

Supporting Information for

The magnetopyroelectric effect: Heat-mediated magnetoelectricity in magnetic nanoparticle-ferroelectric polymer composites

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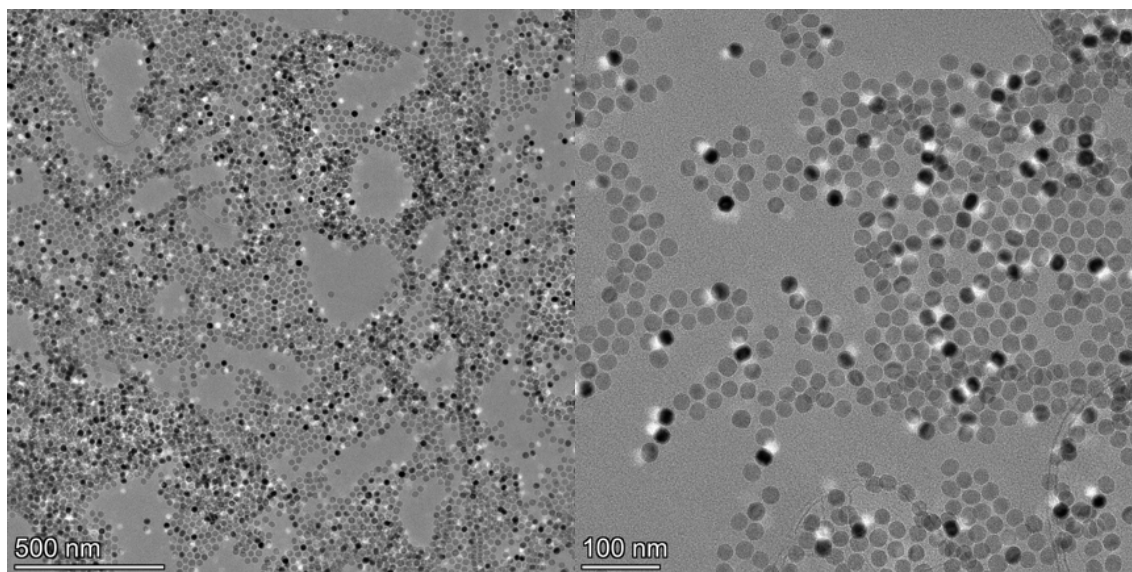


Figure S1. Transmission electron microscopy of the IONPs.

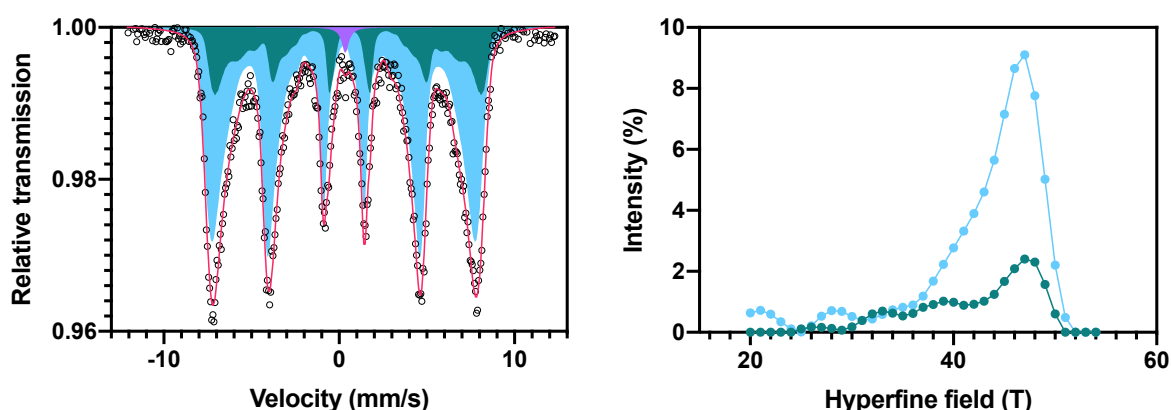


Figure S2. (Left) Room temperature Mössbauer spectrum of the IONPs. The black circles represent the experimental data, the red line is the total fit and the shaded areas represent the three subspectral components (two distributions of sextets and one singlet). (Right) The corresponding distributions of the magnetic hyperfine fields are plotted using the same colors.

Interpretation of the Mössbauer data: The spectra of the sample was fitted using two hyperfine field distributions for the ferromagnetic part of the spectra. [L. P. Ferreira *et al.*, 2022] In this case, a paramagnetic singlet is also needed to obtain a good fit in the central part. Figure S2 shows (Left) the experimental spectra with the best fit curve and (Right) the two distributions of hyperfine fields. The width of the peaks indicates the presence of a distribution of hyperfine fields, i.e., slightly different environs surroundings the Fe atoms. In this fitting method, two distributions have been used for two different iron sites. The distribution with a higher amount of Fe (colored in light blue) presents a value of the isomer shift of ~ 0.28 (1) mm s⁻¹ and a quadrupole splitting of ~ 0.0 (1) mm s⁻¹, typical to Fe³⁺ sites, while the other distribution (colored in dark green) has values of the isomer shift of ~ 0.54 (1) mm s⁻¹ and fixed quadrupole splitting of ~ 0.09 mm s⁻¹. These parameters are typical of Fe^{2.5+}, a mixture of Fe²⁺ and Fe³⁺ in magnetite. [L. P. Ferreira *et al.*, 2022] The atomic percentage of each iron environment is 77 at.% for the first distribution and 22 at.% for the second, showing that the relative amount of Fe³⁺ and Fe^{2.5+} is not the one corresponding to the usual occupations of

tetrahedral and octahedral iron sites in magnetite. Therefore, the iron sites assigned to Fe^{3+} correspond to a mixture of magnetite and maghemite or magnetite with a certain degree of oxidation. The broad hyperfine field distributions are indicative of a distribution of the nanoparticle sizes and the need to use components with low values of the magnetic field (specially between 30 and 40 T) could be explained by some degree of structural defects. Finally, the fitting is not complete without a paramagnetic singlet to take into account the central part of the spectra. This component accounts for an 1 at% of Fe atoms and it can be associated with a wüstite phase, although its low amount makes difficult the determination of its hyperfine parameters and its precise characterization.



Figure S3. Composite films with different loading of IONPs. From left to right: 0, 0.3, 1.3, 2.6, 3.9, 5.1, 11.9 wt%.

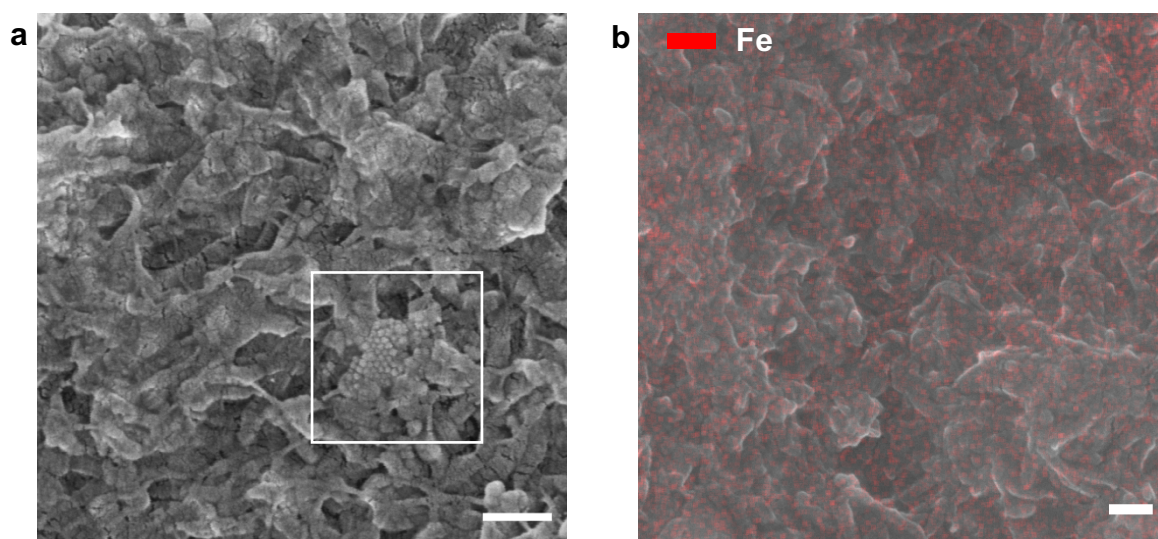


Figure S4. (a) A small cluster of IONPs, showing that the structure of the individual IONPs is preserved. Note that due to the granular texture of the PVDF-TrFE, small clusters of IONPs are easier to identify than individual nanoparticles. (b) An SEM-EDX image of the cross-section of a typical composite film shows a good distribution of IONPs in the sample. Scale bars: 250 nm.

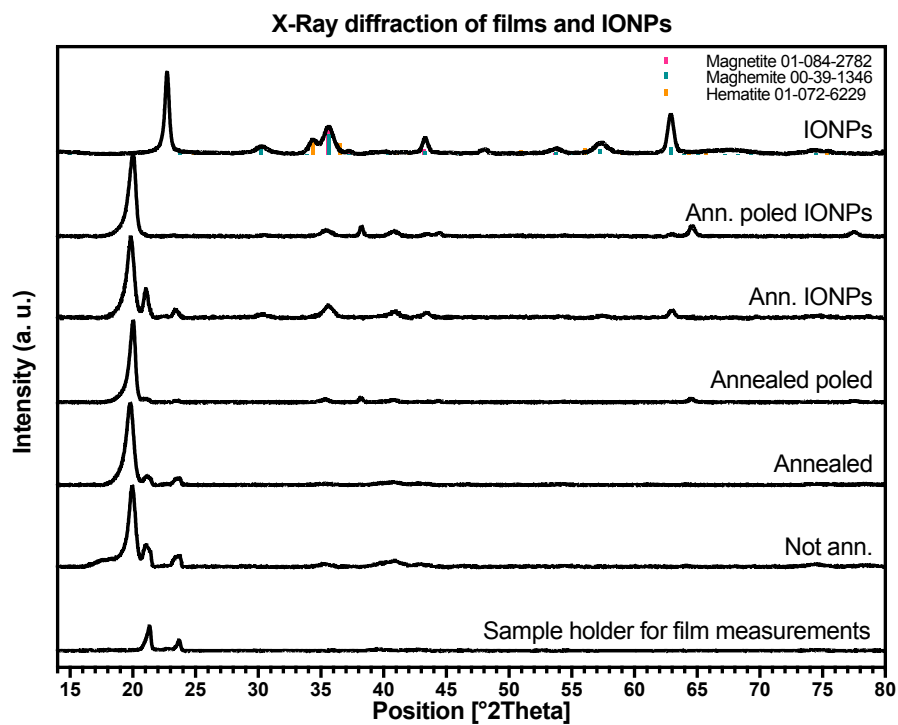


Figure S5. X-ray diffraction of the films and IONPs. The sample holder used to measure the films was measured as a control.

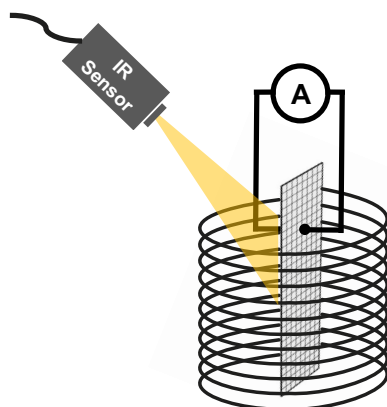


Figure S6. Schematic of the magnetopyroelectric measuring setup.

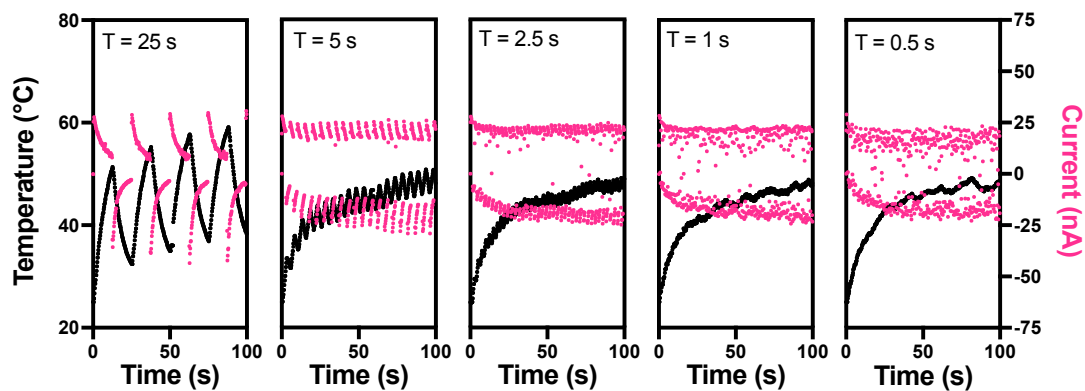


Figure S7. Effect of the magnetic pulse period on MPE.

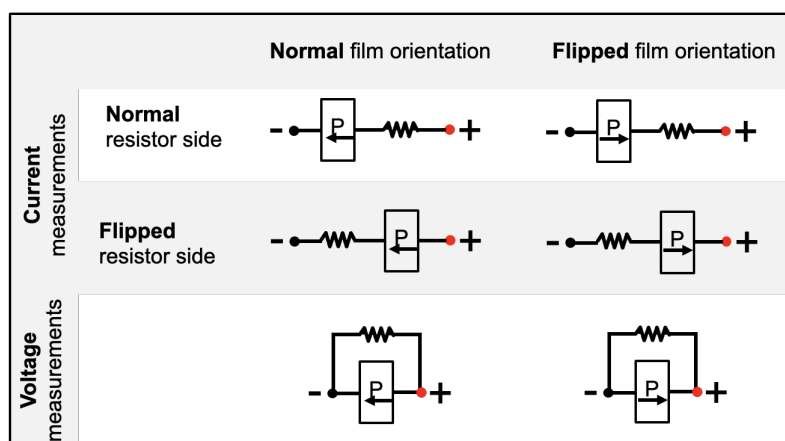


Figure S8. Schematic of the electrical circuit integrating the MPE film. The P and the arrow represent the polarization direction of the film. The black and red nodes represent the corresponding negative and positive connections to the electrometer.

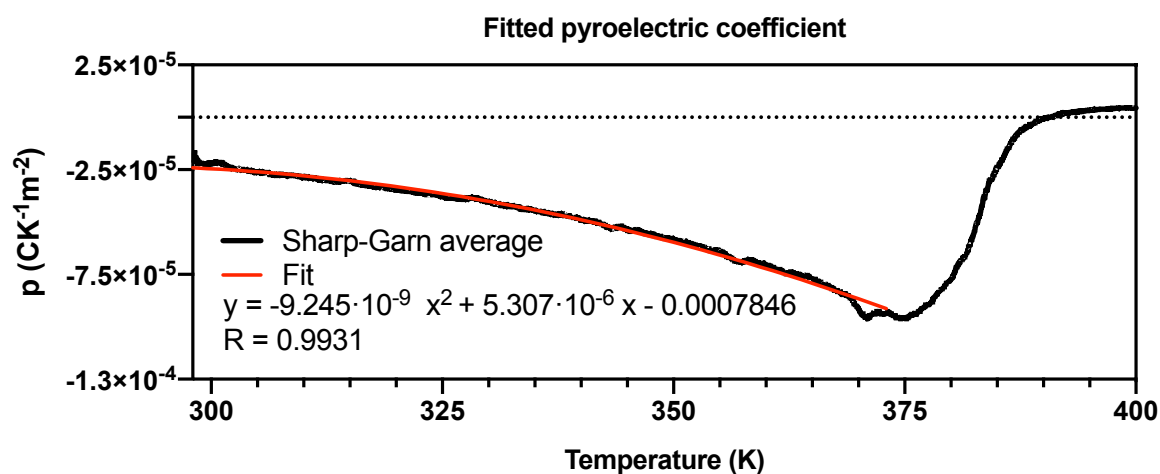


Figure S9. Quadratic fit of the pyroelectric coefficient as a function of temperature (300-370 K) measured via the Sharp-Garn method.

Appendix S1. A simple model to simulate magnetopyroelectricity

| Definitions | | | |
|--|-------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Property | Variable | Unit | Value |
| Density P(VDF-TrFE) 70-30 (ref. 30) | ρ | kg/m ³ | 1940 |
| Heat capacity at constant pressure P(VDF-TrFE) 70-30 (ref. 30) | C_p | J/(kg·K) | 1170 |
| Heat capacitance | C | J/K | 54.475E-3 |
| Specific Loss Power of IONPs | SLP | W/g | 273 |
| Total mass of IONPs (11.9 wt%) | m_{IONPs} | g | 6.089E-3 |
| Heating efficiency | α | - | 0.14 (Best match) |
| Heat transfer coefficient | h | W/(m ² ·K) | 12 (From fit SI Table 1) |
| Heat transfer surface area | A_h | m ² | 2 x 30E-3 x 8 E-3 |
| Environment temperature | T_{env} | K | 298 K |
| Initial temperature | T_0 | K | 298 K |
| Electrode area | A_I | m ² | 30E-3 x 8 E-3 |
| Pyroelectric coefficient | $p(T)$ | C/(m ² ·K) | (From fit Figure S9) |

The internal energy (U) of an incompressible material is related by the heat capacitance of the body

$$\frac{dU}{dt} = C \frac{dT}{dt}$$

Because of energy conservation

$$\frac{dU}{dt} = \frac{dQ_{heating}}{dt} - \frac{dQ_{cooling}(T)}{dt}$$

Considering that the gained heat is only given by the specific loss power (SLP) of the constituting IONPs

$$\frac{dQ_{heating}}{dt} = SLP \cdot m_{IONPs} \cdot \alpha$$

and approximating the heat losses to Newton's law of cooling

$$\frac{dQ_{cooling}(T)}{dt} = h \cdot A_h \cdot (T(t) - T_{env})$$

The differential equation becomes

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = \frac{1}{C} \cdot (SLP \cdot m_{IONPs} \cdot \alpha - h \cdot A_h \cdot (T(t) - T_{env}))$$

The solution of the ordinary differential equation gives the temperature of the composite film as a function of time

$$T(t) = \frac{SLP \cdot m_{IONPs} \cdot \alpha}{h \cdot A_h} + T_{env} + C_1 \cdot e^{-\frac{A_h \cdot h}{C} t}$$

Solving for the initial condition ($T(t = 0) = T_0$),

$$T(t) = T_{env} + \frac{SLP \cdot m_{IONPs} \cdot \alpha}{h \cdot A_h} + \left(T_0 - T_{env} - \frac{SLP \cdot m_{IONPs} \cdot \alpha}{h \cdot A_h} \right) \cdot e^{-\frac{A_h \cdot h}{C} t}$$

Where $\alpha = 0$ during cooling and $0 < \alpha < 1$ during heating.

Then, the temperature change rate is

$$\frac{dT(t)}{dt} = -\frac{A_h \cdot h}{C} \cdot \left(T_0 - T_{env} - \frac{SLP \cdot m_{IONPs} \cdot \alpha}{h \cdot A_h} \right) \cdot e^{-\frac{A_h \cdot h}{C} t}$$

The change in the spontaneous polarization of the film (in the polar direction) is then given by

$$dP_s = p(T) \cdot dT$$

And consequently, the generated pyroelectric current is

$$I_p = A_I \cdot p(T) \cdot \frac{dT}{dt}$$

Table S1. Calculated heat transfer coefficients from a one-phase decay fit of the cooling step [W/m²K]

| Experiment ID | T0 | Tenv | <i>h</i> | Standard error | R ² | df |
|------------------------------|------|------|----------|----------------|----------------|-----|
| 11.9 wt%, T = 100 | 62.6 | 31.8 | 11.3 | 0.5305 | 0.9951 | 441 |
| 11.9 wt%, flipped, T = 100 s | 66.7 | 31.7 | 11.7 | 0.4709 | 0.9970 | 441 |
| 11.9 wt%, T = 25 | 51.9 | 29.0 | 17.3 | 0.1565 | 0.9992 | 113 |

Table S2. Calculated heat transfer coefficients from a two-phase decay fit of the cooling step [W/m²K]

| Experiment ID | T0 | Tenv | <i>h_{fast}</i> | <i>h_{slow}</i> | RatioFast | <i>h_{weighed}</i> | Standard error | R ² | df |
|------------------------------|----------|------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----|
| 11.9 wt%, T = 100 | 64.5 | 28.8 | 20.0 | 4.3 | 0.574 | 13.3 | 0.1638 | 0.9995 | 439 |
| 11.9 wt%, flipped, T = 100 s | 68.17 | 27.1 | 16.8 | 2.8 | 0.681 | 12.3 | 0.1068 | 0.9998 | 439 |
| 11.9 wt%, T = 25 | unstable | | | | | | | | |

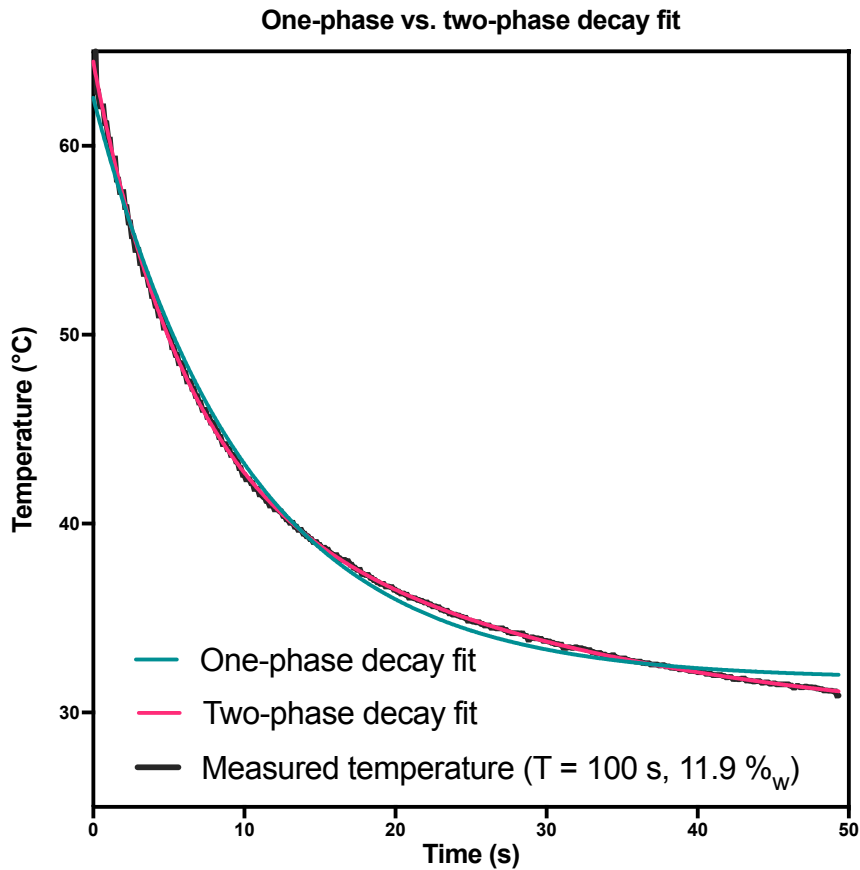


Figure S10. One and two-phase decay fitting of the temperature of a 11.9 wt% film during the first cooling step. The two-phase fit is more accurate.