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# Giant Pyroelectric Energy Harvesting and Negative Electrocaloric Effect in Multilayered Nanostructures

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#### **Abstract:**

This work examines the potential of PbZr<sub>0.53</sub>Ti<sub>0.47</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/CoFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (PZT/CFO) multi-layered nanostructures (MLNs) to achieve a giant electrocaloric effect (ECE) and enhanced pyroelectric energy harvesting. Unlike the conventional ECE, the effect in PZT/CFO MLNs is governed by a dynamic magneto-electric coupling (MEC) and can be tuned by the arrangement of the various ferroic layers. The ECE is investigated in alternate multilayers of PZT and CFO that consist of stacks of three (L3), five (L5) and nine (L9) alternating PZT and CFO layers. Intriguingly, all configurations exhibit a negative ECE, calculated using Maxwell relations, which has a high magnitude in comparison with previously reported giant negative ECE ( $|\Delta T|$ =6.2 K). The maximum ECE temperature change calculated in three (L3), five (L5) and nine (L9) layers is 52.3 K, 32.4 K and 25.0 K respectively. In addition, the maximum pyroelectric energy harvesting calculated for these layers using a modified Olsen cycle is four times higher than the highest reported pyroelectric energy density of 11549 kJm<sup>-3</sup>cycle<sup>-1</sup>. This increase is attributed to the cumulative effect of multiple layers that induce an enhancement in the overall polarization, 1.5 times of lead zirconate titanate, and leads to abrupt polarization changes with temperature fluctuations. The present study also sheds light on materials selection and the thermodynamic processes involved in the ECE and it is concluded that the refrigeration obtained from reversed Olsen cycle is a combined effect of an isothermal entropy as well as adiabatic temperature change.

**Keywords:** giant, negative electrocaloric effect, pyroelectric energy harvesting, thermodynamic cycle, materials selection

#### 1. Introduction

Recent advancements in nanotechnology have significantly raised the demand for small scale refrigeration and energy conversion technologies. The performance of these technologies must be sufficiently high for heat extraction or recycling waste energy in integrated circuits 1. computer memories <sup>2</sup> and medical equipment <sup>3</sup>. Unfortunately the conventional vapor-cycle technologies are unable to meet these demands as they involve bulky components, such as compressors. Therefore, these emerging demands have led researchers to consider novel energy conversion systems. Among these, the electrocaloric effect (ECE) <sup>4-9</sup> and pyroelectric effect <sup>10-13</sup> based mechanisms have been considered alternatives for these applications. The electrocaloric effect is believed to be first reported in 1930 <sup>14</sup> and was later explored by US and Japan during World War-II <sup>8</sup>. Thereafter, the effect was not given much importance until it was observed near ferroelectric transitions of potassium dihydrogen phosphate in 1950 15. This gave birth to the debate about the possibility of ECE in hydrogen-bonded materials. Later in the 1960s, with the discovery of ceramic perovskites <sup>16, 17</sup>, the effect was detected at room temperature and above. Research escalated in this field after the work of Mischenko et. al. 18 who reported a large ECE temperature change  $(|\Delta T|)$  of 12 K at comparatively large values of applied electric field  $(|\Delta E|=480 \text{ kVcm}^{-1})$  in PbZr<sub>0.95</sub>Ti<sub>0.5</sub>O<sub>3</sub> near its Curie temperature (495 K). The study was based on indirect measurements using Maxwell relations, which was first proposed by Thacher <sup>17</sup>. It is suggested that an entropy change  $(\Delta S)$  can be calculated as an integral of change in polarization (P) with respect to temperature (T) over the applied electric field  $(E)^{4, 6, 19, 20}$ , namely,

$$\Delta S = -\int_{E}^{E_{f}} \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial T}\right)_{E} dE \tag{1}$$

Further, the corresponding ECE temperature ( $\Delta T$ ) can be determined by,

$$\Delta T = -\frac{T}{\rho C} \int_{E}^{E_{f}} \left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial T} \right)_{E} dE \tag{2}$$

where,  $\rho$  and C are the density and the specific heat capacity of the material respectively. This method soon earned popularity primarily because of the convenience offered in measuring the ECE in thin films. Prior to this approach the 'giant' ECE temperature changes were difficult to accurately measure in thin films as the measurements were prone to influence by probe-based techniques. However, the indirect method is subjected to a few limitations which can be studied in detail elsewhere<sup>7</sup>. Table 1 provides the comparison for ECE in selected compositions with their corresponding operating conditions and the thermodynamic attributes, such as the applied electric field and the calculated temperature and entropy changes. It is to be noted that the ECE works as a reverse pyroelectric effect, which produces an electric charge on exposure to a thermal change.

Pyroelectric energy conversion exploits the fundamental idea of generating an electric charge due to change in remnant and/or saturation polarization as a result of thermal fluctuations. This change in polarization  $(P_i)$  with temperature change  $(\Delta T)$  is given as<sup>21</sup>:

$$P_i = p_i \Delta T \tag{3}$$

where,  $p_i$  is the pyroelectric coefficient. Further, the induced short circuit current  $(I_P)$  for a rate of temperature change (dT/dt) can be obtained by  $^{21,22}$ 

$$I_P = Ap_C \frac{dT}{dt} \tag{4}$$

where A and  $p_c$  are the surface area and the component of pyroelectric coefficient in the perpendicular direction of the electrodes, respectively. The degree of energy conversion can be significantly enhanced by adopting an appropriate operation cycle. In this context, Mohammadi

and Khodayari stressed the use of an Ericsson cycle <sup>23</sup>. In addition, there exists a well-known variant of the Ericson cycle, termed the "Olsen cycle" <sup>24-26</sup>. The advantage of this cycle is that it operates under unipolar electric fields, rather than bipolar electric fields used in the conventional Ericson cycle, and has a comparatively reduced hysteresis loss and enhanced energy conversion. However, it is to be noted that the energy harvested using the Olsen cycle is not merely contributed by the pyroelectric effect but is also a result of the change in electrical energy storage capacity of the material with temperature. Interestingly, it has been reported that the Olsen cycle is capable of providing an energy density three orders in magnitude higher than that of obtained using the conventional pyroelectric effect <sup>27</sup>. The claim has later been verified for many wellknown compositions by Olsen et. al. 24-26, 28-32. Moreover, recent studies in this direction also strongly support their claim <sup>27, 33-42</sup> and suggests that the Olsen cycle has particular advantages for pyroelectric based energy harvesting. Therefore, both the Olsen cycle and ECE are being extensively explored for 'giant' energy conversion applications. Since both methods work on the same principle, but in opposite directions, the materials requirements in order to achieve enhanced ECE or pyroelectric energy harvesting are similar.

#### 2. Materials Selection for Giant Energy Harvesting

It is of importance to select the appropriate materials for a particular application, which requires a basic knowledge of the application domain and materials selection methodologies. Researchers have been continuously working in the direction of materials selection  $^{43-49}$  and energy harvesting  $^{1, 33-38, 50, 51}$ ; and have determined the characteristics that a material should possess for high energy conversion. The material should have a large change in polarization with respect to the change in temperature  $(\partial P/\partial T)$ , which leads to a high pyroelectric coefficient. Moreover, the

Curie temperature, dielectric anomalies, phase transitions or instantaneous switching, creation/destruction of crystal domains should generally fall within the operating temperature range. In addition, the materials should exhibit low losses, high breakdown strength and have a large change in polarization with a variation in applied electric field. Importantly, the use of thin films permits the application of high electric fields at relatively low application voltages but the electrical conductivity, which increases with a decrease in thickness, should also be sufficiently low <sup>6</sup>. Due to this complex combination of properties, PbZr<sub>0.53</sub>Ti<sub>0.47</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/CoFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (PZT/CFO) layered nanostructures have been considered in the present study for both pyroelectric energy harvesting and ECE investigations.

#### 3. Layered Nanostructured Materials

PbZr<sub>0.53</sub>Ti<sub>0.47</sub>O<sub>3</sub>/CoFe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (PZT/CFO) layered nanostructures were first reported by us in 2009<sup>52</sup>. Later we also investigated the temperature-dependent polarization and dielectric behavior of these layered nanostructures <sup>53</sup>. Multilayered nanostructures structures (MLNs) of three (L3), five (L5) and nine (L9) alternating layers of PZT and CFO thin films were deposited on a La<sub>0.5</sub>Sr<sub>0.5</sub>CoO<sub>3</sub> (LSCO) coated (100) MgO substrate using pulsed laser deposition (excimer laser; laser energy density of 1.5 Jcm<sup>-2</sup>; 10 Hz of repetition rate). Figure 1 (b), (c) and (d) shows the arrangements for the MLNs of L3, L5 and L9, respectively. The depositions were carried out with individual PZT and CFO targets that were initially prepared by a solid state route. Finally, the prepared MLNs were annealed and physical characterization was carried out using Raman and X-ray diffraction (XRD), see Figure S1, and transmission electron microscopy (TEM); see Figure S2. A more detailed description of the procedures and results can be found in our

previous reports<sup>52, 53</sup>. These structures were found to demonstrate excellent fatigue properties with a nominal (less than 20 %) deviation in polarization over 10<sup>8</sup> cycles; see Figure S3. Further, dielectric measurements were carried out with sputtered Pt upper electrodes and pyroelectric properties were studied in the temperature span of 100K to 300K. The temperature dependent *P*-*E* loops obtained are highlighted in Figure 1 (a) for pure PZT (grown under the same conditions) <sup>52, 53</sup> (b) L3 (c) L5 (d) L9 respectively. Intriguingly for ECE and pyroelectric harvesting applications, it is found that the polarizations of all the MLNs fall with a decrease in temperature and are completely recoverable with reheating. Normally, pure PZT films do not show any such behavior and simply result in a broadening of the loop with a decrease in temperature<sup>1, 52, 53</sup>.

Another important observation is that these structures show an unusual shift in ferroelectric hysteresis loops; note the shift in the loop with a decrease in temperature in Figures 1 (b), (c) and (d). In general, the saturation polarization decreases with an increase in temperature; such a response is classified as a 'Thermal fluctuations-1 (TF-1)' behavior. In the present case the saturation polarization increases with an increase in temperature, termed 'Thermal fluctuations-2 (TF-2)' behavior where the hysteresis loop tends to become linear at low temperatures. This behavior is rare, but is observed in (Bi<sub>0.5</sub>Na<sub>0.5</sub>)TiO<sub>3</sub>, (Bi<sub>0.5</sub>K<sub>0.5</sub>)TiO<sub>3</sub> and (Bi<sub>0.5</sub>Li<sub>0.5</sub>)TiO<sub>3</sub> based compositions such as 0.88Bi<sub>0.5</sub>Na<sub>0.5</sub>TiO<sub>3</sub>-0.2SrTiO<sub>3</sub>-0.1Bi<sub>0.5</sub>Li<sub>0.5</sub>TiO<sub>3</sub> (BNT-ST-BLT)<sup>54</sup> and (Bi<sub>0.5</sub>Na<sub>0.5</sub>)<sub>0.915</sub>-(Bi<sub>0.5</sub>K<sub>0.5</sub>)<sub>0.05</sub>Ba<sub>0.02</sub>Sr<sub>0.015</sub>TiO<sub>3</sub><sup>55</sup>. In addition, it is also possible to have both kinds of behavior in the same composition but in different temperature ranges. The phenomena in the present case is attributed to dominance of dynamic magnetoelectric coupling (MEC) at lower temperatures<sup>52,53</sup>. Once this temperature dependent pyroelectric behavior is identified it becomes convenient to decide the possible cycle on which a device can be fabricated in order to achieve improved performance.

### 4. Olsen Cycle

The Olsen cycle was initially proposed in the 1980s for the commonly observed TF-1 ferroelectrics, since TF-2 compositions were rarely observed before 2008. Later (2014), the modified version of the Olsen cycle was proposed by us for TF-2 compositions  $^{38}$ . Consequently, the cycle is generalized for all materials exhibiting a change in polarization with a change in temperature  $^{38}$ . The generalized cycle states that the material should initially be polarized under a unipolar applied electric field at the lower temperature  $(T_L)$  and then exposed to a heat source isoelectrically  $(E_{R})$ . This leads to a polarization change (a decrease for TF-1 and increase for TF-2) that can be simultaneously converted into an electrical output. Subsequently, the material is depolarized (under a unipolar applied electric field) at a constant higher temperature  $(T_H)$  followed by an isoelectric  $(E_L)$  cooling. This again provides an output electrical impulse in the form of harvested electrical energy. Figure 2 (a) provides a schematic explanation of a typical Olsen cycle for a TF-2 material and the corresponding T-S diagram is shown in Figure 2 (b). This cycle consists of two isoelectric (B-C and D-A) and two isothermal processes (A-B and C-D) as discussed below:

**Process** *A-B* (Isothermal polarization): The material is polarized from  $P_A$  to  $P_B$  by using a unipolar electric field ( $E_L$  to  $E_H$ ) at a constant temperature  $T_L$  (lower temperature). This simultaneously causes an isothermal entropy reduction from  $S_A$  to  $S_B$ .

**Process** *B-C* (**Isoelectric heating**): In this stage the temperature of the material is raised (from  $T_L$  to  $T_H$ ) or the heat is absorbed by the material isoelectrically causing a polarization rise ( $P_B$  to  $P_C$ ) and a corresponding entropy decrease from  $S_B$  to  $S_C$ .

**Process** *C-D* (**Isothermal depolarization**): The material is depolarized isothermally at a constant higher temperature  $(T_H)$ .

**Process** *D-A* (**Isoelectric cooling**): Finally, the cycle is completed by cooling the material at a constant lower electric field ( $E_L$ ) so as to bring the system to its initial state ( $T_L$ ,  $P_A$  and  $S_A$ ).

The area enclosed (A-D-C-D) by the complete cycle on a corresponding P-E curve gives the net harvested output electrical energy density ( $N_D$ ) per liter per unit cycle  $^{31, 39}$ .

$$N_D = \oint E.\mathrm{d}P \tag{5}$$

A careful examination of the *T-S* diagram for Olsen cycle suggests that if the cycle is operated in a reverse direction it will result in refrigeration <sup>38</sup>. At this point, it is important to note that for a material to work with a practical Olsen cycle an arrangement in needed to achieve specialized oscillating heat currents and an external load circuit is required for receiving an electrical output. A variation in the design of such an arrangement can significantly influence the degree of harvested electrical energy density.

### 7. Reversed Olsen Cycle for Refrigeration

Recently, it was proposed that the Olsen cycle operated in the reverse direction can be used for refrigeration<sup>38</sup>. The cycle again consists of two isoelectric (*B-C* and *D-A*) and two isothermal processes (*A-B* and *C-D*). Figure 3 (a) and (b) shows the *P-E* and *T-S* diagrams for the working of a reversed Olsen cycle. The cycle is comprised of the following steps:

**Process** A-B (Isothermal polarization): The material is polarized from  $P_A$  to  $P_B$  using a unipolar electric field ( $E_L$  to  $E_H$ ) at a constant temperature  $T_H$  (higher temperature). This simultaneously causes an isothermal entropy reduction from  $S_A$  to  $S_B$ . It is to be noted that  $S_B$  corresponds to the state of least saturation entropy of the system for the temperature  $T_H$ .

**Process** *B-C* (**Isoelectric refrigeration**): As the material has already achieved the state of least entropy or the lower saturation limit of the entropy, it undergoes a temperature change ( $T_H$  to  $T_L$ ) in order to have a higher entropy state. Therefore, the material releases heat and cools itself to achieve a higher entropy state ( $S_C$ ) at a constant electric field ( $E_H$ ). This process also causes a decrease in polarization ( $P_B$  to  $P_C$ ).

**Process** *C-D* (Isothermal depolarization): In this process the material is further depolarized isothermally at a constant lower temperature  $(T_L)$ .

**Process** *D-A* (**Isoelectric heat exchange**): In order to complete the cycle the material is allowed to exchange heat with the surroundings at a constant lower electric field ( $E_L$ ). This step provides an opportunity for the material to attain its original state ( $T_L$ ,  $P_A$  and  $S_A$ ) by absorbing heat from the surroundings. Depending on the materials behavior it may absorb heat itself or may be forced to do so in the presence of an external heat source.

Interestingly, the material cools during process B-C while gains heat during process D-A; note the heating and cooling of the material in Figure 4. Normally, the surroundings are heated in process B-C and refrigerated in process D-A (note the heating and cooling of the surroundings in Figure 3). Therefore, depending on the application requirements this cycle can be used to cool the material or the surroundings; it is important to note that the effect of producing thermal changes under varying applied electric fields is also known as ECE  $^8$ . The T-S diagram (Figure 3(b)) for the reversed Olsen cycle also confirms that the cycle is working in an identical way to that of ECE in a three stage thermodynamic model (isoelectric, isothermal and adiabatic processes)  $^6$ .

#### 8. Results and Discussion

Figure 3 and 4 clearly indicates that the processes A-B and C-D are essentially isothermal while the processes B-C and D-A are isoelectric. This makes it is difficult to describe the adiabatic process involved in the cycle which is often used to explain the ECE. This can be better understood on the basis of the concept of entropy. The net entropy  $(S_N)$  of the system can be written as the sum of entropy due to polarization  $(S_{E,T}$  – a function of both temperature and electric field) and entropy due to lattice parameters and electron contribution  $(S_T$  – a function of temperature only). The net entropy  $(\Delta S_N)$  change of the system can be written as

$$\Delta S_N = \Delta S_{FT} + \Delta S_T \tag{7}$$

Eq.7 clearly suggests that a change in temperature will influence all entropies of the system while a change in applied electric field will merely influence the entropy of polarization. Based on this concept we can understand that during isothermal polarization (process A-B) the  $\Delta S_{E,T}$  decreases and the overall entropy of the system should fall from  $S_A$  to  $S_B$ . Consequently, the system must release heat thereby leading to cooling of the material; this is often attributed as an adiabatic  $ECE^6$ . At the same time there is no change in  $\Delta S_T$  since it is independent of applied electric field and hence the process becomes partially adiabatic. Finally, process A-B brings the material to the state of least entropy ( $S_B$ ); see figure 4 and 3 (b). At this stage the material is kept at a constant electric field and hence the entropy of polarization ( $\Delta S_{E,T}$ ) does not change. This means the process should be adiabatic. However, the material attempts to achieve a state of higher entropy due to lattice strains developed during high temperature polarization. As a result, the net entropy ( $\Delta S_N$ ) rises in process B-C. If  $\Delta S_N$  rises ( $S_B$  to  $S_C$ ) under adiabatic conditions the system has to undergo a temperature change ( $T_H$  to  $T_L$ ), this again leads to cooling of the

material (and heat gained by the surroundings); see figure 4. In addition, the temperature change also causes  $\Delta S_T$  to fluctuate which violates the condition of an adiabatic process. This makes it difficult to describe the overall nature of the two kinds of cooling involved and therefore both processes (corresponding to  $\Delta S_T$  and  $\Delta S_{ET}$ ) are collectively considered as partially adiabatic and are accounted for in the ECE. Here, it is important to note that the cooling obtained in both the processes (A-B and B-C) can be attributed as an ECE. The cooling in process A-B is universal and can be found in any material that exhibits an electric field dependent polarization change while the latter is dependent on the materials' structure and is therefore an intrinsic property of a material. Thus it can be concluded that the reversed Olsen cycle takes advantage of the latter type of cooling process for enhanced performance and is a potential mechanism for some materials to exhibit a 'giant' ECE. This suggests that the refrigeration obtained from reversed Olsen cycle is a combined effect of isothermal entropy and adiabatic temperature change. The same argument in a reverse manner makes the Olsen cycle to perform better with regards to the pyroelectric effect.

As discussed earlier, the present study considers PZT/CFO MLNs since they satisfy most of the essential characteristics required for giant ECE and colossal energy harvesting density using the Olsen cycle. These MLNs of L3, L5 and L9 are investigated for the temperature spectrum of 100 K to 300 K and applied electric field of 0-400 kVcm<sup>-1</sup>. The indirect ECE calculations are carried out using Maxwell relations (equations 1 and 2). In this context, experimental values obtained from the upper branches (polarization variation from remnant to saturation polarization in the first quadrant) of *P-E* isotherms are used to plot isoelectric *P-T* curves (Figure 5). Here, a sharp increase in the polarization is observed as the temperature increases to approximately 200 K. Such a phenomenon in multilayered structures is often attributed to structural transitions or space

charge effects at surface/interface; but this is not thought to be the case for the MLNs as verified by the nominal (less than 20 %) change in polarization over large time span of fatigue test (tested over 10<sup>8</sup> cycles<sup>53</sup>); see Figure S3. Therefore, the main reason for this behavior is the electrical dominance of dynamic magnetoelectric coupling (MEC)<sup>52, 53, 56</sup>. The MEC is referred to as a switching among more than one ferroic order parameters leading to a rise in a certain physical properties such as ferroelectric/electric control of magnetization or vice-versa<sup>57</sup>. The effect has been investigated using Ginzburg-Landau theory and it is found that the MEC in these MLNs is stronger at lower temperatures and becomes weaker at higher temperatures<sup>53</sup>. At an elevated temperature (>200 K), the polarization enhancement is relatively low due to a weak MEC. A significant increase in magnetization below 200 K drastically switches the polarization due to a strong magneto-electric coupling which in turn switches the polarization and hence produces large ECE effects<sup>53</sup>. This reason makes the investigation of ECE intriguing in the MEC governed polarization switch. Furthermore, calculations of the entropy ( $\Delta S$ ) and temperature ( $\Delta T$ ) change are performed using a standard procedure<sup>58</sup> that ensures the reliability of the Maxwell calculations<sup>20</sup> using the *P-T* plots illustrated in Figure 5. The calculations are performed for  $\rho$ =8.3 gcm<sup>-3</sup> and C=330 JK<sup>-1</sup>kg<sup>-1</sup> (assumed constant with variation in temperature) <sup>59</sup>. Figure 6 (a), (b) and (c) shows the calculated entropy-temperature  $(\Delta S-T)$  results while ECE temperature change-temperature ( $\Delta T$ -T) curves are revealed in Figure 6 (d), (e) and (f) for L3, L5 and L9, respectively; the values are calculated using Eqns. 1 and 2. All structures are found to illustrate a negative ECE where L3 accommodates the maximum temperature change of 52.2 K ( $|\Delta S|$ =94.23  $Jkg^{-1}K^{-1}$ ;  $|\Delta E| = 370 \text{ kVcm}^{-1}$ ) at 182 K followed by L5 with  $|\Delta T| = 30.41 \text{ K}$  ( $|\Delta S| = 53.88 \text{ Jkg}^{-1}K^{-1}$  $|\Delta E|$ =370 kVcm<sup>-1</sup>) at 186 K. To best of the author's knowledge the discovered indirect ECE in MLNs of PLZT/CFO is the maximum ECE reported to date (see Table 1). The table suggests

that these MLNs also have a very high  $|\Delta T/\Delta E|$  ratio, which is often considered a criterion for comparing the ECE performance of different materials<sup>60</sup>. However, it is to be noted that the ECE is also dependent on time and the polarization values may decay with time. It has been reported that this could lead to variation in calculated entropy and temperature change by a factor of two<sup>61</sup>. Even if the effect of time is considered the ECE in reported MLNs is highest. Another important observation is the decrease in ECE with layer addition due to a lowering of the net polarization. This may be due to enhanced inter-layer strain and formation of dead layers across the interface with increase in number of ferroelectric (FE) and ferromagnetic (FM) layers which causes a decrease in polarization; note the difference in saturation polarization of all the layers is given in Figure 1. This finally leads to a reduced ECE as the effect is dependent on change in polarization with temperature, as indicated by equations 1 and 2. However, at the same time the temperature corresponding to the maximum ECE also increases (205 K: L9; 186 K: L5; 182 K: L3) with an increase in the number of layers. This suggests that the ECE can be tuned by arrangement and the number of the layers. The exceptional ECE results also make these MLNs appealing for the complementary application of pyroelectric energy harvesting.

All three MLNs are analyzed for energy harvesting using the Olsen cycle. Figure 7 (a) shows the variation of energy density for all three configurations (using eq. 5). These are found to have a maximum energy density of 23011 (L9), 35278 (L5) and 47372 (L3) kJm<sup>-3</sup> respectively. The estimated energy densities obtained are higher than any existing 'giant' value reported to date. Table 2 shows a comparison of energy density and corresponding conditions for selected compositions reported for giant energy harvesting using the Olsen cycle. The reason for this large increase is due to dynamic ME effects in these structures (see the difference in polarization of pure PZT and MLNs (Figure 1)) that cause an increase in the polarization. Additionally,

Figure 7 (b), (c) and (d) shows information regarding the energy harvesting behavior as a function of  $E_H$  with both  $E_L$  and  $T_L$  kept constant at 0 kVcm<sup>-1</sup> and 100 K respectively. The trend illustrate that the energy density increases with a broadening of the temperature range and electric field. However, the dominant magnetism at low temperatures may result in a deviation from the presented energy densities. The change is significantly low due to nominal energy losses (due to increased magnetic polarization) while polarizing at 100 K <sup>52, 53</sup>. Though the present case has very low magnetic losses, there may be cases of large magnetic deviation in some MLNs. Such cases can be dealt by simultaneously coupling the Olsen cycle and its similar counterpart in the magnetic domain and we are exploring such possibilities. In summary, this study demonstrates the competence of MLNs for EC refrigeration and pyroelectric energy harvesting and highlights new opportunities and directions in the domain of solid state energy conversion.

## **Conclusions**

PZT/CFO multilayered nanostructures (MLNs) are revealed to provide exceptional potential for electrocaloric refrigeration and pyroelectric energy harvesting. From the indirect mode of measurement, these structures are found to illustrate giant negative ECE (L3:  $|\Delta T|$ =52.2 K; L5:  $|\Delta T|$ =30.4 K; L9:  $|\Delta T|$ =25.0 K at T=182, 186 and 205 K respectively), the largest reported to date. At the same time a shift in the temperature corresponding to maximum ECE can also be observed with an increase in number of layers (205 K: L9; 186 K: L5; 182 K: L3). This suggests that the ECE can be tuned by using multi-layers and the arrangement of the layers. Additionally, the estimated energy harvesting potential of these layers is also found to be large (L3:47372 kJm<sup>-3</sup>cycle<sup>-1</sup>; L5: 35278 kJm<sup>-3</sup>cycle<sup>-1</sup>; L3: 23011 kJm<sup>-3</sup>cycle<sup>-1</sup>) and is higher than the maximum

reported values to date. The present study also helps in understanding the three stage (adiabatic, isothermal and isoelectric) thermodynamic processes involved in ECE for such materials.

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**Table 1:** Comparison of ECE in selected compositions.

Material	T	ΔΤ	$\Delta S$	ΔΕ	ΔΤ/ ΔΕ	Reference
	[K]	[K]	$[Jkg^{-1}K^{-1}]$	[kVcm <sup>-1</sup> ]	[KemkV <sup>-1</sup> ]	
PZT95/05^	495	12	8	480	0.0250	58
PLZT8/65/35^	318	40	50	1200	0.0333	62
PLZST^	305	3.8	-	80	0.0475	63
SrBi <sub>2</sub> Ta <sub>2</sub> O <sub>9</sub> ^	565	4.9	2.4	600	0.0082	8
PBZ^	290	45	47	598	0.0753	8
PLZT2/95/05 <sup>#</sup>	493	8.5	-	754	0.0113	64
PLZST	306	33	-	900	0.0366	65
$Hf_{0.2}Zr_{0.8}O_2$	307	13.4		3260	0.004	66, 67
PZO <sup>#</sup>	508	7.7	-	514	0.0150	64
PNZST^	323	5.5	-	139	0.0396	63
BT <sup>#</sup>	353	7.1	-	800	0.0089	68
BNT-0.1BT*	323	-3.3	-	517	0.0064	69
PMN-0.30PT*	353	-0.15	-	10	0.0150	70

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<sup>\*</sup>Negative EC effect; \*Thick Films; ^Thin films; the negative sign indicates a negative electrocaloric effect.

**Table 2:** Comparison of energy density and corresponding conditions for selected compositions.

Material	T <sub>Low</sub> (K)	T <sub>High</sub> (K)	E <sub>Low</sub>	E <sub>High</sub>	Energy	Reference
	(IX)	(K)	$(MVm^{-1})$	$(MVm^{-1})$	Density	
					(kJm <sup>-3</sup> cycle <sup>-1</sup> )	
73/27 P(VDF-TrFE)^	296	340	23	53	30	26
PZN-4.5PT	373	433	0	2.0	217	12
PZN-5.5PT	373	463	0	1.2	150	74
PMN-10PT	303	353	0	3.5	186	74
PMN-32PT	353	443	0	0.9	100	27
60/40 P(VDF-TrFE)^	331	350	4.1	47.2	52	11
PNZST	418	448	0.8	3.2	300	25
8/65/35 PLZT#	298	433	0.2	7.5	888	39
BNT-ST-BLT	293	413	0.1	6	2130	34
KNTM	413	433	0.15	0.15	629	35
BNLT	298	393	0.1	11.2	1146	33
BNKT	298	383	0.1	5.2	1986	33

BNK-BST	293	433	0.1	4.0	1523	38
PLZST (x=0.2) #	293	493	30	40	6800	65
YBFO^	15	300	0.1	4	7570	36
PLZST (x=0.18)#	298	573	30	90	7800	75
0.67PMN-0.33PT^	303	323	0	60	6500	37
0.68PMN-0.32PT^	303	323	0	60	8000	37
$Hf_{0.2}Zr_{0.8}O_2$	273	423	0	326	11549	66, 67
PZT/CFO-L9^	100	300	0	40	23011	Present work
PZT/CFO-L5^	100	300	0	40	35278	Present work
PZT/CFO-L3^	100	300	0	40	47372	Present work

<sup>\*</sup>Thick Films; ^Thin Films

# **Figure Captions**

Figure 1: Temperature dependent polarization versus electric field (*P-E*) behavior of (a) pure PZT thin films, (b) L3, (c) L5 and (d) L9 MLNs <sup>52, 53</sup>. Note the increase in polarization with an increase of temperature.

Figure 2: (a) Isothermal unipolar electric polarization versus electric field (P-E) hysteresis loops (b) temperature versus entropy (T-S) curves for electrical energy harvesting (A-B-C-D) using Olsen cycle operated between different temperatures  $T_L$  and  $T_H$ .

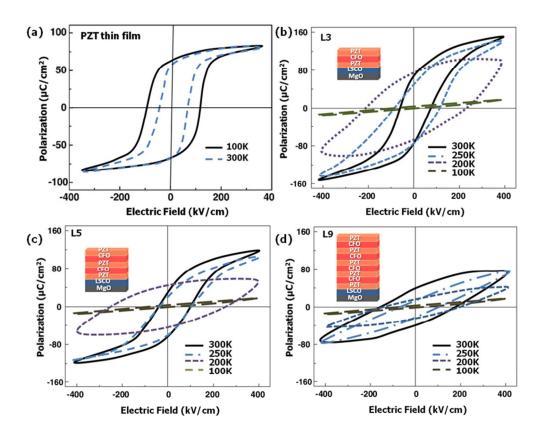
Figure 3: (a) Isothermal unipolar electric polarization versus electric field (P-E) hysteresis loops (b) temperature versus entropy (T-S) curves for a ferroelectric refrigeration cycle (A-B-C-D) operated between different temperatures  $T_L$  and  $T_{H}$ .

Figure 4: Schematic of refrigeration cycle based on reversed Olsen cycle. Note:  $P_B > P_A > P_C > P_{D}$ ;  $S_D > S_A > S_C > S_B$ .

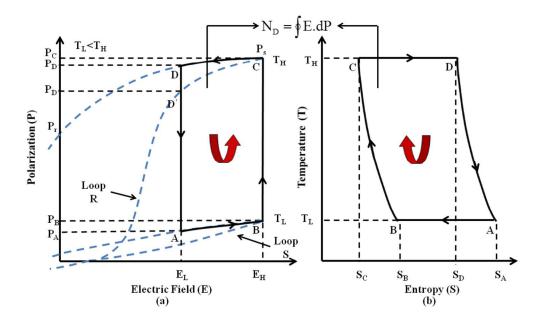
Figure 5: *P-T* plots for (a) L3, (b) L5 and (c) L5 corresponding to selected applied electric fields.

Figure 6: The variation in thermodynamic attributes (entropy  $(\Delta S)$  and temperature  $(\Delta T)$  change) with respect to temperature for selected applied electric fields (calculated using Maxwell relations-equations 1 and 2). The negative values indicate a negative ECE.

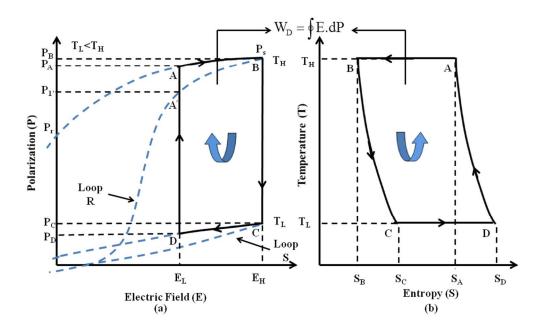
Figure 7: (a) The comparison of energy densities for all three configurations as a function of  $E_H$  in the temperature domain of 100-300 K; the variation of energy density (calculated using equation 5) as a function of  $E_H$  and  $T_H$  for (b) L3, (c) L5 and (d) L9 MLNs respectively.  $E_L$  is kept constant as 0 kVcm<sup>-1</sup>.



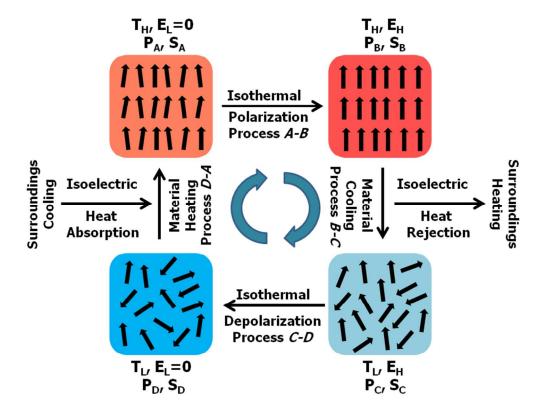
226x183mm (96 x 96 DPI)



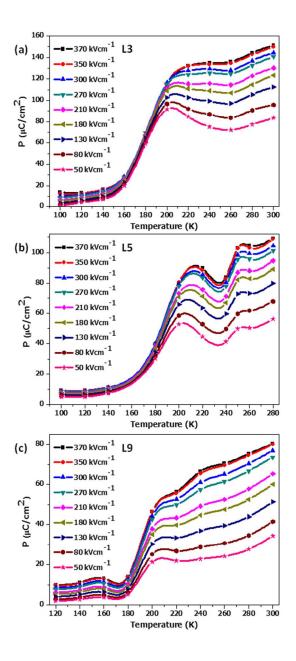
285x168mm (96 x 96 DPI)



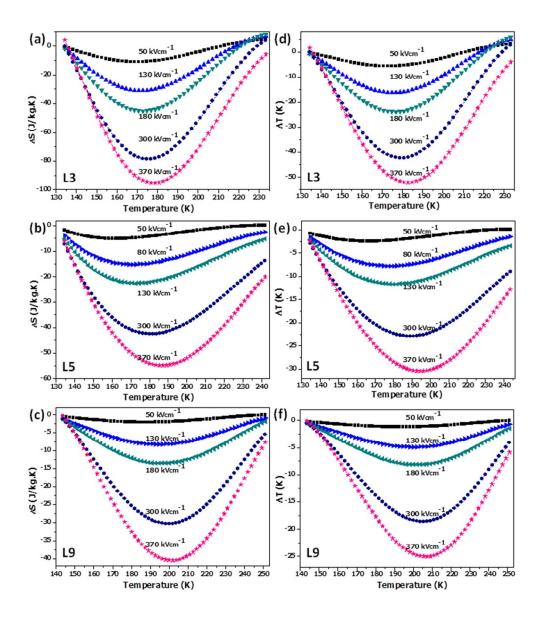
281x169mm (96 x 96 DPI)



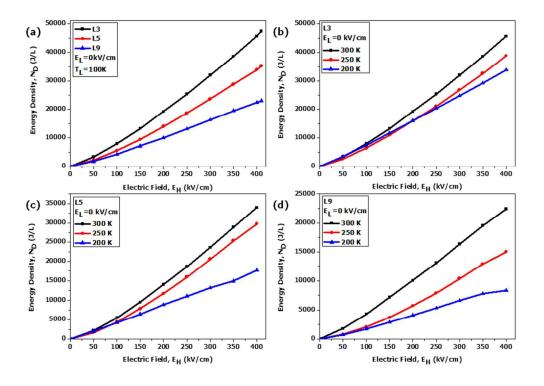
237x187mm (96 x 96 DPI)



126x272mm (96 x 96 DPI)



190x217mm (96 x 96 DPI)



250x177mm (96 x 96 DPI)