



the
abdus salam
international centre for theoretical physics

ICTP 40th Anniversary

SMR 1564 - 40

SPRING COLLEGE ON SCIENCE AT THE NANOSCALE
24 May - 11 June 2004

***MOLECULAR ELECTRONICS:
Switching, Dynamics and Control***

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These are preliminary lecture notes, intended only for distribution to participants.

TRANSPORT IN MOLECULAR JUNCTIONS

Trieste 2004

Outline:

SOME GENERALITIES

LANDAUER AND KELDysh PICTURES

MOLECULAR ELECTRONICS CHALLENGES

ELECTRON TRANSFER AND ELECTRON CONDUCTANCE

CHARGE BUILDUP AT JUNCTIONS - INTERFACES

VOLTAGE ENGINEERING

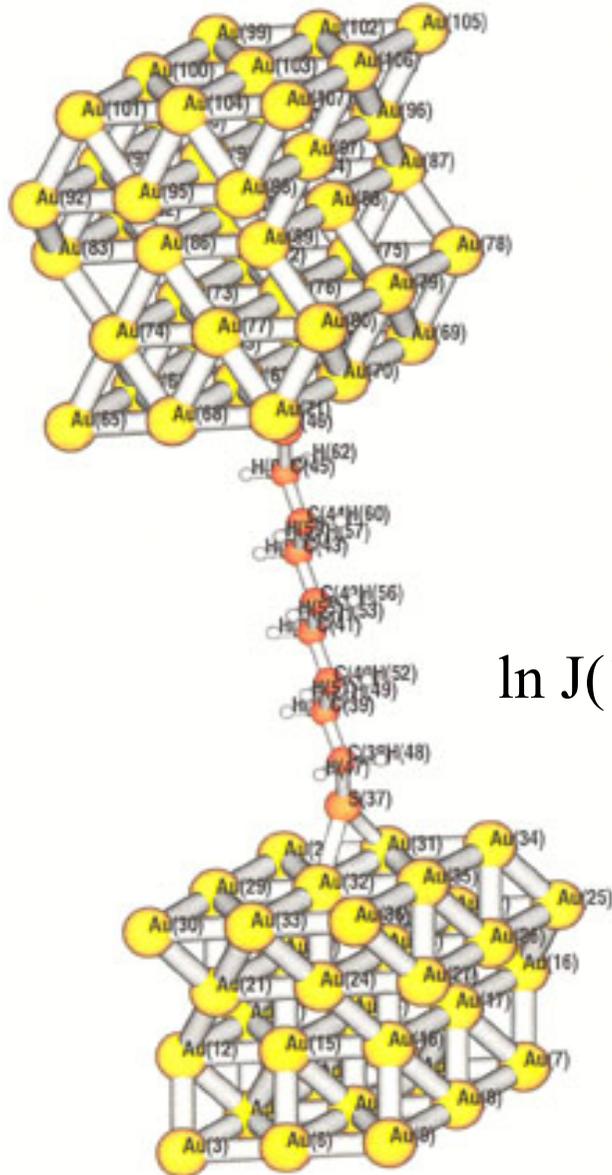
MECHANISMS: INCOHERENCE

TUNNELING TIMES

DNA AND MECHANISMS

DYNAMICS AND SWITCHING

Dithioalkane calculations with Transiesta code (DFT + NEGF)



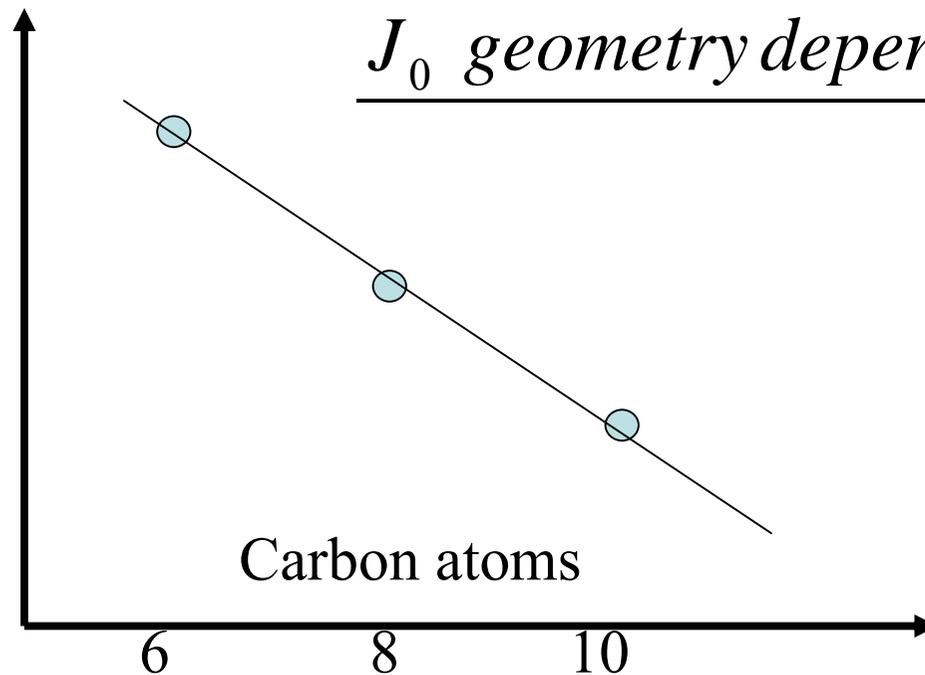
$\ln J(1V)$

$$J = J_0 \exp(-\beta r)$$

$$\beta = 0.63 / \text{Angstrom}$$

Expt. 0.60/Angstrom

J_0 geometry dependent

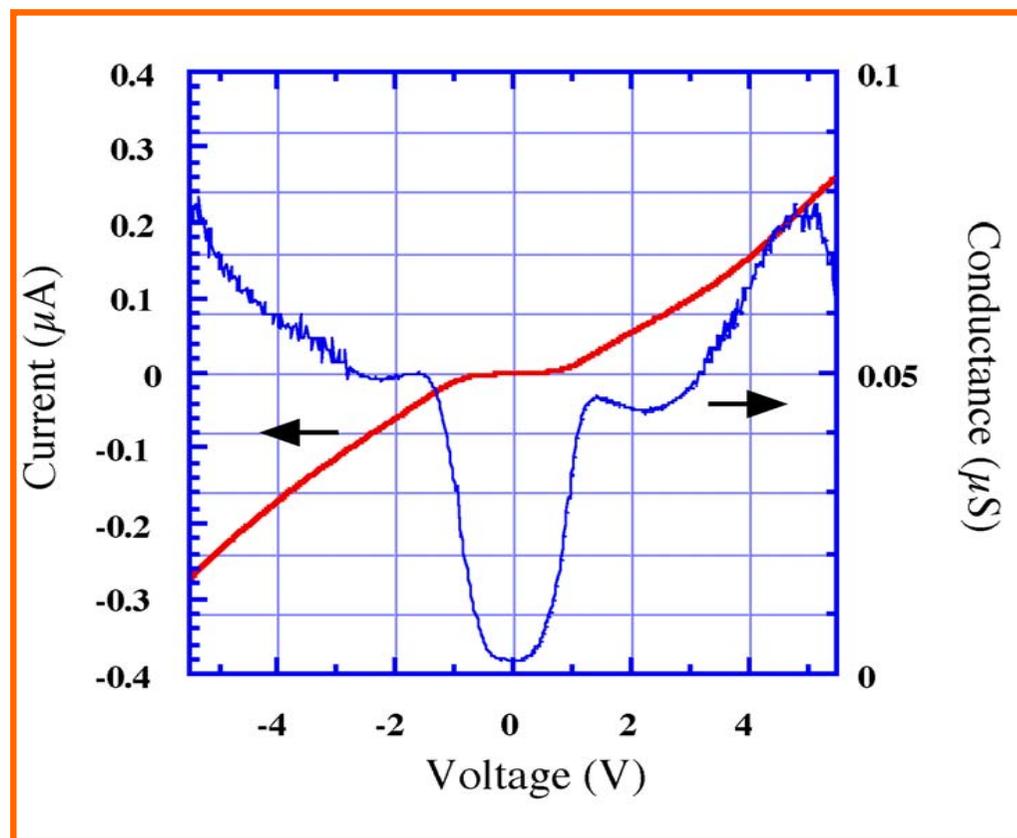
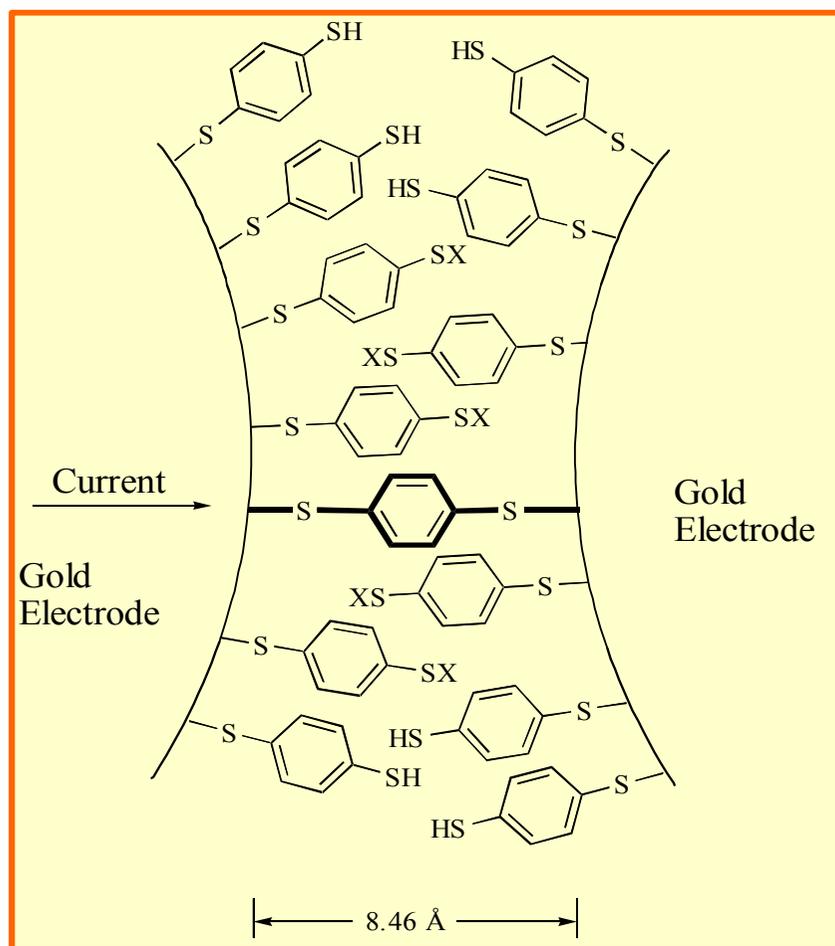


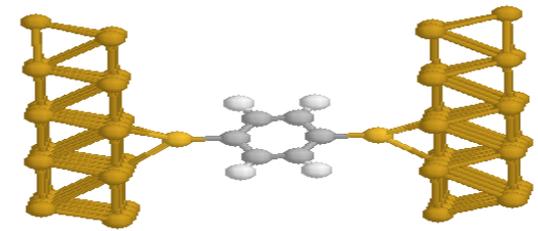
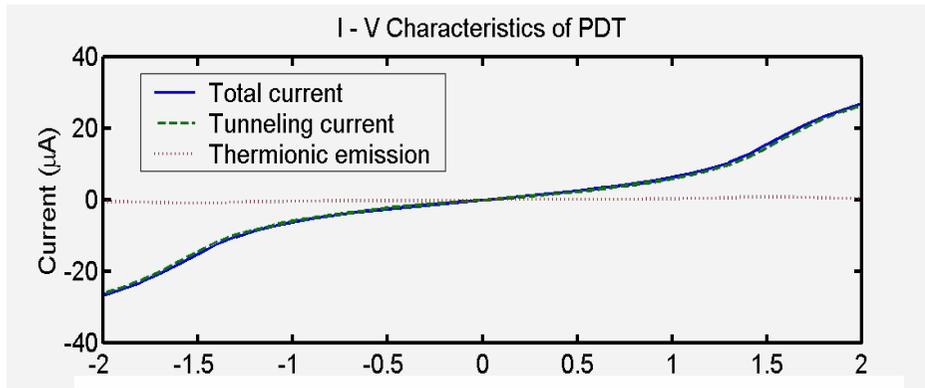
Molecular Wire Junctions: Some Mechanisms and Transport Behaviors

- **NEGF Formulation**
- **Simple Tunneling Transport**
- **Incoherent Transport**
- **Geometry Modulation**

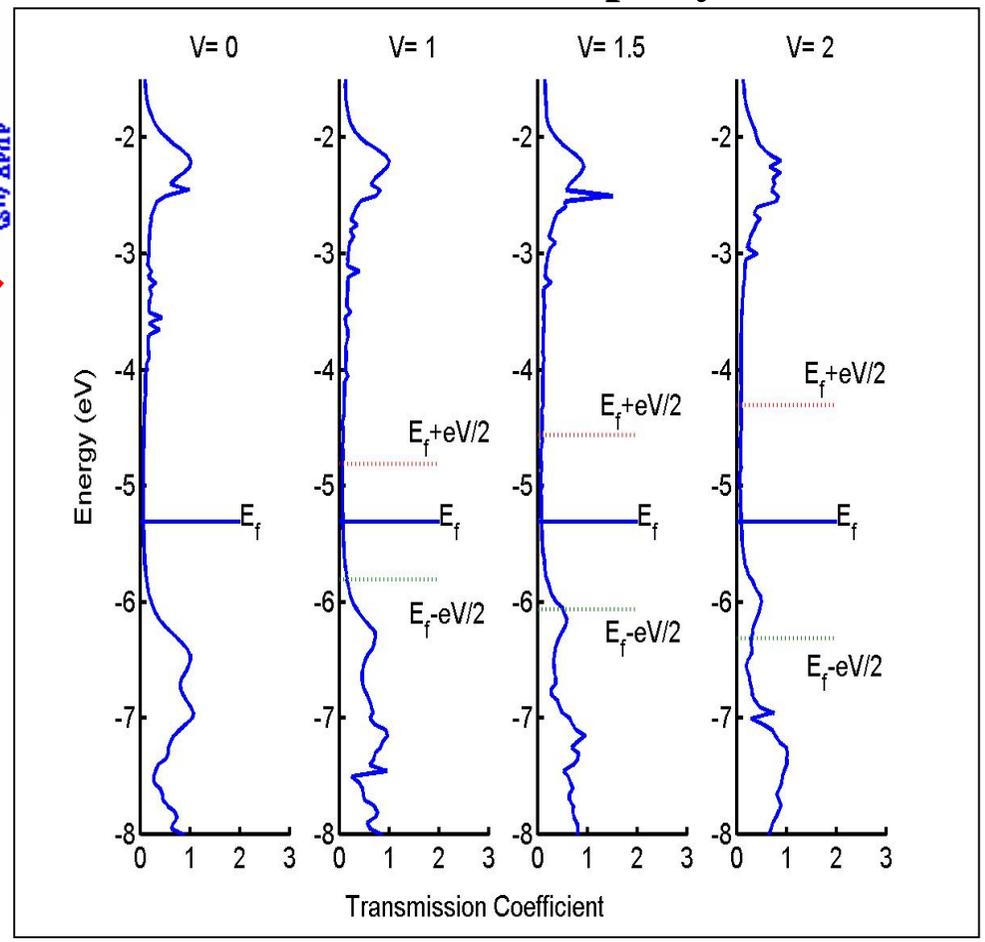
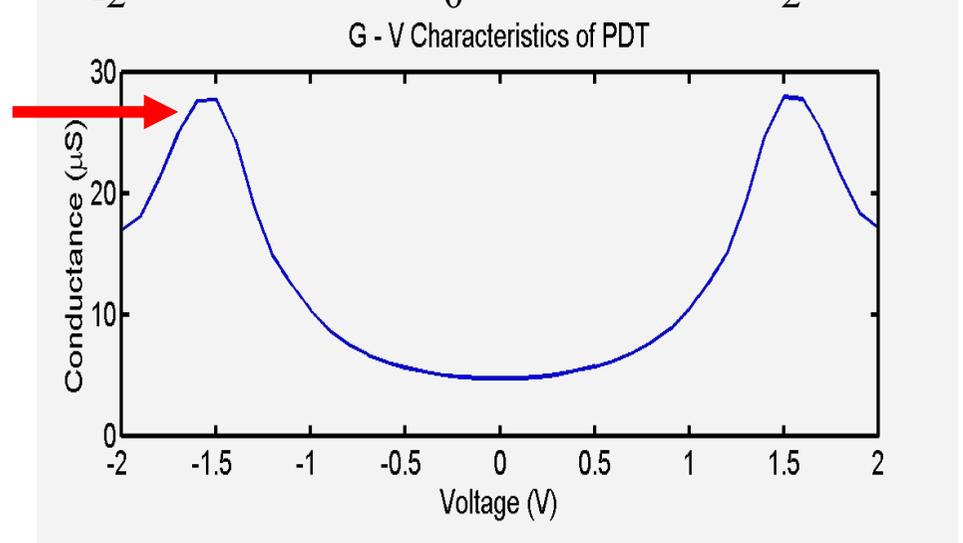
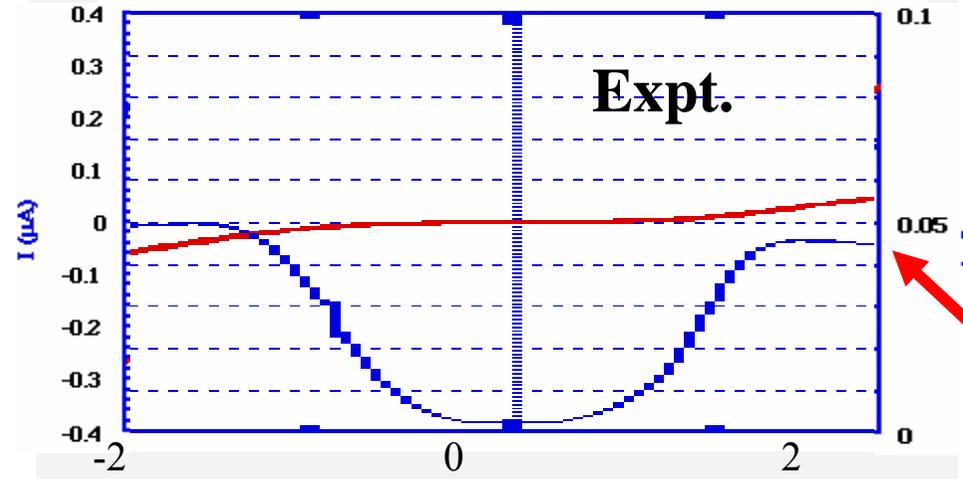
Non – Ohmic transport

Reed group,
Break junction





Transmission Property



Technically:

PW 91 DFT calculation

Soft pseudopotentials

Extended basis on molecule

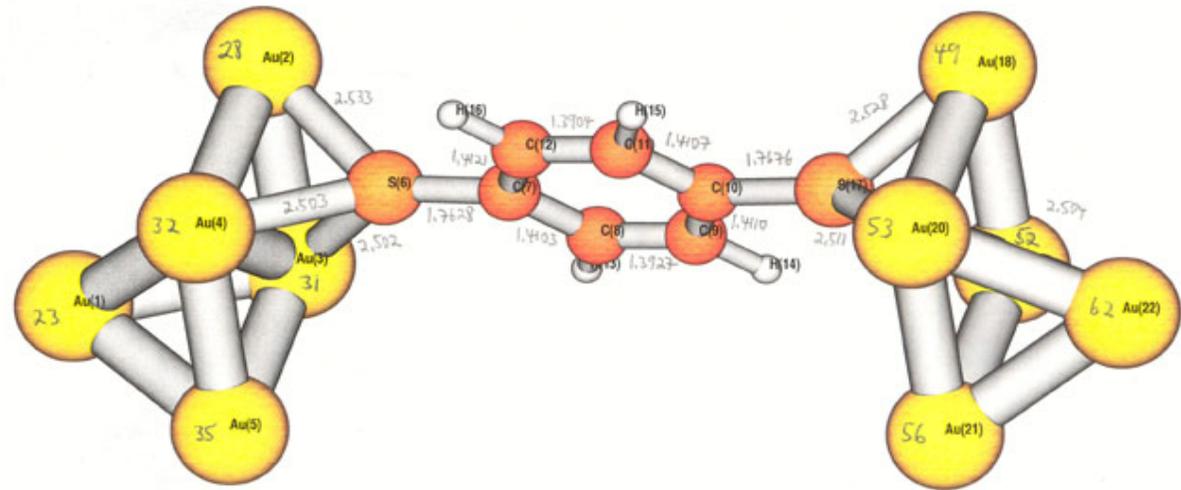
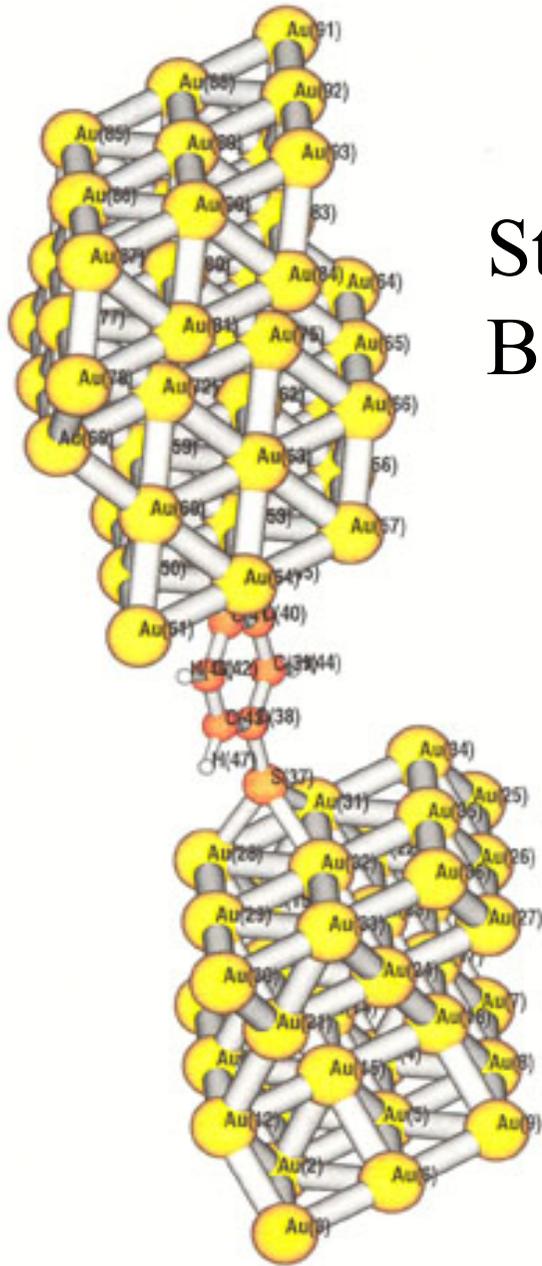
Optimized molecular geometry

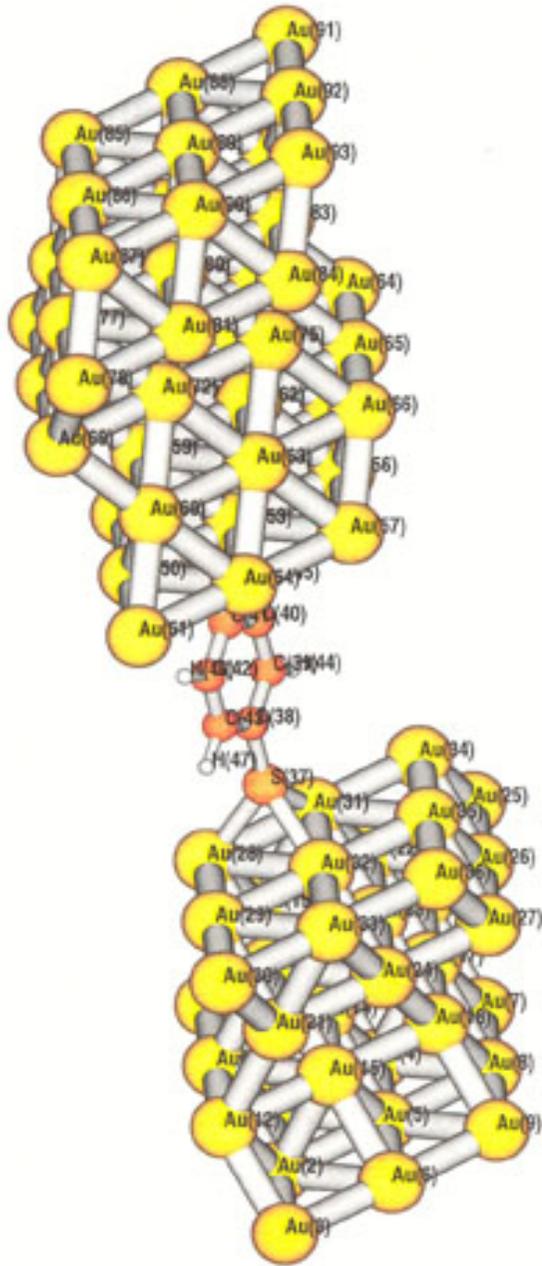
Non-equilibrium Green function for bulk

default junction geometry

truncated gold basis set

Standard Test Case (Reed, 1997) Benzenedithiol /Gold Break Junction

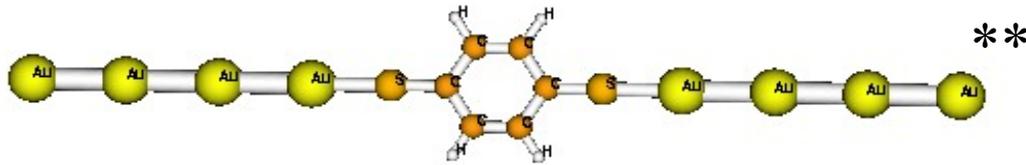




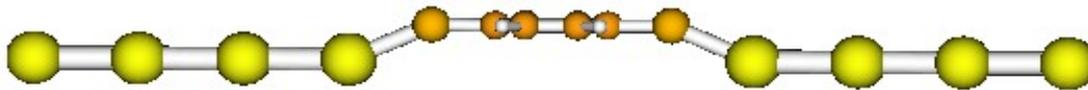
Biggish cluster, 3D
Shows conductance fluctuations:
 $g(\text{atop})/g(\text{FCC}) = 2.4$

Geometric Change Effect on Transport

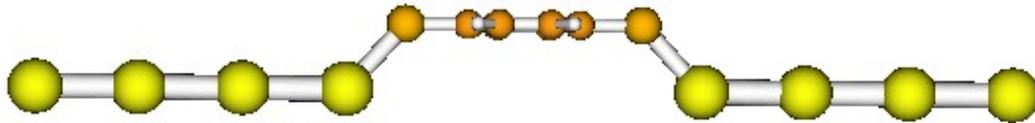
Current(A) at
 $V=1.0V$



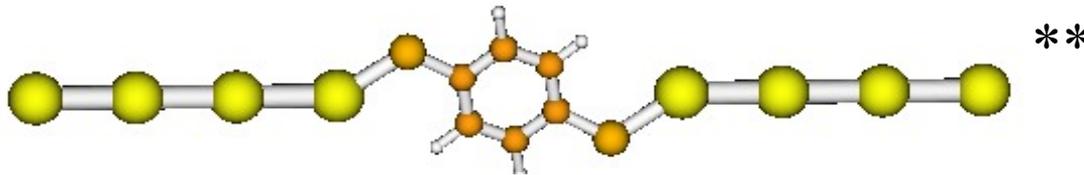
2.6×10^{-8}



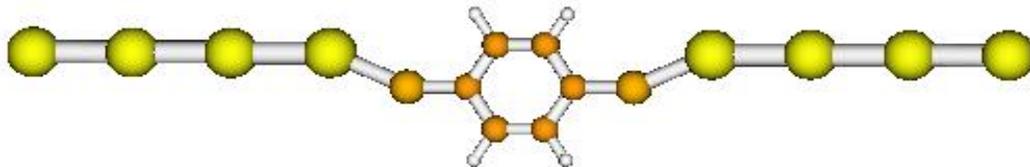
2.2×10^{-5}



7.0×10^{-5}



4.9×10^{-6}

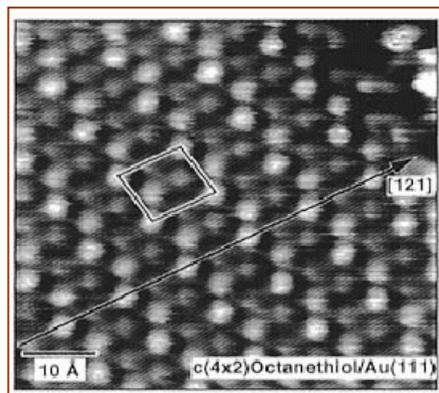
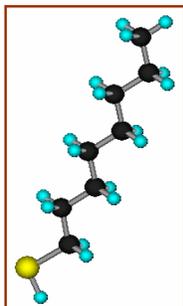


2.1×10^{-8}

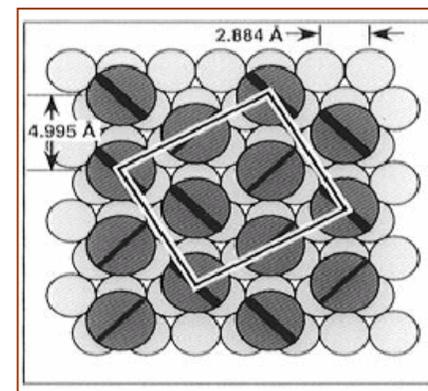
** optimized structure

SAMs on Au(111)-STM Images

Octanethiol

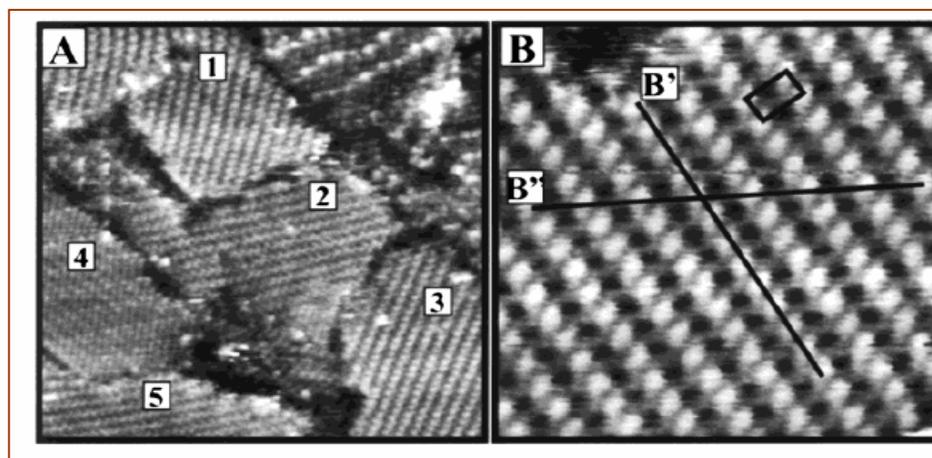
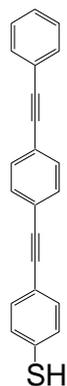


Octanethiol/Au(111)



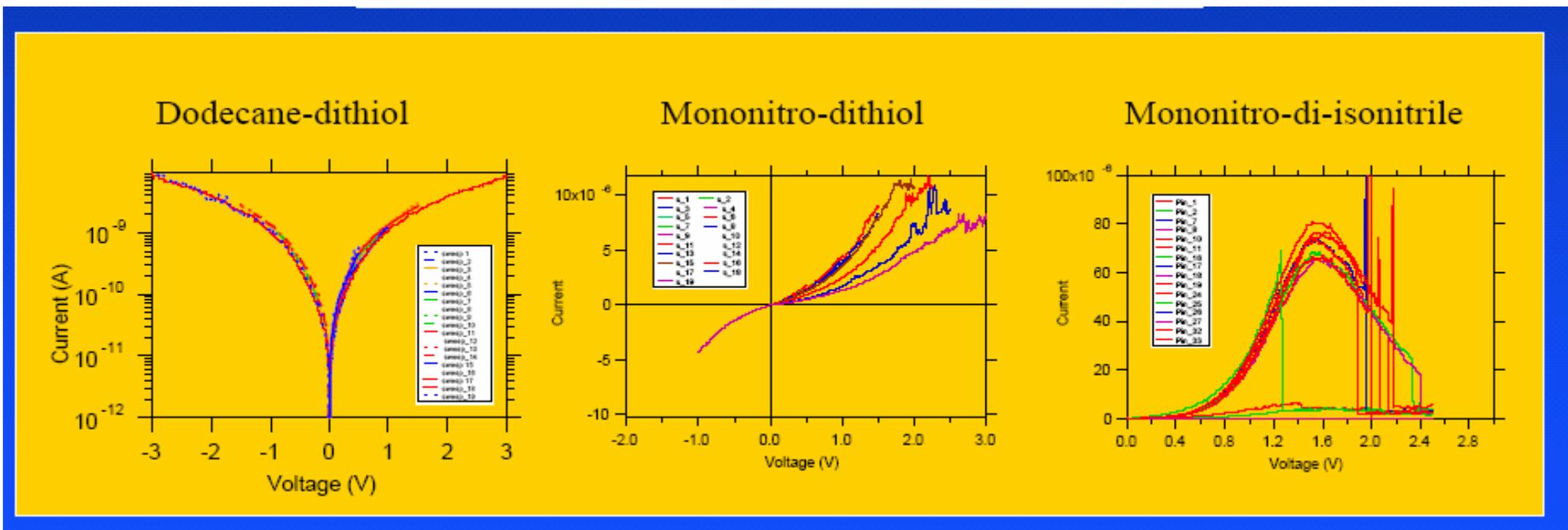
Poirier, Chem. Rev. 97, 1117 (1997)

4-[4'-(phenylethynyl)-phenylethynyl]-benzenethiol



Arenethiol/Au(111)

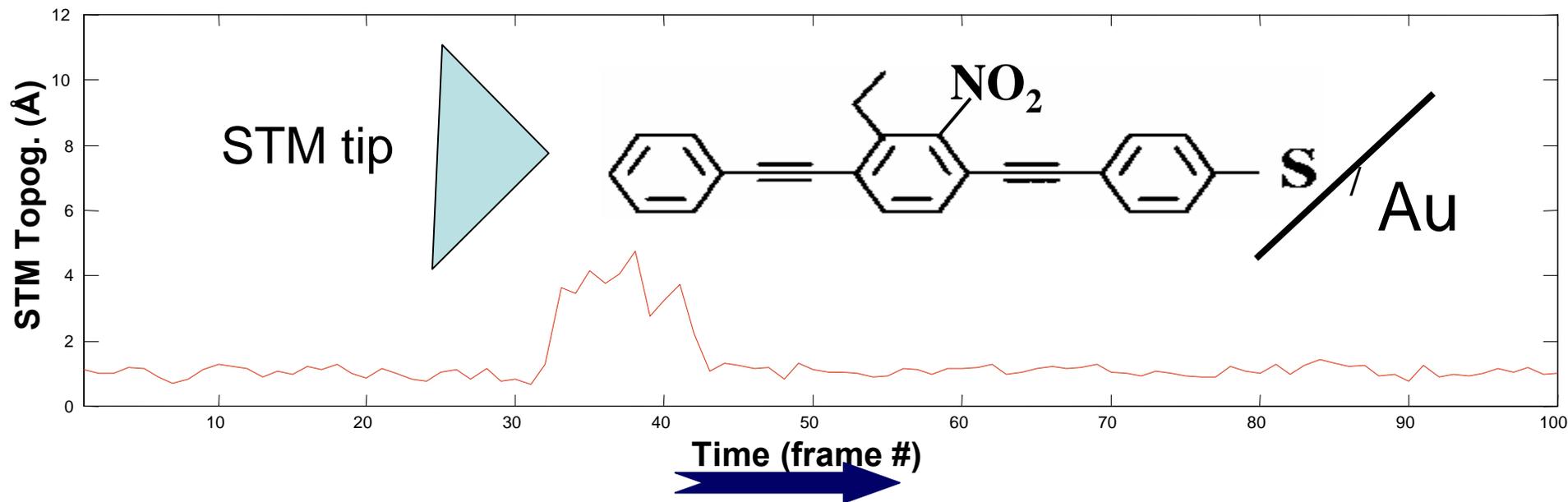
Yang et al, J. Phys. Chem. B 104, 9059 (2000)



**Reproducibility ok in alkanethiols,
poor in aromatics (Reed, 2003)**

Dynamical conductance fluctuations

How many molecules are required for switching? **1.**



Frames 1 - 20



Frames 21 - 40



Frames 41 - 60



$V_{\text{sample}} = +1.4 \text{ V}$

$I = 0.2 \text{ pA}$

3 min/frame

Mantooth, Donhauser, Kelly & Weiss

Review of Scientific Instruments **73**, 313 (2002)

Conductance Fluctuations?

- **multiple stable sites, low barriers**
- **conductance changes with site symmetry**
- **characteristic of Lewis bonding like Au/thiol**

Thiol/Gold Interfaces??

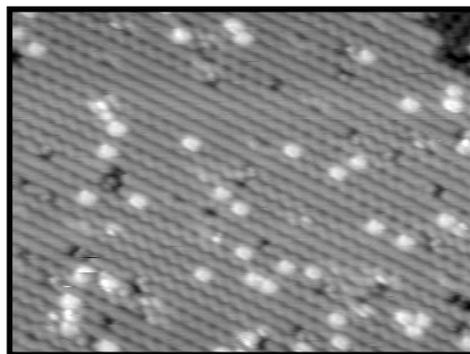
- **Schottky barriers from charge flow**
- **Fluid geometry from Lewis binding**
- **Sigma/pi problems**
- **Relatively poor spectral density**

- **Facile and general structure formation**

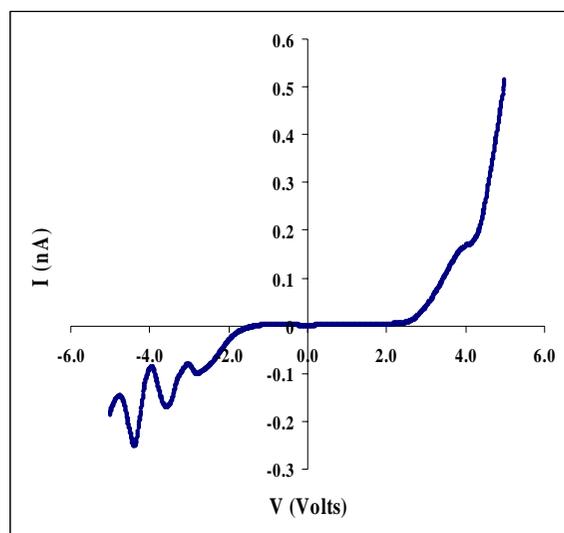
ALTERNATIVES?

- **BETTER LEWIS BINDING (ISOCYANIDE/Pt)**
- **COVALENT BINDING AT SEMICONDUCTORS**

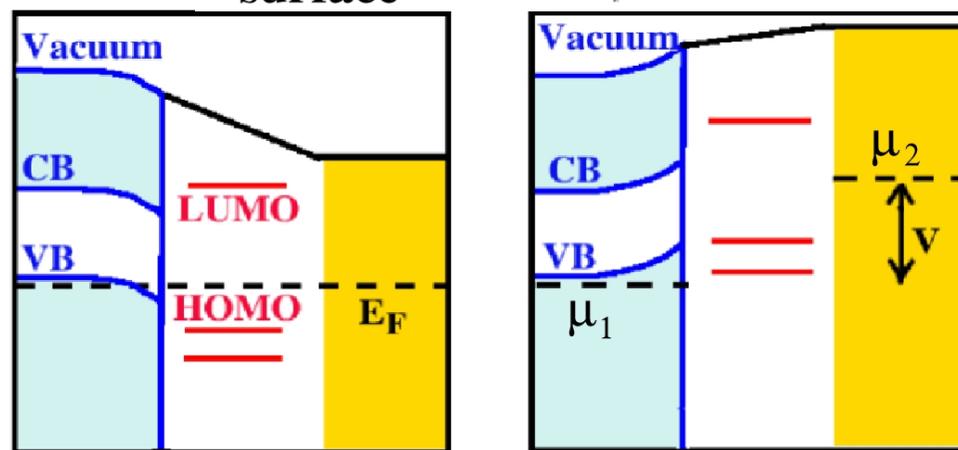
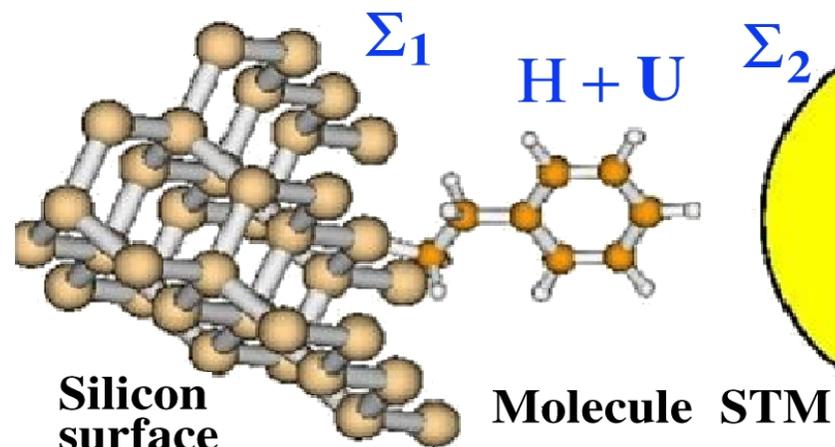
Covalent attachment NDR



20 nm × 20 nm, -2 V, 0.1 nA



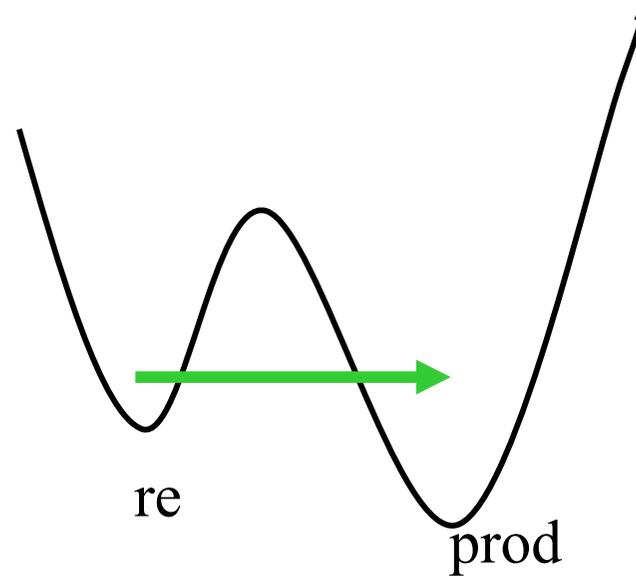
I-V Curve of Individual TEMPO Molecule on Clean Si(100)



(a) $V = 0$

(b) $V > 0$

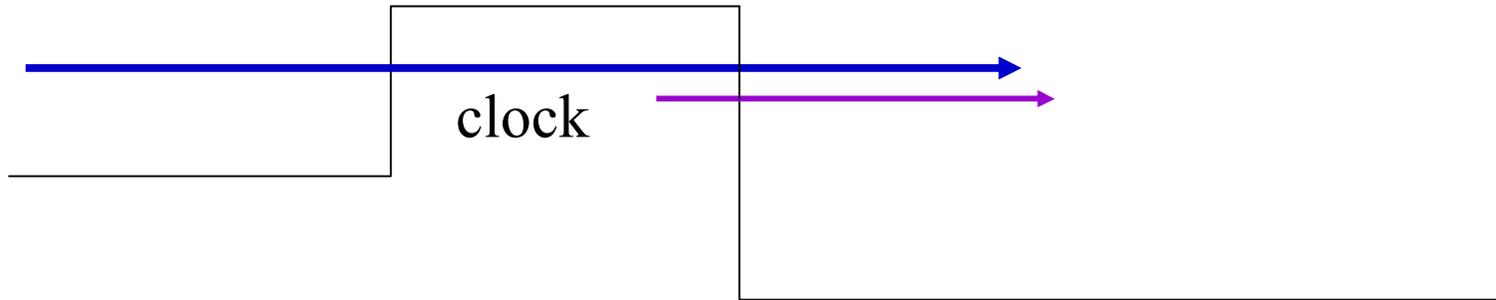
Tunneling Time



$$\text{Rate time} = k_{ET}^{-1} \approx 10^{-13} - 10^{-8} \text{ sec}$$

Tunneling time??

Landauer Buttiker Time



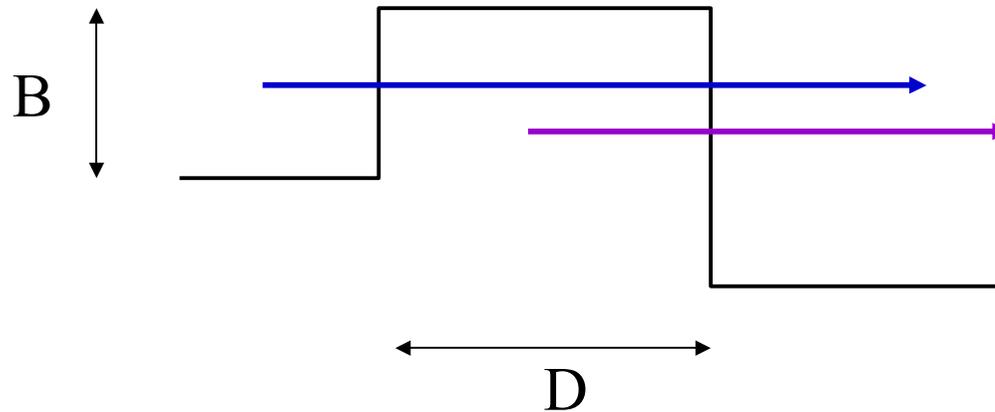
Clock frequency = f

At resonance, the ratio

\rightarrow / \rightarrow Maximizes, and

$$f = 2\pi / \tau_{LB}$$

Landauer Buttiker Time



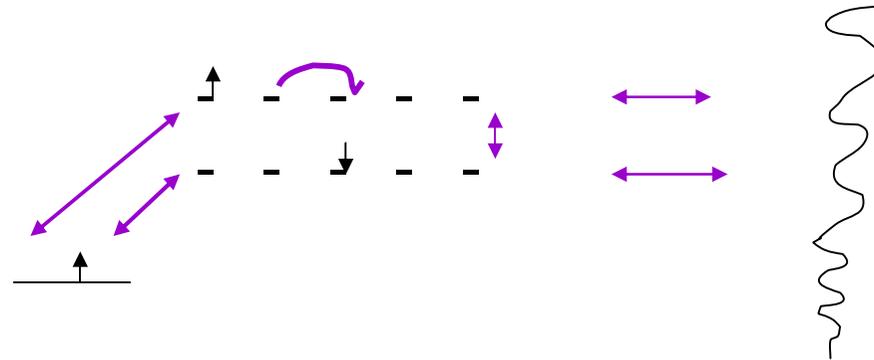
$$\tau_{LB} = D * \sqrt{m / 2(B - E)}$$

As B increases, LB time drops,

Rate time increases

How to generalize this to rate problems??

Model for tunnel time



$t = 0$: electron in $(0,)^\uparrow$

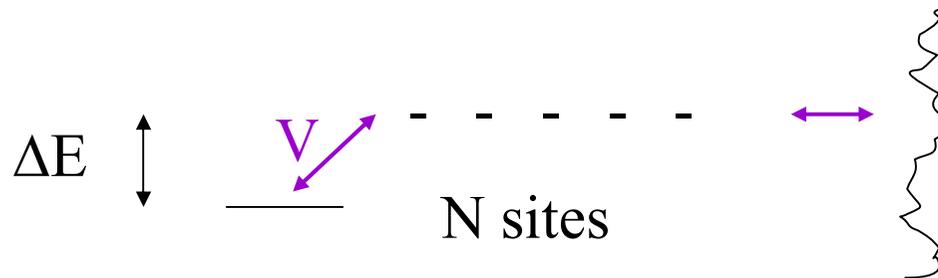
$$R = P[\downarrow] / (P[\uparrow] + P[\downarrow])$$

R can index tunneling time

some complicated arithmetic suggests:

The equivalent of the Landauer/Buttiker time
(for superexchange system)

$$\tau_T = \hbar N / \Delta E$$



NOTE:

tunnel time looks like uncertainty time

tunnel time linear in N

tunnel time independent of V

Landauer-Buttiker Contact Time For Wires

$$\tau_{LB} = N\hbar / (gap)$$

So: **big gaps, short wires** (alkanes) give
attosecond times, weak vibronic coupling,
Coherent ,T-independent tunneling transport

Other times also enter

Wilkie, Nitzan, Jortner, MR

Molecular Wire Junctions: Some Mechanisms and Transport Behaviors

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- **Geometry Modulation**

Landauer-Buttiker Contact Time For Wires

$$\tau_{LB} = N\hbar / (gap)$$

So: **small gaps, long wires** (aromatics)
give times approaching nuclear motion
suggesting nuclear coupling, dephasing,
transition to activated motion

Other times also enter

Wilkie, Nitzan, Jortner, MRr

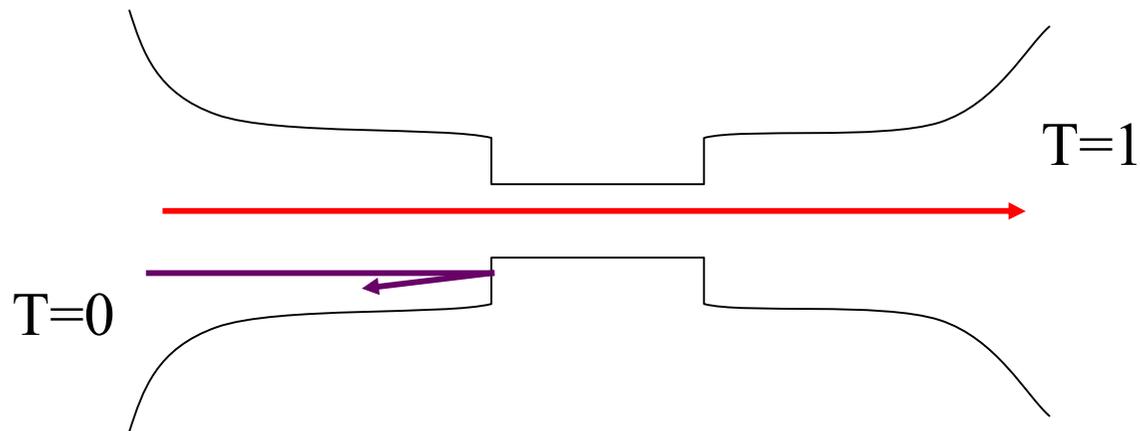
Molecular Wire Junctions: Some Mechanisms and Transport Behaviors

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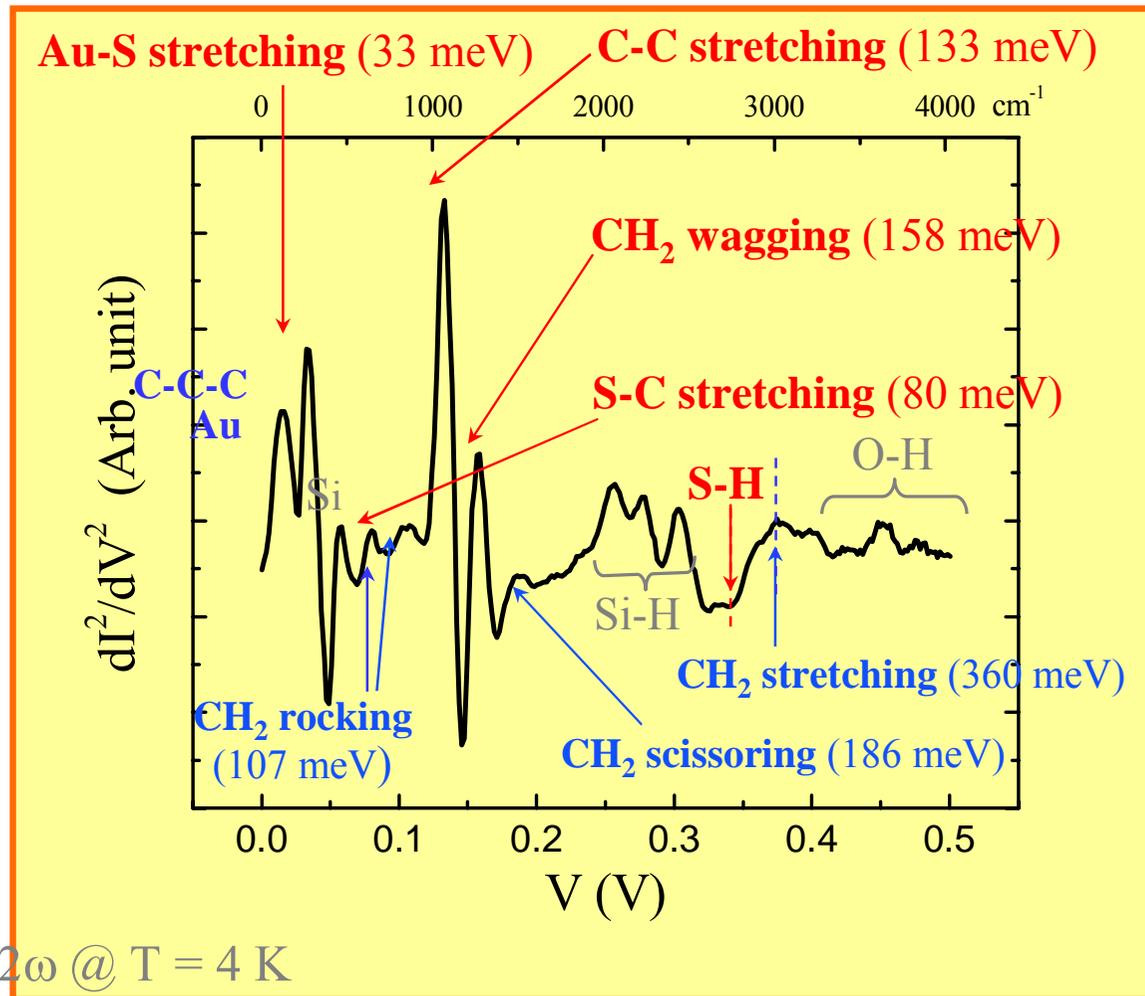
I. Landauer Coherent Conductance

$$g = \frac{e^2}{h} \sum_i T_{ii}$$

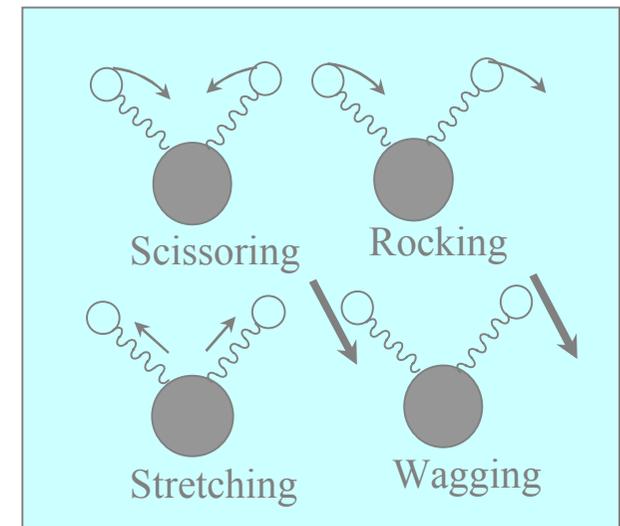
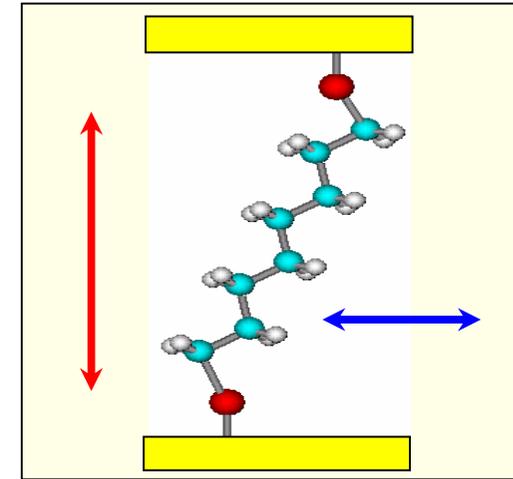
T_{ii} = transition probability
in the i^{th} transverse channel



Inelastic electron tunneling spectroscopy on SAMs



Wang *et. al*, NanoLetters (in press)



Hamiltonian for electrons and vibrations

$$\hat{H}_0 = \sum_{k \in L, R} \varepsilon_k^{L, R} \hat{d}_k^+ \hat{d}_k + \sum_{i, j} t_{ij} \hat{c}_i^+ \hat{c}_j + \sum_m \omega_m^{bath} \hat{b}_m^+ \hat{b}_m + \sum_k \omega_k \hat{a}_k^+ \hat{a}_k$$

leads molecule vibrons phonons
electrons electrons

Couplings and interactions are represented by the Hamiltonian

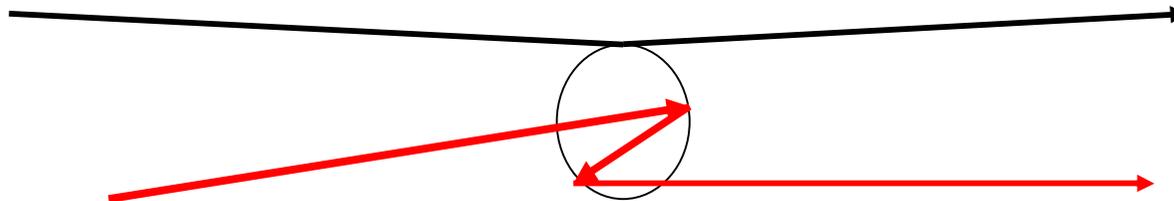
$$\hat{H}_1 = \sum_{k \in L, R; i} \left(V_{ki} \hat{d}_k^+ \hat{c}_i + h.c. \right) + \sum_i V_{ij}^{ext} \hat{c}_i^+ \hat{c}_j + \sum_{k, m} U_m^k \hat{A}_k \hat{B}_m + \sum_{k, i} M_i^k \hat{A}_k \hat{c}_i^+ \hat{c}_i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i_1, i_2, i_3, i_4} V_{i_3 i_4}^{i_1 i_2} \hat{c}_{i_1}^+ \hat{c}_{i_2}^+ \hat{c}_{i_4} \hat{c}_{i_3}$$

$$\hat{A}_k = \hat{a}_k^+ + \hat{a}_k \quad \hat{B}_m = \hat{b}_m^+ + \hat{b}_m$$

Green function in composite system:

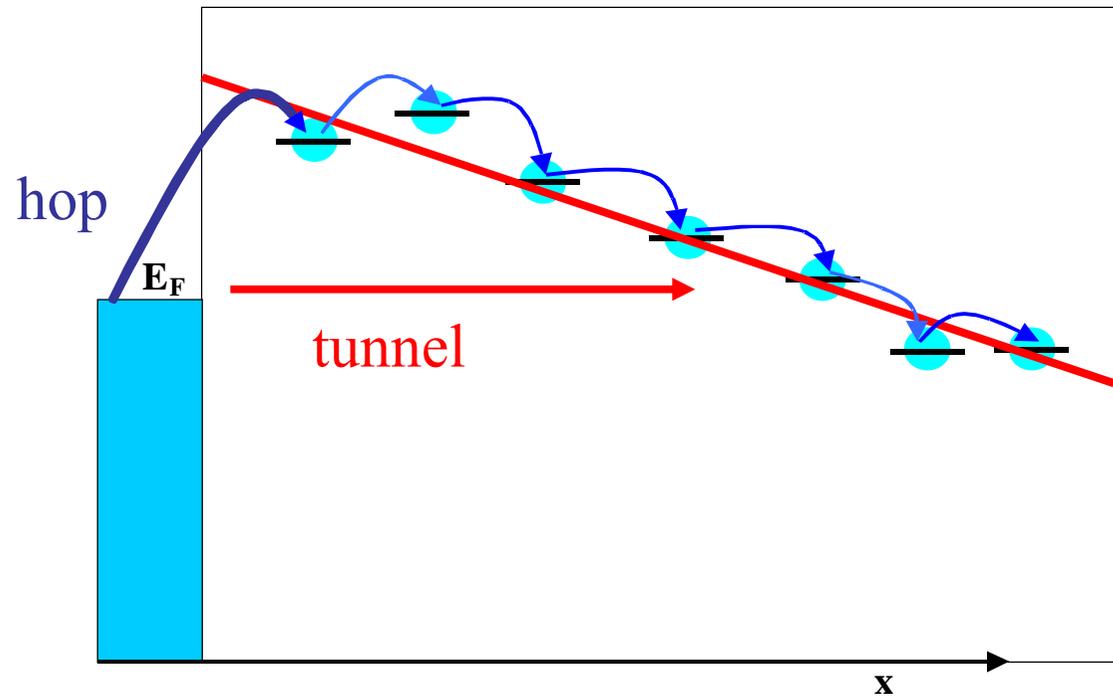
$$G(\tau, \tau') = G_0(\tau, \tau') + \int_c d\tau_1 \int_c d\tau_2 G_0(\tau, \tau_1) \Sigma(\tau_1, \tau_2) G(\tau_2, \tau')$$

$$\Sigma(\tau_1, \tau_2) = \Sigma^{ext} + \Sigma^L + \Sigma^R + \Sigma^{ph}$$



Electron/vibron coupling can be elastic or inelastic

Moving over and through the Injection Barrier



Expect to **tunnel** for short, cold junctions

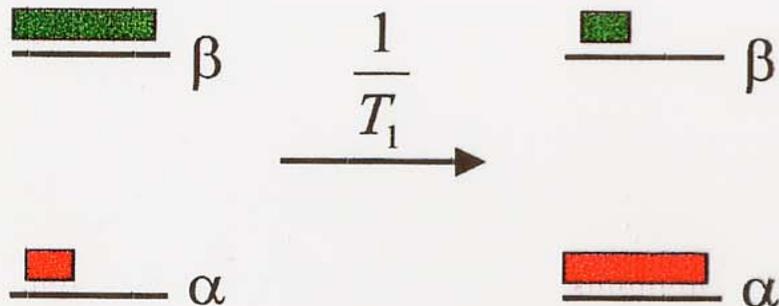
hop for long, hot junctions

SYSTEM-BATH COUPLING -- CONCEPTS

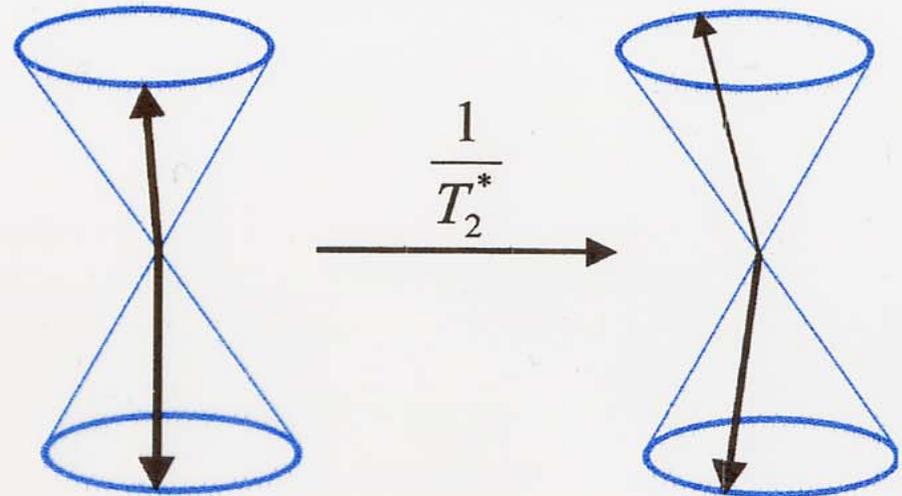
FROM NMR

$$\frac{1}{T_2} = \frac{1}{2T_1} + \frac{1}{T_2^*}$$

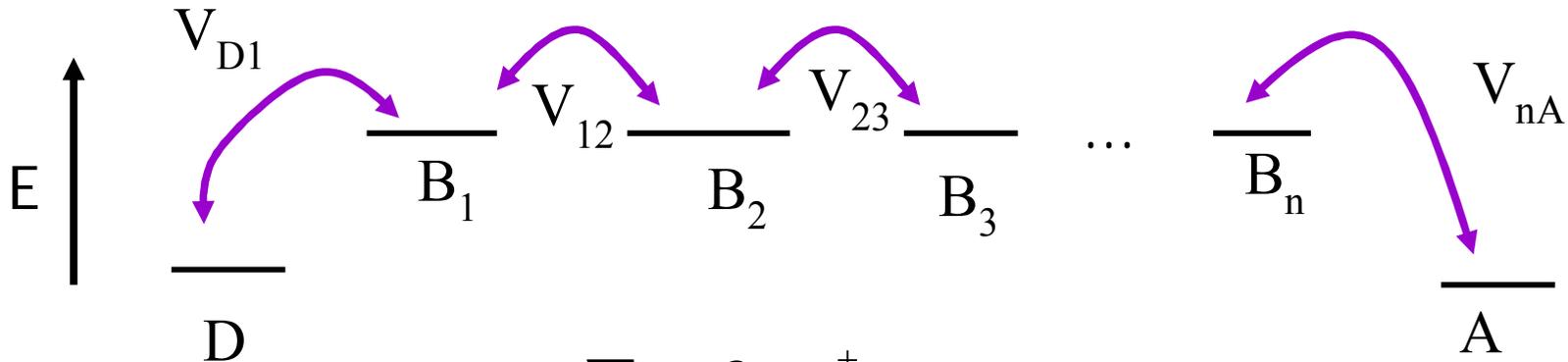
Longitudinal Relaxation



Transverse Relaxation



Time Dependence - Purely Electronic



$$H = \sum_{ij} \beta_{ij} a_i^+ a_j$$

$$\langle a_i^+ a_j \rangle = \rho_{ji}$$

$$\left\langle \frac{d}{dt} (a_i^+ a_j) \right\rangle = i [H , a_i^+ a_j]$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \rho_{ji} = i \sum_n \{ \rho_{jn} \beta_{ni} - \beta_{jn} \rho_{ni} \}$$

Multiple Oscillations

Density Matrix formalism

Used for systems with partial information

$$\rho_{ii} = \text{populations}$$

$$\rho_{ij} = \text{coherences}$$

$$d\rho / dt = i[H, \rho] + (d\rho/dt)_{\text{diss}}$$

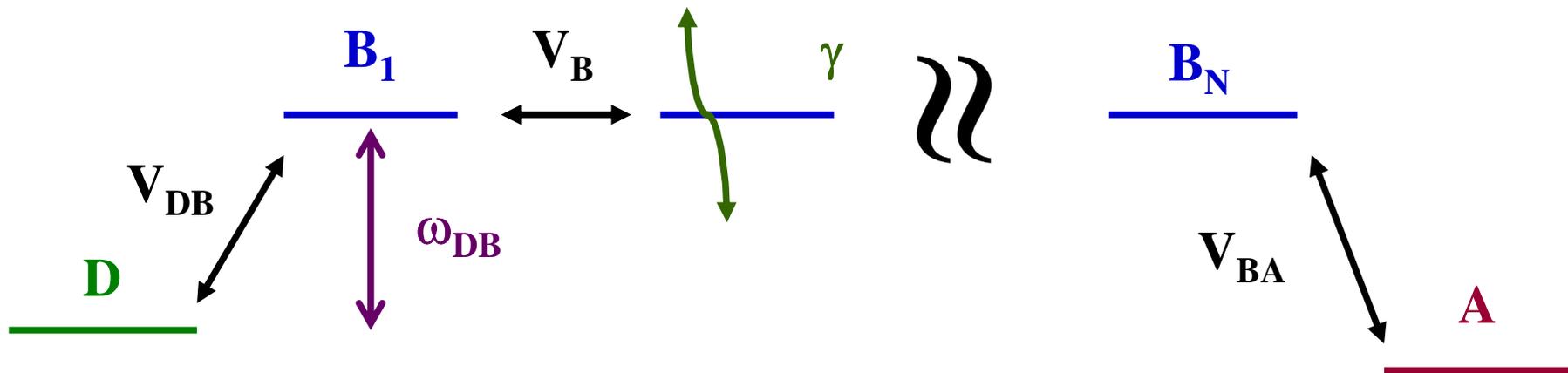
Time Dependence - Add Vibronic Couplings, Dephasings

$$\frac{d\rho_{ij}}{dt} = i [\rho, H] + \left(\frac{d\rho_{ij}}{dt} \right)_{diss}$$

$$\text{Bloch: } \left(\frac{d\rho_{ij}}{dt} \right)_{diss} = \rho_{ij} (1 - \delta_{ij}) / T_2 + \delta_{ij} \rho_{ij} / T_1$$

Damped oscillations → rate processes

Steady-State Density Matrix Theory of Bridge Assisted ET



Equations:

$$\dot{\rho} = -\frac{i}{\hbar} [\mathbf{H}_S, \rho] + \mathbf{L}_D$$

$$\dot{\rho} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \rho + \mathbf{C}$$

$$\rho^{SS} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{C}$$

$$\text{RATE}_{\text{ET,SS}} = \frac{\mathbf{C}}{\rho_{\text{DD}}^{\text{SS}}}$$

Mathematica Results:

$$\underline{\omega > V, \kappa > \gamma}$$

$$k_{\text{ET}} = \frac{4V^{2N+2}}{\kappa\omega^{2N}} + \gamma \left(\frac{V}{\omega} \right)^2$$

$$\underline{\gamma > \omega, \kappa, V}$$

$$k_{\text{ET}} = \frac{2V^2}{N\gamma}$$

It follows from the NMR example
(using complicated theory that I
would be delighted to discuss)

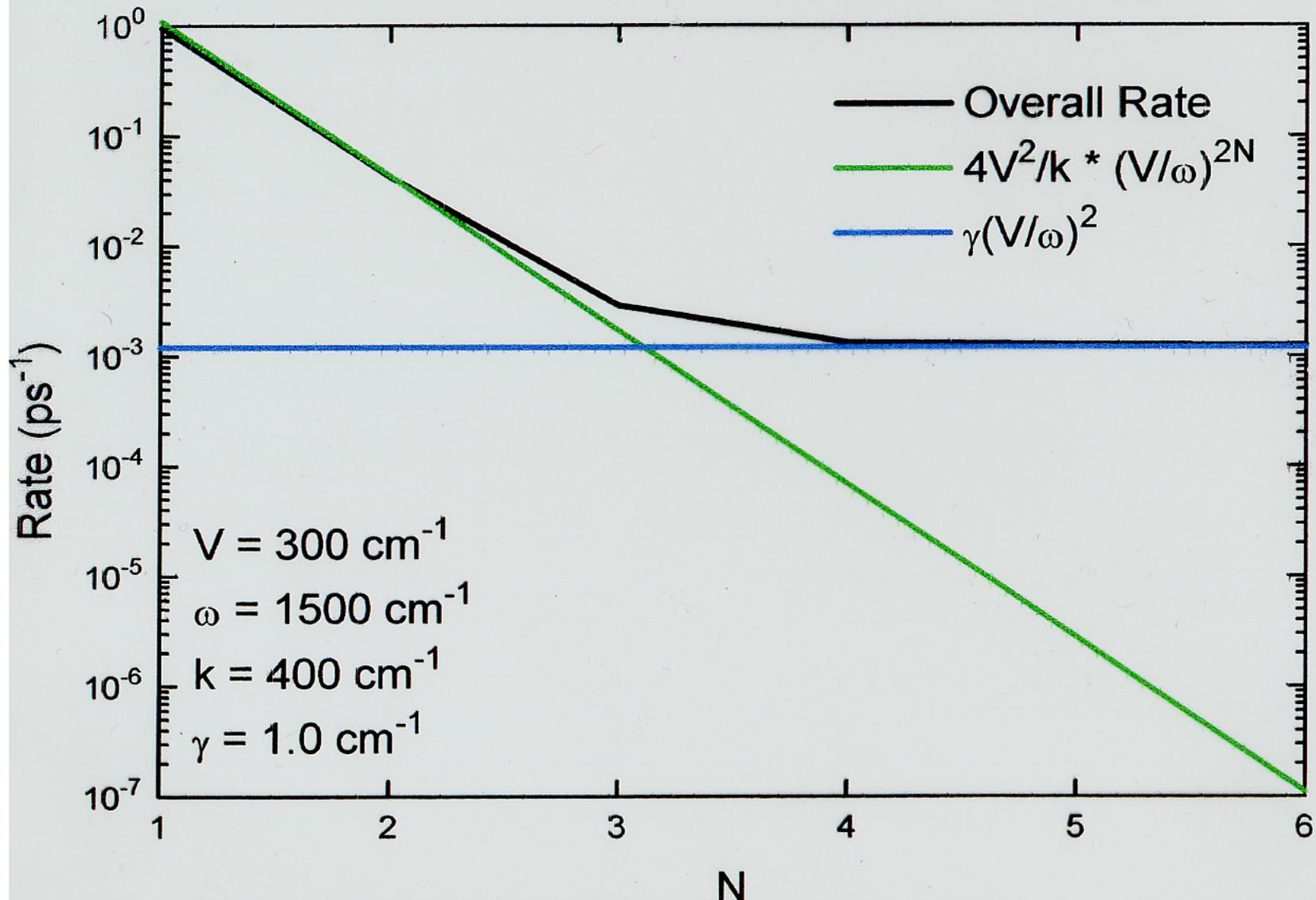
That there are **two mechanisms**

$$k = k_{\text{coherent}} + k_{\text{incoherent}}$$

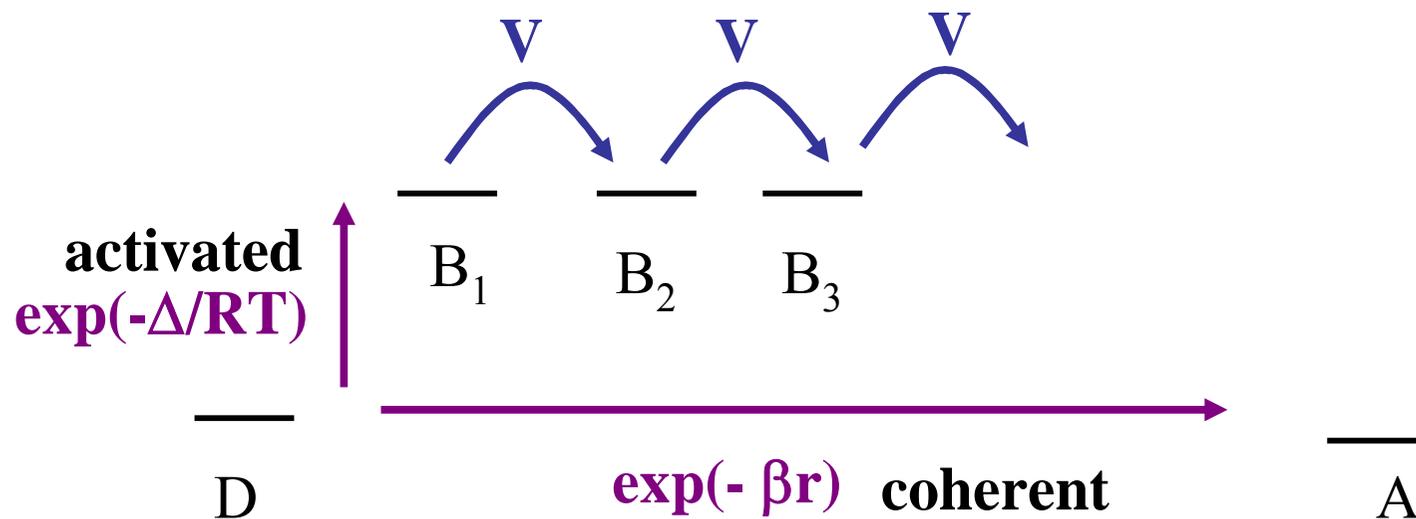
$$k_{\text{coherent}} \approx \exp(-\beta r) \quad \leftarrow \text{For short and cold chains}$$

$$k_{\text{incoherent}} \approx 1/(a + br) \quad \leftarrow \text{For long and hot chains}$$

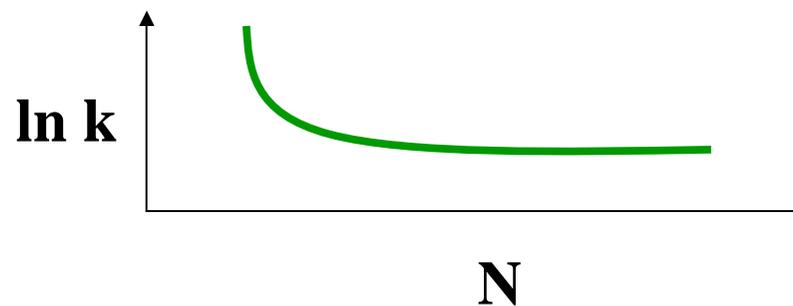
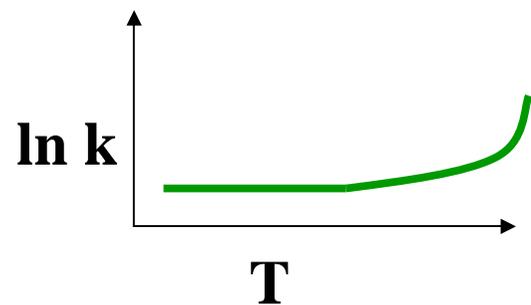
Total Rate Has Two Contributions



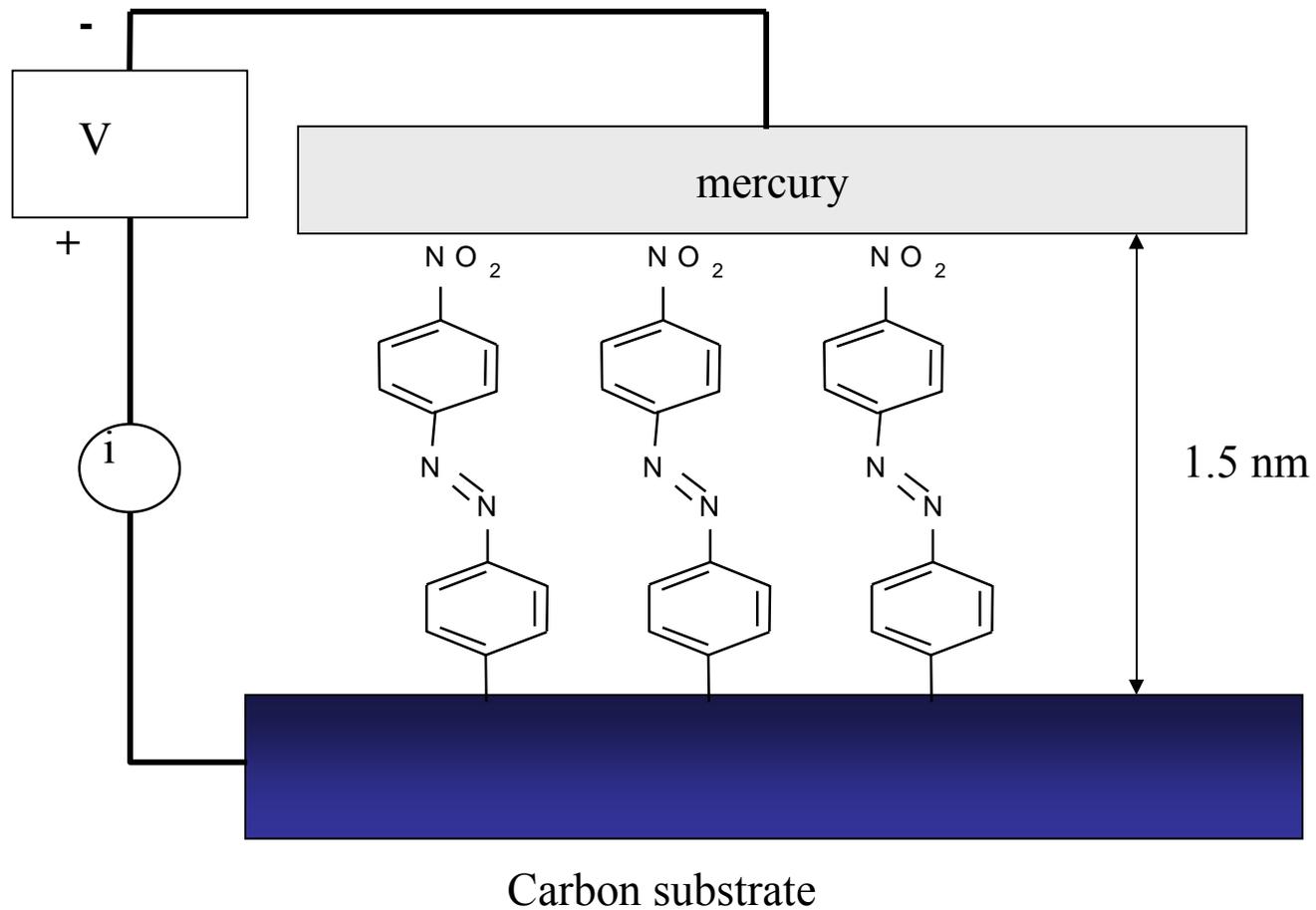
PAY SOME EXPONENTIAL COST TO MOVE*



$$k_{\text{tot}} = k_{\text{coherent}} + k_{\text{activated}}$$



*in molecular systems

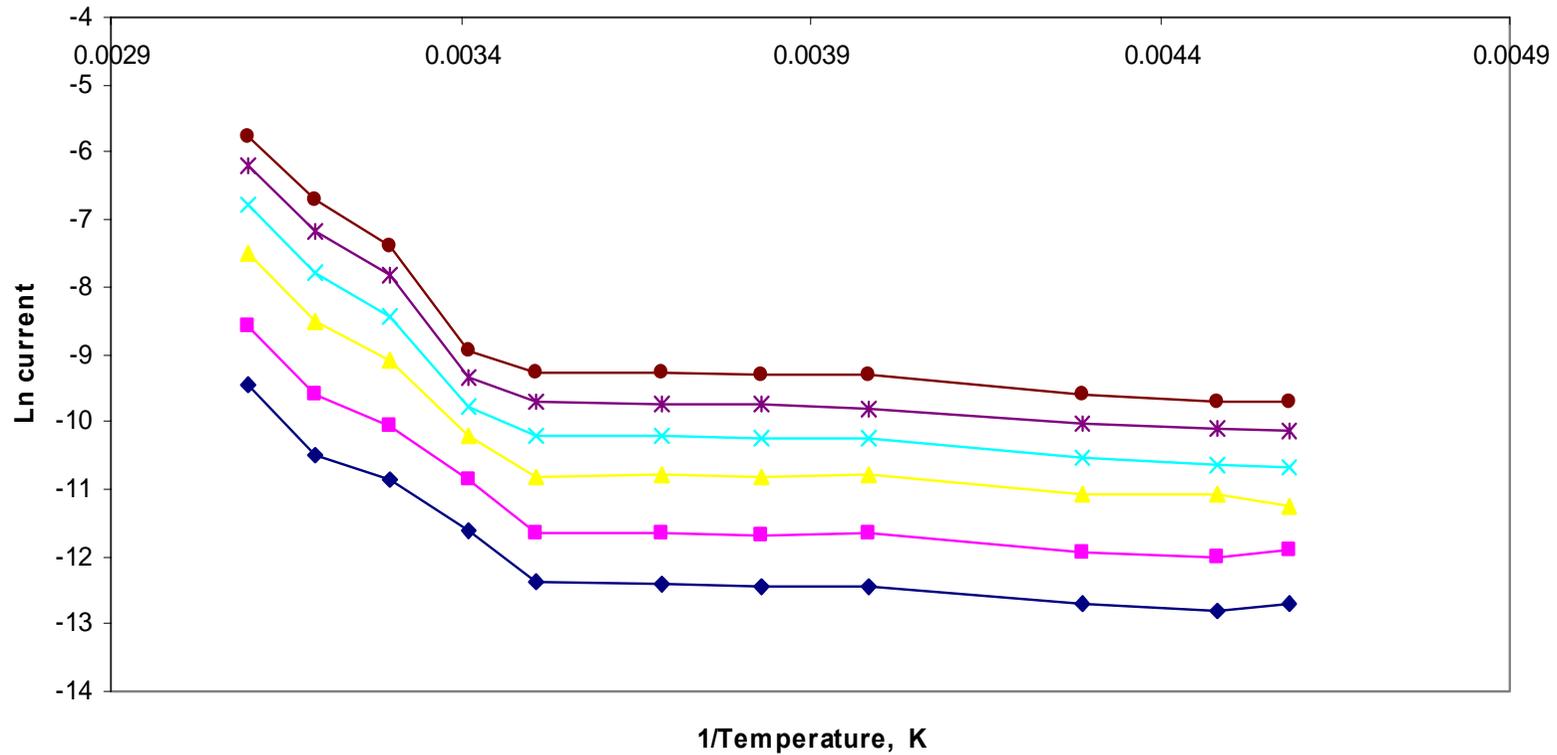


McCreery and Collaborators. Note :

- Covalent binding
- Semiconductor electrode

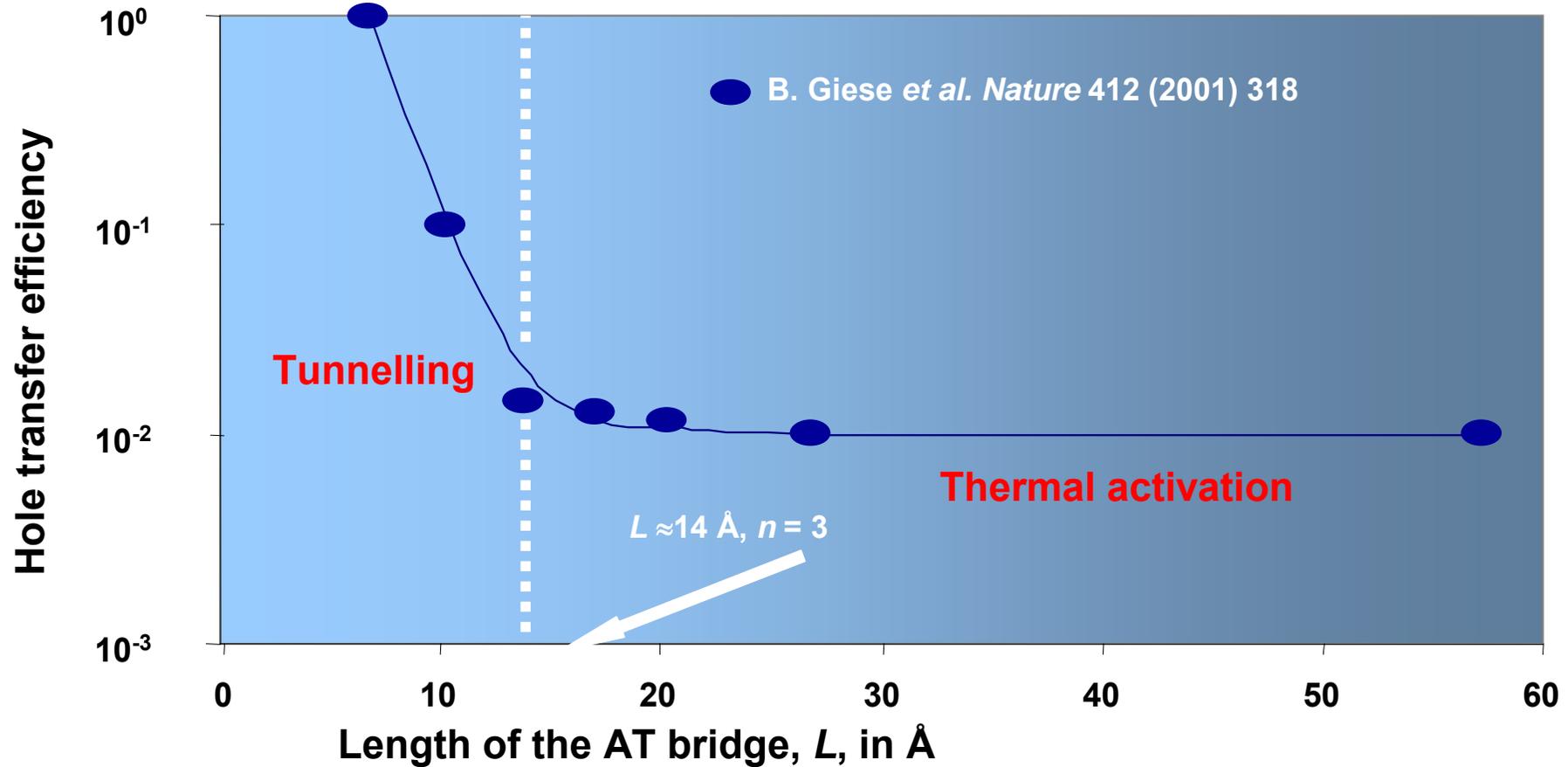
Carbon electrode junctions using Polyphenylenes show thermal turnover

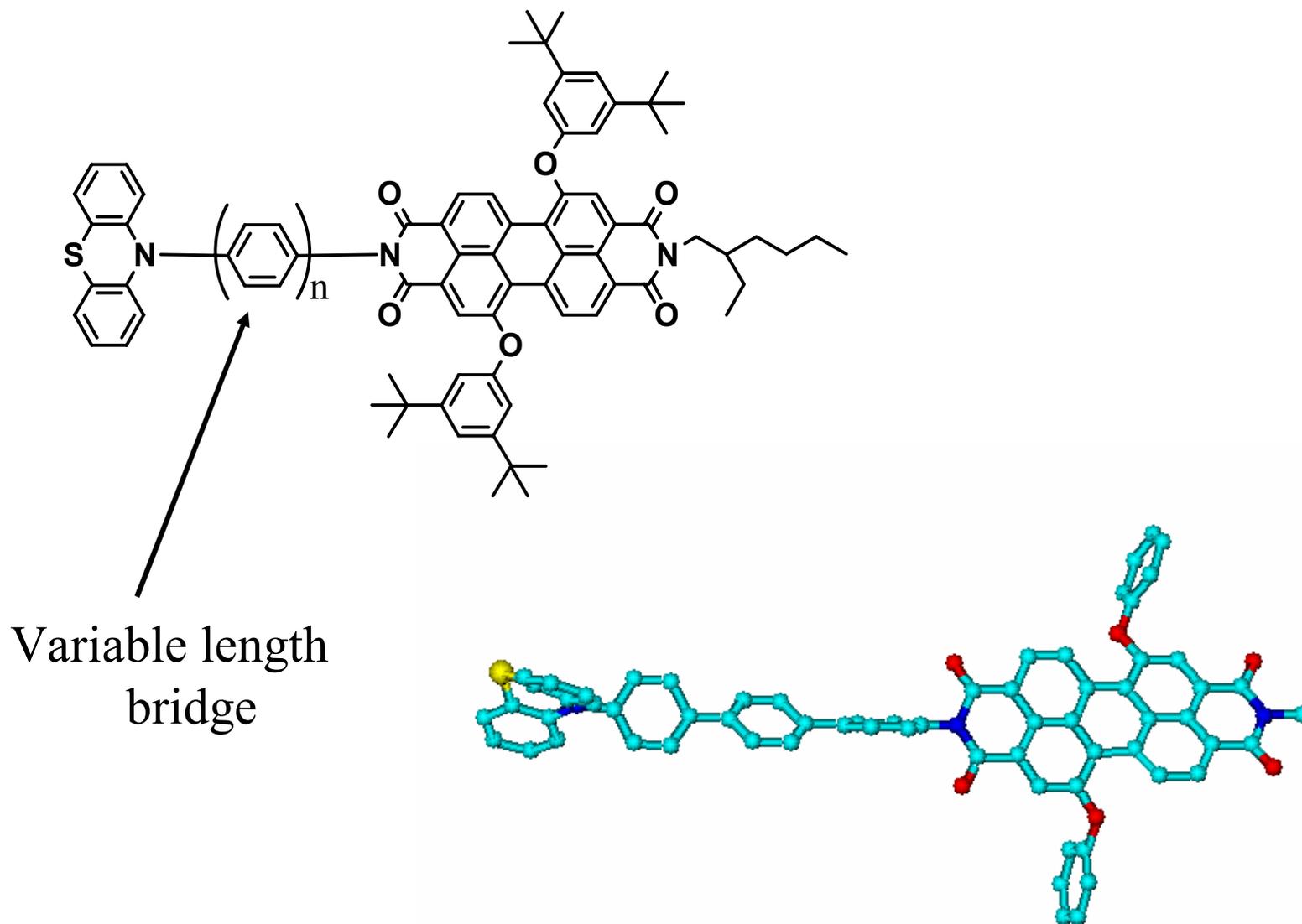
Activation Energy Plot (All T)



McCreery et.al., 2003

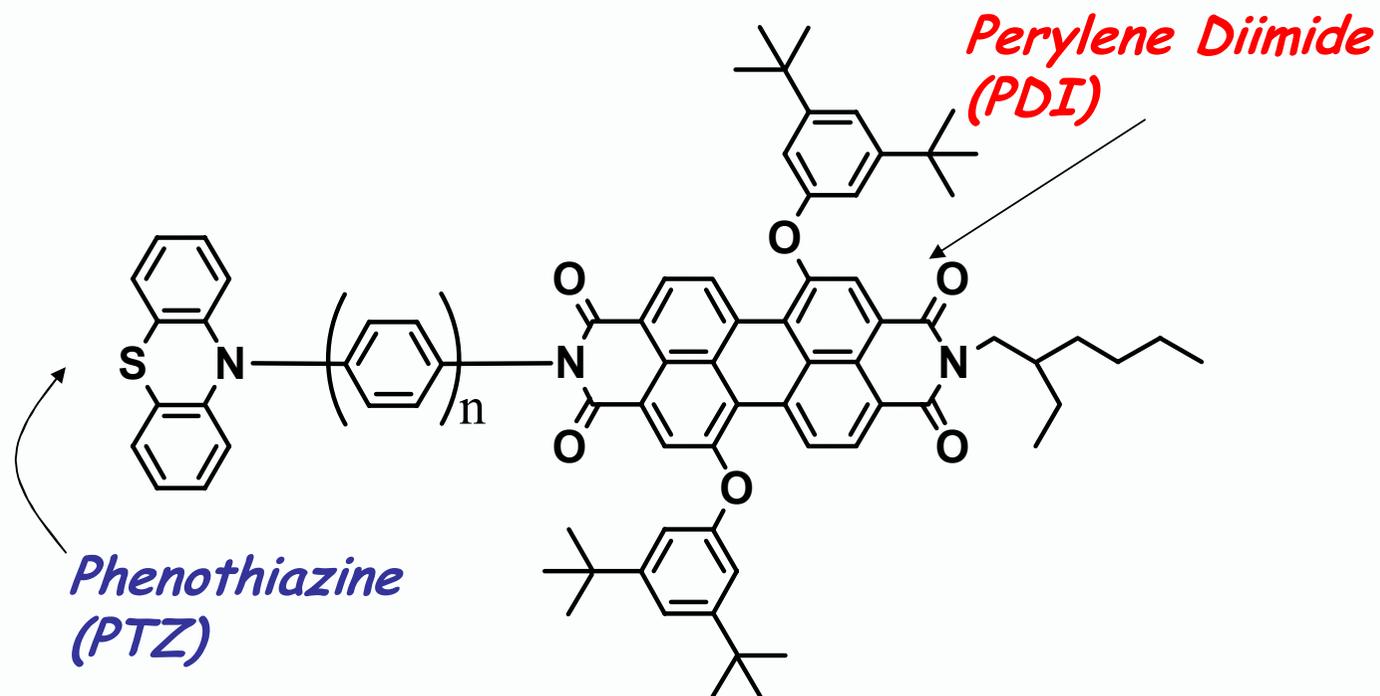
DNA electron transfer – mechanistic turnover





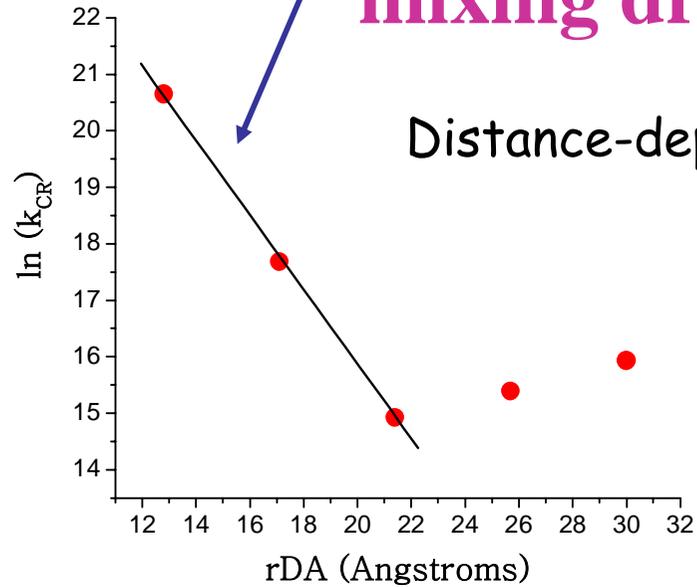
DFT (B3LYP, 6-31G**) geometry-optimized structures

Intramolecular rates do the same turnover in mechanism

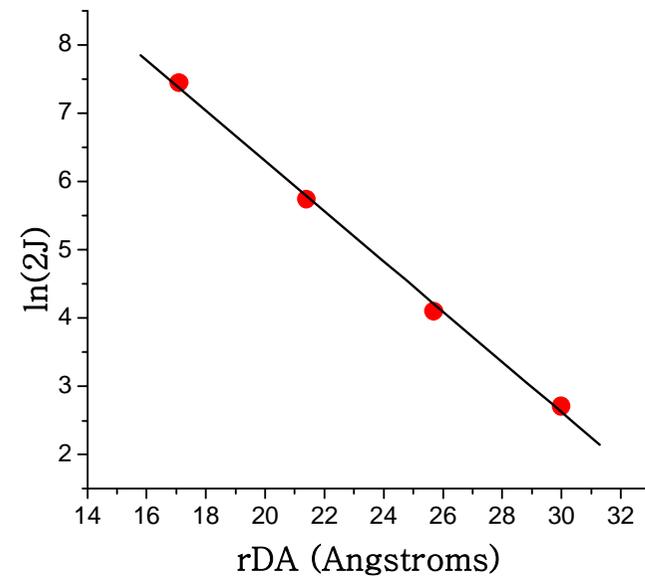


Donor/ridge/acceptor photoexcited ET

Rates change mechanism, mixing drops exponentially



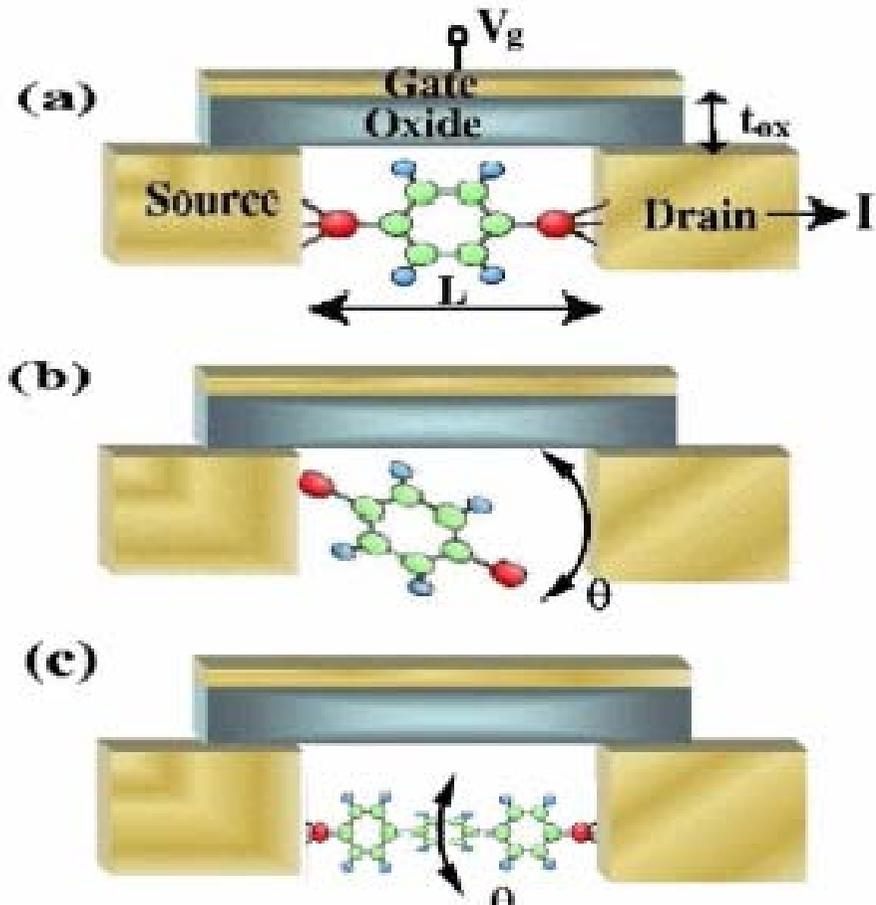
Distance-dependence of
electronic interaction



Devices??

Molecular Switch?

Gate switching?

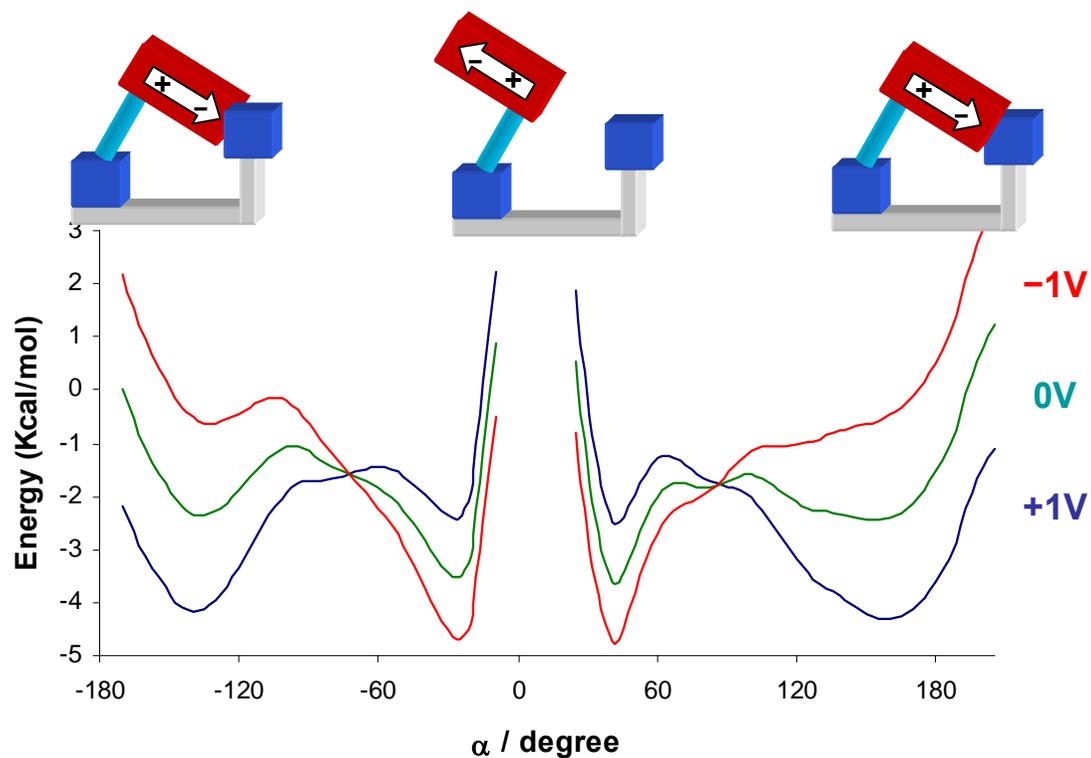
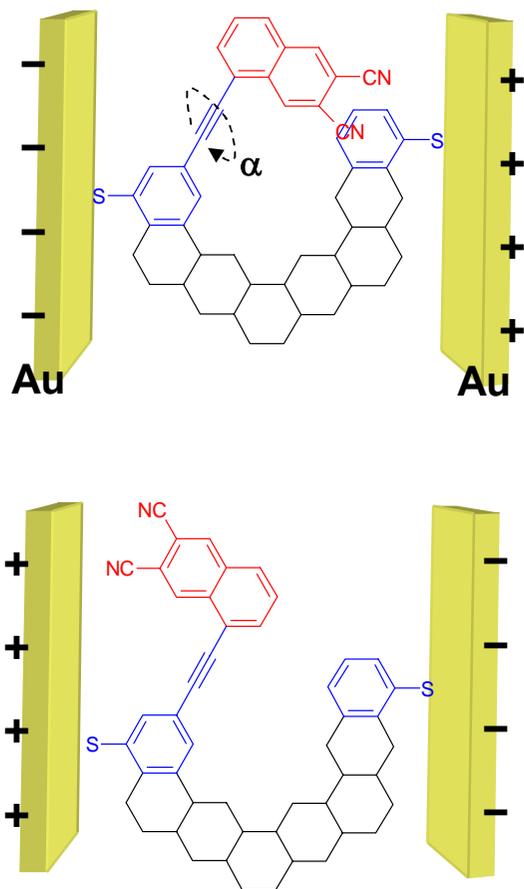


**For effective gating, the gate oxide thickness
Must be thinner than the source/drain length**

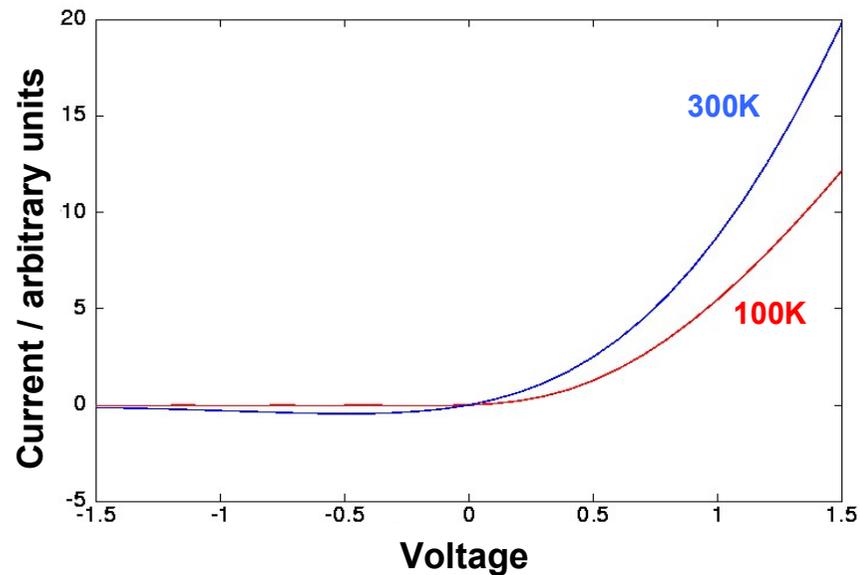
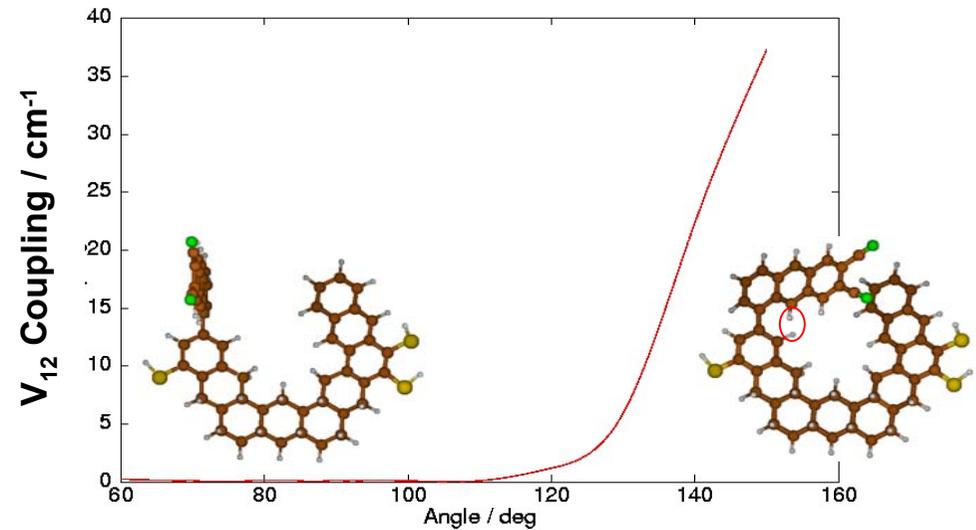
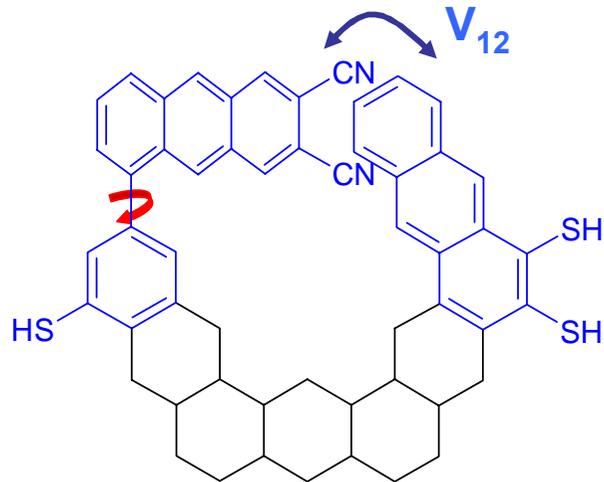
This is tough with a short molecule!

A rectifier based on *intra*-molecular structural changes

(a device minimally dependent on the metal-molecule contact)



A SYSTEM WITH ONLY ONE THROUGH-SPACE COUPLING AND VERY HIGH ON/OFF CONDUCTANCE RATIO



Giant Rectification/switch,
With two electrodes
From control of
stereochemistry

Troisi and MR, 2003

Devices??

NANOCOMPOSITES IN TENNIS BALLS LOCK IN AIR, BUILD BETTER BOUNCE

Jan. 29, 2002 – When the first round of the Davis Cup gets under way Feb. 8, nanotechnology will be working, literally, within the game.



TENNIS RACKETS

CONTENDER / ACTIV

PASSION
Top-of-the-line

All products Contender / Activ

VS Nanotube™ Power

VS Nanotube™ Drive

VS NCT Power

VS NCT Drive

VS NCT Control

COMPETITOR / PRO

COMPETITION
Performance objectives

All products Competitor/Pro

Pure Power Zylon™ used 360° ▲

Pure Drive Zylon™ used 360°

Pure Control Zylon™ used 360°

Pure Drive Team

Pure Control Team ▼

CHALLENGER

RECREATION
Priority on enjoyment

All products Challenger

Soft Power ▲

Soft Drive

Contest Serie 1

Contest Serie 2

Classic Ti ▼

JUNIOR

A range designed to allow the progressive learning of junior players.

Pure Drive Zylon™ used 360° Jr

Pure Junior

Roddick Junior 145

Roddick Junior 140

Ballfighter

VS Nanotube™ Power

Power thanks to a larger sweetspot.

WOOFER
DUAL



- Carbon Nanotube™ Stabilizers increases torque (+50%) and flex (+20%) resistance.
- Dual Woofer, 5 times more shock absorbing than conventional grommet.

PASSION COMPETITION RECREATION

Power ←

→ Control



HeadSize	750 cm ² / 116 sq.in
Weight	245 gr / 8.6 oz
Composition	Carbon Nanotube™ / High modulus graphite
Grip	Air Touch Grip

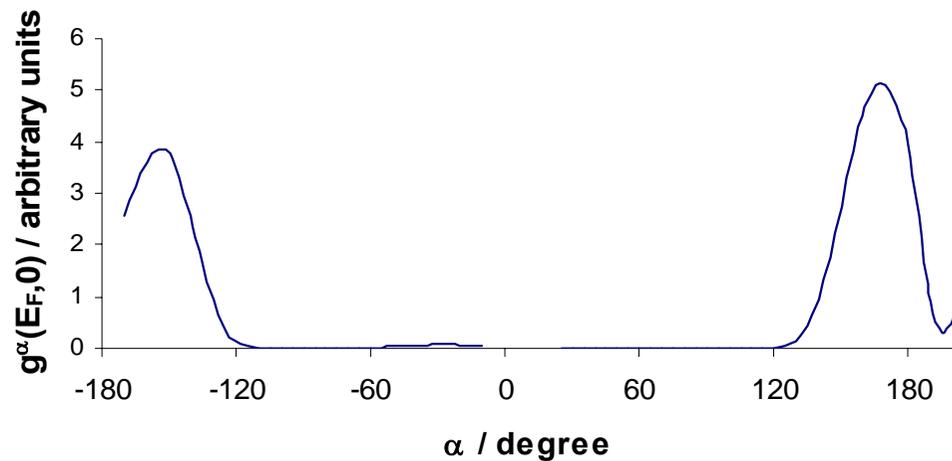


thanks

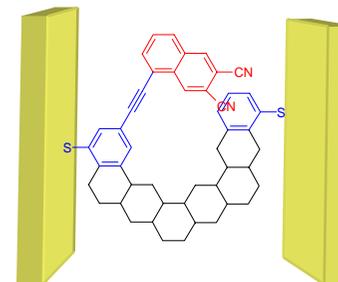
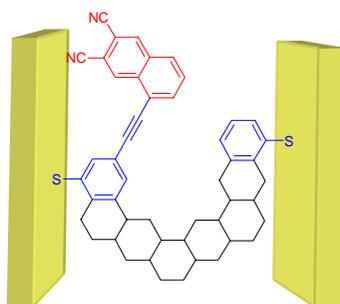
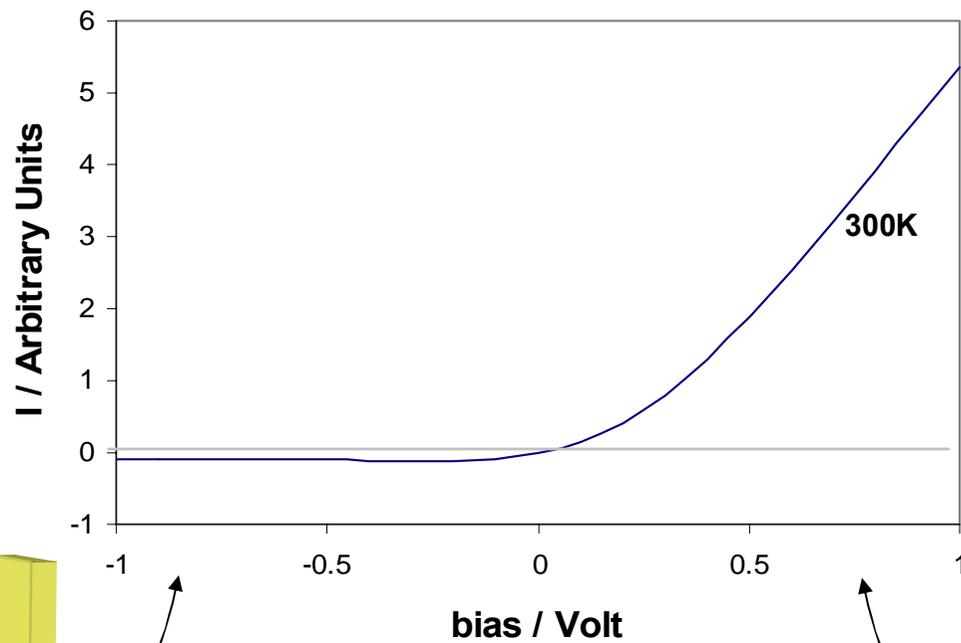
- ICTP and the organizers
- **Emily Weiss**
- **Abe Nitzan, Alex Xue, Misha Galperin**
- **Bill Davis**
- **Alessandro Troisi**
- **Mike Wasielewski**
- **Vladi Mujica**

ALL THE PARTICIPANTS!!

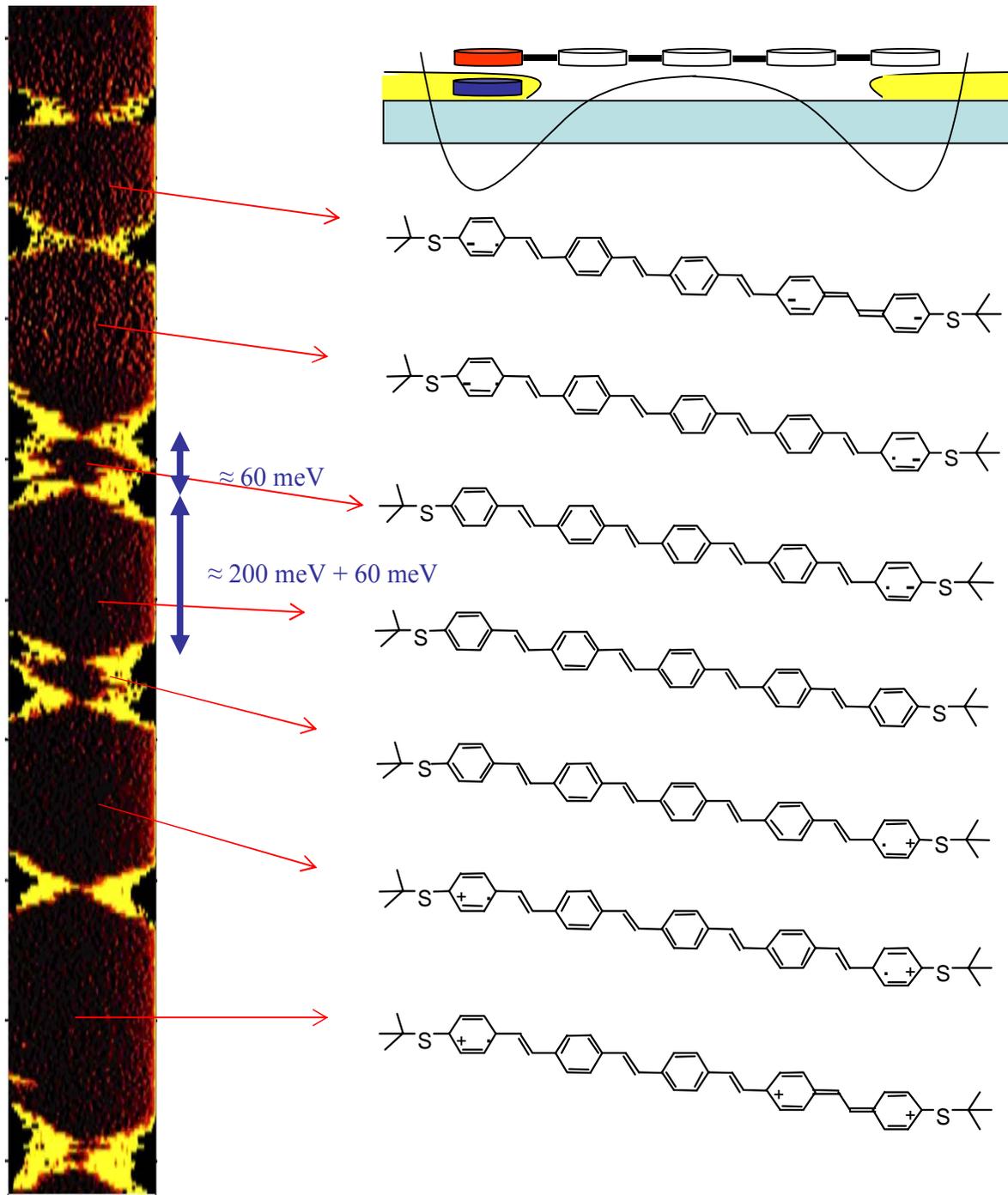
Conductance



I/V Curve

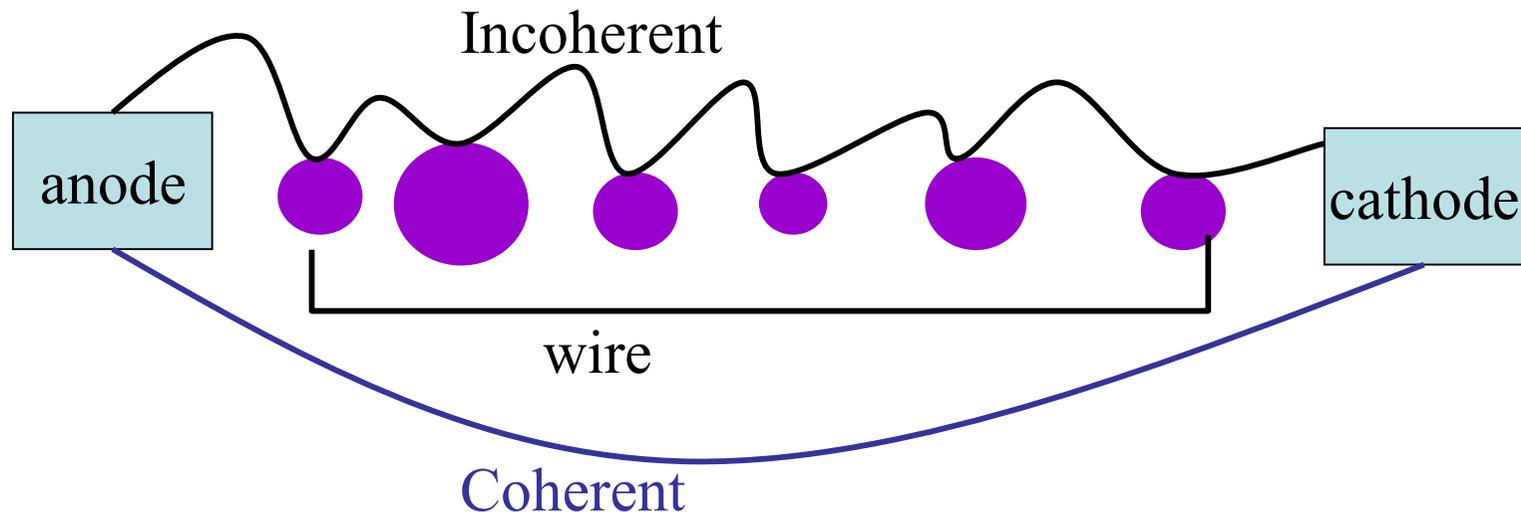


Multiple Charging steps!



Bjornholm et.al
2003

Molecular Wire Interconnects: Transport Regimes



Rigorously: $g = g_{\text{coherent}} + g_{\text{incoherent}}$

$g_{\text{incoherent}} \approx 1/(A + B * \text{length})$ dissipation in electrodes, wire

$g_{\text{coherent}} \approx \exp(-\beta * \text{length})$ dissipation in electrodes

ET-conductance relationship

$$k_{ET} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} T_{DA}^2 \rho_{FC}$$

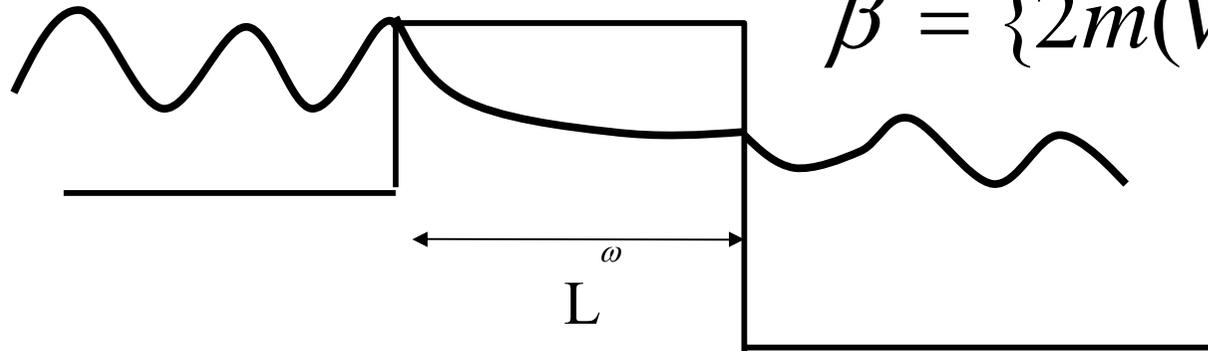
$$g = \frac{2\pi e^2}{\hbar} T_{DA}^2 \rho_D \rho_A$$

Similar dependence of effective coupling on molecular parameters if Factorization electrode-wire holds.

Distance Dependence - Purely Electronic

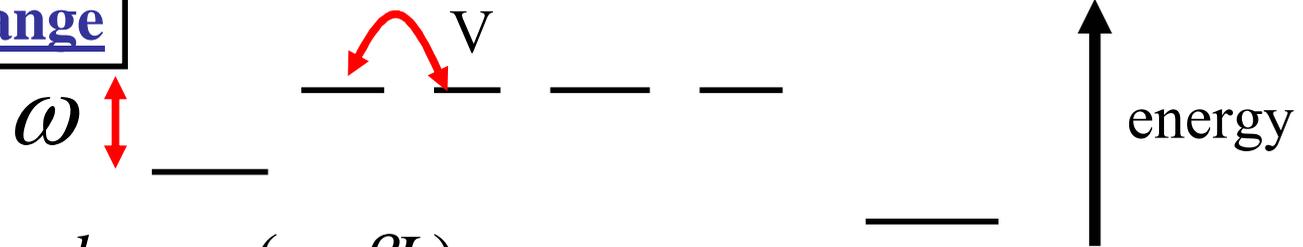
$$k = k_0 \exp(-\beta L)$$

Barrier tunneling



$$\beta = \{2m(V - E)\}^{1/2}$$

Superexchange



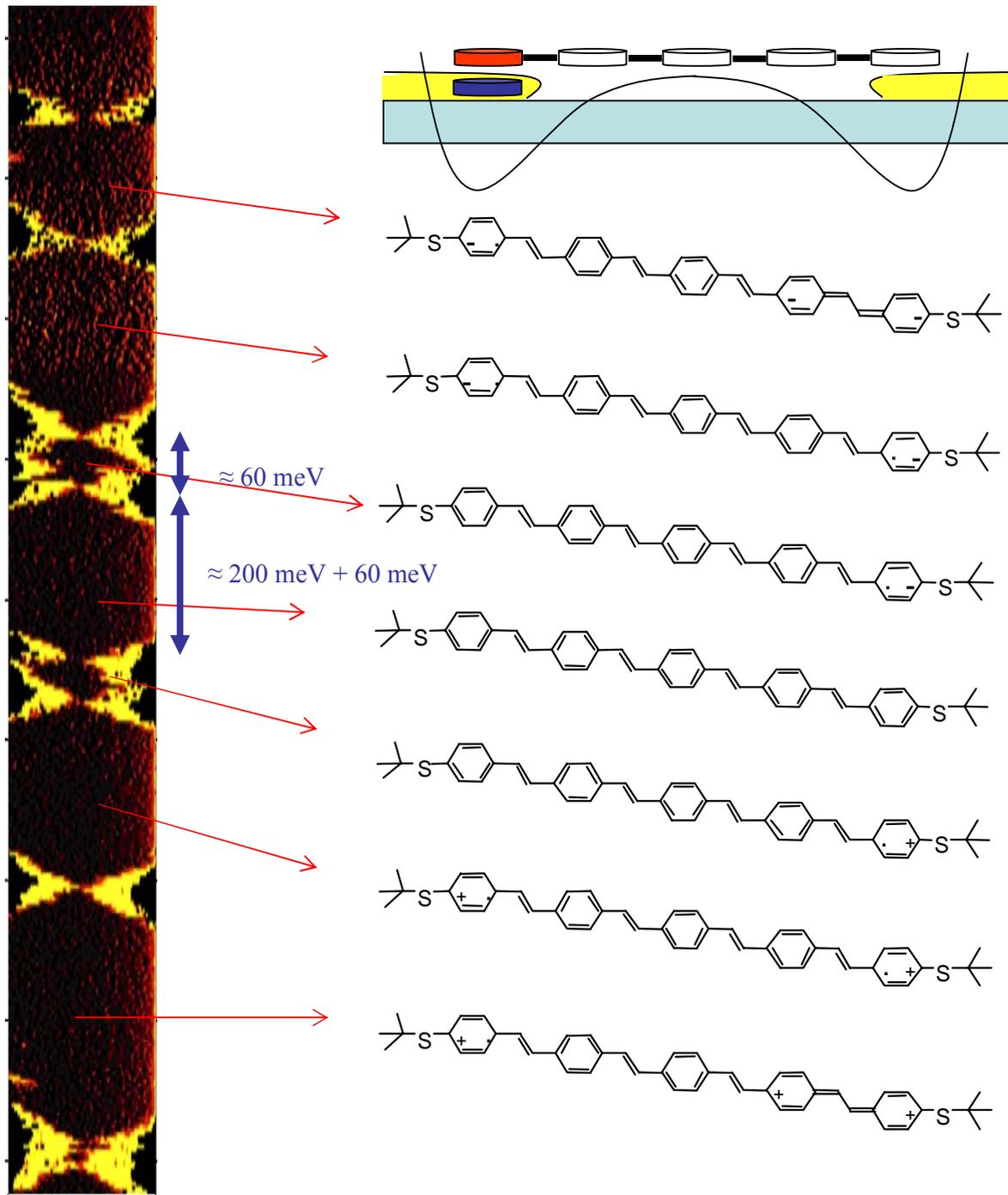
$$k = k_0 \exp(-\beta L)$$

$$\beta = \frac{2}{R_0} \ln(\omega/V) \quad (\omega/V \ll 1)$$

Table 1 Bridge length dependence of the transmission rate

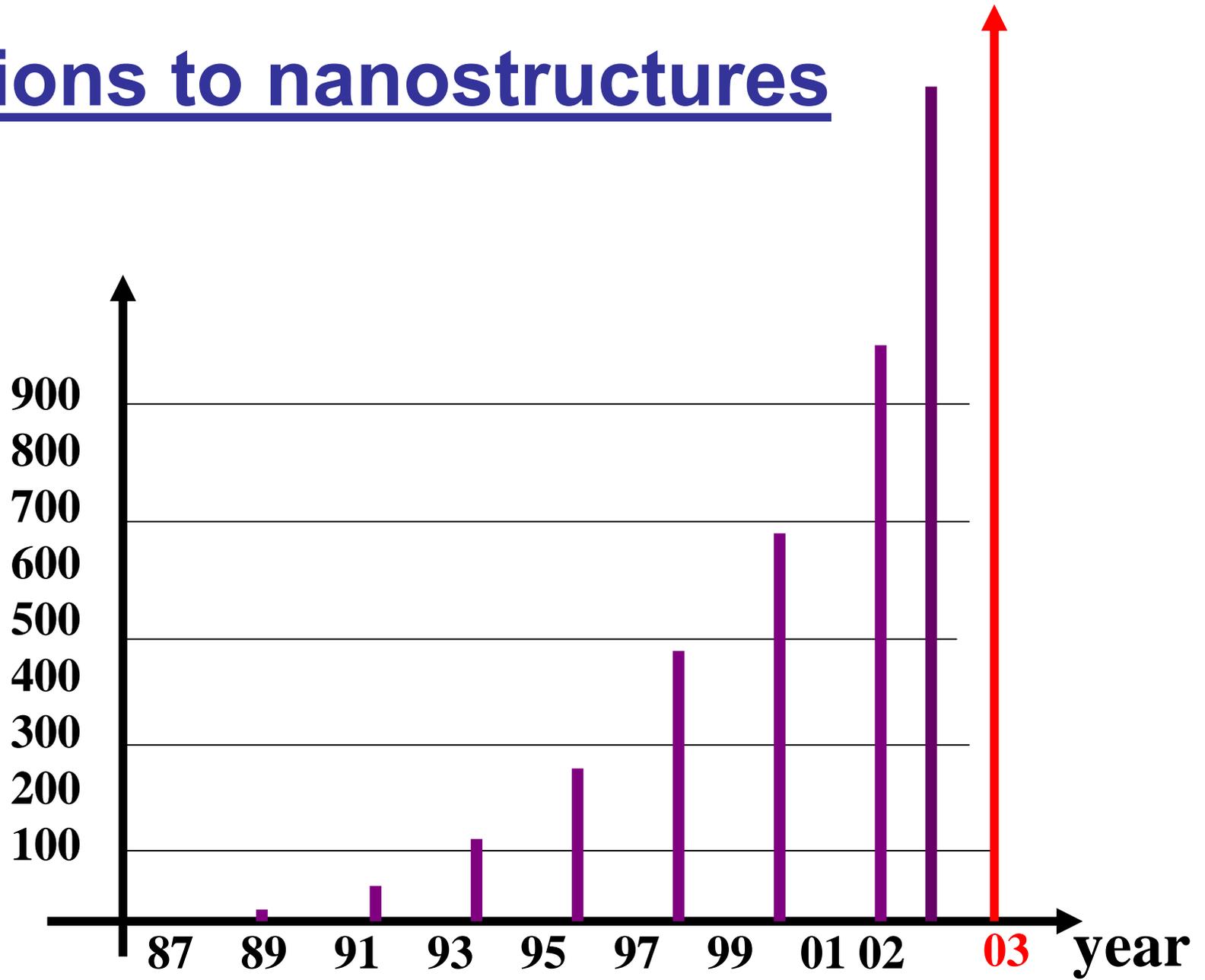
Physical Process	Bridge length (N) dependence	
Super exchange <i>(small N, large $\Delta E/V$, large $\Delta E/k_B T$)</i>	$e^{-\beta N}$	$\beta = 2 \ln(V / \Delta E)$
Steady state hopping <i>(large N, small $\Delta E/V$, small $\Delta E/k_B T$)</i>	N^{-1}	
Non-directional hopping <i>(large N, small $\Delta E/V$, small $\Delta E/k_B T$)</i>	N^{-2}	
Intermediate range <i>(intermediate N, small $\Delta E/V$)</i>	$(k_{up}^{-1} + k_{diff}^{-1} N)^{-1}$	$k_{up} \sim (V^2 \kappa / \Delta E^2) e^{-\Delta E / k_B T}$ $k_{diff} \sim (4V^2 / \kappa) e^{-\Delta E / k_B T}$ (Markovian case)
Steady state hopping + competing loss at every bridge site	$e^{-\alpha N}$	$\alpha = \sqrt{\Gamma_B (\Gamma_B + \kappa)} / 2V$ (Markovian case)

Multiple
Charging
steps!

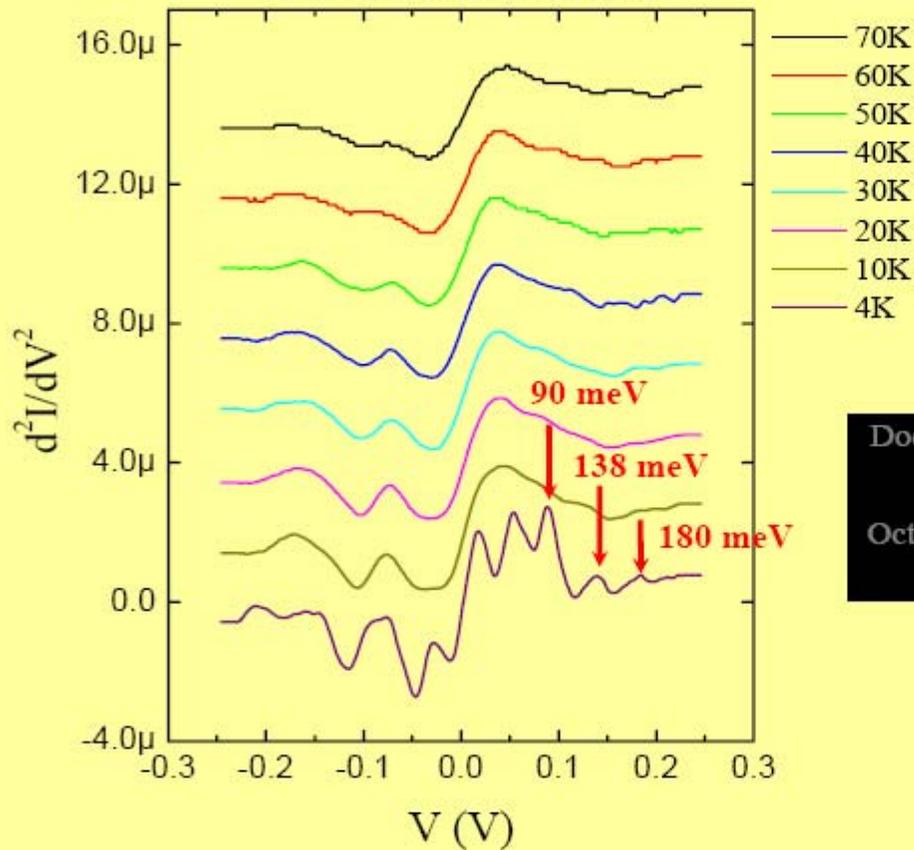


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2003

Citations to nanostructures

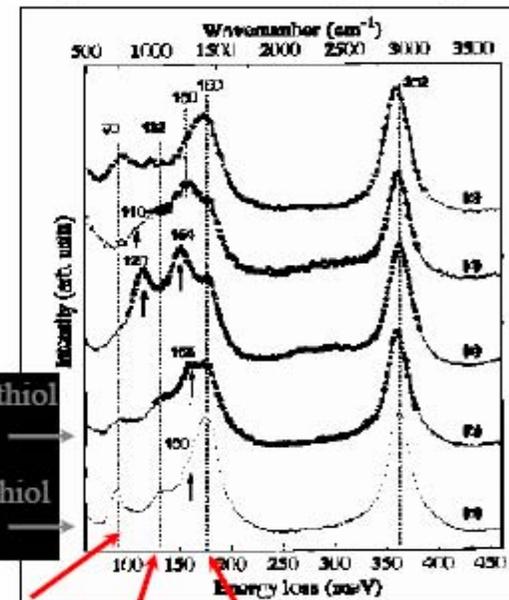


Temperature-dependent IETS data on dodecanethiol



HREELS Data

(High res. electron energy loss spectra)



Dodecanedithiol on Au
 Octadecanethiol on Au

90 meV 132 meV 180 meV

Duwez, et al. Langmuir 16, 6569 (2000)

- 180 meV: CH_2 scissoring mode and CH_3 symmetric bending mode
- 132 meV: C-C stretching mode
- 90 meV: Rocking mode of the CH_2