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Enhanced ferroelectric polarization by induced Dy spin-order in multiferroic DyMnO₃ O. PROKHNENKO, R. FEYERHERM, E. DUDZIK, S. LANDSGESELL, N. ALIOUANE, Hahn-Meitner-Institut, Glienicker Str. 100, Berlin D-14109, Germany, L.C. CHAPON, ISIS, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Chilton, Didcot, OX11, 0QX United Kingdom, D.N. ARGYRIOU¹, Hahn-Meitner-Institut, Glienicker Str. 100, Berlin D-14109, Germany — Neutron powder diffraction and single crystal x-ray resonant magnetic scattering measurements suggest that Dy plays an active role in enhancing the ferroelectric polarization in multiferroic DyMnO₃ above $T_N^{\rm Dy}=6.5$ K. We observe the evolution of an incommensurate ordering of Dy moments with the same periodicity as the Mn spiral ordering. It closely tracks the evolution of the ferroelectric polarization. Below $T_N^{\rm Dy}$, where Dy spins order commensurately, the polarization decreases to values similar for those of TbMnO₃. The higher P_s found just above $T_N^{\rm Dy}$ arises from the contribution of Dy-spins so as to effectively increase the amplitude of the Mn spin-spiral.

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