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Lattice thermal conductivity of bulk PtSe_2 and PtTe_2

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Thermoelectric devices can play a role in efficiently using available energy by converting heat produced by a wide range of devices into electricity. Low lattice thermal conductivity is a requirement for efficient thermoelectric devices and layered materials offer potential in reducing the lattice thermal conductivity perpendicular to the layers. We present

density functional theory calculations of the structural and thermal properties of layered platinum dichalcogenides PtSe_2 and PtTe_2 compounds in the CdI_2 structure, space group $P3m1$. Phonon and elastic constants calculations confirm that the compounds are dynamically and mechanically stable. Lattice thermal conductivities were calculated within the single-mode relaxation-time approximation of the linearised phonon Boltzmann equation. We found that at the room temperature, the in-plane lattice thermal conductivities for PtSe_2 and PtTe_2 are 9.33 and 6.54 $\text{Wm}^{-1}\text{K}^{-1}$, while perpendicular to the plane they are 2.06 and 1.8 $\text{Wm}^{-1}\text{K}^{-1}$, respectively. The out-of-plane thermal conductivities confirm that further investigation of PtSe_2 and PtTe_2 as thermoelectric materials is necessary.

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