



Jülich Centre for Neutron Science



Université  
de Liège

# Research at JCNS-2

## Lattice dynamics in functional materials

Raphaël Hermann

Jülich Centre for Neutron Science JCNS-2 und Peter Grünberg Institut PGI-4, JARA-FIT

**JCNS-2, PGI-4: Scattering Methods, Prof. Brückel, Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH, Germany**

Université de Liège, Faculté des Sciences, Belgium

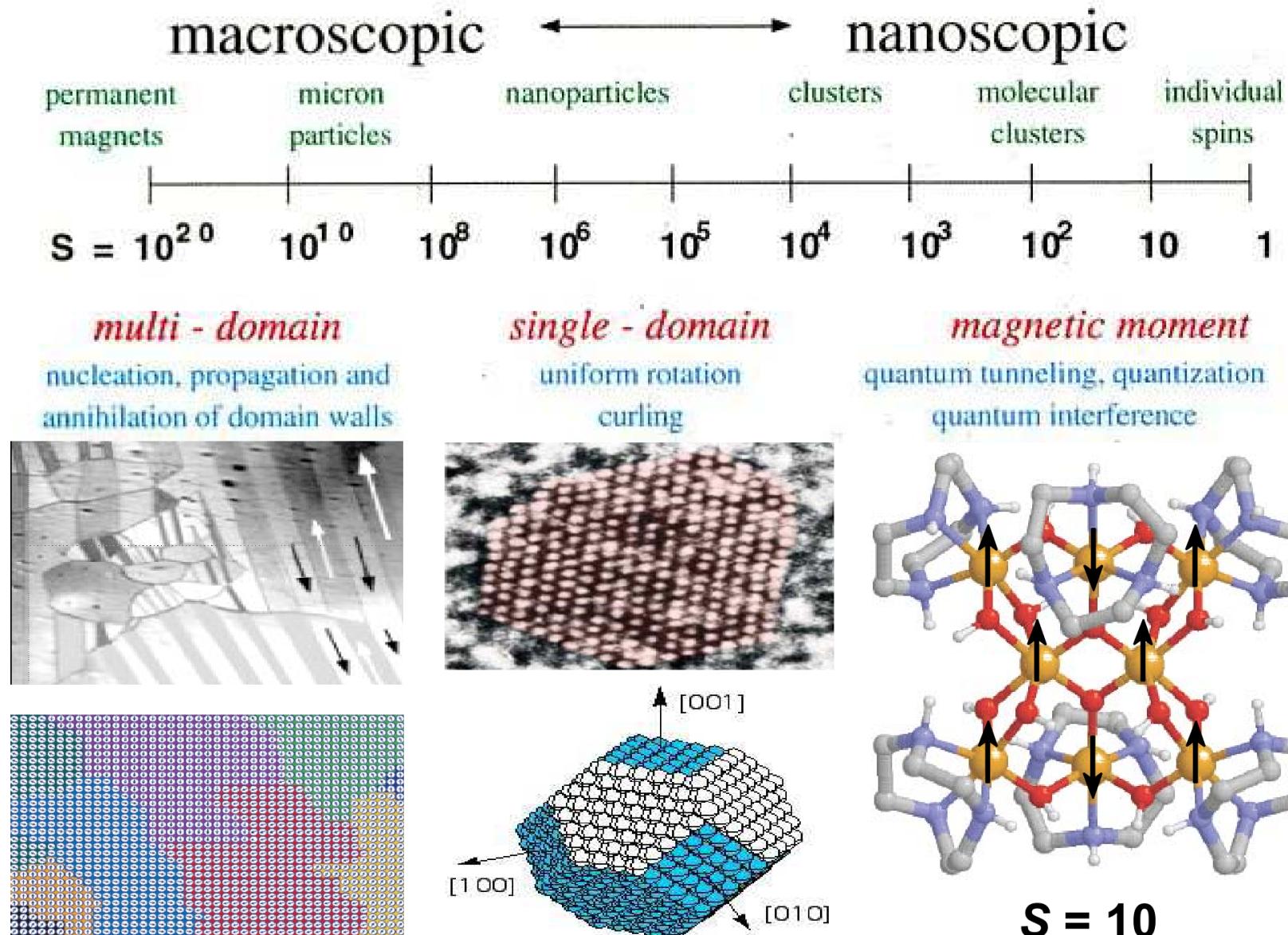
Tbilisi, August 7<sup>th</sup> 2012

# Outline

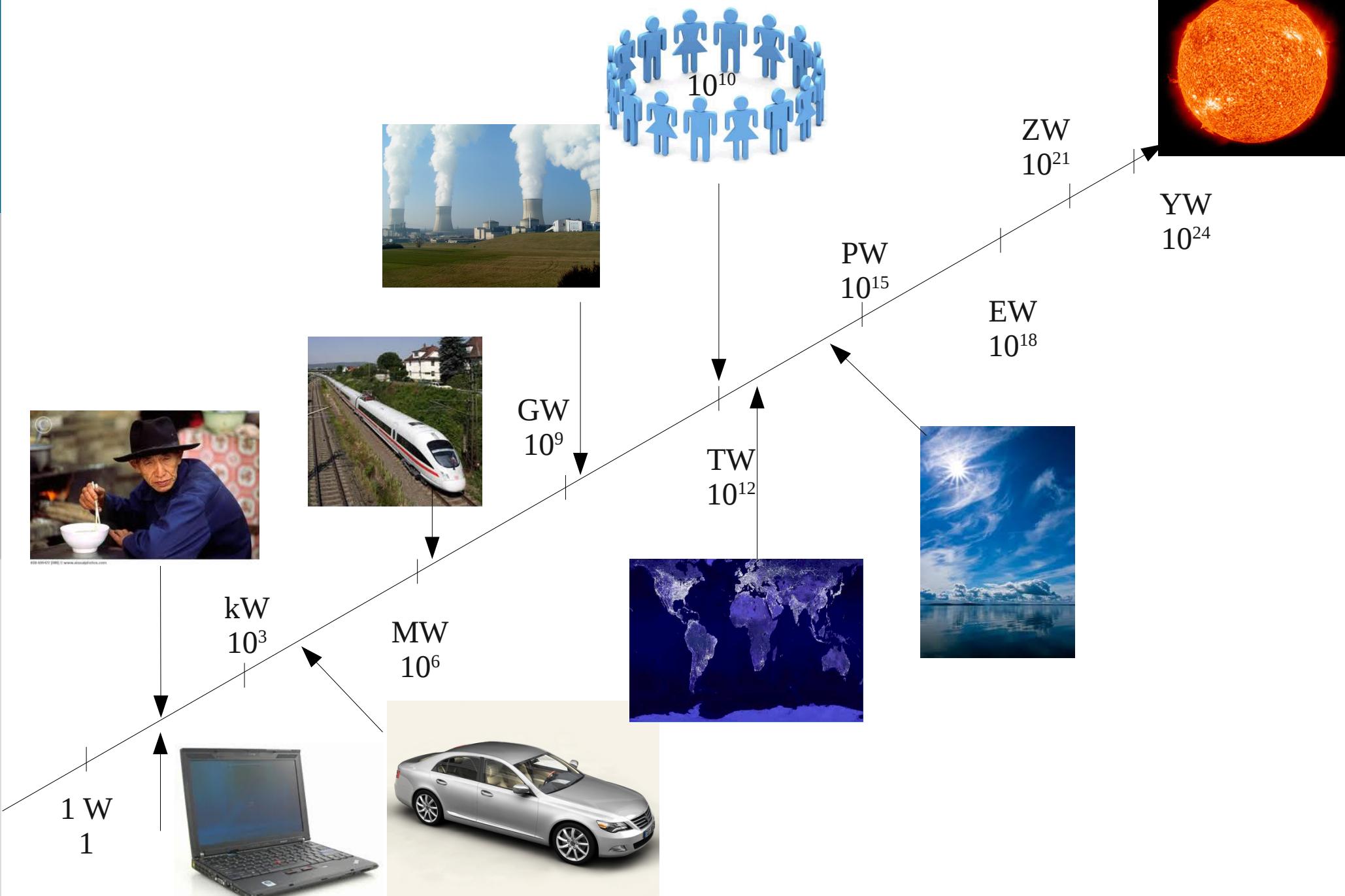
- JCNS-2: scattering methods for information and energy
- '*Lattice dynamics in functional materials*' group
- Thermoelectrics
- Nuclear resonance scattering
- Bulk thermoelectrics
- Nanostructured thermoelectrics

# Information demand: the spin scale

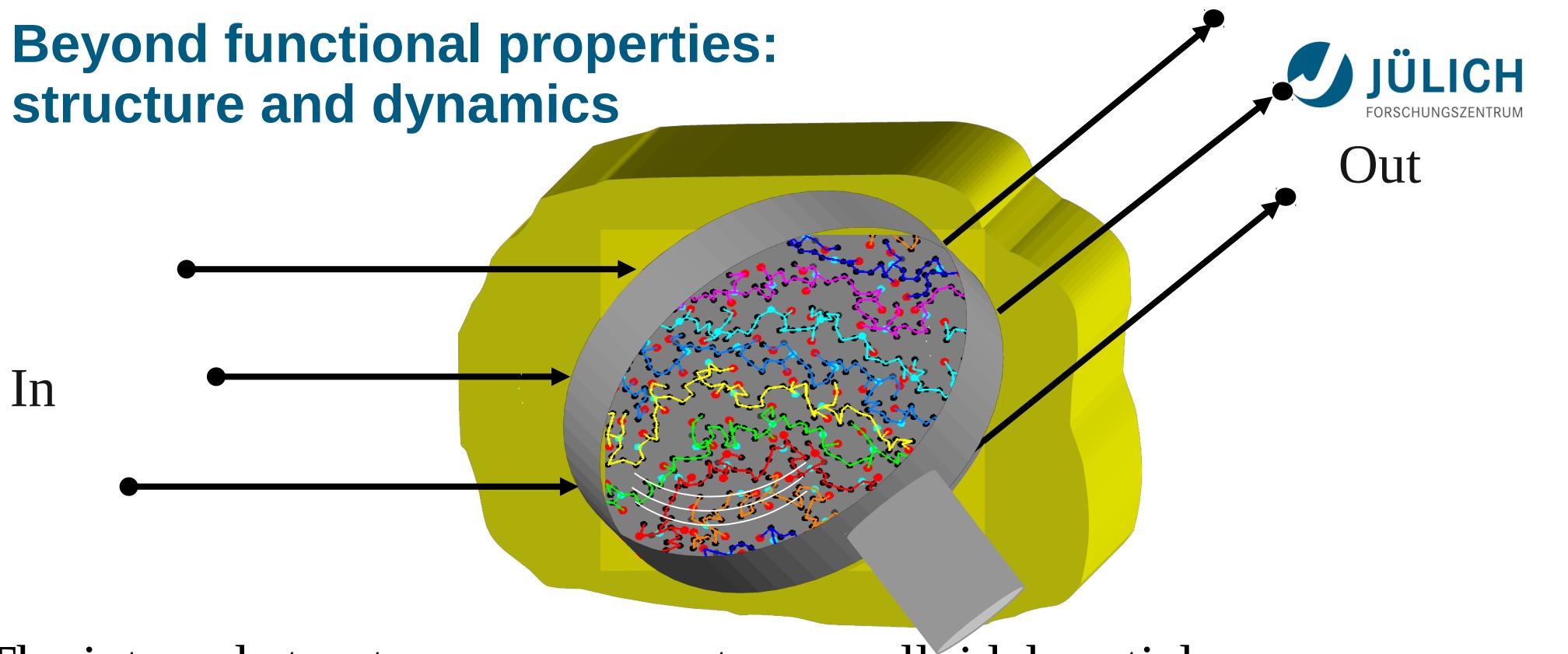
## Magnetic structures



# Energy demand: The power scale



# Beyond functional properties: structure and dynamics



The internal structure:  
atoms, colloidal particles ...

& microscopic dynamics:  
atom movements, ...

Underly functional properties:  
thermal conductivity, elasticity,  
viscosity, ...

## Scattering:

Interaction  
sample ↔ radiation

⇒ non-invasive, non destructive probe  
for structure & dynamics

# A (very) brief history

From groundbreaking to...

Die erste Röntgen-Durchdringung eines Kristalls.



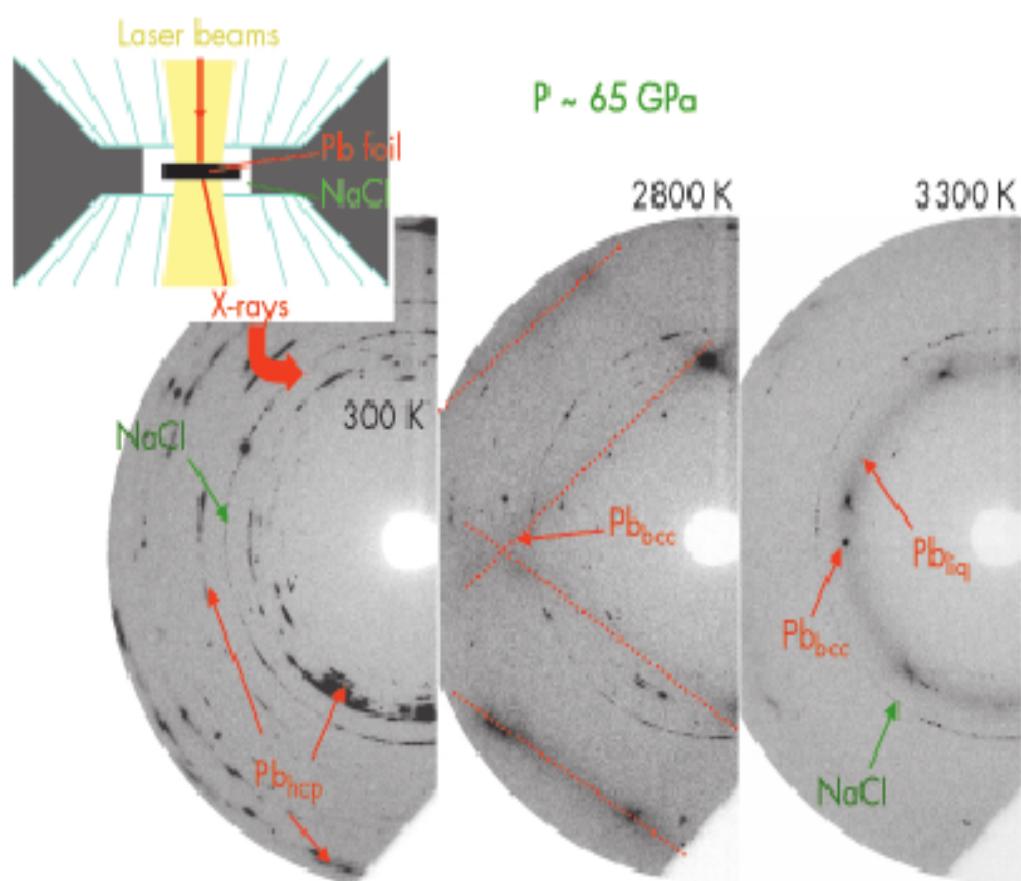
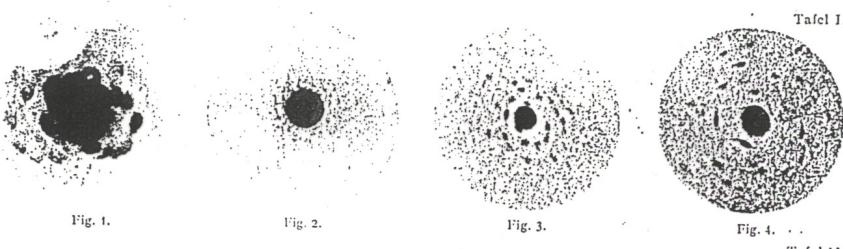
1912

M.v. Laue

Interferenz-Erscheinungen bei Röntgenstrahlen.

Von W. FRIEDRICH, P. KNIPPING und M. LAUE.

Vorgelegt von A. SOMMERFELD in der Sitzung am 8. Juni 1912.



A. Dewaele et al., *Phys. Rev. B* **73**, 144106 (2007).

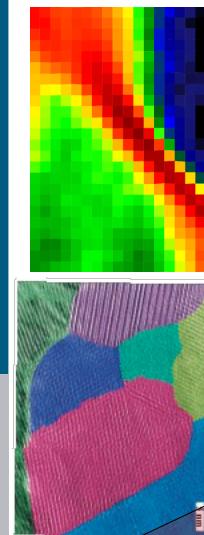
... faster  
+ small samples  
+ extreme conditions

# Breaking New Ground

# Outline

- JCNS-2: scattering methods for information and energy
  - '*Lattice dynamics in functional materials*' group
  - Thermoelectrics
  - Nuclear resonance scattering
  - Bulk thermoelectrics
  - Nanostructured thermoelectrics

# „Lattice dynamics“ group and projects



SPP 1386  
Nanostrukturierte  
Thermoelektrika



## Thermoelectrics

### Bulk materials

Clathrate,  
Skutterudites,  
Zintl phases



From bulk to nano,  
via films and  
nanowires

### Nanostructured materials

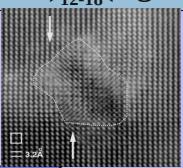
### Nanocomposites

Si,  $\text{MSb}_x$



BMBF  
WInG

“NanoKoCh”  
LAST  $(\text{PbTe})_{12-18}(\text{AgSbTe}_2)$



### Oxides

### Magnetocalorics

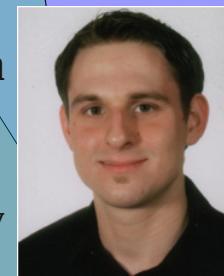
### Nanoparticles



### Transition metal oxides

## Phase change materials

SFB917 Nanoswitches



CCMS

### Thin film RUS

### Dilatometry

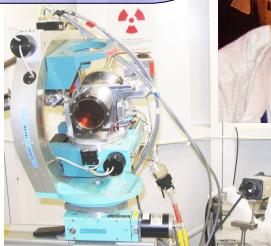


### Mössbauer spectroscopy

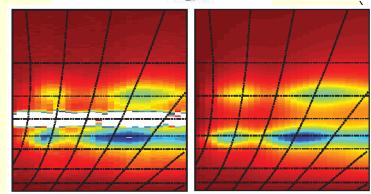


Neutron  
scattering  
FRM-II  
ILL, SNS

## Superconductors



Nuclear scattering  
ESRF, APS, Petra III

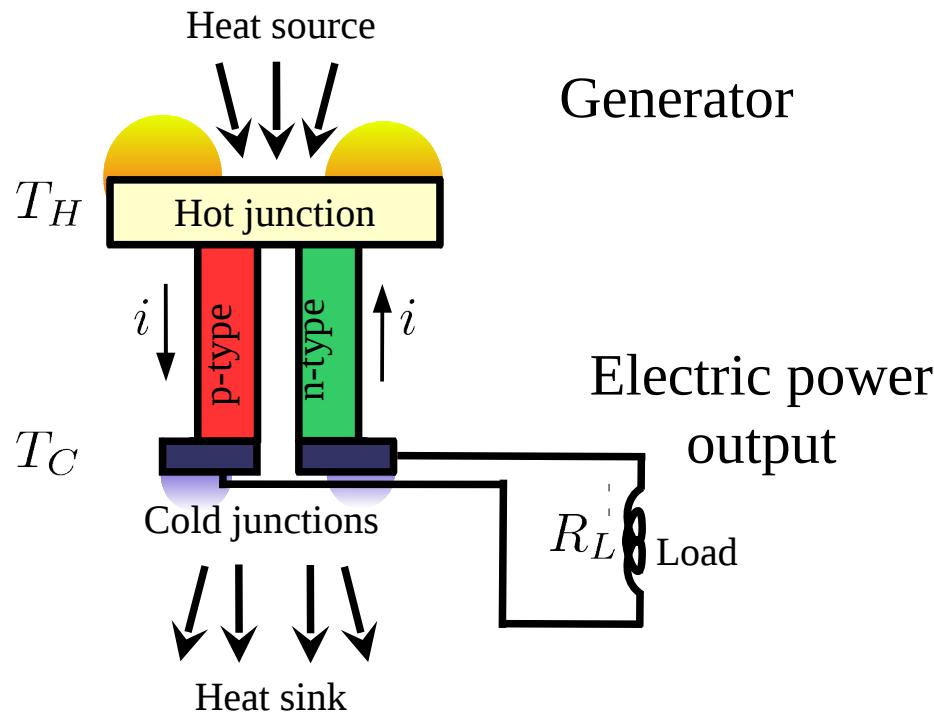


# Outline

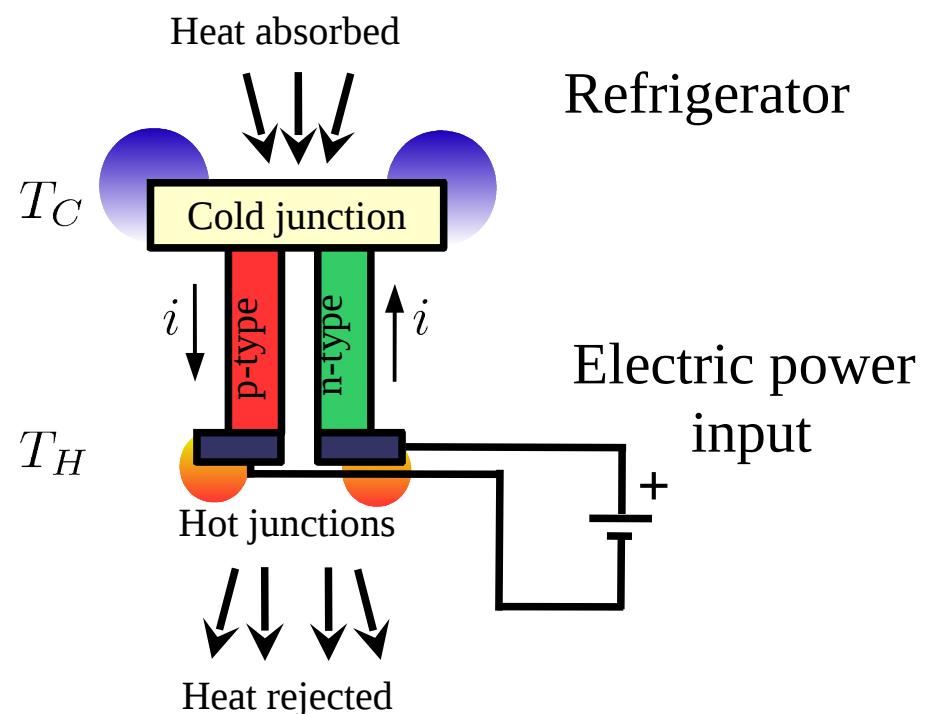
- JCNS-2: scattering methods for information and energy
- '*Lattice dynamics in functional materials*' group
- Thermoelectrics
- Nuclear resonance scattering
- Bulk thermoelectrics
- Nanostructured thermoelectrics

# Thermoelectric conversion

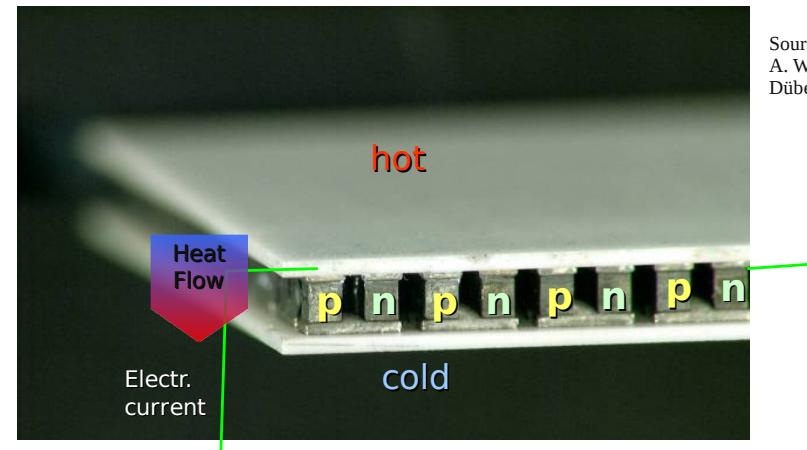
## Seebeck effect



## Peltier effect

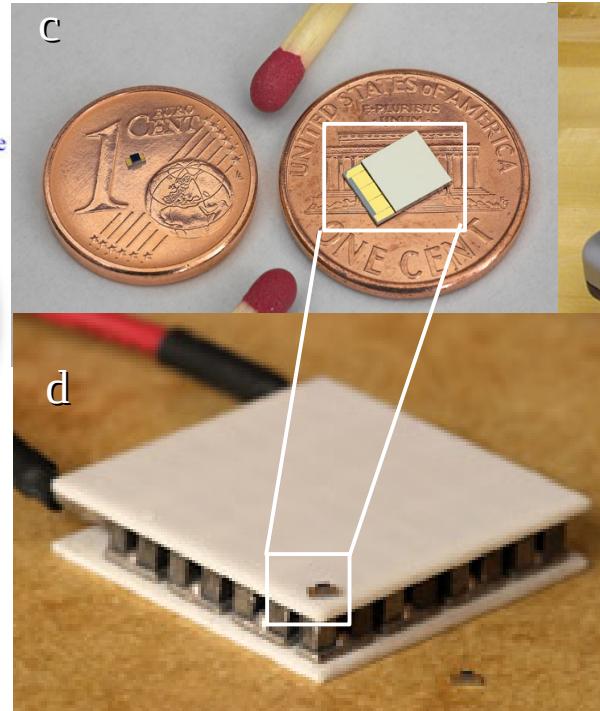
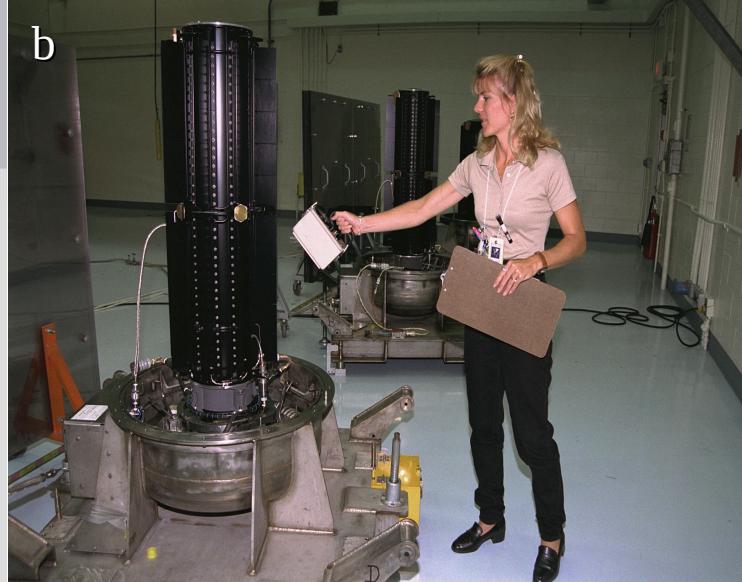
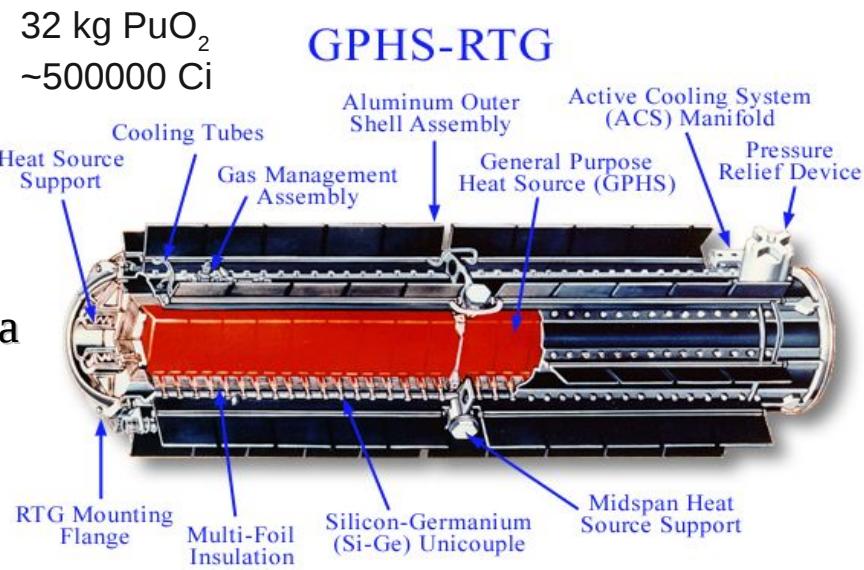


- No moving parts
- Direct conversion: clean and silent
- High power density: small size
- No scale merit, small  $\Delta T$



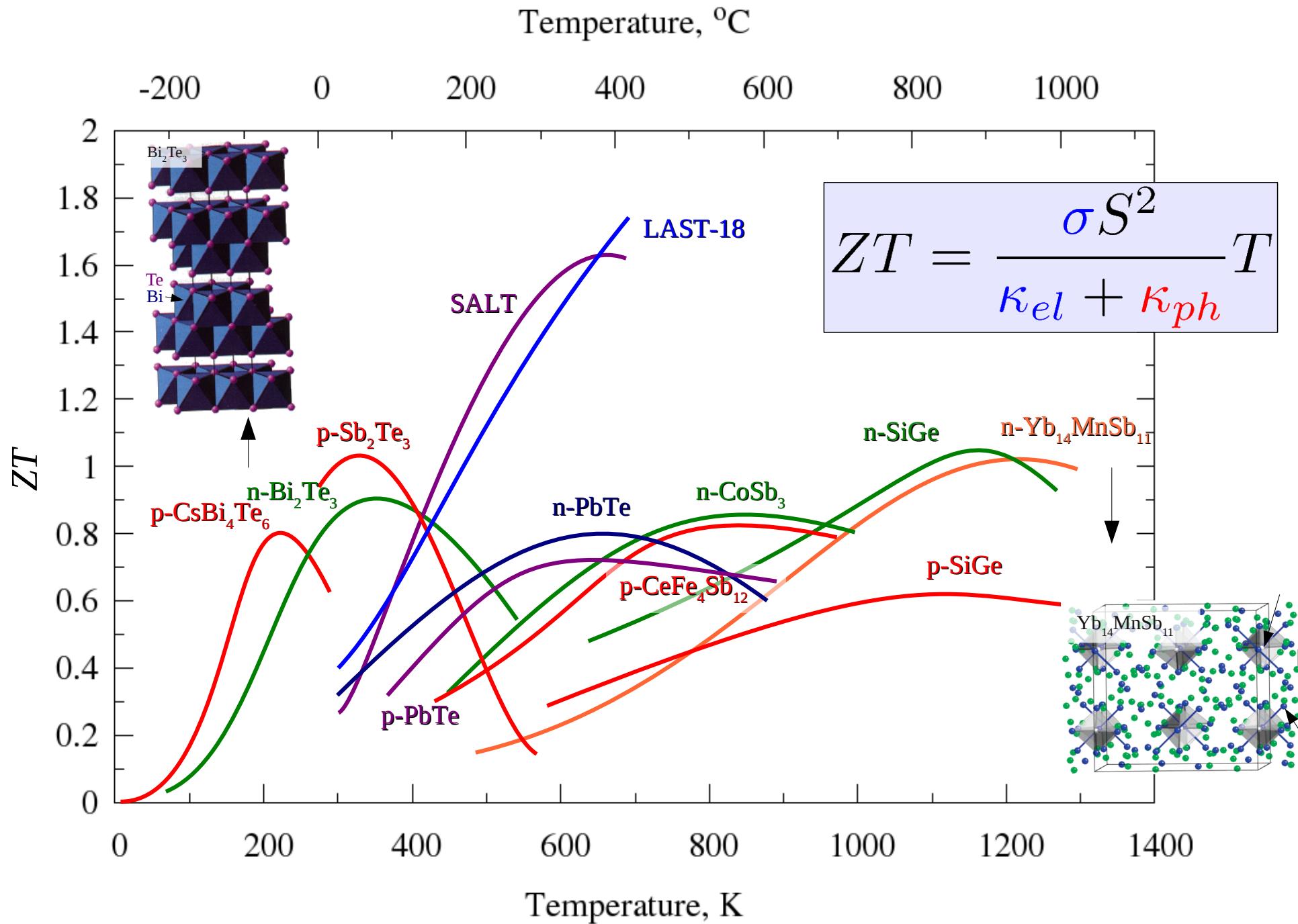
Source:  
 A. Weidenkaff, EMPA  
 Dübendorf

# Applications



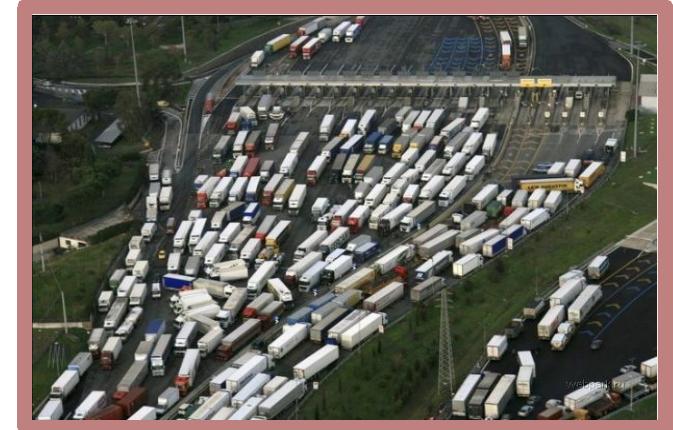
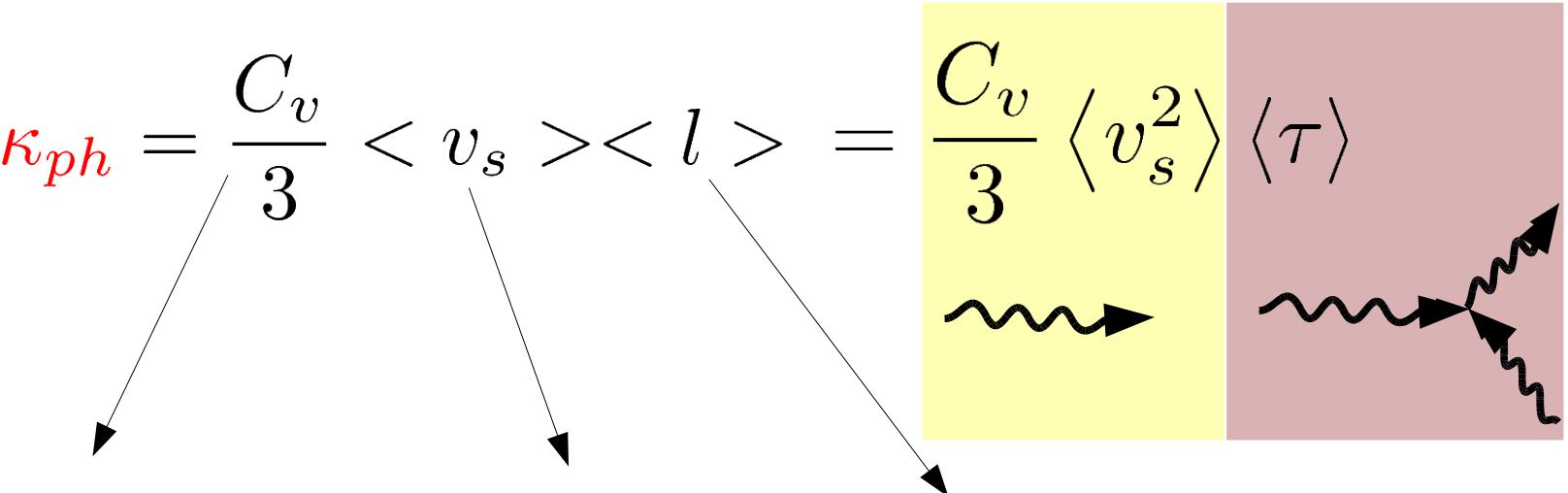
Sources: a,b Wikimedia (NASA, JPL); c,d MicroPelt; e BMW; f,g: Commercials

# Thermoelectric materials



# Thermal conductivity

$$\kappa_{ph} = \frac{C_v}{3} \langle v_s \rangle \langle l \rangle = \frac{C_v}{3} \langle v_s^2 \rangle \langle \tau \rangle$$



$$J = -k_B \int_0^\infty g(\omega) \frac{(\beta \hbar \omega)^2 e^{\beta \hbar \omega}}{(e^{\beta \hbar \omega} - 1)^2} \frac{\nu(\omega)_{\perp A}^2 \nabla T \tau(\omega)}{V} d\omega$$

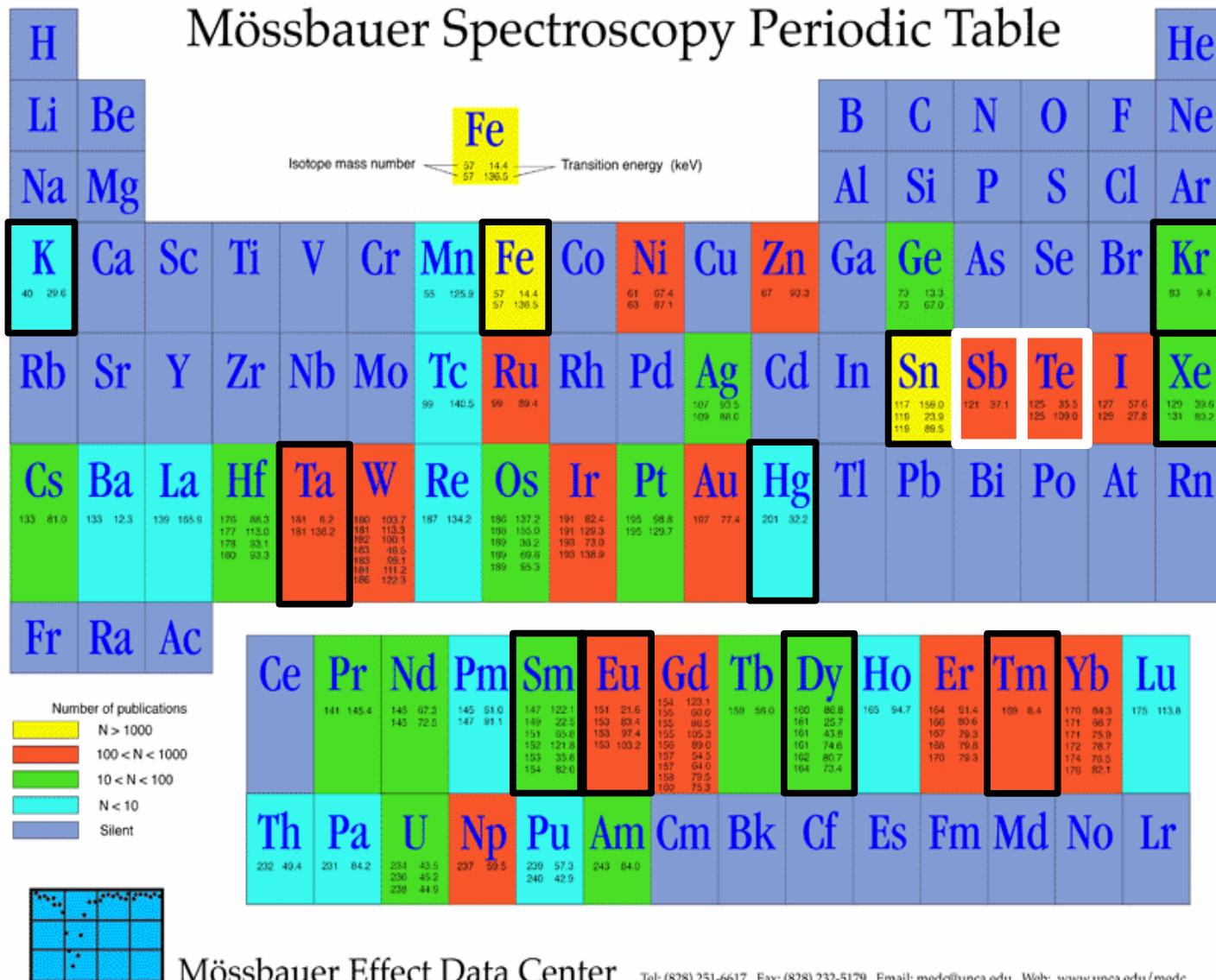
# Outline

- JCNS-2: scattering methods for information and energy
- '*Lattice dynamics in functional materials*' group
- Thermoelectrics
- Nuclear resonance scattering
- Bulk thermoelectrics
- Nanostructured thermoelectrics

# Nuclear resonance scattering & Elements

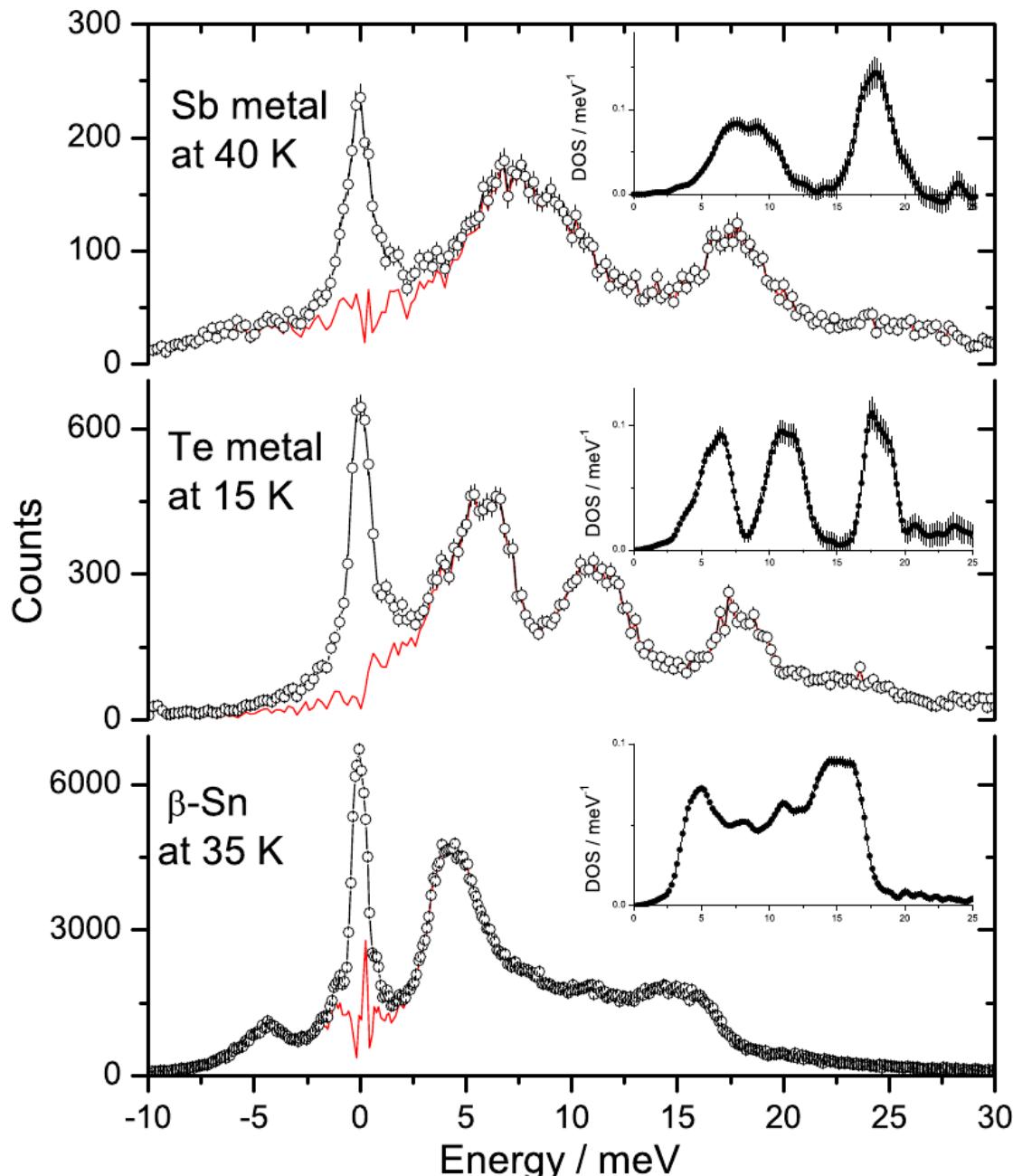
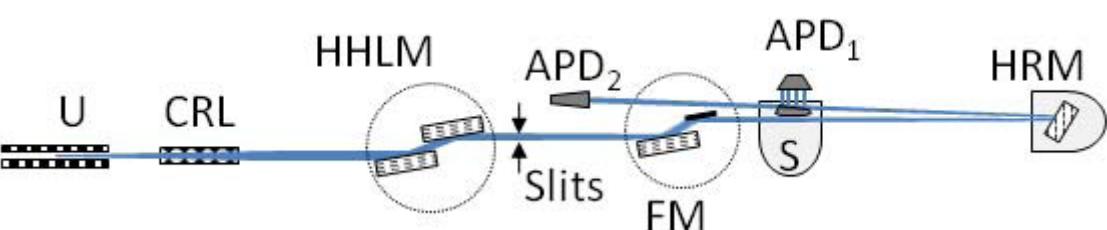
Mössbauer effect: recoil free emission of  $\gamma$ -rays (1958)

Nuclear **inelastic** scattering: phonon assisted nuclear resonance absorption (1995)



- ↔ Successful inelastic measurements
- Element specific
  - Element blind
  - True DOS
  - No dispersion
  - Microfocusing/ small beam
  - Small samples
  - Isotopic samples

# Nuclear inelastic scattering above 20 keV

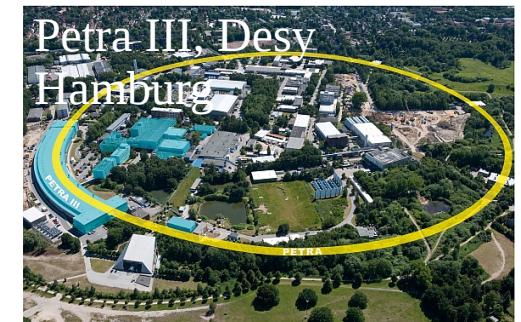


- Phonon DOS in elemental Sb, Te, or Sn with

$\Delta E \sim 1.2, 1.1, \text{ or } 1.0 \text{ meV}$

- $E/\Delta E \simeq 3 \cdot 10^7$ , single bounce

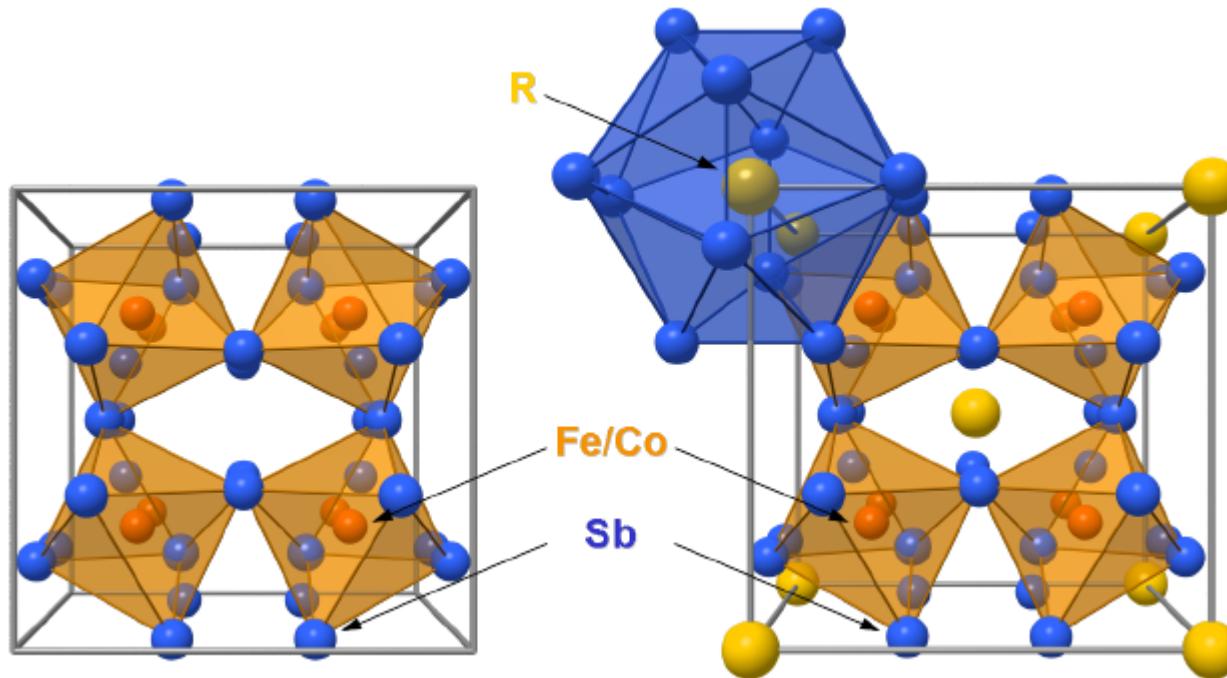
- Isotope specific method



# Outline

- JCNS-2: scattering methods for information and energy
- '*Lattice dynamics in functional materials*' group
- Thermoelectrics
- Nuclear resonance scattering
- Bulk thermoelectrics
- Nanostructured thermoelectrics

# Filled and empty skutterudites



Filling  $R_xCo_4Sb_{12}$  requires charge compensation:  $R_x(Co,Fe)_4Sb_{12}$ .

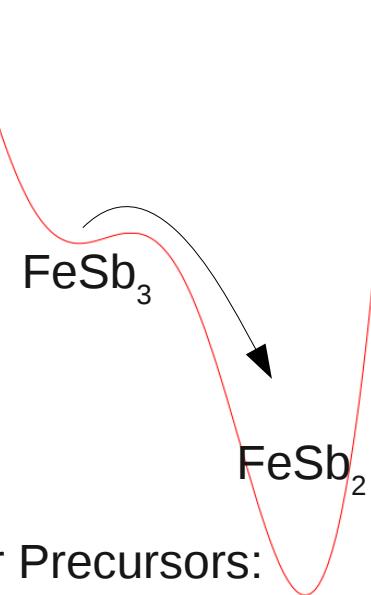
Is  $CoSb_3$  is a usual reference for filled skutterudite lattice dynamics.

$FeSb_3$  is thermodynamically unstable!

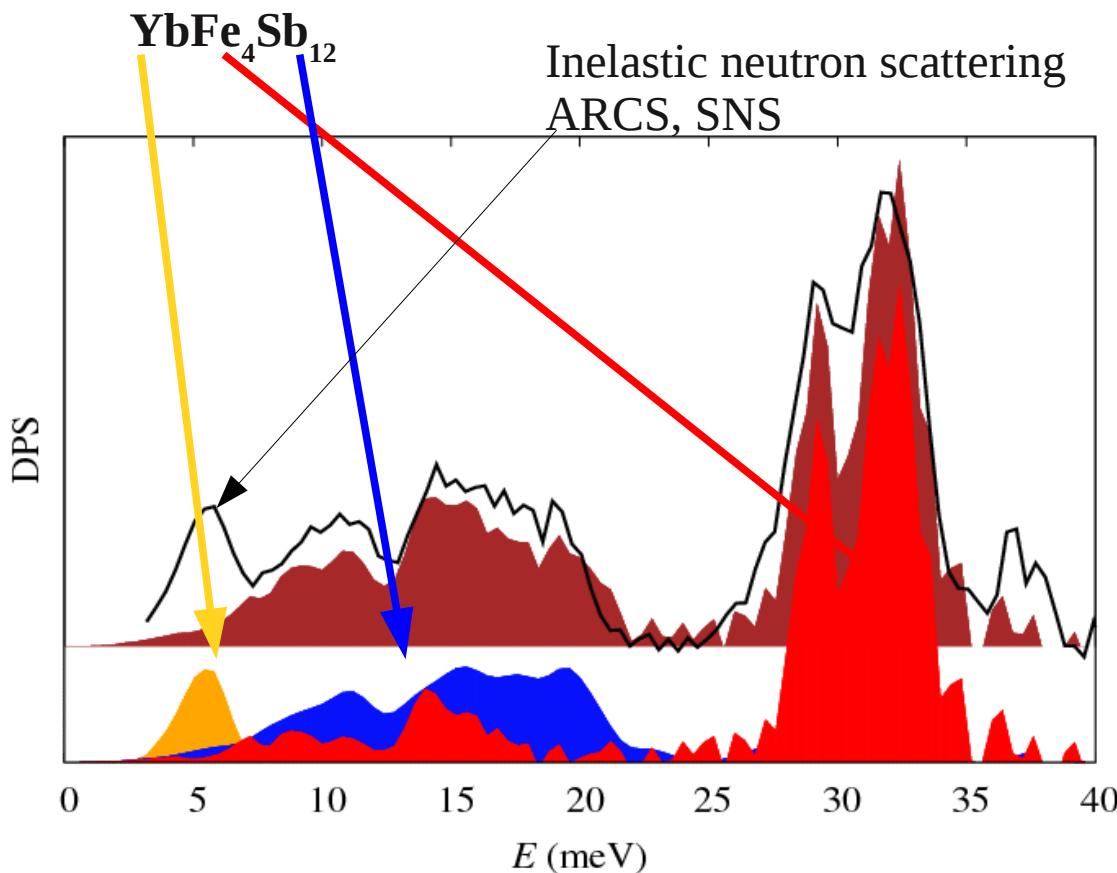
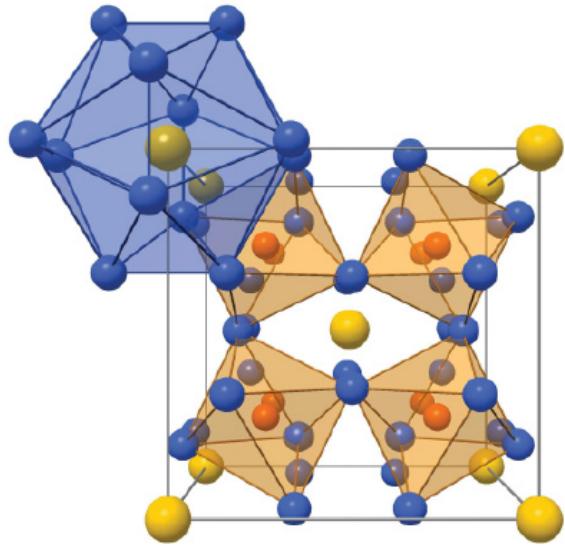
Rational Synthesis of Metastable Skutterudite Compounds Using Multilayer Precursors:

→ „thick“ 1-1.5 µm films of  $FeSb_3$

(Hornbostel et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1997, 119, 2665-2668)



# Skutterudites – Localized vibrational modes

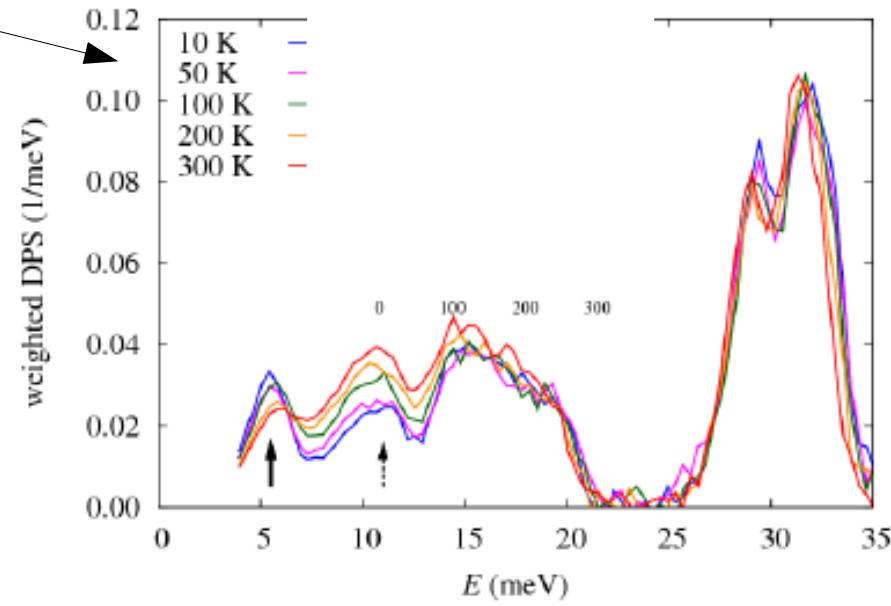
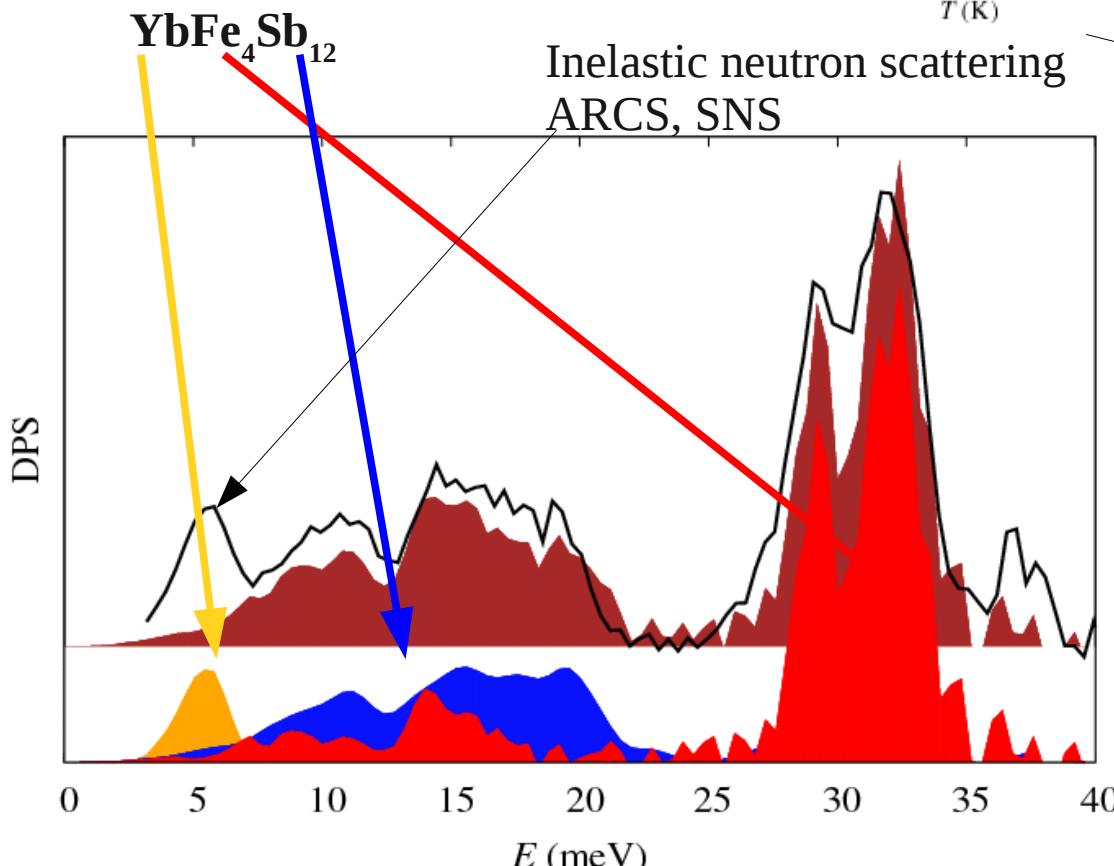
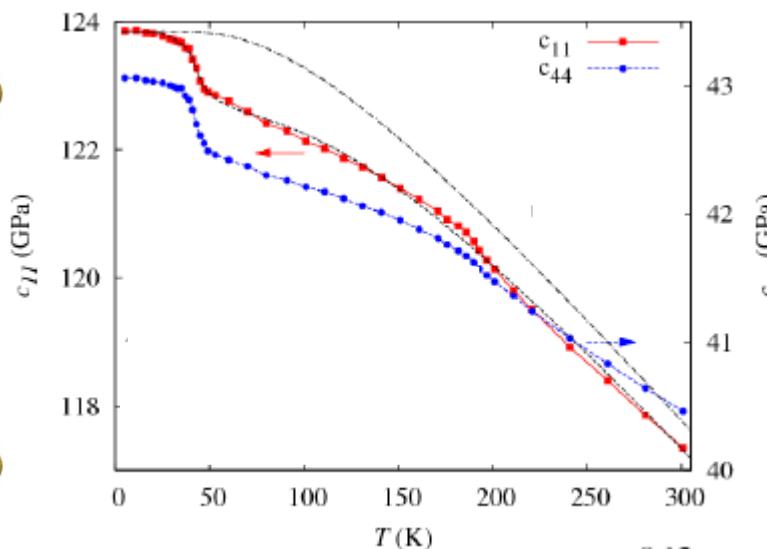
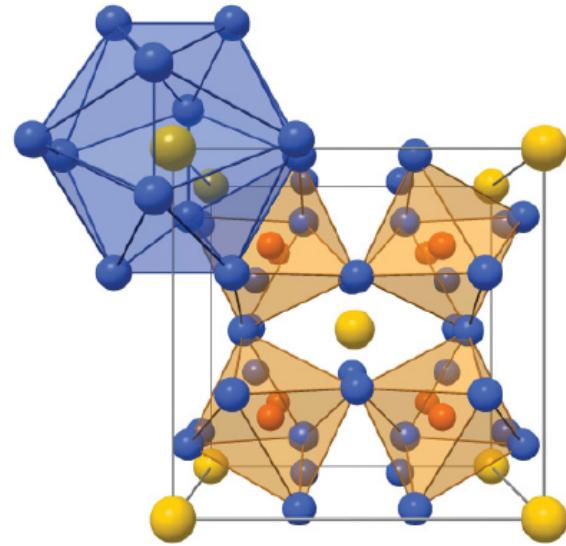


Moechel A., Sergueev I., Wille H.-C., Voigt J., Prager M., Stone M.B., Sales B.C., Guguchia Z., Shengelaya A., Keppens V., and Hermann R.P.

**Lattice dynamics and anomalous softening in the YbFe<sub>4</sub>Sb<sub>12</sub> skutterudite**

*Phys. Rev B* **84**, 184306 (2011). Editor's Selection.

# Skutterudites – Localized vibrational modes

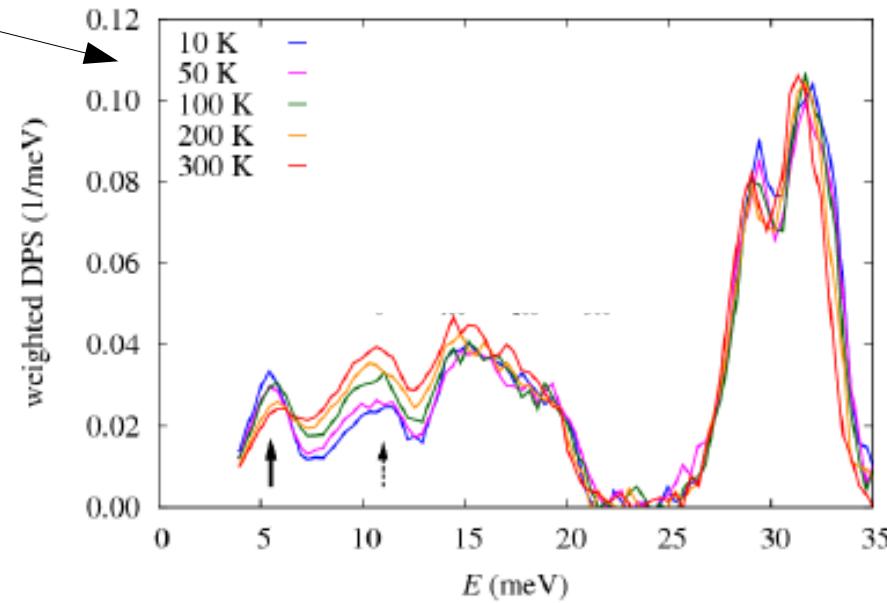
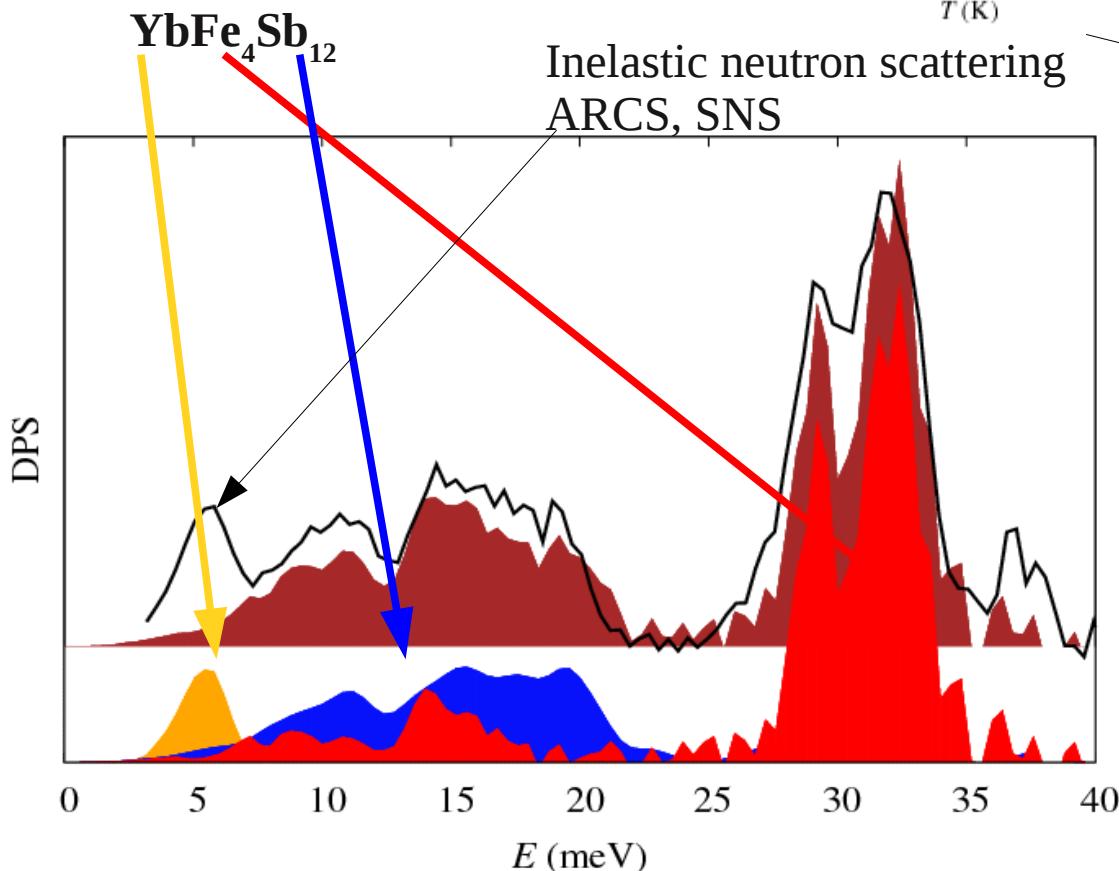
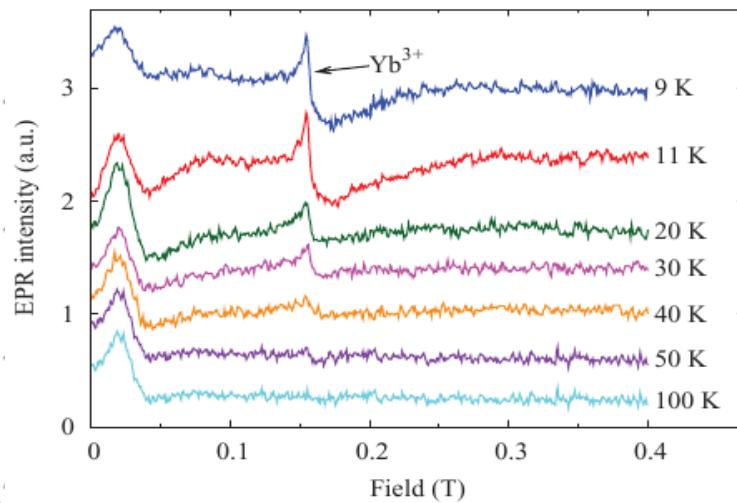
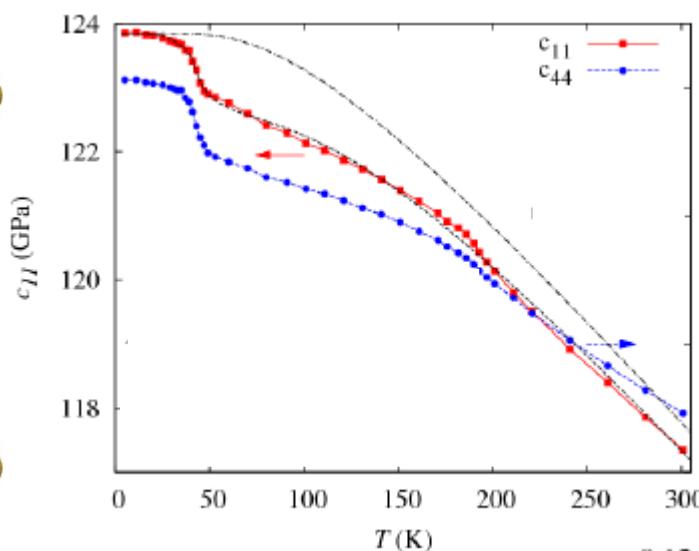
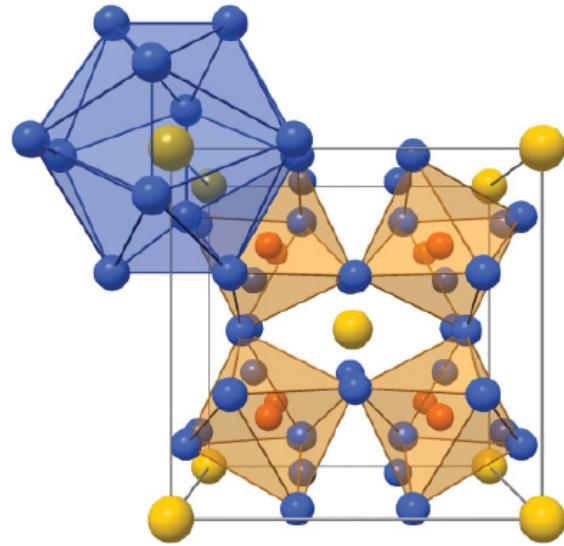


Moechel A., Sergueev I., Wille H.-C., Voigt J., Prager M., Stone M.B., Sales B.C., Guguchia Z., Shengelaya A., Keppens V., and Hermann R.P.

Lattice dynamics and anomalous softening in the  
YbFe<sub>4</sub>Sb<sub>12</sub> skutterudite

Phys. Rev B 84, 184306 (2011). Editor's Selection.

# Skutterudites – Localized vibrational modes

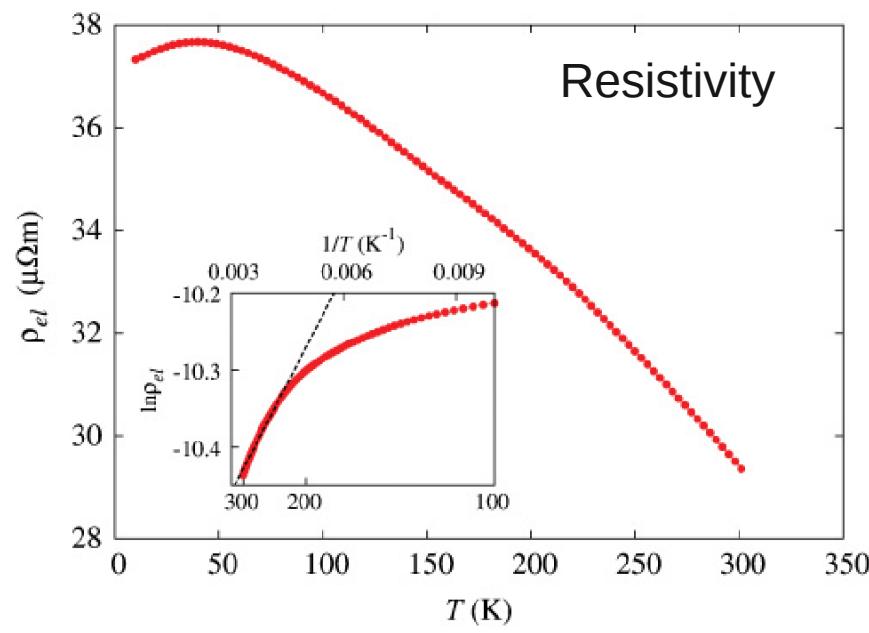
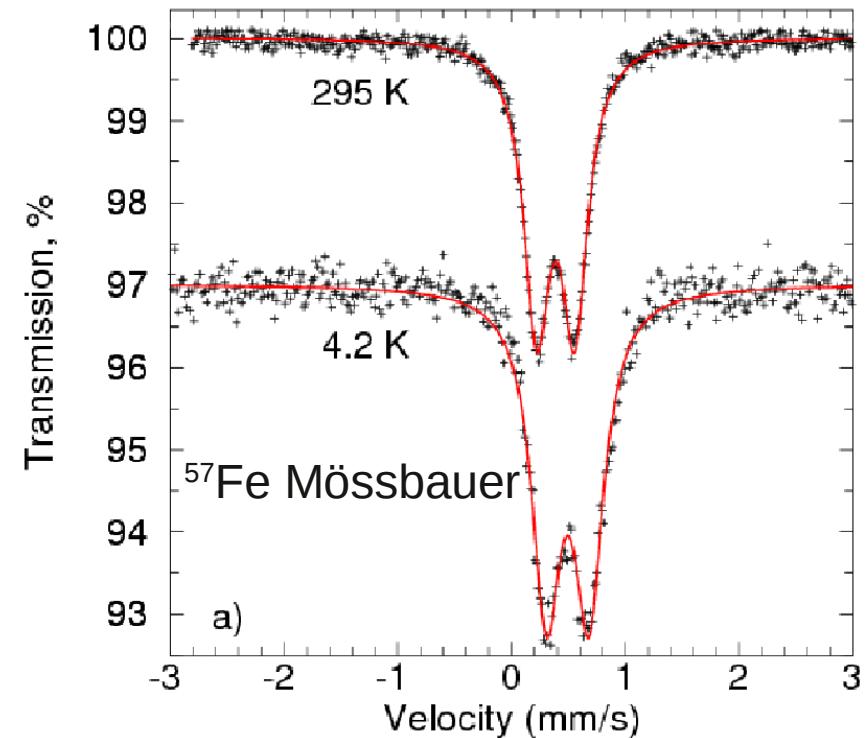
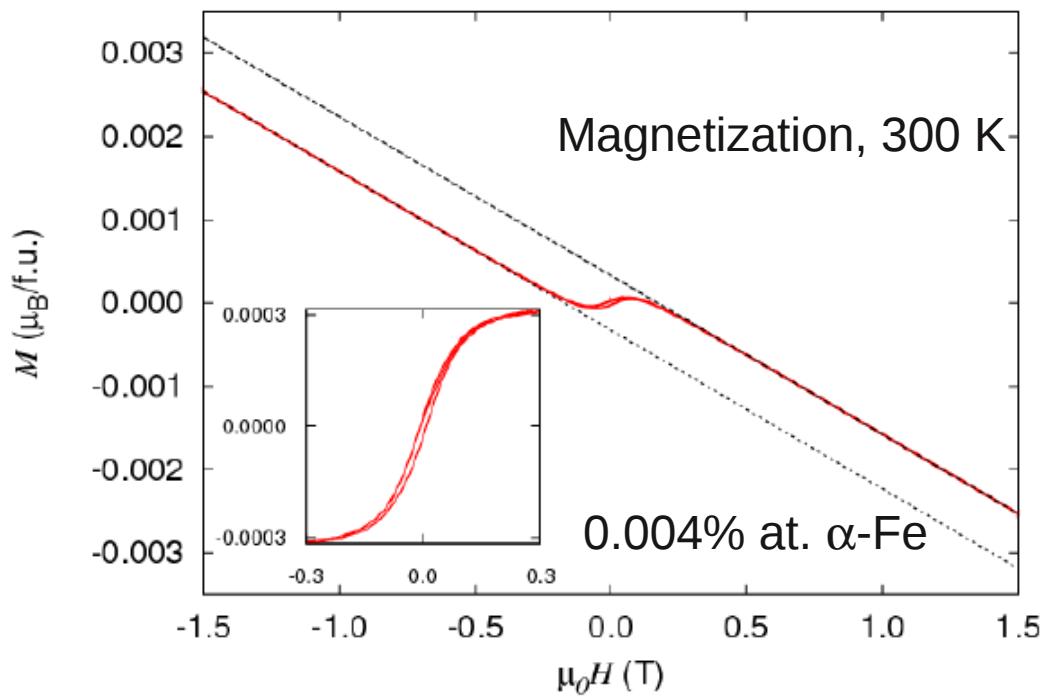
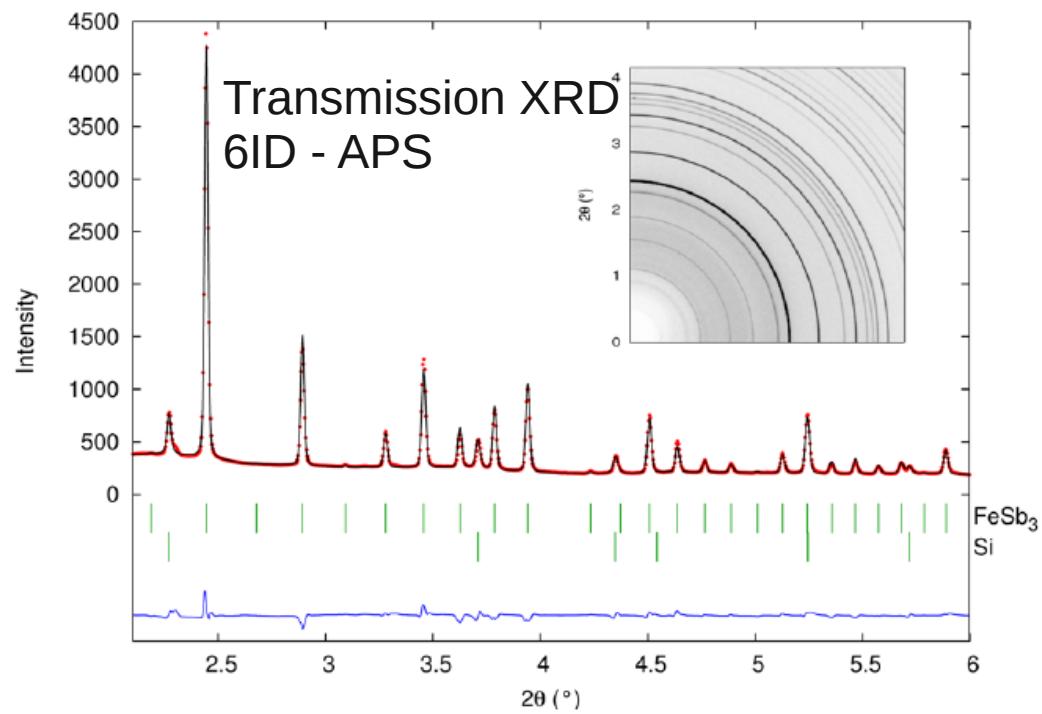


Moechel A., Sergueev I., Wille H.-C., Voigt J., Prager M., Stone M.B., Sales B.C., Guguchia Z., Shengelaya A., Keppens V., and Hermann R.P.

Lattice dynamics and anomalous softening in the  $\text{YbFe}_4\text{Sb}_{12}$  skutterudite

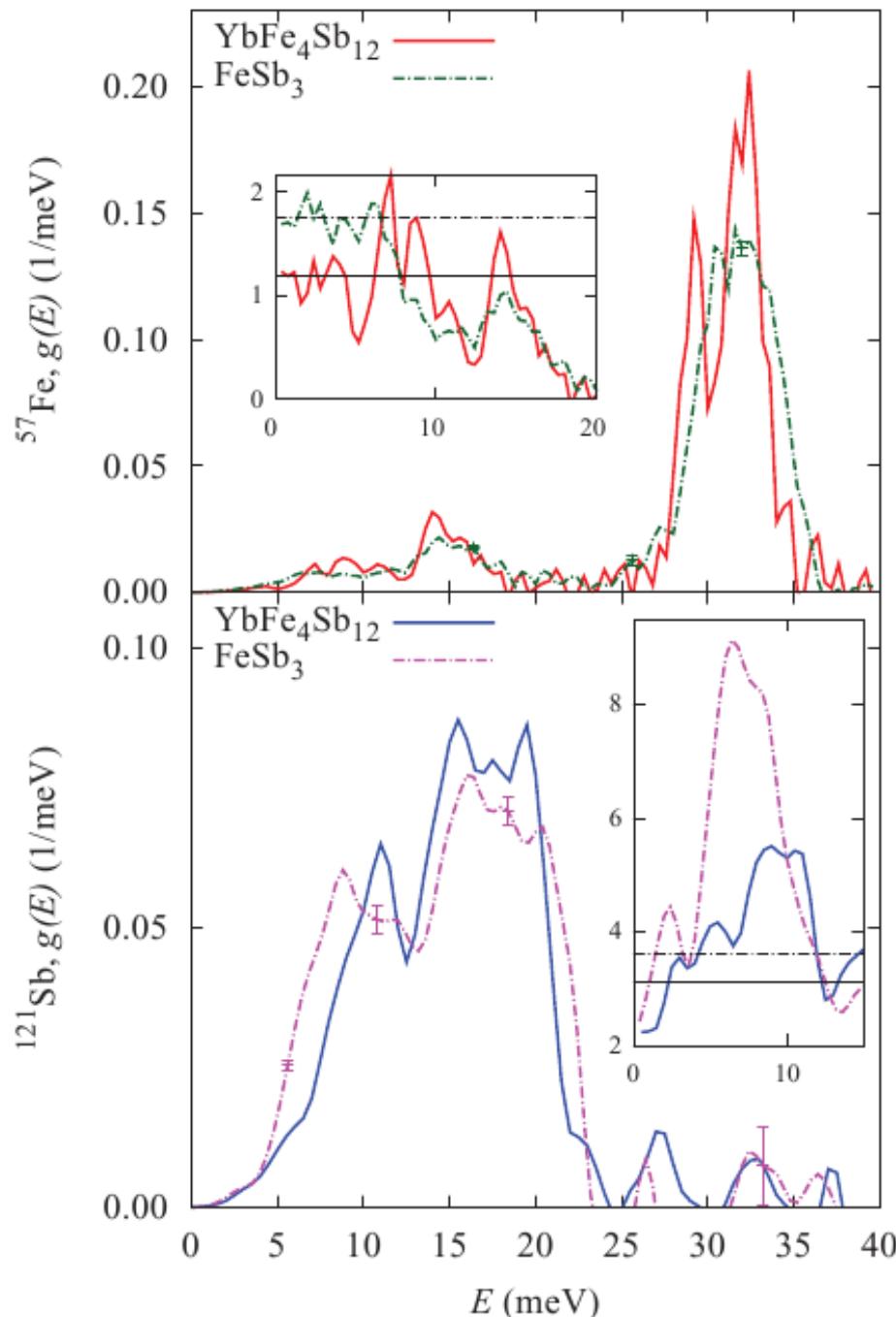
Phys. Rev B 84, 184306 (2011). Editor's Selection.

# $\text{FeSb}_3$ : Phase purity and properties ?



# Density of phonon states

1.5  $\mu\text{m}$  thick film deposited on kapton foil (David Johnson, U. Oregon).



$V_{\text{sound}} = 2500 \text{ m/s}$  in  $\text{YbFe}_4\text{Sb}_{12}$

$V_{\text{sound}} = 2390 \text{ m/s}$  in  $\text{FeSb}_3$

$V_{\text{sound}} = 2920 \text{ m/s}$  in  $\text{CoSb}_3$

$F(\text{Sb}) = 100 \text{ N/m}$  in  $\text{FeSb}_3$

$F(\text{Sb}) = 130 \text{ N/m}$  in  $\text{CoSb}_3$

→  $\text{FeSb}_3$  and  $\text{YbFe}_4\text{Sb}_{12}$  are significantly softer than  $\text{CoSb}_3$

→ Beyond filling with Yb, also the soft Fe-Sb framework contributes to the low thermal conductivity

# Outline

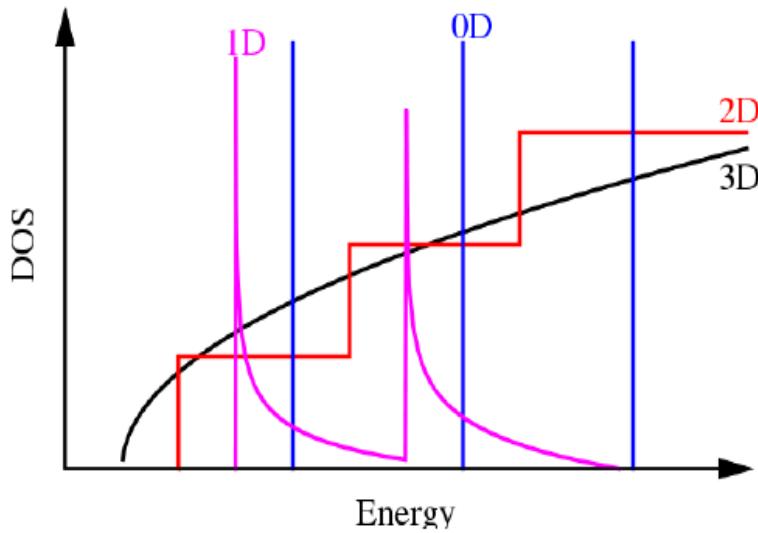
- JCNS-2: scattering methods for information and energy
- '*Lattice dynamics in functional materials*' group
- Thermoelectrics
- Nuclear resonance scattering
- Bulk thermoelectrics
- Nanostructured thermoelectrics

# Nanostructured thermoelectrics

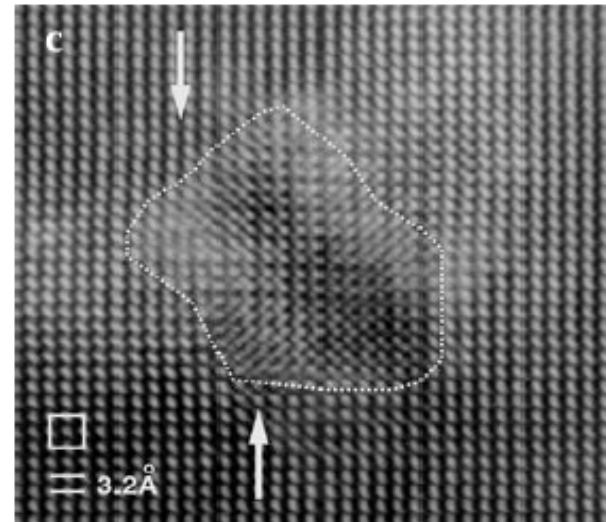
Key idea (Hicks, Dresselhaus, 1992):

Electronic band engineering

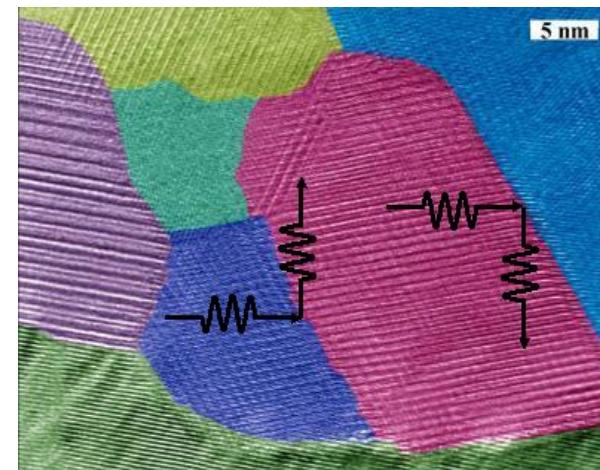
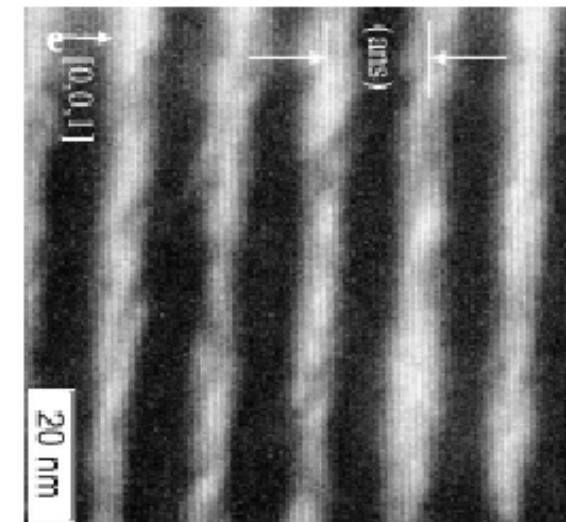
and phonon blocking



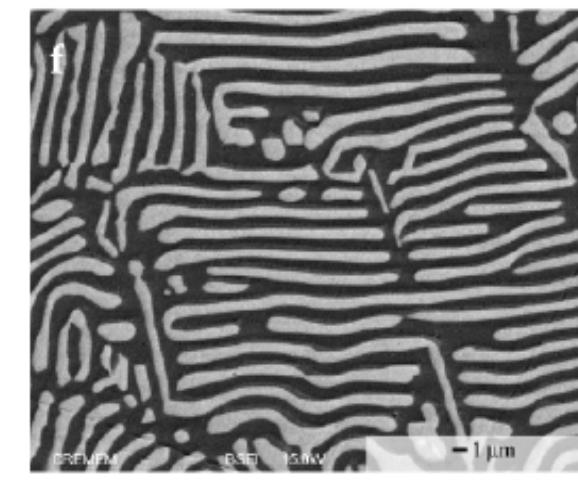
Embedded nanodots  
(Kanatzidis group)



Artificial nanostructures  
(N. Peranio, PhD diss., U. Tübingen)

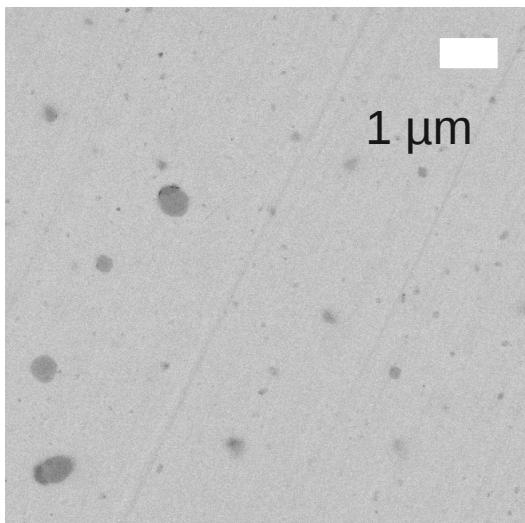


Nanocomposites  
(Poudel et al., Science 2008)



Self organization  
(Gorsse et al., Chem. Mater. 2009)

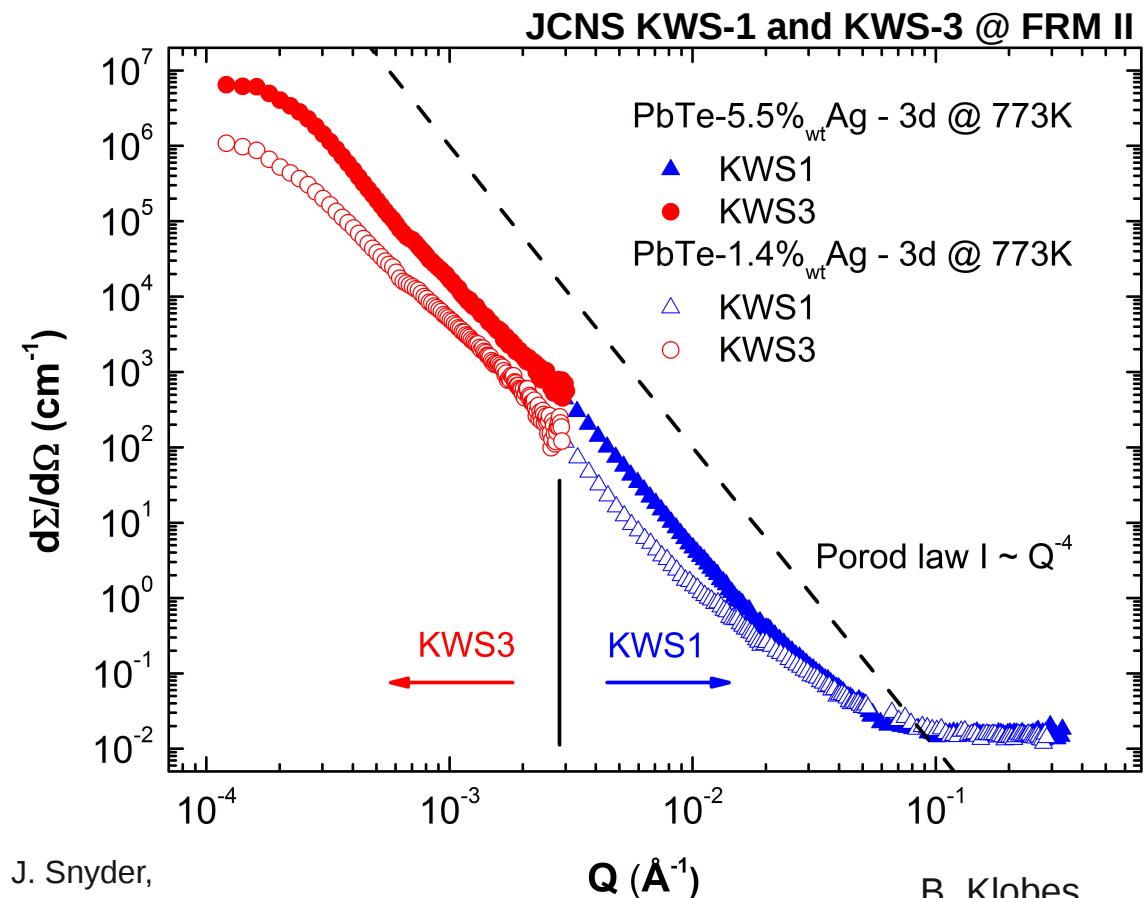
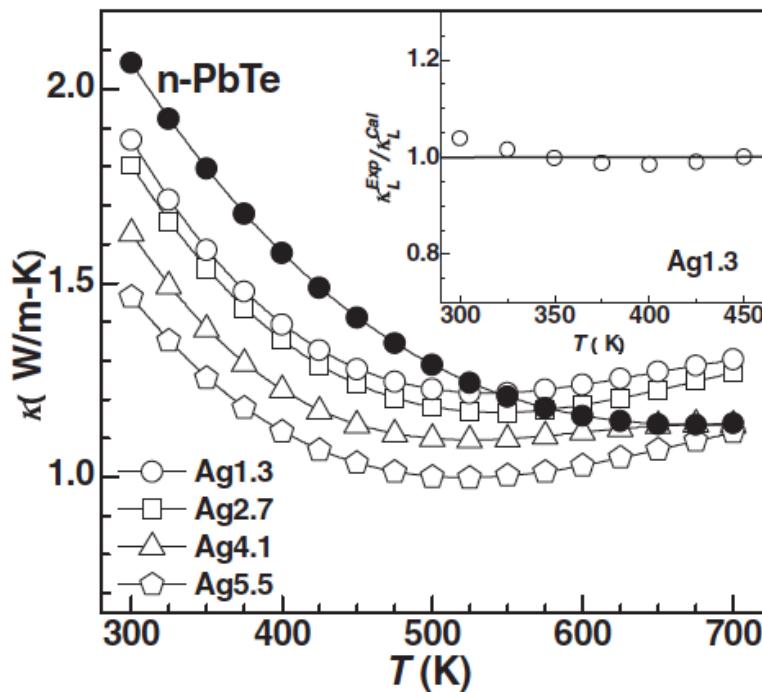
# Ag Microinclusions in PbTe



**Microstructure (coll. J. Snyder, CalTech)**

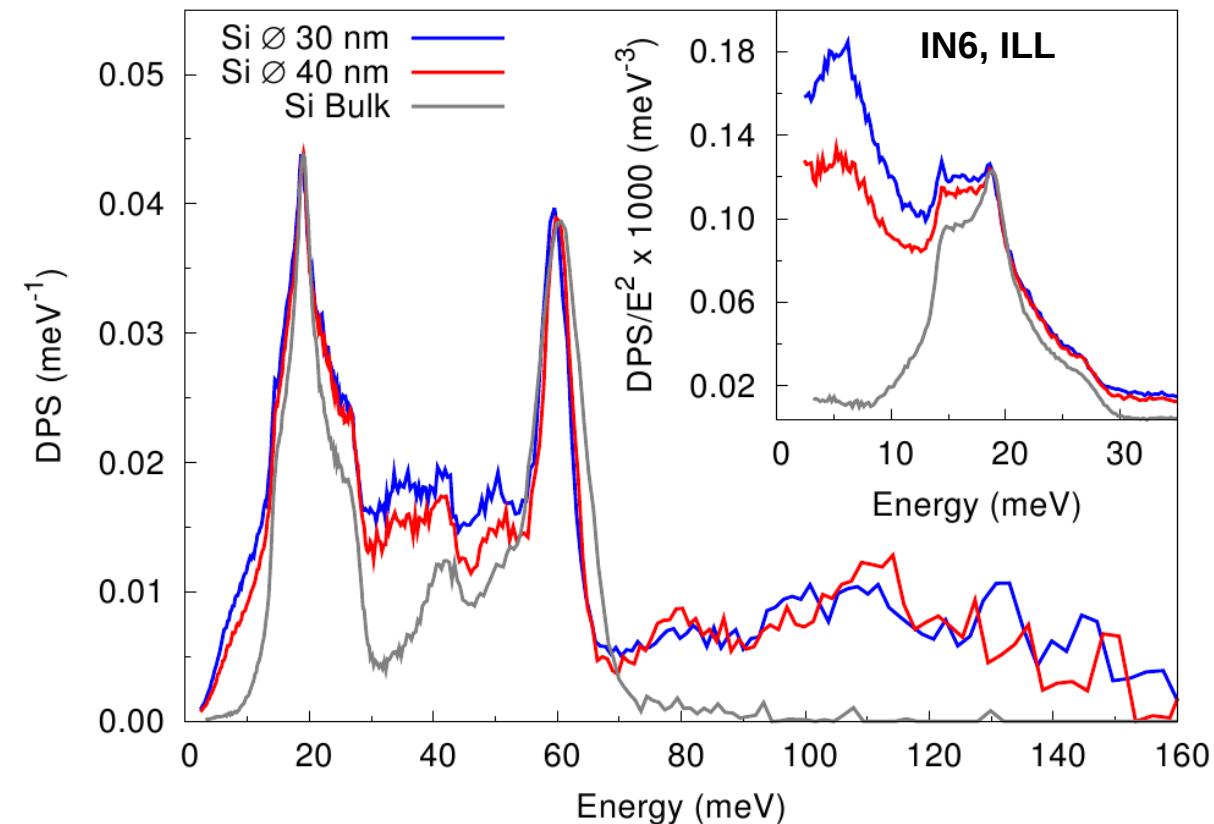
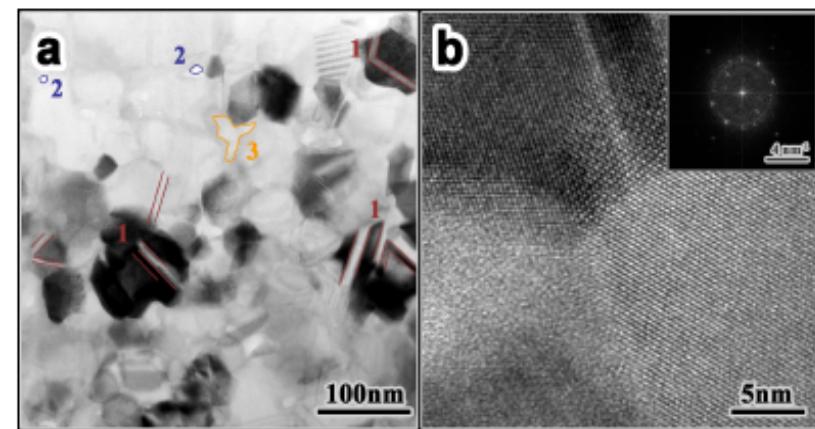
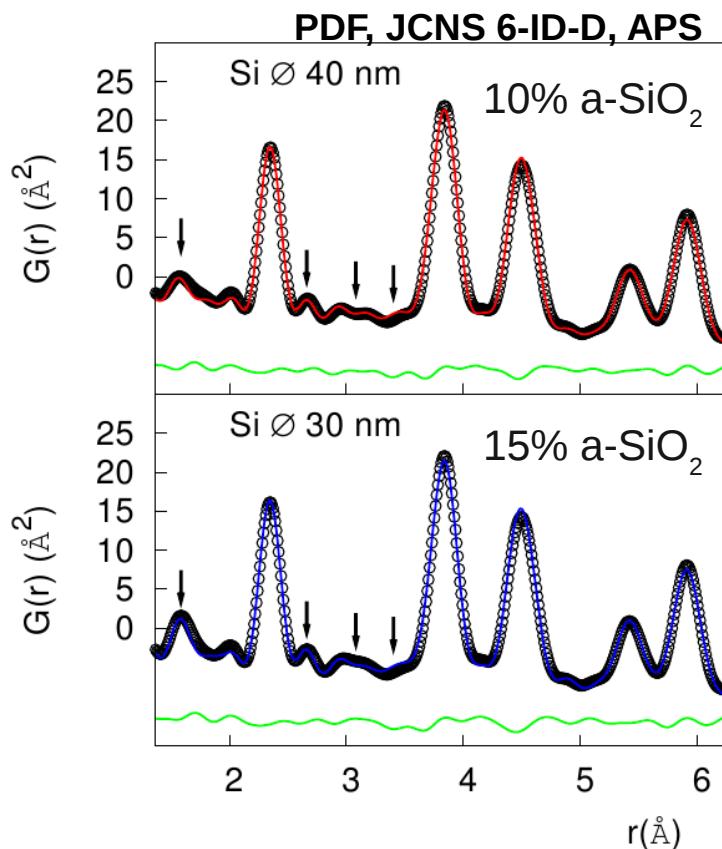
PbTe based alloys

**Can the thermal conductivity be correlated with the total internal surface?**



# Nanocrystalline silicon

**Nanocrystallinity** (coll. G Schierning, U Duisburg-Essen)  
spark plasma sintered



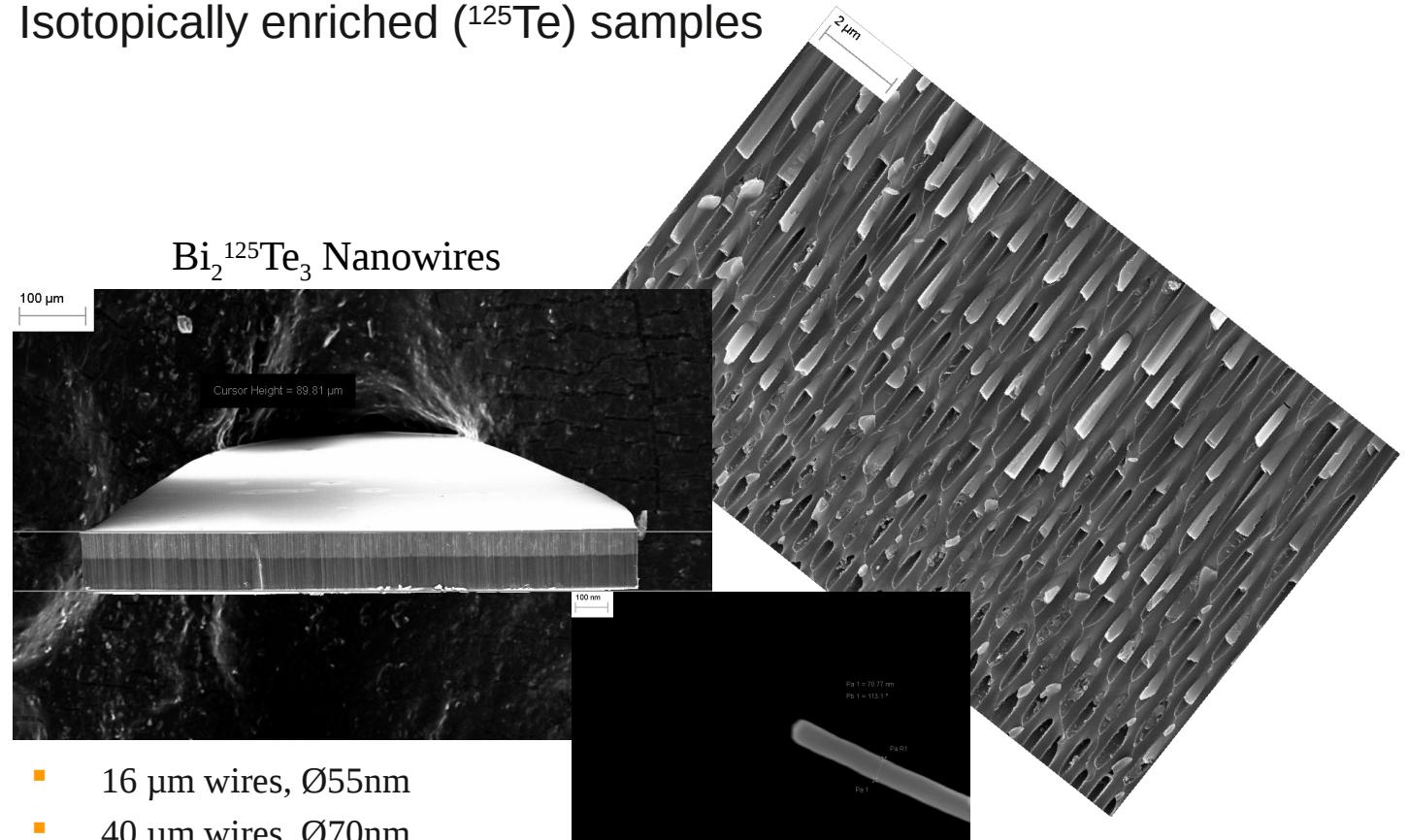
Reaching a quantitative analysis of  
the amorphous phase content,  
the impact of the nanostructures  
on the lattice dynamics

T. Claudio

# $\text{Bi}_2^{125}\text{Te}_3$ nanowires Ø55 nm



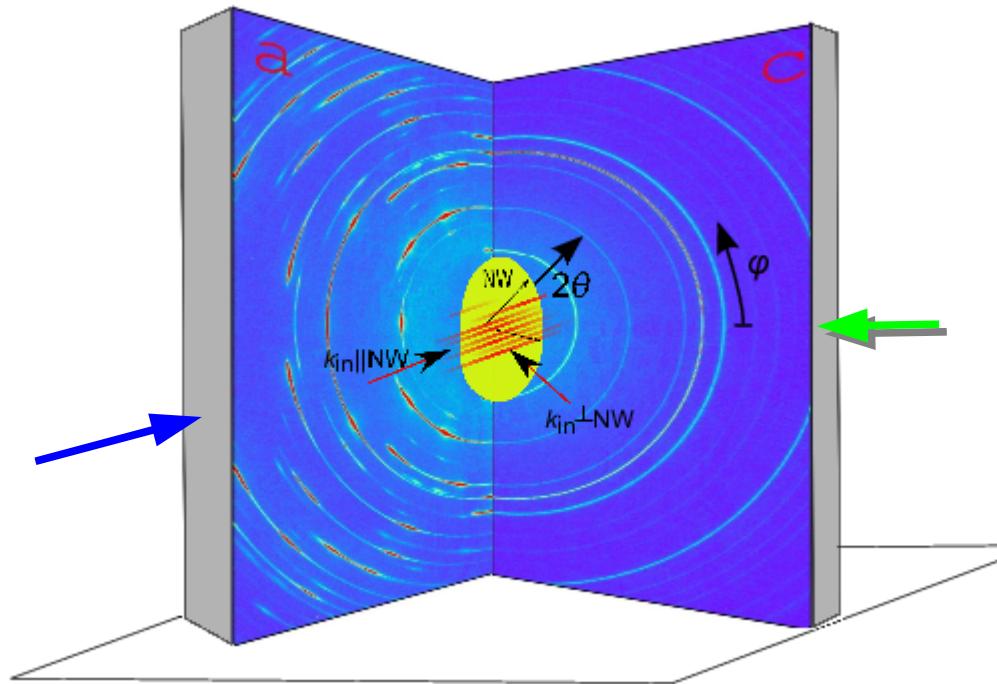
- Novel pulsed electrodeposition process using an anodic  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  template (amorphous)
- NW NOT removed from template
- Isotopically enriched ( $^{125}\text{Te}$ ) samples



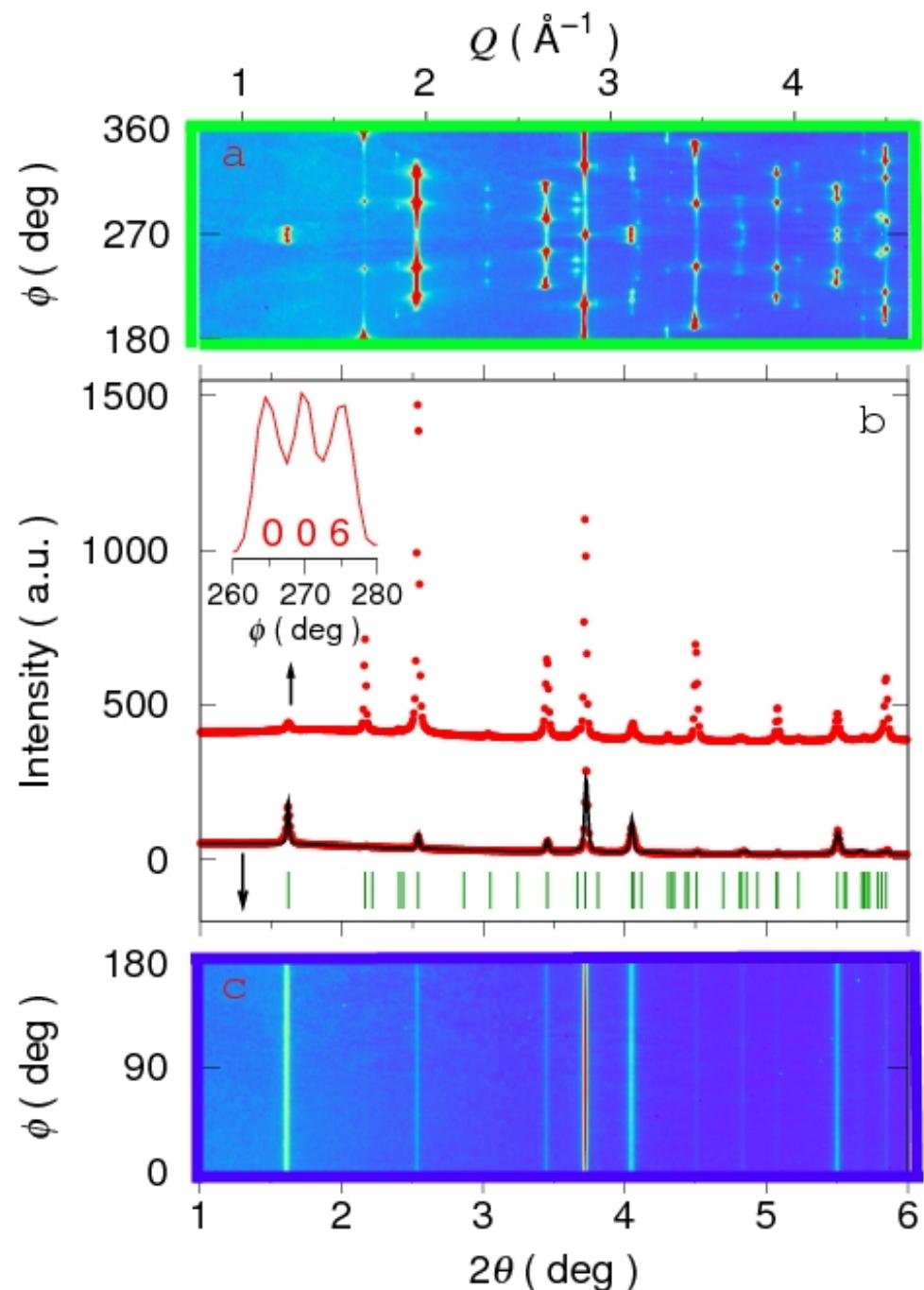
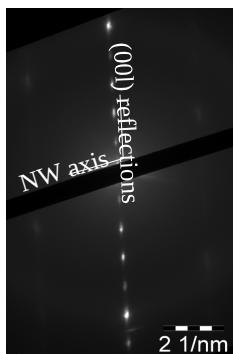
- 16  $\mu\text{m}$  wires, Ø55nm
- 40  $\mu\text{m}$  wires, Ø70nm
- 35  $\mu\text{m}$  wires, Ø250nm

\* W. Töllner, Prof. K. Nielsch, U. Hamburg

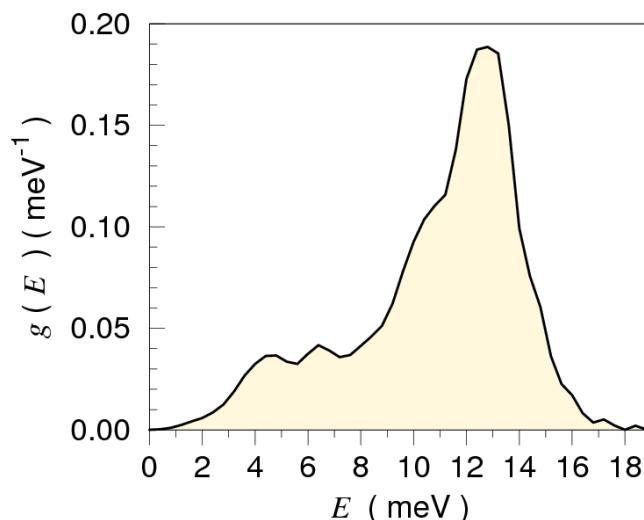
# $\text{Bi}_2^{125}\text{Te}_3$ nanowires Ø55 nm



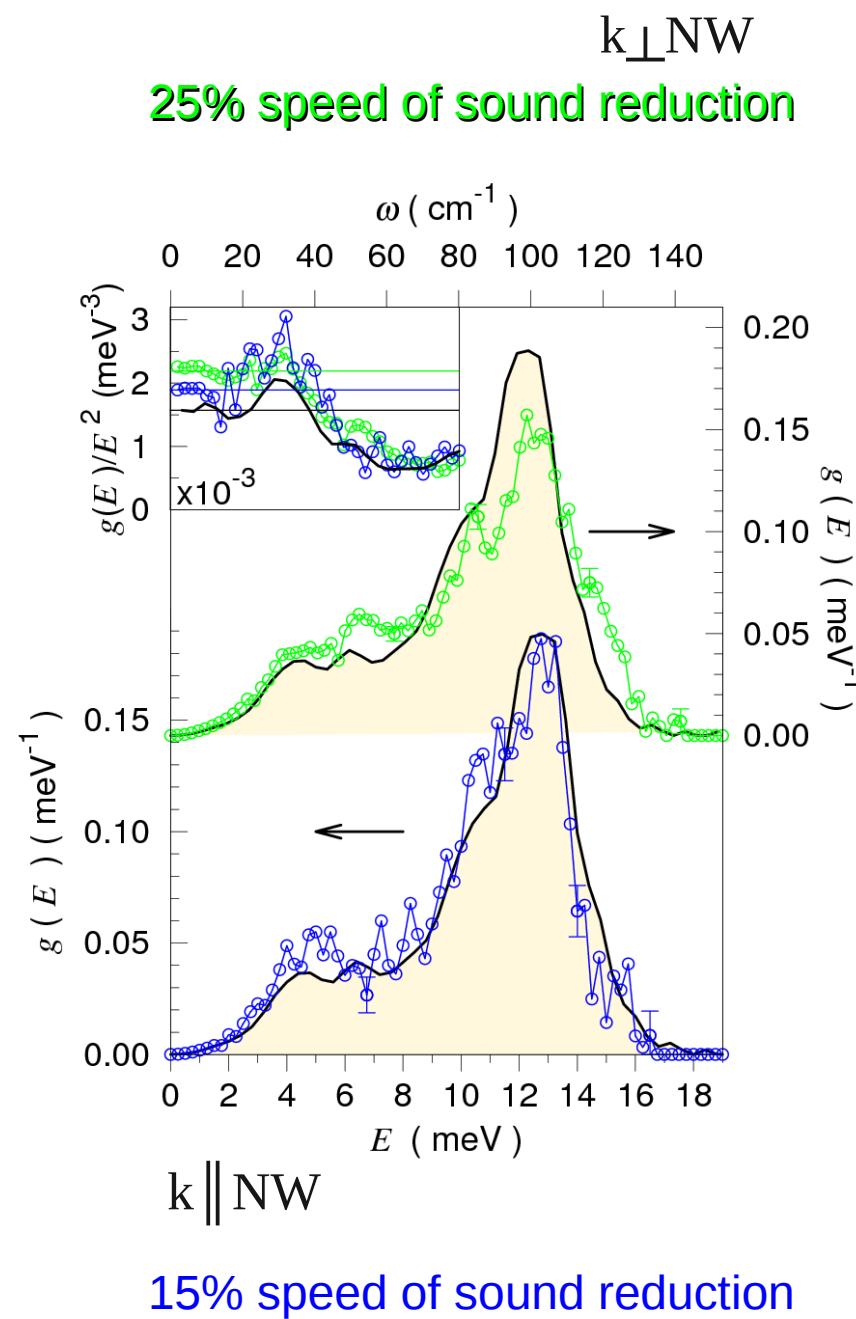
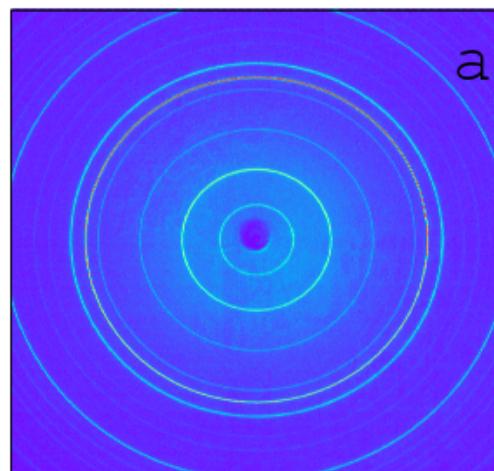
- NW are single crystalline with (0 0 1) twin boundaries
- Larger diameter NW are highly textured
- c-axis at 85 deg w/r to NW axis



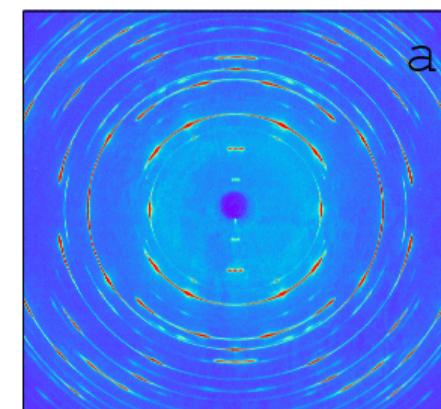
# $\text{Bi}_2^{125}\text{Te}_3$ nanowires Ø55 nm: $^{125}\text{Te}$ phonons



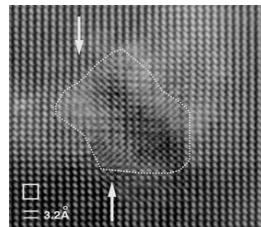
Bulk:  $v_s = 1750 \text{ km/s}$



15% speed of sound reduction

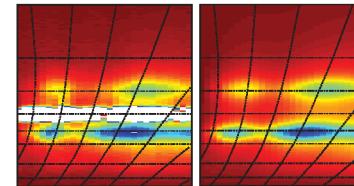
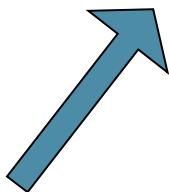


# Scattering methods



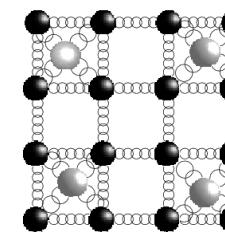
Kanatzidis et al.  
JACS 2005

## Materials



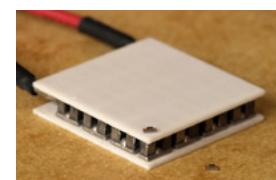
## Understanding

Where are the atoms?  
How do they move?



How does structure and  
dynamics affect the  
functionality?

## Optimization



## Applications

## Devices



Poudel et al. Science  
2008

# Acknowledgments

The Helmholtz Association for funding group VH-NG 407

DFG SPP1386 „Nanostrukturierte Thermoelektrika“

BMBF WInG Initiative, Projekt 03X3540B „NanoKoCh“

DFG SFB 917 „Nanoswitches“

Large scale facilities for access: ESRF, APS, Hasylab, SOLEIL, FRM II, ILL, SNS, SINQ

Prof. K. Nielsch, U. Hamburg

Prof. O. Eibl, U. Tübingen

Dr. H. Böttner, Fraunhofer IPM

Dr. E. Müller, DLR

Prof. Th. Höche, Fraunhofer IWM

Dr. A. Neubrand, Fraunhofer IWM

Prof. Ch. Elsässer, Fraunhofer IWM

Prof. M. Albrecht, TU Chemnitz

Dr. V. Pacheco, Fraunhofer IFAM

Prof. W. Tremel, U. Mainz

Prof. M. Wuttig, RWTH Aachen

Prof. R. Dronskowski, RWTH Aachen

Dr. E. Toimil-Molares, GSI Darmstadt

Dr. G. Schierning, U. Duisburg-Essen

Phase change materials

Prof. D. Johnson, U. Oregon

Prof. S. Kauzlarich, U.C. Davis

Prof. J. Snyder, CalTech

Dr. M. Christensen, Aarhus Universitet

Prof. A. Shengelaya, Tbilisi State University

Dr. B. C. Sales, ORNL

Prof. V. Keppens and D. Mandrus, U. Tennessee

Prof. G. Nolas, U. South Florida

Prof. L. Bergstrom, U. Stockholm

Prof. J. Gladden, U. Mississippi

Dr. R. Rüffer, Dr. A. Chumakov, ESRF

Dr. H.-C. Wille, Petra III

Dr. E. E. Alp, APS

Prof. H. Schober, Dr. M. Koza, ILL

Dr. F. Juranyi, SINQ, PSI



## Lattice Dynamics in Emerging Functional Materials Group

Thanks for your presence and attention



Raphaël Hermann  
Group Head



I. Sergeev  
Scientist



B. Klobes  
Post Doc.



P. Bauer Pereira  
PhD student



D. Bessas  
PhD student

### Former members



A. Houben  
(Möchel)



J. Gallus



T. Rademacher



T. Claudio Weber  
PhD student



M. Herlitschke  
PhD student



R. Simon  
PhD student



H. Williamson  
MSc Student