

Electronic Supplementary Information for

Pseudo-three-dimensional Organic-inorganic Iodobismuthates as Lead-free Solar Absorbers

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This file includes:

- i. Crystallographic information for **[py][BiI₄]** and **[mepy][BiI₄]** (bond angle, bond length, Fractional Atomic Coordinates ($\times 10^4$) and equivalent isotropic displacement parameters)
- ii. Intermolecular interactions looking into different axis
- iii. Strong preferred orientation on (1 2 0) plane for **[py][BiI₄]**
- iv. K-point path on the first Brillouin zone for **[py][BiI₄]** and **[mepy][BiI₄]**
- v. Kubelka-Munk function plots of compounds as thin films
- vi. Solution-state UV-Vis absorption spectra
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- viii. Tauc plots and bandgap value estimations of thin-film samples
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- xi. Microscopic images
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| Compounds | [py][BiI₄] | [mepy][BiI₄] |
|---|--|--|
| Formula | C ₅ H ₆ BiI ₄ N | C ₆ H ₈ BiI ₄ N |
| <i>D_{calc.}</i> / g cm ⁻³ | 3.83 | 3.749 |
| <i>μ</i> /mm ⁻¹ | 21.656 | 20.836 |
| Formula Weight | 796.69 | 810.71 |
| Colour | red | red |
| Shape | plate | block |
| Max Size/mm | 0.28 | 0.09 |
| Mid Size/mm | 0.21 | 0.06 |
| Min Size/mm | 0.09 | 0.06 |
| <i>T</i> /K | 150 | 120 |
| Crystal System | monoclinic | monoclinic |
| Space Group | P2 ₁ /c | P2 ₁ /c |
| <i>a</i> /Å | 12.6997(3) | 7.7618(5) |
| <i>b</i> /Å | 28.3198(6) | 14.0412(8) |
| <i>c</i> /Å | 7.7160(2) | 13.1959(8) |
| <i>β</i> ° | 95.2880(10) | 92.959(6) |
| <i>V</i> /Å ³ | 2763.27(11) | 1436.24(15) |
| <i>Z</i> | 8 | 4 |
| <i>Z'</i> | 2 | 1 |
| <i>θ_{min}</i> ° | 1.438 | 2.901 |
| <i>θ_{max}</i> ° | 28.313 | 30.967 |
| Measured Refl. | 9303 | 7443 |
| Independent Refl. | 9303 | 7443 |
| Reflections Used | 7345 | 5413 |
| Parameters | 200 | 112 |
| Restraints | 72 | 0 |
| Largest Peak /Å | 3.098 | 2.285 |
| Deepest Hole /Å | -2.356 | -1.785 |
| GooF | 1.102 | 0.924 |
| <i>wR</i> ₂ (all data) | 0.1785 | 0.0784 |
| <i>wR</i> ₂ | 0.165 | 0.075 |
| <i>R</i> ₁ (all data) | 0.0859 | 0.0659 |
| <i>R</i> ₁ | 0.0634 | 0.0427 |

Table S1. Crystallographic information for [py][BiI₄] and [mepy][BiI₄]

Crystallographic information for [py][BiI₄]

Table S2. Fractional Atomic Coordinates ($\times 10^4$) and Equivalent Isotropic Displacement Parameters ($\text{\AA}^2 \times 10^3$) for [py][BiI₄]. U_{eq} is defined as 1/3 of the trace of the orthogonalised U_{ij} .

| Atom | x | y | z | U_{eq} |
|------|-------------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| Bi1 | 19924.7(7) | 5444.3(3) | 17491.0(12) | 19.4(2) |
| I1 | 18404.3(15) | 6110.8(7) | 15854(3) | 40.2(5) |
| I2 | 21390.6(13) | 5438.7(5) | 14441(2) | 24.5(4) |
| I3 | 21427.3(13) | 4623.7(6) | 19442(2) | 26.5(4) |
| I4 | 21307.8(16) | 6171.8(7) | 19080(3) | 39.8(5) |
| Bi2 | 14999.9(7) | 7046.8(3) | 11932.2(13) | 20.5(2) |
| I5 | 16384.3(14) | 7114.5(6) | 15414(2) | 29.0(4) |
| I6 | 13598.1(13) | 7089.4(5) | 8402(2) | 25.2(4) |
| I7 | 16479.1(15) | 6348.0(6) | 10825(3) | 35.1(4) |
| I8 | 13579.2(14) | 6330.0(6) | 13170(3) | 31.3(4) |
| N1 | 20480(30) | 6654(11) | 13190(40) | 61(7) |
| C1 | 21030(40) | 7038(13) | 13880(70) | 72(11) |
| C2 | 20600(30) | 7455(14) | 13670(60) | 67(10) |
| C3 | 19630(30) | 7528(14) | 12910(60) | 61(9) |
| C4 | 19060(30) | 7141(11) | 12190(60) | 61(9) |
| C5 | 19540(30) | 6697(12) | 12390(50) | 53(7) |
| C10 | 24340(50) | 5813(19) | 17460(50) | 95(11) |
| C9 | 23890(50) | 5464(18) | 17990(70) | 103(12) |
| C8 | 24270(50) | 5053(19) | 17850(60) | 98(12) |
| C7 | 25320(50) | 5020(20) | 17430(60) | 97(12) |
| C6 | 25880(50) | 5367(19) | 16940(60) | 103(12) |
| N2 | 25360(40) | 5794(15) | 16940(40) | 96(10) |

Table S3. Bond Lengths in \AA for [py][BiI₄]

| Atom | Atom | Length/ \AA | I5 | Bi2 ⁴ | 3.2379(18) |
|------|------------------|----------------------|-----|------------------|------------|
| Bi1 | I1 | 2.9047(19) | I6 | Bi2 ³ | 3.2878(18) |
| Bi1 | I2 | 3.1326(19) | N1 | C1 | 1.37(5) |
| Bi1 | I2 ¹ | 3.2872(17) | N1 | C5 | 1.31(5) |
| Bi1 | I3 | 3.2830(18) | C1 | C2 | 1.30(5) |
| Bi1 | I3 ² | 3.0556(19) | C2 | C3 | 1.33(6) |
| Bi1 | I4 | 2.904(2) | C3 | C4 | 1.40(5) |
| I2 | Bi1 ¹ | 3.2873(17) | C4 | C5 | 1.40(5) |
| I3 | Bi1 ² | 3.0556(19) | C10 | C9 | 1.23(7) |
| Bi2 | I5 ³ | 3.2379(19) | C10 | N2 | 1.39(7) |
| Bi2 | I5 | 3.078(2) | C9 | C8 | 1.27(7) |
| Bi2 | I6 | 3.116(2) | C8 | C7 | 1.40(8) |
| Bi2 | I6 ⁴ | 3.2877(18) | C7 | C6 | 1.30(7) |
| Bi2 | I7 | 2.9105(19) | C6 | N2 | 1.38(7) |
| Bi2 | I8 | 2.9338(19) | | | |

¹4-X,1-Y,3-Z; ²4-X,1-Y,4-Z; ³4-X,3/2-Y,-1/2+Z
⁴4-X,3/2-Y,1/2+Z

Table A3. Bond Angles in ° for [py][BiI₄]

| Atom | Atom | Atom | Angle/° |
|------------------|------|------------------|-----------|
| I1 | Bi1 | I2 ¹ | 90.43(6) |
| I1 | Bi1 | I2 | 95.38(6) |
| I1 | Bi1 | I3 | 173.92(6) |
| I1 | Bi1 | I3 ² | 88.82(6) |
| I2 | Bi1 | I2 ¹ | 88.16(5) |
| I2 | Bi1 | I3 | 88.87(5) |
| I3 ² | Bi1 | I2 | 175.53(5) |
| I3 | Bi1 | I2 ¹ | 85.35(5) |
| I3 ² | Bi1 | I2 ¹ | 90.28(5) |
| I3 ² | Bi1 | I3 | 86.83(5) |
| I4 | Bi1 | I1 | 94.27(7) |
| I4 | Bi1 | I2 ¹ | 173.34(6) |
| I4 | Bi1 | I2 | 86.70(6) |
| I4 | Bi1 | I3 ² | 94.53(6) |
| I4 | Bi1 | I3 | 90.30(6) |
| Bi1 | I2 | Bi1 ¹ | 91.84(5) |
| Bi1 ² | I3 | Bi1 | 93.17(5) |
| I5 | Bi2 | I5 ³ | 89.12(5) |
| I5 | Bi2 | I6 | 174.21(5) |
| I5 | Bi2 | I6 ⁴ | 86.36(5) |
| I5 ³ | Bi2 | I6 ⁴ | 84.75(5) |
| I6 | Bi2 | I5 ³ | 86.60(5) |
| I6 | Bi2 | I6 ⁴ | 89.36(5) |
| I7 | Bi2 | I5 | 88.07(6) |

| | | | |
|-----|-----|------------------|-----------|
| I7 | Bi2 | I5 ³ | 90.34(6) |
| I7 | Bi2 | I6 ⁴ | 172.62(6) |
| I7 | Bi2 | I6 | 95.85(6) |
| I7 | Bi2 | I8 | 93.32(6) |
| I8 | Bi2 | I5 ³ | 174.96(6) |
| I8 | Bi2 | I5 | 94.47(6) |
| I8 | Bi2 | I6 | 89.57(5) |
| I8 | Bi2 | I6 ⁴ | 91.93(5) |
| Bi2 | I5 | Bi2 ⁴ | 94.36(5) |
| Bi2 | I6 | Bi2 ³ | 92.66(5) |
| C5 | N1 | C1 | 121(3) |
| C2 | C1 | N1 | 119(5) |
| C1 | C2 | C3 | 124(4) |
| C2 | C3 | C4 | 119(4) |
| C5 | C4 | C3 | 117(4) |
| N1 | C5 | C4 | 120(4) |
| C9 | C10 | N2 | 122(6) |
| C10 | C9 | C8 | 121(8) |
| C9 | C8 | C7 | 117(6) |
| C6 | C7 | C8 | 125(6) |
| C7 | C6 | N2 | 112(7) |
| C6 | N2 | C10 | 120(5) |

¹4-X,1-Y,3-Z; ²4-X,1-Y,4-Z; ³4-X,3/2-Y,-1/2+Z;
⁴4-X,3/2-Y,1/2+Z

Crystallographic information for [mepy][BiI₄]

Table A4, Fractional Atomic Coordinates ($\times 10^4$) and Equivalent Isotropic Displacement Parameters ($\text{\AA}^2 \times 10^3$) for [mepy][BiI₄]. U_{eq} is defined as 1/3 of the trace of the orthogonalised U_{ij} .

| Atom | x | y | z | U_{eq} |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Bi1 | 2494.0(6) | 4100.8(3) | 5094.0(3) | 10.74(10) |
| I1 | 4115.6(9) | 2786.6(5) | 6557.2(5) | 15.60(17) |
| I2 | -597.8(9) | 4340.5(4) | 6471.4(5) | 14.22(16) |
| I3 | 896.4(9) | 2551.0(5) | 3907.8(5) | 16.30(16) |
| I4 | 5633.0(8) | 4099.2(5) | 3726.0(5) | 13.81(16) |
| N1 | 7953(11) | 1068(6) | 5658(7) | 17(2) |
| C1 | 7999(14) | 126(7) | 5554(8) | 20(3) |
| C2 | 7264(15) | -287(8) | 4714(9) | 25(3) |
| C3 | 6529(16) | 272(8) | 3954(9) | 29(3) |
| C4 | 6493(15) | 1242(9) | 4071(9) | 27(3) |
| C5 | 7206(12) | 1637(7) | 4956(8) | 14(2) |
| C6 | 8855(14) | 1510(7) | 6568(8) | 19(2) |

Table A5: Bond Lengths in \AA for [mepy][BiI₄]

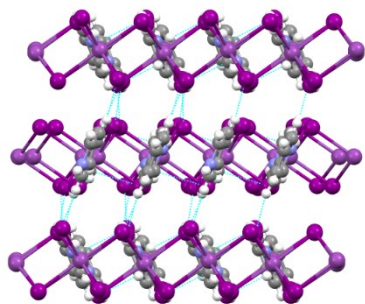
| Atom | Atom | Length/ \AA |
|------|------------------|----------------------|
| Bi1 | I1 | 2.9098(8) |
| Bi1 | I2 | 3.1027(9) |
| Bi1 | I2 ¹ | 3.3029(7) |
| Bi1 | I3 | 2.9195(8) |
| Bi1 | I4 | 3.1063(8) |
| Bi1 | I4 ² | 3.2699(7) |
| I2 | Bi1 ¹ | 3.3029(7) |

| | | |
|----|------------------|-----------|
| I4 | Bi1 ² | 3.2699(7) |
| N1 | C1 | 1.330(12) |
| N1 | C5 | 1.332(13) |
| N1 | C6 | 1.494(13) |
| C1 | C2 | 1.352(15) |
| C2 | C3 | 1.374(17) |
| C3 | C4 | 1.372(17) |
| C4 | C5 | 1.382(15) |

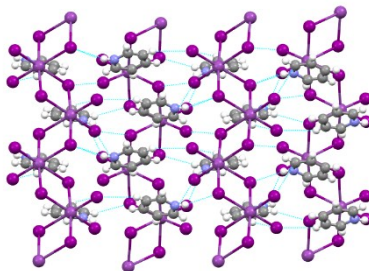
Table A6: Bond Angles in $^\circ$ for [mepy][BiI₄].

| Atom | Atom | Atom | Angle/ $^\circ$ |
|------|------|-----------------|-----------------|
| I1 | Bi1 | I2 | 90.07(2) |
| I1 | Bi1 | I2 ¹ | 177.14(2) |
| I1 | Bi1 | I3 | 92.31(2) |
| I1 | Bi1 | I4 | 93.43(2) |
| I1 | Bi1 | I4 ² | 90.44(2) |
| I2 | Bi1 | I2 ¹ | 87.79(2) |
| I2 | Bi1 | I4 ² | 88.60(2) |
| I2 | Bi1 | I4 | 173.79(2) |
| I3 | Bi1 | I2 | 94.30(2) |
| I3 | Bi1 | I2 ¹ | 89.74(2) |
| I3 | Bi1 | I4 ² | 176.00(2) |
| I3 | Bi1 | I4 | 90.69(2) |

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----|------------------|------------|
| I4 ² | Bi1 | I2 ¹ | 87.620(19) |
| I4 | Bi1 | I2 ¹ | 88.54(2) |
| I4 | Bi1 | I4 ² | 86.25(2) |
| Bi1 | I2 | Bi1 ¹ | 92.21(2) |
| Bi1 | I4 | Bi1 ² | 93.75(2) |
| C1 | N1 | C5 | 122.5(9) |
| C1 | N1 | C6 | 118.8(9) |
| C5 | N1 | C6 | 118.6(8) |
| N1 | C1 | C2 | 120.0(10) |
| C1 | C2 | C3 | 119.6(10) |
| C4 | C3 | C2 | 119.7(11) |
| C3 | C4 | C5 | 118.9(11) |
| N1 | C5 | C4 | 119.2(10) |



a. Short contacts looking into **b** axis



b. ξ c. Short contacts looking into **c** axis

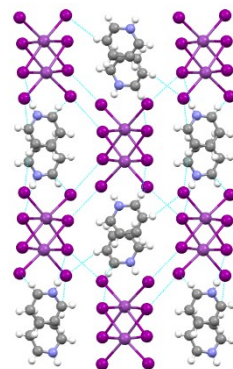
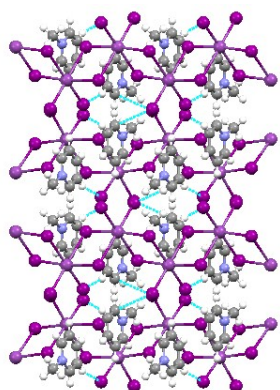
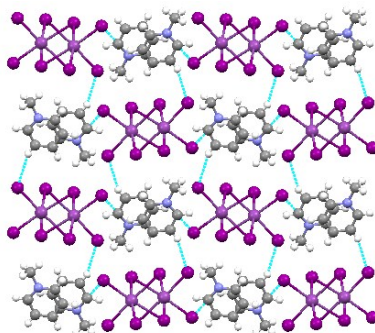


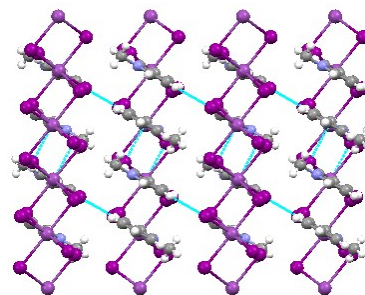
Figure S1. Short contacts of **[py][BiI₄]** (shown in cyan dashed line) looking into different directions



a. Short contacts looking along **c** axis



b. Short contacts looking along **a** axis



c. Short contacts looking along **b** axis

Figure S2. Short contacts of **[mepy][BiI₄]** (shown in cyan dashed line) looking into different directions

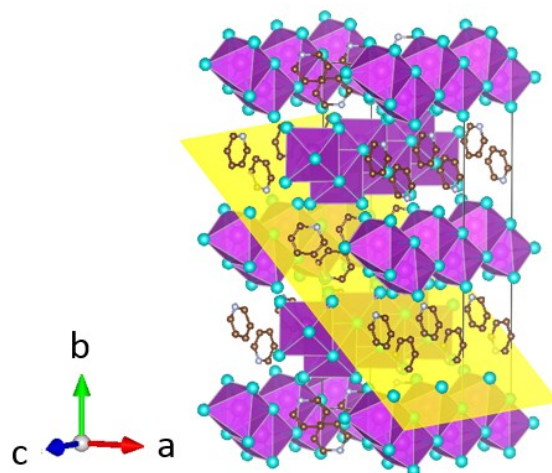


Figure S3. Strong preferred orientation on (1 2 0) plane for [py][BiI₄]

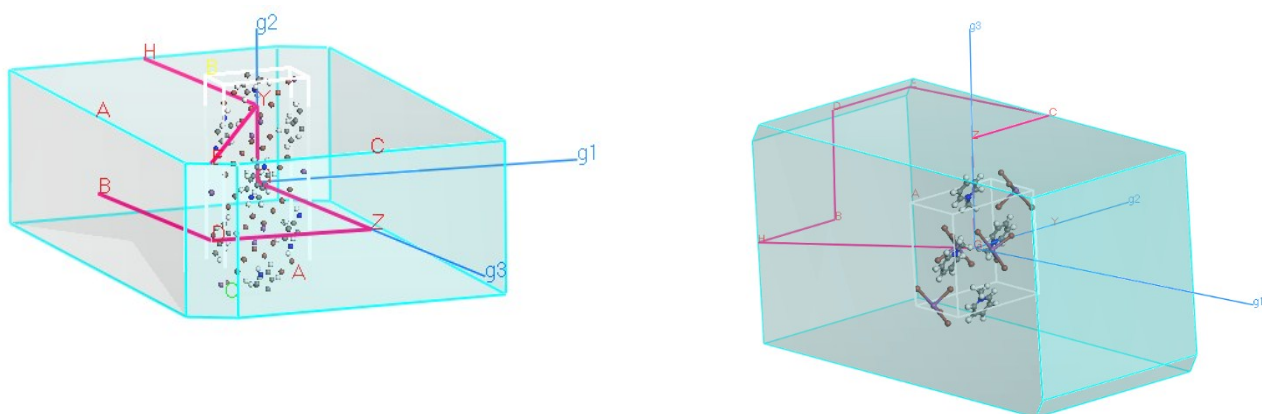


Figure S4. K-point path on the first Brillouin zone for [py][BiI₄] (left) and [mepy][BiI₄] (right)

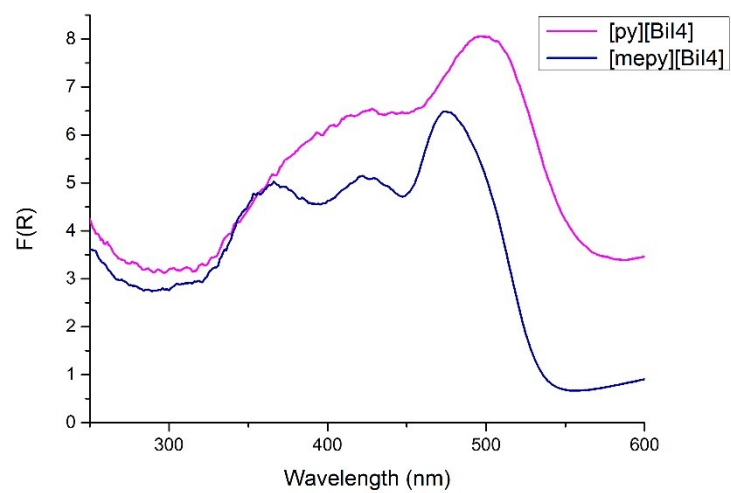


Figure S5. Kubelka-Munk function plots from diffuse reflectance measurements for compounds spin-coated on glass slides

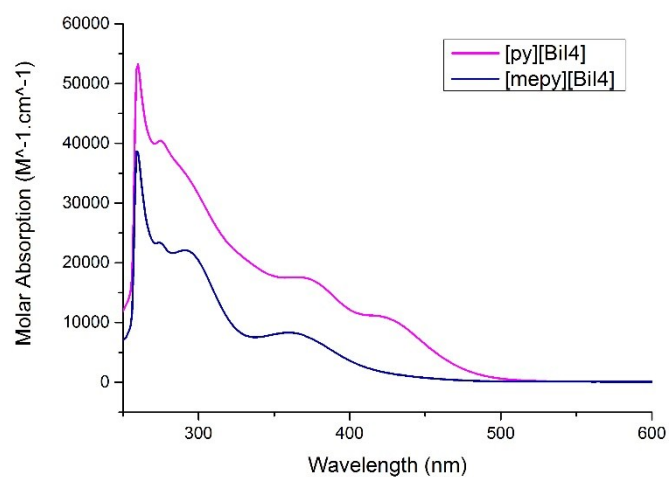


Figure S6. Solution-state UV-Vis absorption spectra for compounds dissolved in DMF

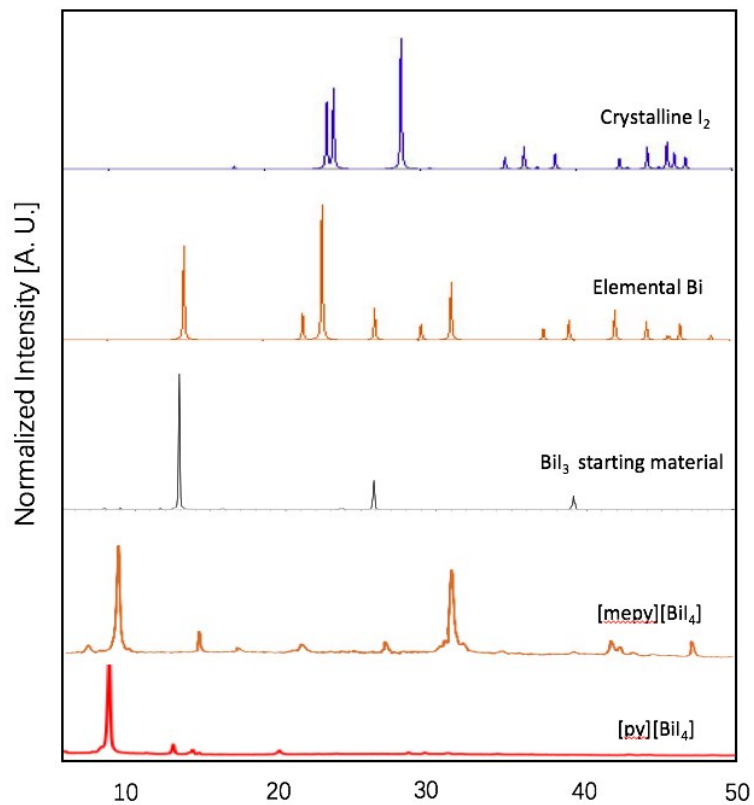


Figure S7. XRD patterns of $[\text{py}][\text{BiI}_4]$, $[\text{mepy}][\text{BiI}_4]$, BiI_3 starting materials, elemental Bi and crystalline I_2

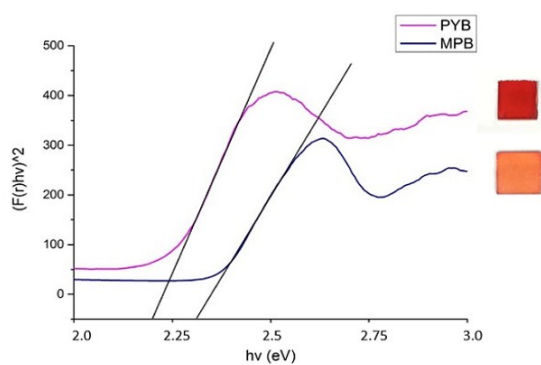


Figure S8. Tauc plots and bandgap value estimations of thin-film samples. Measured bandgap for $[\text{py}][\text{BiI}_4]$ and $[\text{mepy}][\text{BiI}_4]$ are 2.19 eV and 2.30 eV, respectively. Coloured squares on the right are cropped photos of the two compounds to illustrate their appearance.

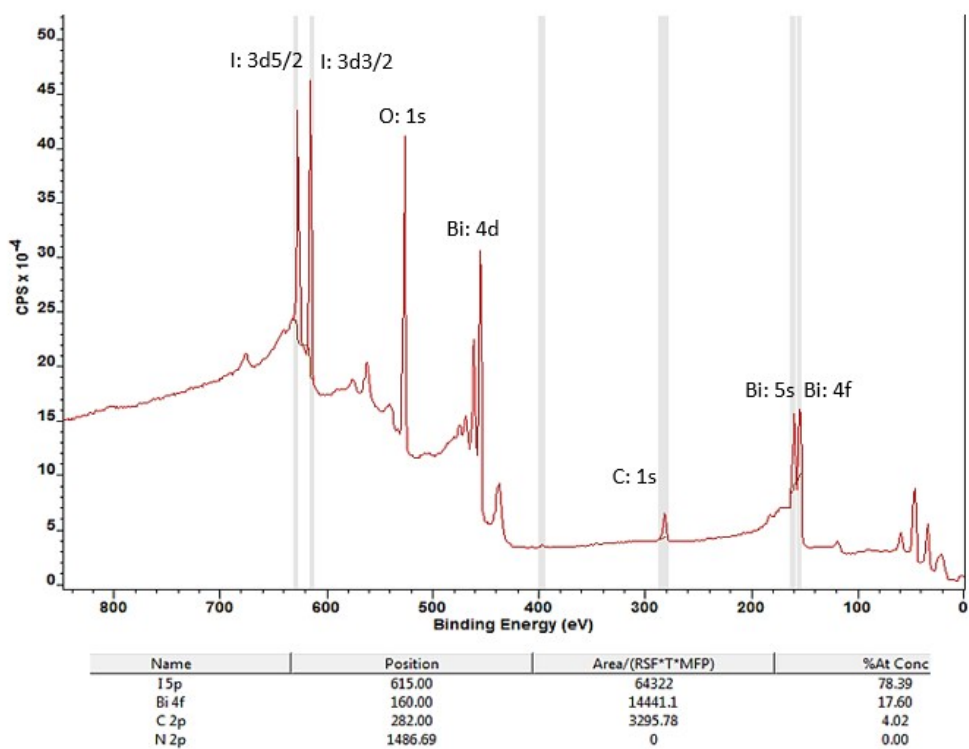


Figure S9. XPS survey spectrum and elemental composition for [py][Bi₄] thin film.

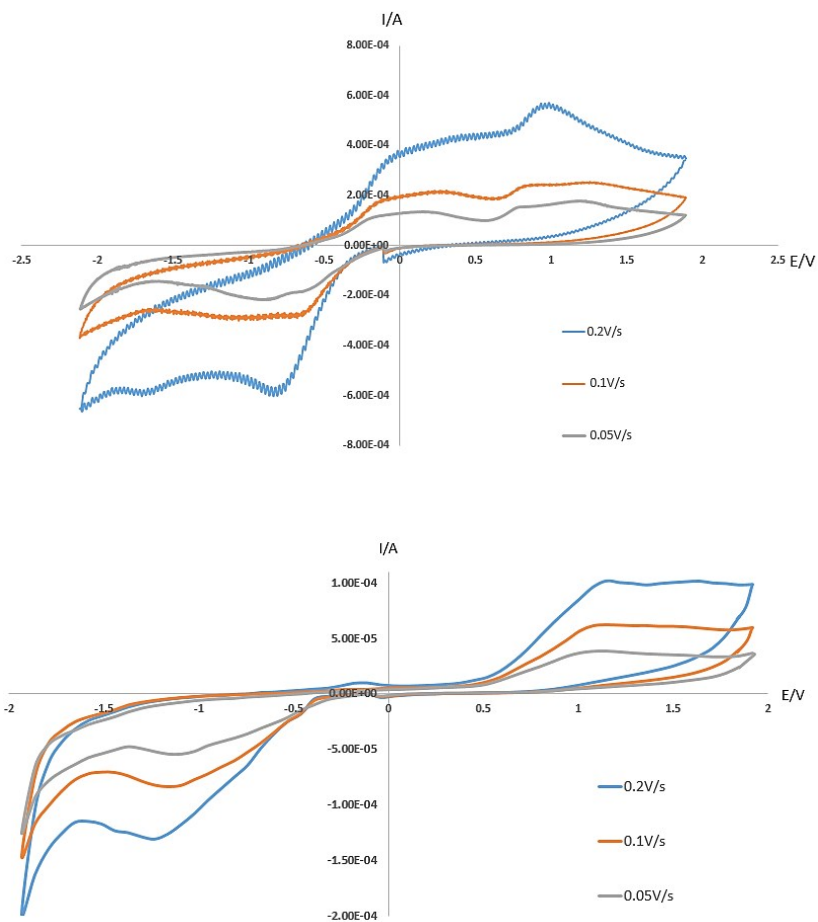


Figure S10. Cyclic voltammetry obtained from spin-coated thin films on conducting glasses of [py][BiI₄] (top) and [mepy][BiI₄] (bottom) at different scan rates.

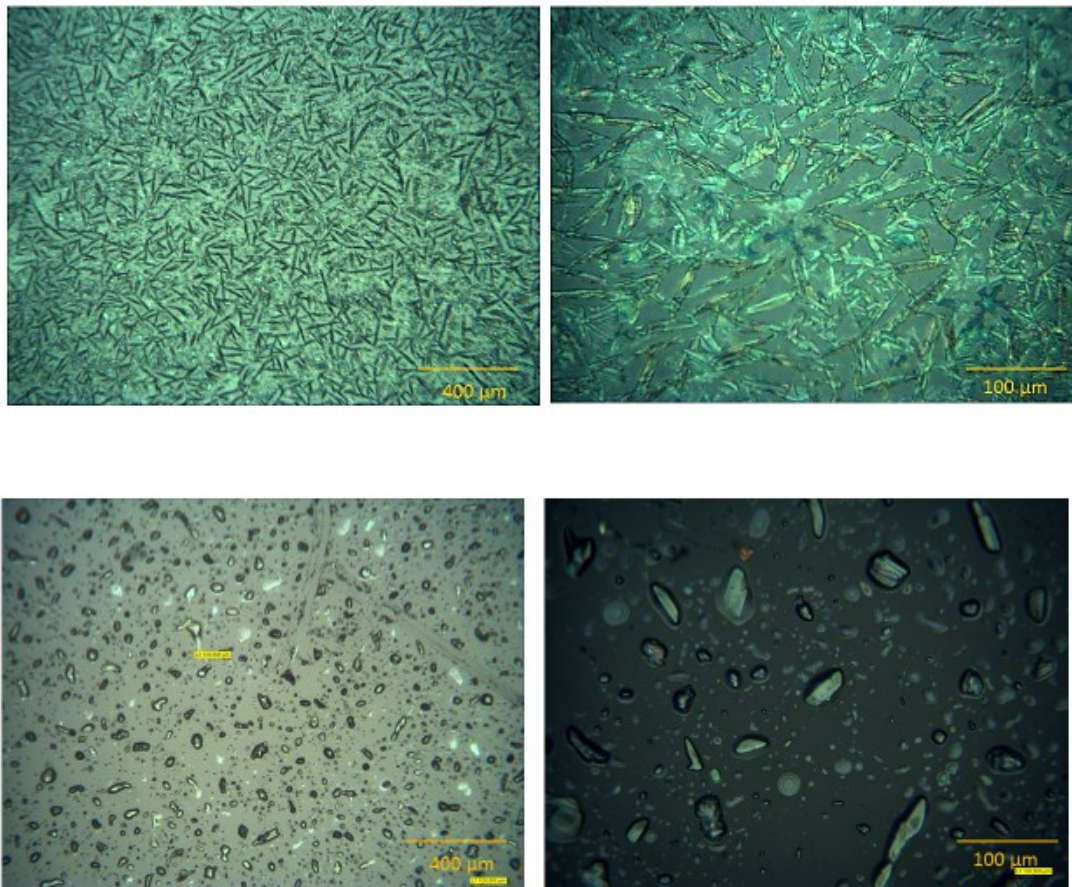


Figure S11. Microscopic images of [py][BiI₄] (top) and [mepy][BiI₄] (bottom) on blocking layer of TiO₂, with 100 times (left) and 400 times (right) magnifications.

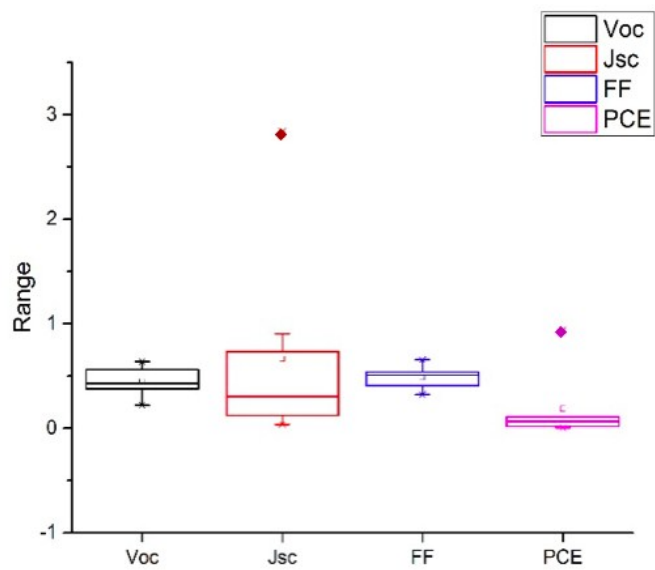


Figure S12. Box diagram of [py][BiI₄] solar cell parameters

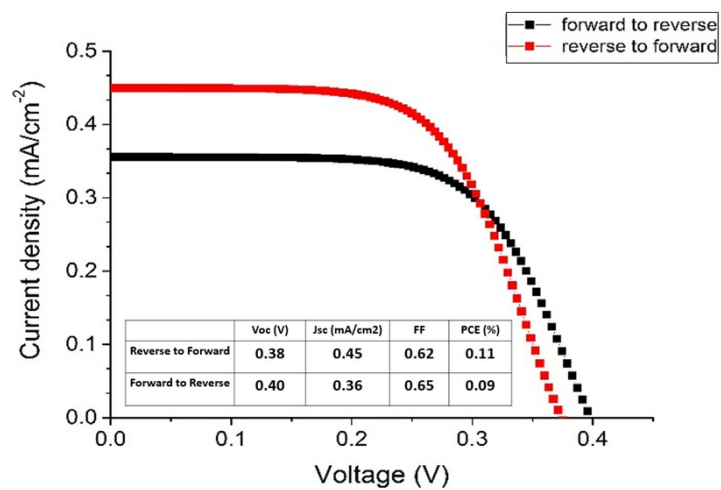


Figure S13. J-V curve of an [py][BiI₄] solar cell

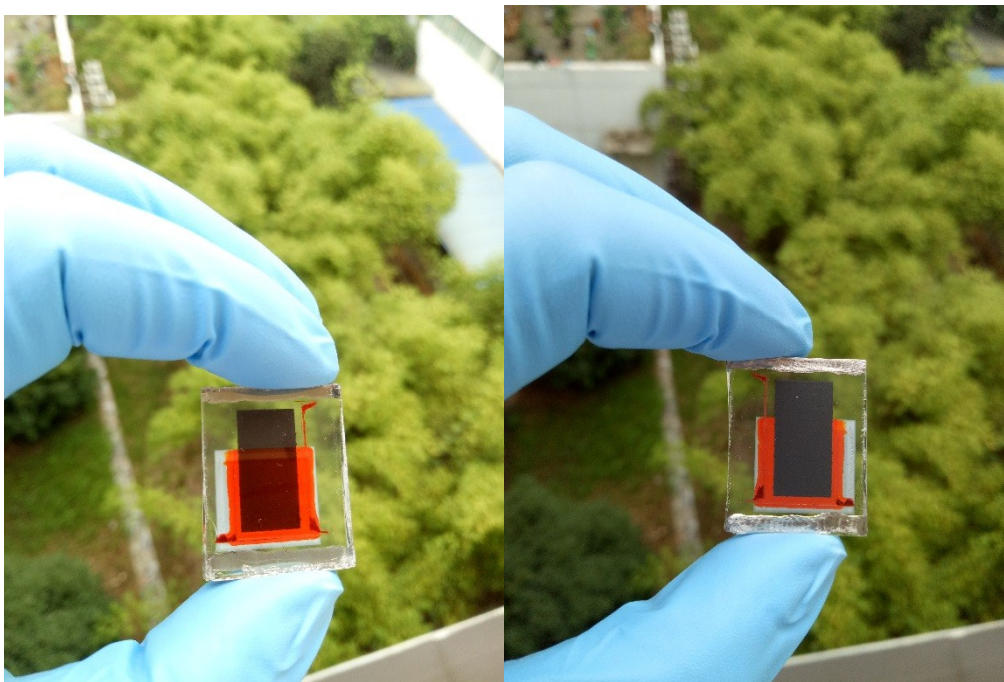


Figure S14. Solar cell devices made of $[\text{py}][\text{BiI}_4]$. (Left: bottom; right: top)