



The Abdus Salam  
International Centre for Theoretical Physics



SMR: 1643/21

**WINTER COLLEGE ON OPTICS ON OPTICS AND  
PHOTONICS IN NANOSCIENCE AND NANOTECHNOLOGY**

( 7 - 18 February 2005)

***"Organic Light-Emitting  
Nano-Patterned Devices"***

presented by:

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Università di Lecce

Italy

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

# ORGANIC LIGHT-EMITTING NANOPATTERNED DEVICES

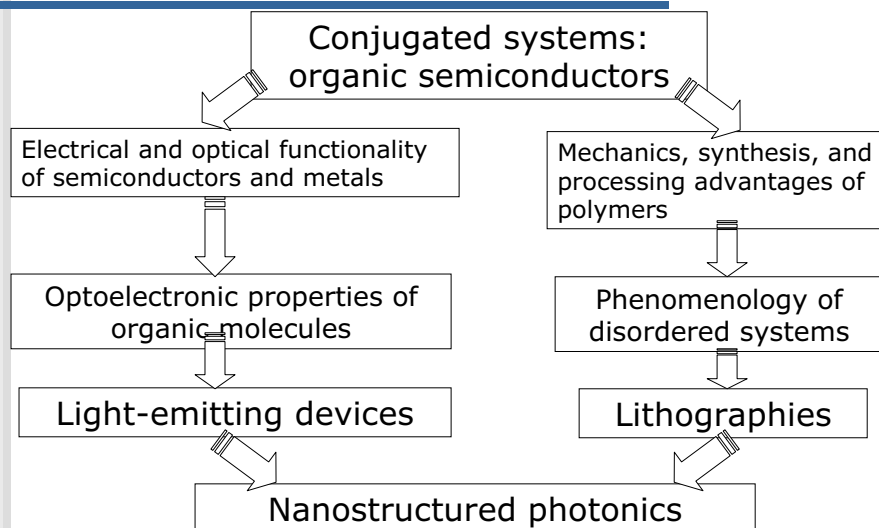
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## RATIONALE:



## OUTLINE:

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- PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS
- OPTOELECTRONIC PROPERTIES OF ORGANIC MOLECULES
- ORGANIC-BASED PHOTONIC DEVICES
- CONVENTIONAL AND SOFT LITHOGRAPHY FOR ORGANIC MATERIALS

## OUTLINE:

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- PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS

## PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS

- CONVENTIONAL CLASSIFICATION SCHEME OF THE STATES OF MATTER: *SOLID (CRYSTALLINE), LIQUID, GAS*

### GLASSY STATE OF MATTER

GLASS TRANSITION [J. Jäckle, *Rep. Prog. Phys.* **49**, 171 (1986)]

IMPORTANCE OF KINETICS:

COOLING RATE VS. CHARACTERISTIC RELAXATION TIME

*GLASS-FORMERS* COMPOUNDS:

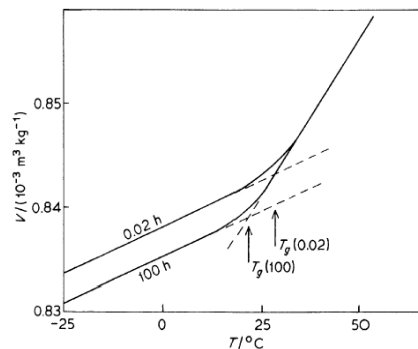
-ORGANIC COMPOUNDS: ABLE TO GLASSIFY AT LOW COOLING RATE ( $10^{-2} \text{ Ks}^{-1}$ )

-METALS ALLOYS ( $10^5 \text{ Ks}^{-1}$ )

- Ar ( $10^{12} \text{ Ks}^{-1}$ ) -SIMULATIONS-

[J. R. Fox, H. C. Andersen, *J. Chem. Phys.* **88**, 4019, (1984)]

## PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS



$$v_1/v_2=5000 \rightarrow \Delta T_g=8\text{K}$$

Specific volume dependence on temperature for polyvinylacetate. The two employed cooling rates differ by a factor 5000, which shifts the glass-transition temperature of about 8 °C. [A.J.Kovacs, J.M.Mutchinson, J.J.Aklonis, *The Structure of Noncrystalline Materials*, P.H. Gaskell Ed., London (1977)]

## PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS

### EXAMPLE OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS:

-ORGANIC MATERIALS (POLYMERS, OLIGOMERS)  
OPTOELECTRONICS, AERONAUTICS, CARS, BUILDINGS

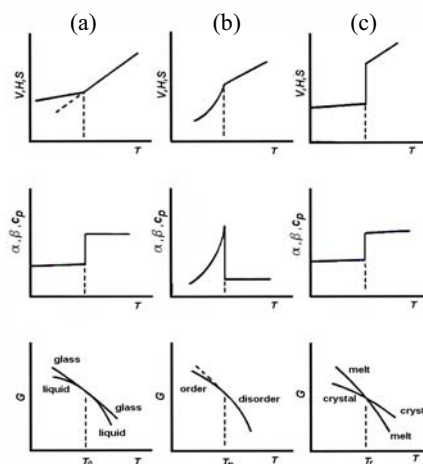
-BIO-SYSTEMS: PROTEINS,  
PEPTIDES, LIPIDES  
(GLYCEROL IN ARTICS  
INSECTS)

[K.B.Storey, J.M.Store,  
*Scientific American*, **62**,  
December 1990]

## PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS

### GLASS TRANSITION

$V, H, S$  (extensive  
thermodynamic quantities)  
→ 2<sup>nd</sup> order according to  
Ehrenfest's classification?



Scheme comparing three different transitions:  
(a) glass transition; (b) second-order phase  
transition; (c) first-order phase transition.  $V$ :  
volume,  $S$ : entropy;  $H$ : enthalpy;  $\alpha$ : volume  
thermal expansion coefficient,  $\beta$ : isothermal  
compressibility;  $c_p$ : isobaric specific heat;  $G$ :  
free energy.

## PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS

2<sup>nd</sup> ORDER TRANSITION (CONTINUITY OF ENTROPY AND VOLUME AT  $T_g$  [P.Ehrenfest, *Commun. Kemmerling Onnes Lab.*, University of London, **756** (1933)]):

$$\frac{dT_g}{dp} = T_g V \frac{\Delta\alpha_p(T_g)}{\Delta c_p(T_g)} \quad \text{OK}$$

$$\frac{dT_g}{dp} = -\frac{\Delta k_T(T_g)}{\Delta\alpha_p(T_g)} \quad <!$$

IMPORTANCE OF KINETICS: DEFINITION OF  $T_g$  ON KINETIC BASIS

## PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS

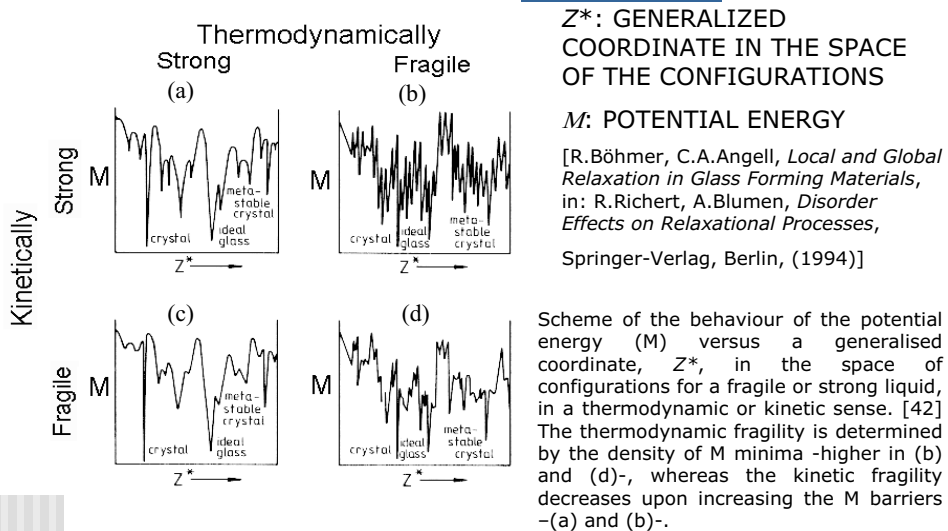
CLASSIFICATION OF SYSTEMS IN GLASSY STATE: FRAGILITY INDEX [C.A.Angell, *J. Non-Cryst. Solids*, **131-133**, 13 (1991)]

$$m = \left. \frac{d\text{Log}(\eta)}{d(T_g/T)} \right|_{T=T_g}$$

EXPERIMENTALLY:  $16 \leq m \leq 200$

HIGH FRAGILITY=LARGE NUMBER OF ACCESSIBLE CONFIGURATIONS

## PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS



## PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS

FRAGILE COMPOUNDS → LARGE VARIATIONS OF MEASURABLE QUANTITIES AT  $T_g$

FRAGILE COMPOUNDS: NO OR SMALL STERIC HINDRANCE (AND LOWER  $T_g$ )

## PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS: RELAXATION PROCESSES

GENERAL ASPECTS OF RELAXATION PROCESSES FOR CAUSAL, TIME-INDEPENDENT AND LINEAR SYSTEMS:

$$x(t) = \chi_0 \int_{-\infty}^t -\frac{d\Psi(t-t')}{dt} F(t') dt'$$

$x$ : GENERALIZED MOVEMENT

$F$ : GENERALIZED FORCE

$\chi_0$ : GENERALIZED STATIC SUSCEPTIVITY

$\Psi$ : TIME-DOMAIN RELAXATION FUNCTION (RESPONSE TO  $F(t)=\Theta(-t)$ )

$\Psi$ : THE SYSTEM GOES BACK TO THERMODYNAMIC EQUILIBRIUM

$$\tau_c = \int_0^{+\infty} \Psi(t) dt$$

## PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS: RELAXATION PROCESSES

RELAXATION FUNCTIONS

$\Phi(t) = \exp(-t / \tau_c)$  MONOEXPONENTIAL RELAXATION  
 [P.Debye, *Polar Molecules*, Dover Publications, Inc., London (1945) ]

$\Phi(t) = \exp[-(t / \tau_c)^\gamma]$  STRETCHED EXPONENTIAL  
 [G.Williams, D.C.Watts, *Trans. Faraday Soc.* **66**, 80 (1970)]



## PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS: RELAXATION PROCESSES

DEPENDENCE ON TEMPERATURE:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} k_A &= \kappa \exp\left[-\frac{\Delta E}{k_B T}\right] \\ -\frac{dC_A}{dt} &= k_A C_A \end{aligned} \right\} \tau = \tau_0 \exp\left[\frac{\Delta E}{k_B T}\right]$$

**ARRHENIUS LAW**  
 [A.R. Blythe, *Electrical Properties of Polymers*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge (1979)]

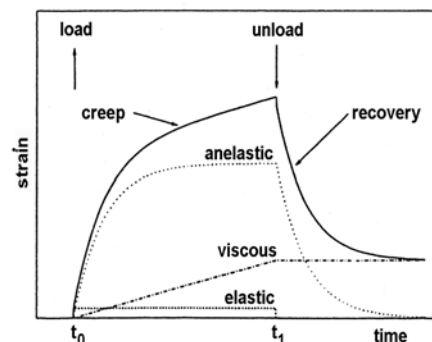
$$\tau_c = \tau_{c0} \exp\left[\frac{DT_0}{T - T_0}\right]$$

**VOGEL-FULCHER LAW**  
 [H. Vogel, *Physic Z*, **22**, 645 (1921); G.A. Fulcher, *J. Am. Ceram. Soc.*, **8**, 339 (1925)]

## PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS: POLYMER TRANSPORT

$$e_x = J_0 \sigma_x^0$$

$$e_x = \frac{\sigma_x^0}{\eta} t$$



Deformation dynamics of a polymer. An external stress is applied at  $t_0$  and removed at  $t_1$  [G. Strobl, *The Physics of Polymers*, Springer, Berlin (1997)]

## OUTLINE:

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- PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS
- OPTOELECTRONIC PROPERTIES OF ORGANIC MOLECULES

## OPTOELECTRONIC PROPERTIES OF ORGANIC MOLECULES

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20s H. Staundiger: Concept of Macromolecule proposed (Nobel Prize in 1953)

1935 W. Carothers: Invention of Nylon

1963 K. Ziegler and G. Natta: Nobel Prize for Polymerisation Catalysis

1974 P. Flory: Nobel Prize for Physical Chemistry

### SATURATED POLYMERS:

all the four valence electrons of carbon are occupied in covalent bonds

## OPTOELECTRONIC PROPERTIES OF ORGANIC MOLECULES

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1976: University of Pennsylvania

conjugated polymers -one unpaired ( $\pi$ ) electron per carbon-

from insulating ( $\sigma \cong 10^{-5} \text{ S cm}^{-1}$ ) to metallic ( $\sigma > 10^2 \text{ S cm}^{-1}$ )  
behaviour by chemical doping

So far:  $\sigma$  from  $10^{-12}$  to  $10^5 \text{ S cm}^{-1}$

2000 A. J. Heeger, A. G. MacDiarmid and H. Shirakawa:  
Nobel Prize for "The discovery and the development of  
conductive polymers"

## OPTOELECTRONIC PROPERTIES OF ORGANIC MOLECULES

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$\pi$ -bonded conjugated systems:  $sp^2p_z$  electronic configuration  
overlap of the adjacent carbon orbitals along the molecular  
backbone.

The  $\pi$  electrons are therefore available for delocalisation  
into a band [C. K. Chiang, C. R. Fincher, Jr., Y. W. Park, A. J. Heeger, H.  
Shirakawa, E. J. Louis, S. C. Gau, and A. G. MacDiarmid, Phys. Rev. Lett. **39**, 1098  
(1977)]

## OPTOELECTRONIC PROPERTIES OF ORGANIC MOLECULES

Molecules and crystals: Many interacting bodies systems

$$H = \sum_i \frac{p_i^2}{2m} + \sum_I \frac{P_I^2}{2M} + \sum_i V(\mathbf{r}_i) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \frac{e^2}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I,J} \frac{Z_I Z_J e^2}{|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J|}$$

$$V(\mathbf{r}_i) = - \sum_I \frac{Z_I e^2}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{R}_I|}$$

Conventional (inorganic) semiconductors (Si, GaAs etc.): crystalline materials, covalent bonds between neighbour atoms → long-range structural order & extended delocalisation into bands

## OPTOELECTRONIC PROPERTIES OF ORGANIC MOLECULES

Organic semiconductors:

- i) intermolecular interactions ruled by weaker non-covalent (Van der Waals and hydrogen) bonds
- ii) small overlap between orbitals belonging to different molecules → optoelectronic properties still related to single-molecule features (such as functionalisation groups and steric hindrance)
- iii) small dielectric constant, namely strong excitonic interactions (several hundred meV) → localised Frenkel excitons

Transport:

Weak intermolecular coupling giving rise to an energy bandstructure (around 0.1 eV)

$\mu = \sigma / ne$  ( $n$  = density of free carriers) from  $< 10^{-7}$  to  $10^1 \text{ cm}^2 \text{V}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$  for holes in conjugated compounds

intermolecular hopping transport  $< 1 \text{ cm}^2 \text{V}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1} < \text{band-like conduction}$

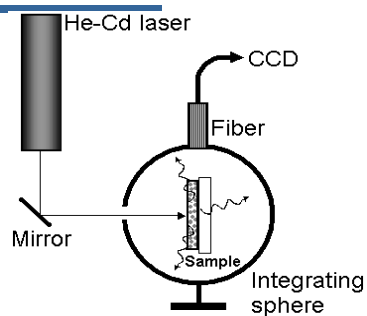
## OPTOELECTRONIC PROPERTIES OF ORGANIC MOLECULES

### EXCITON DECAY

$$\frac{d\xi}{dt} = -\frac{\xi}{\tau_r} - \frac{\xi}{\tau_{nr}}$$

$$\xi = \xi_0 \exp\left[-\frac{t}{(\tau_r^{-1} + \tau_{nr}^{-1})^{-1}}\right] = \xi_0 \exp\left(-\frac{t}{\tau}\right)$$

$$\eta = \frac{\text{photons generated}}{\text{excitons generated}} = \frac{\tau_{nr}}{\tau}$$



Schematic diagram of the experimental set-up employed for the measurements of the PL absolute quantum efficiency.

U. Lemmer, R. F. Mahrt, Y. Wada, A. Greibner, H. Bässler, and E. O. Göbel, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **62**, 2827 (1993). M. Yan, L. J. Rothberg, F. Papadimitrakopoulos, M. E. Galvin, and T. M. Miller, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **73**, 744 (1994). I. D. W. Samuel, B. Crystall, G. Rumbles, P. L. Burn, A. B. Holmes, and R. H. Friend, *Synth. Met.* **54**, 281 (1993).

### OUTLINE:

- PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS
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- ORGANIC-BASED PHOTONIC DEVICES

## ORGANIC-BASED PHOTONIC DEVICES

### ELECTROLUMINESCENCE

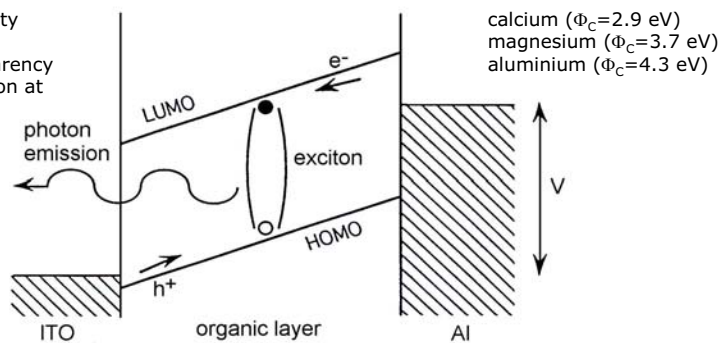
1963 First EL from anthracene single-crystals [M. Pope, H.P. Kallmann, and P. Magnate, *J. Chem. Phys.* **38**, 2042 (1963)]

1987 First device by evaporated low-molar-mass molecules at Kodak [C. W. Tang and S. A. VanSlyke, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **51**, 913 (1987)]

1990 First observation from an amorphous film of poly(*p*-phenylenevinylene) (PPV) at University of Cambridge [J. H. Burroughes, D. D. C. Bradley, A. R. Brown, R. N. Marks, K. Mackay, R. H. Friend, P. L. Burn, and A. B. Holmes, *Nature* **347**, 539 (1990)]

## ORGANIC-BASED PHOTONIC DEVICES

ITO:  
 low electric resistivity  
 ( $2-4 \times 10^{-4} \Omega \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )  
 high optical transparency  
 (90% of transmission at  
 550 nm)  
 $\Phi_A = 4-5 \text{ eV}$



Working principle of an organic EL diode.  $V$ : applied bias.

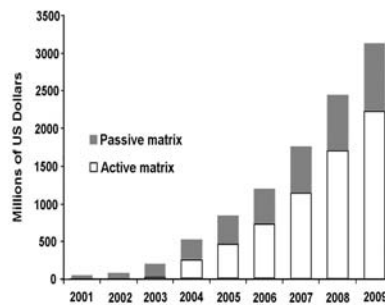
## ORGANIC-BASED PHOTONIC DEVICES

OLEDs today:  
 high luminescence efficiency  
 wide tunability of the emission wavelength  
 low cost and simple deposition techniques

Performances:

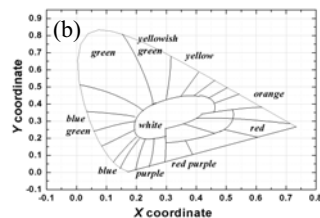
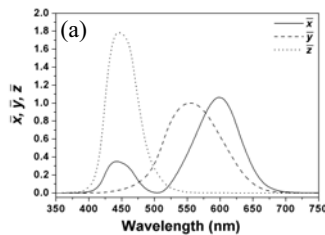
external quantum  
 yields larger than  
 4%, and luminances  
 as high as 70000  
 cd/m<sup>2</sup>

[T. Tsutsui, N. Takada, and  
 S. Saito, *Appl. Phys. Lett.*  
**65**, 1868 (1994). M. T.  
 Bernius, M. Inbasekaran, J.  
 O'Brien, and W. Wu, *Adv.*  
*Mater.* **12**, 1737 (2000)]



Expected growth path for the global OLED market in the next  
 years ([www.stanfordresources.com](http://www.stanfordresources.com)).

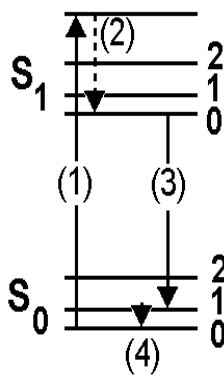
## ORGANIC-BASED PHOTONIC DEVICES



CIE Color Matching Functions. (b): CIE diagram of the  
 colour coordinates  
 X and Y.

$$X = \frac{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} S(\lambda) \bar{x}(\lambda) d\lambda}{\sum_{i=x,y,z} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} S(\lambda) \bar{i}(\lambda) d\lambda}$$

## ORGANIC-BASED PHOTONIC DEVICES



Microrings [S. V. Frolov et al. *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **72**, 2811 (1998). S. X. Dou et al. *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **80**, 165 (2002)]

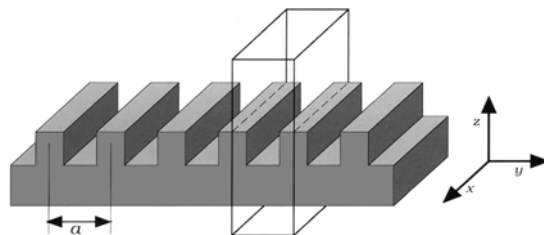
Microdroplets [M. Berggren et al. *Adv. Mater.* **9**, 968 (1997)]

Planar and circular distributed Bragg reflectors, [M. Berggren, et al., *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **71**, 2230 (1997). A. Shaw et al., *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **75**, 3051 (1999)]

Distributed feedback (DFB) resonators

Four-levels scheme of lasers based on conjugated optically gaining compound. (1): photoexcitation, (3): stimulated emission, (2) and (4): ground-state relaxations. [N. Tessler, *Adv. Mater.* **11**, 364 (1999). G. Kranzelbinder, G. Leising, *Rep. Prog. Phys.* **63**, 729 (2000)]

## ORGANIC-BASED PHOTONIC DEVICES



Dielectric structure with discrete translational symmetry along the  $y$  direction, of periodicity  $a$ . This is exactly the imprinted geometry used for the distributed feedback lasers ( $a=\lambda$ ).

[J. D. Joannopoulos, R. D. Meade, and J. N. Winn, *Photonic Crystals – Molding the Flow of Light*, Princeton University Press, Princeton (1995)]

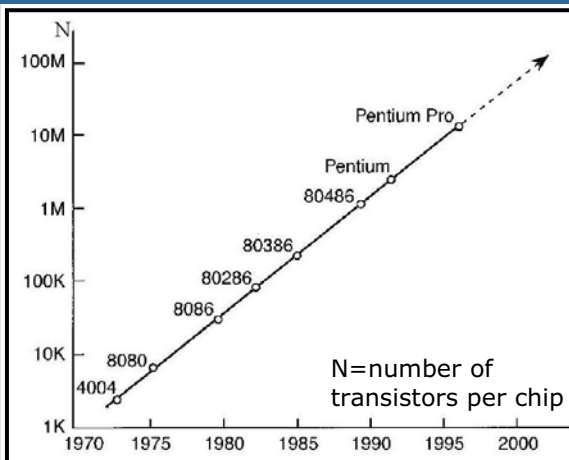


## OUTLINE:

- PHYSICS AND PHENOMENOLOGY OF DISORDERED SYSTEMS
- OPTOELECTRONIC PROPERTIES OF ORGANIC MOLECULES
- ORGANIC-BASED PHOTONIC DEVICES
- CONVENTIONAL AND SOFT LITHOGRAPHY FOR ORGANIC MATERIALS

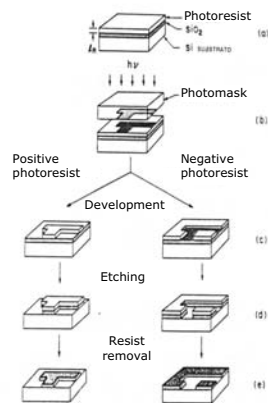
## MOORE'S LAW (1965):

THE NUMBER OF TRANSISTORS IN AN INTEGRATED CIRCUIT WILL DOUBLE EVERY 18 MONTHS (THE SIZE OF THE FEATURES WILL DECREASE BY A FACTOR TWO EVERY 3 YEARS)



→ 22 nm in 2010!

## PHOTOLITHOGRAPHY:



### PROCESS STEPS:

- (a) SUBSTRATE CLEANING AND RESIST DEPOSITION
- (b) PHOTOMASK, UV EXPOSURE
- (c) RESIST DEVELOPMENT, METAL EVAPORATION AND LIFT-OFF (OPTIONAL)
- (d) WET ETCHING OR REACTIVE ION ETCHING
- (e) RESIST REMOVAL

## PHOTOLITHOGRAPHY:

### ADVANTAGES

- WELL OPTIMIZED TECHNOLOGY
- PARALLEL AND FAST OPERATION (<1h)
- LARGE AREA LITHOGRAPHY

### DRAWBACKS

- SIZE OF THE FEATURES LIMITED BY OPTICAL DIFFRACTION  $R=k\lambda/N.A.$
- HIGH-ENERGY RADIATION REQUIRES COMPLEX FACILITIES
- NOT SUITABLE FOR NON-PLANAR SURFACES
- NO FLEXIBILITY TOWARDS THE EMPLOYABLE MATERIALS
- NO CONTROL OVER THE CHEMISTRY OF PATTERNED SURFACES

## SOFT LITHOGRAPHY:

"SOFT" BECAUSE AN ELASTOMERIC MOLD IS THE KEY ELEMENT TO TRANSFER THE PATTERN AND, MORE BROADLY, AS IT USES FLEXIBLE ORGANIC MATERIALS

BASED ON THE REPLICATION OF AN ALREADY EXISTING NANO-STRUCTURE (MASTER)

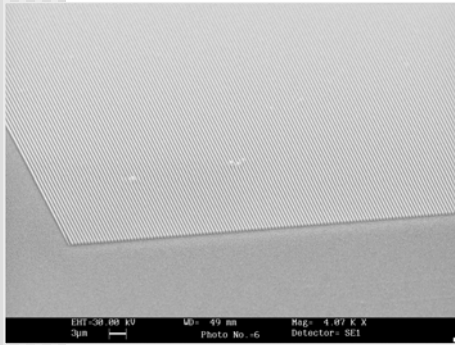
### ADVANTAGES:

- HIGH RESOLUTION (<100nm)
- PARALLEL OPERATION, HIGH THROUGHPUT
- LARGE AREA LITHOGRAPHY
- VERY LOW COST
- EXTREME FLEXIBILITY TOWARDS THE EMPLOYABLE MATERIAL

## SOFT LITHOGRAPHY VS. PHOTOLITHOGRAPHY:

	PHOTO LITHOGRAPHY	SOFT LITHOGRAPHY
DEFINITION OF PATTERNS	Rigid photomasks (patterned Cr on quartz substrates)	Elastomeric elements with relief structures
MATERIALS THAT CAN BE PATTERNED DIRECTLY	Photoresists	Photoresists, EBL resists, conjugated polymers, curable polymers (epoxies, PU), colloidal materials, biomolecules
CURRENT LIMIT TO RESOLUTION	200 nm	10 nm (Nanoimprinting)
MINIMUM FEATURE SIZE	100 nm (?)	<10 nm (?)

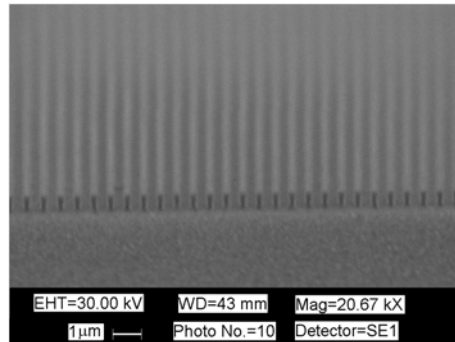
## FABRICATION OF MASTER STRUCTURES FOR VISIBLE AND NIR PHOTONICS



Area  $\geq 20 \text{ mm}^2$

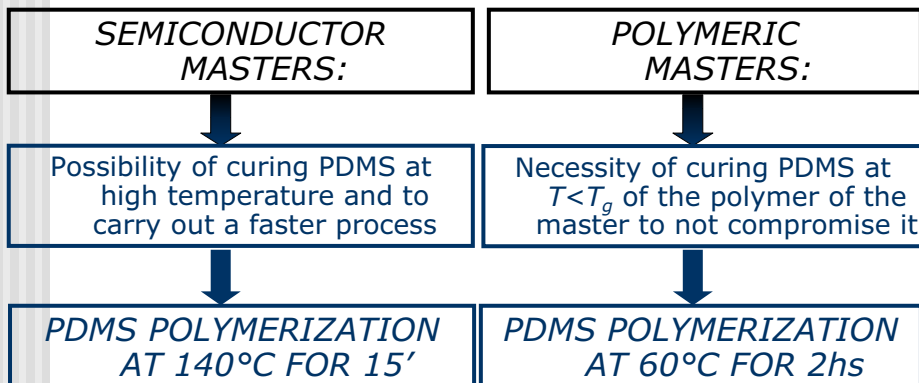
$200\text{nm} \leq \Lambda \leq 600\text{nm}$

A.R.  $\geq 1.5$

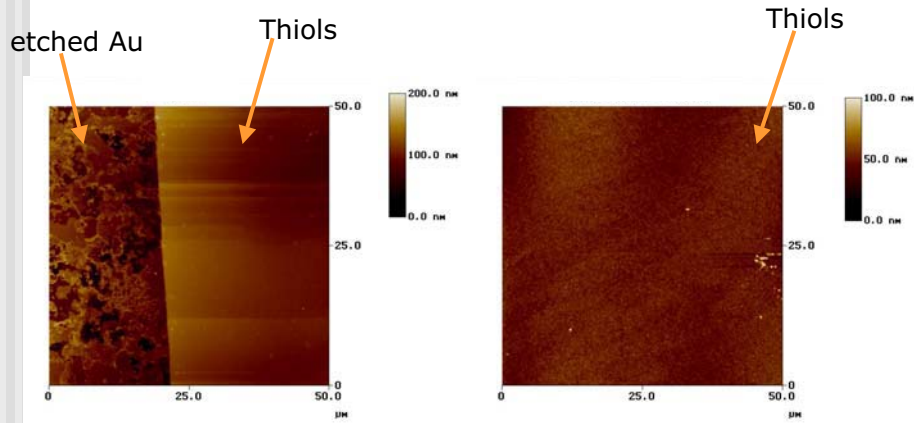


[D.Pisignano, L. Persano, et al. *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **83**, 2545 (2003)]

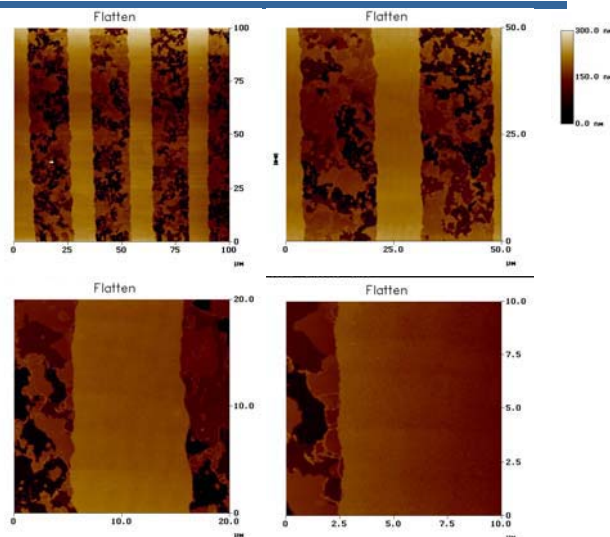
## OPTIMIZATION OF THE REPLICA MOLDING PROCEDURE:



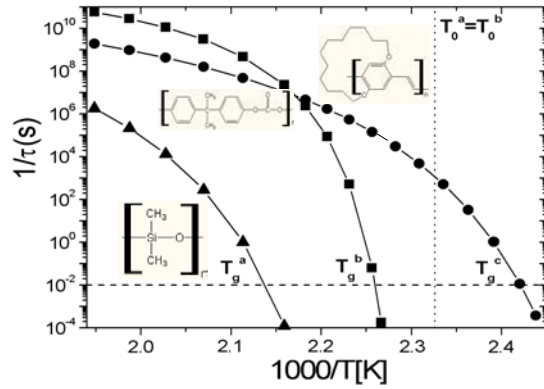
## MICROCONTACT PRINTING, EXAMPLES



## MICROCONTACT PRINTING, EXAMPLES

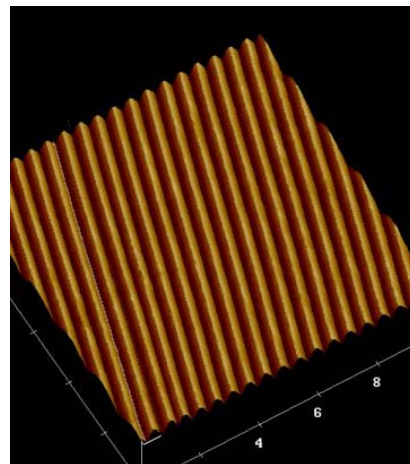
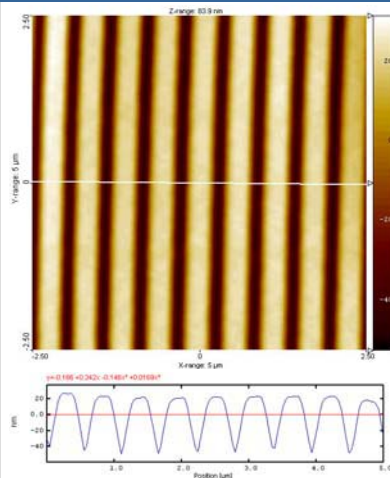


## SOFT MOLDING, BASIC PRINCIPLES



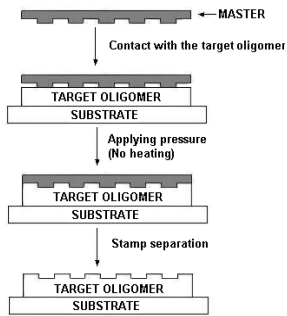
$$\eta(T) = \eta_0 \exp\left(\frac{DT_0}{T - T_0}\right) \quad \tau_\alpha(T) = \tau_{\alpha 0} \exp\left(\frac{DT_0}{T - T_0}\right)$$

## SOFT MOLDING, EXAMPLES



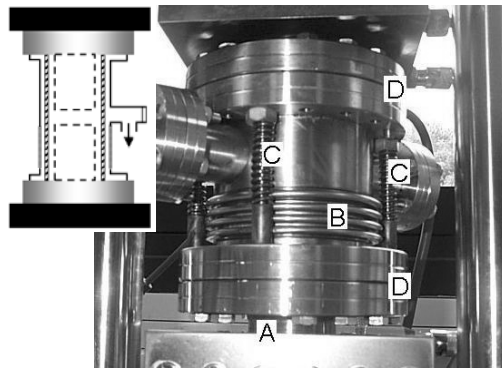
500-nm GRATINGS (250-nm FEATURES) IMAGED BY AFM

## NANOIMPRINTING LITHOGRAPHY (NIL)

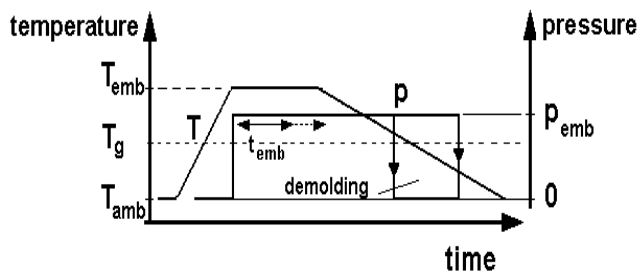


[S.Y.Chou et al. *Science* **272**, 85 (1996)]

[D. Pisignano et al. *J. Vac. Sci. Technol. B* **22**, 185 (2004)]

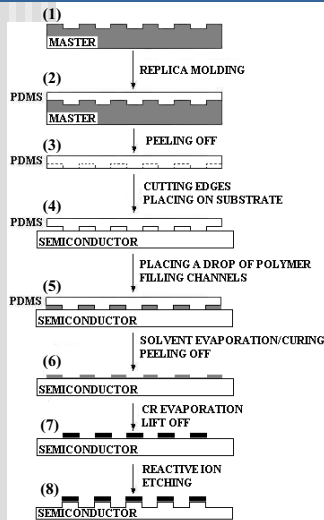


## NANOIMPRINTING LITHOGRAPHY (NIL)



Typical cycle of pressure and temperature in a NIL experiment. The polymer film is driven from  $T_{amb}$  (room temperature), to  $T_{emb}$ , well above  $T_g$ . Then a pressure ( $p_{emb}$ ) is applied for a time interval,  $t_{emb}$ , depending on the thermoplastic properties of the organics, i.e. on the dependence of the structural properties (viscosity and structural relaxation time) on temperature. Finally, there is the demolding step.

## MICROFLUIDIC LITHOGRAPHY



### STEP 1:

REPLICA MOLDING (20');  
 CUTTING  $\mu$ -CHANNELS TO EXPOSE THEM;  
 PLACEMENT OF REPLICA ON SEMICONDUCTOR;  
 PLACEMENT OF A DROP OF DILUTED RESIST;  
 EVAPORATION OF SOLVENT-UV/THERMAL  
 CURING (1h-24hs);  
 PEELING OFF REPLICA (1").

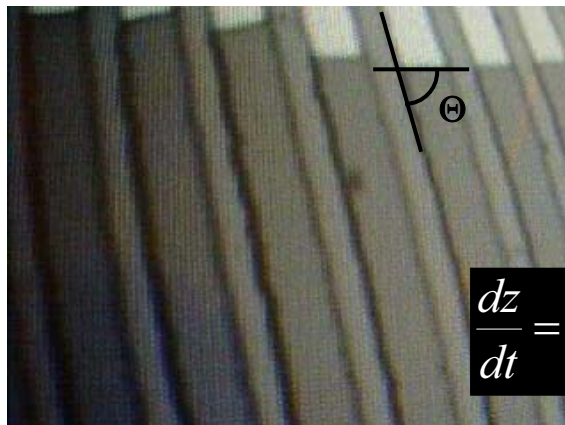
[Kim, Xia and Whitesides Nature (1995)]

### STEP 2:

Cr EVAPORATION (10-25 nm);  
 LIFT OFF (ACETONE- $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ );  
 REACTIVE ION ETCHING OF SEMICONDUCTOR.

## MICROFLUIDIC LITHOGRAPHY

REAL-TIME FORMATION OF 30  $\mu\text{m}$  GRATINGS (15  $\mu\text{m}$  FEATURES)  
 FILMED BY OPTICAL MICROSCOPY



$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{Ry \cos \theta}{4\eta z}$$



## CONCLUSIONS

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**Organic semiconductors:** Electrical and optical functionality of semiconductors and metals + Mechanics, synthesis, and processing advantages of polymers

**Mechanical patterning:** Set of complementary technologies (REM, NIL, soft molding, MIMIC, mCP) for lithography on organics –resolutions: tens nm to mm-

**Devices:** Lasers, leds, diffractive elements, photonic crystals, waveguides, biomolecular patterns

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