

Supplementary Information

Large Energy Capacitive High-Entropy Lead-Free Ferroelectrics

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Finite element simulation

The electric field and electric potential distribution as well as electric tree evolution were simulated by finite element methods with 2D models using COMSOL software. The simulated model is based on the SEM diagrams and the selected size is $16 \times 24 \mu\text{m}^2$. To simulate the dielectric breakdown behavior of the studied samples from low-entropy to high-entropy, a scalar field $s(x, t)$ was applied to represent the breakdown state, where $s = 1$ means the initial state and $s = 0$ means complete breakdown state ($0 \leq s \leq 1$). Since dielectric constant (ε_r) is a continuous function of s , the difference in ε_r is adopted to describe the breakdown state, which can be expressed as [1, 2]:

$$\varepsilon(s) = \frac{\varepsilon_{ini}}{f(s) + \psi} \quad (1)$$

where ε_{ini} represents the initial ε_r , $f(s) = 4s^3 - 3s^4$, and ψ is 0.0001. In addition, the ferroelectric ceramics include grains and grain boundaries. The ε_r of grains is electric field-dependent following Johnson's approximation [3], and the ε_r of grain boundary is linear. Therefore, the ε_r of grains (ε_g) and grain boundaries (ε_{gb}) under a specific electric field is described by the following equation:

$$\varepsilon_{ini}(E) = \frac{\varepsilon_g(0)}{(1 + kE^2)^{1/3}} \quad (2)$$

$$\varepsilon_{ini}(E) = \varepsilon_{gb} \quad (3)$$

where k is 0.0013, and $\varepsilon_g(0)$ is the zero-field dielectric constant and is taken to be 750, 700, and 500 for low-entropy BNTFN-0, medium-entropy BNTFN-0.1, and high-entropy BNTFN-1/3 samples, respectively. Generally, the ratio of ε_g to ε_{gb} is set as 10:1 in this work [4, 5]. The theoretical model can be constructed by the following formulas:

$$\bar{\nabla} \left[\frac{1}{f(s) + \psi} \bar{\nabla} \phi \right] = 0 \quad (4)$$

$$\frac{\partial s}{\partial t} = - \frac{f'(s)}{2[f(s) + \psi]^2} \bar{\nabla} \phi \times \bar{\nabla} \phi + f'(s) + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\nabla}^2 s \quad (5)$$

Under the correct boundary and initial conditions, Eqs. (4) and (5) can be applied to the solution of dimensionless unknown fields $\phi(x, t)$ and $s(x, t)$. The simulated results are recorded in Fig. 5 and Fig. S8.

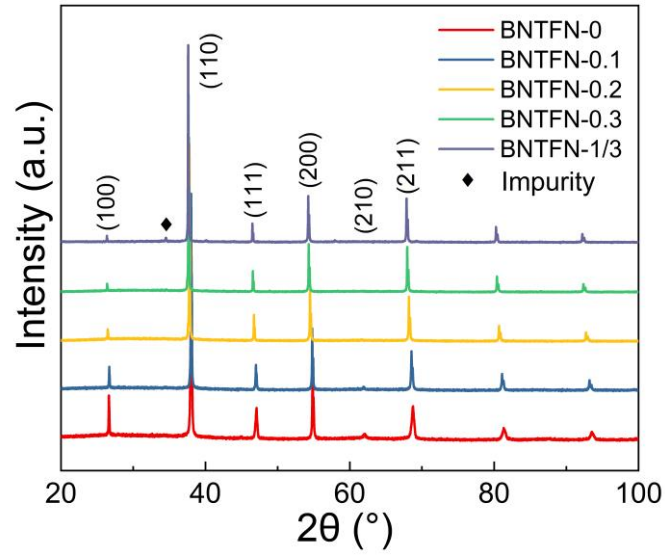


Fig. S1 The XRD patterns for BNTFN- x ($x=0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 1/3$) ceramics

The XRD patterns of the studied samples indicate that BNTFN-0, BNTFN-0.1, BNTFN-0.2, and BNTFN-0.3 are pure perovskite structure. A small amount of impurity can be found in BNTFN-1/3 ceramics with pseudo-cubic phase.

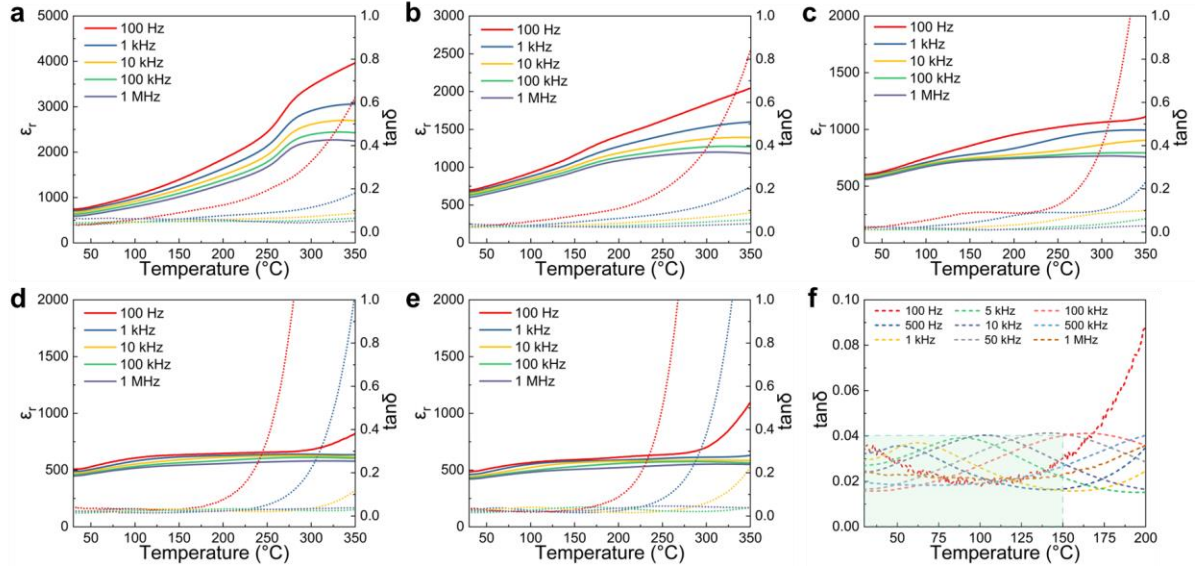


Fig. S2 Temperature-dependent ϵ_r and $\tan\delta$ for **a** BNTFN-0 ceramics, **b** BNTFN-0.1 ceramics, **c** BNTFN-0.2 ceramics, **d** BNTFN-0.3 ceramics, and **e** BNTFN-1/3 ceramics. **f** Temperature-dependent $\tan\delta$ for BNTFN-1/3 ceramics from 100 Hz to 1 MHz

As shown in Fig. S2a, BNTFN-0 ceramic shows normal ferroelectric features. With the introduction of Fe^{3+} and Nb^{5+} , enhanced diffuse phase transition behavior with flattened temperature-dependent ϵ_r spectra and decreased room-temperature ϵ_r are clearly found, implying the improved dielectric relaxation characteristic. Moreover, the decreased room-temperature ϵ_r also explains the delayed polarization saturation behavior.

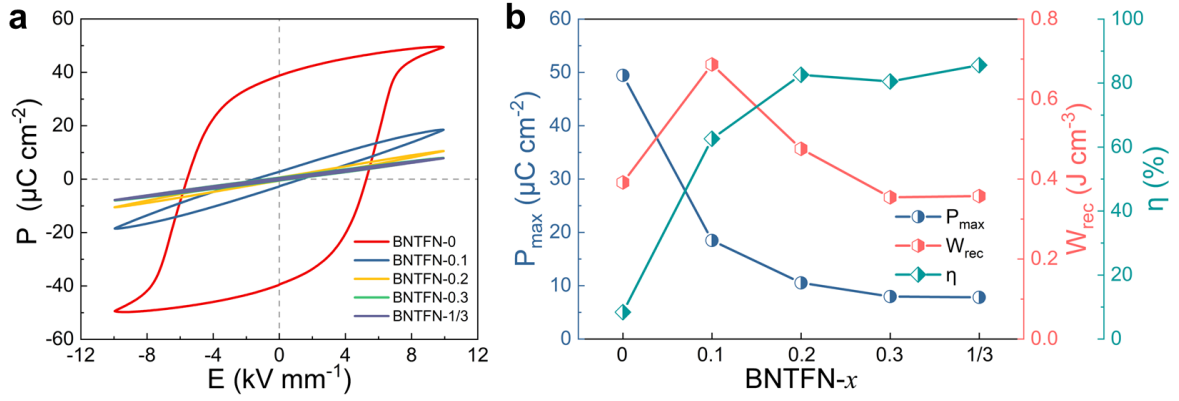


Fig. S3 a The bipolar P - E loops of BNTFN- x ($x=0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 1/3$) ceramics under 10 kV mm^{-1} . **b** P_{max} , W_{rec} and η under 10 kV mm^{-1} for BNTFN- x ($x=0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 1/3$) ceramics

With the introduction of Fe^{3+} and Nb^{5+} , the ferroelectric hysteresis loops gradually become slimer, presenting that the introduction of Fe^{3+} and Nb^{5+} can effectively break the long-range ferroelectric order and decrease energy loss. Furthermore, P_{max} under 10 kV mm^{-1} presents a similar downward trend to room-temperature ϵ_r , which is one of the important contributions of polarization. Notably, the ultralow P_{max} and W_{rec} in BNTFN- x ($x=0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 1/3$) ceramics are mainly caused by the insufficient external electric fields, which can be largely improved by high enough electric fields.

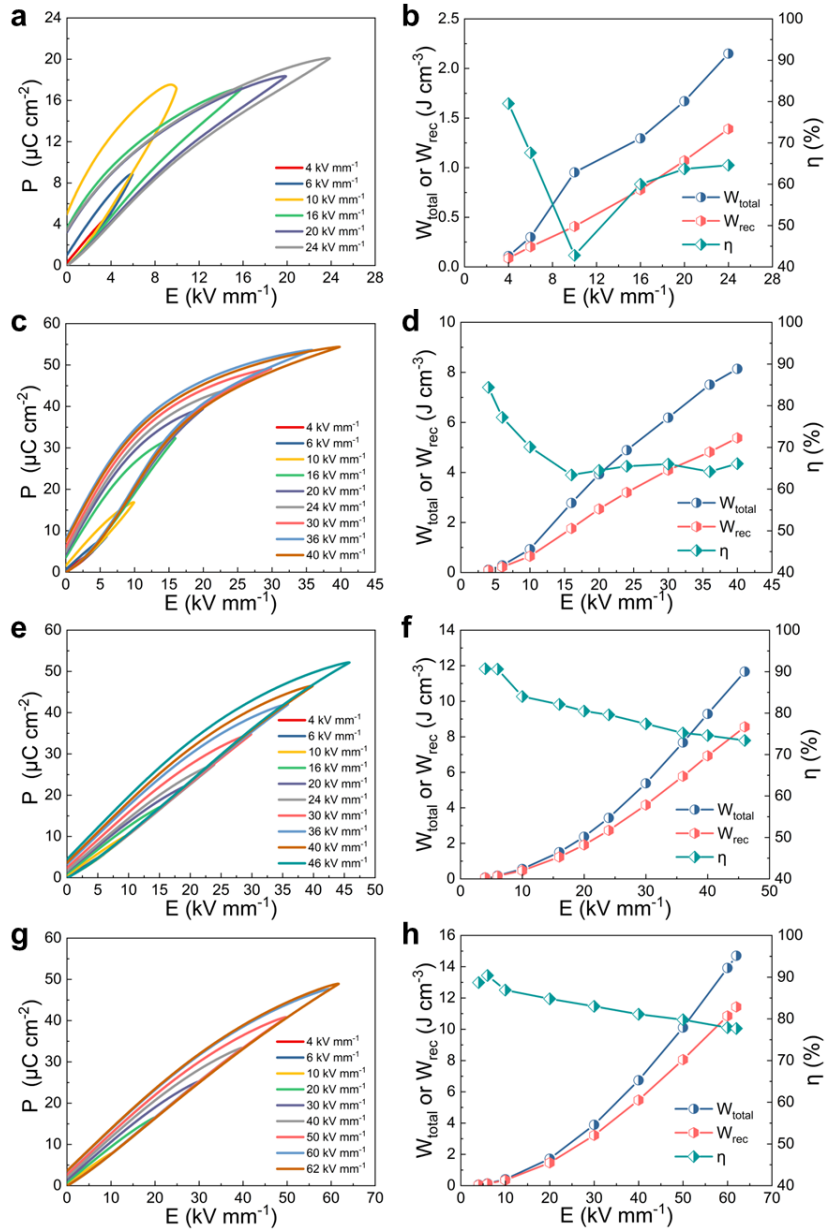


Fig. S4 The P - E loops, and W_{total} , W_{rec} and η from low electric field to E_b for **a-b** BNTFN-0 ceramics, **c-d** BNTFN-0.1 ceramics, **e-f** BNTFN-0.2 ceramics, and **g-h** BNTFN-0.3 ceramics

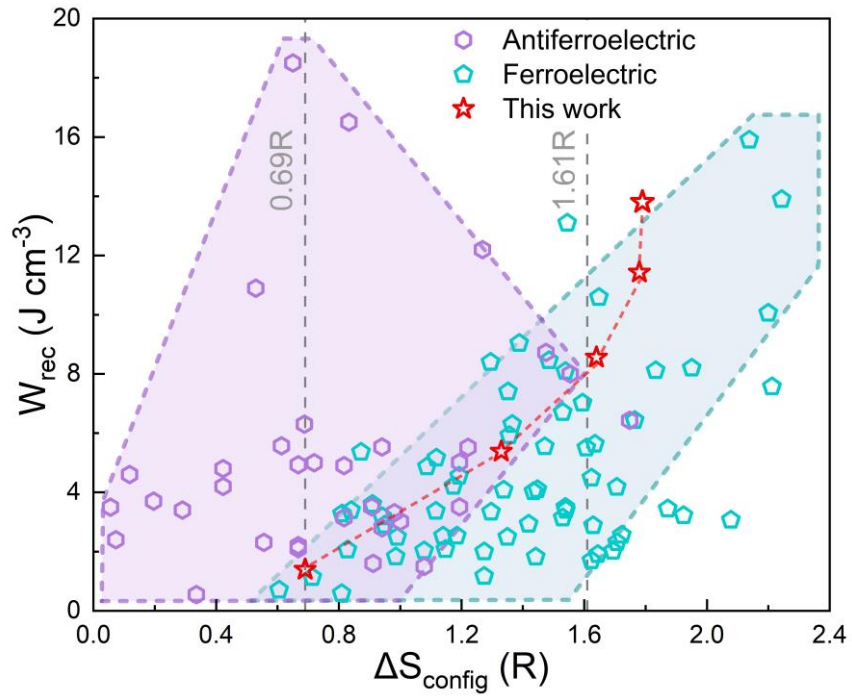


Fig. S5 A comparison of W_{rec} and ΔS_{config} between the studied samples in this work and other reported lead-free relaxor ferroelectric and antiferroelectric ceramics

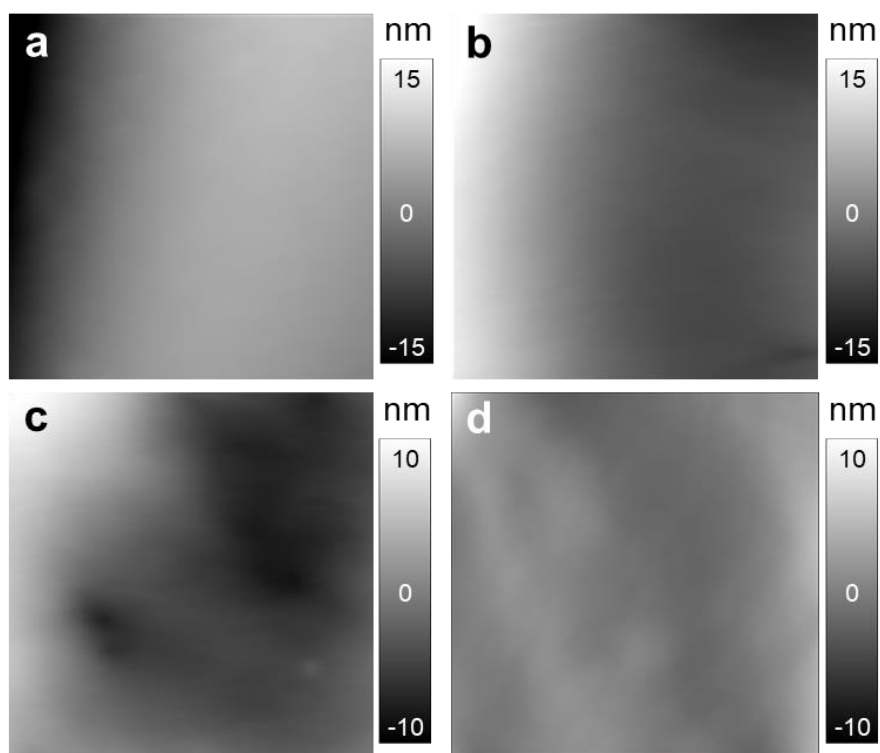


Fig. S6 Out-of-plane PFM morphologies within one grain for **a** BNTFN-0, **b** BNTFN-0.1, **c** BNTFN-0.2, and **d** BNTFN-1/3 ceramics

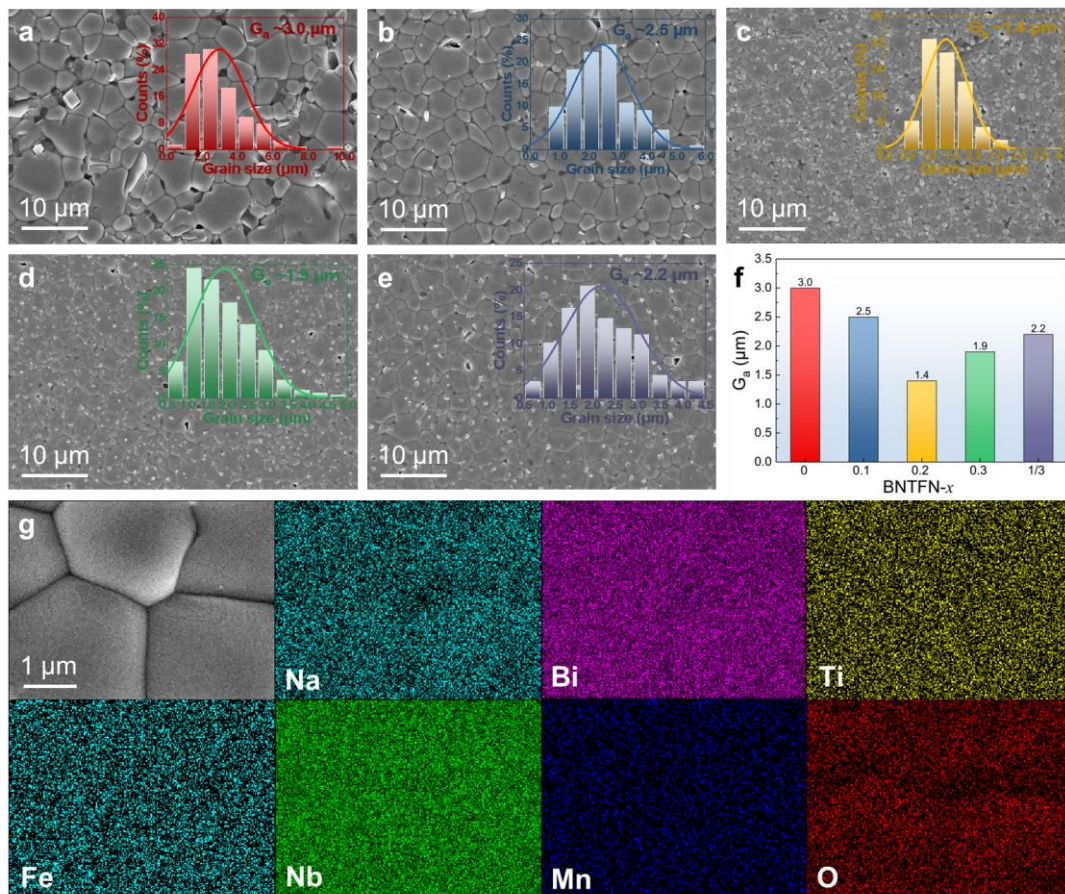


Fig. S7 Thermal etched SEM morphology and grain size distribution for **a** BNTFN-0, **b** BNTFN-0.1, **c** BNTFN-0.2, **d** BNTFN-0.3, and **e** BNTFN-1/3 ceramics. **f** G_a for BNTFN- x ($x=0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 1/3$) ceramics. **g** Element distribution maps of BNTFN-1/3 ceramic

The element distribution maps of BNTFN-1/3 ceramic are performed in adjacent grains with triangular grain boundaries. Not only a densely contact grain boundary structure but also a uniform element distribution between the grains and grain boundaries can be clearly observed in the studied sample, proving a good sample quality again.

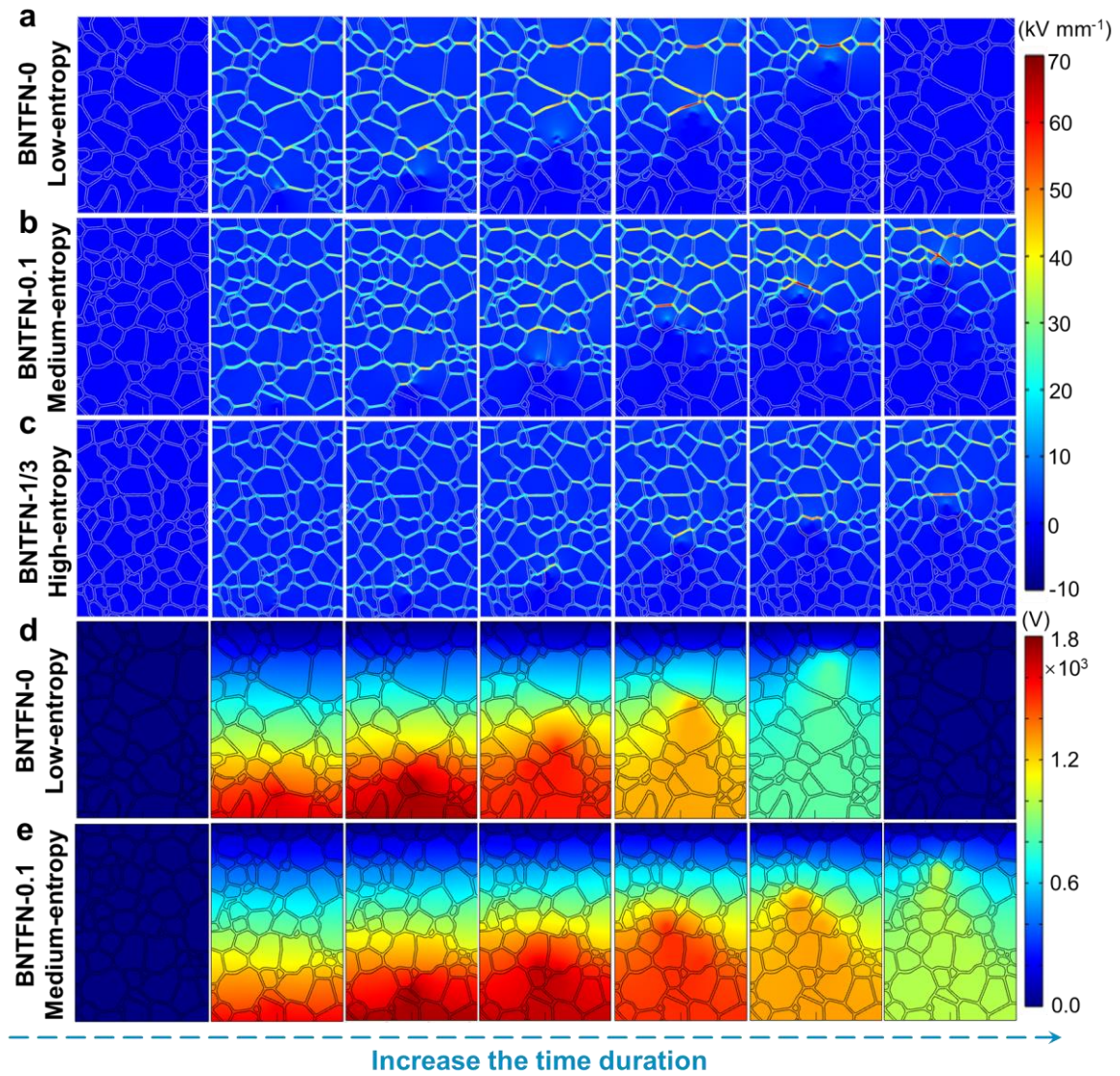


Fig. S8 Electric field distribution for **a** BNTFN-0, **b** BNTFN-0.1, and **c** BNTFN-1/3 ceramics from low-entropy to high-entropy. Electric potential distribution for **d** BNTFN-0 and **e** BNTFN-0.1 ceramic

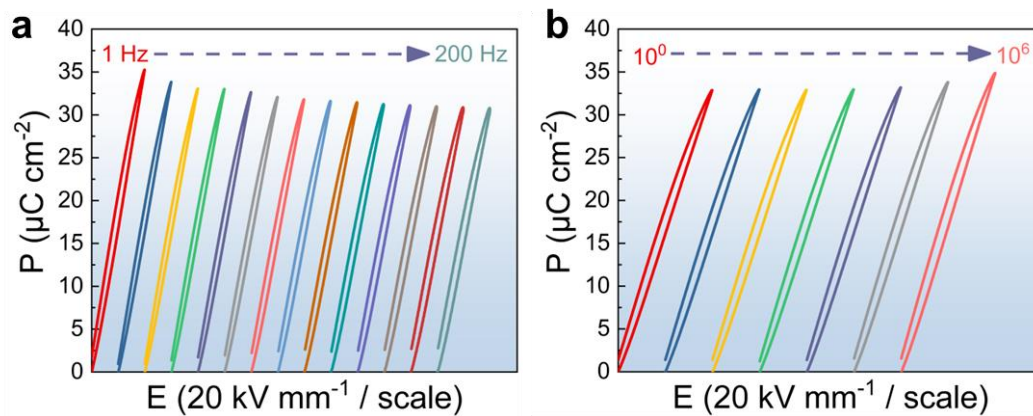


Fig. S9 **a** Frequency-dependent P - E loops under 40 kV mm^{-1} for BNTFN-1/3 ceramic. **b** P - E loops as a function of the cycle number under 40 kV mm^{-1} for BNTFN-1/3 ceramic

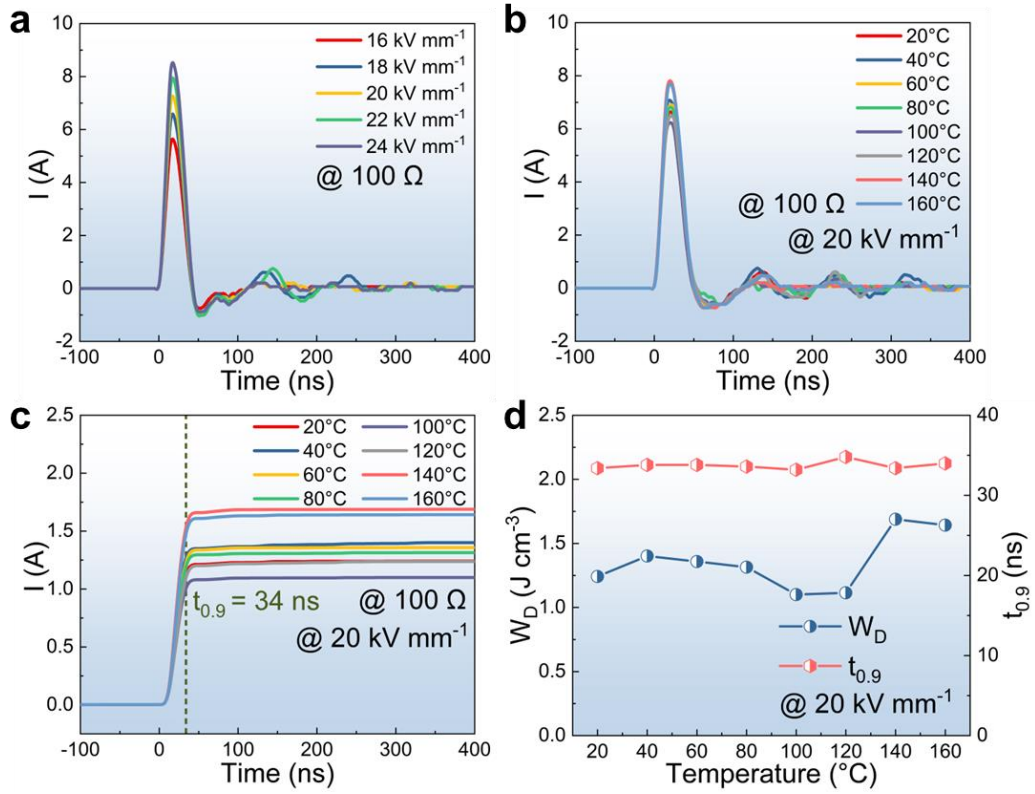


Fig. S10 **a** Overdamped discharge waveforms for BNTFN-1/3 ceramic. **b** Overdamped discharge waveforms, **c** Calculated overdamped discharge density W_D , and **d** W_D and $t_{0.9}$ values at 20 kV mm^{-1} under different temperature for the BNTFN-1/3 ceramic ($R_o = 100 \Omega$)

The discharge energy density W_D can be calculated using the following formulas:

$$W_D = \frac{R_o \int I(t)^2 dt}{V} \quad (6)$$

where V is the sample volume.

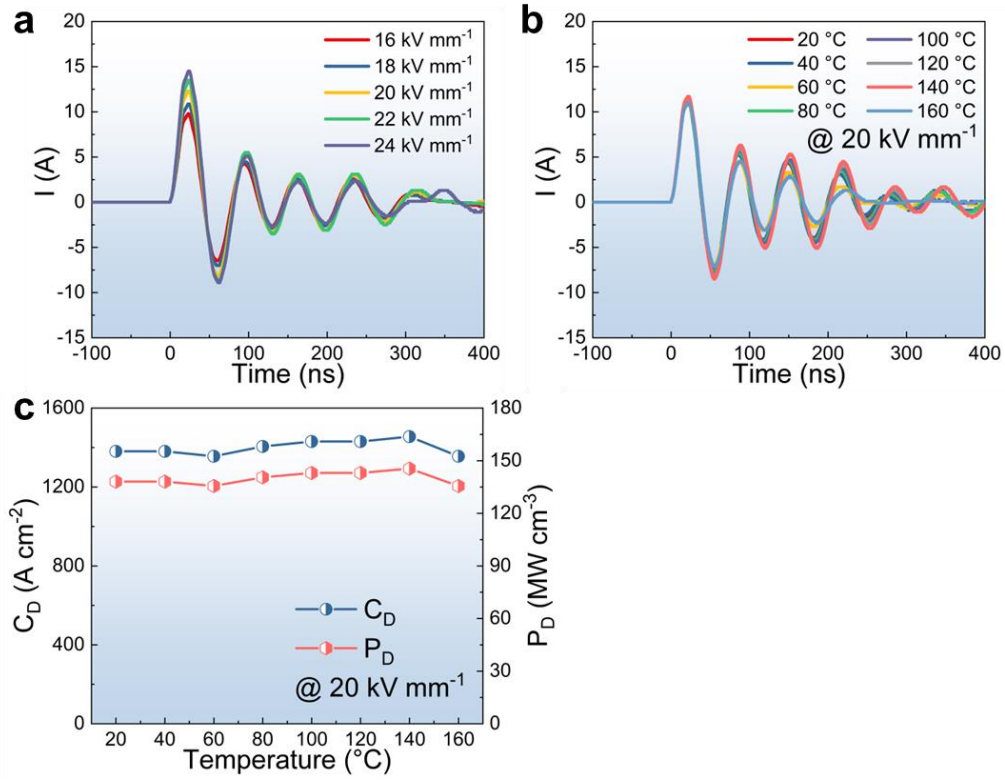


Fig. S11 **a** Underdamped discharge waveforms for BNTFN-1/3 ceramic. **b** Underdamped discharge waveforms, and **c** C_D and P_D values at 20 kV mm⁻¹ under different temperatures

The current density C_D and power density P_D can be calculated using the following formulas:

$$C_D = \frac{I_{max}}{S} \quad (7)$$

$$P_D = \frac{E \times I_{max}}{2S} \quad (8)$$

where S is the electrode area.

Table S1 Relevant references for the Fig. 2e,f.

Figure	<i>Ref.</i>
Fig. 2e,f	[6-195]

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