

# Simulation Study on Organic Solar Cell consist of SWCNT in presence of Stone Wall Defect

Ankit Mishra

**Abstract**— In this paper, we study the Organic solar cell property by introducing the stone wall defect in CNT. We use Graphene/ PEDOT: PSS / Perovskite / PCBM+CNT/Al as base structure. PEDOT: PSS and PCBM are used as Hole transportation layer and Electron transportation layer whereas Graphene is used as Transparent Electrode material in anode side and Aluminum in Cathode side. Electrical properties, Defects and Fermi level are discussed in detail. For the relative realistic study, we use ATLAS device simulator with intra-band and trap-assisted tunneling models in order to provide experimental guidance. We have also used Atomistix tool kit (ATK) to analysis the fill factor, Bandstructure, wavelength, and efficiency. Density functional theory (DFT) and Extended Huckel approximation method are used to analysis the work function, band gap and Density of state. The simulation results also indicate the difference between the efficiency in presence of Stone Wall defect and without the defect in CNT.

**Index Terms**— ATK Quantumwise, Graphene, Perovskite, Stone Wall Defect, , Silvaco TCAD, SWCNT

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The increase in the technology in this era will demands the increase of power. Low cost with high-efficiency devices is required to produce power through sunlight to fulfill the energy demands. For converting solar energy to electrical power researchers are work a lot on both bulk -Heterojunction solar cell and dye-sensitized solar cell (DSC) in this last two decades [1]. Recently, researchers are started massive work on the organic solar cell (OSC). Use of PCBM, PEDOT: PSS, PPV, P3HT and other polymer based material are profoundly used in Organic photovoltaic's depend on Hole transportation layer and Electron Transportation layer. In this HTL and ETL, the researcher is added other materials to increase the efficiency of the device. In this paper we used, Graphene/ PEDOT: PSS / Perovskite/ PCBM+CNT/ Al as ANODE LAYER/ HTL/ ACTIVE LAYER/ ETL/ CATHODE LAYER based structure [2]. The size of the structure is 1mm X 1mm. Perovskite is an organic-inorganic material with a polycrystalline structure "ABX<sub>3</sub>". AB and X<sub>3</sub> are the two parts of the perovskite structure. AB is the cation and X<sub>3</sub> are the anion part (situated at face centers). A is existing at the eight positions of the cube whereas B is placed at body center confined by 6 X- anions. The chemical formula of Perovskite is

CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>3</sub>PbX<sub>3</sub> where X can be (Br, Cl, I or can be the combination of them). This organic-inorganic lead halide material shows high charge carrier mobility, diffusion length and due to high absorption coefficient [3].

Phenyl-C<sub>61</sub>-butyric acid methyl ester (PCBM) is rich Electron transport layer whereas PEDOT: PSS is Hole transport layer. PCBM is the fullerene derivative of the C<sub>60</sub> buckyball. In this PCBM, Single-Walled Carbon Nanotube (SWCNT) is added as a buffer layer which will increase the efficiency of polymer photovoltaic [4]. Graphene, PCBM, and PEDOT: PSS and Perovskite are the chemical solution which can be deposited by the spin coating. The work of Carbon Nanotube in PCBM is to pass the electron from one side to another [5]. As an anode material Graphene has honeycomb arrangement bound with 2D covalent atoms. As a 2D molecule, it holds some of the useful characteristic properties in electronics, chemical, mechanical, optical and as well as in thermal stability. It is used as a transparent electrode layer in anode part [6]. The aim of this paper is to analysis the solar cell structure in presence of stone wall defect and without it.

## 2 Overview On CNT

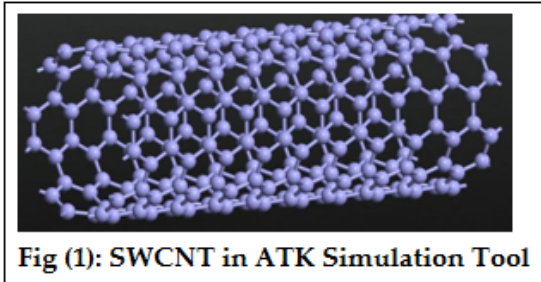
Carbon Nanotube (CNTs) are cylindrical tube shaped hexagonally oriented carbon atoms and allotrope of carbon material. The Carbon Nanotube is 16 times stronger than stainless steel. The structural bond of CNT is sp<sup>2</sup> hybridized which enhance the unique strength [7]. When the graphene sheet is rolled in some manner then it became CNT.

The single graphene sheet is rolled into the cylinder then it's called Single-walled Carbon Nanotube. In fig (1) the

• Ankit Mishra , Assistant Professor, AMITY UNIVERSITY CHHATTISGARH, INDIA , PH- 7224857616. E-mail: ankitmishra004@gmail.com

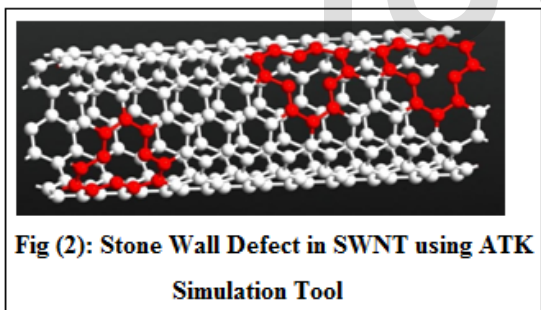
single-walled carbon Nanotube is shown, whereas more than one graphene sheet rolled into the cylinder then it is called multi-walled carbon Nanotube [8].

The indices, n, and m will denote the unit vectors. The rolling of graphene sheet in different angle will give different properties. There are some accepted modals for MWCNT are Russian doll model and parchment. These two models are mostly used for the formation of CNTs [9].



### 2.1 STONE WALL DEFECT

In CNT, when the pair of atoms rotates which cause the stretch and twist in the structure of CNT with axial change is known as Stone wall defect [10]. Due to the stretching and twisting of atoms, there will be a change in the energy which leads to the failure of the structure. The confinement property of carbon nano tube will be the change [11]. The energy will be lost which causes the low-efficiency rate of the structure.



## 3 SIMULATION DEVICES

ATOMISTIX TOOL KIT (ATK) and SILVACO TCAD are used for simulating the device structure of organic photovoltaic cell [12]. ATK is used to create Single-walled Carbon Nanotube and set up a defect in the Carbon Nanotube. SILVACO TCAD helps to simulate the Graphene/PEDOT: PSS / Perovskite /PCBM+CNT/Al base structure and obtained the electrical and optical properties of it [13].

### 3.1 ATOMISTIX TOOL KIT

ATOMISTIX TOOL KIT (ATK) helps to calculate and simulate the electronic transport property of atomic structure of CNT acquires the required results.

In ATK the electronic structure of the system is defined in Density functional theory by one-electron Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian

$$H_{1el} = -\frac{\hbar}{2m} \nabla^2 + V^{eff}[\mathbf{n}](\mathbf{r}) \quad (1)$$

$\frac{\hbar}{2m} \nabla^2$  Is the kinetic energy of electron and  $V^{eff}[\mathbf{n}](\mathbf{r})$  is potential energy.

Eigenstates of one-electron Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian is defined by one-electron Schrödinger equation

$$H_{1el}\Psi(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_{\alpha}\Psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}) \quad (2)$$

Solving this differential part, the above wave function should be expanding

$$\psi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i \alpha_i \phi_i(\mathbf{r}) \quad (3)$$

After solving this differential part into matrix equation the equation will be

$$\sum_j H_{ij}C_{j\alpha} = \epsilon_{\alpha} \sum_j S_{ij}C_{j\alpha} \quad (4)$$

The total energy of DFT is given by

$$E[\mathbf{n}] = T[\mathbf{n}] + E^{xc}[\mathbf{n}] + E^H[\mathbf{n}] + E^{ext}[\mathbf{n}] \quad (5)$$

Where  $T[\mathbf{n}]$  is Kinetic energy,  $E^{xc}[\mathbf{n}]$  is exchange-correlation energy,  $E^H[\mathbf{n}]$  is Hartree energy and  $E^{ext}[\mathbf{n}]$  is interaction energy.

The other method used in ATK is Extended Huckel approximation method, which is the semi-empirical tight-binding simulation. This method is suitable for calculating inorganic atom structures [14].

### 3.2 SILVACO TCAD

In this paper, we also use SILVACO TCAD simulation research tool to obtained electrical and optical property of the base structure. This tool is used to simulate both organic and inorganic material, in the case of inorganic semiconductors we can use CVT, SRH models but for the organic semiconductors, we have to use Langevin model. Langevin gives the theory that how the hole can capture the electron in slow mobility rate. In recombination, this model shows exacts behavior of electron-hole pairs or exaction

$$E_c = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon\epsilon_0(R_E+R_H)} \quad (6)$$

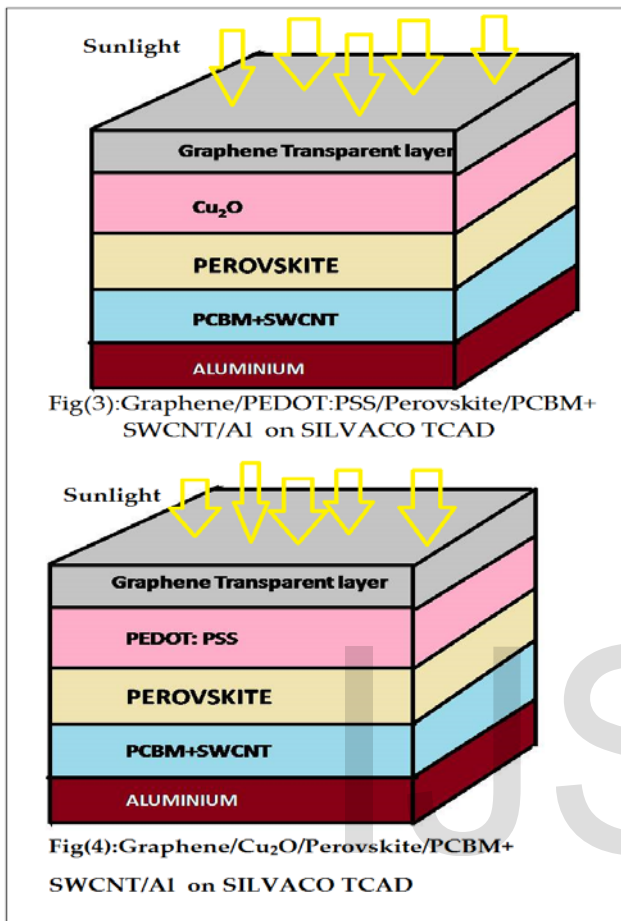
Where  $R_E$  and  $R_H$  are the wave function of the electron and hole.

$$R_{n,p} = \frac{qnp}{\epsilon\epsilon_0} (\mu_n(E) + \mu_p(E)) \quad (7)$$

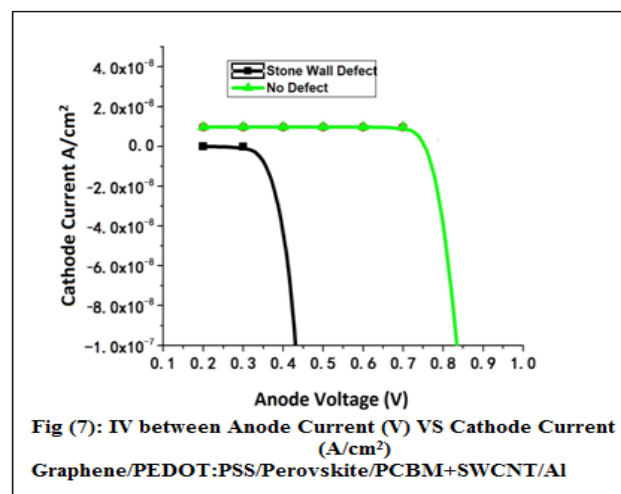
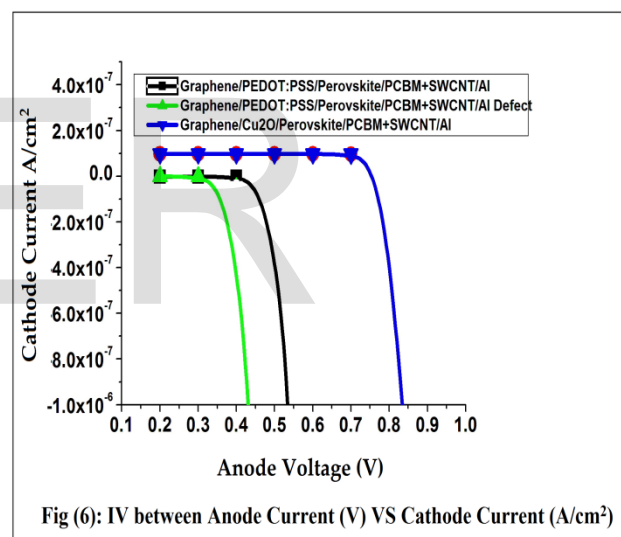
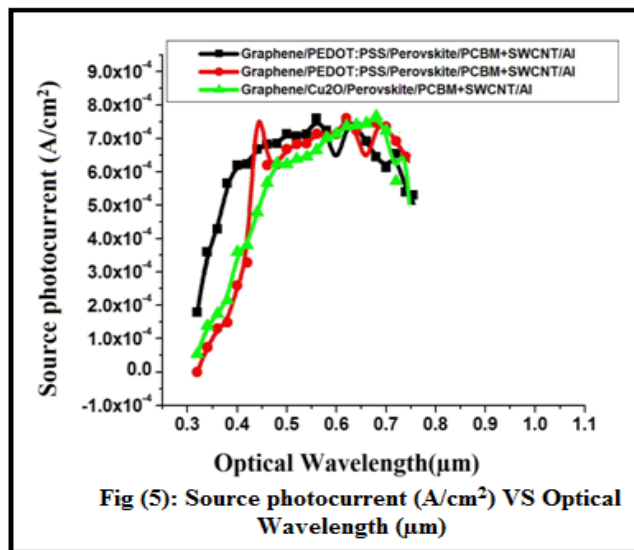
$R_{n,p}$  shows recombination rate occur inside the structure [15].

The perovskite solar cell consist of cuprous oxide as hole transporting layer of 50 nm and electron transport layer as PCBM of 100 nm, the constructed film stacked of PSC is graphene/PEDOT:PSS/CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>3</sub>PbI<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>x</sub>/PCBM+SWCNT /Al, FTO and Al is used as the electrode, we have also used PPV as HTL and graphene transparent layer as active electrode with the thickness 50 nm and 0.43 nm respectively [16].

### 4 FIGURE



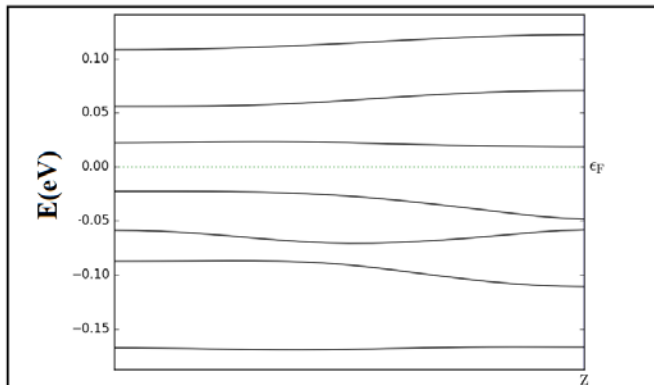
### 5 RESULTS



Parameters	Cu <sub>2</sub> O	Perovskite	PCBM	Multilayer Graphene
Eg (eV)	2.22 [20]	1.5	2 [22]	0
Mun(cm <sup>2</sup> v <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	30 [20]	14	0.2 [22]	1-1x10 <sup>9</sup> [7]
Mup(cm <sup>2</sup> v <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	30 [19]	14	0.2 [22]	10 [8]
Nc (cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1 x10 <sup>19</sup> [18]	2.5 x 10 <sup>20</sup>	2 x 10 <sup>21</sup> [21]	3x10 <sup>9</sup> [7]
Nv (cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1 x10 <sup>19</sup> [18]	2.5 x 10 <sup>20</sup>	2 x 10 <sup>21</sup> [21]	3x10 <sup>9</sup> [7]
Affinity X (eV)	3.4 [17]	3.96	3.9 [21]	3.4-4.8 [8]
Permittivity (Er)	7.5 [17]	30	3.9 [21]	10-20 [8]
Thickness (nm)	50	500	100	10

#### 4.1 TABLE 1

#### PARAMETERS USED IN SILVACO TCAD TOOL



**Fig (8): CNT Bandstructure with No Defect**



**Fig (9): CNT Bandstructure with Stone Wall Defect**

## 6 DISCUSSION

The two structures are simulated under AM 1.5 illumination that are Graphene / PEDOT:PSS/Perovskite / PCBM + SWCNT /Al and Graphene/Cu<sub>2</sub>O / Perovskite / PCBM+ SWCNT /Al. SWCNT play important role in the base structure [23]. The short circuit current (*J*<sub>sc</sub>), the open- circuit voltage (*V*<sub>oc</sub>), power conversion efficiency ( $\eta$ ) are plotted in the figure (6). By adding the SWCNT it is clear that it shows the strong influence on the structure [24].

The *J*<sub>sc</sub> of the Graphene / PEDOT: PSS/Perovskite / PCBM + SWCNT /Al is 4.9 mAcm<sup>-2</sup> without introducing the defect in the SWCNT whereas when the stone wall defect is introduced the *J*<sub>sc</sub> is 3.5 mA cm<sup>-2</sup>. The *V*<sub>oc</sub> without defect is 0.85 V and with stone wall defect it shows 0.44 V. The same simulation is carried out with the Graphene/ Cu<sub>2</sub>O / Perovskite / PCBM+ SWCNT /Al. SWCNT structure. The *J*<sub>sc</sub> is 5.1 mAcm<sup>-2</sup>, *V*<sub>oc</sub> is 0.88 V and with stone wall defect the *J*<sub>sc</sub> is 4.6 mAcm<sup>-2</sup>. The *V*<sub>oc</sub> is 0.8 V [25].

The Fill Factor of solar cell can be obtained by using following formula

$$FF = \frac{V_{max}I_{max}}{V_{oc}I_{sc}} \quad (8)$$

Where *V*<sub>max</sub> and *I*<sub>max</sub> is the Voltage and current density which shows the maximum product of I-V in the fourth quadrant [26].

The efficiency can be obtained by

$$\eta = \frac{V_{oc}I_{sc}FF}{P_{in}} \quad (9)$$

In Fig (6), we simulate Graphene /Cu<sub>2</sub>O /Perovskite / PCBM + SWCNT / Al and Graphene /PEDOT: PSS /Perovskite /PCBM+SWCNT/Al with no defect and with stone wall defect [27]. The figure consist of three wave in which black and red wave denotes the stone wall defect, green wave is without defect in CNTs.

The green wave absorbs more light and transfers electron from Electron transport layer to active layer as compared to black and red wave. Due to stone wall defect, the confinement of CNTs changes which causes the energy lost in the CNTs.

Figure 8 and 9 shows the bandstructure of SWCNT simulated in ATK research tool with the help of DFT. In defect CNT there will be distortion in the band gap whereas in no defect CNT the direct and indirect gap is same momentum. The bandstructure is obtained by DFT calculation.

**Table 2: Photovoltaic performance of the investigated photovoltaic device**

Structure	<i>J</i> <sub>sc</sub>	<i>V</i> <sub>oc</sub>	FF	$\eta$
Graphene/PEDOT:PSS/Perovskite /PCBM+SWCNT/Al	4.9	0.82	0.51	2.4
Graphene/PEDOT:PSS/Perovskite/PCBM +SWCNT/Al (Defect)	3.5	0.44	0.48	1.8
Graphene/Cu <sub>2</sub> O/Perovskite/PCBM +SWCNT/Al	5.5	0.85	0.64	3.9
Graphene/Cu <sub>2</sub> O/Perovskite/PCBM +SWCNT/Al (Defect)	4.4	0.54	0.5	3.3

## 7 CONCLUSION

In summary, we studied the simulation result of two structures with the defect and no defect in CNTs. Graphene/ PEDOT:PSS/ Perovskite/ PCBM+SWCNT/ Al shows efficiency 2.4 whereas Graphene/ Cu<sub>2</sub>O/ Perovskite/ PCBM+SWCNT/ Al show efficiency 3.9. We conclude that using of Cu<sub>2</sub>O will give higher efficiency. While when the stone wall defect is introduced the efficiency will be less. This is because of lost of energy. The calculation is carried in ATK tool and Silvaco TCAD tool. We use ATK to find out the electrical parameters of CNT. Whereas Silvaco TCAD is used to obtained I-V characteristics of the solar cell.

## 8 REFERENCE

- [1] Victoria Gonzalez-Pedro, Emilio J. Juarez-Perez, Waode-Sukmawati Arsyad, Eva M. Barea, Francisco Fabregat-Santiago, Ivan Mora-Sero and Juan Bisquert "General Working Principles of CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>3</sub>PbX<sub>3</sub> Perovskite Solar Cells" in NANO Letters, dx.doi.org/10.1021/nl404252e | Nano Lett. 2014, 14, 888–893
- [2] Hong Zhang, Hamed Azimi, Yi Hou, Tayebbeh Ameri, Thomas Przybilla, Erdmann Spiecker, Mario Kraft, Ullrich Scherf, Christoph J. Brabec "Improved High-Efficiency Perovskite Planar Heterojunction Solar Cells via Incorporation of a Polyelectrolyte Interlayer" pubs.acs.org on September 3, 2014
- [3] Yuping He and Giulia Galli "Perovskites for Solar Thermoelectric Applications: A First Principle Study of CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>3</sub>AI<sub>3</sub> (A = Pb and Sn)" Chemistry of Material, dx.doi.org/10.1021/cm5026766 | Chem. Mater. 2014, 26, 5394–5400
- [4] Navaneethan Duraisamy "Structural and electrical properties of P3HT:PCBM/PEDOT:PSS thin films deposited through electrohydrodynamic atomization technique" Materials Letters, Volume 92, 1 February 2013, Pages 227-230
- [5] Mahdi Fasihbeiki, Farhad Akbari, "Performance improvement of polymer solar cell using SWNT as a buffer layer and solvent engineering" Modares Journal, Vol 14, 2016
- [6] Huda A. Alturaif, Zeid A. AlOthman, Joseph G. Shapter and Saikh M. Wabaidur "Use of Carbon Nanotubes (CNTs) with Polymers in Solar Cells" *Molecules* 2014, 19, 17329-17344; doi:10.3390/molecules191117329
- [7] Anusorn Kongkanand, Rebeca Martínez Domínguez, and Prashant V. Kamat "Single wall carbon nanotube scaffolds for photoelectrochemical solar cells. Capture and transport of photogenerated electrons" *Nano Lett.*, 2007, 7 (3), pp 676–680 DOI: 10.1021/nl0627238
- [8] Hong-Jie Peng, Jia-Qi Huang, Meng-Qiang Zhao, Qiang Zhang "Nanoarchitected Graphene/CNT@Porous Carbon with Extraordinary Electrical Conductivity and Interconnected Micro/Mesopores for Lithium-Sulfur Batteries" 10.1002/adfm.201303296
- [9] Thanyarat Sawatsuk, Anon Chindaduang, Chaiyuth Saekung "Dye-sensitized solar cells based on TiO<sub>2</sub>-MWCNTs composite electrodes: Performance improvement and their mechanisms" https://doi.org/10.1016/j.diamond.2008.10.052
- [10] L. G. Zhou and San-Qiang Shi "Formation energy of Stone-Wales defects in carbon nanotubes" *Appl. Phys. Lett.* 83, 1222 (2003); doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.1599961
- [11] N. Chandra, S. Namilae, and C. Shet "Local elastic properties of carbon nanotubes in the presence of Stone-Wales defects" *Phys. Rev. B* 69, 094101 – Published 2 March 2004
- [12] S.T. Chang, R.Y. He, W.-C. Wang "TCAD simulation of hydrogenated amorphous silicon-carbon/microcrystalline-silicon/hydrogenated amorphous silicon-germanium PIN solar cells" https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tsf.2009.10.100
- [13] Muhammad Nawaz and Ashfaq Ahmad "A TCAD-based modeling of GaN/InGaN/Si solar cells" *semiconductor Science and Technology*, Volume 27, Number 3
- [14] ATK quantum wise research tool, www.quantumwise. Com
- [15] Silvaco TCAD research tool, www.silvaco.com
- [16] Yan Wang, Zhonggao Xia, Jun Liang "Towards printed perovskite solar cells with cuprous oxide hole transporting layers: a theoretical design" *Semiconductor science and technology* doi:10.1088/0268-1242/30/5/054004
- [17] Robertson J and Clark S J 2011 Limits to doping in oxides *Phys. Rev. B* 83 075205
- [18] Mittiga A, Biccari F and Malerba C 2009 Intrinsic defects and metastability effects in Cu<sub>2</sub>O Thin Solid Films 517 2469–72
- [19] Biju V and Khadar M A 2001 Ac conductivity of nanostructured nickel oxide *J. Mater. Sci.* 6 5779–87
- [20] Akimoto K, Ishizuka S, Yanagita M, Nawa Y, Paul G K and Sakurai T 2006 "Thin film deposition of Cu<sub>2</sub>O and application for solar cells" *Sol. Energy* 80 715–22
- [21] Laban W A and Etgar L 2013 "Depleted hole conductor-free lead halide iodide heterojunction solar cells *Energy Environ. Sci.* 6 3249–53
- [22] Bi C, Shao Y, Yuan Y, Xiao Z, Wang C, Gao Y and Huang J 2014 "Understanding the formation and evolution of interdiffusion grown organolead halide perovskite thin films by thermal annealing" *J. Mater. Chem. A* 2 18508–14
- [23] Wee Shing Koh, Choon How Gan and Wee Kee Phua, "The potential of graphene as an ITO replacement in organic solar cell: An optical prospective.
- [24] Gina Peschel" Carbon-Carbon bonds: Hybridization" 05/05/11 Pechel.
- [25] C. Pozrikidis, Effect of the Stone-Wales defect on the structure and mechanical properties of single-wall carbon nanotubes in axial stretch and twist.
- [26] Abate A, Saliba M, Hollman D J, Stranks S D, Wojciechowski K, Avolio R, Grancini G, Petrozza A and Snaith H J 2014" Supramolecular halogen bond passivation of organic-inorganic halide perovskite solar cells" *Nano Lett.* 14 3247–54
- [27] Jung J W, Williams S T and Jen A K-Y 2014 "Low-temperature processed high-performance flexible perovskite solar cells via rationally optimized solvent washing treatment" *R. Soc. Chem. Adv.* 462971-7