

**Supporting Information**

**Synthesis of  $\text{Bi}_{2-2x}\text{Sb}_{2x}\text{S}_3$  ( $0 \leq x \leq 1$ ) Solid Solutions from Solventless Thermolysis of Metal Xanthate Precursors**

Tahani Alqahtani,<sup>a</sup> Malik Dilshad Khan,<sup>b,c</sup> Daniel J. Kelly,<sup>a</sup> Sarah J. Haigh<sup>a</sup> David J. Lewis,<sup>\*a</sup> and Paul O'Brien <sup>\*a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>School of Materials, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL, UK.

<sup>b</sup>School of Chemistry, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL, UK.

<sup>c</sup>Department of Chemistry, University of Zululand, Private bag X1001, Kwa-Dlangezwa 3880.

\*E-mail: [paul.o'brien@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:paul.o'brien@manchester.ac.uk), [david.lewis-4@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:david.lewis-4@manchester.ac.uk)

Table S1: Composition of  $\text{Bi}_{2-2x}\text{Sb}_{2x}\text{S}_3$  ( $0 \leq x \leq 1$ ).

Composition ( $x$ ) [Sb]/[Sb]+[Bi]	$\text{Bi}[\text{S}_2\text{COEt}]_3$ (1)	$\text{Sb}[\text{S}_2\text{COEt}]_3$ (2)
0	0.35 mmol	0
0.2	1.64 mmol	0.41 mmol
0.4	0.61 mmol	0.41 mmol
0.6	0.21 mmol	0.41 mmol
0.8	0.11 mmol	0.41 mmol
1	0	0.41 mmol

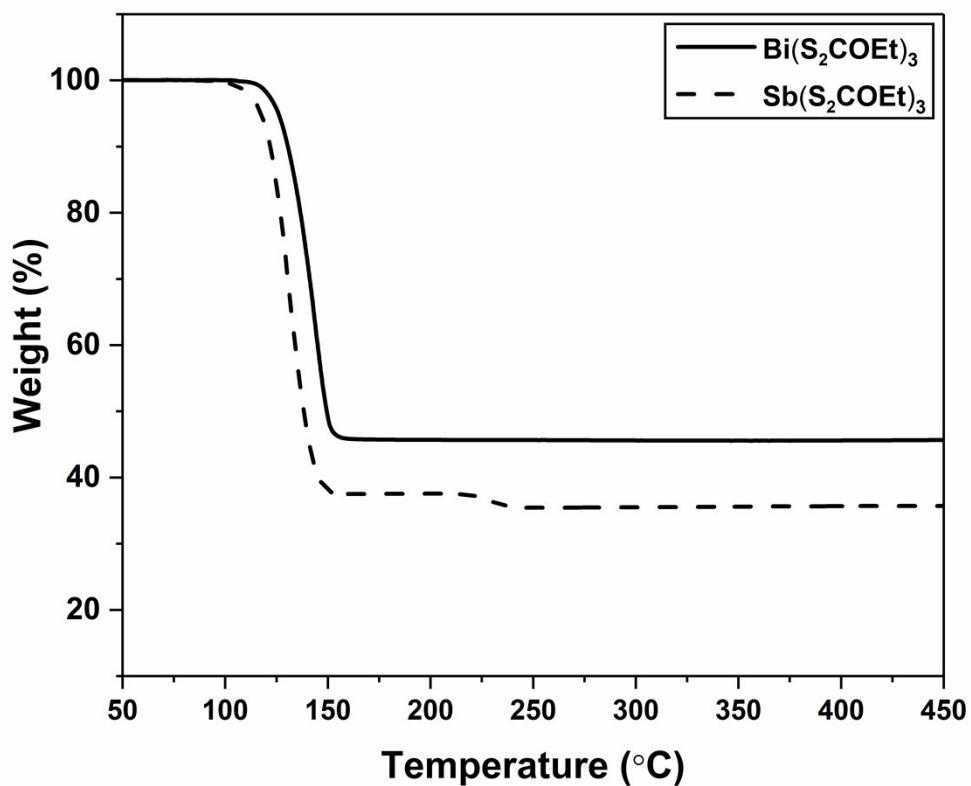


Figure S1: TGA for bismuth(III) and antimony(III) ethylxanthate.

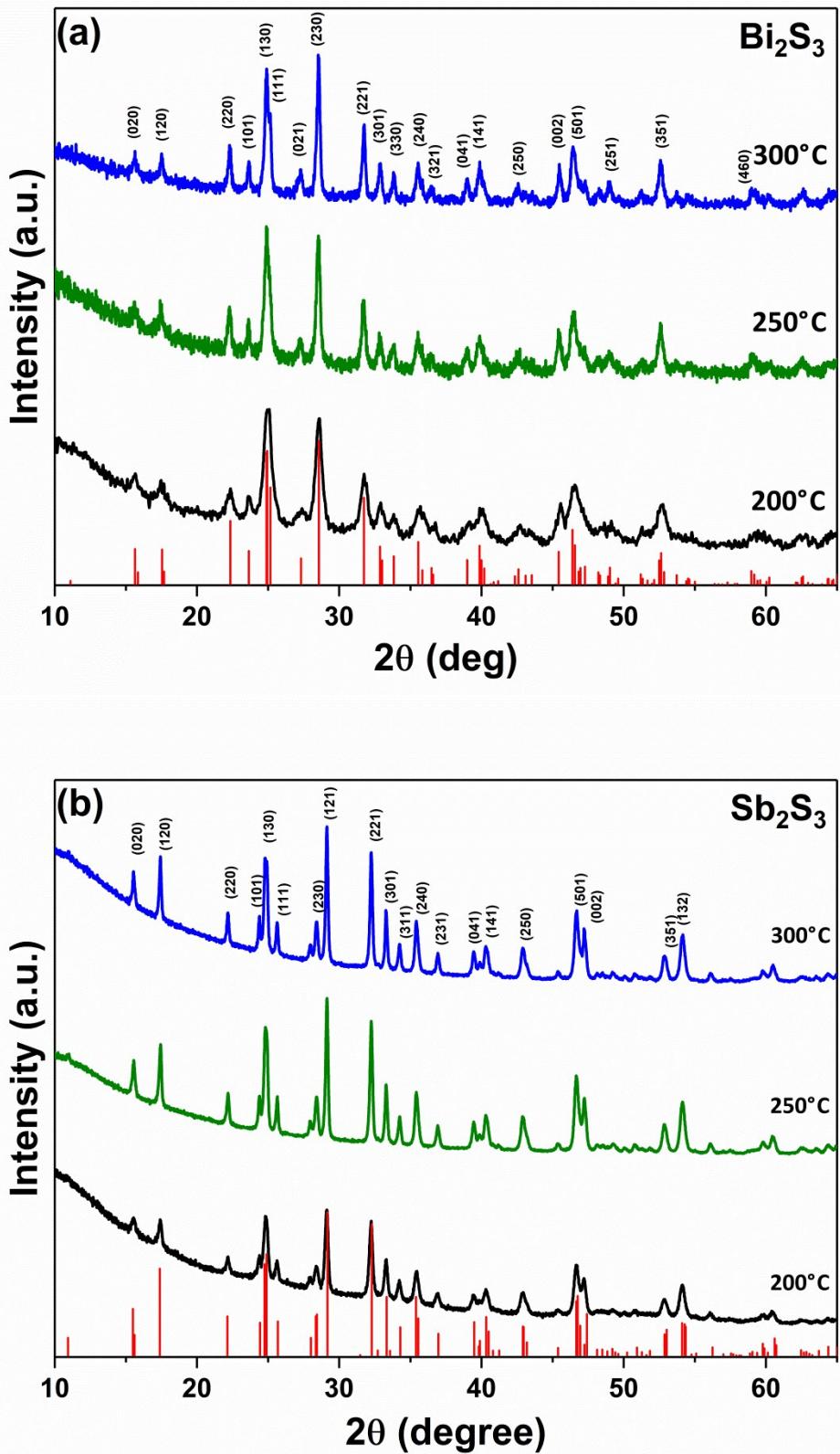


Figure S2: XRD for (a)  $\text{Bi}_2\text{S}_3$  from bismuth(III) ethylxanthate and (b)  $\text{Sb}_2\text{S}_3$  from antimony(III) ethylxanthate at different temperatures.

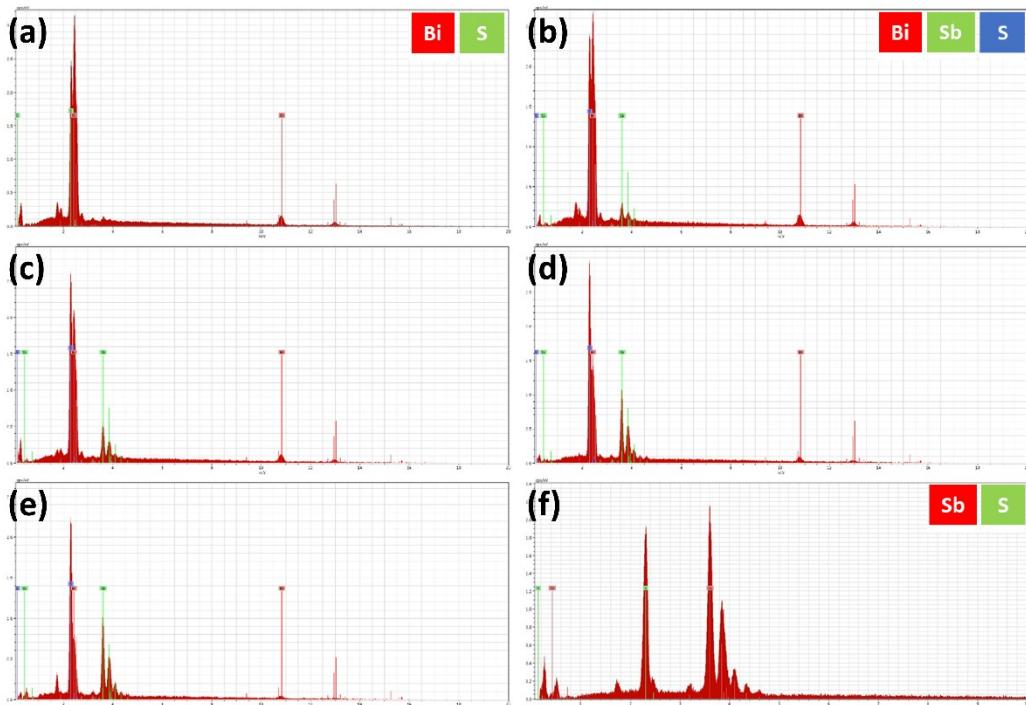


Figure S3: EDX spectra of  $\text{Bi}_{2-2x}\text{Sb}_{2x}\text{S}_3$  with (a)  $x = 0$ , (b)  $x = 0.2$ , (c)  $x = 0.4$ , (d)  $x = 0.6$ , (e)  $x = 0.8$  and (f)  $x = 1$ .

Table S2: The content of Bi, Sb and S in  $\text{Bi}_{2-2x}\text{Sb}_{2x}\text{S}_3$  ( $0 \leq x \leq 1$ ) calculated from theoretical values, EDX and ICP-OES.

Sb mole fraction	Element	Atomic % (Required composition)	Atomic% (Composition by EDX)	Atomic% (Composition by ICP-OES)
0	Bi	40	43.6	42.5
	Sb	0	0	0
	S	60	56.4	57.5
0.2	Bi	32	36.9	32.8
	Sb	8	10.8	11.1
	S	60	52.3	56.1
0.4	Bi	24	27.6	27.1
	Sb	16	17.7	20.3
	S	60	54.6	52.6
0.6	Bi	16	17.3	13.7
	Sb	24	27	28.2
	S	60	55.6	58.1
0.8	Bi	8	8.4	9.2
	Sb	32	33	34.3
	S	60	58.5	56.5
1	Bi	0	0	0
	Sb	40	40.6	45.5
	S	60	59.4	54.5

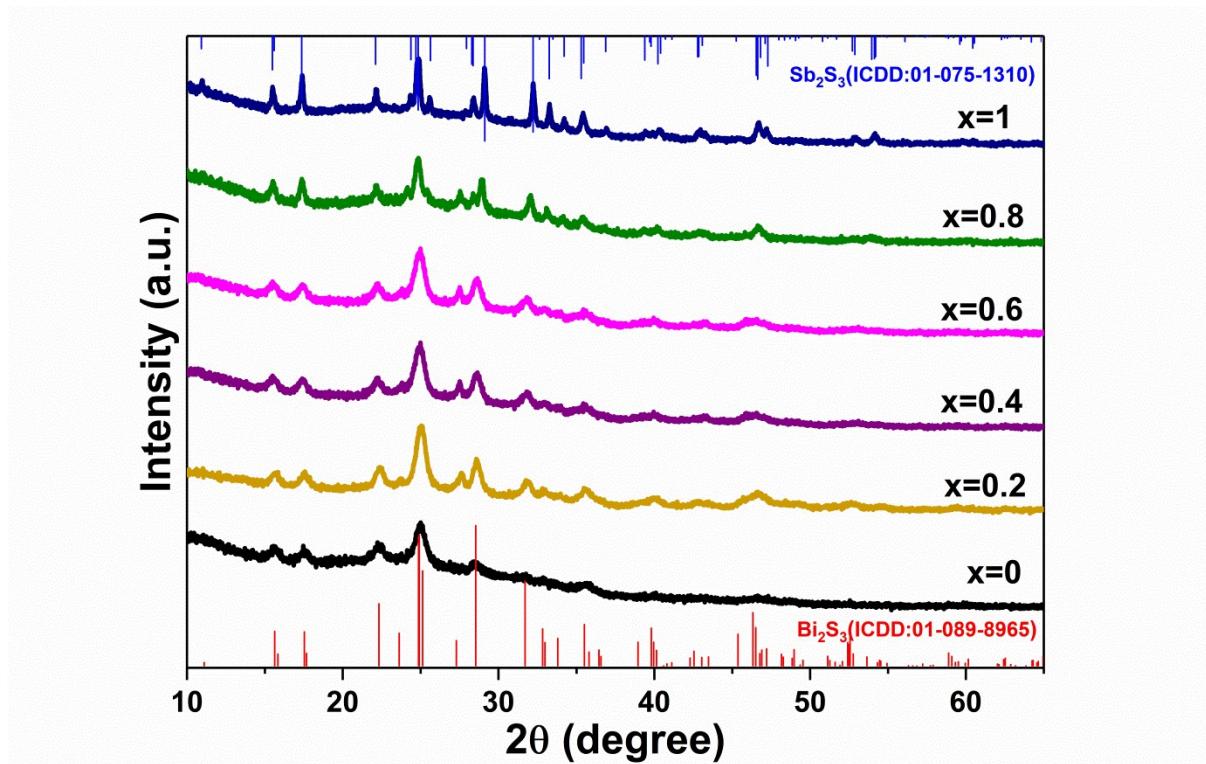


Figure S4: XRD for  $\text{Bi}_{2-x}\text{Sb}_x\text{S}_3$  ( $0 \leq x \leq 1$ ) films prepared by spin coating method at  $250^\circ\text{C}$ .

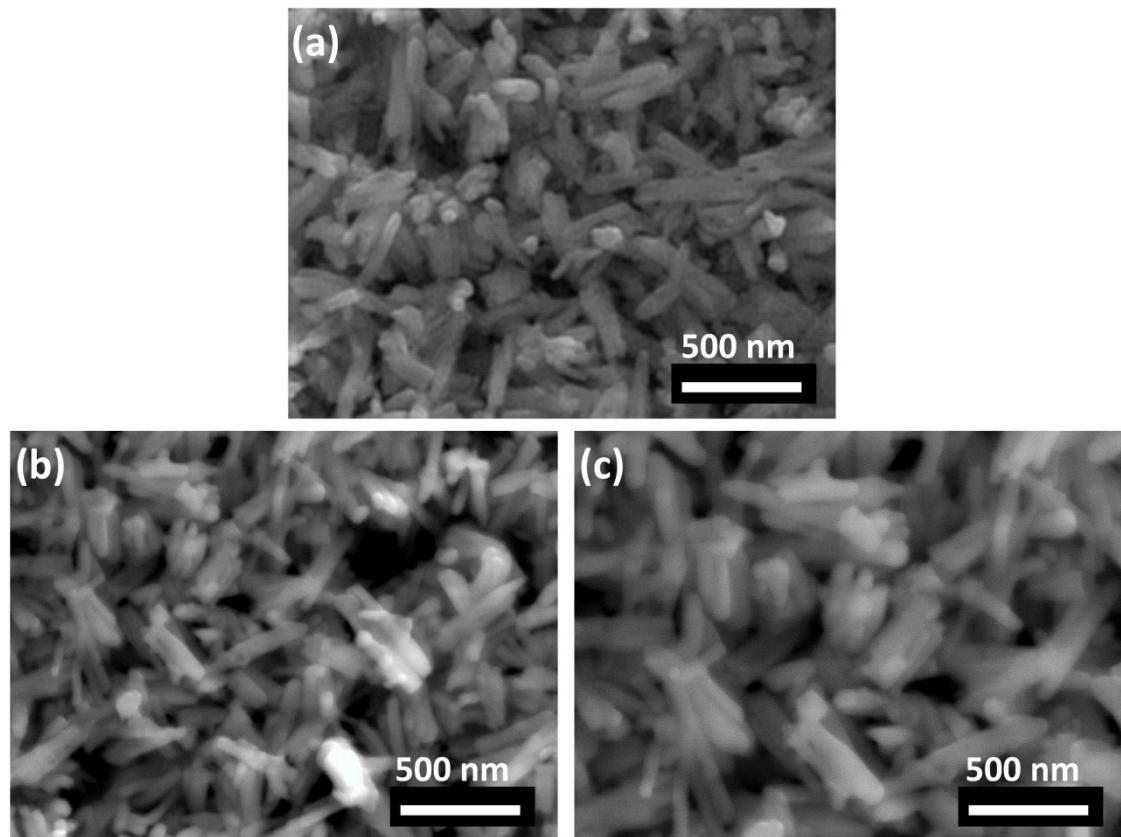


Figure S5: SEM images at low magnification showing the nanorods structure of  $\text{Bi}_{2-x}\text{Sb}_x\text{S}_3$  at  $250^\circ\text{C}$  using different mole fractions of Sb (a)  $\text{Bi}_2\text{S}_3$  ( $x = 0$ ), (b) 0.2 and (c) 0.4.

*Table S3: Lattice spacings,  $d_{ED}$ , measured using electron diffraction (ED) data (with associated uncertainties). ED data presented in main text Figure 8. ED data is compared to expected lattice spacings,  $d_{p-XRD}$ , predicted from  $2\theta$  values determined by p-XRD.*

x = 0.2	(hkl)	2θ (°)	d <sub>p-XRD</sub> (Å)	d <sub>ED</sub> (Å)
	020	15.64	5.66	5.71 ± 0.59
	120	17.53	5.06	5.00 ± 0.55
	220	22.32	3.98	3.99 ± 0.51
	130	24.88	3.58	3.62 ± 0.47
	121			3.11 ± 0.44
	221	31.77	2.81	2.79 ± 0.42
	301	32.87	2.72	2.68 ± 0.42
	240	35.51	2.53	2.49 ± 0.43
	140	39.85	2.26	2.25 ± 0.41
	241			2.11 ± 0.41
	501	46.54	1.95	1.94 ± 0.37
	251			1.84 ± 0.40
	351	52.56	1.74	1.71 ± 0.38
	242			1.55 ± 0.39
	342			1.48 ± 0.39
	461			1.44 ± 0.39
	800			1.42 ± 0.39

x = 0.8	(hkl)	2θ (°)	d <sub>p-XRD</sub> (Å)	d <sub>ED</sub> (Å)
	020	15.62	5.67	5.66 ± 0.57
	120	17.51	5.06	5.04 ± 0.54
	220	22.26	3.99	3.90 ± 0.50
	130	24.85	3.58	3.57 ± 0.47
	111			3.42 ± 0.49
	211			3.05 ± 0.46
	221	32.25	2.77	2.75 ± 0.43
	301	33.30	2.69	2.67 ± 0.42
	240	35.46	2.53	2.55 ± 0.42
	231			2.45 ± 0.41
	321			2.40 ± 0.41
	140	40.32	2.23	2.23 ± 0.39
	421			2.10 ± 0.39
	501	46.72	1.94	1.96 ± 0.38
	450			1.75 ± 0.36
	351	52.76	1.73	1.73 ± 0.36

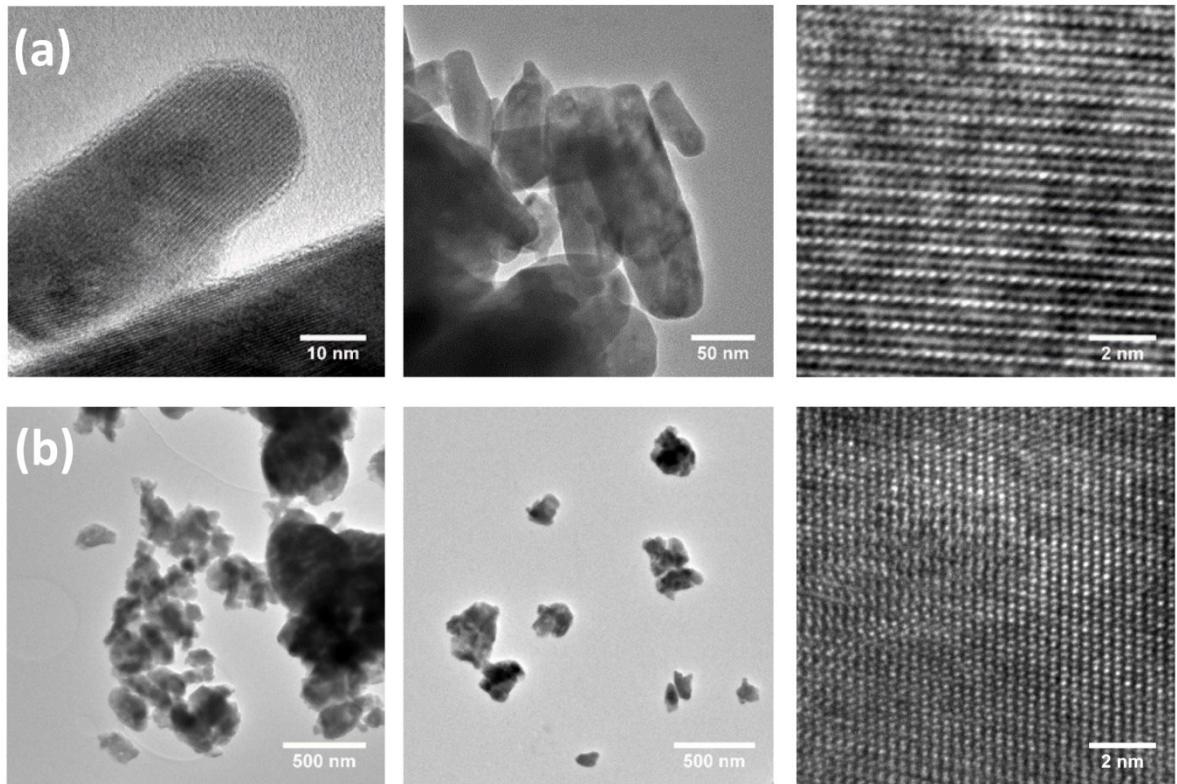


Figure S6: TEM images of  $\text{Bi}_{2-x}\text{Sb}_{2x}\text{S}_3$  (a)  $x = 0.2$  and (b)  $x = 0.8$ .

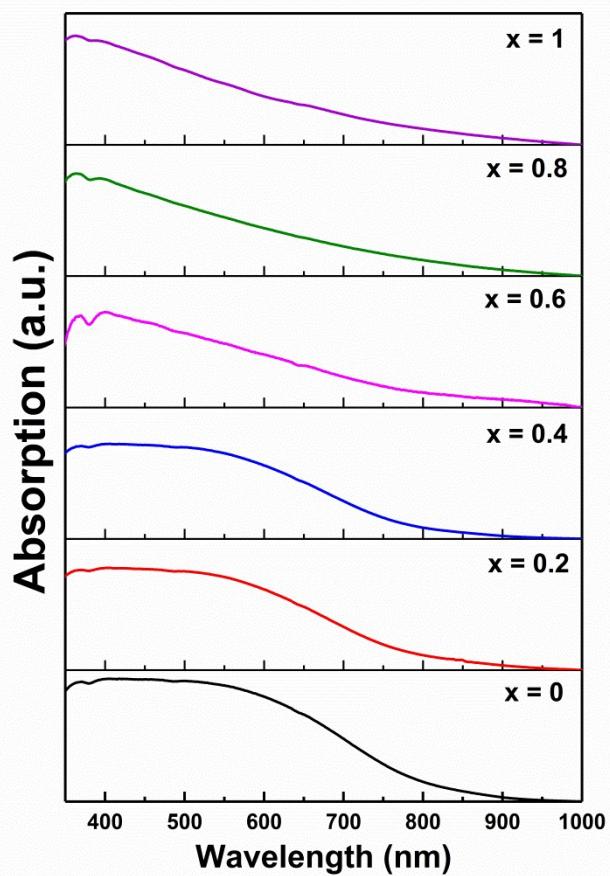


Figure S7: Absorption spectra of  $\text{Bi}_{2-x}\text{Sb}_{2x}\text{S}_3$  ( $0 \leq x \leq 1$ ).

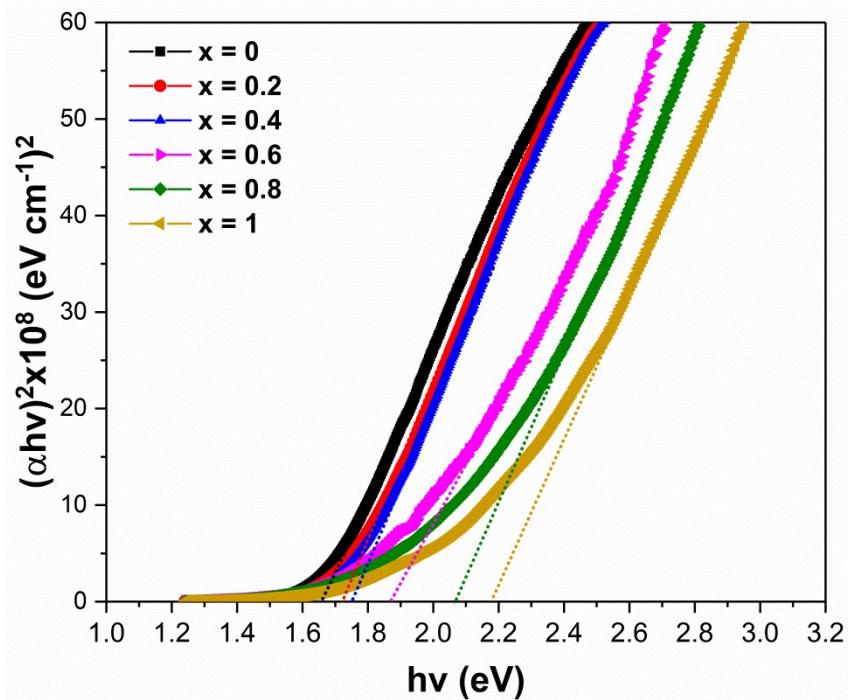


Figure S8: Tauc plot for the  $\text{Bi}_{2-x}\text{Sb}_{2x}\text{S}_3$  with different  $x$  values: (a)  $x = 0$  and 1, (b)  $x = 0.2, 0.4, 0.6$  and 0.8.