Investigation of Cs₂AgInBr₆ and Cs₂AgGaBr₆ -based Double Perovskite Solar Cells: A Study of Solar Cell Parameters Using SCAPS-1D Simulation Software

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DECLARATION

We. (2K21/MSCPHY/46) VISHAL. SHUBHDA. and DESWAL. (2K21/MSCPHY/52) hereby certify that the work which is presented in the Dissertation Project-II/Research work entitled "Investigation of Cs2AgInBr6 and Cs2AgGaBr6 based Double Perovskite Solar Cells: A Study of Solar Cell Parameters Using SCAPS-1D Simulation Software" in fulfilment of the requirement for the award of the degree of Master of Science in Physics and submitted to the Department of Applied Physics, Delhi Technological University, Delhi is an authentic record of our own, carried out during a period from August 2022 to May 2023, under the supervision of Dr SARITA BAGHEL. The matter presented in this report/thesis has not been submitted by me for the award of any other degree or any other Institute/University. The work on Cs2AgGaBr6 based double perovskite solar cell has been communicated in peer reviewed Scopus indexed conference and another work on Cs₂AgInBr₆ based double perovskite solar cell has been communicated in SCOPUS and SCI indexed journal, with the following details:

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SUPERVISOR CERTIFICATE

To the best of my knowledge, the above work has not been submitted in part or full for any Degree or Diploma to this University or elsewhere. I, further certify that the publication and indexing information given by the students is correct.

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ABSTRACT

In Perovskite to get rid of toxicity of lead-based perovskite solar cell and to increase its efficiency various Materials are under research among them double perovskite solar cells (DPSCs) are promising with high efficiency. Lead free DPSCs recently attracted lots of research Interest because of its viability as a promising perovskite absorber layer in the device architecture along with its reasonable cost, remarkable stability and high performance. The lead and non-biodegradable material-based Perovskite solar cells (PSCs) are still a hurdle to its commercialization.

Cs₂AgGaBr₆-based DPSC promised high efficiency in previous studies and we investigate it further. ZnSe, IGZO, WS₂, TiO₂, ZnO and CeO₂ were chosen as ETLs, while Spiro-OMeTAD, CuO, PEDOT: PSS, P3HT, CBTS, and Cu₂O were chosen as HTLs. Using the SCAPS-1D solar cell simulation program, we thoroughly investigated the properties of solar cell layers to determine the optimum structure: CBTS/Cs₂AgGaBr₆/ZNSe. ETL and HTL with high mobility of charge carriers and absorption coefficient is required for desired performance of DPSC. Cs₂AgGaBr₆ exhibits a direct bandgap of 1.42 eV and a semiconducting nature. In order to attain the highest possible power conversion efficiency (PCE), the device structure of multiple cells was examined. Of these, a cell with ZnSe based ETL and CBTS based HTL produced best efficiency, 30.26% at a thickness of 600 nm.

We have also investigated a non-toxic inorganic material i.e., $Cs_2AgInBr_6$ using SCAPS-1D software. we optimized various parameters like Defect density (N_t), thickness, operating temperature and electron affinity (χ) of perovskite absorber layer (Cs₂AgInBr₆). Effect of various ETLs and HTLs on the performance device is also analyzed. At absorber layer thickness of 600 nm, the Cs₂AgInBr₆-based DPSC has achieved maximum efficiency of 26.9%. The optimized value of N_t is 10¹⁴ and operating temperature is 300 K

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Symbol/index	Meaning/Abbreviation
PCE	Power Conversion Efficiency
ZnSe	Zinc Selenide
CBTS	Copper Barium Thiostannate
FF	Fill Factor
ETL	Electron Transport Layer
HTL	Hole Transport Layer
FTO	Flourine Tin Oxide
Cs ₂ AgGaBr ₆	Cesium Silver Gallium Bromide
Cs ₂ AgInBr ₆	Cesium Silver Indium Bromide
ТММ	Transfer Matrix Mode
DPSC	Double Perovskite Solar Cell
QE	Quantum Efficiency
Eg	Band Gap
χ	Electron Affinity
Nt	Defect Density
μ _e	Electron Mobility
$\mu_{\rm h}$	Hole mobility
Nc	Conduction band effective density of states
Nv	Valence band effective density of states
ε _r	Dielectric Permittivity
J _{sc}	Current density
V _{oc}	Voltage
DHP	Double Halide Perovskites
K	Kelvin
Ve	Electron Thermal velocity
V _h	Hole Thermal velocity

Chapter1 Introduction

1.1 Background

A safe and inexhaustible renewable energy source is solar power, that holds great potential for addressing global energy demands and reducing carbon emissions. Significant research efforts have been made over the years to create more efficient, economical, and stable solar cell. The conventional silicon and other inorganic semiconductor-based photovoltaics dominated market as they offer established performance and reliability. However, their high production costs and limited flexibility have sparked interest in exploring alternatives. PSCs are emerging as strong candidates for upcoming advanced and efficient photovoltaics.

PSCs are based on organic-inorganic metallic halide perovskite materials. These materials are typically denoted by ABX3 (A and B are organic and metal cations respectively; x= halide anion). Characteristics like tuneable bandgap and high absorption coefficient enable PSCs to achieve high PCE and low-cost fabrication processes, making them a potentially disruptive technology in the solar cell industry.

Despite their impressive performance, traditional PSCs face challenges regarding stability, material toxicity, as well as moisture sensitivity. In recent years, researchers have turned their attention to double perovskite materials as an alternative approach for better stability and performance of PSCs

Double perovskite materials, also known as mixed-halide or mixed-cation perovskites, are composed of two different metal cations in the B-site of the perovskite structure. This modification introduces enhanced freedom in controlling the material properties, including stability, bandgap, and defect tolerance. By carefully engineering the composition of the double perovskite materials, it is possible to tailor their optoelectronic properties to meet the requirements of efficient solar cell operation.

Due of their possible advantages, such as improved stability, reduced toxicity, and enhanced light harvesting capabilities. research into DPSCs has received a lot of interest. Researchers have reported encouraging results in terms of efficiency, longterm stability, and resistance to moisture and heat. However, the understanding of double perovskite materials and their performance in solar cells is still in its early stages, necessitating further investigation and optimization.

In this context, this study's goal is to look into the capabilities and characteristics of DPSCs. The research will involve synthesizing and characterizing different double perovskite compositions, fabricating solar cell devices, and evaluating their optoelectronic properties, stability, and device performance. This study opens way for further research on double perovskite materials and pave the way for their potential implementation in efficient and stable solar cell technologies.

By addressing the limitations of traditional PSCs, DPSCs offer an exciting avenue for advancing the field of photovoltaics and driving the development of sustainable energy solutions.

1.2 **Research Objectives**:

Primary aim of this study on Cs₂AgInBr₆ and Cs₂AgGaBr₆ based double perovskite solar cells are as follows:

- 1.2.1 **Device Fabrication**: The next objective is to fabricate solar cell devices using the double perovskite materials as the active layer. The devices will be constructed using suitable device architectures in SCAPS-1D. Optimization of the device fabrication parameters will be carried out to enhance the device performance.
- 1.2.2 **Performance Evaluation**: one of the primary goals is to evaluate the optoelectronic properties and performance of the Cs₂AgInBr₆ and Cs₂AgGaBr₆ based double perovskite solar cells. This includes measuring key parameters like PCE, J-V characteristics, Fill factor and Q.E.
- 1.2.3 Analysis and Optimization: The final objective is to analyze the obtained results and identify strategies to optimize the performance of $Cs_2AgInBr_6$ and $Cs_2AgGaBr_6$ DPSCs. The objective remains to improve DPSCs PCE and performance.

1.3 Significance of this Research:

This research on Cs₂AgInBr₆ and Cs₂AgGaBr₆ based double perovskite solar cells holds significant importance for several reasons:

- 1.3.1 Advancement of PSC Technology: By investigating the performance of Cs₂AgInBr₆ and Cs₂AgGaBr₆ double perovskite materials in solar cells, this research contributes to significant progress of PSC technology. It expands the knowledge base and understanding of the unique properties and potential advantages of double perovskites as active materials.
- 1.3.2 Enhanced Efficiency and Stability: Double perovskite materials offer the potential for improved efficiency and stability compared to traditional perovskite materials. By exploring Cs₂AgInBr₆ and Cs₂AgGaBr₆ double perovskites, this research aims to uncover the performance benefits that these materials can bring to solar cell devices, such as enhanced charge transport, reduced defects, and improved stability under operating conditions.
- 1.3.3 Novel Material Exploration: The study of Cs₂AgInBr₆ and Cs₂AgGaBr₆ double perovskites expands the range of materials available for solar cell applications. These materials offer different compositional and structural properties compared to conventional perovskites, opening up new possibilities for tailoring the optoelectronic properties of solar cells.
- 1.3.4 Sustainable Energy Solutions: Developing efficient as well as stable photovoltaics is crucial for advancing sustainable energy solutions. By improving the understanding and performance of Cs₂AgInBr₆ and Cs₂AgGaBr₆ DPSCs, this research helps in achieving the broader goal of realizing cost-effective and environmentally friendly photovoltaic devices.

Chapter2

Chapter2 Literature Review

2.1 Perovskite Solar Cells

Undoubtedly, we have a significant requirement for electricity because of the world's population growth. In past years, fossil fuels have been main source of electricity, but as conventional energy sources become scarcer, people are increasingly turning to pure, non-polluting energy sources. Both directly and tangentially using solar energy as a source of heat is possible. Therefore, extensive research is required to create such devices that can effectively recapture the massive thermal energy produced as waste in various energy as well as available naturally through sun. For the sake of human sustainability in this respect, research into novel renewable energy sources is essential. In this view, photons to energy conversion are a preferred approach for advancement of civilization. Perovskite solar cells among other such devices attract attention of researchers because of a number of distinctive features like cost efficacy, simple manufacturing, outstanding efficiency etc.

Because of their exceptional physical and/or chemical characteristics, such as their structure, optical properties, electrical properties, superconducting, catalytic, and magnetic properties perovskite materials have recently helped a number of technologies[1]–[3]. More precisely, organic-inorganic perovskites ABX₃ with halogens (Cl, Br, I) as anions at X-site and lead as a cation at B-site have revolutionized the field of photovoltaic study[4], [5].

Devices manufactured based on halide perovskites demonstrated a significant improvement in efficiency (3.8% to 25.5%) which is better than silicon thin-film solar cells. lead-based perovskites subjected to air, heat, or moisture shows degrading tendency; as a result, manufacturing of the solar cells require more sophisticated enclosure methods than silicon[6]. In addition, due to the high lead concentration in these compounds, the environmental effect is a worry in light of the anticipated widespread use of perovskite-based solar cells [7], [8]. Meanwhile, Pb-free perovskite compounds with exceptional ecological resilience have become an emerging study challenge in light of such environmental concerns[9], [10].

Many significant attempts have been made over the past decade in order to reduce the danger of Pb present in perovskites, particularly by enhancing their dimension and/or makeup. A M⁺ monovalent and a M'³⁺ trivalent cations are previously shown as substitute the 2Pb²⁺ creating 3-D "Double-halide perovskites" (DHPs) having formula A₂MM'X₆ here, A can be Cs, Rb, K, Na; and M can be Cu, Ag, Au, In; M' = Bi, Sb, In, Ga; X = I, Br, Cl).[11], [12]. Research shows that in thermoelectric, optoelectronic, and/or photovoltaic applications, gallium and silver atoms based nontoxic perovskite materials are superior to perovskites based on lead. [13]

2.2 Double Perovskite Solar Cells

High-performance PSCs are unstable. Additionally, they are based on toxic lead [[14]. Unquestionably, this severely restricts their usage in solar systems. As an alternative, a new generation of DPSC material has been proposed to address the issue [15]–[17]. The suggested compounds have been successfully synthesized and are inorganic, stable, and non-toxic[15]–[19]. These are therefore excellent choices for photovoltaic applications.

2.3 Cs₂AgInBr₆

Cs₂AgInBr₆ is a double perovskite material which garnered significant attention as it offers useful characteristics and possible applications in solar cells. This material belongs to halide double perovskites and has a crystal structure composed of cesium (Cs), silver (Ag), indium (In), and bromine (Br) atoms.

 $Cs_2AgInBr_6$ is one of the double perovskites materials that has been touted as a top contender for technological applications, particularly in the solar industry hence receiving a lot of attention recently. Only a few data were given about the material's optical and electrical characteristics, which are crucial for the design and fabrication of devices that utilize the perovskite in question[20], [21], despite several fundamental aspects of the material being researched[22]–[24].

The Cs₂AgInBr₆ double perovskite exhibits several desirable properties which makes it attractive for solar cell applications:

1. Optoelectronic Properties: Cs₂AgInBr₆ possesses a direct bandgap in the visible light range, enabling efficient absorption of sunlight. This property is crucial for photovoltaics because it allows for effective conversion of solar energy into electrical energy.

2. High Absorption Coefficient: The material in question has a high absorption coefficient, which enables it to absorb a large number of photons even when the film thickness is relatively thin. This property is advantageous for fabricating thin-film solar cells, reducing material usage and cost.

3. Long Carrier Diffusion Length: $Cs_2AgInBr_6$ possess a long carrier diffusion length, indicating that the photogenerated charges can go far into the material without recombining. within material with no recombination. This characteristic is essential for charge extraction and collection, leading to higher solar cell efficiencies. 4. Thermal Stability: Because of its great thermal stability, Cs2AgInBr6 can survive high temperatures without suffering considerable deterioration. For the manufacture and long-term reliability of solar cells, particularly under actual working circumstances, this characteristic is crucial.

5. Low Toxicity: Compared to some other halide perovskites, Cs₂AgInBr₆ has relatively low toxicity, which is advantageous for large-scale manufacturing and potential commercialization of photovoltaics.

The unique combination of these properties makes $Cs_2AgInBr_6$ an intriguing candidate for solar cell applications. Researchers are actively exploring its potential to develop highly efficient and DPSC. Some of the key areas of research and development include:

1. Device Optimization: Researchers are working for improving the PCE of Cs₂AgInBr₆-based DPSCs by optimizing device architectures, interface engineering, and charge transport properties.

2. Stability Enhancement: Ensuring enduring stability of $Cs_2AgInBr_6$ -based DPSC is a crucial area of focus. Researchers are investigating strategies to enhance the material's resistance to moisture, heat, and light-induced degradation, thereby improving the operational lifetime of the solar cells.

3. Scale-Up and Manufacturing: Efforts are underway to develop scalable fabrication techniques for $Cs_2AgInBr_6$ solar cells, enabling their large-scale production at low cost. This includes exploring solution-based deposition methods, roll-to-roll processing, and compatibility with existing manufacturing infrastructure.

The application of $Cs_2AgInBr_6$ in solar cells holds promise for realizing highefficiency, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly photovoltaic devices. Ongoing studies aim to overcome these challenges associated with stability, efficiency, and scalability, therefore making way for commercialization of $Cs_2AgInBr_6$ -based solar cells and contributing to the clean energy transition.

2.4 Cs₂AgGaBr₆

Research shows that in thermoelectric, optoelectronic, and/or photovoltaic applications, gallium and silver atoms based non-toxic perovskite materials are superior to perovskites based on lead. [13]

In the absence of interface imperfections, $Cs_2AgGaBr_6$'s favorable bandgap of 1.42 eV along with strong absorption leads to a high PCE of 34.99%. this corresponds to

ideal thickness of 2.6 micro-m. Yet, the efficiency is reduced to 30.90% by adding interface defects[13]. In light of this we therefore attempt to study the effect of different HTL/ETL layers to study and compare their effect on efficiency of solar cell, at a lower thickness then the optimum of 2.6micrometer.[13] (As this is considered much thicker); instead, we used standard 600nm as thickness.

Cs₂AgGaBr₆ (also referred to as Cesium Silver Gallium Bromide) is indeed a double perovskite material that has gained attention for its potential application in solar cells. This material consists of cesium (Cs), silver (Ag), gallium (Ga), and bromine (Br) atoms in its crystal structure.

While specific information Cs₂AgGaBr₆ may be limited due to its relatively recent discovery and ongoing research, we can discuss some general properties and potential applications of double perovskite materials in solar cells.

1) Optoelectronic Properties: Double perovskite materials like Cs₂AgGaBr₆ typically possess desirable optoelectronic properties, including a suitable bandgap for solar absorption and efficient charge carrier transport. These properties are crucial for effective light absorption and energy conversion in solar cells.

2) Tunability: Double perovskite materials have several benefits, including the possibility of tuning their bandgap and electronic properties by altering their composition and structure. This tunability allows researchers to optimize the material for specific solar cell applications and tailor it to maximize device performance.

3) High Absorption Coefficient: Double perovskites often display a high absorption coefficient. This property makes efficient absorption of light possible even for thin films. This characteristic can facilitate the development of thin-film DPSCs, decreasing material usage and cost.

 Carrier Transport: Highly efficient PSCs require effective carrier transport.
 Double perovskite materials can have favourable charge carrier mobilities, enabling the effective extraction and collection of photogenerated electrons and holes.

5) Stability: Ensuring the prolonged stability of PSCs is challenging. Ongoing research aims for improving stability of DPSC materials, including $Cs_2AgGaBr_6$ by addressing issues such as moisture sensitivity, thermal stability, and resistance to degradation.

Regarding the specific application of Cs₂AgGaBr₆ in DPSCs, it is important to notice that the material is relatively new, and research on its solar cell performance and

optimization is still in progress. Researchers are likely exploring the fabrication methods, device architectures, and stability considerations to determine the viability and potential advantages of Cs₂AgGaBr₆-based solar cells.

Overall, while specific information about $Cs_2AgGaBr_6$ may be limited, double perovskite materials are desirable for solar cell applications due to their general characteristics. Ongoing research in PSCs aims to achieve stability, enhance efficiency, and improve the scalability of these materials for commercialization in the renewable energy sector.

2.5 SCAPS-1D Solar Cell Simulation Software

This section provides an overview of SCAPS-1D, a popular program for simulating solar cells. It describes its capabilities in modeling and simulating various solar cell parameters, such as electrical and optical properties, carrier transport, and recombination mechanisms. The subsection also emphasizes the importance of simulation software in solar cell research, allowing researchers to optimize device performance and gain insights into the underlying physics.

SCAPS-1D is a simulation software tool specifically designed for modeling and simulating the performance of photovoltaics. It provides a platform for analyzing and optimizing the electronic and optical properties of various types of photovoltaics, including and not constrained to silicon-based, thin-film, and perovskite solar cells. Here's an overview of how SCAPS-1D works, its uses, underlying codes, and concepts:

2.5.1 Working Principle:

SCAPS-1D utilizes a numerical approach to simulate the behavior of solar cells. It employs a one-dimensional modeling framework, considering the device structure in the form of layers along the thickness direction. By solving a set of coupled differential equations, SCAPS-1D calculates and predicts various parameters, such as J-V characteristics, Q.E., carrier density profiles, and electric fields within the solar cell structure.

2.5.2 Uses of SCAPS-1D:

1. Device Design and Optimization: SCAPS-1D enables researchers and engineers to explore different device architectures, layer materials, and parameters to optimize solar cell performance. It aids in the design process by predicting the effects of various changes on the electrical output, helping identify strategies to enhance efficiency.

2. Parameter Extraction: The software allows users to extract and determine important material and device parameters, such as carrier lifetimes, interface recombination velocities, trap densities, and mobility values. These extracted parameters can give insightful information on material's quality and interfaces within the solar cell structure.

3. Sensitivity Analysis: SCAPS-1D facilitates sensitivity analysis, allowing users to evaluate the impact of variations in material properties, layer thicknesses, and other parameters on the device performance. This analysis aids in identifying critical parameters that significantly influence solar cell efficiency and guides experimental efforts.

2.5.3 Underlying Codes and Concepts:

SCAPS-1D is built on a foundation of physical models and mathematical equations that describe the behavior of solar cells. The software employs numerical methods and iterative algorithms to solve these equations and simulate the device operation. Some of the underlying concepts and codes used in SCAPS-1D include:

1. Drift-Diffusion Equations: SCAPS-1D employs the drift-diffusion model, which incorporates charge carrier transport mechanisms like diffusion brought on by gradients in carrier concentration and drift brought on by electric fields. These equations describe the movement of electrons and holes within the solar cell structure.

2. Shockley-Read-Hall (SRH) Recombination: The SRH model accounts for the recombination of charge carriers at defect sites within the material. SCAPS-1D includes algorithms to calculate and incorporate the impact of SRH recombination on device performance.

3. Optical Modelling: SCAPS-1D considers the absorption and transmission of light within the solar cell structure. It utilizes concepts like Lambert-Beer's law to

account for light absorption in different layers and interfaces, considering the wavelength-dependent optical properties of materials.

4. Interface and Contact Models: The software includes models to characterize the electrical behaviour and recombination properties at material interfaces and contacts, accounting for phenomena such as surface recombination and tunnelling.

5. Parameter Fitting: SCAPS-1D incorporates fitting routines and optimization algorithms to comparison between simulation and experimental results. This allows for determination of accurate material and device parameters that best replicate the measured device characteristics.

Overall, SCAPS-1D leverages a combination of physics-based models, numerical methods, and optimization algorithms to simulate and analyze the performance of photovoltaics. By providing a comprehensive platform for device design, optimization, and parameter extraction, SCAPS-1D contributes to the advancement of solar cell technology and enables researchers and engineers to explore new avenues for enhancing solar energy conversion efficiency.

2.5.4 Numerical method used in SCAPS-1D: -

SCAPS-1D utilizes a numerical method called the Transfer Matrix Method (TMM) for solving the electrical and optical equations for the simulation of photovoltaic devices. The TMM is a powerful technique for modeling multi-layered structures by considering the transmission and reflection of light at each interface within the structure. The TMM implemented in SCAPS-1D allows for the calculation of optical properties, such as absorption and transmission coefficients, as well as the propagation of light through the various layers of the solar cell. This information is crucial for accurately modeling the absorption of photons and calculating the Q.E. of the device.

In addition to the TMM, SCAPS-1D incorporates other numerical methods to solve the drift-diffusion equations that describe the carrier transport and recombination within the solar cell structure. These methods typically involve the discretization of the device structure into a set of computational points or nodes along the thickness direction, and the solution of the resulting set of coupled differential equations. While the exact details of the specific code implementation in SCAPS-1D are not publicly disclosed, it likely employs well-established numerical algorithms, such as finite difference or finite element methods, to solve the drift-diffusion equations. These methods approximate the derivatives in the equations using discrete differences and iteratively solve the resulting equations to obtain the carrier profiles and device characteristics.

It's important to note that SCAPS-1D is a proprietary software tool, and the specific implementation details, including the choice of algorithms and coding techniques, are not publicly available. The underlying numerical methods and codes used in SCAPS-1D are likely optimized for efficiency and accuracy in simulating solar cell devices, providing researchers and engineers with a reliable platform for their investigations and optimizations.

Chapter3 Methodology

3.1 Cs₂AgGaBr₆

3.1.1 Device Structure

(FTO/ETL/Cs₂AgGaBr₆/HTL/Au) device structure is used for the study of Cs₂AgGaBr₆ based DPSC. This is also shown in Figure 3.1. During all the simulations only parameters of ETL and HTL changes according to layers used. The parameters of FTO and perovskite layers are same for all simulations and are mentioned in Table 3.3. The back contact used in simulation is that of Au and is same for all simulations.

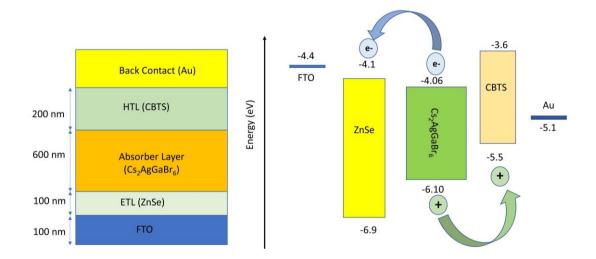


Figure 3.1:- Device Structure for simulation and band alignment diagram

3.1.2 Procedure

The device was fabricated as shown in the Table 3.1; with a transparent ETL, following which there is perovskite photon absorbing layer and holes transport layer forming (n-i-p) type structure. This fabrication in SCAPS can be achieved by navigating through set problem option and adding respective layers. The different

layers and their parameters are mentioned in the Table *3.1* and Table *3.2*. After device fabrication different environment condition like temperature T=300k; illumination file was set as "AM1_5G 1 sun.spe". Then IV and QE calculations were set and put for calculation.

We simulated 6 ETLs and 6 HTLs as possible combinations with double perovskite solar cells. To achieve this, we fabricated multiple solar cell structures in SCAPS, 6 structures for each ETLs and HTLs. Parameters of these are given in **Error! R** eference source not found. and Table 3.2. For each of these cell structures simulation was performed and data was recorded as discussed in results section below.

Parameters (ETL)	IGZO	TiO₂	ZnSe	ZnO	CeO ₂	WS ₂
E _g (eV)	3.050	3.2	2.81	3.3	3.5	1.8
X (eV)	4.160	4	4.09	4	4.6	3.95
ε/ε₀	10	9	8.6	9	9	13.6
N _C (cm ⁻³)	5×10 ¹⁸	2×10 ¹⁸	2.2×10 ¹⁸	3.7×10 ¹⁸	1×10 ²⁰	1×10 ¹⁸
N _V (cm ⁻³)	5×10 ¹⁸	1.8×10 ¹⁹	1.8×10 ¹⁸	1.8×10 ¹⁹	2×10 ²¹	2.4×10 ¹⁹
V _e (cm S ⁻¹)	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷
V _h (cm S⁻¹)	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷
μ _e (cm ² V ⁻¹ S ⁻¹)	15	20	400	100	100	100
μ _h (cm ² V ⁻¹ S ⁻¹)	0.1	10	110	25	25	100
N _D (cm⁻³)	1×10 ¹⁷	9×10 ¹⁶	1×10 ¹⁵	1×10 ¹⁸	1×10 ²¹	1×10 ¹⁸
N _A (cm ⁻³)	_	_	_	_	_	_
Defect density (cm ⁻³)	1×10 ¹⁵	1×10 ¹⁵	1×10 ¹⁵	1×10 ¹⁵	1×10 ¹⁵	1×10 ¹⁵
REFERENCE	[25]–[27]	[25], [28], [29]	[30]	[25], [28], [31]	[25], [32]	[25], [28], [33]

Table 3.1:- various ETL parameters

Parameters (HTL)	Spiro- OMeTAD	Cul	РЗНТ	Cu ₂ O	PEDOT: PSS	CBTS
E _g (eV)	3	3.1	1.7	2.2	1.6	1.9
χ(eV)	2.2	2.1	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.6
ε/ε₀	3	6.5	3	7.5	3	5.4
N _c (cm ⁻³)	2.2×10 ¹⁸	2.8×10 ¹⁹	2×10 ²¹	2×10 ¹⁹	2.2×10 ¹⁸	2.2×10 ¹⁸
N _∨ (cm⁻³)	1.8×10 ¹⁹	1×10 ¹⁹	2×10 ²¹	1×10 ¹⁹	1.8×10 ¹⁹	1.8×10 ¹⁹
Ve (cm S⁻¹)	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷
V _h (cm S⁻¹)	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷
μ _e (cm² V ⁻¹ S ⁻¹)	2.1×10 ⁻³	100	1.8×10 ⁻³	200	4.5×10 ⁻²	30
μ _h (cm ² V ⁻¹ S ⁻¹)	2.16×10 ⁻³	43.1	1.86×10⁻ ₂	8600	4.5×10 ⁻²	10
N _D (cm⁻³)	_	_	_	_	_	_
N _A (cm⁻³)	1×10 ¹⁸	1×10 ¹⁸	1×10 ¹⁸	1×10 ¹⁸	1×10 ¹⁸	1×10 ¹⁸
Defect density (cm ⁻³)	1×10 ¹⁵	1×10 ¹⁵	1×10 ¹⁵	1×10 ¹⁵	1×10 ¹⁵	1×10 ¹⁵
REFERENCE	[25], [28], [29], [34]	[25], [35]	[25], [28]	[25], [28], [36]	[25], [37], [38]	[25], [39

Table 3.2:- Various HTL parameters

ZIISE (U) FIO							
Parameters	CBTS	Cs ₂ AgGaBr ₆	ZnSe	FTO			
Thickness (nm)	200	600	100	100			
E _g (eV)	1.9	1.420	2.81	3.5			
χ (eV)	3.6	4.210	4.09	4.5			
ε/ε₀	5.4	3.600	8.6	9.00			
Nc (cm⁻³)	2.2 ×10 ¹⁸	1.26 ×10 ¹⁸	2.2× 10 ¹⁸	2.2 ×10 ¹⁸			
N∨ (cm⁻³)	1.8 ×10 ¹⁹	1.73 ×10 ¹⁸	1.8×10^{18}	1×10 ¹⁹			
V _e (cm S ⁻¹)	1×10^{7}	1 × 10 ⁷	1×10^{7}	1×10 ⁷			
V _h (cm S ⁻¹)	1×10^{7}	1×10^{7}	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷			
μ _e (cm² V ⁻¹ S ⁻¹)	30	160.8	400	2 ×10 ³			
μ _h (cm² V ⁻¹ S ⁻¹)	10	4.800	110	2 ×10 ³			
N _D (cm ⁻³)	_	_	1×10 ¹⁵	2 ×10 ¹⁹			
N _A (cm⁻³)	1×10^{18}	_	_	_			
Defect density (cm ⁻³)	1×10^{15}	1.8×10 ¹³	1×10^{15}	1 ×10 ¹⁵			
Reference	[25], [39]	[40], [41]	[30]	[40]			

Table 3.3:-Table for Parameters of (a) CBTS (b)perovskite layer (Cs2 AgGaBr6) (c) ZnSe (d) FTO

3.2 Cs₂AgGaBr₆

3.2.1 Structure

optimization The device structure for the of absorber layer is (FTO/ETL/Cs₂AgInBr₆/HTL/Au). Figure 3.2 shows device structure of optimized DPSC and its band gap alignment. Table 3.1 Table 3.2, and Table 3.3 shows the parameters of ETLs, HTLs, FTO, and absorber layer. The gold (Au) back contact is used in simulation. For Cs₂AgInBr₆ some of the parameters used for simulation were obtained from previous works and others were calculated using the data available. For calculating density of state for valance and conduction bands (Nv and Nc) the given formula was used: -

$$N_{c/\nu} = 2 \left(\frac{2\pi k_B T m_{e/h}^*}{h^2}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

Here effective mass of electrons and holes i.e., $m_{e/h}^*$ differs from material to material. Using formula, we found values of, N_c= 1.26×10^{18} and N_v= 1.73×10^{18} . The dielectric constant was obtained using the following formula: -

 $k = \frac{\varepsilon}{\varepsilon_0} = n^2$ where n= refractive index (n=2.09 [42]). We found value of dielectric constant as 4.368.

Band gap (E_g) of material is taken as 1.47 eV[41]. The electron mobility and hole mobility are 89.4 and 3.30 (cm² V⁻¹ S⁻¹) respectively. The electron and hole thermal velocity is 1×10^7 each.

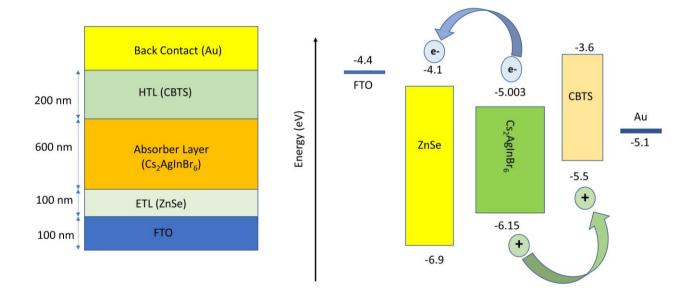


Figure 3.2:- Device structure and band gap alignment for Cs₂AgInBr₆ based DPSC

3.2.2 DPSC design methodology: -

SCAPS software for 1-D designing was created by professor Marc Burgelman.[43], [44].For charge carriers (electrons and holes), SCAPS-1D can compute semiconductor equations such as continuity and Poisson's equations. Moreover, it can compute spectral response and current-voltage characteristics at various wavelengths specified by users. Additionally, this software's intrinsic capacity to imitate bulk defects and interface defects makes it commonly employed in the numerical research of solar cells. Also, this simulation software has a standout feature that makes it a wise option for applications related to constructing solar cells. The Shockley-Read-Hall recombination model is used for the simulation, and illumination parameters are A.M 1.5G (Air Mass). Thus, a viable strategy for expanding the further growth of perovskite for solar applications is numerical PSC analysis using SCAPS-1D. The fundamental idea behind the tool is to solve continuity and Poisson's derivative equations using numerical differentiation and the Gummel type iteration method[45].

Parameters	PEDOT:PSS	Cs ₂ AgInBr ₆	IGZO	FTO
Thickness (nm)	200	600	100	100
E _g (eV)	1.6	1.47	3.050	3.5
χ (eV)	3.4	4.10	4.160	4.5
ε/εο	3	4.368	10	9.00
Nc (cm ⁻³)	2.2×10^{18}	1.26×10^{18}	5×10 ¹⁸	2.2×10^{18}
Nv (cm ⁻³)	1.8×10^{19}	1.73×10^{18}	5×10 ¹⁸	1×10^{19}
Ve (cm S ⁻¹)	1×10^{7}	1×10^7	1×10 ⁷	1×10^{7}
V _h (cm S ⁻¹)	1×10^{7}	1×10^7	1×10 ⁷	1×10^7
μe (cm ² V ⁻¹ S ⁻¹)	4.5×10 ⁻²	89.4	1.5	2×10^3
μh (cm ² V ⁻¹ S ⁻¹)	4.5×10 ⁻²	3.300	0.1	2×10^3
N_D (cm ⁻³)	_	-	1×10^{17}	2×10^{19}
N _A (cm ⁻³)	1×10^{18}	-	_	-
Defect density (cm ⁻³)	1×10 ¹⁵	1.8×10^{14}	1×10 ¹⁵	1×10^{15}
Reference	[25], [38]	[23], [41], [42]	[25]–[27]	[40]

Table 3.4:- simulation parameters of initial DPSC layers.

Parameters	CBTS	Spiro-	MASnBr ₃	CuO	PEDOT:PSS
		OMeTAD			
Thickness (nm)	200	200	200	200	200
Eg (eV)	1.9	3	2.15	1.51	1.6
χ (eV)	3.6	2.2	3.39	4.07	3.4
ε/εο	5.4	3	8.2	18.1	3
N _C (cm ⁻³)	2.2×10^{18}	2.2×10 ¹⁸	$1 imes 10^{20}$	2.2×10^{19}	2.2×10^{18}
Nv (cm ⁻³)	$1.8 imes 10^{19}$	1.8×10 ¹⁹	$1 imes 10^{18}$	5.5 ×1020	1.8×10^{19}
Ve (cm S ⁻¹)	$1\times10\ ^7$	1×10 ⁷	1×10^7	1×10^7	1×10^{7}
V _h (cm S ⁻¹)	1×10^7	1×10 ⁷	1×10^7	1×10^7	1×10^{7}
μe (cm ² V ⁻¹ S ⁻¹)	30	2.1×10 ⁻³	1.6	100	4.5×10 ⁻²
$\mu_h (cm^2 V^{-1} S^{-1})$	10	2.16×10 ⁻³	1.6	0.1	4.5×10 ⁻²
N_D (cm ⁻³)	-	_	_	-	_
N _A (cm ⁻³)	$1 imes 10^{18}$	1×10 ¹⁸	$1 imes 10^{18}$	$1 imes 10^{18}$	1×10^{18}
Defect density (cm ⁻³)	$1 imes 10^{15}$	1×10 ¹⁵	$1 imes 10^{15}$	1×10^{15}	1×10 ¹⁵
Reference	[25], [39]	[25], [28], [29], [34]	[46]	[25], [47]	[25], [38]

Table 3.5:- Simulation parameters of various HTLs

Parameters	ZnSe	TiO ₂	IGZO	
Thickness (nm)	100	100	100	
Eg (eV)	2.81	3.2	3.050	
χ (eV)	4.09	4	4.160	
ε/ε0	8.6	9	10	
Nc (cm - ³)	$2.2 imes 10^{18}$	2×10 ¹⁸	5×10 ¹⁸	
Nv (cm ⁻³)	$1.8 imes 10^{18}$	1.8×10 ¹⁹	5×10 ¹⁸	
Ve (cm S ⁻¹)	1×10^7	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	
V _h (cm S ⁻¹)	1×10^{7}	1×10 ⁷	1×10 ⁷	
μe (cm ² V ⁻¹ S ⁻¹)	400	20	1.5	
μ _h (cm ² V ⁻¹ S ⁻¹)	110	10	0.1	
N _D (cm ⁻³)	1×10^{15}	9×10 ¹⁶	1×10 ¹⁷	
N _A (cm ⁻³)	_	_	_	
Defect density (cm ⁻³)	$1 imes 10^{15}$	1×10 ¹⁵	1×10 ¹⁵	
Reference	[30]	[25], [28],	[25]-	
		[29]	[27]	

Table 3.6:- simulation parameters of various ETLs

Chapter4 Results and Discussion

4.1 Cs₂AgGaBr₆

As discussed earlier we simulated multiple different Double perovskite solar cells using various ETLs and HTLs thereafter, the simulation data was recorded.

Device structure	Voc	Jsc(mA/cm2)	FF (%)	PCE
(FTO/ETL/Cs2AgGaBr6/HTL/Au)	(volt)			(%)
FTO/TiO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/Spiro-OMeTAD/Au	1.24	29.16	81.79	29.63
FTO/ZnSe/Cs2AgGaBr6/Spiro-OMeTAD/Au	1.24	29.18	80.07	30.13
FTO/CeO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/Spiro-	7.29	29.18	13.53	28.83
OMeTAD/Au				
FTO/WS2/Cs2AgGaBr6/Spiro-OMeTAD/Au	1.24	29.17	81.68	29.62
FTO/ZnOCCs2AgGaBr6/Spiro-	1.24	28.93	82.92	29.79
OMeTAD/Au				
FTO/IGZO/Cs2AgGaBr6/Spiro-	1.24	29.14	82.88	29.99
OMeTAD/Au				
FTO/TiO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/CBTS/Au	1.24	29.21	82.10	29.78
FTO/ZnSe/Cs2AgGaBr6/CBTS/Au	1.24	29.23	83.38	30.26
FTO/ZnO/Cs2AgGaBr6/CBTS/Au	1.24	29.21	83.35	30.24
FTO/CeO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/CBTS/Au	7.37	29.23	13.44	28.98
FTO/WS2/Cs2AgGaBr6/CBTS/Au	1.24	29.20	81.99	29.74
FTO/IGZO/Cs2AgGaBr6/CBTS/Au	1.24	29.28	83.25	29.95
FTO/TiO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	1.24	29.30	79.77	29.04
FTO/CeO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	1.99	29.25	50.27	29.33
FTO/WS2/Cs2AgGaBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	1.24	29.29	79.70	29.02
FTO/ZnO/Cs2AgGaBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	1.24	29.30	80.97	29.49
FTO/ZnSe/Cs2AgGaBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	1.24	29.33	80.97	29.51
FTO/IGZO/Cs2AgGaBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	1.24	29.07	80.80	29.17
FTO/TiO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/CuI/Au	1.24	29.09	83.05	30.02
FTO/CeO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/CuI/Au	9.10	29.18	10.63	28.25
	1.24	29.17	81.54	29.56
FTO/ZnO/Cs2AgGaBr6/CuI/Au	1.24	29.16	82.88	30.03
FTO/IGZO/Cs2AgGaBr6/CuI/Au	1.24	28.93	82.75	29.73
8	1.24	29.18	82.89	30.05
	1.24	29.17	82.16	29.78
FTO/CeO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/Cu2O/Au	7.54	29.20	13.15	28.96
FTO/ZnO/Cs2AgGaBr6/Cu2O/Au	1.24	29.18	83.41	30.24
FTO/IGZO2Cs2AgGaBr6/Cu2O/Au	1.24	28.95	83.30	29.94
FTO/WS2/Cs2AgGaBr6/Cu2O/Au	1.24	29.20	82.00	29.75
FTO/ZnSe/Cs2AgGaBr6/Cu2O/Au	1.24	29.20	83.44	30.26
FTO/TiO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/P3HT/Au	1.20	29.19	82.60	29.14

Table 4.1:- different cell structures and their simulation results

FTO/ZnO/Cs2AgGaBr6/P3HT/Au	1.22	29.19	82.41	29.57
FTO/ZnSe/Cs2AgGaBr6/P3HT/Au	1.20	29.21	83.90	29.61
FTO/WS2/Cs2AgGaBr6/P3HT/Au	1.21	29.21	81.93	29.12
FTO/IGZO/Cs2AgGaBr6/P3HT/Au	1.22	28.95	82.27	29.29
FTO/CeO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/P3HT/Au		29.21		26.56

recorded Device structure (FTO/ETL/Cs₂AgGaBr₆/HTL/Au) and their corresponding V_{oc} (volt), J_{sc} (mA/cm2), FF (%), PCE (%) Values obtained as a result of their respective simulations. The data for plotting various graphs and analysis were also recorded. After this analysis we found our optimized structure as FTO/ZnSe/Cs₂AgGaBr₆/CBTS/Au whose QE VS wavelength and J_{sc} -V curves were plotted as shown in Figure 4.3.

4.1.1 Study of different ETL layers: -

The I-V AND 'QE VS wavelength' curves were obtained for 6 different ETL layers using data recorded in simulation and plotting the same in "Origin software" and the curves were studied Figure 4.1. It was observed ZnSe (Zinc Selenide) ETL showed the highest efficiency of 30.26%. Followed by ZnO with efficiency of 30.24. It was also observed that this highest efficiency coincided with CBTS as HTL layer.

ZnSe shows highest PCE which can be because of its, high electron mobility, suitable band gap alignment, high electron mobility and reduction in accumulation of charge at ETL/perovskite layer interface. Further ZnSe based devices shows better photostability because of greater ultraviolet light harvesting by ZnSe layer that results in efficiently avoiding intense UV-light exposure for perovskite film hence avoiding related degradation. [31, 19]

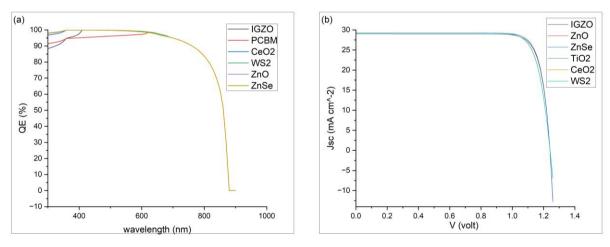


Figure 4.1 Graphs of (a)QE vs wavelength for various ETL layers (b) J-V curve for various ETL layers

4.1.2 Study of HTL layers: -

The I-V AND 'QE VS wavelength' curves were obtained for 6 different HTL layers using data recorded in simulation and plotting the same in "Origin software" and the

curves were studied. It was observed CBTS (copper barium Thiostannate) layer has best efficiency of 30.26, followed by Cu₂O which also showed efficiency of 30.26 with ZnSe as ETL layer. But studied with different ETLs cell with CBTS as HTL is slightly better than Cu₂ O. Because of suitable absorption coefficient and better electron affinity, CBTS as HTL gives better cell efficiency. [14, 29]. Thin film materials such as CBTS as HTL layer are also used over other common ones as they give better stability in air and are in abundance in earth. CBTS also offers tunable band gap and good light absorbing capacity. Non-centrosymmetric crystal structure with significant variation in CBTS atomic size provides suitable traits for improving the PCE of a solar cell. [14, 29]

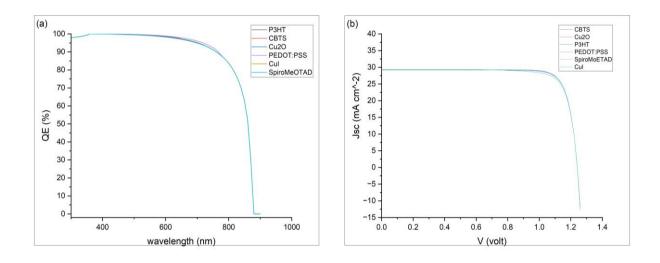


Figure 4.2:- Graphs of (a)QE vs wavelength for various HTL layers (b) J-V curve for various HTL layers

It was concluded that best combination for the cell was that of $FTO/ZnSe/Cs_2AgGaBr_6/CBTS/Au$ with efficiency 30.26%. It therefore is also our optimized cell.

Table 4.1:- different cell structures and their simulation results

Device structure	Voc	Jsc(mA/cm ²) FF (%) PCE

(FTO/ETL/Cs2AgGaBr6/HTL/Au)	(volt)			(%)
FTO/TiO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/Spiro-OMeTAD/Au	1.24	29.16	81.79	29.63
FTO/ZnSe/Cs2AgGaBr6/Spiro-OMeTAD/Au	1.24	29.18	80.07	30.13
FTO/CeO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/Spiro-OMeTAD/Au	7.29	29.18	13.53	28.83
FTO/WS2/Cs2AgGaBr6/Spiro-OMeTAD/Au	1.24	29.17	81.68	29.62
FTO/ZnOCCs2AgGaBr6/Spiro-OMeTAD/Au	1.24	28.93	82.92	29.79
FTO/IGZO/Cs2AgGaBr6/Spiro-OMeTAD/Au	1.24	29.14	82.88	29.99
FTO/TiO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/CBTS/Au	1.24	29.21	82.10	29.78
FTO/ZnSe/Cs2AgGaBr6/CBTS/Au	1.24	29.23	83.38	30.26
FTO/ZnO/Cs2AgGaBr6/CBTS/Au	1.24	29.21	83.35	30.24
FTO/CeO ₂ /Cs ₂ AgGaBr ₆ /CBTS/Au	7.37	29.23	13.44	28.98
FTO/WS2/Cs2AgGaBr6/CBTS/Au	1.24	29.20	81.99	29.74
FTO/IGZO/Cs2AgGaBr6/CBTS/Au	1.24	29.28	83.25	29.95
FTO/TiO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	1.24	29.30	79.77	29.04
FTO/CeO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	1.99	29.25	50.27	29.33
FTO/WS2/Cs2AgGaBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	1.24	29.29	79.70	29.02
FTO/ZnO/Cs2AgGaBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	1.24	29.30	80.97	29.49
FTO/ZnSe/Cs2AgGaBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	1.24	29.33	80.97	29.51
FTO/IGZO/Cs2AgGaBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	1.24	29.07	80.80	29.17
FTO/TiO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/CuI/Au	1.24	29.09	83.05	30.02
FTO/CeO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/CuI/Au	9.10	29.18	10.63	28.25
FTO/WS2/Cs2AgGaBr6/CuI/Au	1.24	29.17	81.54	29.56
FTO/ZnO/Cs2AgGaBr6/CuI/Au	1.24	29.16	82.88	30.03
FTO/IGZO/Cs2AgGaBr6/CuI/Au	1.24	28.93	82.75	29.73
FTO/ZnSe/Cs2AgGaBr6/CuI/Au	1.24	29.18	82.89	30.05
FTO/TiO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/Cu2O/Au	1.24	29.17	82.16	29.78
FTO/CeO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/Cu2O/Au	7.54	29.20	13.15	28.96
FTO/ZnO/Cs2AgGaBr6/Cu2O/Au	1.24	29.18	83.41	30.24
FTO/IGZO2Cs2AgGaBr6/Cu2O/Au	1.24	28.95	83.30	29.94
FTO/WS2/Cs2AgGaBr6/Cu2O/Au	1.24	29.20	82.00	29.75
FTO/ZnSe/Cs2AgGaBr6/Cu2O/Au	1.24	29.20	83.44	30.26
FTO/TiO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/P3HT/Au	1.20	29.19	82.60	29.14
FTO/ZnO/Cs2AgGaBr6/P3HT/Au	1.22	29.19	82.41	29.57
FTO/ZnSe/Cs2AgGaBr6/P3HT/Au	1.20	29.21	83.90	29.61
FTO/WS2/Cs2AgGaBr6/P3HT/Au	1.21	29.21	81.93	29.12
FTO/IGZO/Cs2AgGaBr6/P3HT/Au	1.22	28.95	82.27	29.29
FTO/CeO2/Cs2AgGaBr6/P3HT/Au		29.21		26.56

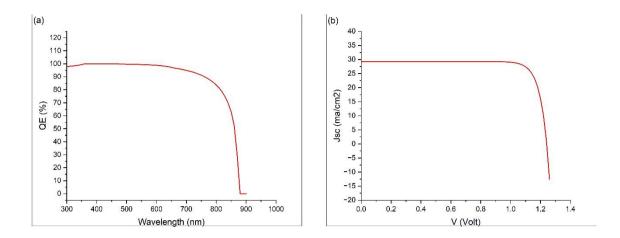


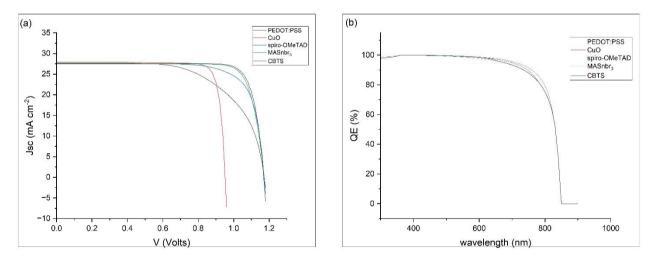
Figure 4.3:- Graphs of (a)QE vs wavelength for optimized cell (b) J-V curve for optimized cell structure

4.2 Cs₂AgInBr₆

4.2.1 Variation of HTLs and ETLs

We initially formed cell structure FTO/ IGZO /Cs2AgInBr6/PEDOT:PSS/Au in SCAPS-1D using parameters as shown in (Table 3.4). And obtained the cell efficiency of 19.79%. To increase the cell efficiency, we formed device structure with 5 HTLs (PEDOT:PSS, CuO, Spiro-OMeTAD, MaSnBr₃, CBTS) and 3 ETLs (IGZO, TiO₂, ZnSe) and studied their effect on DPSC parameters using data from SCAPS-1d simulations and plotting graphs on "origin-pro". The simulation parameters of various HTLs and ETLs are shown in Table 3.5 and Table 3.6 respectively. The J_{sc} VS V curve and Q.E. VS wavelength curves are shown below in Figure 4.4 Figure 4.5, and Figure 4.6. The Q.E. (Quantum efficiency) is the ratio of number of carriers captured by the solar cell to number of photons incident on the solar cell with a specific energy. The Q.E. for a given wavelength is 1, when all photons at the wavelength are absorbed and the ensuing minority carriers are collected. The Q.E. is 0, when photon energy is less than band gap. Reflection and low diffusion length causes a reduction in overall Q.E. Reduction can also be accounted by near-surface recombination and reduced absorption at larger wavelengths. [43]

The more common device structure i.e., FTO/ TiO₂/ Cs₂AgInBr₆/ Spiro-OMeTAD /Au gave efficiency of 24.34%. From the study we can conclude that DPSCs with ZnSe (Zinc Selenide) as ETL showed highest efficiency among the three ETL materials used, due to its wider band gap (Figure 3.2). ZnSe ETL based devices shows better photostability because of greater ultraviolet light harvesting by ZnSe layer that results in efficiently avoiding intense UV-light exposure for perovskite film hence avoiding related degradation. [30], [48] Whereas two HTLs i.e., MASnBr₃, and CBTS (copper barium Thiostannate) showed highest efficiency of 26.97% and 26.90% with ZnSe. Since both vary little in efficiency and other parameters, we took CBTS as our HTL for optimization of absorber layer parameters. CBTS is a thin film material which offers tunable band gap and better light absorbing capacity. Non-centrosymmetric crystal structure with significant variation in CBTS atomic size provides suitable traits for improving the PCE of a solar cell. [25], [39] Therefore, in further parts of our study device structure is FTO/ZnSe/ Cs₂AgInBr₆/CBTS/Au for optimization of absorber layer. Simulation



parameters of optimized layers are shown in tables above. Suitable band alignment diagram and device structure for further device optimization is shown in Figure 3.2. Figure 4.4:- graphs of (a) J_{sc} VS Voltage (b) QE vs wavelength with ZnSe as ETL and varying HTLs

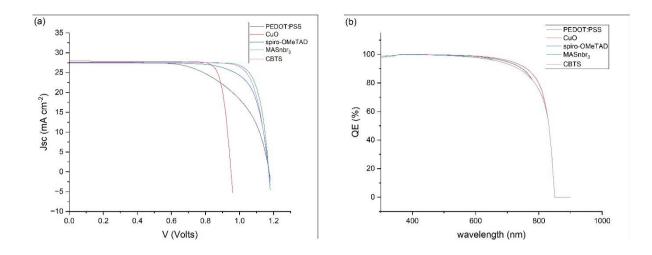


Figure 4.5:- graphs of (a) J_{sc} VS Voltage (b) QE vs wavelength with TiO₂ as ETL and varying HTLs

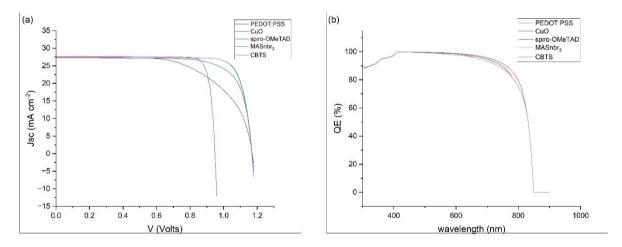


Figure 4.6:- graphs of (a) J_{sc} VS Voltage (b) QE vs wavelength with IGZO as ETL and varying HTLs

DEVICE STRUCTURE	FF (%)	V _{oc} (volt)	J_{sc} (mA cm ⁻²)	PCE (%)
FTO/ZnSe/Cs2AgInBr6/CBTS/Au	83.49	1.17	27.54	26.90
FTO/ZnSe/ Cs2AgInBr6/MASnBr3/Au	83.69	1.17	27.49	26.97
FTO/ZnSe/ Cs2AgInBr6/spiro-OMeTAD/Au	75.57	1.17	27.44	24.34
FTO/ZnSe/ Cs2AgInBr6/CuO/Au	88.5	0.95	27.89	22.75
FTO/ZnSe/ Cs2AgInBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	62.23	1.17	27.49	20.19
FTO/IGZO/ Cs2AgInBr6/CBTS/Au	83.30	1.16	27.28	26.56
FTO/IGZO/ Cs2AgInBr6/MASnBr3/Au	83.46	1.17	27.24	26.61
FTO/IGZO/ Cs2AgInBr6/spiro-OMeTAD /Au	75.96	1.170	27.21	24.21
FTO/IGZO/ Cs2AgInBr6/CuO/Au	86.84	0.94	27.66	22.82
FTO/IGZO/ Cs2AgInBr6/PEDOT: PSS/Au	61.67	1.17	27.40	19.79
FTO/TiO ₂ / Cs ₂ AgInBr ₆ / CBTS /Au	82.22	1,17	27.52	26.50
FTO/TiO ₂ / Cs ₂ AgInBr ₆ / MASnBr ₃ /Au	82.41	1.17	27.63	26.56
FTO/TiO ₂ / Cs ₂ AgInBr ₆ / spiro-OMeTAD /Au	75.57	1.17	27.44	24.34
FTO/TiO ₂ / Cs ₂ AgInBr ₆ /CuO/Au	85.04	0.95	27.89	22.55
FTO/TiO ₂ / Cs ₂ AgInBr ₆ /PEDOT: PSS/Au	61.61	1.17	27.63	19.99

Table 4.2:- Different cell structure and their simulation results

4.2.2 Optimization of Absorber layer Defect density_(Nt)

Batch calculations were Carried out in SCAPS-1D for studying the effect of change in $N_{t,}$ of $Cs_2AgInbr_6$ -layer on the PCE and other parameters of $Cs_2AgInbr_6$ solar cell. Defect Density, N_t was varied in steps of 10^1 at a constant thickness of 600 nm⁻ All other parameters of ETL, HTL, FTO and absorber layers were kept same as mentioned in Table 3.4 we observed that with increase of N_t , efficiency of DPSC decreased. Only slight variation in efficiency was seen below Defect Density $N_t =$ 10^{10} cm⁻³ at which point efficiency of 37.21%. above this value of defect density efficiency of solar cell decreases sharply and comes down to 24.65% at 1.3×10^{15} and to 8.71% at 1.3×10^{18} .

 N_t in the active layer is a critical variable that has a big impact on efficiency of device. High defect concentration means recombination is also high because of pinholes generation, greater degradation rate of film, reduction in stability and

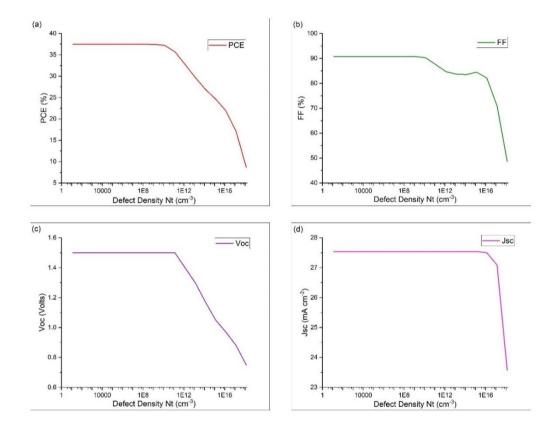
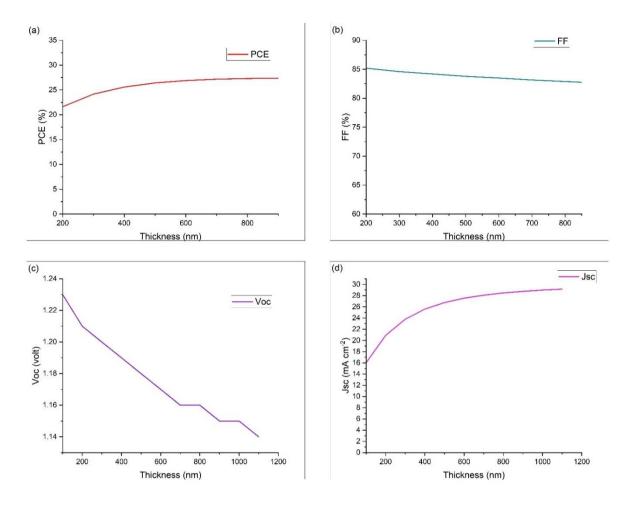


Figure 4.7:- graph showing change in various DPSC parameters as a function of defect density, Nt

overall reduction in device performance.



4.2.3 Optimization of thickness of absorber layer

Figure 4.8:- graph showing change in various DPSC parameters as a function of thickness of Cs₂AgInBr layer

Batch calculations were Carried out in SCAPS-1D for studying effect of thickness of absorbing layer on efficiency and other parameters of $Cs_2AgInBr_6$ solar cell. Thickness was varied in steps of 100nm at a constant defect density of 10^{14} . all other parameters of ETL, HTL, FTO and absorber layers were kept same as mentioned in, tables above. It was seen that as thickness increased, efficiency also increased because at low thickness photons could not absorb light adequately. but it started decreasing after 1000 nm due to recombination of carriers occur for thick film. Maximum efficiency of 27.36% was observed at 900nm and 1000nm. Values of fill factor decreases from 85.88 at 100nm to 82.34 at 1000nm and slight decline in values of voltage could be observed. Current density values increase with increase in thickness. Starting from 16.01 at 100 nm, it rises to 27.99 at 1000K.

Active layer's thickness is key factor for maximising the PCE of DPSC. To maximise current density and reduce the reverse saturation current, it should be properly selected. Reduced electric field has an impact on the recombination behaviour of charge carriers, which results in an efficiency drop, in thicker absorber layers [47]. FF is inversely related to thickness of absorber because series resistance increases and power dissipation internally increases, in thick absorbing layer. There is also a simultaneous decrease in V_{oc} with thickness(Figure 4.8) because as dark saturation current increases there is simultaneous increase in recombination of charge carrier.[30]

4.2.4 Effect of Temperature

We have varied temperature in range 200 to 800K to investigate the temperature's

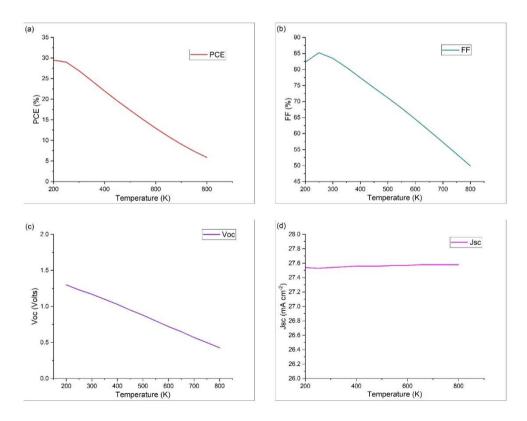


Figure 4.9:- graph showing in various DPSC parameters as a function of Temperature

effect on four parameters of DPSC with the view of interrogating the thermal stability of device. We observed the decrease in PCE, FF, V_{oc} and slight increase in

current density. Maximum efficiency of 29.49 is calculated at 200K and minimum of 5.86 at 800 K. FF initially increases then decrease...we obtain Max value of 85.21 at 250K and then it reduces to 49.89 Minimum value.

The device's performance is significantly influenced by the operating temperature. Solar panels are typically installed outside and frequently function at temperatures above 300 K. According to reports, raising the temperature makes structures under more strain and stress which results in increase interfacial defects, disorder, and low interconnectivity in layers. Temperature rise also impacts the hole and electron mobilities and carrier concentration, which lowers the PSCs' efficiency. Increasing temperature also causes a minor rise in J_{sc} (Figure 4.9)Figure 4.9:- graph showing in various DPSC parameters as a function of Temperature, which is a result of reduced energy band gap and creation of additional electron-hole pairs. The drop in V_{oc} with temperature rise (Figure 4.9), may be explained by more interfacial defects created along with

4.2.5 Optimization of Electron affinity: -

For the optimization of electron affinity, we changed the absorber layer's electron affinity from 3.5 eV to 4.5 eV. keeping all other properties of all layers of the solar cell with structure FTO/ZnSe/ Cs₂AgInBr₆ /CBTS/Au same. We collected and plotted the data using "origin" software and studied the DPSC parameters as shown in Figure 4.10.

We found optimum value of election affinity can be taken as 4.1 eV as determined from graph with efficiency 26.9%. the graphical study shows that PCE, FF, V_{oc} , and J_{sc} show stability with electron affinity between 3.6 and 4.3 with only slight and stable variation in these parameters.

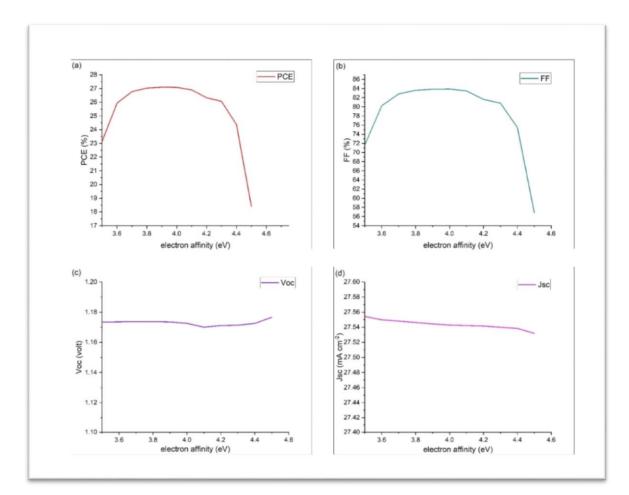


Figure 4.10:- graph showing change in various DPSC parameters as a function of electron affinity

4.3 CBTS HTL: -

Copper Barium Thiostannate (CBTS) is a ternary compound composed of copper (Cu), barium (Ba), sulphur (S), and tin (Sn). It is known for its p-type semiconductor properties, making it suitable for use as an HTL in solar cells.

Advantages of CBTS as an HTL material:

1 High Hole Mobility: CBTS exhibits high hole mobility, enabling efficient transport of positive charge carriers (holes) within the material. This characteristic facilitates the holes-extraction from the active layer as well as their movement towards the electrode, contributing to improved charge transport and device performance.

2 Suitable Energy Level Alignment: CBTS can be engineered to have energy levels that align well with the active layer of the photovoltaic device. This alignment ensures efficient charge extraction and reduces energy losses at the HTL/active layer interface.

3 Stability: CBTS offers good chemical and thermal stability, which is critical for long-term performance and reliability of the photovoltaic device.

4 Solution Processability: CBTS can be processed from solution, allowing for reduced-cost and scalable fabrication techniques like spin-coating or inkjet printing. This solution processability enhances the potential for large-scale manufacturing of solar cells.

5 It's important to note that while CBTS shows promise as an HTL material, its application in solar cells is undergoing research. The specific device architectures, optimization techniques, and performance characteristics of CBTS-based solar cells may vary depending on the research and development efforts in the field.

4.4 HTL has larger impact than ETL on solar cell: -

Yes, the choice and properties of the hole transport layer (HTL) has significant impact on the overall efficiency of a solar cell, often more so than the electron transport layer (ETL). Here's why:

1. Charge Extraction: The HTL is responsible for extracting holes generated in the active layer of the solar cell and transporting them to the electrode. Efficient hole extraction is crucial to minimize carrier recombination and maximize the overall device efficiency. A well-designed HTL with high hole mobility and suitable energy level alignment can facilitate efficient charge extraction and reduce losses at the HTL/active layer interface.

2. Interface Recombination: The interface between the HTL and the active layer is a critical region where charge carrier recombination can occur. A properly selected HTL can reduce interfacial recombination by providing a favourable energy level alignment, preventing charge carriers from being trapped or lost at the interface.

3. Carrier Transport: The HTL's ability to efficiently transport holes through the device plays a crucial role in minimizing carrier losses and improving the collection efficiency. High hole mobility within the HTL ensures that the generated charge

carriers can move freely towards the electrode without significant recombination or trapping events.

4. Contact Resistance: The electrical contact between the HTL and the electrode influences the overall device performance. A good HTL should provide a low-resistance contact, enabling efficient charge transfer and minimizing energy losses.

While the ETL also plays a crucial role in charge extraction and transport, the HTL is often considered more critical due to its direct interaction with the active layer and its impact on hole extraction, interface recombination, and carrier transport. However, both the HTL and ETL need to be carefully designed and optimized to achieve high device efficiency.

It's important to note that the efficiency of a PSC is a complex interplay of multiple factors, including the active layer material, device architecture, and overall device engineering. The HTL and ETL must work synergistically to facilitate efficient charge extraction and transport throughout the device. Therefore, optimizing both the HTL and ETL is essential for maximizing the solar cell's overall performance.

Chapter5 Conclusion

5.1 Cs₂AgGaBr₆: -

As a result of the discussion above, we may say that Cs₂AgBiBr₆ as a double perovskite material is alternate for Pb-based PSCs with a very high efficiency in theoretical simulations. We studied effects of various HTL and ETL on the efficiency of Cs₂AgBiBr₆ based DPSC. We took 6 different ETLs and 6 HTLs which led to various combination of solar cell structures. All of these solar cell structures were studied and their solar cell parameters like PCE were recorded. In this study we found CBTS as the best HTL and ZnSe as best ETL. Combination of these two layers makes following solar cell structure FTO/ZnSe/Cs₂AgGaBr₆/CBTS/Au, which gave the efficiency of 30.26%. This is among the best at a lower thickness of 600 nm. We also carried out graphical study of various ETL and HTL based solar cells to conclude the same. Our study establishes the work for application of CBTS and ZnSe as future HTLs and ETLs respectively for study and manufacturing of solar cells. Our study can help the future practical works on Cs₂AgBiBr₆ which is seen as an excellent material for photovoltaics research and manufacturing, in absence of any practical work on the material our studies may be considered as predictions.

5.2 Cs₂AgInBr₆: -

From the above discussion we can conclude that $Cs_2AgInBr_6$ is a promising DPSC and has excellent potential for application in solar cell industry. Optimization of defect density suggest that PCE of solar cell remains constant until 10^{10} and then decreases with increase in defect density. Also, PCE increased with increase in thickness and became maximum at 900 and 1000 nm with a value of 27.36% after which it started decreasing. The effect of temperature was studied and PCE decreased steadily with increase in temperature, in our study PCE was maximum at 200 K with a value of 29.49(N_t = 10^{14}) and it was 26.9 at 300 K. We also studied combination of 2 HTLs and 2 ETLs in the cell structure and its efficiency. Finally, the optimised cell FTO/ZnSe/Cs₂AgInBr₆/CBTS/Au with optimized parameters got us efficiency of 26.90% and the FTO/ZnSe/Cs₂AgInBr₆/MASnBr₃/Au cell showed highest efficiency of 26.97% with optimized parameters.

APPENDICES

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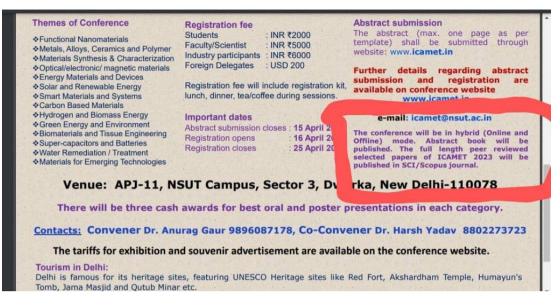
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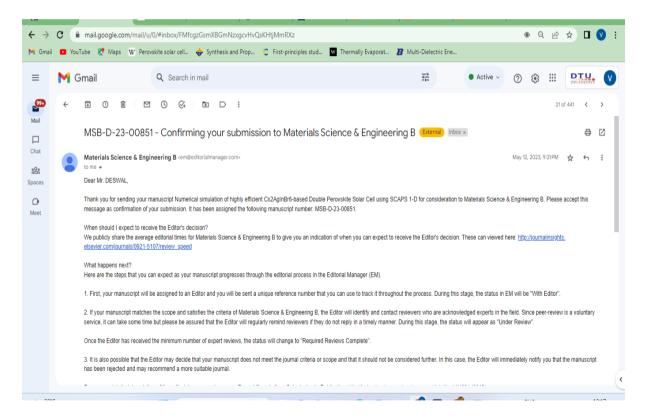
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APPENDIX 7 PROOF OF SCOPUS INDEXING OF JOURNAL

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