

The background of the slide features several overlapping, semi-transparent images of organic semiconductor devices and sensors. These include micrographs of thin-film structures with various patterns, such as parallel lines and grids, and a close-up of a device with a complex, multi-layered structure. The images are set against a light blue and white background with a green border.

Dispositivi e sensori a semiconduttore organico

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1: Semiconduttori organici

2: Organic Thin Film Transistors (OTFT)

Outline prima parte

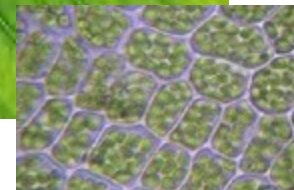
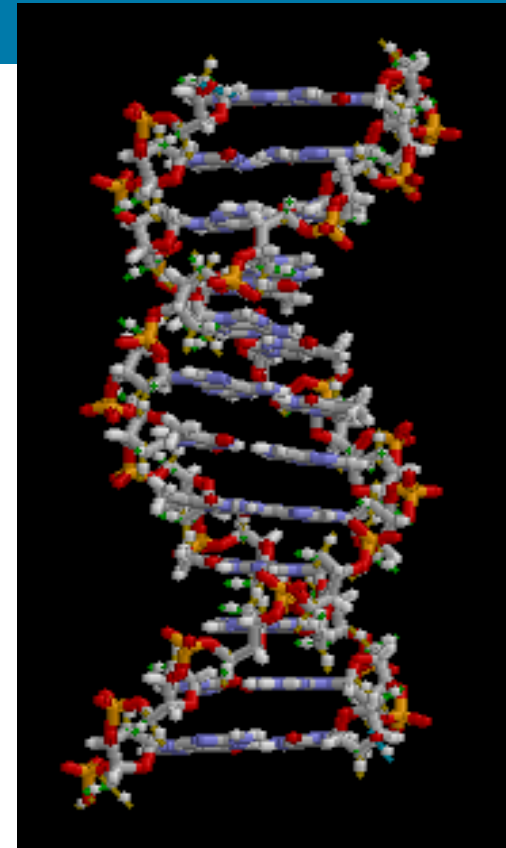
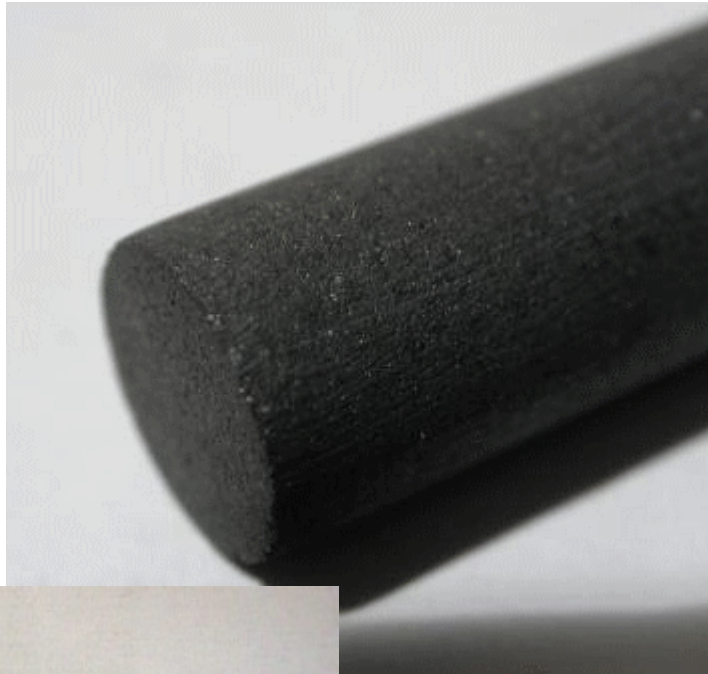
Proprieta' degli orbitali del Carbonio

Molecole coniugate

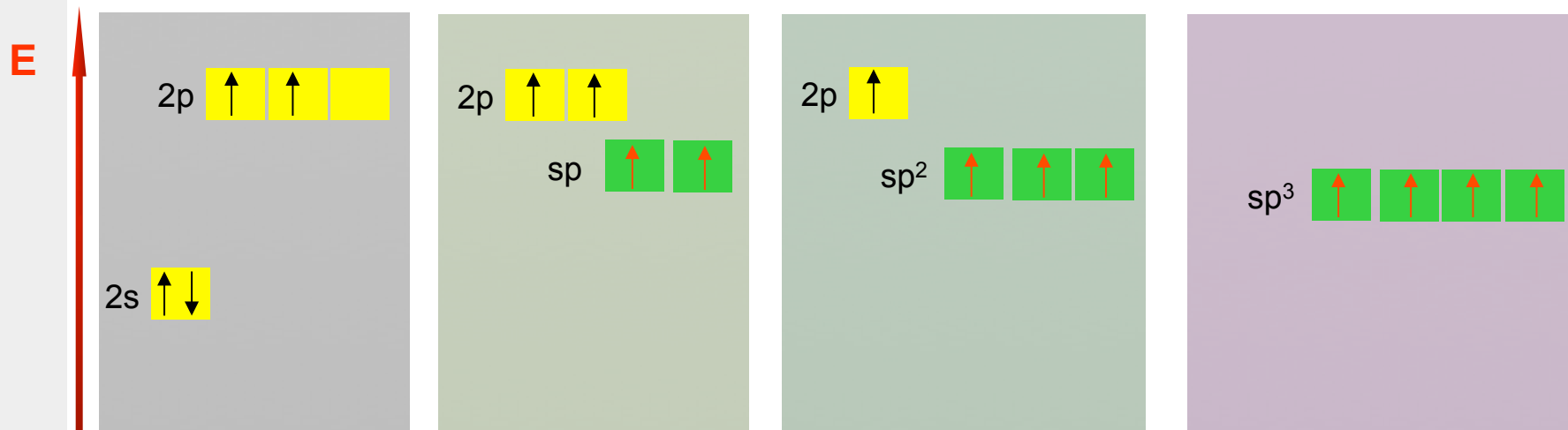
Semiconduttori organici: orbitali molecolari e bandgap

Portatori di carica e trasporto nei semiconduttori organici

Influenza della morfologia sul comportamento elettrico dei film sottili organici



Hybridization of orbitals in Carbon

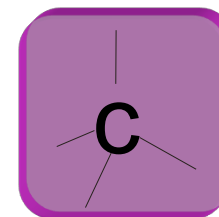
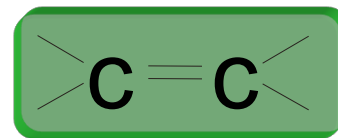
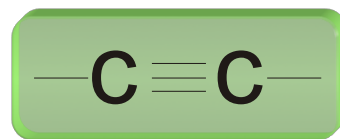


Fundamental state

hybrid sp

hybrid sp²

hybrid sp³

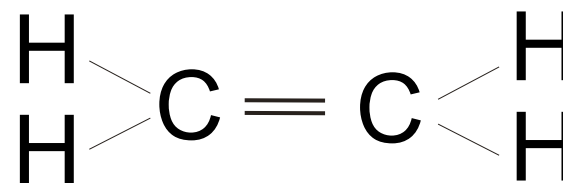
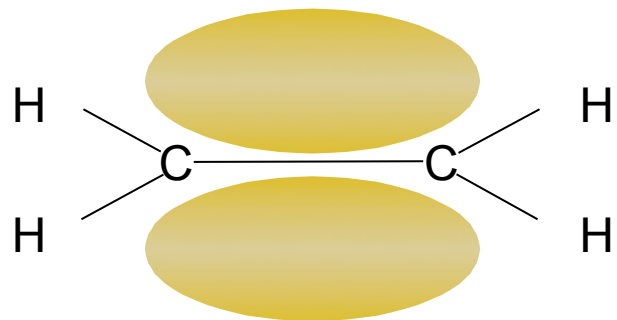
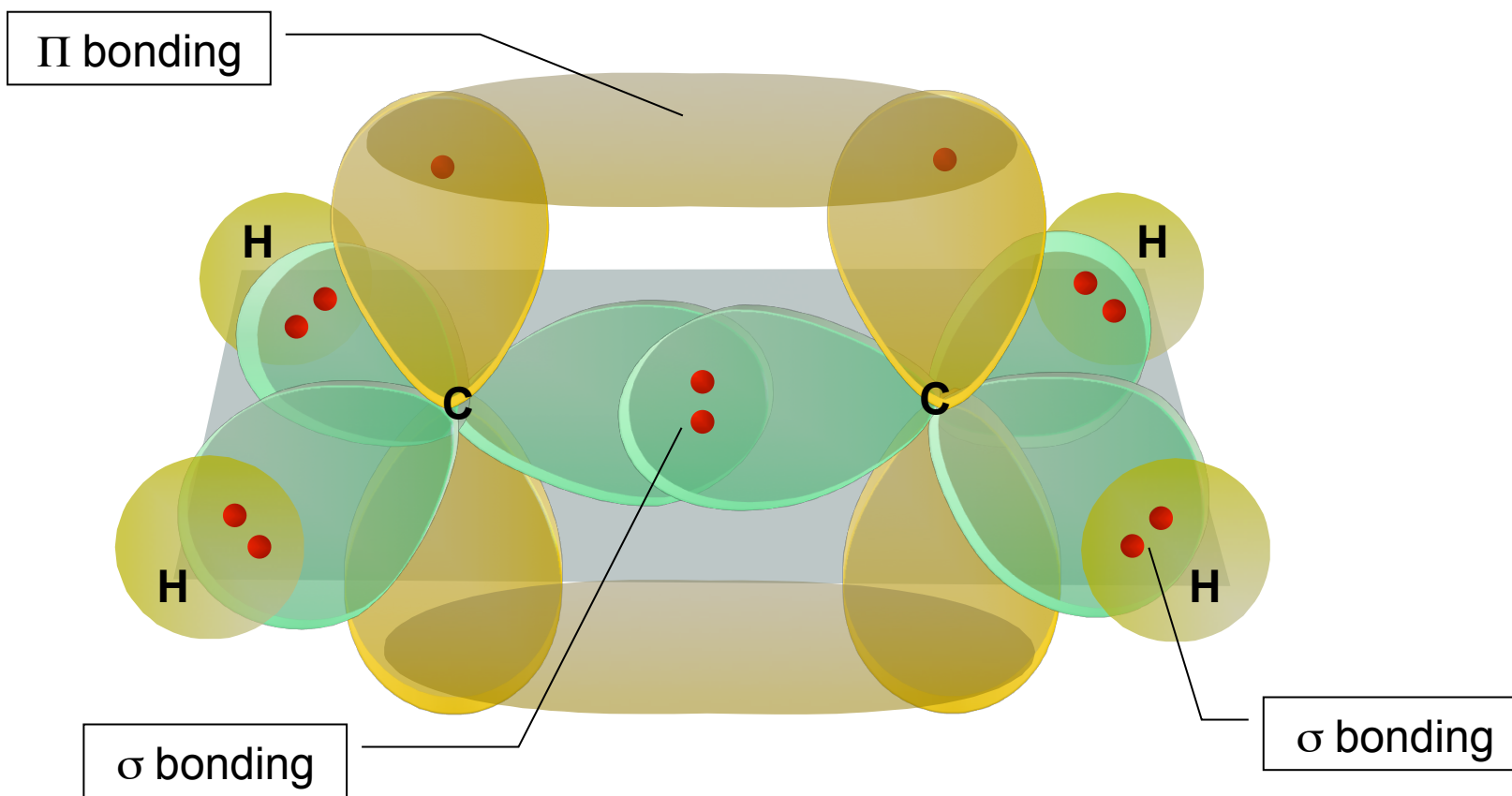


1σ
2π
120 pm

1σ
1π
134 pm

1σ
154 pm

Carbon-Carbon bonding



Hybridization of orbitals in Carbon

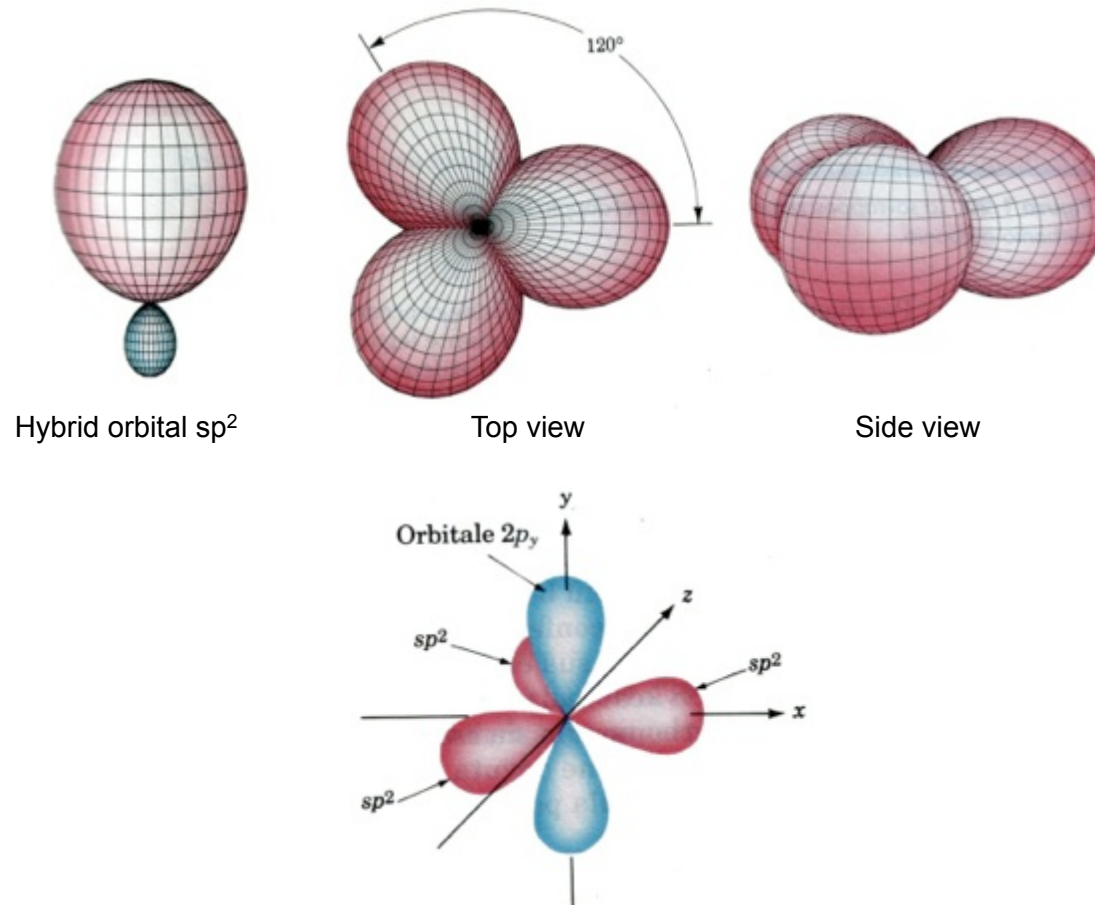


fig.1.1: un atomo di carbonio ibridizzato sp^2 [3].

Carbon-Carbon bonding

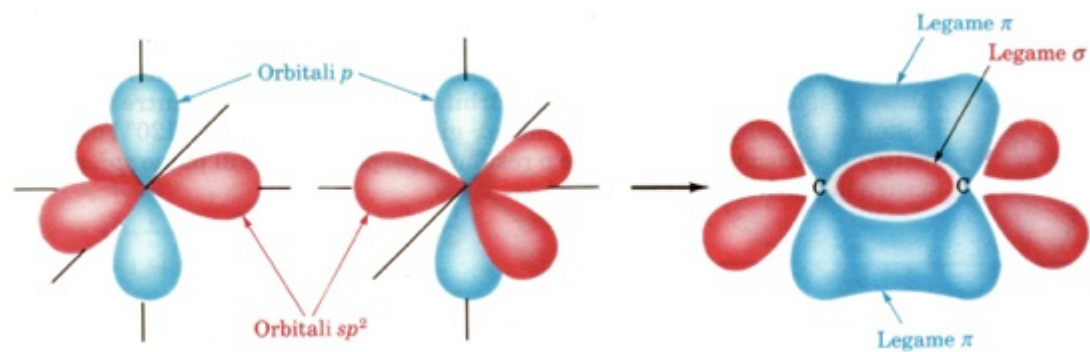
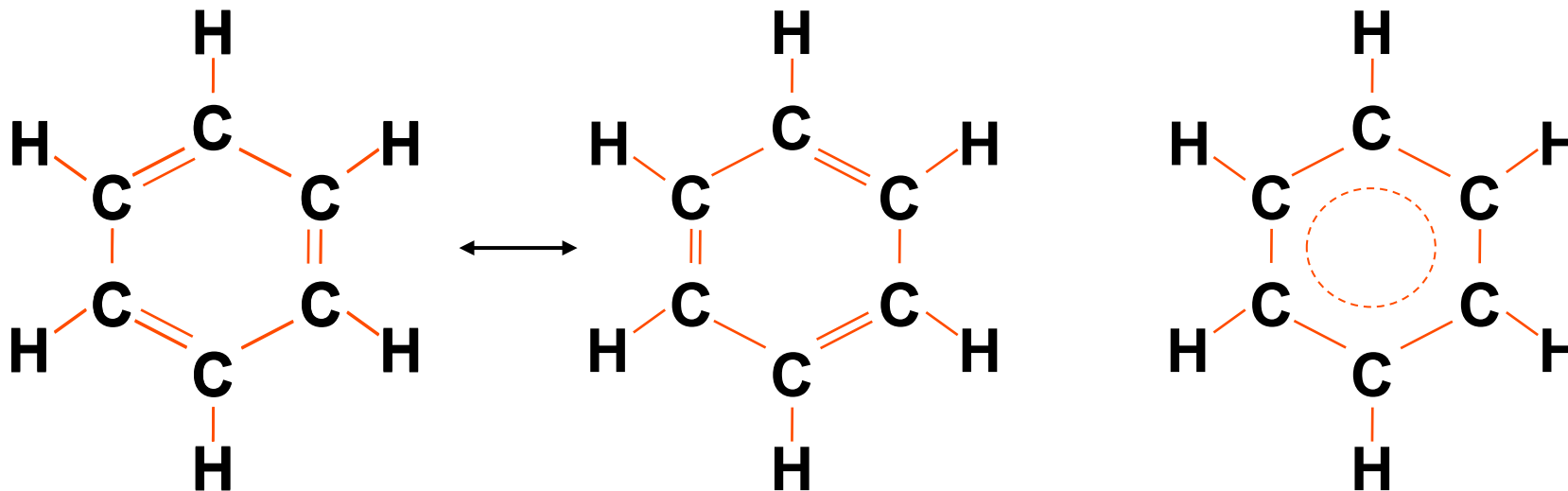


fig.1.2: la sovrapposizione orbitalica nel doppio legame carbonio-carbonio [3].

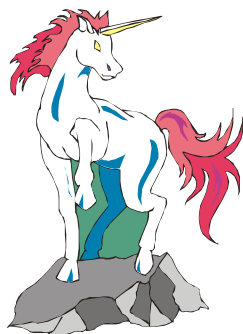
Molecular Orbital= linear combination of atomic orbitals (LCAO)

Coniugated molecules

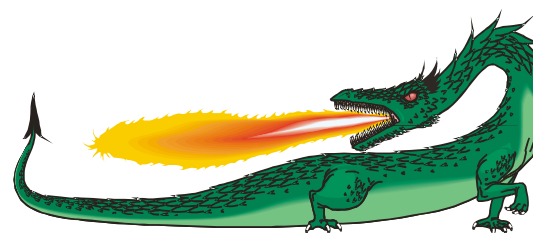
C_6H_6



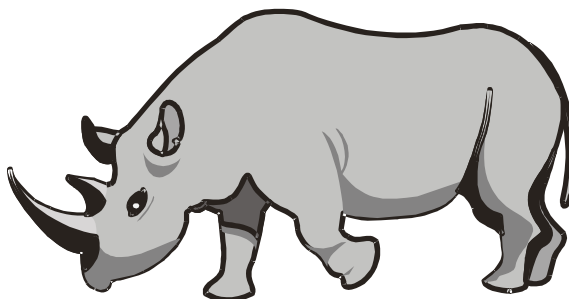
Limit formula



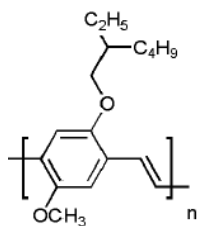
Limit formula



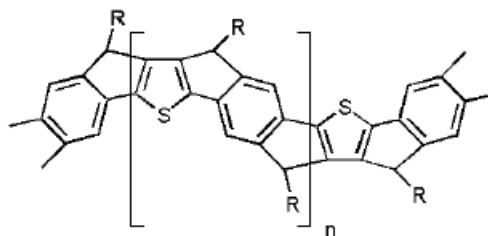
Real molecule



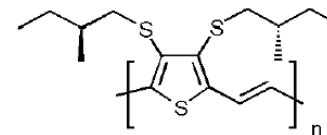
Coniugated molecules



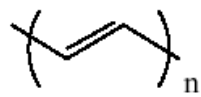
MEH-PPV



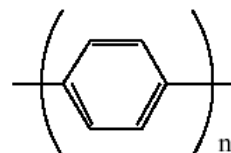
LPPPT



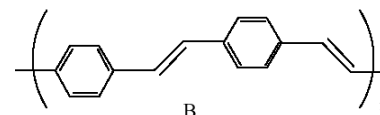
PTV



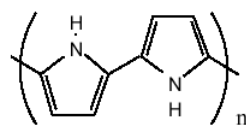
A



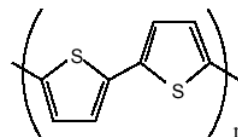
B



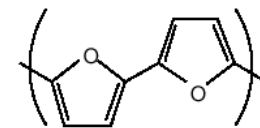
C



D



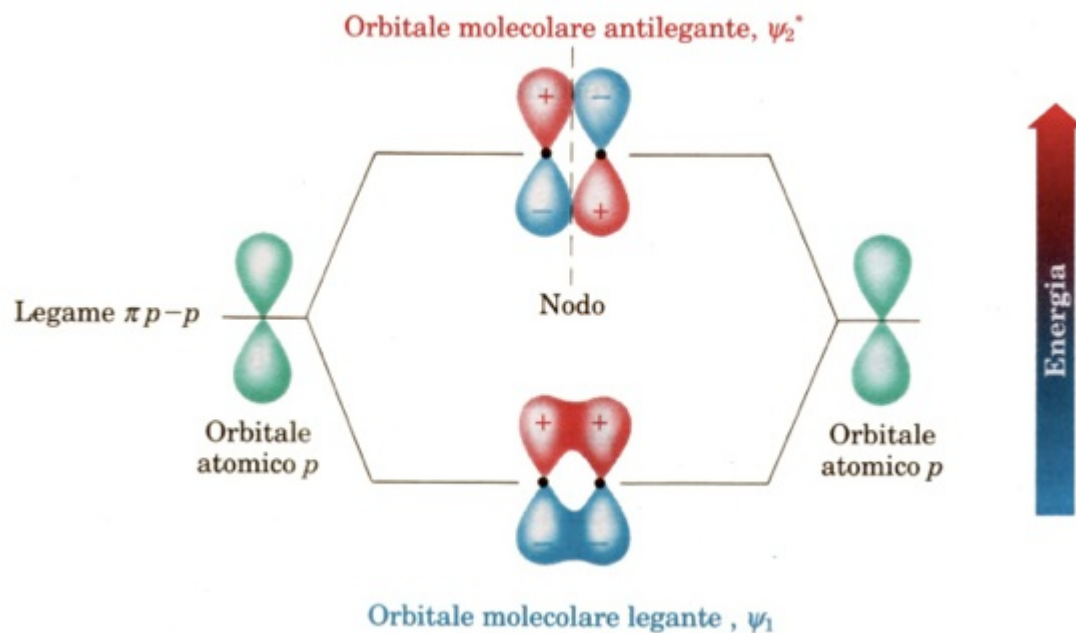
E



F

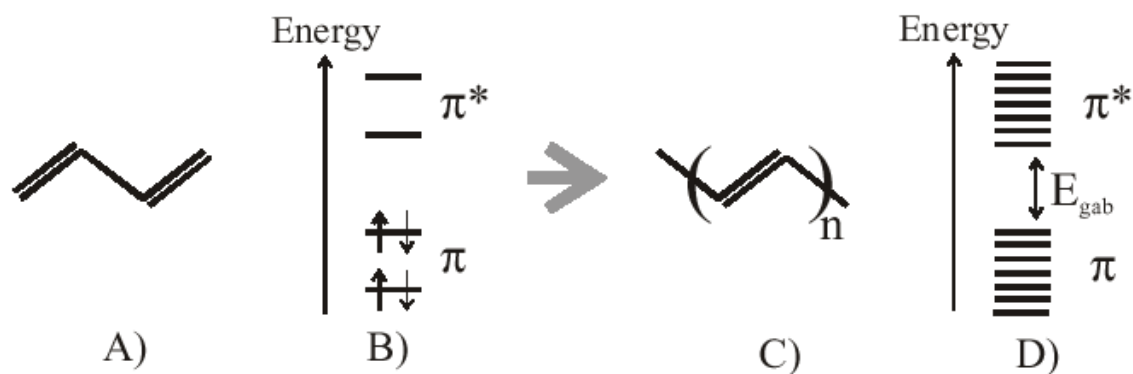
fig.1.6: struttura molecolare di: A) trans-poliacetilene (PA); B) poli-para-fenilene (PPP); C) poli-fenile-vinilene (PPV); D) poli-pirrolo (PPy); E) poli-tiofene (PT); F) poli-furano (PF) [4].

Band Gap



Legame	Energia di legame (kJ · mol ⁻¹)
C—C	350
C—H	410
C—O	350
C—S	260
C—F	440
C—Cl	330
C—Br	280
C—I	240

fig.1.7: orbitali molecolari π leganti e antileganti [3].



Legame	Energia di legame (kJ · mol ⁻¹)
Si—Si	180
Si—H	300
Si—O	370
Si—S	230
Si—F	540
Si—Cl	360
Si—Br	290
Si—I	210

Band Gap

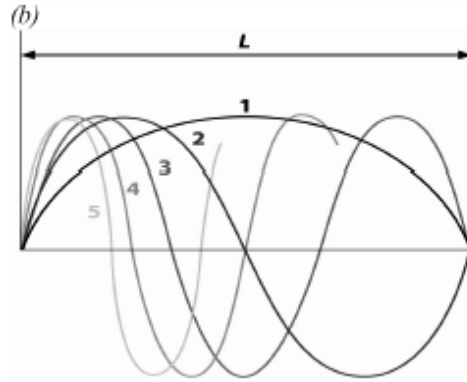


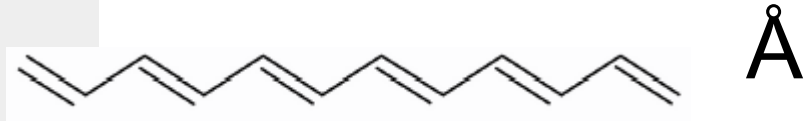
fig.1.10: funzioni d'onda dell'elettrone π nella buca di potenziale profonda infinito [6].

L = coniugation length = length of the shortest molecular segment with a perfect alternation of single and double bonds; N = number of atoms (each with 2 electrons); d = atomic distance

$$E_n = \frac{n^2 h^2}{8mL^2} \longrightarrow \begin{array}{l} E(\text{HOMO}) = \frac{\left(\frac{N}{2}\right)^2 h^2}{8m(Nd)^2} \\ E(\text{LUMO}) = \frac{\left(\frac{N}{2} + 1\right)^2 h^2}{8m(Nd)^2} \end{array} \longrightarrow E_G = E(\text{LUMO}) - E(\text{HOMO}) = \frac{(N+1)^2 h^2}{8m(Nd)^2} \approx \frac{h^2}{8md^2 N}$$

The highest N , the lowest the gap

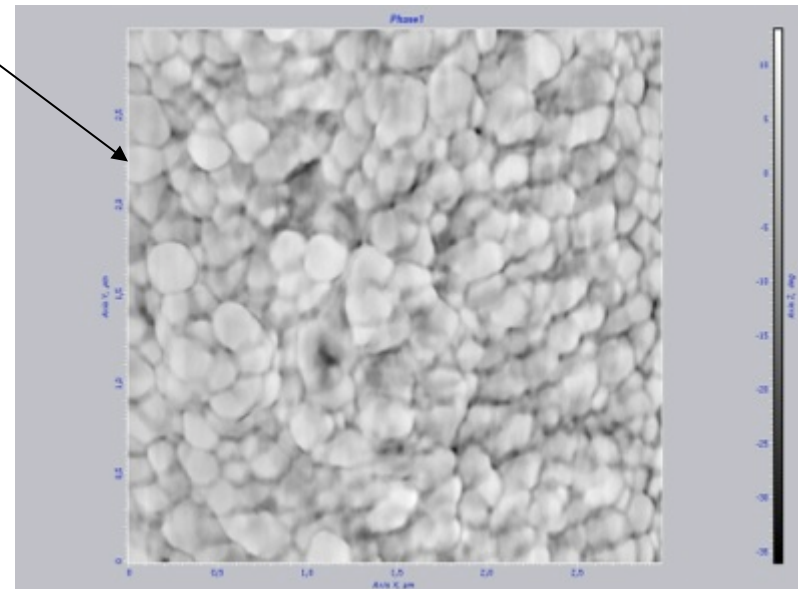
Charge transport in organic semiconductors



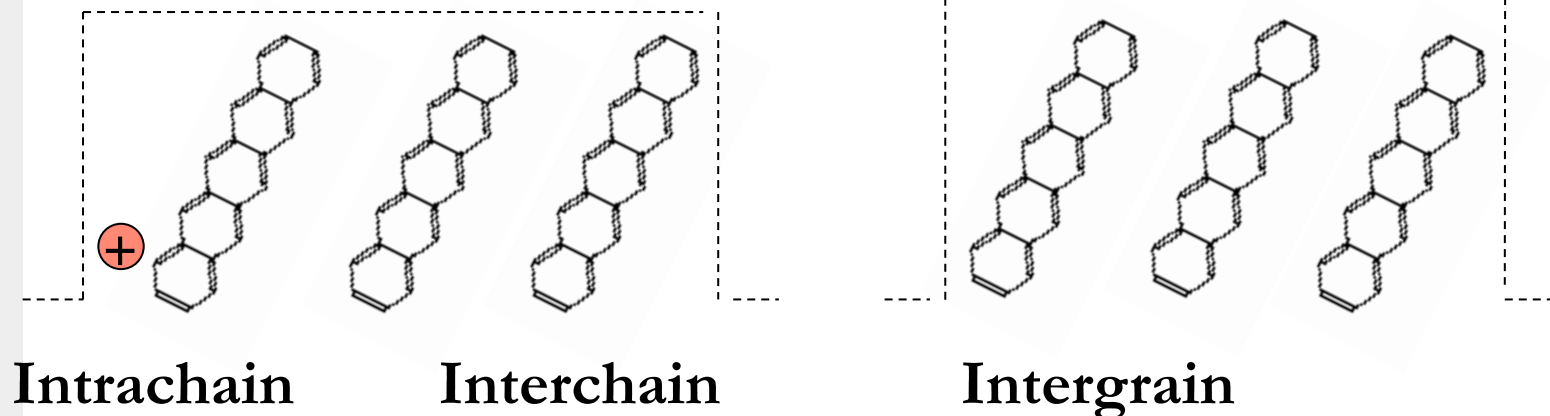
nm



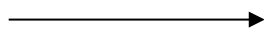
μm



Charge transport in organic semiconductors

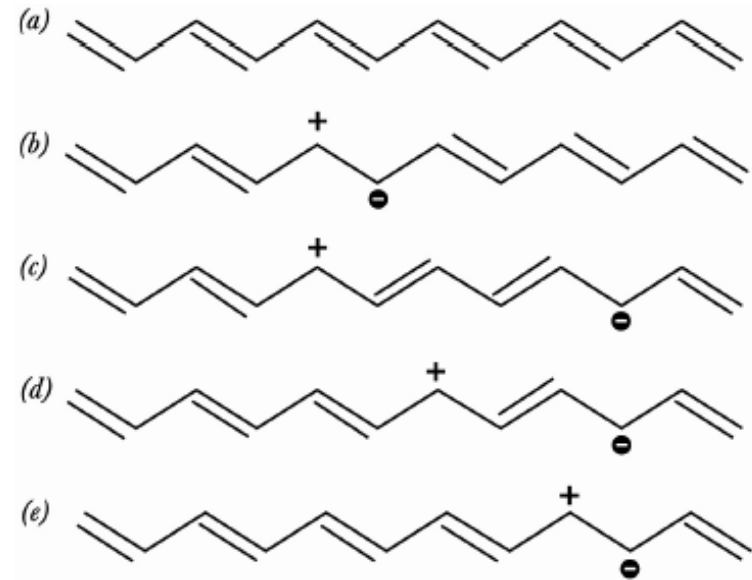
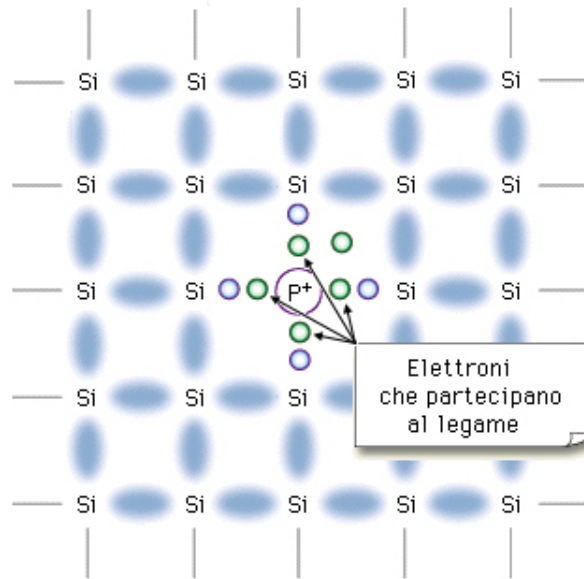


3 coesistent mechanisms+ charge injection from contacts



Measurements difficult to explain

Doping and charge transport



In inorganic semiconductor, doping is substitutional and causes an increase in free charge carrier concentration. These carriers move in a periodic potential with no interaction with the crystal (*band model*).

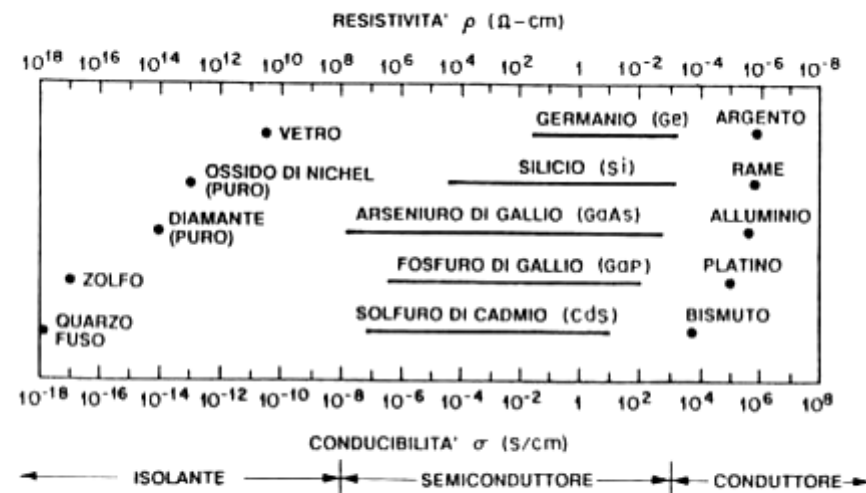
In organic, doping is not substitutional: supplementary charge physically interact with molecules causing a perturbation in the conjugated chain. This perturbation (charge + deformation induced by the charge) is called **polaron**

Doping and charge transport

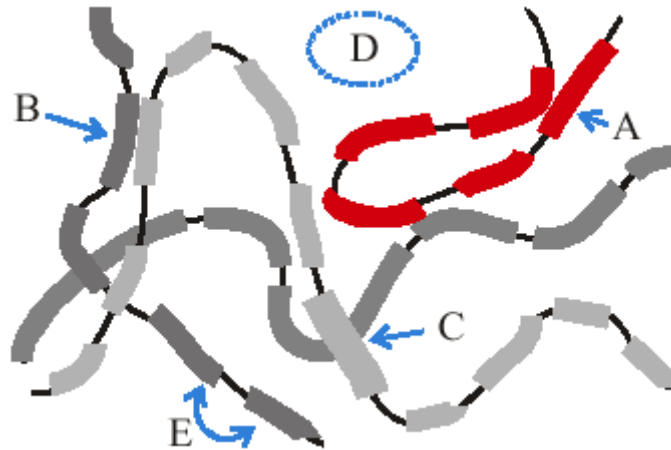
In analogy with inorganic semiconductors, the polaron can be roughly described as a charge free of moving along the chain strongly interacting with the semiconductor lattice

$m_{\text{eff}}(\text{polaron}) \gg m_{\text{eff}}(\text{free charge carrier})$

$\rightarrow \text{mobility}(\text{polaron}) \ll \text{mobility}(\text{free charge carrier})$



Intermolecular transport: hopping

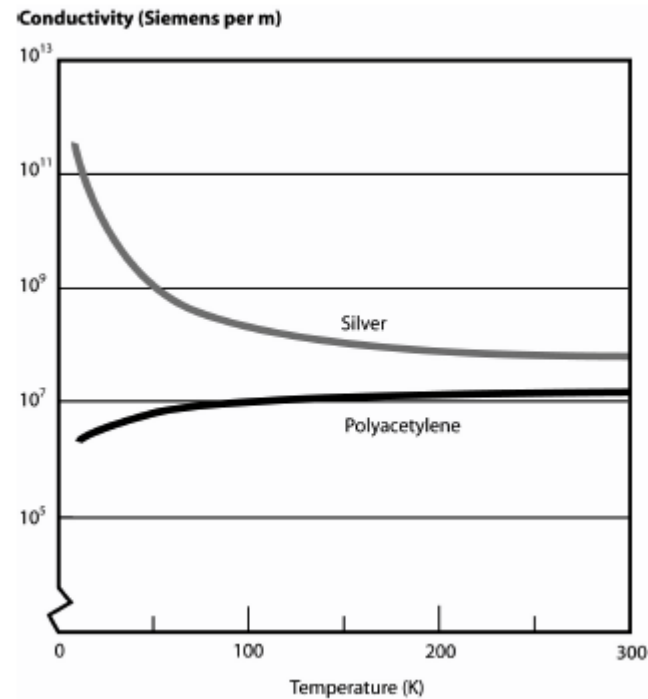


hopping = tunneling between crossing chains

To move, the charge carrier needs energy that can be provided by phonons (increasing with temperature)

$$\mu_D = \frac{e \cdot d^2}{2\tau_J \cdot k_B \cdot T} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \sigma(T) = \sigma_0(T) \cdot \exp[-(T_0/T)^{1/(1+d)}]$$

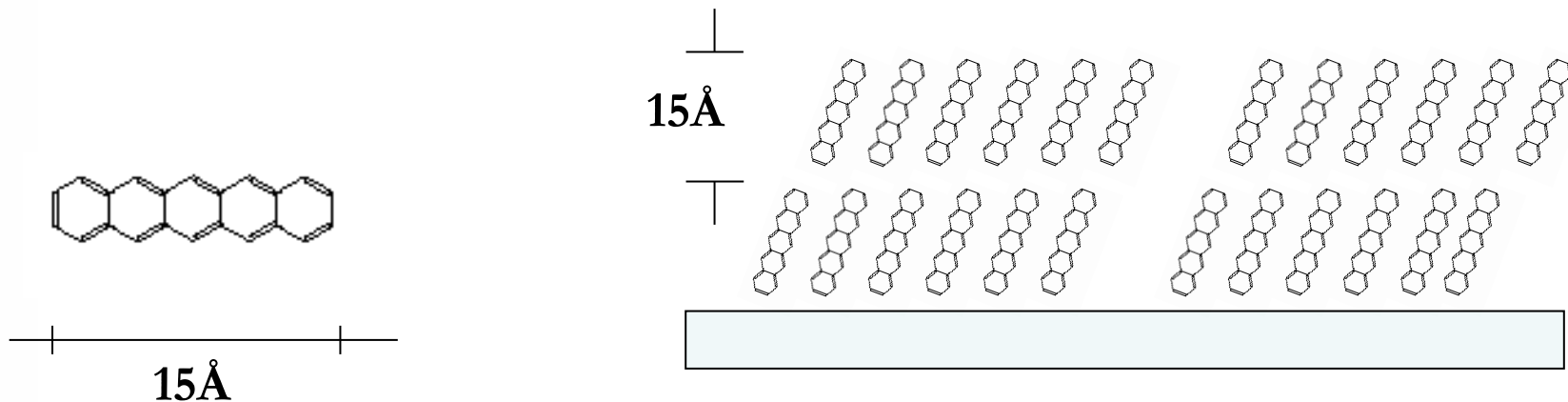
Intermolecular transport: hopping



But, in organic materials there is a great variety of behaviour from material to material. A unifying theory has not yet been developed.

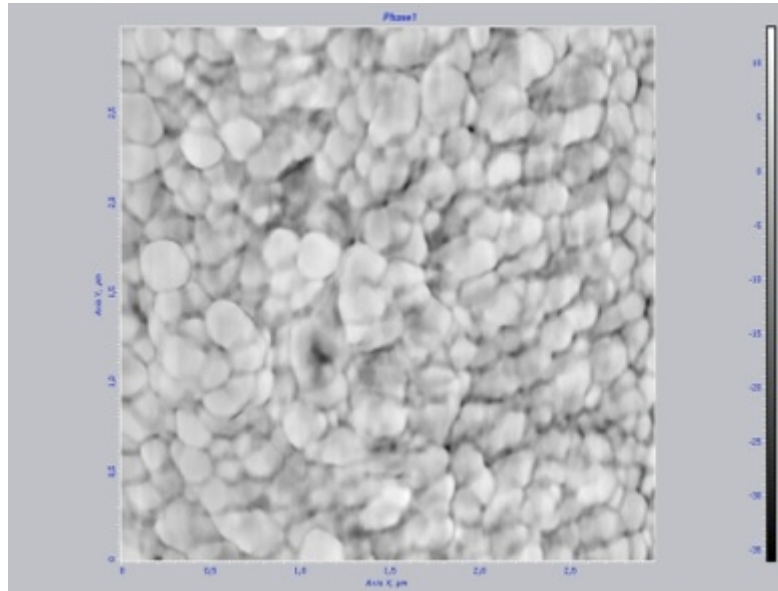
Intergrain transport: Pentacene ($C_{22}H_{14}$)

- 5 benzene rings
- Non soluble. Deposited by evaporation
- Molecules stand perpendicular to the substrate.
- Molecules form separated domains (grains)



Materials for “Plastic Electronics”

Intergrain transport: Pentacene ($C_{22}H_{14}$)



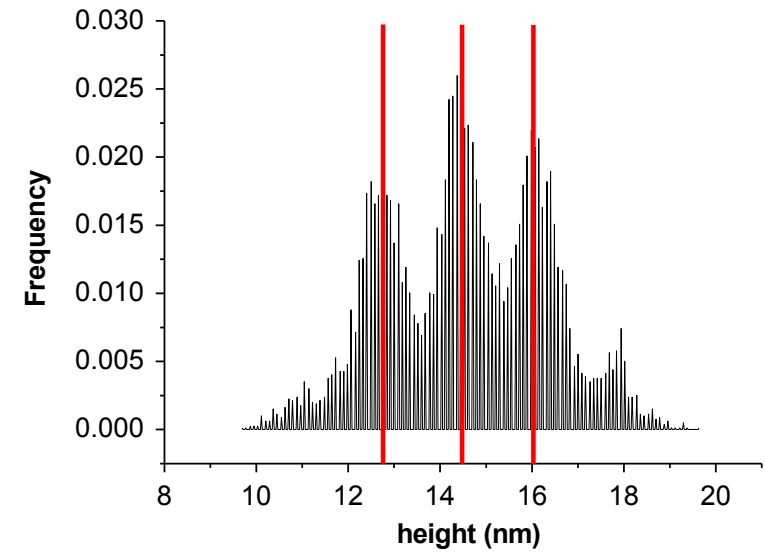
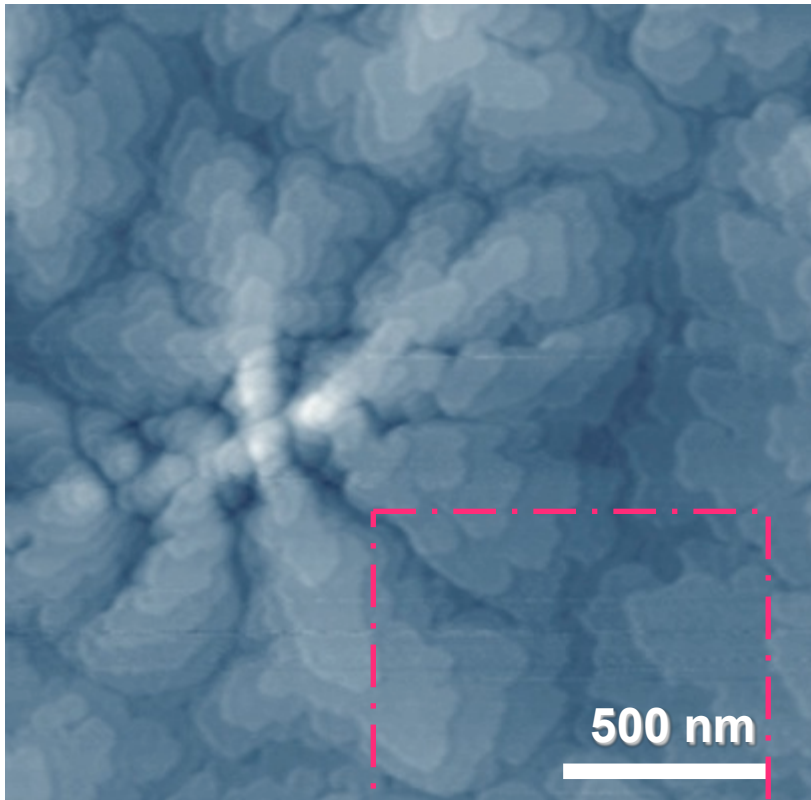
Conduction:

- hopping
- thermally activated
- limited by traps at grain boundaries

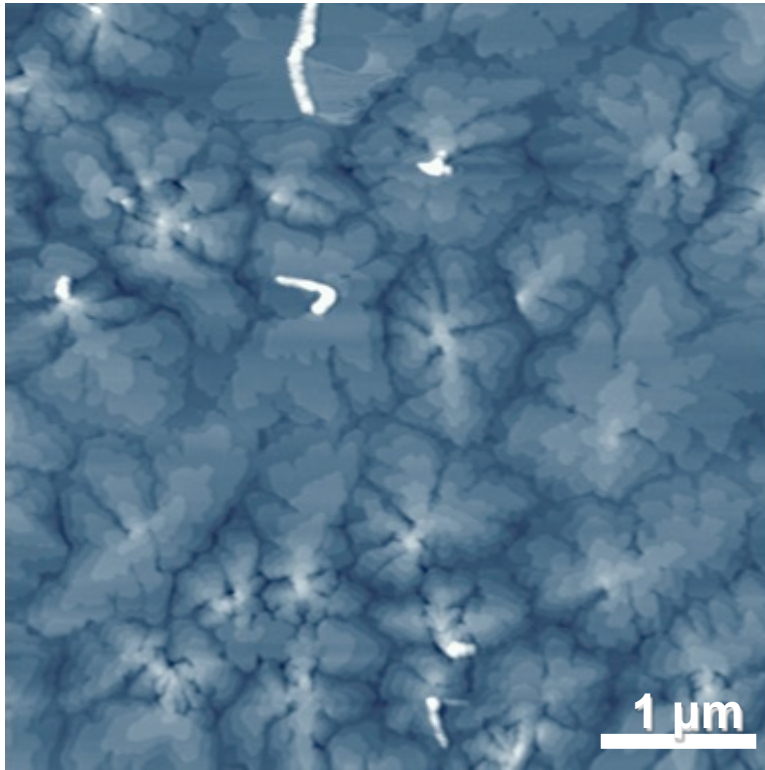
$$\frac{1}{\mu} = \frac{1}{\mu_{\text{bulk}}} + \frac{1}{\mu_{\text{traps}}}$$

Correlation btw grain dimensions and mobility

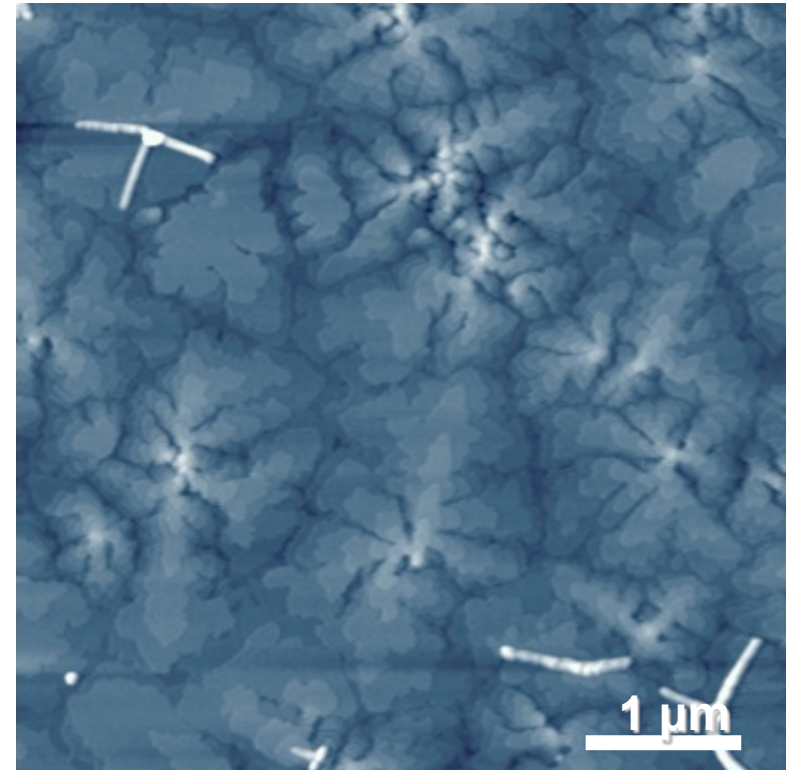
Influence of surface morphology



Influence of surface morphology

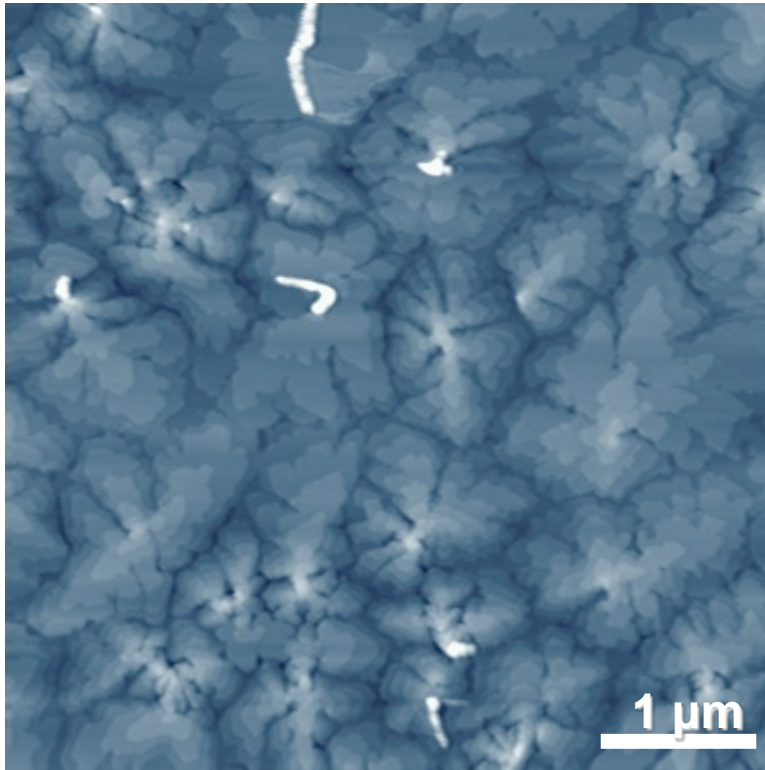


Pentacene on Mica

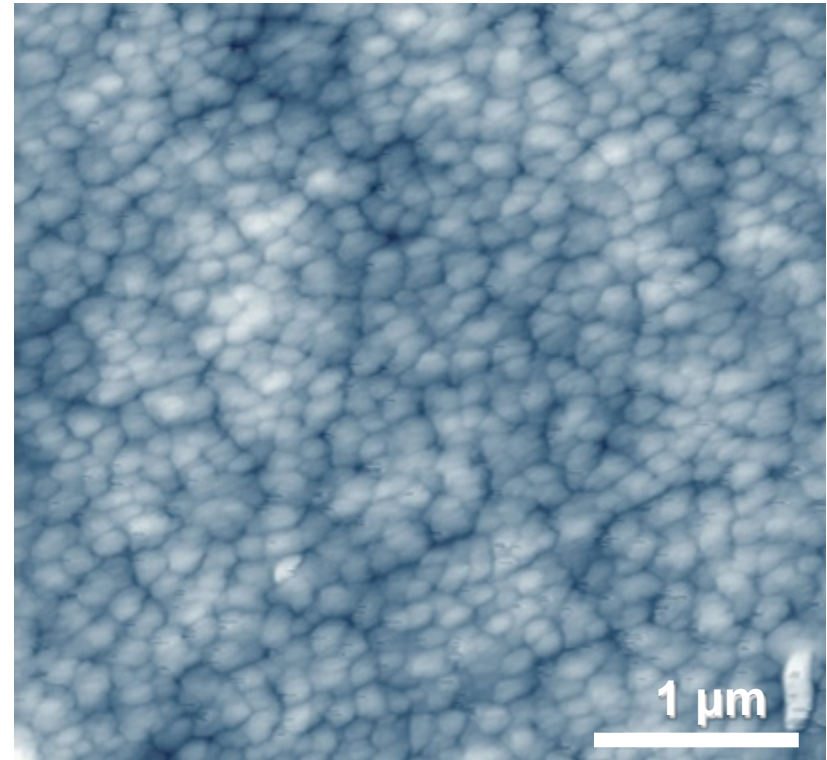


Pentacene on SiO₂

Influence of surface morphology



Pentacene on SiO₂



Pentacene on Mylar

Outline seconda parte

Organic Thin Film Transistors (OTFTs)

Contatti metallo-semiconduttore organico

Comportamento elettrico degli OTFT

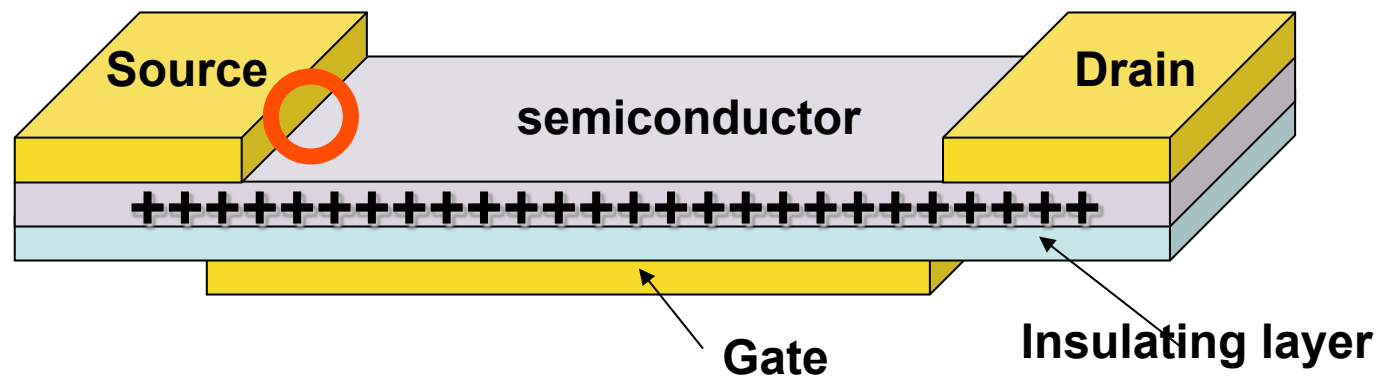
Modello elettrico del dispositivo

Tecnologia

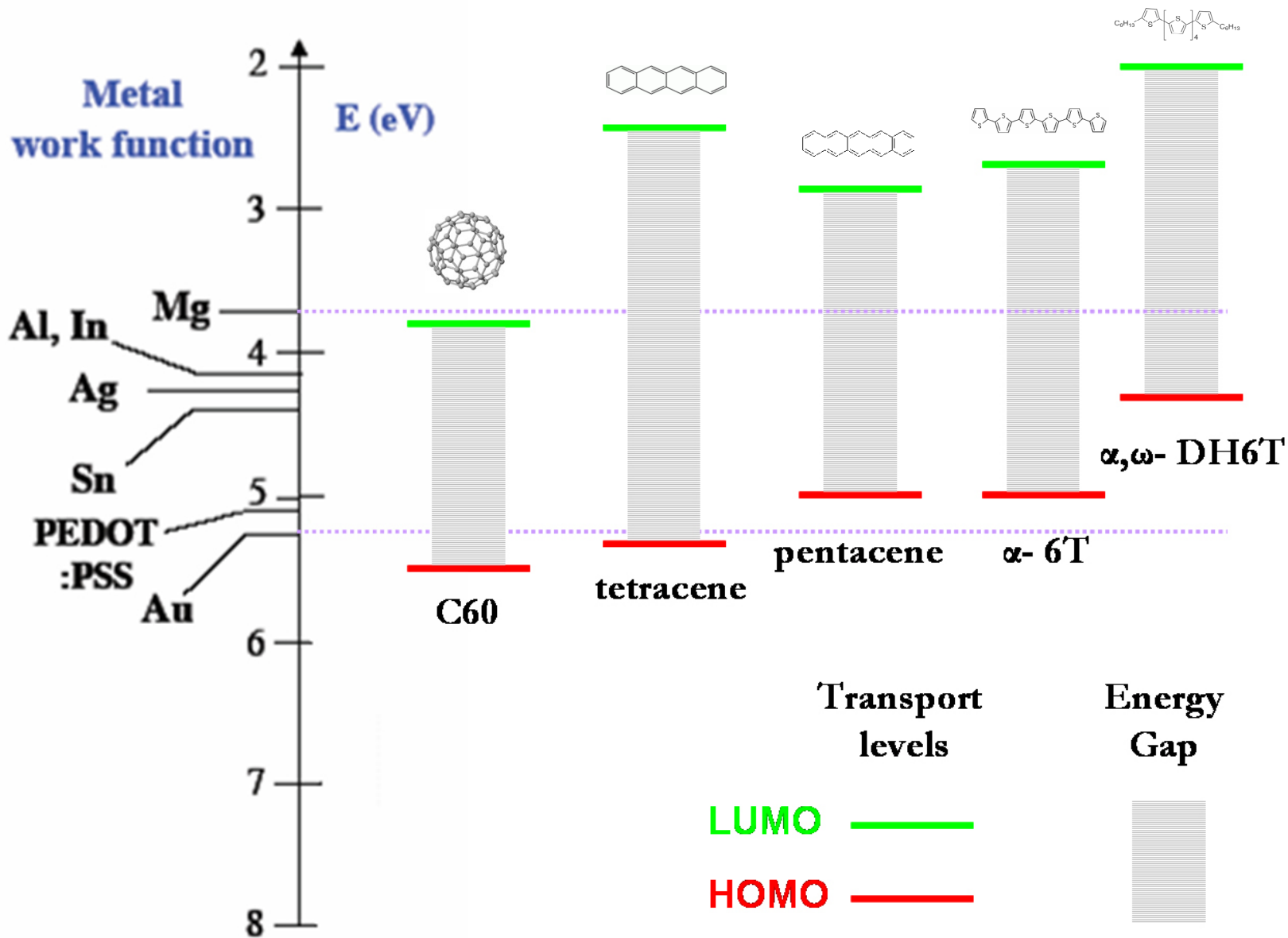
Field Effect Transistors

OTFT = ORGANIC THIN FILM TRANSISTOR

Interface metal - semiconductor

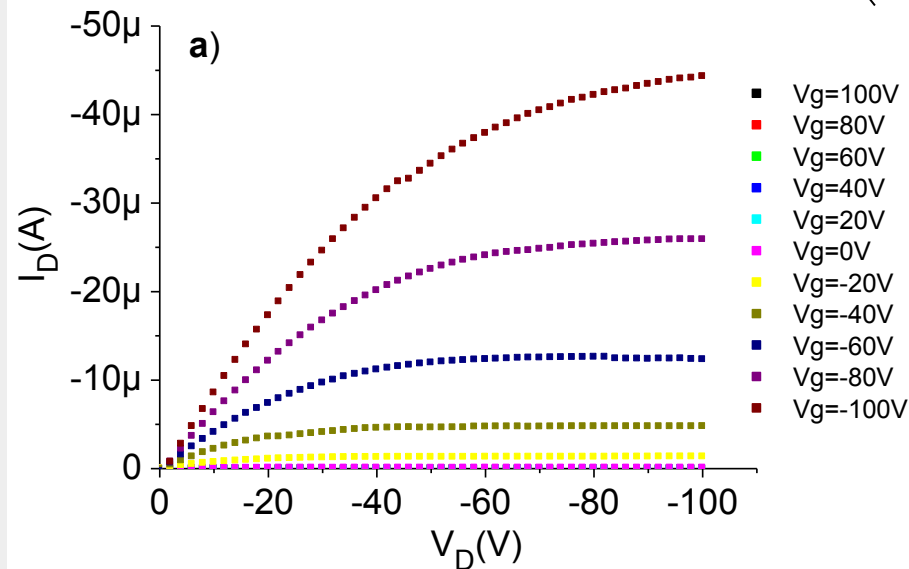
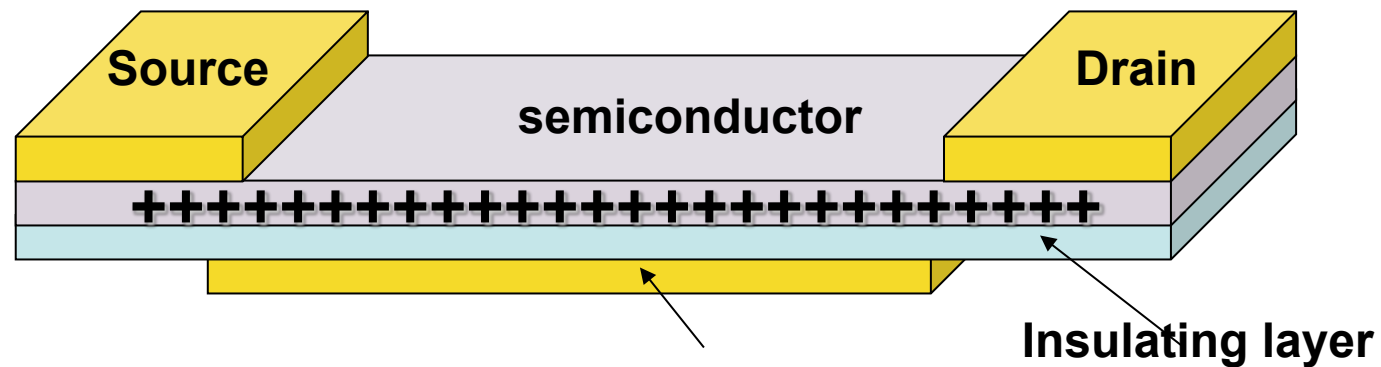


Charge injection from metal contacts



Thin Film Transistor

TFT model was first developed for poorly conductive semiconductors like amorphous Si



Typically p-type!

How an OTFT works

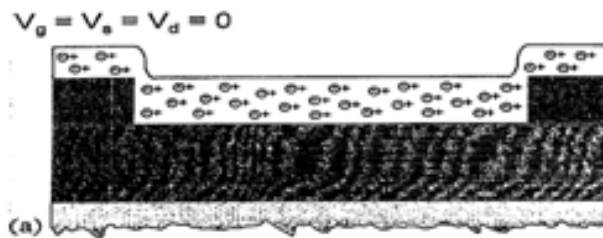


Fig. 2a

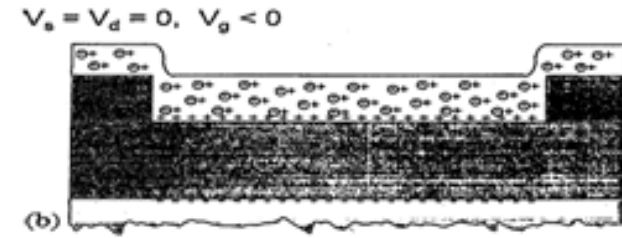


Fig. 2b

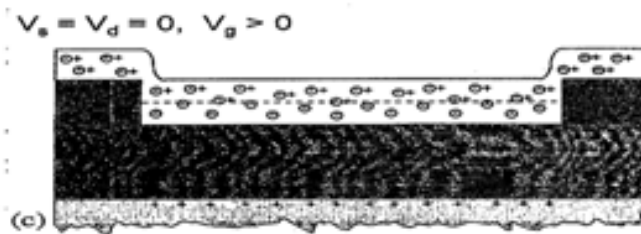


Fig. 2c

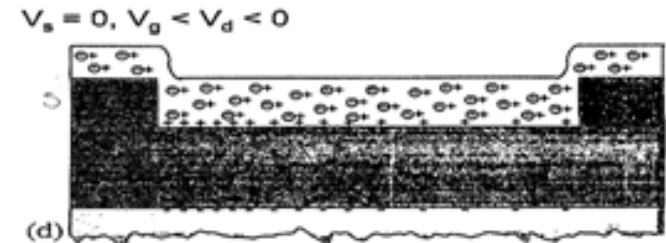


Fig. 2d

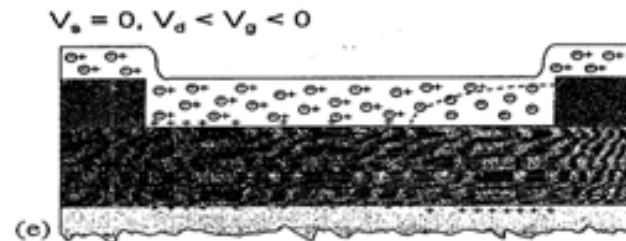
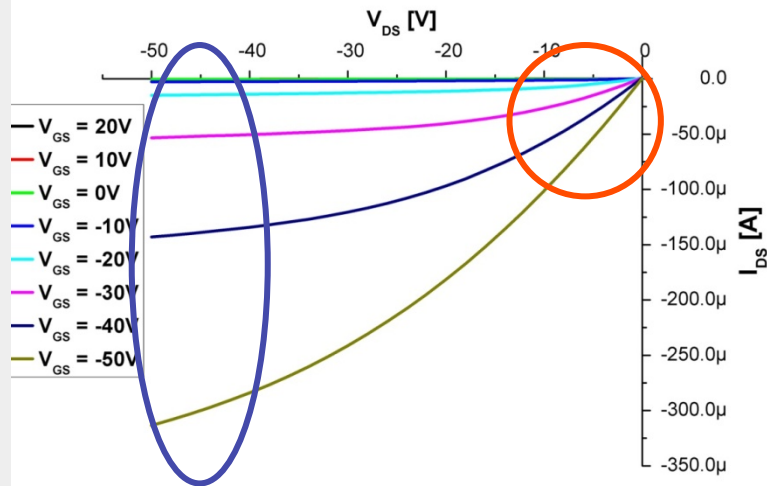


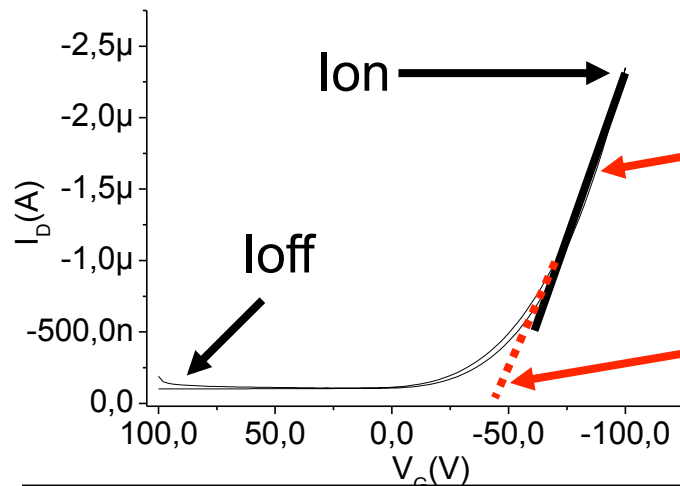
Fig. 2e

Equations and extraction of parameters



Linear region: $I_D = \mu C_{ox} \frac{Z}{L} (V_G - V_T) V_D$

Saturation region: $I_D = \frac{1}{2} \mu C_{ox} \frac{Z}{L} (V_G - V_T)^2$



$$\left. \frac{\partial I_D}{\partial V_G} \right|_{sat} = \mu C_{ox} \frac{Z}{L} (V_G - V_T)$$

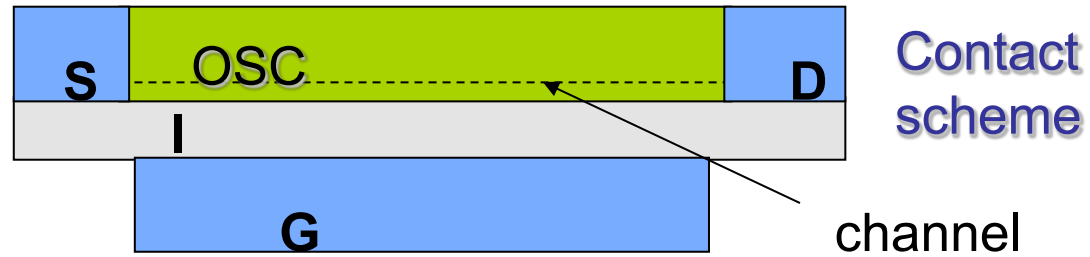
Important parameters:

$$\frac{I_{on}}{I_{off}}, \mu, V_T$$

Typical values:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &\sim 10^{-2}: 10^{-1} \\ I_{on}/I_{off} &\sim 10^4 : 10^5 \\ V_T &\sim -10: +10 \text{ V} \end{aligned}$$

Structures and fabrication techniques

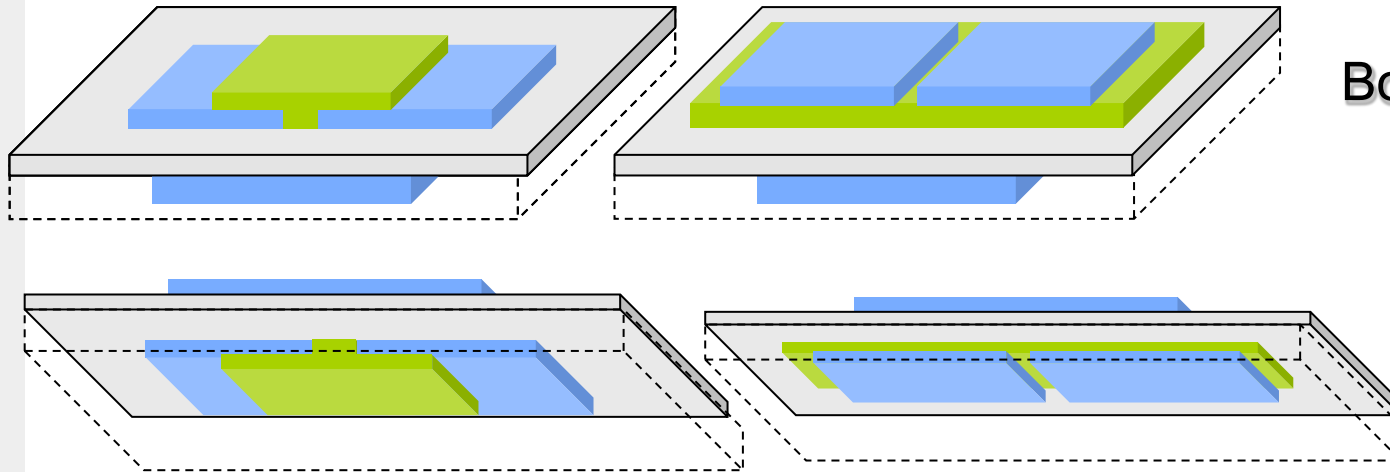


Bottom contact

Top contact

Bottom gate

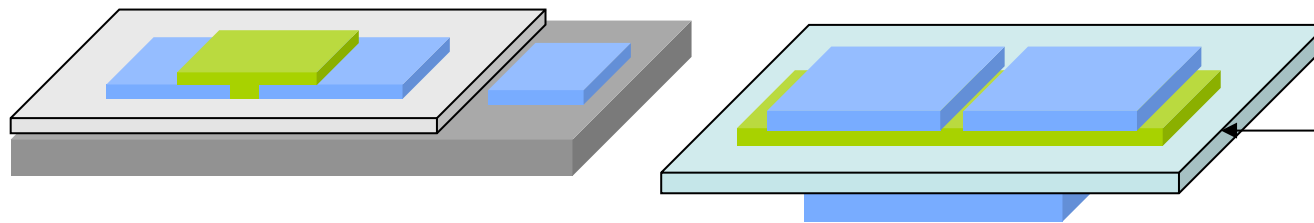
Top gate



Si/SiO₂ substrate

Substrate-free

Free-standing insulating layer



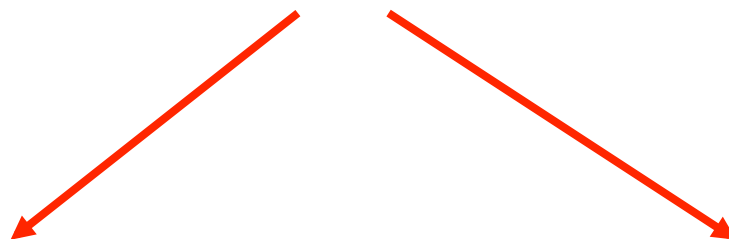
Materials and fabrication techniques

Materials:

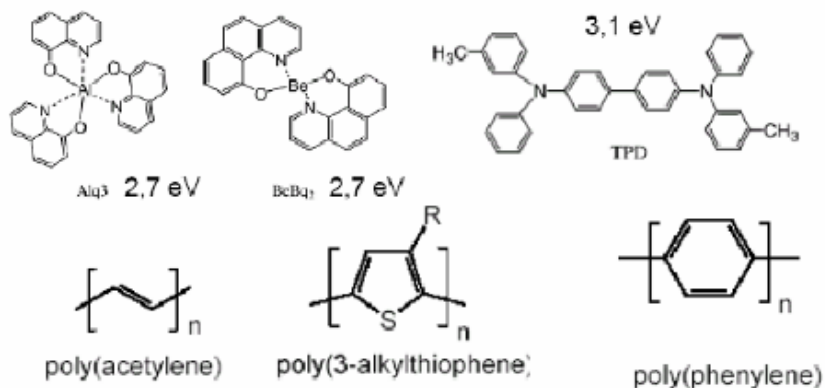
Electrodes: metals, conductive polymers

Insulating layers: polyimide, PVA, PVP,...

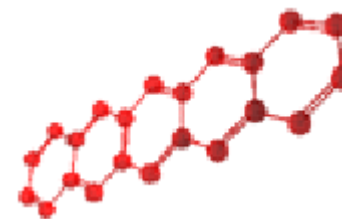
Organic semiconductors



Solution processable
Polymers



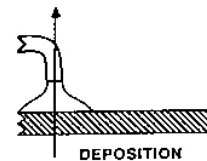
Small molecules
(deposited by
evaporation)



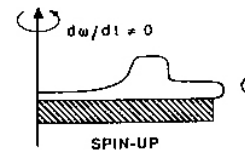
Fabrication techniques - Spin Coating

Low cost technique for liquid phase materials

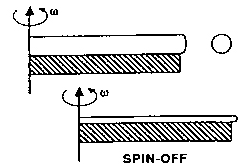
Deposition



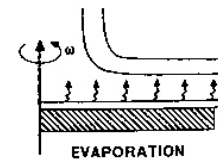
Spin up



Spin off



Spin down



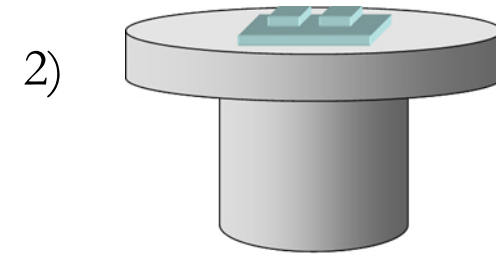
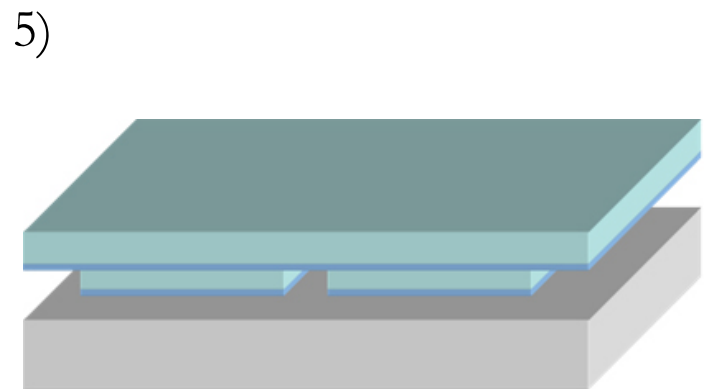
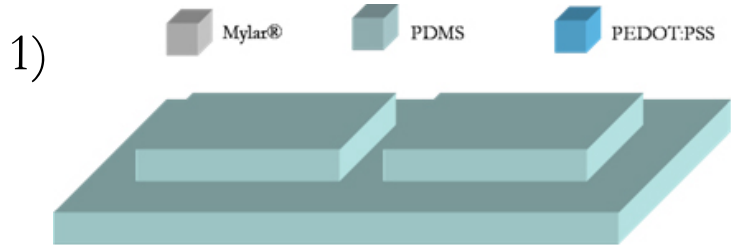
Thermal annealing (dewetting)

Process parameters:

1. Spin up time
2. Spin speed
3. Spin off time
4. Spin down time
5. Dewetting time
6. Dewetting T

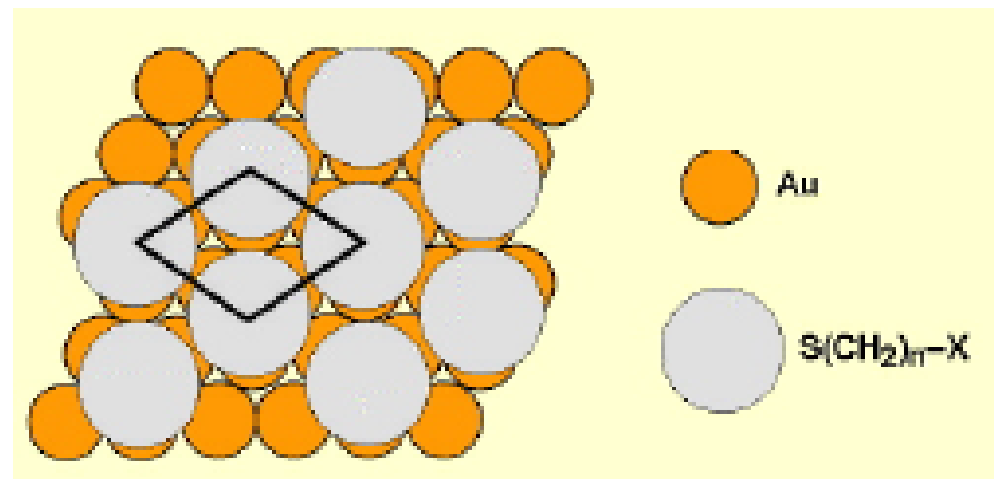
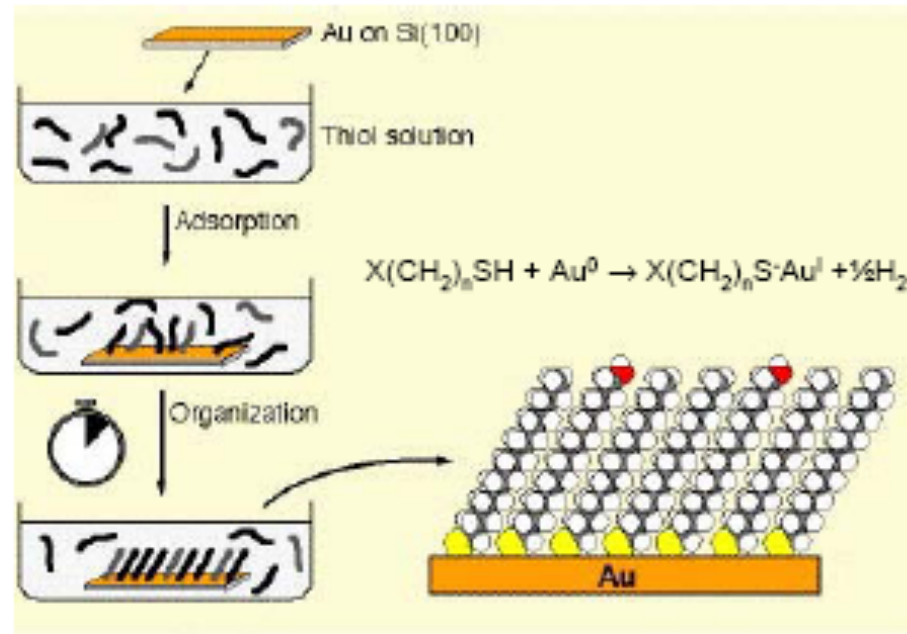
Adv: simple and low cost

Fabrication technique – Soft Lithography



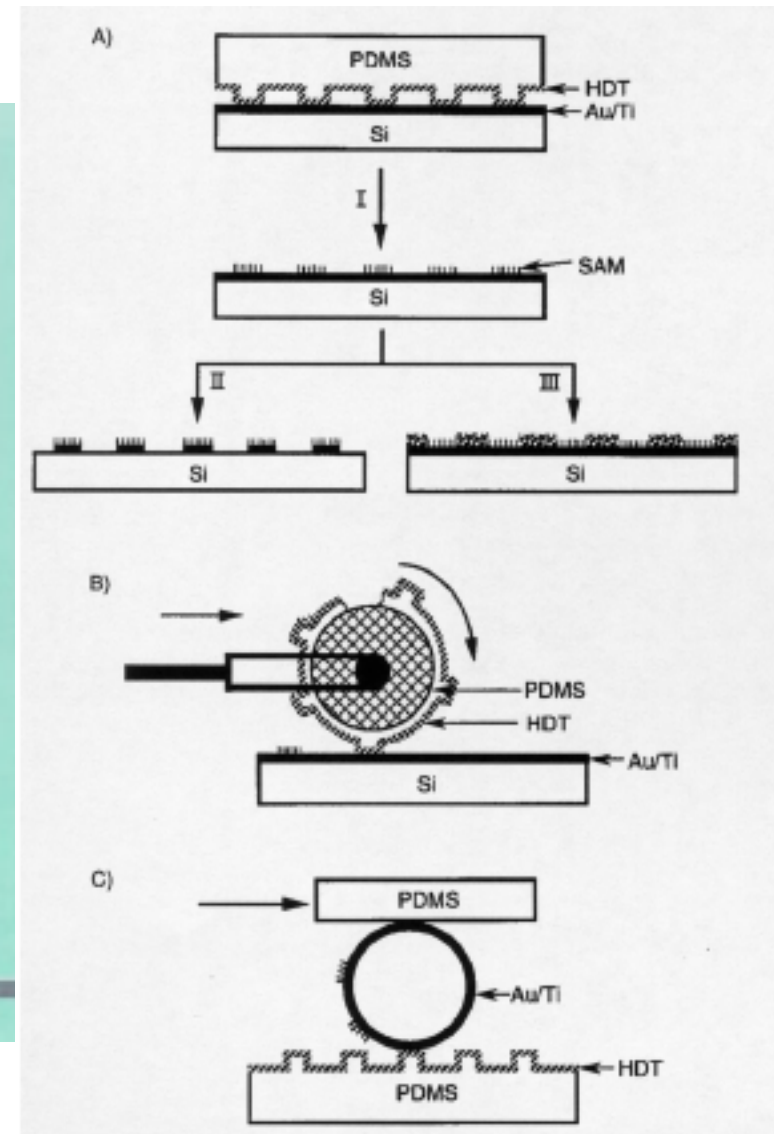
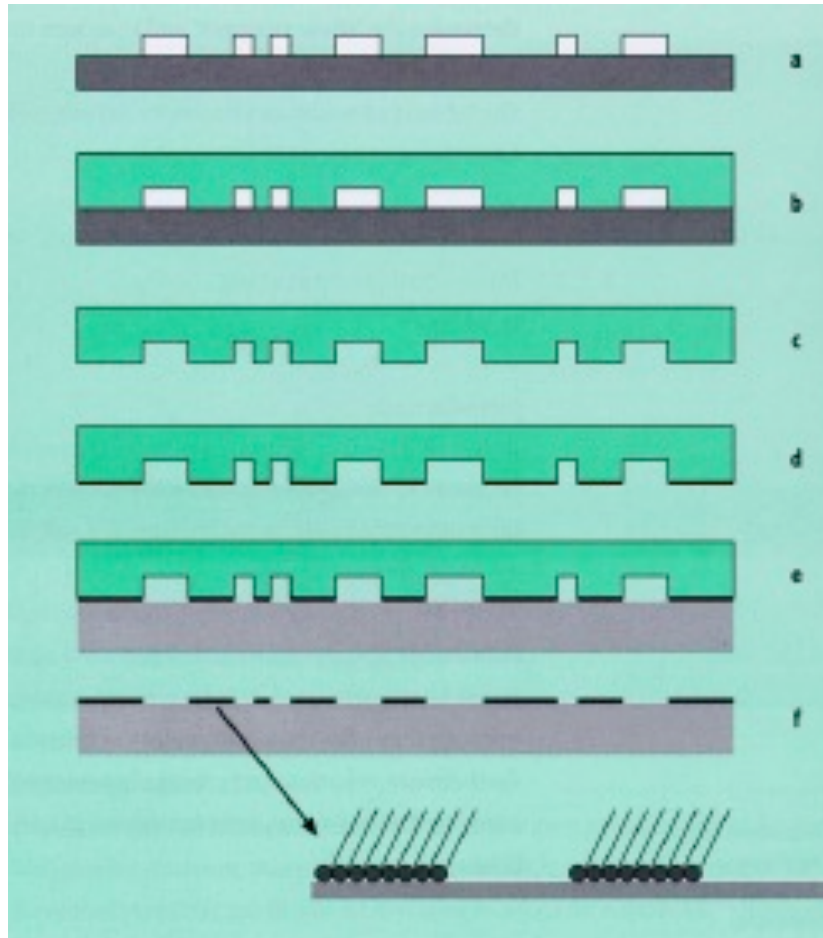
Fabrication technique – Soft Lithography

Inks instead of resist for patterning metals



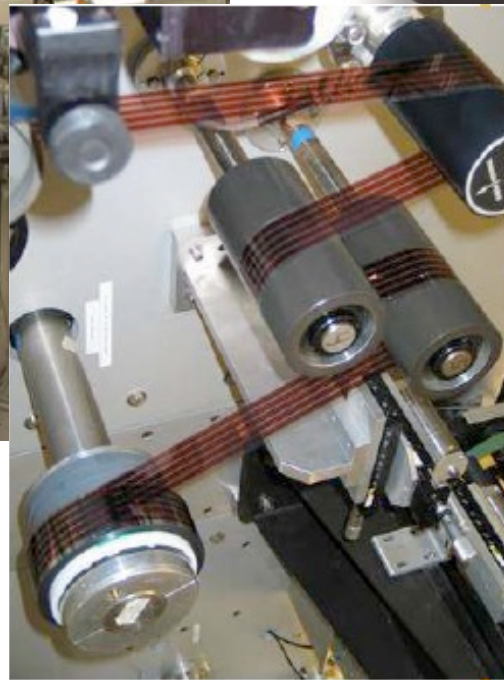
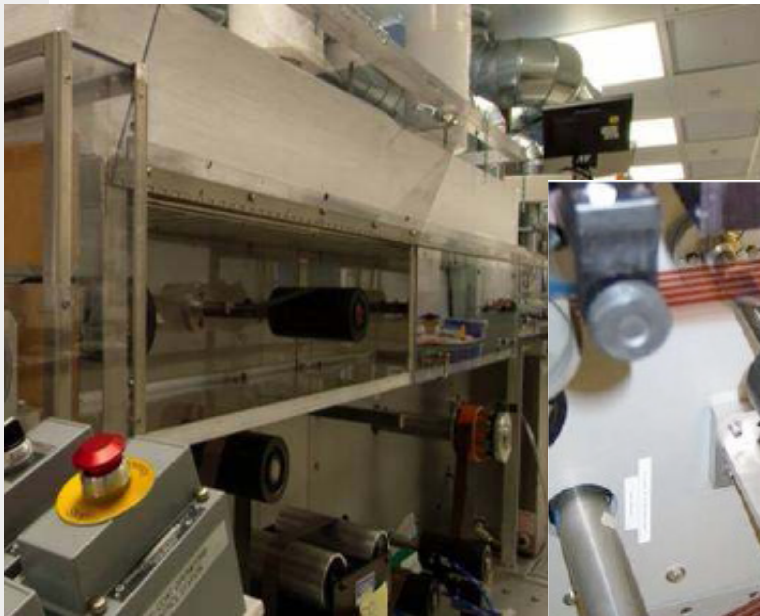
Fabrication technique – Soft Lithography

MicroContact Printing



Printing & Roll to Roll

Printing



Possible applications for OTFTs

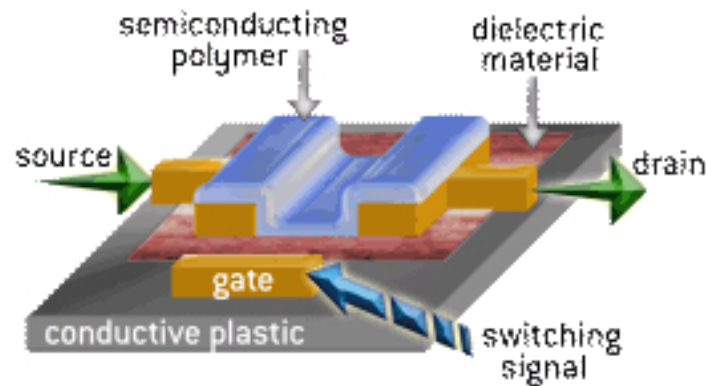
cheap dynamic signs



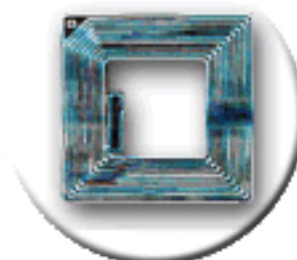
wearable electronics



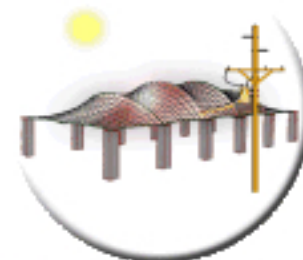
sensors



electronic paper



RFID tags



flexible solar cells