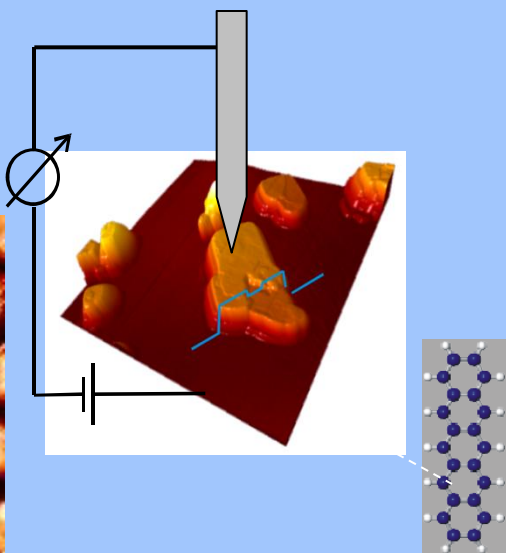
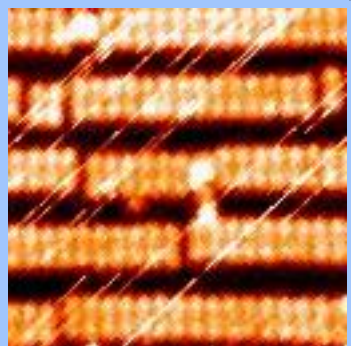
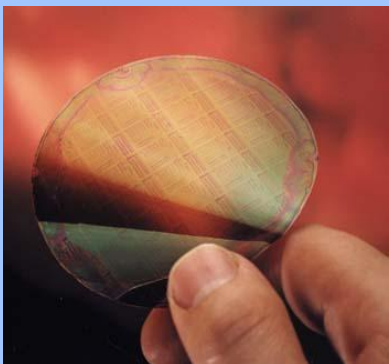


# When soft meets hard matter: from molecular monolayers to organic electronics



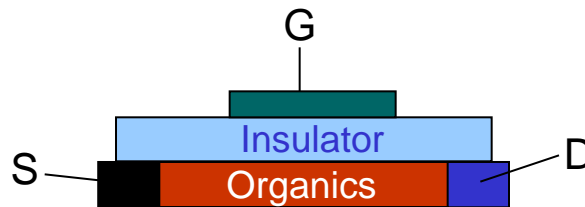
Institute of Functional Interfaces (IFG)  
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, KIT  
North Campus

# Organic Semiconductors making their way to applications

Fabrication using  
printing technology

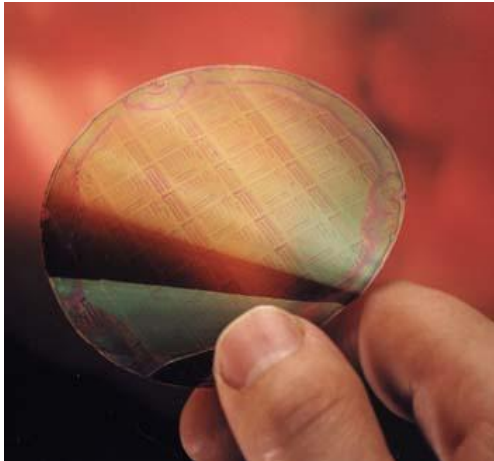


## Organic Field-Effect Transistor



„cheap electronics“

„Chips on a chips bag“



- Polymers  
Oligomers with high solubility  
(“amorphous” OFET's)
- RFID-tags
- limited charge carrier mobility  
causes low frequencies

[www.ofet.de](http://www.ofet.de)

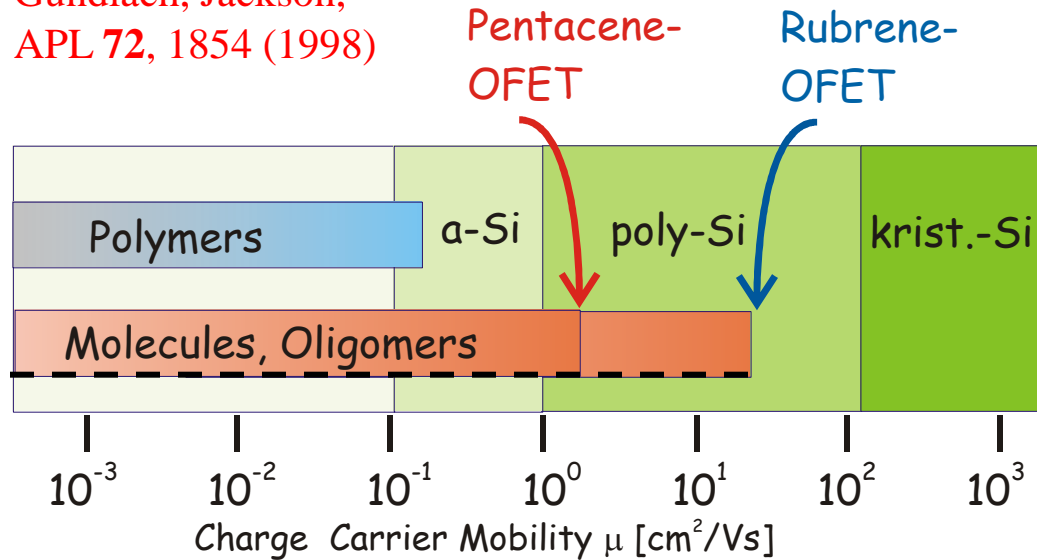


Siemens (2003)

# Organic Semiconductors: Charge Carrier Mobilities

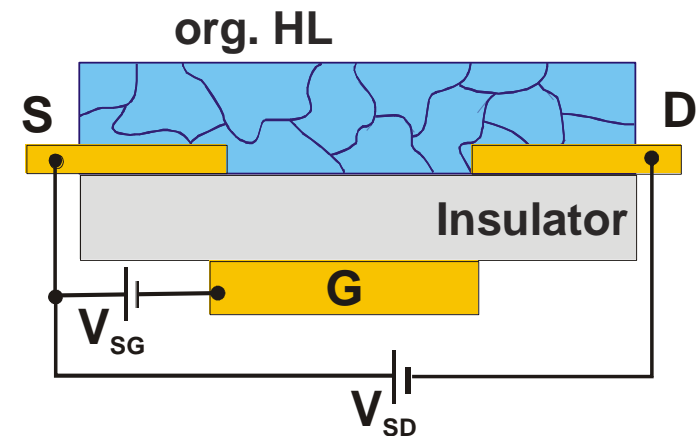
Nelson, Lin,  
Gundlach, Jackson,  
APL 72, 1854 (1998)

Rogers and cowork.  
Sundar et al., Science 303  
1644 (2004)



For “smart tag” Applications:  
 $\mu > 1 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$

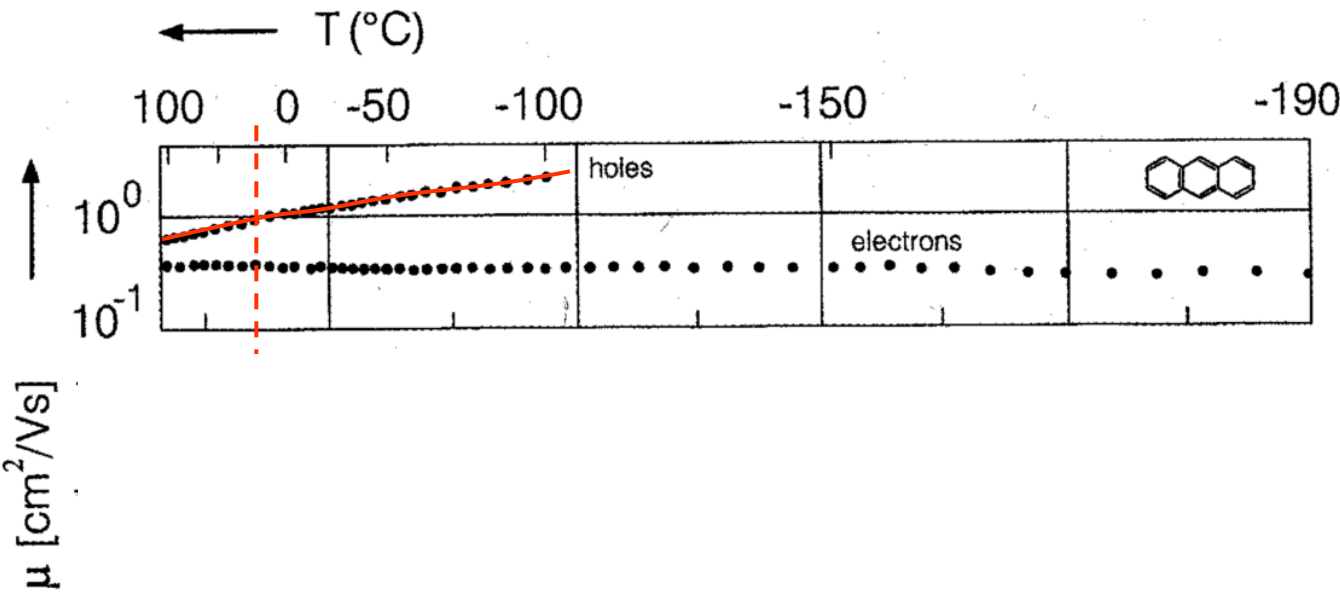
## OFET Bottom-Gate-Geometry



- Oligomers: - highly ordered, single crystals  
- high purity  
- main interest polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (Polyacenes, Benzoids)

# Organic Conductors: Conduction mechanism and influence of impurities

## Anthracene

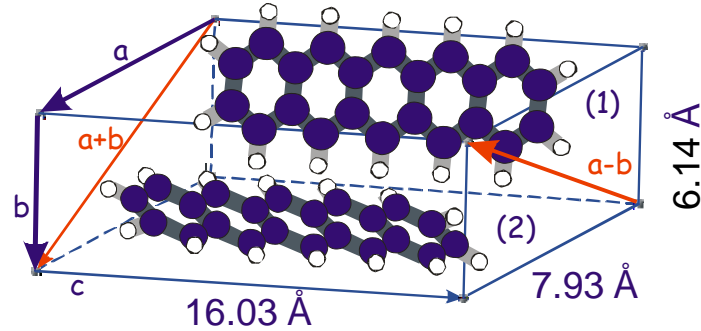
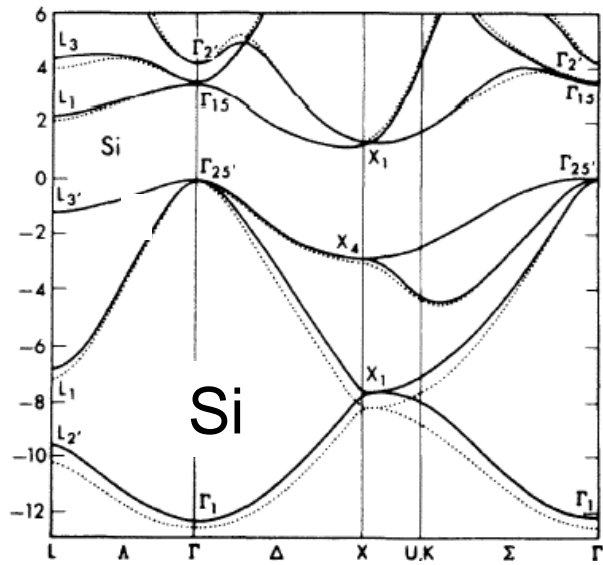


N. Karl, in:  
*Organic Electronic  
Materials*  
Farchioni & Grosso (Eds)  
Springer,  
Material Science 41 (2001)

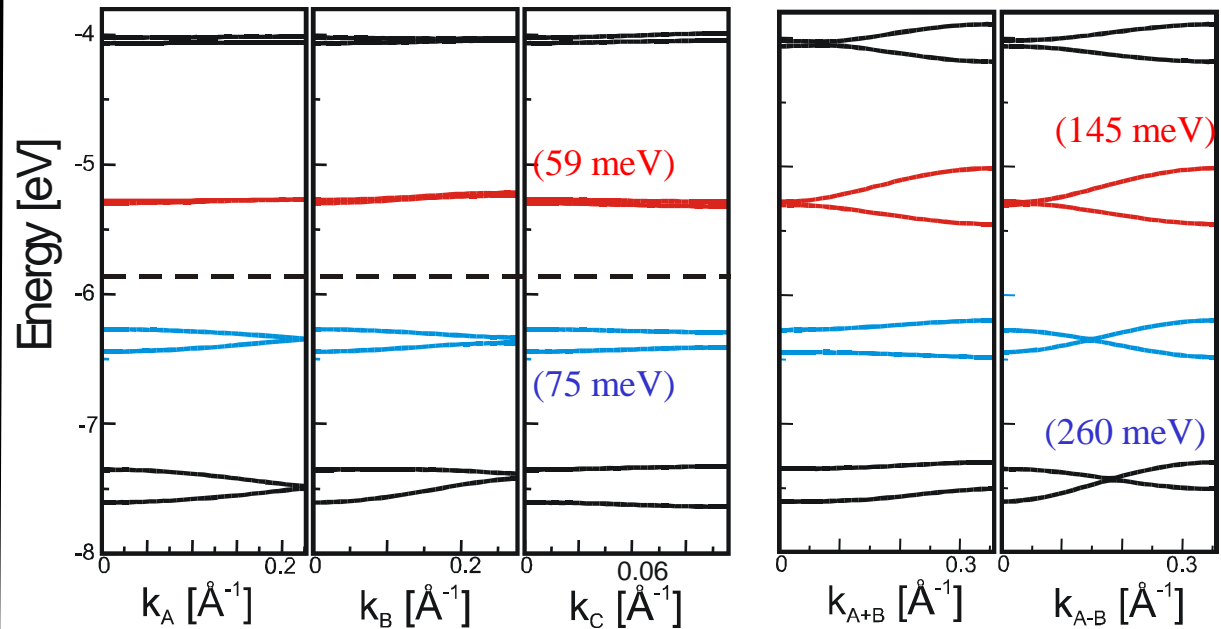
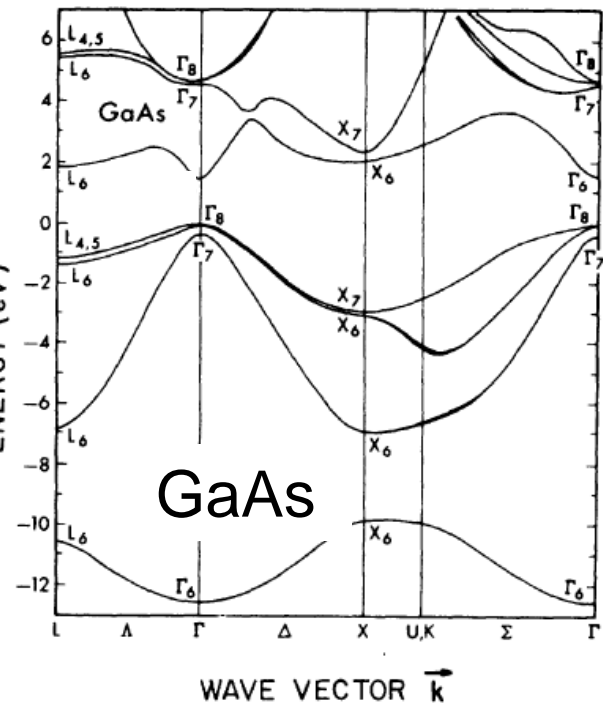
$RT$  |  $\longrightarrow 1/T [10^{-3} \text{K}^{-1}]$

Clear evidence for band-like transport,  
at higher temperatures hopping transport

# Electronic structure: Conventional vs. organic semiconductors



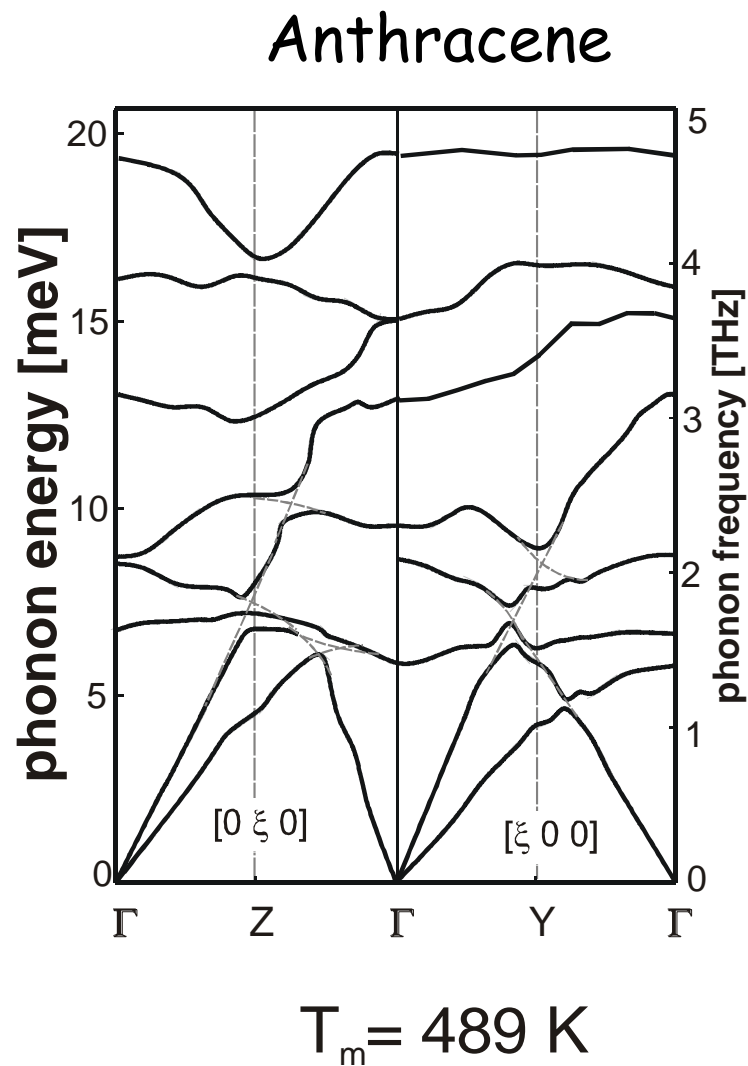
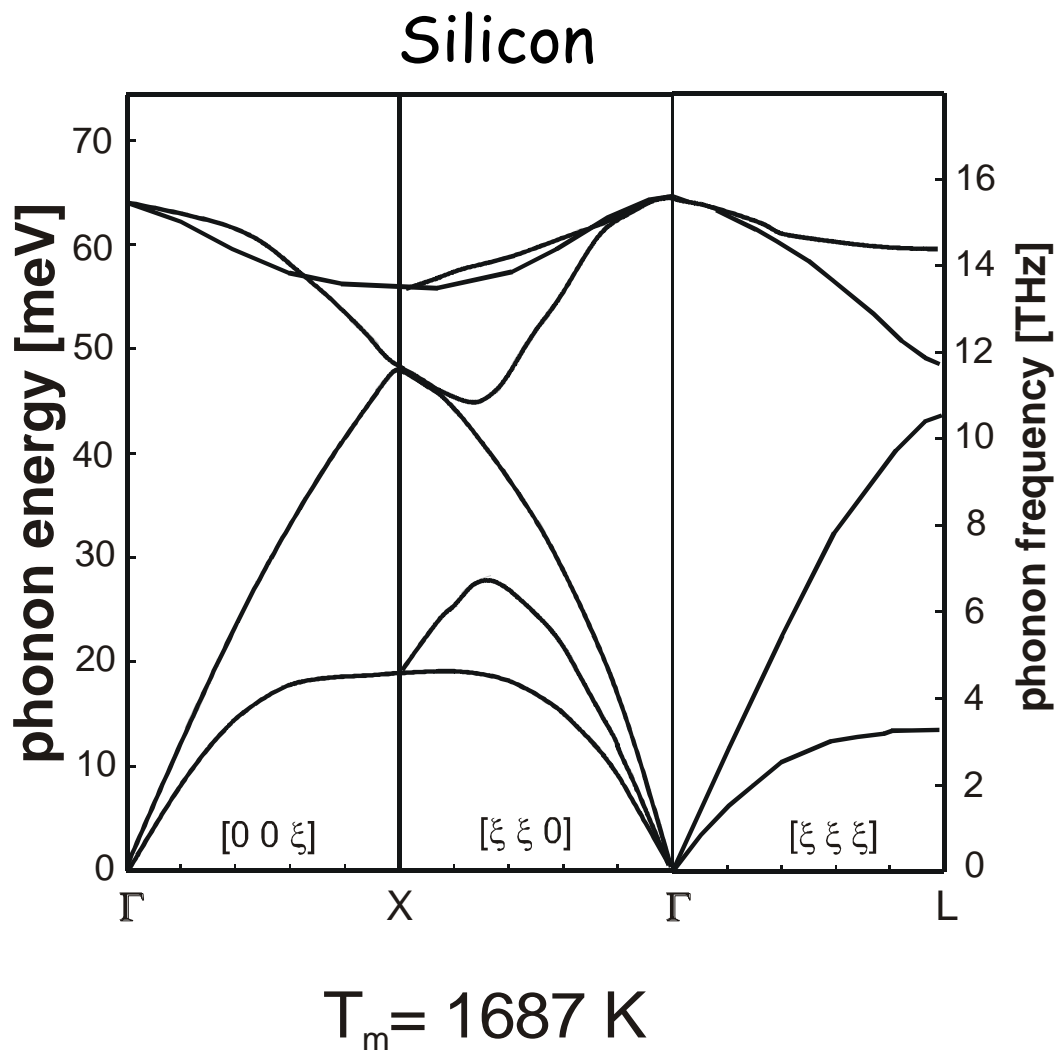
Pentacene



Precise *ab-initio* DFT electronic structure calculations

R. G. Endres, C. Y. Fong, L. H. Yang, G. Witte, and Ch. W. Comp. Mat. Sci., **29**, 362, (2004)

# Hard vs. soft: Phonon frequencies

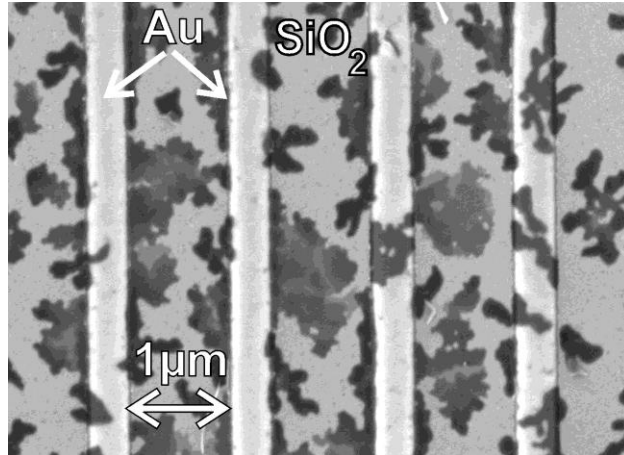


Electron-phonon coupling? Stress, strain ? Anisotropy?

# Nucleation & growth on bottom contact OFET-structures

co-operation with Prof. Kunze, Chair for Nano-Electronics, RUB, Bochum

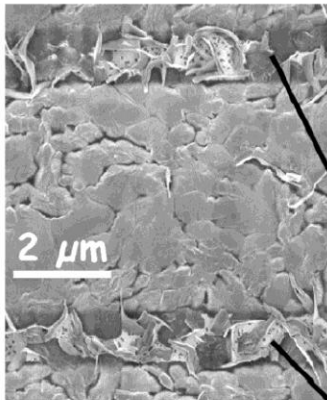
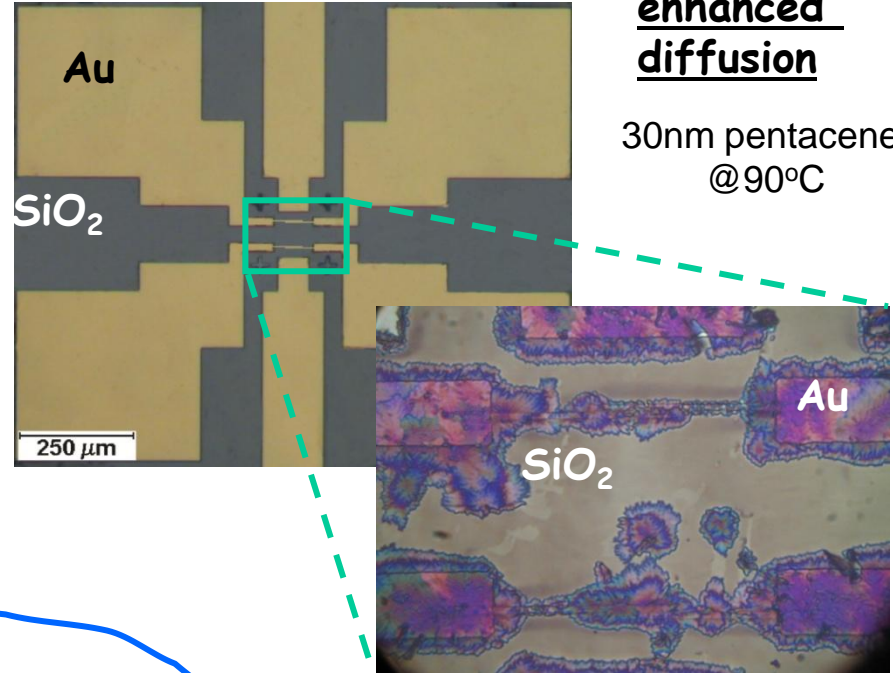
nucleation  
at  
electrodes



9nm pentacene  
@50°C

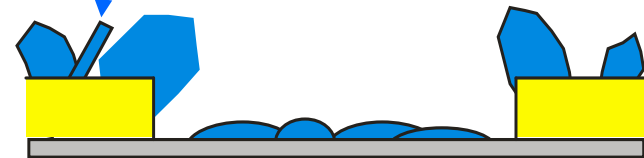
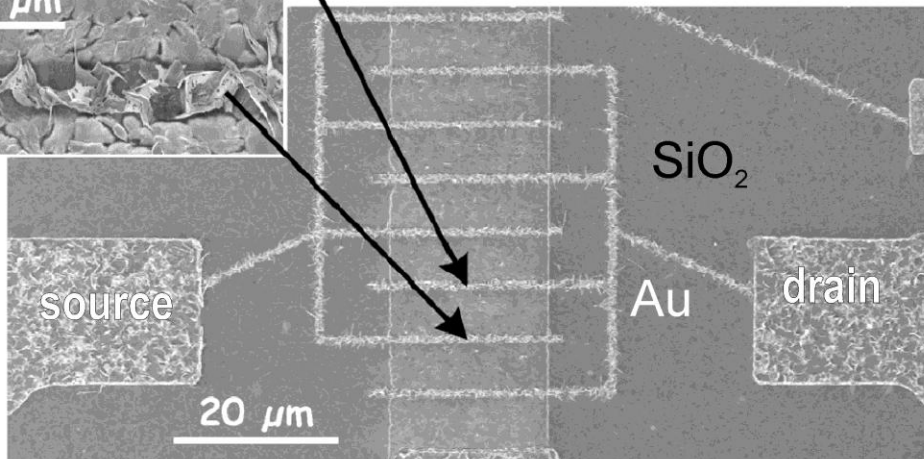
enhanced  
diffusion

30nm pentacene  
@90°C



Au  
SiO<sub>2</sub>

50nm pentacene @ 50°C

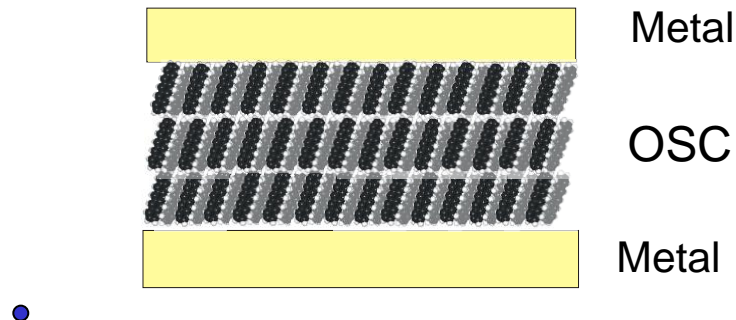


dewetting at electrodes

C.Bock D.V.Pharm, U.Kunze, D.Käfer, G.Witte, CW  
J. Appl. Phys. **100**, 114517 (2006)

It is rather difficult  
to measure charge carrier mobilities  
in organic semiconductors

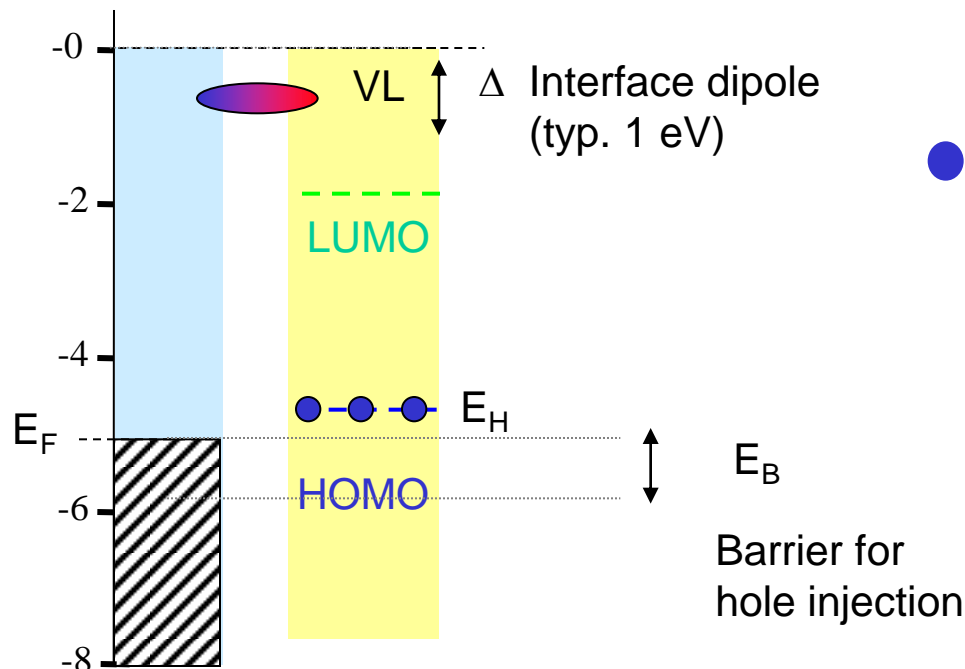
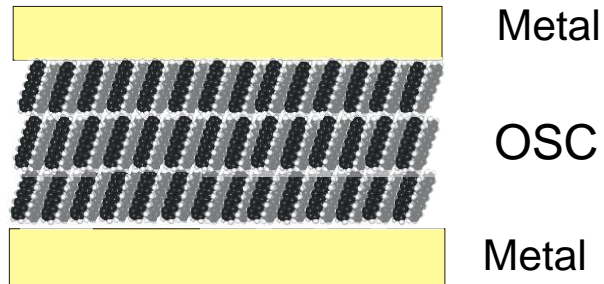
Would be good to have a model „ideal device“





# Fabrication of an „ideal“ OSC-device

## Diode with ohmic contacts



## Interface dipole even for noble gases ?

### Experimental observation:

- S. Narioka, H. Ishii, D. Yoshimura, M. Sei, Y. Ouchi, K. Seki, S. Hasegawa, T. Miyazaki, Y. Harima, K. Yamashita, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **67** 1899 (1995)
- I.G. Hill, A. Rajagopal, A. Kahn *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **73**, 662, (1998)

Review: H. Ishii, K. Sugiyama, E. Ito, K. Seki *Adv. Mater.* **11**, 605 (1999)

### Theoretical explanation: (ab-initio, WF-based, MP2)

P.S. Bagus, V. Staemmler, C.W. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **88**, 28301 (2002)

**Not DFT !**

G. Witte, S. Lukas, P.S. Bagus, C. W. *Appl. Phys. Lett.*, **87**, 263502 (2005)

P.S. Bagus, K. Hermann, C.W. *J. Chem. Phys.* **123**, 184109 (2005)

# Work function changes at surfaces: The cushion effect

or

## When hard meets soft matter

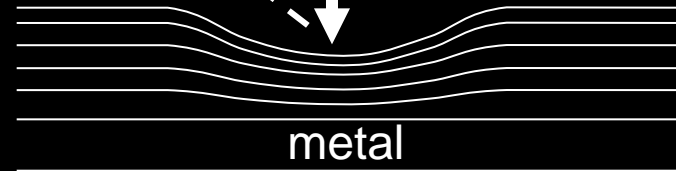
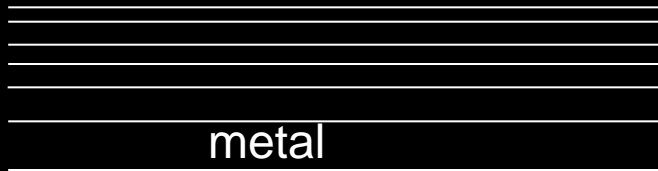


Van der Waals  
interaction

Molecule

+  
Dipole  
moment  
-

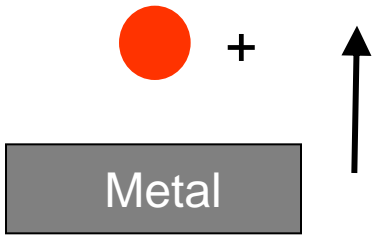
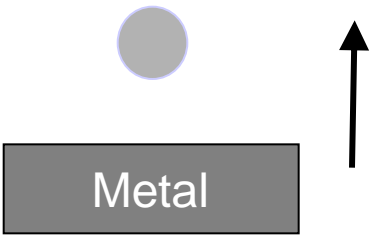
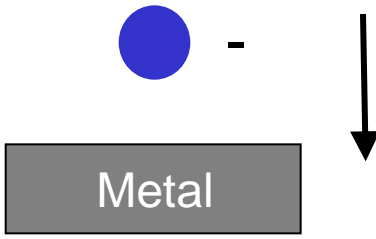
Charge  
density  
contours



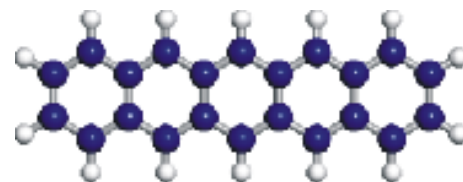
Ab-initio calculations for Xe/Cu(111):  $\Delta\Phi = -1.0$  eV (work function is reduced!)

Two mechanisms : Pauli Exclusion and Surface Response To Xe

# Adjusting the work-function of a metal

	<p>Electropositive (e.g. Cs, Na,...)</p> 	<p>Uncharged (e.g. Xe, alkanes, ...)</p> 	<p>Electronegative (e.g. I, Cl,...)</p> 
Prediction	Workfunction decrease	No workfunction change	Workfunction increase
Thorough analysis (Experiment, ab-initio theory)	Substantial decrease  (Pauli repulsion + electrostatic)	Substantial decrease  (Pauli repulsion)	Small workfunction decrease for I (cov. dependant !)  Pauli repulsion, electrostatics, polarization

# Growth of pentacene on metal substrates



Pentacene

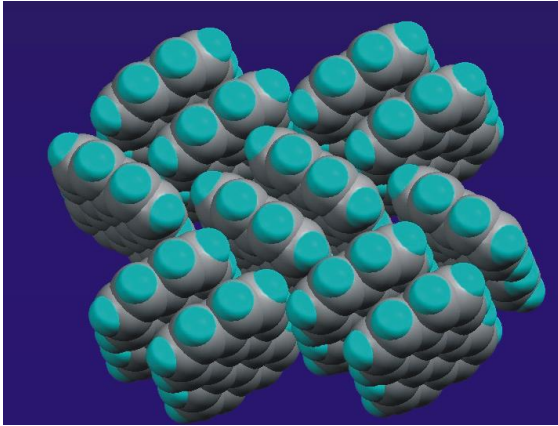
- no  $\pi$ -stacking
- Bulk structure
- dewetting

G.Beernink, T.Strunskus, G.Witte, CW  
Appl. Phys. Lett. **85**, 398, (2004)

- More detailed studies: rather rule than exception in OMBD of aromatic molecules on metals

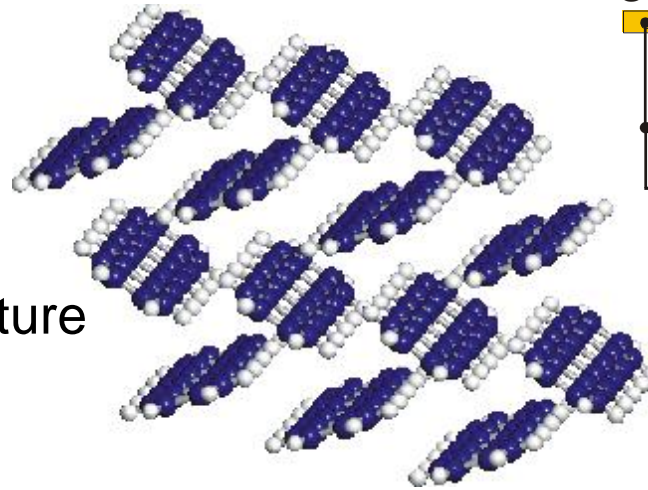
# Principles of OMBD: Bulk properties

- The importance of orientational precursors

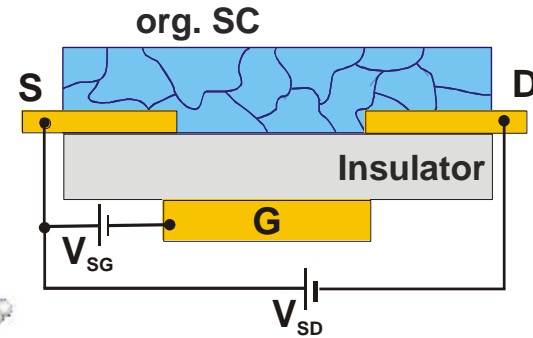


Perylene

Bulk  
structure



Pentacene



*OFET*

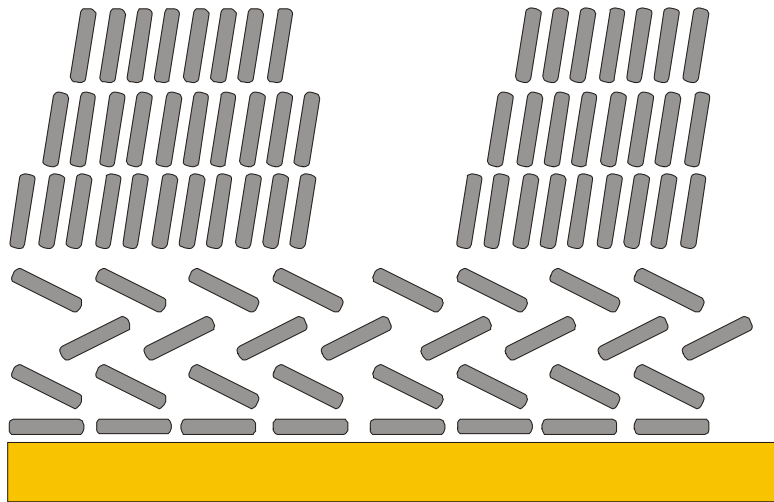
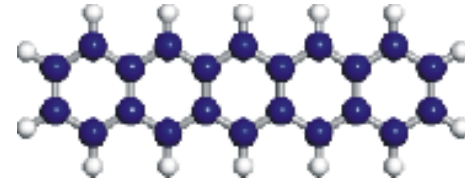
No orientational precursor for planar growth

-> Problems in coating of metals (bottom-contact problematic)

herring-bone motif, molecular axis normal to planes

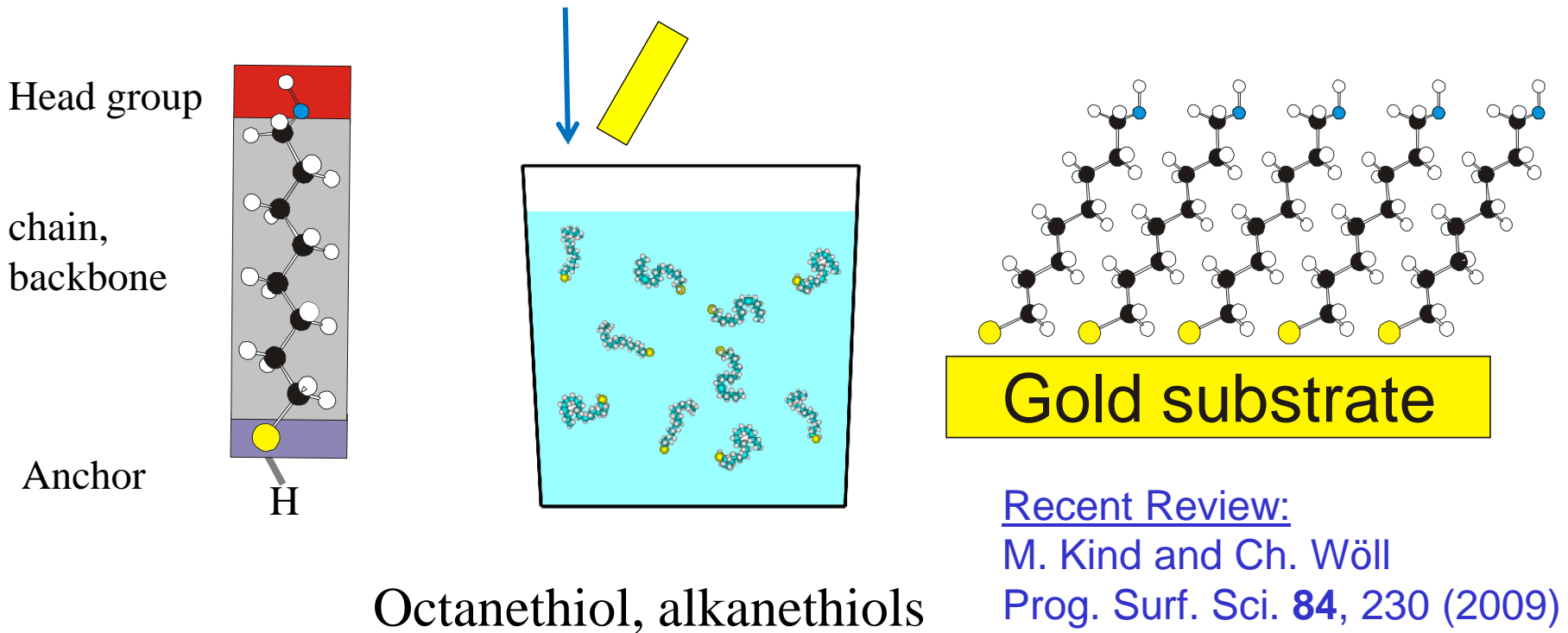
**Review** Witte & Wöll *in: Journal Materials Research*, Focus Issue *Organic Electronics*  
J. Mater. Res. **19**, 1889, (2004)

# Growth of pentacene on metal substrates



- Surface modification needed

# SAMs as model-systems for molecule-based interfaces



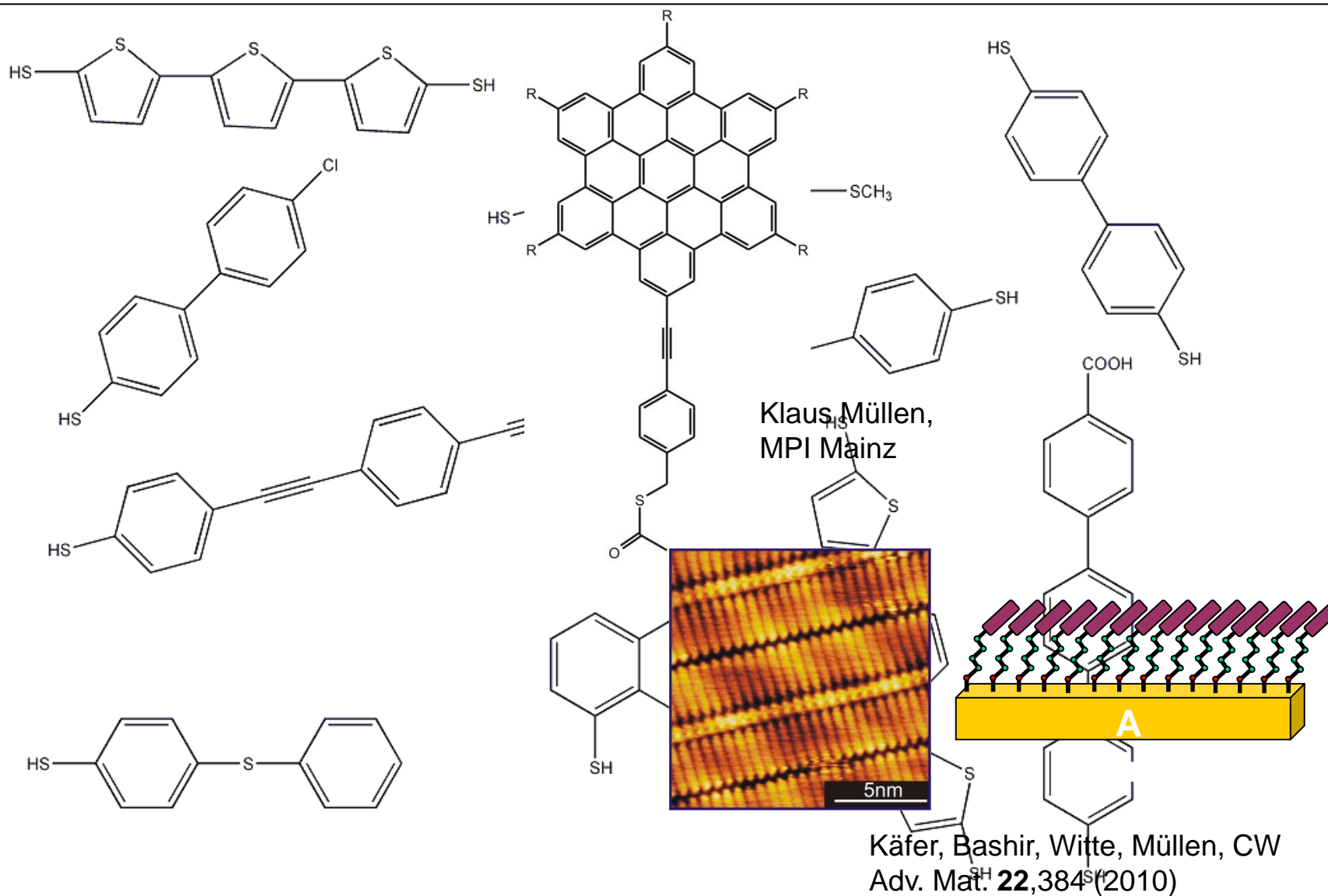
High structural perfection, limited only by substrate quality

Precise control of interface dipole possible

G.Heimel, L.Romaner, E.Zojer, J.Bredas  
Nano Letters **7**, 932, (2007)

Potential not yet fully exploited – insulator vs. OSC

# Most organic molecules are suited for attaching a thiol anchor ....

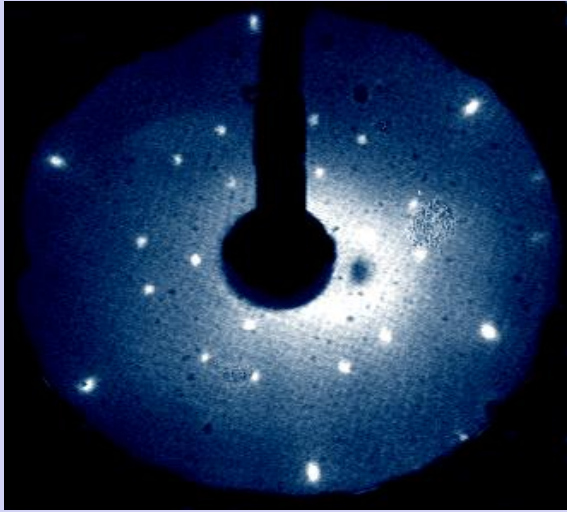




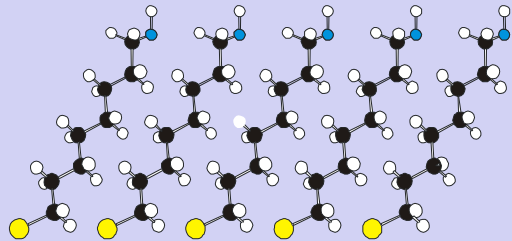
*When soft meets hard matter:  
the importance of a mediator*

SAMs exhibit organic surfaces with  
a structural quality defined by the  
Au(111) substrate !

# SAMs: Highly ordered molecular adlayers

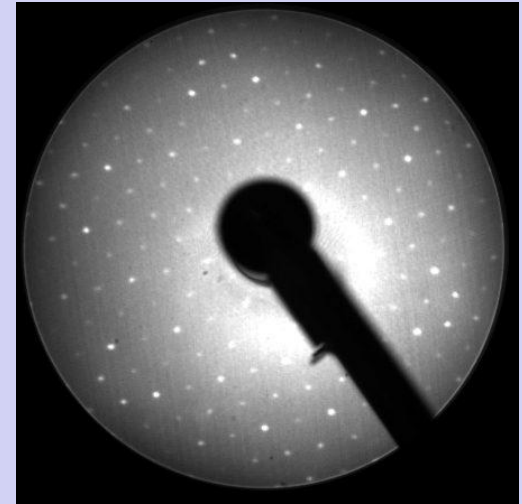
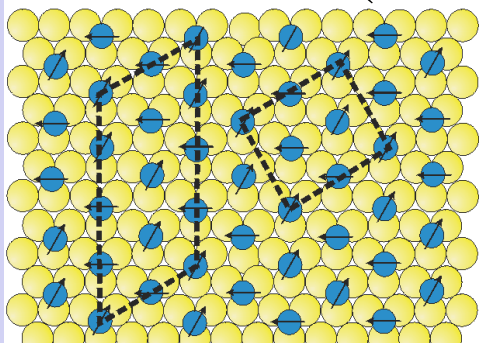


Decane thiolate (27 eV)

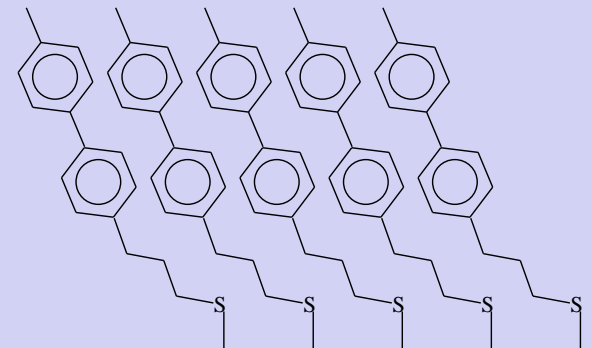


Gold substrate

$(2\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3})R30^\circ$



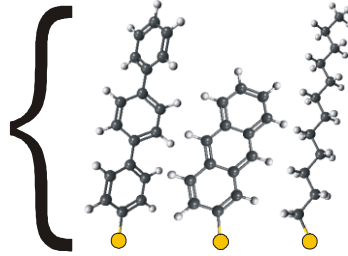
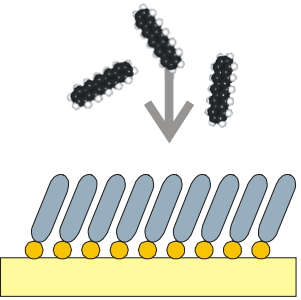
Biphenyl-butane-thiolate (64 eV)



Au(111)

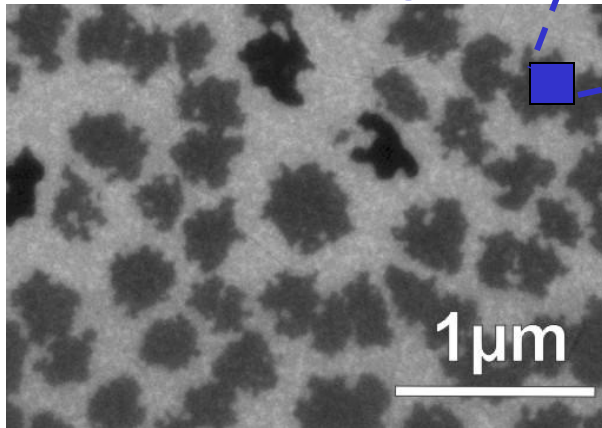
$(2\sqrt{3} \times 6)R30^\circ$

# Pentacene growth on modified Au(111)-surfaces



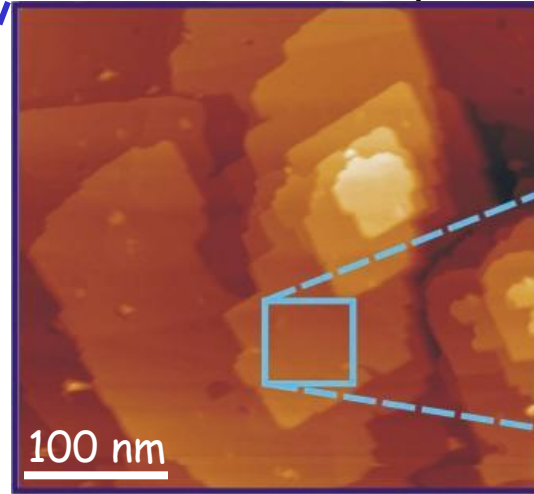
Pentacene / **SAM** / Au(111)  
 $d=2\text{nm}$  @rt

SEM

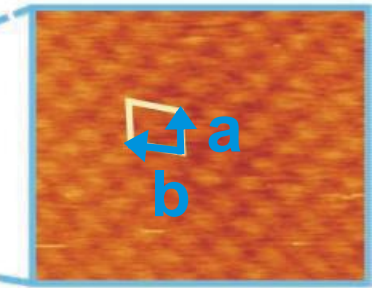


no morphological changes  
 within 72 h

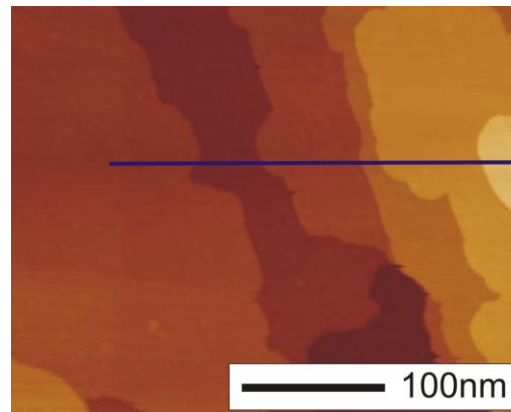
Pentacene/Phenylthiol



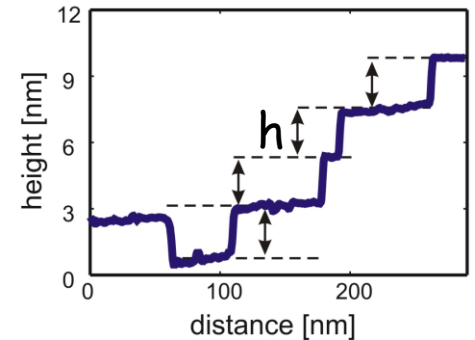
$a=6.5 \pm 0.4 \text{ \AA}$   
 $b=7.4 \pm 0.4 \text{ \AA}$



Pentacene/Alkanethiol

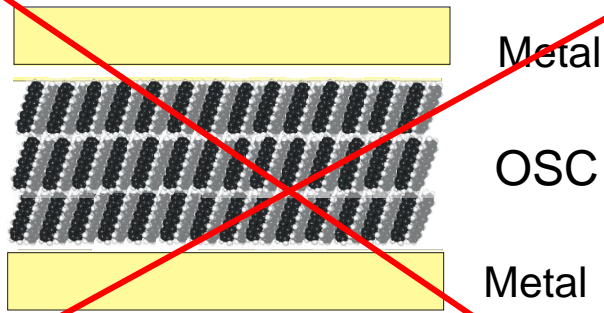


$h=17 \pm 3 \text{ \AA}$

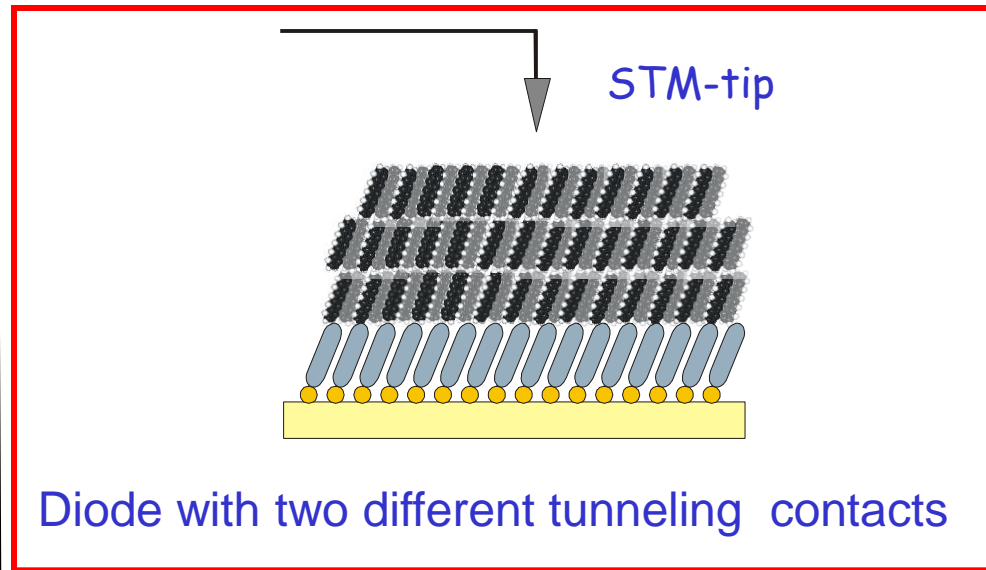
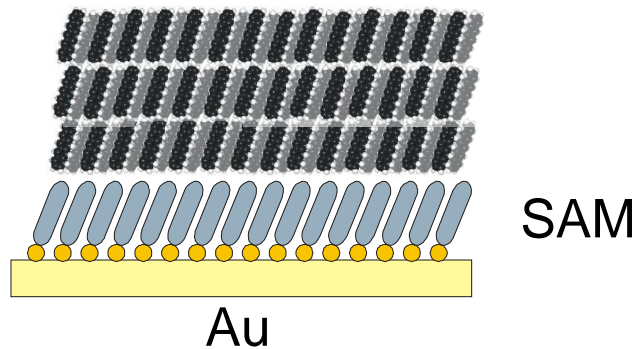
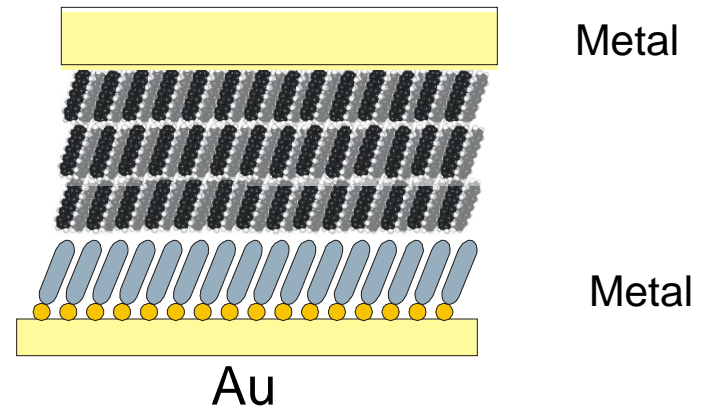


L.Ruppel, A.Birkner, G.Witte, C.Busse, T.Lindner, G.Paasch, CW, J.Appl.Phys. 102, 033708 (2007)

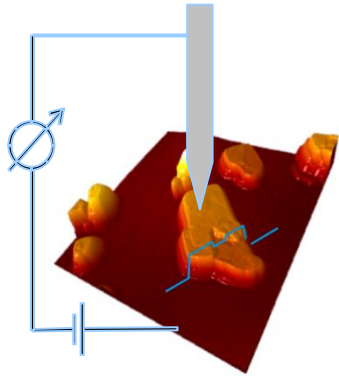
# Fabrication of an „ideal“ OSC-device



Diode with ohmic contacts

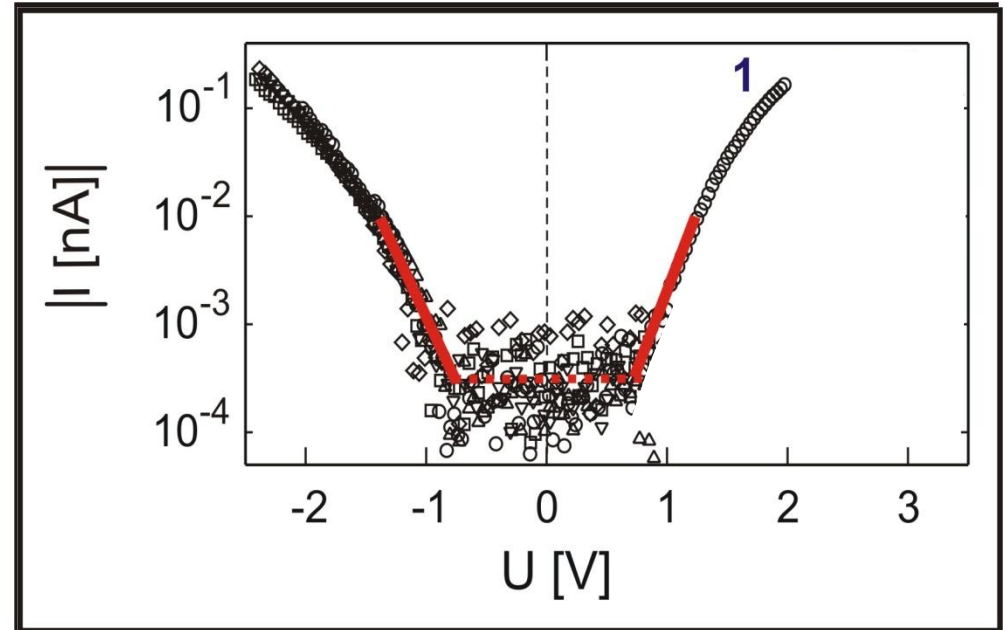


# Current-Voltage characteristics of „diode“-setup

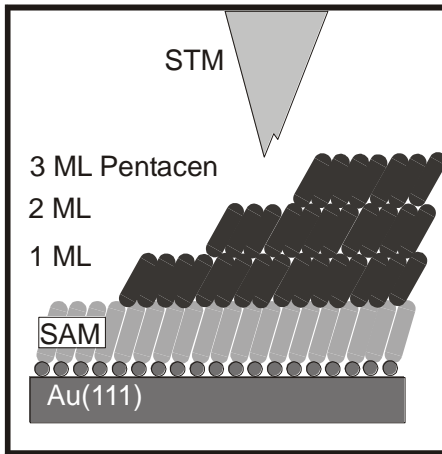


Log. plot onset values  
at noise level ( $3 \cdot 10^{-4}$  nA)

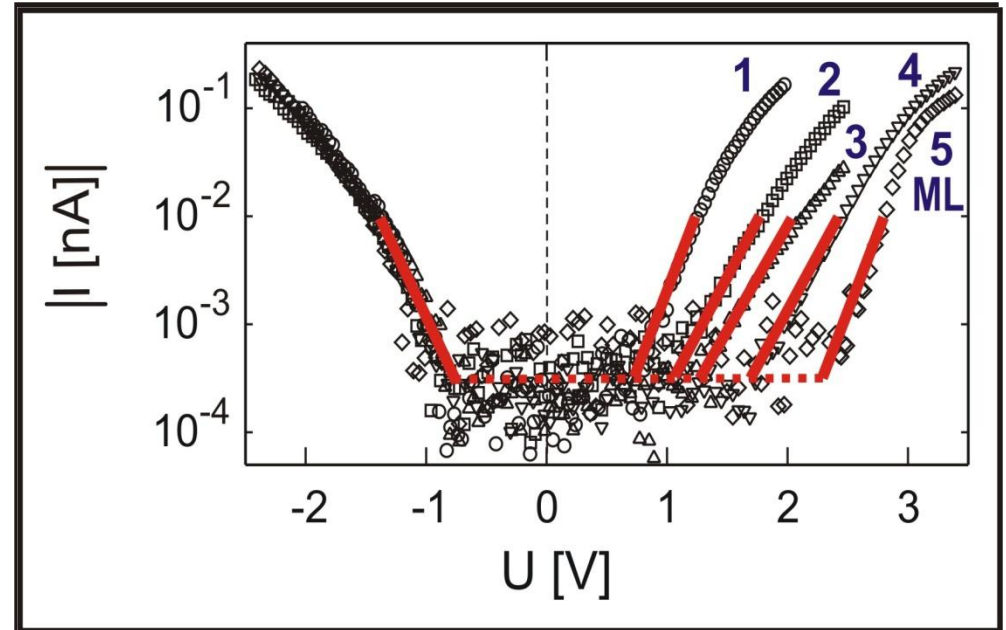
A total of  $\sim 50$  islands have been investigated



# Current-Voltage characteristics of „diode“-setup



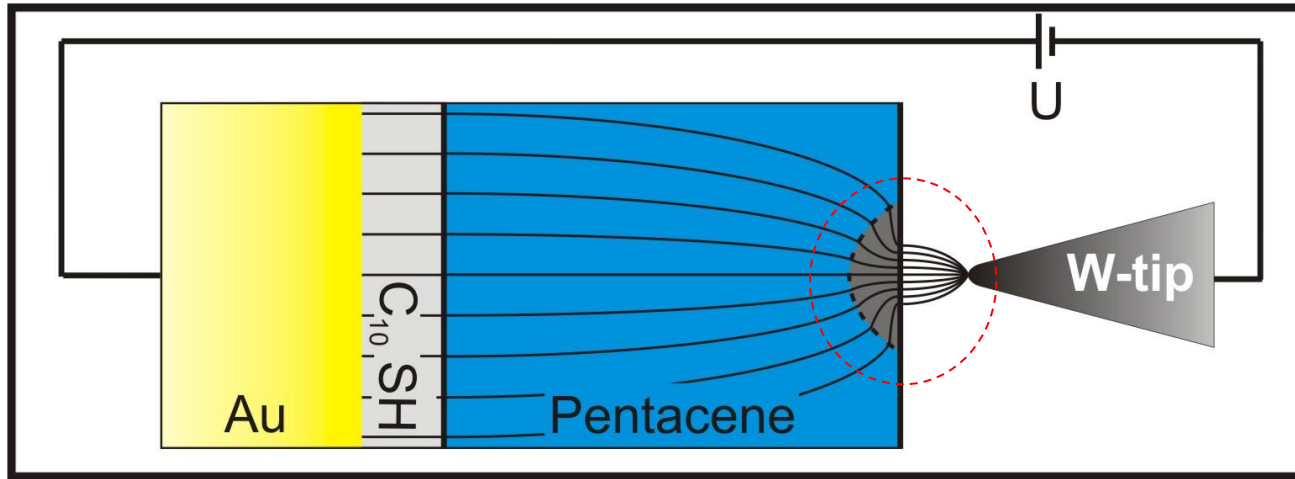
A total of ~ 50 islands have been investigated



Log. plot onset values  
at noise level ( $3 \cdot 10^{-4}$  nA)

- asymmetric onset voltages
- thickness dependent onset voltages for positive sample bias
- onset voltage stays fixed for negative voltage

# Our hypothesis: Space charge effects



100 pA, 1nm<sup>2</sup>

->10<sup>4</sup> A/cm<sup>2</sup>

High charge density below tip leads to formation of space charge limited (SCL) region

Child's law for  
SCL-transport:

$$j = \frac{9}{8} \mu \epsilon_r \epsilon_0 \frac{U^2}{d^3}$$

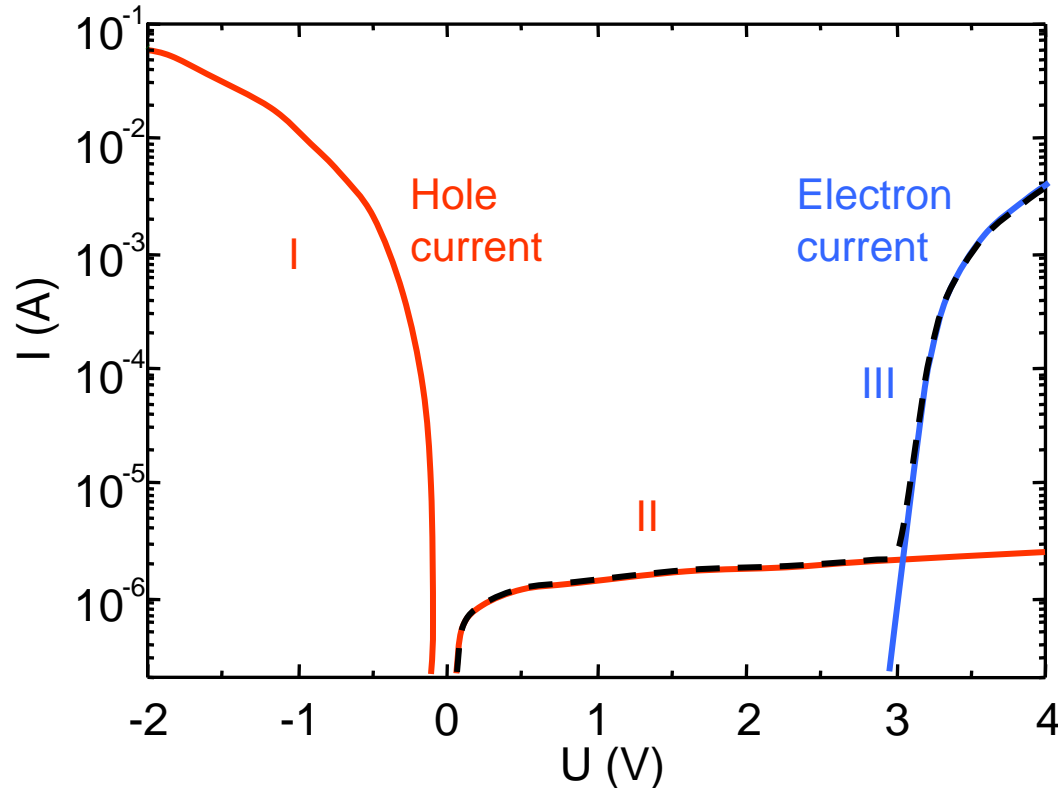
Smaller electric field for  
thicker layers

explains dependence on  
film thickness  $d$

Confirmed by experiments at low temperature (70K)

L.Ruppel, A.Birkner, G.Witte, C.Busse, T.Lindner, G.Paasch, CW, J.Appl.Phys. **102**, 033708 (2007)

# Analysis of numeric simulation



- I: holes injected below tip  
( $e^-$  tunnel from VB to tip, always enough electrons)
- II: holes injected at substrate, low  $h$  density, few  $e^-$  tunnel from tip to VB
- III: voltage drop between tip and VB becomes so large that CB opens

Only p-conduction -> true diode behavior (rectification)

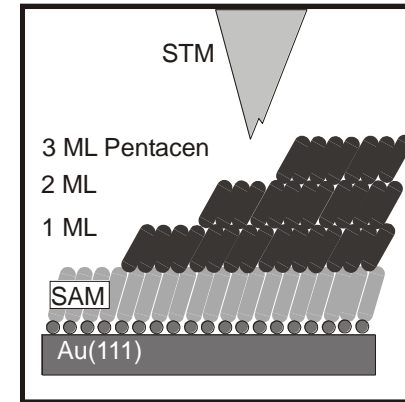
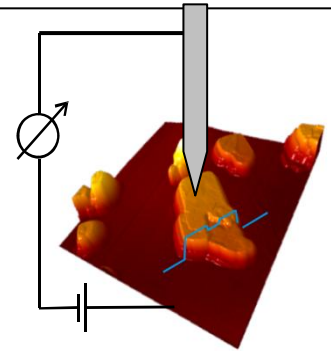
Onset at pos. bias implies n-conduction, transport through CB (rarely observed for PC)

L.Ruppel, A.Birkner, G.Witte, C.Busse, T.Lindner, G.Paasch, CW, J.Appl.Phys.**102**, 033708 (2007)



# Conclusions from "model" diode

- n-conduction possible for pentacene, not only p-conduction
- absence of n-conduction evidence for contaminations (e-traps)
- Strong evidence for band-like transport in pentacene (temperature-dep.)
- Determination of mobilities should be possible, numerical simulations underway (difficult)



## n-conduction in pentacene ? – absent in most real devices

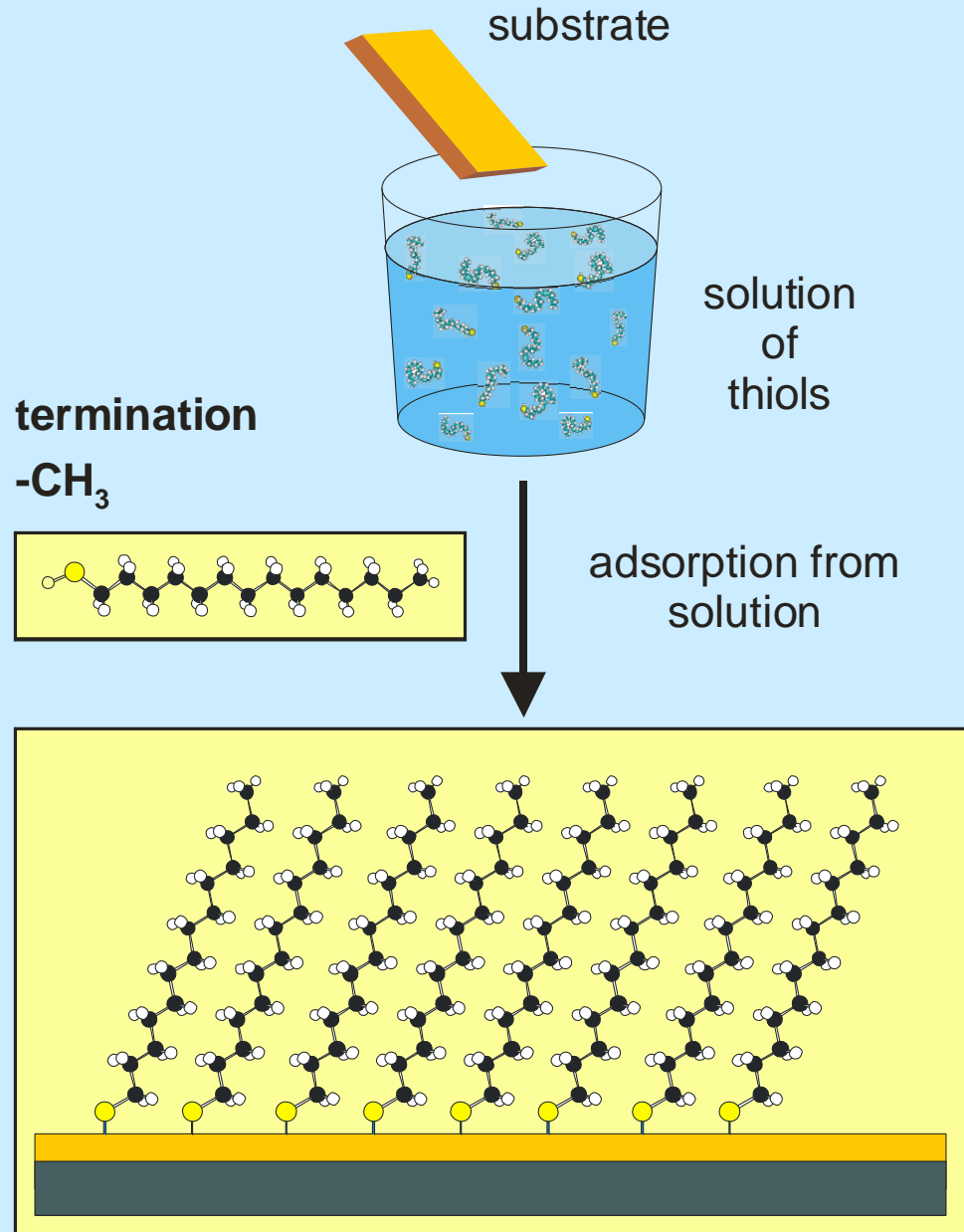
- n-conduction for OSC in the absence of charge traps (-OH at interface)  
Chua, Zaumseil, Chang, Ou, Ho, Sirringhaus, Friend, Nature **434**, 194 (2005).



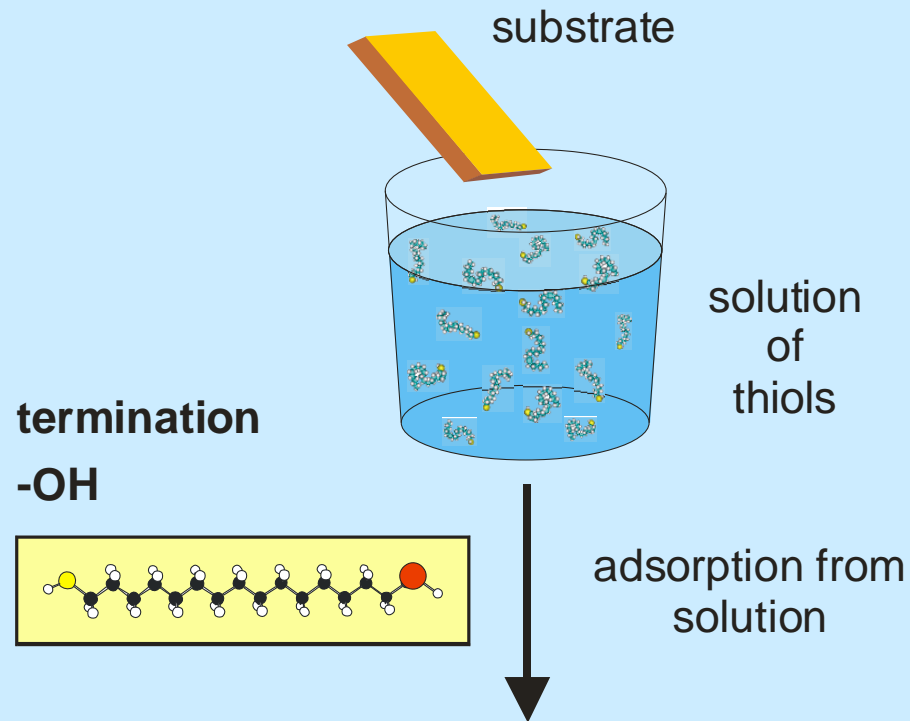
Crucial test: Introduce e-traps

OH-groups at organic/metal interface

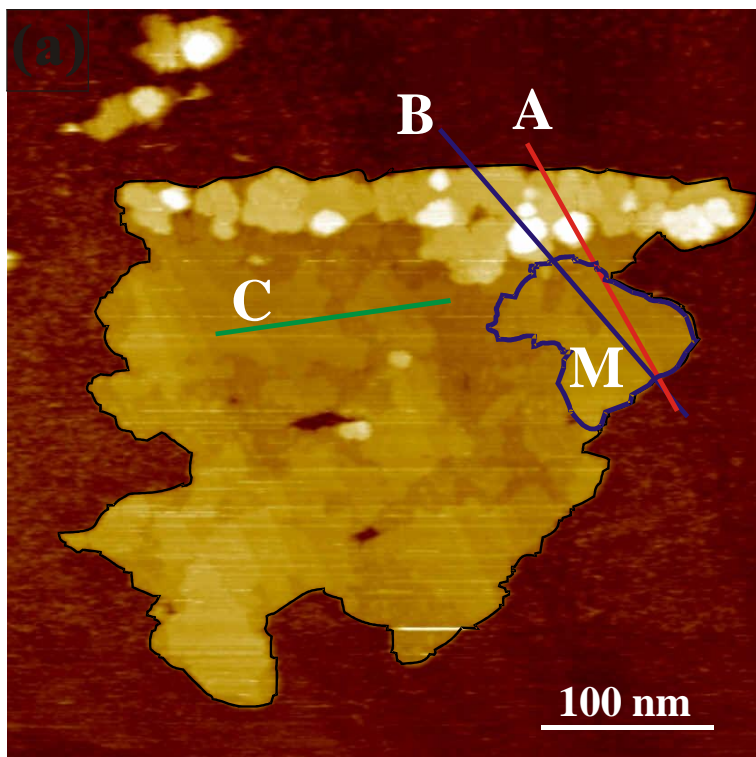
# Modification of SAM-surface



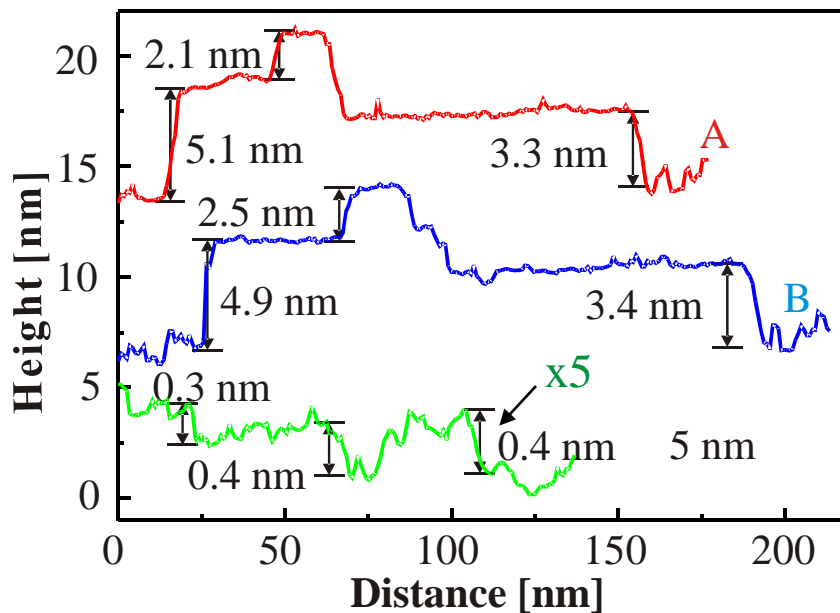
# Modification of SAM-surface



# Well-defined pentacene-layers grown on OH-terminated SAM

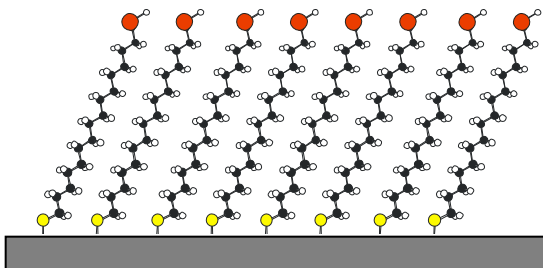


-2.5 V 0.05 nA



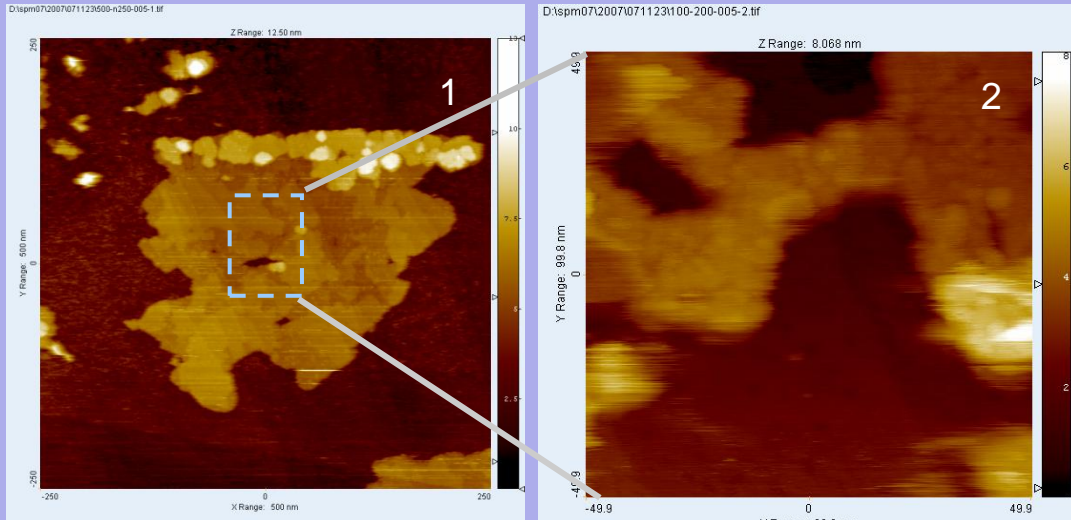
Stable STM imaging at negative bias

1 nm pentacene film on a OH-terminated SAM  
M: double layer of pentacene, rest single layer



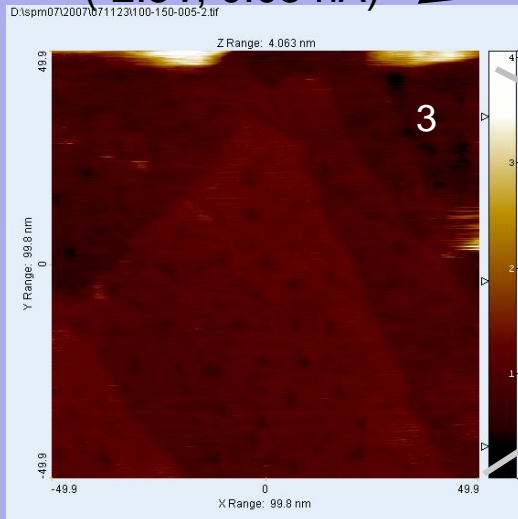
Similar growth mode as on CH<sub>3</sub>-terminated SAM

# Pentacene deposited on OH-terminated SAM



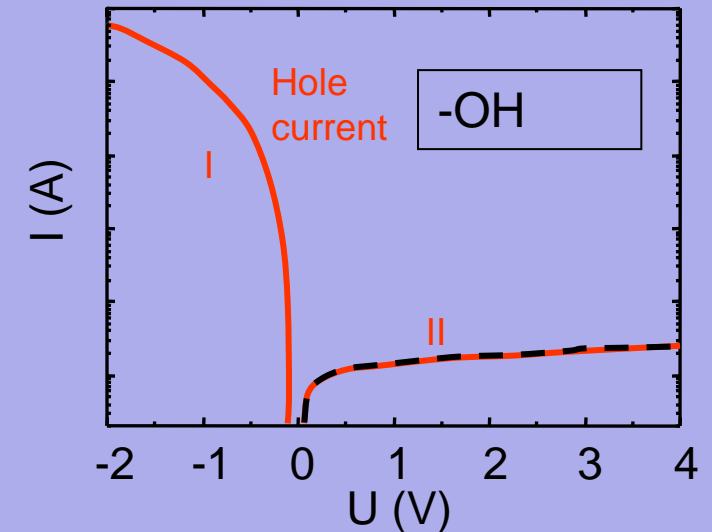
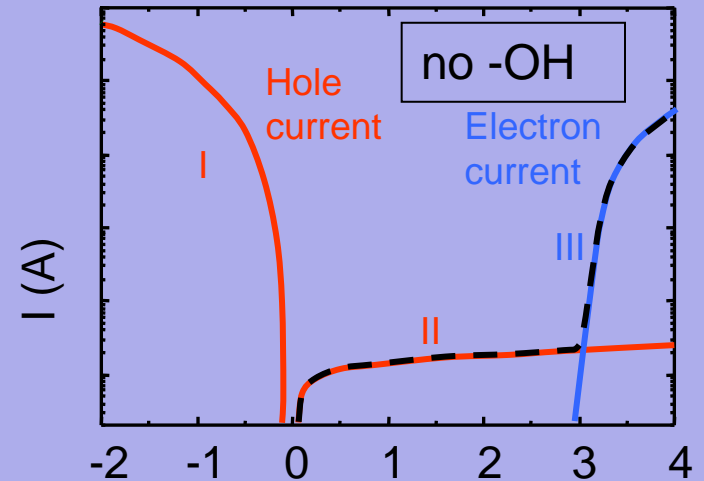
500 x 500 nm  
(-2.5V, 0.05 nA)

100 x 100 nm  
(+2.0V, 0.05 nA)



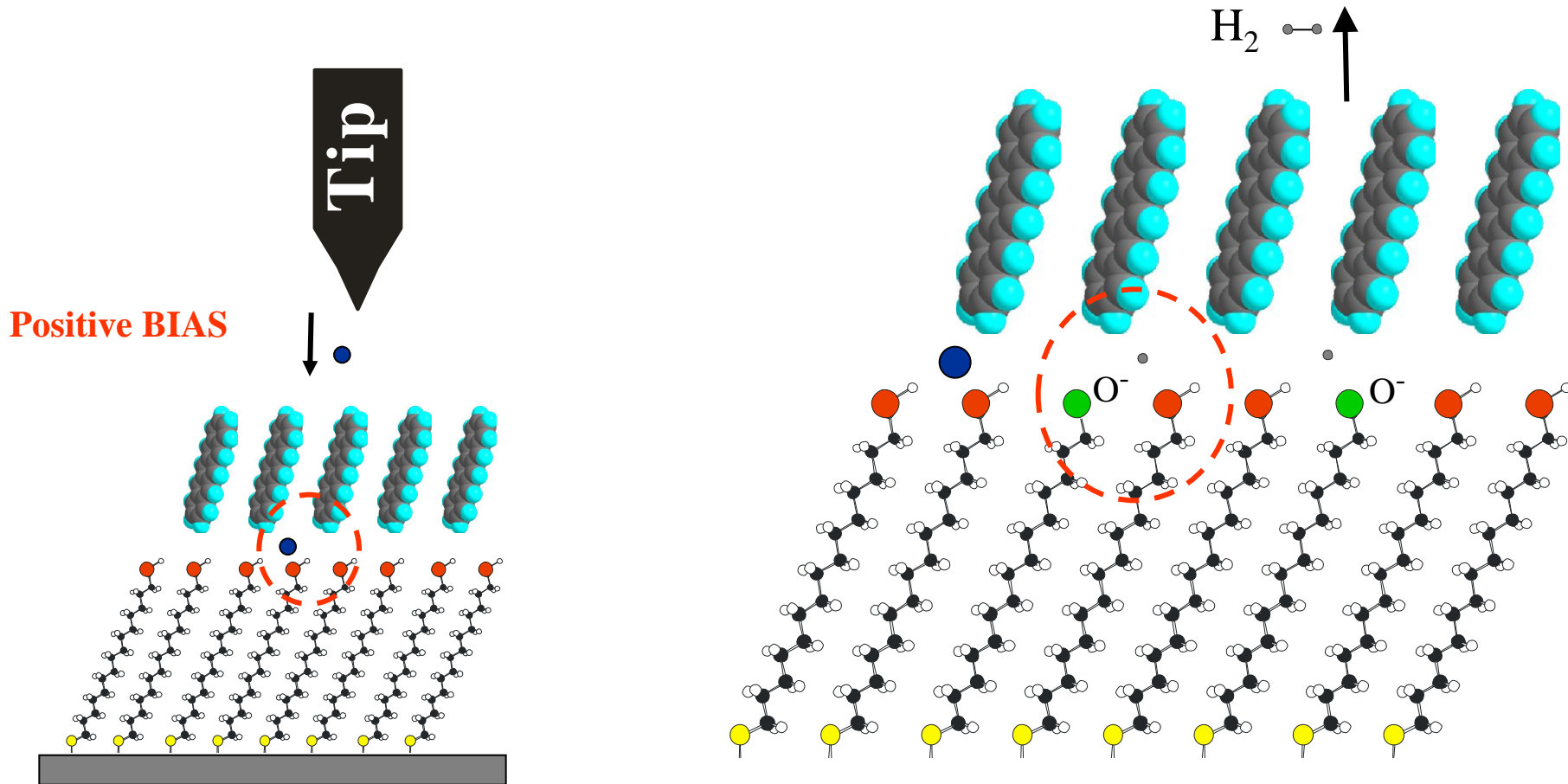
100 x 100 nm  
(+1.5V, 0.05 nA)

500 x 500 nm  
(-2.5V, 0.05 nA)

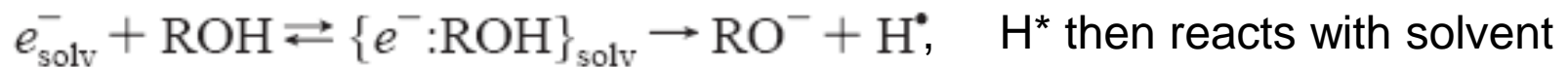


- n-transport absent
- imaging at positive bias
- damages PC-islands
- Full support of interpretation

# Trapping of electrons at OH groups

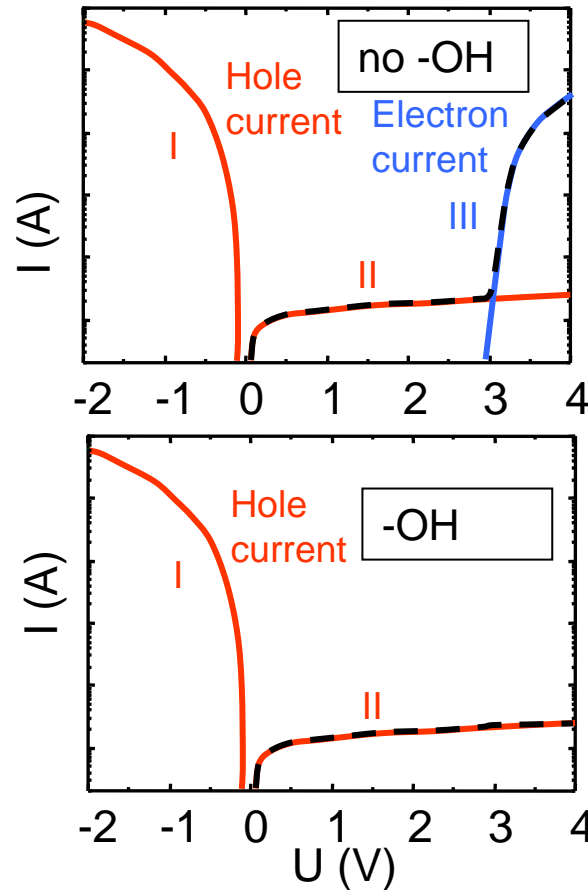
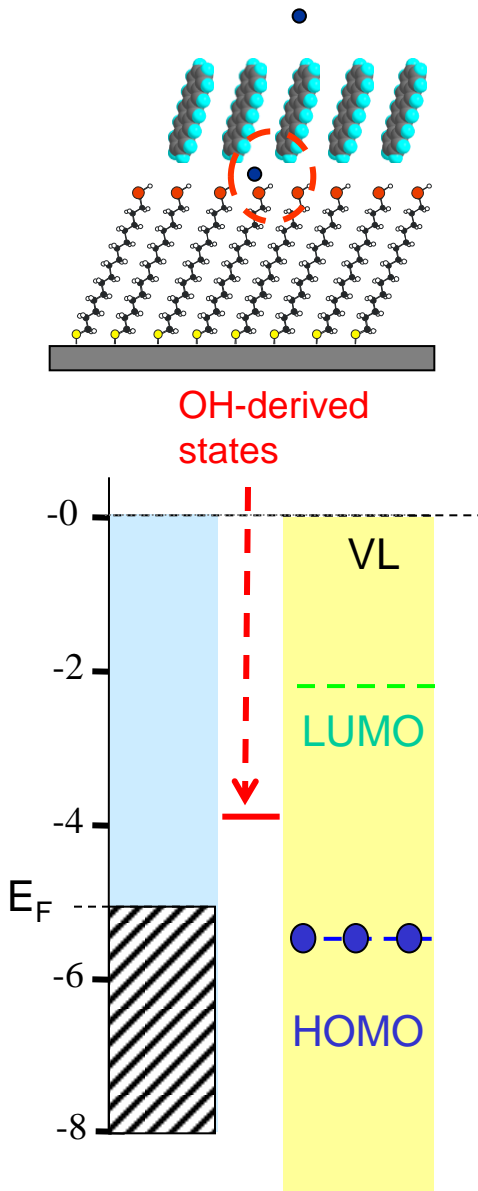


Corresponding studies for alcohols in solvents:

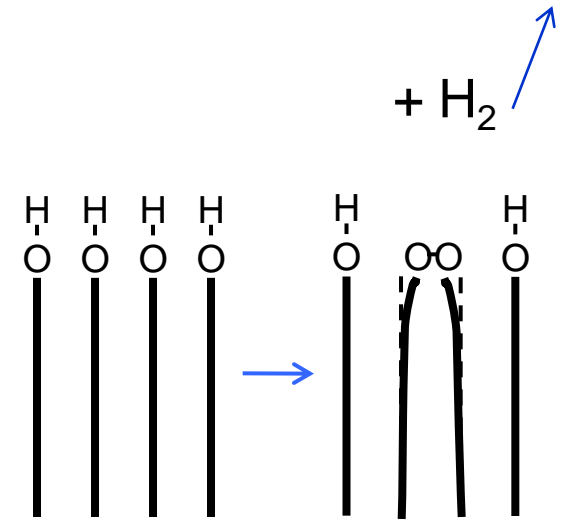


I. Shkrob and M. Sauer, *J. Phys. Chem. A* **109**, 5754 (2005)

# OH-traps at organic-organic interface

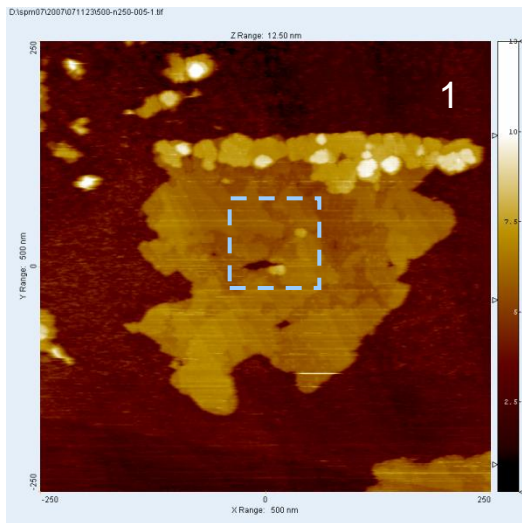


What happens after  $e^-$  being trapped at OH-groups ?

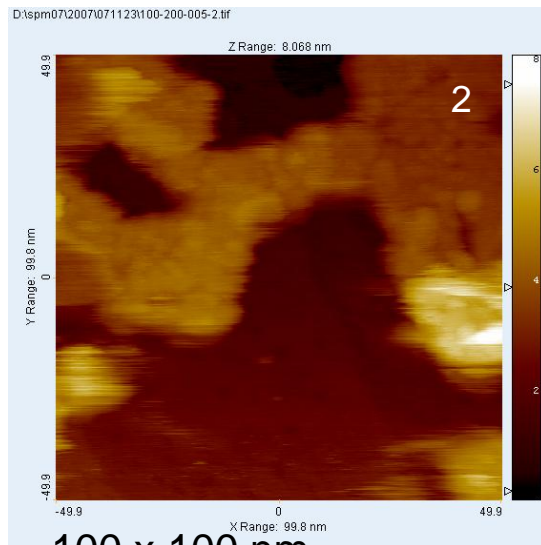


H-abstraction should lead to structural rearrangement of SAM  
Irreversible changes ?

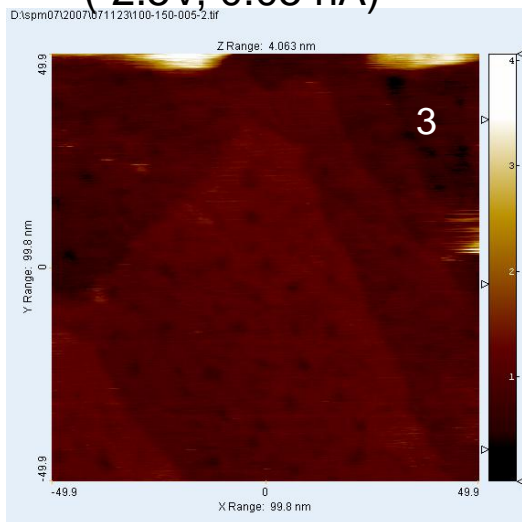
# Structural changes resulting from loading of OH-traps with $e^-$



500 x 500 nm  
(-2.5V, 0.05 nA)

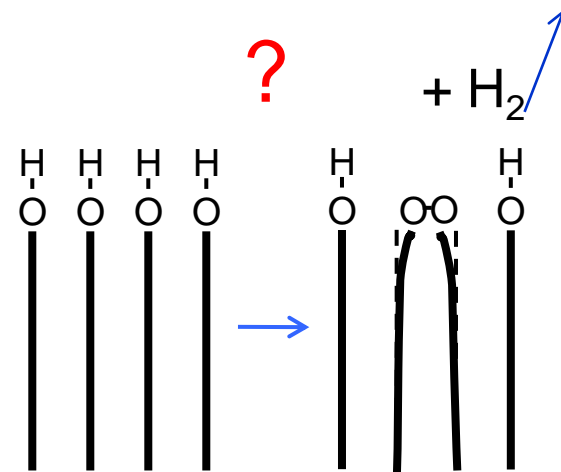


100 x 100 nm  
(+2.0V, 0.05 nA)



100 x 100 nm  
(+1.5V, 0.05 nA)

Indistinguishable  
from STM  
micrographs  
recorded before  
deposition



Irreversible structural changes ?

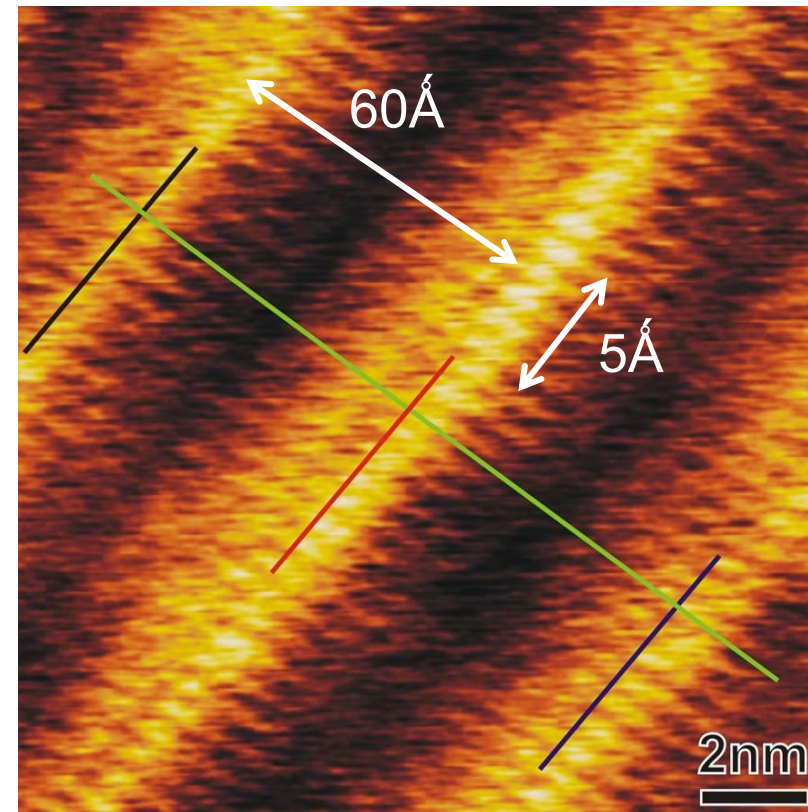
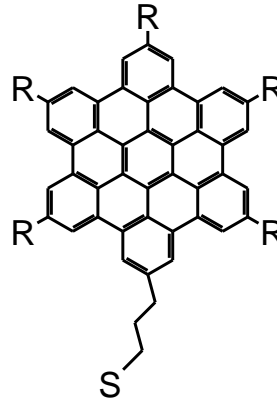
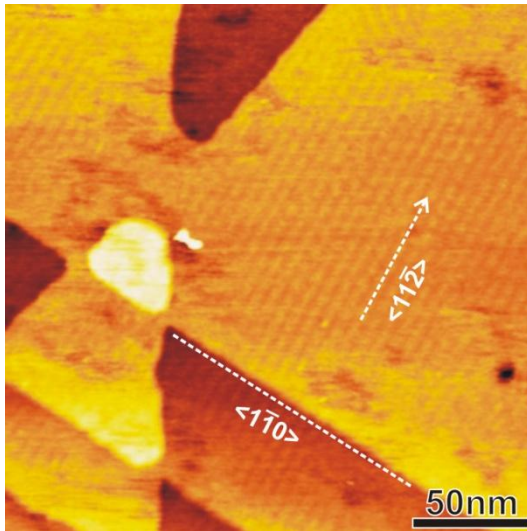
No changes seen  
when imaging SAM  
surface after removal  
of pentacene

→ Strong evidence for  
reversible filling of OH  
trap states

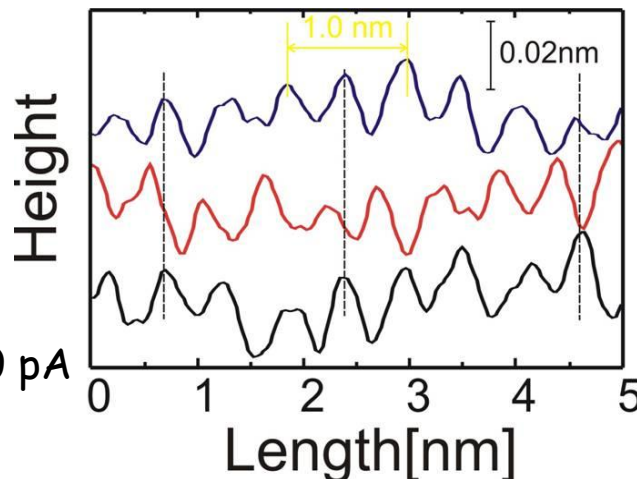


# SAMs of HBC-C<sub>3</sub> thiol on Au(111)

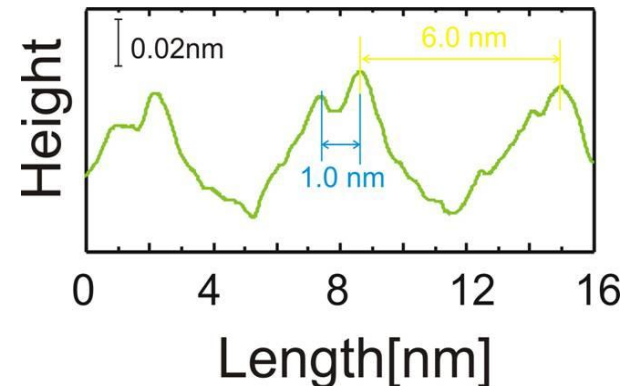
Long columnar structure



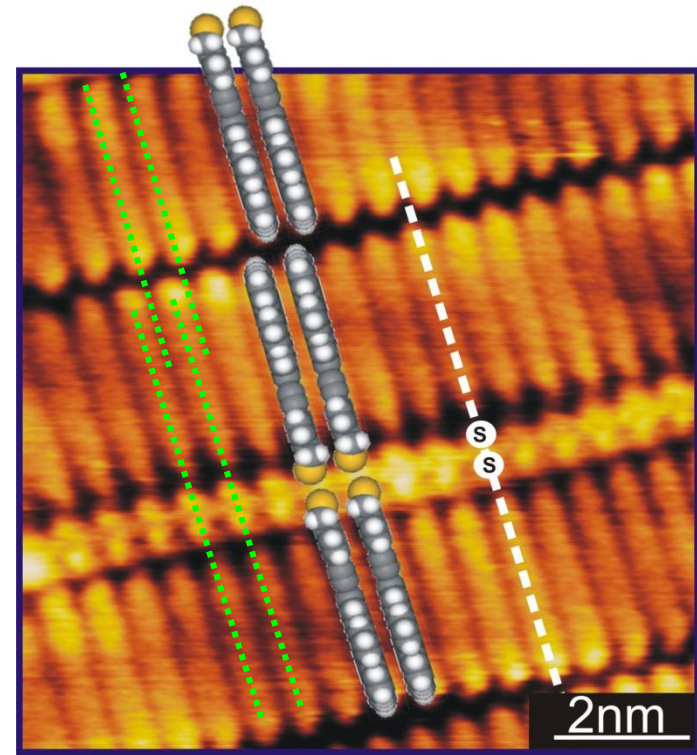
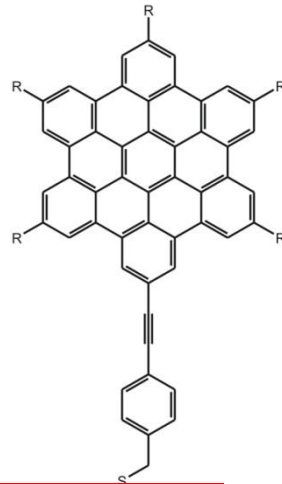
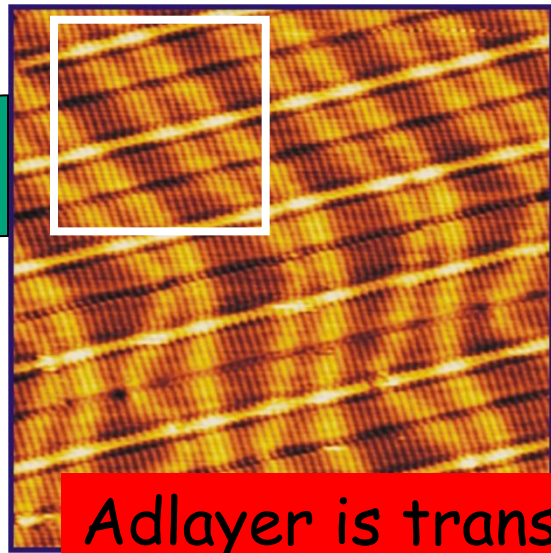
Soft tether long range ordered of parallel lamella under the guidance of  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking.



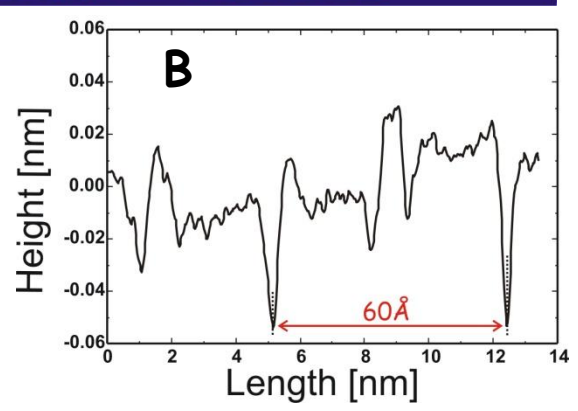
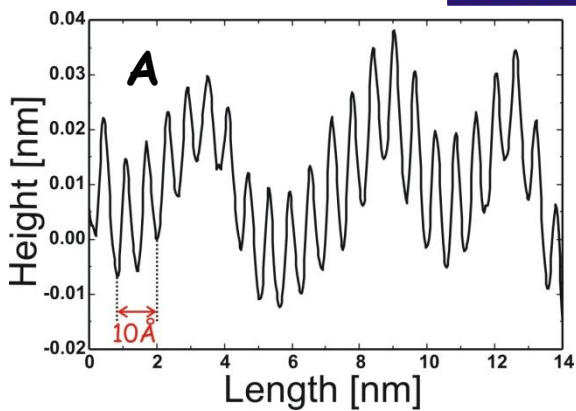
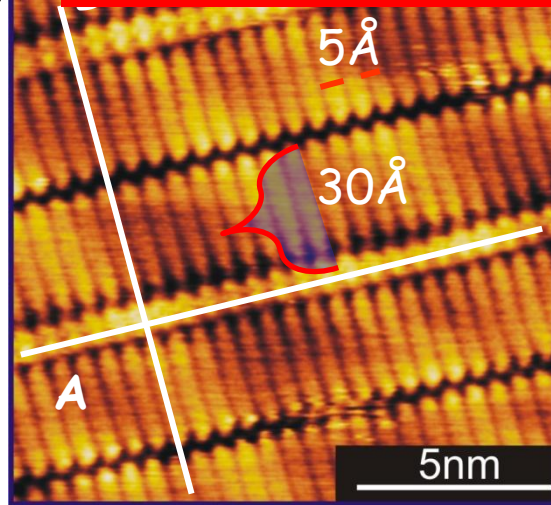
$U_{\dagger}=500$  mV,  $I_{\dagger}=100$  pA



# SAMs of P-HBC thiol on Au(111) (measured in UHV)



Adlayer is transparent  
Disk diameter ~ 2.5-3nm

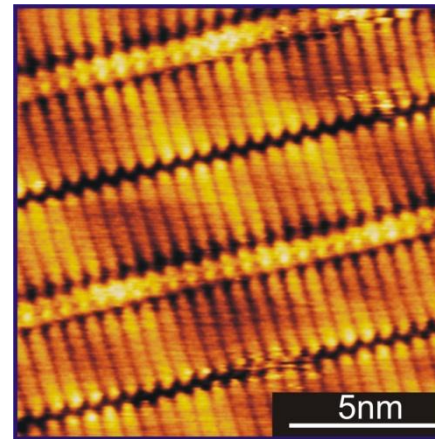
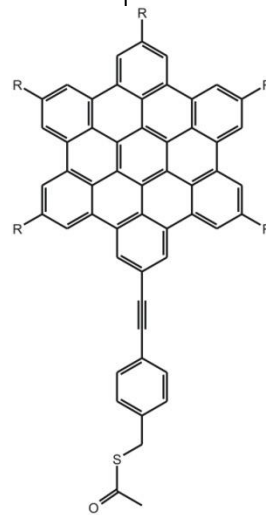
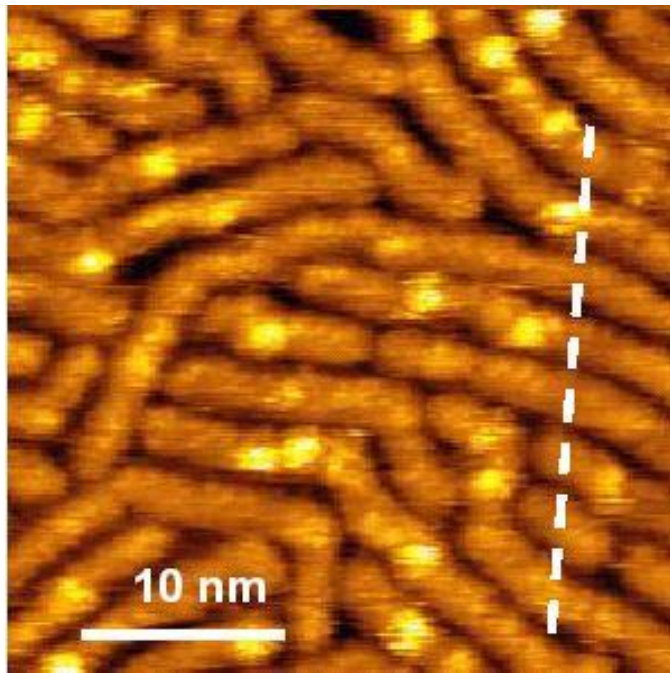


$U_{\uparrow} = 500 \text{ mV}$ ,  $I_{\uparrow} = 100 \text{ pA}$

# HBC thiol: preparation conditions matter !

L. Piot, C. Marie, X. Dou, X. Feng,  
K. Müllen, D. Fichou,  
JACS 2009, **131**, 1378

Our results  
after optimization of preparation conditions

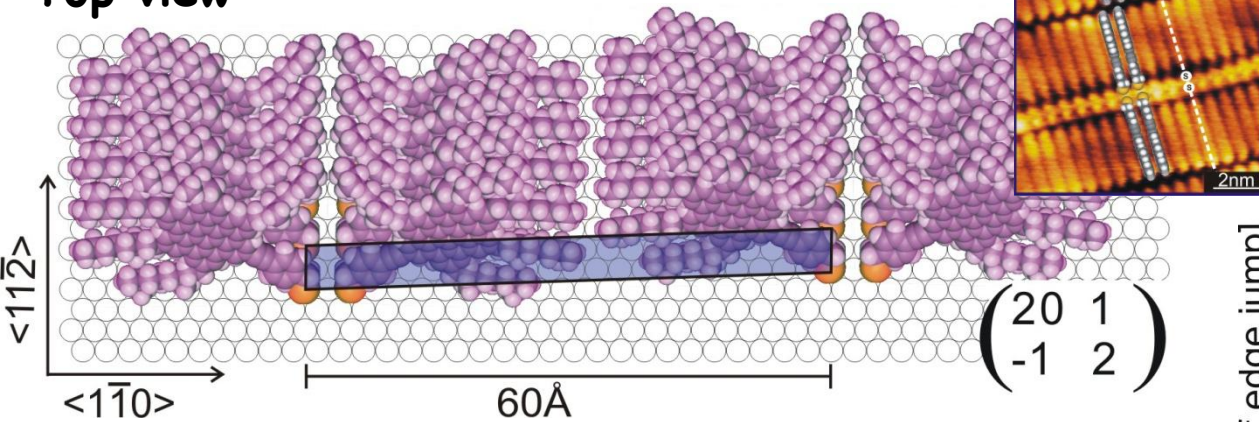


Low degree of order, many defects

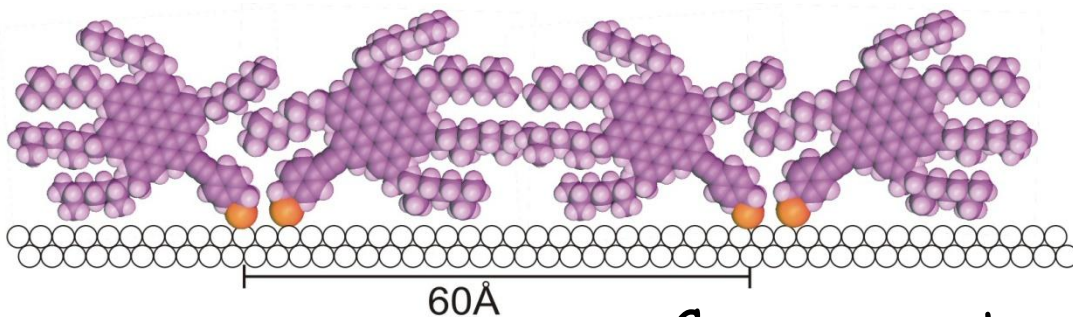
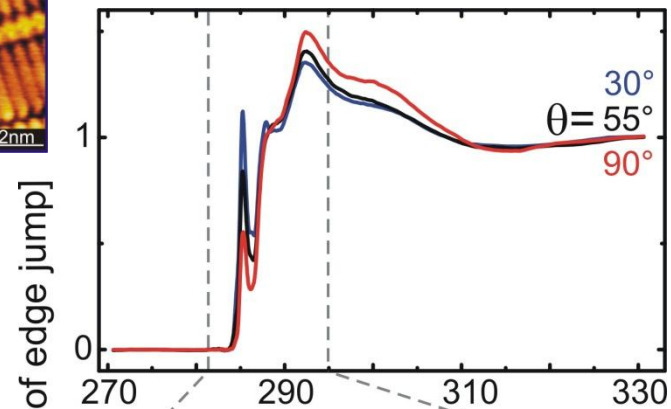
Long-range ordering,  
low density of defects

# Structural model of HBC modified thiol

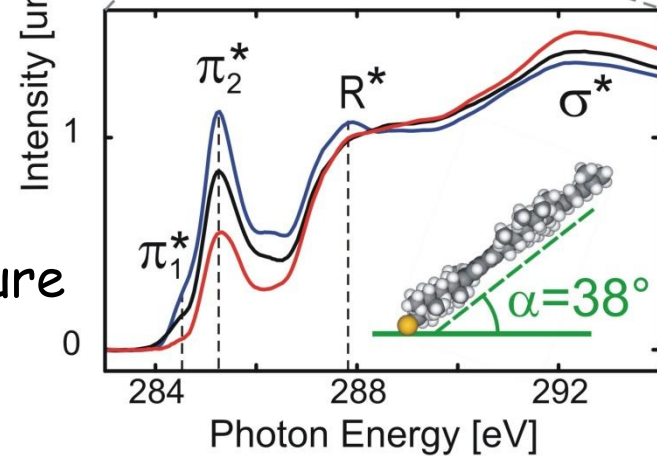
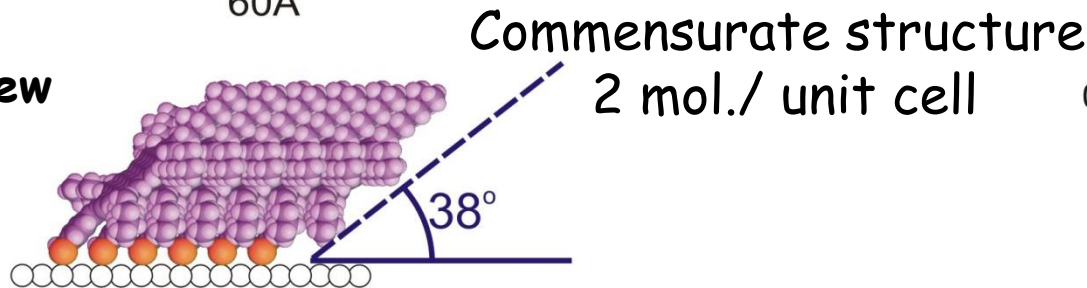
Top view



NEXAFS for p-HBC-thiol

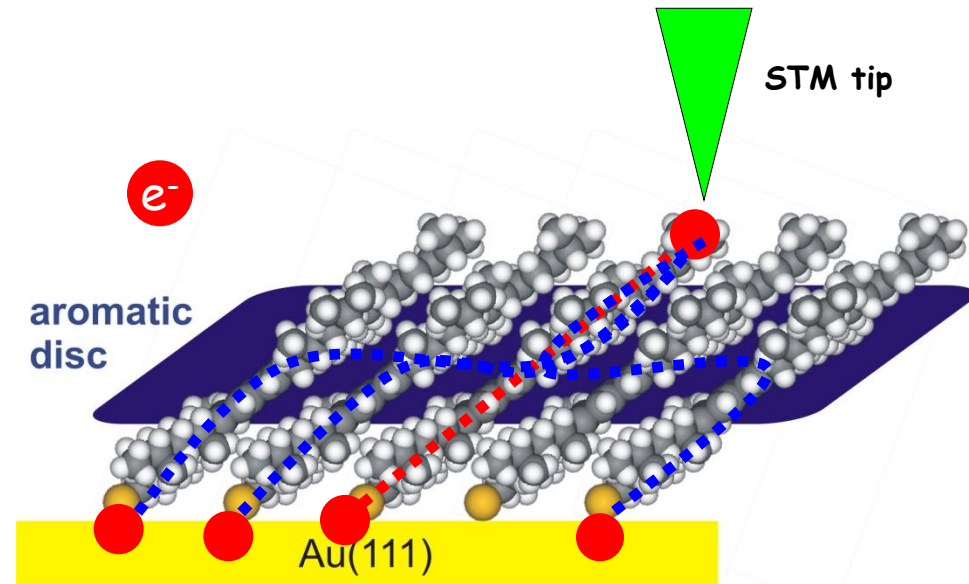


Side view

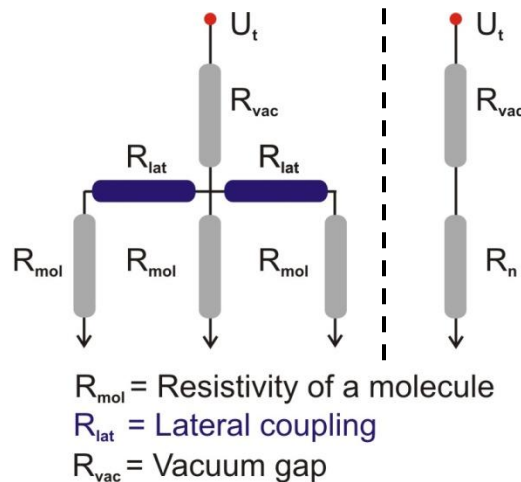


$\pi_1^*$	284.5 eV	$R^*$	287.8 eV
$\pi_2^*$	285.2 eV	$\sigma^*$	290.5 eV

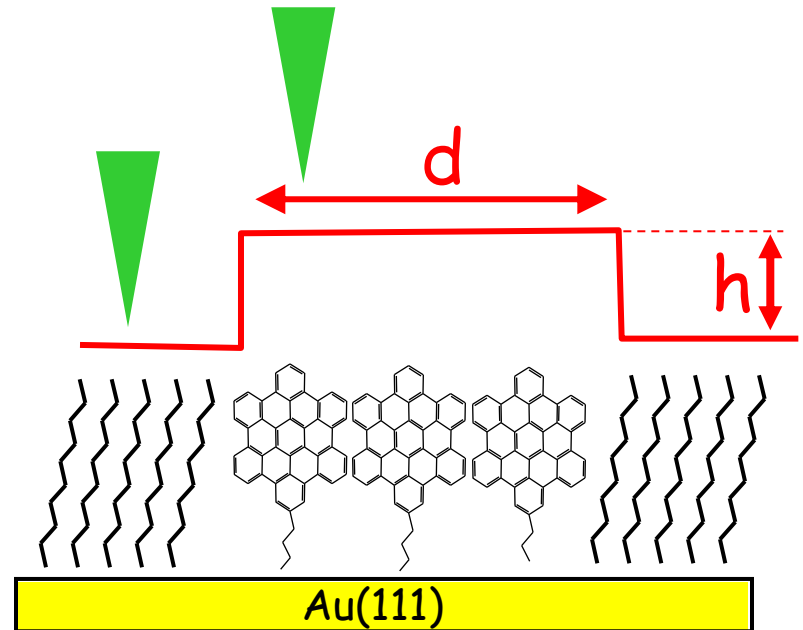
# Electron transport mechanism of HBC SAMs: Information from STM ?



( $e^-$ ) transport only along HBC molecule  
or  
( $e^-$ ) transport also laterally



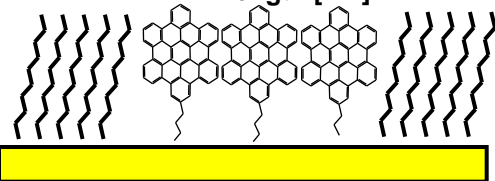
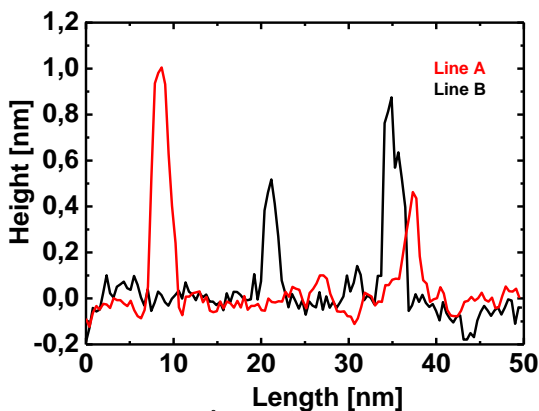
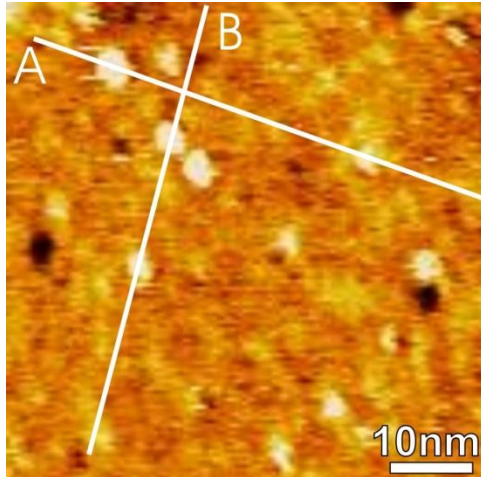
Apparent height of HBC-islands embedded in insulating matrix depends on island size



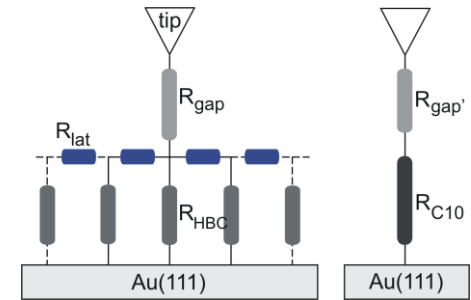
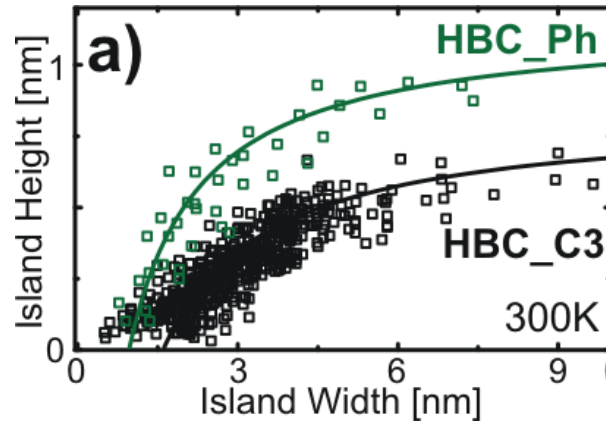
T. Ishida et al., J. Phys. Chem. B. 1999, 103, 1686

# Lateral conduction in HBC SAMs (insertion of HBC into C10SH-SAMs)

25 min insertion time



Apparent island height ( $\Delta h$ ) vs size ( $d$ )



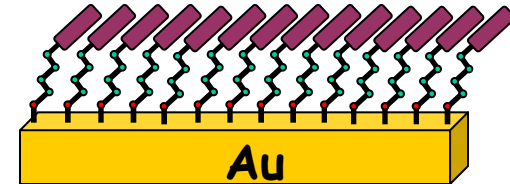
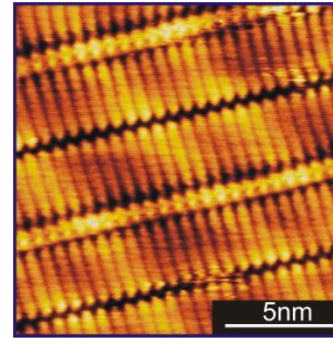
$$\text{width} = \frac{0.5 (R_{tn} - R_{HBC} - C'(d_{gap} + \Delta h)e^{\alpha(d_{gap} + \Delta h)})}{\frac{1}{3} R_{lat} \left( 1 - \frac{R_{tn}}{R_{HBC}} \right) - R_{tn} + \left( \frac{1}{3} \frac{R_{lat}}{R_{HBC}} + 1 \right) C'(d_{gap} + \Delta h)e^{\alpha(d_{gap} + \Delta h)}}$$

$R_{mol} = 13.3/10.4 \text{ G}\Omega$  (300K),  $\rightarrow$  strong evidence for lateral transport  
 $11.6/9.8 \text{ G}\Omega$  (110K)  
 $R_{lat} = 2.0/1.5 \text{ M}\Omega$  (300K),  
 $1.7/1.0 \text{ M}\Omega$  (110K)

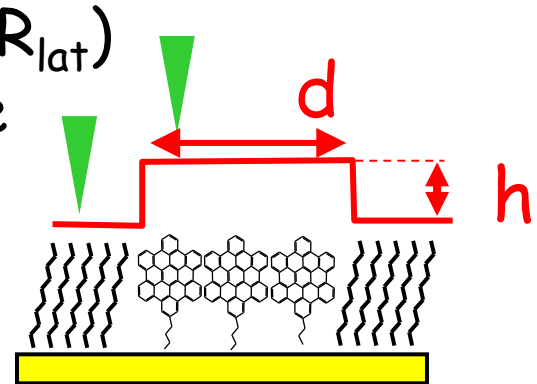
- $\rightarrow$  no strong temperature dependence (110K)
- $\rightarrow$  no hopping transport [ $\sim \exp(-\text{const}/T^2)$ ]

# An OSC device based on SAMs ?

- HBC-thiols form SAMs with long range order  
Plane tilted by around  $40^\circ$



- Temperature dependence suggests tunneling transport between HBC and Au ( $R_{lat}$ )  
band-like transport parallel to the surface (i.e. within HBC monolayer)



- Hopping-transport parallel to surface not consistent with exp. data
- Evidence for intrinsic e-mobilities  $> 5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$

## Topics:

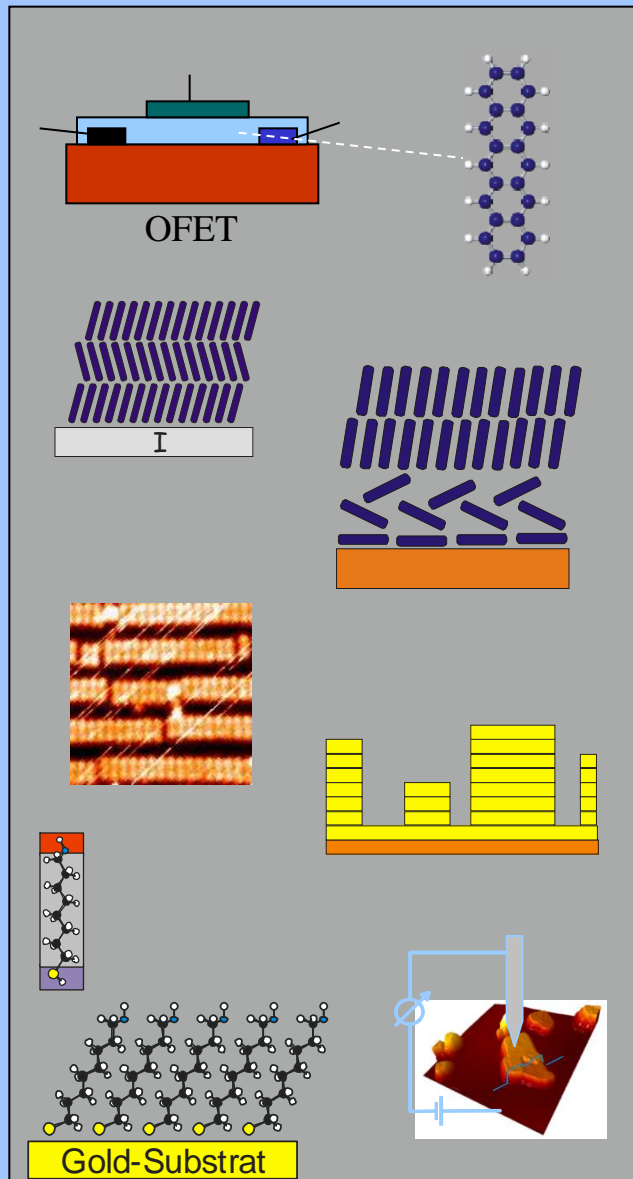
Organic electronics, OFETs  
Work function  
Electronic level alignment

Flat aromatic molecules  
grown on metal substrates

Using SAMs for substrate  
modification

Importance of model devices

SAM-based method to  
measure mobilities in OSCs



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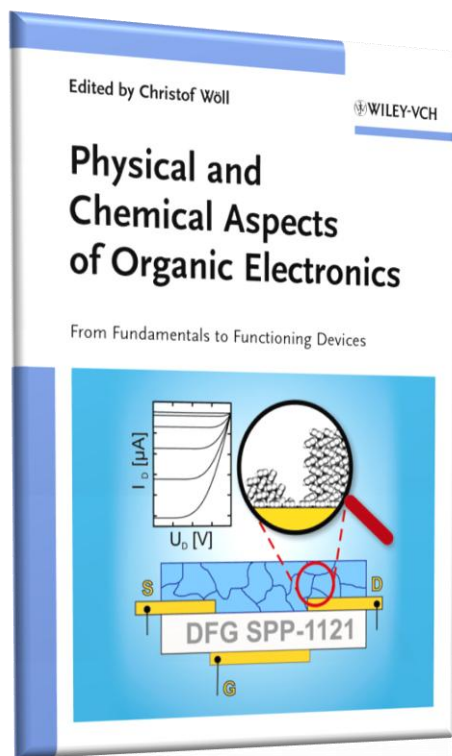
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University of North Texas, USA

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MPI Polymerforschung, Mainz



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