

Supporting Information -

**Non-stoichiometry in the Zintl phase $\text{Yb}_{1-\delta}\text{Zn}_2\text{Sb}_2$ as
a route to thermoelectric optimization**

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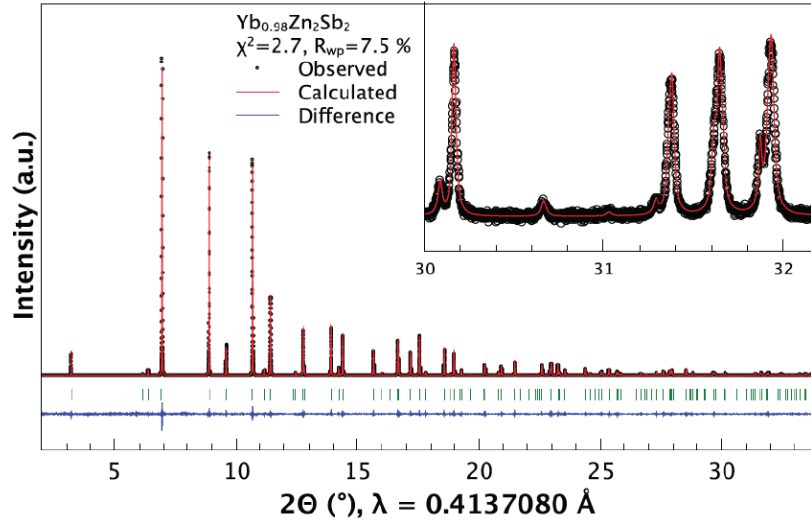


Figure S 1: Synchrotron diffraction data of nominal Yb_{0.98}Zn₂Sb₂, including profile fit, profile difference and profile residuals (χ^2 and R_{wp}) of the corresponding Rietveld refinement. The inset shows the goodness-of-fit at high angles.

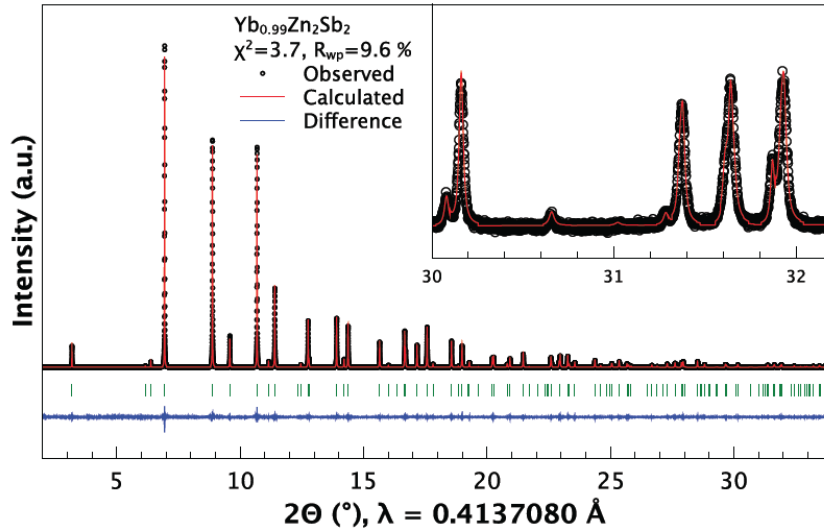


Figure S 2: Synchrotron diffraction data of nominal Yb_{0.99}Zn₂Sb₂, including profile fit, profile difference and profile residuals (χ^2 and R_{wp}) of the corresponding Rietveld refinement. The inset shows the goodness-of-fit at high angles.

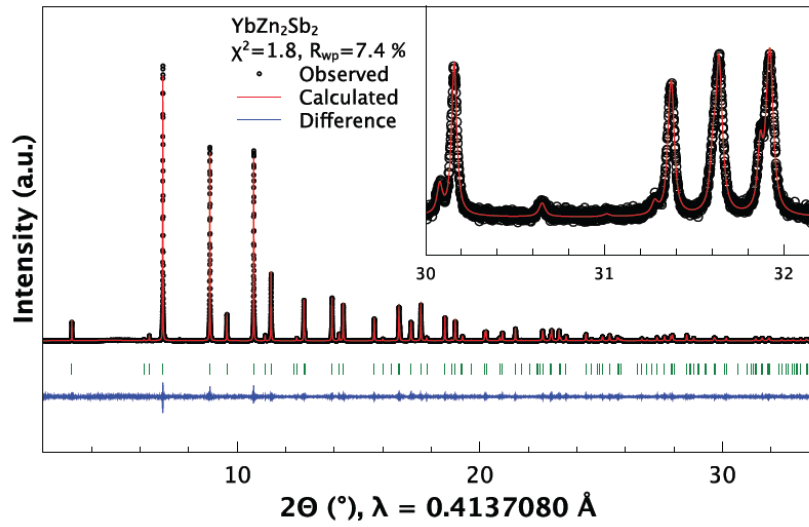


Figure S 3: Synchrotron diffraction data of nominal Yb_{1.00}Zn₂Sb₂, including profile fit, profile difference and profile residuals (χ^2 and R_{wp}) of the corresponding Rietveld refinement. The inset shows the goodness-of-fit at high angles.

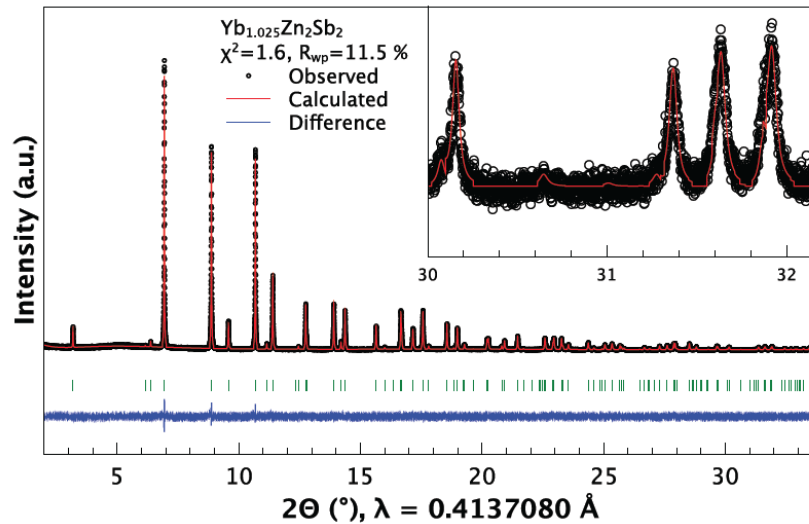


Figure S 4: Synchrotron diffraction data of nominal Yb_{1.025}Zn₂Sb₂, including profile fit, profile difference and profile residuals (χ^2 and R_{wp}) of the corresponding Rietveld refinement. The inset shows the goodness-of-fit at high angles.

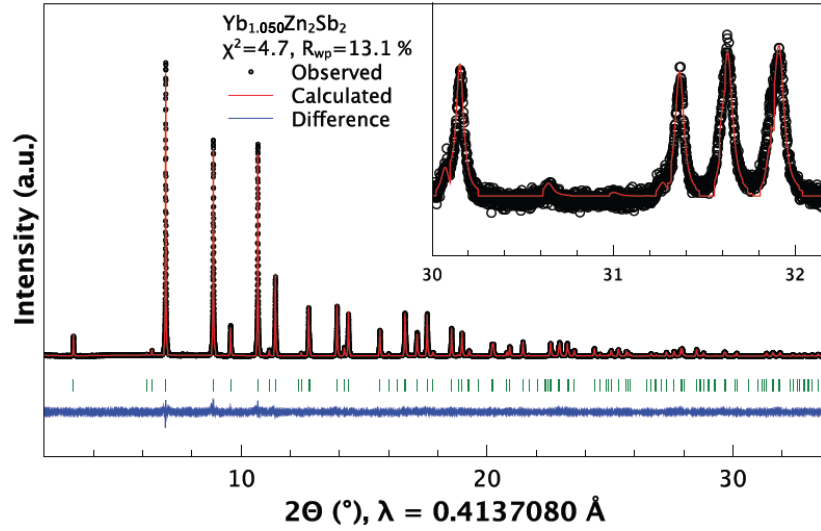


Figure S 5: Representative synchrotron diffraction data of Yb_{1.05}Zn₂Sb₂, including profile fit, profile difference and profile residuals (χ^2 and R_{wp}) of the corresponding Rietveld refinement. The inset shows the goodness-of-fit at high angles.

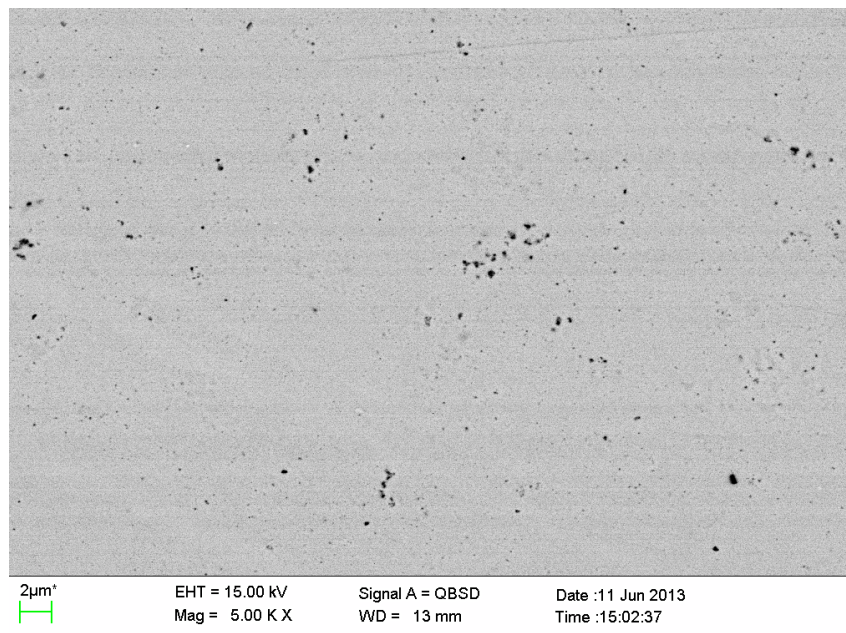


Figure S 6: Back-scattered SEM image of sample with $x = 0.98$. The black spots were identified as pores.

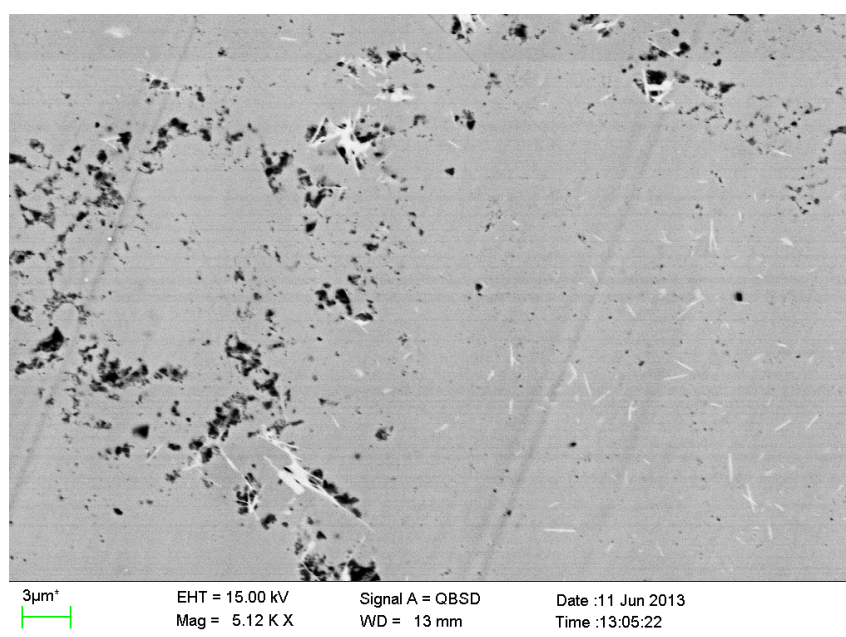


Figure S 7: Back-scattered SEM image of sample with $x = 1.05$. The black spots were identified as pores and white needles are a Yb-rich secondary phase.