Defect and Confinement: Directing Methylammonium Lead Iodide Perovskite Photophysics

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Recent development of Methylammonium lead iodide perovskite (MAPbl₃) materials has produced high efficiency photovoltaic devices. Overall device efficiency may be enhanced through fundamental understanding of the photophysics of MAPbl₃. To achieve maximum efficiency and direct specific relaxation mechanisms, one needs to explore the role of both material defects and spatial confinement. This work presents the effect a neutral and charged Pb point defect, in bulk MAPbl₃, has on optoelectronic properties. The role of spatial confinement, and the direct effect on relaxation mechanism time scales, is illustrated for the example of a MAPbl₃ quantum dot. This work presents spin-polarized and noncollinear spin ground-state electronic structures and nonradiative rates of charge-carrier relaxation and introduces an extension to a novel procedure to compute photoluminescence spectra for openshell models.^{1,2,3} The vacancy of a Pb ion introduces a new energy state within the unblemished material band gap region. This additional unoccupied state is expected to increase the nonradiative relaxation lifetime of the excited electron, allowing for a longer lifetime of the charge carrier and increased opportunity for secondary relaxation mechanisms or collection to take place. Photoexcited dynamic processes in a MAPbl₃ quantum dot (QD) have been modeled by many-body perturbation theory and nonadiabatic dynamics. Within the MAPbl₃ QD electron relaxation mechanisms include exciton cooling (EC), radiative (RR) or nonradiative recombination (NRR), and multiexciton generation (MEG) processes. Computed times of these processes fall in the order of MEG < EC < RR < NRR, where MEG is on the order of a few femtoseconds, EC is in the picosecond range, while RR and NRR are on the order of nanoseconds.⁴

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