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Temperature-dependent anhysteretic behavior of co-doped PZT

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The anhysteretic behavior of a soft $\text{Pb}(\text{Zr},\text{Ti})\text{O}_3$ was measured from 25 °C to 175 °C. The experimental determination of the anhysteretic polarization curve, combined with classical P - E and S - E loop measurements, allows for an experimental separation of the reversible and dissipative contributions to the ferroelectric behavior. This approach offers insight into the different mechanisms originating at the microscopic scale and the contribution to the macroscopic ferroelectric properties. It was found that the reversible anhysteretic susceptibility χ_a of the unpoled material increases by 30% from room temperature to 150 °C. On the other hand, the effect on the total susceptibility for a null polarization χ_c increases only by 17% over the same temperature range. Since the difference between χ_a and χ_c reflects the dissipative contribution to the macroscopic ferroelectric behavior, this reveals that dissipation reduces the improvement of susceptibility under increasing temperature. This work illustrates the benefits of separating experimentally the reversible and dissipative contributions to describe the ferroelectric behavior, which can serve as a basis for advanced modeling approaches.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Ferroelectric materials are widely used in electronic applications, such as tunable capacitors, non-volatile memory, oscillators, and filters, as well as transduction applications, such as sensors and actuators. During operation, these materials can be subjected to significant heat due to thermal dissipation (Joule effect) or when the application is used in a harsh environment. The temperature can vary from -20 °C to 85 °C in typical electronic devices and sometimes within a much larger range, like in military applications.^{1,2} The typical temperature range for piezoelectric actuators in fuel injection systems, for example, is from -55 °C to 150 °C.³ Such temperature variations can significantly change the electromechanical behavior of ferroelectric materials through variations in both the intrinsic and extrinsic contributions. The characterization of ferroelectrics under temperature is, therefore, a key point for the design of engineered devices that use ferroelectrics. For instance, a strong nonlinear coupling between the dielectric constant and the temperature was observed in Hooker's work.⁴ Hooker further showed that the coercive field and the remanent polarization of $\text{Pb}(\text{Zr},\text{Ti})\text{O}_3$ (PZT) significantly decrease from 0 °C to 250 °C. These strong couplings are not limited only to electrical properties. The piezoelectric and elastic properties of PZT are also highly affected by temperature changes. In the work of Kaeswurm *et al.*,⁵ significant nonlinear variations in the piezoelectric coefficient d_{33} were found from -150 to 250 °C.

There have been a number of other similar investigations on the temperature-dependence of ferroelectrics.^{6,7} Despite this, however, the influence of temperature on ferroelectrics remains challenging due to a complex thermo-electromechanical coupling. Indeed, the ferroelectric

behavior (polarization P or strain S as a function of applied electric field E) is the result of different intrinsic and extrinsic mechanisms.^{8,9} The intrinsic behavior corresponds to the piezoelectric behavior, also called "volume contribution." It is the lattice contributions that would be observed in a single ferroelectric domain. The extrinsic behavior refers to the hysteretic ferroelectric mechanisms, which correspond to domain switching and domain wall vibration, referred to as macrohysteresis and microhysteresis by Lewis.¹⁰ Similarly, the motion of phase boundaries¹¹ and polarization rotation¹² are also possible. The extrinsic effects contribute to the ferroelectric reversible behavior but are also associated with significant energy dissipation, directly resulting in the typical hysteresis of the P - E and S - E loops observed in ferroelectrics.

A way to simplify the study of ferroelectric behavior is to separate the reversible and dissipative contributions to the macroscopic behavior. Such separation was already conducted in the past for a sub-coercive field using Rayleigh analysis.¹³⁻¹⁶ These studies helped to distinguish the reversible and irreversible domain wall motion around a metastable equilibrium position. Another approach is to separate dissipative phenomena as a whole from the reversible part of the behavior. This reversible part is associated with the absolute equilibrium of domain walls, without introducing the role of domain wall pinning. We have recently shown¹⁷ that the reversible part of ferroelectric behavior can be experimentally reconstructed by determining the anhysteretic behavior. In analogy to the anhysteretic curve for ferromagnetic materials,¹⁸ a reversible P - E curve is experimentally determined through the application of a bipolar electric field with a decaying maximum electric field, resulting in a so-called anhysteretic curve or an ideal polarization curve. The anhysteretic curve is the representation of the reversible part of the

material behavior that reflects the state of the microstructure in the absence of dissipation effects, such as friction, domain switching, domain wall pinning, and dielectric losses. In the case of hysteretic behavior, domain walls are constrained by internal forces (pinning on defects, friction effects at domain, and grain boundaries). Due to these forces, a threshold energy must be overcome to move from a given domain configuration to another. This leads to the typical hysteretic shape of P - E loops. In the case of anhysteretic behavior, for a given level of electric field, these internal forces are overcome by providing the material with sufficient energy to ensure that domain walls can reach their absolute equilibrium state, with no impediment due to defects. The anhysteretic curve then represents the behavior of the material as if domains could expand and reduce freely: the behavior is still non-linear but reversible, meaning that it shows no dissipation.

Such a representation of the ferroelectric behavior as the sum of reversible and dissipative contributions can be of great help to develop modeling tools for ferroelectric materials.¹⁹ Importantly, however, the temperature dependence of anhysteretic ferroelectric behavior has never been investigated, despite the significant effects on the ferroelectric mechanisms induced by temperature, as discussed by Hall.²⁰ Herbiet *et al.*,²¹ for instance, observed a 40% decrease in the reversible extrinsic contribution to the permittivity from 0 to 150 °C.²¹ In another work from Zhang *et al.*,²² a variation of 0.7%/°C was observed on the extrinsic permittivity around 0 °C.²² Such temperature effects have also been observed on the piezoelectric constant. In a study on a PIN-PMN-PT single crystal, Schader *et al.*²³ found that the intrinsic contribution to d_{33} quadruples from room temperature to 100 °C. In addition to this, the intrinsic d_{33} at room temperature was found to represent 80% of the total piezoelectric constant in single crystal PZN-PT.²⁴

In this work, for the first time, the anhysteretic behavior of a ferroelectric ceramic is studied at elevated temperatures. The protocol and the experimental setup used for the measurements are presented in a first part; details are given to answer technical issues associated with the measurements. In a second part, the temperature dependence of the behavior is measured through classical P - E and S - E loops as well as the P - E anhysteretic curve. Using post-treatment processes, the S - E anhysteretic curve is obtained. A set of parameters are then defined, and their evolution as a function of temperature is discussed. The initial slope of the anhysteretic curve, which is referred to as the anhysteretic susceptibility χ_a , is determined as a function of temperature. Information on the contribution of the dissipation mechanism on the overall macroscopic behavior is obtained via a detailed comparison of the conventional susceptibility χ_c . The results show how the changes in behavior due to elevated temperature can be distributed between the different ferroelectric mechanisms.

II. EXPERIMENTAL METHODOLOGY

The material investigated was the commercially available polycrystalline $\text{Pb}_{0.990}(\text{ZrTi}_{0.47}(\text{Sb}_{0.67}\text{Nb}_{0.33})_{0.08})\text{O}_3$ (PIC 151, PI Ceramics). The samples were ground to the final dimensions of 5 mm × 5 mm × 1 mm parallelepipeds

using a surface grinder. Gold electrodes were sputtered onto opposing 5 mm × 5 mm surfaces. Prior to measurement, each sample was thermally depolarized by heating up to 600 °C and then cooling down to room temperature at a rate of 100 °C/h. The electric displacement was measured during experimentation with a modified Sawyer-Tower circuit²⁵ that consisted of an integrated reference capacitor (4.67 μF) and a 1:1 operational amplifier. The uniaxial strain was obtained from a linear variable differential transformer sensor (HBM 1-WA/2MM-T) and from the data acquisition system HBM MGCplus AB22A. Voltage was applied with a high voltage amplifier (20/20C, TREK Inc.) controlled by either a function generator (HP 33120A, Agilent Technologies Inc.) or a LabVIEW program via an analog output device (NI PCI-6221, National Instruments Corp.). The same LabVIEW program was also used for data acquisition and analysis, i.e., electric field, strain, and electric displacement. During testing the sample was immersed in a temperature-controlled silicone oil (WACKER AK 200, Wacker Chemie AG) bath (Haake 30P) to prevent electrical arcing. During experiments, the silicone oil was heated and cooled by an active temperature control system integrated into the bath with a resolution of ±0.1 °C.

Because defects cannot be fully eliminated from the material, it is not possible to directly determine the anhysteretic curve from the typical bipolar electric field loading. Such bipolar loadings are well known and result in the classical P - E loop with the corresponding hysteresis. The anhysteretic behavior, however, can be reconstructed following a specific experimental procedure. The method, referred to as the bias field method, has been detailed in our recent paper.¹⁷ In this method, the material is loaded by an electric field $E(t)$ composed of an alternating decaying component and a bias field component [see Eq. (1)]. At the end of this electrical loading process, the domain state has reached a stable equilibrium, which is independent from the dissipation sources. The following equation was used to apply a decaying electric field to the sample during testing at various bias electric field levels:

$$E(t) = E_{max} \sin(\omega t) \exp(-k\omega t) + E_{bias} [1 - \exp(-k\omega t)], \quad (1)$$

where E_{max} is the maximum amplitude of the alternating field, ω is the angular frequency of the alternating field ($\omega = \frac{f}{2\pi}$ with f the frequency), t is time ($t \in [0; t_{max}]$ with t_{max} the duration of the measurement), k is the exponential decay constant (or damping factor), and E_{bias} is the amplitude of the bias field.

During testing, the ferroelectric sample was electrically loaded, as described by Eq. (1). For $t \geq t_{max}$, the remaining applied field is a constant E_{bias} , where the corresponding electric displacement was found to stabilize to an equilibrium value D_a . The measurement of the couple (E_{bias} , D_a) provides one point of the anhysteretic curve. The full sequence is then repeated for different E_{bias} values to construct the full anhysteretic curve. For this reason, an anhysteretic curve cannot be measured in one continuous sweep. It is important to note that the anhysteretic electric

displacement D_a is not strictly independent of the selected loading parameters, i.e., E_{max} , f , k , and t_{max} . The independence can nevertheless be assumed when: (i) the maximum field amplitude is high enough so that the technical saturation is reached before the exponential decay towards the bias field, which ensures that dissipation effects are overcome whatever the initial equilibrium position; (ii) the frequency is low enough to be considered quasi-static as the influence of defects on domains alignment is not negligible for dynamic loadings; (iii) the decay constant is sufficiently small to prevent domain walls to stop on a metastable equilibrium; and (iv) the duration of the anhysteretic sequence is long enough to have a negligible polarization hysteresis at the end of the experiment. The effect of E_{max} , f , and k on the anhysteretic polarization was investigated for PIC151. It was found that for $E_{bias} \leq 2$ kV/mm, the following conditions ensured the repeatability of the measurements: $E_{max} \geq 3$ kV/mm, $f \leq 0.5$ Hz, $t_{max} > 60$ s, and $k \leq 0.015$.

As previously noted, the polarization hysteresis at the end of the experiment must be negligible to correctly measure D_a . In other words, variations of $E(t)$ around t_{max} must be small and thus, t_{max} must be set high enough. However, the t_{max} value cannot be set arbitrarily high due to the sample conductivity. Although the current flowing through the sample does not contribute to its polarization, it appears as a time-dependent drift in electric displacement due to charge accumulation on the reference capacitor in the Sawyer-Tower circuit. While this conduction is generally low and can, therefore, be neglected at low temperatures, an increase in the conductivity of PZT at high temperature²⁶ can influence the measurements. A way to limit the apparent electric displacement drift is to limit the experiment duration t_{max} . In this work, conductivity effects were investigated (see Appendix A) and the study revealed that t_{max} should be less than 60 s to keep the polarization drift under 2% of the major

loop amplitude. Given the chosen parameters, the amplitude in polarization of the last pseudo-period does not exceed 1% of the major loop amplitude, which is acceptable. Duration of 60 s is then adopted for all experiments. For $E_{max} > 1$ kV/mm and $T > 150^\circ\text{C}$, the duration needs to be reduced because of a higher conductivity. For the four corresponding points, t_{max} is progressively reduced to 20 s.

III. RESULTS

The PZT sample was first analyzed by measuring the classical P - E and S - E hysteresis loops at various temperatures from 25°C to 175°C (Fig. 1). All the loops were measured using a sine waveform with a frequency of 0.5 Hz and a maximum electric field of 4 kV/mm. The P - E loops were centered using the minimum and maximum polarization values [origin defined as $(P_{max} + P_{min})/2$]. The reference point between strain-electric field loops [Fig. 1(b)] was the remanent strain at zero electric field. With an increase in temperature, there is an apparent decrease in both the remanent polarization and the coercive field, both well-known phenomena in PZT.²⁷ Despite this, however, the maximum strain was found to correspond well to previous temperature-dependent measurements on a similar composition.²⁸

Following the measurement procedure outlined in Sec. II, the anhysteretic curve was characterized from 25°C to 175°C (Fig. 2). As the polarization is a relative measurement, three P - E loops were measured at 4 kV/mm before each anhysteretic measurement. The reference was then defined as $(P_{max} + P_{min})/2$ similar to P - E loops of Fig. 1. As expected, the anhysteretic curves are non-linear with a steep variation at low fields and saturation at high fields. In the material investigated here, the residual polarization at $E = 0$ kV/mm can reach up to $1 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$, which is approximately 2.5% of the maximum polarization. This is likely due

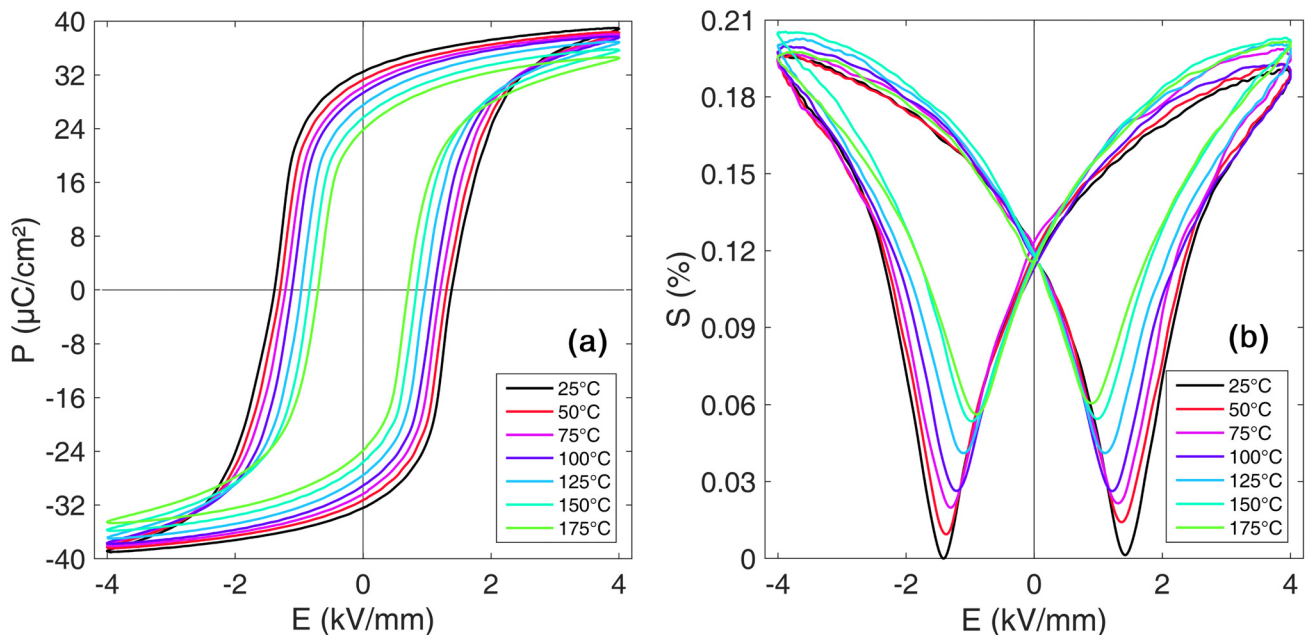


FIG. 1. (a) Polarization- and (b) strain-electric field hysteresis loops measured at various temperatures from 25°C to 175°C . The applied electric field had a sinusoidal waveform at 0.5 Hz.

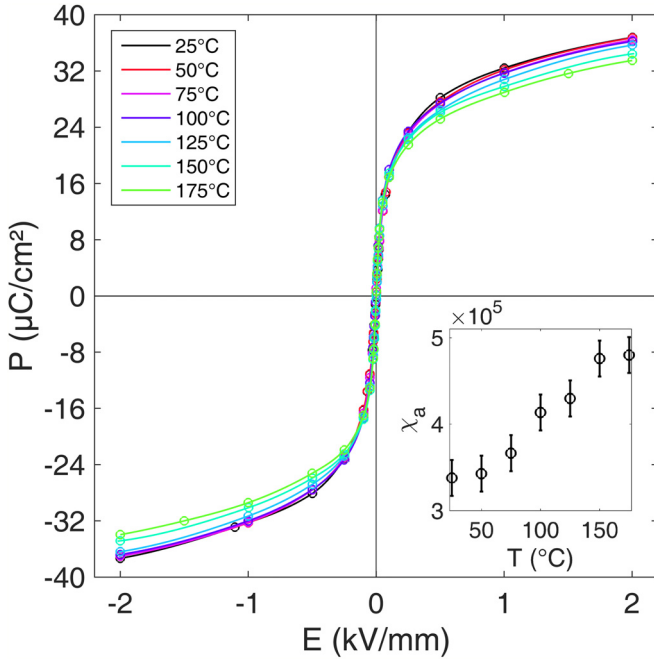


FIG. 2. Anhyseretic polarization curves measured at various temperatures between 25°C and 175°C ($E_{max} = 4 \text{ kV mm}^{-1}$; $f = 0.5 \text{ Hz}$; $t = 60 \text{ s}$; $k = 0.015$). The inset shows the anhyseretic susceptibility at $E = 0$ as a function of temperature.

to residual stresses or switching effects (due to domain wall pinning) inducing a residual polarization.

Similarly, it is also possible to simultaneously measure the anhyseretic S - E curve. In the present case, however, it was not possible to obtain a reliable measurement of the anhyseretic strain due to the measurement duration and external vibrations. For that reason, the anhyseretic strain was estimated by determining the electrostrictive behavior, similar to a previous study that used this dependence to characterize and model PZT as a function of temperature from

room temperature to 200°C.²⁹ It was found that the electrostrictive $S(P)$ relation gives a reliable representation of the ferroelectric behavior in this temperature range. In the present work, $S(P)$ is obtained for all temperatures by combining the electromechanical measurements from Fig. 1. Although the strain and polarization are measured simultaneously, a slight time phase-shift was observed between the two variables. This phase-shift was estimated by cross-correlation between $S(t)$ and $P(t)$ and was found to increase with temperature, without exceeding 14 ms at 0.5 Hz. For a given temperature, the phase-shift appeared to be constant as a function of time. As $S(t)$ was the delayed signal, the phenomenon was attributed to the time response of the LVDT sensor. $S(t)$ was then time-shifted to compensate for this phase difference. Figure 3(a) shows the resulting temperature-dependence of $S(P)$. $S(P)$ was fitted with a representative even polynomial function:

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^n Q_{2i-1} P^{2i}(E), \quad (2)$$

where Q is the electrostrictive coefficient.

In the present case, the $S(P)$ function is satisfactorily approximated using a 6th order polynomial fitting ($n = 3$) for all temperatures. The estimated anhyseretic strain [Fig. 3(b)] is then computed from the polynomial fittings and from the anhyseretic polarization curves. The anhyseretic strain exhibits a slight asymmetry for all temperatures (also visible on the S - E loops). At 25°C, the difference between strains at maximum ($E = 2 \text{ kV}/\text{mm}$) and minimum ($E = -2 \text{ kV}/\text{mm}$) electric fields is about 0.01%. This asymmetry comes from the anhyseretic polarization since there is a $0.8 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ difference between values at maximum ($E = 2 \text{ kV}/\text{mm}$) and minimum electric field ($E = -2 \text{ kV}/\text{mm}$). The data in Figs. 3(a) and 3(b) are then taken from Fig. 1, whereas the

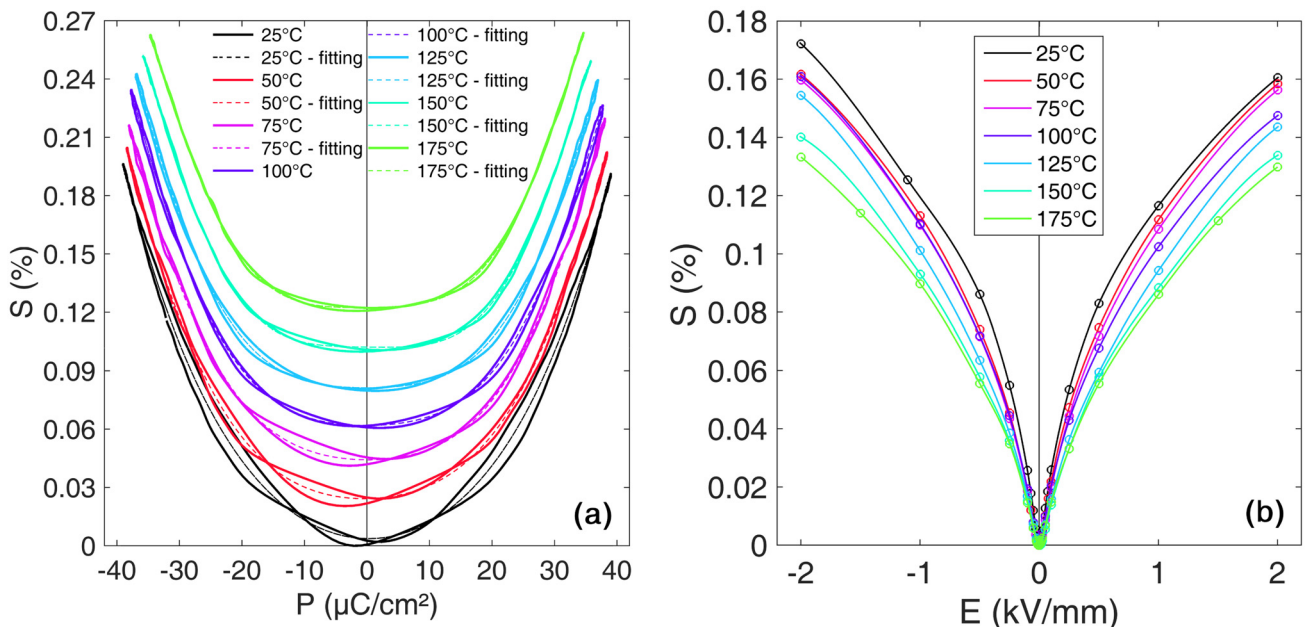


FIG. 3. (a) Strain-polarization dependence; a 6th order polynomial fitting is shown for each curve (dotted line). (b) Anhyseretic strain estimated from the strain-polarization dependence and from the anhyseretic polarization.

asymmetry observed is explained by using Fig. 2. The polarization difference (Fig. 2) is attributed to a measurement error. As $0.8 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ represents only 1.1% of the anhysteretic polarization curve amplitude (Fig. 2) and as a strain difference of 0.01% represents 6.8% of the anhysteretic strain amplitude [Fig. 3(b)], these errors were neglected.

IV. DISCUSSION

During the electrical loading of the PZT sample, there is a change in the domain structure due to electric field-dependent domain wall motion. These domain walls encounter a network of defects, such as lattice vacancies and grain boundaries, which can act as pinning centers that restrict their motion and result in the observed hysteretic behavior. A representation of domain wall motion during such a process is described in Fig. 4(a). At $t = 0$, the domain configuration is illustrated in image 1, where the domain wall is located on the left side. From this configuration, $E(t)$ is applied to the material, resulting in irreversible domain wall motion past the defect network [represented in Fig. 4(a) by randomly positioned points]. During the initial oscillation of $E(t)$, the amplitude is large enough to move the domain wall past these various defects; no defect is strong enough to pin the domain wall. At this stage, the domain wall goes well beyond the initial equilibrium position, although it is oscillating around the equilibrium position with a vanishing amplitude. With a further decrease in the applied electric field amplitude, the domain wall will eventually reach its true equilibrium position for the given E_{bias} . The procedure can be repeated for different E_{bias} levels, and the anhysteretic curve is then constructed in a discrete manner, as shown in Fig. 4(b). The parameters of the function $E(t)$ have to be meticulously determined in order to avoid the determination of false equilibrium positions. It was assumed in this study that the parameters were correct when a further refinement did not change the final measurement.

In order to discuss the material behavior in detail, four parameters were extracted from the polarization-electric field during bipolar and anhysteretic measurements: (i) the remanent polarization P_r , (ii) the coercive field E_c , (iii) the maximum polarization, and (iv) the anhysteretic susceptibility χ_a at $E = 0 \text{ kV}/\text{mm}$. The remanent polarization and the coercive field were obtained during electric field loading at 0.1 Hz with a maximum electric field of 2 kV/mm and 4 kV/mm. Both parameters include dissipative and reversible effects. The maximum polarization was determined from the anhysteretic curve at 2 kV/mm (Fig. 2). This value is compared to the maximum polarization on P - E loops at 0.1 Hz and 2 kV/mm maximum electric field. The final parameter, χ_a , corresponds to the slope of the anhysteretic polarization curve at the origin. This parameter represents the material response in the absence of any dissipation mechanisms. Here, χ_a is computed using a simple linear regression of 6 anhysteretic points between -15 and $15 \text{ V}/\text{mm}$. Out of the range $\pm 15 \text{ V}/\text{mm}$, the anhysteretic curve becomes significantly non-linear.

The evolution of the remanent polarization and the coercive field as a function of temperature are shown in Fig. 5. It is found that both parameters decrease with temperature, which is in agreement with previous data reported for PZT.³⁰ The observed decrease in the coercive field was found to be linear with a substantial rate, namely $-0.33\%/^\circ\text{C}$ from the coercive field at room temperature. Such a decrease was expected since the Curie temperature of the material is about 250°C .²⁷ A constant offset can be noticed between the negative and positive coercive field values (10 V/mm difference for $E_{max} = 4 \text{ kV}/\text{mm}$). This is attributed to a measurement error and is neglected since it represents only 0.8% of the coercive field at 25°C . The electric field amplitude E_{max} was also observed to influence both the observed coercive field and the remanent polarization; between 2 and 4 kV/mm, for example, there was a difference of 150 V/mm of E_c and

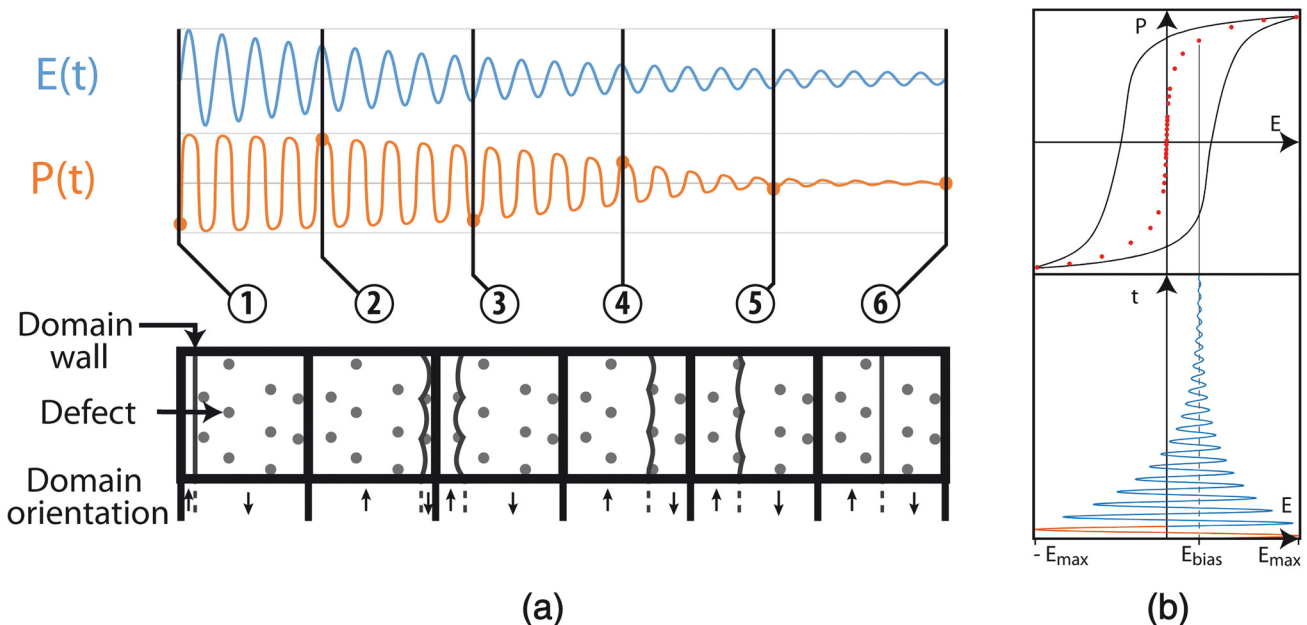


FIG. 4. (a) Illustration of a domain wall motion during this procedure and (b) illustration of the anhysteretic measurement procedure.

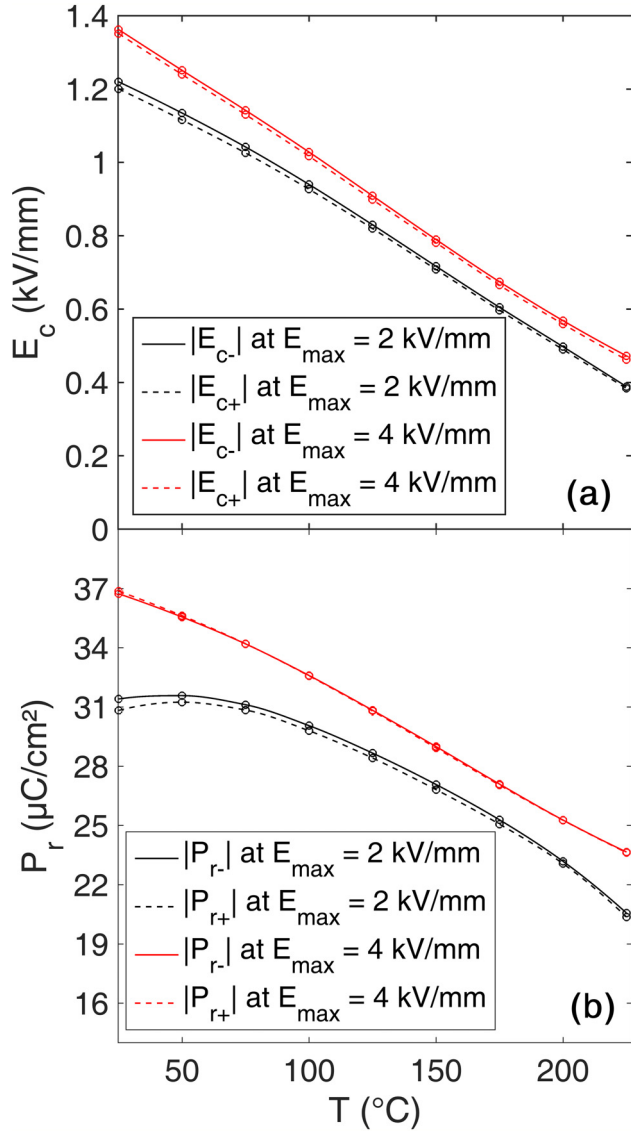


FIG. 5. Temperature dependence of the positive and negative coercive fields (a) and remanent polarizations (b). Graphs (a) and (b) were obtained from the macroscopic $P(E)$ hysteresis behavior ($f=0.1 \text{ Hz}$, $E_{\text{max}} = 2 \text{ kV/mm}$, and 4 kV/mm).

an approximately 1% difference of P_r at room temperature (Fig. 5). These observations were expected since 2 kV/mm is not sufficient to reach the technical saturation. With an increasing temperature, however, the differences in the coercive field and remanent polarization at 2 kV/mm and 4 kV/mm decrease.

The maximum polarization determined during measurement of the anhysteretic behavior is shown in Fig. 6(a). The maximum temperature for these measurements was 175°C (green data points) because the anhysteretic curve could not be measured above this temperature due to increased sample conductivity. The error induced by conductivity exceeded 10%, which was not the case during bipolar loading that only required approximately 10 s. Both the anhysteretic and the bipolar measurement methods are consistent; the maximum polarization decreases with an increasing temperature. For the anhysteretic measurement (green curve), a reduction of 9% is observed between room temperature and 175°C .

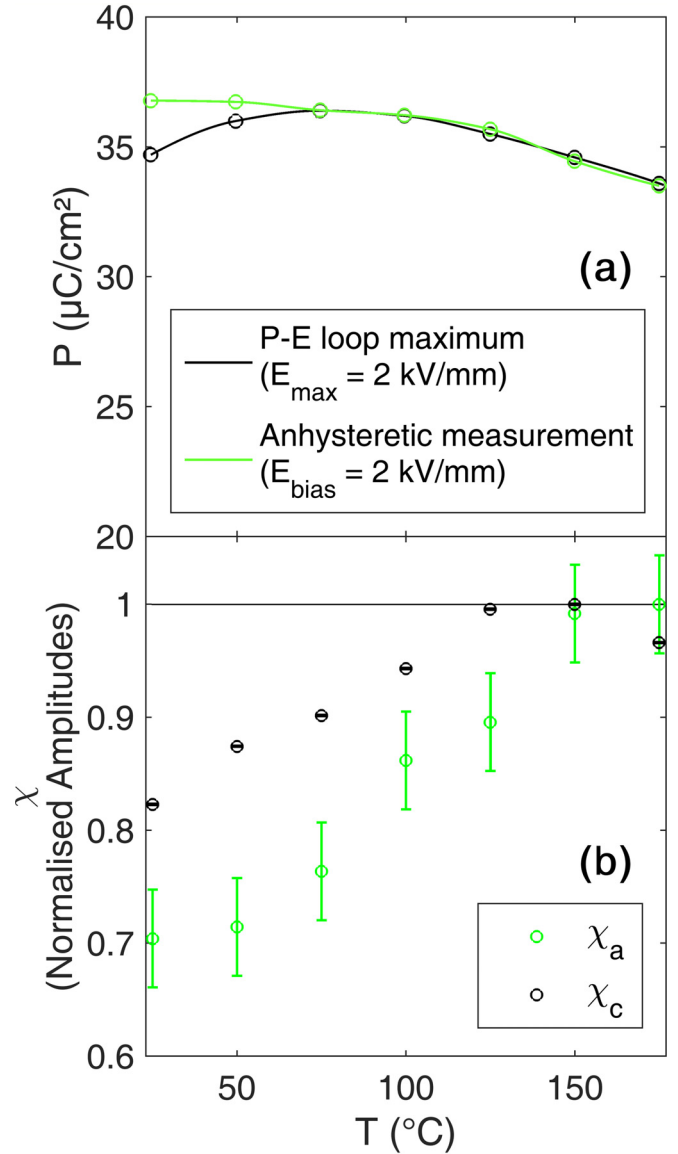


FIG. 6. (a) Maximum polarization value measured from a P - E loop ($E_{\text{max}} = 2 \text{ kV/mm}$, $f = 0.1 \text{ Hz}$, black curve) and from an anhysteretic measurement (green curve). (b) Temperature dependence of the normalised anhysteretic susceptibility χ_a and normalised differential susceptibility at coercive fields χ_c . χ_a is calculated from the anhysteretic curve (green dots—normalization factor of 4.80×10^5) and χ_c from a 4 kV/mm P - E loop (black dots—normalization factor of 1.03×10^5).

This is not a substantial decrease compared to the decrease in the remanent polarization, which was observed to be three times higher. Overall, the same polarization values are found for both methods, except at 25 and 50°C . At lower temperatures, the maximum electric field amplitude of 2 kV/mm is not high enough to fully saturate the material during bipolar loading, similar to observations of the differences in the remanent polarization during loading at 2 kV/mm and 4 kV/mm in Fig. 5(b). In contrast, the anhysteretic response is not affected since all anhysteretic points were measured with an E_{max} of 4 kV/mm (the only changing parameter was E_{bias}).

To extract the dissipation contribution to the susceptibility, the evolution of χ_a is compared with the total susceptibility at the coercive field ($P = 0$). This susceptibility, namely χ_c , corresponds to the slope of the P - E loops at $E = E_c$. To

improve the precision of χ_c , the slopes at positive and negative coercive fields are averaged. The comparison is presented in Fig. 6(b). The data are given in normalized amplitudes, but the actual susceptibilities can be retrieved by multiplying the values by the normalization factors (4.80×10^5 for χ_a and 1.03×10^5 for χ_c). Unlike the other parameters, the susceptibilities χ_a and χ_c increase with an increasing temperature. The thermal energy enhances spontaneous polarization reorientation of crystal lattices in the presence of an external electric field, and this observation is consistent with other soft PZT studies.²⁰ Susceptibility measured from P - E loops is substantially lower than the anhysteretic susceptibility (ratio of 4 between χ_a and χ_c at 25 °C). This is expected since by definition the anhysteretic susceptibility is not affected by dissipation effects. Actually, the difference between χ_a and χ_c directly reflects the dissipative contribution to the macroscopic ferroelectric behavior. This relation can be described by separating the macroscopic behavior into two contributions, as introduced by Zhang *et al.*²² [see Eqs. (3)–(7)]:

$$X(P, T) = X^{int}(P, T) + X^{ext}(P, T), \quad (3)$$

where $X(P, T)$ is the total susceptibility, $X^{int}(P, T)$ is the intrinsic contribution to the macroscopic susceptibility, or volume contribution, and $X^{ext}(P, T)$ is the extrinsic contribution to the macroscopic susceptibility, or domain wall contribution. All contributions are functions of polarization and temperature. The extrinsic contribution can be further separated into two terms, related to a reversible domain wall contribution and to the dissipation contribution, respectively. The total susceptibility then becomes:

$$X(P, T) = X^{int}(P, T) + X_a^{ext}(P, T)(1 - \alpha_d(P, T)), \quad (4)$$

where $X_a^{ext}(P, T)$ is the reversible domain wall contribution and $\alpha_d(P, T)$ is the dissipative or loss contribution coefficient. Here, the subscript “a” refers to “anhysteretic” and the total anhysteretic susceptibility $X_a(P, T)$ is:

$$X_a(P, T) = X^{int}(P, T) + X_a^{ext}(P, T). \quad (5)$$

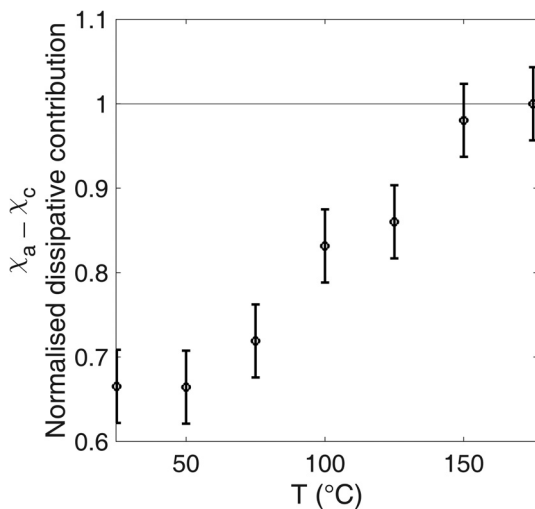


FIG. 7. Evolution of the normalized dissipative contribution to χ_c as a function of the temperature (normalization factor of 3.8×10^5).

From Eqs. (4) and (5), the dissipative contribution to the macroscopic susceptibility is expressed as:

$$\alpha_d X_a^{ext}(P, T) = X_a(P, T) - X(P, T). \quad (6)$$

In this work, the measured anhysteretic susceptibility $\chi_a(T)$ [Fig. 6(b)] corresponds to $X_a(P = 0, T) = X^{int}(P = 0, T) + X_a^{ext}(P = 0, T)$. The coercive susceptibility $\chi_c(T)$ at $E = E_c$ is $X(P = 0, T) = X^{int}(P = 0, T) + X_a^{ext}(0, T)(1 - \alpha_d(P = 0, T))$. The dissipative contribution for $P = 0$ is then:

$$\alpha_d X_a^{ext}(P = 0, T) = \chi_a(T) - \chi_c(T). \quad (7)$$

The evolution of this dissipative contribution is given as a function of temperature in Fig. 7. Values are normalized, but actual values can be retrieved with the normalization factor 3.8×10^5 . The dissipative part contributing to χ_c increases by 35% from 25 °C to 175 °C. This is more than the increase in χ_a for the same temperature range, which was found to be +30% [Fig. 6(b)]. The dissipative contribution increases with temperature more than the reversible contribution. This is why the relative increase in χ_c is only 18% [Fig. 6(b)] and not as high as that of χ_a (30%).

Herbiet *et al.*²¹ previously introduced such a three contribution separation. It was dedicated to dynamic loadings and based on a complex definition of the susceptibility. Here, Eq. (5) is a quasi-static formulation in which a standard loop measurement gives access to the total susceptibility $X(P, T)$. The anhysteretic curve then allows differentiation between the anhysteretic and dissipative contributions. Assuming that X^{int} is isotropic and independent of the polarization level (linear dielectric behavior), an additional measurement at saturation allows an identification of X^{int} . Indeed at saturation the only contribution to polarization is the intrinsic effect. This allows for separation of the intrinsic contribution from the total anhysteretic behavior. Moreover, knowledge of X^{int} allows determination of the dissipation coefficient α_d instead of the overall dissipation contribution $\alpha_d X_a^{ext}$. In the present case, X^{int} could not be computed accurately due to the resolution in the data. Nevertheless, the anhysteretic curves are parallel at high electric fields (see Fig. 2), suggesting that X^{int} is temperature independent. For temperatures near 25 °C, this is consistent with a previous study on PZT.²² At higher temperatures, X^{int} exponentially increases with temperature according to Herbiet *et al.*²¹ Future work involving precise computation of X^{int} will allow further insight on the temperature dependence of the intrinsic effect.

V. CONCLUSIONS

In this work, the ferroelectric behavior of a co-doped PZT was studied using both classical loop measurements (P - E and S - E) and anhysteretic curves. This approach allowed for the separation of the reversible and irreversible contributions to the macroscopic behavior. Considering the reversible contribution, it was shown that an increase in temperature favors the polarizability of the material. The total susceptibility of the material also increases with temperature but not as significantly as the anhysteretic susceptibility.

Indeed, the relative dissipative contribution to the susceptibility increases by 35% between 25 and 175 °C. It can then be interpreted that dissipation mechanisms are an impediment to the rise of susceptibility under increasing temperature. This is an important result for high temperature applications such as ferroelectric metal-oxide-semiconductor (MOS) transistor³¹ where the susceptibility needs to be maximized.³² Even at temperatures around 150 °C, this work shows that the susceptibility could be improved substantially by reducing the dissipative effects.

On the material characterization side, the anhysteretic curves, combined to P - E and S - E loops, can be used as an experimental assessment of the effect of external parameters on the mechanisms responsible for ferroelectric behavior. In this paper, the studied external parameter was the temperature, but the effect of stress, fatigue, or porosity could also be investigated using a similar technique. The access to mechanism separation can provide a powerful basis for the development and validation of micromechanical models for ferroelectric behavior.

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APPENDIX A: EFFECT OF CONDUCTIVITY ON ANHYSTERETIC MEASUREMENTS

As specified in the paper, the electric displacement D_S is obtained using a Sawyer-Tower circuit. This circuit integrates the current I_S induced by the sample, which gives access to the electric charge Q_S . If the sample is a perfect insulator (infinite real impedance), the current I_S would be equal to the displacement current I_D . These conditions cannot be reached experimentally. A conduction current I_C due to material conductivity must be considered:

$$I_S = I_D + I_C. \quad (\text{A1})$$

This equation can be developed as:

$$I_S = \iint (J_D + J_C) \cdot dS = \iint (J_D + \sigma \cdot E) \cdot dS, \quad (\text{A2})$$

where J_D is the displacement current density, J_C is the conduction current density, S the sample area (perpendicular to the electric field direction), σ the sample conductivity, and E the electric field applied to the sample.

As $I_S = \frac{\partial Q_S}{\partial t}$, a time integration of (A2) leads to electric charges:

$$Q_S = \iiint J_D \cdot dS \cdot dt + S \cdot \int \sigma \cdot E \cdot dt. \quad (\text{A3})$$

The quantity J_D is surface-independent and $\int J_D \cdot dt = D = P + \epsilon_0 E$; thus:

$$Q_S = S \cdot D + S \cdot \int \sigma \cdot E \cdot dt, \quad (\text{A4})$$

where ϵ_0 is the vacuum permittivity, D the electric displacement, and P the material polarization.

In terms of electric displacement, the equation can also be written:

$$D_S = D + \int \sigma \cdot E \cdot dt. \quad (\text{A5})$$

The measured quantity D_S is then equal to the electrical displacement D (material behavior) plus a second quantity that depends on the material conductivity and the electric field. As D is the variable of interest, the second quantity is a measurement error. This error must be either compensated or neglected if possible. In the present case, the error due to conductivity is studied for E and T (the temperature) constant over time. In these conditions, σ is also constant over time which simplifies (A5):

$$D_S = D + \sigma \cdot E \cdot t = D + C \cdot t. \quad (\text{A6})$$

The error due to conductivity is then a linear drift over time (with C , the slope coefficient of the drift). As E is constant, D becomes also constant for high values of t (steady-state regime). In this condition, the drift coefficient C can be measured through a linear fitting of the data. Here, the sample is led to saturation during 60 s and then a linear fitting of $D(t)$ is done on 200 points to access the coefficient C . The measurement is repeated at different E and T to characterise the function $C(E, T)$. Results are shown in Fig. 8.

A measurement is considered reliable when the error induced on polarization due to conductivity is below 2% of the amplitude of the major loop. Similarly, the amplitude of polarization for the last cycle of the anhysteretic waveform is considered acceptable below 2% of the amplitude of the major loop [error introduced in point (iv) of page 4]. The value of the duration t_{max} is then the result of a compromise. For most experiments ($C < 0.015 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2 \text{s}$), the compromise is fulfilled by setting t_{max} at 60 s. For high temperature, however, the conductivity is more influent, and t_{max} had to be decreased to keep in line with the error requirement. The exact values of t_{max} are given in Table I for each temperature and each bias electric field.

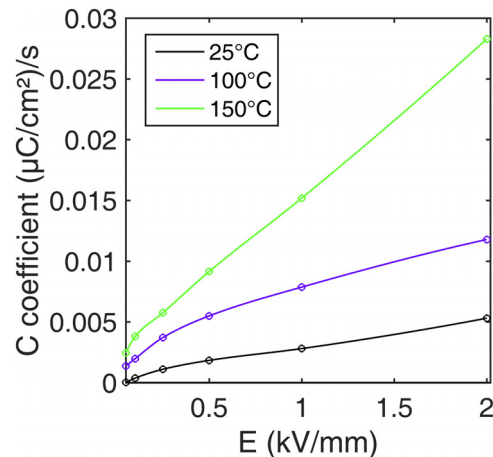


FIG. 8. Linear drift coefficient C measured as a function of the electric field, for three steady-state temperatures.

TABLE I. Parameter t_{max} used as a function of the temperature and the bias electric field. Values are given in seconds.

		E_{bias} (kV/mm)			
		0	0.5	1	2
Temperature (°C)	25	60	60	60	60
	50	60	60	60	60
	75	60	60	60	60
	100	60	60	60	60
	125	60	60	60	60
	150	60	50	40	30
	175	60	40	30	20

It must be noted that the error values given in the previous paragraph are overestimating the real measurement error as shown below. Assuming that σ is independent from $E(t)$, Eq. (A5) gives:

$$D_S = D + \sigma \int E \cdot dt. \quad (A7)$$

Case 1: $E(t) = 2 \text{ kV/mm}$

For $t_{max} = 60 \text{ s}$, the integrated electric field $\int_0^{t_{max}} E \cdot dt$ is 120 kV s/mm .

Case 2: $E(t)$ not constant [see Eq. (1)]

The integral of $E(t)$ between 0 and t_{max} can be calculated using two consecutive integration by parts. Let denote n , an integer representing the number of cycles in an anhysteretic measurement (with $n = f \cdot t_{max}$). The integral can be expressed as:

$$\int E \cdot dt = \frac{n}{f} E_{bias} + \alpha \left(\frac{E_{max}}{1+k^2} - \frac{E_{bias}}{k} \right), \quad (A8)$$

$$\text{where } \alpha = \frac{1 - \exp(-2k\pi n)}{2\pi f}.$$

Using $E_{max} = 4 \text{ kV/mm}$, $f = 0.5 \text{ Hz}$, $k = 0.015$, and $E_{bias} = 2 \text{ kV/mm}$, the integral of $E(t)$ gives 81.27 kV s/mm : The ratio of integrals from both cases is 1.48. Thus, the errors computed from Fig. 8 are overrating the error by 48%, so that the effect of sample conductivity is even less important than estimated.

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