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THE SOLUTION THERMOCHEMISTRY OF ANTIMONY PENTAFLUORIDE AND SOME FLUOROANTIMONATES

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## SUMMARY

From hydrolysis and solution measurements the enthalpies of formation of  $\text{SbF}_5(\ell)$ ,  $\text{LiSbF}_6(\text{s})$ ,  $\text{NaSbF}_6(\text{s})$ ,  $\text{KSbF}_6(\text{s})$ ,  $\text{CsSbF}_6(\text{s})$ ,  $\text{AgSbF}_6(\text{s})$ , and  $\text{SbF}_6^- \text{aq.}$  are estimated to be  $-1324 \pm 12$ ,  $-2062 \pm 5$ ,  $-2060 \pm 6$ ,  $-2080 \pm 3$ ,  $-2082 \pm 15$ ,  $-1633 \pm 3$ , and  $-1789 \pm 4 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  respectively. Less precise estimates of the enthalpies of formation of  $\text{O}_2\text{SbF}_6$  and of  $\text{CsSb}_3\text{F}_{16}$  are also given. From the results the fluoride ion affinity of  $\text{SbF}_5$ , the single ion hydration enthalpy of  $\text{SbF}_6^-(\text{g})$ , and the charge distribution within the  $\text{SbF}_6^-$  ion have been calculated.

## INTRODUCTION

Antimony pentafluoride is known to be a very strong Lewis acid; it stabilises strongly oxidising cations such as  $\text{NF}_4^+$  (in  $\text{NF}_4\text{SbF}_6$ ),<sup>[1]</sup>  $\text{O}_2^+$  (in  $\text{O}_2\text{SbF}_6$  and  $\text{O}_2\text{Sb}_2\text{F}_{11}$ ),<sup>[2]</sup> and  $\text{Br}_2^+$  (in  $\text{Br}_2\text{Sb}_3\text{F}_{16}$ )<sup>[3]</sup> as well as carbonium cations in superacid solution.<sup>[4]</sup> However, quantitative data are restricted to the pioneer calorimetric studies carried out by Woolf in bromine trifluoride solution, from which estimates of the enthalpies of formation of the salts  $\text{KSbF}_6$ ,  $\text{AgSbF}_6$ ,  $\text{NaSbF}_6$ , and  $\text{Ba}(\text{SbF}_6)_2$  were obtained.<sup>[5]</sup>

## EXPERIMENTAL

Compounds.  $\text{SbF}_5$  was prepared from the elements in a flow system, and was purified by vacuum distillation.  $\text{NaSbF}_6$ ,  $\text{KSbF}_6$  and  $\text{AgSbF}_6$  (I.C.N. Pharmaceuticals Inc.) were obtained from Alpha Inorganics.  $\text{CsSbF}_6$  was prepared by the action of excess of  $\text{BrF}_3$  on a stoichiometric mixture of  $\text{CsCl}$  and  $\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3$ .  $\text{CsSb}_3\text{F}_{16}$  was prepared by dissolving  $\text{CsF}$  in a large excess of warm  $\text{SbF}_5$ ; the excess of solvent was removed by pumping at  $25^\circ$  to constant weight (3 days).  $\text{LiSbF}_6$  was prepared a) by exchange from  $\text{AgSbF}_6$  and  $\text{LiCl}$  in dry  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ ; the  $\text{LiCl}$  was filtered off and the  $\text{LiSbF}_6$  recovered by pumping off the solvent b) by the action of  $\text{BrF}_3$  on a stoichiometric mixture of  $\text{LiCl}$  and  $\text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3$ ; the excess of  $\text{BrF}_3$  was pumped off and the impure product, which still contains combined  $\text{BrF}_3$ , was recrystallised from dry methanol c) by the interaction of stoichiometric quantities of  $\text{LiF}$  and  $\text{SbF}_5$  in liquid  $\text{HF}$  solution; the excess of solvent, in which  $\text{LiSbF}_6$  is only slightly soluble, was pumped off at  $-80^\circ$ , with the last traces being removed at room temperature. We are indebted to Professor N. Bartlett, FRS, for a sample of  $\text{O}_2\text{SbF}_6$ . The purity of all compounds was checked by infra-red and X-ray powder spectroscopy as appropriate.

Calorimetric Measurements. These were made in an LKB 8700 calorimeter with ancillary apparatus as described earlier.<sup>[6]</sup> The calorimeter's performance was checked periodically via determination of the enthalpy of solution of potassium chloride in water. Samples of between 10 and 40 mg were used, with 30 or 100  $\text{cm}^3$  of aqueous hydrolysing medium. The ranges of error reported in Tables 1, 2 and 4 refer to 90% confidence limits for the mean values given.

Enthalpies of Hydrolysis

(a) Antimony Pentafluoride The reaction of  $\text{SbF}_5(\ell)$  with  $\text{KOHaq.}$  is much cleaner and is more satisfactory from a

thermochemical point of view than the reaction with NaOHaq:<sup>[8]</sup> In the latter case the hydrolysed SbF<sub>5</sub> is precipitated as slightly soluble NaSb(OH)<sub>6</sub>, and there is the possibility that combined fluoride could be carried down in the precipitate. A value of  $-1324 \pm 12 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  for  $\Delta H_f(\text{SbF}_5(\ell))$  is calculated using the enthalpy of hydrolysis (Table 1) in M KOH combined with the ancillary data given in Table 3.

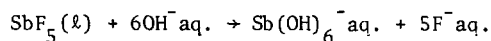


TABLE 1

ENTHALPIES OF HYDROLYSIS OF ANTIMONY COMPOUNDS AT 298K

Compound	Conditions	Enthalpy of Hydrolysis (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )
SbF <sub>5</sub> (ℓ)	M-KOH	-472 ± 4
KSbF <sub>6</sub> (s)	M-KOH	-307 ± 3
CsSbF <sub>6</sub> (s)	M-KOH	-293 ± 15
O <sub>2</sub> SbF <sub>6</sub> (s)	M-KOH	-587 ± 40
CsSb <sub>3</sub> F <sub>16</sub> (s)	M-KOH	-1150 ± 30
SbCl <sub>5</sub> (ℓ)	M-NaOH	-581 ± 8 <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Corrected for the enthalpy of solution of NaSb(OH)<sub>6</sub>(+33 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>)<sup>30</sup>

(b) KSbF<sub>6</sub> and CsSbF<sub>6</sub>. Hydrolysis data are reported in Table 1, and the calculated enthalpies of formation of the salts are reported in Table 4.

(c) O<sub>2</sub>SbF<sub>6</sub> and CsSb<sub>3</sub>F<sub>16</sub>. With both these salts there is a large standard deviation in the hydrolysis measurements, and the results should be regarded as approximate.

Enthalpies of Solution Results are given in Table 2, and the calculated enthalpies in Table 4. It should be noted that LiSbF<sub>6</sub> is a particularly

difficult subject since it is very hygroscopic, but the results from all three preparative methods are substantially in agreement.

TABLE 2

ENTHALPIES OF SOLUTION OF FLUOROANTIMONATES AT 298K

Salt	$\Delta H_{\text{soln}}$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )
LiSbF <sub>6</sub>	-6.0 ± 2.0
NaSbF <sub>6</sub>	20.0 ± 3.0
KSbF <sub>6</sub>	38.5 ± 0.7
AgSbF <sub>6</sub>	-38.75 ± 0.16

Lattice Energy Calculations Structural parameters used in the calculations are listed in Table 5. The coulombic term was calculated using a program kindly provided by the late Professor T. C. Waddington. Values for the repulsion terms were calculated from the expression  $Be^{-r/\rho}$ , with  $\rho = 0.345 \text{ \AA}$ , making allowance for the changing basic radius of F with respect to ionic charge. The London energy was calculated using the procedure outlined in Phillips and Williams.<sup>[8]</sup> Results are given in Table 6.

TABLE 3

ANCILLARY DATA USED IN THE DERIVATION OF ENTHALPIES OF FORMATION AND FLUORIDE ION AFFINITIES

$\Delta H_{\text{f}}^{\ominus}$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref.	$\Delta H_{\text{f}}^{\ominus}$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	Ref.
K <sup>+</sup> aq -252.17	14	K <sup>+</sup> (g) 514.6	16
F <sup>-</sup> aq -335.35	15	Cs <sup>+</sup> (g) 459.8	16
Cl <sup>-</sup> aq -167.08	14	F <sup>-</sup> (g) -250.7	31
OH <sup>-</sup> aq -230.025	14	SbCl <sub>5</sub> (l) -440.2	17
H <sub>2</sub> O(l) -285.830	14	SbF <sub>5</sub> (l) -1328	9

## DISCUSSION

The enthalpy of formation of liquid antimony pentafluoride, calculated from the new hydrolysis data is  $-1324 \pm 12 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ . This is in excellent agreement with the most recent fluorine bomb calorimetry value of  $-1328 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ,<sup>[9]</sup> and is within the experimental error of the earlier fluorine bomb calorimetric value of  $-1337 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ .<sup>[10]</sup> These values are to be preferred to our earlier figure of  $-1378 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  <sup>[11]</sup> (see Experimental above) and to Woolf's value of  $-1379 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ,<sup>[5]</sup> which depended on solution measurements in bromine trifluoride and on assumptions which could not fully take account of the formation of the then unknown salt  $\text{Br}_2\text{Sb}_3\text{F}_{16}$ . In this paper we use  $\Delta H_f^\ominus(\text{SbF}_5)(\ell) = -1328 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ .

Very recently the enthalpy of the process  $\frac{1}{4}(\text{SbF}_5)_4(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{SbF}_5(\text{g})$  has been estimated from vapour density measurements to be  $18.4 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ .<sup>[12]</sup> Combining this with the known enthalpy of vapourisation of  $\text{SbF}_5(\ell)$  ( $43.4 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ),<sup>[13]</sup> and the degree of association at the b.p. ( $n \approx 3.0$ ),<sup>[12]</sup> the enthalpy of the process  $\text{SbF}_5(\ell) \rightarrow (\text{SbF}_5)(\text{g})$  (monomer) is calculated to be approximately  $27 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ . We hence derive  $\Delta H_f^\ominus(\text{SbF}_5)(\text{g})$  to be  $-1301$  ( $+15$ )  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ .

The enthalpies of formation of the fluoroantimonates, estimated from the hydrolysis and solution data, are in excellent agreement with those of Woolf,<sup>[5]</sup> after his data have been recalculated using the new value for  $\Delta H_f^\ominus(\text{SbF}_5)(\ell)$  as the baseline; a set of recommended (averaged) values is also given for some of the salts and for  $\text{SbF}_6^- \text{aq.}$  (Table 4).

A better indication of the chemical stabilities of the hexafluoroantimonates(V) is brought out in Table 5. For all except the  $\text{NF}_4^+$  and  $\text{O}_2^+$  salts the entropy change is small, so that the  $\Delta H_f^\ominus$  figures are close to  $\Delta G_f^\ominus$ . The figures show the expected increase in stability from the Li to the Cs salts, and the large and favourable enthalpy change when  $\text{CsSbF}_6$

TABLE 4

ENTHALPIES OF FORMATION OF FLUOROANTIMONATES (V) ( $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ )

Compound	This work	Woolf <sup>a</sup> (recalculated)	Recommended Value	Calculated <sup>c</sup> (Kapustinskii)
$\text{LiSbF}_6$	$-2062 \pm 5^b$	---	-2062	-2038
$\text{NaSbF}_6$	$-2060 \pm 6^b$	-2058	-2054	-2054
$\text{KSbF}_6$	$-2080 \pm 3$	-2092	-2086	-2086
$\text{CsSbF}_6$	$-2082 \pm 15^b$	---	-2082	-2092
$\text{AgSbF}_6$	$-1633 \pm 3^b$	-1622	-1628	-1616
$\text{Ba}(\text{SbF}_6)_2$	-	-4174	-4174	-4183
$\text{SbF}_6^- \text{ aq}^d$	$-1789 \pm 4$	-1801	-1795	
$\text{O}_2\text{SbF}_6$	$-1468 \pm 40$	---	---	
$\text{CsSb}_3\text{F}_{16}$	$-4865 \pm 30$	---	---	

<sup>a</sup> Values from ref. 9 (no limits of error reported) recalculated for  $\Delta H_f^\ominus(\text{SbF}_5)(\ell)$   
 $= -1328 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$

<sup>b</sup> Calculated from  $\Delta H_{\text{soln}}$  and  $\Delta H_f(\text{KSbF}_6)(\text{s}) = -2080 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$

<sup>c</sup> Calculated from Kapustinskii's equation (ref 18) using  $r_A = 1.94 \text{ \AA}$  and  
 $\Delta H_f(\text{fluoride ion affinity}) = -378 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  Cationic radii from ref.20

<sup>d</sup> Values calculated from  $\Delta H_f(\text{KSbF}_6)(\text{s})$  and  $\Delta H_{\text{soln}}(\text{KSbF}_6) = 38.5 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$

is converted to  $\text{CsSb}_3\text{F}_{16}$ . Even allowing for an unfavourable  $\Delta S$  term  
 $(\approx 30 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1})$  it would appear that  $\text{NF}_4^+$  salts are remarkably stable,  
much more so, in fact, than those of  $\text{O}_2^+$ , while the figures emphasise the  
marginal stability of  $\text{XeF SbF}_6$ .

TABLE 5

ENTHALPIES OF COMPLEXATION OF  $\text{SbF}_5^{(\ell)}$  WITH FLUORIDES/ $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ 

Compound	$\Delta H^\ominus$
$\text{LiSbF}_6$	-116
$\text{NaSbF}_6$	-147
$\text{KSbF}_6$	-182
$\text{CsSbF}_6$	-217
$\text{AgSbF}_6$	-106
$\text{Ba}(\text{SbF}_6)_2$	-309
$\text{O}_2\text{SbF}_6$	-140 <sup>a</sup>
$\text{CsSb}_2\text{F}_{16}$	-304
$\text{XeF SbF}_6$ 21	-32 <sup>d</sup>
$\text{XeF Sb}_2\text{F}_{11}$ 11	-99 <sup>b, d</sup>
$\text{NF}_4\text{SbF}_6$ 22, 23	-218 <sup>c</sup>

a From  $\text{O}_2(\text{g}) + \frac{1}{2}\text{F}_2(\text{g}) + \text{SbF}_5(\ell)$

b Recalculated using  $\Delta H_f^\ominus(\text{SbF}_5)(\ell) = -1328 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  (Ref.9)

c From  $\text{NF}_3(\text{g}) + \text{F}_2(\text{g}) + \text{SbF}_5(\ell)$

d From  $\text{XeF}_2(\text{s}) + \text{SbF}_5(\ell)$

Approximate values for the enthalpies of formation of some of the salts (Table 4) have been calculated. These are based on the known enthalpies of the Na and K fluoroantimonates; if Kapustinskii's equation<sup>[18]</sup>

$$U = \frac{1214 z_1 z_2}{r_c + r_A} \left( 1 - \frac{0.345}{r_c + r_A} \right) \text{kJ mol}^{-1}$$

is used to estimate the lattice enthalpy, U, then arbitrary values of  $r_A$ , the thermochemical radius of the anion, and of  $\Delta H_f^\ominus$ , the fluoride ion

affinity, (see Figure 1) may be determined which fit the known data (Table 4) and which may be used to estimate enthalpies of formation of other hexafluoroantimonates(V).

TABLE 6

CRYSTAL DATA FOR  $\text{LiSbF}_6$  AND  $\text{KSbF}_6$ 

$\text{LiSbF}_6$ [24]	Hexagonal ( $R\bar{3}$ ) $a_o = 5.18$ , $c_o = 13.60\text{\AA}$ Li at 0, 0, $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Sb at 0, 0, 0 F at .3186, .0540, -.0799
$\text{KSbF}_6$ [25]	Tetragonal ( $P\bar{4}2m$ ) $a_o = 5.16(1)$ , $c_o = 10.07(2)\text{\AA}$ K(1) at $\frac{1}{2}$ , $\frac{1}{2}$ , 0; K(2) at $\frac{1}{2}$ , $\frac{1}{2}$ , $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Sb at 0, 0, .2504; F(1) at .1876, .1876, .1280; F(2) at .1745, .1745, .3825; F(3) at .2529, -.2529, .2630

We have also calculated more realistic values of the lattice enthalpies of the  $\text{SbF}_6^-$  salts and of other quantities together with the charge distribution within the anion, from the known structures of  $\text{LiSbF}_6$  and  $\text{KSbF}_6$  (Table 6) and the thermochemical cycles in Figure 1 (cf. ref. 19). The graphical plot of the single ion hydration enthalpy of  $\text{SbF}_6^-(g)$ , calculated for various charge distributions within the ion, against the charge on the Sb atom, is shown in Figure 2. The point of intersection gives a measure both of  $q(\text{Sb})$  (about + 1.7) and of the single ion hydration enthalpy ( $-1316\text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ) relative to S.I.H.E. ( $\text{H}^+(g) = 0$ ). It should be noted that  $q(\text{Sb})$  is sensitive to small changes in the data especially for  $\text{LiSbF}_6$ , but the single ion hydration enthalpy value is not. Combined with the hydration enthalpy of the proton ( $-1091\text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ), a value of  $-225\text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  is obtained for the absolute hydration enthalpy of  $\text{SbF}_6^-(g)$ . The lattice enthalpies of  $\text{KSbF}_6$  and  $\text{LiSbF}_6$  are  $-585$  and  $-740\text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  respectively.



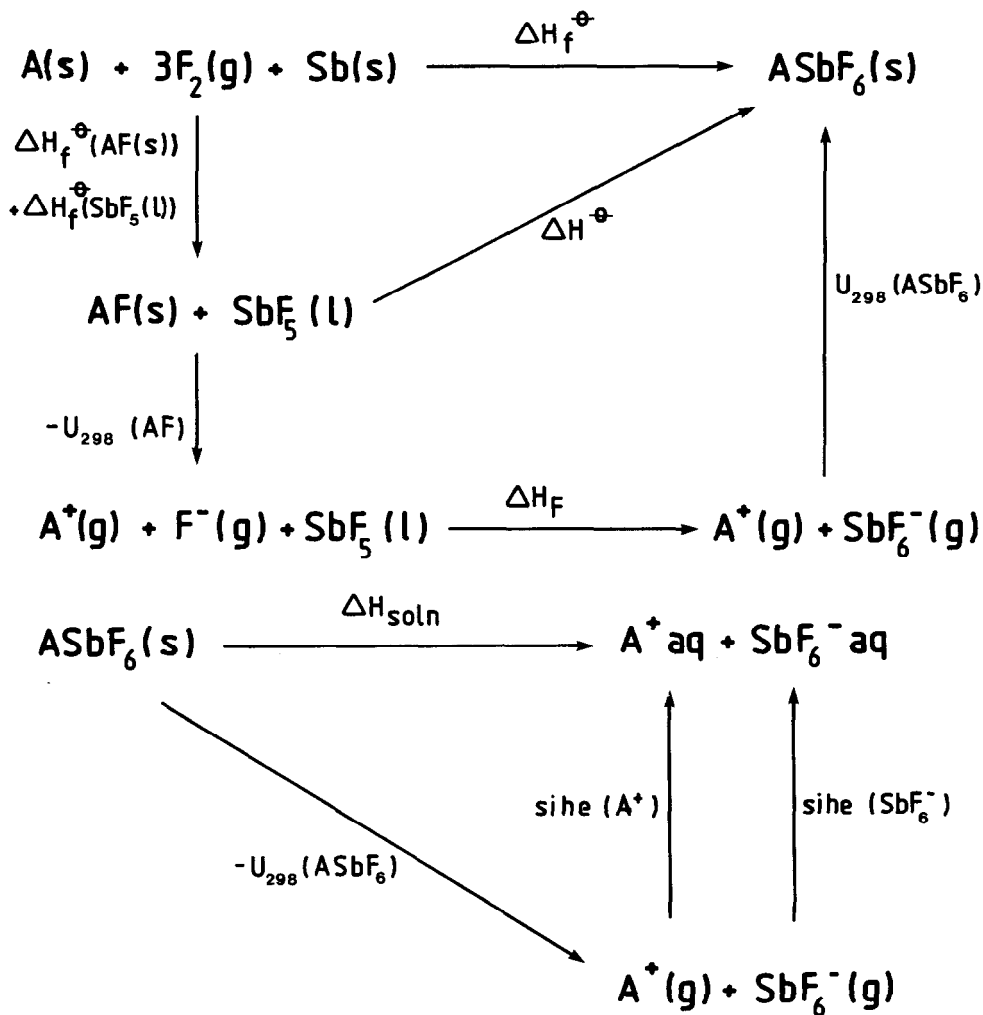


FIG. 1. THERMOCHEMICAL CYCLES FOR HEXAFLUOROANTIMONATES (V).

The fluoride affinity of  $\text{SbF}_5(\text{l})$ , (i.e. the enthalpy of the reaction  $\text{SbF}_5(\text{l}) + \text{F}^-(\text{g}) \rightarrow \text{SbF}_6^-(\text{g})$ ) is calculated to be  $-418 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ , whilst that of  $\text{SbF}_5(\text{g})$  is  $-390 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ . For the preparative chemist it is the value of  $\Delta H_F$  based on  $\text{SbF}_5(\text{l})$  which is chiefly of interest. This figure of  $-418 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  is to be compared with estimates of  $-450 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  for  $\text{WF}_5(\text{s})$ ,<sup>[26,27]</sup> and of  $-387$

TABLE 7

LATTICE ENERGY CONTRIBUTIONS IN  $\text{LiSbF}_6$  AND  $\text{KSbF}_6$  CALCULATED AT VARIOUS CHARGE DISTRIBUTIONS ( $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ )

$\text{LiSbF}_6$	Charge on Antimony ( $q_{\text{Sb}}$ )			
	-1	0	1	2
$U_c$	-646.0	-699.8	-752.0	-811.0
$U_R$	41.6	46.5	56.2	69.2
$U_L$	-6.7	-6.7	-6.7	-6.7
$U_o$	-611.6	-660.0	-702.5	-748.5
$U_{298}$	-616.6	-665.0	-707.5	-753.5
<hr/>				
$\text{KSbF}_6$				
$U_c$	-552.2	-572.6	-596.7	-630.5
$U_R$	26.9	40.2	47.6	64.0
$U_L$	-18.9	-18.9	-18.9	-18.9
$U_o$	-544.2	-551.3	-568.0	-585.4
$U_{298}$	-549.2	-556.3	-573.0	-590.4

$\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$  for  $\text{TaF}_5(\text{s})$ ,<sup>[28]</sup> assuming the lattice enthalpies of the three potassium salts to be the same. It is also interesting to compare the above estimated charge on Sb and the hydration enthalpy of the  $\text{SbF}_6^-$  anion with values for analogous ions. The most studied anion of this type is  $\text{SiF}_6^{2-}$ , for which a variety of approaches suggest  $q(\text{Si})$  to lie within the range +1.3 to +1.9; the hydration enthalpy of  $\text{SiF}_6^{2-}$  is estimated to be -960 to -990  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$  (relative to -1091  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$  for  $\text{H}^+$ ).<sup>[19]</sup> The most recent value for the hydration enthalpy of  $\text{F}^-$  is -502  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ .<sup>[29]</sup> The relative values for  $\text{SbF}_6^-$ ,  $\text{SiF}_6^{2-}$  and  $\text{F}^-$  conform satisfactorily to the general

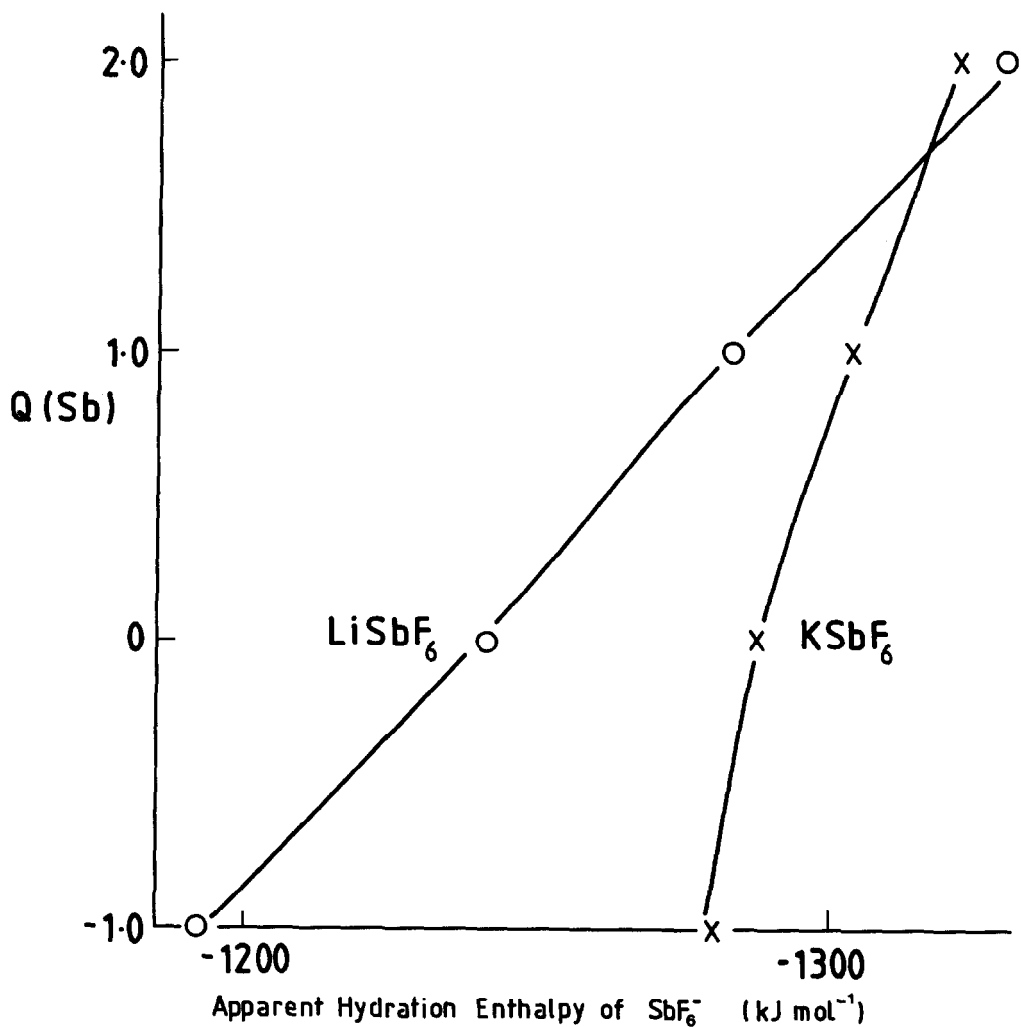


FIG. 2. HYDRATION ENTHALPY OF  $\text{SbF}_6^-$ .

expectation from relative sizes and charges. The single ion hydration enthalpy for the  $\text{Sb}(\text{OH})_6^-$  ion,  $-124 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ ,<sup>[30]</sup> is much smaller numerically than that of  $\text{SbF}_6^-$ , but this was based upon a lattice enthalpy obtained from a simple Born-Mayer calculation assuming  $q(\text{Sb}) = -1$ .

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