

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Influence of Ge Substitution on the Structure and Optical Properties of Cu₂ZnSn_{1-x}Ge_xS₄ Photovoltaic Materials

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NMR Parameters

NMR signals are characterized by two types of tensor quantities:

(a) Chemical shift anisotropy (CSA):

- The position is defined by the *isotropic chemical shift*, $\delta_{\text{iso}} = \frac{1}{3}(\delta_{11} + \delta_{22} + \delta_{33})$, where $\delta_{11} \geq \delta_{22} \geq \delta_{33}$.
- The breadth is defined by the *span*, $\Omega = \delta_{11} - \delta_{33}$.
- The shape is defined by the *skew*, $\kappa = 3(\delta_{22} - \delta_{\text{iso}})/\Omega$.

(b) Quadrupolar interactions for nuclei with $I > 1/2$:

- The strength of the interaction between a nucleus and the surrounding electric field gradient (EFG) is defined by the *nuclear quadrupole coupling constant*, $C_Q = eQV_{zz}/h$, where e is the elementary charge, Q is the quadrupolar moment of the nucleus, V_{zz} is the largest principal component of the EFG, and h is Planck's constant.
- The symmetry of the EFG tensor is defined by the *asymmetry parameter*, $\eta = (V_{xx} - V_{yy})/V_{zz}$, where $|V_{xx}| \leq |V_{yy}| \leq |V_{zz}|$.

Table S1. Experimental Conditions for Acquisition of NMR Spectra of $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{1-x}\text{Ge}_x\text{S}_4$

	^{65}Cu	^{67}Zn	^{119}Sn	^{73}Ge
conditions	non-spinning	non-spinning	non-spinning	non-spinning
B_0 (T)	7.05, 11.75, 21.1	21.1	11.75	21.1
pulse sequence	wideline quadrupolar echo ^a	wideline quadrupolar echo	Hahn echo	Bloch
$\pi/2$ pulse (μs)	1	3	4	4
$\gamma B_1/2\pi$ (kHz)	125	28	62.5	12.5
τ (μs)	50	50	30	—
recycle delay (s)	2	5	50–100	5
rotor diameter (mm)	4	4	4	7
co-added transients	1024–8048	15360	1024–2048	8192
	^{63}Cu	^{67}Zn	^{119}Sn	^{73}Ge
conditions	MAS ($\omega_r/2\pi = 62.5$ kHz)	MAS ($\omega_r/2\pi = 10$ kHz)	MAS ($\omega_r/2\pi = 14$ kHz)	MAS ($\omega_r/2\pi = 5$ kHz)
B_0 (T)	21.1	21.1	7.05	21.1
pulse sequence	wideline quadrupolar echo	Bloch	Hahn echo	Bloch
$\pi/2$ pulse (μs)	1	3	4	4
$\gamma B_1/2\pi$ (kHz)	125	27.8	62.5	12.5
τ (μs)	15	—	67.4	—
recycle delay (s)	2	2–5	50–150	2–5
rotor diameter (mm)	1.3	4	4	7
co-added transients	3072–4096	32768	1024–5120	1024–16384

^a Wide-line quadrupolar echo implies a ($\theta - \tau - \theta - \tau$ -acquire) experiment. θ refers to 90° solid pulse with the pulse lengths $p_1 = p_2$. See Bodart, P.R., Amoureux, J.P., Dumazy, Y. and Lefort, R. **2000**, Molecular Physics, 98 (19), 1545 and Dumazy, Y., Amoureux, J.P. and Fernandez, C., 2010, Molecular Physics, 90(6), 959

^bHahn echo implies a ($\theta - \tau - 2\theta - \tau$ -acquire) experiment. θ refers to 90° nutation angle and the pulse length, $p_2 = 2 \times p_1$; p_1 is the 90° pulse.

Table S2. Nuclear Larmor frequencies of $^{63/65}\text{Cu}$, ^{67}Zn , ^{73}Ge and ^{119}Sn nuclei at the external magnetic field used.

Nucleus	Larmor frequency (MHz) at 7.05 T	Larmor frequency (MHz) at 11.75 T	Larmor frequency (MHz) at 21.1 T
$^{63/65}\text{Cu}$	85.25 (^{65}Cu)	142.05 (^{65}Cu)	238.67(^{63}Cu) / 255.67 (^{65}Cu)
^{67}Zn	-	-	56.32
^{73}Ge	-	-	31.39
^{119}Sn	111.90	149.21	-

Table S3. EDX Analyses (mol %) for $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{1-x}\text{Ge}_x\text{S}_4$ Samples ^a

x	composition	Cu	Zn	Sn	Ge	S
0	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSnS}_4$	26	11	13	0	51
	<i>(nominal)</i>	25	12	13	0	50
0.05	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.95}\text{Ge}_{0.05}\text{S}_4$	23	11	13	1	52
	<i>(nominal)</i>	25	12	12	1	50
0.20	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.80}\text{Ge}_{0.20}\text{S}_4$	24	10	11	2	53
	<i>(nominal)</i>	25	12	10	3	50
0.40	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.60}\text{Ge}_{0.40}\text{S}_4$	24	12	8	5	51
	<i>(nominal)</i>	25	12	8	5	50
0.60	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.40}\text{Ge}_{0.60}\text{S}_4$	25	13	5	7	50
	<i>(nominal)</i>	25	12	5	8	50
0.80	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.20}\text{Ge}_{0.80}\text{S}_4$	24	12	3	10	51
	<i>(nominal)</i>	25	12	3	10	50
1.00	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnGeS}_4$	25	12	0	12	51
	<i>(nominal)</i>	25	12	0	13	50

^a Experimental compositions are shown on first line and expected compositions on second line. Estimated uncertainties are 2% for each element.

Table S4. Cell Parameters for $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{1-x}\text{Ge}_x\text{S}_4$. ^a

x	compound	a (Å)	c (Å)	V (Å ³)	η ($c/2a$ ratio)
0	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSnS}_4$	5.4356(3)	10.8354(1)	320.14(2)	0.997
0.05	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.95}\text{Ge}_{0.05}\text{S}_4$	5.4294(1)	10.8239(1)	319.08(1)	0.997
0.20	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.80}\text{Ge}_{0.20}\text{S}_4$	5.4167(1)	10.7758(1)	316.17(1)	0.995
0.40	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.60}\text{Ge}_{0.40}\text{S}_4$	5.3987(2)	10.7128(5)	312.23(2)	0.992
0.60	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.40}\text{Ge}_{0.60}\text{S}_4$	5.3754(1)	10.6414(3)	307.48(1)	0.989
0.80	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.20}\text{Ge}_{0.80}\text{S}_4$	5.3641(1)	10.5855(1)	304.58(1)	0.987
1.00	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnGeS}_4$	5.3449(1)	10.5137(1)	300.35(1)	0.983

^a Refined from powder XRD patterns. Standard uncertainties are shown in parentheses.

Table S5. Atomic Coordinates for Cu₂ZnSnS₄ and Cu₂ZnGeS₄.

atom	Wyckoff position	x	y	z
Cu ₂ ZnSnS ₄ (<i>I</i> $\bar{4}$)				
Cu1	2 <i>c</i>	0	½	¼
Cu2	2 <i>a</i>	0	0	0
Zn	2 <i>d</i>	0	½	¾
Sn	2 <i>b</i>	0	0	½
S	8 <i>g</i>	0.2469(4)	0.2524(4)	0.1274(3)
Cu ₂ ZnGeS ₄ (<i>I</i> $\bar{4}$)				
Cu1	2 <i>c</i>	0	½	¼
Cu2	2 <i>a</i>	0	0	0
Zn	2 <i>d</i>	0	½	¾
Ge	2 <i>b</i>	0	0	½
S	8 <i>g</i>	0.2601(14)	0.244(4)	0.1217(1)

Table S6. Calculations of the tetragonal angular variance (σ^2) for Cu₂ZnSnS₄ and Cu₂ZnGeS₄ ^a

^a $\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{5} \sum_{i=1}^6 (\theta_i - 109.47^\circ)^2$; where θ_i pertains to \angle S-Cu-S angles.

Cu ₂ ZnSnS ₄					
Wyckoff position	Angle A (°)	Angle B (°)	C [($\theta_i - 109.47^\circ$) ² for A]	D [($\theta_i - 109.47^\circ$) ² for B]	σ^2 [(4×C+2×D)/5] in (° ²)
2 <i>c</i> (Cu1)	109.2 (×4)	110.1 (×2)	0.07	0.39	0.2
2 <i>a</i> (Cu2)	109.9(×4)	108.5 (×2)	0.18	0.94	0.5
Cu ₂ ZnGeS ₄					
2 <i>c</i> (Cu1)	108.1 (×2)	112.3 (×4)	1.77	0.45	1.6
2 <i>a</i> (Cu2)	110.8 (×2)	108.8 (×4)	1.88	8.01	4.7

Table S7. Comparison of Experimental and DFT-Calculated NMR Parameters for Cu₂ZnSnS₄ and Cu₂ZnGeS₄.^a

	Cu ₂ ZnSnS ₄		Cu ₂ ZnGeS ₄		
	experimental	calculated	experimental	calculated (model A)	calculated (model C)
⁶⁵Cu parameters					
Ω (ppm)	272 (2a), 117 (2c)	284 (2a), 136 (2c)	150 (2a), 83 (2c)	176 (2a), 190 (2c)	185
κ	+1 (2a), -1 (2c)	+1 (2a), -1 (2c)	-1 (2a), -1 (2c)	+1 (2a), -1 (2c)	-1
C_Q (MHz)	6.5 (2a), 1.5 (2c)	7.1 (2a), 3.6 (2c)	15.2 (2a), 4.3 (2c)	15.5 (2a), 4.2 (2c)	8.2
η	0 (2a), 0 (2c)	0 (2a), 0 (2c)	0 (2a), 0 (2c)	0 (2a), 0 (2c)	0
⁶⁷Zn parameters					
Ω (ppm)	29	34	— ^b	15	17
κ	-0.5	-1	— ^b	+1	-1
C_Q (MHz)	0.9	1.8	2.8	5.1	7.4
η	0	0	0.2	0	0
¹¹⁹Sn parameters					
Ω (ppm)	32	39			
κ	-0.4	-1			
⁷³Ge parameters					
Ω (ppm)			14 ^b	26	39
κ			-1 ^b	-1	+1
C_Q (MHz)			0.3	0.3	1.8
η			0.0	0	0

^a Uncertainties are ± 5 ppm for Ω , ± 0.05 for κ , ± 0.1 MHz for C_Q , and ± 0.1 for η . ^b Ω and κ do not noticeably improve the fittings.

Table S8. ^{65}Cu NMR Parameters for $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.8}\text{Ge}_{0.2}\text{S}_4$ ^a

	δ_{iso} (ppm)	Ω (ppm)	κ	C_Q (MHz)
2a_1	761	255	+1	7.5
2a_2	720	220	+1	11.8
2a_3	690	132	-1	16.5
2c_1	795	101	-1	1.5
2c_2	805	99	-1	2.6
2c_3	780	81	-1	4.4

^a The labels 1, 2, 3 refer to C_Q values in ascending order for 2a and 2c sites.

Table S9. Chemical Shifts and Linewidths for ^{119}Sn and ^{73}Ge MAS NMR Spectra for $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{1-x}\text{Ge}_x\text{S}_4$

x	compound	^{119}Sn		^{73}Ge	
		δ_{iso} (ppm)	FWHM (Hz)	δ_{cgs} (ppm)	FWHM (Hz)
0	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSnS}_4$	121.5	795		
0.05	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.95}\text{Ge}_{0.05}\text{S}_4$	-119.8	919	21.2	280
0.20	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.80}\text{Ge}_{0.20}\text{S}_4$	-118.1	1252	21.6	195
0.40	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.60}\text{Ge}_{0.40}\text{S}_4$	-112.1	1080	23.4	488
0.60	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.40}\text{Ge}_{0.60}\text{S}_4$	-111.4	2254	23.1	236
0.80	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.20}\text{Ge}_{0.80}\text{S}_4$	-103.2	1199	26.3	151
1.00	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnGeS}_4$			28.5	95

Table S10. Isotropic Chemical Shifts and Centre-of-Gravity Shifts of ^{67}Zn MAS NMR Spectra for $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{1-x}\text{Ge}_x\text{S}_4$

x	compound	δ_{iso} (ppm)	δ_{cgs} (ppm)
0	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSnS}_4$	361	359
0.05	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.95}\text{Ge}_{0.05}\text{S}_4$		361
0.20	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.80}\text{Ge}_{0.20}\text{S}_4$		368
0.40	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.60}\text{Ge}_{0.40}\text{S}_4$		382
0.60	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.40}\text{Ge}_{0.60}\text{S}_4$		378
0.80	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.20}\text{Ge}_{0.80}\text{S}_4$		367
1.00	$\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnGeS}_4$	358	343

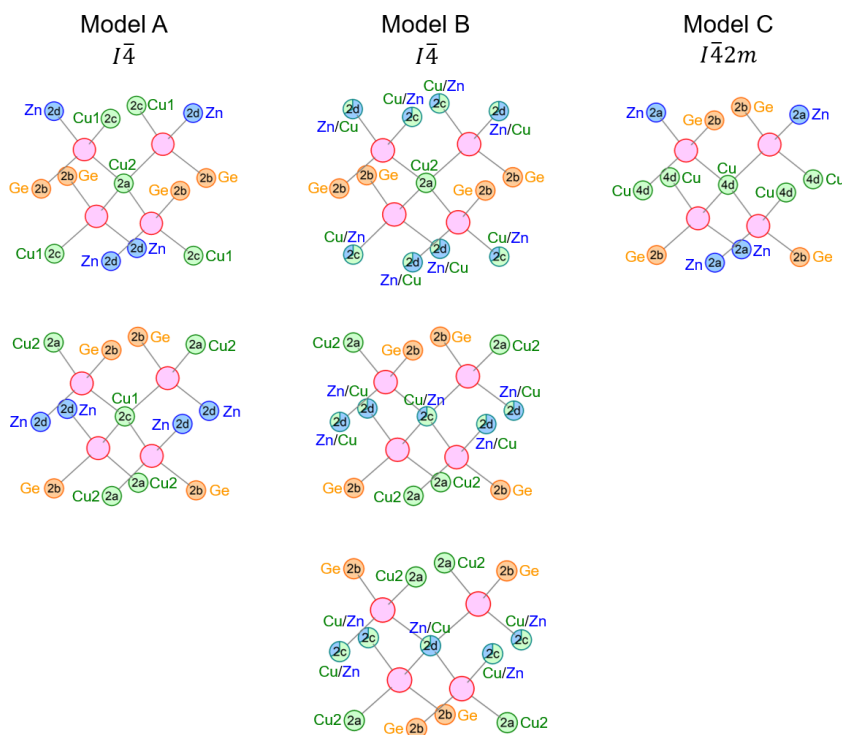


Figure S1. Local environments around Cu atoms in three structural models of $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnGeS}_4$.

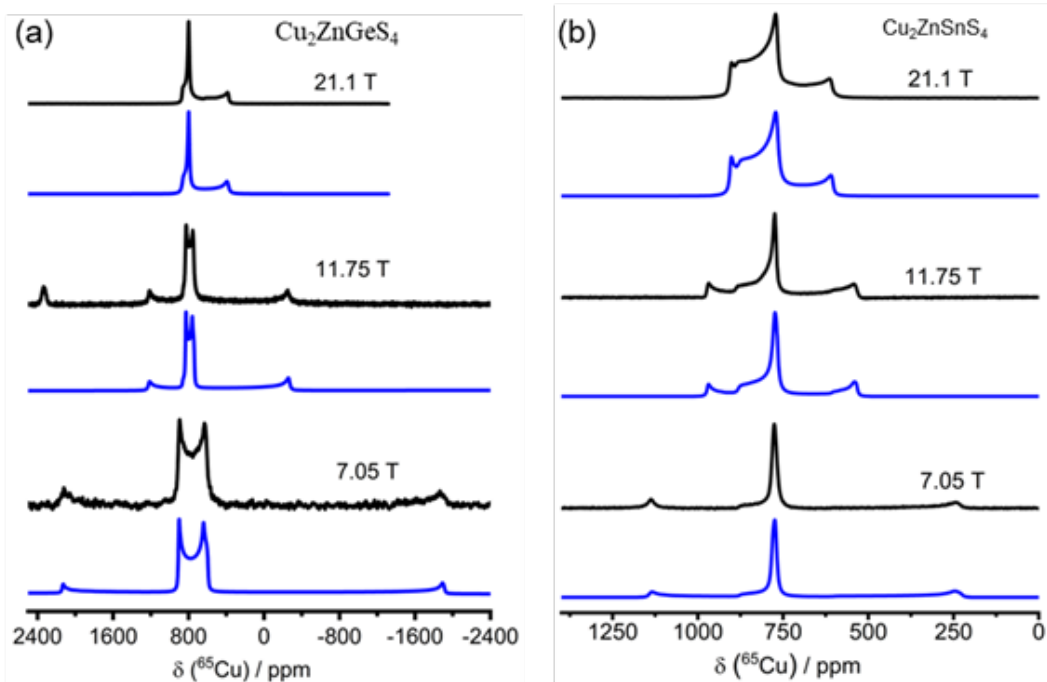


Figure S2. Experimental (black) and simulated (blue) ^{65}Cu NMR spectra of stationary samples at three applied magnetic fields for (a) $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnGeS}_4$ and (b) $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSnS}_4$.

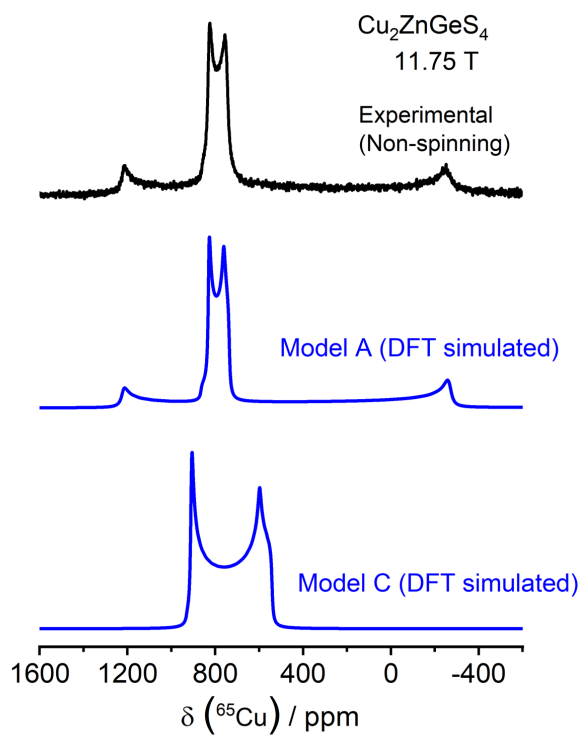


Figure S3. Experimental (black) and simulated (blue) ^{65}Cu NMR spectra of stationary samples for $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnGeS}_4$ in models A and C. Parameters for the simulated spectra are listed in Table S5.

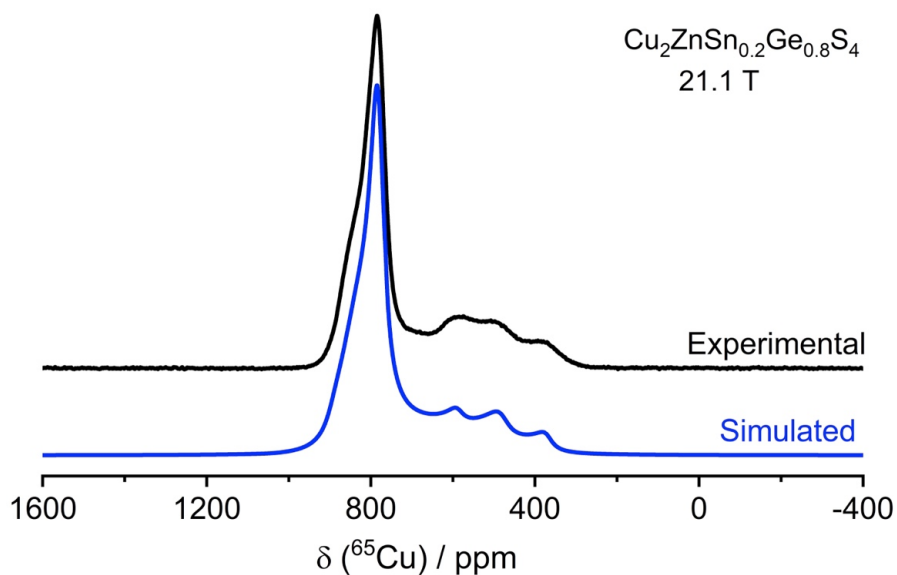


Figure S4. Experimental (black) and simulated (dark blue) ^{65}Cu NMR spectra of stationary samples for $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.2}\text{Ge}_{0.8}\text{S}_4$ in model A. Parameters for the simulated spectra are listed in Table S6.

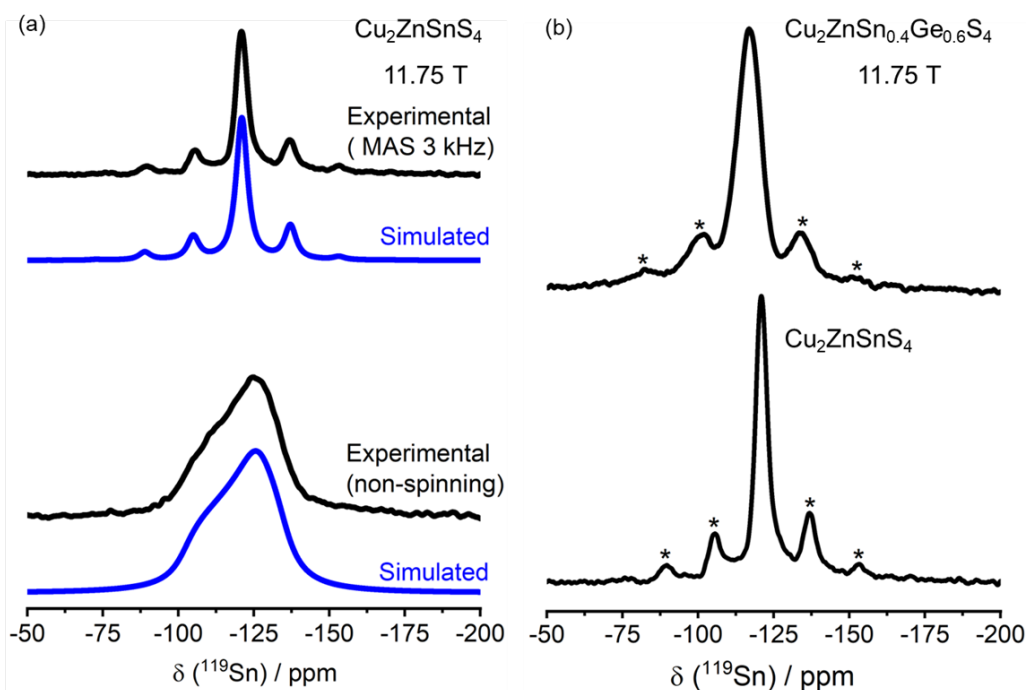


Figure S5. (a) Experimental (black) and simulated (blue) ^{119}Sn slow spinning ($\omega_r/2\pi = 3$ kHz) and non-spinning NMR spectra for $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSnS}_4$ ($B_0 = 11.75$ T, $\delta_{\text{iso}} = -121$ ppm, $\Omega = 32$ ppm, and $\kappa = 0.4$). (b) Comparison of slow MAS ($\omega_r/2\pi = 3$ kHz) ^{119}Sn spectra for $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSnS}_4$ and $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{0.4}\text{Ge}_{0.6}\text{S}_4$ at 11.75 T.

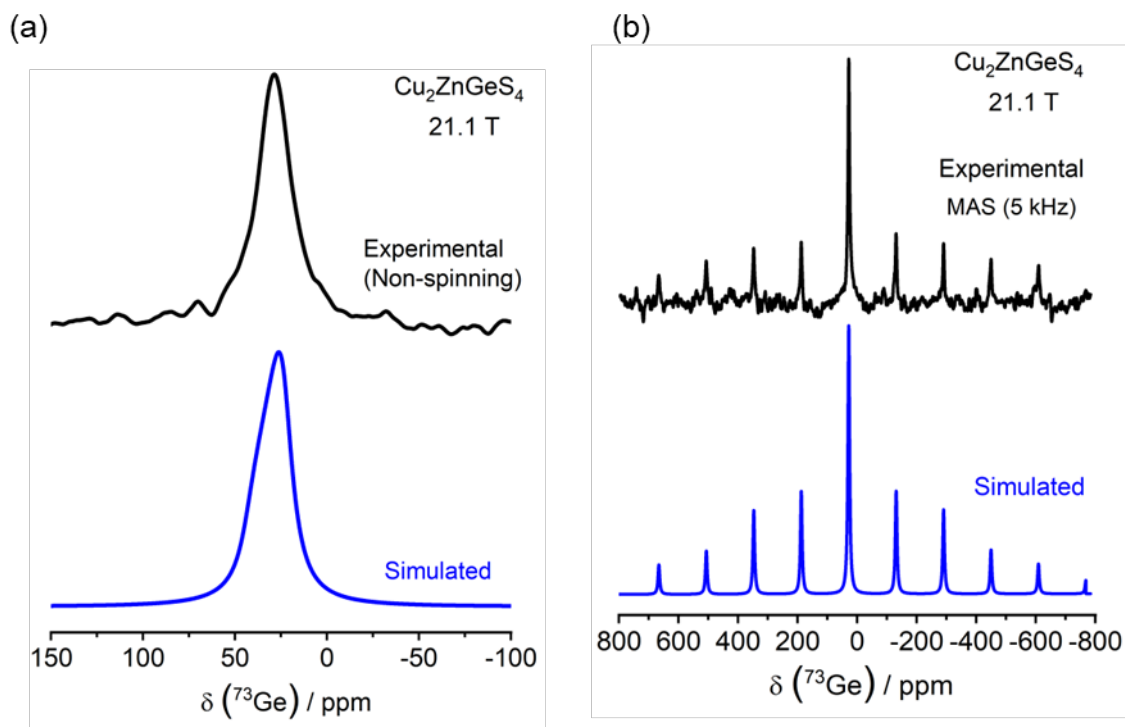


Figure S6. Experimental (black) and simulated (blue) (a) non-spinning and (b) ^{73}Ge MAS ($\omega_r/2\pi = 5$ kHz) NMR spectra for $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnGeS}_4$ ($\delta_{\text{iso}} = 28.5$ ppm, $C_Q = 0.3$ MHz, $\eta = 0$) at 21.1 T.

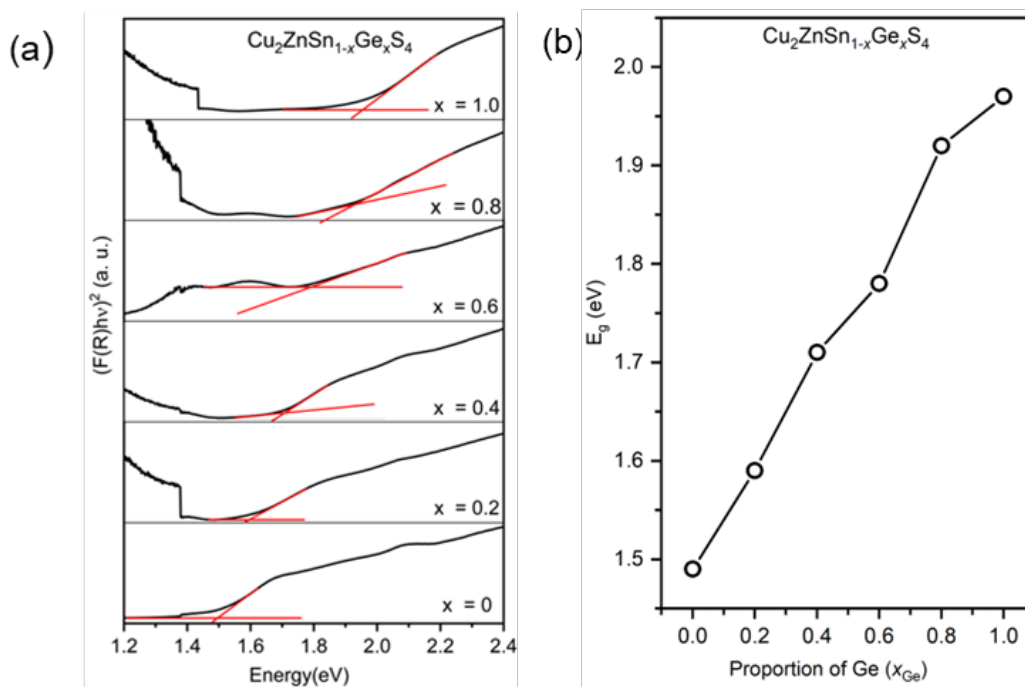


Figure S7. (a) Fittings of Tauc plots to extract optical band gaps. (b) Band gaps in $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSn}_{1-x}\text{Ge}_x\text{S}_4$.

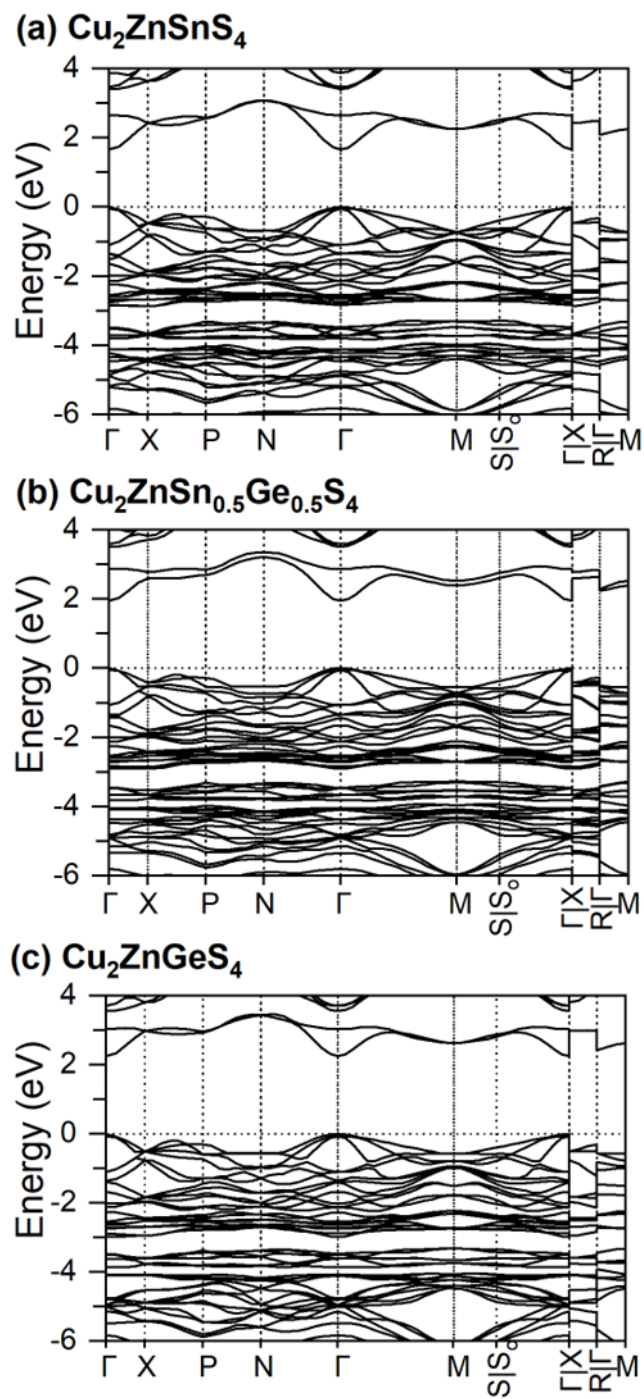


Figure S8. HSE06 band structure for (a) Cu₂ZnSnS₄, (b) Cu₂ZnSnGeS₄, and (c) Cu₂ZnGeS₄.

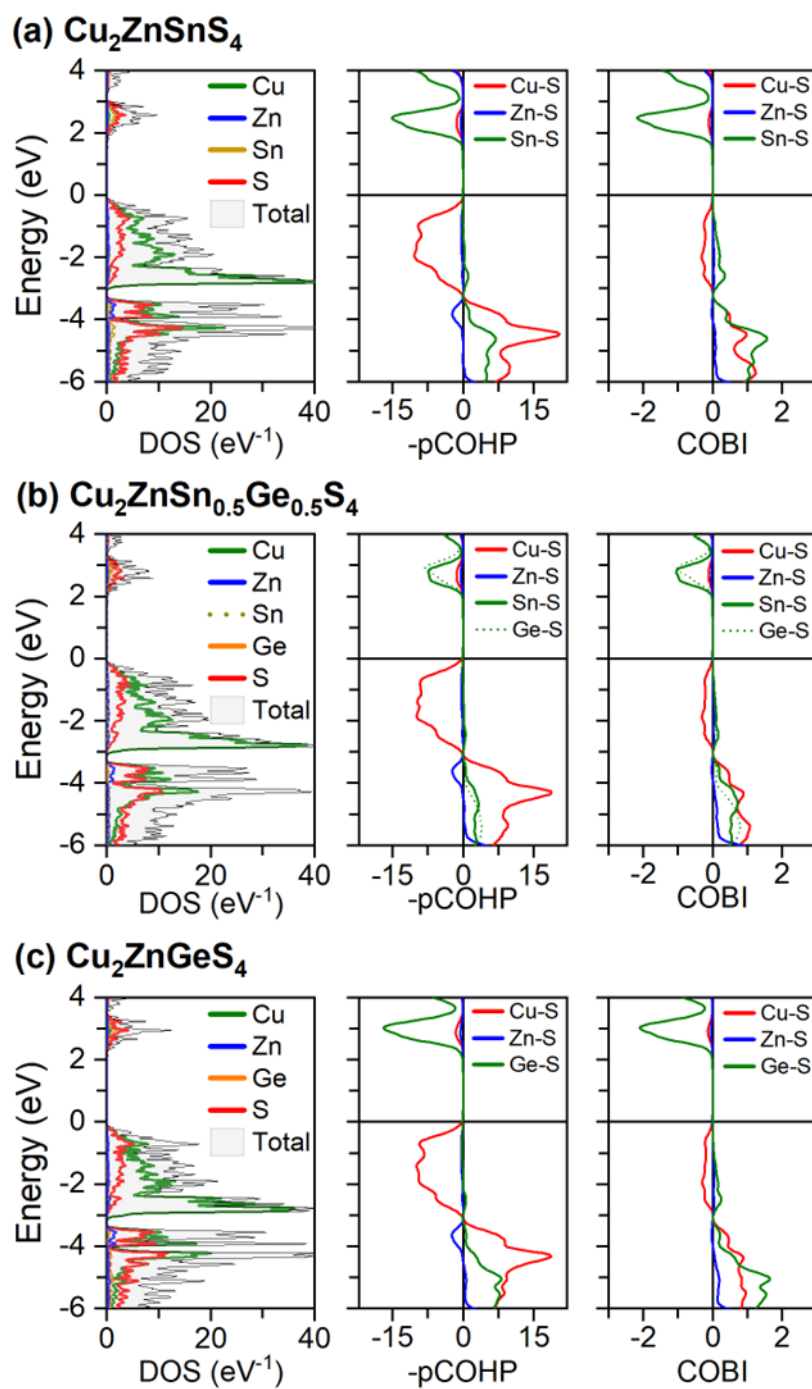


Figure S9. Density of states, crystal orbital Hamiltonian populations, and crystal orbital bond indices for (a) $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSnS}_4$, (b) $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnSnGeS}_4$, and (c) $\text{Cu}_2\text{ZnGeS}_4$.