Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Inorganic Chemistry Frontiers. This journal is © the Partner Organisations 2022

## **Supporting Information**

## Contrasting roles of Bi- doping and Bi<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>3</sub> alloying on the

## thermoelectric performance of SnTe

Fudong Zhang<sup>a,#</sup>, Xia Qi<sup>a,#</sup>, Mingkai He<sup>b</sup>, Fengshan Zheng<sup>c</sup>, Lei Jin<sup>c,\*</sup>, Zhanhui Peng<sup>a</sup>,

Xiaolian Chao<sup>a</sup>, Zupei Yang<sup>a,\*</sup>, Di, Wu<sup>a,\*</sup>

- <sup>a</sup> Key Laboratory for Macromolecular Science of Shaanxi Province, School of Materials Science and Engineering, Shaanxi Normal University, Xi'an 710062, China.
- <sup>b</sup> Department of Physics, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong 999077, China
- <sup>c</sup>Ernst Ruska-Centre for Microscopy and Spectroscopy with Electrons Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH

52428 Jülich, Germany.

<sup>#</sup> These authors contributed equally to this work.

\*Correspondence shall be addressed to:

E-mails: l.jin@fz-juelich.de, yangzp@snnu.edu.cn, wud@snnu.edu.cn.



**Figure S1** (a) The powder XRD patterns for  $Sn_{1-y}Bi_yTe_{1+0.5y}$  (y = 0, 0.01, 0.03, 0.05, 0.07, 0.09, 0.12, 0.15). (b) Calculated lattice parameters obtained from (a).



**Figure S2** (a) and (b) Room-temperature carrier concentration ( $n_{\rm H}$ ) and carrier mobility ( $\mu_{\rm H}$ ) of Sn<sub>1-x</sub>Bi<sub>x</sub>Te and Sn<sub>1</sub>. <sub>y</sub>Bi<sub>y</sub>Te<sub>1+0.5y</sub>, respectively.



**Figure S3** Temperature dependent (a) power factor, (b) calculated electronic thermal conductivity, (c) calculated weighted carrier mobility, and (d) ZT of Sn<sub>1-x</sub>Bi<sub>x</sub>Te (x = 0, 0.01, 0.03 and 0.05) and Sn<sub>1-y</sub>Bi<sub>y</sub>Te<sub>1+0.5y</sub> (y = 0, 0.01, 0.03 and 0.05).



Figure S4 Low magnification TEM image of  $Sn_{0.97}Bi_{0.03}Te_{1.015}$  sample showing (a) mesoscale grains and (b) dislocation arrays at grain boundaries.



**Figure S5** (a) The powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns and (b) calculated lattice parameters of  $(Sn_{1-z}Ge_zTe)_{0.97}$ -(BiTe<sub>1.5</sub>)<sub>0.03</sub> (z = 0, 0.04, 0.08, 0.12 and 0.15).



Figure S6 Room-temperature carrier concentration ( $n_{\rm H}$ ) and carrier mobility ( $\mu_{\rm H}$ ) of (Sn<sub>1-z</sub>Ge<sub>z</sub>Te)<sub>0.97</sub>-(BiTe<sub>1.5</sub>)<sub>0.03</sub> (z = 0.04, 0.08, 0.12 and 0.15).