

Synthesis, crystal structure, DFT, and photovoltaic studies of BaCeCuS₃

Omair Shahid^a, Sweta Yadav^a, Debanjan Maity^a, Melepurath Deepa^a, Manish K. Niranjan^b, and Jai Prakash^{a,*}

^aDepartment of Chemistry, Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad, Kandi, Sangareddy, Telangana 502284, India

^bDepartment of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad, Kandi, Sangareddy, Telangana 502284, India

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

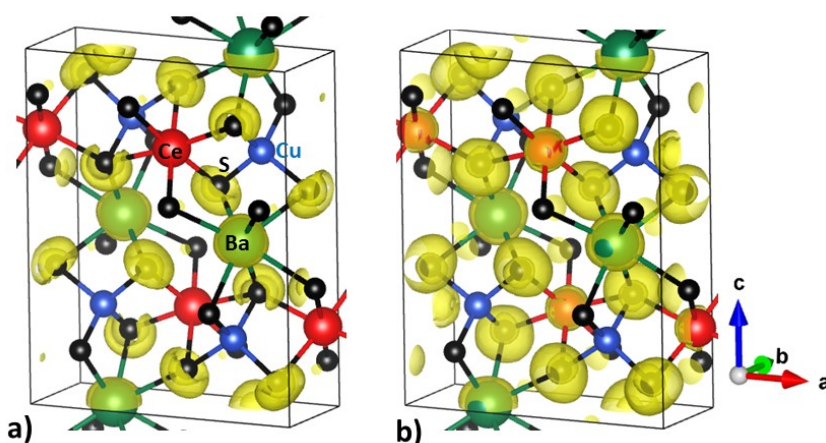


Fig S11: The 3D iso-surfaces of the electron localization function (ELF) for BaCeCuS₃ with (a) $ELF = 0.80$ and (b) $ELF = 0.75$. The yellow cloud indicates the density of transferred charge.

Table S11 Atomic displacement parameters (\AA^2) for the BaCeCuS₃ structure.

	U ¹¹	U ²²	U ³³	U ¹²	U ¹³	U ²³
BaCeCuS₃						
Ba1	0.02149(19)	0.01205(16)	0.01333(17)	0.000	-0.00111(13)	0.000
Ce1	0.00723(14)	0.00772(14)	0.01306(15)	0.000	0.00010(10)	0.000
Cu1	0.0126(3)	0.0215(4)	0.0157(4)	0.000	0.0008(3)	0.000
S1	0.0111(6)	0.0101(5)	0.0108(6)	0.000	0.0009(5)	0.000
S2	0.0084(5)	0.0096(5)	0.0115(6)	0.000	-0.0004(4)	0.000
S3	0.0133(6)	0.0108(5)	0.0110(6)	0.000	-0.0003(5)	0.000

Table S12 All the bond angles (in degrees) in BaCeCuS₃

S2 ⁱ —Ba1—S2 ⁱⁱ	81.54 (4)	S3 ^{viii} —Ce1—Ce1 ^v	43.37 (2)
S2 ⁱ —Ba1—S3 ⁱⁱ	134.76 (3)	S1 ^{ix} —Ce1—Ce1 ^v	44.13 (2)
S2 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—S3 ⁱⁱ	82.70 (3)	S1 ^x —Ce1—Ce1 ^v	135.87 (2)
S2 ⁱ —Ba1—S3 ⁱ	82.70 (3)	Cu1 ^{vii} —Ce1—Ce1 ^v	127.412 (9)
S2 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—S3 ⁱ	134.76 (3)	Cu1 ^{viii} —Ce1—Ce1 ^v	52.589 (9)
S3 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—S3 ⁱ	79.07 (3)	Cu1 ^{ix} —Ce1—Ce1 ^v	52.883 (9)
S2 ⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱ	92.20 (3)	Cu1 ^x —Ce1—Ce1 ^v	127.116 (9)
S2 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱ	150.38 (3)	S2 ^{vi} —Ce1—Ce1 ^{iv}	90.0
S3 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱ	120.17 (3)	S2—Ce1—Ce1 ^{iv}	90.0
S3 ⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱ	72.09 (3)	S3 ^{vii} —Ce1—Ce1 ^{iv}	43.37 (2)
S2 ⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱⁱ	150.38 (3)	S3 ^{viii} —Ce1—Ce1 ^{iv}	136.63 (2)
S2 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱⁱ	92.20 (3)	S1 ^{ix} —Ce1—Ce1 ^{iv}	135.87 (2)
S3 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱⁱ	72.09 (3)	S1 ^x —Ce1—Ce1 ^{iv}	44.13 (2)
S3 ⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱⁱ	120.17 (3)	Cu1 ^{vii} —Ce1—Ce1 ^{iv}	52.589 (9)
S1 ⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱⁱ	79.03 (3)	Cu1 ^{viii} —Ce1—Ce1 ^{iv}	127.412 (9)
S2 ⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱⁱⁱ	75.41 (3)	Cu1 ^{ix} —Ce1—Ce1 ^{iv}	127.116 (9)
S2 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱⁱⁱ	75.41 (3)	Cu1 ^x —Ce1—Ce1 ^{iv}	52.883 (9)
S3 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱⁱⁱ	139.386 (18)	Ce1 ^v —Ce1—Ce1 ^{iv}	180.0
S3 ⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱⁱⁱ	139.386 (18)	S1—Cu1—S3	108.10 (6)
S1 ⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱⁱⁱ	74.99 (3)	S1—Cu1—S2 ⁱⁱ	108.60 (4)
S1 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—S1 ⁱⁱⁱ	74.99 (3)	S3—Cu1—S2 ⁱⁱ	108.88 (4)
S2 ⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱⁱ	169.52 (3)	S1—Cu1—S2 ⁱ	108.60 (4)
S2 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱⁱ	104.08 (2)	S3—Cu1—S2 ⁱ	108.88 (4)
S3 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱⁱ	39.54 (3)	S2 ⁱⁱ —Cu1—S2 ⁱ	113.63 (6)
S3 ⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱⁱ	87.14 (2)	S1—Cu1—Ce1 ⁱ	134.96 (2)
S1 ⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱⁱ	87.08 (2)	S3—Cu1—Ce1 ⁱ	55.64 (3)
S1 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱⁱ	39.47 (3)	S2 ⁱⁱ —Cu1—Ce1 ⁱ	116.38 (4)
S1 ⁱⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱⁱ	114.38 (2)	S2 ⁱ —Cu1—Ce1 ⁱ	55.07 (3)
S2 ⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱ	104.08 (2)	S1—Cu1—Ce1 ⁱⁱ	134.96 (2)

S2 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱ	169.52 (3)	S3—Cu1—Ce1 ⁱⁱ	55.64 (3)
S3 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱ	87.14 (2)	S2 ⁱⁱ —Cu1—Ce1 ⁱⁱ	55.07 (3)
S3 ⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱ	39.54 (3)	S2 ⁱ —Cu1—Ce1 ⁱⁱ	116.38 (4)
S1 ⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱ	39.47 (3)	Ce1 ⁱ —Cu1—Ce1 ⁱⁱ	74.822 (19)
S1 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱ	87.08 (2)	S1—Cu1—Ce1 ^{ix}	56.13 (3)
S1 ⁱⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱ	114.38 (2)	S3—Cu1—Ce1 ^{ix}	135.67 (2)
Cu1 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1 ⁱ	69.030 (19)	S2 ⁱⁱ —Cu1—Ce1 ^{ix}	54.49 (3)
S2 ⁱ —Ba1—Cu1	40.810 (19)	S2 ⁱ —Cu1—Ce1 ^{ix}	115.41 (4)
S2 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1	40.810 (19)	Ce1 ⁱ —Cu1—Ce1 ^{ix}	165.31 (3)
S3 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1	113.88 (3)	Ce1 ⁱⁱ —Cu1—Ce1 ^{ix}	103.537 (11)
S3 ⁱ —Ba1—Cu1	113.88 (3)	S1—Cu1—Ce1 ^x	56.13 (3)
S1 ⁱ —Ba1—Cu1	125.55 (2)	S3—Cu1—Ce1 ^x	135.67 (2)
S1 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1	125.55 (2)	S2 ⁱⁱ —Cu1—Ce1 ^x	115.41 (4)
S1 ⁱⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1	68.52 (3)	S2 ⁱ —Cu1—Ce1 ^x	54.49 (3)
Cu1 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Cu1	144.563 (10)	Ce1 ⁱ —Cu1—Ce1 ^x	103.537 (11)
Cu1 ⁱ —Ba1—Cu1	144.563 (10)	Ce1 ⁱⁱ —Cu1—Ce1 ^x	165.31 (3)
S2 ⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^{iv}	49.233 (18)	Ce1 ^{ix} —Cu1—Ce1 ^x	74.234 (18)
S2 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^{iv}	130.768 (18)	S1—Cu1—Ba1 ^{vii}	61.09 (3)
S3 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^{iv}	129.534 (17)	S3—Cu1—Ba1 ^{vii}	61.05 (3)
S3 ⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^{iv}	50.467 (17)	S2 ⁱⁱ —Cu1—Ba1 ^{vii}	157.70 (4)
S1 ⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^{iv}	50.484 (16)	S2 ⁱ —Cu1—Ba1 ^{vii}	88.67 (3)
S1 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^{iv}	129.514 (16)	Ce1 ⁱ —Cu1—Ba1 ^{vii}	75.832 (13)
S1 ⁱⁱⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^{iv}	90.0	Ce1 ⁱⁱ —Cu1—Ba1 ^{vii}	116.34 (2)
Cu1 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^{iv}	124.514 (10)	Ce1 ^{ix} —Cu1—Ba1 ^{vii}	116.95 (2)
Cu1 ⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^{iv}	55.485 (10)	Ce1 ^x —Cu1—Ba1 ^{vii}	76.661 (13)
Cu1—Ba1—Ba1 ^{iv}	90.0	S1—Cu1—Ba1 ^{viii}	61.09 (3)
S2 ⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^v	130.768 (18)	S3—Cu1—Ba1 ^{viii}	61.05 (3)
S2 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^v	49.233 (18)	S2 ⁱⁱ —Cu1—Ba1 ^{viii}	88.67 (3)
S3 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^v	50.467 (17)	S2 ⁱ —Cu1—Ba1 ^{viii}	157.70 (4)
S3 ⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^v	129.534 (17)	Ce1 ⁱ —Cu1—Ba1 ^{viii}	116.34 (2)

S1 ⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^v	129.514 (16)	Ce1 ⁱⁱ —Cu1—Ba1 ^{viii}	75.832 (13)
S1 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^v	50.484 (16)	Ce1 ^{ix} —Cu1—Ba1 ^{viii}	76.661 (13)
S1 ⁱⁱⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^v	90.0	Ce1 ^x —Cu1—Ba1 ^{viii}	116.95 (2)
Cu1 ⁱⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^v	55.485 (10)	Ba1 ^{vii} —Cu1—Ba1 ^{viii}	69.030 (19)
Cu1 ⁱ —Ba1—Ba1 ^v	124.514 (10)	S1—Cu1—Ba1	129.30 (4)
Cu1—Ba1—Ba1 ^v	90.0	S3—Cu1—Ba1	122.60 (4)
Ba1 ^{iv} —Ba1—Ba1 ^v	180.0	S2 ⁱⁱ —Cu1—Ba1	56.89 (3)
S2 ^{vi} —Ce1—S2	173.75 (2)	S2 ⁱ —Cu1—Ba1	56.89 (3)
S2 ^{vi} —Ce1—S3 ^{vii}	96.69 (4)	Ce1 ⁱ —Cu1—Ba1	80.399 (16)
S2—Ce1—S3 ^{vii}	87.59 (4)	Ce1 ⁱⁱ —Cu1—Ba1	80.399 (16)
S2 ^{vi} —Ce1—S3 ^{viii}	96.69 (4)	Ce1 ^{ix} —Cu1—Ba1	84.927 (17)
S2—Ce1—S3 ^{viii}	87.59 (3)	Ce1 ^x —Cu1—Ba1	84.927 (17)
S3 ^{vii} —Ce1—S3 ^{viii}	93.27 (4)	Ba1 ^{vii} —Cu1—Ba1	145.341 (10)
S2 ^{vi} —Ce1—S1 ^{ix}	86.79 (3)	Ba1 ^{viii} —Cu1—Ba1	145.341 (10)
S2—Ce1—S1 ^{ix}	88.87 (3)	Cu1—S1—Ce1 ^{ix}	81.01 (4)
S3 ^{vii} —Ce1—S1 ^{ix}	176.36 (4)	Cu1—S1—Ce1 ^x	81.01 (4)
S3 ^{viii} —Ce1—S1 ^{ix}	87.38 (3)	Ce1 ^{ix} —S1—Ce1 ^x	91.75 (4)
S2 ^{vi} —Ce1—S1 ^x	86.79 (3)	Cu1—S1—Ba1 ^{vii}	79.43 (4)
S2—Ce1—S1 ^x	88.87 (3)	Ce1 ^{ix} —S1—Ba1 ^{vii}	159.46 (5)
S3 ^{vii} —Ce1—S1 ^x	87.38 (3)	Ce1 ^x —S1—Ba1 ^{vii}	91.316 (15)
S3 ^{viii} —Ce1—S1 ^x	176.36 (4)	Cu1—S1—Ba1 ^{viii}	79.43 (4)
S1 ^{ix} —Ce1—S1 ^x	91.75 (4)	Ce1 ^{ix} —S1—Ba1 ^{viii}	91.316 (15)
S2 ^{vi} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{vii}	137.492 (18)	Ce1 ^x —S1—Ba1 ^{viii}	159.46 (5)
S2—Ce1—Cu1 ^{vii}	45.524 (19)	Ba1 ^{vii} —S1—Ba1 ^{viii}	79.03 (3)
S3 ^{vii} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{vii}	43.31 (3)	Cu1—S1—Ba1 ^{xi}	174.14 (6)
S3 ^{viii} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{vii}	98.96 (3)	Ce1 ^{ix} —S1—Ba1 ^{xi}	94.95 (3)
S1 ^{ix} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{vii}	133.05 (3)	Ce1 ^x —S1—Ba1 ^{xi}	94.95 (3)
S1 ^x —Ce1—Cu1 ^{vii}	79.08 (3)	Ba1 ^{vii} —S1—Ba1 ^{xi}	105.00 (3)
S2 ^{vi} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{viii}	137.492 (18)	Ba1 ^{viii} —S1—Ba1 ^{xi}	105.00 (3)
S2—Ce1—Cu1 ^{viii}	45.524 (19)	Cu1 ^{vii} —S2—Cu1 ^{viii}	113.63 (6)

S3 ^{vii} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{viii}	98.96 (3)	Cu1 ^{vii} —S2—Ce1 ^{xii}	80.23 (4)
S3 ^{viii} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{viii}	43.31 (3)	Cu1 ^{viii} —S2—Ce1 ^{xii}	80.23 (4)
S1 ^{ix} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{viii}	79.08 (3)	Cu1 ^{vii} —S2—Ce1	79.40 (4)
S1 ^x —Ce1—Cu1 ^{viii}	133.05 (3)	Cu1 ^{viii} —S2—Ce1	79.40 (4)
Cu1 ^{vii} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{viii}	74.822 (18)	Ce1 ^{xii} —S2—Ce1	142.31 (5)
S2 ^{vi} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{ix}	45.282 (19)	Cu1 ^{vii} —S2—Ba1 ^{viii}	163.53 (5)
S2—Ce1—Cu1 ^{ix}	131.19 (2)	Cu1 ^{viii} —S2—Ba1 ^{viii}	82.30 (2)
S3 ^{vii} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{ix}	140.76 (3)	Ce1 ^{xii} —S2—Ba1 ^{viii}	107.77 (3)
S3 ^{viii} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{ix}	84.10 (3)	Ce1—S2—Ba1 ^{viii}	100.51 (3)
S1 ^{ix} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{ix}	42.86 (3)	Cu1 ^{vii} —S2—Ba1 ^{vii}	82.30 (2)
S1 ^x —Ce1—Cu1 ^{ix}	97.66 (3)	Cu1 ^{viii} —S2—Ba1 ^{vii}	163.53 (5)
Cu1 ^{vii} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{ix}	175.051 (11)	Ce1 ^{xii} —S2—Ba1 ^{vii}	107.77 (3)
Cu1 ^{viii} —Ce1—Cu1 ^{ix}	105.251 (11)	Ce1—S2—Ba1 ^{vii}	100.51 (3)
S2 ^{vi} —Ce1—Cu1 ^x	45.282 (19)	Ba1 ^{viii} —S2—Ba1 ^{vii}	81.53 (4)
S2—Ce1—Cu1 ^x	131.19 (2)	Cu1—S3—Ce1 ⁱⁱ	81.05 (4)
S3 ^{vii} —Ce1—Cu1 ^x	84.10 (3)	Cu1—S3—Ce1 ⁱ	81.05 (4)
S3 ^{viii} —Ce1—Cu1 ^x	140.76 (3)	Ce1 ⁱⁱ —S3—Ce1 ⁱ	93.27 (4)
S1 ^{ix} —Ce1—Cu1 ^x	97.66 (3)	Cu1—S3—Ba1 ^{viii}	79.41 (4)
S1 ^x —Ce1—Cu1 ^x	42.86 (3)	Ce1 ⁱⁱ —S3—Ba1 ^{viii}	90.552 (15)
Cu1 ^{vii} —Ce1—Cu1 ^x	105.251 (11)	Ce1 ⁱ —S3—Ba1 ^{viii}	159.25 (5)
Cu1 ^{viii} —Ce1—Cu1 ^x	175.051 (11)	Cu1—S3—Ba1 ^{vii}	79.41 (4)
Cu1 ^{ix} —Ce1—Cu1 ^x	74.234 (18)	Ce1 ⁱⁱ —S3—Ba1 ^{vii}	159.25 (5)
S2 ^{vi} —Ce1—Ce1 ^v	90.0	Ce1 ⁱ —S3—Ba1 ^{vii}	90.552 (15)
S2—Ce1—Ce1 ^v	90.0	Ba1 ^{viii} —S3—Ba1 ^{vii}	79.07 (3)
S3 ^{vii} —Ce1—Ce1 ^v	136.63 (2)		

Symmetry codes: (i) $-x+1/2, y+1/2, z-1/2$; (ii) $-x+1/2, y-1/2, z-1/2$; (iii) $x+1/2, -y+1/2, -z+1/2$; (iv) $x, y+1, z$; (v) $x, y-1, z$; (vi) $x-1/2, -y+1/2, -z+3/2$; (vii) $-x+1/2, y+1/2, z+1/2$; (viii) $-x+1/2, y-1/2, z+1/2$; (ix) $-x, -y, -z+1$; (x) $-x, -y+1, -z+1$; (xi) $x-1/2, -y+1/2, -z+1/2$; (xii) $x+1/2, -y+1/2, -z+3/2$.

Section SI1: Optical Properties

The optical parameters are computed from the complex dielectric function $\varepsilon(\omega) = \varepsilon'(\omega) + i\varepsilon''(\omega)$. The imaginary part of the dielectric function $\varepsilon''(\omega)$ is given in terms of electronic band structure as

$$\varepsilon''_{ij}(\omega) = \frac{4\pi^2 e^2}{V} \lim_{q \rightarrow 0} \sum_{c,v,\vec{k}} 2w_{\vec{k}} \delta(\varepsilon_{c\vec{k}} - \varepsilon_{v\vec{k}} - \omega) \times \langle u_{c\vec{k} + \hat{e}_i q} | u_{v\vec{k}} \rangle \langle u_{c\vec{k} + \hat{e}_j q} | u_{v\vec{k}} \rangle^* \quad (\text{S1-1})$$

where index v indicates the valence band (VB), c indicates the conduction band (CB) states; V is the volume of the unit cell; $\varepsilon_{c\vec{k}}$ and $\varepsilon_{v\vec{k}}$ are CB and VB single-electron energy at \vec{k} ; $u_{c\vec{k}}$ is the cell periodic part of the orbitals at the wave vector \vec{k} ; $w_{\vec{k}}$ is the weight of the k-points, \hat{e}_i and \hat{e}_j are the unit vectors for the three Cartesian directions.

The Kramers-Kronig transformation is used to obtain the real part of the dielectric function $\varepsilon'(\omega)$ from $\varepsilon''(\omega)$:

$$\varepsilon'_{ij}(\omega) = 1 + \frac{2}{\pi} P \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\varepsilon''_{ij}(\omega') \omega'}{\omega'^2 - \omega^2 + i\eta} d\omega' \quad (\text{S1-2})$$

Where P is the principal value and η is a small complex shift. The absorption coefficient $\alpha(\omega)$ can be expressed in terms of $\varepsilon'(\omega)$ and $\varepsilon''(\omega)$ as:

$$\alpha(\omega) = \frac{\sqrt{2}\omega}{c} [\sqrt{\varepsilon'(\omega)^2 + \varepsilon''(\omega)^2} - \varepsilon'(\omega)]^{1/2} \quad (\text{S1-3})$$

Section SI2: Thermoelectric properties

The thermoelectric parameters can be computed using the electronic band structure and semi-classical Boltzmann transport theory within the rigid band approach.

The shift in the chemical potential can be used to simulate the carrier concentration (p - or n -type) in the system. The electrical conductivity (σ_{ij}) can be expressed in terms of chemical potential (μ) and temperature (T) as:

$$\sigma_{ij}(T;\mu) = \frac{1}{V} \int \sigma_{ij}(\epsilon) \left[-\frac{\partial f_{\mu}(T;\mu)}{\partial \epsilon} \right] d\epsilon \quad (\text{S2-1})$$

where $f_{\mu}(T;\mu)$ is the Fermi function, V is the volume, ϵ is the energy. Further, the σ_{ij} as function of energy (ϵ) can be expressed as:

$$\sigma_{ij}(\epsilon) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n, \vec{k}} \sigma_{ij}(n, \vec{k}) \delta(\epsilon - \epsilon_{n, \vec{k}}) \quad (\text{S2-2})$$

Where N is the number of \vec{k} points in the Brillouin zone and $\epsilon_{n, \vec{k}}$ are the band energies. $\sigma_{ij}(n, \vec{k})$ can be obtained using relaxation time $\tau_{n, \vec{k}}$ and group velocity $\vec{v}(n, \vec{k})$ as:

$$\sigma_{ij}(n, \vec{k}) = e^2 \tau_{n, \vec{k}} v_i(n, \vec{k}) v_j(n, \vec{k}) \quad (\text{S2-3})$$

The Seebeck coefficient tensor (S_{ij}) as a function of temperature (T) and chemical potential (μ) can be expressed as:

$$S_{ij}(T; \mu) = \frac{1}{eTV\sigma_{ij}(T; \mu)} \int \sigma_{ij}(\epsilon) (\epsilon - \mu) \left[-\frac{\partial f_{\mu}(T; \mu)}{\partial \epsilon} \right] d\epsilon \quad (\text{S2-4})$$

The figure of merit (zT) is given as $zT = \frac{S^2 \sigma T}{(k_{el} + k_{lat})}$. Here, the k_{el} is the electronic component and k_l is the lattice (phonon) component of thermal conductivity. The k_{el} is related to electrical

conductivity (σ) as $k_{el} = L_0 \sigma T$ (Wiedemann-Franz relation), where $L_0 = \frac{\pi^2}{3} \left(\frac{k_B}{e} \right)^2$ is the Lorentz number. The quantities σ and k_{el} are computed with respect to the relaxation time $\tau = (T_0 \times n_0^{1/3}) / (T n^{1/3}) \times 10^{-14} \text{ s}$ where n_0 is the carrier concentration at $T_0 = 300 \text{ K}$.