

# Fuel Choices Summit

## Tel Aviv, November 2-3, 2016

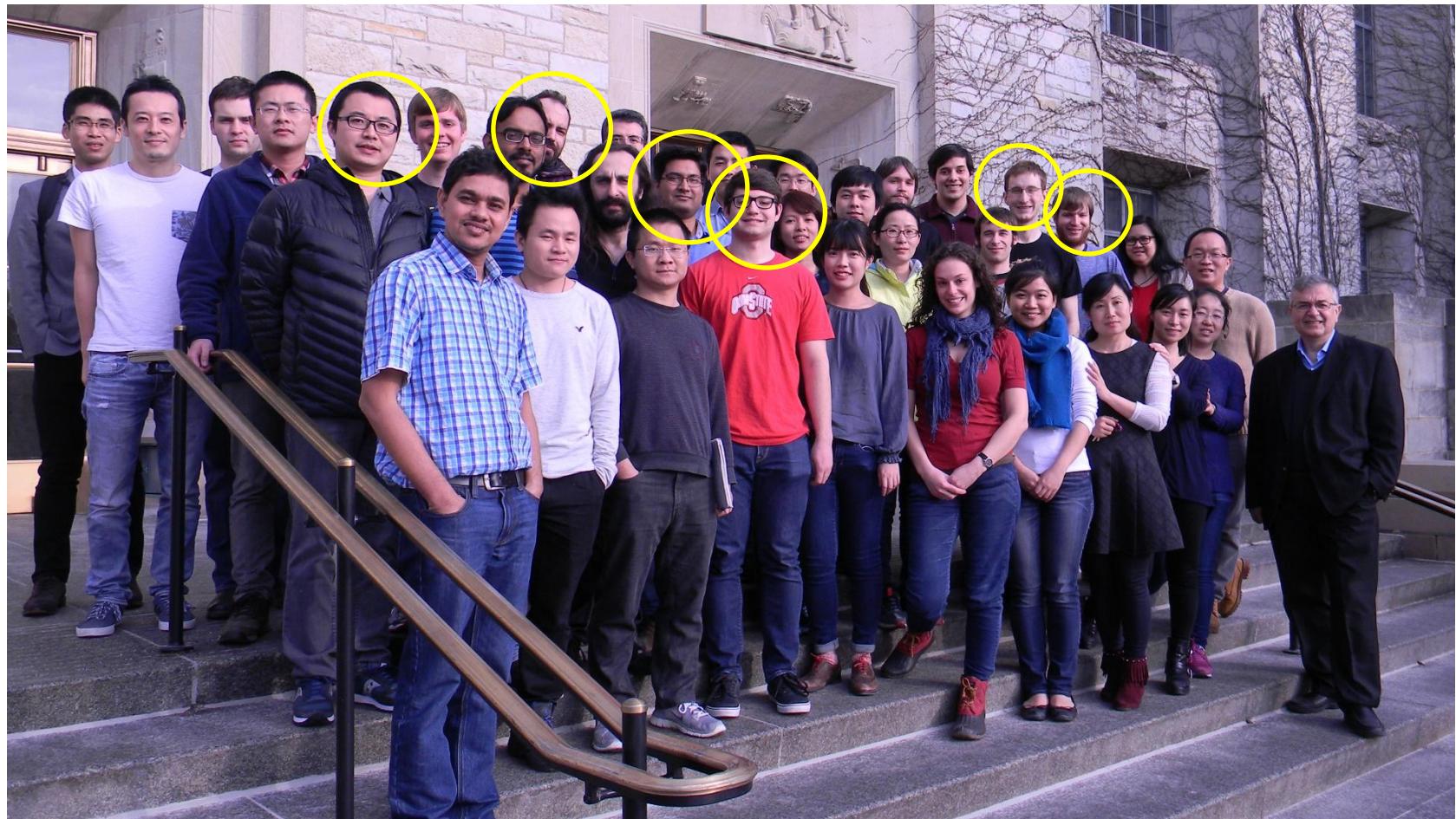
**2016 Eric and Sheila Samson  
Prime Minister's Prize**

## **Heat to Electricity with nano- Thermoelectrics**

***Mercouri Kanatzidis***

***Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, USA***

# 2016



# Collaborators



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■ Stathis Polychroniadis,  
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■ Chris Wolverton, NU



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Nicholas Calta, PhD 2015  
Rachel Korkosz, PhD 2015  
Yurina Shim, PhD 2014  
Ye Seul Lee, PhD 2014  
Ronald Soriano, PhD 2014  
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- Qichun Zhang, PhD  
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- Guo-Fu Wang PhD (deceased)  
Francois Bonhomme PhD  
Birinchi Das PhD
- Kuei-Fang Hsu, PhD,
- K. Kasthuri Rangan, Ph.D.,
-

# Funding

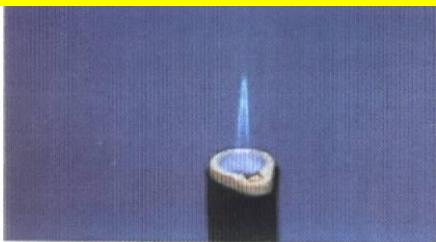


# Heat to Electrical Energy Directly

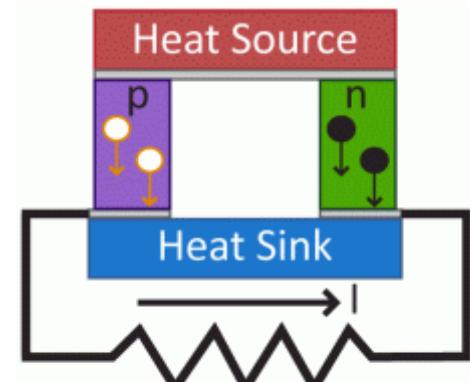
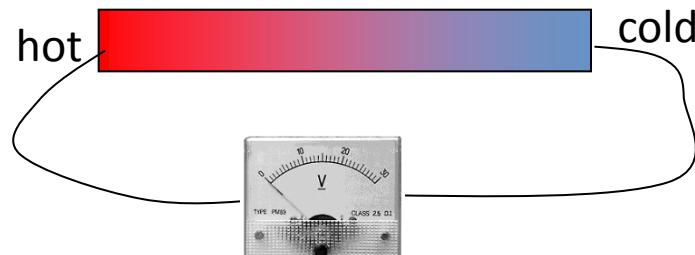
Up to 25% conversion efficiency with right materials



## Thermopower $S = \Delta V / \Delta T$



Electrical Power Generation

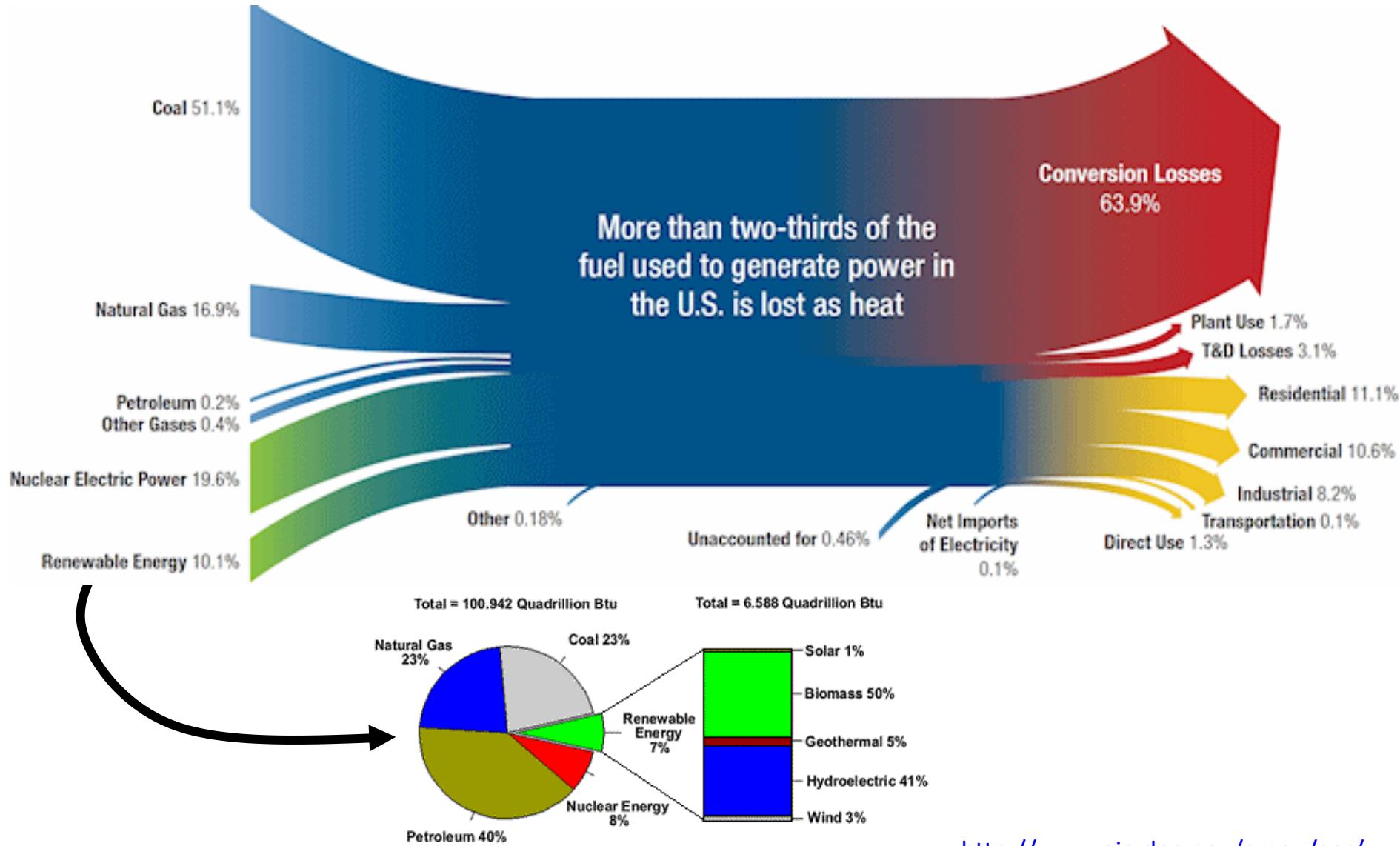


Power Generation Mode

TE devices have no moving parts, no noise, reliable

Thermopower  $S = \Delta V / \Delta T$

# U.S. Energy Flow, 2015



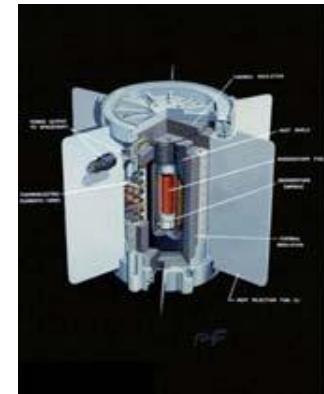
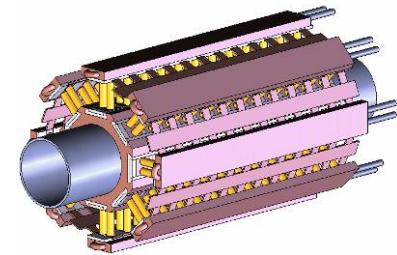
~65% of energy becomes waste heat,

~10% conversion to useful forms can have huge impact on overall energy utilization

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/aer/>

# Thermoelectric applications

- Waste heat recovery
  - Automobiles
  - Over the road trucks
  - Marine
  - Utilities
  - Chemical plants
- Space power
- Remote Power Generation
- **Solar energy**
- Geothermal power generation
- Direct nuclear to electrical



Curiosity



# Sustainable TRANSPORTATION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY** | Energy Efficiency &  
Renewable Energy

## TEG contribution to Future CAFE

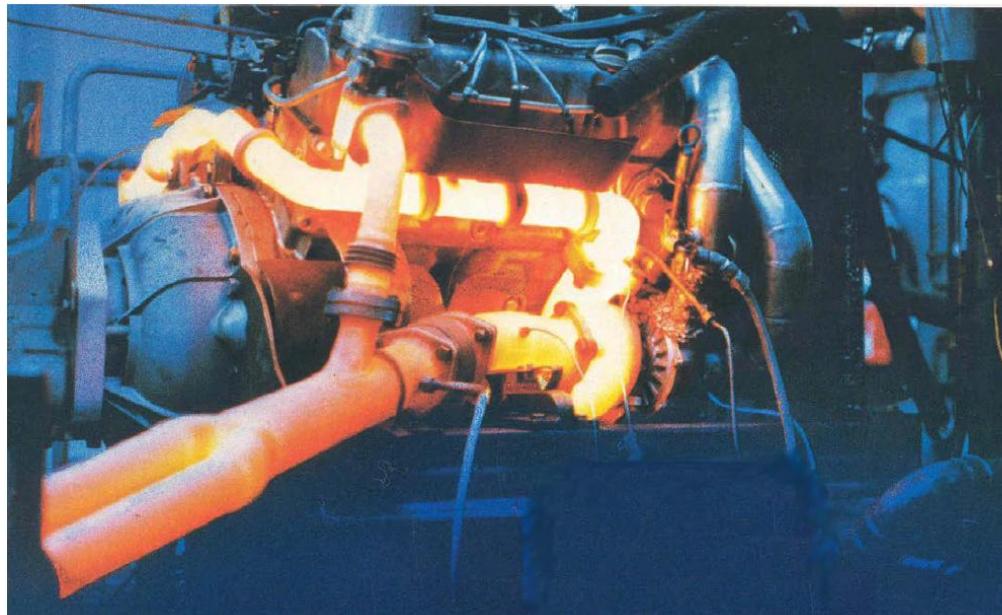
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- White House announced an agreement with 13 major automakers to achieve **54.5 mpg by 2025**
  
- Recovering engine exhaust waste heat using thermoelectric generators (TEGs) is consistent with this objective

- **Goal:** integrate vehicles with a technology that will improve fuel economy
- **Approach:** use thermoelectrics to convert energy in hot engine exhaust directly to electricity

## Vehicular Engine Waste Heat Energy

Opportunity for improving fuel economy arises from **high temperature of vehicle exhaust systems**: converting heat to electricity reduces load on engine (electricity powers components; smaller alternator needed)



- **Target:** > 5% improvement in fuel economy; achieved by using output of TEG to power key electrical components

# The power of increasing fuel economy by 1% and 5%

	Segment	Type of Savings	Estimated Fuel Savings over 1 Year (Billion nominal US Dollars)
Auto/Light-duty trucks	Personal	1% Fuel Savings	\$5.0 B
Heavy-duty trucks	Commercial	1% Fuel Savings	\$1.4 B
Auto/Light-duty trucks	Personal	5% Fuel Savings	\$25 B
Heavy-duty trucks	Commercial	5% Fuel Savings	\$6.9B

Reference: Davis (2012), *Transportation Energy Data Book, Table 1.17.* EIA (2013), "Gasoline and Diesel Fuel Update" (<http://www.eia.gov/petroleum/gasdiesel/> accessed March 2013)

# More efficient vehicle: Lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions...

GM Prototype TEG

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Renewable Energy



Ford Lincoln MKT



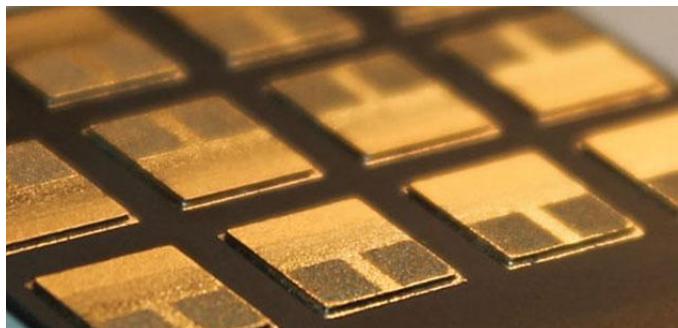
Gentherm

Amerigon TEG for Ford  
Lincoln MKT and BMW X6

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY** | Energy Efficiency &  
Renewable Energy

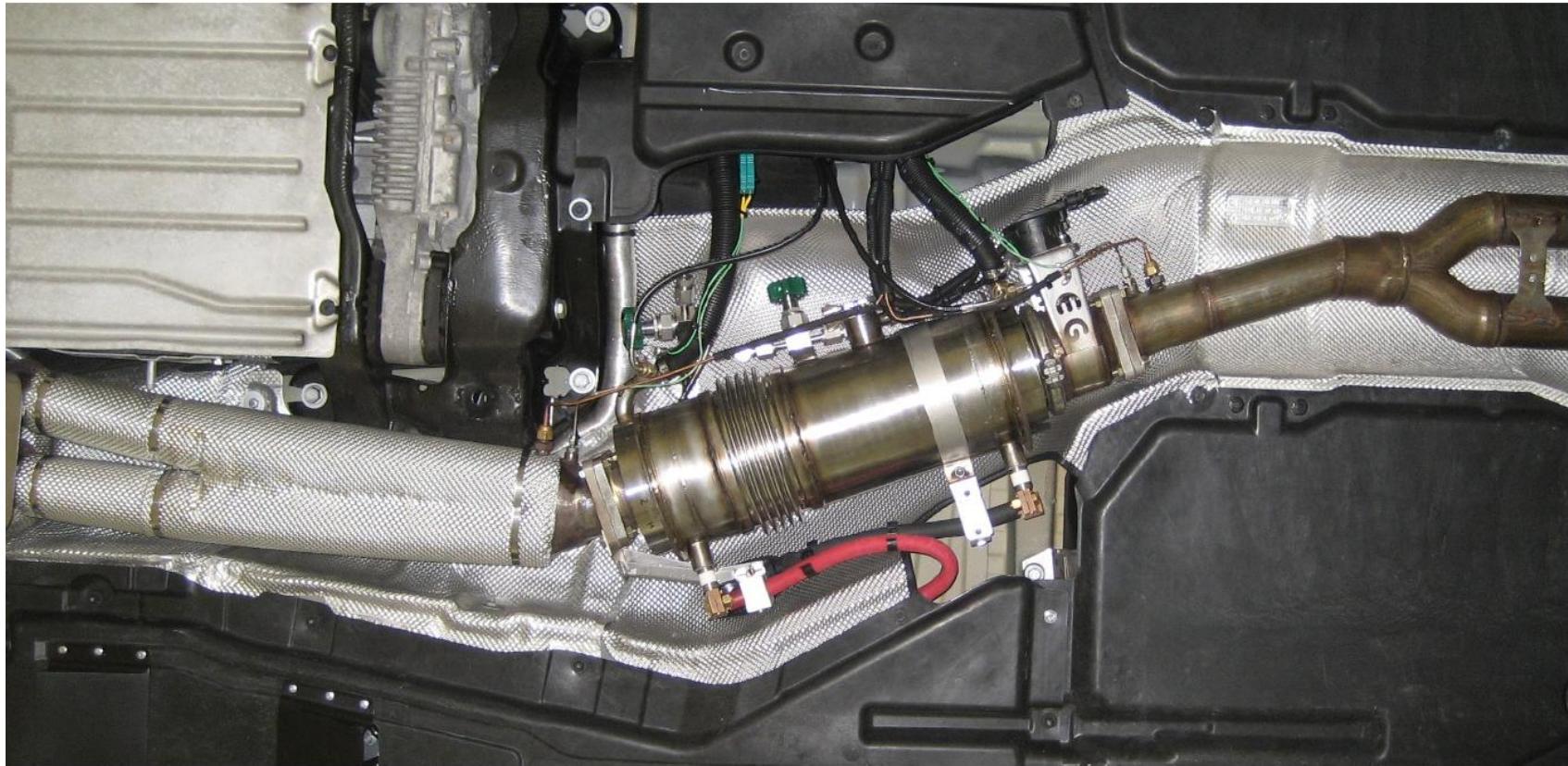


Alphabet Energy

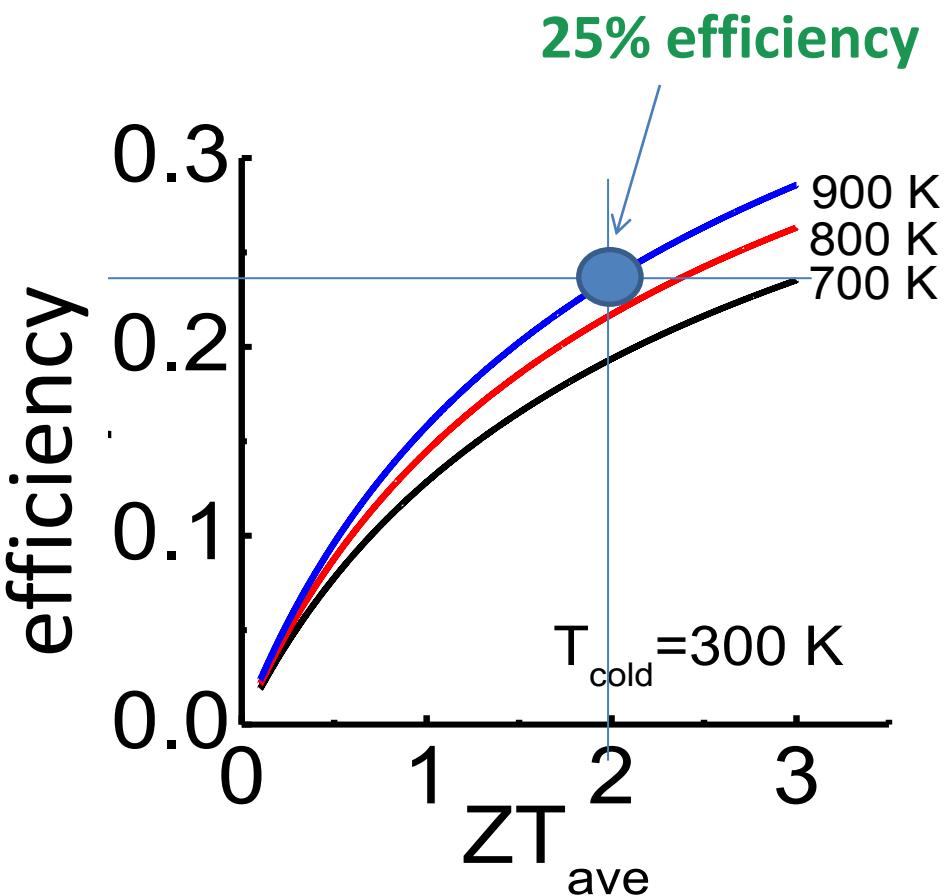


## TEG Installation in BMW X6

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# Figure of Merit and Conversion Efficiency



$$ZT = \frac{S^2 \sigma}{K T}$$

Thermopower  $\rightarrow S$   
Electrical conductivity  $\rightarrow \sigma$   
Temperature  $\rightarrow T$   
Thermal conductivity  $\rightarrow K$

$$\eta = \left( \frac{T_H - T_C}{T_H} \right) \cdot \frac{\sqrt{1 + ZT_{avg}} - 1}{\sqrt{1 + ZT_{avg}} + (T_C / T_H)}$$

efficiency



# A brief history



$$ZT = \frac{\sigma S^2}{K} T$$

1821  
Seebeck effect

1900's Altenkirch

1834  
Peltier effect

1950's and 1960's  
 $\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3$ , ZT~1  
ONR funds

1970's  
Radioactive source TE  
NASA, SiGe, PbTe  
AgGeSbTe

1990's  
Dresselhaus & Hicks  
Nanoscale Bismuth  
Glen Slack:: phonon glass electron crystal  
Prediction of high ZT

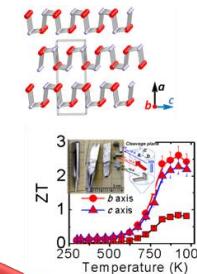
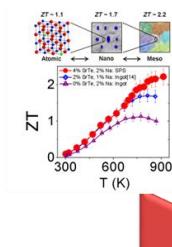
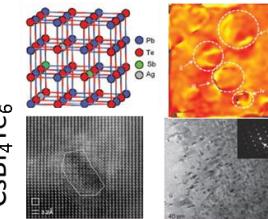
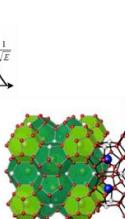
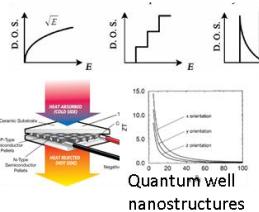
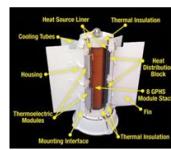
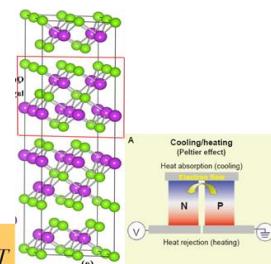
2004  
LAST material  
ZT~1.5  
Nanostructures discovered

2010  
Endotaxial Nanostructures  
ZT~1.7  
DOE-EFRCs

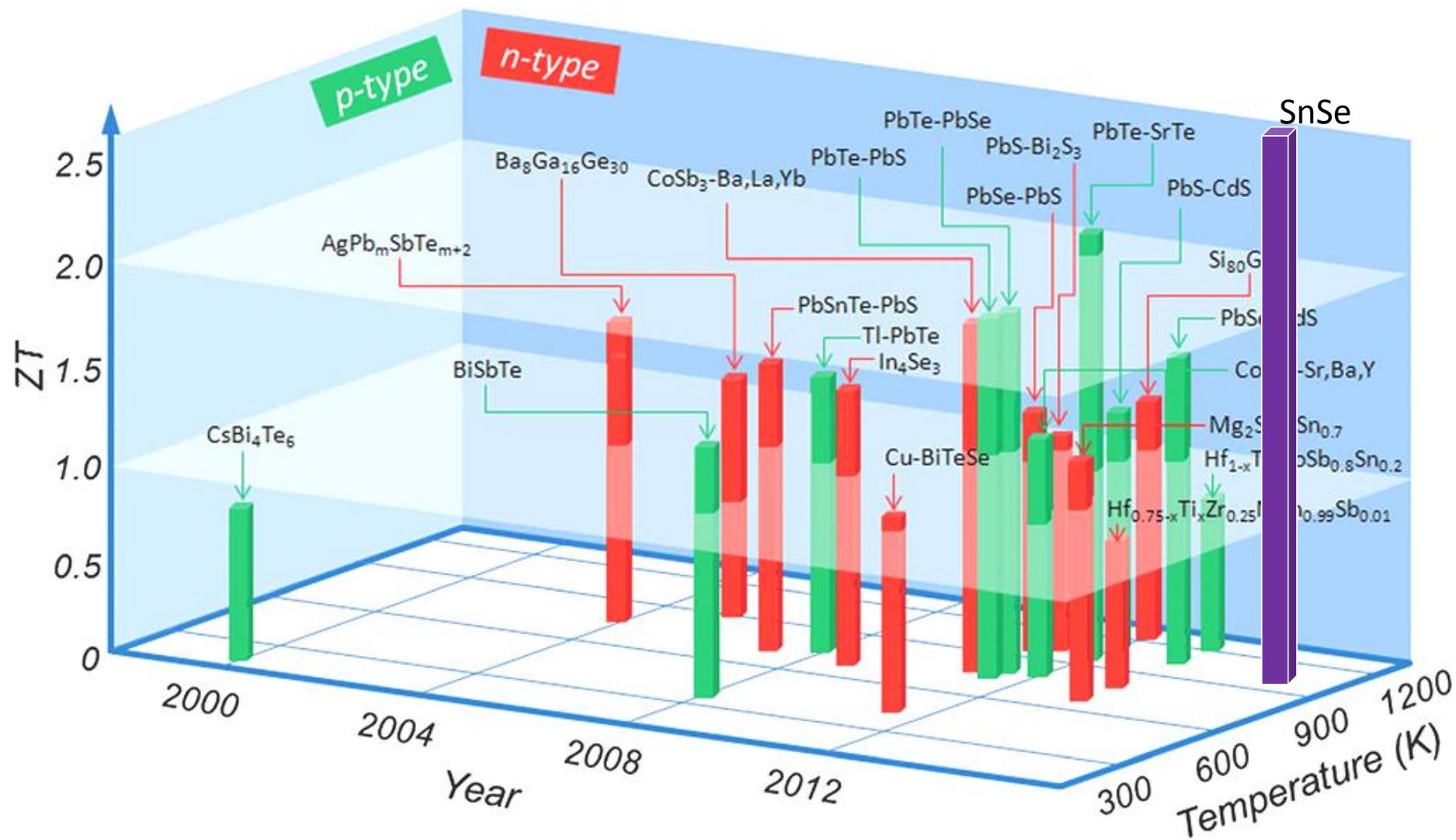
2012-2104  
Panoscopic TE  
ZT~2.2  
SnSe ZT~2.6

1<sup>st</sup> paradigm of TE optimization developed

nanostructuring paradigm of TE optimization proposed



# High ZT materials



# $ZT$ and Electronic Structure

Isotropic  
structure

effective mass

$$Z_{\max} \propto \gamma \frac{T^{3/2} t}{k_{latt}} e^{\left(r+1/2\right)} \sqrt{\frac{m_x m_y}{m_z}}$$

$t$ =scattering time

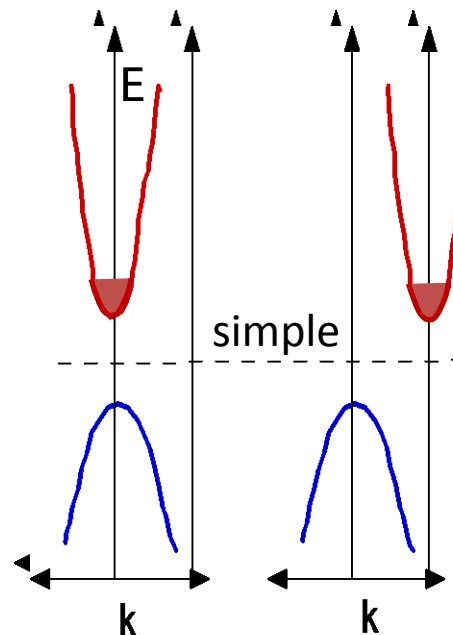
$r$ = scattering parameter

$\kappa_{latt}$ = lattice thermal conductivity

$T$  = temperature

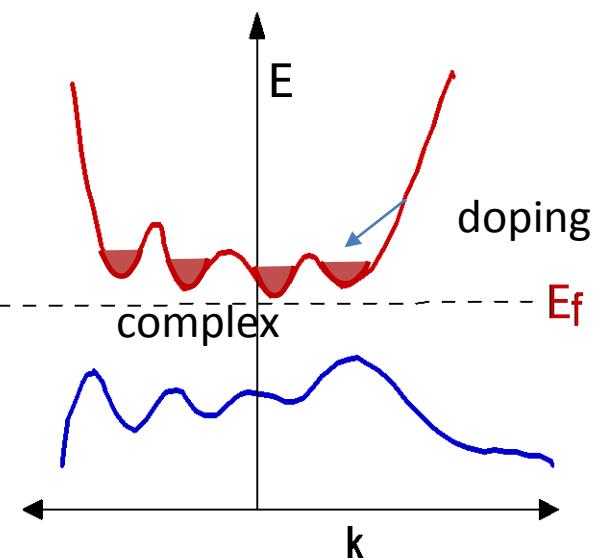
$\gamma$ = band degeneracy

**Large  $\gamma$  comes with**  
**(a) high symmetry e.g.**  
**rhombohedral, cubic**  
**(b) off-center band extrema**



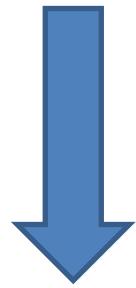
For acoustic phonon scattering  
 $r=-1/2$

Complex electronic structure



# Multiple valleys...are better

holes



electrons



# What about thermal conductivity?

$$zT = \frac{S^2 \sigma}{\kappa_l + \kappa_e}$$



- Diamond 1600 W/mK



- PbTe 2.2 W/mK

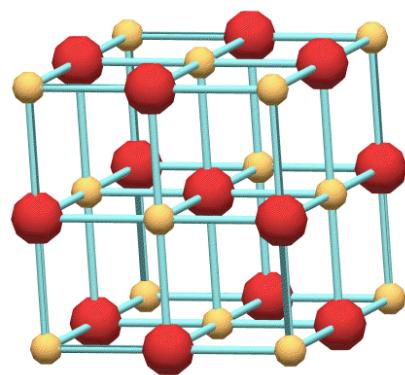


- Cu 400 W/mK

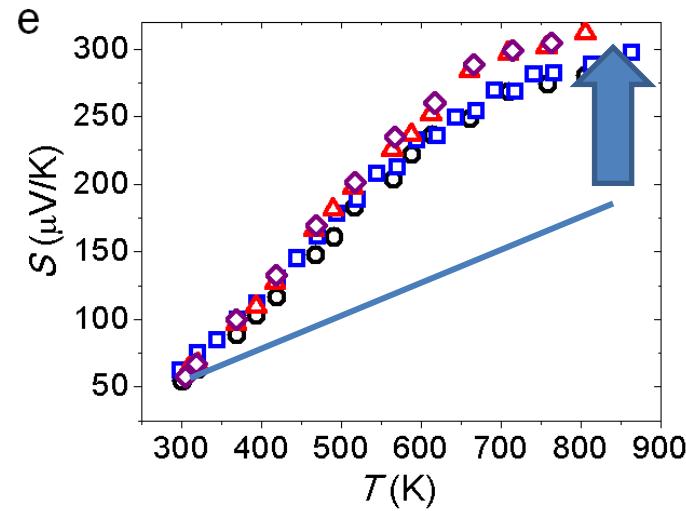


- Wood 0.2 W/mK

# Marvelous electronic structure of PbTe

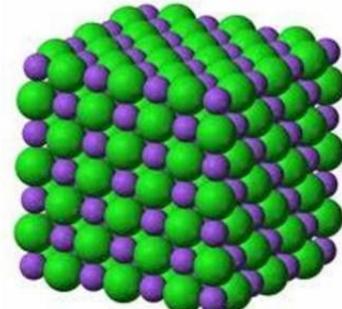


$a \approx 6.45 \text{ \AA}$  (300K)

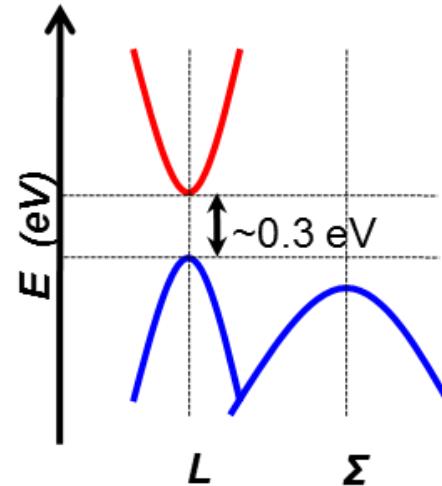


## Introducing strain into PbTe

- SrTe: rock salt structure Fm-3m
- $a = 6.660 \text{ \AA}$
- PbTe:  $a = 6.460 \text{ \AA}$



Solubility of SrTe unknown



Valence band has two peaks

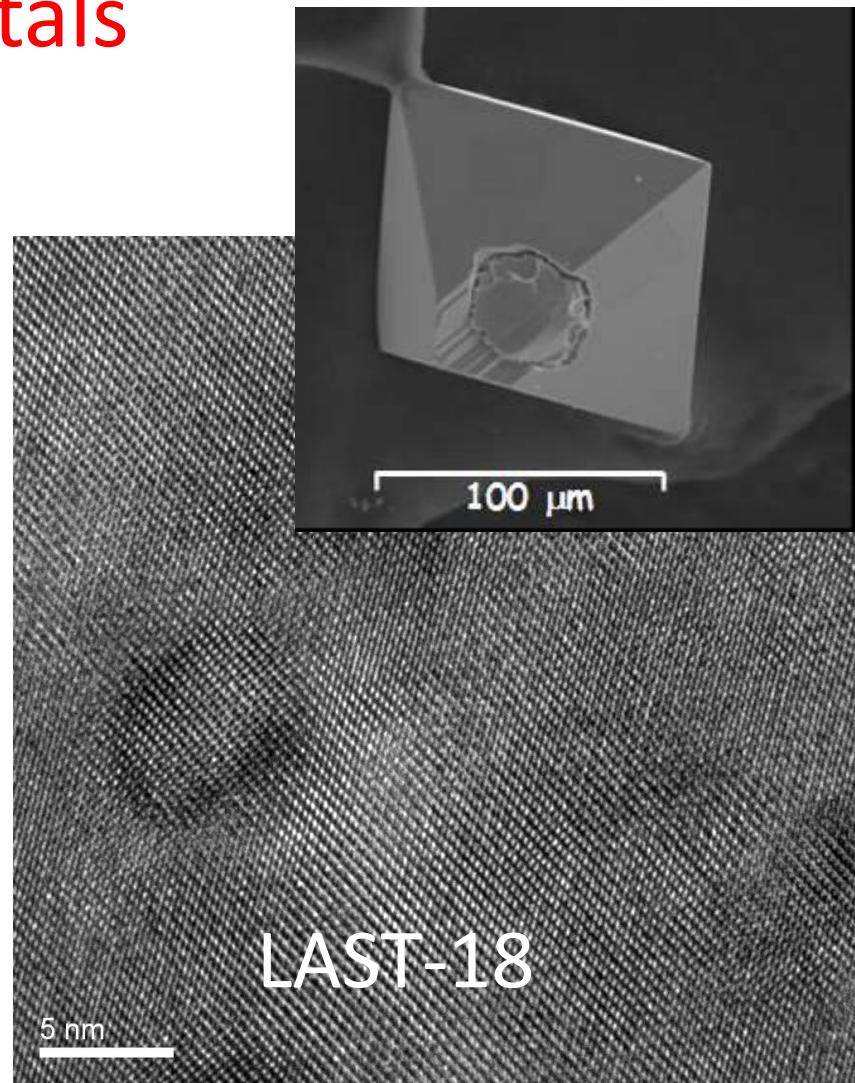
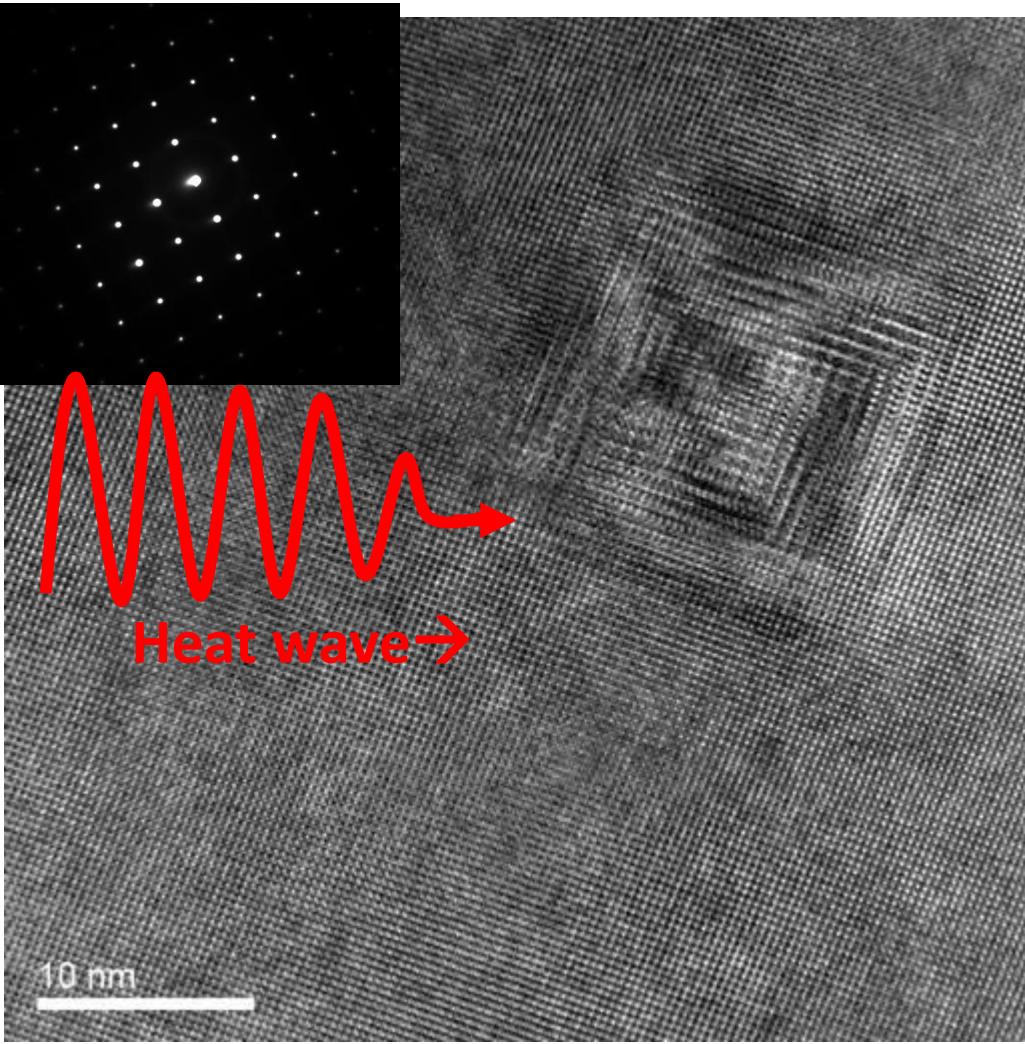
How do we lower  
thermal conductivity

without lowering  
electrical conductivity?

# Breaking up (heat...) waves

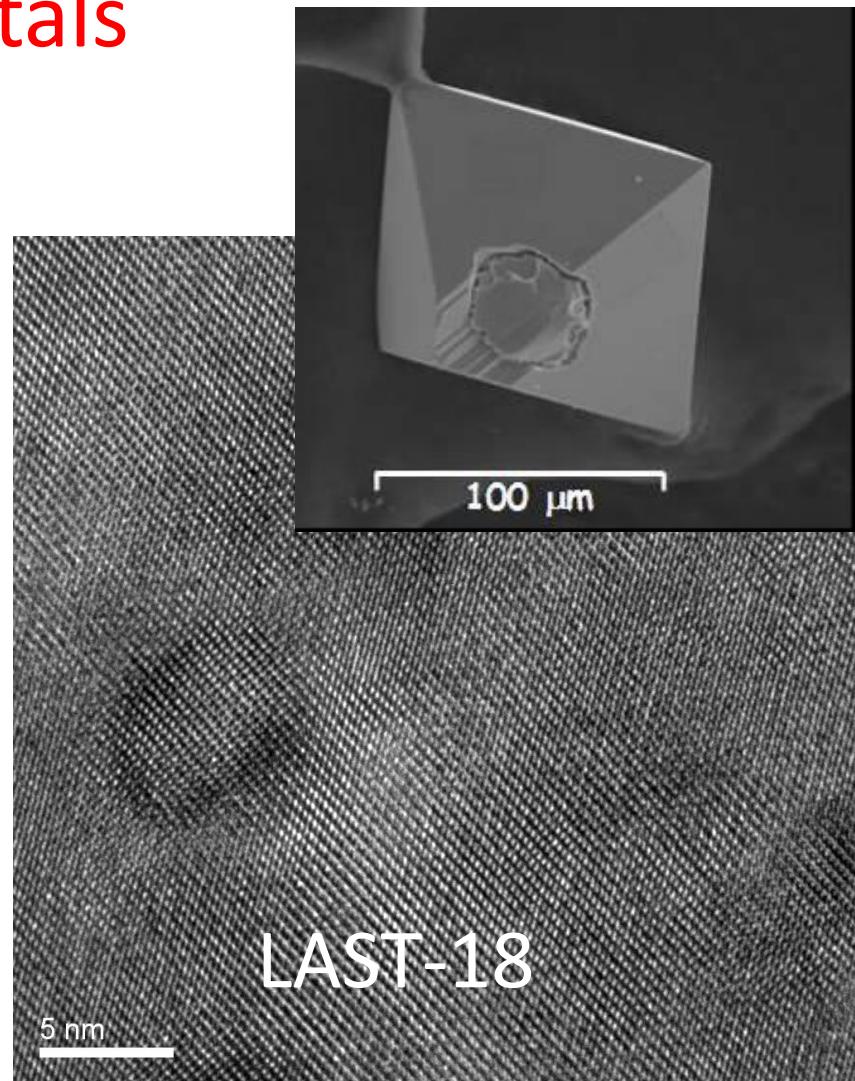
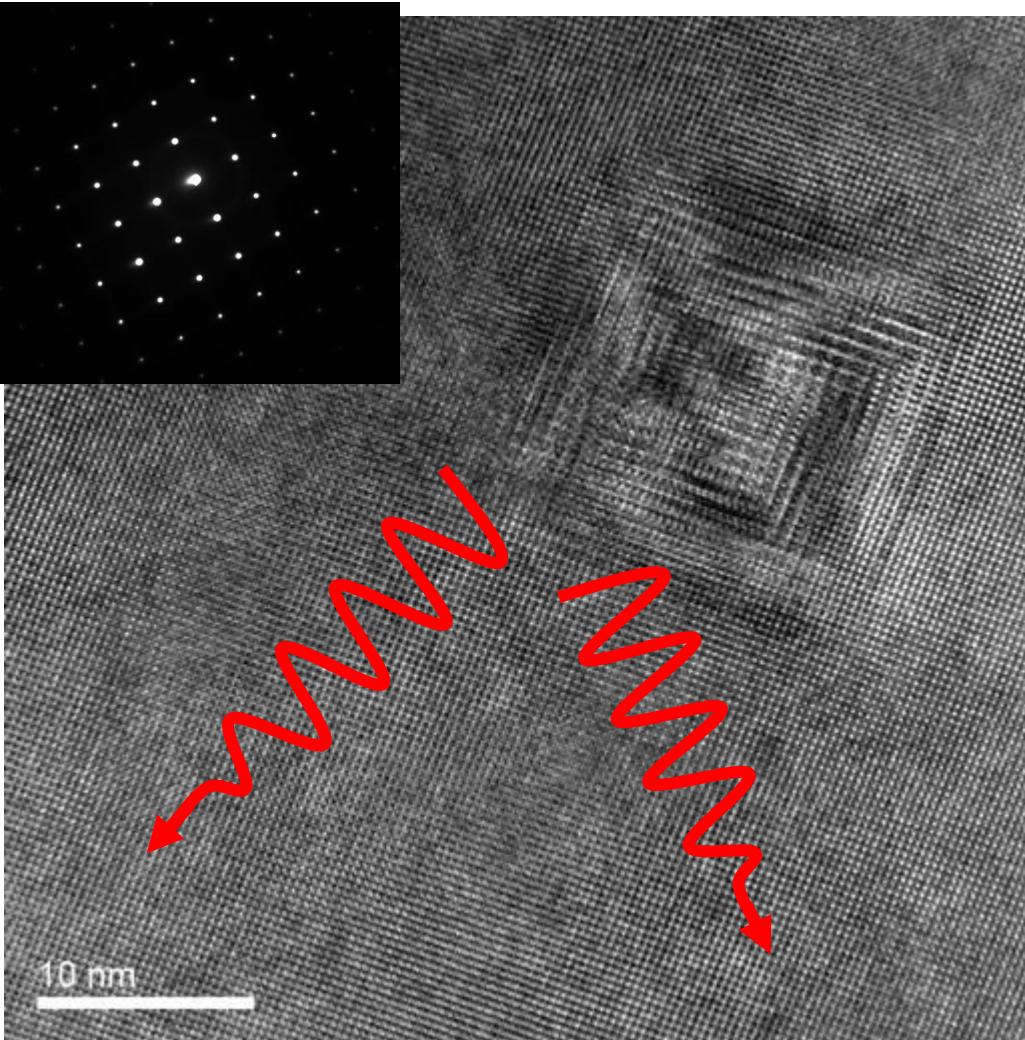


# Endotaxy: Coherently embedded nanocrystals



**LAST-18**  $\kappa_{\text{latt}}=1.2 \text{ W/m-K}$  at 300 K  
**PbTe**  $\kappa_{\text{latt}}=2.2 \text{ W/m-K}$  at 300 K

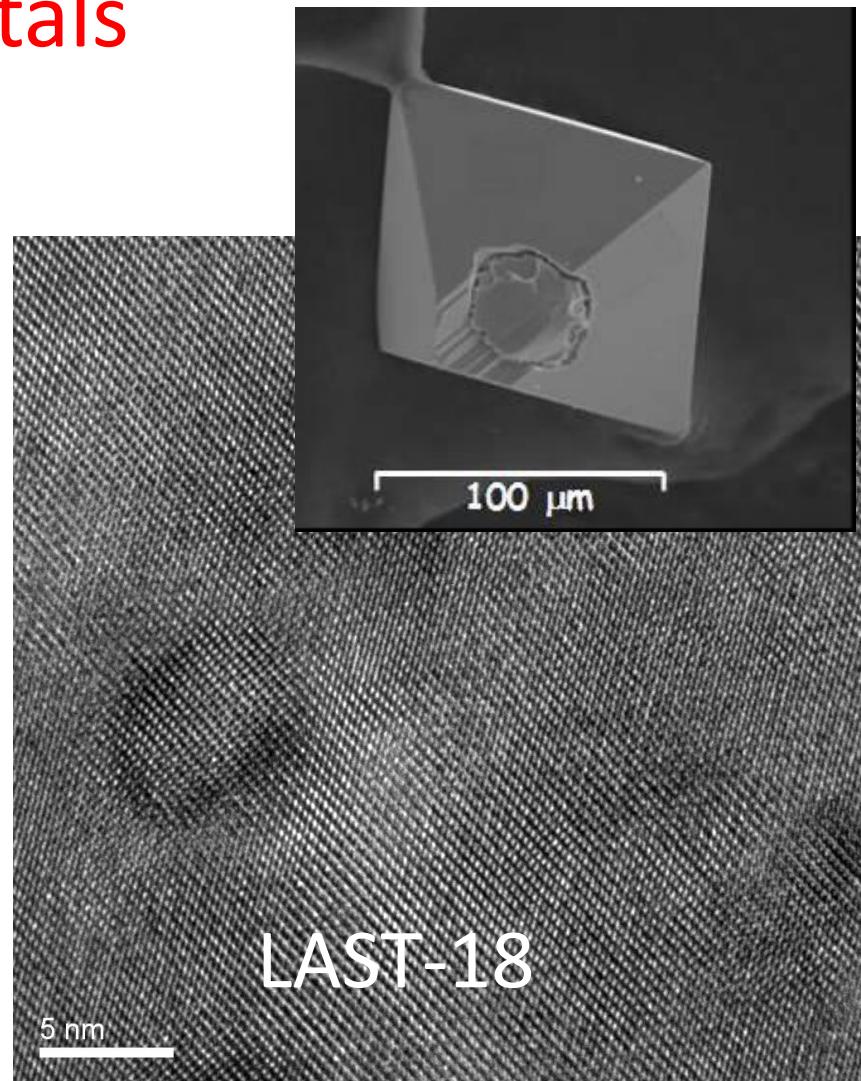
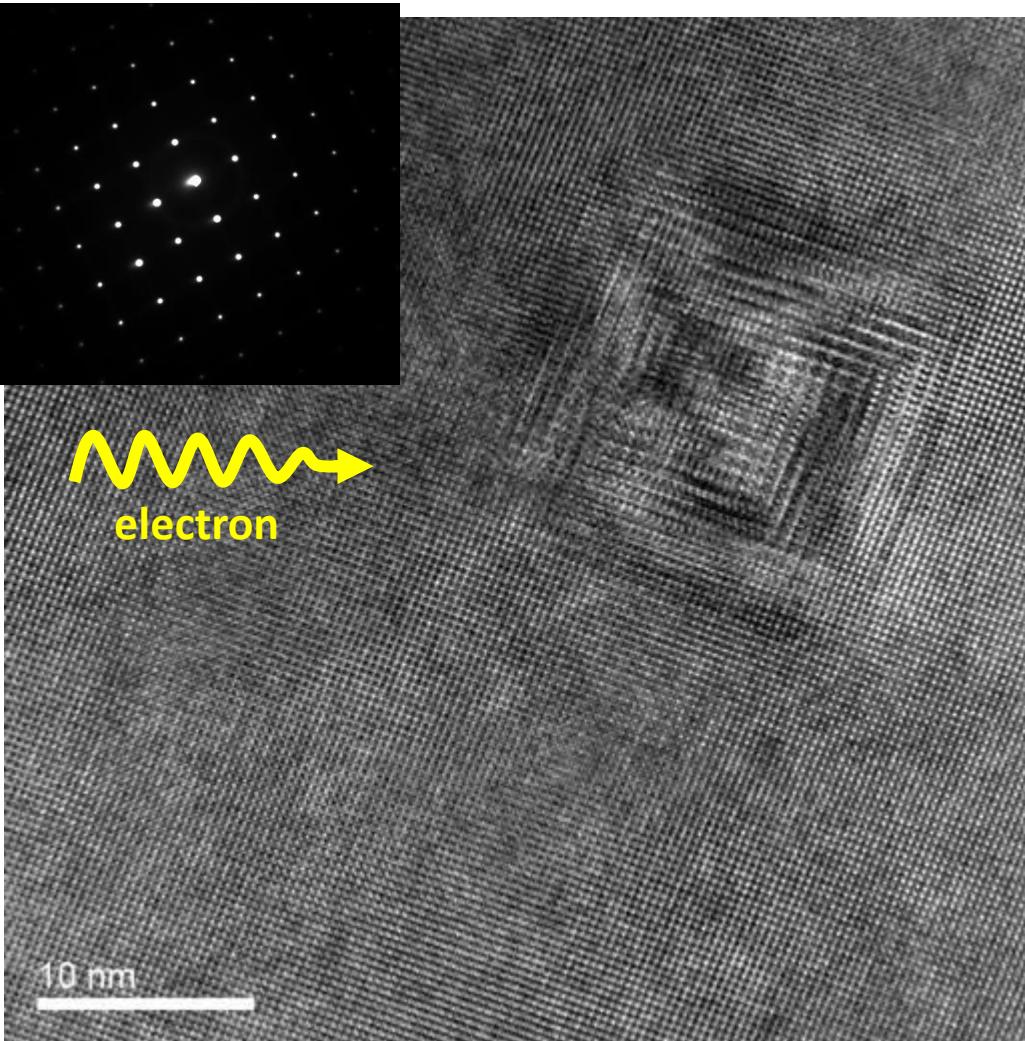
# Endotaxy: Coherently embedded nanocrystals



LAST-18

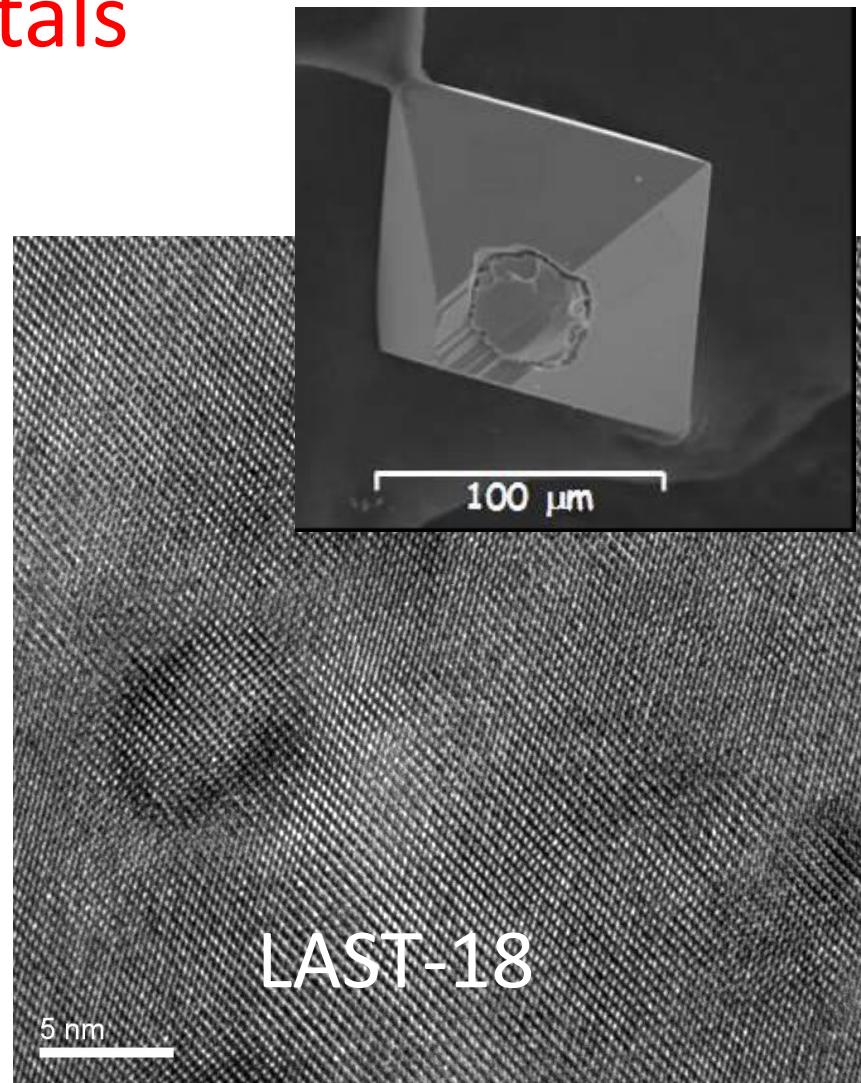
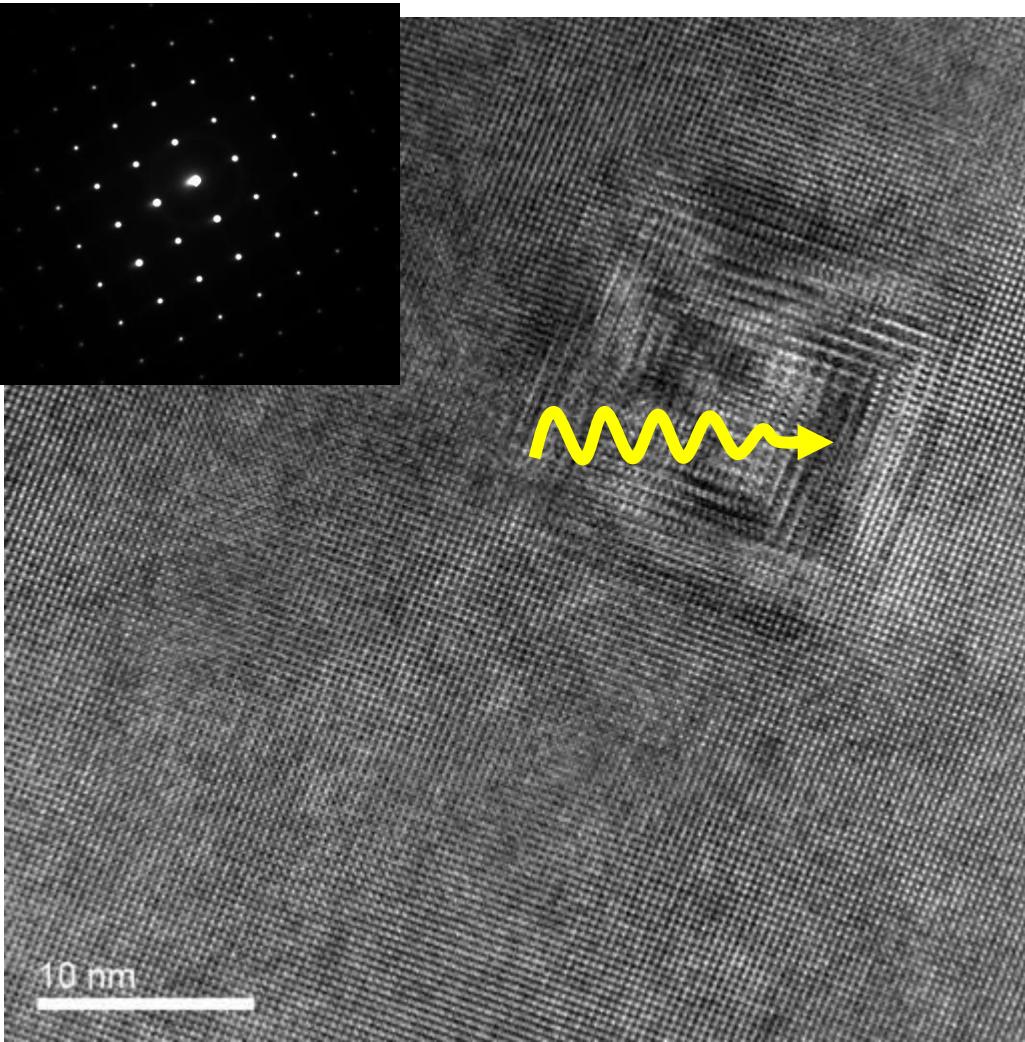
LAST-18  $\kappa_{\text{latt}} = 1.2 \text{ W/m-K}$  at 300 K  
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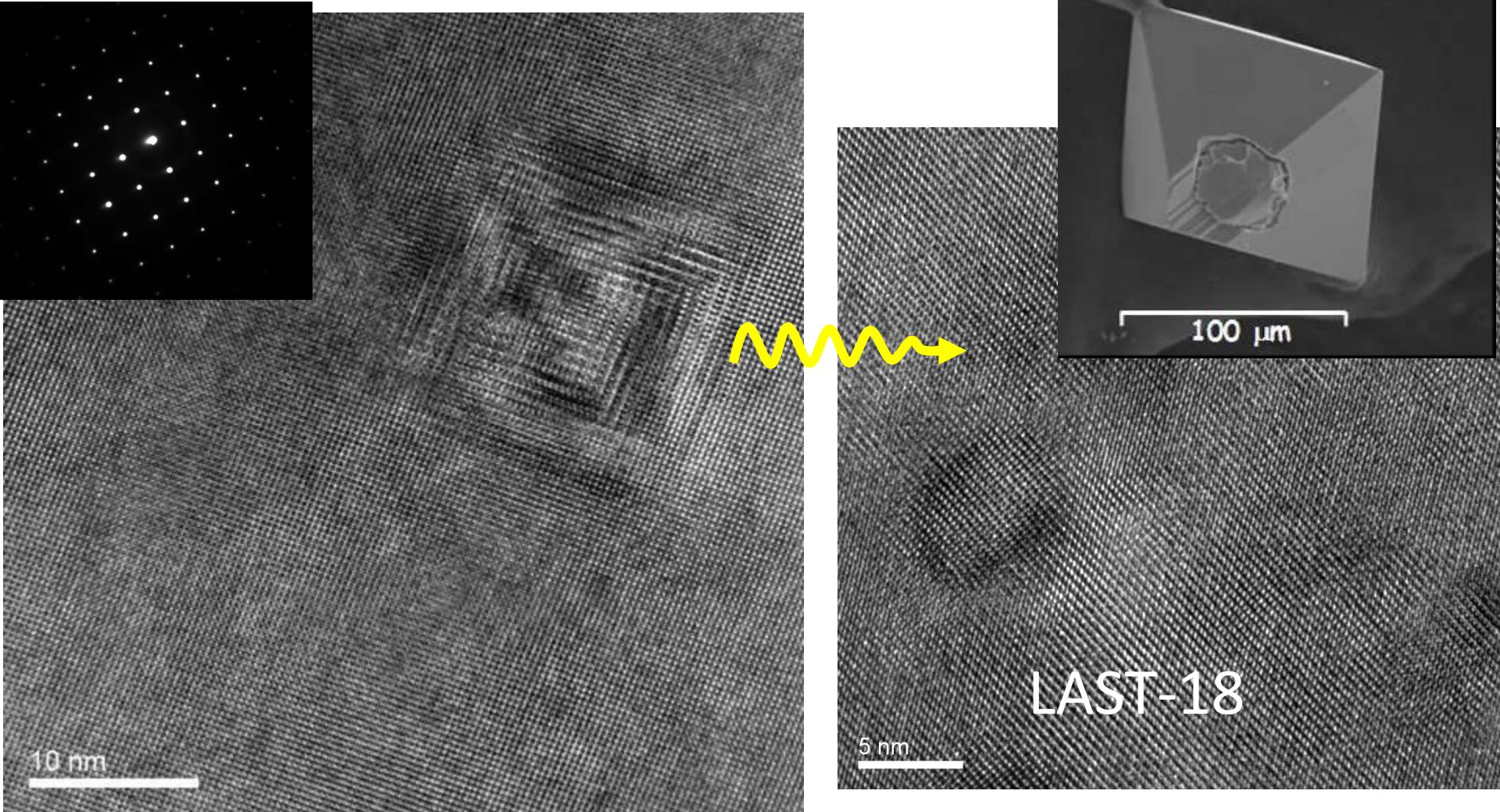
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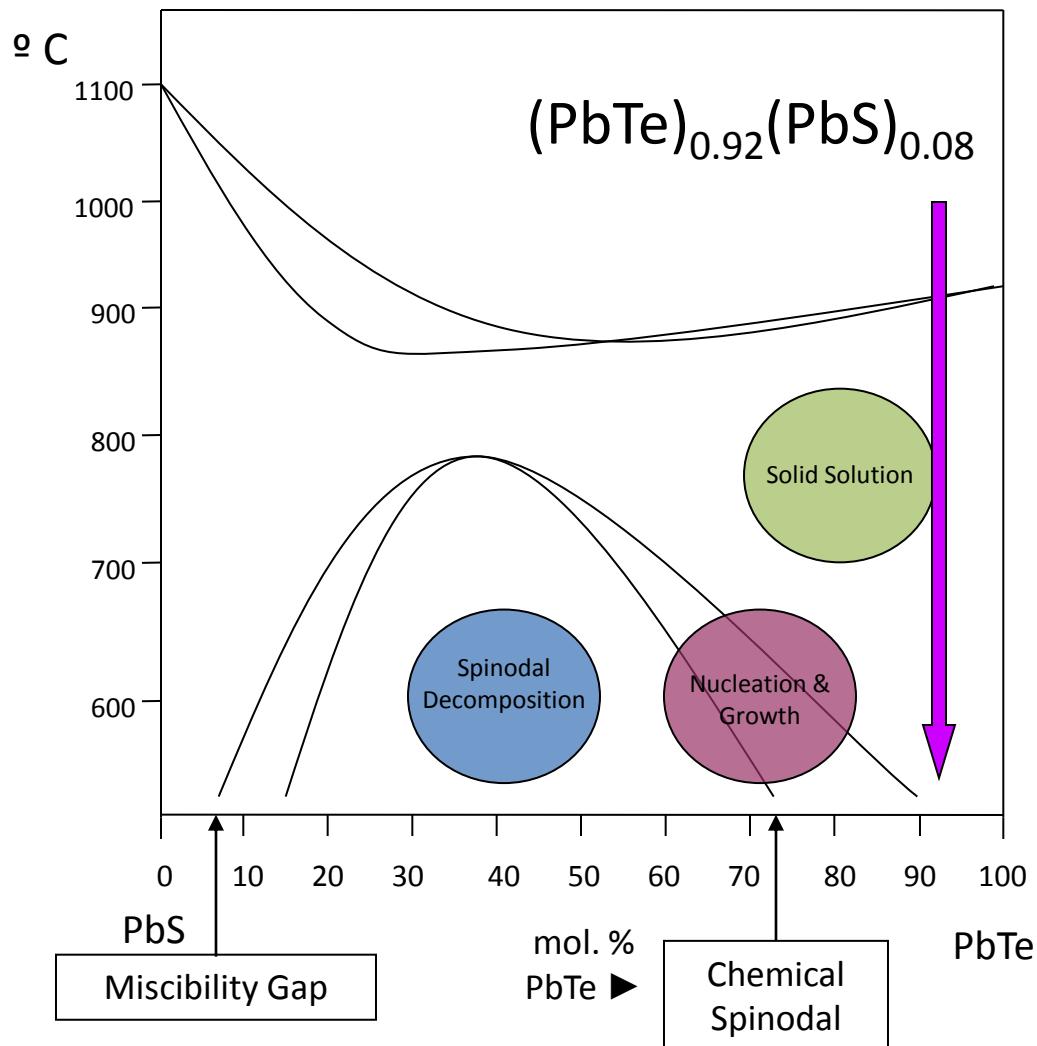
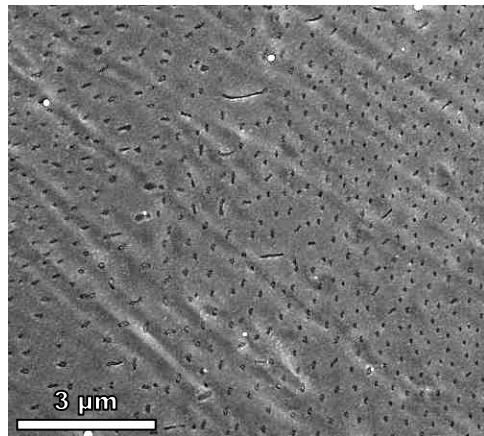
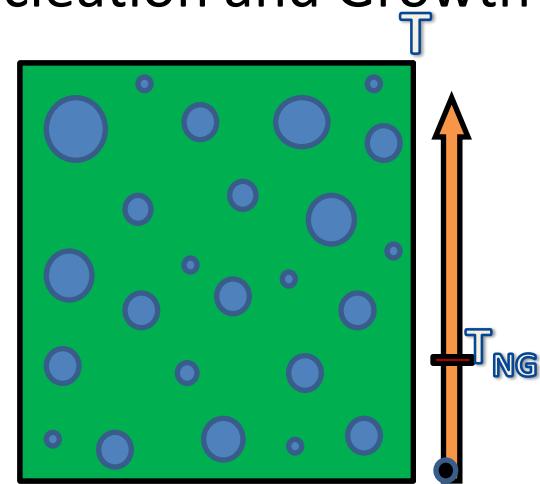
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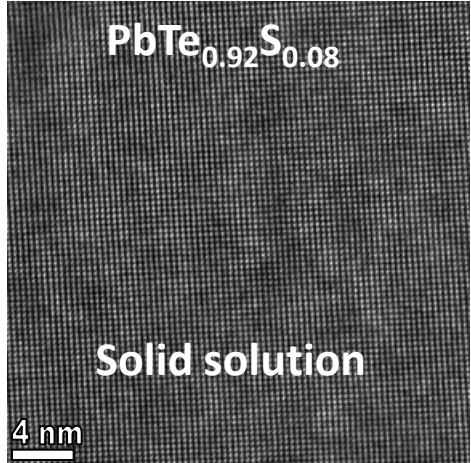
**LAST-18**  $\kappa_{\text{latt}}=1.2 \text{ W/m-K}$  at 300 K  
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# Model PbTe – PbS system for nanostructured TEs

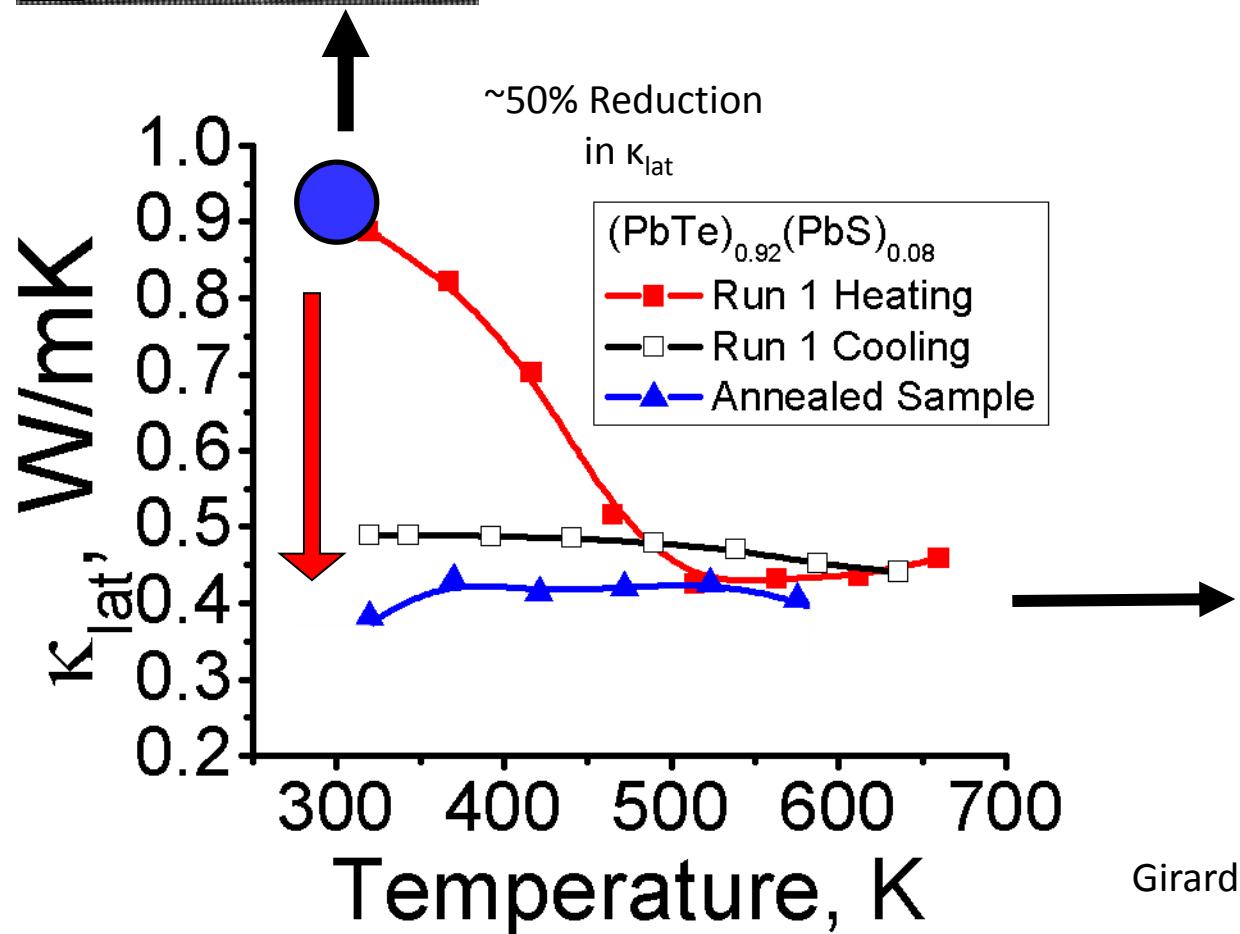
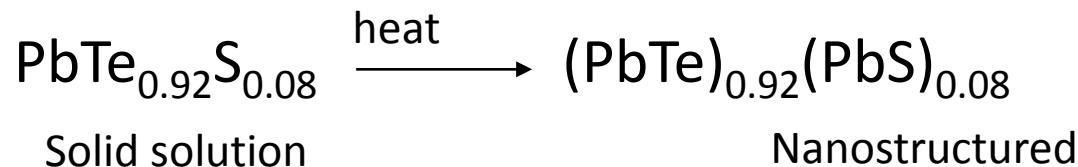
## Nucleation and Growth



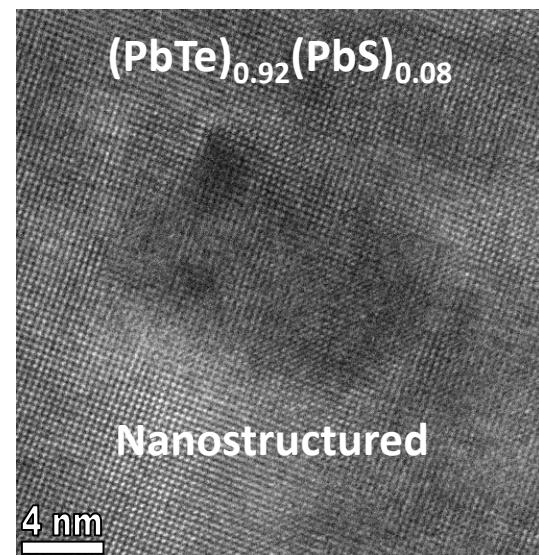
$\text{PbTe}_{0.92}\text{S}_{0.08}$



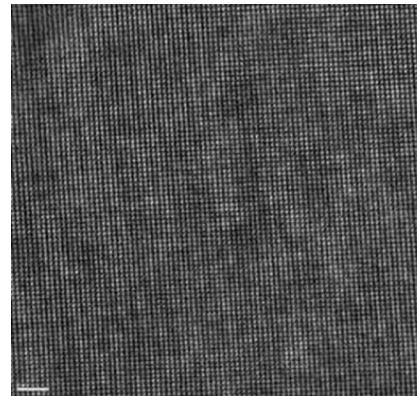
*in situ* nanoscale precipitation of PbS reduces lattice thermal conductivity.



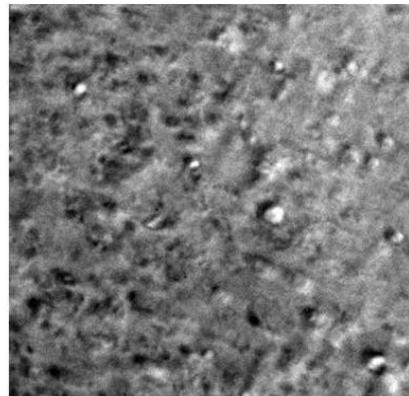
Girard



# Band alignment is important



Pristine matrix



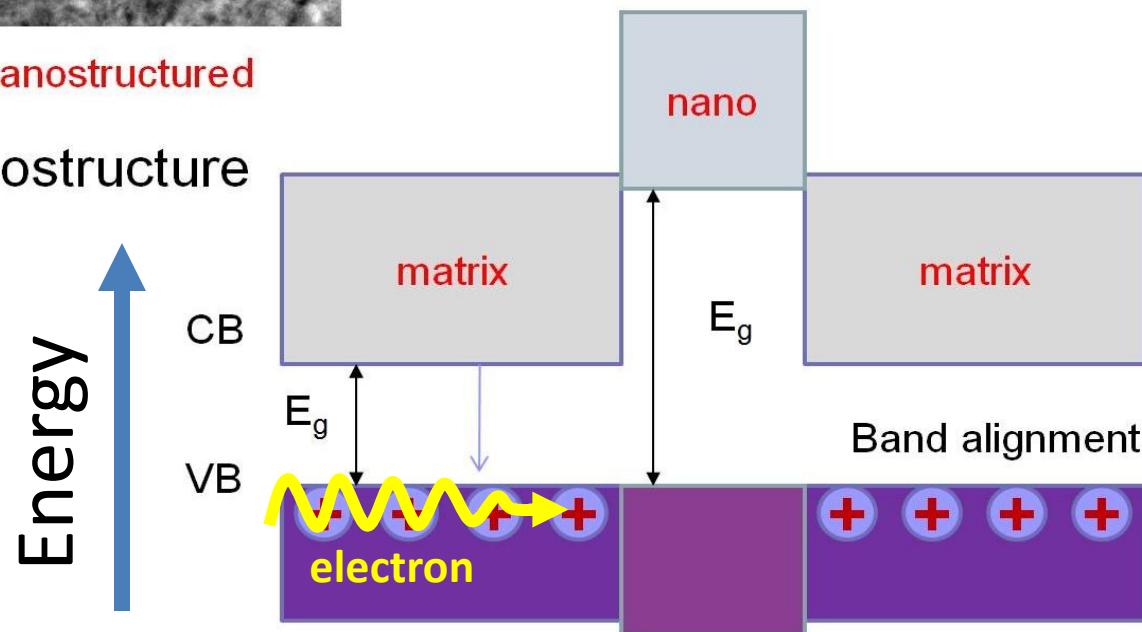
nanostructured

$$K_{\text{pristine}} \gg K_{\text{nanostructure}}$$

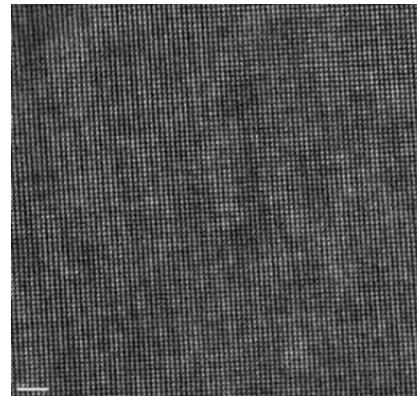
Through band alignment

Comparable mobilities

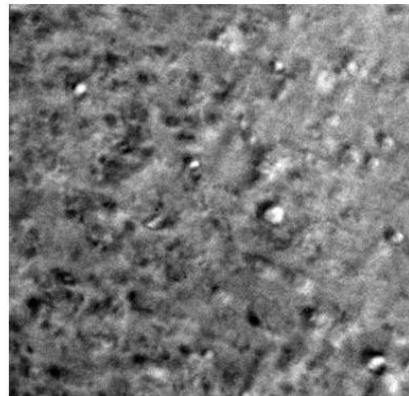
$$\mu_{\text{pristine}} \sim \mu_{\text{nanostructure}}$$



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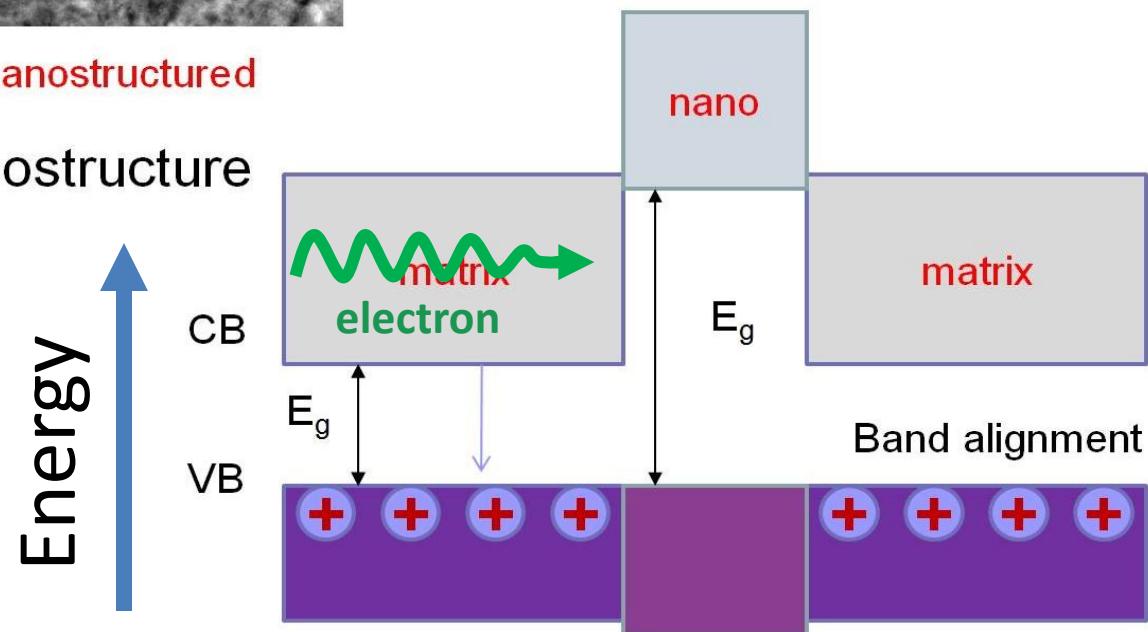
nanostructured

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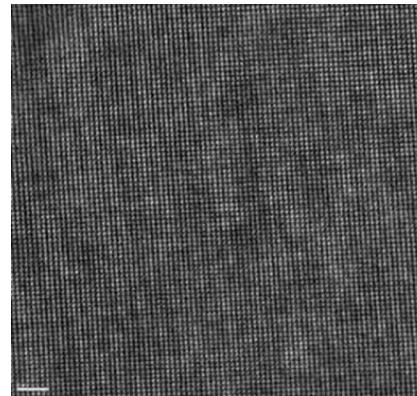
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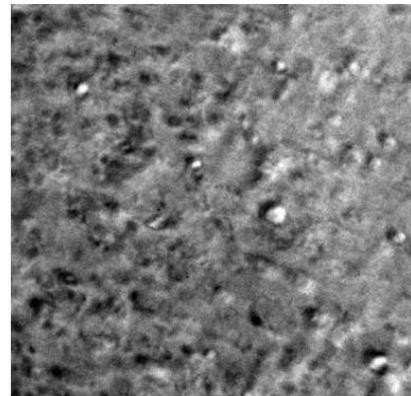
$$\mu_{\text{pristine}} \sim \mu_{\text{nanostructure}}$$



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Pristine matrix



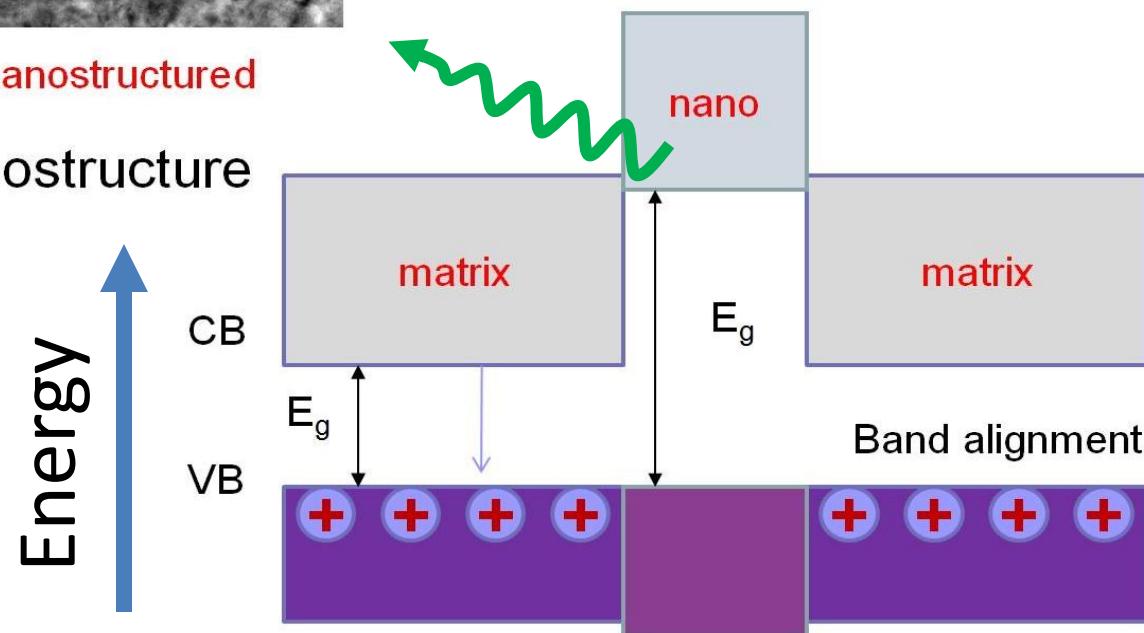
nanostructured

$$K_{\text{pristine}} \gg K_{\text{nanostructure}}$$

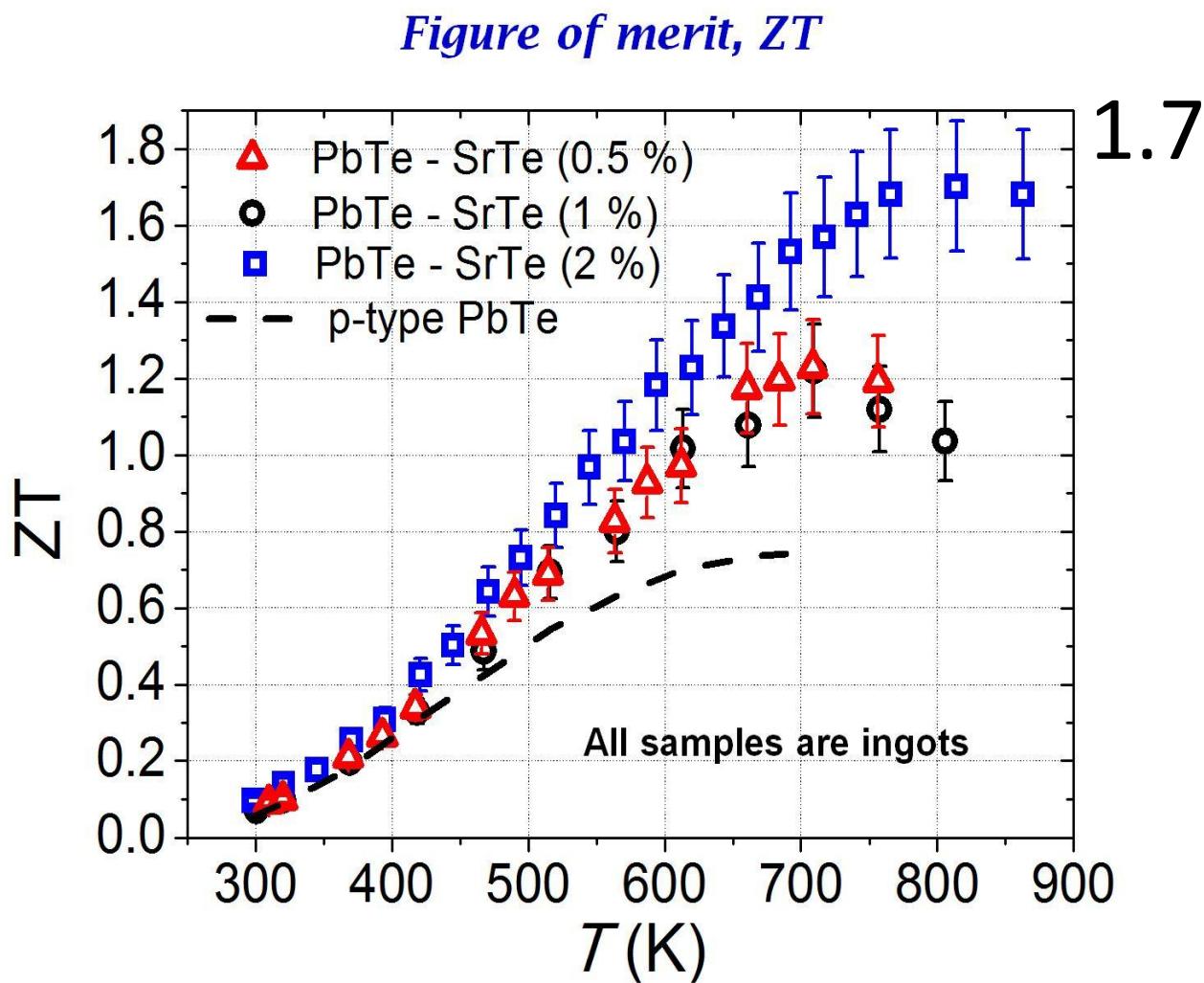
Through band alignment

Comparable mobilities

$$\mu_{\text{pristine}} \sim \mu_{\text{nanostructure}}$$



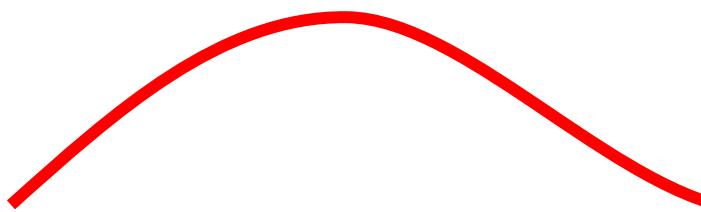
Ingot crystal



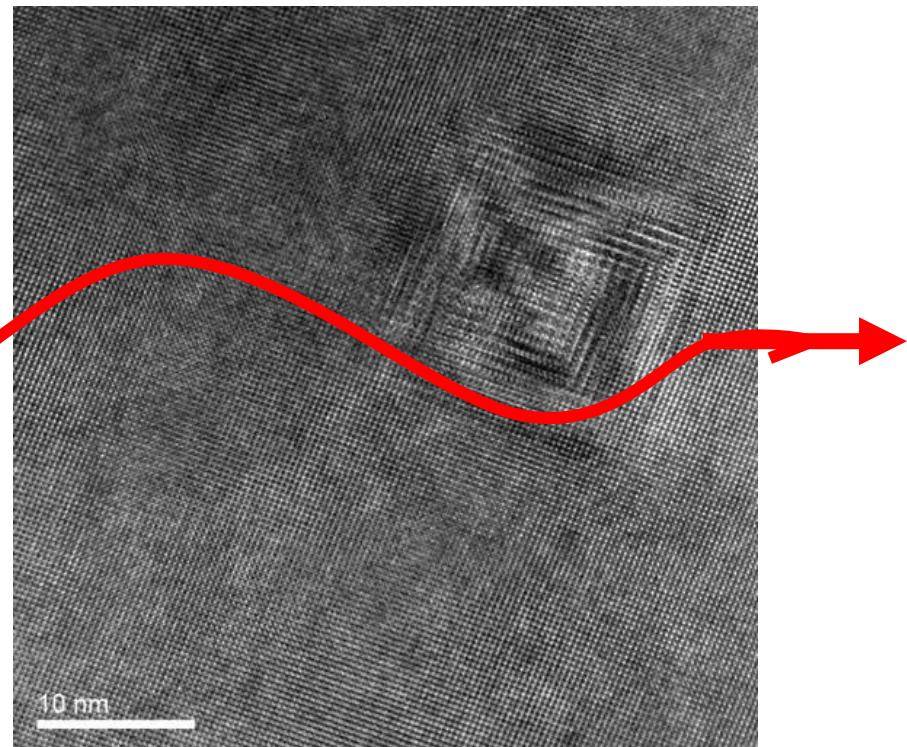
K. Biswas et al Nature Chemistry 2011, 3, 160–166

K. Biswas et al Nature Chemistry 2011, 3, 160–166

# What about long waves?

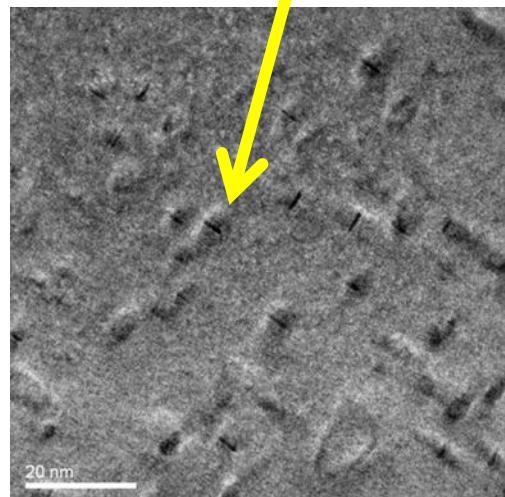


long heat wave→



# Nano-scale, meso-scale

nanostructures



mesostructures

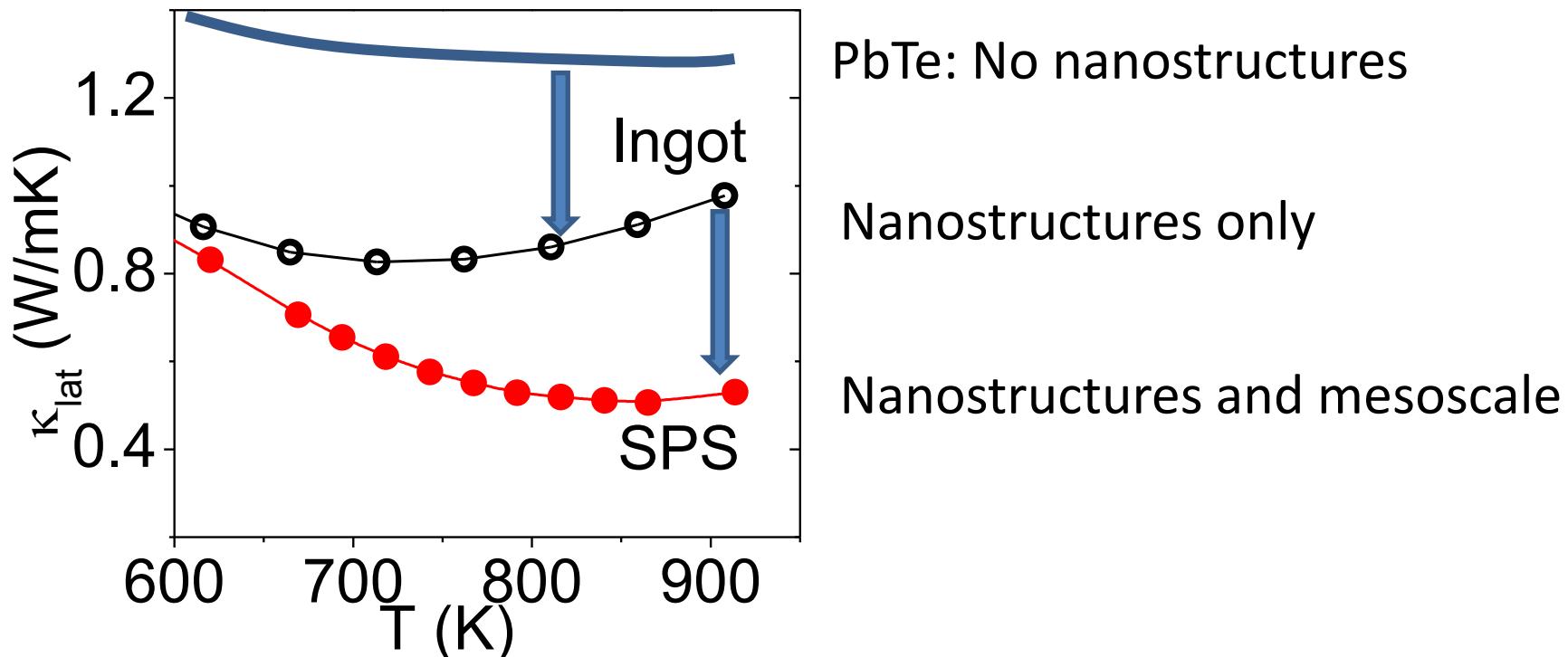


Submicron grains

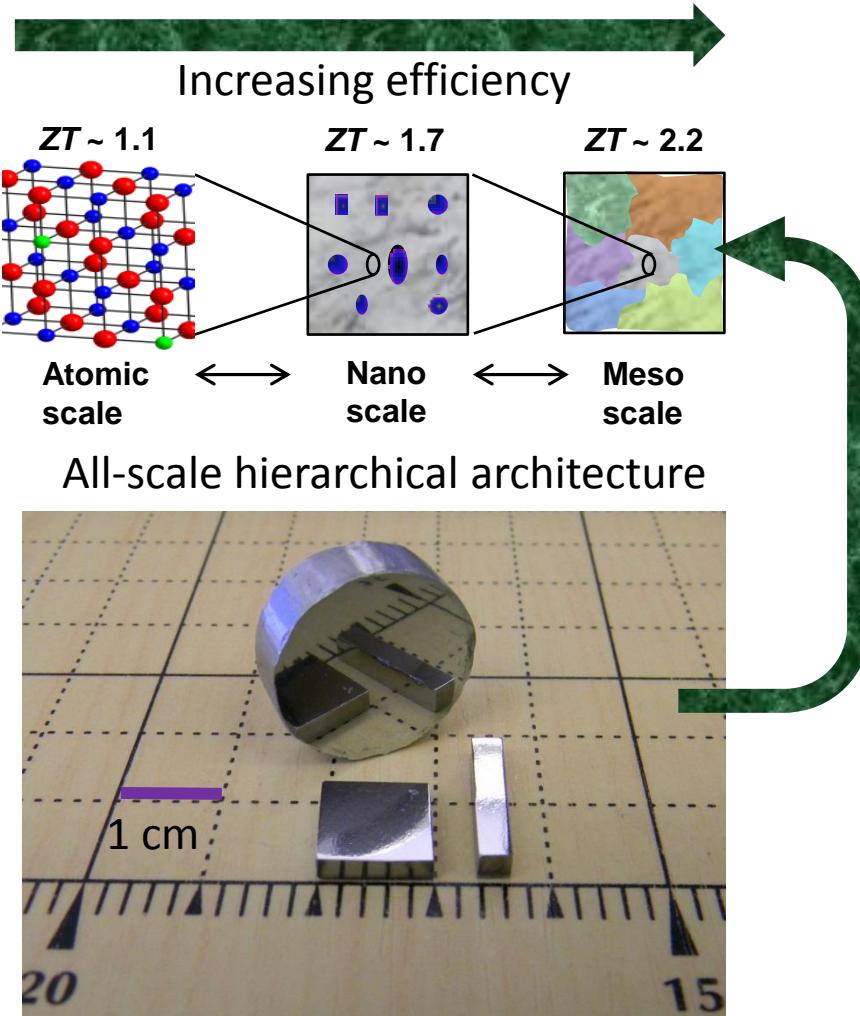
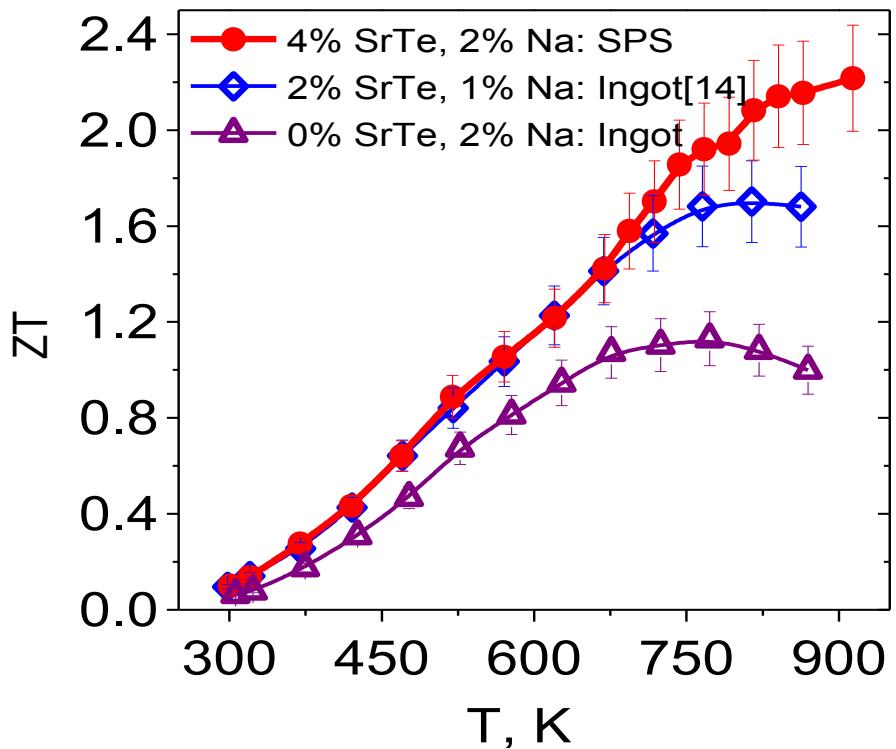


Spark Plasma Sintering

# Thermal conductivity PbTe-x%SrTe



# All length scales: record high ZT

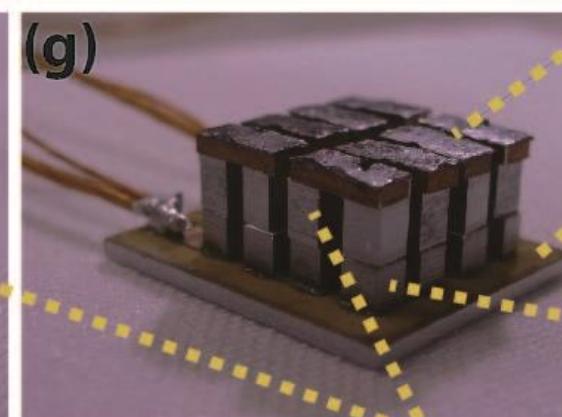
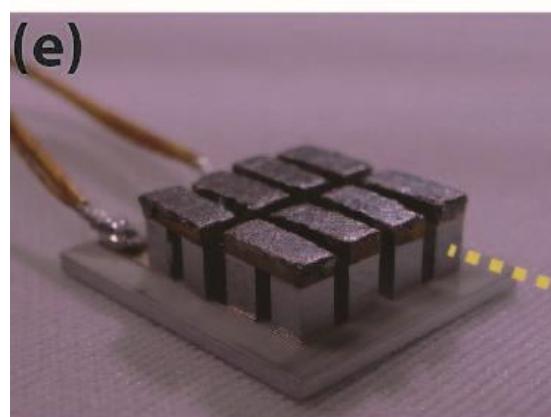
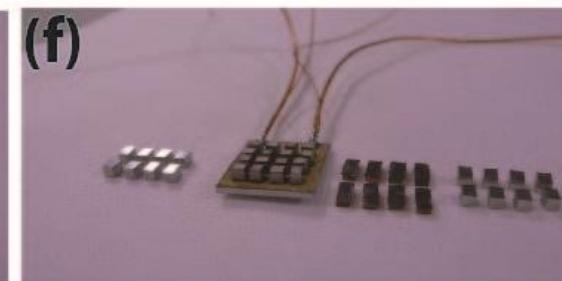
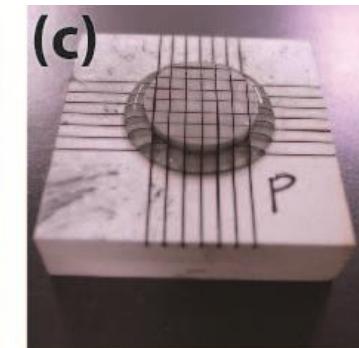
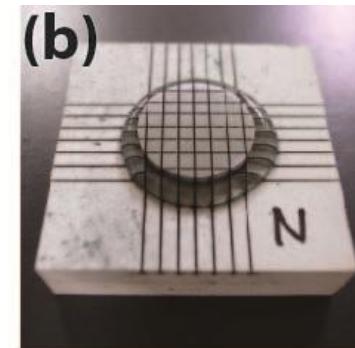
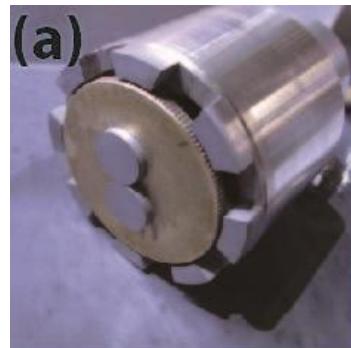


K. Biswas, Jiaqing He, I. D. Blum, C-I Wu, T. P. Hogan, D. N. Seidman, V. P. Dravid & M. G. Kanatzidis *Nature* **2012**, 489, 414–418



# Thermoelectric device

Collaboration with Dr Michihiro Ohta, AIST, Japan

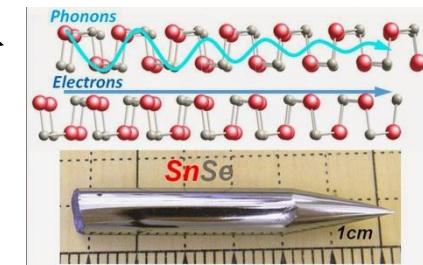
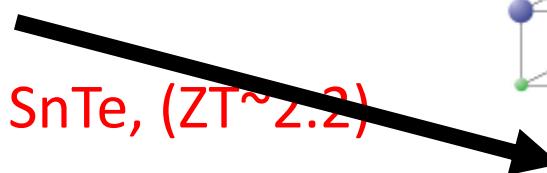
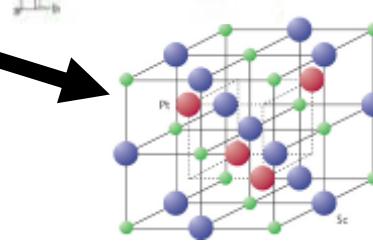
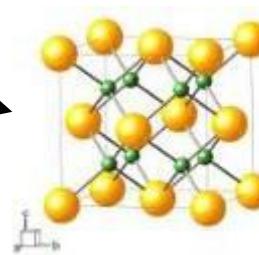
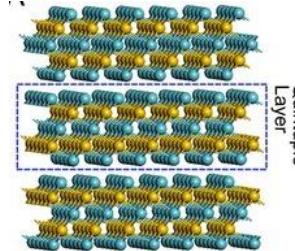
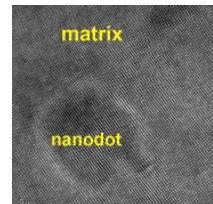
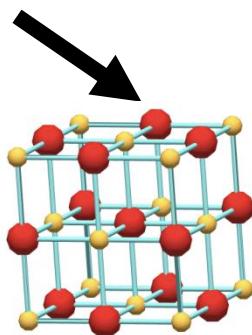


>12% efficiency  
 $\Delta T \sim 500 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$

Cu interconnecting electrodes  
Insulated aluminum substrate  
Bi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>3</sub>-based leg  
Nanostructured PbTe-based leg

# Leading thermoelectric materials

- $\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3$ - $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_3$  ( $ZT \sim 1$ ) (300K)
- Filled Skutterudites ( $\text{Ca}, \text{Yb}$ ) $\text{Fe}_4\text{Sb}_{12}$  ( $ZT \sim 1.5$ , 900K, n-type)
- $\text{Mg}_2(\text{Si}, \text{Sn})$  ( $ZT \sim 1.4$ , 1000 K)
- Half-Heusler alloys ( $ZT \sim 0.8$ , 900K)
- $\text{MgAgSb}$  ( $ZT \sim 1.2$  400K)
- $\text{GeTe}/\text{PbTe}$  ( $ZT \sim 2$ , 800K)
- $\text{SnSe}$  ( $ZT \sim 2.6$ , 930K)
- **Nanostructured PbTe, SnTe, ( $ZT \sim 2.2$ )**



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