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Nano-Structured Zinc Oxide/Silicon Dioxide Thermoelectric Generator: A Waste Heat Harvesting Technology
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Abstract

Internal Combustion Engine in Hybrid powered transportation system is combating issues such as rising power costs, pollution, and global warming. The exhaust of internal combustion engines wastes a significant amount of fuel energy. Many academics are attempting to develop the waste energy harvesting- based power generator in order to reduce the negative effects. However, they have achieved only 5–7% of waste energy harvesting. The goal of this work is to describe a semiconductive thermoelectric generator (STEG) that uses a semi- conductive zinc oxide (ZnO)/silicon di-oxide (SiO₂) composite to achieve a waste energy harvesting efficiency of 10–15%. The samples for the STEG models have been developed using ZnO blended epoxy resin and hardener for n-type and SiO₂ blended epoxy resin and hardener pasted on CF for p-type. STEG models have made by sandwiching dielectric film by p-type and n-type SC. Each of the final samples has a 100 mm² surface area. The STEG samples were examined in the electronic lab using Keithley Parametric Analyzer software to determine the best composition based on the performance of electric conductivity (σ), short circuit current density (J_{sc}), open circuit voltage (V_{oc}), zT merits, seeback coefficient (α) and conversion efficiency (η_{con}). The samples were tested with applying heat externally at 150 °C. The best results were obtained for the sample of 30 wt.% of ZnO and 70% of SiO₂ as σ of 5.4xe8m¹. Ω 1, V_{oc} of 525 mV, J_{sc} of 14×10^{-9} A/m² and η_{con} of 15%. © 2023, The Author(s), under exclusive license to Springer Nature Singapore Pte Ltd.

Author Keywords

Current density; Semi-conductive thermoelectric generator; Synthesising and characterization; Waste heat energy harvesting

Index Keywords

Aspect ratio, Conversion efficiency, Electric generators, Electronic equipment, Energy harvesting, Global warming, II-VI semiconductors, Open circuit voltage, Silicon oxides, Thermoelectric equipment, Waste heat, Waste incineration, Wide band gap semiconductors, Zinc oxide; Generator modelling, Heat energy, Nano-structured, P-type, Semi-conductive thermoelectric generator, Semiconductive, Synthesizing and characterization, Thermoelectric generators, Waste energy, Waste heat energy harvesting; Silica

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