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Patent Search

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Inventor

Name	Address	Country	Nat
Dr. S. Haseena	Assistant Professor & Head Department of Physics, Muthayammal Memorial College of Arts and Science, Rasipuram, Namakkal, Pin:637408, Tamil Nadu, India.	India	Indi
Dr. L. Kungumadevi	Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, Mother Teresa Women's University, Kodaikanal, Pin: 624101, Tamil Nadu, India.	India	Indi
Dr. Rathinam R	Professor & Head, Department of Science and Humanities, Karpagam College of Engineering, Myleripalayam Village, Othakkal Mandapam, Coimbatore, Pin: 641032, Tamil Nadu, India.	India	Indi
Dr. Lalrintluanga Sailo	Assistant Professor, Government Serchhip College, Serchhip, Pin: 796181, Mizoram, India.	India	Indi
Dr. T. Malsawmtluanga	Assistant Professor, Lunglei Government, College, Lunglei, Pin: 796701, Mizoram, India.	India	Indi
Dr. Kavita Khatana	Assistant Professor, G L Bajaj Institute of Technology and Management, Greater Noida, Gautam Budhha Nagar, Pin: 201306, Uttar Pradesh, India.	India	Indi
Dr. S. Renukadevi	Associate Professor, Department of Physics, K. S. R. College of Engineering, KSR Kalvi Nagar, Tiruchengode, Pin: 637215, Tamil Nadu, India.	India	Indi
Mr. Addagatla Prashanth	Assistant Professor, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Institute of Aeronautical Engineering, Dundigal Road, Dundigal, Hyderabad, Pin: 500043, Telangana, India.	India	Indi
Mrs. D. Divya	Assistant Professor, St. Peter's Engineering College, Maisammaguda, Hyderabad, Medchal – Malkajgiri, Pin: 500100, Telangana, India.	India	Indi
Mr. CH V Ganesh	Assistant Professor, St. Peter's Engineering College, Maisammaguda, Hyderabad, Medchal – Malkajgiri, Pin: 500100, Telangana, India.	India	Indi

Applicant

Name	Address	Country	Na
Dr. S. Haseena	Assistant Professor & Head Department of Physics, Muthayammal Memorial College of Arts and Science, Rasipuram, Namakkal, Pin:637408, Tamil Nadu, India.	India	Ind
Dr. L. Kungumadevi	Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, Mother Teresa Women's University, Kodaikanal, Pin: 624101, Tamil Nadu, India.	India	Ind
Dr. Rathinam R	Professor & Head, Department of Science and Humanities, Karpagam College of Engineering, Myleripalayam Village, Othakkal Mandapam, Coimbatore, Pin: 641032, Tamil Nadu, India.	India	Ind
Dr. Lalrintluanga Sailo	Assistant Professor, Government Serchhip College, Serchhip, Pin: 796181, Mizoram, India.	India	Ind
Dr. T. Malsawmtluanga	Assistant Professor, Lunglei Government, College, Lunglei, Pin: 796701, Mizoram, India.	India	Ind
Dr. Kavita Khatana	Assistant Professor, G L Bajaj Institute of Technology and Management, Greater Noida, Gautam Budhha Nagar, Pin: 201306, Uttar Pradesh, India.	India	Ind
Dr. S. Renukadevi	Associate Professor, Department of Physics, K. S. R. College of Engineering, KSR Kalvi Nagar, Tiruchengode, Pin: 637215, Tamil Nadu, India.	India	Ind
Mr. Addagatla Prashanth	Assistant Professor, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Institute of Aeronautical Engineering, Dundigal Road, Dundigal, Hyderabad, Pin: 500043, Telangana, India.	India	Ind
Mrs. D. Divya	Assistant Professor, St. Peter's Engineering College, Maisammaguda, Hyderabad, Medchal – Malkajgiri, Pin: 500100, Telangana, India.	India	Ind
Mr. CH V Ganesh	Assistant Professor, St. Peter's Engineering College, Maisammaguda, Hyderabad, Medchal – Malkajgiri, Pin: 500100, Telangana, India.	India	Ind

Abstract:

The invention relates to a graphene-enhanced thermoelectric material designed to achieve high efficiency in energy conversion applications. The material comprises a thermoelectric matrix, such as bismuth telluride or lead telluride, with uniformly dispersed graphene nanostructures to optimize electrical conductivity and reduce phonoi thermal conductivity, resulting in a significantly improved thermoelectric figure of merit (ZT). The invention includes a novel fabrication process involving liquid-phase exfoultrasonic dispersion, and controlled sintering to ensure homogeneity and stability. The material is suited for waste heat recovery, thermoelectric generators, and advance cooling systems, offering enhanced performance, thermal stability, and mechanical strength.

Complete Specification

Description: This invention relates to the field of thermoelectric materials, specifically to graphene-enhanced thermoelectric composites designed for high-efficiency ener conversion. The invention focuses on materials and methods that achieve superior thermoelectric performance by leveraging graphene's exceptional electrical and therr properties. These materials are particularly suited for applications in waste heat recovery, thermoelectric generators, and advanced cooling technologies.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The following description of related art is intended to provide background information pertaining to the field of the disclosure. This section may include certain aspects c the art that may be related to various features of the present disclosure. However, it should be appreciated that this section be used only to enhance the understanding the reader with respect to the present disclosure, and not as admissions of prior art.

Thermoelectric materials enable the direct conversion of heat energy into electrical energy through the Seebeck effect and vice versa through the Peltier effect. These materials have gained significant attention in the past decades for their potential applications in sustainable energy systems, waste heat recovery, and refrigeration. However, their widespread adoption is hindered by low thermoelectric efficiency, typically quantified by the dimensionless figure of merit (ZT).

Achieving a high ZT requires a delicate balance of electrical and thermal properties: high electrical conductivity, low thermal conductivity, and a high Seebeck coefficient. Traditional thermoelectric materials, such as bismuth telluride and lead telluride, have reached certain performance limits due to their intrinsic material properties, leavi minimal room for improvement using conventional approaches

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