

# Exploiting Oxide Thermoelectrics

**Ryoji Funahashi**

***1 Natl. Inst. of Adv. Ind. Sci. & Tech.  
2 CREST, Jpn Sci. and Tech. Agency  
Ikeda, Osaka, Japan***

# The 32nd International Conference on Thermoelectrics

**30<sup>th</sup> June – 4<sup>th</sup> July in Kobe**

Participant: 745

Oral: 207

Poster: 350

Country	Number
Japan	303
China	65
United States of America	54
Republic Korea	51
Germany	41
Taiwan	26
France	21
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	19
Sweden	14
Thailand	13

# Oil deposit

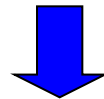
## Loch Ness



How many “cups of Loch Ness ?

- a) 2.8    b) 28    c) 280    d) More

Water volume:  $7.5 \times 10^9 \text{ m}^3$



$2.07 \times 10^{11} / 7.5 \times 10^9 = 27.6$  cups of Loch Ness

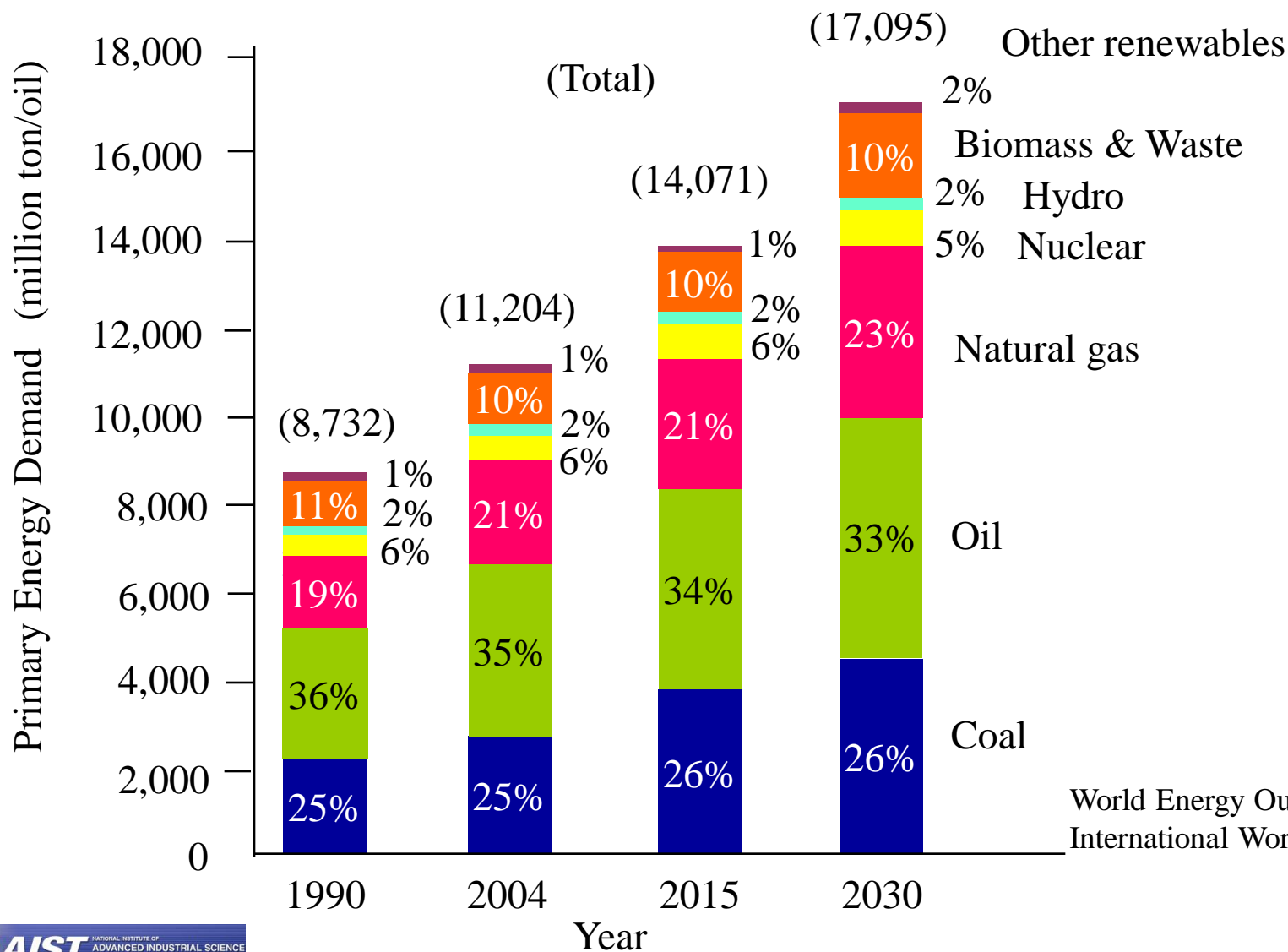
Consumption:  $3.0 \times 10^{10}$  barrel/year =  $4.77 \times 10^9 \text{ m}^3/\text{year}$

**Depletion: ~43 years**



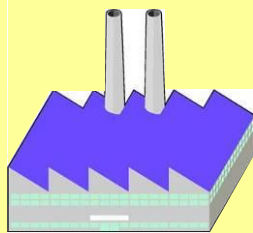
# Energy Consumption

## World Primary Energy Demand



# Waste heat

## Industry

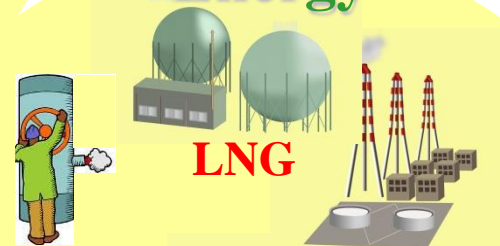


Factory



Incinerator

## Energy



LNG

Boiler

Thermal power plant

## Transport



Ship

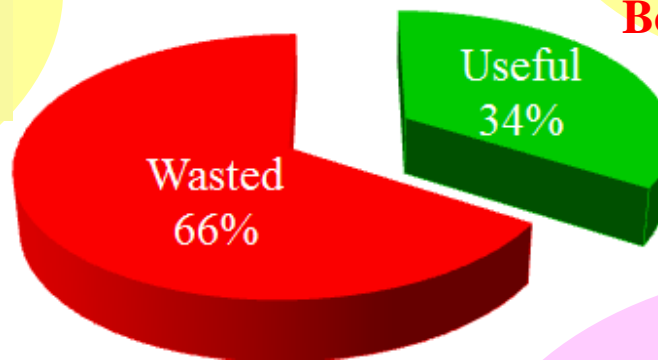


Diesel train



Automobile

## Waste heat



## New Energy



Geothermal



Solar

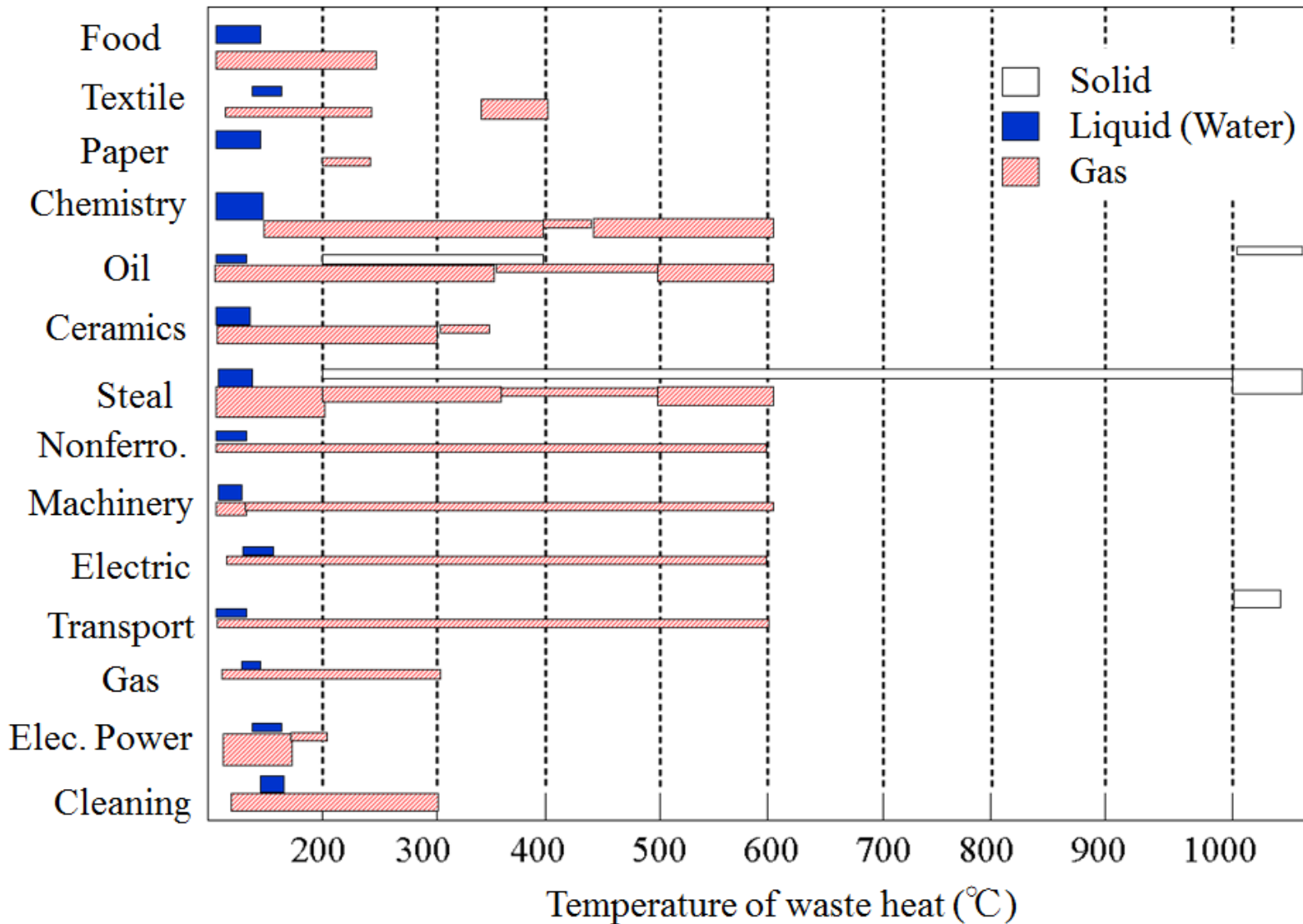


Biomass

Thermoelectric conversion

Electrical energy

# Waste heat from industry



# Thermoelectric materials

$$ZT = S^2T/\rho\kappa$$

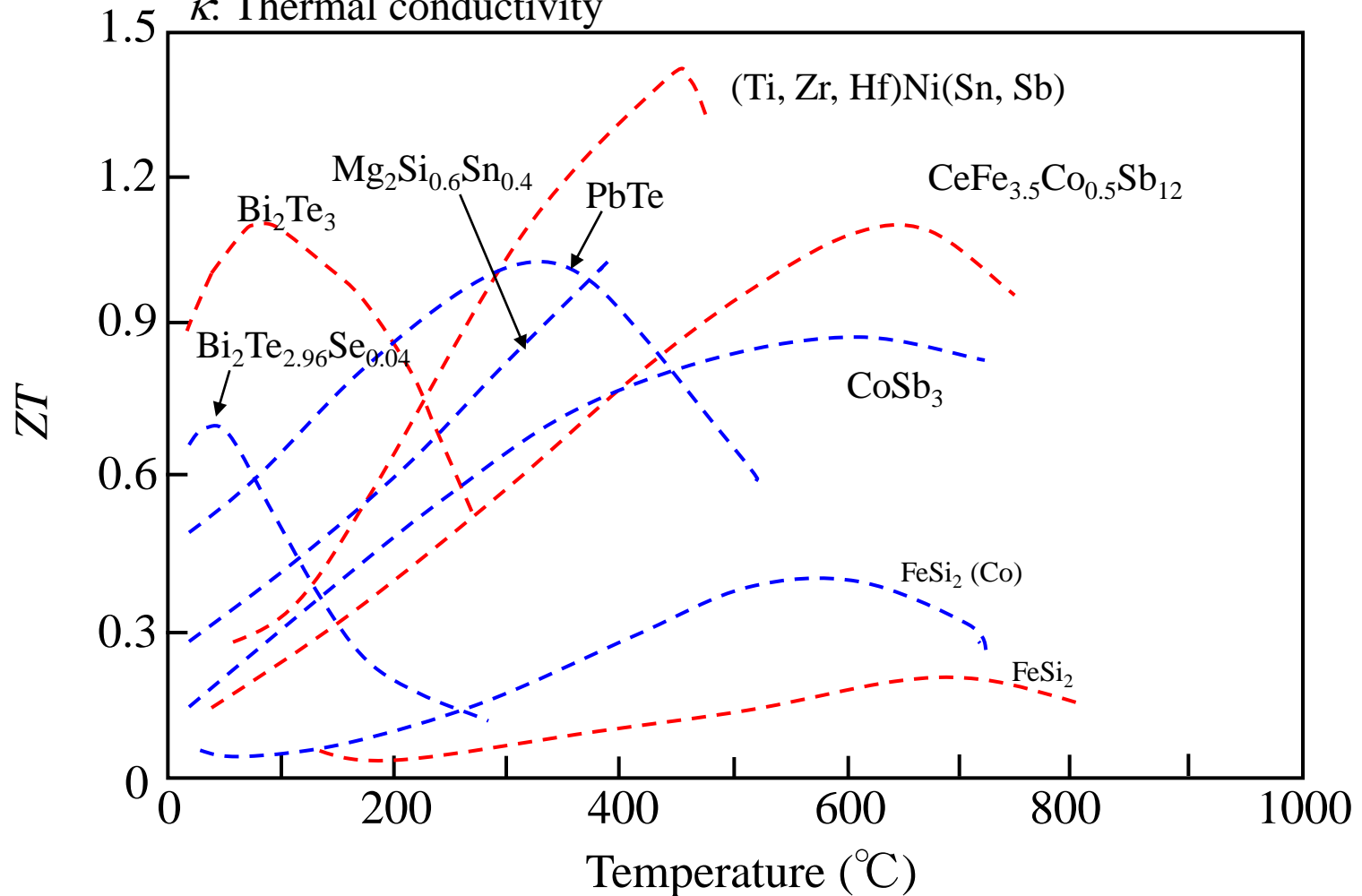
$S$ : Seebeck coefficient

$T$ : Absolute temperature

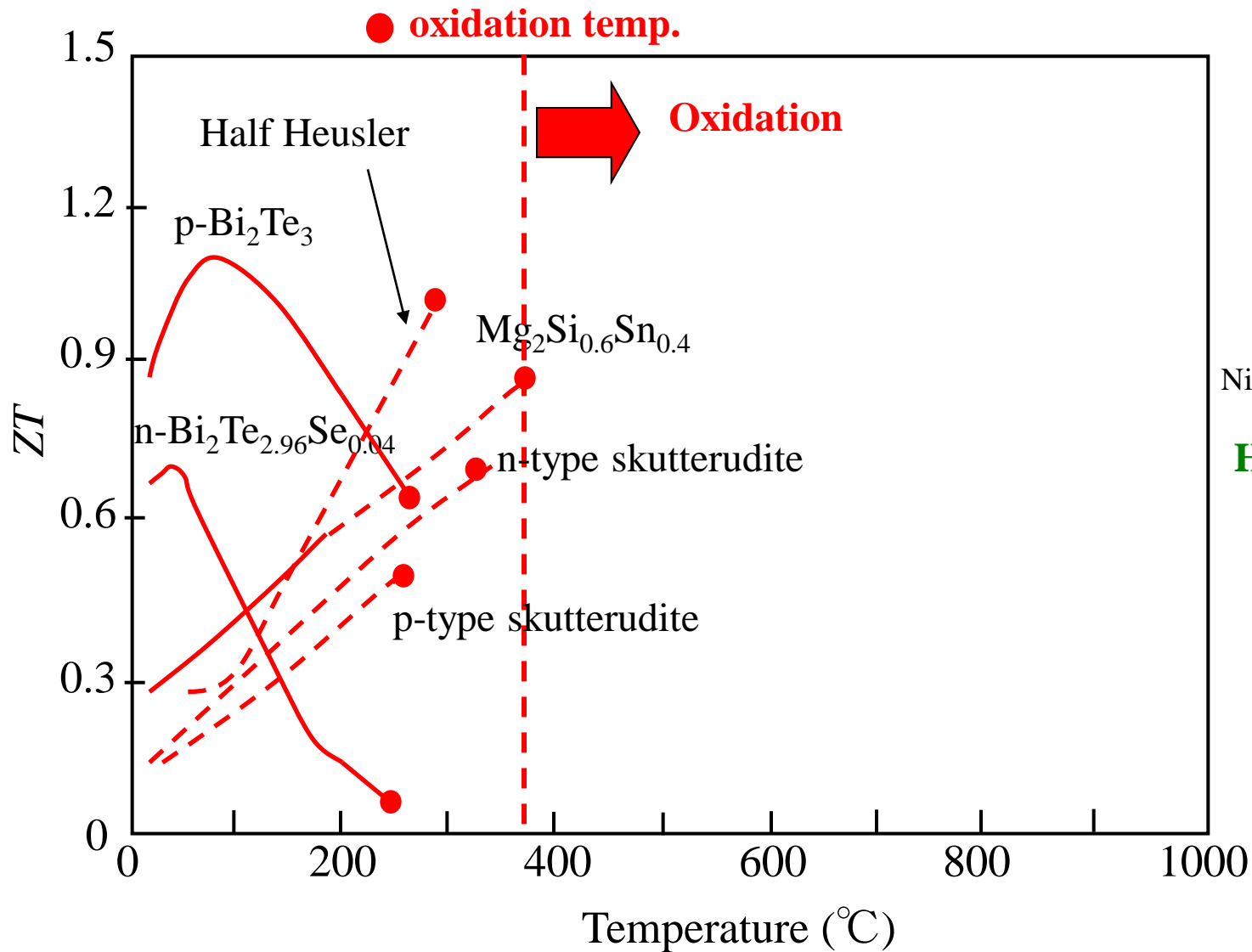
$\rho$ : Electrical resistivity

$\kappa$ : Thermal conductivity

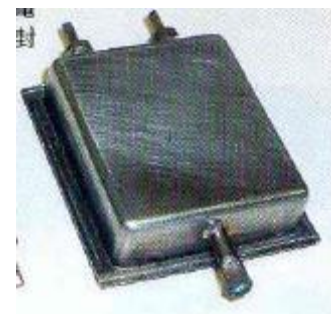
— p型  
— n型



# TE materials in air



## Skutterudite module



SHOWA DENKO

Nikkei Electronics 2010. 3. 8

## Half Heusler module



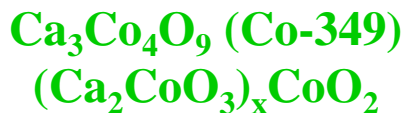
TOSHIBA



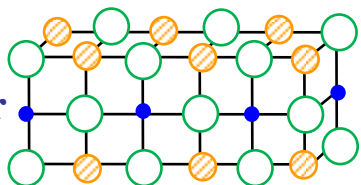
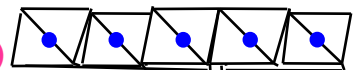
Seal in inert gas



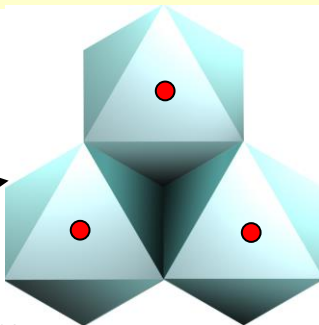
# CoO<sub>2</sub> layered compounds



**CoO<sub>2</sub> layer**  
**(Conducting)**



~ 1.1 nm



**misfit structure**

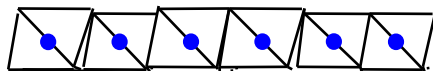
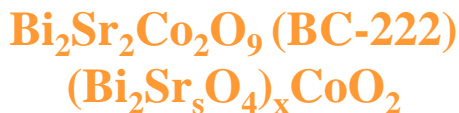
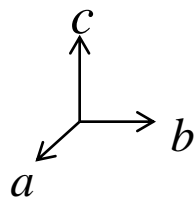
x: irrational number

A. C. Masset, et al., Phys. Rev. B, **62**, 166 (2000).

Y. Miyazaki, et al., Jpn. J. Appl. Phys. **39**, L531 (2000).

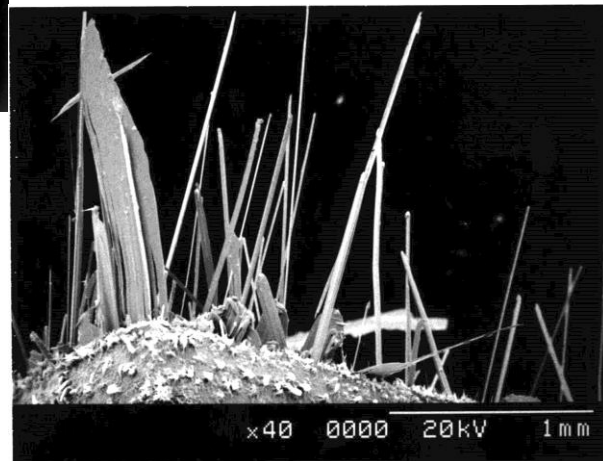
H. Leligny, et al., Acta Cryst., **B 56**, 173 (2000).

**Rock-salt layer**  
**(Insulating)**

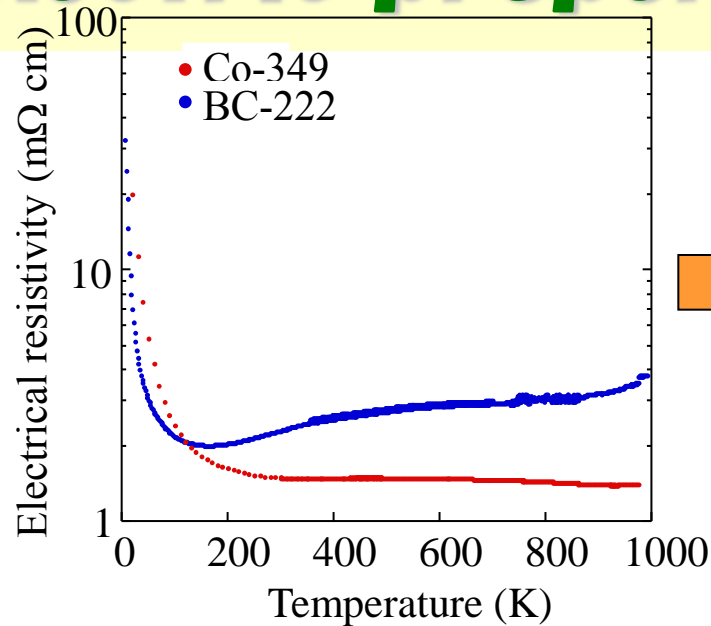
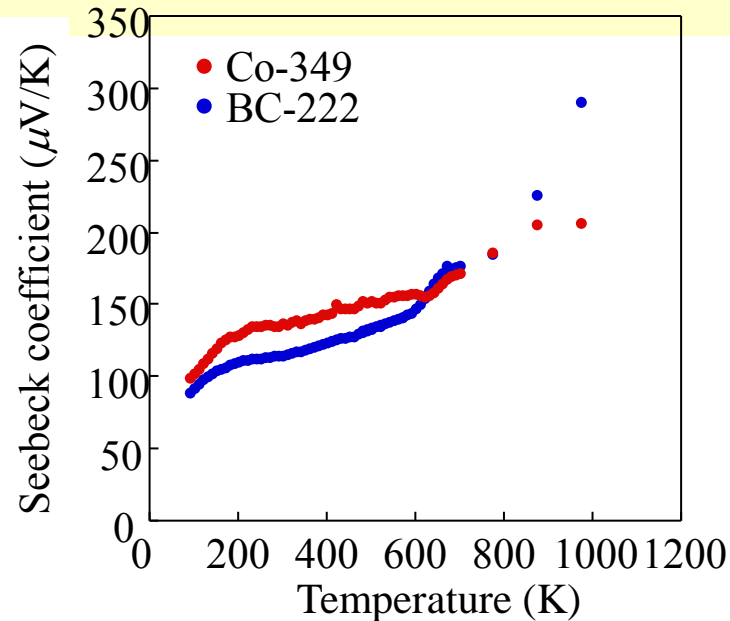


~ 1.5 nm

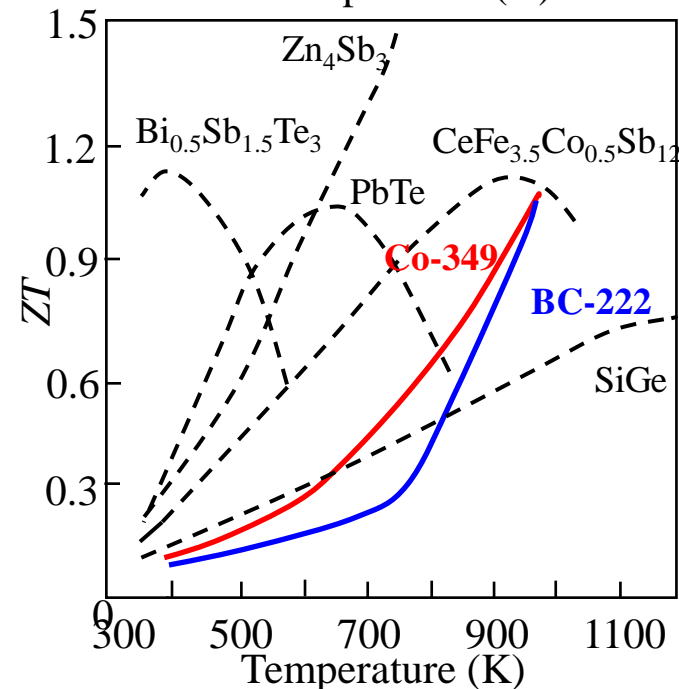
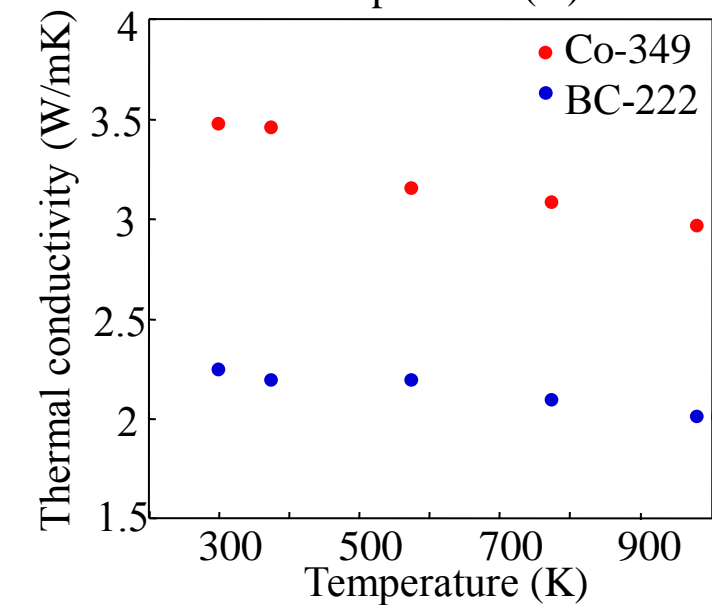
- Co
- Ca, Sr
- Bi
- O



# Thermoelectric property



Strongly correlated electron system



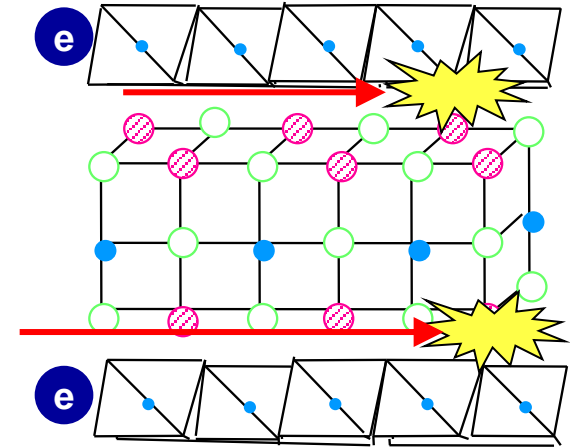
# Nanoblock integration

Thermoelectrics . . .

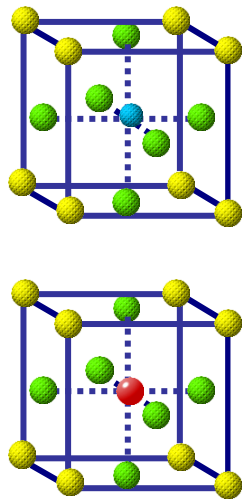
Combined function of heat and electric

“Division of functions”

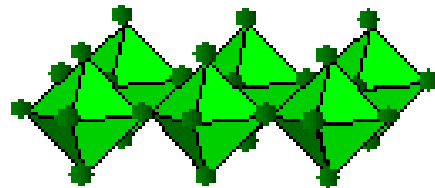
Lattice = smallest unit for functions



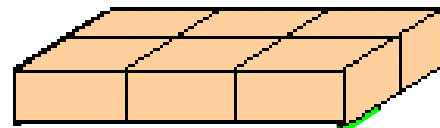
“Lattice”



“Nanoblock”

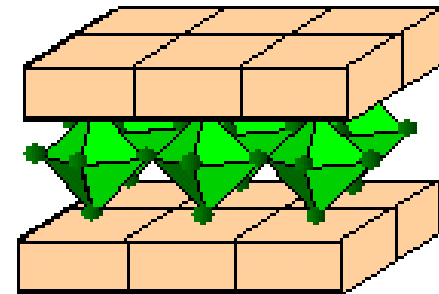


High Seebeck coefficient



Low thermal conductivity

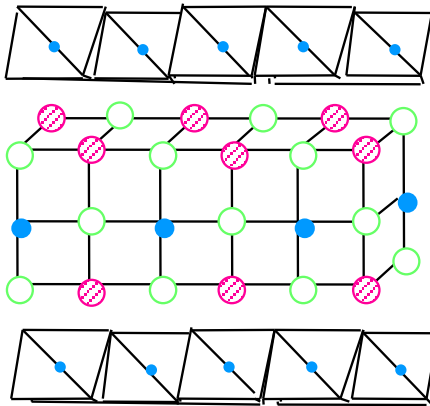
“Hybrid-crystal”



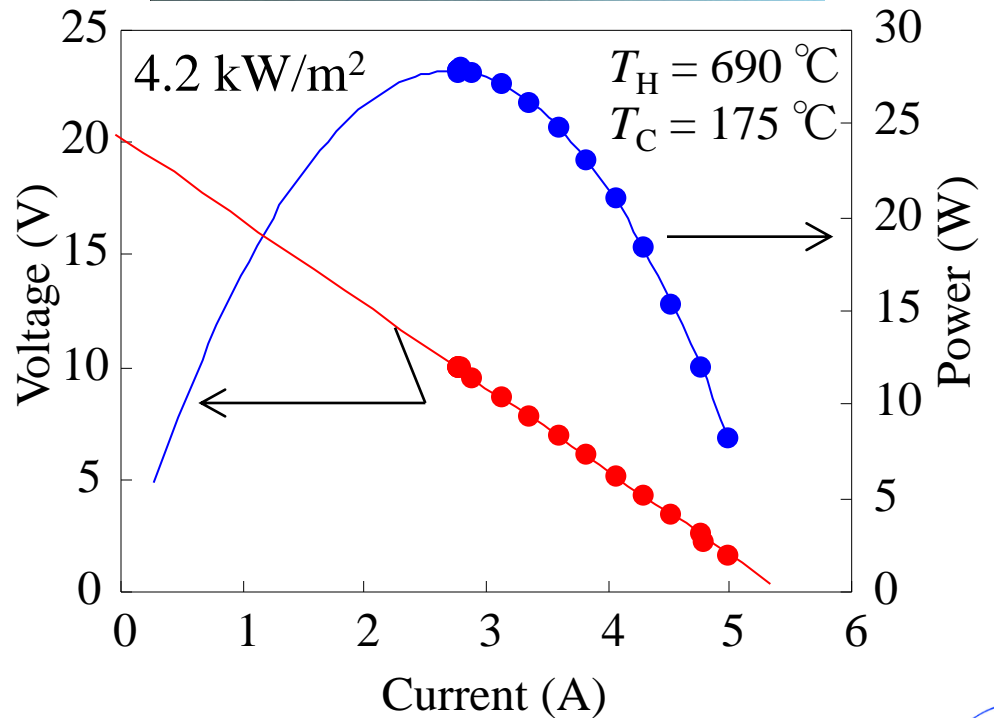
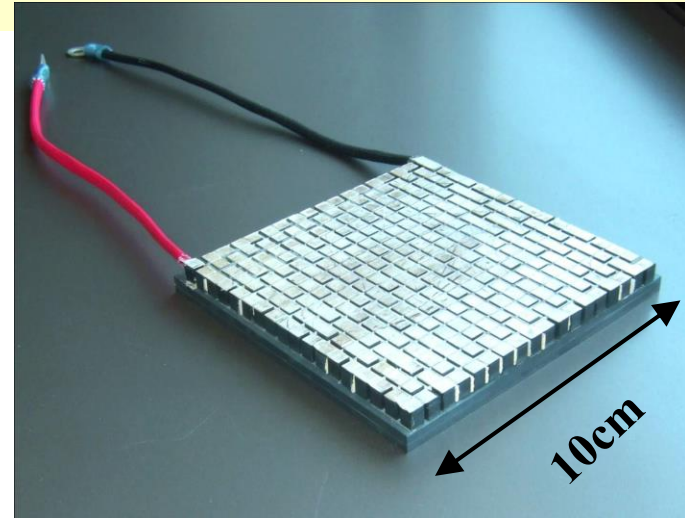
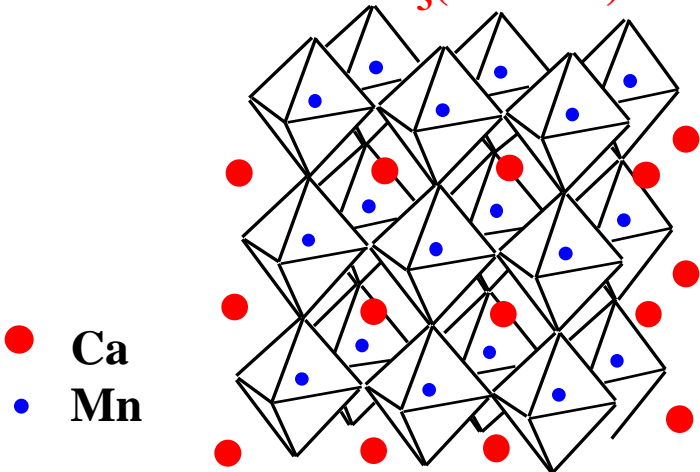
Good TE material

# Thermoelectric oxides

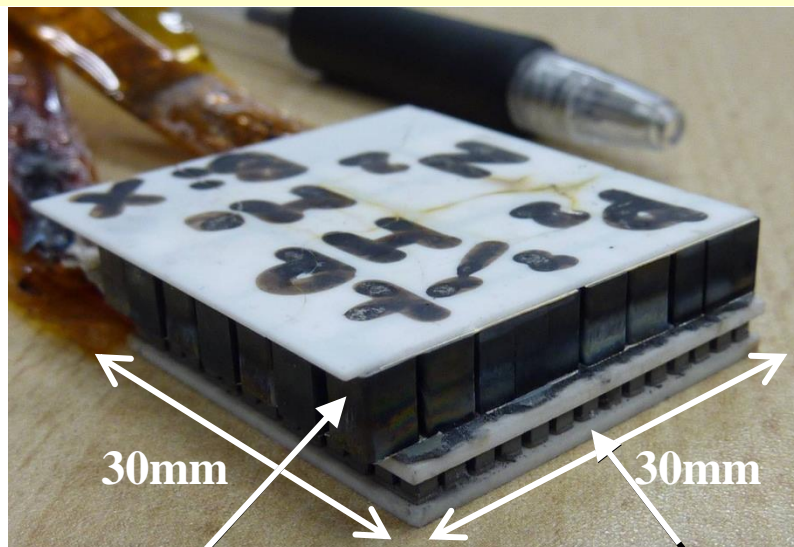
p-type



n-type

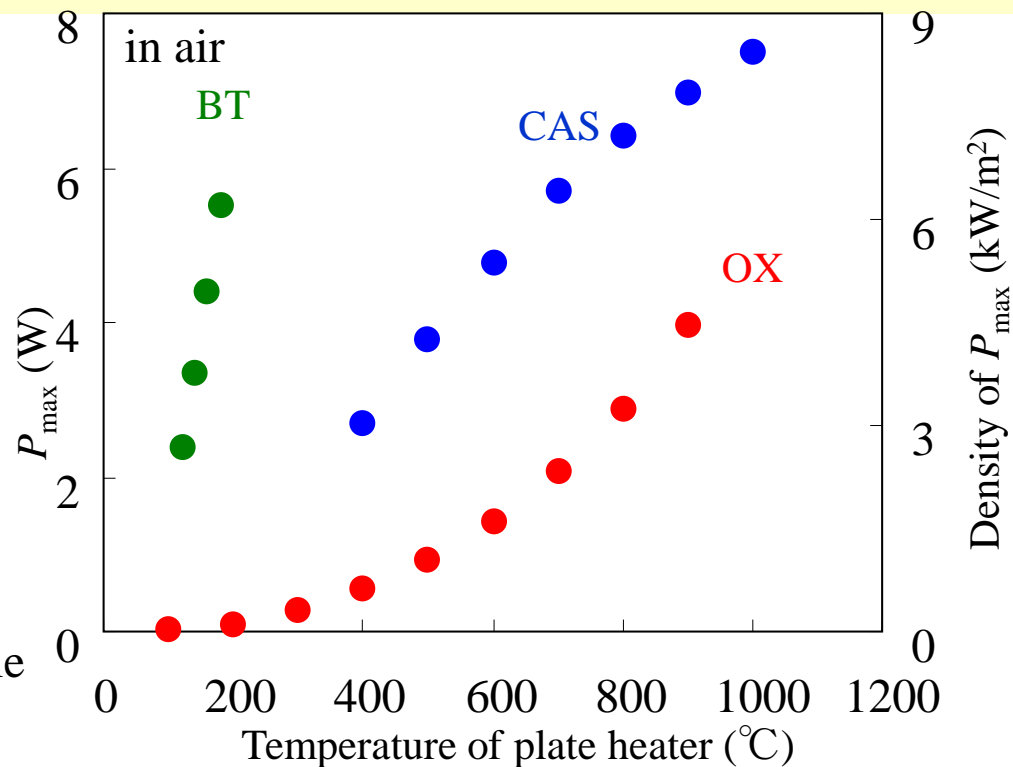


# Cascade module



Oxide module

$\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3$  module



Electrical plate heater

OX module

BT module

200°C

Water jacket (20°C)

BT module: 20-200°C

6.1kW/m<sup>2</sup>

OX module: 20-900°C

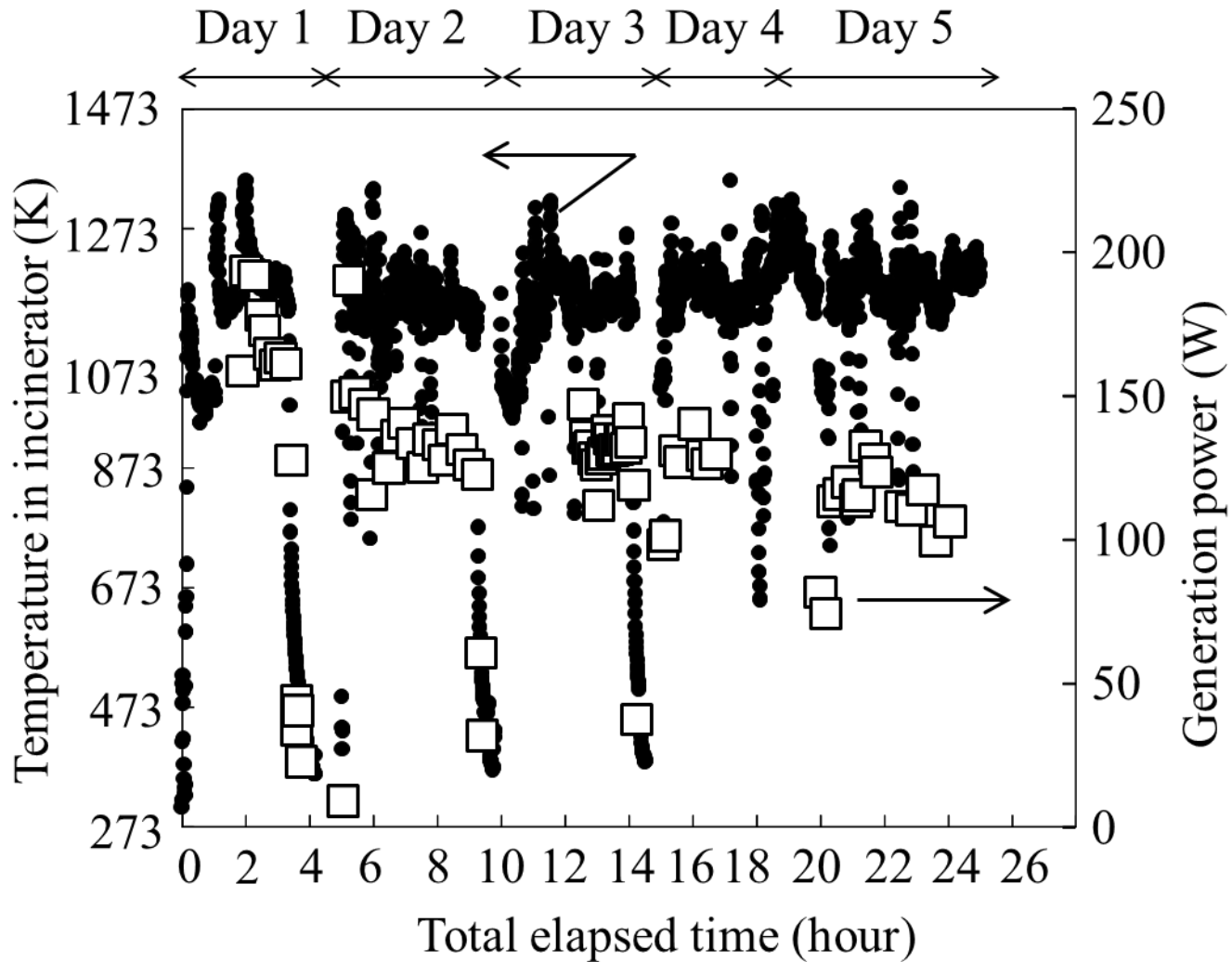
4.2kW/m<sup>2</sup>



Cascade module: 20-900°C

7.8kW/m<sup>2</sup>

# TE generation property



# TE generation property

	Incinerator A (Pilot)	Incinerator B (Lumbers)
I. Fuel	Natural gas	Lumber
II. Numbers of units to measure	1	4
III. Temperature around heat collection (K)	1370	1273
IV. Temperature of coolant water at inlet (K)	285	298
V. Temperature of coolant water at inlet (K)	287	317
VI. Flow rate of coolant water (L/min)	8.0	6.0
VII. Heat flux into coolant water (W)	1004	3567
VIII. Generation power (W)	49.3	200
IX. Conversion efficiency (%) $\text{VIII}/(\text{VII}+\text{VIII}) \times 100$	4.7	5.3
X. Density of power (kW/m <sup>2</sup> )	2.5	2.6

# Present TE

Efficiency : less than 10%

$\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3$  : ~ 7%

( $ZT \sim 1$   $T_H = 200^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $T_C = 30^\circ\text{C}$ )

Oxide : ~ 3-5 %

( $ZT \sim 0.3$   $T_H = 800^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $T_C = 30^\circ\text{C}$ )

cascade ( $\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3/\text{Oxide}$ ) : ~10%

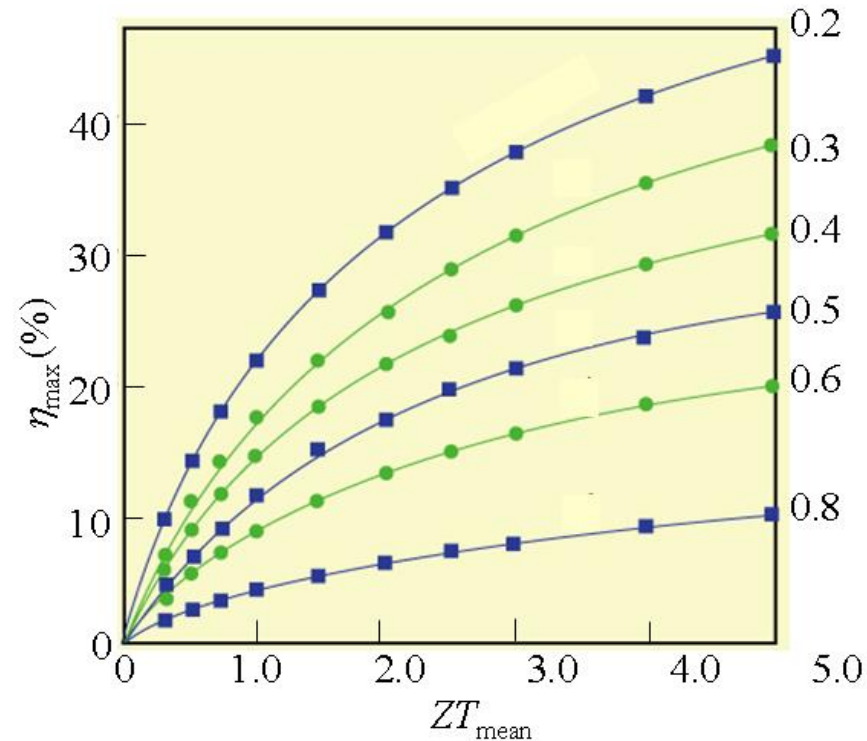
**TE < Turbine or PV**

**Strong points : Maintenance, Long-life, Small & light-weight  
Silence, Safety**



**Ideas : Emergency, Sensor, Mobile, Continuous operation**

$$\eta_{\max} = \frac{\Delta T (\sqrt{ZT_{\text{mean}} + 1} - 1)}{T_H \sqrt{ZT_{\text{mean}} + 1} + T_C} \quad T_C/T_H$$





# TE in near future

## TE materials benefited by nano-technology

- Quantum effect by low dimensionality: Giant Seebeck coefficient
- Scattering of carriers based on PGEC: Low  $\kappa$  and  $\rho$

$ZT = 3$  at the highest?

Efficiency : 18% ( $T_H = 300^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $T_C = 30^\circ\text{C}$ )

Efficiency : 31% ( $T_H = 800^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $T_C = 30^\circ\text{C}$ )

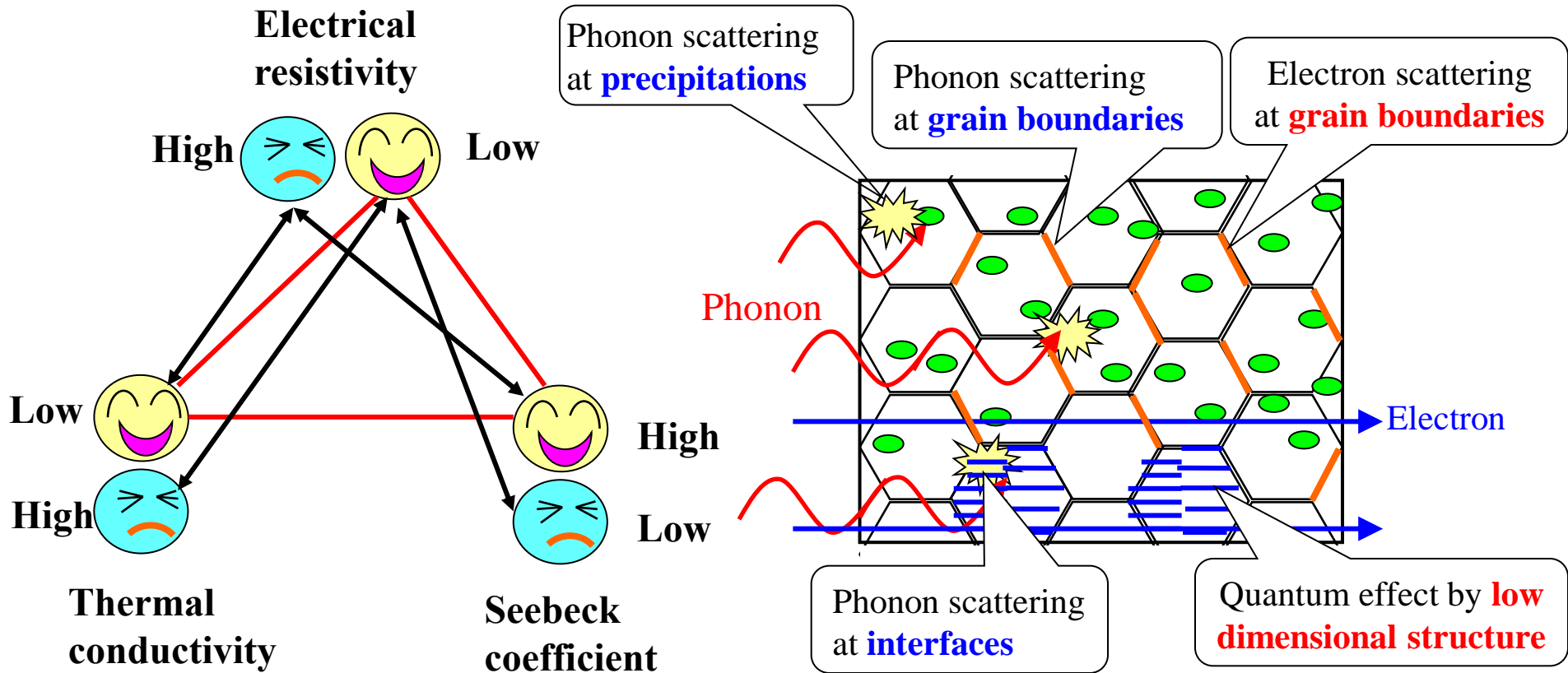
## Higher than PV, comparable to Turbine

**Strong points : Maintenance, Long-life, Small & light-weight  
Silence, Safety**

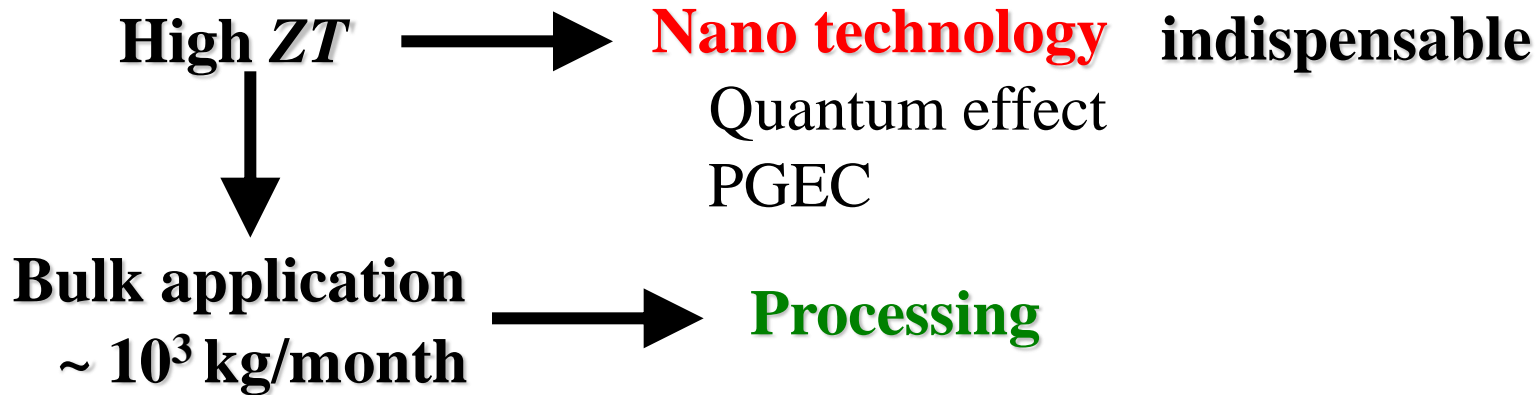


**Exchanging present systems : Industrial furnace, Incinerator,  
Automobile, Solar heat**

# Enhancement of TE property



# Nanostructured bulk material



Nanostructured materials using “common technology”

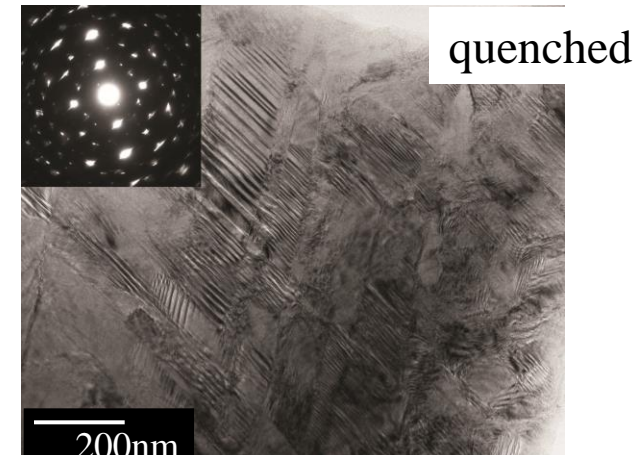
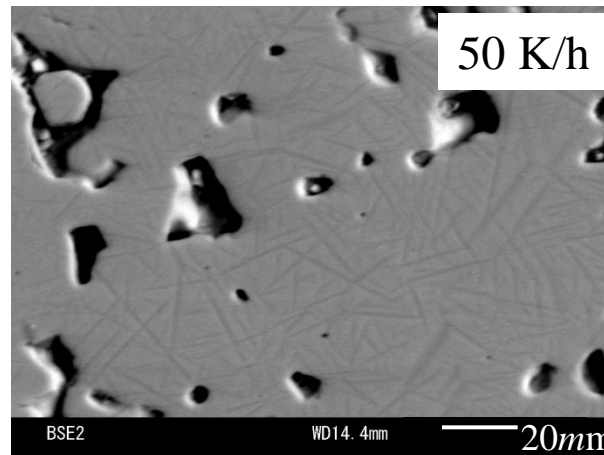
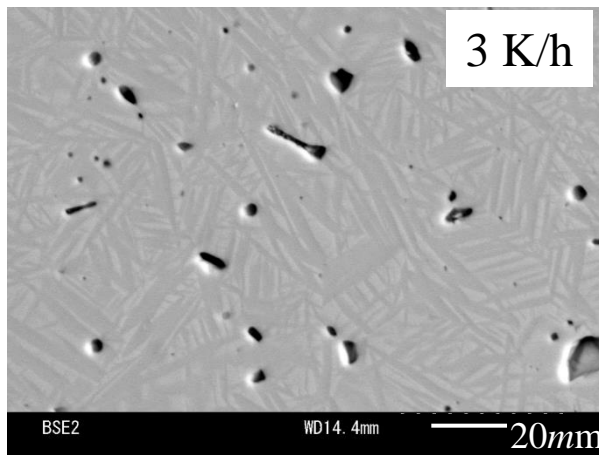
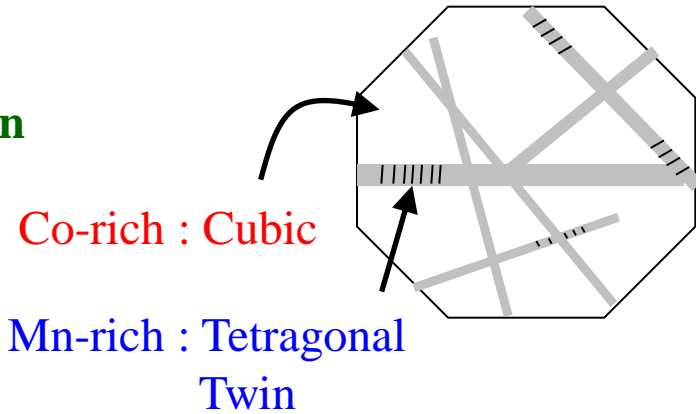
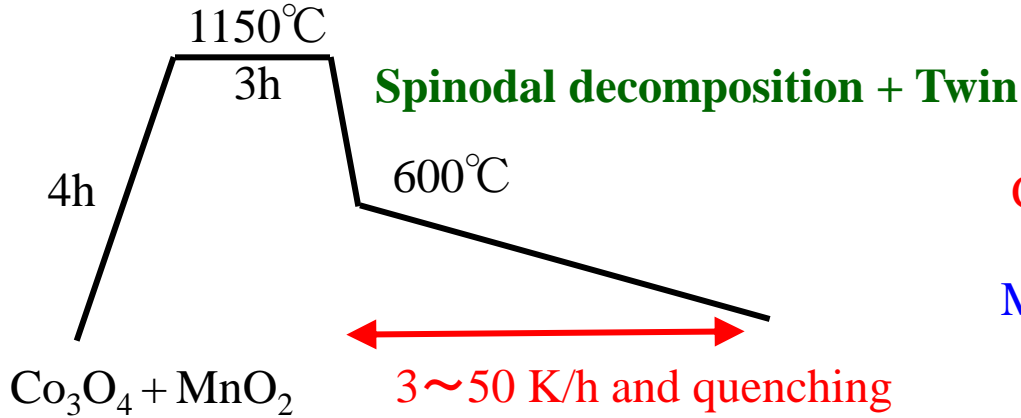
## Separation

Phase separation, Decomposition, Precipitation, etc...

## Composite

Intercalation, Nanoblock integration, etc...

# Phase separation



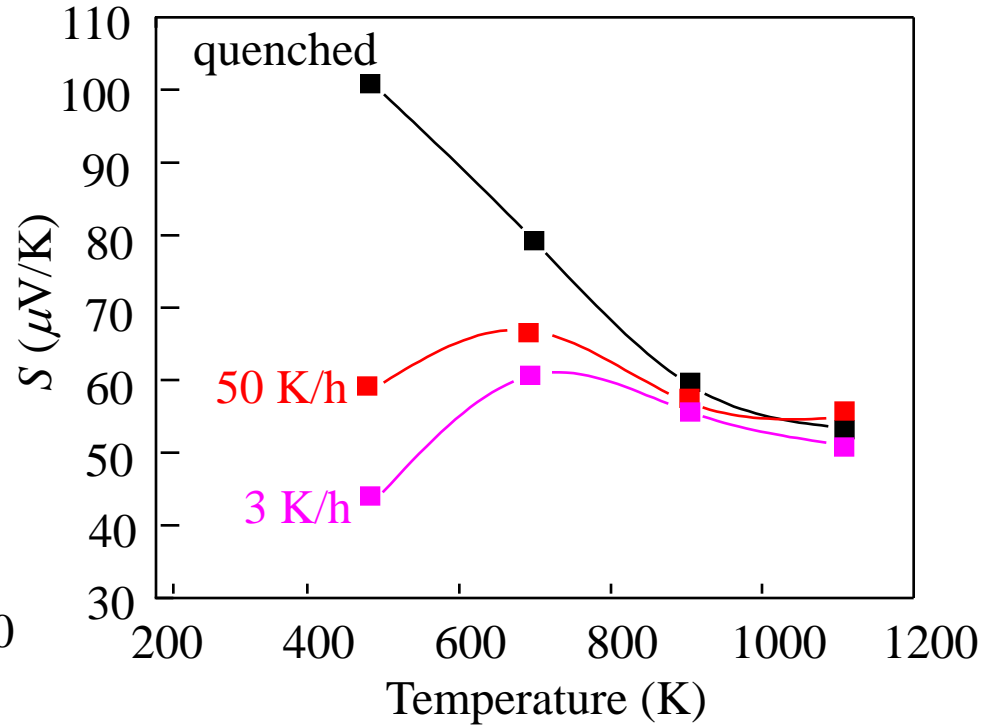
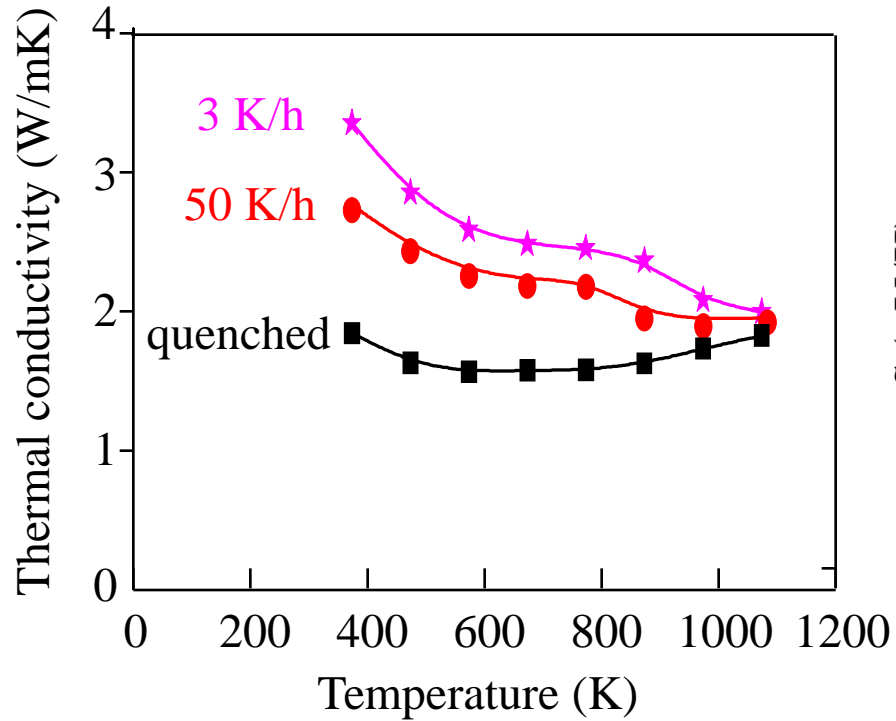
Slow

Cooling speed

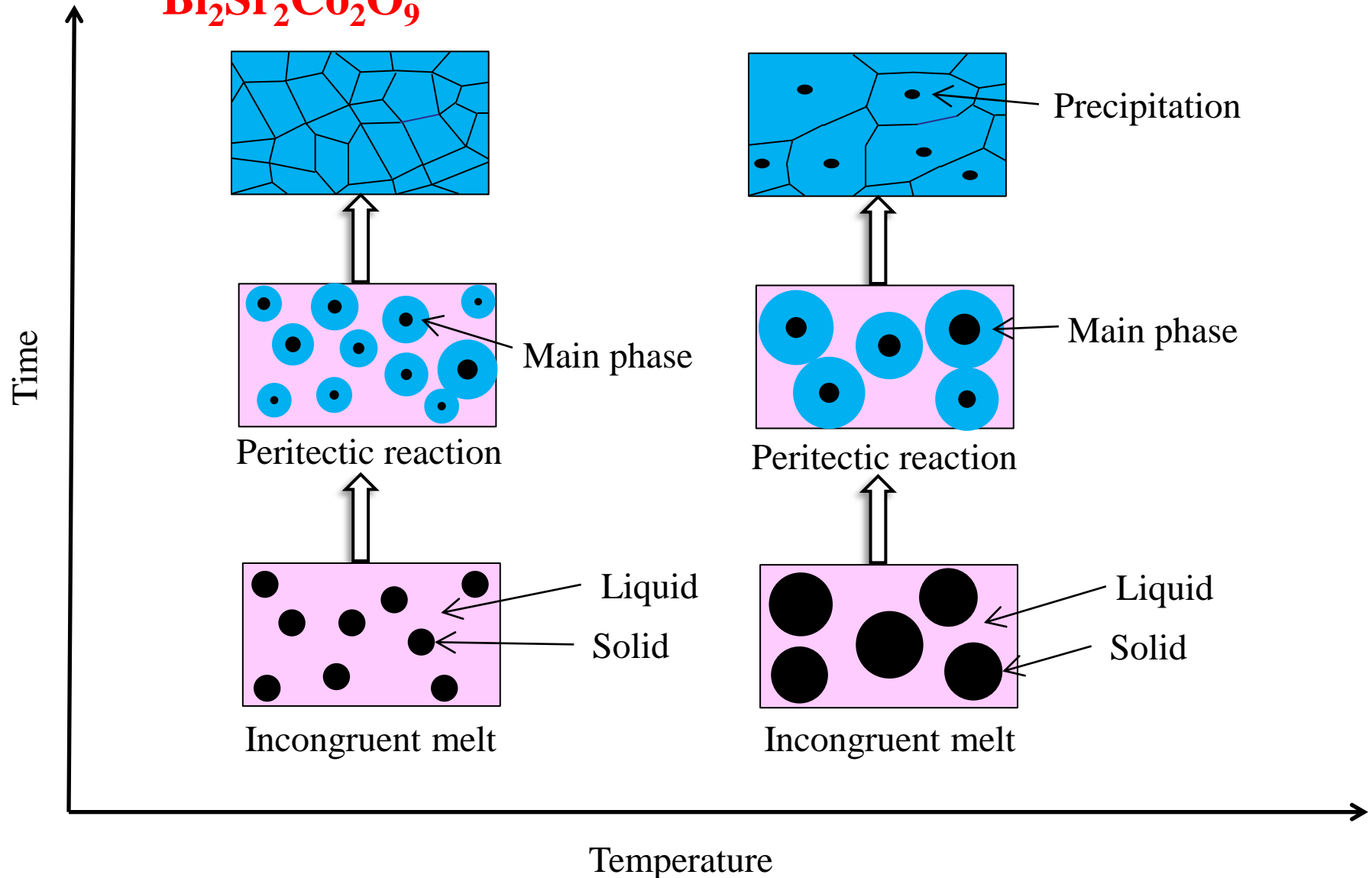
Fast

Dendrite: fine  
Twin: many

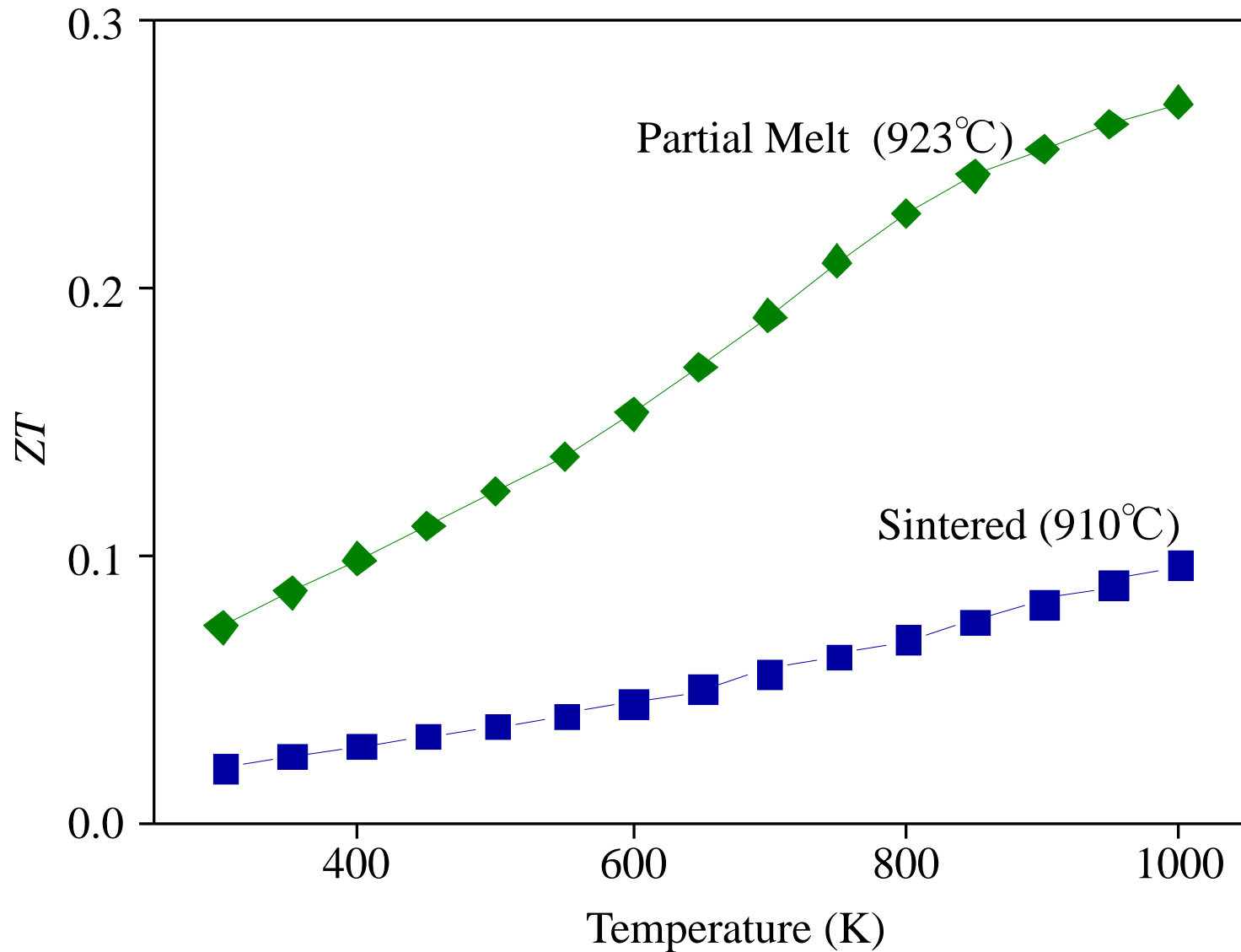
# Thermoelectric properties



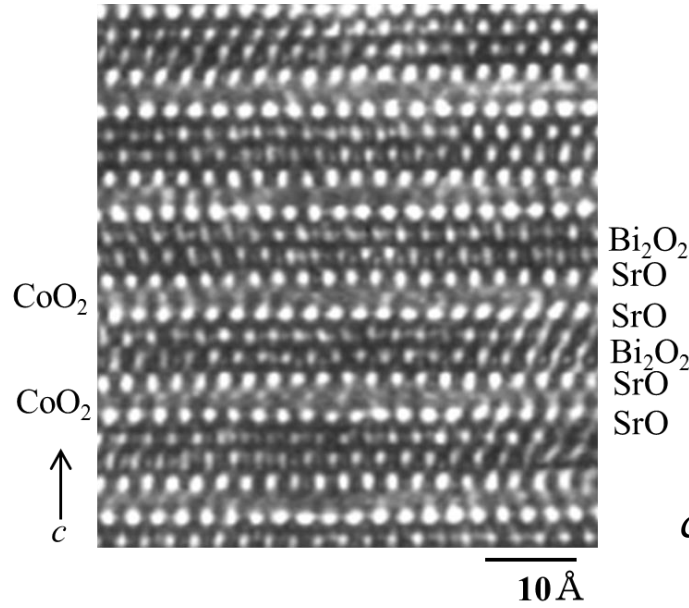
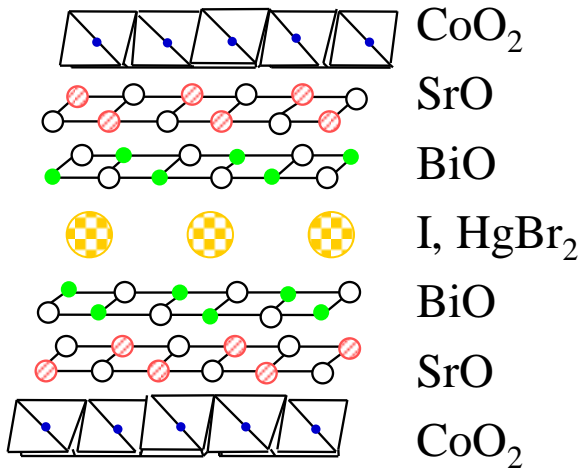
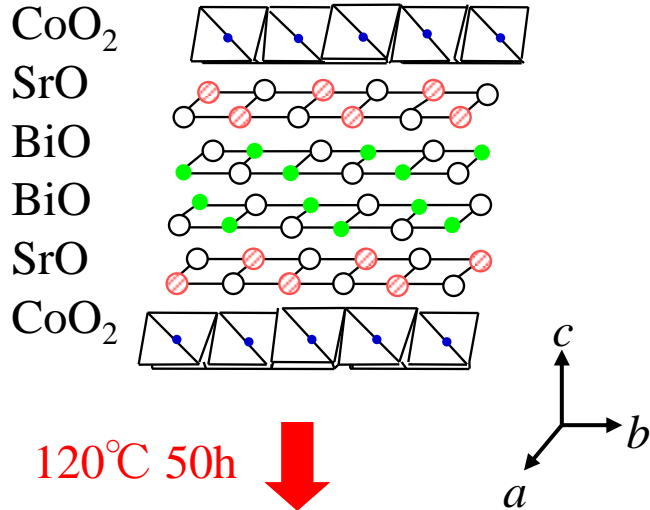
# Partial melting process



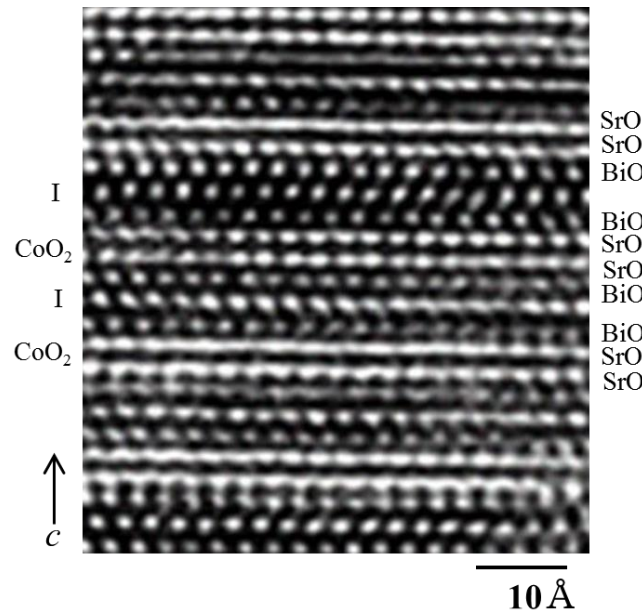
# Figure of merit



# Intercalation

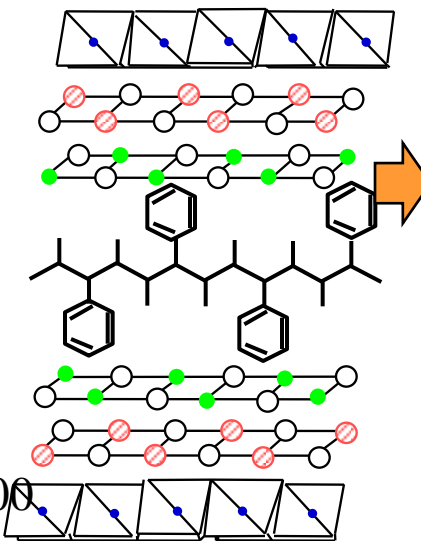
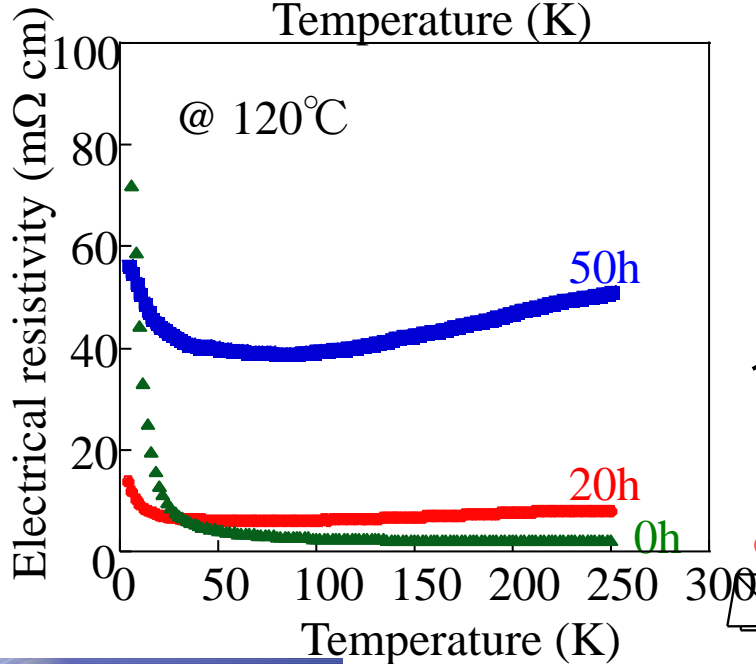
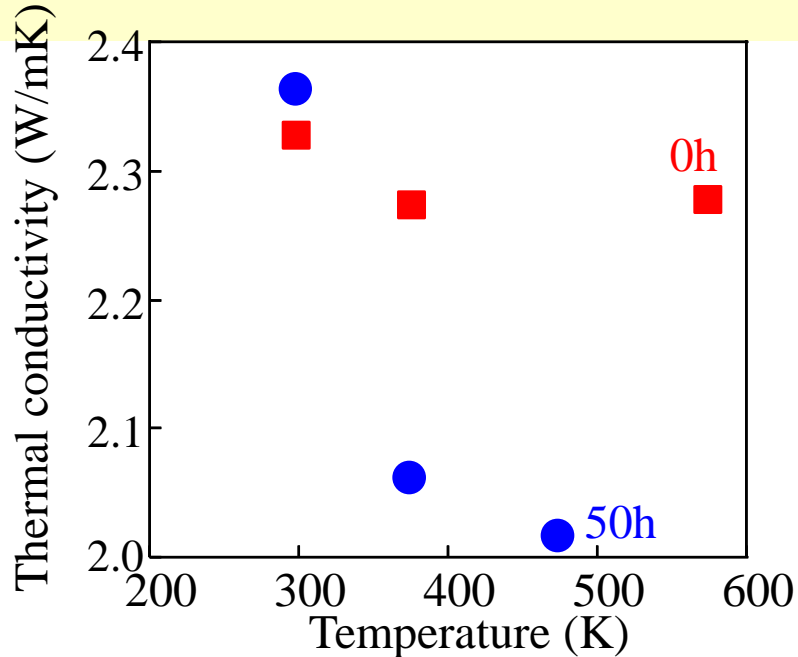
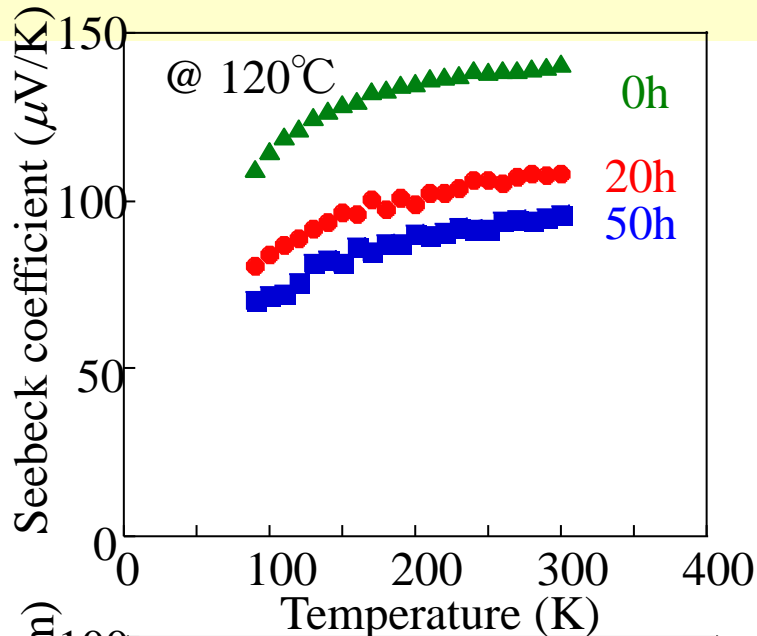


$c$ -cell parameter  
 $14.8 \text{ \AA} \longrightarrow 18.4 \text{ \AA}$   
 Ionic radius:  $2.0 \text{ \AA}$





# Thermoelectric property



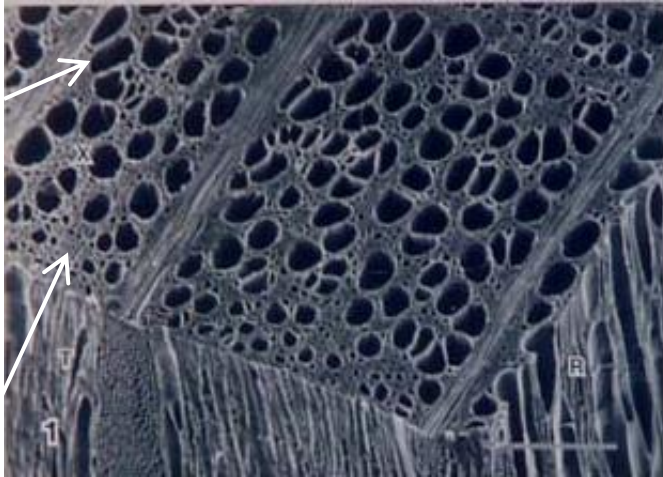
High  $ZT$

Multi functional Material  
(Self-contained power source, etc...)

# Tree structured material

Tree structure  
(ex. Beech)

Vessel  
(water supply)

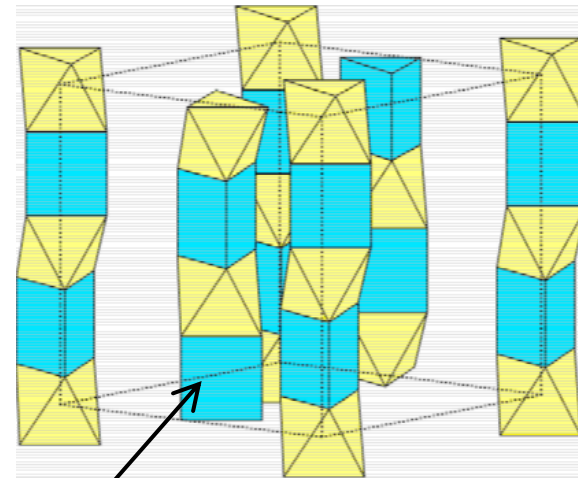


Xylem (matrix)  
(Low  $\kappa$ )



Good transportation  
Low thermal conductivity

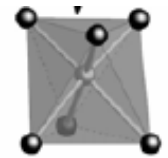
1D material  
(ex.  $\text{Ca}_3\text{Co}_2\text{O}_6$ )



$\text{CoO}_6$ : Triangular prism

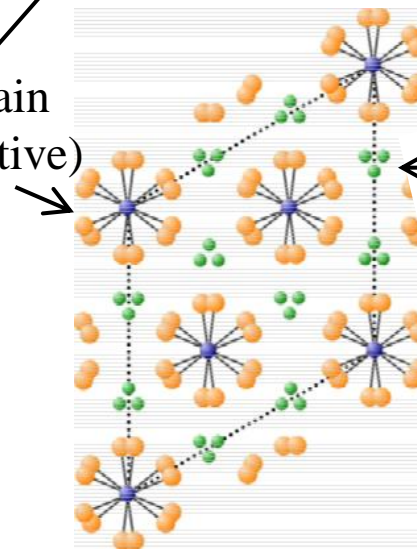


Face sharing



$\text{CoO}_6$ : Octahedron

1D chain  
(conductive)



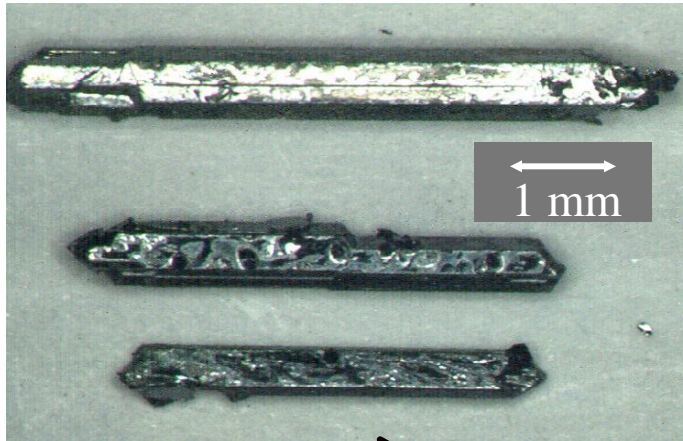
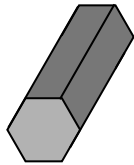
Matrix Ca  
(Low  $\kappa$ )

# Thermoelectric property

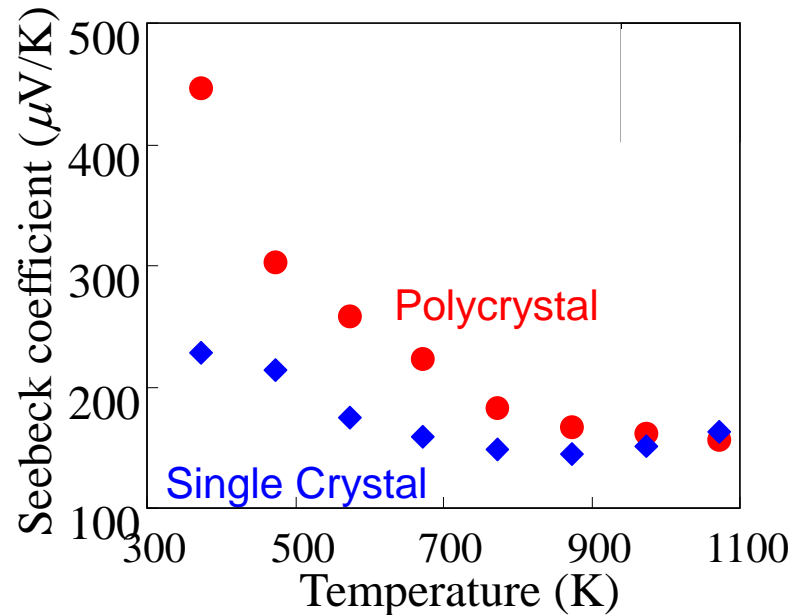
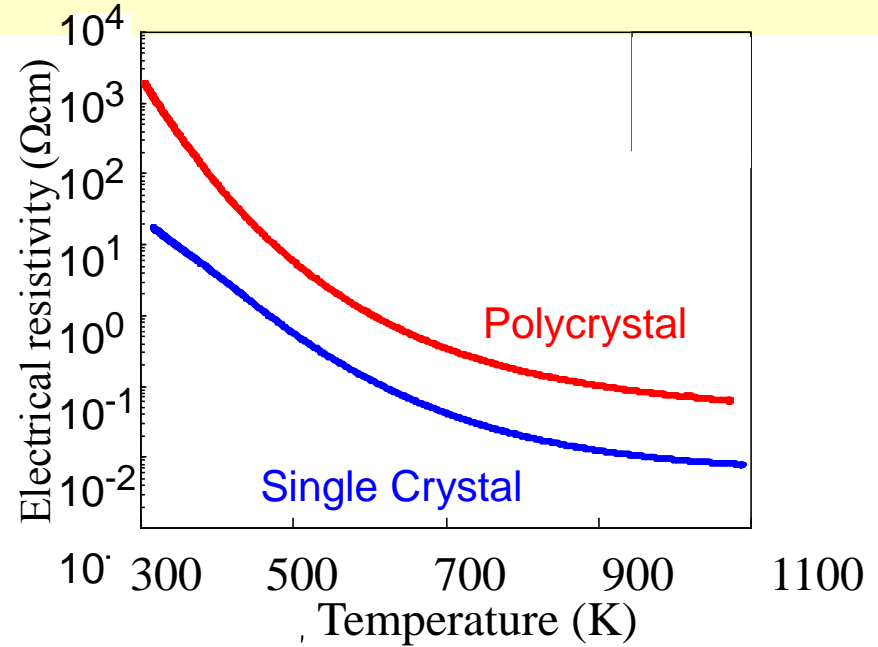


- size:  $1 \times 1 \times 5 \text{ mm}^3$ .
- well grown *c*-axis

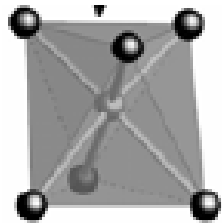
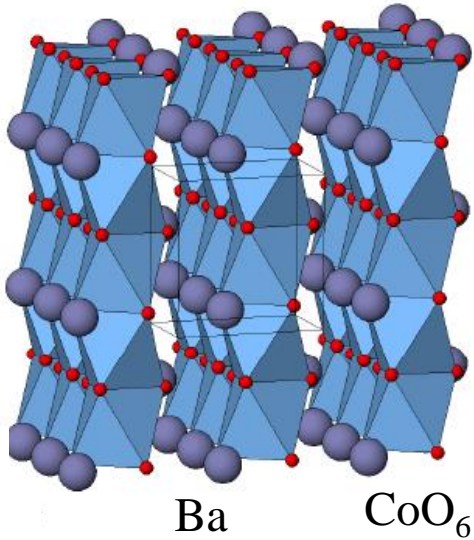
Hexagonal rods



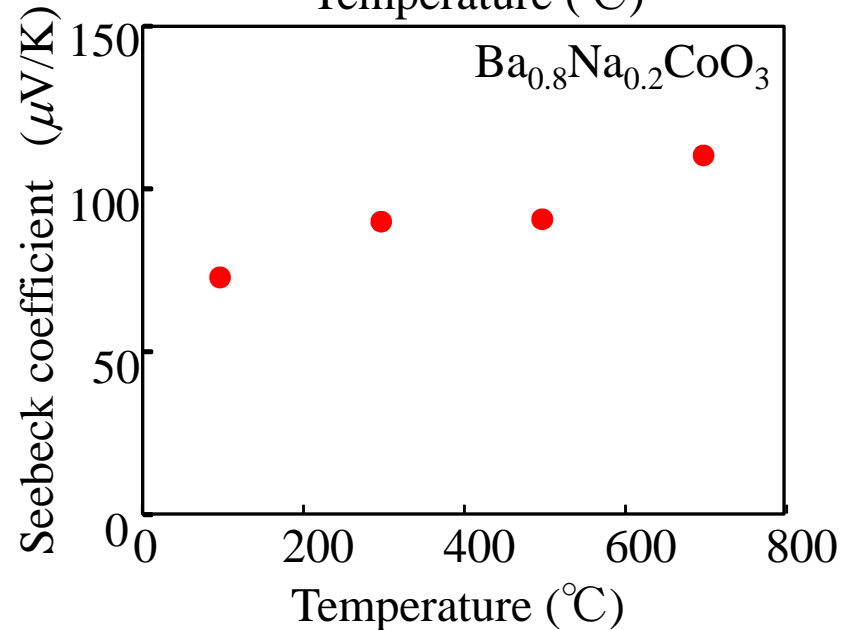
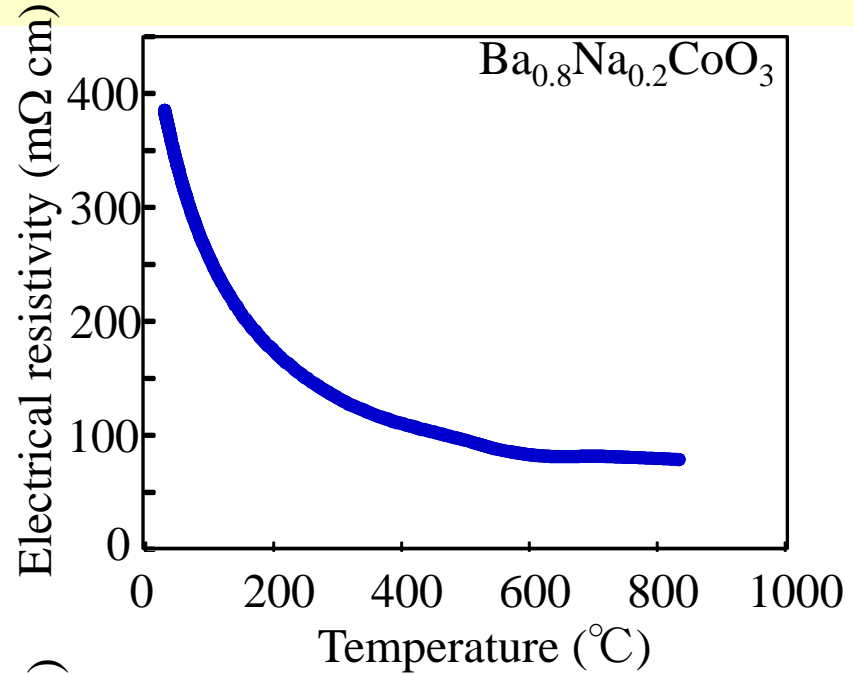
$\rightarrow$   
*c*-axis



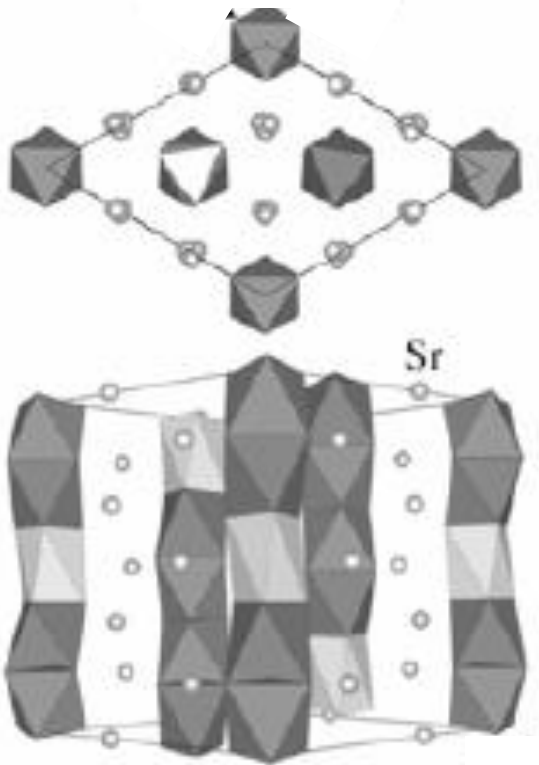
# 1D material



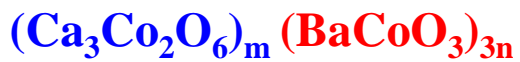
**CoO<sub>6</sub>: Octahedron**  
**Edge sharing**



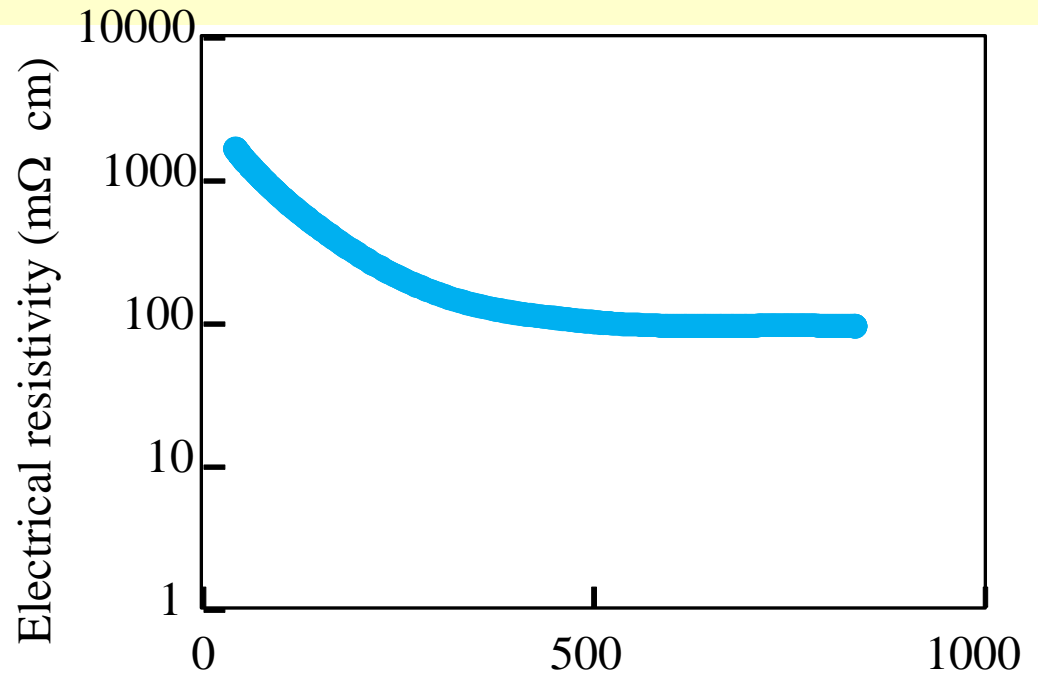
# Reconstruction



Homologous series



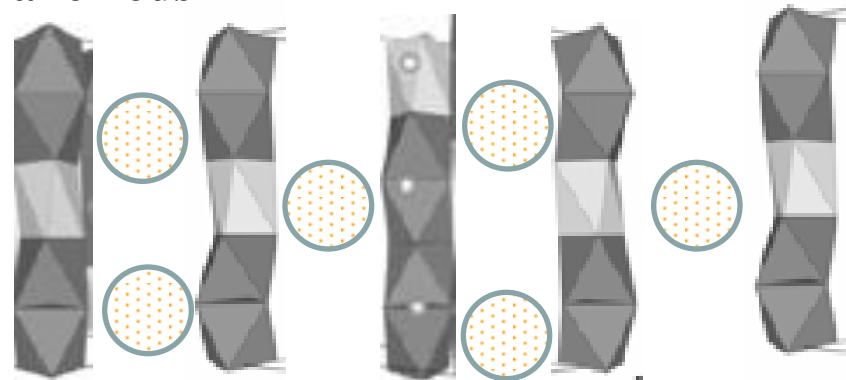
$m = 1, n = 1$



Optimization of m and n  
Separation of nano-rods  
Binding nano-rods

Temperature (°C)

Weak bonding (ex. Van der Waals)

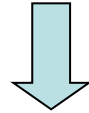


# Topping heat recover

**Oxides**

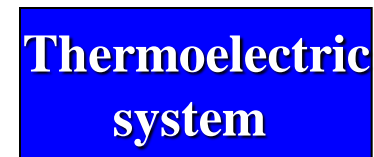
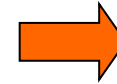
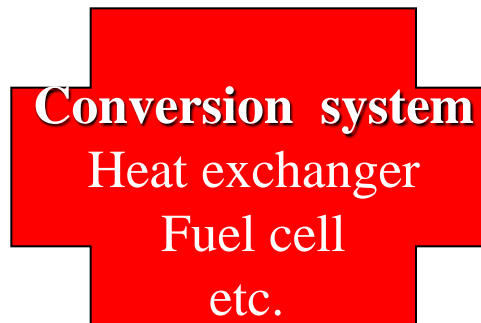
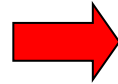
**High Temperature Use (Topping)**

**No toxic & Low price**

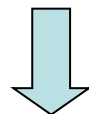
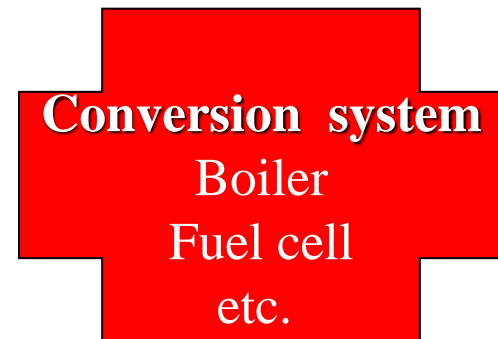
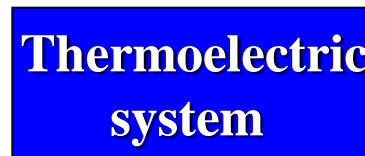
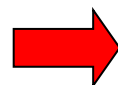


**Overcoming Recovery of Waste Heat Only (Bottoming)**

**Bottoming**

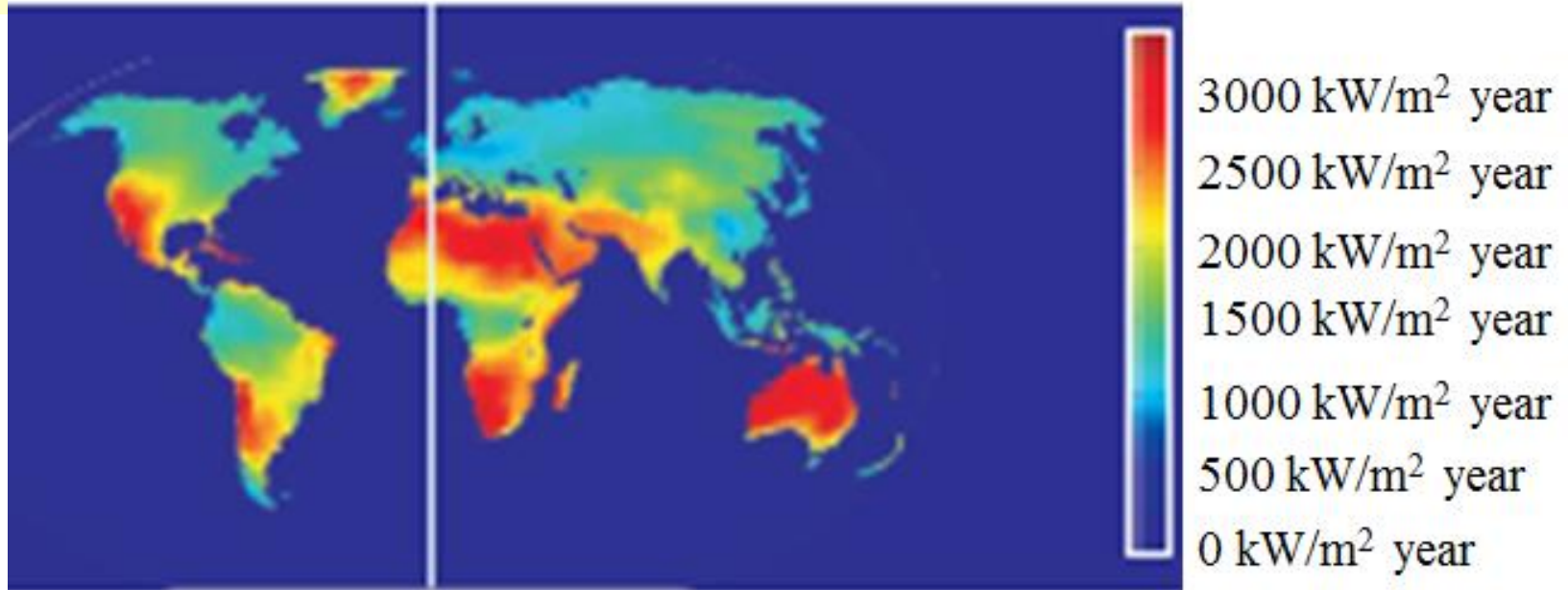


**Topping**



**Establish New Conversion Systems with High efficiency**

# Solar heat power generation



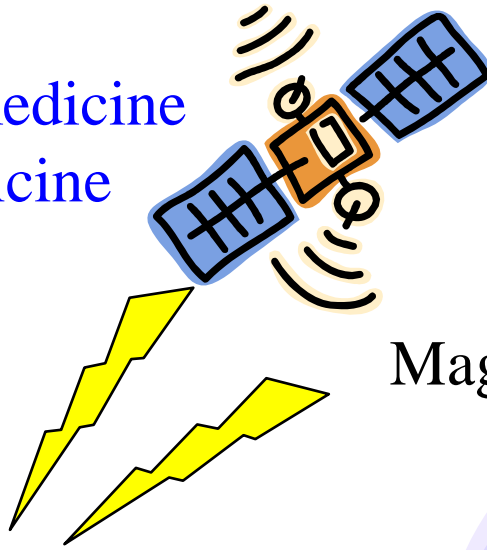
Mojave Desert, CA USA

664MW

(0.5mil. households)

# Medical application

Preventive medicine  
Remote medicine



LifeTouch Patient Surveillance System

Heart rate monitor



Magnetic sensor

Power source

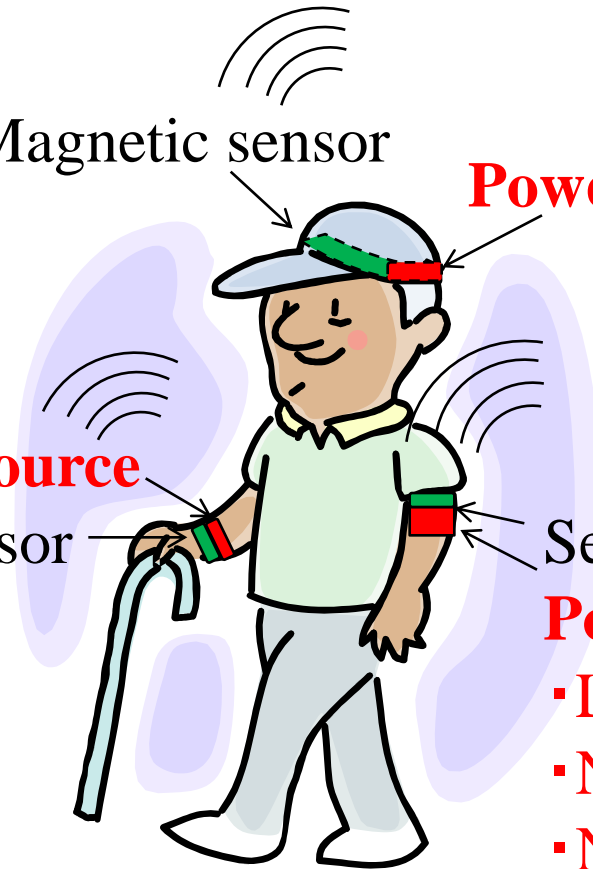
Power source

GPS sensor

Sensor

Power source

- Light weight
- No charging
- No exchanging
- Body heat generation





# For security

**Flight recording**



**Watching atomic power station**



**Sensors for automobiles**

**F1: MGU-H**

**Waste heat recovery by Rankine cycle**



# ***Strong points of oxides***

Durability

Mass and reliable processing

Nanoblock integration

Light weight

Topping recovery

Noninvasive

etc...