

Abstract Submitted
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Ferroelastic switching in a layered-perovskite thin film.¹ CHUANSHOU WANG, Department of Physics, Beijing Normal University, RAMAMOORTHY RAMESH, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of California, JINXING ZHANG, Department of Physics, Beijing Normal University — A controllable ferroelastic switching in ferroelectric/multiferroic oxides is highly desirable due to the non-volatile strain and possible coupling between lattice and other order parameter in heterostructures. However, a substrate clamping usually inhibits their elastic deformation in thin films without micro/nano-patterned structure so that the integration of the non-volatile strain with thin film devices is challenging. Here, we report that reversible in-plane elastic switching with a non-volatile strain of approximately 0.4% can be achieved in layered-perovskite Bi₂WO₆ thin films, where the ferroelectric polarization rotates by 90° within four in-plane preferred orientations. Phase-field simulation indicates that the energy barrier of ferroelastic switching in orthorhombic Bi₂WO₆ film is ten times lower than the one in PbTiO₃ films, revealing the origin of the switching with negligible substrate constraint. The reversible control of the in-plane strain in this layered-perovskite thin film demonstrates a new pathway to integrate mechanical deformation with nanoscale electronic and/or magnetoelectronic applications.

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