



Supplementary Materials for

Efficient, stable solar cells by using inherent bandgap of α -phase formamidinium lead iodide

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Published 8 November 2019, *Science* **366**, 749 (2019)

DOI: 10.1126/science.aay7044

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Materials and Methods

Synthesis

Formamidinium iodide (FAI) white powder was synthesized by reacting 20 mg of formamidine acetate salt (99%, Alfa Aesar) with 30 mL of hydroiodic acid (HI, 57 wt% in water, Aldrich) in a 250-mL round-bottom flask at 60°C and 1-mbar pressure for 1 h with rotation. The products were dissolved in ethanol, recrystallized from diethyl ether, and finally dried at RT in a vacuum oven for 24 h. Formamidinium lead triiodide (FAPbI₃) powder was synthesized using synthesized FAI and lead iodide (99.99% PbI₂, TCI) mixture (1:1 molar ratio) in 11 mL of 2-methoxyethanol (anhydrous 99.8%, Aldrich) in a 70-mL vial with stirring. The mixed solution was heated up to 120°C and then precipitated by retrograde method. Filtered FAPbI₃ black powder was baked at 150°C for 30 min. Methlammonium lead tri-bromide (MAPbBr₃) powder, as an additive for fabricating the control [(FAPbI₃)_{0.95}(MAPbI₃)_{0.05}] device, was synthesized using MABr and lead bromide (98% PbBr₂, Alfa) mixture in a 1:1 molar ratio in DMF by capturing single crystal with toluene. Here, methylammonium bromide (MABr) was synthesized by reacting methylamine solution (40 wt% in water, Aldrich) with hydrobromic acid (HBr, 48 wt% in water, Aldrich) (1:1.1 molar ratio) in a round bottomed flask at 0°C for 3 hours under stirring. The product, was dissolved in ethanol, recrystallized from diethyl ether and dried at room temperature in a vacuum oven overnight.

Solar cell fabrication

Hole blocking layer titanium oxide (bl-TiO₂) was coated onto a fluorine doped tin oxide (FTO) glass (Asahi FTO glass, 12~13 Ω/cm²) substrate by spray pyrolysis deposition of a 20 mM titanium diisopropoxide bis(acetylacetonate) (Aldrich) solution at 450 °C. Mesoporous TiO₂ (mp-TiO₂) was spin-coated at 1500 r.p.m. for 40s on the blocking layer (bl)-TiO₂/FTO substrate

using a TiO₂ paste in 2-methoxyethanol (2ME) and terpinol (3.5:1 w/w). The films were calcined at 500°C for an hour. Perovskite layers were spin-coated on mp-TiO₂/bl-TiO₂/FTO using the synthesized FAPbI₃ with x mol% methylenediammonium chloride (MDACl₂: x = 0, 1.9, 3.8, 5.7 mol%) or with 5 mol% of MAPbBr₃ (synthesized) in a mixed solvent of dimethylformamide (DMF) and dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) (8:1 v/v). The all perovskite precursor solution contained 35 mol% of methylammonium hydrochloride (MAcI, 98% Aldrich). The all perovskite layer was first heat-treated at 150 °C for 10 minutes and annealed again at 100°C for 10 minutes. For the surface passivation of perovskite film, octylammonium iodide, dodecylammonium iodide or phenethylammonium iodide (98%, Greatcell Solar) dissolved in isopropyl alcohol (IPA) (15 mM) was spin coated at 5000 rpm. The surface-treated film was dried at RT in a vacuum oven for 24 h or annealed at 100°C for 5 min according to the passivation condition, and then spin-coated by hole transporting layer (HTL)/chlorobenzene (90 mg/1 mL) in a mixture of 39.5 μL of 4-tert-butylpyridine (TBP), 23 μL of Li-bis(trifluoromethanesulfonyl) imide (Li-TFSI)/acetonitrile (520mg/mL), and 10 μL of cobalt-TFSI dissolved in acetonitrile (375mg/mL) at 3000 r.p.m. for 30 seconds. Finally, a gold counter electrode was deposited by thermal evaporation (about 65-75 nm of thickness).

Characterization

J-V characteristics of the devices were measured using a Keithley 2420 source meter under illumination by a solar simulator (Newport, Oriel Sol3A class AAA) with an AM 1.5 filter and an irradiation intensity of 100 mW/cm². The active area was determined by the metal mask placed in front of the solar cell to avoid overestimation of the photocurrent density. Spectral mismatch factor of 1.05 was used for all J-V measurements. For the measurement of high-efficiency devices, an antireflective coating was applied to the surface. The stability test at continuous maximum power point (MPP) operation under 1 Sun, AM 1.5G illumination was

carried out in an ambient condition by fixing the voltage at V_{MPP} and then tracking the current output. The morphology of the films was measured using a scanning electron microscope (Cold FE-SEM, SU-8220). Space-charge-limited current (SCLC) characteristics of electron- and hole- only devices are measured by a Keithley 2636B. Grazing-incidence wide-angle x-ray scattering (GIWAXS) measurements were conducted at the PLS-II 6D UNIST-PAL beamline of Pohang Accelerator Laboratory. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) analysis were measured by 400 MHz FT-NMR (Bruker, AVANCE III HD). IR measurements were conducted by Frontier FT-IR 6800 (Perkin Eimer). The crystal structure was analyzed using an X-ray diffractometer (D/MAX2500V/PC). X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) analysis was measured by using Thermo Fisher Scientific (ESCALAB 250XI) equipment with Al $K\alpha$ as the X-ray source. The optical properties of the films were measured using UV-Vis spectroscopy (Shimadzu UV-2600). Steady-state photoluminescence (PL) spectra were measured using a commercial time-correlated single photon counting (TCSPC) setup (FluoTime 300, PicoQuant GmbH) equipped with PMA-C-192-M detector, high-resolution excitation monochromators. The composition of the films was analyzed with secondary ion mass spectrometry (TOF-SIMS5, UNIST Central Research Facilities) with Bi^{3+} primary beam (25 keV, 1pA) and Cs^+ sputter beam (1 KeV, 72 nA).

Computational method

We carried out the first-principles pseudopotential total energy calculations based on the density functional theory (DFT) within the generalized gradient density approximation (GGA) as implemented in the Vienna *ab initio* simulation package (VASP) (45-48). The electron-ion interactions are described employing the projector-augmented-wave (PAW) method (49) and Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (PBE) functional is used for GGA exchange correlation potential (50). To simulate stoichiometric and MDA- and Cl-doped $FAPbI_3$ in α -phase (33), we used a $3 \times 3 \times 3$

supercell for all the calculations. A kinetic energy cutoff of 400 eV and only Γ k-point for Brillouin zone integration is employed. All the atomic positions and lattice parameters are fully relaxed until the total energy is converged within 10^{-4} eV.

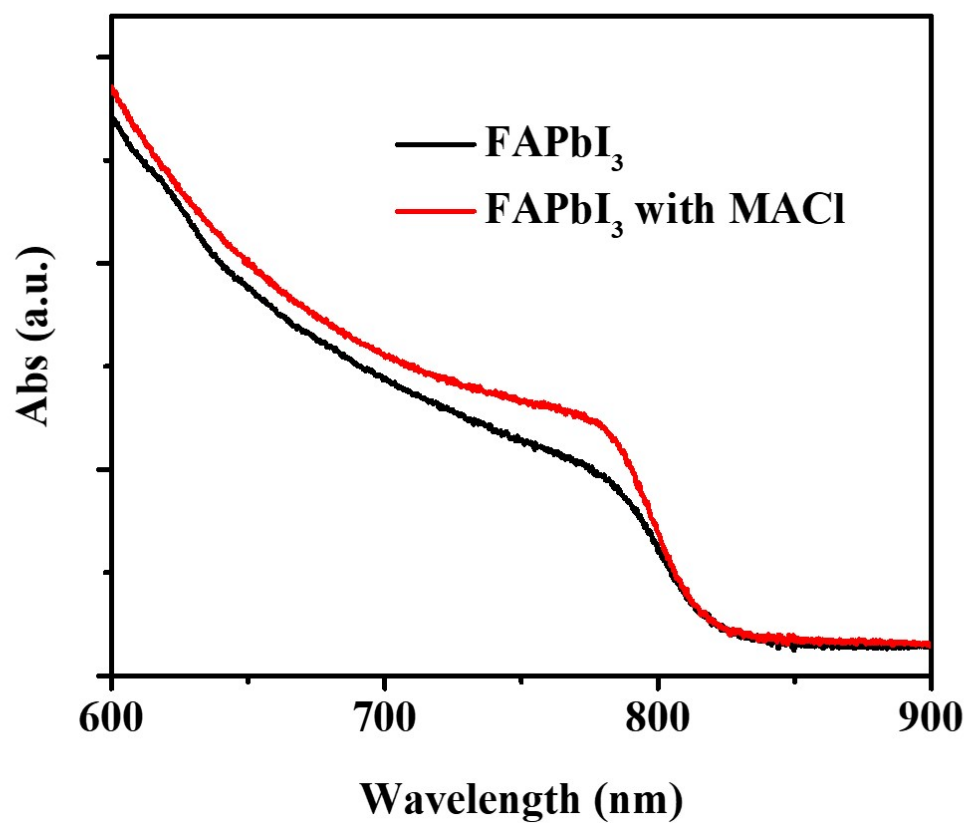


Fig. S1. Comparison of ultraviolet-visible (UV-vis) spectra of FAPbI₃ deposited with and without MACl additive.

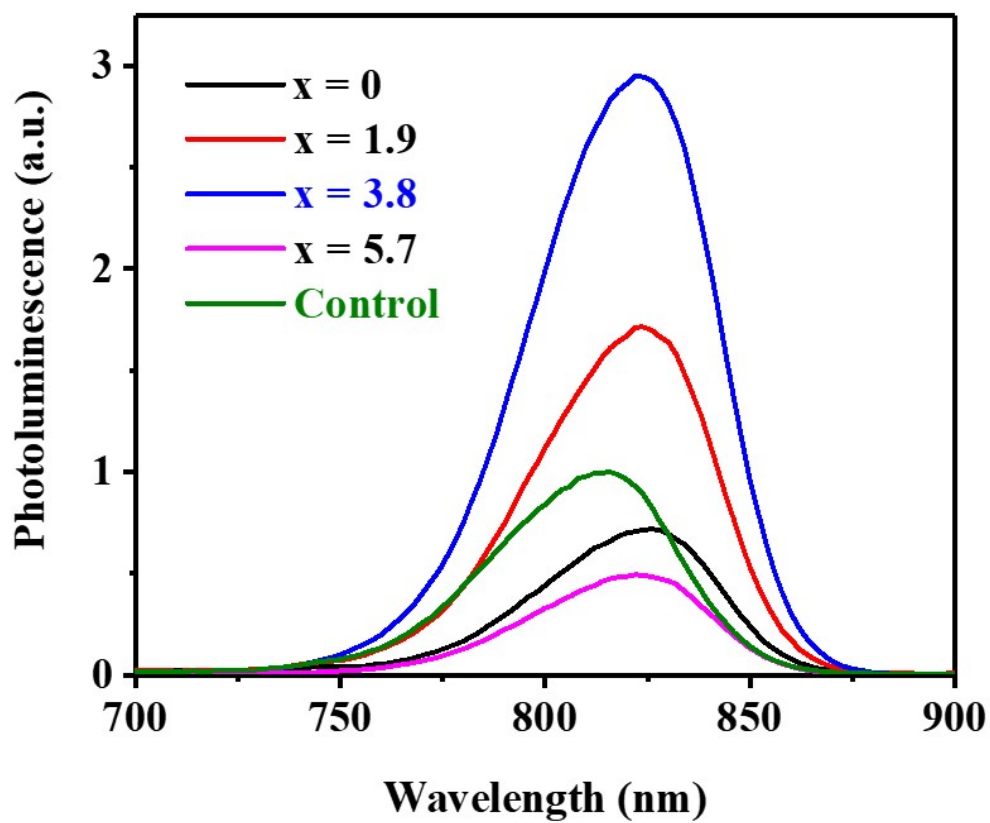


Fig. S2. Photoluminescence spectra for different x values of FAPbI₃:xMDACl₂ (x = 0, 1.9, 3.8, and 5.7 mol%) and control.

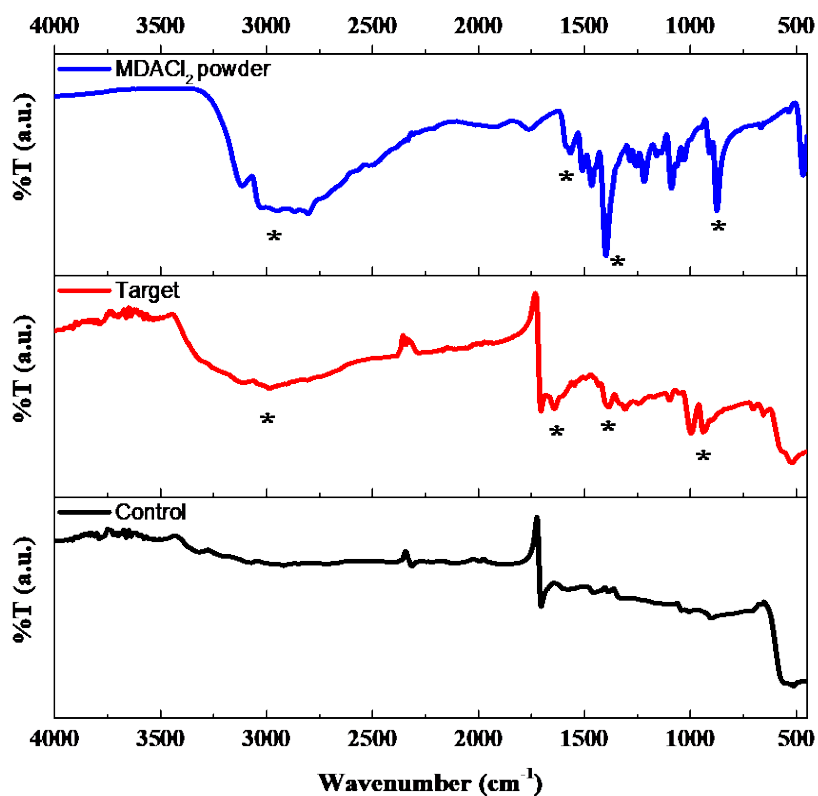


Fig. S3. Comparison of Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy results of MDACl₂, target, and control.

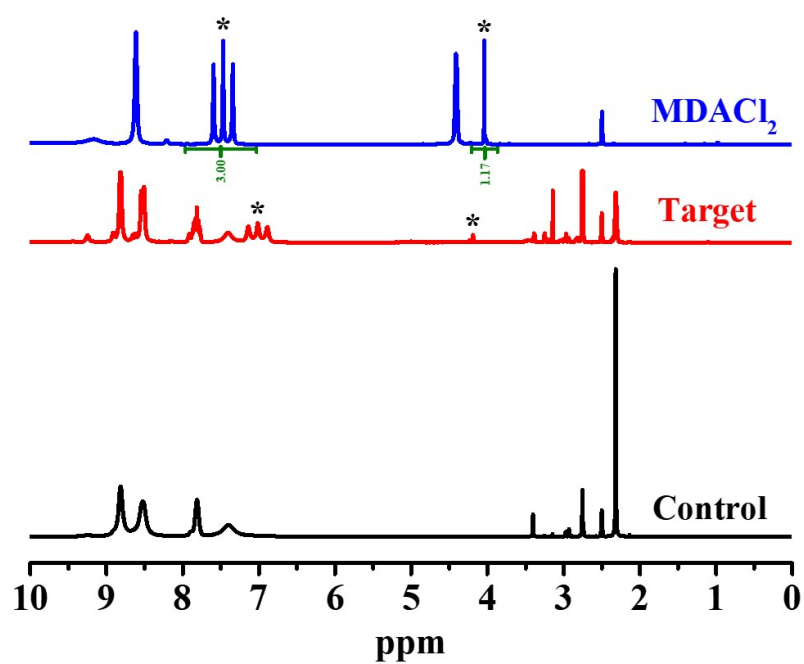


Fig. S4. Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra of MDACl₂, target, and control.

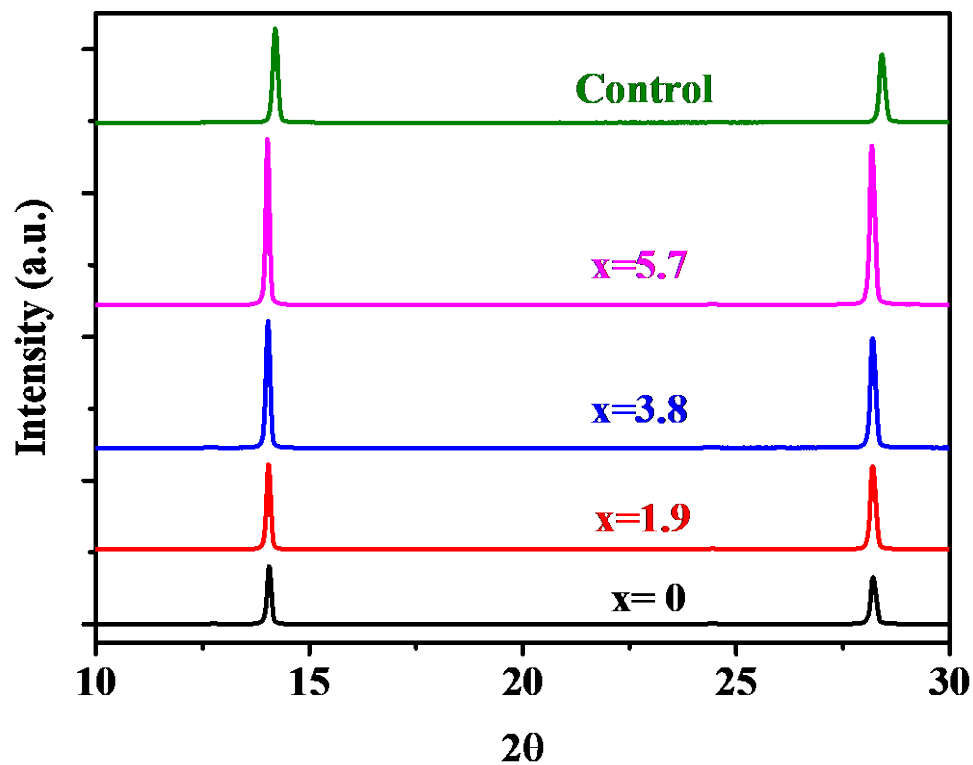


Fig. S5. X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns of as-prepared $\text{FAPbI}_3:\text{xMDACl}_2$ ($x = 0, 1.9, 3.8,$ and 5.7 mol%) and control.

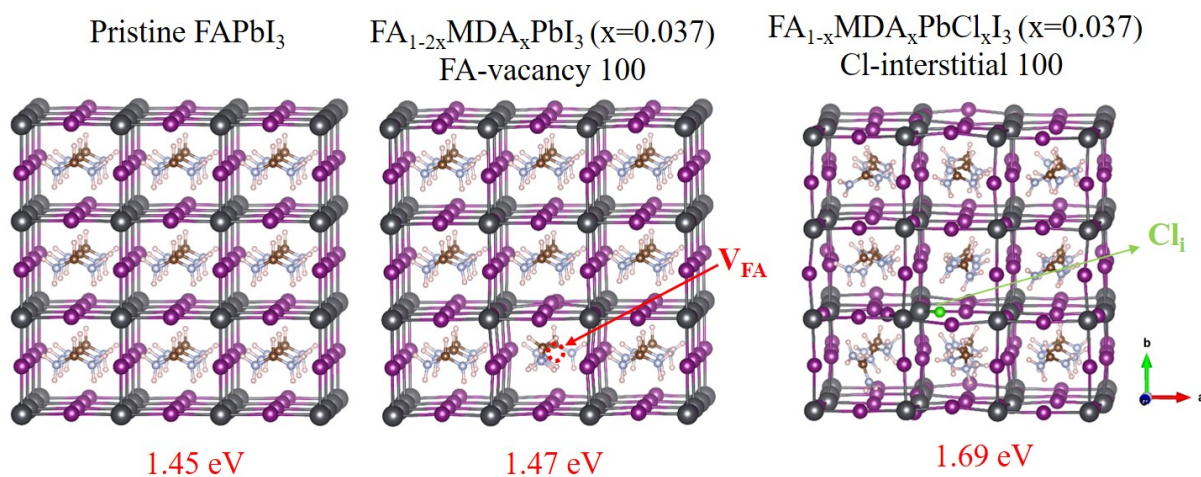


Fig. S6. Structure relaxation for the control Electronic band structures of FAPbI_3 , $\text{FA}_{0.926}(\text{V}_{\text{FA}})_{0.037}\text{MDA}_{0.037}\text{PbI}_3$, and (c) $\text{FA}_{0.963}\text{MDA}_{0.037}\text{PbI}_3(\text{Cl}_i)_{0.037}$.

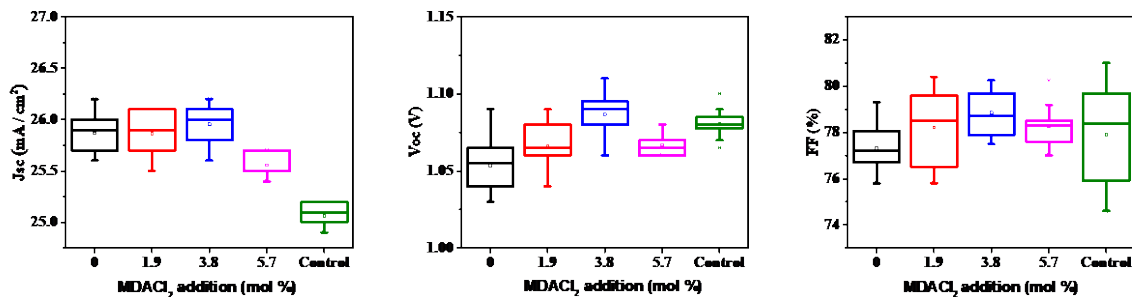


Fig. S7. Variation in J_{sc} , V_{oc} , and FF for different x values of FAPbI₃:xMDACL₂ (x = 0, 1.9, 3.8, and 5.7 mol%) and control.

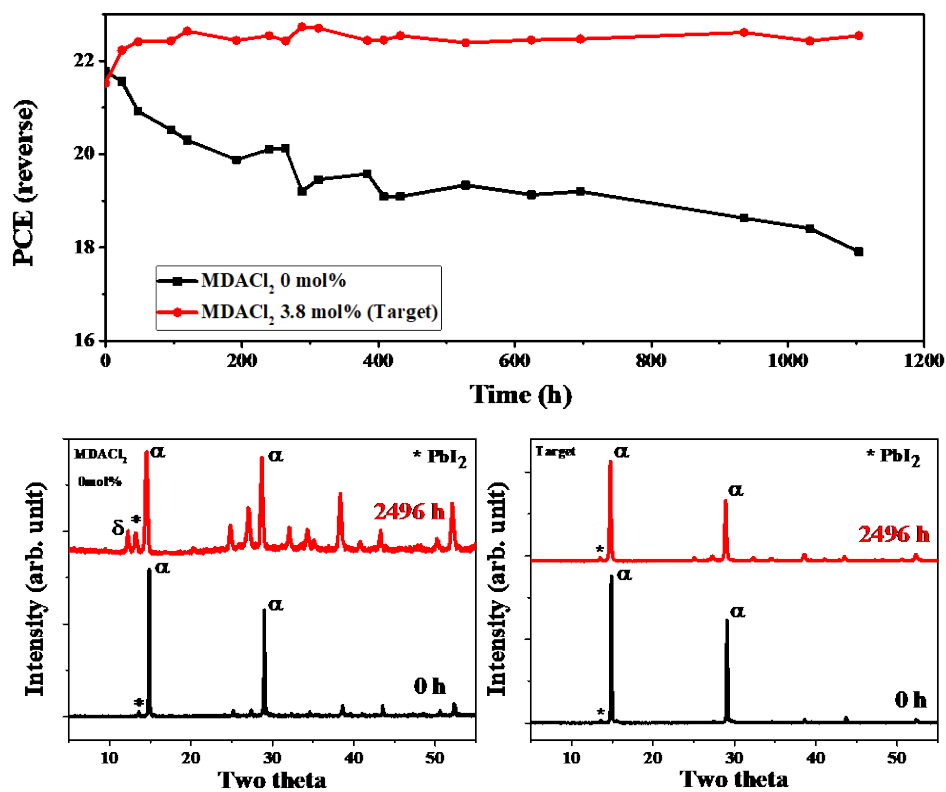


Fig. S8. Power conversion efficiency (PCE) change in FTO/bl-TiO₂/mp-TiO₂/Perovskite:MDACL₂ (0, 3.7 mol%)/Spiro-OMeTAD/Au (unencapsulated) measured over time stored under ambient conditions (RH 20-30%, 25 °C) in a dark and X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns of resulting layers after 2500 h of operation time.

Table S1. Photovoltaic parameters of control and target, measured in reverse and forward mode, as extracted from Figure 2B.

	J_{sc} [mA/cm ²]	V_{oc} [V]	FF [%]	PCE [%]
Control_Rev	25.14	1.14	80.55	23.05
Control_For	25.12	1.12	79.32	22.28
Target_Rev	26.50	1.14	81.77	24.66
Target_For	26.40	1.11	79.72	23.34

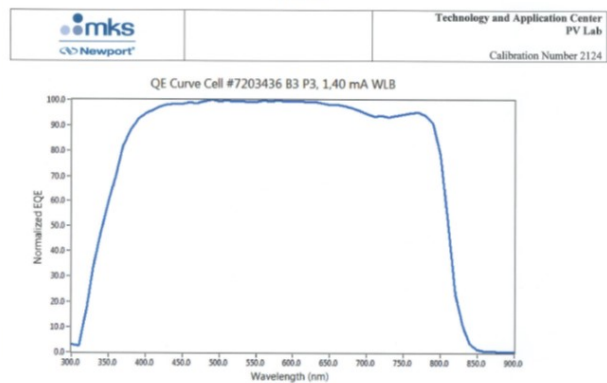
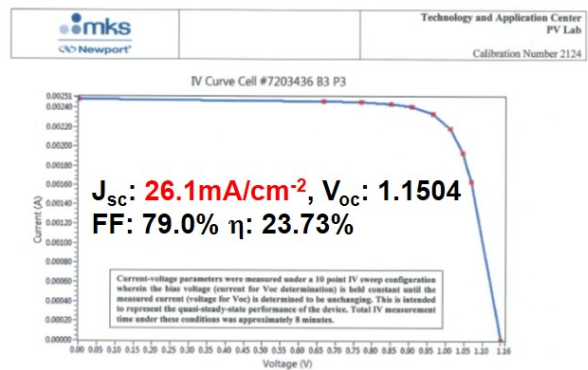
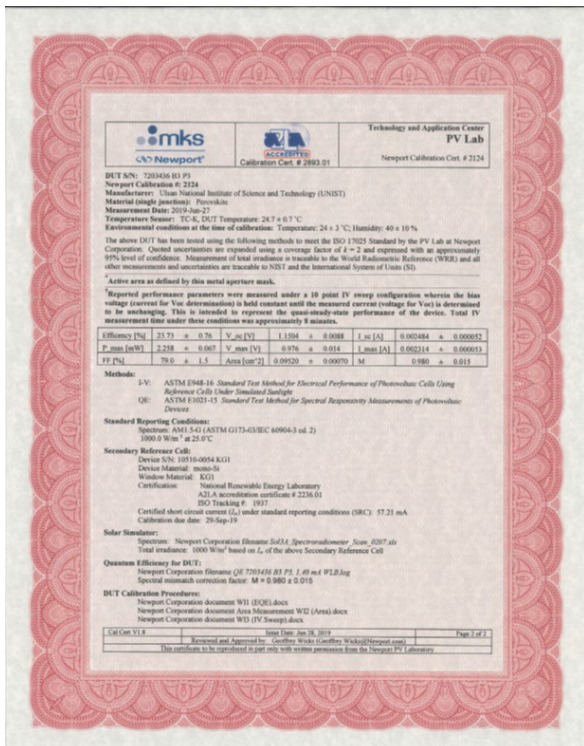


Fig. S9. Certified results from accredited photovoltaic certification laboratory (Newport, USA) for device shown in Figure 2B.

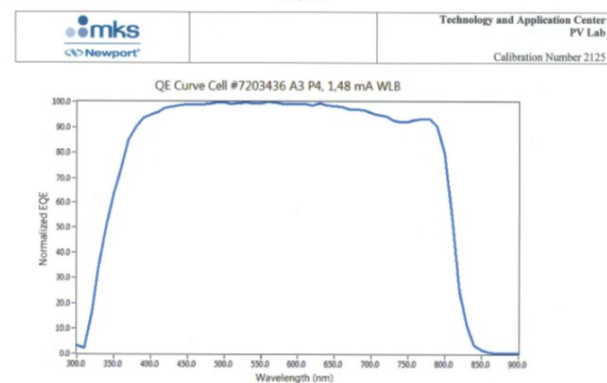
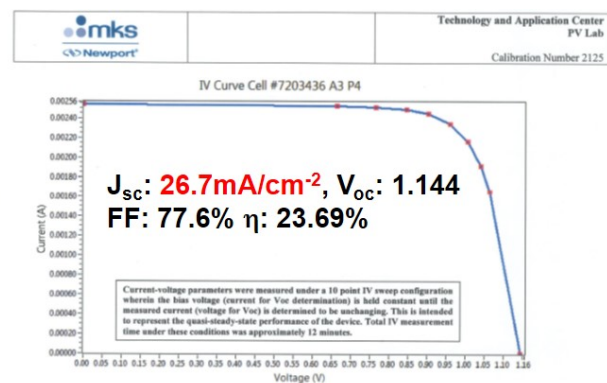
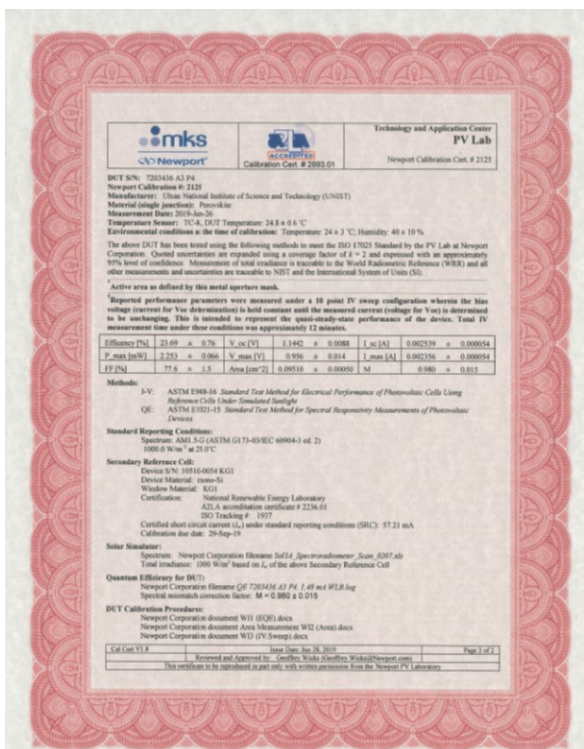


Fig. S10. Certified results from accredited photovoltaic certification laboratory (Newport, USA) for a second device.

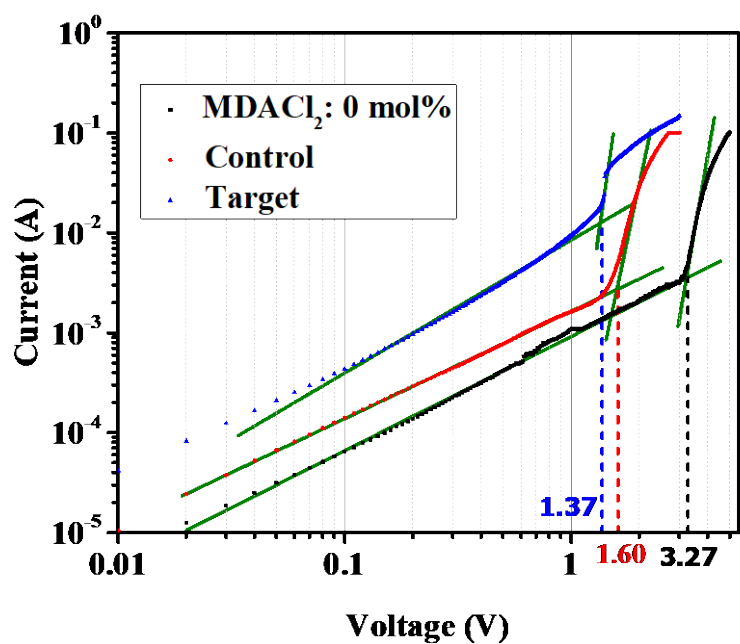


Fig. S11. Comparison of dark current–voltage curves of electron-only devices among representative control, target, and pure FAPbI₃ devices.

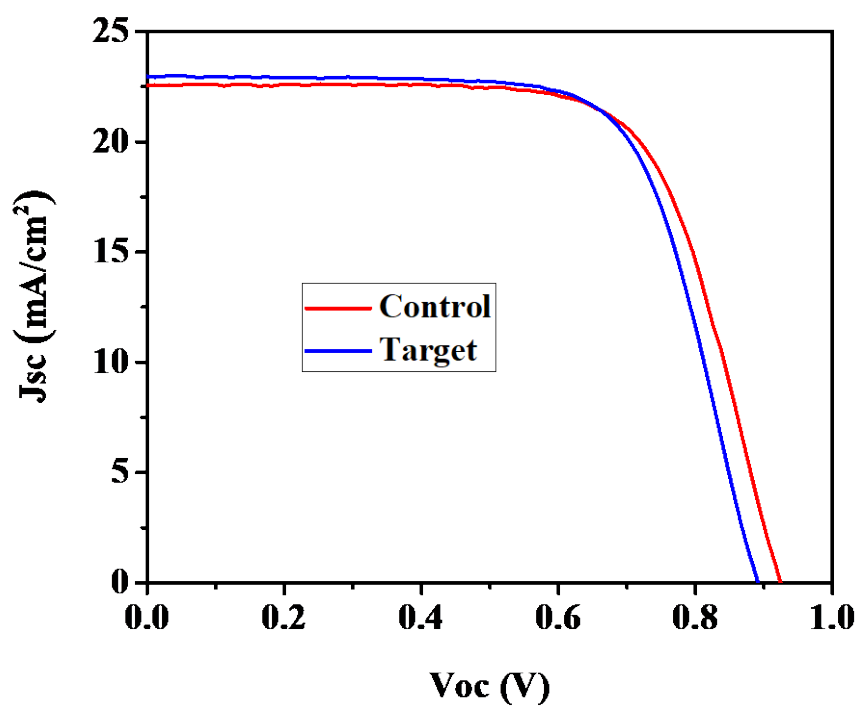


Fig. S12. J–V curves of control and target fabricated with CuPC as hole-transporting material instead of Spiro-OMeTAD.

Table S2. Photovoltaic parameters of control and target, fabricated with CuPC as hole-transporting material, as extracted from Figure S12.

As-fabricated	J_{sc} [mA/cm²]	V_{oc} [V]	FF [%]	PCE [%]
Control	22.57	0.926	69.02	14.44
Target	22.97	0.886	69.89	14.23

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