

Functional properties

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Functional properties and microstructural features in ceramics



Plan

1 Thermoelectricity : applications, principle & materials



2 How to tune transport properties ?



3 TE materials by design (microstructure engineering)















 $U \propto NS\Delta T \qquad P \propto N\sigma S^2 \Delta T^2$

$$\eta_{max} = \frac{T_c - T_f}{T_c} \frac{\sqrt{1 + ZT_m} - 1}{\sqrt{1 + ZT_m} + \frac{T_c}{T_f}}$$





Ideal material: high S, high σ and low κ but when S increases $\rightarrow \sigma$ decreases and when σ increases \rightarrow S decreases κ increases

Best compromise:

semiconductors with high mobility and high effective mass of the carrier, and low lattice thermal conductivity



2 Main strategies to tune transport properties



2 Solid state chemistry → phonon glass electron crystal



[G. Slack, 1994]





Clathrates, $X_2Y_6E_{46}$ (X & Y guest atoms encapsulated in polyhedra of E = Si, Ge or Sn)

Filled skutterudites, $\square_2 T_8 X_{24}$ (guest atom inside a 12coordinated cage surrounded by 8 TX₆ octahedra)







2 Metallurgy -> nano to mesoscale engineering



2 Main strategies to tune transport properties





Need a predictive tool that couples a description of the microstructure genesis and evolution to the various contributions to ZT



 $Mg_2Si(Sn)^{SSSS} \rightarrow Mg_2Si(Sn)^{matrix} + Mg_2Sn(Si)^{precip.}$



[[]P. Bellanger's Thesis (ICMCB), collab. Redjaimia]



Model development

Development of Microstructure

We need the knowledge of

- Grain size, d
- Second phase particle size, Rp
- Particle density, Np
- Amount of solute in solution, Xsol

Need to develop a simple precipitation model

$$\rightarrow$$
 Monitor : R_p, N_p, X_{sol}

Lattice thermal conductivity contributions

Evaluate contributions to phonon scattering :

- Intrinsec lattice resistance
- Alloy disordering
- Grain boundary resistance
- Particule scattering

• Model development – Microstructural genesis and evolution

Continuous precipitation of Mg₂Si from the supersaturated Mg₂(Si,Sn) solid solution



3 ''Material by design'' : prop. modeling

Model development – Lattice thermal conductivity

Debye phonon spectrum

Highest frequency $\omega_{\rm D}$

acoustic branch

Velocity, v=cst

-

Phonon scattering characterized by phonon life time.



Bose-Einstein distribution function





3 "Material by design": prop. modeling



3 "Material by design": prop. modeling



3 "Material by design": μstructure – prop. coupling

• Results – From the property to the process conditions



Thermal conductivity=f(aging time and temperature)

[P. Bellanger's Thesis (ICMCB)]