

Highly Efficient Organic Solar Cells Using Solution-Processed Active Layer with Small Molecule Donor and Pristine Fullerene

Hao-Wu Lin,^{*a} Jung-Hao Chang,^a Wei-Ching Huang,^a Yu-Ting Lin,^a Li-Yen Lin,^b Francis Lin,^b Ken-Tsung Wong,^{*b,c} Hsiao-Fang Wang,^d Rong-Ming Ho^d and Hsin-Fei Meng^e

^aDepartment of Materials Science and Engineering, National Tsing Hua University, No. 101, Section 2, Kuang-Fu Road, Hsinchu, Taiwan 30013.

^bDepartment of Chemistry, National Taiwan University, ^cInstitute of Atomic and Molecular Sciences, Academia Sinica, No.1, Section 4, Roosevelt Road, Taipei, Taiwan 10617.

^dDepartment of Chemical Engineering, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan 30013.

^eInstitute of Physics, National Chiao Tung University, Hsinchu, Taiwan 30013.

Supporting Information

Contents	page
Device characteristics of DP6DCTP :PC ₆₁ BM solar cells using spin-coating process with different structures: Figure S1 and Table S1	S2
Device characteristics of DTDCTP :PC ₇₁ BM solar cells with different active layer thicknesses using spin-coating process: Figure S2 and Table S2	S2
Device characteristics of DTDCTP :C ₇₀ solar cells with different active layer thicknesses using spin-coating process: Figure S3 and Table S3	S3
Device characteristics of DPDCPB :C ₇₀ solar cells with different ratios using spin-coating process: Figure S4 and Table S4	S3
Device characteristics of DTDCPB :C ₇₀ solar cells with different ratios using spin-coating process: Figure S5 and Table S5	S4
Device characteristics of DPDCTB :C ₇₀ solar cells with different ratios using spin-coating process: Figure S6 and Table S6	S4
Device characteristics of DTDCTB :C ₇₀ solar cells with different ratios using spin-coating process: Figure S7 and Table S7	S5
AFM images of spin-coating donor:acceptor thin-film: Figure S8	S6
Device characteristics of solar cells using bar-coating process: Figure S9 and Table S8	S7
Device characteristics of DTDCPB :C ₇₀ solar cells with different concentrations of 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene using bar-coating process: Figure S10 and Table S9	S7
Device characteristics of DPDCTB :C ₇₀ solar cells with different concentrations of chlorobenzene using bar-coating process: Figure S11 and Table S10	S8
AFM images of bar-coating donor:acceptor thin-film: Figure S12	S9
TEM bright-field top-view images of DTDCPB :C ₇₀ with different coating methods Figure S13	S10
Synthesis of DP6DCTP	S11

Device characteristics of DP6DCTP:PC₆₁BM solar cells using spin-coating process with different structures:

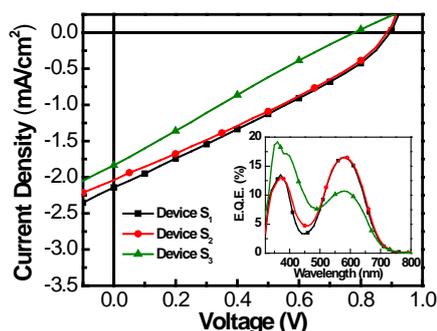


Figure S1. *J*-*V* characteristics (under 1 sun, AM1.5G illumination) and EQE spectra (inset) of BHI solar cells based on a DP6DCTP:PC₆₁BM (1:1 by weight, 40 nm) active layer with different structures.

Table S1. Photovoltaic parameters of BHI solar cells based on a DP6DCTP:PC₆₁BM active layer with different structures under AM 1.5G simulated solar illumination at an intensity of 100 mW/cm².

Device type ^{a, b}	V _{OC} (V)	J _{SC} (mA/cm ²)	FF (%)	η (%)
Device S₁: active layer/Ag	0.90	2.1	29	0.56
Device S₂: active layer/BCP (10 nm)/Ag	0.89	2.0	30	0.55
Device S₃: active layer/C ₆₀ (10 nm)/BCP (10 nm)/Ag	0.78	1.8	25	0.35

^aITO/MoO₃ (30 nm) was used as anodes. ^bActive-layer thin films were cast from chloroform solution.

Device characteristics of DTDCTP:PC₇₁BM solar cells with different active layer thicknesses using spin-coating process:

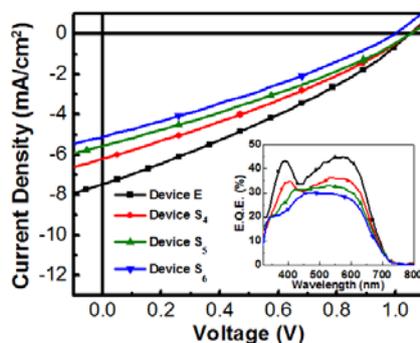


Figure S2. *J*-*V* characteristics (under 1 sun, AM1.5G illumination) and EQE spectra (inset) of inverted BHI solar cells based on a DTDCTP:PC₇₁BM (1:2 by weight) active layer with different thicknesses.

Table S2. Photovoltaic parameters of inverted BHI solar cells based on a DTDCTP:PC₇₁BM active layer with different thicknesses under AM 1.5G simulated solar illumination at an intensity of 100 mW/cm².

Device type ^{a, b}	V _{OC} (V)	J _{SC} (mA/cm ²)	FF (%)	η (%)
Device E: DTDCTP:PC ₇₁ BM (50 nm)	1.1	7.5	30	2.4
Device S₄: DTDCTP:PC ₇₁ BM (54 nm)	1.1	6.2	30	2.0
Device S₅: DTDCTP:PC ₇₁ BM (61 nm)	1.1	5.6	30	1.8
Device S₆: DTDCTP:PC ₇₁ BM (70 nm)	1.0	5.2	30	1.5

^aITO/Ca (1 nm)/DTDCTP:PC₇₁BM/DTDCTP (7 nm)/MoO₃ (7 nm)/Ag. ^bActive-layer thin films were cast from chlorobenzene solution.

Device characteristics of DTDCTP:C₇₀ solar cells with different active layer thicknesses using spin-coating process:

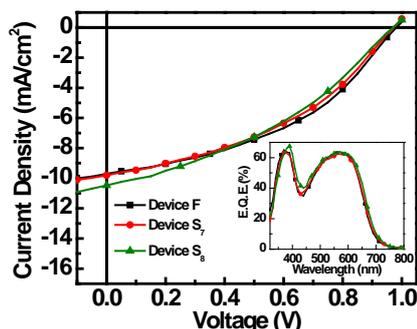


Figure S3. *J*–*V* characteristics (under 1 sun, AM1.5G illumination) and EQE spectra (inset) of inverted BHJ solar cells based on a DTDCTP:C₇₀(1:1.5 by weight) active layer with different thicknesses.

Table S3. Photovoltaic parameters of inverted BHJ solar cells based on a DTDCTP:C₇₀ active layer with different thicknesses under AM 1.5G simulated solar illumination at an intensity of 100 mW/cm².

Device type ^{a, b}	V _{oc} (V)	J _{sc} (mA/cm ²)	FF (%)	η (%)
Device F: DTDCTP:C ₇₀ (50 nm)	0.98	9.7	42	4.0
Device S₇: DTDCTP:C ₇₀ (54 nm)	0.97	9.8	40	3.8
Device S₈: DTDCTP:C ₇₀ (61 nm)	0.97	10.5	36	3.5

^aITO/Ca (1 nm)/DTDCTP:C₇₀/DTDCTP (7 nm)/MoO₃ (7 nm)/Ag. ^bActive-layer thin films were cast from DCB solution.

Device characteristics of DPDCPB:C₇₀ solar cells with different ratios using spin-coating process:

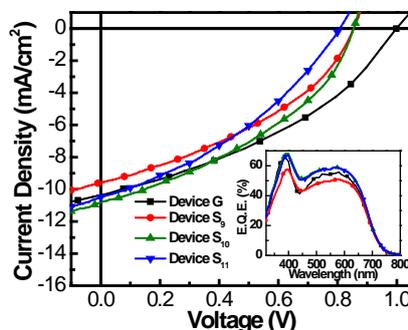


Figure S4. *J*–*V* characteristics (under 1 sun, AM 1.5G illumination) and EQE spectra (inset) of solar cells fabricated from DPDCPB and C₇₀ with different blend ratios from 1:1.5 to 1:2.2(**Device G**~**S₁₁**).

Table S4. Performance parameters of the optimized devices under AM 1.5G simulated solar illumination at an intensity of 100 mW/cm².

Device type ^a	V _{oc} (V)	J _{sc} (mA/cm ²)	FF (%)	η (%)
Device G: DPDCPB:C ₇₀ (1:1.5)	1.01	10.9	40	4.1
Device S₉: DPDCPB:C ₇₀ (1:1.8)	0.83	9.1	38	2.9
Device S₁₀: DPDCPB:C ₇₀ (1:2.0)	0.88	8.9	38	2.9
Device S₁₁: DPDCPB:C ₇₀ (1:2.2)	0.63	9.6	40	2.4

^aActive-layer thin films were cast from DCB solution by spin-coating process.

Device characteristics of DTDCPB:C₇₀ solar cells with different ratios using spin-coating process:

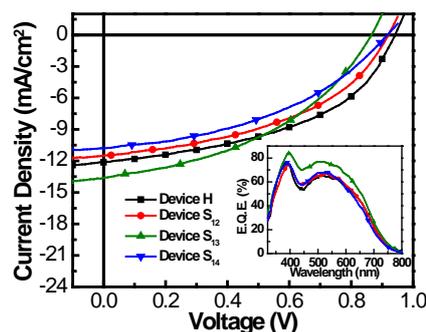


Figure S5. *J*-*V* characteristics (under 1 sun, AM 1.5G illumination) and EQE spectra (inset) of solar cells fabricated from DTDCPB and C₇₀ with different blend ratios from 1:1.5 to 1:2.2 (Device H~S₁₄).

Table S5. Performance parameters of the optimized devices under AM 1.5G simulated solar illumination at an intensity of 100 mW/cm².

Device type ^a	V _{oc} (V)	J _{sc} (mA/cm ²)	FF (%)	η (%)
Device H: DTDCPB:C₇₀ (1:1.5)	0.94	12.1	47	5.4
Device S₁₂: DTDCPB:C₇₀ (1:1.8)	0.92	11.5	45	4.8
Device S₁₃: DTDCPB:C₇₀ (1:2.0)	0.87	13.6	42	5.0
Device S₁₄: DTDCPB:C₇₀ (1:2.2)	0.92	10.8	42	4.1

^aActive-layer thin films were cast from DCB solution by spin-coating process.

Device characteristics of DPDCTB:C₇₀ solar cells with different ratios using spin-coating process:

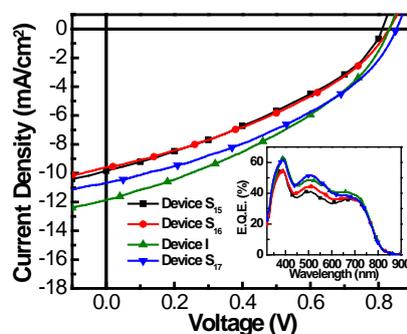


Figure S6. *J*-*V* characteristics (under 1 sun, AM 1.5G illumination) and EQE spectra (inset) of solar cells fabricated from DPDCTB and C₇₀ with different blend ratios from 1:1.5 to 1:2.2 (Device S₁₅~S₁₇).

Table S6. Performance parameters of the optimized devices under AM 1.5G simulated solar illumination at an intensity of 100 mW/cm².

Device type ^a	V _{oc} (V)	J _{sc} (mA/cm ²)	FF (%)	η (%)
Device S₁₅: DPDCTB:C₇₀ (1:1.5)	0.81	9.8	35	2.9
Device S₁₆: DPDCTB:C₇₀ (1:1.8)	0.83	9.6	37	2.9
Device I: DPDCTB:C₇₀ (1:2.0)	0.83	11.9	37	3.7
Device S₁₇: DPDCTB:C₇₀ (1:2.2)	0.85	10.7	39	3.5

^aActive-layer thin films were cast from DCB solution by spin-coating process.

Device characteristics of DTDCTB:C₇₀ solar cells with different ratios using spin-coating process:

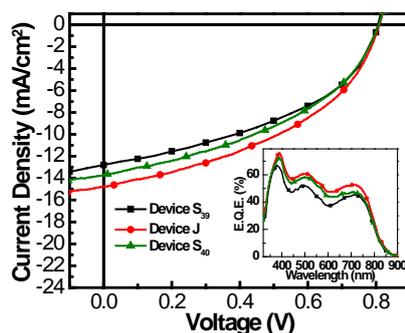


Figure S7. *J*-*V* characteristics (under 1 sun, AM 1.5G illumination) and EQE spectra (inset) of solar cells fabricated from **DTDCTB** and C₇₀ with different blend ratios from 1:1.5 to 1:2.0 (**Device S₁₈~S₁₉**).

Table S7 Performance parameters of the optimized devices under AM 1.5G simulated solar illumination at an intensity of 100 mW/cm².

Device type ^a	V _{oc} (V)	J _{sc} (mA/cm ²)	FF (%)	η (%)
Device S₁₈: DTDCTB:C₇₀ (1:1.5)	0.81	12.79	43	4.47
Device J: DTDCTB:C₇₀ (1:1.8)	0.81	14.77	43	5.20
Device S₁₉: DTDCTB:C₇₀ (1:2.0)	0.81	13.71	42	4.69
DTDCTB:C₇₀ (1:2.2)^b	-	-	-	-

^aActive-layer thin films were cast from DCB solution by spin-coating process. ^bPoor film quality.

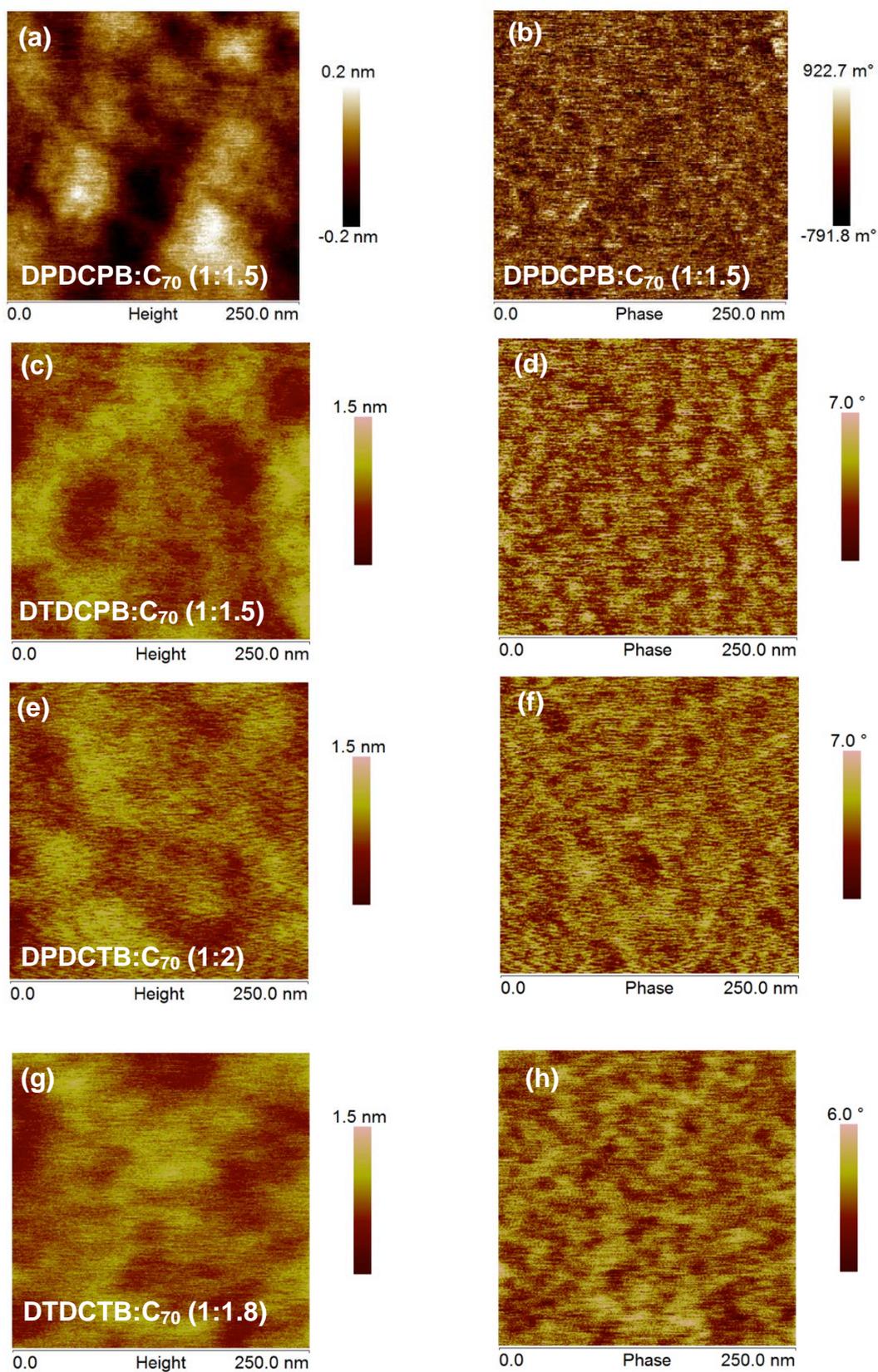


Figure S8. AFM topography and phase images of (a)(b) DPDCPB:C₇₀ (1:1.5) thin-film, (c)(d) DTDCPB:C₇₀ (1:1.5) thin-film, (e)(f) DPDCTB:C₇₀ (1:2) thin-film, (g)(h) DTDCTB:C₇₀ (1:1.8) thin-film. The thin-films were spin-coated on ITO/Ca (1 nm).

Device characteristics of DPDCPB:C₇₀ solar cells with different active layer thicknesses using bar-coating process:

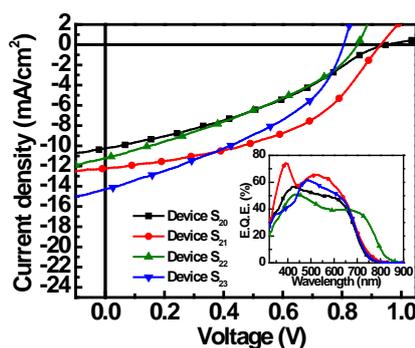


Figure S9. *J*-*V* characteristics (under 1 sun, AM1.5G illumination) and EQE spectra (inset) of inverted BJJ solar cells based on a DPDCPB:C₇₀(1:2.2 by weight) active layer with different thicknesses. The device structures are: ITO/Ca (1 nm)/DPDCPB:C₇₀/DPDCPB (7 nm)/MoO₃ (7 nm)/Ag (120 nm).

Table S8. Photovoltaic parameters of inverted BJJ solar cells based on a DPDCPB:C₇₀ active layer with different thicknesses under AM 1.5G simulated solar illumination at an intensity of 100 mW/cm².

Device type ^a	V _{oc} (V)	J _{sc} (mA/cm ²)	FF (%)	η (%)
Device S ₂₀ : DPDCPB:C ₇₀ (44 nm)	0.95	10.1	34	3.3
Device S ₂₁ : DTDCPB:C ₇₀ (44 nm)	0.93	12.2	47	5.3
Device S ₂₂ : DPDCPB:C ₇₀ (44 nm)	0.85	11.2	34	3.3
Device S ₂₃ : DTDCPB:C ₇₀ (58 nm)	0.81	14.3	39	4.5

^aActive-layer thin films were cast from DCB solution by bar-coating process.

Device characteristics of DTDCPB:C₇₀ solar cells with different concentrations of 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene using bar-coating process:

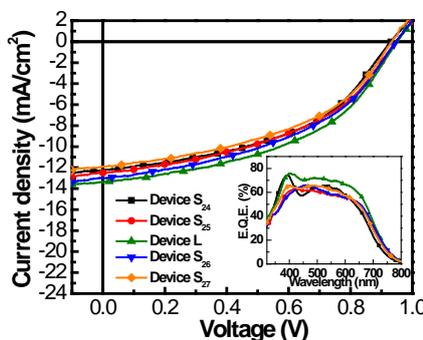


Figure S10. *J*-*V* characteristics (under 1 sun, AM1.5G illumination) and EQE spectra (inset) of inverted BJJ solar cells based on a DTDCPB:C₇₀(1:2.2 by weight) active layer without or with different concentrations of 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene (TCB). The device structures are: ITO/Ca (1 nm)/DTDCPB:C₇₀/DTDCPB (7 nm)/MoO₃ (7 nm)/Ag (120 nm).

Table S9. Photovoltaic parameters of inverted BJJ solar cells based on a DTDCPB:C₇₀ active layer without or with different concentrations of TCB under AM 1.5G simulated solar illumination at an intensity of 100 mW/cm².

DTDCPB:C ₇₀ ^a	V _{oc} (V)	J _{sc} (mA/cm ²)	FF (%)	η (%)
Device S ₂₄ :1:2.2	0.93	12.2	47	5.3
Device S ₂₅ :1:2.2 with 20% TCB	0.95	12.5	45	5.3
Device L:1:2.2 with 50% TCB	0.95	13.4	46	5.9
Device S ₂₆ :1:2.2 with 80% TCB	0.94	13.2	43	5.5
Device S ₂₇ :1:2.2 with 100% TCB	0.93	11.9	45	5.0

^aActive-layer thin films were cast from DCB solution without or with different concentrations of TCB by bar-coating process.

Device characteristics of DPDCTB:C₇₀ solar cells with different concentrations of chlorobenzene using bar-coating process:

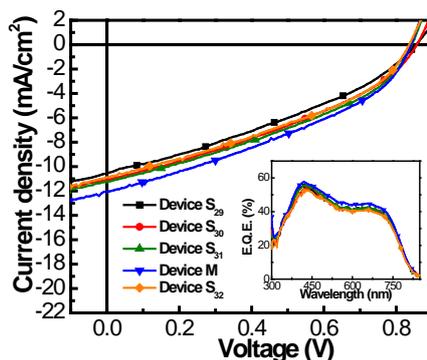


Figure S11. *J*-*V* characteristics (under 1 sun, AM1.5G illumination) and EQE spectra (inset) of inverted BHJ solar cells based on a DPDCTB:C₇₀(1:2.2 by weight) active layer without or with different concentrations of chlorobenzene (CB). The device structures are: ITO/Ca (1 nm)/DPDCTB:C₇₀/DPDCTB (7 nm)/MoO₃ (7 nm)/Ag (120 nm).

Table S10. Photovoltaic parameters of inverted BHJ solar cells based on a DPDCTB:C₇₀ active layer without or with different concentrations of TCB under AM 1.5G simulated solar illumination at an intensity of 100 mW/cm².

DPDCTB:C ₇₀ ^a	V _{OC} (V)	J _{SC} (mA/cm ²)	FF (%)	η (%)
Device S ₂₈ :1:2.2	0.86	10.6	33	3.1
Device S ₂₉ :1:2.2 with 15% CB	0.86	11.1	35	3.3
Device S ₃₀ :1:2.2 with 20% CB	0.84	11.3	37	3.5
Device M:1:2.2 with 30% CB	0.85	12.1	37	3.8
Device S ₃₁ :1:2.2 with 35% CB	0.84	10.9	36	3.3

^aActive-layer thin films were cast from DCB solution without or with different concentrations of CB by bar-coating process.

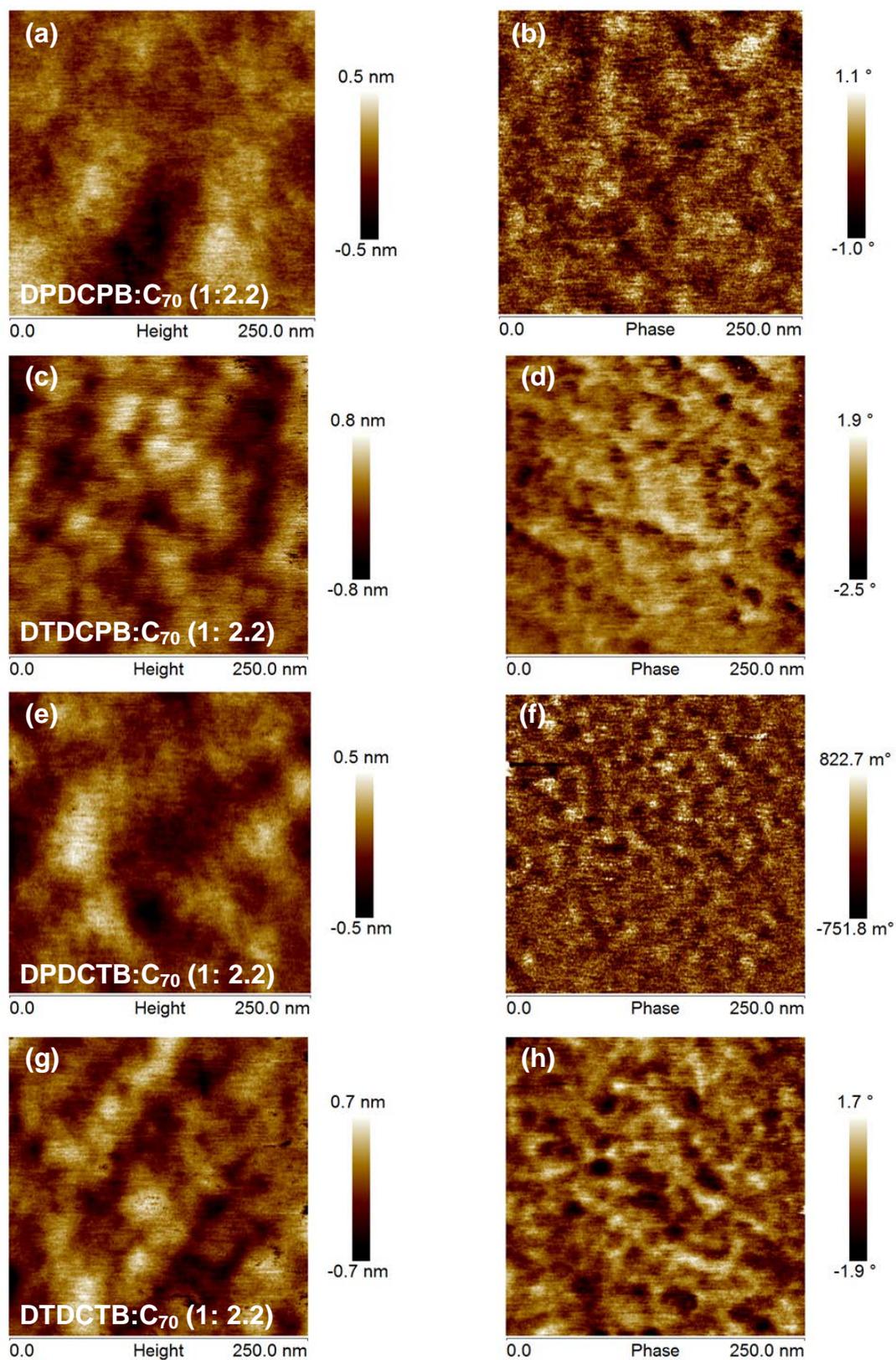


Figure S12. AFM topography (left) and phase (right) images of (a)(b) DPDCPB:C₇₀ (1:2.2) thin-film, (c)(d) DTDCPB:C₇₀ (1: 2.2) thin-film and (e)(f) DPDCTB:C₇₀ (1: 2.2) thin-film and (g)(h) DTDCTB:C₇₀ (1: 2.2) thin-film. The thin-films were bar-coated on ITO/Ca (1 nm).

TEM bright-field top-view images of DTDCPB:C₇₀ with different coating methods:

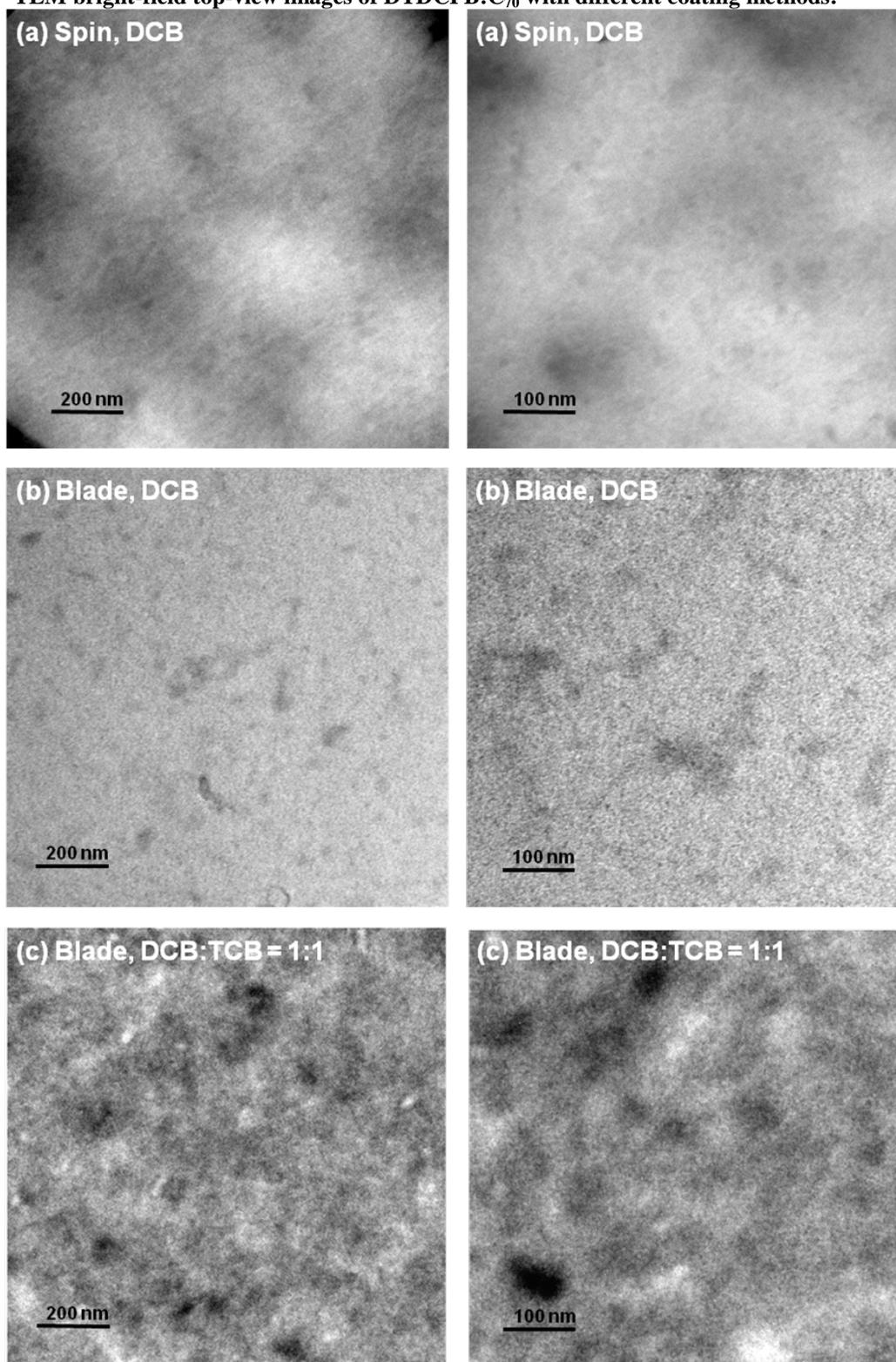
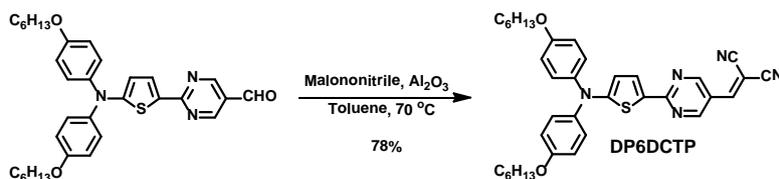


Figure S13. TEM images of (a) DTDCPB:C₇₀ (1:1.5) thin film casted from 1,2-dichlorobenzene solution by spin-coated process, (b) DTDCPB:C₇₀ (1:2.2) thin film casted from 1,2-dichlorobenzene solution by bar-coated process, and (c) DTDCPB:C₇₀ (1:2.2) thin film casted from 1,2-dichlorobenzene and 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene (1:1 by volume) mixed solutions by bar-coated process.

Synthesis of DP6DCTP:



Synthesis of 2-[[2-(5-*N,N*-bis(4-hexyloxyphenyl)aminothiophen-2-yl)pyrimidin-5-yl]methylene]malononitrile (DP6DCTP).

A mixture of 2-[[5-(*N,N*-bis(4-hexyloxyphenyl)aminothiophen-2-yl)pyrimidin-5-yl]methylene]malonaldehyde¹ (2.23 g, 4.00 mmol), malononitrile (528 mg, 8.00 mmol), and basic aluminum oxide (2.00 g) in dry toluene (60 mL) was stirred and heated at 70 °C for 2 h. After the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, the basic aluminum oxide residue was removed by filtration and thoroughly washed with toluene. The solvent of the filtrate was removed by rotary evaporation, and the crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with dichloromethane as eluent to afford **DP6DCTP** as a dark red solid (1.90 g, 78%), mp 86 °C (DSC); ¹H NMR (CD₂Cl₂, 400 MHz) δ 8.89 (s, 2H), 7.88 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (s, 1H), 7.25 (dd, *J* = 2.4, 6.8 Hz, 4H), 6.91 (dd, *J* = 2.4, 6.8 Hz, 4H), 6.25 (d, *J* = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 4H), 1.79 (m, 4H), 1.46 (m, 4H), 1.36 (m, 8H), 0.93 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 MHz) δ 165.9, 162.9, 158.2, 157.5, 152.6, 138.5, 135.5, 127.0, 125.7, 119.6, 115.5, 113.8, 113.0, 111.3, 79.6, 68.3, 31.7, 29.3, 25.8, 22.7, 14.2; HRMS (*m/z*, FAB⁺) calcd. for C₃₆H₃₉N₅O₂S 605.2824, found 605.2822; λ_{abs} = 564 nm (ε = 53700 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹).

¹ L.-Y.Lin, C.-H.Tsai, K.-T.Wong, T.-W.Huang, C.-C.Wu, S.-H.Chou, F. Lin, S.-H.Chen and A.-I.Tsai, *J. Mater. Chem.*, 2011, **21**, 5950.