# New materials for organic photodetectors, wavelength sifters and plastic scintillators



#### Sergey Ponomarenko, Oleg Borschev, Nikolay Surin

Institute of Synthetic Polymeric Materials of Russian Academy of Sciences (ISPM RAS), Moscow, Russia

Luminescent Innovation Technologies LLC, Skolkovo (Moscow region), Russia





- Introduction
- Materials for organic solar cells and photodetectors
- Organosilicon nanostructured luminophores (ONL)
- Plastic scintillators with ONL
- Organosilicon wavelength shifters (Si-WLS)

#### Functional materials for Organic Electronics and Photonics @ ISPM RAS



#### Oligo- and polyarylsilanes of different molecular structure



See review: S.A. Ponomarenko, S. Kirchmeyer, *Adv. Polym. Sci.*, 2011, 235, 33 - 110.

#### New materials for polymer BHJ solar cells and photodetectors



#### **Organic Photovoltaic Cells**

#### **Bilayer device**



#### **Bulk-heterojunction device**



## **Photoinduced Charge Generation**

Donor-acceptor nanocomposite





#### **Organic Photovoltaic Cells**

# Control:

- Absorption of the solar light
- Charge transport
- Solubility
- Morphology
- HOMO and LUMO energy levels of donor and acceptor



#### **Bulk-heterojunction device**



### **Typical electrical characteristics of photovoltaic cells**



Power conversion efficiency 
$$\eta = \frac{I_{max}V_{max}}{P_{light}} \times 100\% = \frac{I_{sc}V_{os}FF}{P_{light}} \times 100\%$$

8

# **Advantages of organic electronics**

- Light weight
- Flexibility
- Large area
- Transparent
- Low-Cost

The production of plastic chips tomorrow

Continuous printing methods for low cost polymerelectronics • by roll to roll printing



"let's print electronics like a newspaper"

- No vacuum processing
- No lithography (printing)
- Low-cost substrates (plastic, paper, even cloth...)
- Direct integration on package (lower insertion costs)

#### **Organic Semiconducting materials**



#### **Organosilicon** derivatives of $\alpha$ , $\alpha$ '-dialkyloligothiophenes



#### UV- Vis absorption spectra

Thin films absorption spectra



Solar Energy Materials and Solar cells 2010, 94, 2064

#### **Preparation of test devices for organic photovoltaic cells**





Energy & Environmental Science 2010, 3, 1941

13

#### *Tetrakis*(ter-, quater- and quinquethiophene)silanes





Energy & Environmental Science 2010, 3, 1941

#### I-V characteristics and IPCE spectra of photovoltaic cells based on oligothiophenesilanes



#### Photodetectors based on Si(4T-Hex)<sub>4</sub> / [70]PCBM BHJ



#### Solar light spectra and absorption spectra of the mostly used materials





	Mn	Mw	DPI	λ <sub>max</sub> , nm (solution)	λ <sub>max</sub> , nm (film)	$\Delta E_{opt} eV,$ (solution)	ΔE <sub>opt,</sub> eV (film)
<b>P1</b>	8400	11900	1.42	495	478	2.24	2.21
P2	2700	4500	1.67	474	434	2.25	2.19
<b>P3</b>	7500	12500	1.67	574	585	1.89	1.69
<b>P</b> 4	6700	10000	1.49	577	594	1.88	1.59



**P8** 

4600

6000

1.30

481

494

2.16

1.88

20



#### Low band gap copolymers R R` R1 P7 (R = - Oct)P5 (R = - Oct)P3 (R = - Oct)P1 (R, $R_1 = - Oct$ ) P6(R = -EtHex)P8 (R = - EtHex)R R P4(R = -EtHex)P2 ( $R = Oct, R_1 = -EtHex$ ) $\Delta E_{opt} eV$ , V<sub>oc</sub>, FF, No. I<sub>sc</sub>, η, in film mA/cm<sup>2</sup> % % **Px / F1** мV 2.21 0.80 **P1** 1:1 1.43 522 53 2.19 1:22.94 561 32 0.20 **P2** P9 (R = - Oct)P10 ( $\mathbf{R} = -\mathbf{EtHex}$ ) **P3** 1.69 1:2 1.45 27 0.14 365 1.59 1:2 3.10 565 41 0.70 **P4** 1.60 1:3 2.50 37 0.50 525 **P5** 1:3 1.62 **P6** 2.10 37 0.41 516 P11 (R = - Oct)1.79 1:3 2.57 39 0.73 720 **P7** P12 ( $\mathbf{R} = -\mathbf{EtHex}$ ) 1.88 1:4 **P8** 1.57 631 33 0.33 1.55 1:2 10.23 500 41 2.09 **P9** 1.60 1:2 3.70 500 35 0.65 **P10** 3.97 1.92 1:4 10.50 900 42 **P11** ò F1 - [60]PCBM 1.90 1:4 8.1 900 35 2.55 **P12**

Adv. Funct. Mater. 2010, 20, 4351

#### I-V characteristics and IPCE spectra of low band gap copolymers



**P9**:  $I_{sc} = 10.23 \text{ mA/cm}^2$ ,  $V_{oc} = 0.5V$ , FF = 41%, PCE = 2.1% **P11**:  $I_{sc} = 10.50 \text{ mA/cm}^2$ ,  $V_{oc} = 0.9V$ , FF = 42%, PCE = 4.0%

#### Photodetectors based on P11/[60]PCBM blend



Transient response of the organic photodetector to a 10 ns light pulse from a nitrogen laser (337 nm) at different shift voltages. The active area was 0.5 cm<sup>2</sup> and a load resistance of 16  $\Omega$ .

Detection of 1 ms light pulses of blue LED modulated at 250 Hz with the organic photodetector. Black line photodetector response, blue line - light power.

Response time  $\sim$ 30-40 ns, decay time  $\sim$ 1 µs.

#### Organosilicon nanostructures luminophores

#### and "molecular antennae" effect





Macromolecules 2012, 45, 2014

#### Absorption and luminescence spectra of dendrimer D23 and model stars



Absorption spectra of dendrimer D23 consists of a absorption bands of its 2T and 3T components, but its luminescence spectra coincides with those of 3T fragments independently of excitation wavelength

#### Highly luminescent oligoarylsilane "molecular antennas"



Mendeleev Commun. 2011, 21, 89

Compound	$\lambda_{abs}, nm$	Q <sub>F</sub> ,%	$\lambda_{lum} nm$	Q <sub>ETE</sub> ,%
D2TP	336, 407	46	<b>456</b> /487	<b>88</b> +/- 3
<b>B</b> 1	336, 404	55	<b>456</b> /487/521	<b>99</b> +/- 1
B2	337, 404	55	<b>456</b> /486/522	<b>90</b> +/- 10
<b>B3</b>	331, 375, 396	80	418	<b>82</b> +/- 10

### **Plastic scintillators and their applications**



In medicine



#### Radiation control on nuclear power stations



X-ray tomography





Radiation control at the boarders  $_{\rm 29}$ 

#### Application in organic photonics: plastic scintillators





#### New scintillator with nanostructured luminophores





Efficiency relative to anthracene crystal

BC-400

ISPM-Nano

 **UPS-973** 

**Photoregistrator** 

Efficiency, %





Plastic scintillators with the efficiency exceeding those of anthracene crystals!

#### **Polystyrene nanoscintillators**





Efficient yellow and red wavelength shifters have been created

#### **VUV Wavelength sifters for noble gas detectors**



**Fig 1.** Emission spectrum of LXe (1), absorption spectrum of p-terphenyl (2), absorption spectrum of new WLS (3), emission spectrum of p-terphenyl (4), emission spectrum of new WLS (5), photon detection efficiency (PDE) of the CPTA "blue-sensitive" photodiode (6), right axis.

# Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A (in press), doi:10.1016/j.nima.2011.12.036.

# Conclusions

• Soluble oligothiophenesilane multipods are promising materials for organic BHJ solar cells and photodetectors with the response time of 20 - 30 ns .



• Silicon atoms brake the conjugation between the adjacent luminophores that allows creation of organosilicon nanostuctured luminophores, which can be used in highly efficient and fast plastic scintillators and wavelength shifters.



• Light output of the "plastic nanoscintillators" can exceed those of the standard BC408 more then 1,6 times and even exceed the efficiency of anthracene crystals.

#### Acknowledgements

#### **ISPM RAS** (Russia)

Y.N. Luponosov E.A. Kleymyuk E.A. Myshkovskaya M.S. Polinskaya Prof. A.M. Muzafarov

#### IPCP RAS (Russia)

**P.A. Troshin** E.A. Khakina D.A. Susarova Prof. V.F. Razumov

#### **INEOS RAS** (Russia)

M.I. Buzin A.P. Pleshkova S.N. Peregudova

#### INEP CP RAS (Russia)

Y.L. Moskvin S.D. Babenko

**ITEP** (Russia)

#### D.Y. Akimov

A.V. Akindinov I.S. Alexandrov A.A. Burenkov M.V. Danilov A.G. Kovalenko V.N. Stekhanov

#### H.C.Starck Clevios GmbH (Germany)

Dr. Stephan Kirchmeyer Dr. Timo Meyer-Friedrichsen Dr. Andreas Elschner

**\$\$\$** Russian Foundation for Basic Research, Presidium of Russian Academy of Sciences, Russian Ministry for Science and Education, H.C. Starck GmbH

# Thank you for your attention!