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Supplementary Information

# DFT and Hybrid-DFT calculations on the electronic properties of vanadate materials: theory meets experiments

Romain Schira<sup>a</sup> and Camille Latouche<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Université de Nantes, CNRS, Institut des Matériaux Jean Rouxel, IMN, F-44000 Nantes, France. E-mail: camille.latouche@univ-nantes.fr

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#### $1 \quad Sr_2V_2O_7$



Fig-SI 1: Conventional cell of  $Sr_2V_2O_7$  taken from [1]. This cell contains 44 atoms. The Sr atoms are in green, the O atoms are in red, and the vanadium are represented by the gray polyhedron. The experimentally measured cell parameters and angles of the conventional cell are also given.



Fig-SI 2: Experimental and theoretical (calculated with PBE, PBE+U and HSE06) inter-atomic V-O distances in Å of V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> clusters contain in Sr<sub>2</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>. The reported distances are labeled by numbers and the corresponding positions are indicated by the pictures. Experimental data taken from [1].



Fig-SI 3: DOS of  $Sr_2V_2O_7$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The contribution of the strontium, vanadium and oxygen atoms are represented in green, gray and red, respectively.



Fig-SI 4: Projected DOS of  $\text{Sr}_2\text{V}_2\text{O}_7$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The contribution of the strontium (s, p, d), vanadium (s, p, d) and oxygen (s, p) orbitals are represented in green, gray and red, respectively.



Fig-SI 5: Band structure of  $Sr_2V_2O_7$  calculated with PBE (top) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The considered path and high symmetry K-points are defined in [2]. For technical reasons we were unable to converge the band structure of this material in HSE06.



Fig-SI 6: Imaginary part of the dielectric tensor  $\epsilon_2$  of  $\text{Sr}_2\text{V}_2\text{O}_7$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The components  $\epsilon_{2xx}$ ,  $\epsilon_{2yy}$  and  $\epsilon_{2zz}$  are in orange, green and blue, respectively.



Fig-SI 7: Trace of the imaginary part of the dielectric tensor  $\epsilon_2$  (blue), of the refractive index n (green), and of extinction coefficient k (red) of  $\text{Sr}_2\text{V}_2\text{O}_7$ , calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals.

# $2 \quad \mathrm{Ba_2V_2O_7}$



Fig-SI 8: Conventional cell of  $Ba_2V_2O_7$  taken from [3]. This cell contains 44 atoms. The Ba atoms are in green, the O atoms are in red, and the vanadium are represented by the gray polyhedron. The experimentally measured cell parameters and angles of the conventional cell are also given.

		$\mathrm{Ba}_{2}\mathrm{V}_{2}\mathrm{O}_{7}$	$\operatorname{Expt}$	PBE	PBE+U	HSE06
		1	1.705	1.722	1.727	1.702
		2	1.666	1.699	1.701	1.666
		3	1.687	1.700	1.703	1.679
2		4	1.824	1.833	1.845	1.816
5	10	5	1.818	1.831	1.842	1.816
2	13 11	6	1.686	1.711	1.715	1.689
4	4 9 12 13 14 14 16 15	7	1.692	1.714	1.718	1.690
1		8	1.663	1.695	1.697	1.669
5		9	1.669	1.689	1.691	1.663
		10	1.698	1.720	1.725	1.698
9		11	1.700	1.717	1.721	1.693
9769		12	1.833	1.837	1.849	1.820
		13	1.815	1.824	1.836	1.803
		14	1.666	1.698	1.700	1.674
		15	1.677	1.704	1.706	1.681
		16	1.700	1.724	1.729	1.701
		Average	1.719	1.739	1.744	1.716

Fig-SI 9: Experimental and theoretical (calculated with PBE, PBE+U and HSE06) inter-atomic V-O distances in Å of V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub> clusters contain in Ba<sub>2</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>. The reported distances are labeled by numbers and the corresponding positions are indicated by the pictures. Experimental data taken from [3].



Fig-SI 10: DOS of  $Ba_2V_2O_7$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The contribution of the barium, vanadium and oxygen atoms are represented in green, gray and red, respectively.



Fig-SI 11: Band structure of  $Ba_2V_2O_7$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The considered path and high symmetry K-points are defined in [2].



Fig-SI 12: Imaginary part of the dielectric tensor  $\epsilon_2$  of  $\text{Ba}_2\text{V}_2\text{O}_7$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The components  $\epsilon_{2xx}$ ,  $\epsilon_{2yy}$  and  $\epsilon_{2zz}$  are in orange, green and blue, respectively.



Fig-SI 13: Trace of the imaginary part of the dielectric tensor  $\epsilon_2$  (blue), of the refractive index n (green), and of extinction coefficient k (red) of  $\text{Sr}_2\text{V}_2\text{O}_7$ , calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals.

## $3 Ca_2VO_4Cl$



Fig-SI 14: Conventional cell of  $Ca_2VO_4Cl$  taken from [4]. This cell contains 32 atoms. The Ca atoms are in green, the O atoms are in red, the Cl atoms are in brown, and the vanadium are represented by the gray polyhedron. The experimentally measured cell parameters and angles of the conventional cell are also given.



Fig-SI 15: Experimental and theoretical (calculated with PBE, PBE+U and HSE06) inter-atomic V-O distances in Å of the VO<sub>4</sub> cluster contain in Ca<sub>2</sub>VO<sub>4</sub>Cl. The reported distances are labeled by numbers and the corresponding positions are indicated by the pictures. Experimental data taken from [4].



Fig-SI 16: DOS of  $Ca_2VO_4Cl$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The contribution of the calcium, vanadium, chlorine and oxygen atoms are represented in green, gray, brown and red, respectively.



Fig-SI 17: Band structure of  $Ca_2VO_4Cl$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The considered path and high symmetry K-points are defined in [2].



Fig-SI 18: Imaginary part of the dielectric tensor  $\epsilon_2$  of Ca<sub>2</sub>VO<sub>4</sub>Cl calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The components  $\epsilon_{2xx}$ ,  $\epsilon_{2yy}$  and  $\epsilon_{2zz}$  are in orange, green and blue, respectively.



Fig-SI 19: Trace of the imaginary part of the dielectric tensor  $\epsilon_2$  (blue), of the refractive index n (green), and of extinction coefficient k (red) of Ca<sub>2</sub>VO<sub>4</sub>Cl, calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals.

# $4 Sr_2VO_4Cl$



Fig-SI 20: Conventional cell of  $Sr_2VO_4Cl$  taken from [5]. This cell contains 32 atoms. The Sr atoms are in green, the O atoms are in red, the Cl atoms are in brown, and the vanadium are represented by the gray polyhedron. The experimentally measured cell parameters and angles of the conventional cell are also given.



Fig-SI 21: Experimental and theoretical (calculated with PBE, PBE+U and HSE06) inter-atomic V-O distances in Å of the VO<sub>4</sub> cluster contain in Sr<sub>2</sub>VO<sub>4</sub>Cl. The reported distances are labeled by numbers and the corresponding positions are indicated by the pictures. Experimental data taken from [5].



Fig-SI 22: DOS of  $Sr_2VO_4Cl$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The contribution of the strontium, vanadium, chlorine and oxygen atoms are represented in green, gray, brown and red, respectively.



Fig-SI 23: Band structure of  $Sr_2VO_4Cl$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The considered path and high symmetry K-points are defined in [2].



Fig-SI 24: Imaginary part of the dielectric tensor  $\epsilon_2$  of Sr<sub>2</sub>VO<sub>4</sub>Cl calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The components  $\epsilon_{2xx}$ ,  $\epsilon_{2yy}$  and  $\epsilon_{2zz}$  are in orange, green and blue, respectively.



Fig-SI 25: Trace of the imaginary part of the dielectric tensor  $\epsilon_2$  (blue), of the refractive index n (green), and of extinction coefficient k (red) of  $\text{Sr}_2\text{VO}_4\text{Cl}$ , calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals.

## $5 Mg_3V_2O_8$



Fig-SI 26: Conventional cell of  $Mg_3V_2O_8$  taken from [6]. This cell contains 52 atoms. The Mg atoms are in green, the O atoms are in red, and the vanadium are represented by the gray polyhedron. The experimentally measured cell parameters and angles of the conventional cell are also given.



$Mg_3V_2O_8$	$\operatorname{Expt}$	PBE	PBE+U	HSE06
1	1.695	1.716	1.722	1.692
2	1.809	1.810	1.823	1.786
3	1.716	1.732	1.737	1.706
Average	1.729	1.743	1.751	1.719

Fig-SI 27: Experimental and theoretical (calculated with PBE, PBE+U and HSE06) inter-atomic V-O distances in Å of the VO<sub>4</sub> cluster contain in Mg<sub>3</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>. The reported distances are labeled by numbers and the corresponding positions are indicated by the pictures. Experimental data taken from [6].



Fig-SI 28: DOS of  $Mg_3V_2O_8$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The contribution of the magnesium, vanadium, and oxygen atoms are represented in green, gray and red, respectively.



Fig-SI 29: Band structure of  $Mg_3V_2O_8$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The considered path and high symmetry K-points are defined in [2]. In the reciprocal space, the points Y and  $X_1$ , as well as the points  $A_1$  and T, are very close but does not coincide.



Fig-SI 30: Imaginary part of the dielectric tensor  $\epsilon_2$  of Mg<sub>3</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub> calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The components  $\epsilon_{2xx}$ ,  $\epsilon_{2yy}$  and  $\epsilon_{2zz}$  are in orange, green and blue, respectively.



Fig-SI 31: Trace of the imaginary part of the dielectric tensor  $\epsilon_2$  (blue), of the refractive index n (green), and of extinction coefficient k (red) of Mg<sub>3</sub>V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>, calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals.

#### $6 Zn_3V_2O_8$



Fig-SI 32: Conventional cell of  $Zn_3V_2O_8$  taken from [7]. This cell contains 52 atoms. The Zn atoms are in green, the O atoms are in red, and the vanadium are represented by the gray polyhedron. The experimentally measured cell parameters and angles of the conventional cell are also given.



Fig-SI 33: Experimental and theoretical (calculated with PBE, PBE+U and HSE06) inter-atomic V-O distances in Å of the VO<sub>4</sub> cluster contain in  $Zn_3V_2O_8[7]$ . The reported distances are labeled by numbers and the corresponding positions are indicated by the pictures.



Fig-SI 34: DOS of  $Zn_3V_2O_8$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The contribution of the zinc, vanadium, and oxygen atoms are represented in green, gray and red, respectively.



Fig-SI 35: Band structure of  $Zn_3V_2O_8$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The considered path and high symmetry K-points are defined in [2].



Fig-SI 36: Imaginary part of the dielectric tensor  $\epsilon_2$  of  $\text{Zn}_3\text{V}_2\text{O}_8$  calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals. The components  $\epsilon_{2xx}$ ,  $\epsilon_{2yy}$  and  $\epsilon_{2zz}$  are in orange, green and blue, respectively.



Fig-SI 37: Trace of the imaginary part of the dielectric tensor  $\epsilon_2$  (blue), of the refractive index n (green), and of extinction coefficient k (red) of  $\text{Zn}_3\text{V}_2\text{O}_8$ , calculated with PBE (top), PBE+U (middle) and HSE06 (bottom) functionals.

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