Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics. This journal is © the Owner Societies 2021

Influence of the stacking sequence on layered-chalcogenides properties: First principle investigation of Pb₂Bi₂Te₅

Weiliang MA,^{ab} Marie-Christine RECORD,^{*a} Jing TIAN,^{ab} and Pascal BOULET^b

^a Aix-Marseille University, University of Toulon, CNRS, IM2NP, Marseille, France. E-mail: weiliang.ma@etu.univ-amu.fr, * Corresponding author: m-c.record@univ-amu.fr

^b Aix-Marseille University, CNRS, MADIREL, Marseille, France. E-mail: jing.tian@etu.univ-amu.fr, pascal.boulet@univ-amu.fr



Figure S1 Relative energy versus cell volume for PbTe.



Figure S2 Relative energy versus cell volume (a) and a/c ratio (b) for Bi_2Te_3 .



Figure S3 Relative energy versus cell volume (a) and a/c ratio (b) for $Pb_2Bi_2Te_5$ with stacking A.



Figure S4 Relative energy versus cell volume (a) and a/c ratio (b) for $Pb_2Bi_2Te_5$ with stacking B.

Table S1 Topological properties of PbTe and Bi_2Te_3 corresponding to the BCPs in Figure S8a,b; r1 is the distance between BCP and Bi; r2 is the distance between BCP and Te; r1 and r2 are in unit of pm; the angle is between BCPs and their two ends; ρ and $\nabla^2 \rho$ are the electron charge density and its Laplacian at the BCPs in unit of $10^{-2}e/bohr^3$ and $10^{-2}e/bohr^5$; G, V and H represent the kinetic, potential and total energy densities at the BCPs in unit of $10^{-2}a.u./bohr^3$.

| BCP | r1 | r2 | r1/r2 | angle | ρ | $ abla^2 ho$ | G | V | Н | V /G | H/ρ |
|-----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|---------------|------|-------|-------|------|----------|
| PbTe-b | 158.2 | 170.4 | 0.9286 | 180.00 | 2.672 | 3.111 | 1.20 | -1.63 | -0.43 | 1.35 | -1.60 |
| Bi2Te3-b1 | 157.5 | 165.3 | 0.9526 | 179.84 | 3.095 | 3.168 | 1.40 | -2.02 | -0.61 | 1.44 | -1.98 |
| Bi2Te3-b2 | 149.2 | 156.7 | 0.9526 | 179.64 | 4.267 | 2.710 | 1.95 | -3.22 | -1.27 | 1.65 | -2.98 |
| Bi2Te3-b3 | 178.0 | 178.0 | 1.0000 | 180.00 | 1.379 | 2.075 | 0.75 | -0.88 | -0.13 | 1.18 | -0.75 |

Table S2 Electron charge density $(10^2 \rho \text{ in e/bohr}^3)$ at the bond critical points along the slab for stacking-A-sequence structures with 9 (S1-1) and 21 (S1-2) layers, for stacking-B-sequence structures with 9 (S2-1) and 21 (S2-2) layers and stacking-B-sequence structures with the Bi atom replaced by a Pb one with 9 (S3-1) and 21 (S3-2) layers. The critical point numbered 1 corresponds to the Te-Te bond across the gap between the slabs.

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| S1-1 | 1.77 | 4.15 | 1.99 | 4.02 | 3.06 | | | | | | |
| S2-1 | 1.38 | 4.08 | 2.83 | 2.90 | 2.86 | | | | | | |
| S3-1 | 1.69 | 3.60 | 2.26 | 2.98 | 2.67 | | | | | | |
| S1-2 | 1.41 | 4.06 | 1.71 | 3.93 | 2.93 | 3.04 | 3.57 | 2.54 | 3.58 | 2.75 | 3.20 |
| S2-2 | 1.04 | 3.94 | 2.69 | 2.75 | 2.70 | 2.74 | 2.73 | 2.74 | 2.73 | 2.74 | 2.74 |
| S3-2 | 1.70 | 3.62 | 2.19 | 3.02 | 2.49 | 2.87 | 2.61 | 2.79 | 2.67 | 2.75 | 2.71 |



Figure S5 Calculated figure of merit zT of Pb2Bi2Te5 stacking A with *p*-type (a) and *n*-type (b). The solid and dash lines represent zT with and without SOC.



Figure S6 Phonon dispersion convergence of Pb₂Bi₂Te₅ stacking A (a) and stacking B (b) with 1×1×1, 2×2×1 and $2\times2\times2$ supercell.



Figure S7 Phonon dispersion of PbTe (a) and Bi_2Te_3 (b) with (blue line) and without (red line) LO-TO splitting effect. Long-range electrostatic interactions are included by evaluating the dielectric tensor and Born effective charges using density functional perturbation theory.



Figure S8 CPs and flux lines derived from $\nabla \rho(r)$ (light green lines) of PbTe (a) in (100)-plane and Bi₂Te₃ (b) in (110)-plane.