

Supporting Information for:

**Phantom Electrons in Mesoporous Nanocrystalline SnO₂
Thin Films with Cation Dependent Reduction Onsets**

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Supporting Information:

Derivation of Modified Beer's Law:

Expression	Explanation
$\Delta Abs = \epsilon bc$	Beer's Law
$\Delta Abs = \epsilon \left(\frac{h}{\sin\theta} \right) \left(\frac{n}{A(dm^2)h(dm)} \right)$	Substitute $b = h/\sin\theta$ and $c = n/(Ah)$ where n is moles of electrons, A is the geometric area of the cell, and h is the thickness. To hold the equality the units on A and h are dm^2 and dm, respectively.
$\Delta Abs = \epsilon \left(\frac{h}{\sin\theta} \right) \left(\frac{n}{A(dm^2)h(dm)} \right) \frac{(1000\text{ cm}^3/L)}{(1000\text{ cm}^3/L)}$	Multiply by $(1000\text{ cm}^3/L)/(1000\text{ cm}^3/L)$ to convert between cm^3 and L (or dm^3). The text in red is then combined to represent the Area and height of the film in cm^3 , not L. This allows h to be canceled.
$\Delta Abs = \frac{1000\epsilon}{\sin\theta} \left(\frac{n}{A(cm^2)} \right) \left(\frac{F}{F} \right)$	Multiply by (F/F) to convert moles to Coulombs, C. Combine the text in red.
$\Delta Abs = \frac{1000\epsilon}{F \sin\theta} \left(\frac{C}{A} \right)$	Final expression. Therefore, plotting ΔAbs vs C/A (A in cm^2) should give a straight line with a slope $m = \frac{1000\epsilon}{F \sin\theta}$

b: Path length of sample probed by light

h: Film thickness

θ : Angle of film relative to light ray

A: Geometric area of the thin film

