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Patent Search

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Abstract:

A photovoltaic solar cell incorporating hybrid semiconducting nanomaterials is presented. The design integrates both organic and inorganic semiconductor materials nanoscale, optimizing light absorption, charge transport, and energy conversion. The innovative fusion leverages multi-bandgap absorption, efficient charge pathway potential mechanical versatility, leading to enhanced solar harvesting efficiency.

Complete Specification

Description: This invention relates to the domain of renewable energy, specifically to the design and development of photovoltaic (PV) solar cells. More particularly, the invention pertains to the integration of hybrid semiconducting nanomaterials into solar cells, with the goal of enhancing their light absorption efficiency, charge transport, and overall energy conversion capabilities. These hybrid nanomaterials blend the properties of different semiconductor materials at the nanoscale, aiming to harness the advantages of both organic and inorganic materials for superior solar energy harvesting.

Background of the invention:

The incessant global demand for energy, coupled with the growing concerns about the environmental ramifications of fossil fuel consumption, has accelerated the search for sustainable and green energy alternatives. Solar energy, being abundant and clean, has emerged as a frontrunner in this quest. Photovoltaic (PV) solar cells, which directly convert sunlight into electricity, have been central to harnessing this solar potential. However, while the adoption of solar cells has been steadily increasing, a concomitant need to improve their efficiency and reduce their cost to make solar energy more competitive with traditional energy sources.

For several decades, crystalline silicon has been the predominant material used in commercial solar cells, known for its stability and reasonably high efficiency. Yet, the pursuit of higher efficiencies has led researchers to explore a variety of other materials, including organic semiconductors, perovskites, and inorganic thin films. Each of these materials presents its own set of advantages and challenges. For instance, organic semiconductors can be processed at low temperatures and offer flexibility, but suffer from lower efficiencies and shorter lifetimes. In contrast, inorganic materials like perovskites have shown tremendous promise in achieving high efficiencies in a short span of research time, but concerns about their stability and potential environmental impacts still linger.

At the convergence of these explorations emerged the concept of nanoscale engineering, aiming to exploit the unique electronic, optical, and mechanical properties of nanomaterials.

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