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# Dual quasi-BIC resonances synergized laser cooling in halide perovskite metasurface

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**Abstract:** Halide perovskites, recognized for efficient upconversion photoluminescence and high quantum yields, present a promising platform for laser refrigeration. Their high refractive index further enables the design of nanostructures that support strong Mie-type resonances, leading to subwavelength light confinement and enhanced laser cooling performance. In this work, we theoretically propose and numerically demonstrate a metasurface composed of nanostructured halide perovskite with tailored asymmetry, supporting dual-band quasi-bound states in the continuum (q-BICs) that simultaneously enhance optical excitation and upconversion photoluminescence. The perovskite metasurface exhibits a significant enhancement in optical absorption compared with the unpatterned perovskite film, along with a pronounced Purcell effect at the emission wavelength. Thermodynamic modelling further indicates net cooling down to  $-201^{\circ}\text{C}$  from room temperature under continuous laser illumination, exceeding the liquid-nitrogen cooling threshold. These findings establish design principles for mechanically refrigerant-free thermal management and open a pathway toward integrated cryogenic photonic platforms.

**Keywords:** laser cooling; bound states in the continuum; perovskite metasurfaces

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## 1 Introduction

The miniaturization of micro- and nano-optoelectronic devices has led to exponential growth in power and thermal flux densities, exceeding the limits of conventional thermal management. Bulk material constraints and vibration sensitivity further undermine precision thermal control in submicron architectures. Anti-Stokes fluorescence cooling has emerged as a transformative solid-state refrigeration technology. It operates entirely optically, is vibration-free, produces no electromagnetic interference, and offers high reliability, making it a promising solution for nanoscale thermal management<sup>1–3</sup>. This cooling mechanism relies on anti-Stokes photoluminescence, where pump photons with energy slightly below the mean fluorescence energy are absorbed together with lattice phonons, the subsequent

emission of higher-energy photons converts thermal energy stored in phonons into radiation and transfers entropy from the lattice to the optical field<sup>4</sup>. The concept was first proposed by Pringsheim P in 1929<sup>5</sup> and later formalized by Landau. In 1995, Epstein RI et al. demonstrated a 0.3 K temperature drop in Yb<sup>3+</sup>-doped ZBLANP glass, proving the feasibility of solid-state refrigeration<sup>6</sup>. Subsequent improvements through fiber geometry optimization and phonon-assisted transitions were demonstrated to enhance the cooling efficiency<sup>7–11</sup>. However, the phonon-assisted upconversion efficiency in rare-earth systems suffers a drastic reduction below 90 K<sup>12,13</sup>, where the greatly reduced phonon population and increasingly stringent requirements on external quantum efficiency make further cooling highly inefficient.

Semiconductors offer a prospective platform that

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overcomes this thermal constraint. Their superior photon harvesting properties and capability for cryogenic operation extend the achievable cooling range deep into the cryogenic regime. This potential was realized with CdS nanobelts that achieved 40 K of net cooling via Fröhlich phonon coupling in 2013<sup>14</sup>. Later, core-shell quantum dots (e.g., CdSe/ZnS) reached near-unity quantum efficiency by suppressing photon reabsorption through interfacial engineering<sup>15,16</sup>, making them promising candidates for nanoscale optical cooling. Nevertheless, nonradiative recombination induced by surface defects remains a major obstacle, often necessitating complex passivation strategies.

Lead halide perovskites have recently attracted significant attention in optical refrigeration<sup>17,18</sup>. Their strong electron-phonon coupling supports multiphonon annihilation, a quantum mechanical prerequisite for local entropy reduction. Crucially, perovskites exhibit innate structural defect tolerance, which effectively mitigates nonradiative losses that historically limited cooling performance. These properties offer new pathways to address photon entropy compensation challenges in anti-Stokes refrigeration systems. In 2016, Ha ST et al. demonstrated phonon-assisted upconverted emission in perovskites<sup>19</sup>, achieving net cooling of 23 K in bulk MAPbI<sub>3</sub> crystals and 58 K in 2D PhEPbI<sub>4</sub> nanoplatelets. Such advances propel perovskite-based refrigeration as a competitive technology for cryogenic applications previously dominated by rare-earth materials. Additionally, the high refractive indices of perovskites ( $n \sim 2.0$ – $2.5$ ) enable strong Mie resonances, revolutionizing the design in perovskite photonic devices<sup>20–24</sup>. These resonances facilitate sub-100-nm light confinement through multipolar scattering and bandgap tuning in photonic crystals. Integrating Mie-type metamaterials with halide perovskites has demonstrated exceptional performance enhancements in photodetectors<sup>25,26</sup>, photovoltaics<sup>27,28</sup>, and nanolasers<sup>22,29–31</sup>. This nanoscale synergy reveals that nanophotonic engineering could fully unlock the potential of perovskites for optical refrigeration, particularly through resonant entropy control.

Photonic bound states in the continuum (BICs)<sup>32–39</sup> offer a powerful mechanism for enhancing optical refrigeration. The BICs suppress radiative leakage and support extremely high quality (high-Q) resonances<sup>40–42</sup>, thereby strengthening photon-exciton-phonon interactions essential for efficient cooling. Building on this concept, in this work, we theoretically demonstrate a resonance engineering strategy based on MAPbBr<sub>3</sub> (CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>3</sub>PbBr<sub>3</sub>) perovskite metasurfaces that synergistically enhances both optical absorption and emission. By incorporating dual quasi-BIC resonances to match the excitation and emission wavelength bands, the metasurfaces achieve an exceptionally large photon absorption cross-section ( $4.3 \times 10^{-14}$  m<sup>2</sup> at 625 nm) together with a Purcell factor as high as 8.2 at emission wavelength of 540 nm via localized density-of-states engineering. These synergistic effects deliver an external quantum efficiency

(EQE) of 98.8% under an illumination intensity of  $1.5 \times 10^5$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>. Concurrently, anti-Stokes-mediated thermal suppression yields laser cooling down to  $-201$  °C (72 K), surpassing the boiling point (77 K) of liquid nitrogen, and establishing a new paradigm for solid-state optothermal refrigeration. The proposed framework offers a viable pathway toward room-temperature nanoscale refrigeration, providing a fundamentally new strategy for thermal management in integrated optoelectronics systems.

## 2 Results and discussions

Figure 1 illustrates the working principle of the dual-band q-BIC perovskite metasurface for enhanced laser refrigeration. Laser refrigeration relies on three coupled processes as shown in Fig. 1(a): (I) absorption of low-energy pump photons, slightly below the emission energy, determined by the spectral overlap with material's absorption bands; (II) phonon-assisted energy upconversion, in which lattice phonons provide the energy difference between the absorbed pump photon and the emitted photon, governed by the material's band structure and phonon density of states; and (III) radiative emission of higher-energy photons, whose quantum yield depends on radiative recombination efficiency and defect-mediated nonradiative losses<sup>3,43–45</sup>. While process (II) is intrinsically determined by material properties, processes (I) and (III) can be precisely engineered by the photonic architectures through bandgap-tailored nanostructuring, allowing systematic optimization of absorption cross-sections and emission linewidths. Figure 1(b) shows the steady-state spectral characteristics of the organic-inorganic hybrid perovskite MAPbBr<sub>3</sub> (CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>3</sub>PbBr<sub>3</sub>) film. Both the absorption spectrum (red curve) and photoluminescence spectrum (green curve) display characteristic band-edge transitions spanning 540–640 nm. The blue-shaded area indicates the theoretically predicted optical refrigeration window, derived from fundamental energy balance analysis accounting for Stokes shift constraints and intrinsic phonon scattering losses.

Figure 1(c) sketches the proposed perovskite metasurface composed of a hexagonal array of MAPbBr<sub>3</sub> perovskite nanodisks (green) on a glass substrate (gray) and encapsulated with a SiO<sub>2</sub>-PDMS hybrid aerogel (refractive index 1.2) for environmental protection. A co-diagonal lateral displacement of the central disk within each unit cell, parameterized by  $\Delta L$  (here defined such that  $\Delta x = \Delta y = \Delta L = 70$  nm in Fig. 1(c)), introduces engineered in-plane symmetry breaking, converting ideal BICs (e.g., non-radiative dark modes) into leaky quasi-BICs (q-BICs) that sustain high Q-factors and intensified light-matter interactions. The metasurface is excited by an  $x$ -polarized incident light, and is designed to integrate two distinct q-BIC resonance channels: a long-wavelength mode ( $\lambda_1 = 625$  nm) spectrally aligned with the absorption edge for optimized pump photon capturing, and a short-wavelength mode ( $\lambda_2 = 540$  nm) matched to the

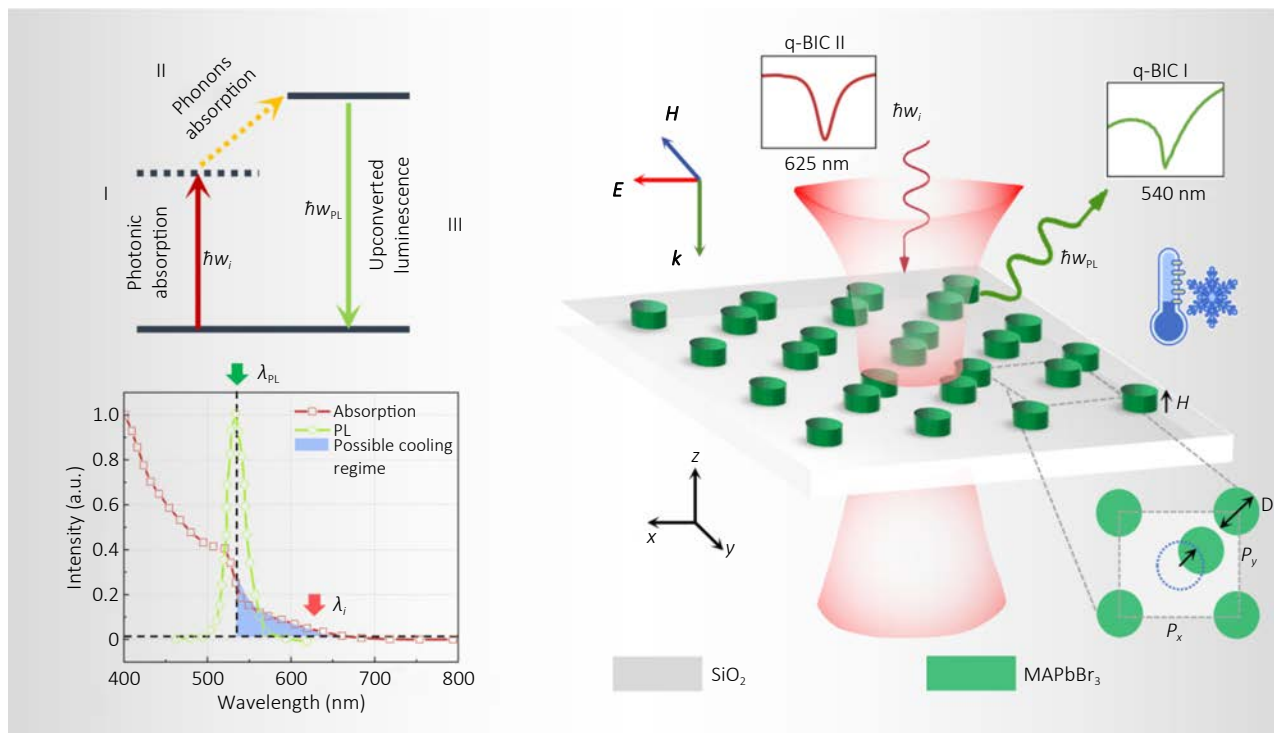
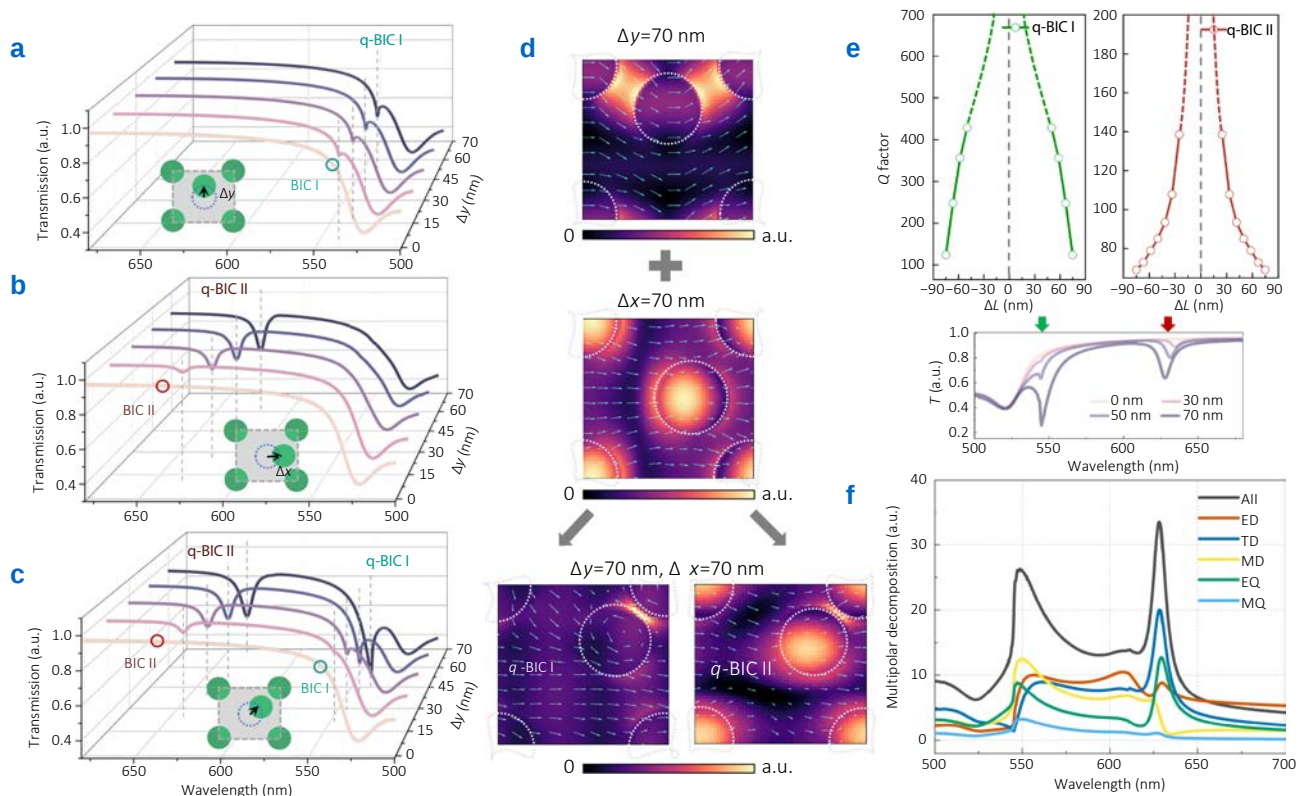


Fig. 1 | Dual-band q-BIC perovskite metasurface for laser refrigeration. (a) Energy diagram illustrating pump photon absorption ( $\hbar w_i$ ), phonon-assisted energy uptake, and anti-Stokes emission ( $\hbar w_{PL}$ ). (b) Absorption (red) and PL (green) spectra of MAPbBr<sub>3</sub> film with the shaded cooling window (540–640 nm). (c) Metasurface composed of hexagonal MAPbBr<sub>3</sub> nanodisks (radius = 85 nm, height = 200 nm) on glass and encapsulated with SiO<sub>2</sub>-PDMS aerogel, arranged with lattice periods  $P_x = 420$  nm and  $P_y = 375$  nm, where a lateral offset  $\Delta x = \Delta y = \Delta L = 70$  nm of the central disk breaks in-plane symmetry and produces two q-BIC resonances at  $\lambda_1 = 625$  nm (pump absorption) and  $\lambda_2 = 540$  nm (PL enhancement). The excitation light is linearly polarized along x-direction.

photoluminescence peak to boost radiative flux. Such coordinated resonance engineering mediates fluorescence cooling via phonon-bridged upconversion pathways, establishing a light-matter synergy that generates quantifiable surface temperature reduction under optical pumping.

The visible-range refractive indices of MAPbBr<sub>3</sub> perovskite ( $n \sim 2.0$ – $2.5$ ), combined with its broadband absorption, establish a versatile photonic design paradigm for multi-wavelength resonant meta-devices. The wavelength-dependent optical constants  $n(\lambda)$  and  $k(\lambda)$  used in our simulations are shown in Section 4.6 *Material parameters*. Through directional displacement engineering (Fig. 2(a–b)), wavelength-selective q-BIC excitation is achieved via independent position perturbations along the  $x$  and  $y$  directions:  $y$ -axis displacement ( $\Delta y$ ) of the central perovskite disk in the metasurface unit induces a targeted optical resonance at the emission wavelength, while  $x$ -axis displacement ( $\Delta x$ ) activates a distinct q-BIC mode precisely tuned to the excitation wavelength. Here, we use normally incident  $x$ -polarized excitation, which provides the strongest coupling, the response under  $y$  polarization is much weaker. Parametric scans in Fig. 2(c) confirm that coordinated diagonal displacements can concurrently activate dual-wavelength q-BIC resonances. Finite-difference time-domain

(FDTD) simulations of electric field distributions (Fig. 2(d)) further reveal how orthogonal perturbations ( $\Delta y$ ,  $\Delta x$ ) and their combination reshape the electromagnetic profiles of the two q-BICs. For the unidirectional displacement with  $\Delta y = 70$  nm and  $\Delta x = 70$  nm, the 540 nm and 625 nm channels are excited separately with characteristic near-field symmetries, whereas for the diagonal case  $\Delta x = \Delta y = \Delta L = 70$  nm, the two channels coexist and partially hybridize, as indicated by the mixed edge- and center-localized hotspots. The theoretical quality factor ( $Q$ -factor) evolution of these dual-BIC modes, as a function of displacement values, is quantitatively summarized in Fig. 2(e). As shown in Fig. 2(e), the  $Q$ -factors of q-BIC-I and q-BIC-II decrease rapidly with increasing  $\Delta L$ , reflecting the transition from symmetry-protected BICs to more strongly radiative leaky modes. Importantly, the choice of  $\Delta L$  is not determined by maximizing  $Q$  alone, but by balancing mode excitability and resonance enhancement. Based on this trade-off, we use  $\Delta L = 70$  nm as a practical operating point for the subsequent analyses. The multipolar decomposition in Fig. 2(f) further confirm that both resonances originate from the interference between electric dipole, toroidal dipole, and quadrupole moments, in agreement with the near-field patterns in Fig. 2(d).



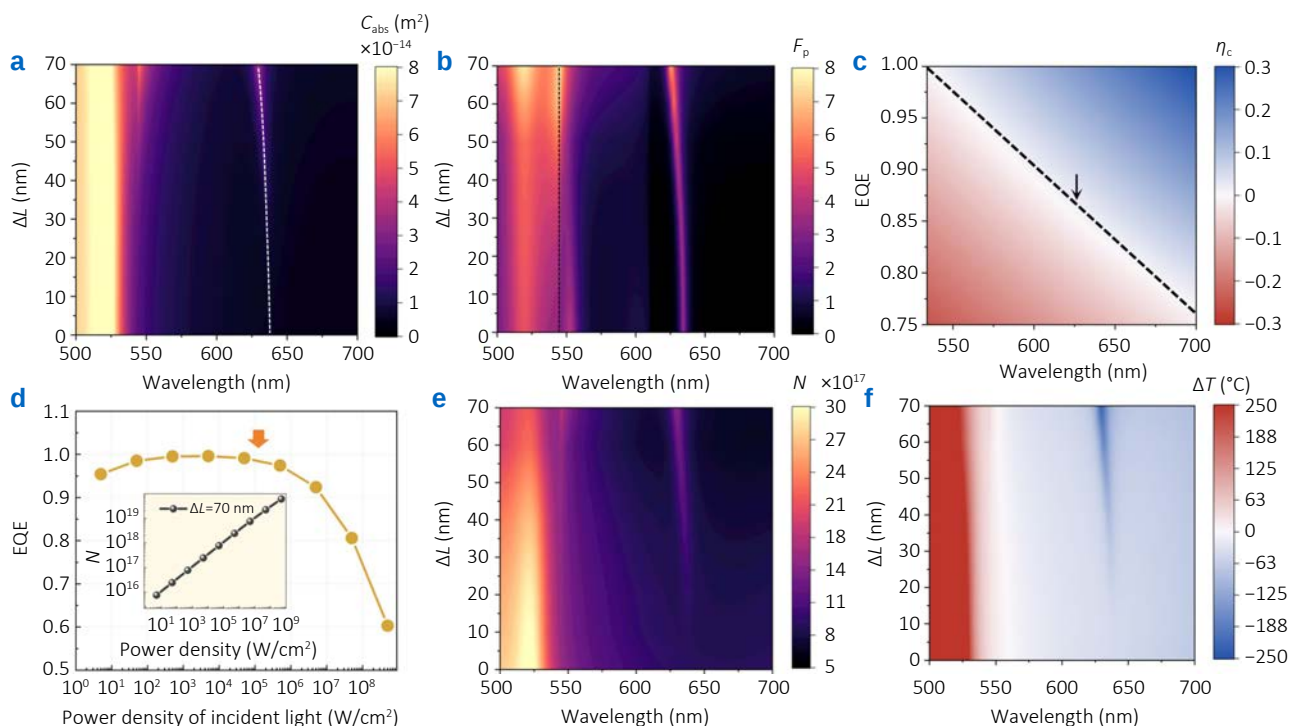
**Fig. 2 | Dual-wavelength q-BIC formation in perovskite metasurfaces.** (a–b) Transmission spectra showing q-BIC resonances near 540 nm and 625 nm, induced by central-disk displacements along the y-axis ( $\Delta y$ ) and x-axis ( $\Delta x$ ), respectively. (c) Calculated transmission spectra as a function of diagonal displacement  $\Delta L$ , confirming the emergence of two separate q-BIC modes at 540 nm (q-BIC-I) and 625 nm (q-BIC-II). (d) Normalized near-field intensity distributions  $|E|^2$  in the x-y plane through the disk center for three representative structures:  $\Delta y = 70$  nm,  $\Delta x = 0$  (top);  $\Delta x = 70$  nm,  $\Delta y = 0$  (middle) and  $\Delta x = \Delta y = \Delta L = 70$  nm (bottom). The distinct spatial symmetries illustrate how the two q-BIC channels originate from orthogonal perturbations and hybridize when both are present. White arrows denote the in-plane electric-field vectors. (e) Simulated quality factors of q-BIC-I and q-BIC-II as functions of  $\Delta L$ , with the inset showing representative transmission spectra. (f) Multipolar decomposition of perovskite metasurfaces in Cartesian coordinates.

The systematic investigation of the correlations among optical field characteristics, carrier dynamics, and cooling efficiency is shown in Fig. 3, which elucidates a pathway for optimizing the metasurface-based laser refrigeration system. The detailed calculation process is provided in the Methods section. The long-wavelength BIC resonance (mode q-BIC-II) can be steadily strengthened with increasing  $\Delta L$  from 0 to 70 nm along the both orthogonal direction, leading to enhanced absorption cross-section around 625 nm (Fig. 3(a)). Meanwhile, the short-wavelength mode localization (mode q-BIC-I) will be intensified simultaneously that boosts the Purcell factor near 540 nm (Fig. 3(b)). The synergistic dual-resonance coupling establishes an optimized energy conversion framework that critically enhances phonon-mediated upconversion efficiency.

To convert photonic field enhancement into functional cooling, the net cooling efficiency quantified as  $\eta_c = \eta_{\text{rad}} \times (\lambda_i/\lambda_{\text{PL}}) - 1$ , must be positive (i.e., net cooling  $\eta_c > 0$ ). Equivalently, the system must satisfy the anti-Stokes criterion, requiring the external quantum efficiency (EQE) defined as  $\text{EQE} = \eta_{\text{rad}} = R_{\text{rad}}^{\text{eff}} / (R_{\text{rad}}^{\text{eff}} + R_{\text{nonrad}})$  (where

$R_{\text{rad}}^{\text{eff}}$  and  $R_{\text{nonrad}}$  denote the radiative recombination rate and the non-radiative recombination rate, respectively), to exceed the threshold  $\lambda_{\text{PL}}/\lambda_i$ . This underlying mechanism involves spectral upconversion of absorbed low-energy photons (wavelength  $\lambda_i$ ) to high-energy radiative states ( $\lambda_{\text{PL}}$ ) via phonon-assisted processes, whereby the net photon energy gain counteracts lattice thermalization. Within this framework, excitation wavelength scanning in Fig. 3(c) maps the wavelength-dependent EQE threshold. For excitation at  $\lambda_i = 625$  nm and emission at  $\lambda_{\text{PL}} = 540$  nm, the threshold EQE is determined to be 86.4%, as indicated by the black arrow shown in Fig 3(c).

To achieve net cooling under operational conditions while satisfying the critical EQE threshold, we systematically investigated the competitive interplay among excitation power, carrier concentration, and EQE in the optimized structure with fixed  $\Delta L$  of 70 nm. The carrier density at each excitation level was obtained by solving the steady-state rate equation using the calculated photogeneration rate and the recombination coefficients (the details is expressed as Eq. (4) in Methods section). As shown in the inset of



**Fig. 3 |** (a) Absorption cross-section ( $C_{\text{abs}}$ ) as a function of wavelength and layer displacement  $\Delta L$ . (b) Purcell factor ( $F_p$ ) spectra versus wavelength and  $\Delta L$ . (c) Cooling efficiency map showing the EQE threshold for net cooling. (d) EQE as a function of excitation power density, with inset showing the corresponding carrier concentration ( $N$ ). (e) Carrier density distribution versus wavelength and  $\Delta L$ . (f) Calculated steady-state temperature variation ( $\Delta T$ ) under different excitation wavelengths and  $\Delta L$ .

**Fig. 3(d)**, the carrier concentration increases monotonically from  $7.61 \times 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  to  $6.04 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  as the excitation power rises from  $5 \times 10 \text{ W/cm}^2$  to  $5 \times 10^8 \text{ W/cm}^2$ . In contrast, the EQE exhibits a pronounced non-monotonic trend due to dynamic competition among recombination pathways. At low excitation powers ( $5 \times 10 \text{ W/cm}^2 \sim 5 \times 10^3 \text{ W/cm}^2$ ), EQE increases from 95% to 98% as defect-state filling reduces the available non-radiative recombination channels. Within the intermediate power range ( $5 \times 10^4 \text{ W/cm}^2 \sim 5 \times 10^6 \text{ W/cm}^2$ ), EQE stabilizes near 99% as radiative recombination becomes dominant. However, under high-power excitation ( $> 5 \times 10^6 \text{ W/cm}^2$ ), the EQE declines to 60%, primarily due to Auger recombination and exacerbated thermalization losses. In this regime, the elevated carrier density promotes a three-body scattering process, where the energy released from electron-hole recombination is transferred to a third carrier rather than emitted as a photon. This non-radiative Auger mechanism dominates over radiative pathways, leading to significant efficiency degradation.

The operating point was strategically optimized at an excitation power density of  $1.5 \times 10^5 \text{ W/cm}^2$  (corresponding to  $\text{EQE} = 98.8\%$  and carrier concentration  $N = 1.3 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ) to achieve an optimal trade-off between photonic cooling efficiency and thermal dissipation. At this operating condition, the dual-band q-BIC resonance coupling mechanism ensures a high EQE, which not only exceeds the anti-Stokes

fluorescence threshold (86.4%) but also fulfills the critical criterion for net optical cooling. Excitation-wavelength-dependent temperature mapping (**Fig. 3(f)**) reveals localized deep-blue cooling zones with substantial temperature reduction exclusively under the theoretically optimized excitation wavelength ( $\lambda_i = 625 \text{ nm}$ ). In contrast, non-resonant wavelengths exhibit weak thermal modulation (light-blue regions), confirming through simulation that the dual q-BIC resonances enable wavelength-selective energy extraction and suppression of thermal dissipation pathways within the designed framework.

Building on the wavelength-selective cooling mechanism established above, we further investigate the structural dependence of optothermal performance by systematically comparing three configurations (**Fig. 4**): (i) an unstructured perovskite film (thickness-matched to the metasurface), (ii) a symmetric metasurface ( $\Delta L = 0$ ), and (iii) an optimized dual-band q-BIC structure ( $\Delta L = 70 \text{ nm}$ ). The symmetric metasurface ( $\Delta L = 0 \text{ nm}$ ) supports a symmetry-protected BIC at normal incidence, so the far-field coupling to the radiative continuum is strongly suppressed by symmetry. Consequently, this configuration does not exhibit pronounced resonance-enhanced absorption under plane-wave excitation, and the Purcell-factor enhancement is much weaker than that in the symmetry-broken case over the 500–700 nm spectral window (**Fig. 4(c)**). Under intense

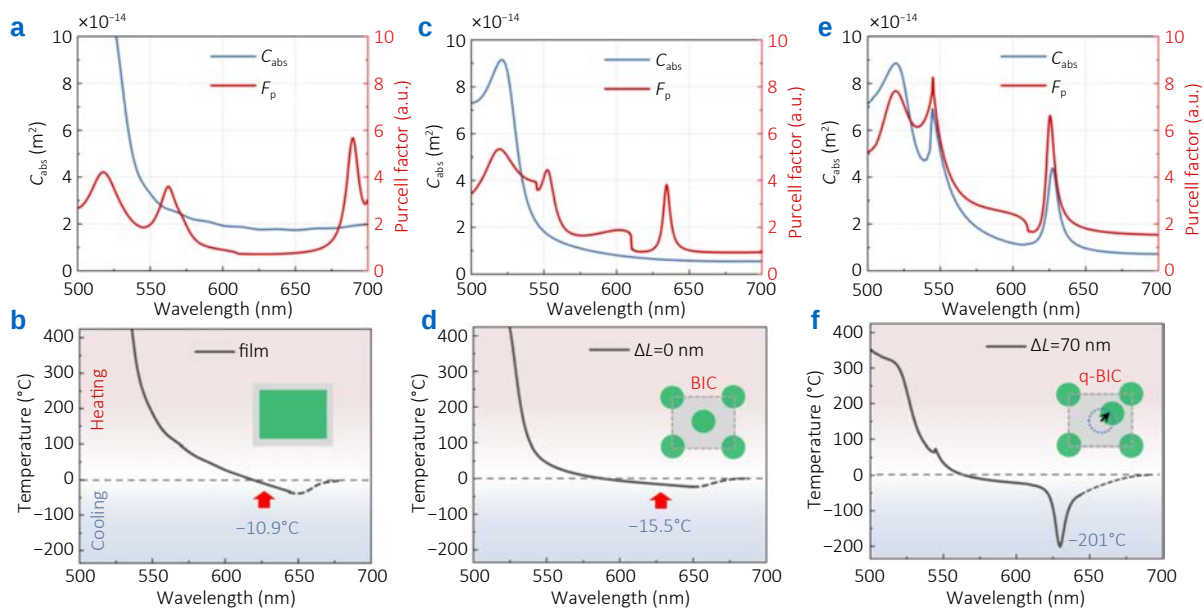


Fig. 4 | Comparison of optical response and refrigeration performance. (a, c, e) Absorption cross-section ( $C_{abs}$ , blue) and Purcell factor ( $F_p$ , red) spectra for (a) an unstructured perovskite film, (c) a BIC metasurface with  $\Delta L = 0$  nm, and (e) a dual q-BIC metasurface with  $\Delta L = 70$  nm. (b, d, f) Corresponding simulated temperature variation under  $1.5 \times 10^5 \text{ W/cm}^2$  excitation, giving steady-state temperatures of  $-10.9^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $-15.5^\circ\text{C}$ , and  $-201^\circ\text{C}$  for (a, c, e), respectively.

laser illumination ( $1.5 \times 10^5 \text{ W/cm}^2$ ), it still shows a finite temperature reduction, reaching a steady-state temperature of  $-15.5^\circ\text{C}$  (Fig. 4(d)), which primarily originates from non-resonant background absorption associated with intrinsic material loss rather than quasi-BIC-enabled resonance enhancement. In contrast, the symmetry-broken dual-band q-BIC structure unlocks radiative channels and establishes spectrally matched excitation-emission resonances, leading to pronounced enhancement of both absorption cross-section and Purcell factor (Fig. 4(e)). This dual-band resonance synergy enables efficient photon recycling, which in simulations translates into cryogenic cooling to  $-201^\circ\text{C}$  (72 K,  $\Delta T = 226^\circ\text{C}$  from ambient environment), surpassing the liquid-nitrogen threshold of  $-196^\circ\text{C}$ . Compared to the unstructured film and the BIC metasurface, the optimized q-BIC design achieves more than an order-of-magnitude improvement in cooling performance. These results demonstrate that symmetry-engineered meta-atoms can reconfigure thermal radiation channels and modulate photonic density of states, thereby extending the design possibilities for optical refrigeration.

### 3 Conclusions

We have developed a dual q-BIC-engineered perovskite metasurface that unifies enhanced optical absorption and radiative cooling through high-Q resonance engineering. Full-wave electromagnetic simulations combined with thermodynamic modeling reveal a 2.4-fold increase in absorption cross-section ( $1.8 \times 10^{-14} \text{ m}^2$  at 625 nm) compared to unpatterned perovskite films, together with a Purcell

factor of 8.2 that supports efficient radiative cooling. Theoretical predictions indicate cryogenic temperature reduction to  $-201^\circ\text{C}$  ( $\Delta T = 226^\circ\text{C}$ ) under ambient conditions. By integrating resonant photonic design with thermal dynamics, this work establishes a framework for perovskite-based deep cryogenic cooling beyond the liquid nitrogen threshold. The proposed dual q-BIC mechanism establishes general design principles for extreme photothermal management in all-dielectric systems, offering a new paradigm in solid-state refrigeration for high-density photonic circuits and quantum photonic devices.

## 4 Methods

In the study of optical cooling enhanced by dual BIC resonance in nanoparticles, the methodology involves a comprehensive approach that integrates carrier dynamics, optical properties, and thermal analysis. Here is a detailed and logical summary of the methods used.

### 4.1 Carrier dynamics modeling

The process begins with modeling the carrier concentration within the material when subjected to laser irradiation. The total carrier concentrations for electrons ( $n$ ) and holes ( $p$ ) are calculated by summing the equilibrium concentrations ( $n_0$  for electrons and  $p_0$  for holes) and the photogenerated concentrations ( $\Delta n$  and  $\Delta p$ ):

$$\begin{cases} n = n_0 + \Delta n \\ p = p_0 + \Delta p \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

This provides a fundamental basis for evaluating the subsequent recombination and optical processes.

#### 4.2 Recombination rates calculation

The radiative recombination rate ( $R_{\text{rad}}$ ) is proportional to the product of electron and hole densities. For lead halide perovskites, the photogenerated carrier concentration is larger than the equilibrium carrier concentration. Under the assumption  $\Delta n \gg n_0, \Delta p \gg p_0$ , the volumetric radiative recombination rate can be written as

$$R_{\text{rad}} = B\Delta n\Delta p = BN^2, \quad (2)$$

where  $N = \Delta n = \Delta p$  is the laser-induced electron-hole carrier density, and  $B$  denotes the bimolecular recombination coefficient (unit:  $\text{cm}^3\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ). Non-radiative recombination ( $R_{\text{nonrad}}$ ) includes trap-assisted recombination and Auger processes, expressed as

$$R_{\text{nonrad}} = AN + CN^3, \quad (3)$$

with  $A$  and  $C$  the corresponding coefficients. For the present model, representative values are  $A=3\times 10^6$  ( $\text{cm}^{-3}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ),  $B=1\times 10^{-9}$  ( $\text{cm}^3\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ) and  $C=9\times 10^{-29}$  ( $\text{cm}^6\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ ). These parameters should be adjusted according to experimental measurements or material-specific data<sup>46</sup>.

Under continuous-wave (CW) steady-state excitation, the carrier density satisfies the rate equation:

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = 0 = G - AN - BN^2 - CN^3, \quad (4)$$

where  $G$  is the photogeneration rate per unit volume. This generation term is set by the actual optical absorption of the nanostructure (see the absorption subsection below).

#### 4.3 Optical absorption and photogeneration

The absorption properties of nanoparticles are characterized by the absorption cross-section  $C_{\text{abs}}$ , defined as the ratio between absorbed power and incident intensity:

$$C_{\text{abs}} = \frac{P_{\text{abs}}}{I}. \quad (5)$$

The absorption cross-section  $C_{\text{abs}}$  depends on the structure's permittivity, geometry, excitation wavelength and collective scattering effects of the periodic arrangement. This quantity directly determines the carrier generation rate under laser pumping. The total photogeneration per unit volume is given by

$$G = \frac{IC_{\text{abs}}}{\hbar\omega_i V}, \quad (6)$$

where  $I$  is the incident intensity,  $\hbar\omega_i$  is the pump photon energy, and  $V$  is the active volume of the nanoparticle. A larger  $C_{\text{abs}}$  at the pump wavelength therefore increases  $G$ , raises the steady-state carrier density  $N$ , and consequently

modifies both radiative and non-radiative recombination rates.

#### 4.4 Emission enhancement and Purcell factor

In a nanophotonic environment, the spontaneous emission rate can be enhanced by the Purcell factor  $F_p$ , which effectively modifies the radiative term as

$$R_{\text{rad}}^{\text{eff}} = F_p BN^2. \quad (7)$$

Thus, the Purcell factor provides a direct link between optical mode confinement and the acceleration of spontaneous emission.

This enhancement improves the internal radiative efficiency:

$$\eta_{\text{rad}} = EQE = \frac{R_{\text{rad}}^{\text{eff}}}{R_{\text{rad}}^{\text{eff}} + R_{\text{nonrad}}}. \quad (8)$$

#### 4.5 Cooling efficiency and temperature evolution

With the carrier dynamics and optical properties established, the optical cooling efficiency ( $\eta_c$ ) is calculated as the ratio of net cooling power to absorbed power:

$$\eta_c = \frac{P_{\text{lum}} - P_{\text{abs}}}{P_{\text{abs}}} = \eta_{\text{rad}} \frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda_{\text{PL}}} - 1. \quad (9)$$

Here,  $P_{\text{lum}}$  denotes the emitted power. The absorbed power is derived from  $C_{\text{abs}}$  and the incident light intensity. This framework can be further expressed in terms of the recombination rates and the photon energies of absorption and emission.

The steady-state temperature change  $\Delta T$  is determined by balancing the net cooling power against heat conduction to the environment. For a spherical particle of radius  $R$  in a medium with thermal conductivity  $\kappa$ , the relation is

$$\Delta T = -\frac{\eta_c C_{\text{abs}} I}{4\pi\kappa R}, \quad (10)$$

where  $\kappa = 0.022 \text{ W}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}$ .

This methodology provides a thorough framework for understanding and optimizing the optical cooling process in nanoparticles. By considering the interplay between carrier generation, optical absorption and emission, and thermal transfer, it offers insights into enhancing cooling efficiency through the design and manipulation of nanophotonic structures.

#### 4.6 Material parameters

In all electromagnetic simulations, the complex refractive index of MAPbBr<sub>3</sub>,  $n(\lambda) + ik(\lambda)$ , as shown in Fig. 5, was adopted from the experimental optical constants reported previously<sup>47</sup>.

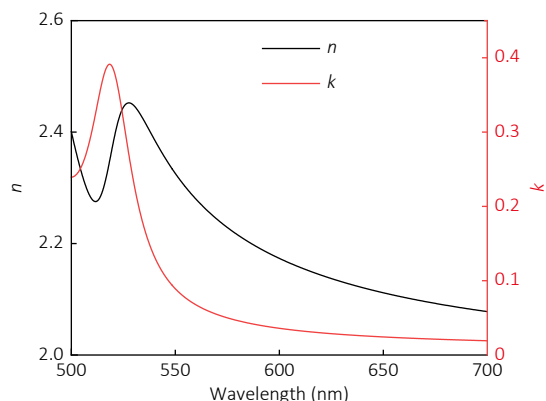


Fig. 5 | Optical constants of MAPbBr<sub>3</sub> used in the simulations. Wavelength-dependent refractive index  $n(\lambda)$  (gray curve, left axis) and extinction coefficient  $k(\lambda)$  (red curve, right axis) over the spectral range relevant to this work.

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## Competing interests

The authors declare no competing financial interests.



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