

AGH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

# Domieszki rezonansowe w materiałach termoelektrycznych – struktura elektronowa i własności transportowe.

**Bartłomiej Wiendlocha** 

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# Postępowanie habilitacyjne: cykl 12 publikacji (2011-2018),

dotyczących badania stanów rezonansowych w termoelektrykach

- [H1] C. M. Jaworski, B. Wiendlocha, V. Jovovic and J. P. Heremans, "Combining alloy scattering of phonons and resonant electronic levels to reach a high thermoelectric figure of merit in PbTeSe and PbTeS alloys" Energy & Environmental Science 4, 4155 (2011).
- [H2] C.M. Orovets, A.M. Chamoire, H. Jin, B. Wiendlocha and J.P. Heremans, "Lithium as an Interstitial Donor in Bismuth and Bismuth-Antimony Alloys", Journal of Electronic Materials 41, 1648 (2012).
- [H3] J. P. Heremans, B. Wiendlocha and A. M. Chamoire "Resonant levels in bulk thermoelectric semiconductors" Energy & Environmental Science 5, 5510 (2012).
- [H4] B. Wiendlocha, "Fermi surface and electron dispersion of PbTe doped with resonant Tl impurity from KKR-CPA calculations", Physical Review B 88, 205205 (2013).
- [H5] B. Wiendlocha, "Localization and magnetism of the resonant impurity states in Ti doped PbTe", Applied Physics Letters 105, 133901 (2014).
- [H6] S. Kim, B. Wiendlocha, H. Jin, J. Tobola, J.P. Heremans, "Electronic structure and thermoelectric properties of p-type Ag-doped Mg<sub>2</sub>Sn and Mg<sub>2</sub>Sn<sub>1-x</sub>Si<sub>x</sub> (x = 0.05, 0.1)", Journal of Applied Physics **116**, 153706 (2014).

- [H7] H. Jin, B. Wiendlocha and J. P. Heremans, "P-type doping of elemental bismuth with indium, gallium and tin: a novel doping mechanism in solids" Energy & Environmental Science 8, 2027 (2015).
- [H8] B. Wiendlocha, K. Kutorasiński, S. Kaprzyk, J. Tobola, "Recent progress in calculations of electronic and transport properties of disordered thermoelectric materials", Scripta Materialia 111, 33 (2016).
- [H9] B. Wiendlocha, "Resonant Levels, Vacancies, and Doping in Bi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>3</sub>, Bi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>2</sub>Se, and Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> Tetradymites", Journal of Electronic Materials 45, 3515 (2016).
- [H10] J.P. Heremans, B. Wiendlocha, H. Jin, Thermoelectric Materials with Resonant States, rozdział rozdział 11.3 (strony 441 - 451) w monografii Advanced Thermoelectrics: Materials, Contacts, Devices, and Systems, ed. Z. Ren, Y. Lan, Qi. Zhang, CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group, Boca Raton, FL (USA), 2018.
- [H11] B. Wiendlocha, J-B. Vaney, C. Candolfi, A. Dauscher, B. Lenoir, and J. Tobola, "An Sn-induced resonant level in β-As<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>3</sub>", Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics 20, 12948 (2018).
- [H12] B. Wiendlocha, "Thermopower of thermoelectric materials with resonant levels: PbTe:Tl versus PbTe:Na and  $Cu_{1-x}Ni_x$ ", Physical Review B 97, 205203 (2018).



0. Krótkie wprowadzenie – metody, materiały termoelektryczne

1. Stan rezonansowy (RL) na przykładzie Cu-Ni i PbTe:Tl.

Kontrowersje wokół RL, wpływ na strukturę elektronową, problem

pasma domieszkowego i lokalizacji, termosiła

2. RL jako nowy mechanizm domieszkowania (Bizmut + In, Ga, Sn)

3. Poszukiwanie nowych domieszek rezonansowych: stop Bi-Sb,

tetradymity (Bi2Te3), Mg2Sn



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# Collaboration

Faculty of Physics and Applied Computer
 Science, AGH University of Science and
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 prof. Janusz Toboła

prof. Stanisław Kaprzyk

#### (KKR-CPA calculations)

Department of Mechanical & Aerospace
Engineering, Ohio State University,
Columbus, Ohio (USA): prof. Joseph P.
Heremans and his group

#### (experiment)

• Institut Jean Lamour, Nancy (France):

prof. Bertrand Lenoir and his group

#### (experiment)





• **DFT – density functional theory –** single-partice description of the electronic structure of solids. *Ab iniito* calculations, input = crystal structure parameters.

$$\mathcal{H}\Psi(\boldsymbol{r}_1,\ldots,\boldsymbol{r}_N) = E\Psi(\boldsymbol{r}_1,\ldots,\boldsymbol{r}_N) \quad \square \qquad \left[-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\nabla^2 + V(\vec{r})\right]\Psi(\vec{r}) = E\Psi(\vec{r})$$

• Schrödinger equation (+ relativistic corrections & spin-orbit coupling) with the effective potential, which is a functional of electrons' density.

•  $V = V_{jon} + V_{el/gaz} + V_{xc}$  all the difficult terms in the exchange-correlation (XC) potential, which is expected to be smaller, than other terms

• XC treated in the local density approximation (LDA)  $E_{xc} \propto n(r)^{\alpha}$ or generalized gradient approximation (GGA)  $E_{xc} \propto [n(r)^{\alpha}, \nabla n(r)]$ 



# **DFT implementations: KKR-CPA & LAPW**

• **KKR-CPA method** (Korringa-Kohn-Rostoker with Coherent Potential Approximation) computer codes: Krakow AGH-UST, S. Kaprzyk and Munich SPRKKR, H. Ebert)

• Doped crystal: no periodicity - CPA:





Green function of the "CPA atom" (self-consistent)

$$\langle G \rangle = x_A G^A + x_B G^B$$

No additional scattering on average if "CPA atom" replaced by A/B

CPA: brings back the periodicity - No supercells any concentration 0-100% of impurity in the same primitive cell From GF we can get many single-particle properties (DOS, BSF,..)

• Complementary calculations & relaxation effects: FP-LAPW method, pure crystals

(possible doping via supercells), Wien2k code (P. Blaha et al, Vienna)



**Seebeck effect** - potential gradient from temperature gradient **Peltier effect** – cooling of one side due to current flow





**AGH** how is zT related to efficiency? any why optimization is difficult?



$$zT = \frac{S^2 \sigma}{\kappa} T \quad S = -\frac{1}{eT} \frac{L^{(1)}}{L^{(0)}} \qquad L^0 = \sigma$$
$$L^n = \int dE \left(-\frac{\partial f}{\partial E}\right) (E - \mu_c)^n \sigma(E)$$

related quantities:

large  $\sigma$  – small S: small Power Factor S<sup>2</sup> $\sigma$ large  $\sigma$  – large  $\kappa$ : small zT

Possible ways of improving TE materials:
1) reduction of the thermal conductivity (e.g. nanostructuring)
2) "band engineering" to improve PF



best TE: doped semiconductors

standard strategy to optimize the TE properties: tune the carrier concentration via doping

$$\sigma \propto \frac{ne^2\tau}{m^*} \quad zT = \frac{S^2\sigma}{\kappa}T$$

$$S = -\frac{1}{eT} \frac{L^{(1)}}{L^{(0)}} \qquad L^0 = \sigma$$
$$L^n = \int dE \left( -\frac{\partial f}{\partial E} \right) (E - \mu_c)^n \sigma(E)$$

metal S ~ 1-10 μV/K (300 K) semiconductors: 50-300 μV/K (300 K)

#### **Problem:**

#### how to beat the Pisarenko relation ?!

Charge carrier concentration



Pisarenko curve: S(n,p)



**TE generators:** 

**RTG in space** 

applications

2011, PbTe

waste heat recovery

**Mars Rover Curiosity** 

**Thermal Management.** Thermoelectric Generator.



Cryogenic cooling of detectors



Power Pot





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#### **Motivation: PbTe:Tl**

#### increase of thermopower after TI doping

#### • Thermoelectric community: 2% Tl doped PbTe

J.P. Heremans et al. Science (2008) increase in thermopower and zT due to "resonant distortion of electronic DOS"



PbTe, fcc rock salt structure

# Enhancement of Thermoelectric Efficiency in PbTe by Distortion of the Electronic Density of States

Joseph P. Heremans,<sup>1,2</sup>\* Vladimir Jovovic,<sup>1</sup> Eric S. Toberer,<sup>3</sup> Ali Saramat,<sup>3</sup> Ken Kurosaki,<sup>4</sup> Anek Charoenphakdee,<sup>4</sup> Shinsuke Yamanaka,<sup>4</sup> G. Jeffrey Snyder<sup>3</sup>\*



since 2011: my collaboration with JP Heremans' group 3x at OSU as a postdoctoral researcher



#### **Motivation: PbTe:Tl**

# iH increase of thermopower after TI doping

• Original explanation: "distortion" of DOS due to resonant state – increase in DOS at EF by DOS peak from resonant impurity **A** $S = \frac{\pi^2}{3} \frac{k_B}{q} k_B T \left\{ \frac{d[\ln(\sigma(E))]}{dE} \right\}_{E=E_F} = \frac{\pi^2}{3} \frac{k_B}{q} k_B T \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \frac{dn(E)}{dE} + \frac{1}{\mu} \frac{d\mu(E)}{dE} \right\}_{E=E_F}$ 

equivalent to increase in m\*

$$S = \frac{8\pi^2 k_B^2 T}{3qh^2} m_d^* \left(\frac{\pi}{3n}\right)^{2/3} \quad \mathbf{m}^*$$



#### • Questioning of RL mechanism of S enhancement:

•Resonance = strong scattering, mobility reduction, bad for TE

•Peak in DOS – localized states, do not take part in transport, or

form a narrow impurity band. Narrow band = small  $\sigma$ .

Two band system with 1 being narrow = no increase in S

$$S = \frac{\sigma_1 S_1 + \sigma_2 S_2}{\sigma_1 + \sigma_2}$$



#### **Goal of my research**

**1)** To investigate from first principle calculations, how RL modifies electronic structure of the studied material

2) To verify whether RL may indeed increase the thermopower in semiconductor (counterarguments of localized states & narrow impurity band)

3) To search for new resonant impurities



# "Classical" vs resonant impurity: DOS

- "Classical" impurity: (rigid-band-like) does not change (much) the host band structure, adds carriers (e.g. Na:PbTe)
- **Resonant impurity:** resonant level (RL) or "virtual bound state" (Friedel, 1956), may lead to strong modifications of host bandstructure and resonant scattering (first works on diluted metallic alloys)
- Fingerprint: peak in DOS (diluted concentration ~0.1%)
- Very often in (semi)magnetic semiconductors HgSe:Fe, PbTe:Cr... (PAS, Warsaw!)

#### Possible effects:

- → strong (resonant) scattering (s-d in Cu-Ni)
- magnetism (semi)magnetic semiconductors
- → charge trap, EF in the gap (In in PbTe)
- → increase of thermopower in low T (HgSe:Fe) or high T (PbTe:Tl, SnTe:In, Bi2Te3:Sn,...)
- → superconductivity (?)





# Example of Constantan (Cu-Ni)

Cu-Ni alloy, Ni concentrations 35-50%, one of the **best TE among metallic alloys**, thermocouples



• Photoemission spectra of Cu-Ni alloy - does not follow the rigid band model

PHYSICAL REVIEW B

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 6 15 SEPTEMB

Photoemission and Optical Studies of Cu-Ni Alloys. I. Cu-Rich Alloys\*



FIG. 10. Comparison of EDCs for Cu, 77% Cu. The curves are normalized to their respective yields. The energy position of structure from the Cu d states ( $E_i < -2$  eV) remains constant; the buildup of structure at -1.0 eV is due to Ni d electrons in virtual-bound-type states. (expected shift in EF)



described in ~.70 using KKR-CPA papers by Butler, Stocks, Gyorffy, Ehrenreich, Faulkner,...

resonant state (virtual bound state) is formedPeak from the rapid change of the phase shift



# Example of Constantan (Cu-Ni)

Cu-Ni alloy, Ni concentrations 35-50%, one of the **best TE among metallic alloys**, thermocouples



#### • Ni Resonant level from KKR-CPA





# "Classical" vs resonant impurity: bands

AGH Bands: disordered system - no Bloch states - E(k) not defined (in general)

#### **Bloch spectral functions :**





# "Classical" vs resonant impurity: bands

AGH Bands: disordered system - no Bloch states – E(k) not defined (in general)

#### **Bloch spectral functions :**





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# Example of Constantan (Cu-Ni)

Cu-Ni alloy, Ni concentrations 35-50%, one of the **best TE among metallic alloys**, thermocouples



#### • Ni Resonant level from KKR-CPA





# Example of Constantan (Cu-Ni)

how to deal with conductivity in such a disordered system?

**Problem** with the Boltzmann approach:  $\sigma(\mathscr{E}) = e^2 \sum \int \frac{d\mathbf{k}}{4\pi^3} \tau_n(\mathbf{k}) \mathbf{v}_n(\mathbf{k}) \otimes \mathbf{v}_n(\mathbf{k}) \delta(\mathscr{E} - \mathscr{E}_n(\mathbf{k}))$ no band center – how to calculate velocity (gradient of E(k))

#### In a case of a strongly scattering system (resonant levels):

Kubo-Greenwood formalism in KKR-CPA

$$\sigma_{\mu\nu} = \frac{\hbar}{\pi N\Omega} \operatorname{Tr} \langle \hat{j}_{\mu} \Im G^{+}(E_{\mathrm{F}}) \, \hat{j}_{\nu} \Im G^{+}(E_{\mathrm{F}}) \rangle_{c}$$

- This way you may compute  $\sigma(E)$  function at
- T = 0 K with no external parameters.
- $1/\sigma(E_F)$  is the residual resistivity
- Then we may compute the thermopower:

$$\sigma = L^{(0)}, \quad S = -\frac{1}{eT} \frac{L^{(1)}}{L^{(0)}}$$
$$L^{(\alpha)} = \int dE \left(-\frac{\partial f}{\partial E}\right) (E - \mu_c)^{\alpha} \sigma(E)$$





# Cu-Ni alloy & resonances

- transport properties dominated by the strong scattering on the resonance  $ne^2 \tau$ 

$$\sigma(E) \propto 1/n(E) \quad \sigma \propto \frac{ne}{m}$$

• very good agreement of the computed thermopower with experiment, even though phonons are neglected ( $\tau_{ph} >> \tau_e$ ) ( $1/\tau = 1/\tau_{ph} + 1/\tau_e = 1/\tau_e$ )







100

200

T (K)

-10

-20

 $(\underline{y}^{-30})^{-30}$  $(\underline{y}^{-40})^{-50}$ 

-60

-70

-80

0



→Strongly smeared band structure due to presence of RL
 →KKR-CPA + Kubo formalism works very well for metallic alloys with resonant states

→Large thermopower due to the strong dependence of the relaxation time on energy

=> But this is a concentrated alloy (30-50 % of "dopant") May we apply similar approach to semiconductors (with max. 1-2% of dopants?)



#### **PbTe:Tl vs PbTe:Na – density of states**





### **PbTe:Tl vs PbTe:Na – density of states**

Larger dopant concentration – RL peak broadens & forms a "DOS hump"



Effect of TI = increase of DOS from redistribution of electronic states, transferred from lower-lying parts

Important: in 2% TI-doped PbTe (most likely) carrier concentration is modified by

Te vacancies, taken into account in our studies

AGH





→Non-Lorentzian BSF with a shoulder→Strong band blurring



 $L(E) = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{\frac{1}{2}\Gamma}{(E - E_0)^2 + (\frac{1}{2}\Gamma)^2}$  $\hbar$  $\tau =$  $\overline{\Gamma}$ 

#### AGH spectral functions & life time



#### weak scattering from Na

#### strong reduction of the life time





2-band system:  $S = \frac{\sigma_1 S_1 + \sigma_2 S_2}{\sigma_1 + \sigma_2}$ 

No enhancement in S if  $\sigma_1 << \sigma_2$ 

Spectral functions are able to investigate this problem: counter-example of PbTe:Titanium, where an impurity band is formed – see B. Wiendlocha, APL 2014





## **Transport function & residual resistivity PbTe:Tl vs Na**

conductivity calculated at T = 0 K (Kubo formalism), takes into account scattering on impurities and RL



# Transport function & residual resistivity PbTe:Tl vs Na

residual resistivity: comparison with experiment

AGH

#### independent proof of resonant level

x Tl	y Vac	p	$ ho_0^{ m calc}$	$ ho_0^{ m expt}$
(%)	(%)	$(\mathrm{cm}^{-3})$	$(\mathrm{m}\Omega\mathrm{cm})$	$({ m m}\Omega{ m cm})$
2.0	0.00	$3.0\cdot10^{20}$	0.49	
2.0	0.66	$1.0\cdot 10^{20}$	0.85	$\sim 1 \; [11]$
2.0	0.83	$5.0\cdot10^{19}$	1.37	
1.6	0.49	$9.1\cdot 10^{19}$	0.89	$0.70 \pm 0.10$ [64]
1.4	0.35	$1.0\cdot 10^{20}$	0.80	$0.90 \pm 0.10 \; [12,  71]$
1.3	0.31	$1.0\cdot 10^{20}$	0.81	$0.80 \pm 0.15$ [71]
1.1	0.24	$9.2\cdot10^{19}$	0.83	0.77 - 0.95 [34, 71]
x Tl	$y \mathrm{S}$			
2.0	8.0	$3.0\cdot10^{20}$	0.54	
x Na				
1.0		$1.5\cdot 10^{20}$	0.025	0.034 [72]

- → relatively good agreement
- independent proof for the existence of resonant state =

30x difference in  $\rho\,$  between Na and TI doping

 $\rightarrow$  support for the self-compensation model ( $\rho$  would be too small)



**Thermopower calculations & comparison with** 

#### experiment – PbTe:Tl vs Na

→ **Confirmation** of the relative increase of *S* between TI and Na doping





#### **Thermopower calculations & comparison with**

#### experiment – PbTe:Tl vs Na

→ Systematic overestimation of S comparing to experiment









However, this is a systematic error, present in both cases, so it does not affect the conclusion on a relative increase of the thermopower due to resonant state





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#### **#1 summary: PbTe:Tl**

#### **AGH** Resonant level may increase thermopower of semiconductors

• "Delocalized" resonant level does not form an impurity band (in PbTe:Tl) (important counter-example of PbTe:Titanium, where an impurity band is

formed – see B. Wiendlocha, APL 2014)

- Transfer of electronic states towards the valence band edge increase in the number of carriers thermopower enhancement
- Comparison of PbTe:Tl with PbTe:Na enhancement of *S* confirmed quantitatively, in spite of the stronger scattering on RL
- independent evidence of RL analysis of the residual resistivity



#### PHYSICAL REVIEW B 97, 205203 (2018)

#### Thermopower of thermoelectric materials with resonant levels: PbTe:Tl versus PbTe:Na and $Cu_{1-x}Ni_x$

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(Received 16 February 2018; published 9 May 2018)

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 88, 205205 (2013)

#### Fermi surface and electron dispersion of PbTe doped with resonant Tl impurity from KKR-CPA calculations

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APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS 105, 133901 (2014)



#### Localization and magnetism of the resonant impurity states in Ti doped PbTe

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#### #2: RL as a novel doping mechanism – Bismuth + In, Ga, Sn



# Different aspect of RL – novel doping mechanism (?) in Bi:In

Energy & Environmental Science



PAPER



View Article Online View Journal | View Issue



P-type doping of elemental bismuth with indium, gallium and tin: a novel doping mechanism in solids<sup>†</sup>

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Ashcroft & Mermin, "Solid State Physics"

# Single crystals of Bi:In - sample preparation

Bi as a starting point to optimize Bi-Sb alloy (best TE for cryogenic applications): Bi1-xSbx ( $zT \sim 0.5$  @ T < 200K)

- Pure Bi (5N), and 0.09%, 0.4% indium doped single crystalline Bi
  - Grown by modified horizontal Bridgman method
- Samples were cleaved along trigonal plane
- XRD measurements to detect single crystal peaks







#### Indium is an acceptor in bismuth



Sample	$(10^{17} \text{cm-3})$	$(10^{17} \text{cm-3})$	$(10^{17} \text{cm-3})$
0.09% In	0.74	3.2	3.94
0.4% In	0.58	6.5	7.08

Assuming rigid band model

11.5

21.9

12.09

0.4% In

 $\Delta \left(\frac{1}{B}\right) = \frac{2\pi e}{hc} \frac{1}{A_{\rm F}}$ 

pure Bi

Ρ

 $(10^{17} \text{cm}-3)$ 

2.93

3.88

7.69



# How come indium is an acceptor in bismuth?



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#### **Doping via deep RL**





- Hyperdeep defect state (HDS) deprives of two electrons from the main valence block! (including 1 from Bi)
- Deep RL as a source of p-type doping
- Near EF "local" rigid band



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#### **Charge density distribution**



Indium is both an acceptor (via deep RL) and "neutral" impurity (3 valence electrons)

+1.73e-03

+2.08e-02

+2.50e-01

Bi(2)

+1.00e-06

+1.20e-05

+1.44e-04

Bi(2)



# **Revisit Bi:Sn**

- Similar effect (theory and experiment) for Bi:Ga (isoelectronic)
- Sn has been known as a classical monovalent acceptor in Bi since 1960.
- Here, we show that Sn is not a simple acceptor impurity!

- Similar behavior with In and Ga in Bi
- Doping through HDS, but here Sn is not neutral (4 valence e)





## #2 summary: Bi:In

- Indium is an **isovalent acceptor** in bismuth
  - More Indium, higher hole concentration
- We suggest doping through formation of a hyperdeep RL as a new doping mechanism
- Allows to avoid an ionized impurity scattering
- Mechanism more general similar for Sn and Ga in Bi
- Indium introduces neutral impurity scattering over wide temperature range
  - Enhanced  $S \rightarrow zT^{\uparrow}$



#### **#3: search for new resonant impurities in thermoelectrics**





300



#### → Identification of RL on Sn in $As_2Te_3$



#### An Sn-induced resonant level in $\beta$ -As<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>3</sub>

Bartlomiej Wiendlocha, 🛑 \*<sup>a</sup> Jean-Baptiste Vaney,<sup>b</sup> Christophe Candolfi, ២<sup>b</sup> Anne Dauscher,<sup>b</sup> Bertrand Lenoir<sup>b</sup> and Janusz Tobola 🝺<sup>a</sup>

→ theoretical predictions of RLs (Sn, Al, Ga) for Bi<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>, Bi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>2</sub>Se and Bi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>3</sub>



 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Journal of ELECTRONIC MATERIALS, Vol. 45, No. 7, 2016} \\ DOI: 10.1007/s11664-016-4502-9 \\ \hline C \ 2016 \ The \ Author(s). \ This \ article \ is \ published \ with \ open \ access \ at \ Springerlink.com \end{array}$ 

# Resonant Levels, Vacancies, and Doping in $Bi_2Te_3$ , $Bi_2Te_2Se$ , and $Bi_2Se_3$ Tetradymites

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→ Ambiguous behavior of Ag in  $Mg_2Sn$ 

(RL on Sn site, rigid-band on Mg site)



JOURNAL OF APPLIED PHYSICS 116, 153706 (2014)

![](_page_51_Picture_5.jpeg)

#### Electronic structure and thermoelectric properties of p-type Ag-doped $Mg_2Sn$ and $Mg_2Sn_{1-x}Si_x$ (x = 0.05, 0.1)

Sunphil Kim,<sup>1</sup> Bartlomiej Wiendlocha,<sup>1,2,a)</sup> Hyungyu Jin,<sup>1</sup> Janusz Tobola,<sup>2</sup> and Joseph P. Heremans<sup>1,3,b)</sup>

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![](_page_51_Figure_10.jpeg)

52

![](_page_52_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### **Resonant levels are interesting!**

- *Delocalized* resonant level may increase thermopower
- Deep resonant level may lead to isovalent doping mechanism
- Calculations are able to predict existence of new RLs

# Thank you for your attention!