

Supplementary Information

High-Performance Optoelectronics Enabled by Solution-Based Sintering of Perovskite Nanocrystals

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Materials and Methods

Material used

Cs₂CO₃ (Alfa Aesar, 99%), PbBr₂ (Alfa Aesar, 99.998%), Octadecene (ODE, TCI, 90%), *N, N* Dimethylformamide (DMF, Fisher), Oleic acid (CH₃(CH₂)₇CH=CH(CH₂)₇COOH, 88%, Showa), Hexanoic acid (CH₃CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂COOH, Showa, 98.0%), Octylamine (CH₃CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂NH₂, Alfa Aesar, 99%), Dodecyl amine (CH₃CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂NH₂, Alfa Aesar, 97%), and Toluene (Mallinckrodt ultimar, 99.8%) were purchased and used without further purification.

Nanocube Synthesis

CsPbBr₃ nanocubes were synthesized following the recipe of Shibin Sun et al.¹ which uses a reprecipitation process at room temperature. Cesium oleate is initially prepared by mixing 0.814g of Cesium carbonate and 10mL octadecene, into which 2.5mL oleic acid was added and dried at 120°C, heated to 150°C under N₂ atmosphere. For nanocube synthesis, 0.1mmol PbBr₂ was added to 2mL DMF. 1.55mmol of Oleic acid and 0.0866mmol dodecylamine were added later. After complete solubilization of PbBr₂, the previously prepared Cs-oleate (0.1mL) is added. 0.05mL of this hybrid solution was added to 2mL of toluene. This solution was centrifuged at 4000 rpm for 15mins and then ethanol washed and desiccator dried.

Mechano-coalesced flake synthesis

The above synthesized nanocubes were dispersed in Toluene (desired solvent) depending on the required concentrations ranging from 0.5mM to 4.5mM. Mechano-coalescent, dropcasted,

and spin-coated^{2, 3} samples were prepared of similar solution concentrations. Different molar solutions of CsPbBr₃ perovskite nanocrystals (PNCs) dispersed in Toluene were spin-coated on different substrates (Si/SiO₂, Sapphire, FTO, and copper foil) at 3000rpm for 40s and baked at 60°C for 30 minutes.

For mechano-coalesced assembly, we used two different immiscible solvents (water and Toluene) that have different densities. Similarly, different substrates like glass, Si/SiO₂, sapphire, FTO, and copper foil were used to harvest the samples from the liquid-liquid interface. CsPbBr₃ nanocubes dispersed in Toluene were introduced into water at a rate of 100-330 µl/min. The mechanical force was provided through a rotator, which is in the range of 60-120rpm. Then, samples were harvested from the interface at different time intervals of rotation and were dried at 70 °C for 30-36 hours. We tried optimizing parameters by attempting with different concentrations of sample, different rpms, varied approach velocity, intermittently applying mechanical force, and avoiding chances of partial coalescence⁴ as these parameters can lead to thickness in the resultant flakes obtained. The thinnest and largest flakes were obtained at a dispense rate of 300µl/min, at 100rpm where the substrate is 6mins O₂ etched Si/SiO₂ and dried for 32 hours at 70 °C in ambient conditions.

Characterization

The Ultra-high-resolution field emission scanning electron microscope (SEM) and energy dispersed spectroscopy (EDS) data were collected using JEOL JSM-7800F PrimeSEM at an electron energy of 10kV. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) and SAED used 200kV field-

emission gun transmission electron microscope (FEI Tecnai G2 F20). Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) was carried out in a Horiba FT 720 spectrophotometer.

Optical micrographs were taken using Olympus BX53 with a CCD camera attached to it.

Photoluminescence (PL), and temperature-dependent photoluminescence (TDPL) was performed using a custom-built PL measurement system equipped with a 405nm laser. Time-resolved photoluminescence (TRPL) measurements were obtained using NANOBASE XPER RF Raman system (NBOS-220012).

Electrochemical measurements like Cyclic Voltammetry (CV) and Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS)²³ were performed using a three-electrode system in conjunction with a CHI 660E electrochemical workstation. A platinum wire with a diameter of 3mm was used as a counter electrode, while an Ag wire with a diameter of 0.5mm coated with AgCl served as a quasi-reference electrode. The working electrodes were mechano-coalesced PNCs on FTO substrate. 0.1M Tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (NBu_4PF_6) in Acetonitrile was used as supporting electrolyte. CV data were measured from -1.6 to 1.6 V with a scan rate of 50 mV/s. EIS spectra were collected using the same experimental setup at a perturbation voltage amplitude of 1 V, within the frequency range from 0.1 Hz to 1 MHz. The parameters were calculated by fitting the Nyquist plot with an equivalent circuit.

Current-voltage measurements were carried out by depositing Au electrodes using e-beam evaporation with a stainless-steel shadow mask. During deposition, the temperature was monitored and kept under 55°C . A bias voltage of -1V to $+1\text{V}$ was applied, and photoresponse was measured at a bias voltage of 9.5V under 405nm laser illumination.

FTIR Characterization

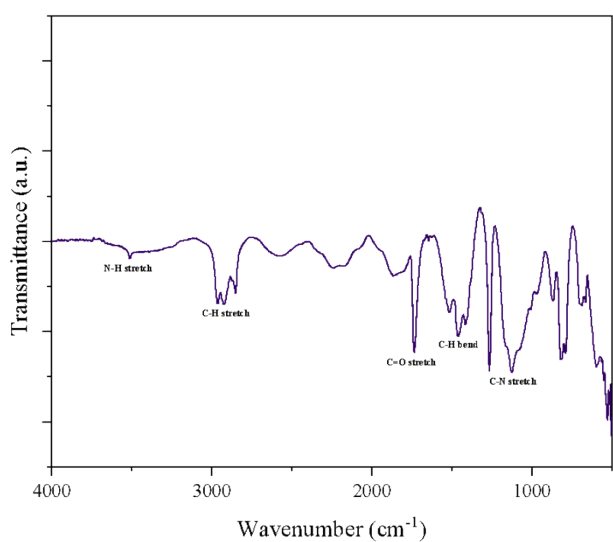
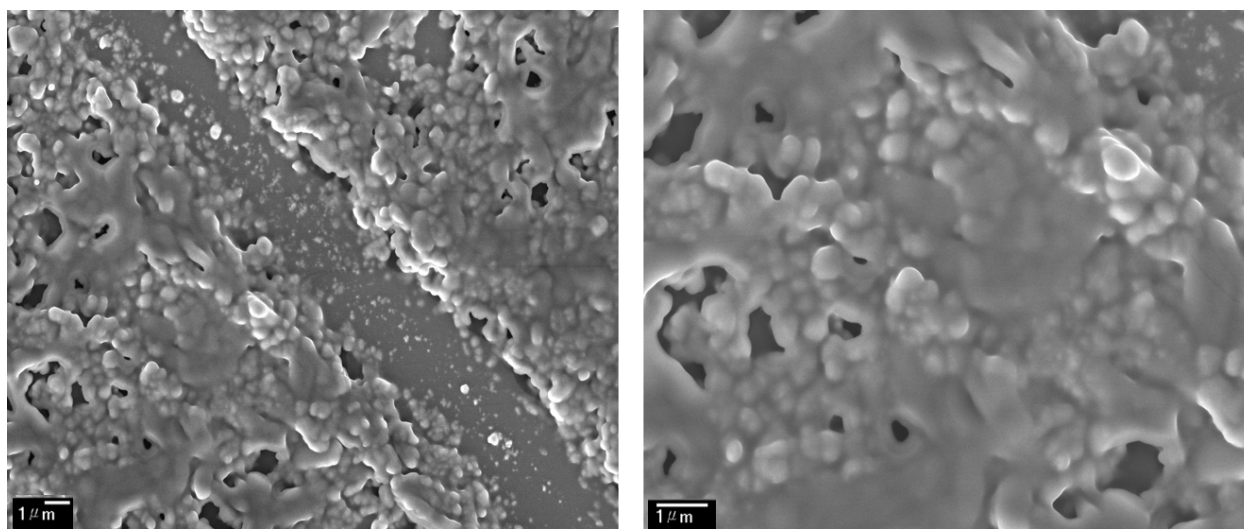


Fig S1. FTIR spectra of mechano-coalesced flakes with amine, carbonyl and alkane groups



SEM characterizations

Fig. S2. SEM images of thick flakes obtained under high rpm

TEM characterization

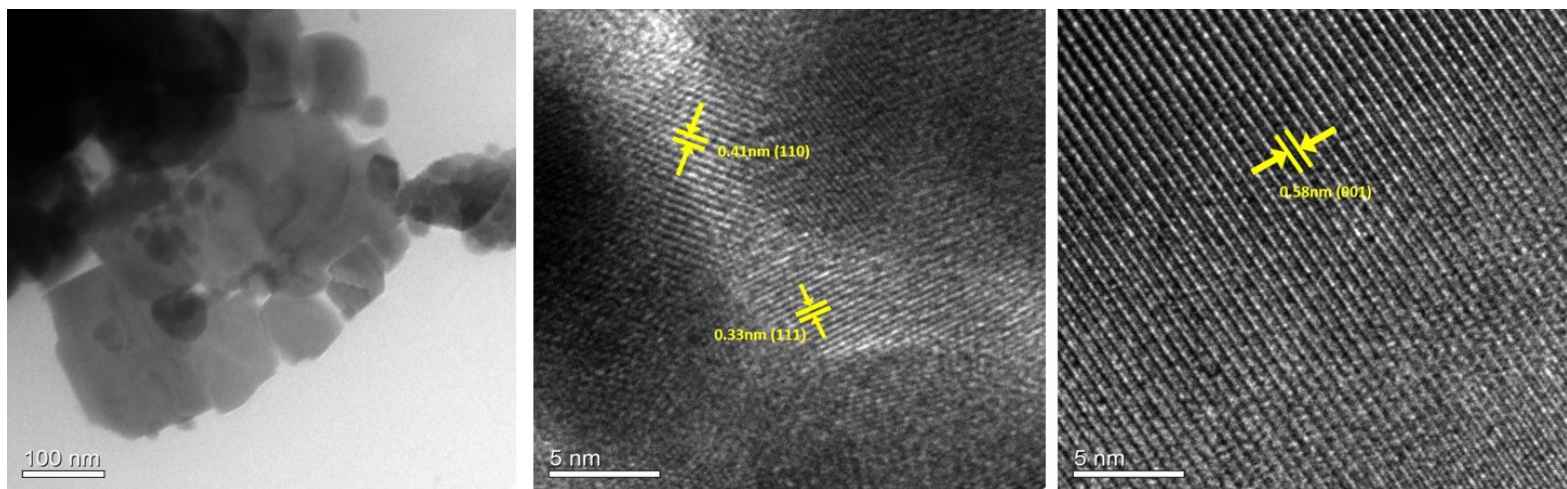


Fig.S3. TEM image of Flakes (without false coloration) and HRTEM images of mechanocoalesced flakes.

Temperature-dependent photoluminescence (TDPL)

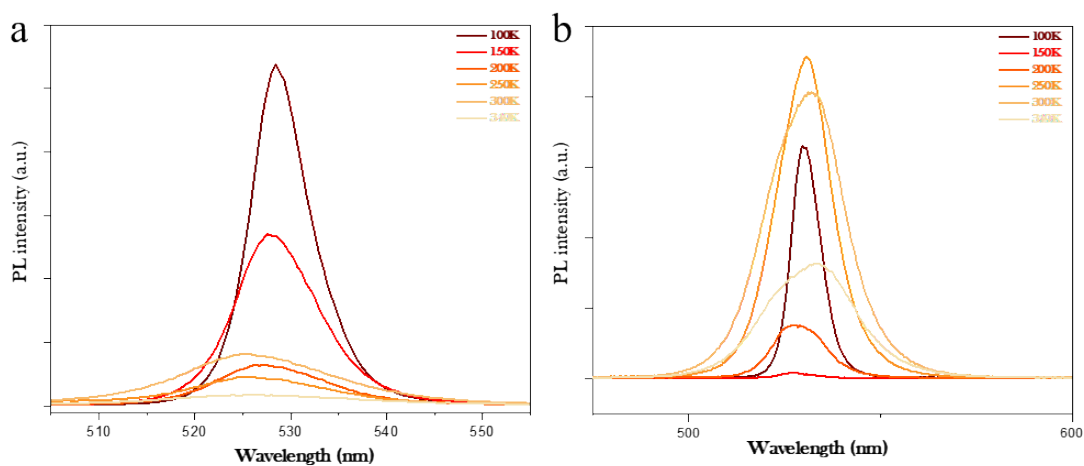


Fig. S4. TDPL of (a) Mechano-coalesced and (b) Dropcasted samples

Table S1. Quantum yield from Time-resolved photoluminescence (TRPL)

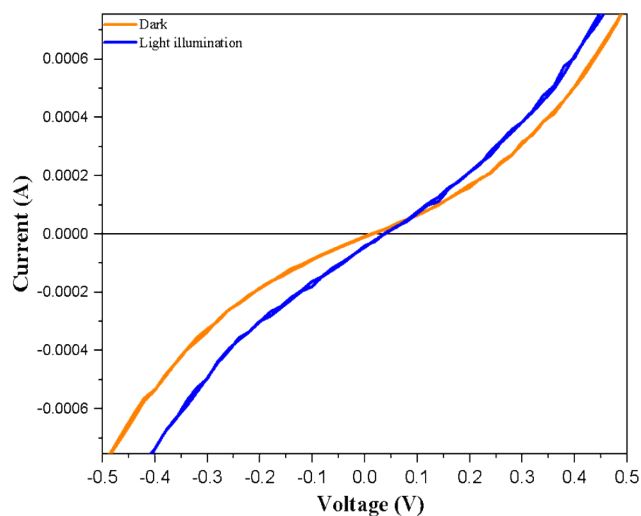
	A_1	τ_1 (ns)	A_2	τ_2 (ns)	η
Mechano-coalesced	671.1	1.532 ± 0.033	237.6	8.000 ± 0.618	73.85%
Dropcasted	63.52	2.000 (fixed at bound)	702.8	9.712 ± 0.308	8.28%

	Confidence interval: τ_1	Confidence interval: τ_2
Mechano-coalesced	1.532 (1.499, 1.565)	8 (7.382, 8.618)
Dropcasted	2.00 (fixed at bound)	9.712 (9.405, 10.02)

The amplitude weighted fractional contribution, η is determined using the formula,

$$\eta = \frac{A_1}{(A_1 + A_2)}$$

where A_1 is non-radiative recombination rate coefficient, and A_2 is radiative recombination rate coefficient. The yield of individual nanocubes is comparable to previous reports^{5, 6}.



Current-Voltage measurements

Fig. S5. Current-voltage curves of mechano-coalesced perovskite flakes under light illumination and dark conditions

Table S2. Comparison table of previously reported values of detectivity

Material	Wavelength(nm)	Detectivity (Jones)	Reference
Our work	405	1.149×10^{13}	
CsPbBr₃	550	3.6×10^{12}	7
CsPbBr₃ Single crystal	450	1.8×10^{11}	8
CsPbBr₃ thin film	442	6.1×10^{11}	9
Solution-processed	532	1.68×10^9	10
CsPbBr₃			

Inverse temperature	550	6.26×10^{10}	11
crystallized CsPbBr₃			
CsPb₂Br₅ microwires	405	6.07×10^{10}	12
CsPbBr₃ nanowires	473	1×10^{13}	13
CsPbBr₃ thin film	405	9×10^{12}	14
CsPbBr₃ nanocrystals	405	2.84×10^9	15
CsPbBr₃ microcrystals	473	4.8×10^{12}	16
MAPbBr₃	532	1×10^{12}	17
α- CsPbBr₃	640	1.8×10^{12}	18
CsPbBr₃/CsPb₂Br₅ dual-	405	4.7×10^9	19
phase composite			
Single crystal MAPbI₃	660	2.5×10^{11}	20
MAPbI₃ on rocksalt	520	6.5×10^{13}	21
(PVP)-MAPbI₃	550	2.23×10^{11}	22
(PVP)-MAPbI₃	700	1.01×10^{11}	22

Table S3. Bias Conditions Summary

Condition	Bias Voltage (V)	Measurement Mode
Dark I-V	-1V to +1V	Swept voltage
Illuminated I-V	-1V to +1V	Swept voltage
Photoresponse (on-off switching)	9.5V	Pulsed illumination

Experimental Setup



Figure S6. Arrangement of the experimental setup

Table S4. Alternate solvent systems attempted instead of Toluene- water system

Main Phase	Sub phase	Resulting morphology
Toluene	Ethanol	Doesn't work; no flakes
	Methanol	No assembly, bigger individual rod structures
	IPA	Doesn't work; cubes fused forming optically inactive thick dark aggregates
Xylene	Water	Doesn't work; cubes dispersed into water with no flake formation
Hexane	Water	Hexane evaporated quickly leaving no residues
	Acetic acid	Doesn't work; no flakes
Anisole	Water	Doesn't work; no residues

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