

Supporting Information

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Volatile Solid Additive-Assisted Sequential Deposition Enables 18.42% Efficiency in Organic Solar Cells

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Experimental Section

1. Materials

The polymer donor D18-Cl was purchased from eFlexPV Co. The acceptor N3 was synthesized according to the previous report.^[1] PDIN was purchased from Solarmer Material Inc.

2. Device fabrication and measurement

All the OSCs were fabricated with a conventional structure of ITO/PEDOT:PSS/active layer/PDIN/Ag. The ITO substrates ($15 \Omega \text{ sq}^{-1}$) were sequentially cleaned and sonicated with detergent, deionized water, acetone, and isopropyl alcohol. Then, ITO substrates were treated with UV-ozone for 15 min. Subsequently, a 30 nm PEDOT:PSS film was deposited on the ITO substrate with a speed of 4000 rpm for 30 s and then baked at $150 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 10 min before being transferred into N_2 -filled glove box. For the BHJ active layer, the D18-Cl:N3 blend was dissolved in chloroform (CF) with a D:A ratio of 1:1.4 and a concentration of 16 mg mL^{-1} . The D18-Cl:N3 blend film was spin-coated on the PEDOT:PSS film at 4000 rpm for 30 s. For the sequential deposition (SD) active layer, the donor D18-Cl and acceptor N3 were dissolved into CF with a concentration of 6.5 and 7.5 mg mL^{-1} , respectively. Firstly, the D18-Cl was deposited on PEDOT:PSS film as front layer at 4000 rpm for 30 s and then the N3 solution was spin-coated on the top of D18-Cl film at 3000 rpm for 30 s. Before casting the acceptor N3, solid additive DIB was dissolved into N3 chloroform solution. The active layers were thermally annealed at $90 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 5 min to remove the solid additive. Subsequently, a thin PDIN (2 mg mL^{-1} in methanol with 0.3 vol% acetic acid) layer was spin-coated on the top of active layer. Finally, a 100 nm Ag electrode was thermally deposited under 2×10^{-6} Torr. The effective area of device was 10 mm^2 . The *J-V* curves of devices were measured by Keithley 2400 under AM 1.5G (100 mW cm^{-2}) generated from a solar simulator. The illumination intensity was determined by a silicon photodiode calibrated by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). The external quantum efficiency (EQE) spectra were performed by using QE-R equipment system (Enli Tech).

3. Ultraviolet-Visible (UV-Vis) absorption spectra and Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectra

UV-Vis absorption spectra were measured by using a Lambda 365 UV/Vis spectrophotometer (PerkinElmer). FT-IR measurement was performed by using a FT-IR spectrometer (PerkinElmer).

4. SCLC measurement

The carrier (hole or electron) mobility was measured via space-charge-limited current (SCLC) method. The hole-only devices were fabricated with architecture of ITO/PEDOT:PSS/active layer/MoO₃/Ag, and the electron-only devices were fabricated with configuration of ITO/ZnO/Phen-NaDPO/active layer/Phen-NaDPO/Ag.^[2] The J - V curves were measured by Keithley 2400 in the dark. The mobility was obtained by fitting the dark current with the following equation:

$$J = \frac{9}{8} \varepsilon_0 \varepsilon_r \mu \frac{V^2}{L^3}$$

where J is the current density, ε_0 is the permittivity of the vacuum, ε_r is the dielectric constant of material, μ is zero-field mobility (electron mobility μ_e and hole mobility μ_h), V is the effective voltage ($V = V_{\text{appl}} - V_{\text{bi}}$, where V_{appl} and V_{bi} are the applied voltage and built-in potential, respectively), L is the film thickness. The mobility can be obtained from the $J^{1/2}$ - V plot.^[3]

5. Morphology characterization

Atomic force microscope (AFM) measurements were conducted on a Dimension Edge (Bruker) by using in tapping mode. Transmission electron microscope (TEM) measurements were performed on a Talos F200S instrument. The grazing-incidence wide-angle X-ray scattering (GIWAXS) measurements were carried out at PLS-II 9A beamline of the Pohang Accelerator Laboratory in Korea. The samples were prepared on Si substrates using the identical conditions with the device fabrication. The X-ray beam energy was set to 11.5 keV. The incident angle of X-ray beam was varied from 0.08 to 0.16 °. The crystal coherence length (CCL) was calculated by using the Scherrer equation:^[4]

$$CCL = \frac{2\pi K}{\Delta q}$$

Where K is the shape factor ($K = 0.9$), and Δq is the full-width at half-maximum (FWHM) of the diffraction peak.

6. Transient photocurrent (TPC) and transient photovoltage (TPV) measurements

TPC measurements were performed under short-circuit condition in the dark. TPV measurements were acquired at open-circuit condition under one sun illumination from a white light-emitting diode. The output signals were recorded on a keysight oscilloscope.^[5]

Supporting Figures

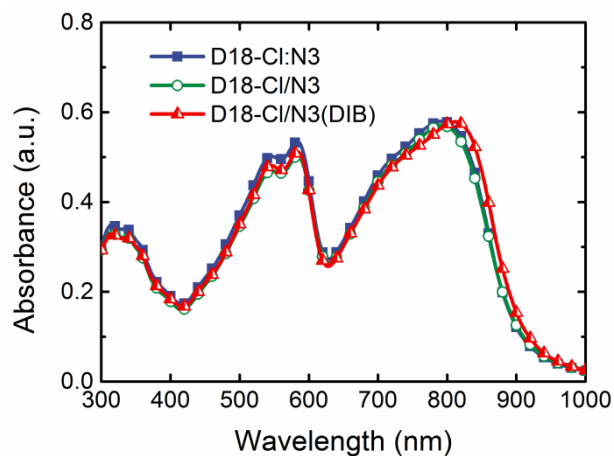


Figure S1 Absorption spectra of D18-Cl:N3, D18-Cl/N3, and D18-Cl/N3(DIB) blend films.

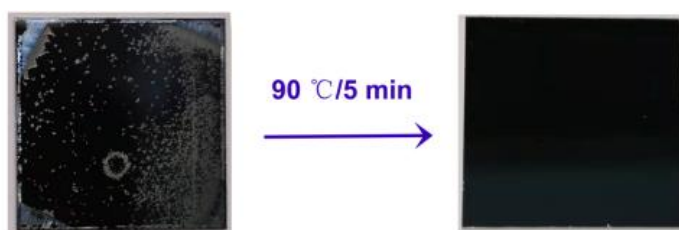


Figure S2 The images of DIB film coated on the silicon wafer before and after 90 °C thermal annealing for 5 min.

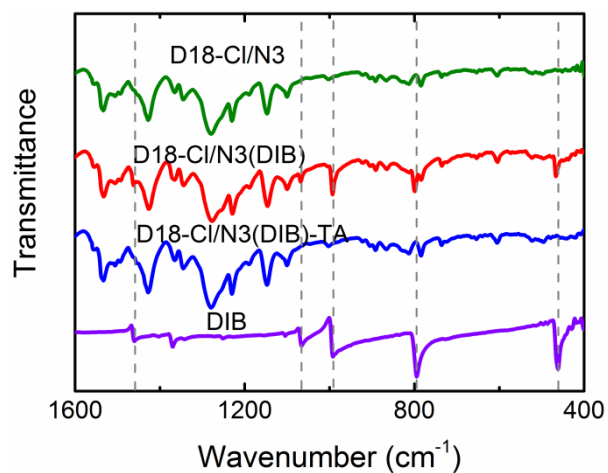


Figure S3 FT-IR spectra of DIB, D18-Cl/N3, and D18-Cl/N3(DIB) without and with TA treatment at 90 °C for 5 min.

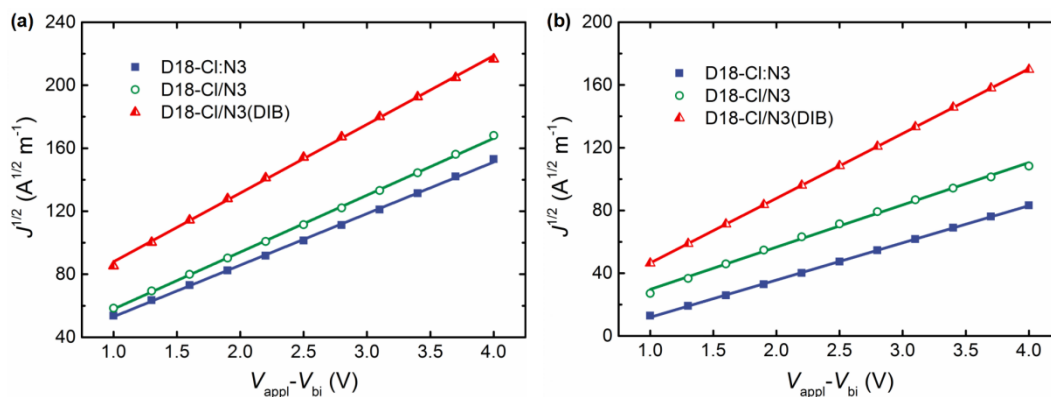


Figure S4 $J^{1/2}$ - V plots (a) for hole-only devices and (b) for electron-only devices.

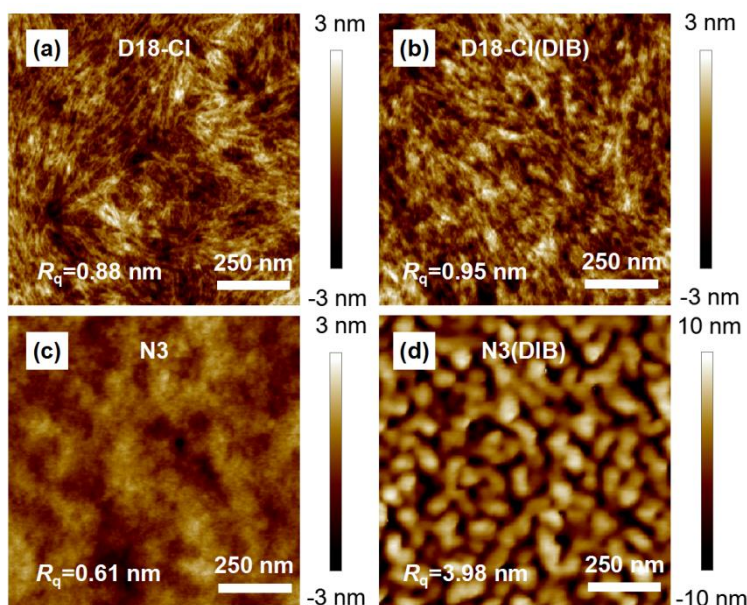


Figure S5 AFM height images of (a) D18-Cl, (b) D18-Cl(DIB), (c) N3, and (d) N3(DIB) neat films.

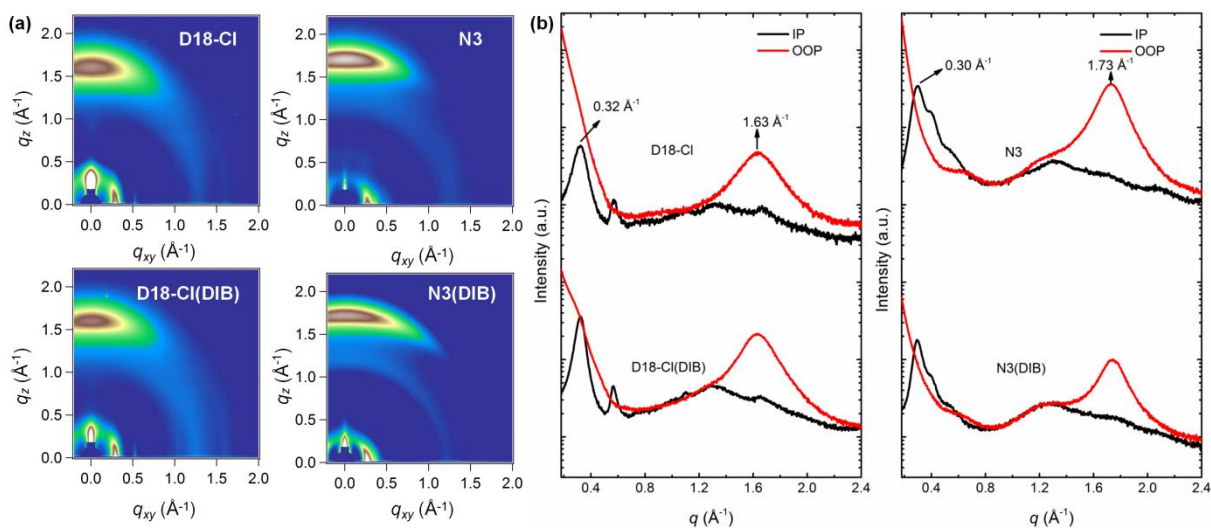


Figure S6 (a) 2D GIWAXS patterns and (b) the corresponding in-plane (IP) and out-of-plane (OOP) line cuts of D18-Cl, D18-Cl(DIB), N3, and N3(DIB) neat films.

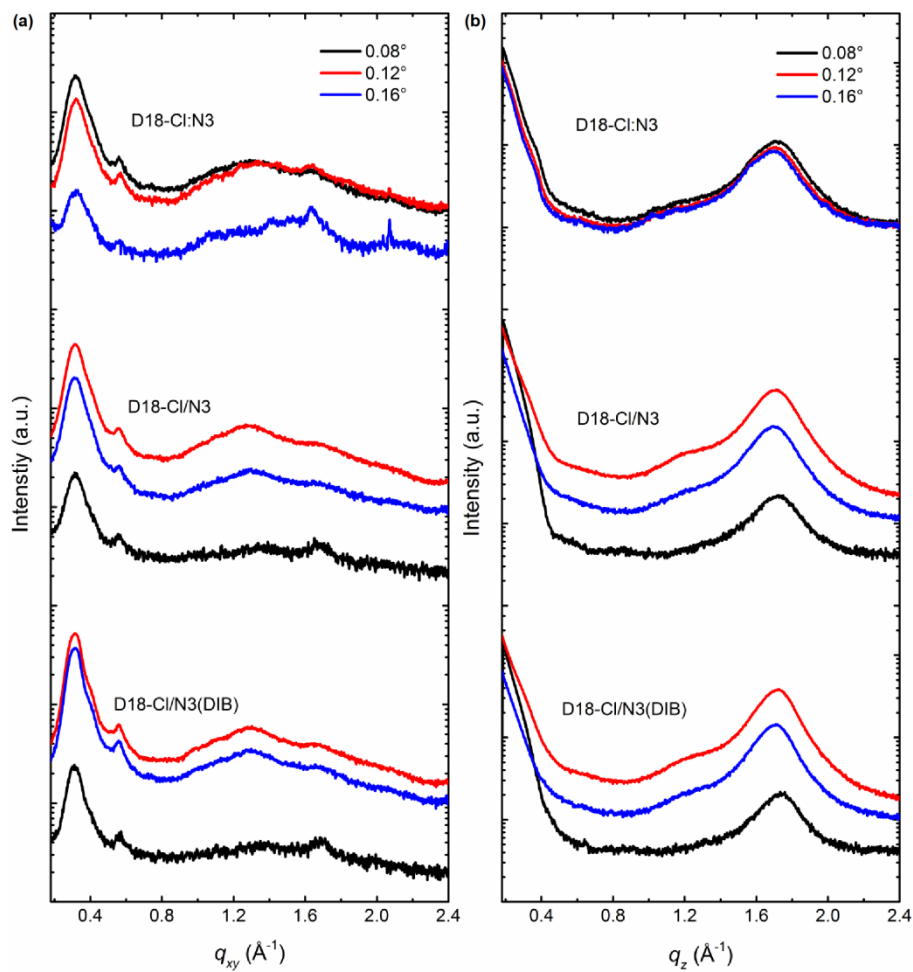


Figure S7 (a) In-plane and (b) out-of-plane line cuts of D18-Cl:N3, D18-Cl/N3, and D18-Cl/N3(DIB) blend films with different incident angles (0.08° , 0.12° , and 0.16°).

Supporting Tables

Table S1 Optimization of thickness for donor in SD OSCs.

| Donor/Active layer [nm] | V_{oc} [V] | J_{sc} [mA cm ⁻²] | FF [%] | PCE ^a [%] |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| 80/118 | 0.872 | 26.35 | 76.1 | 17.47 (17.08 ± 0.35) |
| 65/104 | 0.870 | 26.27 | 76.9 | 17.58 (17.35 ± 0.21) |
| 57/98 | 0.870 | 25.99 | 77.1 | 17.43 (17.02 ± 0.35) |
| 47/90 | 0.867 | 25.69 | 77.8 | 17.32 (16.93 ± 0.31) |

^aAverage values and standard deviation were obtained from 16 individual devices.

Table S2 Optimization of thickness for acceptor in SD OSCs.

| Donor/Active layer [nm] | V_{oc} [V] | J_{sc} [mA cm ⁻²] | FF [%] | PCE ^a [%] |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| 65/135 | 0.867 | 26.58 | 76.4 | 17.60 (17.19 ± 0.32) |
| 65/110 | 0.873 | 26.74 | 76.0 | 17.74 (17.50 ± 0.17) |
| 65/95 | 0.868 | 26.37 | 76.2 | 17.44 (17.17 ± 0.19) |

^aAverage values and standard deviation were obtained from 16 individual devices.

Table S3 Optimization of DIB content in N3 for SD OSCs.

| DIB [mg mL ⁻¹] | V_{oc} [V] | J_{sc} [mA cm ⁻²] | FF [%] | PCE ^a [%] |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| 0 | 0.873 | 26.74 | 76.0 | 17.74 (17.50 ± 0.17) |
| 5 | 0.864 | 26.84 | 78.0 | 18.07 (17.68 ± 0.26) |
| 10 | 0.860 | 27.18 | 78.8 | 18.42 (18.20 ± 0.15) |
| 15 | 0.861 | 27.04 | 78.1 | 18.19 (17.83 ± 0.20) |
| 20 | 0.861 | 26.56 | 77.2 | 17.64 (17.33 ± 0.25) |

^aAverage values and standard deviation were obtained from 16 individual devices.

Table S4 Summary of recently reported high-performance binary SD OSCs.

| Donor | Acceptor | V_{oc} [V] | J_{sc} [mA cm ⁻²] | FF [%] | PCE [%] | Reference |
|-----------|----------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| PBDB-TFS1 | IT-4F | 0.90 | 20.3 | 71 | 13.0 | [6] |
| PM6 | Y6 | 0.834 | 25.90 | 75.68 | 16.35 | [7] |
| PT2 | Y6 | 0.83 | 26.7 | 74.4 | 16.5 | [8] |
| PM6 | Y6-BO | 0.847 | 26.2 | 77.5 | 17.2 | [9] |
| D18 | N3 | 0.834 | 27.79 | 75.61 | 17.52 | [10] |
| PM6 | L8-BO | 0.89 | 26.11 | 80.6 | 18.74 | [11] |

Table S5 Exciton dissociation and charge collection probability of the devices.

| Active layer | η_{diss} | η_{coll} |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| D18-Cl:N3 | 97.4% | 86.6% |
| D18-Cl/N3 | 97.7% | 87.6% |
| D18-Cl/N3(DIB) | 98.1% | 90.7% |

Table S6 Hole and electron mobility.

| Films | μ_h [cm ² V ⁻¹ s ⁻¹] | μ_e [cm ² V ⁻¹ s ⁻¹] | μ_h/μ_e |
|----------------|---|---|---------------|
| D18-Cl:N3 | 3.48×10^{-4} | 1.88×10^{-4} | 1.85 |
| D18-Cl/N3 | 4.24×10^{-4} | 2.66×10^{-4} | 1.59 |
| D18-Cl/N3(DIB) | 6.75×10^{-4} | 6.23×10^{-4} | 1.08 |

Table S7 Detailed GIWAXS data of (010) peak in OOP direction.

| Films | Incident angle | Component | q [Å ⁻¹] | d -spacing [Å] | FWHM [Å ⁻¹] | CCL [Å] |
|-----------|----------------|-----------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| D18-Cl:N3 | 0.08 ° | D18-Cl | 1.648 | 3.81 | 0.281 | 20.12 |
| | | N3 | 1.735 | 3.62 | 0.222 | 25.47 |
| | 0.12 ° | D18-Cl | 1.632 | 3.85 | 0.258 | 21.92 |
| | | N3 | 1.733 | 3.63 | 0.208 | 27.19 |
| | 0.16 ° | D18-Cl | 1.620 | 3.88 | 0.280 | 20.20 |
| | | N3 | 1.715 | 3.66 | 0.217 | 26.06 |

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------|--------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| D18-Cl/N3 | 0.08 ° | D18-Cl | 1.661 | 3.78 | 0.287 | 19.70 |
| | | N3 | 1.742 | 3.61 | 0.190 | 29.76 |
| | 0.12 ° | D18-Cl | 1.662 | 3.78 | 0.247 | 22.89 |
| | | N3 | 1.735 | 3.62 | 0.204 | 27.72 |
| | 0.16 ° | D18-Cl | 1.646 | 3.82 | 0.249 | 22.71 |
| | | N3 | 1.724 | 3.64 | 0.205 | 27.58 |
| D18-Cl/N3(DIB) | 0.08 ° | D18-Cl | 1.662 | 3.78 | 0.266 | 21.26 |
| | | N3 | 1.751 | 3.59 | 0.169 | 33.46 |
| | 0.12 ° | D18-Cl | 1.654 | 3.80 | 0.223 | 25.36 |
| | | N3 | 1.740 | 3.61 | 0.178 | 31.77 |
| | 0.16 ° | D18-Cl | 1.641 | 3.83 | 0.225 | 25.13 |
| | | N3 | 1.727 | 3.64 | 0.178 | 31.77 |

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