

Review of Last Lecture

$$J_{ex} = L_{11} \left(-\frac{d\Phi}{dx} \right) + L_{12} \left(-\frac{dT}{dx} \right) \quad J_{qx} = L_{21} \left(-\frac{d\Phi}{dx} \right) + L_{22} \left(-\frac{dT}{dx} \right)$$

Onsager Relation: $L_{21} = TL_{12}$

$$L_{11} = \sigma = -\frac{e^2}{3} \int v^2 \tau \frac{\partial f_0}{\partial E} D(E) dE$$

$$L_{12} = \frac{e}{3T} \int v^2 \tau (E - E_f) \frac{\partial f_0}{\partial E} D(E) dE$$

$$L_{22} = -\frac{1}{3T} \int (E - E_f)^2 v^2 \tau \frac{\partial f_0}{\partial E} D(E) dE$$

Property Examples

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Please see Fig. 2a, b in Poudel, Bed, et al.

"High-Thermoelectric Performance of Nanostructured Bismuth Antimony Telluride Bulk Alloys." *Science* 320 (May 2, 2008): 634-638.

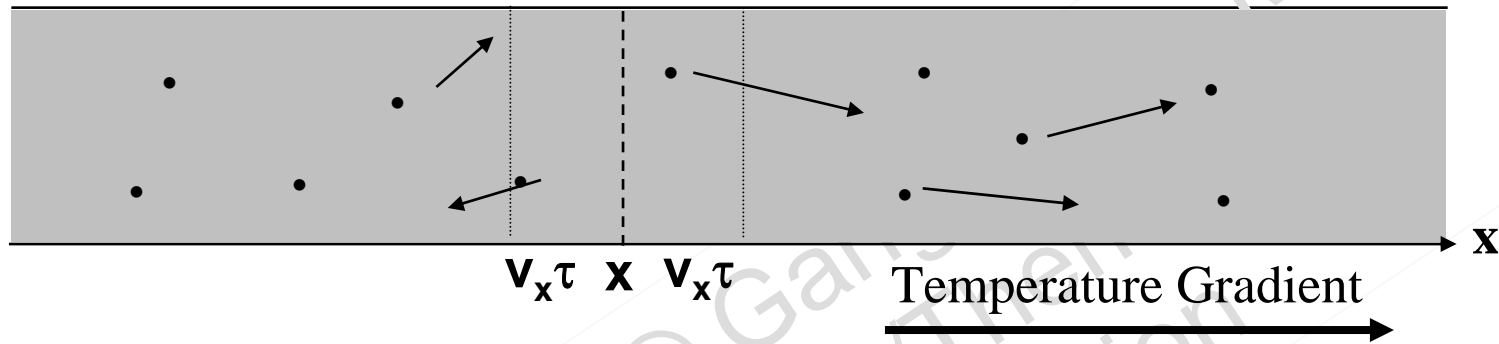
$$\sigma = \frac{e^2}{3} \int \tau v^2 D(E) (-\mathcal{f}_{eq} / \partial E) dE$$

$$\propto (k_B T)^{\gamma+3/2} \exp\left(-\frac{E_c - \mu}{k_B T}\right)$$

For nondegenerate semiconductor only

- **Optimal thermoelectric materials are usually degenerate**
- **Multiband transport important at high temperatures, leading to decreasing Seebeck coefficient with increasing temperature**

Phonon Heat Conduction



$$q_x = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k_x} \sum_{k_y} \sum_{k_z} [\hbar \omega f(T) v_x]_{x-v_x \tau} - \sum_{k_x} \sum_{k_y} \sum_{k_z} [\hbar \omega f(T) v_x]_{x+v_x \tau}$$

$$= -k \frac{dT}{dx}$$

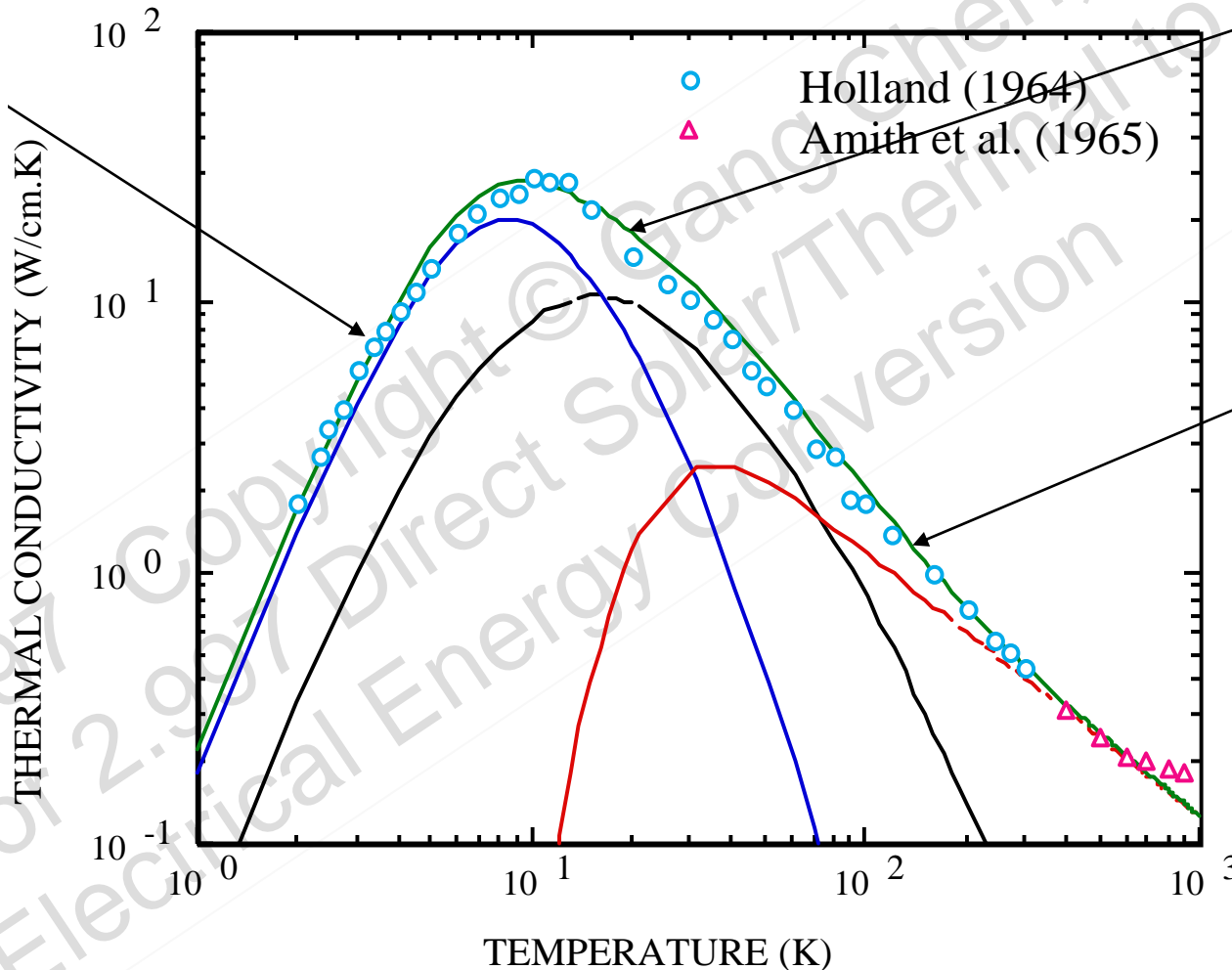
$$k = \frac{1}{3} \int_0^{\omega_{\max}} v^2 \tau \hbar \omega \frac{\partial f}{\partial T} D(\omega) d\omega$$

where

$$= \frac{1}{3} \int_0^{\omega_{\max}} C(\omega) v(\omega) \Lambda(\omega) d\omega$$

Typical Behavior of Phonon Thermal Conductivity

Boundary Scattering Dominant
 $k \sim T^3$



Impurity Scattering Dominant

Phonon-Phonon Scattering Dominant
 $k \sim 1/T^n$,
 $n=1-1.5$

Combined Electronic and Phononic Thermal Conductivity

$$k = k_L + k_a + k_b + (S_a - S_b)^2 T \frac{\sigma_a \sigma_b}{\sigma_a + \sigma_b}$$

↑
Bipolar
Contribution

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Please see Fig. 4 in Poudel, Bed, et al. "High-Thermoelectric Performance of Nanostructured Bismuth Antimony Telluride Bulk Alloys." *Science* 320 (May 2, 2008): 634-638.

Thermoelectric Figure of Merit

$$ZT = \frac{\sigma S^2 T}{k_e + k_p} = \frac{S^2}{\frac{k_e}{\sigma T} + \frac{k_p}{\sigma T}} = \frac{S^2}{L + \frac{k_p}{\sigma T}}$$

$$L = L(n) \approx 2.45 \times 10^{-8}$$

In Metal, $S \sim 10 \mu\text{V/K}$ $\frac{k_p}{\sigma T} \leq L$ $ZT \sim 0.01$

Good Thermoelectric Materials

$S \sim 200 \mu\text{V/K}$,
 $k_p \sim 1 \text{ W/mK}$,
 $\sigma \sim 10^5 \text{ S/m}$

$$ZT = \frac{4 \times 10^{-8}}{2.45 \times 10^{-8} + 3 \times 10^{-8}} \sim 1$$

Properties vs. Carrier Density

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Please see Fig. 3 in Minnich, A. J., et al.

"Bulknanostructured Thermoelectric Materials: Current Research and Future Prospects." *Energy and Environmental Science* 2 (2009): 466-479.

Classical Thermoelectric Materials

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For 2.997 Direct Solar/Thermal to
Electrical Energy Conversion

Material ZT

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Please see Fig. 1 in Minnich, A. J., et al.

"Bulk Nanostructured Thermoelectric Materials: Current

Research and Future Prospects." *Energy and Environmental Science* 2 (2009): 466-479.

Minnich et al., *Energy and Environmental Sci.*, Aug. 2009

P-type and N-type

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Please see Fig. B2a,b in Snyder, G. Jeffrey, and Eric S. Toberer.

"Complex Thermoelectric Materials." *Nature Materials* 7

(February 2008): 105-114.

Why Heavier Crystals?

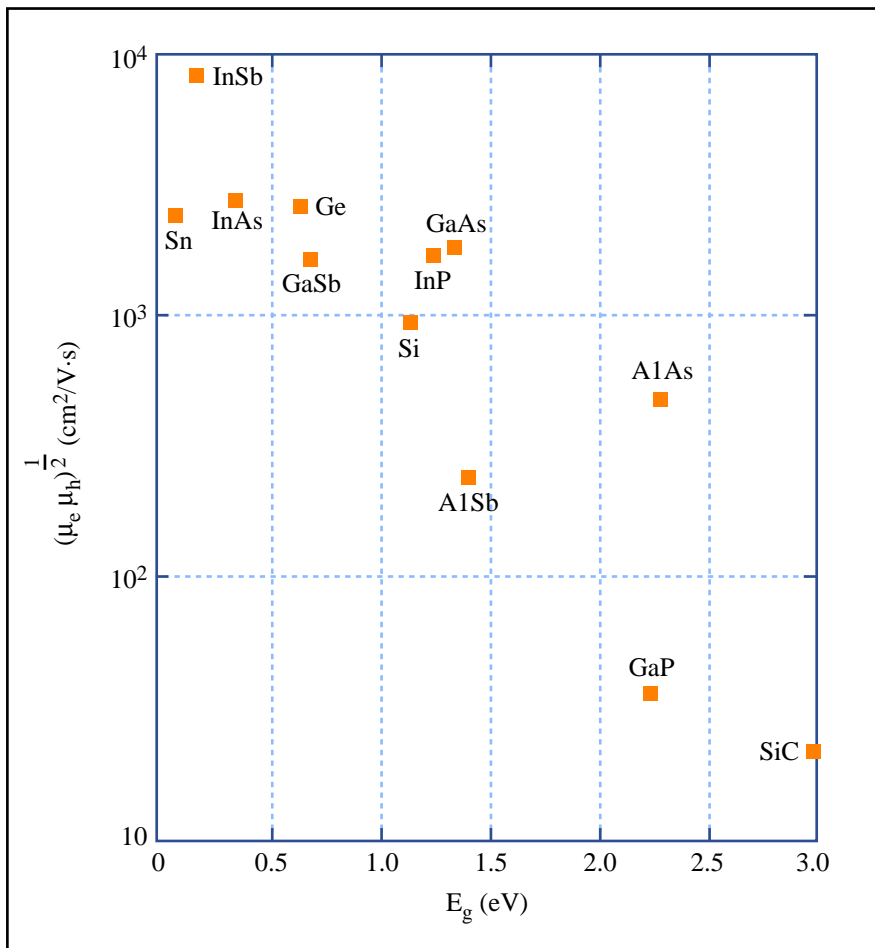


Figure by MIT OpenCourseWare.

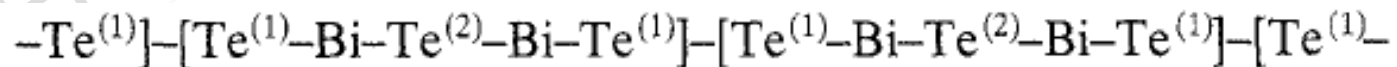
- **Better mobility**
- **Lower phonon thermal conductivity**

From H.J. Goldsmid

Unit Cell

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Please see Fig. 1 (left) in Huang, Bao-Ling, and Massoud Kaviany.
"Ab initio and Molecular Dynamics Predictions for Electron and Phonon
Transport in Bismuth Telluride." *Physical Review B* 77 (2008): 125209.

Huang and Kaviany, PRB,
77, 125209 (2008)



Electronic Band Structure

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Please see: Fig. 1 (right) in Huang, Bao-Ling, and Massoud Kaviany.
"Ab initio and Molecular Dynamics Predictions for Electron and Phonon
Transport in Bismuth Telluride." *Physical Review B* 77 (2008): 125209.

Fig. 4a in Larson, P., S. D. Mahanti, and M. G. Kanatzidis.
"Electronic Structure and Transport of Bi₂Te₃ and BaBiTe₃."
Physical Review B 61 (March 2000): 8162-8171.

Larson et al., PRB, 61, 8261 (2000)

Figure of Merit

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Please see Fig. 16 in Huang, Bao-Ling, and Massoud Kaviany.
"Ab initio and Molecular Dynamics Predictions for Electron and
Phonon Transport in Bismuth Telluride." *Physical Review B* 77 (2008): 125209.

SiGe Alloys

- Abeles Virtual Crystal Model

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Please see Fig. 2 in Abeles, B. "Lattice Thermal Conductivity of Disordered Semiconductor Alloys at High Temperatures."
Physical Review 131 (September 1963): 1906-1911.

Rayleigh Scattering

$$\tau_p^{-1} = \frac{\omega^4 \delta^3 \Gamma}{4\pi v^3}$$

Disorder Parameter

$$\Gamma = x(1-x) \left[\left(\frac{\Delta M}{M} \right)^2 + \varepsilon \left(\frac{\Delta \delta}{\delta} \right)^2 \right]$$

Commercial Materials

- P-type: $\text{Bi}_{2-x}\text{Sb}_x\text{Te}_3$
- N-type: $\text{Bi}_2\text{Sb}_{3-x}\text{Se}_x$
- Doping mainly by defects
 - antisites, vacancies

Oxides

Images removed due to copyright restrictions.

Please see Fig. 2, 3 in Koumoto, Kunihito, Ichiro Terasaki, and Ryoji Funahashi. "Complex Oxide Materials for Potential Thermoelectric Applications." *MRS Bulletin* 31 (March 2006): 206-210.

Half Heusler

Image removed due to copyright restrictions.
Please see Fig. 4 in Nolas, George S., Joe Poon, and Mercuri Kanatzidis.
"Recent Developments in Bulk Thermoelectric Materials."
MRS Bulletin 31 (March 2006): 199-205.

Other Bulk Materials

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Please see Fig. 2 in Snyder, G. Jeffrey, and Eric S. Toberer.
"Complex Thermoelectric Materials." *Nature Materials* 7
(February 2008): 105-114.

All Classical Materials Used Alloy Scattering

- Bi_2Te_3 with Sb_2Te_3
and Bi_2Se_3
- PbTe with PbSe
- Si with Ge

Institutional Method

Structure

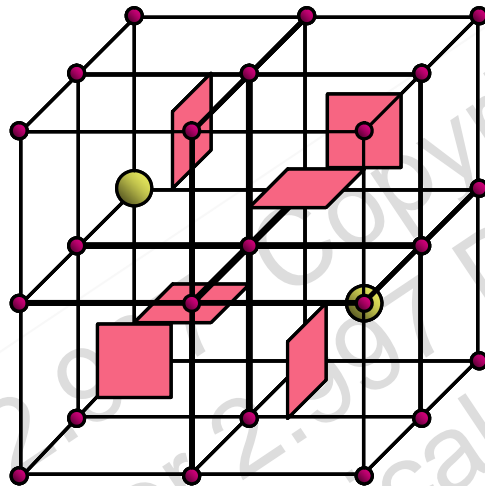
Formula TPn_3

T = transition metal (Co, Ir, Rh, Fe, Ni)

Pn = pnictogen (P, As, Sb)

space group $Im\bar{3}$

8 formula units/cell



■ square array of Pn
(not to scale)

● T ● vacant

Properties

@ 300K	p-CoSb ₃	p-IrSb ₃
S [$\mu\text{V}/\text{K}$]	138	72
μ_{Hall} [$\text{cm}^2/\text{V}\cdot\text{s}$]	1944	1320
p [cm^{-3}]	$4.4 \cdot 10^{18}$	$1.1 \cdot 10^{19}$
ρ [$\text{m}\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$]	0.74	0.44
κ [$\text{W}/\text{m}\cdot\text{K}$]	11.8	16.0
optical gap [eV]	0.5	1.4
a_0 [nm]	0.9034	0.9250

References

J-P Fleurial, T. Caillat and A. Borshchevsky, AIP Press, 40-44 (1995); J.-P. Fleurial, A. Borshchevsky, T. Caillat, D. Morelli and G. P. Meisner, 15th International Conf. on Thermoelectrics (1996) 91-95; G. A. Slack and V.G. Tsoukala, J. Appl. Phys. 76 (1994) 1665.

Phonon Rattlers

Images removed due to copyright restrictions.

Please see Fig. 3, 4, 6 in Sales, B. C., et al.

"Filled Skutterudite Antimonides: Electron Crystals and Phonon Glasses."

Physical Review B 56 (December 1997): 15081-15089

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Electrical Energy Conversion

Nanostructuring

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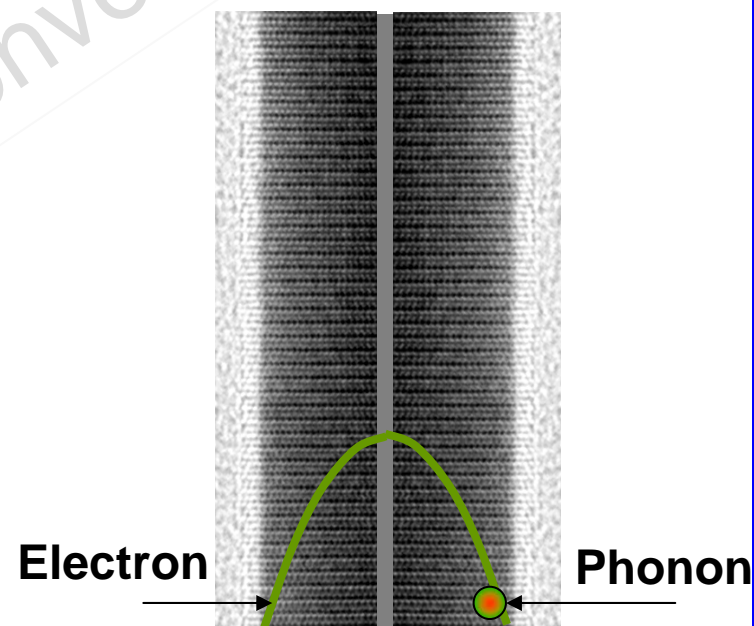
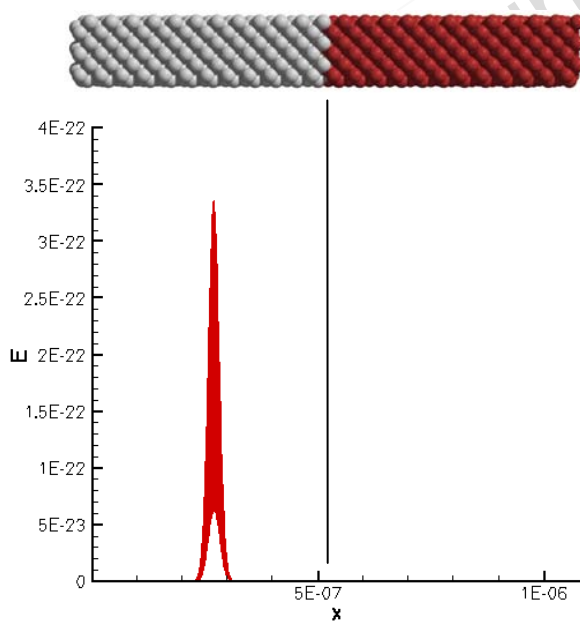
Nanoscale Effects for Thermoelectrics

Interfaces that Scatter Phonons but not Electrons



Electrons
 $\Lambda=10-100$ nm
 $\lambda=10-50$ nm

Phonons
 $\Lambda=10-100$ nm
 $\lambda=1$ nm



Superlattice Structures with Enhanced ZT

Images removed due to copyright restrictions. Please see

Fig. 1 in Springholz, G., et al. "Self-Organized Growth of Three-Dimensional Quantum-Dot Crystals with fcc-like Stacking and a Tunable Lattice Constant." *Science* 282 (October 23, 1998): 734-737.

Fig. 2 in Harman, T. C., et al. "Quantum Dot Superlattice Thermoelectric Materials and Devices." *Science* 297 (September 27, 2002): 2229-2232.

Fig. 5a in Venkatasubramanian, Rama, et al. "Thin-film Thermoelectric Devices with High Room-temperature Figures of Merit." *Nature* 413 (October 11, 2001): 597-602.

Fig. 4a in Venkatasubramanian, Rama, et al. "Low-temperature Organometallic Epitaxy and its Applications to Superlattice Structures in Thermoelectrics." *Applied Physics Letters* 75 (August 1999): 1104-1106.

PbTe/PbTeSe Quantum Dot Superlattices

Ternary: ZT=1.3-1.6

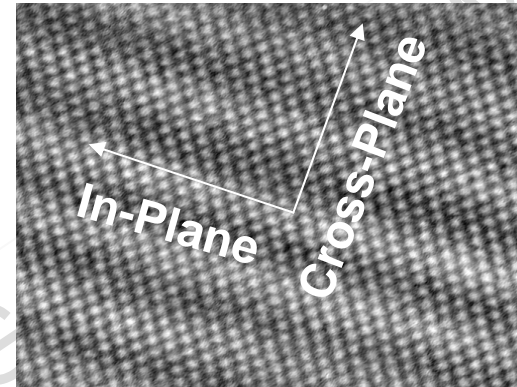
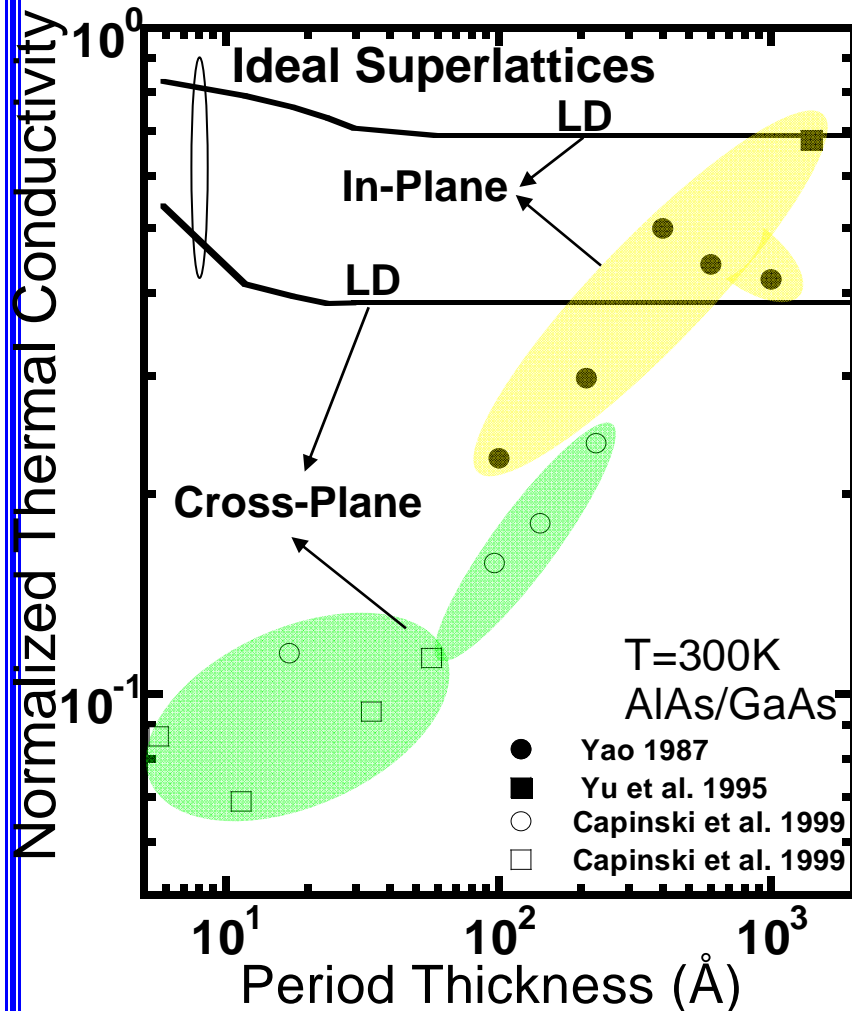
Quaternary: ZT=2

$\Delta T=43.7$ K, Bulk $\Delta T=30.8$ K
T.C. Harman, *Science*, 2002

$\Delta T=32.2$ K, ZT ~2-2.4
R. Venkatasubramanian, *Nature*, 2001

PbTe/PbSeTe	Nanostructure	Bulk	Bi ₂ Te ₃ /Sb ₂ Te ₃ Superlattice	Bulk
Power Factor ($\mu\text{W}/\text{cmK}^2$)	32	28	40	50.9
Conductivity (W/mK)	0.6		0.5	1.26

Heat Conduction Mechanisms in Superlattices

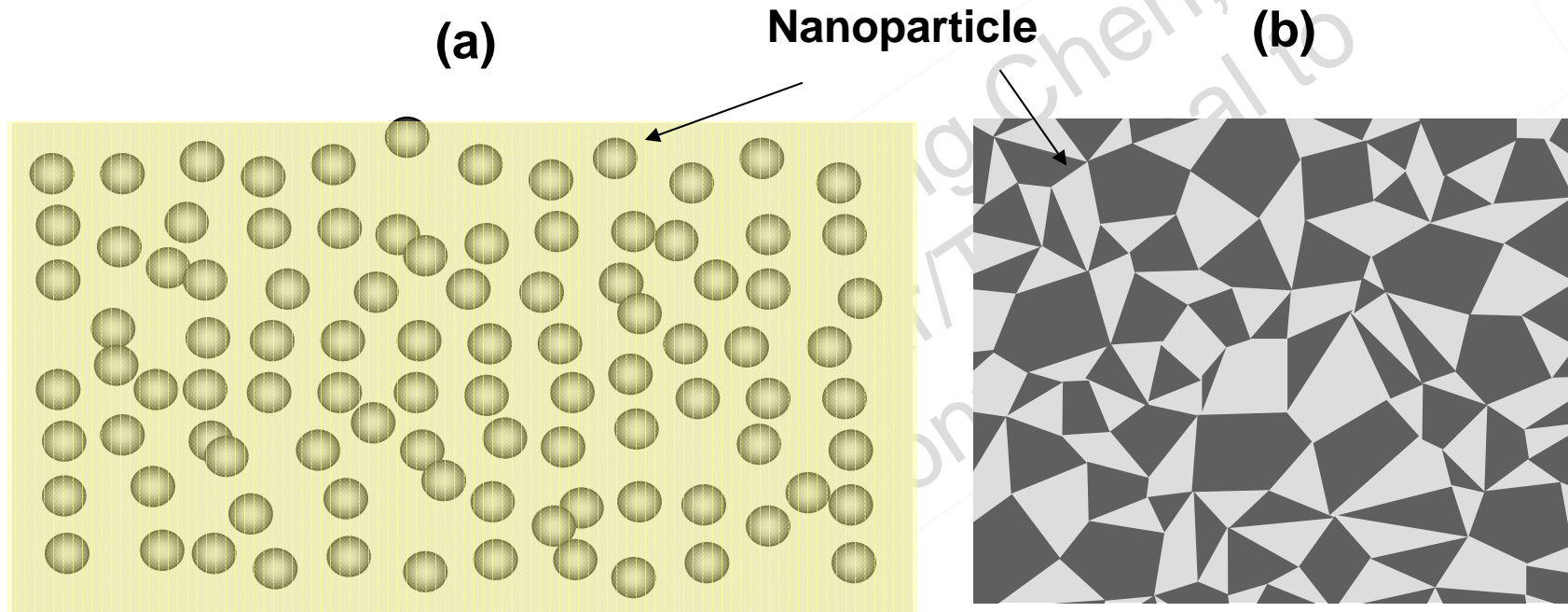


Major Conclusions:

- Ideal superlattices do not cut off all phonons due to pass-bands
- Individual interface reflection is more effective
- Diffuse phonon interface scattering is crucial

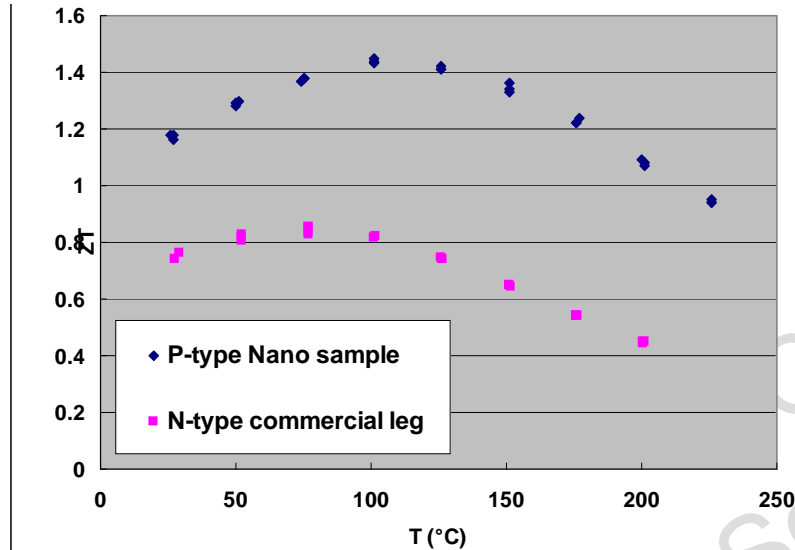
Periodic Structures Are Not Necessary, Nor Optimal!

Nanocomposites Approach



- Increase interfacial scattering by mixing nano-sized particles.
- Enable batch fabrication for large scale application.

Nanostructured Bi_2Te_3



Poudel et al., Science, 320, 634, 2008

Images removed due to copyright restrictions.

Please see: Fig. 2e in Joshi, Giri, et al.
"Enhanced Thermoelectric Figure of Merit in
Nanostructured p-type Silicon Germanium Bulk Alloys."
Nano Letters 8 (2008): 4670-4674.

Fig. 3d in Wang, X. W., et al.
"Enhanced Thermoelectric Figure of Merit in
Nanostructured n-type Silicon Germanium Bulk Alloy."
Applied Physics Letters 93 (2008): 193121.

Thermoelectric Properties: Bi_2Te_3

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Please see Fig. 2a, b, d, e in Poudel, Bed, et al.

"High-Thermoelectric Performance of Nanostructured Bismuth Antimony Telluride Bulk Alloys." *Science* 320 (May 2, 2008): 634-638.



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Please see Fig. 3, 4 in Hsu, Kuei Fang, et al.
"Cubic $\text{AgPbmSbTe}(2+m)$: Bulk Thermoelectric
Materials with High Figure of Merit." *Science*
303 (February 6, 2004): 818-821.

I-V-VI₂ Group

$$\kappa_L = A \frac{\bar{M} \theta^3 \delta}{\gamma^2 n^{2/3} T}$$

Thermal Expansion

Bulk Modulus

Molar Volume

$$\gamma = \frac{3\beta B V_m}{C_V}$$

**Gruneisen
Parameter**

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Please see Fig. 2 in Morelli, D. T., V. Jovovic,
and J. P. Heremans. "Intrinsically Minimal
Thermal Conductivity in Cubic I-V-VI₂
Semiconductors." *Physical Review Letters*
101 (July 2008): 035901.

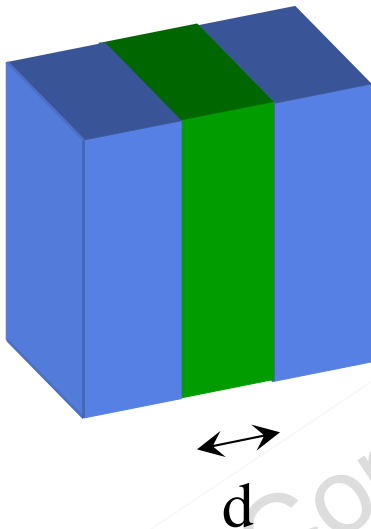
**Charge
Density
Wave
Peierls
Instability**

Rhyee et al., Nature, 459,
965 (2009)

Images removed due to copyright restrictions.
Please see Fig. 1, 2, 3 in Rhyee, Jong Soo, et al.
"Peierls Distortion as a Route to High Thermoelectric
Performance in In₄Se(3-d) Crystals." *Nature* 459
(June 18, 2009): 965-968.

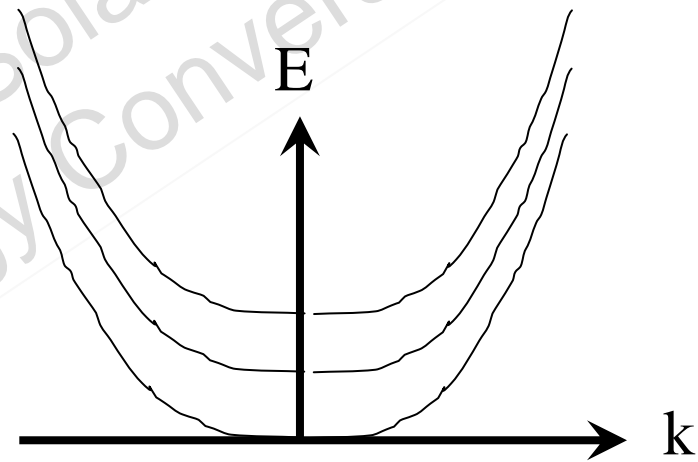
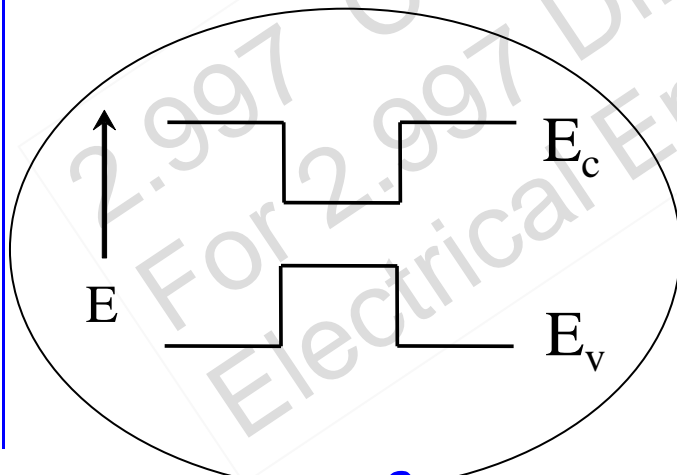
Electron Quantization

Quantum Well



$$E = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m^*} \left[k_x^2 + k_y^2 + \left(\frac{n\pi}{d} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad k^2 = k_x^2 + k_y^2$$



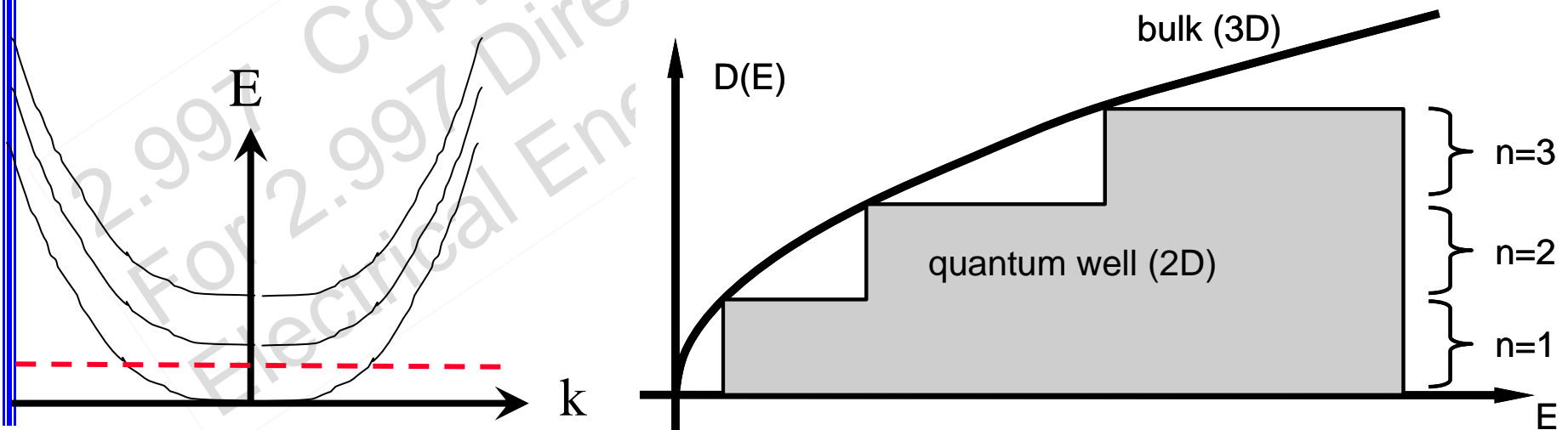
Subbands form in quantum confined directions

Density of States

$$k^2 = \frac{2mE}{\hbar^2} - \left(\frac{n\pi}{d} \right)^2$$

$$N = \sum_{-N_x/2}^{N_x/2} \sum_{-N_y/2}^{N_y/2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2 \int_{-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} \frac{dk_x}{2\pi/L_x} \int_{-\pi/a}^{\pi/a} \frac{dk_y}{2\pi/L_y} f$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{A}{2\pi^2} \int_0^{\pi/a} 2\pi k dk f = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{A}{\pi\hbar^2} \int_0^{E_n} f dE$$

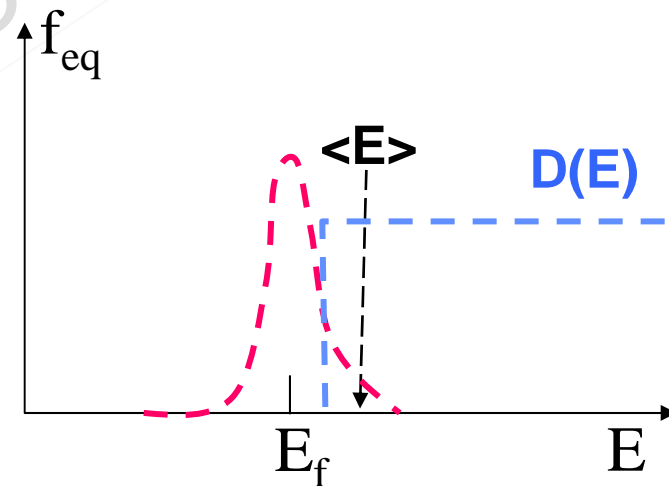
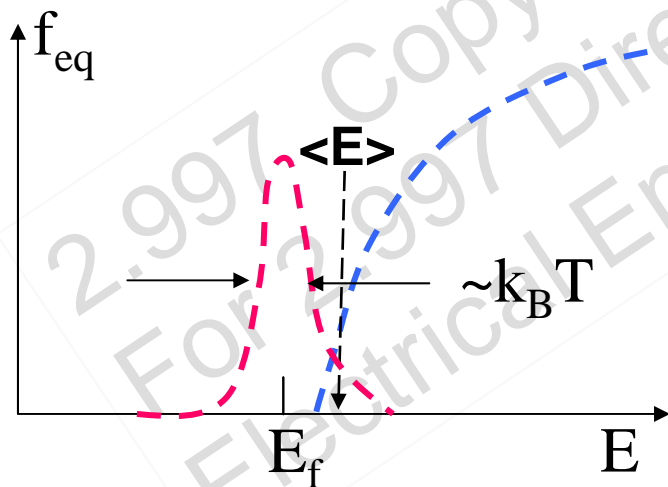


Semiconductor

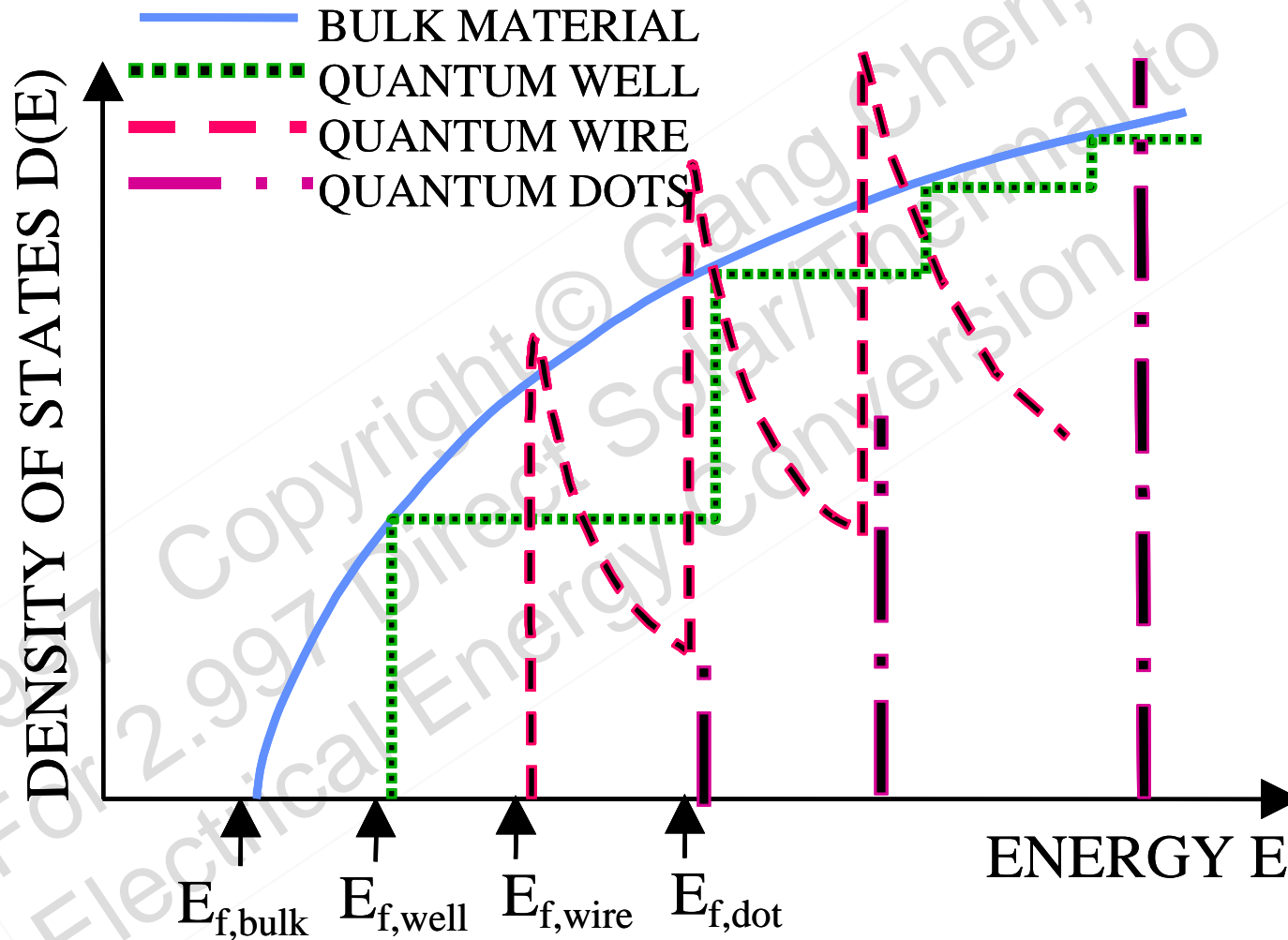
$$S \propto \frac{1}{qT} \frac{\int \tau v^2 D(E) (E - E_F) (-\partial f_{eq} / \partial E) dE}{\int \tau v^2 D(E) (-\partial f_{eq} / \partial E) dE} \propto \langle E - E_f \rangle$$

$$\sigma \propto \int \tau v^2 D(E) (-\partial f_{eq} / \partial E) dE$$

Maximize $S^2\sigma$, reducing k_e



DOS of Low Dimensional Structures



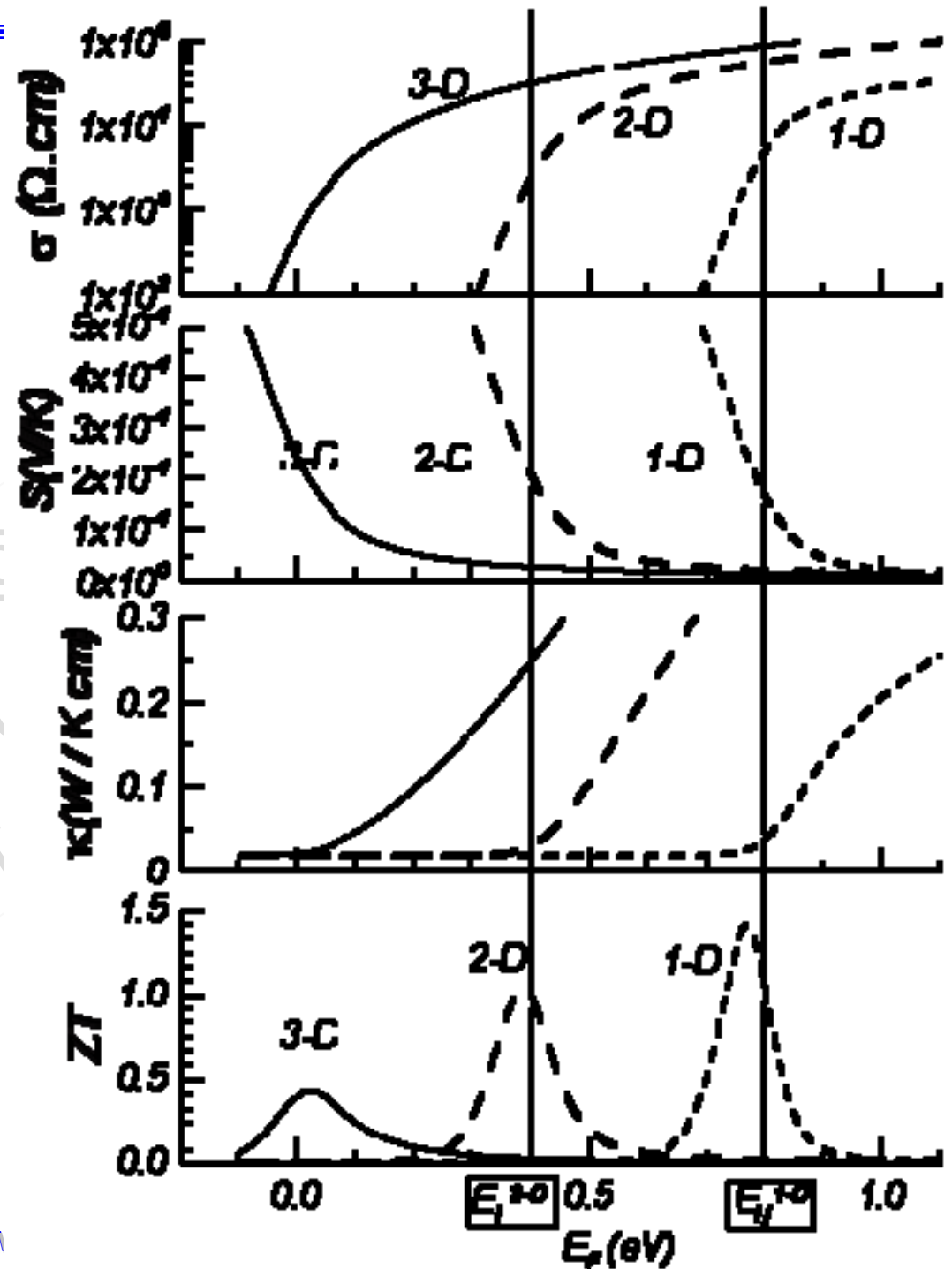
Experimental Proof of Principle

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Please see Fig. 1a in Hicks, L. D., et al. "Experimental Study of the Effect of Quantum-well Structures on the Thermoelectric Figure of Merit." *Physical Review B* 53 (April 1996): R10493-R10496.

Sample Calculation

By J.S. Heremans
 $K_p = 2 \text{ W/mK}$
 $d = 2.5 \text{ nm}$
 $m^* = 0.15m$



Potential Pitfalls



- Interface roughness scattering reducing τ
- Tunneling between layers reduces sharp DOS features

Resonant Levels

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Please see Fig. 1, 3 in Heremans, Joseph P., et al.

"Enhancement of Thermoelectric Efficiency in PbTe by Distortion of the Electronic Density of States." *Science* 321 (July 2008): 554-557.

Heremans et al., *Science*, 321, 554 (2008)

Thermionic Emission and Energy Filtering

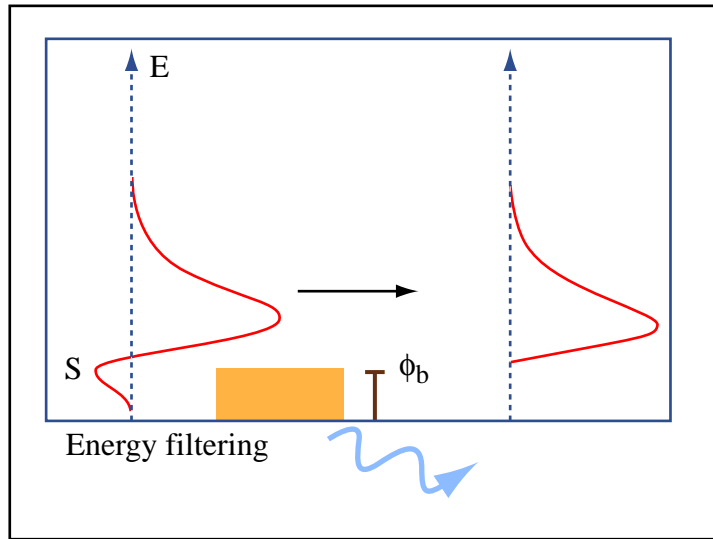
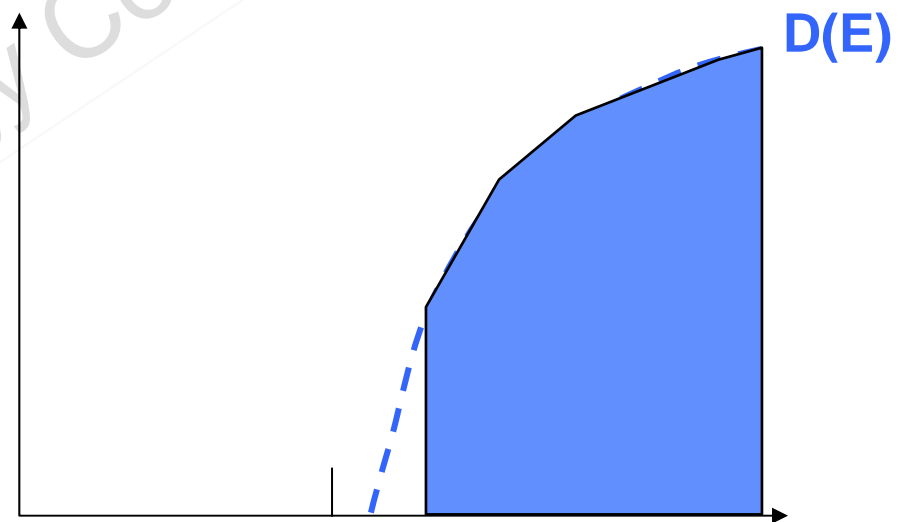


Figure by MIT OpenCourseWare.



Moyzhes and Nemchinsky, Appl. Phys. Lett., 73, 1895-1897 (1998).

Shakouri and Bowers, Appl. Phys. Lett., 71, 1234 (1997).

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Fall 2009

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