Flexible Piezoelectric Energy Harvester with Ultrahigh Transduction Coefficient by Interconnected Skeleton Design Strategy

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Explanation for the finite element analysis

The finite element analysis was conducted to provide theoretical evidence on the mechanism of the enhanced piezoelectric effect in the 2-2 type PZN-PZT/PDMS with interconnected porous structure. For comparison, the analysis of 0-3 type PZN-PZT/PDMS with randomly-distributed particle was also performed.

Under the same external force conditions, the ice-templated 2-2 type composite shows higher applied net stress on the PZN–PZT element than the case of the 0-3 type counterpart. This larger induced stress would generate a stronger piezoelectric polarization, and as a result, stronger piezoelectric voltage response. The total piezoelectric field response in the 2-2 type composite is clearly higher than that of the 0-3 type composite, which agrees qualitatively with our experimental energy harvesting signals.

Ceramic material is set as PZT-5H in the material library in Comsol Multiphysics. The radius of ceramic particle is set to 2 μ m. The boundary load is set to 0.08 MPa, which is similar to our experiments. The thickness of the composite material is set to 46 μ m.



Figure S1. Two connective patterns for a two-phase system. The orange cube represents ferroelectric ceramic particle and the part of pale blue represents the polymer: (a) 0-3 type ceramic/polymer composite. (b) 2-2 type ceramic/polymer composite.



Figure S2. Poling temperature dependence of the d_{33} of PZN-PZT/PDMS



Figure S3. Poling electric field dependence of the d_{33} of PZN-PZT/PDMS with fixed temperature 80 °C



Figure S4. Poling time dependence of the d_{33} of PZN-PZT/PDMS with fixed electric field 30 kV/cm and 80 °C



Figure S5. Correlation between the generated voltage and the load resistance.



Figure S6. Correlation between the generated current and the load resistance.