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Junction Formation by Doping in $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ Co-Evaporated Films for Solar Cell Application

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pn-control for the co-evaporated films were successfully accomplished. By V_2O_5 -doping or Cs_2CO_3 -doping, Fermi levels (E_F) of metal-free phthalocyanine:fullerene ($H_2Pc:C_{60}$) co-evaporated films positively or negatively shifted, suggesting that whole co-evaporated film behaved as p-type or n-type, respectively. A series of junction such as Schottky junction and pn-homojunction were formed by doping in $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ co-evaporated films (1:1).

Keywords Co-evaporated films; doping; Fermi level; junction formation; organic solar cells

Introduction

Controlling of pn properties is one of the key issues for small-molecular-type organic photovoltaic cells [1–9] since it enables intentional design energetic structures similar to inorganic cells [10,11]. Recently, we reported the complete pn-control of fullerene (C_{60}) [12,13] and metal-free phthalocyanine (H_2Pc) [14]. However, due to the absence of photosensitization in the single organic semiconductors, little photocurrent is expectable. In order to obtain practical magnitude of photocurrent, co-evaporated films should be used. Therefore, as a next step, we tried to form the built-in potential by doping directly in co-evaporated films.

In this paper, we report the pn-control and a series of junction formation by doping in $H_2Pc:C_{60}$ co-evaporated films.

Experimental

C_{60} (Frontier Carbon, nanom purple TL) and H_2Pc (Dainippon Ink and Chemicals, INC., Fastogen Blue EP-101) samples were purified by single-crystal formed sublimation. V_2O_5 (SIGMA-ALDRICH, 99.99%) and Cs_2CO_3 (SIGMA-ALDRICH, 99.995%) were used as dopants to act as acceptor and donor, respectively. They were doped by the three-sources co-evaporation with C_{60} and H_2Pc . Precise monitoring of the deposition rates of the V_2O_5

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(2×10^{-4} nm s $^{-1}$) and Cs₂CO₃ (1×10^{-4} nm s $^{-1}$) were achieved by using a quartz crystal monitors (QCMs; ULVAC, CRTM-6000G) equipped with a computer monitoring system (ULVAC, Depoview), which allowed us to dope with V₂O₅ and Cs₂CO₃ to as low as 1000 and 500 ppm in volume concentrations. All of the films were deposited by vacuum evaporation onto ITO glass substrates under 10^{-5} Pa pressure using an oil-free vacuum evaporator (ULVAC, VTS-350M/ERH). The Fermi level (E_F) of 100 nm-thick H₂Pc:C₆₀ co-evaporated films were measured by Kelvin vibrating capacitor apparatus (Riken-Keiki, FAC-1) [15]. Both the evaporation chamber and the Kelvin probe for E_F measurement of various co-evaporated films were built in to a glove-box (Miwa, DBO-1.5) purged by N₂ gas. Thus, the H₂Pc:C₆₀ co-evaporated films were not exposed to air at any time. The photovoltaic properties were also measured without exposure to air by setting the cells into a sample container with a quartz glass window inside the glove-box. The container was then evacuated to 10^{-5} Pa, and the action spectra were measured by irradiating with monochromatic light from a Xe-lamp through a monochromator. The external quantum yield (EQE) values were calculated as the ratio of the number of carriers collected under the short-circuit condition to the number of photons irradiated to the cell, which was measured by silicon photodiode (Hamamatsu Photonics, S1337-66BQ).

Results

(1) Pn-control of Co-evaporated Films

Figure 1 shows the energy diagrams for V₂O₅- or Cs₂CO₃-doped C₆₀, H₂Pc single films and H₂Pc:C₆₀ co-evaporated film. In the case of C₆₀ film, the E_F shifted to 4.40 eV and located near the conductance band by Cs₂CO₃-doping acting as donor, and it shifted to 5.87 eV and located near the valence band by V₂O₅-doping acting as acceptor. In the case of H₂Pc film, the E_F negatively shifted to 3.76 eV by Cs₂CO₃-doping and positively shifted to 4.80 eV by V₂O₅-doping. Obviously, they act as effective acceptor and donor dopants in both C₆₀ and H₂Pc single films.

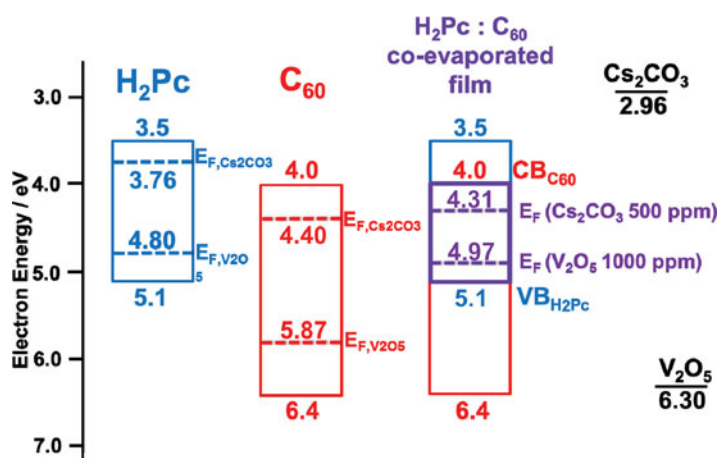


Figure 1. Energy diagrams for H₂Pc, C₆₀ single films and H₂Pc:C₆₀ co-evaporated film. 1000 ppm V₂O₅ and 500 ppm Cs₂CO₃ were doped. Values of the work functions of V₂O₅ and Cs₂CO₃ are also shown.

In the case of $\text{H}_2\text{Pc}:\text{C}_{60}$ co-evaporated films, the E_F negatively shifted to 4.19 eV and reached near the conductance band of C_{60} by Cs_2CO_3 -doping, and the E_F positively shifted to 4.91 eV and reached near the valence band of H_2Pc by V_2O_5 -doping. This result suggests that whole co-evaporated film changed to n -type and p -type, respectively. It should be noted that the shift of Fermi levels of co-evaporated films occurs within the overlap of band gap of H_2Pc and C_{60} (Fig. 1, purple area), i.e., “band gap of co-evaporated film.”

(2) Junction Formation in Co-evaporated Films

We fabricated p -type and n -type Schottky junctions and, pn -homojunction in $\text{H}_2\text{Pc}:\text{C}_{60}$ co-evaporated films. The cell structures ((a), (b), (c)) and their action spectra ((d), (e), (f)) were shown in Fig. 2.

For the V_2O_5 -doped cell, under the irradiation onto the ITO, the action spectrum showed a peak around the edge of the absorption spectrum (Fig. 2(b), $h\nu$ (a)). This is the so-called “masking effect” and proves that the photoactive junction is located at the co-evaporated layer/Ag interface. Conversely, under irradiation onto the Ag, the action spectrum appeared in the same region as the absorption of $\text{H}_2\text{Pc}:\text{C}_{60}$ co-evaporated film (Fig. 2(b), $h\nu$ (b)). Judging from the negative photovoltage of the Ag electrode and the photoactive junction at the co-evaporated layer/Ag interface, the $\text{H}_2\text{Pc}:\text{C}_{60}$ co-evaporated film behaves as p -type and an upwardly-bent Schottky junction is formed at the p -type

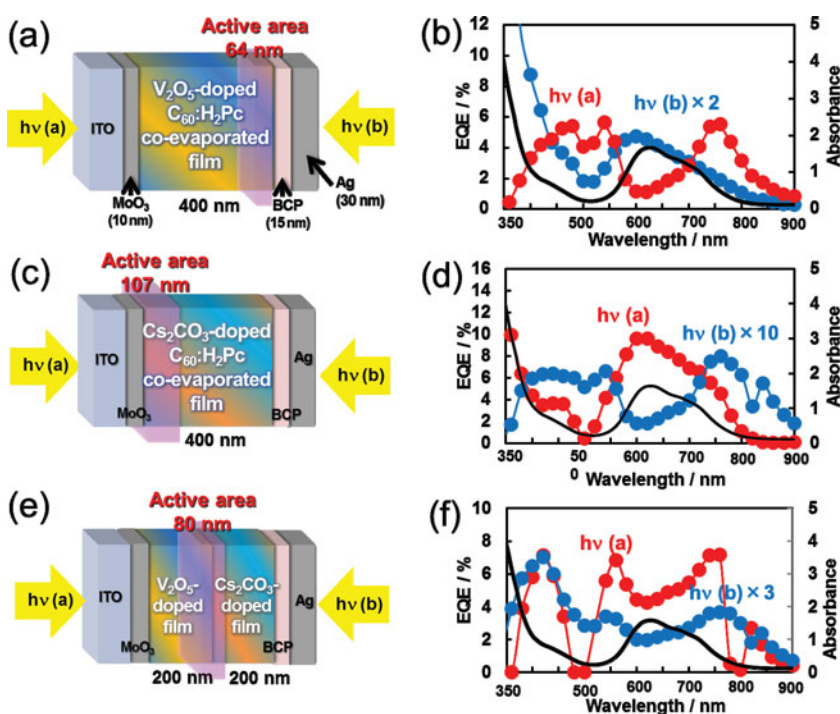


Figure 2. Cell structures ((a)(c)(e)) incorporating doped $\text{H}_2\text{Pc}:\text{C}_{60}$ co-evaporated films and their action spectra ((b)(d)(f)). The black curves show the absorption of co-evaporated film. The volume concentrations for V_2O_5 and Cs_2CO_3 are 1000 and 500 ppm, respectively. Photoactive areas (red shaded parts) are indicated in the cell structures.

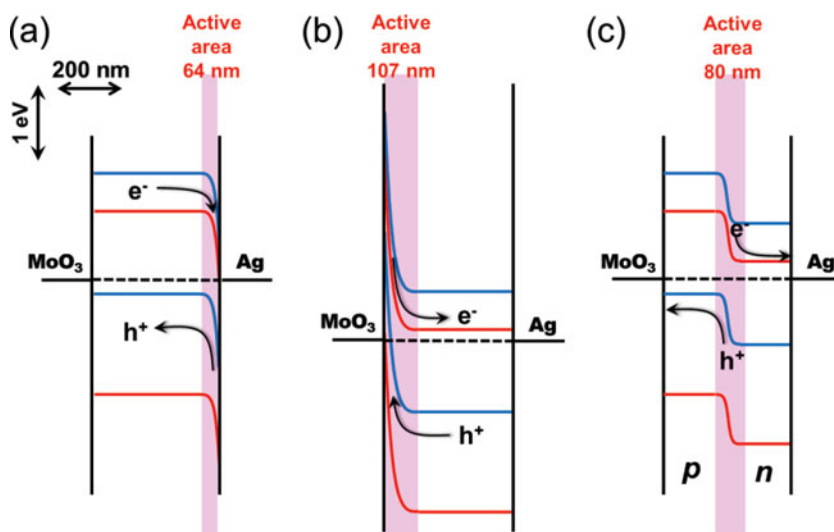


Figure 3. The energetic structures of cells in Fig. 2. Scales of energy and length are indicated by double-head arrows. (a) *p*-type Schottky junction. (b) *n*-type Schottky junction. (c) *pn*-homojunction.

H₂Pc:C₆₀/Ag interface (Fig. 3(a)). Thus, the formation of *p*-type H₂Pc:C₆₀ co-evaporated film by V₂O₅ doping was confirmed by photovoltaic observation.

On the other hand, in the case of the Cs₂CO₃-doped cell, the action spectra measured by the illuminations from both sides show completely inverse characteristics to the V₂O₅-doped cell (Fig. 2(d), *hν*(a), (b)). Thus, we concluded that the opposite mechanism takes place for V₂O₅-doped cell, i.e., the Cs₂CO₃-doped film behaves as *n*-type and a downwardly-bent Schottky junction is formed at the MoO₃/*n*-type co-evaporated layer interface (Fig. 3(b)). Thus, the formation of *n*-type H₂Pc:C₆₀ co-evaporated film by Cs₂CO₃ doping was confirmed by photovoltaic observation.

We fabricated the cell by connecting *p*-type and *n*-type H₂Pc:C₆₀ co-evaporated films (Fig. 2(e)). Irrespective of the irradiation sides, the action spectrum showed a peak around the edge of the absorption spectrum, i.e., a strong masking effect was observed (Fig. 2(f), *hν*(a), *hν*(b)). This means that the carrier generated neither at the MoO₃/H₂Pc:C₆₀ interface nor at the H₂Pc:C₆₀/Ag interface. Namely, the photoactive junction is formed at the center of cell bulk. Thus, the formation of *pn*-homojunction in H₂Pc:C₆₀ co-evaporated film by doping was confirmed (Fig. 3(c)).

The band bending in energy diagrams in Figs. 3(a)–3(c) can be mapped in real scale based on the Kelvin probe measurements [10,16,17] and the widths of depletion regions for *p*-type (Fig. 3(a)), *n*-type (Fig. 3(b)) Schottky junctions, and *pn*-homojunction (Fig. 3(c)) to 64 nm, 107 nm, and 80 nm, respectively. Since these widths of depletion regions acting as photoactive areas were significantly thinner compared to the total cell thickness (400 nm), EQE spectra in Figs. 2(a)–2(c) were observed.

Conclusion

We succeeded in *pn*-control and junction formations by doping in H₂Pc:C₆₀ co-evaporated films. Thus, the built-in potential in co-evaporated films can be intentionally formed by using doping technique. In this work, since we used only molecular level mixtures H₂Pc and C₆₀, the magnitude of photocurrent was not large. However, we have reported the

increase of photocurrent due to the phase separation by using the co-evaporant molecules [18]. We are now trying to combine the present doping technique forming built-in potential and phase separation technique by co-evaporant molecules.

Acknowledgment

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