

# Proton conduction in glass and its application to fuel cell

Masayuki NOGAMI

Department of Materials Science and Engineering,  
Graduate School of Engineering,  
Nagoya Institute of Technology



Email: [nogami@nitech.ac.jp](mailto:nogami@nitech.ac.jp)

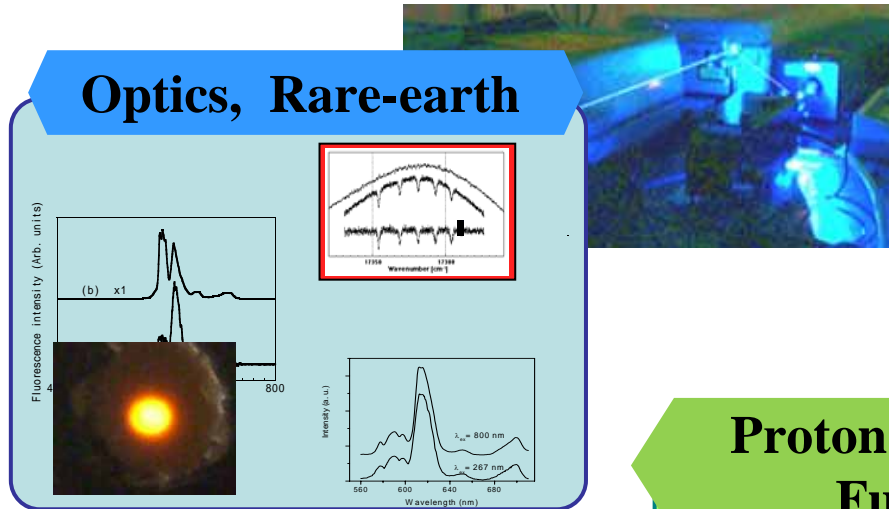
Home Page: <http://nitzy.mse.nitech.ac.jp/~nogamilab/index.html>

# New optical glasses

## Fast proton conducting glasses and their application to fuel cell

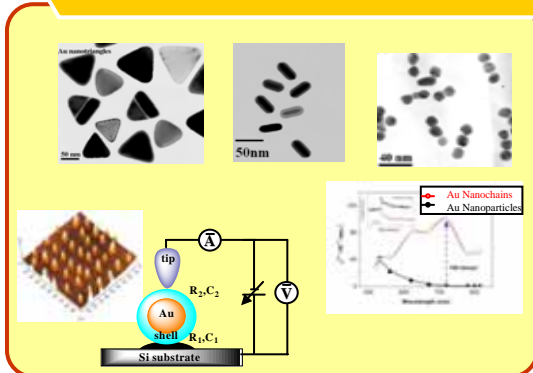
### Self-assembling of nanoparticles

#### Optics, Rare-earth

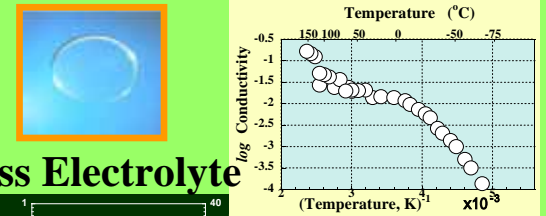


Optical memory  
Nonlinearity

#### Metal Nanoparticles

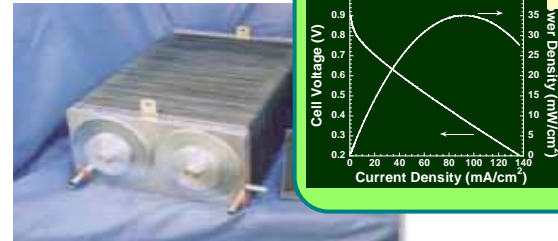


#### Proton Conductor Fuel Cell



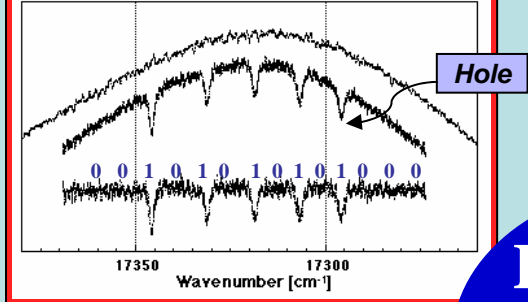
Fuel cell  
Sensors

#### Glass Electrolyte

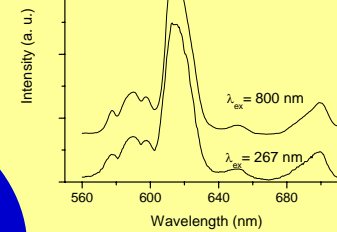
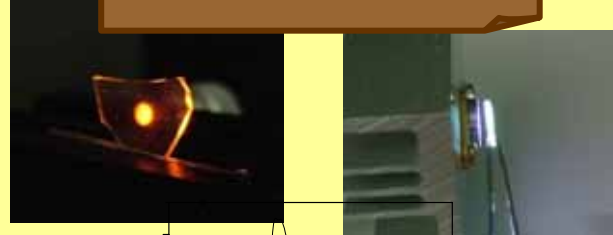


## Spectral Hole-burning

PSHB spectrum in  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$ -doped glass

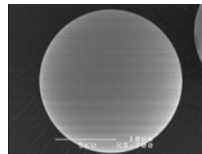


## Fluorescence

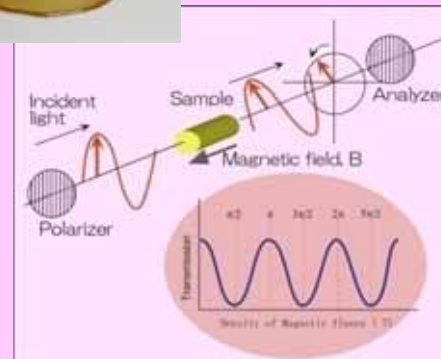


# Rare-earth in Glasses

## Laser

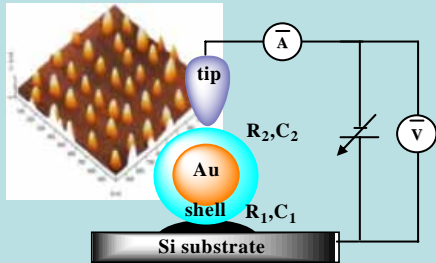


## Faraday rotation

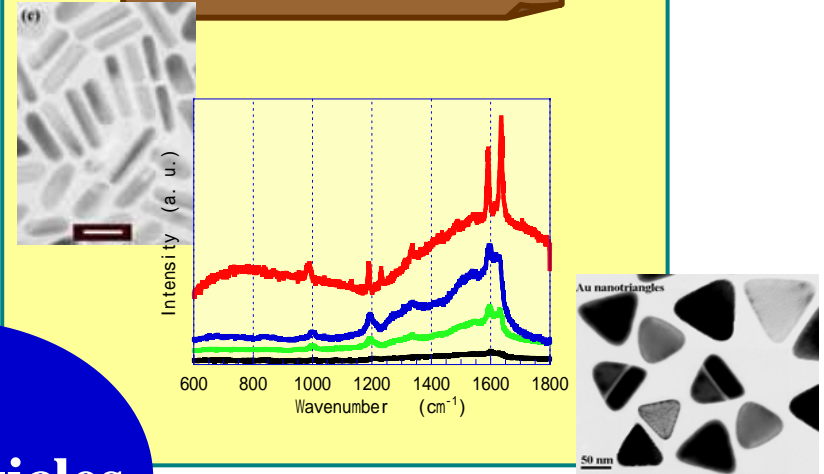


# Self-Assembling of Nano-Particles and Nonlinear Optics

## Spectral Hole-burning

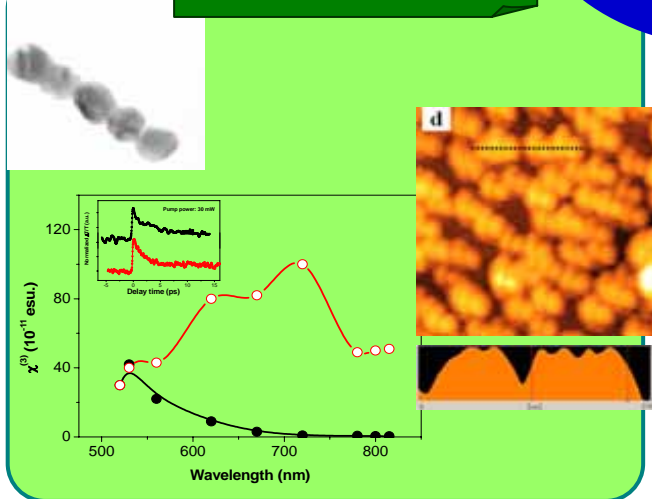


## Shape-Control

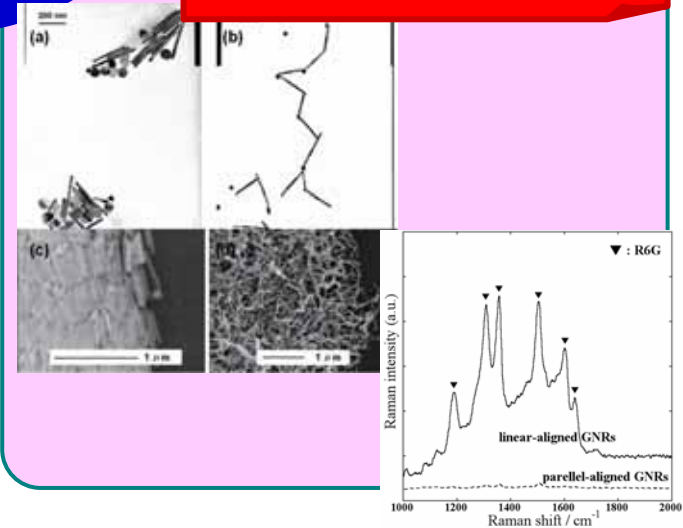


# Nanoparticles

## Self - Assembly



## Morphology-Control



# Proton conduction in glass and its application to fuel cell

- **Introduction**

Possibility of fast proton conduction in the glass

- **Sol-gel method for preparation of proton conducting glasses**

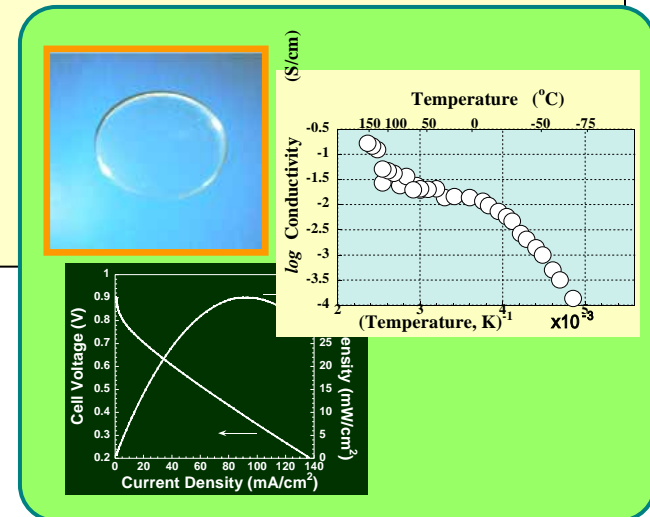
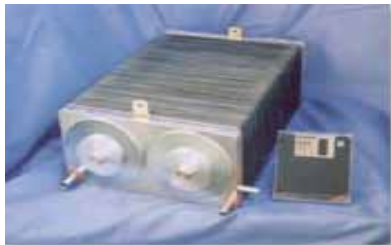
Mechanism of proton conduction in porous glass

Glasses and films exhibiting high proton conductivities at  
150°C ~ -100°C

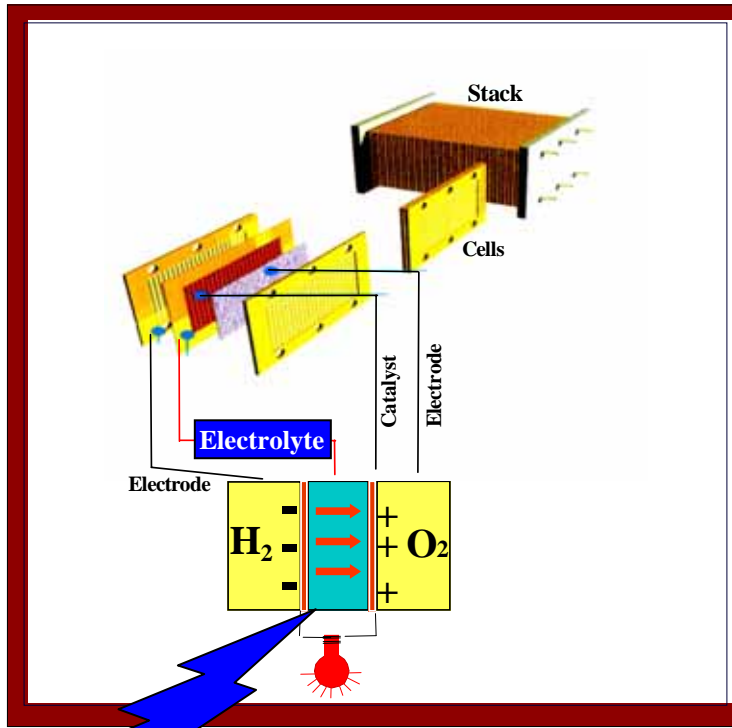
- **Applications**

Electrolytes for gas sensor and fuel cell

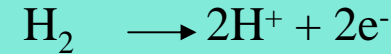
- **Conclusions**



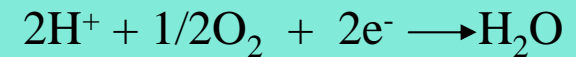
# High proton conducting glasses for the fuel cell electrolyte



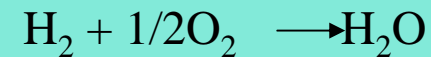
Anode



Cathode



Total



**High efficiency, Clean energy**

**Electrolyte**

**Proton conducting membrane**

Perfluorosulfonate ionomers (Nafion)

High proton conductivity at around room temperature

Degradation in thermal and chemical attacks



**Inorganic Sol-gel-derived Glass**

High proton conductivity at temperatures of 150°C to -30°C

High stability against the thermal and chemical attacks

## Fast proton conducting-glasses prepared by the sol-gel process

- **Mechanism of proton conduction in the sol-gel-derived porous glasses.**
- **Effect of pore structure on the proton conduction.**
- **Preparation of glass films with ordered pore structure.**
- **Application to the gas sensor and fuel cell.**

# Sample Preparation



$\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , EtOH and HCl

Stirring

Drying at R.T.

*Gel*

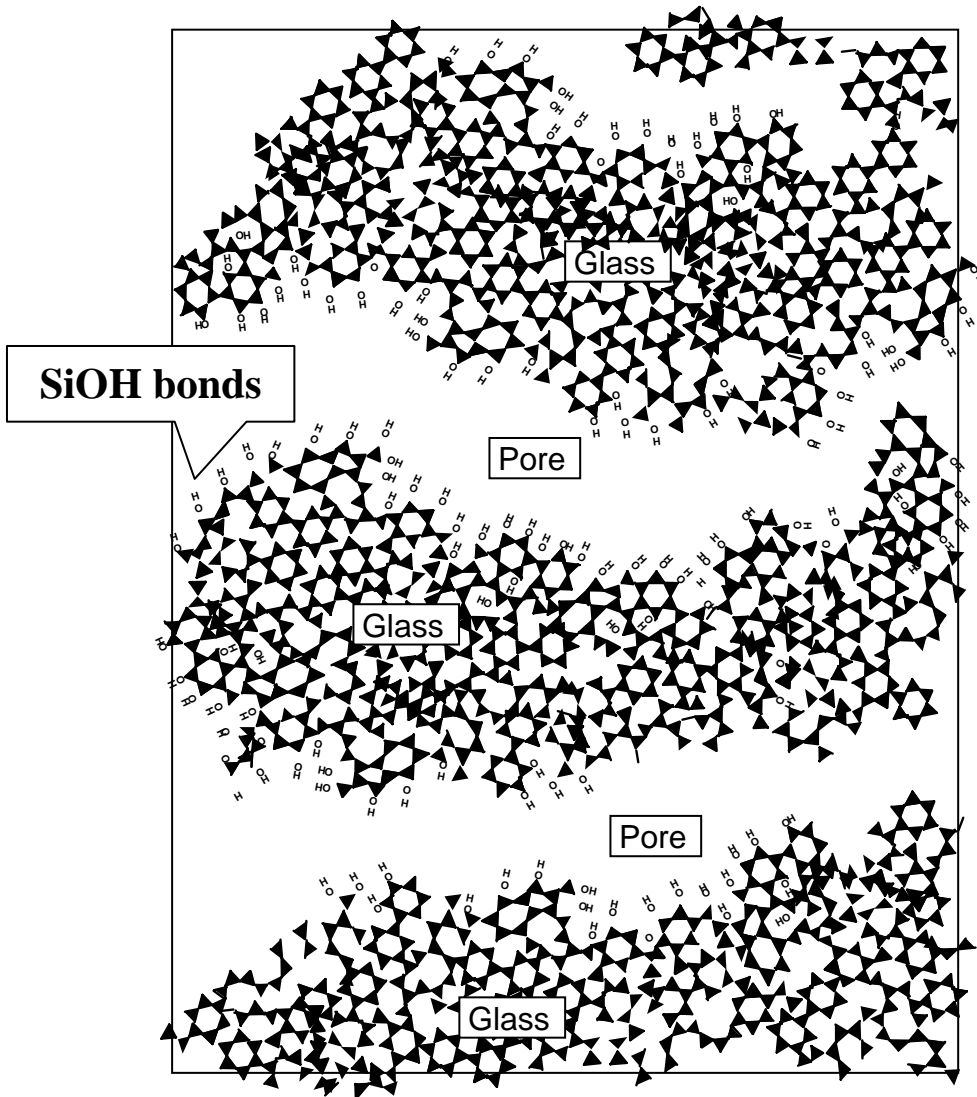
Heat Treatment

*Porous Glass*

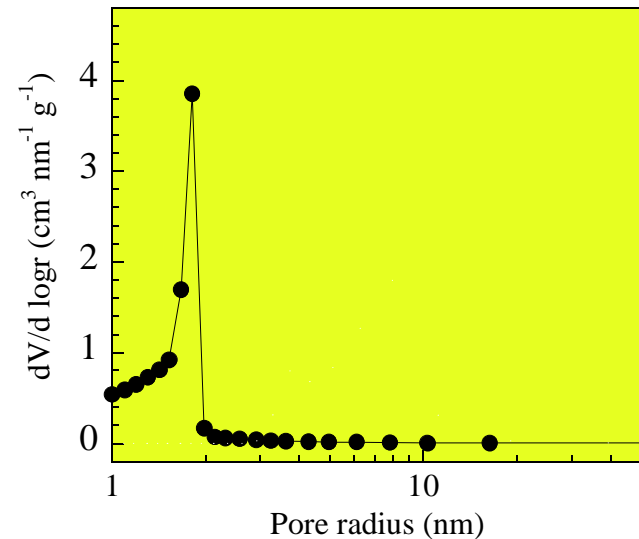


# Porous structure of the sol-gel-derived glasses

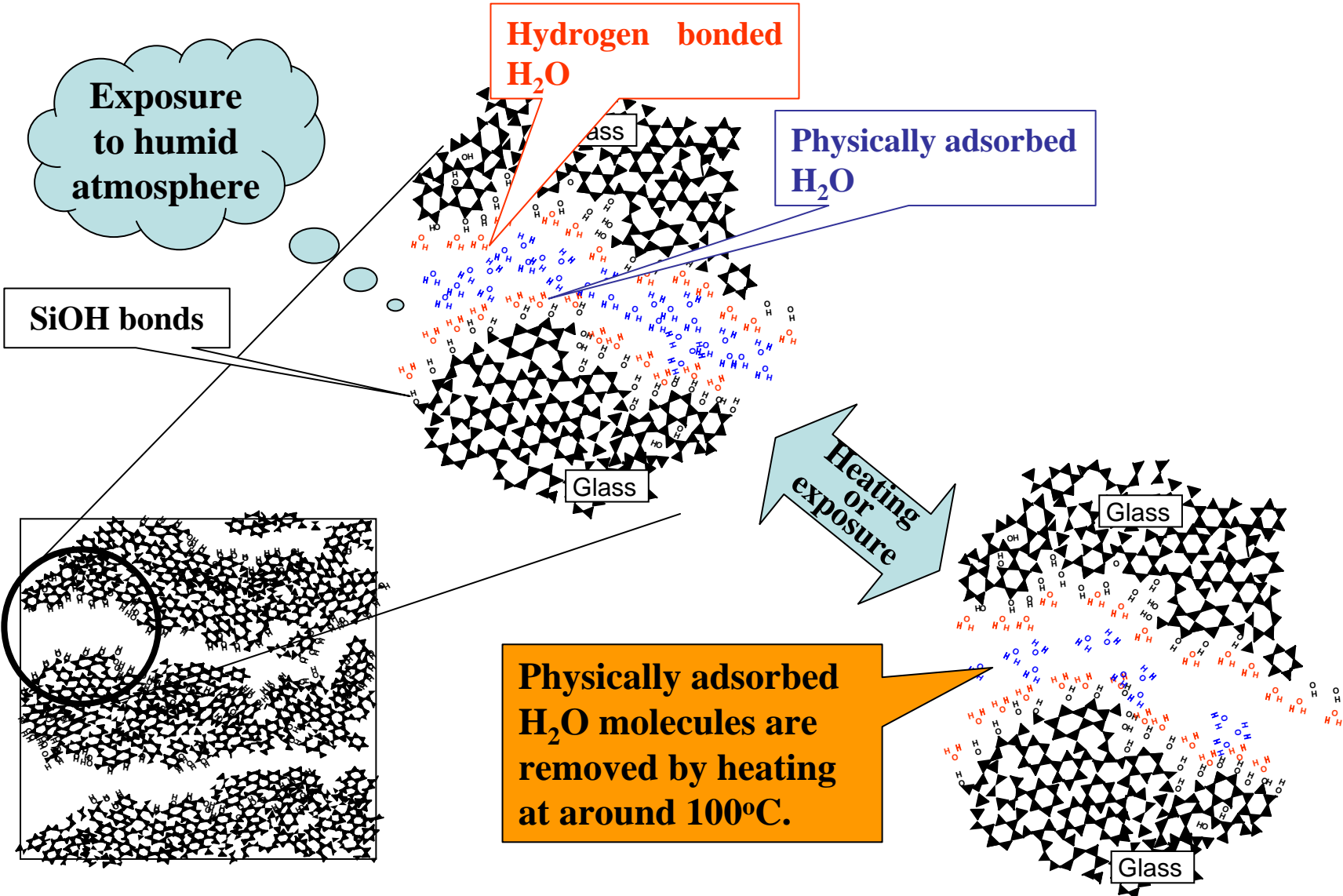
## *Porous properties of the glass*



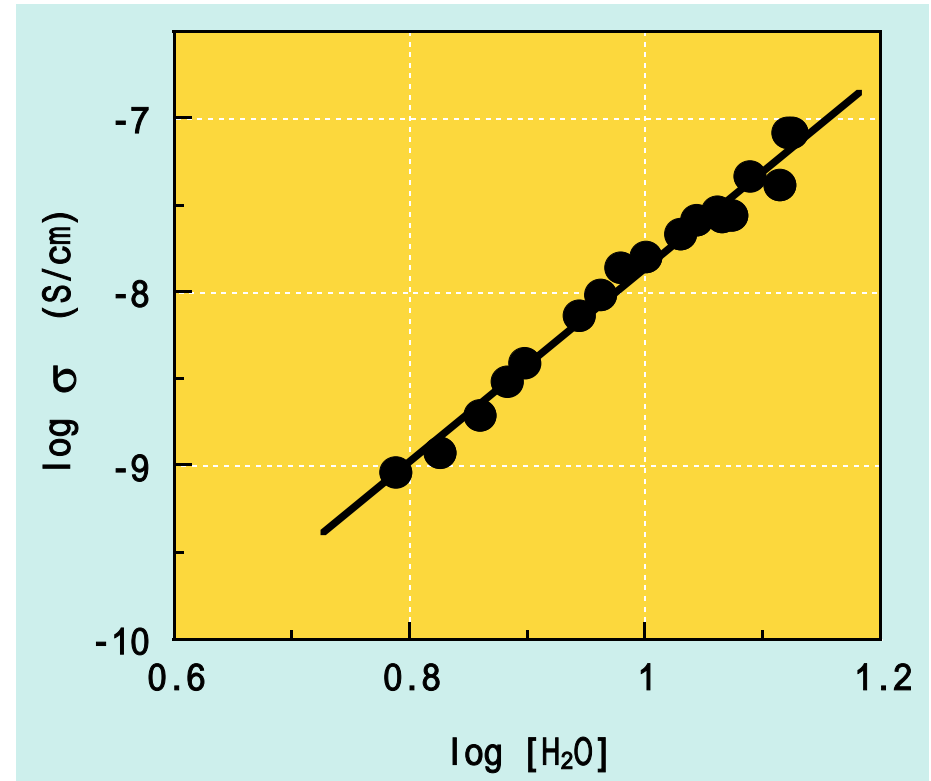
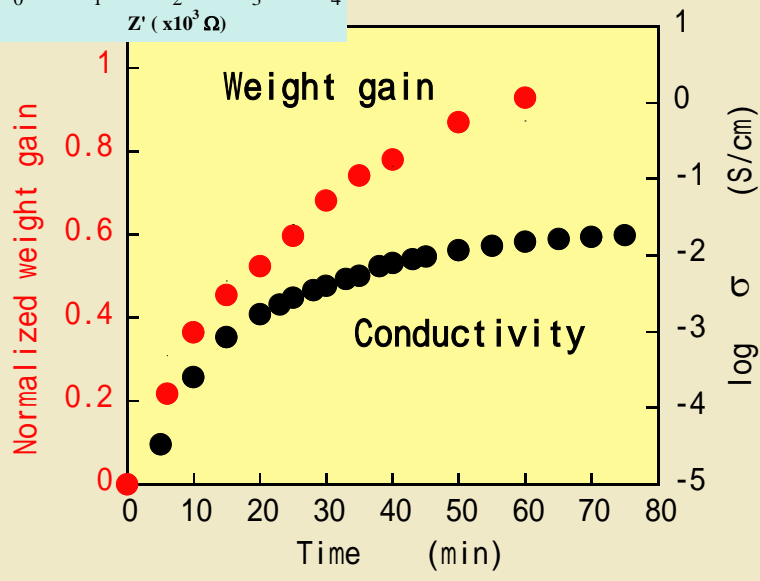
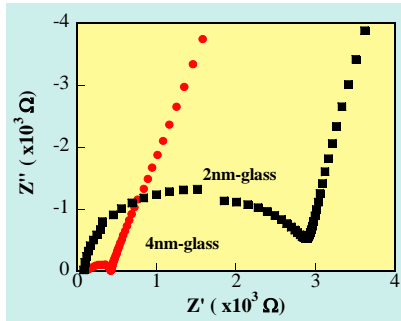
**Surface Area**  
up to  $\sim 1000\text{m}^2/\text{g}$   
**Pore volume**  
 $0.1 \sim 0.5 \text{ cm}^3/\text{g}$   
**Pore size**  
 $> 1 \text{ nm}$



# Water molecules absorbed in the porous glasses



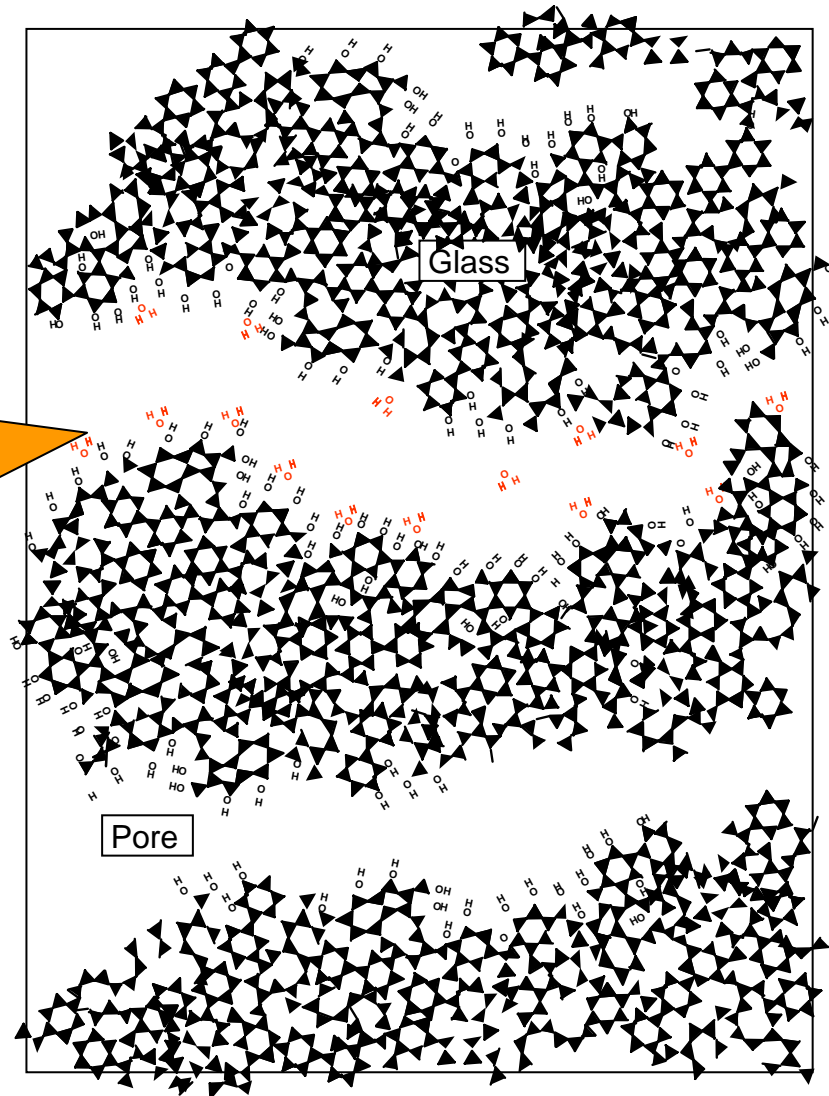
# Effect of the physically bonded H<sub>2</sub>O molecules on the conductivity



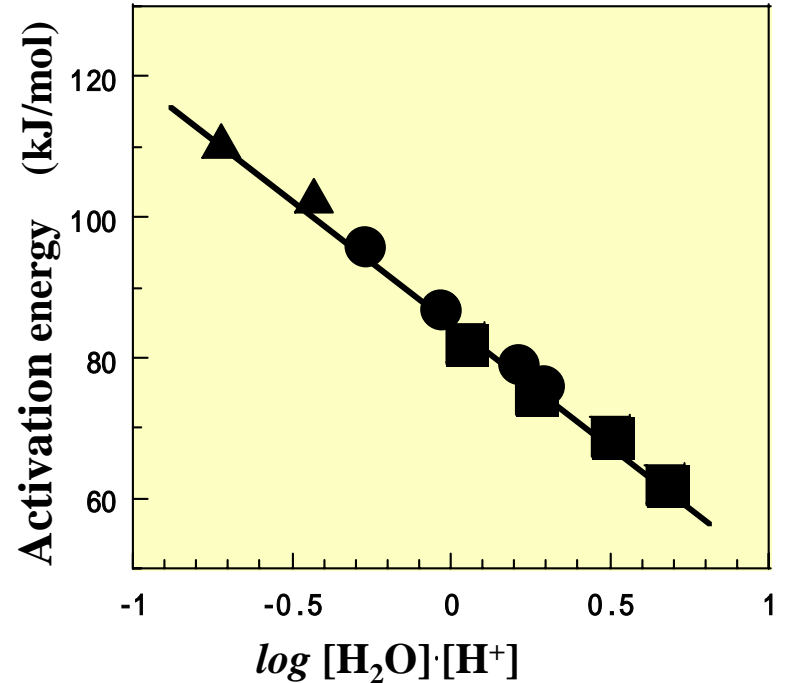
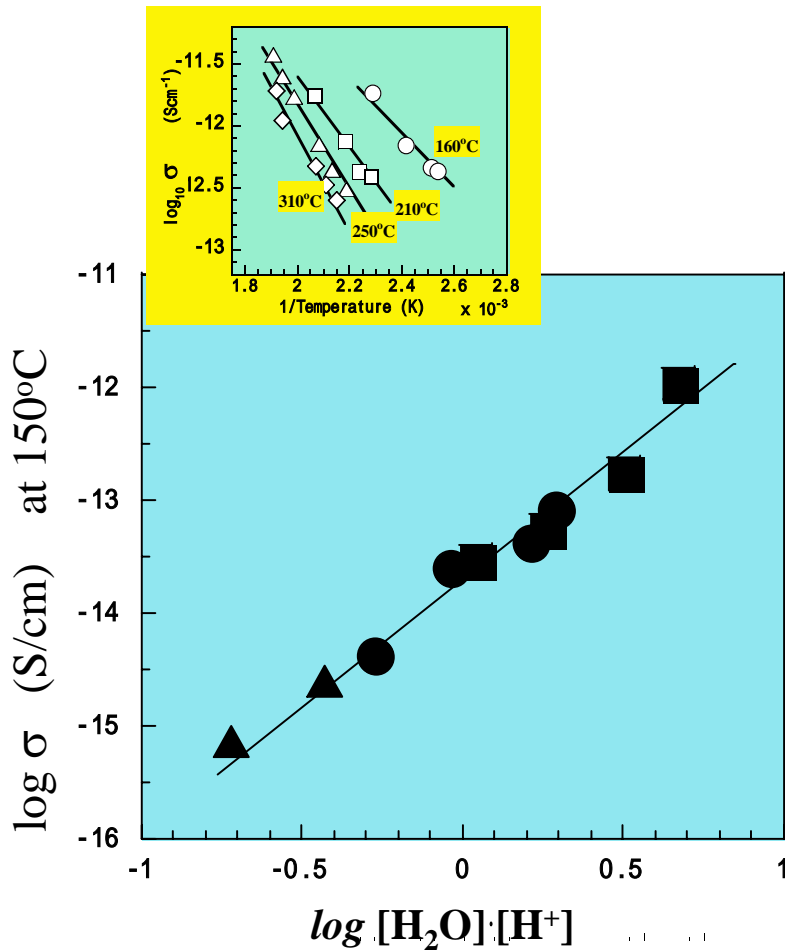
$$\log \sigma = K \log [H_2O]$$

# Controlling the amount of the **chemically bonded H<sub>2</sub>O** molecules

**Chemically bonded H<sub>2</sub>O molecules are removed by heating at around 200°C.**



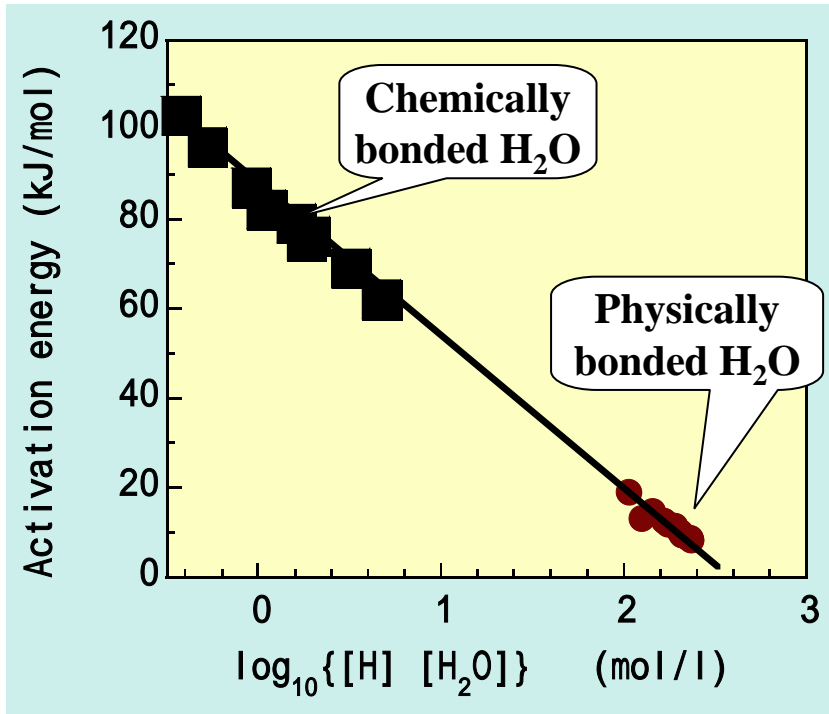
# Effect of the **chemically bonded H<sub>2</sub>O** molecules on the conductivity and its activation energy



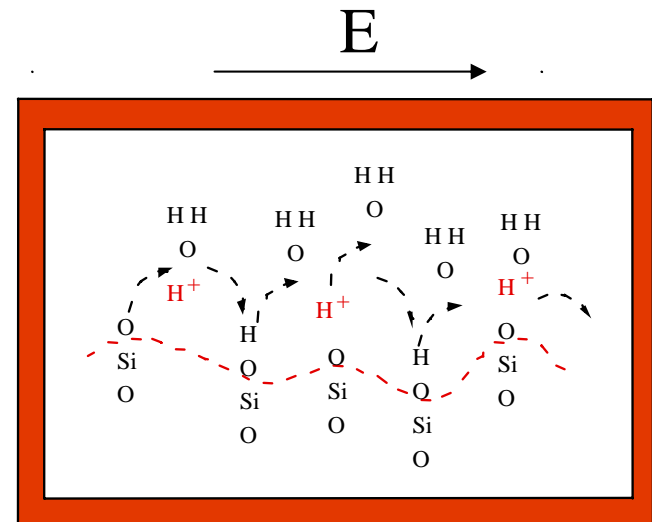
$$\log \sigma = k \log [\text{H}_2\text{O}] \cdot [\text{H}^+]$$

$$E = k \log [\text{H}_2\text{O}] \cdot [\text{H}^+]$$

# Proton conduction in the porous glass



Conduction process of proton through the porous glass

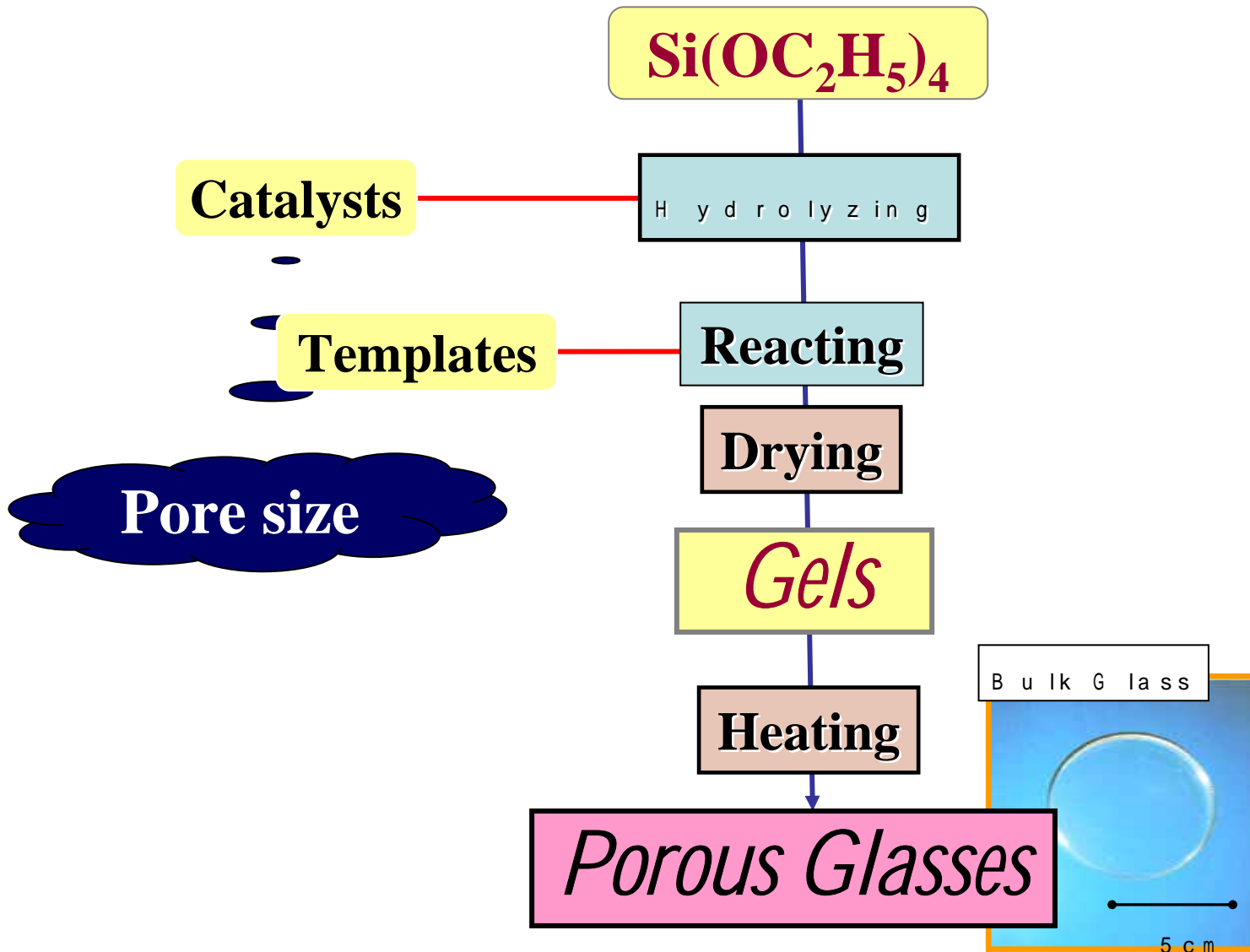


Proton conduction is controlled by the **proton dissociation** from the SiOH bond and the **proton hopping** between SiOH and H<sub>2</sub>O.

## **Fast proton conducting-glasses prepared by the sol-gel process**

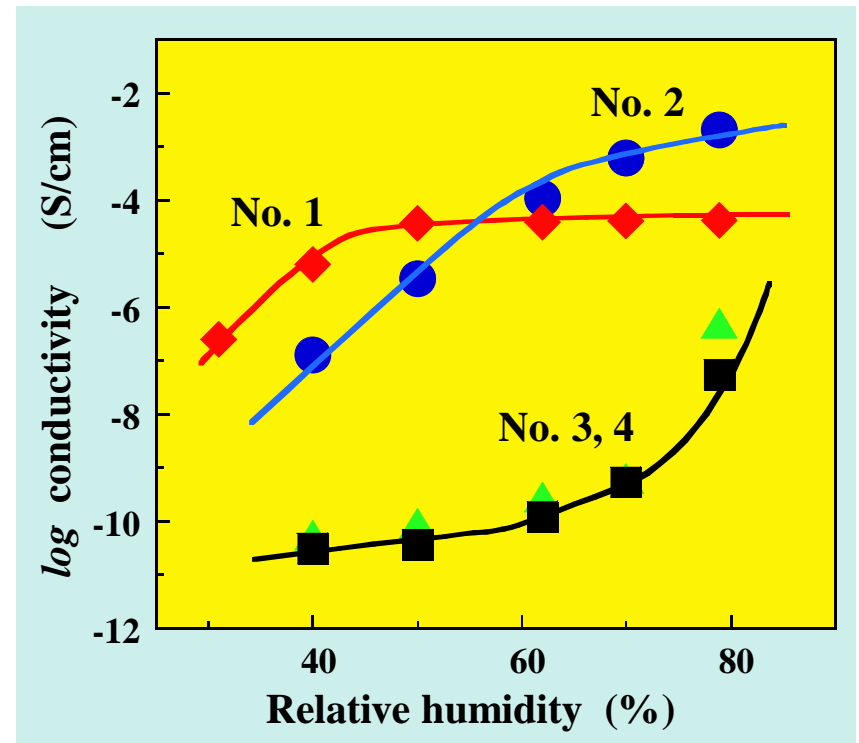
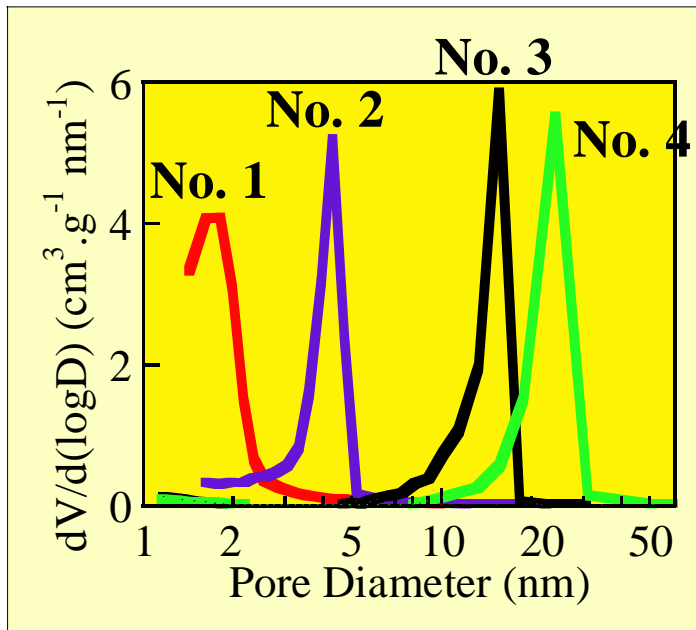
- Mechanism of proton conduction in the sol-gel-derived porous glasses.
- **Effect of pore structure on the proton conduction.**
- Preparation of glass films with ordered pore structure.
- Application to the gas sensor and fuel cell.

# Preparation of glasses with different pore size

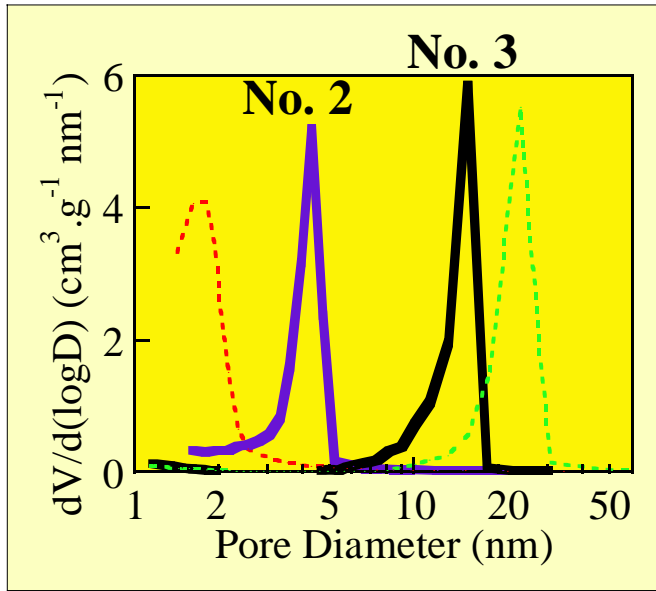




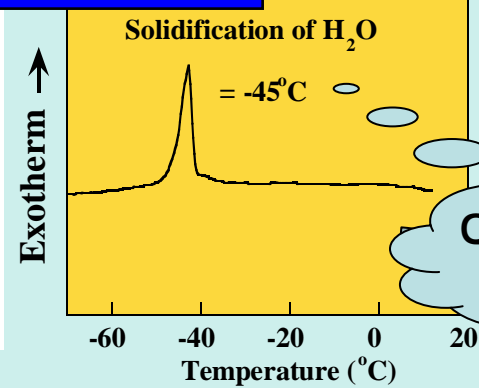
# Pore size distribution and its effect on the conductivity



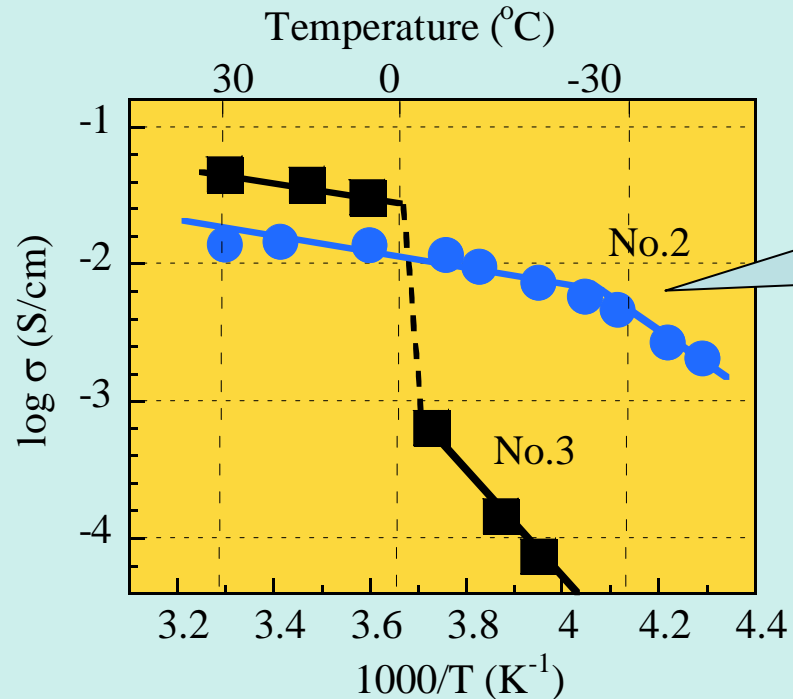
# Effect of the pore size on the proton conductivity



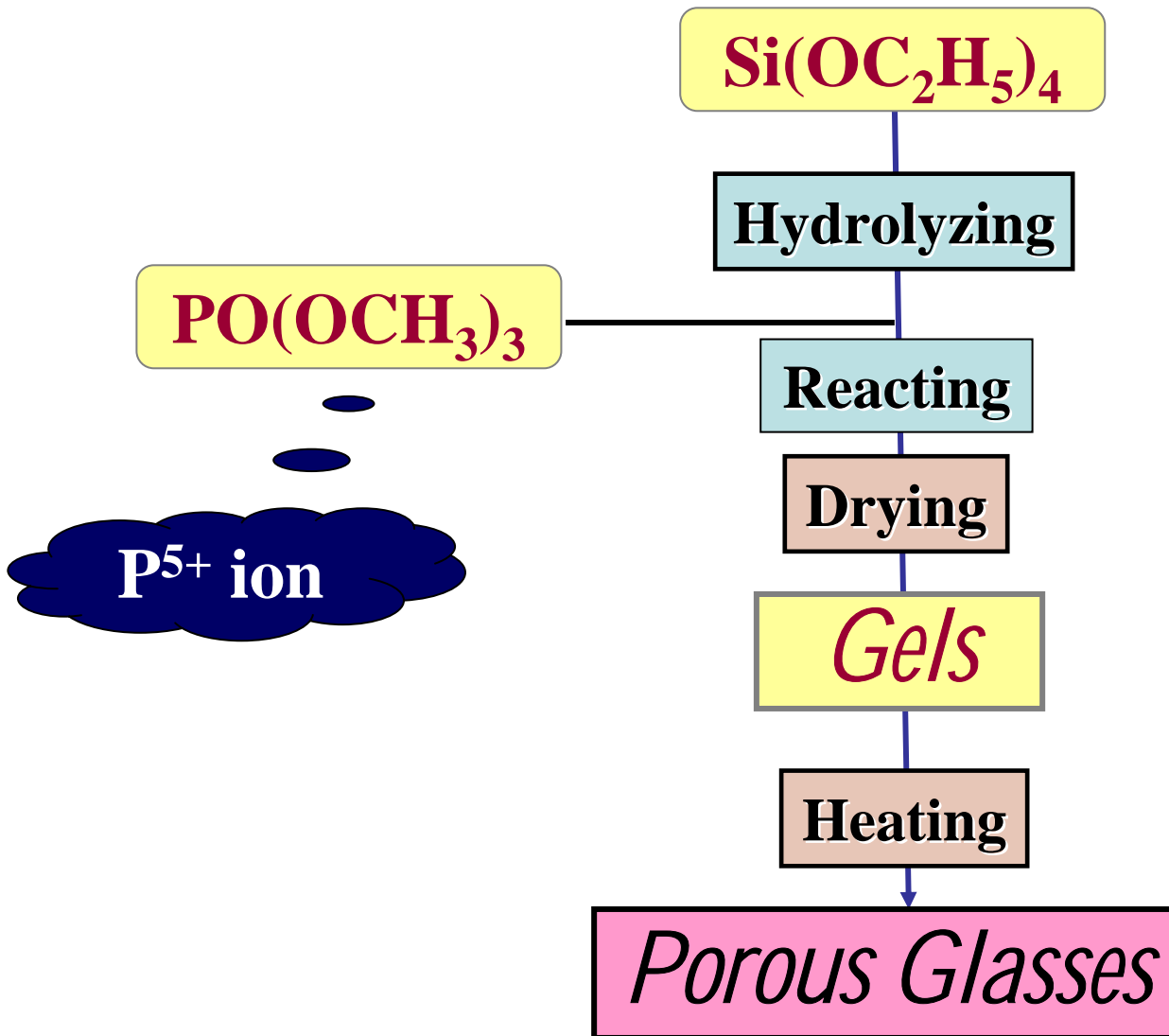
DTA curve for No. 2 glass



Quantum dot effect



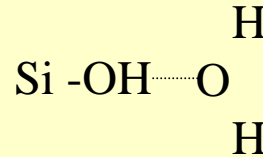
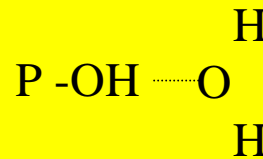
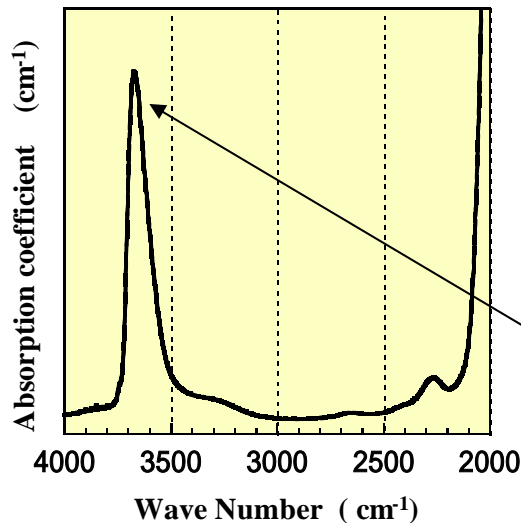
# Effect of $P_2O_5$ on proton conductivity



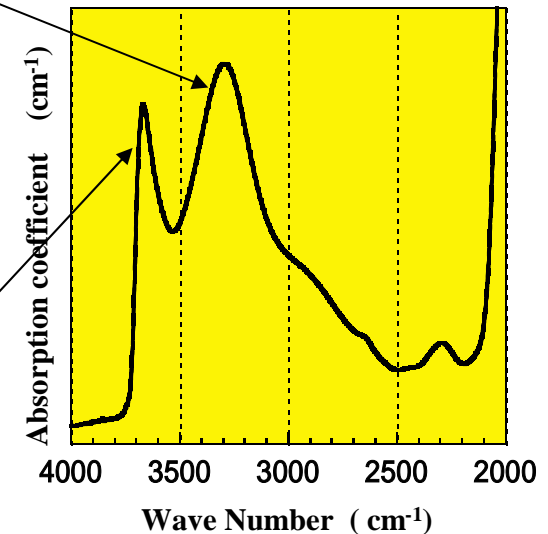
# FT-IR

## Glass Composition

**SiO<sub>2</sub> glass**



**P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-SiO<sub>2</sub> glass**

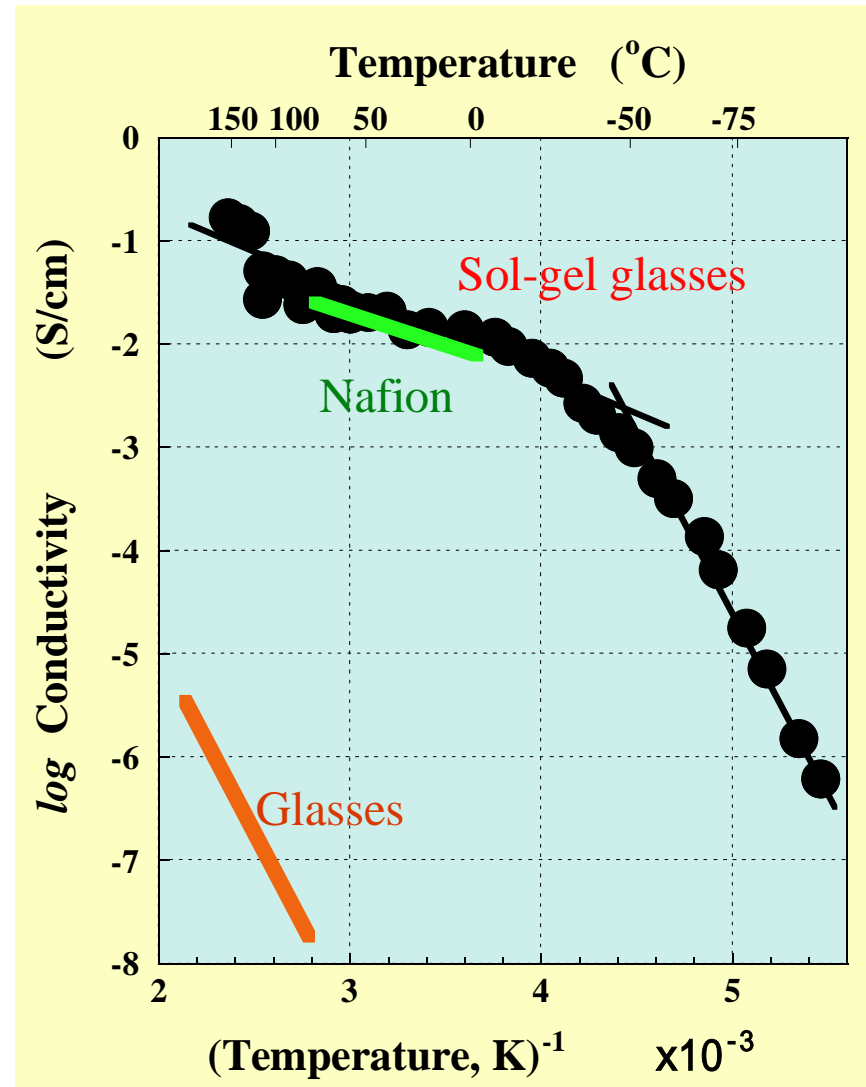


Dissociation energy  
for proton;  
**SiOH > POH**

High proton conductivity  
can be expected for POH  
bonds.

# Dependence of Conductivity on Temperature

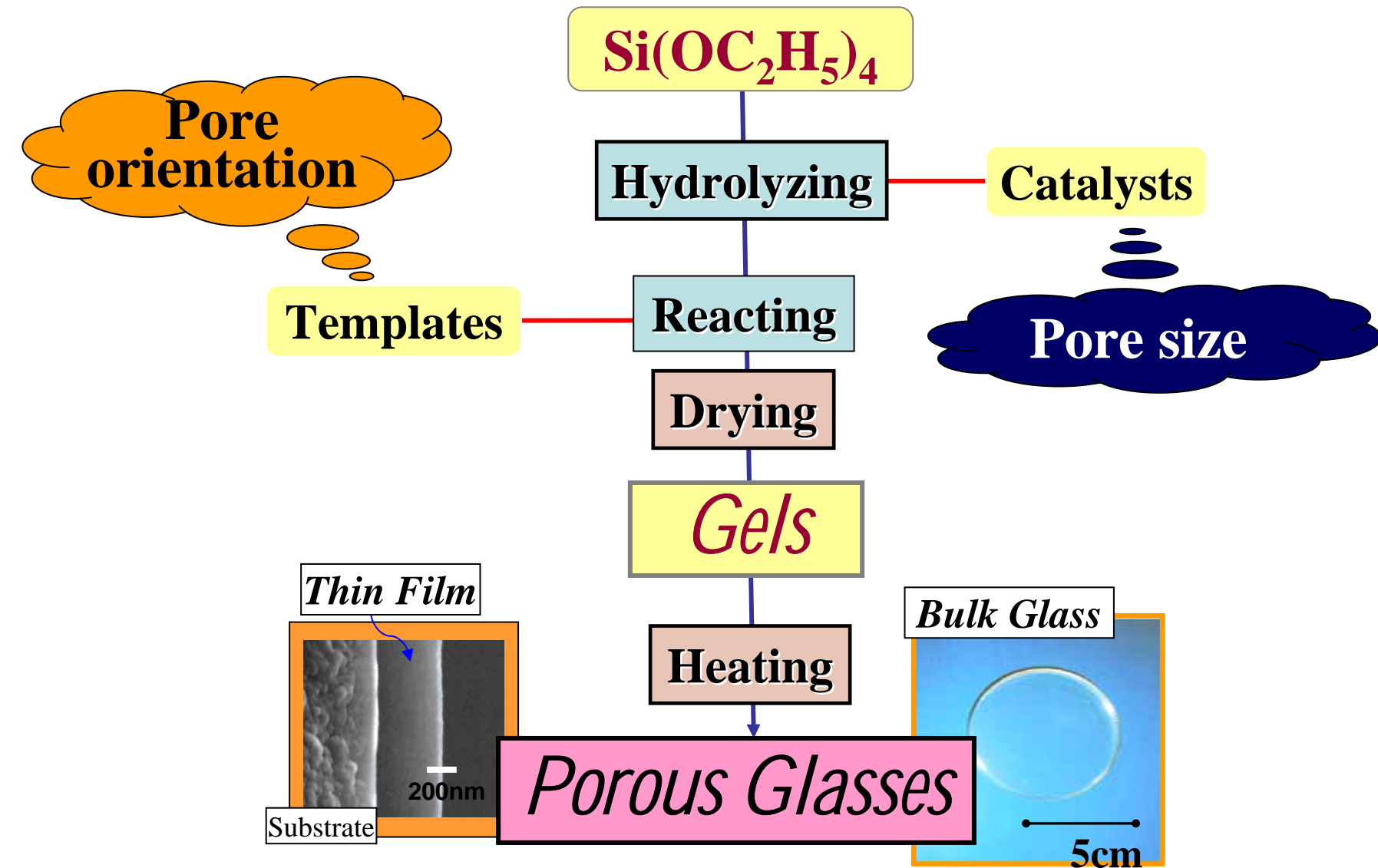
- **Proton conduction mechanism**  
proton dissociation from the SiOH bond and the proton hopping between SiOH and H<sub>2</sub>O.
- **High proton conductivity in wide temperature range**  
-30°C to 150°C  
(ex. 170 mS/cm at 150°C)



## **Fast proton conducting-glasses prepared by the sol-gel process**

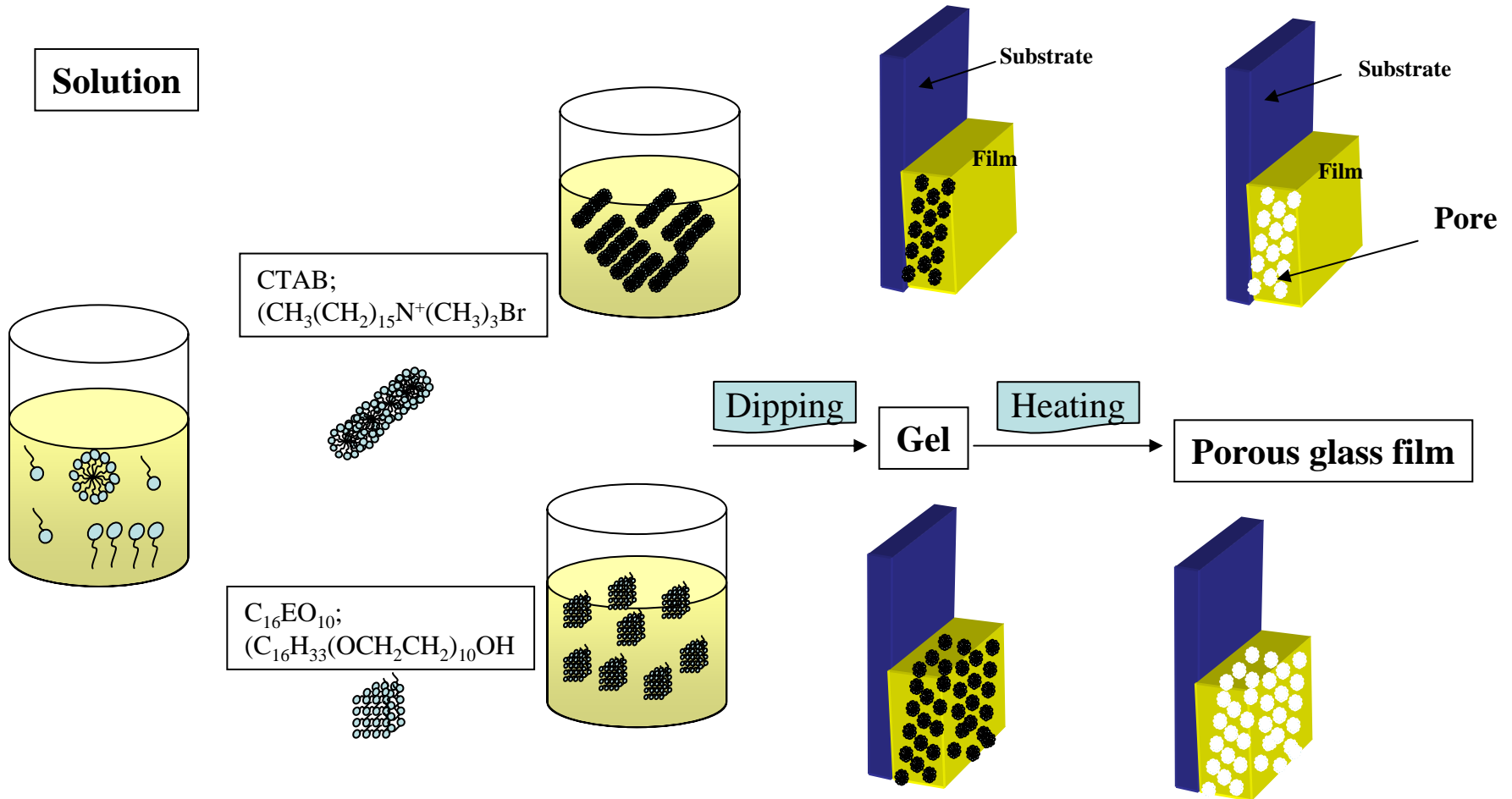
- **Mechanism of proton conduction in the sol-gel-derived porous glasses.**
- **Effect of pore structure on the proton conduction.**
- **Preparation of glass films with ordered pore structure.**
- **Application to the gas sensor and fuel cell.**

# Preparation of pore-oriented glass films



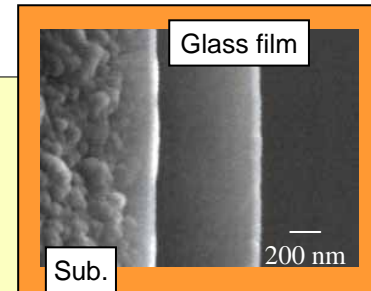
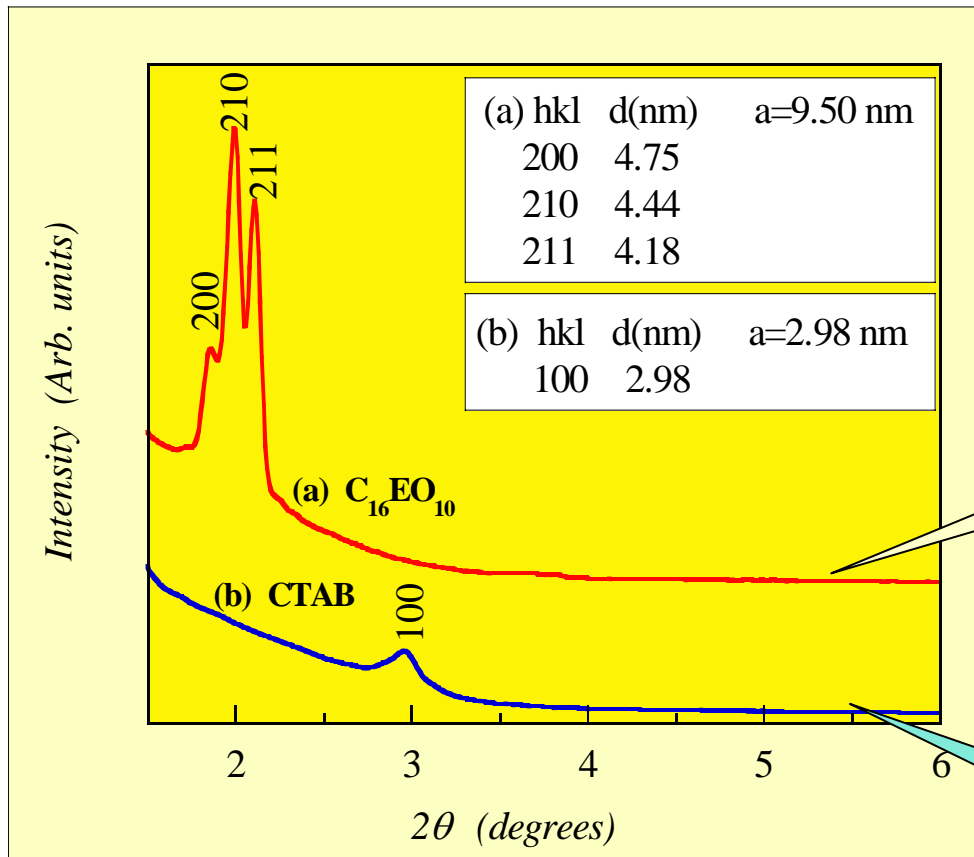
# Pore-oriented glass films by self-assembling method

## Preparation of glass film by self-assembling method using templates





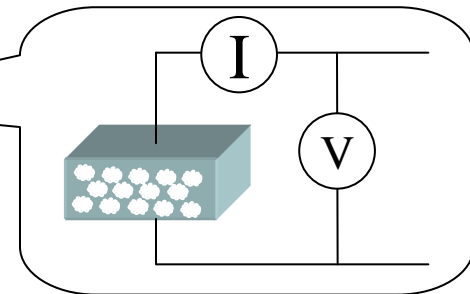
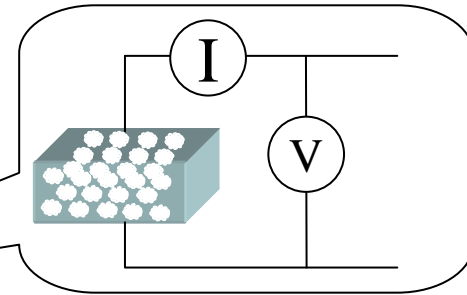
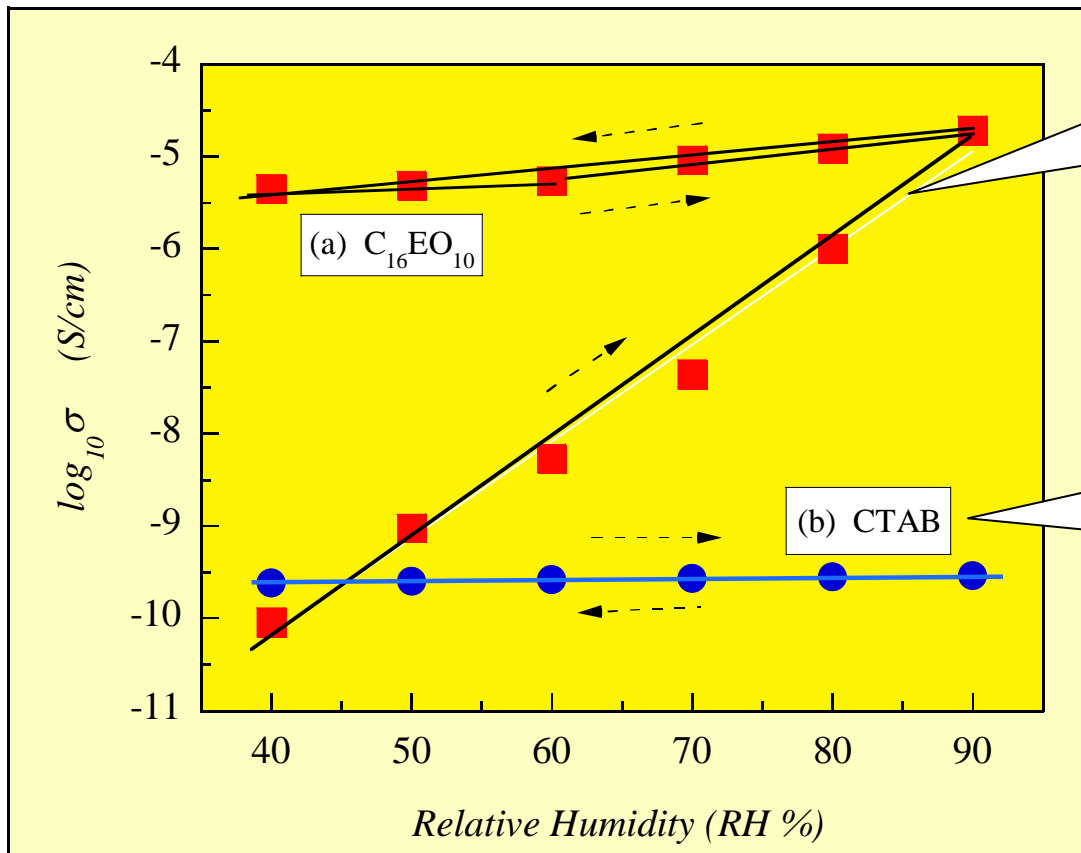
# Self-assembled pore-oriented glass films



Cubic

Hexagonal

# Conductivities of pore-oriented glass films



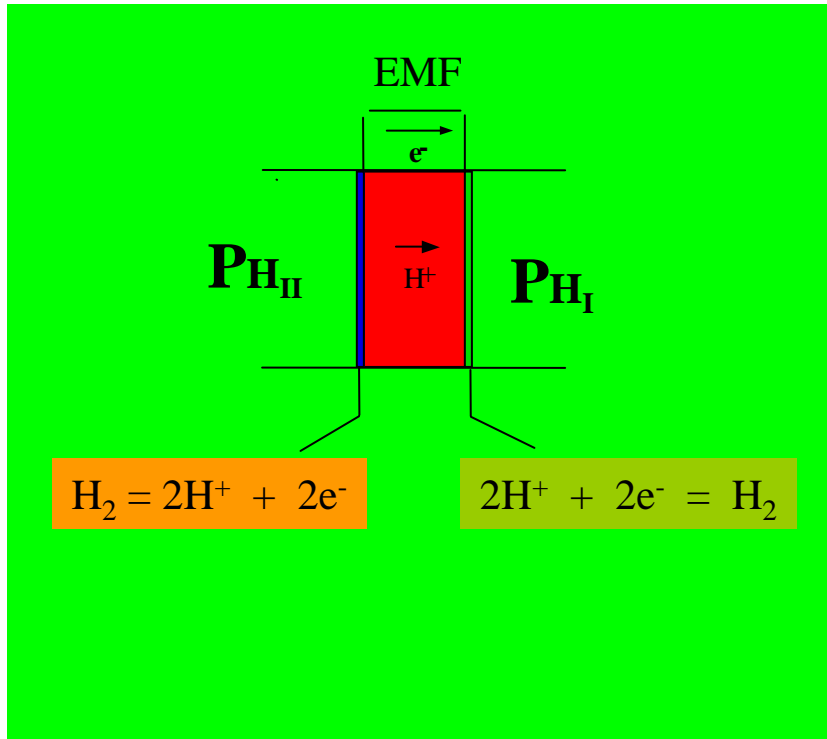
## **Fast proton conducting-glasses prepared by the sol-gel process**

- **Mechanism of proton conduction in the sol-gel-derived porous glasses.**
- **Effect of pore structure on the proton conduction.**
- **Preparation of glass films with ordered pore structure.**
- **Application to the gas sensor and fuel cell.**

# Application of proton conducting glasses

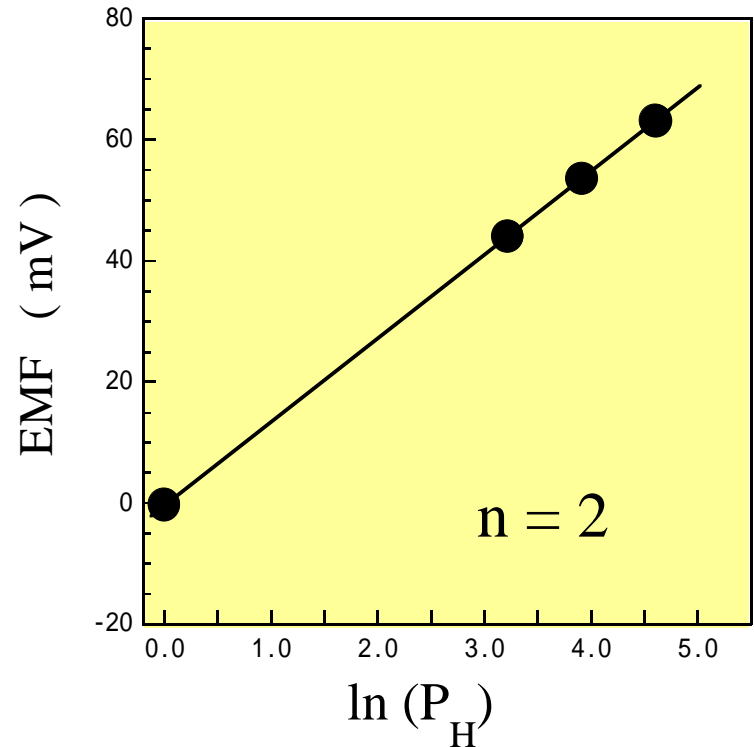
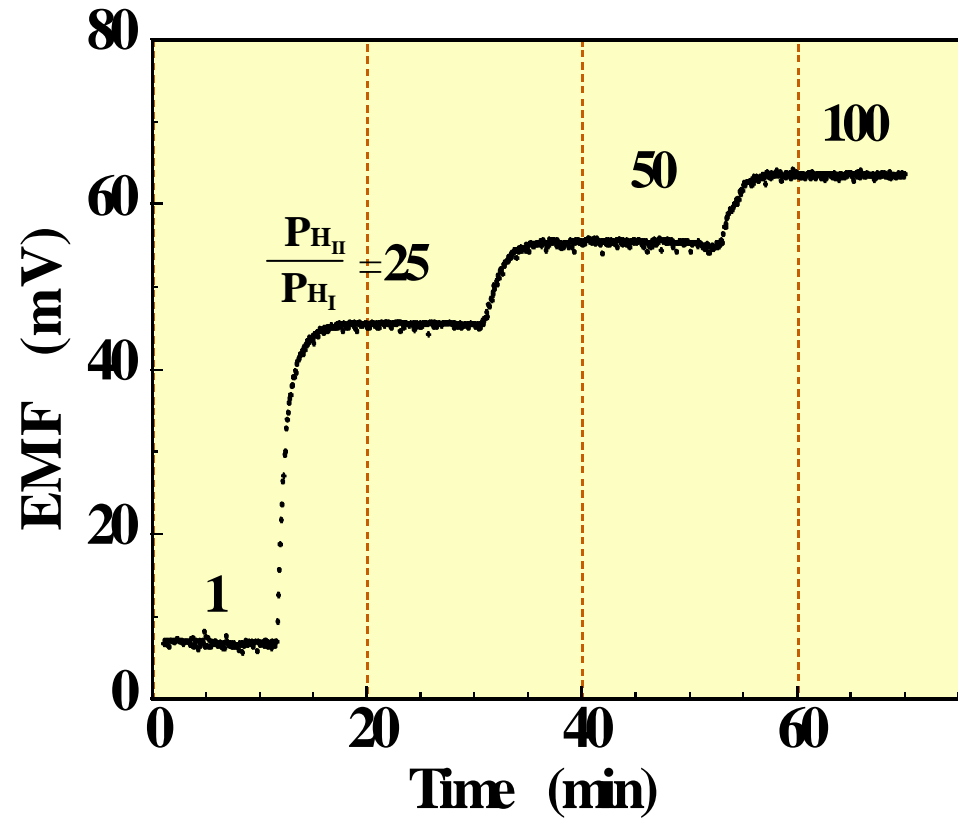
## Sensors

Hydrogen, Humidity



$$EMF = \frac{RT}{nF} \ln \frac{P_{H_{II}}}{P_{H_{I}}}$$

# Responsibility to H<sub>2</sub> gas



$$EMF = (RT/nF) \ln(P_H)$$



# Gas sensors ~ Preparation of thin films ~

## Solid electrolyte

( 組成 :  $5\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ - $95\text{SiO}_2$  )

$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4$ , 2-PrOH, HCl(aq)

HCl(aq)

$\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$

Brij56

Spin coating

Heat treatment ( $400^\circ\text{C}$ , 4h)

Glass film

Alcohol vapor

P/G stat

Air or Ar  
 $25^\circ\text{C}$

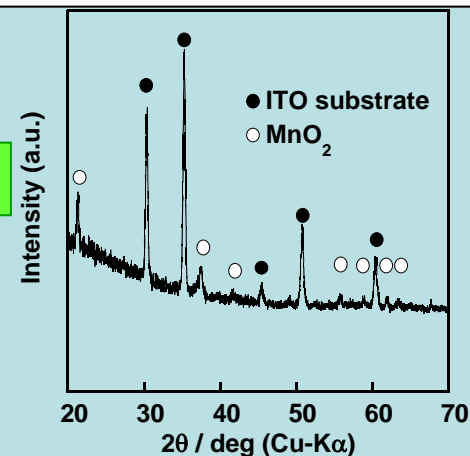
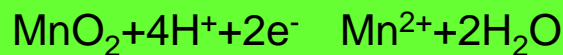
Pt

Glass film

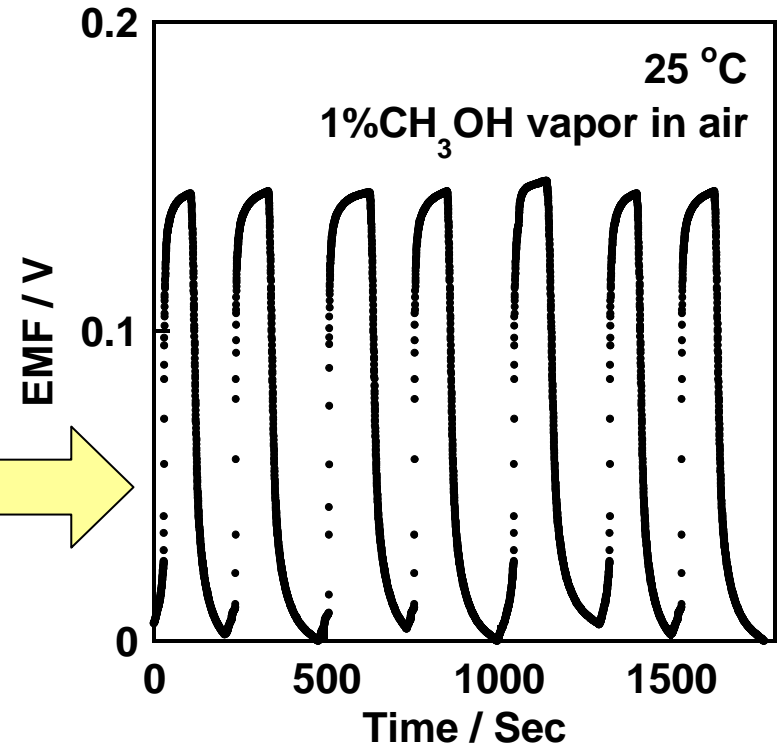
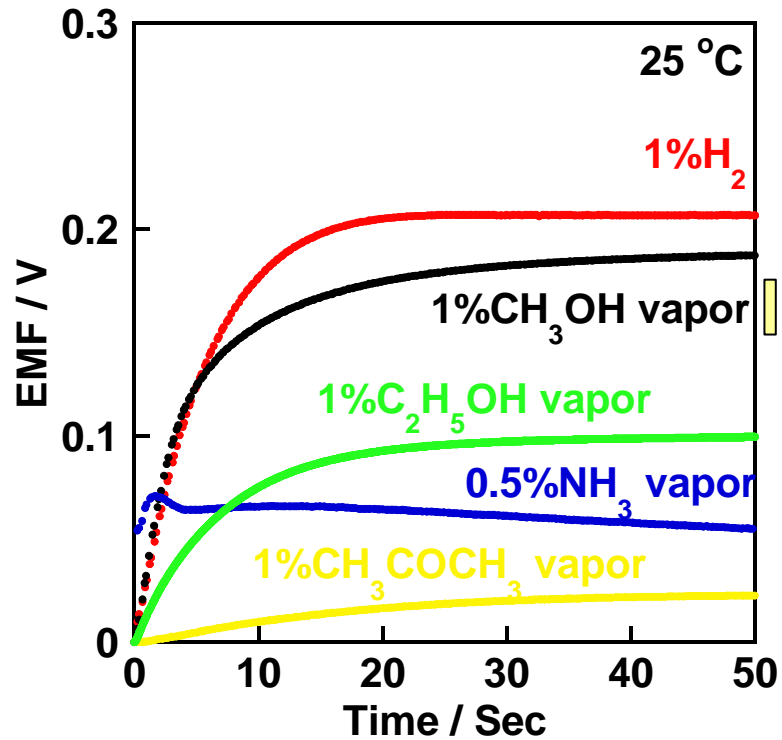
Manganese Oxide

ITO glass substrate

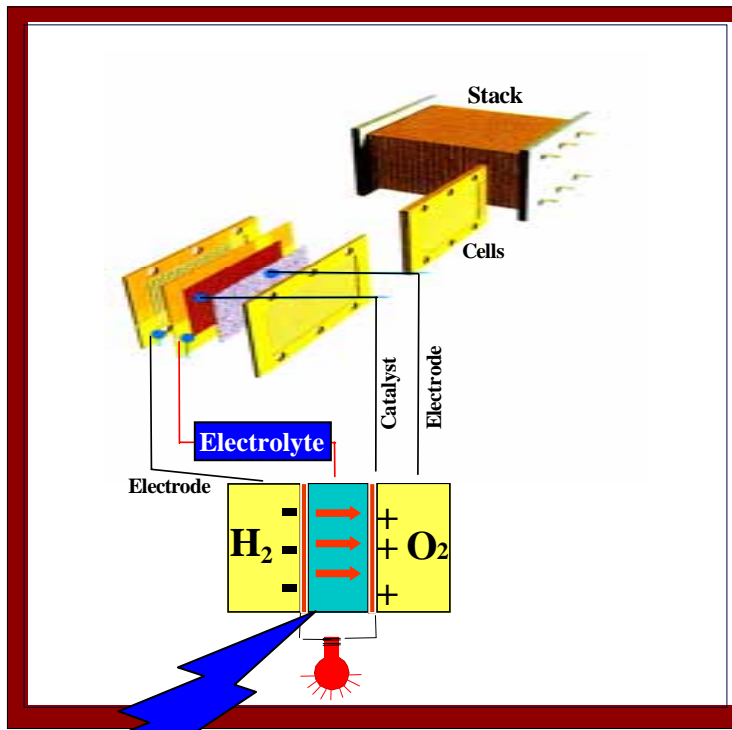
Reference electrode



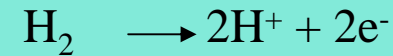
# Gas sensing



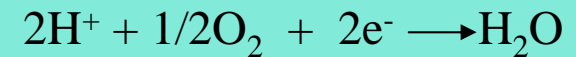
# High proton conducting glasses for the fuel cell electrolyte



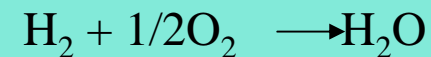
Anode



Cathode



Total



**High efficiency, Clean energy**

**Electrolyte**

**Proton conducting membrane**

Perfluorosulfonate ionomers (Nafion)

High proton conductivity at around room temperature

Degradation in thermal and chemical attacks



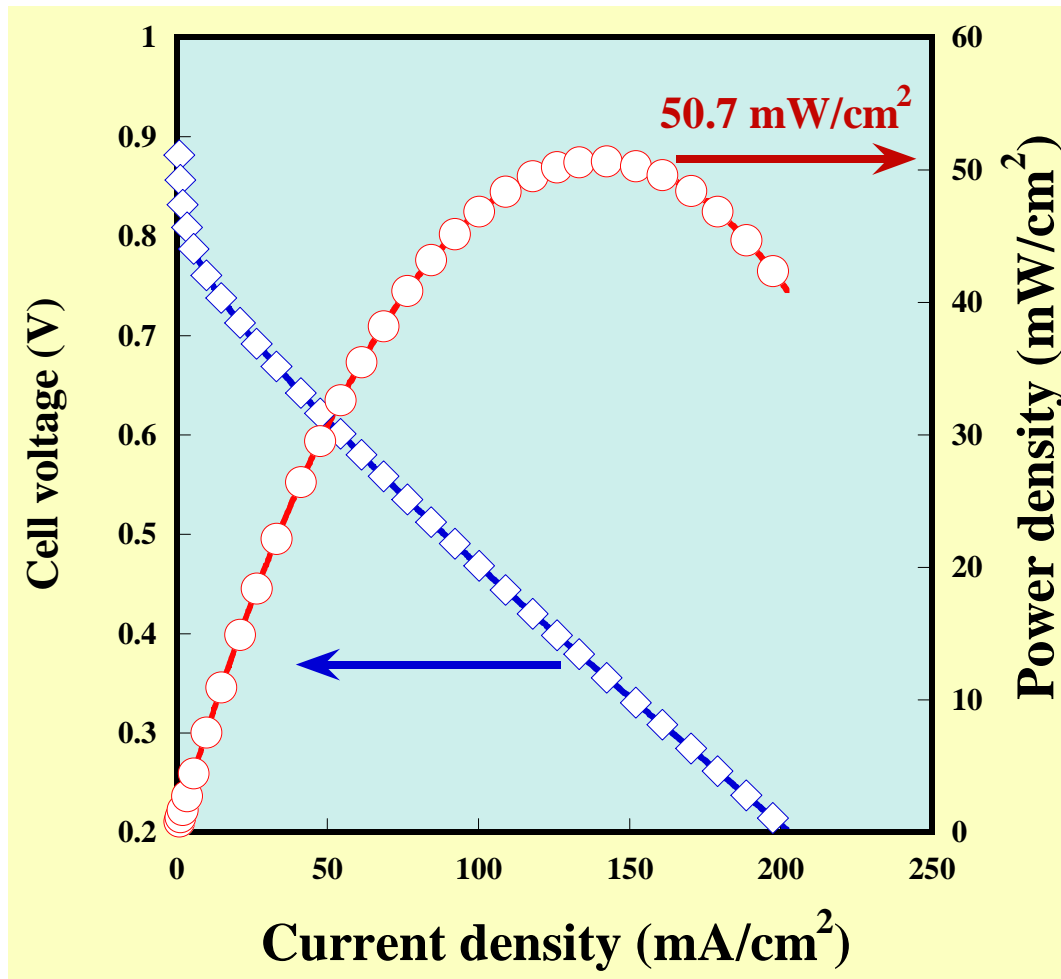
**Inorganic Sol-gel-derived Glass**

High proton conductivity at temperatures of 150°C to -30°C

High stability against the thermal and chemical attacks



# Fuel Cell



## Conclusions

- Fast proton-conducting porous glass
  - + Preparation by the sol-gel method
    - Porous glass with large surface area and small-sized pores
  - + Proton conduction process
    - Dissociation of the protons and their hopping between water molecules and hydroxyl groups
- High proton conductivities
  - + In wide temperature range from  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $150^{\circ}\text{C}$ 
    - ex.  $170\text{ mS/cm}$  at  $150^{\circ}\text{C}$
- Glass films having high-ordered pore structure
- Possible application as the electrolyte
  - + Sensor and Fuel cell

**Thank you**