



Contribution ID: 299

Type: **Poster Presentation**

## First-Principles Calculations of the Structural, Electronic and Optical Properties of PdN and PdN<sub>2</sub>

*Thursday, 12 July 2012 17:30 (2 hours)*

### Abstract content <br> &nbsp; (Max 300 words)

The atomic and electronic structures of PdN and PdN<sub>2</sub> were investigated using ab initio density-functional theory (DFT). We studied cohesive energy vs. volume data for a set of reported and hypothetical structures. Obtained data was fitted to a third-order Birch-Murnaghan equation of state (EOS) so as to identify the energetically most stable phases and to determine their equilibrium structural parameters. Electronic properties were investigated by calculating the band-structure and the total and partial density of states (DOS). Some possible pressure-induced structural and electronic phase transitions were tested. To derive the frequency-dependent optical spectra (i.e. absorption coefficient, reflectivity, refractive index, and energy-loss), we carried out expensive GW<sub>0</sub> calculations within the random-phase approximation (RPA) to the dielectric tensor. Obtained results were compared with previous studies.

### Apply to be<br> consider for a student <br> &nbsp; award (Yes / No)?

Yes

### Level for award<br>&nbsp;(Hons, MSc, <br> &nbsp; PhD)?

PhD

### Main supervisor (name and email)<br>and his / her institution

Daniel P. Joubert,  
 daniel.joubert2@wits.ac.za,  
 School of Physics, University of the Witwatersrand.

### Would you like to <br> submit a short paper <br> for the Conference <br> Proceedings (Yes / No)?

Yes

**Primary author:** Mr SULEIMAN, MOHAMMED (School of Physics, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, Sout Africa.)

**Co-author:** Prof. DANIEL, JOUBERT (School of Physics, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, Sout Africa.)

**Presenter:** Mr SULEIMAN, MOHAMMED (School of Physics, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, Sout Africa.)

**Session Classification:** Poster Session

**Track Classification:** Track G - Theoretical and Computational Physics