C₇₀-based Water/Ethanol-Soluble Fullerene Acceptor for Solvent Composition-Tolerant Performance of Eco-Friendly Polymer Solar Cells

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Eco-friendly polymer solar cells (eco-PSCs) based on aqueous-soluble conjugated materials have received great attention. In this work, the development of a C_{70} -based fullerene ($PC_{71}BO_{15}$) for eco-PSCs processed by water/ethanol is reported. The PCEs of fabricated eco-PSCs up to 2.51%, which is the highest value for aqueous-processed PSCs, was achieved thanks to the promising aggregation behavior and enhanced light absorption ability. The optimized PCE of the $PC_{71}BO_{15}$ -based eco-PSCs is 73% higher than that of the $PC_{61}BO_{15}$ -based. Also, the $PC_{71}BO_{15}$ -based eco-PSCs show much greater tolerance in their PCEs to the water/ethanol composition. $PC_{71}BO_{15}$ -based eco-PSCs at a 30:70 water/ethanol ratio maintain 89% of the optimal performance, whereas only 45% for $PC_{61}BO_{15}$ -based devices. Different aggregation behaviors induced large difference in terms of water-tolerant behavior, which is explored by several characterizations. The $PC_{71}BO_{15}$ -based eco-PSCs with aqueous processing can ensure excellent reproducibility.