

THz Analysis of CH₃NH₃PbI₃ Perovskites

Associated with Graphene and Silver Nanowire

Electrodes

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ABSTRACT. In order to investigate the thermal and chemical (in)stabilities of MAPbI₃ incorporated with graphene and silver nanowire (AgNW) electrodes, we employed the THz time-domain spectroscopy (THz-TDS) which has a unique ability to deliver the information of electrical properties and the intermolecular bonding and crystalline nature of materials. In *in situ* THz spectroscopy of MAPbI₃, we observed a slight blue-shift in frequency of 2-THz phonon mode as temperatures increase across the tetragonal-cubic structural phase transition. For MAPbI₃ with the graphene top electrode, no noticeable frequency shift is observed until the temperature reaches the maximum operating temperature of solar cells (85 °C). Phonon frequency shift is sensitive to the

strain-induced tilt of PbI_6 octahedra and our results indicate that graphene forms a stable interface with MAPbI_3 and is also effective in suppression of the undesirable phase transition. Meanwhile, for MAPbI_3 coupled with the AgNW bottom electrode, the THz conductivity was found to be as low as that of MAPbI_3 single layer, attributed to the chemical reaction between Ag atoms and iodide ions. The THz conductivity is greatly increased when an ultrathin Al_2O_3 interlayer is introduced to cover the AgNW network via the atomic layer deposition (ALD) method. ALD of Al_2O_3 on the AgNW surfaces at low temperature guarantees a conformal coating which strongly affects the ohmic contacts between the NWs. Our results demonstrate the advantage of THz spectroscopy for the comprehensive analysis of thermal and chemical stabilities of perovskites associated with the electrode materials.

1. Introduction

Hybrid organic–inorganic halide (OIH) perovskites, such as methylammonium lead iodide (MAPbI_3) perovskite, have exhibited remarkable optical and electrical properties such as broad solar absorption and excellent charge transport for solar cells.^{1,2} Despite the recent conversion efficiency exceeding 25 %, ³ the intrinsic degradation of OIH perovskites can be proceeded under ambient conditions, raising questions about the actual device performance.⁴⁻⁶ Meanwhile, in the vertically integrated composite devices, another crucial instability can arise at the contact interface between different components. In particular, the transparent conductive electrodes (TCEs) in solar cells are in direct contact with the perovskite layer and their stabilities at the interface are vital in determination of the device performance. Recent emerging demands for reliable and flexible TCEs found that graphene and silver nanowires are very promising alternatives to replace indium tin oxide.⁷⁻¹⁵ Besides its excellent conducting properties, many studies have also demonstrated that graphene electrode on the top of the MAPbI_3 layer (G/ MAPbI_3) is beneficial in inhibiting the

octahedral tilt at the interface¹⁶⁻¹⁸ and improving the thermal stability near the maximum device operating temperature ($T_o \sim 85^\circ\text{C}$).¹⁹⁻²¹ For the MAPbI₃ grown on AgNW network layer (MAPbI₃/AgNW), the chemical reaction between Ag atoms and iodide ions causes not only a serious degradation of the perovskite layer, but also reduction of electrical conductivity of the system.^{6,22} Recently, intense efforts have been made to improve the interface stability between perovskites and metal electrodes for photovoltaic applications²³⁻²⁵ and among them, the insertion of thin metal oxide (for example, Al₂O₃) layer is proved to be effective in preventing the ion diffusion and chemical reaction between adjacent layers.²⁶⁻²⁸

Full characterization of the different nature of interface stabilities requires a combination of several experimental techniques. Among them, the infrared/Raman spectroscopy is frequently used to realize the structural transition and vibration modes, but their sensitivity is greatly reduced in the low frequency ranges ($<100\text{ cm}^{-1}$).²⁹ The electrical properties of materials are typically determined using the direct contact methods, but these techniques are poorly suited for nanostructured materials. In this work, we employed a single experimental technique, terahertz time-domain spectroscopy (THz-TDS), to characterize two major stabilities of MAPbI₃; the thermal stability under the outdoor operating conditions and the chemical stability at the interface with metallic electrodes. Owing to the heavy atomic mass and the difference in the nature of bonding, the vibrational modes of I-Pb-I and Pb-I bonds in MAPbI₃ appear at around 1 and 2 THz, respectively.³⁰ Thus, THz-TDS with high sensitivity in the frequency range of 0.4 to 3 THz is particularly useful in phonon mode characterization of MAPbI₃. In addition, THz-TDS is a contact-free and optical method whose phase-sensitive technique enables the precise characterization of static electrical properties of materials, especially nanostructured materials. In our previous works, the strain-induced phonon splitting of MAPbI₃ and the thermal stability of hybrid G/AgNW

electrode have been explored by using THz-TDS.^{31,32} Here, we extend the potential application of THz-TDS to provide insight of the stability at G/MAPbI₃ and MAPbI₃/AgNW interfaces.

For solar cells operating under long-term solar irradiation, the continuous heating may cause the thermal instability of devices. Especially for MAPbI₃-based solar cells, the tetragonal-cubic phase transition occurs at ~60-65 °C (T_c),³³⁻³⁵ much lower than T_0 . The phase transition is directly associated with the tilt of PbI₆ octahedra and in turn influences the phonon modes of MAPbI₃. In the *in-situ* measurement of THz-TDS, a slight blueshift in frequency of 2-THz phonon mode is observed as the temperature increases above T_c . Graphene has over 100-fold anisotropy of heat flow between the in-plane and out-of-plane directions³⁶ and G/MAPbI₃ does not show noticeable mode shift even at the temperature of 90 °C, indicating the suppression of the undesirable phase transition and enhancement of thermal stability. This result is confirmed by the repeated THz-TDS measurement for MAPbI₃ covered with molybdenum disulfide (MoS₂).

In the THz-TDS measurement of MAPbI₃/AgNW, we observed the complete vanishing of the continuous conducting path in the AgNW web and the THz conductivity shows a non-Drude frequency dependence. This result may be because during the solution process, the perovskite molecules may infiltrate into the gaps of AgNWs and accelerate the chemical reaction at NW junctions. When an ultrathin Al₂O₃ interlayer is introduced between MAPbI₃ and AgNW layers, the THz response of MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW shows a typical Drude behavior with largely increased conductivity. Besides blocking the migration of Ag atoms, the Al₂O₃ interlayer conformally grown on the AgNW network is found to improve the NW junction contact.^{37,38}

2. Results and Discussion

2-1. Thermal Stability of MAPbI₃ with Graphene Top Electrode

It has been reported that the structural as well as strain-induced phase transition of OIH perovskite is mainly driven by phonon modes associated with the inorganic lattice.^{31,39} Vibrational modes of corner-sharing octahedral networks mainly appear in the low frequency (<5 THz) region due to their heavy atomic mass and are observed as resonance peaks in the THz spectra. In order to understand the details of vibrational modes in MAPbI₃ and their evolution process with thermal heating, the complex THz conductivities, $\tilde{\sigma}(= \sigma_1 + i\sigma_2)$, are measured *in-situ* for every 10 °C-rise in temperature up to 90 °C. Details concerning the THz data extraction and fitting processes have been previously reported elsewhere.³¹ Figure 1a shows $\sigma_1(\omega)$ of the MAPbI₃ film measured as the temperature increases from 25 to 90 °C. At low temperatures, there are two resonance peaks at ~1.6 (P_d) and 2 THz (P₁); P₁ corresponds to the Pb-I bending mode of tetragonal MAPbI₃ and P_d is typically related with the structural deformation in the disordered tetragonal phases.^{39,40} As the annealing temperature increases above 60 °C, P_d becomes relatively weaker than P₁ which becomes broader and increases in amplitude. The reduction of the defect-related P_d indicates that the disordered tetragonal perovskites may be transformed to the structurally ordered state by thermal annealing.

In addition to P_d, P₁ displays several interesting features. In Figure 1b, a detailed plot of $\sigma_1(\omega)$ on expanded scale near 2 THz shows that at temperatures below 60 °C, there is a single peak centered at 2 THz, but at 60 °C, a new small peak (P₂) emerges at 2.1 THz. Figure 1b and c also show that further increase in temperature results in the peak shifting towards higher frequencies and a considerable increase in strength of P₂. It is similar to the mode-split of MAPbI₃ at ~160 K, which is attributed to the orthorhombic-to-tetragonal phase transition.⁴¹ In order to demonstrate that the observed blue-shift of phonon mode is due to the tetragonal-to-cubic phase transition in MAPbI₃, we repeated the same measurement for another OIH perovskite, MAPbBr₃,

which exists in the cubic phase at room temperature. Figure 1d shows that despite the increase in mode strength, there is no detectable frequency shift in the THz transmittance spectrum of MAPbBr₃ under annealing up to 90 °C. Separately measured X-ray diffraction (XRD) curves in Figure S1 confirms the tetragonal-to-cubic phase transition.

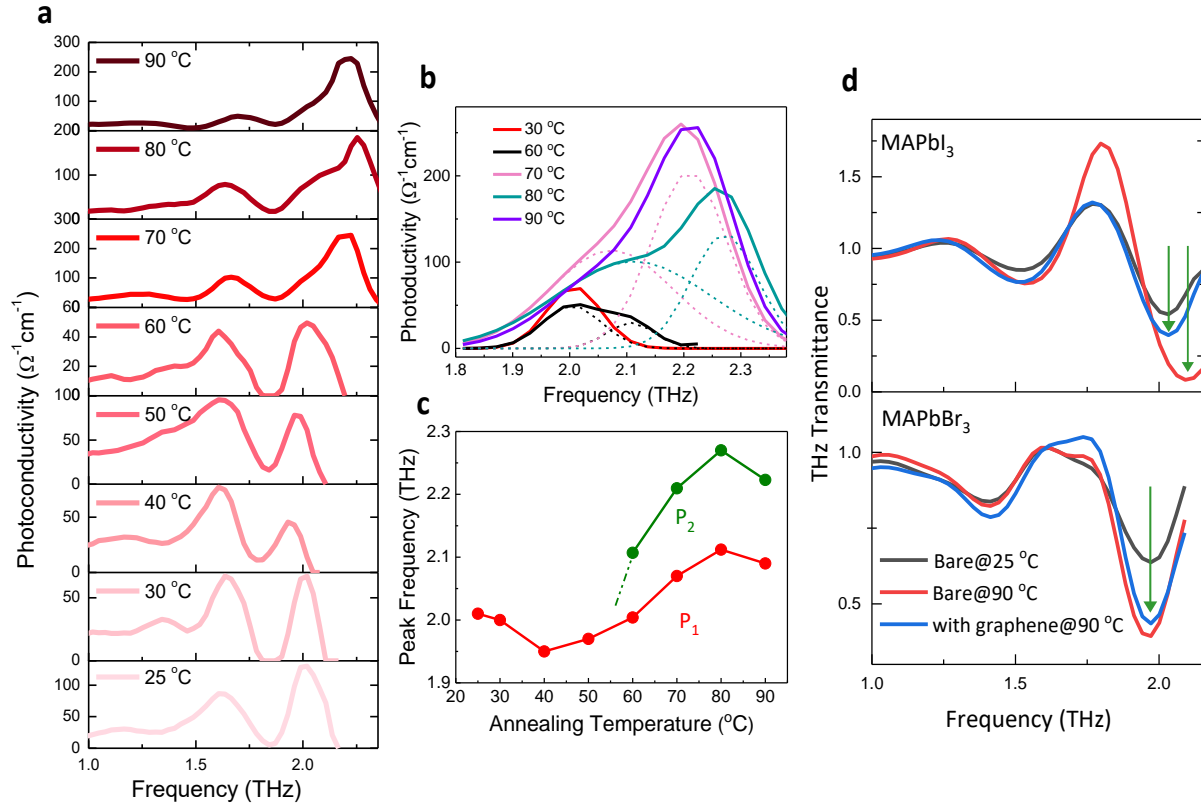


Figure 1. **a.** Temperature dependence of photoconductivity spectra of MAPbI₃ in the frequency range of 1.0-2.3 THz. Resonant peaks correspond to the vibration modes of mainly inorganic octahedra. **b.** Photoconductivity spectra and peak-fitting curves for the resonant phonon mode at ~2 THz. **c.** Frequency shift of P₁ and P₂ at different annealing temperatures. **d.** THz transmittance at 25 and 90 °C for MAPbI₃ and MAPbBr₃ with and without graphene overlayer.

Thermal-induced structural change of perovskites is known to be a surface-dominating sequential process, starting from the top surface and gradually propagating to underlayers.⁴²

Graphene overlayer is known to suppress the octahedral tilt in the interface with the perovskite film.¹⁶ Then, if the top surface of perovskite is covered by a highly conductive and hydrophobic graphene, the thermal and ambient stabilities of perovskites are expected to be significantly improved.^{16,43} Previously, a large increase of T_c has been reported for the perovskite film coated with ZnO nanoshell, in which the interfacial-field-induced atomic rearrangement is suppressed by ZnO overlayer.⁴⁴ To control the phase transition in a similar way, we utilized large-area graphene monolayers to cover the surface of MAPbI₃ and MAPbBr₃, and investigated the thermal stability by using the THz-TDS measurement.^{45,46} In Figure 1d, the phase shift-induced blue-shift of phonon mode is no longer observed for the graphene-covered MAPbI₃ (G/MAPbI₃) film annealed at 90 °C. It indicates that graphene monolayer can effectively suppress the structural deformation of inorganics cages and increase the critical temperature for phase transition beyond the maximum device operating temperature. For cubic phase MAPbBr₃, little change is observed for G/MAPbBr₃ with thermal heating up to 90 °C. It is noteworthy to mention that the mode frequency is not altered by the presence of graphene top layer on both MAPbI₃ and MAPbBr₃, implying that graphene/perovskite interface is stable in octahedral tilt.

Other two-dimensional materials such as MoS₂ have also been known to be effective for interface stability of perovskites.⁴⁷⁻⁵⁰ MoS₂ is a semiconducting 2D material and due to its larger lattice constant (3.12 Å) than graphene (2.45 Å) and anisotropic lattice orientation,⁵¹ their interaction with perovskites can be different from G/MAPbI₃.⁵⁰ Figure 2a shows that the phonon mode of MoS₂/MAPbI₃ appears at a shorter frequency ~1.9 THz than G/MAPbI₃, implying stronger effect of surface strain. Figure 2a also shows that there is no further phase-transition-related blue-shift on temperature increase above T_c , confirming the enhanced thermal stability of MoS₂/MAPbI₃. Interestingly, the THz spectra in Figure 2b show that the MoS₂ monolayer on the

top of MAPbBr₃ induces a red-shift in phonon frequency, in contrast to the blue-shift for MoS₂/MAPbI₃. This may be attributed to the lattice mismatching between MoS₂ and perovskites with different lattice constants,⁵² illustrating the superior sensitivity of THz spectroscopy in analysis of the vibrational modes of OIH perovskites.

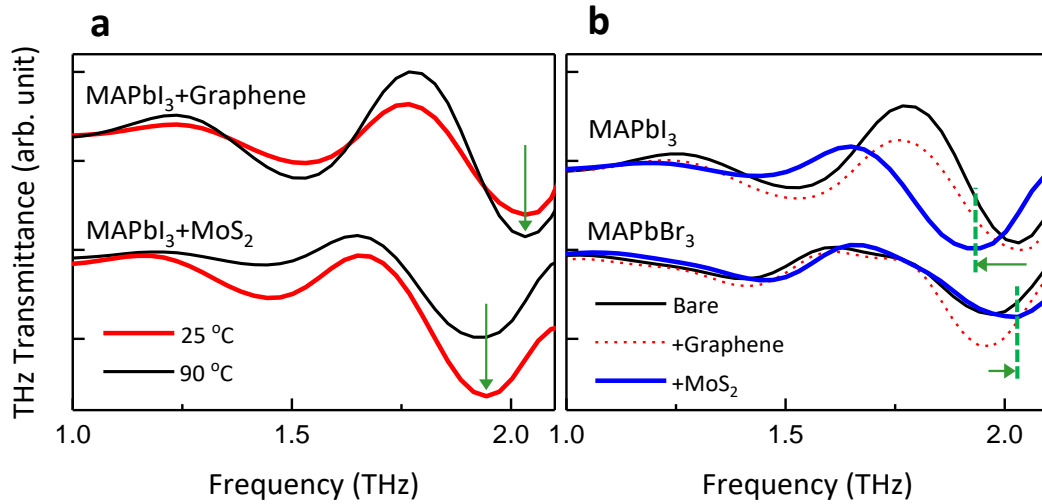


Figure 2. **a.** THz transmittance at 25 and 90 °C of MAPbI₃ covered by graphene and MoS₂ compared with that of G/MAPbI₃. **b.** THz transmittance spectra of MAPbI₃ and MAPbBr₃ covered with MoS₂ compared with those of G/MAPbI₃ and MAPbI₃ single layer.

2-2. Chemical Stability of MAPbI₃ on Silver Nanowire Bottom Electrodes

Despite high flexibility and conductivity, unprotected AgNW networks may induce significant chemical instability in the MAPbI₃ and AgNW hybrid system due to their high diffusivity and chemical reactivity with halide elements.⁵³ We investigated the degradation of MAPbI₃ due to chemical instability by THz spectroscopy in combination of several experimental methods. Firstly, Figure 3 shows the XRD curves of MAPbI₃/AgNW and the MAPbI₃ single layer directly fabricated on quartz substrate (MAPbI₃/Q). For MAPbI₃/AgNW, besides the XRD peaks indexed with those in tetragonal phase MAPbI₃, there are two additional peaks; one at 23.7° corresponding to AgI

(JCPDS No. 09-0399) (111) and the other at 32.9° belonging to Ag_2O (JCPDS 43-0997), providing a clear evidence of Ag atom diffusion to the perovskite layer. Another diffraction peak at $\sim 12.6^\circ$ corresponding to PbI_2 residue in perovskite film is noticeably larger for $\text{MAPbI}_3/\text{AgNW}$ than that for MAPbI_3/Q , confirming the chemical reaction of iodide ions with diffused Ag atoms.

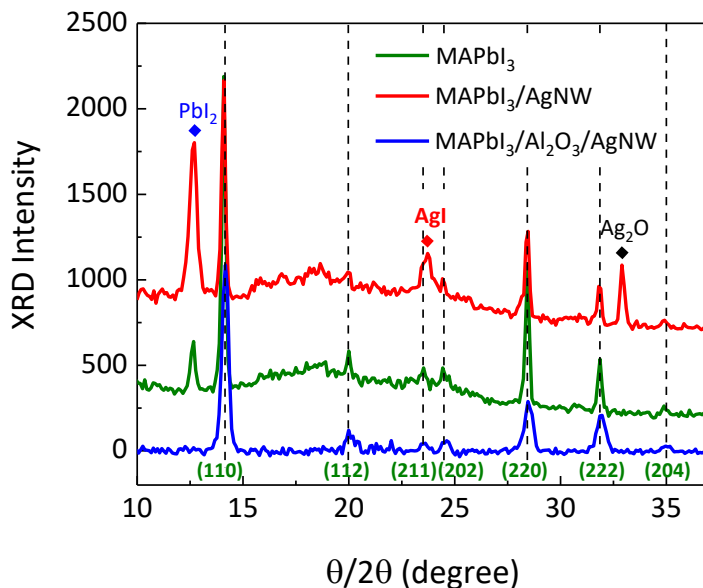


Figure 3. X-ray diffraction curves of MAPbI_3/Q , $\text{MAPbI}_3/\text{AgNW}$, and $\text{MAPbI}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{AgNW}$. The indexed peaks in $\text{MAPbI}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{AgNW}$ are for tetragonal phase MAPbI_3 . Two peaks at 23.7° and 32.9° for $\text{MAPbI}_3/\text{AgNW}$ correspond to AgI and Ag_2O , respectively. The peak at 12.6° indicates the residual PbI_2 . The figures are vertically shifted for clear presentation.

As an effort to prevent Ag atom diffusion, an ultrathin Al_2O_3 layer is deposited on the AgNW networks by ALD technique.⁵⁴ Due to its insulating nature, the thickness of Al_2O_3 layer is kept below 5 nm for the sufficient charge transfer to the perovskite layer. Table S1 shows the electrical conductivity of AgNWs covered by different thicknesses of Al_2O_3 layer. Figure 3 also exhibits the XRD curve of MAPbI_3 films fabricated on Al_2O_3 -protected AgNWs ($\text{MAPbI}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3/\text{AgNW}$). Apparently, diffraction peaks corresponding to AgI and Ag_2O are absent

in the MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW system, demonstrating that Ag atom diffusion can be effectively blocked by the Al₂O₃ layer. Furthermore, the peak of PbI₂ is also not observed in MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW, implying that ALD-grown Al₂O₃ interlayer supports the formation of high quality tetragonal MAPbI₃.⁵⁵

Next, we measured $\sigma_1(\omega)$ of MAPbI₃ incorporated with the AgNW bottom electrode using THz-TDS method and the results are shown in Figure 4. In our previous works, THz spectroscopy has been utilized to evaluate the AgNW networks near the percolation threshold and the influence of oxidation and thermal annealing of G/AgNW.^{31,32} The AgNW layer with NW concentration (>0.15 wt %) forms a conductive network with high DC conductivity ($\omega = 0$ Hz).³² Interestingly, Figure 4 shows that when the unprotected AgNWs are incorporated with MAPbI₃, the THz response of MAPbI₃/AgNW is nearly the same as that of MAPbI₃ single layer, indicating the vanishing of the continuous conducting paths in the AgNW web after deposition of MAPbI₃ layer. Here, we need to emphasize that the MAPbI₃ layers were deposited simultaneously on three different substrates (bare quartz, AgNW/quartz, and Al₂O₃/AgNW/quartz) to ensure the same quality and thickness of perovskite layer and the THz measurement was performed within a few hours after deposition. Therefore, the observed similar responses between MAPbI₃/Q and MAPbI₃/AgNW may indicate that during the solution process, the perovskite may infiltrate into the gaps of AgNWs and react with Ag atoms, causing the disconnection of percolation path in AgNW networks.

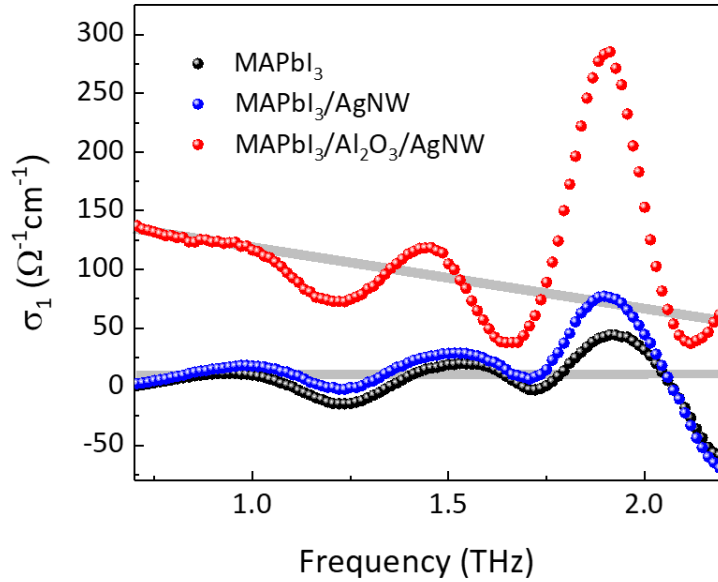


Figure 4. $\sigma_1(\omega)$ of MAPbI₃ single layer, MAPbI₃/AgNW, and MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW. Solid curves are obtained by using the simple Drude model (for MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW) and the Drude-Smith model⁵⁶ (for MAPbI₃ single layer and MAPbI₃/AgNW) with fitting parameters of the plasma frequency and the carrier scattering time in Table S2.

Meanwhile, for MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW, $\sigma_1(\omega)$ illustrates a clear Drude-like dependence on frequency with the estimated DC conductivity of $\sim 200 \text{ } \Omega^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$ ($\omega = 0 \text{ Hz}$), which is much higher than that ($\sim 13 \text{ } \Omega^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}$) of MAPbI₃/AgNW. (see Table S2) Percolatively connected AgNW networks can maintain its high conductivity only up to $\sim 200 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}$ and above that, melting and breakage of NW junctions cause the serious degradation of performance.³¹ In order to avoid the melting of AgNWs during the ALD process, the deposition temperature of Al₂O₃ film was kept below $150 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}$, but this temperature is high enough to improve the contact of NW junctions through the removal of the polyvinylpyrrolidone capping layer on AgNW.³¹ Therefore, the improvement of junction connectivity of Al₂O₃/AgNW leads to the enhancement of photoconductivity of MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW hybrid system. In addition, the strength of phonon mode at $\sim 2 \text{ THz}$ in

MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW is largely enhanced compared to that in MAPbI₃/AgNW, implying the formation of better quality perovskites on the ALD-deposited thin Al₂O₃ films. The Al₂O₃ encapsulating layer also improves the surface roughness of AgNW layer originating from the pentagonal shape of NWs and their random distribution and enables the homogeneous growth of perovskite layer.⁵⁷

Figure 5 depicts the structural configurations and element distribution with the cross-sectional TEM images of MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW. A single pentagonal AgNW of diameter ~120 nm covered by the perovskite layer can be clearly observed in a dark-field image in Figure 5a. Figure 5b-d show the energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDX) mapping of atomic elements, Ag, Al, and I. Apparently, ultrathin Al₂O₃ interlayer conformally covers the surface of AgNWs, and Ag elements are not observed in the perovskite layer. Meanwhile, for MAPbI₃/AgNW, no AgNW is found in TEM images covering the area of at least 10 μm, which is much larger than the average space (≤5 μm) between NWs. (see **Figure S1**) This may be due to the decomposition of the unprotected AgNWs⁵⁸ and is consistent with the result of THz-TDS in Figure 4. Figure S1 also shows that the MAPbI₃ perovskite layer in the MAPbI₃/AgNW system is composed of closely-packed large (~200 nm) grains of perovskite, whereas the perovskite layer in MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW is smooth and continuous without any vertically running grain boundary.

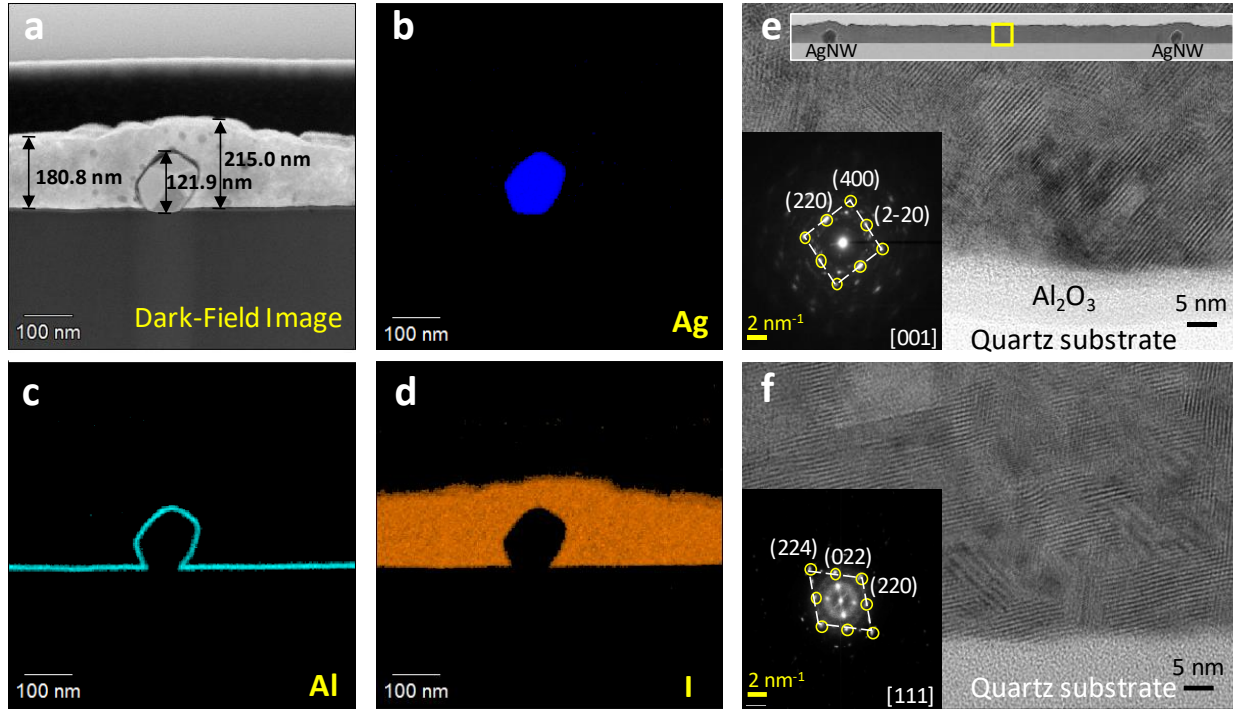


Figure 5. **a.** Cross-sectional TEM dark-field image of MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW. **b-d.** The EDX mapping images corresponding to Ag, Al, and I atoms. **e,f.** HR-TEM images of MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW and MAPbI₃/AgNW. Insets show the SAED patterns and circles correspond to diffraction spots of tetragonal phase MAPbI₃.

In Figure 5e, the high-resolution TEM (HR-TEM) image of the MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW structure (taken in the yellow square area between AgNWs) shows the high-crystalline quality MAPbI₃ layer with excellent texture. The *d*-spacings determined from selected area electron diffraction (SAED) measurements in the inset of Figure 5e allow indexing of the diffraction spots for tetragonal MAPbI₃ pattern along the [001] axis. In Figure 5f, the HR-TEM image of MAPbI₃/AgNW is shown and the corresponding SAED image in the inset exhibits a weak ring pattern overlapped with clear diffraction spots, which is typically appeared for relatively lower crystalline quality films. This result is consistent with the findings of XRD measurements in Figure 3.

3. Conclusions

In this article, we report on the experimental investigation by THz time-domain spectroscopy of MAPbI₃ incorporated with graphene top electrode and AgNW bottom electrode. Vibrational modes of MAPbI₃ have fingerprint features in the THz spectral range and they are sensitive to the surface and interface quality. Temperature-dependent THz spectroscopy reveals that a new phonon mode emerges upon heating above 60 °C, which is associated with the structural phase transition from tetragonal phase into cubic phase. Incorporation with two-dimensional materials, such as graphene and MoS₂, is found to be beneficial not only in formation of stable interface, but also in effective dissipation of solar heating to suppress the phase transition during the outdoor operation of MAPbI₃-based solar cells. The THz conductivity spectroscopy on MAPbI₃ incorporated with AgNW bottom electrodes shows that the conductivity of AgNW film, especially at NW junctions, are significantly affected by the chemical reaction between Ag atoms and iodide ions. Chemically stable interface as well as the high-quality crystal growth can be achieved by covering AgNW film with an ultrathin Al₂O₃ layer. This study demonstrated the potential and unique applications of THz spectroscopy in simultaneous evaluation of the phonon modes and electrical properties of organic-inorganic hybrid perovskites incorporated with different electrodes. It also provided the evidences of improved chemical and thermal stabilities of perovskites, paving a route of non-contact diagnosis for device performance improvements in practical applications.

Experimental Section

Fabrication Procedures for Solution-processed Metal-halide Perovskites. The procedures of perovskite fabrication involve the anti-solvent technique using a solvent-engineered precursor solution, which consists of a γ -butyrolactone (GBL) and dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) mixture. The powdered lead (II) iodide (PbI₂) and methylammonium iodide (MAI) are dissolved in the prepared

precursor solution with the 1 molar (M) concentration. The as-prepared solution is deposited onto substrates by a consecutive two-stage spin-coating process at 1000 rpm and 5000 rpm for 10 and 50 seconds, respectively. During the second spin-coating stage, a dripping of anti-solvent toluene is continuously dripped onto the $15 \times 15 \text{ mm}^2$ quartz substrates. Finally, the resulting thin films are annealed at 100°C for 30 minutes to remove the residual solvents and transit the intermediate solvate phase into the perovskite, generating the MAPbI_3 perovskite films. All of the fabrications are carried out inside a nitrogen-filled glove box at room temperature.

Fabrication Procedures for Perovskite-AgNW Hybrid Structures. AgNW films with high NW concentrations are prepared by using the spin coating method on quartz substrates. Typical concentration of AgNWs used for this work is $\sim 0.15 \text{ wt\%}$, which is much higher than the percolation threshold ($\sim 0.10 \text{ wt\%}$) of conductive AgNW networks.³² AgNWs dispersed in isopropyl alcohol are acquired from Seashell Technology, LLC (AgNW-60) with an average diameter of 120-150 nm and a length of 10 μm . Films of different densities are fabricated by subsequent dilution to proper concentration with the same solvent. A micropipette is used to drop 50 μL of the AgNW suspension on the Si substrates and then spun-cast at 1200 rpm for 40 s, followed by heating to 90°C for 3 min to vaporize any residual solvent. 5 nm-thick Al_2O_3 is deposited through atomic layer deposition to avoid degradation of AgNWs.

Fabrication and transfer of graphene and MoS_2 layers. A typical chemical vapor deposition (CVD) system was exploited for the fabrication of graphene. In the fabrication process, a 25- μm Cu foil substrate was cleaned and loaded into the CVD system. The Cu foil was annealed at 1000°C with 6% H_2/Ar gas flow of 100 sccm for 30 min. The graphene growth was performed by flowing 5% CH_4/Ar together with 6% H_2/Ar gases for 20 mins with the flow rates of 100 sccm

and 210 sccm respectively. The size of the as-grown graphene layer may be up to around 80 mm \times 90 mm, while the quality of the fabricated graphene was characterized by Raman spectroscopy. To transfer the graphene layer onto the perovskite thin films, the CVD-grown graphene on Cu foil was spin-coated with 7% polystyrene (PS, Sigma-Aldrich) in toluene at the speed of 1000 rpm for 50 secs, and then cured on a hot plate at 90 °C for 15 min. After removing the Cu foil through etching, the coated sample was subsequently attached with a supporting frame made with thermal release (TR) tape (from Nitto). Then the TR frame/PS/graphene/Cu was immersed in a 0.2M ammonium persulfate solution to etch away Cu foil. After that, TR frame/PS/graphene was rinsed with DI water and dried naturally in the air. Finally, the TR frame/PS/graphene was ready for transfer on perovskite/quartz and then the TR frame was released by baking at 110 °C for 30 mins. The mobility and carrier concentration of monolayer graphene measured by Hall measurement are $1680 \pm 378 \text{ cm}^2/\text{V/s}$ and $(8.4 \pm 2.9) \times 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-2}$.⁵⁹ MoS₂ monolayer was fabricated by Van der Waals Epitaxy (VdWE). The VdWE-grown MoS₂ monolayer on quartz substrate was spin-coated with 7% polystyrene (PS, Sigma-Aldrich) in toluene at the speed of 1000 rpm for 50 s, and then cured on a hot plate at 90 °C for 15 min. The coated sample was subsequently attached with a supporting frame made with TR tape. Then the TR frame/PS/MoS₂/quartz was immersed in the DI water to allow water to penetrate through the Van der Waals gap between MoS₂ and the quartz substrate. After that, TR frame/PS/MoS₂ was floating on the DI water and then further rinsed with DI water and dried naturally in the air. Finally, the TR frame/PS/MoS₂ was ready for transfer on Perovskite/quartz and then the TR frame was released by baking at 110 °C for 30 mins.

Characterization System The morphologies of perovskite films are analyzed by using field-emission scanning electron microscopy (FE-SEM, Zeiss-Ultraplus). The THz conductivities of MAPbI₃ films are measured using the THz time-domain spectroscopy (THz-TDS) technique. Our

homemade THz-TDS system is based on THz emission from a photoconductive antenna (Batop GmbH). The normally transmitted THz pulses were detected by free-space electro-optic sampling technique with a 2-mm-thick ZnTe crystal (EKSMA Optics), where the Pockels effect due to the THz field rotates the polarization of the sampling laser pulses.⁶⁰ A balanced detector detects the differential photocurrent as a function of delay time with respect to the optical pump pulse at 800 nm. All the measurements were done under dry nitrogen purge. The excitation of antenna and the probe of the THz signal through electro-optic sampling method are achieved with a Ti:sapphire laser (Coherent Chameleon Ultra II) which delivers ~150 fs optical pulses at a center wavelength of 800 nm. For post-annealing measurement, samples are sandwiched by a pair of commercially available mini electrical ceramic heat-plate (with a 5×5 mm² square hole at the center) and the sample temperature is controlled and measured by thermocouple during the in-situ THz-TDS measurement. In THz-TDS analysis, the THz wave spectra are obtained by the application of a fast Fourier transform to the time-domain waveforms for both the substrate and the film on the substrate. Dividing the spectrum obtained from the perovskite film on the substrate by that obtained with the substrate yields the magnitude and phase difference of the complex transmission amplitude of the perovskite layer. From the Fourier transforms (power spectra and phase shifts), we can determine the frequency-dependent photoconductivities as well as the dielectric constants of the perovskite samples. XRD θ - 2θ scans (Bede D1 HR-XRD) of perovskite films are performed using an XRD diffractometer with monochromatic Cu-K α radiation ($\lambda = 1.5406 \text{ \AA}$) to characterize the reflections along the surface normal.

Associated Content

Supporting Information. XRD curves of MAPbI₃ measured at room temperature and after annealing at 90 °C. (Figure S1) TEM image of MAPbI₃/AgNWs and MAPbI₃/Al₂O₃/AgNW systems. (Figure S2) Al₂O₃ thickness dependence of electrical conductivity of Al₂O₃/AgNW. (Table S1) The best fit parameters for the analysis of photoconductivity spectra in Figure 3. (Table S2) The Supporting Information is available free of charge.

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Author Contributions

H.A. and T.K. conceived and planned the experiments, and wrote the manuscript. Z.H. prepared AgNW network and conducted THz spectroscopy measurement. Y.D. and T.K. performed the optical experiments. Y.H. prepared perovskite samples. C.C. fabricated the graphene and MoS₂ layers and performed dry-transfer on perovskite thin films. All authors have given approval to the final version of the manuscript.

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Abbreviations

MAPbI₃, methylammonium lead iodide; AgNW, silver nanowire; ALD, atomic layer deposition; OIH, organic–inorganic halide; THz-TDS, terahertz time-domain spectroscopy; AgI, silver iodide; Al₂O₃, aluminum oxide; G/MAPbI₃, graphene-covered MAPbI₃; MAPbI₃/AgNW, MAPbI₃ on AgNW layer; MAPbI₃/Q, MAPbI₃ on quartz substrate; XRD, X-ray diffraction; TEM, transmission electron microscope; EDX, energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy; SAED, selected area electron diffraction; PL, photoluminescence.

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