

Abstract Submitted
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Kinetics of polarization switching in epitaxial BaTiO₃ DAVID TOWNER¹, Northwestern University, BRUCE WESSELS — The kinetics of polarization switching in BaTiO₃ ferroelectric epitaxial thin films were studied using optical second harmonic generation (SHG). Epitaxial films were polydomain having both a and c variants. Upon application of a poling field the SHG signal increased according to the expression $1 - \exp(-At^n)$. The rise is attributed to a time dependent increase in the fraction of aligned domains. The kinetic exponent n was of the order of 0.2 indicating fractal dimensionality. The observed kinetics are consistent with a model developed to describe the electro-optic and dielectric relaxation response of polydomain thin films with a continuous distribution of domain sizes (Hoerman PRB 65 2002).

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