## **Electronic supplementary information**

## **Optimization of a Compact Layer of TiO<sub>2</sub> via Atomic-layer Deposition for High-performance Perovskite Solar Cells**

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**Figure S1.** Schematic diagram of the preparation of our PSC layer by layer with configuration glass/FTO/ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub>/*m*-TiO<sub>2</sub>/MAPbI<sub>3</sub>/spiro-OMeTAD/Ag



**Figure S2.** Top-view images of SEM of the ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub> film with the thickness of 50 nm (a), 100 nm (b), 200 nm (c), 400 nm (d) on the FTO substrate, respectively. 3-nm-thick Au was sputtered on the TiO<sub>2</sub> film for the SEM measurement.



**Figure S3.** (a) Model for the calculation of the FDTD numerical simulations. (b) 1-T-R spectrum obtained by FDTD numerical simulation. The FDTD simulation was performed with the Lumerical FDTD solution software package on a discrete, non-uniformly spaced mesh with a maximum resolution 2.0 nm. The TiO<sub>2</sub> substrate was assumed to behave as a dielectric with a refractive index n = 2.5. In the simulation, a linear polarized plane wave was irradiated onto the structures from TiO<sub>2</sub> at a normal incidence angle; the surface roughness of TiO<sub>2</sub> at the interface of TiO<sub>2</sub> and PSK was varied from 0 to 40 nm as a root-mean-square roughness ( $R_{rms}$ ). The optical properties of the PSK were obtained with the data from L. J. Phillips et al. [\*]

[\*] L. J. Phillips, et. al., Dispersion relation data for methylammonium lead triiodide perovskite deposited on a (100) silicon wafer using a two-step vapour-phase reaction process, *Data in Brief*, **5**, 926-928 (2015).



**Figure S4.** (a) XRD of ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub> on FTO (black line), MAPbI<sub>3</sub> on FTO (red) and FTO/ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub>/MAPbI<sub>3</sub> (blue). FESEM of (b) Bare FTO. (c) ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub> 200 nm on FTO. (d) FESEM of FTO/ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub> 200 nm/MAPbI<sub>3</sub>. (e) AFM of FTO/ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub> 200 nm/MAPbI<sub>3</sub>. The asterisks in the figure refer to the planes of TiO<sub>2</sub> in all samples. The magnification is x50000; the scale bar is 1  $\mu$ m for all SEM figures. The magnification is ×12500 and the scale bar is 1  $\mu$ m for all AFM figures.



**Figure S5.** (a) X-ray photoelectron spectra of wide-scan of ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub>, MAPbI<sub>3</sub> and MAPbI<sub>3</sub> on ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub>, respectively. Narrow-range X-ray photoelectron spectra of (b) Ti  $2p_{1/2}$  and Ti  $2p_{3/2}$ , and (c) O 1s for TiO<sub>2</sub>. Narrow-range X-ray photoelectron spectra of (d) Pb 4f and (e) I 3d for MAPbI<sub>3</sub> and MAPbI<sub>3</sub> on ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S6.** Histograms of  $J_{sc}$ ,  $V_{oc}$  and FF distribution (a, b and c), respectively, of ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub> as HBL with thickness 10, 50, 100, 200, 300 and 400 nm, respectively.

# of cells	J <sub>sc</sub> /mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	Voc /V	FF /%	<b>PCE /%</b>
1	17.04	0.99	0.533	9.03
2	17.22	1.00	0.534	9.19
3	17.16	1.00	0.534	9.16
4	17.16	1.00	0.536	9.20
5	17.21	1.00	0.538	9.28
6	17.22	1.00	0.539	9.29
7	17.23	1.00	0.542	9.33
8	17.29	1.00	0.541	9.39
9	17.19	1.00	0.539	9.29
10	17.34	1.00	0.543	9.46
11	17.37	1.00	0.543	9.42
12	17.32	1.00	0.544	9.41
13	17.39	1.01	0.544	9.55
14	17.38	1.00	0.545	9.42
15	17.32	1.00	0.545	9.46
average	17.25±0.1	1.00±0.003	0.54±0.004	9.33±0.14

**Table S1.** Photovoltaic parameters of fifteen PSC devices made of ALD-TiO2 10 nm as HBL undersimulated AM-1.5G illumination (power density 100 mW cm<sup>-2</sup>) with active area 0.09 cm<sup>2</sup>

# of cells	J <sub>sc</sub> /mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	Voc /V	FF /%	<b>PCE /%</b>
1	17.74	1.00	0.549	9.74
2	17.80	0.99	0.546	9.64
3	17.86	1.00	0.544	9.67
4	16.06	1.01	0.608	9.86
5	15.59	0.99	0.593	9.14
6	15.96	1.00	0.591	9.40
7	18.89	0.99	0.542	10.17
8	19.20	1.00	0.512	9.79
9	18.53	1.00	0.564	10.45
10	17.52	1.01	0.565	9.97
11	16.61	1.00	0.580	9.60
12	15.91	0.99	0.589	9.30
13	18.53	1.00	0.538	9.94
14	18.65	0.99	0.535	9.87
15	18.67	1.01	0.523	9.86
average	17.56±1.23	0.99±0.01	0.559±0.03	9.76±0.33

**Table S2.** Photovoltaic parameters of fifteen PSC devices made of ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub> 50 nm as HBL under simulated AM-1.5G illumination (power density 100 mW cm<sup>-2</sup>) with active area 0.09 cm<sup>2</sup>

# of cells	$J_{\rm sc}$ /mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	Voc /V	FF /%	<b>PCE /%</b>
1	17.18	1.01	0.733	12.73
2	17.25	1.01	0.734	12.80
3	17.11	1.00	0.703	12.15
4	17.17	1.01	0.732	12.71
5	17.23	1.01	0.734	12.79
6	17.21	1.01	0.733	12.75
7	17.28	1.01	0.733	12.81
8	17.28	1.01	0.735	12.83
9	17.24	1.01	0.734	12.78
10	17.30	1.01	0.734	12.85
11	17.34	1.01	0.735	12.90
12	17.35	1.01	0.734	12.88
13	17.41	1.01	0.736	12.97
14	17.39	1.01	0.736	12.96
15	17.37	1.01	0.735	12.93
average	17.27±0.09	1.01±0.003	0.732±0.008	12.78±0.19

**Table S3.** Photovoltaic parameters of fifteen PSC devices made of ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub> 100 nm as HBL under simulated AM-1.5G illumination (power density 100 mW cm<sup>-2</sup>) with active area 0.09 cm<sup>2</sup>

# of cells	J <sub>sc</sub> /mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	Voc /V	FF /%	<b>PCE /%</b>
1	20.55	1.05	0.669	14.51
2	20.67	1.02	0.689	14.66
3	20.67	1.02	0.701	14.75
4	20.77	1.02	0.707	15.03
5	21.08	0.98	0.675	13.88
6	20.76	1.02	0.695	14.75
7	20.99	1.01	0.652	13.86
8	21.39	0.98	0.665	13.99
9	21.35	0.99	0.660	13.90
10	21.29	1.02	0.644	13.95
11	21.49	1.01	0.645	14.04
12	21.27	1.03	0.637	13.93
13	21.79	1.03	0.665	14.97
14	21.20	1.02	0.687	14.77
15	20.75	1.01	0.698	14.56
average	21.05±0.37	1.01±0.02	0.673±0.02	14.37±0.44

**Table S4.** Photovoltaic parameters of fifteen PSC devices made of ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub> 200 nm as HBL under simulated AM-1.5G illumination (power density 100 mW cm<sup>-2</sup>) with active area 0.09 cm<sup>2</sup>

# of cells	J <sub>sc</sub> /mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	Voc /V	FF /%	<b>PCE /%</b>
1	11.78	1.04	0.576	7.07
2	11.42	1.03	0.695	8.18
3	11.08	1.03	0.685	7.80
4	10.95	1.03	0.674	7.57
5	10.96	1.03	0.686	7.71
6	11.05	1.03	0.670	7.62
7	10.94	1.03	0.674	7.56
8	10.98	1.02	0.687	7.73
9	11.02	1.02	0.685	7.72
10	11.09	1.02	0.672	7.61
11	11.21	1.02	0.683	7.83
12	11.19	1.02	0.675	7.70
13	11.07	1.02	0.672	7.60
14	11.09	1.02	0.689	7.81
15	11.02	1.02	0.685	7.72
average	11.12±0.22	1.03±0.01	0.674±0.03	7.68±0.23

**Table S5.** Photovoltaic parameters of fifteen PSC devices made of ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub> 300 nm as HBL under simulated AM-1.5G illumination (power density 100 mW cm<sup>-2</sup>) with active area 0.09 cm<sup>2</sup>.

# of cells	J <sub>sc</sub> /mA cm <sup>-2</sup>	Voc /V	FF /%	<b>PCE /%</b>
1	9.62	1.01	0.494	4.80
2	9.69	1.02	0.485	4.79
3	9.72	1.02	0.481	4.77
4	9.59	1.02	0.491	4.80
5	9.44	1.02	0.493	4.75
6	9.44	1.02	0.494	4.76
7	9.26	1.01	0.499	4.67
8	9.16	1.01	0.499	4.62
9	9.17	1.01	0.503	4.66
10	9.93	1.02	0.518	5.25
11	9.99	1.01	0.504	5.08
12	9.89	1.00	0.505	4.99
13	9.98	1.01	0.474	4.78
14	9.92	1.00	0.473	4.69
15	9.87	1.01	0.481	4.79
average	9.46±0.29	$1.01 \pm 0.01$	0.493±0.01	4.81±0.17

**Table S6.** Photovoltaic parameters of fifteen PSC devices made of ALD-TiO<sub>2</sub> 400 nm as HBL under simulated AM-1.5G illumination (power density 100 mW cm<sup>-2</sup>) with active area 0.09 cm<sup>2</sup>