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SMR.1759 - 9

Fourth Stig Lundqvist Conference on Advancing Frontiers of Condensed Matter Physics

3 - 7 July 2006

Dynamics of molecules at confined interfaces

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

# Dynamics of molecules at confined interfaces

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Electron transfer/transport

h١

hν

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molecule

metal

Ge

Molecular junctions

I/V

мст



Organic semiconductor

Light

Photovoltaic



### What is the consequence of confinement on molecular motion?













#### Grand Opinical Mathe Opinical Street Street



#### The formation of H-bnded bidgs!

Matthew McGrath, Ilja Siepmann (Minnesota)

#### Sten

Number of H-bonds to -COOH surface

### Tetrahedral order parameter

Nature 409, 318 (2001)

Population of H<sub>2</sub>O within the nanogap





70Å x 80 Å, periodic

![](_page_12_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### H<sub>2</sub>O/SiO<sub>2</sub> - measurement in air

![](_page_13_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Spectroscopic evidence of "ice-like" water on hydrophilic surfacs

![](_page_14_Figure_1.jpeg)

**<sup>2005,</sup>** *109*, 16760-16763

Other studies: SFG

Q. Du, E. Freysz, and Y. R. Shen, <u>Phys. Rev. Lett. **72**</u>, 238 (1994).

V. Ostroverkhov, G. A. Waychunas, and Y. R. Shen, <u>Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**</u>, <u>046102 (2005)</u>.

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#### The interfacial H<sub>2</sub>O is like... peanut butter

![](_page_15_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_4.jpeg)

#### WHY is interfacial water so different???

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

- An H-bond to the surface is not much stronger than that in H<sub>2</sub>O, but
- Breaking an H-bond in water is assisted by the forming of a new one.
  Energy cost minimal
- Breaking an H-bond at the surface or confined interface is not assisted. Energy cost significant

It's confinement!

![](_page_17_Figure_0.jpeg)

• Confinement is the sole reason?

![](_page_18_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### Hyperbranched Polyglycidol (HPG)

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

### Surface-Initiated Polymerization of Hyperbranched Polyglycidol (HPG)

![](_page_21_Figure_1.jpeg)

Majad Khan and Wilhelm T. S. Huck Macromolecules 2003, 36, 5088-5093

![](_page_22_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Figure_0.jpeg)

H

#### $HS(CH_2)_{10}COOH : HS(CH_2)_9CH_3 = 1:20, 40°C$

![](_page_24_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_0.jpeg)

 $HS(CH_2)_{10}COOH : HS(CH_2)_9CH_3 = 1:20, 40°C$ 

#### **Volume Distribution of HPG molecules**

![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

 $HS(CH_2)_{10}COOH : HS(CH_2)_9CH_3 = 1:20$ 

![](_page_27_Picture_1.jpeg)

Hydrogen Bond Energy 2-10kcal/mol Au-S Bond Energy 40kcal/mol VdW energy in the SAM ~30 kcal/mol

![](_page_27_Picture_3.jpeg)

#### **Controlling the local environment**

-COOH :-CH<sub>3</sub>=1:20

![](_page_28_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### When the matrix is also hydrophilic...

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Conclusion

• Nocovalent interaction with the local environment can lead to the breaking of covalent bond for a surface tethered macromolecule.

### Capillary condensation and meniscus formation between hydrophobic and hydrophilic surfaces

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)