

Approximate models for the lattice thermal conductivity of alloy thermoelectrics: Supporting information

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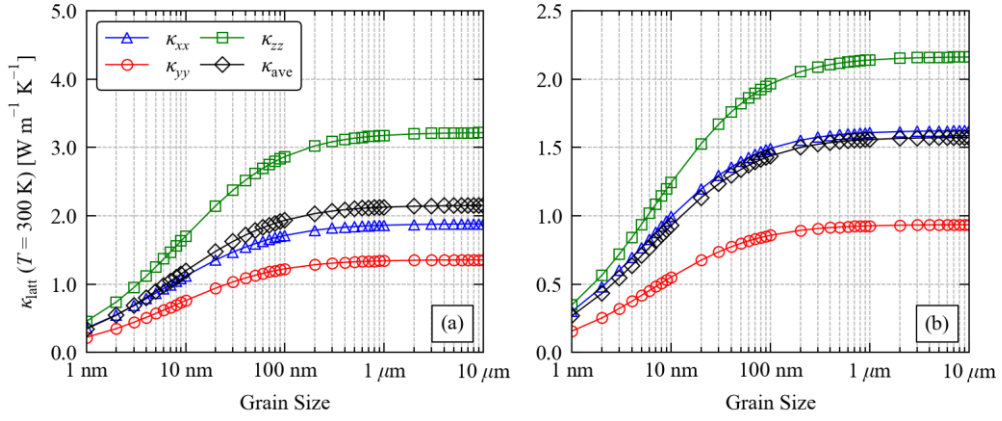


Figure S1 Calculated thermal conductivity κ_{latt} of SnS (a) and SnSe (b) at $T = 300$ K as a function of the crystal grain size, modelled using a boundary-scattering model to limit the phonon mean free paths. Each plot shows the principal κ_{xx} , κ_{yy} and κ_{zz} components of the κ_{latt} tensor, corresponding to transport along the crystallographic a , b and c axes, together with the diagonal average $\kappa_{\text{ave}} = \frac{1}{3} \text{Tr}[\boldsymbol{\kappa}_{\text{latt}}] = \frac{1}{3} (\kappa_{xx} + \kappa_{yy} + \kappa_{zz})$.

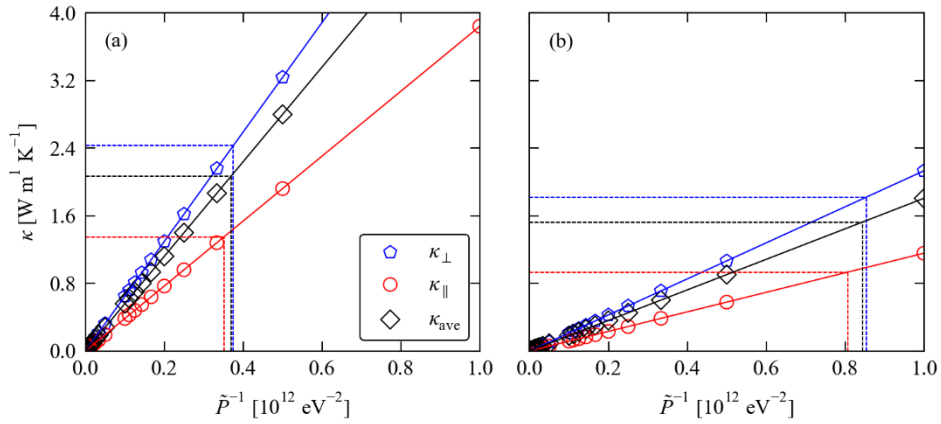


Figure S2 Dependence of the in-plane (κ_{\perp} , blue), out-of-plane (κ_{\parallel} , red) and average thermal conductivity ($\kappa_{\text{ave}} = \frac{1}{3} [2\kappa_{\perp} + \kappa_{\parallel}]$, black) of SnS (a) and SnSe (b) at $T = 300$ K, computed in 32-atom alloy supercells, on the averaged phonon-phonon interaction strength \tilde{P} . The values of \tilde{P} that reproduce the calculated κ_{\perp} , κ_{\parallel} and κ_{ave} are indicated by dashed lines.

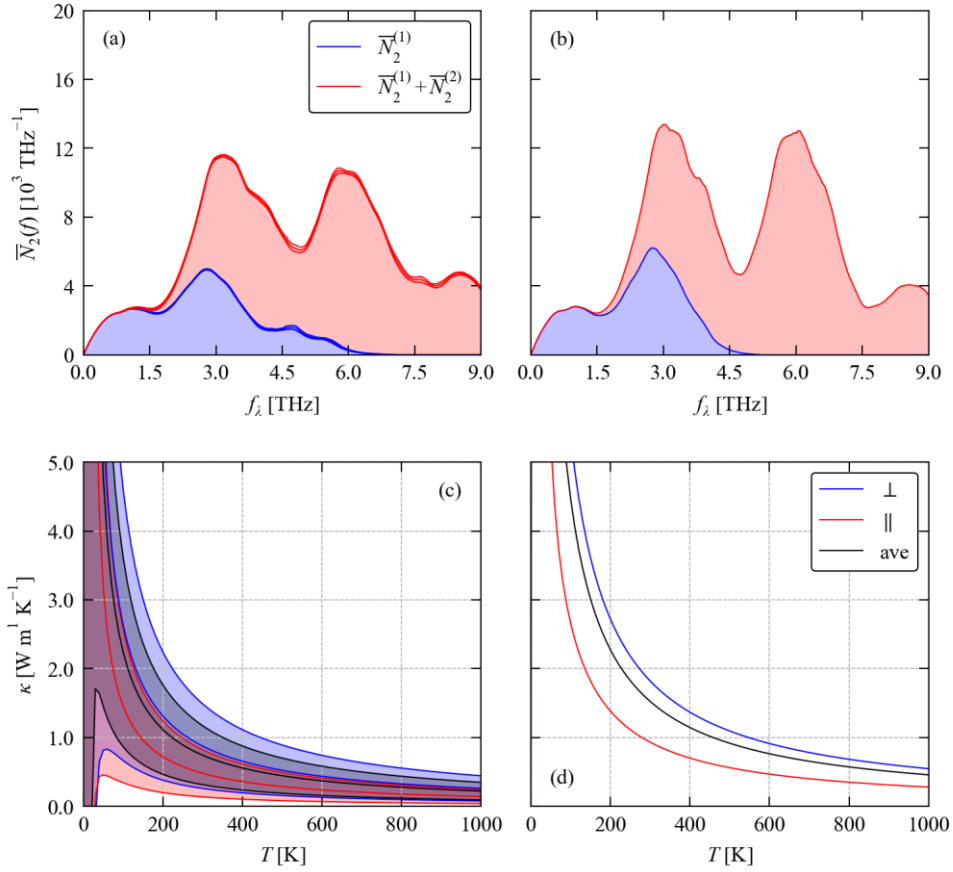


Figure S3 Thermal conductivity of $\text{Sn}(\text{S}_{0.1875}\text{Se}_{0.8125})$ predicted using the model defined in **Eq. 8** in the text with the phonon-phonon interaction strengths replaced by a constant value $\tilde{P} = 1.469 \times 10^{-12} \text{ eV}^2$. (a)/(b) Two-phonon weighted joint density-of-states functions $\bar{N}_2(\omega)$ defined in **Eq. 13** in the text. (c)/(d) Predicted in-plane (κ_{\perp} , blue), out-of-plane (κ_{\parallel} , red) and average thermal conductivity (κ_{ave} , black). Plots (a) and (c) show calculations on the $\text{Sn}(\text{S}_{0.1875}\text{Se}_{0.8125})$ alloy model, and the shaded areas indicate \pm one standard deviation. Plots (b) and (d) show calculations on SnSe for comparison. This plot is identical to **Fig. 9** in the text but includes the two alloy structures for which the κ_{latt} was deemed unphysically large.