

# Large magnetocaloric effect in $\text{Pr}_{1-x}\text{Pb}_x\text{MnO}_3$ ( $0.1 \leq x \leq 0.5$ ) perovskites

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**Abstract:** This research reports the findings of large low-field magnetocaloric effect in polycrystalline  $\text{Pr}_{1-x}\text{Pb}_x\text{MnO}_3$  ( $0.1 \leq x \leq 0.5$ ) perovskites. It is found that, upon an applied field of 13.5 kOe, the magnetic entropy change ( $\Delta S_M$ ) reached values of 3.91, 3.68, and 3.34 Jkg K for  $x=0.1$ , 0.4, and 0.5 compositions, respectively. These values are larger than that of Gd (3.32 Jkg K) and were attained by a low applied magnetic field that can be generated by permanent magnets. These superior magnetocaloric features together with a relatively low material cost make the  $\text{Pr}_{1-x}\text{Pb}_x\text{MnO}_3$  perovskites attractive candidate materials for magnetic refrigerators in a temperature range of 150-270 K. © 2006 American Institute of Physics.

**Index Keywords:** Composition; Magnetic field effects; Permanent magnets; Polycrystalline materials; Praseodymium compounds; Magnetic entropy; Magnetic refrigerators; Magnetocaloric effects; Perovskite

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