

TDS PIEZOTECH[®] FILMS

Fluorinated Piezoelectric Polymers



Table of Contents

I.	Piezoelectric and pyroelectric effects	3
II.	Piezoelectric films	3
III.	Characteristics properties of piezoelectric films	3
IV.	Properties of piezoelectric films and sheets	4
V.	Field of applications	5
VI.	PVDF Piezoelectric Films Properties ⁽¹⁾	6
VI.1	General Properties	6
VI.2	PVDF Bi-oriented film – 9 $\mu\text{m}^{(1)}$	7
VI.3	Piezotech [®] FC20 – 20 $\mu\text{m}^{(1)}$	7
VI.4	Piezotech [®] FC25 – 20 $\mu\text{m}^{(1)}$	8
VI.5	Piezotech [®] FC30 – 20 $\mu\text{m}^{(1)}$	8

I. Piezoelectric and pyroelectric effects

Since the discovery in 1880, by the brothers Jacques and Pierre Curie, of the piezoelectric effect shown by the some simple asymmetric crystals, the phenomena has raised a lot of interest. "Piezoelectricity" finds its roots in the Greek word "piezo" which means pressure. When certain materials are subjected to mechanical stress, electrical charges proportional to the stress appear on their surface. Conversely, when an electric potential difference is applied to these materials, mechanical deformation occurs. This effect is known as piezoelectricity. Similarly, when the temperature of the material is changed, an electric potential appears between its terminals: it is called the pyroelectric effect. Quartz and some ceramics are widely used in the manufacture of mechanical and acoustic transducers taking advantage of these phenomena. The surfaces of these materials are small and highly rigid.

II. Piezoelectric films

Kawai was the first one to discover on 1969 a highly noticeable piezoelectric effect on polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF). This material is the most studied and utilized piezoelectric polymer. However, commercialized piezo films only appeared on the world market in 1981.

Piezoelectricity can be obtained by orienting the molecular dipoles of polar polymers such as PVDF in the same direction by subjecting appropriate films to an intense electric field: this is polarization. This polarization is mainly attributable to the spatial arrangement of the segments of the macromolecular chains, and the contribution of the injected charges to the piezoelectric effect is of secondary importance.

III. Characteristics properties of piezoelectric films

The piezoelectric activity of piezoelectric films is determined by the coefficients of proportionality between the mechanical causes and the electrical effects. The coefficients "d" are obtained by measuring the density of charge (Coulomb/m²) which appears on the surfaces of the film (direction 3 = thickness) when a mechanical stress of 1 Newton/m² is applied.

- Depending on the thickness: **d₃₃**
- In the plane of the film, in the direction of the machine: **d₃₁**
- In the plane of the film, in the transverse direction: **d₃₂**

In the first case, if the film cannot be deformed freely in its plane, the piezoelectric constant is called **d₃₃*** or **d_T**. The coefficients "d" are expressed in Coulomb/Newton (C/N).

If the variation in the electric field is measured per unit of stress, coefficients “g” are obtained. These are connected with coefficients “d” by the correlation $g = d/\epsilon$, where ϵ is the dielectric constant depending on the thickness of the film. Coefficients “g” are expressed in V.m/N. Constants “g” and “d” are most widely used for the design of electromechanical transducers. The conversion of mechanical energy into electrical energy is represented by the electromechanical coupling coefficient KT expressed in %:

$$KT = \sqrt{\frac{\text{Converted Energy}}{\text{Input Energy}}}$$

The pyroelectric constant “ ρ ” is the density of the charge at the surface (C/m²) when the film temperature is raised by 1 degree Kelvin; “ ρ ” is expressed as C/m²K. The coefficient is used for designing thermal pick-ups.

Furthermore, the films are characterized by their mechanical properties: their modulus of elasticity, resistance and elongation at break.

IV. Properties of piezoelectric films and sheets

The range of piezoelectric films presents a unique combination of properties to the markets:

- Flexibility (possibility of application on non-level surfaces)
- High mechanical strength
- Dimensional stability
- Balanced piezoelectric activity in the plane of the film
- High and stable piezoelectric coefficients
- Characteristic chemical inertness
- Continuous polarization for great length spooled onto drums
- Thickness between 9 μ m and 1mm
- Acoustic impedance close to that of water with a flat response curve

The characteristic properties of our range of piezoelectric films and sheets, mono or bi-oriented are given in the table and diagram below. Various type of metallization can be applied to these films, depending on their application.

V. Field of applications

The properties of PVDF piezoelectric films suggest that they can be considered for developments in numerous fields of applications where experimentation shows encouraging results.

Acoustic components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Microphones - Ultrasonic detector - Hydrophones - Sonars 	Robotics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Artificial sensitive skin - Pressure sensors
Electrical equipments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Switches - Miniature electric fans 	Security devices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intruder alarm - IR alarms - Vibration sensors
Medical instrumentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Catheter - Pedobarography - Osteogenesis - Medical echography - Blood pressure detector 	Optical devices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laser diameter measurement - Variable mirrors
Sport and leisure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tennis court line - Display panel on sport grounds - Impact detector if shooting targets 	Transports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Automotive detection on roads - Weighing vehicles
	Pressure pick-ups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distribution of pressure on surfaces - Localization of impacts - Pick-ups for non destructive testing - Accelerometer - Keyboards

VI. PVDF Piezoelectric Films Properties⁽¹⁾

VI.1 General Properties

Characteristics	Bioriented Films
Available thickness (μm)	9 / 25
Thickness regularity (%)	± 10
Piezoelectric properties	Bioriented Films
$dT = d_{33}^*$, (10^{-12} C/N)	13 to 22
d_{31}^* (10^{-12} C/N)	6 to 10
d_{32}^* (10^{-12} C/N)	6 to 10
Regularity of piezoelectric coefficients, (%)	± 10
Variation of the coefficients at metallization, (%)	0 to 15 ⁽²⁾
Relative dielectric constant ϵ/ϵ_0 ($\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \cdot 10^{-12}$ F/m, between 50 Hz and 100 kHz, $T^\circ = 25^\circ\text{C}$ to 90°C)	10 to 12
g_{33}^* (V.m/N)	0.14 to 0.22
Pyroelectric coefficient, ρ (10^{-6} C/m ² .K)	24 to 26
Transverse resistivity ($\Omega \cdot \text{cm}^{-1}$)	5.1014
Electromechanic coupling factor KT (%)	10 to 15
Mechanical properties	Bioriented Films
Tensile strength (MPa)	
- Machine direction	60 – 160
- Transverse	60 – 160
Elongation at break (%)	
- Machine direction	40 – 140
- Transverse	40 – 140
Modulus of elasticity (MPa)	
- Machine direction	1600 – 2200
- Transverse	1600 – 2200
Shrinkage after 1 hour, Oven at 160°C (%)	
- Machine direction	2 – 15
- Transverse	1 – 13
Shrinkage after 100 hour, Oven at 80°C (%)	
- Machine direction	2 – 3
- Transverse	N.A.

(1): Constants are given as indicative value, it depends strongly on processing conditions (annealing & poling) and on temperature

(2): Excessive heating may destroy piezoelectricity. It is advised not to heat above 90 °C for more than 1 hour.

VI.2 PVDF Bi-oriented film – 9 μm⁽¹⁾

Piezo/Pyroelectric Properties (at 23°C)	
d₃₃ (pC/N)	16 ± 20%
d₃₁ (pC/N)	6 ± 20%
d₃₂ (pC/N)	6 ± 20%
g₃₃ (V.m/N) at 1 kHz	0.15 ± 20%
p3 (μC/m²K)	-20 ± 25%
Dielectric properties (at 23°C)	
ε_r at 1 kHz	11.5 ± 10%
tan δ at 1 kHz	0.015 ± 10%
DC breakdown voltage	750 ± 30%
Mechanical properties (at 23°C)	
Young's modulus (MPa)	2500 ± 20%
Thermal properties (at 23°C)	
Melting point (°C)	173 ± 5%

(1): Constants are given as indicative value, it depends strongly on processing conditions (annealing & poling) and on temperature.

VI.3 Piezotech® FC20 – 20 μm⁽¹⁾

Piezo/Pyroelectric Properties (at 23°C)	
d₃₃ (pC/N)	-28 ± 10%
d₃₁ (pC/N)	6 ± 10%
d₃₂ (pC/N)	6 ± 10%
g₃₃ (V.m/N) at 1 kHz	0.2 ± 20%
P3 (μC/m²K)	-30 ± 25%
Dielectric properties (at 23°C)	
ε_r at 1 kHz	10 to 11 ± 10%
tan δ at 1 kHz	0.016 ± 10%
Mechanical properties (at 23°C)	
Young's modulus (MPa)	2600 ± 20%
Thermal properties (at 23°C)	
Melting point (°C)	150 ± 5%
Curie Temperature (°C)	136 ± 5%

(1) Constants are given as indicative value, it depends strongly on processing conditions (annealing & poling) and on temperature.

VI.4 Piezotech[®] FC25 – 20 μm⁽¹⁾

Piezo/Pyroelectric Properties (at 23°C)	
d₃₃ (pC/N)	-26 ± 10%
d₃₁ (pC/N)	6 ± 10%
d₃₂ (pC/N)	6 ± 10%
g₃₃ (V.m/N) at 1 kHz	0.18 ± 20%
Dielectric properties (at 23°C)	
ε_r at 1 kHz	10 to 11 ± 10%
tan δ at 1 kHz	0.016 ± 10%
Mechanical properties (at 23°C)	
Young's modulus (MPa)	1000 ± 20%
Thermal properties (at 23°C)	
Melting point (°C)	150 ± 5%
Curie Temperature (°C)	117 ± 5%

(1) Constants are given as indicative value, it depends strongly on processing conditions (annealing & poling) and on temperature

VI.5 Piezotech[®] FC30 – 20 μm⁽¹⁾

Piezo/Pyroelectric Properties (at 23°C)	
d₃₃ (pC/N)	-24 ± 10%
d₃₁ (pC/N)	6 ± 10%
d₃₂ (pC/N)	6 ± 10%
g₃₃ (V.m/N) at 1 kHz	0.2 ± 20%
Dielectric properties (at 23°C)	
ε_r at 1 kHz	10 to 11 ± 10%
tan δ at 1 kHz	0.016 ± 10%
Mechanical properties (at 23°C)	
Young's modulus (MPa)	1400 ± 20%
Thermal properties (at 23°C)	
Melting point (°C)	150 ± 5%
Curie Temperature (°C)	100 ± 5%

(1) Constants are given as indicative value, it depends strongly on processing conditions (annealing & poling) and on temperature

Contact Information

Piezotech
Arkema-CRRA
Rue Henri Moissan
69496 Pierre-Benite Cedex
FRANCE

Info.piezotech@arkema.com
Phone: +33 4 72 39 87 03
www.piezotech.eu

Disclaimer: The statements, technical information and recommendations contained herein are believed to be accurate as of the date hereof. Since the conditions and methods of use of the product and of the information referred to herein are beyond our control, ARKEMA expressly disclaims any and all liability as to any results obtained or arising from any use of the product or reliance on such information; NO WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE, WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR ANY OTHER WARRANTY, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, IS MADE CONCERNING THE GOODS DESCRIBED OR THE INFORMATION PROVIDED HEREIN. The information provided herein relates only to the specific product designated and may not be applicable when such product is used in combination with other materials or in any process. The user should thoroughly test any application before commercialization. Nothing contained herein constitutes a license to practice under any patent and it should not be construed as an inducement to infringe any patent and the user is advised to take appropriate steps to be sure that any proposed use of the product will not result in patent infringement. See SDS for Health & Safety Considerations.

Arkema has implemented a Medical Policy regarding the use of Arkema products in Medical Devices applications that are in contact with the body or circulating bodily fluids (<http://www.arkema.com/en/social-responsibility/responsible-product-management/medical-device-policy/index.html>) Arkema has designated Medical grades to be used for such Medical Device applications. Products that have not been designated as Medical grades are not authorized by Arkema for use in Medical Device applications that are in contact with the body or circulating bodily fluids. In addition, Arkema strictly prohibits the use of any Arkema products in Medical Device applications that are implanted in the body or in contact with bodily fluids or tissues for greater than 30 days. The Arkema trademarks and the Arkema name shall not be used in conjunction with customers' medical devices, including without limitation, permanent or temporary implantable devices, and customers shall not represent to anyone else, that Arkema allows, endorses or permits the use of Arkema products in such medical devices.

It is the sole responsibility of the manufacturer of the medical device to determine the suitability (including biocompatibility) of all raw materials, products and components, including any medical grade Arkema products, in order to ensure that the final end-use product is safe for its end use; performs or functions as intended; and complies with all applicable legal and regulatory requirements (FDA or other national drug agencies) It is the sole responsibility of the manufacturer of the medical device to conduct all necessary tests and inspections and to evaluate the medical device under actual end-use requirements and to adequately advise and warn purchasers, users, and/or learned intermediaries (such as physicians) of pertinent risks and fulfill any postmarket surveillance obligations. Any decision regarding the appropriateness of a particular Arkema material in a particular medical device should be based on the judgment of the manufacturer, seller, the competent authority, and the treating physician.