

## Supplementary Information

### Promoted crystallisation and cationic ordering in thermoelectric $\text{Cu}_{26}\text{V}_2\text{Sn}_6\text{S}_{32}$

#### colusite by eccentric vibratory ball milling

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**Table S1.** Rietveld analysis of sample milled for 1 hour + SPS

Colusite $\text{Cu}_{26}\text{V}_2\text{Sn}_6\text{S}_{32}$	Weight fraction in sample (%)	94(2)	Digenite $\text{Cu}_{2-x}\text{S}$	Weight fraction in sample (%)	5(1)
	Space group	$P\bar{4}3n$		Space group	$Fm\bar{3}m$
	a (nm)	1.0781(9)		a (nm)	0.5561(2)
	R-Bragg	5.51		R-Bragg	15.5
Covellite CuS	Weight fraction in sample (%)	1(1)			
	Space group	$P6_3/mmc$			
	a (nm)	0.3794(6)			
	c (nm)	1.6331(4)			
	R-Bragg	17.3			

Conventional Rietveld factors (as defined in FullProf software):

$R_p$	17.3
$R_{wp}$	18.2
$R_{exp}$	12.97
$\chi^2$	1.97

**Table S2.** Rietveld analysis of sample milled for 3 hours + SPS

Colusite $\text{Cu}_{26}\text{V}_2\text{Sn}_6\text{S}_{32}$	Weight fraction in sample (%)	95(2)	Digenite $\text{Cu}_{2-x}\text{S}$	Weight fraction in sample (%)	3(1)
	Space group	$P\bar{4}3n$		Space group	$Fm\bar{3}m$
	a (nm)	1.0779(0)		a (nm)	0.5556(0)
	R-Bragg	6.57		R-Bragg	27.3
Covellite CuS	Weight fraction in sample (%)	2(1)			
	Space group	$P6_3/mmc$			
	a (nm)	0.3793(2)			
	c (nm)	1.6355(2)			
	R-Bragg	26.1			

Conventional Rietveld factors (as defined in FullProf software):

$R_p$	17.9
$R_{wp}$	20.7
$R_{exp}$	14.03
$\chi^2$	2.18

**Table S3.** Rietveld analysis of sample milled for 6 hours + SPS

Colusite $\text{Cu}_{26}\text{V}_2\text{Sn}_6\text{S}_{32}$	Weight fraction in sample (%)	99(1)*
	Space group	$P\bar{4}3n$
	a (nm)	1.0763(9)
	R-Bragg	3.70

\* contamination by  $\text{SiO}_2$

Conventional Rietveld factors (as defined in FullProf software):

$R_p$	15.7
$R_{wp}$	16.0
$R_{exp}$	12.36
$\chi^2$	1.67

**Table S4.** Rietveld analysis of sample milled for 12 hours + SPS

Colusite $\text{Cu}_{26}\text{V}_2\text{Sn}_6\text{S}_{32}$	Weight fraction in sample (%)	99(1)*
	Space group	$P43n$
	a (nm)	1.0761
	$x_{\text{Cu}2}$	0.2544(2)
	x, y, $z_{\text{Cu}3}$	0.2546(3)
	x, y, $z_{\text{S}1}$	0.1252(7)
	$x_{\text{S}2}$	0.3790(3)
	$y_{\text{S}2}$	0.3681(3)
	$z_{\text{S}2}$	0.1251(6)
R-Bragg	2.59	

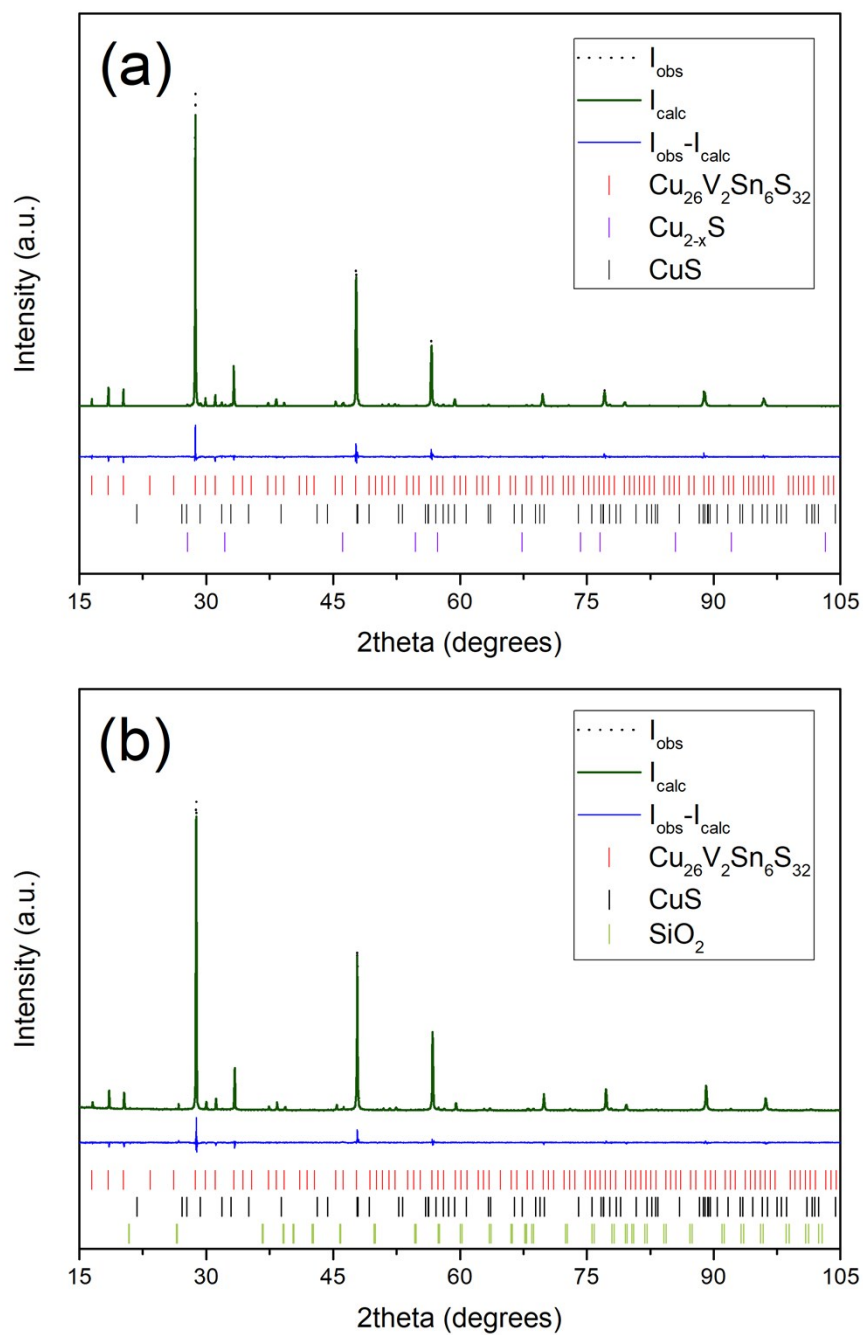
\* contamination by WC

Conventional Rietveld factors (as defined in FullProf software):

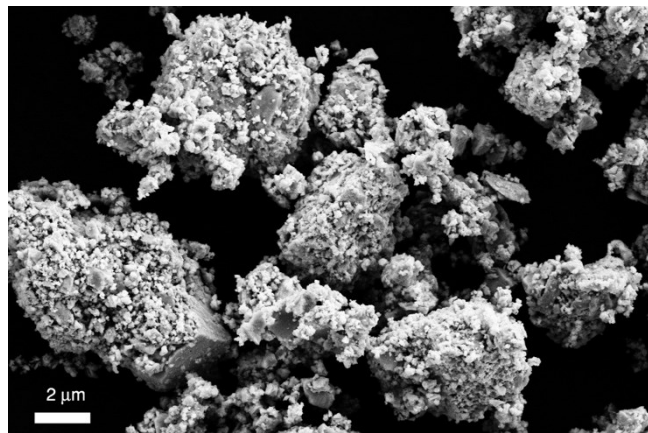
$R_p$	15.5
$R_{wp}$	15.1
$R_{exp}$	11.63
$\chi^2$	1.68

**Table S5.** Cationic elemental analysis from EDS analysis on the colusite matrix normalised for 26 Cu

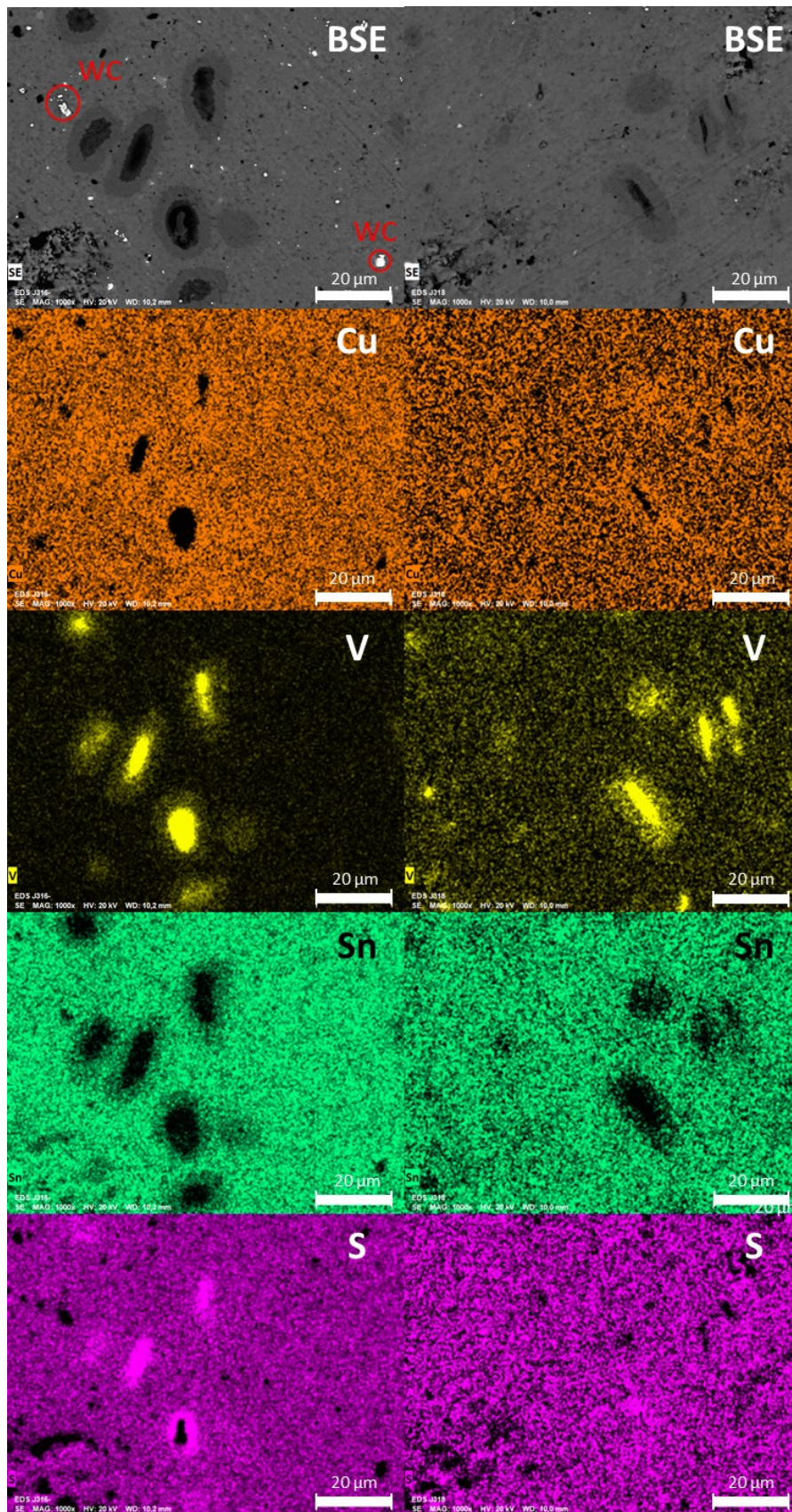
	Cu	V	Sn
1h + SPS	26	1.30	7.74
3h + SPS	26	1.549	7.15
6h + SPS	26	1.68	6.74
12h + SPS	26	2.06	6.23



**Figure S1.** Rietveld refinements of the XRPD patterns of (a) 3h+SPS and (b) 6h+SPS samples.

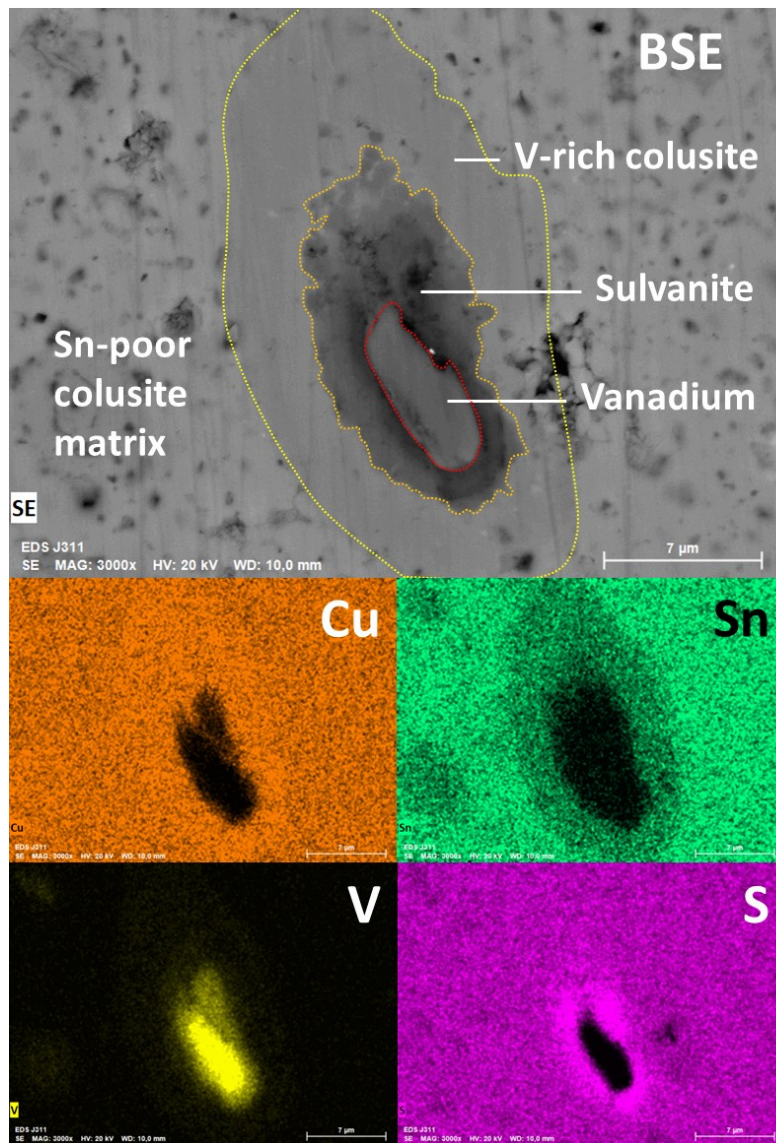


**Figure S2.** Typical micrography of as- milled powders (3h).



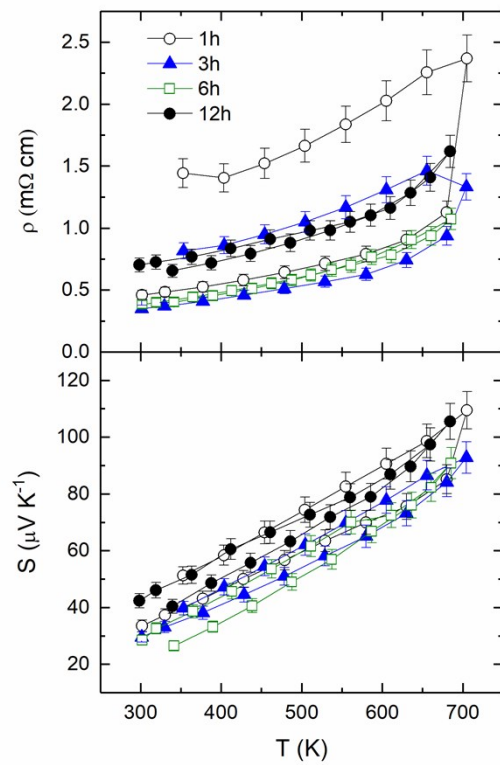
**Figure S3.** BSE micrographs and corresponding EDS elemental analysis maps for the samples 1h+SPS (left column) and 3h+SPS (right column)





**Figure S4.** Backscattered SEM image of polished surface showing V-rich core-shell structures in 6h+SPS sample





**Figure S5.** Heating and cooling measurements of the electrical resistivity and Seebeck coefficient with different ball-milling times