



# **Combinatorial Investigation of Multiferroic Materials**

**Ichiro Takeuchi  
University of Maryland**



# Outline

- Combinatorial discovery of lead-free morphotropic phase boundary
- E-field induced transition at the  $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sm}_x\text{FeO}_3$  morphotropic phase boundary
- Microwave microscope as a multifunctional screening tool
- Reversible switching of magnetic easy-axis in  $\text{Co/BiFeO}_3$



# Acknowledgement

**Daisuke Kan**  
**A. Varatharajan**  
**C. J. Long**  
**J. Lee**

**University of Maryland**

**V. Nagarajan**  
**C.-J. Cheng**  
**Univ. New South Wales**

**P. Maksymovich**  
**S. Kalinin**  
**A. Borisevich**  
**ORNL**

**Lucia Palova**  
**K. M. Rabe**  
**Rutgers University**

**S. E. Lofland**  
**Rowan University**

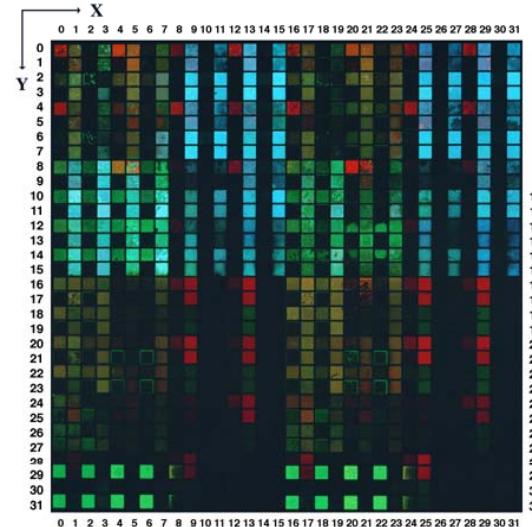
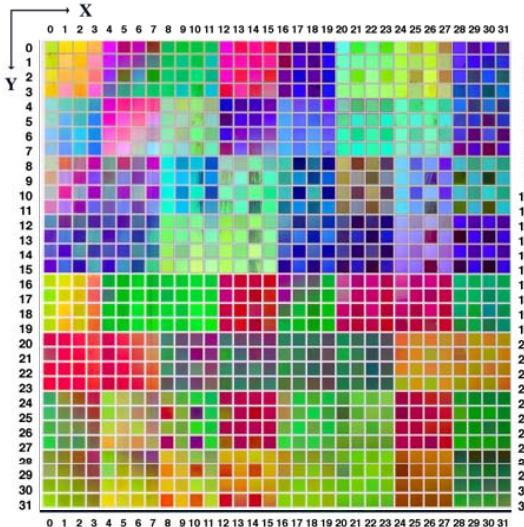
funded by NSF MRSEC, ARO MURI



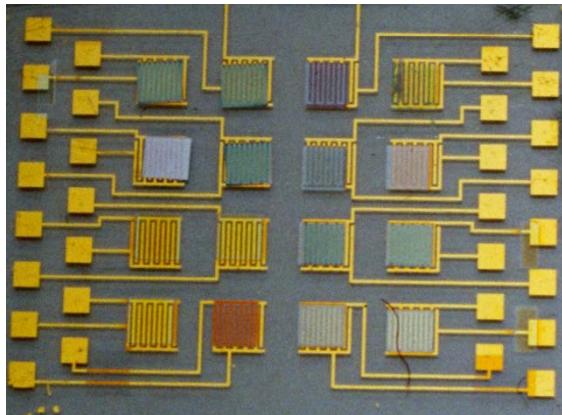
# Outline

- Combinatorial discovery of lead-free morphotropic phase boundary
- E-field induced transition at the  $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sm}_x\text{FeO}_3$  morphotropic phase boundary
- Microwave microscope as a multifunctional screening tool
- Reversible switching of magnetic easy-axis in  $\text{Co/BiFeO}_3$

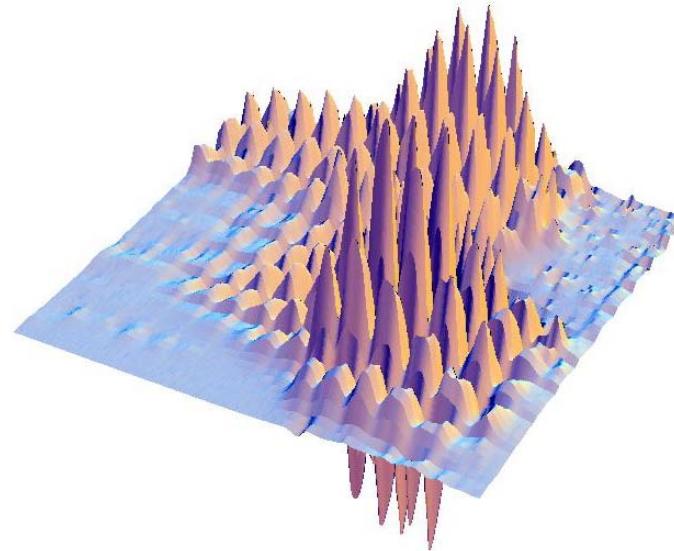
# Combinatorial Libraries of Inorganic Materials



Luminescent  
materials libraries,  
Science 279,  
1712 (1998)



Semiconductor gas sensor library,  
“electronic nose”,  
Appl. Phys. Lett. 83, 1255 (2003)



Magnetic shape memory alloy library,  
Nature Materials 2, 180 (2003)



# Exploration of Materials on the Brink

Temperature

Ferromagnetic  
phase

Low symmetry  
Ferroelectric  
phase

ferromagnetic  
compound

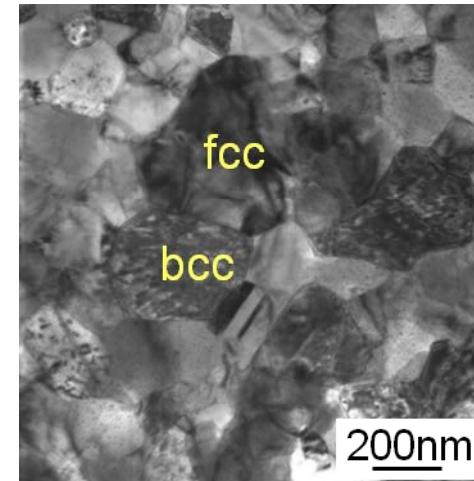
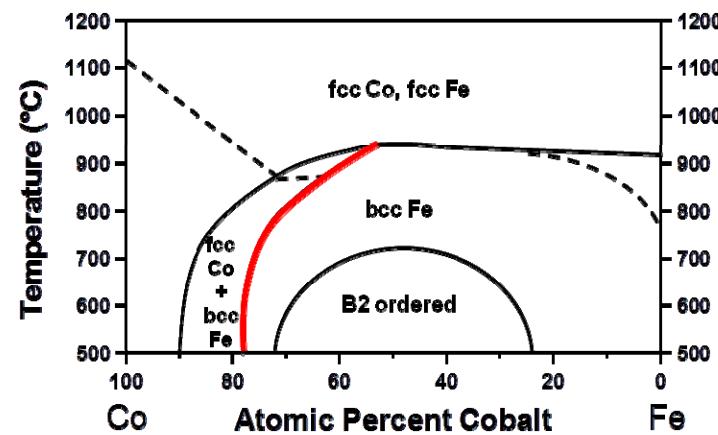
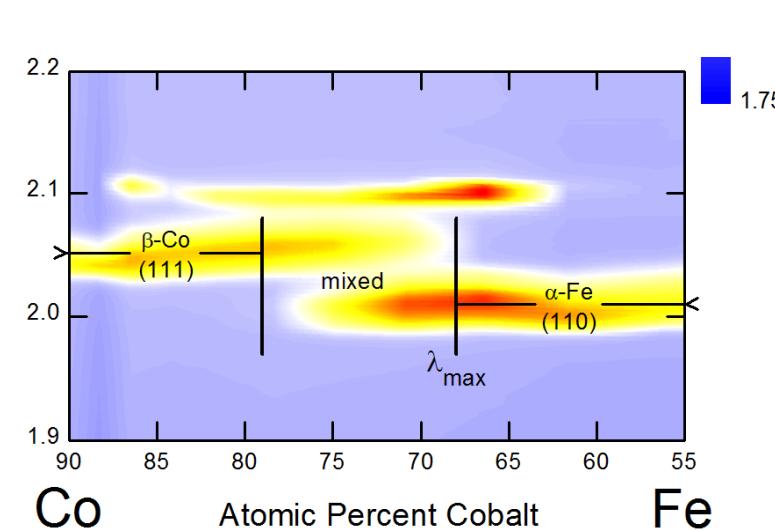
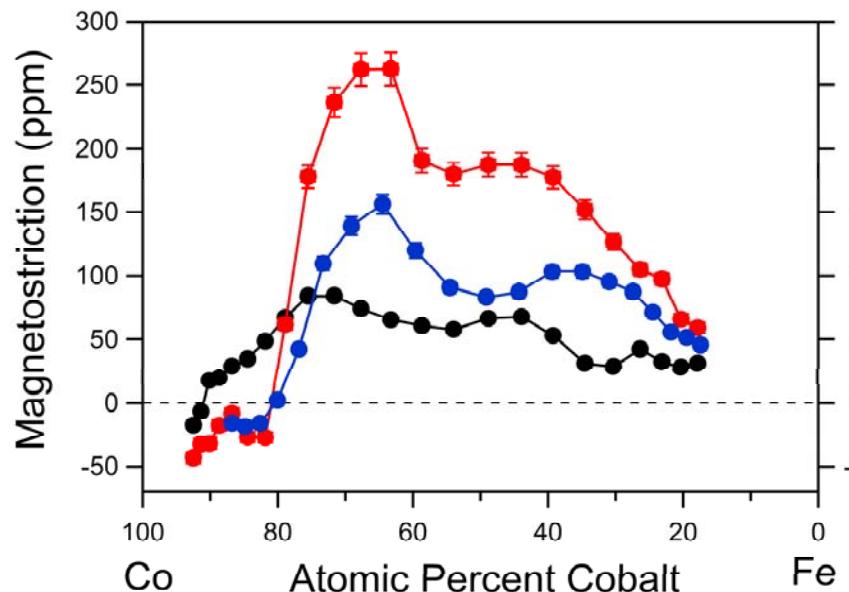
ferroelectric  
compound

← composition →

Shape memory alloys, piezoelectric materials,  
multiferroic materials, magnetostriictive materials, etc.

# Morphotropic phase boundary in metallic alloys:

## Giant magnetostriction in CoFe thin films at structural boundary



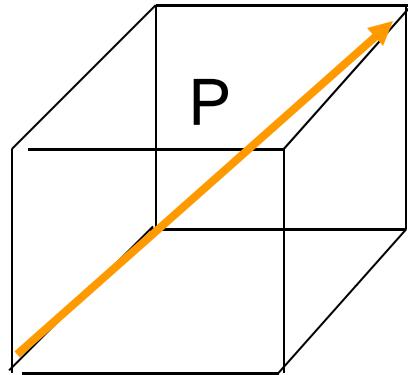
to appear in Nature Communications (2011)



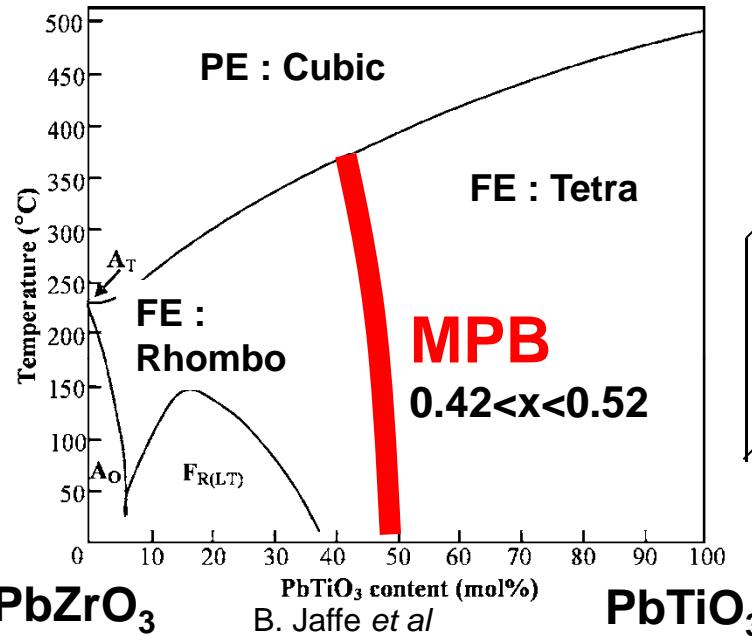
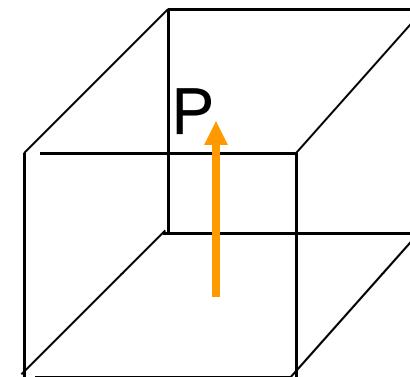
# Morphotropic Phase Boundary (MPB)



Rhombo



Tetragonal



Can we find a similar system in other ferroelectrics?

Look for: Piezo/ferro/dielectric properties enhancement  
Symmetry changing transition: vertical boundary  
Nanodomains/lower symmetry phase

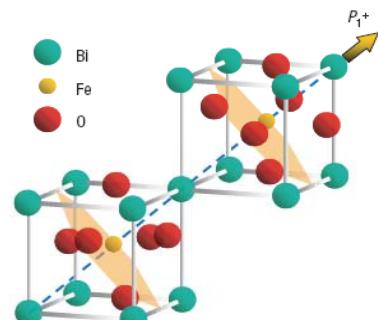


# Searching for interesting boundaries

A-site substitutions with rare-earth (RE) element

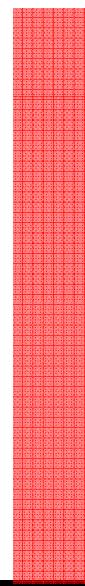
$\text{BiFeO}_3$  (BFO)

Ferroelectric  
Rhombohedral



$(\text{Bi}, \text{RE})\text{FeO}_3$

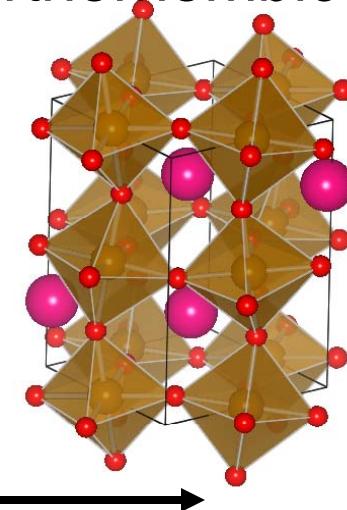
??



$(\text{RE})\text{FeO}_3$

RE = Sm, Gd, Dy

Paraelectric  
Orthorhombic

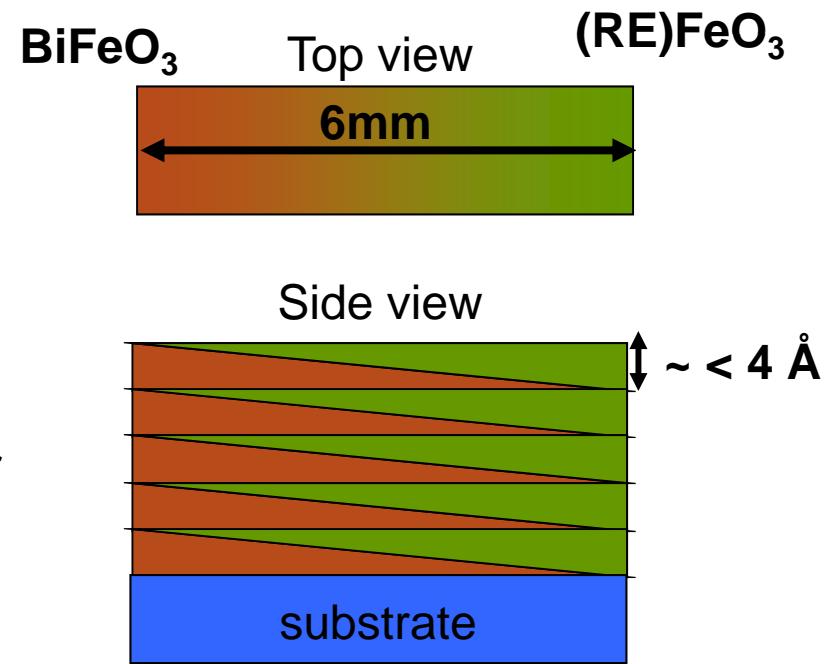
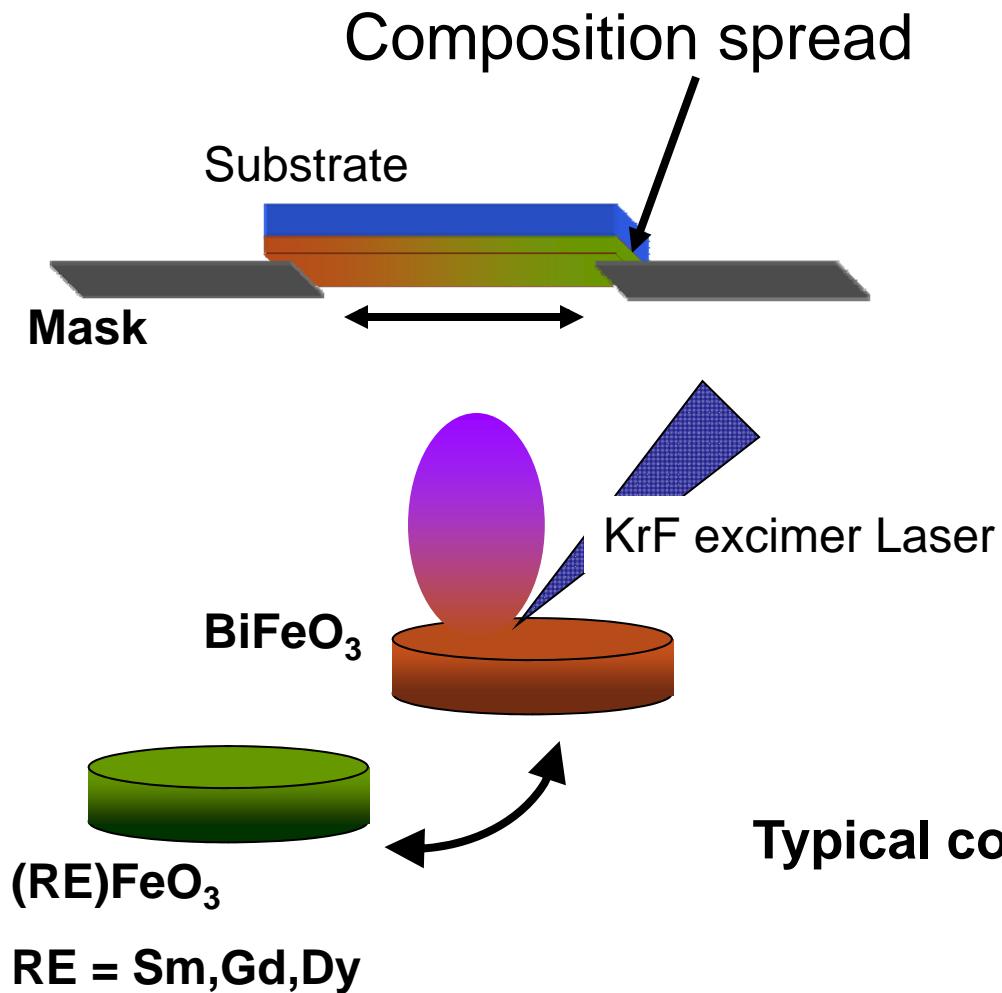


RE substitution concentration

What happens when the transition takes places?



# Epitaxial composition spread of perovskite oxides

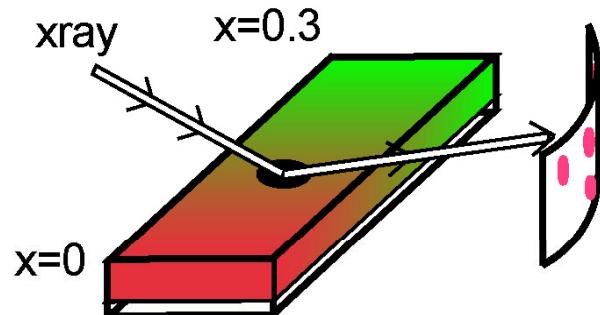


## Typical conditions

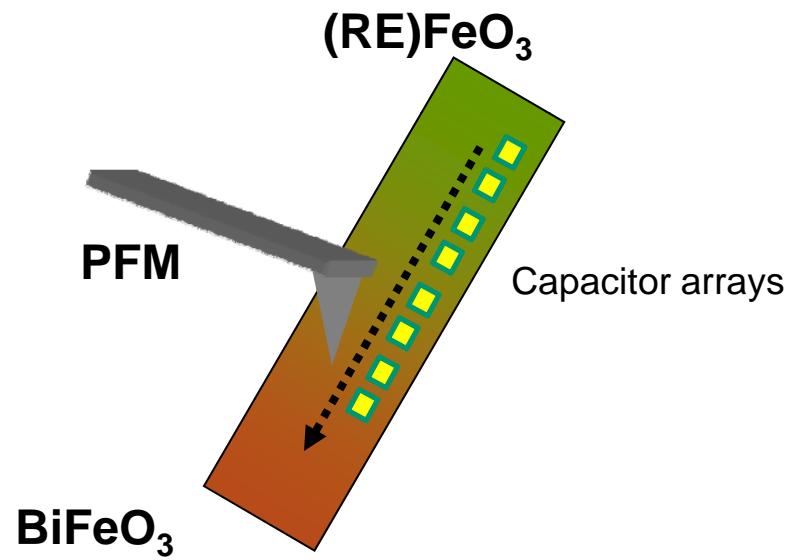
- Temperature 600 °C
- Oxygen pressure 25 mTorr
- Thickness 200 - 400 nm
- Substrate  $\text{SrTiO}_3(100)$

# Rapid characterization of composition spreads

X-ray diffraction (XRD)

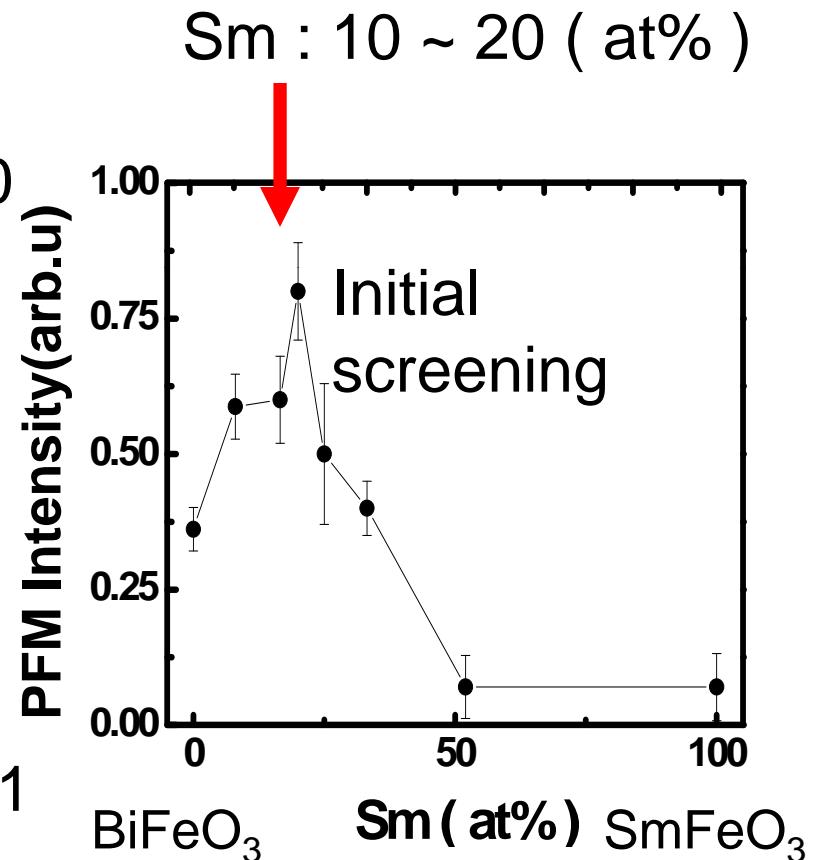
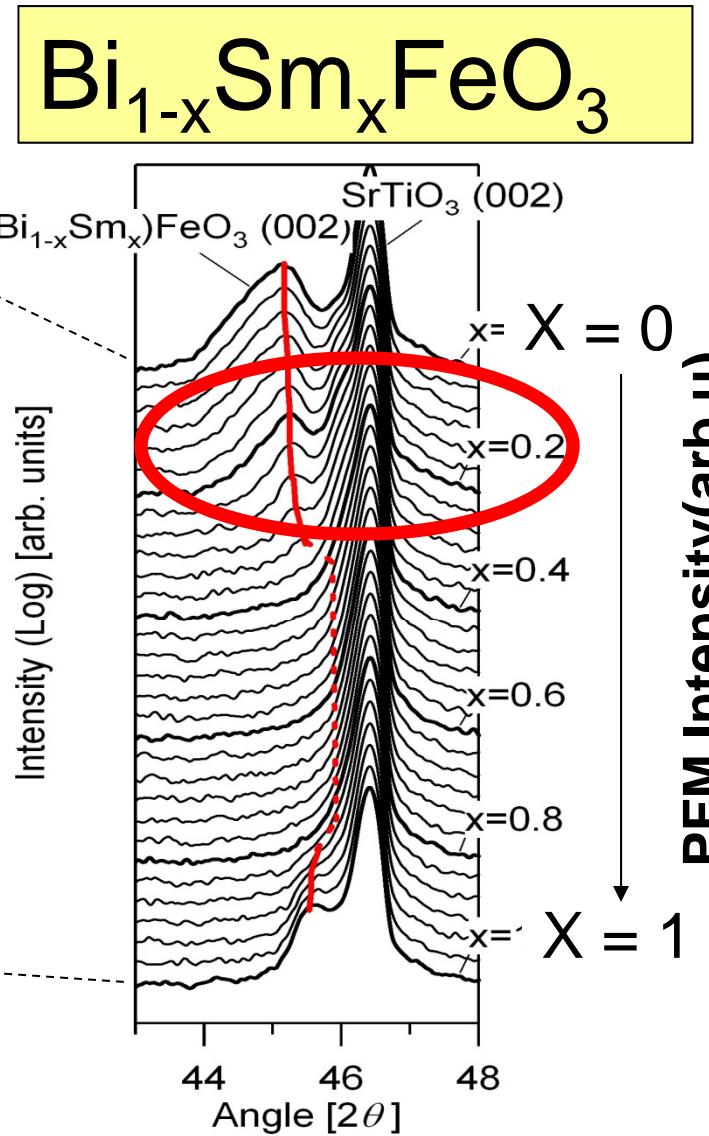
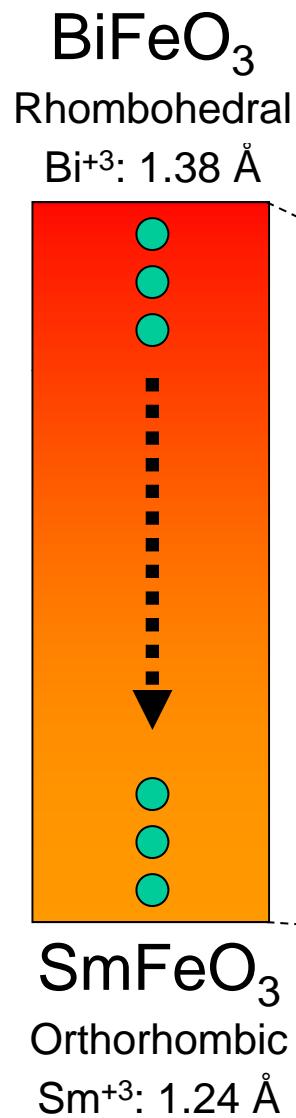


Polarization vs Electric field loop (PE)  
Piezo electric force microscope (PFM)



characterized as a function of composition (or position)  
XRD, P-E ( $\varepsilon$ -E) loops, PFM, MFM....

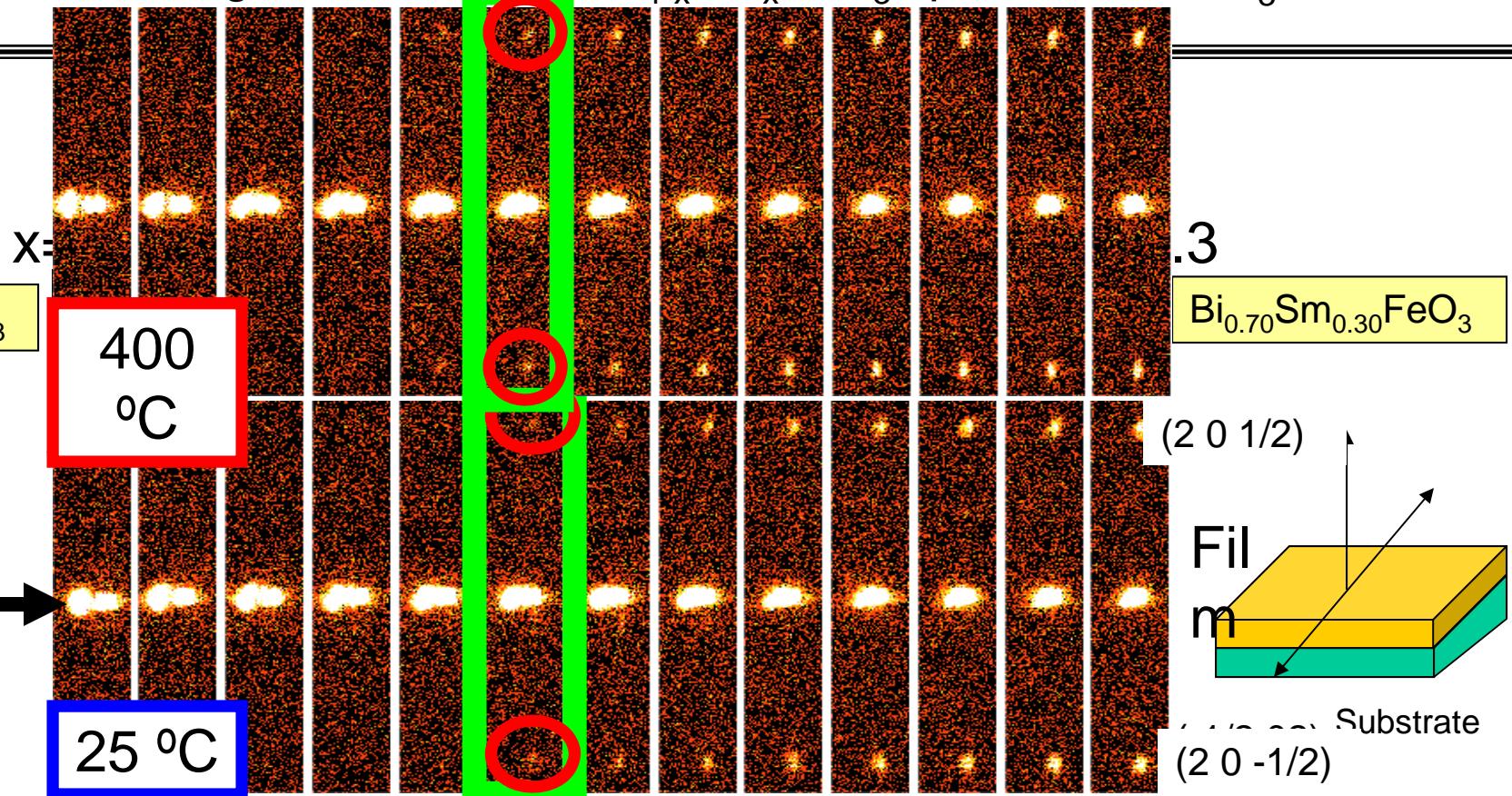
# X-ray diffraction of $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sm}_x\text{FeO}_3$ composition spread on $\text{SrTiO}_3$



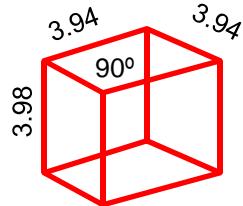


2D

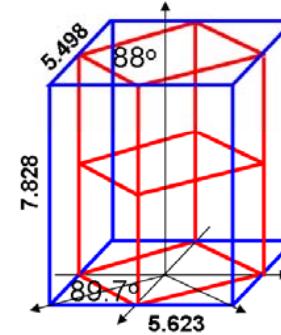
XRD image

Transition :  $X = 0.14 \pm 0.015$  $\text{SrTiO}_3$ 

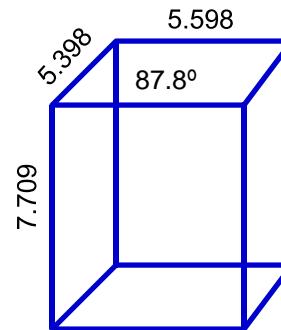
Rhombohedral



Triclinic



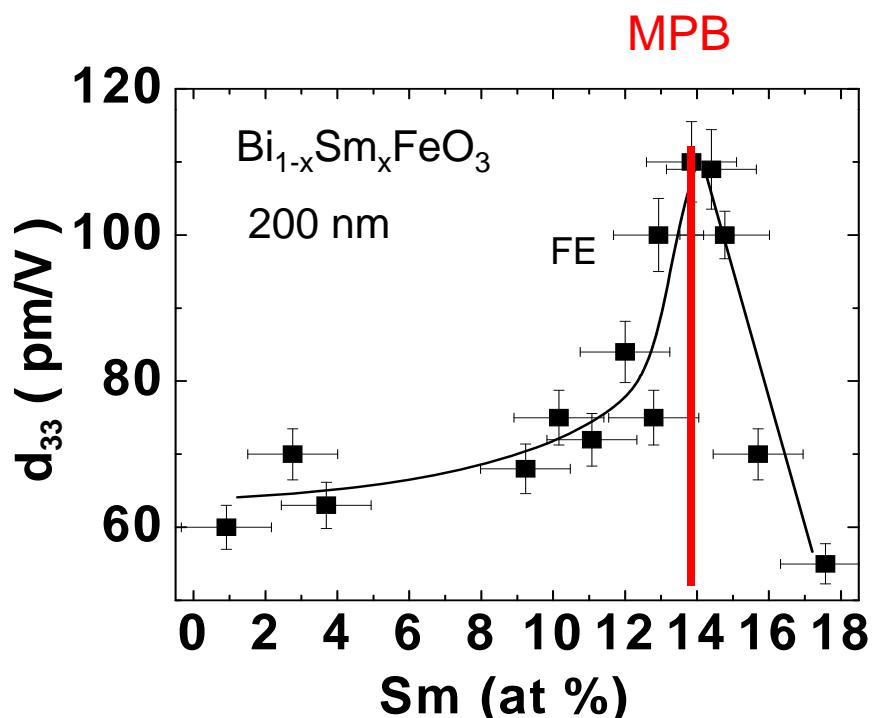
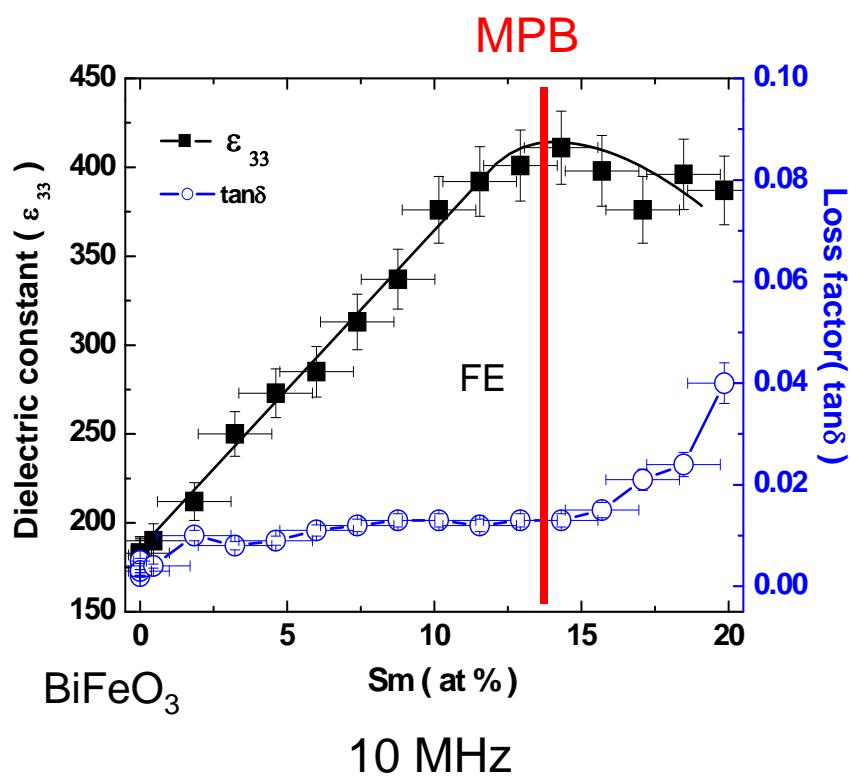
Pseudo-orthorhombic



# Dielectric constant and $d_{33}$ enhanced at MPB in $(\text{Bi},\text{Sm})\text{FeO}_3$

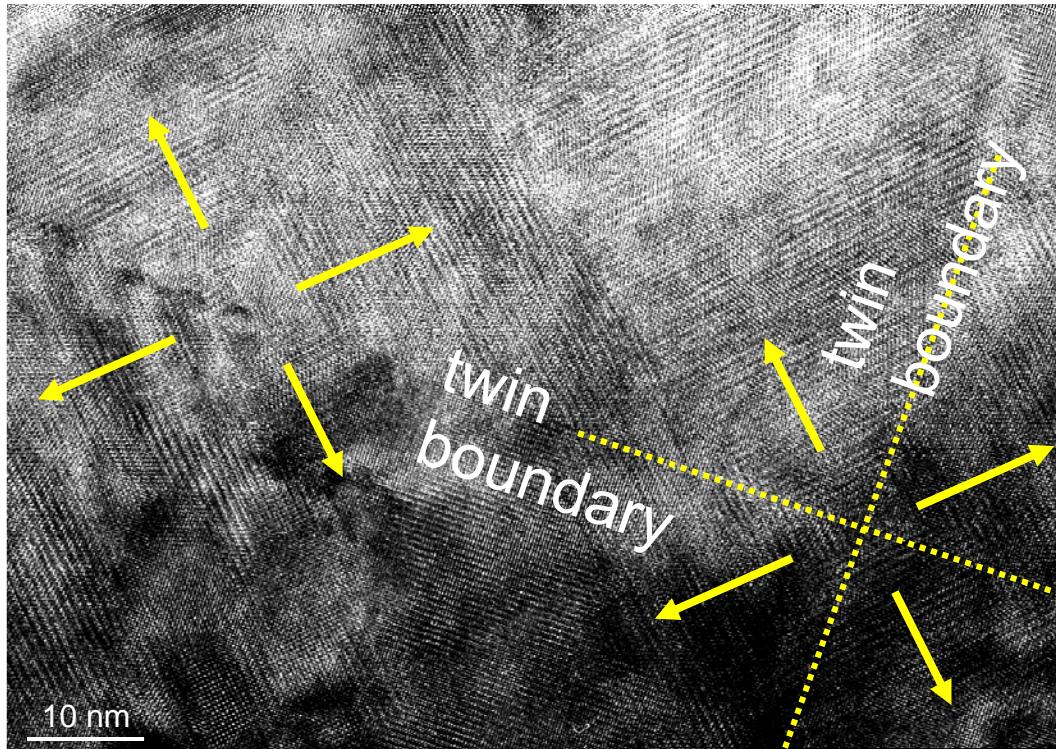
- Dielectric constant peaks at 14% Sm
- Loss tangent at this composition is relatively low (~0.01)

- $d_{33}$  continuously increases peaking at 14% Sm to about 110 pm/V.



# Planar TEM image of MPB : $\text{Bi}_{0.86}\text{Sm}_{0.14}\text{FeO}_3$

Nano domains with twin boundaries are observed at MPB



Typical domain size at MPB :  
20 - 50nm,



Away from MPB : ~ 500nm

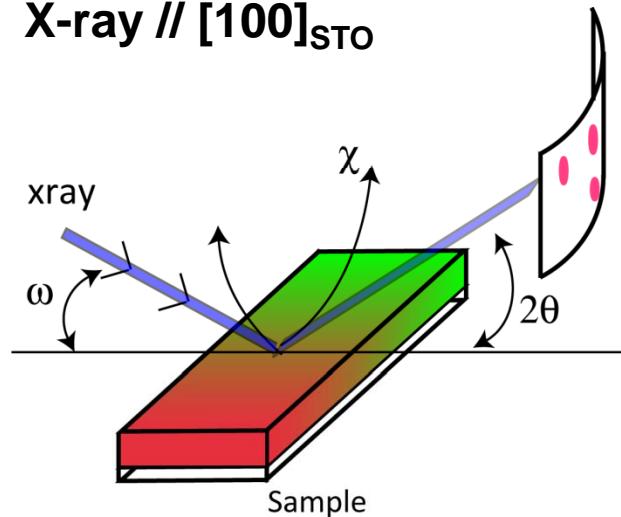
PZT at MPB shows similar  
nano domains

Phys. Rev. B80, 01409 (2009)

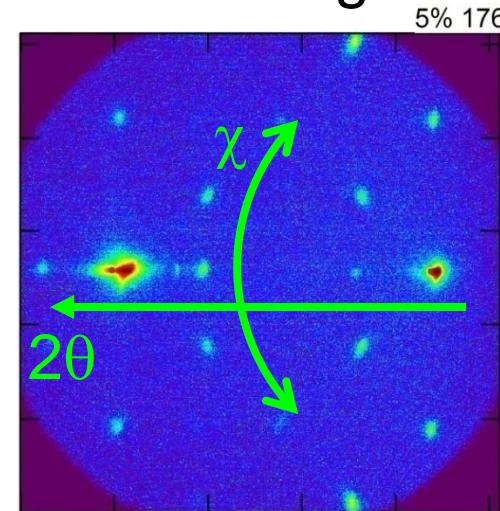
- ✓ Piezo/ferro/dielectric properties enhancement
- ✓ Symmetry changing transition: vertical boundary
- ✓ Nanodomains/lower symmetry phase

## 2D XRD mapping of

2D XRD recorded in  $2\theta\chi$  plane  
X-ray //  $[100]_{\text{STO}}$

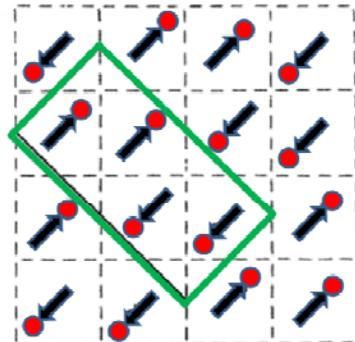


2d XRD image



■  $1/4\{011\}$  spot

Anti-parallel  
cation displacements

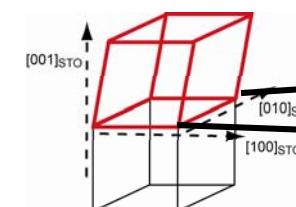


$(\text{PbZrO}_3 \text{ like AFE})$

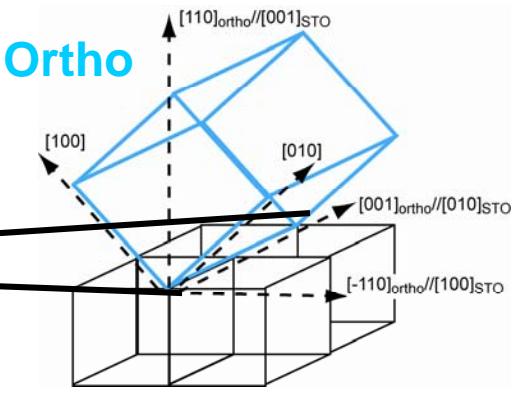
■  $1/2\{0,1,0\}_{\text{cubic}}$  spot

Cell-doubled structure

Rhombo

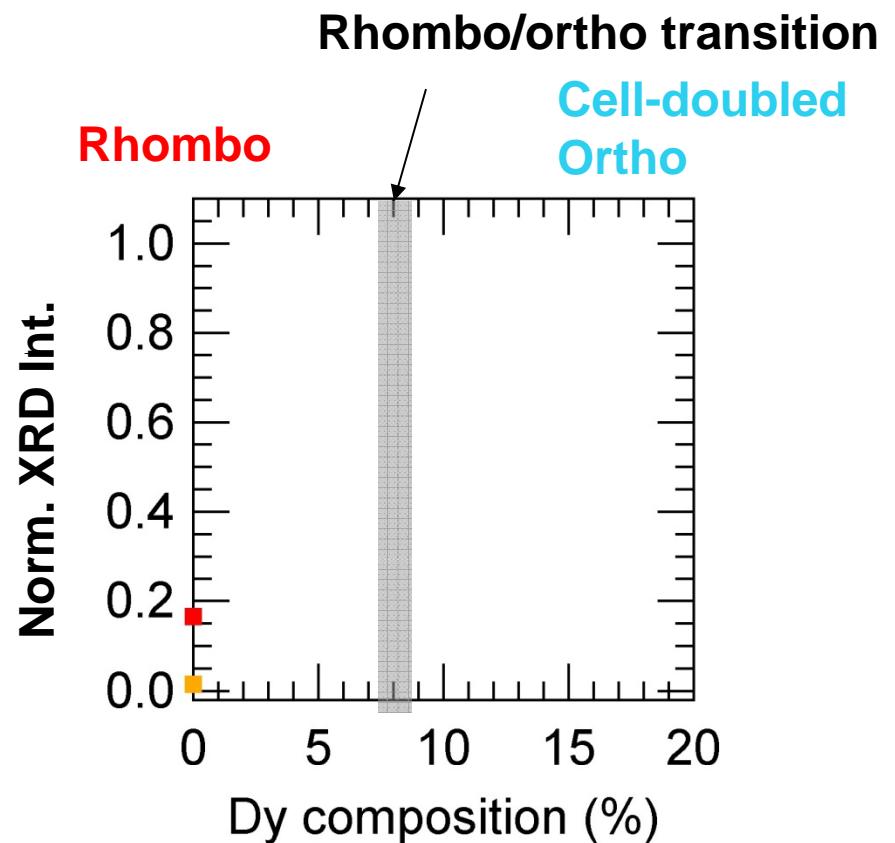
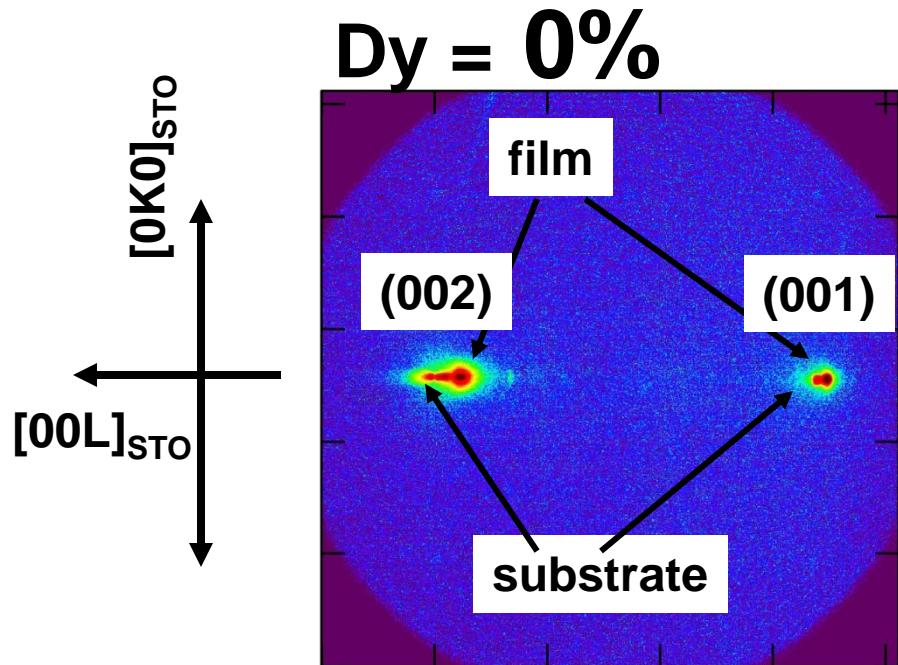


a



# Structural transition of (Bi,Dy)FeO<sub>3</sub> films

2D XRD recorded in  $2\theta-\chi$  plane  
X-ray // [100]<sub>STO</sub>



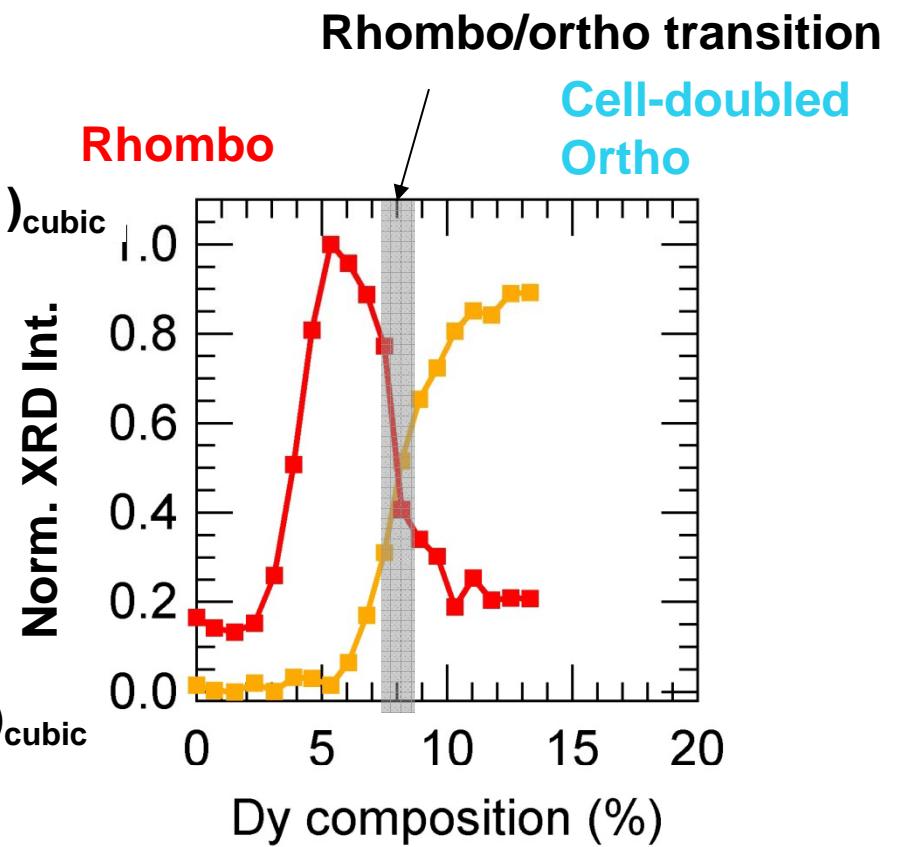
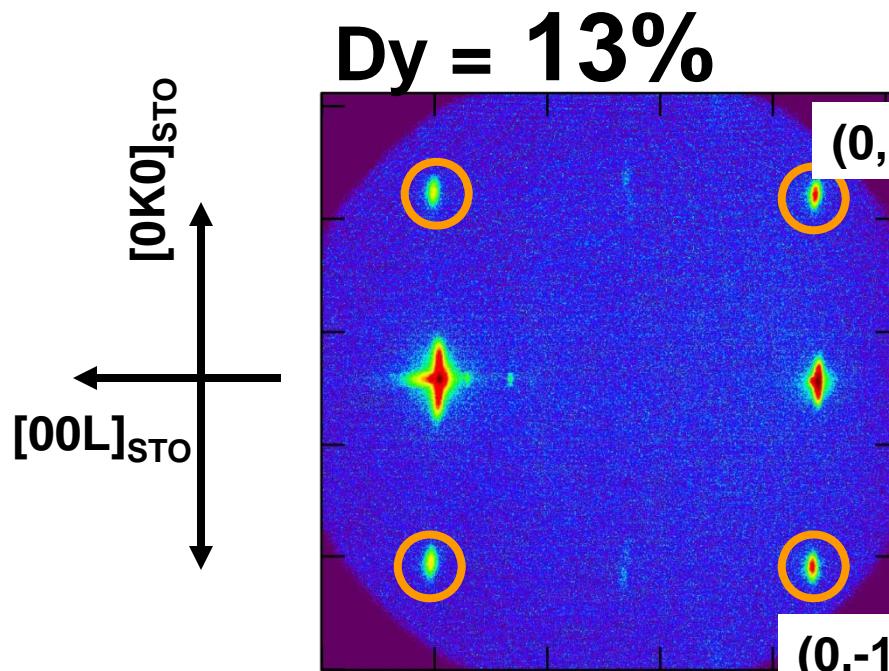
(PbZrO<sub>3</sub> like AFE)

- 1/4{011} spot → Anti-parallel cation displacement
- 1/2{0,1,0}<sub>cubic</sub> spot → Cell-doubled structure



# Structural transition of (Bi,Dy)FeO<sub>3</sub> films

2D XRD recorded in  $2\theta-\chi$  plane

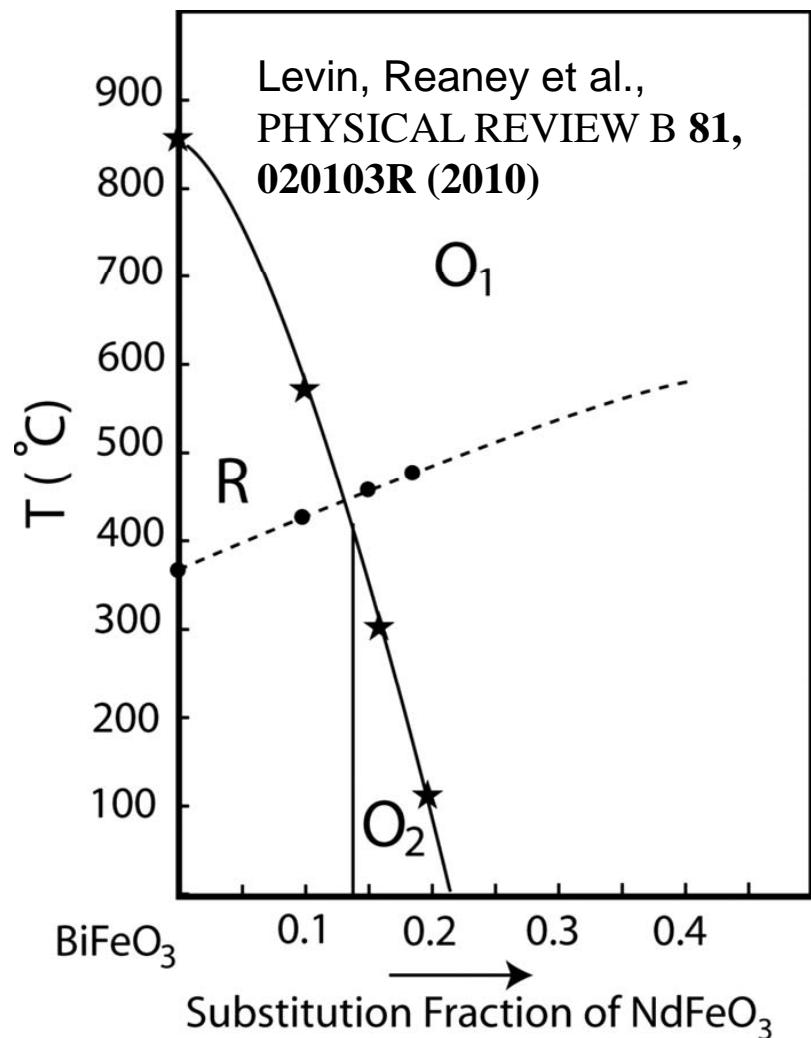


- 1/4{011} spot → Anti-parallel cation displacement
- 1/2{0,1,0}<sub>cubic</sub> spot → Cell-doubled structure  
Orthorhombic phase



# Mapping universal phase diagram for RE-substituted BiFeO<sub>3</sub>

1 Bulk study: Bi<sub>1-x</sub>Nd<sub>x</sub>FeO<sub>3</sub> cation displacement

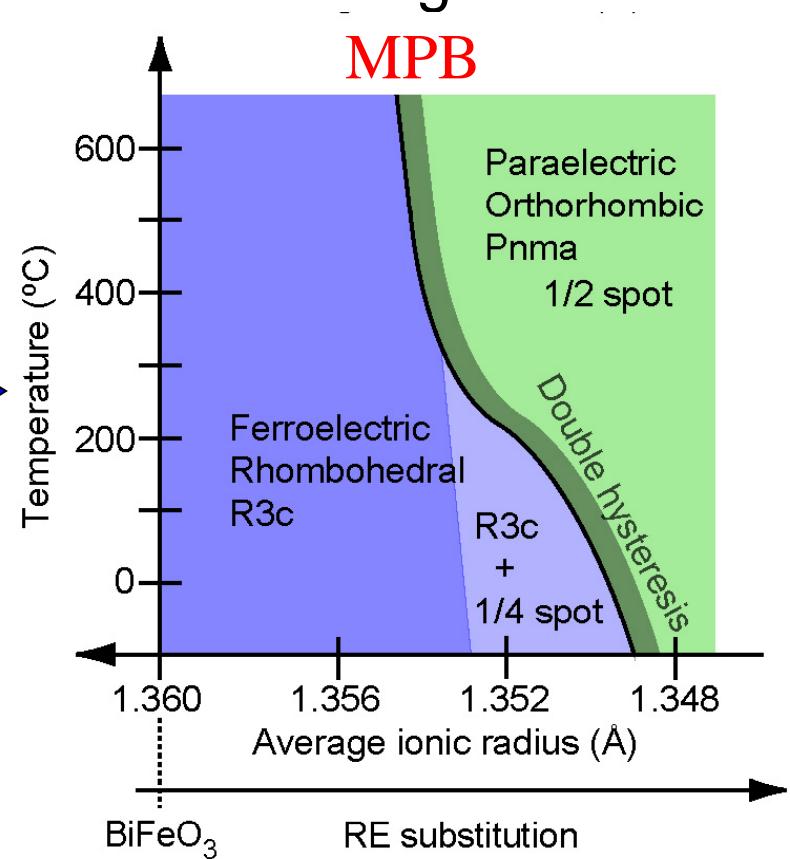


Orthorhombic phase



Phase diagram

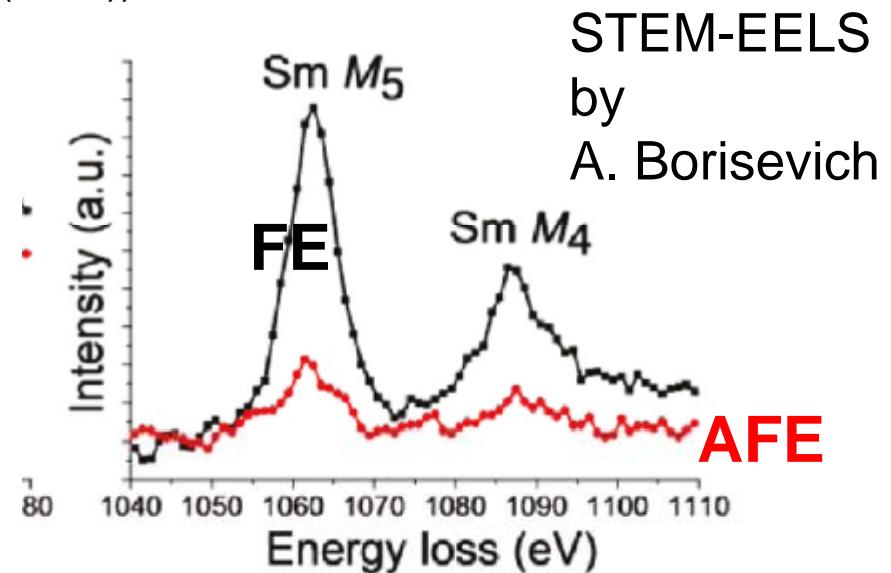
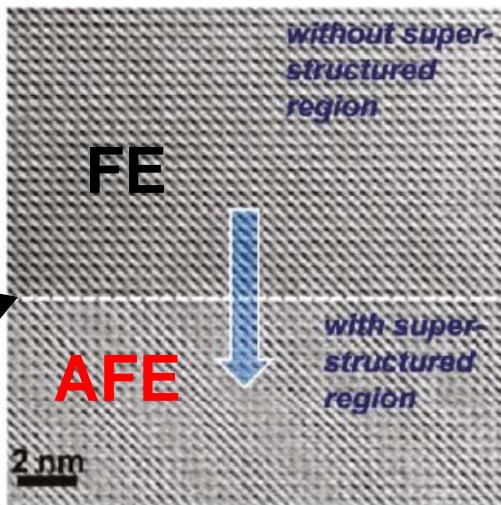
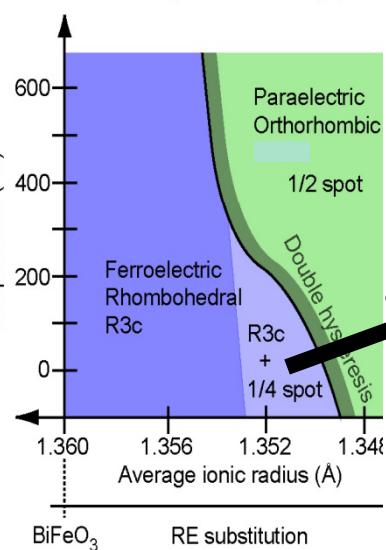
MPB



Advanced Functional Materials 20, 1108 (2010)

# Chemistry of Antipolar cluster in FE matrix

(Chemistry of Materials 22, 2588 (2010))



**Sm deficiency in the cluster!**

**Inhomogeneity due to synthesis → AFE phase?**

Not likely : also observed in bulk  
not present at any other compositions  
always observed at fixed A-site radius

Intrinsic property ruled by local thermodynamics,  
minimization of local polarization leads to RE deficient AFE phase

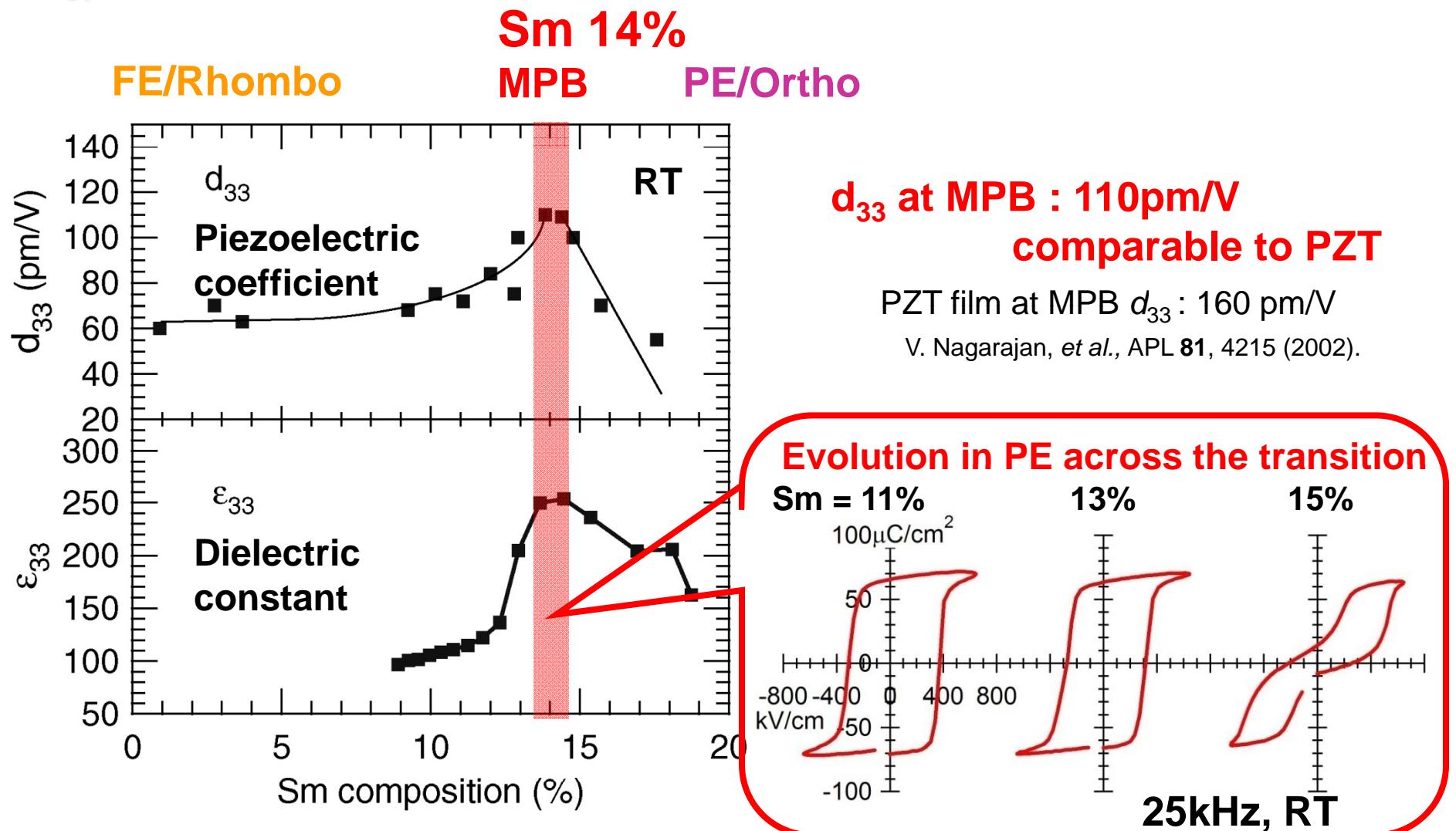


# Outline

- Combinatorial discovery of lead-free morphotropic phase boundary
- E-field induced transition at the  $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sm}_x\text{FeO}_3$  morphotropic phase boundary
- Microwave microscope as a multifunctional screening tool
- Reversible switching of magnetic easy-axis in  $\text{Co/BiFeO}_3$

# MPB in (Bi,Sm)FeO<sub>3</sub> thin films

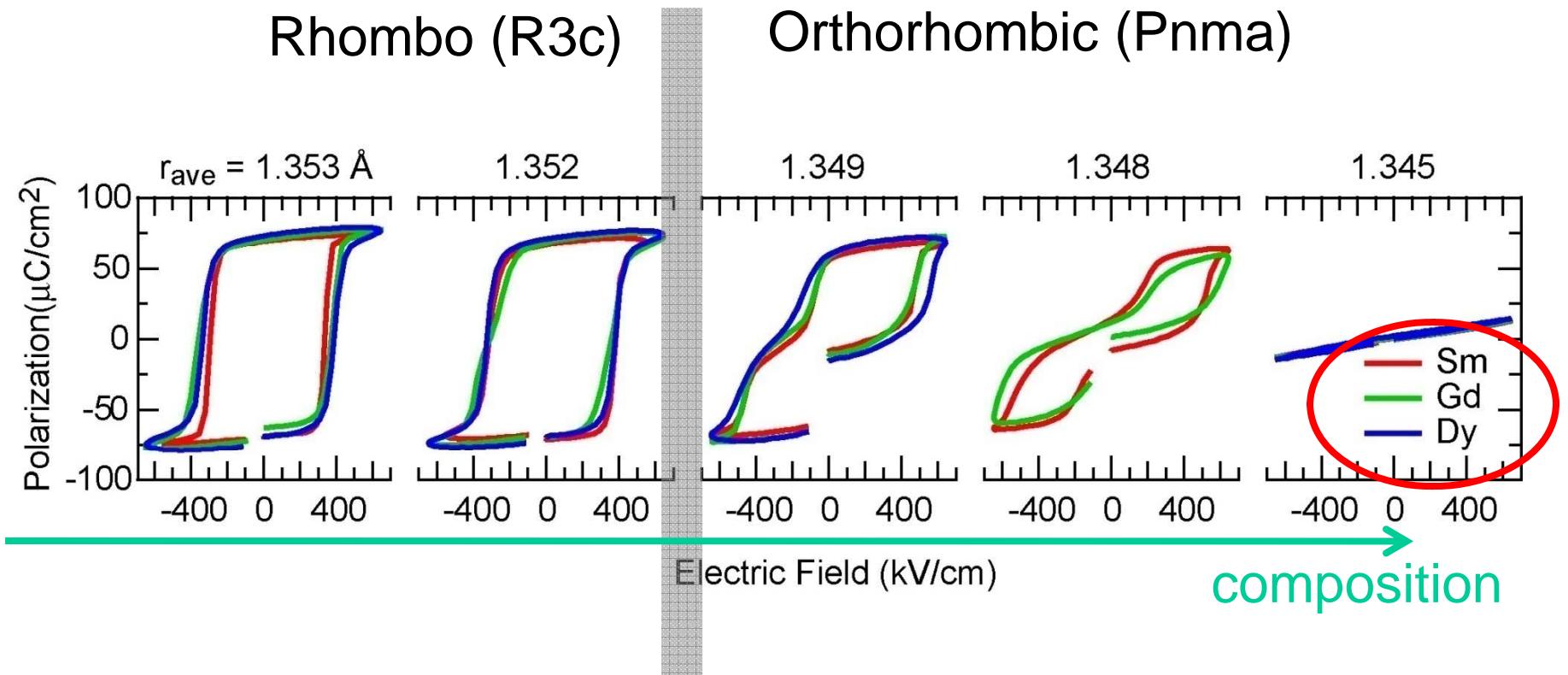
S.Fujino, et al., APL 92 202904(2008).





# Universality in PE hysteresis loop evolution

MPB

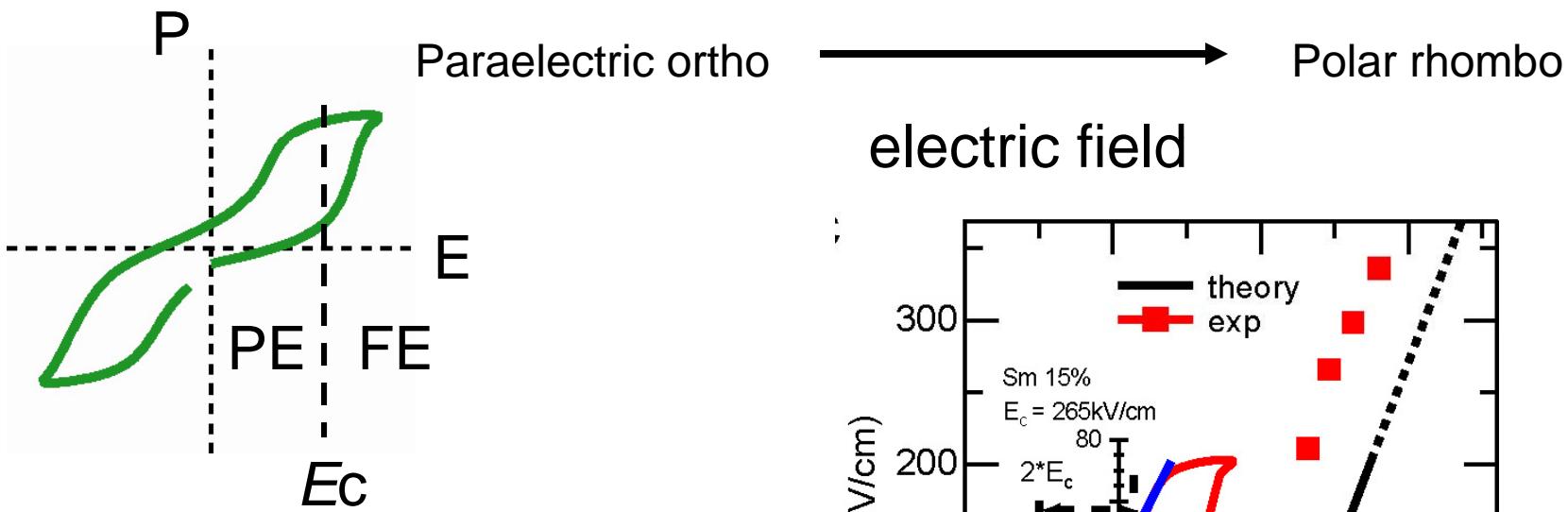


Double hysteresis loop always observed beyond the MPB



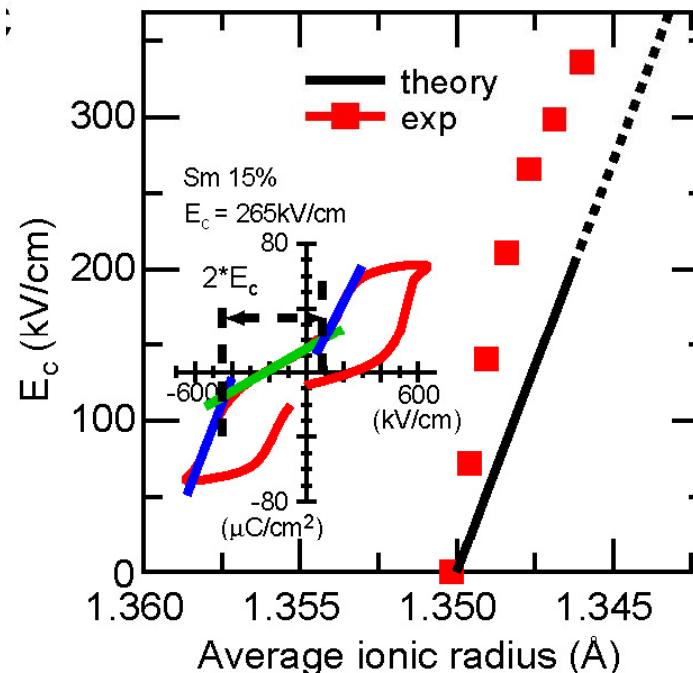
# model for double-hysteresis loops

- Electric-field structural transformation from the non-polar orthorhombic to polar rhombohedral phase results in the double hysteresis loop at the boundary.



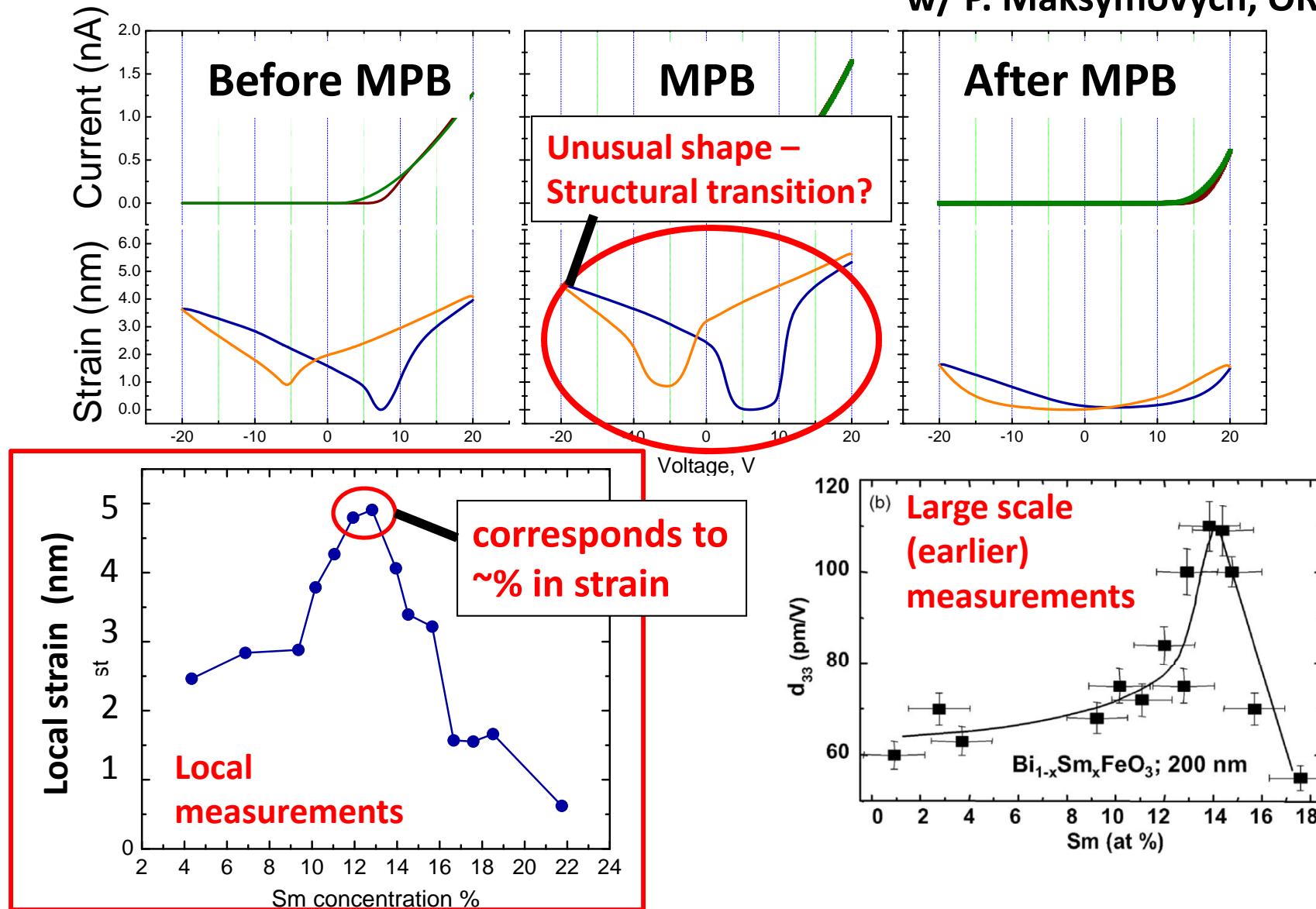
Achievable strain:  
750-1000 pm/V

Observed: 110 pm/V  
(difference between bulk and thin films)



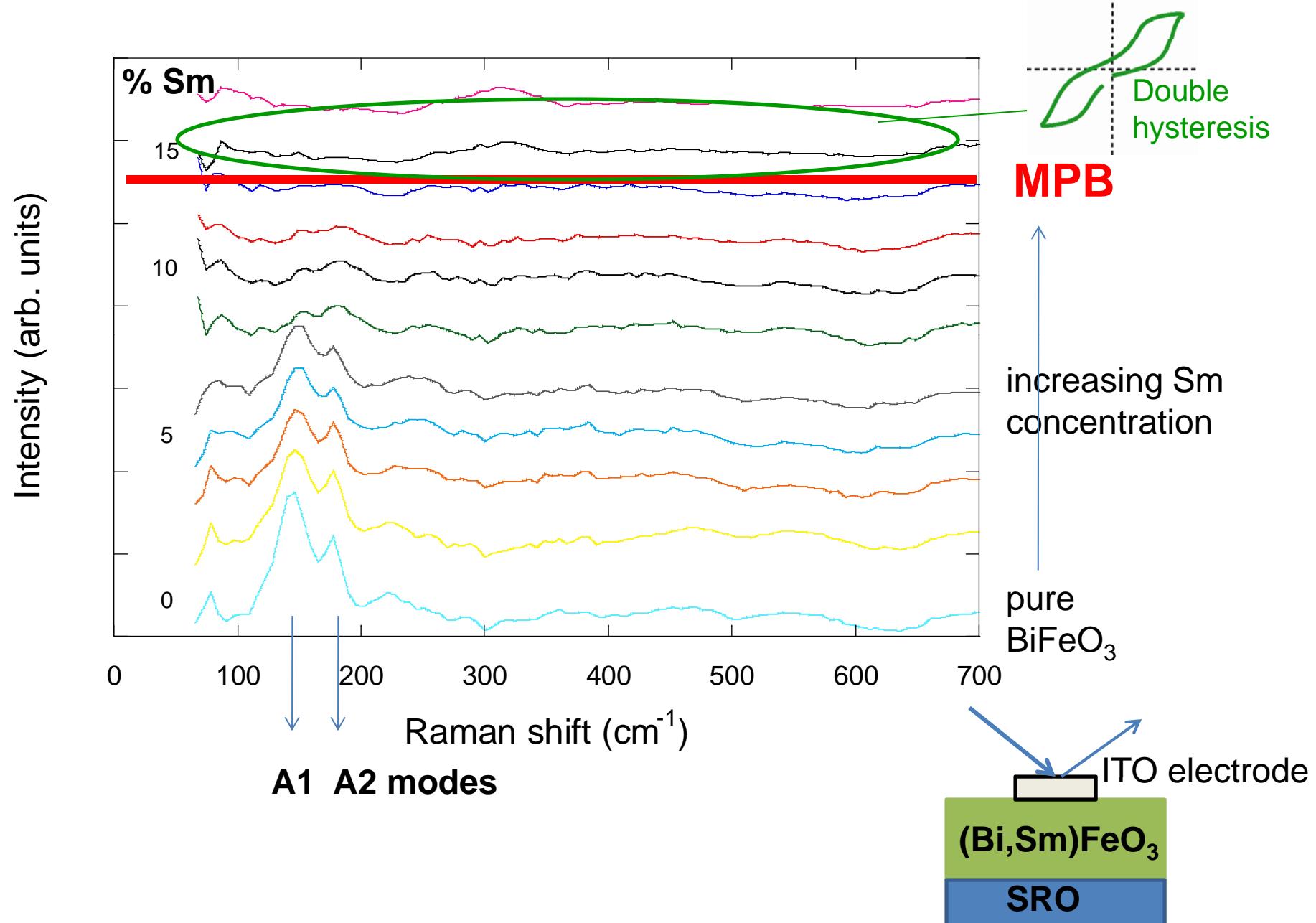
# Local strain measurements of $(\text{Bi},\text{Sm})\text{FeO}_3$ in high vacuum

w/ P. Maksymovych, ORNL

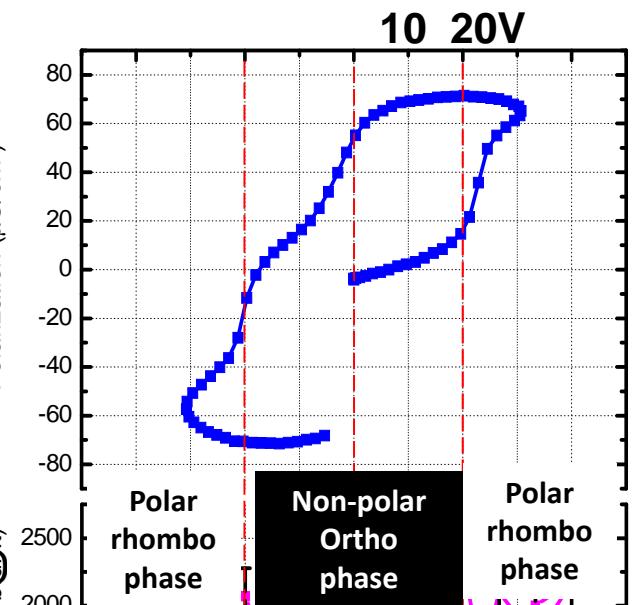
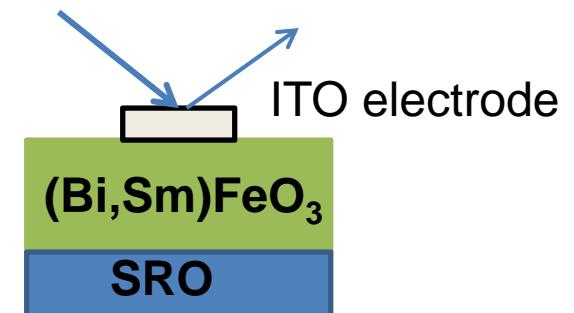
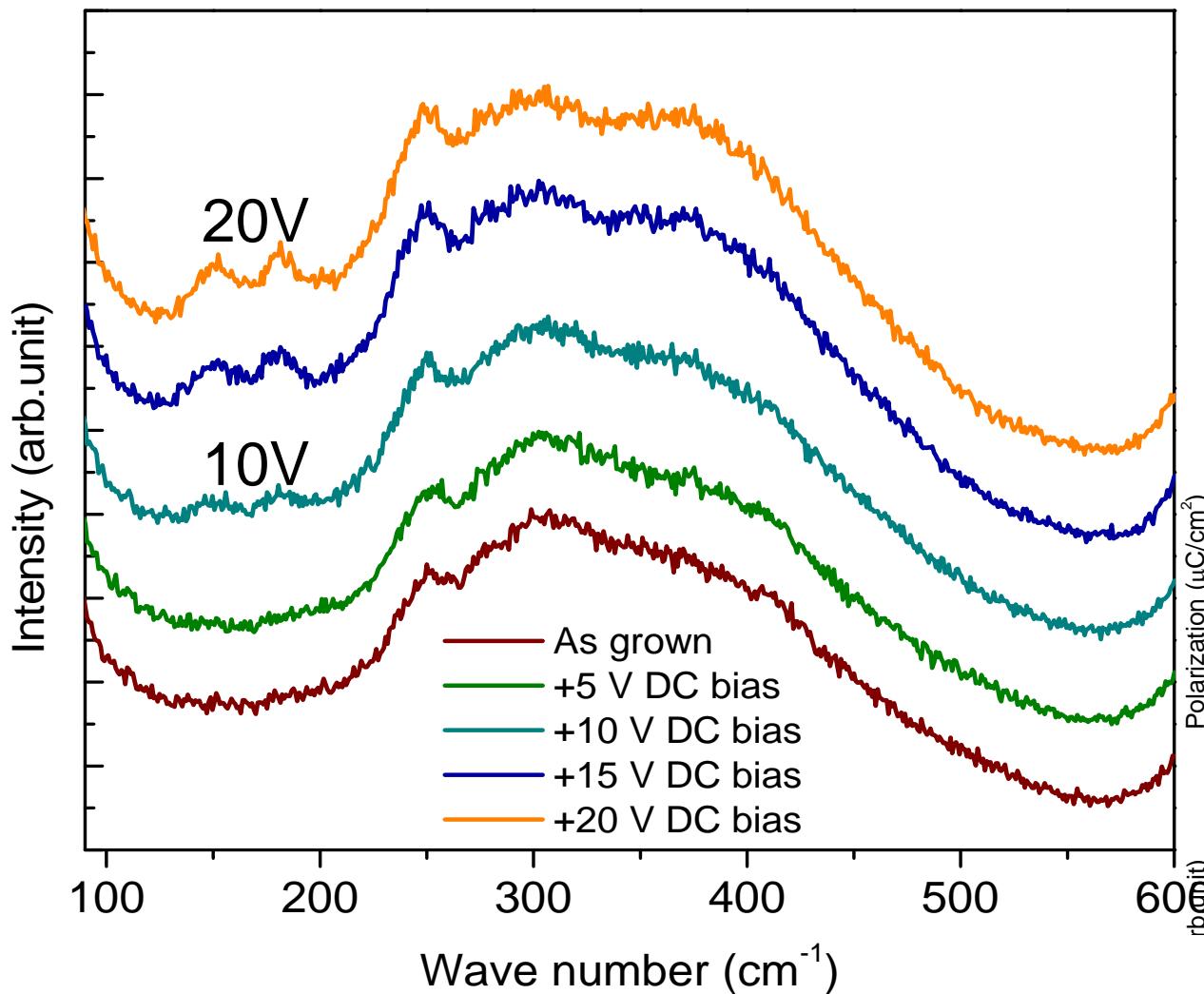


large response and sign of structural transition

# Raman spectra as a function of Sm substitution (%) in $\text{BiFeO}_3$



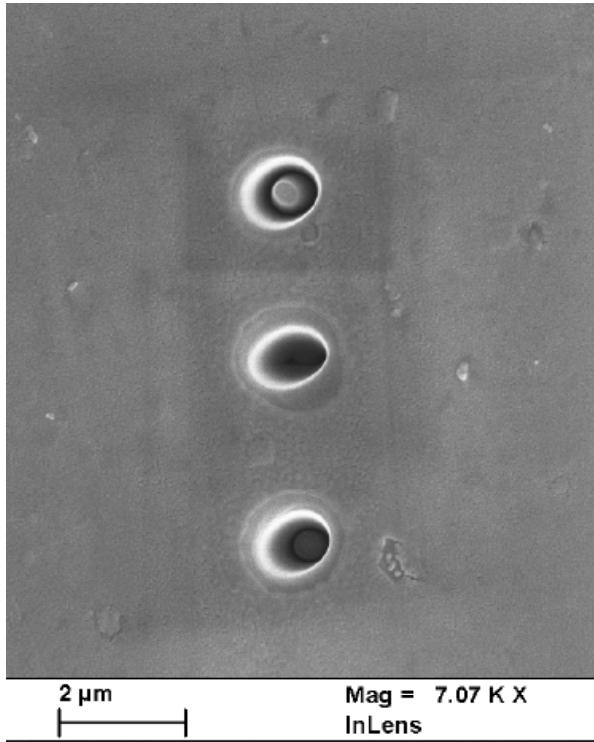
# Raman spectrum as a function of voltage ( $\text{Bi}_{0.85}\text{Sm}_{0.15}\text{FeO}_3$ )



Electric-field induced structural change is confirmed

Theoretically predicted  $d_{33} \sim 1000$  pm/V at MPB

Can we achieve this? Try fabricating nanopillars:



Top view SEM image of  
 $(\text{Bi},\text{Sm})\text{FeO}_3$  film patterned by  
FIB

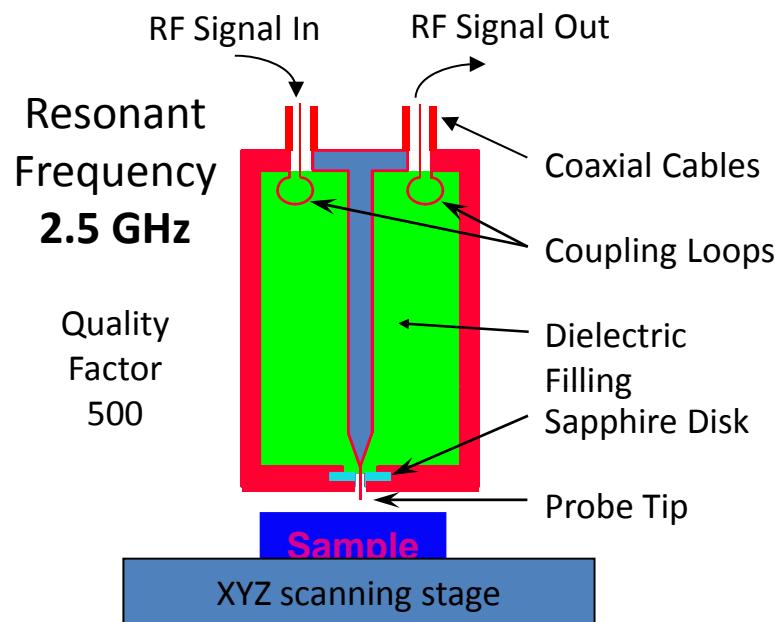


# Outline

- Combinatorial discovery of lead-free morphotropic phase boundary
- E-field induced transition at the  $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sm}_x\text{FeO}_3$  morphotropic phase boundary
- Microwave microscope as a multifunctional screening tool
- Reversible switching of magnetic easy-axis in  $\text{Co/BiFeO}_3$

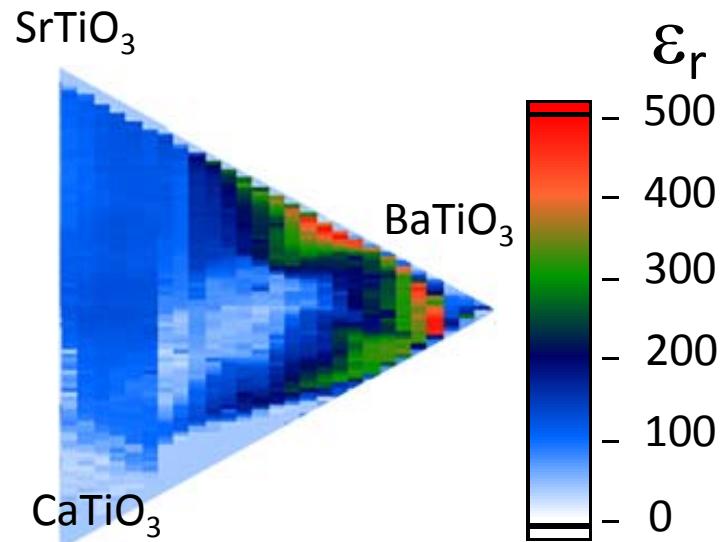
# Microwave scanning probe as multifunctional screening tool

## Coaxial Microwave Resonator

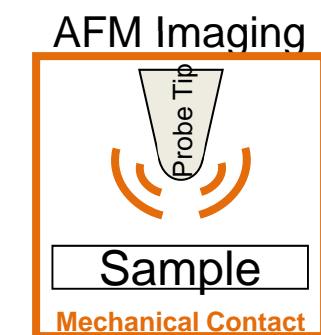
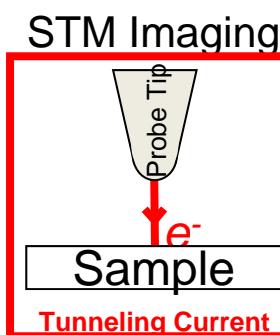
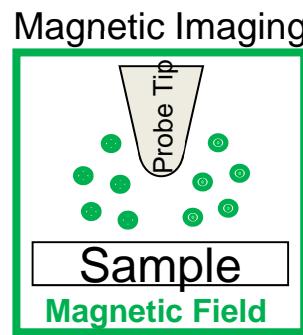
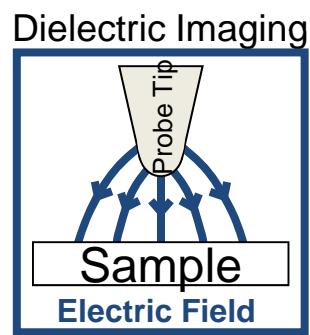


Meas. Sci. Technol. **16**, 248 (2005)

## $\epsilon$ mapping of $(\text{Ba}, \text{Sr}, \text{Ca})\text{TiO}_3$ library



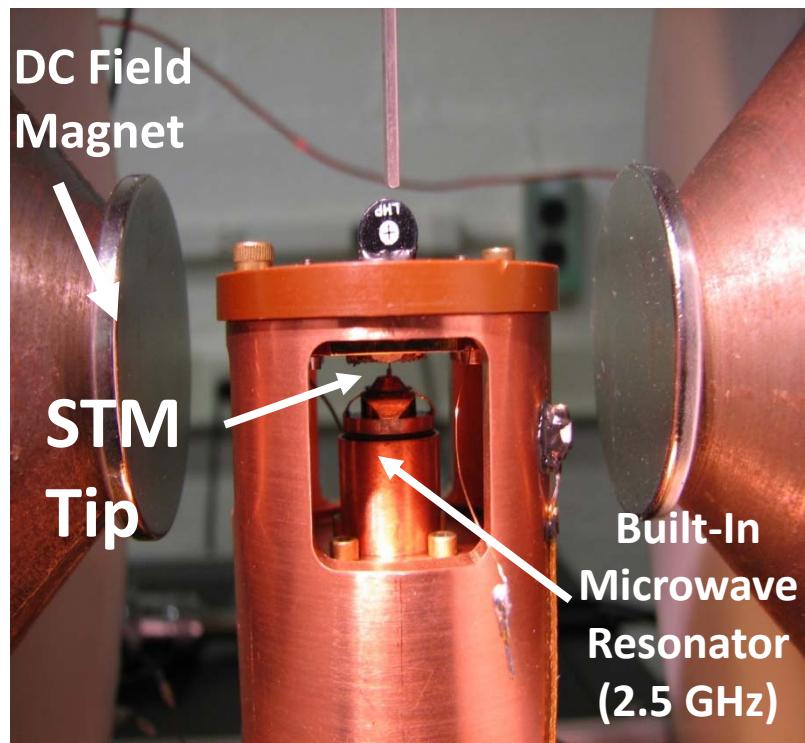
APL, **74**, 1165 (1999)



Different modes can be operated simultaneously

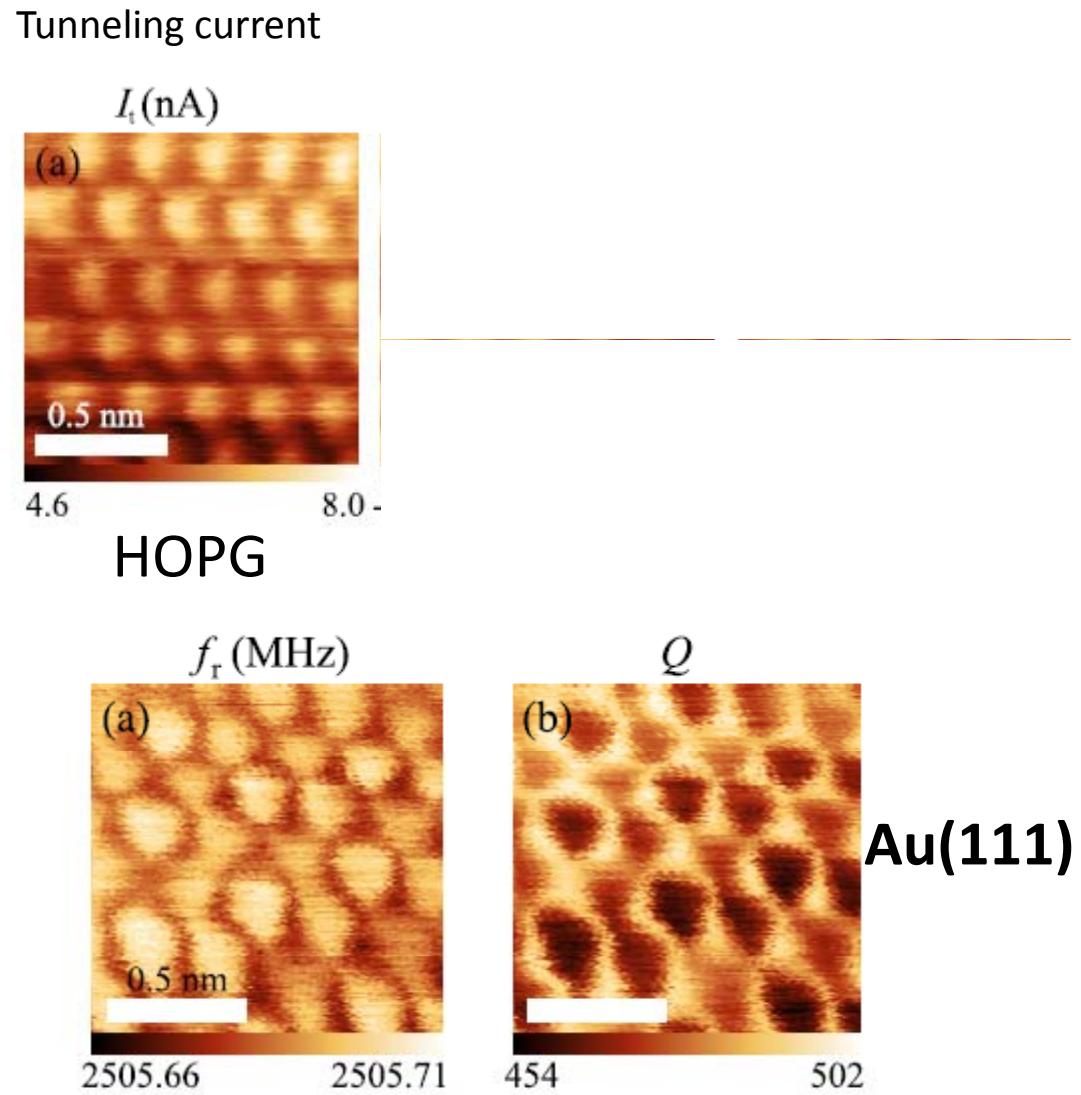
# Atomic resolution microwave microscope/STM

(APL 97, 183111 (2010))



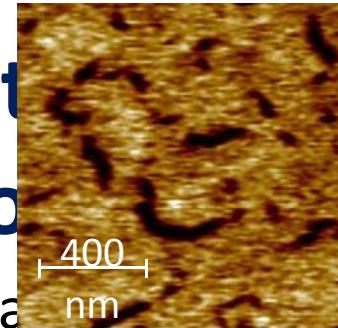
Atomic resolution images obtained  
with STM disabled –

surface approached  
using microwave feedback



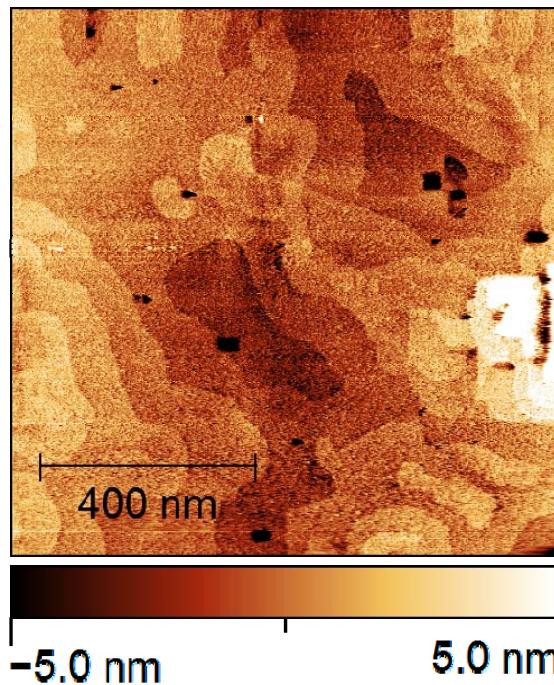
# Microwave Response to Voltage Modulation

Images are acquired simultaneously

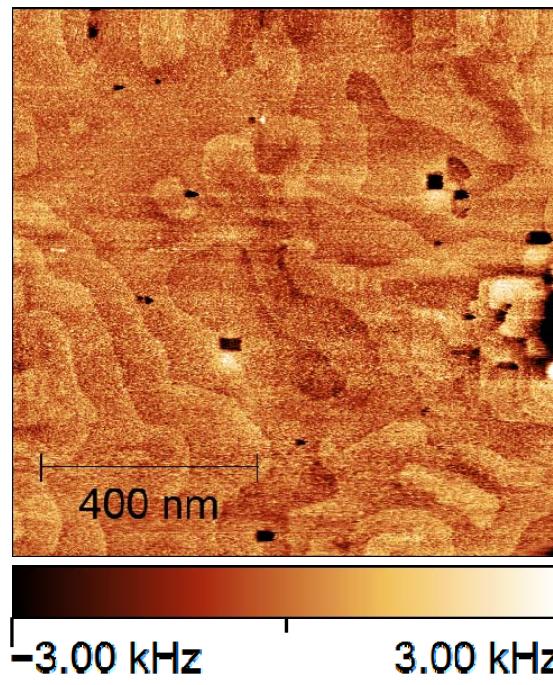


Out-of Plane PFM

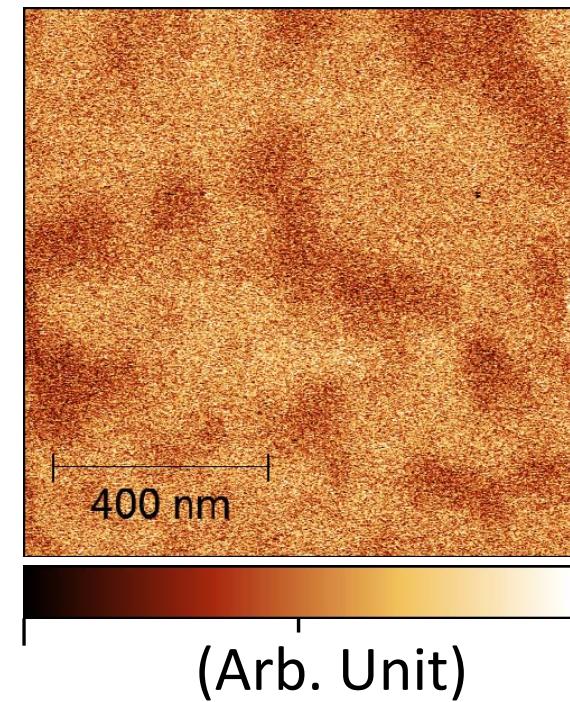
STM Topography



RF Frequency Shift



Lock-in on RF Frequency



Lock-in Signal <

Piezo Response?  
Dielectric Non-linearity?

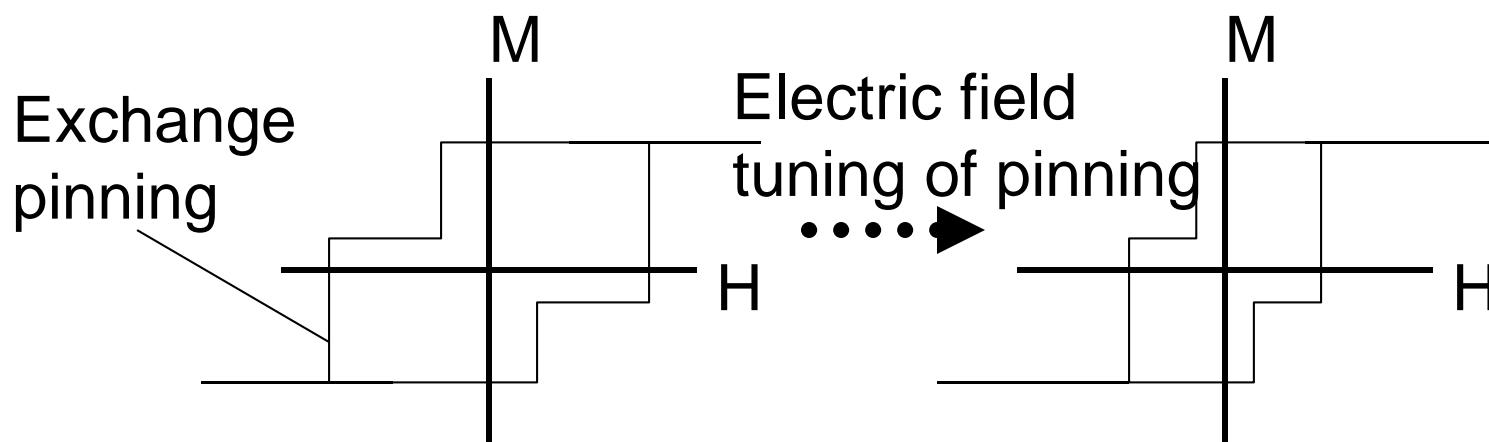
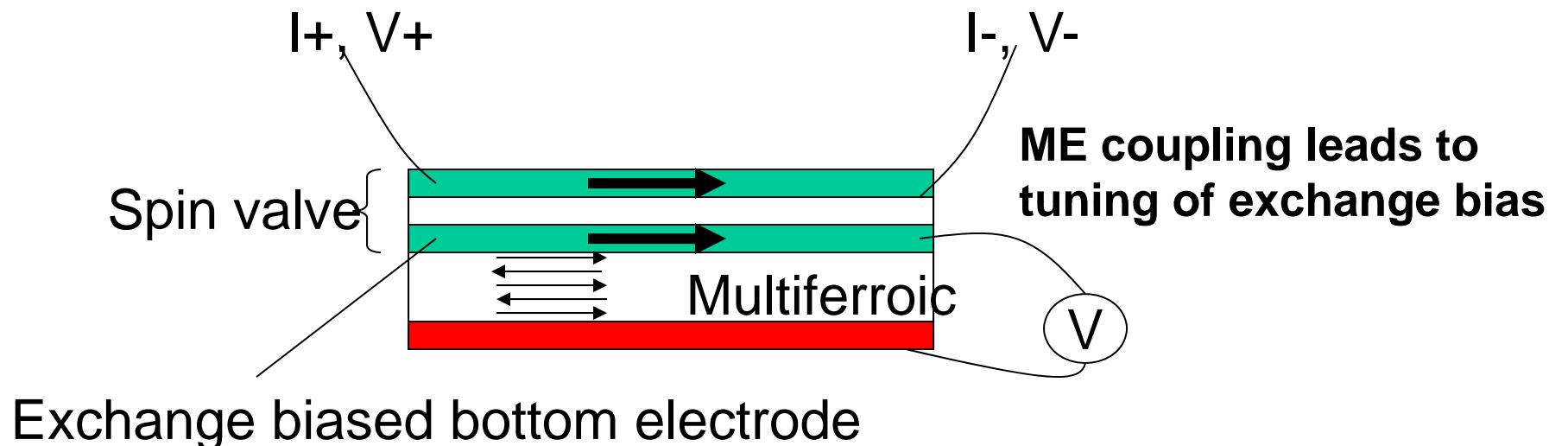


# Outline

- Combinatorial discovery of lead-free morphotropic phase boundary
- E-field induced transition at the  $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Sm}_x\text{FeO}_3$  morphotropic phase boundary
- Microwave microscope as a multifunctional screening tool
- Reversible switching of magnetic easy-axis in  $\text{Co/BiFeO}_3$

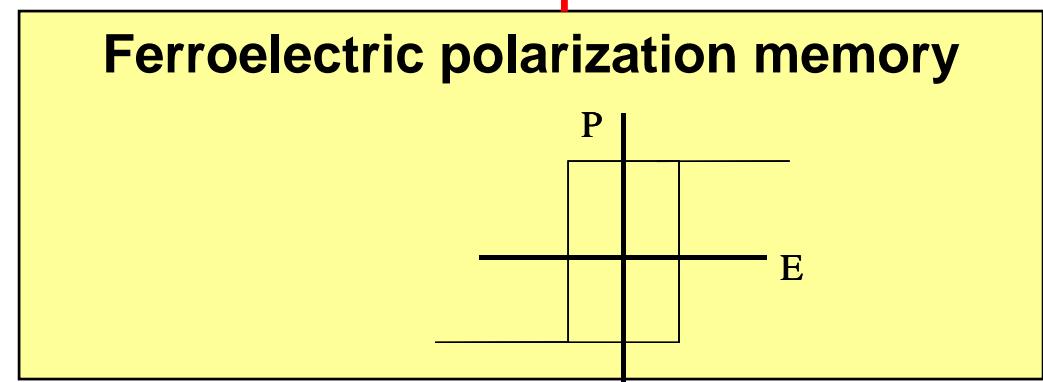
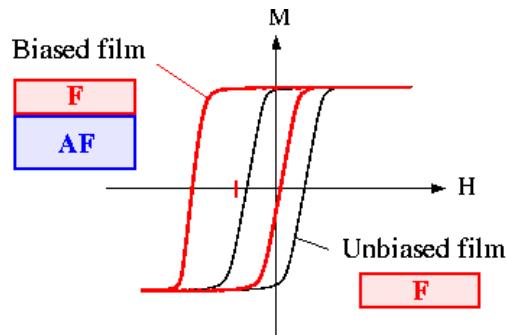
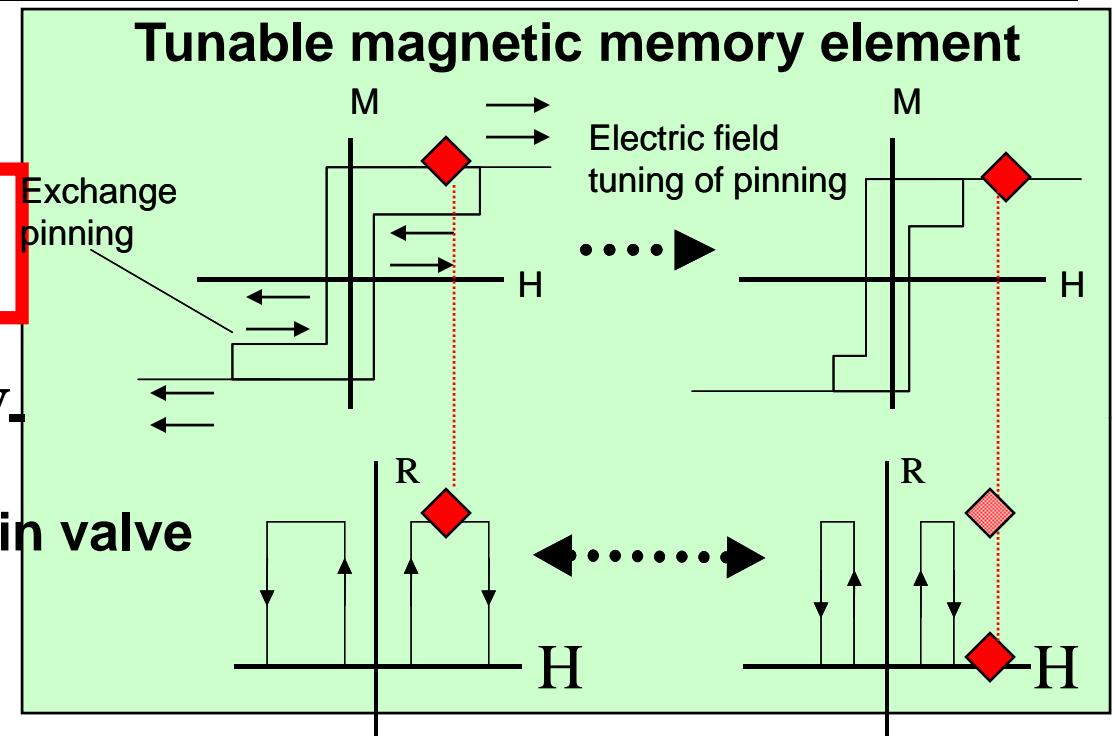
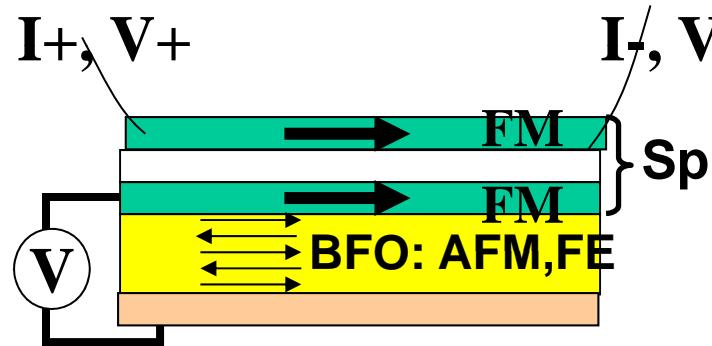
# Multiferroic spintronic devices using $\text{BiFeO}_3$ thin films

- Electric field control of magnetization,
- Biferroic memory device
- Use AFM for room temperature exchange biasing



# Spin valve + multiferroic

**ME coupling leads to tuning of exchange bias**

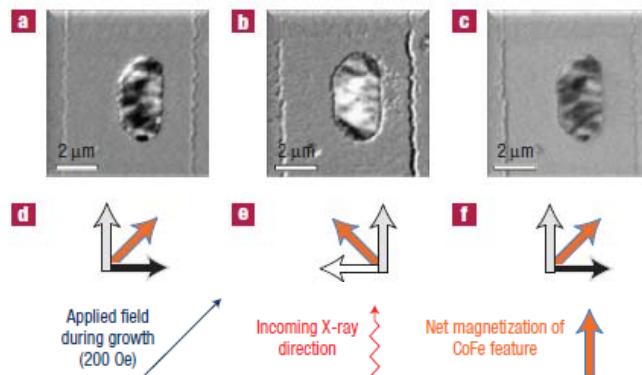


# Exchange bias and E-field tuning of magnetism w/ BiFeO<sub>3</sub> thin films

Electric-field control of local ferromagnetism  
using a magnetoelectric multiferroic

nature materials | VOL 7 | JUNE 2008 |

YING-HAO CHU<sup>1,2,3\*</sup>, LANE W. MARTIN<sup>1,3\*†</sup>, MIKEL B. HOLCOMB<sup>2,3</sup>, MARTIN GAJEK<sup>2</sup>, SHU-JEN HAN<sup>4</sup>,  
QING HE<sup>2</sup>, NINA BALKE<sup>2</sup>, CHAN-HO YANG<sup>2</sup>, DONKOUN LEE<sup>4</sup>, WEI HU<sup>4</sup>, QIAN ZHAN<sup>1,2</sup>, PEI-LING YANG<sup>1,2</sup>,  
ARANTXA FRAILE-RODRÍGUEZ<sup>5</sup>, ANDREAS SCHOLL<sup>6</sup>, SHAN X. WANG<sup>4</sup> AND R. RAMESH<sup>1,2,3</sup>



APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS 95, 182503 (2009)

## Coengineering of ferroelectric and exchange bias properties in BiFeO<sub>3</sub> based heterostructures

J. Allibe,<sup>1</sup> I. C. Infante,<sup>1</sup> S. Fusil,<sup>1,2</sup> K. Bouzehouane,<sup>1</sup> E. Jacquet,<sup>1</sup> C. Deranlot,<sup>1</sup>  
M. Bibes,<sup>1,a)</sup> and A. Barthélémy<sup>1,b)</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Unité Mixte de Physique CNRS/Thales, 1 Av. A. Fresnel, Campus de l'Ecole Polytechnique, 91767  
Palaiseau, France and Université Paris-Sud, 91405 Orsay, France

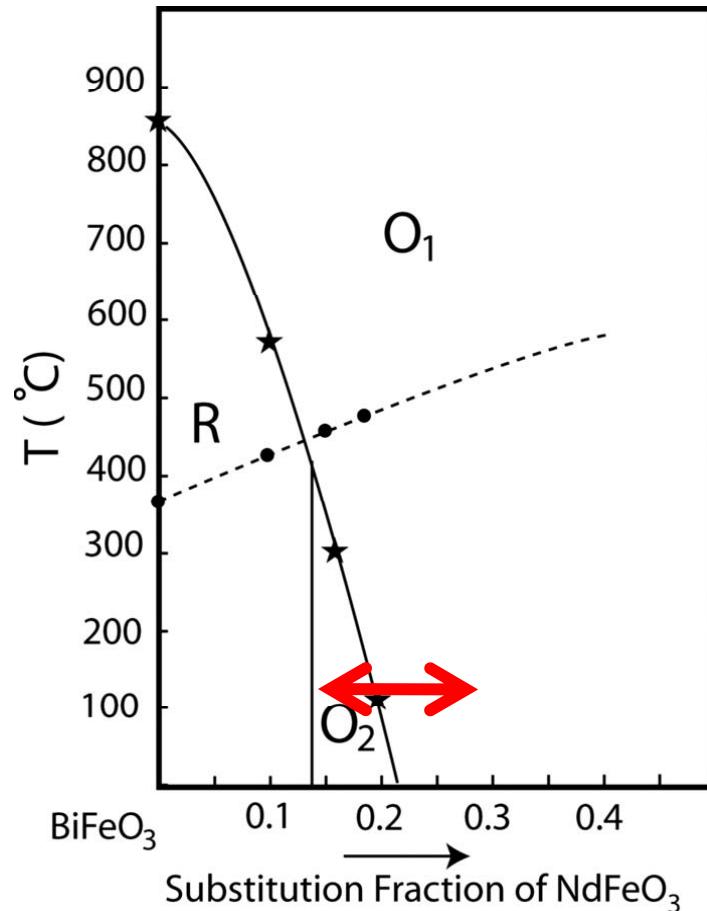
<sup>2</sup>Université d'Evry-Val d'Essonne, Bd. F. Mitterrand, 91025 Evry Cedex, France

# Magnetic transition at the structural boundary

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 81, 020103(R) (2010)

## Reorientation of magnetic dipoles at the antiferroelectric-paraelectric phase transition of $\text{Bi}_{1-x}\text{Nd}_x\text{FeO}_3$ ( $0.15 \leq x \leq 0.25$ )

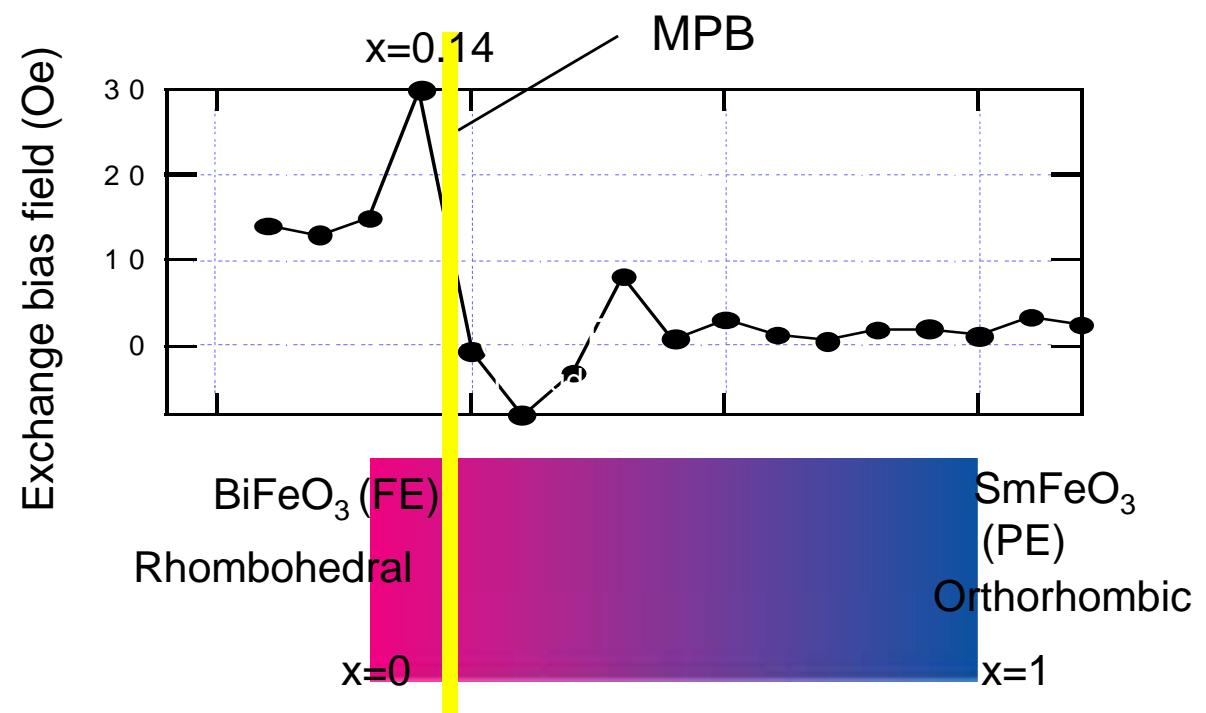
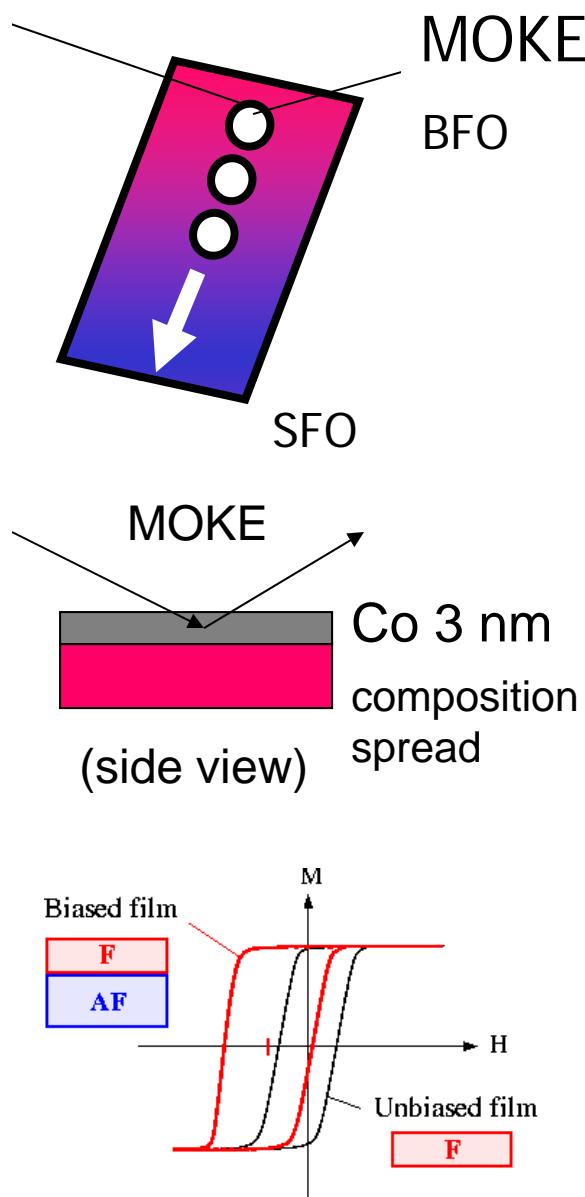
Igor Levin,<sup>1,\*†§</sup> Sarah Karimi,<sup>2</sup> Virgil Provenzano,<sup>1</sup> Cindi L. Dennis,<sup>1</sup> Hui Wu,<sup>1</sup> Tim P. Comyn,<sup>3</sup> Tim J. Stevenson,<sup>3</sup> Ronald I. Smith,<sup>4</sup> and Ian M. Reaney<sup>2,\*‡§</sup>



Magnetic transition  
+  
E-field induced transition  
↓  
E-field control of magnetism

# Exchange bias on Co/(Bi,Sm)FeO<sub>3</sub> composition spread

scanning magneto-optical Kerr effect (MOKE) measurement



Abrupt change in exchange bias is observed at the MPB

Electric-field tunable exchange bias?



## Summary and more

- Combinatorial approach can be used to look for MPBs and other interesting structural boundaries
- Field-induced transformation explains the double hysteresis and enhancement in  $d_{33}$  (value is double that of pure BFO)
- Microwave microscopy is a versatile multifunctional screening tool
- Reversible switching of easy axis of Co coupled to  $\text{BiFeO}_3$  is achieved, but how are FE and AFM domains coupled?