

## Supplementary Information for, “More is Different: Mobile Ions Improve the Design Tolerances of Perovskite Solar Cells”

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## Extended Methods

Please note that reference numbers in this section refer to references in the main text.

### 1. Drift-Diffusion Simulations

Device simulations were performed using Driftfusion, a software package designed to model one-dimensional, ordered semi-conductor devices which contain up to two species of mobile ions.<sup>26</sup> Driftfusion models ionic carriers in the perovskite layer as Schottky defects, following the results of quantum mechanical calculations by Walsh et al.<sup>44</sup> This means that each mobile ion is compensated for by a counter-ion of opposite charge, which is assumed to be static. Here, we included a single, positively charged mobile ionic species to reflect experimental and theoretical work which suggests that halide vacancies are the ionic carrier with the highest concentration and conductivity in metal halide perovskites.<sup>3-9</sup> Additionally, we assumed that the mobile cations are restricted to the perovskite layer and neglected the electrochemical processes which may occur at perovskite/TL interfaces. Both these processes could alter interfacial recombination kinetics and/or lead to irreversible degradation of the perovskite crystal structure. The effect of such degradation is not explicitly included in our model though, assuming its consequence would be to increase surface recombination velocity, **Figure S3** suggests that this would decrease  $V_{OC}$ , potentially to the extent that  $V_{OC} < V_{flat}$ , with the result that ions start to reduce  $V_{OC}$ .

In order to determine an accurate value for  $V_{OC}$  in the simulations which included mobile ions, it was necessary to ensure that the ions were at steady state at each point along the JV curve, which we did by using a scan rate of  $0.1 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ . Thus, the JVs simulated herein are not representative of device performance as conventionally measured during a JV scan (typically done at scan rates  $\sim 10\text{-}100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ ), but instead accurately describe how the simulated device behaves once the ionic charge has re-equilibrated in response to the applied bias. This means that the  $V_{OC}$  values we report are those of the fully stabilised device and any enhancement of  $V_{OC}$  in the presence of mobile ions is due to their impact upon the PSC's electrostatics, as opposed to being a transient effect. JV scans on the 1.6 eV bandgap perovskite were performed at 1 Sun equivalent illumination and those on the 1.5 eV bandgap perovskite were done at 1.2 Sun equivalent, to account for the increased absorption of the narrower bandgap active layer. This was done as the  $n$  and  $k$  values for of the perovskite composition used in ref. <sup>2</sup> could not be found in the literature. Given the  $3 \mu\text{s}$  Shockley-Read-Hall lifetime used in these simulations (see **Table S2**) the effective diffusion length far exceeds the layer thickness. Consequently, the differences in generation rate profile will have negligible impact on the results.

To perform the simulations in which we varied  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$ , the offsets at both interfaces were changed in a symmetric manner, while ensuring that the intrinsic carrier densities in both types of transport layer remained constant (asymmetric values of  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$  are considered in **Supplementary Note One**). Where possible,  $V_{\text{BI}}$  was set to 1.1 V, though this had to be reduced for larger  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$  values as Driftfusion cannot model situations where the electrode work function lies within the conduction or valence band of the transport layers.

To simulate the Stabilise and Pulse protocol, we first generated a series of solutions in which we allowed the ion distribution to reach its equilibrium position for the chosen  $V_{\text{bias}}$  value. Following this stabilisation, we then set the ionic mobility of each solution to zero to ensure that the ions were frozen in place during subsequent simulation. These solutions were then analysed using two different methods. In the first method, we performed an explicit simulation of the experimental protocol in which we took the input solution and ramped it to the desired  $V_{\text{pulse}}$  value over a time of 0.8 ms. We then held the device at  $V_{\text{pulse}}$  for 1 ms before recording the current output of the device. The ramp and dwell time were taken from the values stated in ref. <sup>39</sup> and this simulation protocol is akin to the one described in that work. However, this method was computationally costly, which limited the number of  $V_{\text{pulse}}$  values which it was feasible to simulate, leading to a relatively low voltage resolution. Thus, we also implemented a second method in which we took the stabilised, ‘frozen-ion’ solutions at each  $V_{\text{bias}}$  value and performed regular JV sweeps on them, the results of which agreed with those of the more explicit simulation protocol described above, and which allowed us to obtain a much higher resolution along the voltage axis (see **Figure S18**). The device efficiency for both the frozen ion and steady state JV curves was evaluated using  $\text{PCE} = J_{\text{m}}V_{\text{m}}/P$  here  $J_{\text{m}}$  and  $V_{\text{m}}$  are the current density and voltage at the maximum power point on the JV curve, and  $P$  is the light intensity incident on the device.

## 2. Stabilise and Pulse Measurements

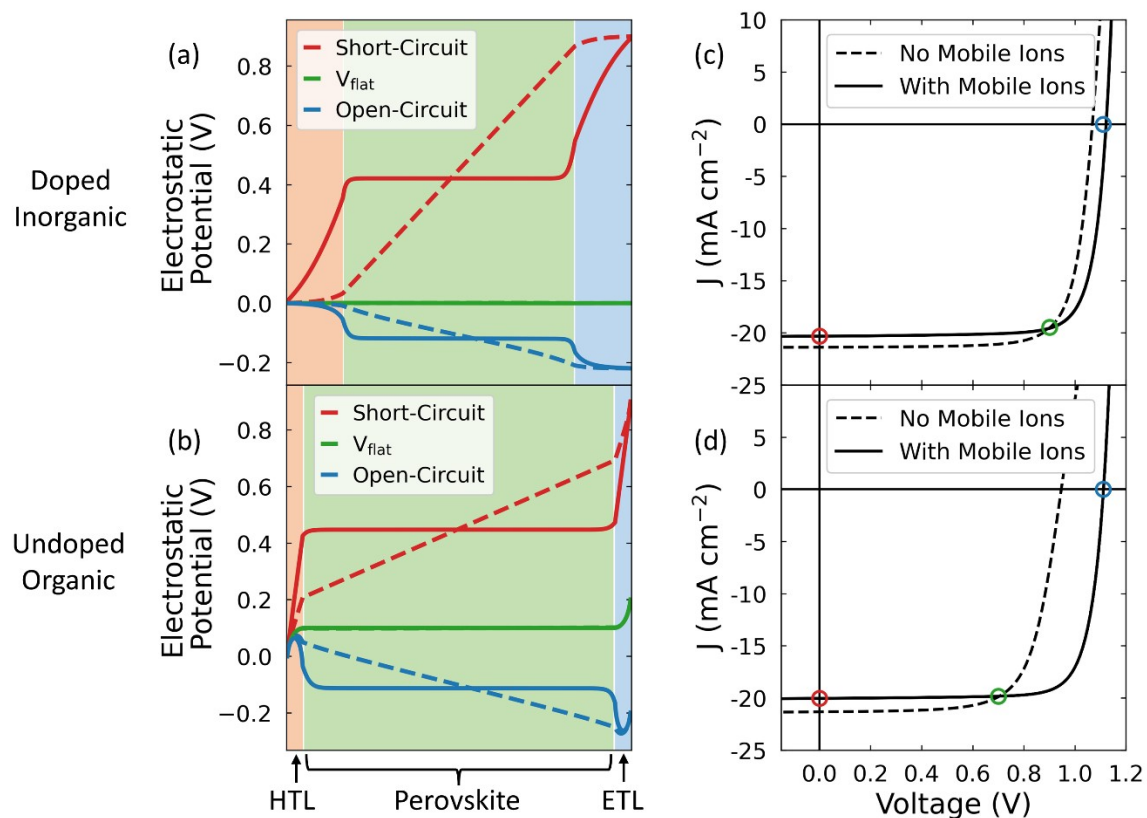
Initially, JV curves for each device were measured under standard AM1.5 simulated sunlight, as described in the Experimental section of the main text. Devices were then immediately transferred to the home-built Stabilise and Pulse setup. Here, a Cree High Power white LED was used as the light source, the intensity of which was calibrated to match the device’s measured short circuit current density. Voltage pulses were provided by an Ossila Source Meter Unit. Each voltage pulse had a duration of approximately 40 ms and the device was stabilised for 1 s between the voltage pulses i.e., a duty cycle of around 5%. The source delay was set to 1  $\mu\text{s}$ , meaning that the current value was acquired approximately 1  $\mu\text{s}$  after the arrival of the voltage pulse, though we note that the returned value is the average over the following 15  $\mu\text{s}$ . When changing the bias voltage, 50 mV step increments were used with the stabilisation period being a minimum of 120 s, though in some cases this was extended to obtain a stable current output. We note that devices using the alloyed perovskite required a longer

stabilisation period than those using MAPI. Consequently, the measurements were performed at approximately 0.5 Suns to prevent degradation during the significantly longer Stabilise and Pulse protocol.

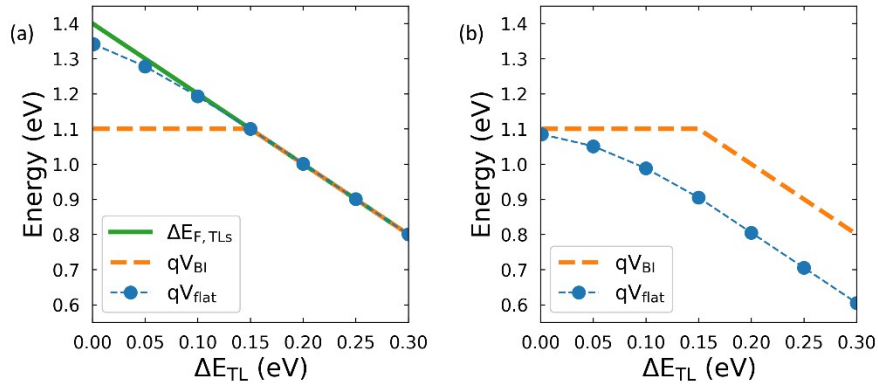
In the main text, we show results extending up to the smallest  $V_{\text{bias}}$  value necessary to determine the quasi-steady state (QSS)  $V_{\text{OC}}$  as we found that the current did not stabilise prior to performing the pulsed JVs at higher values of  $V_{\text{bias}}$ , in contrast to what was observed for lower values of  $V_{\text{bias}}$  (see **Figure S5**). Based on the fact that this effect was smaller in the devices which included  $\text{C}_{60}$ -BA, we believe that this instability is related to electrochemical processes which occur at the  $\text{TiO}_2$ /MAPI interface following prolonged illumination (though we note that the  $\text{SnO}_2$ /MAPI interface is similarly affected, see **Supplementary Note Four**). This interpretation is supported by our observation of a slight reduction in device performance after collecting the Stabilise and Pulse data (see **Figure S19**). However, during the pulsed JVs themselves, the ionic configuration remained stable, as we demonstrate in **Figures 2a-b** which include Stabilise and Pulse data from the forward and reverse scan directions (see also **Figure S20**). The negligible amount of hysteresis strongly suggests that there is no ionic motion during the pulsed JV measurement.

A  $V_{\text{flat}}$  value was extracted from the Stabilise and Pulse data by analysing the gradient around the open circuit voltage of the JV obtained at each pre-bias voltage ( $V_{\text{bias}}$ ). To find the gradient of each JV, a polynomial to the third degree was fitted to the 2-3 points above and below open circuit voltage and the gradient extracted from this fitting. Following this, we plotted the gradient around  $V_{\text{OC}}$  ( $dJ/dV|_{V=V_{\text{OC}}}$ ) against  $V_{\text{bias}}$ . To extract the  $V_{\text{flat}}$  value from this curve, we aim to identify the inflection point. The reasoning for this is that the inflection point will be the point where a change in states is observed, or rather a flipping in device behaviour, i.e., from being below  $V_{\text{flat}}$  to above  $V_{\text{flat}}$ . To find the inflection point, we first calculate the mean value of the steepest section of the plot by taking the average value of the two plateaus in  $dJ/dV|_{V=V_{\text{OC}}}$  (one at low bias, the other at high bias, see **Figure S8**). We then perform a linear regression on the section of the  $dJ/dV|_{V=V_{\text{OC}}}$  around this mean value. Finally, we extend this linear regression to find the points where it intercepts the values of  $dJ/dV|_{V=V_{\text{OC}}}$  at the high and low voltage plateaus. The mean value of these intercepts is then used to estimate  $V_{\text{flat}}$  for the device. We note that the reduction in device performance observed at high light intensities for the  $\text{TiO}_2$  and  $\text{SnO}_2$  devices without  $\text{C}_{60}$ -BA may lead to an underestimation of  $V_{\text{flat}}$ , by reducing the voltage at which the high voltage plateau in  $dJ/dV|_{V=V_{\text{OC}}}$  occurs. However, we do not believe that this has significantly impacted our results as we find similar values of  $V_{\text{flat}}$  in the devices which included  $\text{C}_{60}$ -BA, which did not show a significant reduction in performance at high forward bias. However, for this reason we have concentrated on the role of  $\text{C}_{60}$ -BA as a trap state passivator rather than any modulation of  $V_{\text{flat}}$  in the simulations shown in **Supplementary Note Three**.

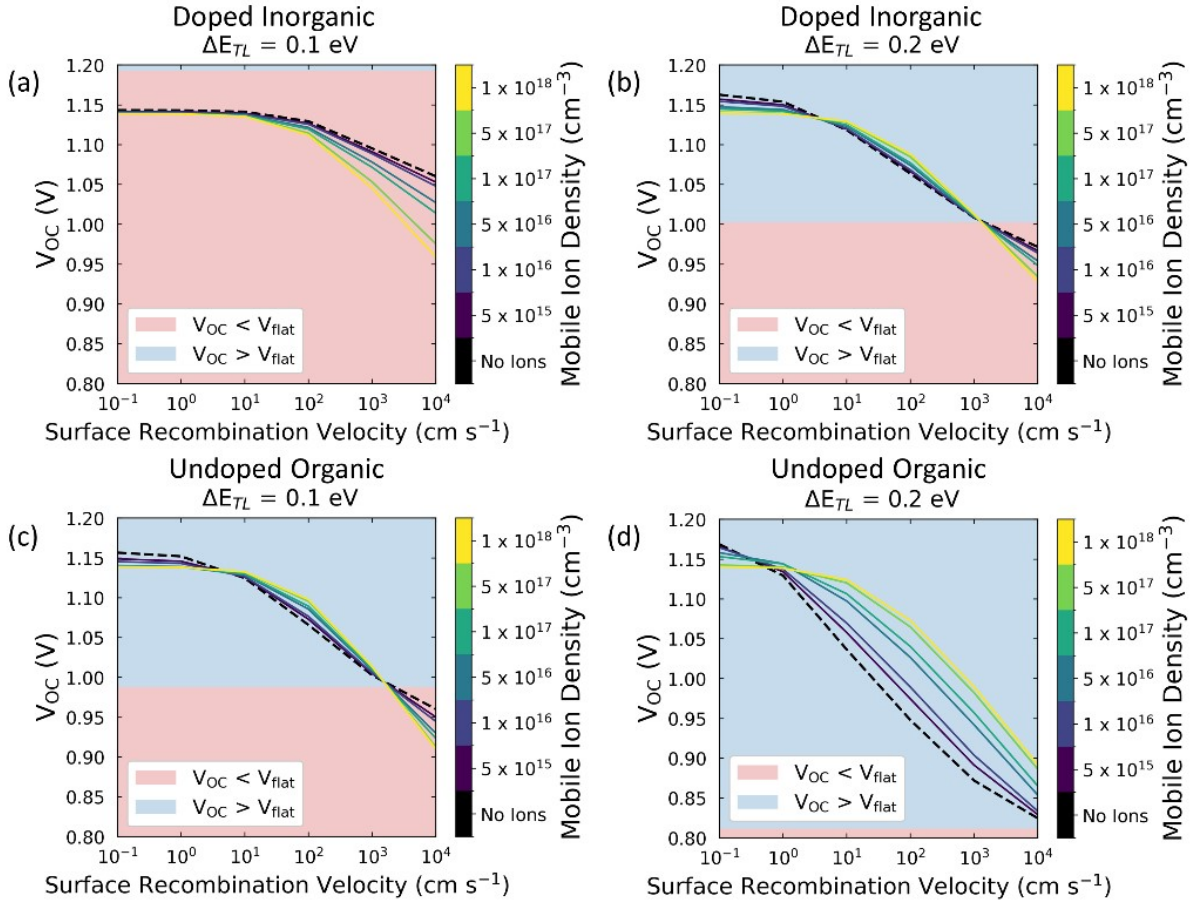
## Supplementary Figures



**Figure S1:** Figures (a) and (b) show the electrostatic potentials from the simulations shown in (c) and (d), which correspond to the doped inorganic and undoped organic parameter sets, respectively. Solid lines show the results when mobile ions are included ( $N_{\text{ion}} = 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ) and dashed lines indicate results with no mobile ions. For both parameter sets, we used  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}} = 0.25 \text{ eV}$ ,  $V_{\text{BI}} = 0.90 \text{ V}$ , and a surface recombination velocity of  $10 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ . Electrostatic potentials are shown at short circuit (red,  $V_{\text{app}} = 0 \text{ V}$ ), the flat band condition in the perovskite (green,  $V_{\text{app}} = 0.90 \text{ V}$  in figure (a) and  $V_{\text{app}} = 0.70 \text{ V}$  in figure (b)) and open circuit for the device including mobile ions (blue,  $V_{\text{app}} = 1.12 \text{ V}$  in figure (a) and  $V_{\text{app}} = 1.11 \text{ V}$  in figure (b)). In both cases, we see that the inclusion of mobile ions increases the fraction of the electrostatic potential which is lost across the transport layers. Additionally, note how the use of undoped organic transport layers reduces  $V_{\text{flat}}$  by  $0.2 \text{ V}$ . Figures (c) and (d) show simulated steady state JV scans performed with and without the inclusion of a mobile ionic species for the doped inorganic and undoped organic parameter sets, respectively. Red, blue, and green circles correspond to the same potentials as shown in figures (a) and (b). Note that  $V_{\text{flat}}$  (as indicated by the green circles) is also the voltage at which the JV curves with and without mobile ions intersect as this is the only point in the JV scan where the electric field distribution, and thus electronic carrier distribution, are identical.



**Figure S2:** (a) The offset between the transport layers' equilibrium Fermi levels ( $\Delta E_{F,TLs}$ ), the built in voltage ( $V_{BI}$ ) and the flat band condition in the perovskite ( $V_{flat}$ ) as a function of transport layers' energetic offset ( $\Delta E_{TL}$ ) for the doped inorganic parameter set. We note that we have multiplied  $V_{BI}$  and  $V_{flat}$  by the elementary charge ( $q$ ) so that they can be plotted on the same axis as  $\Delta E_{F,TLs}$ . This figure shows that, when the transport layers are highly conductive and have a high permittivity,  $V_{flat}$  is determined by  $\Delta E_{F,TLs}$ . For small values of  $\Delta E_{F,TLs}$ ,  $V_{flat}$  falls slightly below  $\Delta E_{F,TLs}$  and this is due to the presence of an injection barrier from the electrodes into the transport layers, which creates a depletion region at the transport layer/electrode interface. (b)  $V_{BI}$  and  $V_{flat}$  for the undoped organic parameter set as a function of  $\Delta E_{TL}$ . Since the transport layers are intrinsic, we do not show  $\Delta E_{F,TLs}$  in this case. It is apparent that the use of transport layers with low conductivity and permittivity can lead to a significant reduction in  $V_{flat}$  relative to  $V_{BI}$ , as is discussed in **Supplementary Note Three**.

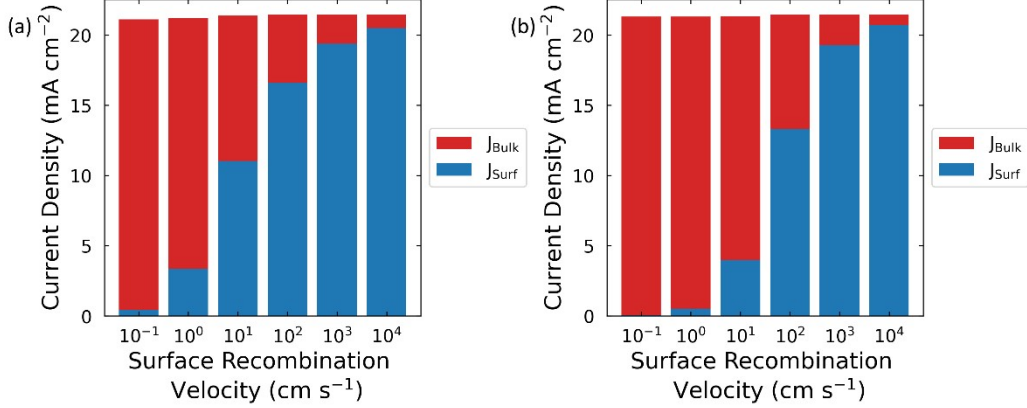


**Figure S3:** The effect of surface recombination velocity ( $v_s$ ) on the ionic modulation of  $V_{OC}$  for different combinations of parameter set and transport layer energetic offset ( $\Delta E_{TL}$ ). Figures (a) and (b) show the case of doped inorganic transport layers for which the flat band condition across the perovskite ( $V_{flat}$ ) is determined by the Fermi level offset between the transport layers (**Figure S2**). In (a), where there is a small  $\Delta E_{TL}$ , this results in  $V_{OC}$  lying below  $V_{flat}$  for all values of  $v_s$  (in the cases of low  $v_s$ , the device becomes limited by Shockley-Read-Hall recombination). Under these conditions, the presence of mobile ions does not improve  $V_{OC}$  as the device reaches  $V_{OC}$  prior to the reversal of the electric field across the perovskite. Thus, the distribution of mobile ions always results in higher minority carrier concentrations at the perovskite/transport layer interfaces than is the case in an equivalent device without mobile ions, resulting in a higher rate of surface recombination for a given applied voltage. The situation is different in Figure (b), where  $\Delta E_{TL}$  is larger thereby reducing  $V_{flat}$ . Under these circumstances, mobile ions can improve  $V_{OC}$  via the mechanism discussed in the main text for values of  $v_s$  in the range 1-1000  $\text{cm s}^{-1}$ . For values of  $v_s \gtrsim 1000 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ , we see that  $V_{OC} < V_{flat}$  and so the presence of mobile ions reduces  $V_{OC}$ , as in Figure (a). For values of  $v_s \lesssim 1 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ , we also observe that the inclusion of ions does not improve  $V_{OC}$ . However, in this case, it is because the recombination current becomes dominated by Shockley-Read-Hall recombination (see **Figure S4**).

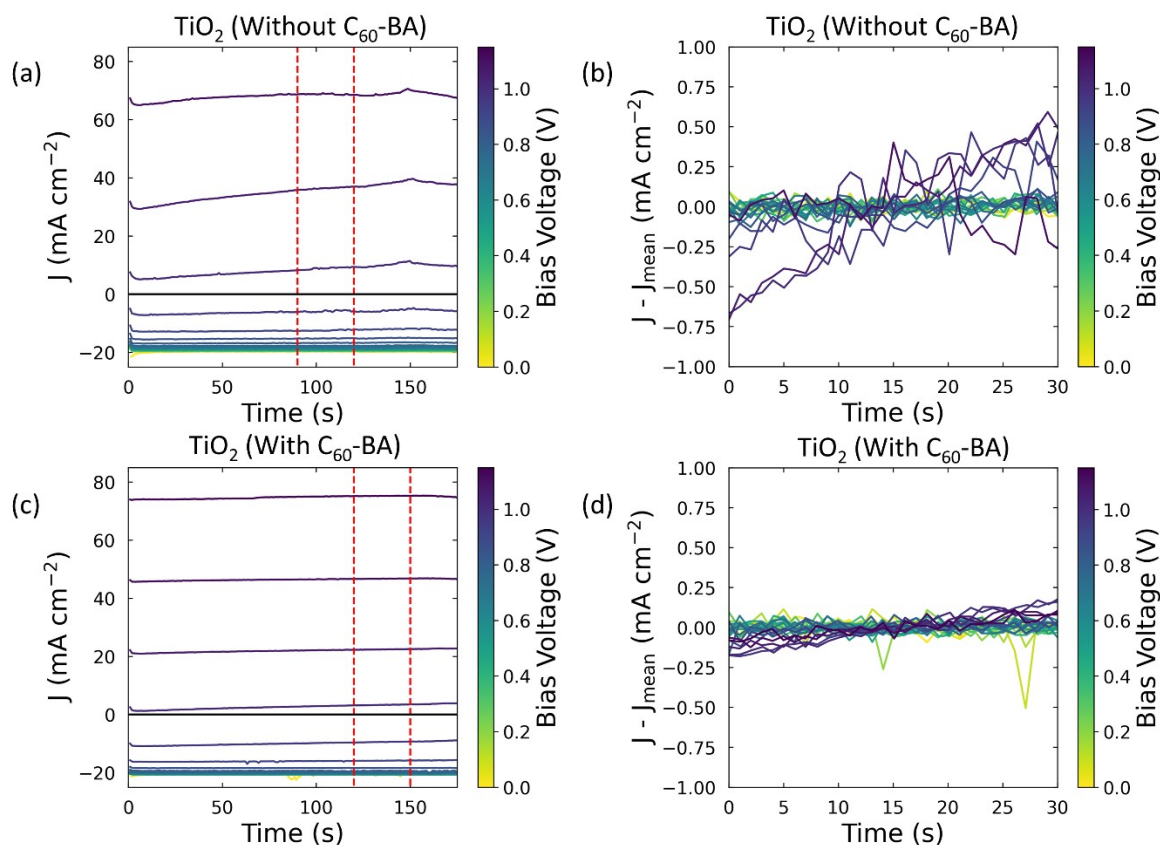
Figures (c) and (d) show the case of undoped organic transport layers. This reduces  $V_{flat}$  relative to the doped inorganic case (**Figure S2**) and means that it is possible to see an improvement in  $V_{OC}$  due to mobile ions for a lower value of  $\Delta E_{TL}$ , as can be seen by contrasting Figures (a) and (c). In Figure (d),  $V_{flat}$  lies below  $V_{OC}$  for all values of  $v_s$  due to the larger value of  $\Delta E_{TL}$ , meaning that the presence of mobile ions always results in an increase in  $V_{OC}$  so long as surface recombination is the dominant contribution to the recombination current (which, again, is not the case for  $v_s \lesssim 1 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ ). Additionally, it is interesting to note that Figures (b) and (c) show very similar trends in  $V_{OC}$ , despite there being a



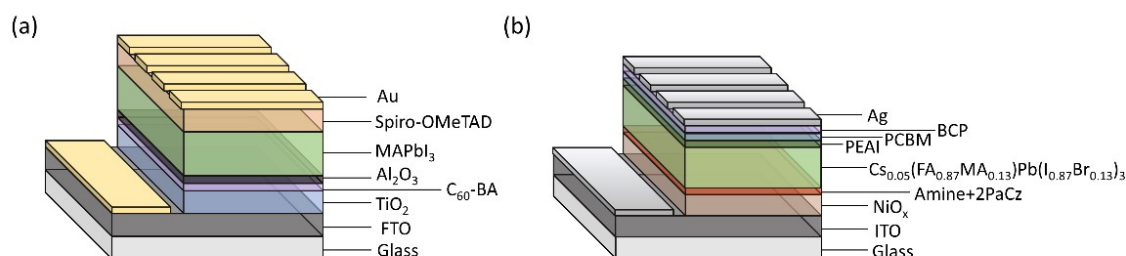
significant difference in the properties of their transport layers. We note that the choice of  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$  for these two figures means that they have comparable values of  $V_{\text{flat}}$ , which demonstrates how transport layer properties play a key role in determining the distribution of the electrostatic potential in a working device. Furthermore, these figures suggest that  $V_{\text{OC}}$  is largely determined by the value of  $V_{\text{flat}}$  and thus that greater consideration should be paid to the capacitive properties of transport layers used in PSCs.



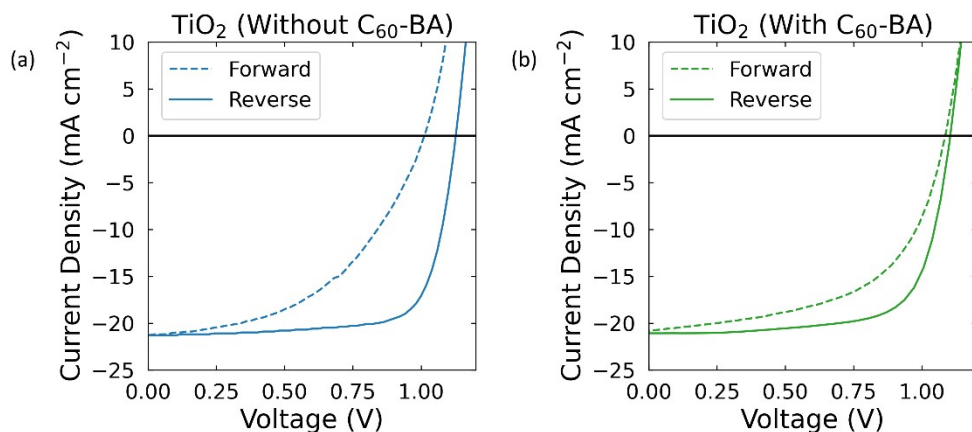
**Figure S4:** A breakdown of the non-radiative contributions to the recombination current at open circuit for the simulation results shown in **Figure S3b**. Figure (a) shows the case with no mobile ions and Figure (b) shows the case with a mobile ion concentration of  $10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . Considering Figure (a), this device is dominated by surface recombination ( $J_{\text{Surf}}$ ), rather than bulk recombination ( $J_{\text{Bulk}}$ ) under open circuit conditions for values of  $v_s > 10 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ . This closely matches the point on **Figure S3b** where the devices including mobile ions start to have a higher  $V_{\text{OC}}$  than those without, demonstrating that mobile ions only lead to an increase in  $V_{\text{OC}}$  when surface recombination losses are dominant. We note here that, in a device with a longer bulk lifetime than that assumed in our simulations (100 ns), the presence of mobile ions would lead to an increase in  $V_{\text{OC}}$  for lower values of the surface recombination velocity. Turning to Figure (b), we see that, in a device with a high mobile ion concentration, the fraction of surface recombination at open circuit is lower than in the corresponding device with no ions, up to  $v_s \approx 1000 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ . This is the point at which  $V_{\text{OC}} < V_{\text{flat}}$ , meaning that the presence of mobile ions acts to increase  $J_{\text{Surf}}$ , as described in the main text.



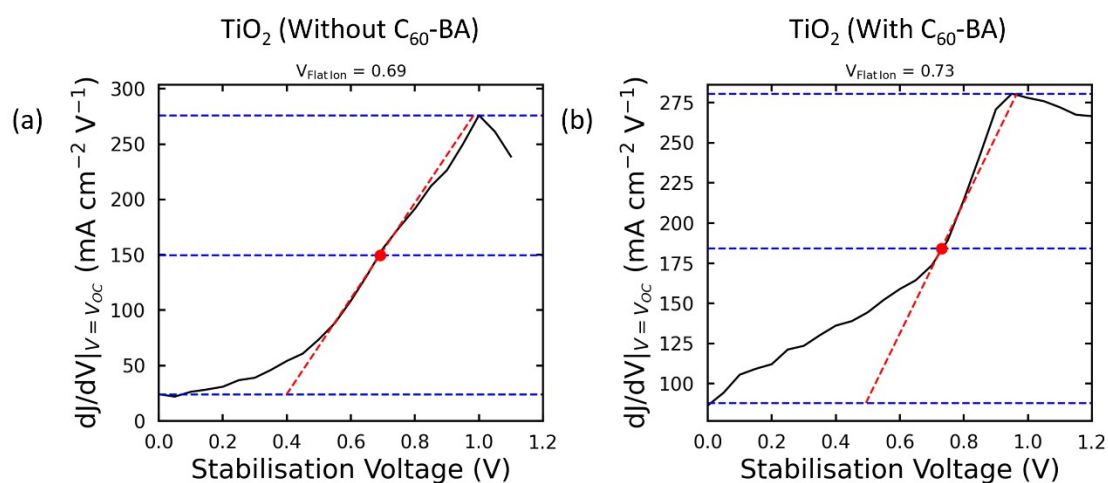
**Figure S5:** Current densities ( $J$ ) measured during the stabilisation phase of the Stabilise and Pulse measurements. Figures (a-b) are for the devices without  $C_{60}$ -BA and figures (c-d) are for those with  $C_{60}$ -BA. In both cases, the first column shows all the data measured over the entire stabilisation period, and the vertical red lines indicate the thirty second time span over which  $J$  was averaged to extract the current values for the QSS JVs. The second column focuses on these thirty seconds and shows the difference between the measured current and its mean value over this time window. It is clear that the current is less stable at higher bias voltages, though the  $C_{60}$ -BA layer seems to improve the device stability (see also **Figure S18**). This suggests that the observed change in  $J$  at longer times is linked to processes which occur at the perovskite/ $TiO_2$  interface, rather than the movement of mobile ionic charge.



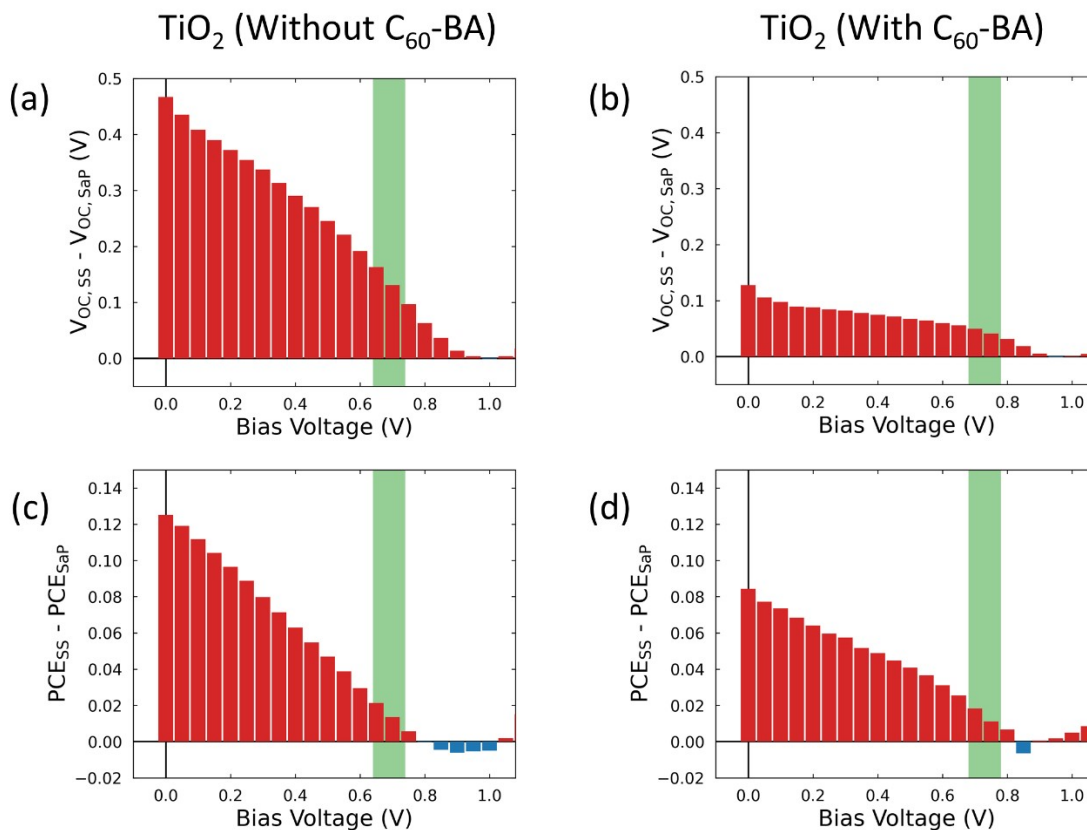
**Figure S6:** Device stacks for (a) the n-i-p  $MAPbI_3$  devices used to measure the results shown in **Figure 2** of the main text and (b) the p-i-n triple cation device used to measure the results shown in **Figure 3** of the main text.



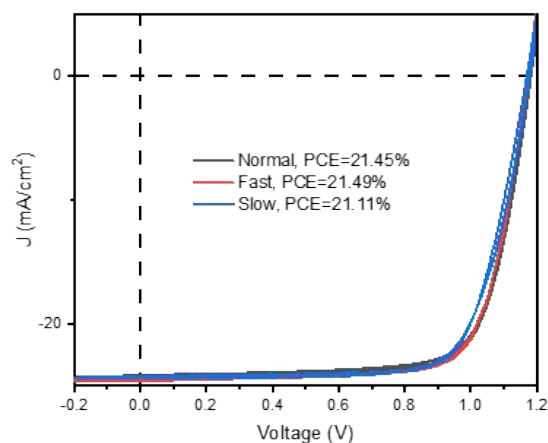
**Figure S7:** JV curves measured under the Solar Sim using the protocol described in the **Methods** for (a) the Au/Spiro-OMeTAD/MAPI/TiO<sub>2</sub>/FTO device stack and (b) the Au/Spiro-OMeTAD/MAPI/C<sub>60</sub>-BA/TiO<sub>2</sub>/FTO device stack. JV parameters are given in **Table S3** and **Table S4**, respectively.



**Figure S8:** Plots used to extract the value of  $V_{\text{flat}}$  from the Stabilise and Pulse data for (a) the device without C<sub>60</sub>-BA and (b) the device with C<sub>60</sub>-BA. Details of the fitting procedure are given in the **Methods** section.

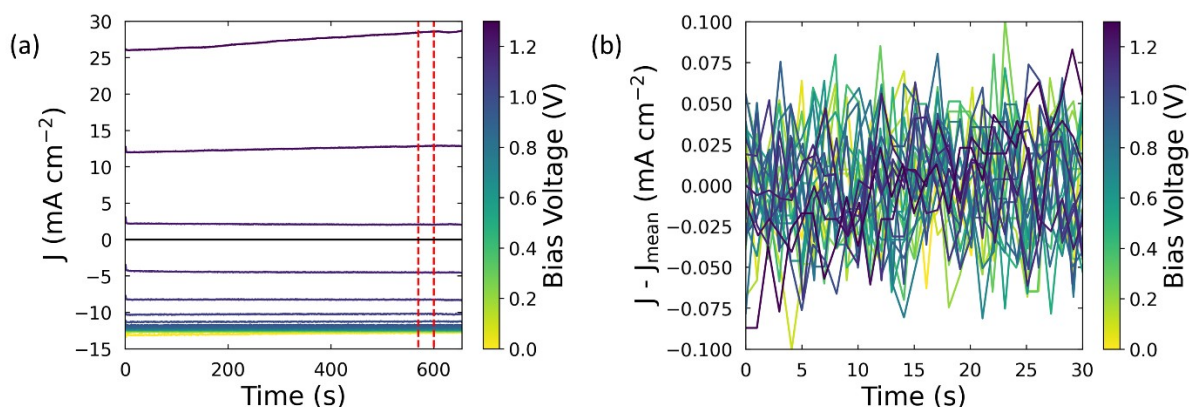


**Figure S9:** Difference between (a-b)  $V_{OC}$  and (c-d) PCE as measured from the JVs with the ions at quasi-steady state and the JVs as measured using the Stabilise and Pulse (SaP) technique at different bias voltages. The left-hand column shows the device without  $C_{60}$ -BA and the right-hand column shows the device with  $C_{60}$ -BA. In all cases, the green shaded region indicates the value extracted for  $V_{flat}$  (see **Methods** and **Figure S8**) with the associated error ( $\pm 0.05$  V).

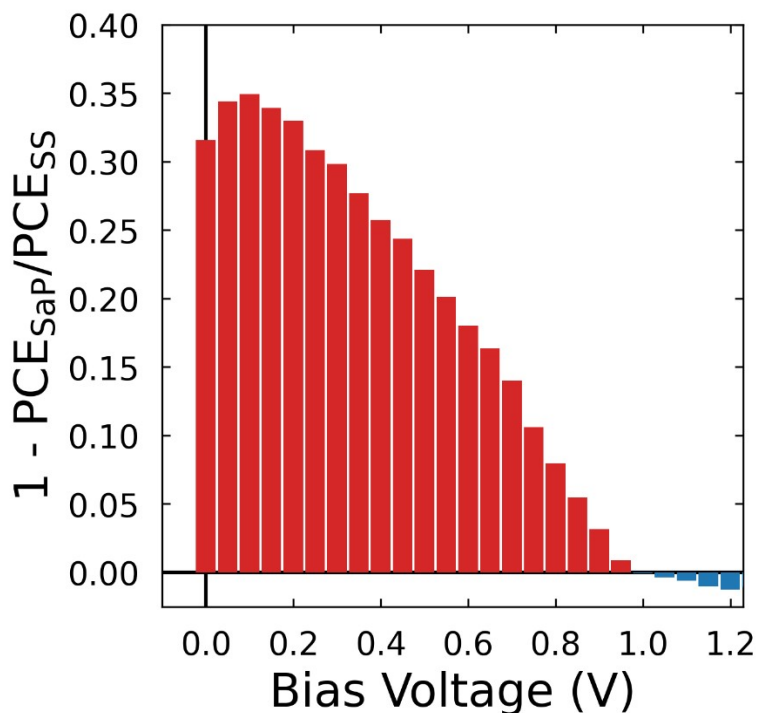


Scan Speed	Direction	$V_{OC}$ (V)	$J_{sc}$ ( $mA\ cm^{-2}$ )	PCE (%)	FF
Normal	Reverse	1.17	24.00	21.45	0.76
	Forward	1.19	24.00	21.13	0.73
Fast	Reverse	1.15	24.58	21.49	0.76
	Forward	1.15	24.58	21.59	0.76
Slow	Reverse	1.18	24.33	20.90	0.73
	Forward	1.17	24.33	21.11	0.74

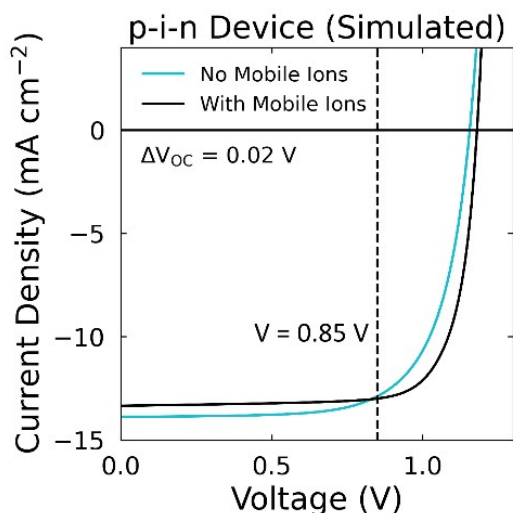
**Figure S10:** JV scans of the ITO/ $NiO_x$ /Amine/2PaCz/perovskite/PEAI/PCBM/BCP/Ag device shown in **Figure 3** of the main text. The perovskite composition is  $Cs_{0.05}(FA_{0.87}MA_{0.13})Pb(I_{0.87}Br_{0.13})_3$  and the full device stack is shown in **Figure S6**. JV parameters are provided in the table and see the **Methods** for a description of the measurement protocol used to measure the JV scans.



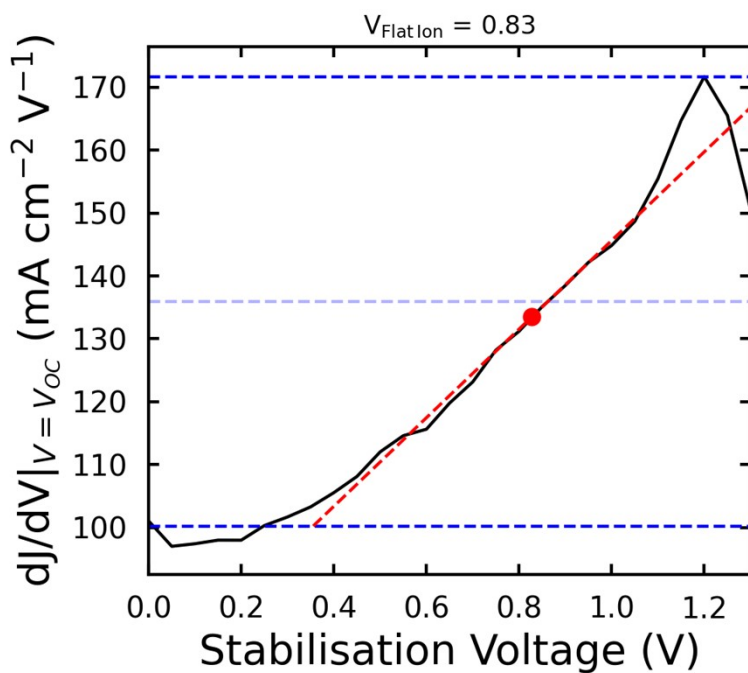
**Figure S11:** Stabilisation data for the Stabilise and Pulse measurement shown in **Figure 4** of the main text. (a) Current density ( $J$ ) measured during the stabilisation phase of the Stabilise and Pulse measurements for all measured values of  $V_{\text{bias}}$ . The vertical red lines indicate the thirty second time span over which  $J$  was averaged to extract the current values for the quasi-steady state (QSS) JVs. (b) The current measured in the thirty second time period indicated in (a) minus its mean value.



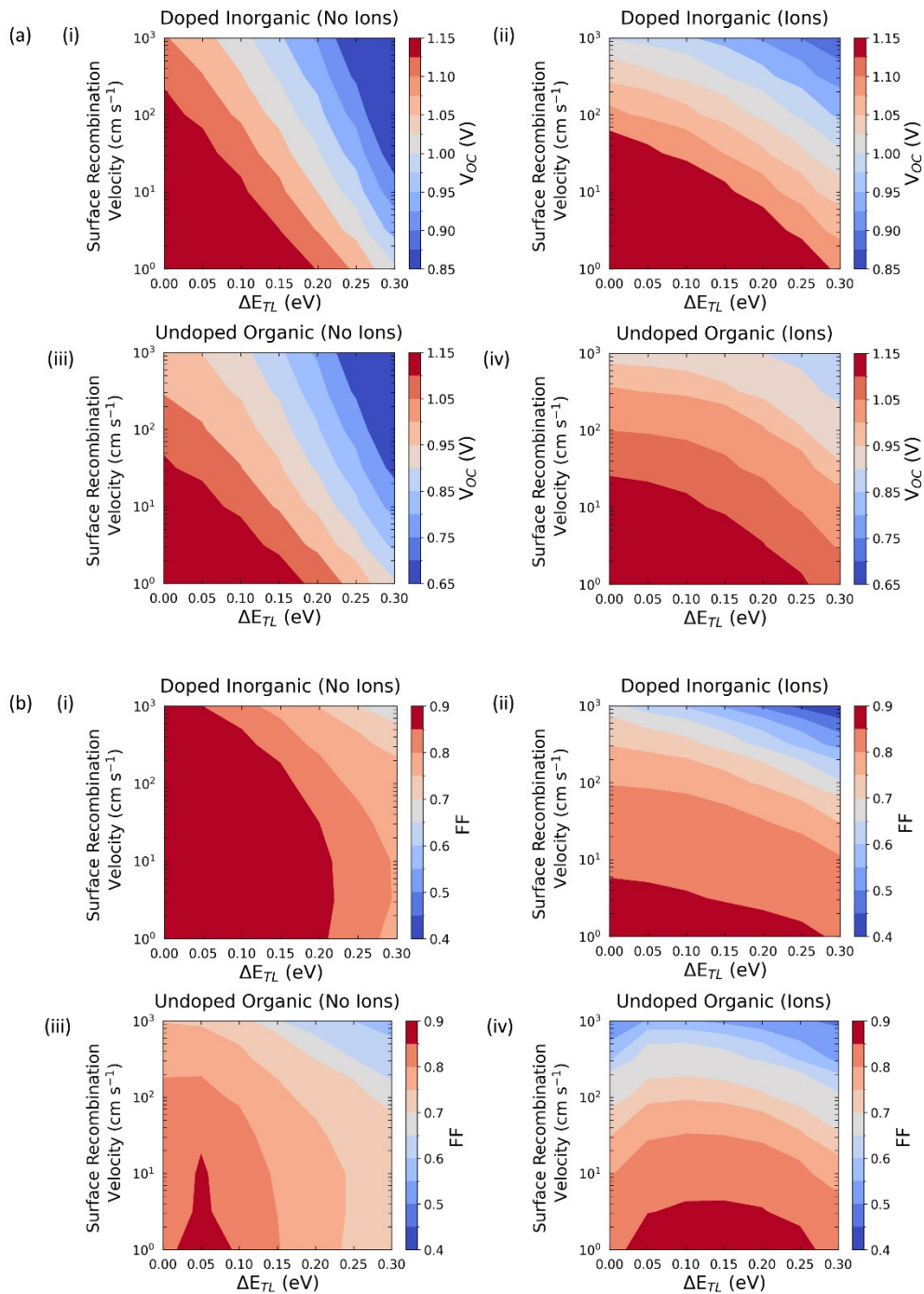
**Figure S12:** The normalised difference between the PCE of the JV curve where the ions remain at quasi-steady state ( $\text{PCE}_{\text{SS}}$ ) and those measured using the Stabilise and Pulse protocol at different values of  $V_{\text{bias}}$  ( $\text{PCE}_{\text{SAP}}$ ). We have normalised this data as, for measurements on devices using the triple cation perovskite composition, the intensity of the LED light was calibrated such that the device gave half the  $J_{\text{SC}}$  value as measured under the Solar Simulator (see main text). However, we did not explicitly measure this intensity and so cannot accurately convert our data to a PCE. Regardless, this plot indicates that mobile ions improve the device's PCE if  $V_{\text{flat}} < 1.0$  V. Our simulation results indicate that  $V_{\text{flat}} \approx 0.85$  eV, corresponding to a PCE improvement of  $\sim 1\%$  due to mobile ions if we assume an intensity of  $50 \text{ mWcm}^{-2}$ .

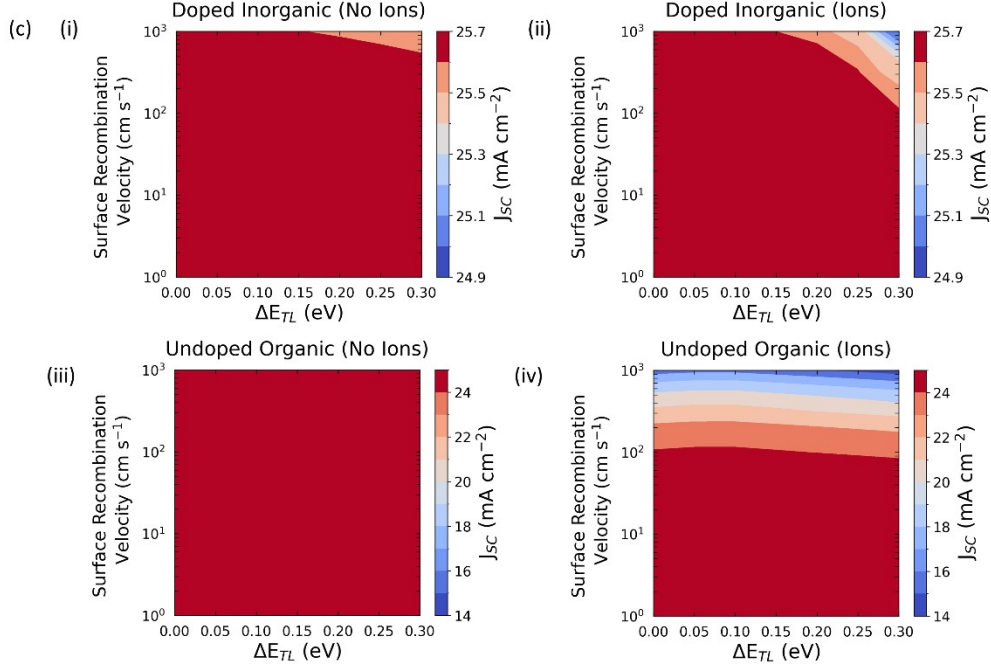


**Figure S13:** Simulated JV curves obtained using the parameters listed in **Table S5** with and without the inclusion of a mobile ionic species. The black dashed line indicates  $V = 0.85$  V which is the voltage at which the ‘No Mobile Ions’ and ‘With Mobile Ions’ JV curves intersect. As commented upon in the caption to **Figure S1**, this intersection occurs at  $V_{\text{flat}}$ , thereby demonstrating that  $V_{\text{flat}} = 0.85$  V for this device.



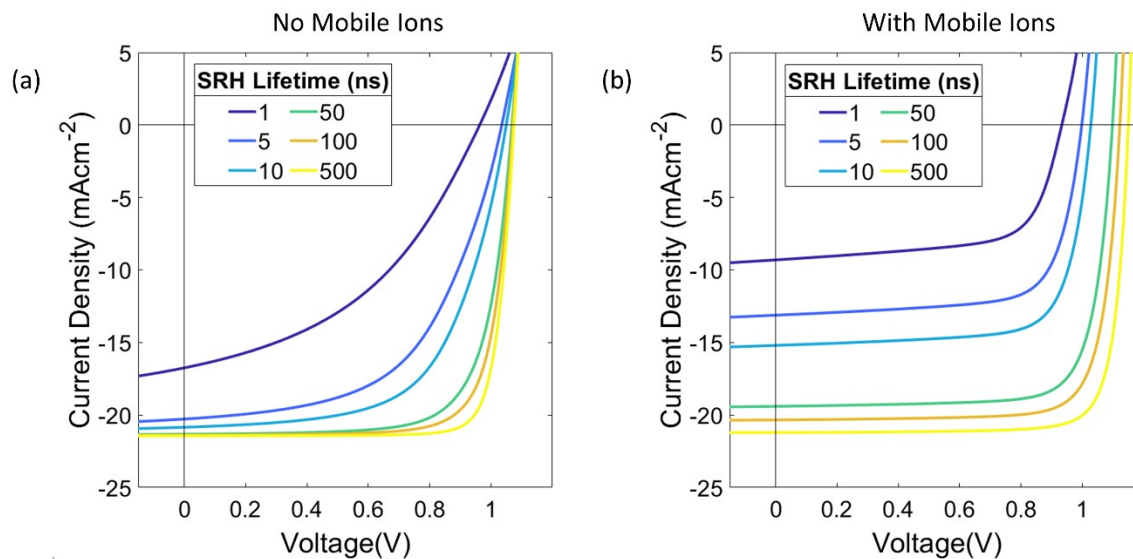
**Figure S14:** Plot used to extract the value of  $V_{\text{flat}}$  from the Stabilise and Pulse data for the p-i-n device shown in **Figure 4a** of the main text. Details of the fitting procedure are given in the **Methods** section.



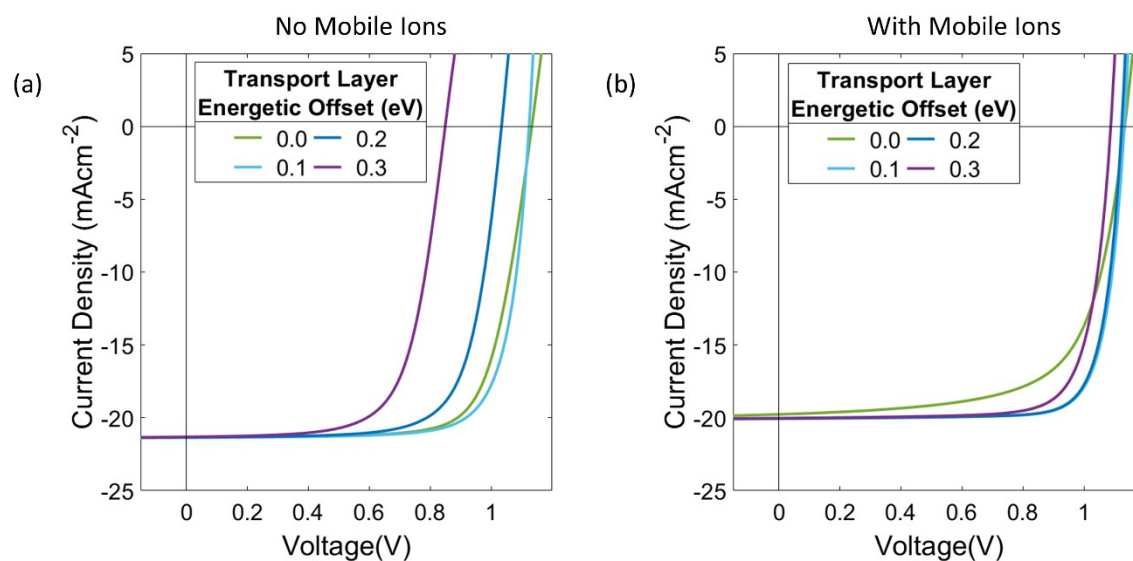


**Figure S15:** (a)  $V_{OC}$  (b) fill factor (FF) and (c) short-circuit current density ( $J_{SC}$ ) of simulated devices shown in **Figure 4** as a function of surface recombination velocity and  $\Delta E_{TL}$  for (i-ii) the doped inorganic parameter set without (left-hand column) and with (right-hand column) the inclusion of mobile ions and (iii-iv) the undoped organic parameter set without (left-hand column) and with (right-hand column) the inclusion of mobile ions. When mobile ions were included, we used a mobile ion concentration of  $10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . By comparing the two columns, we can see that the inclusion of mobile ions in the simulations reduces the dependence of  $V_{OC}$  and FF on  $\Delta E_{TL}$ , and that this effect is particularly pronounced for the undoped organic parameter set. However, each of  $J_{SC}$ , FF and  $V_{OC}$  become more sensitive to increases in the surface recombination velocity when mobile ions are present.

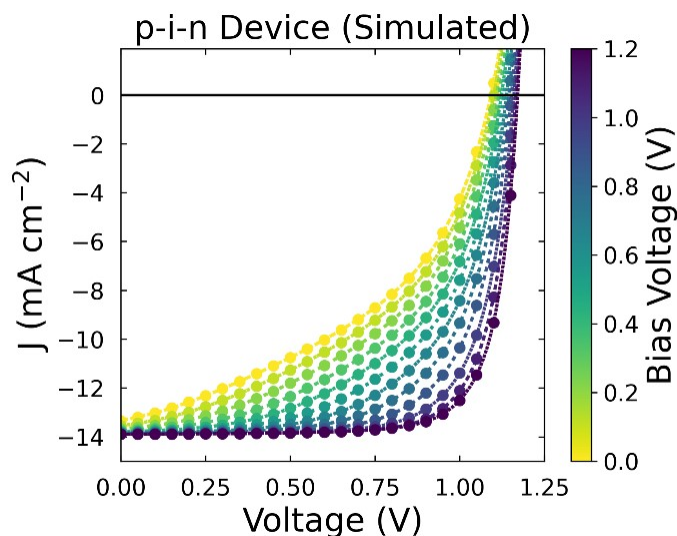




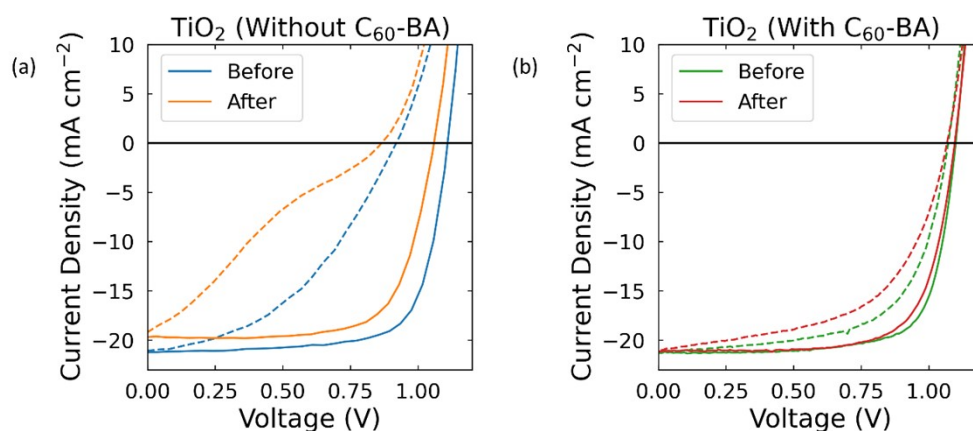
**Figure S16:** The dependence of JV curves on bulk Shockley-Read-Hall (SRH) lifetime for the doped inorganic parameter set with a fixed energetic offset of 0.25 eV and (a) no mobile ions and (b) a mobile ion density of  $10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . The case with mobile ions was simulated such that the ions remained at quasi-steady state. The trap states were assumed to lie midgap in the perovskite and electrons and holes were given the same SRH lifetime. The presence of mobile ions increases the loss in photocurrent at low bias voltages, but this device maintains a high fill factor since field screening by the mobile ionic species reduces the dependence of extraction efficiency on the applied bias.



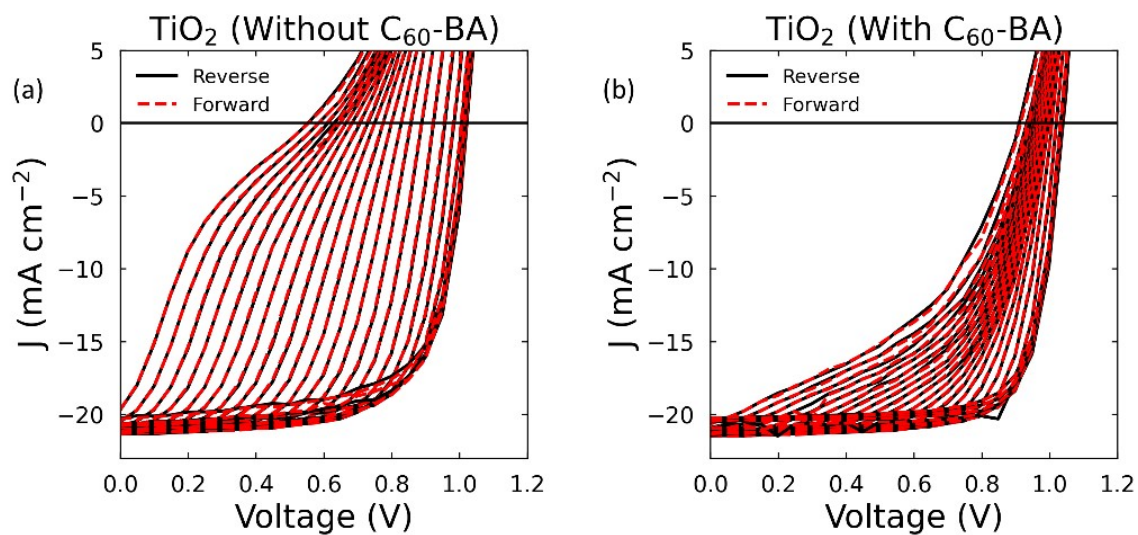
**Figure S17:** The dependence of JV curves on transport layer energetic offset (varied symmetrically) for the undoped organic parameter set with (a) no mobile ions and (b) a mobile ion density of  $10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ . The case with mobile ions was simulated such that the ions remained at quasi-steady state. In both devices, the fill factor improves upon increasing the energetic offset from 0.0 eV to 0.1 eV, but the improvement is greater in the case with mobile ions. Additionally, this figure illustrates how  $V_{OC}$  is far less sensitive to transport layer energetic offsets in devices with a mobile ionic species (subject to the caveats discussed in the main text and **Figure S3**).



**Figure S18:** Figure to show that the two protocols which are described in the **Methods** section and used to simulate the Stabilise and Pulse measurements yield equivalent results. The solid circles show the results of the explicit simulations of the Stabilise and Pulse procedure, whereas the dashed lines show the results of JV scans performed with the ion mobility set to zero following a prebiasing period at the desired bias voltage. It can be seen that both simulation protocols yield equivalent results, but the JV scans allow for a higher voltage resolution along the  $x$ -axis.



**Figure S19:** JV curves before and after the Stabilise and Pulse measurement for the devices shown in **Figure 2** of the main text. Solid lines indicate the reverse scan, and dashed lines the forward scan. We note that these JV scans were not performed under the Solar Sim, but under the LED illumination of the Stabilise and Pulse set-up, which is why the JV curves measured before the Stabilise and Pulse measurement do not perfectly match those shown in **Figure S6**. The device without the  $C_{60}$ -BA interlayer shows greater degradation after the measurement, which we believe is linked to the instability in the device's current which was observed at high values of  $V_{\text{bias}}$  (see **Figure S4**).



**Figure S20:** The Stabilise and Pulse data shown in **Figures 2a-b** of the main text for the TiO<sub>2</sub> device (a) without and (b) with C<sub>60</sub>-BA. Here, we have shown the forward and reverse JV scans in contrasting colours to illustrate the lack of hysteresis during the Stabilise and Pulse measurement.

## Supplementary Tables

**Table S1:** Summary of the simulation parameters for the transport layers. When not otherwise stated, the same parameters were used for the electron and hole transport layers (ETL and HTL, respectively). Recombination parameters (Shockley-Read Hall Lifetimes and radiative recombination rate) were set such that there were no recombination losses within the transport layers, except recombination at interfaces with the perovskite and electrode.  $E_C$  and  $E_V$  refer to the conduction and valance band energies, respectively.

Parameter	Doped Inorganic	Undoped Organic
Bandgap	2.50 eV	2.50 eV
ETL Fermi Level	$E_C - 0.1$ eV	Midgap
HTL Fermi Level	$E_V + 0.1$ eV	Midgap
Energy Level of Trap States	Midgap	Midgap
Thickness	100 nm	20 nm
Carrier Mobility	$10 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$	$0.001 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$
Relative Permittivity	50	3.5
Effective Density of States	$5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$	$1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

**Table S2:** Summary of the simulation parameters for the perovskite layer which were used to generate the results shown in **Figure 1** of the main text. Monomolecular trap states were assumed to lie in the middle of the bandgap and the perovskite was treated as an intrinsic semiconductor. At the interfaces, trap states were placed midgap for the perovskite layer and thus surface recombination velocities were assumed to be equal for electrons and holes.

Parameter	Value	Ref
Perovskite Bandgap	1.60 eV	1
Perovskite Valance Band Energy	-5.4 eV	2
Perovskite Thickness	400 nm	a
Perovskite Carrier Mobility	$1.0 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$	3
Shockley-Read-Hall Lifetime	100 ns	4
Radiative Recombination Rate	$5 \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$	5
Perovskite Relative Permittivity	25	6
Perovskite Effective Density of States	$5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$	7

a) Typical thickness for perovskite layer.

To simulate the contour plots shown in **Figure 4** of the main text we changed the perovskite bandgap and Shockley-Read-Hall lifetime to match the values given in **Ref. 2** of the main text which used FAPbI<sub>3</sub> for the perovskite layer, as opposed to MAPbI<sub>3</sub>. This meant that we reduced the bandgap to 1.50 eV (while maintaining an intrinsic perovskite layer with midgap trap states) and we increased the Shockley-Read-Hall lifetime to 3  $\mu\text{s}$ . Additionally, as we could not obtain  $n$  and  $k$  values for FAPbI<sub>3</sub>, simulations were done at 1.2 Suns to match the  $J_{\text{SC}}$  values reported in **Ref. 2**. All other simulation parameters remained as reported in **Tables S1-2**.

As noted in the main text, the built in potential across the device was held at 1.1 V and we used symmetric energetic offsets between the electrode work function and the relevant band edge of the transport layers. However, for transport layer-perovskite energetic offsets  $> 0.15$  eV, it was not possible to maintain  $V_{\text{BI}}$  at 1.1 V as this would have caused the electrode's work function to lie within the conduction (valance) band of the ETL (HTL). In these cases, the work functions were reduced such that they always lay 0.1 eV below the relevant band edge. This ensured an Ohmic contact between the electrodes and the transport layers in the case of the doped inorganic parameter set.

In simulations where the surface recombination velocity was not varied, we used a default value of  $10 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ , as this value allowed us to access regimes dominated by either SRH recombination or surface recombination within the range of  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$  values investigated in this work.

**Table S3:** Summary of the JV parameters for the Au/Spiro-OMeTAD/MAPbI<sub>3</sub>/TiO<sub>2</sub>/FTO devices discussed in the main text. JV parameters are given for three cases: as measured under the Solar Simulator using the protocol described in the **Methods** section (parameters taken from the reverse scan), as measured with the mobile ions at quasi-steady state (QSS JV) and as measured using Stabilise and Pulse measurements carried out at  $V_{\text{bias}} = V_{\text{flat}}$  (SaP JV). The parameters corresponding to the devices shown in the main text are given in bold and data for all other devices is shown in **Supplementary Note Six**. Additionally, we provide the value of  $V_{\text{flat}}$  extracted from our analysis of the Stabilise and Pulse data in column 2.

Device Number	$V_{\text{flat}}$ (V)	Method	$J_{\text{sc}}$ (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )	$V_{\text{oc}}$ (V)	FF	PCE (%)
1	<b>0.69 ± 0.05</b>	<b>Solar Sim</b>	<b>21.30</b>	<b>1.127</b>	<b>0.75</b>	<b>17.90</b>
		<b>QSS JV</b>	<b>19.72</b>	<b>1.019</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>14.26</b>
		<b>SaP JV</b>	<b>21.34</b>	<b>0.856</b>	<b>0.66</b>	<b>12.13</b>
2	0.66 ± 0.05	Solar Sim	20.78	1.081	0.71	16.00
		QSS JV	18.60	0.989	0.64	11.75
		SaP JV	21.49	0.827	0.61	10.80
3	0.64 ± 0.05	Solar Sim	21.89	1.080	0.70	16.47
		QSS JV	20.45	1.005	0.62	12.81
		SaP JV	22.79	0.823	0.62	11.64
4	0.67 ± 0.05	Solar Sim	21.82	1.082	0.71	16.68
		QSS JV	18.98	1.008	0.60	11.47
		SaP JV	21.30	0.855	0.62	11.38
5	0.65 ± 0.05	Solar Sim	20.25	1.073	0.69	15.01
		QSS JV	18.59	0.991	0.61	11.19
		SaP JV	21.44	0.846	0.57	10.34

**Table S4:** Summary of the JV parameters for the Au/Spiro-OMeTAD/MAPI/C<sub>60</sub>-BA/TiO<sub>2</sub>/FTO devices discussed in the main text. The parameters corresponding to the devices shown in the main text are given in bold and data for all other devices is shown in **Supplementary Note Six**. For further details, see the caption of **Table S3**.

Device Number	$V_{\text{flat}}$ (V)	Method	$J_{\text{sc}}$ (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )	$V_{\text{oc}}$ (V)	FF	PCE (%)
1	0.76 ± 0.05	SolarSim	21.08	1.104	0.71	16.55
		QSS JV	19.89	1.027	0.79	16.10
		SaP JV	21.88	0.987	0.68	14.78
2	0.75 ± 0.05	SolarSim	21.24	1.081	0.73	16.69
		QSS JV	20.25	0.997	0.67	13.48
		SaP JV	21.41	0.973	0.63	13.04
3	0.72 ± 0.05	SolarSim	21.70	1.074	0.74	17.24
		QSS JV	21.10	1.005	0.72	15.32
		SaP JV	21.79	0.970	0.67	14.17
4	0.70 ± 0.05	SolarSim	20.34	1.078	0.71	15.67
		QSS JV	19.85	1.006	0.74	14.75
		SaP JV	20.22	0.980	0.70	13.95
5	<b>0.73 ± 0.05</b>	<b>SolarSim</b>	<b>21.30</b>	<b>1.099</b>	<b>0.74</b>	<b>17.34</b>
		<b>QSS JV</b>	<b>20.68</b>	<b>1.037</b>	<b>0.77</b>	<b>16.55</b>
		<b>SaP JV</b>	<b>21.45</b>	<b>0.996</b>	<b>0.72</b>	<b>15.46</b>
6	0.74 ± 0.05	SolarSim	21.85	1.068	0.73	17.09
		QSS JV	20.73	0.986	0.64	13.16
		SaP JV	22.04	0.937	0.64	13.18

**Table S5:** Parameters set used to simulate the Stabilise and Pulse measurements performed on the high-performance p-i-n device, the results of which are shown in **Figure 3c** of the main text. The perovskite was assumed to be intrinsic and trap states (both bulk and interfacial) were assumed to lie midgap. Where no comment or reference is given, parameters were tuned to qualitatively reproduce the behaviour observed in the Stabilise and Pulse measurements. We have assumed that the dominant effect of the interfacial PEAI and 2PACz layers (see device stack shown in **Figure S6**) is to reduce surface recombination, thereby motivating our use of low values for these parameters. Measurements were simulated under 0.65 suns so as to match the experimentally measured  $J_{SC}$  values.

Parameter	Value	Ref
Perovskite Bandgap	1.60 eV	8
Perovskite Valance Band Energy	-5.5 eV	8
Perovskite Thickness	400 nm	a
Perovskite Carrier Mobility	$0.25 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$	3
Shockley-Read-Hall Lifetime	400 ns	-
Radiative Recombination Rate	$5 \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$	5
Perovskite Relative Permittivity	25	6
Perovskite Effective Density of States	$5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$	7
Perovskite Mobile Ion Density	$7 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$	6
ETL Bandgap	2.00 eV	9
ETL Conduction Band Energy	-4.1 eV	b
ETL Fermi Level	-5.1 eV	c
ETL Thickness	25 nm	d
ETL Carrier Mobility	$0.005 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$	10
ETL Relative Permittivity	3.5	e
ETL Effective Density of States	$1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$	11
Surface Recombination Velocity of Holes at the Perovskite/ETL Interface	$0.65 \text{ cms}^{-1}$	-
Surface Recombination Velocity of Electrons at the Perovskite/ETL Interface	$10^7 \text{ cms}^{-1}$	f
Cathode Work Function	-4.175 V	-
HTL Bandgap	3.00 eV	g
HTL Valance Band Energy	-5.3 eV	h
HTL Fermi Level	-5.1 eV	12
HTL Thickness	80 nm	12

HTL Carrier Mobility	$0.01 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ V}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$	13
HTL Relative Permittivity	12	14
HTL Effective Density of States	$1 \times 10^{19} \text{ cm}^{-3}$	i
Surface Recombination Velocity at the of Electrons Perovskite/HTL Interface	$0.1 \text{ cms}^{-1}$	-
Surface Recombination Velocity at the of Holes Perovskite/HTL Interface	$10^7 \text{ cms}^{-1}$	-
Anode Work Function	-5.225 V	-

- a) Typical thickness for perovskite layer.
- b) Values in the range -4.2 eV to -3.9 eV have been reported for PCBM.<sup>9,15</sup> We chose the value in this range which best reproduced the Stabilise and Pulse measurements.
- c) PCBM was assumed to be an intrinsic semiconductor.
- d) Typical thickness for undoped organic ETLs.
- e) Typical value for organic semiconductors.
- f) Setting a high value for the majority carrier surface recombination velocity was observed to have a negligible effect on simulated JV curves with the ions at quasi-steady state. However, this parameter had a large effect on the shape of the simulated Stabilise and Pulse curves at low bias voltages. Thus, it's value was varied to match the experimental results, with larger values found to lead to less 's-shaped' JV curves at low bias voltages.
- g) Bandgap of NiO<sub>x</sub> varies depending on fabrication route, but typically > 3.0 eV. Further increases in the band gap yielded no change in the simulation results, but increased the time taken per simulation and so this parameter was set to 3 eV.
- h) Values in the range -5.45 eV to -5.05 eV have been reported for NiO.<sup>12,16</sup> We chose the value in this range which best reproduced the Stabilise and Pulse measurements.
- i) Calculated using parabolic band approximation and  $m^* = m_e$ .<sup>17</sup>



**Table S6:** Parameter set used to simulate the Stabilise and Pulse measurements performed on the Au/Spiro-OMeTAD/MAPbI<sub>3</sub>/C<sub>60</sub>-BA/TiO<sub>2</sub>/FTO device stacks, the results of which are shown in **Supplementary Note Four**. In these simulations, the MAPbI<sub>3</sub> was assumed to be intrinsic and trap states (both bulk and interfacial) were assumed to lie midgap. Where no comment or reference is given, parameters were tuned to qualitatively reproduce the behaviour observed in the Stabilise and Pulse measurements.

Parameter	Value	Ref
Perovskite Bandgap	1.60 eV	1
Perovskite Valance Band Energy	-5.4 eV	2
Perovskite Thickness	400 nm	a
Perovskite Carrier Mobility	3 cm <sup>2</sup> V <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	18
Shockley-Read-Hall Lifetime	25 ns	-
Radiative Recombination Rate	5 x 10 <sup>-11</sup> cm <sup>-3</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	5
Perovskite Relative Permittivity	25	6
Perovskite Effective Density of States	5 x 10 <sup>18</sup> cm <sup>-3</sup>	7
Perovskite Mobile Ion Density	1 x 10 <sup>17</sup> cm <sup>-3</sup>	-
ETL Bandgap	3.00 eV	b
ETL Conduction Band Energy	-4.0 eV	c
ETL Fermi Level	-4.2 eV	-
ETL Thickness	25 nm	19
ETL Carrier Mobility	0.1 cm <sup>2</sup> V <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	d
ETL Relative Permittivity	19	e
ETL Effective Density of States	1 x 10 <sup>19</sup> cm <sup>-3</sup>	f
Surface Recombination Velocity of Holes at the Perovskite/ETL Interface	50 cms <sup>-1</sup> (without C <sub>60</sub> -BA) 0.05 cms <sup>-1</sup> (with C <sub>60</sub> -BA)	-
Surface Recombination Velocity of Electrons at the Perovskite/ETL Interface	1000 cms <sup>-1</sup>	g
Cathode Work Function	-4.2 V	-
HTL Bandgap	3.00 eV	h
HTL Valance Band Energy	-5.05 eV	i
HTL Fermi Level	-4.85 eV	j
HTL Thickness	200 nm	20
HTL Carrier Mobility	0.01 cm <sup>2</sup> V <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup>	j

HTL Relative Permittivity	3.5	k
HTL Effective Density of States	$1 \times 10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$	l
Surface Recombination Velocity of Electrons at the Perovskite/HTL Interface	$10 \text{ cms}^{-1}$	-
Surface Recombination Velocity of Holes at the Perovskite/HTL Interface	$1000 \text{ cms}^{-1}$	g
Anode Work Function	-4.85 V	-

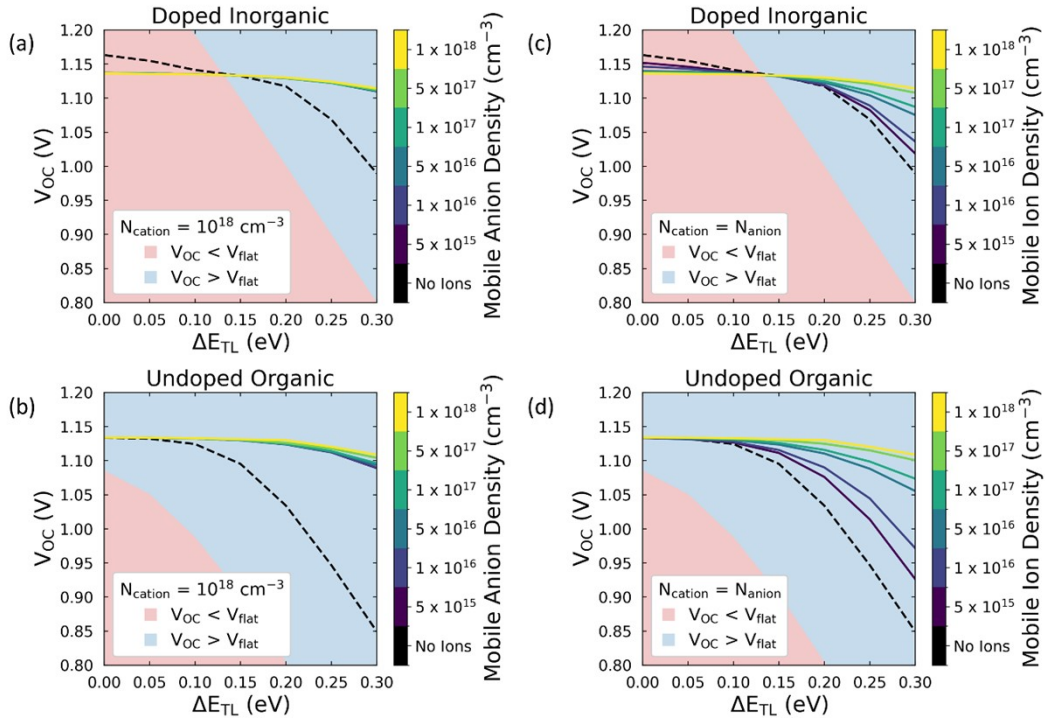
- a) Typical thickness for perovskite layer.
- b) Bandgap of  $\text{TiO}_2$  varies depending on its phase, but is typically  $> 3.0 \text{ eV}$ .<sup>21</sup> Further increases in the band gap yielded no change in the simulation results.
- c) Values in the range  $-4.0 \text{ eV}$  to  $-4.3 \text{ eV}$  have been reported for  $\text{TiO}_2$ .<sup>22,23</sup> We chose the value in this range could best account for the JV data and the Stabilise and Pulse measurements.
- d) The mobility of electrons in  $\text{TiO}_2$  varies depending upon both the phase and crystallinity of the material.<sup>24</sup> We have used  $0.1 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$  as a conservative estimate from the values found in the literature.
- e) The relative permittivity of  $\text{TiO}_2$  depends upon both its phase and orientation. For films prepared using the sol-gel method, values in the range 19-64 have been recorded, depending upon the annealing temperature.<sup>25</sup> We have used 19 as this film was annealed at the temperature most similar to ours.
- f) The effective mass of electrons in  $\text{TiO}_2$  varies dramatically between different phases.<sup>26</sup> As the structure of the  $\text{TiO}_2$  was unknown for these devices, we have assumed  $m^* \approx m_e$  and calculated the density of states expected in the parabolic band approximation for this value of  $m^*$ . An under (over) estimate of this parameter would result in an over (under) estimate of the surface recombination velocity at the perovskite/ $\text{TiO}_2$  interface as the rate of interfacial recombination increases as the density of states in the transport layer increases.
- g) The majority carrier surface recombination velocity was observed to have a large effect on the shape of the simulated Stabilise and Pulse curves at low bias voltages. Thus, its value was varied to match the experimental results, with larger values found to lead to less 's-shaped' JV curves at low bias voltages.
- h) Value calculated from the supplier webpage is  $3.16 \text{ eV}$ . However, this parameter was set to  $3 \text{ eV}$  as further increases in the band gap yielded no change in the simulation results, but increased the time taken per simulation.
- i) Values in range of  $-5.0 \text{ eV}$  to  $-5.2 \text{ eV}$  have been reported for Spiro-OMeTAD.<sup>20,27</sup> We chose the value in this range could best account for the JV data and the Stabilise and Pulse measurements.
- j) Values chosen to yield a conductivity of  $\sim 7 \times 10^{-5} \text{ Scm}^{-1}$ , within the range of values found for Spiro-OMeTAD samples doped in a similar manner to those in this work.<sup>28</sup>
- k) Typical value for organic semiconductors.
- l) No value could be found in the literature for Spiro-OMeTAD so we have used  $10^{20} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  as this lies within the range of values commonly found for organic semiconductors.<sup>11</sup>

## Supplementary Notes

### Supplementary Note One

In this Supplementary Note, we demonstrate that our results concerning the ionic modulation of  $V_{OC}$  are still valid if there are two mobile ionic species in the perovskite. To do this, we repeated the simulations shown in **Figures 1b-c** while including a second, negatively charged ionic species. We considered two extreme cases: one in which the cation density was fixed at  $10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  and the anion density varied (**Figures S21a-b**) and the other in which we varied the density of both ionic species while assuming that the cation and anion densities were equal (**Figures S21c-d**). These figures demonstrate that the presence of a second ionic species does not affect the trends in  $V_{OC}$  which we describe in the main text. Furthermore, **Figures S21 a-b** demonstrate that, in the case where the density of one ionic species far exceeds the other, the species with the lower density has a negligible impact on the steady-state  $V_{OC}$  of the device.

To perform these simulations, both ionic species were treated as Schottky defects, (see Section One of the **Extended Methods**). Since our simulations assume that the mobile ionic species do not act as significant recombination centres, the only way in which the ionic and electronic charge are coupled is via Poisson's equation. This means that mobile ions only influence device performance by modulating the electrostatic potential and thus the spatial distribution of electronic carriers. Furthermore, since we consider the impact of ionic charge which is at quasi steady-state for the applied voltage, we can neglect any effects arising from a difference in the mobilities of the two species (although these effects would be significant if attempting to simulate e.g.,  $V_{OC}$  transients). Consequently, the effects of adding a second ionic species are comparable to increasing the density of the pre-existing species by the same amount, though not identical due to the asymmetry between ionic accumulation and depletion regions.



**Figure S21:** Figures (a-b) show the dependence of  $V_{OC}$  on  $\Delta E_{TL}$  for doped inorganic (top) and undoped organic (bottom) parameter sets, assuming a constant cation density of  $10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  and a varying anion density. Figures (c-d) show the dependence of  $V_{OC}$  on  $\Delta E_{TL}$  for doped inorganic (top) and undoped organic (bottom) parameter sets, assuming the cation and anion densities are equal. For all figures, the red and blue shaded regions indicate where  $V_{OC}$  is less than and greater than  $V_{flat}$ , respectively.

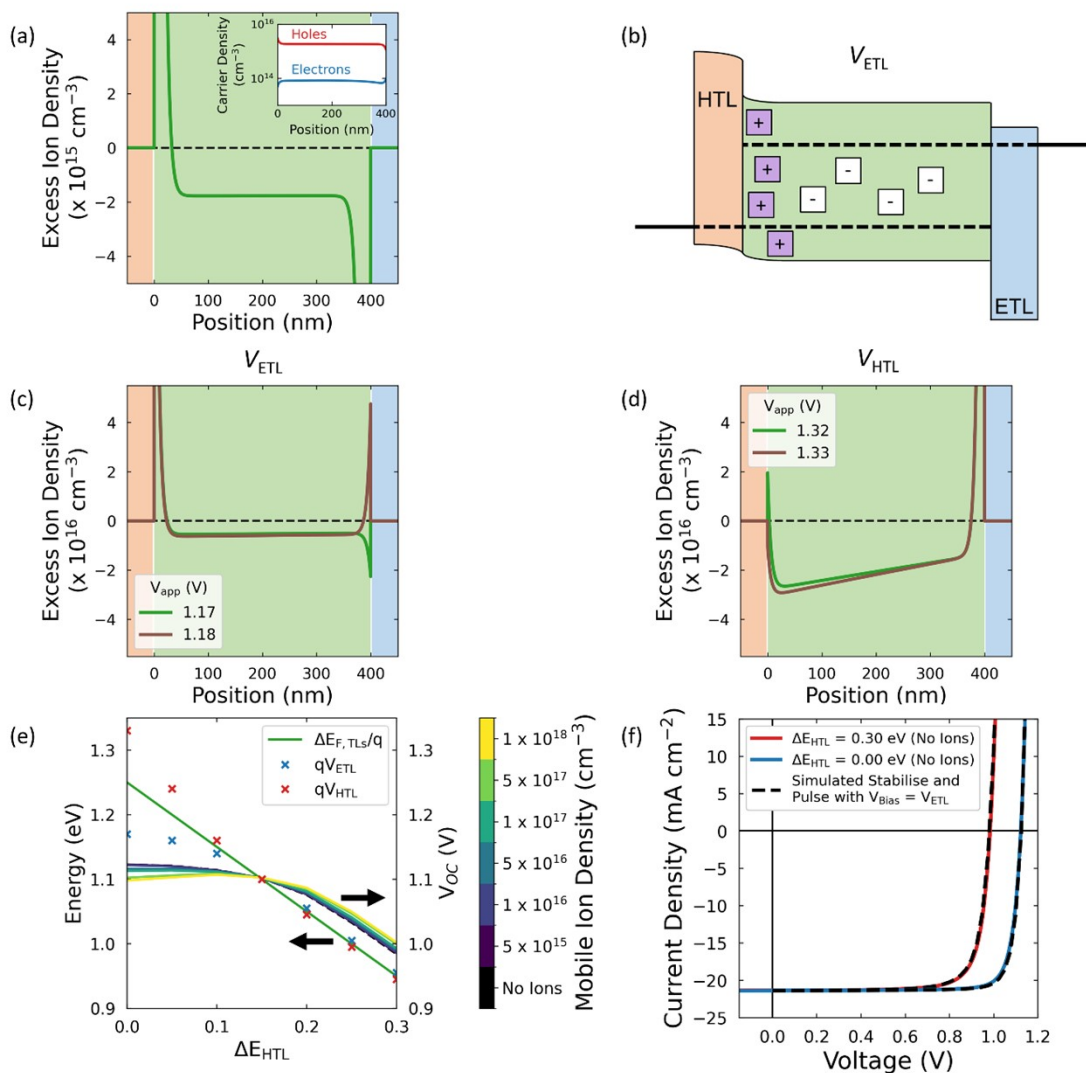
## Supplementary Note Two

In this Supplementary Note, we consider the situation where the energetic offset to the transport layers,  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$ , is not the same at the perovskite/HTL and perovskite/ETL interfaces. For concreteness, we will consider the case where the ETL has a fixed  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$  of 0.15 eV and we vary  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$  for the HTL as described in the main text. We chose this fixed value of  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$  so that we could explore the cases where a given interface has both a larger and smaller energetic offset to the perovskite in a single parameter sweep. Additionally, we increased the surface recombination velocity to  $100 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$ , such that the recombination losses around  $V_{\text{OC}}$  are always dominated by surface recombination. We did this for two reasons: first, the case where bulk recombination dominates has already been discussed<sup>29,30</sup> and secondly, the model described in the main text is largely applicable to devices where surface recombination losses dominate. Furthermore, we use the doped inorganic parameter set to carry out these simulations to remove the additional complication of there being large voltage drops in the transport layers.

The results of our simulations for asymmetric  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$  are shown in **Figure S22e**. First, we will discuss the novel phenomena which are observed under these conditions, and then we will consider how the model outlined in the main text must be adjusted to describe transport layer asymmetry and the validity of our experimental method under these conditions. The asymmetry of the transport layers' energetics results in an electronic carrier imbalance in the perovskite bulk where the nature of the carrier in excess (i.e., electron or hole) generally depends upon which transport layer has a smaller value of  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$ . For example, in the case where the HTL is perfectly aligned with the perovskite valence band, there will be an excess of holes in the bulk of the perovskite, making it effectively p-type (see inset of **Figure S22a**). This behaviour occurs irrespective of the presence of a mobile ionic species, and generally results in worse overall device performance due to the reduced conductivity of the minority species, though an increase in  $V_{\text{OC}}$  can also be observed for devices limited by bulk recombination as the rate of this process is now determined by the minority carrier density.<sup>29</sup>

When mobile ions are present, the effective doping of the perovskite results in a non-zero excess ion density in the perovskite bulk (see **Figure S22a**). As our simulations assume that all the ionic charge is confined to the perovskite layer and that ionic charge is conserved, this results in the interfacial ionic accumulation and depletion regions containing unequal amounts of charge. Thus, the ionic accumulation/depletion regions on the two sides of the device no longer invert at the same applied bias (see **Figures S22c-d**). This means that there is no longer a single potential at which the ion distribution is uniform (i.e.,  $V_{\text{flat}}$ ), but instead two "inversion voltages". We have labelled these as  $V_{\text{HTL}}$  and  $V_{\text{ETL}}$ , respectively on **Figures S22c-e**. We note that these voltages were found to be almost independent of the mobile ion density (down to a mobile ion density of  $10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ). Additionally, in **Figure S22e**, we have drawn on the difference in the equilibrium values of the transport layers' Fermi energies,  $\Delta E_{\text{F,TLs}}$  which is what determines the built-in potential for symmetric devices with highly doped transport layers (see main text). Interestingly,  $V_{\text{ETL}}$  and  $V_{\text{HTL}}$  are symmetrically distributed around  $\Delta E_{\text{F,TLs}}$ , with the offset decreasing as  $\Delta E_{\text{F,TLs}}$  decreases. These facts will be of relevance when considering how asymmetry of the transport layers' energetics could affect the interpretation of our experimental data.

Considering these theoretical insights, we believe that the framework described in the main text is still applicable to a device with asymmetric contacts and where losses are dominated by surface recombination. However, in the asymmetric case, the effect of ions at each interface must be considered separately as the presence of ions will only reduce the minority carrier population at an interface compared to the case with no ions after the inversion voltage for that interface has been reached. Relative to a symmetric device with the same  $\Delta E_{\text{F,TLs}}$ , the inversion voltage will be below  $V_{\text{flat}}$  at the interface to the transport layer with the worse energetic alignment to the perovskite, and that at the opposite interface will be above  $V_{\text{flat}}$ . In the region between the two inversion voltages, surface recombination will only be suppressed relative to the case with no mobile ions at one interface, namely



**Fig**

**re S22:** (a) Ionic and electronic carrier distributions at  $V_{OC}$  in the case where  $\Delta E_{TL}$  is 0.15 eV at the perovskite/ETL interface and there is no offset at the perovskite/HTL interface. (b) Schematic band diagram at the voltage at which the ion population inverts at the perovskite/ETL interface ( $V_{ETL}$ ) in the case where  $\Delta E_{TL}$  is 0.15 eV at the perovskite/ETL interface and there is no offset at the perovskite/HTL interface. Inversion of the ionic population at (c) the perovskite/ETL interface and (d) the perovskite/HTL interface for the same device as shown in (a). Ionic inversion occurs at a lower applied voltage at the perovskite/ETL interface due to the excess hole density in the perovskite bulk. (e)  $V_{OC}$  as a function of ion density and energetic offset to the HTL ( $\Delta E_{HTL}$ ) for a fixed energetic offset to the ETL of 0.15 eV. We have also marked the difference in the equilibrium Fermi levels of the transport layers, ( $\Delta E_{F,TLs}$ ) and the inversion voltages at the perovskite/ETL and perovskite/HTL interfaces ( $V_{ETL}$  and  $V_{HTL}$ , respectively). (f) Validation of the Stabilise and Pulse (SaP) measurement in the case of asymmetric energetic offsets to the transport layers. The parameters used are the same as those used to make figure (e) and, when ions have been included, we have used an ion density of  $10^{18}$  cm<sup>-3</sup>. The coloured lines show the JV curves obtained with the value of  $\Delta E_{HTL}$  indicated in the legend and in the absence of mobile ions. The black dashed lines indicated the result of a simulated Stabilise and Pulse measurement performed at a prebias voltage equal to the inversion voltage at the interface with the worse energetic alignment (1.18 V for  $\Delta E_{HTL} = 0.00$  eV and 0.94 V for  $\Delta E_{HTL} = 0.30$  eV). These agree well with the JVs obtained in the absence of mobile ions, showing that a Stabilise and Pulse measurement can still be used to probe the impact of ions on  $V_{OC}$  in the case of asymmetric transport layer energetics.

the one with worse energetic alignment to the perovskite. However, the voltage regimes above and below this intermediate region are analogous to the voltage being above and below  $V_{\text{flat}}$  in the symmetric case, respectively. This can be seen in our results as, for  $\Delta E_{\text{HTL}} < 0.15$  eV, both  $V_{\text{ETL}}$  and  $V_{\text{HTL}}$  are above  $V_{\text{OC}}$ , meaning that the presence of mobile ions does not increase its value. Conversely, for  $\Delta E_{\text{HTL}} > 0.15$  eV, both  $V_{\text{ETL}}$  and  $V_{\text{HTL}}$  are below  $V_{\text{OC}}$ , and thus  $V_{\text{OC}}$  increases in the presence of a mobile ionic species. The increase in  $V_{\text{OC}}$  due to mobile ions is not as large as is found in the symmetric case (see **Figure 1b**) as the effective doping of the perovskite layer due to the asymmetric contacts means that the distribution of the ionic charge no longer dominates the device's electrostatics. Thus, there is a smaller difference between the behaviour of the devices with and without ions.

Lastly, we consider the impact these findings have on our experimental data. If there is no single  $V_{\text{flat}}$  in the case where the transport layers have asymmetric energetic alignments, it is not obvious that *any* prebias potential will result in a pulsed JV which reproduces that of the ion-free device. Fortunately, our simulations suggest that the Stabilise and Pulse method is still viable as, in situations where there is an asymmetry in  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$ , surface recombination is dominated by the interface with the worse energetic alignment (i.e., larger  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$  value). Thus, in a device whose recombination current is largely limited by surface recombination, what matters in terms of the JV performance is the minority carrier density at the interface with the larger energetic offset between perovskite and the transport layer. This can be matched to the case with no mobile ions by applying a voltage prebias which corresponds to the flat ion potential on the side of the device with the larger  $\Delta E_{\text{TL}}$ . In this case, our simulations suggest that the pulsed JV measurement will match the JV of an equivalent device with no mobile ions (see **Figure S22f**). As discussed above, the interface with the larger energetic offset will always have the lower inversion voltage and this will always be below  $\Delta E_{\text{F,TLs}}$  meaning that it is highly likely this voltage will be included in the range of prebias values sampled in our measurements. Furthermore, in devices with larger energetic offsets to the transport layers (and hence lower values of  $\Delta E_{\text{F,TLs}}$ ), our simulations suggest that there is not a large difference between  $V_{\text{ETL}}$  and  $V_{\text{HTL}}$ , implying that it may not be a bad approximation to assume a single  $V_{\text{flat}}$  in this situation.

### Supplementary Note Three

In this Supplementary Note, we derive **Equation 1** in the main text, which gives an analytic expression for the change in electrostatic potential across the transport layers at the flat band condition in the perovskite,  $V_{\text{flat}}$ . In this derivation, the transport layers are treated as perfectly symmetric, undoped semiconductors, and we illustrate the geometry used in **Figure S23a**. In this figure, we have taken advantage of the fact that the electric field,  $E$ , at the perovskite/transport layer interfaces must be zero when we are at the flat band condition in the perovskite. This allows us to remove the perovskite layer from our consideration as its removal does not affect the boundary conditions for  $V(x)$  at the newly formed ETL/HTL interface. By considering this diagram, we see that we can express the hole carrier density at position  $x$  in the hole transport layer (HTL) as

$$p(x) = N_V \exp\left(\frac{E_V - \varphi - qV(x)}{k_B T}\right) \equiv n_0 \exp\left(\frac{-eV(x)}{k_B T}\right) \quad (\text{S1})$$

$q$  is the electron charge,  $k_B$  is the Boltzmann constant,  $T$  is the temperature,  $N_V$  is the density of states at the valance band edge,  $E_V$  is the ionisation potential of the HTL,  $\varphi$  is the work function of the electrode and  $n_0$  the carrier density in the transport layer at the interface with the electrode, which is as defined via  $n_0 = N_V \exp[(E_V - \varphi)/k_B T]$ . We can substitute this expression into Poisson's equation to yield

$$\frac{d^2 V(x)}{dx^2} = -\frac{q}{\varepsilon \varepsilon_0} n_0 \exp\left(\frac{-qV(x)}{k_B T}\right) \quad (\text{S2})$$

$\varepsilon$  is the permittivity of free space and  $\varepsilon_0$  is the relative permittivity of the transport layers. By integrating this equation with respect to  $x$ , we can find the electric field,  $E$ , in the HTL

$$E(x) = -\frac{dV(x)}{dx} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{2n_0 q / k_B T}{\varepsilon \varepsilon_0} \left( \frac{q}{k_B T} \exp\left(\frac{-eV(x)}{k_B T}\right) - C \right)} \quad (\text{S3})$$

$C$  is a constant of integration, which can be found by using the following boundary conditions

$$E(x = w_{\text{HTL}}) = 0 \quad (\text{S4})$$

$$V(x = w_{\text{HTL}}) = \frac{1}{2} (V_{\text{BI}} - V_{\text{flat}}) \equiv \frac{1}{2} \tilde{V} \quad (\text{S5})$$

$$\Rightarrow C = \frac{k_B T}{q} \exp\left(\frac{-qV}{2k_B T}\right) \quad (\text{S6})$$

The first boundary condition follows from the fact we are trying to find an expression for the potential at which we reach the flat band condition in the perovskite and the second follows from the symmetry of the transport materials, which means that half of the total change in voltage occurs over the HTL. Additionally, from **Figure S23a**, we can see that the gradient of  $V(x)$  is positive for all  $x$ , implying a negative electric field (i.e., holes move to the left). Thus, we can discard the positive root in **Equation S3**. We note that, due to the square root in **Equation S3**, this solution is only valid for  $V < \tilde{V}$ .

Following this, **Equation S3** can be integrated again to find that

$$D - x = \frac{k_B T}{q} \sqrt{\frac{2\varepsilon \varepsilon_0}{n_0 q C}} \arcsin\left(\sqrt{\frac{qC}{k_B T}} \exp\left(\frac{eV(x)}{2k_B T}\right)\right) \quad (\text{S7})$$

$D$  is a second constant of integration, which can be found by using the boundary condition

$$V(x = 0) = 0 \quad (\text{S8})$$

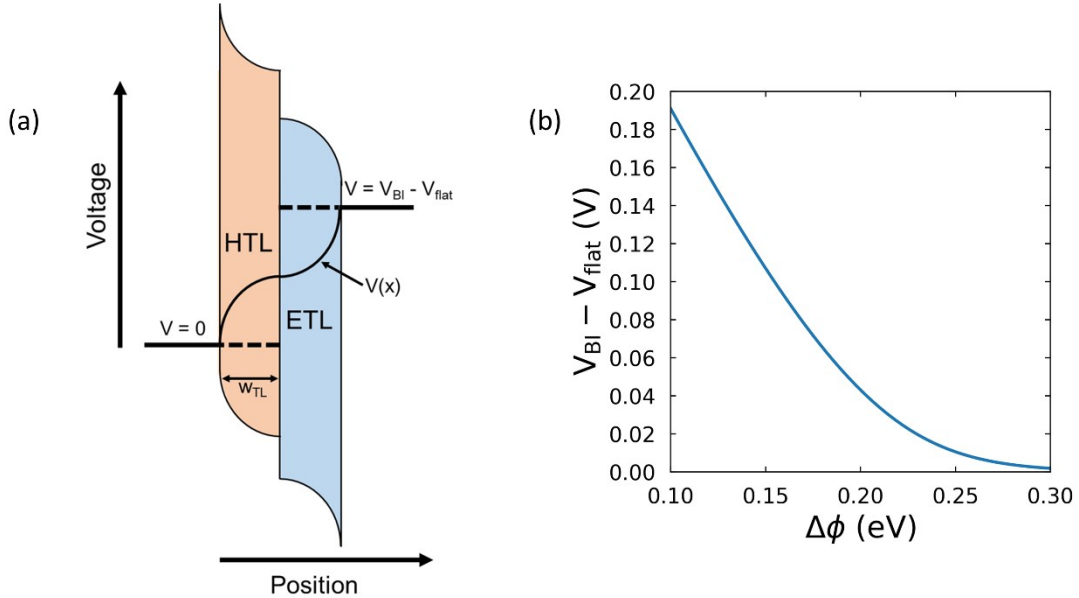
$$\Rightarrow D = \frac{k_B T}{q} \sqrt{\frac{2\varepsilon\varepsilon_0}{n_0 q C}} \arcsin\left(\sqrt{\frac{qC}{k_B T}}\right) \quad (\text{S9})$$

By combining **Equations S3, S6 and S9**, we can write that

$$x = \sqrt{\frac{2\varepsilon\varepsilon_0 k_B T}{n_0 q^2}} \exp\left(\frac{e\tilde{V}}{4k_B T}\right) \left[ \arcsin\left(\exp\left(\frac{q(V(x) - \frac{1}{2}\tilde{V})}{2k_B T}\right)\right) - \arcsin\left(\exp\left(\frac{-q\tilde{V}}{4k_B T}\right)\right) \right] \quad (\text{S10})$$

$$\Rightarrow w_{HTL} = \sqrt{\frac{2\varepsilon\varepsilon_0 k_B T}{n_0 q^2}} \exp\left(\frac{e\tilde{V}}{4k_B T}\right) \left[ \frac{\pi}{2} - \arcsin\left(\exp\left(\frac{-q\tilde{V}}{4k_B T}\right)\right) \right] \quad (\text{S11})$$

as written in the main text. In **Figure S23b**, we plot the numerical solution for  $\tilde{V}$  as a function of the energetic offset between the electrode work function and the HTL valance band using the transport layer parameters from the doped organic parameter set (see **Table S1**).

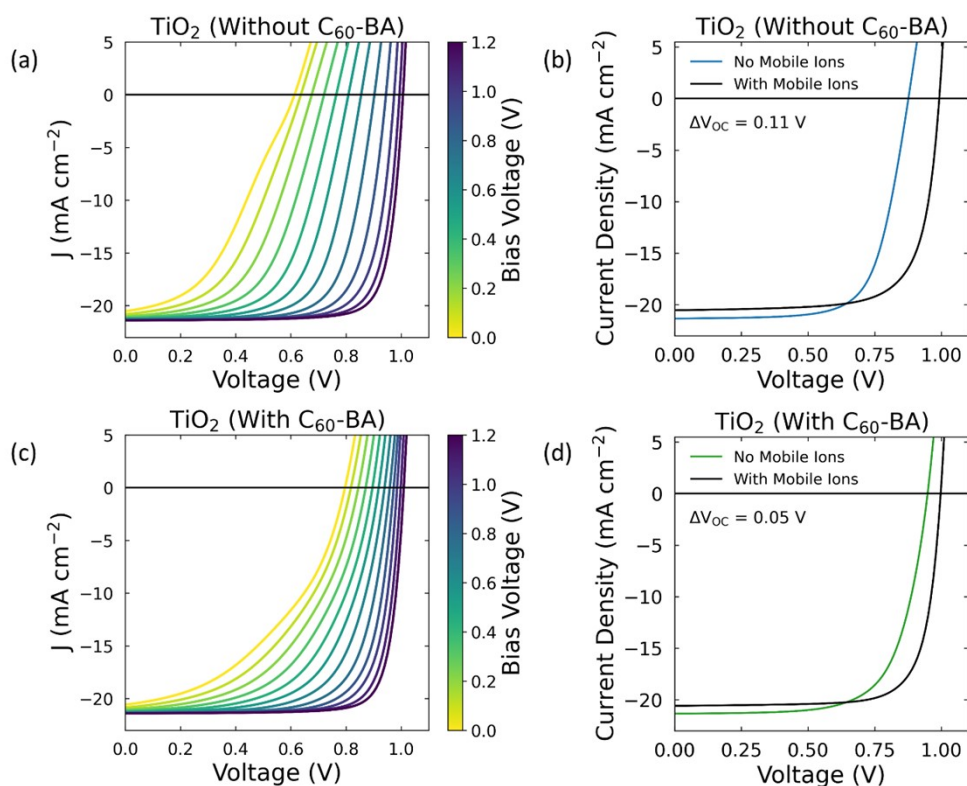


**Figure S23:** (a) Diagram of the geometry used to derive **Equation S10**. (b) Value of  $\tilde{V} = V_{BI} - V_{flat}$  found using **Equation S11** as a function of the energetic offset between the work function of the electrode and the conduction (valance) band of the ETL (HTL),  $\Delta\phi$ . This parameter controls the majority carrier density at the electrode/transport layer interfaces,  $N_0$ . The range of  $\Delta\phi$  shown here cover the range used in our simulation results, and the calculated offset between  $V_{BI}$  and  $V_{flat}$  agrees with that found using the full Driftfusion simulation (compare to **Figure S2**).



### Supplementary Note Four

The simulations whose results are shown in **Figure 1** and **Figure 4** of the main text were performed on highly idealised perovskite devices. Thus, to verify that we would expect to see the same trends in real devices, we performed simulations using parameters representative of the Au/Spiro-OMeTAD/MAPbI<sub>3</sub>/(C<sub>60</sub>-BA)/TiO<sub>2</sub>/FTO device stack (parameters given in **Table S6**). We modelled the effect of the C<sub>60</sub>-BA by reducing the surface recombination velocity of holes at the perovskite/TiO<sub>2</sub> interface by a factor of one thousand. Although this may seem to be a simplistic treatment of the C<sub>60</sub>-BA, we find that this change allowed us to recreate the observed trends in the Stabilise and Pulse measurements and the impact of mobile ions on  $V_{OC}$ , as is shown in **Figure S24**. JV parameters with and without mobile ions are given in **Table S7**, below.



**Figure S24:** Simulated Stabilise and Pulse measurements (left-hand column) and JV curves with and without the inclusion of a mobile ionic species (right-hand column) for (a-b) devices without C<sub>60</sub>-BA

and (c-d) devices with C<sub>60</sub>-BA. Comparing this figure to **Figure 3** in the main text, we see that the simulations can accurately reproduce the experimental trends.

Device	With or Without Ions	J <sub>sc</sub> (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )	V <sub>oc</sub> (V)	FF	PCE (%)
Without C <sub>60</sub> -BA	With	20.50	0.99	0.73	14.9
	Without	21.30	0.88	0.70	13.0
With C <sub>60</sub> -BA	With	20.60	1.00	0.76	15.7
	Without	21.20	0.95	0.69	13.9

**Table S7:** JV parameters from the JV curves shown in **Figure S23b** (without C<sub>60</sub>-BA) and **Figure S23d** (with C<sub>60</sub>-BA).

### Supplementary Note Five

In this Supplementary Note, we summarise our Stabilise and Pulse measurements on Au/Spiro-OMeTAD/MAPbI<sub>3</sub>/(C<sub>60</sub>-BA)/SnO<sub>2</sub>/FTO devices. As for the TiO<sub>2</sub> devices, we summarise the JV data in **Tables S8-9** and **Figure S25** (below). Additionally, on **pages 36-37**, we provide plots of the full Stabilise and Pulse measurements,  $dJ/dV|_{V=V_{oc}}$  versus  $V_{bias}$  and the quasi-steady state (QSS) and stabilise and pulse (SaP) JVs evaluated at  $V_{flat}$ . Plots of the full Stabilise and Pulse measurements include the polynomial fits used to evaluate  $dJ/dV|_{V=V_{oc}}$  (see **Methods**). Data is shown up to the highest  $V_{bias}$  necessary to determine the QSS  $V_{oc}$ .

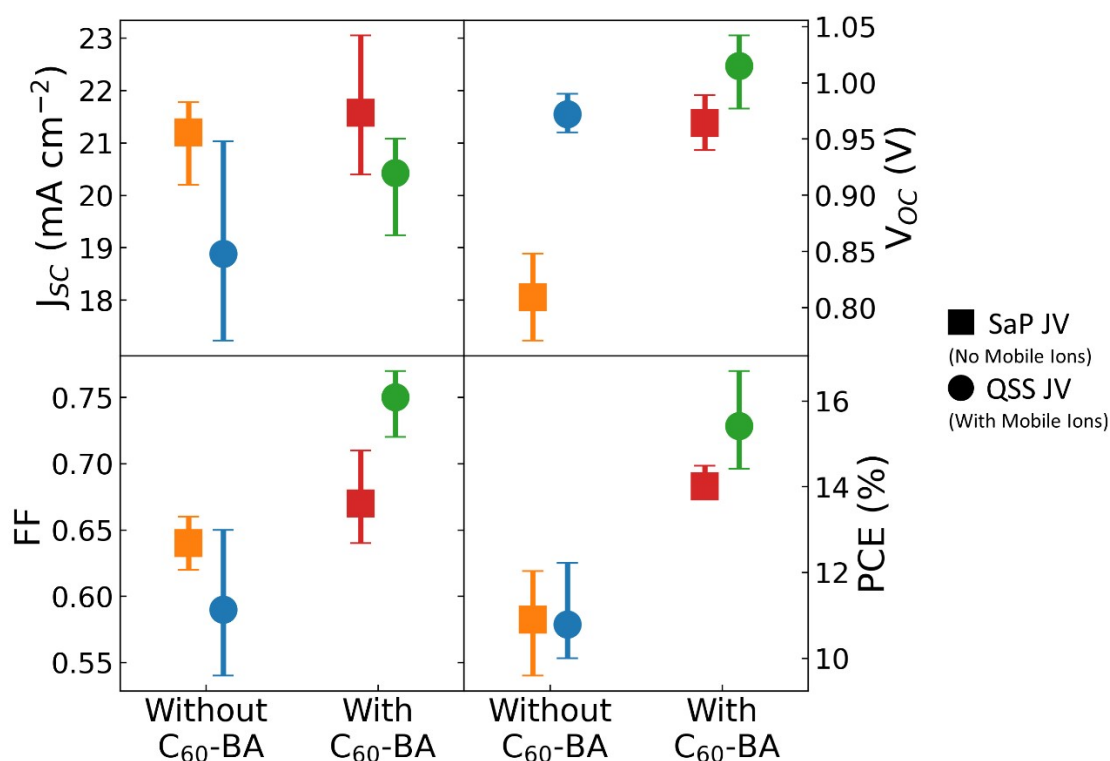
**Table S8:** Summary of the JV parameters for the Au/Spiro-OMeTAD/MAPbI<sub>3</sub>/SnO<sub>2</sub>/FTO devices. JV parameters are given for three cases: as measured under the Solar Simulator using the protocol described in the **Methods** section (parameters taken from the reverse scan), as measured with the mobile ions at quasi-steady state (QSS JV) and as measured using Stabilise and Pulse measurements carried out at  $V_{bias} = V_{flat}$  (SaP JV). Additionally, we provide the value of  $V_{flat}$  extracted from our analysis of the Stabilise and Pulse data in column 2.

Device Number	V <sub>flat</sub> (V)	Method	J <sub>sc</sub> (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )	V <sub>oc</sub> (V)	FF	PCE (%)
1	0.68 ± 0.05	Solar Sim	21.30	1.053	0.75	16.82
		QSS JV	19.45	0.956	0.54	10.08
		SaP JV	21.77	0.826	0.64	11.47
2	0.68 ± 0.05	Solar Sim	21.50	1.054	0.71	16.11
		QSS JV	21.03	0.990	0.59	12.22
		SaP JV	21.45	0.848	0.66	12.03
3	0.67 ± 0.05	Solar Sim	21.49	1.031	0.73	16.09
		QSS JV	17.23	0.969	0.65	10.85
		SaP JV	21.38	0.789	0.62	10.46
4	0.65 ± 0.05	Solar Sim	20.51	1.033	0.73	15.51
		QSS JV	17.80	0.972	0.58	10.00
		SaP JV	20.20	0.771	0.62	9.59

**Table S9:** Summary of the JV parameters for the Au/Spiro-OMeTAD/MAPbI<sub>3</sub>/C<sub>60</sub>-BA/SnO<sub>2</sub>/FTO devices. For further details, see the caption of **Table S8**.

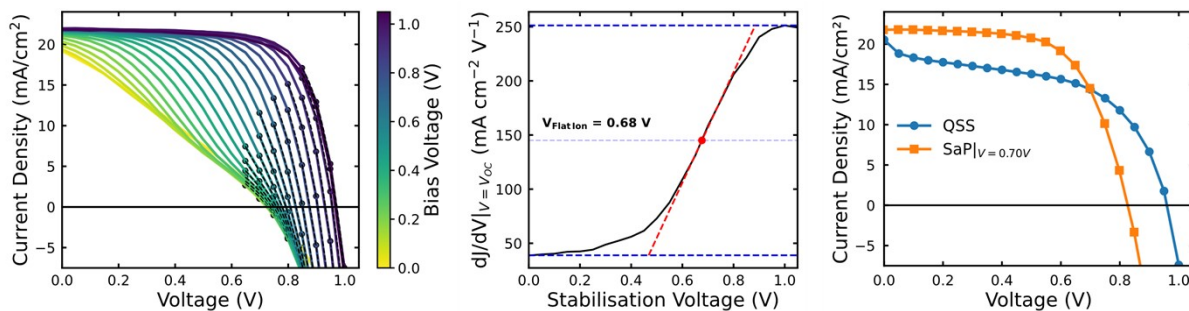
Device Number	V <sub>flat</sub> (V)	Method	J <sub>sc</sub> (mA cm <sup>-2</sup> )	V <sub>oc</sub> (V)	FF	PCE (%)
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1	$0.73 \pm 0.05$	Solar Sim	20.10	1.095	0.75	16.60
		QSS JV	19.24	1.042	0.75	14.96
		SaP JV	20.39	0.948	0.71	13.73
2	$0.73 \pm 0.05$	Solar Sim	22.27	1.070	0.69	16.37
		QSS JV	20.61	0.977	0.72	14.42
		SaP JV	23.05	0.940	0.71	13.73
3	$0.70 \pm 0.05$	Solar Sim	20.85	1.104	0.73	16.86
		QSS JV	20.75	1.012	0.74	15.57
		SaP JV	21.09	0.979	0.67	13.91
4	$0.72 \pm 0.05$	Solar Sim	21.36	1.101	0.72	16.85
		QSS JV	21.08	1.029	0.77	16.70
		SaP JV	21.75	0.989	0.67	14.49

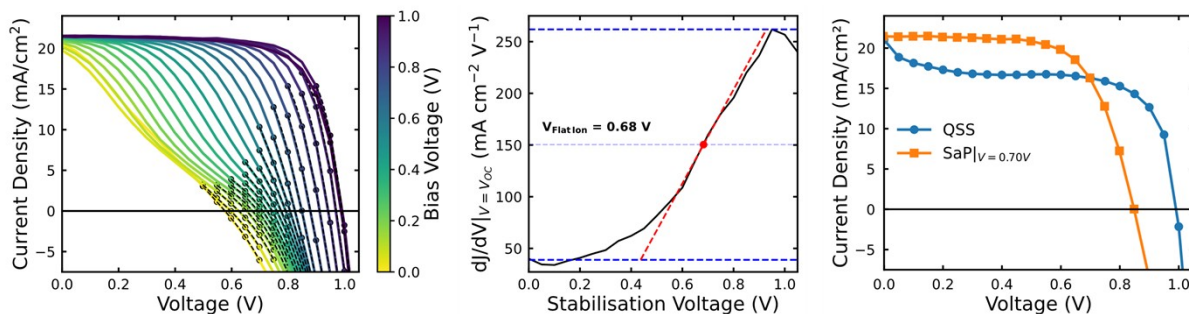


**Figure S25:** Summary of the JV parameters extracted from the Stabilise and Pulse (SaP) JVs and quasi-steady state (QSS) JVs for all measured SnO<sub>2</sub> devices. Error bars indicate the range of measured values. Considering the QSS JVs, we see that the inclusion of C<sub>60</sub>-BA increases PCE and this is largely due to increases in  $J_{SC}$  and FF, as was observed in the TiO<sub>2</sub> devices (see **Figure 2e**). Furthermore, the devices using SnO<sub>2</sub> show the same trends in  $V_{OC}$  as the TiO<sub>2</sub> devices, namely that ions increase  $V_{OC}$  with and without the inclusion of C<sub>60</sub>-BA, and the size of this improvement decreases when the C<sub>60</sub>-BA is present. Additionally, in the devices with C<sub>60</sub>-BA, we find that the presence of mobile ions increases PCE, as found in the TiO<sub>2</sub> devices. However, the devices without C<sub>60</sub>-BA don't follow this trend, largely due to their low FF. This contrasts to what was observed in the TiO<sub>2</sub> devices, where the QSS JVs had higher FFs than the SaP JVs. By comparing the QSS JVs of the SnO<sub>2</sub> and TiO<sub>2</sub> devices without C<sub>60</sub>-BA, we see that this difference originates from the rapid loss in photocurrent observed at low voltages in the SnO<sub>2</sub> devices. Since this behaviour is less pronounced in the devices with C<sub>60</sub>-BA, we believe it is due to the interaction of the perovskite and SnO<sub>2</sub> layers. This highlights how well passivated interfaces are necessary for mobile ions to be beneficial to device performance.

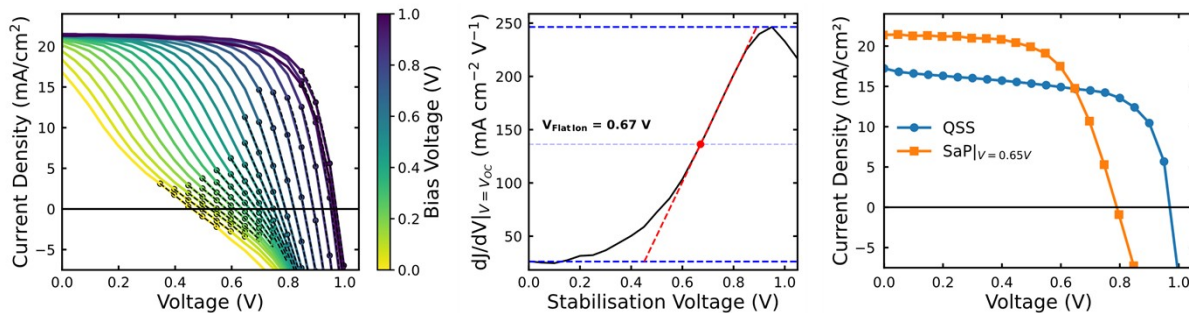
### SnO<sub>2</sub> (Without C<sub>60</sub>-BA) – Device 1



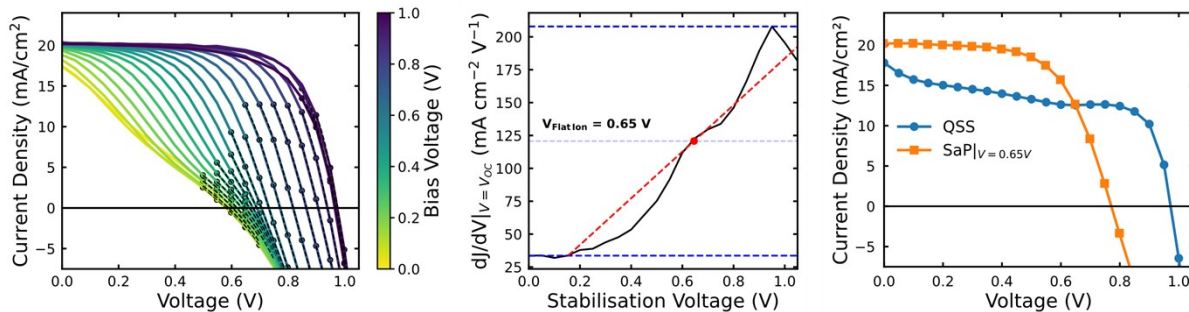
### SnO<sub>2</sub> (Without C<sub>60</sub>-BA) – Device 2



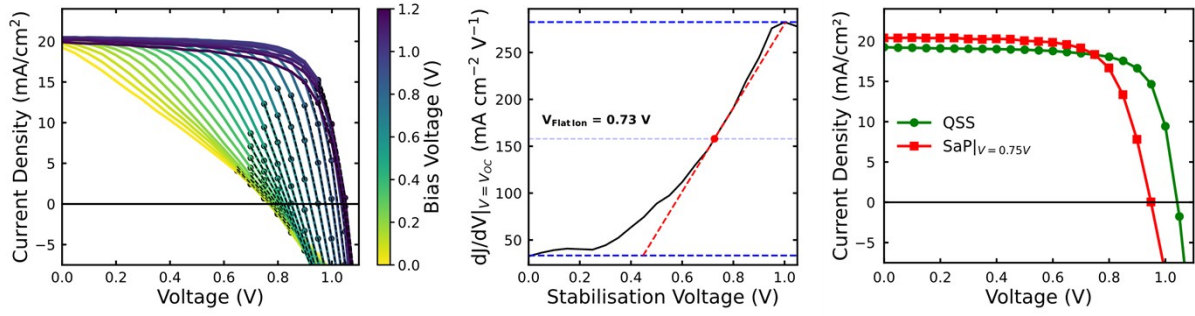
### SnO<sub>2</sub> (Without C<sub>60</sub>-BA) – Device 3



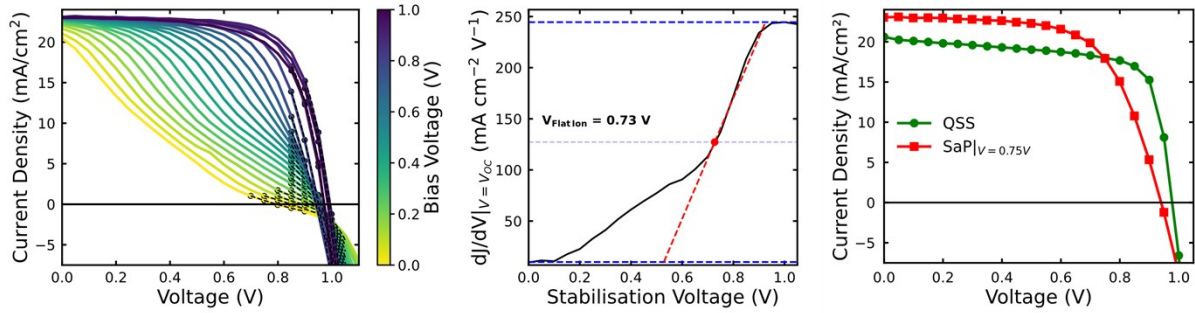
### SnO<sub>2</sub> (Without C<sub>60</sub>-BA) – Device 4



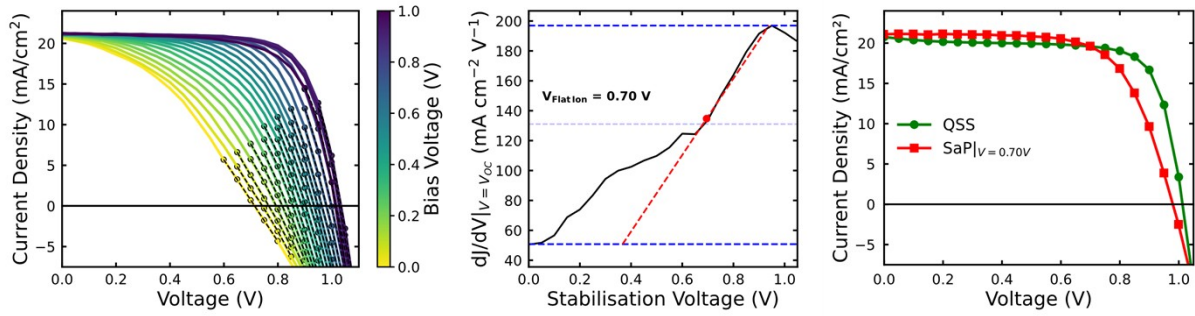
### SnO<sub>2</sub> (With C<sub>60</sub>-BA) – Device 1



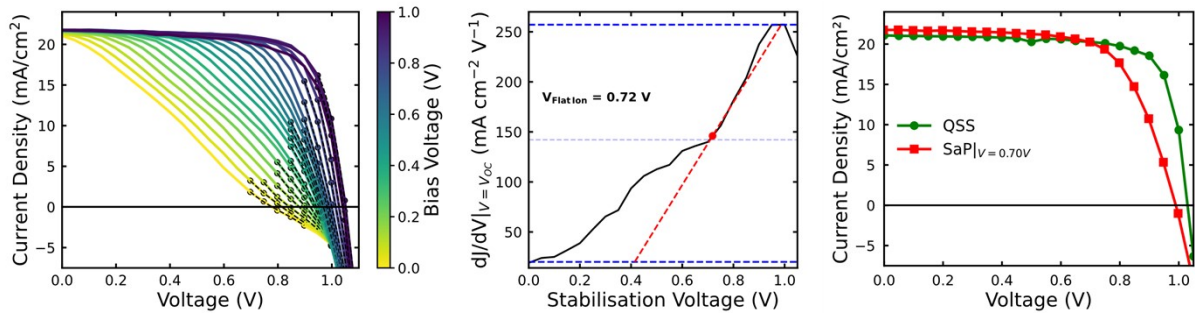
### SnO<sub>2</sub> (With C<sub>60</sub>-BA) – Device 2



### SnO<sub>2</sub> (With C<sub>60</sub>-BA) – Device 3

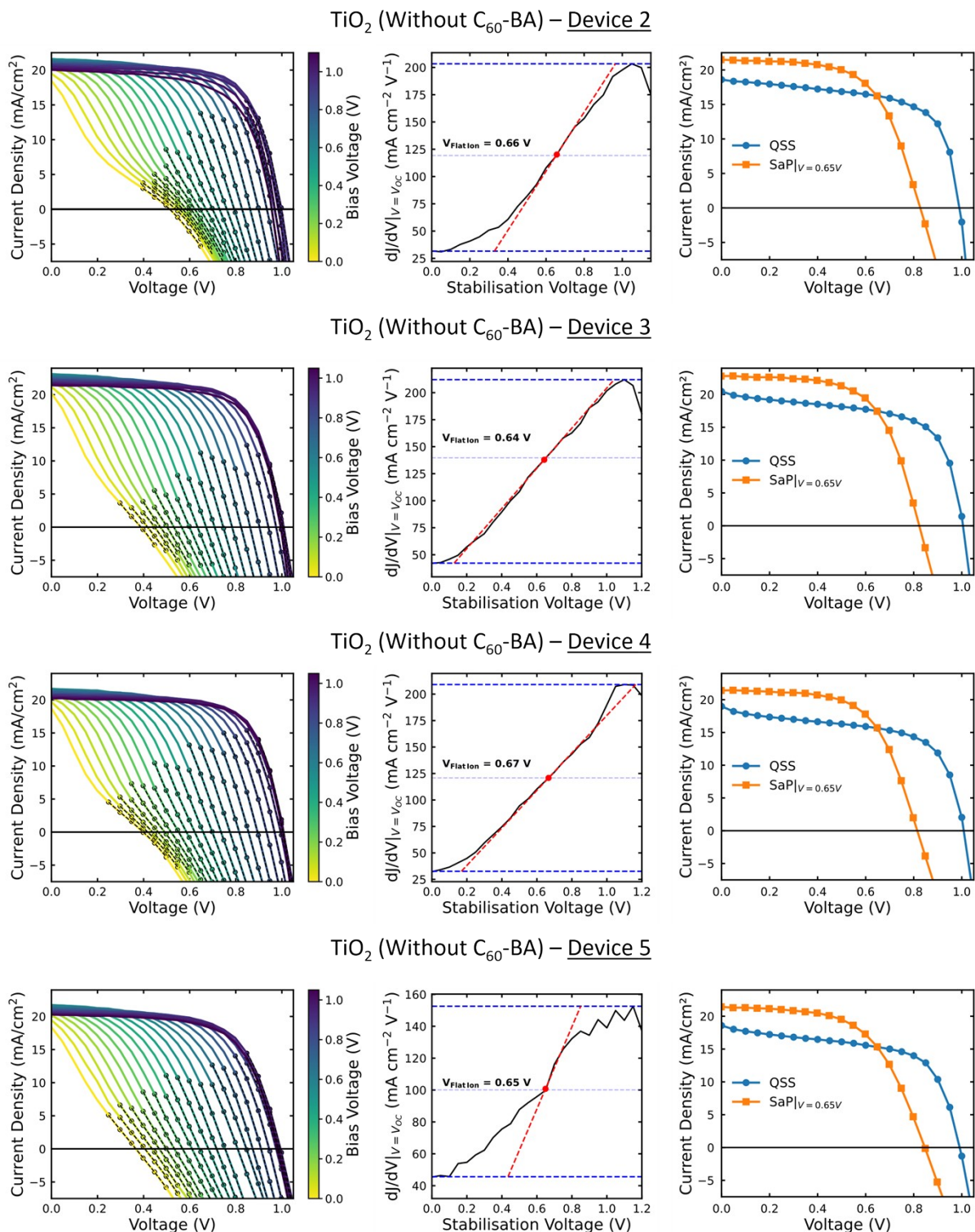


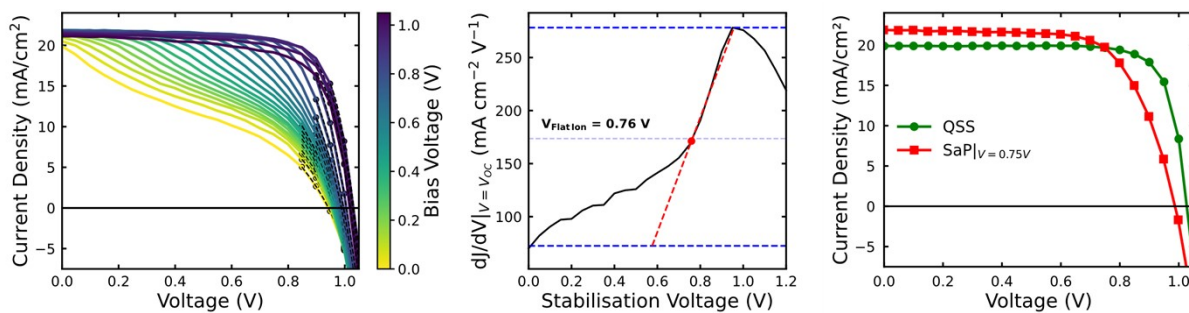
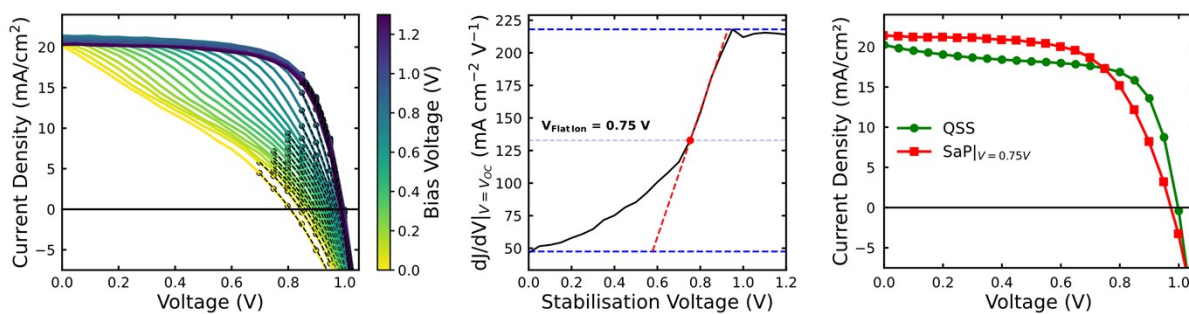
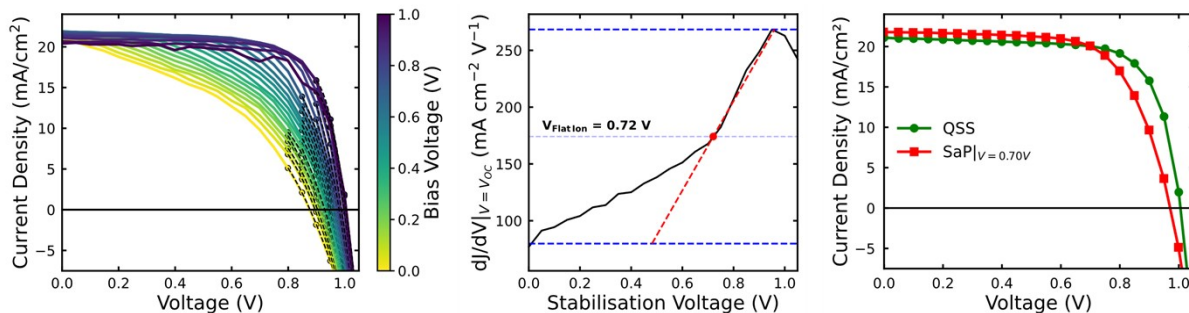
### SnO<sub>2</sub> (With C<sub>60</sub>-BA) – Device 4

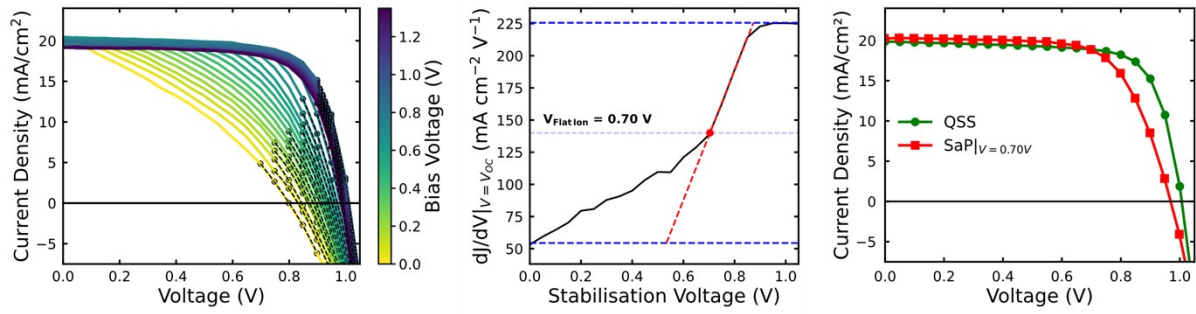
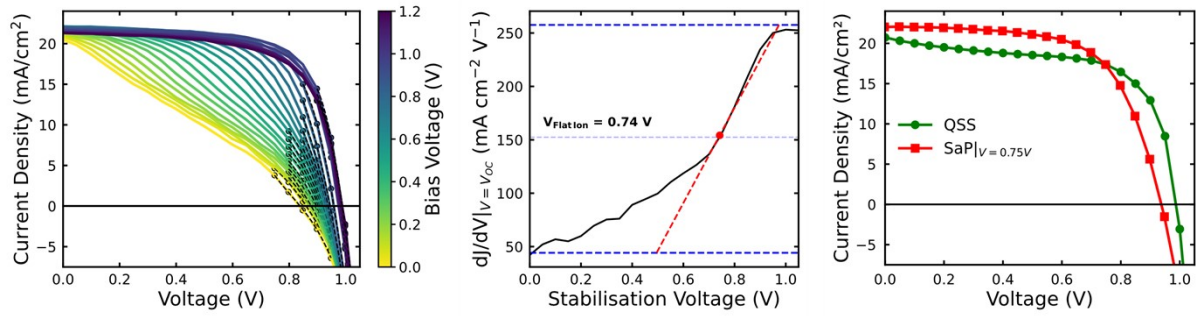


## Supplementary Note Six

In this Supplementary Note, we provide additional data regarding the Stabilise and Pulse measurements carried out on the Au/Spiro-OMeTAD/MAPbI<sub>3</sub>/(C<sub>60</sub>-BA)/TiO<sub>2</sub>/FTO devices which were not included in the main text. This data includes plots of the full Stabilise and Pulse measurements,  $dJ/dV|_{V=V_{OC}}$  versus  $V_{bias}$  and the quasi-steady state (QSS) and Stabilise and Pulse (SaP) JVs evaluated at  $V_{flat}$ . Plots of the full Stabilise and Pulse measurements include the polynomial fits used to evaluate  $dJ/dV|_{V=V_{OC}}$  (see **Methods**). Data is shown up to the highest  $V_{bias}$  necessary to determine the QSS  $V_{OC}$ .



TiO<sub>2</sub> (With C<sub>60</sub>-BA) – Device 1TiO<sub>2</sub> (With C<sub>60</sub>-BA) – Device 2TiO<sub>2</sub> (With C<sub>60</sub>-BA) – Device 3

TiO<sub>2</sub> (With C<sub>60</sub>-BA) – Device 4TiO<sub>2</sub> (With C<sub>60</sub>-BA) – Device 6



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