Supplementary information

Epitaxial growth and cationic exchange properties of layered KNb₃O₈ thin films

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Fig. Sl1. RBS spectrum for a KNb_3O_8 film on sapphire obtained using a 2 MeV He ion beam. The film composition was obtained by the use of the RUMP simulation program. The experimental (points) and simulated (line) spectra are both shown in the figure, and the respective contribution of K and Nb are indicated.



Fig. SI2. XRD diagram and SEM micrographs of films D (substrate: *).



Fig. SI3. Cross-section SEM micrographs of films B (a) and E (b).



Fig. SI4. ϕ -scans of the {240} planes of the KNb₃O₈ phase and of the {110} planes of the (100)STO substrate (film E).



Fig. SI5. (020) rocking-curves of KNb₃O₈: (a) film B; (b) film E.



Fig. SI6. TEM-EDXS spectra of (a) film E (KNb₃O₈); (b) film F2 (H₃ONb₃O₈); (c) film F3 (Sn_{0.6}Nb₃O₈). Si and Ca signals come from the silica substrate.



Fig. SI7. Brightfield micrograph of film F2; (b) EDP along the [010] zone axis of film F2.



Fig. SI8. IR spectra of $H_3ONb_3O_8$ film just after protonation (a), and after 24h in dessicator (b). Arrows show absorption bands corresponding to the species intercalated just after protonation.



Fig. SI9. XRD diagrams in $\theta/2\theta$ mode of KNb₃O₈ film grown on silica, of same film after protonation,



Fig. SI10.