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Title: Influence of Active Layer Thickness on the Performance of Organic Photovoltaics With Light Trapping

Author(s): Ibrahim, MLI (Ibrahim, M. L. Inche); Hassan, HA (Hassan, Husna A.)

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Abstract: To maximize the performance of a photovoltaic device, light trapping is necessary. In this paper, we theoretically investigate the effect of active layer thickness on the performance of organic photovoltaic (OPV) cellswith ideal light trapping. Although actual light trapping schemes are not ideal, this paper can still be useful in guiding us in maximizing the performance of actual OPVs with light trapping. The effect of active layer thickness on the power conversion efficiency (PCE), short-circuit current, open-circuit voltage, and fill factor (FF) of OPVs with ideal light trapping is described in this paper. For a low-recombination-loss OPV with ideal light trapping, the active layer thicknessweakly affects the PCE. For a high-recombination- lossOPV with ideal light trapping, the active layer thickness strongly affects the PCE and must be very thin (around 10 nm) in order tomaximize the PCE. Therefore, this paper shows that it is important for OPVs to have a low recombination loss so that the active layer thickness does not become a hindrance or an additional factor in creating highly efficient light trapping schemes that can maximize the PCE. This paper also shows that it is equally (if not more) important to develop light trapping schemes that are highly efficient at very thin active layers (around 10 nm) so that the PCE of any OPVs can be more or less maximized, whether the OPVs have low or high recombination losses.

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Addresses: [Ibrahim, M. L. Inche] Int Islamic Univ Malaysia, Fac Engn, Dept Sci Engn, Kuala Lumpur 50728, Malaysia.
[Hassan, Husna A.] Int Islamic Univ Malaysia, Fac Engn, Dept Mfg & Mat Engn, Kuala Lumpur 50728, Malaysia.
Reprint Address: Ibrahim, MLI (reprint author), Int Islamic Univ Malaysia, Fac Engn, Dept Sci Engn, Kuala Lumpur 50728, Malaysia.
E-mail Addresses: lukmanibrahim@iium.edu.my; husnaamira.ha@gmail.com
Author Identifiers:

Author	Web of Science ResearcherID	ORCID Number
Inche Ibrahim, Mohd Lukman	I-6454-2017	0000-0003-0952-4743

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