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# Facile synthesis of a dual-phase CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>–CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> single crystal and its photoelectric performance

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The emerging metal-halide perovskites are promising for next generation optoelectronic devices. Recently, all-inorganic halide perovskites have been developed and show significantly improved stability compared with organic–inorganic hybrid halide perovskites. Here, we report a facile method based on the coffee ring effect of solvents to synthesize dual-phase CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>–CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> single crystal microsheets for the first time. The prepared dual-phase CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>–CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> single crystal is composed of a tetragonal crystalline phase of CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> and a monoclinic phase of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> according to X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns. The sharp XRD peaks indicate the high crystallinity of the as-synthesized dual-phase CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>–CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> microsheets. CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> is mainly distributed on the edge of the microsheets based on photoluminescence (PL) mapping images. Besides, a photodetector based on the dual-phase CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>–CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> microsheets exhibits good performance with a high on/off photocurrent ratio of 300 and a photoresponsivity of 2.68 mA W<sup>-1</sup>. The rise and decay times of the CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>–CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> microsheet photodetector are around 25.3 ms and 29.6 ms, respectively. The experimental results indicate that the dual-phase CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>–CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> microsheet could be a good candidate for the fabrication of high-performance micro photodetectors compatible with practical applications.

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## 1. Introduction

As a promising class of materials, organic–inorganic hybrid lead halide perovskites have recently emerged for cost-effective manufacturing of solar cells, with a remarkable 23.9% power conversion efficiency achieved in just a few years.<sup>1–6</sup> Additionally, such perovskite materials have also been explored for a variety of optoelectronic applications including lasers,<sup>7</sup> light-emitting diodes (LEDs),<sup>8</sup> photodetectors,<sup>9,10</sup> and high-sensitivity X-ray detectors with high performance.<sup>11</sup> However, organic–inorganic hybrid perovskites suffer from poor environmental stability when they are exposed to ambient air. Thermal and moisture sensitivities hinder the practical applications of this promising material system and understanding equilibrium behaviours (crystallization and decomposition) of organic–inorganic hybrid perovskites in aqueous solution and at different temperatures is very critical.<sup>12–16</sup> Recently, the emergence of all-inorganic metal halide perovskites materials can overcome this drawback. They show remarkable

stability and unique optoelectronic properties compared with the organic–inorganic hybrid lead halide perovskites.<sup>17,18</sup>

CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> and CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> are two types of all-inorganic perovskite materials. Both of them have emerged as attractive semi-conducting materials owing to their unique optoelectronic properties.<sup>19–25</sup> CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> is a three-dimensional (3D) perovskite and the crystal structure of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> is based on the corner-shared PbBr<sub>6</sub><sup>4-</sup> octahedra, as shown in Fig. 1a.<sup>26</sup> While for the tetragonal CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub>, it has a quasi two-dimensional (2D) structure, as shown in Fig. 1b. In the structure of tetragonal CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub>, one layer of Cs<sup>+</sup> ions is sandwiched between two layers of Pb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub><sup>-</sup> layers. The Pb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub><sup>-</sup> layers consist of Pb<sup>2+</sup> atoms coordinate with eight Br<sup>-</sup>, forming an elongated polyhedron, which has a staggered arrangement.<sup>27</sup> Owing to its unconventional two-dimensional structure, CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub>

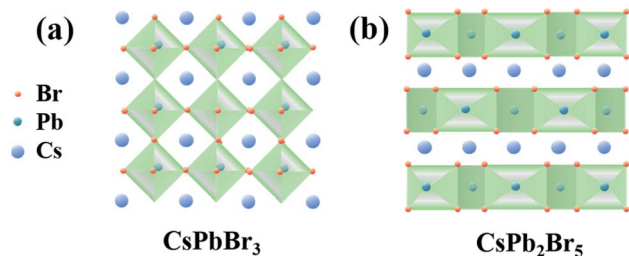


Fig. 1 Crystal structures of the inorganic perovskites. (a) CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>. (b) CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub>.

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has been investigated broadly for potential applications in optoelectronics.

In past years, several methods have been used to synthesize  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$ . Wang *et al.* reported a fast precipitation synthesis of highly luminescent perovskite-related  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  nanoplatelets.<sup>28</sup> Tang and Han *et al.* reported that  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microplates were synthesized by a modified solution-based process, which is a hot injection method.<sup>20,29</sup> Dursun *et al.* reported that  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  single crystals were obtained from the well-established antisolvent-vapor crystallization (AVC) technique.<sup>27</sup> As an indirect bandgap semiconductor,  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  shows PL inactive.<sup>27,30,31</sup> But highly luminescent emission from the  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  material can be easily observed in previous reports, which reveals that it is inevitable to bring in  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$  nanocrystals by using a solution-based method to synthesize  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$ . For example, Li *et al.* reported strong luminescence from  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  nanosheets and ascribed to the co-existing  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$  nanocrystals.<sup>31</sup> Zhang *et al.* reported the embedded  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$  nanocrystals were primarily responsible for the observed green PL emission in the  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microplates.<sup>32</sup> In addition, dual-phase perovskites have been used in the practical application of high-performance optoelectronic devices. Tong *et al.* reported dual-phase all-inorganic perovskite composite  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  thin films were prepared as light-harvesting layers and incorporated in a photodetector, showing an excellent stability in air for more than 65 day without encapsulation and excellent optoelectronic performance.<sup>33</sup> Zhang *et al.* reported a dual-phase all-inorganic composite  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  was developed and used as the emitting layer in LEDs, which exhibited a maximum luminance of  $3853 \text{ cd m}^{-2}$ , with current density (CE) of  $\approx 8.98 \text{ cd A}^{-1}$  and external quantum efficiency (EQE) of  $\approx 2.21\%$ , respectively.<sup>34</sup>

In this work, we report a facile synthesis method based on the coffee ring effect of solvent for the growth of dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  single crystal microsheets on  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Si}$  substrate for the first time. The prepared dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets show high crystallinity. Using micro-region Raman measurement, we can see the center region of the dual-phase microsheets have the intrinsic vibrational modes of  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$ . Then the PL mapping was measured at room temperature. The dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets show an edge-luminescent property and the center of the microsheet is nonluminescent. This is consistent with the conclusion that  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  with an indirect band gap of  $\sim 3.1 \text{ eV}$  is expected to be nonluminescent. The bright green emission comes from the  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ . Furthermore, a prototypical perovskite photodetector was prepared with a coplanar  $\text{Au}/\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5/\text{Au}$  configuration. This dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheet photodetector exhibits a light on/off ratio of 300 and a photoresponsivity of  $2.68 \text{ mA W}^{-1}$ . The result shows the prepared dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets have a potential in application of high-performance optoelectronic devices.

## 2. Experimental section

### 2.1 Preparation of dual-phase $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$ microsheets

All chemicals in the experiment were of the highest purity available and used as received without further purification.

Distilled water with a resistivity of  $18.0 \text{ M}\Omega \text{ cm}$  was used throughout this experiment. Typically,  $9.1 \text{ mg CsBr}$  was firstly put into a bottle and added  $2.8 \text{ mL } N,N\text{-dimethylformamide (DMF)}$ . Then placed the bottle in the ultrasonic cleaner for 20 minutes, to promote the dissolution of  $\text{CsBr}$ . After the dissolution of  $\text{CsBr}$  in DMF,  $14.6 \text{ mg PbBr}_2$  powder was added subsequently and dissolved in the bottle to obtain the perovskite precursors.  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Si}$  substrates were cleaned by an ultrasonic cleaner with acetone, isopropanol and anhydrous ethanol for 10 minutes, respectively. Then the substrates were dried by nitrogen gun before we used them. A semiconductor cooling plate was used to cool down the substrate. All the experimental equipments were placed under the fume hood. A Petri dish was placed on the cooling plate and turned on for 15 minutes under  $0^\circ\text{C}$ . Then the precleaned  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Si}$  substrate was placed on the Petri dish and used a pipette gun to drop  $7.5 \mu\text{L}$  precursors on the substrate. After 20 minutes, moved the Petri dish from the cooling plate and used a small fan to dry the samples. The typical growth time for the dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets was 25 minutes. After all the DMF evaporated, the dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets were moved into the glove box for annealing under  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere. The  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Si}$  substrate with dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets was annealed at  $100^\circ\text{C}$  for 15 minutes on a heating plate. Finally, the samples were stored in the glove box until they cooled down to room temperature. The prepared samples were dried and cleaned in ambient for further characterization.

### 2.2 Device fabrication

The dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets photodetectors were fabricated to investigate their optoelectronic applications. The substrate with dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets was covered with a copper mesh with an aperture diameter of 35 microns. Then Au electrodes were deposited on the samples by thermal evaporation method. After the evaporation chamber was cooled down to room temperature, the samples were kept in the evaporation chamber for 10 hours to decrease the contact resistance and increase the contact adhesion to prevent the Au electrodes from peeling off. Finally, the copper mesh was removed and the dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheet photodetector was fabricated.

### 2.3 Characterizations

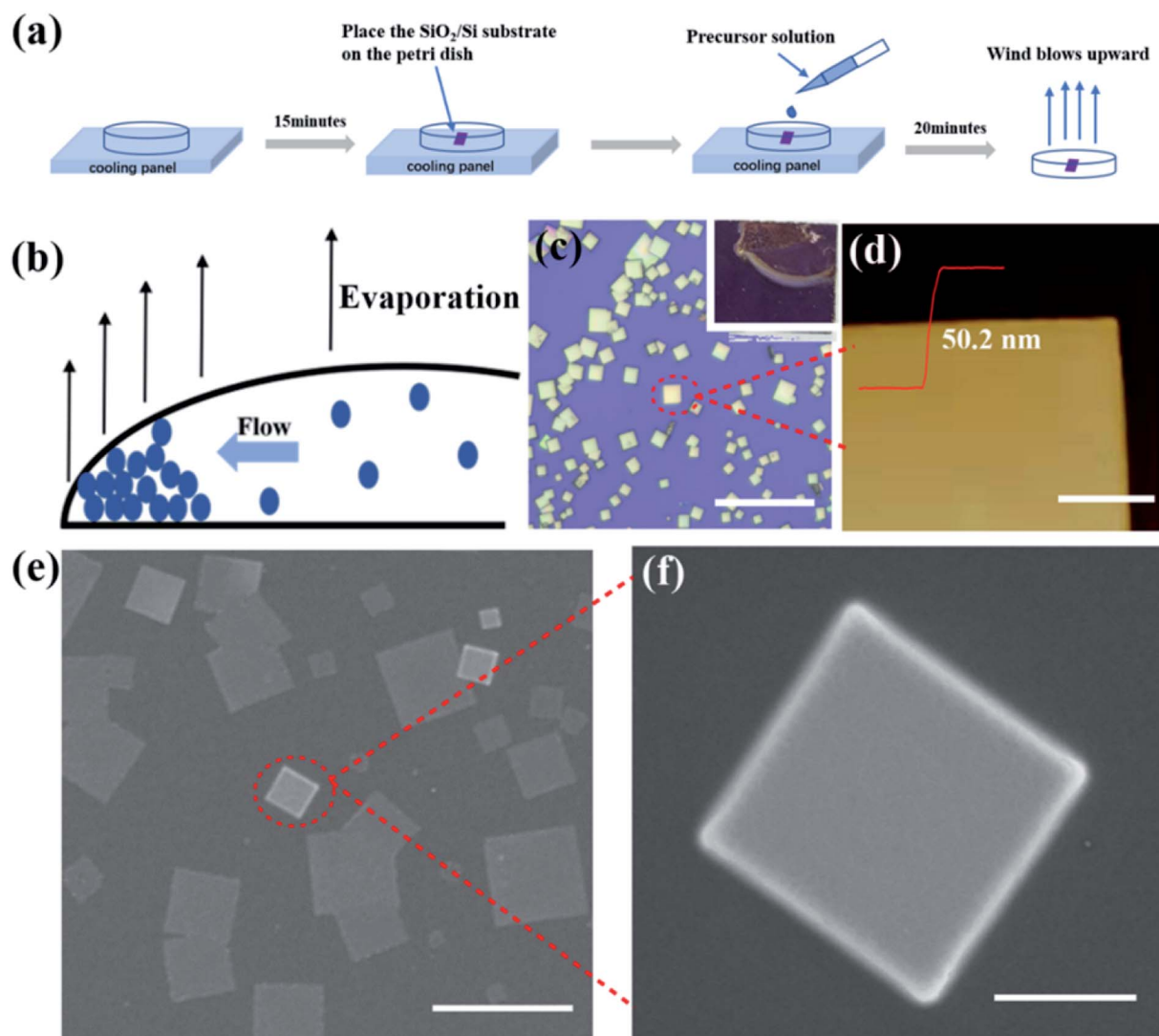
The optical images were captured by Nikon LV-100 microscope. The crystal structure was identified by X-ray diffractometer (Rigaku, Ultima IV) using  $\text{Cu K}\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 1.5418 \text{ \AA}$ ). To characterize the crystallinity of the samples, the microsheets were transferred to the conductive fluorine-doped tin oxide (FTO) glass substrate by a dry transfer method similar to the previous report.<sup>35</sup> Raman and PL mapping images were performed using a WITec alpha 300R system equipped with a CCD detector in a backscattering geometry and a typical acquisition time of 5 ms per pixel in PL mapping. A 532 nm solid-state laser was used for the photoexcitation. The laser beam was focused by a  $100\times$  objective lens ( $0.9 \text{ NA}$ ) from Carl Zeiss Microscopy GmbH and the lateral resolution was estimated to be  $\sim 700 \text{ nm}$ . The Raman spectra were

collected by 1800 lines per mm grating and calibrated by  $520\text{ cm}^{-1}$  phonon mode from the silicon. Morphology and element compositions of the samples were characterized by field emission scanning electron microscope (SEM, Hitachi, SU8010 MDTC-EQ-M18-01). The atomic force microscopy (AFM) measurements of thickness and surface roughness were carried out on a Dimension Icon AFM (Bruker Nano, Santa Barbara, CA). To investigate the photoelectric performance of the samples, the  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets photodetector was investigated by MStarter 200 photoelectric testing system.  $I$ - $V$  curves were measured under irradiation of different white-light intensities. Photoresponse was measured under irradiation of 532 nm laser.

### 3. Results and discussion

In this work, high crystallinity all-inorganic dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets were synthesized by using the

coffee ring effect of solvent. The detailed synthesis process is schematically illustrated in Fig. 2a. The inset of Fig. 2c presents the photograph of the  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets grown on the  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Si}$  substrate. A yellow coffee ring contained the  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets could be observed clearly. The coffee ring was formed after the DMF evaporated.<sup>36</sup> When the  $\text{CsBr}$ - $\text{PbBr}_2$  precursor droplet dried, the fluid within the precursor droplet was not static. They moved from the center to the edge of the precursor droplet, which is attributed to that the evaporation rate at the edge is faster than that at the central part of the droplet, as shown in Fig. 2b. To keep the surface energy as low as possible, the droplet would form a flow field from the inside to the outside in order to cover the loss of liquid at the edge, so that the  $\text{CsBr}$ - $\text{PbBr}_2$  molecules would move along with the flow field to the edge. As the droplets evaporated,  $\text{CsBr}$ - $\text{PbBr}_2$  molecules then deposited at the edge. The samples were blown with upward wind to accelerate the evaporation of the



**Fig. 2** (a) Schematic diagram of the method based on the coffee ring effect of solvent for the synthesis of the sample. (b) Schematic diagram of the outward flow mechanism during evaporation. The mazarine balls represent the  $\text{CsBr}$ - $\text{PbBr}_2$  molecules. (c) OM image of the prepared samples. Inset is the coffee ring on the  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Si}$  substrate. Scale bar is  $50\ \mu\text{m}$ . (d) AFM image and a curve showing the thickness of a single microsheets. Scale bar is  $2\ \mu\text{m}$ . (e) and (f) SEM images of the sample. Scale bar is  $5\ \mu\text{m}$  and  $1\ \mu\text{m}$ , respectively.

CsBr–PbBr<sub>2</sub> precursor droplet on the substrate and promote the recrystallization of perovskite crystals at the edges. Finally, the single crystal microsheets were formed on the substrate following the evaporation of the droplet and the deposition of the CsBr–PbBr<sub>2</sub> molecules. The formation of dual-phase structure was caused by the incomplete phase transition from CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> to CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub>, which can be explained by the following mechanism:<sup>28,31,34,37</sup>



Dual-phase CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>–CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> microsheets with well-defined square shapes were obtained and characterized by optical microscopy (OM), as shown in Fig. 2c. In general, the prepared crystals primarily exhibit square sheet morphology. The different colors arising from different thicknesses of the microsheets depend on the diffraction between the bottom and top surface of the microsheets. The lateral dimension of the as-synthesized dual-phase CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>–CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> microsheets distributes in a range of 1–15 μm typically.

As the AFM image shown in Fig. 2d, the prepared dual-phase CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>–CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> microsheets possess a typical thickness of ~50.2 nm, which is perfectly flat in optical level and also is the

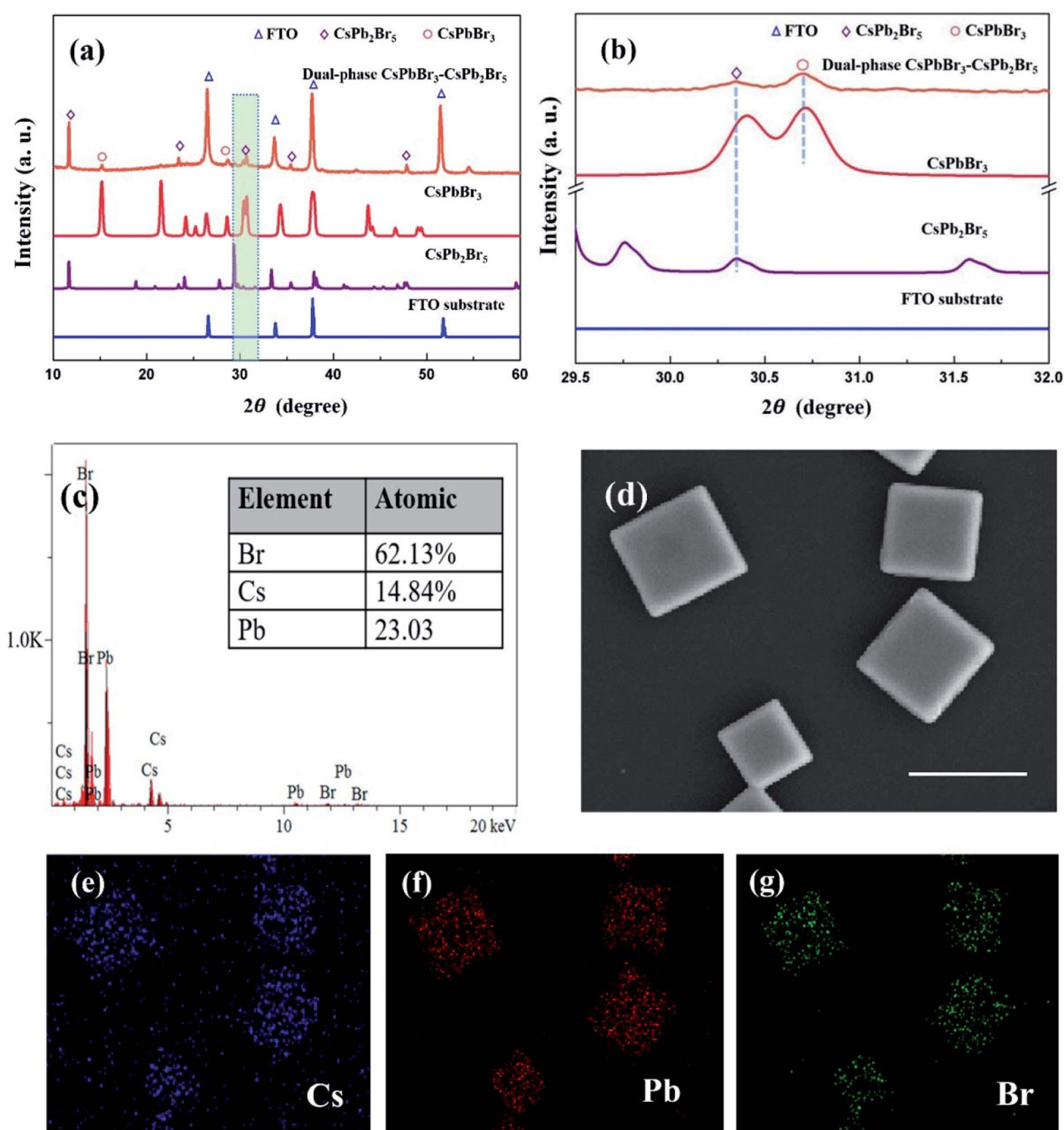


Fig. 3 (a) XRD patterns of the transferred sample. (b) Partial enlarged image of the XRD patterns in (a). (c) EDS results of the dual-phase CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>–CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> microsheets. (d) The selected SEM image. Scale bar is 5 μm. (e, f and g) Cs, Pb and Br element mapping images.

evidence of highly crystallized nature of dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets. The surface morphology of the as-synthesized dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  were characterized by SEM. Fig. 2e shows the SEM image of the dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets and corresponding enlarged image of single microsHEET is shown in Fig. 2f. The dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsHEET is fairly flat and exhibits a smooth surface, which is free of apparent grain boundaries.

The prepared microsheets were transferred to the conductive fluorine-doped tin oxide (FTO) substrate by a dry transfer method and then investigated by X-ray diffraction measurement.<sup>35</sup> As shown in Fig. 3a, the diffraction peaks at  $26.6^\circ$ ,  $33.8^\circ$ ,  $37.9^\circ$  and  $51.6^\circ$  are indexed to the FTO substrate (JCPDS No. 46-1088). The diffraction peaks at  $11.7^\circ$ ,  $23.4^\circ$ ,  $35.4^\circ$  and  $47.8^\circ$  correspond to the (002), (200), (312) and (420) planes of  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  (JCPDS No. 25-0211:  $a = 0.8483$  nm,  $c = 1.525$  nm). The diffraction peaks are indexed to standard tetragonal phase  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$ . The peaks with lower intensity at  $15.2^\circ$  and  $28.7^\circ$  are from lattice planes of monoclinic phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$  (JCPDS No. 18-364:  $a = b = 0.5827$  nm,  $c = 0.5891$  nm). It is seen that  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  is the main composition of the microsheets. As shown in Fig. 3b (partially enlarged XRD patterns), the peaks located at  $30.72^\circ$  is assigned to (202) plane of monoclinic  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$  while the peak at  $30.36^\circ$  is the (221) plane of tetragonal  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$ . No other

diffraction peaks are observed, indicating high purity of the samples. The diffraction peaks from dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  are strong and sharp, indicating that the obtained  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets are highly crystalline. The results indicate that the prepared samples are dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets. To further analyze the elemental composition and distribution of the samples, energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) measurement was carried out. The signals of Cs, Pb and Br are clearly identified from the EDS spectra. The integration of the elemental characteristic peaks give quantified atomic ratios (%) of Cs : Pb : Br corresponding to 14.84 : 23.03 : 62.13, which is close to 2 : 3 : 8 and corresponded to a mix stoichiometry of  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$  and  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$ . As shown in Fig. 3d-f, the Cs, Pb, and Br elements are distributed uniformly across the whole microsheets and overlay with each other perfectly.

The optical properties of the dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets were investigated by using PL spectroscopy. Under the irradiation of a 405 nm laser, most of the dual-phase microsheets clearly show an edge-luminescent characteristic, as shown in Fig. 4a. PL mapping has been employed to directly visualize the spatial distribution of emission centers. The PL mapping image of a single microsHEET is shown in Fig. 4b. As shown in the inset of Fig. 4a, the edges are decorated with

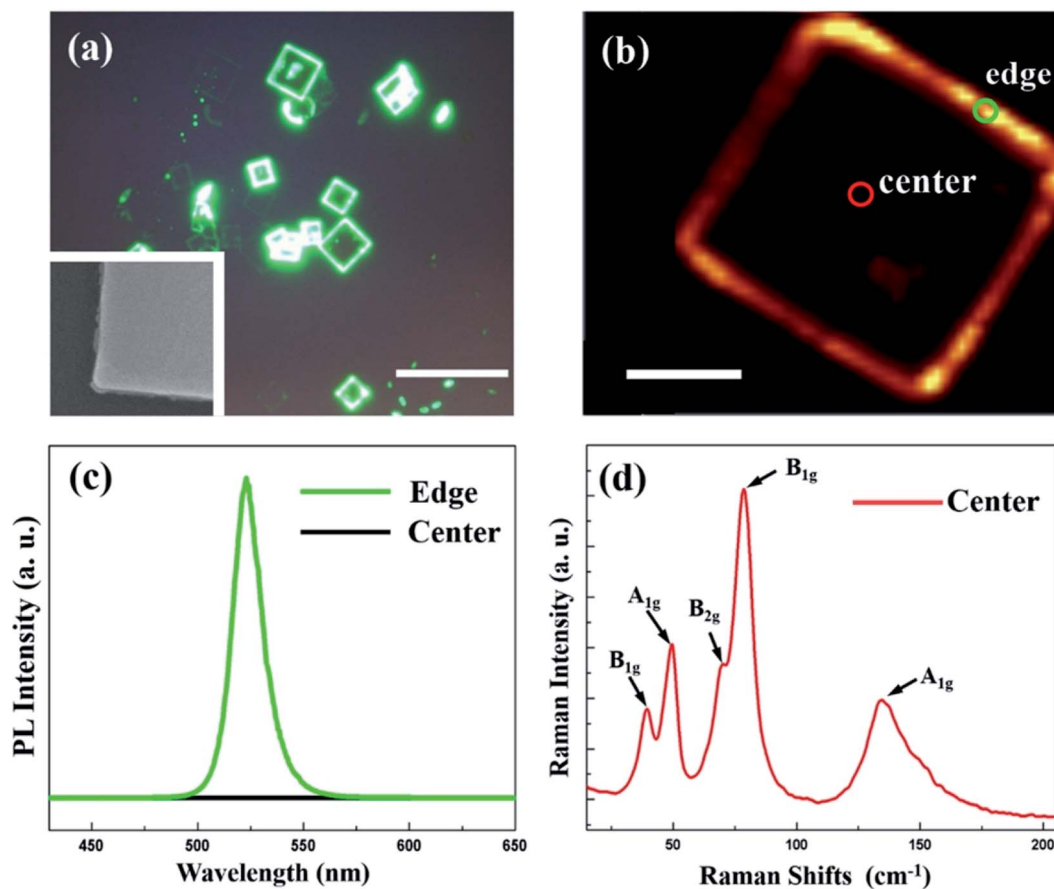


Fig. 4 (a) PL microscopic image of the dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets. Scale bar is 10  $\mu\text{m}$ . Inset is the high magnification SEM image of an edge-luminescent sample. (b) PL mapping image of a single edge-luminescent dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsHEET. Scale bar is 2  $\mu\text{m}$ . (c) PL spectrum of the single microsHEET in (b). (d) Raman spectrum of the dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ - $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets in the center region.

individual nanobumps, and these bumps are the source for the edge emission. The inhomogeneous distribution of PL intensity with an edge-luminescent characteristic is caused by a gradual phase transition from the CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> edges to the CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> single crystal.<sup>37</sup> Besides, the corresponding average PL spectra are shown in Fig. 4c. The peak of PL spectrum is 523 nm which is consistent with the typical emission of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>. The result

demonstrates the edge-luminescent property of the microsheets. The inhomogeneous distribution of PL intensity comes from the CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>.<sup>38</sup> Additionally, the main composition of the microsheets is CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> with an indirect band gap of  $\sim 3.1$  eV that shows nonluminescent property.<sup>39</sup> Micro-region Raman measurement can reveal the intrinsic lattice vibrational properties of the dual-phase CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>-CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> microsheets. We measured the central region of the microsheets. As

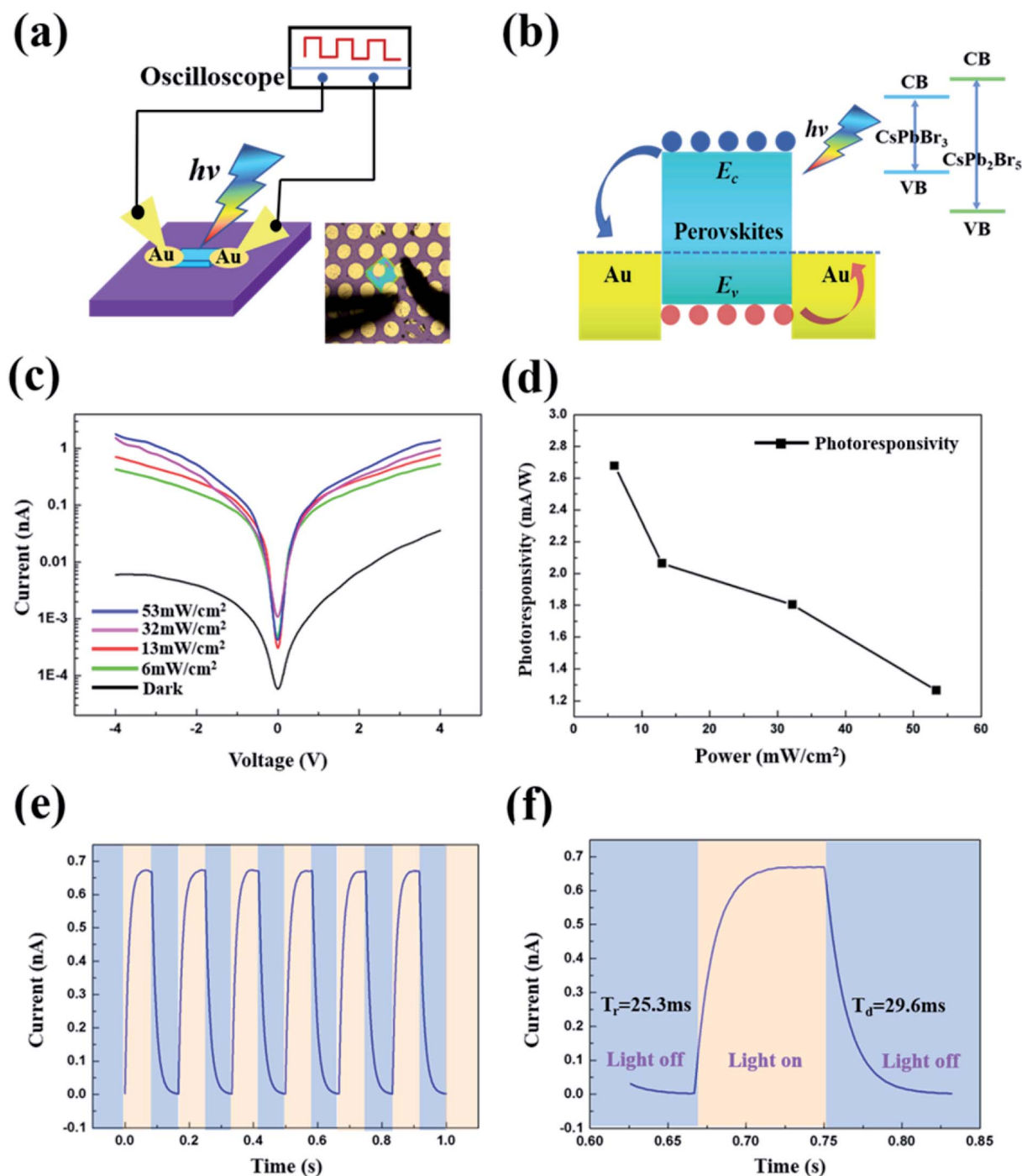


Fig. 5 (a) Schematic diagram of the dual-phase CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>-CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub> microsheet photodetector. Inset is the photograph of the device. (b) Energy band alignment of the Au/CsPbBr<sub>3</sub>-CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub>/Au structure. Inset is the band gap of CsPbBr<sub>3</sub> and CsPb<sub>2</sub>Br<sub>5</sub>. (c)  $I$ - $V$  curves of the photodetector under dark and different light intensities. (d) Corresponding photoresponsivity of the device under  $-4$  V. (e) Time-dependent photocurrent response of the photodetector under the irradiation of 532 nm laser. (f) Corresponding photocurrent rise and decay curve.

shown in Fig. 4d, the  $A_{1g}$  mode (the peaks located at  $50\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $133\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ),  $B_{2g}$  mode (the peak located at  $69\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and  $B_{1g}$  mode (the peaks located at  $41\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $79\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) are characteristic peaks of  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$ . None of the  $E_g$  modes are observed in the measured spectrum due to the sheet morphology.<sup>40</sup> The results indicate that the prepared microsheets are accompanied by the  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$  nanocrystals and these nanocrystals are preferable on the edges.<sup>37</sup>

It has been widely reported that the perovskite material serves as a promising candidate for the fabrication of high-performance optoelectronic devices.<sup>1–6,9,10,19–25</sup> To demonstrate the application of the dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets in a photoelectric device, the photodetector was prepared with a coplanar  $\text{Au/CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5/\text{Au}$  configuration. The corresponding schematic diagram is shown in Fig. 5a. Specifically, dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets grew on  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Si}$  substrate firstly, and then Au electrode was deposited by thermal evaporation method in vacuum through a shadow mask, the photograph of the device is shown in the inset of Fig. 5a. Fig. 5b shows the energy band diagram of the  $\text{Au/CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5/\text{Au}$  structure, in which  $E_C$  and  $E_V$  indicate the conduction band minimum and valence band maximum of the dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$ , respectively. According to the previous work,  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$  and  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  have wide band gaps of 2.38 eV and 3.1 eV, respectively, as shown in the inset of Fig. 5b.<sup>40,41</sup> Compared to  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ ,  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  contains an abundance of halogens, which accumulate at the interface and connect with the cations to prevent the trapping of the excited electrons by surface defects and reduce the charge carrier recombination. It is helpful to bring in the passivation effect.<sup>33</sup> Under illumination, electron–hole pairs are generated within the dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets. The tetragonal  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  provides satisfactory passivation to reduce the recombination of the charge carriers. As shown in Fig. 5b, under the applied electric field, electron–hole pairs at the gold–perovskite interface can be separated quickly due to the existence of local electric field in the depletion layer. Thus, the electron–hole recombination rate is effectively reduced and the carrier lifetime increased, which leads to an increase in free carrier concentration. After the photo-generated hole–electron pairs dissociate, electrons in the conduction band will follow to the gold electrode, while the holes in the valence bands will travel to the opposite gold electrode and finally be collected.<sup>42–44</sup> Thus, the photocurrent increases gradually as the intensity of light illumination increases. Fig. 5c shows typical  $I$ – $V$  curves of the dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets photodetector under dark and white-light illumination with various incident light intensities. By changing the incident light power density from dark to  $53\text{ mW cm}^{-2}$ , the photocurrent is highly dependent on the light power density. The photocurrent increasing trend attributes to that the amount of photogenerated electron–hole pairs is proportional to the absorbed photon flux. The studied dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets photodetector presents a low dark current of  $5.94 \times 10^{-12}\text{ A}$  under a bias voltage of  $-4.0\text{ V}$ , and the photocurrent increases by several orders of magnitude to a value of  $1.78 \times 10^{-9}\text{ A}$  at the light

power density of  $53\text{ mW cm}^{-2}$ . Thus, a photocurrent on/off ratio of 300 is achieved.

Fig. 5d shows the photoresponsivity of the dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets photodetector under a bias voltage of  $-4\text{ V}$ . The photoresponsivity is defined by the following equation:

$$R = \frac{I_{\text{light}} - I_{\text{dark}}}{P_{\text{in}} \times A} \quad (3)$$

where  $I_{\text{light}}$  is the photocurrent,  $I_{\text{dark}}$  is the dark current,  $P_{\text{in}}$  is the light power illuminated onto the device, and  $A$  is effective area of the photodetector under illumination. The effective area of  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets photodetector is  $2625\text{ }\mu\text{m}^2$ , as shown in the inset of Fig. 5a. Under an incident light intensity of  $6\text{ mW cm}^{-2}$ , the dark current is  $-5.94 \times 10^{-9}\text{ mA}$ , while the photocurrent is  $-4.28 \times 10^{-7}\text{ mA}$ . In this case, the photodetector exhibits a photoresponsivity of  $2.68\text{ mA W}^{-1}$ . In addition, reliable and fast time responses to light illumination are crucial to high-performance photodetectors. The time photoresponse of the fabricated photodetector was measured under a bias voltage of  $1\text{ V}$  and the illumination of a  $532\text{ nm}$  laser, as shown in Fig. 5e. The on/off switching is reproducible for multiple cycles. As shown in Fig. 5f, the rise and decay time were measured to be  $25.3\text{ ms}$  and  $29.6\text{ ms}$ , respectively. The results imply that the dual phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets are reliable and promising materials for micro size photodetector applications.

## 4. Conclusion

In summary, we used a new synthesis method based on the coffee ring effect of solvent to synthesize the micrometer-scale pure phase all-inorganic dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets successfully. The XRD, Raman and PL measurements show that the microsheets are hybrid  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  with edge of  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$  and inner of  $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$ . This dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  preparation method has its own peculiarities compared with the solution-based synthesis method. This work also demonstrates that the micrometer-scale dual-phase  $\text{CsPbBr}_3$ – $\text{CsPb}_2\text{Br}_5$  microsheets are promising in high-performance micro photodetectors, and if they are combined with new 2D materials to form functional heterostructures may lead to high performance optoelectronic applications.

## Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts of interest to declare.

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