

## *Electronic supplementary information (ESI)*

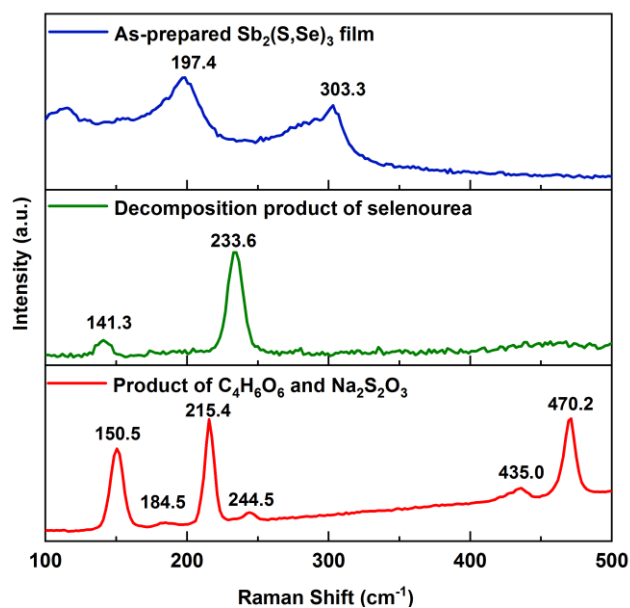
### **Chemical insight into the hydrothermal deposition of $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$ towards delicate microstructure engineering**

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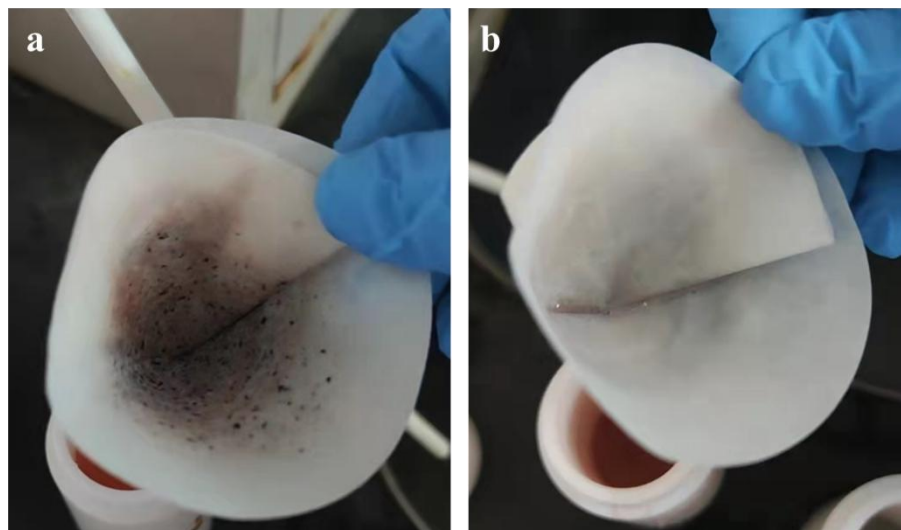
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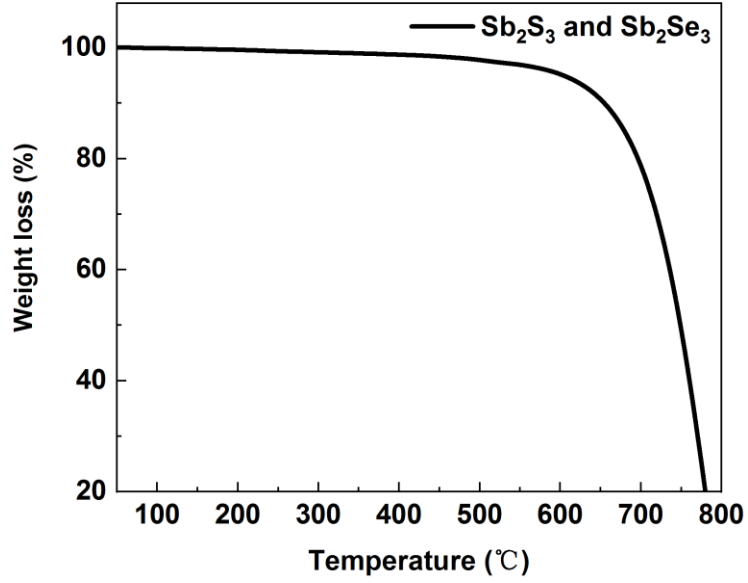
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**Fig. S1** Raman spectra of the product of  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_6\text{O}_6$  and  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ , the decomposition product of selenourea and the as-prepared  $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$  film.



**Fig. S2** (a) The hydrothermal reaction with selenourea alone will get elemental Se. (b) Almost no elemental Se was formed when we used elemental S, selenourea and water to repeat the hydrothermal reaction.



**Fig. S3** Thermogravimetric curve of Sb<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> and Sb<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> mixture.

**Table S1** EDS data of as-prepared and annealed Sb<sub>2</sub>(S,Se)<sub>3</sub> films (atomic ratio (%)).

Sample	Sb	Se	S	Cd	Se/(S+Se)	(S+Se-Cd):Sb
As-prepared film	35.88	24.10	36.42	3.60	42.34	1.59:1
Annealed film	38.18	22.76	34.68	4.38	42.89	1.39:1

**Table S2** Defect state, energy level ( $E_T$ ), cross-section ( $\sigma$ ), defect density ( $N_T$ ) of the detected defects in as-prepared Sb<sub>2</sub>(S,Se)<sub>3</sub> devices.

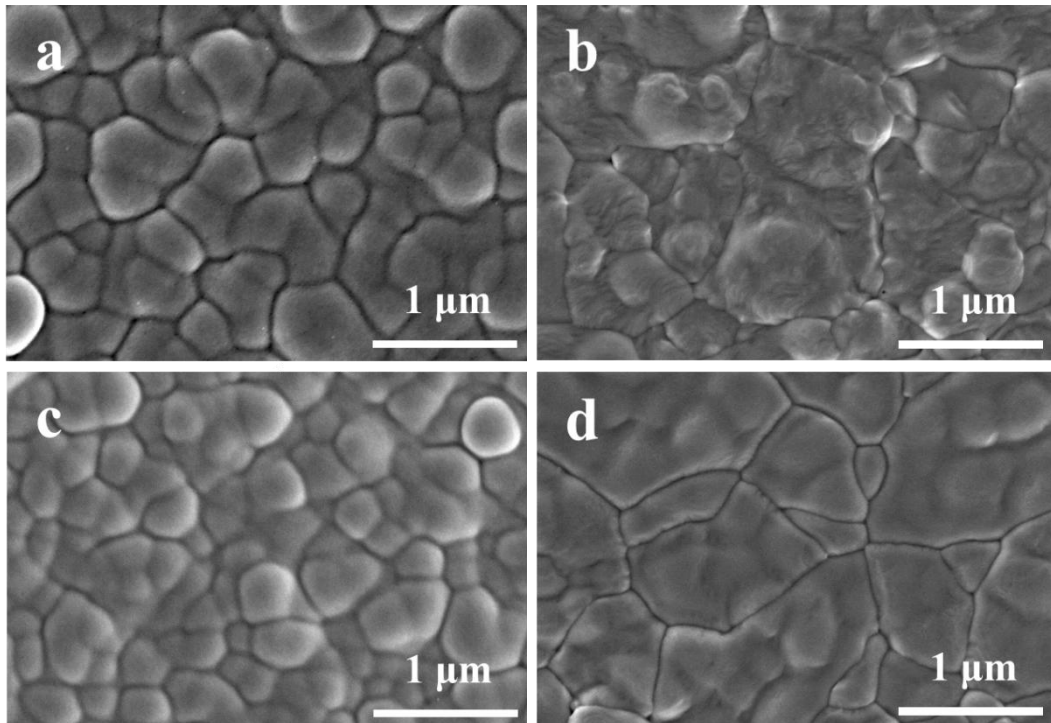
Trap	$E_T$ (eV)	$\sigma$ (cm <sup>2</sup> )	$N_T$ (cm <sup>-3</sup> )
E1	$E_C-0.548$	$1.18 \times 10^{-17}$	$2.10 \times 10^{14}$
E2	$E_C-0.762$	$1.91 \times 10^{-15}$	$1.84 \times 10^{14}$

**Table S3** EDS data of as-prepared and annealed  $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$  films with zeolite additive (atomic ratio (%)).

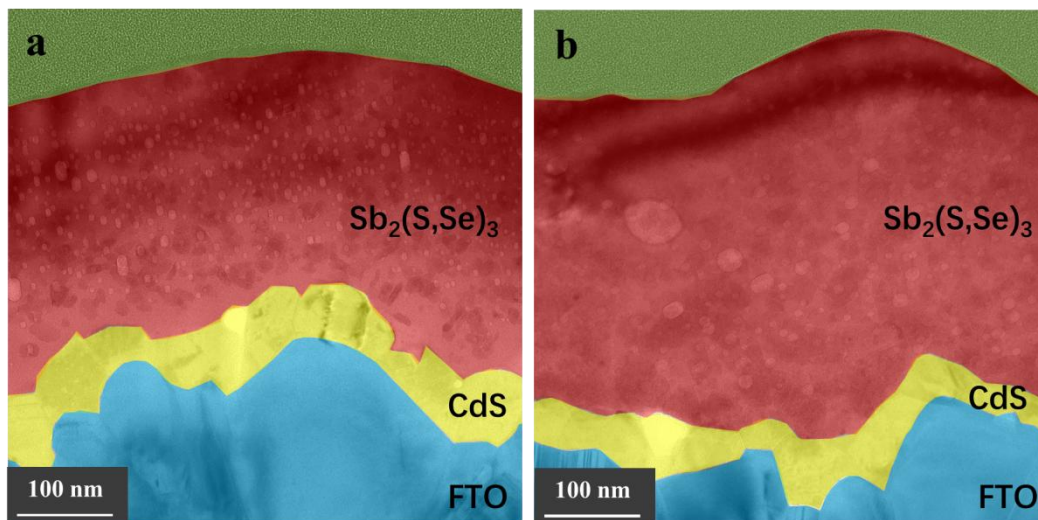
Sample	Sb	Se	S	Cd	Se/(S+Se)	(S+Se-Cd):Sb
As-prepared film	34.89	24.89	36.33	3.89	43.41	1.64:1
Annealed film	36.30	24.58	34.39	4.73	45.33	1.49:1

**Table S4** Defect state, energy level ( $E_T$ ), cross-section ( $\sigma$ ), defect density ( $N_T$ ) of the detected defects in as-prepared  $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$  devices with zeolite additive.

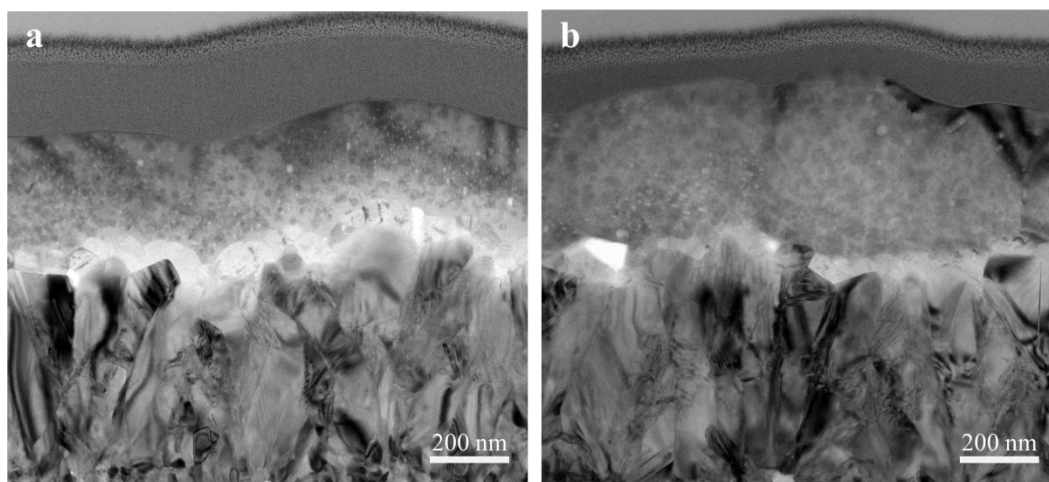
Trap	$E_T$ (eV)	$\sigma$ (cm <sup>2</sup> )	$N_T$ (cm <sup>-3</sup> )
H1	$E_V+0.541$	$6.86 \times 10^{-18}$	$3.85 \times 10^{13}$



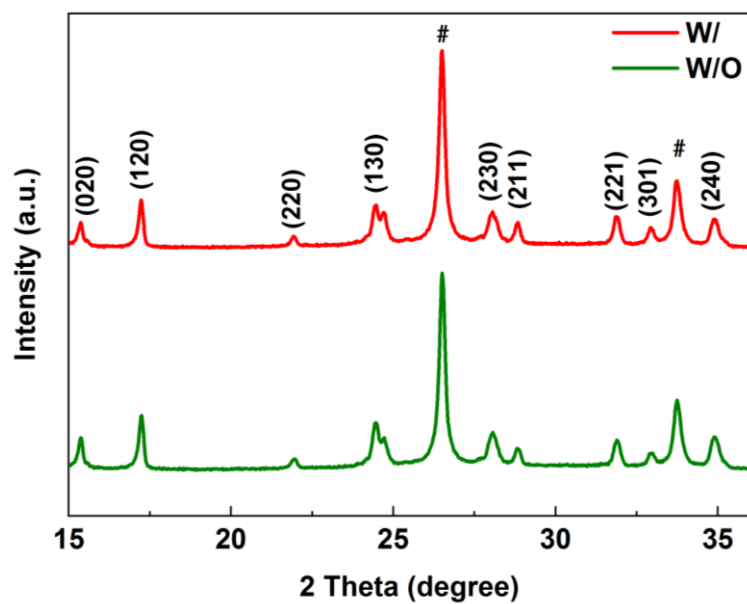
**Fig. S4** Surface SEM images of as-prepared (a) and annealed (b)  $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$  W/O on the CdS/FTO/glass substrates. Surface SEM images of as-prepared (c) and annealed (d)  $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$  W/ on the CdS/FTO/glass substrates.



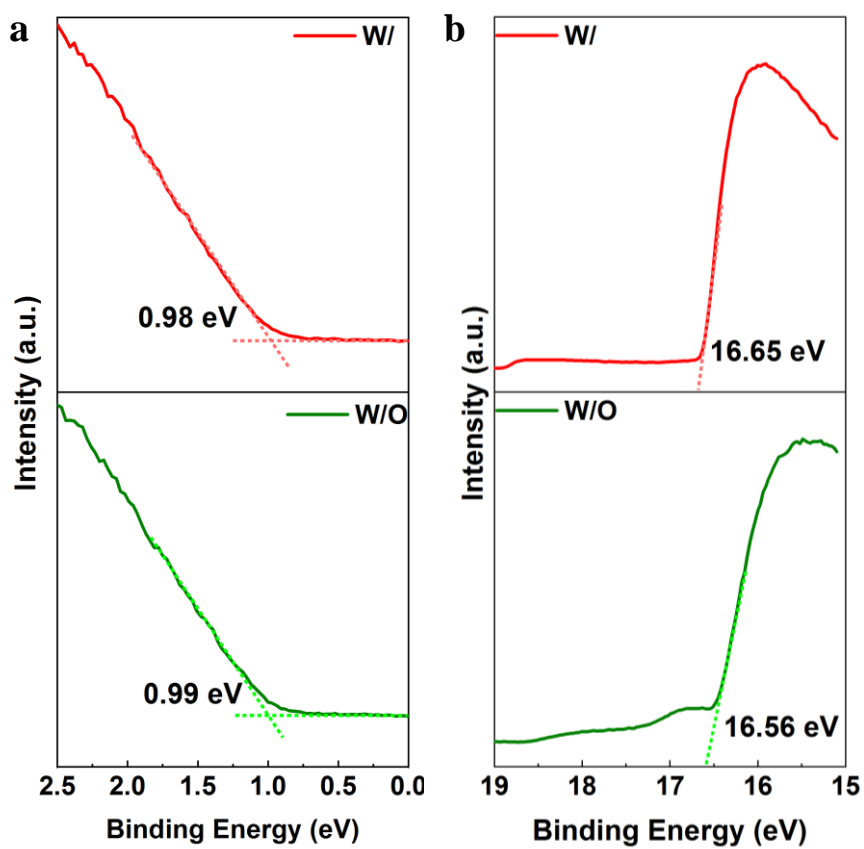
**Fig. S5** Cross-sectional HRTEM images of  $Sb_2(S,Se)_3/CdS$  heterojunction W/O (a) and W/ (b).



**Fig. S6** Cross-sectional TEM images of  $Sb_2(S,Se)_3/CdS$  heterojunction W/O (a) and W/ (b).



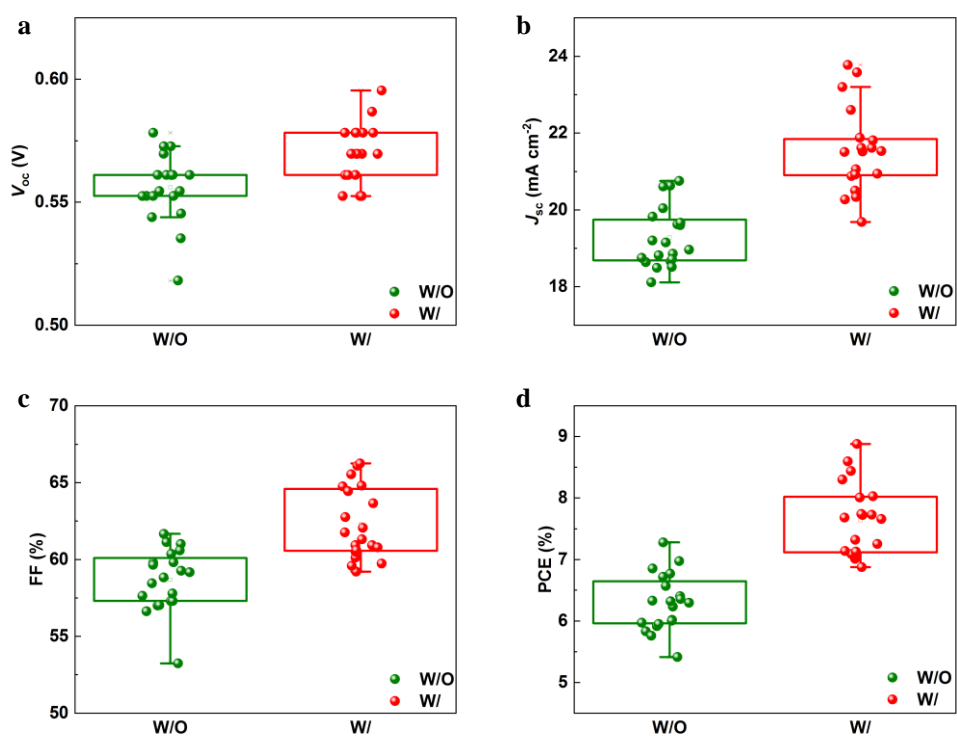
**Fig. S7** X-ray diffraction spectra of  $Sb_2(S,Se)_3$  W/O and W/.



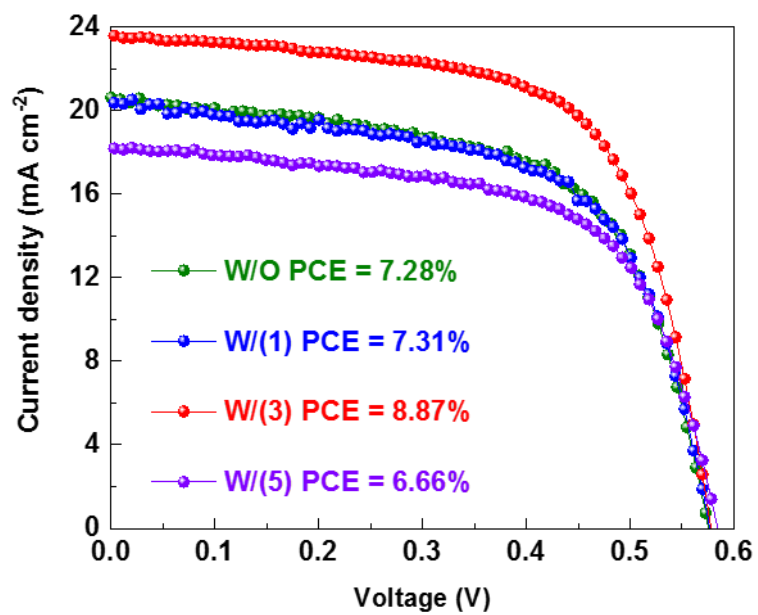
**Fig. S8** Magnified UPS spectra of samples W/O (a) and W/ (b).

**Table S5** The energy level parameters of  $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$  W/O and W/ films.

$\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$	Band gap [eV]	Fermi level [eV]	VBM [eV]	CBM [eV]
W/O	1.45	-4.64	-5.63	-4.18
W/	1.43	-4.55	-5.53	-4.10



**Fig. S9** Statistical distribution of photovoltaic parameters for the  $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$ -W/O and  $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$ -W/ devices: (a) distribution of  $V_{oc}$ , (b) distribution of  $J_{sc}$ , (c) distribution of FF and (d) distribution of PCE, respectively.



**Fig. S10** *J-V* characteristics of  $\text{Sb}_2(\text{S,Se})_3$  devices using different numbers of zeolite particles under standard AM 1.5G illumination.