

# The Complex Defect Chemistry of Antimony Selenide: Supporting Information

Christopher N. Savory<sup>\*,†,‡</sup> and David O. Scanlon<sup>\*,†,‡,¶</sup>

<sup>†</sup>*University College London, Department of Chemistry, 20 Gordon Street, London WC1H  
0AJ, UK*

<sup>‡</sup>*Thomas Young Centre, University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT*

<sup>¶</sup>*Diamond Light Source Ltd., Diamond House, Harwell Science and Innovation Campus,  
Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 0DE, UK*

E-mail: christopher.savory.14@ucl.ac.uk; d.scanlon@ucl.ac.uk

## Lattice parameters

Table 1: Calculated lattice parameters of  $\text{Sb}_2\text{Se}_3$ , with percentage differences from the original structure of Voutsas *et al.*<sup>1</sup>

Lattice Parameter	$a(\text{Å})$	$b(\text{Å})$	$c(\text{Å})$	volume( $\text{Å}^3$ )
HSE06	11.9455	3.9762	11.5287	547.583
Experiment	11.7938	3.9858	11.6478	547.537
% difference	+1.29	-0.24	-1.02	+0.01

## Defect Methodology

For a defect  $X$  in charge state  $q$ , the formation energy of that defect,  $\Delta_f E(q)$ , is given by:

$$\Delta_f E(q) = [E_X(q) - E_H] + q(\epsilon_H^{VBM} + \Delta E_F) + \sum_i n_i (E_i^0 + \Delta \mu_i) + E_{corr}, \quad (1)$$

where  $E_H$  is the energy of the host (pure) supercell and  $E_X(q)$  is the energy of the defective supercell in charge state  $q$ ;  $E_i^0$  is the elemental reference energy of the  $n$  atoms of species  $i$  being removed or added and  $\Delta \mu_i$  are the elemental chemical potentials defined with respect to those elemental references. For charged defects,  $q \neq 0$  and the formation energy of the defect is also a function of the Fermi level position  $\Delta E_F$  above the host valence band energy  $\epsilon_H^{VBM}$ .  $E_{corr}$  defines the three additional terms associated with the potential alignment, ‘band-filling’ and ‘image-charge’ corrections, mentioned in the Computational Methods section of the manuscript.

The thermodynamic transition levels, as depicted in Figure 2 of the manuscript, are defined as the Fermi level position for which a given defect changes from charge state  $q$  to  $q'$ :

$$E(q/q') = \frac{\Delta_f E_X(q) - \Delta_f E_X(q')}{(q' - q)}. \quad (2)$$

## Defect Transition Levels

Table 2: Vacancy and selenium interstitial defect transition levels in  $\text{Sb}_2\text{Se}_3$ , with positions in energy given with respect to the valence band maximum.

Transition Level	$V_{\text{Sb}, 1}$	$V_{\text{Sb}, 2}$	$V_{\text{Se}, 1}$	$V_{\text{Se}, 2}$	$V_{\text{Se}, 3}$	$\text{Se}_i$
+4/+2						0.2859
+2/+1			0.2120		0.4042	
+2/0				0.8543		0.4312
+1/0			0.6259		0.5372	
0/-1		0.0412				
0/-2						1.2548
0/-3	0.0987					
-1/-2		0.0956				
-2/-3		0.1413				

Table 3: Antisite and antimony interstitial defect transition levels in  $\text{Sb}_2\text{Se}_3$ , with positions in energy given with respect to the valence band maximum.

Transition Level	$\text{Sb}_{\text{Se}, 1}$	$\text{Sb}_{\text{Se}, 2}$	$\text{Sb}_{\text{Se}, 3}$	$\text{Se}_{\text{Sb}, 1}$	$\text{Se}_{\text{Sb}, 2}$	$\text{Sb}_i$
+5/+3						-0.1401
+3/+2				-0.1281	-0.0951	
+3/+1	0.3870	0.1144				0.7762
+3/-1			0.4152			
+2/+1				-0.1161	-0.0819	
+1/0		0.4512				
+1/-1	0.4938			0.6464	0.6971	1.1797
0/-1		0.8885				
-1/-3						1.3010

## References

- (1) Voutsas, G.; Papazoglou, A.; Rentzeperis, P.; Siapakas, D. The crystal structure of antimony selenide,  $\text{Sb}_2\text{Se}_3$ . *Zeitschrift für Kristallographie – Crystalline Materials* **1985**, *171*, 261–268.