

# Positive Thermal Conductivity Change in PZT Thin Films Under Applied Fields via Substrate Clamping Relief

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500 nm



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# Collaborators

## University of Virginia

- *Brian Foley*
- *John Gaskins*
- *Patrick Hopkins*

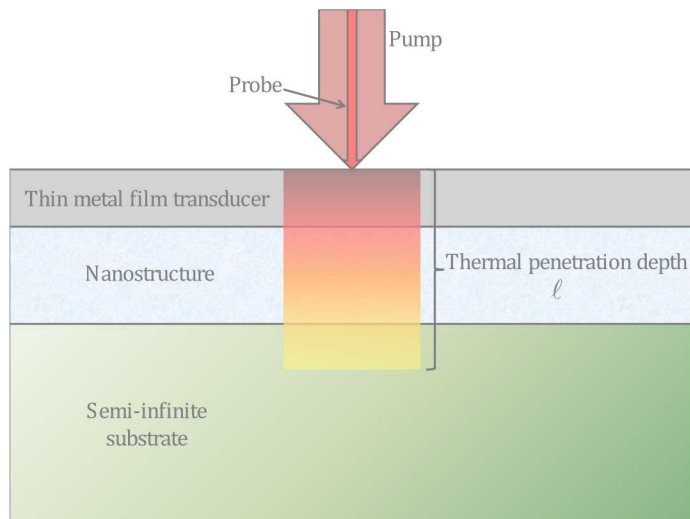
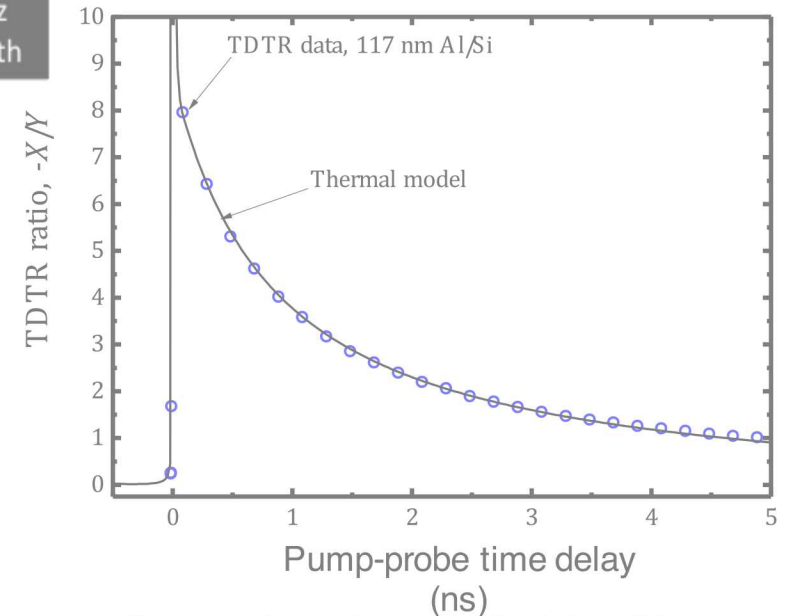
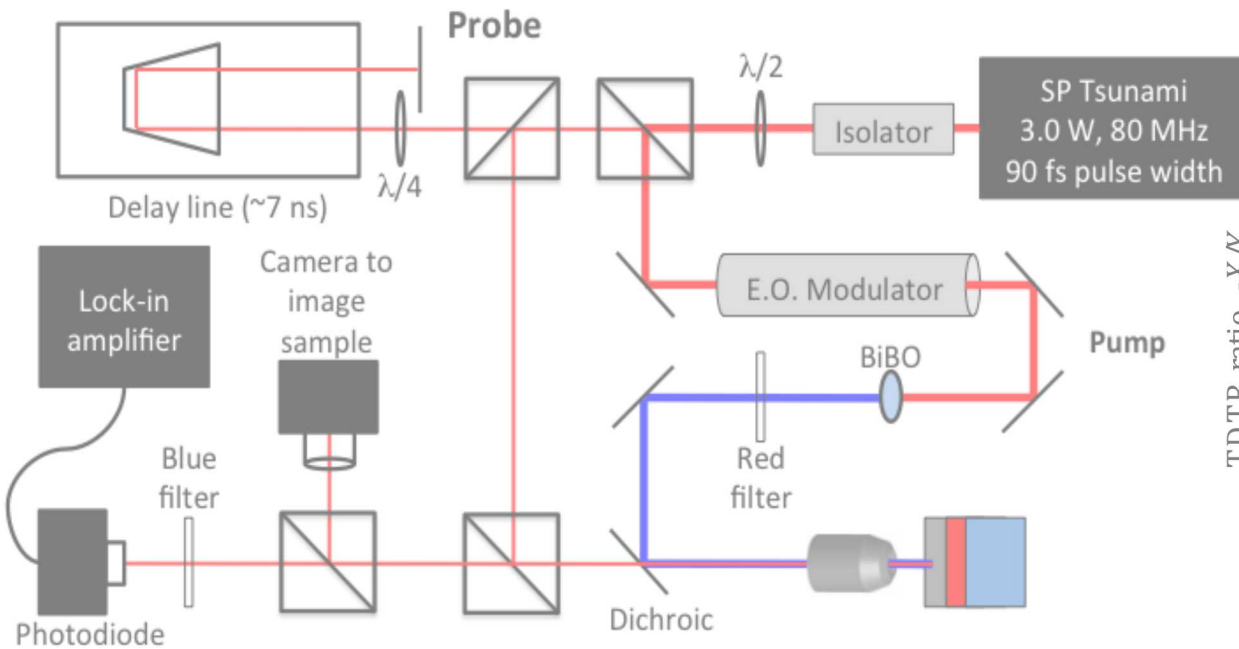
## Penn State University

- *Margeaux Wallace*
- *Susan Troler-McKinstry*

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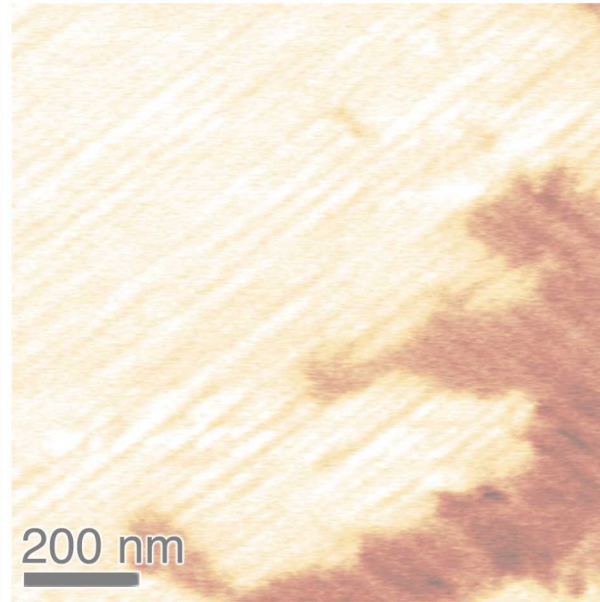
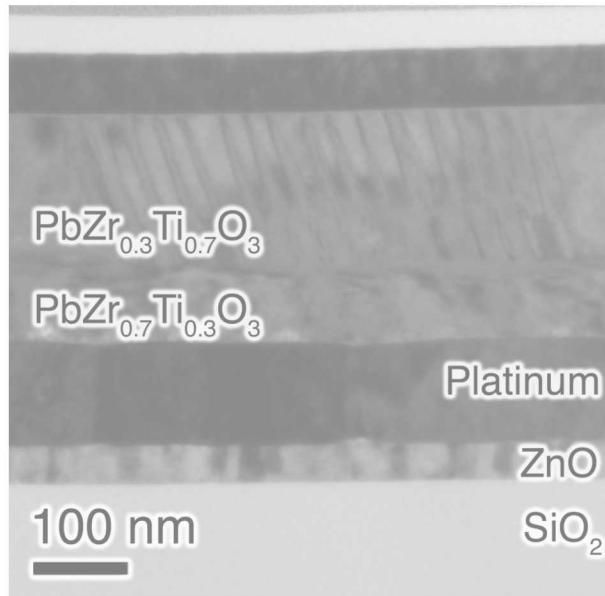
- David Scrymgeour
- Joe Michael
- Bonnie McKenzie
- Douglas Medlin
- Elizabeth Paisley

# Time Domain ThermoReflectance (TDTR)

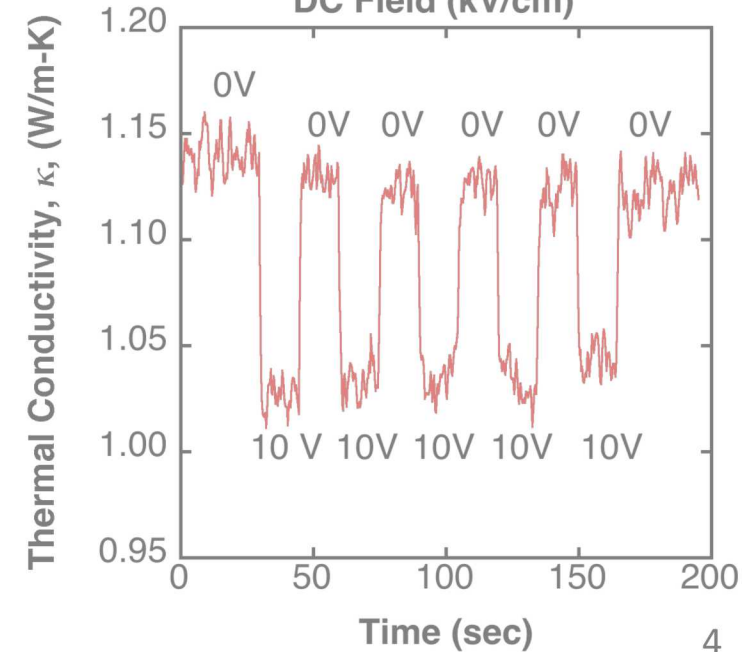
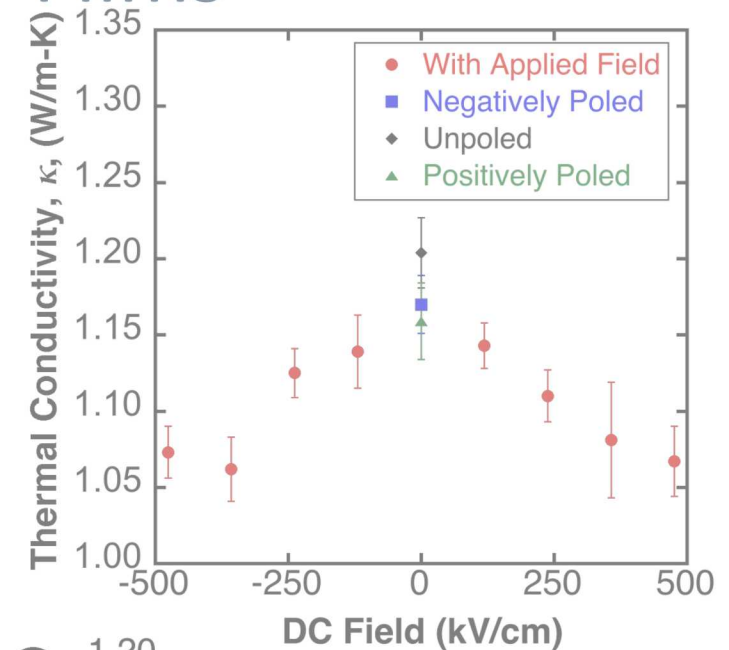


- Can measure thermal conductivity of thin films and substrates ( $\kappa$ ) separately from thermal boundary conductance ( $h_K$ )
- Nanometer spatial resolution ( $\sim 10$ 's of nm)
- Femtosecond to nanosecond temporal resolution
- Noncontact

# Domain Structure in PZT Bilayer Films



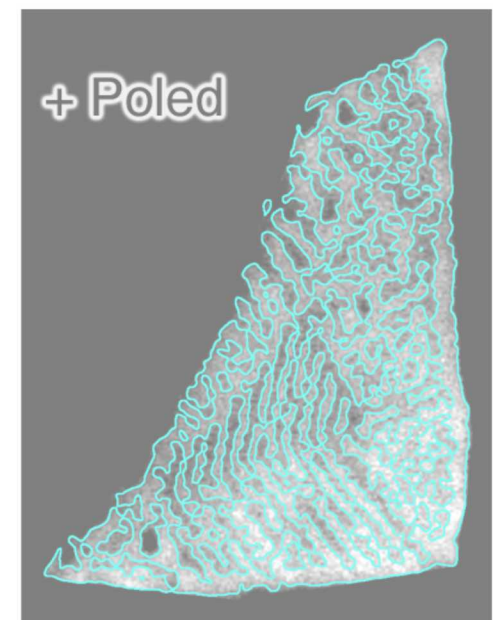
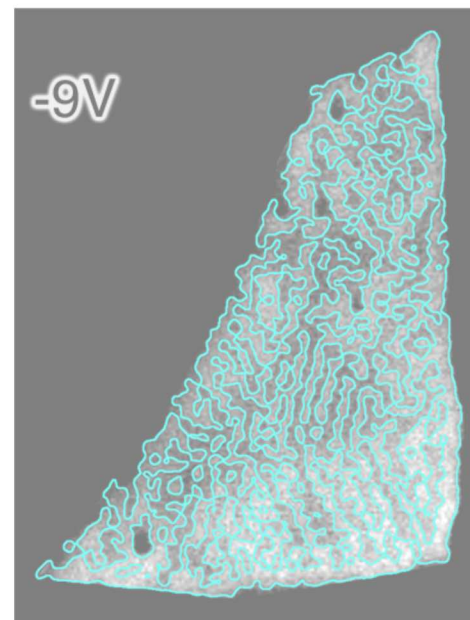
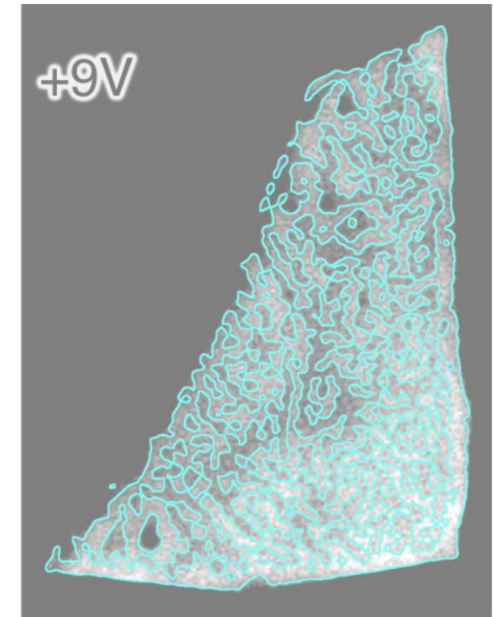
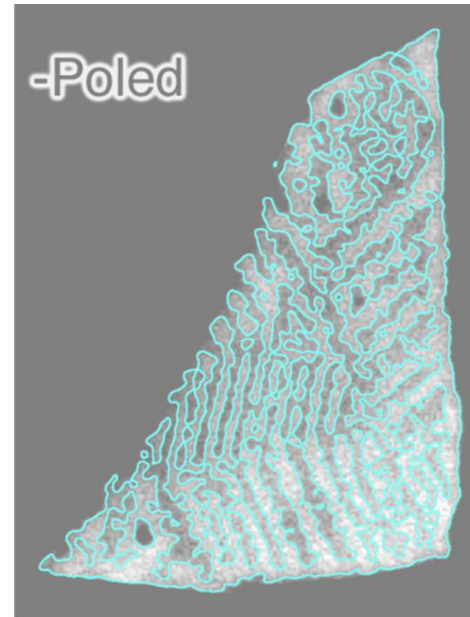
- Bilayer PZT films with high densities of ferroelastic domain walls have been previously shown to allow for voltage regulation of thermal conduction
- ***~12.5% decrease in thermal conductivity with ~500 kV/cm fields***



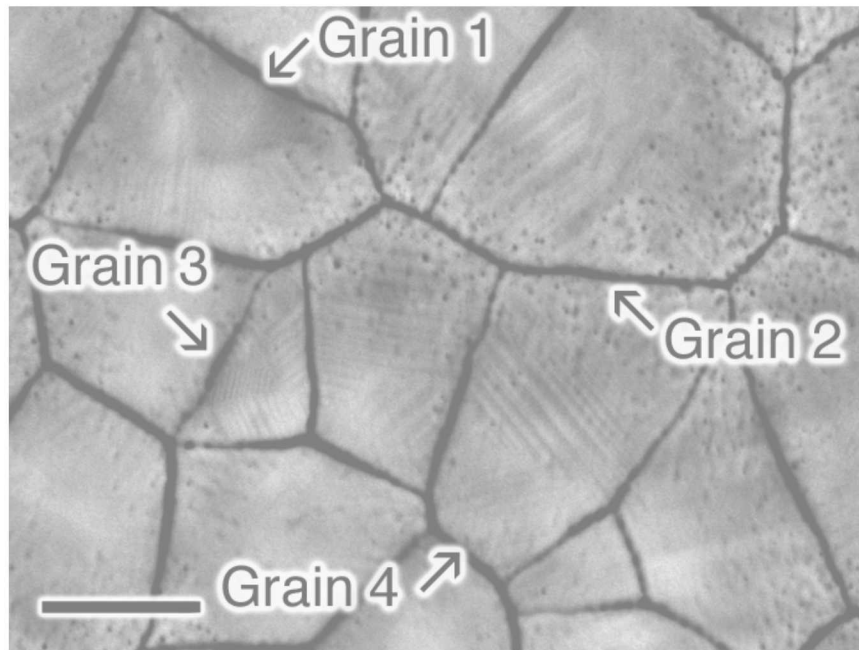


# Why does thermal conductivity decrease?

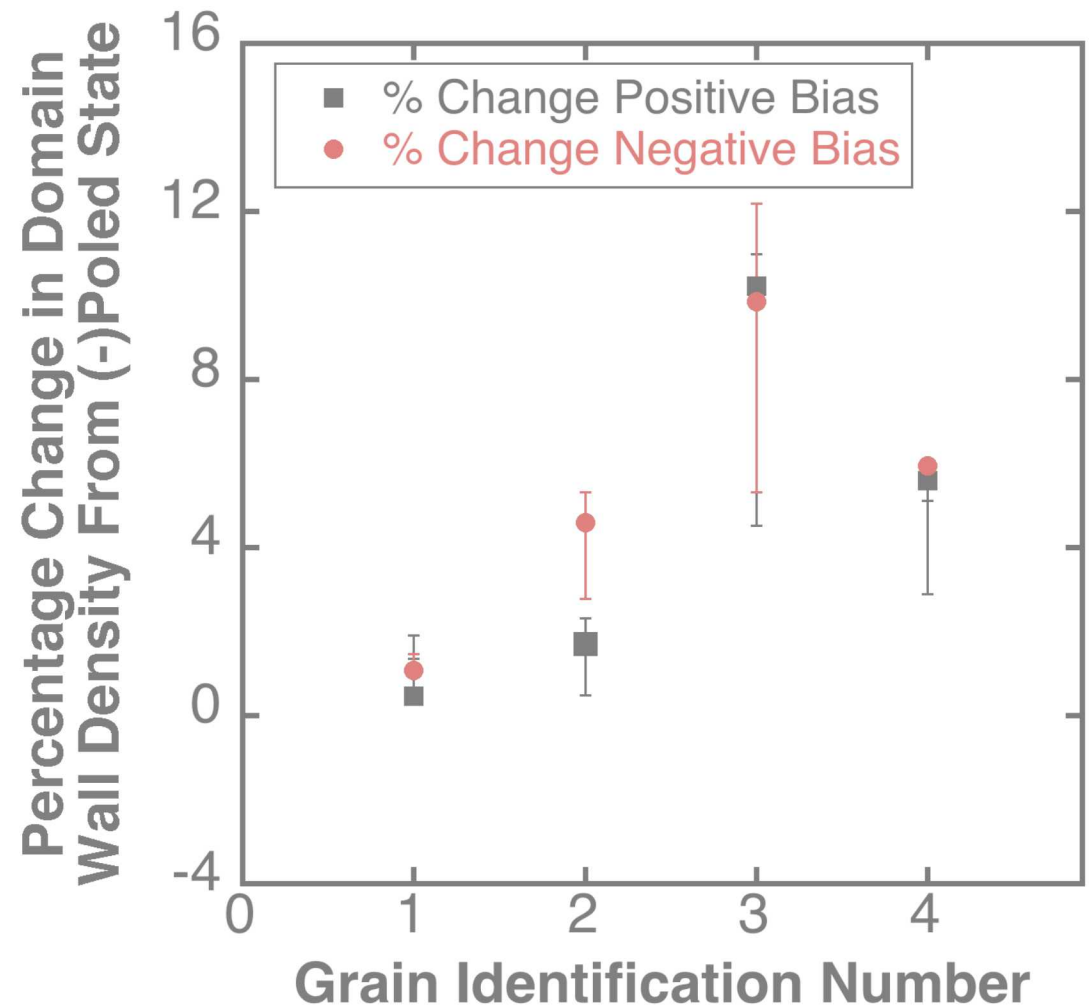
- *In-situ* channeling contrast SEM enables observation of domain structure *during* application of applied voltage
  - 3 nm thick Pt electrode used to allow electron transparency
- Domain structure becomes *more* complex under applied fields



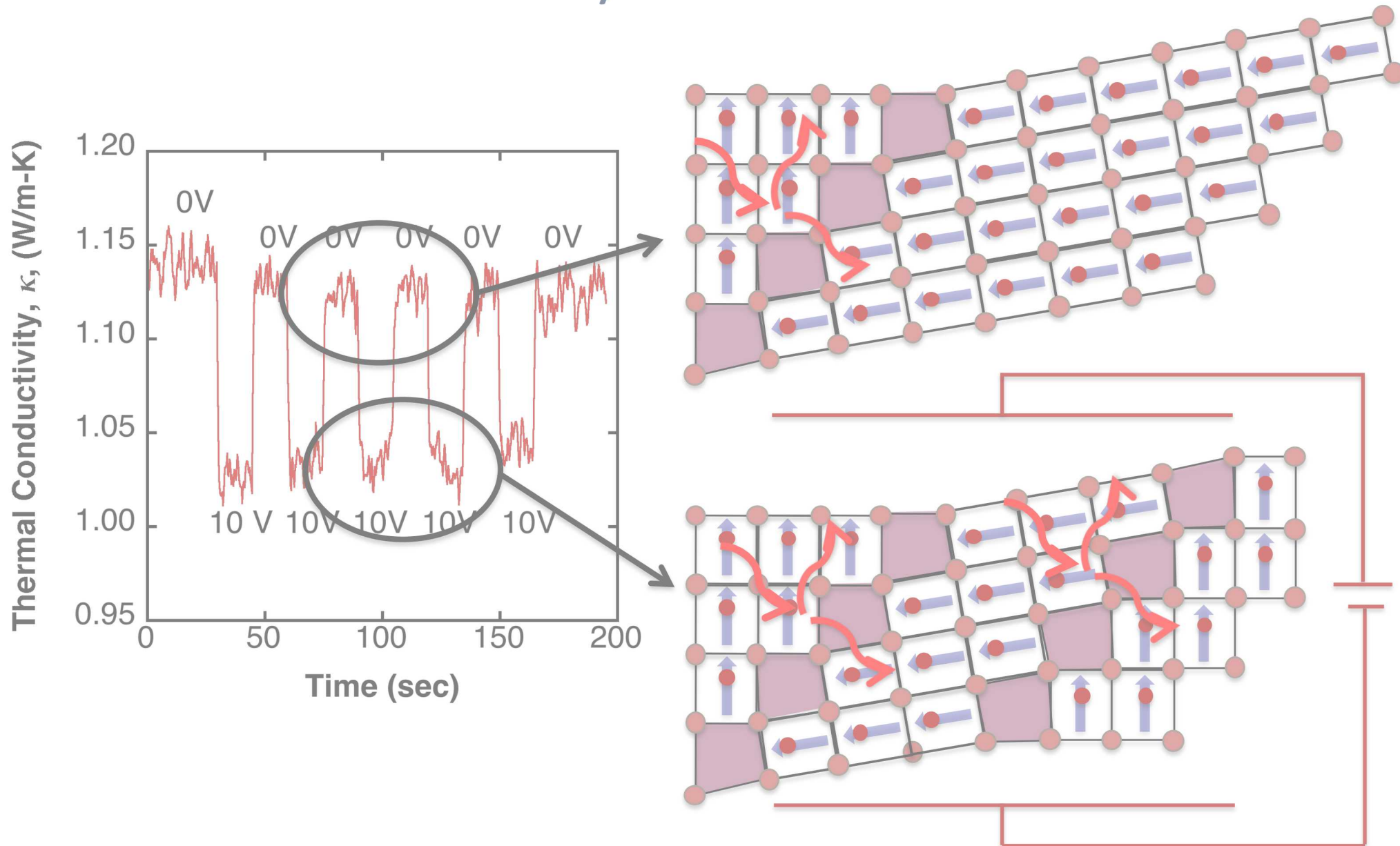
# Why does thermal conductivity decrease?



*All grains with observable domain structure changes under field show increases in domain density*



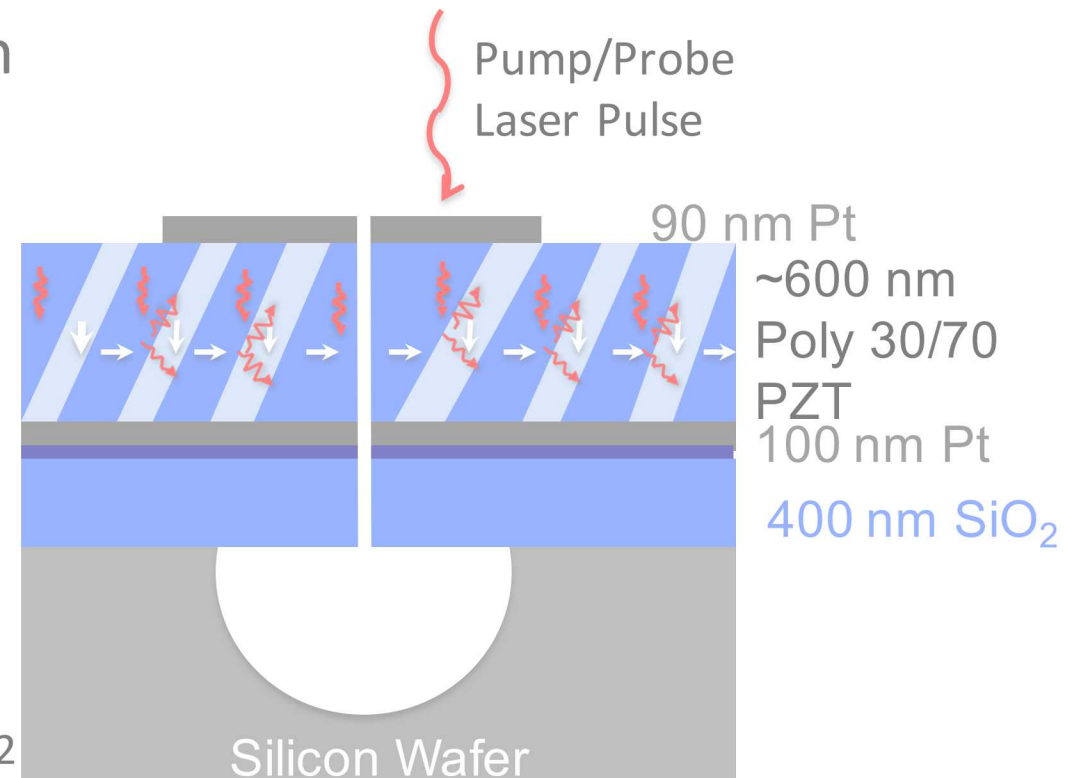
# Ferroelastic Domain Walls to Modulate Thermal Conductivity





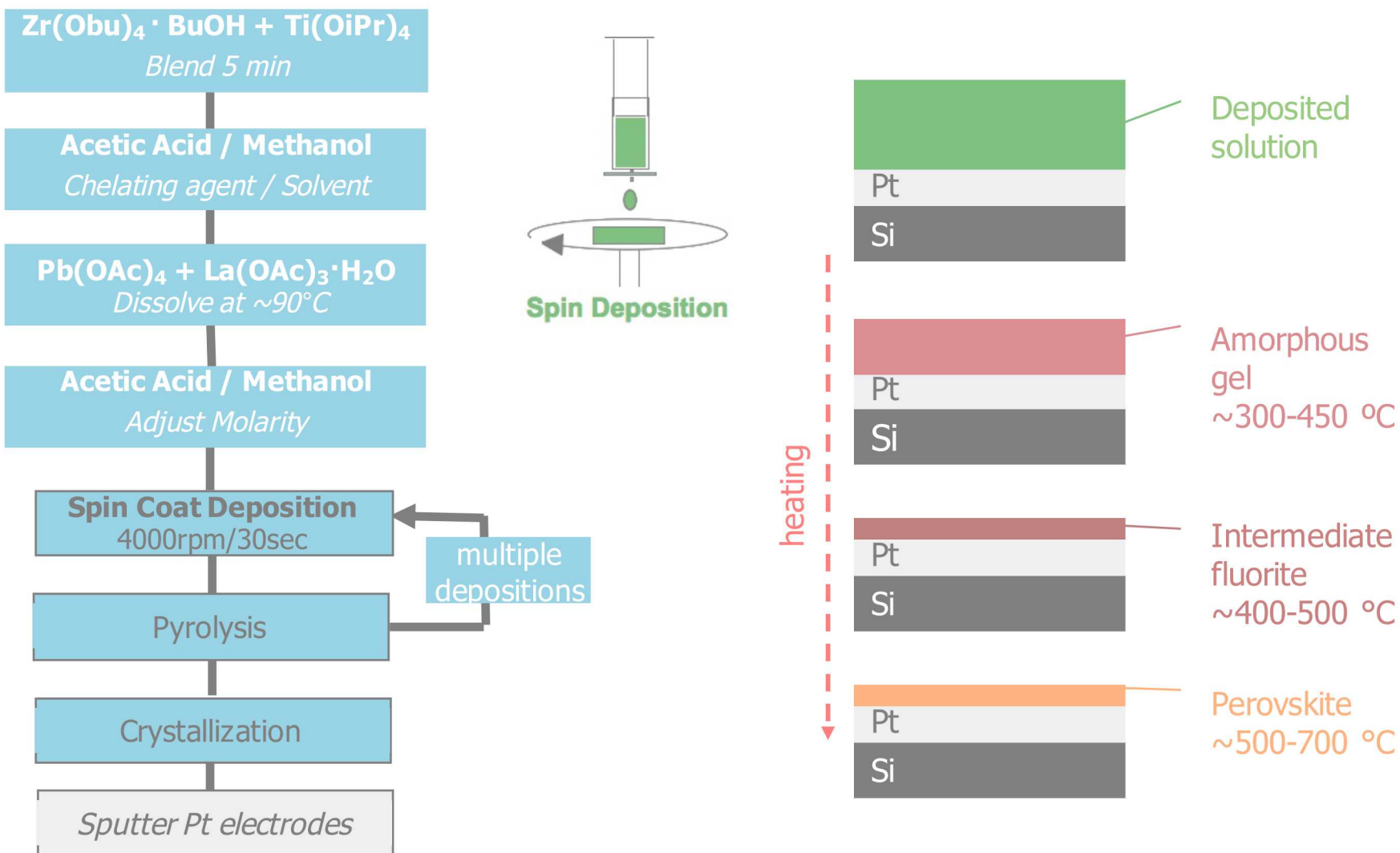
# Can We Make Thermal Conductivity Increase?

- Substrate clamping minimizes ferroelastic domain wall motion
- Prevents growth of domains and decrease of domain wall density
- Relieving clamping is expected to increase ferroelastic domain wall mobility\*
- Released films prepared by  $\text{XeF}_2$  etching into a membrane structure\*



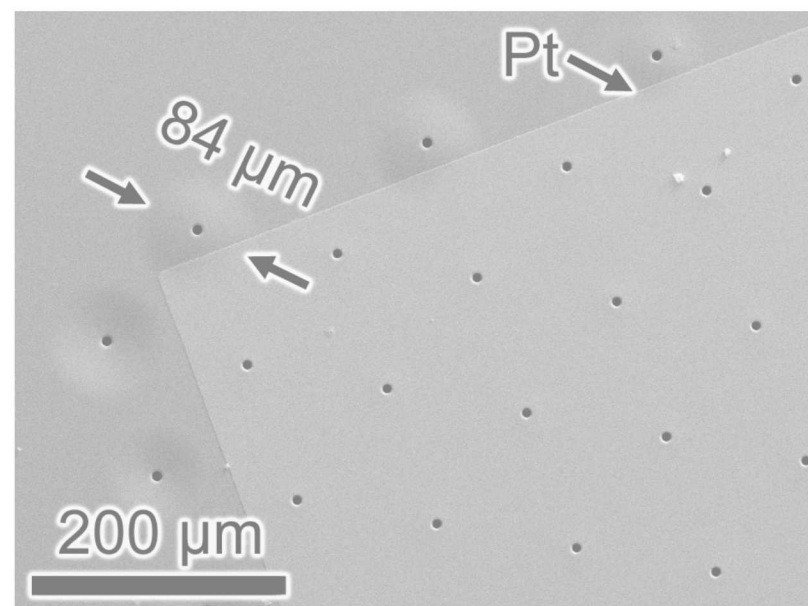
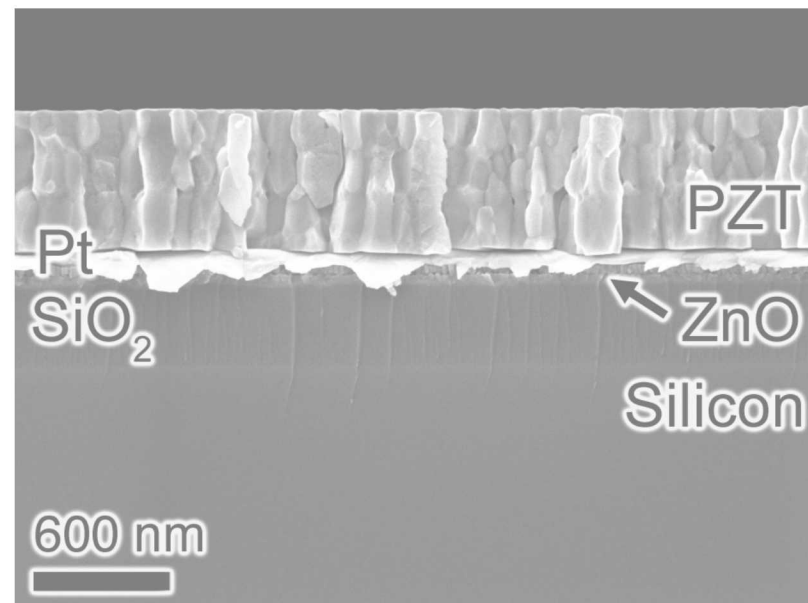
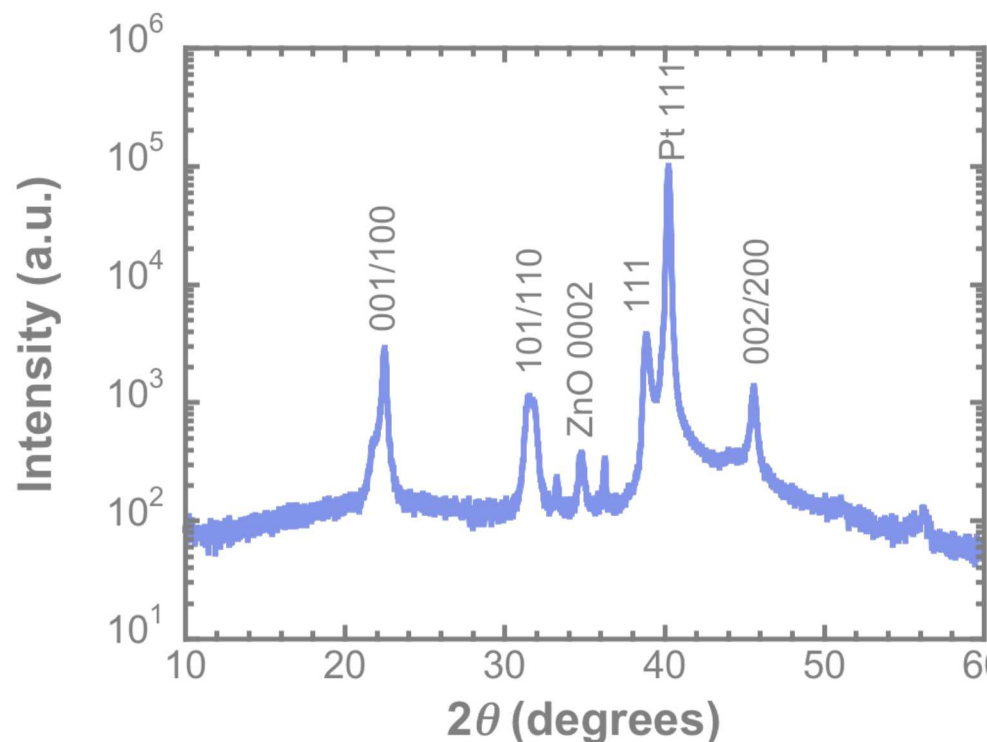


# SNL IMO $\text{Pb}(\text{Zr},\text{Ti})\text{O}_3$ CSD Film Preparation



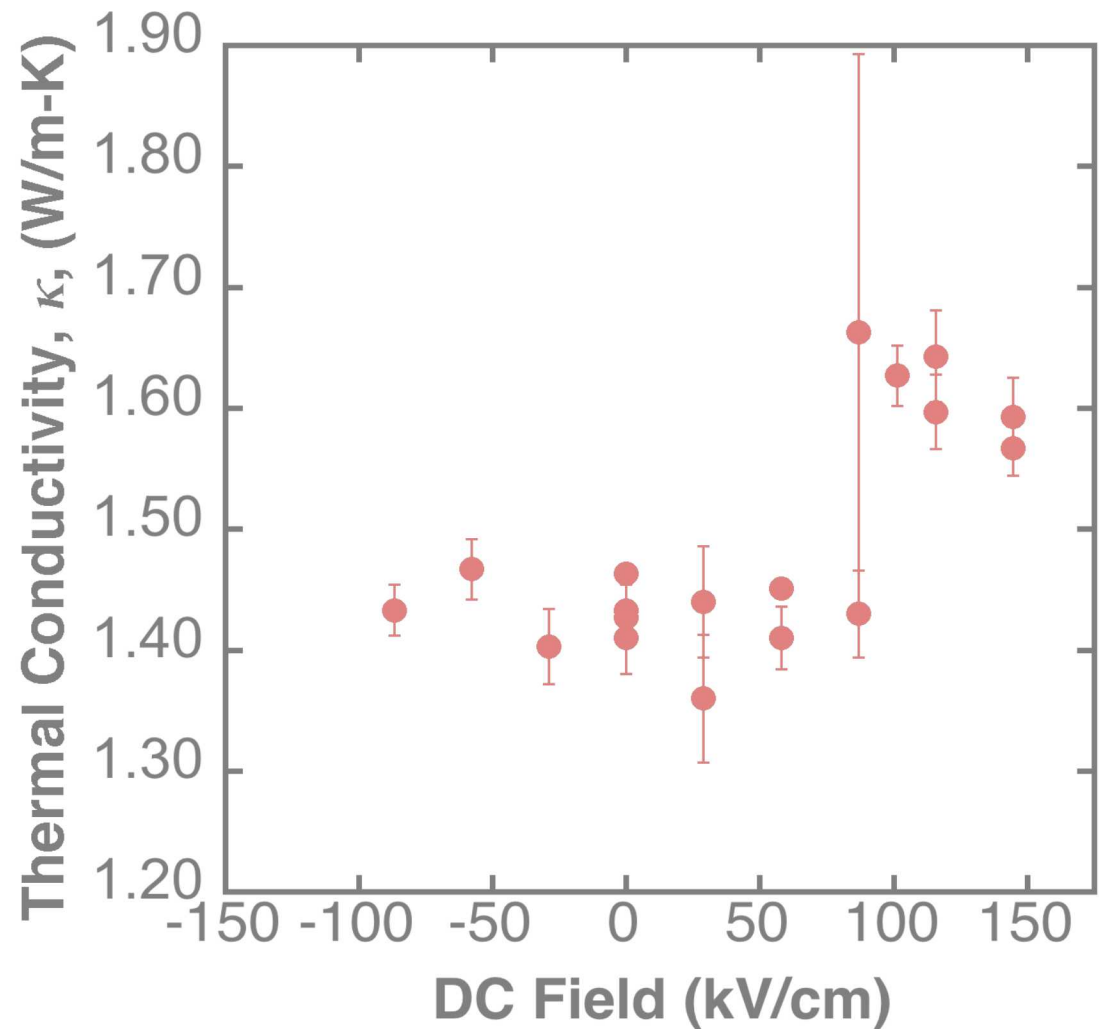
# Can We Make Thermal Conductivity Increase?

- $\text{PbTiO}_3$  layer deposited initially to favor 00/ crystallographic texture
- Columnar, dense grain structure
- $\sim 84\ \mu\text{m}$  membrane diameter after release



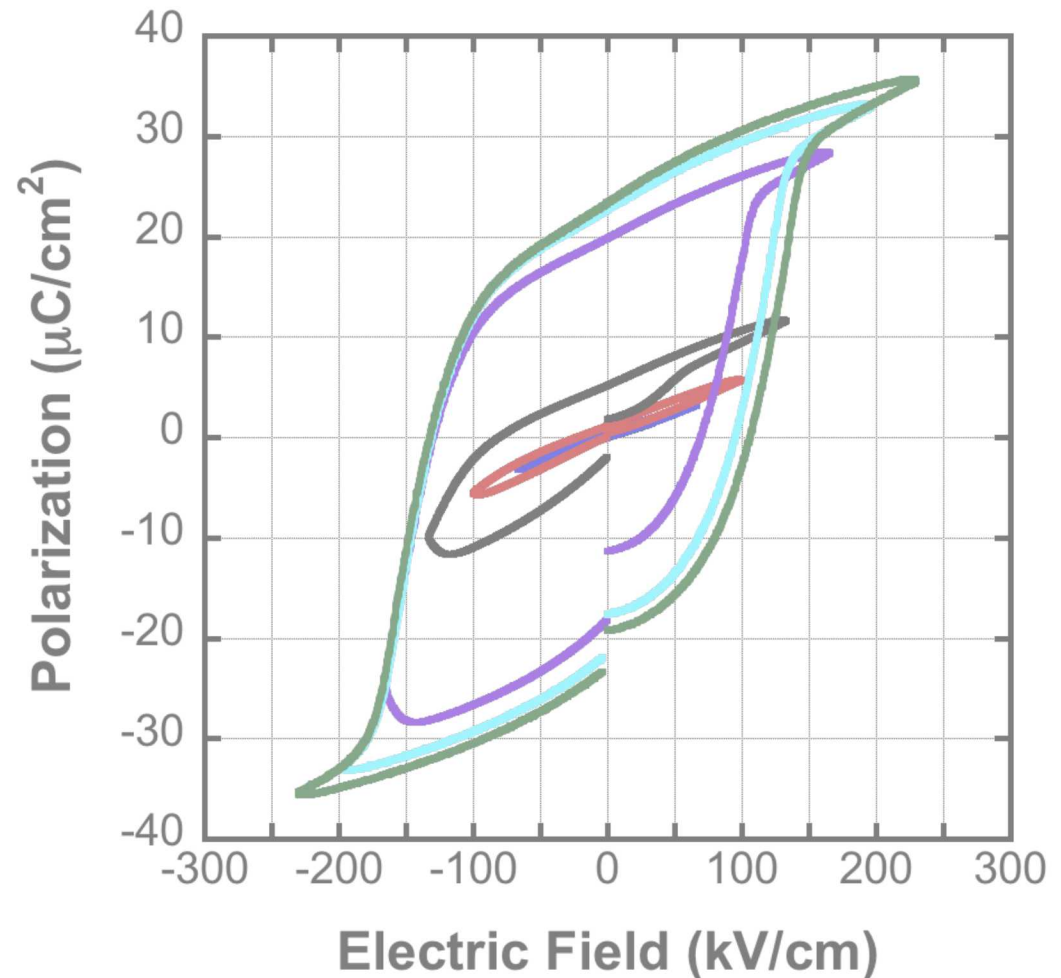
# Can We Make Thermal Conductivity Increase?

- Measured thermal conductivity on membrane structure while applying fields
- Observe discontinuous 13% *increase* in  $\kappa$  at  $\sim 90$  kV/cm
- Relieving strain results in increased thermal conduction
  - Is domain wall motion the origin?



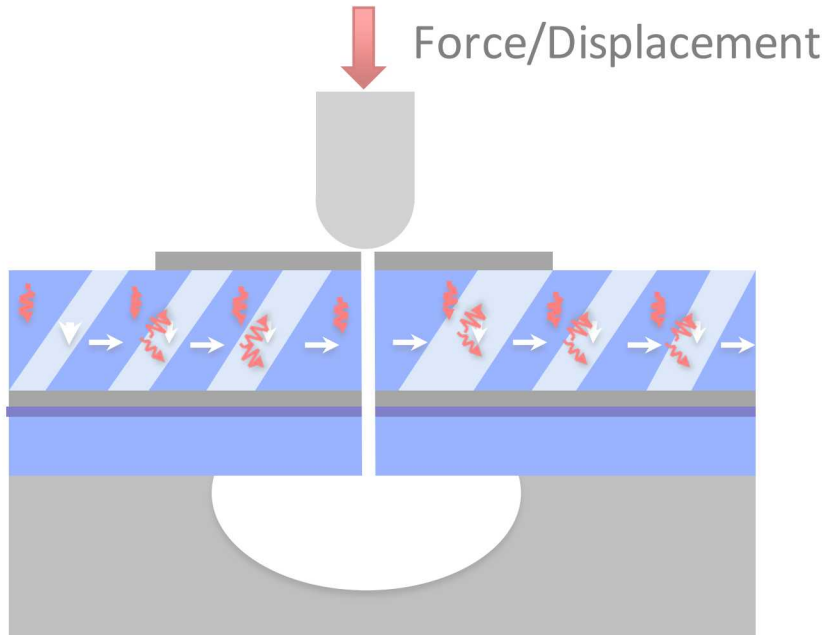
# Can We Make Thermal Conductivity Increase?

- Polarization-field response measured
  - *Samples both clamped and released regions*
- $E_c = \sim 100\text{-}110\text{ kV/cm}$ 
  - $E_c$  from P-E measurements slightly higher than that from the  $\kappa$ -E measurements
  - What is the role of releasing the film?

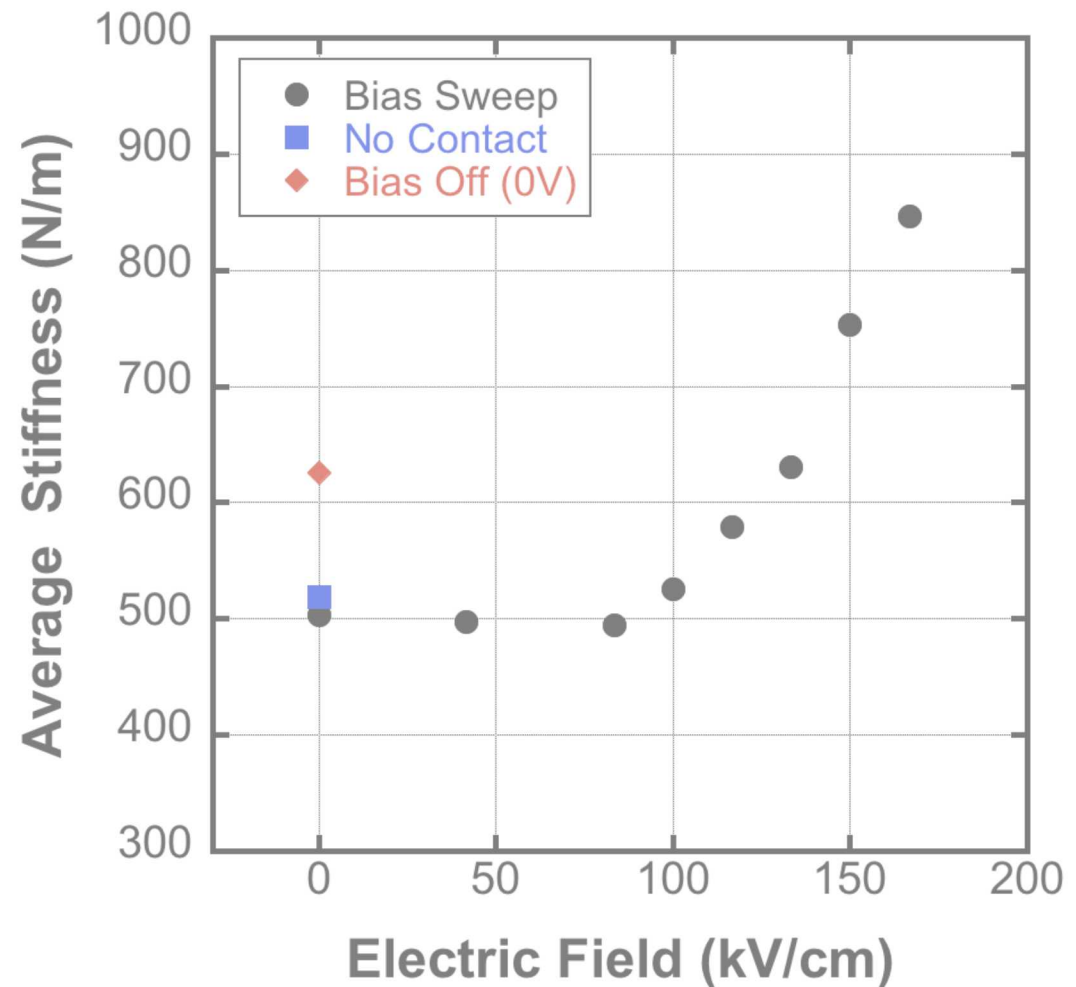




# Can We Make Thermal Conductivity Increase?

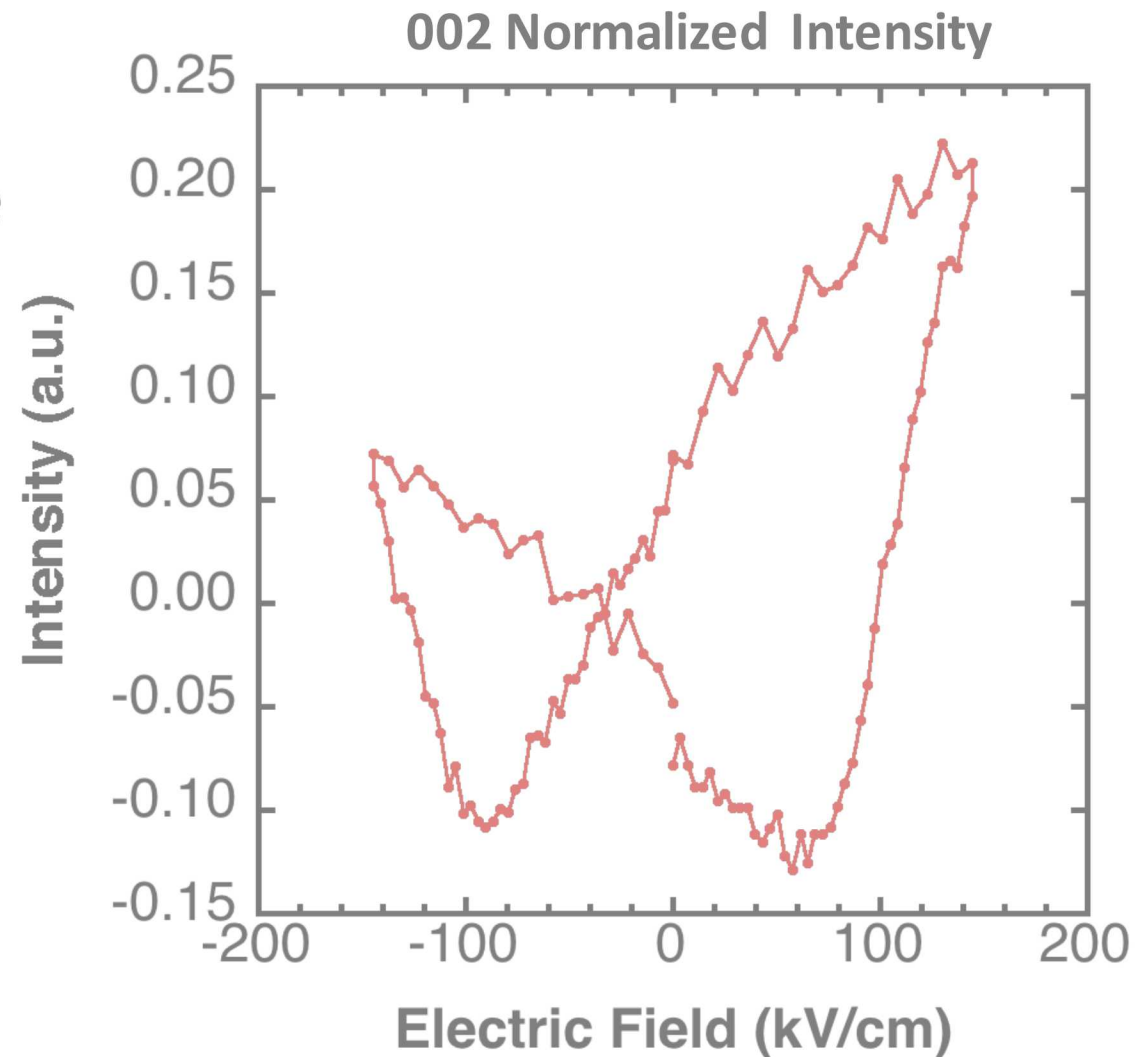


- Nanoindentation stiffness measurements performed on membrane
- Onset of stiffness increase is  $\sim 90\text{-}100\text{ kV/cm}$ 
  - *Correlates with discontinuous  $\kappa$  increase*



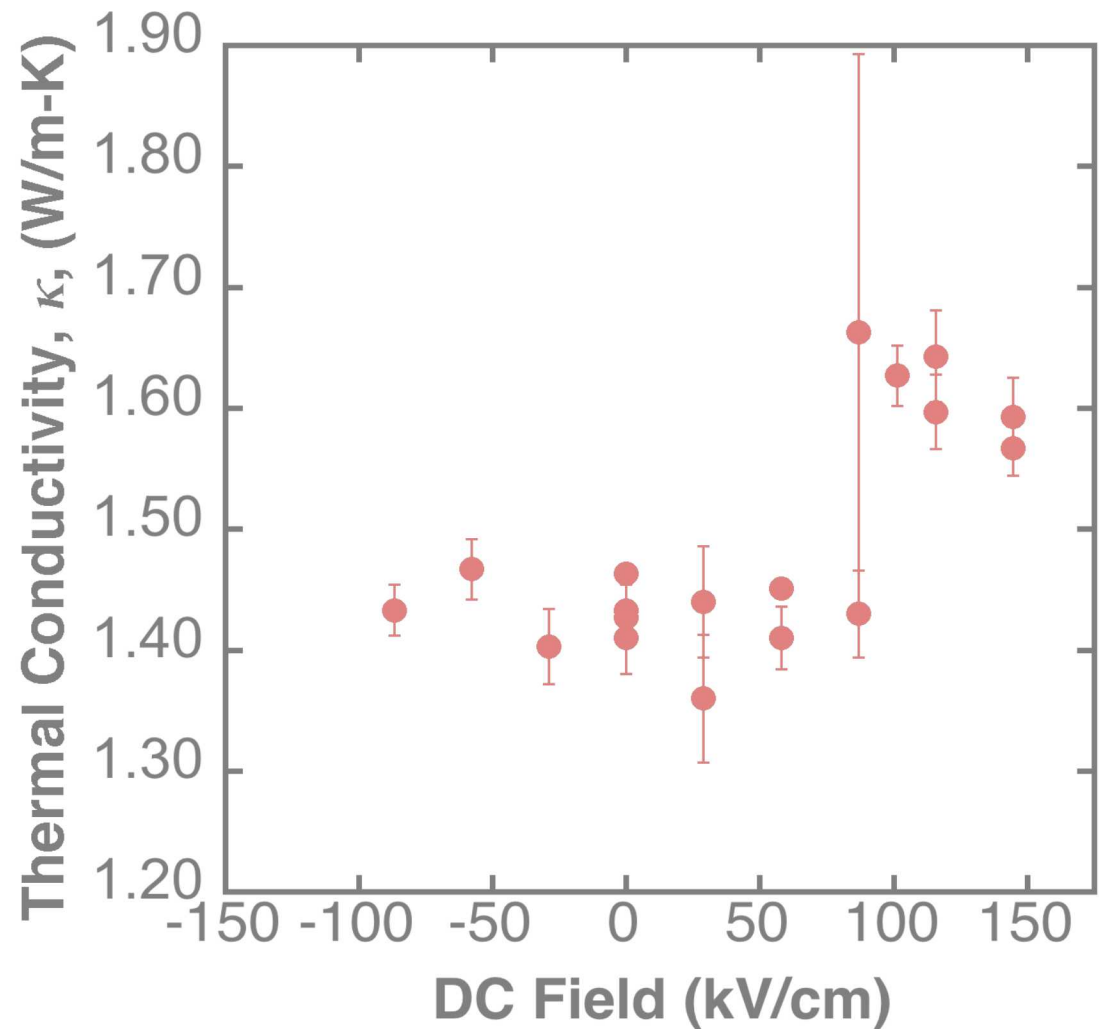
# Can We Make Thermal Conductivity Increase?

- X-ray  $\mu$ -diffraction performed on membrane
- Observe ' $d_{33}$ -like' response
- $E_c = \sim 90$  kV/cm
  - *Correlates with discontinuous  $\kappa$  increase*



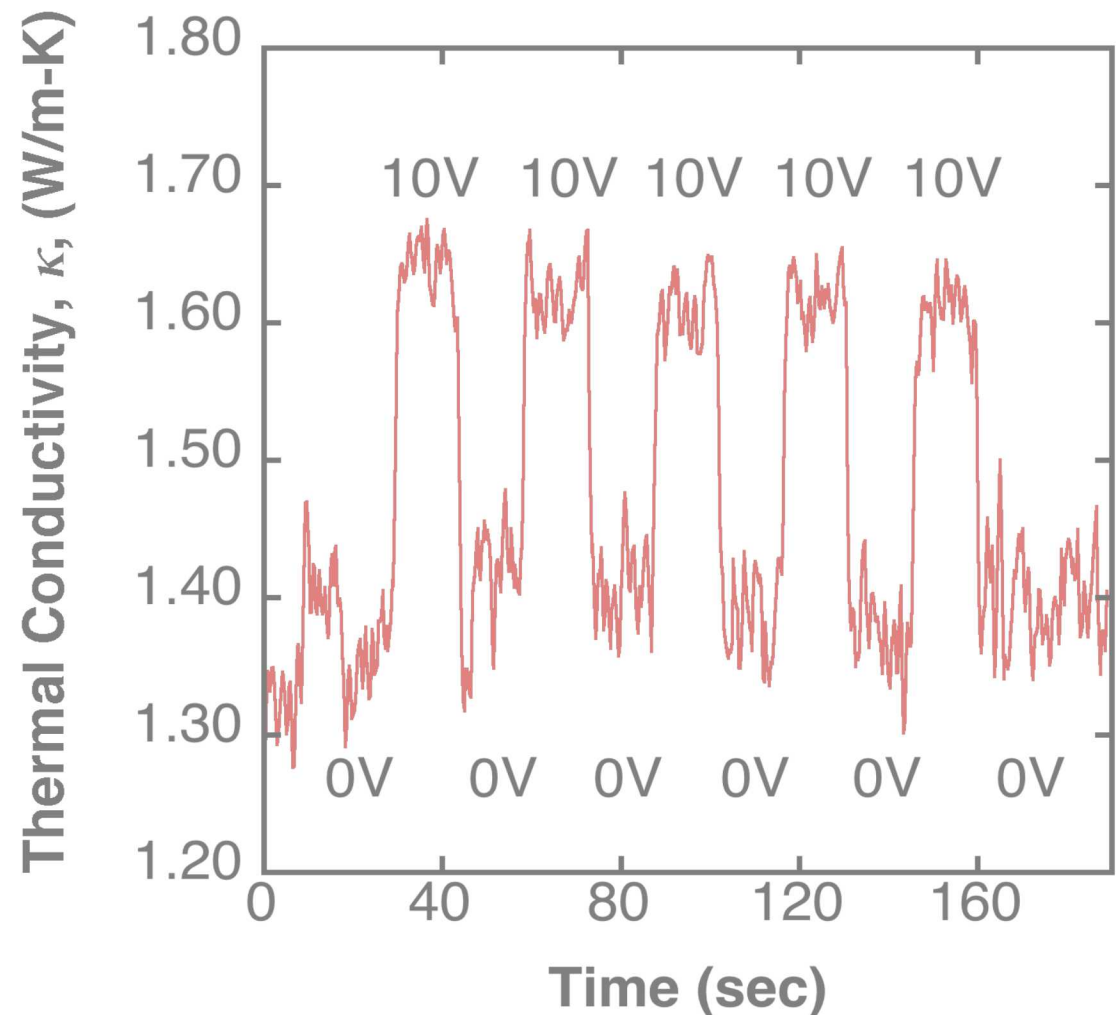
# Ferroelastic Domain Wall Motion is Responsible for Thermal Switching Behavior

- Field at which thermal conductivity discontinuity occurs correlates with:
  - Coercive field as measured from P(E) response
  - Onset of stiffness discontinuity in membrane
  - Coercive field as measured from X-ray microdiffraction on membrane
- *Ferroelastic Domain Wall Reconfiguration is Responsible*



# Repeatability of Thermal Switching Behavior

- Temporal response of thermal regulation measured
- Thermal conductivity change for membrane structures is fast
  - Sub-300 ms timescale
- Response is repeatable
  - *Indicates that domain wall densities decrease while under field and increase when field is removed*





# Summary

- Both negative and positive voltage coefficients of thermal conductivity can be obtained in ferroelectric thin films
  - Bilayer structures form more domain walls in response to field
  - Strain-relieved structures reduce in domain wall density in response to field
- Ferroelectric films are a promising avenue toward active phonon transport regulation

