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On the phonon thermal conductivity at the mantle/core boundary

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A modified, more general, relationship between the phonon thermal conductivity (PTC) and seismic parameter F for silicate/oxide geomaterials is derived. The research is based on the Debye's theory of lattice vibrations and on the seismic equation of state for minerals (so-called the Anderson-Jordan equation). Thermodynamical laboratory data of several main silicates and oxides in the form of polycrystalline aggregates were also used. This new relatioship suggests that the PTC-values at the mantle/core boundary from the perovskite variant of the PREM could be about 11-13 W/m K. These values are in sufficient agreement with the independent results obtained from shock experiments and laboratory data obtained in the laser-heated diamond-anvil cell at pressures of 58 and 125 GPa: PTC = 5-12 W/m K (according to Jeanloz and Manga -1997).