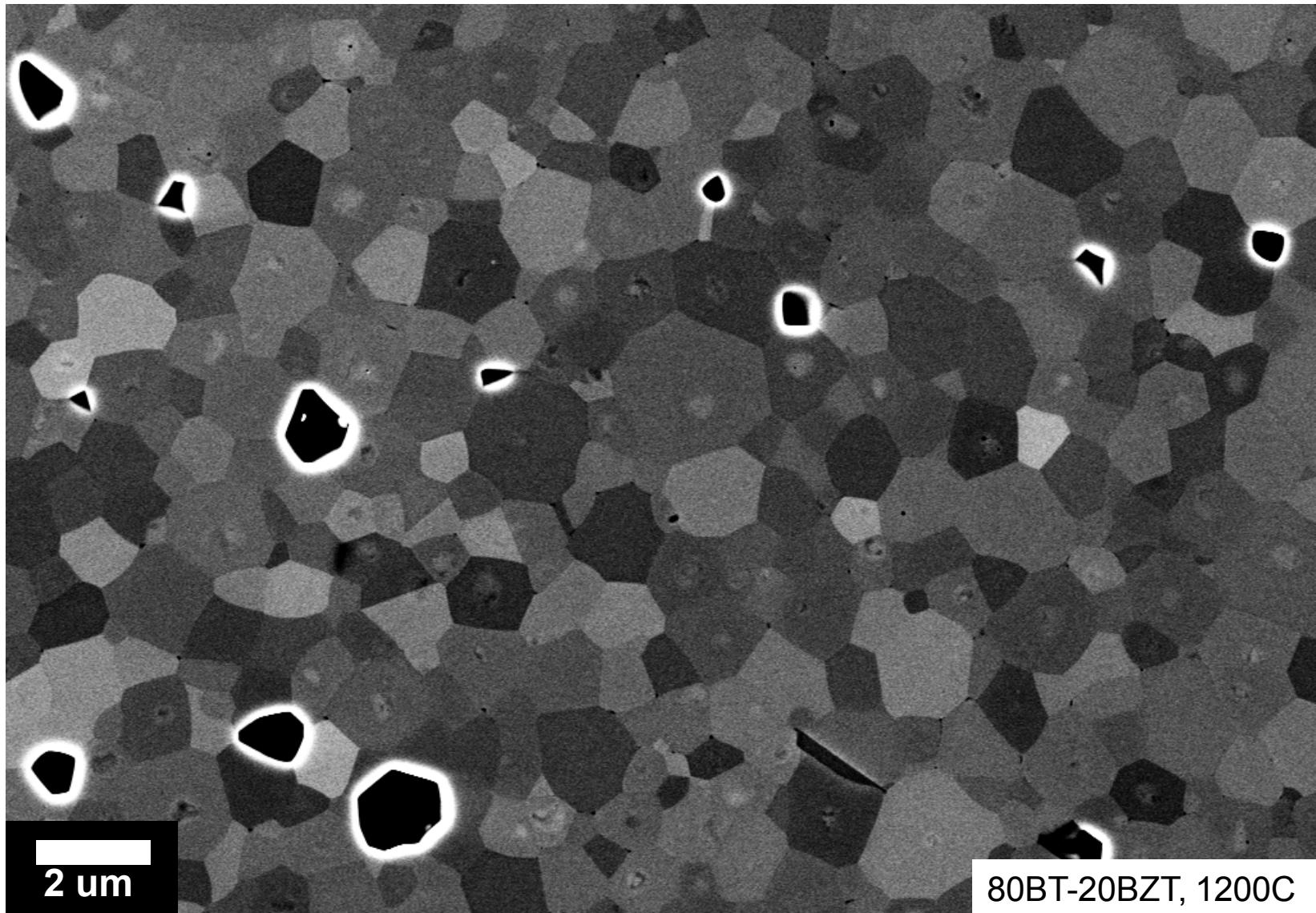
Triamnak *et al.*, in press,
J. Cer. Soc. Jpn. (2014)



Thermally Etched Surface



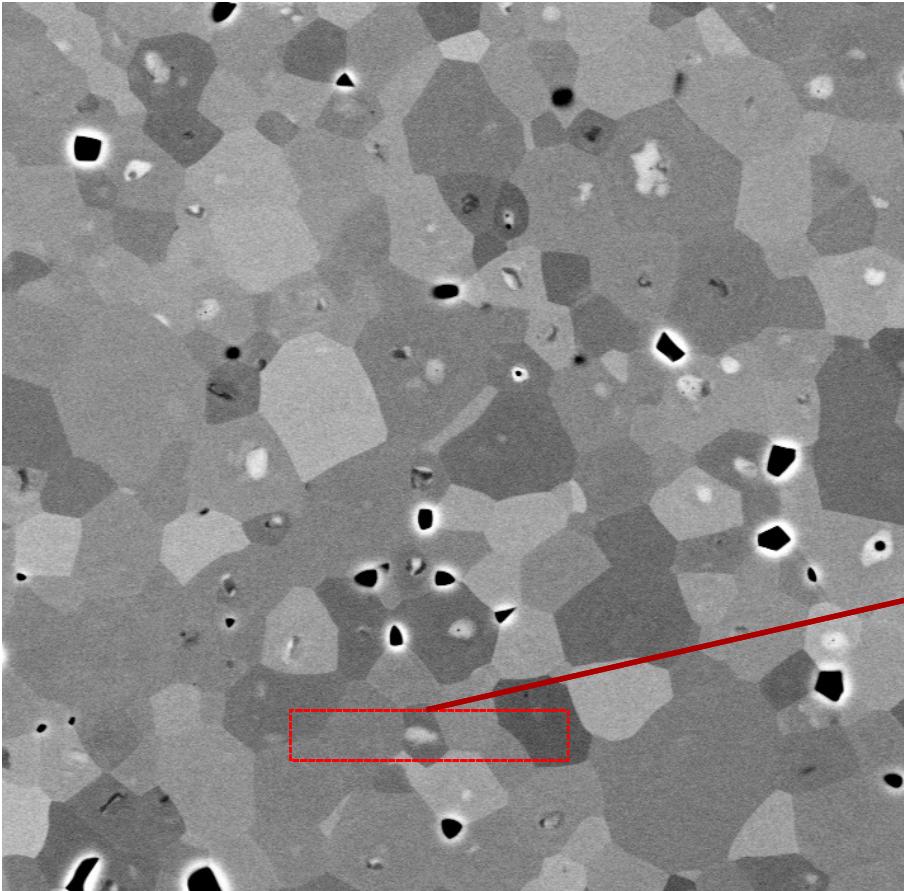
Well-Polished Section, Channeling



Compositional Variation

SEM

HAADF TEM



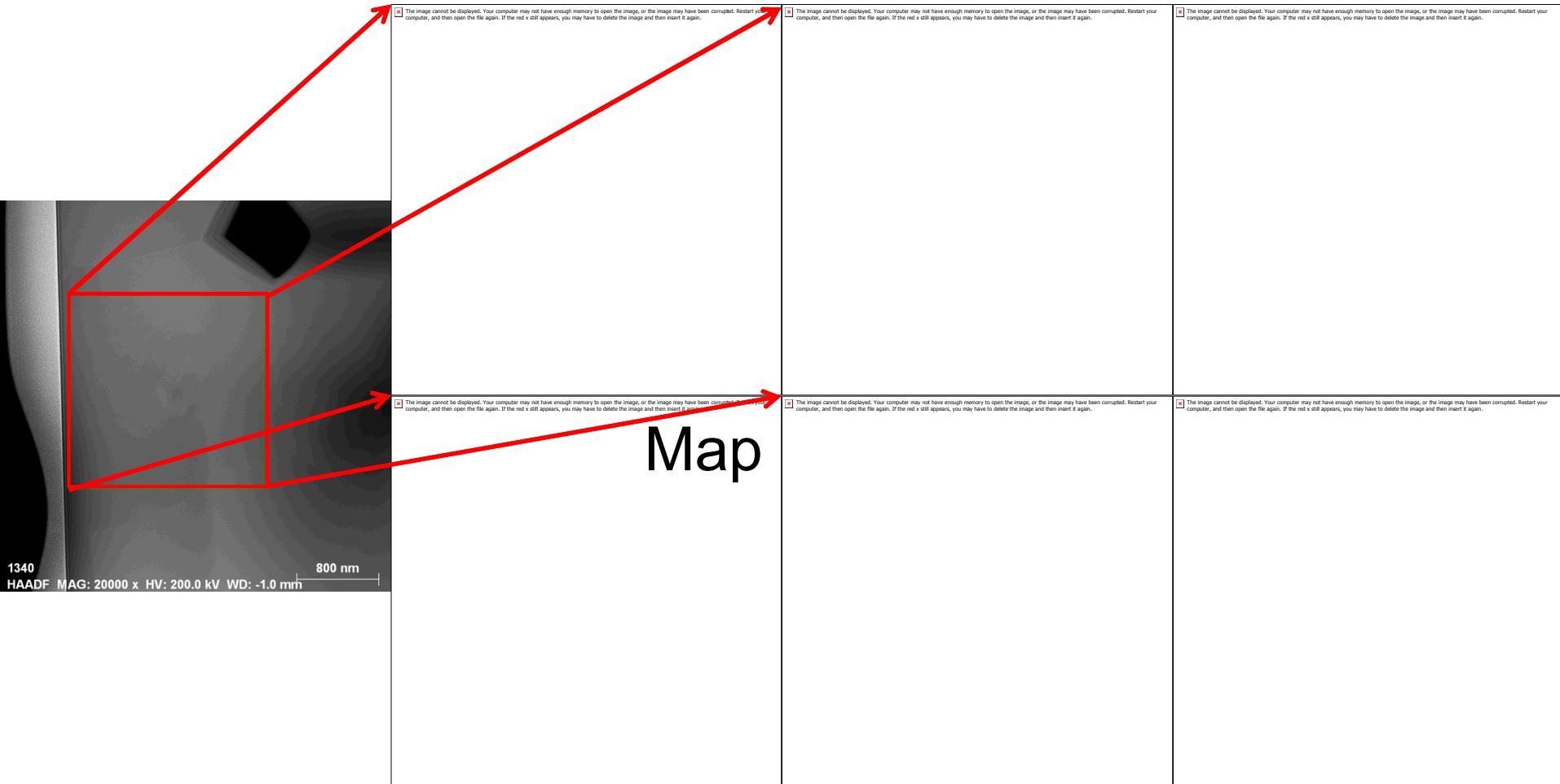
EHT = 15.00 kV WD = 5.5 mm Signal A = BSD File Name = MLCC_1A

1309

MAG: 20000 x HV: 200.0 kV WD: -1.0 mm

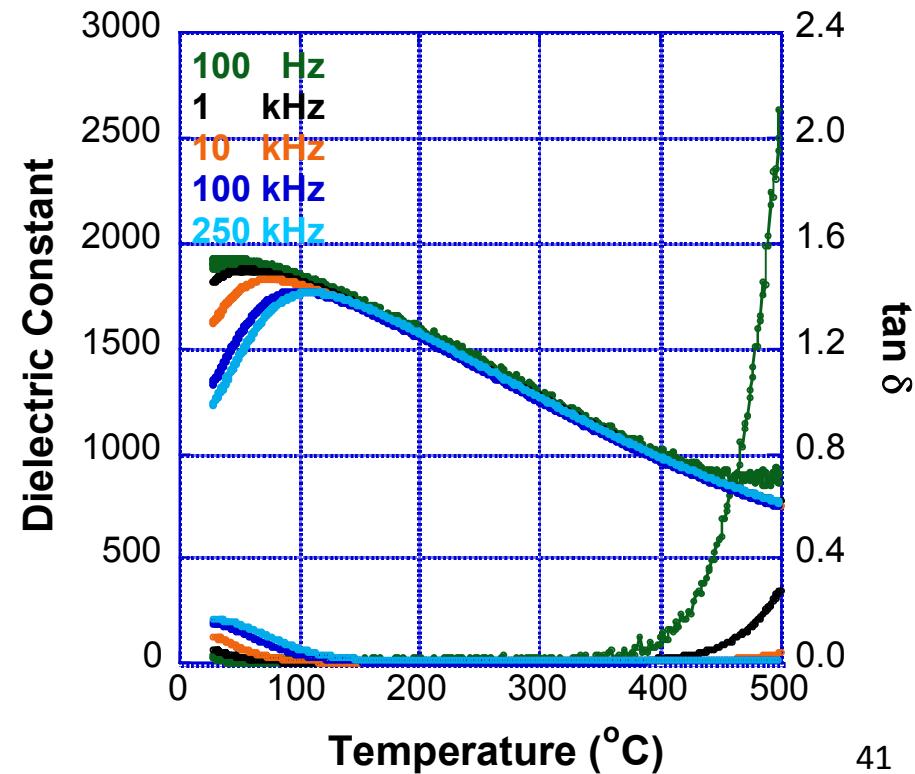
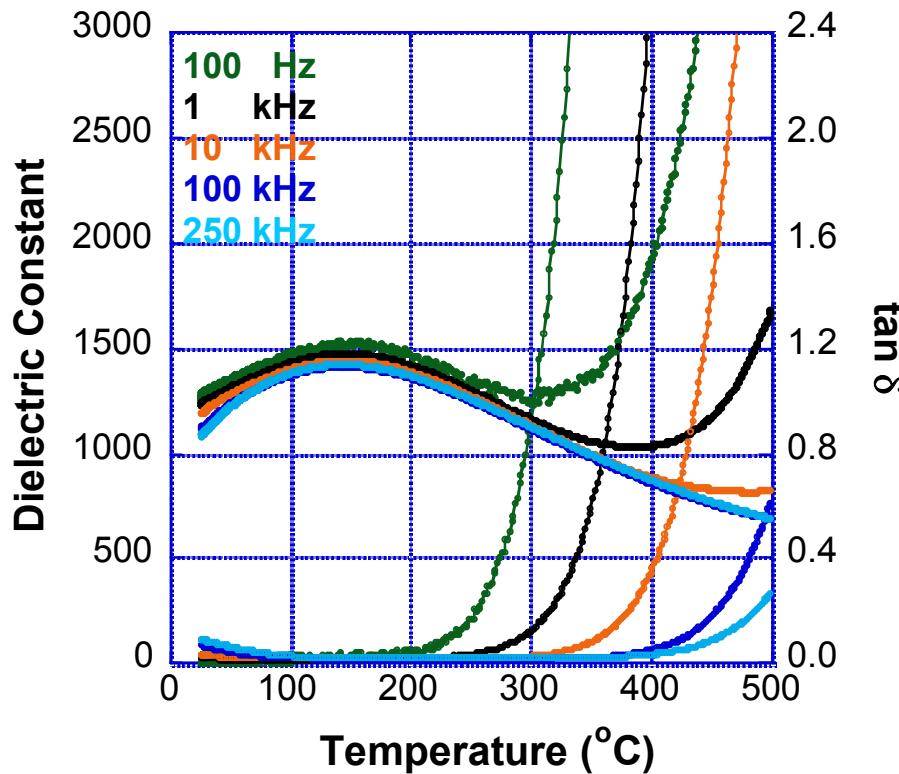
400 nm

Bi and Zn Co-segregation

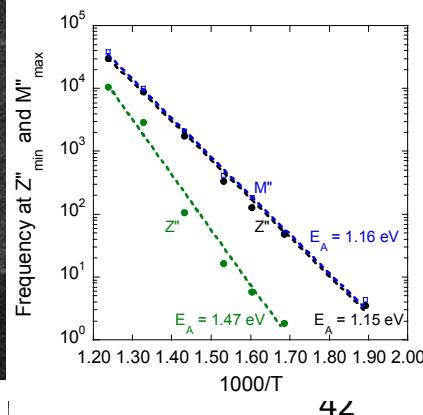
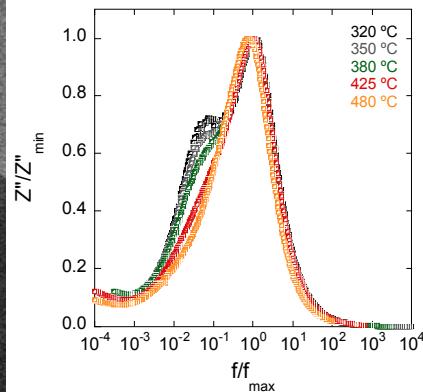
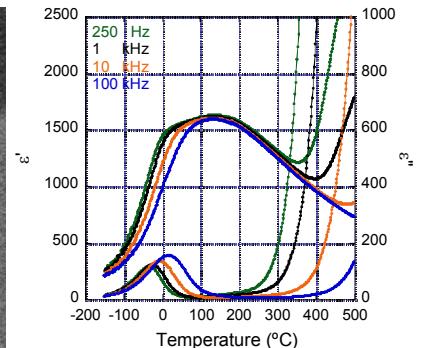
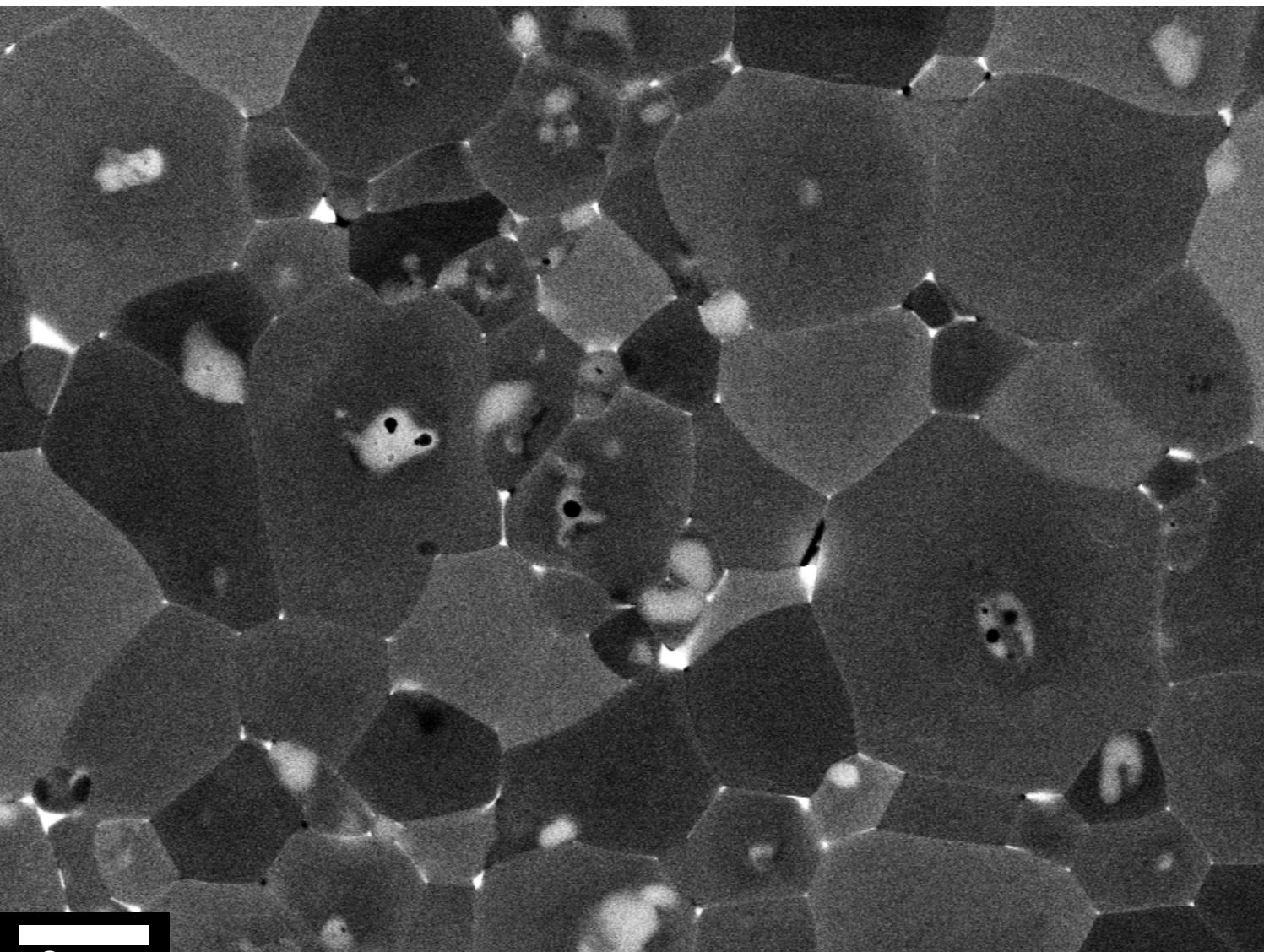


Defect Chemistry Studies

Acceptor (up to 2mol%)		Donor
Low-purity TiO_2 precursor		Ba deficient (compensating)
Ba excess (sub for Bi)		Bi excess (sub for Ba)
Zn excess (sub for Ti)		Ti excess (sub for Zn)
Mn sub for Ti		Nb sub for Ti

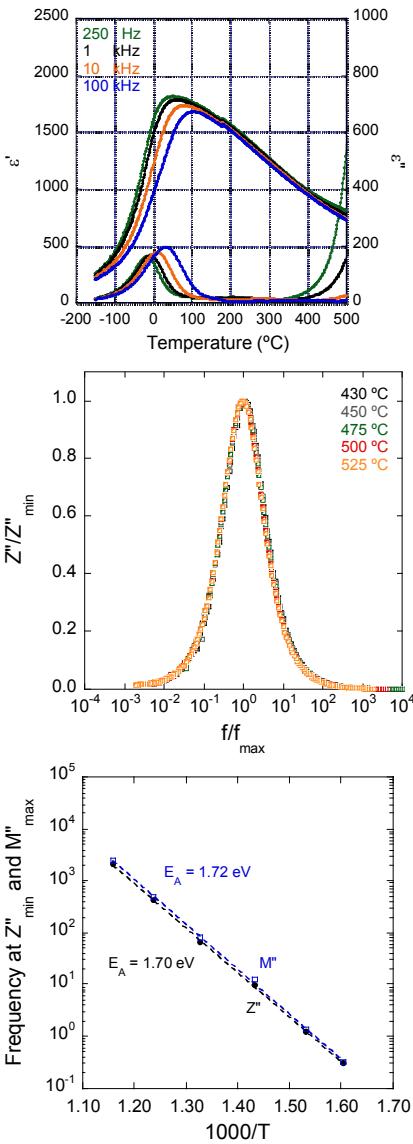
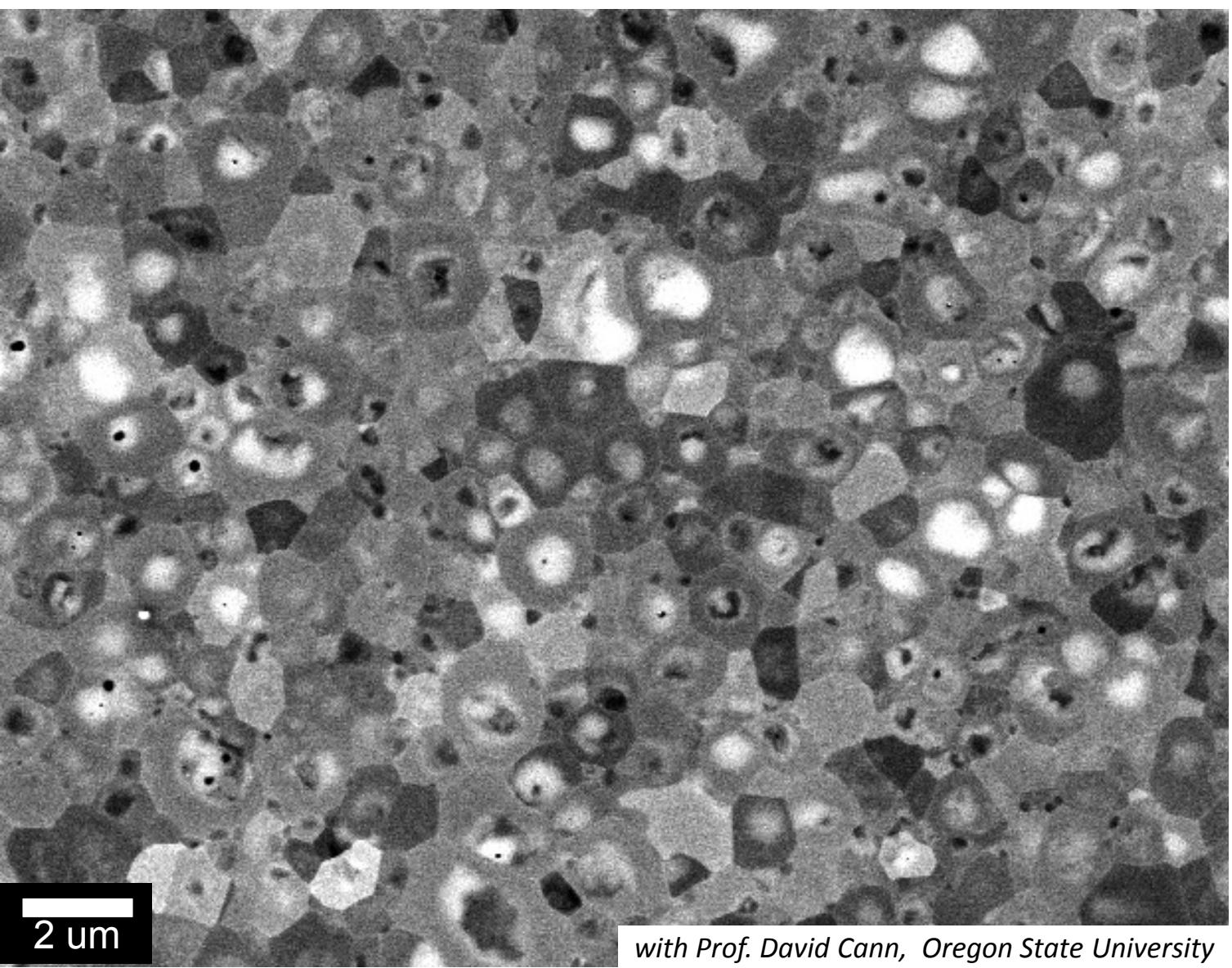


Acceptor Doped



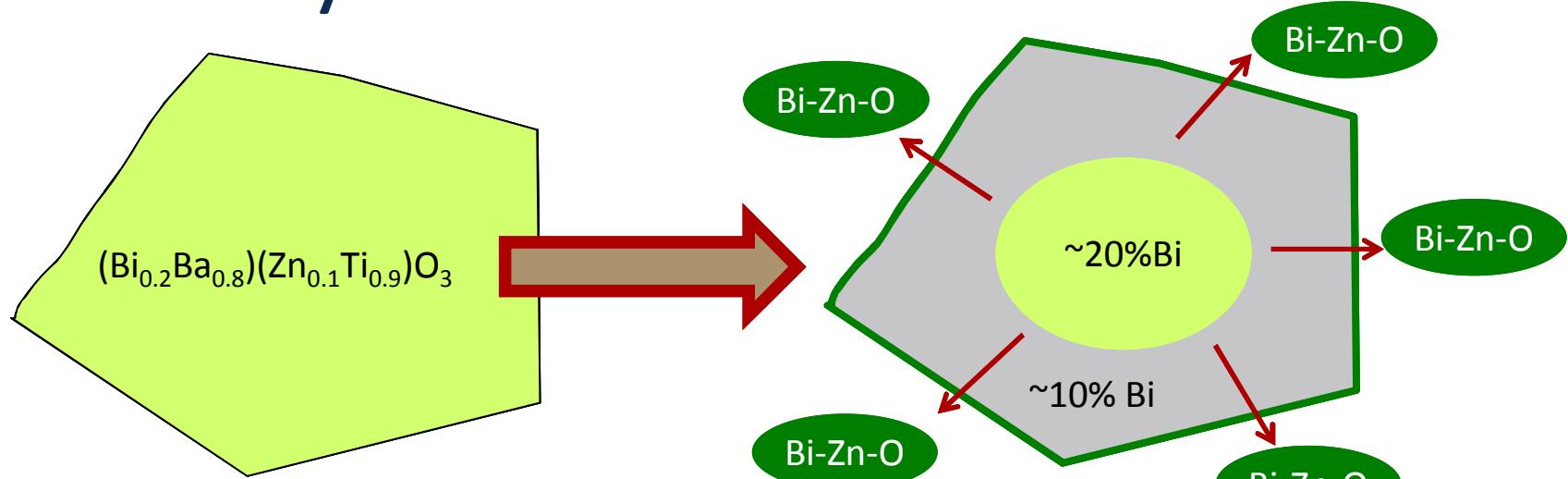
with Prof. David Cann, Oregon State University

Donor Doped

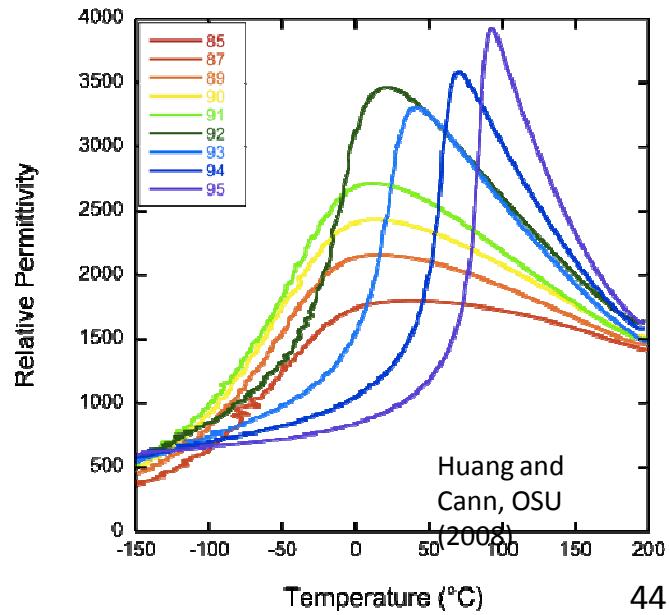
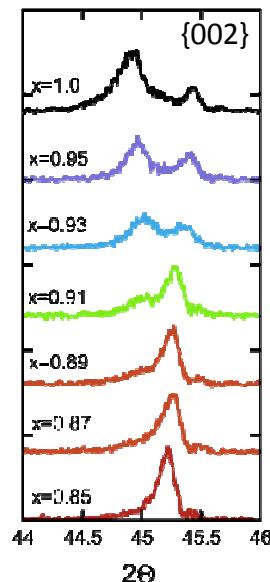
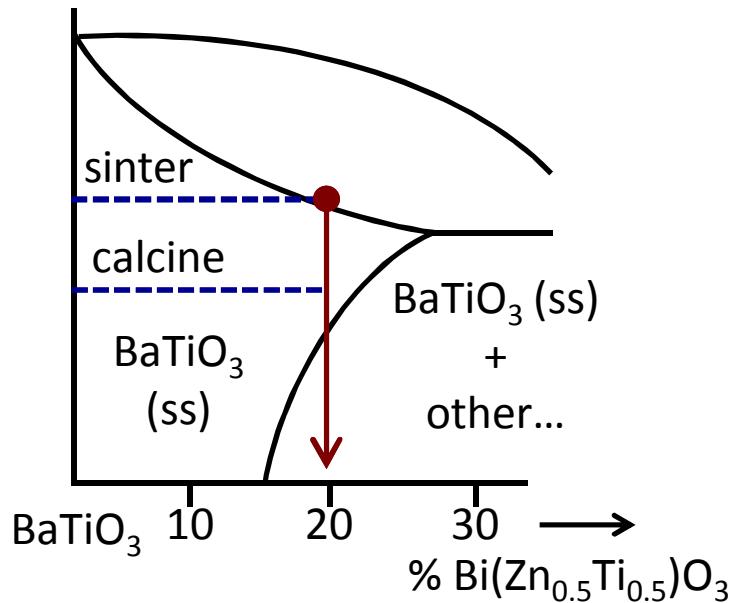


with Prof. David Cann, Oregon State University

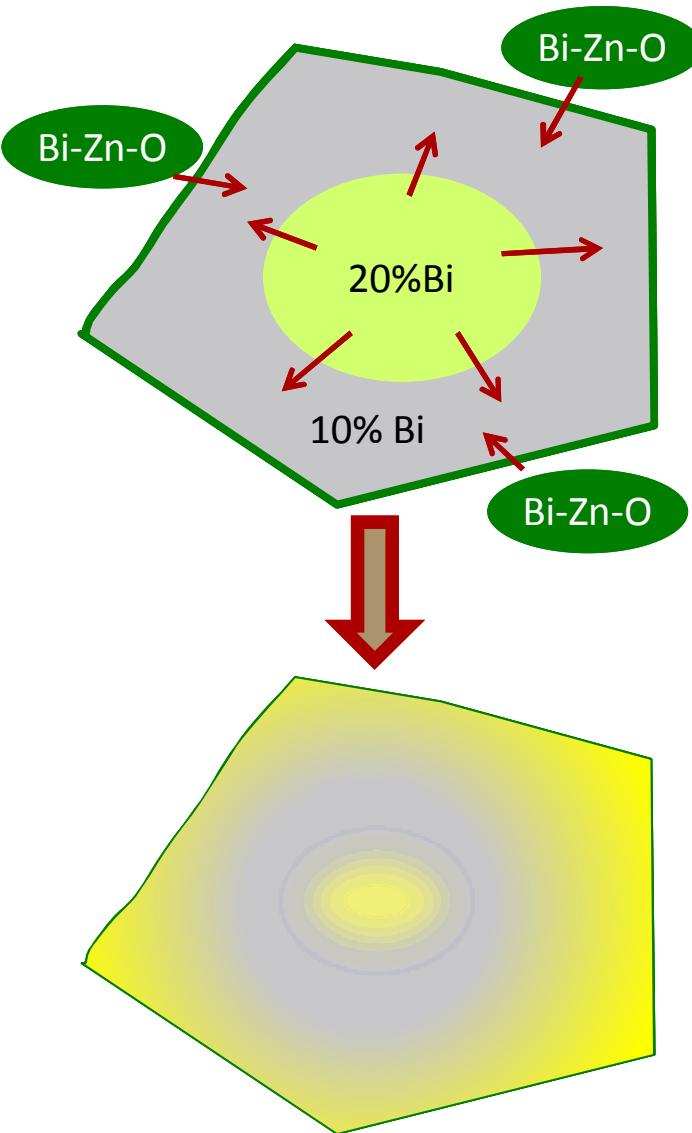
Solubility Limitation?



At Calcination temp (950°C)



Sintering: Donor doped



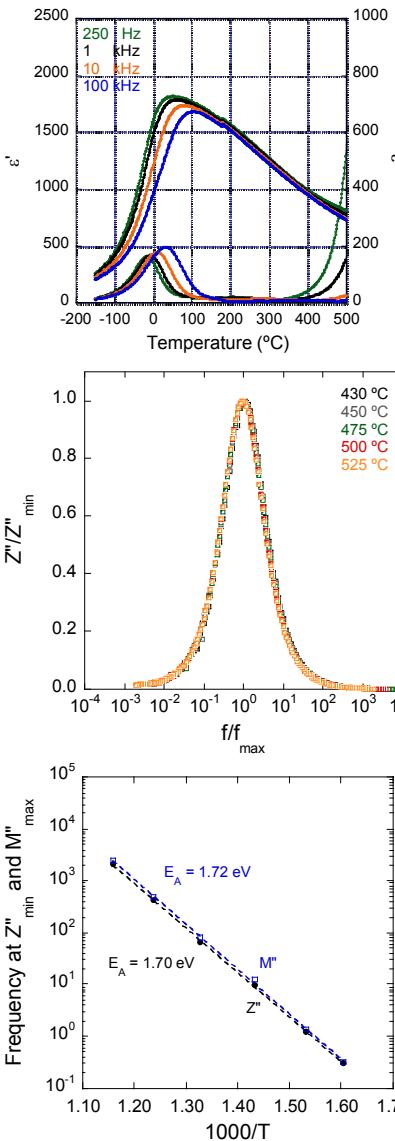
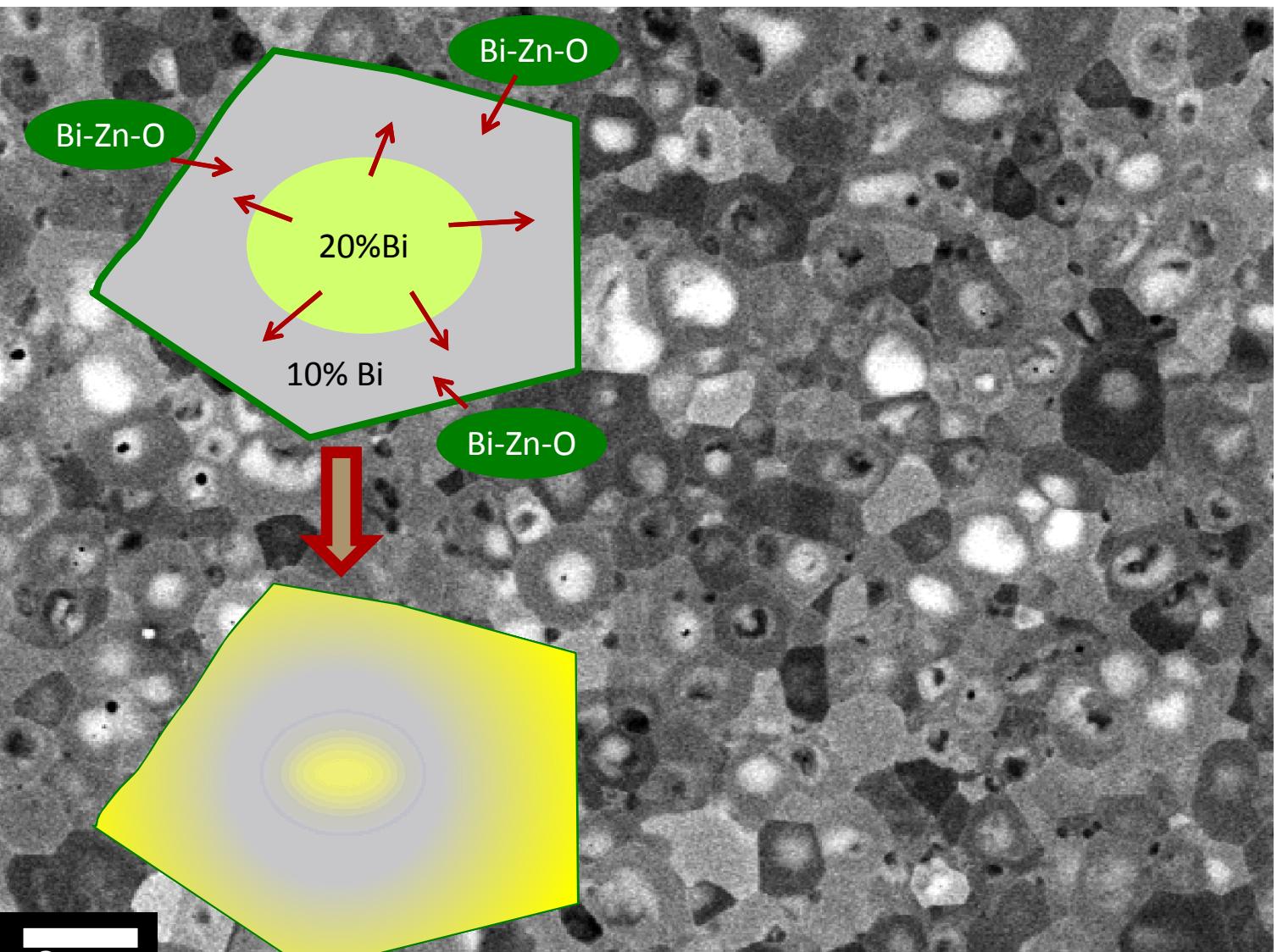
Donor Doped: Cation Vacancies Dominate

- Bi diffuses in from g.b., out from core
- Diffusion **assisted** by cation vacancies

Resultant Microstructure

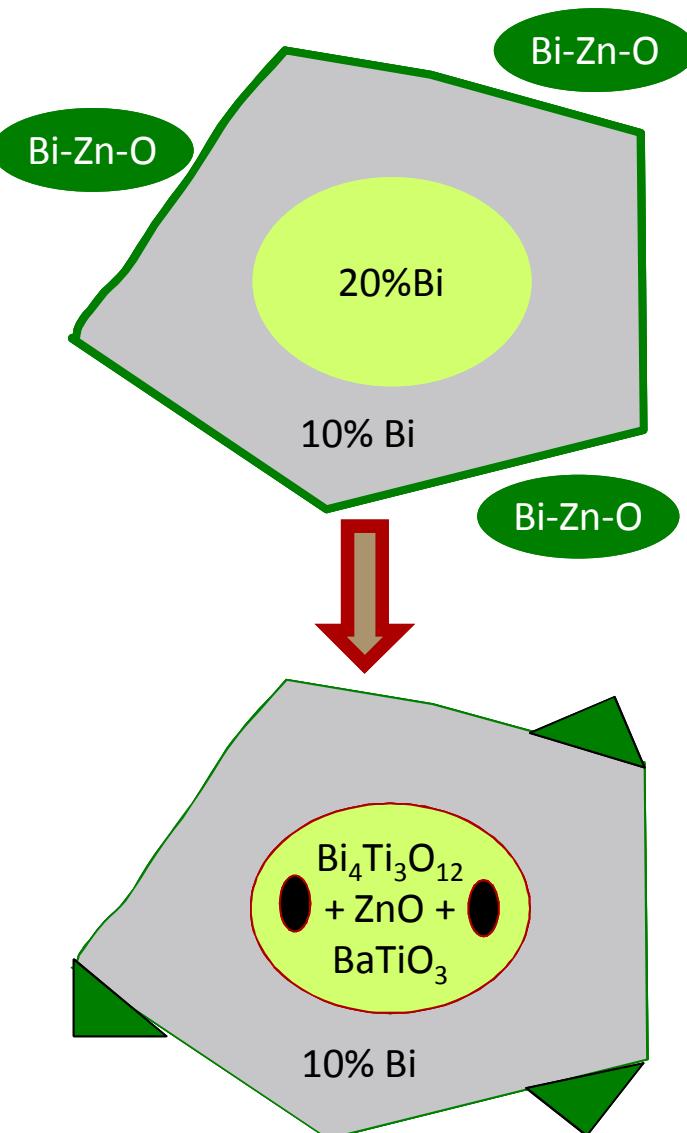
- Relatively homogenous
- Bi-gradient with diffuse boundary due to ample Bi diffusion
- Electrically homogeneous microstructure (single relaxation)

Sintering: Donor doped



with Prof. David Cann, Oregon State University

Sintering: Acceptor doped



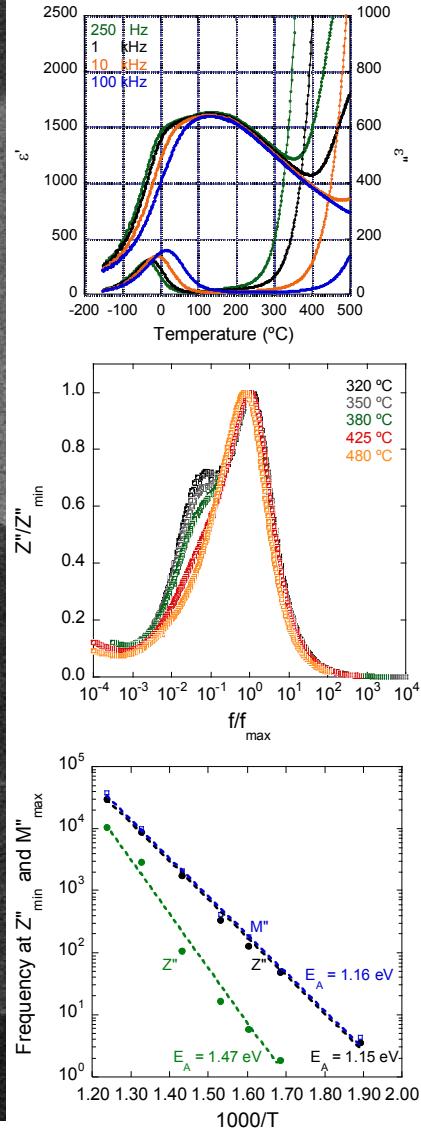
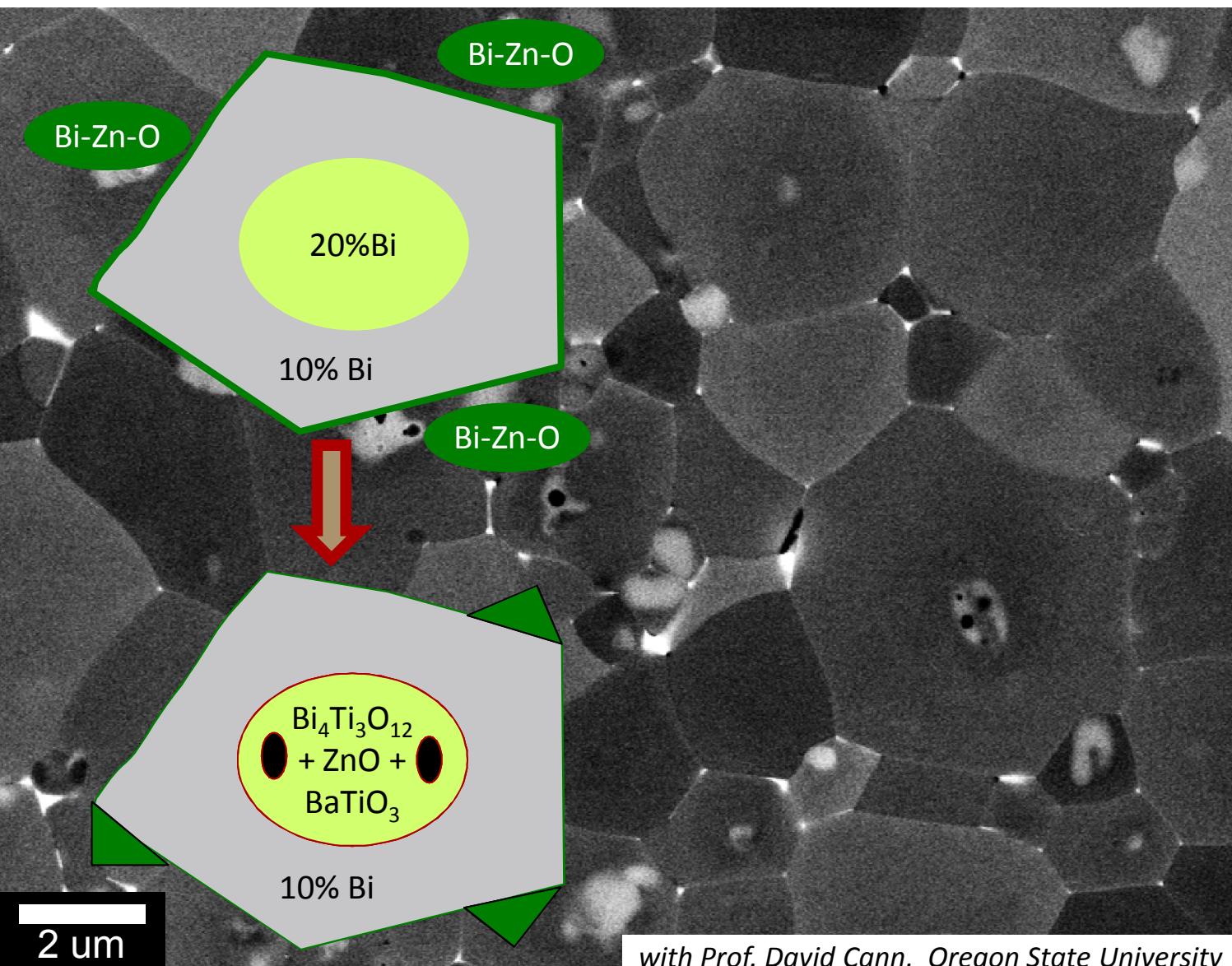
Acceptor Doped: Oxygen Vacancies Dominate

- Bi diffuses in from g.b., out from core
- Diffusion **inhibited** by lack of cation vacancies
- Bi-rich phase at triple points
- Bi-rich cores decompose into equilibrium phases: $\text{Bi}_4\text{Ti}_3\text{O}_{12} + \text{ZnO} + \text{Ba-Ti-O}$

Resultant Microstructure

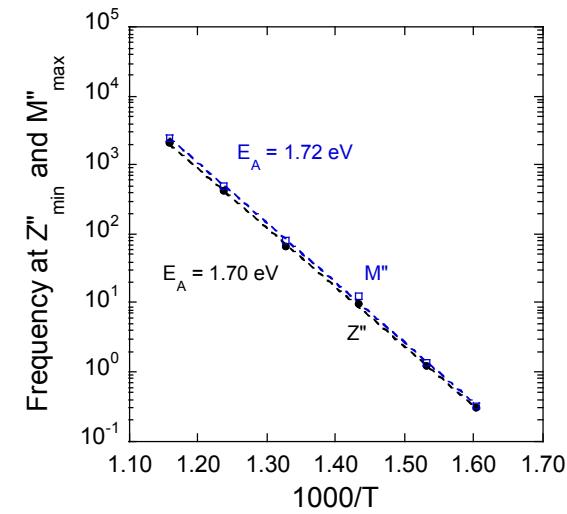
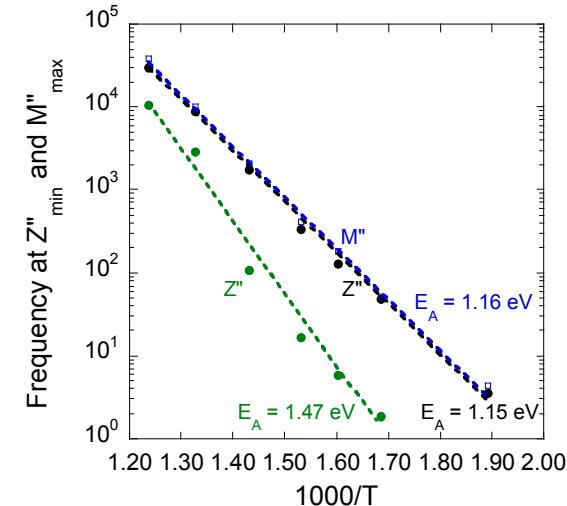
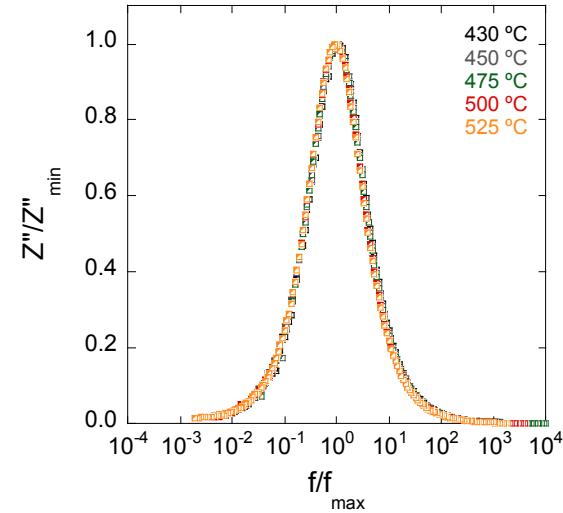
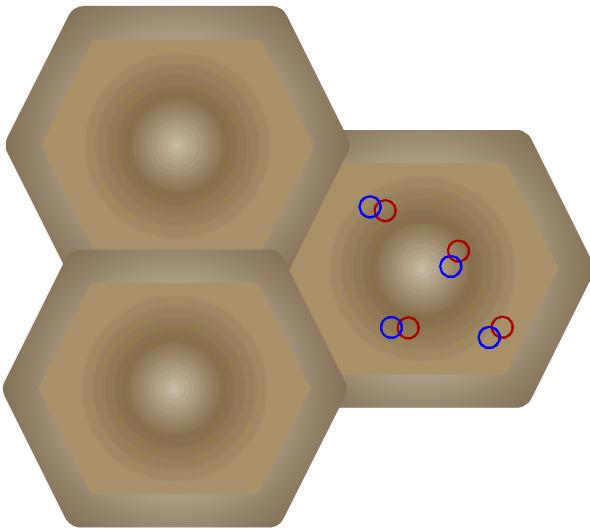
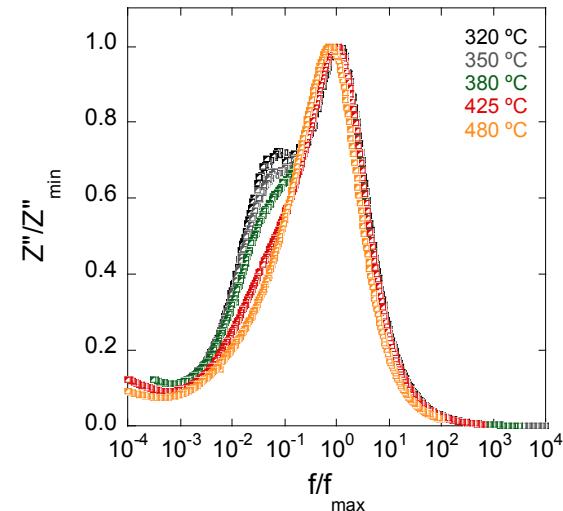
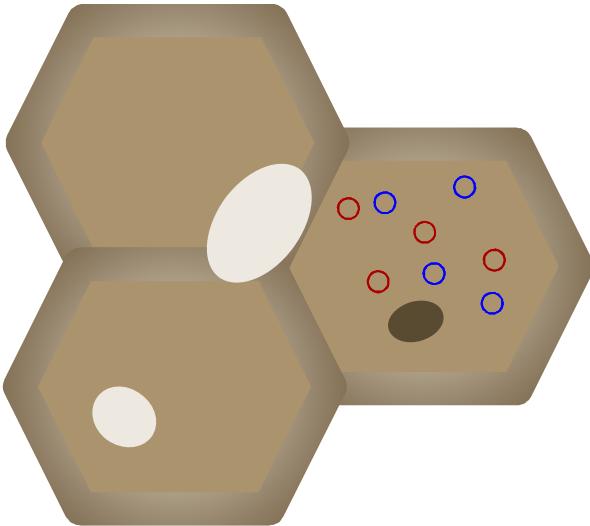
- High-Z phase at triple points
- Well defined core boundary
- Low-Z precipitates in core region
- Electrically heterogeneous microstructure (two relaxations)

Sintering: Acceptor doped



with Prof. David Cann, Oregon State University

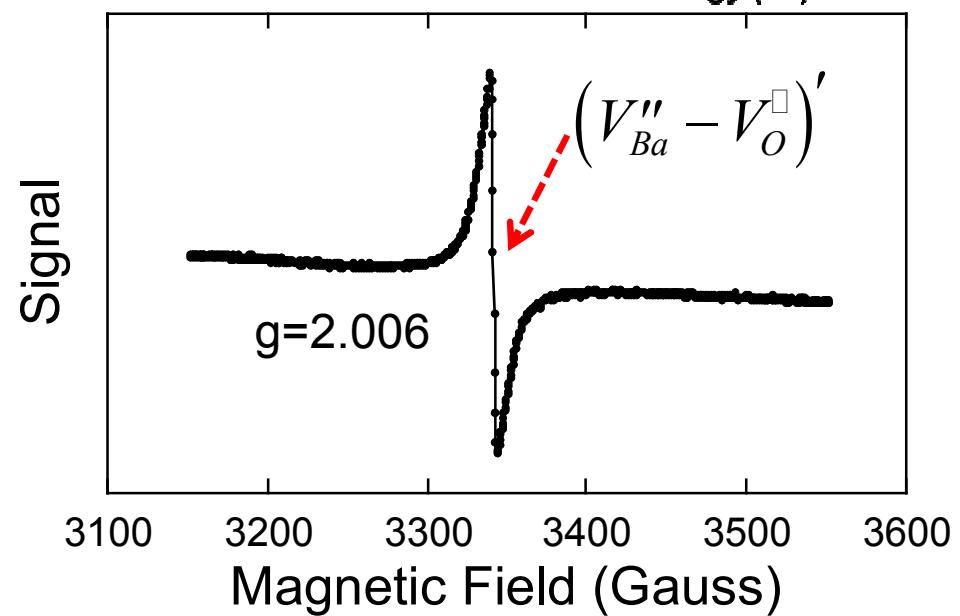
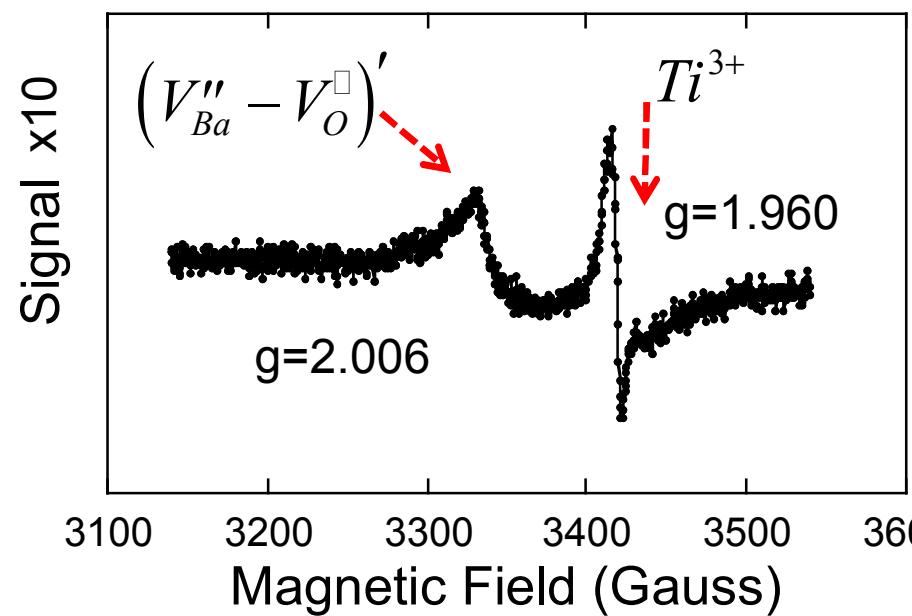
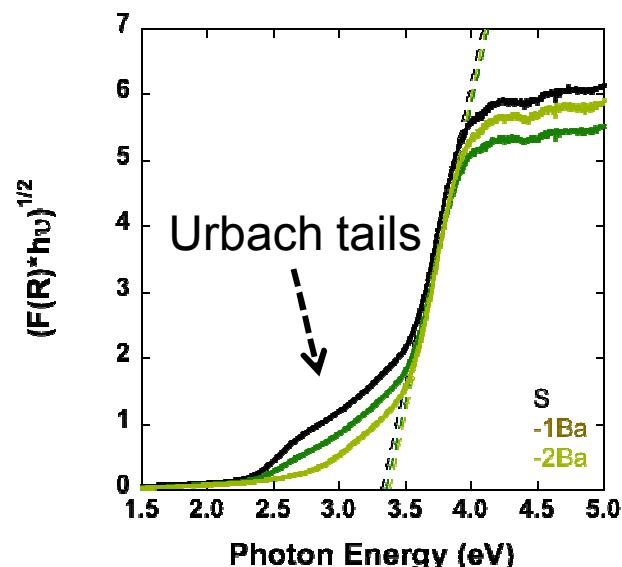
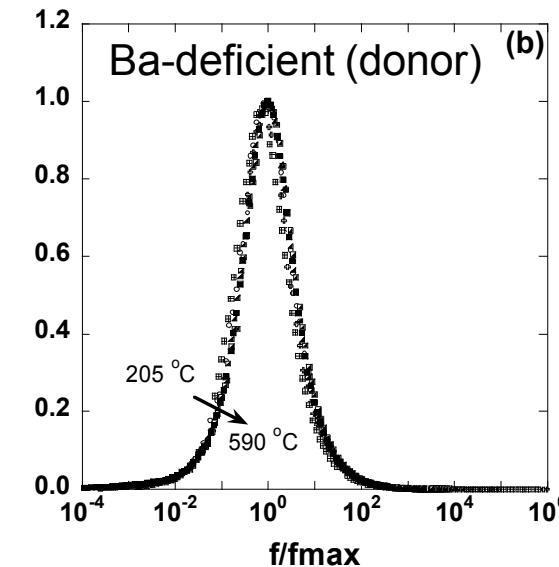
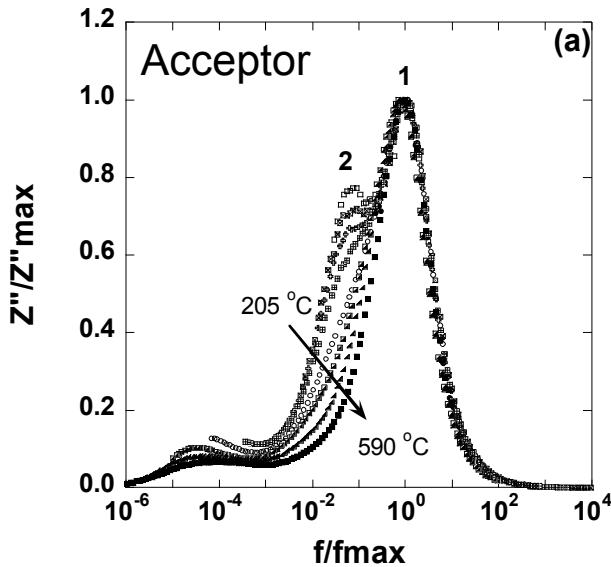
Microscale Heterogeneity



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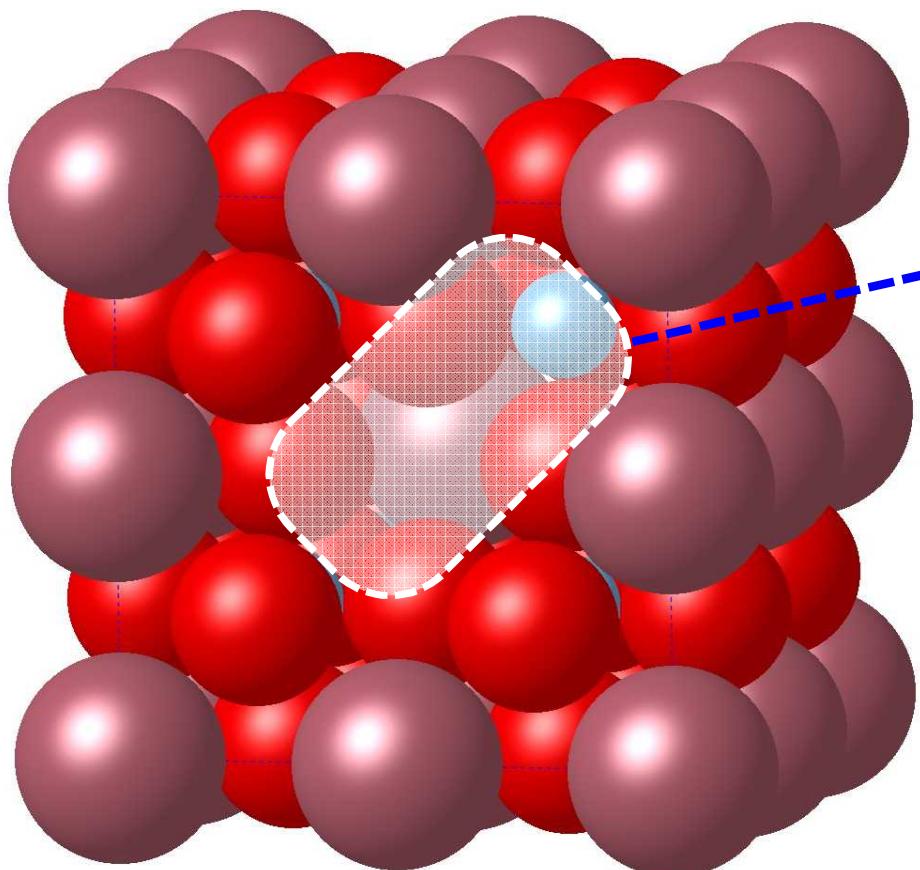
Probing Defects

Raengthon et al., *Appl. Phys. Lett.*, 101 (2012) 112904.



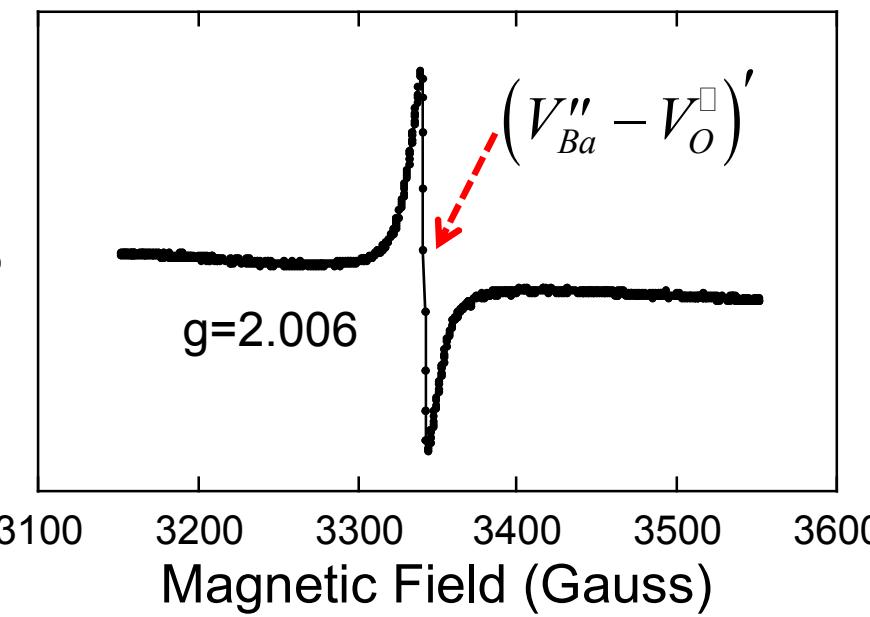
Probing Defects

Raengthon et al., *Appl. Phys. Lett.*, **101** (2012) 112904.



$$(V''_{Ba} - V_O^{\square})$$

Signal

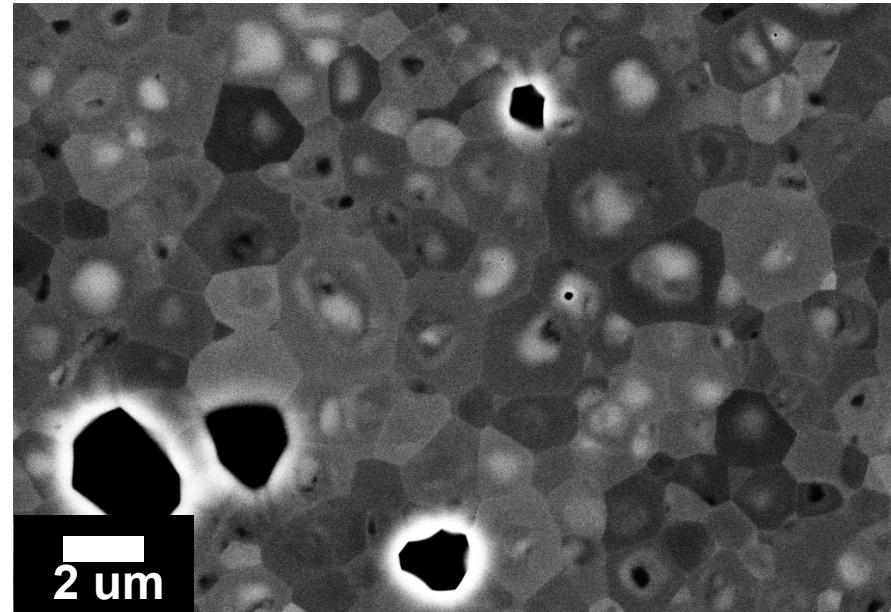
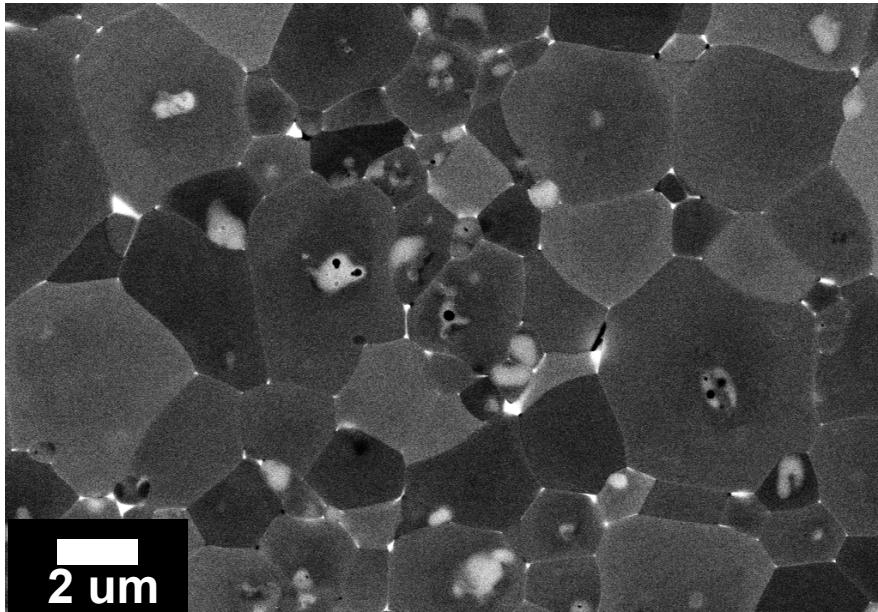


3100 3200 3300 3400 3500 3600

Magnetic Field (Gauss)

Summary

- Complex phase evolution and potential liquid phase(s) enable reduced temperature processing
- Electrical response(s) of weakly-coupled relaxor systems tied to multi-scale chemical heterogeneities
- Tightly bound defects enable high resistivity



Extra Slides Follow

