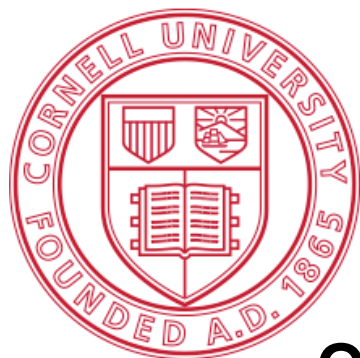


# Synthesis of Molecular Oligomeric Compounds for Organic Electronics

**William Dichtel**



**Winter Course**

**Organic Electronics and Optoelectronics**

**December 9, 2008**

**IIT Kanpur**



Cornell University  
Chemistry and Chemical Biology

# Design Criteria for Small Molecules

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Type of conjugated system / charge carriers

HOMO/LUMO Levels & Bandgap

Steric Bulk

Electron donating / withdrawing substituents

Solid State Packing / Self Assembly

Solubility

Volatility (UHV)

Ease of Synthesis

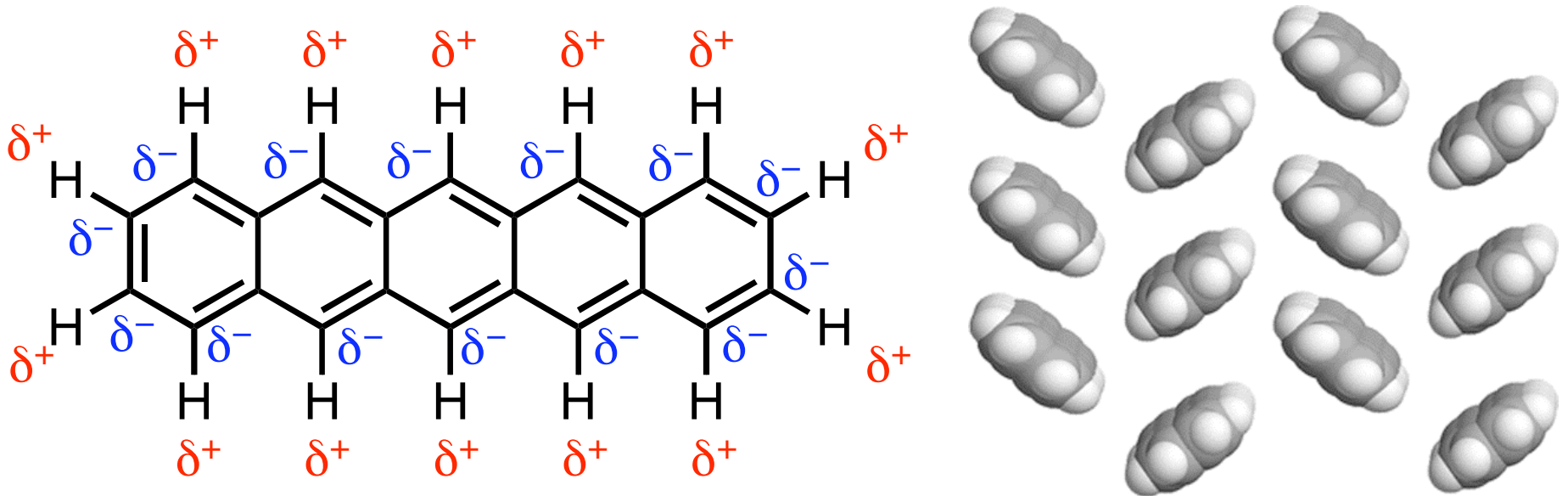
# Outline

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1. Design Criteria for Conjugated Molecules
2. Synthetic Strategies For p-Type Compounds
3. Synthetic Strategies For n-Type Compounds
4. Phosphorescent OLED Dopants

# Pentacene

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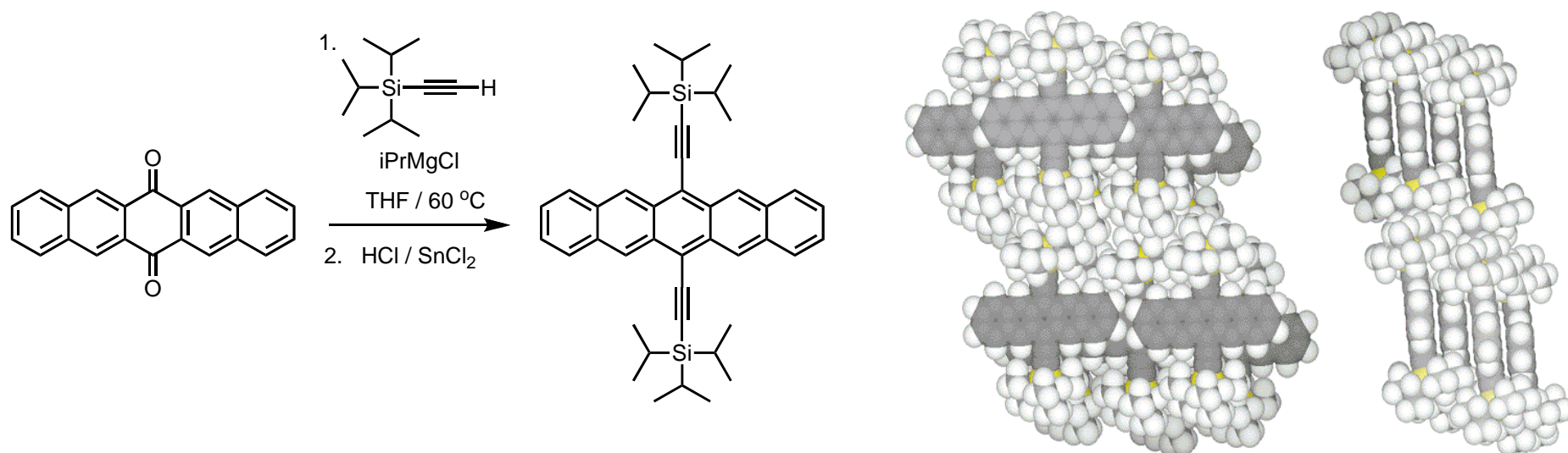
Excellent TFT performance

Best TFTs give  $\mu > 5 \text{ cm}^2/(\text{V s})$ ,  $I_{\text{ON}}/I_{\text{OFF}} = 10^6$

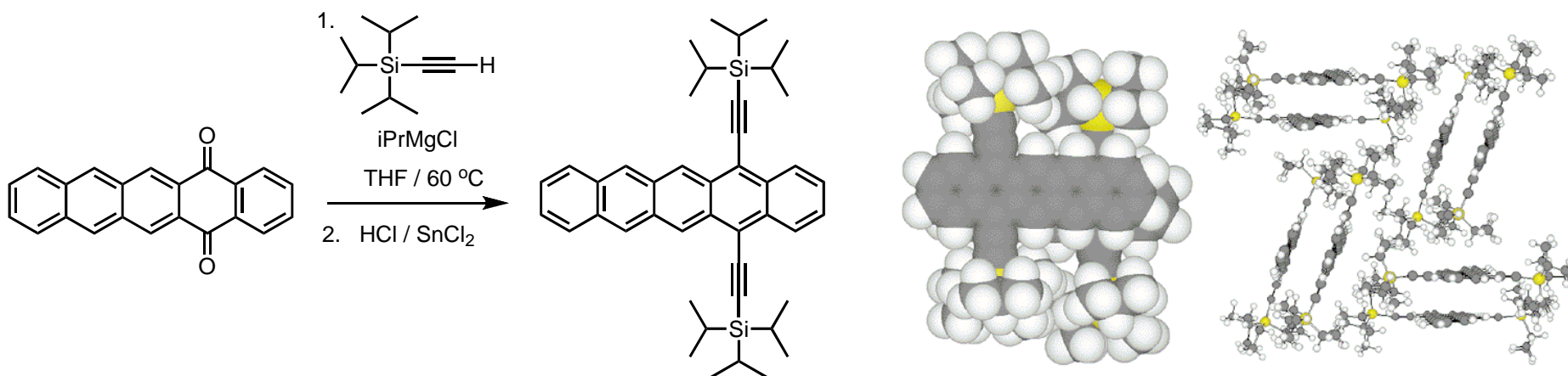
Insoluble: Devices fabricated by vacuum sublimation

Pentacene is oxygen and light sensitive

# Silyl-Modified Pentacenes



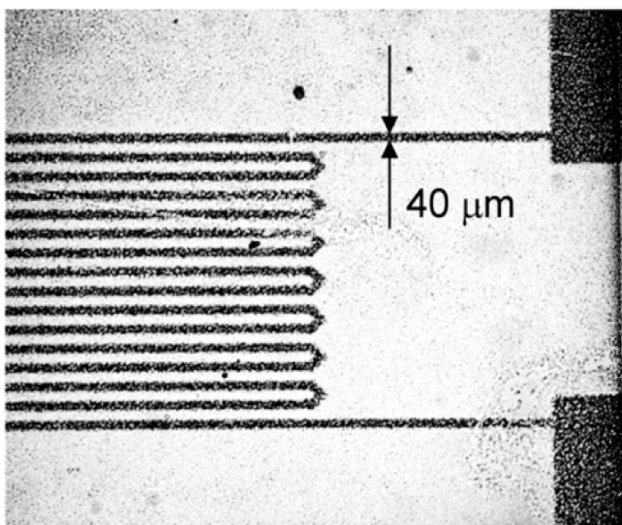
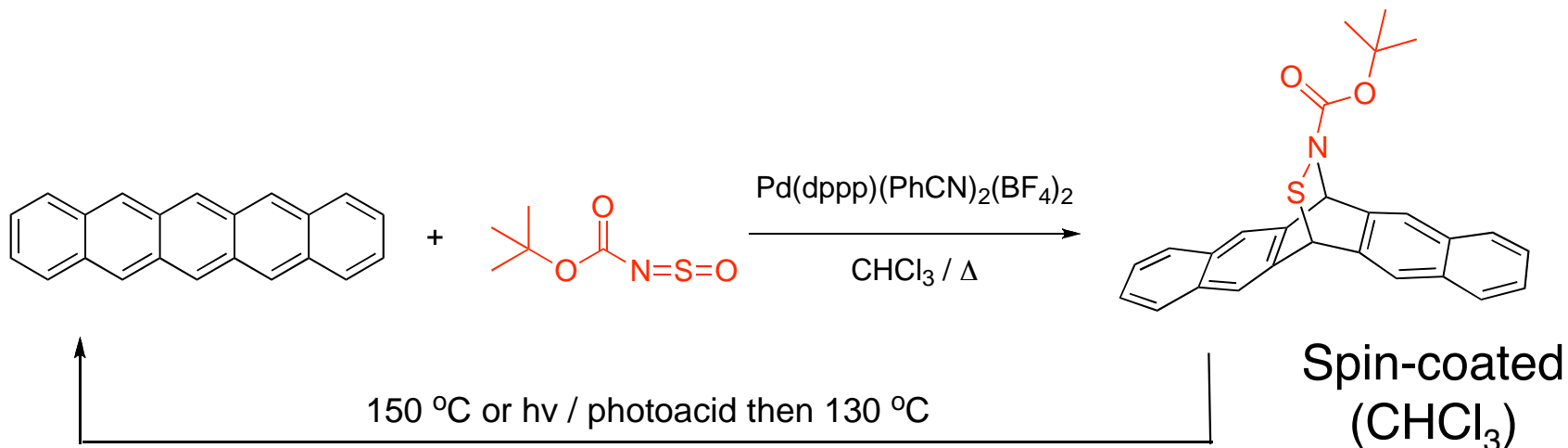
Solution processed TFTs:  $\mu > 5 \text{ cm}^2/(\text{V s})$



J. E. Anthony; J. S. Brooks; D. L. Eaton; S. R. Parkin; *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2001**, *123*, 9482-9483.

S. J. Park; C. C. Kuo; J. E. Anthony; T. N. Jackson; *Tech. Dig. – Int. Electron Devices Meet.* **2006**, 113.

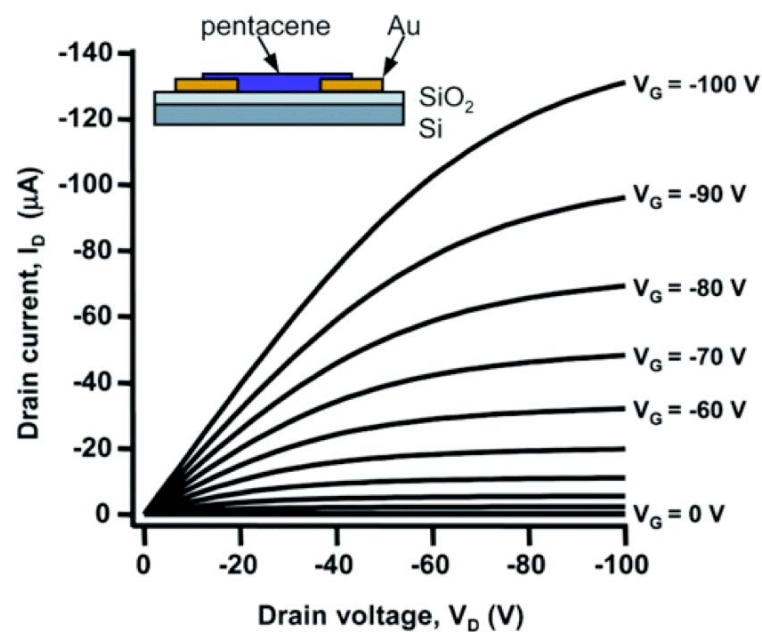
# Soluble Precursor Approach



OTFTs

$$\mu = 0.1 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{V}\cdot\text{s}$$

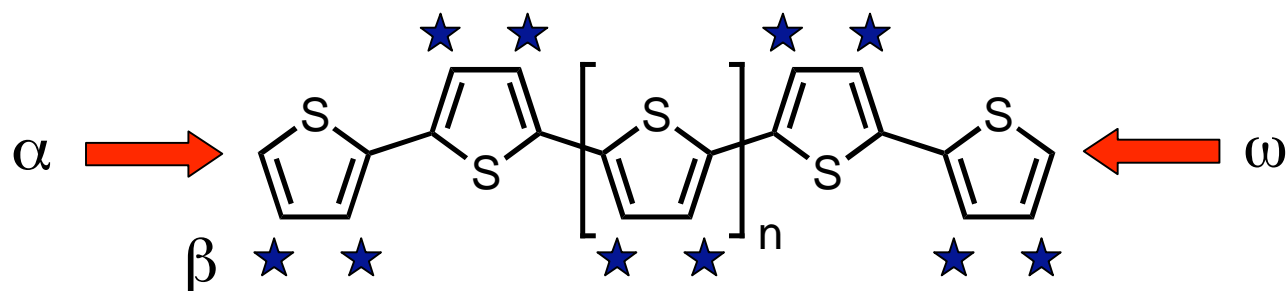
$$I_{\text{ON}} / I_{\text{OFF}} = 2 \cdot 10^5$$



Weidkamp, K. P.; Afzali, A.; Tromp, R. M.; and Hamers, R. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2004**, *126*, 12740.

Afzali, A.; Dimitrakopoulos, C. D.; Breen, T. L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2002**, *124*, 8812.

# Simple Oligothiophene Substitution

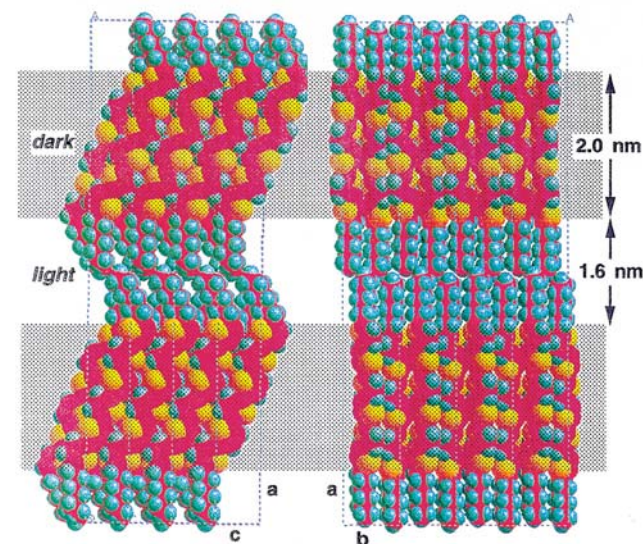


$\alpha,\omega$ -disubstituted oligothiophenes

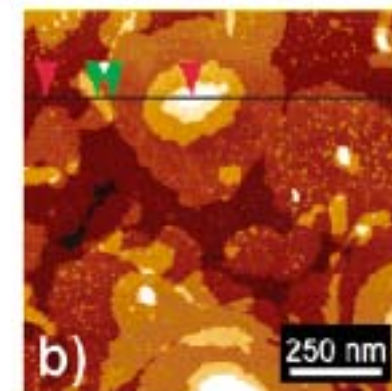
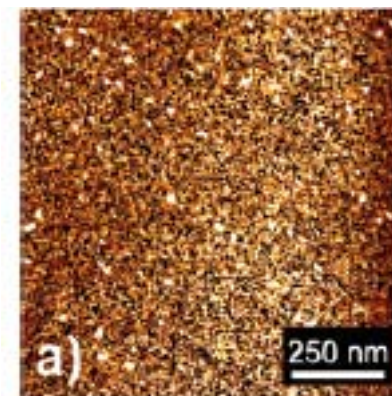
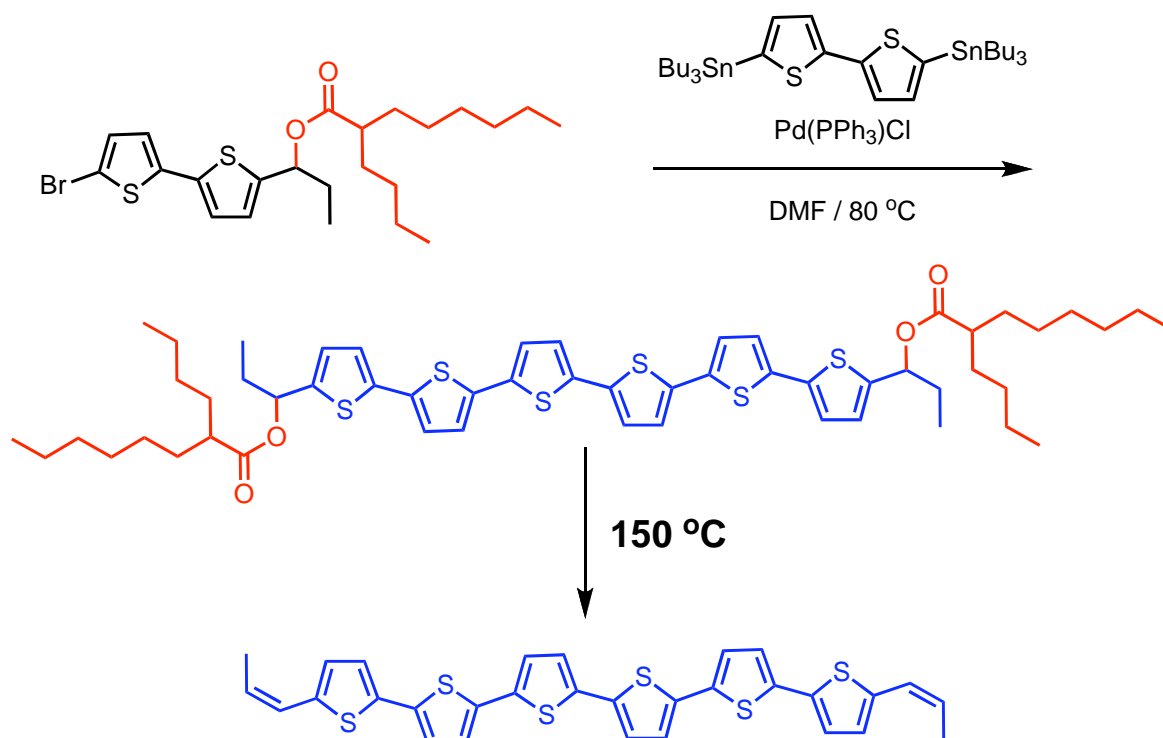
## Dihexylsexithiophene

Packing aided by liquid crystalline-like behavior of alkyl chains

Sparingly soluble in hot organic solvents



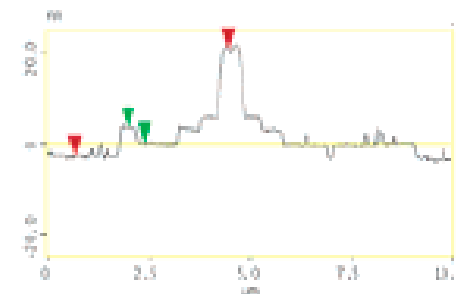
# Thermolysis of a Soluble $\alpha$ -T6 Precursor



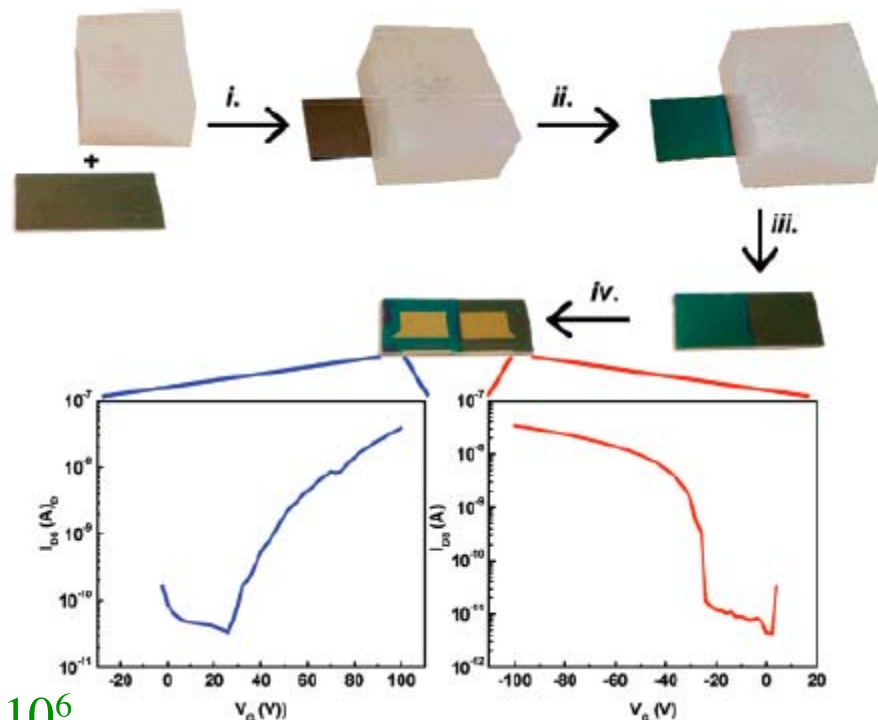
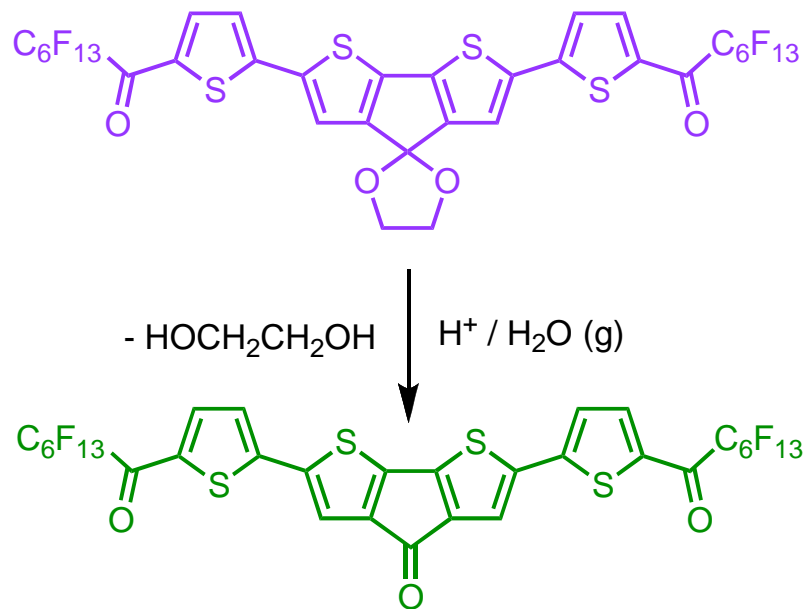
Precursor is highly soluble in organic solvents

Heating burns off the solubilizing groups, anneals thiophenes into terraced structures

OTFTs:  $\mu = 0.05 \text{ cm}^2 / \text{V}\cdot\text{s}$ ;  $I_{\text{ON}} / I_{\text{OFF}} = 10^5$  after thermal treatment

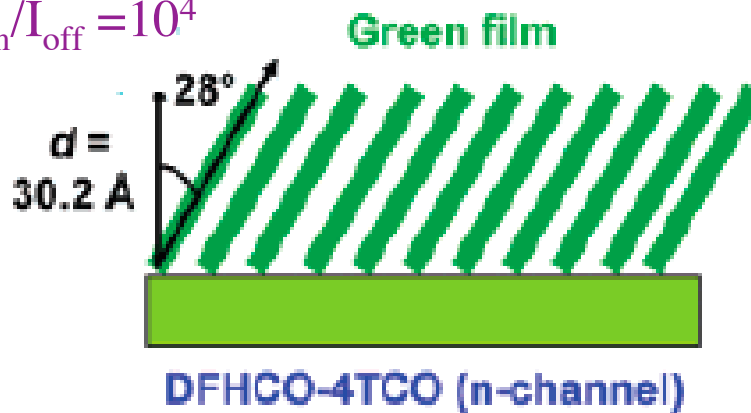
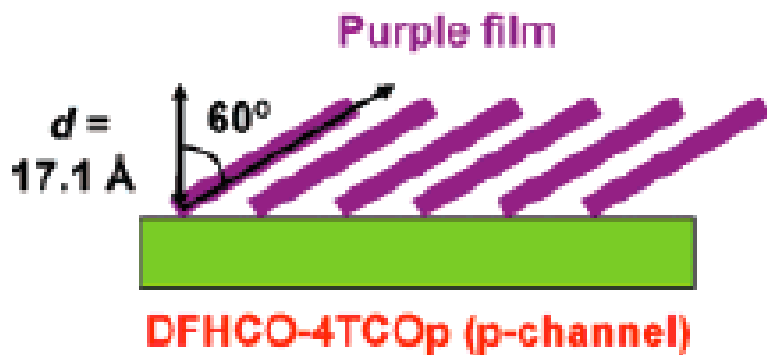


# Single Precursor p- and n-type Materials



N-type OTFT  $\mu = 0.08 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$  and  $I_{\text{on}}/I_{\text{off}} = 10^6$

P-type OTFT  $\mu = 2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$  and  $I_{\text{on}}/I_{\text{off}} = 10^4$



# Outline

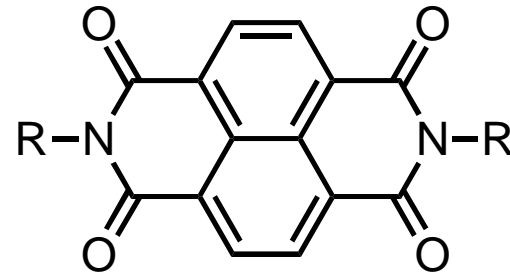
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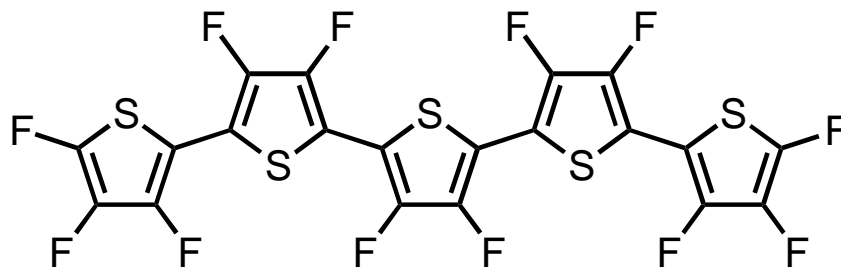
# N-type Materials - Strategies

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“Natural” n-type materials

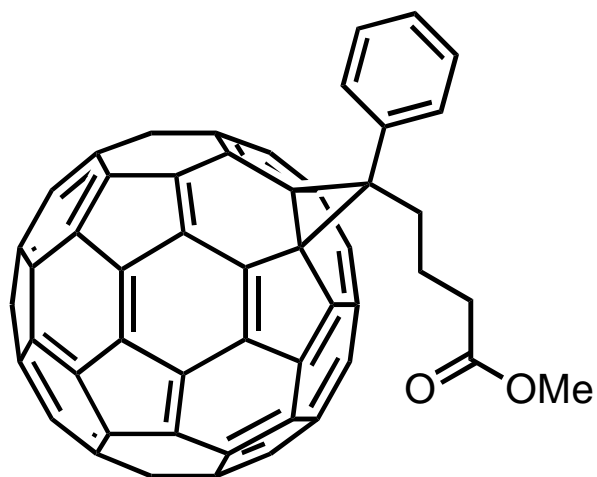


Adding electron-withdrawing substituents

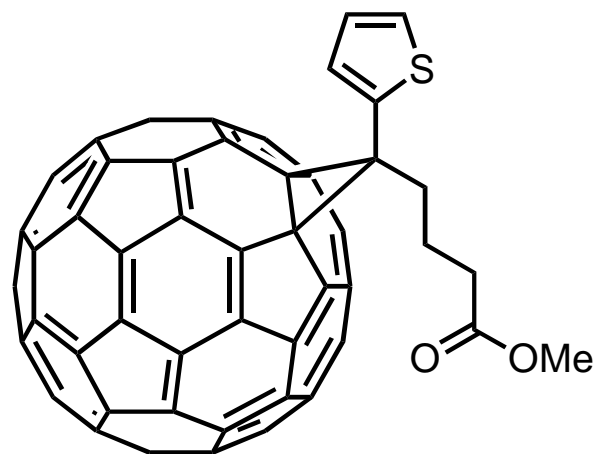


# Fullerene Derivatives

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Phenyl C60 Butyric Acid  
Methyl Ester  
(PCBM)



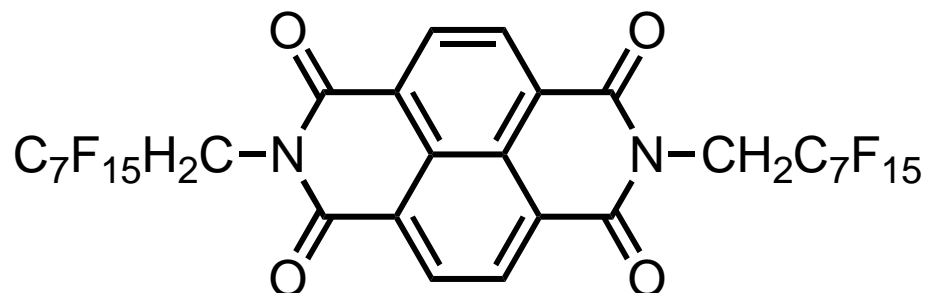
Thienyl CBM  
(ThCBM)

ThCBM has similar electronic properties to PCBM.

Synthetic chemists continue to work on fullerene chemistry

# Aromatic Bis(imide) Acceptors

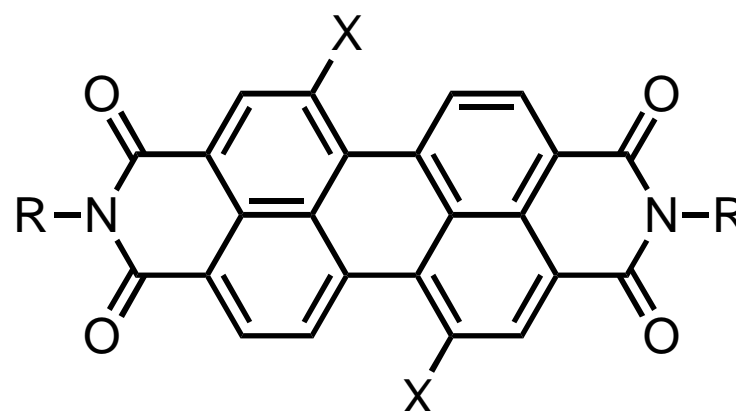
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One of the early organic n-FET successes.

Also used in an inverter circuit with a thiophene p-FET.

Katz, H. E.; Lovinger, A. J.; Johnson, J.; Kloc, C.; Slegrist, T.; Li, W.; Lin, Y. Y.; Dodabalapur, A. *Nature* **2000**, *404*, 478

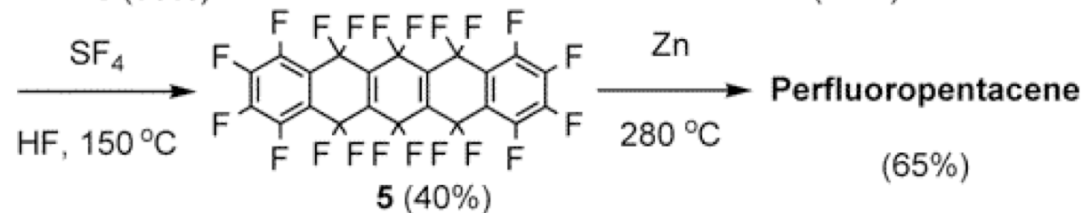
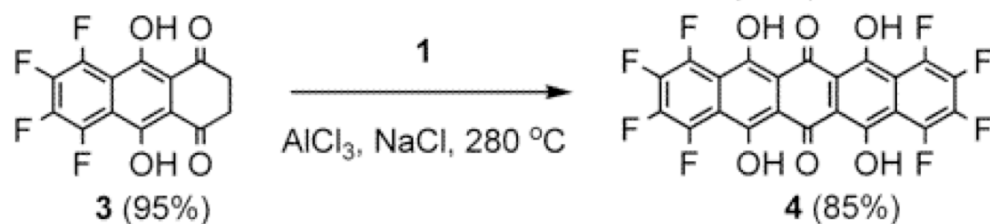
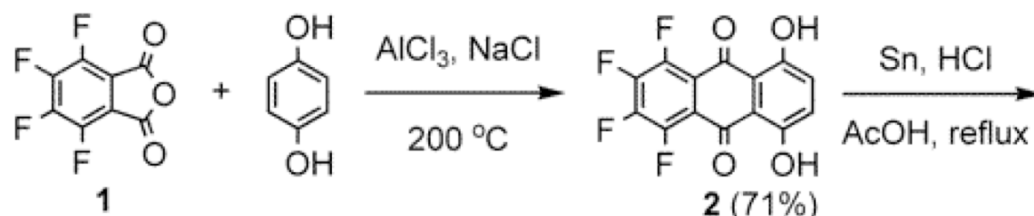
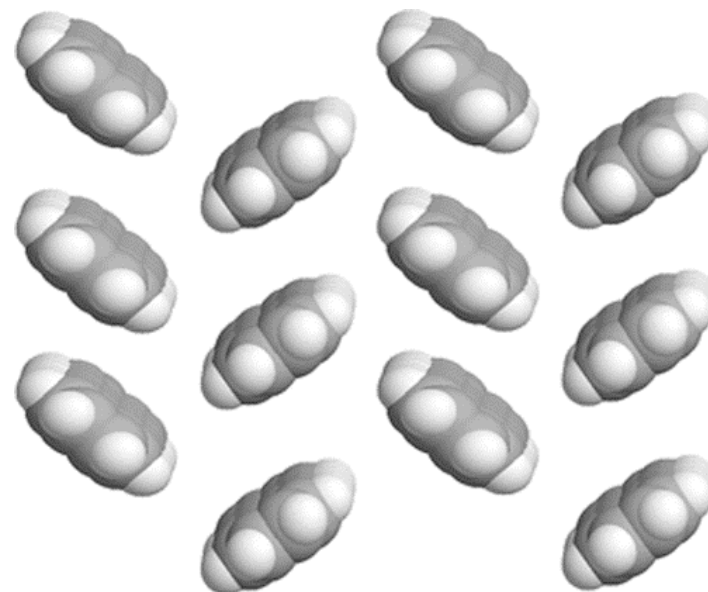
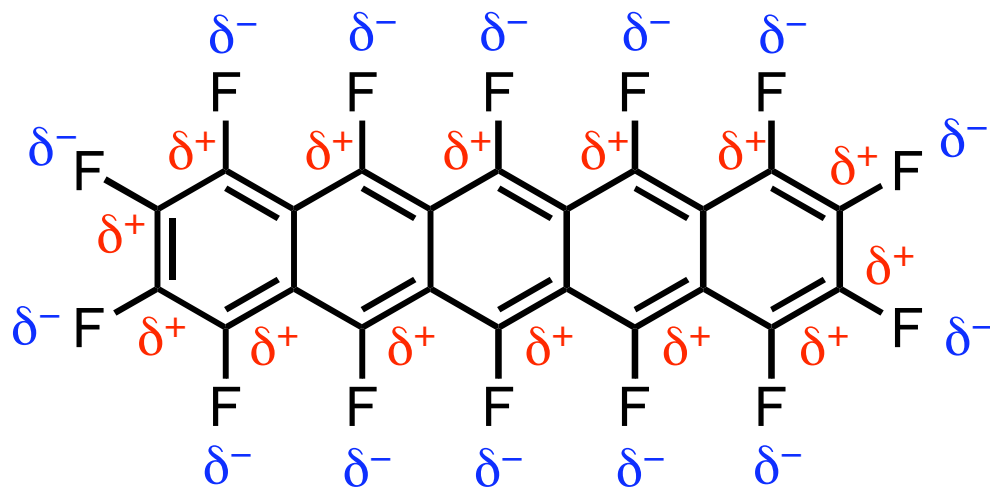


X often CN

Regioselectivity issue. Be aware!

F. Würthner; V. Stepanenko; Z. Chen; C. R. Saha-Möller; N. Kocher; D. Stalke *J. Org. Chem.* **2004**, *69*, 7933.

# Fluoropentacene



$$\mu = 0.22 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$$

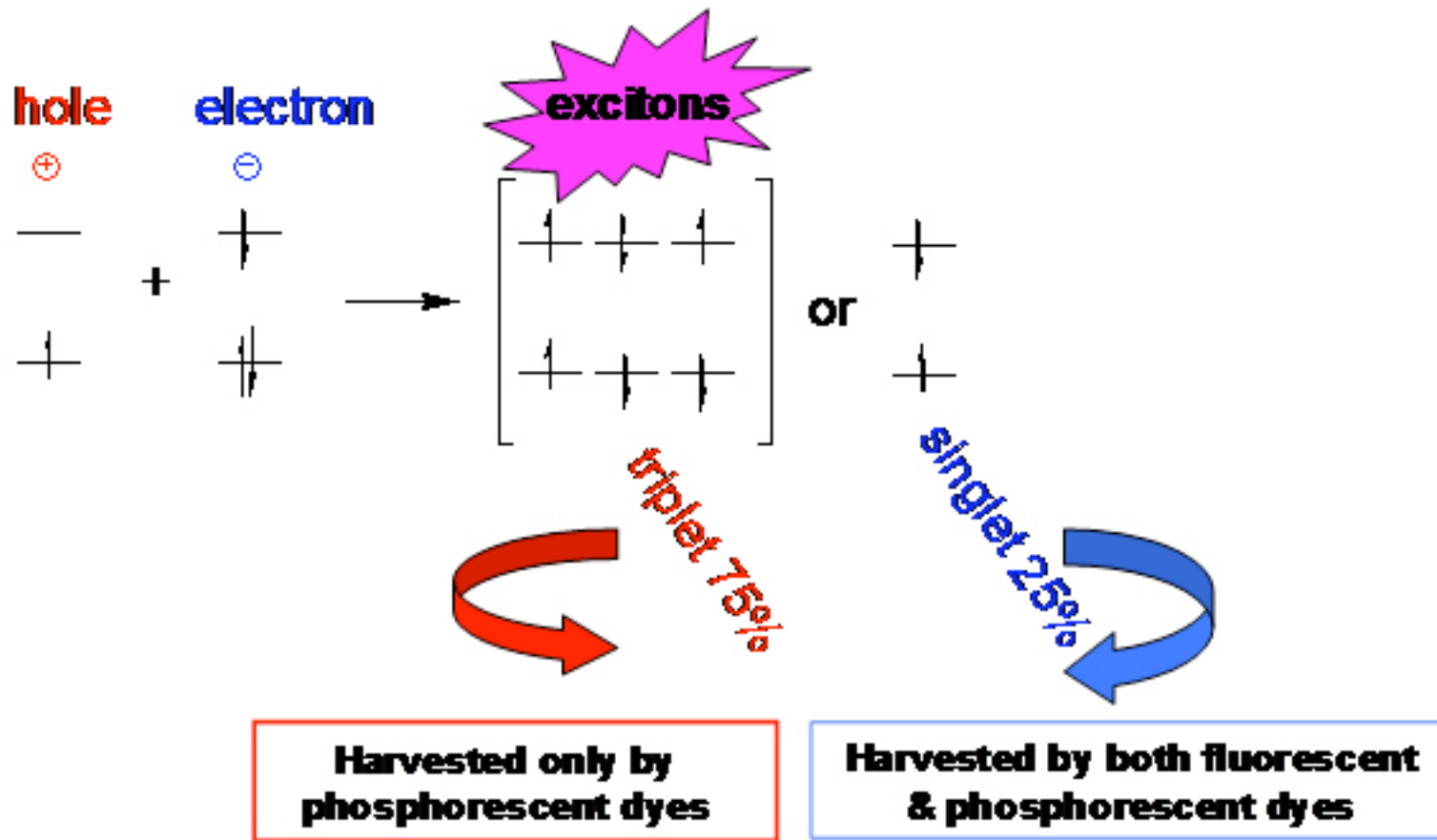
$$\text{and } I_{\text{on}}/I_{\text{off}} = 10^5$$

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# OLEDs & Phosphorescent Emitters



<u>Max theoretical quantum efficiency</u>	<u>Fluorescent</u>	<u>Phosphorescent</u>
<b>Internal</b>	25%	100%

# Covering the Display Spectrum

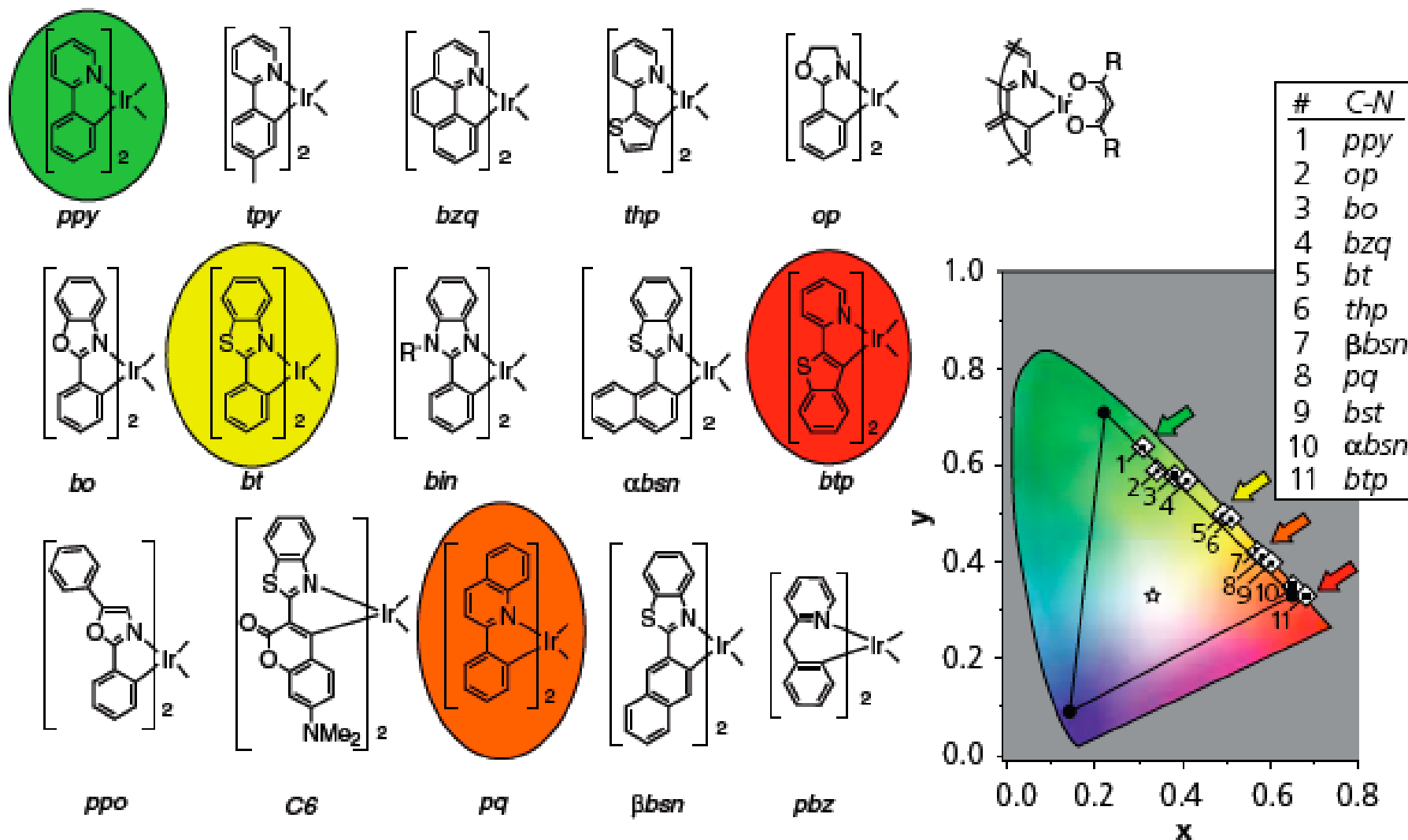


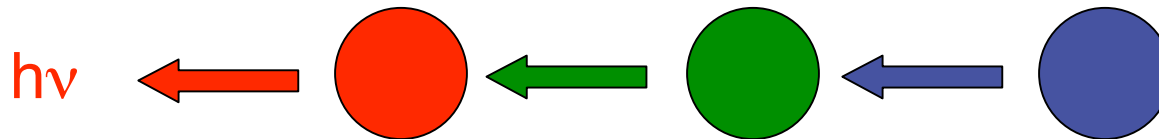
Image courtesy Prof. Mark Thompson, USC

# The Color Mixing Problem

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In order to use OLEDs for illumination, need white light

No problem! Mix several emitters into one device!

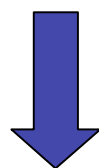
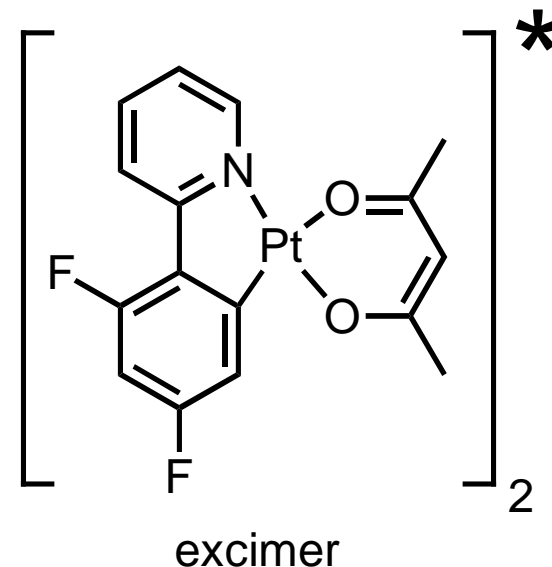
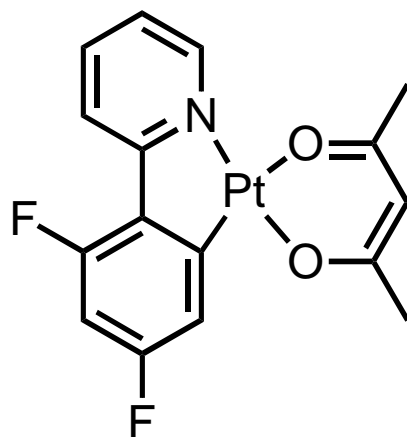
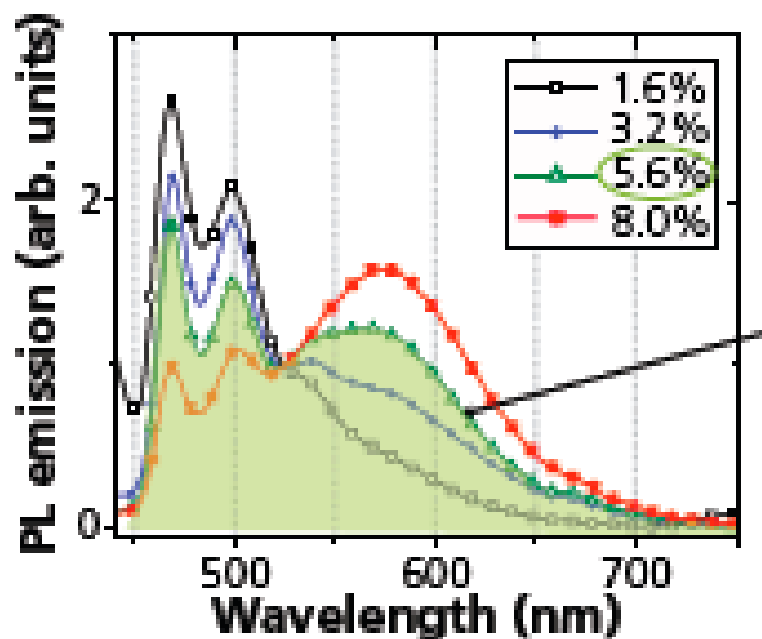


Challenges:

Different degradation rates

Energy transfer

# White Light from a Single Dopant



Control relative emission by doping concentration, steric bulk on ligands

# Conclusions

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Synthetic chemistry imparts versatility on the field of organic electronics

Versatility means more than just rearranging substituents - look for opportunities to use fundamental molecular phenomena

Significant development of n-type materials and gaining more precise control over self-assembly at molecular length scales are important challenges today.