## Inspired from Spiro-OMeTAD: Developing Ambipolar Spirobifluorene Derivatives as Effective Passivation Molecules of Perovskite Solar Cells

Teng Zhang,<sup>a\*#</sup> Baohua Zhao, <sup>b#</sup> Zhi Li,<sup>c</sup> Shanshan Liu,<sup>b</sup> Chengben Liu,<sup>b</sup> Xinmei Li,<sup>a</sup> Heyuan Liu,<sup>a</sup> Yanli Chen,<sup>a</sup> Zhaobin Liu<sup>c</sup> and Xiyou Li<sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a.</sup> School of Materials Science and Engineering, China University of Petroleum (East China), Qingdao, 266580 P. R. China. E-mail: xiyouli@upc.edu.cn; tzhangae@connect.ust.hk

<sup>b.</sup> College of Science, China University of Petroleum (East China), Qingdao, 266580 P. R. China.

- 1, Gongye South Road, High tech Zone, Jinan City, Shandong Province, China.
- <sup>#</sup> T. Zhang and B. Zhao contributed equally to the work

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c.</sup> Shandong Energy Group Co., Ltd., 19/F, high salary Wanda J3 office building, 57-

## Synthesis section

## Synthesis of BSBF-NH<sub>2</sub>



2-ylboronicacid-9,9'-spirobifluorene(144.08 0.4 mmol), tert-Butyl(4mg, bromophenyl)carbamate (100 mg, 0.33 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (15.430 mg, 0.013 mmol) and  $K_2CO_3$  (110.6 mg, 0.803 mmol) were dissolved in the tetrahydrofuran (15mL). The mixture was sealed in a vial tube under  $N_2$  and stirred at  $80^\circ C$  for 8 h in a microwave reactor. After the reaction, the mixture was poured into 50 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and washed with water (100 mL×3). The organic layer was collected and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified using silica gel column chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). After removing CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> under reduced pressure, the colorless solid (1) was obtained. Under  $N_{\rm 2}$  atmosphere, trifluoroacetic acid (TFA, 1.2 mL) was added to the solution of (1) (185.11 mg, 0.320 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (8 mL). The mixture was stirred at RT for 4 h. After the reaction, the solvents were removed under reduced pressure. 5% Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> aqueous solution (8 mL) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6.5 mL) were added to the crude product, and the reaction waskept at RT for 6 h. The organic layer was collected and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure. The precipitate was collected and washed with CHCl<sub>2</sub> and ethanol. The pale yellow solid was dried under reduced pressure at 60°C. Yield: 262 mg, 73%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS): δ = 2.82 (t, 2H), 2.99(s, 2H), 7.15(t, 3H), 7.23(d, 2H), 7.40-7.44(m, 5H), 7.72(d, 3H), 8.05-8.07(m, 2H), 8.12(d, 1H).

## Synthesis of BSBF-COOH



3-ylboronicacid-9,9'-spirobifluorene (144.08 mg, 0.4 mmol), methyl 2-(4bromophenyl)acetate (75.57 mg, 0.33 mmol), Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (15.430 mg, 0.013 mmol) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (110.6 mg, 0.803 mmol) were dissolved in the tetrahydrofuran (15mL). The mixture was sealed in a vial tube under N2 and stirred at 80°C for 8 h in a microwave reactor. After the reaction, the mixture was poured into 50 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and washed with water (100 mL×3). The organic layer was collected and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified using silica gel column chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). After removing CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> under reduced pressure, the colorless solid (2) was obtained. Add product (2) to methanol dioxane mixed solvent(V/V=1/4), stir at 90 degrees Celsius. Then KOH(2mol/L) solution was added to it and stirred until the solution was clear. After acidification treatment with HCl, a light yellow powder is obtained. Yield: 112 mg,

65%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, TMS): δ = 6.59 (d, 1H), 6.61(d, 2H), 6.88(s, 1H), 7.15(d, 3H), 2.20-7.22(d, 2H), 7.35-7.38(q, 4H), 7.75(d, 1H), 8.16(t, 3H), 8.27(d, 1H), 12.28(s, 1H).



Fig. S1 The 1H NMR spectrum of the synthesized BSBF-NH $_2$  molecule.



Fig. S2 The MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of synthesized BSBF-NH $_2$  molecule.



Fig. S3 The 1H NMR spectrum of the synthesized BSBF-COOH molecule.



Fig. S4 The MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of synthesized BSBF-COOH molecule.



Fig. S5 The Infrared (IR) Spectroscopy of synthesized BSBF-COOH and BSBF-NH $_2$  molecule.



Fig. S6 Incident photon-to-current efficiency (IPCE) of the best performed BSBF-NH<sub>2</sub> passivated PSCs.



Fig. S7 Top view SEM images of the BSBF-COOH passivated perovskite films.

|                  | BSBF-NH <sub>2</sub>                                      | BSBF-COOH   |
|------------------|---|---|
| Name             | 2-(4-(9,9'-spirobi[fluoren]-2-<br>yl)phenyl)ethan-1-amine | 2-(4-(9,9'-spirobi[fluoren]-2-yl)<br>phenyl)acetic acid |
| Form             | solid   | solid   |
| Colour           | Pale yellow   | Pale yellow   |
| Chemical formula | $C_{33}H_{25}N$   | $C_{33}H_{22}O_2$                                       |
| Molecular weight | 435.20  | 450.54  |
| Melting point    | 191°C   | 138°C   |

Table S1. Summary of the characterization for  $BSBF-NH_2$  and BSBF-COOH.

|             | Jsc (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> ) | Voc (V) | FF   | PCE (%) |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------|------|---------|
| Control     | 23.62                     | 1.07    | 0.73 | 18.45   |
| 1.25 mmol/L | 23.46                     | 1.08    | 0.76 | 19.25   |
| 2.50 mmol/L | 23.67                     | 1.10    | 0.77 | 20.05   |
| 5.00 mmol/L | 23.41                     | 1.08    | 0.74 | 18.71   |

Table S2. Summary of the photovoltaic parameters for  $BSBF-NH_2$  passivated PSCs.

|             | Jsc (mA/cm <sup>2</sup> ) | Voc (V) | FF   | PCE (%) |
|-------------|---------------------------|---------|------|---------|
| Control     | 23.60                     | 1.06    | 0.73 | 18.26   |
| 1.25 mmol/L | 23.21                     | 1.08    | 0.76 | 19.05   |
| 2.50 mmol/L | 23.12                     | 1.08    | 0.77 | 19.23   |
| 5.00 mmol/L | 23.41                     | 1.08    | 0.75 | 18.21   |

Table S3. Summary of the photovoltaic parameters for BSBF-COOH passivated PSCs.

Table S4. PL lifetimes and the corresponding component percentage of the control, BSBF-COOH and BSBF-NH<sub>2</sub> passivated perovskite films obtained by using a biexponential fitting model.

|                      | $\tau_1(ns)$ | A <sub>1</sub> (%) | $\tau_2$ (ns) | A <sub>2</sub> (%) |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Control              | 2.51         | 32.17              | 212.37        | 67.83              |
| BSBF-COOH            | 2.03         | 26.23              | 323.82        | 73.58              |
| BSBF-NH <sub>2</sub> | 2.02         | 24.40              | 350.61        | 75.60              |

|                      | $\tau_1(ps)$ | $\tau_2(ps)$ |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Control              | 302          | 2792         |
| BSBF-NH <sub>2</sub> | 139          | 2060         |

Table S5 Summary of the time constants from fits to the transient absorption data in Figure 4f.