

Sb₂Se₃/CdSe Thin Film Photocathode for Efficient Hydrogen Production

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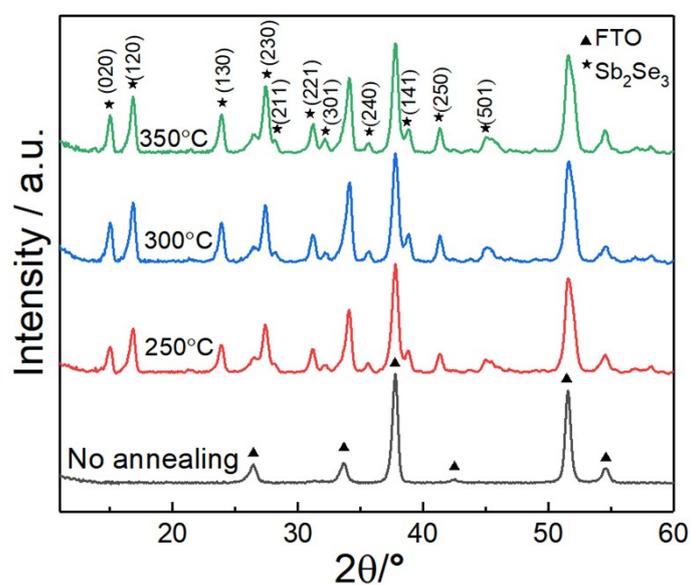


Fig. S1. XRD patterns of Sb₂Se₃ annealed at different temperatures.

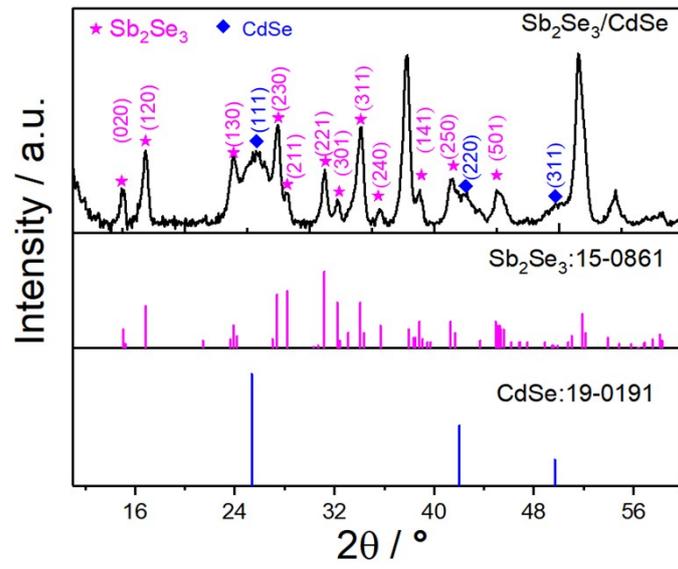


Fig. S2. XRD patterns of the $\text{Sb}_2\text{Se}_3/\text{CdSe}$ sample.

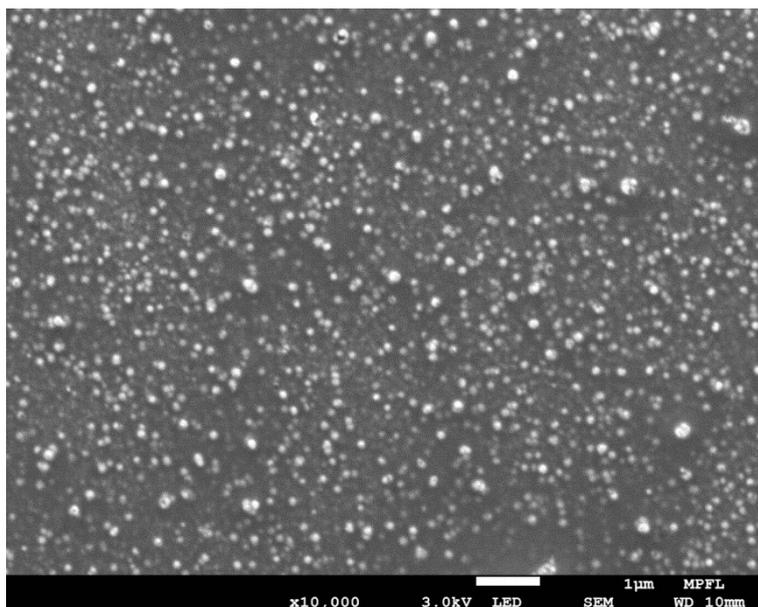


Fig. S3. SEM image of CdSe on FTO.

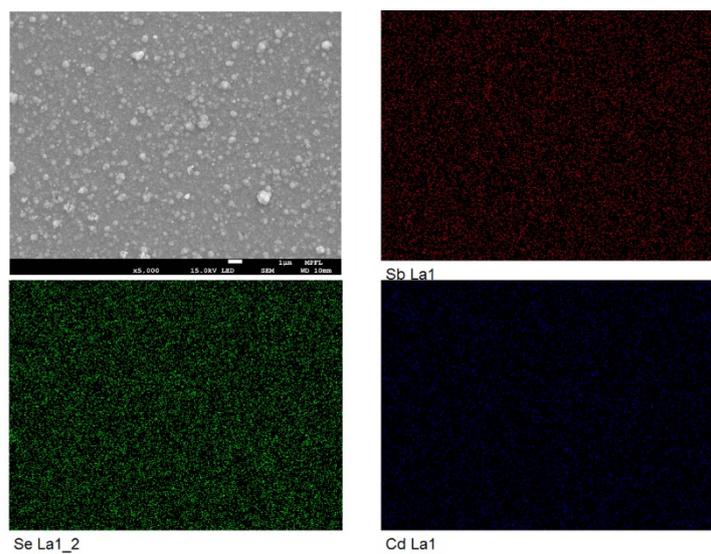


Fig. S4. EDS image of $\text{Sb}_2\text{Se}_3/\text{CdSe}$ sample.

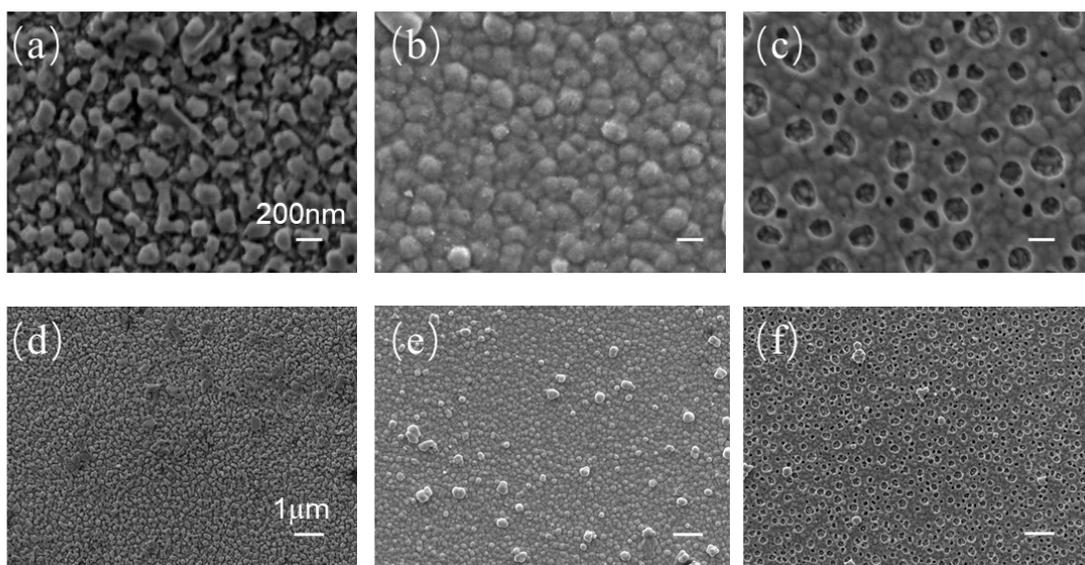


Fig. S5. SEM images of Sb_2Se_3 annealed at (a,d) 200, (b,e) 250, and (c,f) 300 °C under an Ar atmosphere.

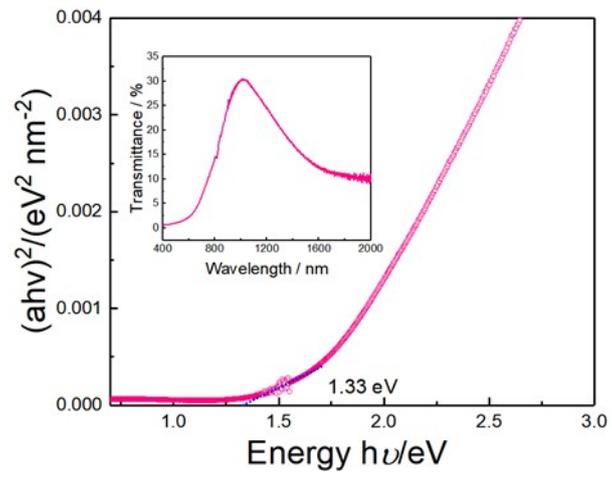


Fig. S6. Tauc plot of 250 °C annealed Sb₂Se₃. Inset corresponds to the transmittance spectrum.

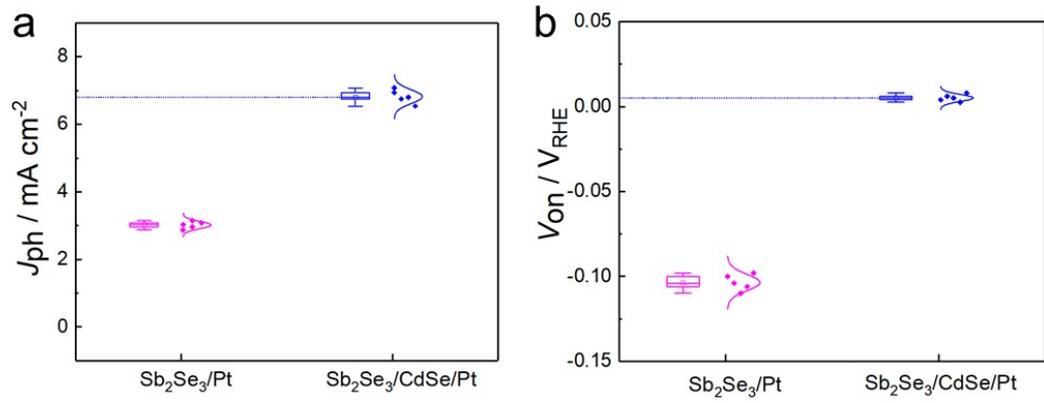


Fig. S7. The statistical distribution of (a) J_{ph} at $-0.2 V_{\text{RHE}}$ and (b) V_{on} for $\text{Sb}_2\text{Se}_3/\text{Pt}$ and $\text{Sb}_2\text{Se}_3/\text{CdSe}/\text{Pt}$ devices.

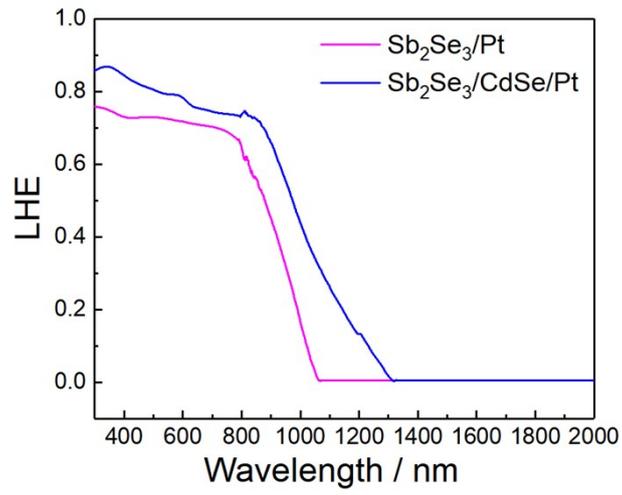


Fig. S8 Light-harvesting efficiency LHF curve of the devices.

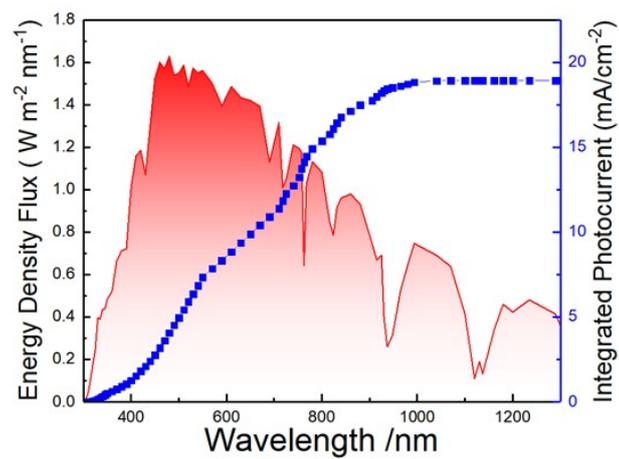


Fig. S9. The energy density flux for the standard AM 1.5G solar spectrum, along with the integrated photocurrent density of the photocathodes.

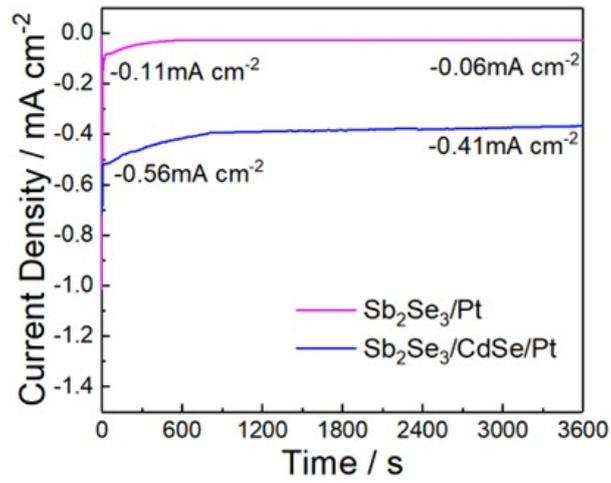


Fig. S10. The photostability measurements of Sb₂Se₃/Pt and Sb₂Se₃/CdSe/Pt photocathodes.

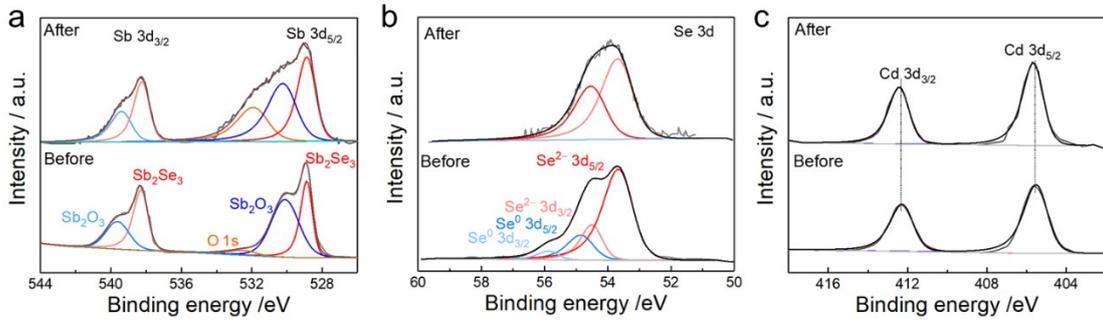


Fig. S11. High-resolution XPS spectra of (a) Sb 3d, (b) Se 3d and (c) Cd 3d of Sb₂Se₃/CdSe/Pt photoelectrode before and after stability test.

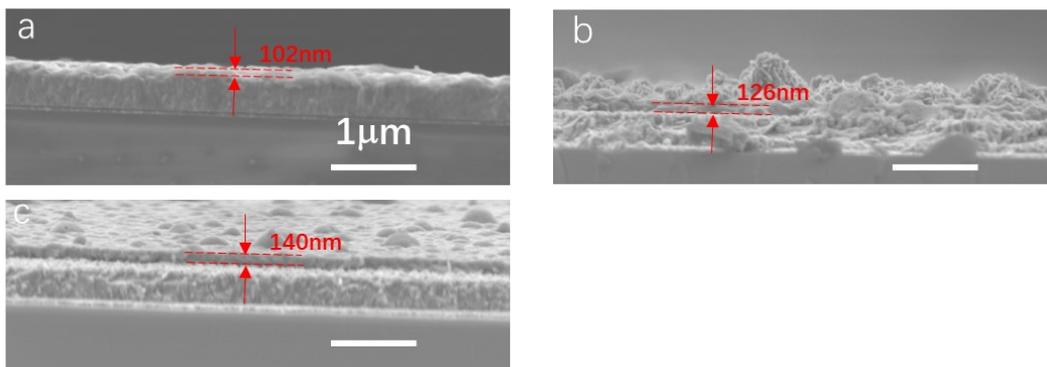


Fig. S12. The cross-sectional of the film obtained by passing (a) 0.125 (b) 0.25 (c) 0.5 C/cm² charge and annealed at 250 °C in Ar atmosphere.

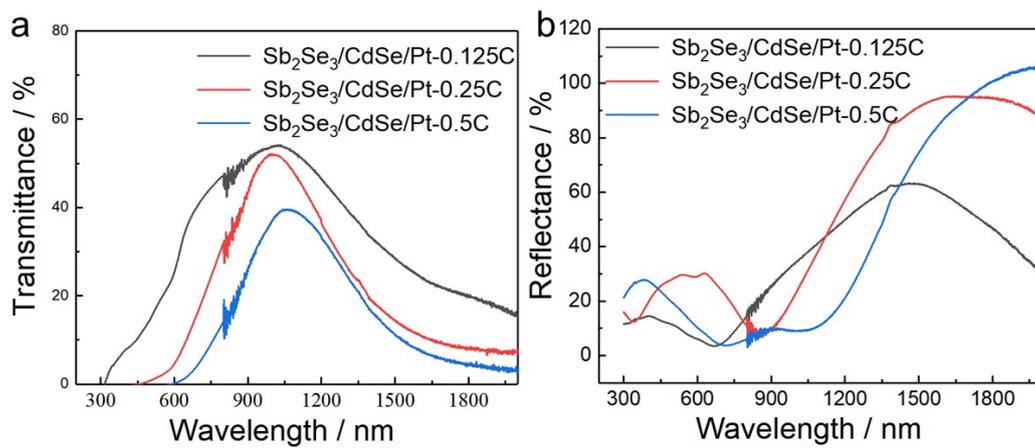


Fig. S13. (A) Transmittance spectra and (B) reflectance spectra of the film obtained by passing different charge densities.

Table S1. The corresponding parameters of M-S.

| Sb ₂ Se ₃ with different annealing temperature | Slope | N _d |
|--|-------|----------------|
| 200°C | 30.68 | 0.032z |
| 250°C | 21.43 | 0.047z |
| 300°C | 24.16 | 0.041z |

$z = 2/e_0\epsilon_0\epsilon$

Table S2. The corresponding parameters of M-S.

| Sample | Slope | N _d |
|--|-------|----------------|
| Sb ₂ Se ₃ /Pt | 5.00 | 0.20z |
| Sb ₂ Se ₃ /CdSe/Pt | 0.66 | 1.51z |

$z = 2/e_0\epsilon_0\epsilon$

Table S3. Electrochemical parameters of photoelectrodes obtained from EIS study.

| Samples/parameters | $R_s/$ Ω | $R_{ct}/$ Ω | CPE ₁ / $\mu\text{F cm}^{-2}$ | $R_1/$ Ω | CPE ₂ / μF cm^{-2} |
|---|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------|--|
| Sb ₂ Se ₃ /CdSe/Pt-0.125C | 46.84 | 6600 | 23.45 | 30455 | 85.56 |
| Sb ₂ Se ₃ /CdSe/Pt-0.25C | 59.26 | 224.0 | 20.61 | 10.84 | 11.83 |
| Sb ₂ Se ₃ /CdSe/Pt-0.5C | 60.01 | 701.2 | 14.57 | 832.9 | 58.64 |