## **Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) for**

## Grain growth study of perovskite thin films prepared by flash evaporation and its effect on the solar cell performance

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**Fig. S1** Process flow for the deposition of perovskite thin films by flash evaporation. (a) The precursor solution is spread onto a molybdenum foil by dropping equally-distributed liquid and then a polycrystalline film is obtained by solvent evaporation after pumping down the growth chamber. (b) Where the hybrid perovskite is evaporated onto the desired substrates with four pieces. Control Sample 1 is placed by 5 cm right under the molybdenum foil and Control Sample 2 is placed parallel to Control Sample 1 but 20 cm far away from source. Both Control Sample 3 and 4 are placed back to back by 20 cm far away from substrates. Among them, Control Sample 3 faces up and Control Sample 4 faces down.



**Fig. S2** (a) A histogram of average MAPbI<sub>3</sub> grain size at a high pressure of 10 Pa. (b) - (f) histograms of average MAPbI<sub>3</sub> grain size at a low pressure of  $5 \times 10^{-3}$  Pa with different molar ratios between MAI and PbI<sub>2</sub>. The ratios are 1.5, 1.7, 1.9, 2.0, 2.1, respectively.



Fig. S3 X-ray diffraction spectra of films at a low pressure of  $5 \times 10^{-3}$  Pa with increasing current in three minutes.



**Fig. S4** X-ray diffraction spectra of the Control Sample 1 of glass which evaporated at a low pressure of 10 Pa.



Fig. S5 X-ray diffraction spectra of a control sample of Si which evaporated at a low pressure of 5  $\times$  10<sup>-3</sup> Pa.



**Fig. S6** (a) Layered structure of a complete solar cell fabricated by flash evaporation. The complete solar cell is a FTO-coated glass substrate, followed by an electron transport layer, a perovskite layer, a hole transport layer, and a top metal contact. (b) Cross-sectional SEM image of the perovskite solar cell.



**Fig. S7** Current-density/voltage curves for perovskite solar cells with structure of FTO/TiO<sub>2</sub>/MAPbI<sub>3</sub>/Spiro-OMeTAD/Au, FTO/TiO<sub>2</sub>/PCBM/MAPbI<sub>3</sub>/Spiro-OMeTAD/Au, and FTO/PCBM/MAPbI<sub>3</sub>/Spiro-OMeTAD/Au.



**Fig. S8** IPCE in the UV-visible region for the planar perovskite solar cells with perovskite layer deposited at different pressure.