



SCHOOL of ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCE
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Ballistic transport of long wavelength phonons in superlattices and nanograined alloys



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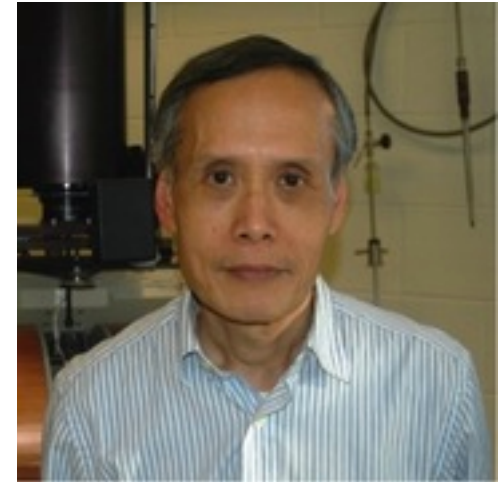


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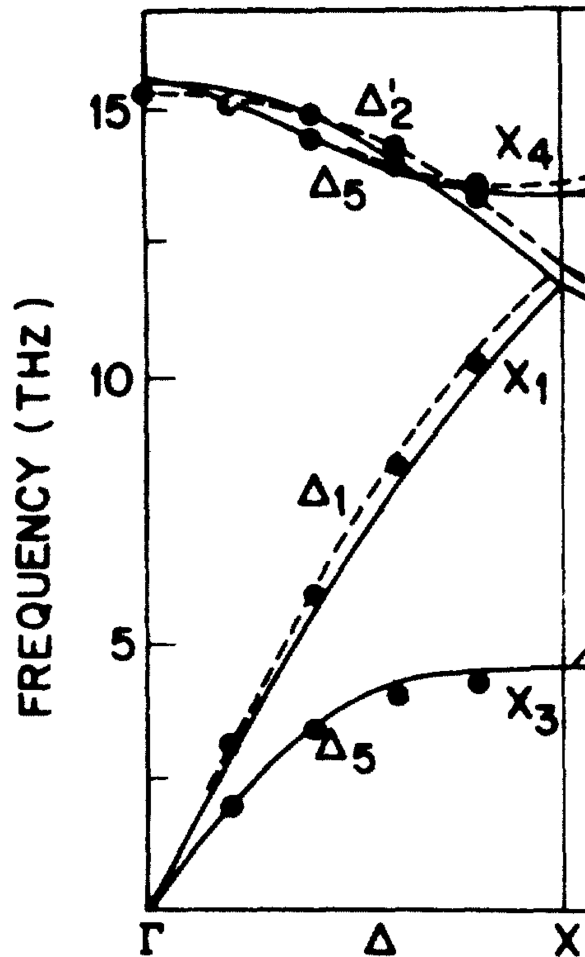


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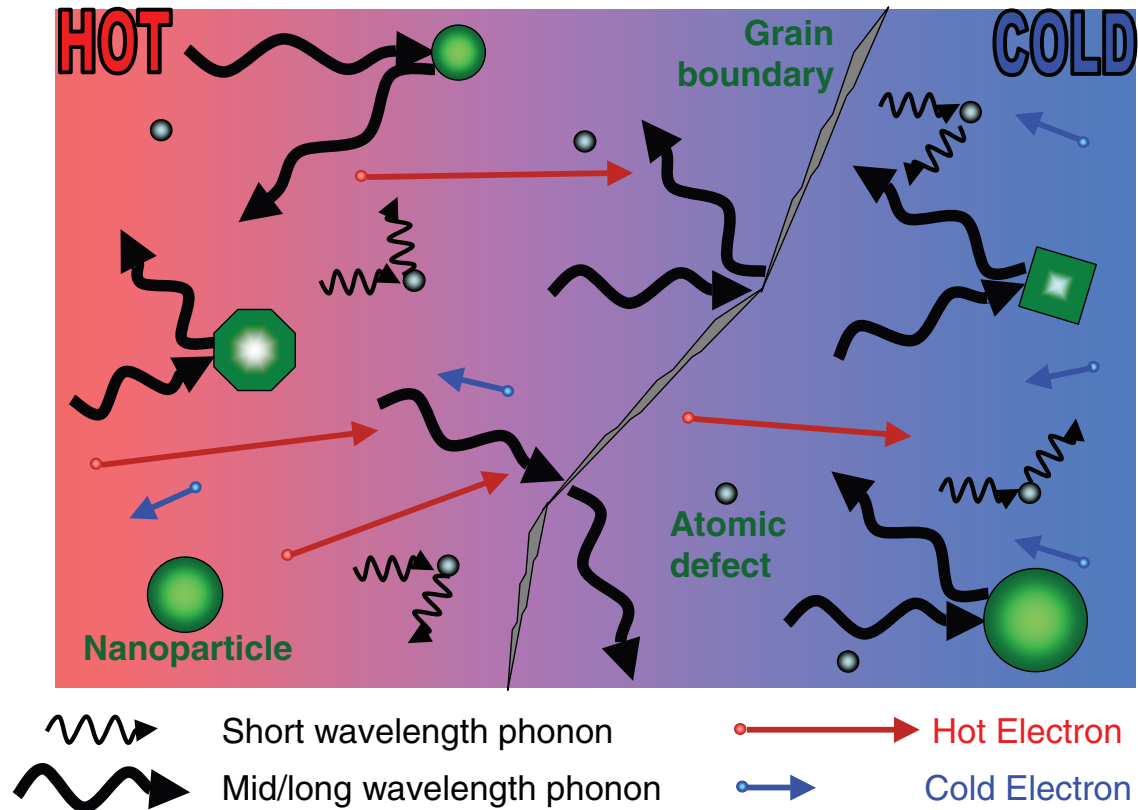
Designing phonon transport on the nanoscale

Silicon phonon dispersion



from *PRB* **15**,
4789 (1977)

$$\kappa = \frac{1}{3} C v \lambda = \frac{1}{3} C v_g^2 \tau$$



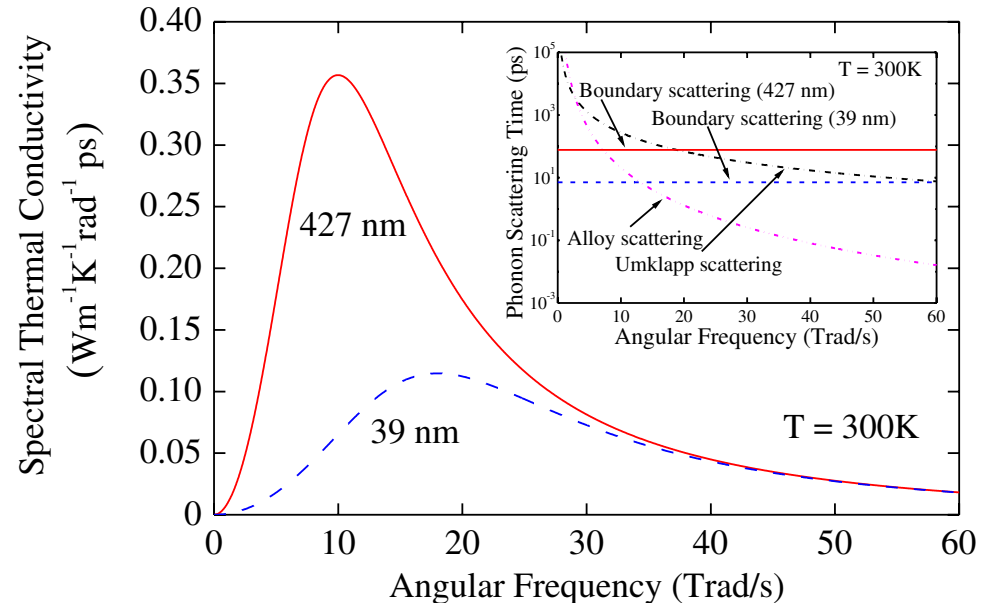
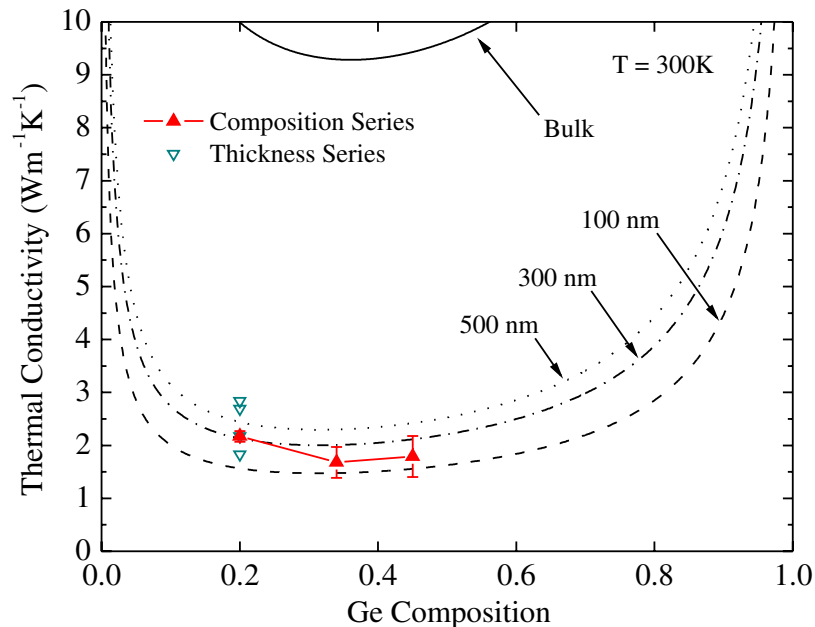
from *Adv. Mat.* **22**, 3970 (2010)

Thin film alloys: short vs. long wavelength phonons

Short wavelength phonons: defect scattering

Long wavelength phonons: limited by film thickness

Example: SiGe alloy thin films



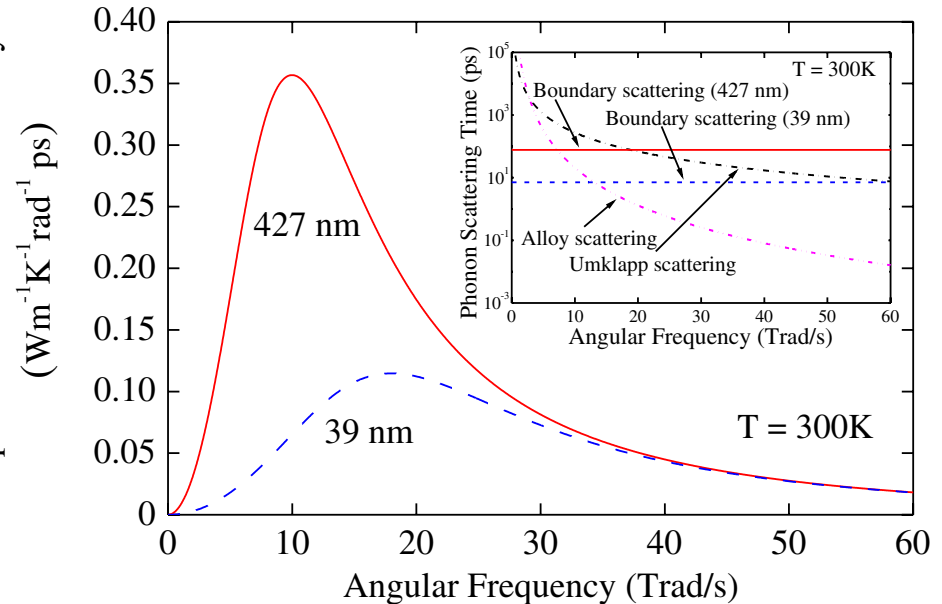
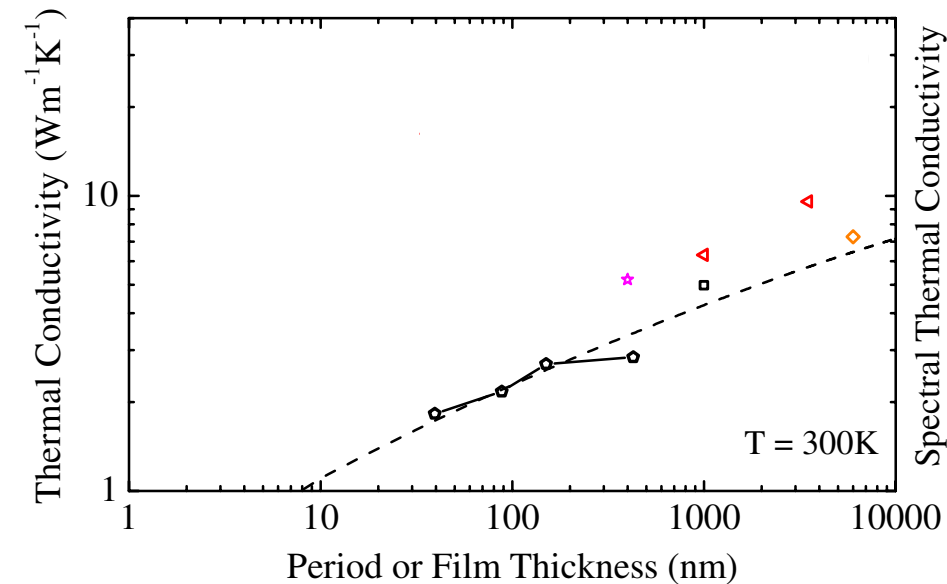
Cheaito et al, PRL 109, 195901 (2012)

Thin film alloys: short vs. long wavelength phonons

Short wavelength phonons: defect scattering

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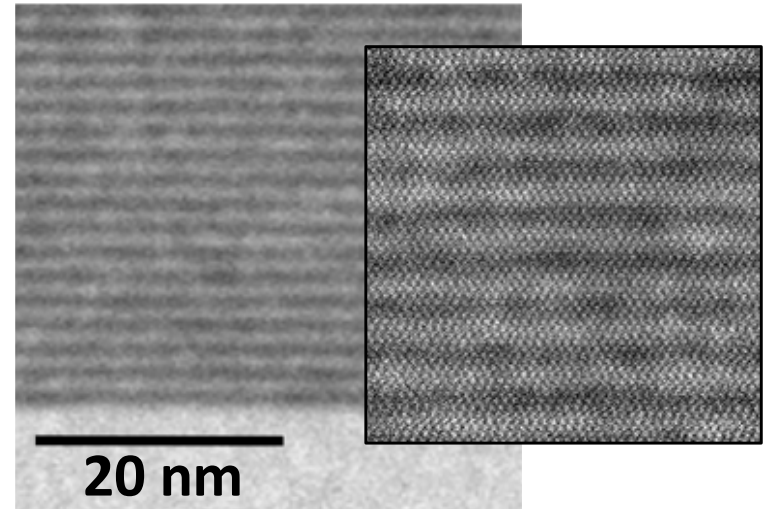
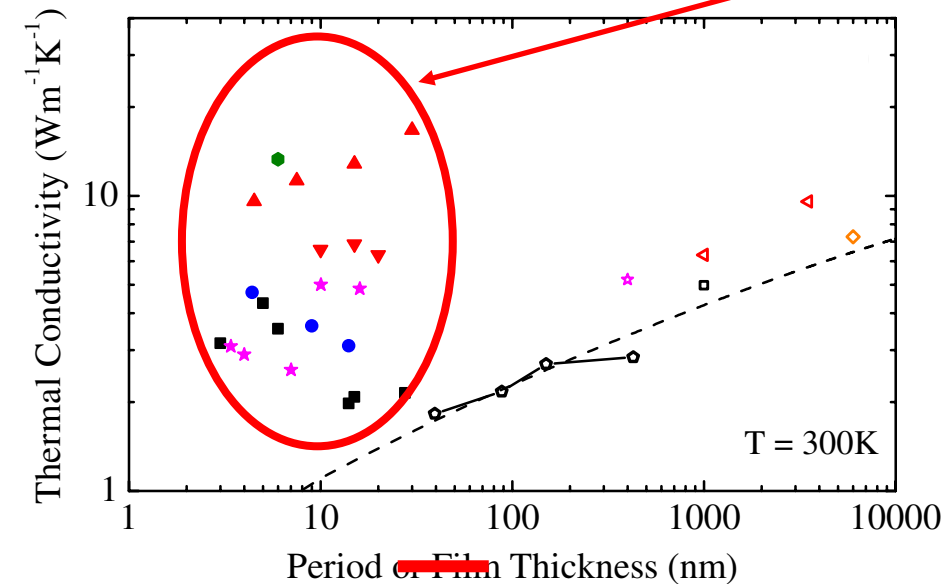
Cheaito et al, PRL 109, 195901 (2012)

Boundary scattering in superlattices

Short wavelength phonons: defect scattering

Long wavelength phonons: limited by film thickness

What about superlattices?



$$d_{\text{SL}} = 2 \text{ nm}$$

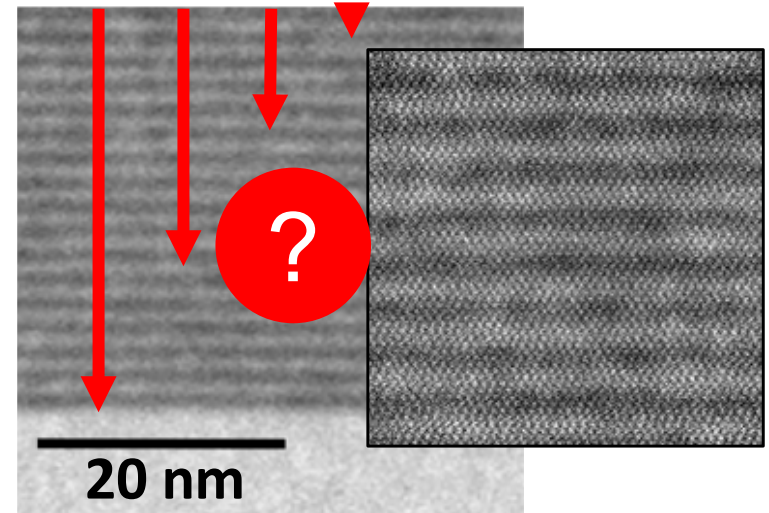
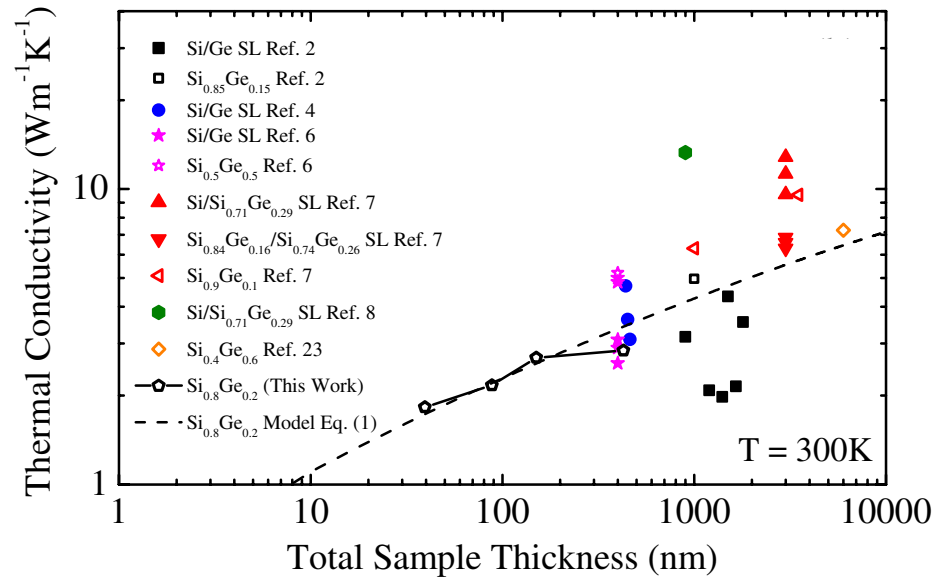
Cheaito et al, PRL 109, 195901 (2012)

Boundary scattering in superlattices

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What about superlattices?



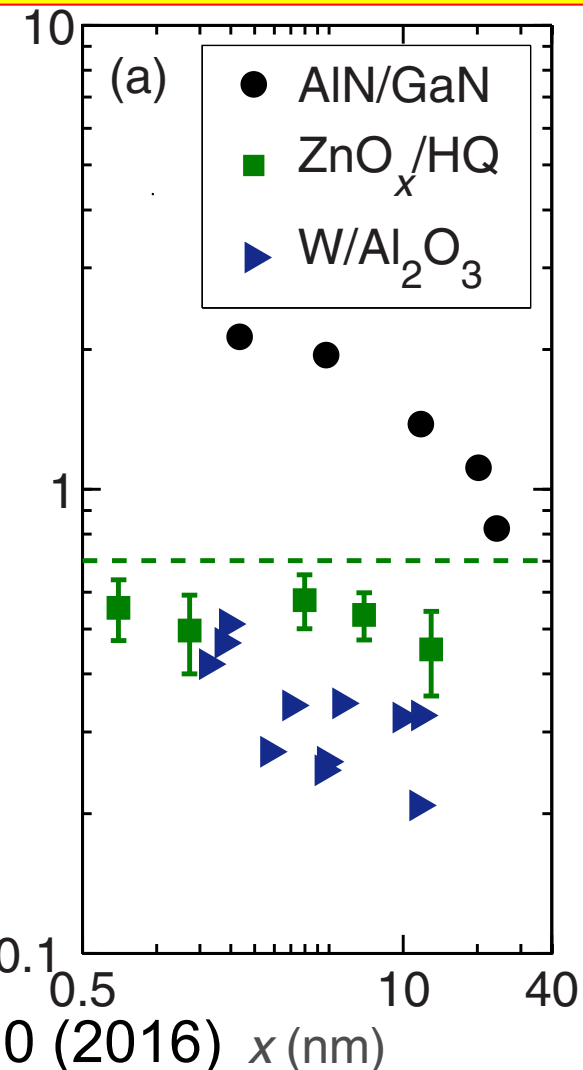
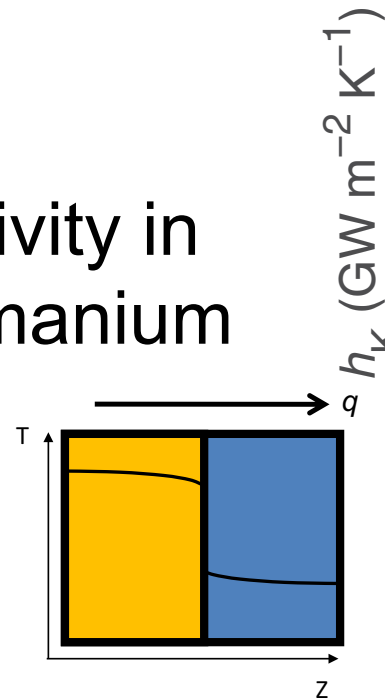
$$d_{\text{SL}} = 2 \text{ nm}$$

Cheaito et al, PRL 109, 195901 (2012)

Question: Do phonons “see” interfaces spectrally in superlattices and nanocomposites?

Outline

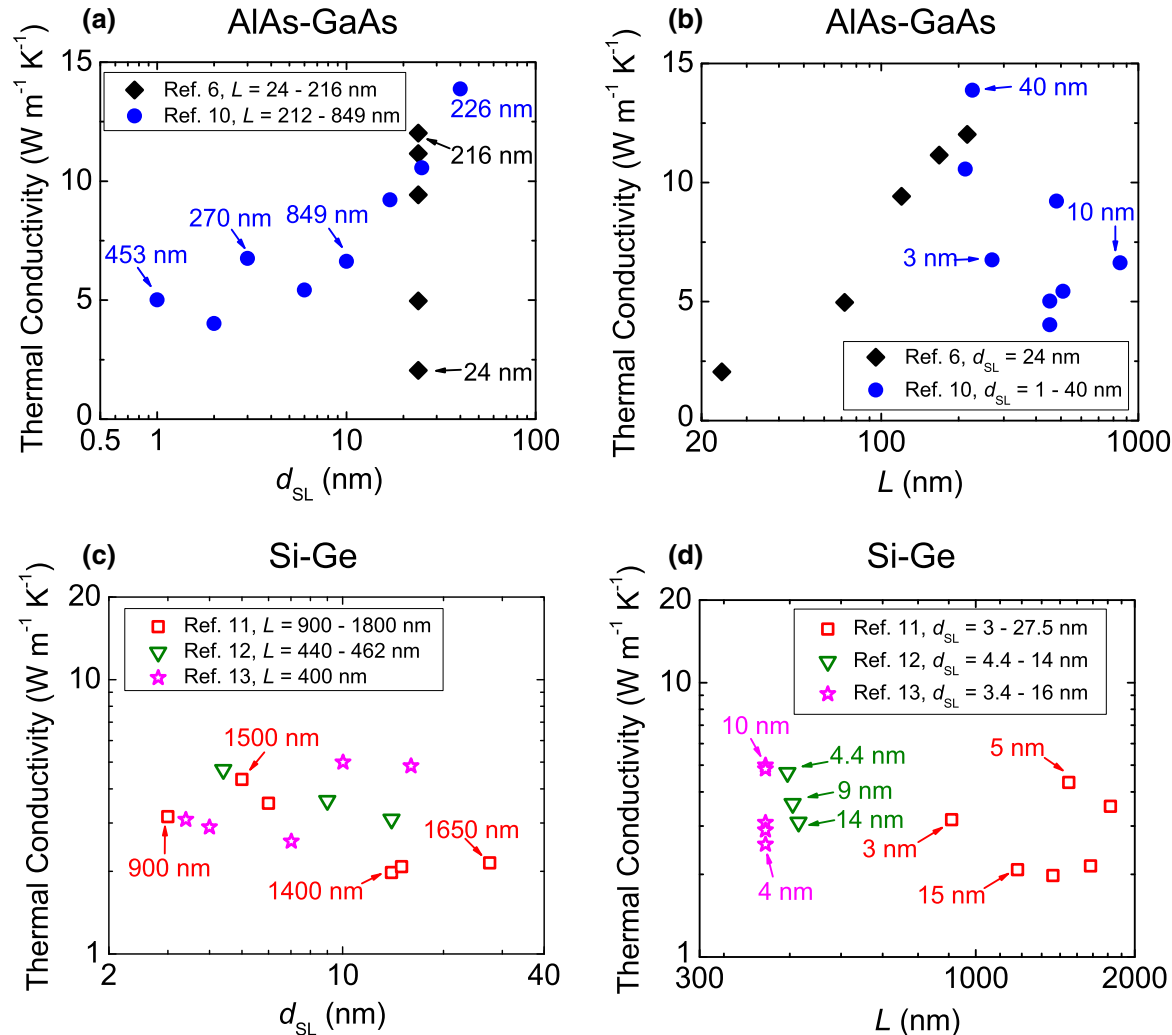
- Period vs. sample thickness boundary scattering in thermal conductivity of SLs
- Spectral thermal conductivity in nano-grained silicon-germanium



Giri et al, PRB 93, 115310 (2016)

Superlattices: Period vs. sample thickness effects

Why has this not been observed before?
Inconsistent comparisons, must control sample and period

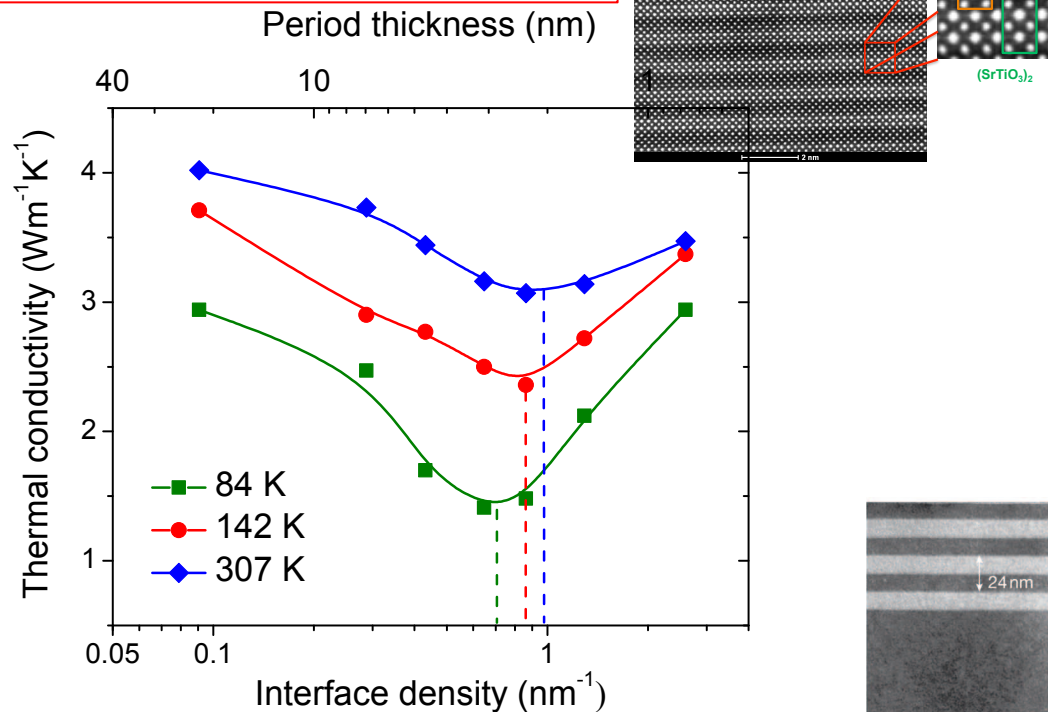


Cheaito et al, PRB 97, 085306 (2018)

Superlattices: Period vs. sample thickness effects

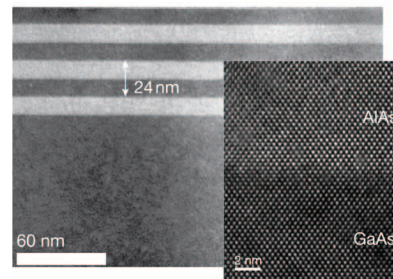
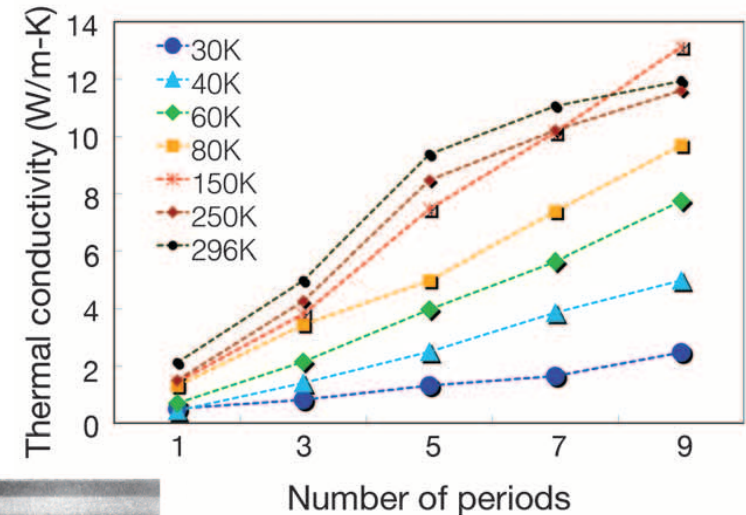
Must study both to understand novel phonon transport mechanisms: e.g., coherent vs. ballistic vs. incoherent

CTO/STO Sample constant Period variable



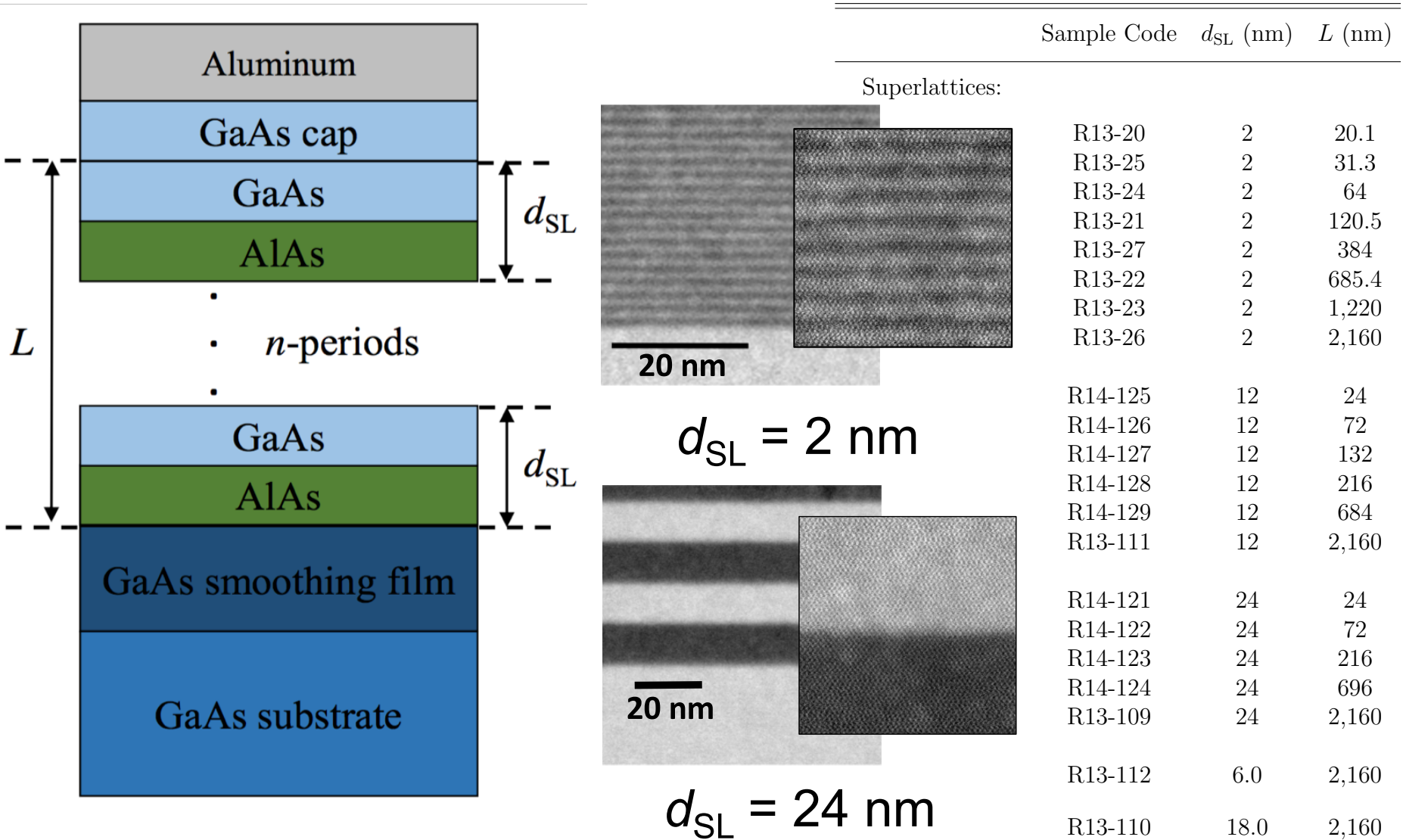
Nat. Mat. **13**, 168 (2013)

GaAs/AlAs Sample variable Period constant

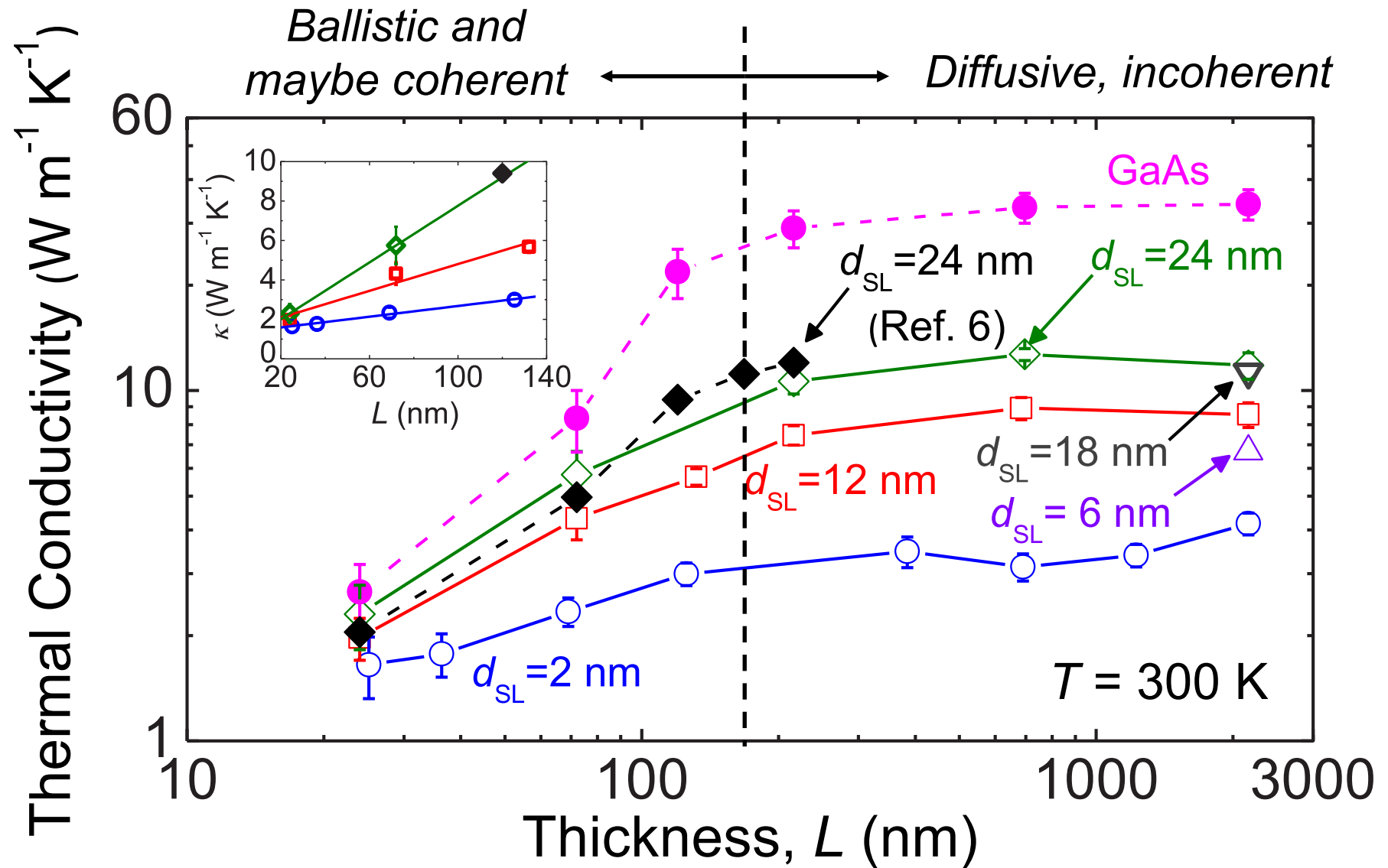


Science **338**, 936 (2012)

Sample matrix of GaAs/AlAs superlattices



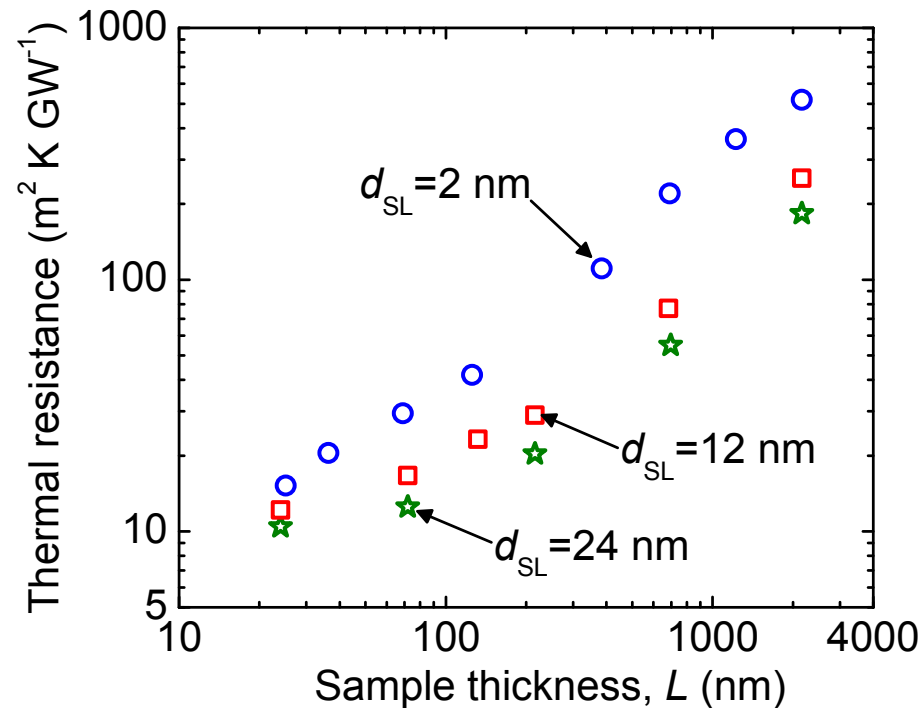
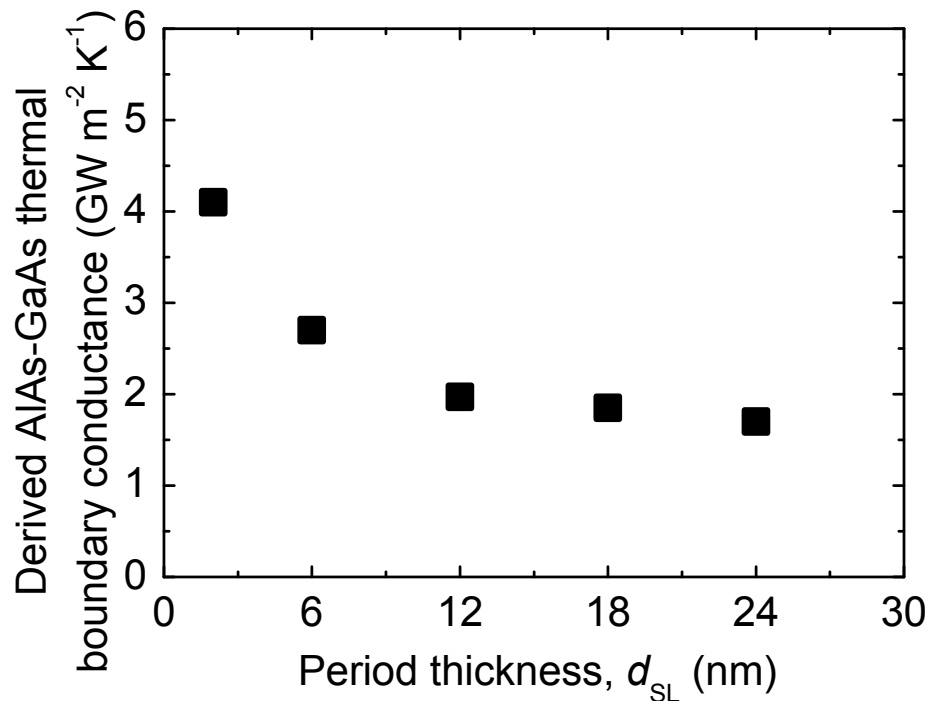
Thermal conductivity of GaAs/AlAs SLs



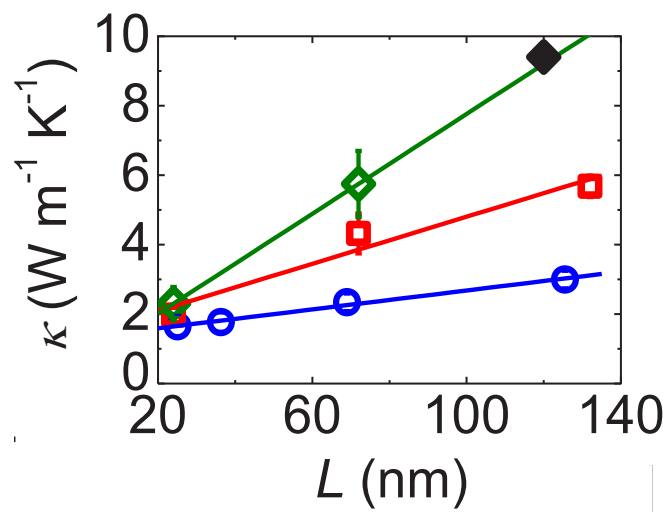
Known: can control thermal resistance with L and d_{SL}

Long and short wavelength phonons “see” boundaries differently, based on length scale and wavelength

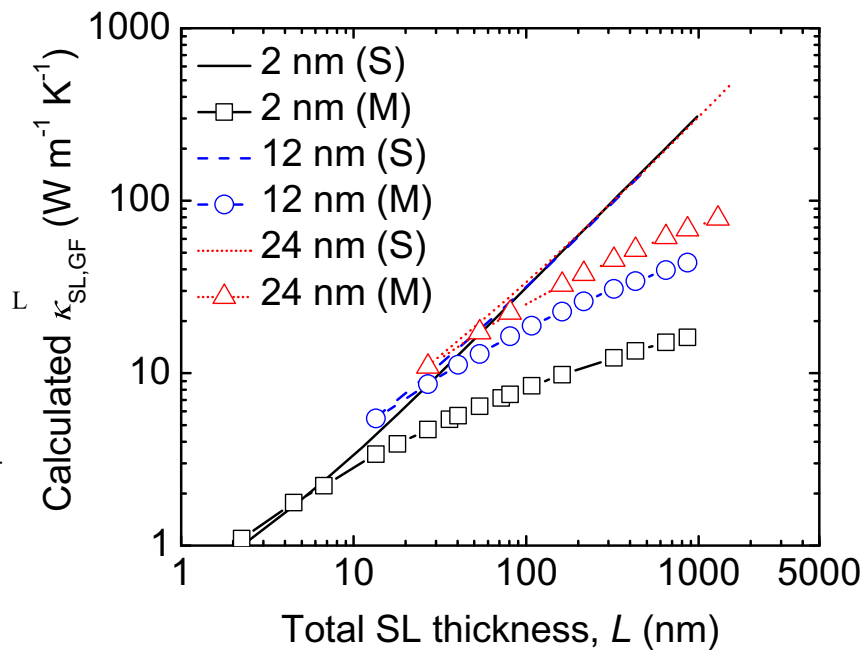
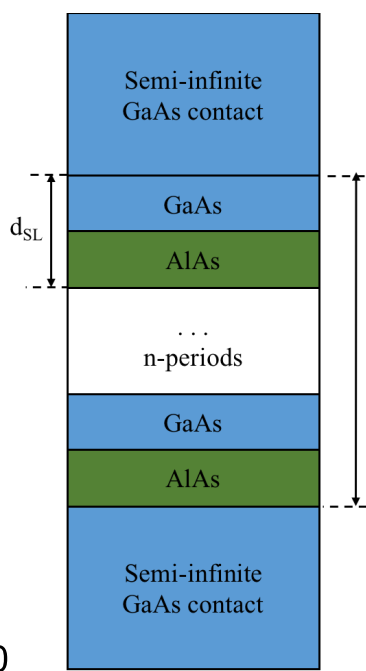
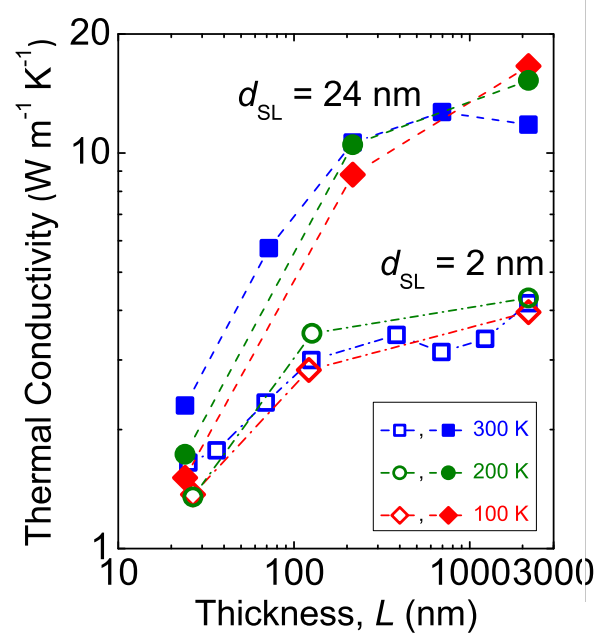
Total resistance (related to temperature rise in device) can be controlled based on selection of L and d_{SL}



Predicted: Can not conclude coherent transport from $\kappa \sim L$

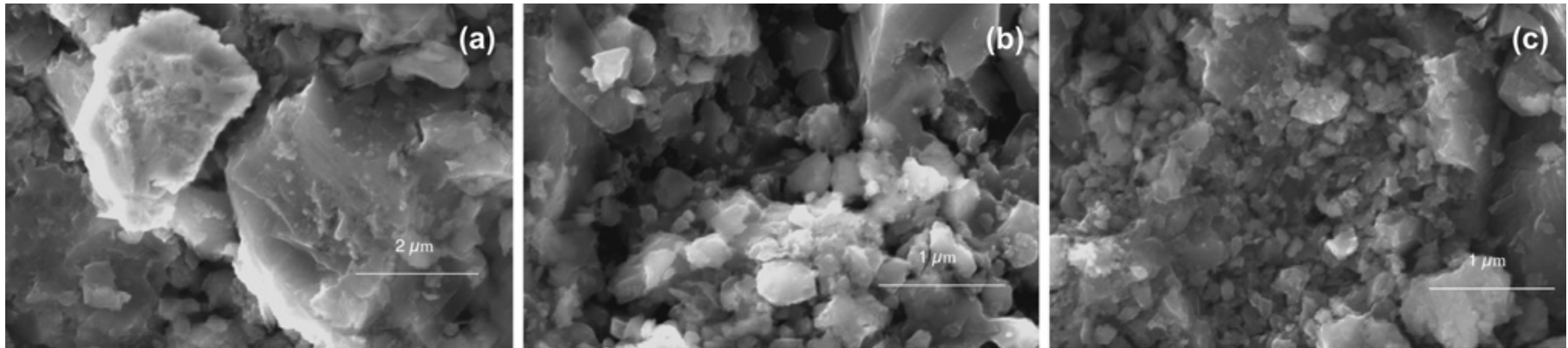


- The linear relationship between κ vs. L does not imply coherence in SLs?
- Can predict linear κ vs. L in AGF simulations with and w/o phase destroying mixing at interfaces

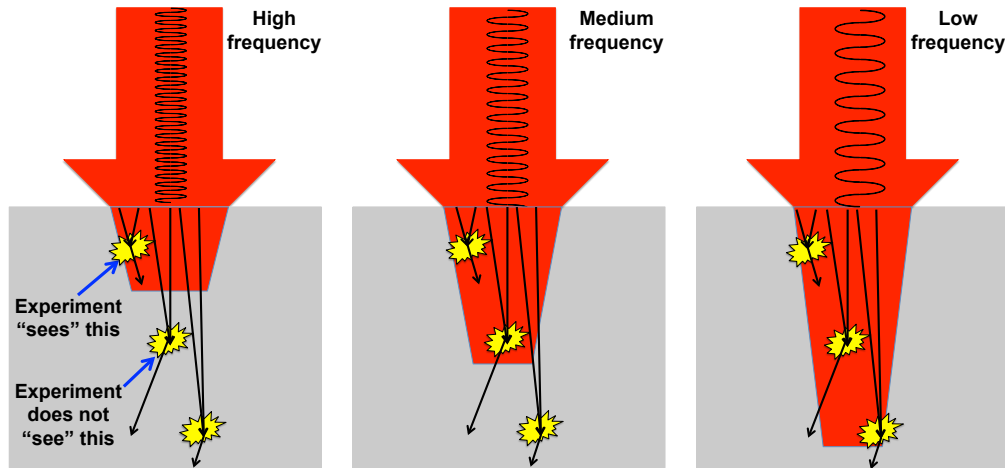


Can this be extended to nanograined systems?

- **Known:** Long wavelength phonons may not “see” interfaces if interface density is high enough
- **Predicted:** Even at incoherent interfaces, long wavelength phonons can ballistic traverse interfaces
- Investigate at nanograined silicon germanium alloys
- **Do long wavelength phonons see boundaries if $\Lambda \gg$ grain size?**

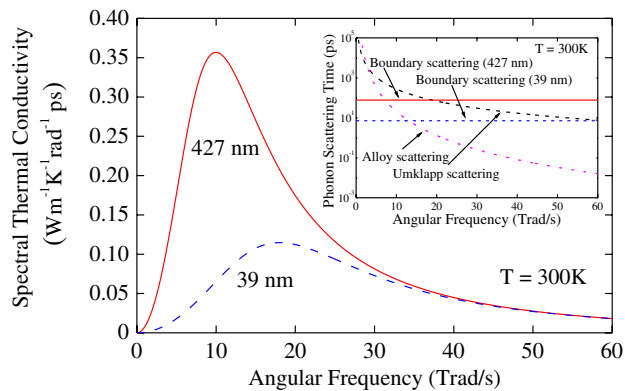


Why Si-Ge nanograind alloys?

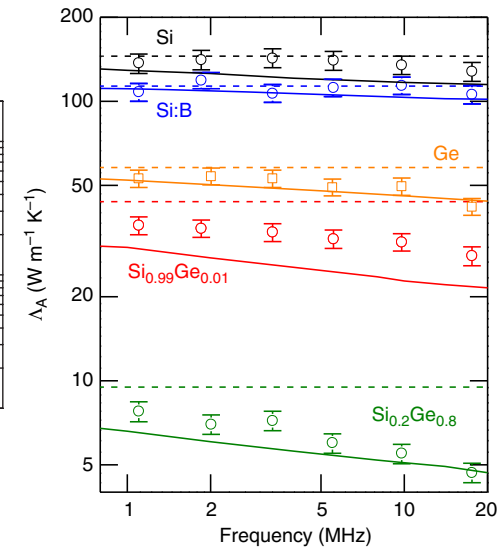
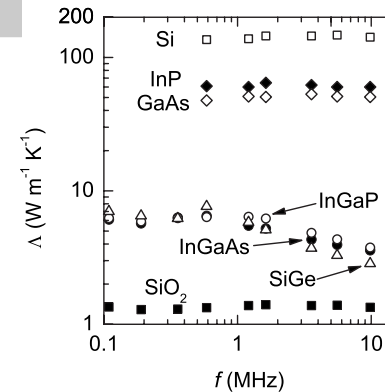


Frequency dependent TDTR
can be used for MFP
spectroscopy

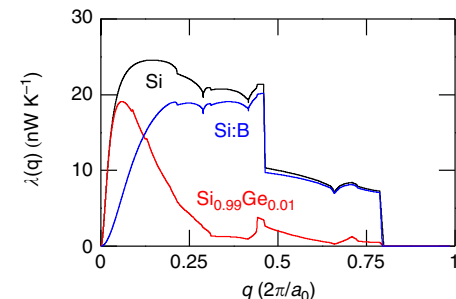
Long wavelength phonons
carry most of the heat



Cheaito et al, PRL 109,
195901 (2012)

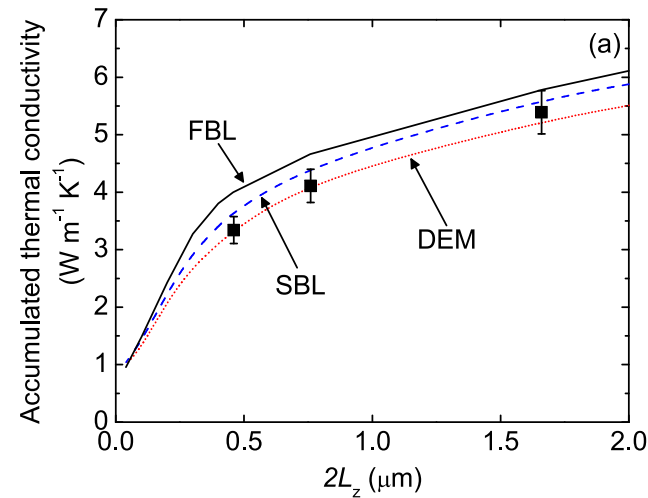


From
PRB 76, 075207
(2007)
Nat. Comm. 5,
5075 (2014)

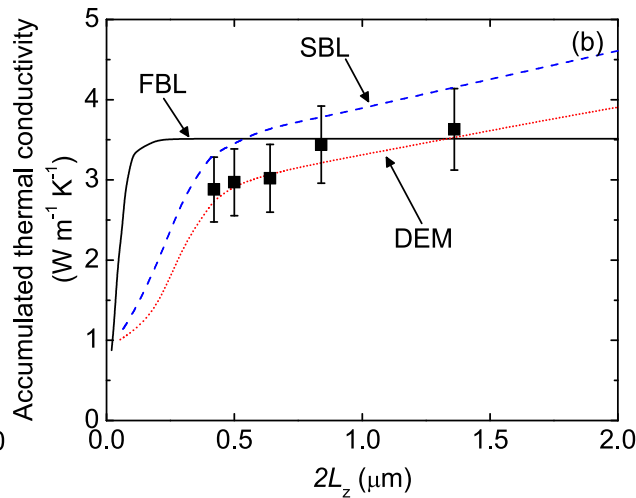


Phonons don't "see" grain boundaries if Λ is long enough

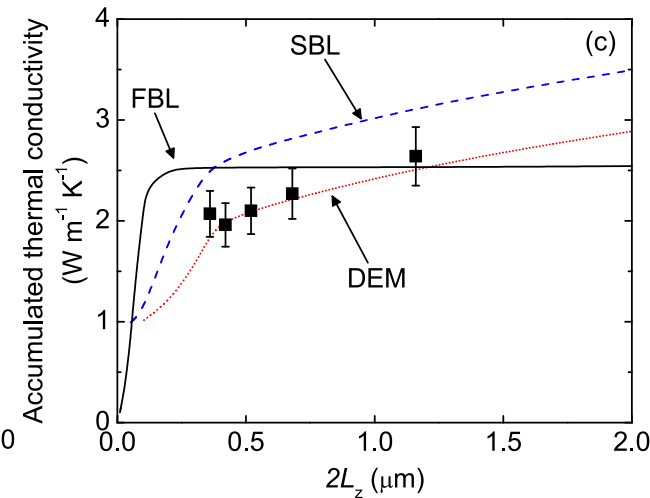
2 μm grain



110 nm grain



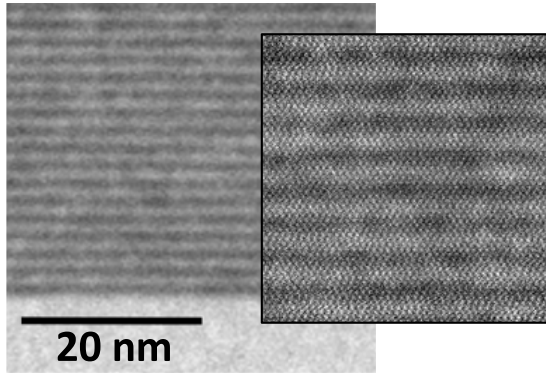
73 nm grain



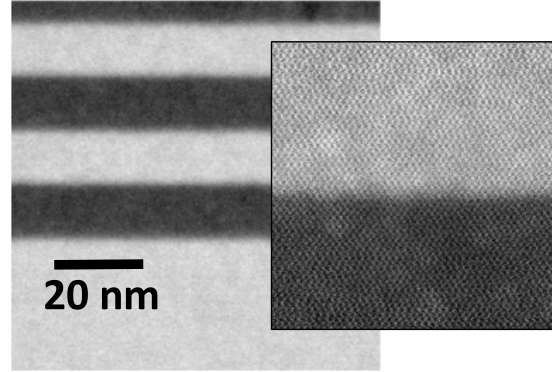
Models

- FBL: all phonons scatter at boundary
- SBL: phonons with wavelengths \gg grain size do not scatter at boundary (consider scattering cross sections)
- DEM: SBL + differential effective medium

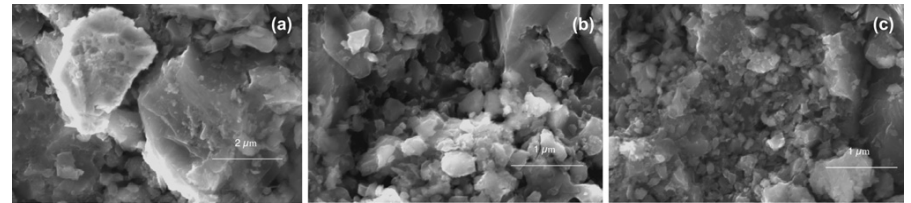
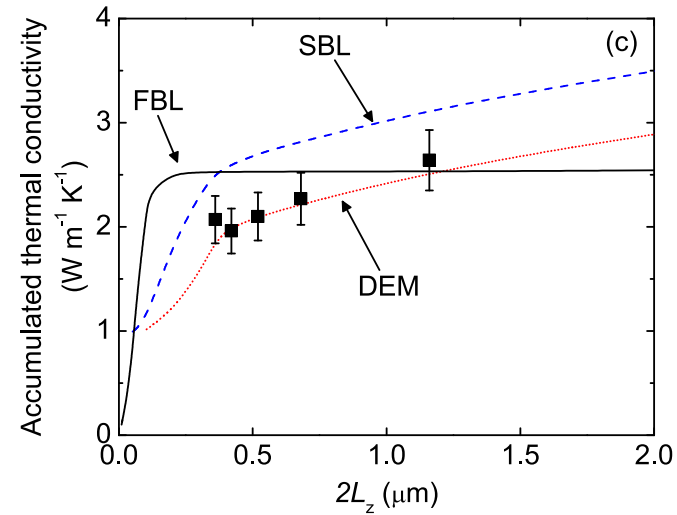
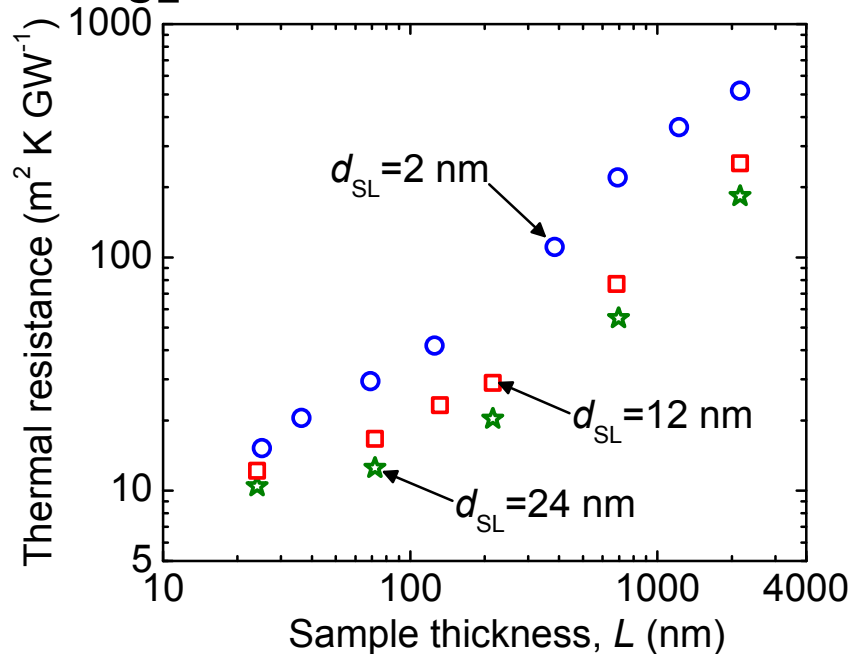
Summary/outlook – boundaries for selective phonon filters



$d_{SL} = 2 \text{ nm}$



$d_{SL} = 24 \text{ nm}$



Summary/outlook – boundaries for selective phonon filters

PHYSICAL REVIEW B **97**, 085306 (2018)

Interplay between total thickness and period thickness in the phonon thermal conductivity of superlattices from the nanoscale to the microscale: Coherent versus incoherent phonon transport

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(Received 18 June 2017; published 20 February 2018)

APPLIED PHYSICS LETTERS **111**, 131902 (2017)



Ballistic transport of long wavelength phonons and thermal conductivity accumulation in nanograined silicon-germanium alloys

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(Received 7 June 2017; accepted 9 September 2017; published online 27 September 2017)