

MULTIFERROICS FROM FIRST PRINCIPLES

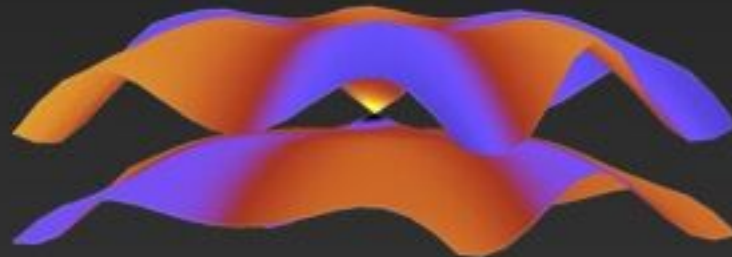


Dr. Silvia Picozzi

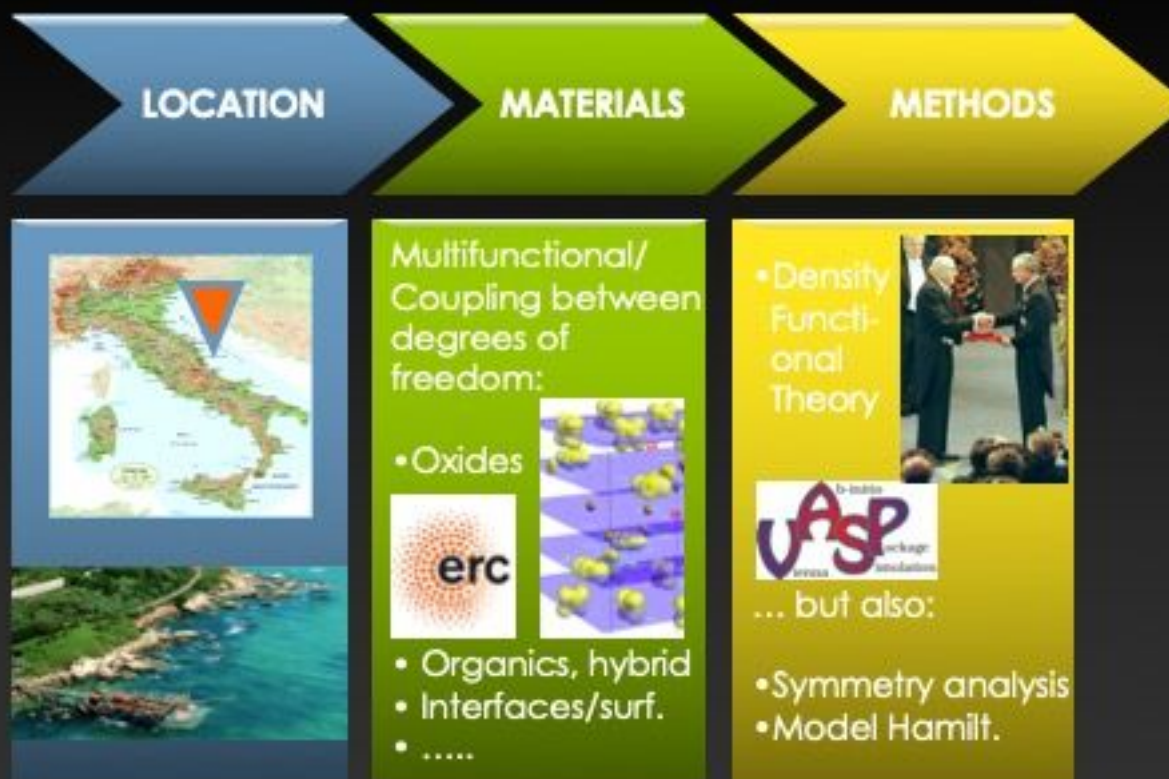
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GROUP INTRODUCTION



FIRST-PRINCIPLES CALCULATIONS: BASICS

Density functional theory
Main theorems
Why are they useful for multiferroics?
Where do they fail?

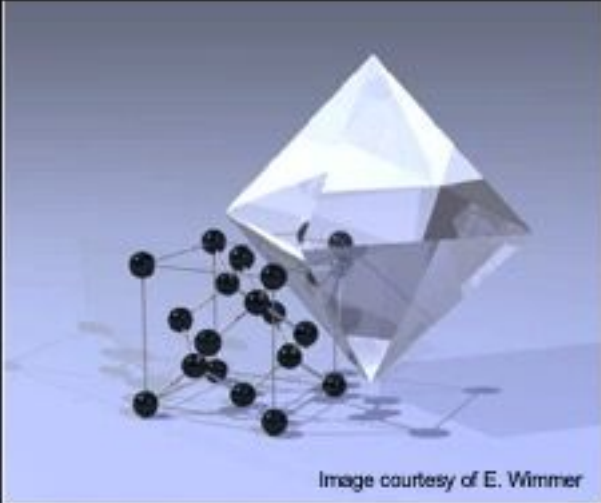


Silvia Picozzi

CNRS - Intl School on Oxide Electronics

ISOE 2019

WHAT ARE FIRST-PRINCIPLES USEFUL FOR?

- **MACRO ↔ MICRO:** Connect properties with atomic structure
 - **MODELLING AND UNDERSTANDING:** Sort out microscopic mechanisms and physical models.
 - **COMPUTER-EXPT:** Ask “*what if*” questions.
 - **MATERIALS DESIGN:** Screen ideas for new/modified materials
 - **THEORY VS EXPERIMENT:** Interpret experimental data, compare spectra, etc
- 
- Image courtesy of E. Wimmer
- **ERRORS...** Analyze failures. Ask: Are the approximations appropriate? Can the models address the complexity of the system? Is the theory appropriate for the key properties?

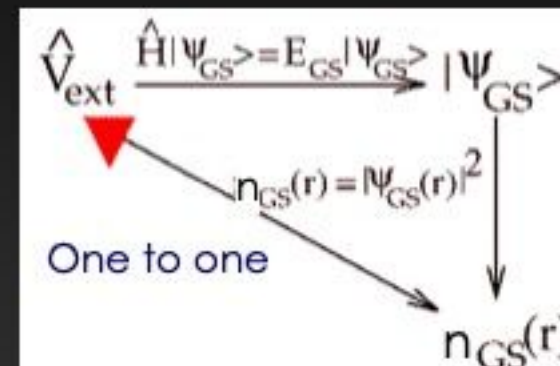


DFT: BASICS

The basic quantity is not the many-body wave-function but the **electronic density $n(\mathbf{r})$**

- **Hohenberg-Kohn theorem (1964)**

- All properties of the many-body system are determined by the ground state density $n_{GS}(\mathbf{r})$
- Each property is a functional of the ground state density $n_{GS}(\mathbf{r})$ which is written as $\mathbf{f}[n_{GS}]$
- In particular, the energy is:



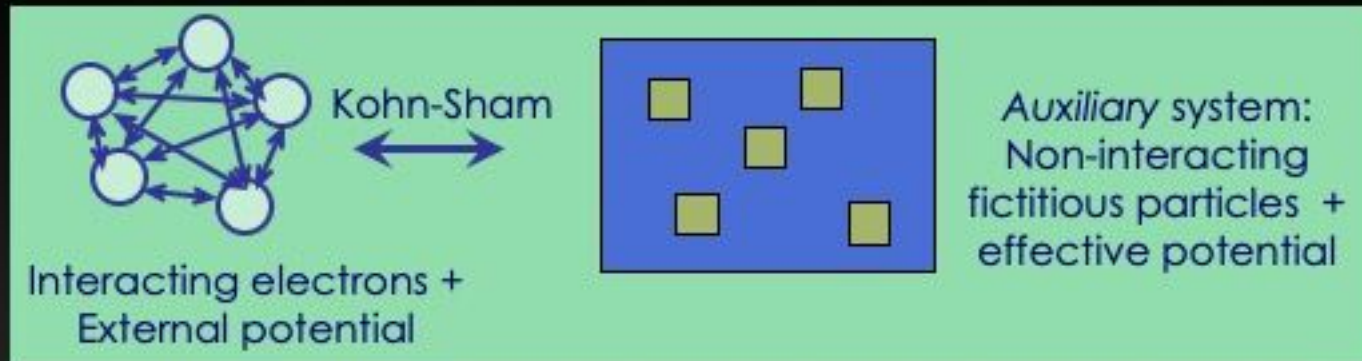
$$E[n(\mathbf{r})] = F[n(\mathbf{r})] + \int V_{ext} n(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} = T_e + U_{ee} + \int V_{ext} n(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} \geq E[n_{GS}(\mathbf{r})]$$

and satisfies a **variational principle**



DFT: BASICS

• Kohn-Sham equations (1965)



The ground state density is required to be the same as the exact density

$$n_0(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\sigma} \sum_{i=1} |\psi_i^{\sigma}(\mathbf{r})|^2,$$

Minimization of E leads to **one-particle Kohn-Sham equations** for independent particles (soluble):

$$[-1/2 \nabla^2 + V_{\text{eff}}[n(\mathbf{r})]] \psi_i = \epsilon_i \psi_i$$

DFT: BASICS

• Kohn-Sham equations (1965)

$$\{-1/2 \nabla^2 + V_{\text{eff}}[n(r)]\} \psi_i = \varepsilon_i \psi_i$$

where: $V_{\text{eff}}[n(r)] = V_{\text{ext}}(r) + V_{\text{H}}(r) + V_{\text{xc}}[n(r)]$

• $V_{\text{ext}}(r)$ is the nuclei (external) potential

$$\bullet V_{\text{H}}(r) = e^2 \int \frac{n(r')}{|r-r'|} d^3r'$$

is the Hartree potential

$$\bullet V_{\text{xc}}[n(r)] = \frac{\delta E_{\text{xc}}}{\delta n(r)}$$

is the (*unknown*) exchange-correlation potential



DFT: BASICS

- **Approximations to the functional E_{xc}**
 - **Local Density Approximation – LDA**
 - ❖ Assume the functional is the same as a model problem –the *homogeneous electron gas*
 - ❖ E_{xc} has been calculated as a function of density using quantum Monte Carlo methods (Ceperley & Alder)
 - **Gradient approximations - GGA**
 - ❖ Various theoretical improvements for electron density that varies in space

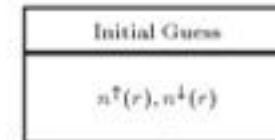


OPERATIVELY...

- Structure, types of atoms, guess for input charge
- Solve KS Eqs.
- New Density and Potential
- Self-consistent?
- Output:
 - Total energy, force,
 - Eigenvalues



Self-Consistent Kohn-Sham Equations



THE GOOD AND THE BAD OF DFT FOR COMPLEX OXIDES

BUT... $V_{xc}(r)$ is approximated
“Standard” local density approximation (LDA)
designed for a homogeneous electron gas



How to
approach
strong
correlations ?

- **Beyond-LDA methods:**

- LDA+U attempts to incorporate Coulomb repulsions (U)
- Hybrid functionals (mix of “exact-exchange” and LDA)

- **Hamiltonian modelling:**

Extract essential interaction parameters from LDA and construct a model , but also provide a fully independent approach to test the results...



WHAT CAN WE GET OUT OF THE COMPUTER?

| Capabilities, formalism | Predicted quantities |
|-------------------------|---|
| Spin-DFT | Electronic structure (DOS, bands, ...), magnetism (moments, GS spin configuration, ...) |

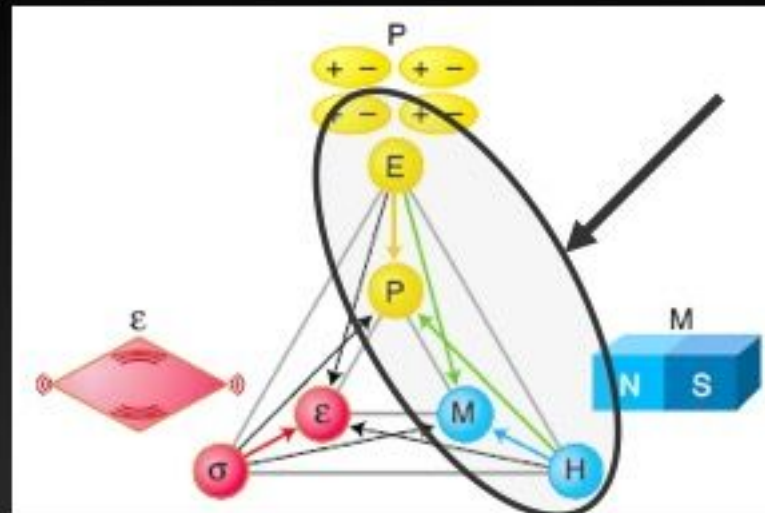


MULTIFERROICS: EXAMPLES FROM FIRST-PRINCIPLES

- Introduction and Classification
- Lone-pair driven
- (Structurally) Improper FE
- (Electronically) Improper FE



MAGNETOELECTRICS MULTIFERROICS: WHAT ARE THEY?

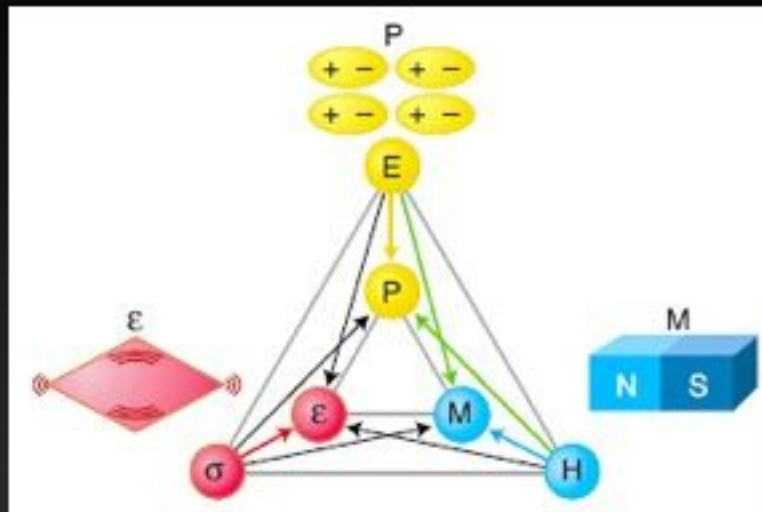


N.A. Spaldin
and M. Fiebig,
Science
309, 391 (2005)

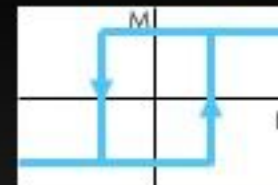
- **Ferrioic:** P , M or ϵ are spontaneously formed to produce **ferroelectricity**, **ferromagnetism** or **ferroelasticity**
- **Multiferroic:** coexistence of at least two kinds of long-range ordering



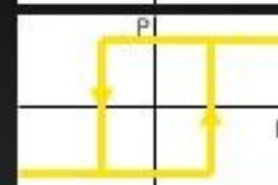
MAGNETOELECTRICS MULTIFERROICS: WHY ARE THEY INTERESTING?



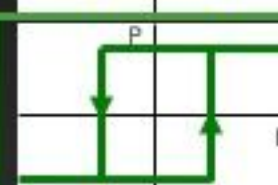
➤ **Magnetoelectrics:** Control of P (M) via a magnetic (electric) field



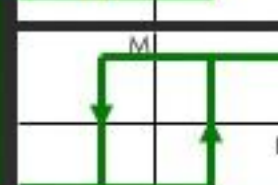
Magnetization vs magnetic field in FMs



Polarization vs electric field in FEs



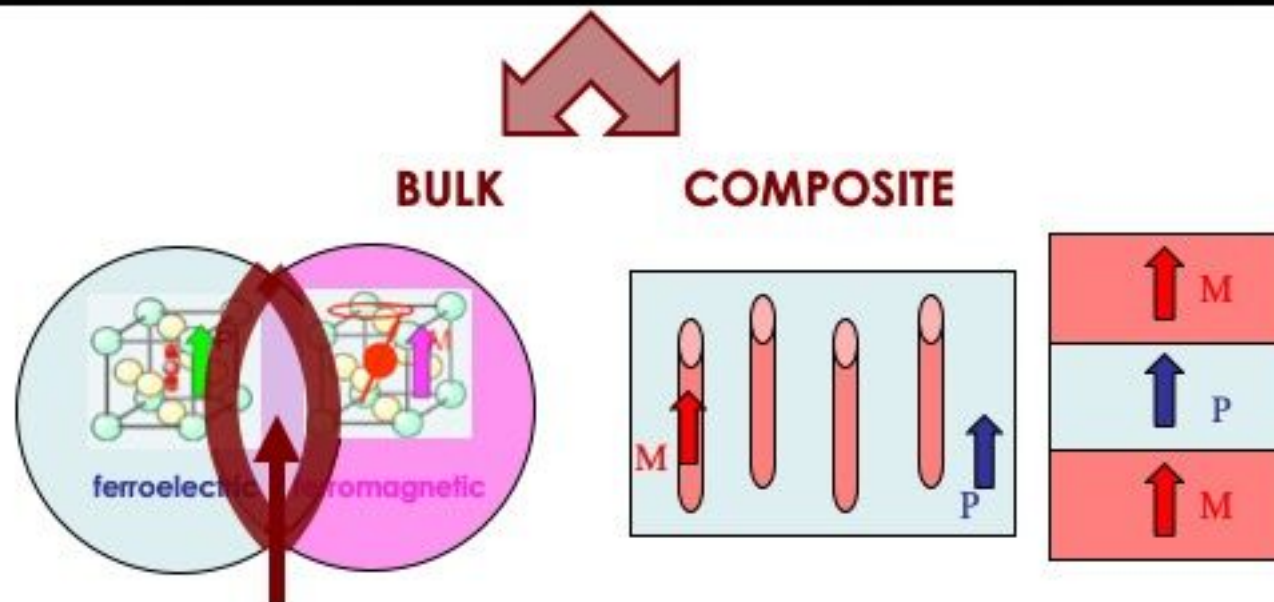
Polarization vs magnetic field in MEs



Magnetization vs electric field in MEs



CLASSIFICATION OF MULTIFERROICS

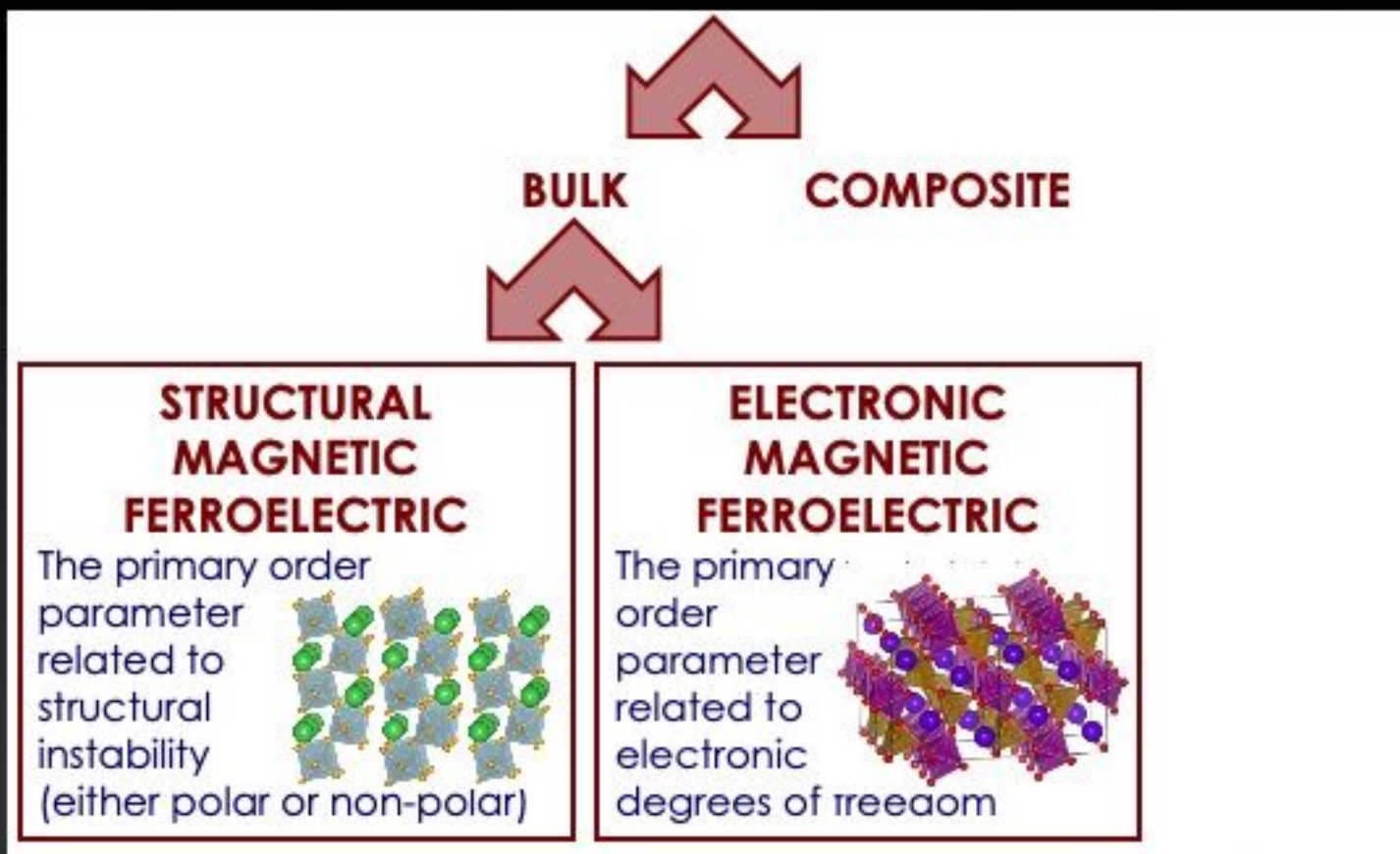


Both magnetic and dipolar order in the same **bulk** material

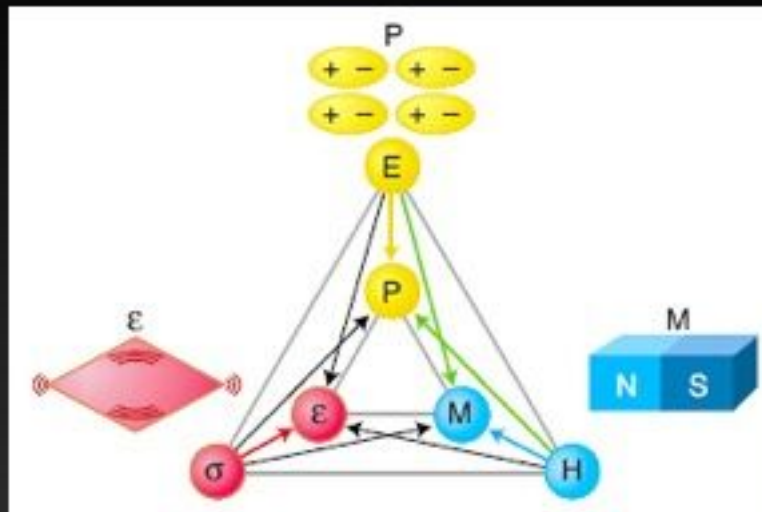
Nanostructures, heterointerfaces of **two different materials** (one **FM** and the other **FE**)



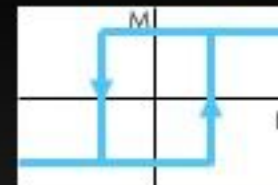
CLASSIFICATION OF MULTIFERROICS



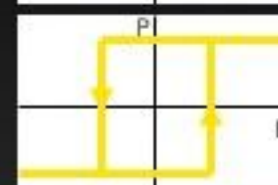
MAGNETOELECTRICS MULTIFERROICS: WHY ARE THEY INTERESTING?



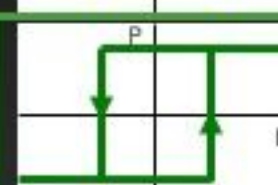
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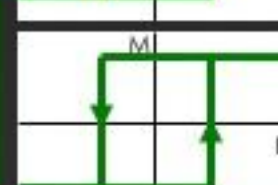
Magnetization vs magnetic field in FMs



Polarization vs electric field in FEs



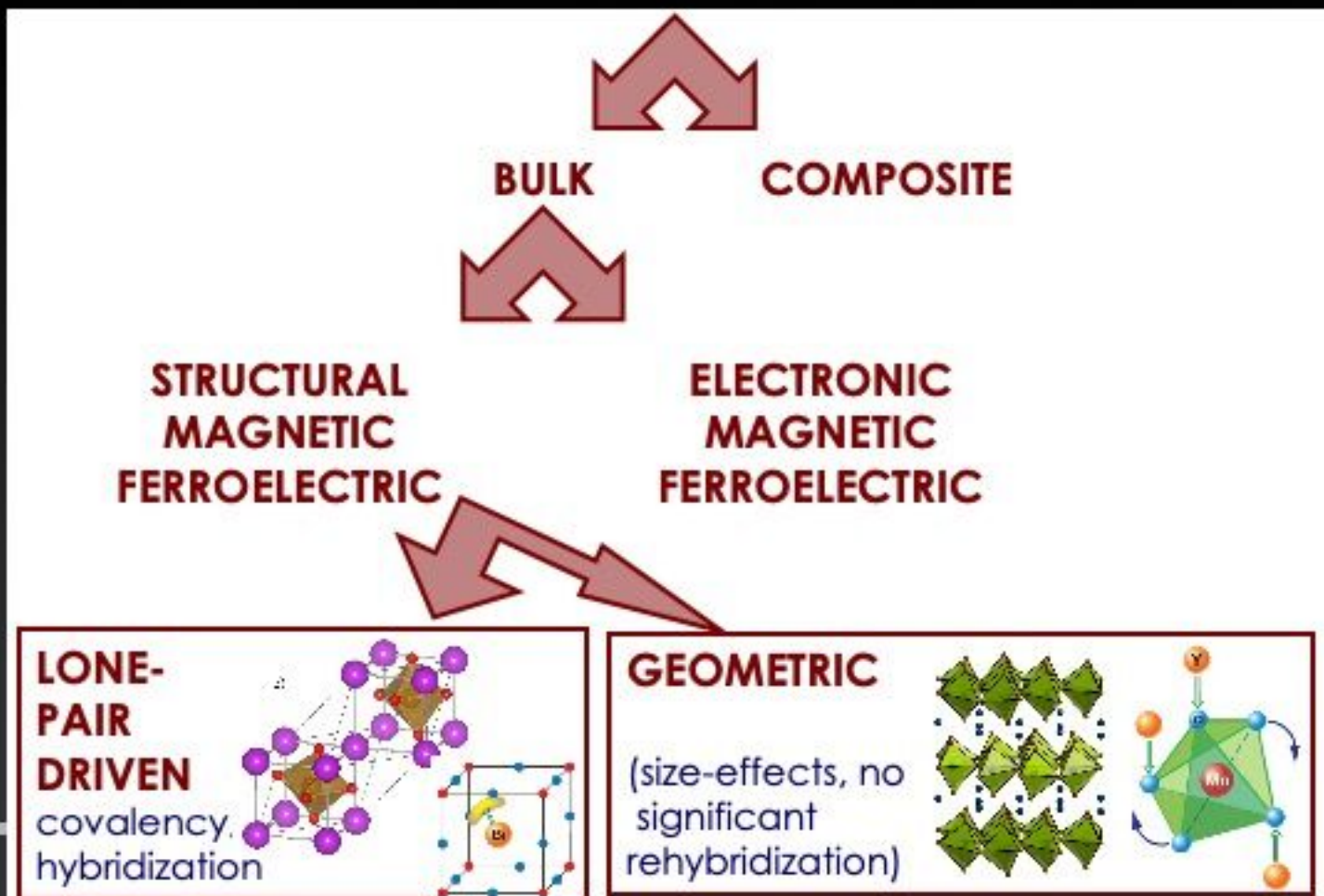
Polarization vs magnetic field in MEs



Magnetization vs electric field in MEs



CLASSIFICATION OF MULTIFERROICS



CRITERIA FOR MAGNETISM AND FERROELECTRICITY

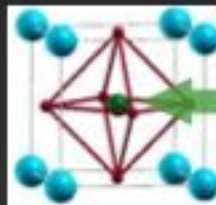
- **Uncompensated spins** form **magnetic moments**
- Exchange interaction from virtual hopping of electrons between ions
➔ To have FM or FiM or AFM, one needs **partially filled d-shells!**

- Ferroelectricity requires “**d⁰-ness**”
- Ferromagnetism (or FiM- or AFM) requires partially filled d-electrons

➔ **CHEMICAL INCOMPATIBILITY!**

- B.T. Matthias, *New ferroelectric crystals*, *Phys. Rev.* (1949)
- N.A. Hill, *Why are there so few magnetic ferroelectrics?* *J. Phys. Chem. B* 104, 6694 (2000)

WAY OUT:



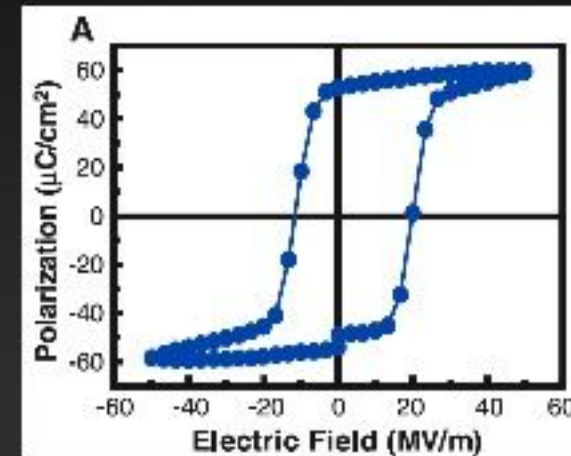
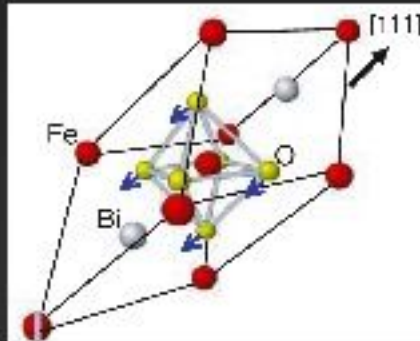
➔ Put FE-active ion on **A-site**

➔ Put magnetic ion on **B-site**



LONE-PAIR DRIVEN MF: THE "HOLY GRAIL, BiFeO_3

- A room-temperature multiferroic: FE and AFM (or weak FM)
- Ferroelectricity from the "stereochemically active lone pair" on Bi^{3+} (cf ammonia, NH_3)
- Magnetism from a 3d transition metal (Fe^{3+} , d^5)
- Good agreement between theory and expts for P ($\sim 100 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ along $[111]$, $\sim 60 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ along $[001]$)



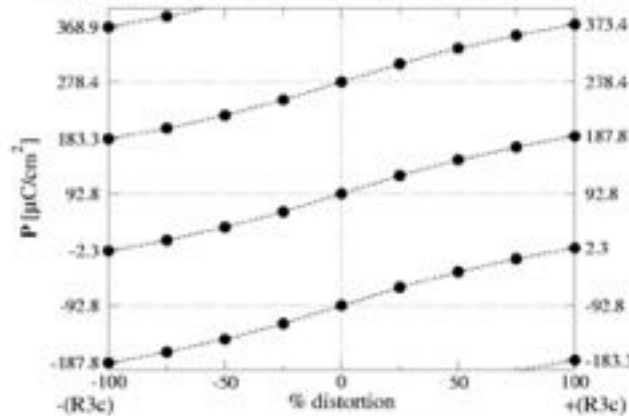
J. Wang et al., *Science* **299**, 1719 (2003).



THE "HOLY GRAIL": BiFeO₃

Beyond LDA methods: Centrosymmetric reference structure metallic in LSDA

Modern theory of polarization: Non-zero P in centrosymmetric structure

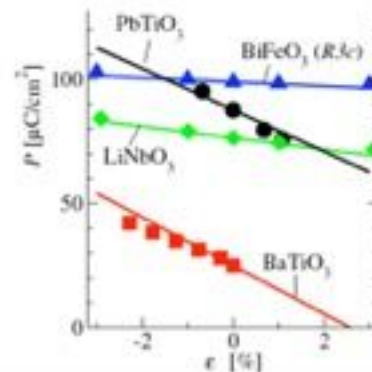


Calculate $P = 95 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ along [111]

J.B. Neaton, U.V. Waghmare, C. Ederer, N.A. Spaldin and K.M. Rabe, *First-principles study of spontaneous polarization in multiferroic BiFeO₃*, PRB 71, 014113 (2005)

Absence of strain dependence:

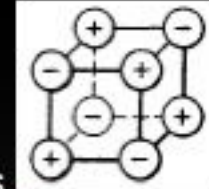
Effect of epitaxial strain on the spontaneous polarization of thin film ferroelectrics, C. Ederer and N.A. Spaldin, Phys. Rev. Lett. 95, 257601 (2005)



Nicola A. Spaldin's contributions



BiFeO₃: MAGNETISM

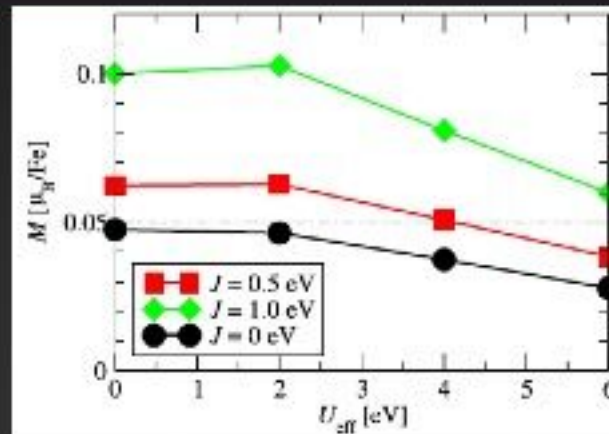
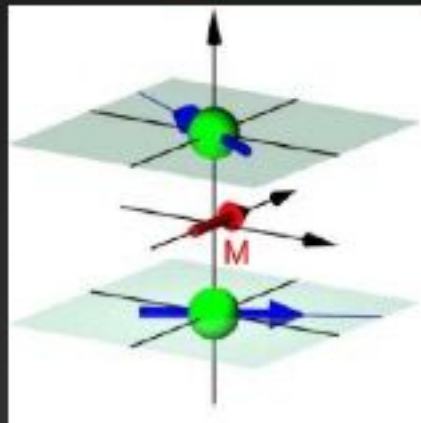


- Bulk: G-type AFM and cycloidal modulation ($\lambda \sim 640$ nm)
- Thin films: the modulation disappears but a weak FM arises

Fe AFM moments are canted by up to $\sim 1^\circ$ due to Dzyaloshinskii-Moriya interaction

$$E_{\text{DM}} = -\frac{1}{2} \vec{D} \cdot (\vec{M}_{\text{Fe1}} \times \vec{M}_{\text{Fe2}}) = -\vec{D} \cdot (\vec{L} \times \vec{M})$$

$$\vec{M} = \vec{M}_{\text{Fe1}} + \vec{M}_{\text{Fe2}} ; \vec{L} = \vec{M}_{\text{Fe1}} - \vec{M}_{\text{Fe2}}$$



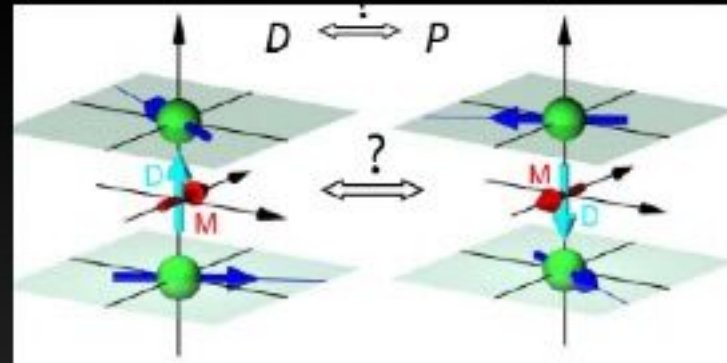
C. Ederer and N.A. Spaldin, PRB 71, 060401 (2005)



BiFeO₃: MAGNETISM

Is the canting
coupled to
polarization ?

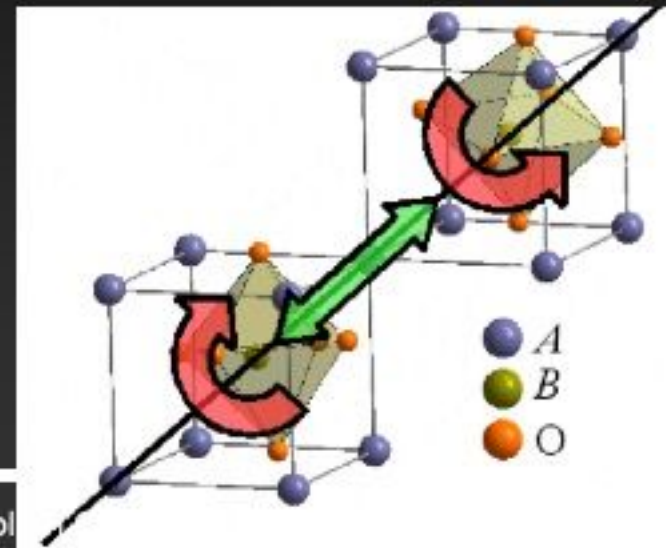
Can I switch the weak
moment by E-field?



No! Two different modes in BFO:

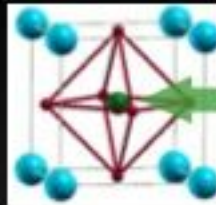
1. Polar displacements along [111]
2. Octahedral counter-rotations

.... and DM is related to Oxygen
octahedral rotations



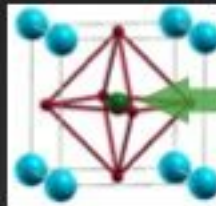
COMBINE FE AND FM: WAY OUT (II)

BiFeO_3 :



Put FE-active ion on A-site

Put magnetic ion on B-site



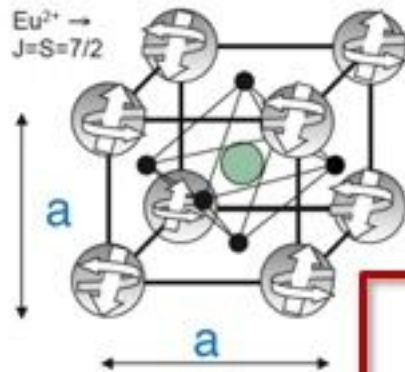
Put FM-active ion on A-site

Leave Ferroelectric ion on B-site



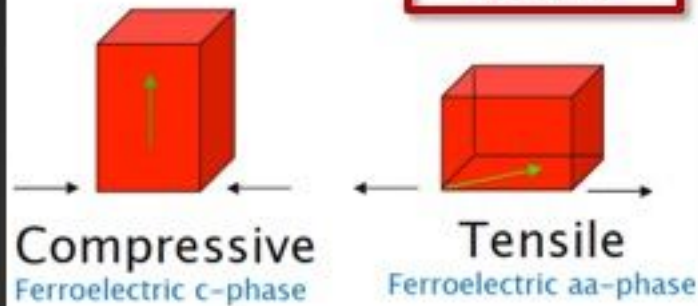
WAY OUT (II): EuTiO₃

C.J. Fennie and K.M. Rabe, *Physical Review Letters* 97 (2006) 267602

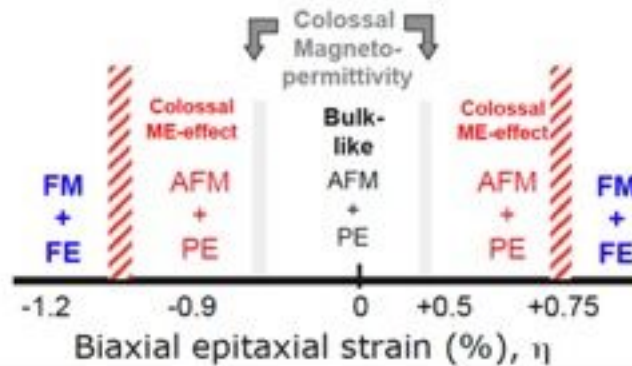


- In bulk: paraelectric (PE) and antiferromagnetic (AFM)
- Epitaxially strained thin film: ferroelectric (FE) and ferromagnetic (FM)

**Fennie's,
Rabe's
contri-
butions**



Epitaxially strained film
Rich magnetoelectric phase diagram
due to spin-lattice coupling predicted
from first principles



IMPROPER FERROELECTRICITY IN MAGNETS

What do we mean by “improper ferroelectricity”?

Concepts:

how to break inversion symmetry via coupled structural distortions, spin- or charge-ordering

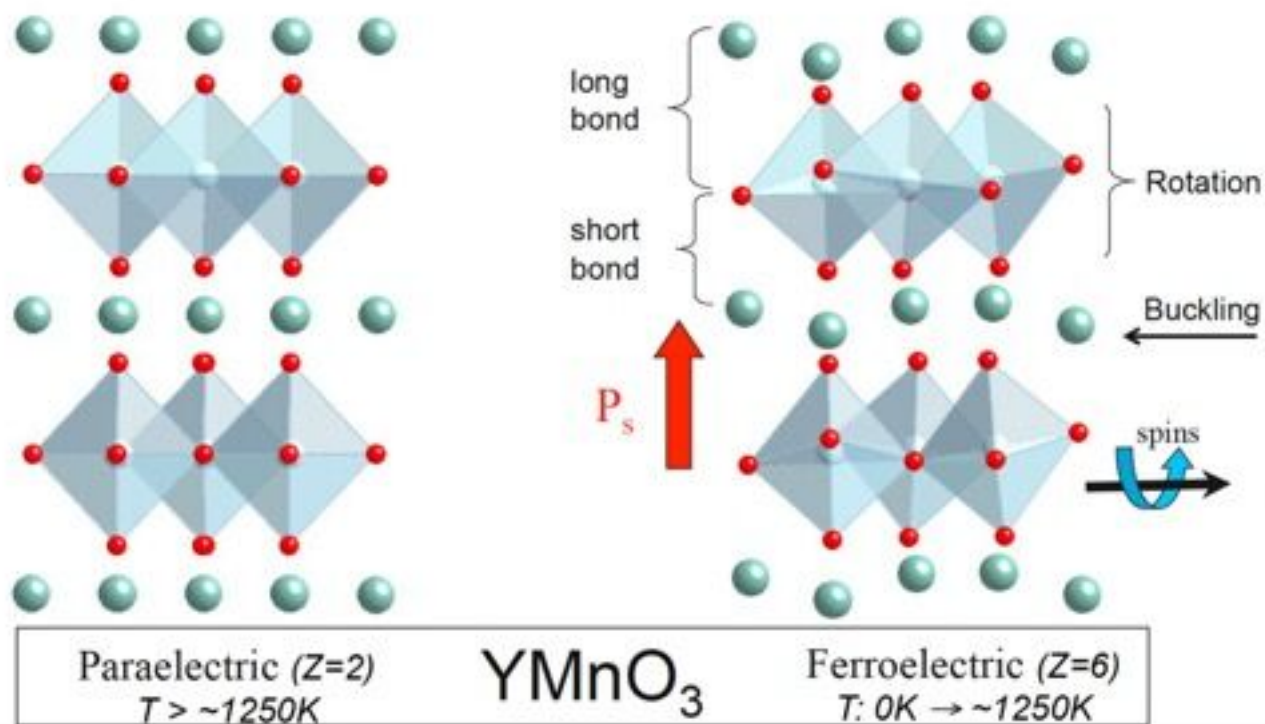
Examples: manganites (hexagonal vs orthorhombic)



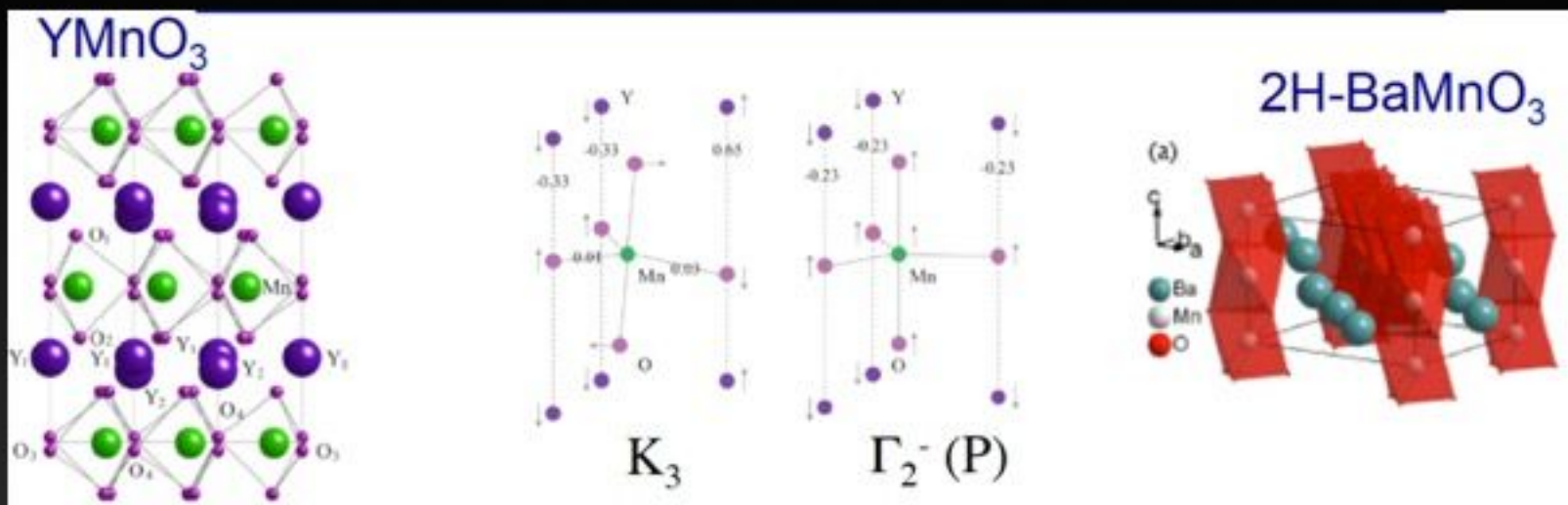
IMPROPER STRUCTURAL FERROELECTRICITY: HEXAGONAL MANGANITES

$RMnO_3$, $R = Y, Sc, Ho-Lu$

vanAken, Palstra, Fillipetti, Spaldin, Nature Materials 2004.



IMPROPER STRUCTURAL FERROELECTRICITY: HEXAGONAL MANGANITES

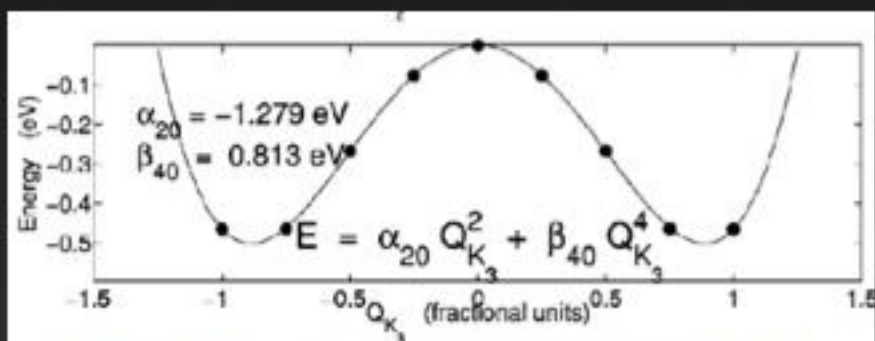


MnO₅ (trigonal bi-pyramids)
are rotated
and trimerize in the FE state

- C. Fennie & KM Rabe, PRB **72**, 110103 (2005)
- J. Varignon and P. Ghosez, PRB **87**, 140403 (2013)

IMPROPER STRUCTURAL FERROELECTRICITY: HEXAGONAL MANGANITES

⇒ WHY IS IT FERROELECTRIC ?!?!??



Zone-boundary (trimerization)
mode is unstable

RATIONALIZATION WITH LANDAU THEORY

Primary order parameter $\equiv \eta$

where η is "some other mode", e.g. zone-boundary lattice instability, *magnetic chiral vector*, etc.

Secondary order parameter

Spontaneous polarization \mathbf{P}

$$\mathcal{F}(\eta, P) = \alpha_P P^2 + \alpha_\eta \eta^2 + \gamma_\eta P \eta^n + \beta P^4$$

$n =$ faintness index

$$\partial \mathcal{F} / \partial P = 2\alpha_P P + \gamma_\eta \eta^n + 4\beta P^3 = 0$$

$$P_{eq} \sim -\eta^n$$

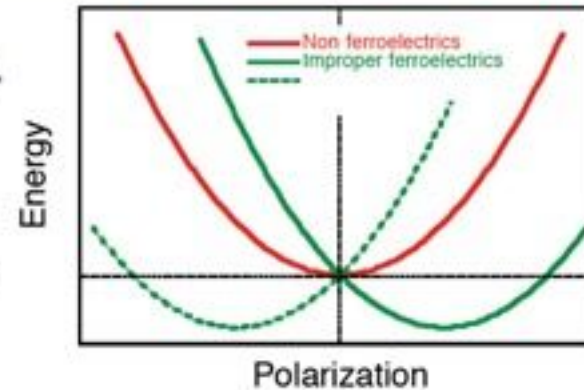
Once primary OP becomes nonzero, a polarization is induced

C. Fennie &
KM Rabe,
PRB **72**, 110103
(2005)
J. Varignon and
P. Ghosez,
PRB **87**, 140403
(2013)

IMPROPER FERROELECTRICITY : RECAP

$$F(\eta, P) = \alpha_P P^2 + \alpha_\eta \eta^2 + \gamma_\eta P \eta^n + \beta P^4$$

$n = \text{faintness index}$



- P not intrinsically unstable but slave of another unstable degree of freedom (structural or other) ϕ .
- P coupling at **linear** order with $\phi \rightarrow$ **shift** of the well.
- Other exponent n (« faintness ») possible ($n = 1$: pseudo-proper)
- No anomalous Born Effective Charges
- **Ferroelectric** ? Yes, but switching P requires switching ϕ ...
- No divergence of the dielectric constant

IMPROPER FERROELECTRICITY IN HEXAGONAL MANGANITES

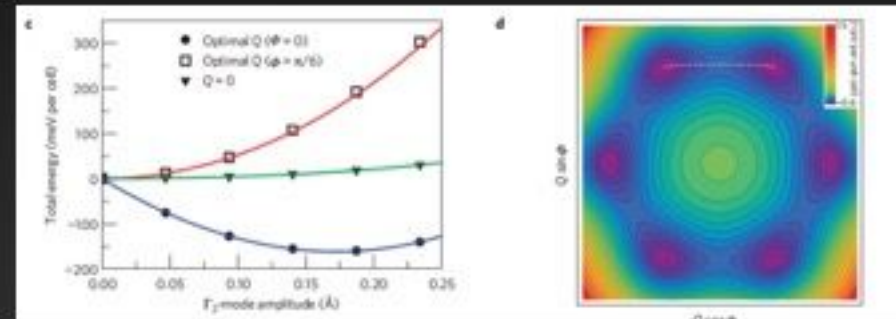
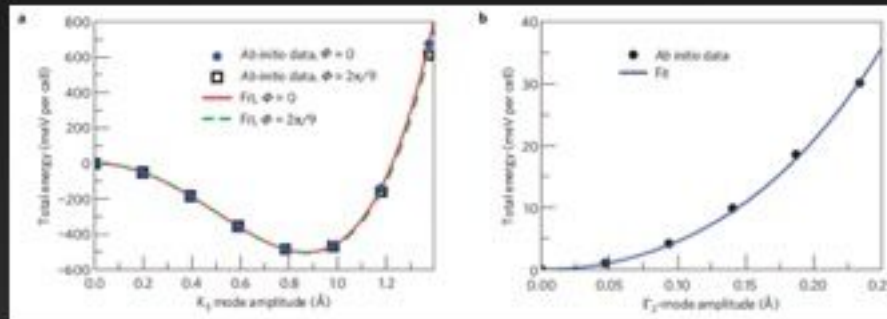
Expand energy to fourth order in the primary K_3 and secondary P order parameters:

(note energy expansion simplified for pedagogy)

Fennie and Rabe, Physical Review B 72, 100103 2005

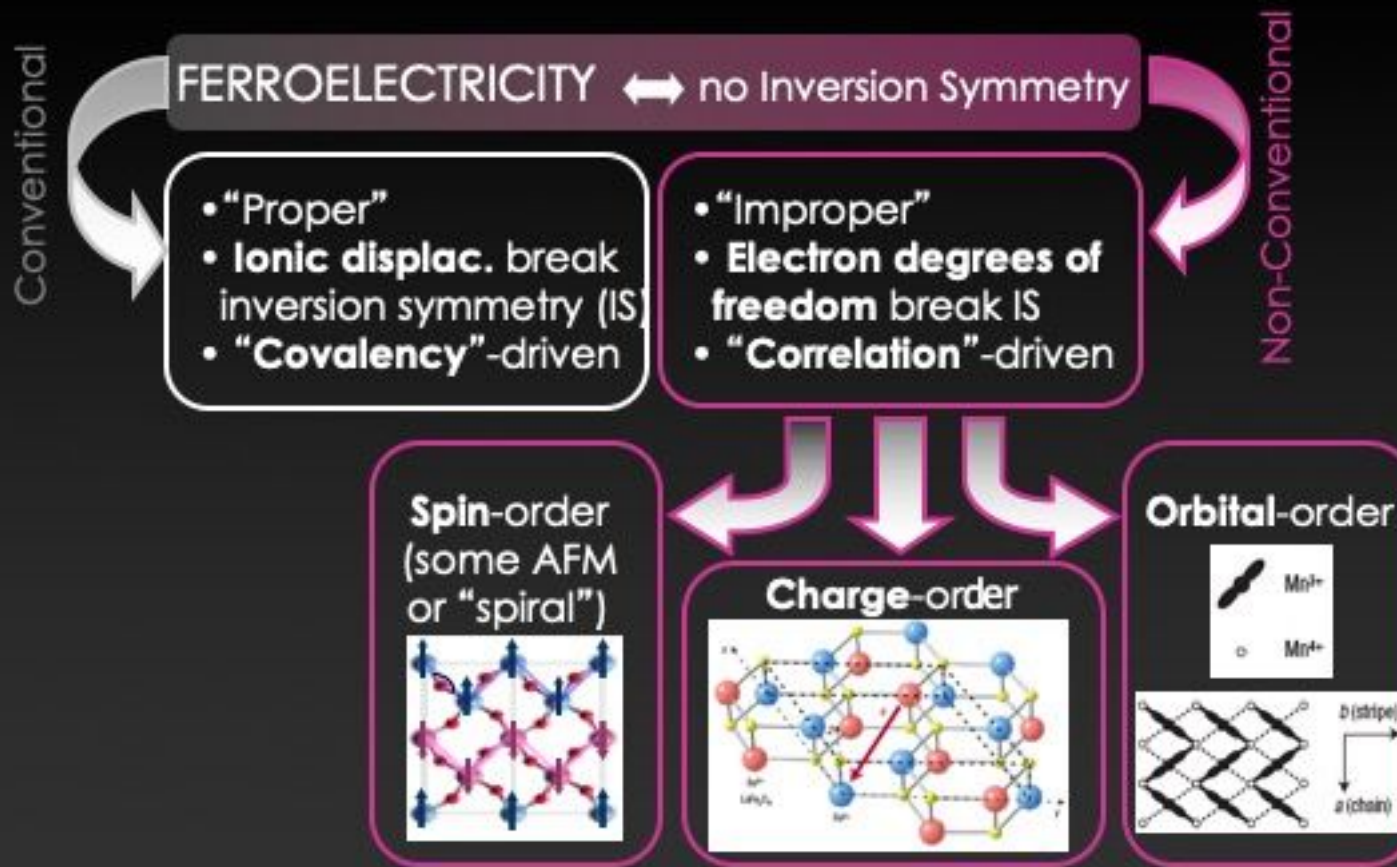
$$F(K_3, P) = \alpha_P P^2 + \alpha_K K_3^2 + \gamma_\eta P K_3^3 + \beta P^4$$

$$\Rightarrow P \sim \gamma_\eta K_3^3$$



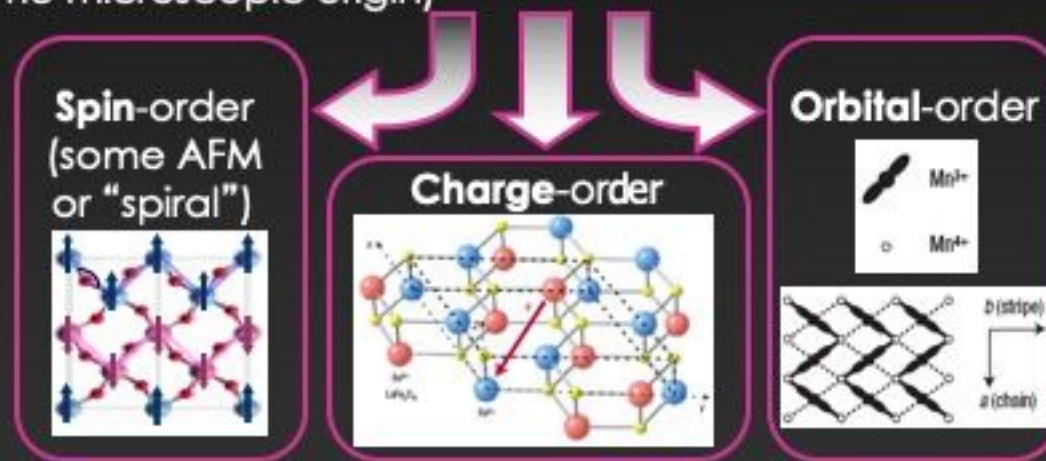
Extraction of model parameters from ab-initio (K_3 : trimerization mode, Γ_2 : polar mode).
S. Artyukhin et al, Nat. Mater. 13, 42 (2014).

BREAKING INVERSION SYMMETRY IN MAGNETS

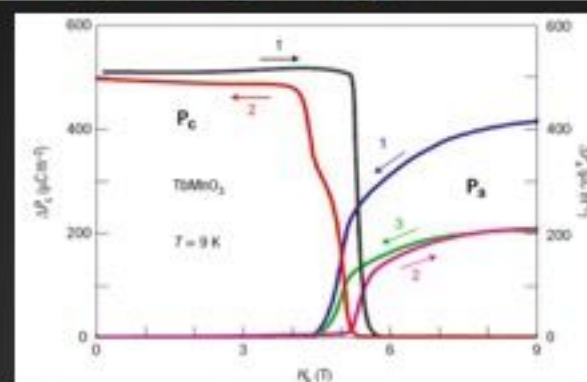
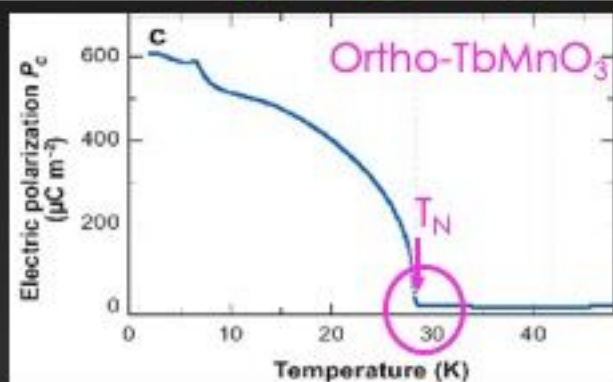
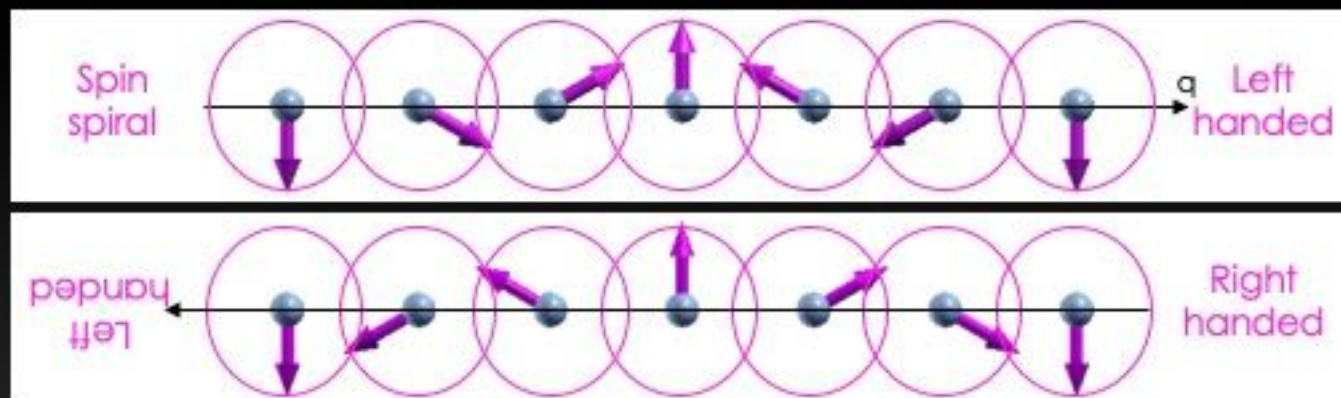


Main advantages over proper multiferroics:

- displacements/switching involve *electrons* rather than *ions*
 - ⇒ **switching** should be much **faster**
 - ⇒ better as for “fatigue”
- especially for spin-induced ferroelectricity
 - ⇒ **magnetoelectric coupling** should be much **stronger** (as magnetism and ferroelectricity share the same microscopic origin)



HOW MAGNETIC ORDERING CAN BREAK INV. SYM.?



T.Kimura et al., *Nature* **425**, 55 (03); S.W.Cheong and M.Mostovoy, *Nature Mater.* **6**, 13 (07)



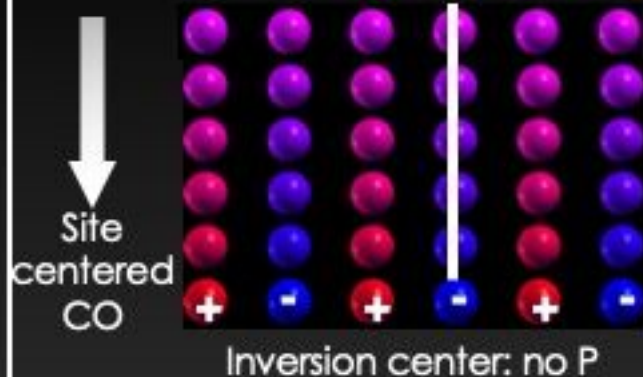
HOW CHARGE ORDERING CAN BREAK INV. SYM.?

Neutral chain

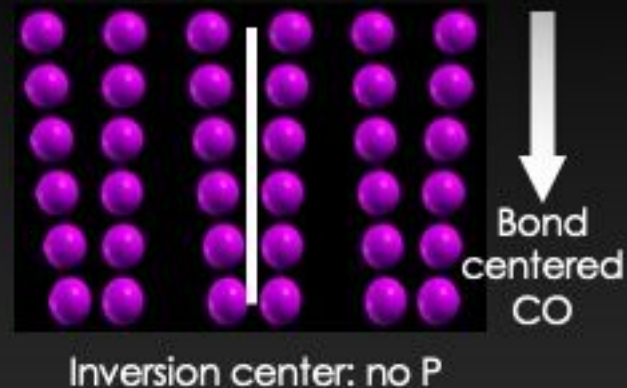


Inversion center: no P

“Pure” charge-ordering



Structural dimerization



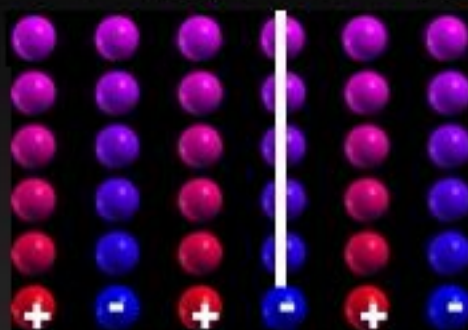
HOW CHARGE ORDERING CAN BREAK INV. SYM.?

Neutral chain

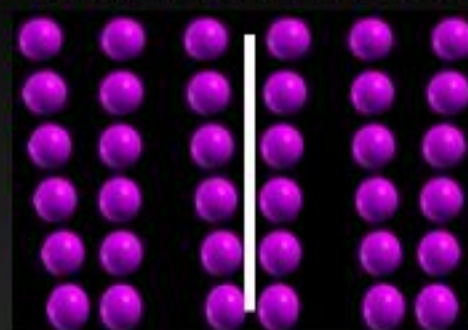


Inversion center: no P

“Pure” charge-ordering

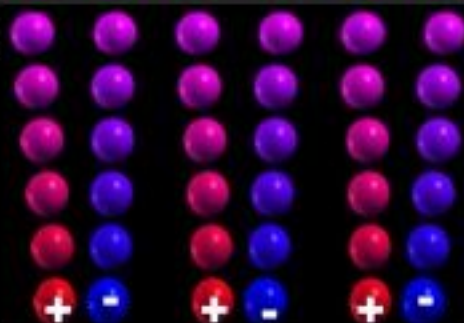


Structural dimerization



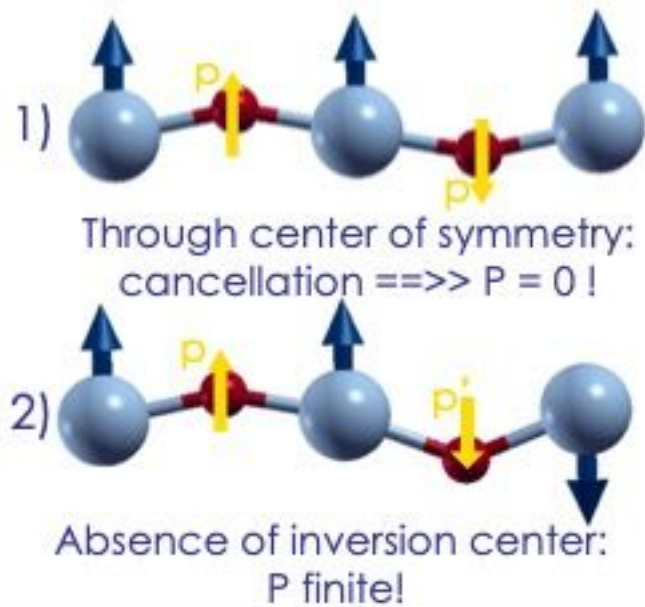
Combination

Intermediate
Bond- and site-
centered
CO



Absence of
inversion
center:
**it can be
polar !!**

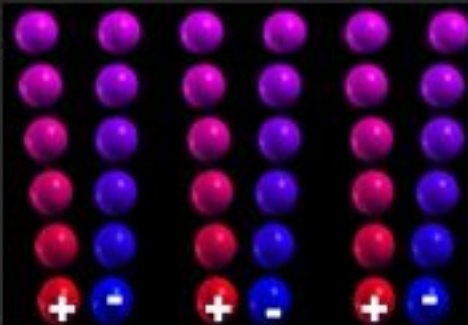




... but these are just "sketches" ...
In practice we have to find materials where these "local" dipoles are periodically repeated
⇒ **polar space groups**

Combination

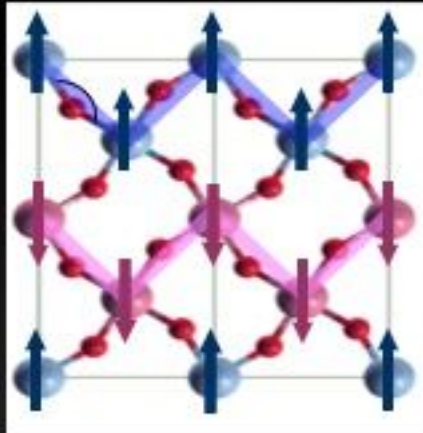
Intermediate
Bond- and site-
centered
CO



Absence of
inversion
center:
**it can be
polar !!**



E-TYPE MANGANITES: ELECTRONIC AND IONIC FERROELECTRICITY



• In collaboration with:

K. Yamauchi (*now at Osaka*)

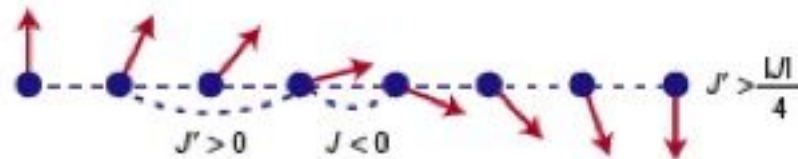


I. A. Sergienko, E. Dagotto
(*Oak Ridge Natl. Lab, Univ. Tennessee, TN*)



FRUSTRATION IN MAGNETS

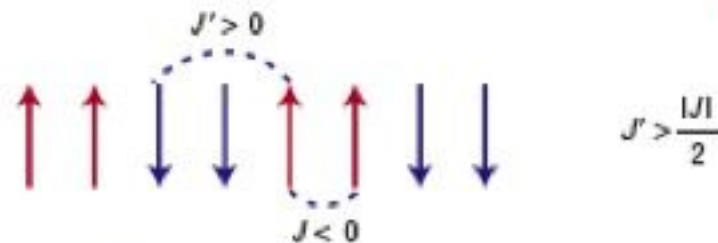
Frustrated spin chains with the nearest-neighbour FM and next-nearest-neighbour AFM interactions J and J' .



The spin chain with isotropic (Heisenberg)

$$H = \sum_n [J S_n \cdot S_{n+1} + J' S_n \cdot S_{n+2}]$$

For $J' / |J| > 1/4$ its classical ground state is a **magnetic spiral**.



The chain of Ising spins $\sigma_n = \pm 1$, with energy

$$H = \sum_n [J \sigma_n \sigma_{n+1} + J' \sigma_n \sigma_{n+2}]$$

has the **up-up-down-down** ground state for $J' / |J| > 1/2$.

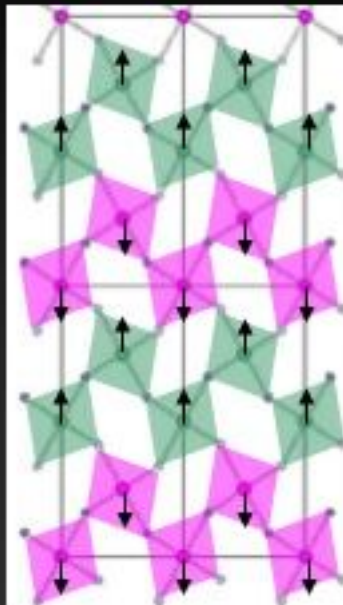


WHY THE AFM-E SHOULD BE FERROELECTRIC ?

- “Electronic” mechanisms

- e_g Orbital Ordering

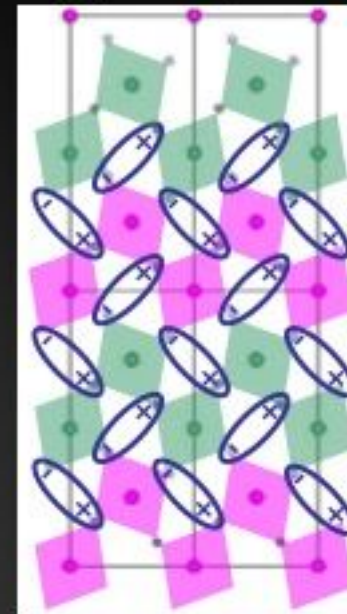
- Oxygen inequivalency



a
 c



P



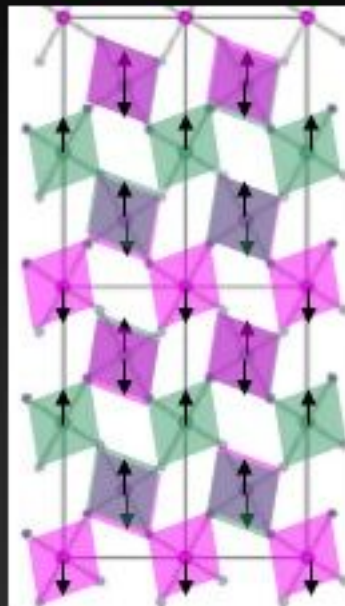
P



WHY THE AFM-E SHOULD BE FERROELECTRIC ?

- “Switching” mechanisms: change direction of some spins

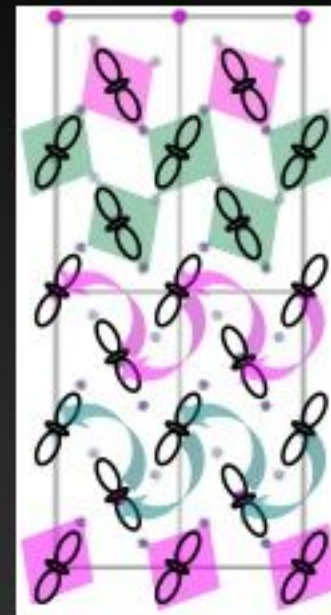
- e_g Orbital Ordering



a
c



P

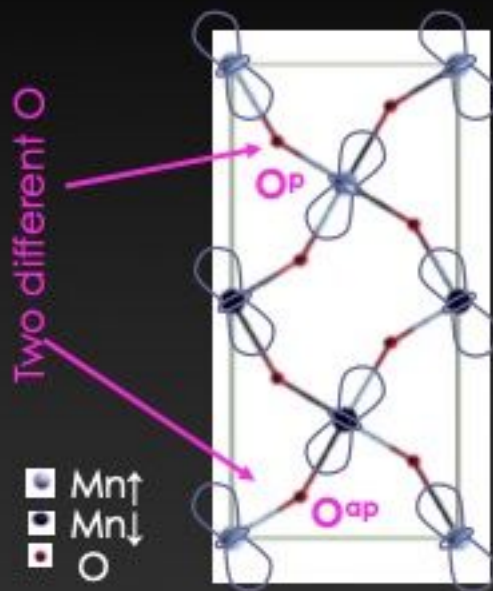


d

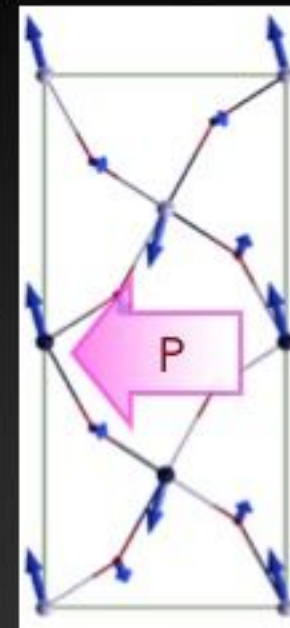


WHY THE AFM-E SHOULD BE FERROELECTRIC ?

- “Structural” contributions: Magnetostriction



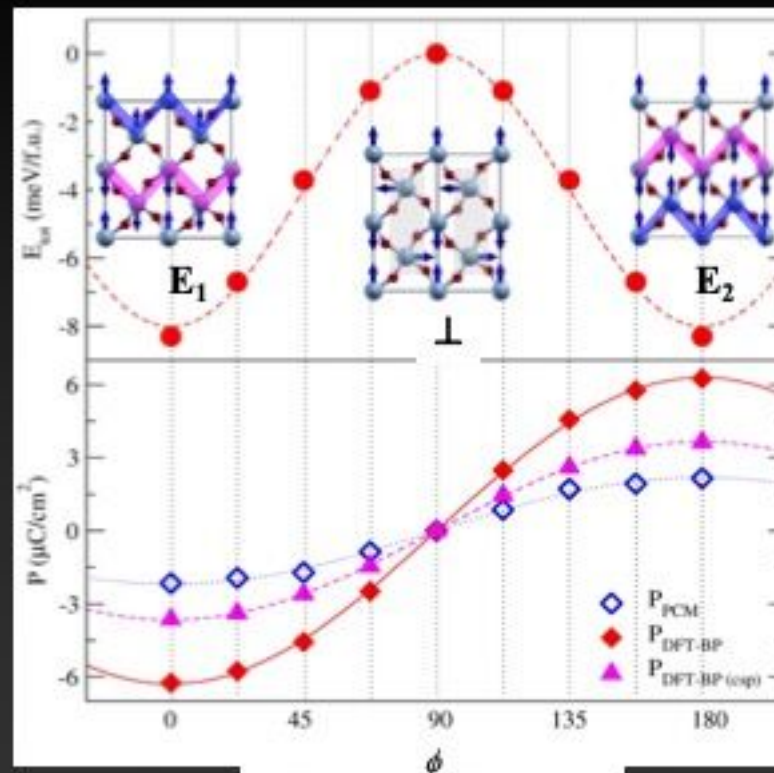
In-plane Mn and O displacements pattern from centrosymmetric AFM-A to non-centrosymmetric AFM-E



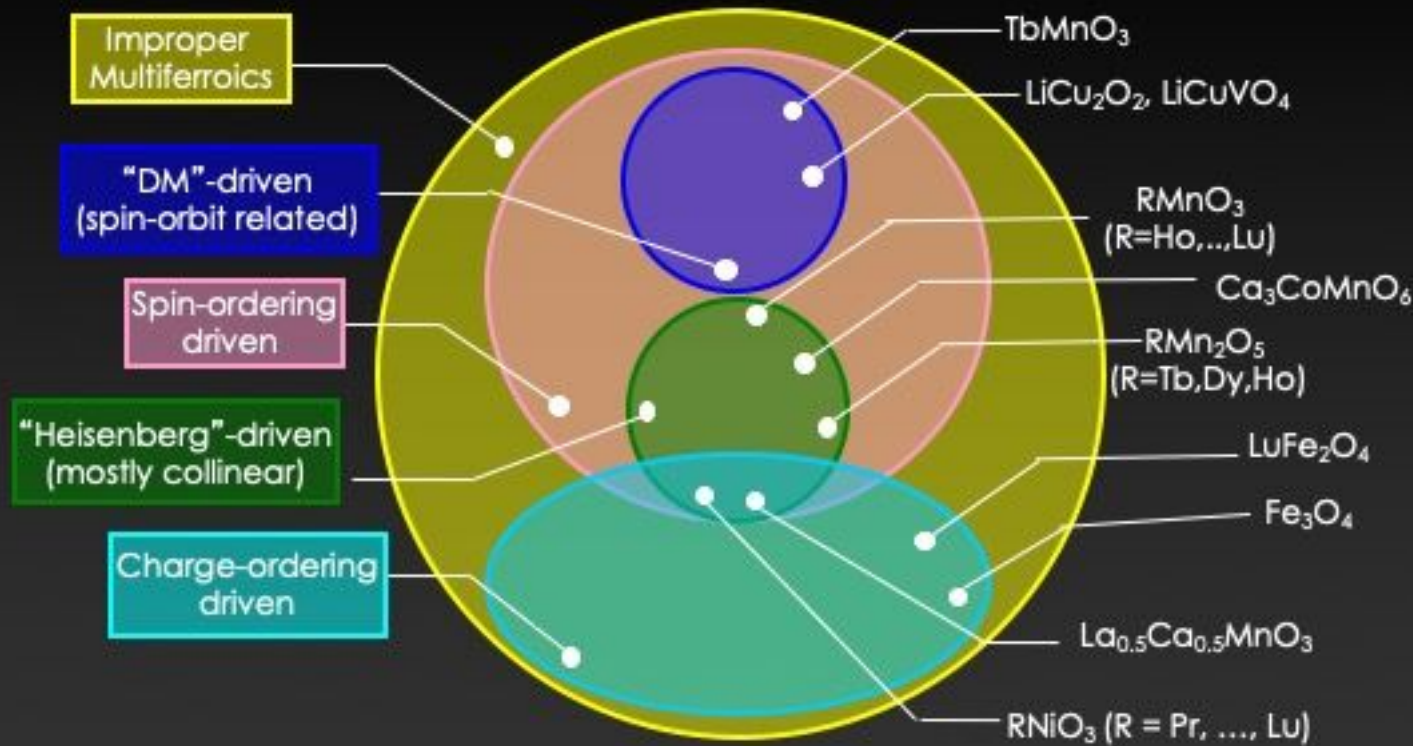
ORTHO- HoMnO_3 AS A MAGNETICALLY DRIVEN FERROELECTRIC

- First *ab-initio* calculation of P driven by AFM*
- P is \sim few $\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$ (highest among magnetic improper ferroelectrics)
- FE switching path via spin-rotations
- Dual nature of P in real compounds: ionic displacements *and* electronic/magnetic effects are both important

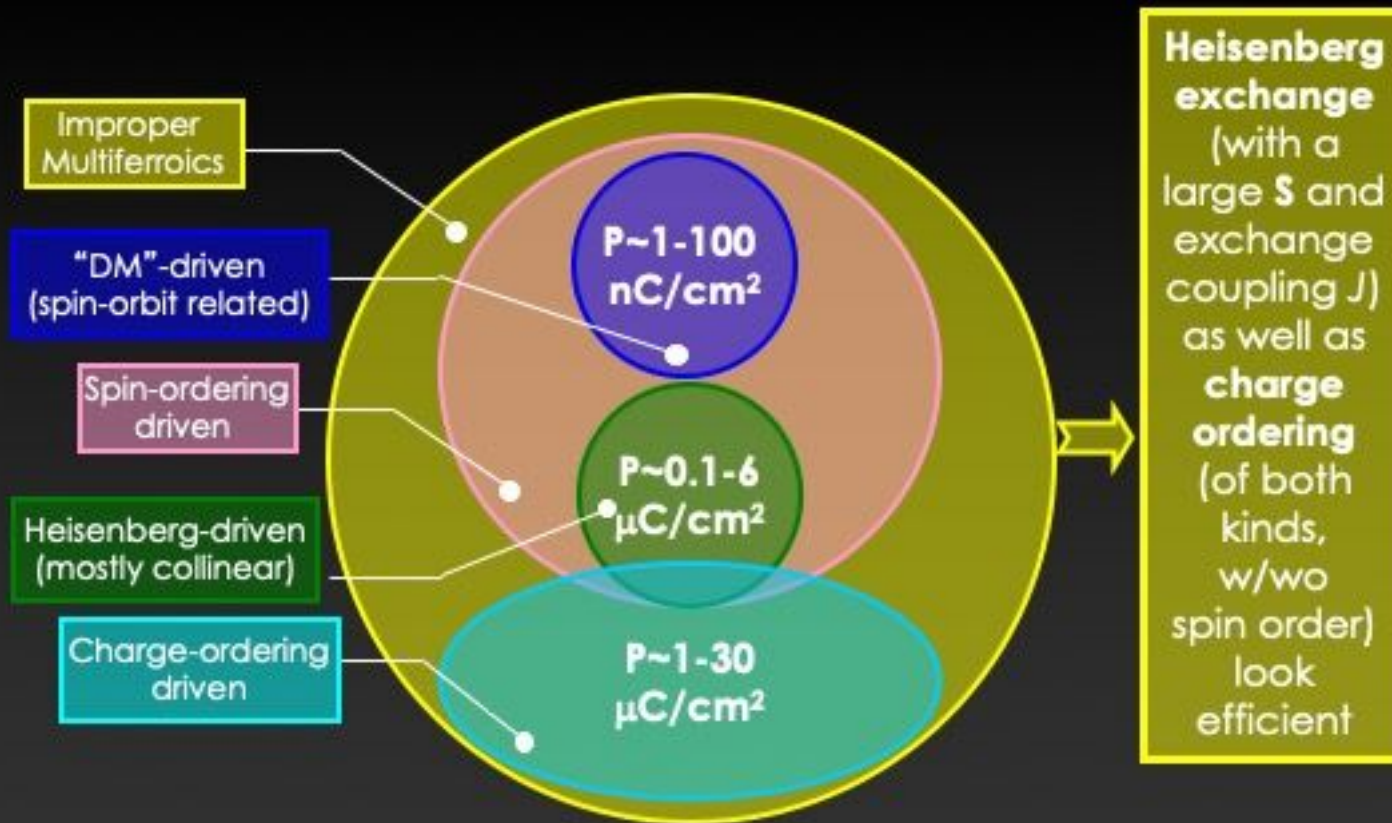
* S. Picozzi, K. Yamauchi, B. Sanyal, I. Sergienko, E. Dagotto, PRL 99, 227201 (2007)



CLASSIFICATION OF IMPROPER MULTIFERROICS



WHAT ABOUT THE SIZE OF P?



OTHER MECHANISMS

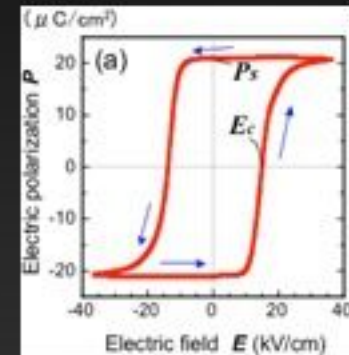
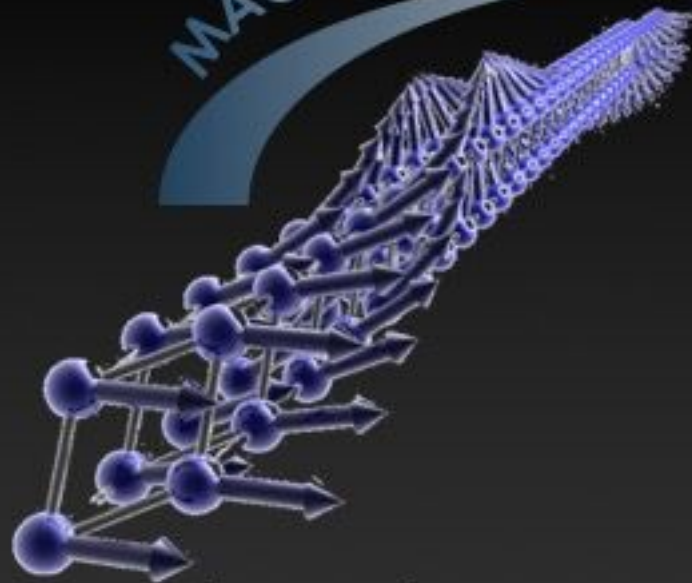
OTHER MATERIALS

1. Can we drive magnetism with an electric field?
2. Can we use organic or metal-organic frameworks?



MAGNETOELECTRICICITY: SIMPLE ARGUMENTS

MAGNETISM DRIVES POLARIZATION



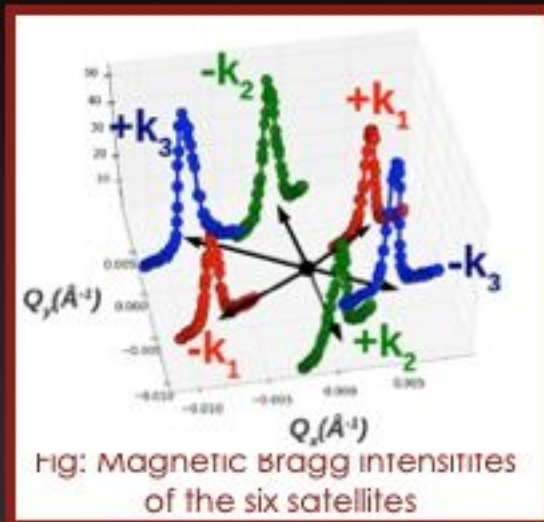
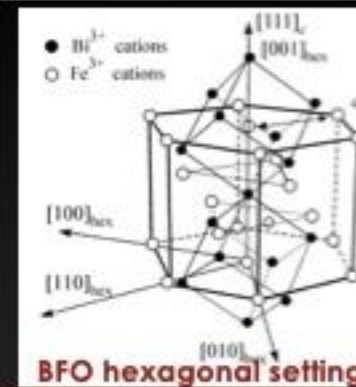
CAN POLARIZATION
DRIVE MAGNETISM?



X-ray imaging of cycloidal magnetic domains in ferroelectric monodomain BiFeO₃

R. D. Johnson,^{1,2} P. Barone,³ A. Bombardi,⁴ R. J. Bean,⁵ S. Picozzi,³
 P. G. Radaelli,¹ Y. S. Oh,⁶ S-W. Cheong,⁶ and L. C. Chapon⁷

Hard X-ray Magnetic Scattering (DIAMOND, UK):
 High space and momentum resolution

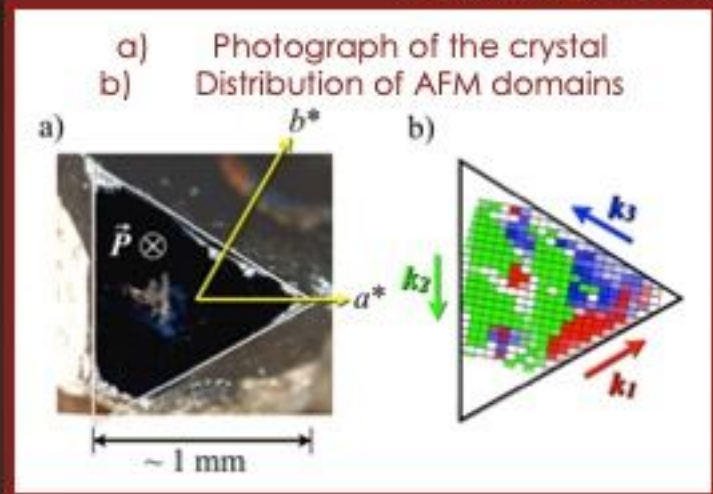


$$k_1 = 2\pi(\delta, \delta, 0)$$

$$k_2 = 2\pi(\delta, -2\delta, 0)$$

$$k_3 = 2\pi(-2\delta, \delta, 0)$$

$$\delta = 0.0045$$



Imaging of 3 large
 (up to 500 μm)
 magnetic domains
 for k₁, k₂, k₃

DETERMINATION OF MAGNETIC POLARITY λ

X-ray Magnetic Scattering with circ. pol. Light
 \Rightarrow Determination of absolute rotation
 direction of magnetization

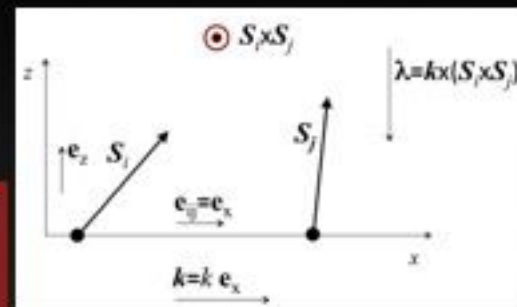
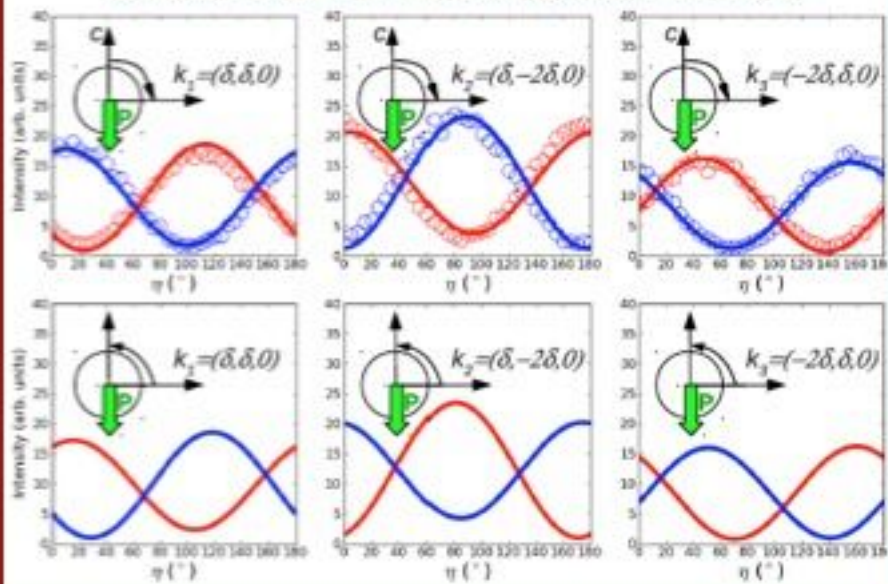


Fig: Variation of the scattered X-ray intensity vs analyser angle for three magnetic reflections



$\beta = -1$
(CW)



$\beta = +1$
(CCW)

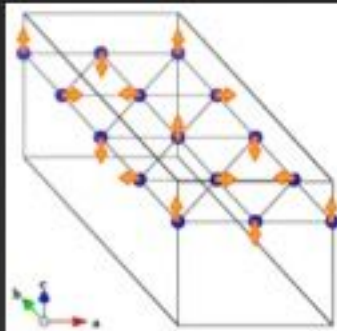
All magnetic configurations rotate clockwise !!

MICROSCOPIC ORIGIN: DFT

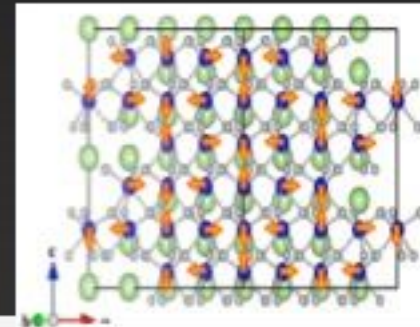
(Real) Cycloid modulation
 640 Å \Rightarrow
 Reduce unit cell
 in DFT:
 $2\mathbf{a} \times 4\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}$
 (240 atoms)

| | τ (Å) | P_c ($\mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$) | ΔE (meV/Fe) |
|-----------------|------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| FE \uparrow | 0.668 | 105.17 | -2.34 |
| PE | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FE \downarrow | -0.668 | -105.17 | 2.34 |

TABLE I. DFT results obtained for $U=5$ eV, $J=1$ eV. The energy difference is defined as $\Delta E = E_{CW} - E_{CCW}$. FE \uparrow and FE \downarrow are characterized by opposite collective displacements, τ , respectively upward and downward, of Bi sublattice with respect to O layers perpendicular to c axis.



The sign of FE polarization stabilizes the magnetic polarity of the cycloid. For PE, CW and CCW states are degenerate



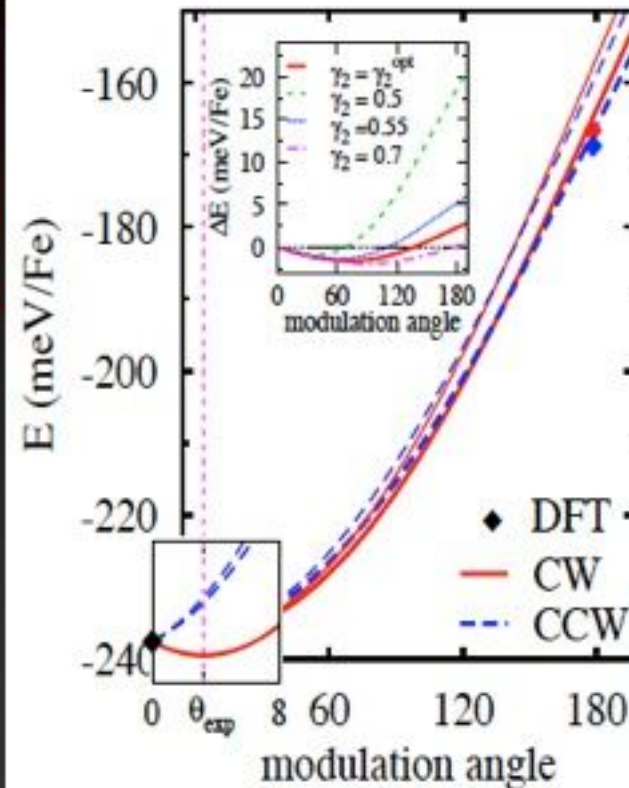
MODEL HAMILTONIAN STUDY

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{ij}^{nn} J_{nn} + \sum_{ij}^{nnn} J_{nnn} \right) \mathbf{S}_i \cdot \mathbf{S}_j +$$

$$- \gamma P_e \left(\sum_{ij}^{nn} + \gamma_2 \sum_{ij}^{nnn} \right) \frac{1}{l_{ij}^2} (\mathbf{e}_z \times \mathbf{e}_{ij}) \cdot (\mathbf{S}_i \times \mathbf{S}_j)$$

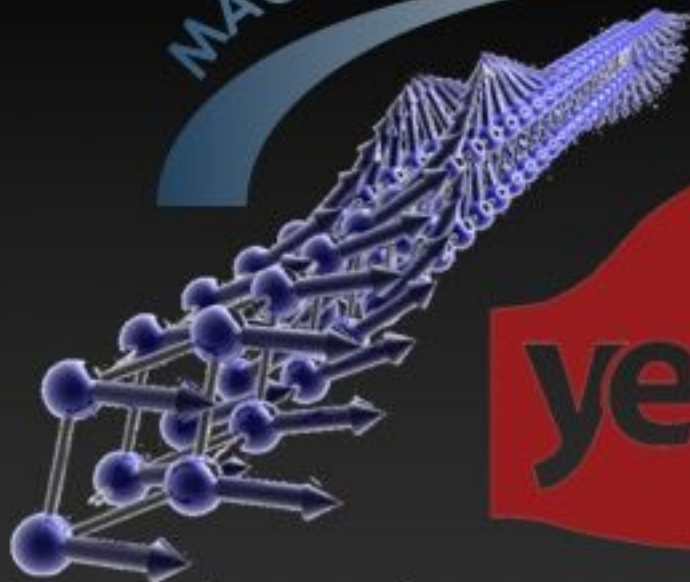
COUPLING TERM:
DZIALOSHINSKII-MORIYA LIKE

The energy favored magnetic polarity depends on modulation angle
 \Rightarrow Importance of 2nd nn
 to reproduce expts
 $\Rightarrow \gamma \sim 2.4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ V}$



MAGNETOELECTRICICITY: SIMPLE ARGUMENTS

MAGNETISM DRIVES POLARIZATION



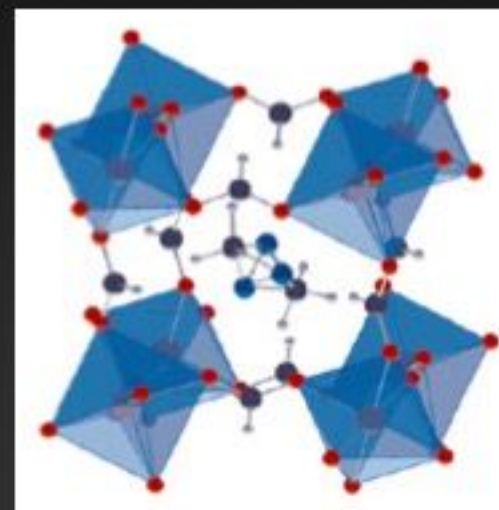
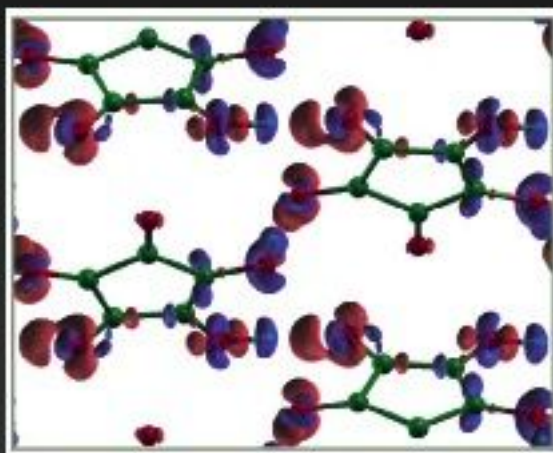
MAGNETIC CYCLOIDS
in each domain
propagate with a
UNIQUE ROTATION
direction imposed by
the **ELECTRIC POLARITY**
of the crystal

CAN POLARIZATION
DRIVE MAGNETISM?



R.D. Johnson *et al.*,
PRL **110**, 217206 (2013)

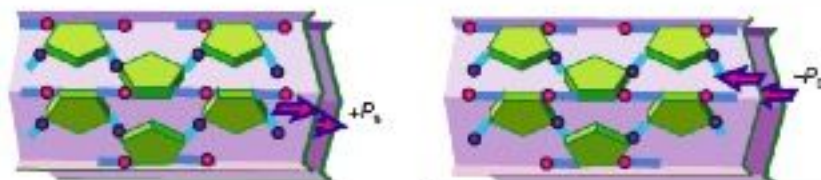
... NOT ONLY OXIDES: ORGANICS & HYBRIDS



PROTON TRANSFER: EFFICIENT SOURCE OF P

Vol 463 | 11 February 2010 | doi:10.1038/nature08731

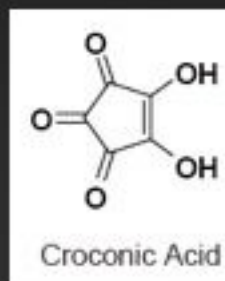
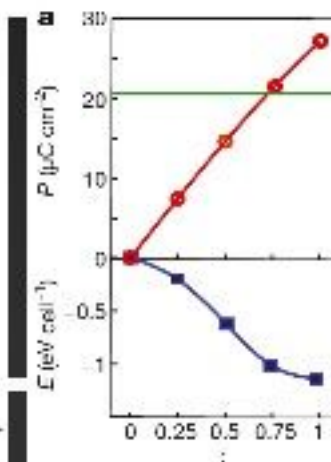
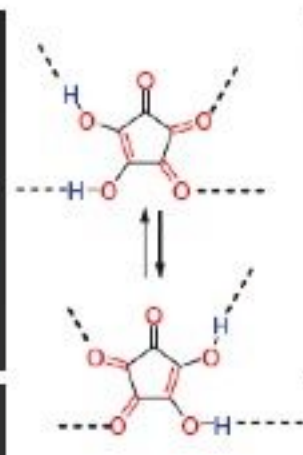
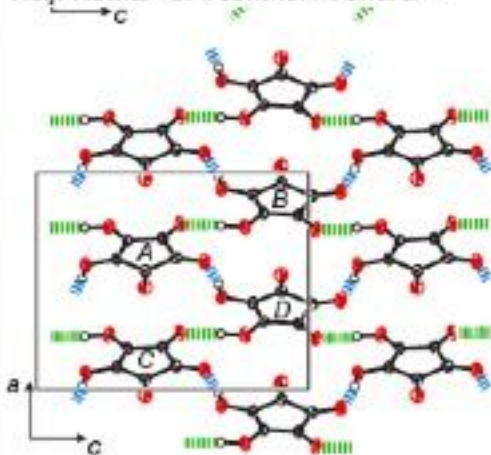
nature



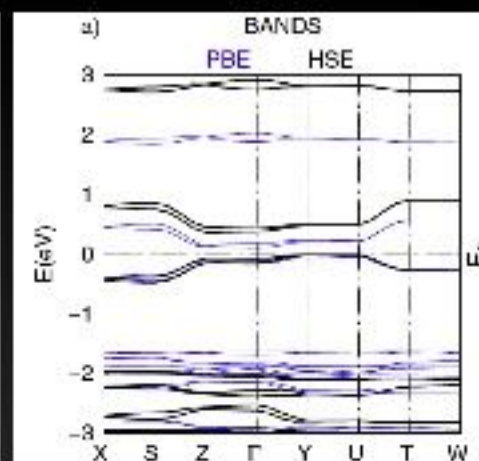
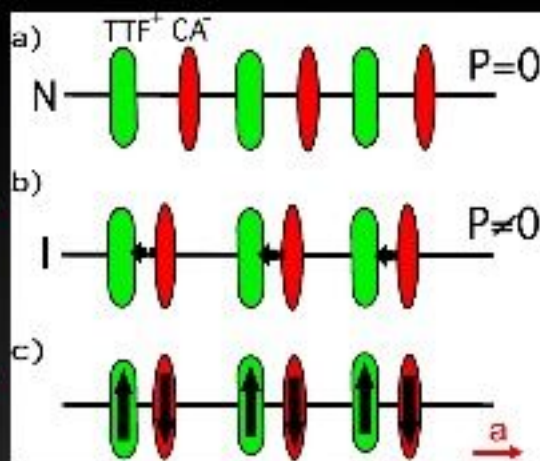
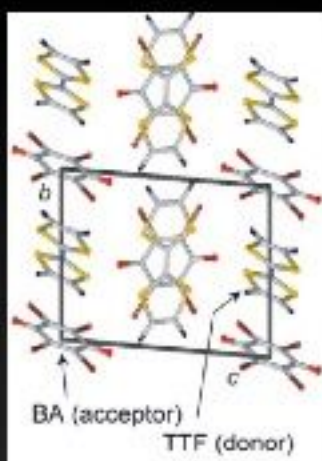
LETTERS

Above-room-temperature ferroelectricity in a single-component molecular crystal

Sachio Horiuchi¹, Yusuke Tokunaga², Gianluca Giovannetti^{3,4}, Silvia Picozzi³, Hirotake Itoh², Ryo Shimano^{2,5}, Reiji Kumai¹ & Yoshinori Tokura^{1,2,6}

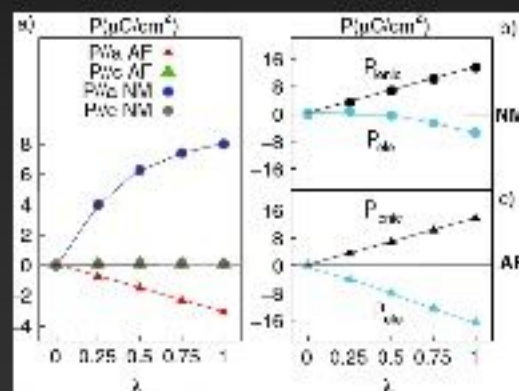


TTF-CA: SPIN-PEIERLS AS A SOURCE OF P ?

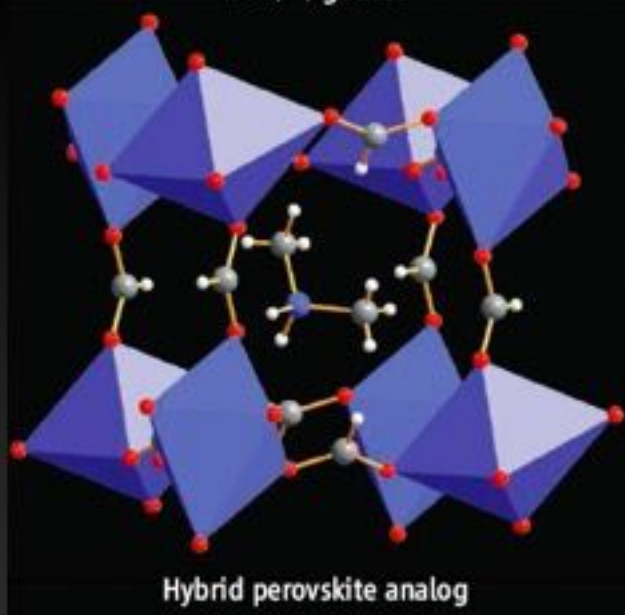


• SPIN PEIERLS: One-dimensional Heisenberg spin 1/2 chain \Rightarrow instability to a dimer-singlet (gain of symmetric exchange)

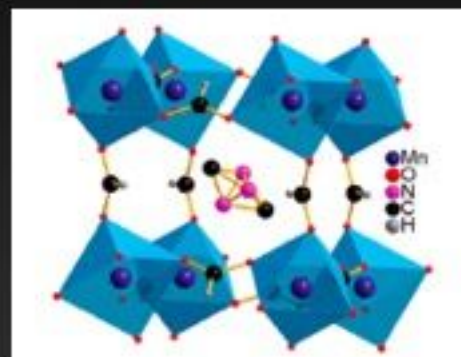
• TTF-CA: Under the neutral-ionic transition



METAL-ORGANIC FRAMEWORKS



Crystalline hybrid materials like **Metal Organic Frameworks (MOFs)** are very attractive materials for gas storage, drug delivery, catalysis, optics, and magnetism



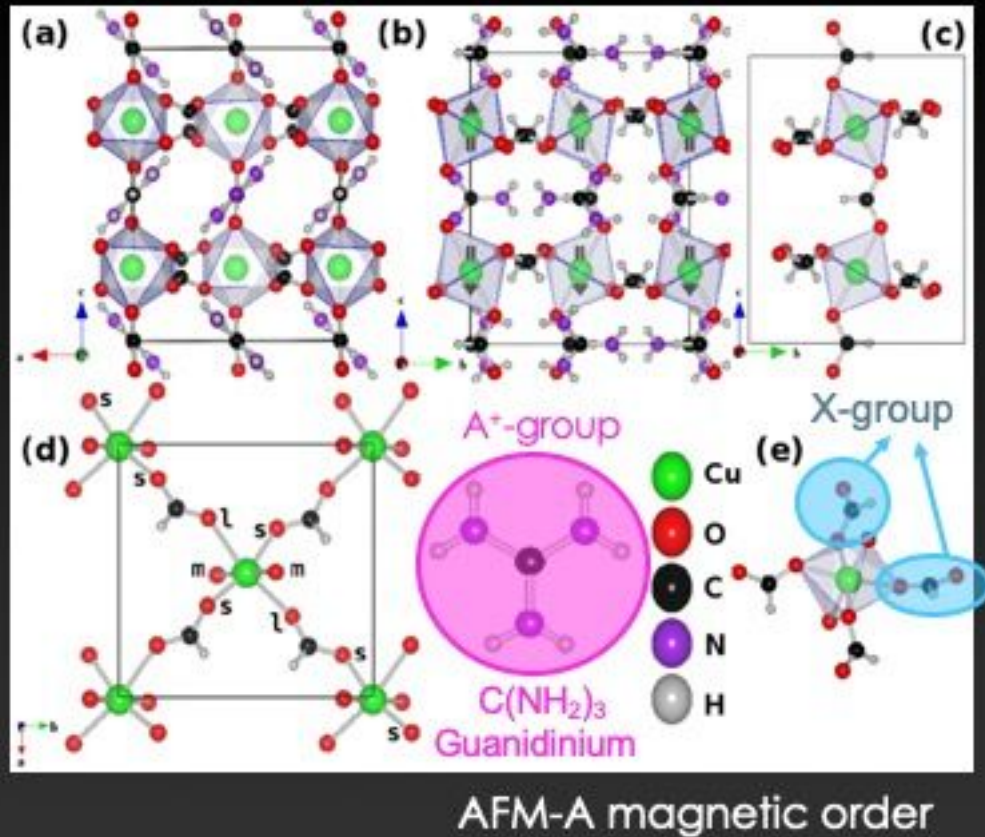
Hybrid Improper Ferroelectricity in a Multiferroic and Magnetoelectric Metal-Organic Framework

Adv. Mater. 2013, 25, 2284–2290

A. Stroppa,* P. Barone, P. Jain, J. M. Perez-Mato, and S. Picozzi



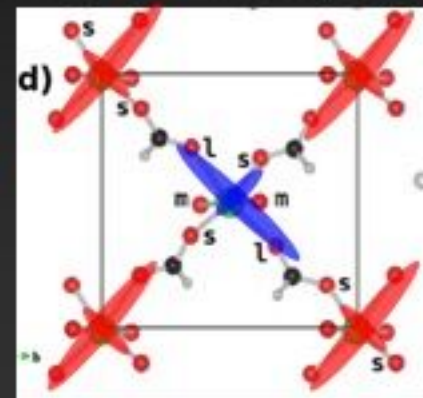
METAL-ORGANIC FRAMEWORKS



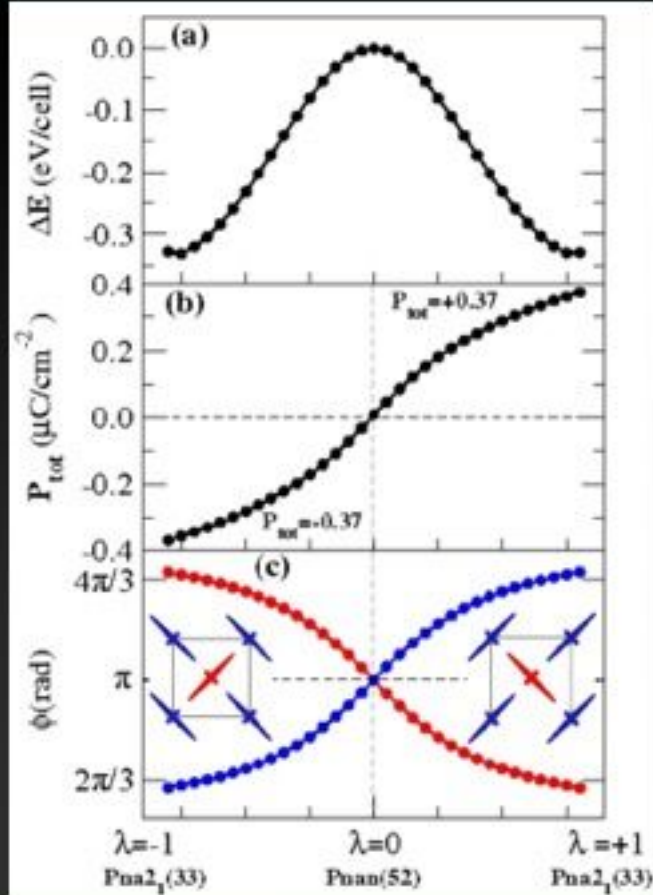
Cu octahedra connected
by HCOO⁻ groups
(ligands)

Cu⁺² Jahn-Teller ion

Antiferrodistortive
order in the ab plane



Cu-MOF AS A NEW MULTIFERROIC



λ amplitude of the polar distortion:

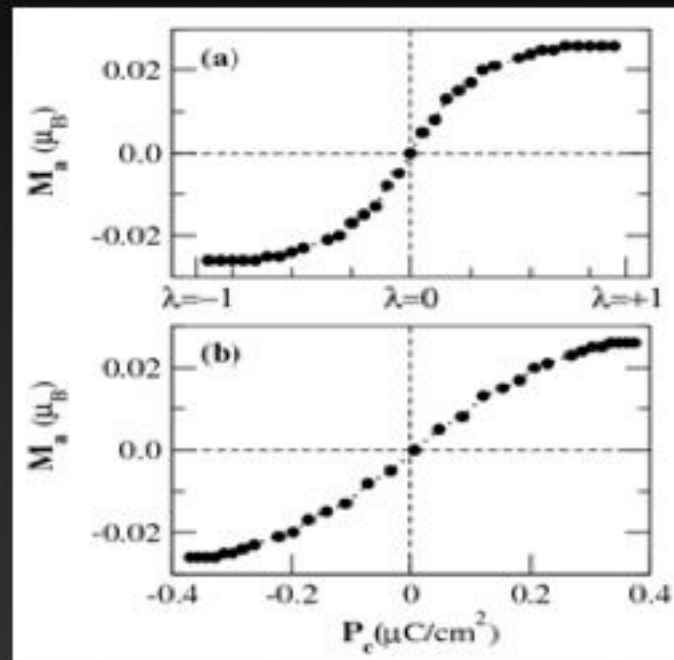
$\lambda=0$ paraelectric state ($P=0$);
 $\lambda=\pm 1$ ferroelectric (FE) state
($P=0.37 \mu\text{C}/\text{cm}^2$).

NB: The AFD order is non-polar in usual inorganic compound (like KCuF_3)

In Cu-MOF AFD and FE are clearly correlated!

Cu-MOF AS A NEW MULTIFERROIC

Symmetry analysis: Coupling of the type $M_a P_c L_c$
⇒ Weak-FM component is allowed in Cu-MOF and coupled to FE order!



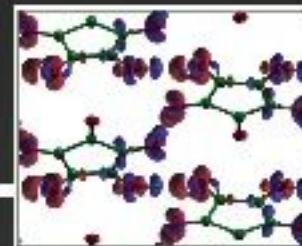
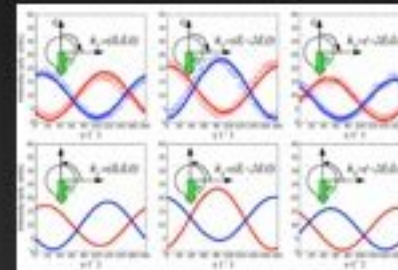
Ab-initio calculations fully confirm what expected by symmetry

In Cu-MOF, a magnetic field can couple to **weak-FM component** and can **reverse FE polarization** (and viceversa: an **electric field** can **switch weak-moment**)

ELECTRICAL CONTROL OF MAGNETIZATION !

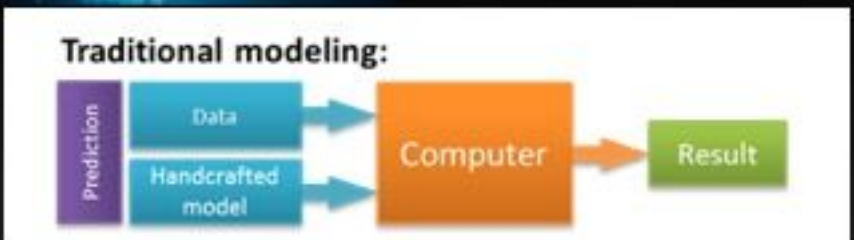
TAKE HOME MESSAGES

- **First principles calculations can give valuable insights into mechanisms and quantitative reliable estimates for different materials**
- Very different microscopic origins for improper ferroelectricity
- **Heisenberg exchange striction** seems a mechanism able to drive a large polarization !
- **Charge ordering** is an efficient mechanism!
- **MAGNETOELECTRICITY:** can polarization drive magnetism?
The case of BiFeO_3 spin cycloid
- Take a look at **organics/hybrids!**





FUTURISTIC OUTLOOK: MACHINE LEARNING ?



Can we use DFT data to train a **Machine Learning Algorithm** to predict when a material is FE or AFE, to go to **high time/space scales**, to **design room temperature MF ?**



1 PhD and 1 post-doc position opening: pls contact me!

