

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Title	Page No.
1.1	TE module for (a) refrigeration and (b) power generation.	5
1.2	Dependence of S , PF and σ on the concentration of carriers.	6
1.3	Schematic diagram of Frank-Van der Merwe mode of growth.	10
1.4	Hexagonal unit cell of Sb_2Te_3 (Yavorsky et al. 2011).	17
2.1	Cleaned quartz ampoule for the synthesis of compound charge.	25
2.2	Muffle furnace with rotation mechanism.	26
2.3	Horizontal dual zone furnace employed for vapor growth.	27
2.4	Photograph of inverted metallurgical microscope.	29
2.5	Schematic diagram of SEM.	31
2.6	Schematic diagram of TEM.	33
2.7	Schematic diagram of AFM.	34
2.8	Block diagram of an EDAX system.	35
2.9	Schematic diagram of X-ray diffraction.	37
2.10	Vickers pyramidal indenter.	39
2.11	Schematic diagram of four-point probe method.	40
2.12	Randomly shaped sample with all contacts at the border.	41
2.13	Schematic diagram of Hall effect measurement.	42
2.14	Schematic diagram of Seebeck effect.	45

3.1	Ampoule containing nonstoichiometric charge.	51
3.2	EDAX profile revealing oxygen content.	52
3.3	Stoichiometric ingot of Sb_2Te_3 .	53
3.4	EDAX profile of the stoichiometric charge.	54
3.5	Sb_2Te_3 platelets grown at $\Delta T = 90^\circ\text{C}$.	56
3.6	Sb_2Te_3 platelets grown at (a) $\Delta T = 100^\circ\text{C}$ and (b) $\Delta T = 110^\circ\text{C}$.	56
3.7	Sb_2Te_3 platelets grown at $\Delta T = 120^\circ\text{C}$.	57
3.8	(a) Small & irregular platelets grown at $\Delta T = 130^\circ\text{C}$ and (b) kinked crystals at $\Delta T = 140^\circ\text{C}$.	57
3.9	SEM image depicting parallel growth steps on the surface.	58
3.10	AFM image showing growth layers.	59
3.11	3D AFM image depicting growth hillocks.	60
3.12	AFM image of etch pits.	61
3.13	EDAX profile of Sb_2Te_3 crystal.	62
3.14	Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of Sb_2Te_3 .	63
3.15	Well defined $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_{3-x}\text{S}_x$ platelets grown at (a) $\Delta T = 120^\circ\text{C}$ and (b) $\Delta T = 130^\circ\text{C}$.	65
3.16	Platelets grown at $\Delta T = 140^\circ\text{C}$ with distorted shape.	65
3.17a	SEM micrograph for composition $x = 0$.	66
3.17b	SEM micrograph of crystals for composition $x = 0.4$, showing small clusters.	66
3.18a	X-ray diffraction pattern of $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_{2.9}\text{S}_{0.1}$ crystals.	67
3.18b	X-ray diffraction pattern of $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_{2.8}\text{S}_{0.2}$ crystals.	67
3.18c	X-ray diffraction pattern of $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_{2.7}\text{S}_{0.3}$ crystals.	68
3.19	EDAX profile of $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_{2.7}\text{S}_{0.3}$ crystal.	69
3.20	Seebeck coefficient of $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_{3-x}\text{S}_x$ platelet crystals ($x = 0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3$ & 0.4).	71

3.21	Dependence of S and $S^2\sigma$ on sulfur composition.	72
3.22	Temperature dependence of resistivity for the $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_{3-x}\text{S}_x$ platelets.	74
3.23	Temperature dependence of Seebeck coefficient for the $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_{3-x}\text{S}_x$ platelets.	75
3.24	Variations of microhardness with load in $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_{3-x}\text{S}_x$ crystals.	78
3.25	AFM image of etch pits on the surface of $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_{2.7}\text{S}_{0.3}$ crystal.	79
3.26	Dislocation rosettes on the Sb_2Te_3 crystal after indentation.	79
3.27a	Meyer plot in the load range $(5-25) \times 10^{-3}$ kg.	81
3.27b	Meyer plot in the load range $(35-100) \times 10^{-3}$ kg.	82
4.1	Platelet crystals grown by the PVD method.	88
4.2a	X-ray diffraction pattern of $\text{Sb}_{1.9}\text{In}_{0.1}\text{Te}_3$ crystals.	89
4.2b	X-ray diffraction pattern of $\text{Sb}_{1.8}\text{In}_{0.2}\text{Te}_3$ crystals.	90
4.2c	X-ray diffraction pattern of $\text{Sb}_{1.7}\text{In}_{0.3}\text{Te}_3$ crystals.	90
4.3	2-D AFM images of indium doped platelet.	92
4.4	Crystal structure of Sb_2Te_3 unit cell (Kokh et al. 2014).	93
4.5a	3-D AFM image of the $\text{Sb}_{1.9}\text{In}_{0.1}\text{Te}_3$ platelet.	94
4.5b	3-D AFM image of the $\text{Sb}_{1.8}\text{In}_{0.2}\text{Te}_3$ platelet.	94
4.5c	3-D AFM image of the $\text{Sb}_{1.7}\text{In}_{0.3}\text{Te}_3$ platelet.	95
4.6	SEM micrograph of a $\text{Sb}_{1.6}\text{In}_{0.4}\text{Te}_3$ crystal exhibiting regions of precipitates.	96
4.7	SEM micrograph of a $\text{Sb}_{1.7}\text{In}_{0.3}\text{Te}_3$ crystal exhibiting smooth surface.	97
4.8	Schematic diagram of various defects in a crystal.	98

4.9	TEM image exhibiting native defects of pure Sb_2Te_3 crystal.	99
4.10	TEM image of defects in the doped Sb_2Te_3 crystal.	99
4.11	ρ - T dependence of $\text{Sb}_{2-x}\text{In}_x\text{Te}_3$ crystals.	100
4.12	Seebeck coefficient-temperature dependence of the $\text{Sb}_{2-x}\text{In}_x\text{Te}_3$ crystals.	101
4.13	Seebeck coefficient of the grown crystals.	102
4.14	Variation of power factor with composition.	103
4.15	Temperature dependence of thermal conductivity.	104
4.16	Load dependence of microhardness in $\text{Sb}_{2-x}\text{In}_x\text{Te}_3$ crystals.	106
5.1	Photograph of a sealed sample after irradiation.	111
5.2	EDAX profile of Sb_2Te_3 crystals annealed at 473 K.	113
5.3a	SEM image of 25 kGy irradiated Sb_2Te_3 crystal.	114
5.3b	SEM image of 30 kGy irradiated Sb_2Te_3 crystal.	114
5.3c	SEM image of 20 kGy irradiated Sb_2Te_3 crystal.	115
5.4a	SEM image showing the surface of an annealed (473 K) Sb_2Te_3 crystal.	115
5.4b	SEM image showing the surface of an annealed (573 K) Sb_2Te_3 crystal.	116
5.5	Powder diffraction pattern of pure and annealed (473 & 573 K) crystals.	117
5.6	Powder diffraction pattern of irradiated (0, 25 & 30 kGy) crystals.	118
5.7	Variation of mobility and carrier concentration with annealing temperature.	119
5.8	Variation of Seebeck coefficient and conductivity with annealing temperature.	120

5.9	Variation of power factor with annealing temperature.	121
5.10	Dependence of mobility and carrier concentration on gamma ray dose.	122
5.11	Dependence of Seebeck coefficient and conductivity on irradiation dose.	123
5.12	Dependence of power factor on irradiation dose.	124
5.13	AFM image exhibiting distorted lattice after irradiation with 30 kGy gamma ray dose.	125
6.1	Transmittance spectra of $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_{3-x}\text{S}_x$ crystals.	130
6.2	Transmittance spectra of $\text{Sb}_{2-x}\text{In}_x\text{Te}_3$ crystals.	133
6.3	$(\alpha h\nu)^2$ versus photon energy ($h\nu$) of $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_{2.7}\text{S}_{0.3}$ samples.	135
6.4	$(\alpha h\nu)^2$ versus photon energy ($h\nu$) of $\text{Sb}_{1.7}\text{In}_{0.3}\text{Te}_3$ samples.	135
6.5	Variation of band gap with sulfur content.	136
6.6	Variation of band gap with indium content.	137
6.7	Temperature dependence of power factor for Sb_2Te_3 crystals.	138
6.8	Temperature dependence of power factor for $\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_{3-x}\text{S}_x$ crystals.	139
6.9	Temperature dependence of power factor for $\text{Sb}_{2-x}\text{In}_x\text{Te}_3$ crystals.	139