



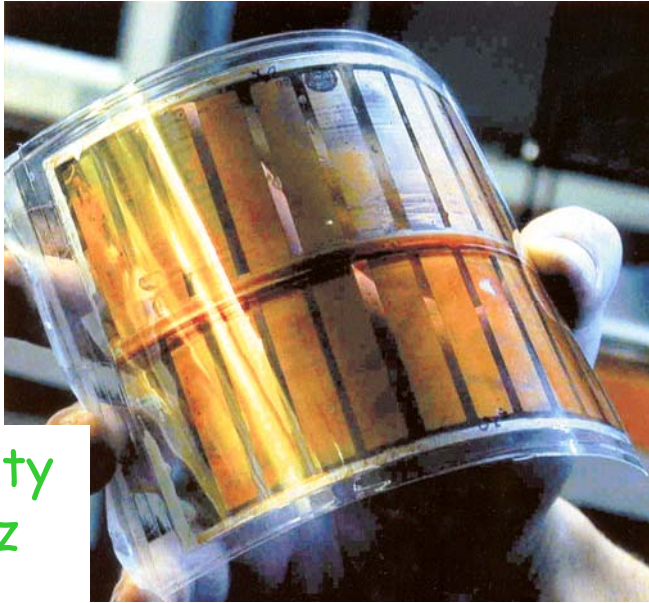
Research activities on organic photovoltaics

at the
Center of Innovation and Research in Materials
and Polymers - CIRMAP

University of Mons

Roberto Lazzaroni

Organic Solar Cells



University
of Linz
2004

Active material is
much cheaper to
produce than Si

Easily deposited
as thin films over
large (flexible) areas



Power Plastic™ made in Lowell, MA USA

Power Plastic, Konarka, 2007

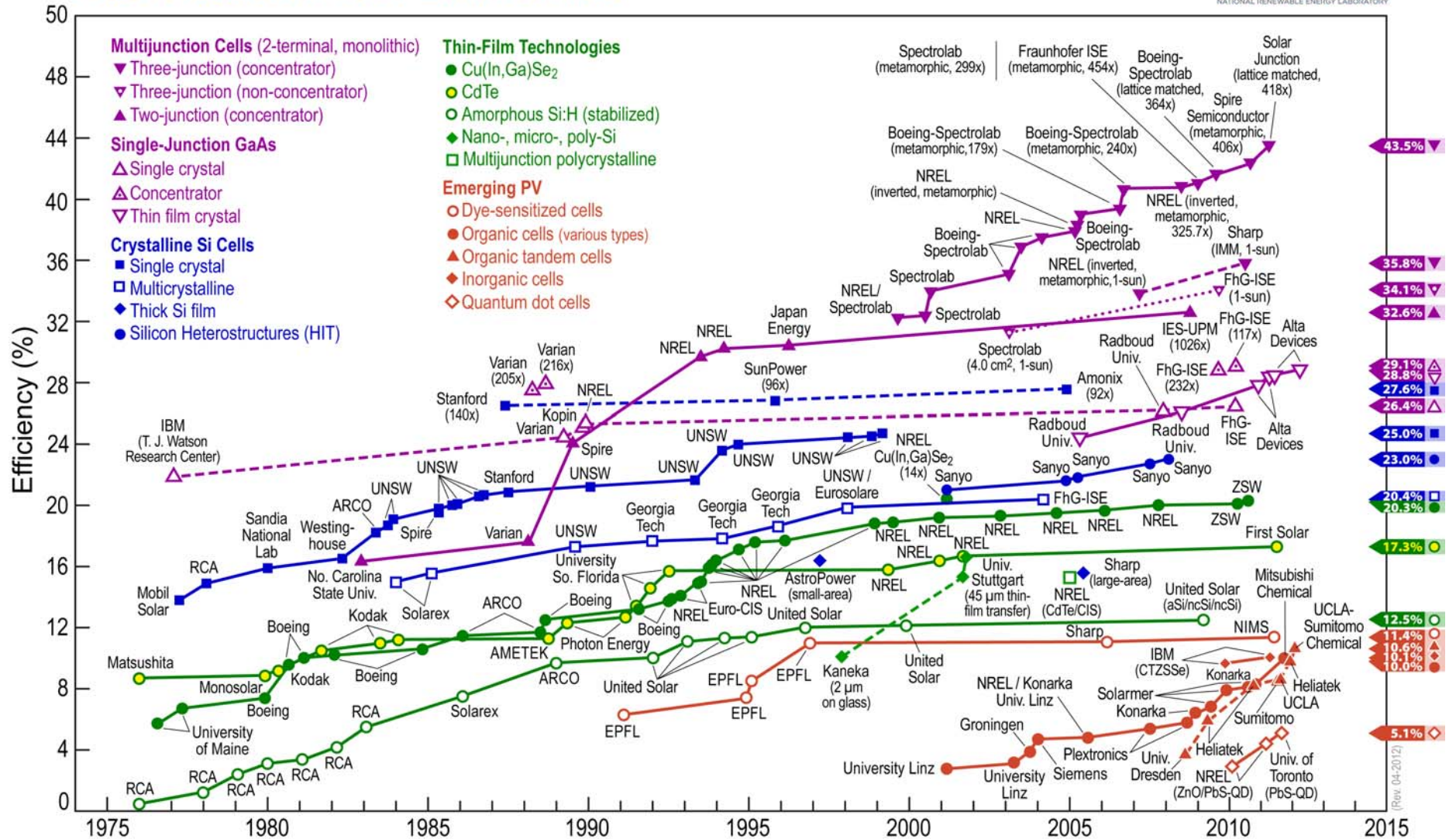


Power Conversion Efficiency

April 2012

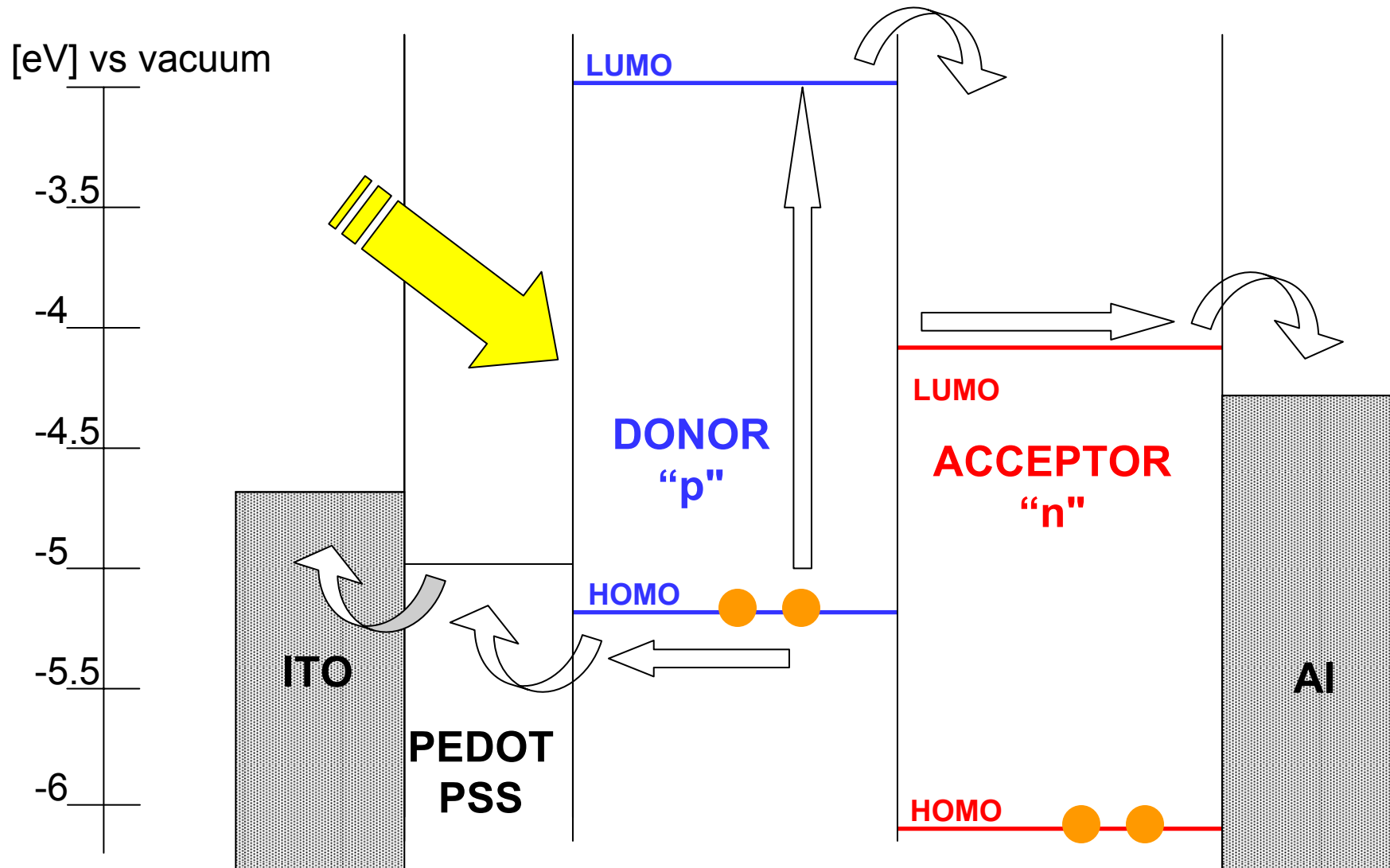


Best Research-Cell Efficiencies



Organic solar cell structure

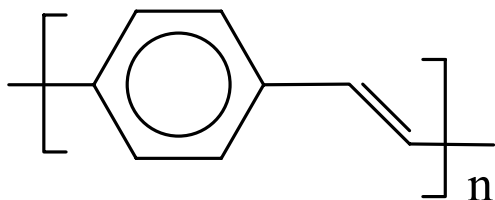
Gilles Dennler,
KONARKA



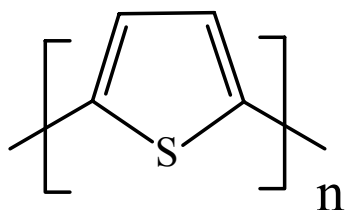
V_{oc} is set by $LUMO(acc) - HOMO(don)$

Materials for organic photovoltaics

Conjugated polymers



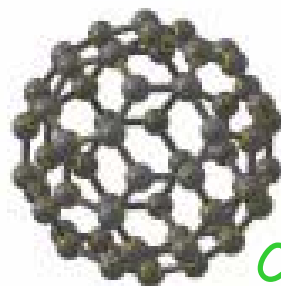
Poly(p-phenylenevinylene), PPV



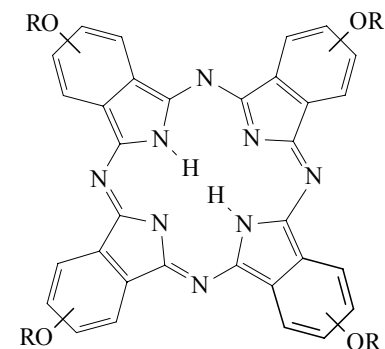
Polythiophene, PT

- * Thin film deposition from solution (spin coating, inkjet printing, Dr. Blading,...)
- * Wide range of chemical substitution
⇒ 'Molecular engineering'

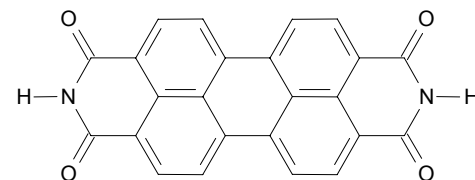
'Small' molecules



C₆₀



phthalocyanine



perylene

- * Deposition by vacuum sublim. into highly-ordered thin films
- * Chemical purity

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Design and modeling of materials and photophysical processes: SCMN

Tailored **synthesis** of polymer semiconductors: SMPC

Thin film morphology and electrical properties : SCMN

Microstructured layers for light management: Influx

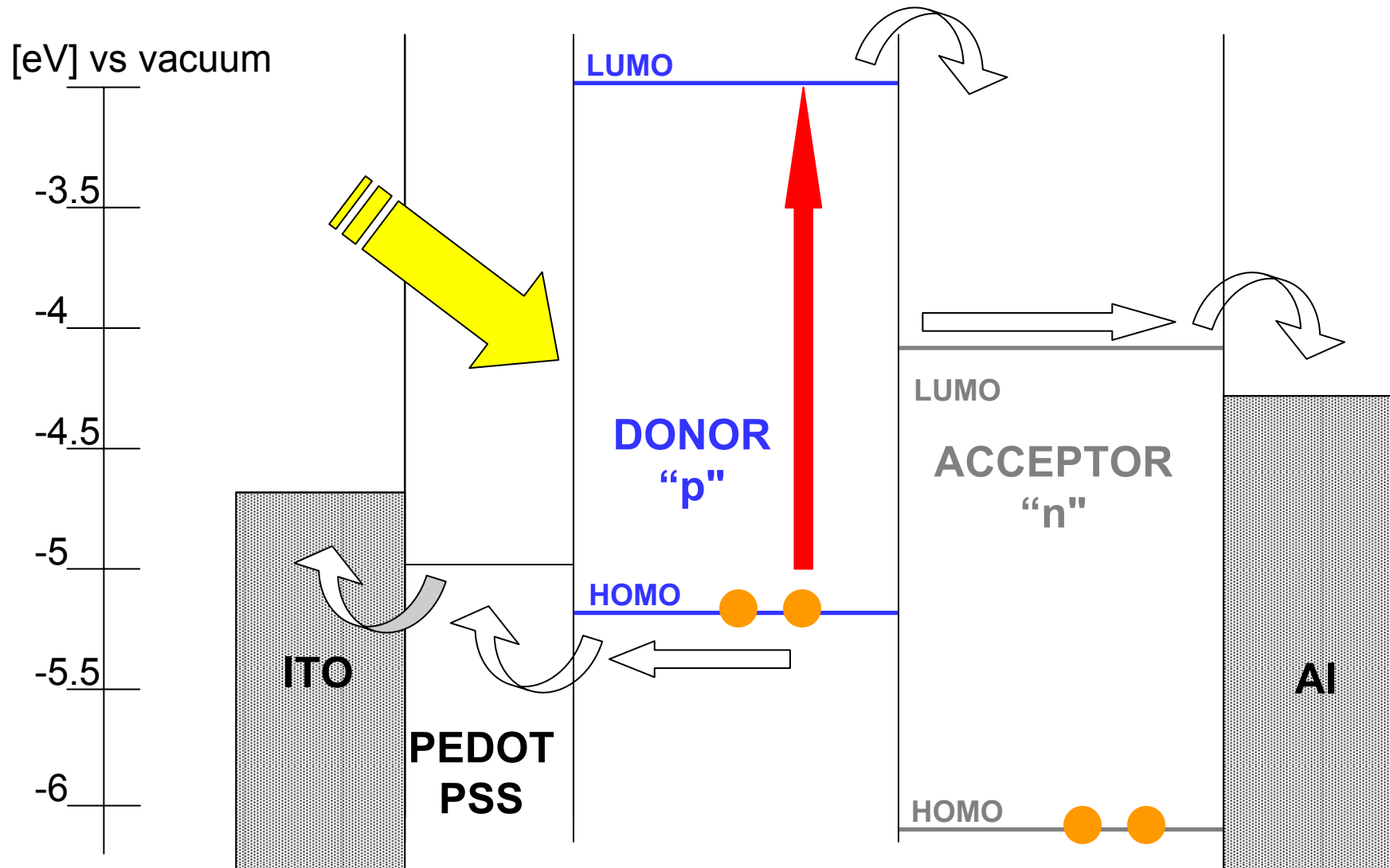
Novel **materials for electrodes**: ChIPS

In close collaboration with

- Materia Nova (P. Viville et al) : device fabrication and testing
- ULB (Y. Geerts), UCL (S. Melinte), ULg (C. Jérôme),...

Organic solar cell : light absorption

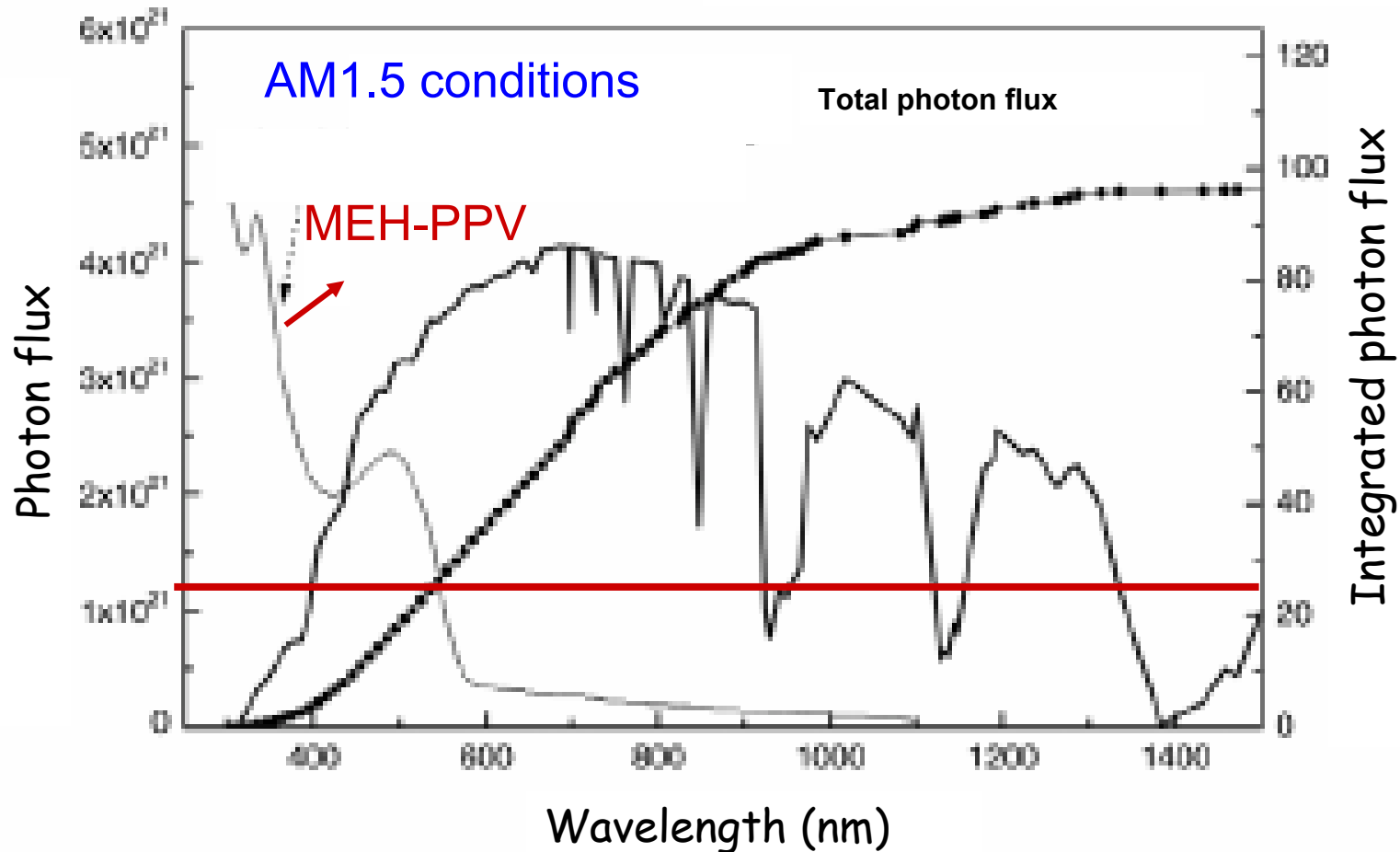
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Efficiency of light conversion

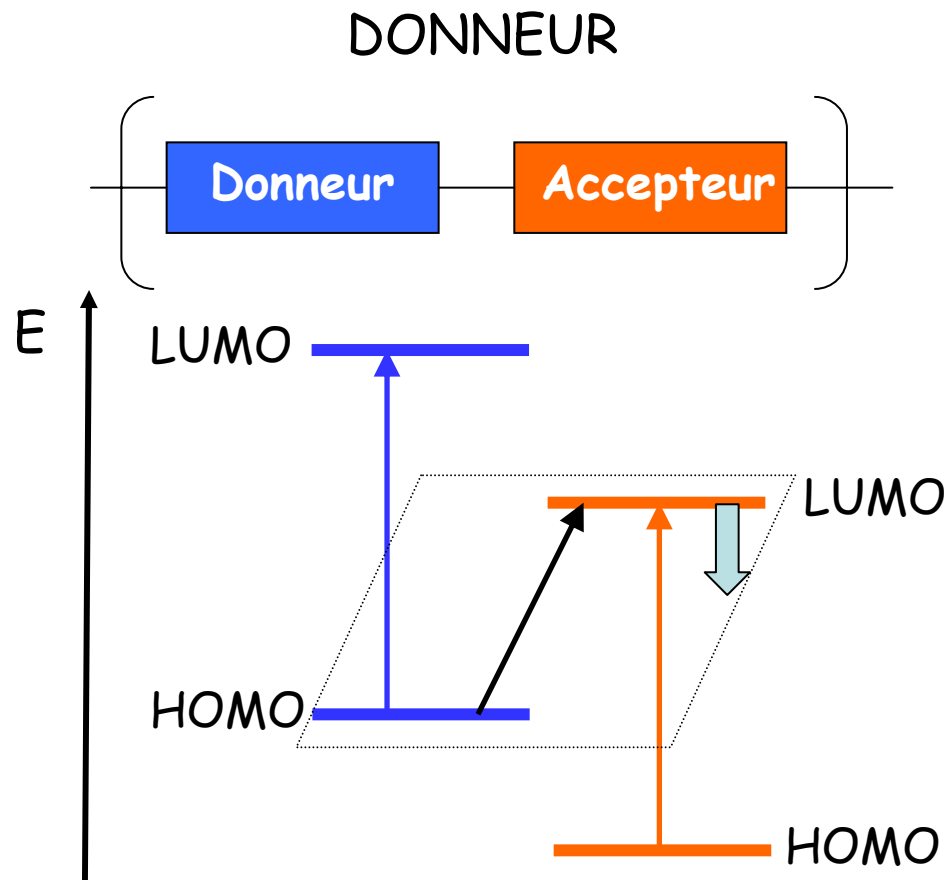
25% of the incoming solar light is harvested for a gap of 2.1 eV

N.S. Sariciftci, Materialstoday, September 2004

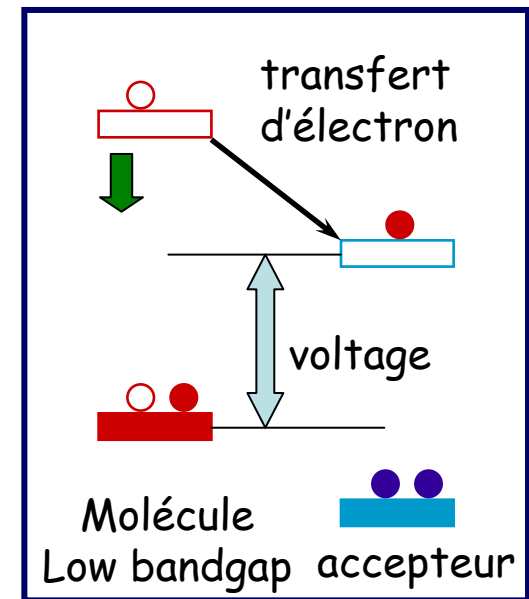


Light harvesting at higher wavelengths is essential

Design de molécules low bandgap : 2^e génération



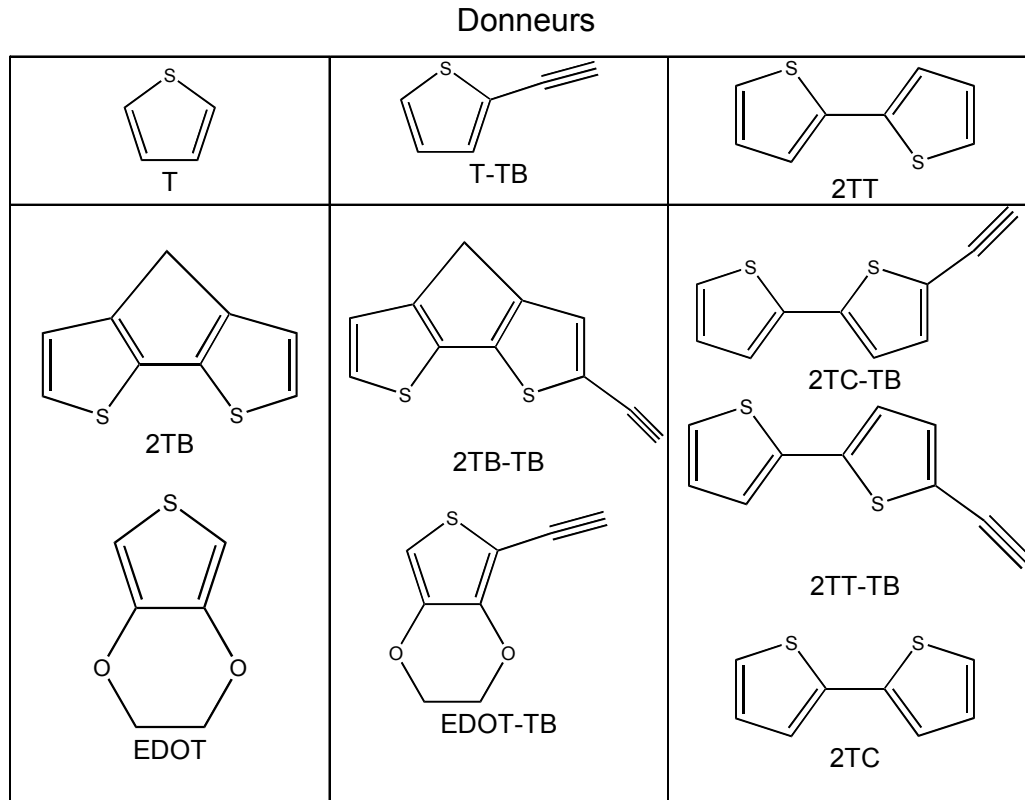
Mélange donneur-accepteur



Calcul des propriétés électroniques et optiques
par les méthodes de chimie quantique

Couples donneur-accepteur

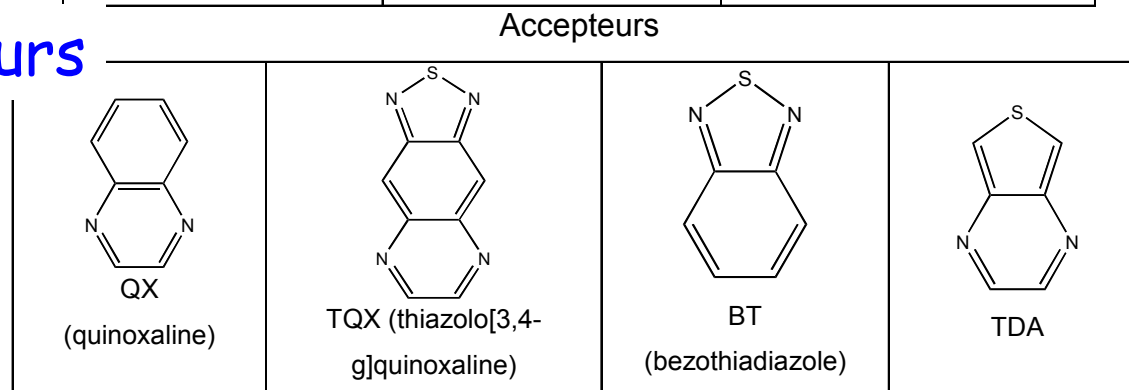
Donneurs



Influence de la structure ?

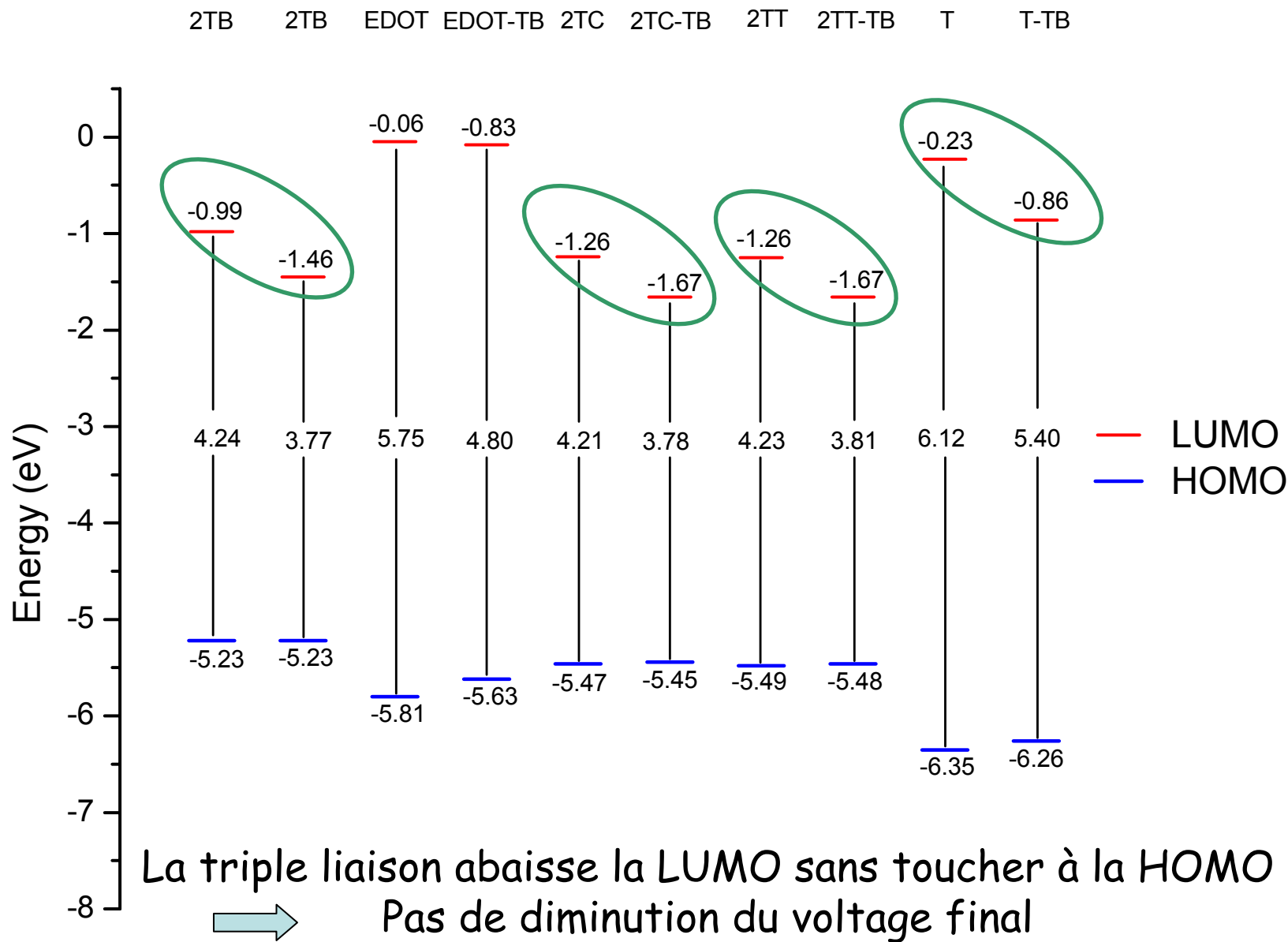
Influence du pont ethynylene ?

Accepteurs

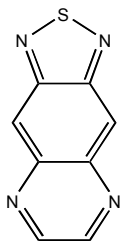
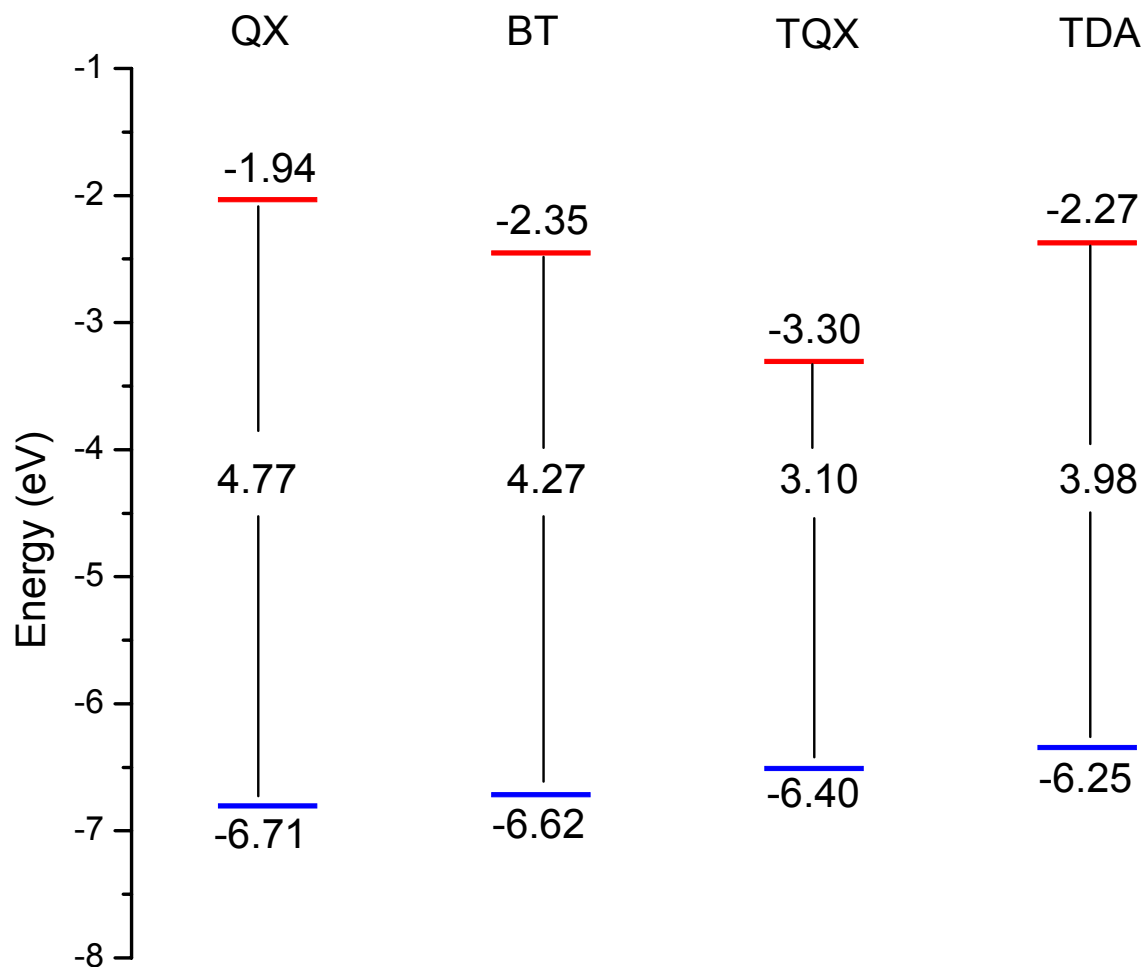


Influence de la structure ?

Niveaux énergétiques: Donneurs



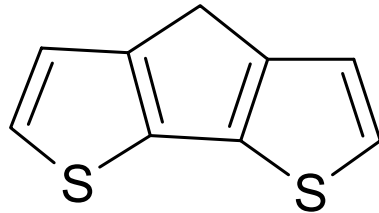
Niveaux énergétiques: Accepteurs



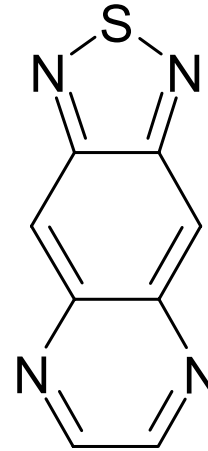
L'accepteur TQX présente la LUMO la plus basse

Conclusions

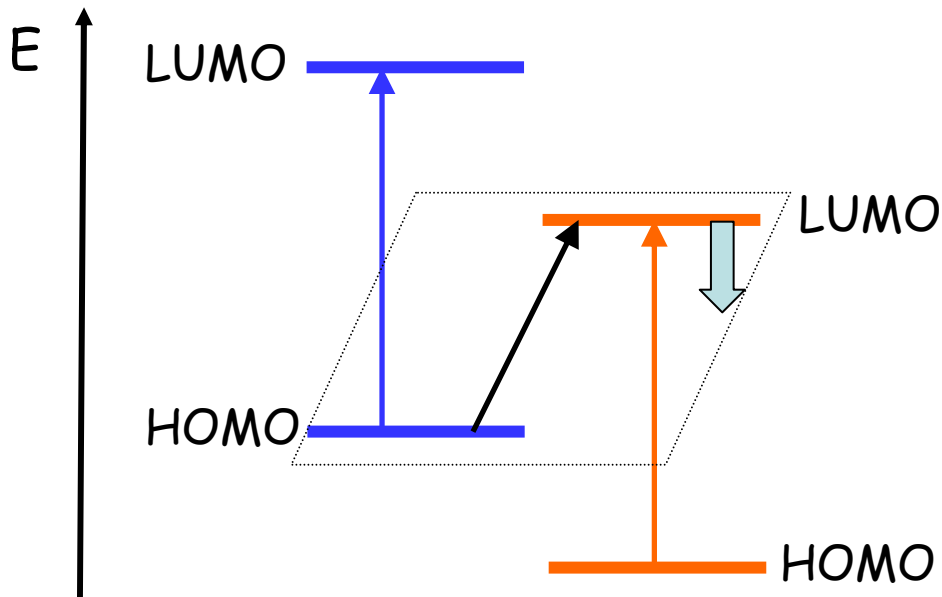
Sélection des meilleurs couples donneur-accepteur



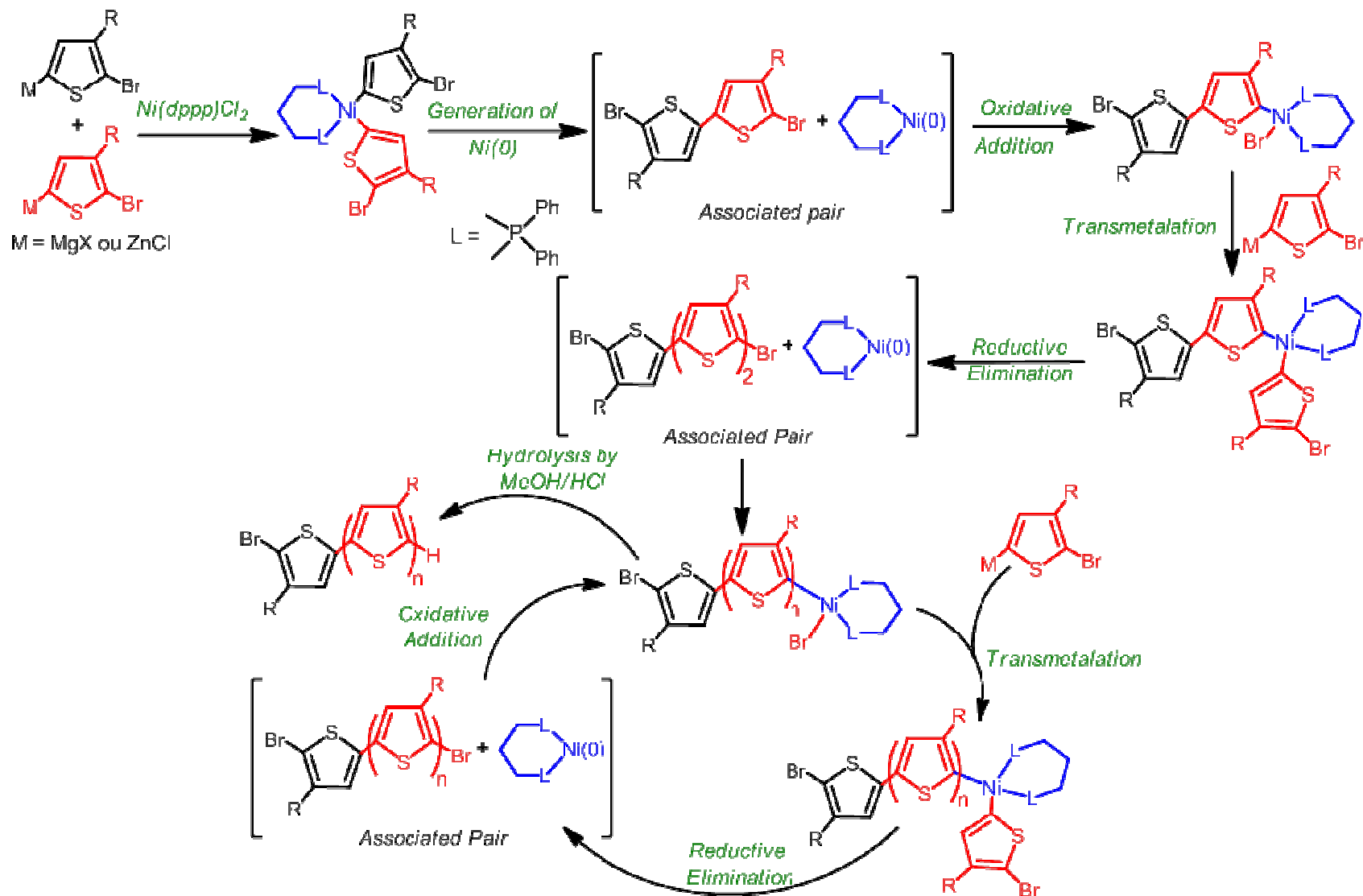
2TB



TQX



Controlled synthesis of P3HT via GRIM mechanism



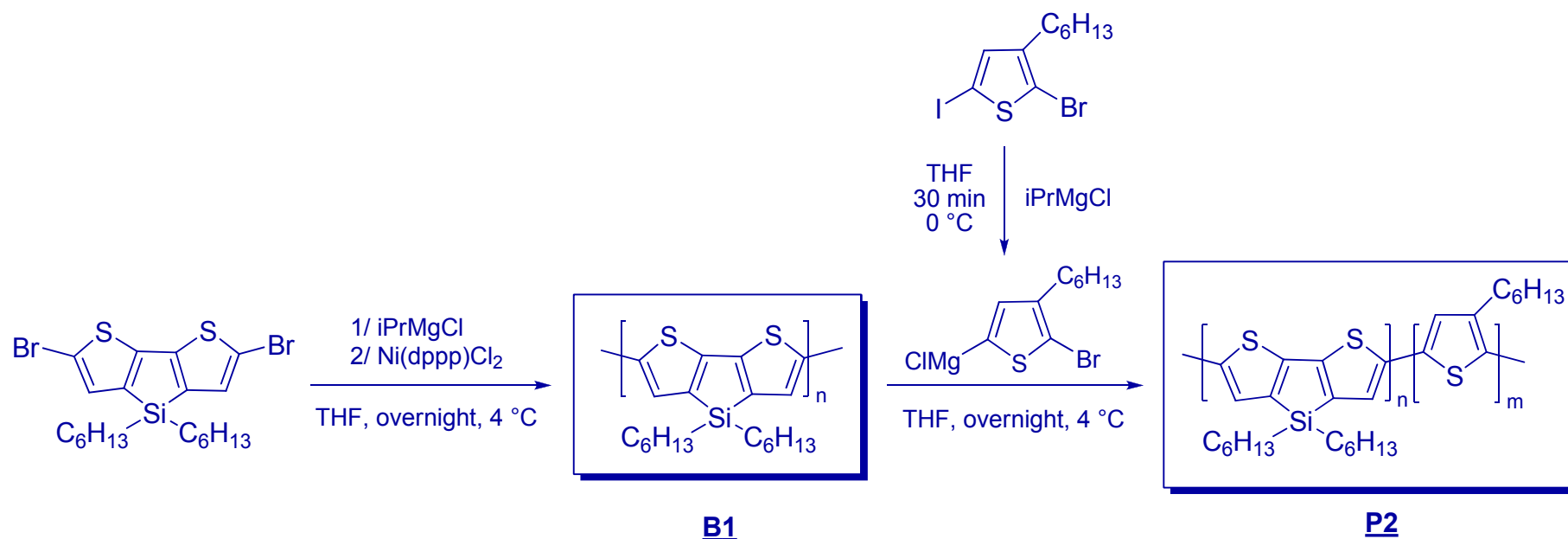
McCullough, R. D. et al. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2008**, *41*, 1201272-1214.

Yokozawa, T. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, *127*, 17542-17547.

Tuning the optical and electronic properties by the block copolymer approach

Silole-based conjugated block copolymers

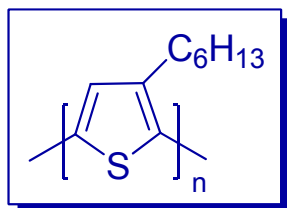
Poly(4,4-dihexyl-4*H*-silolo[3,2:*b*-4,5:*b'*]dithiophene)-*b*-Poly(3-hexylthiophene) **P2**



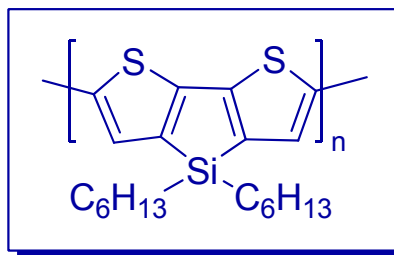
Entry	Si/3HT*	M_n GPC (g/mol)	\bar{D}	λ_{max} (nm)
1	23/77	6000	1,3	507
2	38/62	34.000	2,1	596

(*) as determined by $^1\text{H-NMR}$

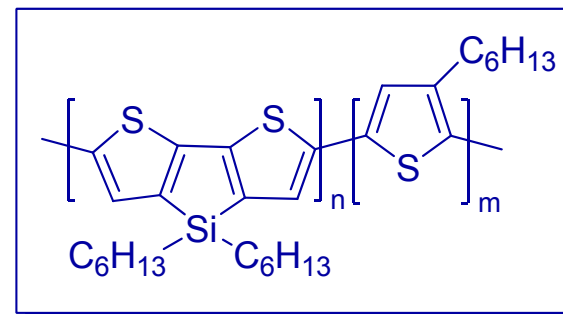
Silole-based (co)polymers : optical absorption properties



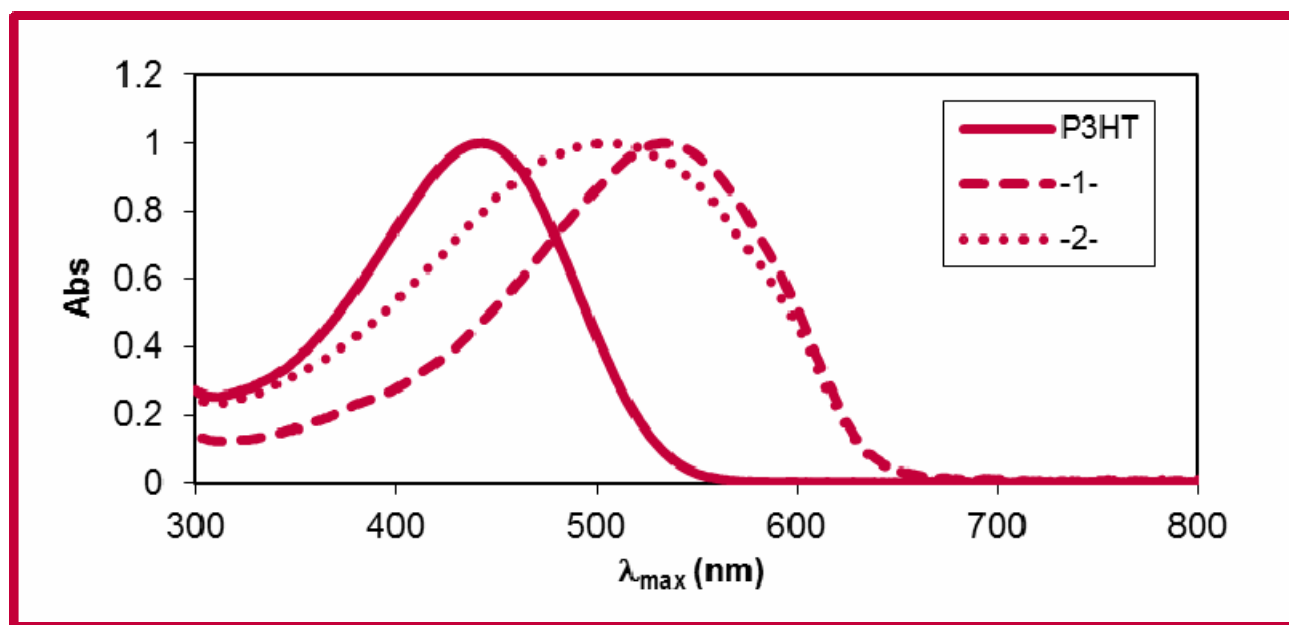
P3HT



P1



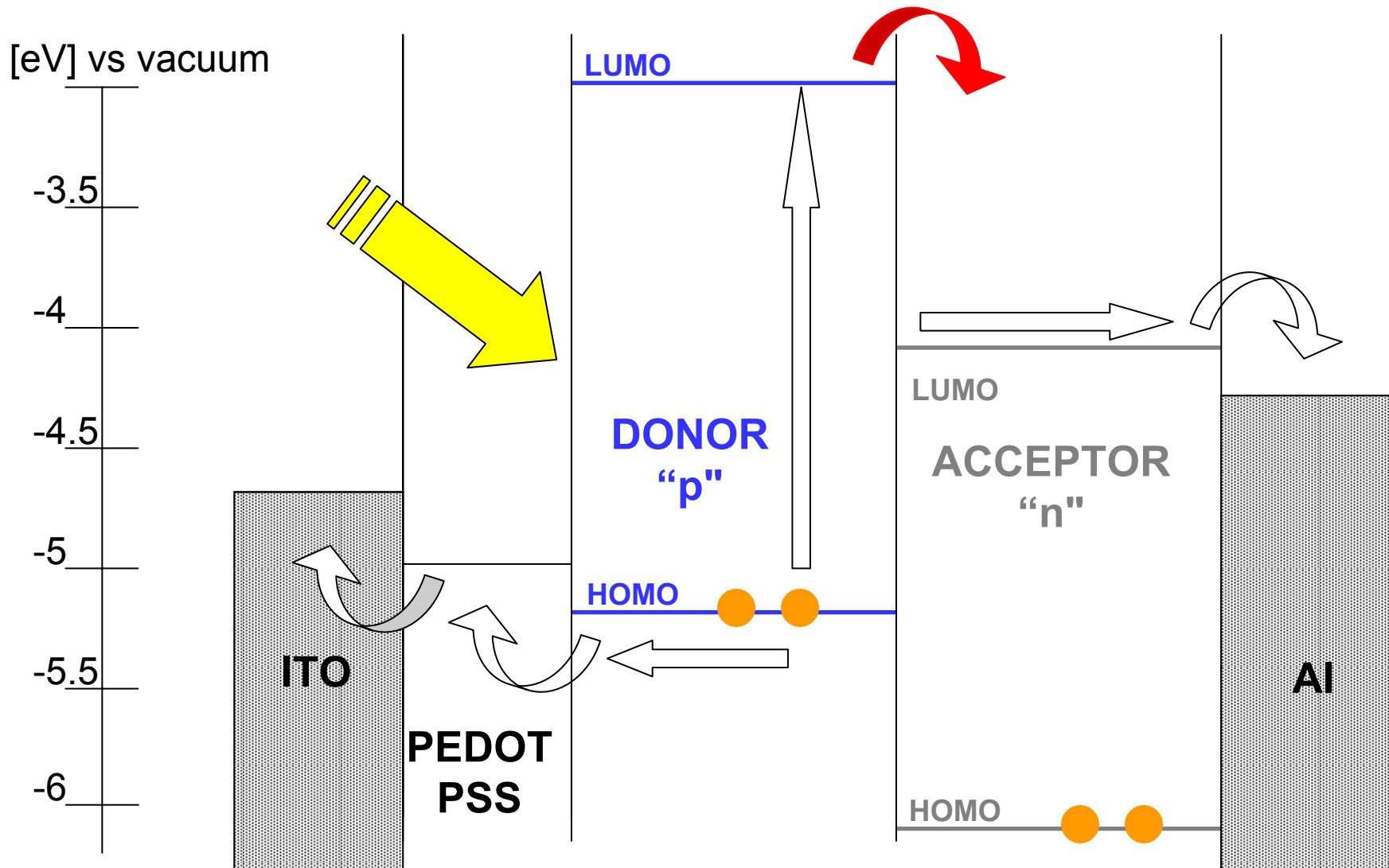
P2



The block copolymer has a broader absorption spectrum

Organic solar cell : charge generation

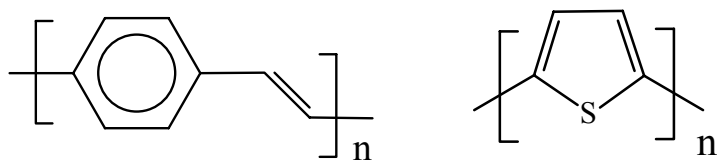
Gilles Dennler,
KONARKA



V_{oc} is set by $LUMO(acc) - HOMO(don)$

Binary donor-acceptor systems for organic PV

Electron donors



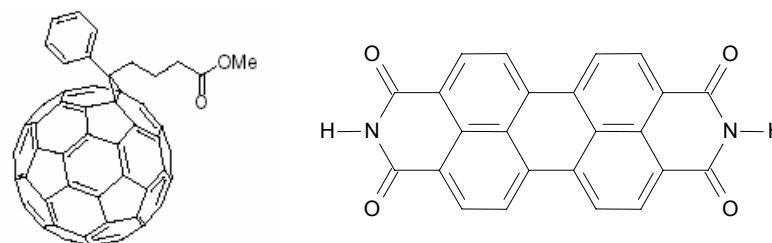
PPV or PT derivatives

Ionization potential is small

⇒ HOMO energy

(+ hole transport)

Electron acceptors



PCBM

Perylene

Electron affinity is large

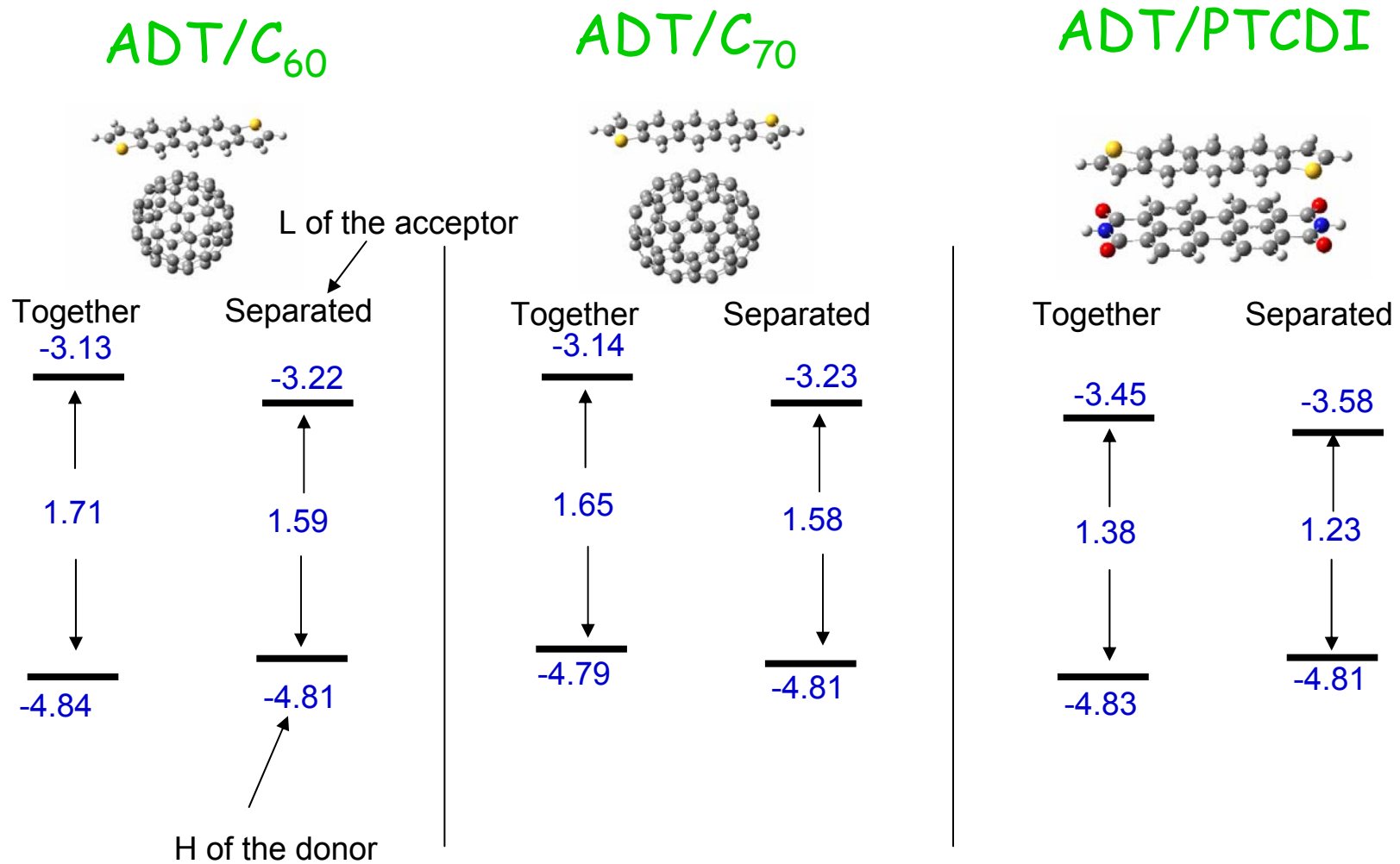
⇒ LUMO energy

(+ electron transport)

All organic PV devices are two-component systems

Charge separation takes place at the D-A interface

Electronic structure at the donor/acceptor interface



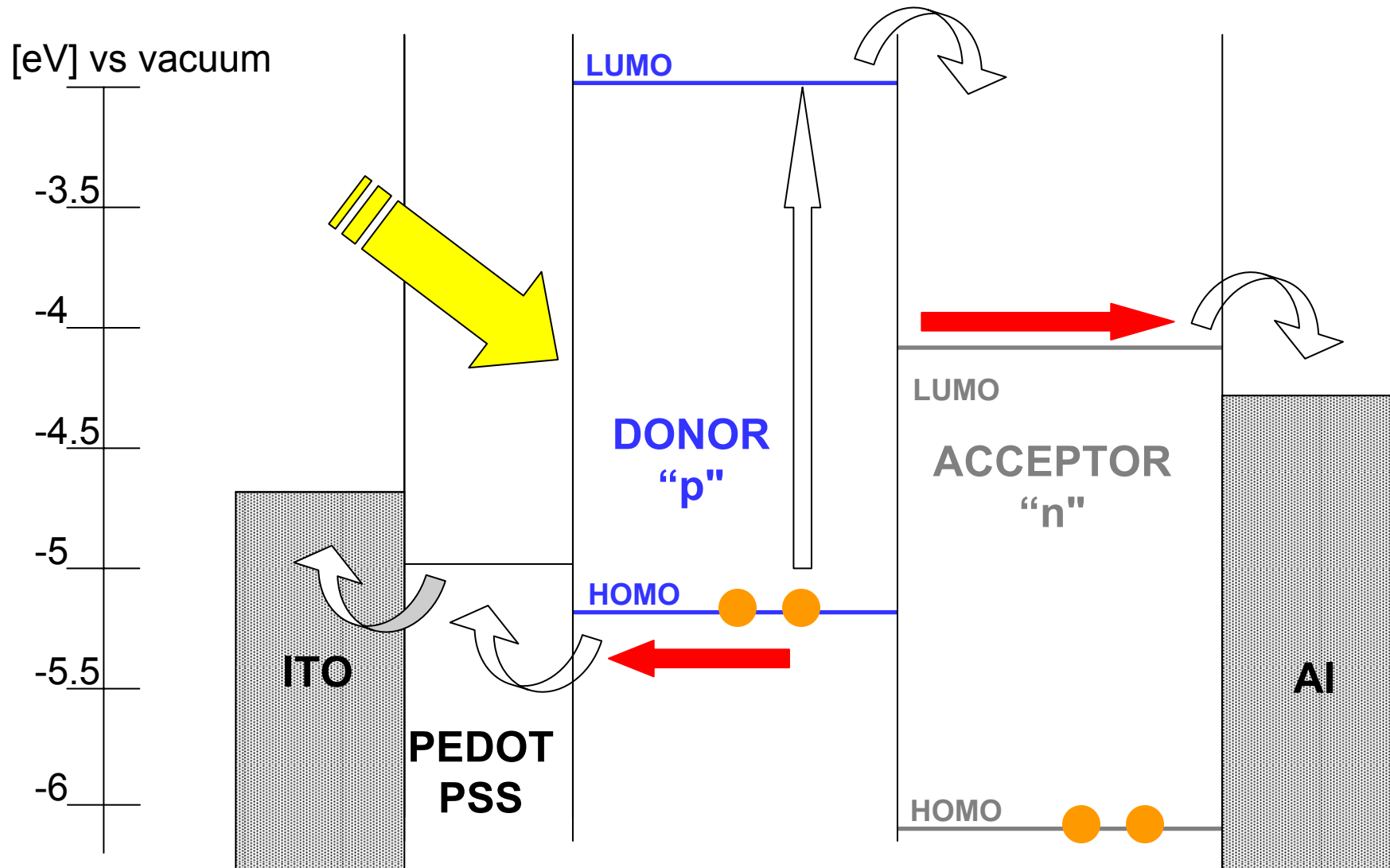
At 4 Å, there is no big shift of the HOMO and LUMO levels of the donor and the acceptor due to the polarization effect.

with Y. Geerts et al.

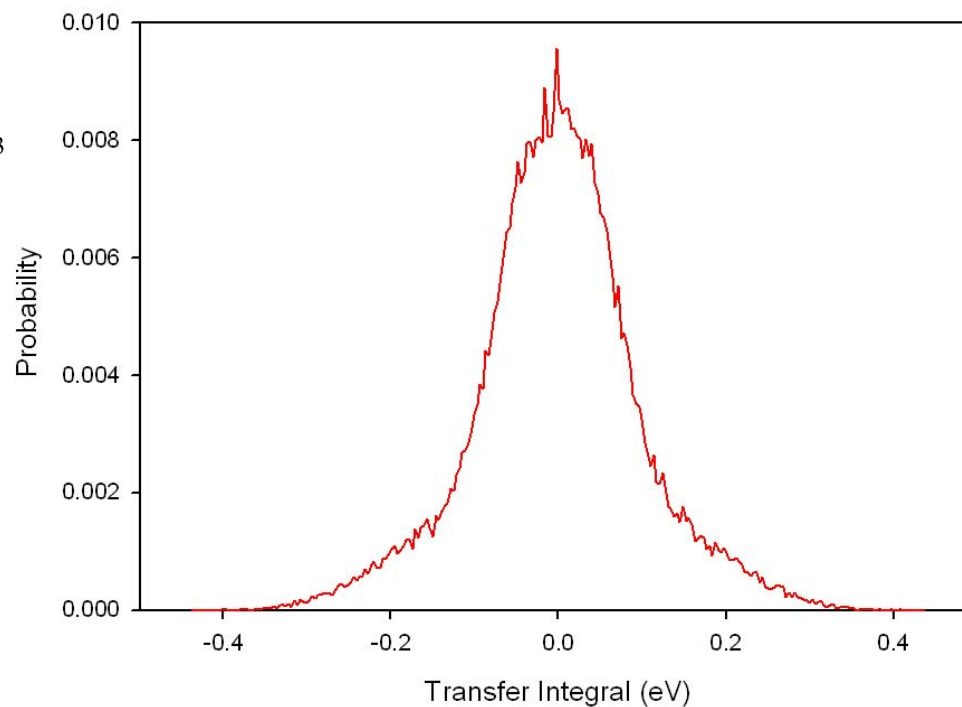
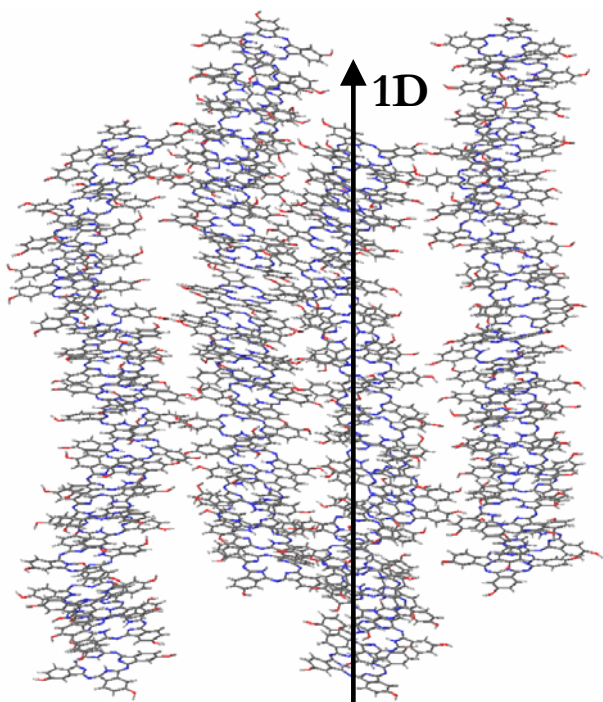
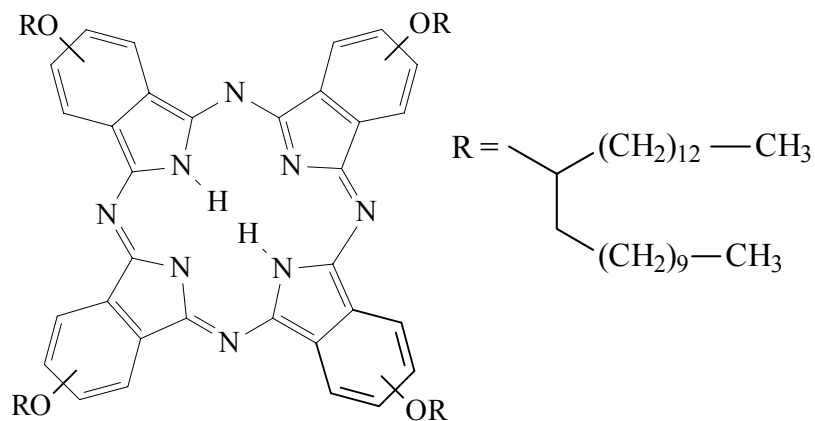
Opt: DFT (B3LYP/6-31G(d,p))

Organic solar cell: charge transport

Gilles Dennler,
KONARKA



Modeling the supramolecular organisation and charge transport properties



Static stack:

$$\mu = 0.0135 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{V s}$$

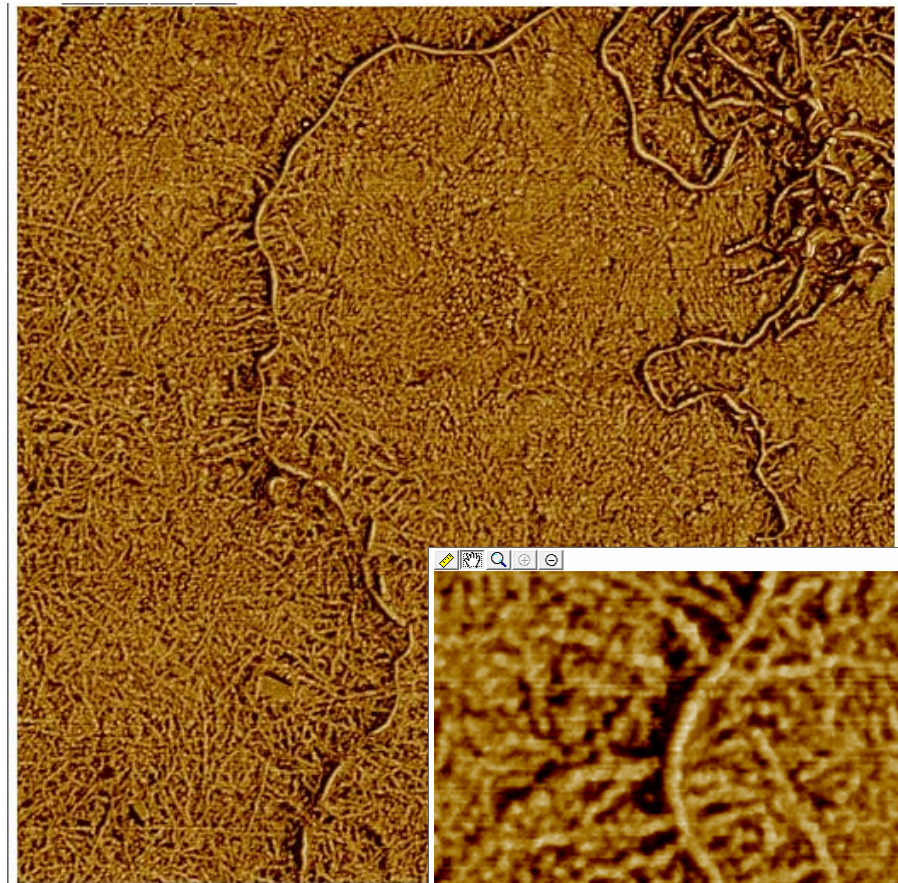
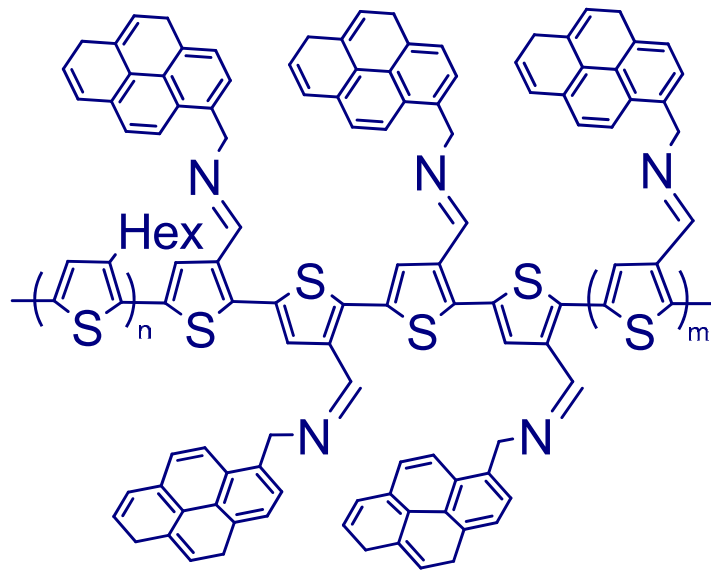
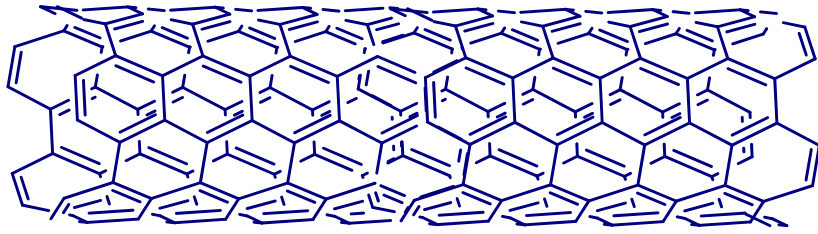
Dynamic stack:

$$\mu = 0.17 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{V s}$$

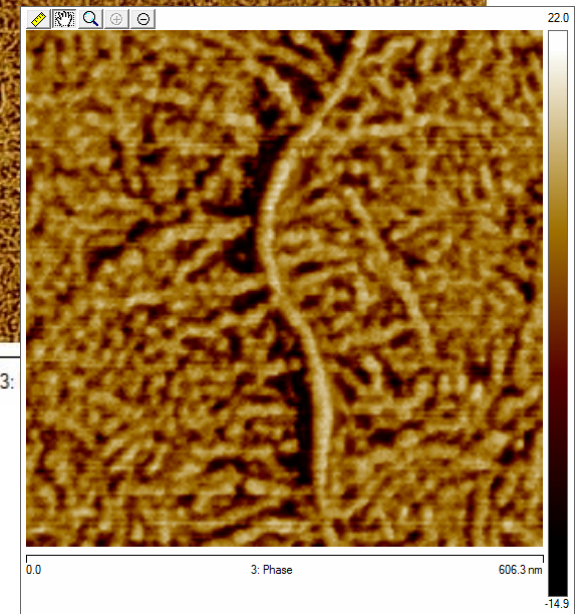
Increase in charge carrier mobilities due to dynamical motion

with Y. Geerts et al.

Carbon nanotubes as additives to favor charge transport in organic photovoltaic cells



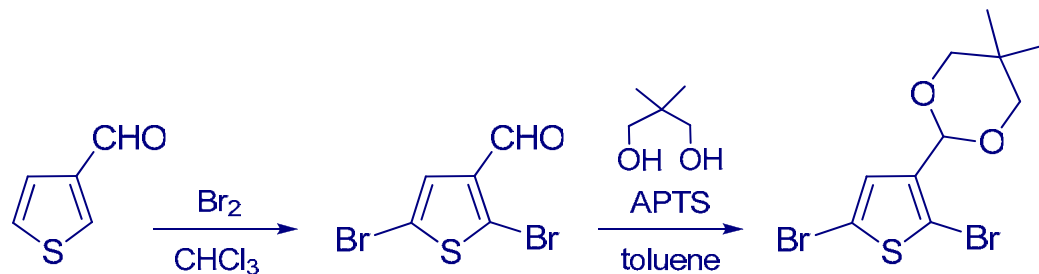
0.0 3:



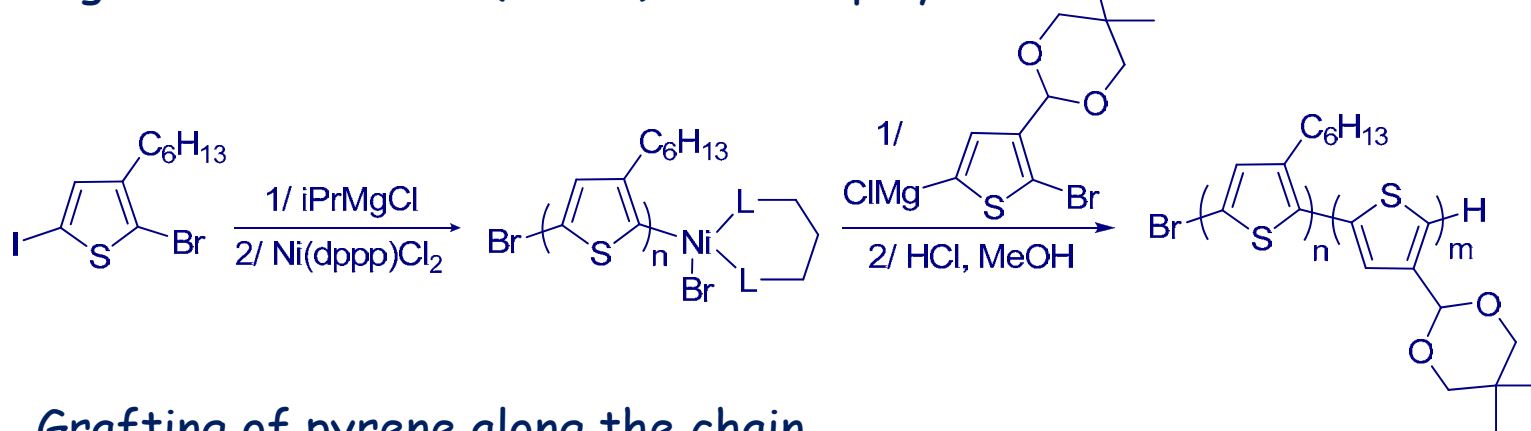
Pyrene-functionalized P3HT to favor CNT dispersion in conjugated polymer matrix

Synthesis of P3HT-pyrene copolymer

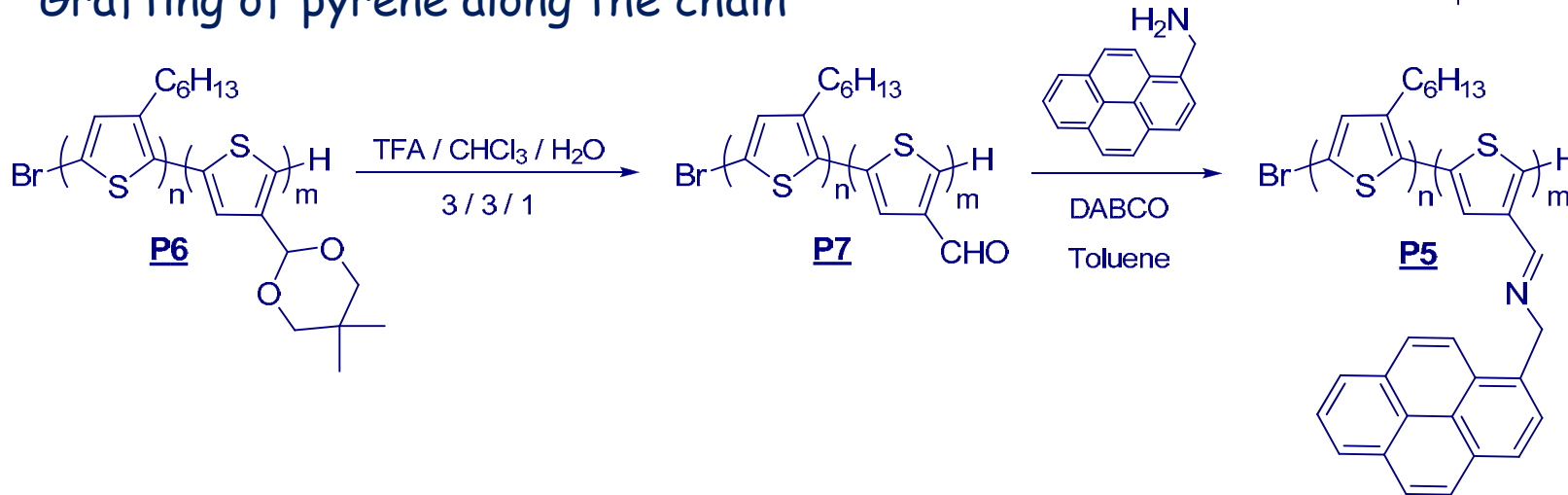
Monomer



Grignard Metathesis (GRIM) block copolymerization

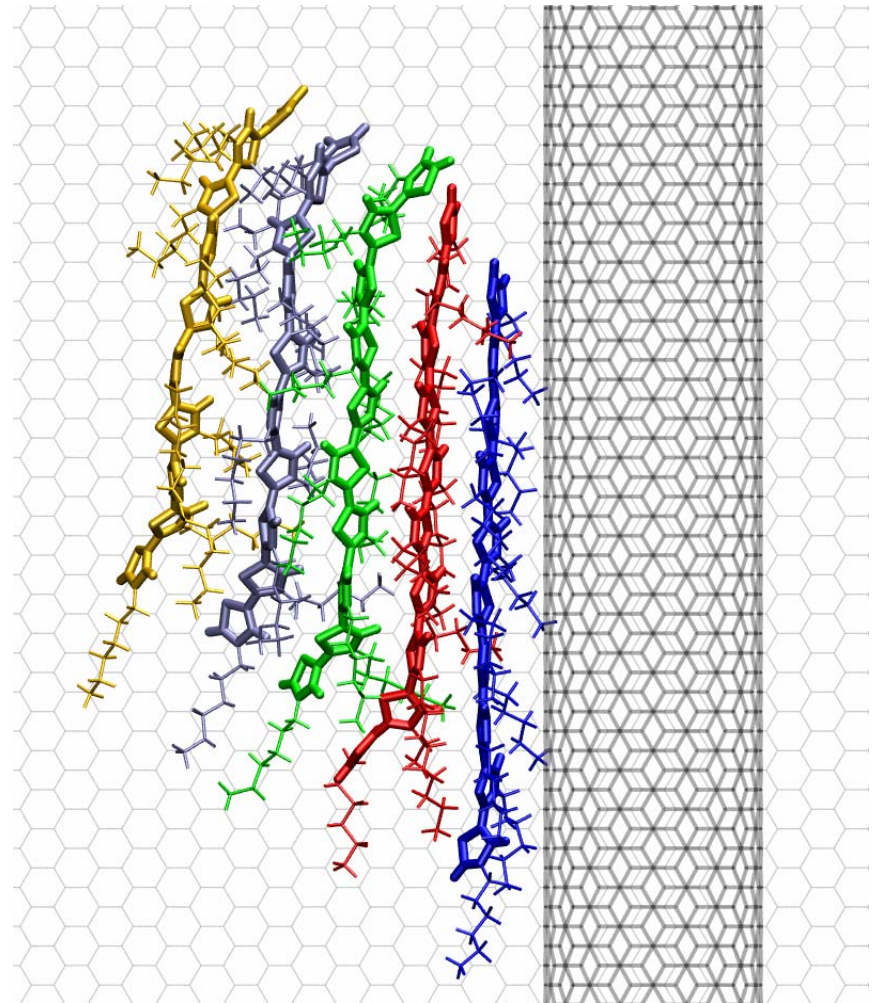
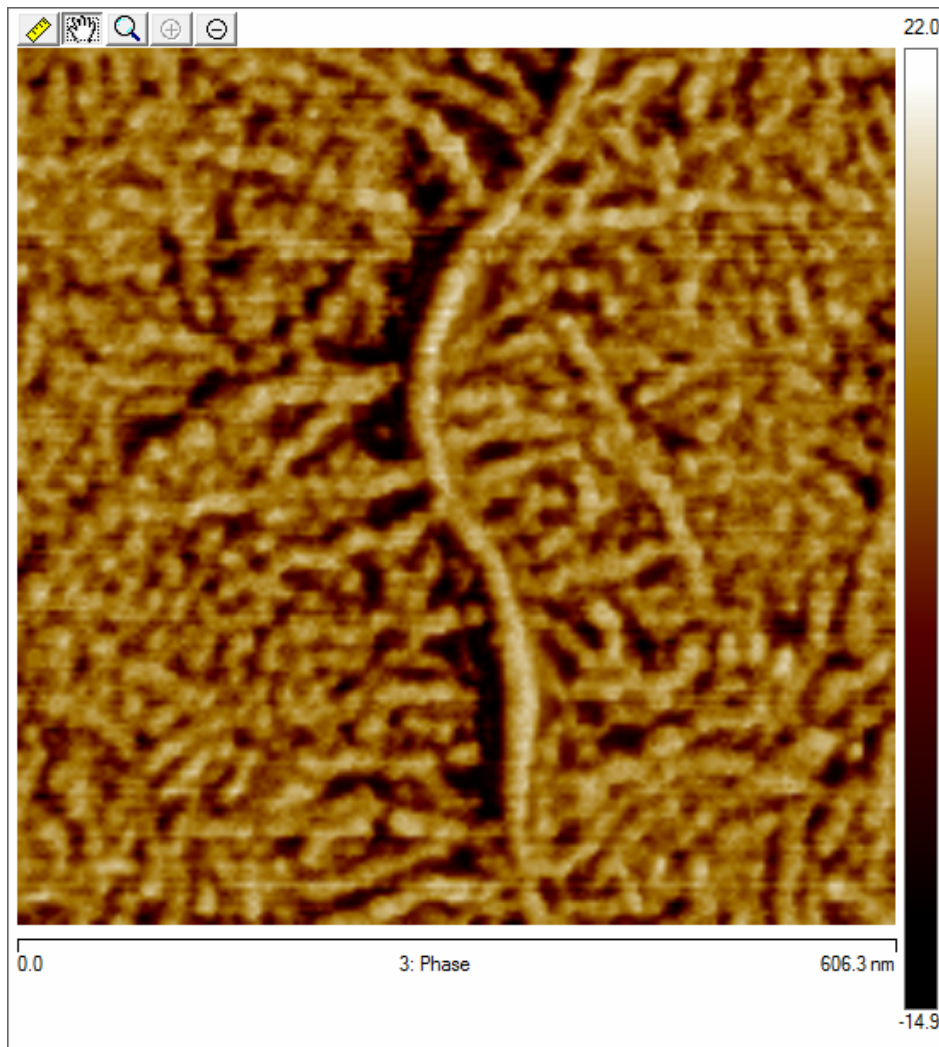


Grafting of pyrene along the chain



Modeling the nanotube/ conjugated polymer interface

P3HT chains interacting with a SWNT



The P3HT fibrils tend to arrange perpendicular to CNT axis

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