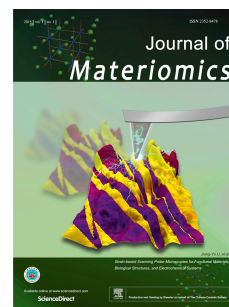


# Accepted Manuscript

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## Graphical Abstract\_Research Article

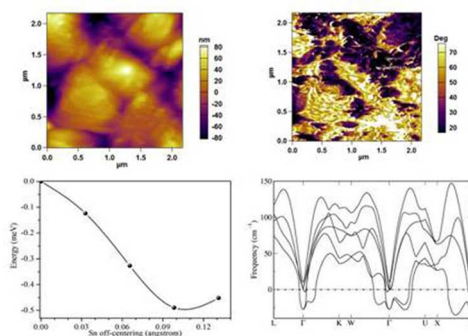
# Local Ferroelectricity in Thermoelectric SnTe above Room Temperature Driven by Competing Phonon Instabilities and Soft Resonant Bonding

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We report direct observation of local ferroelectric ordering above room temperature in rocksalt SnTe, which is a topological crystalline insulator and a good thermoelectric material. Although SnTe is known to stabilize in a ferroelectric ground state (rhombohedral phase) below  $\sim 100$  K, at high temperatures it is not expected to show any ferroelectric ordering forbidden by its globally centro-symmetric crystal structure (Fm-3m).

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