

## Supporting Information

### Engineered Current Path of Vertical Organic Phototransistors for Smart Optoelectronic Applications

Hye-Min An,<sup>a</sup> Hyowon Jang,<sup>b</sup> Hyeok Kim,<sup>b</sup> Sin-Doo Lee,<sup>c</sup> Sin-Hyung Lee<sup>\*d</sup> and Hea-Lim  
Park<sup>\*a</sup>

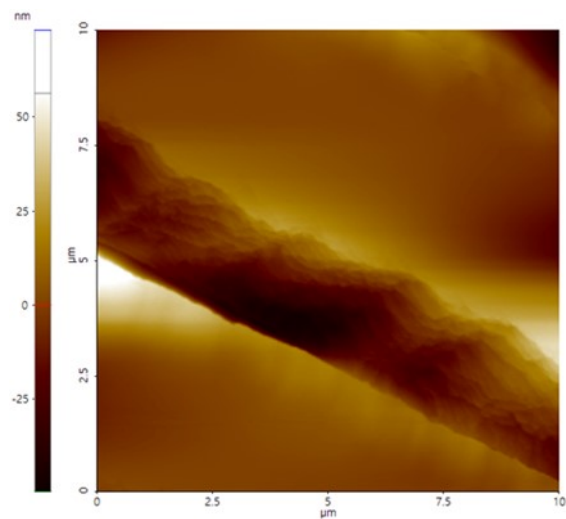
<sup>a</sup> Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Seoul National University of Science and Technology, Seoul 01811, Republic of Korea

<sup>b</sup> School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Center for Smart Sensor System of Seoul(CS4), University of Seoul, 163 Seoulsiripdaero, Dongdaemun-gu, Seoul 02504, Republic of Korea

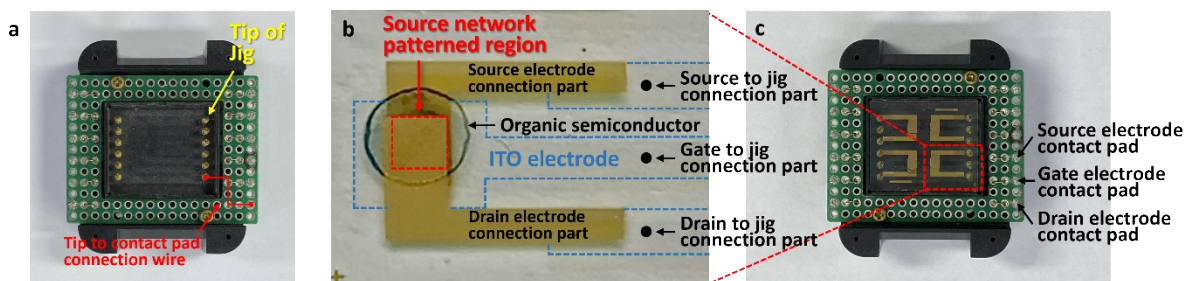
<sup>c</sup> School of Electrical Engineering, Seoul National University, Kwanak-gu, Seoul 151-600, Republic of Korea

<sup>d</sup> School of Electronics Engineering, Kyungpook National University, 80 Daehak-ro, Buk-gu, Daegu, 702-701, Republic of Korea

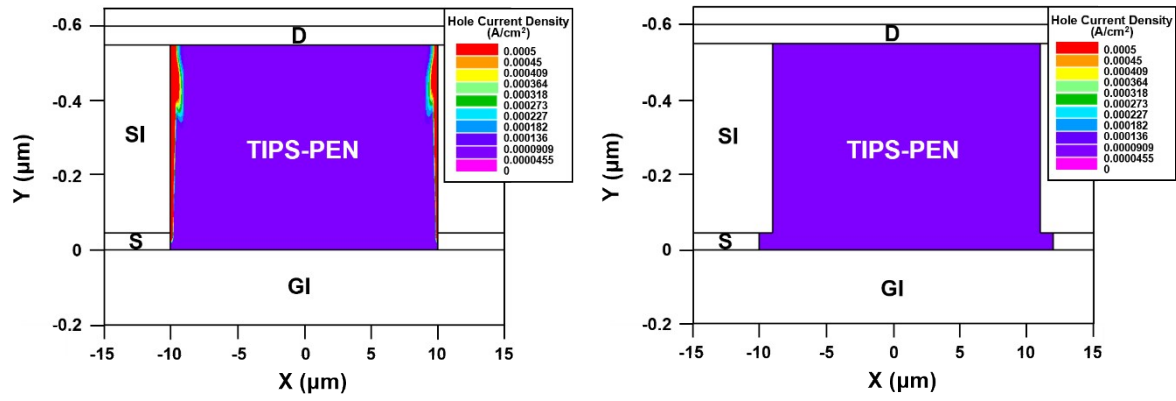
E-mail: [sinhlee@knu.ac.kr](mailto:sinhlee@knu.ac.kr) (S.-H. Lee); [parkhl21@seoultech.ac.kr](mailto:parkhl21@seoultech.ac.kr) (H.-L. Park)



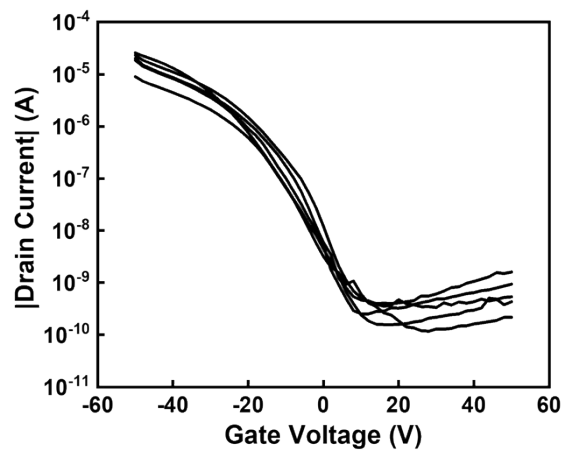
**Fig. S1** AFM image of the TIPS-PEN surface used as the organic semiconducting layer.



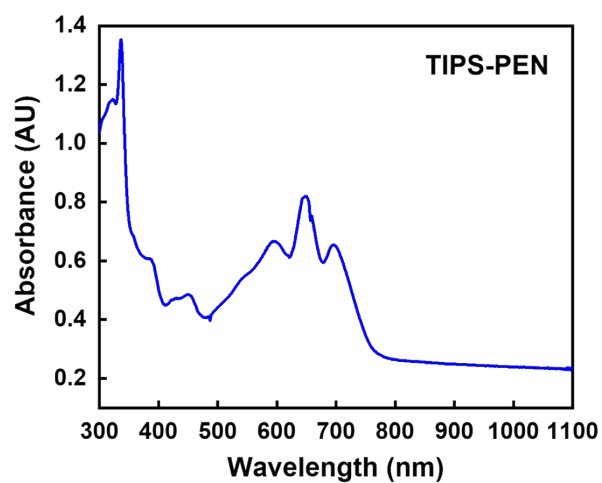
**Fig. S2** Optical images of (a) a jig used for electrode connection with probe tips, (b) actual device, and (c) connected state of (a) and (b).



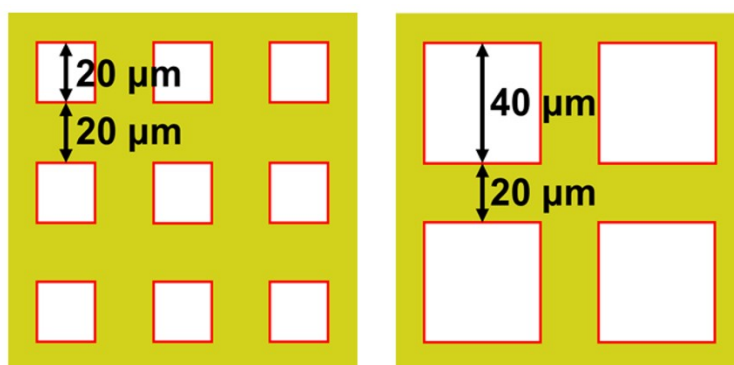
**Fig. S3** Simulation results of the current-density distributions at off state ( $V_D = -10$  V and  $V_G = 50$  V) of the (left) typical VOPT at  $t_e = 2.5$  s and (right) optimized device at  $t_e = 20$  s.



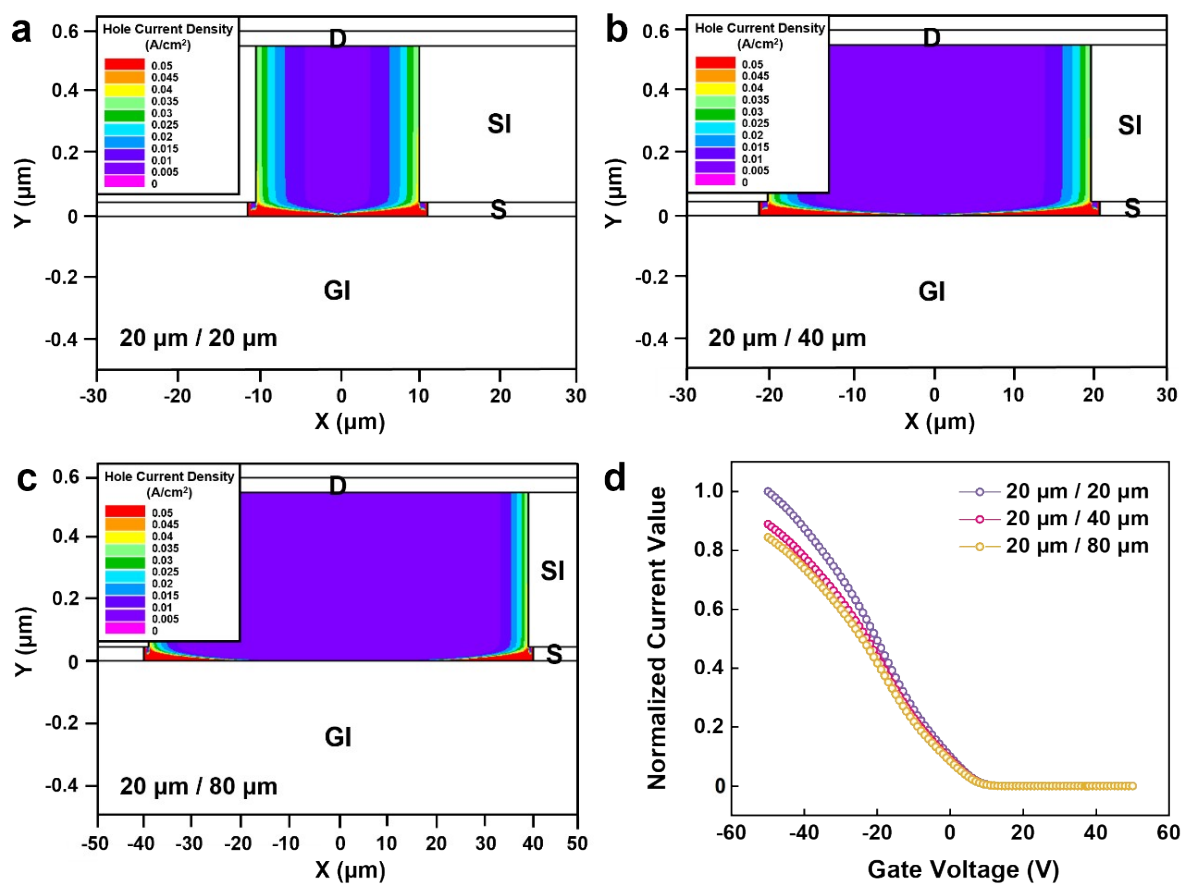
**Fig. S4** Transfer curves of the optimized devices (five cells).



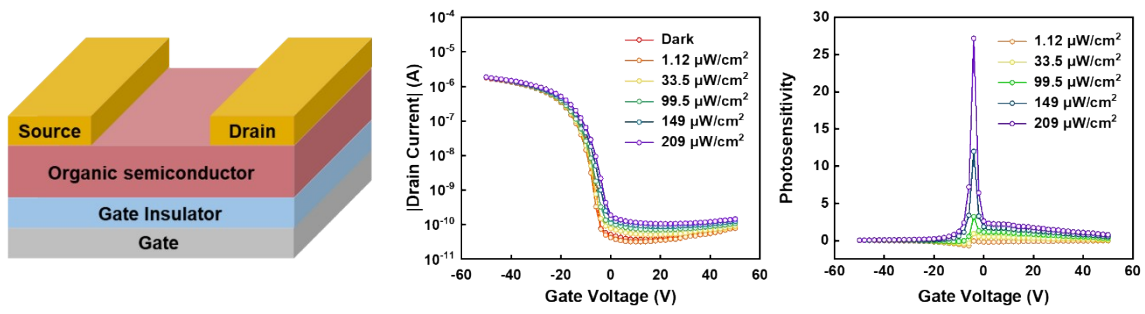
**Fig. S5** Absorption spectrum of TIPS-PEN.



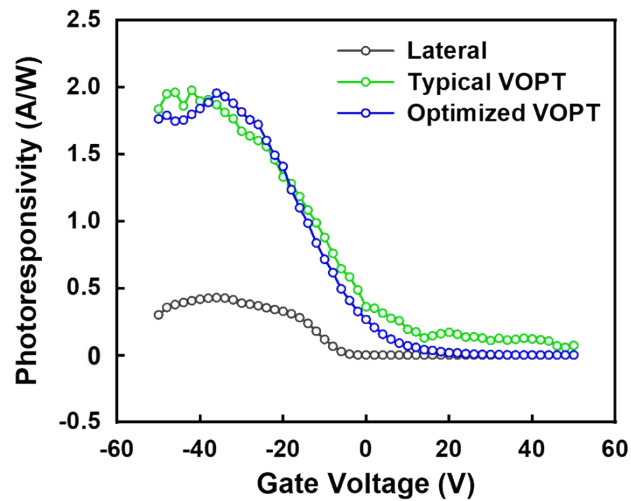
**Fig. S6** Schematics of the network source electrodes of VOPTs with aperture sizes of (left) 20 and (right) 40  $\mu\text{m}$ .



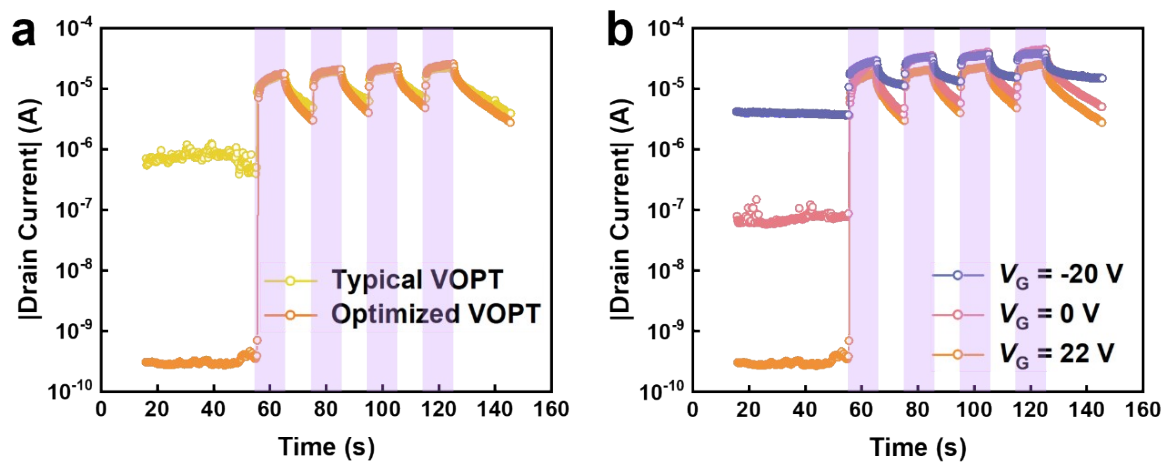
**Fig. S7** Simulation results of the current-density distributions at on state ( $V_D = -10$  V and  $V_G = 50$  V) of VOPTs with different aperture sizes of (a) 20  $\mu m$ , (b) 40  $\mu m$ , and (c) 80  $\mu m$ . (d) Normalized current value extracted from the simulation results of (a)–(c).



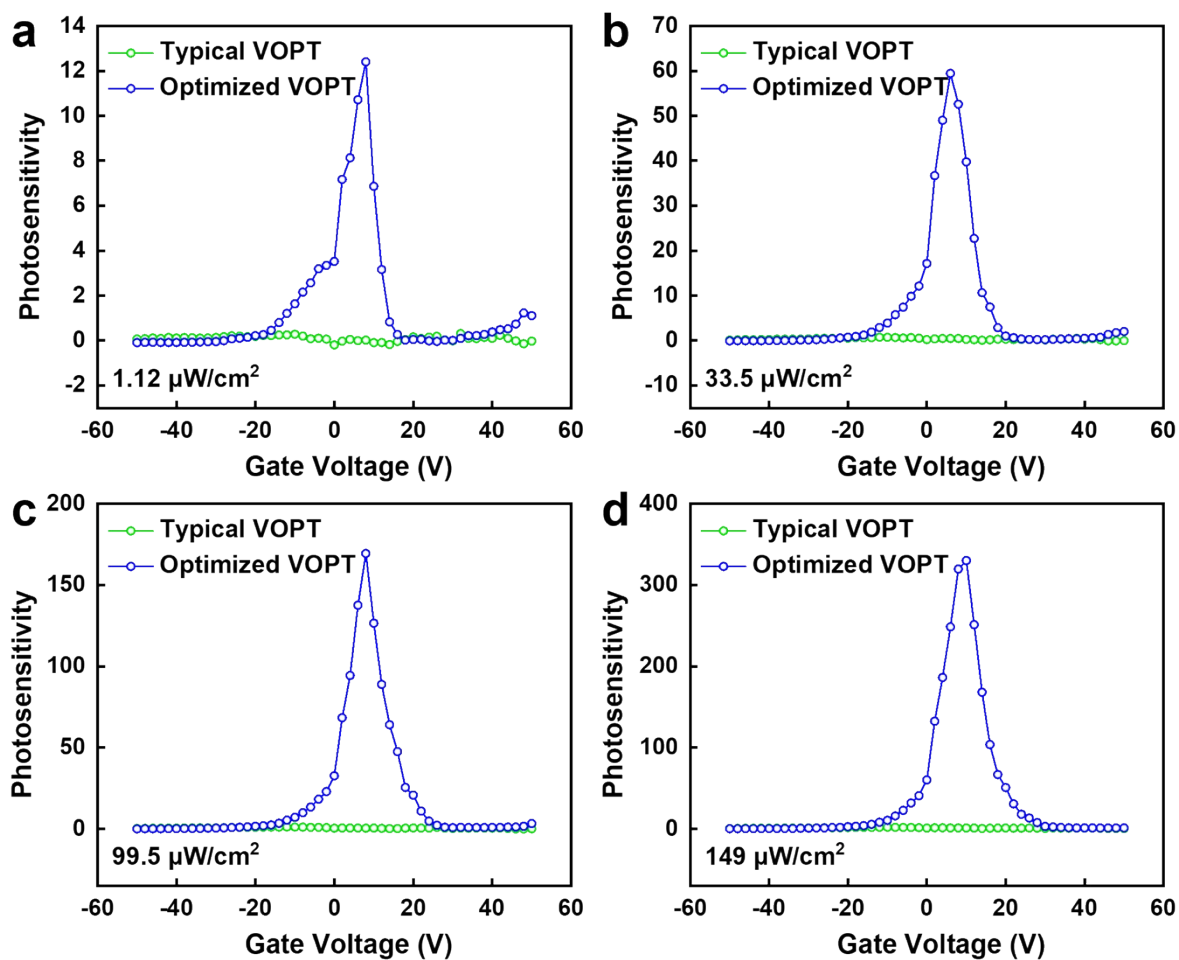
**Fig. S8** (a) Schematic diagram of lateral-type OPT. (b) Static photoresponse of the lateral-type OPT under dark and illumination with various light intensities. (c) Photosensitivity values extracted from (b).



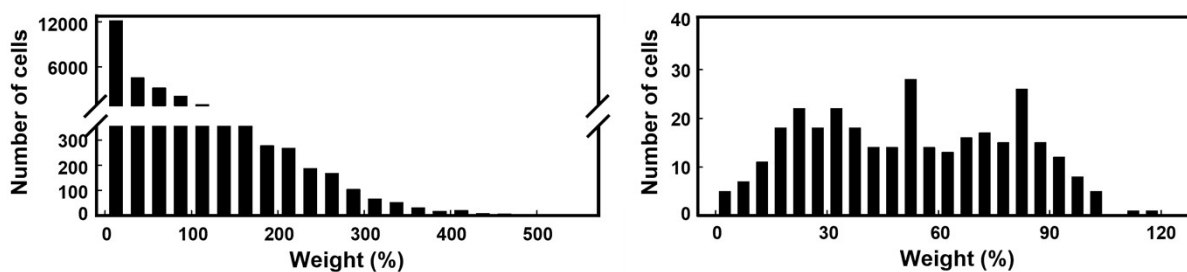
**Fig. S9** Comparison of the photoresponsivities of the lateral-type OPT, vertical-type VOPT at  $t_c = 2.5$  s (typical VOPT) and 20 s (our optimized VOPT) under a light intensity of  $209 \mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$ .



**Fig. S10** Dynamic photoresponse of (a) the typical device ( $t_e = 2.5$  s) and optimized device ( $t_e = 20$  s) and (b) with gate voltages of  $-20$ ,  $0$ , and  $22$  V when multiple UV lights are applied.



**Fig. S11** Photosensitivity of the VOPTs at  $t_e = 2.5$  s (typical VOPT) and 20 s (our VOPT) at light intensities of (a)  $1.12 \mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$ , (b)  $33.5 \mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$ , (c)  $99.5 \mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$ , and (d)  $149 \mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$ .



**Fig. S12** Distributions of channel conductance calculated in the ideal systems.



Presence of CBL	CBL/Source pattern formation method	$I_{ON}/I_{OFF}$ (Under dark)	Photosensitivity (Max)	Minimum light intensity ( $\mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^2$ )	Application	Ref.
O	Electro-beam evaporation/ Electro-beam evaporation	$\sim 10^2$	$\sim 0.2$	$10^5$	—	1
O	Laser ablation/ Thermal evaporation	$\sim 10^3$	$\sim 4.5$	50	—	2
O	Anodization/ Thermal evaporation	$\sim 10^3$	—	—	—	3
O	Thermal evaporation/ Thermal evaporation	$5.5 \times 10^5$	—	—	—	4
O	Photolithography/ Photolithography	$\sim 10^3$	—	—	—	5
O	Magnetron sputtering deposition/ Thermal evaporation	$\sim 10^6$	—	—	—	6
O	Photolithography/ Photolithography	$\sim 10^6$	—	—	—	7
O	Evaporation/ Evaporation	$\sim 10^5$	—	—	—	8
X	—/Evaporation	$1.8 \times 10^5$	$\sim 10^4$	50	Photo sensor	9
X	—/Spin-coating (nanowires)	$\sim 10^5$	$\sim 10^5$	20	Photo sensor	10
X	—/Photolithography	$\sim 5 \times 10^2$	$\sim 5 \times 10^2$	$\sim 0.57$	Photo sensor	11
X	—/Spin-coating (nanowires)	$\sim 10^3$	$\sim 10^2$	5	Photo sensor	12
X	—/—	$\sim 5 \times 10^2$	$\sim 10$	$\sim 0.15$	Image sensor	13
O	Photolithography / Photolithography	$\sim 10^5$	$2.86 \times 10^4$	1.12	Photo sensor, photonic computing	Our device

**Table S1** Summary of the characteristics of VOPTs (presence of CBL, CBL/source pattern formation method,  $I_{ON}/I_{OFF}$ , photosensitivity, minimum light intensity, and application.)

## References

- [1] A. Nawaz, L. Merces, D. M. de Andrade, D. H. S. de Camargo and C. C. Bof Bufon, *Nat. Commun.*, 2020, **11**, 841.
- [2] Z. Zhou, X. Cui, H. Zhu, C. Gu, Q. Dai, Y. Peng, S. Xu, L. Sun, W. Lv and D. Wang, *Org. Electron.*, 2022, **102**, 106437.
- [3] K. G. Lim, E. Guo, A. Fischer, Q. Miao, K. Leo and H. Kleemann, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2020, **30**, 2001703.
- [4] H. Kwon, M. Kim, H. Cho, H. Moon, J. Lee and S. Yoo, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2016, **26**, 6888–6895.
- [5] X. J. She, D. Gustafsson and H. Sirringhaus, *Adv. Mater.*, 2017, **29**, 1604769.
- [6] A. A. Günther, M. Sawatzki, P. Formánek, D. Kasemann and K. Leo, *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 2016, **26**, 768–775.
- [7] H. Kleemann, A. A. Günther, K. Leo and B. Lüssem, *Small*, 2013, **9**, 3670–3677.
- [8] D. Dahal, P. R. Paudel, V. Kaphle, R. K. Radha Krishnan and B. Lüssem, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces*, 2022, **14**, 7063–7072.
- [9] J. Liu, K. Zhou, J. Liu, J. Zhu, Y. Zhen, H. Dong and W. Hu, *Adv. Mater.*, 2018, **30**, 1803655.
- [10] J. Zhong, X. Wu, S. Lan, Y. Fang, H. Chen and T. Guo, *ACS Photonics*, 2018, **5**, 3712–3722.
- [11] Y. Yao, Q. Ou, K. Wang, H. Peng, F. Fang, Y. Shi, Y. Wang, D. I. Asperilla, Z. Shuai and P. Samorì, *Nat. Commun.*, 2021, **12**, 3667.
- [12] Y. Yan, Q. Chen, X. Wang, Y. Liu, R. Yu, C. Gao, H. Chen and T. Guo, *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces*, 2021, **13**, 7498–7509.
- [13] Y. Zhang, S. Qin, Q. Du, Y. Gan, J. Zhao, M. Li, X. Zheng, A. Wang, Y. Liu, S. Li, R. Dong, Z. Nie, C. Liu, W. Wang and F. Wang, *Adv. Electron. Mater.*, 2023, **9**, 2201097.