Breakout Report on Organic Electronics

Identification of Grand Challenges

Leadership and Industrial Representation

- Chair: Howard Katz, Johns Hopkins University
- Speakers (Industry): Greg Whiting, PARC (industrial cochair); Darin Laird, Plextronics; Dave Giesen, Schrodinger; Noah Tremblay, Nanoterra
- Other speakers: Dean Delongchamp, NIST; Tim Mueller, JHU; John Anthony, Kentucky; Dan Frisbie, Minnesota; Mark Hersam, Northwestern; Ana Arias, Berkeley; Vitaly Podzorov, Rutgers; Michael Chabinyc, UCSB; Lynn Loo, Princeton; George Schatz, Northwestern; Mark Stiles, NIST; Richard Vaia, WPAFB, Miqel Salmeron, Lawrence Berkeley

MGI State-of-the-art in Organic Electronics

- The computational tools are useful for isolated molecular structures, but not predictive for van der Waals molecular solids, and may not even exist for interfaces.
- System and device models are yet a further level of complexity, and which barely exist.
- The experimental techniques and the quantity of data are extensive, but often are just as expected, and may not apply to the materials integrated into systems.
- The sharing and integration culture between the computational and experimental efforts is strong in individual companies, but weaker among the members of the broader community.

Estimation of electronic properties of organic molecules can be done in a matter of seconds



Goals: First-pass prioritization, combinatorial optimization, interactive evaluation.

Questions affecting transport: conduction through the π system, cross-chain talk, effect of bends and kinks, electrode contact, etc.



M. Salmeron, Lawrence Berkeley Labs

D5TBA:

Monolayer preparation by Langmuir-Blodgett technique



➤Molecules self-assemble at the surface of water

Homogeneous Organics Show Heterogeneous Alignment



Y.L. Loo, Princeton

Prediction of Organic Solid State Packing



Inability to Predict Key Morphology by Computation



Culture and Landscape

- Publication and funding are driven by world record metrics that might not be the most relevant. Processing and stability/lifetime, and lower performing material explanations, are viewed as less scientific and less fundable, and it is difficult to place the required equipment/computational infrastructure in academic labs. More sustainable collaboration, perhaps through centers, is needed.
- Discontinuous supply chain; multiple inputs to complex systems come from mutually proprietary sources. Communication about issues among companies is lacking, and competition for each part of the supply chain is fierce. Standards are not being generally set.
- Do we need true benchmark performance before modeling can/should be done? Do we have sufficient benchmarks yet? How well can we rely on the results of calculations to make decisions?
- There are no consensus workhorse materials or materials from a single, validated lot. If we chose a workhorse material set now, how would we know when to replace it?

Highly relevant results were obtained with organic single-crystals



Materials Today (2007)

EY-VCH

Opportunities and Usefulness of Computation: Comprehensive Organic Device and Process Models are Needed, and They Require:

- Predictive calculations of atomic to mesoscale structures and properties
- Predicting transport (charges, excitons), with better theories, methods, codes
- Calculation of interface and defect properties
- Computational and experimental data organization
- System scale modeling
- Deposition, patterning, and resulting morphology modeling, kinetics and final characteristics

If we had the computational tools/information/integration, we would have:

- Wearable, flexible, conformable systems; electronic skins
- 2D & 3D circuitry (passives, actives & interconnects)
- Energy (solar, batteries, thermoelectrics, etc)
- Distributed manufacturing (print shops for electronics)
- Distributed sensor systems (smart tags)
- In-vivo and bio-compatible electronic systems



G. Whiting, PARC

Slight Changes in Structure, Large Changes in Efficiency



Although the materials possess similar absorption spectra, they generate very different amounts of current.



Son et al. Synthesis of Fluorinated Polythienothiophene-co-benzodithiophenes and Effect of Fluorination on the Photovoltaic Properties. Journal of the Amer. Chem. Soc. 133, 1885 (2011)

Technical Challenges and Gaps

There is an especially glaring deficiency in modeling related to manufacturing steps and processes. Remediating this deficiency will require:

- Tools aimed at the impact of process on formation and evolution of microstructures and electronic properties; flow, solvation, wetting, and annealing process modeling; interfacial interaction modeling; and device modeling
- Infrastructure: integration of computation and experiment



A.C. Arias, UC Berkeley

Process Modeling: e.g., aerosol jet printing





Various Nozzle Sizes for Line Width Control



Fine Line Capability10 micron line width, 30 micron pitch

Ultrasonic Atomizer (pictured) :
▶ 0.7 ~ 10 cP ink handling viscosity
Pneumatic Atomizer (also available) :
▶ 1 ~ 2500 cP ink handling viscosity

Nozzle Output :

- Small Aerosol Droplets ~ 1 5 μm
- Up to 0.25 microliter/sec dispensing speed
- > < 5 µm line width printing capability to > 1 mm



Experiment-Computation Feedback

- <u>Solid state properties</u>: Simple model systems (donor/acceptor interfaces, CNT including effects of chirality, single crystals, uniform heterojunctions). Doping in model systems (ionization efficiency, Fermi level control, thermoelectric effect, electrostatics at interfaces and near defects, chemical and physical sensing)
- <u>Phenomena</u>: Spin, exciton, charge and phonon transport, spin states, Hall mobility, T-dependence of mobility, anisotropy; stability; sensitivity
- <u>Characterization</u>: Advanced structural characterization (XRR, NS), advanced spectroscopy, including absorption and emission, nonlinear, hard and soft x-ray, and time-resolved, scanning probe microscopy, photocurrent spectroscopy
- <u>Massive data</u>: role of machine learning/artificial intelligence, data mining, parameterization
- <u>Data from real devices</u> fed into computation, including reliability and failure analysis

Tools: Examples

Conductive AFM and Frequency Modulation Kelvin Probe Force Microscopy





M. Salmeron, Lawrence Berkeley Labs

NEXAFS provides LUMO orbital structure & molecular geometry





Resonant Soft X-ray Scattering: Domain Correlations





M. Chabinyc, UCSB

Technological Challenges

- Process advancements are especially urgent, and complex to model
- Reproducibility and tolerance of variability; lifetime magnitudes and matches (operation and storage); effect of oxygen, water, and heat
- Material compatibility at interfaces; solvent orthogonality; interdiffusion between layers, especially from solution; effects of surfaces on properties of overlying materials
- Crystal morphology seems highly unpredictable; intermolecular interactions need to be calculated to 0.1 Angstrom to have predictive value, but calculations on a wide range of larger length scales is needed
- Traps prevent the isolation of intrinsic properties and limit predictive value of data; heterogeneity including defects and impurities; effects are noted even below detection limits
- Downselecting the enormous number of material options, both semiconductors and passive materials
- Improved printing resolution
- Design of heterostructures, selection of elements of heterostructures, vast increase of combinations for heterostructures

Carbon Material Integration

Ultralow power CNT CMOS *Nano Letters*, **13**, 4810 (2013).



M. Hersam



Brightening of carbon nanotube photoluminescence through the incorporation of *sp*³ defects

Yanmei Piao¹, Brendan Meany¹, Lyndsey R. Powell¹, Nicholas Valley², Hyejin Kwon¹, George C. Schatz² and YuHuang Wang^{1,3*} Nature Chem 5, 840 (2013)







Table 1 | E_{11}^{-} photoluminescence of SWCNT-C₆H₄NO₂ shows strong dependence on nanotube (*n*,*m*) chirality.

(<i>n,m</i>)	Pristine		Covalently functionalized				$E_{11}^{-} - E_{11}$ (meV)	$\Phi(E_{11}^-)/\Phi(E_{11})$
	E ₁₁ (nm)	FWHM (nm)	E ₁₁ (nm)	FWHM (meV)	E ₁₁ (nm)	FWHM (meV)		
(7,6)	1,113	31	1,113	34	1,263	59	-132	0.5
(8,4)	1,109	34	1,109	35	1,263	57	-136	1.0
(9,2)	1,133	30	1,134	33	1,300	73	-140	
(7,5)	1,015	34	1,015	33	1,179	70	-170	
(6,5)	972	35	975	41	1,137	57	-181	8.4
(8,3)	942	40	942	36	1,154	67	-241	
(6,4)	870	38	869	51	1,058	65	-254	28.6

Grand Challenge: Prediction of molecular crystal structures and polymorphs

• Tools are needed for accurate, precise prediction of crystal structures from molecular structure to better predict potential performance from single crystal devices thereby accelerating materials development activities

Grand Challenge:

Characterization and modeling at different magnitudes and combinations of length, time and dimensionality scales, including grain structures and mesoscale crystal/amorphous domain distributions

Molecular modeling alone often not predictive of device properties due to complex structuring in real films. Characterization methods and models to help understand and predict this complex ordering are essential.

Grand Challenge: Creating a liquid-phase manufacturing paradigm

The big opportunity for this area is that carbonbased materials allow liquid-phase processing techniques (such as printing) to be used for manufacturing of electronics This new manufacturing method requires specific materials, equipment and models that are not currently available in a useful, integrated fashion

Grand Challenge: Projecting device property evolution at the molecular scale

Performance of organic electronic devices are determined by the materials used and how they are processed. Better understanding of the evolution of molecular-scale structure during processing and it's impact on device performance is essential

Grand Challenge:

Development of a comprehensive model for organic electronic-biological interfaces

A clear benefit of electronic systems based on soft mater is that they modulus match biological systems well, and so can be used to directly interface with organisms. Developing a model for these interfaces is needed for development of biocompatible electronic systems

Grand Challenge: Discovering markers for performance instability

Properties of electronic devices based on organic materials are typically not stable with respect to time, limiting the utility of devices in real systems. Better understanding of the critical markers that determine these instabilities are needed for commercialization of products relying on organic electronic systems

Grand Challenge: Incentivization of industry to reinvest in research and development (with government partnership)

Greater industrial development is needed In order to accelerate development in this field. A lack of options for significant short-term products and dwindling resources for longer-term research reduces industrial involvement. Methods to incentivize industry to reinvest in this field as the research that will enable the long-term applications is being carried out is necessary.