

Abstract Submitted
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Elucidation on the effects of hydrostatic pressure on multiferroic, HoMn₂O₅ WILLIAM RATCLIFF, NIST Center for Neutron Research, C.R. DELA CRUZ, B. LORENZ, Texas Center for Superconductivity, University of Houston, Q. HUANG, NIST Center for Neutron Research, S. PARK, Department of Physics, Rutgers University, S-W. CHEONG, Department of Physics, Rutgers — HoMn₂O₅ has been the subject of intense study as a multiferroic material in which both ferroelectricity and magnetic ordering coexist. Earlier work has shown that the ferroelectric polarization and the dielectric constant are strongly affected by the application of a magnetic field. At low temperatures, as the system's magnetic structure lowers from a commensurate to an incommensurate magnetic phase, ferroelectricity is suppressed and the system becomes paraelectric. It has recently been shown that the applications of hydrostatic pressures of 6 Kbar can stabilize the ferroelectric phase of HoMn₂O₅ at low temperatures. During this talk, we discuss the results of neutron diffraction experiments performed on the BT1 powder diffractometer at the NCNR that correlate this preservation of ferroelectricity with changes in the magnetic structure.

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