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# Thermodynamic properties of selected compounds of the Ag-In-Se system determined by the electromotive force method

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The equilibrium phase space of the Ag-In-Se system in the part AgInSe<sub>2</sub>-InSe-Se below 500 K consists seven three-phase regions In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>-AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub>-Se (I), AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-Se (II), AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgIn<sub></sub> In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub>-AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub> (IV), In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub>-AgIn<sub>1</sub>Se<sub>17</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub> (V), InSe-In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub>-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>, and InSe-AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>-AgInSe<sub>2</sub> (VI). Division of the AgInSe<sub>2</sub>-InSe-Se into separate phase regions was performed based on electromotive temperature dependences of six electrochemical cells (ECCs) of the (-) C | Ag | SE | R(Ag<sup>+</sup>) | PE | C (+), where C is the graphite (inert electrode), Ag is the left (negative) electrode, SE is the solid-state electrolyte (Ag<sub>3</sub>GeS<sub>3</sub>Br glass), PE is the right (positive) electrode, R(Ag<sup>+</sup>) is the buffer region of PE that contacts with SE. The process of forming of the thermodynamically stable set of phases from phase nonequilibrium mixture of compounds specified in (I)-(VI) is carried out in the R(Ag<sup>+</sup>) region. The Ag<sup>+</sup> ions act as the small nucleation centers for stable phases. Based on the temperature dependences of the electromotive force of ECCs with PE of the (I)-(VI) phase regions, the standard thermodynamic functions of the binary In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub> and three ternary compounds in the adjacent phase regions were calculated for the first time. The agreement of the calculated values of the standard Gibbs energies of the AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub> compound in two different phase regions (II) and (V):  $\Delta_f G^\circ_{(II)} = -(819.6 \pm 8.9) \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1} \text{ and } \Delta_f G^\circ_{(V)} = -(820.0 \pm 8.9) \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1} \text{ characterizes the phase composition of the regions (I), (II), (IV), and (V) below 500 K as a combination of compounds of formulaic composition.}$ 

**Keywords:** Ag-containing compounds, Thermodynamic properties, Phase equilibria, Gibbs energy, EMF

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#### Introduction

The *T*–*x* diagram Ag<sub>2</sub>Se–In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> of the Ag–In–Se system features the formation of AgInSe<sub>2</sub>, AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>, and AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub> compounds with congruent 1060 K, 1088 K, and incongruent 1077 K type of melting, respectively [1]. The AgInSe<sub>2</sub> and AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub> compounds crystallize from the melt as phases of variable composition, undergo polymorphic transformations at 968 K and 1013 K, respectively. The homogeneity ranges of these compounds are equal ~3 and ~4 mol.% In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> at the room temperature. The isothermal cross-section of the Ag–In–Se system at

723 K is characterized by the Ag<sub>3</sub>In, Ag<sub>2</sub>Se, In<sub>4</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>, InSe, In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub>, In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>, AgInSe<sub>2</sub>, and AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub> compounds [2]. The existence of AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub> compound has not been established. The ternary AgInSe<sub>2</sub> and AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub> compounds are evaluated as promising for use in nonlinear optics, manufacturing of visible and infrared LEDs, infrared detectors, solar cells, and other electro-optical devices [3,4]. Information on the main thermodynamic properties of the ternary phases AgInSe<sub>2</sub> and AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>, which are important for the analysis of uncontrolled changes in the operation of scientific and technological equipment, is currently lacking. Presented

in [5,6] data on the standard Gibbs energy of the formation of  $AgInSe_2$  and  $AgIn_5Se_8$  compounds  $\Delta_f G^\circ = -188 \; kJ \cdot mol^{-1}$  and  $\Delta_f G^\circ = -850 \; kJ \cdot mol^{-1}$  are approximate because they do not take into account the Gibbs energy of the synthesis reactions  $\Delta_r G^\circ$  from the calculated amounts of  $Ag_2Se$  and  $In_2Se_3$ .

The purpose of this work was to establish the values of standard thermodynamic functions (Gibbs energy, enthalpy, and entropy) of the AgInSe<sub>2</sub>, AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>, AgIn<sub>1</sub>Se<sub>17</sub>, and In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub> compounds by using the EMF method [7–9] and literature data on the thermodynamic properties of the InSe and In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> compounds [10]. The results of calculations of thermodynamic functions of compounds can be used to analyze the reasons for changes in the performance of equipment manufactured with their participation and modeling the phase diagrams of multicomponent systems, including Ag–In–Se, by the CALPHAD methods [11,12].

#### I. Experimental

The high purity elements Ag, In, and Se (>99.99 wt.%, Alfa Aesar, Germany) were used for synthesis of the compounds. The evacuated melts of the calculated amounts of the elements were well-mixed for 20 min and followed by cooling to the room temperature at a rate of ~5 K·min<sup>-1</sup>. Crushed to a particle size of ~5 µm polycrystalline samples were used for X-ray analysis and preparation of positive electrodes of electrochemical cells (ECCs). An STOE STADI P diffractometer equipped with a linear position-sensitive detector PSD, in a Guinier geometry (transmission mode,  $CuK\alpha_1$  radiation, a bent Ge(111) monochromator, and  $2\theta/\omega$  scan mode) was used to establish the phase composition of the samples. The following programs STOE WinXPOW [13], PowderCell [14], FullProf [15], as well as databases [16,17] were used for X-ray phase analysis.

Synthesis of a thermodynamically equilibrium set of compounds below 500 K from a phase non-equilibrium mixture of compounds obtained by cooling the melts and the EMF (*E*) measurements were performed in ECCs type (A):

$$(-)C|Ag|SE|R(Ag^+)|PE|C(+),$$
 (A)

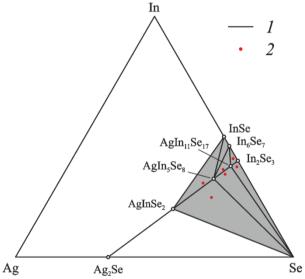
where C is the graphite (inert electrode), Ag is the left (negative) electrode, SE is the solid-state electrolyte (Ag<sub>3</sub>GeS<sub>3</sub>Br glass), PE is the right (positive) electrode, R(Ag<sup>+</sup>) is the buffer region of PE that contacts with SE. The process of forming of the thermodynamically stable set of phases from phase non-equilibrium mixture of finely dispersed compounds is carried out in the R(Ag<sup>+</sup>) region. The Ag<sup>+</sup> ions act as the small nucleation centers for stable phases [18].

Components of the ECCs in powder form were pressed at  $10^8$  Pa through a 2 mm diameter hole arranged in fluoroplast matrix up to density  $\rho = (0.93 \pm 0.02) \cdot \rho_0$ , where  $\rho_0$  is the experimentally determined density of cast samples [19,20]. The experiments were performed in a horizontal resistance furnace, similar to that described in [21]. As the protection atmosphere we used a flow of

highly purified (99.99 volume fraction) Ar (g) at  $P = 1.2 \cdot 10^5$  Pa. The gas flow of Ar at the rate of  $10^{-5}$  m³·min<sup>-1</sup> from the right to the left electrodes of the ECCs. The temperature was maintained with an accuracy of  $\pm 0.5$  K. The EMF values of the cells were measured using high-resistance (input impedance of  $>10^{12}$   $\Omega$ ) the Picotest M3500A universal digital multimeter. The equilibrium in ECCs at each temperature was achieved within 2 h. During equilibrium the EMF values were constant or their variations were not exceed  $\pm 0.2$  mV [22]. The dependences of the EMF of the cells on temperature E(T) were analyzed by the method described in [23–25]. The ratios of initials components of PE of ECCs were determined from the equations of potential-forming reactions in respective phase regions.

#### II. Results and discussion

The alleged scheme division of the concentration space of the Ag-In-Se system in the AgInSe<sub>2</sub>-InSe-Se region below 500 K, confirmed our investigations of the boundaries of the phase fields by the EMF method, is shown in Fig. 1.



**Fig. 1.** Division of the concentration space of the Ag–In–Se system in the AgInSe<sub>2</sub>–InSe–Se region below 500 K: *I* are lines of two-phase equilibria, *2* are compositions of the positive electrodes of the ECCs in the phase regions (I)–(VI).

The position of the three-phase regions:  $In_2Se_3-AgIn_1Se_{17}-Se$  (I),  $AgIn_1Se_{17}-AgIn_5Se_8-Se$  (II),  $AgIn_5Se_8-AgInSe_2-Se$  (III),  $In_2Se_3-AgIn_1Se_{17}-In_6Se_7$  (IV),  $In_6Se_7-AgIn_1Se_{17}-AgIn_5Se_8$  (V),  $InSe-In_6Se_7-AgIn_5Se_8$ , and  $InSe-AgIn_5Se_8-AgInSe_2$  (VI) relative to silver was used to write equations of the overall potential-forming reactions:

$$2Ag + 11In_2Se_3 + Se = 2AgIn_{11}Se_{17},$$
 (R1)

$$6Ag + 5AgIn_{11}Se_{17} + 3Se = 11AgIn_5Se_8,$$
 (R2)

$$4Ag + 5AgIn5Se8 + 2Se = 5AgInSe2, (R3)$$

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$$4Ag + 25In_2Se_3 = In_6Se_7 + 4AgIn_{11}Se_{17},$$
 (R4)

$$12Ag + 13AgIn_{11}Se_{17} = 3In_6Se_7 + 25AgIn_5Se_8$$
, (R5)

$$2Ag + AgIn_5Se_8 = 2InSe + 3AgInSe_2.$$
 (R6)

Equations (R1)–(R6) were used to establish the ratios of selenium, binary and ternary compounds in PE of ECCs.

The cooled melts of the binary and ternary compounds mentioned in reactions (R1)–(R6) are thermodynamically non-equilibrium. In particular, according to results of Xray analysis, the cooled melt of the formula composition In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> is characterized by two modifications of In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> with closely related structures (space groups (SG) *P*6<sub>3</sub> for the In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> phase, stable under normal conditions, and SG *P*6<sub>1</sub> for the high-temperature modification of In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>), and the InSe sample, apart from the InSe compound (SG *R*3*m*), contains impurities of the In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub> phase (SG *P*2<sub>1</sub>/*m*), Fig. 2, a, b. The crystallized AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub> melt contains a set of lines of the AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub> compound with an uncertain structure and the AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub> (SG *P*-42*m*), Fig. 2, c. The crystallized AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub> contains impurities of the AgInSe<sub>2</sub>, Fig. 2, d. Alloys of the formulas In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub> and AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub> crystallize as single-phase samples.

Newly assembled PE of the ECCs according to

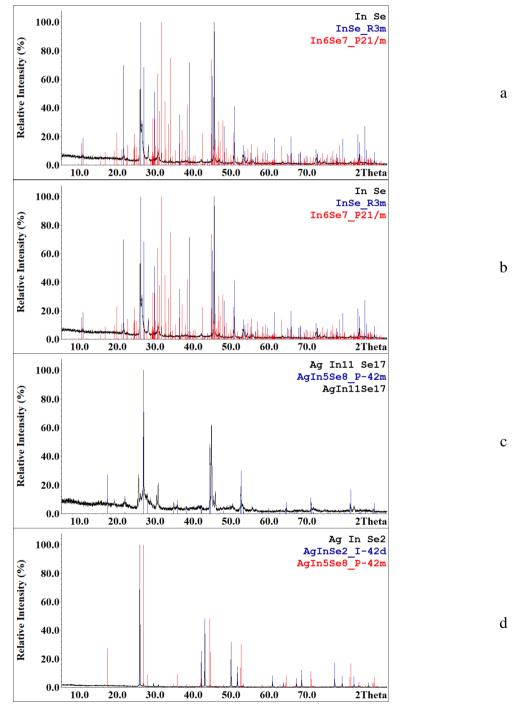


Fig. 2. X-ray powder diffraction patterns of samples with composition:  $In_2Se_3$  (a), InSe (b),  $AgIn_{11}Se_{17}$  (c), and  $AgInSe_2$  (d) (black color). Compositions of the samples and identified phases (with space group indicated) are shown in the upper right corner.

equations (R1)–(R6) are the combination of thermodynamically nonequilibrium phases, which cause the formation of the R(Ag<sup>+</sup>) region in the ECC. The process of forming of the thermodynamically stable set of phases from phase non-equilibrium mixture of finely dispersed compounds for the participation of Ag<sup>+</sup> ions as a catalyst end in 48 hours at 500 K. The criterion for attaining phase equilibria in the R(Ag<sup>+</sup>) region of PE is the reproducibility of the E(T) relations of ECCs during the heating-cooling cycles.

The measured EMF values as a function temperature of ECCs are presented in Table 1.

Table 1
A summary of the measured EMF values and temperatures of ECCs from the phase regions (I)–(VI).

	Phase regions						
T/K	(I)	(II)	(III)	(IV)	(V)	(VI)	
	E/mV	E/mV	E/mV	E/mV	E/mV	E/mV	
430.3	375.1	367.7	362.3	385.7	374.7	364.8	
435.2	375.6	368.4	362.9	386.4	375.2	365.2	
440.2	376.0	368.9	363.3	387.0	375.8	365.7	
445.2	376.3	369.6	363.9	387.7	376.3	366.1	
450.1	376.7	370.2	364.4	388.5	376.9	366.6	
455.1	377.1	370.9	365.2	389.2	377.5	367.0	
460.0	377.5	371.5	365.7	389.9	378.0	367.4	
465.0	377.9	372.1	366.1	390.5	378.5	367.9	
469.9	378.2	372.7	366.7	391.2	379.1	368.3	
474.7	378.6	373.4	367.4	391.9	379.7	368.8	
479.3	379.0	374.1	367.8	392.6	380.3	369.3	
484.0	379.4	374.7	368.4	393.3	380.9	369.8	
489.6	379.9	375.5	368.9	393.9	381.4	370.2	
494.5	380.7*	376.1	369.7	394.7	381.9	370.6	

<sup>\*</sup> Data point not included in treatment

The linear dependencies E(T) between 430 K and 494 K provided that  $\Delta_{\rm r}C_p=$  const and equal zero [23] were calculated by the least squares method and expressed as:

$$E_{(R1)}/mV = (341.2\pm0.3) + (78.8\pm0.7) \cdot 10^{-3} T/K,$$
 (1)

$$E_{(R2)}/mV = (311.3\pm0.5) + (130.9\pm1.0)\cdot10^{-3}T/K,$$
 (2)

$$E_{(R3)}/\text{mV} = (313.2 \pm 0.6) + (114.1 \pm 1.3) \cdot 10^{-3} T/\text{K},$$
 (3)

$$E_{\text{(R4)}}/\text{mV} = (325.3\pm0.4) + (140.3\pm0.8) \cdot 10^{-3} T/\text{K},$$
 (4)

$$E_{(R5)}/\text{mV} = (325.6 \pm 0.4) + (113.9 \pm 0.9) \cdot 10^{-3} T/\text{K},$$
 (5)

$$E_{(R6)}/mV = (325.3\pm0.4)+(91.6\pm0.8)\cdot10^{-3}T/K.$$
 (6)

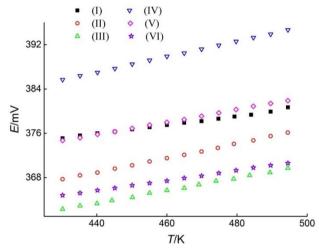
The temperature dependences the EMF of ECCs is

presented in Fig. 3.

The correctness of presented in Fig. 1 division of the Ag–In–Se system in the AgInSe<sub>2</sub>–InSe–Se part below 500 K is confirmed by the following provisions:

*E* vs *T* dependences of ECCs with PE of the (I)–(VI) phase regions are characterized by different EMF values at *T*=const and the intercept and slope coefficients;

the phase regions that are more distant from the point of Ag are characterized by higher EMF values at T = const.



**Fig. 3.** Temperature dependences of EMF (E) vs temperature (T) of the ECCs with positive electrodes of the phase regions (I)–(VI).

The Gibbs energies, enthalpies, and entropies of reactions (R1)–(R6) can be calculated by applying the thermodynamic Eqs. (7)–(9):

$$\Delta_{\mathbf{r}}G = -z \cdot \mathbf{F} \cdot E,\tag{7}$$

$$\Delta_{\rm r} H = -z \cdot F \cdot [E - (dE/dT) \cdot T], \tag{8}$$

$$\Delta_{\rm r} S = z \cdot F \cdot (dE/dT), \tag{9}$$

where z is the number of electrons involved in the reactions (R1)–(R6),  $F = 96485.33289 \text{ C} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$  is Faraday's constant, and E is the EMF of ECCs.

The values of thermodynamic functions of the reactions (R1)–(R6) at 298 K and  $p=10^5$  Pa were calculated using Eqs. (7)–(9). The determined results are listed in Table 2.

The Gibbs energy, enthalpy, and entropy of reaction (R1) are related to the Gibbs energy, enthalpy, and entropy of the AgInSe<sub>2</sub> compound and pure elements of Ag and Se by Eqs. (10)–(12):

The values of standard thermodynamic functions of the reactions (R1)–(R6).

The values of standard thermodynamic functions of the reactions (K1)—(Ko						
Reaction	$-\Delta_{\mathbf{r}}G^{\circ}$	$-\Delta_{ m r} H^{\circ}$	$\Delta_{ m r} {\cal S}^{\circ}$			
	kJ	$J \cdot (\text{mol} \cdot K)^{-1}$				
(R1)	$70.37 \pm 0.74$	$65.84 \pm 1.99$	$15.20 \pm 2.18$			
(R2)	$202.80 \pm 1.92$	$180.22 \pm 2.25$	$75.78 \pm 2.53$			
(R3)	$134.00 \pm 1.06$	$120.88 \pm 2.16$	$44.04 \pm 1.33$			
(R4)	$141.69 \pm 1.18$	$125.55 \pm 2.20$	$54.15 \pm 1.24$			
(R5)	$416.31 \pm 3.54$	$376.99 \pm 4.58$	$131.88 \pm 2.71$			
(R6)	$68.04 \pm 0.59$	$62.77 \pm 1.09$	$17.68 \pm 0.61$			

Table 2

Thermodynamic properties of selected compounds of the Ag-In-Se system determined by the electromotive...

$$\Delta_{\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{R}\mathbf{1})}G^{\circ} = 2\Delta_{\mathbf{f}}G^{\circ}_{\mathbf{AgIn}_{11}\mathbf{Se}_{17}} - 11\Delta_{\mathbf{f}}G^{\circ}_{\mathbf{In}_{2}\mathbf{Se}_{2}},\tag{10}$$

$$\Delta_{r(R1)}H^{\circ} = 2\Delta_{f}H_{AgIn_{11}Se_{17}}^{\circ} - 11\Delta_{f}H_{In_{2}Se_{3}}^{\circ}, \tag{11}$$

$$\Delta_{r(R1)} S^{\circ} = 2S_{AgIn_{11}Se_{17}}^{\circ} - 2S_{Ag}^{\circ} - 11S_{In_{2}Se_{3}}^{\circ} - S_{Se}^{\circ}.$$
(12)

It follows from Eqs. (10)–(12) that:

$$\Delta_{f}G_{AgIn_{11}Se_{17}}^{\circ} = 0.5 \left(11\Delta_{f}G_{In_{2}Se_{3}}^{\circ} + \Delta_{r(R1)}G^{\circ}\right), \tag{13}$$

$$\Delta_{\rm f} H_{\rm AgIn_{11}Se_{17}}^{\circ} = 0.5 \left( 11 \Delta_{\rm f} H_{\rm In_2Se_3}^{\circ} + \Delta_{\rm r(R1)} H^{\circ} \right), \tag{14}$$

$$S_{\text{AgIn}_{11}\text{Se}_{17}}^{\circ} = 0.5 \left( 2S_{\text{Ag}}^{\circ} + 11S_{\text{In}_{2}\text{Se}_{3}}^{\circ} + S_{\text{Se}}^{\circ} + \Delta_{\text{r(R1)}}S^{\circ} \right). \tag{15}$$

Similarly, the corresponding equations to determine  $\Delta_f G^{\circ}$ ,  $\Delta_f H^{\circ}$ , and  $S^{\circ}$  of the AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>, AgInSe<sub>2</sub>, In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub>, AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>, and AgInSe<sub>2</sub> compounds in the phase regions (II)–(VI) can be written based on reactions (R2)–(R6), with their appropriate stochiometric numbers.

Combining Eqs. (13)–(15), using thermodynamic data of the pure elements Ag, In, Se and binary compounds InSe, In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub> [10], the standard thermodynamic data of selected compounds in the Ag–In–Se system were calculated for the first time. A comparative summary of the calculated values together with the available literature data is listed in Table 3.

The coincidence of the calculated values of the thermodynamic functions of the compound AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub> in

the phase sections (II), (V) characterizes the phase composition (I), (II), (IV), (V) below 500 K as a combination of compounds of formulaic composition. The difference in the values of the thermodynamic properties of  $AgInSe_2$  equilibrium in the phase regions (III), (VI) characterizes the ternary compound as a phase of variable composition.

Considering data presented in Table 3, the temperature dependences of the Gibbs energy of formation of the AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub>, AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>, AgInSe<sub>2</sub>, In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub>, AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>, and AgInSe<sub>2</sub> compounds in the phase regions (I)–(VI) are described by Eqs. (16)–(21), respectively:

$$\Delta_{f}G_{\text{AgIn}_{11}\text{Se}_{17},(I)}/(kJ\cdot mol^{-1}) = -(1827.8 \pm 20.3) + (218.8 \pm 3.1) \cdot 10^{-3}T/K, \tag{16}$$

$$\Delta_{\rm f}G_{\rm AgIn_5Se_8,(II)}/(\rm kJ\cdot mol^{-1}) = -(847.2 \pm 10.7) + (92.6 \pm 1.6) \cdot 10^{-3}T/\rm K, \tag{17}$$

$$\Delta_{\rm f}G_{\rm AgInSe_2,(III)}/(kJ\cdot mol^{-1}) = -(193.6 \pm 3.2) + (9.7 \pm 0.2) \cdot 10^{-3}T/K,\tag{18}$$

$$\Delta_{\rm f}G_{\rm In_{\kappa}Se_{7,(IV)}}/(k\rm J\cdot mol^{-1}) = -(973.0 \pm 11.3) + (100.0 \pm 1.7) \cdot 10^{-3}T/K, \tag{19}$$

$$\Delta_{\rm f}G_{\rm AgIn_{\rm g}Se_{\rm o}(V)}/(kJ\cdot {\rm mol}^{-1}) = -(848.8 \pm 10.9) + (96.5 \pm 1.6) \cdot 10^{-3}T/{\rm K},\tag{20}$$

$$\Delta_{\rm f}G_{\rm AgInSe_2,(VI)}/(\rm kJ\cdot mol^{-1}) = -(224.7 \pm 4.3) + (12.7 \pm 0.3) \cdot 10^{-3}T/\rm K. \tag{21}$$

Table 3. Values of standard thermodynamic functions of selected compounds of the Ag–In–Se system at T=298 K

Phase	Phase	$-\Delta_{ m f}G^{\circ}$	$-\Delta_{\mathrm{f}}H^{\circ}$	$\mathcal{S}^{\circ}$	Reference
	region	kJ·mol <sup>−1</sup>		$J \cdot (\text{mol} \cdot K)^{-1}$	Reference
Ag	_	0	0	42.677	[10]
In	_	0	0	57.823	[10]
Se	_	0	0	42.258	[10]
InSe	_	112.475	117.989	81.588	[10]
$In_2Se_3$	_	314.077	326.352	201.25	[10]
In <sub>6</sub> Se <sub>7</sub>	(IV)	943.2±9.4	973.0±11.3	542.8±9.2	This work
AgIn <sub>11</sub> Se <sub>17</sub>	(I)	1762.6±18.0	1827.8±20.3	1178.3±16.7	This work
AgInSe <sub>2</sub>	(III)	190.7±2.1	193.6±3.2	175.3±4.1	This work
AgInSe <sub>2</sub>	(VI)	220.9±2.8	224.7±4.3	172.3±3.9	This work
AgIn <sub>5</sub> Se <sub>8</sub>	(II)	819.6±8.9	847.2±10.7	577.3±9.8	This work
AgIn <sub>5</sub> Se <sub>8</sub>	(V)	820.0±8.9	848.8±10.9	573.3±9.7	This work

#### **Conclusions**

The phase composition and triangulation of the equilibrium *T-x* space of the Ag–In–Se system in the part of AgInSe<sub>2</sub>–InSe–Se below 500 K have been established. The AgInSe<sub>2</sub>–InSe–Se concentration space contains seven three-phase regions formed by the InSe, In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub>, In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>, AgInSe<sub>2</sub>, AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>, and AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub> compounds. Equations of the temperature dependences of the Gibbs energy as well as the values of standard thermodynamic functions of the In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub>, AgInSe<sub>2</sub>, AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>, and AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub> compounds were established for the first time. The phase composition of the InSe–AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>–In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub>, In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub>–AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub>–AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>, In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>–AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub>–In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub>, In<sub>2</sub>Se<sub>3</sub>–AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub>–Se, and AgIn<sub>11</sub>Se<sub>17</sub>–AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>–Se regions is a combination of stochiometric compounds.

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## Термодинамічні властивості окремих сполук системи Ag-In-Se, визначені методом електрорушійних сил

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Рівноважний *T-х* простір системи Ag-In-Se в частині AgInSe<sub>2</sub>-InSe-Se за *T*≤500 К містить сім  $трифазних ділянок: In_{2}Se_{3}-AgIn_{11}Se_{17}-Se\ (I), AgIn_{11}Se_{17}-AgIn_{5}Se_{8}-Se\ (II), AgIn_{5}Se_{8}-AgInSe_{2}-Se\ (III), In_{2}Se_{3}-AgInSe_{2}-AgInSe_{3}-A$  $In_6Se_7 - AgIn_{11}Se_{17}$  (IV),  $In_6Se_7 - AgIn_{11}Se_{17} - AgIn_5Se_8$  (V),  $InSe-In_6Se_7 - AgIn_5Se_8$ AgInSe<sub>2</sub> (VI). Триангуляція AgInSe<sub>2</sub>-InSe-Se встановлена за температурними залежностями EPC шести електрохімічних комірок (EXK) структури: (-) С | Ag | SE | R(Ag $^+)$  | PE | C (+), де С- інертний електрод (графіт), Ag – негативний (лівий) електрод ЕХК, SE – твердий електроліт (скло Ag<sub>3</sub>GeS<sub>3</sub>Br), РЕ – позитивний (правий) електрод ЕХК, R(Ag<sup>+</sup>) – ділянка РЕ, що контактує з SE, де за участі іонів Ag<sup>+</sup>, як малих центрів зародження рівноважних фаз, відбувається перебудова фазово нерівноважної суміші сполук ПЕ зазначених в (I)-(VI) в термодинамічно стабільну суміш фаз. За температурними залежностями ЕРС комірок (E=f(T)) з ПЕ ділянок (I)—(VI) розраховано значення основних термодинамічних функцій бінарної In<sub>6</sub>Se<sub>7</sub> та тернарних сполук у межуючих фазових ділянках за стандартних умов. Співпадіння значень енергії сполуки AgIn<sub>5</sub>Se<sub>8</sub>  $\Delta_{\rm f} G_{\rm (II)}^{\circ} = -(819.6 \pm 8.9) \ кДж·моль^{-1}$  $\Delta_{\rm f}G_{\rm (V)}^{\circ} = -(820.0 \pm 8.9) \ {\rm кДж\cdot моль}^{-1} \ {\rm pospaxoвahux} \ {\rm зa} \ \textit{E=f(T)} \ {\rm 3} \ \Pi {\rm E} \ {\rm ділянок} \ ({\rm II}), \ ({\rm V}) \ {\rm xapaктepusye} \ {\rm фазовий}$ склад ділянок (I), (II), (IV), (V) за  $T \le 500$  К як поєднання сполук формульного складу.

**Ключові слова:** срібловмісні сполуки, термодинамічні властивості, фазові рівноваги, енергія Гіббса, метод ЕРС.