

Review



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# Thermodynamics of multicaloric effects in multiferroic materials: application to metamagnetic shape-memory alloys and ferrotoroidics

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We develop a general thermodynamic framework to investigate multicaloric effects in multiferroic materials. This is applied to the study of both magnetostructural and magnetoelectric multiferroics. Landau models with appropriate interplay between the corresponding ferroic properties (order parameters) are proposed for metamagnetic shape-memory and ferrotoroidic materials, which, respectively, belong to the two classes of multiferroics. For each ferroic property, caloric effects are quantified by the isothermal entropy change induced by the application of the corresponding thermodynamically conjugated field. The multicaloric effect is obtained as a function of the two relevant applied fields in each class of multiferroics. It is further shown that multicaloric effects comprise the corresponding contributions from caloric effects associated with each ferroic property and the cross-contribution arising from the interplay between these ferroic properties.

This article is part of the themed issue 'Taking the temperature of phase transitions in cool materials'.

## 1. Introduction

Any material thermally responds to changes in its properties induced by application or removal of an

external field. The reversible component of this response provides the basis for the caloric properties. In general, caloric effects are quantified by the response corresponding to isothermal and adiabatic variations of the field. In the first case, the response is given by the heat exchanged with the surroundings that results in a change of the entropy of the material, whereas, in the second, it is measured by the corresponding change of temperature [1]. Among the different caloric properties, the magnetocaloric effect is a well-known phenomenon that has been widely used for low-temperature cryogenic applications. The discovery of a giant magnetocaloric response close to room temperature in  $\text{Gd}_5(\text{Si}_x\text{Ge}_{1-x})_4$  [2] has opened the route to propose the magnetocaloric effect as an actual alternative to vapour-compression technology for room-temperature refrigeration. More recently, materials that display large mechano- and electrocaloric effects have also been developed [3]. In general, solid-state refrigeration technologies based on caloric effects are expected to contribute to reducing global energy consumption and minimizing the use of ozone-depleting and greenhouse chemicals that are unavoidable in present refrigeration technologies.

Ferroc materials, such as ferroelastic, ferroelectric and ferromagnetic, are expected to show a large caloric response near the phase transition at which the ferroic property spontaneously emerges. Depending on symmetry-dictated conditions and possible coupling of the ferroic property to secondary parameters, this transition is either continuous or first order. The last case is especially interesting, because, then, the transition can be field induced and a giant caloric response is expected when the transition latent heat is large [4]. In this paper, we are mainly interested in the case of multiferroics with two or more coupled ferroic properties, which enables cross-response to multiple fields [5]. Therefore, this class of systems offers us new possibilities as multifunctional materials. In particular, they have been envisaged as materials susceptible to display multicaloric effects, which means that caloric effects associated with each kind of ferroicity are expected to occur in an interdependent manner. The cross-effect is enhanced in those multiferroics where the two (or more) ferroic orders emerge simultaneously, which requires a strong interplay (i.e. coupling) between different ferroicities.

Among the class of multiferroic materials, here we will consider the magnetostructural and magnetoelectric families. The former may display simultaneous ferroelastic and ferromagnetic orders, whereas the latter (usually simply known as multiferroics) display ferroelectric and ferromagnetic orders. We will pay special attention to metamagnetic shape-memory alloys [6], which constitute an interesting class of magnetostructural multiferroics, and to ferrotoroidic systems, in which the ordering of toroidal moments leads to an intrinsic antisymmetric magnetoelectric interplay [7].

The paper is organized as follows. In §2, we discuss recent experimental results that show the relevance of the interplay between different properties in multiferroic materials for the caloric response. In §3, we summarize the main thermodynamic results describing multicaloric effects. In §4, we study multicaloric effects within the framework of the Landau approach. This method is applied to the study of multicaloric effects in metamagnetic shape-memory and ferrotoroidic materials described by appropriate Landau free energies taken as examples of magnetostructural and magnetoelectric multiferroics. Finally, in §5, we summarize the main results and conclude.

## 2. Review of experimental results

In order to avoid ambiguities, we will start with a reminder of the accepted definition of a multicaloric material as proposed by Moya *et al.* [4]. According to these authors, a multicaloric material is one that can support more than one type of caloric effect. Therefore, we assume that multicaloric effects occur if more than one type of caloric effect can be driven either simultaneously or sequentially in a given system. In this paper, we are essentially interested in the case where the diverse caloric effects do not occur independently of each other but rather where the cross-response effects arising from the interplay between the different properties influence the

caloric response associated with a given property. These effects are indeed expected to occur in both magnetostructural and magnetoelectric multiferroic materials.

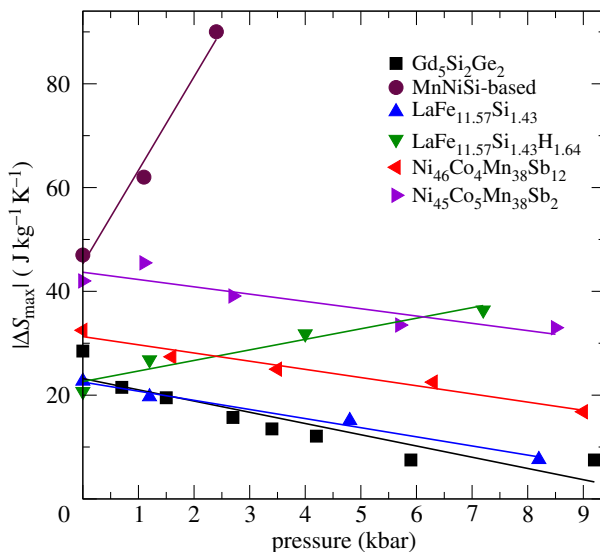
Many materials have proven to support more than one caloric effect. Actually, most of the prototypical magnetocaloric materials such as Gd–Si–Ge [8], La–Fe–Si [9], Fe–Rh [10] and NiMn-based Heusler alloys [11,12] have been recently reported to display interesting mechanocaloric (either baro- or both baro- and elastocaloric) effects. Electrocaloric materials are also known to display elasto- [13] or barocaloric effects [14]. In some cases, the elastocaloric response in these materials has even been shown to display a larger strength than the primary electrocaloric effect [15].

Besides the previously mentioned and similar reported results, to date relatively few research efforts have been devoted to the study of multicaloric cross-response in multiferroic materials. Some important results are the following. The influence of an applied hydrostatic pressure on the magnetocaloric effect in MnAs [16], Gd<sub>5</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> [17] and hydrogenated LaFeSi has been shown to occur as a result of volume changes arising from magnetostructural interplay. The influence of pressure produces quite diverse effects in magnetocaloric materials. While in MnAs the magnetocaloric effect increases with pressure, in Gd<sub>5</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> it decreases, because application of pressure makes the magnetostructural transition from the monoclinic to orthorhombic phase to approach the Curie temperature of the monoclinic phase. At a given pressure of 6 kbar, both transitions merge into a single one, which becomes of second order. Above this pressure, the magnetocaloric effect remains pressure independent, showing the features of the magnetocaloric effect associated with a second-order transition. In the case of La(FeSi)<sub>13</sub>H<sub>x</sub> compounds, it has been reported [18] that, while the magnetocaloric effect decreases under an applied pressure in LaFe<sub>11.57</sub>Si<sub>1.43</sub> (LaFeSi), it is instead enhanced in the LaFe<sub>11.57</sub>Si<sub>1.43</sub>H<sub>1.64</sub> hydride. In both LaFeSi and LaFeSi-hydride, the magnetostructural transition is shifted to lower temperatures by increasing the applied pressure. The different effect of pressure on the magnetocaloric response seems to be a consequence of the fact that, while the magnetization change at the transition strongly decreases by application of pressure in LaFeSi, it is almost pressure independent in the hydrides.

Pressure experiments reported by Caron *et al.* [19] in hexagonal Ni<sub>2</sub>In-type Mn<sub>1-x</sub>Cr<sub>x</sub>CoGe compounds reveal that pressure is able to tune the temperature at which the magnetostructural phase transition occurs. However, the magnitude of the magnetocaloric effect is almost insensitive to the applied pressure. Samanta *et al.* [20] have studied similar MnNiSi-based compounds. They took advantage of the fact that the magnetovolume interplay can be strongly enhanced by isostructurally alloying 46% of MnNiSi with 54% MnFeGe. In the resulting system, application of a moderate pressure of about 2.5 kbar enables doubling of the isothermal magnetic field-induced entropy change, owing to a huge volume change of 7% taking place at the magnetostructural transition undergone by the compound close to room temperature.

This effect of pressure on the magnetocaloric properties of the Heusler NiCoMnSb alloy has been reported in [21]. In this system, the magnetocaloric effect is inverse and application of a magnetic field shifts the martensitic transition to lower temperatures. However, pressure has an opposite effect and, thus, application of pressure decreases the magnitude of the magnetic field-induced entropy change. The effect is however very sensitive to the composition. For instance, under application of a magnetic field of 5 T, the induced entropy change decreases from 33 to 16 J kg<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup> by application of 8.5 kbar in Ni<sub>46</sub>Co<sub>4</sub>Mn<sub>38</sub>Sb<sub>12</sub>, whereas it changes from 41.4 to 33 J kg<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup> in Ni<sub>45</sub>Co<sub>5</sub>Mn<sub>38</sub>Sb<sub>12</sub> for the same pressure variation. The authors claim that, by adjusting the Co concentration and applying suitable pressure, a large magnetocaloric effect can be tuned over a large temperature range around room temperature, which improves the potential refrigerant capacity of the system.

In figure 1, we show, for the above-discussed materials, the dependence of the maximum of the entropy change (absolute value,  $|\Delta S_{\max}(0 \rightarrow B = 5 \text{ T})|$ ) on the applied pressure obtained under isothermal application of a magnetic field of 5 T. Taking into account that the obtained behaviour is linear to a reasonably good approximation, in relation to the magnetocaloric response, the strength of the magnetovolume interplay can be measured by the rate of change of the induced



**Figure 1.** Maximum value of the entropy change,  $\Delta S_{\max}$ , obtained by isothermal application of a magnetic field of 5 T as a function of the hydrostatic pressure.

entropy change at a given applied field with pressure,  $d[|\Delta S_{\max}(0 \rightarrow B = 5 \text{ T})|]/dp$ . We have obtained a very large value of approximately  $18 \text{ J (K kg kbar)}^{-1}$  for the MnNiSi-based compound, approximately  $2 \text{ J (K kg kbar)}^{-1}$  for LaFeSi-hydride and negative low values, approximately  $-1.8 \text{ J (K kg kbar)}^{-1}$ , for the remaining compounds.

In the case of Heusler alloys, the influence of a magnetic field on the elastocaloric effect induced by the application of uniaxial compressive stress has been reported in [22]. In spite of the fact that only relatively low stresses (about 10 MPa) were applied owing to poor mechanical properties characteristic of this class of materials, results provide evidence for a significant elastocaloric effect associated with the large entropy change at the magnetostructural phase transition undergone by the material. Interestingly, application of a magnetic field below 1 T was found to increase the elastocaloric relative cooling power by about 20%. Similarly, the effect of an applied electric field on the elastocaloric response of ferroelectric  $\text{Pb}(\text{Mn}_{1/3}\text{Nb}_{2/3})\text{O}_3\text{-}32\text{PbTiO}_3$  single crystals induced by uniaxial compressive stress has been reported in [23]. The effect has been found to be quite small. More interesting seems to be the enhancement of the electrocaloric effect associated with an applied uniaxial compressive stress.

The possibility of electric control of the magnetocaloric effect (or, conversely, magnetic control of the electrocaloric effect) in strain-mediated extrinsic multiferroic systems has been foreseen by Moya *et al.* [24]. With this aim, they studied the extrinsic magnetocaloric effect in ferromagnetic  $\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Ca}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3$  manganite grown on ferroelectric–ferroelastic  $\text{BaTiO}_3$  substrates owing to strain-mediated feedback associated with its first-order structural phase transition. On the other hand, inspired by the large magnetoelectric coupling arising from transferred stress in  $\text{FeRh}/\text{BaTiO}_3$  heterostructures that enables the magnetic first-order transition in FeRh to be modified [25], Gong *et al.* [26] prepared ribbons of  $\text{Ni}_{44}\text{Co}_{5.2}\text{Mn}_{36.7}\text{In}_{14.1}$  (NiCoMnIn) combined with  $\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Sr}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3/\text{Pb}(\text{Mg}_{1/3}\text{Nb}_{2/3})\text{O}_3\text{-PbTiO}_3$  (PMN–PT) substrate to investigate the effect of electric field on the magnetocaloric effect in NiCoMnIn. This material is a well-known Heusler shape-memory alloy undergoing a magnetostructural transition that displays an inverse magnetocaloric effect and the heterostructural films of PMN–PT enable the necessary strain to be induced that can tune the magnetocaloric effect by application of an electric field. The obtained results, while not spectacular, clearly demonstrate that the magnetocaloric effect can be controlled by the applied electric field.

More recently, good multicaloric properties have been predicted in laminated multiferroic composites designed with layers of Gd and  $\text{Hf}_{0.2}\text{Zr}_{0.8}\text{O}_2$ , which are, respectively, good magnetocaloric and electrocaloric materials with almost the same Curie transition temperatures as the corresponding ferromagnetic and ferroelectric phases [27].

To the best of our knowledge, no similar studies have been performed so far in intrinsic magnetoelectric multiferroics, probably because few exist in Nature or have been synthesized in the laboratory.

Finally, it is worth pointing out that multicaloric effects have also been studied from first-principle calculations. It has been shown that this is a method to find efficient mechanisms leading to an enhancement of interplay between ferroic properties that could provide new routes for designing new multiferroic materials with optimal multicaloric effects [28,29].

In general, results demonstrating the influence of interplay (i.e. coupling) between ferroic properties are interesting not only because they enable information to be gained on the mechanisms at the origin of interplay, but also because the possibility of inducing large thermal effects by combining diverse external fields may open up a new strategy for improving the efficiency of solid-state cooling devices. In §3, we establish the thermodynamic basis that enables a quantitative study of cross-response caloric effects.

### 3. Thermodynamics

For the sake of generality, let us consider a multiferroic material characterized by  $n$  (not independent) ferroic properties (or generalized displacements)  $\{x_i\}$  with corresponding thermodynamically conjugated fields (or generalized forces)  $\{Y_i\}$ . Pairs of these variables can be magnetization and magnetic field, polarization and electric field, or strain and stress. Variables in each pair have the same tensorial order, so that the tensorial product  $Y_i \cdot x_i$  is a scalar (with units of energy density). The two relevant caloric responses are the isothermal and adiabatic responses to an applied field  $Y_j$  measured, respectively, by  $\xi_T^j = (\partial S / \partial Y_j)_T$  and  $\xi_S^j = (\partial T / \partial Y_j)_S$ , where  $S$  and  $T$  are entropy and temperature, respectively, and the derivatives are computed keeping the fields  $\{Y_{k \neq j}\}$  constant. Using Maxwell relations,<sup>1</sup> these response functions can be written as  $\xi_T^j = (\partial x_j / \partial T)_{\{Y_i\}}$  and  $\xi_S^j = -(\partial x_j / \partial S)_{\{Y_i\}}$ . It is then straightforward to see that  $\xi_T^j = -C \xi_S^j / T$ , where  $C = T(\partial S / \partial T)_{\{Y_i\}}$  is a heat capacity. In the case of the magnetocaloric effect, the relevant response function is  $\xi_T^m = (\partial \mathbf{m} / \partial T)_{\mathbf{B}}$ , where  $\mathbf{m}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are the magnetization and magnetic field, respectively. For the electrocaloric effect, the corresponding relevant quantities are polarization,  $\mathbf{p}$ , and electric field,  $\mathbf{E}$ , whereas strain,  $\bar{\epsilon}$ , and stress,  $\bar{\sigma}$ , are the relevant variables in the case of the mechanocaloric effect. Note that for magneto- and electrocaloric effects these variables are vectors, whereas they are second-rank tensors in the case of the mechanocaloric effect.

Changes of entropy and temperature associated with a finite variation of the field are obtained by integration of  $\xi_T^j$  or  $C \xi_S^j / T$ , respectively. Usually, the field is assumed to change only in magnitude. Nevertheless, it is worth pointing out that the study of magnetocaloric effect associated with field rotation in highly anisotropic magnetic materials has recently attracted some interest [30,31]. However, we will not consider here such situations and, in what follows, we will discuss only caloric and multicaloric effects associated with changes of magnitude of the fields.

Although not imposed by thermodynamics, the response functions  $\xi_T^j$  are in general negative, because ferroic properties are expected to reach a maximum value in the ground state. Therefore, in general, the entropy decreases when a field is applied isothermally while temperature increases when it is applied adiabatically. This corresponds to conventional caloric effects. Nevertheless, in some regions of the space of thermodynamic parameters,  $\xi_T^j$  can be positive and, then, the caloric effect is denoted inverse, which means that entropy increases when the field is applied isothermally, whereas temperature decreases when it is applied adiabatically. This behaviour can

<sup>1</sup>Maxwell relations are a consequence of the fact that the generalized vector for  $\{y_i\}$  is conservative.

occur near a phase transition owing, for instance, to specific features of the interplay between ferroic properties, or associated with frustration effects, or a combination of both [6,32].

Let us now discuss multicaloric effects induced by application of more than one field. We summarize here the thermodynamic development published in [33]. For the sake of practical applications, we consider systems with two ferroic properties  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  with thermodynamically conjugated fields  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$ , respectively. Assuming that the system responds isotropically to the applied fields, the change of entropy induced by isothermal changes of the magnitude of both fields can be expressed as

$$\Delta S[T, (0,0) \rightarrow (Y_1, Y_2)] = \Delta S[T, (0,0) \rightarrow (Y_1, 0)] + \Delta S[T, (Y_1, 0) \rightarrow (Y_1, Y_2)], \quad (3.1)$$

where, if, for instance,  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  are vectors,  $x$  will be the projection of  $\mathbf{x}$  in the direction of the applied field, while if they are tensors, then  $x$  corresponds to the same combination of tensor elements as in  $Y$ .

In the expression (3.1), the first term on the right-hand side is simply the entropy change that quantifies the caloric effect associated with the ferroic property  $x_1$ . The second term can be written as the sum of terms that measure the caloric effect associated with the induced change of the property  $x_2$  and a caloric cross-response contribution. That is,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta S[T, (Y_1, 0) \rightarrow (Y_1, Y_2)] &= \Delta S[T, (0,0) \rightarrow (0, Y_2)] \\ &+ \int_0^{Y_1} \frac{\partial}{\partial Y'_1} [\Delta S(T, (Y'_1, 0) \rightarrow (Y'_1, Y_2))] dY'_1. \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

After some straightforward calculation, the cross-response contribution can be expressed as

$$\int_0^{Y_1} \frac{\partial}{\partial Y'_1} [\Delta S(T, (Y'_1, 0) \rightarrow (Y'_1, Y_2))] dY'_1 = \int_0^{Y_1} \int_0^{Y_2} \frac{\partial \chi_{12}}{\partial T} dY_2 dY_1, \quad (3.3)$$

where  $\chi_{12}$  ( $=\chi_{21}$ ) is the cross-susceptibility that quantifies the response of  $x_1$  ( $x_2$ ) to the non-conjugated field  $Y_2$  ( $Y_1$ ). Therefore, in the presence of interplay between both ferroic properties, the multicaloric effect is not the simple sum of the caloric effects associated with each one independently. The lack of additivity is controlled by the temperature dependence of the cross-susceptibility.<sup>2</sup>

It is worth pointing out that in some cases it is useful to decompose the pure caloric terms  $\Delta S[T, (0,0) \rightarrow (Y_1, 0)]$  and  $\Delta S[T, (0,0) \rightarrow (0, Y_2)]$ , as the sum of contributions, respectively, associated with the properties  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ . The following result is obtained after some calculation:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta S[T, (0,0) \rightarrow (Y_1, 0)] &= \Delta S[T, Y_2=0, x_1(0) \rightarrow x_1(Y_1)] + \Delta S[T, Y_2=0, x_2(0) \rightarrow x_2(Y_1)] \\ &= - \int_{x_1(0)}^{x_1(Y_1)} \left( \frac{\partial Y_1}{\partial T} \right)_{T, x_2} dx_1 - \int_{x_2(0)}^{x_2(Y_1)} \left( \frac{\partial Y_1}{\partial T} \right)_{T, x_1} dx_2, \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

and a similar equation for the entropy change induced by the application of field  $Y_2$ . Note that the second term on the right-hand side of equation (3.4) only vanishes when there is no interplay between the properties  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ .

## 4. Landau approach

In this section, we aim to apply the thermodynamic formalism summarized in §3 to the study of multicaloric effects near phase transitions of a system described by two ferroic properties within the framework of the Landau approach. Ferroic properties are convenient order parameters, which will be assumed to be one-component (scalar)-order parameters. This is consistent with

<sup>2</sup>Note that in §2 we have quantified the effect of the magnetovolume interplay on the magnetocaloric effect through the derivative of the magnetic field-induced entropy change with respect to pressure. This is the derivative that appears in the second term on the right-hand side of equation (3.2), which gives the contribution to the caloric effect from the interplay between the two ferroic properties.



the isotropy assumption made in §3. The free energy function will contain pure contributions associated with each ferroic property and a term accounting for their interplay. That is,

$$F = F_1(T, x_1) + F_2(T, x_2) + F_{12}(T, x_1, x_2). \quad (4.1)$$

Within the Landau theory, near a phase transition, these contributions are expressed as series expansions of the order parameters. To ensure that the free energy function is invariant under the symmetry operations of the system, only terms allowed by symmetry must be included in the expansion. Expansion coefficients are material dependent and explicitly bring in the dependence on temperature. The approach is phenomenological and its natural combination with the thermodynamic formalism provides a powerful method to study the behaviour of thermodynamic quantities near phase transitions. The presence of external fields thermodynamically conjugated to the order parameters (ferroic properties) can be taken into account by introducing Gibbs-like free energies through the Legendre transforms,  $G_1 = F_1 - Y_1 x_1$  and  $G_2 = F_2 - Y_2 x_2$ . Then, the equilibrium values of the ferroic properties at a given temperature in the presence of applied fields are obtained from minimization of  $G = G_1 + G_2 + F_{12}$ . Usually, temperature dependence is assumed only in the lowest-order quadratic terms of  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ , imposing that the high-temperature susceptibilities associated with properties  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  satisfy Curie–Weiss dependence. That is, it is assumed that  $(\partial^2 F_1 / \partial x_1^2)_{x_1=0} = \chi_1^{-1}(T) = a_1(T - T_{c_1})$  and  $(\partial^2 F_2 / \partial x_2^2)_{x_2=0} = \chi_2^{-1}(T) = a_2(T - T_{c_2})$ , where  $T_{c_1}$  and  $T_{c_2}$  are limits of stability of pure high-temperature phases 1 and 2, respectively. Taking into account that entropy is given by  $S = -\partial G / \partial T$ , the entropy change induced by isothermal consecutive application of fields  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  can be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta S[T, (0, 0) \rightarrow (Y_1, Y_2)] &= -\frac{1}{2}a_1[x_1^2(T, Y_1, Y_2) - x_1^2(T, 0, 0)] \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2}a_2[x_2^2(T, Y_1, Y_2) - x_2^2(T, 0, 0)], \end{aligned} \quad (4.2)$$

where the values of the ferroic properties on the right-hand side of (4.2) are the equilibrium values and thus solutions of  $\partial G / \partial x_1 = \partial G / \partial x_2 = 0$  for the indicated values of the fields  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$ . Of course, the same entropy change is obtained, regardless of the order of application of the fields. It is straightforward to see that expression (4.2) is equivalent to the previous general thermodynamic expression (3.2) and thus provides an alternative procedure to compute field-induced entropy changes. After some algebra equation (4.2) can be written in the form

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta S[T, (0, 0) \rightarrow (Y_1, Y_2)] &= -\frac{1}{2}a_1[x_1^2(T, Y_1, 0) - x_1^2(T, 0, 0)] - \frac{1}{2}a_2[x_2^2(T, 0, Y_2) - x_2^2(T, 0, 0)] \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2}a_1[x_1^2(T, Y_1, Y_2) - x_1^2(T, Y_1, 0)] - \frac{1}{2}a_2[x_2^2(T, Y_1, Y_2) - x_2^2(T, 0, Y_2)]. \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

Note that this expression explicitly takes into account the decomposition considered in equation (3.4). Actually, the first two terms on the right-hand side correspond to the pure contributions associated with both ferroic properties and the last two terms quantify the cross-response. Each one of these two last terms represents the entropy change associated with a given property keeping the non-conjugated field at a non-zero constant value. Indeed, these terms vanish in the absence of interplay between ferroic properties.

It is worth pointing out that, when explicit temperature dependence of higher-order coefficients in the Landau expansion is assumed, equation (4.2) must be replaced by an expression in the form of an expansion with coefficients given by temperature derivatives of the successive terms that carry an explicit temperature dependence in the Landau free energy function.

### (a) Application to metamagnetic shape-memory alloys

A metamagnetic shape-memory alloy is a material undergoing a martensitic transition with associated shape-memory properties that exhibits different magnetic orders in the high- (parent) and low-temperature (martensitic) phases. Usually, the parent phase is ferromagnetic, and there

is a re-entrance towards a paramagnetic phase<sup>3</sup> at the transition which is a consequence of strong magnetostructural interplay [34]. At a microscopic level, this interplay can be understood as being the result of the strong sensitivity of the oscillatory exchange coupling of localized magnetic moments (RKKY-type exchange mediated by the conduction electrons) to small changes in the distances of the atoms carrying the moments induced by the structural transition, which leads to a competition between ferro- and antiferromagnetism [35]. Therefore, these materials must be classified within the family of the magnetostructural multiferroics. The structural transition is essentially described by a shear mechanism, but also involves a significant volume change. Lattice Hamiltonians with parameters obtained from *ab initio* calculations have been proposed to account for the magnetocaloric properties of this class of materials [36]. In addition, mean field models have been reported.<sup>4</sup> Nevertheless, such models do not take into account the effect of pressure. In the present model, we assume that the shear,  $\varepsilon$ , and the magnetization,  $m$ , are primary-order parameters describing the symmetry breaking taking place at the transitions, while the relative volume change,  $\omega$ , is a secondary-order parameter coupled to the shear.<sup>5</sup> We propose the following Landau free energy function to study this class of materials:

$$F(T, \varepsilon, m, \omega) = F_\varepsilon(T, \varepsilon) + F_m(T, m) + \frac{\omega^2}{2D} + \kappa_1 m^2 \varepsilon^2 + \kappa_2 \omega \varepsilon^2, \quad (4.4)$$

where  $F_\varepsilon$  and  $F_m$  are the following expansions that include only even powers of the corresponding order parameters adequate for a first-order structural transition and for a continuous ferromagnetic transition, respectively:

$$F_\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2} a_\varepsilon (T - T_0) \varepsilon^2 - \frac{1}{4} b \varepsilon^4 + \frac{1}{6} c \varepsilon^6 \quad (4.5)$$

and

$$F_m = \frac{1}{2} a_m (T - T_c) m^2 + \frac{1}{4} \beta m^4. \quad (4.6)$$

In the previous expansions, all the coefficients are assumed to be positive. The minus sign of the  $\varepsilon^4$  coefficient ensures that  $F_\varepsilon$  describes a first-order transition. The term  $\omega^2/2D$  is the elastic energy associated with volume change and thus  $D$  is a compressibility coefficient. The last two terms in equation (4.4) are isotropic coupling terms between shear and magnetization and between shear and volume, respectively. It is worth pointing out that, in spite of being permitted by symmetry, a direct coupling,  $\omega m^2$ , between volume and magnetization is assumed to be negligibly small and thus not included in the model. This is suggested by the very weak effect of an applied hydrostatic pressure on the Curie temperature in metamagnetic shape-memory alloys [39]. Note that in the free energy expansion only the coefficients of the harmonic terms in  $F_\varepsilon$  and  $F_m$  depend explicitly on temperature.<sup>6</sup>  $T_0$  and  $T_c$  are the lower stability limits of the pure paraelastic parent phase and paramagnetic phase, respectively. Because we will assume that the magnetic transition occurs first during cooling from high temperature,  $T_c$  will correspond to the Curie temperature of the para-ferromagnetic continuous transition.

In the presence of external fields coupled to  $\varepsilon$ ,  $m$  and  $\omega$ , a Gibbs-like free energy function,  $G$ , is defined as

$$G = F - \sigma \varepsilon - Bm + p\omega, \quad (4.7)$$

where  $\sigma$  is the shear stress,  $B$  is the magnetic field and  $p$  is the hydrostatic pressure.

<sup>3</sup>This phase is weakly magnetic, and, despite some authors claiming that it is paramagnetic, its actual magnetic order is still the subject of debate.

<sup>4</sup>See, for instance, [37,38].

<sup>5</sup>The coupling between volume and shear is allowed, because shear is a scalar in the present model.

<sup>6</sup>The remaining terms are not expected to vary rapidly with temperature in the vicinity of the transitions and, hence, are assumed to be temperature independent.



After minimization of  $G$  with respect to  $\omega$  and  $m$ , the following equations of state are obtained:

$$\omega = -D[p + \kappa_2 \varepsilon^2] \quad (4.8)$$

and

$$m^2 - \frac{B}{\beta m} = -\frac{1}{\beta} [2\kappa_1 \varepsilon^2 + a_m(T - T_c)]. \quad (4.9)$$

When the first of these equations is substituted in  $G$  (equation (4.7)), an effective Gibbs-like free energy expansion  $G_{\varepsilon-m}$  with biquadratic coupling between the order parameters  $\varepsilon$  and  $m$  is obtained. The thermodynamics of this class of Landau model has been studied in detail in [33]. In the absence of an applied field ( $B = \sigma = p = 0$ ), the resulting effective free energy function can be written as

$$F_\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2} \tilde{a}_\varepsilon (T - \tilde{T}_0) \varepsilon^2 - \frac{1}{4} \tilde{b} \varepsilon^4 + \frac{1}{6} c \varepsilon^6, \quad (4.10)$$

where the re-scaled tilde-parameters are now explicit functions of the parameters  $\kappa_1$  and  $\kappa_2$  given by  $\tilde{a}_\varepsilon(\kappa_1) = a_\varepsilon - 2\kappa_1 a_m / \beta$ ,  $\tilde{T}_0(\kappa_1) = (a_\varepsilon T_0 - 2\kappa_1 a_m T_c / \beta) / \tilde{a}_\varepsilon$ ,  $\tilde{b}(\kappa_1, \kappa_2) = b + 4\kappa_1^2 / \beta + 2D\kappa_2^2 = b'(\kappa_2) + 4\kappa_1^2 / \beta$ . The temperature of the structural transition is given by

$$T_s(\kappa_1, \kappa_2) = \tilde{T}_0(\kappa_1) + \frac{3\tilde{b}(\kappa_1, \kappa_2)}{16\tilde{a}_\varepsilon(\kappa_1)c}. \quad (4.11)$$

In this case (absence of applied field), taking into account equation (4.9), it is expected that, in the temperature region  $T_s < T < T_c$ ,  $m^2 = a_m(T_c - T) / \beta$ . For  $T \leq T_s$ ,  $m^2 = -[2\kappa_1 \varepsilon^2 - a_m(T_c - T)] / \beta$ . It is worth noting that for  $\kappa_1^* = a_m(T_c - T_s) / 2\varepsilon_t^2$ , where  $\varepsilon_t$  is the strain discontinuity,  $m$  vanishes at the magnetostructural transition. This condition is satisfied along the curve  $\kappa_2 = \kappa_2(\kappa_1^*)$  (figure 2). For values of  $|\kappa_2|$  inside the curve (region I), the magnetization decreases but does not vanish at the structural transition. For values outside the curve (region II), the magnetization remains zero in a certain temperature range below the structural transition. Therefore, in this last case, a second magnetic transition (from a high-temperature paramagnetic martensite to a low-temperature ferromagnetic martensite) occurs at a temperature  $T_{cM} < T_s$ . Actually, both situations have been experimentally observed in metamagnetic shape-memory materials.<sup>7</sup> Thus, the model is able to nicely reproduce the behaviour of magnetization observed in this class of metamagnetic materials that should occur for specific values of the magnetostructural coupling. In particular, it reproduces the re-entrance to the paramagnetic state observed in this class of materials. In figure 2, we show the behaviour of  $m$  and  $\varepsilon$  versus  $T$  for particular values of  $\kappa_1$  and  $\kappa_2$  within regions I and II.<sup>8</sup>

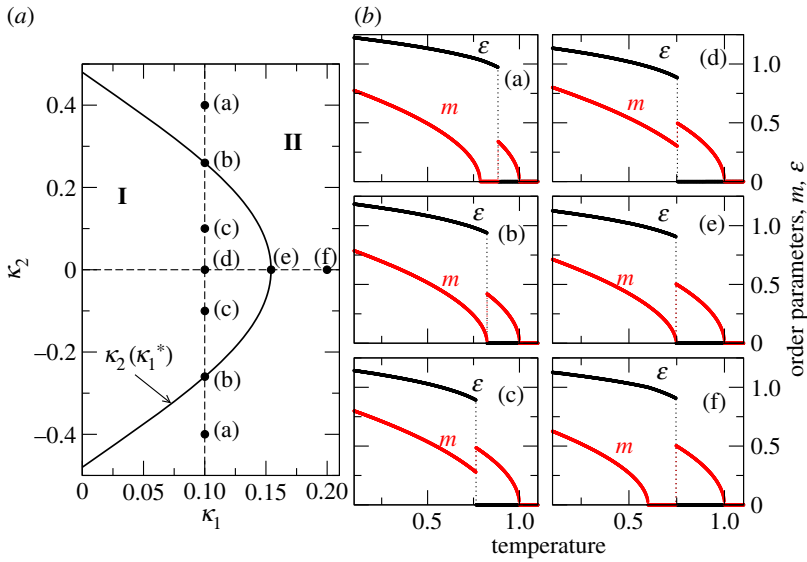
The entropy change at the magnetostructural transition can be obtained as  $\Delta S_t = -[(\partial F_{\text{eff}} / \partial T)_{\varepsilon_t} - (\partial F_{\text{eff}} / \partial T)_{\varepsilon=0}] = -\tilde{a}_\varepsilon \varepsilon_t^2 / 2$ , where  $\varepsilon_t^2 = 3\tilde{b} / 4c$ . For  $\kappa_1^*$  values of the magnetostructural coupling for which  $m$  vanishes at the magnetostructural transition, we obtain that  $\Delta S_t$  depends on the difference between the Curie temperature and the magnetostructural transition as

$$\Delta S_t = -\frac{1}{2} a_\varepsilon \varepsilon_t^2(\kappa_1^*, \kappa_2) + \frac{a_m^2}{\beta} [T_c(\kappa_2) - T_s(\kappa_1^*, \kappa_2)]. \quad (4.12)$$

Therefore, the absolute value of the transition entropy change is expected to decrease as the temperature difference between the magnetostructural and the magnetic transition increases. This is a consequence of the competition between the structural and the magnetic contributions to the whole entropy change, which are of opposite signs.  $\Delta S_t$  as a function of  $T_c - T_s$  can be computed by solving self-consistently equation (4.12) and the equations defining  $\kappa_1^*$  and  $\varepsilon_t$ . In figure 3a,  $\Delta S_t / \Delta S_t(0)$  versus  $1 - T_s / T_c$  ( $\Delta S_t(0) = \Delta S_t$  at  $T_s = T_c$ ) obtained from the present Landau model (the example corresponds to  $\kappa_2$  on the parabolic line separating regions I and II) is compared with experimental data reported in [41,42] for  $\text{Ni}_{50}\text{Mn}_x\text{In}_{1-x}$ ,  $\text{Ni}_{45}\text{Co}_5\text{Mn}_x\text{In}_{1-x}$  and  $\text{Ni}_{42.5}\text{Co}_{7.5}\text{Mn}_x\text{In}_{1-x}$  metamagnetic shape-memory alloys. Very good agreement is obtained after

<sup>7</sup>It has been shown that, depending on heat treatments,  $m$  goes to zero or remains finite at the structural transition. See, for instance, [40]. These results can be understood by taking into account that the heat treatment can modify the lattice distribution of magnetic atoms and thus the magnetostructural interplay.

<sup>8</sup>Present results have been obtained with  $a_\varepsilon = 1$ ,  $a_m = 1$ ,  $T_c = 1$ ,  $T_0 = 0.6$ ,  $b = 1$ ,  $c = 1$  and  $\beta = 1$ .

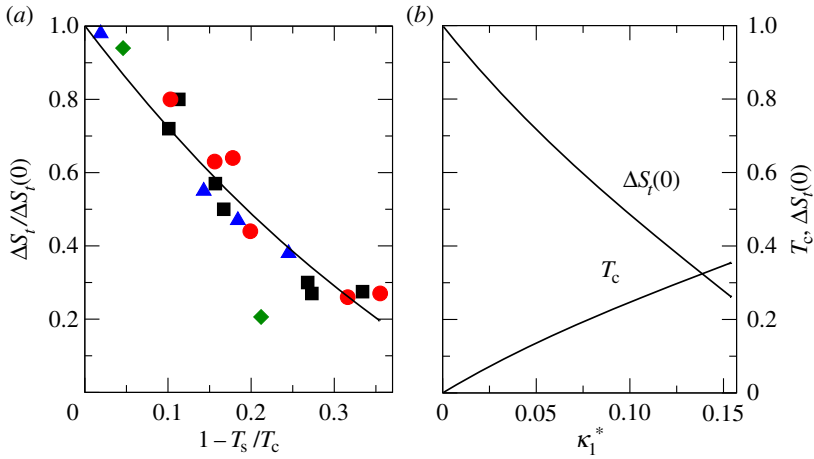


**Figure 2.** (a) Space of interplay parameters  $\kappa_1$ – $\kappa_2$ . (b) Examples of magnetization,  $m$ , and strain,  $\varepsilon$ , as a function of temperature (in reduced units) for particular values of  $\kappa_1$  and  $\kappa_2$  indicated along the two dashed lines plotted in (a).

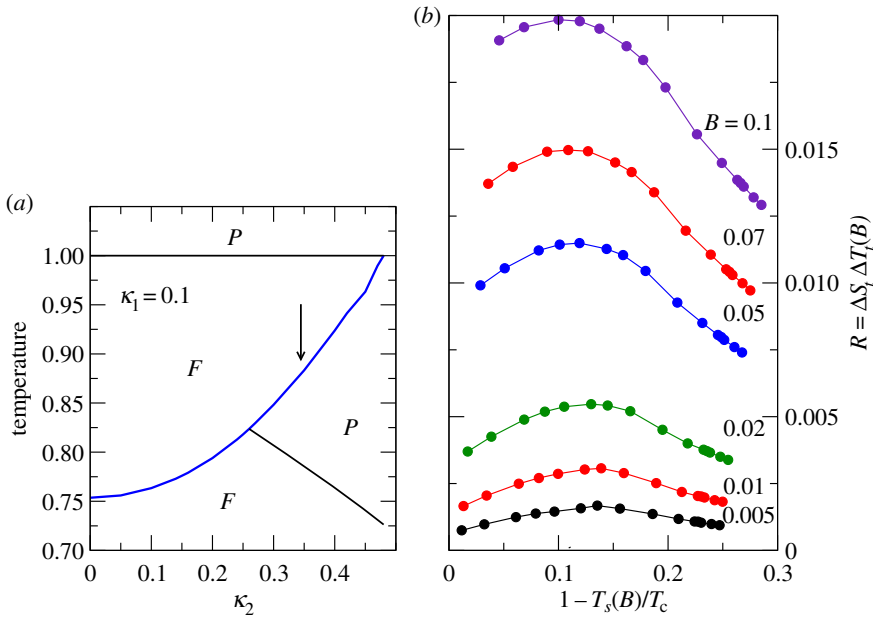
re-scaling linearly the vertical and horizontal axes. This re-scaling is assumed in order to take into account a possible dependence of  $T_c$  and  $\Delta S_t(0)$  on  $\kappa_1^*$ , which may reflect the expected variation of the Curie temperature and entropy change on alloy composition (see [41]) or their change with atomic order induced by means of heat treatment (see [42]). The assumed dependence is shown in figure 3b. Taking into account that  $T_c - T_s$  depends on specific interplay conditions, results prove that the decrease of  $\Delta S_t$  with the difference  $T_c - T_s$  is a result of the competition between the structural and magnetic contributions to the change of entropy. This is in agreement with the analysis of entropy contributions to the whole transition entropy change recently reported for the metamagnetic NiMnCoIn shape-memory alloy in [43]. These results have tremendous consequences for the multicaloric properties of this class of materials, because  $\Delta S_t$  represents to a large extent the available entropy content in both the mechano- and magnetocaloric effects. As a criterion, for a given applied magnetic field  $B$ , we may assume that the material (defined in the model by the parameters  $\kappa_1$  and  $\kappa_2$ ) with optimal caloric properties is the one that maximizes the product (see [44])  $R = \Delta S_t \Delta T(B)$ , where  $\Delta T(B)$  is the shift of the structural transition induced by the applied magnetic field (obtained by means of the Clausius–Clapeyron equation). Note that this shift provides a good estimate of the temperature change induced under adiabatic application of the field and thus  $R$  is a good measure of the refrigerant capacity. The product  $R$  as a function of the reduced temperature distance between Curie and structural transitions,  $1 - T_s(B)/T_c$ , along the line  $\kappa_1 = 0.1$ , for selected values of the applied magnetic field is depicted in figure 4. Results show that, in spite of the decrease of  $\Delta S_t$ , the refrigerant capacity shows a maximum at a given value of the difference between  $T_c$  and  $T_s$ .

Now, we are prepared to study multicaloric effects in metamagnetic shape-memory materials. In the vicinity of the magnetostructural transition, the studied metamagnetic systems are expected to display elastocaloric, barocaloric and magnetocaloric effects, which should occur interdependently. As an illustration, we will analyse here the effect of pressure on the magnetocaloric effect. Therefore, we assume that the external applied stress is zero and compute the change of entropy induced by isothermal application of a magnetic field at given applied pressures for a given difference  $T_c - T_s$ , which corresponds to specific values of coupling parameters  $\kappa_1$  and  $\kappa_2$ . We obtain

$$\Delta S(T, 0 \rightarrow B, p) = -\frac{1}{2}a_\varepsilon[\varepsilon^2(T, B, p) - \varepsilon^2(T, 0, p)] - \frac{1}{2}a_m[m^2(T, B, p) - m^2(T, 0, p)], \quad (4.13)$$

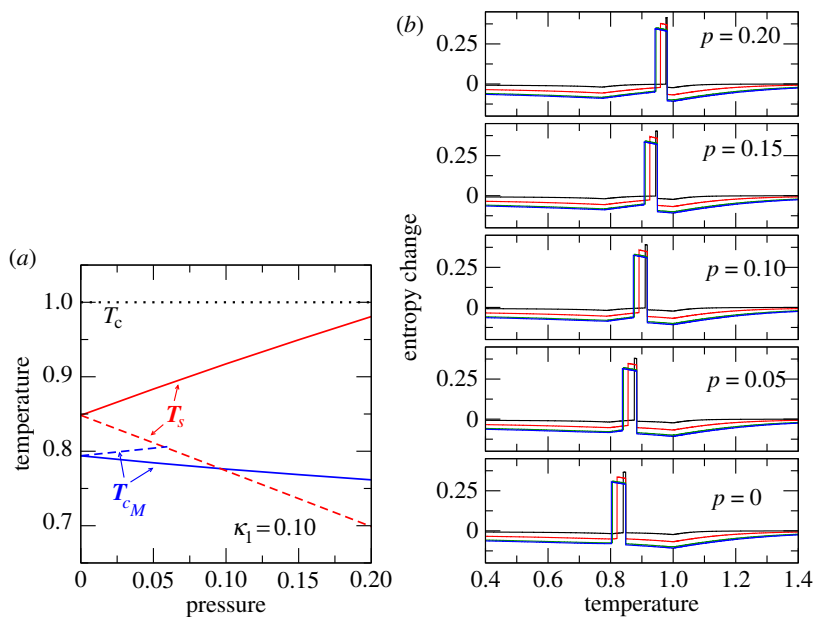


**Figure 3.** (a)  $\Delta S_t/\Delta S_t(0)$  versus  $1 - T_s/T_c$  (continuous line—parabolic to a very good approximation). Symbols correspond to experimental data for  $\text{Ni}_{50}\text{Mn}_x\text{In}_{1-x}$  (diamonds),  $\text{Ni}_{45}\text{Co}_5\text{Mn}_x\text{In}_{1-x}$  (squares) and  $\text{Ni}_{42.5}\text{Co}_{7.5}\text{Mn}_x\text{In}_{1-x}$  (triangles) metamagnetic shape-memory alloys. Circles correspond to a  $\text{Ni}_{45}\text{Co}_5\text{Mn}_{36.7}\text{In}_{13.3}$  alloy subjected to heat treatment that enables the atomic order to be selected [ $\Delta S_t(0) = 40 \text{ J K kg}^{-1}$ ]. For  $\text{Ni}_{50}\text{Mn}_x\text{In}_{1-x}$ ,  $\Delta S_t(0) = 32 \text{ J K kg}^{-1}$ ; for  $\text{Ni}_{45}\text{Co}_5\text{Mn}_x\text{In}_{1-x}$ ,  $\Delta S_t(0) = 60 \text{ J K kg}^{-1}$ ; and for  $\text{Ni}_{42.5}\text{Co}_{7.5}\text{Mn}_x\text{In}_{1-x}$ ,  $\Delta S_t(0) = 50 \text{ J K kg}^{-1}$ . (b)  $\Delta S_t(0)$  and  $T_c$  (in reduced units) versus  $\kappa_1^*$  used for scaling the data in panel (a).



**Figure 4.** (a) Details of the phase diagram in the relevant region. Paramagnetic (P) and ferromagnetic (F) regions are indicated. The blue line is the structural transition line. (b) Refrigerant capacity  $R = \Delta S_t \Delta T(B)$  as a function of the reduced temperature difference between Curie and structural transitions along the line  $\kappa_1 = 0.1$  for selected values of the applied magnetic field. The arrow in (a) locates the region where the maximum of the refrigerant capacity occurs (corresponding to a value  $\kappa_2 \simeq 0.35$ ). Temperature and entropy are given in reduced units.

where  $\varepsilon$  and  $m$  are equilibrium values of the strain and magnetization, respectively, with given values of the applied magnetic field  $B$  and pressure  $p$ . It is worth remembering that the effect of pressure is only relevant when  $\kappa_2 \neq 0$  (otherwise, there is no interplay between primary-order

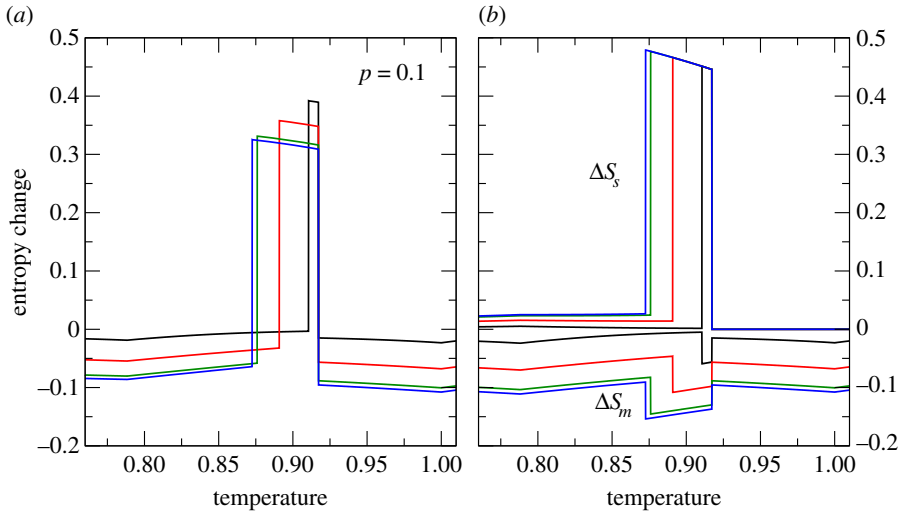


**Figure 5.** (a) Transition temperatures  $T_c$ ,  $T_s$  and  $T_{CM}$  as a function of pressure for  $\kappa_2 = 0.3$  (continuous lines) and  $\kappa_2 = -0.3$  (discontinuous lines),  $\kappa_1 = 0.1$ . The dashed line corresponds to  $T_c$ . (b) Changes of entropy induced by isothermal application of selected magnetic fields at given values of the applied hydrostatic pressure as a function of temperature for  $\kappa_1 = 0.1$  and  $\kappa_2 = 0.3$ . Temperature, pressure and entropy are given in reduced units.

parameters and volume). There are thus two situations to be considered,  $\kappa_2 > 0$  and  $\kappa_2 < 0$ . The corresponding phase diagram for a given value of  $\kappa_1$  is shown in figure 5a. In the first case ( $\kappa_2 > 0$ ) volume decreases at the transition and  $T_s$  increases with the applied pressure, whereas in the second case ( $\kappa_2 < 0$ ) volume increases and transition temperature decreases. This indicates that the barocaloric effect should be conventional in the first case, but inverse in the second. Because, in the region of the magnetostructural transition, the magnetocaloric effect is expected to be inverse, we will analyse the case  $\kappa_2 > 0$ , as the caloric responses to pressure and magnetic field are expected to compete.

Changes of entropy induced by isothermal application of selected magnetic fields at given applied hydrostatic pressures are shown as a function of temperature in figure 5b. A significant magnetocaloric peak occurs in the region of the magnetostructural transition. Note that in this region the entropy increases when the magnetic field is applied, which confirms the inverse character of the magnetocaloric effect. Outside the magnetostructural transition region, the magnetocaloric effect is weak and conventional.

In figure 6a, we show the magnetocaloric peak for a given value of the hydrostatic pressure in more detail. It is interesting to note that the maximum value of the entropy change decreases as the applied magnetic field is increased. Because the application of the magnetic field shifts the magnetostructural transition to lower temperatures, the observed behaviour is consistent with the previously discussed decrease in the transition entropy with the difference between the Curie and structural transitions. In figure 6, we show the corresponding structural and magnetic contributions to the whole magnetocaloric peak. In agreement with reported experimental studies [43], the present results also indicate that the magnetocaloric effect in the vicinity of the magnetostructural transition is dominated by the structural contribution to the entropy. In any case, note that, despite the fact that the magnetostructural transition can be induced by application of pressure, there is no volume contribution to the entropy change.



**Figure 6.** (a) Detail of a magnetocaloric peak for selected values of the applied magnetic field and an applied pressure,  $p = 0.1$ . The magnetic field  $B$  takes values 0.01, 0.05, 0.09, and 0.1 for curves from top to bottom. (b) Corresponding magnetic and structural contributions to the entropy change. Temperature, pressure and entropy are given in reduced units.

## (b) Application to ferrotoroidics

Ferrotoroidics are materials where toroidal moments show cooperative order [7,45]. This order is expected to spontaneously emerge at a phase transition at which both time and spatial inversion symmetries are simultaneously broken. Therefore, the transition combines the symmetry changes characterizing the occurrence of both ferromagnetism and ferroelectricity, respectively [46]. Consequently, these materials intrinsically belong to the class of magnetoelectric multiferroics [47]. Here we will consider systems with magnetic-vortex-like structures characterized by a dipolar toroidal moment.<sup>9</sup> These complex structures have been observed in  $\text{LiCo}(\text{PO}_4)_3$  using second harmonic generation [49].

Given a distribution  $\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r})$  in a volume  $v$ , the magnetic dipolar toroidal moment can be defined as

$$\mathbf{t} = \frac{1}{2} \int_V [\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r})] dV. \quad (4.14)$$

In the continuum limit, the toroidization  $\boldsymbol{\tau}$  is then given by the volume density of toroidal moments. While the natural conjugated field of toroidization is  $\nabla \times \mathbf{B}$ , where  $\mathbf{B}$  is a magnetic field, because we are considering only homogeneous macroscopic bodies in thermodynamic equilibrium, from symmetry considerations, we make the usual assumption that  $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$ , where  $\mathbf{E}$  is an electric field, is the appropriate conjugated field [50]. This assumption is in agreement with recent experiments [51] showing that this field enables external control of the toroidization. The energy associated with the coupling with the external field will be  $-\mathbf{G} \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau}$ , which leads to a polarization,  $\mathbf{p}_t = \mathbf{B} \times \boldsymbol{\tau}$ , and a magnetization,  $\mathbf{m}_t = \boldsymbol{\tau} \times \mathbf{E}$ , induced under the application of magnetic and electric fields, respectively. These expressions show the intrinsic (asymmetric) magnetoelectric nature of this class of materials. The fundamental thermodynamic equation for these materials reads

$$dU = T dS + \mathbf{p} \cdot d\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{m} \cdot d\mathbf{B}, \quad (4.15)$$

<sup>9</sup>A long-standing question has been whether the toroidal moment is merely a side effect of antiferromagnetism with vortex-like alignment of the magnetic moments or whether it is the primary-order parameter in a ferroic phase transition. Recently, it has been justified that ferrotoroidics belong to the class of primary ferroics. See [48].

where  $U$  is the internal energy and  $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{p}_t + \mathbf{p}_i$  and  $\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{m}_t + \mathbf{m}_i$  include intrinsic contributions in addition to terms arising from toroidization.

The entropy change associated with the toroidal contributions of polarization and magnetization induced by isothermal application of electric and magnetic fields leading to a toroidal field  $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta S(T, 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{G} = \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{B}) &= \int_0^{\mathbf{E}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{p}_t}{\partial T} \cdot d\mathbf{E} + \int_0^{\mathbf{B}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{m}_t}{\partial T} \cdot d\mathbf{B} \\ &= \int_0^{\mathbf{E}} \left( \mathbf{B} \times \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\tau}}{\partial T} \right) \cdot d\mathbf{E} + \int_0^{\mathbf{B}} \left( \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\tau}}{\partial T} \times \mathbf{E} \right) \cdot d\mathbf{B}, \end{aligned} \quad (4.16)$$

which can be simply written as

$$\Delta S(T, 0 \rightarrow \mathbf{G}) = \int_0^{\mathbf{G}} \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\tau}}{\partial T} \cdot d\mathbf{G}. \quad (4.17)$$

In order to develop a Landau model for a ferrotoroidal transition, toroidization must be chosen as the primary-order parameter but magnetization and polarization must also be included in the free energy expansion. We follow here the point of view proposed in [52] and take into account that the symmetries which allow for a macroscopic toroidal moment are the same as those that give rise to an antisymmetric component of the linear magnetoelectric tensor. Then, the simplest possible Landau free energy expansion that describes a phase transition between paratoroidic and ferrotoroidic phases that include the energies associated with the effect of electric and magnetic fields on polarization and magnetization, and their coupling to toroidization, should have the following form:

$$F(T, \boldsymbol{\tau}, \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{m}) = \frac{1}{2} a_\tau (T - T_c^0) \tau^2 + \frac{1}{4} C \tau^4 + \frac{1}{2} \chi_p^{-1} p^2 + \frac{1}{2} \chi_m^{-1} m^2 - \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{m} - \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{p} + \eta \boldsymbol{\tau} \cdot (\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{m}), \quad (4.18)$$

where  $\chi_p$  and  $\chi_m$  are the electric and magnetic susceptibilities respectively,  $a_\tau$  is the *toroidic stiffness* and  $C > 0$  is the nonlinear toroidic coefficient. Here  $\eta$  measures the strength of the magnetoelectric coupling. The last term in the above free energy represents the lowest possible order coupling term between the three order parameters consistent with the required space and time reversal symmetries. Minimization of this free energy with respect to polarization and magnetization provides their equilibrium values, which are given by

$$\mathbf{p} = \chi_p (\mathbf{E} - \eta \mathbf{m} \times \boldsymbol{\tau}) \quad (4.19)$$

and

$$\mathbf{m} = \chi_m (\mathbf{B} + \eta \mathbf{p} \times \boldsymbol{\tau}). \quad (4.20)$$

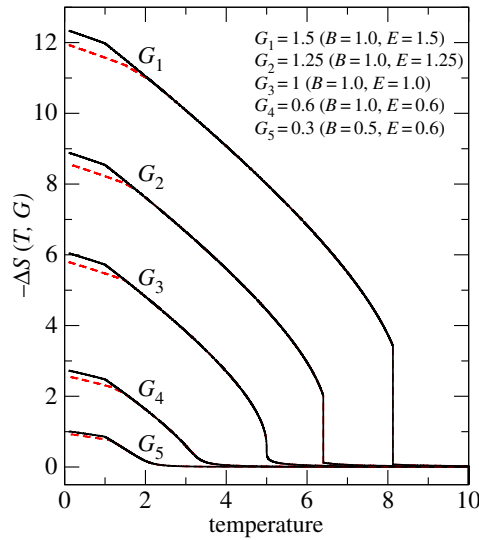
Assuming isotropy, with  $\mathbf{E}$  applied along the  $x$ -axis and  $\mathbf{B}$  along the  $y$ -axis,  $p \simeq \chi_p E - \alpha B = p_i + p_t$  and  $m \simeq \chi_m B - \alpha E = m_i + m_t$ , where nonlinear magnetoelectric terms have been neglected. For the sake of consistency with the magnetoelectric equations, the parameter  $\alpha$  must coincide with  $\tau$ , and thus  $\eta \chi_p \chi_m = 1$ . Substitution of these equations for  $p$  and  $m$  in equation (4.18) gives the following effective free energy function:

$$F_{\text{eff}} = F_0(E, B) + \frac{1}{2} a_\tau (T - T_c) \tau^2 + \frac{1}{3} \beta \tau^3 + \frac{1}{4} C \tau^4 + G \tau, \quad (4.21)$$

where  $F_0 = -\frac{1}{2} (\chi_p E^2 + \chi_m B^2)$ ,  $T_c = T_c^0 + [\chi_m B^2 + \chi_p E^2] / a_\tau$  and  $\beta = 3G = 3EB$ . The effective free energy obtained corresponds to the free energy of a toroidal system subjected to an applied toroidal field  $G$ . Interestingly, the third-order term coefficient is proportional to the applied field  $G$ . Therefore, when  $G = 0$ , the free energy (4.21) describes a paratoroidal-to-ferrotoroidal second-order phase transition. Under the application of a toroidal field  $G \neq 0$ , the transition becomes first order for  $G^2 < 1/C^2$ . It is worth pointing out that the addition of magnetoelectric nonlinear terms would lead to higher-order terms in the expansion (4.21) that go beyond the minimal model. However, within the spirit of the Landau approach, it is expected that such terms are not essential.

Assuming that the susceptibilities  $\chi_p$  and  $\chi_m$  are not temperature dependent, the entropy of the system can be obtained as  $S(T, \tau, G) = -\partial F_{\text{eff}} / \partial T = -(\frac{1}{2}) a_\tau \tau^2(T, G)$ , where  $\tau(T, G)$  is the





**Figure 7.** Toroidocaloric entropy change as a function of temperature for applied toroidal fields above and below the field  $G_3 = 1$  at which a first-order transition starts to occur. The continuous line gives the total contribution, whereas the discontinuous line gives the sum of the polar and magnetic contributions induced by the external field. The pure toroidal contribution is given by the difference. All quantities are given in reduced units.

equilibrium value of the toroidization, which is a solution of  $\partial F_{\text{eff}}/\partial \tau = 0$ . Then, the change of entropy isothermally induced by application of a toroidal field is obtained as

$$\Delta S(T, G = 0 \rightarrow EB) = -\frac{1}{2}a_\tau[\tau^2(T, G = EB) - \tau^2(T, 0)]. \quad (4.22)$$

Taking into account the equations giving  $p_t = \tau B$  and  $m_t = \tau E$ , it is straightforward to show that, in addition to a pure toroidal contribution, this change of entropy comprises polar and magnetic contributions given by

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta S_{p-m}(T, G = 0 \rightarrow EB) = & -\frac{1}{2}a_\tau^p[p_t^2(T, E, B) - p_t^2(T, E, 0)] \\ & -\frac{1}{2}a_\tau^m[m_t^2(T, E, B) - m_t^2(T, 0, B)], \end{aligned} \quad (4.23)$$

where  $a_\tau^p = a_\tau/B^2$  and  $a_\tau^m = a_\tau/E^2$ . The toroidocaloric entropy change is shown in figure 7. The sum of polar and magnetic contributions is also shown. The difference between the total entropy changes and this sum determines the pure toroidal contribution, which is only significant in the temperature region of the continuous toroidal transition.

## 5. Summary and conclusion

Caloric effects are becoming potentially important for refrigeration and related technologies. A caloric effect is expected to occur that is associated with each primary ferroic property. Magnetocaloric, electrocaloric and mechanocaloric effects have been the subject of intense experimental and theoretical research. In contrast, the toroidocaloric effect has been predicted but not experimentally confirmed [53]. Multiferroics involve at least two coupled ferroic properties and are thus likely to exhibit multicaloric effects. We have developed a general thermodynamic framework for systems displaying interplay between multiple ferroic properties. Within this framework, we have analysed multicaloric effects in magnetostructural metamagnetic shape-memory and magnetoelectric ferrotoroidic materials. These systems have been described within a Landau model with suitable coupling between order parameters. We expect that our

phenomenological Landau results combined with first-principle calculations will provide in the near future a route for designing materials with improved multicaloric effects.

**Authors' contributions.** All authors contributed equally to the manuscript.

**Competing interests.** The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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