

# Combining ferroelectricity and magnetism: the low energy electrodynamics

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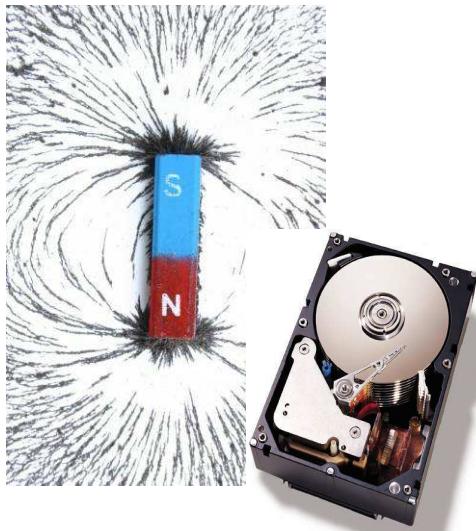
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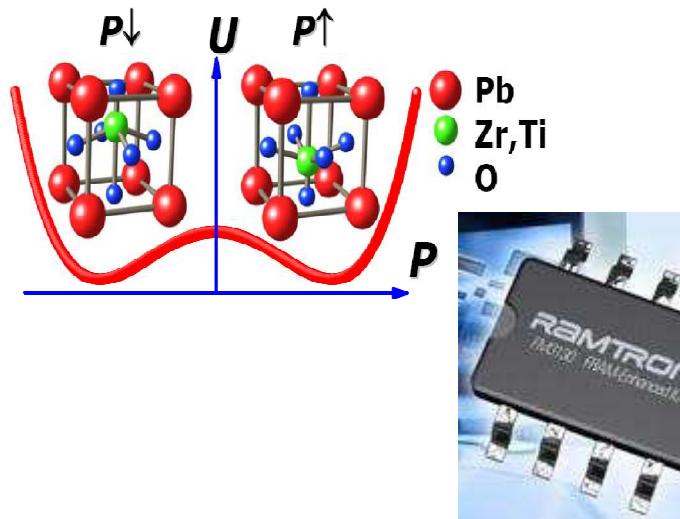
Funding provided by the Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Directed Research and Development Program

# Ferroic properties



## FERROMAGNETISM

High-power current-driven  
write operation



## FERROELECTRICITY

Low-power voltage-driven write  
But...

Issues of fatigue need to be  
overcome

... enter **MULTIFERROICITY!!!**

# Magnetoelectric multiferroics

**MULTIFERROICS – materials with coexisting  
magnetism and ferroelectricity.**

**Magnetic order**        **Electric polarization**  
**magnetoelectric interaction**

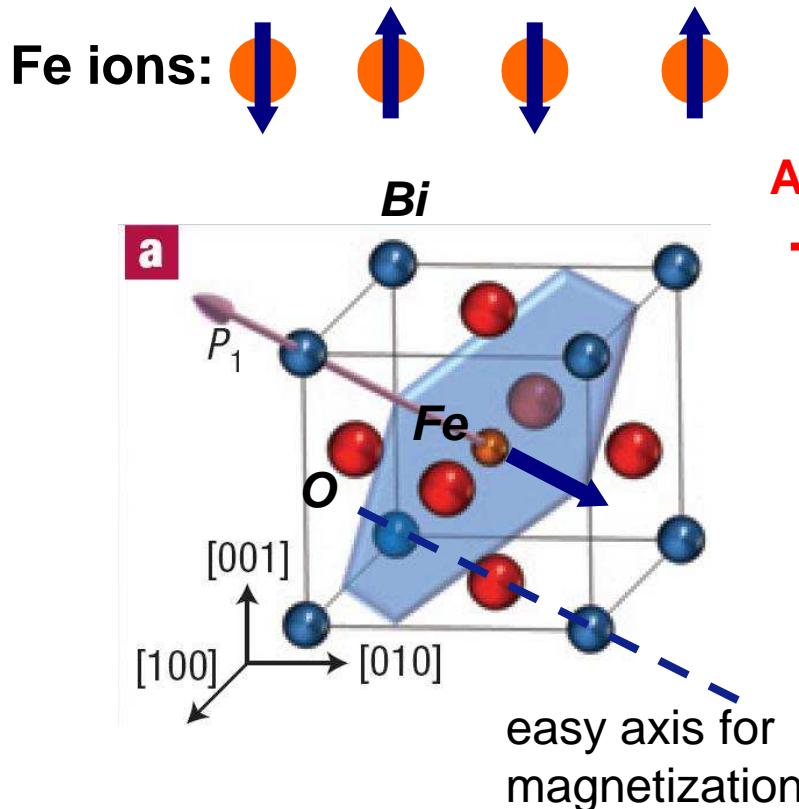
## Possible applications for magnetoelectric materials

- Magnetoelectric memory
- Magnetically switched electro-optic device
- Electric-field-modulated visible Faraday rotator
- Magnetically (electrically)-modulated piezoelectric (piezomagnetic) devices, etc.

V. E. Wood, A. F. Austin, Int. J. Magnetism 5, 303-315 (1974)

# Magnetoelectric effect

$\text{BiFeO}_3$  : ferroelectric antiferromagnet

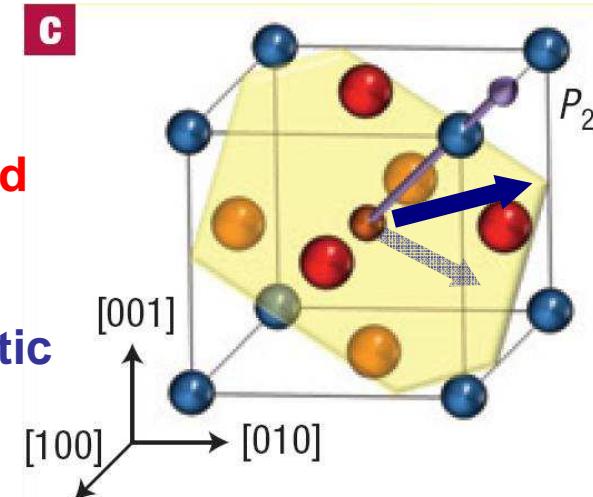


Y.-H. Chu et al.,  
Nat. Materials 7 478 (2008)

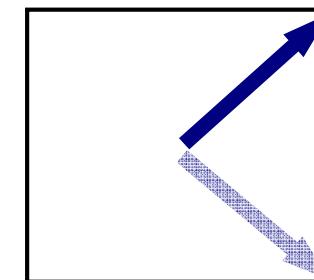
Apply electric field



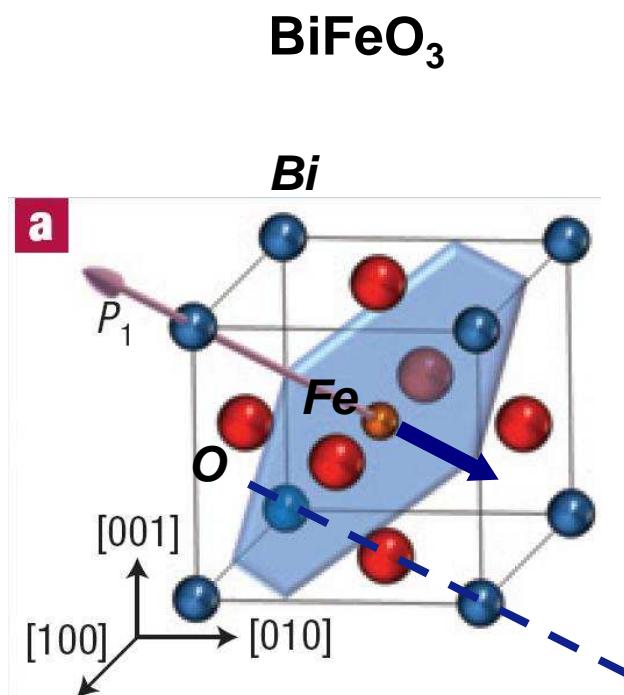
Turn the magnetic moments!



Top view

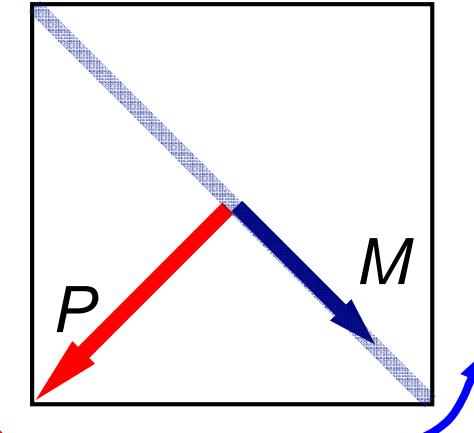


# Dynamic magnetoelectric effect



Rock the polarization  
excite phonons

Top view



Magnetic  
moments  
respond!

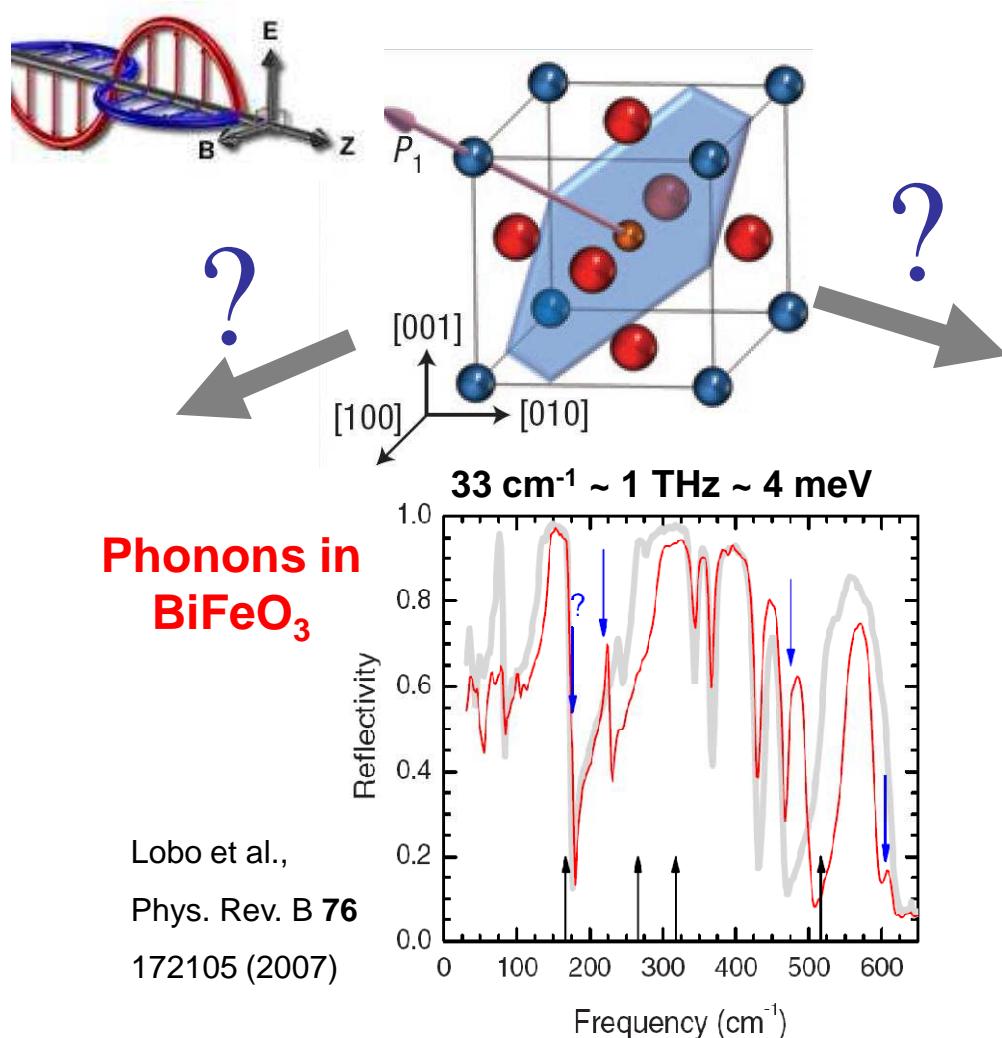
Mixing of magnetic and lattice vibrations –  
**DYNAMIC MAGNETOELECTRIC EFFECT**

Y.-H. Chu et al.,

Nat. Materials 7 478 (2008)

# Magnetic and lattice motion interacts with light

Electromagnetic wave incident on the crystal



Phonons ~ oscillating electric dipole

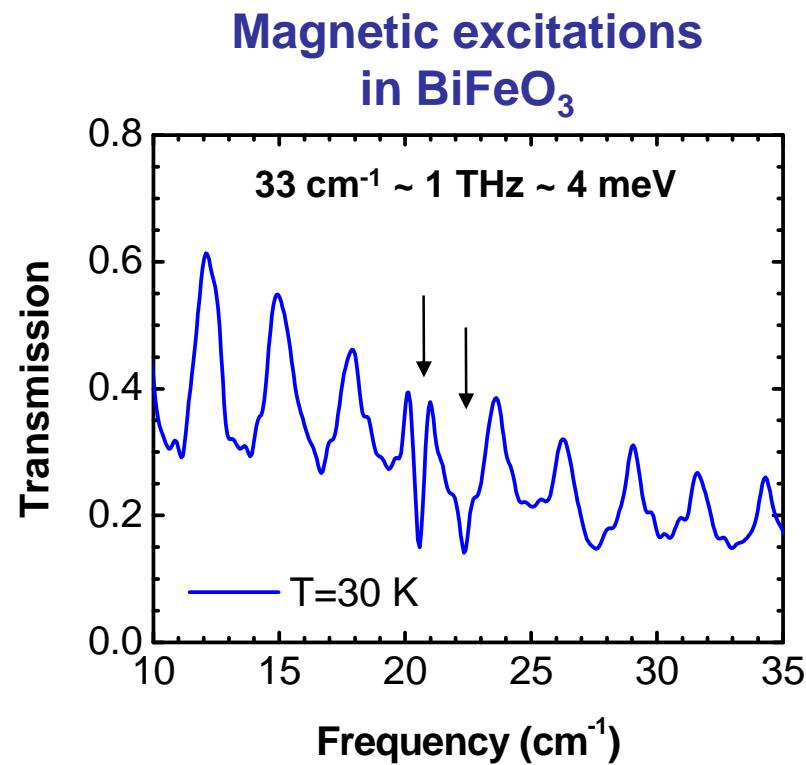
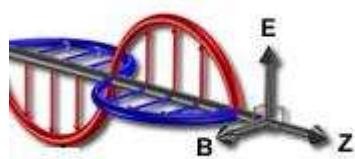
→ Coupling to the electric field of the light wave

→ Resonance in the dielectric function, a.k.a. optical conductivity:

$$\epsilon(\omega) \leftrightarrow \sigma(\omega)$$

# Magnetic and lattice motion interacts with light

Electromagnetic wave incident on the crystal



Magnons ~ oscillating magnetic dipole

→ Coupling to the magnetic field of the light wave

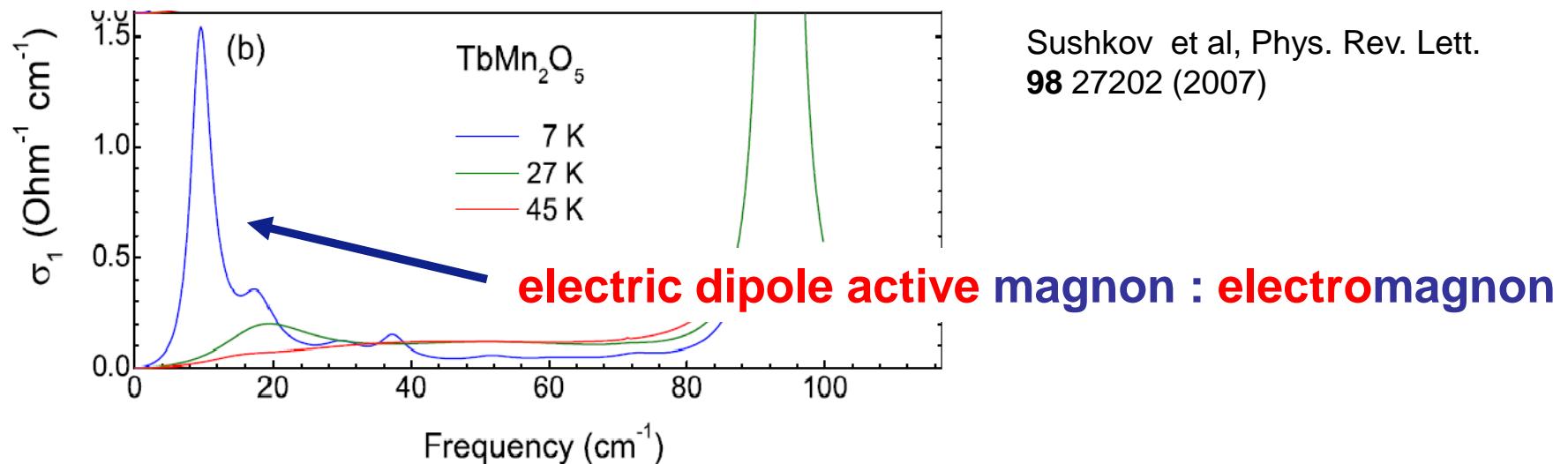
→ Resonance in the magnetic susceptibility:

$$\chi(\omega) \leftrightarrow \mu(\omega)$$

D. Talbayev et al.,  
unpublished

# Mix it up: electromagnons

**TbMn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> : antiferromagnet and ferroelectric**



**Similar observations : multiferroics TbMnO<sub>3</sub>, Eu<sub>0.75</sub>Y<sub>0.25</sub>MnO<sub>3</sub>**

Pimenov et al., Nature Phys. **2** 97 (2006)

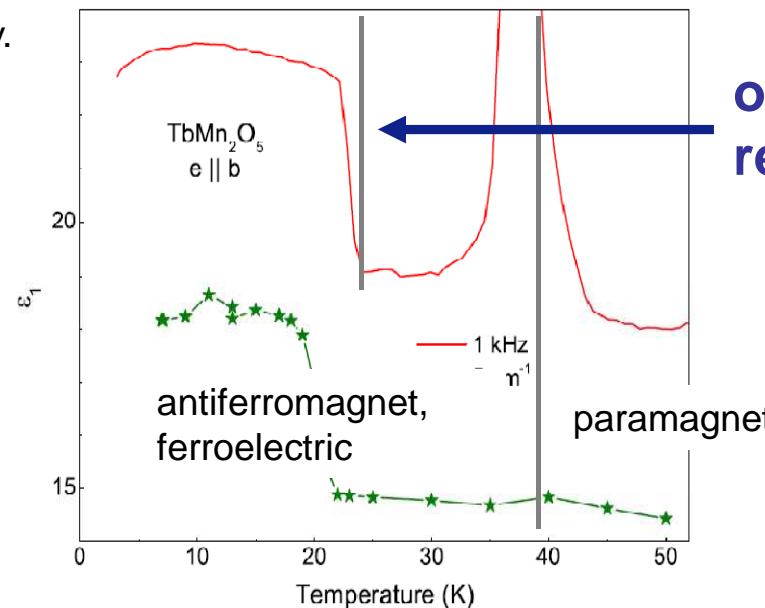
Valdes Aguilar et al., Phys. Rev. B **76** 060404R (2007)

Pimenov et al., Phys. Rev. B **77** 014438 (2008)

# Electromagnons determine magnetoelectric functionality

## TbMn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> : antiferromagnet and ferroelectric

Sushkov et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. **98** 27202 (2007)



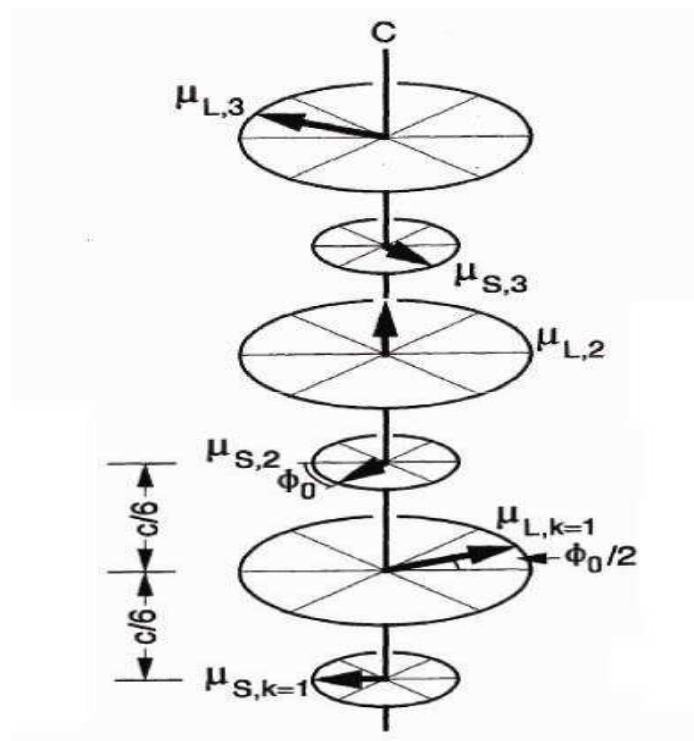
onset of electromagnon response

- (i) Electromagnon contributes to static dielectric constant:
- (ii) Electromagnon properties depend on the microscopic magnetoelectric coupling

$$\epsilon_1(0) = 1 + 8 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\sigma_1(\omega)}{\omega^2} d\omega$$

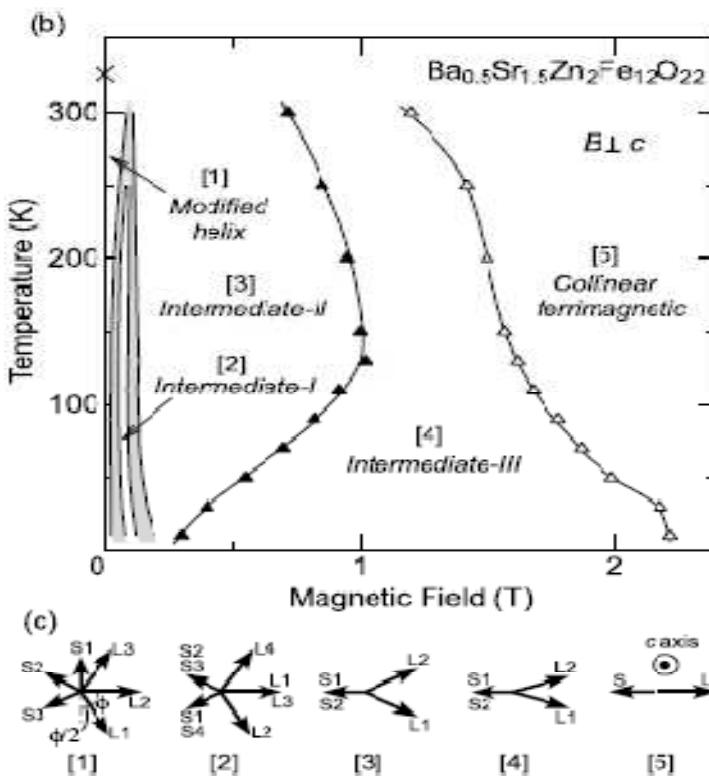
# Dynamic magnetoelectric effect in hexagonal $\text{Ba}_{0.6}\text{Sr}_{1.4}\text{Zn}_2\text{Fe}_{12}\text{O}_{22}$

## Layered magnetic structure



N. Momozawa and Y. Yamaguchi,  
J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. **62** 12992 (1993)

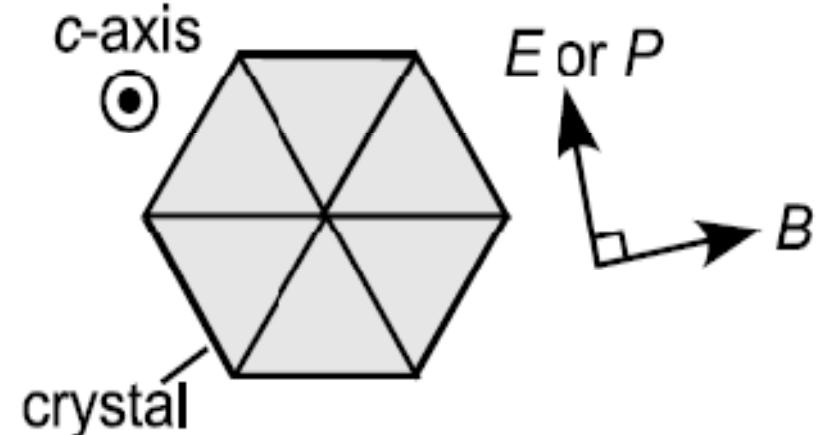
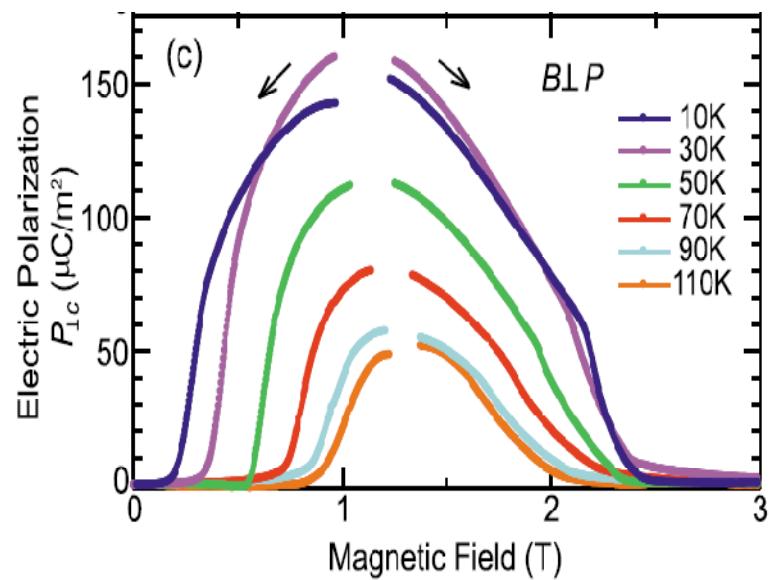
## Several magnetic phases



T. Kimura, G. Lawes, and A.P. Ramirez,  
PRL **94** 137201 (2005)

# Dynamic magnetoelectric effect in hexagonal $\text{Ba}_{0.6}\text{Sr}_{1.4}\text{Zn}_2\text{Fe}_{12}\text{O}_{22}$

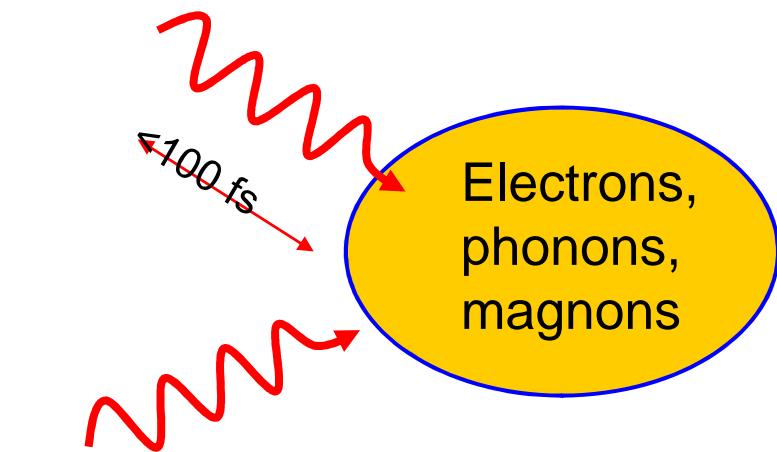
Control of electric polarization by magnetic field:



T. Kimura, G. Lawes, and A.P. Ramirez, PRL 94 137201 (2005)

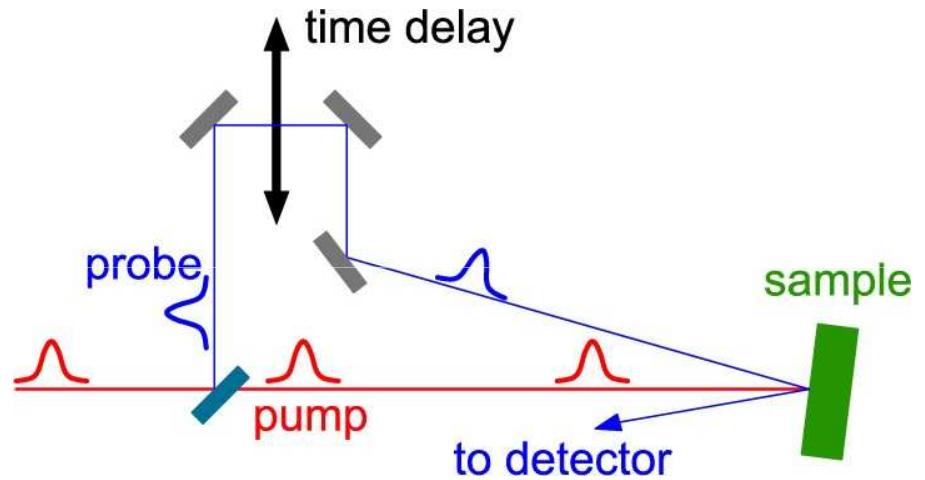
# Time-domain studies of elementary excitations

**visible optical pulse excitation,  
a.k.a. pump**



**optical pulse  
interrogation (probe)  
of material's response**

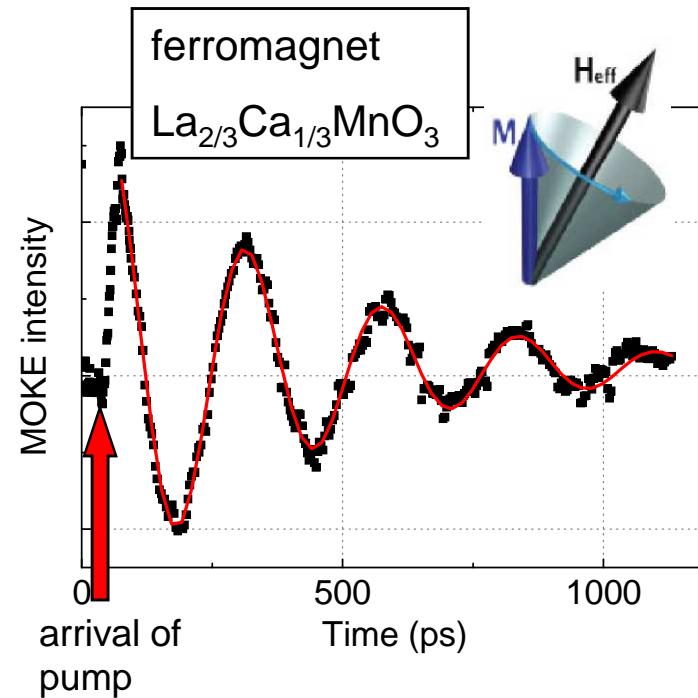
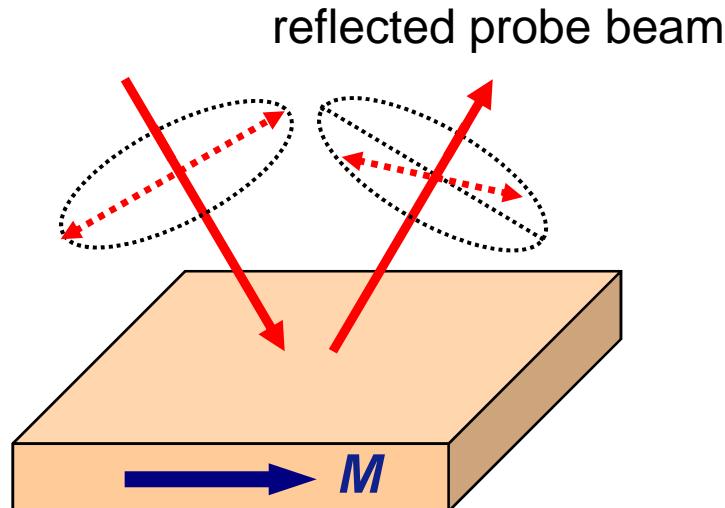
**Pump and probe wavelength:  
800 nm ( $\sim 1.5 \text{ eV}$ )**



**Dynamics of photo-excited quasiparticles often exposes properties not detected by conventional probes – transport, magnetization, or optical conductivity**

# Time-domain detection of magnetic motion

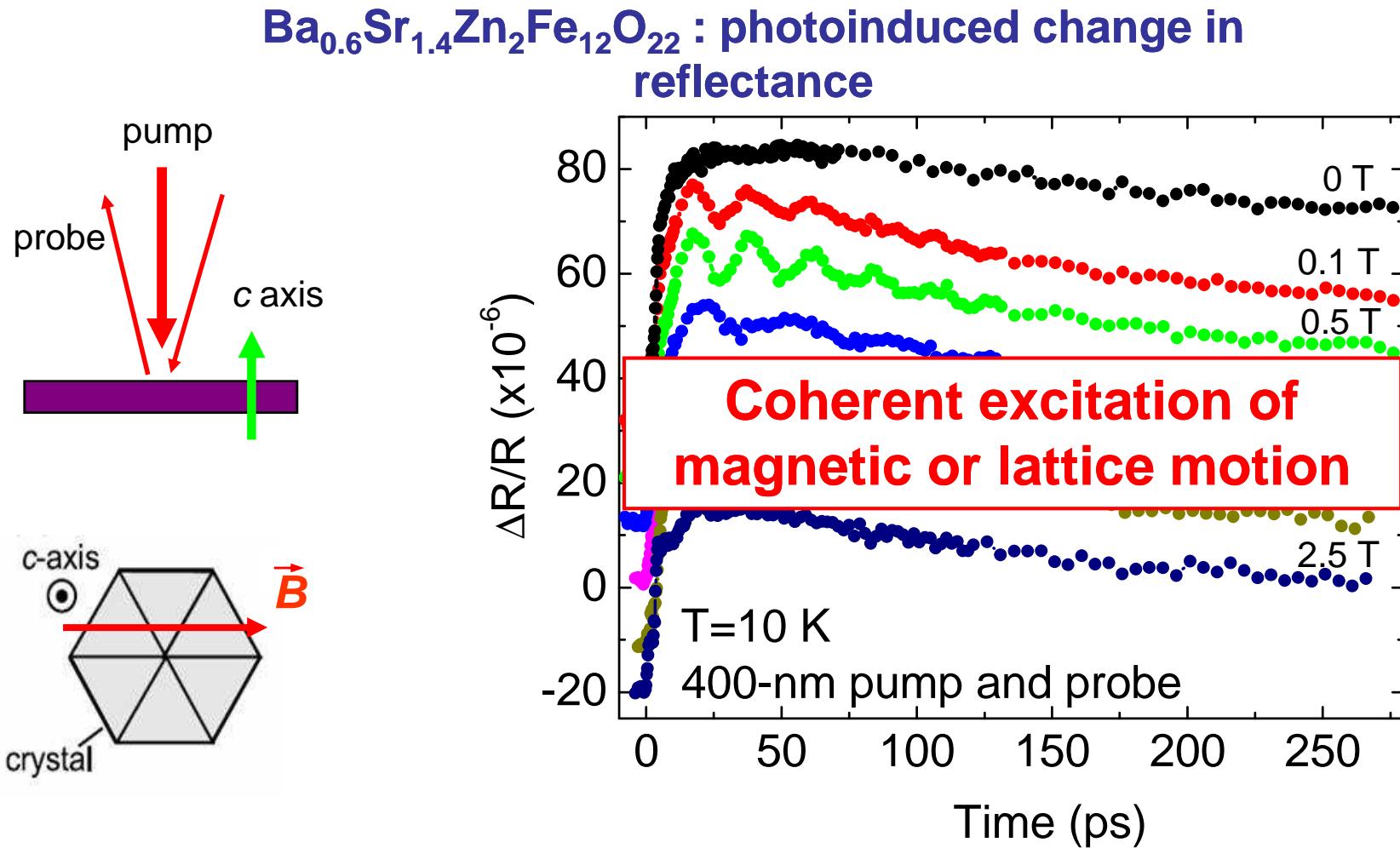
**Magneto-optical Kerr effect (MOKE) – rotation of polarization of light upon reflection by a magnetized medium**



$$\dot{\mathcal{M}} = -\gamma \mathcal{M} \times H_{\text{eff}} \quad H_{\text{eff}} = H_0 + H_{\text{anisotropy}} + H_{\text{demag}}$$

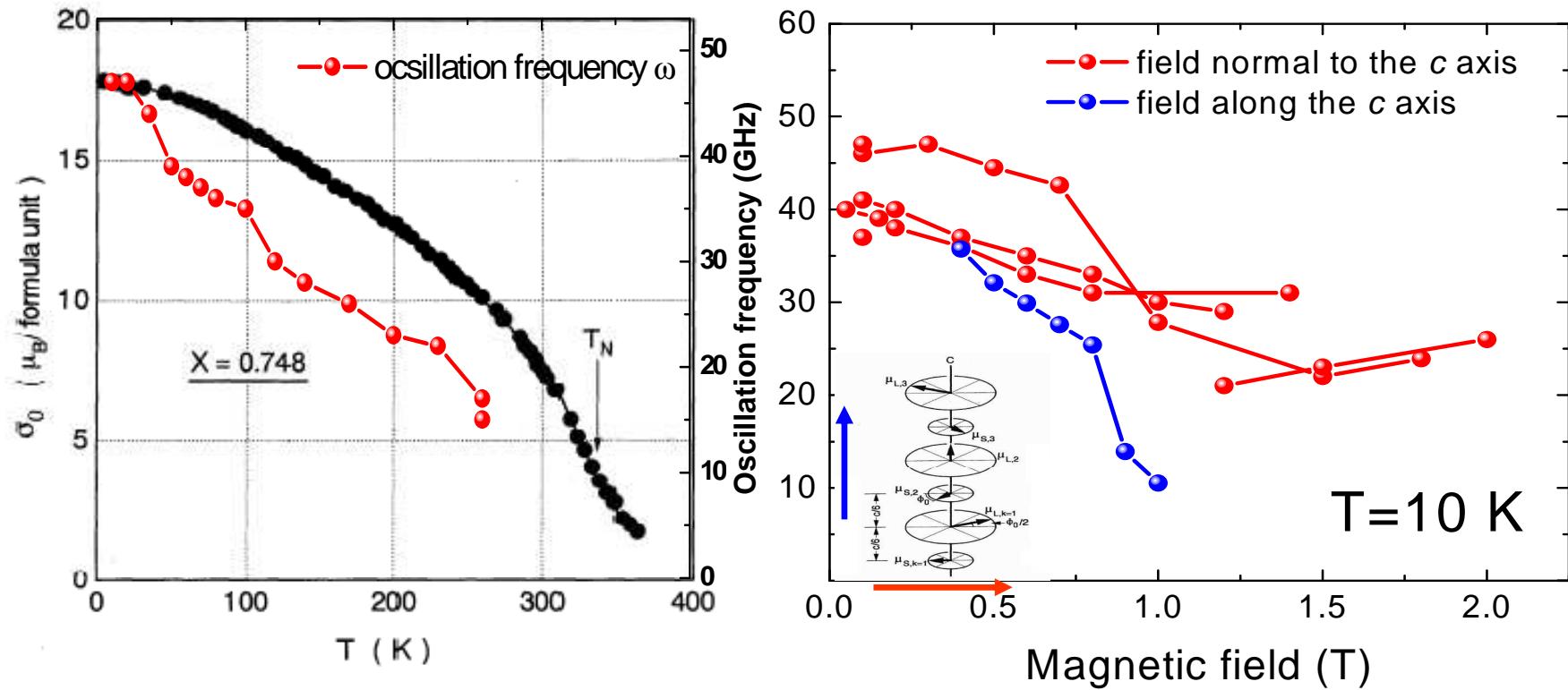
D. Talbayev et al, Phys. Rev. B **73** 14417 (2006); Appl. Phys. Lett. **86** 182501 (2005)

# Time-resolved reflectance : coherent response



D. Talbayev et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **101** 097603 (2008)

# Magnetic or lattice?

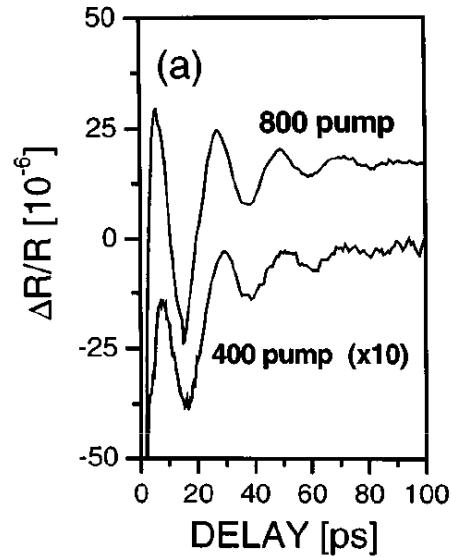


N. Momozawa and Y. Yamaguchi, J. Phys. Soc. Jpn.  
62 12992 (1993)

**Strong evidence in support of magnetic origin of the excitation  
– electron spin resonance, i.e.,  $k=0$  magnon**

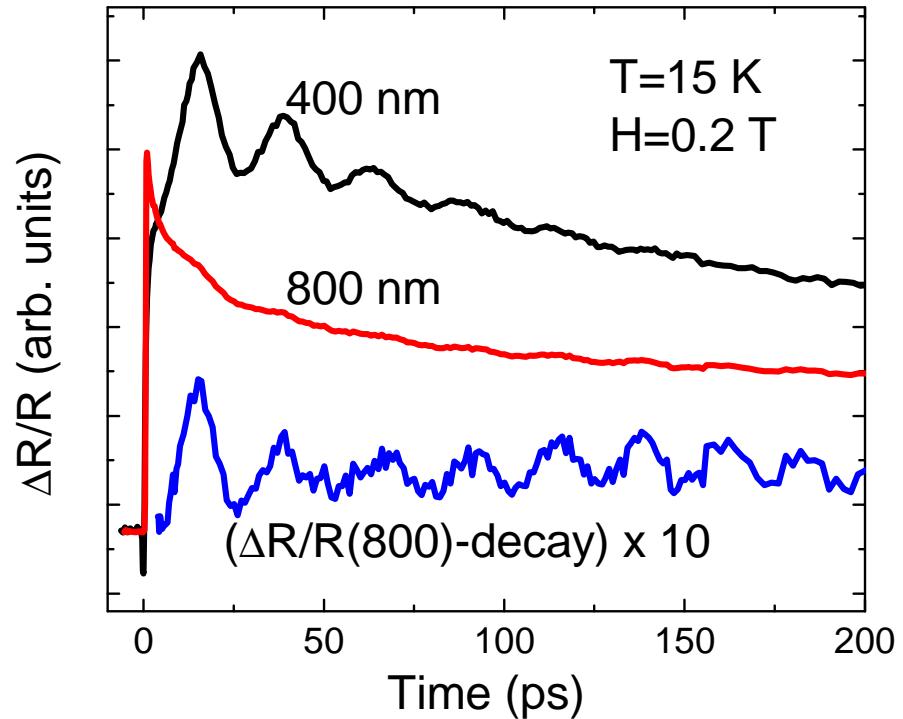
D. Talbayev et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **101** 097603 (2008)

# More evidence against the lattice



Oscillation frequency:  
 $f_{PHONONS} \propto n / \lambda$

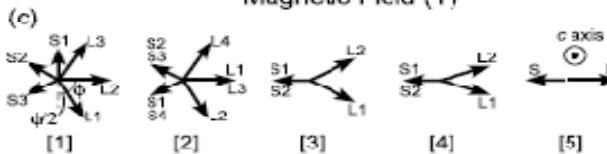
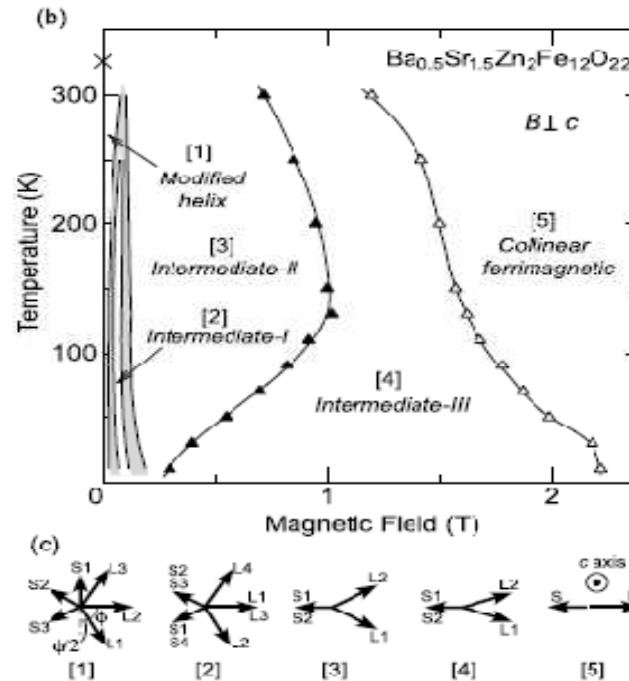
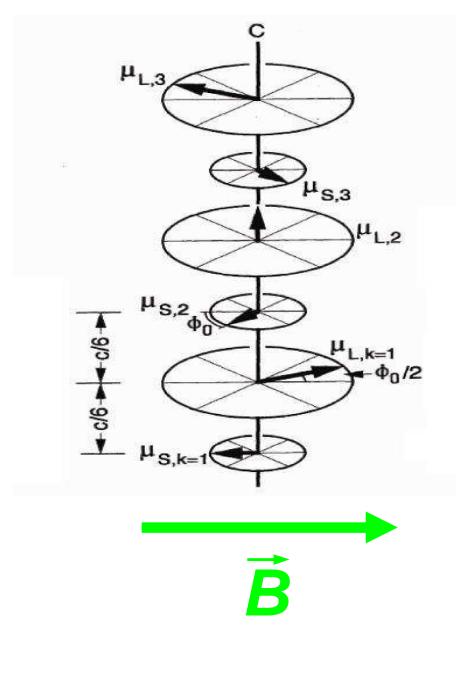
D. Lim et al., Appl. Phys.  
Lett. **83** 4800 (2003)



**Identical oscillation frequency  
at different probe wavelengths**

D. Talbayev et al., Phys. Rev.  
Lett. **101** 097603 (2008)

# Calculation of magnon frequencies



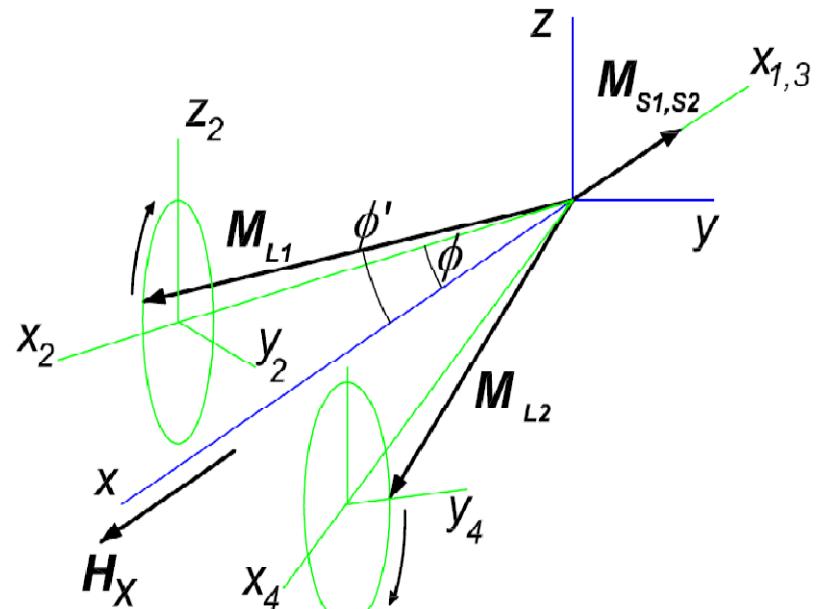
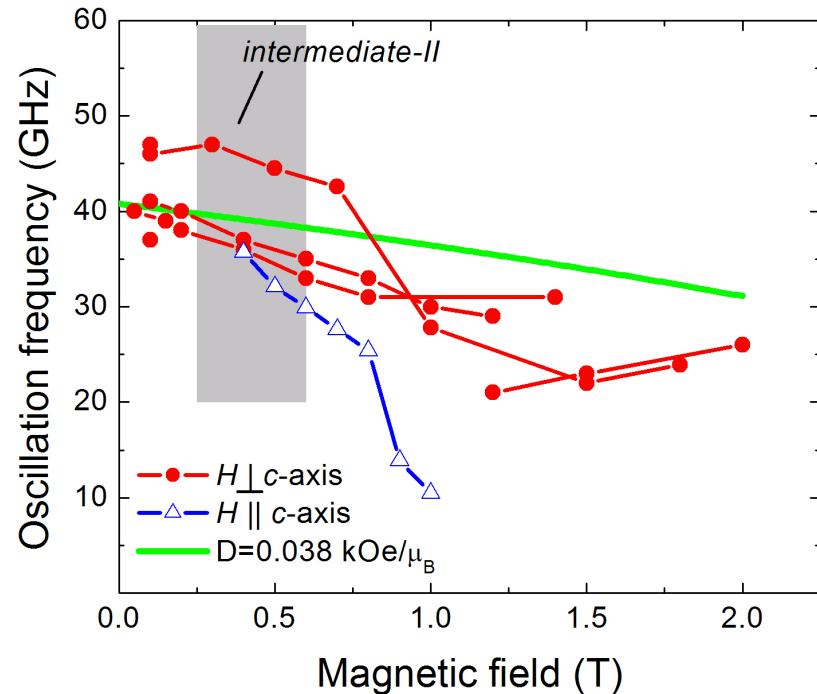
$$H = H_{ex}(M_{Si} \cdot M_{Lj}; M_{L1} \cdot M_{L2}; M_{S1} \cdot M_{S2}) + D \sum (M_{Liz}^2 + M_{Siz}^2)$$

$D$  – the only free parameter

T. Kimura, G. Lawes, and A.P. Ramirez, PRL **94** 137201 (2005)

N. Momozawa and Y. Yamaguchi, J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. **62** 12992 (1993)

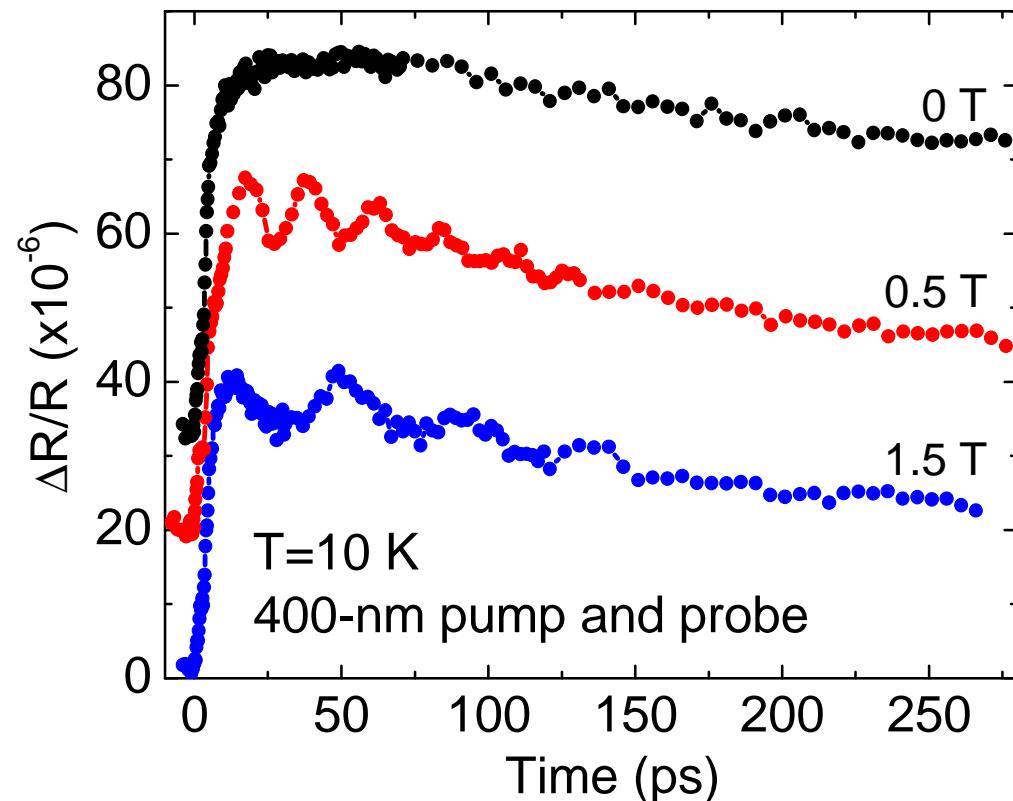
# Calculation of magnon frequencies



D. Talbayev et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **101** 097603 (2008)

# Dynamic magnetoelectric effect

$\text{Ba}_{0.6}\text{Sr}_{1.4}\text{Zn}_2\text{Fe}_{12}\text{O}_{22}$



Modulation of reflectance

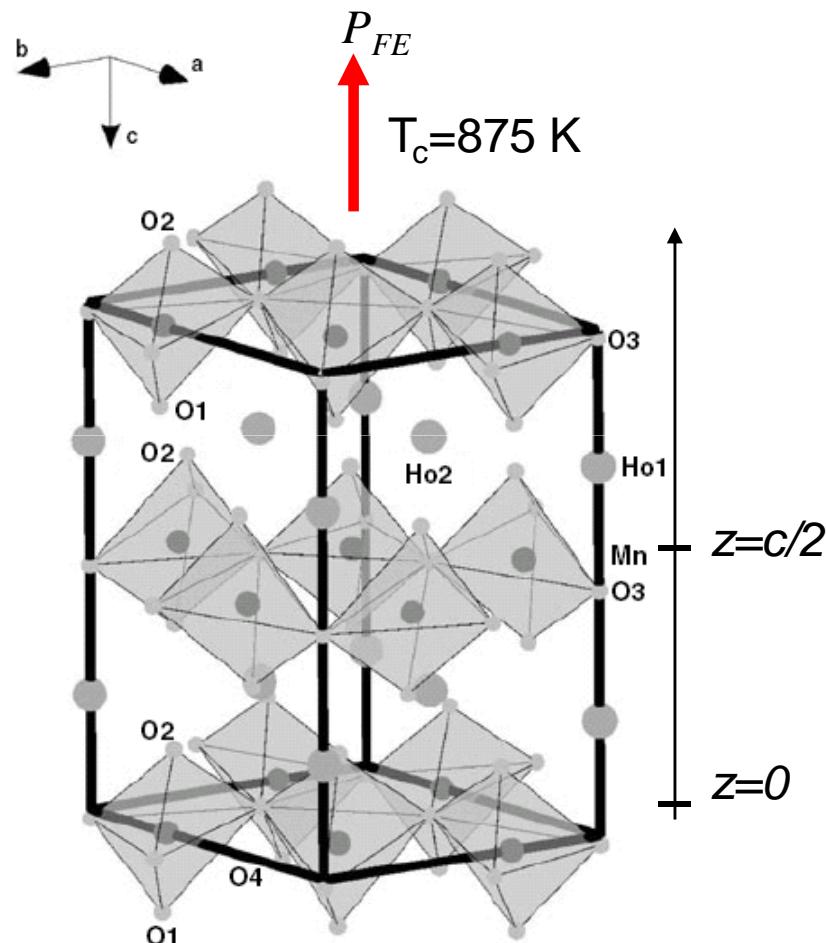
$$R = \left| \frac{n-1}{n+1} \right|^2$$
$$n = \sqrt{\epsilon}$$

Modulation of  $n$  and  $\epsilon$   
by magnon motion:  
**dynamic  
magnetoelectric effect**

Optical detection of magnetic state using reflection –  
implications for data storage and spintronics.

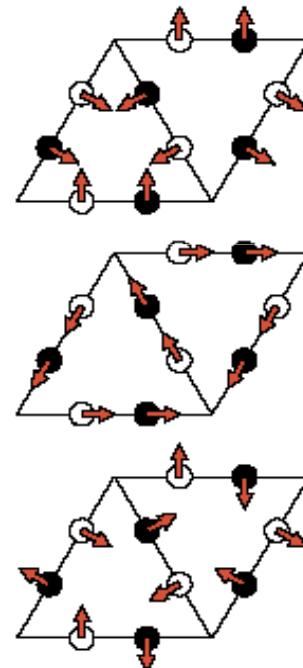
# Magnetoelectricity in hexagonal HoMnO<sub>3</sub>

## Ferroelectric



## Triangular antiferromagnet, $T_N=72$ K

Mn ions: ●  $z=c/2$  ○  $z=0$



$40 \text{ K} < T < 72 \text{ K}$   
 $T_R$   $T_N$

$5 \text{ K} < T < 40 \text{ K}$   
 $T_{Ho}$   $T_R$

$T < 5 \text{ K}$   
 $T_{Ho}$

Vajk et al., PRL 94 87601 (2005)

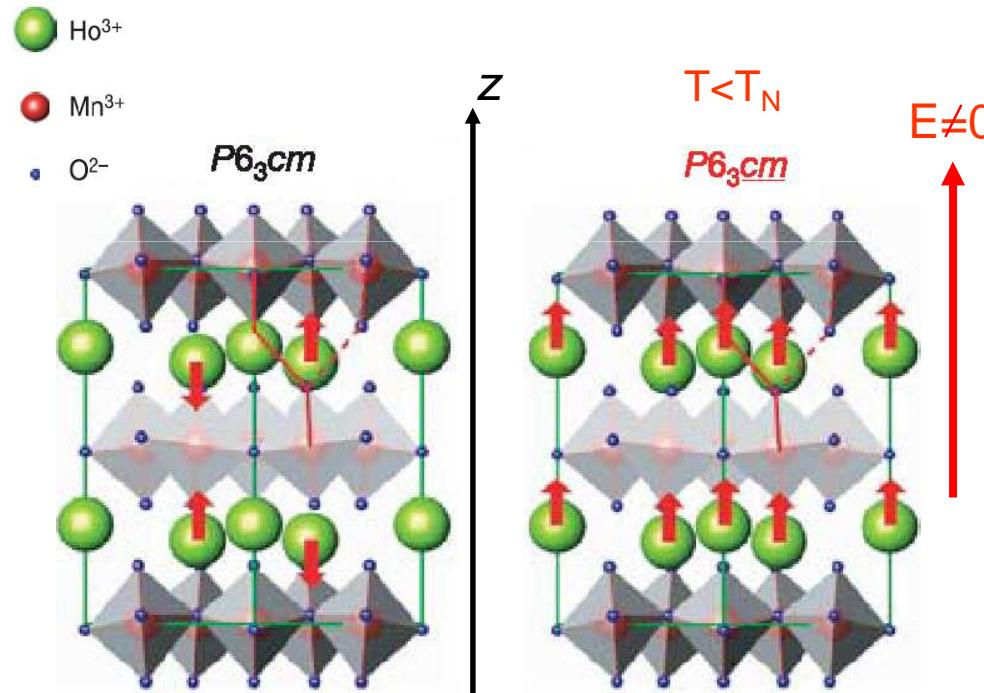
Litvinchuk et al., JPCM 16 809 (2004)

# Magnetoelectricity in hexagonal HoMnO<sub>3</sub>

Magnetism of Ho<sup>3+</sup>  
(S=2, L=6, J=8) ions:

Two sites: Ho(1) C<sub>3v</sub>

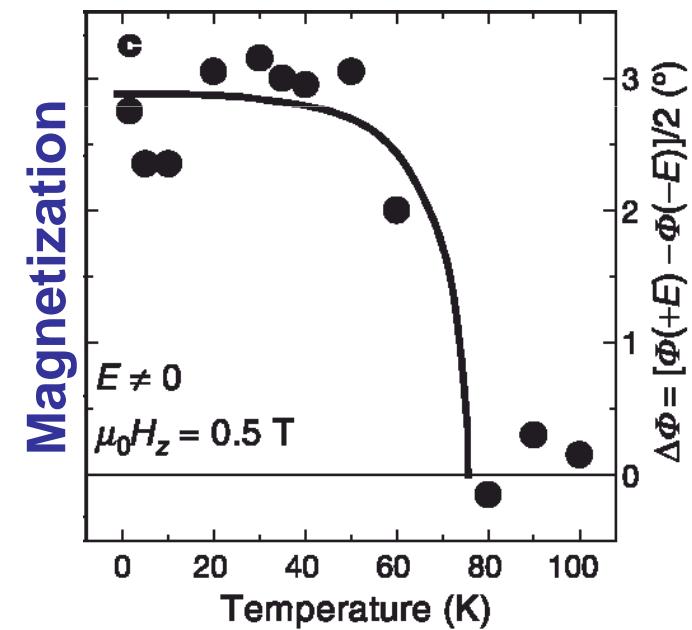
Ho(2) C<sub>3</sub> – ordered for T < T<sub>Ho</sub> = 5 K



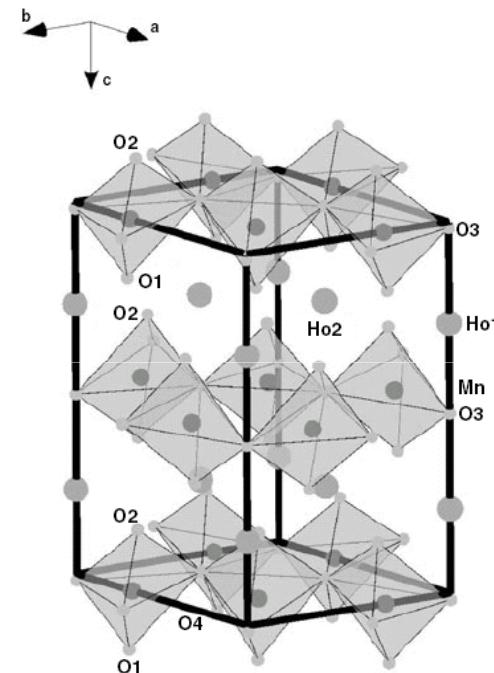
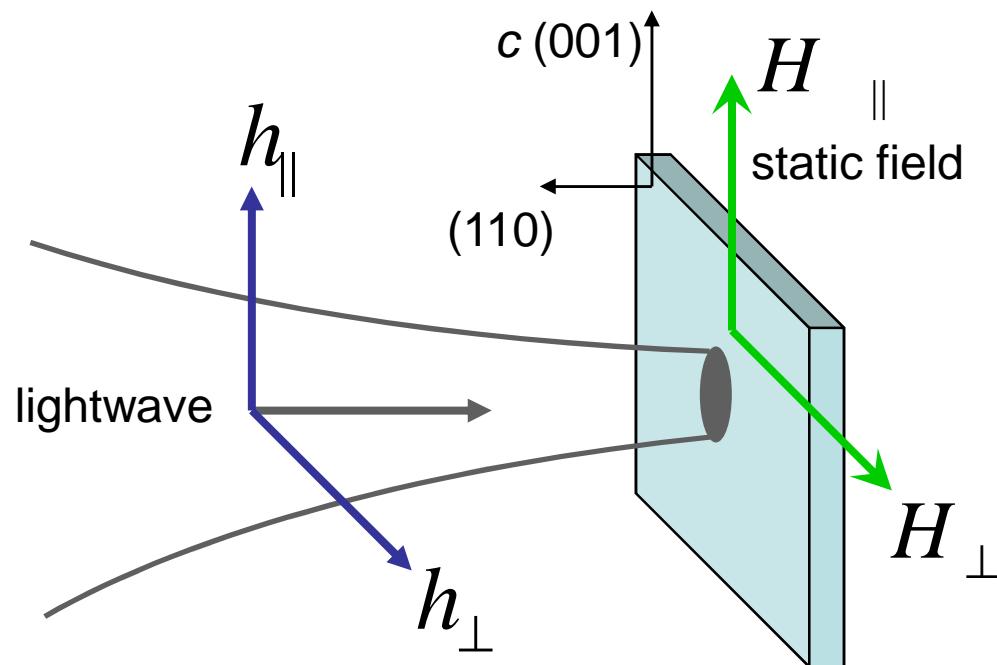
Lottermoser et al., Nature 430 541 (2004)

Applied electric field induces magnetization of Ho ions:

$$H_{\text{int}} = \sum S^{\text{Ho}} A S^{\text{Mn}}$$

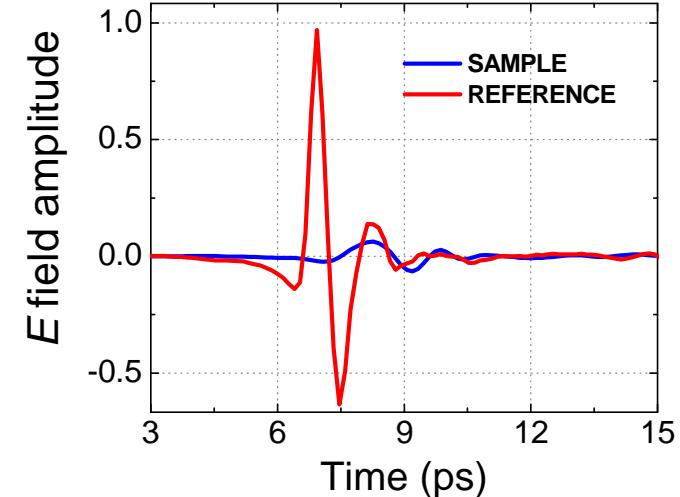
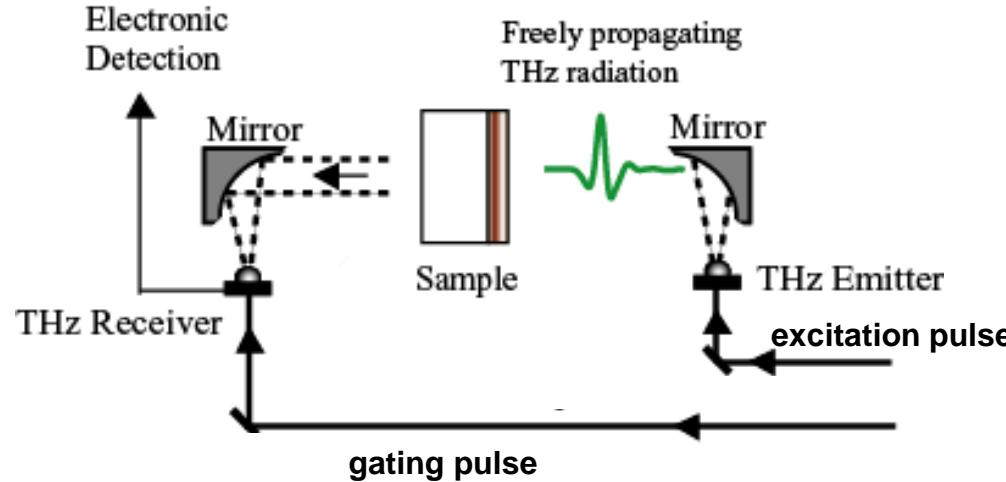


# Far-infrared study of magnetic excitations



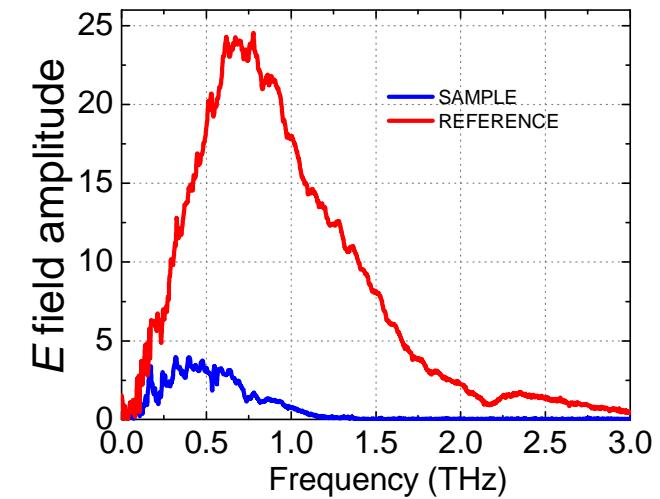
# Far-infrared study of magnetic excitations

$$1 \text{ THz} \rightarrow 300 \mu\text{m} \rightarrow 0.004 \text{ eV} \rightarrow 33\text{cm}^{-1} \rightarrow 47 \text{ K}$$

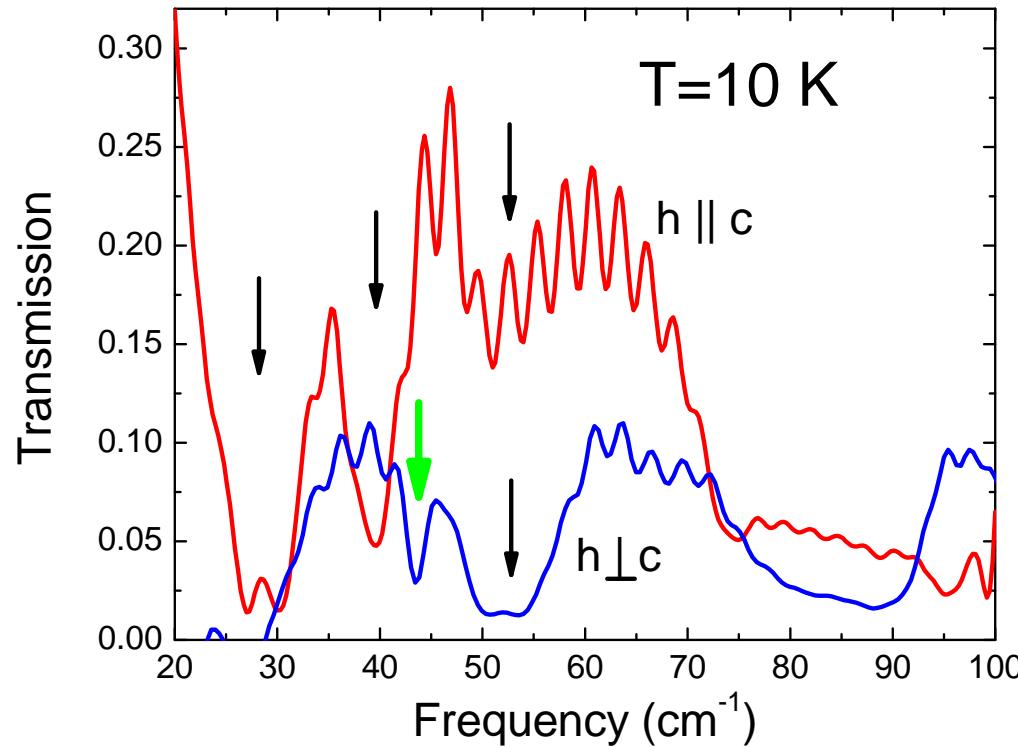
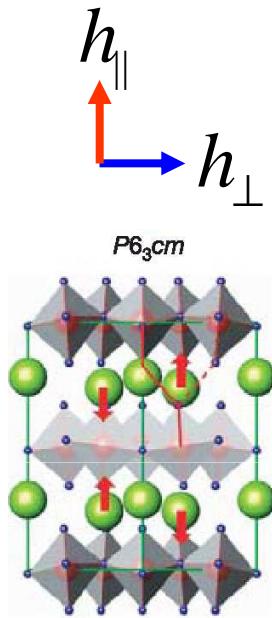


- Broadband
- Measurement of electric field  $E$

- (1) Photoconductive antennas
- (2) Electro-optic crystals



# Magnetic excitations in HoMnO<sub>3</sub>



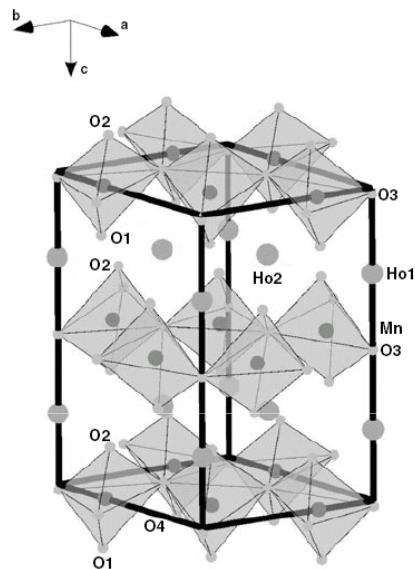
→ Crystal field excitations of Ho ions

→ Antiferromagnetic resonance (AFMR) of Mn ions

Neutron scattering: Vajk et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **94** 87601 (2005)

# Crystal field splitting of $\text{Ho}^{3+}$ ground state

Two  $\text{Ho}^{3+}$  ( $S=2$ ,  $L=6$ ,  $J=8$ ) sites with  $C_3$  and  $C_{3v}$  point symmetries



$$m = -8..+8$$

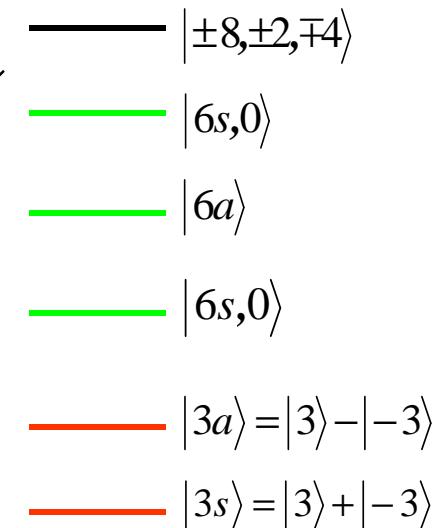
$$|\pm 8\rangle$$

$$|\pm 7\rangle$$

$$|\pm 1\rangle$$

$$|0\rangle$$

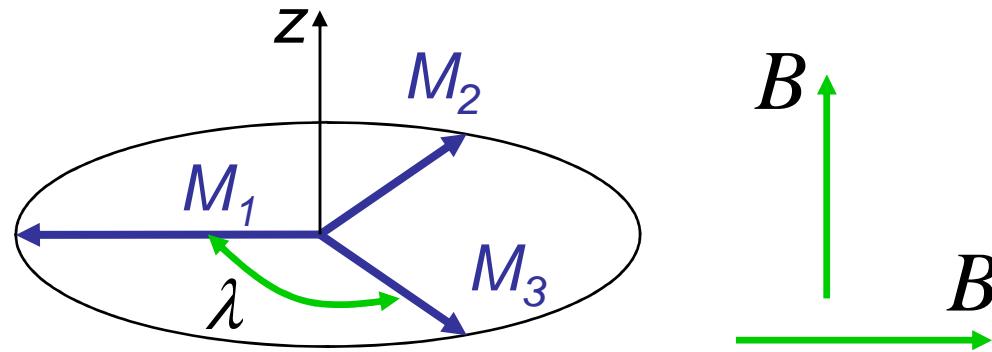
$$J=8$$



The electrostatic environment of Ho ions  
determines the crystal field splitting

Abragam and Bleaney, Electron paramagnetic resonance of  
transition ions, Clarendon press, 1970

# Magnetic resonance of Mn ions

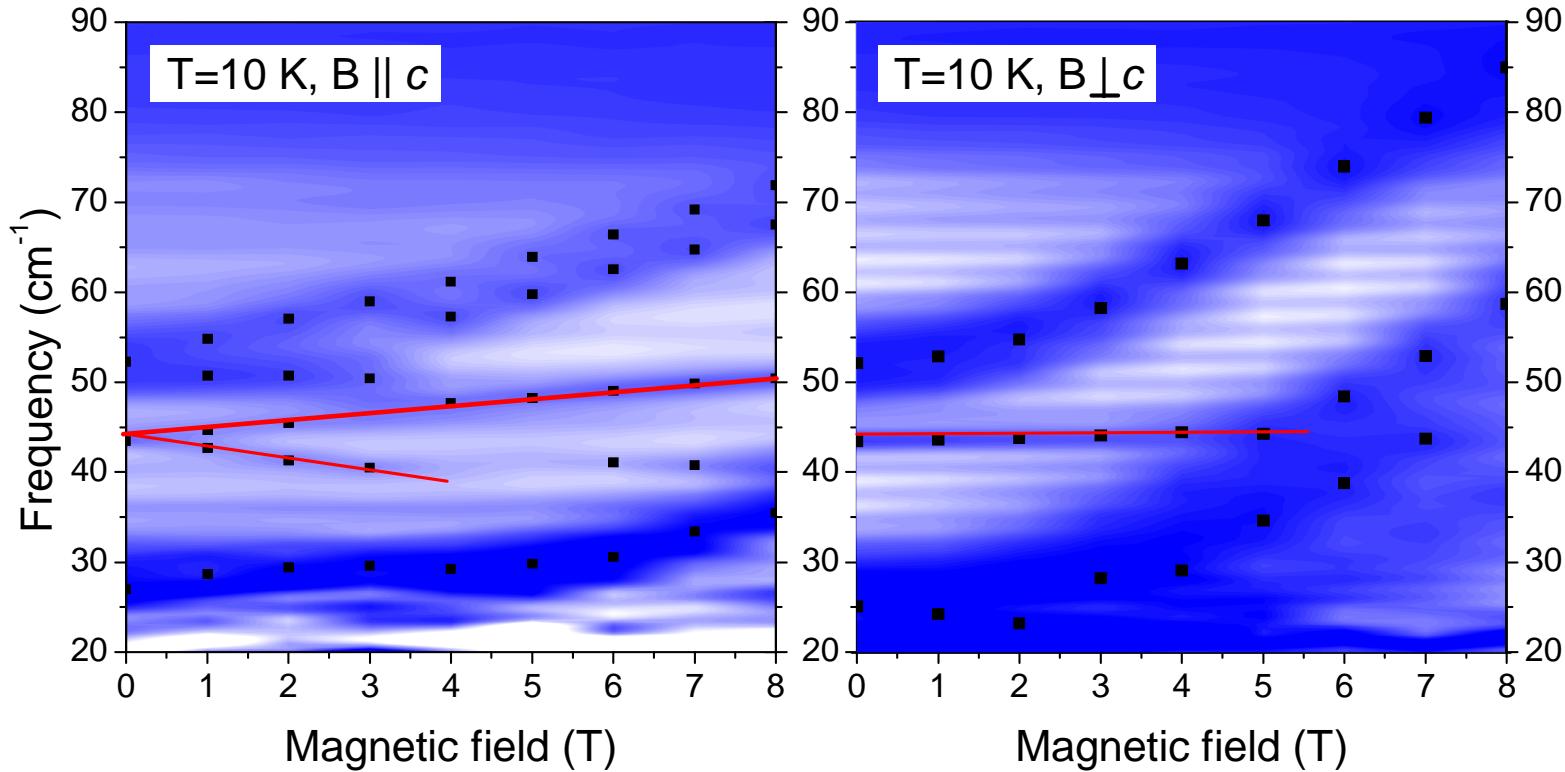


## Classical treatment

$$F = \lambda \sum M_i \cdot M_j + K \sum (M_i^z)^2 - B \sum M_i^z$$

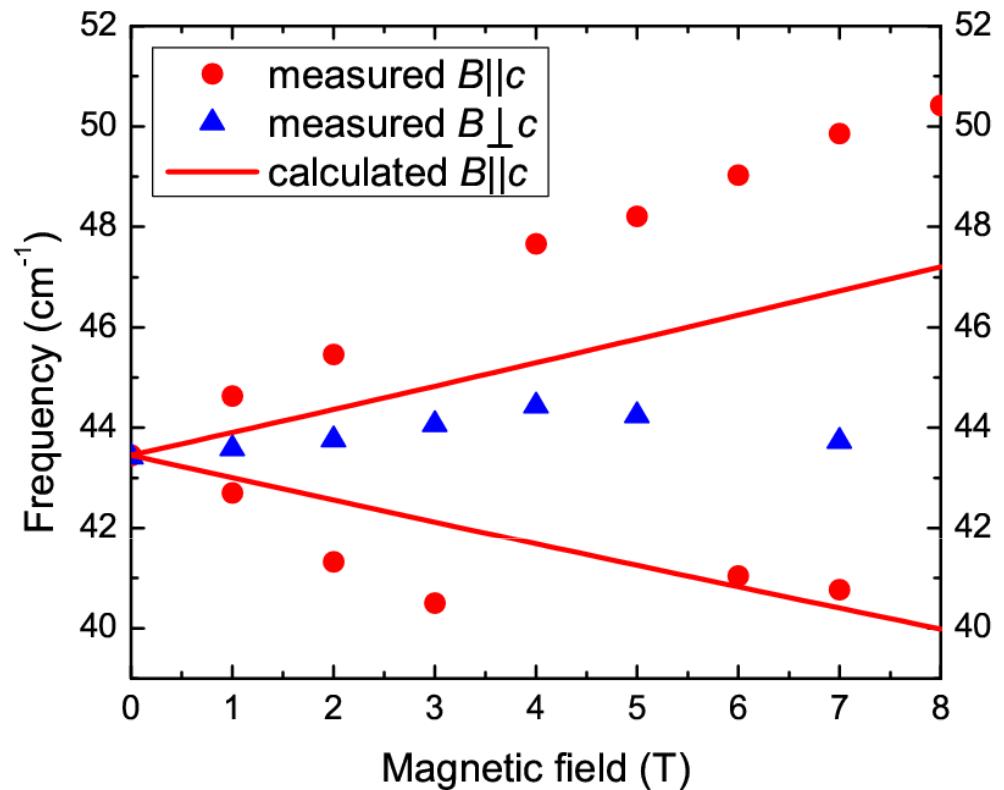
Interaction parameters measured by neutron scattering in zero field by Vajk et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 94 87601 (2005)

# Magnetic resonance of Mn ions



D. Talbayev et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **101** 247601 (2008)

# Magnetic resonance of Mn ions



$$\omega_{\pm}^2 = \frac{ab}{2} - \frac{b(a-b)}{2(a+b)^2} B^2 \pm \frac{bB}{2(a+b)^2} \times \sqrt{B^2 b(b-2a) + 2ab(a+b)^2}$$

$$a = 2H_d, \quad b = 3H_{\text{ex}}$$

$$H_{\text{ex}} = \lambda M_0$$

$$H_d = KM_0$$

Palme et al., Solid State Comm.  
**76** 873 (1990)

Why the discrepancy?

D. Talbayev et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **101** 247601 (2008)

# Exchange coupling between Ho and Mn ions

$\text{YMnO}_3$ : similar material – hexagonal lattice, ferroelectric, triangular antiferromagnet ... but Y ions are not magnetic  
...and the calculation works!!

Penney et al., J. Appl. Phys. **40** 1234 (1969)      Sato et al., Phys. Rev. B **68** 014432 (2003)

Discrepancy in  $\text{HoMnO}_3$  is due to Ho-Mn (HM) exchange interaction:

$$H_{ex}^{HM} = \tilde{J}_{ij} S_{iz}^{Ho} S_{jz}^{Mn} = J_z \frac{\chi B}{g_z \mu_B} S_z^{Mn}$$

$$F_{HM} = \frac{6J_z \chi}{g_z g \mu_B^2} B \sum M_{iz}^{Mn} = \lambda_{HM} B \sum M_{iz}^{Mn} \quad \boxed{\lambda_{HM} = -1}$$

Effective magnetic field acting on Mn ions!

D. Talbayev et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **101** 247601 (2008)

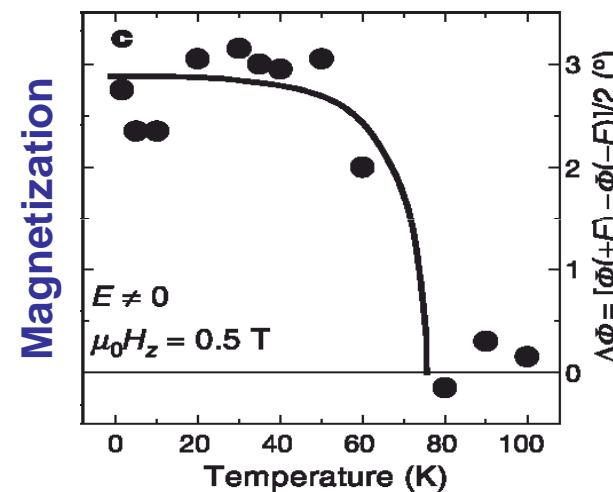
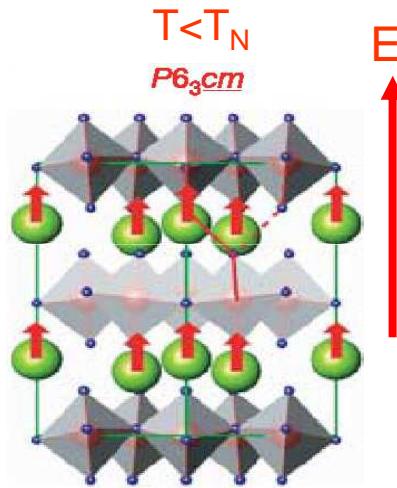
# Magnetoelectricity in HoMnO<sub>3</sub>

Ferromagnetic exchange between Ho and Mn:

$$H_{ex}^{HM} = \tilde{J}_{ij}^z S_{iz}^{Ho} S_{jz}^{Mn} \quad \tilde{J}_{ij}^z < 0$$

Same interaction responsible for the magnetoelectricity:

Lottermoser et al.,  
Nature 430 541 (2004)



Magnons allow the determination of microscopic details of magnetoelectric interaction.

In HoMnO<sub>3</sub>, it is the Ho-Mn magnetic exchange coupling.

# Summary

- (i) Magnetic and lattice excitations (magnons and phonons) play a fundamental role in the quest for understanding and exploiting magnetoelectric materials
- (ii) Detection of magnetic motion and magnetic state via the modulation of reflectance
- (iii) Properties of magnons and phonons help reveal the microscopic details of magnetoelectric interaction

