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Effect of acceptor impurity (Cu and Al) in $Zn_{4-x}M_xSb_3$ thermoelectric materials via hot-isostatic pressing (HIP) method (Conference Paper)

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Abstract

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This project investigates the influence of dopants use via hot-isostatic pressing (HIP) sintering technique on thermoelectric properties. A total of 8 samples weighing 3-g each at different compositions ($Zn_{4-x}M_xSb_3$) ($M = Cu, Al$) ($x = 0, 0.3, 0.6$ at.%) were prepared via powder metallurgy technique and followed by HIP sintering process. The relative density of all the samples recorded 85-95% which is comparable to the published data. From the XRD results, a near single phase of Zn_4Sb_3 was obtained. The SEM images revealed a minor of porous surface exist and showed metallurgical bonding formed in the prepared samples. From thermoelectric properties characterization, Cu showed as an effective element to lower the electrical resistivity as compared to Al when Sample 6 ($Zn_{3.4}Cu_{0.6}Sb_3$) recorded $16.18 \times 10^{-5} \Omega m$ and Sample 8 ($Zn_{3.4}Cu_{0.6}Sb_3$) was $27.09 \times 10^{-5} \Omega m$. The results showed that HIP sintering technique at lower temperature compare to others studies offers potential processing route to produce a good thermoelectric material associated with the doping element. © 2019 Author(s).

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