# The Organic Electronics Story

# Condensed Matter Physics in One Dimension

Luís Alcácer Instituto de Telecomunicações

ADVANCES IN PHYSICAL SCIENCES: meeting in honour of Professor A. L. Leite Videira

September 5 to 7, 2005

# Meaning

# **Organic Electronics**

Multidisciplinary science and technology related to a class of organic materials, both single molecules and polymers which are emerging as the basis for a new technological paradigm, which aims at ultralow-cost, lightweight and flexible electronic devices for displays, circuits and memories that can be printed on anything and placed anywhere.

# 

- INTRODUCTION
- THE INTERESTING PHYSICS 1D INSTABILITIES
- THE PHYSICS OF CONDUCTING POLYMERS
- APPLICATIONS
  - THE NEED FOR A NEW PARADIGM IN MICROELECTRONICS
  - MATERIALS, DEVICES AND SYSTEMS
  - LUMINESCENCE OLEDS
  - MOBILITY OTFTS
  - PROCESSING TECHNOLOGIES

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# V<sub>I</sub> Electrons, holes, excitons, phonons, polarons, solitons, Cooper pairs, spinons, heavy Fermions, ...

# Linear chains of atoms or molecules

INTRODUCTION

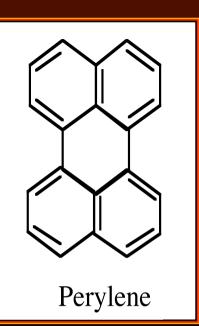
In 1D, *fluctuations* destroy all long-range order — problem of connectivity.

The only way one end of a one-dimensional sytem knows what is going on in the other end is via information transmitted directly along the chain. For an infinitely long system, any fluctuation cuts the flow of information and hence the order.

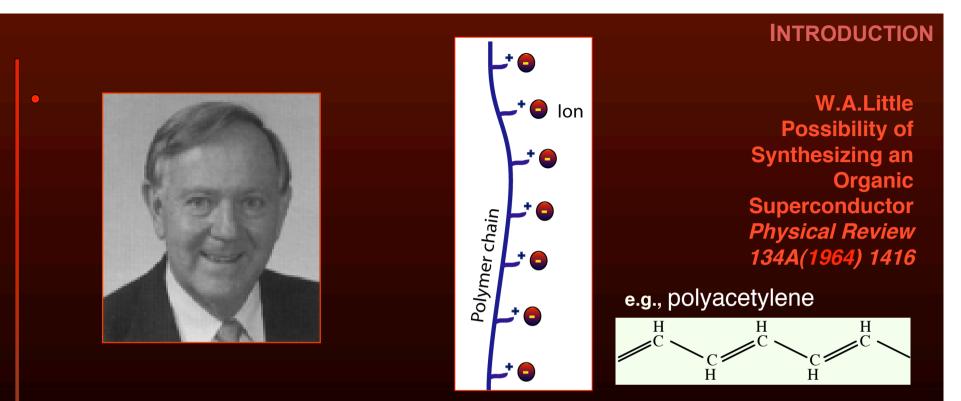
Since there are always fluctuations at any finite temperature, **a onedimensional system cannot be ordered except at zero temperature.** 

This is what makes the *1D* **real** systems interesting — they are not strictly 1D and they exhibit many interesting kinds of *fluctuations, instabilities and phase transitions.* 

The first organic conductor to be reported was a perylenebromine complex, in 1954,
by H. Akamatu, H. Inokuchi and Y. Matsunaga

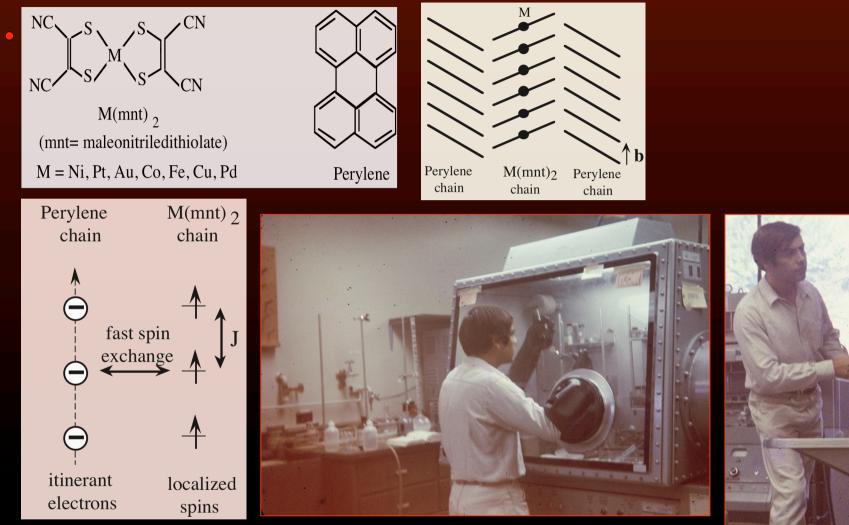


Nature 173 (1954)168.



"Little's concept involved replacing the phonons (from BCS theory) with excitons, with much higher characteristic energies. If excitons were to become the electronpairing `glue', superconductors with Tc's as high as 500 K might be possible. Little proposed a possible realization of the idea: a structure composed of a conjugated polymer chain dressed with highly polarizable molecule as side groups. The polymer chain would be a **one-dimensional metal** with a single mobile electron per C-H unit; electrons on separate units would be paired by interacting with the exciton field on the polarizable side groups."

Coincidence? "One-Dimensional Man", Herbert Marcuse, 1964



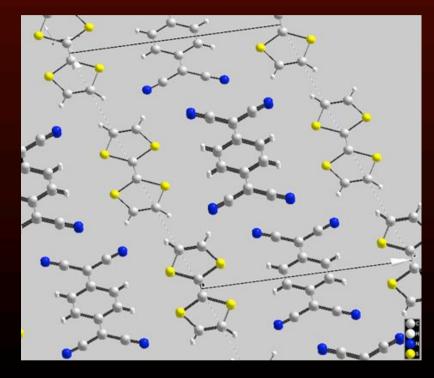
Making Per2-Ni(mnt)2 for the first time (1969)

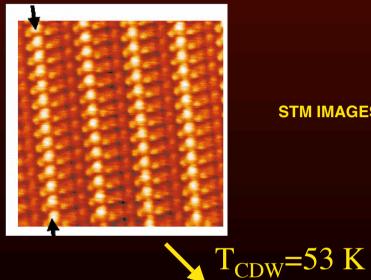
L. Alcácer e A. H. Maki, "Electrically conducting metal dithiolate-perylene complexes" *Journal of. Physical Chemistry* **78** (1974) 215



### In the meanwhile

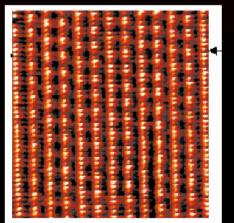
### **TTF-TCNQ**





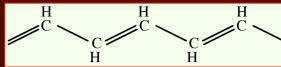
**STM IMAGES** 

L. B. Coleman, M. J. Cohen, D. J. Sandman, F. J. Yamagishi, A. F. Garito e A. J. Heeger, "Superconducting fluctuations and Peierls instability in an organic solid", Solid State Communications **12** (1973)1125.



## **Conducting Polymers**

#### The story of Polyacetylene



In Japan, in 1967, a group of scientists were studying the polymerization of acetylene into plastics.... One day a visiting researcher in the laboratory, the story goes, added more catalyst than written in the recipe: actually one thousand times too much! ... The result was a surprise also to the scientists. Instead of the expected black polyacetylene powder that normally was obtained, and that was of no use, a beautifully lustrous silver colored film resulted. It was, however, only its appearance that was metallic.

The material did not conduct electricity. The breakthrough was not made until ten years later in collaboration between physicist Alan Heeger and chemists Alan MacDiarmid and Hideki Shirakawa, continuing the experiments with the silver colored film. They tried to oxidize the film using iodine vapor, and - Bingo! The conductivity of the plastic increased by as much as ten million-fold; it had become conductive like a metal, comparable to copper.

Your serendipitous discovery of how polyacetylene could be made electrically conductive has led to the prolific development of a research field of great theoretical and experimental importance.



#### The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2000

"for the discovery and development of conductive polymers"



Alan J. Heeger

University of California Santa Barbara, CA, USA





Hideki Shirakawa

University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, PA, USA University of Tsukuba Tokyo, Japan

From the Nobel 2000 speach

The big thing in the early 1980s was the **theoretical work on solitons** etc., and then the synthesis of a range of new materials that really began to lead to the promise that we would have soluble, processable polymers that would still have the optical properties of metals and semiconductors.

At the beginning of the 1990s, a couple of things happened. First, the field matured to the point that we knew enough about polymers to synthesize stable polymers with specific energy gaps.

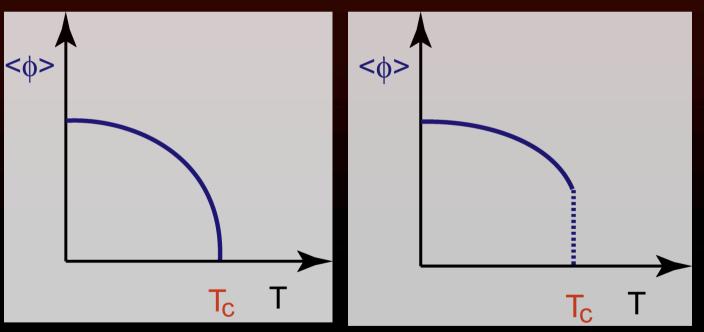
Around 1990 this led to the discovery of LEDs, the application that was discovered in Cambridge by Richard Friend and his collaborators and that created one focus of much of the work in the 1990s.

From an interview with Alan Heeger

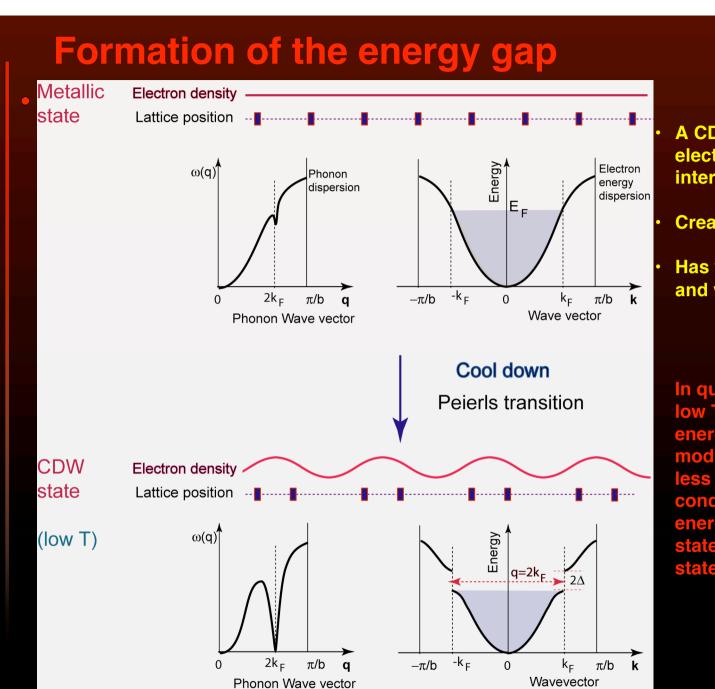
- THE INTERESTING PHYSICS 1D INSTABILITIES
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## 4 instabilities in 1 D:

- Charge Density Wave, CDW (Peierls)
- Spin Density Wave, SDW
- Spin-Peierls, S-P
- Superconductivity, Sc



Order parameter as a function of temperature for a second order and for a first order transition

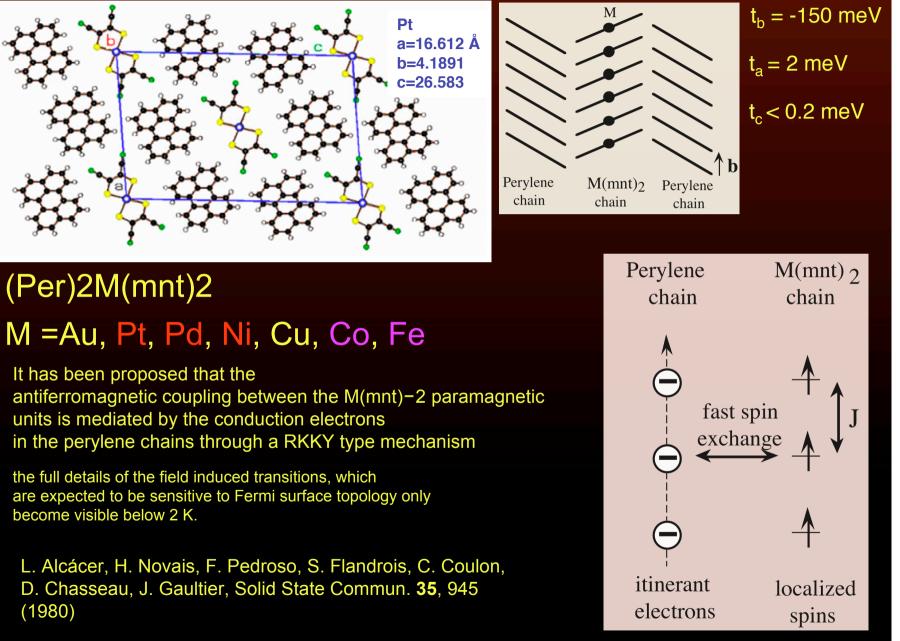


A CDW forms due to electron-phonon interaction

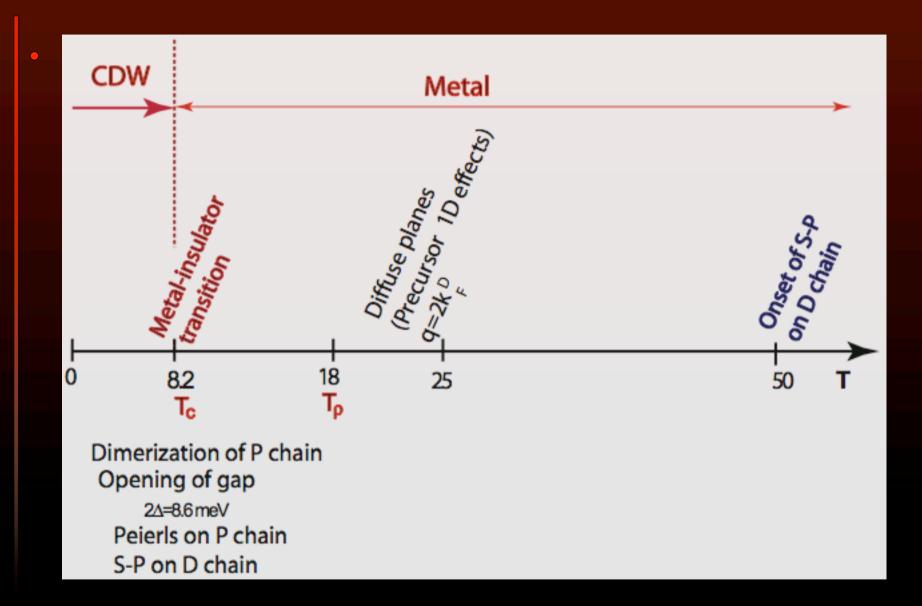
Creates energy gaps at E<sub>F</sub>

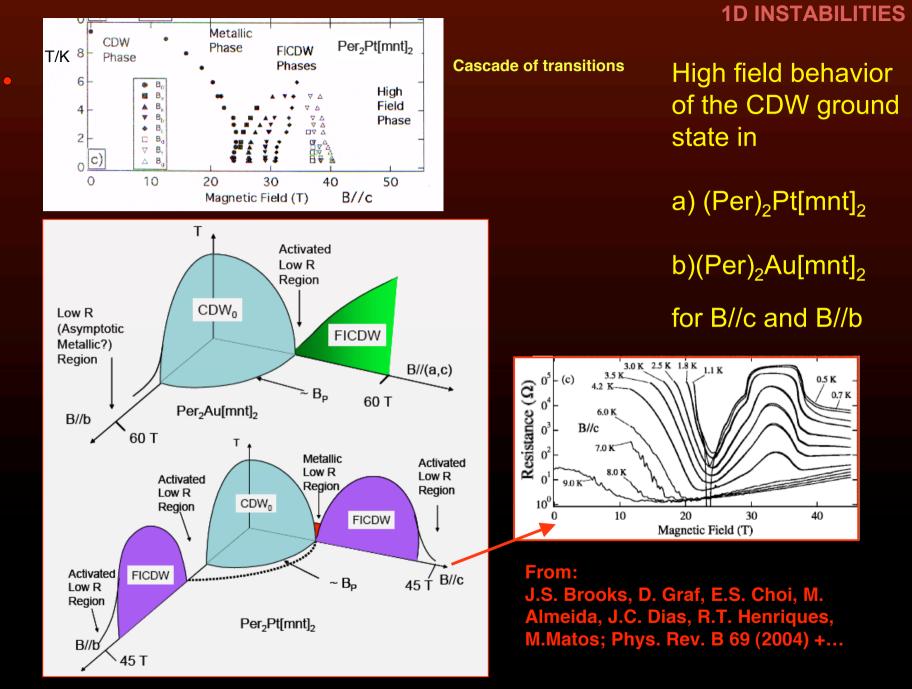
Has wavelenght  $\lambda = \pi/k_F$ and wave vector q=2k<sub>F</sub>

In quasi-1D metals, at low T, the elastic energy cost to modulate the lattice is less than the gain in conduction electron energy, so the CDW state is the ground state

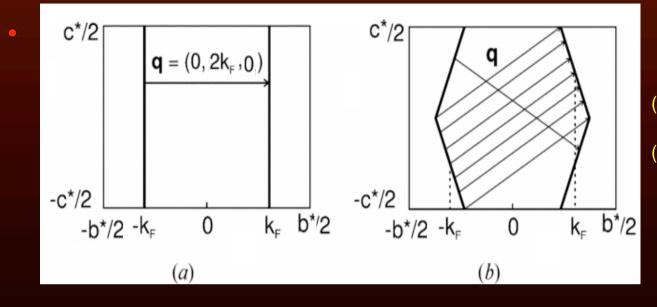


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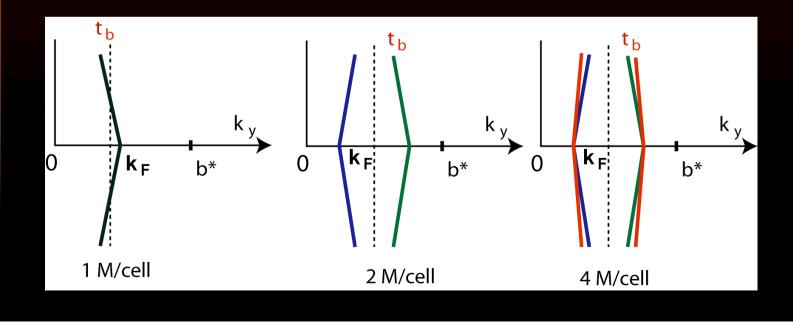


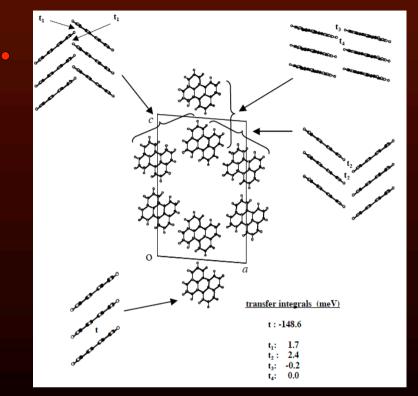
Work done at NHMFL-Tallahasse (USA) and ITN - Sacavem (Portugal)



2D Sections of the Fermi surfaces of quasi-one-dimensional crystals.

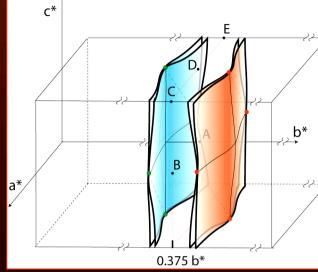
(a) Non-interacting metallic chains parallel to [0 1 0]
(b) Weakly interacting metallic chains resulting in a warping of the Fermi surface. Perfect nesting is obtained for q=(0, q<sub>2</sub>, 1/2), where q<sub>2</sub> assumes the value such that q fulfills the nesting condition.





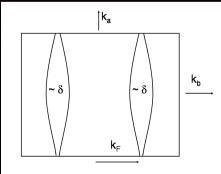
The band structure of  $(Per)_2M(mnt)_2$ , leads to a description of these materials as nearly perfectly one dimensional conductors.

High magnetic field experiments suggest orbital coupling of the magnetic field to the electronic structure, indicating a finite interchain bandwidth



warping of the sheets can be of the order of 2 meV

Without the transverse interactions  $t_1$ ,  $t_2$ ,  $t_3$  and  $t_4$ , the Fermi surface would be the superposition of four planes at  $\mathbf{k}_{\mathbf{b}} = \pm 0.375$ , but because of these transverse interactions, the Fermi surface splits into four pairs of sheets with some warping.



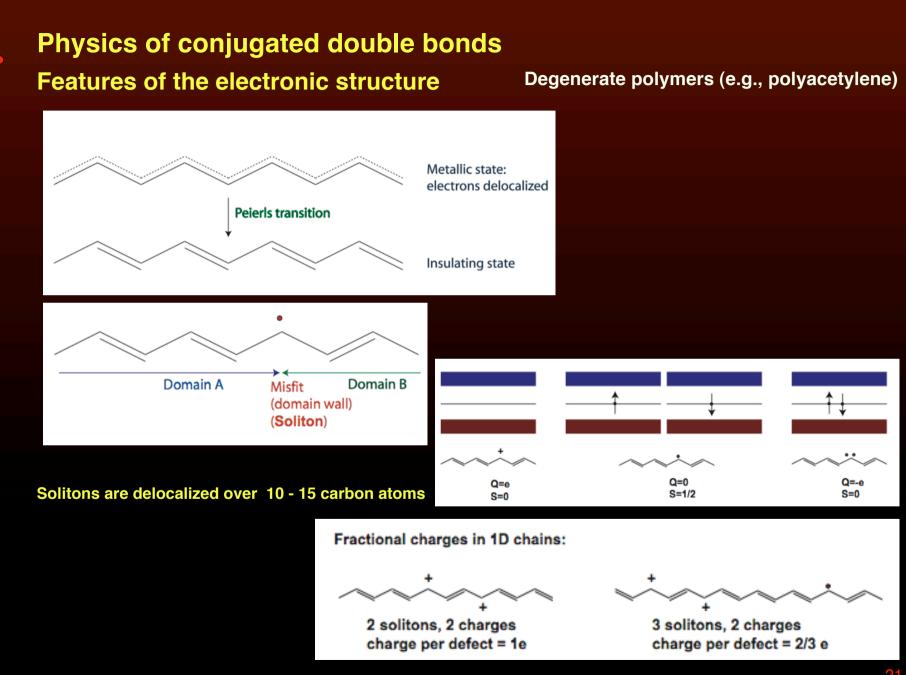
Simplified Fermi surface topology for  $(Per)_2Pt(mnt)_2$  in the a-b plane  $(\delta \sim 0.001-0.002)$ ,

Calculations by Enric Canadell (Institut de Ciència de Materials de Barcelona)

• THE INTERESTING PHYSICS — 1D INSTABILITIES

## • THE PHYSICS OF CONDUCTING POLYMERS

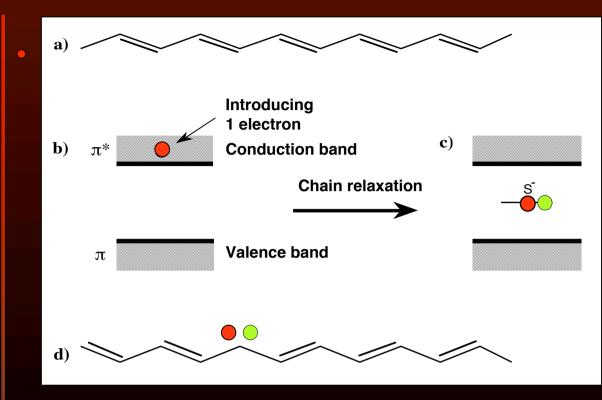
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#### HE PHYSICS OF CONDUCTING POLYME

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#### THE PHYSICS OF CONDUCTING POLYMERS

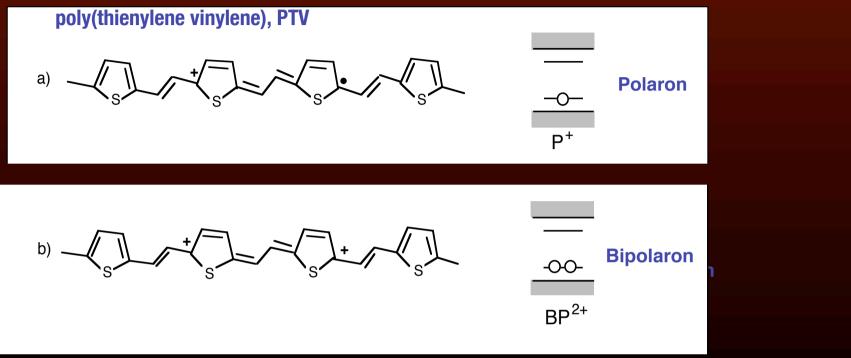


Soliton formation in polyacetylene. a) Undistorted chain b) Energy bands.

If 1 electron is introduced in the chain, it goes first to the conduction band, then the chain relaxes to accommodate the charge in a nonbonding  $p_z$  orbital in the midle of the gap (c). This midgap level has two electrons, one introduced through the conduction band and another one which was already in the carbon  $p_z$  orbital. The two electrons in this nonbonding orbital together with the deformation of the chain is a negative soliton. This soliton transports a negative charge.

### THE PHYSICS OF CONDUCTING POLYMERS

#### Non-degenerate polymers)



a) Positive polaron (P<sup>+</sup>), formed by removing one electron. This leaves one positive charge and one unpaired electron which separate through relaxation.

b) Positive bipolaron (BP<sup>2+</sup>) formed by removing a second electron. This leaves two positive charges.

The energy bands are represented on the wright. In the picture the bonding level in the gap is normally full and only the *holes* are shown.

### **TRANSPORT PROPERTIES**

Conjugated polymers are semiconductors in consequence of the gap

Doping induces the creation of solitons or polarons/bipolarons

Some, when highly doped exhibit high conductivities

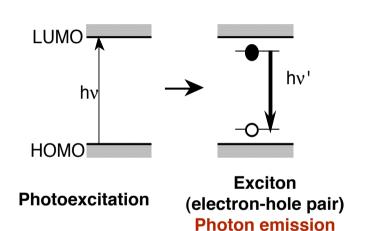
The theoretiacal conductivity of polyacetylene is estimated to be of the order of 2x10<sup>9</sup> Sm<sup>-1</sup> (30 x the conductivity of copper). Real conductivities are, however lower

Many mechanisms are proposed.

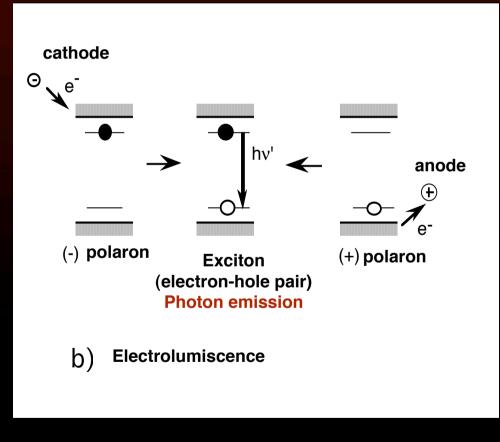
A common model is the variable range hopping (Mott). The charge carriers (electrons or holes) associated to solitons, polarons/bipolarons move along the chains. There is also some transport between chains.

THE PHYSICS OF CONDUCTING POLYMERS

### • OPTICAL PROPERTIES



a) Photolumiscence



# Device processes

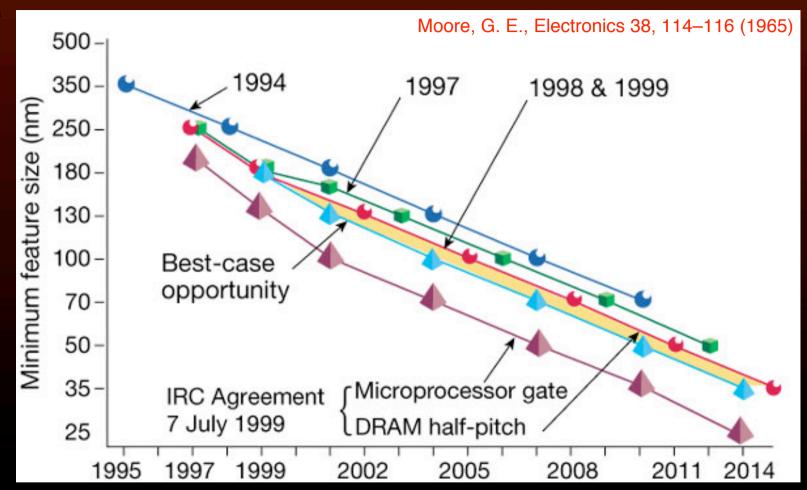
- Charge carrier injection and transport Transistors
- Recombination Light emitting diodes, LEDs
- Exiton decay LEDs

### **MOBILITIES ARE VERY LOW!**

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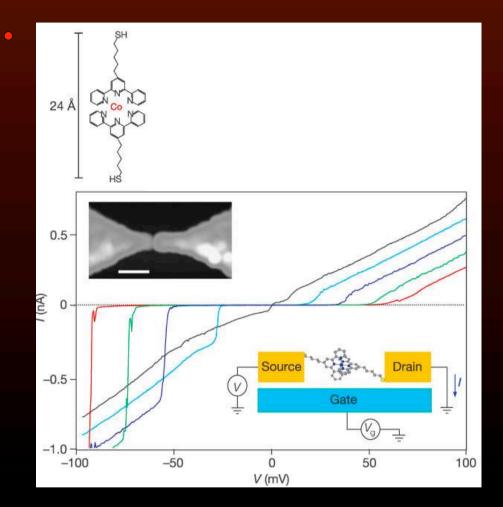
#### **APPLICATIONS- NEED FOR A NEW PARADIGM**

### The need to downsize — Moore's law



Moore's law predicts that the number of components per chip doubles every 18 months.

NATURE, VOL 406, 31 AUGUST 2000



Single atom transistor

Single-electron transistor [Co(tpy-(CH2)5-SH)2]2

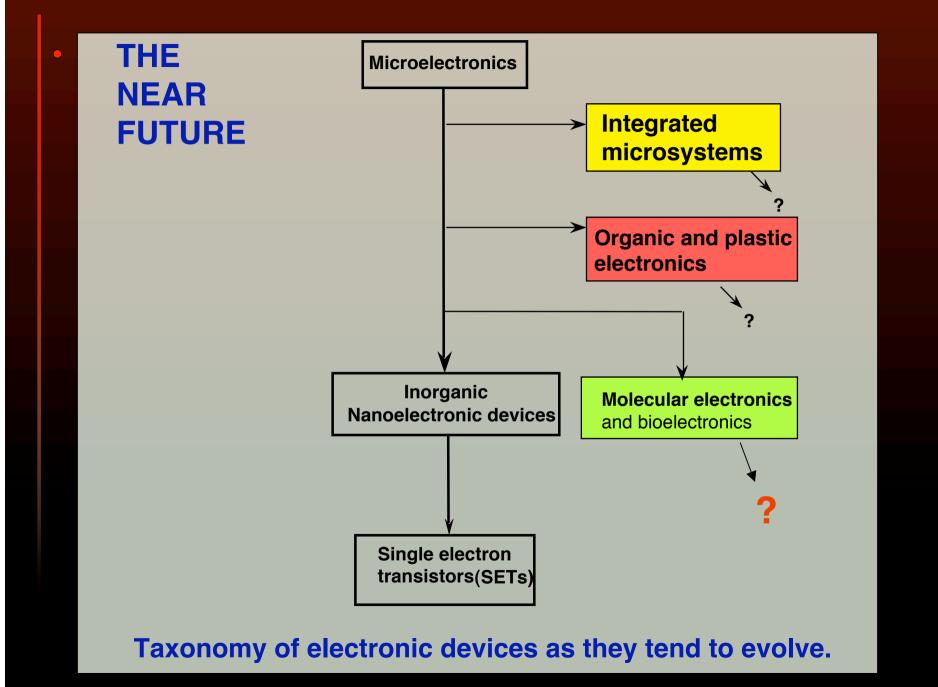
<u>Upper inset</u>, AFM image of the electrodes with a gap (scale bar, 100 nm).

*Lower inset*, diagram of the device.

Transfer of one electron by changing the oxidation state of the Co atom!

Jiwoong Park, et al NATURE VOL 417 13 JUNE 2002, 723

#### APPLICATIONS- NEED FOR A NEW PARADIGN



# Future Solutions in Optoelectronics

# Systems

- Flexible Displays
- Smart Cards
- Smart Labels (RFIDs)
- Smart Sensors

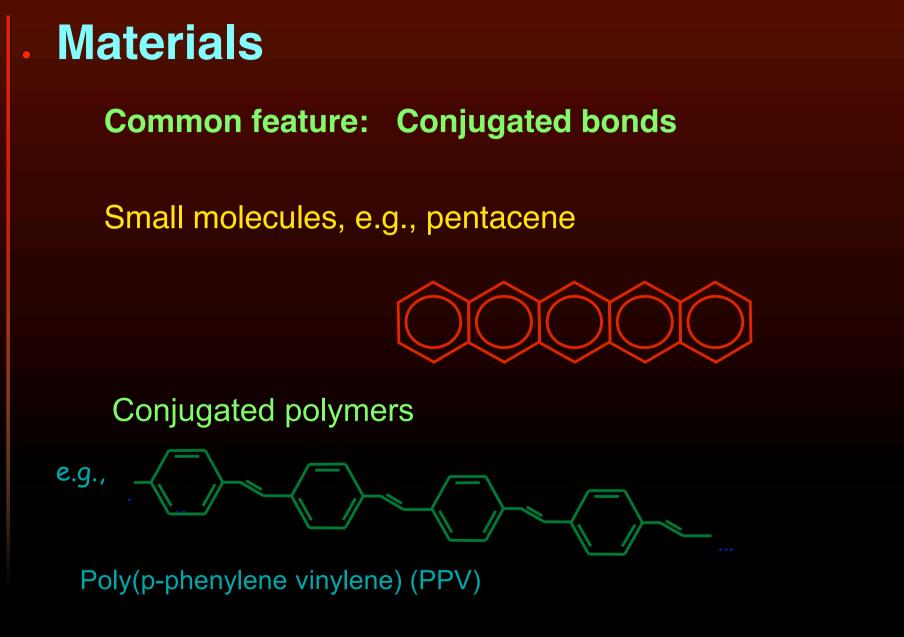
# Devices

- Light Emitting Devices (LEDs)
- Transistors (TFTs)
- Sensors
- New Devices

# **New Materials**

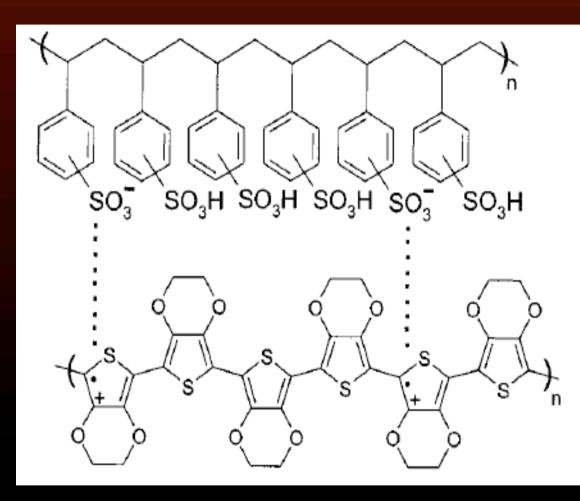
- Organic Semiconductors
- Hybrids

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#### **APPLICATIONS-MATERIALS**

# PEDOT/PSS



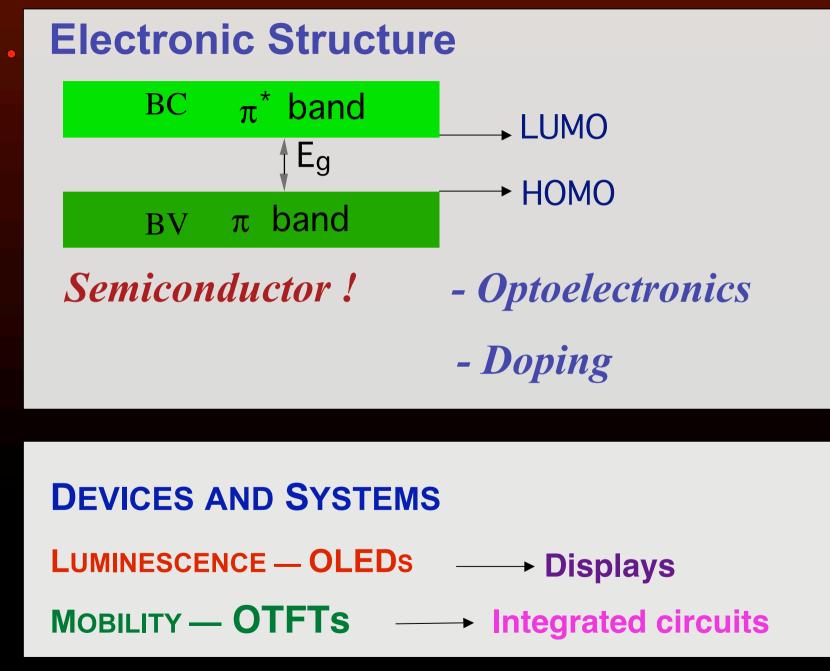
300 S/m

Hole conductor

# Bandgap: 1.6 - 1.7 eV controlable

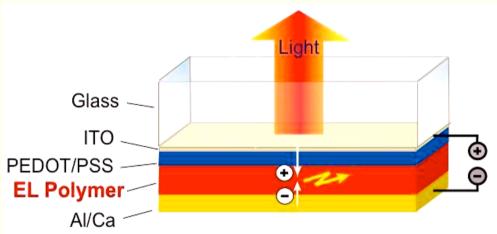
Poly(3,4-ethylenedioxythiophene) poly(styrenesulfonate) aqueous dispersion

## Baytron® P



**APPLICATIONS-LUMINESCENCE, OLEDS** 

# LUMINESCENCE — OLEDs



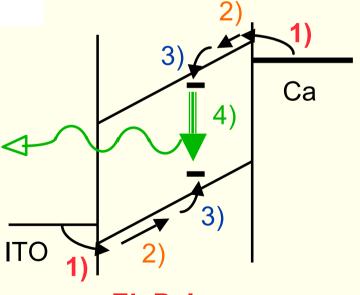
**Processes in** 

electroluminescence

1) Charge injection (electrons and

holes)

- 2) Charge transport
- 3) Capture exciton creation
- 4) Emission



**EL Polymer** 





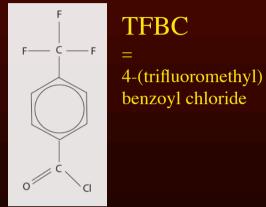
The world's first 40-inch full-color OLED display, built by EPSON, using TFT substrates and ink-jet printed OLEDs

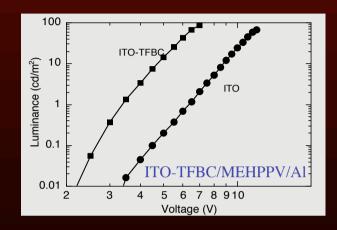
Conceptual view of OLED flexible display, which can be roled into a pen-like device containing computational and wireless comunication electronics. Images of Universal Display Corp.



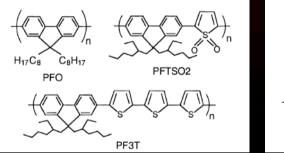
### What we do:

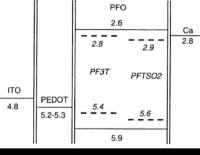
#### Surface engineering (self-assembly)

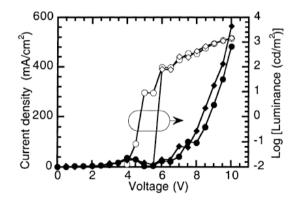




#### • Polymer blends



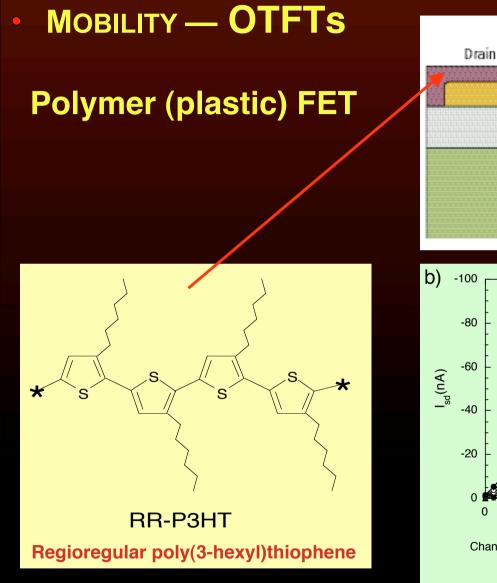


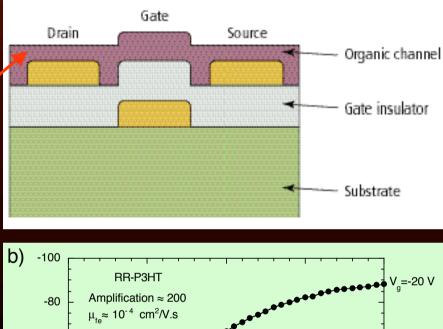


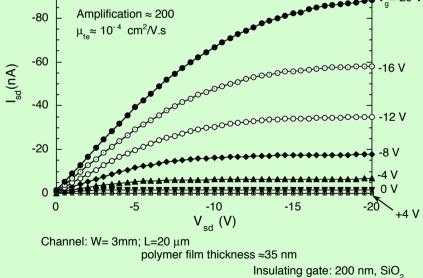
ITO/PEDOT/PFO:PFTSO2/Ca Vonset= 4V; Max L=1500 cd/m2; max quantum ef.: 0.14.

A. Charas et al., Synth. Met. 137 (1-3), 1039 (2003).

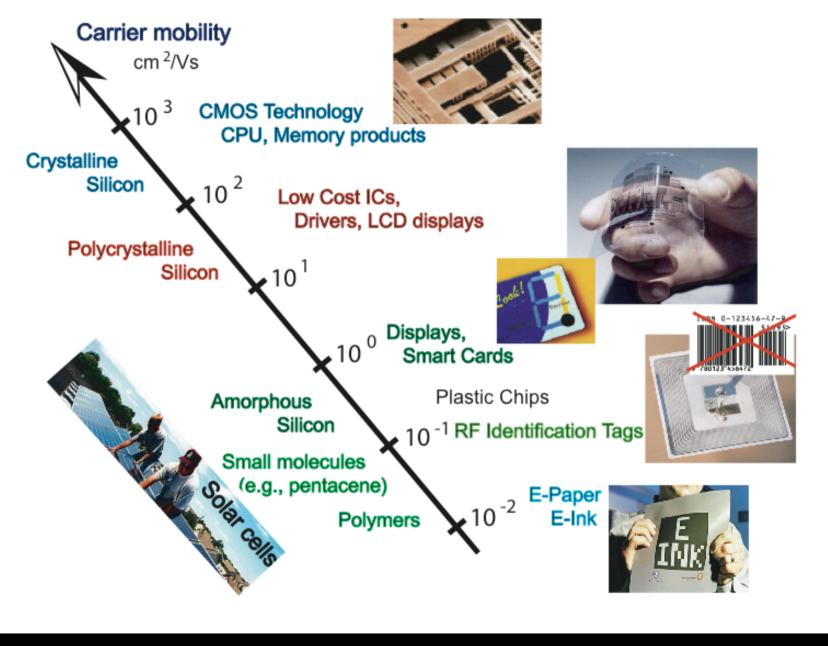
Fig. 3. Current density (filled symbols) and luminance as a function of the voltage for ITO/PEDOT/PFO:PF3T(95 nm thick)/Ca, circles, and ITO/PEDOT/PFO:PFTSO2(80 nm thick)/Ca, diamonds, LEDs.

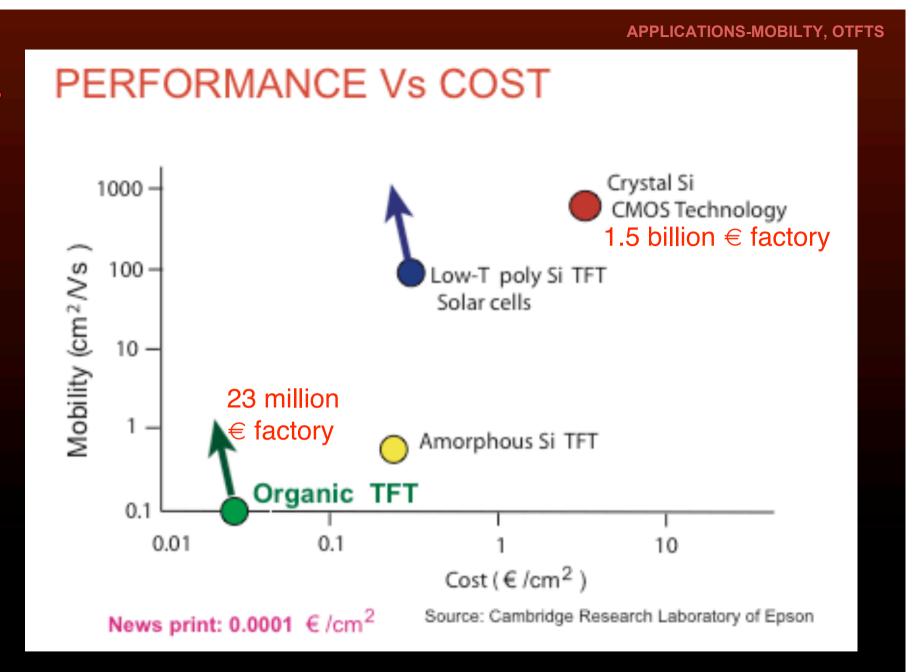






#### **APPLICATIONS-MOBILTY, OTFTS**



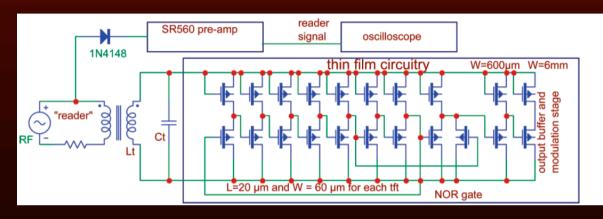


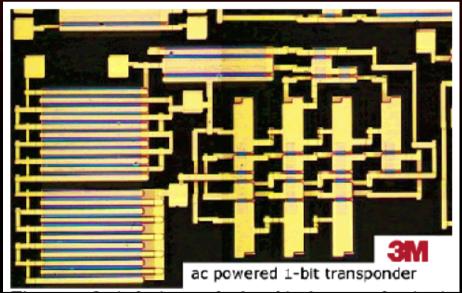
# **Processing Technologies**

- Thermal evaporation
- Solution processing (polymers or small molecules precursor)
  - Ink-jet printing (with pre-patterning)
  - Stamping (direct patterning)
  - Roll-to-roll sheet vs batch processing (printing technology)
  - Spin-coating + Uv light patterning through mask or direct writing

Review: NATURE VOL 428 29 APRIL 2004

#### Technology: Integrated Circuits





Pentacene

Mobility: >1 cm<sup>2</sup>/Vs

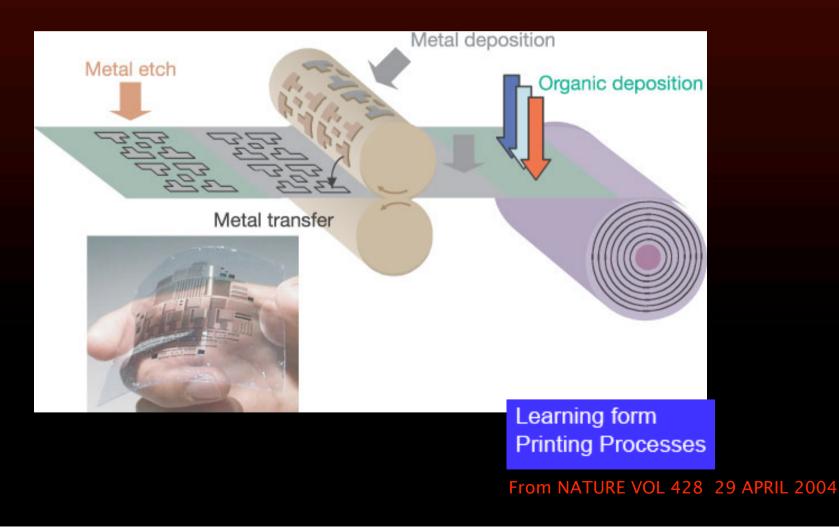
Circuit diagram of one-bit rf transponder

Completed pentacene-based one-bit RFID tag with 7 stagering oscillator, An NOR gate and two output inverters. The gate is Ti/Au and the dielectric  $Al_2O_3$ 

Chem. Mater. 2004, 16, 4413-4422

# Processing Technologies The future Solution processing

#### Roll-to-roll sheet vs batch processing (printing technology



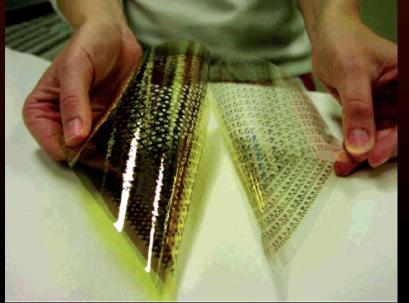
# Processing Technologies

# **Solution processing**

Spin-coating + Uv light patterning

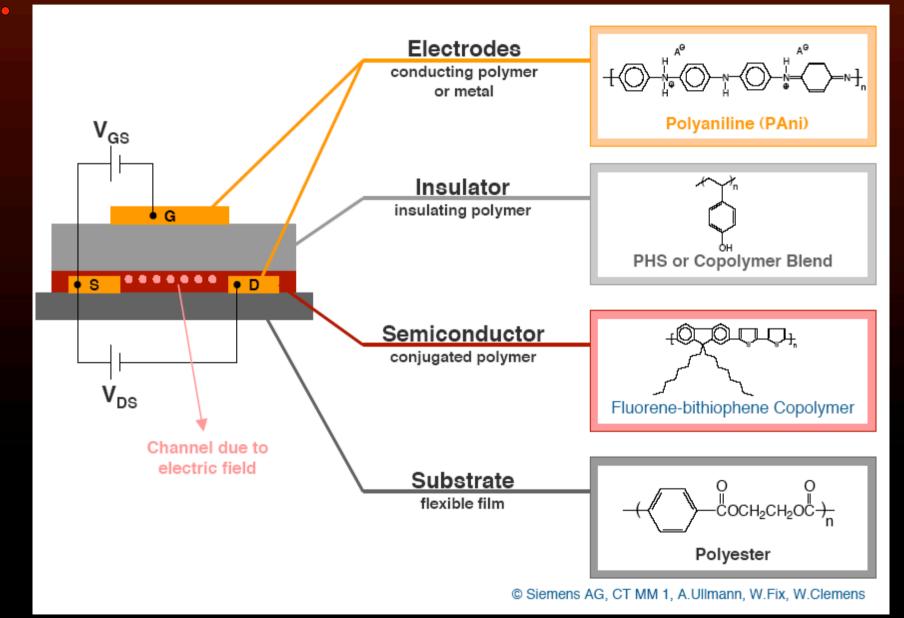
#### Through shadow mask

6 in x 6 in RFID circuit array (right) fabricated on polymeric substrate, via the polymeric shadow mask shown at left.



### Direct writing

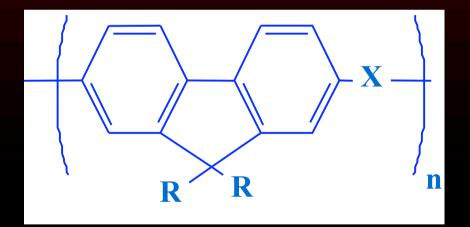
#### All organic field effect transistor



### What we do

# Suitable for solution processing Spin-coating+ UV light patterning POLYFLUORENES:

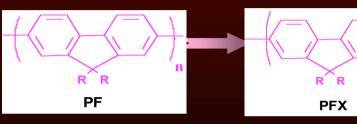
- Versatile,
- Electroluminescent



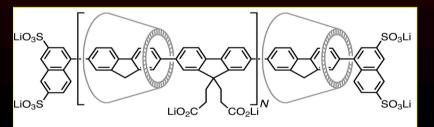
Ana Charas - Instituto de Telecomunicações - Lisboa

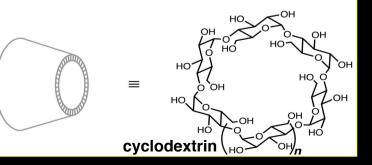
### <u> Polyfluorenes: versatility synthesis 🖨 properties:</u>

#### 1) COPOLYMERISATION



#### 2) ENCAPSULATION





#### Control of

Emission colour Multicolour displays

HOMO & LUMO positions Charge injection

Solubility Multilayers (spincoating) Nanometer size patterning

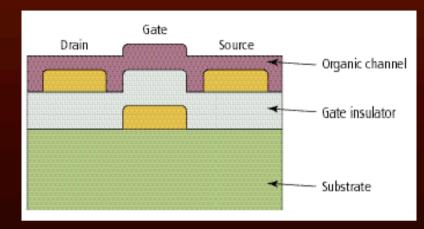
CONTROL OF INTERCHAIN INTERACTIONS (SOLID FILM)

OPTIMISATION OF LUMINESCENCE EFFICIENCY



# **Our New Projects**

Fully pattern all components of all *plastic* integrated circuits: source, drain, gate, dielectric, polymer channel.



#### **Materials:**

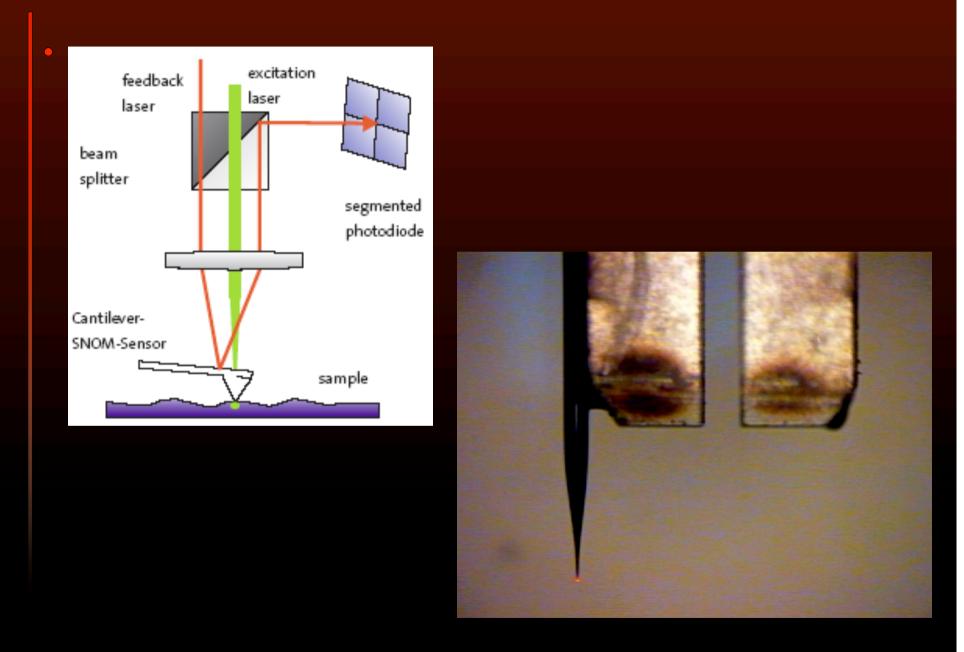
Solution processable polymers by themselves or upon addition of reactive additives (e.g., photoacid), are converted into insoluble forms (by crosslinking) upon UV illumination

#### Micrometer scale features: photomask.

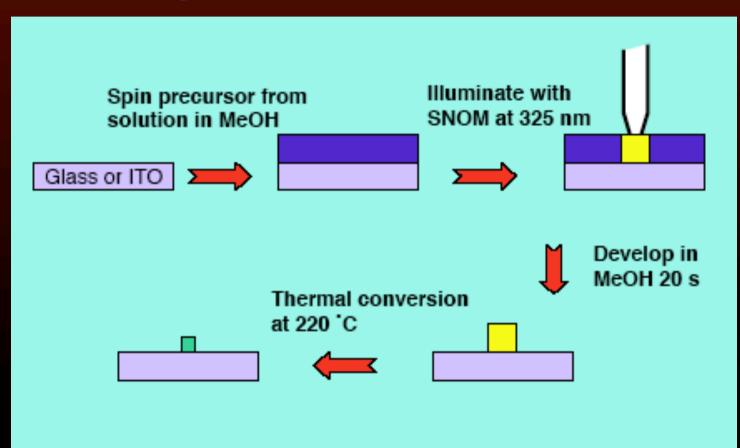
The non-illuminated parts remain soluble and are removed upon washing with appropriate solvents.

#### **Direct writing at nanometer scale** Using a Scanning Near-Field Optical Microscope (SNOM).

# "Nanopatterning" of conjugated polymers

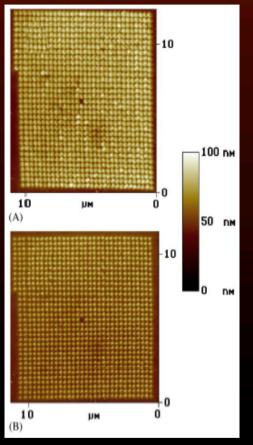


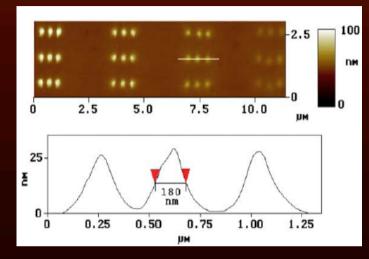
#### Direct writing



Schematic representation of lithographic route

# **PPV Pattern - via precursor**





Top: AFM image of patterned features written in a PPV precursor film. Exposure times: 0.4 - 0.1 s.

Probe aperture: 50 nm Bottom: section along white line in top panel.

AFM images of a 2.dimensional photonic structure with a 333 nm square lattice before (A) and after(B) thermal conversion (220 °C, 5 h,  $10^{-5}$  mbar). The pattern was written with the 325 nm line of a HeCd laser. The power coupled into the fiber was less than 0.2 mW.

R. Riehn, A. Charas, J. Morgado and F. Cacialli, App. Phys. Lett, 82, 4,(2003) 526

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Main activity areas

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#### The people

- J. Morgado
- A. Charas
- H. Alves
- R.T. Henriques
- M. Matos
- L. Alcácer

#### **Collaborations**

- IST- J. M. Gaspar Martinho
- U. Coimbra Hugh Burrows
- ITN- Manuel Almeida,
- U. Algarve H. Gomes; P.Stallinga

- University College London- Franco Cacialli
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- Universidade de Wuppertal U. Scherf

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#### FCT projects

